

# INTRODUCTION TO DATA VISUALIZATION

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Hans-Jörg Schulz



AARHUS  
UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

INTRODUCTION  
DATAVIS 2025

HANS-JÖRG SCHULZ  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR



# ABOUT YOUR LECTURER

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**Hans-Jörg Schulz**

eMail: [hjschulz@cs.au.dk](mailto:hjschulz@cs.au.dk)

Assoc. Professor @ CS Department, HCC Section  
46 yrs., married, 6yo. daughter + 2wo. son

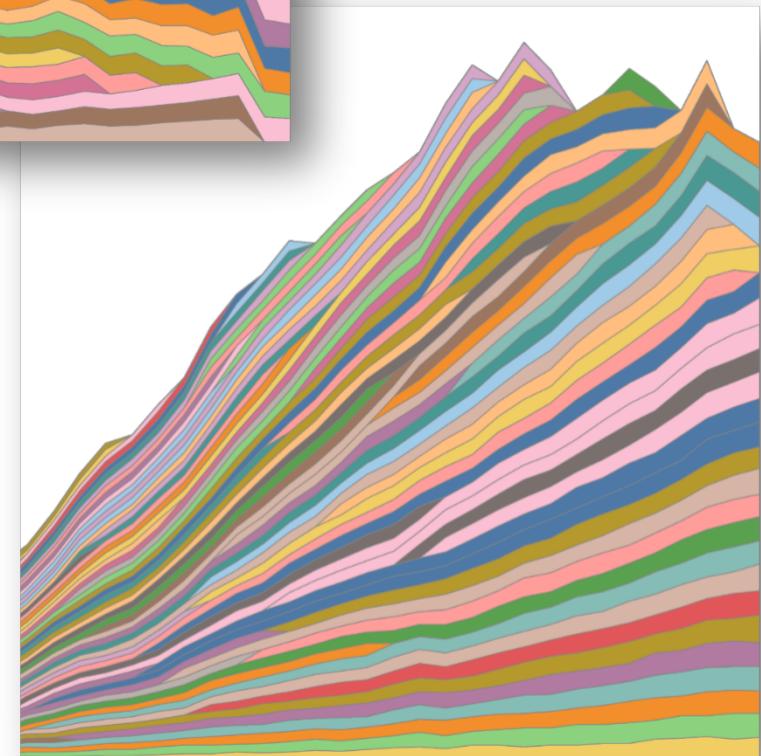
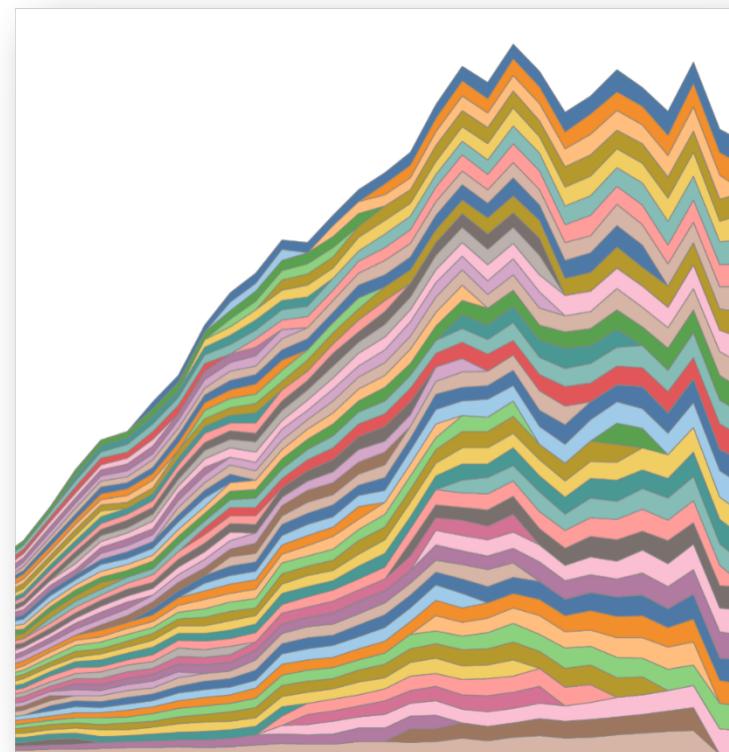
>20 years of experience in visualization gathered at

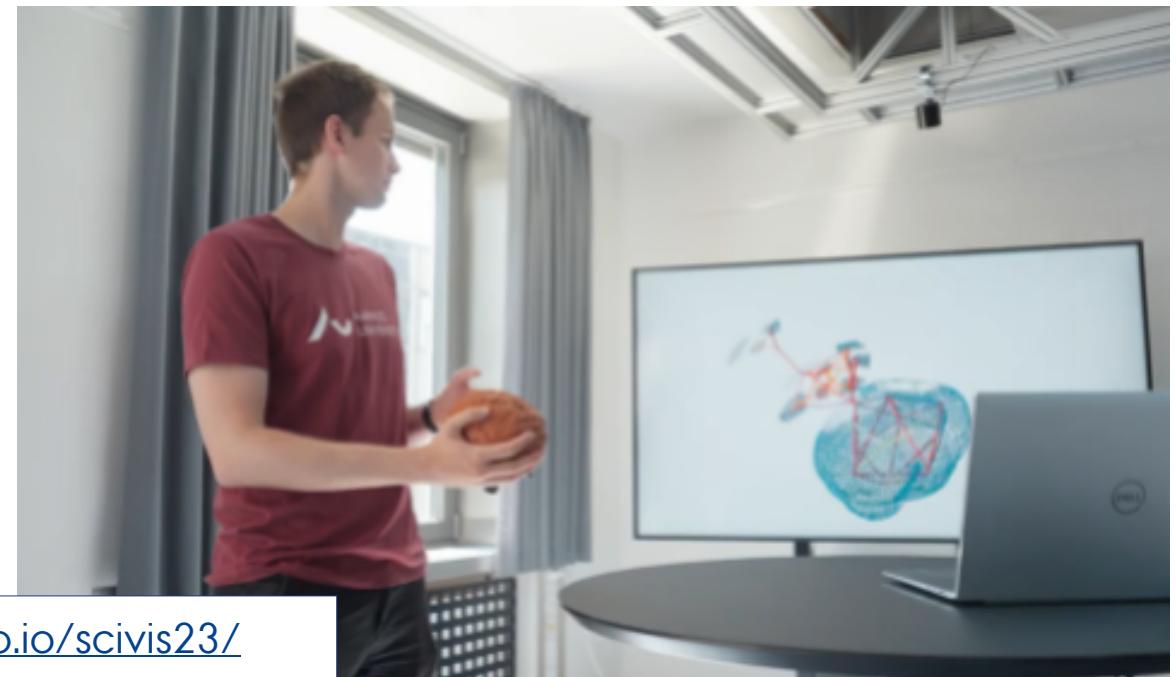
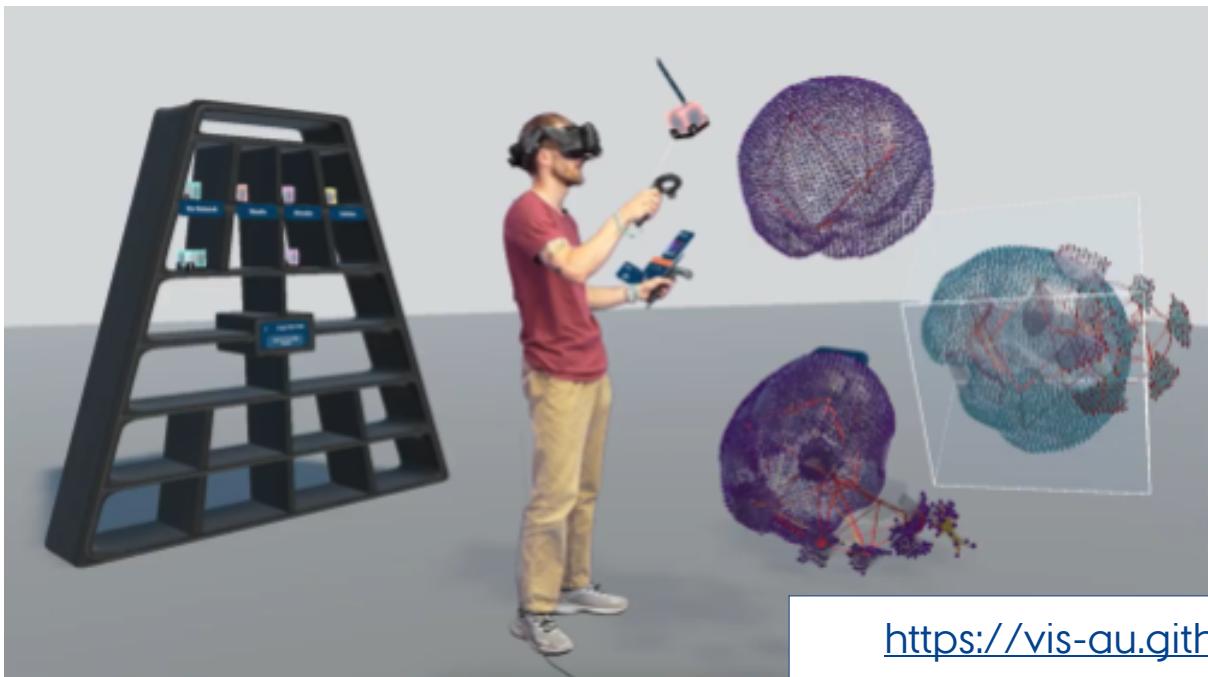
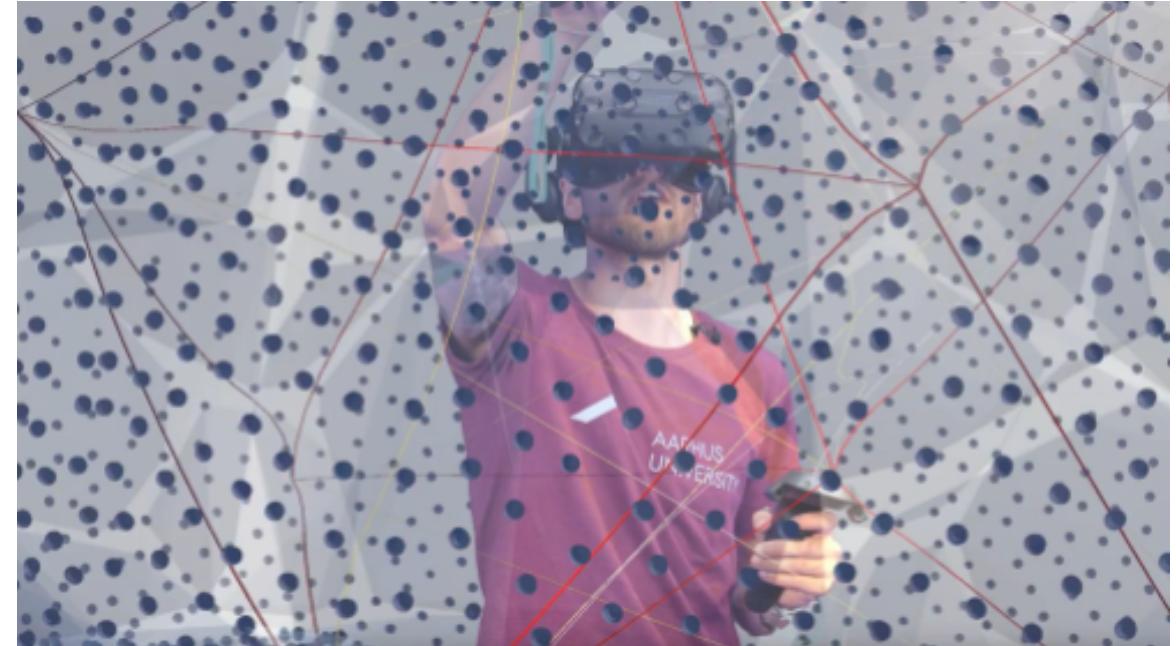
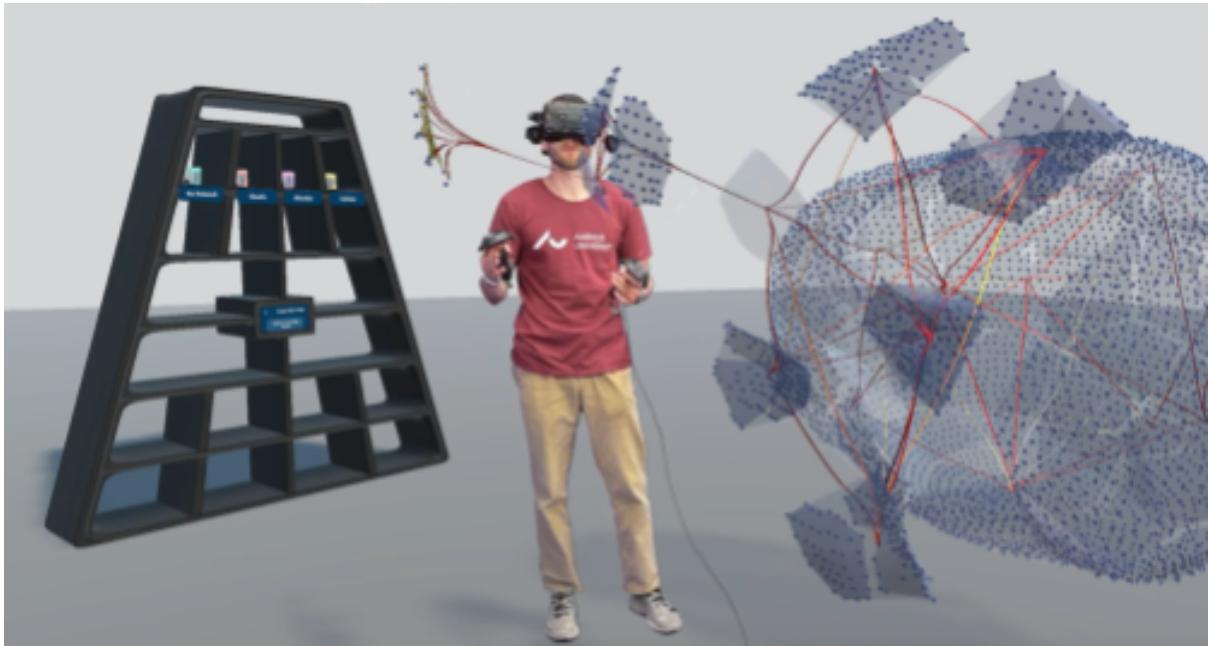
- University of Rostock, Germany
- TU Graz, Austria
- University of Calgary, Canada
- Fraunhofer IGD, Germany



## Algorithm 2 FindBestPosition

```
1: procedure FINDBESTPOSITION(order, fi)
2:   /* Preprocessing Stage */
3:   gBelow  $\leftarrow$  0
4:   gAbove  $\leftarrow$  fi
5:   costBelow, costAbove, costLayer  $\leftarrow$  []
6:   for pos = 0 to length(order) - 1 do
7:     costBelow.add(costLayer(order[pos], gBelow))
8:     costAbove.add(costLayer(order[pos], gAbove))
9:     costLayer.add(costLayer(fi, gBelow))
10:    gBelow  $\leftarrow$  gBelow + order[pos]
11:    gAbove  $\leftarrow$  gAbove + order[pos]
12:   end for
13:   costLayer.add(costLayer(fi, gBelow))
14:
15:   /* Testing Stage */
16:   currentCost  $\leftarrow$  costLayer[0] + \sum_{l=0}^{j-2} costAbove[l]
17:   bestIndex  $\leftarrow$  0, bestCost  $\leftarrow$  currentCost
18:   for pos = 1 to length(order) - 1 do
19:     currentCost  $\leftarrow$  currentCost + costBelow[pos - 1]
20:     currentCost  $\leftarrow$  currentCost - costAbove[pos - 1]
21:     currentCost  $\leftarrow$  currentCost + costLayer[pos]
22:     currentCost  $\leftarrow$  currentCost - costLayer[pos - 1]
23:     if currentCost < bestCost then
24:       bestIndex  $\leftarrow$  pos, bestCost  $\leftarrow$  currentCost
25:     end if
26:   end for
27:   return bestIndex
28: end procedure
```





<https://vis-au.github.io/scivis23/>

# MapBlender: Enabling collaborative CyberCartography



Denmark - SCALGO Live

scalgo.com/live/denmark?res=6.4&ll=10.209991%2C56.147814&ls=datafordeler\_skaermkort\_daempet%2Cdenmark%2Fdenmark%3A2583...

Zoom Point Query Profile Watershed Workspace Export Address Help User

Rain 10.0 cm  
0 mm

Analysis Depression Map Depressions Hooded areas

Aarhus

Hooded areas

Orthophoto

<https://vis-au.github.io/mapblender/>

LOAD DATA

## Input

Selected file

@M1\_f1hz.xlsx

@M2\_f1hz.xlsx

@M3\_f1hz.xlsx

## Stress Filtering

Highest Harmonic to consider

3

EXPLORE HARMONICS

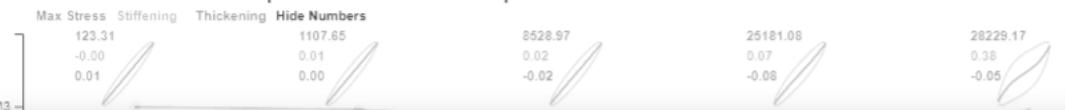
Points pr. Quarter Cycle

300

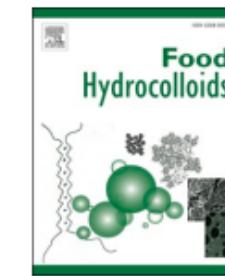
APPLY ✓



## Pipkin across Samples: Stress vs. Strain



## Centerpoint Distances: Stress vs. Strain

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

## Food Hydrocolloids

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/foodhyd](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/foodhyd)

## Small and large deformation rheology on pizza cheese as an example of application to study anisotropic properties of food soft materials

Julie Frost Dahl<sup>a,\*</sup>, Sandra Beyer Gregersen<sup>a</sup>, Ulf Andersen<sup>b</sup>, Hans-Jörg Schulz<sup>c</sup>, Milena Corredig<sup>a,\*\*</sup>

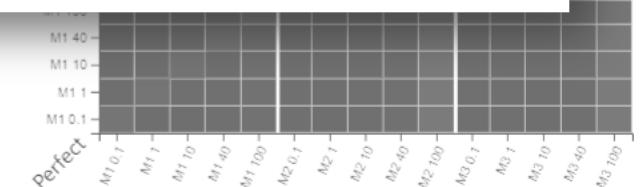
<sup>a</sup> Department of Food Science, CiFood, Center for Innovative Food, Aarhus University, 8200, Aarhus N, Denmark

<sup>b</sup> Arla Foods Amba, 8200, Aarhus N, Denmark

<sup>c</sup> Department of Computer Science, Aarhus University, 8200, Aarhus N, Denmark

EXPORT GRAPHS

EXPORT DATA





Nonlin. Processes Geophys., 22, 545–570, 2015  
www.nonlin-processes-geophys.net/22/545/2015/  
doi:10.5194/npg-22-545-2015  
© Author(s) 2015. CC Attribution 3.0 License.



Nonlinear Processes  
in Geophysics



Open Access

## Review: visual analytics of climate networks

T. Nocke<sup>1</sup>, S. Buschmann<sup>2</sup>, J. F. Donges<sup>1,3</sup>, N. Marwan<sup>1</sup>, H.-J. Schulz<sup>4</sup>, and C. Tominski<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Telegrafenberg A31, 14473 Potsdam, Germany

<sup>2</sup>Hasso Plattner Institute, Prof.-Dr.-Helmut-Str. 2–3, 14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg, Germany

<sup>3</sup>Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University, Kräftriket 2B, 114 19 Stockholm, Sweden

<sup>4</sup>Fraunhofer Institute for Computer Graphics Research, Joachim-Jungius-Str. 11, 18059 Rostock, Germany

<sup>5</sup>Institute for Computer Science, University of Rostock, Albert-Einstein-Str. 22, 18059 Rostock, Germany

Correspondence to: T. Nocke (nocke@pik-potsdam.de)

Received: 1 April 2015 – Published in Nonlin. Processes Geophys. Discuss.: 30 April 2015

Revised: 12 August 2015 – Accepted: 19 August 2015 – Published: 23 September 2015

**Abstract.** Network analysis has become an important approach in studying complex spatiotemporal behaviour within geophysical observation and simulation data. This new field produces increasing numbers of large geo-referenced networks to be analysed. Particular focus lies currently on the network analysis of the complex statistical interrelationship structure within climatological fields. The standard procedure for such network analyses is the extraction of network measures in combination with static standard visualisation methods. Existing interactive visualisation methods and tools for geo-referenced network exploration are often either not

amples from global, regional, and multi-layered climate networks.

### 1 Introduction

Data visualisation created within scientific contexts aims at the provision of meaningful visual representations that support the exchange of working results and provide scientists with appropriate tools to reveal relations and hidden patterns





# Towards a Contextualized Visual Analysis of Heterogeneous Manufacturing Data

Mario Aehnelt<sup>1</sup>, Hans-Jörg Schulz<sup>2</sup>, and Bodo Urban<sup>1</sup>

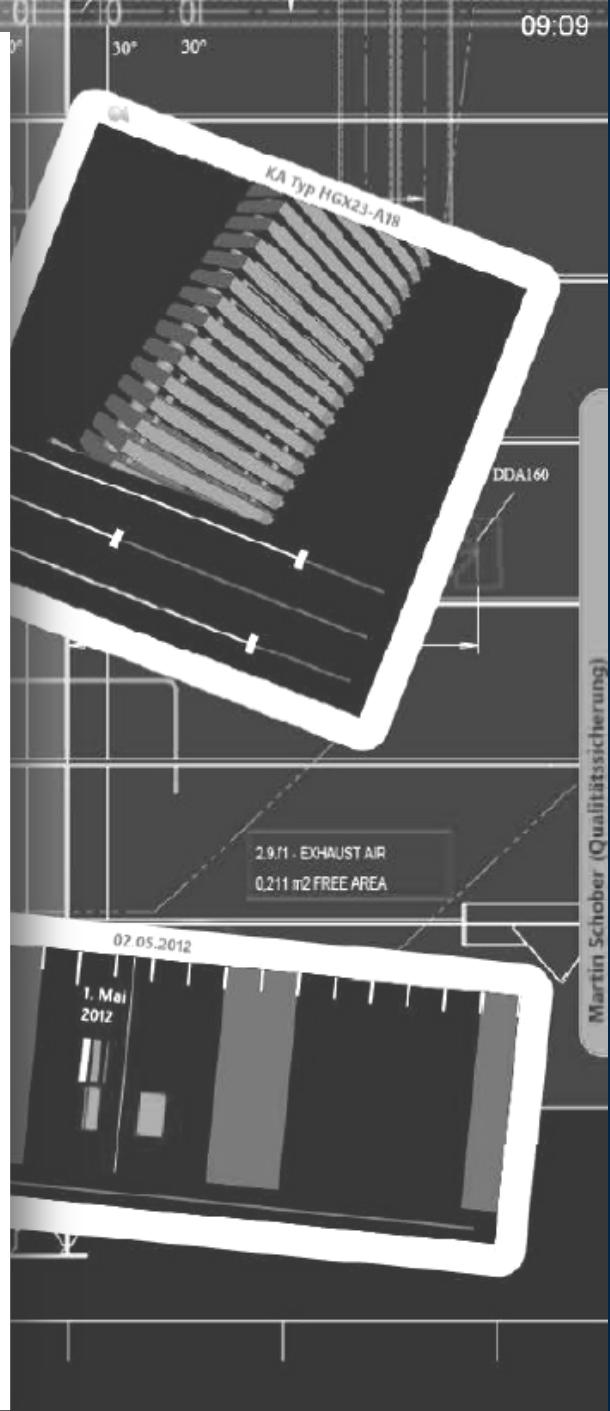
<sup>1</sup> Fraunhofer IGD Rostock, Germany

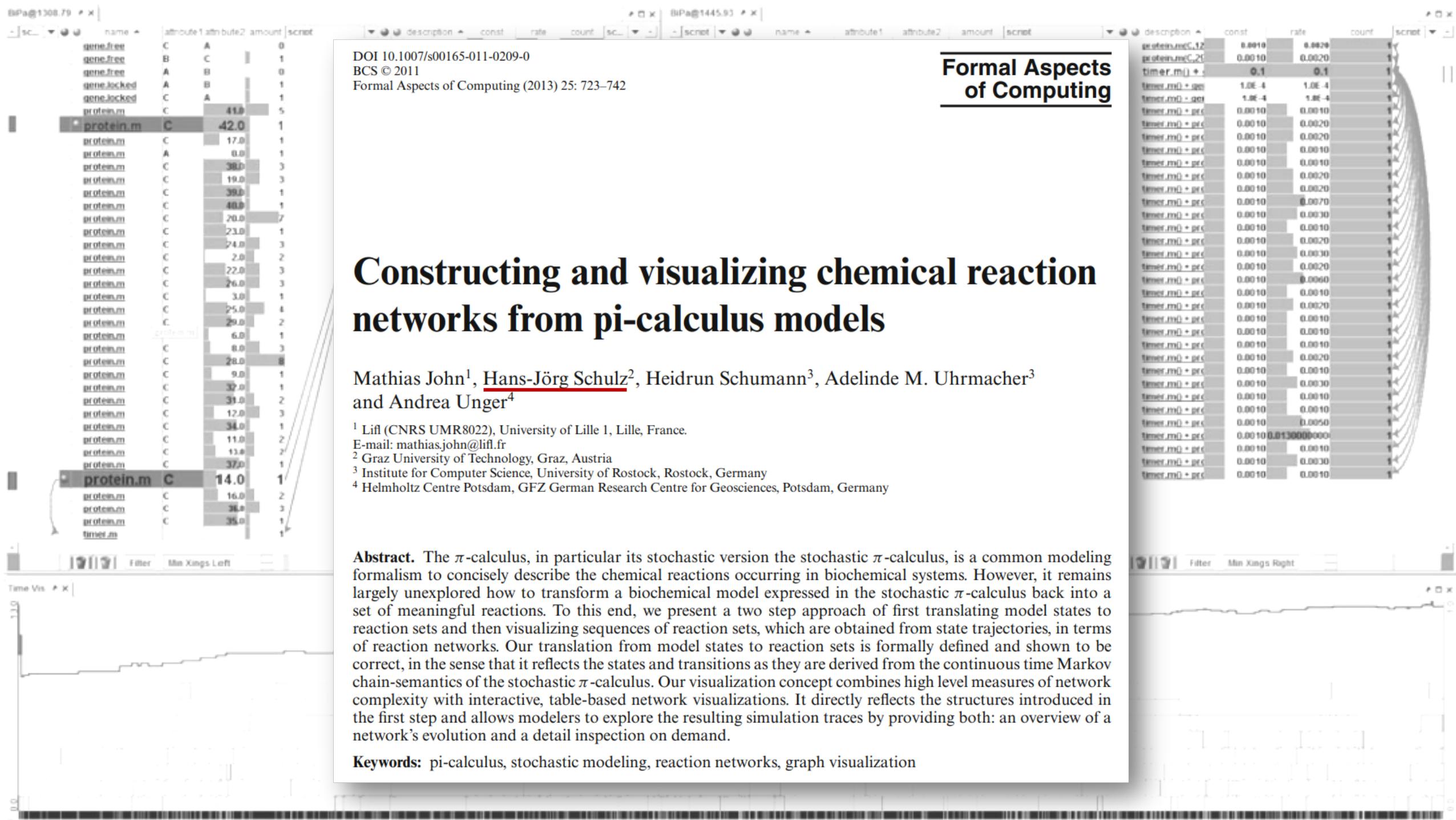
{mario.aehnelt,bodo.urban}@igd-r.fraunhofer.de

<sup>2</sup> University of Rostock, Germany

hjschulz@informatik.uni-rostock.de

**Abstract.** Visual analysis spanning multiple data sources usually requires the integration of multiple specialized applications to handle their heterogeneity. This is also true in manufacturing, where data about orders, personnel, workloads, maintenance, etc. must be analyzed together to make well-founded management decisions. Yet, the orchestration of multiple data sources and applications poses challenges to the software infrastructure and to the analyst. We present a three-tiered approach to cope with these challenges. In a first step, we establish a domain-dependent workflow as the mental model of the analyst. Based on the novel concept of contextualization, we then align the different applications with this model for their meaningful integration. In a third step, we incorporate the data according to its use in the aligned applications by means of a service-based architecture. By starting the integration on the user level, we are able to pragmatically target and streamline the required integration to a degree that is technically achievable and interactively manageable. We exemplify our approach with the Plant@Hand system for integrating manufacturing data and applications.





DOI: 10.1111/j.1467-8659.2012.03110.x

Eurographics Conference on Visualization (EuroVis) 2012  
S. Bruckner, S. Miksch, and H. Pfister  
(Guest Editors)

Volume 31 (2012), Number 3

# StratomeX: Visual Analysis of Large-Scale Heterogeneous Genomics Data for Cancer Subtype Characterization

A. Lex<sup>1</sup>, M. Streit<sup>2</sup>, H.-J. Schulz<sup>3</sup>, C. Partl<sup>1</sup>, D. Schmalstieg<sup>1</sup>, P.J. Park<sup>4</sup> and N. Gehlenborg<sup>4,5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Graz University of Technology, Graz, Austria

<sup>2</sup> Johannes Kepler University Linz, Linz, Austria

<sup>3</sup> University of Rostock, Rostock, Germany

<sup>4</sup> Center for Biomedical Informatics, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA

<sup>5</sup> Cancer Program, Broad Institute, Cambridge, MA, USA

## Abstract

*Identification and characterization of cancer subtypes are important areas of research that are based on the integrated analysis of multiple heterogeneous genomics datasets. Since there are no tools supporting this process, much of this work is done using ad-hoc scripts and static plots, which is inefficient and limits visual exploration of the data. To address this, we have developed StratomeX, an integrative visualization tool that allows investigators to explore the relationships of candidate subtypes across multiple genomic data types such as gene expression, DNA methylation, or copy number data. StratomeX represents datasets as columns and subtypes as bricks in these columns. Ribbons between the columns connect bricks to show subtype relationships across datasets. Drill-down features enable detailed exploration. StratomeX provides insights into the functional and clinical implications of candidate subtypes by employing small multiples, which allow investigators to assess the effect of subtypes on molecular pathways or outcomes such as patient survival. As the configuration of viewing parameters in such a multi-dataset, multi-view scenario is complex, we propose a meta visualization and configuration interface for dataset dependencies and data-view relationships. StratomeX is developed in close collaboration with domain experts. We describe case studies that illustrate how investigators used the tool to explore subtypes in large datasets and demonstrate how they efficiently replicated findings from the literature and gained new insights into the data.*

## Dimensionality



## Representation



## Alignment

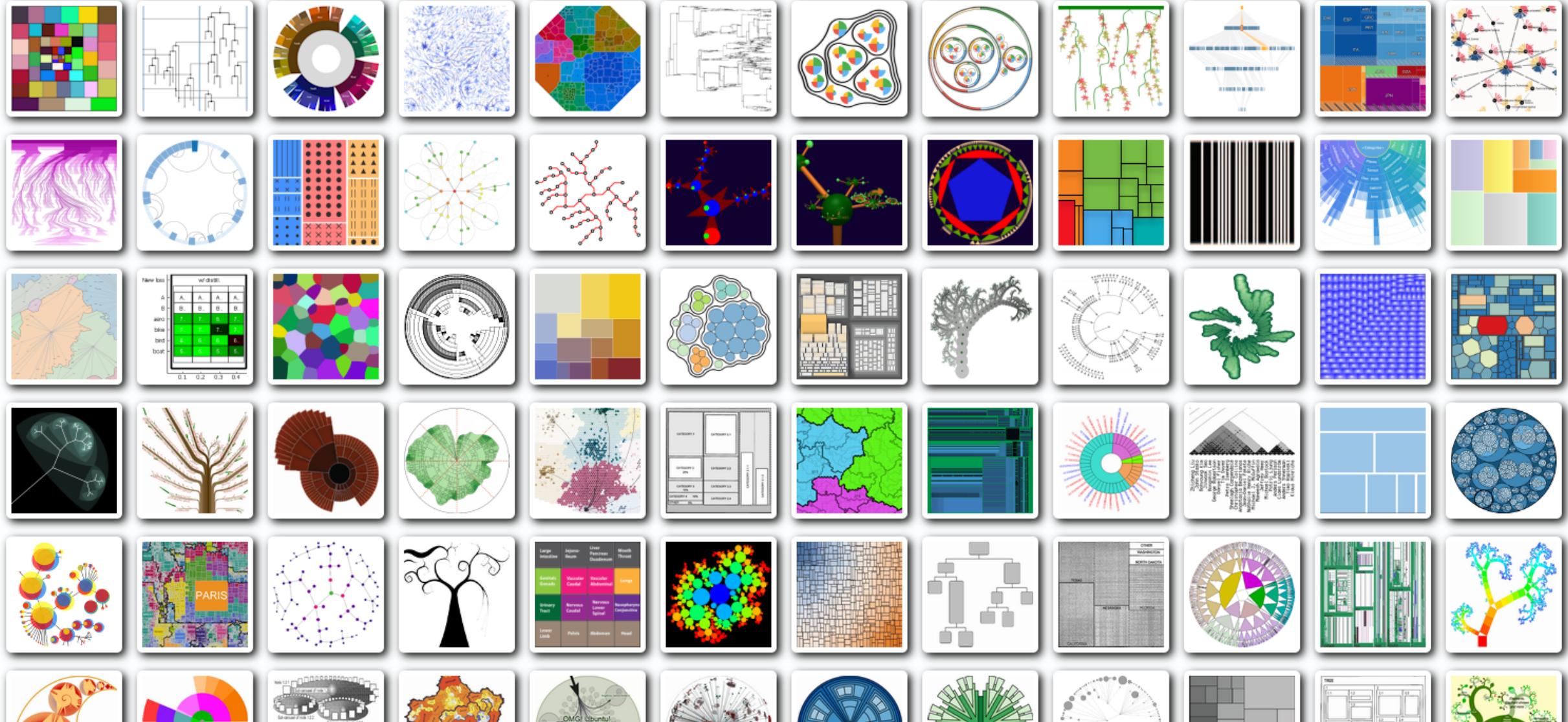


## Fulltext Search

 ×

## Techniques Shown

339





# Arvind Srinivasan

## Who are you?

- **DK 2024 – present:** Ph.D. Student in Department of Computer Science at the Center for Anytime Anywhere Analytics in the Ubiquitous Computing Group, supervised by Dr. Niklas Elmquist. Current research interests include Attention Aware Visualizations and Collaborative Immersive Analytics
- **USA 2023:** Received a Masters in Human Computer Interaction at the University of Maryland.
- Besides **JavaScript**, **Python** and **Go**, I'm best with **D3**, good with **Vega-Lite**, familiar with **Tableau**.
- With me, you can be assured that: At best, I solve your problem, at worst, you're inspired towards it.

