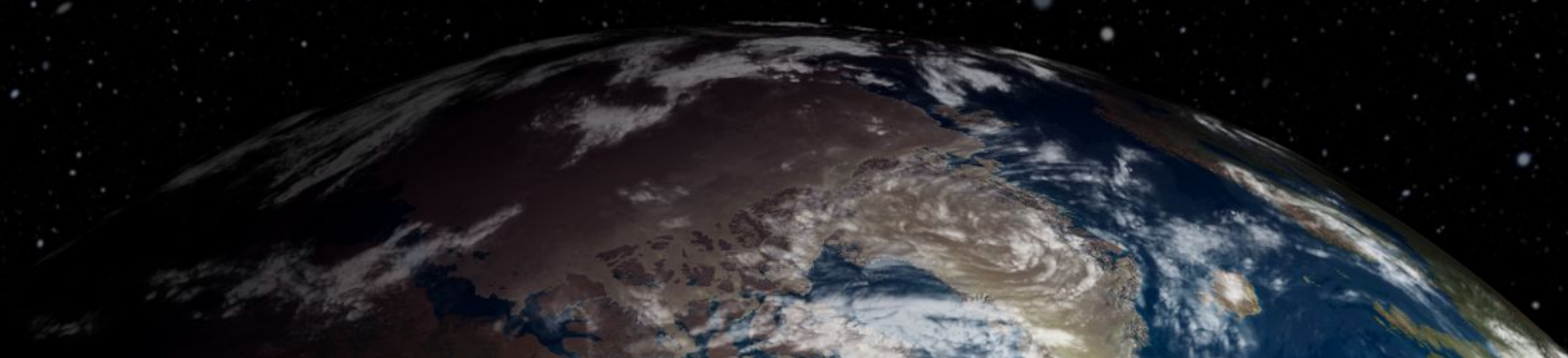
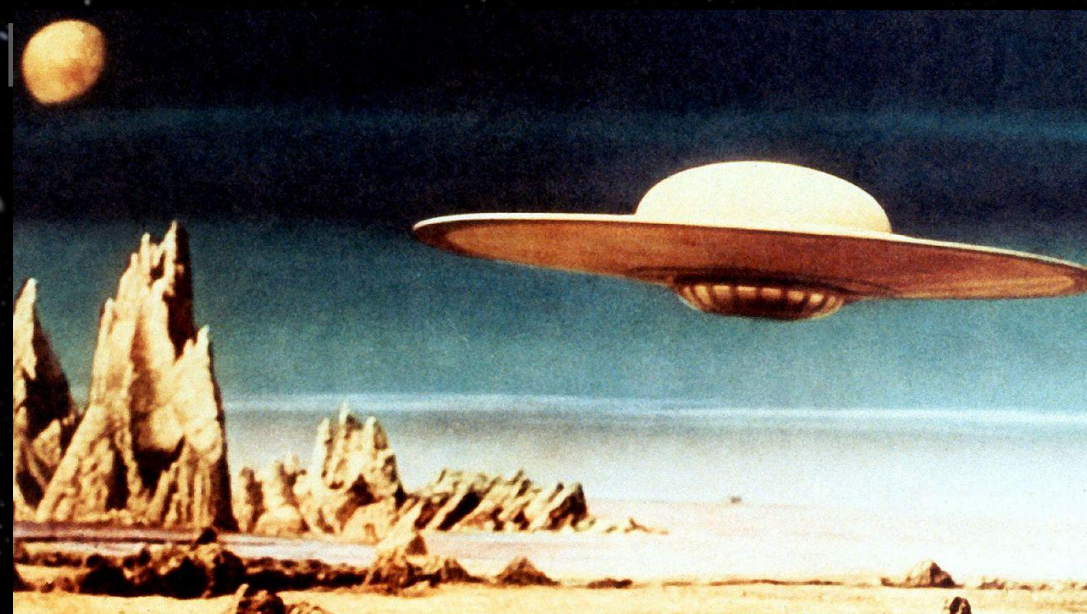


It's a Bird, It's a Plane... It's a UFO?

**By Shourya Hooda, Parker Upton, Vihaan
Kotahwala, and Zalina Bell**



The UFO Sighting: What are the trends?



