

Web Codebook: Interactive Data Set Summaries

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Rho, Inc.

What is a codebook?

Codebook – A document that describes and summarizes the variables in a dataset.

Codebooks contain information about:

- Variable distributions
- Summary Statistics
- Basic Listing
- Missing data summary
- Variable metadata – variable format, labels, etc.

Existing Codebook Tools

hmisc::summarize (R) by Frank Harrell

Link: [R Package](#)

PDF
Adobe

Codebook for ICU

May 15, 2007

11 Variables											200 Observations									
id : Patient id code																				
n	missing	unique	mean	sd	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95									
200	0	200	445	272	42.0	81.3	210.3	412.5	671.8	829.8	881.4									
lowest : 4 8 12 14 27, highest: 921 923 924 925 929																				
age : Age																				
n	missing	unique	mean	sd	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95									
200	0	64	57.5	20.1	19.0	21.0	46.8	63.0	72.0	78.0	85.1									
lowest : 16 17 18 19 20, highest: 87 88 89 91 92																				
sex : Sex Format:sex																				
n	missing	unique																		
200	0	2																		
Male (124, 62%), Female (76, 38%)																				
race : Race Format:race																				
n	missing	unique																		
200	0	3																		
White (175, 88%), Black (18, 9%), Other (10, 5%)																				
service : Service at Admission																				
n	missing	unique	sum	mean																
200	0	2	107	0.535																
systolic : Systolic Blood Pressure																				
n	missing	M	X	unique	mean	sd	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95							
195	5	1	4	62	132	32.6	80	92	110	130	150	170	190							
lowest : 36 48 56 62 64, highest: 204 206 212 224 256																				
htrate : Heart Rate at Admission																				
n	missing	unique	mean	sd	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95									
200	0	81	99	26.8	60	65	80	96	118	136	144									
lowest : 39 44 46 48 52, highest: 164 160 162 170 192																				
previcu : Previous Admit to ICU Format:yn																				
n	missing	unique																		
200	0	2																		
No (170, 85%), Yes (30, 15%)																				
admit : Type of Admission Format:admit																				
n	missing	unique																		
200	0	2																		
Elective (53, 26%), Emergency (147, 74%)																				
date : Date of Systolic Measurement																				
n	missing	unique	mean	sd																
200	0	178	2003-10-22	200																
2003-04-24 2003-10-18 2004-06-07 2004-09-18 2004-11-06																				
lowest : 2001-03-21 2001-04-19 2001-05-28 2002-03-03 2002-04-20																				
highest: 2005-06-29 2005-07-02 2005-08-03 2005-08-23 2005-03-29																				
time : Time of Systolic Measurement																				
n	missing	unique	mean	sd																
200	0	205	08:16:48	4300																
09:16:54 10:06:14 10:30:03																				
lowest : 05:09:20 06:13:30 06:21:03 06:29:19 06:31:51																				
highest: 10:52:21 11:01:49 11:08:08 11:14:49 11:32:07																				



1

© J.R.W.B./ICT/gov/200

Codebook for ICU

May 15, 2007

11 Variables											200 Observations
id : Patient id code											
n	missing	unique	mean	sd	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95
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n	missing	unique									
200	0	2									
Male (124, 62%), Female (76, 38%)											

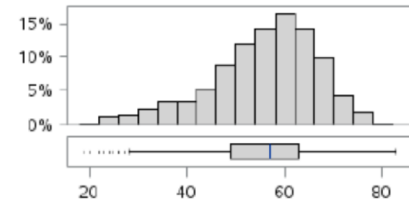
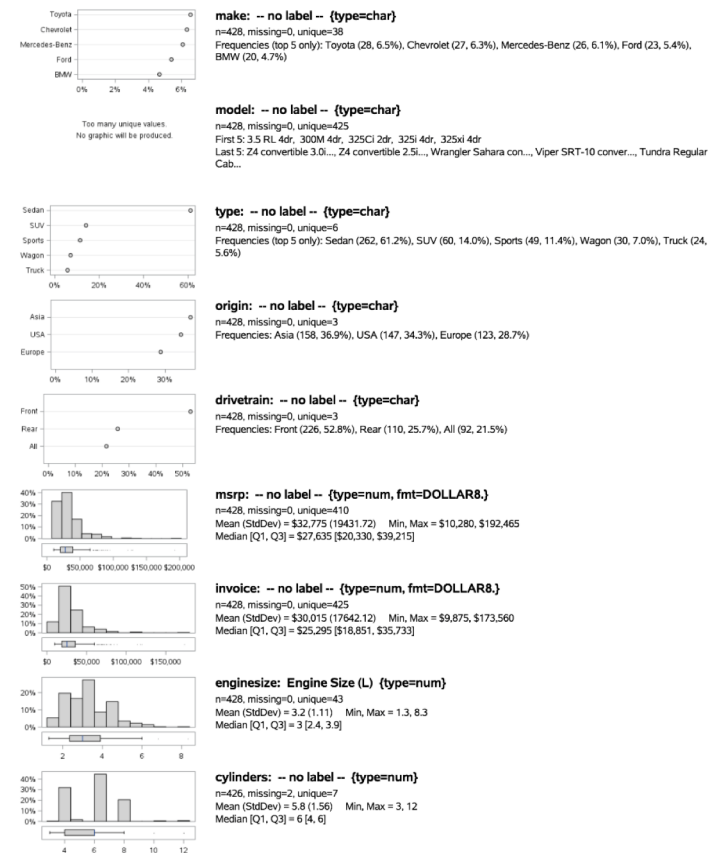
Existing Codebook Tools

sas-codebook macro by Shane Rosenbalm

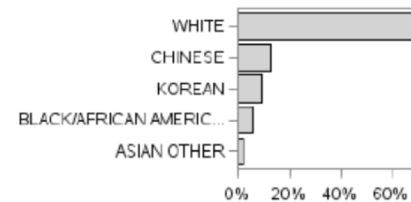
Link: [GitHub Repo](#)

Abbr. codebook for EXAMPLES.CARS (15 vars, 428 obs)

Page 1



age: Drv: Age At Consent Date {type=num}
n=975, missing=0, unique=62
Mean (StdDev) = 55.2 (11.19) Min, Max = 19, 83
Median [Q1, Q3] = 57 [49, 63]



race: Race {type=num, fmt=RACE2F.}
n=975, missing=0, unique=10
Frequencies (top 5 only): 1 = WHITE (670, 68.7%), 19 = CHINESE (125, 12.8%), 21 = KOREAN (91, 9.3%), 2 = BLACK/AFRICAN AMERIC... (53, 5.4%), 91 = ASIAN OTHER (18, 1.8%)

Why are codebooks useful?

