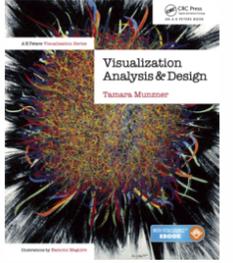


Visualization Analysis & Design

Half-Day Tutorial



Tamara Munzner
 Department of Computer Science
 University of British Columbia

IEEE VIS 2015 Tutorial
 October 2015, Chicago IL

<http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks.html#halfdaycourse15> @tamaramunzner

Outline

- Session 1 2:00-3:40pm**
 - Analysis: What, Why, How
 - Marks and Channels
 - Arrange Tables
 - Arrange Spatial Data
 - Arrange Networks and Trees
- Session 2 4:15pm-5:50pm**
 - Map Color and Other Channels
 - Manipulate: Change, Select, Navigate
 - Facet: Juxtapose, Partition, Superimpose
 - Reduce: Filter, Aggregate
 - Embed: Focus+Context

<http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks.html#halfdaycourse14> @tamaramunzner

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.

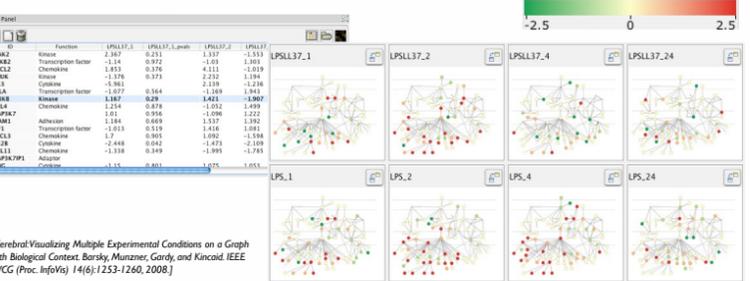
Visualization is suitable when there is a need to augment human capabilities rather than replace people with computational decision-making methods.

- 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



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

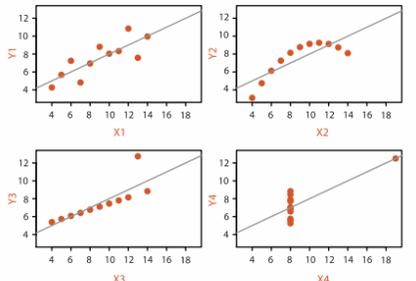
Why represent all the data?

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

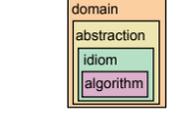
Anscombe's Quartet

Identical statistics	
x mean	9
x variance	10
y mean	8
y variance	4
x/y correlation	1

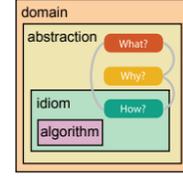


Analysis framework: Four levels, three questions

- domain situation
 - who are the target users?
- abstraction
 - translate from specifics of domain to vocabulary of vis
 - what is shown? **data abstraction**
 - often don't just draw what you're given: transform to new form
 - why is the user looking at it? **task abstraction**
- idiom
 - how is it shown?
 - 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).]

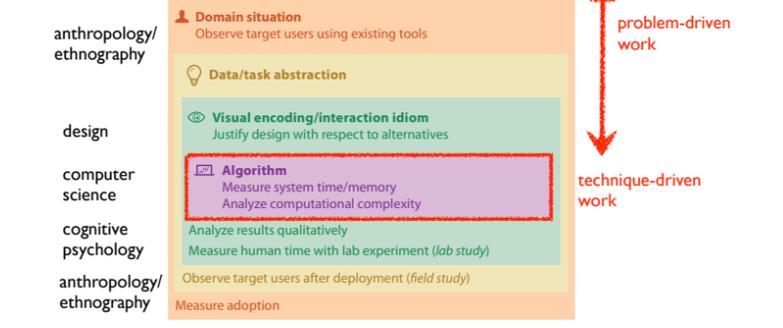
Why is validation difficult?

- different ways to get it wrong at each level

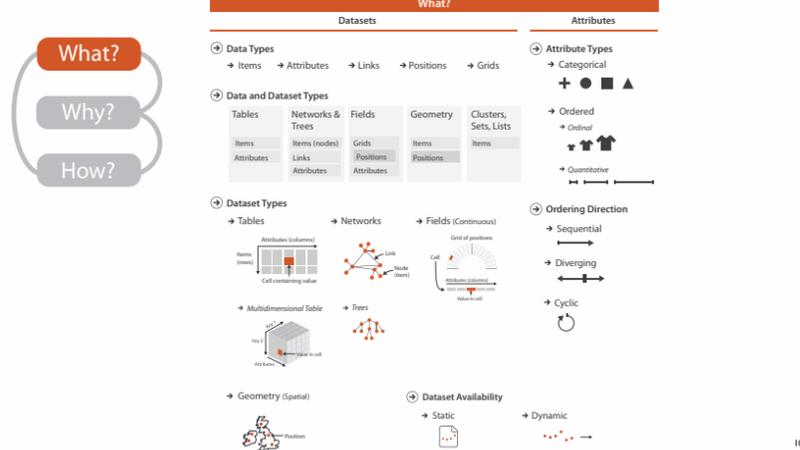


Why is validation difficult?

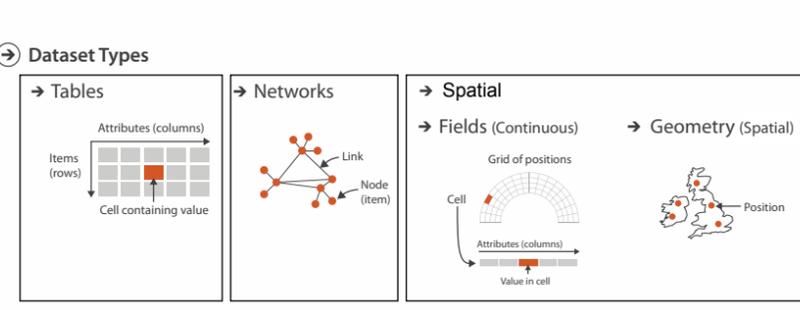
- solution: use methods from different fields at each level



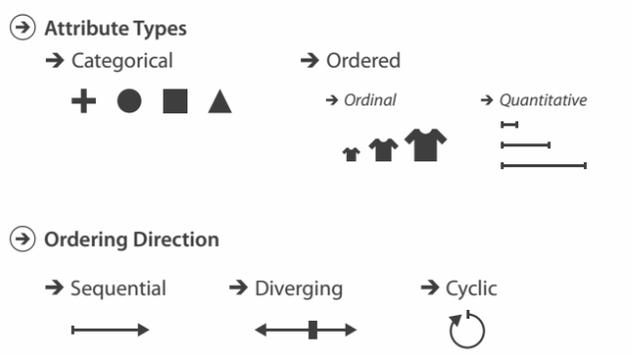
[A Nested Model of Visualization Design and Validation. Munzner. IEEE TVCG 15(6):921-928, 2009 (Proc. InfoVis 2009).]



