

# Lecture 9: Space/Layers/Order

Information Visualization  
CPSC 533C, Fall 2007

Tamara Munzner

UBC Computer Science

10 October 2007

# Readings Covered

Ware, Chapter 8: Space Perception and the Display of Data in Space

Tufte, Chapter 3: Layering and Separation

Hierarchical Edge Bundles: Visualization of Adjacency Relations in Hierarchical Data. Danny Holten, Proc. InfoVis06, to appear

[http://www.win.tue.nl/~dholten/papers/bundles\\_infovis.pdf](http://www.win.tue.nl/~dholten/papers/bundles_infovis.pdf)

Tufte, Chapter 6: Narratives of Space and Time

VisDB: Database Exploration using Multidimensional Visualization, Daniel A. Keim and Hans-Peter Kriegel, IEEE CG&A, 1994

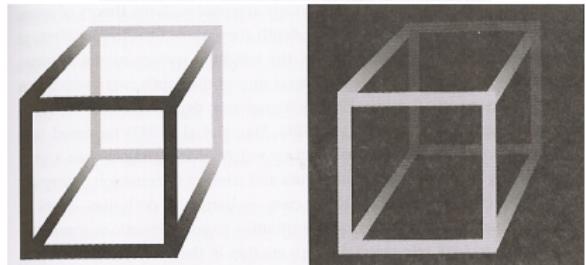
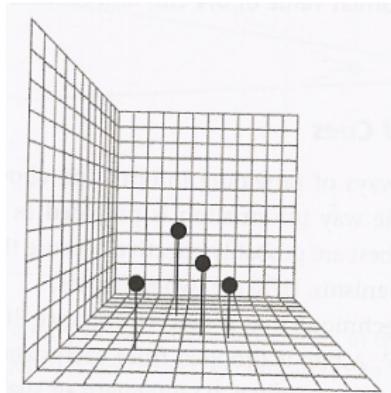
<http://www.dbs.informatik.uni-muenchen.de/dbs/projekt/papers/visdb.ps>

# Ware: Space Perception

- ▶ static
  - ▶ occlusion
  - ▶ perspective projection
    - ▶ linear, texture gradient
  - ▶ depth of field
  - ▶ atmospheric (fog, depth cueing)
  - ▶ lighting and shadows
    - ▶ shape from shading
    - ▶ cast shadows
- ▶ moving
  - ▶ structure-from-motion
    - ▶ motion parallax (head motion)
- ▶ binocular
  - ▶ binocular disparity (stereopsis)
  - ▶ convergence
    - ▶ amount eyes rotate toward center of interest
    - ▶ like optical range finder

# Ware: Space Perception

- ▶ droplines,
  - ▶ background grids
- 
- ▶ depth cueing



[Ware, Information Visualization: Perception for Design, Chap 8]

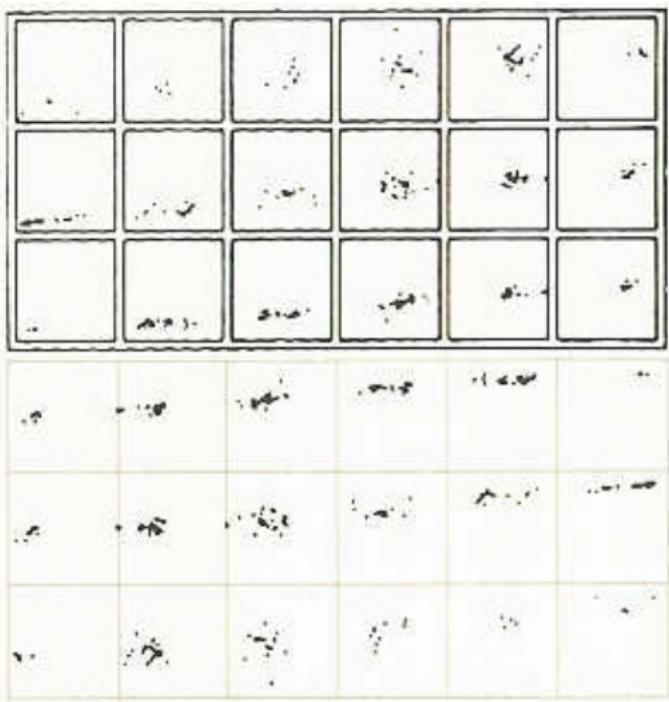
# Layering And Separation



[Tufte, Envisioning Information, Chap 3]

