

# Information Visualization

## Interactive Views

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***Lect 8/9/10, 30 Jan & 4/6 Feb 2020***

**<https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/courses/436V-20>**

# Upcoming

- Foundations 3: out Thu Jan 30, due Wed Feb 5 6pm
- Programming 2: out Thu Jan 30, due Wed Feb 12 6pm
- D3 videos/readings week 4
  - The General Update Pattern of D3.js [60 min]
  - Interaction with Unidirectional Data Flow [16 min]
  - Read: Reusable D3 Components
- Quiz 4, due by Fri Jan 31, 8am

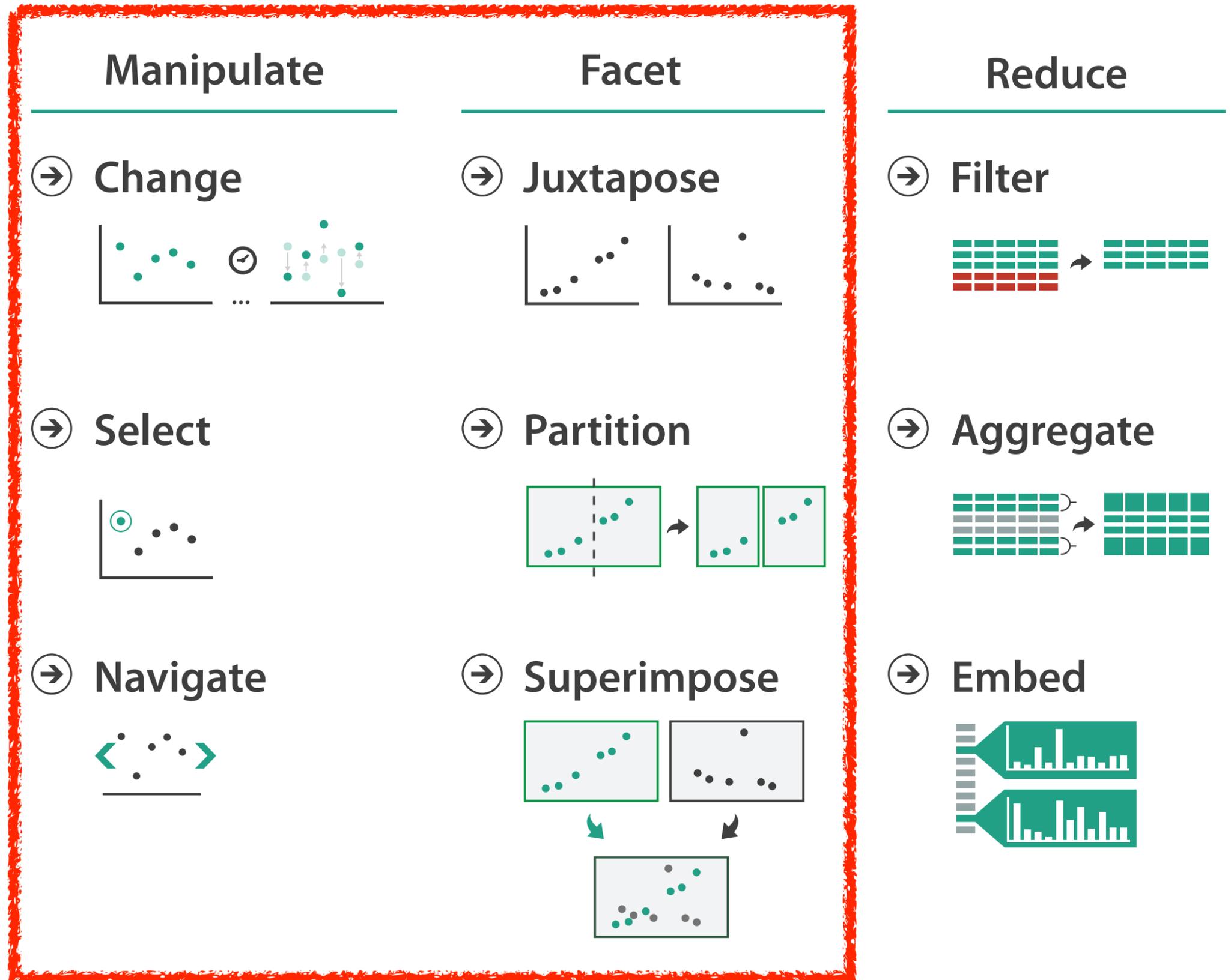
# Interactive Views

# How to handle complexity: 1 previous strategy + 3 more

→ *Derive*



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

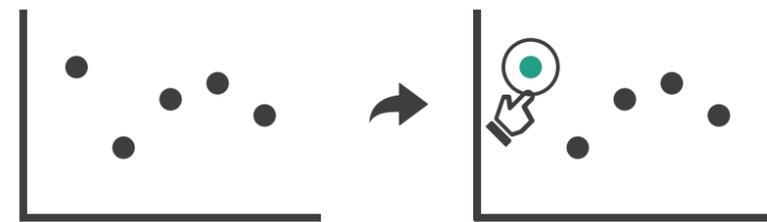


# Manipulate

## → Change over Time



## → Select

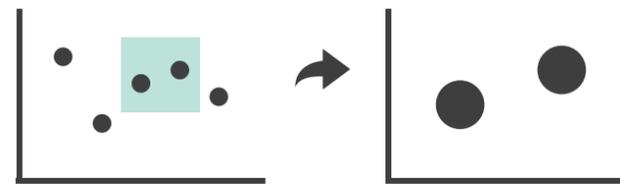


## → Navigate

### → Item Reduction

#### → Zoom

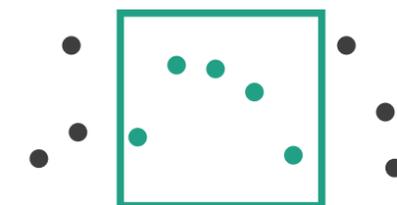
*Geometric* or *Semantic*



#### → Pan/Translate



#### → Constrained

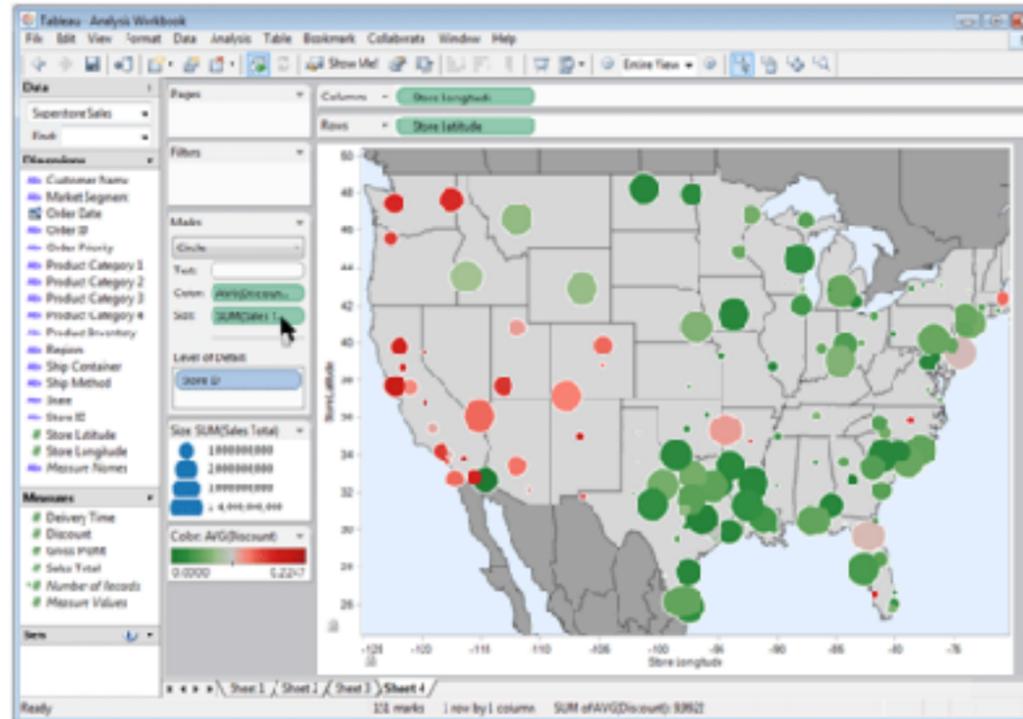
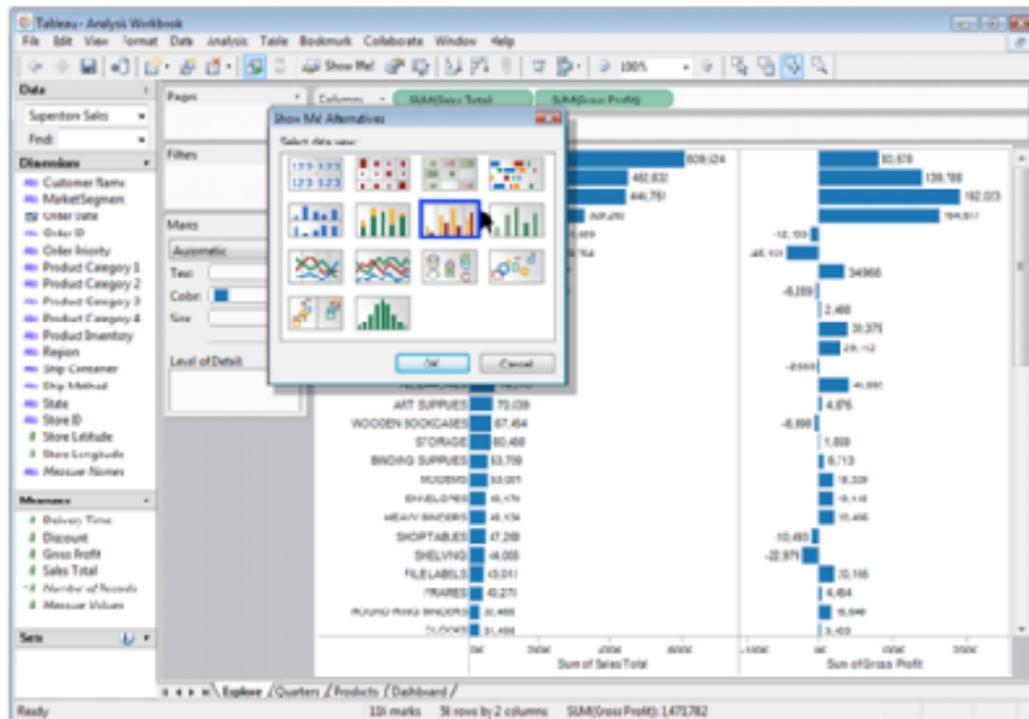
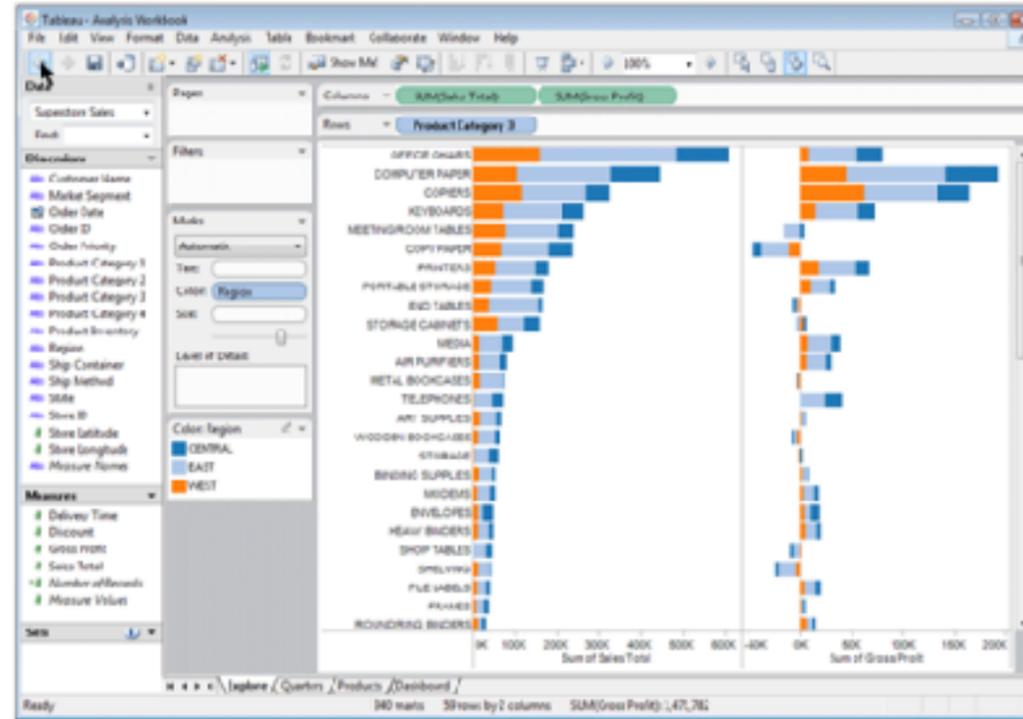
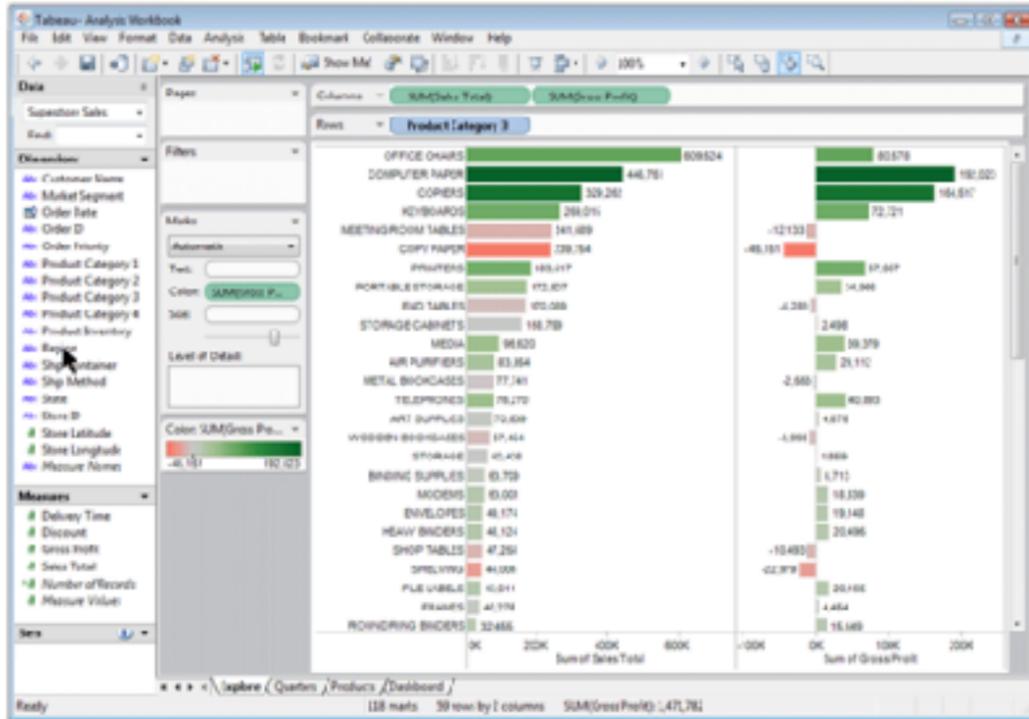


# Change over time

- change any of the other choices
  - encoding itself
  - parameters
  - arrange: rearrange, reorder
  - aggregation level, what is filtered...
  
  - interaction entails change

# Idiom: Re-encode

# System: Tableau

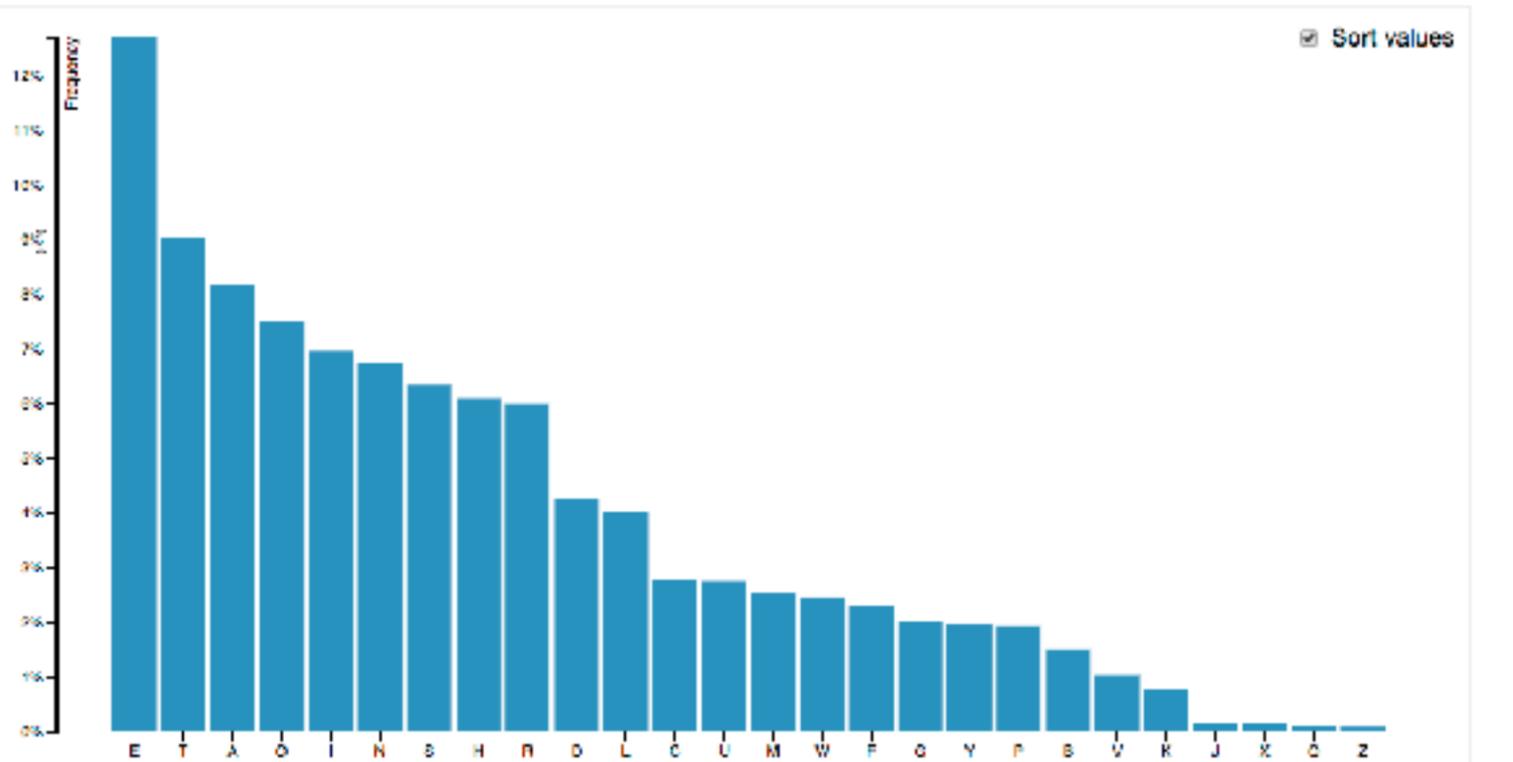
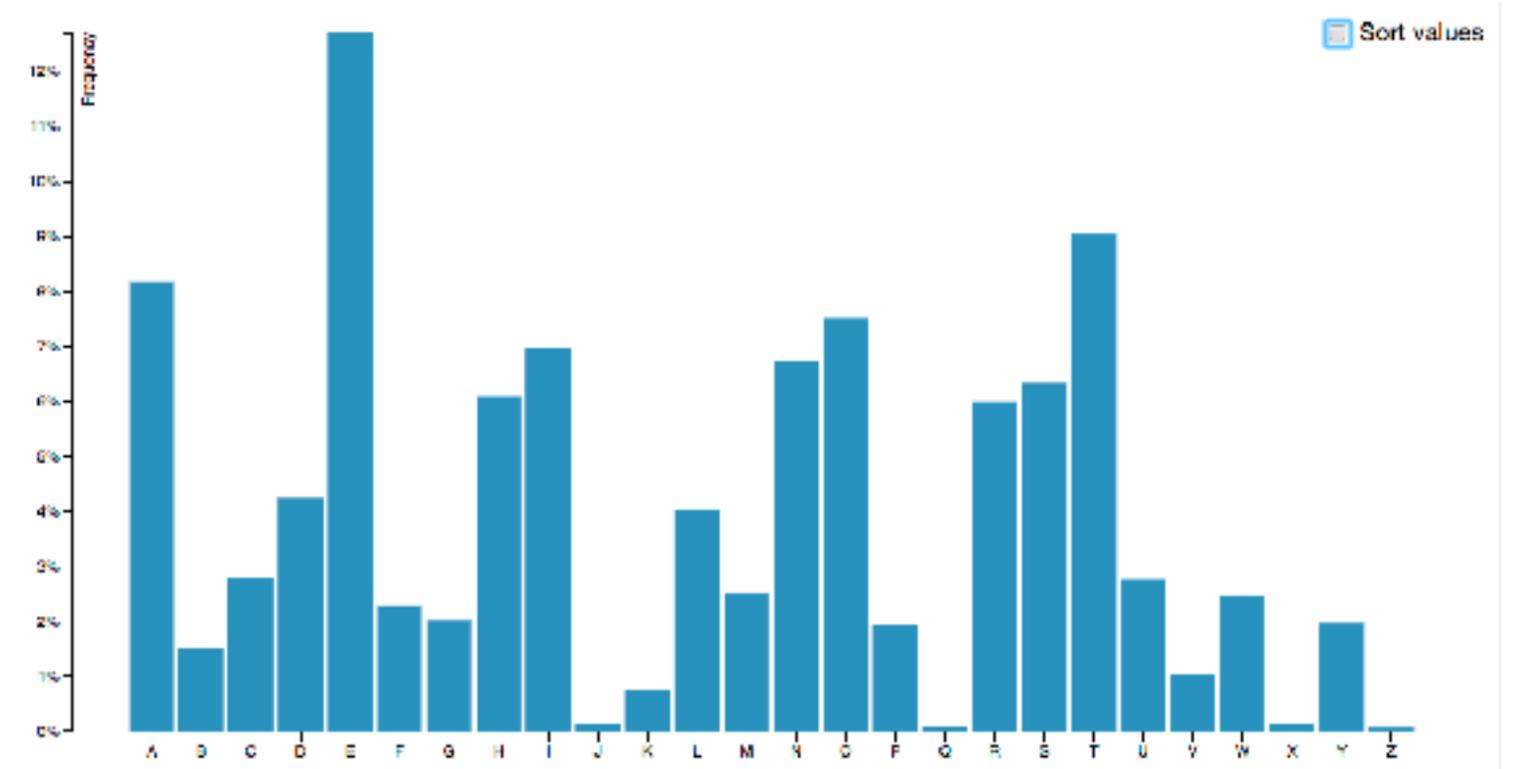


made using Tableau, <http://tableausoftware.com>



# Idiom: **Change order/arrangement**

- what: simple table
- how: data-driven reordering
- why: find extreme values, trends

