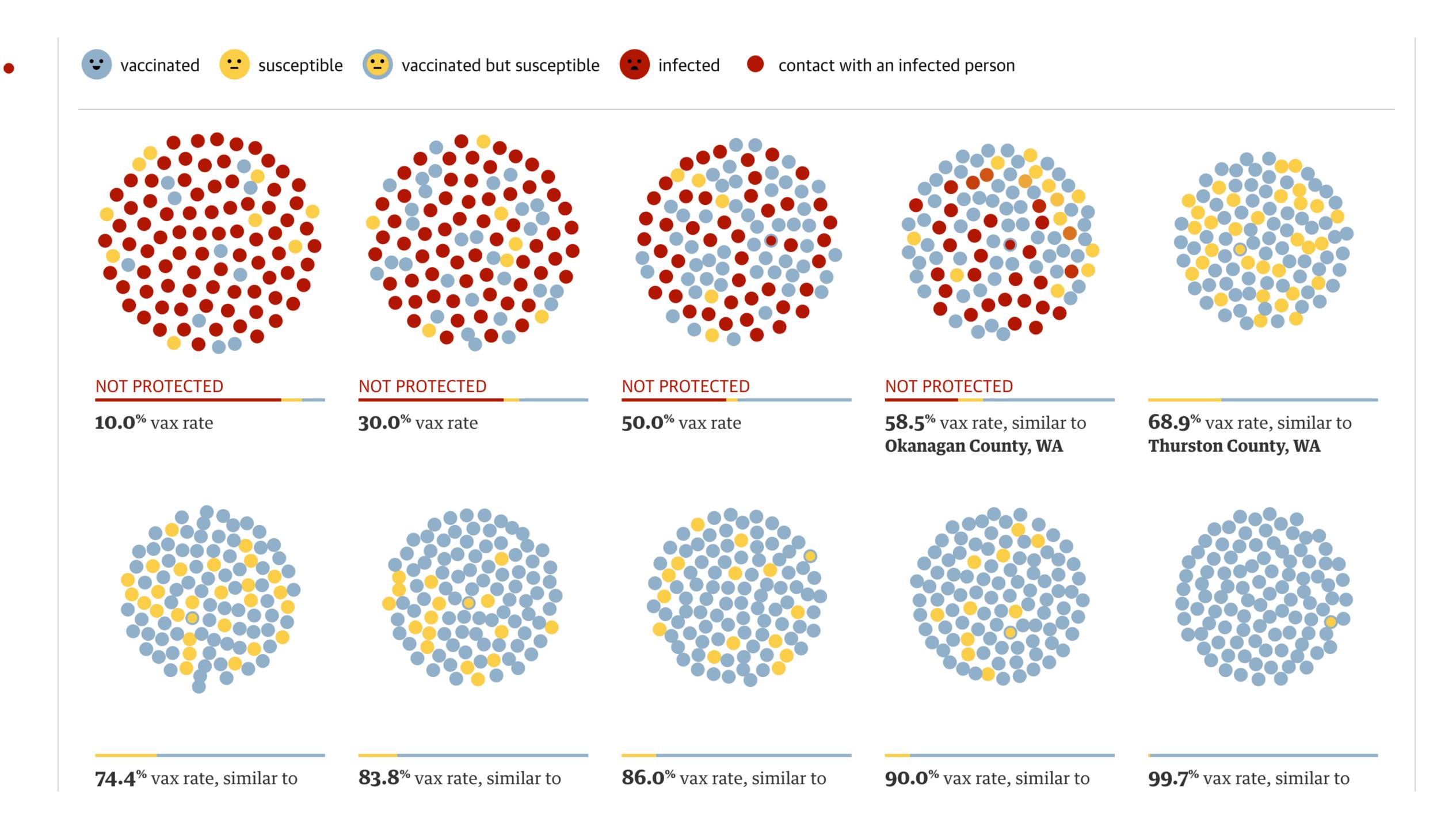
Data Visualization & Design

This week in visualization...



- 1. VR Demo (Google Cardboard)
- 2. VR Design Considerations
- 3. Check-in: Final Project Narratives
- 4. Studio: Introduction to VR with D3.js and A-Frame

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Designing for a new dimension is hard.

In virtual reality, best practices are informed by **physiological considerations**, along with human perception and cognition.

1. Avoiding simulator sickness

Mismatches between physical and visual motion cues can give rise to nausea.

2. Familiarity

Because a virtual reality canvas is infinite, it is important to provide the user with cues for focus and attention as they explore a new environment.

Can VR be useful for visualization?

