Tableau Circle Dot Chart

<https://tableaumagic.com/drawing-a-circle-dot-chart/>

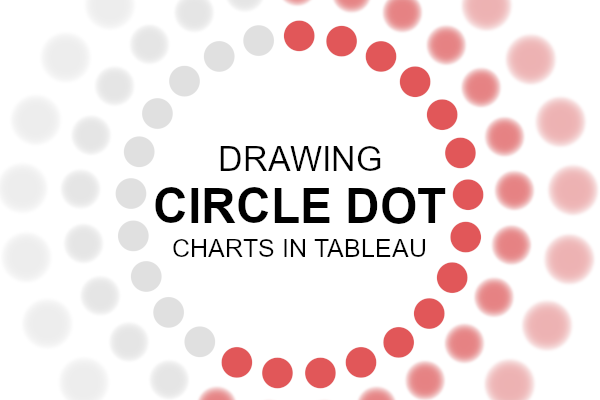
# Details of explanation found here

# https://tableaumagic.com/data-densification-for-tableau-drawing/

# Drawing a Circle Dot Chart

By

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[](https://tableaumagic.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/circle-dot-chart-00a.png)

I saw the following while looking for inspiration and thought that this would be fun to build, to build this visualisation as well as to include some neat variations. This should be a very nice and quick data visualisation to draw in Tableau.

Note: This is an alternative type of data visualisation, and sometimes pushed for by clients. Please always look at best practices for data visualisations before deploying satellite charts into production.

## Data

Load the following data into Tableau Desktop / Public.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Path** | **Value** |
| 1 | 0.6 |
| 361 | 0.6 |

Note: we need two records for each Country as we are going to be drawing lines and using densification to get more points on our canvas. For more information, check out our article on [*Data Densification*](https://tableaumagic.com/data-densification-for-tableau-drawing/).

## Calculated Fields

With our data set loaded into Tableau, we are going to create the following Calculated Fields and Bins:

Create **Path (bin)**

* Right click on **Path**, go to **Create** and select **Bins…**
* In the Edit Bins dialogue window:
  + Set **New field name** to **Path (bin)**.
  + Set **Size of bins** to **15**.
  + Click **Ok**.

Now let us create the following Calculated Fields:

**Index**

INDEX()-1

**TC\_Step Size**

(WINDOW\_MAX(MAX([Path]))/(WINDOW\_MAX([Index])))\*

(((WINDOW\_MAX([Index]))-1))/(WINDOW\_MAX([Index]))

Note: This is the complicated part of this tutorial, have a shot at figuring out this calculation.

**X**

SIN(RADIANS([Index]\*[TC\_Step Size]))

**Y**

COS(RADIANS([Index]\*[TC\_Step Size]))

**TC\_Color**

IF [Index]/WINDOW\_MAX([Index]) < WINDOW\_MAX(MAX(Value)) THEN

"Color"

ELSE

"Grey"