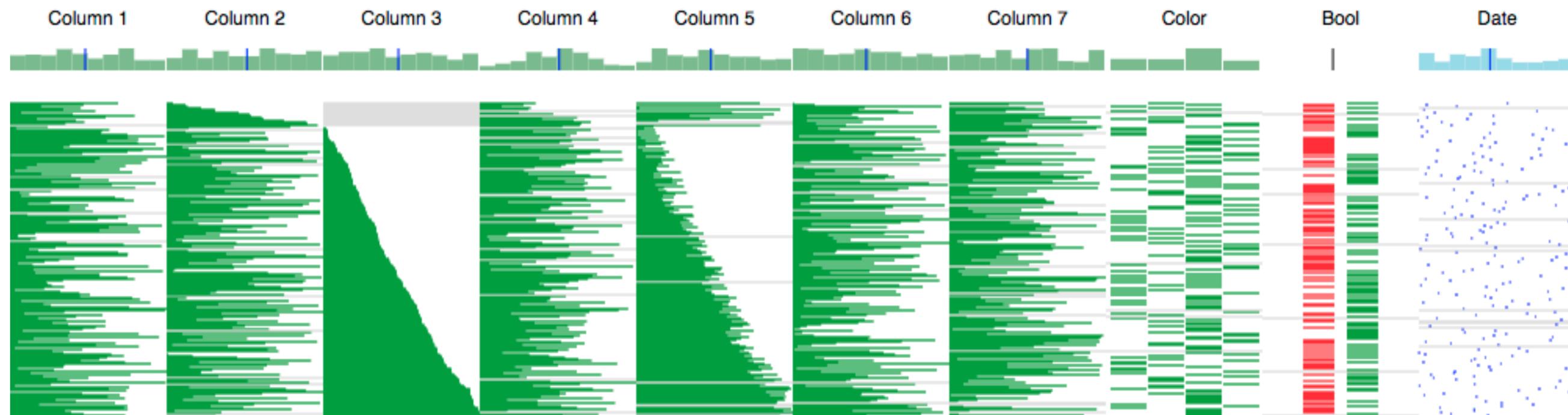


[Sortable Bar Chart](<https://blocks.org/mbostock/3885705>)

# Idiom: **Reorder**

# System: **DataStripes**

- what: table with many attributes
- how: data-driven reordering by selecting column
- why: find correlations between attributes

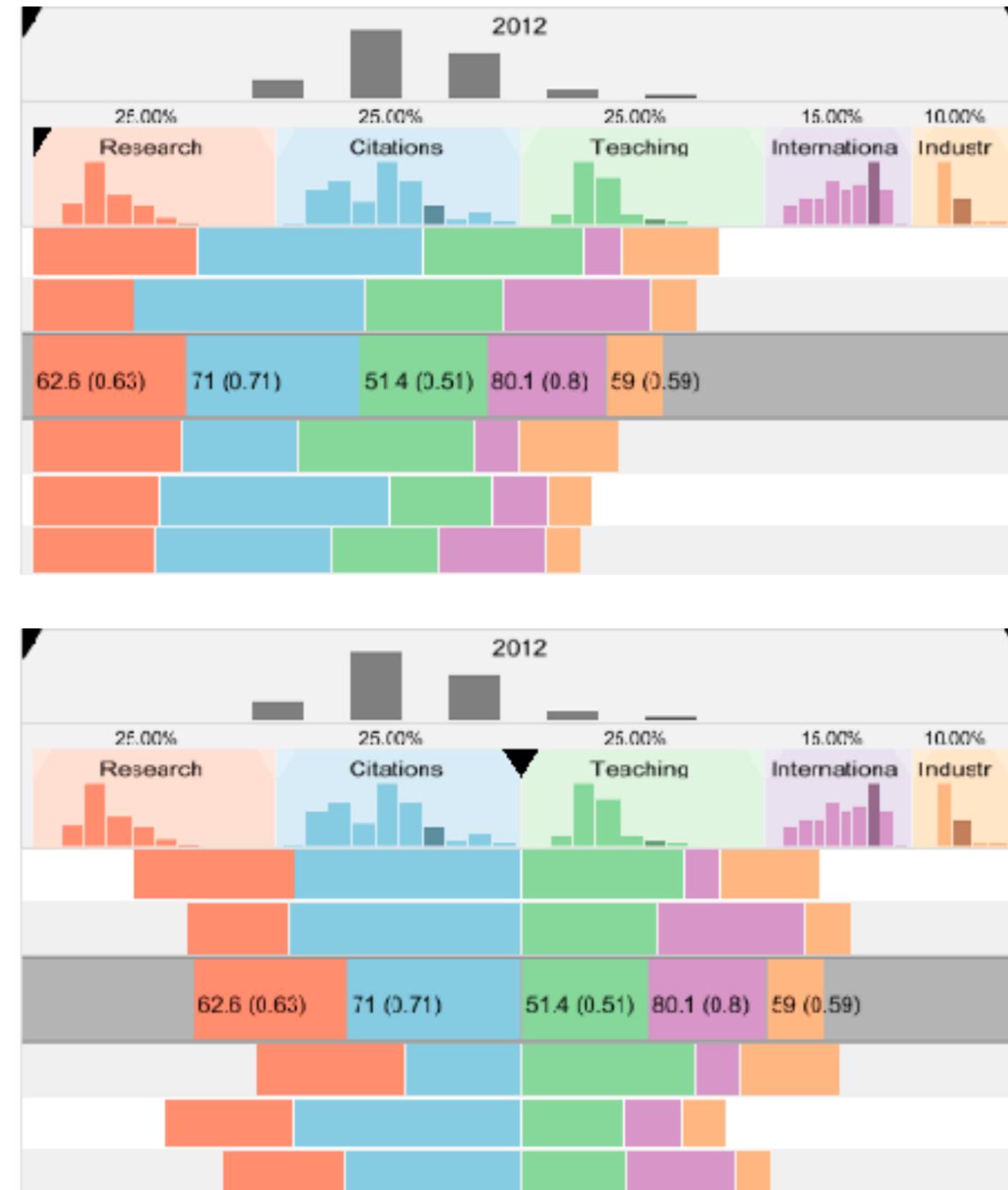


[\[http://carlmanaster.github.io/datastripes/\]](http://carlmanaster.github.io/datastripes/)

# Idiom: **Change alignment**

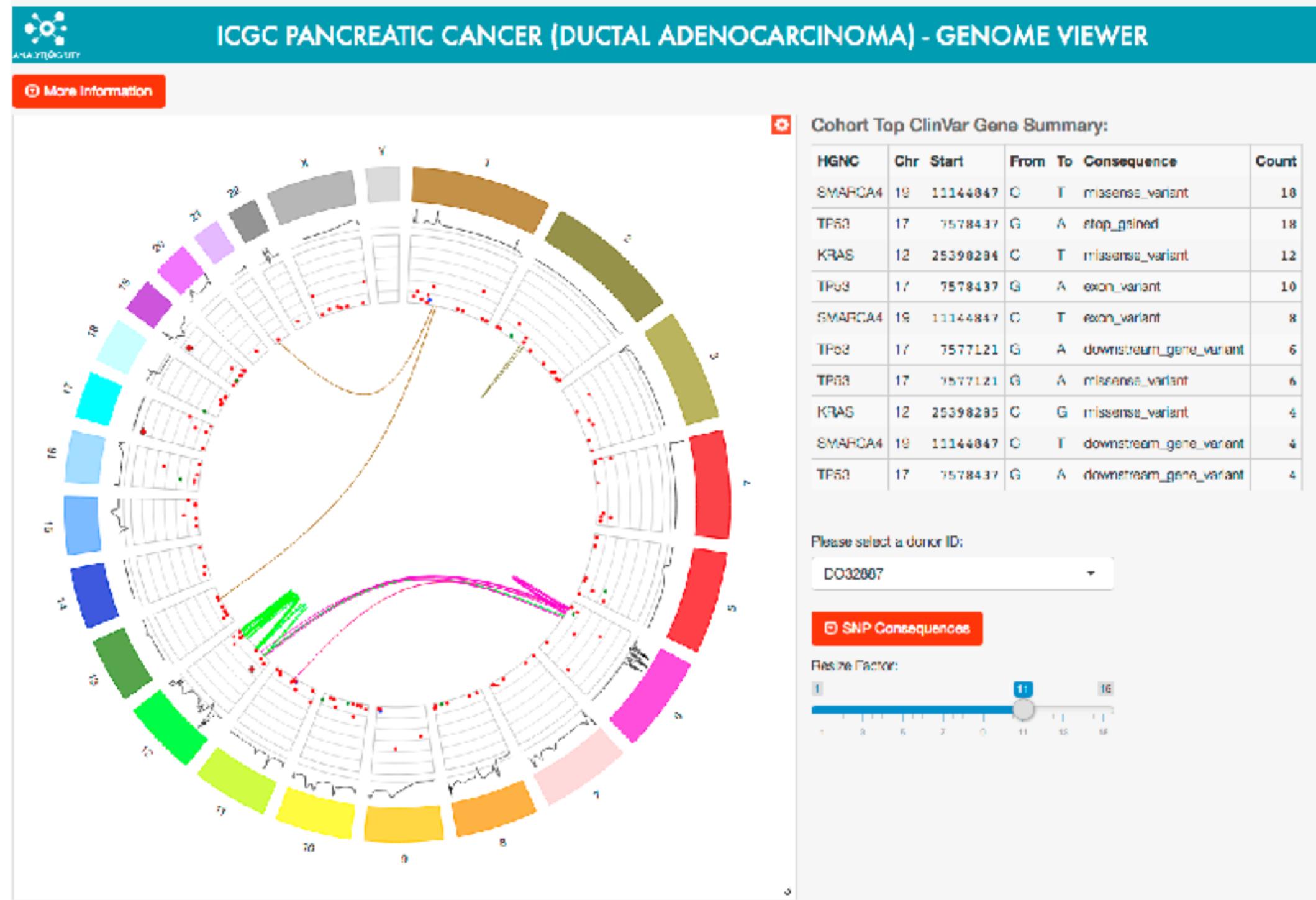
- stacked bars
  - easy to compare
    - first segment
    - total bar
- align to different segment
  - supports flexible comparison

# System: **LineUp**



# Shiny example

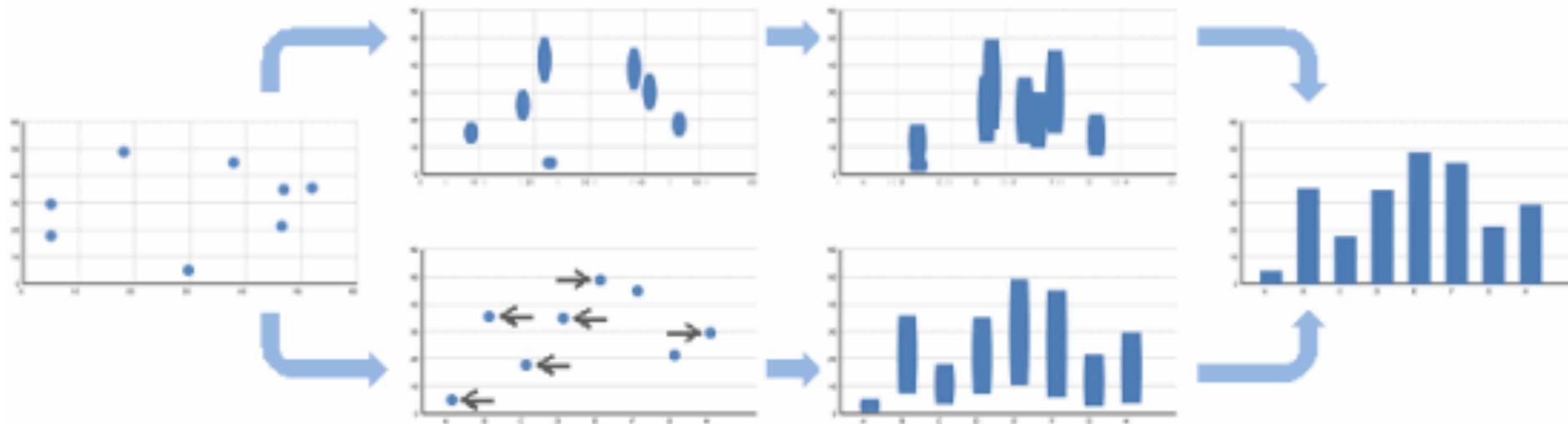
- APGI genome browser
  - tooling: R/Shiny
  - interactivity
    - tooltip detail on demand on hover
    - expand/contract chromosomes
    - expand/contract control panes



[https://gallery.shinyapps.io/genome\\_browser/](https://gallery.shinyapps.io/genome_browser/)

# Idiom: **Animated transitions**

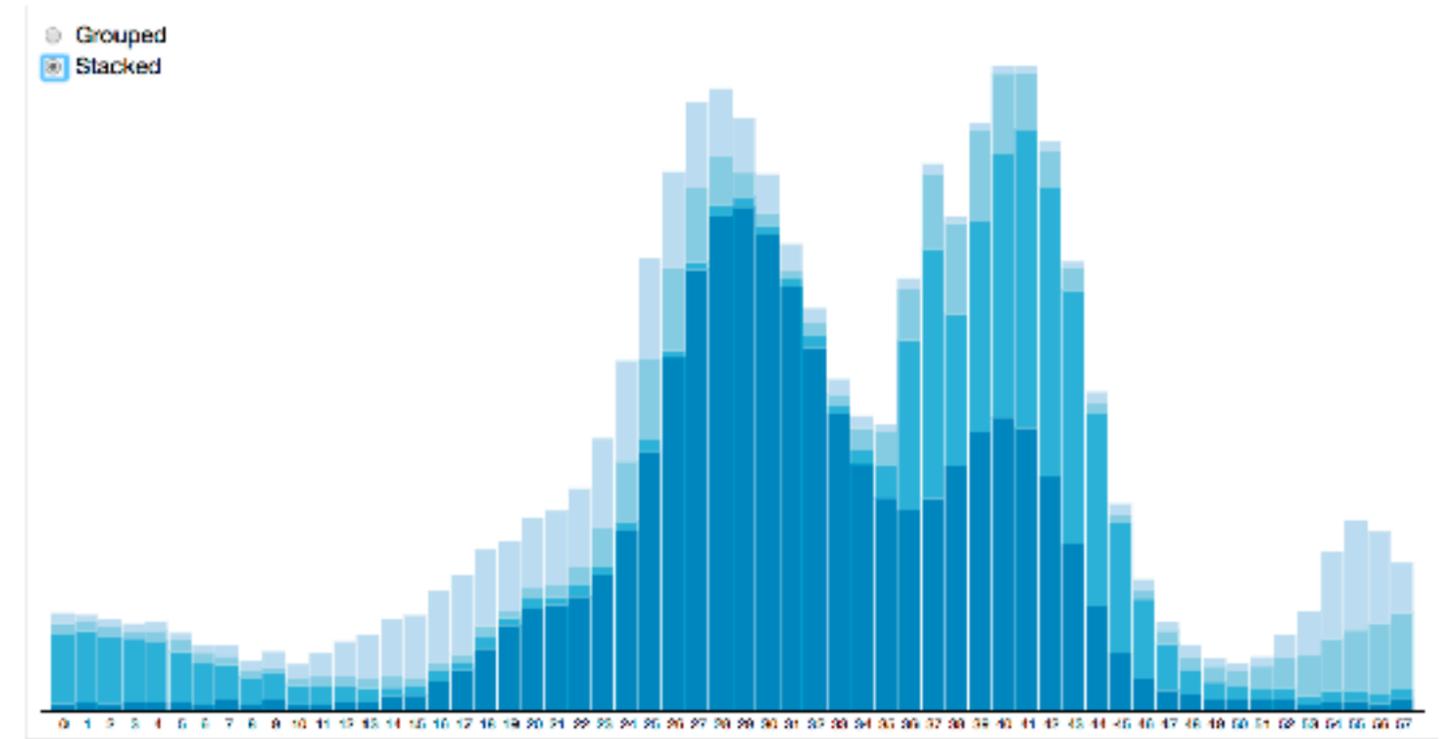
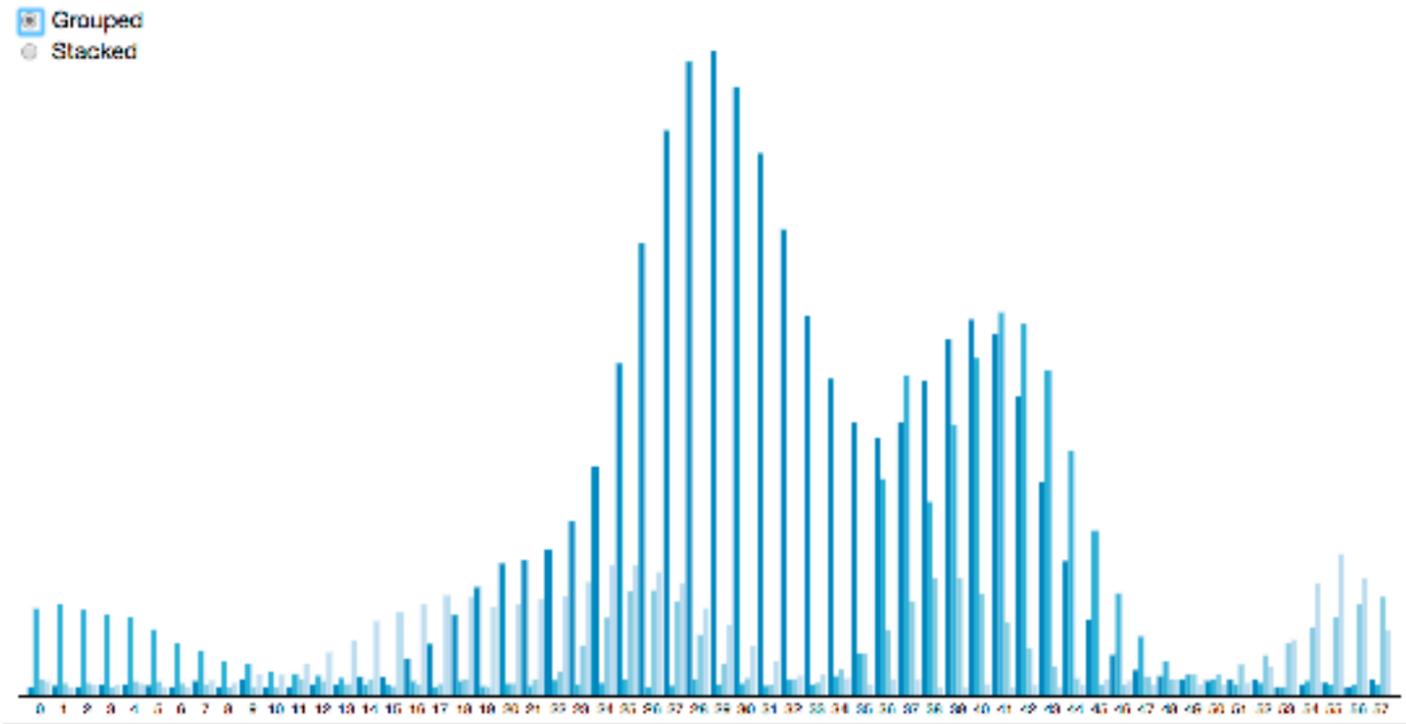
- smooth interpolation from one state to another
  - alternative to jump cuts, supports item tracking
  - best case for animation
  - staging to reduce cognitive load
- example: animated transitions in statistical data graphics



video: [vimeo.com/19278444](https://vimeo.com/19278444)

# Idiom: **Animated transitions** - visual encoding change

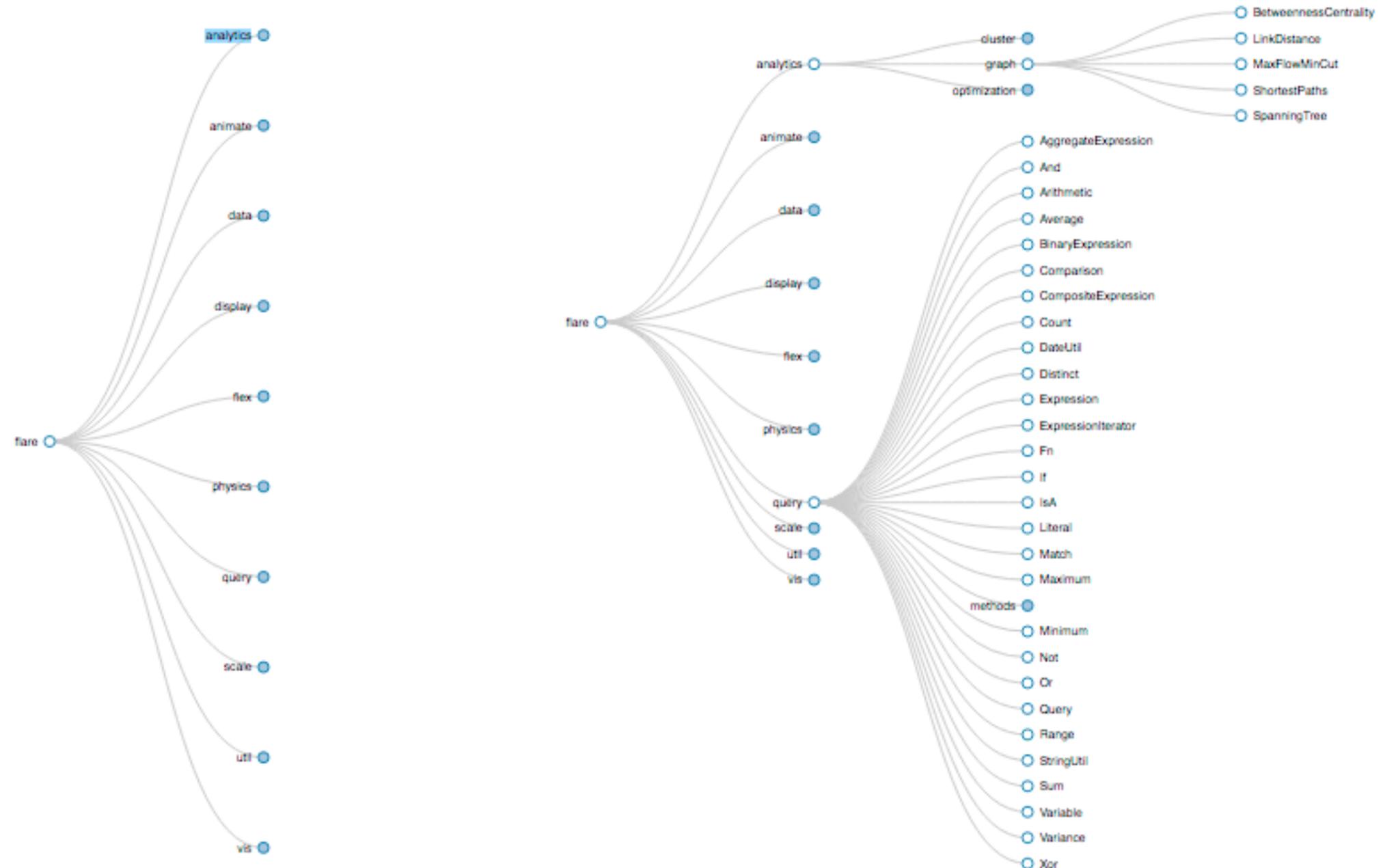
- smooth transition from one state to another
  - alternative to jump cuts, supports item tracking
  - best case for animation
  - staging to reduce cognitive load



[Stacked to Grouped Bars](<http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/3943967>)

