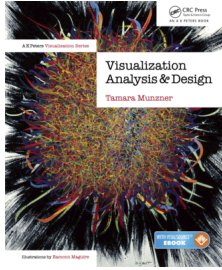


Visualization Analysis & Design

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 University of British Columbia



Data Visualization Masterclass: Principles, Tools, and Storytelling
 June 13 2017, VIZBI/VID, Sydney Australia

<http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks.html#vad17sydney>

@tamaramunzner

Outline

- Session 1: Principles 9:15-10:30am**
 - Analysis: What, Why, How
 - Marks and Channels, Perception
 - Color
- Session 2: Techniques for Scaling 10:50-11:40am**
 - Manipulate: Change, Select, Navigate
 - Facet: Juxtapose, Partition, Superimpose
 - Reduce: Filter, Aggregate

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Defining visualization (vis)

Computer-based visualization systems provide visual representations of datasets designed to help people carry out tasks more effectively.

Why?...

Why have a human in the loop?

Computer-based visualization systems provide visual representations of datasets designed to help people carry out tasks more effectively.

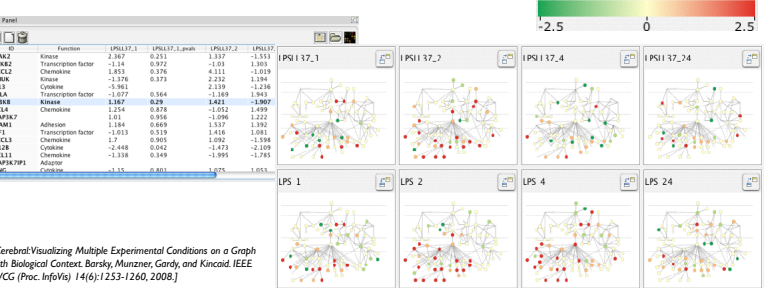
Visualization is suitable when there is a need to augment human capabilities rather than replace people with computational decision-making methods.

- don't need vis when fully automatic solution exists and is trusted
- many analysis problems ill-specified
 - don't know exactly what questions to ask in advance
- possibilities
 - long-term use for end users (e.g. exploratory analysis of scientific data)
 - presentation of known results
 - stepping stone to better understanding of requirements before developing models
 - help developers of automatic solution refine/debug, determine parameters
 - help end users of automatic solutions verify, build trust

Why use an external representation?

Computer-based visualization systems provide visual representations of datasets designed to help people carry out tasks more effectively.

- external representation: replace cognition with perception



[Cerebra] Visualizing Multiple Experimental Conditions on a Graph with Biological Context. Bersky, Munzner, Gady, and Kincaid. IEEE TVCG (Proc. InfoVis) 14(6):1253-1260, 2008.

Why represent all the data?

Computer-based visualization systems provide visual representations of datasets designed to help people carry out tasks more effectively.

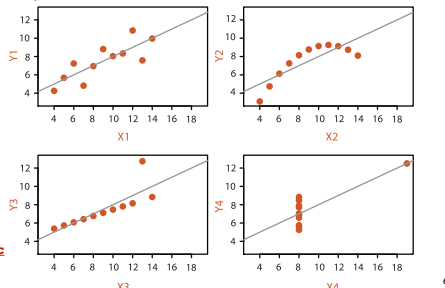
- summaries lose information, details matter
 - confirm expected and find unexpected patterns
 - assess validity of statistical model

Anscombe's Quartet

Identical statistics	
x mean	9
x variance	10
y mean	7.5
y variance	3.75
x/y correlation	0.816

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DbyPELmhJc>

Same Stats, Different Graphs



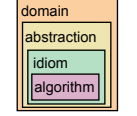
Why are there resource limitations?

Vis designers must take into account three very different kinds of resource limitations: those of computers, of humans, and of displays.

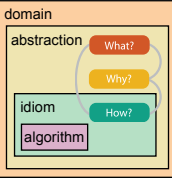
- computational limits
 - processing time
 - system memory
- human limits
 - human attention and memory
- display limits
 - pixels are precious resource, the most constrained resource
 - information density: ratio of space used to encode info vs unused whitespace
 - tradeoff between clutter and wasting space, find sweet spot between dense and sparse

Analysis framework: Four levels, three questions

- domain situation
 - who are the target users?
- abstraction
 - translate from specifics of domain to vocabulary of vis
- what is shown? data abstraction
- why is the user looking at it? task abstraction
- idiom
 - visual encoding idiom: how to draw
 - interaction idiom: how to manipulate
- algorithm
 - efficient computation



[A Nested Model of Visualization Design and Validation. Munzner. IEEE TVCG 15(6):921-928, 2009 (Proc. InfoVis 2009).]



[A Multi-Level Typology of Abstract Visualization Tasks. Behrer and Munzner. IEEE TVCG 19(12):2376-2385, 2013 (Proc. InfoVis 2013).]

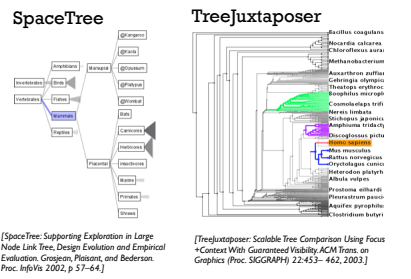
Validation methods from different fields for each level

anthropology/ ethnography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domain situation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observe target users using existing tools Data/task abstraction Visual encoding/interaction idiom <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Justify design with respect to alternatives Algorithm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure system time/memory Analyze computational complexity 	design
anthropology/ ethnography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze results qualitatively Measure human time with lab experiment (lab study) Observe target users after deployment (field study) Measure adoption 	computer science
		cognitive psychology

- mismatch: cannot show idiom good with system timings
- mismatch: cannot show abstraction good with lab study

Why analyze?

- imposes a structure on huge design space
 - scaffold to help you think systematically about choices
 - analyzing existing as stepping stone to designing new



What?	Why?	How?
Tree	Actions: Present → Locate → Identify	SpaceTree: Encode → Navigate → Select → Filter → Aggregate
	Targets: Path between two nodes	TreeJuxtaposer: Encode → Navigate → Select → Arrange

What?	
Datasets	Attributes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Types: Items → Attributes → Links → Positions → Grids Data and Dataset Types: Tables, Networks & Trees, Fields, Geometry, Clusters, Sets, Lists Dataset Types: Tables, Networks, Fields (Continuous), Geometry (Spatial) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attribute Types: Categorical, Ordered, Quantitative Ordering Direction: Sequential, Diverging, Cyclic Dataset Availability: Static, Dynamic

Dataset and data types

Dataset Types	Spatial
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tables: Items (rows), Attributes (columns), Cell containing value Networks: Link, Node (item) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fields (Continuous): Grid of positions, Cell, Attributes (columns), Value in cell Geometry (Spatial): Position
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attribute Types: Categorical, Ordered, Quantitative 	

Why?	
Actions	Targets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze: Consume, Discover, Produce, Search, Query 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Data: Trends, Outliers, Features Attributes: One, Many, Distribution, Extremes Network Data: Topology, Paths Spatial Data: Shape

