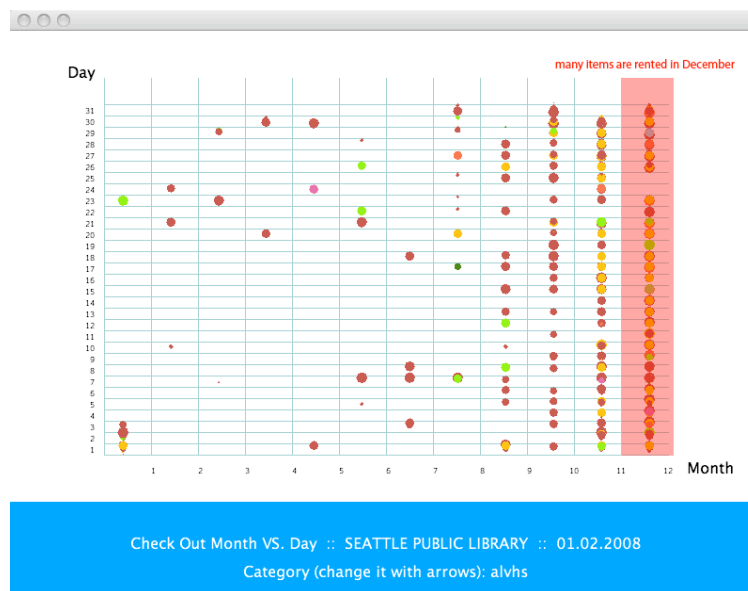


The Seattle Public Library Data Visualization - CheckOutDay vs Time

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What my chart out graph?

After I developed my previous version of this assignment, I recognized that most of the items I was representing were checked out between November and December 2007: in fact, most of the items borrowed from the Seattle Public Library were returned within 2 months.



version 1

My new graph shows in what days and hours the library was busy and what kind of subjects were the most popular in the month of December. There are 10 different subjects (Generalities, Philosophy, Religion, Social Science, Language, Natural Science & Mathematics, Technology, The Arts, Literature & Rhetoric, and Geography & History). I separated these subjects using the 'DeywerNumber'. In the graph, the horizontal axis represents the 31 days of December and the vertical axis represents the hour of the day from 8am to 12am, in unit of 30 min. I chose an interval of 30 minutes instead, for instance, of a 1-minute interval, because with a too short interval the graph became unreadable. 30 minutes was the smallest interval I could use to keep the graph accurate and readable.

A total amount of 1351 books were checked-out in December, the most popular subject was 'The arts', which counted 646 books. The least popular subject was "language books" with only 19 books checked out. Some books were checked out really early in the morning before 12am, and 14 books were borrowed at 12am. Most of them

were borrowed on December 1 2007 except one book, which was borrowed on December 17 2007.

What formal elements I used in my data representation?

I drew lines to show the vertical and horizontal segments of the grid of the graph and I used a rectangular shape for the data representation. Also on the horizontal and the vertical axis, I added short segments to show the unit of time and days (unit for time - 30 min, unit for day - a day). I used 10 different colors to differentiate the categories of subjects. I choose these color according to the standard used by the Seattle Public Library website. Each color has 80 level of alpha. In fact, since some books were borrowed in same time and day, I represented them using a darker color there where more books were checked out. So the richness and transparency of a color will be changed depending on the number of books that were checked out in same time and day. I also include 10 buttons on the right side of the panel to give the choice of what data to represent. When the audience chooses one button, this graph will display only the category of books chosen by the user.

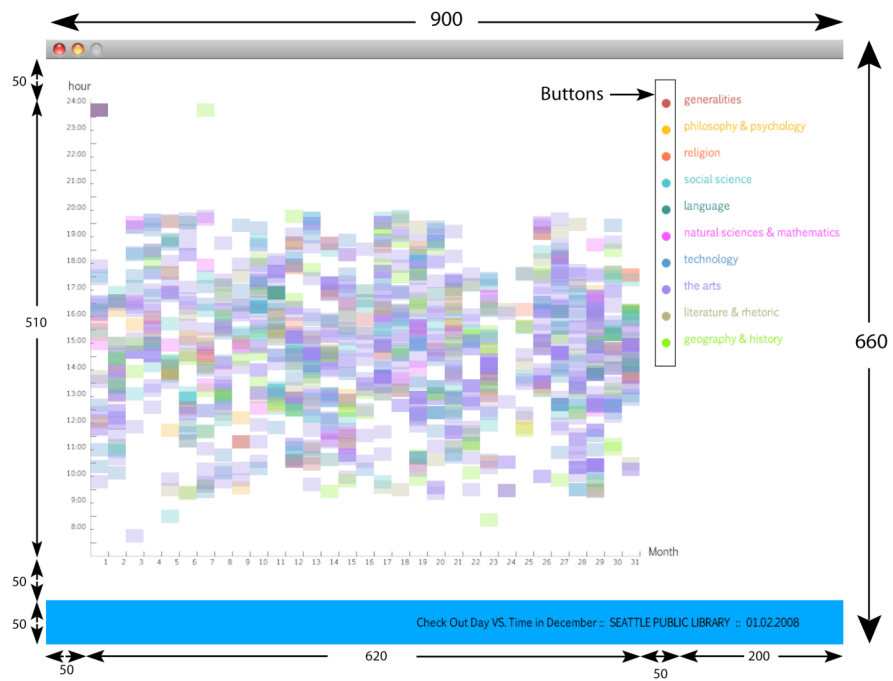


Size of my Canvas

width = 900
height = 660

Labels

Horizontal - days
Vertical - times line
Bottom - title of this data
Right side of panel - button for each categories of books



version 2