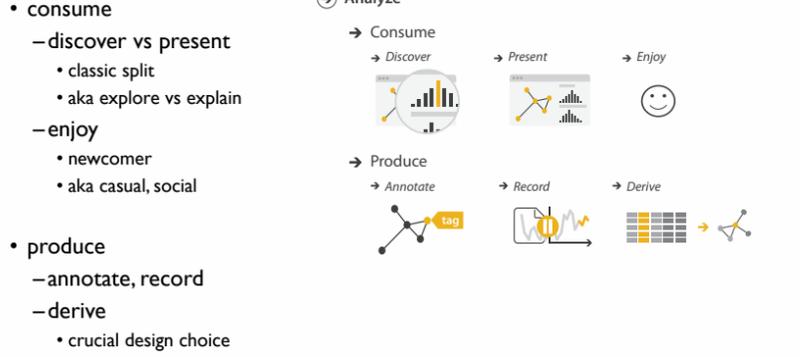
Three major datatypes



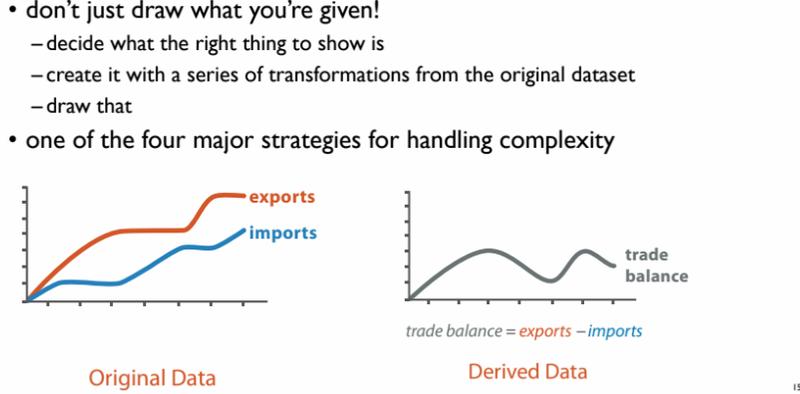
Attribute types



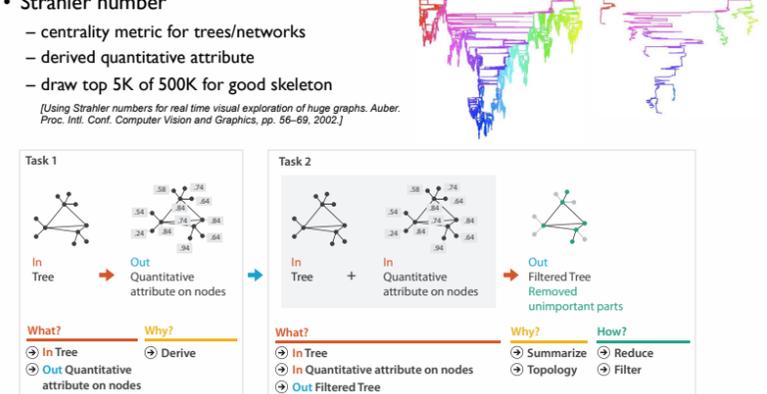
High-level actions: Analyze



Derive



Analysis example: Derive one attribute



Actions: Search, query

- what does user know?
 - target, location
- how much of the data matters?
 - one, some, all
- independent choices for each of these three levels
 - analyze, search, query
 - mix and match

Search

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

Query

Identify → Compare → Summarize

Why: Targets

- All Data
 - Trends
 - Outliers
 - Features
- Attributes
 - One
 - Distribution
 - Extremes
 - Many
 - Dependency
 - Correlation
 - Similarity
- Network Data
 - Topology
 - Paths
- Spatial Data
 - Shape

How?

Encode	Manipulate	Facet	Reduce
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrange <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Express Order Use Map from categorical and ordered attributes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Color: Hue, Saturation, Luminance Size, Angle, Curvature, ... Shape: +, ●, ■, ▲ Motion: Direction, Rate, Frequency, ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change Select Navigate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Juxtapose Partition Superimpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Filter Aggregate Embed

What? Why? How?

Outline

- Session 1 2:00-3:40pm
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What? Why? How?

Visual encoding

- analyze idiom structure

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.

Definitions: Marks and channels

- marks
 - geometric primitives
- channels
 - control appearance of marks
 - can redundantly code with multiple channels
- interactions
 - point marks only convey position; no area constraints
 - can be size and shape coded
 - line marks convey position and length
 - can only be size coded in 1D (width)
 - area marks fully constrained
 - cannot be size or shape coded

Visual encoding

- analyze idiom structure
 - as combination of marks and channels

1: vertical position (mark: line)
 2: vertical position, horizontal position (mark: point)
 3: vertical position, horizontal position, color hue (mark: point)
 4: vertical position, horizontal position, color hue, size (area) (mark: point)

Channels

Position on common scale	Spatial region
Position on unaligned scale	Color hue
Length (1D size)	Motion
Tilt/angle	Shape
Area (2D size)	
Depth (3D position)	
Color luminance	
Color saturation	
Curvature	
Volume (3D size)	

Channels: Matching Types

Magnitude Channels: Ordered Attributes	Identity Channels: Categorical Attributes
Position on common scale	Spatial region
Position on unaligned scale	Color hue
Length (1D size)	Motion
Tilt/angle	Shape
Area (2D size)	
Depth (3D position)	
Color luminance	
Color saturation	
Curvature	
Volume (3D size)	

- expressiveness principle
 - match channel and data characteristics

Channels: Rankings

Magnitude Channels: Ordered Attributes	Identity Channels: Categorical Attributes
Position on common scale	Spatial region
Position on unaligned scale	Color hue
Length (1D size)	Motion
Tilt/angle	Shape
Area (2D size)	
Depth (3D position)	
Color luminance	
Color saturation	
Curvature	
Volume (3D size)	

- expressiveness principle
 - match channel and data characteristics
- effectiveness principle
 - encode most important attributes with highest ranked channels

Channels: Expressiveness types and effectiveness rankings

Magnitude Channels: Ordered Attributes	Identity Channels: Categorical Attributes
Position on common scale	Spatial region
Position on unaligned scale	Color hue
Length (1D size)	Motion
Tilt/angle	Shape
Area (2D size)	
Depth (3D position)	
Color luminance	
Color saturation	
Curvature	
Volume (3D size)	

- expressiveness principle
 - match channel and data characteristics
- effectiveness principle
 - encode most important attributes with highest ranked channels
 - spatial position ranks high for both

Accuracy: Fundamental Theory

Steven's Psychophysical Power Law: $S = I^N$

Accuracy: Vis experiments

Cleveland & McGill's Results

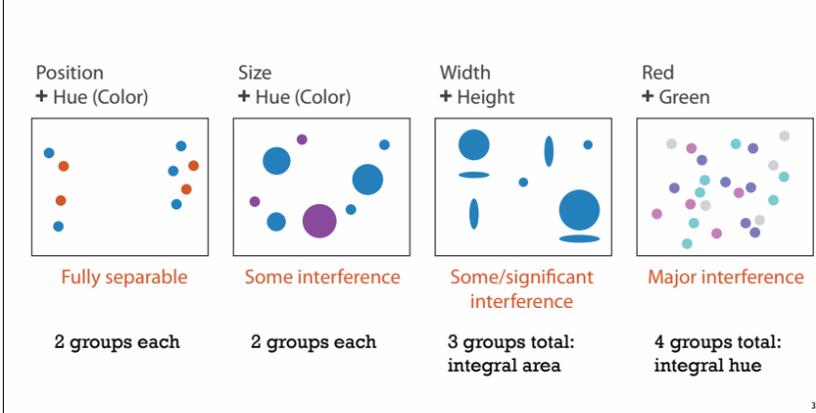
Crowdsourced Results

[Crowdsourcing Graphical Perception: Using Mechanical Turk to Assess Visualization Design. Heer and Bostock. Proc ACM Conf. Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2010, p. 203-212.]

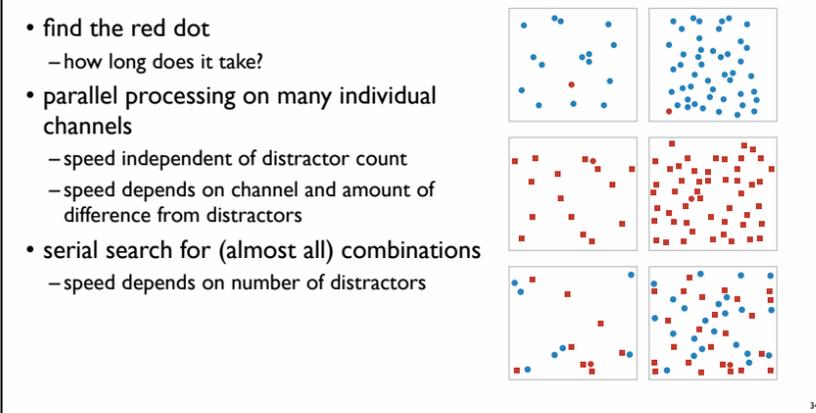
Discriminability: How many usable steps?