- {action, target} pairs
 - discover distribution
 - compare trends
 - locate outliers
 - browse topology

Actions I: Analyze

- consume
 - discover vs present
 - classic split
 - aka explore vs explain
 - enjoy
 - newcomer
 - aka casual, social
- produce
 - annotate, record
 - derive
 - crucial design choice

Actions II: Search

- what does user know? Search
 - target, location

	Target known	Target unknown
Location known	Lookup	Browse
Location unknown	Locate	Explore

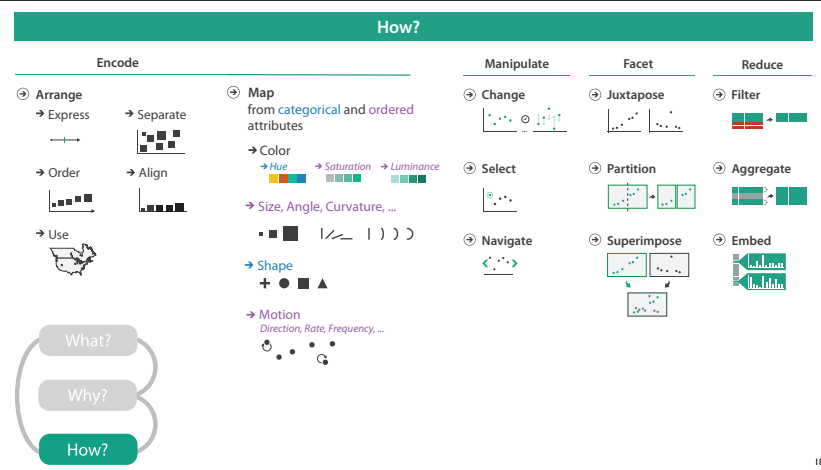
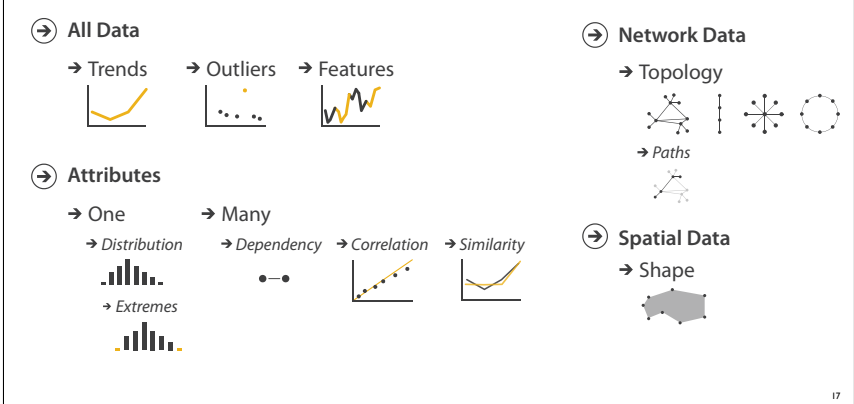
Actions III: Query

- what does user know? Search
 - target, location
- how much of the data matters?
 - one, some, all

	Target known	Target unknown
Location known	Lookup	Browse
Location unknown	Locate	Explore

- Query: Identify, Compare, Summarize

Targets



Further reading

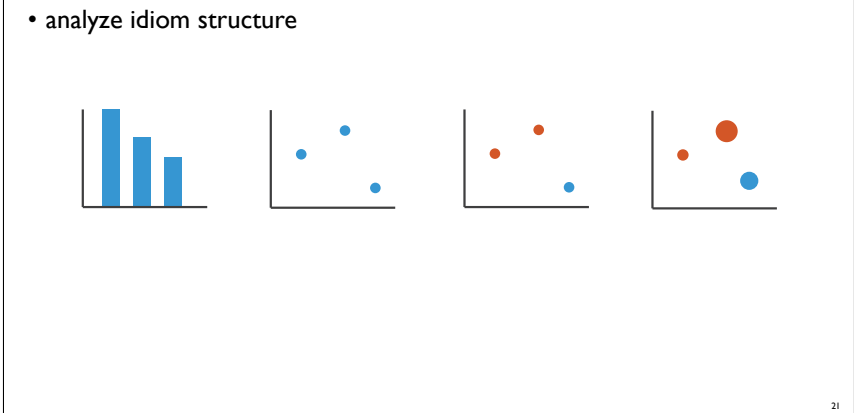
- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters Visualization Series, CRC Press, Nov 2014.
 - Chap 1: What's Vis, and Why Do It?
 - Chap 2: What: Data Abstraction
 - Chap 3: Why: Task Abstraction
- A Multi-Level Typology of Abstract Visualization Tasks. Brehmer and Munzner. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis) 19:12 (2013), 2376–2385.
- Low-Level Components of Analytic Activity in Information Visualization. Amar, Eagan, and Stasko. Proc. IEEE InfoVis 2005, p 111–117.
- A taxonomy of tools that support the fluent and flexible use of visualizations. Heer and Shneiderman. Communications of the ACM 55:4 (2012), 45–54.
- Rethinking Visualization: A High-Level Taxonomy. Tory and Möller. Proc. IEEE InfoVis 2004, p 151–158.
- Visualization of Time-Oriented Data. Aigner, Miksch, Schumann, and Tominski. Springer, 2011.

Outline

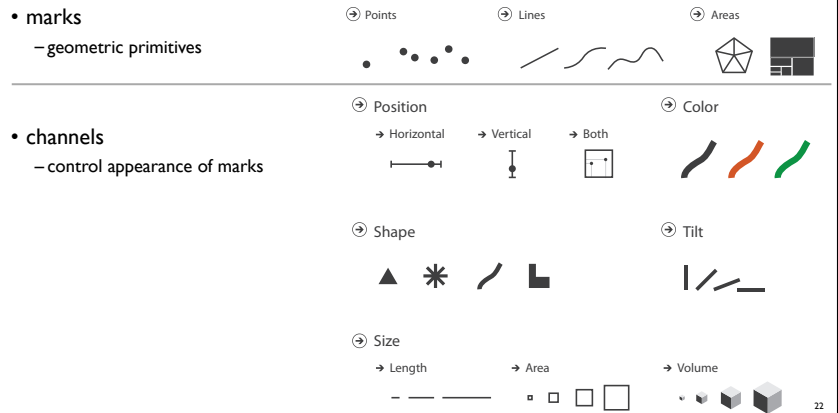
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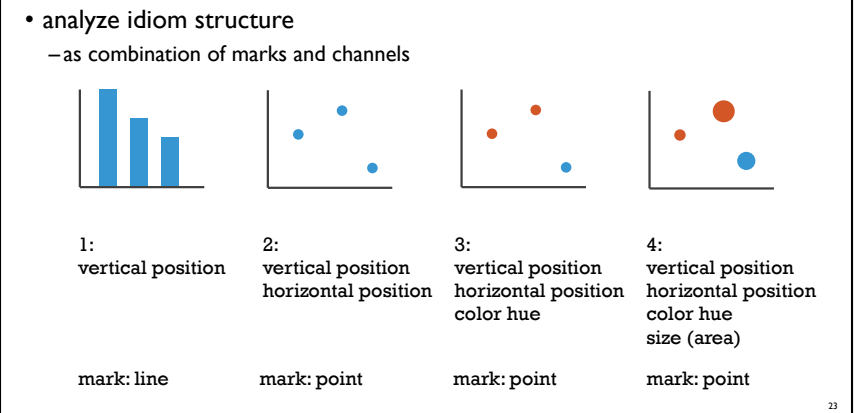
Encoding visually