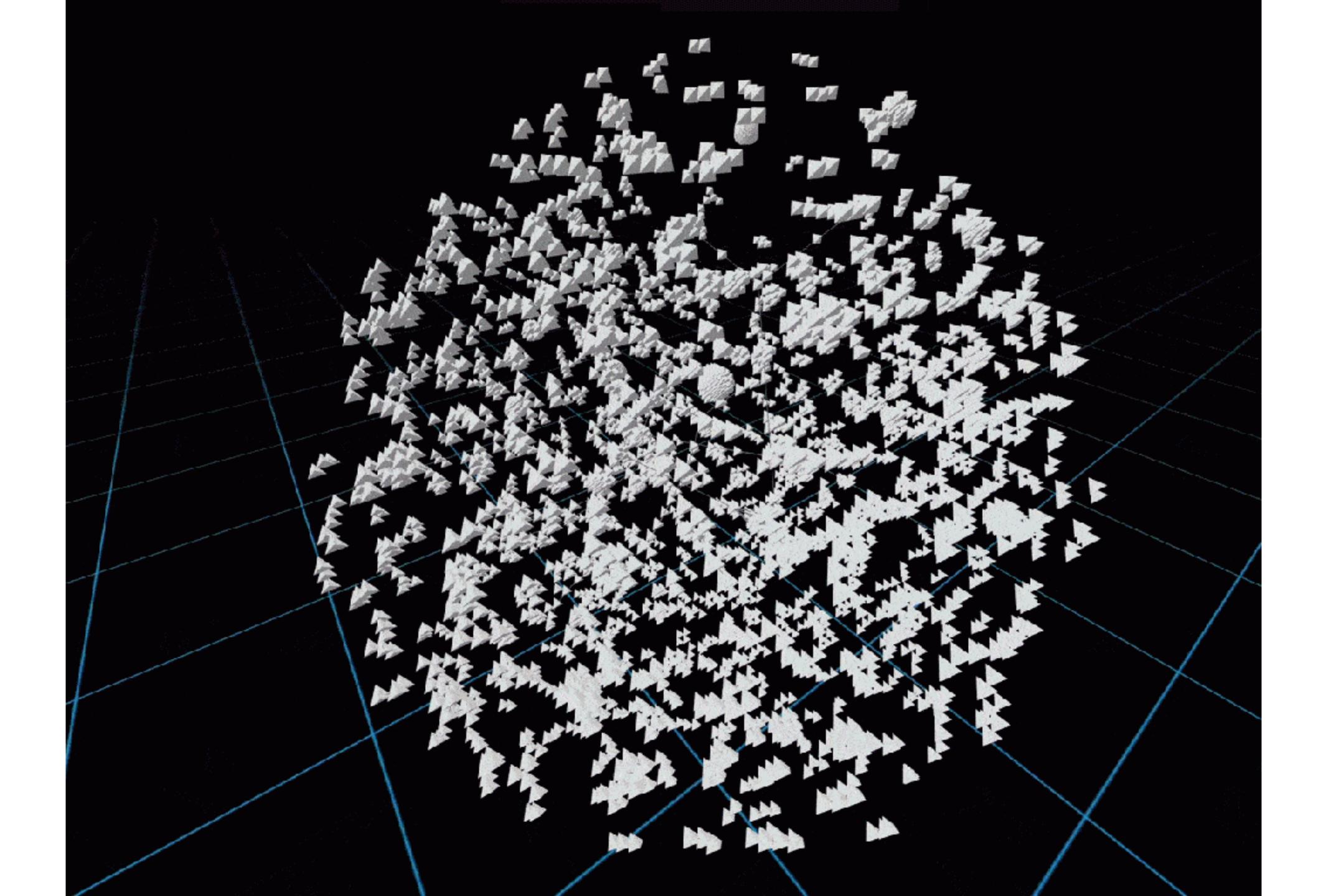
"I have **never seen a single example** [of VR-enabled visualization] that adds value and therefore makes sense."

- Stephen Few

Point: Virtual reality can help our brains better explore, process, and digest high-dimensional data.