- must be sufficient for number of attribute levels to show
 - linewidth: few bins

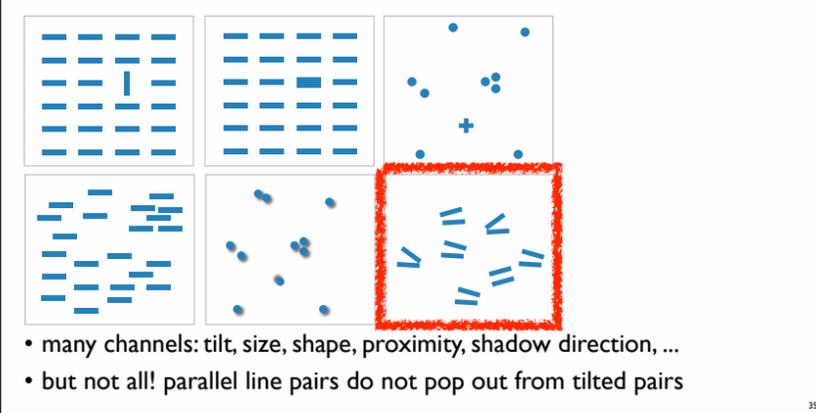
Separability vs. Integrality



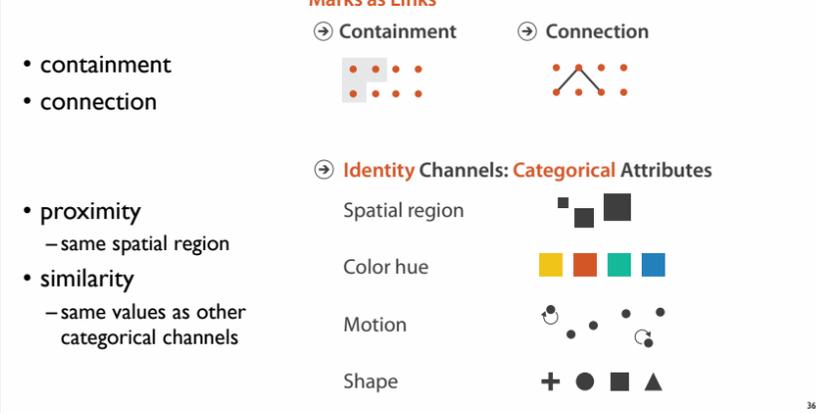
Popout



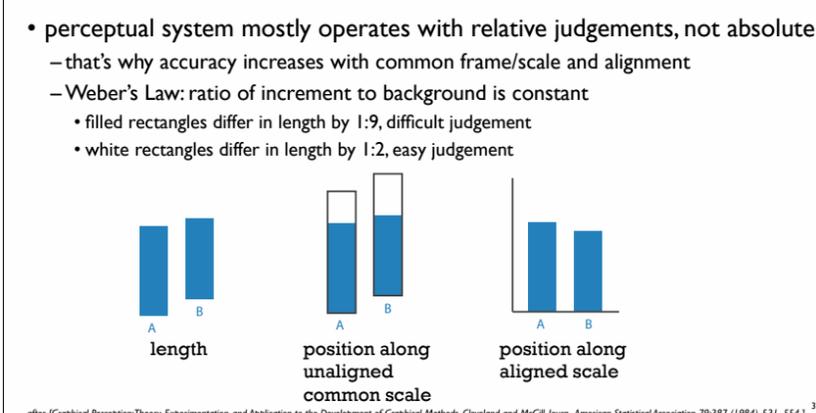
Popout



Grouping



Relative vs. absolute judgements

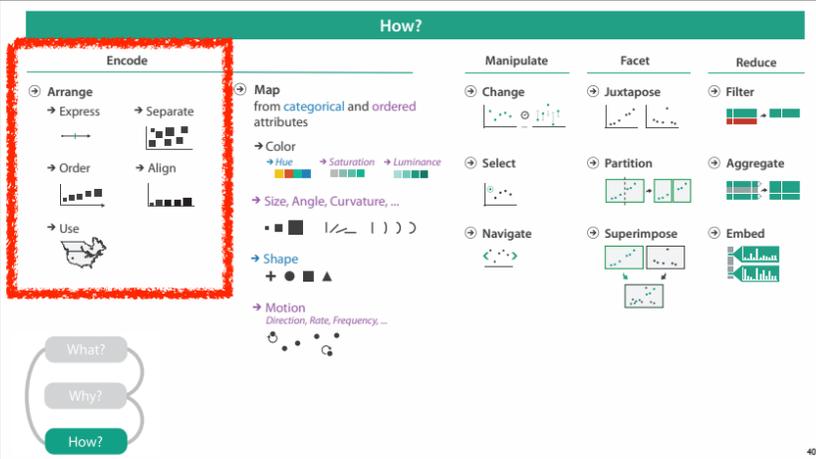


Further reading

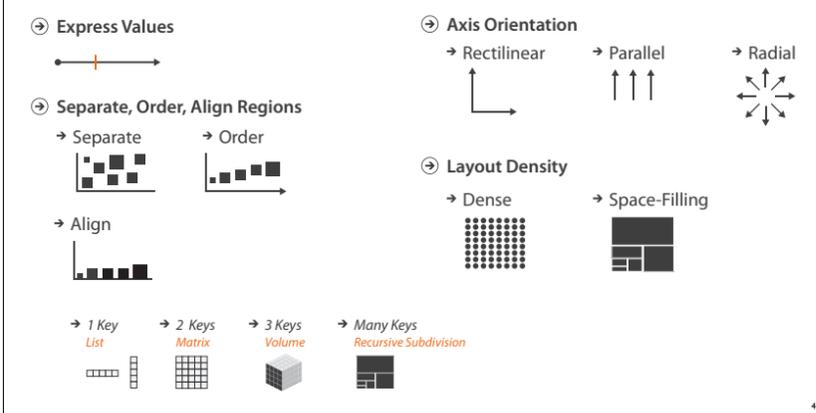
- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters Visualization Series, CRC Press, Nov 2014.
 - Chap 5: Marks and Channels
- On the Theory of Scales of Measurement. Stevens. Science 103:2684 (1946), 677–680.
- Psychophysics: Introduction to its Perceptual, Neural, and Social Prospects. Stevens. 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.

Outline

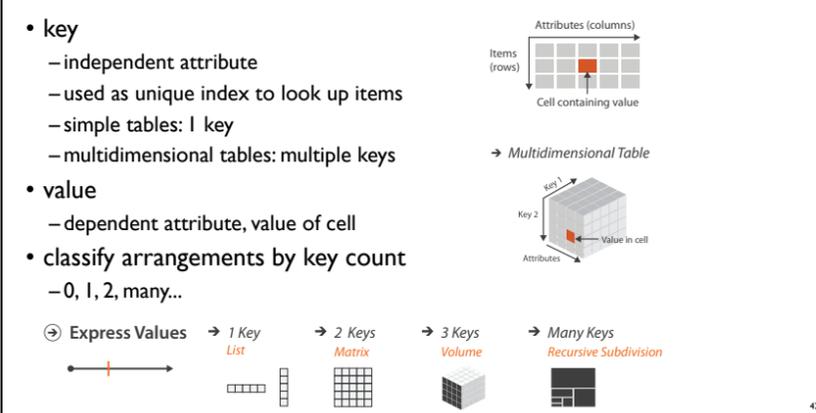
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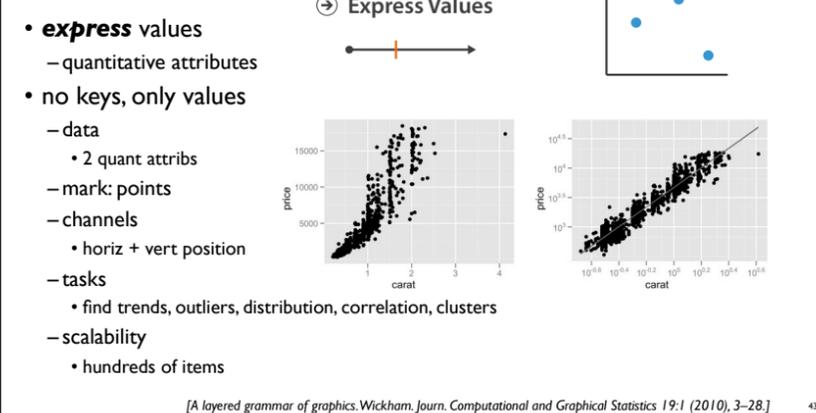
Arrange tables