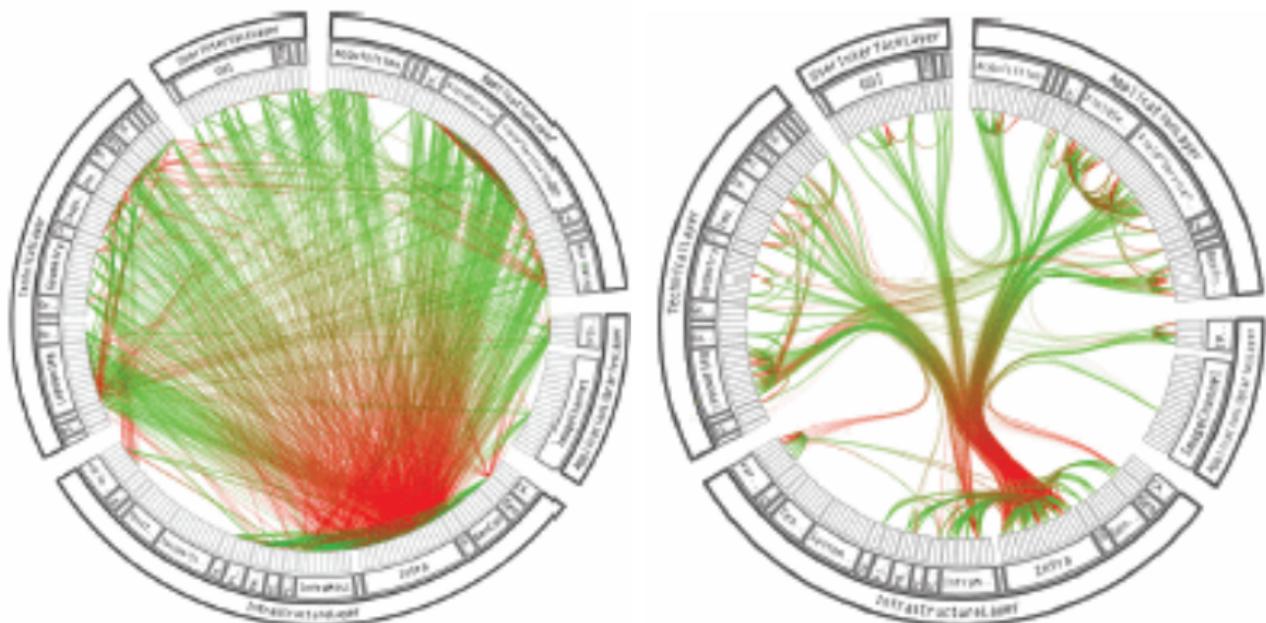
# Visual Clutter

- ▶ subtler background than foreground



[Tufte, Envisioning Information, Chap 3]

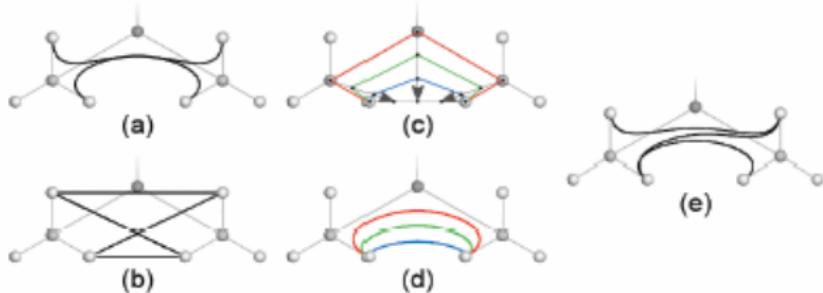
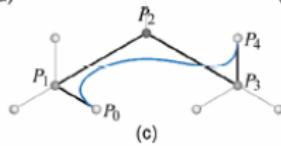
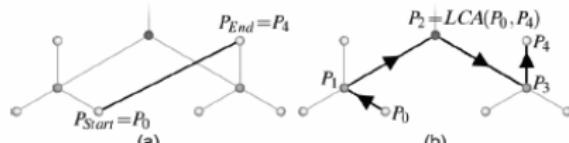
# Hierarchical Edge Bundles



[Hierarchical Edge Bundles: Visualization of Adjacency Relations in Hierarchical Data.  
Danny Holten, Proc. InfoVis06.]