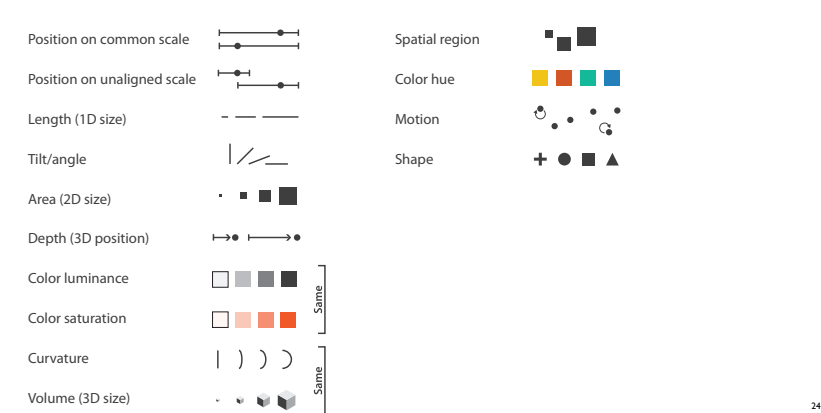
Definitions: Marks and channels



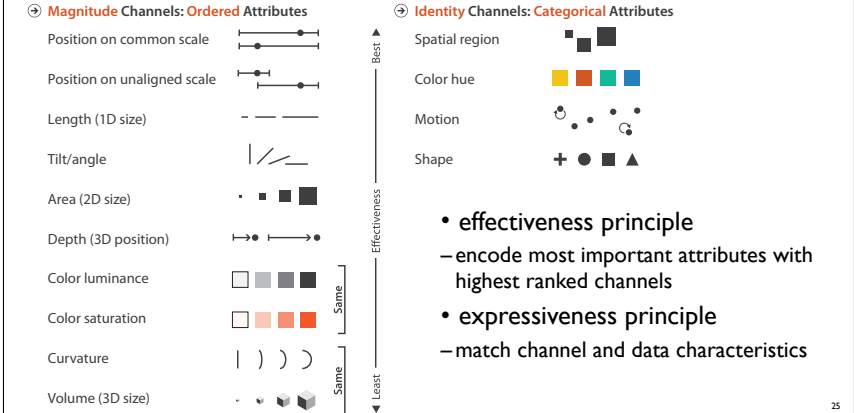
Encoding visually with marks and channels



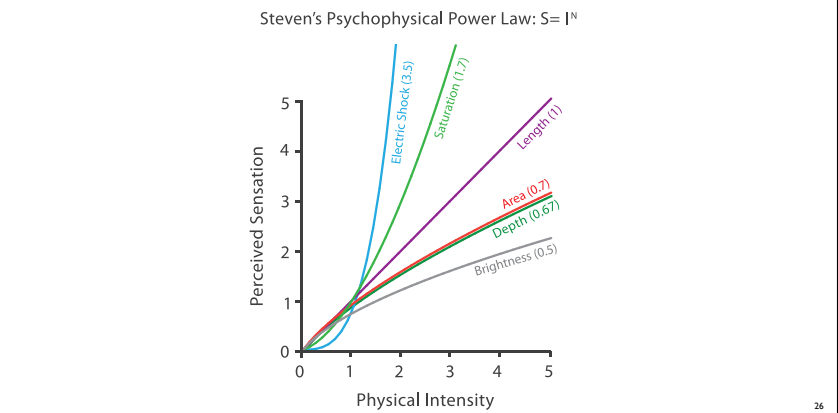
Channels



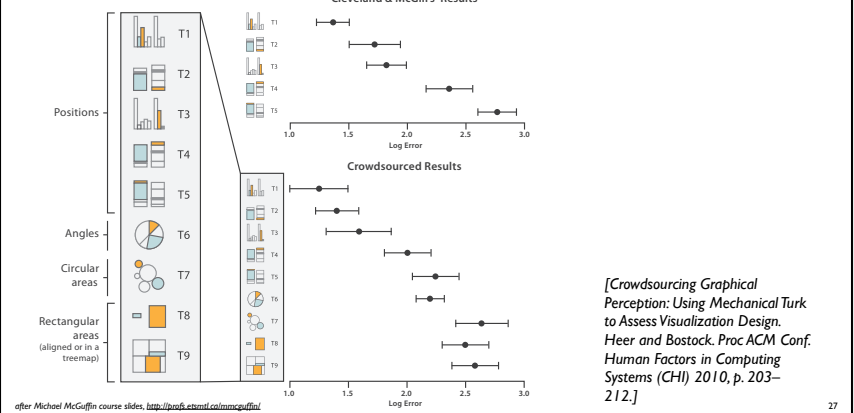
Channels: Rankings



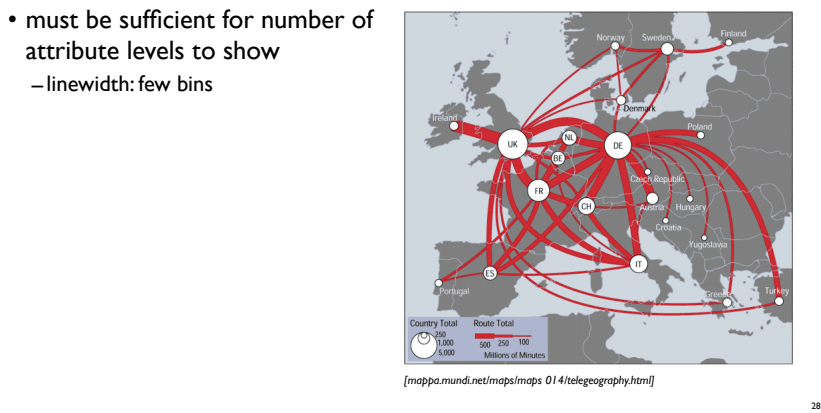
Accuracy: Fundamental Theory



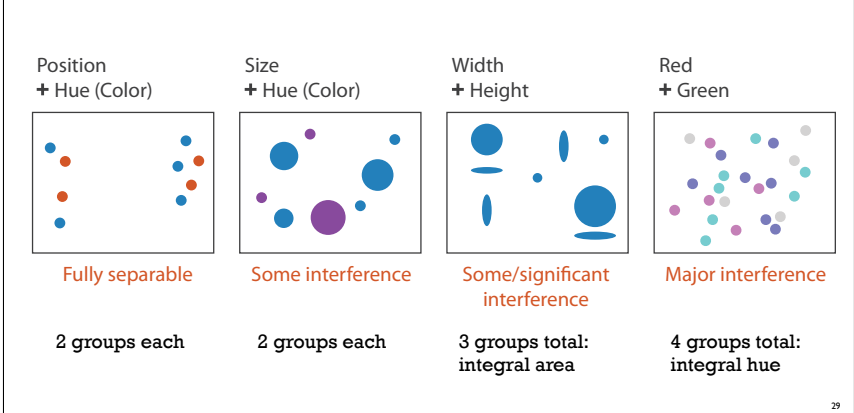
Accuracy: Vis experiments



Discriminability: How many usable steps?