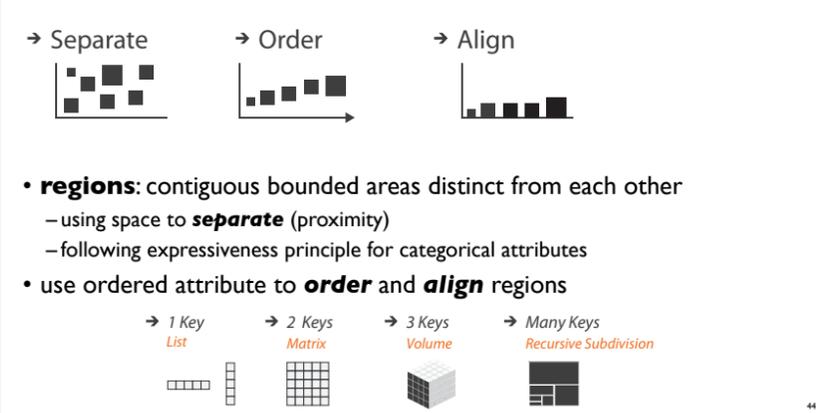
Keys and values



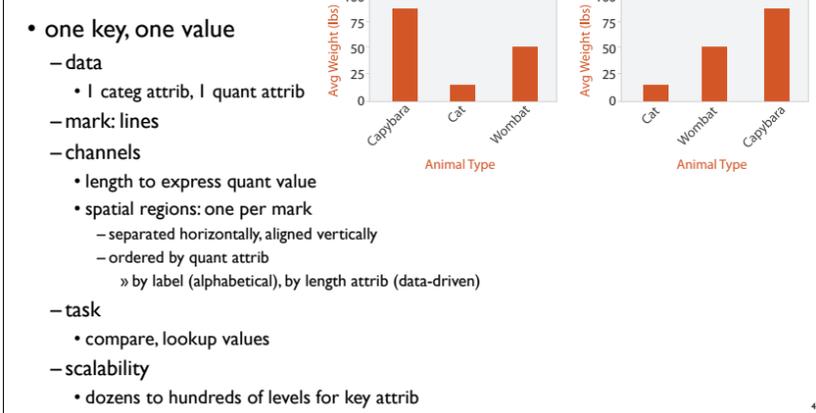
Idiom: scatterplot



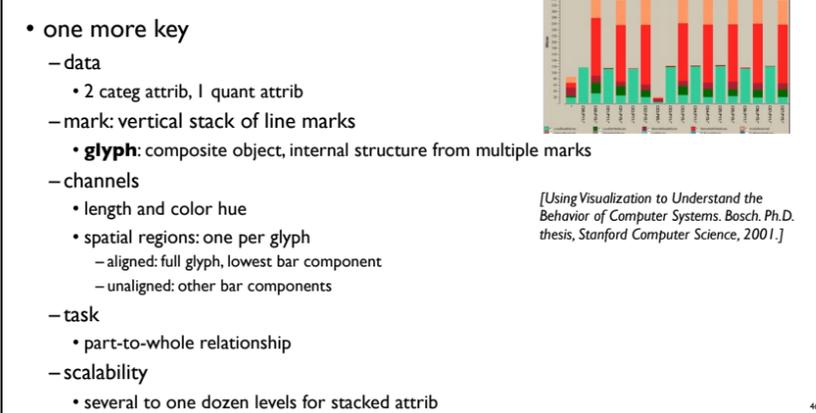
Some keys: Categorical regions



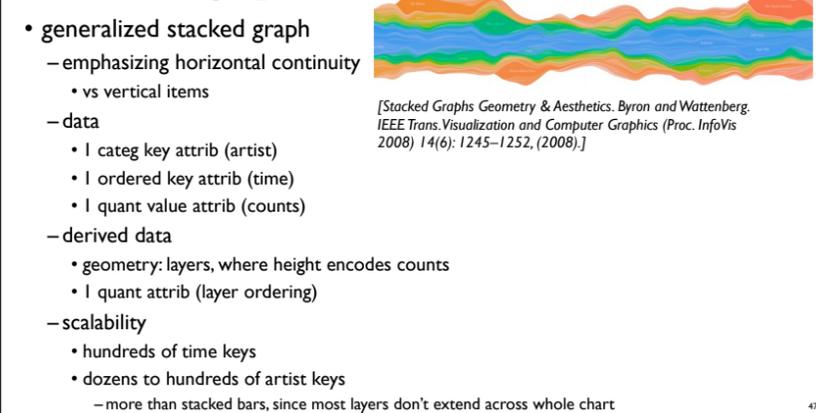
Idiom: bar chart



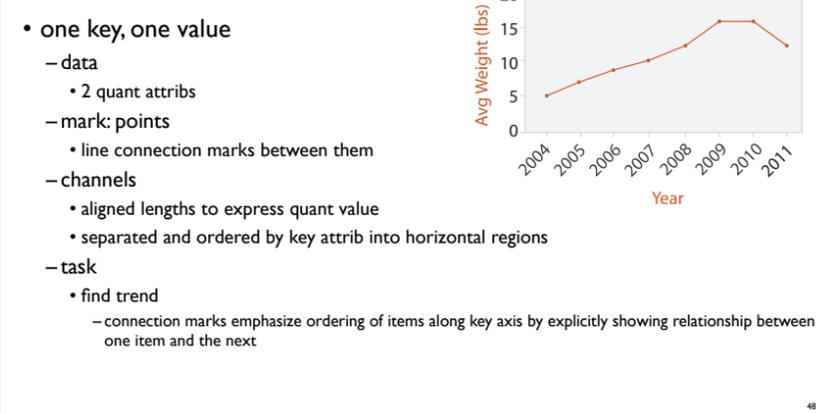
Idiom: stacked bar chart



Idiom: streamgraph

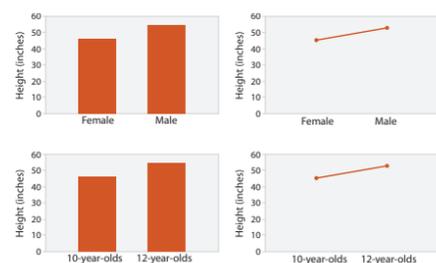


Idiom: line chart



Choosing bar vs line charts

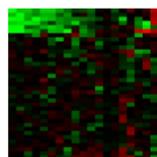
- depends on type of key attrib
 - bar charts if categorical
 - line charts if ordered
- do not use line charts for categorical key attribs
 - violates expressiveness principle
 - implication of trend so strong that it overrides semantics!
 - "The more male a person is, the taller he/she is"



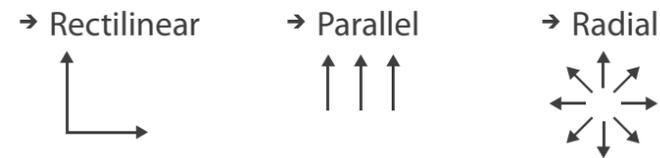
after [Bars and Lines: A Study of Graphic Communication. Zacks and Tversky. Memory and Cognition 27:6 (1999), 1073-1079.]

Idiom: heatmap

- two keys, one value
 - data
 - 2 categ attribs (gene, experimental condition)
 - 1 quant attrib (expression levels)
 - marks: area
 - separate and align in 2D matrix
 - indexed by 2 categorical attributes
 - channels
 - color by quant attrib
 - (ordered diverging colormap)
 - task
 - find clusters, outliers
 - scalability
 - IM items, 100s of categ levels, ~10 quant attrib levels

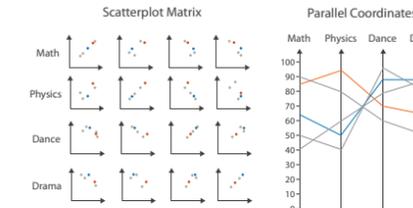


Axis Orientation



Idioms: scatterplot matrix, parallel coordinates

- scatterplot matrix (SPLOM)
 - rectilinear axes, point mark
 - all possible pairs of axes
 - scalability
 - one dozen attribs
 - dozens to hundreds of items
- parallel coordinates
 - parallel axes, jagged line representing item
 - rectilinear axes, item as point
 - axis ordering is major challenge
 - scalability
 - dozens of attribs
 - hundreds of items

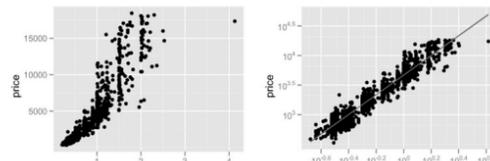


	Math	Physics	Dance	Drama
85	95	70	65	
90	80	60	50	
65	50	90	90	
50	40	95	80	
40	60	80	90	

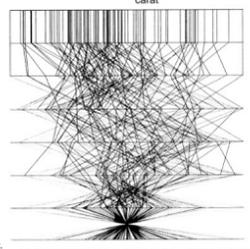
after [Visualization Course Figures. McGuffin, 2014. <http://www.michaelmcguffin.com/courses/vis/>]

Task: Correlation

- scatterplot matrix
 - positive correlation
 - diagonal low-to-high
 - negative correlation
 - diagonal high-to-low
 - uncorrelated
- parallel coordinates
 - positive correlation
 - parallel line segments
 - negative correlation
 - all segments cross at halfway point
 - uncorrelated
 - scattered crossings



[A layered grammar of graphics. Wickham. Journ. Computational and Graphical Statistics 19:1 (2010), 3-28.]

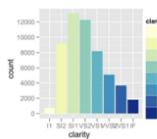
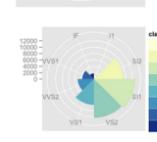
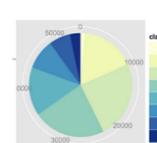


[Hyperdimensional Data Analysis Using Parallel Coordinates. Wegman. Journ. American Statistical Association 85:411 (1990), 664-675.]