# Hierarchical Edge Bundles

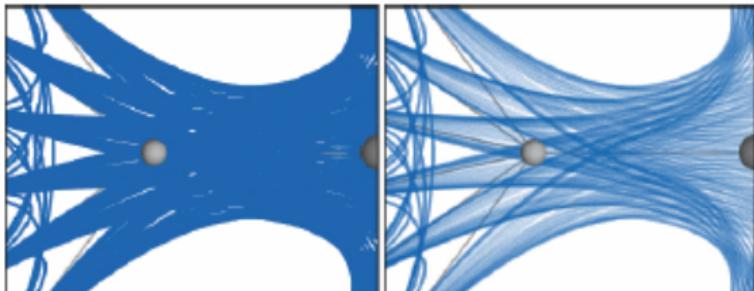
- ▶ bundle by hierarchy using splines



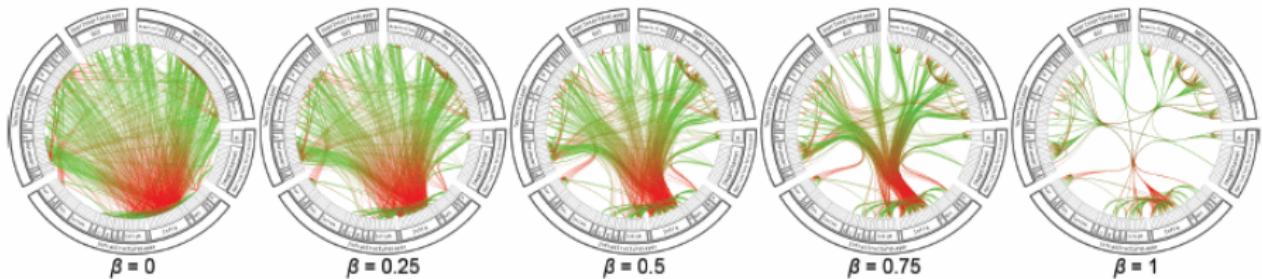
[Hierarchical Edge Bundles: Visualization of Adjacency Relations in Hierarchical Data.  
Danny Holten, Proc. InfoVis06.]

# Hierarchical Edge Bundles

- ▶ alpha blending



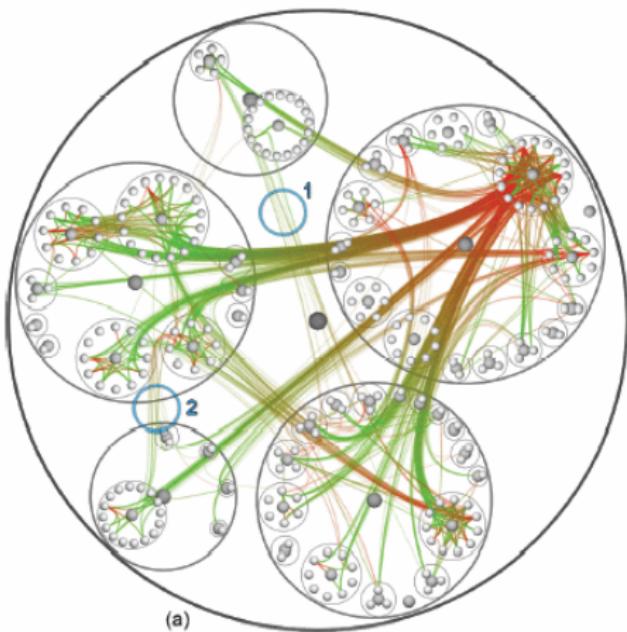
- ▶ bundling strength



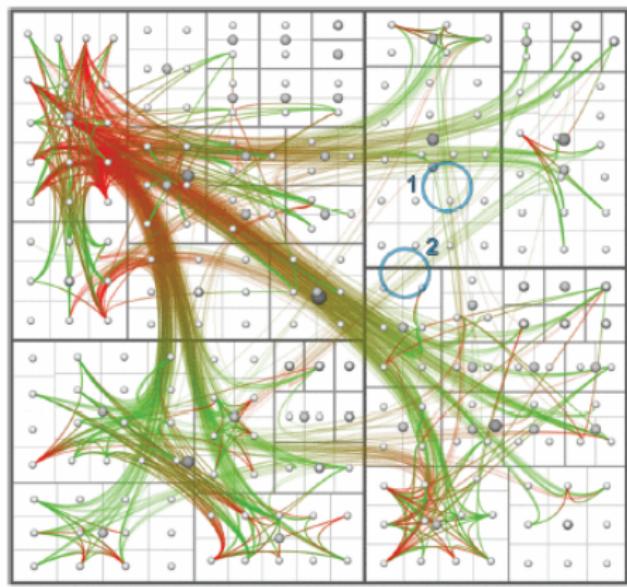
[Hierarchical Edge Bundles: Visualization of Adjacency Relations in Hierarchical Data.  
Danny Holten, Proc. InfoVis06.]

# Hierarchical Edge Bundling

- ▶ (mostly) agnostic to layout



[Hierarchical Edge Bundles: Visualization of Adjacency Relations in Hierarchical Data.  
Danny Holten, Proc. InfoVis06.]