The model results find credible correlations between variables that suggest people see more "phenomena" when they have more opportunity to (Medina et al., 2023).

Research Question: Is there a relationship between geographic region and the frequency, duration, and characteristics (i.e., shape) of reported UFO sightings?

Cloud Cover?

Night sky patterns?

Light pollution?

Culture?

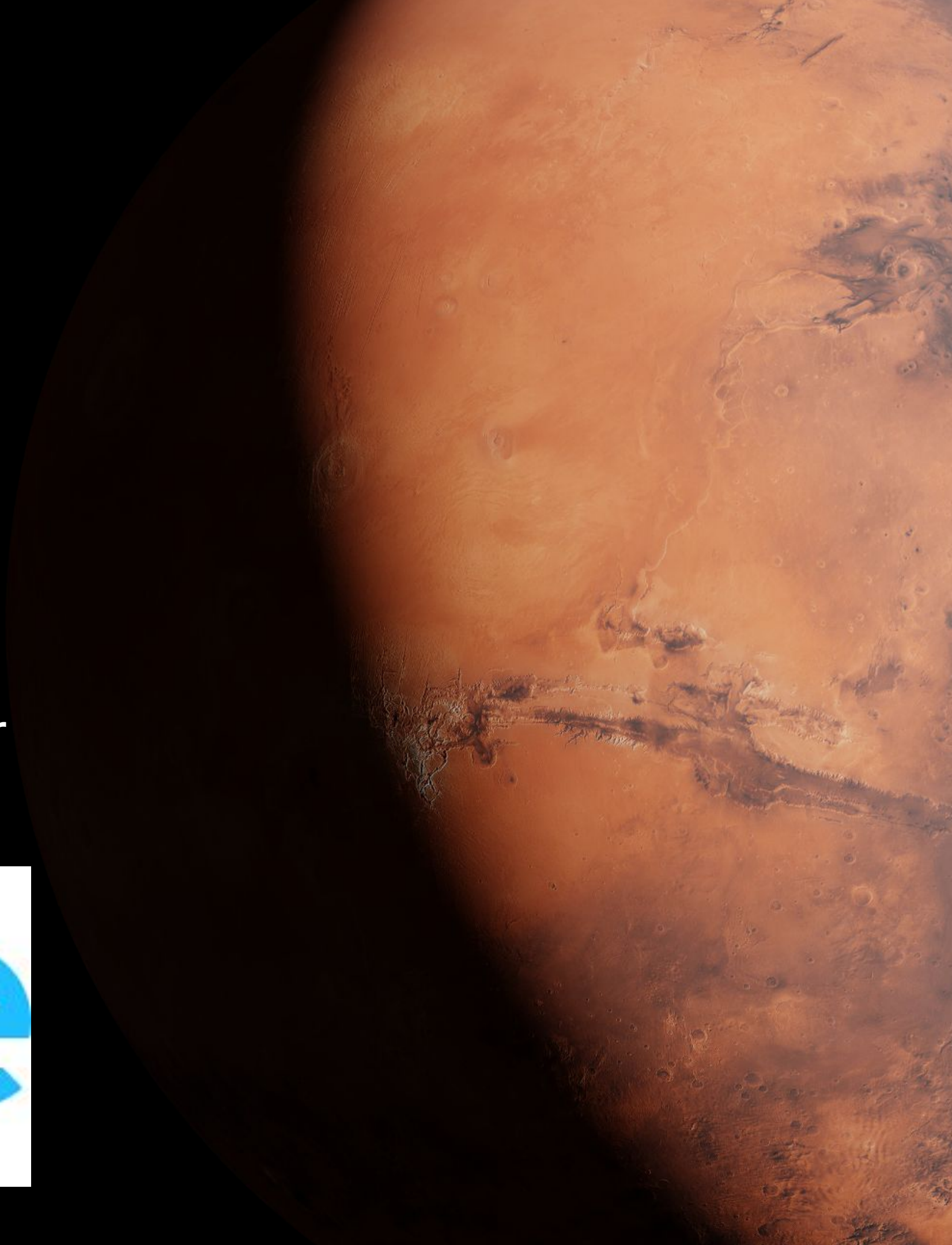
Myths or stories about the sky?