Link: [Article](#)

COMMENT

P values are just the tip of the iceberg

Ridding science of shoddy statistics will require scrutiny of every step, not merely the last one, say **Jeffrey T. Leek** and **Roger D. Peng**.

There is no statistic more maligned than the *P* value. Hundreds of papers and blogposts have been written about what some statisticians deride as 'null hypothesis significance testing' (NHST; see, for example, go.nature.com/pfvqqe). NHST deems whether the results of a data analysis are important on the basis of whether a summary statistic (such as a *P* value) has crossed a threshold. Given the discourse, it is no surprise that some hailed as a victory the banning of NHST methods (and all of statistical inference) in the journal *Basic and Applied Social Psychology* in February¹. Such a ban will in fact have scant effect on the quality of published science. There are many stages to the design and analysis of a successful study (see 'Data pipeline'). The last of these steps is the calculation of an inferential statistic such as a *P* value, and the application of a 'decision rule' to it (for example, $P < 0.05$). In practice, decisions that are made earlier in data analysis have a much greater impact on results — from experimental design to batch effects, lack of adjustment for confounding factors, or simple measurement error. Arbitrary levels of statistical significance can be achieved by changing the ways in which data are cleaned, summarized or modelled².

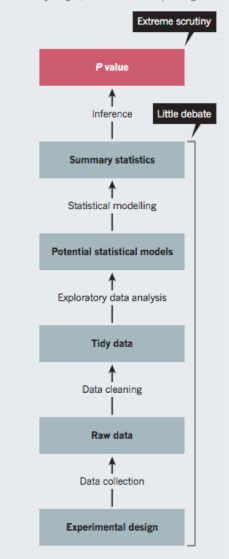
P values are an easy target: being widely used, they are widely abused. But, in practice, deregulating statistical significance opens the door to even more ways to game statistics — intentionally or unintentionally — to get a result. Replacing *P* values with Bayes factors or another statistic is ultimately about choosing a different trade-off of true positives and false positives. Arguing about the *P* value is like focusing on a single misspelling, rather than on the faulty logic of a sentence.

Better education is a start. Just as anyone who does DNA sequencing or remote-sensing has to be trained to use a machine, so too anyone who analyses data must be trained in the relevant software and concepts. Even investigators who supervise data analysis should be required by their funding agencies and institutions to complete training in understanding the outputs and potential problems with an analysis.

There are online courses specifically

DATA PIPELINE

The design and analysis of a successful study has many stages, all of which need policing.



designed to address this crisis. For example, the Data Science Specialization, offered by Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, and Data Carpentry, can easily be integrated into training and research. It is increasingly possible to learn to use the computing tools relevant to specific disciplines — training in Bioconductor, Galaxy and Python is included in Johns Hopkins' Genomic Data Science Specialization, for instance.

But education is not enough. Data

analysis is taught through an apprenticeship model, and different disciplines develop their own analysis subcultures. Decisions are based on cultural conventions in specific communities rather than on empirical evidence. For example, economists call data measured over time 'panel data', to which they frequently apply mixed-effects models. Biomedical scientists refer to the same type of data structure as 'longitudinal data', and often go at it with generalized estimating equations.

Statistical research largely focuses on mathematical statistics, to the exclusion of the behaviour and processes involved in data analysis. To solve this deeper problem, we must study how people perform data analysis in the real world. What sets them up for success, and what for failure? Controlled experiments have been done in visualization³ and risk interpretation⁴ to evaluate how humans perceive and interact with data and statistics. More recently, we and others have been studying the entire analysis pipeline. We found, for example, that recently trained data analysts do not know how to infer *P* values from plots of data⁵, but they can learn to do so with practice.

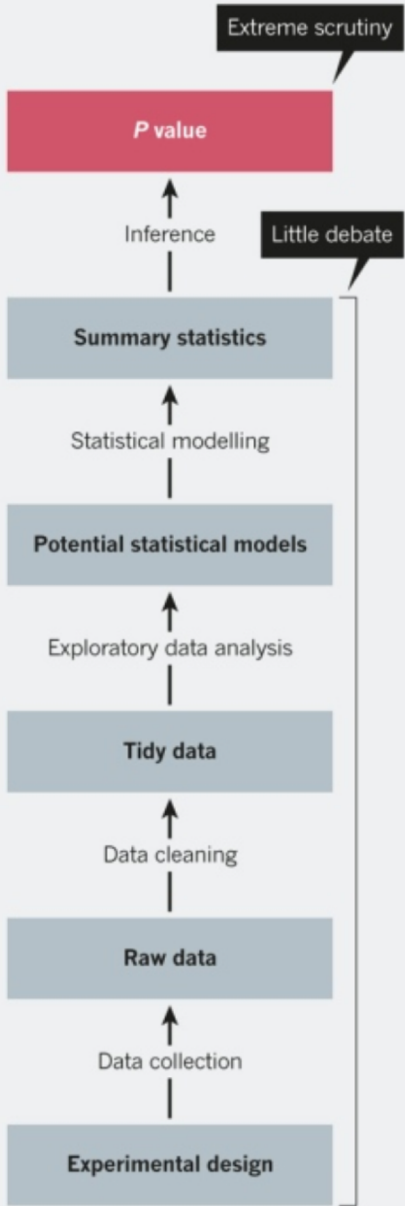
The ultimate goal is evidence-based data analysis⁶. This is analogous to evidence-based medicine, in which physicians are encouraged to use only treatments for which efficacy has been proved in controlled trials. Statisticians and the people they teach and collaborate with need to stop arguing about *P* values, and prevent the rest of the iceberg from sinking science. ■

