# Day 1: Let's Play with Data!

2008 Presidential Election Donations

$1,644,712,232

# 6X
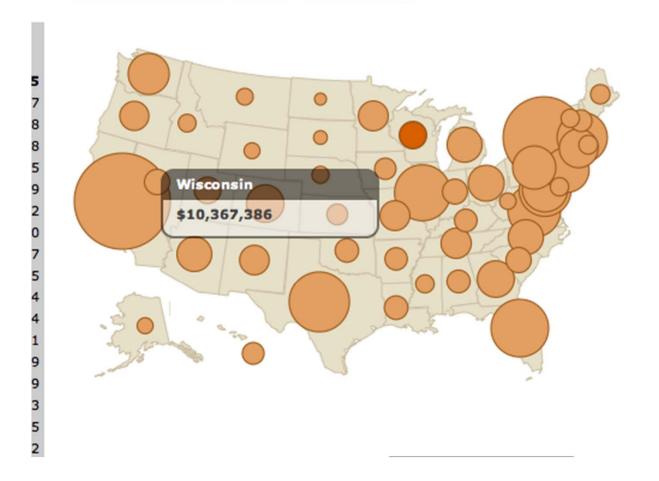
## Earth's circumference!

# 10%

## U.S. Dept of Energy's Budget!

# Federal Election Commission

(FEC)

# 2008 Donations Dataset

C00430470,"P80002801",

"McCain, John S",

"WAHLERS, STUART E. MR.",

"A.P.O.", "AE", "091280013",

"U.S. MILITARY","SOLDIER",

250, 31-JUL-08,

"","X",

"TRANSFER FROM MCCAIN VICTORY 2008",
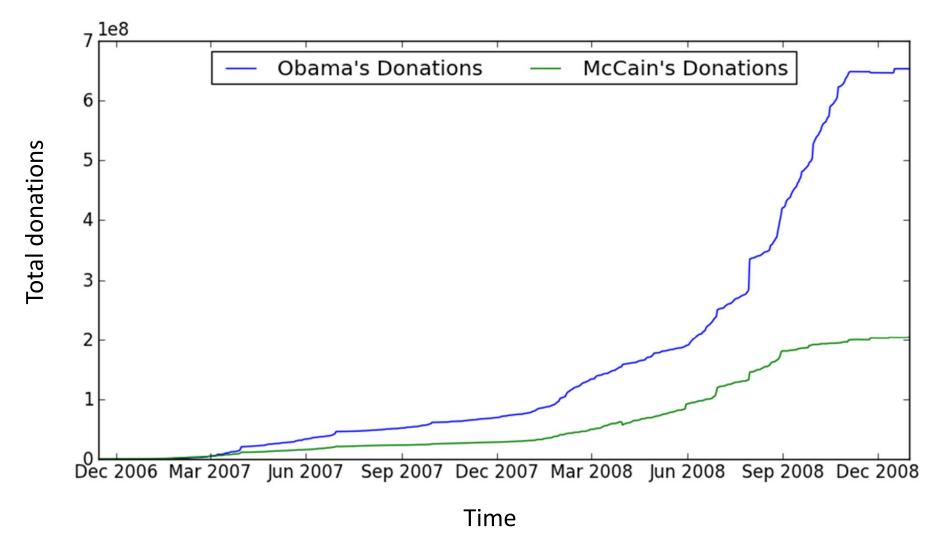
"SA18",377957

# Contributions to All Candidates



Wisconsin
$10,367,386

## Whats Included Here?

## Summary

| Contributions | |
|---|---|
| ■ Individual | $1,334,224,621 |
| ■ PAC | $5,178,919 |
| ■ Party | -$74,043 |
| ☐ Candidate | $60,230,846 |
| Federal Funds | $103,732,646 |
| Transfers-In | $154,259,577 |
| Disbursements | $1,603,258,818 |
| Cash On Hand | $49,237,448 |

## Size of Donations

| $200 and Under | $427,817,410 |
|---|---|
| $200.01 - $499 | $140,622,952 |
| $500 - $999 | $134,573,216 |
| $1000 - $1999 | $206,433,548 |
| $2000 and Over | $418,956,583 |