# Idiom: **Animated transition - tree detail**

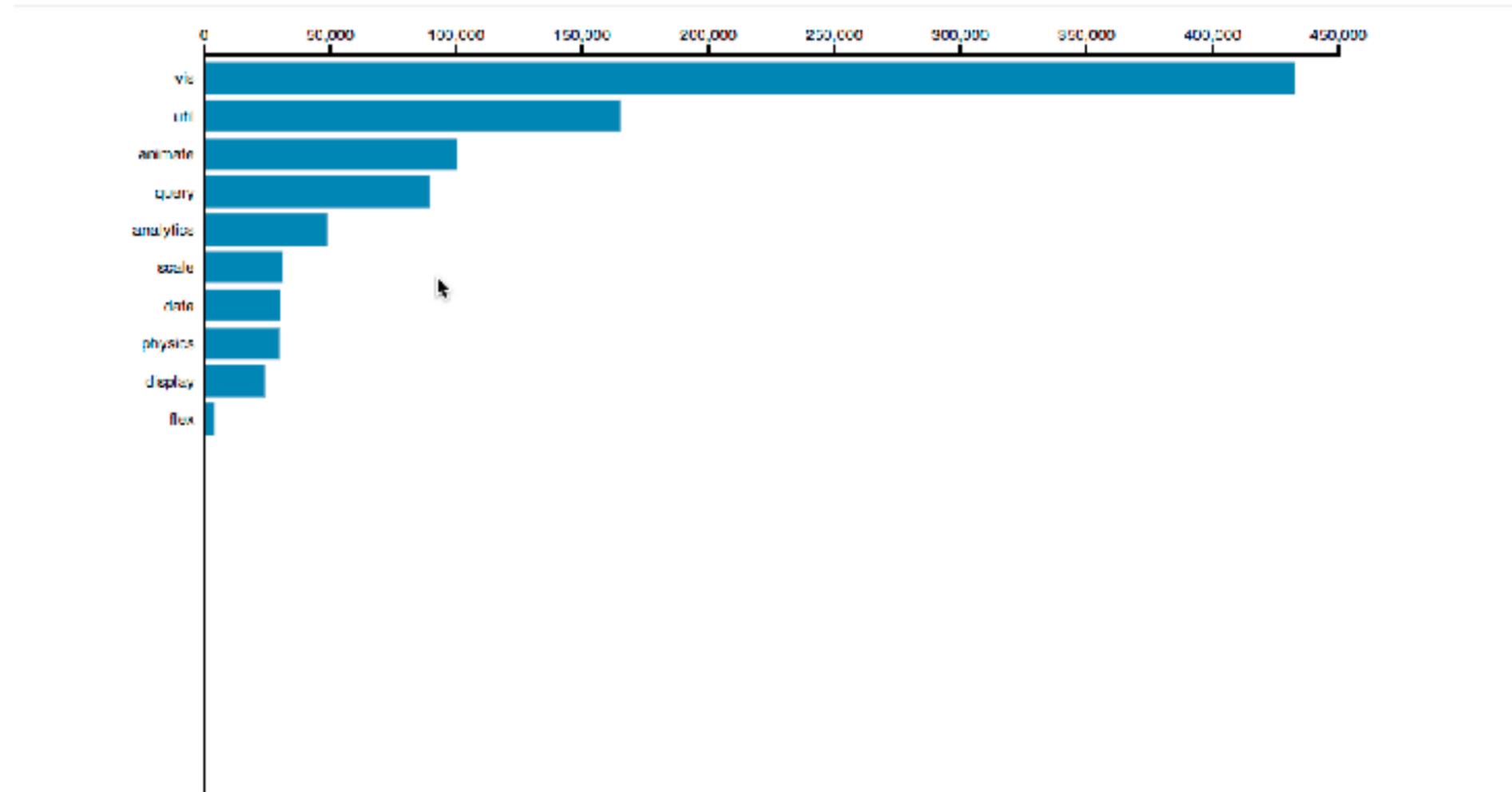
- animated transition
  - network drilldown/rollup



[Collapsible Tree](<https://blocks.org/mbostock/4339083>)

# Idiom: **Animated transition - bar detail**

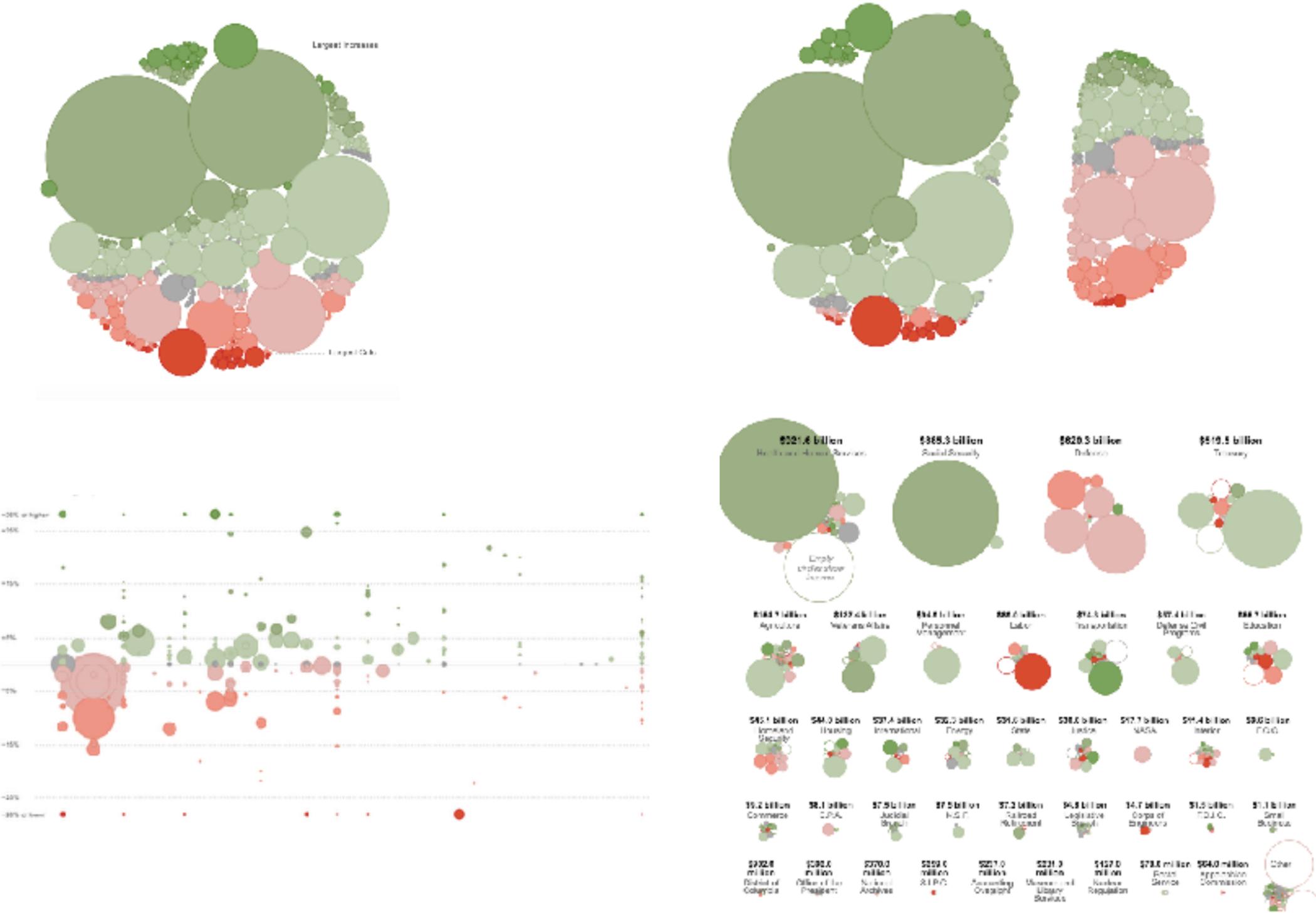
- example: hierarchical bar chart
  - add detail during transition to new level of detail



[Hierarchical Bar Chart](<https://blocks.org/mbostock/1283663>)

# Interactive transitions quiz: 4 Ways Budget

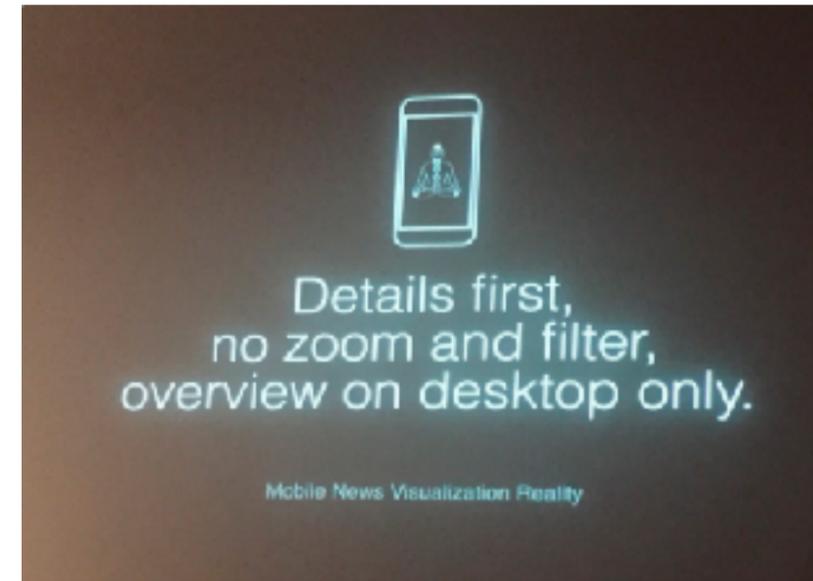
- what changed?



# Interaction technology

- what do you design for?
  - mouse & keyboard on desktop?
    - large screens, hover, multiple clicks
  - touch interaction on mobile?
    - small screens, no hover, just tap
  - gestures from video / sensors?
    - ergonomic reality vs movie bombast
  - eye tracking?

slide inspired by: Alexander Lex, Utah



Data visualization and the news - Gregor Aisch (37 min)  
[vimeo.com/182590214](https://vimeo.com/182590214)

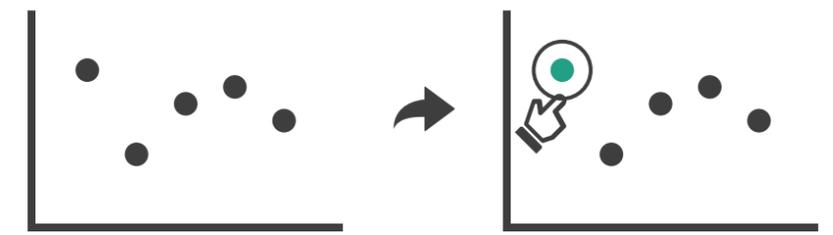


I Hate Tom Cruise - Alex Kauffmann (5 min)  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=QXLfT9sFcbc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QXLfT9sFcbc)

# Selection

- selection: basic operation for most interaction
- design choices
  - how many selection types?
    - interaction modalities
      - click/tap (heavyweight) vs hover (lightweight but not available on most touchscreens)
      - multiple click types (shift-click, option-click, ...)
      - proximity beyond click/hover (touching vs nearby vs distant)
    - application semantics
      - adding to selection set vs replacing selection
      - can selection be null?
        - ex: toggle so nothing selected if click on background
      - primary vs secondary (ex: source/target nodes in network)
      - group membership (add/delete items, name group, ...)

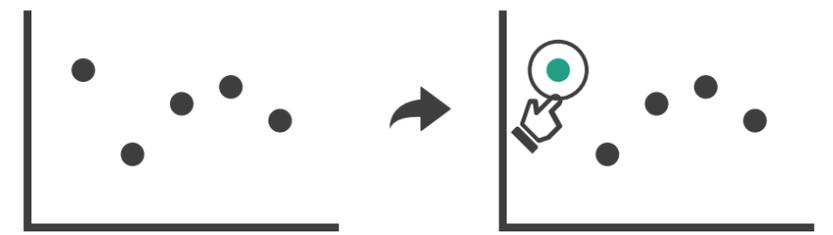
➔ Select



# Highlighting

- highlight: change visual encoding for selection targets
  - visual feedback closely tied to but separable from selection (interaction)
- design choices: typical visual channels
  - change item color
    - but hides existing color coding
  - add outline mark
  - change size (ex: increase outline mark linewidth)
  - change shape (ex: from solid to dashed line for link mark)
- unusual channels: motion
  - motion: usually avoid for single view
    - with multiple views, could justify to draw attention to other views

➔ Select



# Tooltips

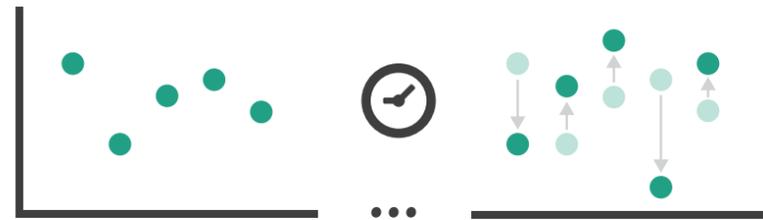
- popup information for selection
  - hover or click
  - can provide useful additional detail on demand
  - beware: does not support overview!
    - always consider if there's a way to visually encode directly to provide overview
    - “If you make a rollover or tooltip, assume nobody will see it. If it's important, make it explicit.”
      - Gregor Aisch, NYTimes

# Rule of thumb: **Responsiveness is required**

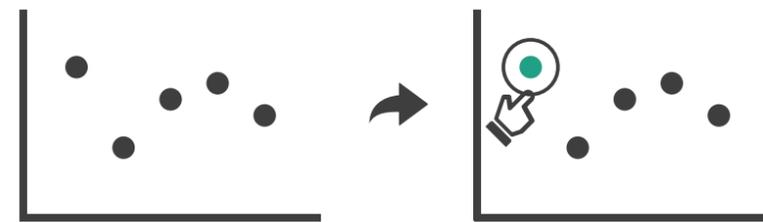
- *visual feedback: three rough categories*
  - *0.1 seconds: perceptual processing*
    - subsecond response for mouseover highlighting - ballistic motion
  - *1 second: immediate response*
    - fast response after mouseclick, button press - Fitts' Law limits on motor control
  - *10 seconds: brief tasks*
    - bounded response after dialog box - mental model of heavyweight operation (file load)
- **scalability considerations**
  - highlight selection without complete redraw of view (graphics frontbuffer)
  - show hourglass for multi-second operations (check for cancel/undo)
  - show progress bar for long operations (process in background thread)
  - rendering speed when item count is large (guaranteed frame rate)

# Manipulate

## → Change over Time



## → Select

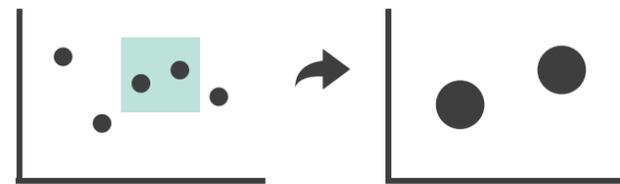


## → Navigate

### → Item Reduction

#### → Zoom

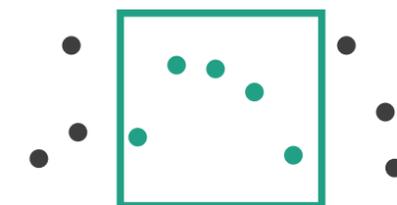
*Geometric* or *Semantic*



#### → Pan/Translate



#### → Constrained



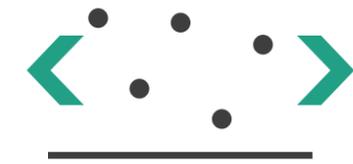
# Navigate: Changing viewpoint/visibility

- change viewpoint
  - changes which items are visible within view
- camera metaphor
  - pan/translate/scroll
    - move up/down/sideways

## ➔ Navigate

➔ Item Reduction

➔ *Pan/Translate*



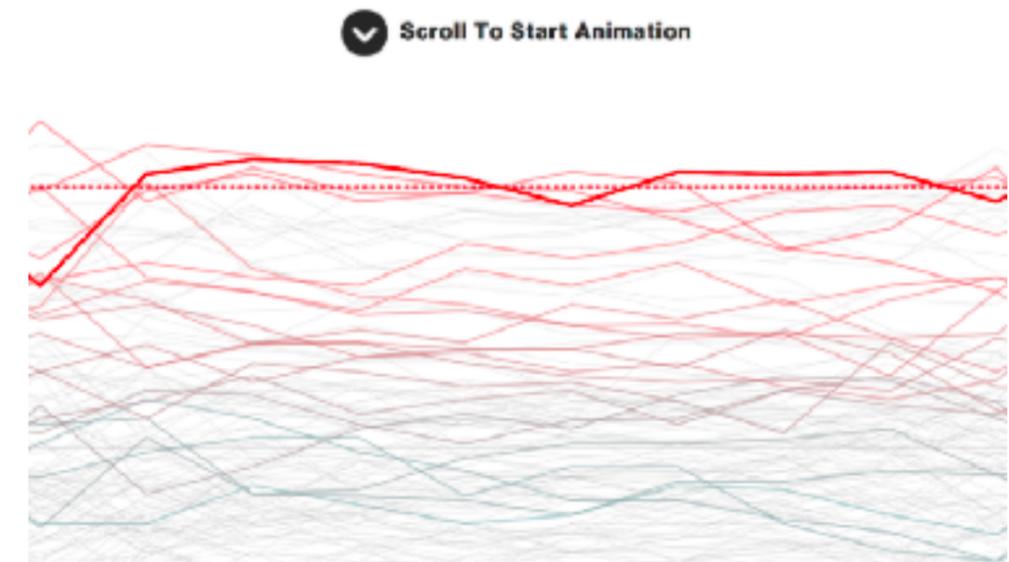
# Idiom: Scrollytelling

- how: navigate page by scrolling (panning down)
- pros:
  - familiar & intuitive, from standard web browsing
  - linear (only up & down) vs possible overload of click-based interface choices
- cons:
  - full-screen mode may lack affordances
  - scrolljacking, no direct access
  - unexpected behaviour
  - continuous control for discrete steps

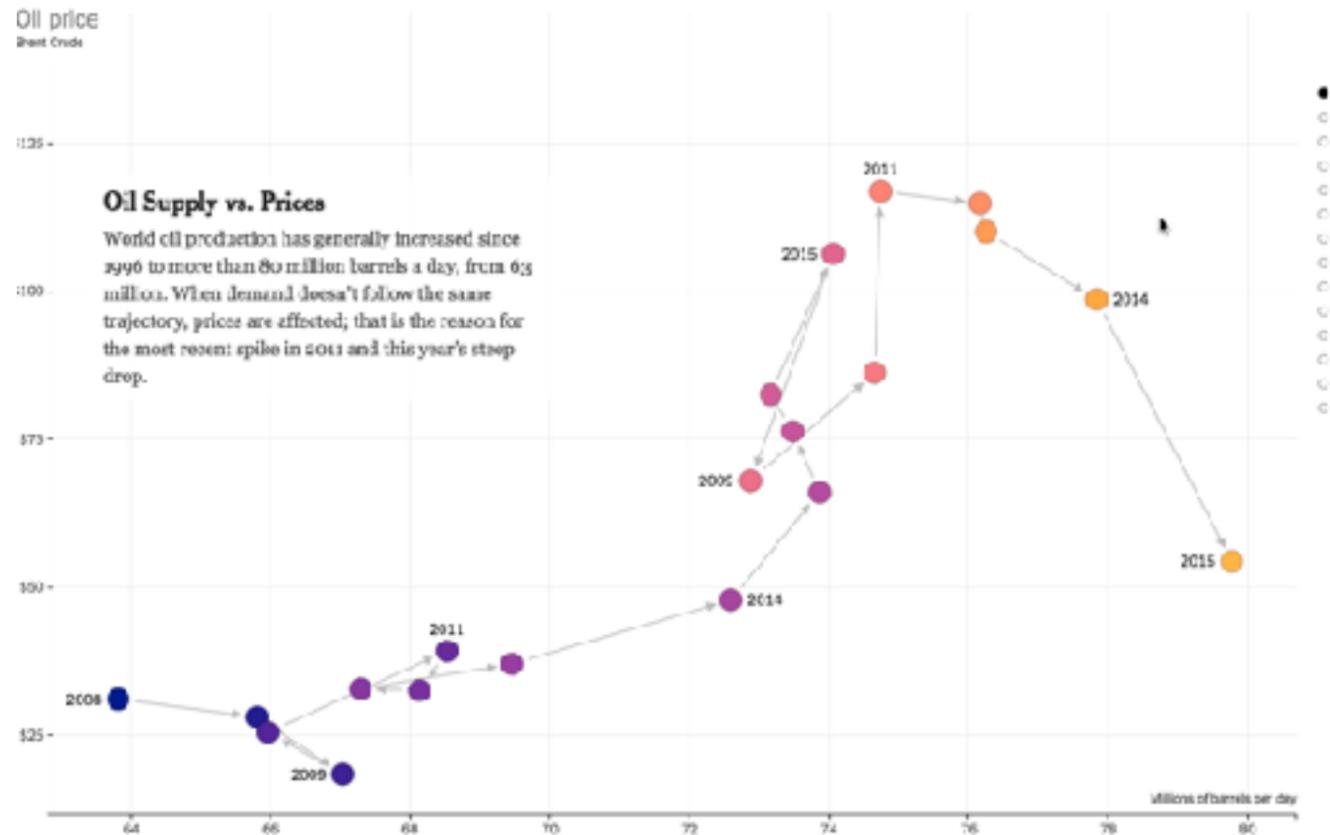
<https://eagereyes.org/blog/2016/the-scrollytelling-scourge>

[How to Scroll, Bostock](<https://bost.ocks.org/mike/scroll/>)

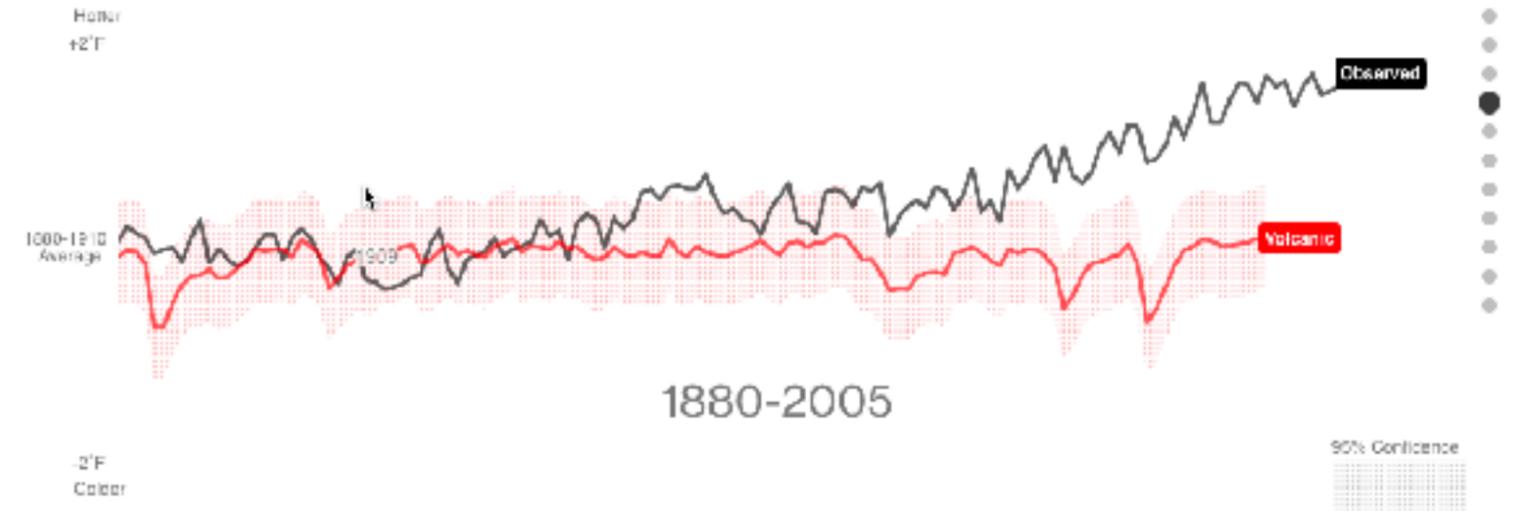
*[slide inspired by: Alexander Lex, Utah](#)*



# Scrollytelling examples



[https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/09/30/business/how-the-us-and-opeac-drive-oil-prices.html?\\_r=1](https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/09/30/business/how-the-us-and-opeac-drive-oil-prices.html?_r=1)



<https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/2015-whats-warming-the-world/>