Jeffrey T. Leek and Roger D. Peng are associate professors of biostatistics at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, Maryland, USA. e-mail: jleek@jhsp.edu

1. Trafimow, D. & Marks, M. *Basic Appl. Soc. Psych.* **37**, 1–2 (2015).
2. Simmons, J. P., Nelson, L. D. & Simonsohn, U. *Psychol. Sci.* **22**, 1359–1366 (2011).
3. Cleveland, W. S. & McGill, R. *Science* **229**, 828–833 (1985).
4. Kahneman, D. & Tversky, A. *Econometrica* **47**, 263–291 (1979).
5. Fisher, A., Anderson, G. B., Peng, R. & Leek, J. *PeerJ* **2**, e589 (2014).
6. Leek, J. T. & Peng, R. D. *Proc. Natl Acad. Sci. USA* **112**, 1645–1646 (2015).

DATA PIPELINE

The design and analysis of a successful study has many stages, all of which need policing.



Codebooks are great for exploring data

Many data errors can be caught with a simple codebook .

Exploratory Data Analysis - Typical Workflow

Request from Investigator: How many people were allergic to roach from our study in 2002?

Me: Uhh, where does that data live? I wonder if they want German Roach? Skin Test or IgE? 30 minutes later, runs this code.

```
> path <- "crazy/path/to/data/from/10/years/ago/sdtm"  
> skintests <- import(paste0(path, "/sas/st.sas7bdat"))  
> table(skintests$germanroach_skintest)
```

Positive
219
Negative
200

Email to Investigator [after a quick minute trip to my phone's calculator]:
52% (219/419) were allergic to german roach according to skin test.

Exploratory Data Analysis: Improved Workflow

Me: Codebooks were auto-generated every night, let's take a look.

germanroach.skintest: German Roach - Wheal Size at least 3.0 mm > Saline Wheal Size Format:yesnofm												
n	missing	unique										
419	0	2										
No (200, 48%), Yes (219, 52%)												
roachmix.skintest: Roach Mix - Wheal Size at least 3.0 mm > Saline Wheal Size Format:yesnofm												
n	missing	unique										
419	0	2										
No (193, 46%), Yes (226, 54%)												
roach.ige : IgE Cockroach (IU/mL)												
n	missing	unique	mean	sd	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95	
417	2	339	3.8	9.37	0.0125	0.0337	0.0727	0.1800	1.5800	12.0617	19.8188	
lowest : 0.0000 0.0101 0.0116 0.0128 0.0156												
highest: 46.8543 50.9983 51.2511 57.7085 74.4087												
roach.igec : Categorized IgE Cockroach Format:igefm												
n	missing	unique										
396	23	3										
0.35-3.5 KU/L (257, 65%), 3.5-20 KU/L (68, 17%)												
More than 20 KU/L (71, 18%)												

Email to Investigator:
Looks like 52% and 54% were allergic to German cockroach and Roach mix respectively according to skin test. 35% had sIgE above 3.5. I've attached a data set summary with more info including wheal size and exact IgE levels.

A cartoon illustration of SpongeBob SquarePants. He is yellow with brown spots, wearing a white shirt, a red tie, and brown pants. He is standing on a sandy ocean floor with purple rocks and green seaweed in the background. He has a thoughtful expression, with his eyes closed and a small frown. His right hand is raised to his chin, and his left hand is resting on his hip. A semi-transparent grey box with the text "But wait ..." is overlaid on his face.

But wait ...

Exploratory Data Analysis – The Real Workflow

2 days later ...

Request #2: Great! Can you break this down by Site?

A week passes ...

Request #3: What about by gender?

4 days after that ...

Request #4: How many are both mouse and cockroach allergic?