Separability vs. Integrality



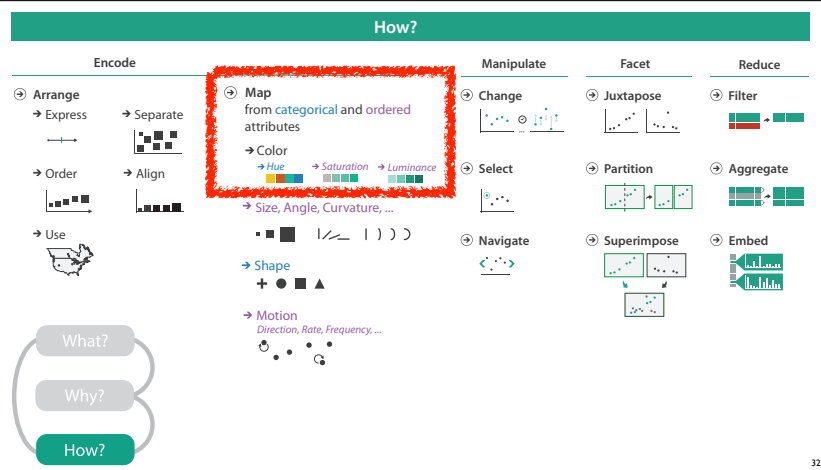
Further reading

- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters Visualization Series, CRC Press, Nov 2014.
 - Chap 5: Marks and Channels
- On the Theory of Scales of Measurement. Stevens. Science 103:2684 (1946), 677–680.
- Psychophysics: Introduction to its Perceptual, Neural, and Social Prospects. Stevens. Wiley, 1975.
- Graphical Perception: Theory, Experimentation, and Application to the Development of Graphical Methods. Cleveland and McGill. Journ. American Statistical Association 79:387 (1984), 531–554.
- Perception in Vision. Healey. <http://www.csc.ncsu.edu/faculty/healey/PP>
- Visual Thinking for Design. Ware. Morgan Kaufmann, 2008.
- Information Visualization: Perception for Design, 3rd edition. Ware. Morgan Kaufmann / Academic Press, 2004.

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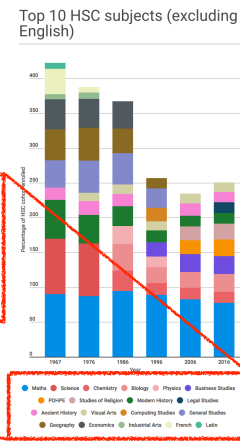
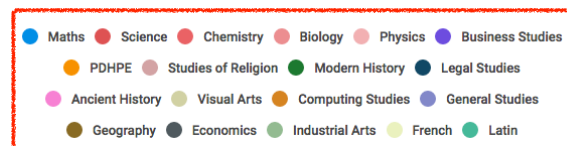
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Challenges of Color

- what is wrong with this picture?

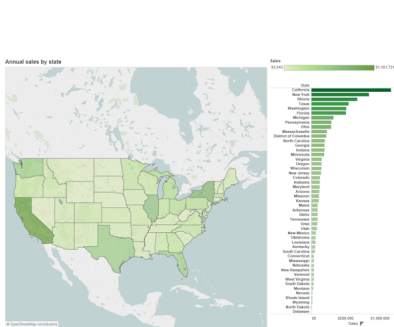
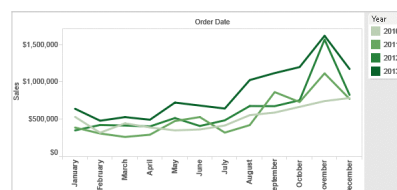
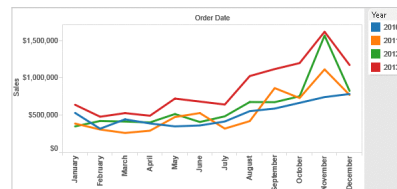


@WTFviz

"visualizations that make no sense"

<http://viz.wtf/post/150780948819/maths-enrolments-drop-to-lowest-rate-in-50-years>

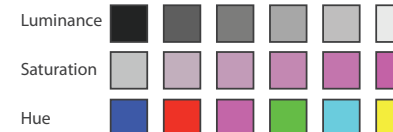
Categorical vs ordered color



[Seriously Colorful: Advanced Color Principles & Practices. Stone. Tableau Customer Conference 2014.]

Decomposing color

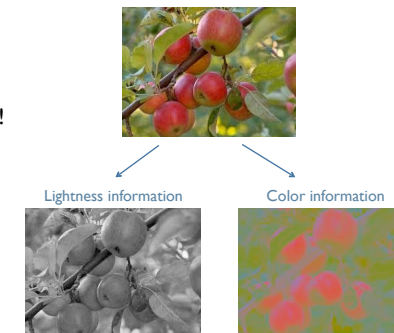
- first rule of color: do not talk about color!
 - color is confusing if treated as monolithic
- decompose into three channels
 - ordered can show magnitude
 - luminance
 - saturation
 - categorical can show identity
 - hue



- channels have different properties
 - what they convey directly to perceptual system
 - how much they can convey: how many discriminable bins can we use?

Luminance

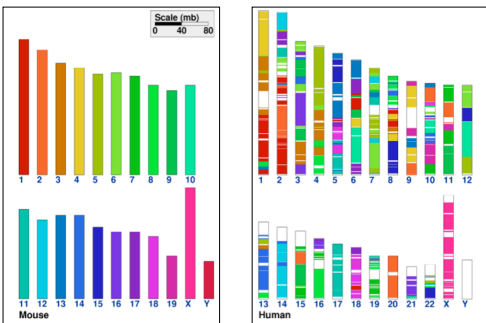
- need luminance for edge detection
 - fine-grained detail only visible through luminance contrast
 - legible text requires luminance contrast!
- intrinsic perceptual ordering



[Seriously Colorful: Advanced Color Principles & Practices. Stone. Tableau Customer Conference 2014.]

Categorical color: limited number of discriminable bins

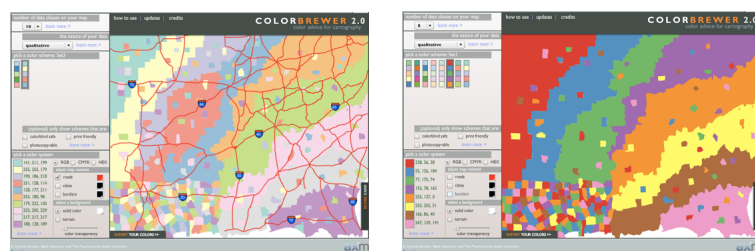
- human perception built on relative comparisons
 - great if color contiguous
 - surprisingly bad for absolute comparisons
- noncontiguous small regions of color
 - fewer bins than you want
 - rule of thumb: 6-12 bins, including background and highlights



[Cintery: flexible analysis and visualization of synteny and genome rearrangements in multiple organisms. Sinha and Meller. BMC Bioinformatics, 8:82, 2007.]