## How do I reach you?

Email: [arvind@cs.au.dk](mailto:arvind@cs.au.dk)  
Office: Room 126, Building 5346  
Åbogade 34, 8200 Aarhus N

## When are you available?

Mondays and Wednesdays after class in my office / opposite to Hans'.

## If you have any purely technical questions, feel free to reach out!



Attention-Aware Visualization: Tracking and Responding to User Perception Over Time

Arvind Srinivasan\*, Johannes Ellensee\*, Peter W. S. Butcher, Panagiotis D. Ritsos, Niklas Elmquist



Fig. 1: Attention-aware visualization. Our work proposes tracking, encoding, and visualizing a user's attention on a visualization to aid them in understanding what they have seen and not seen, as well as cause the visualization to respond to the user's gaze. Our two implementations—3D and 2D, respectively—make use of the head direction of a Meta Quest 2 or similar XR HMD, the mouse pointer, or an embedded eye-tracker to measure the user's gaze on the visualization. We also present several methods for visualization, including heatmaps and contour plots overlaid on the chart, or compact visualizations on the border of the viewport.

# Peichen Liu

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- **Basic Info:**

- First year PhD Student in Human-centered Computing, CS Department
- Email: [pliu@cs.au.dk](mailto:pliu@cs.au.dk)

- **Research Interest:**

- Visual Analytic
- Health Data Processing

- **Office Time:**

- Every Wednesday 14:00-16:00 in Hopper-118, Building 5432

- **Technology Stack:**

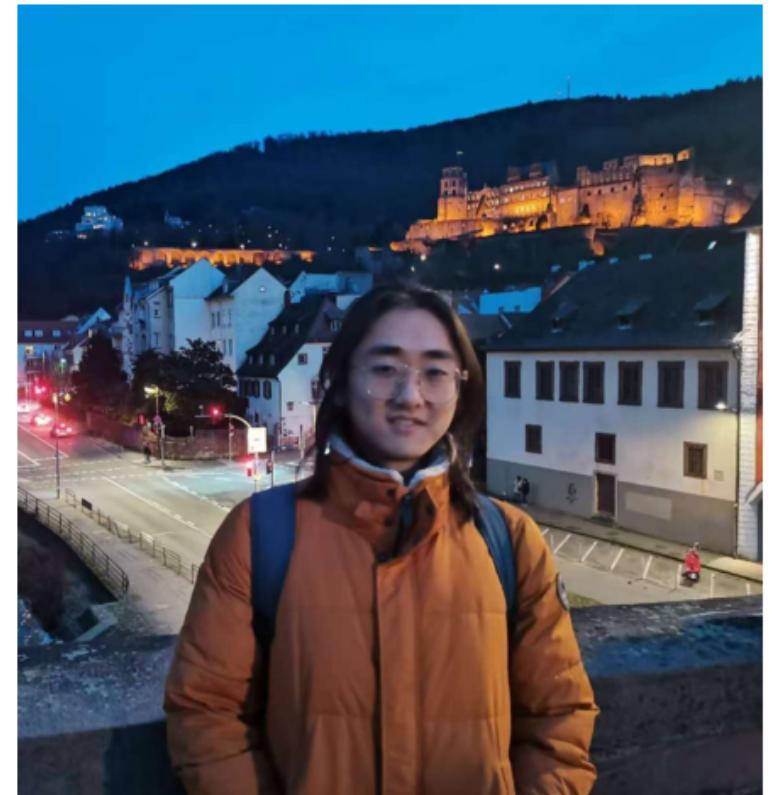
- C++(Qt), Python

- **Education Background:**

- MSc in Computer Science and Engineering @DTU, DK

- **During the Course:**

- I will support you in exercises and assignments, and I look forward to learning and exploring ideas together with you.



# This is YOUR course!



# YOU AND YOUR COURSE MATES

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Bioinformatics .....	2
Business Economy .....	7
Cognitive Science .....	1
Computer Engineering .....	16
Computer Science (MSc) .....	41
Data Science (BSc) .....	2
Data Science (MSc) .....	16
Electrical Engineering .....	2
IT Product Development (BSc) ....	1
IT Product Development (MSc) ....	1
Mathematics .....	1
(blank) .....	8

Total = 98

(as of 20-AUG-2025)

Brightspace = 102

(as of 24-AUG-2025)

# VISUALIZATION IS FACETED

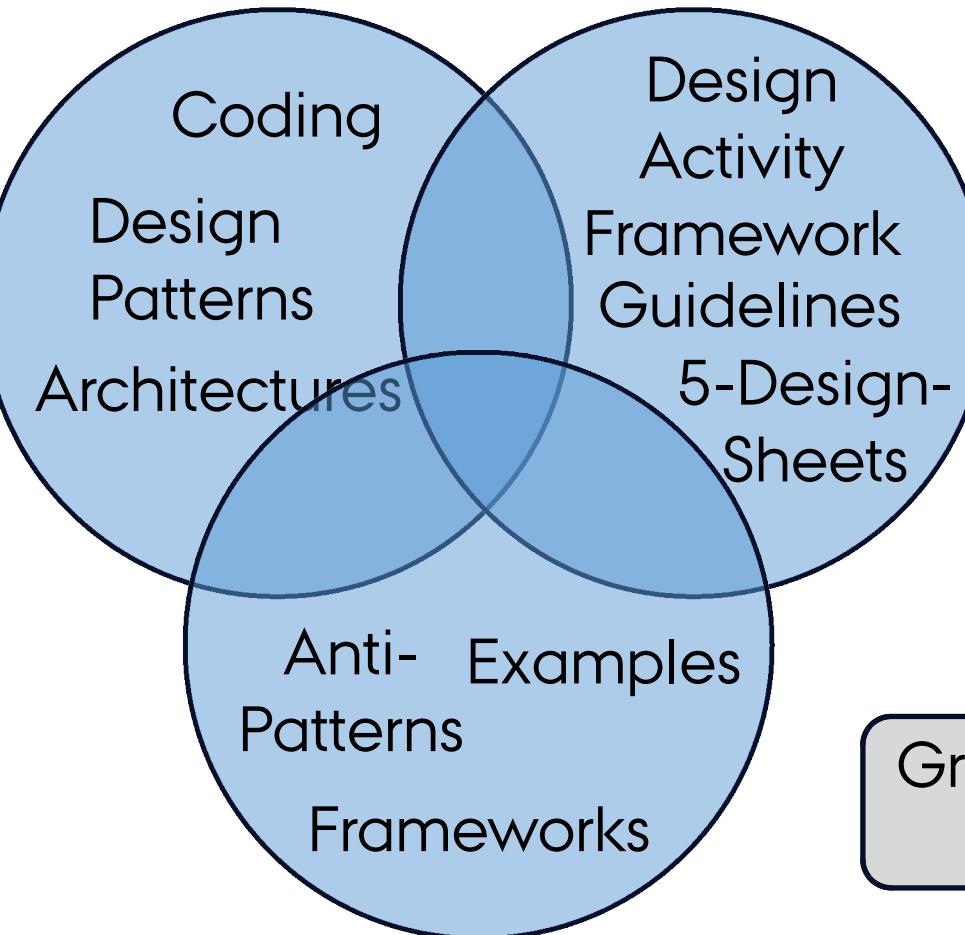
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Databases

Implementing  
Visualizations

Web Development

Interaction Design



Statistics &  
Machine Learning

Computer Graphics

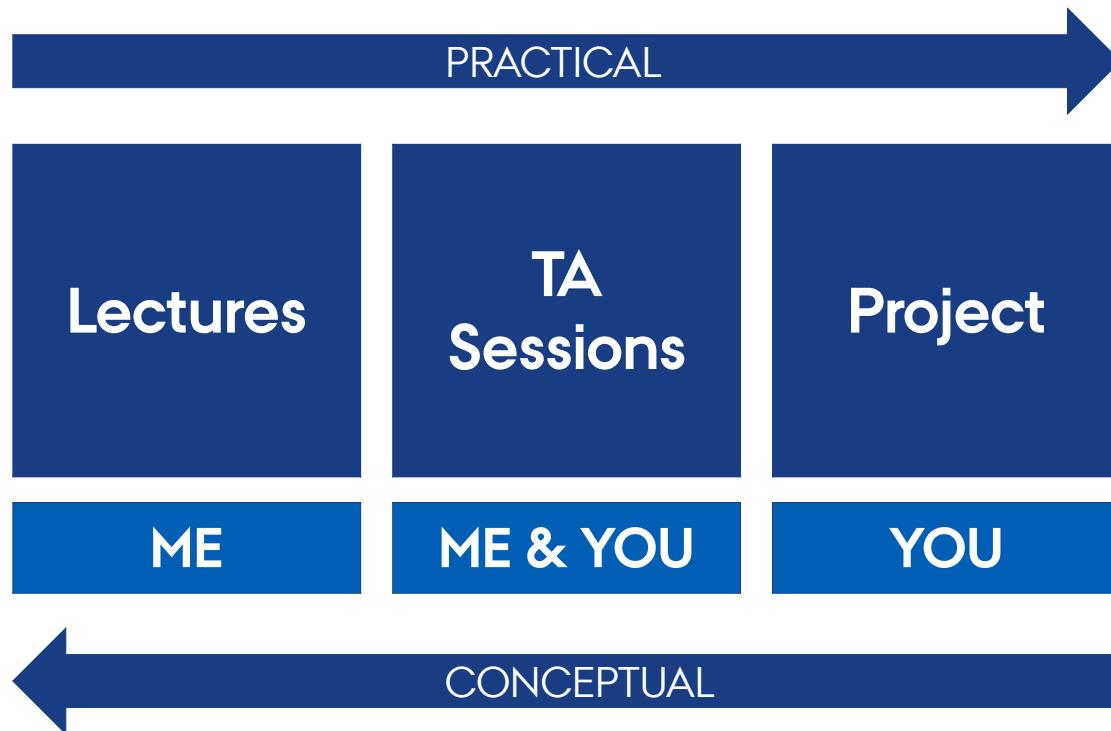
Designing  
Visualizations

Cognitive Psychology

Graphic Design &  
Typography

# STRUCTURE OF THIS LECTURE

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## Lectures:

- Visualization Concepts
- Visualization Techniques
- Visualization Algorithms

## TA Sessions:

- Practical Exercises
- Visualization Critique
- Quizzes

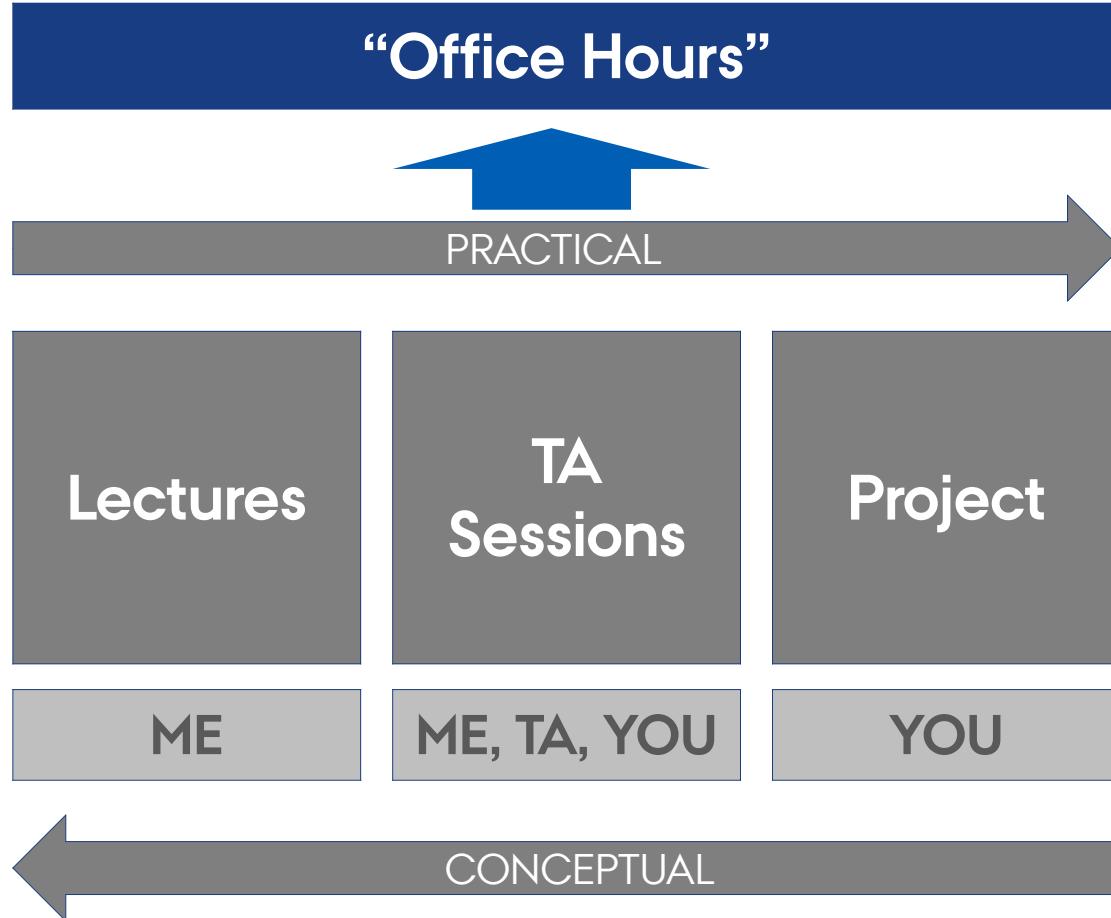
## Project:

- Visualization Design
- Implementation
- Actual Use & Users



# STRUCTURE OF THIS LECTURE

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## “Office Hours”

- Questions about lecture content
- Feedback (giving & getting)
- Bring-your-own-vis discussions
- Topics not covered in the lecture
- ...

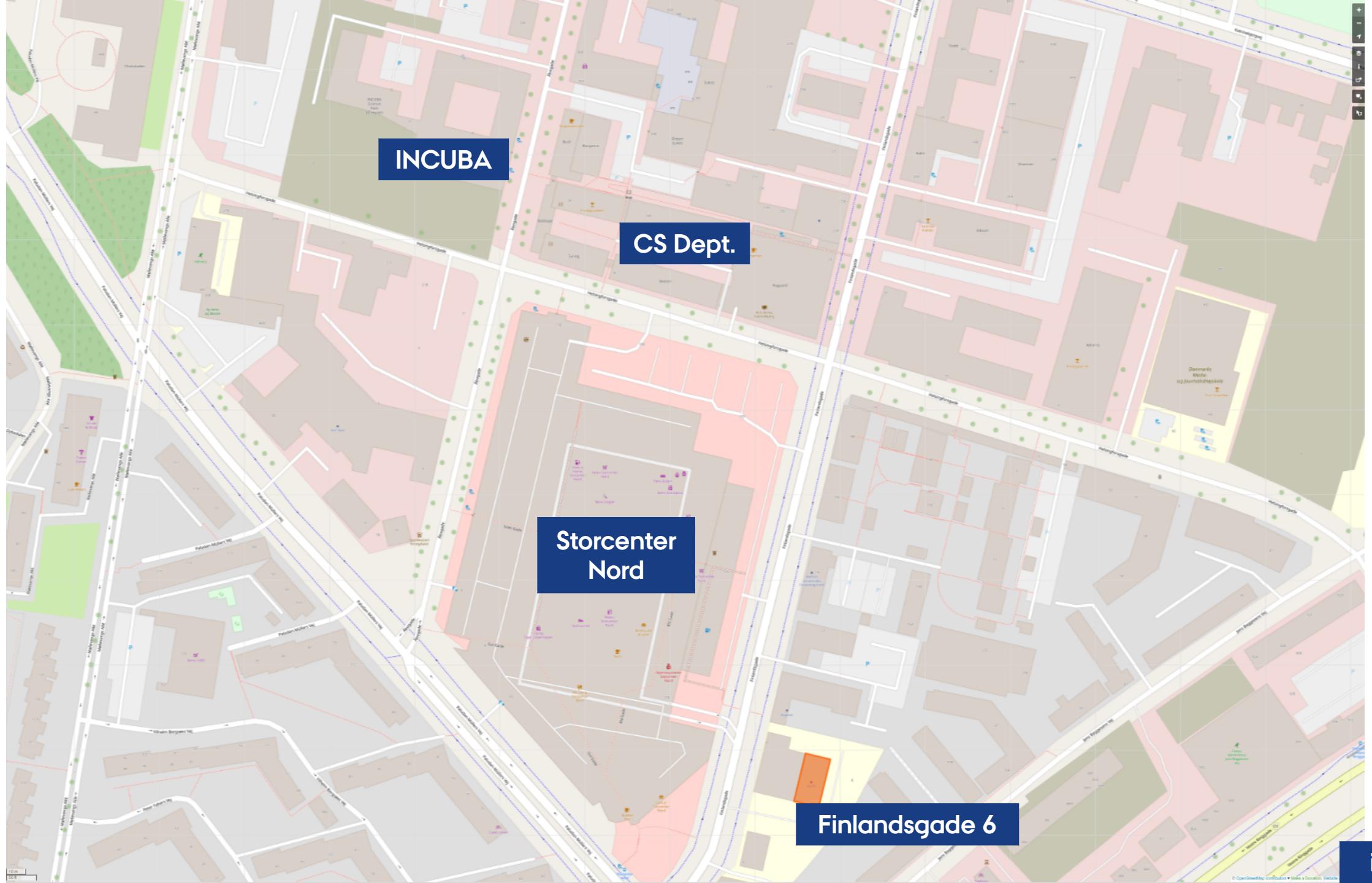
# TIMES & DATES

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## 1st Half of the Semester: Visualization Building Blocks

Week	Lecture Mondays 9-11	3rd Hour Mondays 11-12	TA Session Wednesdays 12-14
35	Introduction to DataVis	The DataVis Project	Visualization Design I
36	Visual Encoding	Advanced Color Coding	Visualization Critique I
37	Basic Charts	Vis Critique Exercise 1+2	Visualization Critique II
38	Interaction for DataVis	Vis Critique Exercise 3+4	Color & Chart Exercises
39	Visualization Design	Vis Critique Exercise 5+6	5-Design-Sheets Exercise
40	Data Preprocessing	Black Hat Vis Preparations	Black Hat Vis Presentations
41	Round-up of 1st Half	Quiz	Exam Simulation





# TIMES & DATES

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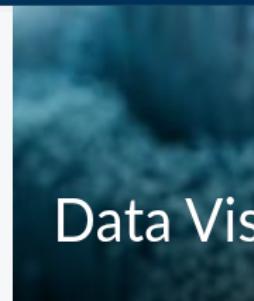
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Week	Lecture	3rd Hour	TA Session
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36	Basic Charts	Vis Critique Exercise 1+2	Visualization Critique I
37	Interaction for DataVis	Vis Critique Exercise 3+4	Visualization Critique II
38	Visualization Design	Vis Critique Exercise 5+6	Color & Chart Exercises
39			5-Design-Sheets Exercise
40	Data Preprocessing	Black Hat Vis Preparations	Black Hat Vis Presentations
41	Round-up of 1st Half	Quiz	Exam Simulation

**Recordings:** Panopto -> linked on Brightspace

**Live Stream:** on Zoom

This is thought as a fall-back  
and not as a replacement  
for the physical lectures / TA  
sessions!



Assignments

Discussions

Meetings - Zoom

Quizzes

Portfolio

Videos - Panopto

[Minimize setup](#)

This course is open for comments

[Course setup](#)

Activity Feed ▾



Create a post...

## Latest Posts



Me • Message • 24 August 2025 18:47

...

Yes, despite rumors to the contrary, there will be a lecture and TA session in the coming week (Monday 25-AUG-2025 and Wednesday 27-AUG-2025). See you tomorrow morning, Hans-Jörg

Calendar ▾

Sunday, 24 August 2025



## Upcoming events ▾

There are no events to display.  
[Create an event](#)

# TIMES & DATES

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## Office Hours:

**Hans-Jörg:** Mondays 12-14, Åbogade 34, Hopper Bldg., **5346-117**

**Arvind:** Mondays 12-14, Åbogade 34, Hopper Bldg., **5346-126**

**Peichen:** Wednesdays 14-16, Åbogade 34, Hopper Bldg., **5346-118**

# DAVI ORAL EXAM

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**Qualification:** written report on course project + video presentation

**Exam structure:** 20 minutes, internal co-examiner

1. oral presentation of course project + Q&A
2. answering questions about the lecture material
3. critiquing a visualization



# PRO TIPS

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- Read the material before the lecture
- Lecture > Life Stream > Recorded Video > Sped-up Video





## Online lecture accessibility and its influence on performance in skills-based courses

Ada Le <sup>a</sup>✉, Steve Joordens <sup>a</sup>✉, Sophie Chrysostomou <sup>b</sup>✉, Raymond Grinnell <sup>b</sup>✉

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.compedu.2010.01.017>

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### Abstract

At the University of Toronto at Scarborough, we provide enhanced flexibility to our students using a blended-learning approach (i.e., the webOption) whereby students can attend lectures live, watch them online at their convenience, or both. The current research examines the use of pause and seeks features afforded by the webOption interface and how these features are related to students' learning approaches and their performance in calculus courses. These courses emphasize the teaching of mathematical proofs; cognitive skills that are enhanced with practice (Schneider & Shiffrin, 1977). Access to online lectures allows students to re-experience the professor as they teach these skills. Given this, it was predicted that use of the webOption might be especially potent in these learning contexts. The results we report here do not confirm that prediction. Students do use and appreciate the features of the webOption, however, those students who augmented their class attendance with online viewing, and those who used the lecture-control features the most, were actually the students who performed most poorly. We interpreted the results to be due to different learning strategies and the manner in which these strategies interact with course content. Our results suggest that using the pause feature is related to a surface strategy of learning, which is in turn related to poorer performance in the course.



## Evaluating the use and impact of lecture recording in undergraduates: Evidence for distinct approaches by different groups of students

Wendy Leadbeater <sup>a</sup>, Tom Shuttleworth <sup>b</sup>, John Couperthwaite <sup>c</sup>, Karl P. Nightingale <sup>b</sup>✉,

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.compedu.2012.09.011>

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### Abstract

Lecture recordings are increasingly used to supplement lecture attendance within higher education, but their impact on student learning remains unclear. Here we describe a study to evaluate student use of lecture recordings and quantify their impact on academic performance. Questionnaire responses and online monitoring of student's access to recordings indicate that ~75% students use this material, the majority in a targeted manner. In contrast, a small subset of students (~5%) are highly dependent on recordings downloading every lecture, and viewing the material for long periods, such that this represents a large proportion of their independent study. This '*high user*' group is atypical, as it contains a high proportion of dyslexic and Non-English Speaking Background students. Despite high usage, lecture recordings do not have a significant impact on academic performance, either across the cohort or with students that use the recordings. Overall, this approach appears to be beneficial, but may reduce lecture attendance and encourage surface learning approaches in a minority of students.

# EMAIL FROM A FORMER STUDENT

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*"I had no clue why the second part went so poorly until I realized that the multivariate visualization was covered right after the Autumn break while I was still away on an extended holiday; I watched the lecture online but as we know and is backed up by research - and as I now have firsthand experience with -, that is much less efficient for memorizing things. I of course went through the course material while preparing but that lecture just didn't stick as much as the others."*



# PRO TIPS

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- Read the material before the lecture
- Lecture > Life Stream > Recorded Video > Sped-up Video
- Pick a new seat every time



# The Variation Effect: How seating plans might be undermining learning

[Home](#) / [Featured](#) / The Variation Effect: How seating plans might be undermining learning

*Observe always that everything is the result of a change, and get used to thinking that there is nothing Nature loves so well as to change existing forms and to make new ones like them.*

*Marcus Aurelius*

It is a truth universally acknowledged that a teacher in possession of a large roomful of children must be in want of a carefully crafted seating plan. Secondary schools in particular have normalised the idea that children should sit in the seat where they will be least distracted and best able to learn. There are many excellent reasons to use seating plans: they're a great way to learn students' names, keep order and establish routines. These are all sound and it is not my intention to unpick them.

**Making Meaning in English**



# PRO TIPS

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- Read the material before the lecture
- Lecture > Life Stream > Recorded Video > Sped-up Video
- Pick a new seat every time
- Take notes





# To provide or not to provide course PowerPoint slides? The impact of instructor-provided slides upon student attendance and performance

Debra L. Worthington <sup>a</sup>   David G. Levasseur <sup>b</sup>

Show more 

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.compedu.2015.02.002>

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## Highlights

- We examined student progress across two semesters comparing three slide conditions: No vs. partial vs. full slides.
- We measured actual student attendance: Instructor-provided slides had no impact on actual class attendance.
- We examined student use of partial vs. full slides in class note-taking and studying for exams.
- Instructor-provided slides adversely impacted student course performance on exam items.
- There were no differences by academic group (high/med/low GPA) on use of slides.



# Impact of the provision of PowerPoint slides on learning

Samuel P. León <sup>a</sup>, Inmaculada García-Martínez <sup>b</sup>  

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.compedu.2021.104283>

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## Highlights

- First within-subject study design to analyse this topic.
- Providing slides to students impacts negatively on their academic performance.
- The slide availability adversely impacts on the students' free attendance to class.
- Students' academic engagement and study strategies modulated student performance.
- The slides are a supplement created by teachers for teaching.

## Abstract

PowerPoint is a basic tool for university teaching. Teachers use it extensively for presenting material. At times, it is used as a guide for organizing lessons, at other

# PRO TIPS

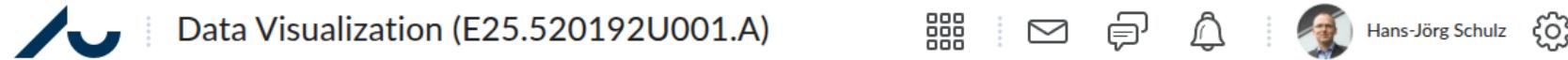
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- Read the material before the lecture
- Lecture > Life Stream > Recorded Video > Sped-up Video
- Pick a new seat every time
- Take notes
- Make use of the office hours
- Use the General Discussion Board on Brightspace

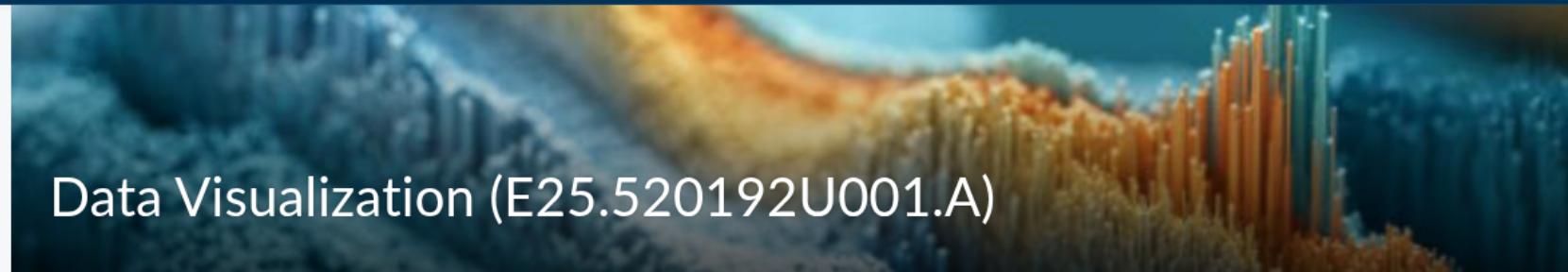


# A TOUR THROUGH THE BRIGHTSPACE SITE

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Course Home Content Activities ▾ My Course ▾ Help



[Minimize setup](#)



This course is **open** for students

[Course setup](#)

Activity Feed ▾



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Calendar ▾

Sunday, 24 August 2025



Upcoming events

# DATA VISUALIZATION



AARHUS  
UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

INTRODUCTION  
DATAVIS 2025

HANS-JÖRG SCHULZ  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR



# WHAT IS DATAVIS?

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“Visual representations of data enable us to **communicate a large amount of information** to our viewers.” [Marty 2009]

