

Session Recap

Session Topic: SAS Visual Analytics Explorer
Session Date: 15SEP2014
Recording: <https://sas.connectsolutions.com/p38apajlhwd/>

This session recap includes the Q&A from the session. Additional information and links to more detailed content are included.

Don't forget to [register](#) for additional Ask the Expert: SAS Visual Analytics sessions.

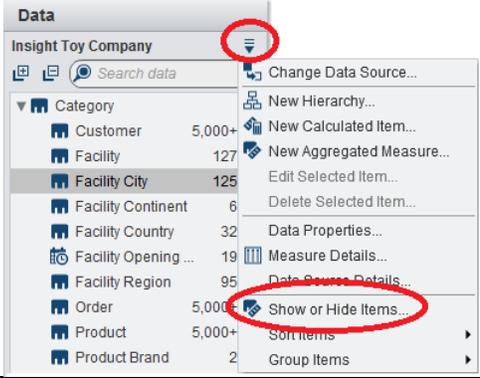
SAS Visual Analytics Toolkit



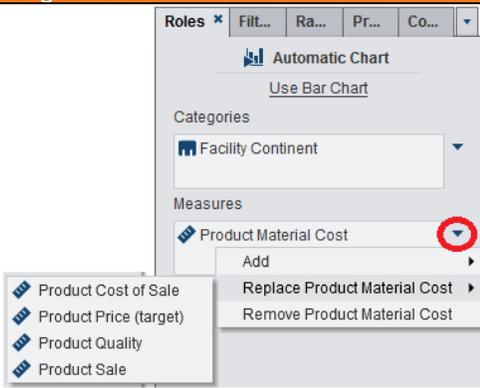
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Question:	<i>As our data changes, do the visualizations change too?</i>	
Answer:	The data is updated when you open the exploration. If the data has changed while the exploration is open, you can select Data ⇒ Refresh to update all of the visualization in the exploration.	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Managing Data 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get Started with SAS Visual Analytics Explorer: Exploration Basics 	 Technical Papers

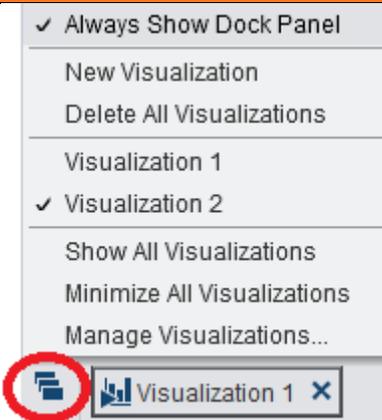
Question:	<i>If your bar chart labels are month names but they are not date assigned, is there an easy way to reorder a bar chart so that the months show in calendar order rather than alphabetical order?</i>	
Answer:	<p>One possible way to organize these character values into the order that you want is to modify the data to start with the month number and then the month name (for example, 01-JAN, 02-FEB).</p> <p>Another possibility is to use a date data item and apply a format to display only the months. That way you would see the month names in your visualization and they would sort in calendar order.</p>	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation	 Videos	 Technical Papers

Question:	<i>I selected Hide when I right-clicked a data item, which hid it. Now how do I get it back?</i>	
Answer:	<p>Although you can easily hide a data item using the pop-up menu, you must use the Show or Hide Items window to show it again.</p> <p>You can open the Show or Hide Items window by selecting Show or Hide Items from the option menu of the Data pane.</p>	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Managing Data Properties 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get Started with SAS Visual Analytics Explorer: Exploration Basics 	 Technical Papers

Question:	<i>I have an exploration that has all of my data and filter selections and want to use it as a template. Is there a way to do this?</i>	
Answer:	<p>Although there is not template functionality in the Explorer, you can accomplish this by saving your exploration with your data and filter selections, I suggest using a name that includes template or something similar. When you create a new exploration that you want to base on that data source, open the template exploration and immediately select File ⇒ Save As and provide a meaningful name.</p>	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation	 Videos	 Technical Papers