Figure 3. Parallel Coordinate Plot of Six-Dimensional Data Illustrating Correlations of $\rho = 1, .8, .2, 0, -.2, -.8, \text{ and } -1$.

Idioms: pie chart, polar area chart

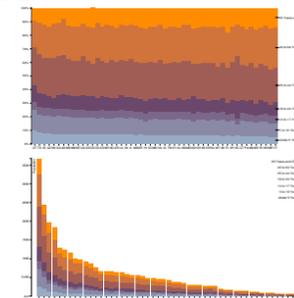
- pie chart
 - area marks with angle channel
 - accuracy: angle/area much less accurate than line length
- polar area chart
 - area marks with length channel
 - more direct analog to bar charts
- data
 - 1 categ key attrib, 1 quant value attrib
- task
 - part-to-whole judgements



[A layered grammar of graphics. Wickham. Journ. Computational and Graphical Statistics 19:1 (2010), 3-28.]

Idioms: normalized stacked bar chart

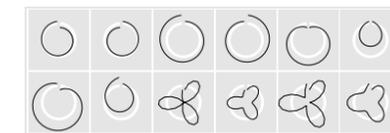
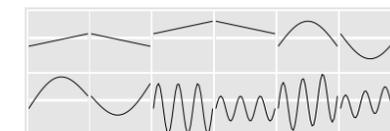
- task
 - part-to-whole judgements
- normalized stacked bar chart
 - stacked bar chart, normalized to full vert height
 - single stacked bar equivalent to full pie
 - high information density: requires narrow rectangle
- pie chart
 - information density: requires large circle



<http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/3887235>
<http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/3886208>
<http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/3886374>

Idiom: glyphmaps

- rectilinear good for linear vs nonlinear trends
- radial good for cyclic patterns



[Glyph-maps for Visually Exploring Temporal Patterns in Climate Data and Models. Wickham, Hofmann, Wickham, and Cook. Environmetrics 23:5 (2012), 382-393.]

Orientation limitations

- rectilinear: scalability wrt #axes
 - 2 axes best
 - 3 problematic
 - more in afternoon
 - 4+ impossible
- parallel: unfamiliarity, training time
- radial: perceptual limits
 - angles lower precision than lengths
 - asymmetry between angle and length
 - can be exploited!

Axis Orientation

→ Rectilinear



→ Parallel



→ Radial



[Uncovering Strengths and Weaknesses of Radial Visualizations - an Empirical Approach. Diehl, Beck and Burch. IEEE TVCG (Proc. InfoVis) 16(6):935-942, 2010.]

Further reading

- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters Visualization Series, CRC Press, Nov 2014.
 - Chap 7: Arrange Tables
- Visualizing Data. Cleveland. Hobart Press, 1993.
- A Brief History of Data Visualization. Friendly. 2008. <http://www.datavis.ca/milestones>

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@tamaramunzner

Arrange spatial data

Use Given

- Geometry
 - Geographic
 - Other Derived



Spatial Fields

- Scalar Fields (one value per cell)
 - Isocontours
 - Direct Volume Rendering



Vector and Tensor Fields (many values per cell)

- Flow Glyphs (local)
- Geometric (sparse seeds)
- Textures (dense seeds)
- Features (globally derived)



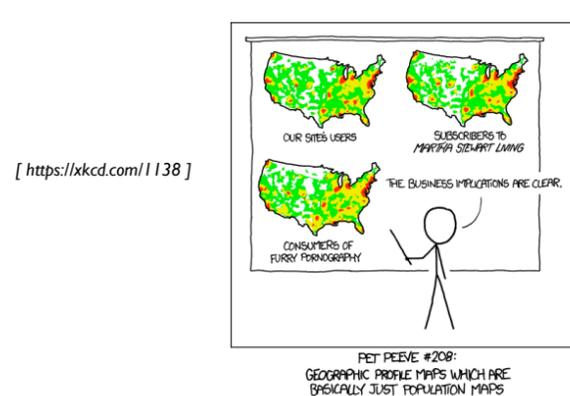
Idiom: choropleth map

- use given spatial data
 - when central task is understanding spatial relationships
- data
 - geographic geometry
 - table with 1 quant attribute per region
- encoding
 - use given geometry for area mark boundaries
 - sequential segmented colormap [more later]



<http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/1406060>

Beware: Population maps trickiness!



[<https://xkcd.com/1138>]

Idiom: topographic map

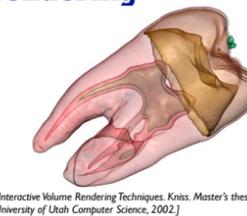
- data
 - geographic geometry
 - scalar spatial field
 - 1 quant attribute per grid cell
- derived data
 - isoline geometry
 - isocontours computed for specific levels of scalar values



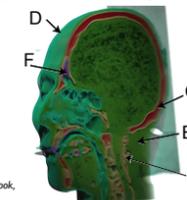
Land Information New Zealand Data Service

Idioms: isosurfaces, direct volume rendering

- data
 - scalar spatial field
 - 1 quant attribute per grid cell
- task
 - shape understanding, spatial relationships
- isosurface
 - derived data: isocontours computed for specific levels of scalar values
- direct volume rendering
 - transfer function maps scalar values to color, opacity
 - no derived geometry



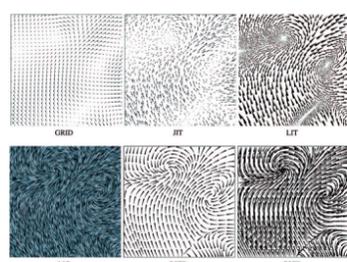
[Interactive Volume Rendering Techniques. Kniss. Master's thesis, University of Utah Computer Science, 2002.]



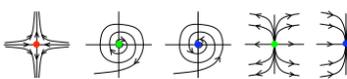
[Multidimensional Transfer Functions for Volume Rendering. Kniss, Kindlmann, and Hansen. In The Visualization Handbook, edited by Charles Hansen and Christopher Johnson, pp. 189-210. Elsevier, 2005.]

Vector and tensor fields

- data
 - many attrs per cell
- idiom families
 - flow glyphs
 - purely local
 - geometric flow
 - derived data from tracing particle trajectories
 - sparse set of seed points
 - texture flow
 - derived data, dense seeds
 - feature flow
 - global computation to detect features
 - encoded with one of methods above



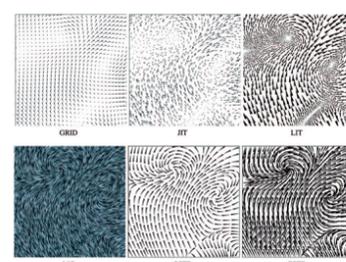
[Comparing 2D vector field visualization methods: A user study. Laidlaw et al. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics (TVCG) 11:1 (2005), 59–70.]



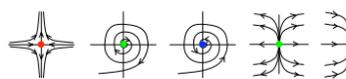
[Topology tracking for the visualization of time-dependent two-dimensional flows. Tricoche, Wischgoll, Scheuermann, and Hagen. Computers & Graphics 26:2 (2002), 249–257.]

Vector fields

- empirical study tasks
 - finding critical points, identifying their types
 - identifying what type of critical point is at a specific location
 - predicting where a particle starting at a specified point will end up (advection)



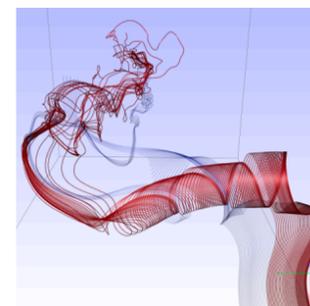
[Comparing 2D vector field visualization methods: A user study. Laidlaw et al. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics (TVCG) 11:1 (2005), 59–70.]



[Topology tracking for the visualization of time-dependent two-dimensional flows. Tricoche, Wischgoll, Scheuermann, and Hagen. Computers & Graphics 26:2 (2002), 249–257.]

Idiom: similarity-clustered streamlines

- data
 - 3D vector field
- derived data (from field)
 - streamlines: trajectory particle will follow
- derived data (per streamline)
 - curvature, torsion, tortuosity
 - signature: complex weighted combination
 - compute cluster hierarchy across all signatures
 - encode: color and opacity by cluster
- tasks
 - find features, query shape
- scalability
 - millions of samples, hundreds of streamlines



[Similarity Measures for Enhancing Interactive Streamline Seeding. McLaughlin, Jones, Laramie, Malki, Masters, and Hansen. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics 19:8 (2013), 1342–1353.]