*slide inspired by: Alexander Lex, Utah*

# Navigate: Changing viewpoint/visibility

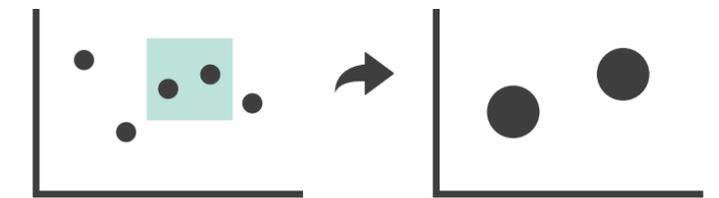
- change viewpoint
  - changes which items are visible within view
- camera metaphor
  - pan/translate/scroll
    - move up/down/sideways
  - rotate/spin
    - typically in 3D
  - zoom in/out
    - enlarge/shrink world == move camera closer/further
    - geometric zoom: standard, like moving physical object

## ➔ Navigate

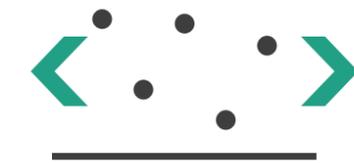
➔ Item Reduction

➔ Zoom

*Geometric*



➔ Pan/Translate



# Navigate: Unconstrained vs constrained

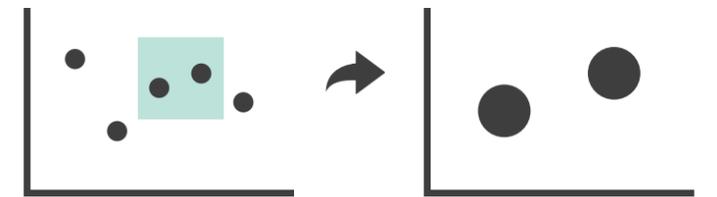
- unconstrained navigation
  - easy to implement for designer
  - hard to control for user
    - easy to overshoot/undershoot
- constrained navigation
  - typically uses animated transitions
  - trajectory automatically computed based on selection
    - just click; selection ends up framed nicely in final viewport

## ➔ Navigate

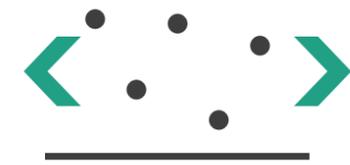
➔ Item Reduction

➔ Zoom

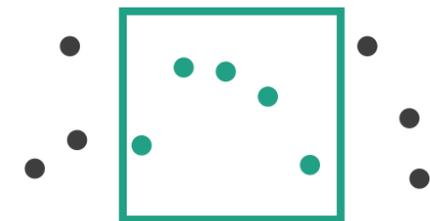
*Geometric* or *Semantic*



➔ Pan/Translate



➔ Constrained



# Idiom: **Animated transition + constrained navigation**

- example: geographic map
  - simple zoom, only viewport changes, shapes preserved

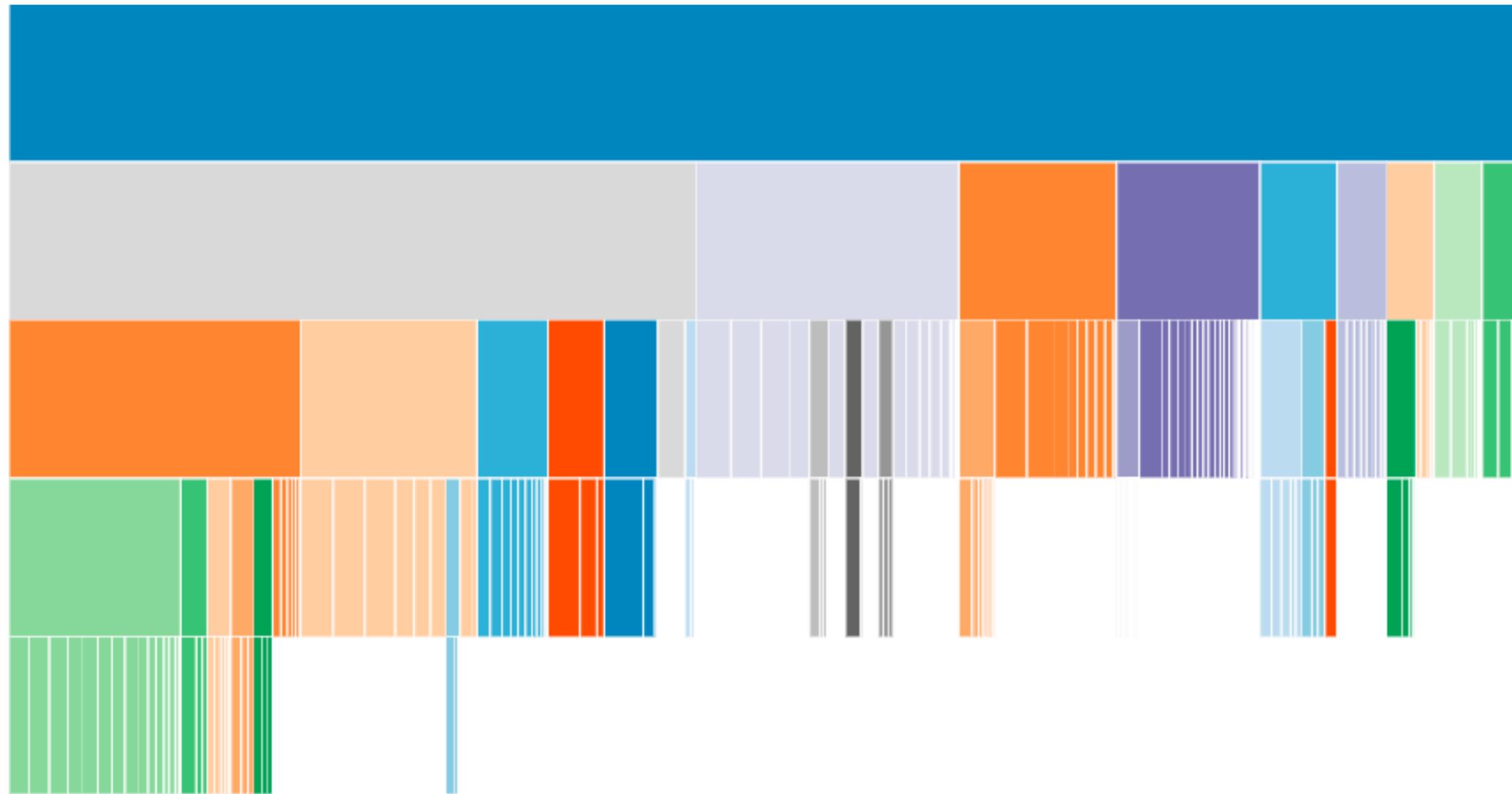
Zoom to Bounding Box



[Zoom to Bounding Box](<https://blocks.org/mbostock/4699541>)

# Idiom: **Animated transition + constrained navigation**

- example: icicle plot
  - transition into containing mark causes aspect ratio (shape) change



[Zoomable Icicle](<https://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/1005873>)

# Interaction benefits

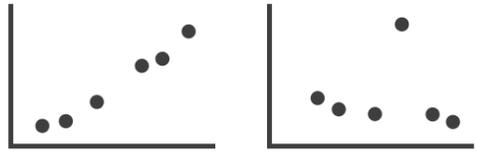
- interaction pros
  - major advantage of computer-based vs paper-based visualization
  - flexible, powerful, intuitive
    - exploratory data analysis: change as you go during analysis process
    - fluid task switching: different visual encodings support different tasks
  - animated transitions provide excellent support
    - empirical evidence that animated transitions help people stay oriented

# Interaction limitations

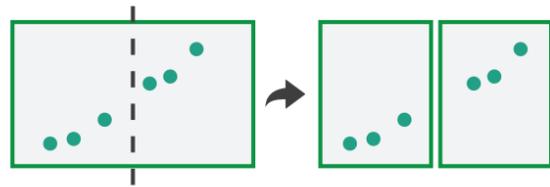
- interaction has a time cost
  - sometimes minor, sometimes significant
  - degenerates to human-powered search in worst case
- remembering previous state imposes cognitive load
- controls may take screen real estate
  - or invisible functionality may be difficult to discover (lack of affordances)
- users may not interact as planned by designer
  - NYTimes logs show ~90% don't interact beyond scrollytelling - Aisch, 2016

# Facet

→ Juxtapose



→ Partition



→ Superimpose



# Juxtapose and coordinate views

→ Share Encoding: Same/Different

→ *Linked Highlighting*



→ Share Data: All/Subset/None



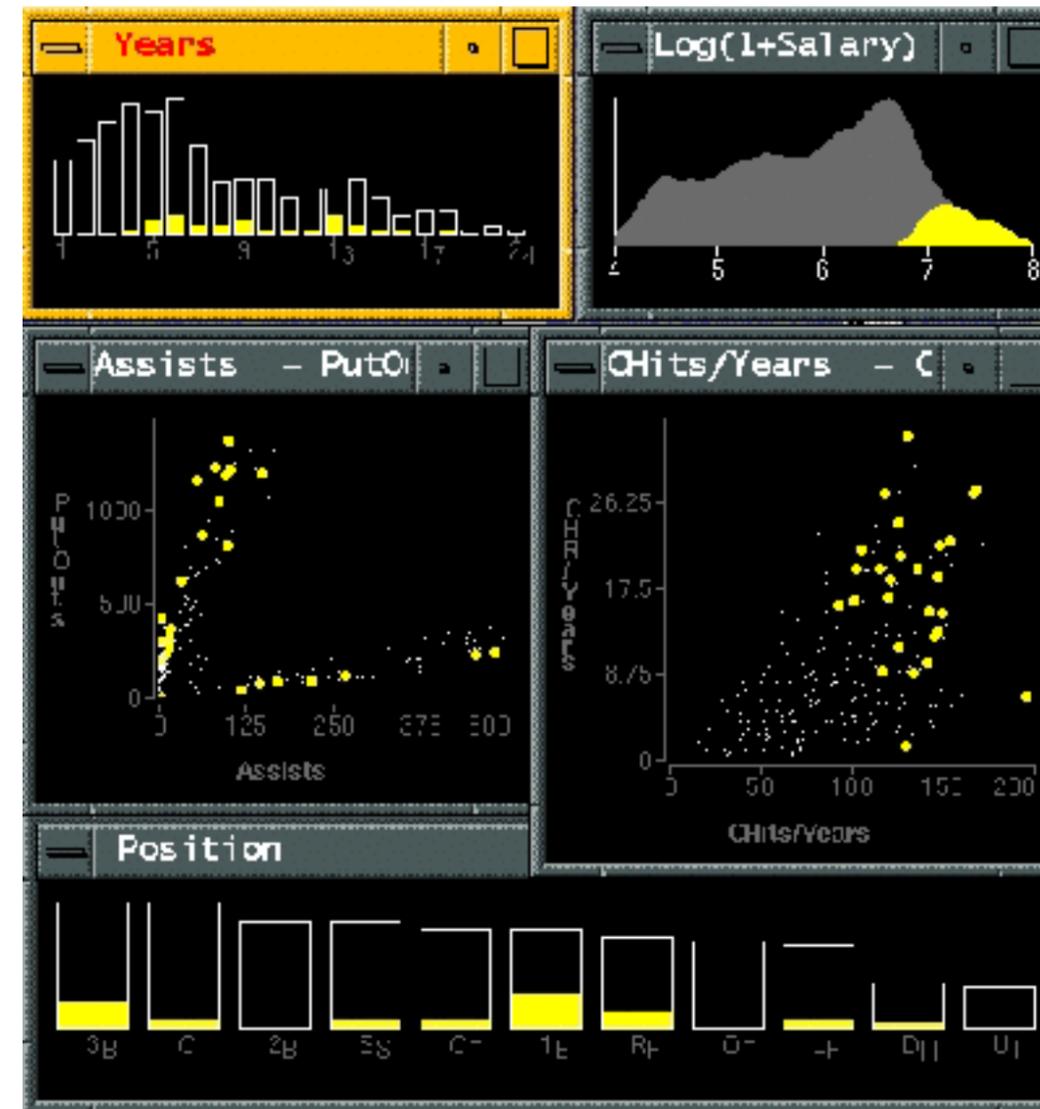
→ Share Navigation



# Idiom: **Linked highlighting**

System: **EDV**

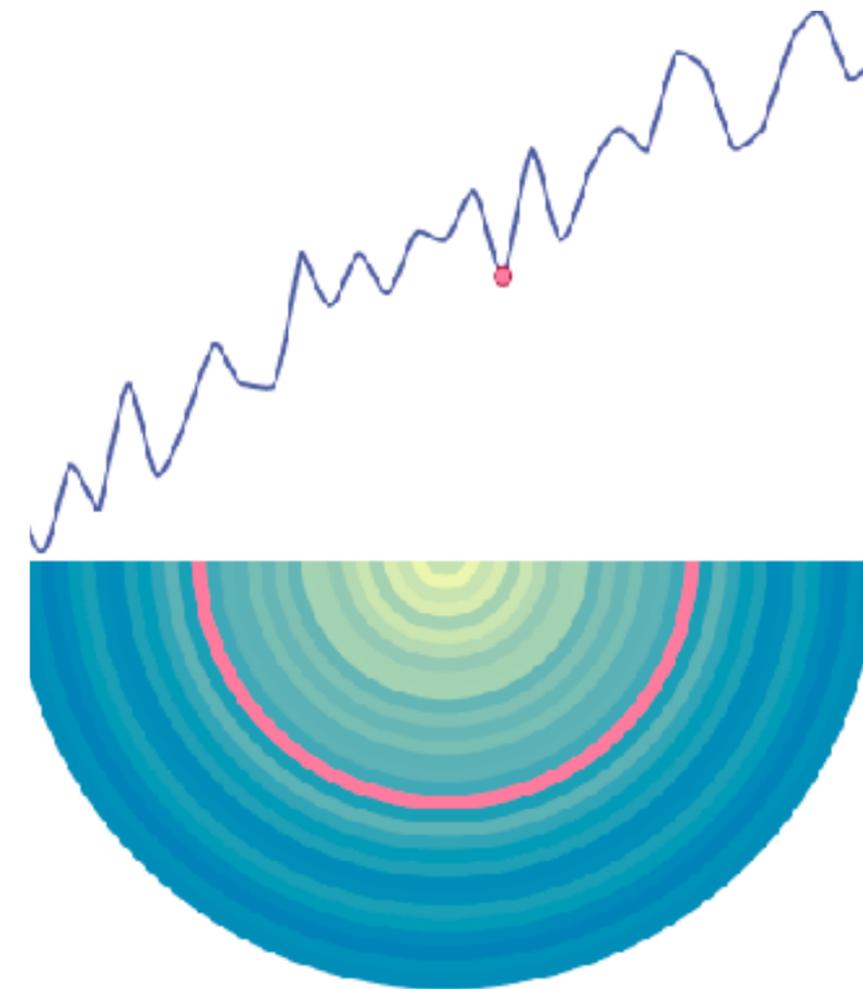
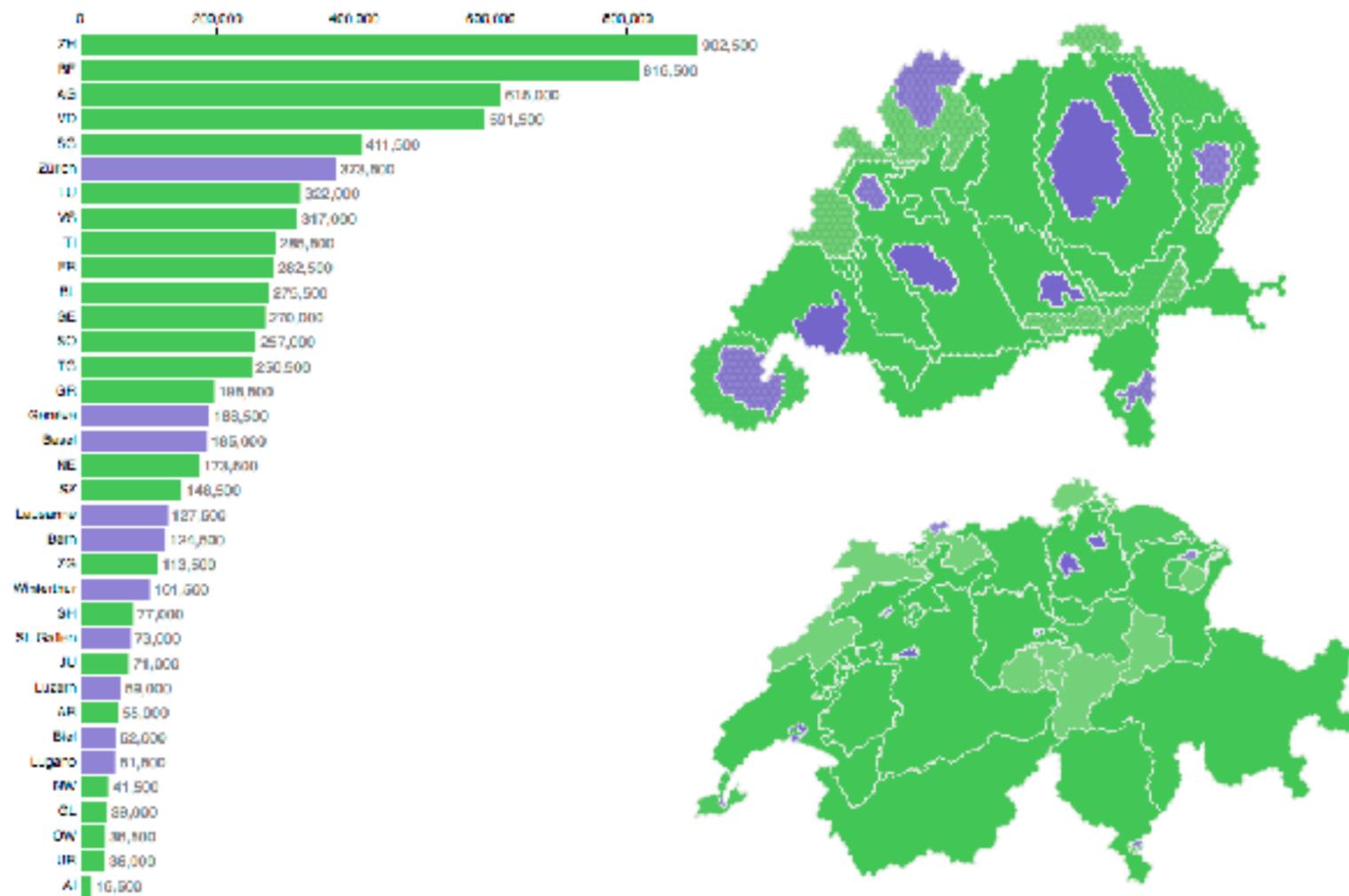
- see how regions contiguous in one view are distributed within another
  - powerful and pervasive interaction idiom
- encoding: different
  - ***multiform***
- data: all shared
- aka: brushing and linking



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

# Linked views

- unidirectional vs bidirectional linking

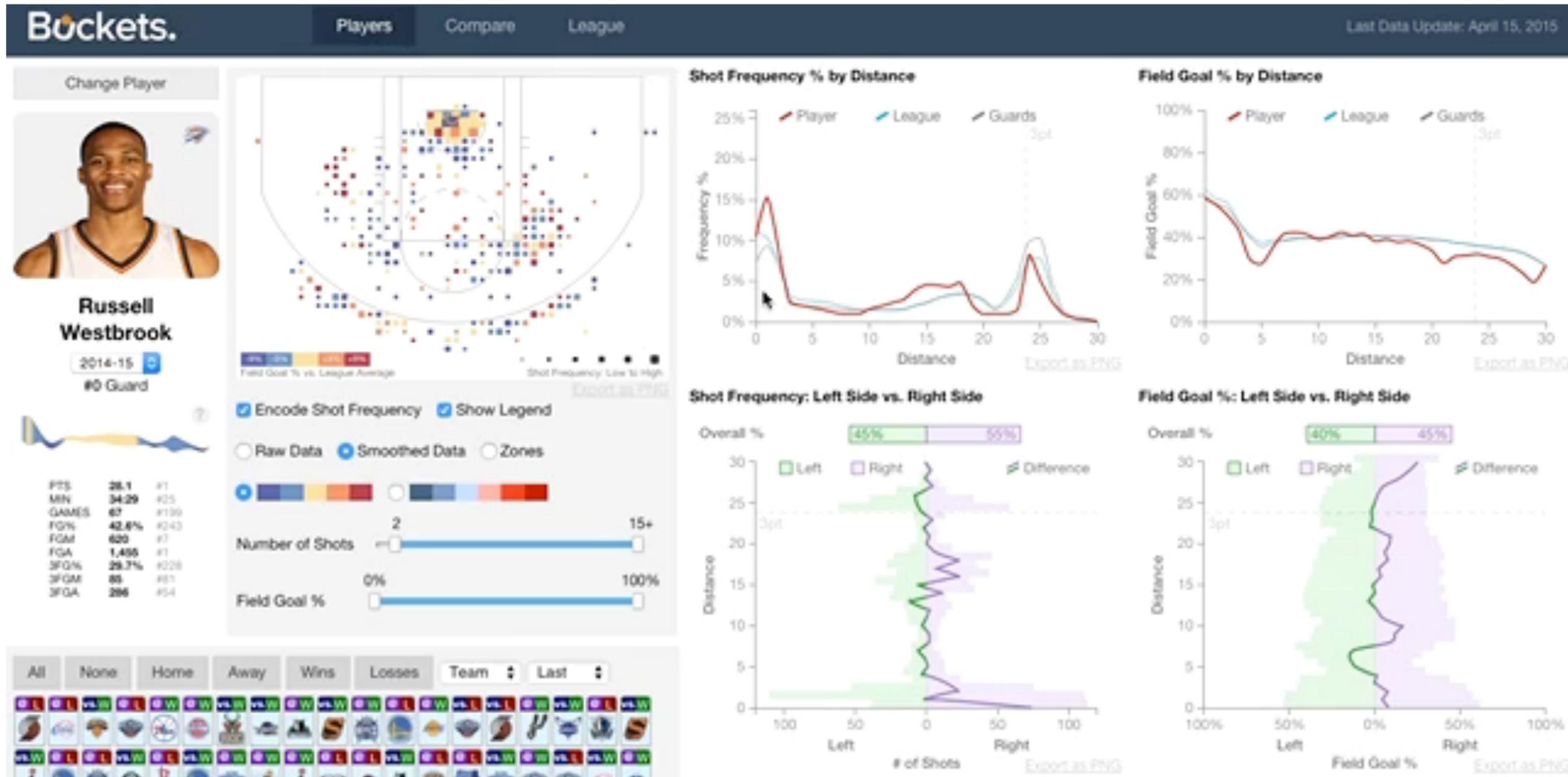


<http://www.ralphstraumann.ch/projects/swiss-population-cartogram/>

<http://peterbeshai.com/linked-highlighting-react-d3-reflux/>

# Linked views: Multidirectional linking

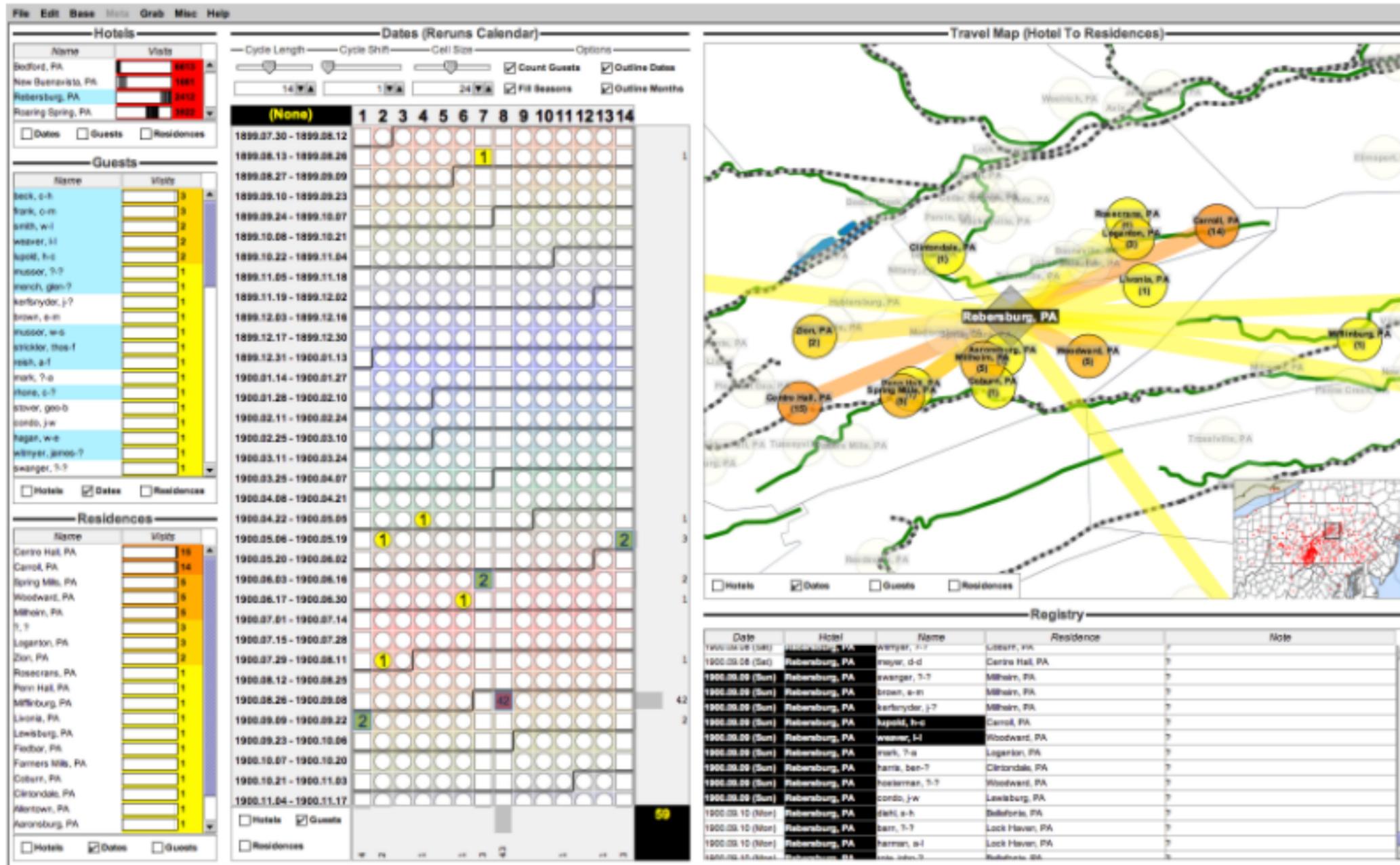
# System: **Buckets**



<http://buckets.peterbeshai.com/>

<https://medium.com/@pbesh/linked-highlighting-with-react-d3-js-and-reflux-16e9c0b2210b>