Data Introduction

- Over 80,000 reports of UFO sightings
- Contains city, state, time, description, coordinates, and duration of sighting
- Modified to incorporate different date-based descriptions and time duration scaling
- Derived from National UFO Reporting Center data

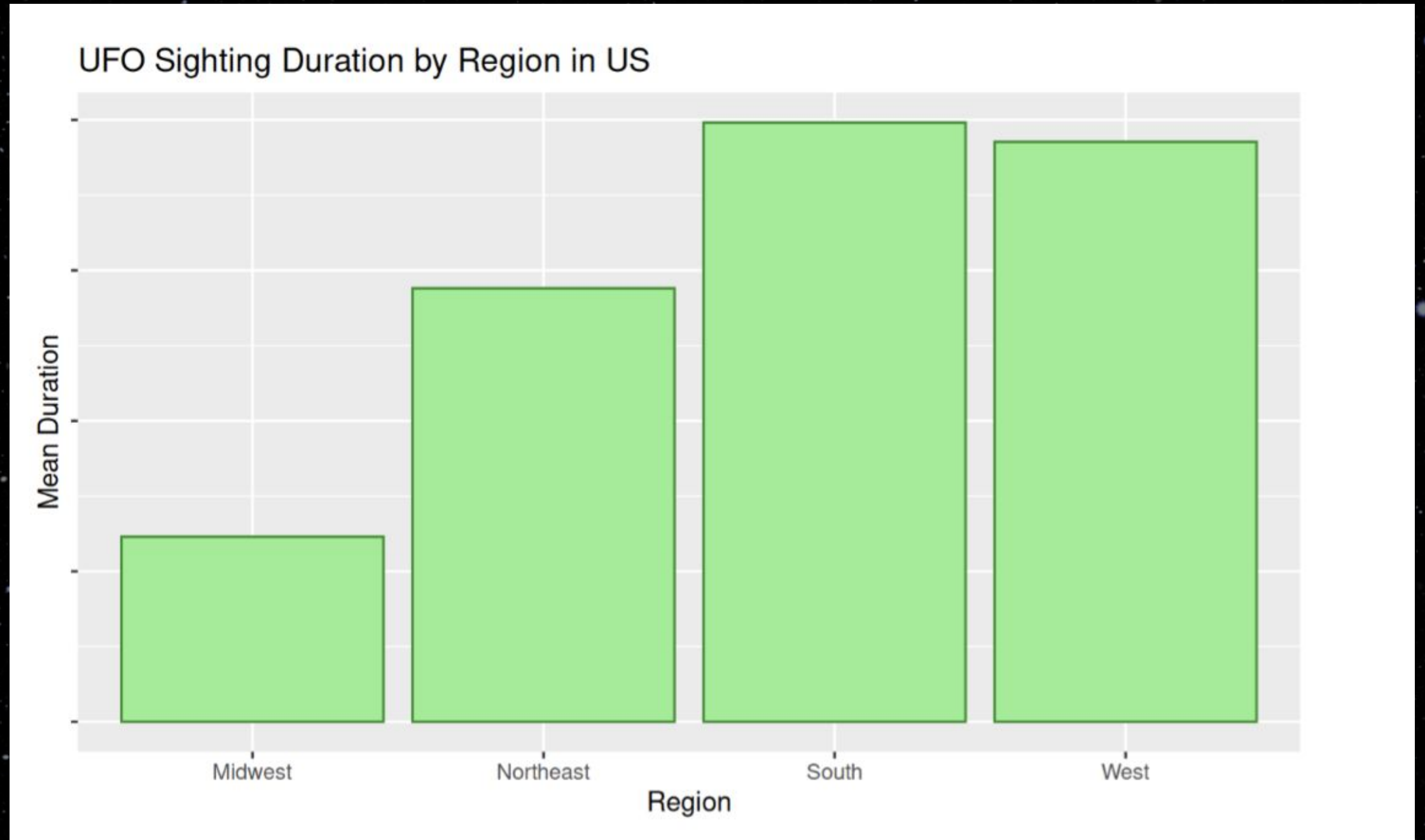
The Kaggle logo, featuring the word "kaggle" in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font on a white background. The logo is positioned at the bottom center of the slide.