All taken from Chen et al. “What Is Visualization Really For?”, Springer 2014

# VISUALIZATION FOR COMMUNICATION

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I		II		III		IV	
x	y	x	y	x	y	x	y
10.0	8.04	10.0	9.14	10.0	7.46	8.0	6.58
8.0	6.95	8.0	8.14	8.0	6.77	8.0	5.76
13.0	7.58	13.0	8.74	13.0	12.74	8.0	7.71
9.0	8.81	9.0	8.77	9.0	7.11	8.0	8.84
11.0	8.33	11.0	9.26	11.0	7.81	8.0	8.47
14.0	9.96	14.0	8.10	14.0	8.84	8.0	7.04
6.0	7.24	6.0	6.13	6.0	6.08	8.0	5.25
4.0	4.26	4.0	3.10	4.0	5.39	19.0	12.50
12.0	10.84	12.0	9.13	12.0	8.15	8.0	5.56
7.0	4.82	7.0	7.26	7.0	6.42	8.0	7.91
5.0	5.68	5.0	4.74	5.0	5.73	8.0	6.89

$$\text{Mean}(x) = 9.0$$

$$\text{Mean}(y) = 7.5$$

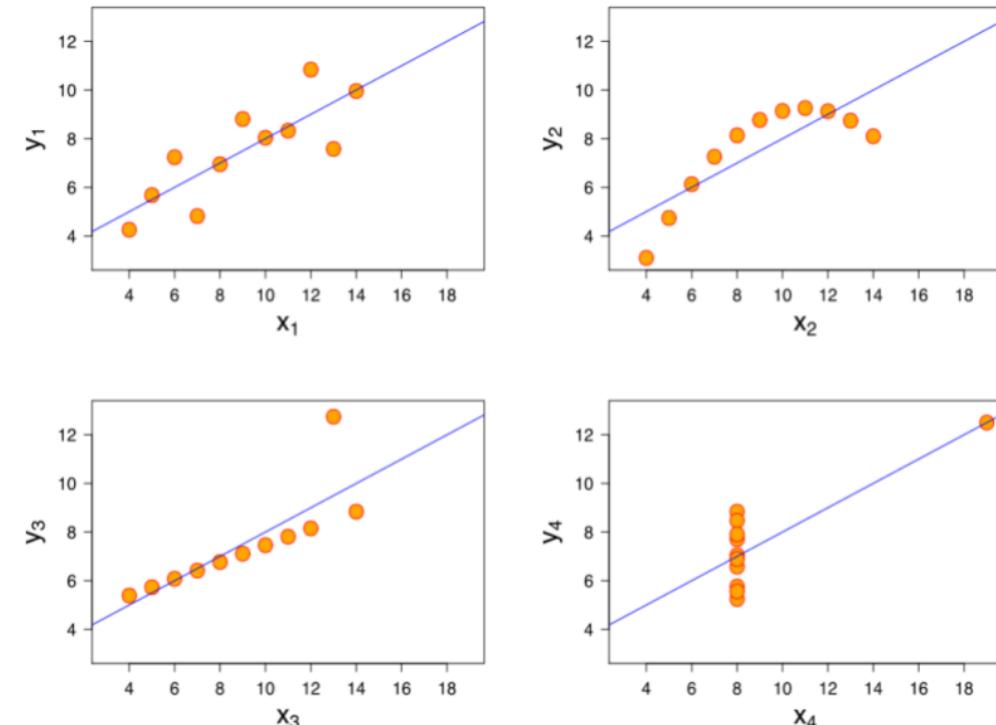
$$\text{Variance}(x) = 11.0$$

$$\text{Variance}(y) = 4.1$$

$$\text{Correlation}(x,y) = 0.816$$

Regression line:

$$y = 3.0 + 0.5x$$



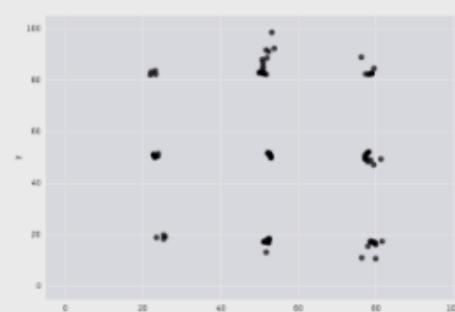
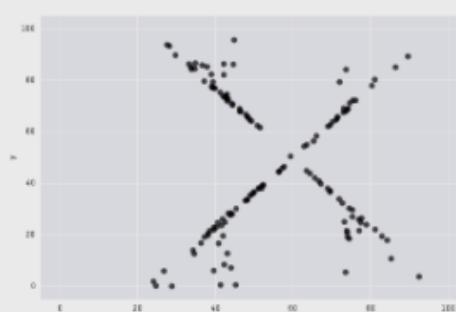
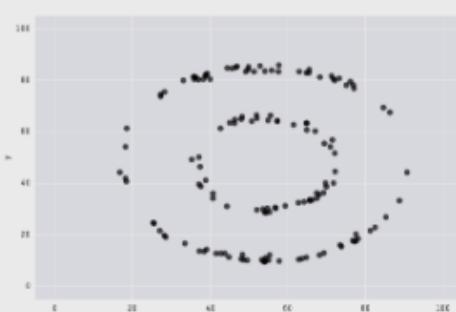
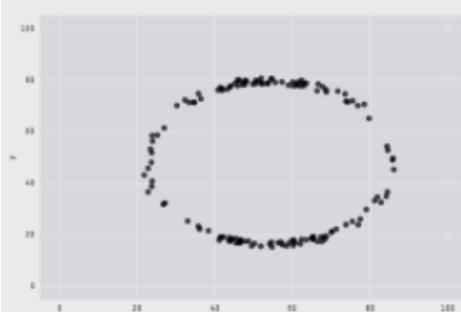
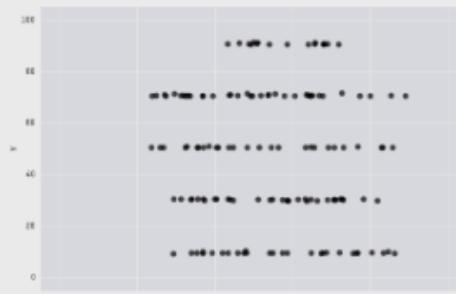
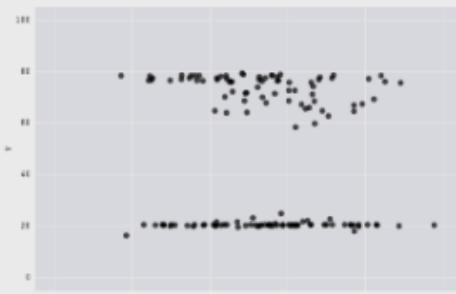
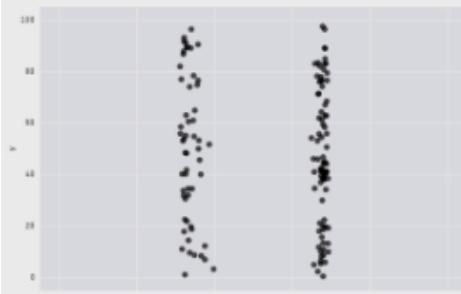
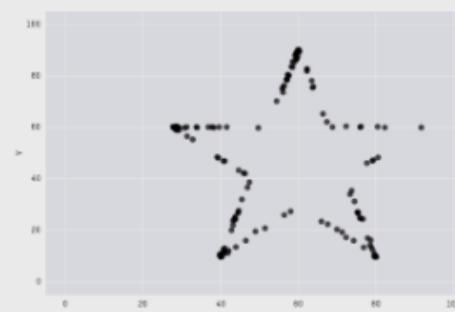
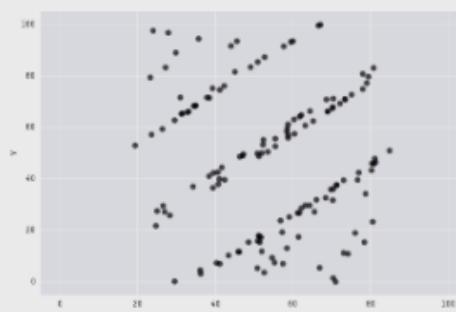
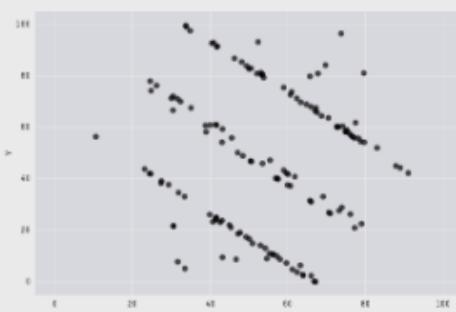
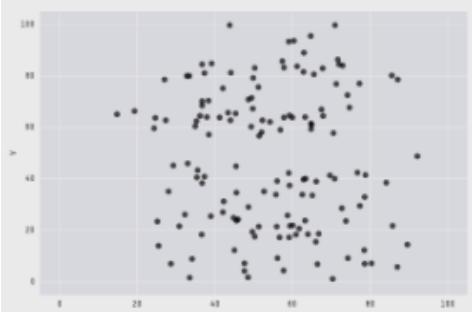
Source: [Anscombe 1973]

Image Source: Wikipedia



# THE DATASAUR

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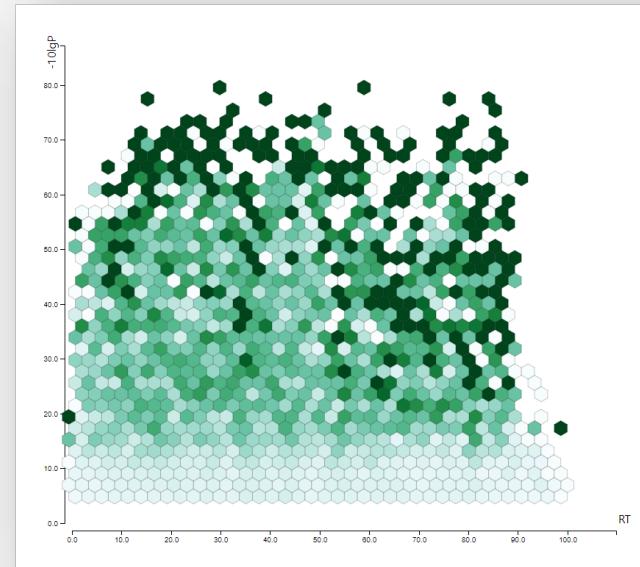
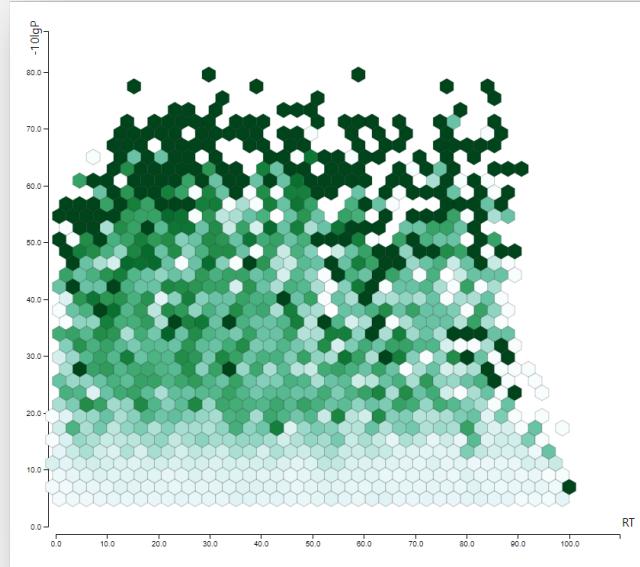
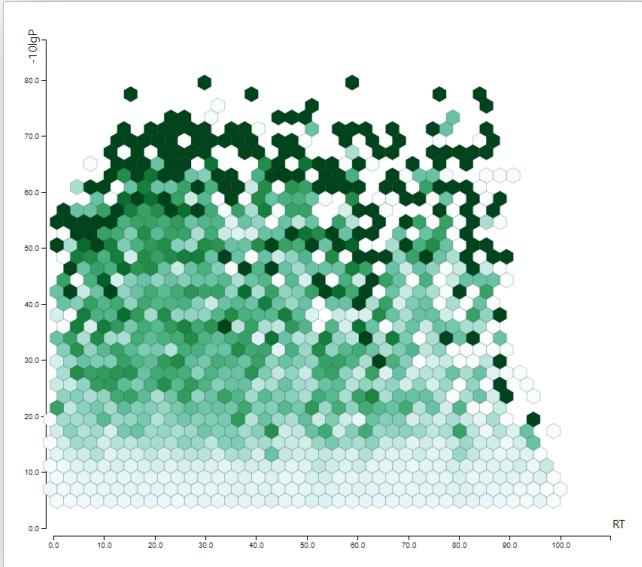
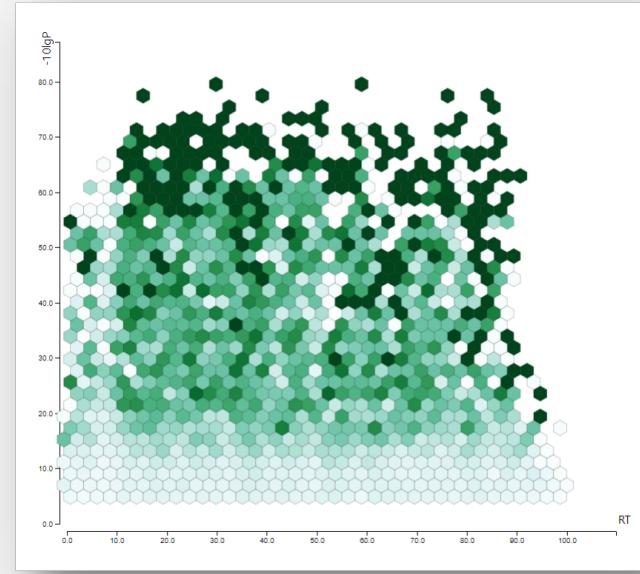
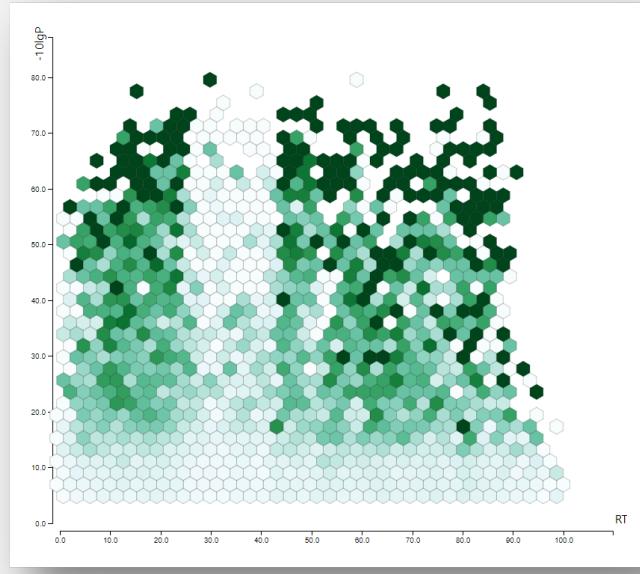
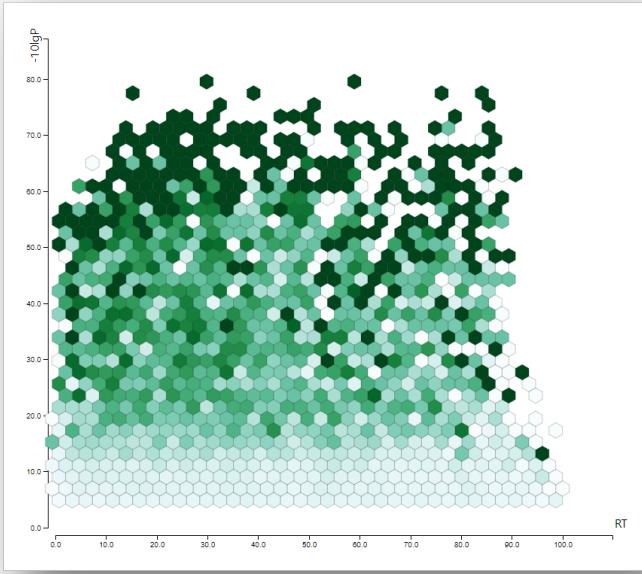


$\text{Mean}(x) = 54.26$   
 $\text{Mean}(y) = 47.83$

$\text{Std. Dev}(x) = 16.76$   
 $\text{Std. Dev}(y) = 26.93$

$\text{Correlation}(x,y) = -0.06$   
Source: [Cairo 2016]





Data: Søren Drud-Heydary Nielsen | Visualization: Harith Rathish

# WHAT IS DATAVIS?

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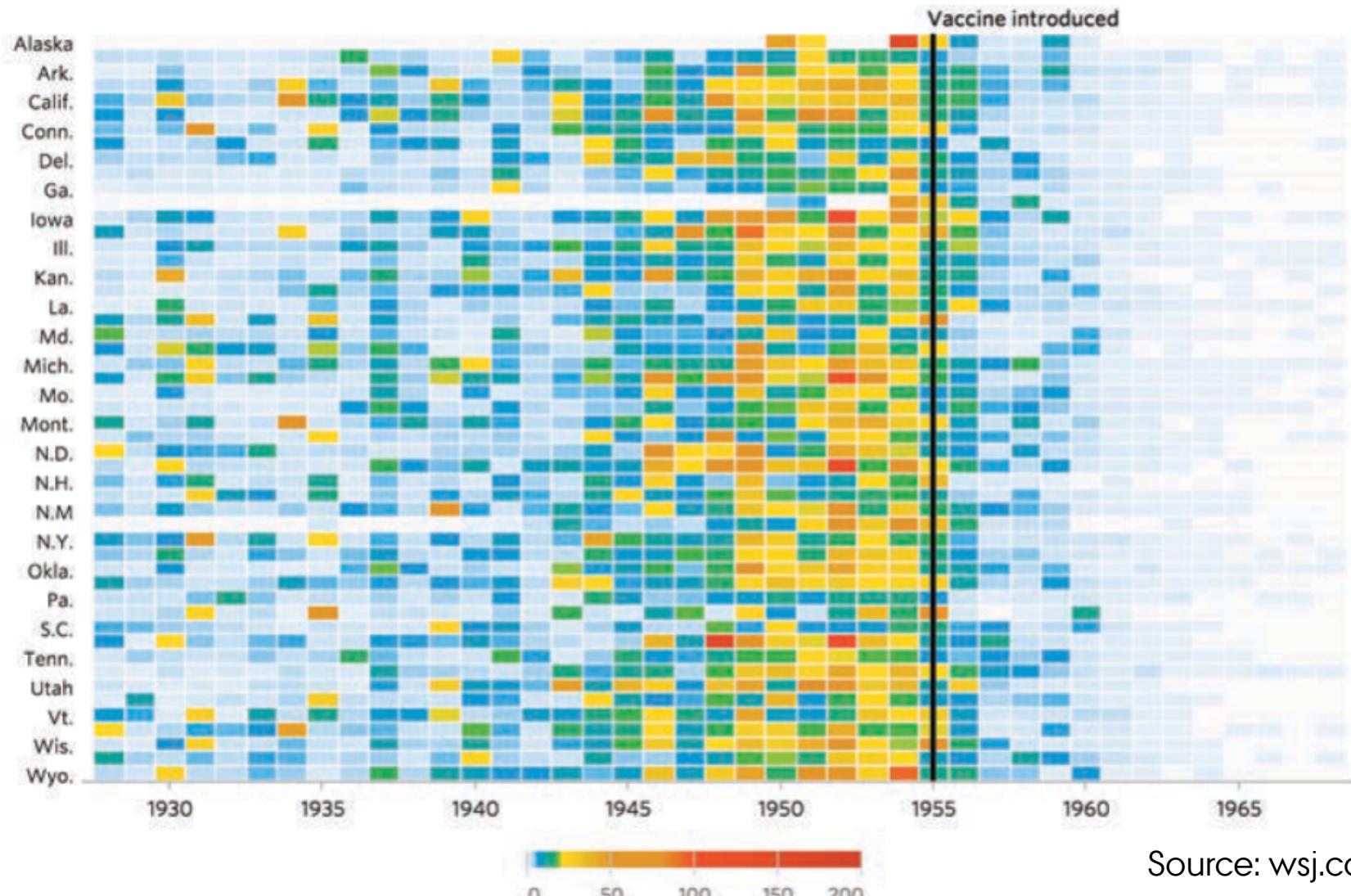
“Visual representations of data enable us to **communicate a large amount of information** to our viewers.” [Marty 2009]

“The purpose of information visualization is to **amplify cognitive performance**, not just to create interesting pictures. Information visualizations should do for the mind what automobiles do for the feet.” [Card 2008]

All taken from Chen et al. “What Is Visualization Really For?”, Springer 2014

# VISUALIZATION TO AMPLIFY COGNITION

## POLIO



# WHAT IS DATAVIS?

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“Visual representations of data enable us to **communicate a large amount of information** to our viewers.” [Marty 2009]

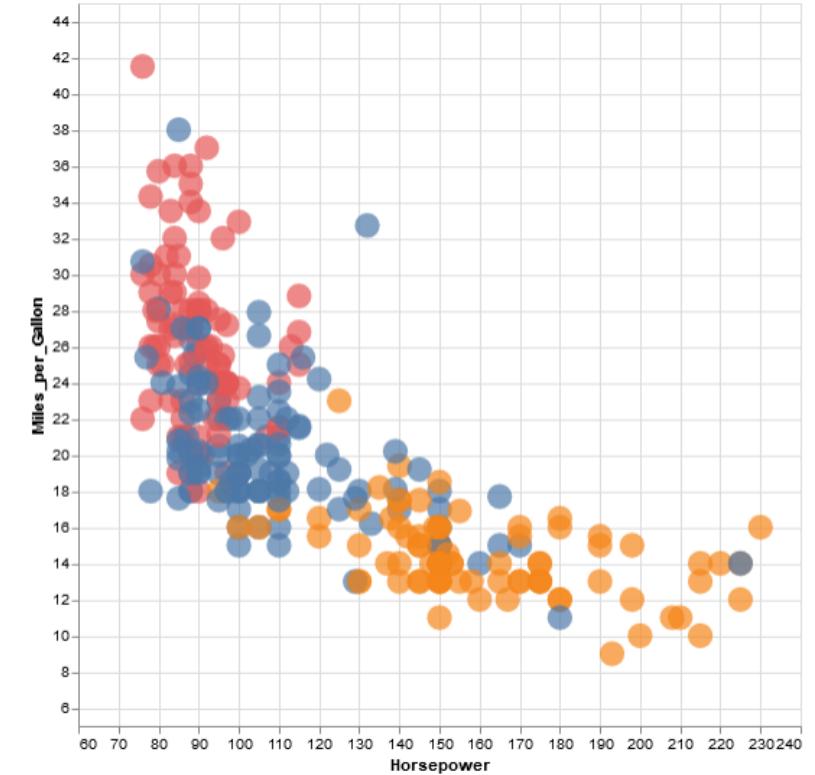
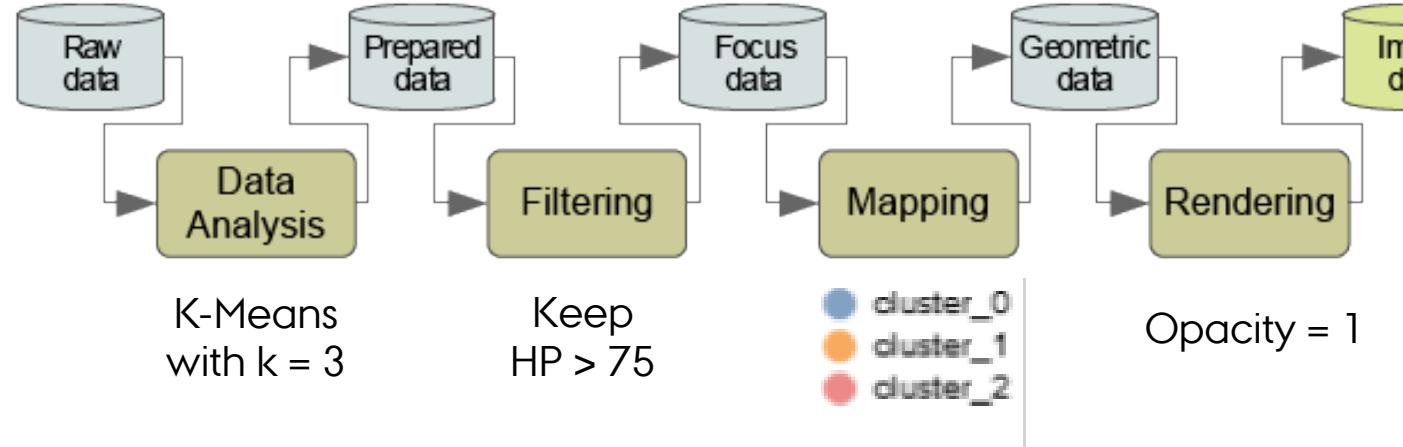
“The purpose of information visualization is to **amplify cognitive performance**, not just to create interesting pictures. Information visualizations should do for the mind what automobiles do for the feet.” [Card 2008]

“Visualization is a method of computing. It **transforms the symbolic into the geometric**, ... Visualization offers a method for seeing the unseen. It enriches the process of scientific discovery and fosters profound and unexpected insights.” [McCormick et al. 1987]

All taken from Chen et al. “What Is Visualization Really For?”, Springer 2014

# THE VISUALIZATION PIPELINE

Image source: InfoVis Wiki



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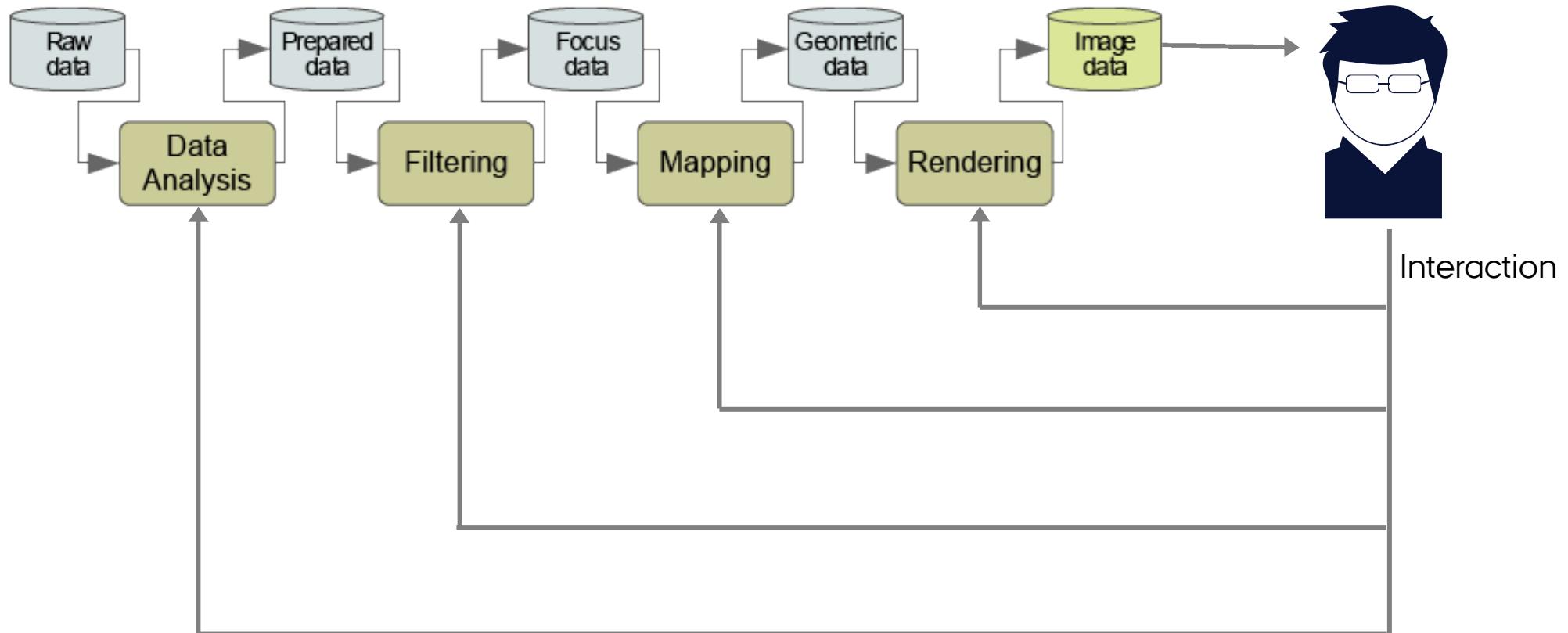
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# THE VISUALIZATION PIPELINE

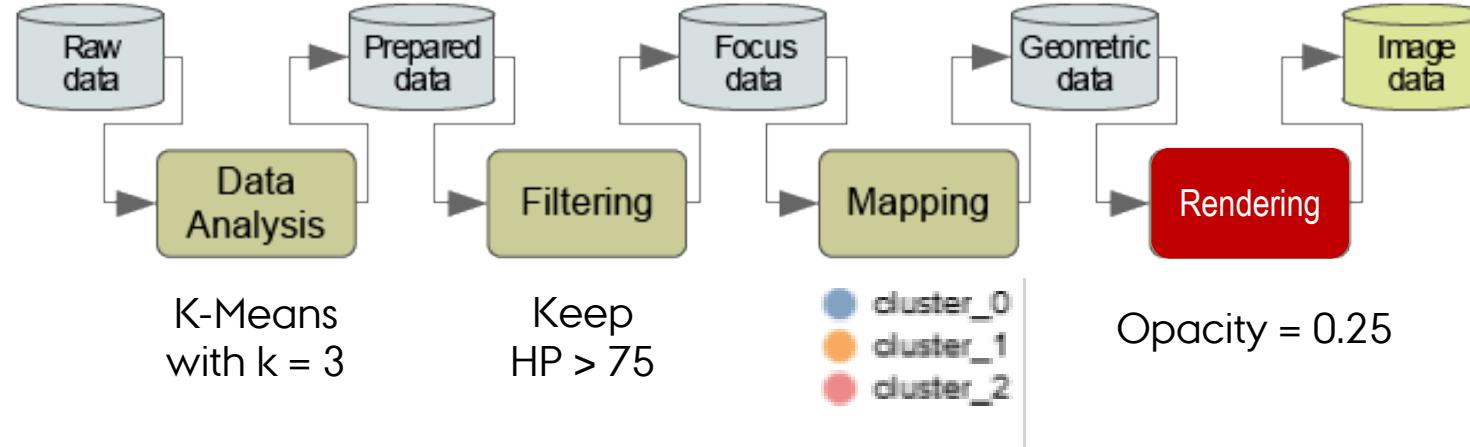
Image source: InfoVis Wiki



[Haber, McNabb 1990] and [Card, Mackinley 1999]

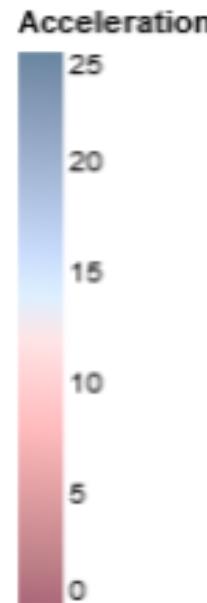
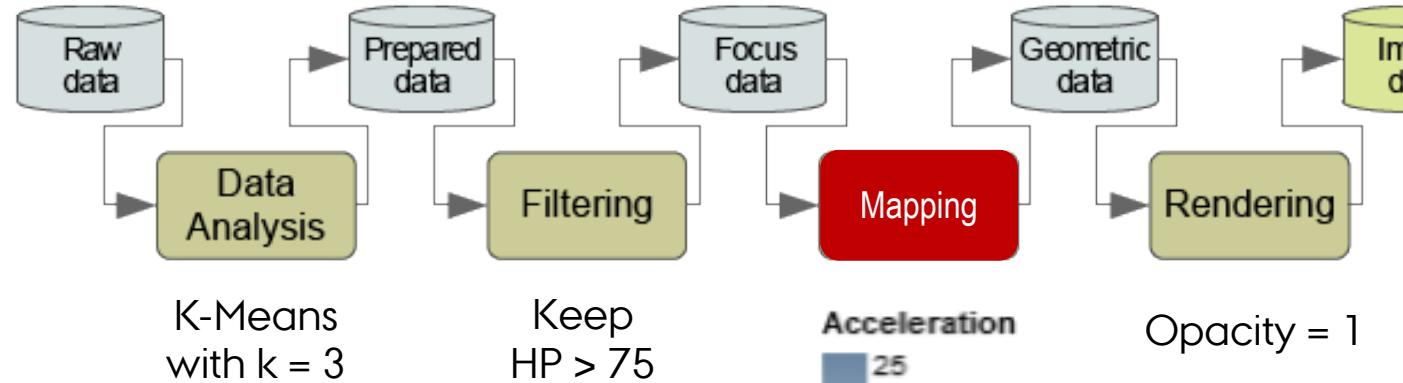
# THE VISUALIZATION PIPELINE