# Critique

- ▶ flexible and general idea
- ▶ simple - after you see it
- ▶ successful example of creating foreground layer

# Space vs. Time: Showing Change

literal

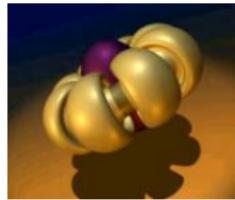
abstract



time for time

space for time

- ▶ animation: show time using temporal change
  - ▶ good: show process



[[www.geom.uiuc.edu/docs/outreach/oi/evert.mpg](http://www.geom.uiuc.edu/docs/outreach/oi/evert.mpg)]

# Space vs. Time: Showing Change

literal

abstract



time for time

space for time

- ▶ animation: show time using temporal change
  - ▶ good: show process
  - ▶ good: compare by flipping between two things



[[www.geom.uiuc.edu/docs/outreach/oi/evert.mpg](http://www.geom.uiuc.edu/docs/outreach/oi/evert.mpg)]

[[www.astroshow.com/ccdpho/pluto.gif](http://www.astroshow.com/ccdpho/pluto.gif)]

# Space vs. Time: Showing Change

literal

abstract



time for time

space for time

- ▶ animation: show time using temporal change
  - ▶ good: show process
  - ▶ good: compare by flipping between two things
  - ▶ bad: compare between many things



[[www.geom.uiuc.edu/docs/outreach/oi/evert.mpg](http://www.geom.uiuc.edu/docs/outreach/oi/evert.mpg)]

[[www.astroshow.com/ccdpho/pluto.gif](http://www.astroshow.com/ccdpho/pluto.gif)]

# Space vs. Time: Showing Change

literal

abstract



time for time

space for time

- ▶ animation: show time using temporal change
  - ▶ good: show process
  - ▶ good: compare by flipping between two things
  - ▶ bad: compare between many things
    - ▶ interference from intermediate frames



[[www.geom.uiuc.edu/docs/outreach/oi/evert.mpg](http://www.geom.uiuc.edu/docs/outreach/oi/evert.mpg)]

[[www.astroshow.com/ccdpho/pluto.gif](http://www.astroshow.com/ccdpho/pluto.gif)]

# Space vs. Time: Showing Change

literal

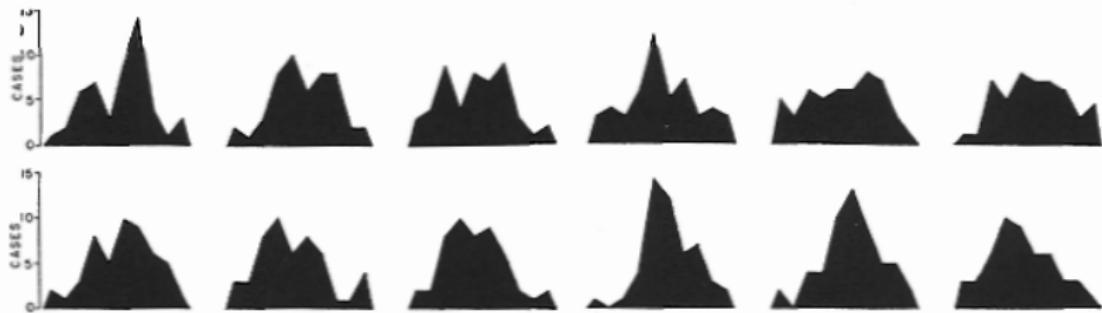
abstract



time for time

space for time

- ▶ small multiples: show time using space
  - ▶ overview: show each time step in array
  - ▶ compare: side-by-side easier than temporal
    - ▶ external cognition instead of internal memory



# Space vs. Time: Showing Change

literal

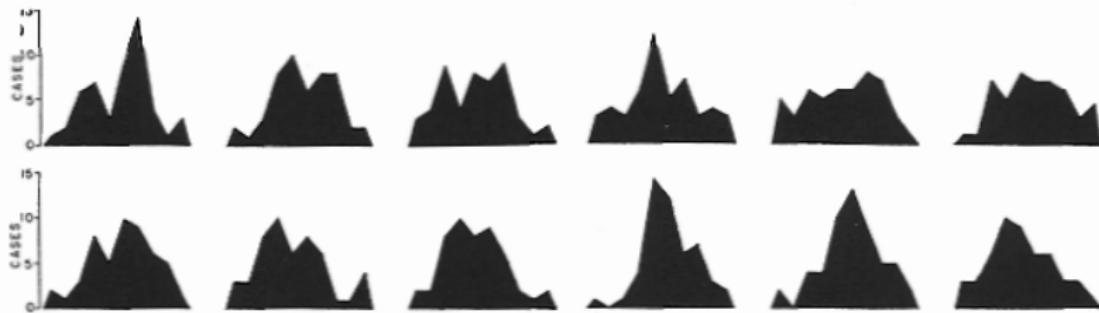
abstract



time for time

space for time

- ▶ small multiples: show time using space
  - ▶ overview: show each time step in array
  - ▶ compare: side-by-side easier than temporal
    - ▶ external cognition instead of internal memory
  - ▶ general technique, not just for temporal changes



