# Multivariate Visualization

Visualizing Associations

# Introduction to Associations Visualization

### Introduction

- Purpose: Explore relationships among two or more quantitative variables
- Examples: Animal measurements (height, weight, length, energy demands)

### Visualization Techniques

- Scatter Plots
- Bubble Charts
- Scatter Plot Matrices
- Correlograms
- Dimension Reduction
- Paired Data Visualizations

# Scatter Plots

- Basic Scatter Plot
- Example: Blue jay birds dataset (head length vs. body mass)
- **Observation**: Trend of heavier birds having longer heads
- **Terminology**: Y-axis variable plotted against X-axis variable
- Colored Scatter Plot
- Addition: Points colored by bird sex
- **Observation**: Male birds tend to have longer heads at the same body mass



### Scatter Plots (continued)

- Bubble Chart
- Additional Variable: Skull size indicated by dot size
- **Observation**: Correlation between head length and skull size, but with visual limitations



# **Mosaic Plots**

- Scatter Plot Matrix
- All-against-All Comparison: Head length, body mass, skull size
- Advantage: Easier perception of correlations compared to bubble charts



# Correlograms

#### Concept

- **Correlation Coefficients**: Measure the strength of association (-1 to 1 range)
- Visualization: Display as colored tiles or circles scaled by correlation magnitude

$$r = rac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - ar{x})(y_i - ar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - ar{x})^2} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - ar{y})^2}}$$

#### • Example

- **Dataset**: Glass fragments with mineral oxide measurements
- Observation: Trends in correlations (e.g., magnesium negatively correlated with other oxides)



### Correlograms (continued)

- Improved Correlogram
  - Modification: Circle size indicates correlation strength
  - Benefit: Low correlations are visually deemphasized



# **Dimension Reduction**

- Concept
  - Goal: Reduce dimensions while retaining key information
- Technique: Principal Components Analysis (PCA)
  - Method: Linear combinations of standardized variables
  - Components: Uncorrelated, ordered by variance captured



### Dimension Reduction (continued)

#### • Example: Forensic Glass Dataset

- PC Composition: Variables contributing to first two PCs
- PC Space Projection: Clustering of glass fragment types



# Paired Data

### • Concept

- Data Type: Two or more measurements of the same quantity under different conditions
- Visualization Techniques
- Scatter Plot with Diagonal Line
  - Example: CO2 emissions per person (1970 vs. 2010)
  - **Observation**: Majority of countries show increased emissions



# Paired Data (continued)

### Slopegraph

- Use Case: Small number of observations, identity of individual cases
- Example: CO2 emissions (2000 vs. 2010 for top 10 countries)



# Paired Data (continued)

- Extended Slopegraph
  - **Comparison**: More than two time points (e.g., 2000, 2005, 2010)
  - **Observation**: Highlight changes over multiple intervals