Image source: InfoVis Wiki

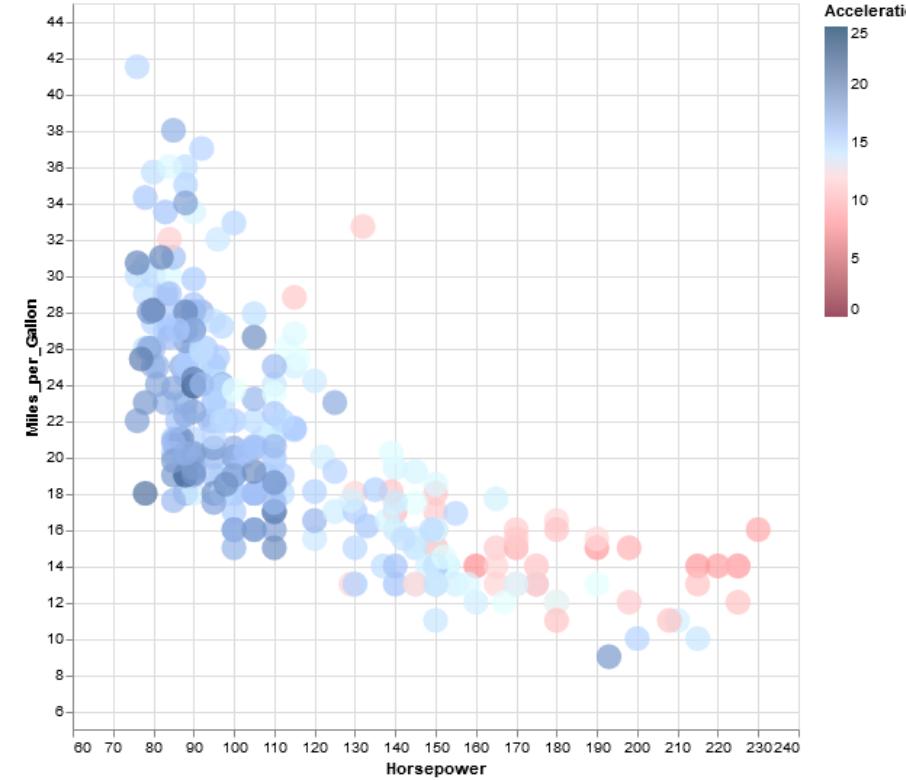


# THE VISUALIZATION PIPELINE

Image source: InfoVis Wiki

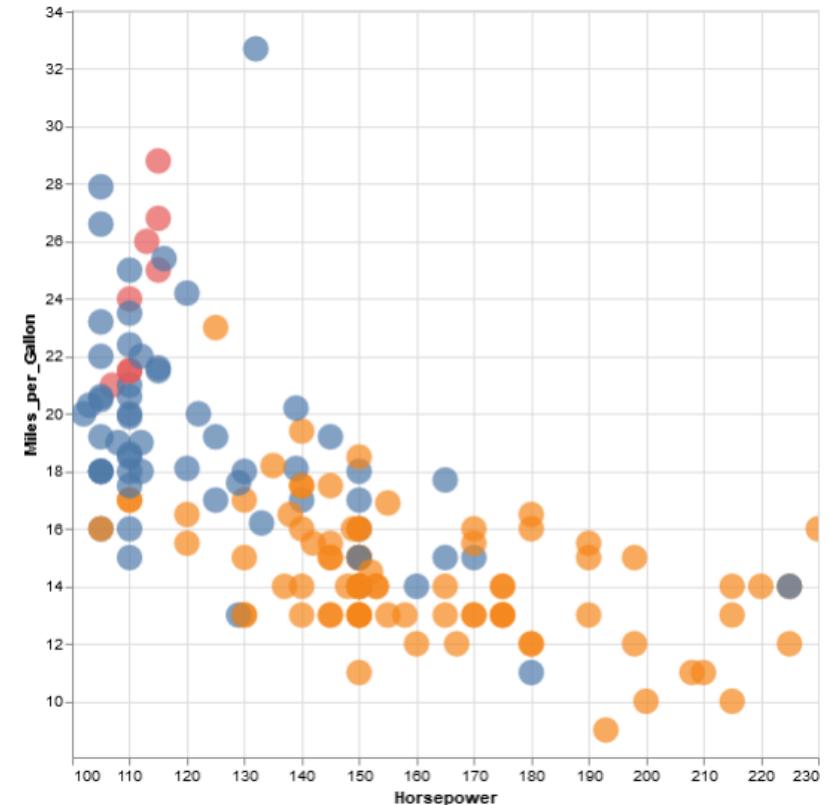
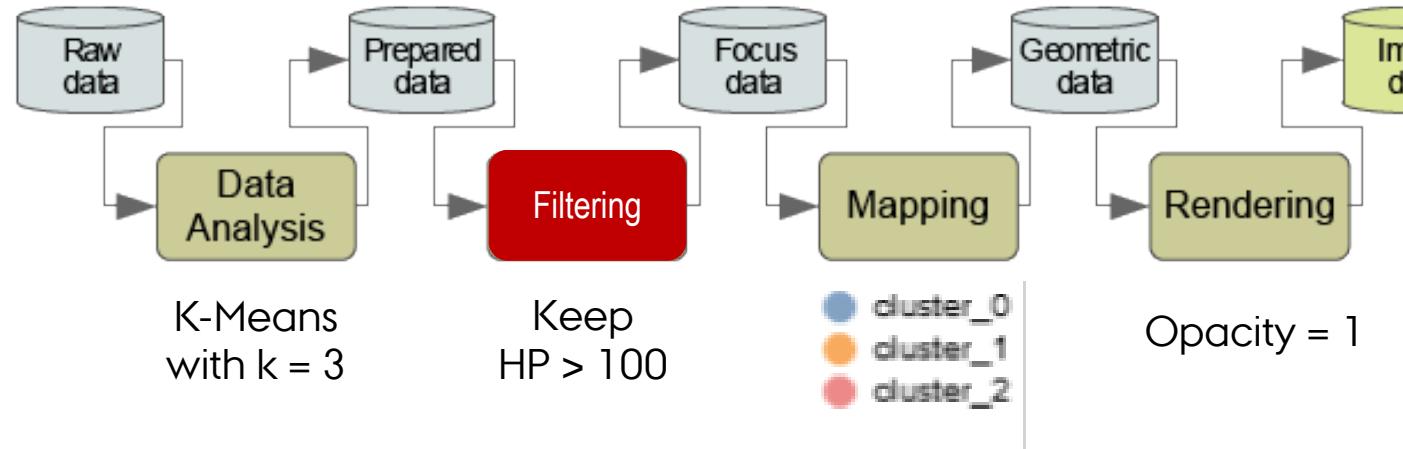


Opacity = 1



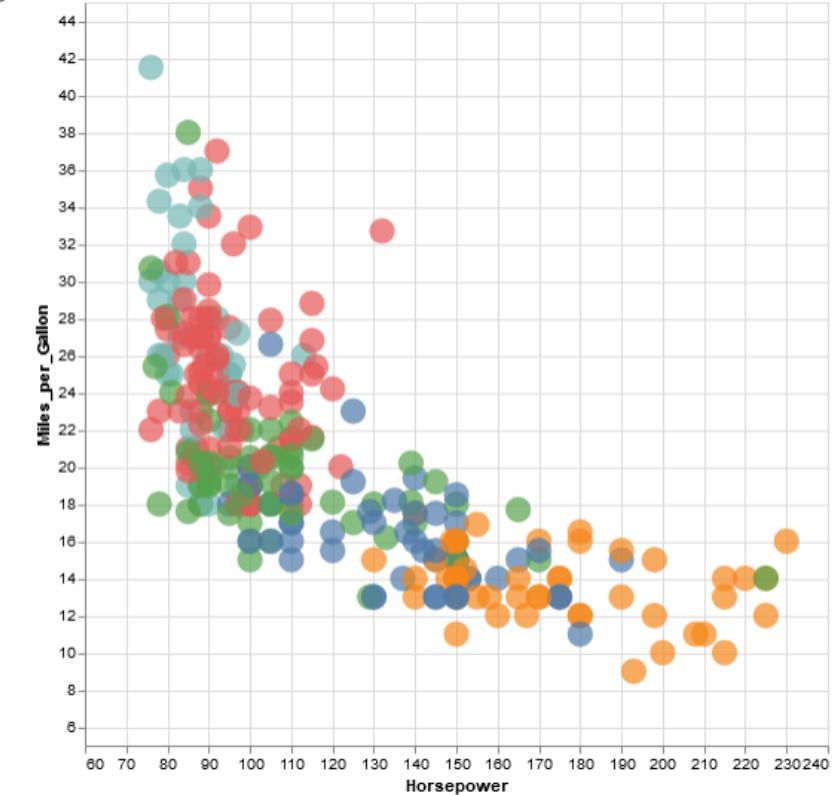
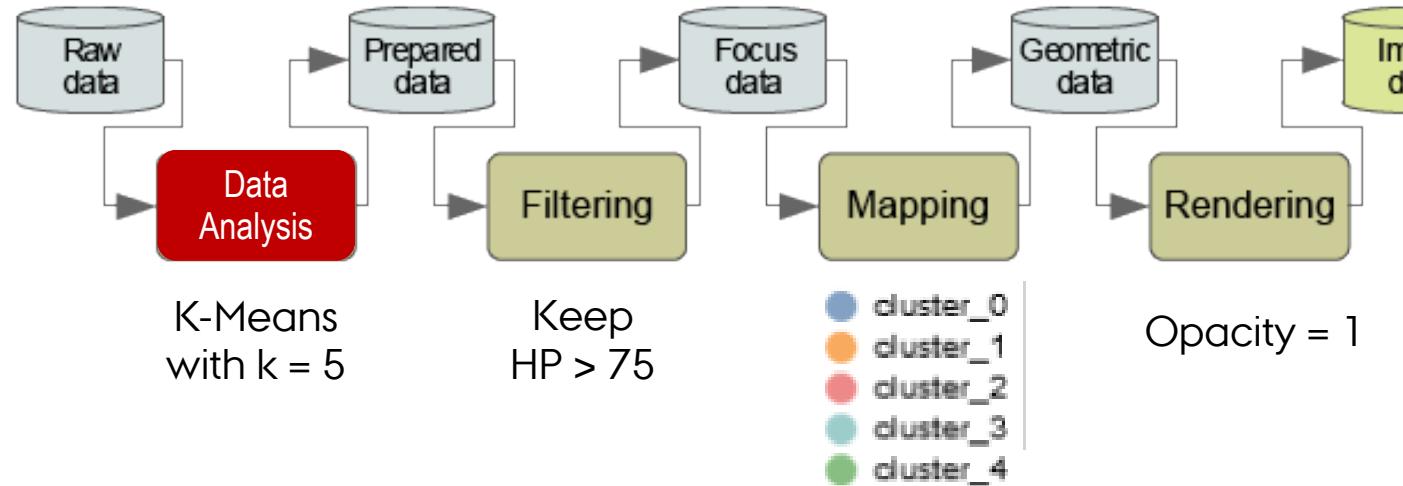
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Image source: InfoVis Wiki



# THE VISUALIZATION PIPELINE

Image source: InfoVis Wiki



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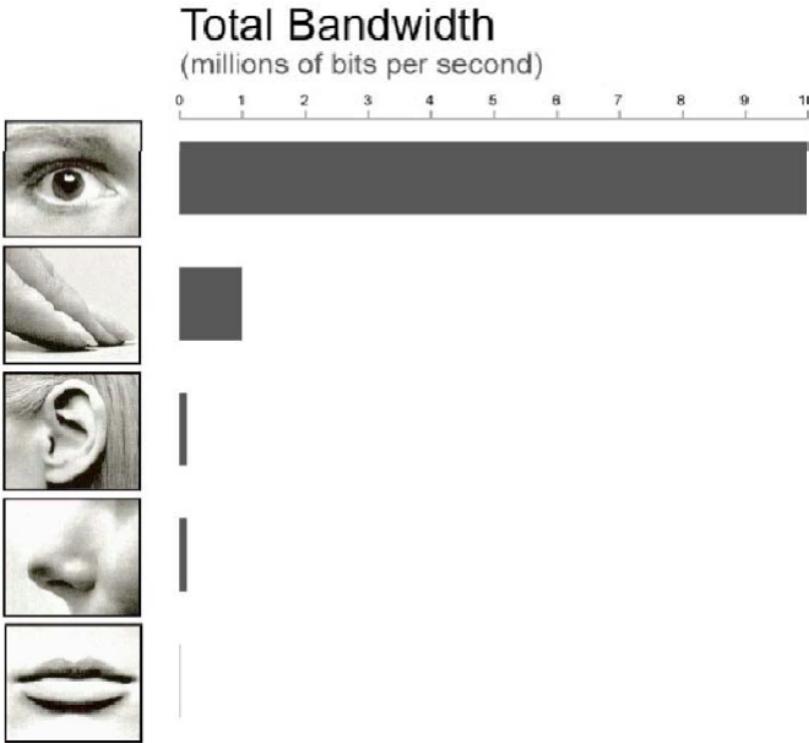
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# WHY DATAVIS?

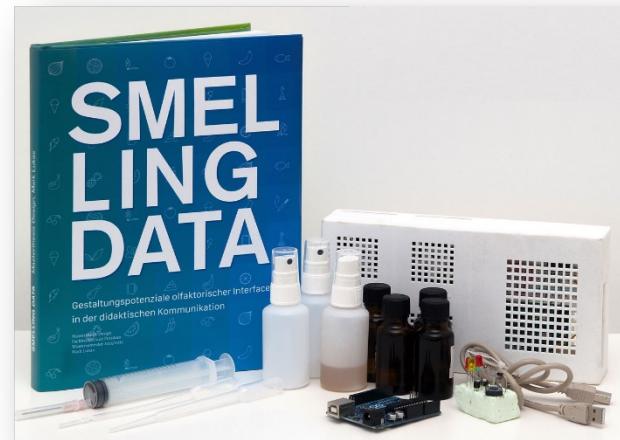
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Source: Tor Nørretranders "The User Illusion" (1998)



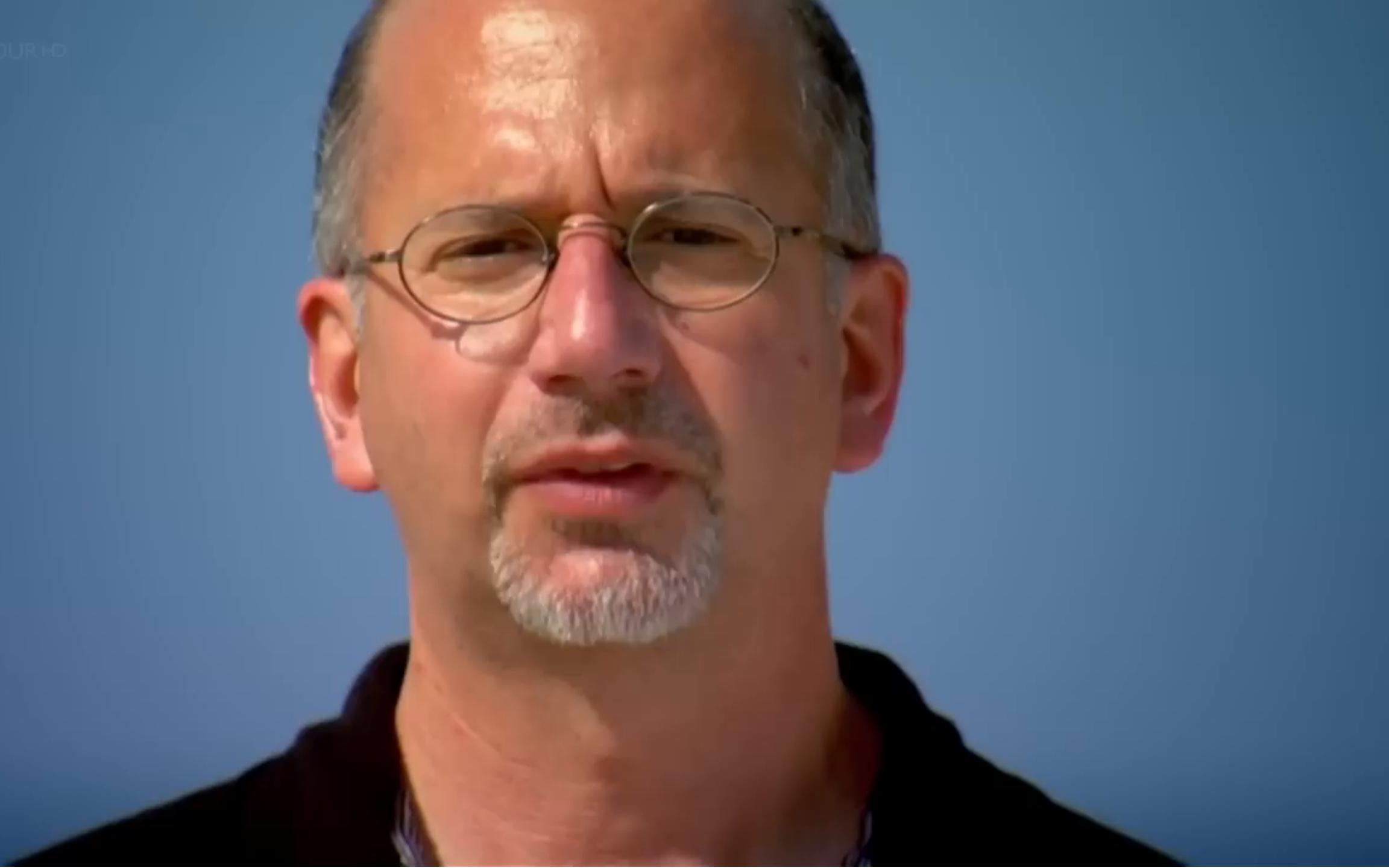
Haptic Displays - [Leithinger et al. 2011]



Olfactory Interfaces - [Lukas 2015]



Edible Diagrams/Data Dishes  
- [Himmelsbach 2016]

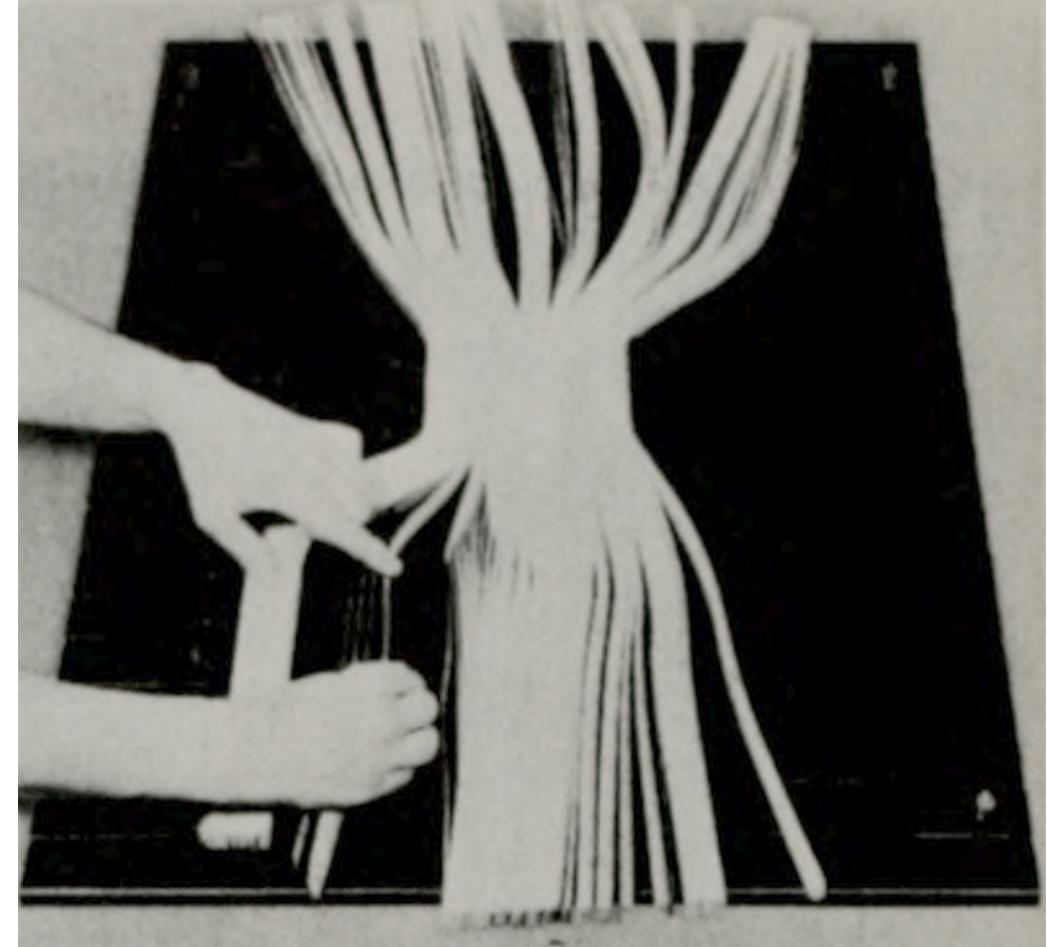


# WHY DATAVIS? – PHYSICAL VISUALIZATIONS

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Jacques Bertin's Reorderable Matrices (1968)



IBM Cosmograph (1933)

# DATA VISUALIZATION IN CONTEXT



AARHUS  
UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

INTRODUCTION  
DATAVIS 2025

HANS-JÖRG SCHULZ  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR





## 5 Essential Tips for Creative Storytelling Through Data Visualization

While some companies are collecting [so much data](#) that they don't know what they're even collecting,



CATEGORY: DATA VISUALIZATION

## Persuasive Storytelling with Data Visualization

MAY 29, 2018 -  Nick Mannon

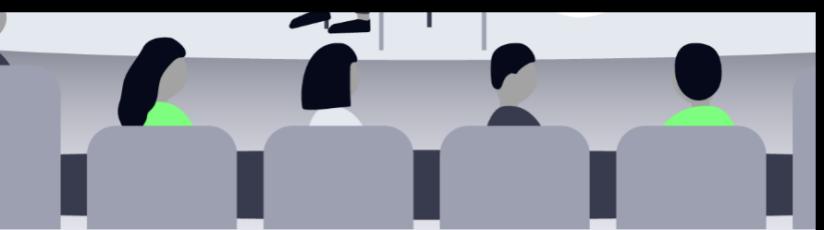


31



in

31  
SHARES



## Data Storytelling: Best Practices and Visualization Tips To Create Remarkable Reports



by John Ostrowski on Growth Mindset & Strategy, Tools & Resources, August 14, 2019

Data storytelling is changing the way we communicate data insights – for the better. By shaping our facts using the right techniques we improve understanding and actions. In this Data Storytelling Guide, we give our 2019 updated point of view

Nov 1, 2018, 11:40am EDT

## Data Visualization: How To Tell A Story With Data

Nicole Martin Former Contributor  AI & Big Data  
I write about digital marketing, data and privacy concerns.

f   
t   
in 

SCIENCE MACHINE LEARNING PROGRAMMING VISUALIZATION VIDEO ★ ABOUT | CONTRIBUTOR

## Storytelling with Data: A Data Visualization Guide for Business Professionals

For anyone who needs to communicate something to someone using data

 Admond Lee  Oct 9, 2018 - 6 min read

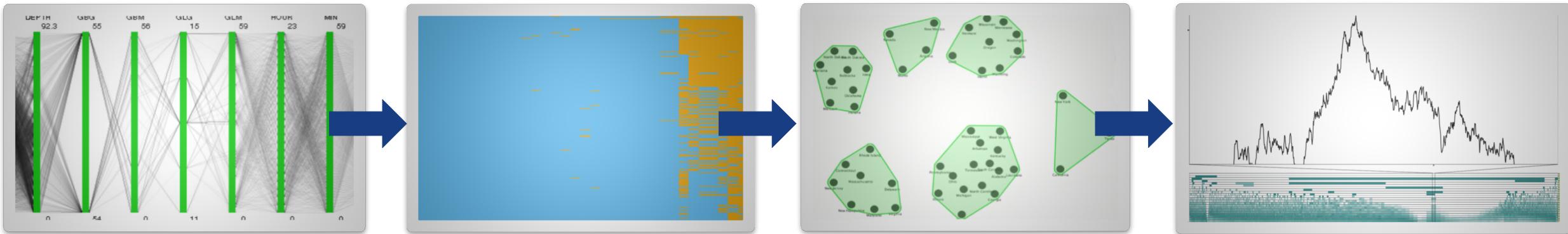
t  in  f 

# DATAVIS IS SO MUCH MORE!

---

For many, this is the only point of visualization!

For us, it is the last step in a visualization supported data analysis pipeline:



Only once we identified and cross-checked a finding in the data, THEN we have a story to tell!

# THE VISUALIZATION DESIGN SPACE

---

[BERINATO 2016]

Is the information *conceptual* or *data-driven*?

## CONCEPTUAL

**FOCUS:** Ideas

**GOALS:** Simplify, teach (“Here’s how our organization is structured.”)

## DATA-DRIVEN

**FOCUS:** Statistics

**GOALS:** Inform, enlighten (“Here are our revenues for the past two years.”)



# DATA-DRIVEN INFORMATION

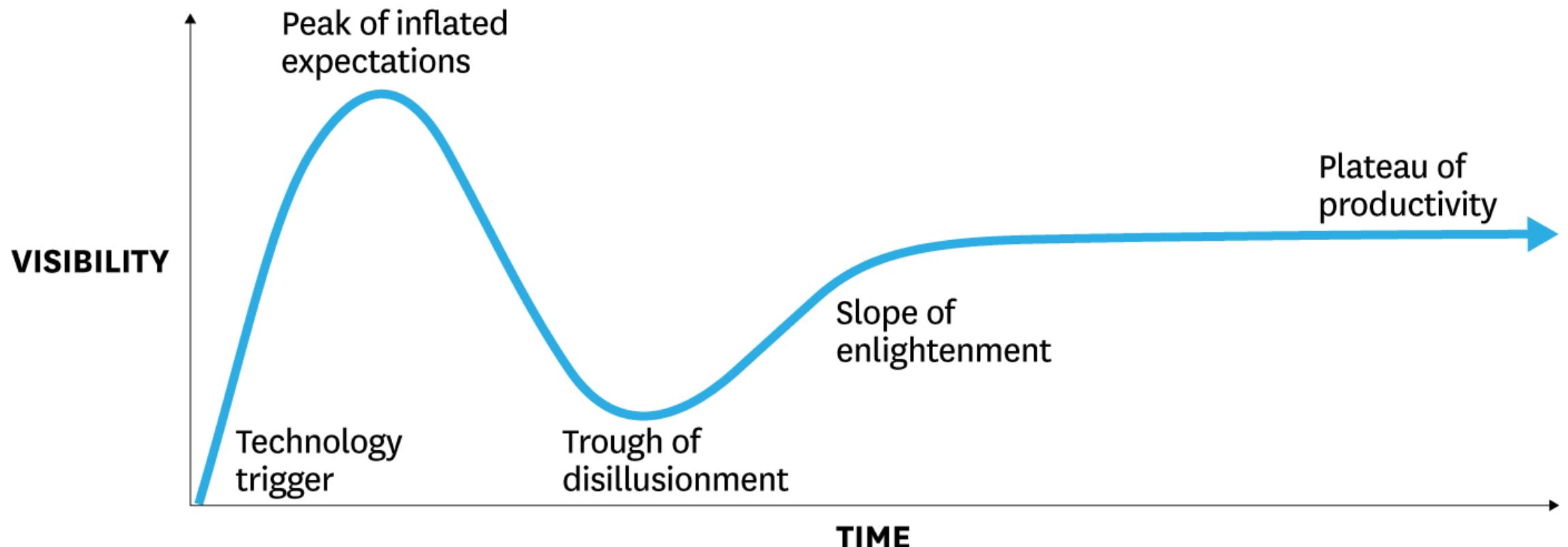
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# CONCEPTUAL INFORMATION

---

## Hype Cycle for Emerging Technologies



# THE VISUALIZATION DESIGN SPACE

---

[BERINATO 2016]

Is the information *conceptual* or *data-driven*?

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**FOCUS:** Ideas

**GOALS:** Simplify, teach (“Here’s how our organization is structured.”)

## DATA-DRIVEN

**FOCUS:** Statistics

**GOALS:** Inform, enlighten (“Here are our revenues for the past two years.”)

Am I *declaring* something or *exploring* something?

## DECLARATIVE

**FOCUS:** Documenting, designing

**GOALS:** Affirm (“Here is our budget by department.”)

## EXPLORATORY

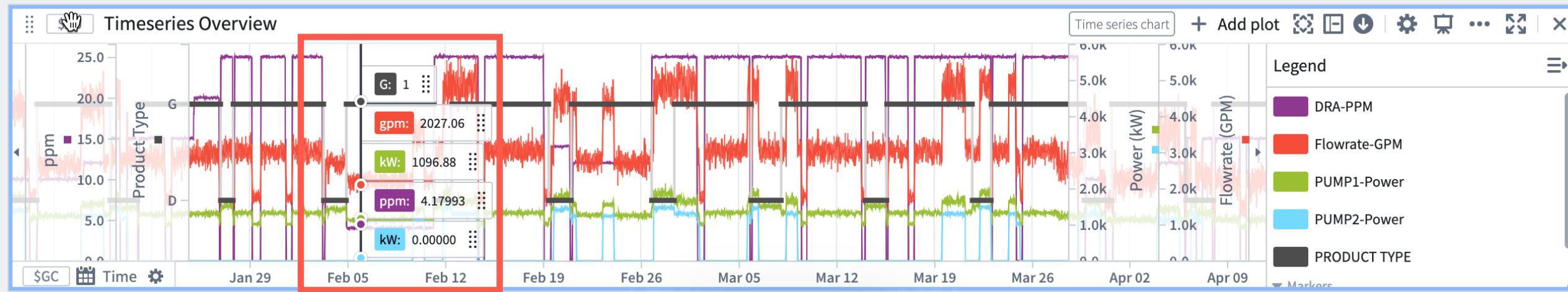
**FOCUS:** Prototyping, iterating, interacting, automating

**GOALS:** Confirm (“Let’s see if marketing investments contributed to rising profits.”) and discover (“What would we see if we visualized customer purchases by gender, location, and purchase amount in real time?”)



# EXPLORING SOMETHING

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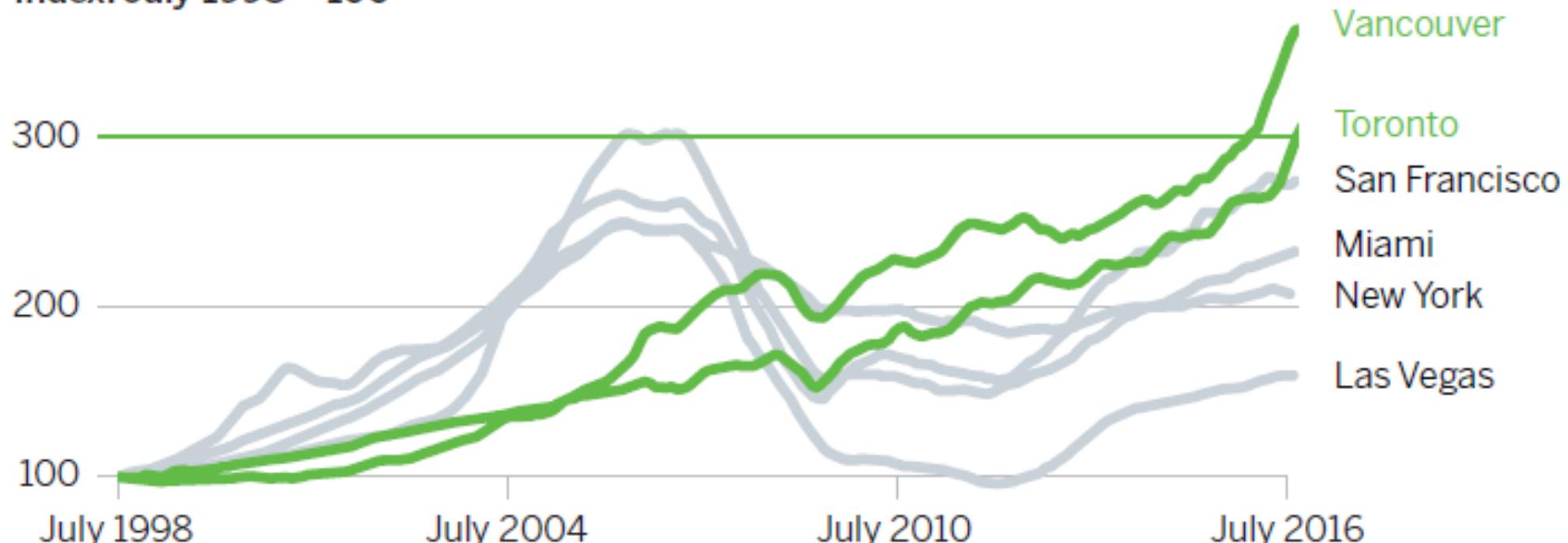


# DECLARING SOMETHING

---

## CANADIAN HOUSE PRICES RISE PAST U.S. PRICES

Index: July 1998 = 100



SOURCE: S&P/CASE SHILLER; TERANET HPI; MACLEAN'S



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UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

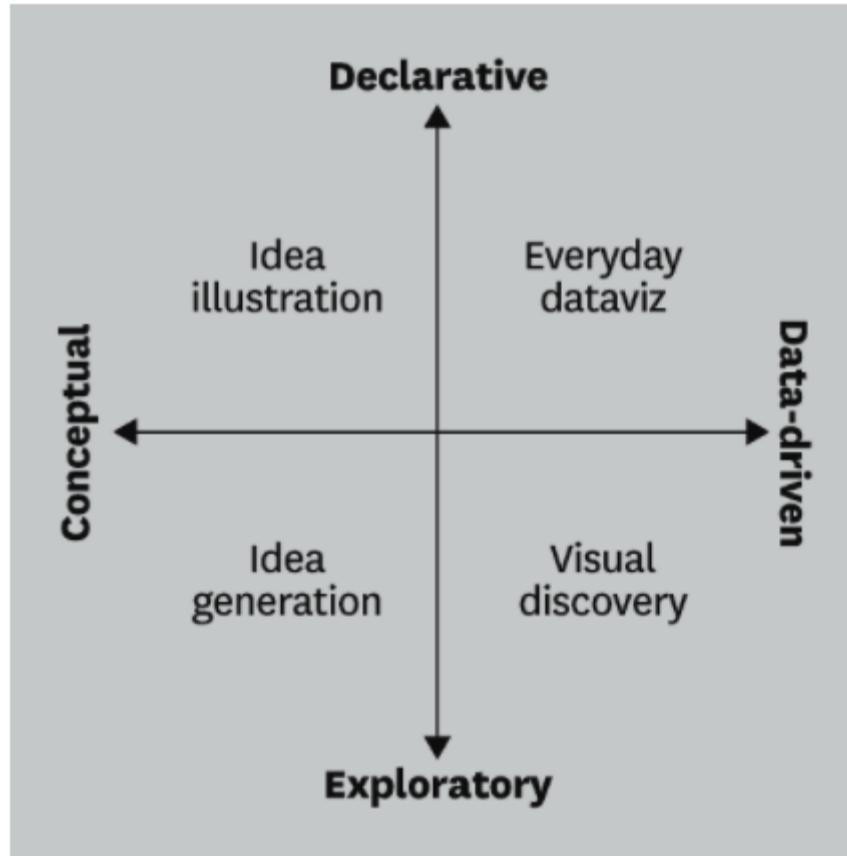
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DATAVIS 2025