# Space vs. Time: Showing Change

literal

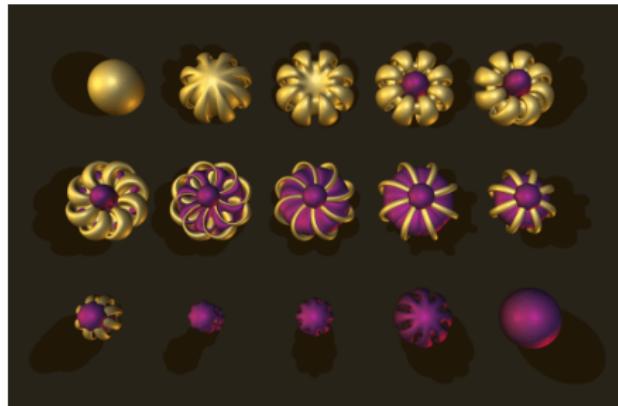
abstract



time for time

space for time

- ▶ small multiples: show time using space
  - ▶ also can be good for showing process



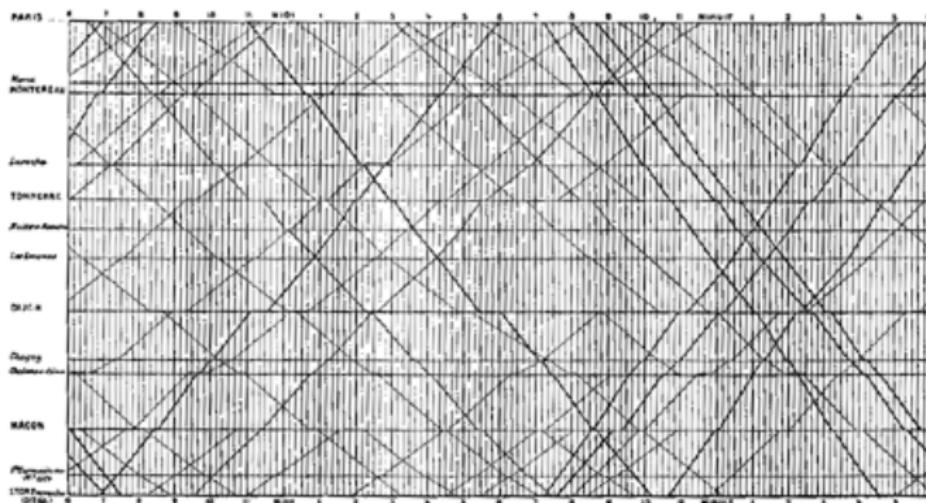
# Animation vs. Small Multiples

- ▶ Tversky argument: intuition that animation helps is wrong
  - ▶ meta-review of previous studies
  - ▶ often more info shown in animation view so not a fair comparison
  - ▶ carefully chosen segmentation into small multiples better than animation if equivalent information shown

[Animation: Can It Facilitate? Barbara Tversky, Julie Morrison, Mireille Betrancourt. International Journal of Human Computer Studies 57:4, pp 247-262, 2002.]

# Derived Spaces: Slope

- ▶ narrative of space and time
- ▶ Marey train schedule, 1885
  - ▶ horizontal line length: stop length
  - ▶ slope: speed
  - ▶ intersection: time/place of crossing



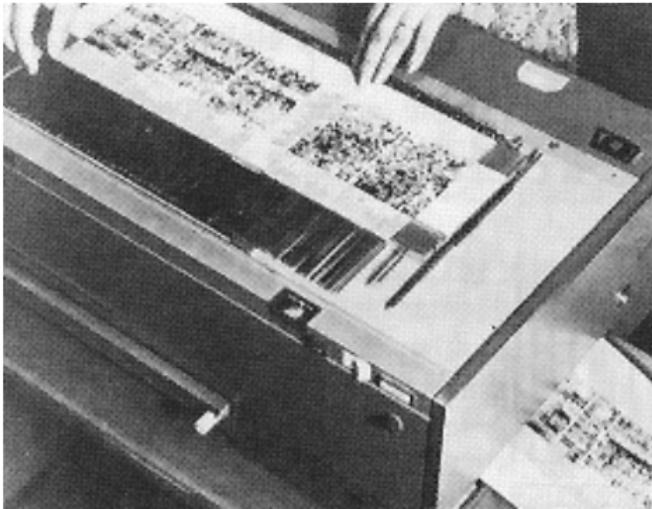
[Tufte I p 31, [www.nap.edu/html/hs\\_math/images/tl\\_f8.gif](http://www.nap.edu/html/hs_math/images/tl_f8.gif)]

# Sorting and Ordering

- ▶ derived spaces for ordering
- ▶ spatial position as strongest perceptual cue
- ▶ finding the right order
  - ▶ automatically
  - ▶ through exploration

