Project Goals

- Provide visual overview of InfoVis publication history
  - Key authors and papers
- Identify key directions
  - Major research categories
  - Influential authors and papers within a categories
  - Related categories
Project Overview

- Process article metadata to generate category subdivision
  - 10 sub-fields found
- Visualize article citation graph
  - Articles as graph nodes and citation links as edges
  - Edge instead of background color for category encoding
  - Provide interactive controls for exploration
Text clustering

- Generate a word occurrence matrix from given metadata
  - Titles, keywords, abstracts
  - Stemming to improve search correlation
- k-means to cluster the articles
  - Best for small number of groups (10)
  - Cosine distance measure
- Use Cluto toolkit
Text clustering

0: graph, draw, layout
1: query, database, dynam
2: tree, spreadsheet, treemap
3: anim, algorithm, edit
4: web, world, mine
5: fisheye, view, context
6: imag, textur, surfac
7: program, software, toolkit
8: data, visual, sequenc
9: inform, design, interfac
Application Overview
Graph Layout

- Edges as springs
  - Same category edges have lower rest length
- Node repulsion
  - Ensures clearance
- Weak centralization force
  - Handles disconnected components
- Appearing nodes positioned at the average of visible neighbours
Extracting key articles

- Number of received references indicates importance
  - Use as node size
- Filter in two steps to increase coherence and connectivity
  - Want to start with the key articles and then explore details
Encoding Individual Categories

- How segmented is a category?
- How do categories compare in number or importance of nodes?
Encoding Category Pairs

- How tightly are categories connected?
- Did one category originate from another?
Encoding Reference Direction

- Individual paper sources
- Did one category originate from another?
Encoding Publication Time

- Oldest / most recent papers at a glance?
- Relationship between date and influence?
Component abstraction

- Often want to study high level features
  - Number of disconnected components
  - Relative component sizes
  - Category-level reference directions
- May want to reduce clutter
Component abstraction

- Group linked articles within the same category
Component abstraction

- Source identification made easier
Implementation Tools

- MySQL data backend
  - Initial processing and retrieval
- gCluto application for text clustering
- Java Swing and Prefuse user interface
Application Demo

- Node density control
- Additional highlighting options
  - Category connectivity
  - Date highlighting
- Filtering and search options
  - Neighbour visibility
  - Time range filtering
  - Title and author search
- Interactive features
Future Improvements

- **Graph layout dynamic stability**
  - Improve initial positioning when making a node visible
  - Layout calculation to minimize displacement of visible nodes
  - Perform simulation in run-once mode and smoothly interpolate

- **Co-authorship graph**
  - Useful for studying development of collaboration groups
  - Unclear if paper categories have any role

- **Article summary table**
  - Sorted table of search results, visible items, etc..
  - Immediate information lookup