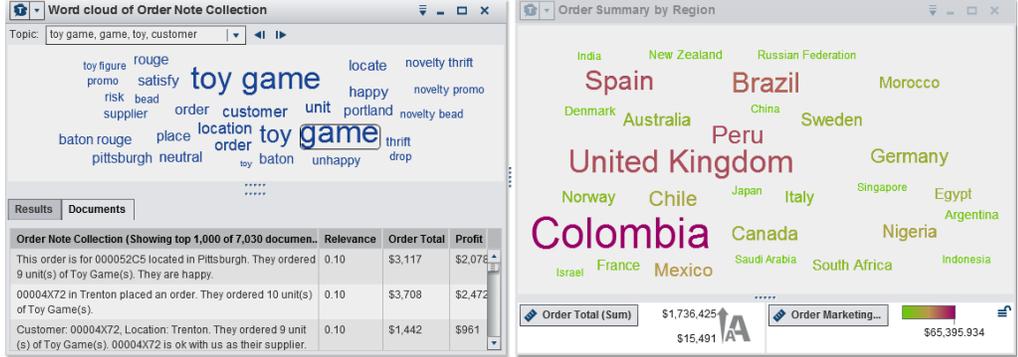
Question: <i>Is there an alternate method to drag-and-drop to assign data items to visualizations?</i>		
Answer:	<p>Yes, you can use the Roles tab in the Right pane to assign data items.</p> <p>Click the arrow next to the role name to select, replace, or remove a data item for that role.</p> <p>Some roles enable you to add multiple data items.</p> 	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Working with Data Role Assignments 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get Started with SAS Visual Analytics Explorer: Exploration Basics 	 Technical Papers

Question: <i>I created a line chart, right-clicked, and selected Show Forecast. I thought that I could specify additional measures to use the scenario analysis, but I don't see that option on the Roles tab. What am I doing wrong?</i>		
Answer:	<p>It sounds like the line chart was created using the automatic chart functionality. If you click the Roles tab in the Right pane, you should see an option at the top of the window to Use Line Chart. When using an automatic chart, you have access only to the Categories and Measures roles. Clicking the link to use the line chart provides access to the other roles including scenario analysis.</p>	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Working with Automatic Charts • User's Guide: Apply Scenario Analysis to a Forecast • User's Guide: Working with Lind Charts 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Forecast and Use Scenario Analysis 	 Technical Papers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: Forecasting in SAS Visual Analytics • BLOG: Use Visual Analytics to find and detect the best forecasting method

Question:	<i>When I have a lot of visualizations in an exploration, how can I control which ones are minimized and which ones are viewable?</i>	
Answer:	Clicking the Manage Visualization button () in the Dock pane provides several options for you to control which visualizations are displayed and which are minimized.	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Always Show Dock Panel New Visualization Delete All Visualizations Visualization 1 ✓ Visualization 2 Show All Visualizations Minimize All Visualizations Manage Visualizations...
Additional Information:	There is also a Manage Visualizations button on the toolbar. Clicking that button opens the Manage Visualizations window, which enables you to select which visualizations are displayed and which are hidden.	
 Online Documentation	 Videos	 Technical Papers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Working with Visualizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get Started with SAS Visual Analytics Explorer: Exploration Basics 	

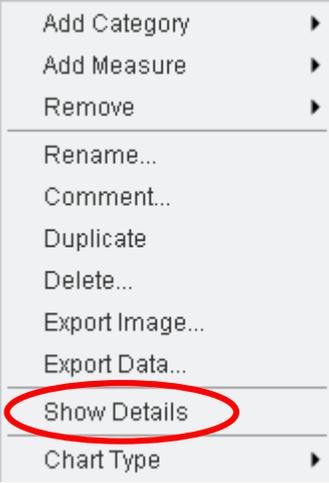
Question:	<i>What's the difference between a data source filter and a global filter?</i>	
Answer:	Both the data source filter and a global filter subset the data for all visualizations in the exploration. Only the data source filter updates the number of unique values in the Data pane.	
Additional Information:	When using data source filters, keep in mind that they are not displayed on the Filters tab in the Right pane. It might be worthwhile to include information in the exploration name to identify that a data source filter is being used to subset the data.	
 Online Documentation	 Videos	 Technical Papers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: About Filters in SAS Visual Analytics Explorer • User's Guide: Working with Data Source Filters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get Started with SAS Visual Analytics Explorer: Exploration Enhancements 	

Question:	<i>There is a paint brush button on the toolbar that says something about data brushing mode. What is this used for?</i>	
Answer:	Data brushing is helpful to see the related data points in multiple visualizations. Clicking a data point such as a bar for a specific quarter will select the corresponding value in another visualization such as a line chart.	
Additional Information:	You can use the   buttons to switch between data selection mode and data brushing mode.	
 Online Documentation	 Videos	 Technical Papers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Working with Data Brushing 		