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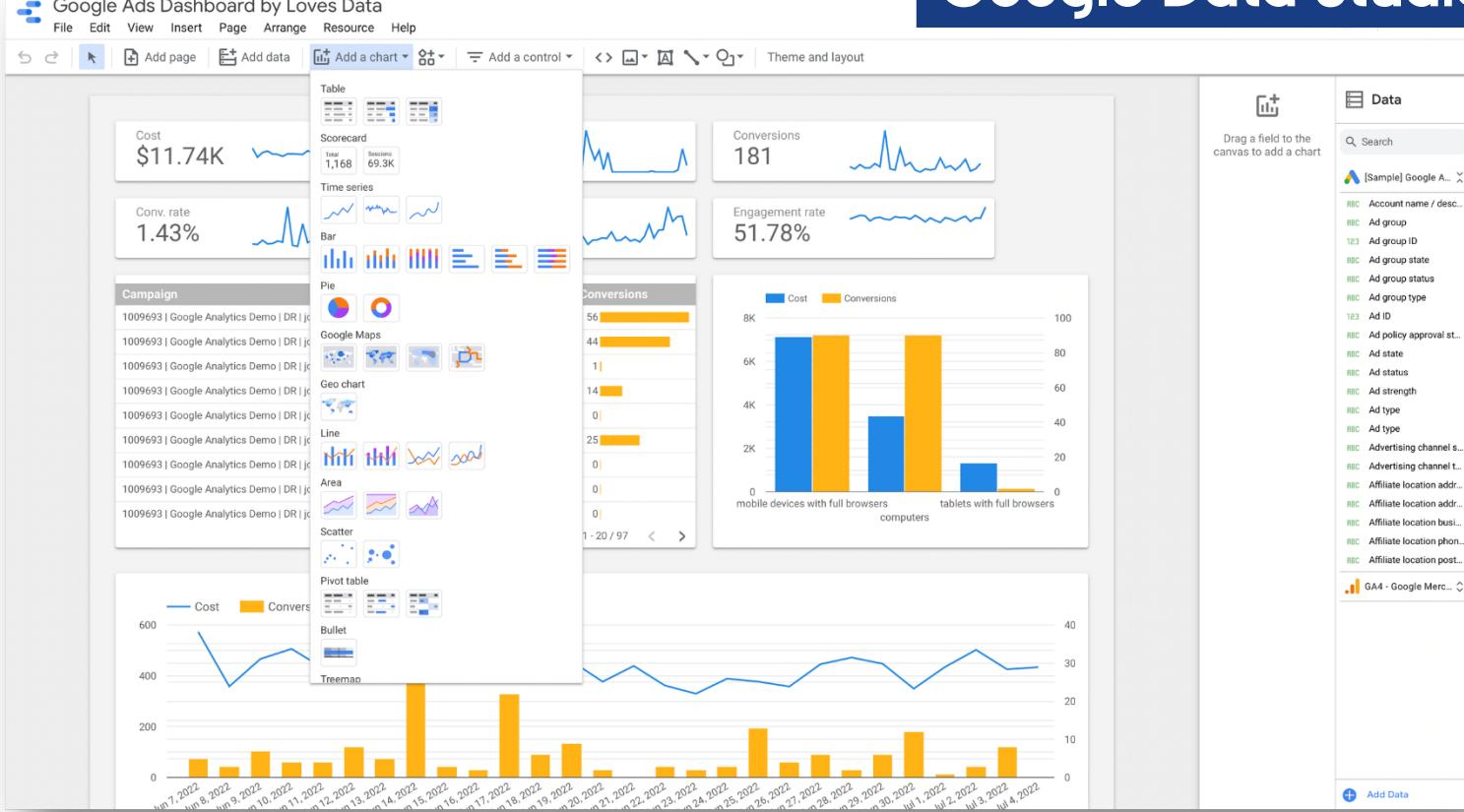


# THE VISUALIZATION DESIGN SPACE

[BERINATO 2016]



# DATA-DRIVEN & EXPLORATORY: VISUAL DISCOVERY



## Google Data Studio

### VISUAL DISCOVERY

**INFO TYPE:** Big data, complex, dynamic

**TYPICAL SETTING:** Working sessions, testing, analysis

**PRIMARY SKILLS:** Business intelligence, programming, paired analysis

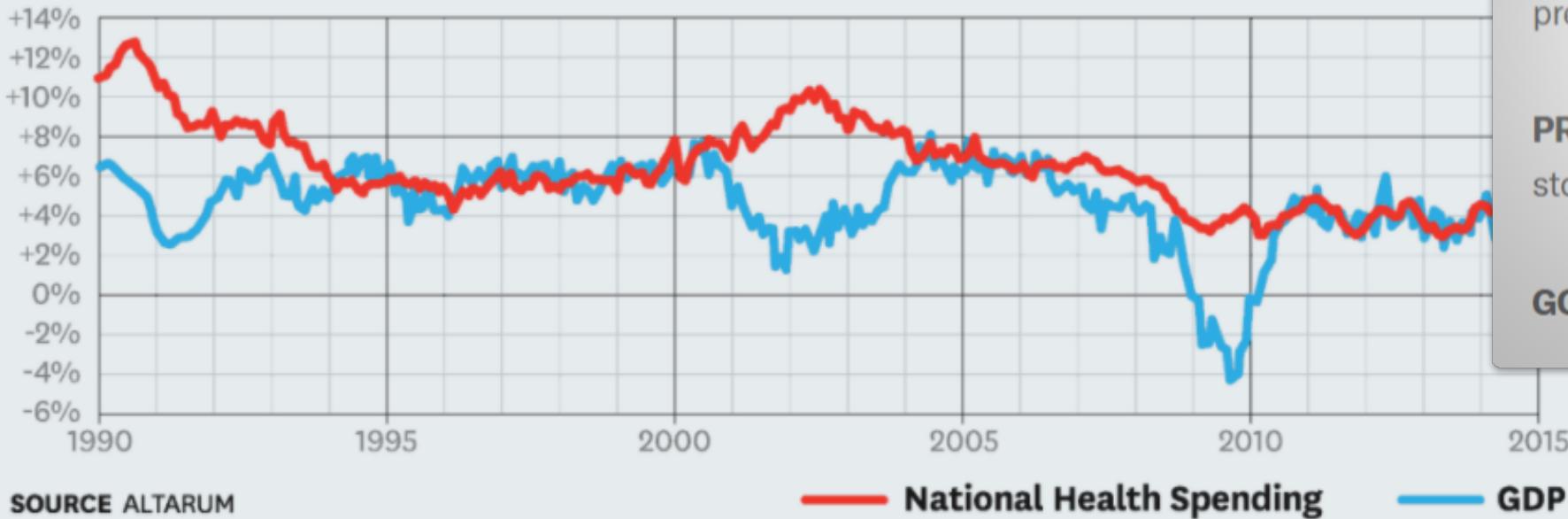
**GOALS:** Trend spotting, sense making, deep analysis



# DATA-DRIVEN & DECLARATIVE: EVERYDAY DATAVIS

## Change in Health Spending and GDP

PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR



### EVERYDAY DATAVIZ

**INFO TYPE:** Simple, low volume

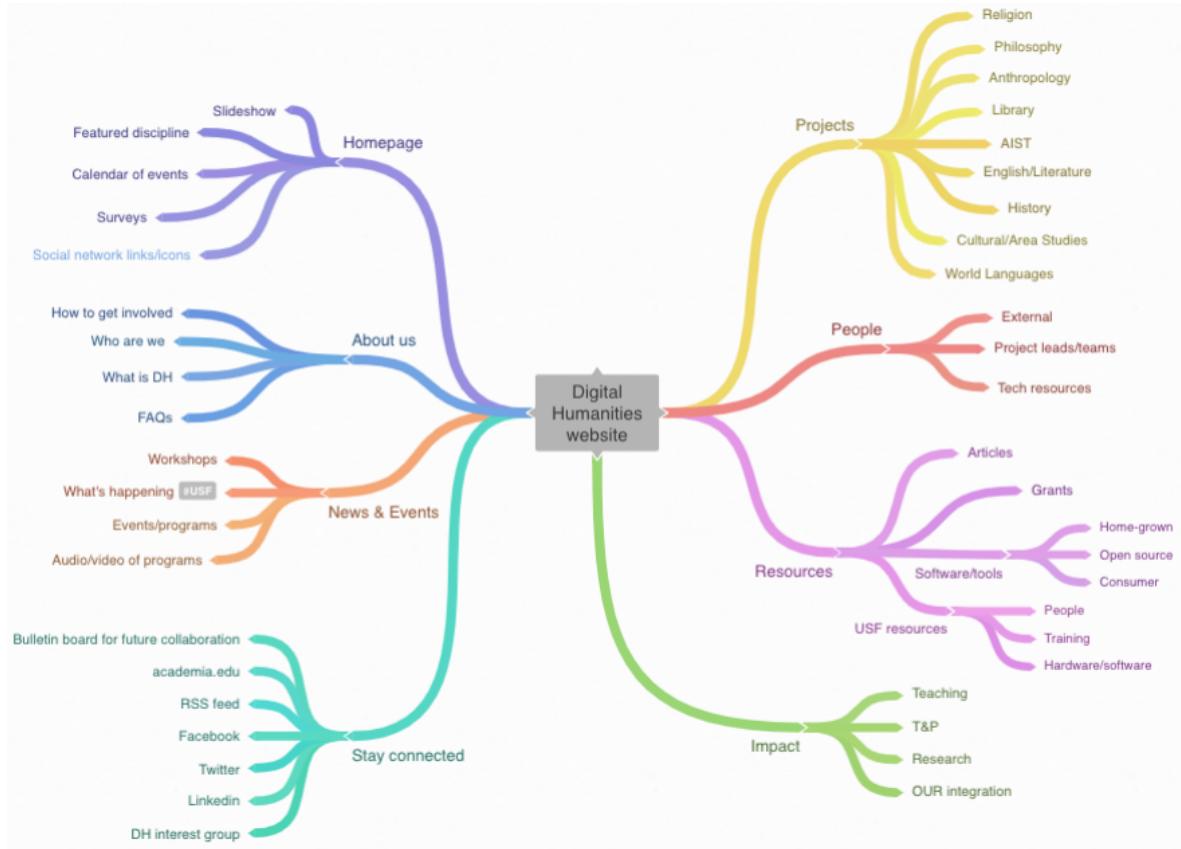
**TYPICAL SETTING:** Formal, presentations

**PRIMARY SKILLS:** Design, storytelling

**GOALS:** Affirming, setting context



# CONCEPTUAL & EXPLORATORY: IDEA GENERATION



## IDEA GENERATION

**INFO TYPE:** Complex, undefined

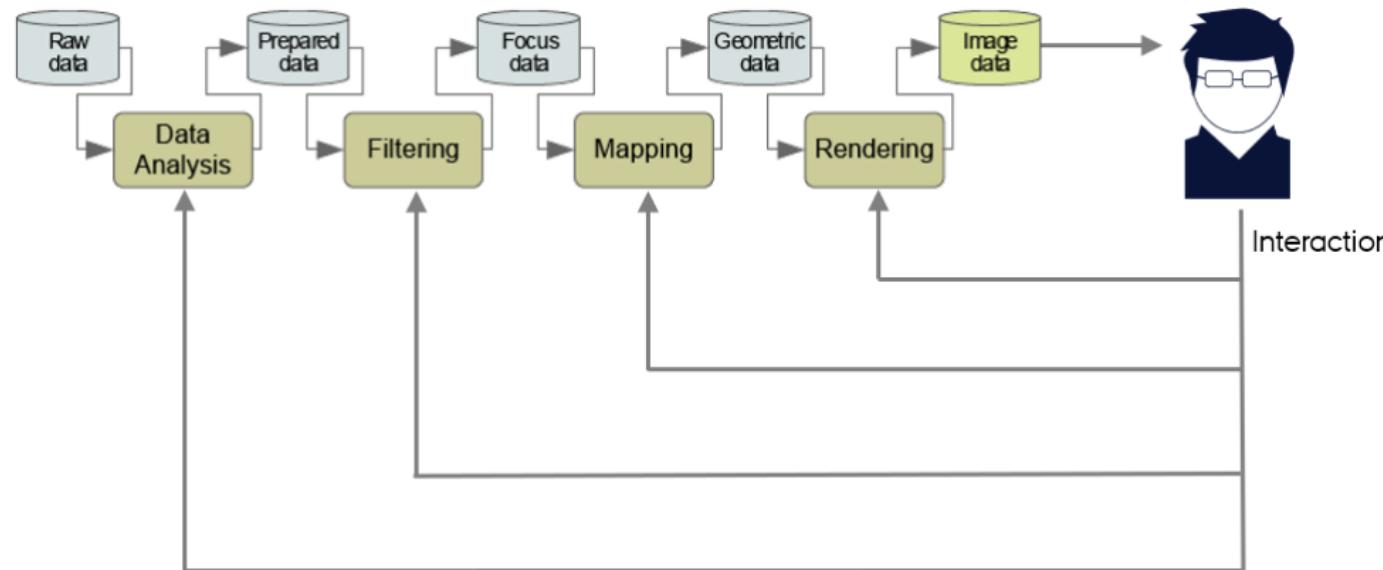
**TYPICAL SETTING:** Working session, brainstorming

**PRIMARY SKILLS:** Team-building, facilitation

**GOALS:** Problem solving, discovery, innovation

# CONCEPTUAL & DECLARATIVE: IDEA ILLUSTRATION

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## IDEA ILLUSTRATION

**INFO TYPE:** Process, framework

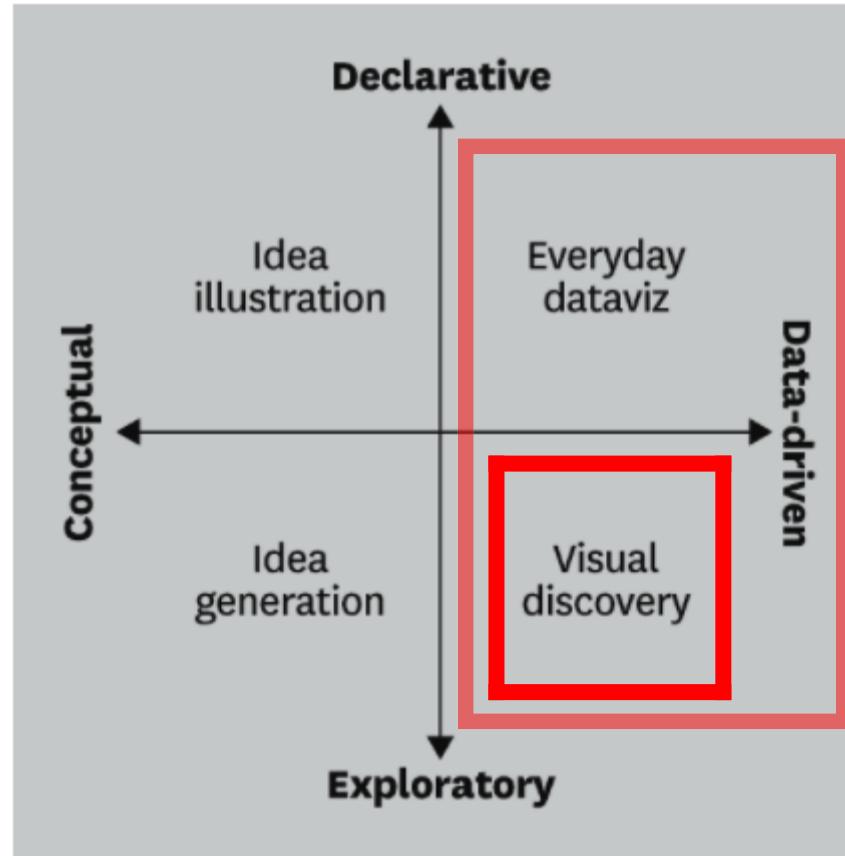
**TYPICAL SETTING:** Presentations,  
teaching

**PRIMARY SKILLS:** Design, editing

**GOALS:** Learning, simplifying,  
explaining

# THE VISUALIZATION DESIGN SPACE

[BERINATO 2016]



# BUT WHY LEARN ABOUT DATA VISUALIZATION?



# VISUALIZATION OF DATA DISTRIBUTIONS

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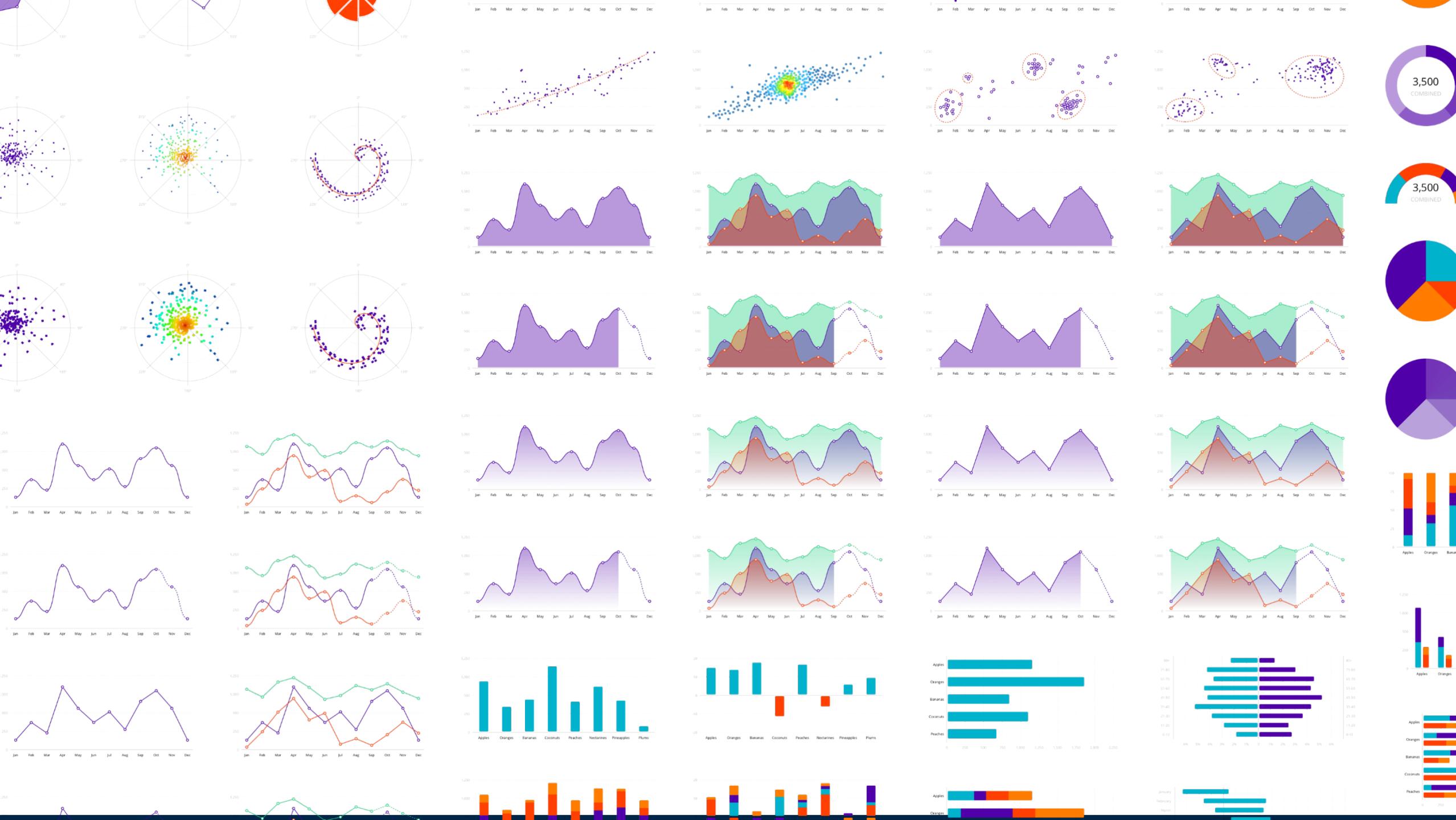
**Example:** given the birth year of every person in a cohort you are to visualize the age distribution

- > How would you go about it? **And why?**
- > Which visualization / chart type would you use? **And why?**
- > How exactly would you draw this chart? **And why?**

# HOW WOULD YOU GO ABOUT IT?

---

- Data-driven process  
(dense vs. sparse, 10 vs. 1.000 vs. 1.000.000 data points,...)
- Task-driven process  
(find median + outliers, compare against other age distribution...)
- Design-driven process  
(sketching, rapid prototyping, output-oriented process,...)



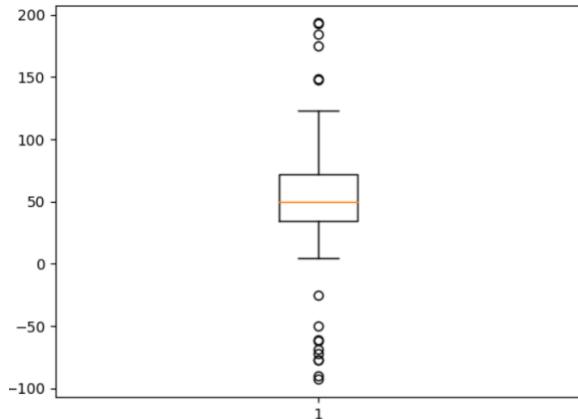
# HOW WOULD YOU GO ABOUT IT?

---

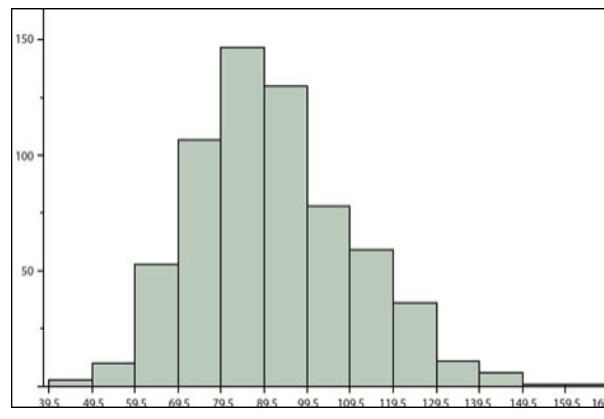
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(dense vs. sparse, 10 vs. 1.000 vs. 1.000.000 data points,...)
- Task-driven process  
(find median + outliers, compare against other age distribution...)
- Design-driven process  
(sketching, rapid prototyping, output-oriented process,...)
- User-driven process  
(your mom vs. domain expert, different domains,...)

# WHICH CHART TYPE TO USE?

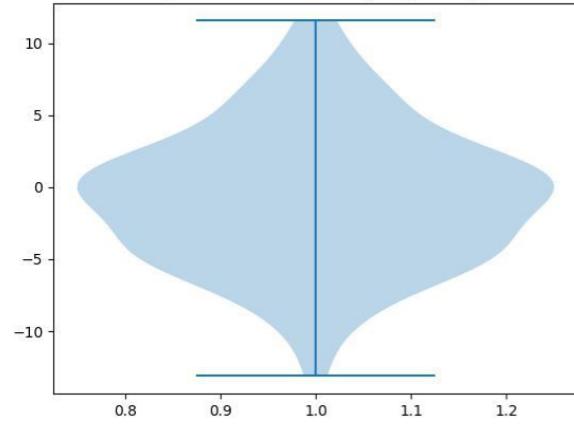
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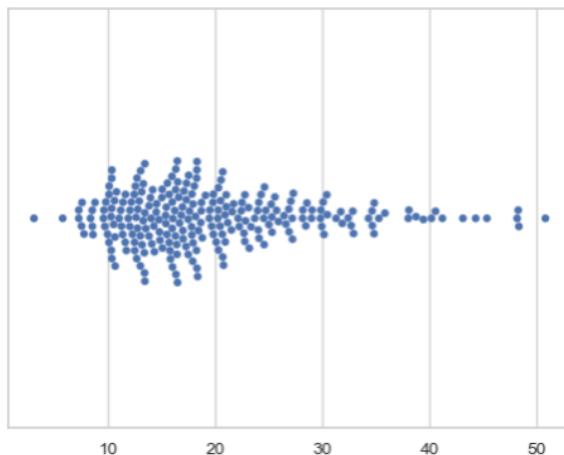
Boxplot /Box-Whisker-Plot



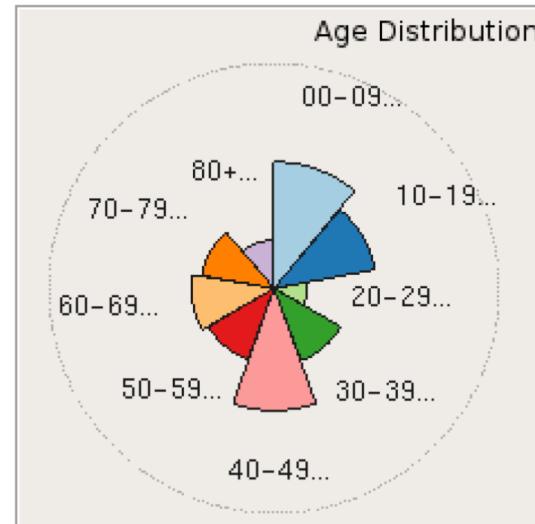
Histogram



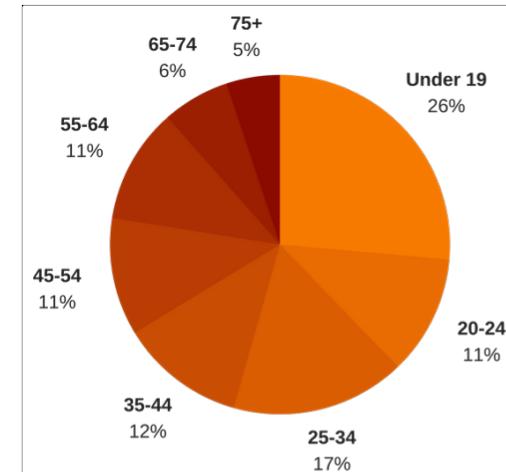
Violin Plot



Beeswarm Plot



Windrose Chart / Coxcomb



Piechart

# BOX PLOT VS. VIOLIN PLOT

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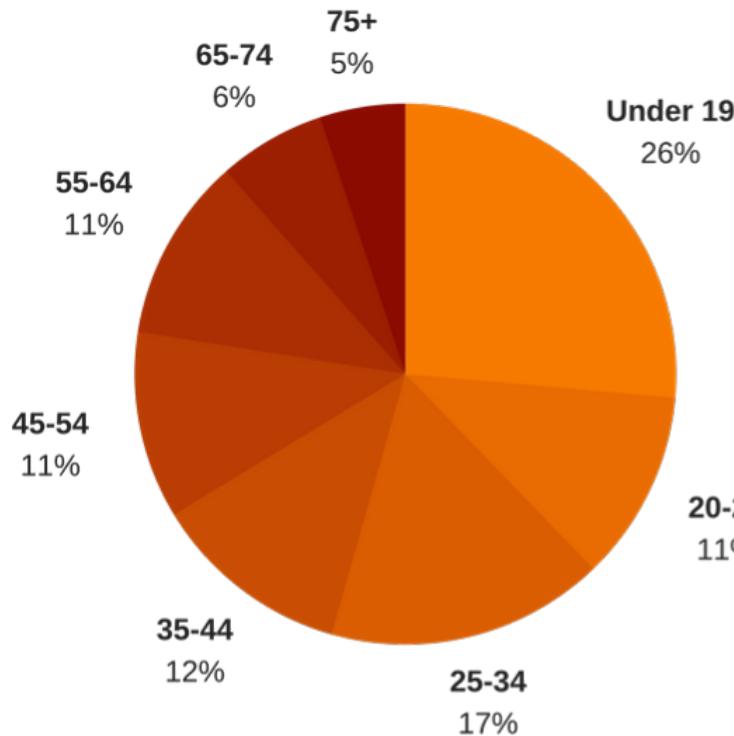


Source: Autodesk Research

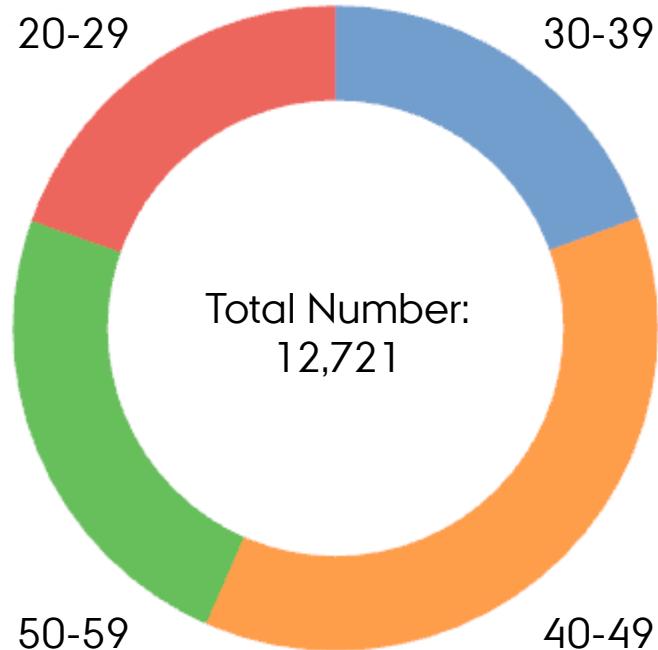


# WHICH CHART “VARIANT” TO USE?

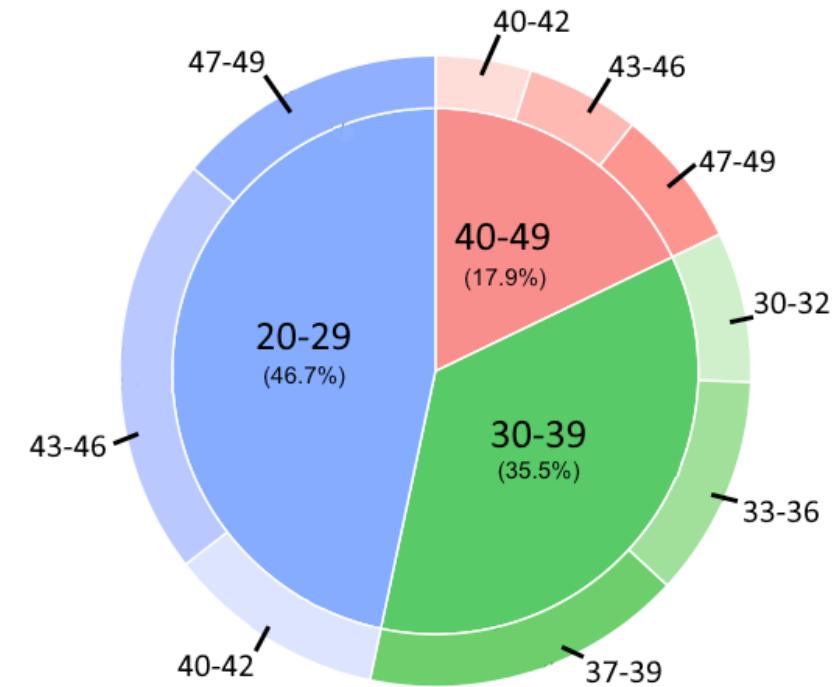
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Pie Chart



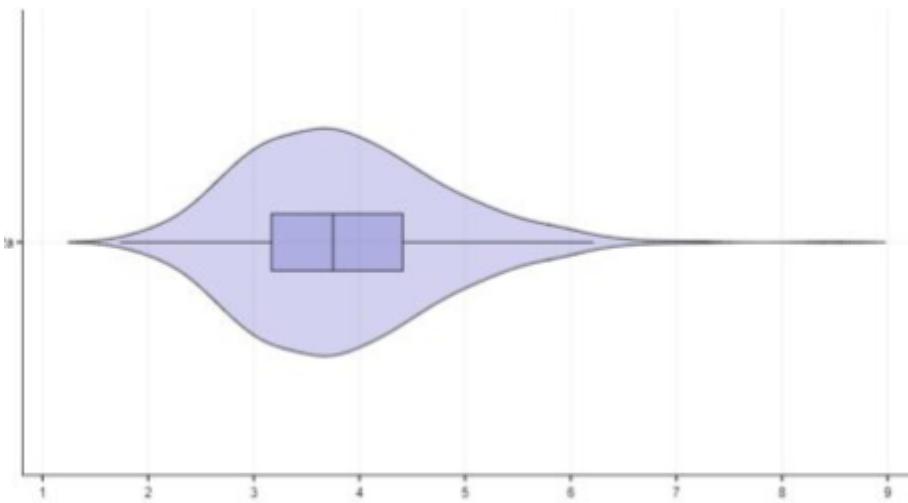
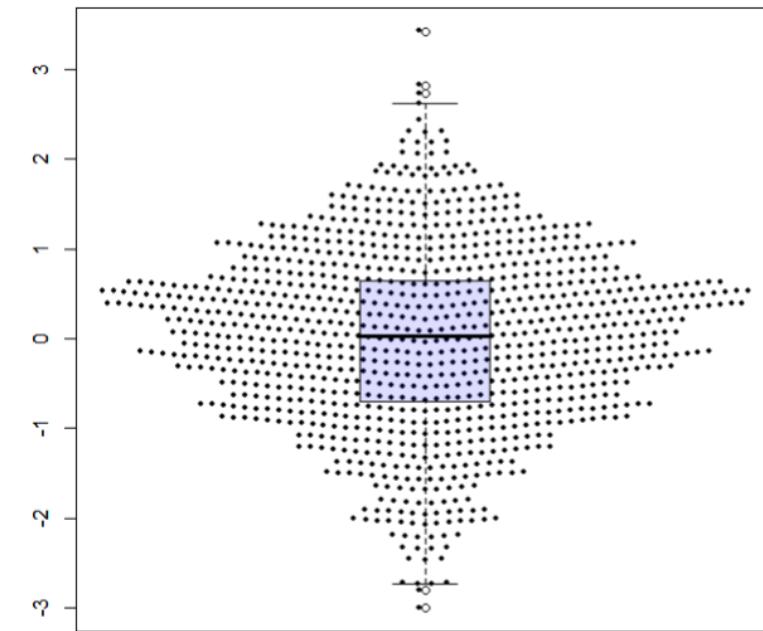
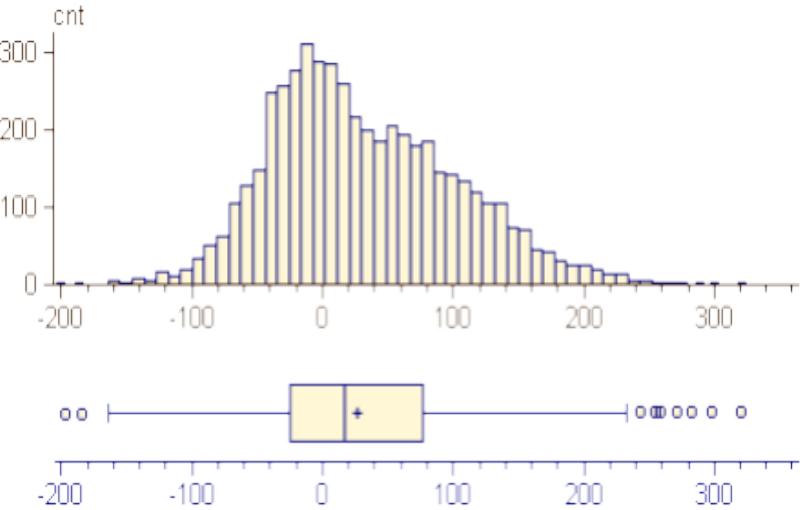
Doughnut Chart



