



Reactive Search srl

Grapheur 2.0

Not A Manual

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GRAPHEUR 2.0 NOT A MANUAL

Rumors say that most people do not read manuals and we tend to be sympathetic with this silent majority. Therefore, we decided to collect in this section the basic hints that an informed and competent user will need to use **Grapheur 2.0**, at least for the most basic operations. Two text pages plus figures.

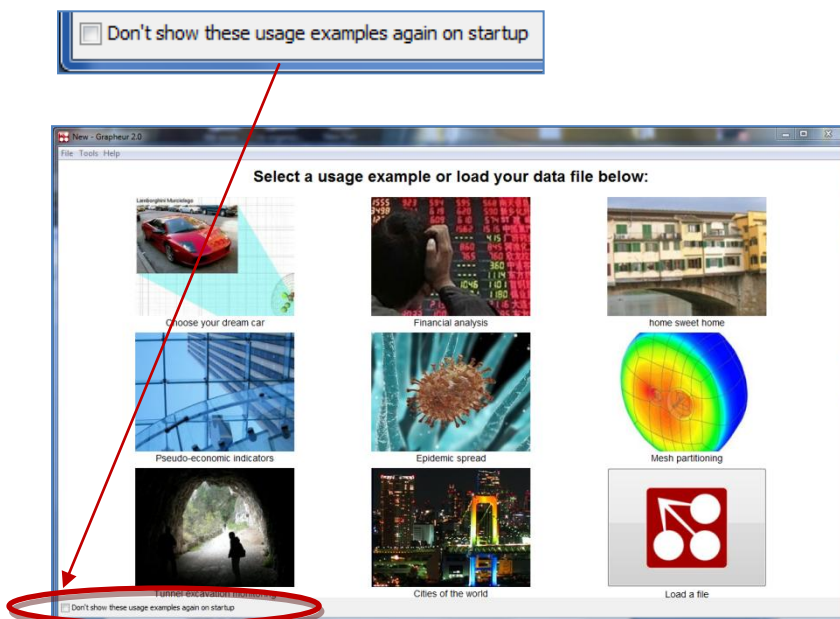
DATA FILES

Grapheur 2.0 acts on files consisting of **rows and columns**. Each column is identified with a label, written in the first line. Each row registers a **record**.

Name	Column1	Column2	Column3	Column4	Column5
Row1	23	32	22	12	41
Row2	87	5	11	42	22
Row3	64	56	19	89	13
Row4	37	32	91	21	24

As an example, if your company produces software, each line can register a copy of software sold. The different columns can contain: the seller, the software version, the date, the price, etc. Some cells can be empty. After it is clear that **rows** contain events, or items, or objects, and **columns** describe coordinates or dimensions, just prepare your data and save them in the CSV format (values separated by commas).

Our suggestion is: start the software and select the usage example most similar to your application area to see data files and possible ways of using **Grapheur 2.0**. When tired, click on

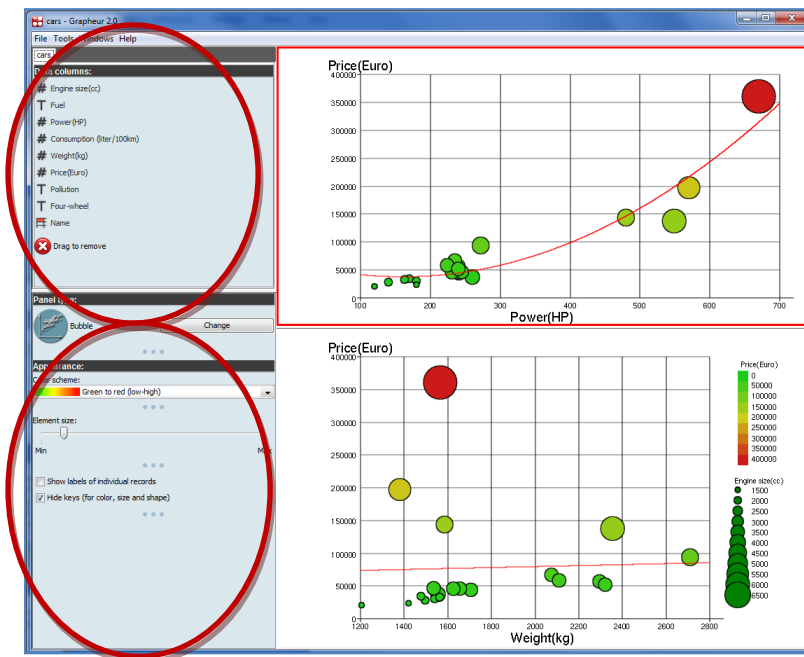




Examples of CSV files can be obtained by opening one of the usage examples and exporting the data as CSV files (File menu). Connectors with the most popular databases and file formats are present in the Grapheur Enterprise version, just tell us if you need help for your specific case.

WHAT TO SEE AND HOW TO SEE IT

Among the two tabs at the left, the **data window** at the top displays data in the current file with their associated data types. **Data types**, chosen by you when the file is opened, transfer meaning from you to the software. For example, if integers like 33, 22, 777 are of type *numbers*, it make sense to view a line plot where integers are ordered on the x axis, if they are *names* (like IDs) it makes no sense, like it make no sense to plot the height of people as a function of their telephone numbers.