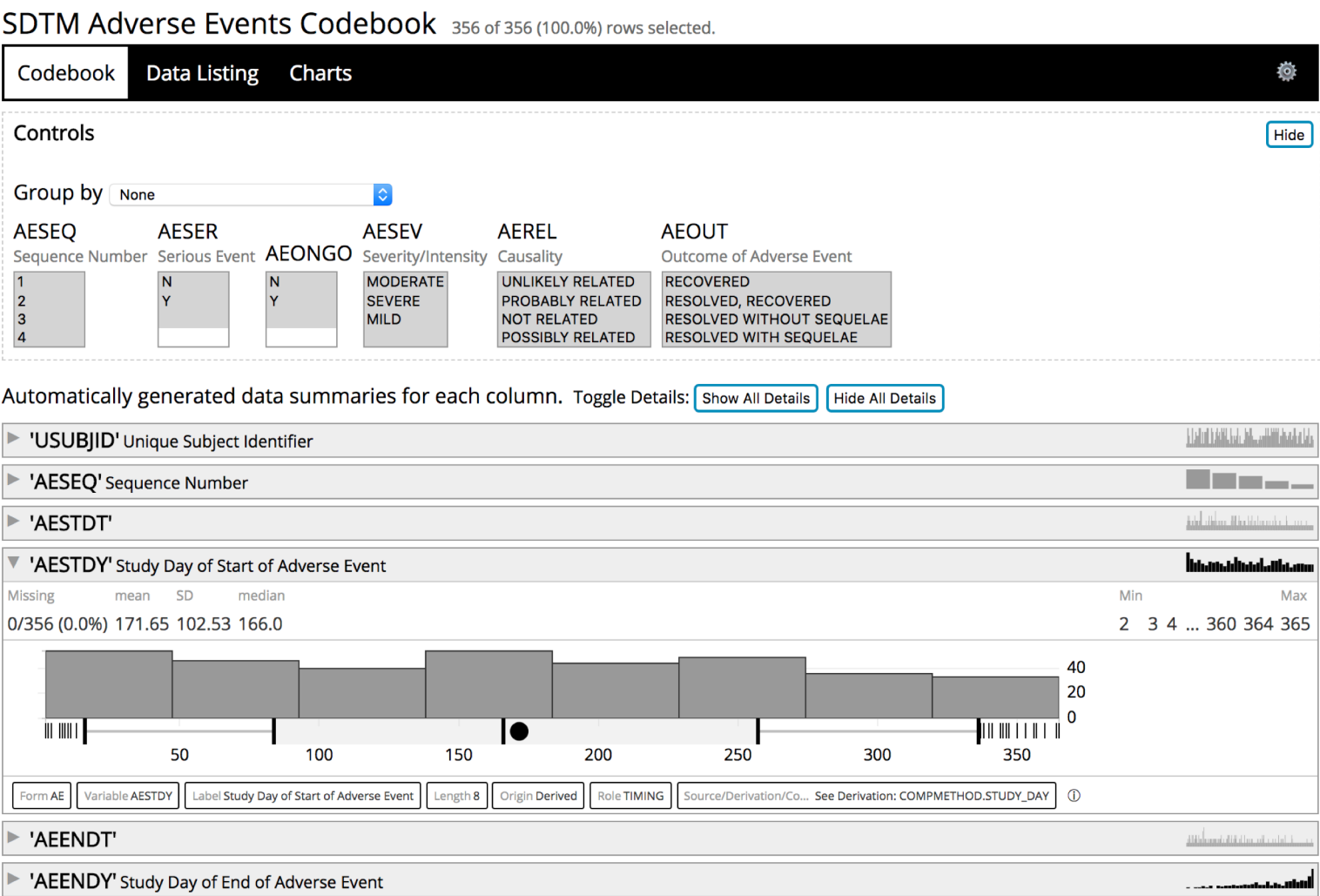
2 months later while you're on vacation ...

Request #5: That paper is due tomorrow! Can I have p-values for all of that??



Introducing Interactive Web Codebook

Links: [GitHub Repo](#) – [Live Example](#) – [R Impementation](#)



'USUBJID' Unique Subject Identifier

'AESEQ' Sequence Number

'AESTDT'

'AESTDY' Study Day of Start of Adverse Event

Missing

mean

SD

median

Min

Max

0/356 (0.0%)

171.65

102.53

166.0

2

3

4

...

360

364

365

40

20

0

50

100

150

200

250

300

350

Form AE

Variable AESTDY

Label Study Day of Start of Adverse Event

Length 8

Origin Derived

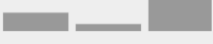
Role TIMING

Source/Derivation/Co... See Derivation: COMPMETHOD.STUDY_DAY

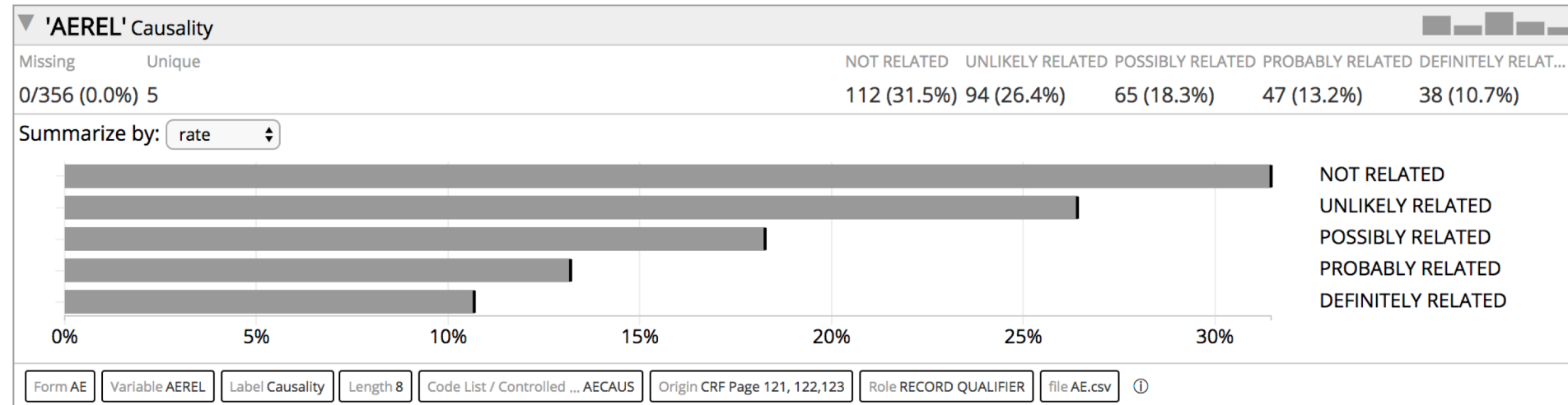
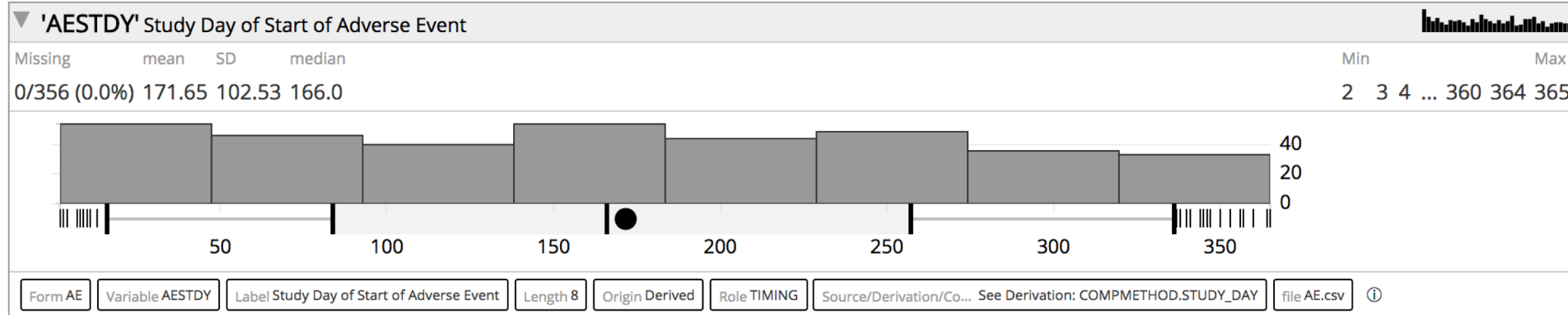
'AEENDT'