Further reading

- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters Visualization Series, CRC Press, Oct 2014.
 - Chap 8: Arrange Spatial Data
- How Maps Work: Representation, Visualization, and Design. MacEachren. Guilford Press, 1995.
- Overview of visualization. Schroeder and. Martin. In The Visualization Handbook, edited by Charles Hansen and Christopher Johnson, pp. 3–39. Elsevier, 2005.
- Real-Time Volume Graphics. Engel, Hadwiger, Kniss, Reza-Salama, and Weiskopf. AK Peters, 2006.
- Overview of flow visualization. Weiskopf and Erlebacher. In The Visualization Handbook, edited by Charles Hansen and Christopher Johnson, pp. 261–278. Elsevier, 2005.

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 - Arrange Spatial Data
 - **Arrange Networks and Trees**
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 - Map Color and Other Channels
 - Manipulate: Change, Select, Navigate
 - Facet: Juxtapose, Partition, Superimpose
 - Reduce: Filter, Aggregate
 - Embed: Focus+Context

<http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks.html#halfdaycourse15>

@tamaramunzner

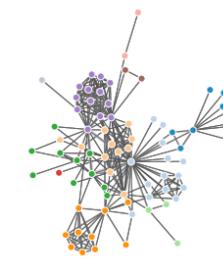
Arrange networks and trees

- Node-Link Diagrams
 - Connection Marks
 - ✓ NETWORKS ✓ TREES
- Adjacency Matrix
 - Derived Table
 - ✓ NETWORKS ✓ TREES
- Enclosure
 - Containment Marks
 - ✗ NETWORKS ✓ TREES

<http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks.html#halfdaycourse15>

Idiom: force-directed placement

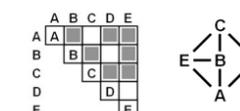
- visual encoding
 - link connection marks, node point marks
- considerations
 - spatial position: no meaning directly encoded
 - left free to minimize crossings
 - proximity semantics?
 - sometimes meaningful
 - sometimes arbitrary, artifact of layout algorithm
 - tension with length
 - long edges more visually salient than short
- tasks
 - explore topology; locate paths, clusters
- scalability
 - node/edge density $E < 4N$



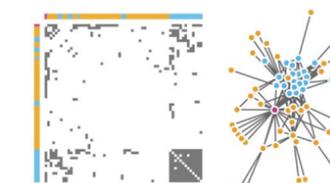
<http://mbostock.github.com/d3/lex/force.html>

Idiom: adjacency matrix view

- data: network
 - transform into same data/encoding as heatmap
- derived data: table from network
 - 1 quant attrib
 - weighted edge between nodes
 - 2 categ attrs: node list x 2
- visual encoding
 - cell shows presence/absence of edge
- scalability
 - 1K nodes, 1M edges



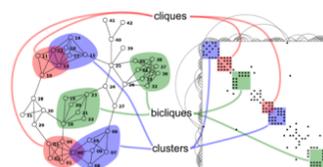
[NodeTrix: A Hybrid Visualization of Social Networks. Henry, Fekete, and McGuffin. IEEE TVCG (Proc. InfoVis) 13(6):1302-1309, 2007.]



[Points of view: Networks. Gehlenborg and Wang. Nature Methods 9:115.]

Connection vs. adjacency comparison

- adjacency matrix strengths
 - predictability, scalability, supports reordering
 - some topology tasks trainable
- node-link diagram strengths
 - topology understanding, path tracing
 - intuitive, no training needed
- empirical study
 - node-link best for small networks
 - matrix best for large networks
 - if tasks don't involve topological structure!



<http://www.michaelmcguffin.com/courses/vis/patternsInAdjacencyMatrix.png>

[On the readability of graphs using node-link and matrix-based representations: a controlled experiment and statistical analysis. Ghoniem, Fekete, and Castagliola. Information Visualization 4:2 (2005), 114–135.]

Idiom: radial node-link tree

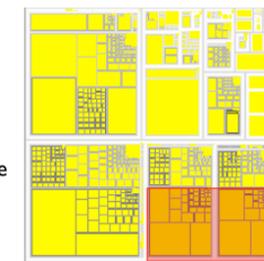
- data
 - tree
- encoding
 - link connection marks
 - point node marks
 - radial axis orientation
 - angular proximity: siblings
 - distance from center: depth in tree
- tasks
 - understanding topology, following paths
- scalability
 - 1K - 10K nodes



<http://mbostock.github.com/d3/lex/tree.html>

Idiom: treemap

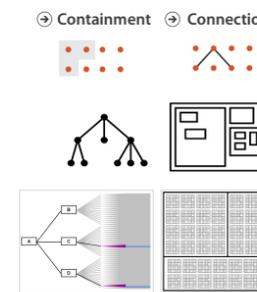
- data
 - tree
 - 1 quant attrib at leaf nodes
- encoding
 - area containment marks for hierarchical structure
 - rectilinear orientation
 - size encodes quant attrib
- tasks
 - query attribute at leaf nodes
- scalability
 - 1M leaf nodes



http://tulip.libri.fi/Documentation/3_7/userHandbook.html#ch06.html

Link marks: Connection and containment

- marks as links (vs. nodes)
 - common case in network drawing
 - 1D case: connection
 - ex: all node-link diagrams
 - emphasizes topology, path tracing
 - networks and trees
 - 2D case: containment
 - ex: all treemap variants
 - emphasizes attribute values at leaves (size coding)
 - only trees



[Elastic Hierarchies: Combining Treemaps and Node-Link Diagrams. Dong, McGuffin, and Chignell. Proc. InfoVis 2005, p. 57-64.]

Further reading

- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters Visualization Series, CRC Press, Nov 2014.
 - Chap 9: Arrange Networks and Trees
- Visual Analysis of Large Graphs: State-of-the-Art and Future Research Challenges. von Landesberger et al. Computer Graphics Forum 30:6 (2011), 1719–1749.
- Simple Algorithms for Network Visualization: A Tutorial. McGuffin. Tsinghua Science and Technology (Special Issue on Visualization and Computer Graphics) 17:4 (2012), 383–398.
- Drawing on Physical Analogies. Brandes. In Drawing Graphs: Methods and Models, LNCS Tutorial, 2025, edited by M. Kaufmann and D. Wagner, LNCS Tutorial, 2025, pp. 71–86. Springer-Verlag, 2001.
- <http://www.treevis.net> Treevis.net: A Tree Visualization Reference. Schulz. IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications 31:6 (2011), 11–15.
- Perceptual Guidelines for Creating Rectangular Treemaps. Kong, Heer, and Agrawala. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis) 16:6 (2010), 990–998.

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<http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks.html#halfdaycourse15>

@tamaramunzner

Idiom design choices: First half

Encode

- Arrange
 - Express
 - Order
 - Use
- Map
 - from categorical and ordered attributes
 - Color
 - Hue → Saturation → Luminance
 - Size, Angle, Curvature, ...
 - Shape
 - Motion
 - Direction, Rate, Frequency, ...

Color: Luminance, saturation, hue

- 3 channels
 - identity for categorical
 - hue
 - magnitude for ordered
 - luminance
 - saturation
 - RGB: poor for encoding
 - HSL: better, but beware
 - lightness ≠ luminance
-

Colormaps

→ Categorical
 → Ordered
 → Sequential
 → Diverging

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

Colormaps

→ Categorical
 → Ordered
 → Sequential
 → Diverging
 → Bivariate

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

Colormaps

→ Categorical
 → Ordered
 → Sequential
 → Diverging
 → Bivariate

use with care!

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

Colormaps

→ Categorical
 → Ordered
 → Sequential
 → Diverging
 → Bivariate

color channel interactions

- size heavily affects salience
 - small regions need high saturation
 - large need low saturation
- saturation & luminance: 3-4 bins max
 - also not separable from transparency

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

Categorical color: Discriminability constraints

- noncontiguous small regions of color: only 6-12 bins

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

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/whydcolor.html>]

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

Ordered color: Rainbow is poor default

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

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Ordered color: Rainbow is poor default

- problems
 - perceptually unordered
 - perceptually nonlinear
- benefits
 - fine-grained structure visible and nameable
- alternatives
 - large-scale structure: fewer hues
 - fine structure: multiple hues with monotonically increasing luminance [eg viridis]

[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/whydcolor.html>]

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Ordered color: Rainbow is poor default

- problems
 - perceptually unordered
 - perceptually nonlinear
- benefits
 - fine-grained structure visible and nameable
- alternatives
 - large-scale structure: fewer hues
 - multiple hues with monotonically increasing luminance for fine-grained [eg viridis]
 - 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/whydcolor.html>]

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

Map other channels

- size
 - length accurate, 2D area ok, 3D volume poor
- angle
 - nonlinear accuracy
 - horizontal, vertical, exact diagonal
- shape
 - complex combination of lower-level primitives
 - many bins
- motion
 - highly separable against static
 - binary: great for highlighting
 - use with care to avoid irritation

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.
- <http://www.r-bloggers.com/using-the-new-viridis-colormap-in-r-thanks-to-simon-garnier/>

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<http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks.html#halfdaycourse15> @tamaramunzner

How?