# Manual Ordering: Bertin

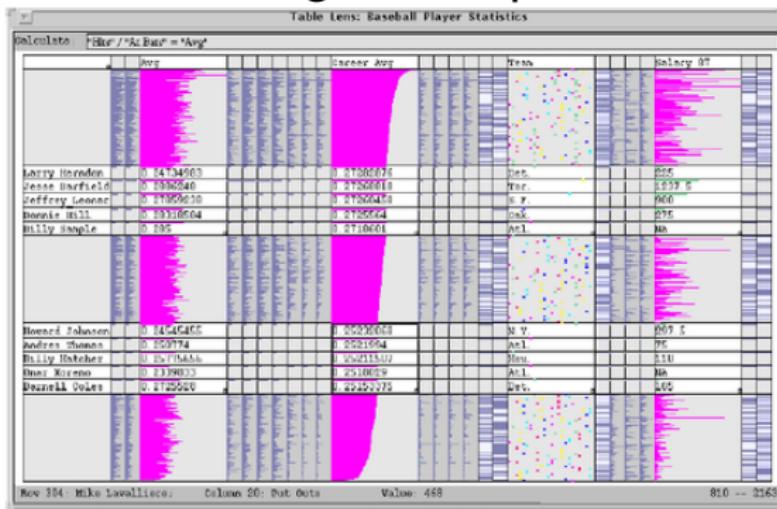
- ▶ reorderable matrices - manually!



[Bertin, Graphics and Graphic Information Processing, p 34]

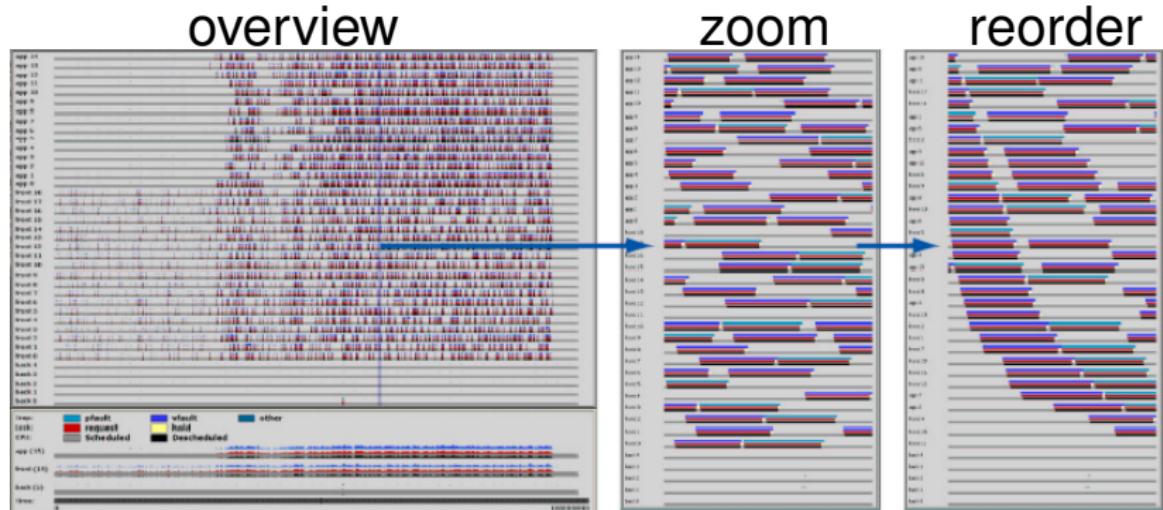
# Interactive Ordering: Table Lens

- ▶ click to sort by columns
- ▶ also, is focus+context approach
- ▶ demo: [www.inxight.com/products/sdks/tl](http://www.inxight.com/products/sdks/tl)



# Interactive Ordering: Rivet

- ▶ performance analysis of parallel system
  - ▶ order: machine name vs. lock acquisition time

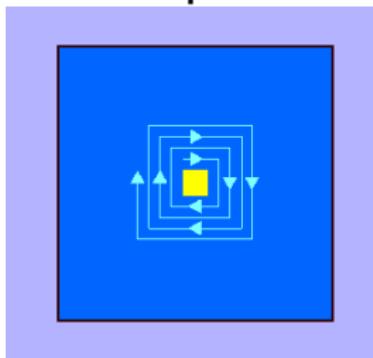


[Bosch, Performance Analysis and Visualization of Parallel Systems Using SimOS and Rivet: A Case Study, HPCA6, 2000.  
graphics.stanford.edu/papers/rivet\_argus]