kaggle



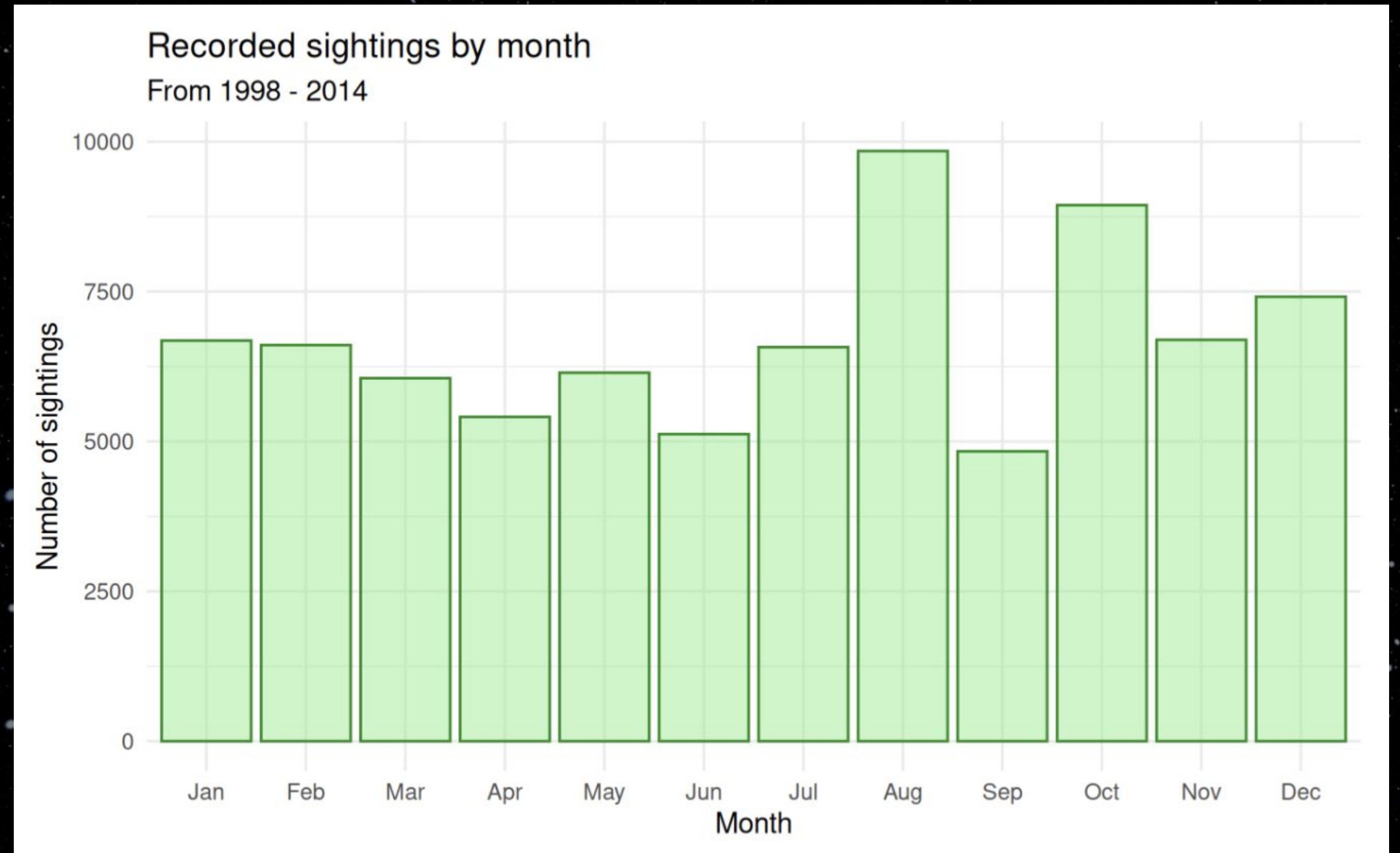
Sighting Duration Varies Based on Location