'AEENDY' Study Day of End of Adverse Event

Summary First ...

▶ 'USUBJID' Unique Subject Identifier		
▶ 'AESEQ' Sequence Number		
▶ 'AESTDT'		
▶ 'AESTDY' Study Day of Start of Adverse Event		
▶ 'AEENDT'		
▶ 'AEENDY' Study Day of End of Adverse Event		
▶ 'AETERM' Reported Term for the Adverse Event	1.4% missing	
▶ 'AEDECOD' Dictionary-Derived Term	1.4% missing	
▶ 'AEBODSYS' Body System or Organ Class	1.4% missing	
▶ 'AESER' Serious Event	1.4% missing	
▶ 'AEONGO'	1.4% missing	
▶ 'AESEV' Severity/Intensity	1.4% missing	
▶ 'AEREL' Causality	12.9% missing	
▶ 'AEOUT' Outcome of Adverse Event	1.1% missing	

... Details on Demand



Linked Listing

AESTDY ↓ 

Search

356 records displayed

USUBJID	AESEQ	AESTDT	AESTDY	AEENDT	AEENDY	AEDECOD	AESER	AEONGO	AESEV	AEREL	AEOUT
03-013	1	2015-11-06	10	2016-06-03	220	Chronic kidney disease	N	Y	MILD	PROBABLY RELATED	RECOVERED
05-010	1	2015-12-26	10	2016-07-31	228	Azoospermia	N	N	MODERATE	NOT RELATED	RECOVERED
05-022	2	2015-07-24	101	2015-08-29	137	Cognitive disturbance	N	Y	MILD	POSSIBLY RELATED	RECOVERED
05-028	1	2015-06-09	101	2016-02-22	359	CPK increased	N	N	MILD	POSSIBLY RELATED	RESOLVED WITH SEQUELAE
05-025	2	2015-11-20	103	2016-04-19	254	Laryngitis	Y	N	MILD	PROBABLY RELATED	RECOVERED
04-009	4	2015-07-21	103	2015-11-10	215	Serum amylase increased	N	N	MILD	POSSIBLY RELATED	RECOVERED
05-029	2	2016-03-13	103	2016-09-20	294	Laryngeal obstruction	Y	Y	MILD	NOT RELATED	RESOLVED, RECOVERED
01-018	2	2016-03-25	104	2016-12-06	360	Ovarian rupture	Y	N	MILD	POSSIBLY RELATED	RECOVERED
04-004	4	2016-03-01	106	2016-10-09	328	Jejunal hemorrhage	Y	N	MODERATE	DEFINITELY RELATED	RESOLVED WITHOUT SEQUELAE
02-029	2	2016-02-04	106	2016-07-01	254	Middle ear inflammation	N	N	MILD	UNLIKELY RELATED	RECOVERED

Export: CSV

1 2 3 4 5 ... > >>

Explore Multiple Files

Dataset	Description	Class	Structure	Purpose	Keys	Location
TA	Trial Arms	Trial Design	One record per planned Element per Arm	Tabulation	STUDYID, ARMCD, TAETORD	ta.xpt
SUPPLB	Supplemental Qualifiers for LB	Relationship	One record per IDVAR, IDVARVAL, and QNAM value per subject	Tabulation	STUDYID, RDOMAIN, USUBJID, IDVAR, IDVARVAL, QNAM	supplb.xpt
TI	Trial Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria	Trial Design	One record per I/E criterion	Tabulation	STUDYID, IETESTCD	ti.xpt
TS	Trial Summary	Trial Design	One record per trial summary parameter value	Tabulation	STUDYID, TSPARMCD, TSSEQ	ts.xpt
TV	Trial Visits	Trial Design	One record per planned Visit per Arm	Tabulation	STUDYID, VISITNUM	tv.xpt
DM	Demographics	Special Purpose	One record per subject	Tabulation	STUDYID, USUBJID	dm.xpt
SE	Subject Elements	Special Purpose	One record per actual Element per subject	Tabulation	STUDYID, USUBJID, ETCDC	se.xpt
SV	Subject Visits	Special Purpose	One record per actual visit per subject	Tabulation	STUDYID, USUBJID, VISITNUM	sv.xpt
CM	Concomitant Medications	Interventions	One record per recorded medication occurrence or constant-dosing interval per subject	Tabulation	STUDYID, USUBJID, CMTRT, CMSTDTC	cm.xpt
EX	Exposure	Interventions	One record per constant dosing interval per subject	Tabulation	STUDYID, USUBJID, EXTRT, EXSTDTC	ex.xpt
AE	Adverse Events	Events	One record per adverse event per subject	Tabulation	STUDYID, USUBJID, AETERM, AESTDTC, AESEQ	ae.xpt
TE	Trial Elements	Trial Design	One record per planned Element	Tabulation	STUDYID, ETCDC	te.xpt
MH	Medical History	Events	One record per medical history event per subject	Tabulation	STUDYID, USUBJID, MHTERM, MHSTDTC	mh.xpt
LB	Laboratory Tests Results	Findings	One record per analyte per planned time point number per time point reference per visit per subject	Tabulation	STUDYID, USUBJID, LBTESTCD, VISITNUM	lb.xpt
QS	Questionnaires	Findings	One record per questionnaire per question per time point per visit per subject	Tabulation	STUDYID, USUBJID, QSTESTCD, VISITNUM	qs.xpt