END

**Zero**

0

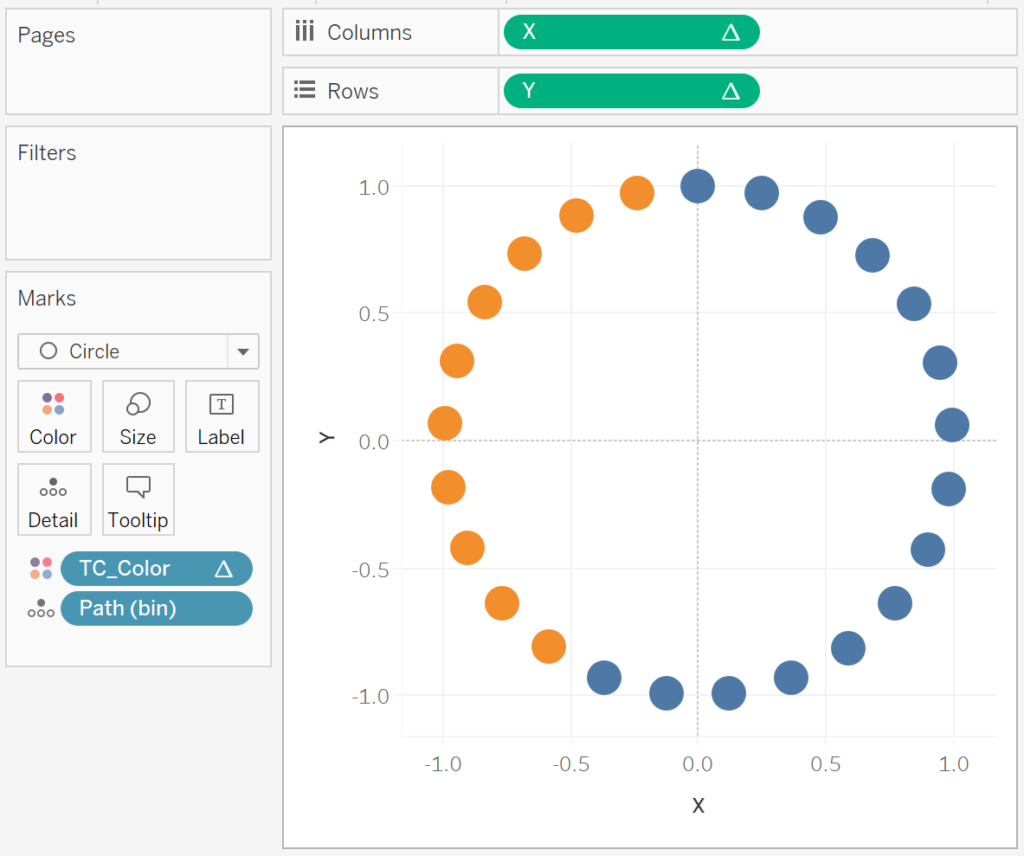
So now that we have created a lot of Calculated fields, we will now put this together into a Worksheet.

## Worksheet

We will now build our worksheet:

* Change the **Mark Type** to **Circle**.
* Drag **Path (bin)** onto **Columns**.
  + Right-click on this object, ensure that **Show Missing Values** is selected.
  + Drag this object onto the **Detail Mark**.
* Drag **X** onto **Columns**.
  + Right-click on this object, go to **Compute Using** and select **Path (bin)**.
* Drag **Y** onto **Rows**.
  + Right-click on this object, go to **Compute Using** and select **Path (bin)**.
* Drag **TC\_Color** onto **Color Mark**.
  + Right-click on this object, go to **Compute Using** and select **Path (bin).**