ColorBrewer

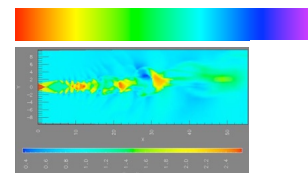
- <http://www.colorbrewer2.org>
- saturation and area example: size affects salience!



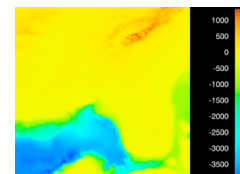
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Ordered color: Rainbow is poor default

- problems
 - perceptually unordered
 - perceptually nonlinear
- benefits
 - fine-grained structure visible and nameable



[A Rule-based Tool for Assisting Colormap Selection. Bergman, Rogowitz, and Treish. Proc. IEEE Visualization (Vis), pp. 118-125, 1995.]

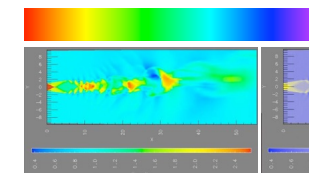


[Why Should Engineers Be Worried About Color? Treish and Rogowitz 1998. <http://www.research.ibm.com/people/treish/color/color.html>]

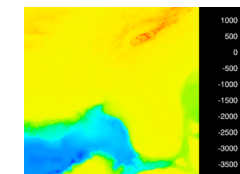
[Transfer Functions in Direct Volume Rendering. Design, Interface, Interaction. Kindmann. SIGGRAPH 2002 Course Notes]

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 - fine-grained structure visible and nameable
- alternatives
 - large-scale structure: fewer hues



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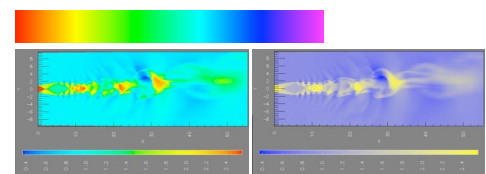


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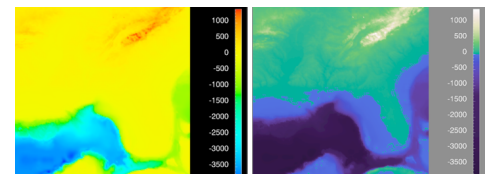
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 - large-scale structure: fewer hues
 - fine structure: multiple hues with monotonically increasing luminance [eg viridis R/python]



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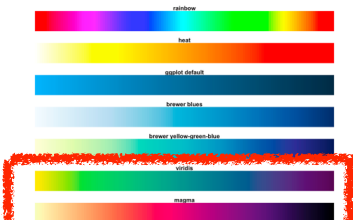


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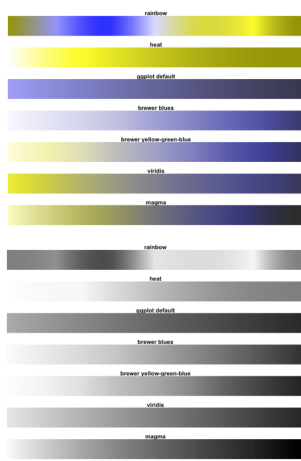
[Transfer Functions in Direct Volume Rendering. Design, Interface, Interaction. Kindmann. SIGGRAPH 2002 Course Notes]

Viridis

- colorful, perceptually uniform, colorblind-safe, monotonically increasing luminance



<https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/viridis/vignettes/intro-to-viridis.html>



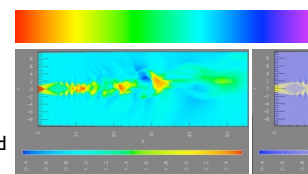
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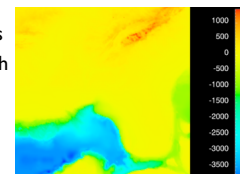
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- problems
 - perceptually unordered
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- benefits
 - fine-grained structure visible and nameable
- alternatives
 - large-scale structure: fewer hues
 - fine structure: multiple hues with monotonically increasing luminance [eg viridis R/python]
 - segmented rainbows for binned or categorical



[A Rule-based Tool for Assisting Colormap Selection. Bergman, Rogowitz, and Treish. Proc. IEEE Visualization (Vis), pp. 118-125, 1995.]



[Why Should Engineers Be Worried About Color? Treish and Rogowitz 1998. <http://www.research.ibm.com/people/treish/color/color.html>]

[Transfer Functions in Direct Volume Rendering. Design, Interface, Interaction. Kindmann. SIGGRAPH 2002 Course Notes]

Colormaps

- Categorical
 - Sequential
 - Diverging
 - Ordered
 - Sequential
 - Diverging
 - Bivariate
 - Diverging
 - Sequential
- categorical limits: noncontiguous
 - 6-12 bins hue/color
 - far fewer if colorblind
 - 3-4 bins luminance, saturation
 - size heavily affects salience
 - use high saturation for small regions, low saturation for large

after [Color Use Guidelines for Mapping and Visualization. Brewer, 1994. <http://www.personal.psu.edu/faculty/cl/cab38/ColorSch/Schemes.html>]

Further reading

- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters Visualization Series, CRC Press, Nov 2014.
 - Chap 10: Map Color and Other Channels
- ColorBrewer, Brewer.
 - <http://www.colorbrewer2.org>
- Color In Information Display. Stone. IEEE Vis Course Notes, 2006.
 - <http://www.stonesc.com/Vis06>
- A Field Guide to Digital Color. Stone. AK Peters, 2003.
- Rainbow Color Map (Still) Considered Harmful. Borland and Taylor. IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications 27:2 (2007), 14-17.
- Visual Thinking for Design. Ware. Morgan Kaufmann, 2008.
- Information Visualization: Perception for Design, 3rd edition. Ware. Morgan Kaufmann /Academic Press, 2004.

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How to handle complexity: 3 more strategies + 1 previous

Manipulate Facet Reduce → Derive

- Change
- Juxtapose
- Filter
- Select
- Partition
- Aggregate
- Navigate
- Superimpose
- Embed

- change view over time
- facet across multiple views
- reduce items/attributes within single view
- derive new data to show within view

How to handle complexity: 3 more strategies + 1 previous

Manipulate Facet Reduce → Derive

- Change
- Juxtapose
- Filter
- Select
- Partition
- Aggregate
- Navigate
- Superimpose
- Embed

- change over time
- most obvious & flexible of the 4 strategies

Change over time

- change any of the other choices
 - encoding itself
 - parameters
 - arrange: rearrange, reorder
 - aggregation level, what is filtered...
- why change?
 - one of four major strategies
 - facet data by partitioning into multiple views
 - reduce amount of data shown within view
 - embedding focus + context together
- most obvious, powerful, flexible
- interaction entails change

Idiom: Realign System: LineUp

- stacked bars
 - easy to compare
 - first segment
 - total bar
- align to different segment
 - supports flexible comparison

[LineUp: Visual Analysis of Multi-Attribute Rankings. Gratzl, Lex, Gehlenborg, Pfister, and Streit. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis 2013) 19:12 (2013), 2277–2286.]