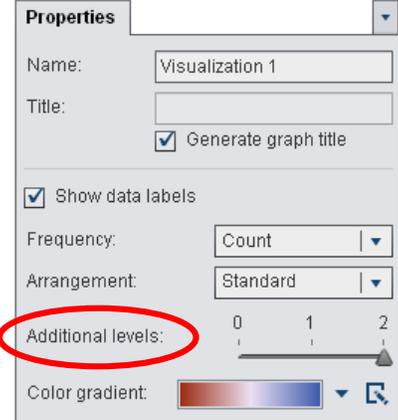
Question:	<i>I've noticed that there are two options on the Roles tab for a word cloud. What's the difference between text analytics and using category values?</i>	
Answer:	Word clouds that use text analytics analyze each value in a special type of data item, a document collection, as a text document that can contain multiple words. Words that often appear together in the document collection are identified as topics. The word cloud displays the most relevant terms for each topic, where the size of each term indicates the relevance. Word clouds that use category values analyze each value in a category data item as a single text string. The word cloud can display either the string values that have the highest frequency or the string values that have the greatest value for a measure. The color of each word can indicate the value of a measure.	
Additional Information:	To enable text analytics, you must set a unique row identifier and define one or more categories as document collections. When using text analytics, you can select a word and display the complete text of the document collection to view the value in context. 	
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Working with Word Clouds • User's Guide: Define Data Item for Text Analytics 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Word Cloud and Use Text Analytics 	 Technical Papers

Question:	<i>Sometimes when I drag in a date variable I get a bar chart and sometimes I get a line chart. Why is that and how can I control that behavior?</i>	
Answer:	That Automatic chart will check the Model property for the data date item to determine the type of visualization to create. A bar chart is created if the Model property is set to Discrete , and a line chart is created if the Model property is set to Continuous .	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Managing Data Properties 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get Started with SAS Visual Analytics Explorer 	 Technical Papers

Question:	<i>I saw a colleague use an animated bubble plot to track how one of the bubbles moved over time. How can I do that?</i>	
Answer:	That feature is enabled by clicking one or more bubbles (hold down the Ctrl key and click to select multiple bubbles) before starting the animation. Clicking the background of the bubble plot will clear the tracked bubbles.	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Working with Bubble Plots 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Bubble Plot 	 Technical Papers

Question: <i>I would like to see the spark table for a bar or line chart. How can I do that?</i>		
Answer:	<p>By spark table, I'm assuming that you mean the detail data that is associated with a specific visualization. You can see the detail table of data for a visualization by right-clicking the visualization and selecting Show Details. Selecting Show Details a second time will hide the summary data</p> 	
Additional Information:	<p>You can also see the detail table by selecting Show Details from the visualization drop-down  on the visualization title bar or by clicking the Show Details button . This button will appear when you position your cursor at the top right corner of your visualization.</p>	
 Online Documentation	 Videos	 Technical Papers

Question: <i>How can I put a network diagram on a map? I've tried to do it, but the check box for Show Map is always dimmed.</i>		
Answer:	<p>To show a network diagram on a map, the data items used in the Level role need to be defined as Geography data items. If that is not the case, then the Show Map check box will be dimmed.</p>	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Working with Network Diagrams • User's Guide: Managing Data Properties 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Network Diagram 	 Technical Papers

Question: <i>In a treemap, is there a way to show data labels for different levels?</i>		
Answer:	<p>Yes, you can control the number of levels shown on a Treemap visualization through the Additional Levels control on the Properties tab. In the example shown at the right, the Treemap could be set to display 0, 1, or 2 additional levels.</p> 	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> User's Guide: Working with Treemaps 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a Treemap 	 Technical Papers

Question: <i>How can I treat a date value as a numeric value in a calculated item?</i>		
Answer:	<p>A good example of when you might want to treat a date as a numeric value is if you want to see how many days between when an order was placed and when it was delivered. To accomplish this you need to use the TreatAs operator to use the dates as numeric values that you can subtract.</p> 	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> User's Guide: Creating Calculated Data Items User's Guide: Numeric Advanced Operators User's Guide: Date and Time Operators 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create Calculated Data Items 	 Technical Papers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion: Finding number of days between to dates in SAS Visual Analytics Discussion: Date & Week Numbers in SAS Visual Analytics

If you have any questions, please contact:

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