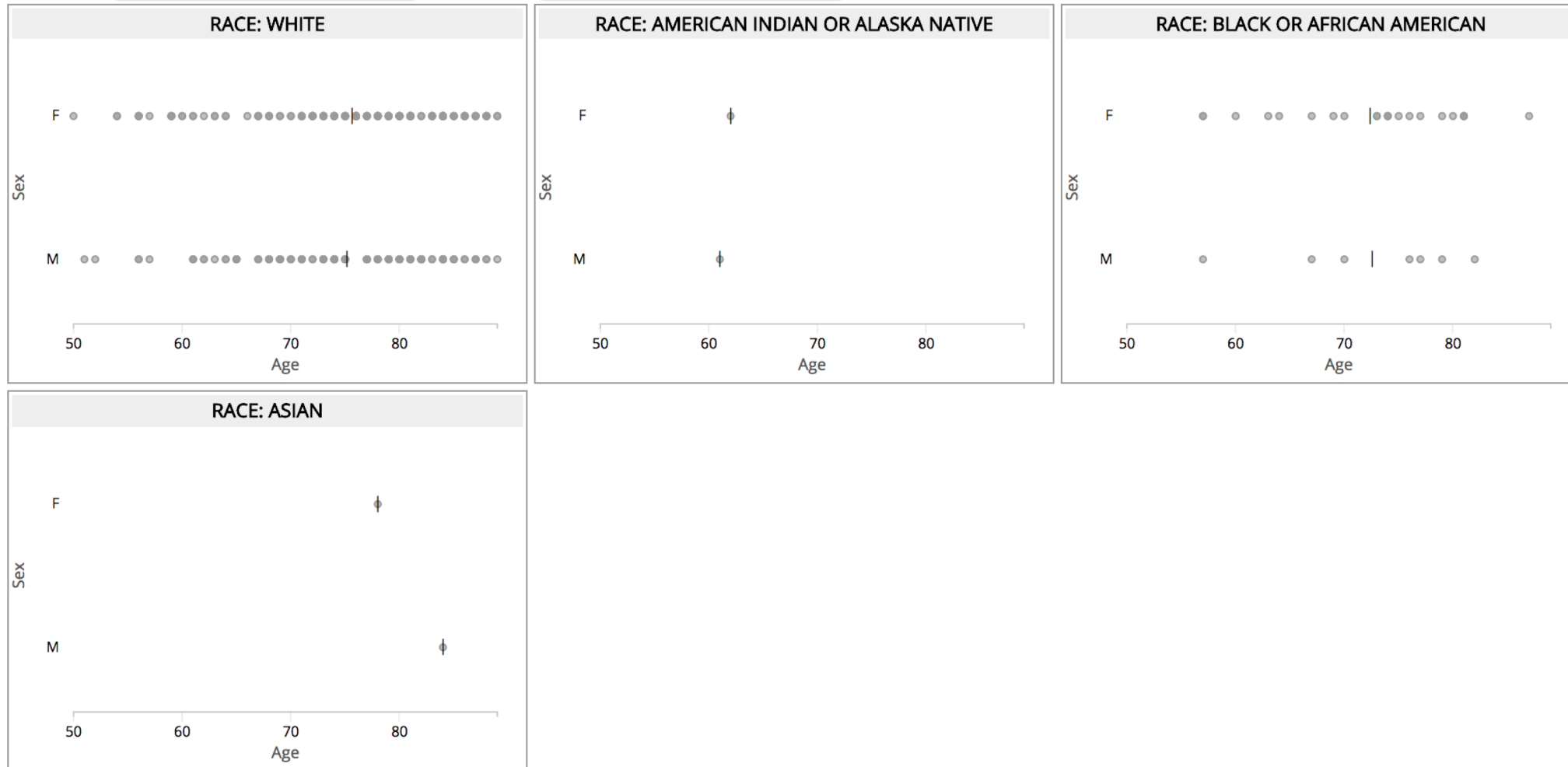
Real Time Configuration

Column	Label	Group	Filter	Hide
USUBJID	Unique Subject Identifie	☐	☐	☐
AESEQ	Sequence Number	☒	☒	☐
AESTDT		☐	☐	☐
AESTDY	Study Day of Start of Ac	☐	☐	☐
AEENDT		☐	☐	☐
AEENDY	Study Day of End of Adv	☐	☐	☐
AETERM	Reported Term for the A	☐	☐	☐
AEDECOD	Dictionary-Derived Tern	☐	☐	☐
AEBODSYS	Body System or Organ C	☐	☐	☐
AESER	Serious Event	☒	☒	☐
AEONGO		☒	☒	☐
AESEV	Severity/Intensity	☒	☒	☐
AEREL	Causality	☒	☒	☐
AEOUT	Outcome of Adverse Eve	☒	☒	☐