# Video: Visual Analysis of Historical Hotel Visitation Patterns



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tzsv6wkZoiQ>

<http://www.cs.ou.edu/~weaver/improvise/examples/hotels/>

# Complex linked multiform views

# System: Pathfinder



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aZF7AC8aNXo>

# Idiom: Overview-detail views

# System: Google Maps

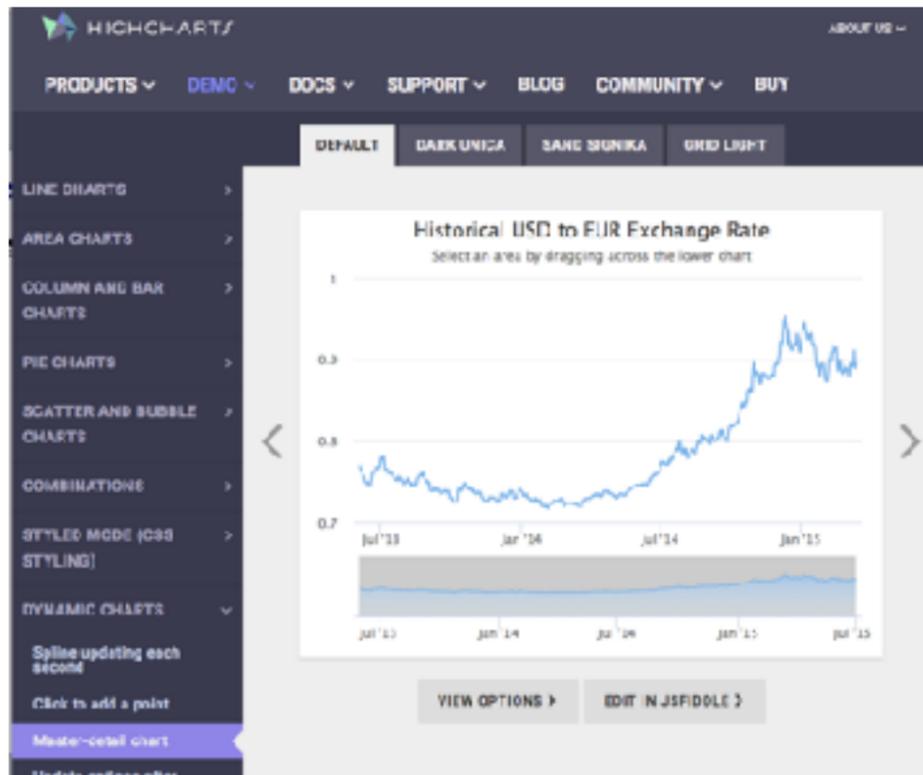
- encoding: same
- data: subset shared
- navigation: shared
  - bidirectional linking
- differences
  - viewpoint
  - (size)
- special case:  
***birds-eye map***



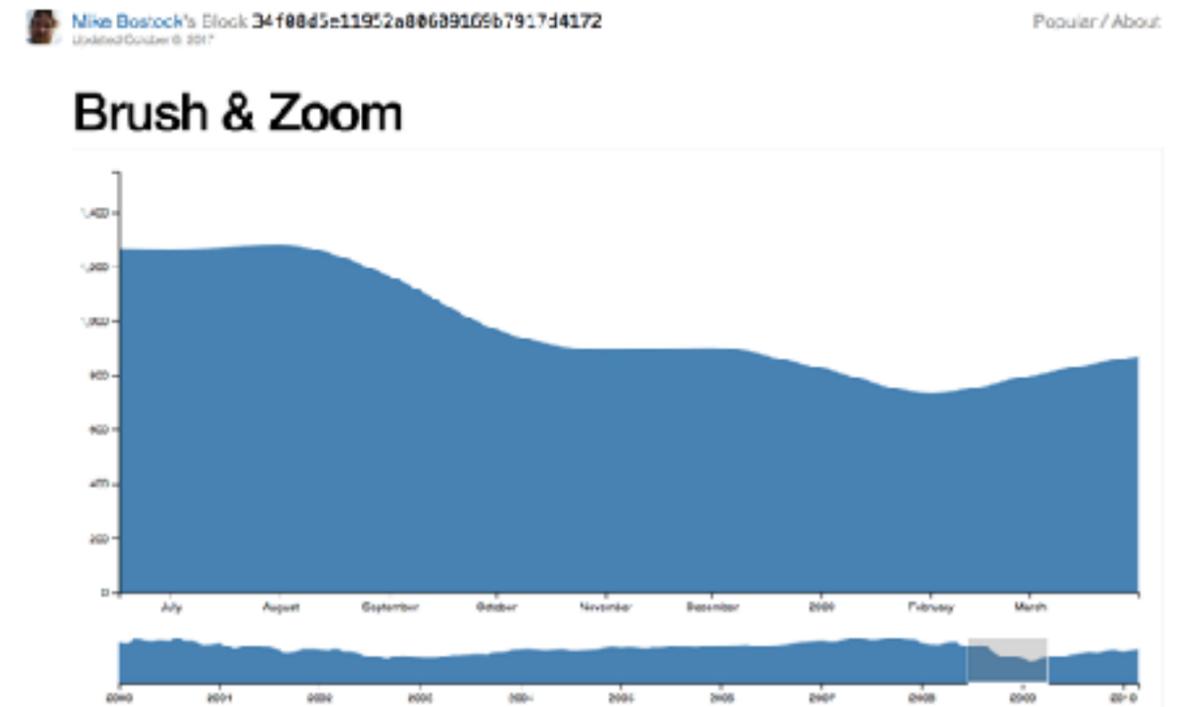
[A Review of Overview+Detail, Zooming, and Focus+Context Interfaces. Cockburn, Karlson, and Bederson. ACM Computing Surveys 41:1 (2008), 1–31.]

# Idiom: Overview-detail navigation

- encoding: same
- data: subset shared
- navigation: shared
  - unidirectional linking
  - select in small overview
  - change extent in large detail view



<https://www.highcharts.com/demo/dynamic-master-detail>

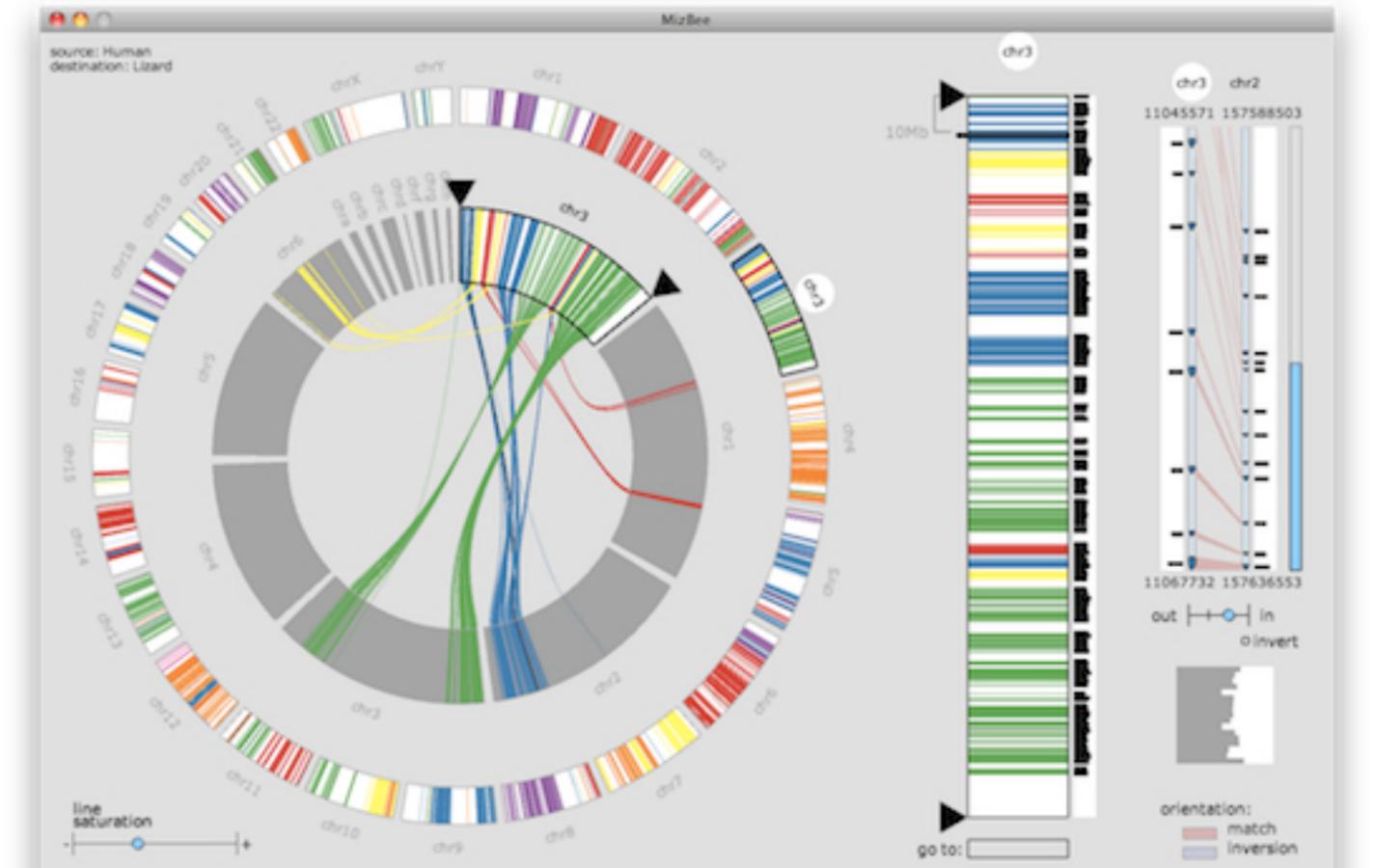


<https://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/34f08d5e11952a80609169b7917d4172>

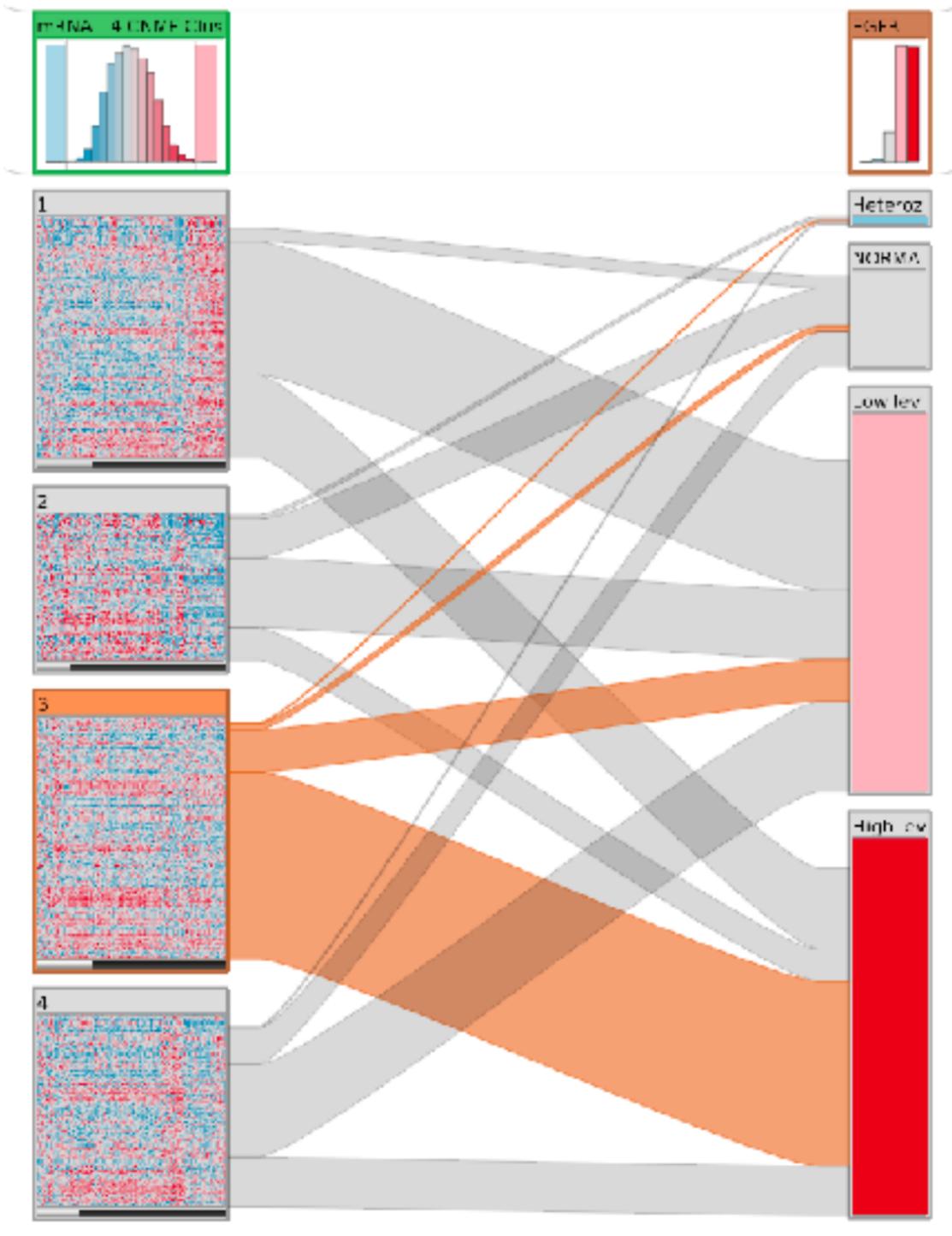
# Overview-detail

- multiscale: three viewing levels
  - linked views
  - dynamic filtering
  - tooling: processing (modern version: p5js.org)

# System: **MizBee**

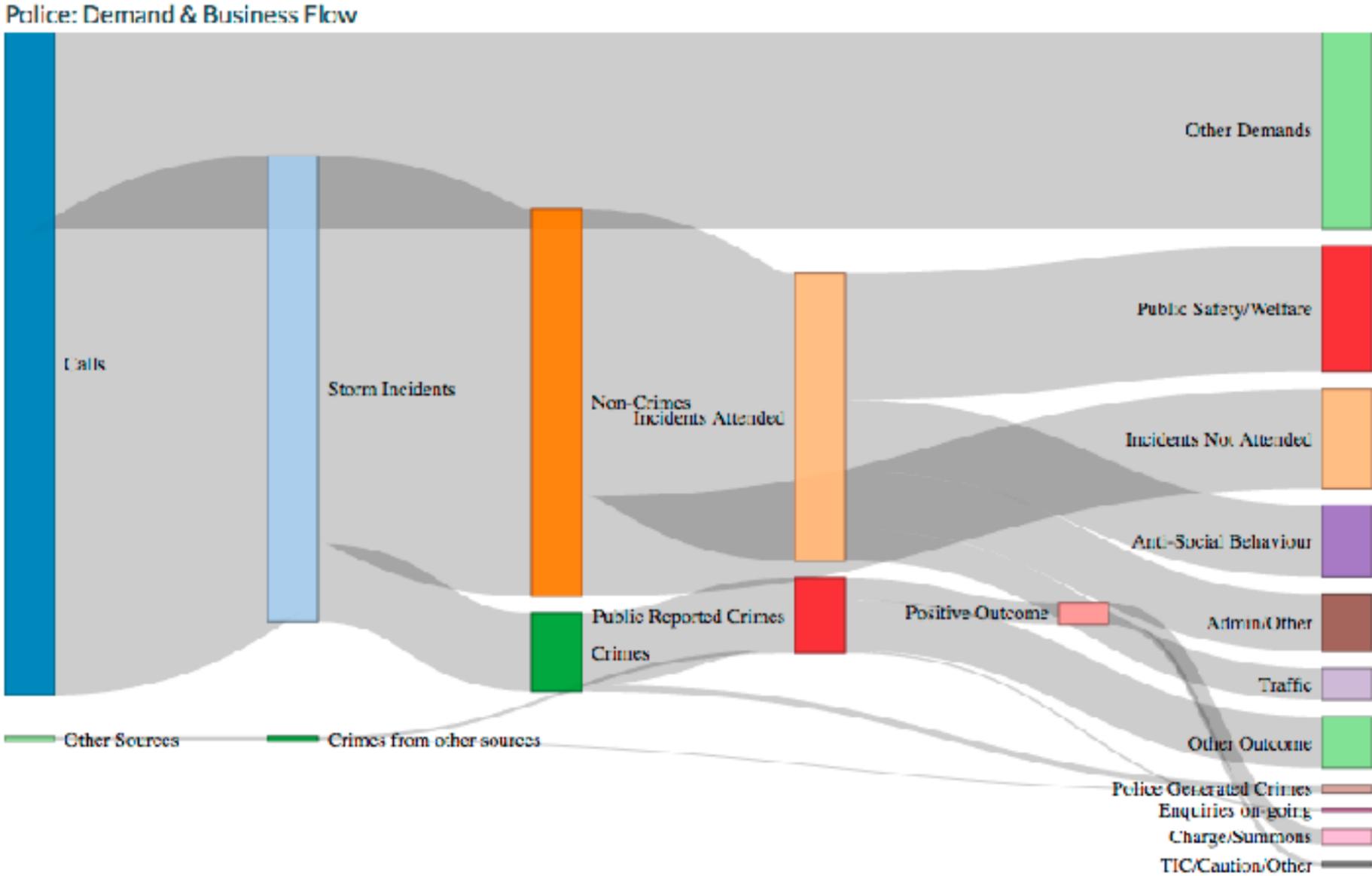


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=86p7brwuz2g>



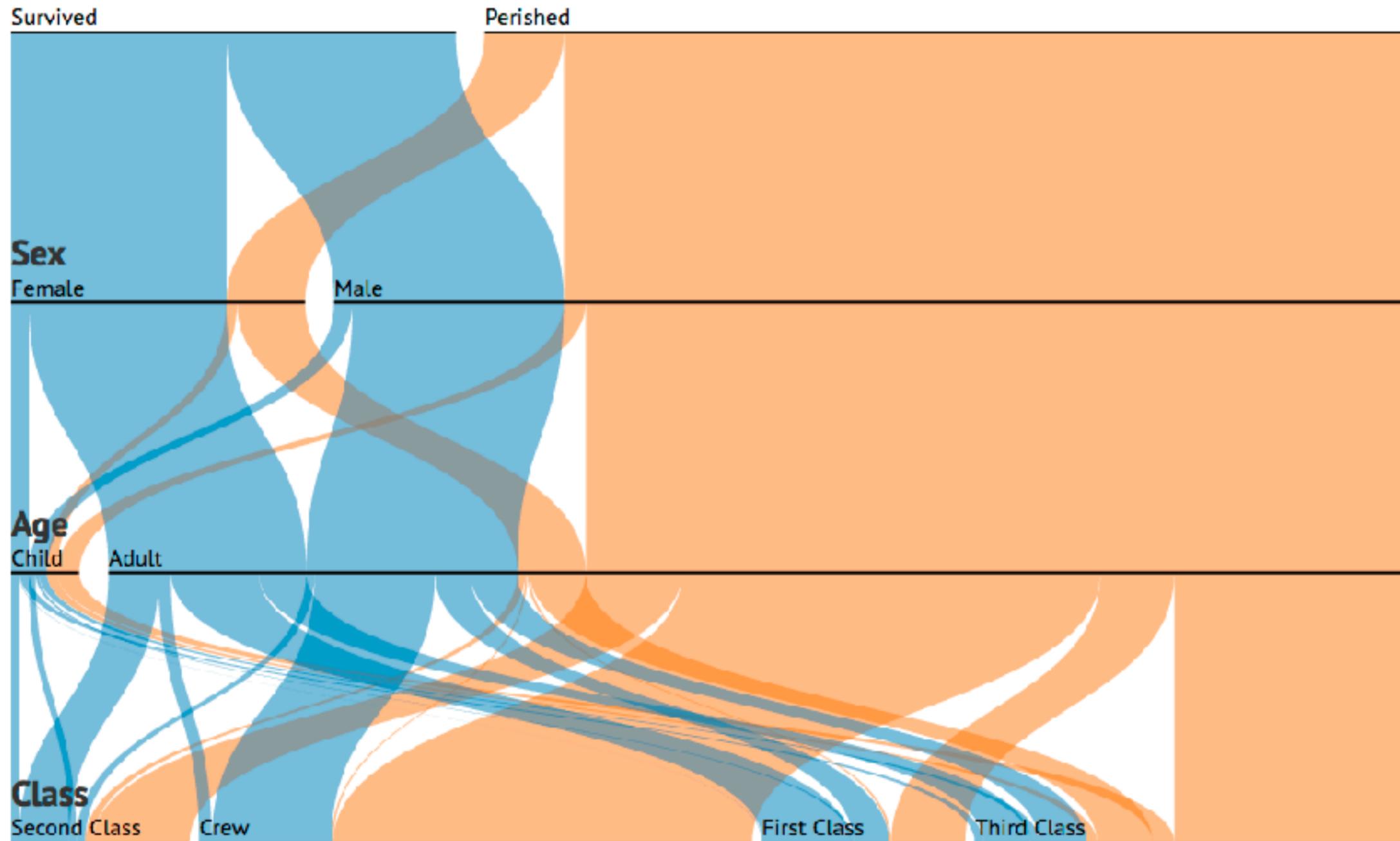
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcKDbGqHsdE>