Hierarchical Pie Chart / Sunburst

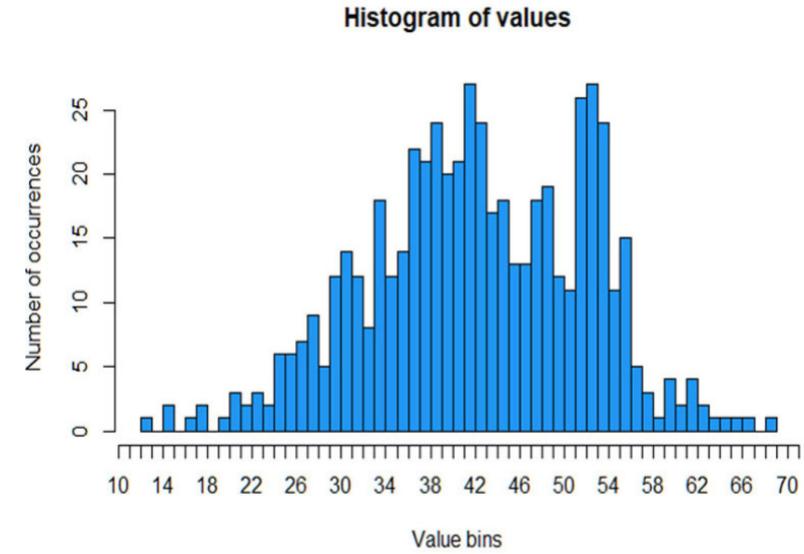
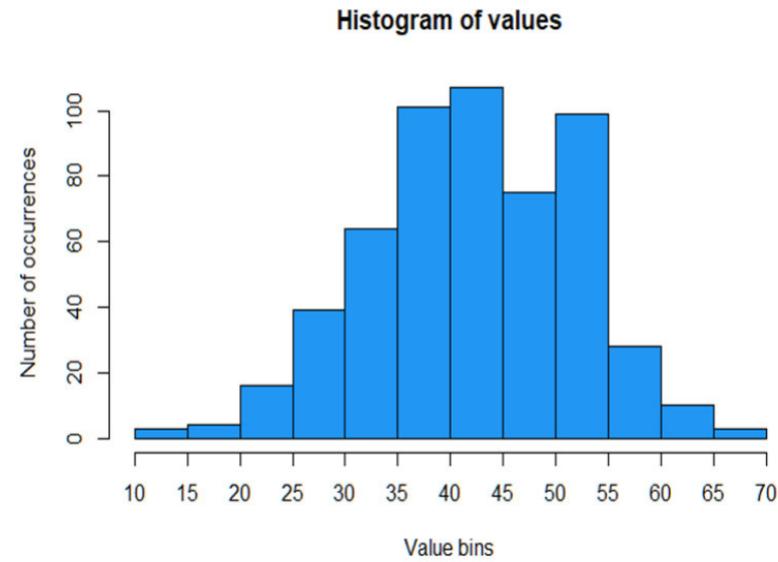
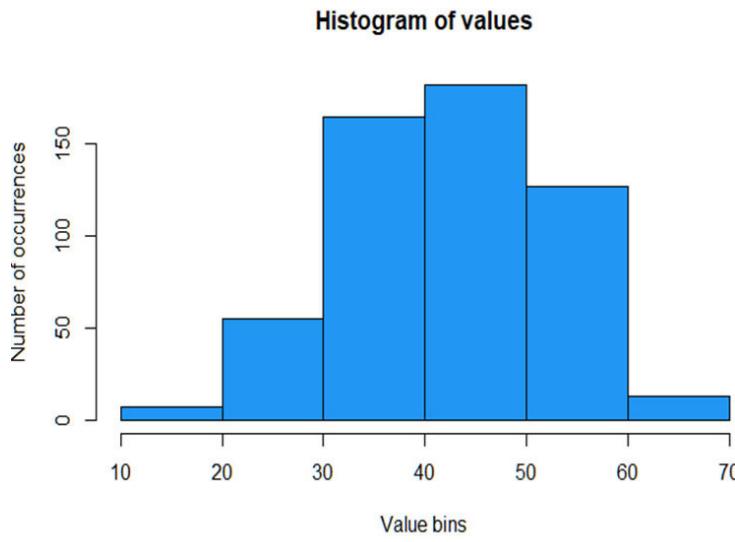
# DO YOU WANT TO COMBINE CHARTS?

---



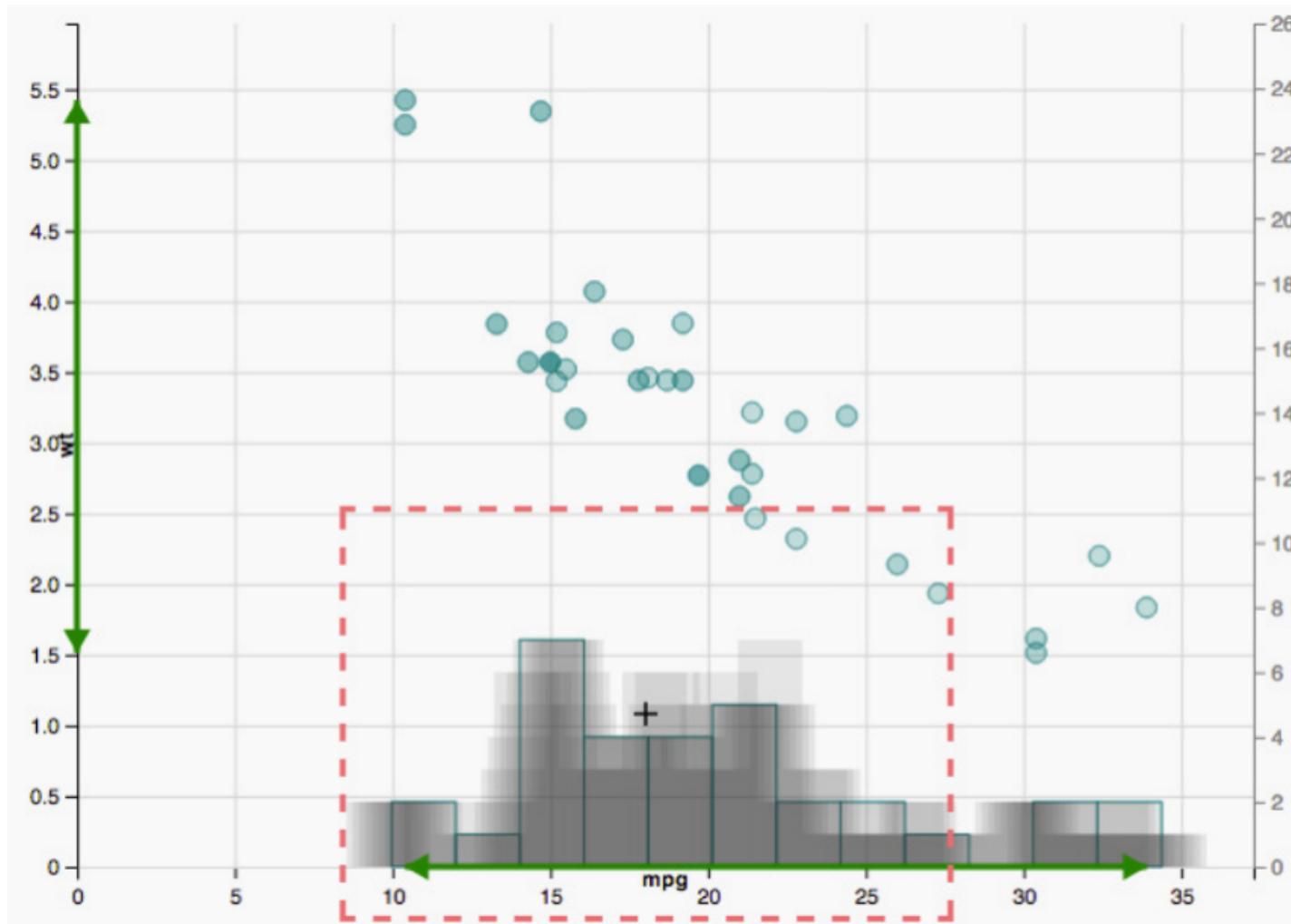
# HOW TO DRAW THE CHART?

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# HOW TO DRAW THE CHART?

---

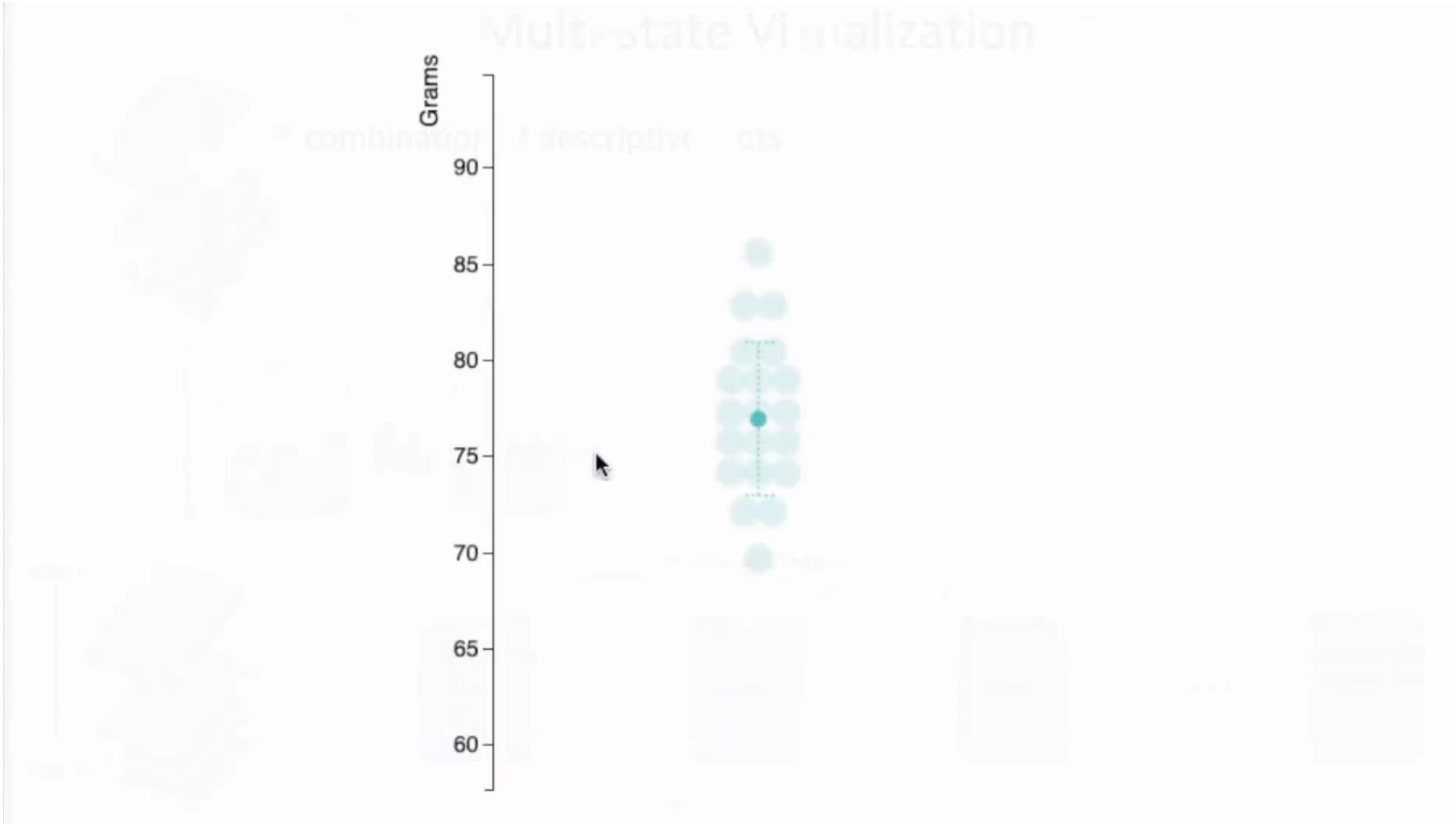


Source: Lunzer, McNamara 2014



# HOW TO INTERACT WITH THE CHART?

---



# HOW TO ENGINEER THE CHART?

	Method formula bins	Method formula width
Square-root	$\sqrt{n}$	$\frac{\max(\text{values}) - \min(\text{values})}{\sqrt{n}}$
Sturges 1926	$\text{ceil}(\log_2 n) + 1$	$\frac{\max(\text{values}) - \min(\text{values})}{\text{ceil}(\log_2 n) + 1}$
Rice 1944	$2 * \sqrt[3]{n}$	$\frac{\max(\text{values}) - \min(\text{values})}{2 * \sqrt[3]{n}}$
Scott 1979	$\frac{\max(\text{values}) - \min(\text{values})}{3.5 * \frac{\text{stdev}(\text{values})}{\sqrt[3]{n}}}$	$3.5 * \frac{\text{stdev}(\text{values})}{\sqrt[3]{n}}$
Freedman- Diaconis 1981	$\frac{\max(\text{values}) - \min(\text{values})}{2 * \frac{\text{IQR}(\text{values})}{\sqrt[3]{n}}}$	$2 * \frac{\text{IQR}(\text{values})}{\sqrt[3]{n}}$

**Approximation and Streaming Algorithms for Histogram Construction Problems**

SUDIPTO GUHA  
University of Pennsylvania  
NICK KOUDAS  
University of Toronto  
and  
KYUSEOK SHIM  
Seoul National University

Histograms and related synopsis structures. These have been successful in approximate querying, similarity search and few of the earliest synopsis structures for construction problem is to construct the data distribution most accurately under constraints.

The histograms are used as quick and the optimal histogram under the given error bounds. A natural question arises in this algorithm for the histogram construction:  $(1+\epsilon)$ -factor approximation algorithms for histograms.

**Versatile and Scalable Parallel Histogram Construction**

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**ABSTRACT**  
Histograms are used in various fields to quickly profile the distribution of a large amount of data. However, it is challenging to efficiently utilize abundant parallel resources in modern processors for histogram construction. To make matters worse, the most efficient implementation varies depending on input parameters (e.g., input distribution, number of bins, and data type) or architecture parameters (e.g., cache capacity and SIMD width).

This paper presents versatile histogram methods that achieve competitive performance across a wide range of input types and target architectures. Our open source implementations support single-instruction-stream, multiple-data-stream processors—Single-instruction-stream, multiple-data-stream processors

**Keywords**  
Histogram; Algorithms; Performance; SIMD; Multi-core

**1 Introduction**  
While the most well known usage of histograms is image processing algorithms [8], histogramming is also a key building block in various emerging data-intensive applications. Common database primitives such as join and query planning often use histograms to estimate the distribution of data in their pre-processing steps [18, 25, 34]. Histogramming is also a key step in fundamental data processing algorithms such as radix sort [31] and distributed sorting [19]. Typically, these data-intensive applications construct histograms in their pre-processing steps so that they can adapt to input distributions appropriately.

Histogramming is becoming more important because of two trends: (1) increasing amount of data and (2) increasing

# COURSE OVERVIEW



1. INTRODUCTION

2. VISUAL ENCODING

3. BASIC CHART TYPES

Basics

Visualization  
Building Blocks  
& Processes

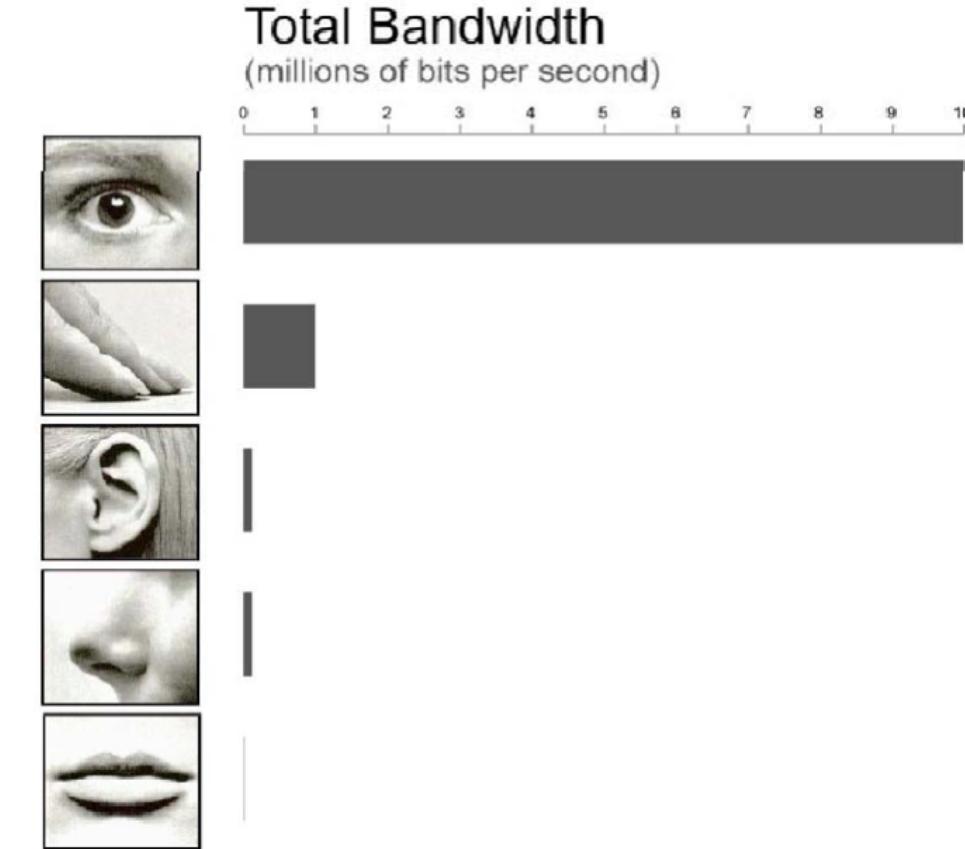
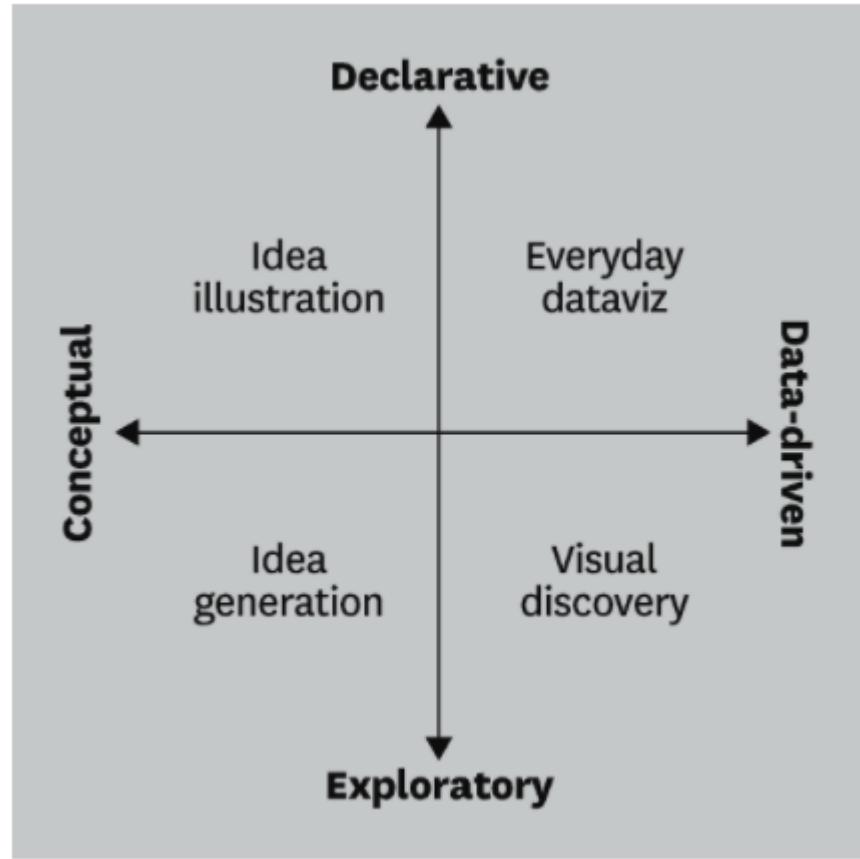
Visualization  
Techniques

Cross-cutting  
Topics



# 1. INTRODUCTION TO VISUALIZATION

---



# 2. VISUAL MAPPING & ENCODING

---

## → Points



## → Lines



## → Areas



## → Position

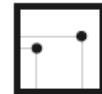
→ Horizontal



→ Vertical



→ Both



## → Color



## → Tilt



## → Shape



## → Size

→ Length



→ Area



→ Volume



# 3. BASIC CHART TYPES

## Deviation

## Correlation

## Ranking

## Distribution

## Change over Time

## Magnitude

## Part-to-whole

## Spatial

## Flow

Show the relationship between two or more variables. Be mindful that, unless you tell them otherwise, many readers will assume the relationships you show them to be causal (i.e. one causes the other).

**Example FT uses:**  
Trade surplus/deficit, climate change

Show the relationship between two or more variables. Be mindful that, unless you tell them otherwise, many readers will assume the relationships you show them to be causal (i.e. one causes the other).

**Example FT uses:**  
Inflation and unemployment, income and life expectancy

Use where an item's position in an ordered list is more important than its absolute or relative value. Don't be afraid to highlight the points of interest.

**Example FT uses:**  
Wealth, deprivation, league tables, constituency election results

Show values in a dataset and how often they occur. The shape or 'skew' of a distribution can be a memorable way of highlighting the lack of uniformity or equality in the data.

**Example FT uses:**  
Income distribution, population, tagged/distribution, revealing inequality

Give emphasis to changing trends. These can be short-term (day-to-day) movements or extended series traversing decades or centuries. Choosing the correct time period is important to provide suitable context for the reader.

**Example FT uses:**  
Share price movements, economic time series, sectoral changes in a market

Show size comparisons. These can be relative (not being able to see larger/larger) or absolute (need to see the differences). Usually these show a 'count' of number (for example, barrels, dollars or people) rather than a calculated rate or per cent.

**Example FT uses:**  
Commodity production, market capitalisation, volumes in general

Show how a single entity can be broken down into its component elements. If the reader's interest is solely in the size of the components, consider a magnitude-type chart instead.

**Example FT uses:**  
Racial budgets, company structures, national election results

Adds items to maps only used when precise locations or more states or conditions. These might be logical sequences or geographical locations.

**Example FT uses:**  
Population density, natural resource location, natural disaster risk/impact, catchment areas, variation in election results

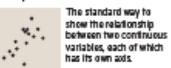
Show the reader volumes or intensity of movement between two or more states or conditions. These might be logical sequences or geographical locations.

**Example FT uses:**  
Movement of funds, trade, migrants, resources, information; relationship graphs.

### Diverging bar



### Scatterplot



The standard way to show the relationship between two continuous variables, each of which has its own axis.

### Diverging stacked bar



Perfect for presenting survey results which involve sentiment (e.g. disagree, neutral/agree).

### Spine



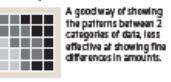
Splits a single value into two contrasting components (e.g. male/female).

### Surplus/deficit filled line



The shaded area of these charts allows a balance to be shown - either against a baseline or between two series.

### XY heatmap



A good way of showing the patterns between 3 categories of data, less effective at showing the differences in amounts.

### Bubble



Like a scatterplot but adds additional detail by sizing the circles according to a third variable.

### Dot strip plot



Dots placed in order on a strip are a space-efficient method of laying out ranks across multiple categories.

### Dot plot



A simple way of showing the change or range (in/m) of data across multiple categories.

### Barcode plot



Good for displaying individual values in a distribution, can be a problem when too many dots have the same value.

### Slope



Perfect for displaying how ranks have changed over time or vary between categories.

### Boxplot



Summarises multiple data distributions by showing the median (central) and range of the data.

### Lollipop



Lollipops draw more attention to the data value than standard bar/column and can also show rank and value effectively.

### Violin plot



Similar to a box plot but more effective with complex distributions (data that cannot be summarised with simple averages).

### Bump



Effective for showing changing ranking across multiple data sets. For large datasets, consider grouping lines using colour.

### Population pyramid



A standard way for showing the age and sex breakdown of a population distribution; effectively back-to-back histograms.

### Cumulative curve



A good way of showing how unequal a distribution is: y-axis is always cumulative frequency, x-axis is always a measure.

### Frequency polygons



For displaying multiple distributions of data. Like a regular line chart, except it's plotted in a closed loop.

### Calendar heatmap



A great way of showing temporal patterns across months, days, or hours.

### Connected scatterplot



A good way of showing changing data for two variables whenever there is a relatively clear pattern of progression.

### Lollipop



Lollipop charts draw more attention to the data value than standard bar/column – does not have to start at zero (but preferable).

### Frequency polygon



For displaying multiple distributions of data. Like a regular line chart, except it's plotted in a closed loop.

### Calendar heatmap



A great way of showing temporal patterns across months, days, or hours.

### Radar



A space-efficient way of showing the values of multiple variables – must make sure axes are the same length.

### Gridplot



Good for showing % information, they work best when used on whole numbers and work well in small multiple layout form.

### Venn



Generally only used for schematic representation.

### Sunkay



Shows changes in flows from one condition to at least one other, good for tracing the eventual outcome of a complex process.

### Waterfall



Designed to show the sequencing of data through a flow process, typically budgets. Can include +/- components.

### Chord



A complex but space-efficient diagram which can illustrate 2-way flows (and net winner) in a matrix.

### Network



Used for showing the strength and inter-connectedness of relationships of varying types.