Basic Real-Time Charting

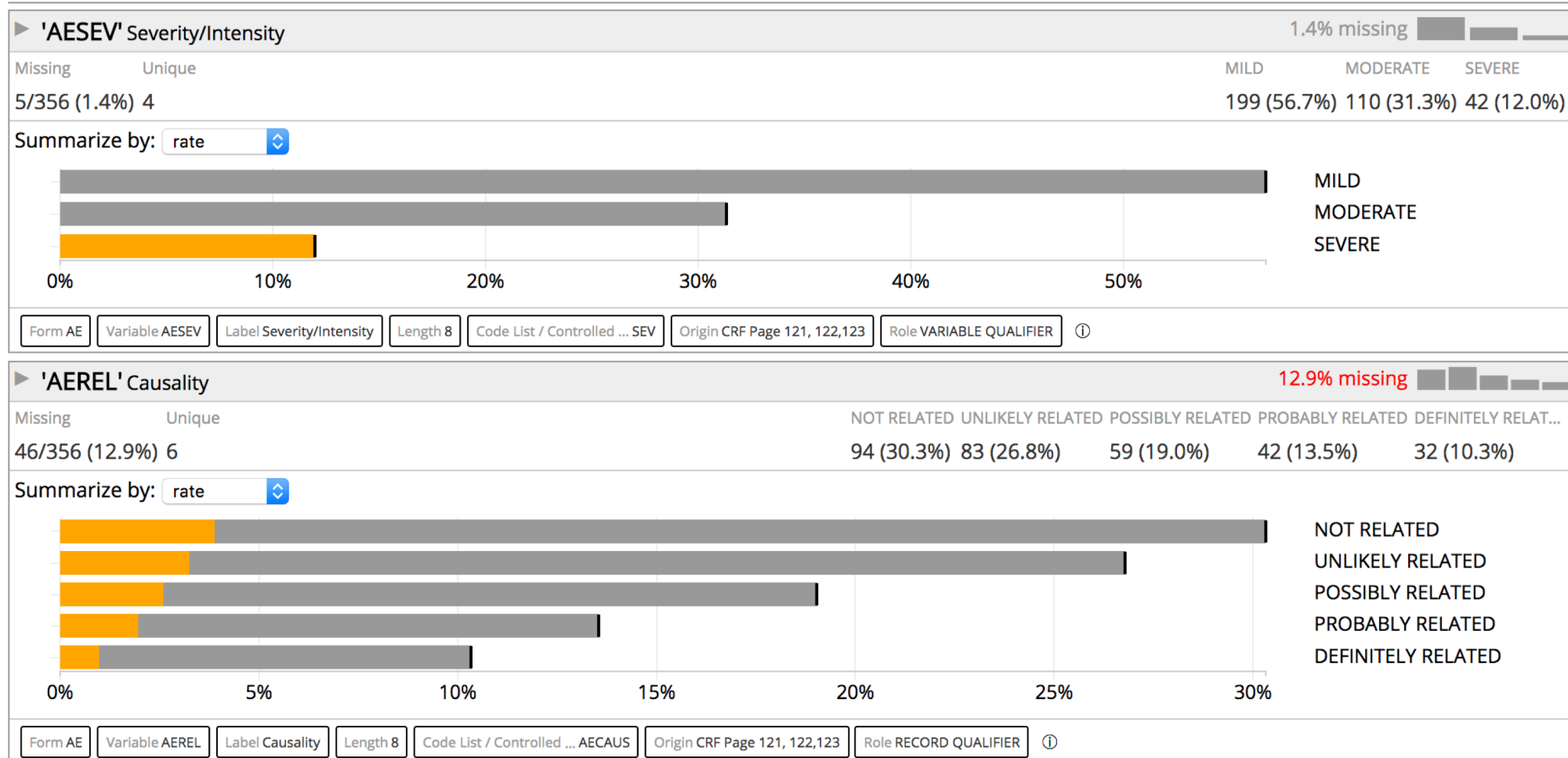
Pick two variables to compare. Filter and group (panel) the chart using the controls above.

x variable: y variable:



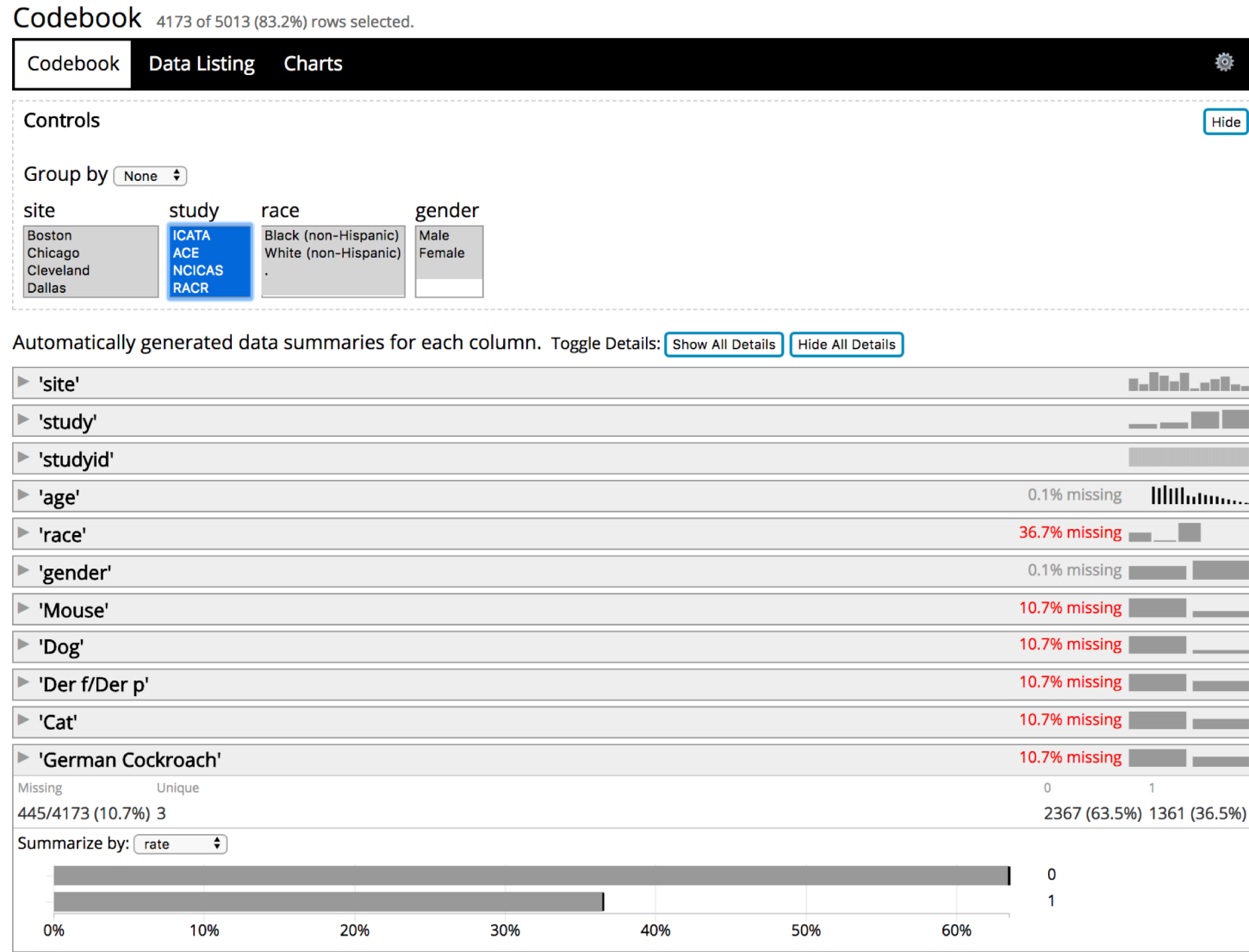
Real-time Interactivity

Filtering, Grouping and Highlighting



Exploratory Data Analysis: Web Codebook

Links: [Live Demo](#)



Exploratory Data Analysis: Web Codebook

2 days later ...

Request #2: Great! Can you break this down by Site?

Web-codebook workflow: Group by site (or filter or make a chart!)

A week passes ...

Request #3: Are there differences by gender?

Web-codebook workflow: Group by gender (or filter or make a chart!)

4 days after that ...

Request #4: How many are both mouse and cockroach allergic?

Web-codebook workflow: Highlight cockroach allergic participants (or filter or group on allergic status!).

2 months later while you're on vacation ...

Request #5: That paper is due tomorrow! Can I have p-values for all of that??

Web Codebook - Data Requirements

- Creates data summary for any tabular data set
- No configuration, data specification or data mapping needed
- Support for metadata via 2nd data set
- Tool uses JSON data
 - Many functions available to map from other formats
 - R implementation handles this automatically via the [rio](#) package
- Lots of configurable options
 - Tool picks smart defaults for filters and groups
 - User can customize settings in real time

Web Codebook – Technical Details

- Written in Javascript
- Works in any modern web browser
- Easy to implement in any web environment
- Minimal Dependencies
 - D3.js (Bostock, 2011)
 - webcharts.js (Bryant, 2016)
- In most cases, a summary for a single data set can be initialized with a single line of javascript:

```
webcodebook.createChart( '#chartLocation', {} ).init(data)
```

- Full technical documentation in [project wiki](#)

R Implementation – Technical Details

- *codebook()* function provides htmlwidgets wrapper for web codebook
- *explorer()* function loads all data objects in current session by default
 - Set demo=T to load all sample data sets instead
- *codebookApp()* - shiny app lets users load data sets in real time
- All functions create output that is easy to export and share.
- All can be initialized in 1 line of code after loading the library:

```
> devtools::install_github('RhoInc/codebook')  
> library(codebook)  
> codebook(mtcars) #create webpage with htmlwidgets  
> explorer() #create a codebook explorer for current environment  
> codebookApp() #run shiny app
```


RStudio

Go to file/function

Addins

Project: (None)

CodebookDemo.R

Source on Save

Run

Source

```
1 devtools::install_github('RhoInc/codebook')
2 library(codebook)
3 explorer(demo=T)
4 
```

4:1 (Top Level)

R Script

Console

Terminal

```
* installing *source* package 'codebook' ...
** R
** inst
** preparing package for lazy loading
** help
*** installing help indices
** building package indices
** testing if installed package can be loaded
* DONE (codebook)
Reloading installed codebook
> library(codebook)
> explorer(demo=T)
Warning message:
In explorer(demo = T) :
  No datasets to add from working environment; continuing with other user specified data sets.
> 
```

Environment

History

Connections

Files

Plots

Packages

Help

Viewer

Zoom

Export

Publish

"airquality" Codebook

6 of 6 (100.0%) columns selected.

Files

Codebook

Data Listing

Click a row to see the codebook for the file.

File	Rows
airquality	153
anscombe	11
attenu	182
attitude	30
beaver1	114
beaver2	100
BOD	6
cars	50
ChickWeight	578
chickwts	71
CO2	84
DNase	176
esoph	88
faithful	272
Formaldehyde	6
freeny	39
Indometh	66
infert	248
InsectSprays	72
iris	150
LifeCycleSavings	50

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Web Codebook – Free and Open Source

Link: [Rho's Open Source Handbook](#)

Rho Open Source Handbook

Overview

This library provides information about open source software development at [Rho](#). We provide a brief overview of Rho's philosophy regarding open source development, and then give guidelines for Rho staff and external contributors working on Rho's open source projects.

Planned updates to this document are tracked as [GitHub issues](#). Questions can be submitted on the issues page or via [email](#).

What is open source?

The [Open Source Initiative](#) has a good [definition](#):

Generally, Open Source software is software that can be freely accessed, used, changed, and shared (in modified or unmodified form) by anyone.

What is Rho's position on open source code sharing?

[Rho](#) is in favor of open source code sharing. An open source approach takes the work done at Rho and broadens its reach. That's a great thing since it falls in line with our core purpose:

To improve health, extend life, and enhance quality of life through corporate and research excellence.

Next Steps

- Continue to improve interactive data summaries ([issues tracker](#))
- Release v1.0 of R package on CRAN
- Add statistical testing via R in v2.0 of R package!