# Flows: R/Shiny



<https://gallery.shinyapps.io/TSupplyDemand/>

# Idiom: **Parallel sets**

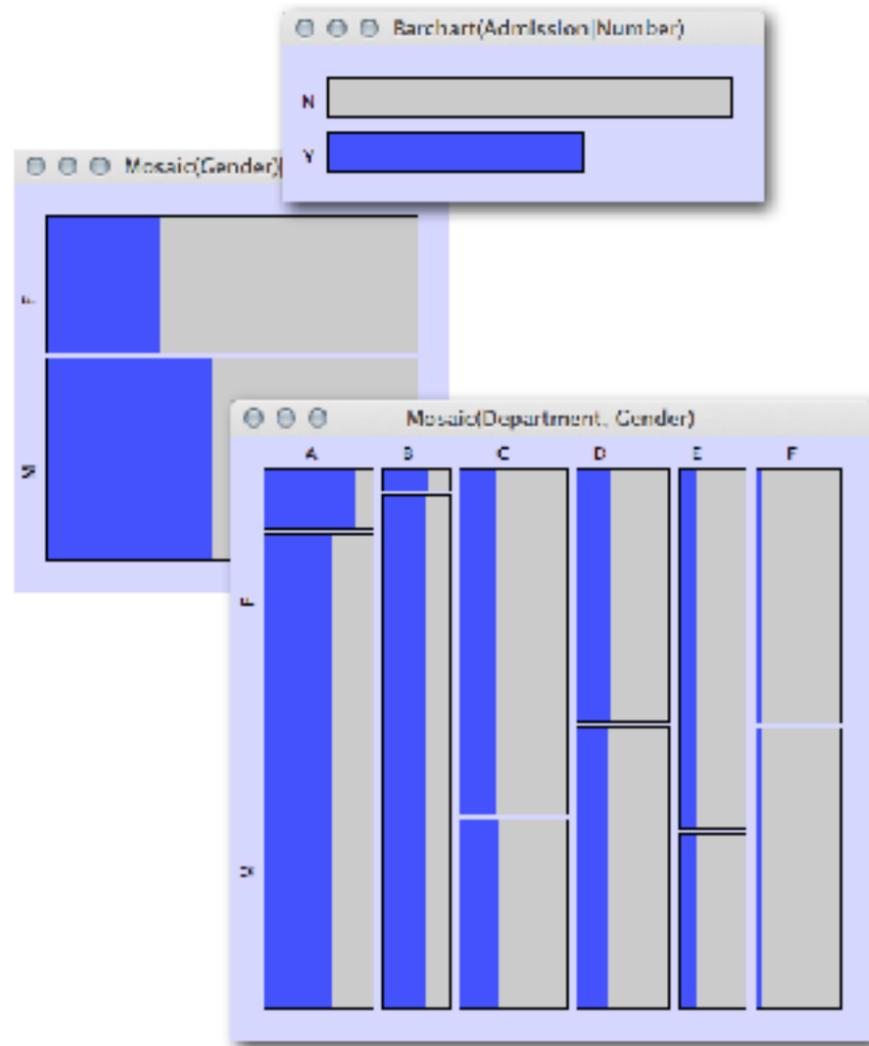


<https://www.jasondavies.com/parallel-sets/>

<https://eagereyes.org/parallel-sets>

# Idiom: **Mosaic plots**

# System: **Mondrian**



<http://www.theusrus.de/blog/understanding-mosaic-plots/>

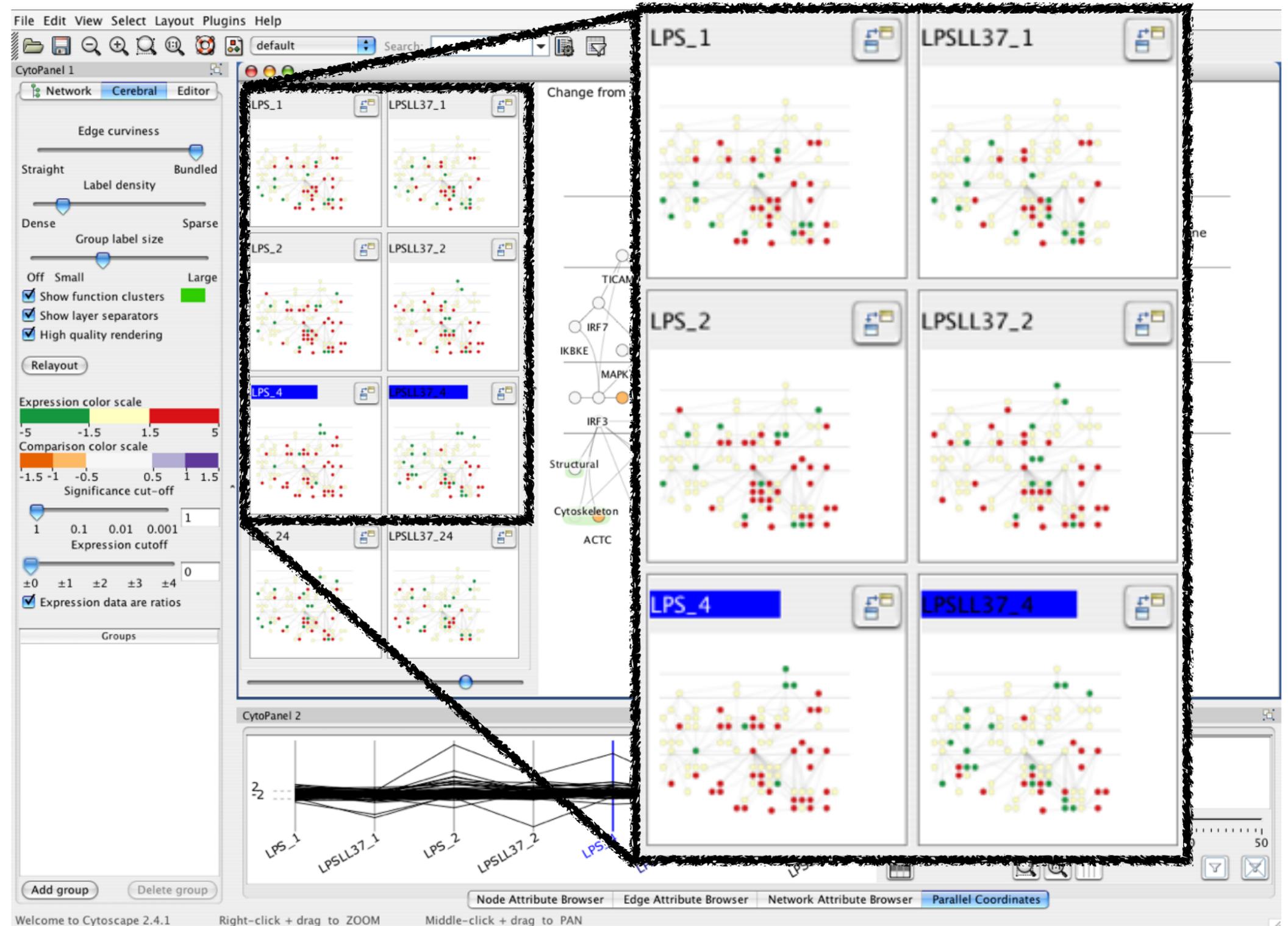
<http://www.theusrus.de/Mondrian/>

<http://www.theusrus.de/blog/making-movies/>

# Idiom: Small multiples

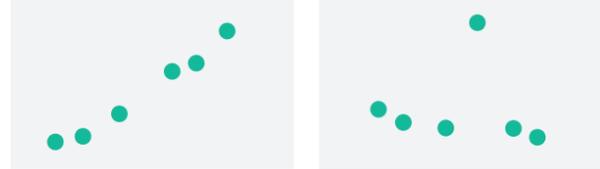
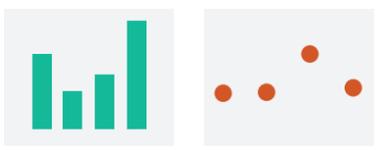
# System: Cerebral

- encoding: same
- data: none shared
  - different attributes**different items**  
**(different condition keys, same gene keys),**  
**same attributes:**  
**expression values**  
for node colors
  - (same network layout for nodes=genes)
- 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/<br>Detail                |  Small Multiples |
|          | Different |  Multiform |  Multiform,<br>Overview/<br>Detail | No Linkage  |

- why juxtapose views?

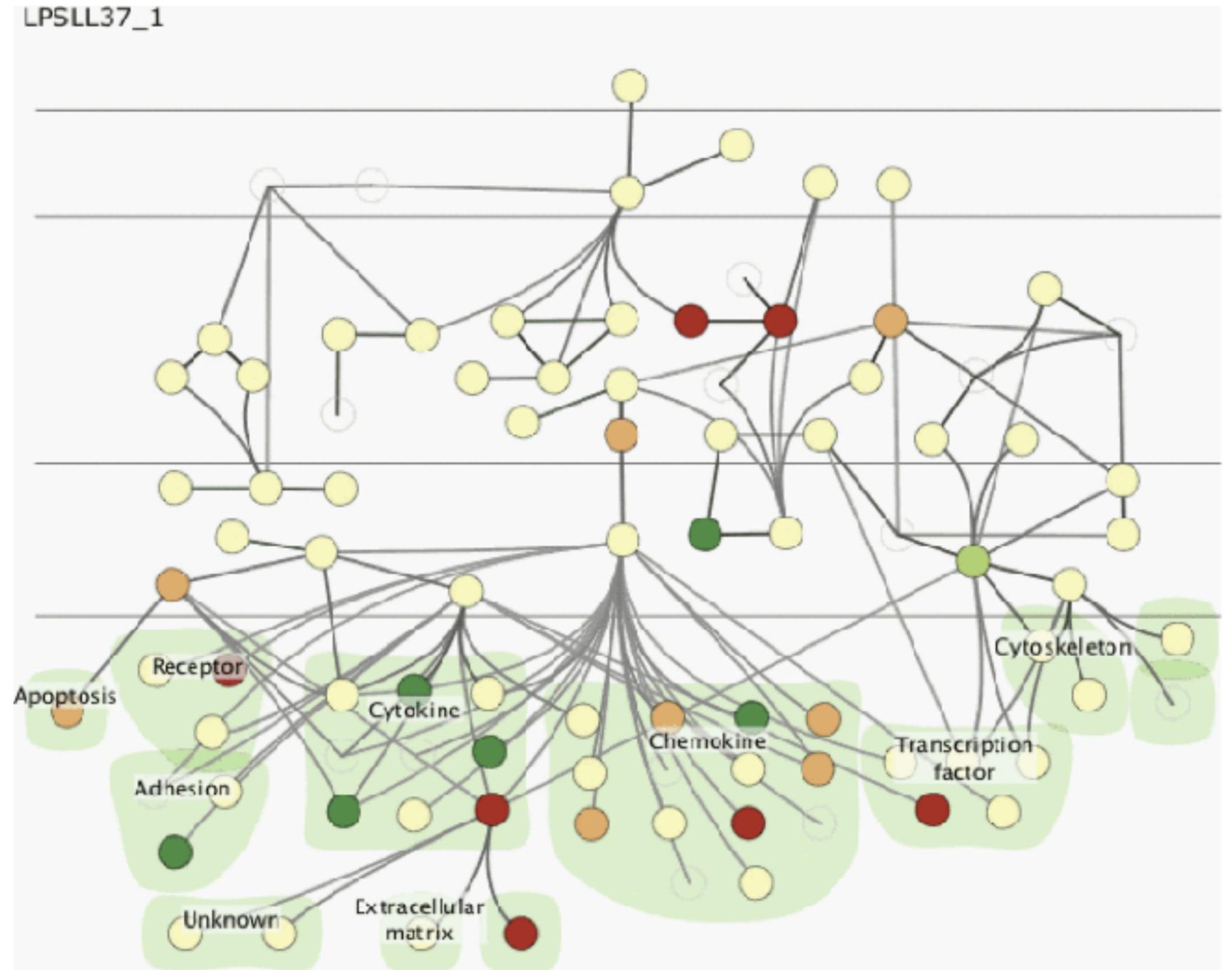
- benefits: eyes vs memory

- 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 have only half the area of one view

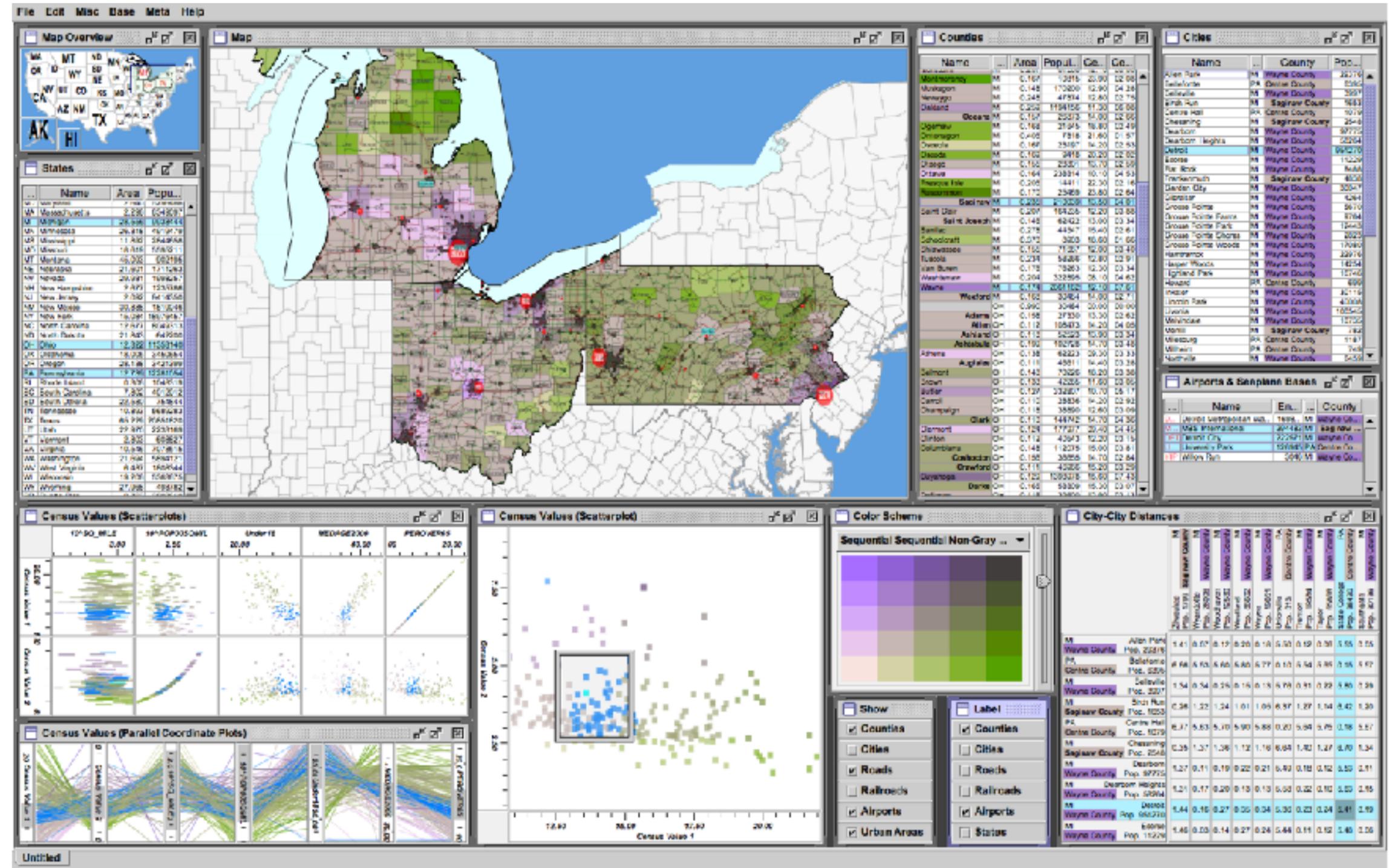
# Why not animation?

- disparate frames and regions: comparison difficult
  - vs contiguous frames
  - vs small region
  - vs coherent motion of group
- safe special case
  - animated transitions



# System: **Improvise**

- investigate power of multiple views
  - pushing limits on view count, interaction complexity
  - how many is ok?
    - open research question
  - reorderable lists
    - easy lookup
    - useful when linked to other encodings

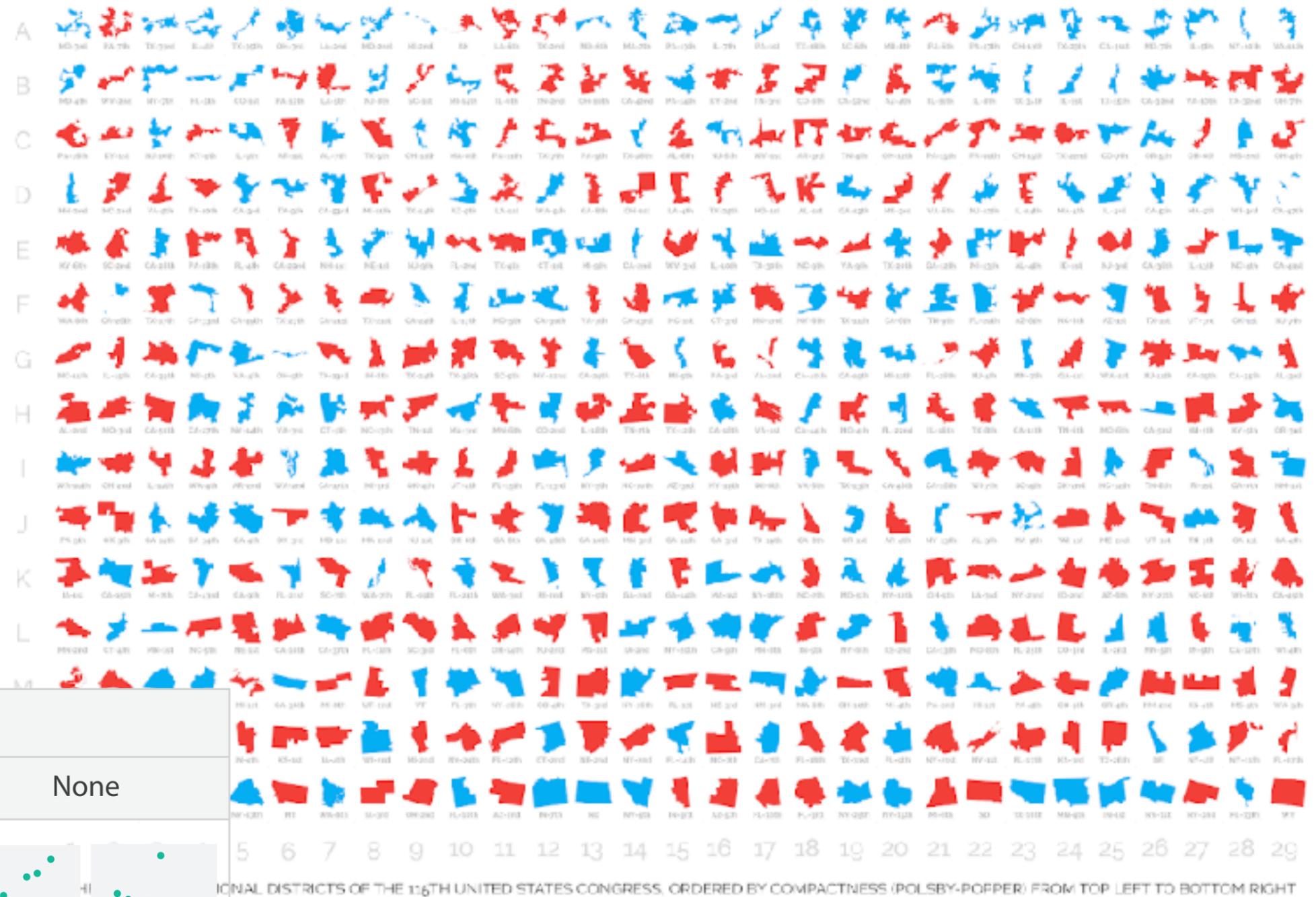


[Building Highly-Coordinated Visualizations In Improvise. Weaver. Proc. IEEE Symp. Information Visualization (InfoVis), pp. 159–166, 2004.]

# Quiz: Multiple views

- gerrymandering

## THE SHAPE OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY 2018



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF THE 116TH UNITED STATES CONGRESS, ORDERED BY COMPACTNESS (POLSBY-POPPER) FROM TOP LEFT TO BOTTOM RIGHT

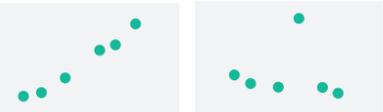
<http://www.statsmapsnpix.com/2018/05/the-shape-of-american-democracy-v1.0.html>

|          |           | Data      |                                   |                 |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
|          |           | All       | Subset                            | None            |
| Encoding | Same      | Redundant | Overview/<br>Detail               | Small Multiples |
|          | Different | Multiform | Multiform,<br>Overview/<br>Detail | No Linkage      |

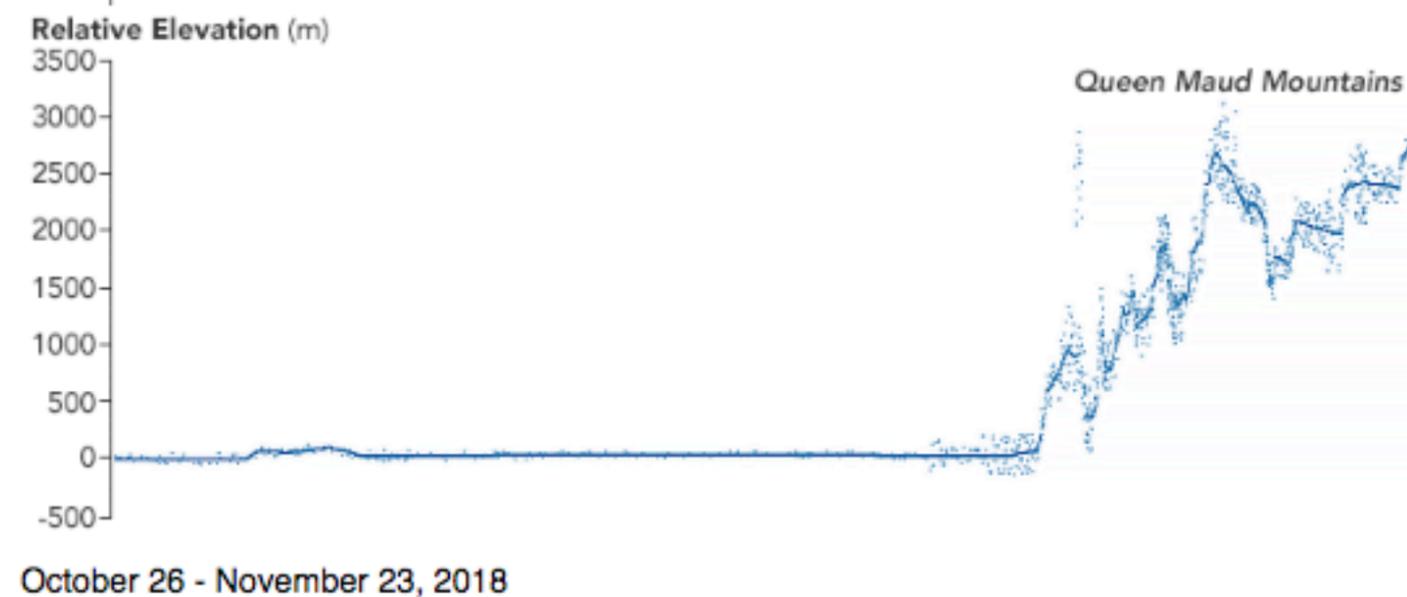
# Quiz: Multiple views

- terrain

<https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/images/144367/taking-measure-of-antarctic-terrain>

