

Readings week 6
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Exercise:

Relating the three chosen concepts: 'Overview & Detail', 'Focus & Concept' and 'Filtering', mentioned in Lecture 9 – Interaction, to the taxonomy concepts represented in Heer and Shneiderman's Table 1.

Overview & Detail

In the lecture, one of the interaction concepts mentioned is 'Overview & Detail'. Using the concept of 'Overview & Detail', a visualization can contain both an image of the overview of the data shown and detailed version of part of the data. One way to represent this is that the detailed image is presented in full screen, and the overview of all of the data is presented in a smaller image that overlays part of the detailed image. This is how 'Overview & Detail' is used in Google Maps for instance. The zoomed in map is represented in full screen, and a smaller overview image is represented in the low right corner. In the overview a square shows what area can be seen in the detailed form. The same goes when using for instance a mindmap, and having a detailed version of a mindmap in full screen.

The taxonomy concepts related to 'Overview & Detail' are mostly the taxonomy visualize, navigate and organize. The taxonomy of visualize is of importance for the visualization of the detailed data could be different than how the overview is presented. Then the user has to navigate through the overview to determine which part of the overview is shown in detail. The organize taxonomy relates to how the detail image and the overview image are organized on the screen. The taxonomy select might be of importance, as which part of the overview to select to obtain the detailed part.

Focus & Context

'Focus & Context' is quite alike to 'Overview & Detail', where focus is the detail part and context represents overview. Yet, I think one of the differences between the two is that context does not have to be as much overview as in 'Overview & Detail'. Additionally, with 'Overview & Detail', two different images are used, both the overview and the detailed image. With 'Focus & Context' one might use one image, but then zoom in on one part in the image, like the fisheye example in the lecture.

The taxonomy concepts relating to 'Focus & Context' are mainly the taxonomy filter, navigate and organize. Filter to sort out the data which can be focused on and sort this data in such a way that focusing on a specific part is possible. Then navigation is necessary to navigate through the whole visualization data in order to focus on part of the data and still see its context. Organize is an important taxonomy when visualizing the context so that the focus stands out properly.

Filtering

With filtering, the user actively clicks or slides the mouse along a concept to either show these concepts/data or to hide them.

With filtering, filter, sort, select and organize are important taxonomy. Filter and sort in order to choose the data that the user can actually select to either show or hide or make preferences (when the user can make a list of some sort). Select is of course the main theme when it comes to filtering data by the user. As a result, the organization of showing the data that the user filters is of importance. Maybe this is shown in a separate window, or the whole data set changes.