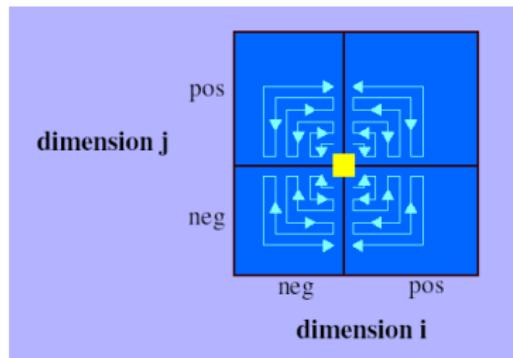
# VisDB: Spacefilling Pixels

- ▶ how to draw pixels?
  - ▶ sort, color by relevance
- ▶ local ordering

spiral



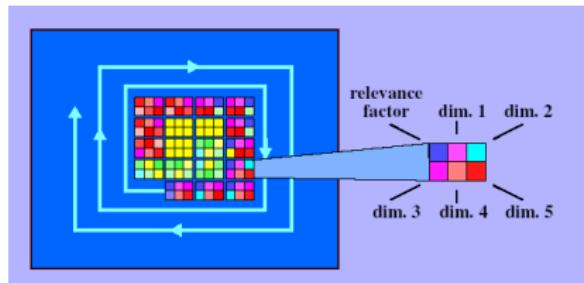
2D



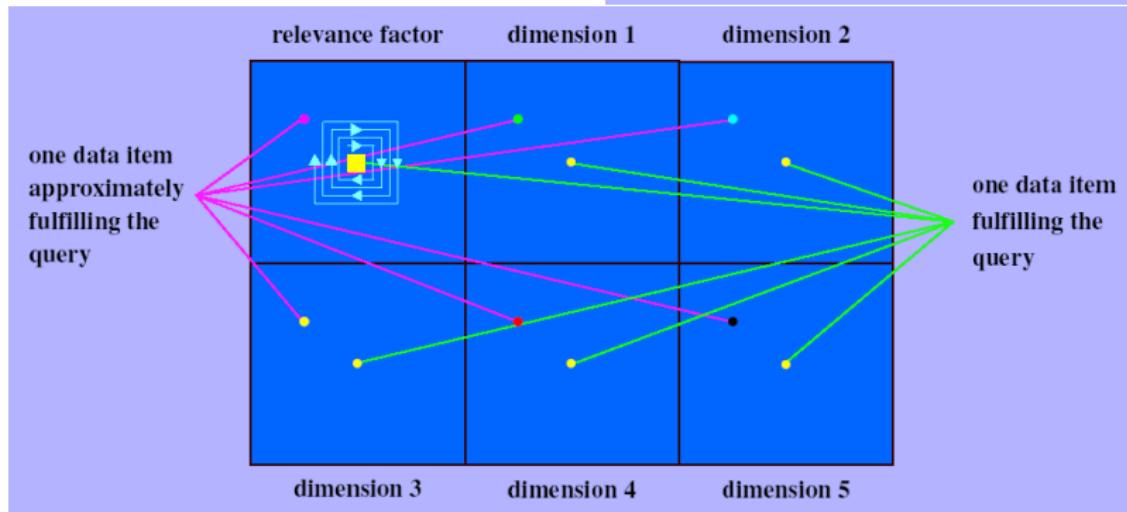
[VisDB: Database Exploration using Multidimensional Visualization, Keim and Kriegel, IEEE CG&A, 1994 [www.dbs.informatik.uni-muenchen.de/dbs/projekt/papers/visdb.ps](http://www.dbs.informatik.uni-muenchen.de/dbs/projekt/papers/visdb.ps)]

