Data Visualization Toolkit: Using JavaScript, Rails, And Postgres To Present Data And Geospatial Information (Addison-Wesley Professional Ruby Series)
Synopsis

Create Beautiful Visualizations that Free Your Data to Tell Powerful Truths

The depth of Barrett Clark™s knowledge shines through in his writing: clear, concise, and confident. Barrett has been practicing all of this stuff in his day job for many years—Postgres, D3, GIS, all of it. The knowledge in this book is real-world and hard-earned!

"From the Foreword by Obie Fernandez

Data Visualization Toolkit is your hands-on, practical, and holistic guide to the art of visualizing data. You™ll learn how to use Rails, jQuery, D3, Leaflet, PostgreSQL, and PostGIS together, creating beautiful visualizations and maps that give your data a voice and to make it dance.

Barrett Clark teaches through real-world problems and examples developed specifically to illuminate every technique you need to generate stunningly effective visualizations. You™ll move from the absolute basics toward deep dives, mastering diverse visualizations and discovering when to use each. Along the way, you™ll build three start-to-finish visualization applications, using actual real estate, weather, and travel datasets.

Clark addresses every component of data visualization: your data, database, application server, visualization libraries, and more. He explains data transformations; presents expert techniques in JavaScript, Ruby, and SQL; and illuminates key concepts associated with both descriptive statistics and geospatial data.

Throughout, everything is aimed at one goal: to help you cut through the clutter and let your data tell all it can. This guide will help you:

- Explore and understand the data visualization technology stack
- Master the thought process and steps involved in importing data
- Extract, transform, and load data in usable, reliable form
- Handle spotty data, or data that doesn™t line up with what your chart expects
- Use D3 to build pie and bar charts, scatter and box plots, and more
- Work effectively with time-series data
- Tweak Ruby and SQL to optimize performance with large datasets
- Use raw SQL in Rails: window functions, subqueries, and common table expressions
- Build chord diagrams and time-series aggregates
- Use separate databases or schema for reporting databases
- Integrate geographical data via geospatial SQL queries
- Construct maps with Leaflet and Rails
- Query geospatial data the Rails way and the raw SQL way

Book Information

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