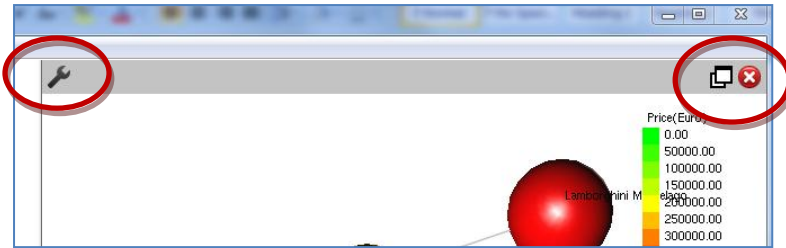
The **data window** decides **what** to see on the right. The **properties window** below decides **how** you see your data (colors, form, size, background, etc.). Click on a panel on the right to open the associated **properties window** (this panel will be surrounded by a red border).

THE BASIC ACTION STYLE

Most of the action in Grapheur happens by **dragging** something from the **data window** to one of the visualization panels on the right. Even cancellation of choices happens by dragging the **X** icon in the Data panel to active objects on the right.

CONTROLLING THE SCREEN SPACE

The basic rule is: all visualizations are open on the screen and consume all available space. If you temporarily need more space for a panel click on the **panel maximize** icon (top right on the panel), then click at the same place to have the panel go back to the original size.

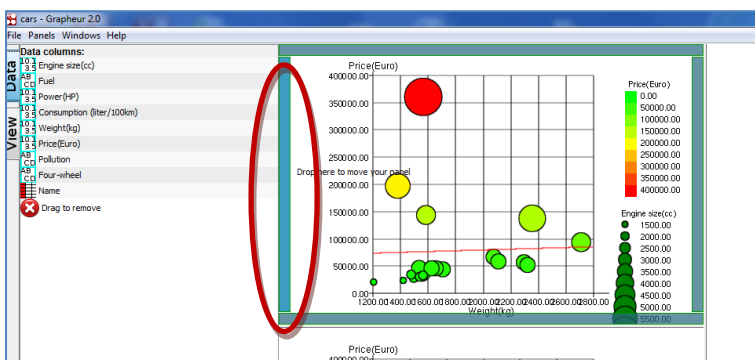


Full screen can be obtained by **ctrl-F** and **escape** (or by the windows menu voice).

The space of the various panels can be changed by acting on their **boundaries**. After the space subdivision is decided, panels can be rapidly **exchanged** by dragging them on the upper control bar and dropping them onto another panel. The two panels will be swapped.

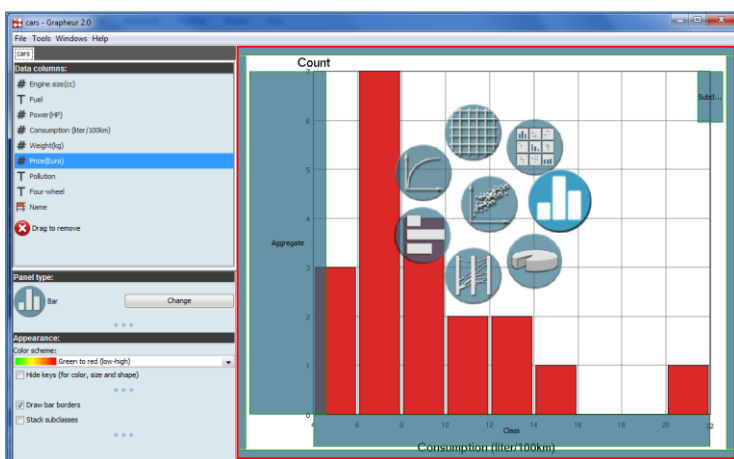
For example, you may have a series of small panels at the right to remind you of the different visualizations and a big panel on the left. Drag one of the small panels to the big panel on the left when you want to concentrate on one of them, by keeping the other ones in the periphery.

If a panel is dropped onto one of the **active boundaries**, the panel will be placed in that position.



PROTEAN PANELS: THE SAME DATA FROM DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW

In Greek mythology, Proteus is a god who can foretell the future, but will change his shape to avoid having to. He will answer only to someone who captures him. From this feature of Proteus comes the adjective **protean**, with the general meaning of "versatile", "mutable", "capable of assuming many forms". Most panels in Grapheur 2.0 are protean.





The actual form is decided when you drop a new data (through the **selection wheel**) or afterwards, by **right-clicking** the mouse and choosing a new visualization. Note a trick: if you drag a panel and drop it on *its own* active boundary, a **copy of the panel** will be created. After it is copied, the panel can be transformed: a rapid manner to see the same data in two different ways.

CONTROLLING THE COMPLEXITY

Grapheur 2.0 is designed for competent users. We tried to keep the software *as simple as possible, but not simpler*. In the tradeoff between freedom and anxiety to avoid strange or non-standard behavior we put more weight on **freedom**.

This means you will not be bored with prohibitions or annoying messages like “Are you really sure you want to do this action?” “Are you really, really sure?”

Some actions are simpler, related to observing your data in different manners; other actions are bolder and related to building explanatory or even predictive models. If you are using the **LIONsolver** (www.LIONsolver.com) product by our company, you know that the power of intelligent data mining and optimization is enormous. The complexity of usage in this context increases. Not because we like complexity, but because complexity is unavoidable to a certain extent.

The best suggestion is: start with simple usages, and take the time to learn about more complex and powerful schemes to get the best out of them. Real creativity always requires a certain effort.

Whatever life holds in store for me, I will never forget these words: "With great power comes great responsibility." This is my gift, my curse. Who am I? I'm Spider-man.(cited from the movie)

After glimpsing at the panorama you can now enter the detailed explanations of the various sections in the detailed manual.