# Data Cubes and Zoom Graphs

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### Intro

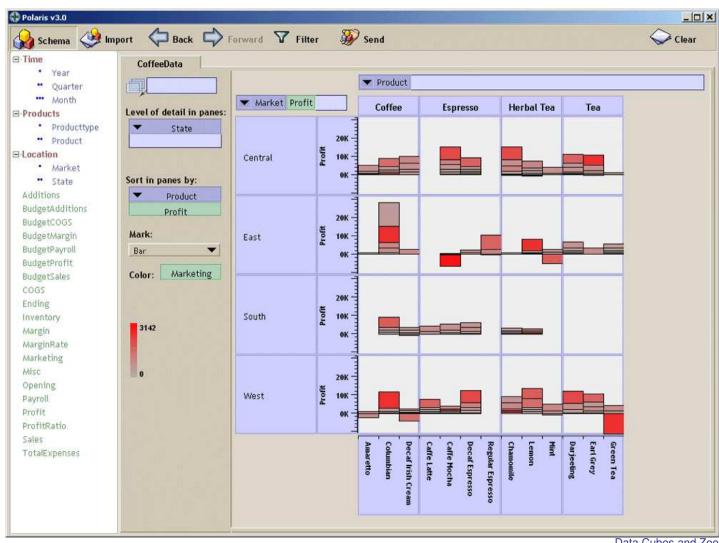
- Zoom graphs
- Data cubes
- Examples

#### **Polaris Review**

- Database exploration.
- A formal specification language for describing visualizations of database tables.
- An IDE for generating the specifications.
- A database query generation system to get the data to be visualized.



## **Big Picture**



## **Zoom Graphs**

- Like a space/scale diagram, but discrete.
- Going from node to node via an edge represents a zoom.

## Differences from ZUIs

- Not intended as a desktop replacement.
- Multiple dimensions.

#### n-dimensional cubes

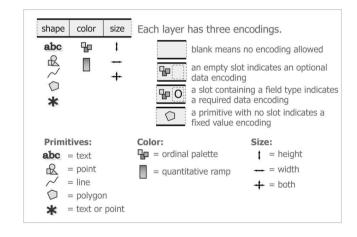
- Dimensions and measures.
- One dimension for each variable.
- Each variable has a "measure" its magnitude.
- Each dimension can be at a different level of detail.
- Ordinal data must be given an ordering.

#### Lattice

- < relation between some cubes.</p>
- Defined by a higher level of detail in one dimension.

## Visual Encodings

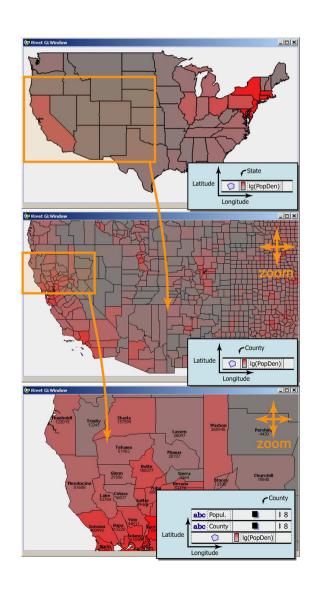
- Possible to specify visual encodings completely in the graphs.
  - Color
    - Quantitative ramp, qualitative.
  - Size
    - Height, width, or both.
  - Shape
    - Text, point, line, or polygon.



## Layers

- As user zooms in, more layers emerge.
  - Labels appear when user is close enough.
  - Aggregated data become separated.

## Example



#### **Problems**

- Continuous zooms are hard to do with this abstraction.
  - Design decision.
- Arbitrary zooms are not possible.

### Conclusions

- Data cubes
- Zoom graphs

## Questions?

#### References

- [1] Chris Stolte, Diane Tang and Pat Hanrahan, "Multiscale Visualization Using Data Cubes", *Proceedings of the Eighth IEEE Symposium on Information Visualization*, October 2002.
- [2] Chris Stolte, Diane Tang and Pat Hanrahan, "Polaris", http://graphics.stanford.edu/projects/polaris/