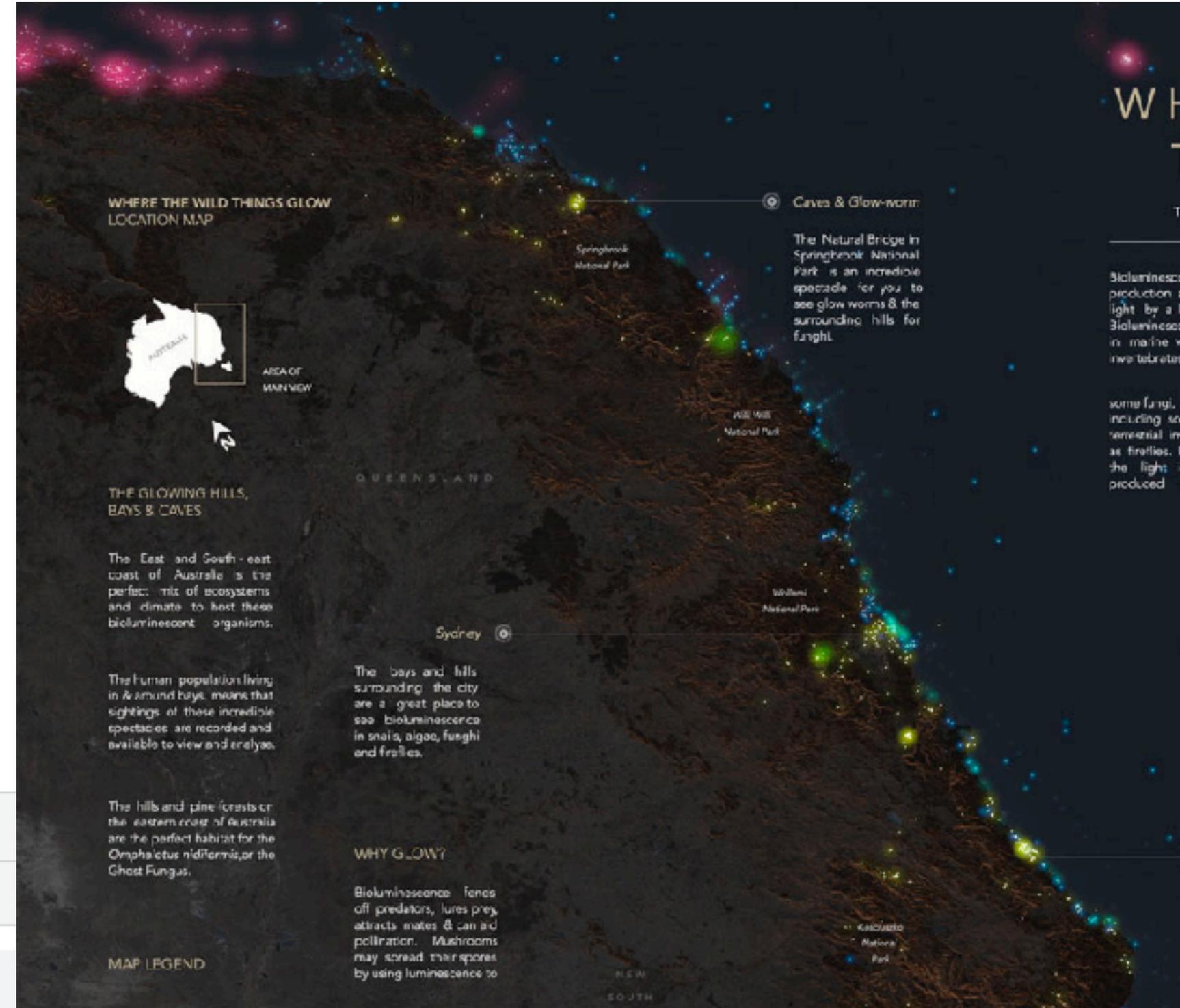
|          |           | Data  |   |   |
|----------|-----------|---|---|---|
|          |           | All   | Subset  | None  |
| Encoding | Same      | Redundant   |  Overview/<br>Detail               |  Small Multiples |
|          | Different |  Multiform |  Multiform,<br>Overview/<br>Detail | No Linkage  |

# Taking Measure of Antarctic Terrain



# Quiz: Multiple views

- where the wild things glow

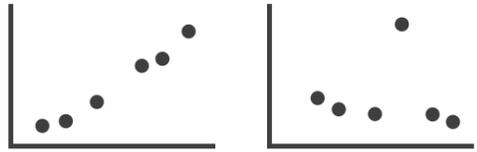


|          |           | Data      |                                   |                 |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
|          |           | All       | Subset                            | None            |
| Encoding | Same      | Redundant | Overview/<br>Detail               | Small Multiples |
|          | Different | Multiform | Multiform,<br>Overview/<br>Detail | No Linkage      |

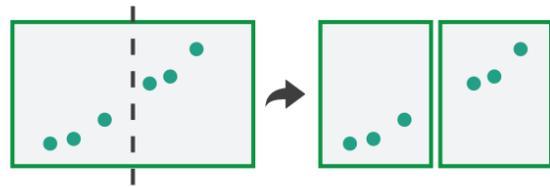
<https://public.tableau.com/profile/jonni.walker#!/vizhome/WhereTheWildThingsGlow/Tester>

# Facet

→ Juxtapose



→ Partition

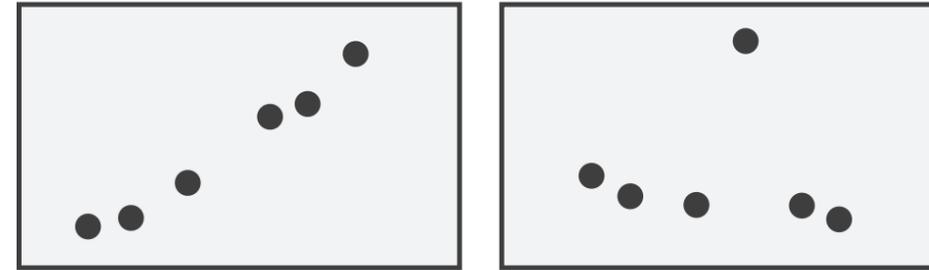


→ Superimpose



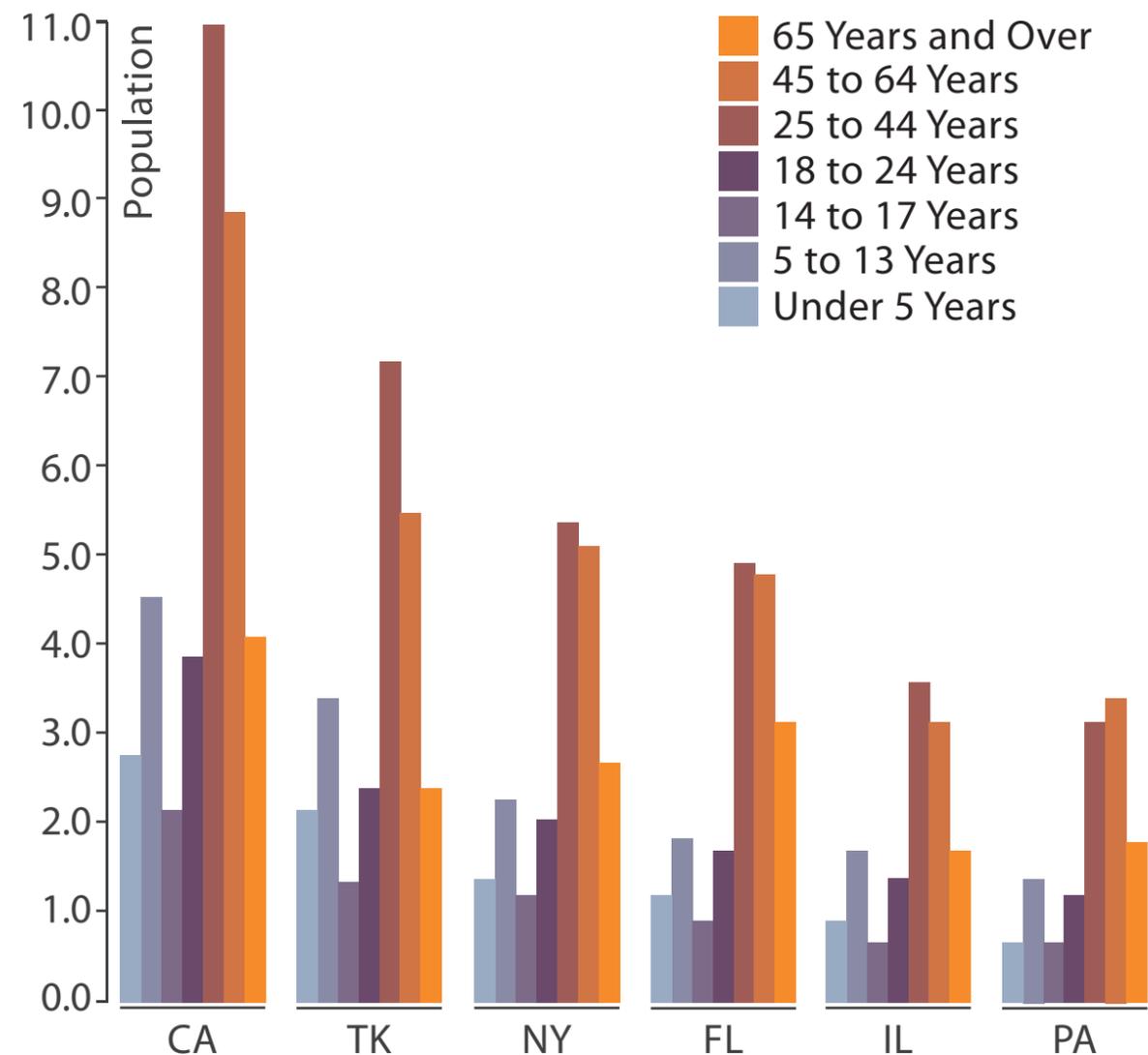
# Partition into views

- how to divide data between views → **Partition into Side-by-Side Views**
  - split into regions by attributes
  - encodes association between items using spatial proximity
  - order of splits has major implications for what patterns are visible

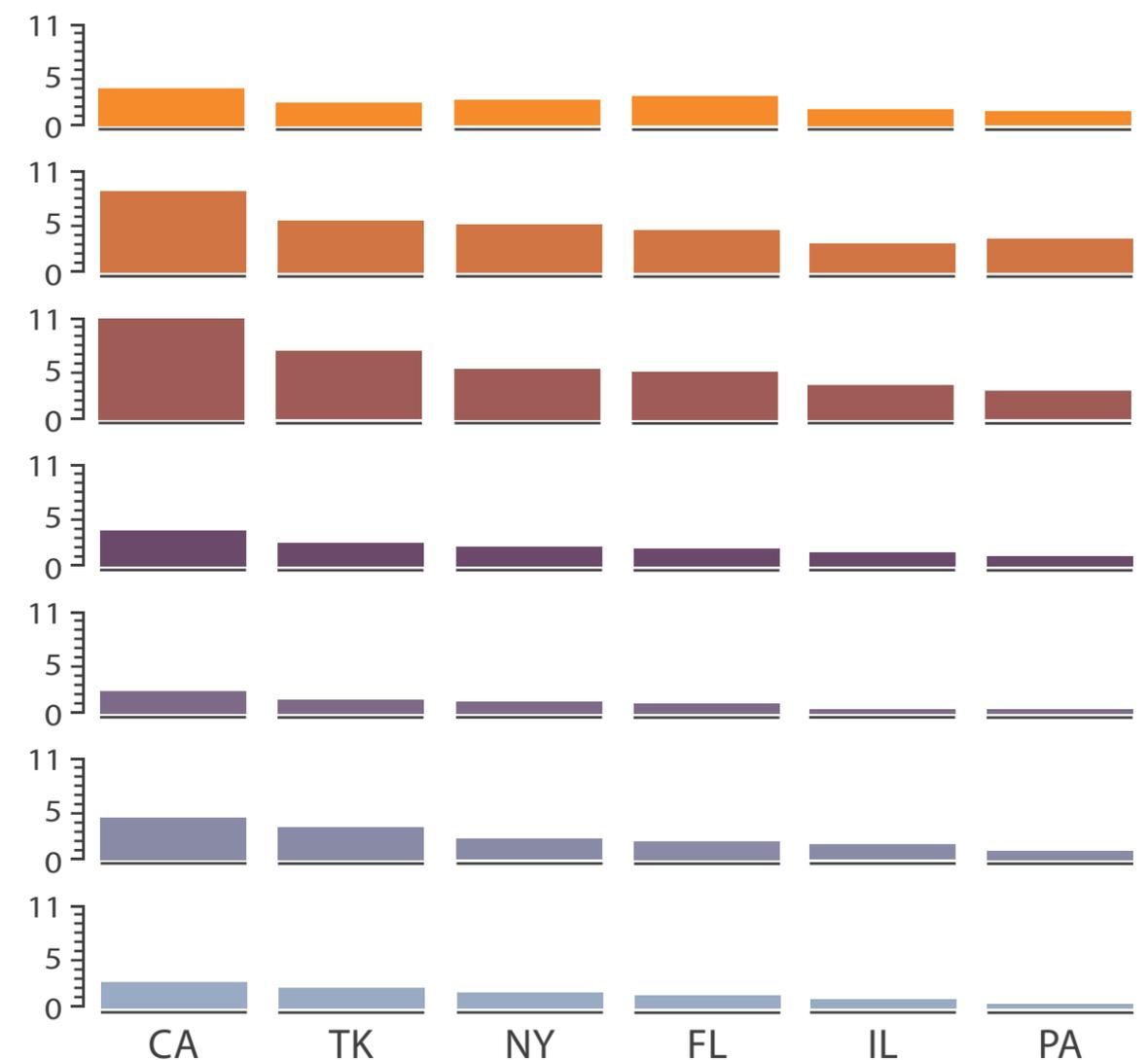


# Partitioning: List alignment

- 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



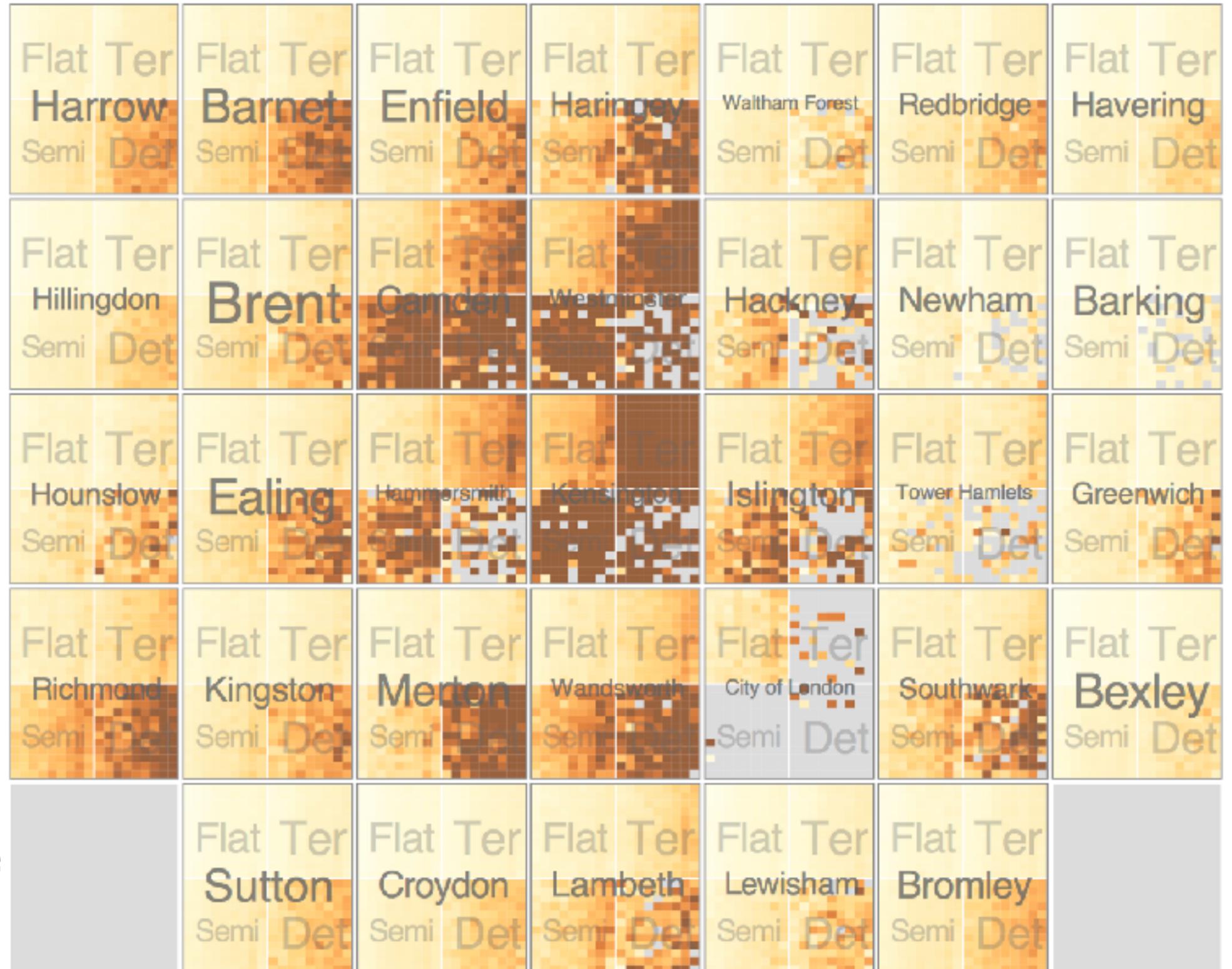
- small-multiple bar charts
  - split by age into regions
    - one chart per region
  - compare: easy within age, harder across states



# Partitioning: Recursive subdivision

System: **HIVE**

- split by neighborhood
- then by type
- then time
  - years as rows
  - months as columns
- color by price
- neighborhood patterns
  - where it's expensive
  - where you pay much more for detached type



# Partitioning: Recursive subdivision

System: **HIVE**

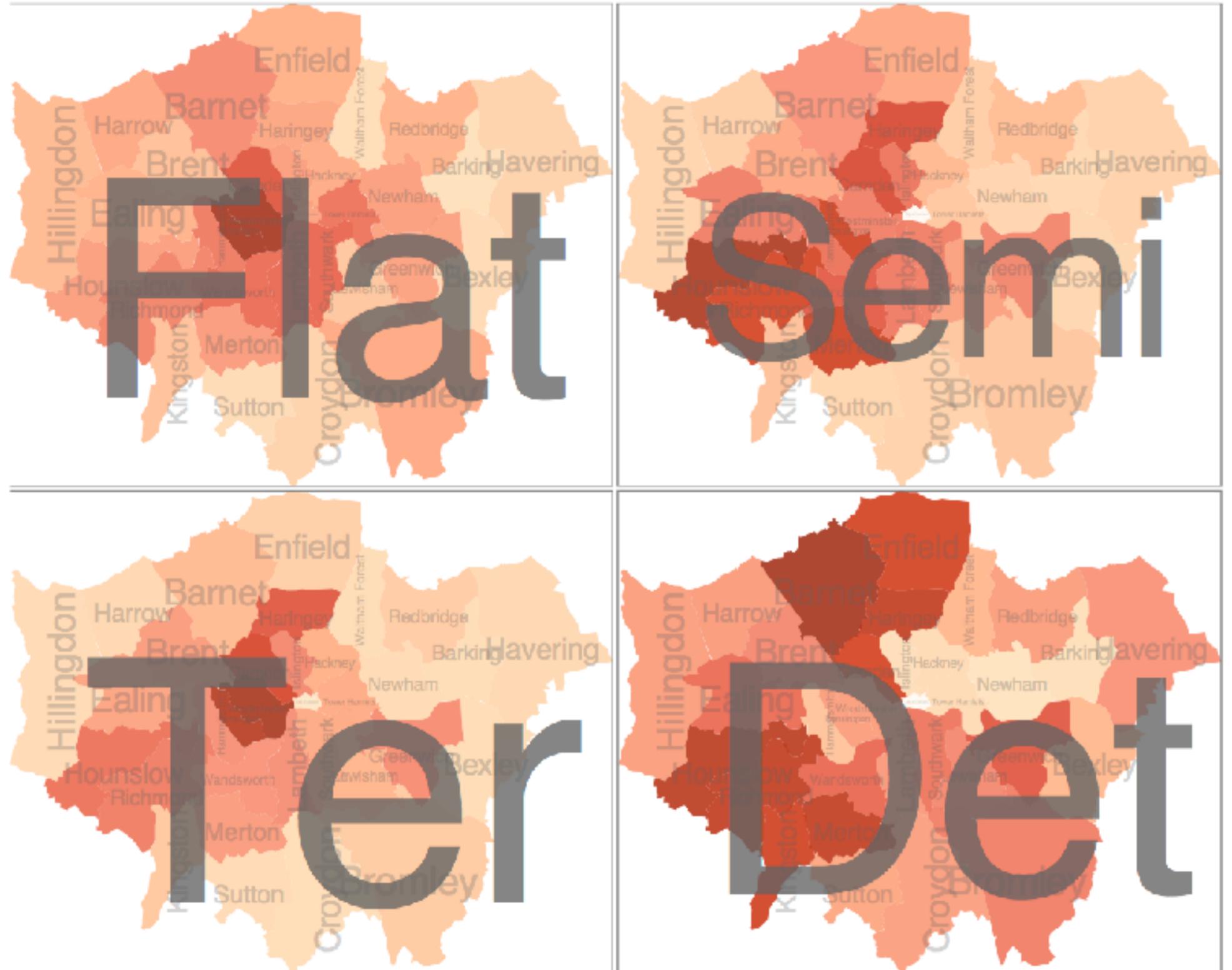
- switch order of splits
  - type then neighborhood
- switch color
  - by price variation
- type patterns
  - within specific type, which neighborhoods inconsistent



# Partitioning: Recursive subdivision

System: **HIVE**

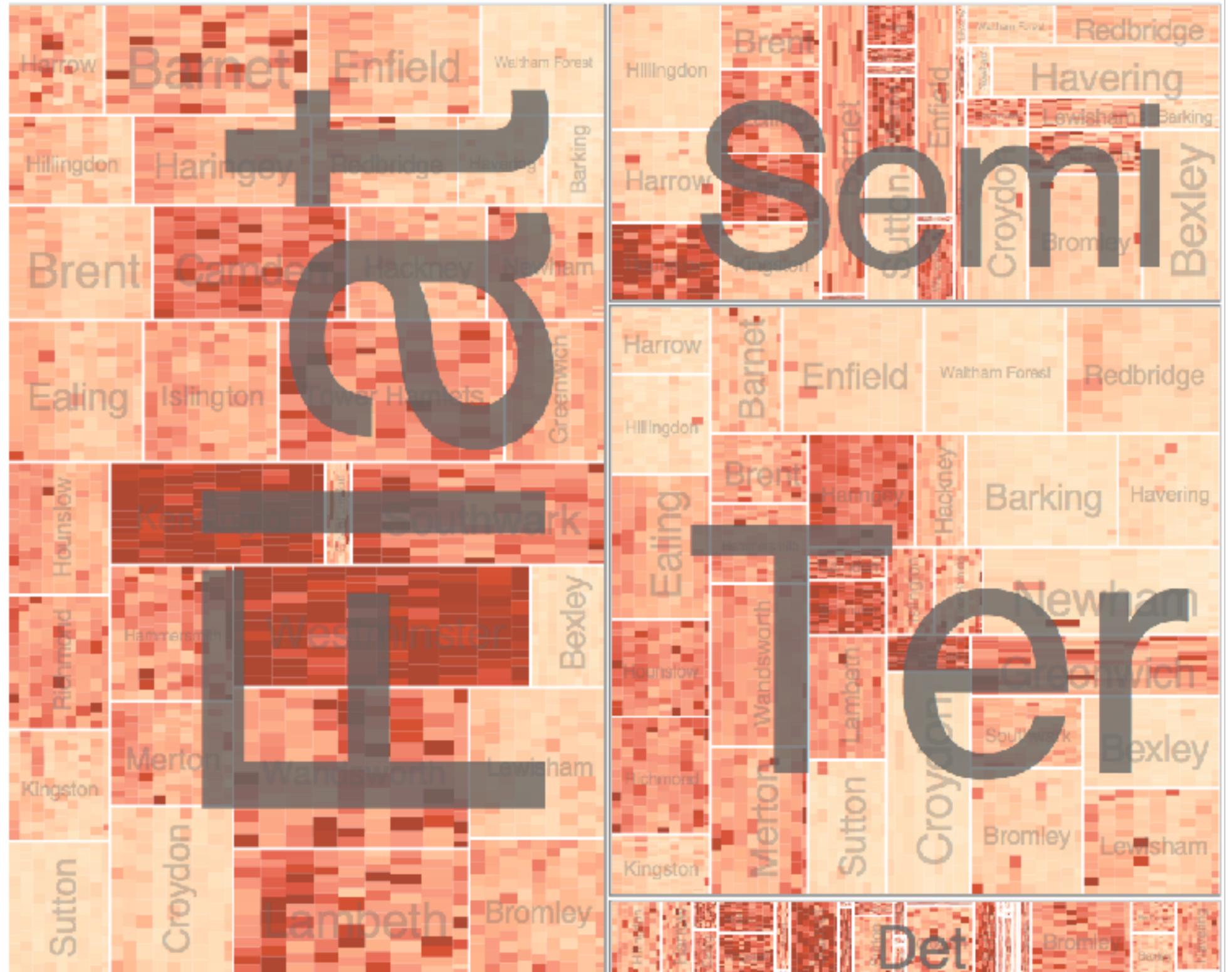
- different encoding for second-level regions  
– choropleth maps



# Partitioning: Recursive subdivision

System: **HIVE**

- size regions by sale counts
  - not uniformly
- result: treemap



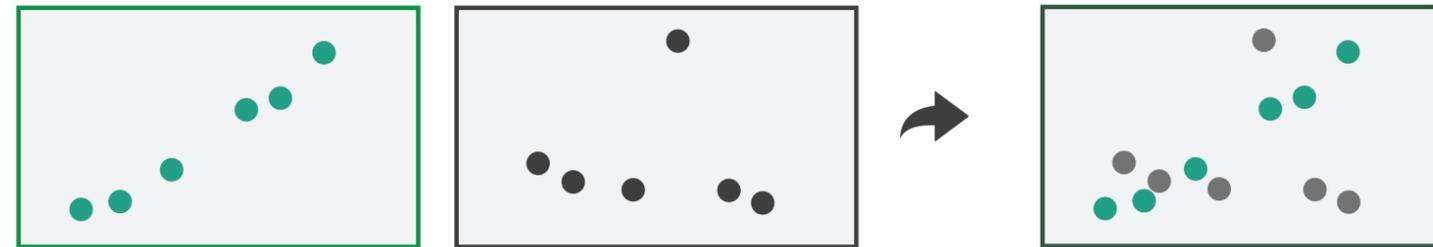
# Superimpose layers

- **layer**: set of objects spread out over region
  - each set is visually distinguishable group
  - extent: whole view

➔ Superimpose Layers

- design choices

- how many layers, how to distinguish?
  - encode with different, nonoverlapping channels
  - two layers achievable, three with careful design
- small static set, or dynamic from many possible?