Encode

- Arrange
 - Express
 - Order
 - 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

How to handle complexity: 1 previous strategy + 3 more

Derive

Manipulate

- Change
- Select
- Navigate

Facet

- Juxtapose
- Partition
- Superimpose

Reduce

- Filter
- Aggregate
- Embed

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

Manipulate

- Change over Time
- Select
- Navigate
 - Item Reduction
 - Pan/Translate
 - Constrained
- Attribute Reduction
 - Slice
 - Cut
 - Project

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

Idiom: Re-encode System: Tableau

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

Idiom: **Reorder** System: **LineUp**

- data: tables with many attributes
- task: compare rankings

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

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. Gratz, 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
 - scope of what is shown narrows down
 - middle block stretches to fill space, additional structure appears within
 - other blocks squish down to increasingly aggregated representations

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

Select and highlight

- selection: basic operation for most interaction
 - design choices
 - how many selection types?
 - click vs hover: heavyweight, lightweight
 - primary vs secondary: semantics (eg source/target)
 - highlight: change visual encoding for selection targets
 - color
 - limitation: existing color coding hidden
 - other channels (eg motion)
 - add explicit connection marks between items

Navigate: Changing item visibility

- change viewpoint
 - changes which items are visible within view
 - camera metaphor
 - zoom
 - geometric zoom: familiar semantics
 - semantic zoom: adapt object representation based on available pixels
 - dramatic change, or more subtle one
 - pan/translate
 - rotate
 - especially in 3D
 - constrained navigation
 - often with animated transitions
 - often based on selection set

Idiom: **Semantic zooming** System: **LiveRAC**

- visual encoding change
 - colored box
 - sparkline
 - simple line chart
 - full chart: axes and tickmarks

[LiveRAC - Interactive Visual Exploration of System Management Time-Series Data. McLachlan, Munzner, Koutsofios, and North. Proc. ACM Conf. Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), pp. 1483–1492, 2008.]

Navigate: Reducing attributes

- continuation of camera metaphor
 - slice
 - show only items matching specific value for given attribute: slicing plane
 - axis aligned, or arbitrary alignment
 - cut
 - show only items on far side of plane from camera
 - project
 - change mathematics of image creation
 - orthographic
 - perspective
 - many others: Mercator, cabinet, ...

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.

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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

[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

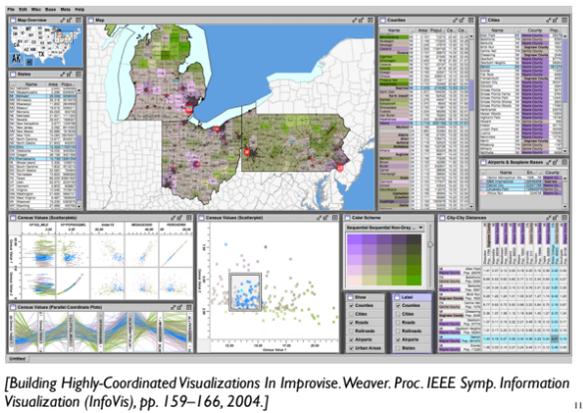
- why juxtapose views?
 - benefits: eyes vs memory
 - lower cognitive load to move eyes between 2 views than remembering previous state with single changing view
 - costs: display area, 2 views side by side each have only half the area of one view

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

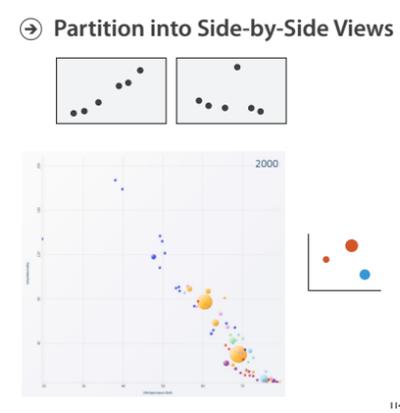
System: **Improvise**

- 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



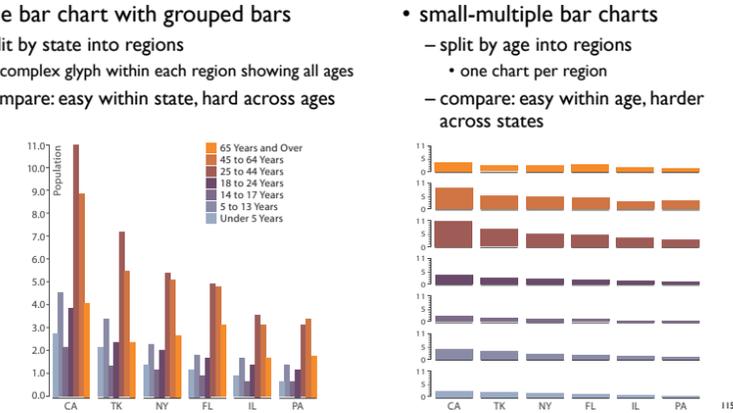
Partition into views

- how to divide data between 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



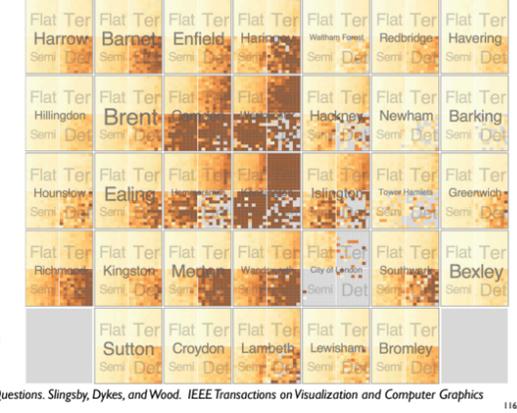
Partitioning: List alignment

- 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

- split by neighborhood
- then by type
 - 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**

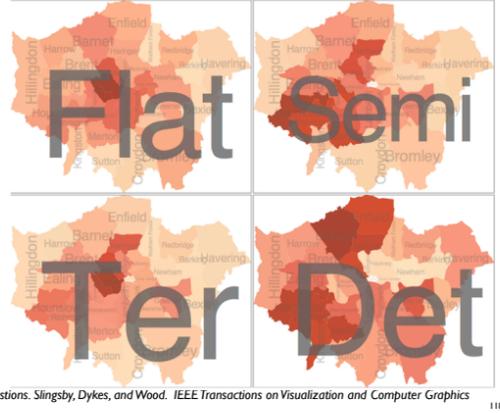
- switch order of splits
 - type then neighborhood
- switch color
 - by price variation
- type patterns
 - within specific type, which neighborhoods inconsistent



Partitioning: Recursive subdivision

System: **HIVE**

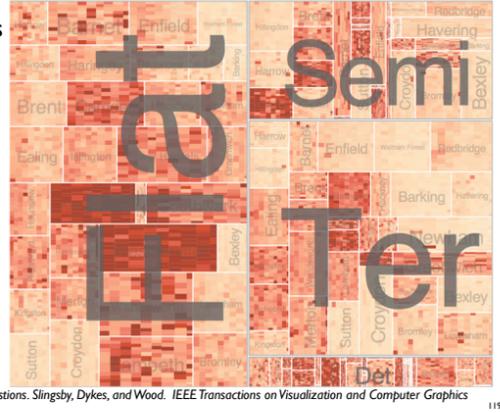
- different encoding for second-level regions
 - choropleth maps



