Snoopy: Tracking Your Habits Over Time

By Julia Schwarz

Snoopy is an application which looks at your financial data and tells you three things about yourself. First, it allows you to see which days of the week you make purchases with particular tags (which you define on wesabe). Second, it allows you to see which days of the week you do particular habits, which you define by specifying whether you’ve spent more/less than purchases with tags matching regular expressions. Finally, it allows you to track how your habits change over time.

What Snoopy Can Tell You

Let’s look at an example of the on person’s transactions (call her “Sally”) to see what snoopy can tell her.

Coffee Habits

Sally defined a habit “bought coffee” with the following sentence: “I bought coffee if I spent more than $2 on purchases with the tag ‘coffee’”. The data for this graph is below (Fig. 1).

![Table: Habits by Weekday for All Transactions]

Define your own habits below by appropriately completing the sentences below. When you're satisfied, click add tag. Make sure to spell your tags right!

1. if I spent More than $\text{on purchases with the tag} \text{. Add Habit}

ate out bought groceries bought coffee went skiing

Figure 1

From the graph it is clear that although Sally buys a lot of coffee, she hardly ever buys anything on Mondays. Curious!
We can also track the Sally’s coffee addiction over time. Looking at the coffee habit below (Fig. 2), we can see that Sally has been consuming a lot less coffee lately—good for her!

**Habits Over Time**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Habits over time</th>
<th>Habits during the week</th>
<th>Transactions during the week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zoom: 1d 5d 1m 3m 6m 1y</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mx</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Habits Over Time Graph](image)

Define your own habits below by appropriately completing the sentences below. When you're satisfied, click add tag. Make sure to spell your tags right!

1. If I spent More than $0 on purchases with the tag 'fast-food|restaurant|lunch'. Groceries were defined simply by looking at purchases with the grocery tag.

As we can see from the result in Fig 3, Sally used to eat out much more than she ate in. However, lately she’s been buying more groceries and eating out less. How interesting! It’s interesting to see this correlation. It would be interesting to ask Sally if anything in her life has changed during this period in time, since this looks like quite a significant change. Perhaps it would be interesting to look at where Sally lived or where she was working to get a hint.

**Eating Out Vs. Eating In**

Finally, we can compare different habits over time to look for interesting patterns in our lives. Let’s look at how much Sally eats out compared to how often she buys groceries. Sally defined the habit “ate out” with the following sentence: “I ate out if I spent more than $0 on purchases with the tag ‘fast-food|restaurant|lunch’ ”. Groceries were defined simply by looking at purchases with the grocery tag. As we can see from the result in Fig 3, Sally used to eat out much more than she ate in. However, lately she’s been buying more groceries and eating out less. How interesting! It’s interesting to see this correlation. It would be interesting to ask Sally if anything in her life has changed during this period in time, since this looks like quite a significant change. Perhaps it would be interesting to look at where Sally lived or where she was working to get a hint.
Figure 3

To try out this site for yourself and define your own habits, visit http://snoopy.notjulie.com/transactions.