# VisDB Windows

grouped dimensions



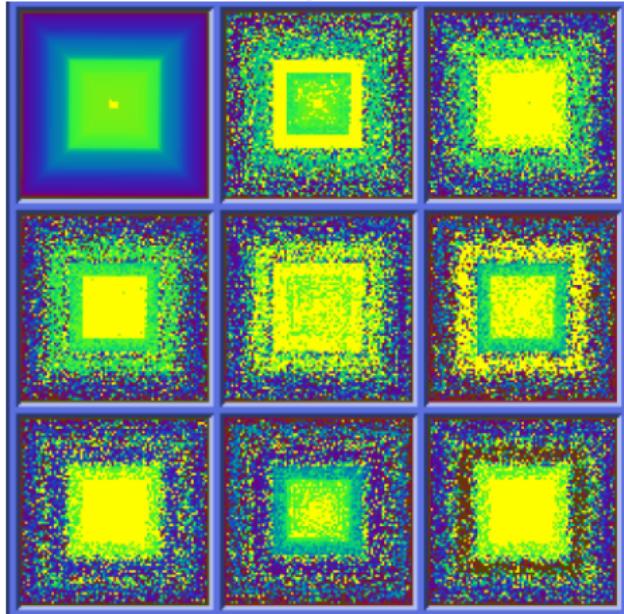
separate dimensions



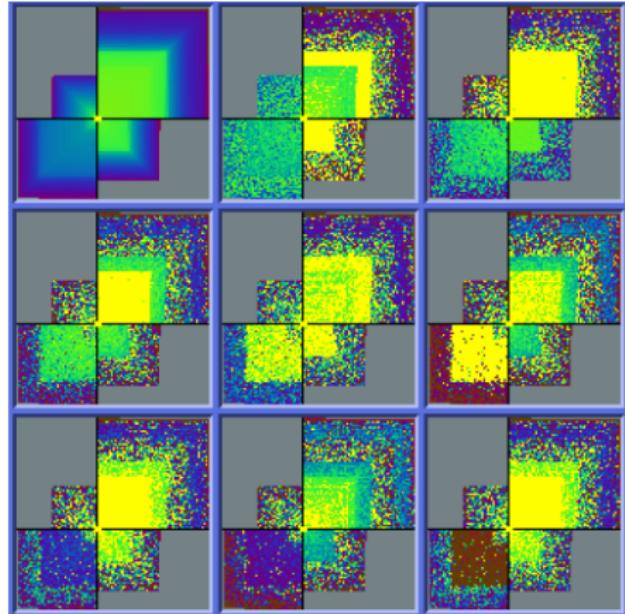
[VisDB: Database Exploration using Multidimensional Visualization, Keim and Kriegel, IEEE CG&A, 1994 [www.dbs.informatik.uni-muenchen.de/dbs/projekt/papers/visdb.ps](http://www.dbs.informatik.uni-muenchen.de/dbs/projekt/papers/visdb.ps)]

# VisDB Results: Separate Dimensions

spiral

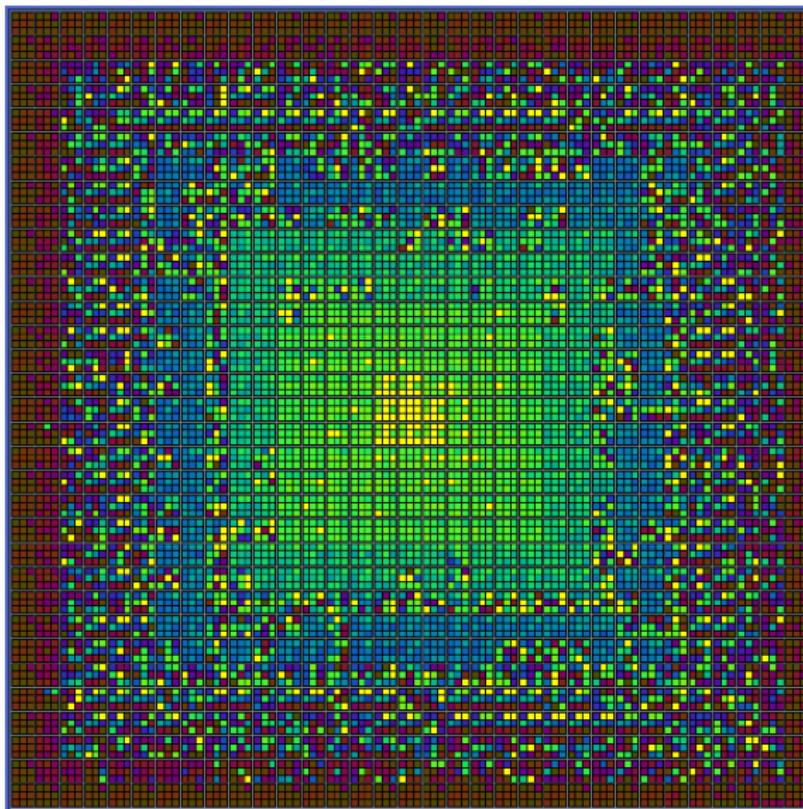


2D



[VisDB: Database Exploration using Multidimensional Visualization, Keim and Kriegel, IEEE CG&A, 1994 [www.dbs.informatik.uni-muenchen.de/dbs/projekt/papers/visdb.ps](http://www.dbs.informatik.uni-muenchen.de/dbs/projekt/papers/visdb.ps)]

# VisDB Results: Grouped Dimensions



[VisDB: Database Exploration using Multidimensional Visualization, Keim and Kriegel,  
IEEE CG&A, 1994 [www.dbs.informatik.uni-muenchen.de/dbs/projekt/papers/visdb.ps](http://www.dbs.informatik.uni-muenchen.de/dbs/projekt/papers/visdb.ps)]



# Another Pixel-Oriented Example

- ▶ SeeSoft from AT&T



[Ball and Eick, Software Visualization in the Large, IEEE Computer 29:4, 1996 citeseer.nj.nec.com/ball96software.html]

# VisDB Critique

- ▶ pixel-oriented methods have power
- ▶ but studies needed
  - ▶ are spacefilling curves understandable
  - ▶ when does visual complexity overwhelm