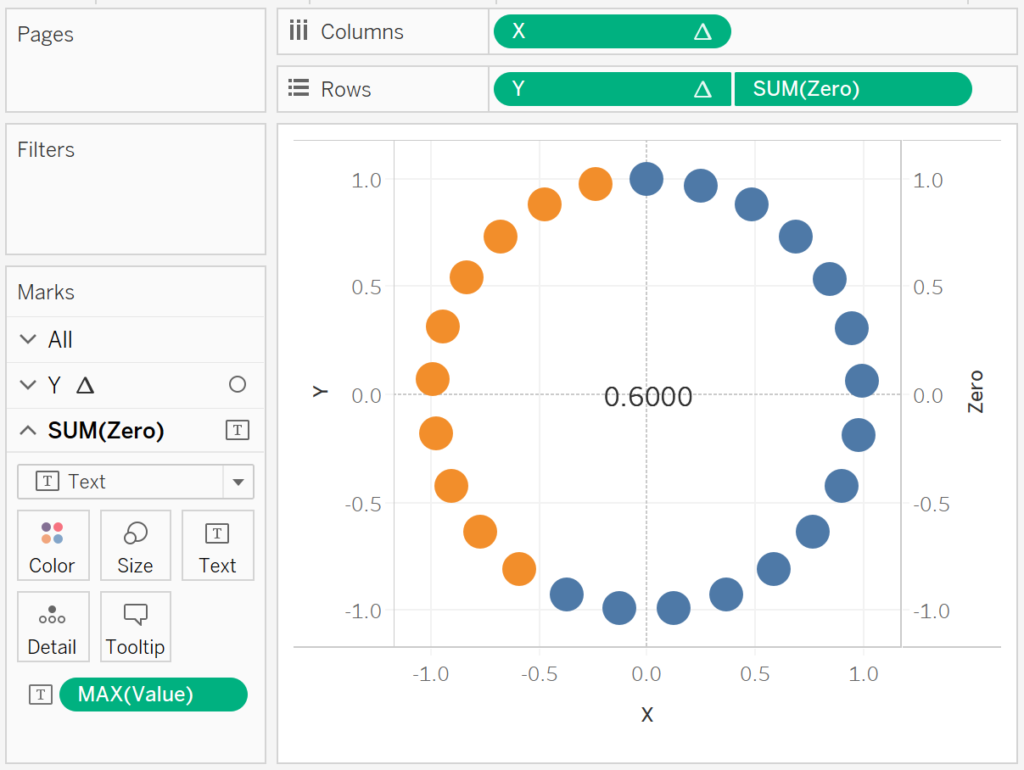
If all goes well, you should now see the following:



Now we will add the text to the center of the circle:

* Drag **Zero** onto **Rows**.
  + Right-click on **SUM(Zero)** and select **Dual Axis**.
  + Right-click on the axis and select **Synchronize Axis**.
* In the **SUM(Zero)** Mark panel, remove all objects.
  + Change the **Mark Type** to **Text**.
  + Drag **Value** onto **Text**. Right-click on this object and set the aggregation to **Maximum**.
  + If not values are shown, click on null in the bottom right, and select “show data at default position”.

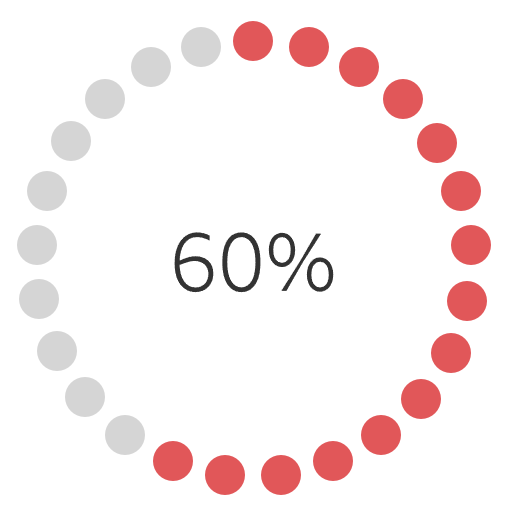
You should now see the following:



Now we will adjust the cosmetics:

* Hide Axis Headers.
* Set Row Divider to None.
* Set Column Divider to None.
* Set Grid Lines to None.
* Set Zero Lines to None.
* Format the value to Percentage.
* Set the Color.
* Set the Size.

You will want to have the following:

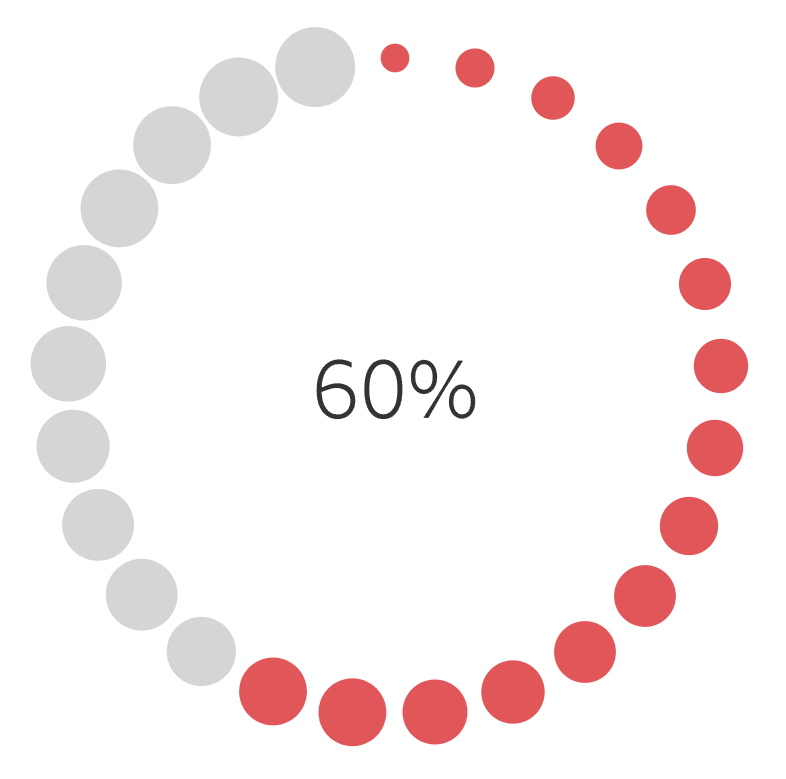


and boom, we are done with this visualisation, you can find my data visualisation on Tableau Public at   
<https://public.tableau.com/profile/toan.hoang#!/vizhome/CircleDotCharts/CircleDotChart>

…but before we go, let us try to create some variations.

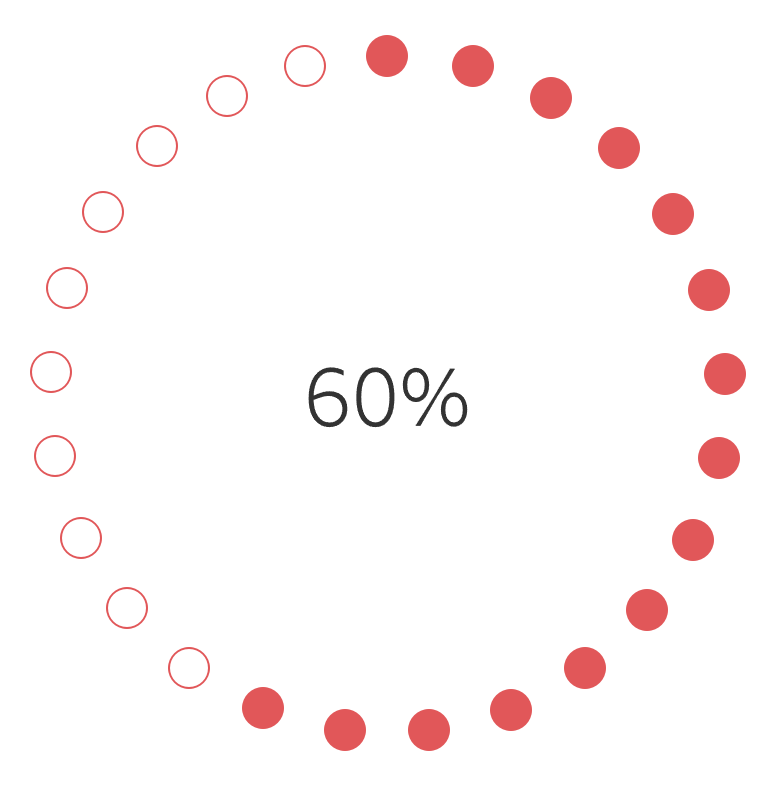
## Variation 1

Drag **Index** onto **Size**, and set Compute Using to Path (bin). We will get the following:



## Variation 2

Edit the Object Color and Border Color to get the following:



## Summary

I hope you all enjoyed this article as much as I enjoyed writing it and as always do share the love. Do let me know if you experienced any issues recreating this Visualisation, and as always, please leave a comment below or reach out to me on Twitter [@Tableau\_Magic](https://twitter.com/Tableau_Magic).