

STAT 541

**Data Visualization in  
SAS: An Interlude**

- Data visualization (though graphical displays, plots, interactive graphics, etc.) is increasingly important for modern statisticians and data scientists.
- Visualization tools can be a great way to recognize patterns in data.
- Perhaps most importantly graphical presentations can communicate conclusions about the data to consumers or clients who are not statistics experts.

- SAS has traditionally been behind more nimble software (like R) in terms of graphics capability, but SAS has improved over the years.
- See examples comparing PROC PLOT to PROC GPLOT to PROC SGPLOT.
- Some really great data visualizations can be done in SAS, but it is not easy.
- It often requires some very detailed programming and creative use of the DATA step and various procedures.

- There are some nice examples of coding some cool data visualizations available online.

- Keith Cranford presented some nice examples of SAS data visualizations in his article at:

[https://www.lexjansen.com/scsug/2010/Cranford/Data\\_Visualization\\_with\\_SAS.pdf](https://www.lexjansen.com/scsug/2010/Cranford/Data_Visualization_with_SAS.pdf)

- The most incredible resource for data visualizations in SAS that I have seen in Robert Allison's website and associated blog: <http://robslink.com/SAS/>
- He has also written several books and e-books on SAS graphics; links to them can be found on his website.
- You can spend a lot of time looking at all the cool graphs (and SAS code to create them) that he has made available.