

//Part 1

Firstly, being a massive Star Wars fan for as long as I can remember, I really enjoy this visualization! I think it does a good job of showing which movies some iconic Star Wars characters have been in while giving additional information on their deaths and relationships.

The authors use the color of the bar and the shape of their icon to represent their allegiance and their species respectively. However, they still have to label the bars and the individual with their allegiance and species every single time because there is no legend. I think the colors and icon symbols are awesome (especially showing Anakin's turn to the dark side) but they're redundant. It is also somewhat confusing that the Rebel Alliance and the Resistance have the same color. They are very similar organizations, but still different! I think a legend should be added and the written descriptions removed. The use of the X to represent a death and the brief descriptions of said death add a lot of information as well as character to the visualization.

The interactivity of the visualization is alright. There are three ways in which you can filter the two dozen or so characters: by species, by allegiance, and by appearance. I think these are great! I would like more. I also think that a filter characteristic when there are only 22 different results is not super informative, but with more characters added, I think these functions would really add a lot to what the user gets out of it. I would add a way to get more information about each character; a link to their wookieepedia page on their icon would be an easy and neat addition.

The visualization is very strong in its aesthetic appeal (the stars zooming past in the background is very cool!) and effectively shows a lot of information about each character in just one row. I think the pieces of humor and tidbits thrown in also add to the pleasant experience of using it. Where it falters is in the depth of interactivity and number of data points. SPOILERS: Some stuff is also out of date! Boba Fett did not in fact die on Tatooine nor did Anakin Skywalker/Darth Vader successfully kill Palpatine. Palpatine comes back in the final movie to be revealed as Rey's grandpa, etc.

Additionally, there are some aspects that could be misinterpreted. Some characters are missing their "RELATION TO LUKE SKYWALKER" which could lead users to be confused about their part in the story. Some characters also have their entire bar colored despite changing allegiances. For example, R2-D2 has an orange bar for every movie even though neither the Rebel Alliance nor the Resistance existed until A New Hope. There could also be some confusion about how the bars are continuous as there are large time gaps between movies. For instance, the continuous bars could seem to imply that the Rebel Alliance smoothly transitioned into the Resistance, but there were decades in-between where the Rebel Alliance became the New Republic. Additionally, there is a thin, vertical line under Star Wars II that looks like a gap between movies but I think it is just a visual glitch.

//Part 2

I think that a large portion of the visualization should be kept! The aesthetics and overall design are fantastic, but I will propose a few tweaks and additions and include some redesigns as well as descriptions for interactivity.

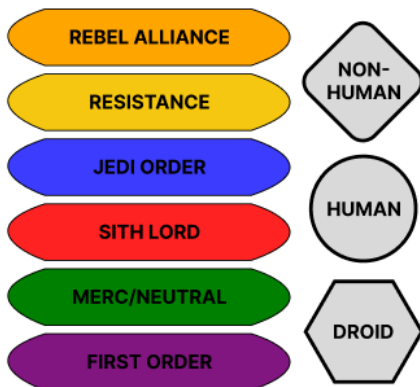
#1: Links to Wookieepedia Pages

Upon clicking on the picture icon, users will be taken to the respective Wookieepedia page. Hovering displays the link address.



#2: Legend

No interactive element here, just a design for the addition of a legend. I added a separate color for the resistance.



#3: Timeline View

Another tab would be added, “View as Timeline”, which upon click would change the rows into a timeline to display the changes in character types throughout the movies. Hover would show the character details represented by each dot.