Idiom: Animated transitions

- smooth transition from one state to another
 - alternative to jump cuts
 - support for item tracking when amount of change is limited
- example: multilevel matrix views
- example: animated transitions in statistical data graphics
 - <https://vimeo.com/19278444>

[Using Multilevel Call Matrices in Large Software Projects. van Ham. Proc. IEEE Symp. Information Visualization (InfoVis), pp. 227–232, 2003.]

Manipulate

- Change over Time
 - Item Reduction
 - Attribute Reduction
 - Zoom Geometric or Semantic
 - Slice
- Select
 - Pan/Translate
 - Constrained
 - Cut
 - Project

Further reading

- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters Visualization Series, CRC Press, Nov 2014.
 - Chap 11: Manipulate View
- Animated Transitions in Statistical Data Graphics. Heer and Robertson. IEEE Trans. on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis07) 13:6 (2007), 1240–1247.
- Selection: 524,288 Ways to Say “This is Interesting”. Wills. Proc. IEEE Symp. Information Visualization (InfoVis), pp. 54–61, 1996.
- Smooth and efficient zooming and panning. van Wijk and Nuij. Proc. IEEE Symp. Information Visualization (InfoVis), pp. 15–22, 2003.
- Starting Simple - adding value to static visualisation through simple interaction. Dix and Ellis. Proc. Advanced Visual Interfaces (AVI), pp. 124–134, 1998.

Outline

- Session 1: Principles 9:15-10:30am
 - Analysis: What, Why, How
 - Marks and Channels, Perception
 - Color
- Session 2: Techniques for Scaling 10:50-11:40am
 - Manipulate: Change, Select, Navigate
 - Facet: Juxtapose, Partition, Superimpose
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<http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks.html#vad17sydney>

How to handle complexity: 3 more strategies + 1 previous

Manipulate Facet Reduce → Derive

- Change
- Juxtapose
- Filter
- Select
- Partition
- Aggregate
- Navigate
- Superimpose
- Embed

- facet data across multiple views

Facet

- Juxtapose
 - Coordinate Multiple Side By Side Views
 - Share Encoding: Same/Different
 - Linked Highlighting
- Partition
 - Share Data: All/Subset/None
- Superimpose
 - Share Navigation

Idiom: Linked highlighting System: EDV

- see how regions contiguous in one view are distributed within another
 - powerful and pervasive interaction idiom
- encoding: different
 - multiform
- data: all shared

[Visual Exploration of Large Structured Datasets. Wills. Proc. New Techniques and Trends in Statistics (NTTS), pp. 237–246. IOS Press, 1995.]

Idiom: bird's-eye maps System: Google Maps

- encoding: same
- data: subset shared
- navigation: shared
 - bidirectional linking
- differences
 - viewpoint
 - (size)
- overview-detail

[A Review of Overview+Detail, Zooming, and Focus+Context Interfaces. Cockburn, Karlson, and Bederson. ACM Computing Surveys 41:1 (2008), 1–31.]

Idiom: Small multiples System: Cerebral

- encoding: same
- data: none shared
 - different attributes for node colors
 - (same network layout)
- navigation: shared

[Cerebral: Visualizing Multiple Experimental Conditions on a Graph with Biological Context. Barsky, Munzner, Gardy, and Kincaid. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis 2008) 14:6 (2008), 1253–1260.]

Coordinate views: Design choice interaction

		Data		
		All	Subset	None
Encoding	Same	Redundant	Overview/Detail	Small Multiples
	Different	Multiform	Multiform, Overview/Detail	No Linkage

- why juxtapose views?
 - benefits: eyes vs memory
 - lower cognitive load to move eyes between 2 views than remembering previous state with single changing view
 - costs: display area, 2 views side by side each only half the area of one view

Idiom: Animation (change over time)

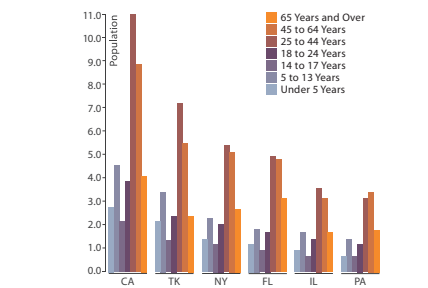
- weaknesses
 - widespread changes
 - disparate frames
- strengths
 - choreographed storytelling
 - localized differences between contiguous frames
 - animated transitions between states

Partition into views

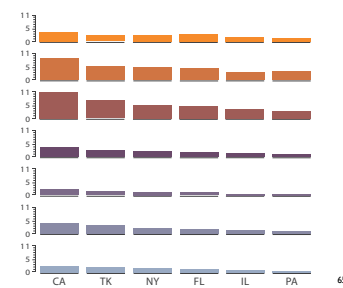
- how to divide data between views
 - Partition into Side-by-Side Views
 - encodes association between items using spatial proximity
 - major implications for what patterns are visible
 - split according to attributes
- design choices
 - how many splits
 - all the way down: one mark per region?
 - stop earlier, for more complex structure within region?
 - order in which attribs used to split

Partitioning: List alignment

- single bar chart with grouped bars
 - split by state into regions
 - complex glyph within each region showing all ages
 - compare: easy within state, hard across ages



- small-multiple bar charts
 - split by age into regions
 - one chart per region
 - compare: easy within age, harder across states



Partitioning: Recursive subdivision System: HIVE

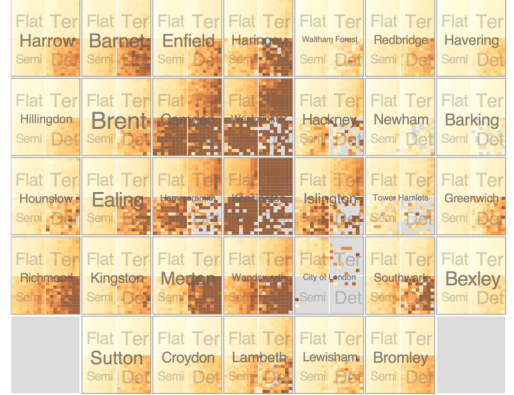
- split by type
- then by neighborhood
- then time
 - years as rows
 - months as columns



[Configuring Hierarchical Layouts to Address Research Questions. Slingsby, Dykes, and Wood. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis 2009) 15:6 (2009), 977–984.]

Partitioning: Recursive subdivision System: HIVE

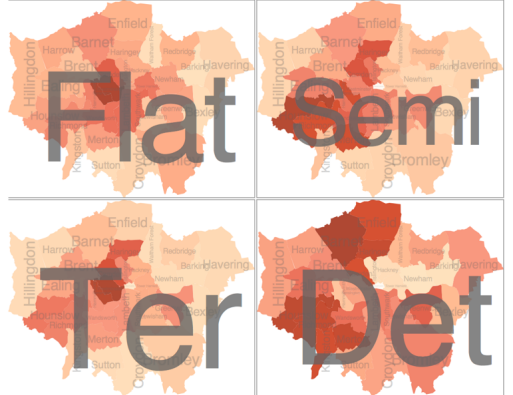
- switch order of splits
 - neighborhood then type
- very different patterns



[Configuring Hierarchical Layouts to Address Research Questions. Slingsby, Dykes, and Wood. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis 2009) 15:6 (2009), 977–984.]