- South and Western regions feature the longest mean duration of sightings
- Outlier in the South removed from dataset
- Sightings longer in regions with more sky visibility and less light pollution

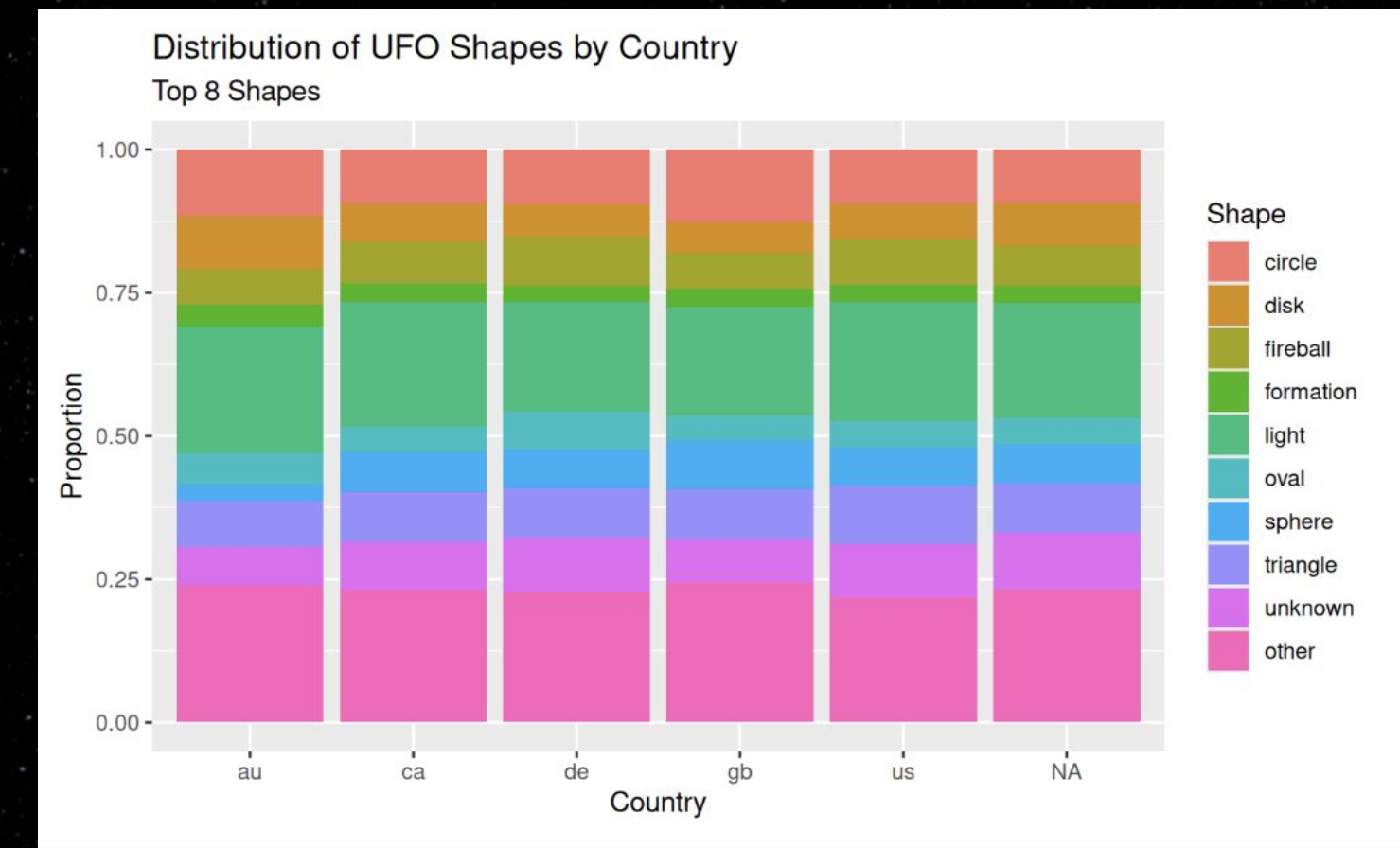
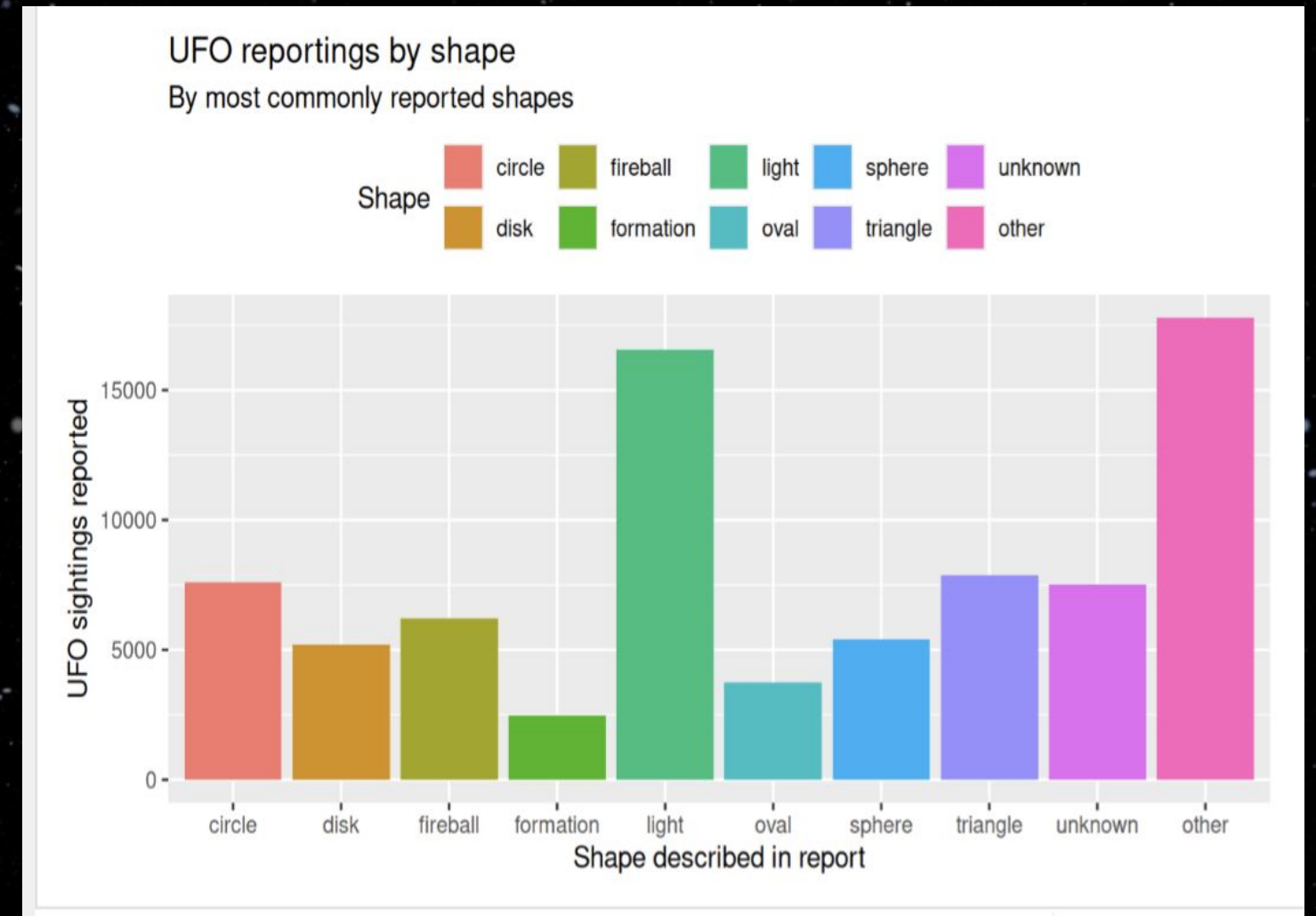
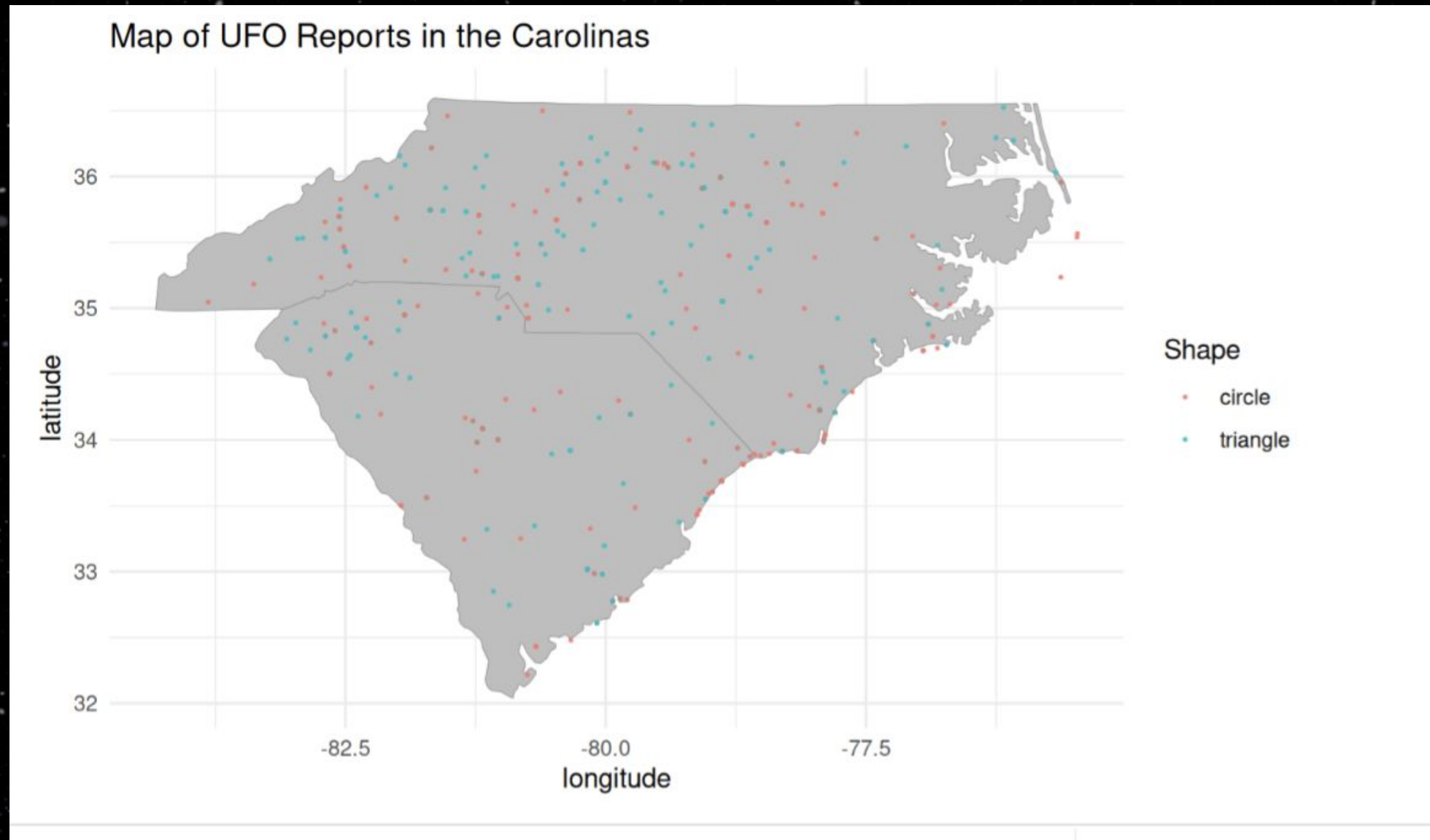


Clearer Skies Lead to More UFO Sightings

- Most sightings in August and October
- October is the clearest month of the year, especially in South and West (space.com)
- Supports findings of Medina, 2023.



Shapes of UFO Sightings



Discussion & Conclusion

Conclusions:

- **Sky clarity and location (country, proximity to coastline) share a relationship with frequency of UFO sightings**

Limitations:

- Data consistency for shape inputs
- Defining UFOs and what is "reportable"

Future Studies:

- **What's the role of cultural norms in UFO sightings?**
- **How does seismic activity influence sightings?**
 - Inspired by Michael Persinger's 1980s studies