# 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

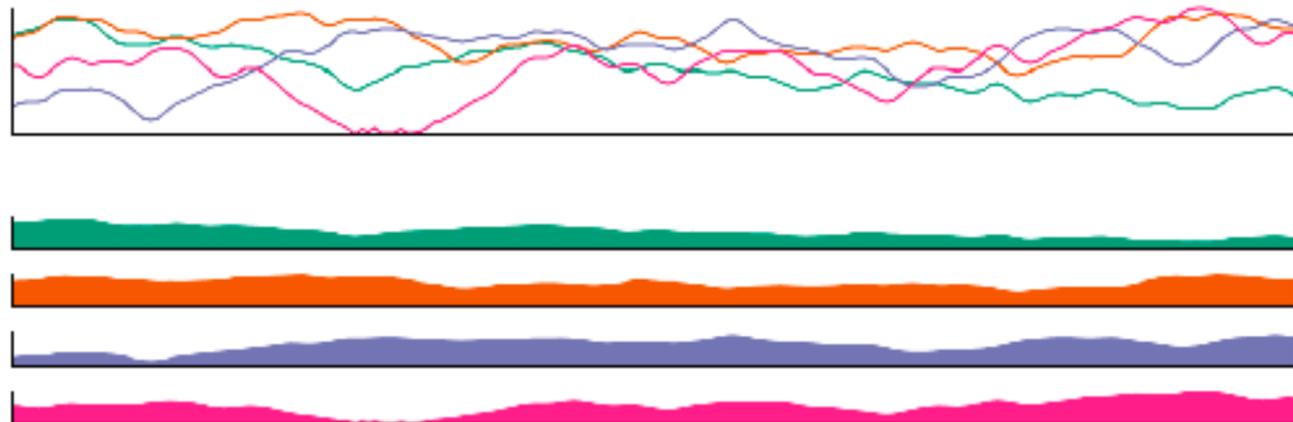


[Get it right in black and white. Stone. 2010.

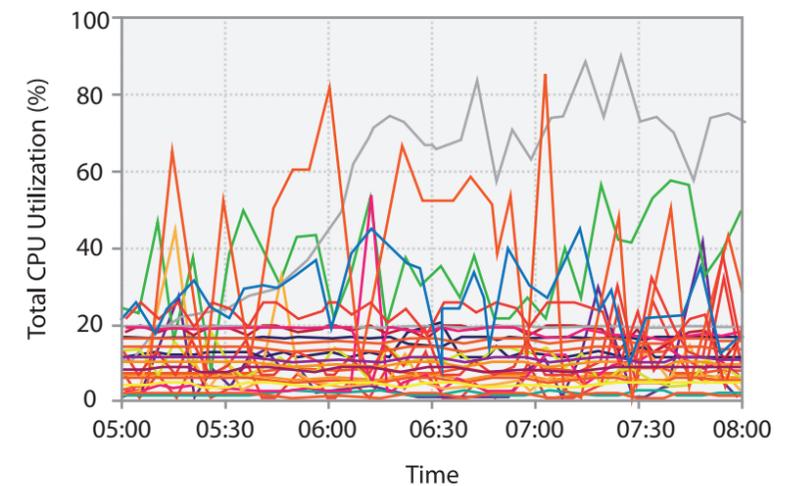
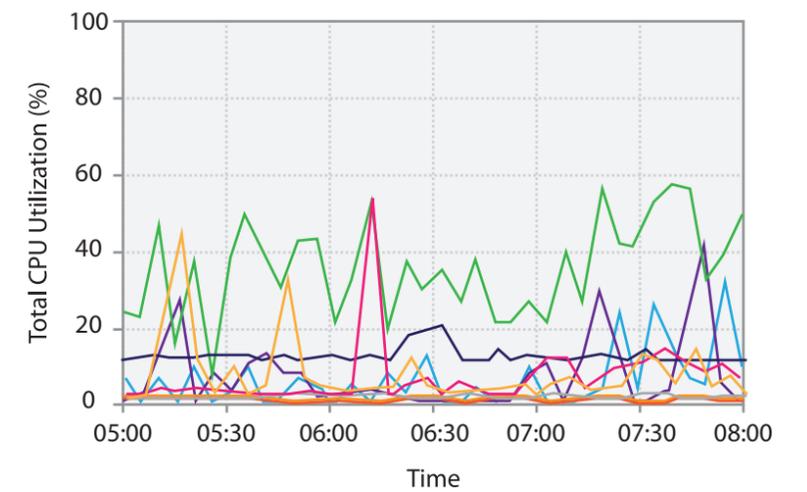
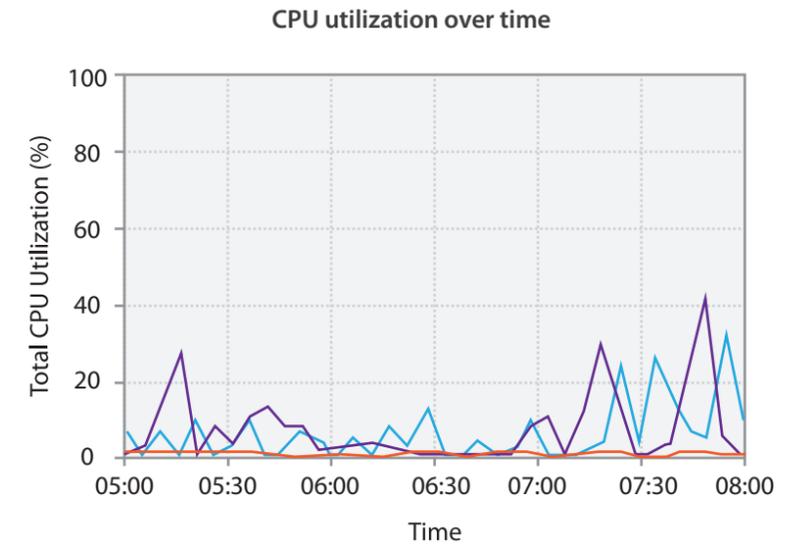
<http://www.stonesc.com/wordpress/2010/03/get-it-right-in-black-and-white>]

# Superimposing limits

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



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



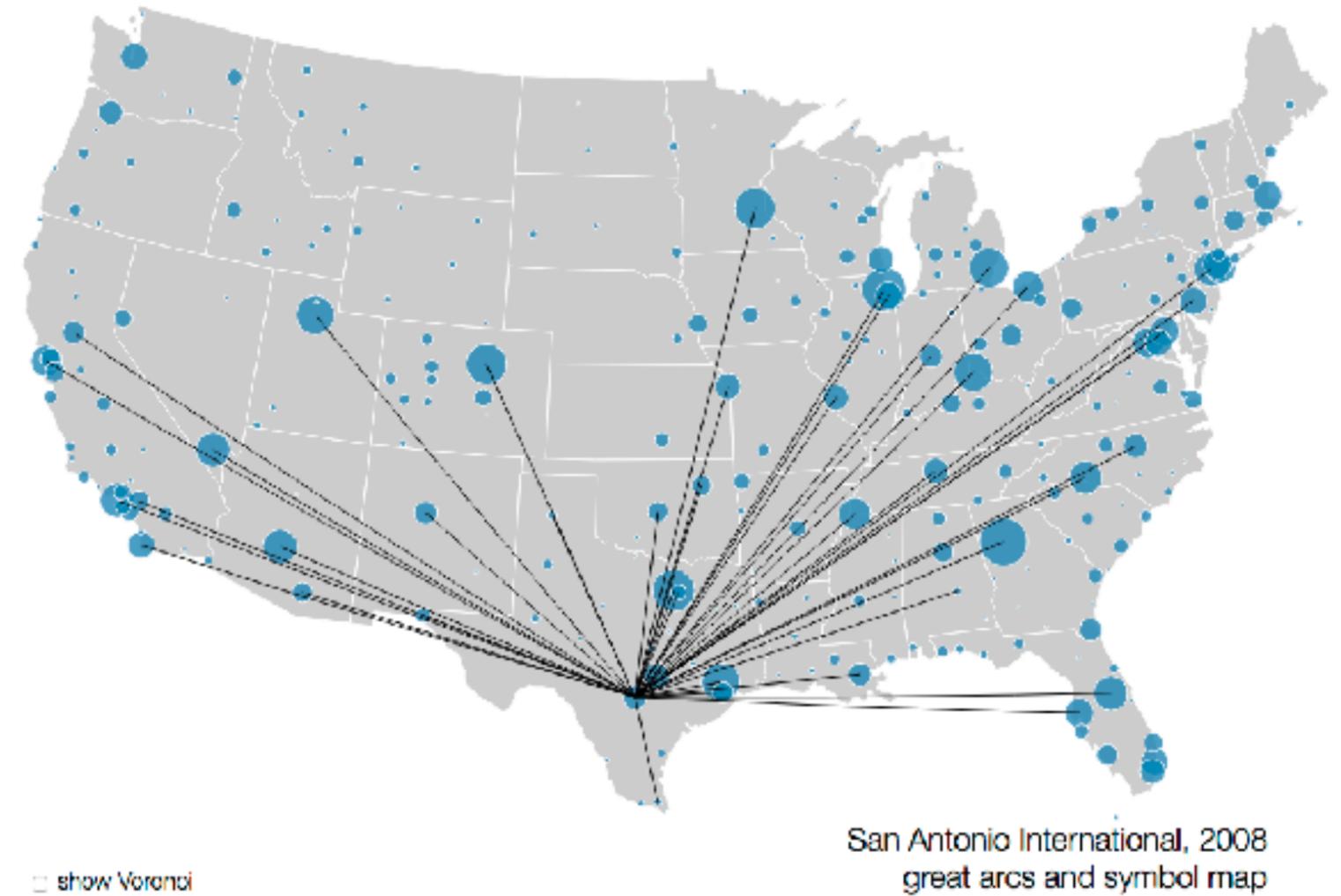
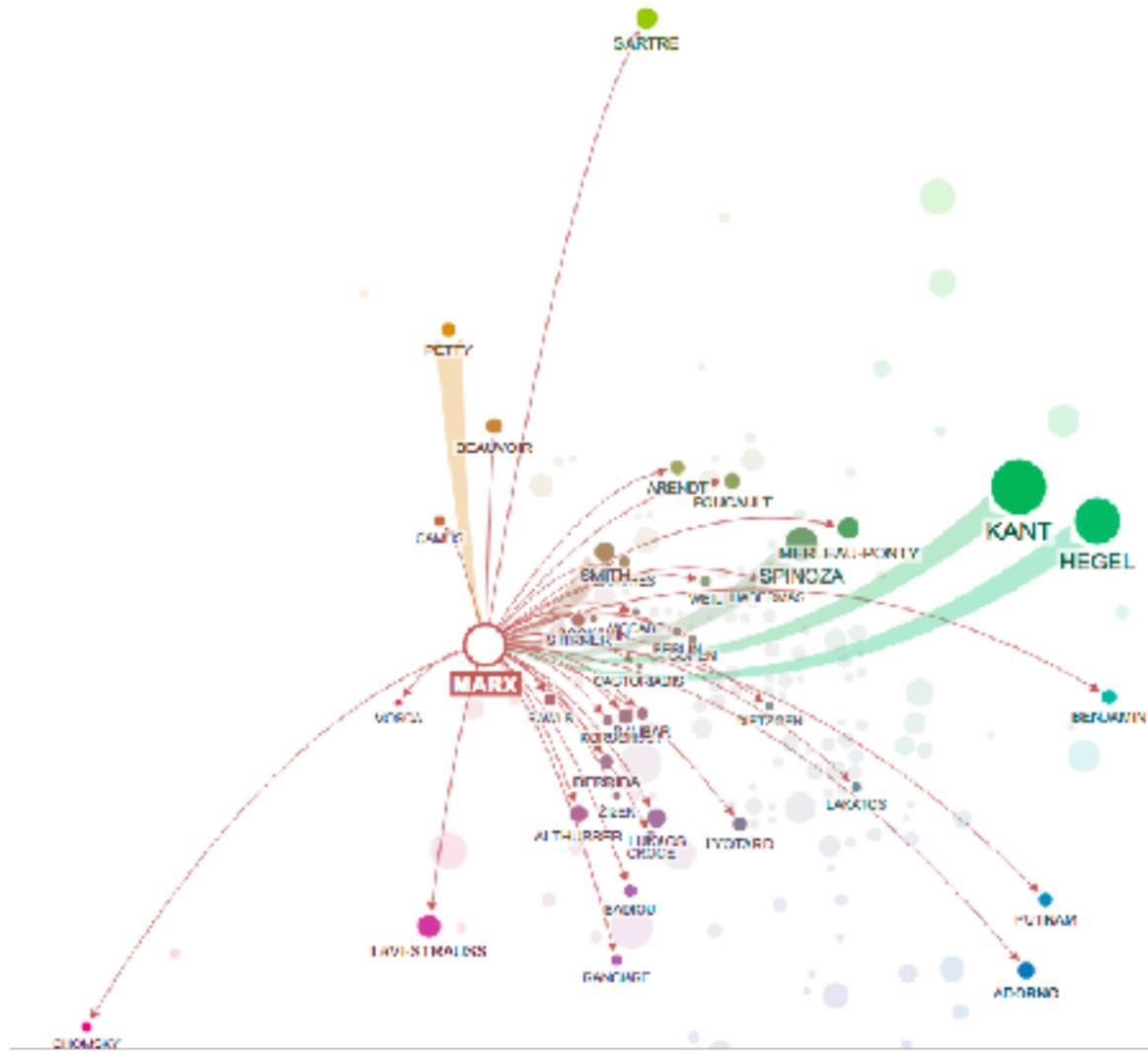
# Idiom: Trellis plots

- superimpose within same frame
  - color code by year
- partitioning
  - split by site, rows are wheat varieties
- main-effects ordering
  - derive value of median for group, use to order
  - order rows within view by variety median
  - order views themselves by site median



# Dynamic visual layering

- interactive based on selection
- one-hop neighbour highlighting demos: click vs hover (lightweight)



San Antonio International, 2008  
great arcs and symbol map

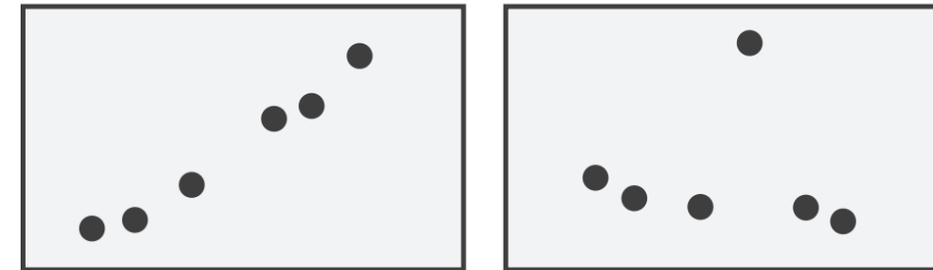
<http://mariandoerk.de/edgemaps/demo/>

<http://mbostock.github.io/d3/talk/20111116/airports.html>

# Partition into views

- how to divide data between views → Partition into Side-by-Side Views

- split into regions by attributes
- encodes association between items using spatial proximity
- order of splits has major implications for what patterns are visible



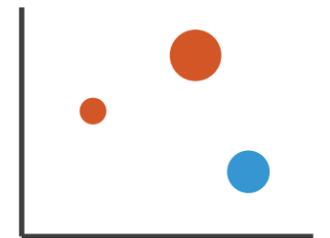
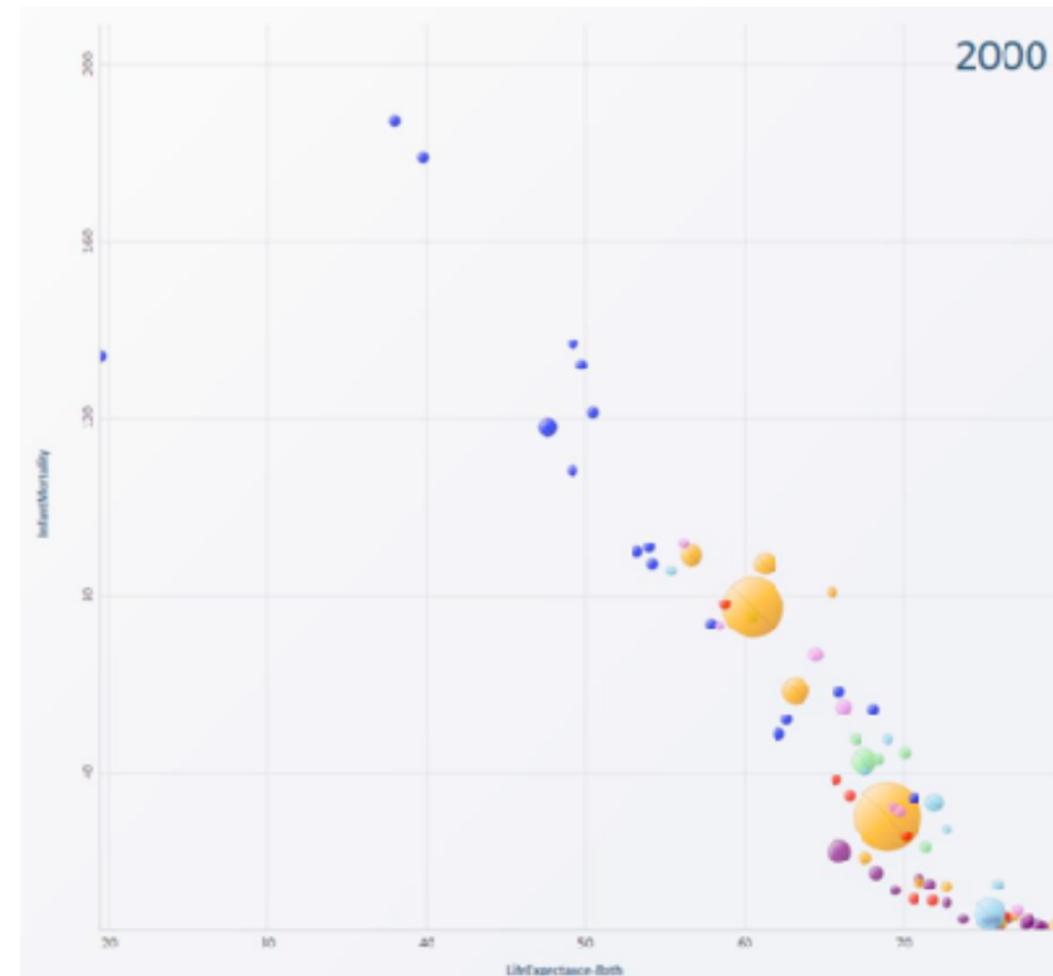
- no strict dividing line

–**view**: *big/detailed*

- contiguous region in which visually encoded data is shown on the display

–**glyph**: *small/iconic*

- object with internal structure that arises from multiple marks



# How?

## Encode

### → Arrange

→ Express



→ Separate



→ Order



→ Align



→ Use



### → Map

from **categorical** and **ordered** attributes

→ Color

→ Hue



→ Saturation



→ Luminance



→ Size, Angle, Curvature, ...



→ Shape



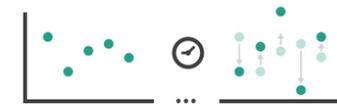
→ Motion

*Direction, Rate, Frequency, ...*



## Manipulate

### → Change



### → Select

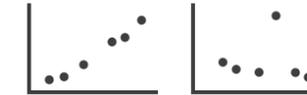


### → Navigate

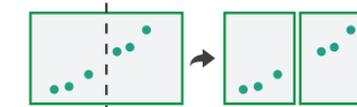


## Facet

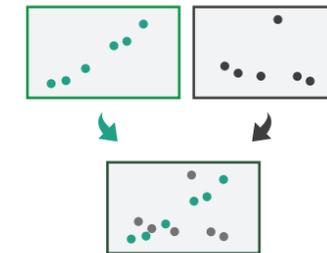
### → Juxtapose



### → Partition

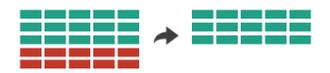


### → Superimpose



## Reduce

### → Filter



### → Aggregate



### → Embed



What?

Why?

How?

# Credits

- Visualization Analysis and Design (Ch 11, 12)
- Alex Lex & Miriah Meyer, <http://dataviscourse.net/>
- Effectiveness of Animation in Trend Visualization.  
George Robertson, Roland Fernandez, Danyel Fisher, Bongshin Lee, and John Stasko.  
IEEE TVCG 14(6):1325-32 (Proc InfoVis 2008).  
<https://www.cc.gatech.edu/~stasko/papers/infovis08-anim.pdf>