1. INTRODUCTION

2. VISUAL ENCODING

3. BASIC CHART TYPES

4. INTERACTION

5. VISUALIZATION DESIGN

6. DATA PREPROCESSING

Basics

Visualization  
Building Blocks  
& Processes

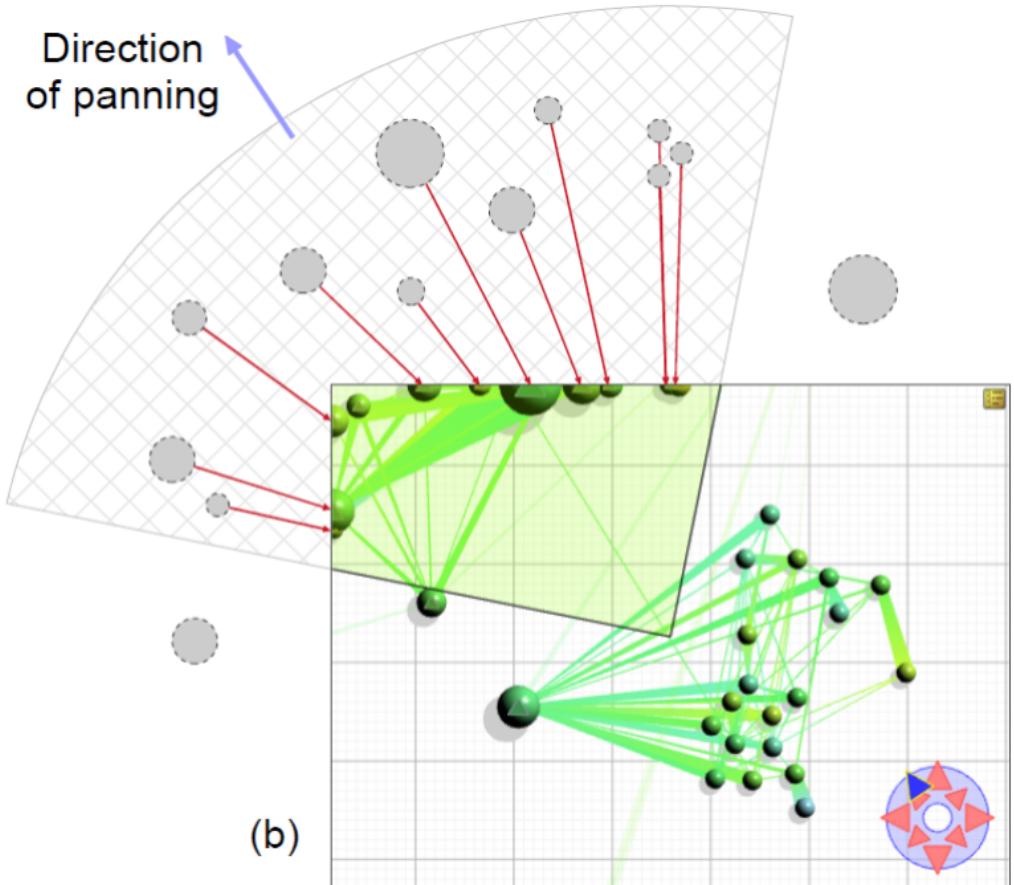
Visualization  
Techniques

Cross-cutting  
Topics



# 4. INTERACTION WITH VISUALIZATION

---



# 5. VISUALIZATION DESIGN

## Design Activity Framework

**Understand**

**i**deate

**m**ake

**d**eploy

### Exploration Actions

#### Data Exploration Actions

- Filter
- Inspect
- Query
- Restore

#### Visual Exploration Actions

- Brush
- Change-Metaphor
- Change-Range
- Zoom
- Pan
- Merge
- Sort
- Split

### Insight Actions

#### Visual Insight Actions

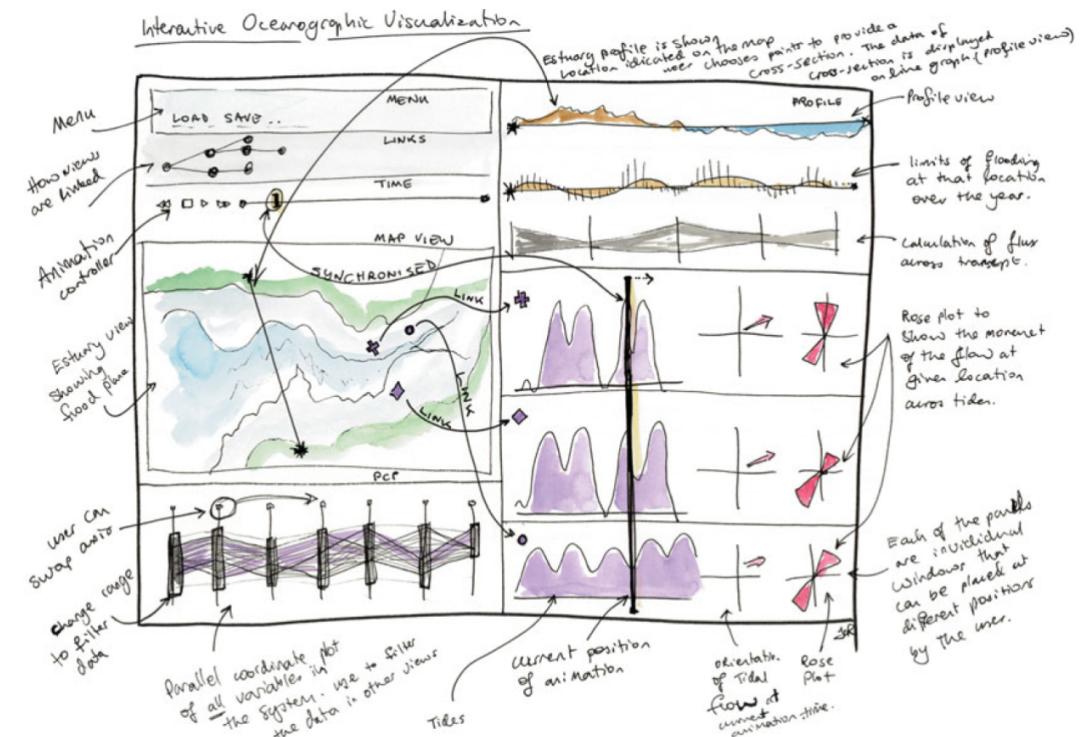
- Annotate
- Bookmark

#### Knowledge Insight Actions

- Create
- Modify
- Remove

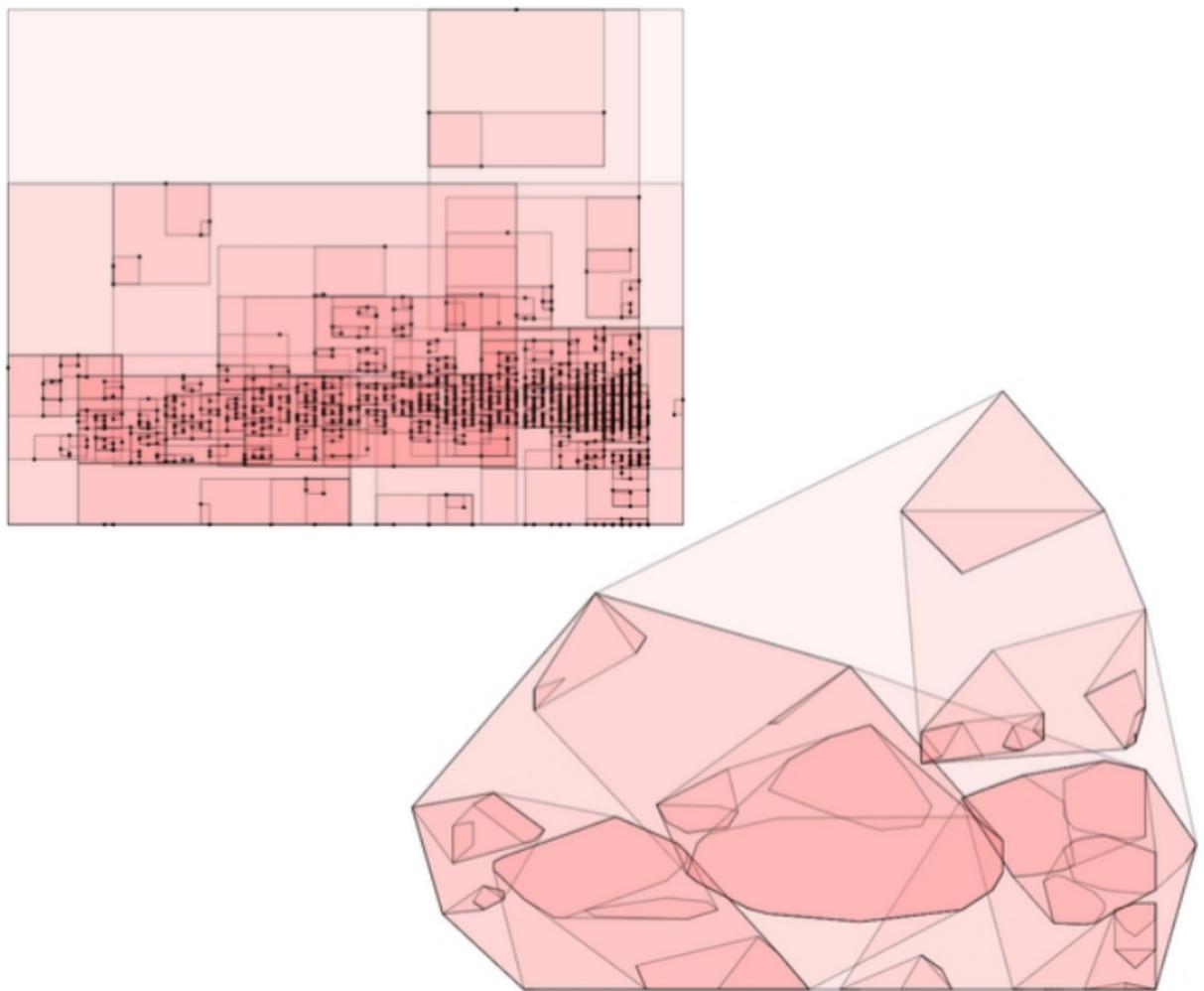
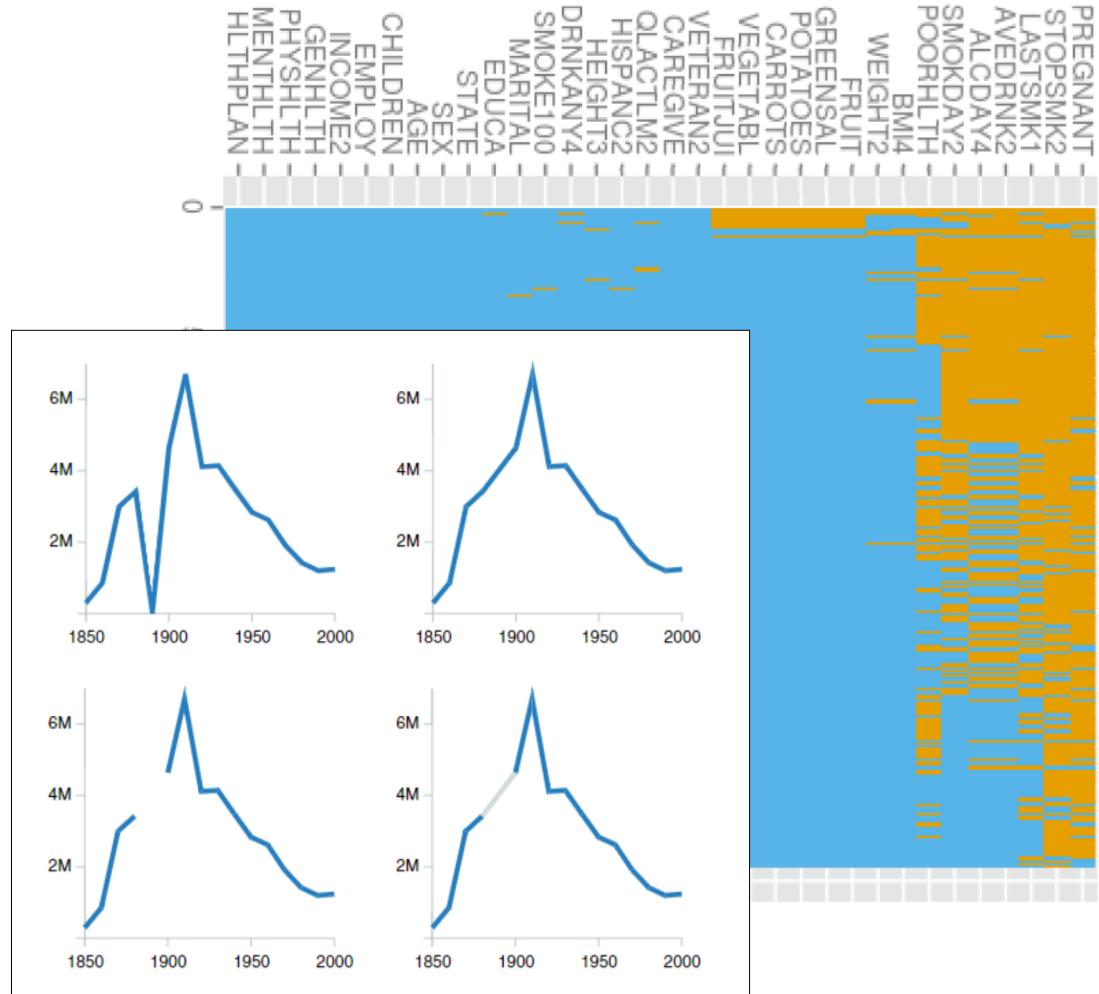
### Meta Actions

- Delete
- Edit
- Redo
- Revisit
- Undo



# 6. DATA PREPROCESSING

---



1. INTRODUCTION

2. VISUAL ENCODING

3. BASIC CHART TYPES

4. INTERACTION

5. VISUALIZATION DESIGN

6. DATA PREPROCESSING

7. RECAP 1<sup>st</sup> Half

Basics

Visualization  
Building Blocks  
& Processes

Visualization  
Techniques

Cross-cutting  
Topics





**FALL BREAK**

1. INTRODUCTION

2. VISUAL ENCODING

3. BASIC CHART TYPES

4. INTERACTION

5. VISUALIZATION DESIGN

6. DATA PREPROCESSING

7. RECAP 1<sup>st</sup> Half

8. MULTIVARIATE DATAVIS

9. TEMPORAL DATAVIS

10. GEOSPATIAL DATAVIS

11. GRAPH DATAVIS

Basics

Visualization  
Building Blocks  
& Processes

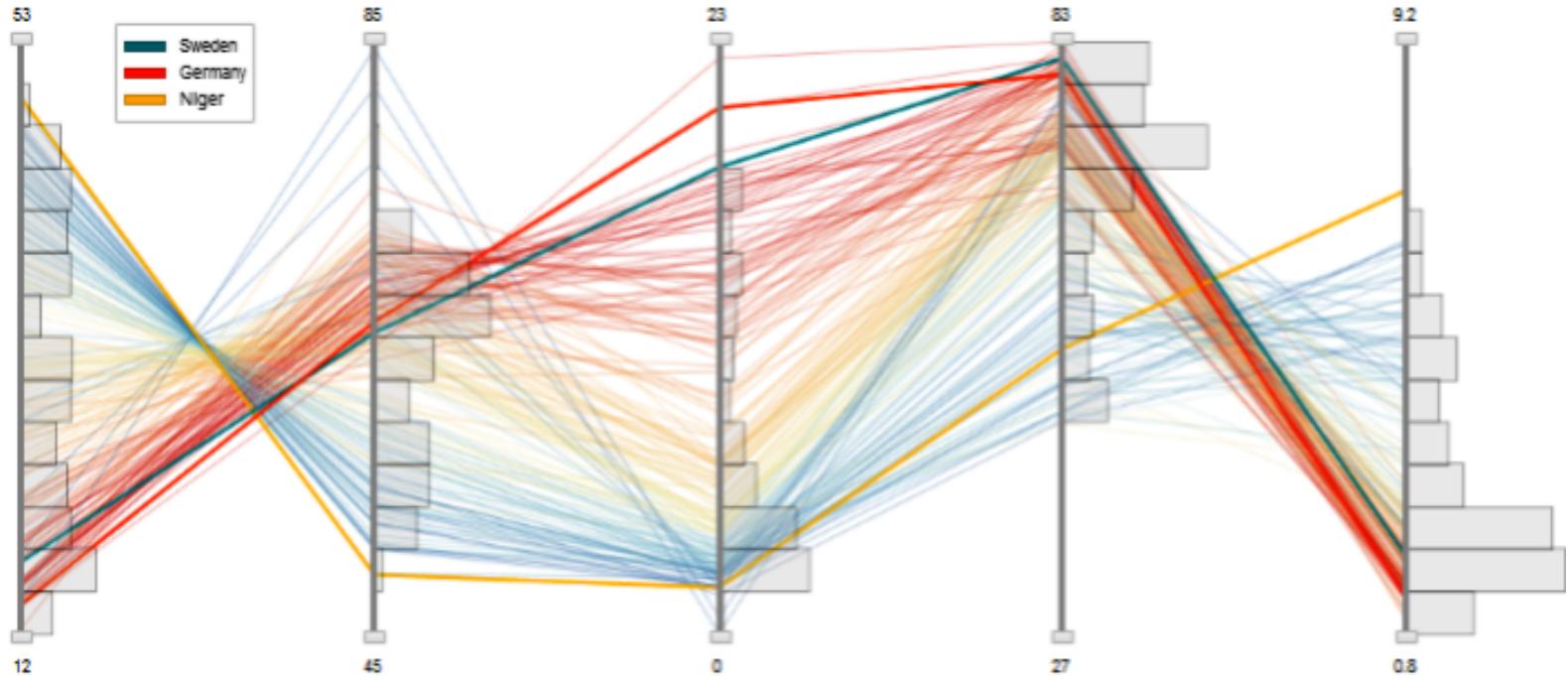
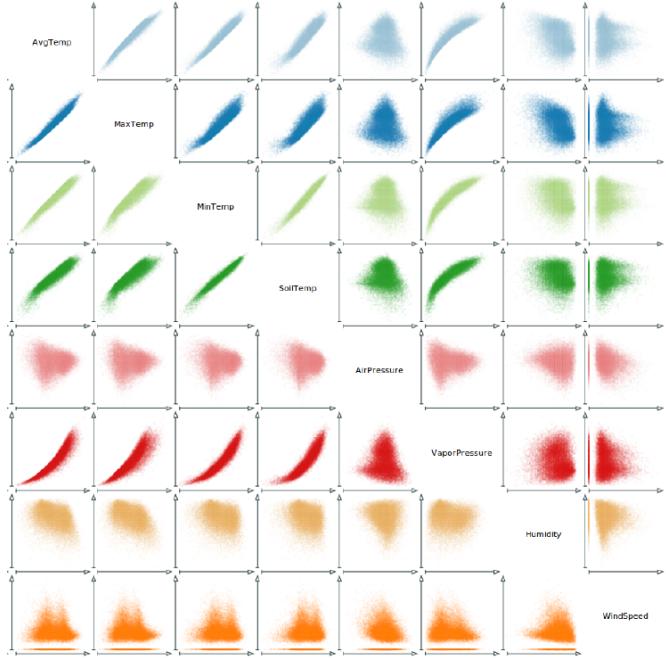
Visualization  
Techniques

Visualization  
Applications

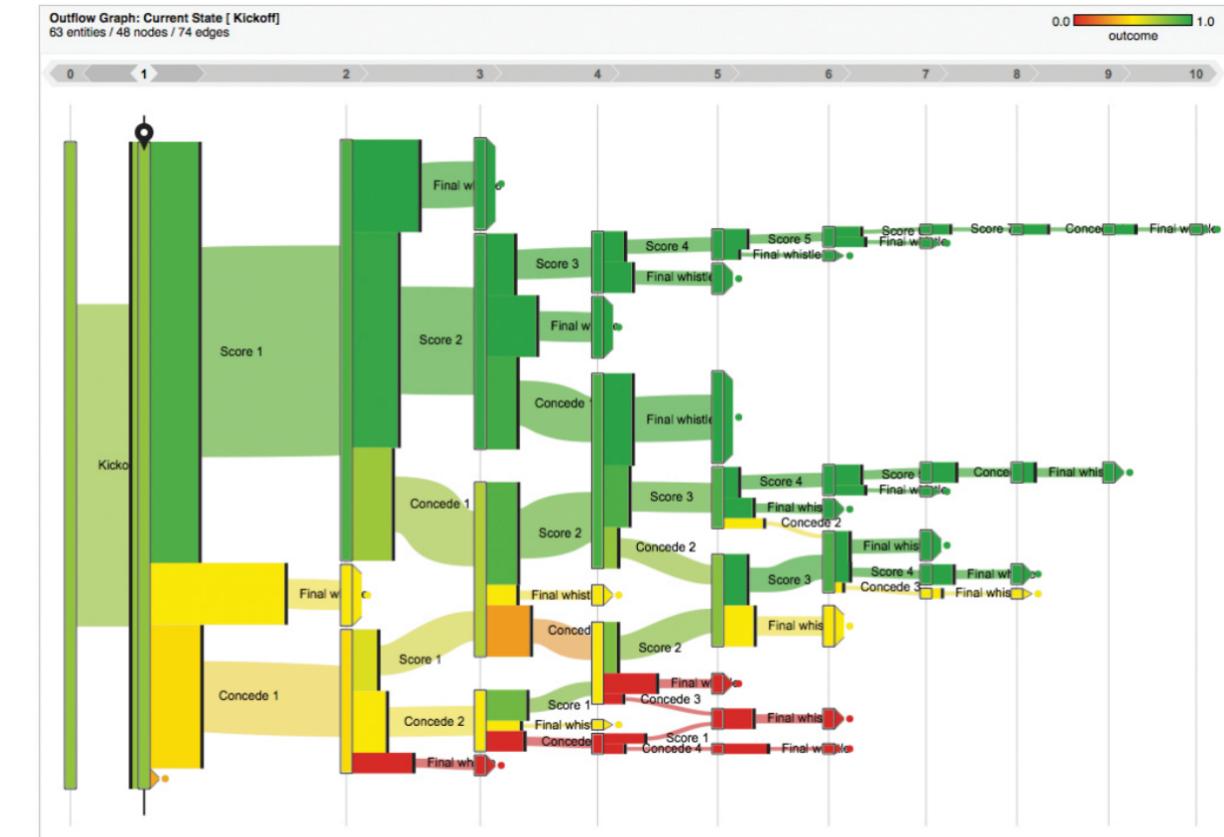
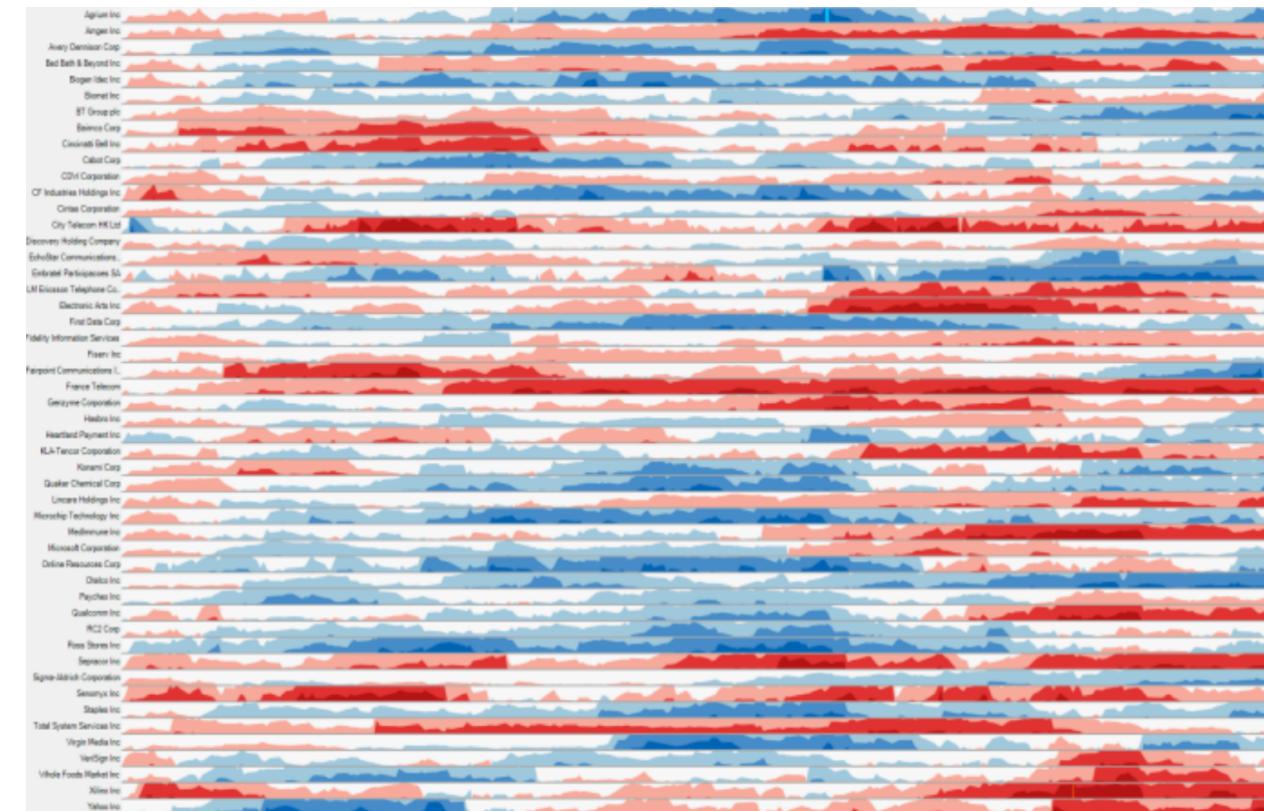


# 8. MULTIVARIATE VISUALIZATION

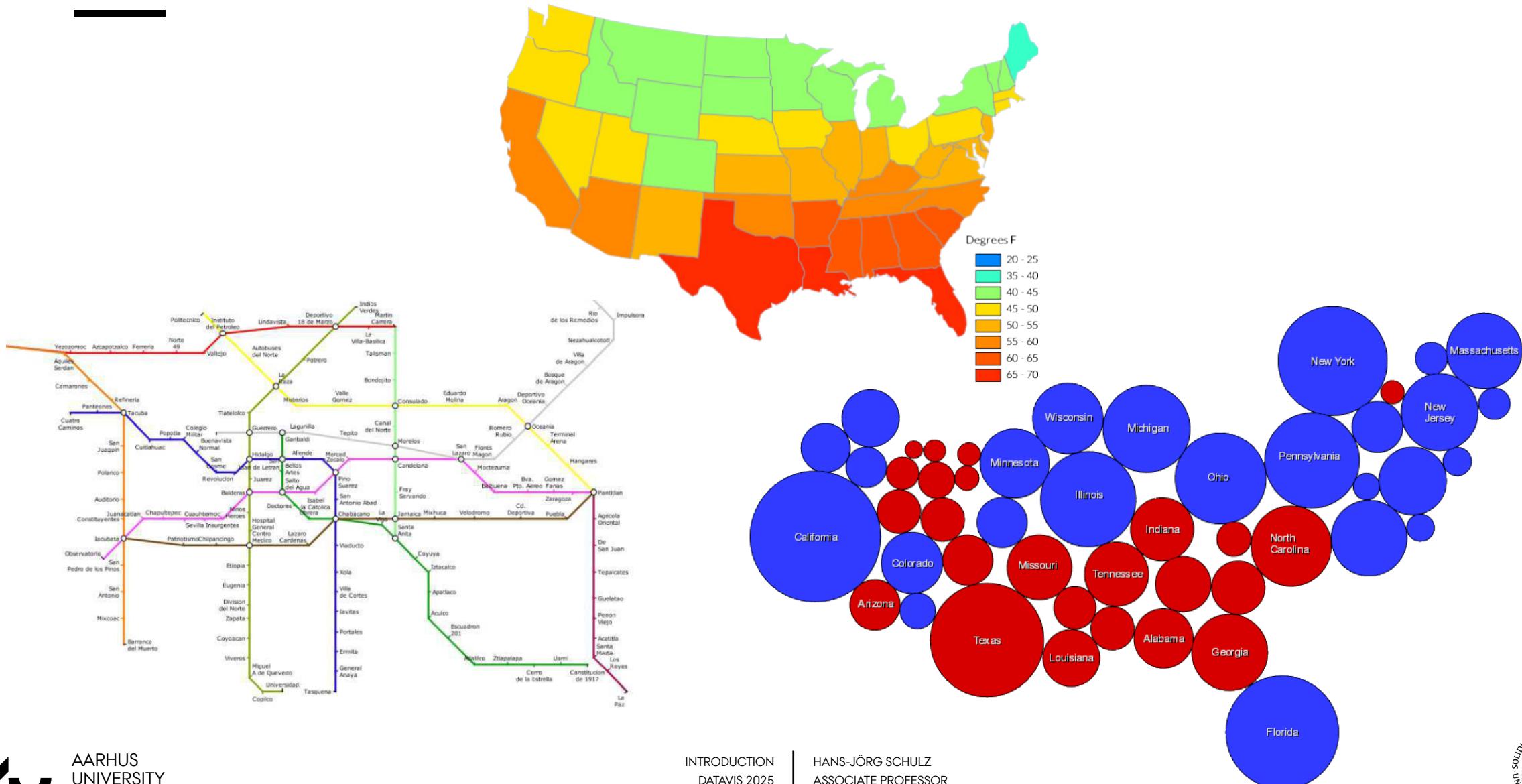
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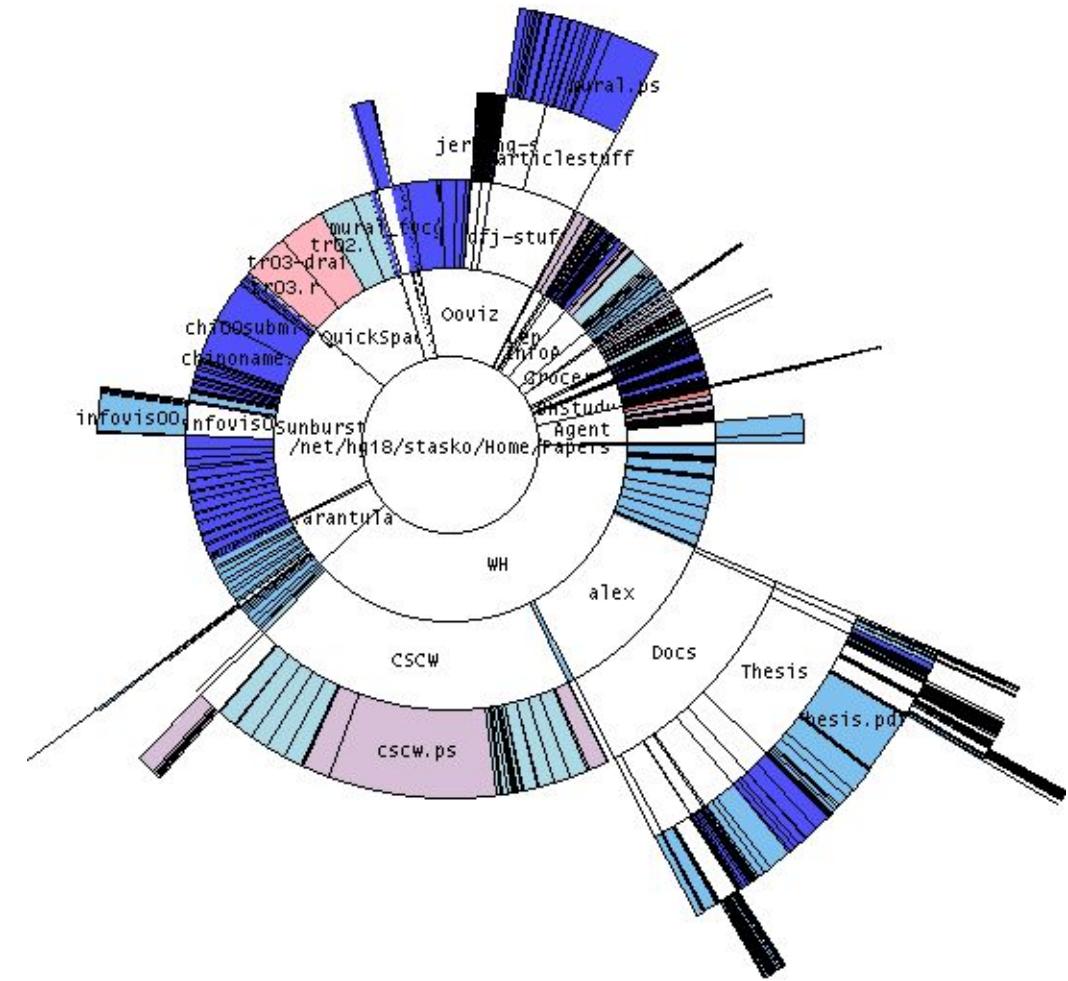
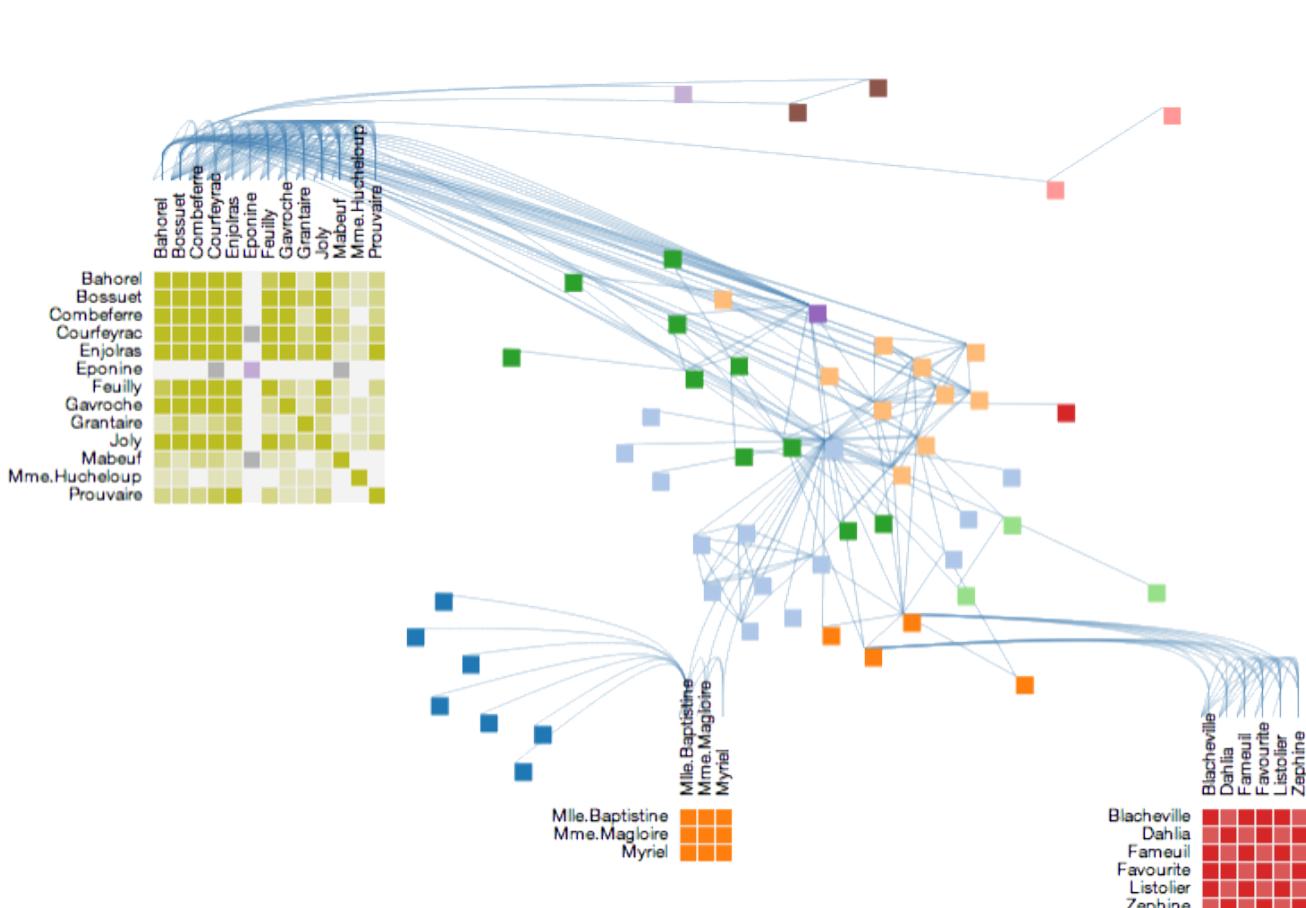
# 9. VISUALIZATION OF TEMPORAL DATA