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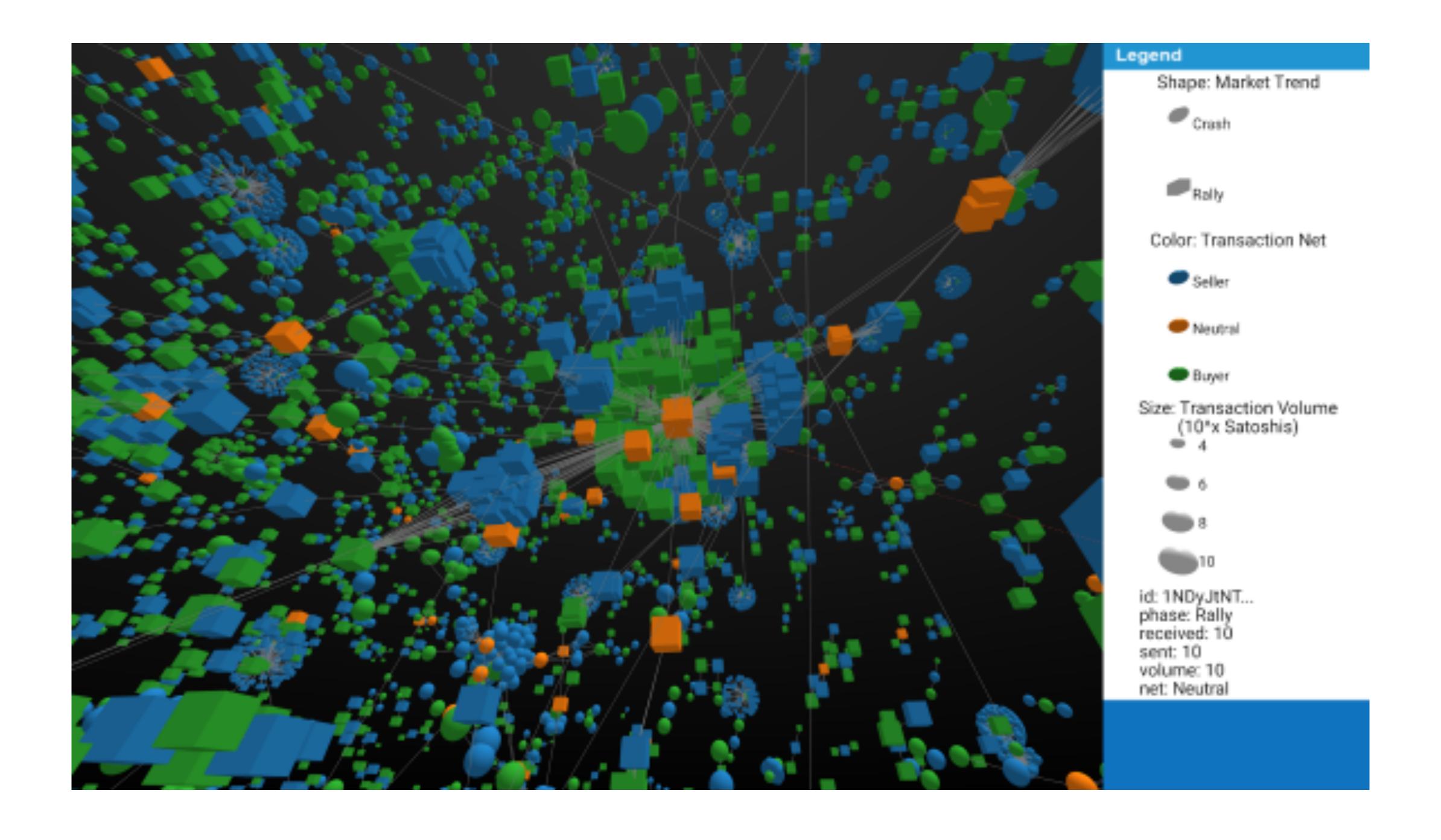
Counterpoint: VR *only* adds one more dimension: <u>depth</u>.



Point: Spatial perception in the human brain can be better leveraged to make sense of data.

Point: Spatial perception in the human brain can be better leveraged to make sense of data.

Counterpoint: The spatial features of VR apps do not need a VR headset to be experienced.



Point: By pushing the boundaries of visualization technology, VR can help us make sense of otherwise inaccessible datasets.

Point: By pushing the boundaries of visualization technology, VR can help us make sense of otherwise inaccessible datasets.

Counterpoint: We still lose the forest for the trees, and vice versa.

Many of the claims surrounding the value of VR in visualization are **untested**.

Nonetheless, some of them are worth exploring further...

VR's Potential Value in Visualization

- "Natural" interactions with data. When the visualization field is contiguous with our perceptual field, it may invite deeper exploration.
- Eliminates distractions. The immersive nature of a VR headset draws the user's focus to the data alone.
- Allows for more space. While this could lead to more visual clutter, VR offers a 360° canvas for information design.

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- 1. What **key insight** is driving your final project?
- 2. What *narrative* are you constructing around that insight?

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https://github.com/emilyfuhrman/datavis_design/blob/master/2019_Spring/Studios/08_Introduction_to_VR_with_D3_and_A-Frame.md