Partitioning: Recursive subdivision System: HIVE

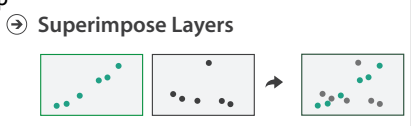
- different encoding for second-level regions
 - choropleth maps



[Configuring Hierarchical Layouts to Address Research Questions. Slingsby, Dykes, and Wood. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis 2009) 15:6 (2009), 977–984.]

Superimpose layers

- **layer**: set of objects spread out over region
 - each set is visually distinguishable group
 - extent: whole view
- design choices
 - how many layers?
 - how are layers distinguished?
 - small static set or dynamic from many possible?
 - how partitioned?
 - heavyweight with attribs vs lightweight with selection
- distinguishable layers
 - encode with different, nonoverlapping channels
 - two layers achievable, three with careful design



Static visual layering

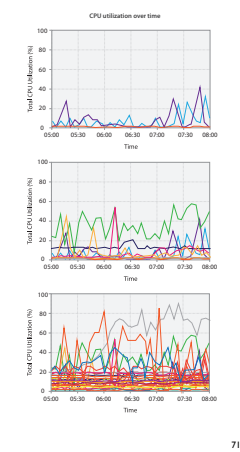
- foreground layer: roads
 - hue, size distinguishing main from minor
 - high luminance contrast from background
- background layer: regions
 - desaturated colors for water, parks, land areas
- user can selectively focus attention
- “get it right in black and white”
 - check luminance contrast with greyscale view



[Get it right in black and white. Stone. 2010. <http://www.stonesc.com/wordpress/2010/03/get-it-right-in-black-and-white>]

Superimposing limits

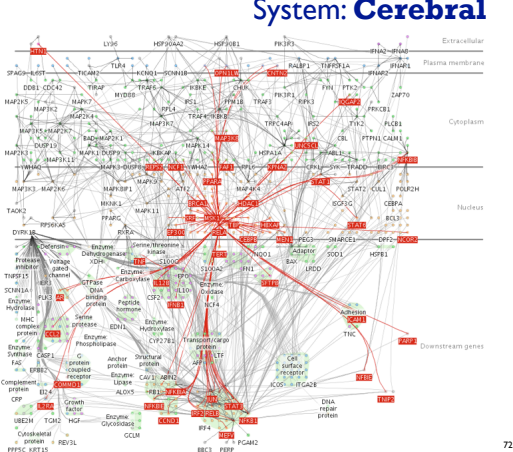
- few layers, but many lines
 - up to a few dozen
 - but not hundreds
- superimpose vs juxtapose: empirical study
 - superimposed for local visual, multiple for global
 - same screen space for all multiples, single superimposed
 - tasks
 - local: maximum, global: slope, discrimination



[Graphical Perception of Multiple Time Series. Javed, McDevitt, and Elmqvist. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. IEEE InfoVis 2010) 16:6 (2010), 927–934.]

Dynamic visual layering System: Cerebral

- interactive, from selection
 - lightweight: click
 - very lightweight: hover
- ex: I-hop neighbors



[Cerebral: a Cytoscape plugin for layout of and interaction with biological networks using subcellular localization annotation. Barsky, Gardy, Hancock, and Munzner. Bioinformatics 23:8 (2007), 1040–1042.]

Further reading

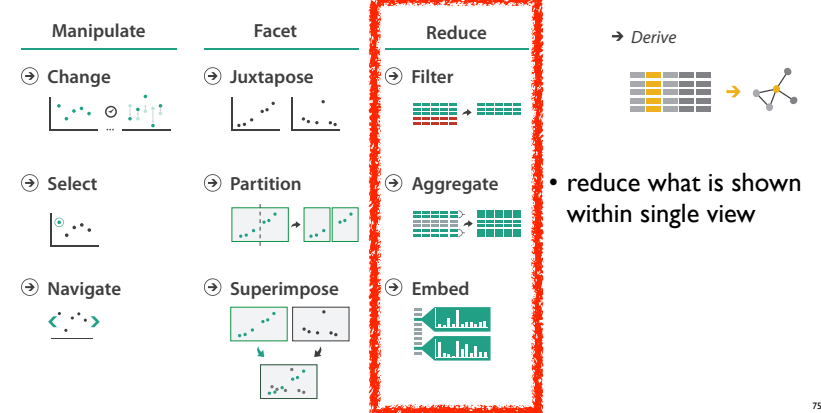
- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters Visualization Series, CRC Press, Nov 2014.
 - Chap 12: Facet Into Multiple Views
- A Review of Overview+Detail, Zooming, and Focus+Context Interfaces. Cockburn, Karlson, and Bederson. ACM Computing Surveys 41:1 (2008), 1–31.
- A Guide to Visual Multi-Level Interface Design From Synthesis of Empirical Study Evidence. Lam and Munzner. Synthesis Lectures on Visualization Series, Morgan Claypool, 2010.
- Zooming versus multiple window interfaces: Cognitive costs of visual comparisons. Plumlee and Ware. ACM Trans. on Computer-Human Interaction (ToCHI) 13:2 (2006), 179–209.
- Exploring the Design Space of Composite Visualization. Javed and Elmqvist. Proc. Pacific Visualization Symp. (PacificVis), pp. 1–9, 2012.
- Visual Comparison for Information Visualization. Gleicher, Albers, Walker, Jusufi, Hansen, and Roberts. Information Visualization 10:4 (2011), 289–309.
- Guidelines for Using Multiple Views in Information Visualizations. Baldonado, Woodruff, and Kuchinsky. In Proc. ACM Advanced Visual Interfaces (AVI), pp. 110–119, 2000.
- Cross-Filtered Views for Multidimensional Visual Analysis. Weaver. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics 16:2 (Proc. InfoVis 2010), 192–204, 2010.
- Linked Data Views. Wills. In Handbook of Data Visualization, Computational Statistics, edited by Unwin, Chen, and Härdle, pp. 216–241. Springer-Verlag, 2008.
- Glyph-based Visualization: Foundations, Design Guidelines, Techniques and Applications. Borgo, Kehrler, Chung, Maguire, Laramée, Hauser, Ward, and Chen. In Eurographics State of the Art Reports, pp. 39–63, 2013.