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C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","PRUITT, WILLIAM H. MR. USAF","APO","AE","090120096","DOD","OFFICER",250,07-AUG-08,"","","","SA17A",391336
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","SCHNAUBELT, CHRISTOPHER DR.","APO","AE","096240001","US DEPT OF THE ARMY","ANALYST AND RESEARCHER",500,09-AUG-08,"","","","SA17A",391336
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C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","HILL, FREDERIC SAMUEL MR. III","APO","AE","09316","US DEPARTMENT OF STATE","DIPLOMAT",250,22-FEB-08,"","","","SA17A",343858
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","BERGESEN, BIRGER MR.","APO","AE","097070069","DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY","ANALYST",250,05-FEB-08,"","","","SA17A",343858
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C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","MCNAMARA, RYAN MR.","APO","AE","091755806","US ARMY","INTELLIGENCE ANALYST",50,17-APR-08,"","","","SA17A",364146
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","YOUNG, MICHAEL R. MR.","APO","AE","091770011","DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE","TEACHER",57,12-MAR-08,"","","","SA17A",346233
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","GONZALES, AUGUSTINE MR. USA","APO","AE","090341139","US ARMY","INFANTRY OFFICER",100,05-MAR-08,"","","","SA17A",346233
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","GONZALES, AUGUSTINE MR. USA","APO","AE","090341139","US ARMY","INFANTRY OFFICER",100,26-MAR-08,"","","","SA17A",346233
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","HANSON, DAVID LTC","APO","AE","090999101","UNITED STATES AIR FORCE","OFFICER/LT COL",500,01-JUN-08,"","","","SA17A",364350
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","BERGESEN, BIRGER J. MR. II","APO","AE","097070069","DEPT. OF THE NAVY","ANALYST",250,05-JUN-08,"","","","SA17A",364350
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C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","NELSON, KIRBY MR.","APO","AE","097239998","US DEPARTMENT OF STATE","FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER",250,24-APR-08,"","","","SA17A",364146
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C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","BRANIELLA, JOSE MR. USN","APO AE 09365","AE","33014","US NAVY","OFFICER",50,05-JUL-08,"","","","SA17A",377957
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","SCHNAUBELT, CHRISTOPHER DR.","APO","AE","096240001","US DEPT OF THE ARMY","ANALYST AND RESEARCHER",500,21-MAR-08,"","","","SA17A",346233
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","ROBERTS, GUY B. MR.","APO","AE","09724","NATO","DIPLOMAT",200,09-JUL-08,"","","","SA17A",377957
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C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","HURLEY, MICHAEL MR. USN","FPO","AE","096229998","UNITED STATES NAVY","COMMAND MASTER CHIEF",25,07-AUG-08,"","","","SA17A",391336
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","HURLEY, MICHAEL MR. USN","FPO","AE","096229998","UNITED STATES NAVY","COMMAND MASTER CHIEF",25,30-AUG-08,"","","","SA17A",391336
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","GARFIELD, RANDAL","APO","AE","097031401","DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY","PLANS AND EXERCISES",100,01-AUG-08,"","","","SA17A",391336
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C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","POLIDORO, WILLIAM JOHN MR.","APO","AE","091754861","U.S. ARMY","SOLDIER",25,07-AUG-08,"","","","SA17A",391336
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","POLIDORO, WILLIAM JOHN MR.","APO","AE","091754861","U.S. ARMY","SOLDIER",25,30-AUG-08,"","","","SA17A",391336
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","BRANIELLA, JOSE MR. USN","APO AE 09365","AE","33014","US NAVY","OFFICER",50,07-AUG-08,"","","","SA17A",391336
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C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","BOISVENUE, MICHAEL J. MR.","APO","AE","09316","U.S. GOVERNMENT","DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL",1000,25-OCT-07,"","","","SA17A",390939
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","YOUNG, MICHAEL R. MR.","APO","AE","091770011","DODEA","TEACHER",62,01-AUG-08,"","","","SA17A",391336
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","YOUNG, MICHAEL R. MR.","APO","AE","091770011","DODEA","TEACHER",58,31-AUG-08,"","","","SA17A",391336
C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","BELTRAN, FRANK MR.","APO","AE","090093700","AAFES","SUPERVISOR",100,24-APR-07,"","","","SA17A",324747
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C00430470,"P80002801","McCain, John S","BURKHALTER, EDWARD A. MR. III","APO","AE","098170055","DEPARTMENT OF STATE","FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER",290,17-JUL-08,"","","","SA17A",377957
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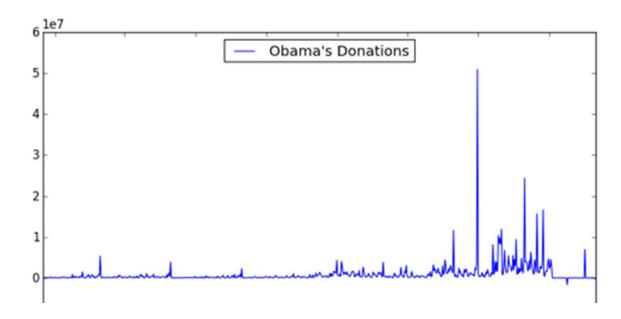
# Negative Donations

We provide `defaultdict` a function to call and return if the key doesn't exist. This is nice because we can assume a default value. It is otherwise used as a normal python dictionary:

```
>>> d = collections.defaultdict(lambda:0)
>>> d['foo']
0
>>> d['bar'] += 1
```

- We parse the dates using the `datetime` module's `strptime` function. The string `%d-%b-%y` is called a [date format string](#).

- In the loop that reads the data, we record the total donation amount for each date.

- Finally, we need to sort the data in `obamadonations` by the date (the key). `sorted(l, key=f)` returns a sorted copy of `l` and calls `f` to extract the key to use for comparison.

- `zip(*pairs)` then unzips the list of pairs into two lists.

You should see something like this:

MIT OpenCourseWare
http://ocw.mit.edu

Resource: How to Process, Analyze and Visualize Data
Adam Marcus and Eugene Wu

The following may not correspond to a particular course on MIT OpenCourseWare, but has been provided by the author as an individual learning resource.