Partitioning: Recursive subdivision

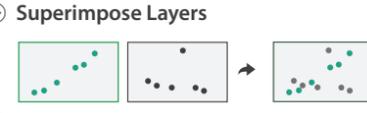
System: **HIVE**

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



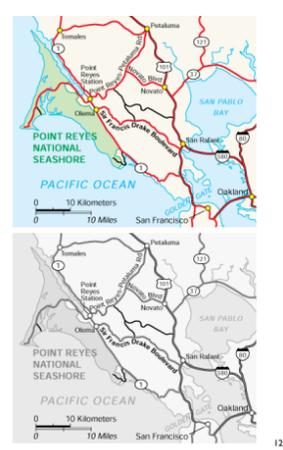
Superimpose layers

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



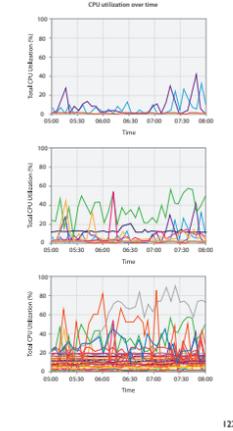
Static visual layering

- 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



Superimposing limits

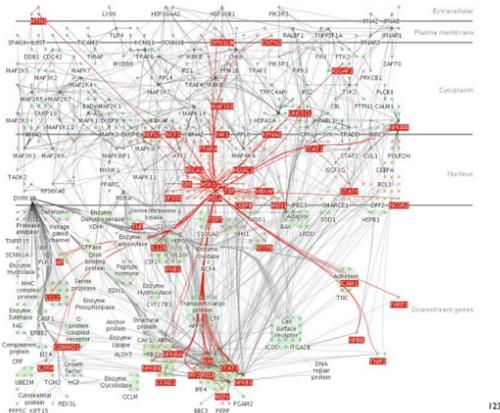
- few layers, but many lines
 - up to a few dozen
 - but not hundreds
- superimpose vs juxtapose: empirical study
 - superimposed for local, multiple for global
 - tasks
 - local: maximum, global: slope, discrimination
 - same screen space for all multiples vs single superimposed



Dynamic visual layering

System: **Cerebral**

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



Further reading

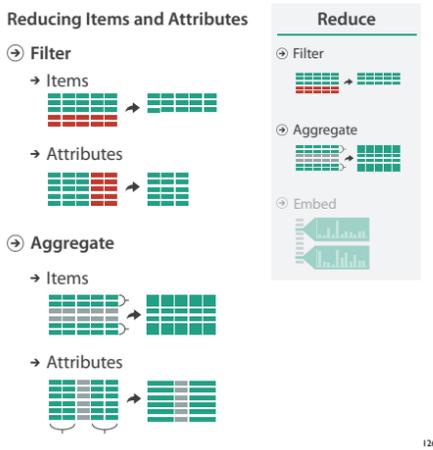
- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters Visualization Series, CRC Press, Nov 2014.
 - Chap. 12: Facet Into Multiple Views
- A Review of Overview+Detail, Zooming, and Focus+Context Interfaces. Cockburn, Karlson, and Bederson. ACM Computing Surveys 41:1 (2008), 1–31.
- A Guide to Visual 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 Elmquist. 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. Willis. 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, Kehr, Chung, Maguire, Laramee, Hauser, Ward, and Chen. In Eurographics State of the Art Reports, pp. 39–63, 2013.

Outline

- Session 1 2:00-3:40pm**
 - Analysis: What, Why, How
 - Marks and Channels
 - Arrange Tables
 - Arrange Spatial Data
 - Arrange Networks and Trees
 - Session 2 4:15pm-5:50pm**
 - Map Color and Other Channels
 - Manipulate: Change, Select, Navigate
 - Facet: Juxtapose, Partition, Superimpose
 - Reduce: Filter, Aggregate**
 - Embed: Focus+Context
- <http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks.html#halfdaycourse15> @tamaramunzner
- 125

Reduce items and attributes

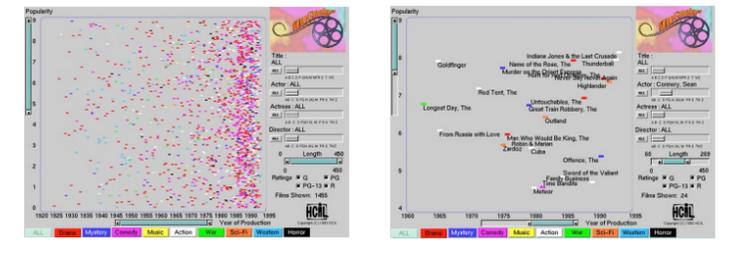
- reduce/increase: inverses
- filter
 - pro: straightforward and intuitive
 - to understand and compute
 - con: out of sight, out of mind
- aggregation
 - pro: inform about whole set
 - con: difficult to avoid losing signal
- not mutually exclusive
 - combine filter, aggregate
 - combine reduce, change,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



Idiom: dynamic filtering

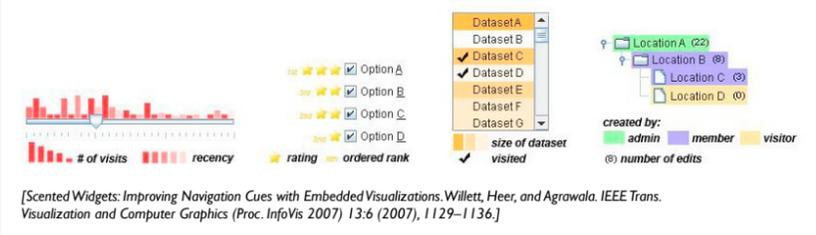
System: **FilmFinder**

- item filtering
- browse through tightly coupled interaction
 - alternative to queries that might return far too many or too few



Idiom: scented widgets

- augment widgets for filtering to show **information scent**
 - cues to show whether value in drilling down further vs looking elsewhere
- concise, in part of screen normally considered control panel



Idiom: DOSFA

- attribute filtering
- encoding: star glyphs

[Interactive Hierarchical Dimension Ordering, Spacing and Filtering for Exploration Of High Dimensional Datasets. Yang, Peng, Ward, and Rundensteiner. Proc. IEEE Symp. Information Visualization (InfoVis), pp. 105–112, 2003.]

Idiom: histogram

- static item aggregation
- task: find distribution
- data: table
- derived data
 - new table: keys are bins, values are counts
- bin size crucial
 - 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

data: 9D measured space → DR → derived data: 2D target space

Idiom: Dimensionality reduction for documents

Task 1: In HD data → Out 2D data. What? In High-dimensional data. Why? Produce, Derive.

Task 2: In 2D data → Out Scatterplot Clusters & points. What? In 2D data, Out Scatterplot. Why? Discover, Explore, Identify. How? Encode, Navigate, Select.

Task 3: In Scatterplot Clusters & points → Out Labels for clusters. What? In Scatterplot, In Clusters & points, Out Labels for clusters. Why? Produce, Annotate.

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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<http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks.html#halfdaycourse15> @tamaramunzner

Embed: Focus+Context

- combine information within single view
- elide
 - selectively filter and aggregate
- superimpose layer
 - local lens
- distortion design choices
 - region shape: radial, rectilinear, complex
 - how many regions: one, many
 - region extent: local, global
 - interaction metaphor

Idiom: DOITrees Revisited

- elide
 - some items dynamically filtered out
 - some items dynamically aggregated together
 - some items shown in detail

[DOITrees Revisited: Scalable, Space-Constrained Visualization of Hierarchical Data. Heer and Card. Proc. Advanced Visual Interfaces (AVI), pp. 421–424, 2004.]

Idiom: Fisheye Lens

- distort geometry
 - shape: radial
 - focus: single extent
 - extent: local
 - metaphor: draggable lens

<http://tulip.labri.fr/TulipDrupal/?q=node/251>
<http://tulip.labri.fr/TulipDrupal/?q=node/271>

Distortion costs and benefits

- benefits
 - combine focus and context information in single view
- costs
 - length comparisons impaired
 - network/tree topology comparisons unaffected: connection, containment
 - effects of distortion unclear if original structure unfamiliar
 - object constancy/tracking maybe impaired

[Living Flows: Enhanced Exploration of Edge-Bundled Graphs Based on GPU-Intensive Edge Rendering. Lambert, Auber, and Melançon. Proc. Intl. Conf. Information Visualisation (IV), pp. 523–530, 2010.]

Further reading

- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters Visualization Series, CRC Press, Nov 2014.
 - Chap 14: Embed: Focus+Context
- A Fisheye Follow-up: Further Reflection on Focus + Context. Furnas. Proc. ACM Conf. Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), pp. 999–1008, 2006.
- 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.

Sneak preview: Not covered today

- Rules of Thumb
 - No unjustified 3D
 - Power of the plane, dangers of depth
 - Occlusion hides information
 - Perspective distortion loses information
 - Tilted text isn't legible
 - No unjustified 2D
 - Resolution over immersion
 - Overview first, zoom and filter, details on demand
 - Function first, form next

More Information

- this tutorial
 - <http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks.html#halfdaycourse15>
- papers, videos, software, talks, full courses
 - <http://www.cs.ubc.ca/group/infovis>
 - <http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm>
- book
 - <http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/vadbook>
- acknowledgements
 - illustrations: Eamonn Maguire

Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. A K Peters Visualization Series, CRC Press, Visualization Series, 2014.

@tamaramunzner

Visualization Analysis & Design. Tamara Munzner. CRC Press, Visualization Series, 2014.