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How to handle complexity: 3 more strategies + 1 previous



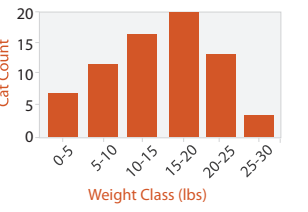
Reduce items and attributes

- reduce/increase: inverses
- filter
 - pro: straightforward and intuitive
 - to understand and compute
 - con: out of sight, out of mind
- aggregation
 - pro: inform about whole set
 - con: difficult to avoid losing signal
- not mutually exclusive
 - combine filter, aggregate
 - combine reduce, facet, change, derive



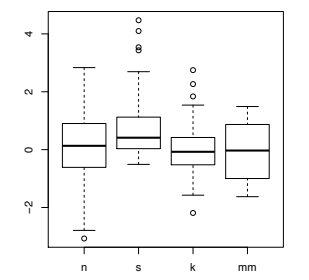
Idiom: histogram

- static item aggregation
- task: find distribution
- data: table
 - new table: keys are bins, values are counts
- derived data
 - pattern can change dramatically depending on discretization
 - opportunity for interaction: control bin size on the fly



Idiom: boxplot

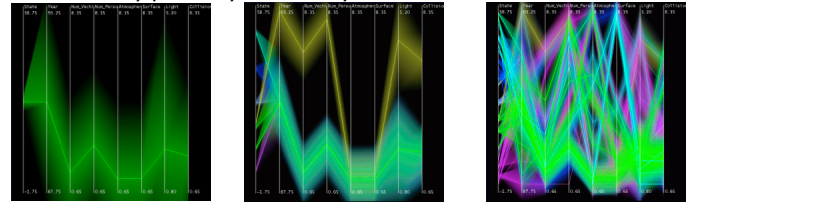
- static item aggregation
- task: find distribution
- data: table
- derived data
 - 5 quant attribs
 - median: central line
 - lower and upper quartile: boxes
 - lower upper fences: whiskers
 - values beyond which items are outliers
 - outliers beyond fence cutoffs explicitly shown



[40 years of boxplots. Wickham and Stryjewski. 2012. had.co.nz]

Idiom: Hierarchical parallel coordinates

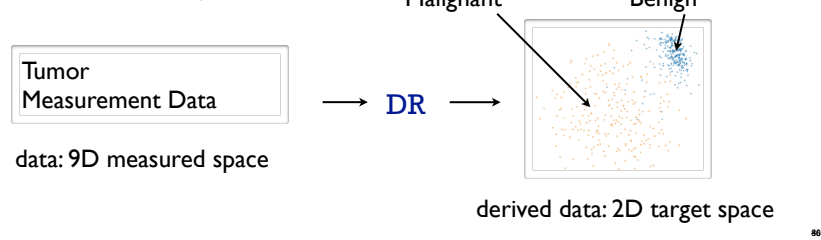
- dynamic item aggregation
- derived data: hierarchical clustering
- encoding:
 - cluster band with variable transparency, line at mean, width by min/max values
 - color by proximity in hierarchy



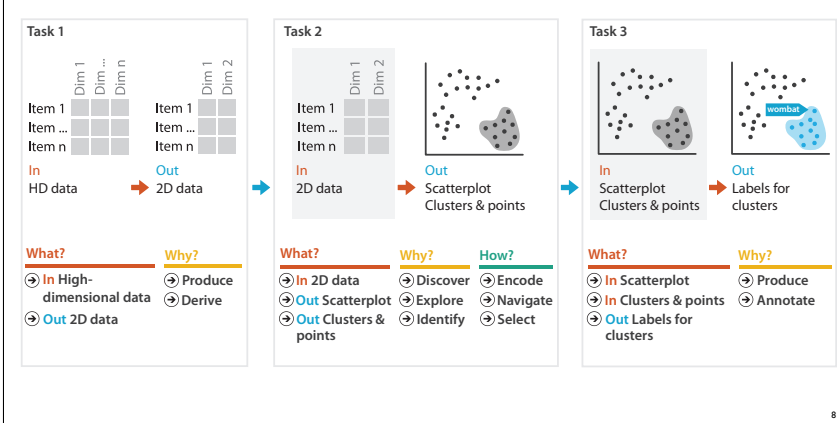
[Hierarchical Parallel Coordinates for Exploration of Large Datasets. Fua, Ward, and Rundensteiner. Proc. IEEE Visualization Conference (Vis '99), pp. 43–50, 1999.]

Dimensionality reduction

- attribute aggregation
 - derive low-dimensional target space from high-dimensional measured space
 - use when you can't directly measure what you care about
 - true dimensionality of dataset conjectured to be smaller than dimensionality of measurements
 - latent factors, hidden variables



Idiom: Dimensionality reduction for documents

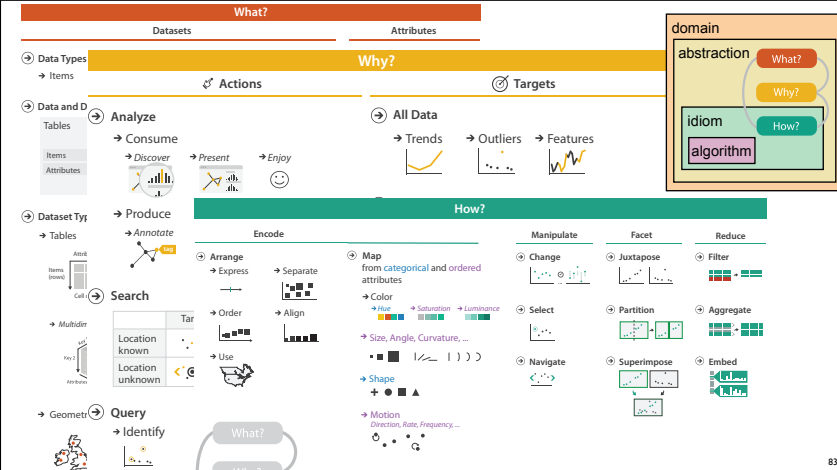


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Further reading

- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters Visualization Series, CRC Press, Nov 2014.
 - Chap 13: Reduce Items and Attributes
- Hierarchical Aggregation for Information Visualization: Overview, Techniques and Design Guidelines. Elmqvist and Fekete. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics 16:3 (2010), 439–454.
- A Review of Overview+Detail, Zooming, and Focus+Context Interfaces. Cockburn, Karlson, and Bederson. ACM Computing Surveys 41:1 (2008), 1–31.
- A Guide to Visual Multi-Level Interface Design From Synthesis of Empirical Study Evidence. Lam and Munzner. Synthesis Lectures on Visualization Series, Morgan Claypool, 2010.

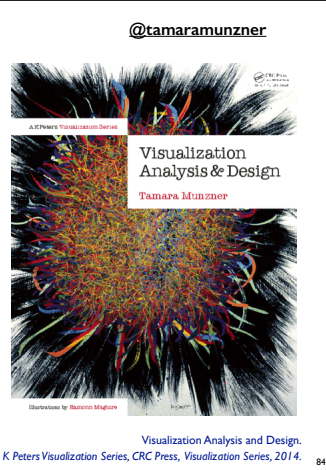
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More Information

- this talk
 - <http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks.html#vad17sydney>
- book page (including tutorial lecture slides)
 - <http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/vadbook>
 - 20% promo code for book+ebook combo: HVN17
 - <http://www.crcpress.com/product/isbn/9781466508910>
- illustrations: Eamonn Maguire
- papers, videos, software, talks, full courses
 - <http://www.cs.ubc.ca/group/infovis>
 - <http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm>



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