# 10. VISUALIZATION OF GEOSPATIAL DATA



# 11. VISUALIZATION OF GRAPH DATA



1. INTRODUCTION

2. VISUAL ENCODING

3. BASIC CHART TYPES

4. INTERACTION

5. VISUALIZATION DESIGN

6. DATA PREPROCESSING

7. RECAP 1<sup>st</sup> Half

8. MULTIVARIATE DATAVIS

9. TEMPORAL DATAVIS

10. GEOSPATIAL DATAVIS

11. GRAPH DATAVIS

12. 3D DATAVIS

13. VISUAL ANALYTICS

Basics

Visualization  
Building Blocks  
& Processes

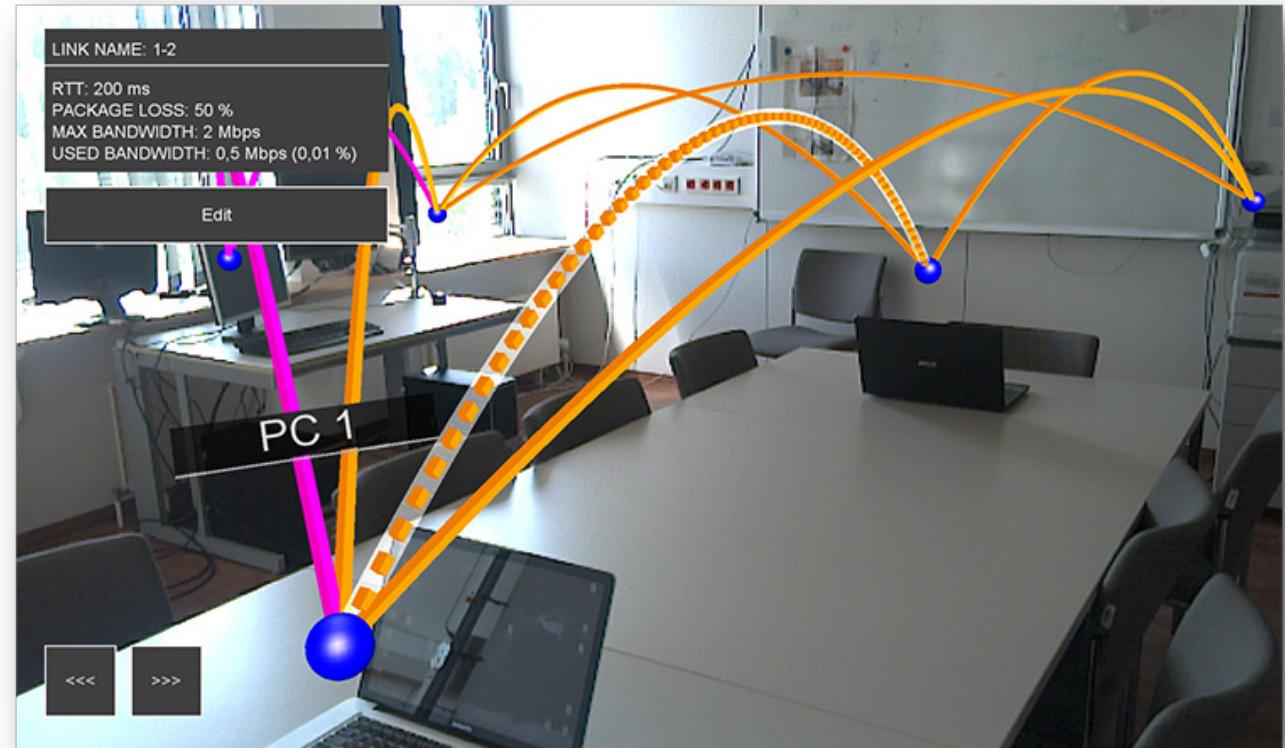
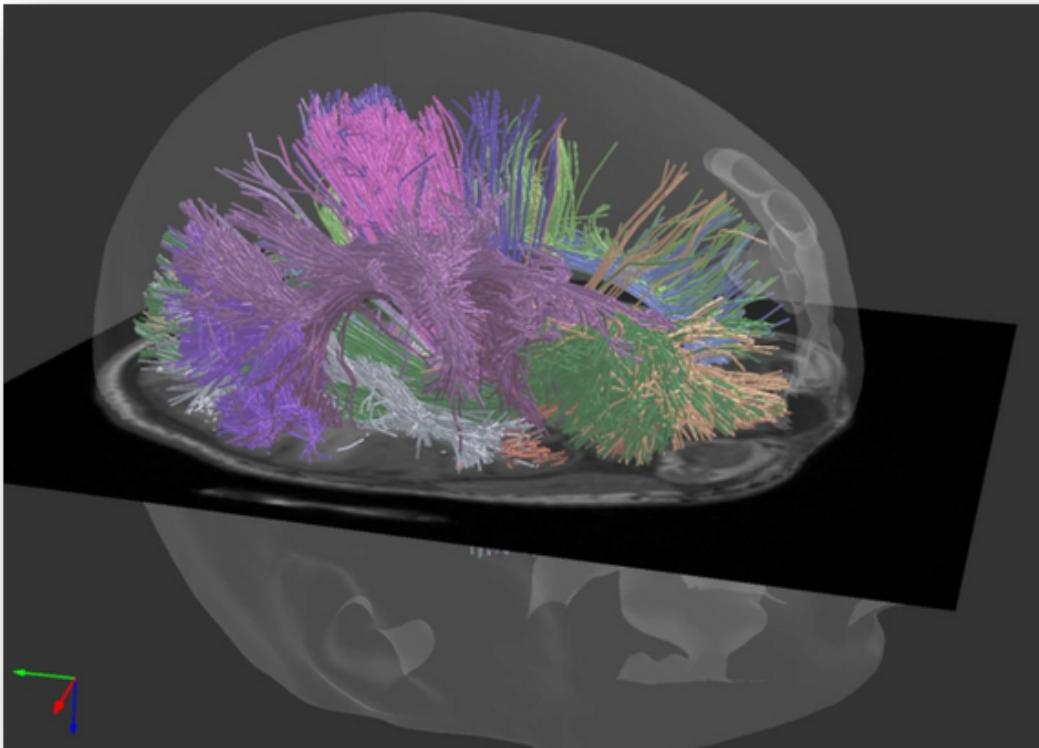
Visualization  
Techniques

Visualization  
Applications



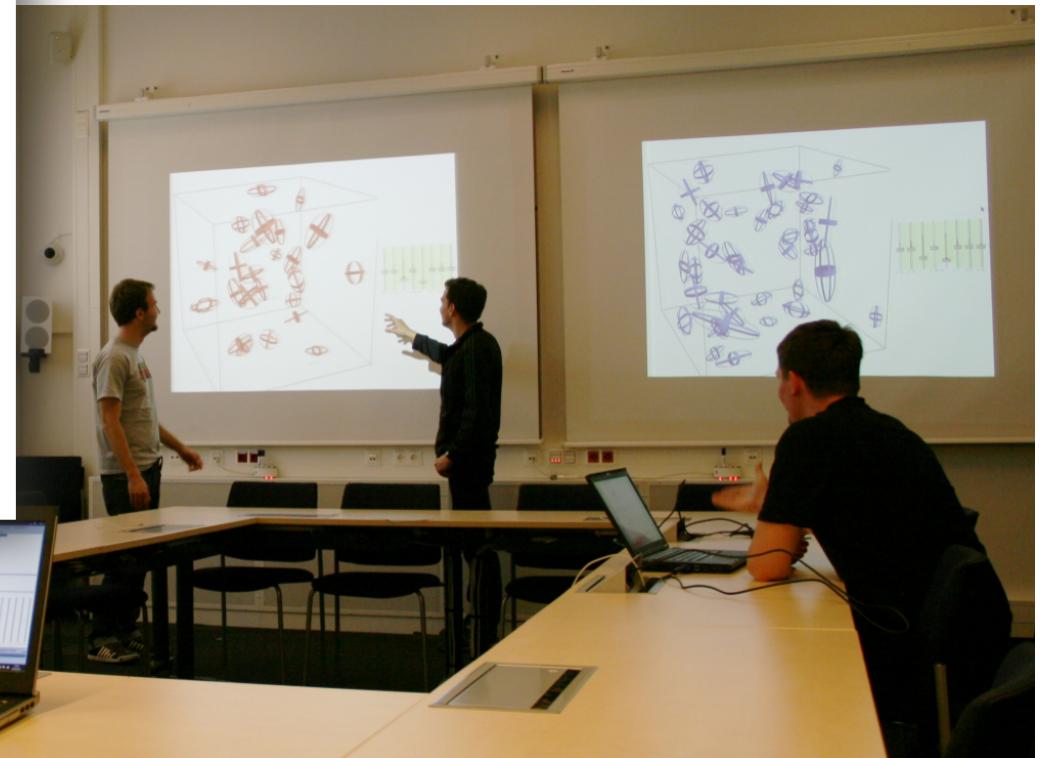
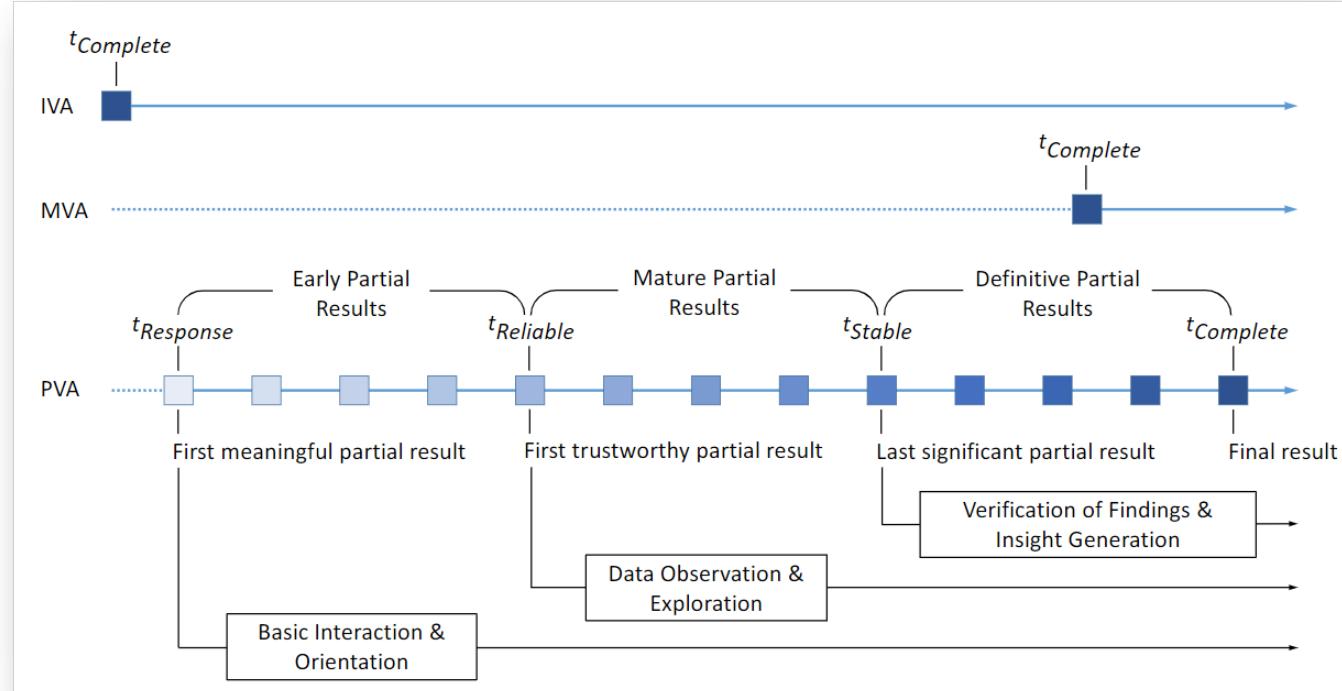
# 12. 3D DATA VIS

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# 13. VISUAL ANALYTICS

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1. INTRODUCTION

2. VISUAL ENCODING

3. BASIC CHART TYPES

4. INTERACTION

5. VISUALIZATION DESIGN

6. DATA PREPROCESSING

7. RECAP 1<sup>st</sup> Half

8. MULTIVARIATE DATAVIS

9. TEMPORAL DATAVIS

10. GEOSPATIAL DATAVIS

11. GRAPH DATAVIS

12. 3D DATAVIS

13. VISUAL ANALYTICS

14. RECAP 2<sup>nd</sup> Half

Basics

Visualization  
Building Blocks  
& Processes

Visualization  
Techniques

Visualization  
Applications



# READING FOR TODAY

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CHAPTER **1**

---

## Introduction

---

### CONTENTS

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1.1	Basic Considerations .....	2
1.1.1	Visualization, Interaction, and Computation .....	2
1.1.2	Five Ws of Interactive Visual Data Analysis .....	4
1.2	Introductory Examples .....	5
1.2.1	Starting Simple .....	5
1.2.2	Enhancing the Data Analysis .....	8
1.2.3	Considering Advanced Techniques .....	10
1.3	Book Outline .....	13



# READING FOR NEXT WEEK

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CHAPTER 3

## Visualization Methods and Techniques

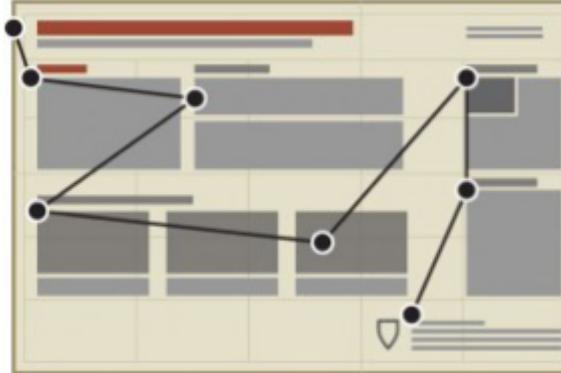
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### CONTENTS

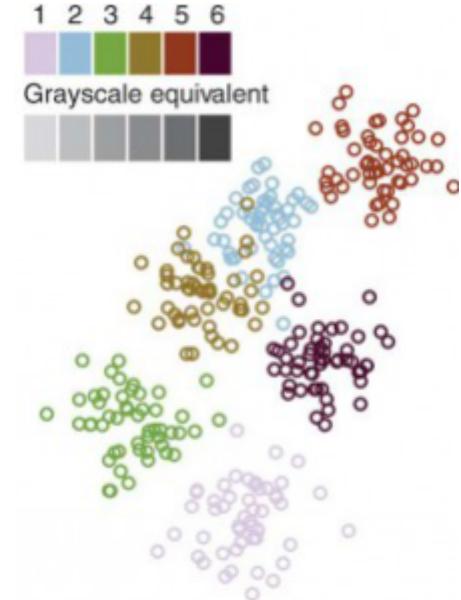
3.1	Visual Encoding and Presentation .....	54
3.1.1	Encoding Data Values .....	54
3.1.2	Presentation .....	62
3.2	Multivariate Data Visualization .....	67
3.2.1	Table-based Visualization .....	67
3.2.2	Combined Bivariate Visualization .....	69
3.2.3	Polyline-based Visualization .....	71
3.2.4	Glyph-based Visualization .....	73
3.2.5	Pixel-based Visualization .....	75
3.2.6	Nested Visualization .....	77
3.3	Visualization of Temporal Data .....	82
3.3.1	Time and Temporal Data .....	82

# NATURE METHODS: “POINTS OF VIEW”

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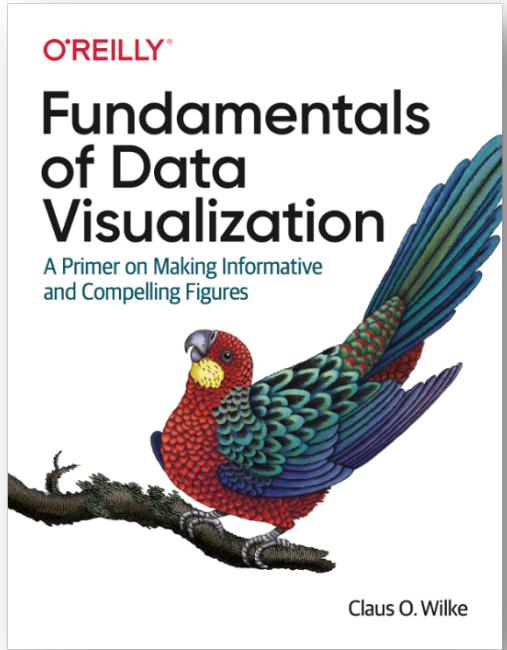
- Visual Design & Style
- Layout
- Negative Space
- Typography
- Labels & Callouts
- Color Coding
- Axes, Ticks, Grids
- Arrows
- Plot Types



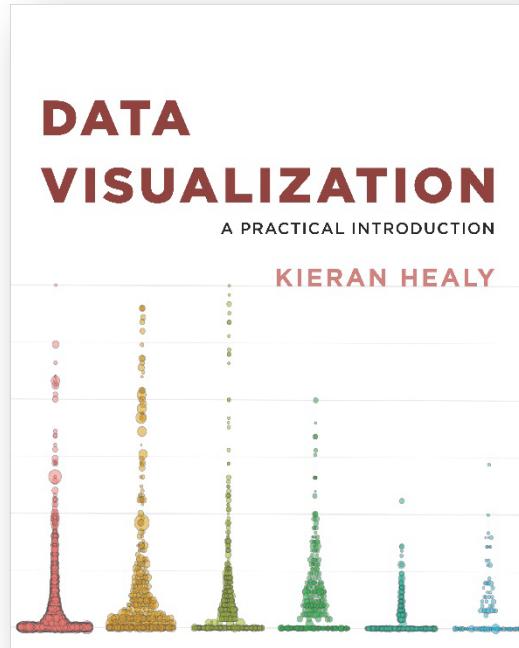
<http://blogs.nature.com/methagora/2013/07/data-visualization-points-of-view.html>

# FREE BOOKS...

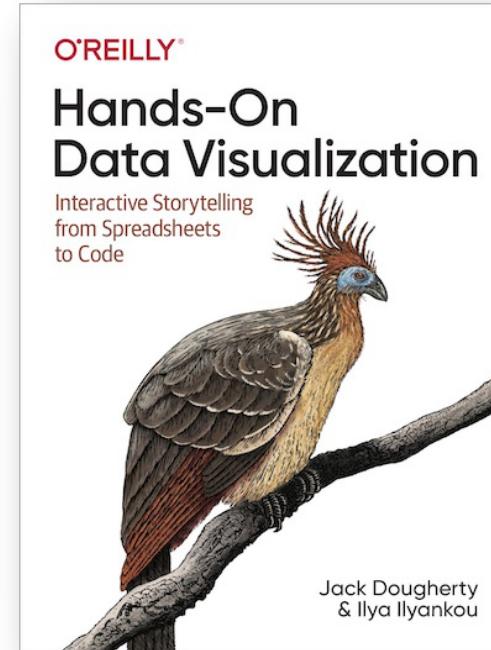
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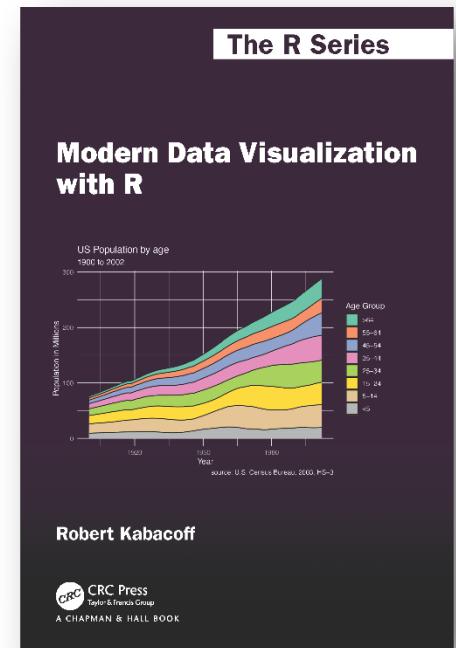
[https://serialmentor.com/  
dataviz/](https://serialmentor.com/dataviz/)



<https://socviz.co>



<https://handsondataviz.org>



[https://rkabacoff.github.io/  
datavis/](https://rkabacoff.github.io/<br/>datavis/)

# FREE LEARNING RESOURCES

<https://visualization.info>

Visualization.info Collected and Curated by Hans-Jörg Schulz

AARHUS  
UNIVERSITY

## Data Visualization Teaching and Learning Materials

Start typing or click labels to search everything

All Categories 87

Textbooks and Lecture Notes 29

Lecture Videos and Slides 28

Tutorials and Notebooks 19

Exercises and Other Materials 11

EXERCISES AND OTHER MATERIALS

2024



### DaVE: A Database of Visualization Examples

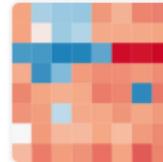
Jens Koenen Marvin Petersen Christoph Garth

Tim Gerrits

DaVE serves as a centralized repository where users

TEXTBOOKS AND LECTURE NOTES

2024



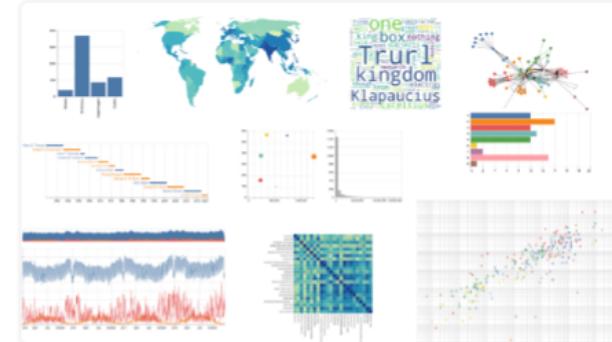
### Rhetorical DataVis Course (Pilot)

Enrico Bertini

The course is, above all, about thinking effectively with data visualization. When exposed to new data visualizations, many elements play a role in deciding what messages will be extracted and whether the

TUTORIALS AND NOTEBOOKS

2024



### Information Visualization Tutorials

Marian Dörk

Contact

Enable Dark mode

VIS ARH

# LIST OF LITERATURE SOURCES

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- Anscombe 1973: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2682899>
- Berinato 2016: <https://hbr.org/2016/06/visualizations-that-really-work>
- Cairo 2016: <https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/datasauRus/vignettes/Datasaurus.html>
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- Card, Mackinley 1999: Fig.1.23 in [https://hci.ucsd.edu/220/CMSChap1\\_Using\\_Vision\\_to\\_Think.pdf](https://hci.ucsd.edu/220/CMSChap1_Using_Vision_to_Think.pdf)
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- Haber, McNabb 1990: <https://www.academia.edu/download/40903302/HaberMcNabb1990.pdf>
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- Leithinger et al. 2011: <https://doi.org/10.1145/2047196.2047268>
- Lukas 2015: <https://visualprogramming.net/blog/2015/smelling-data--translating-data-into-scents/>
- Lunzner, MacNamara 2014: [https://tinlizzie.org/VPRI\\_Papers/m2014002\\_robust.pdf](https://tinlizzie.org/VPRI_Papers/m2014002_robust.pdf)
- Marty 2009: ISBN=0321510100
- McCormick et al. 1987: <http://www.sci.utah.edu/vrc2005/McCormick-1987-VSC.pdf>
- McGurk Effect: <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2014.00725>
- Owen 1999: <https://education.siggraph.org/static/HyperVis/hypervis.htm>

# VISUALIZATION PROJECT



AARHUS  
UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

INTRODUCTION  
DATAVIS 2025

HANS-JÖRG SCHULZ  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR



# WHY DO A PRACTICAL PROJECT?

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- To understand how the concepts, algorithms, and frameworks from the lecture relate to practical questions and issues of visualization
- To test-drive your visualization skills in an environment of frequent constructive input and guidance from the TAs
- To improve your visual literacy and critical thinking skills
- To showcase what you've learned in this lecture beyond the mere grade (e.g., as part of a project portfolio for job applications)
- To find out whether data visualization is actually your thing and which aspects of it you like best (graphic design, software engineering, data analytics, visual storytelling / data journalism,...)
- **To prove to me that you have engaged with the lecture contents!**

# HOW DOES THE DAVI PROJECT WORK?

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Group project: 3-4 students per group

## Why a group project?

- More works hours / project => better outcomes:
  - more interesting/complicated problems
  - more mature results
- More diversity / project => better outcomes:
  - larger skillset/expertise
  - more eyes/opinions

3-persons: 9.9  
2-persons: 9.4  
1-person: 7.8

Higher Grades

# PRECONDITIONS & EXCEPTIONS

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**Precondition:** You must align on your group's ambition!

**Exceptions under which you may also perform a solo project:**

- You are a PhD student and want to use the project's outcome for your thesis
- You want to integrate the project with a side job you have
- You want to combine the project with another course project
- You want to visualize confidential data
- You cannot work in a team for obvious reasons (e.g., remote participation)

# HOW DOES THE DAVI PROJECT WORK?

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You pick a dataset and build an interactive visualization for it.

## Must-haves:

- Make sure you are an expert on that data!
- Make sure the data is big enough to warrant visualization!
- Make sure to pick data of reasonable quality!

## Nice-to-haves:

- Align the project with other work you have to do.
- Choose the project so that there is a high possibility for follow-up work.
- Use the project to jump-start your career.



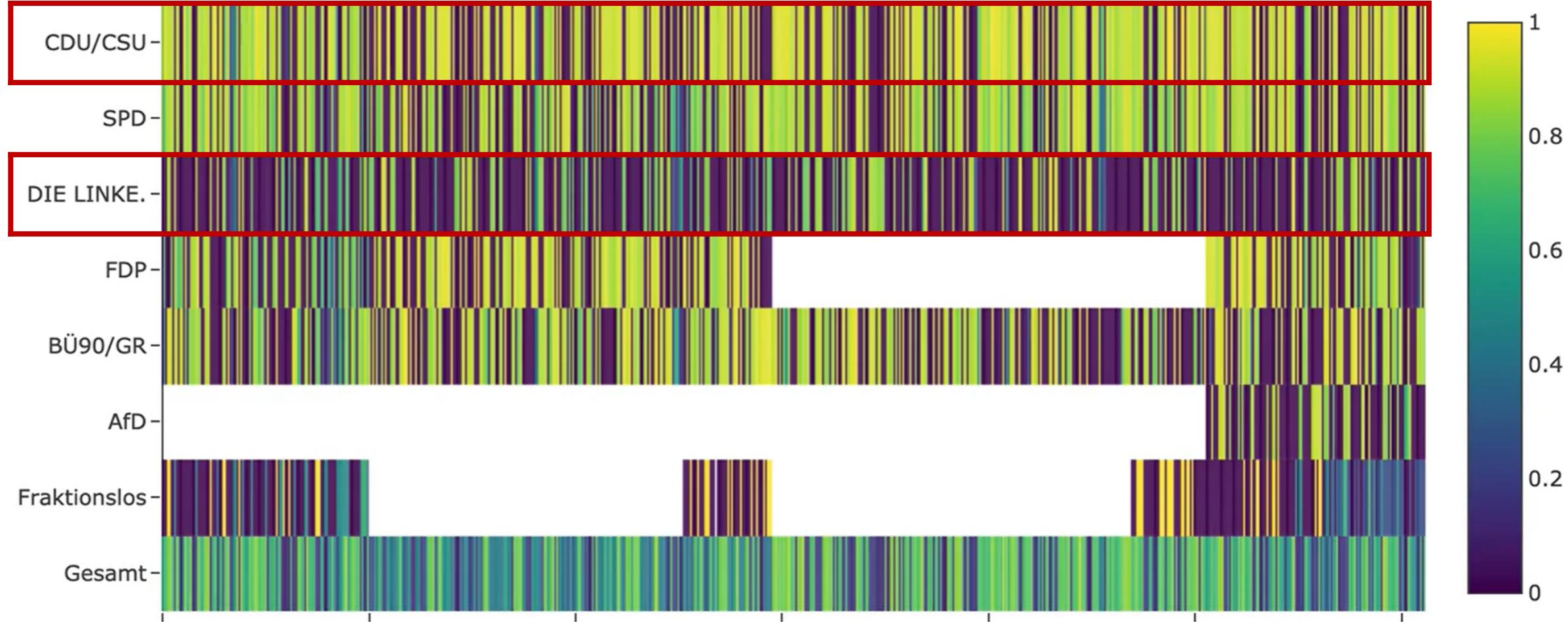
# FOR YOU TO DECIDE

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- Your project team (try to complement each other)
- Dataset (large and complex, but reasonable quality)
- What you want to do with it (goal, question)
- Tooling (must fit your problem)
- Your users and mode of feedback (the more the merrier)
- If and how to make the result public  
(Github, Live Demo on a webserver, Publication,...)

# GERMAN PARLIAMENT VOTING BEHAVIOR

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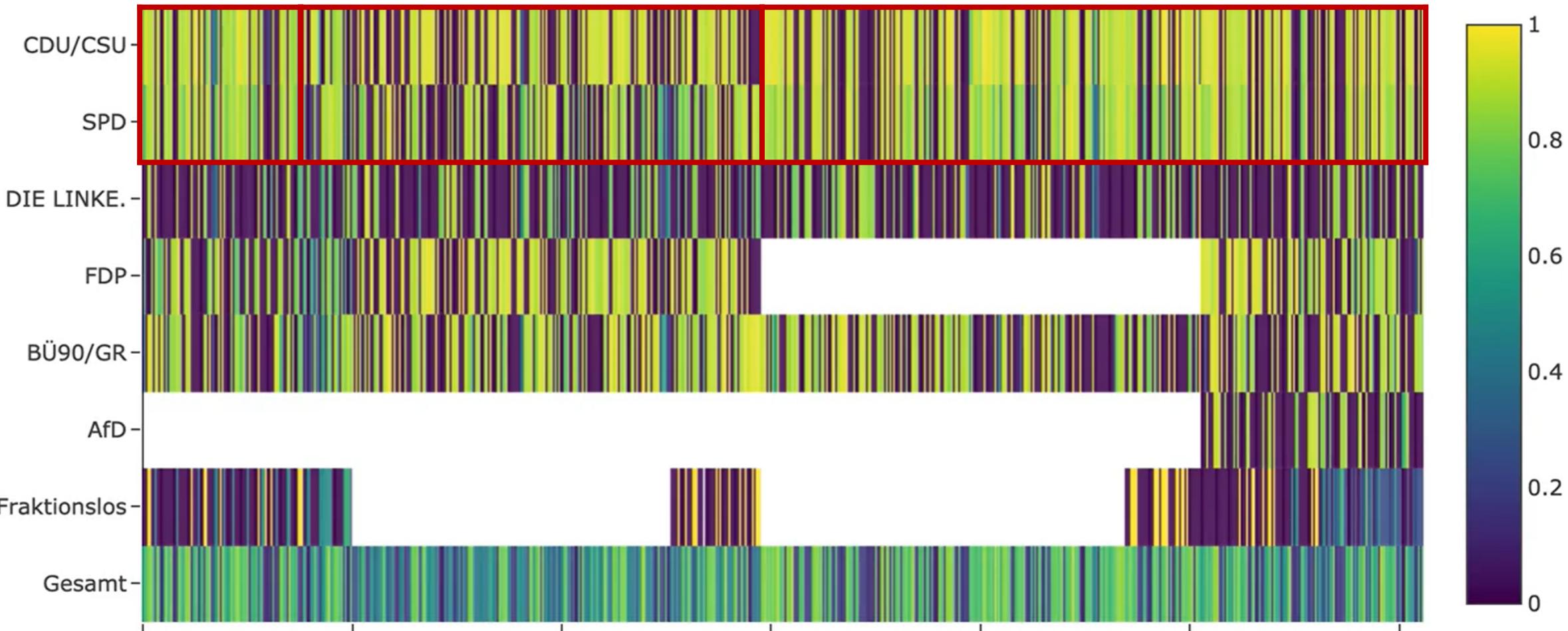


Courtesy Nils Simon & Niklas Müller 2019



# GERMAN PARLIAMENT VOTING BEHAVIOR

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Courtesy Nils Simon & Niklas Müller 2019



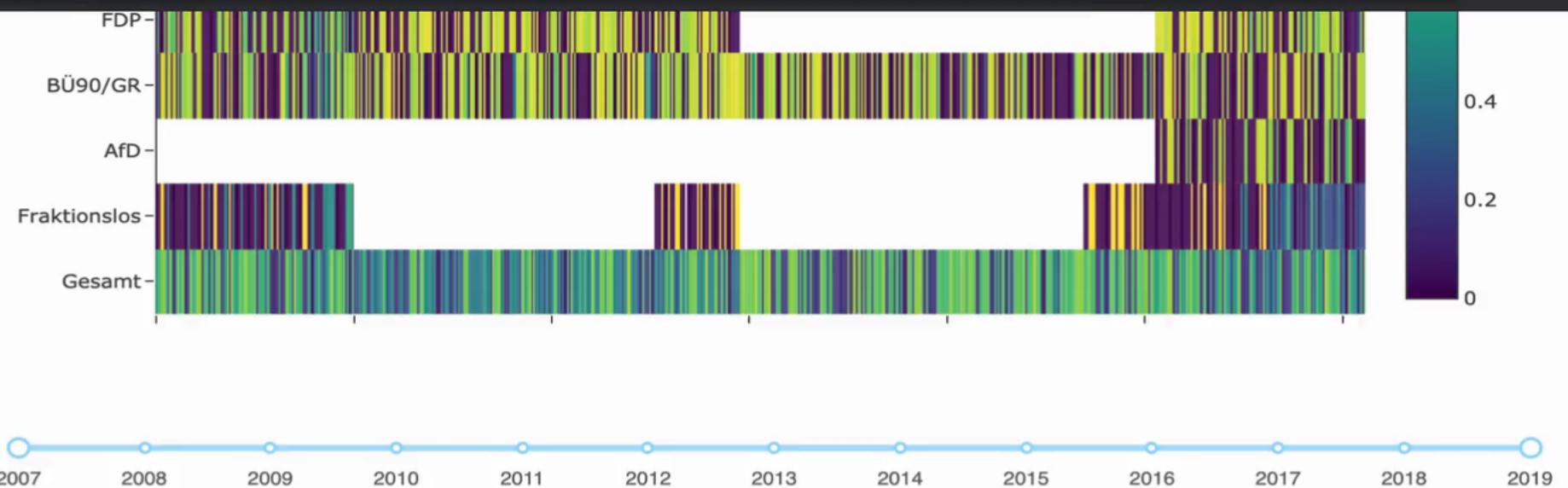
Select...

Anträge durchsuchen:

ZOOM IN CLEAR VIEW

## Information

Diese Visualisierung entstand im Rahmen des Kurses Data Visualization an der Aarhus Universität unter Betreuung von Prof. Dr. Hans-Jörg Schulz im Winter 2019. Erstellt wurde diese von Nils Simon und Niklas Müller. Dieses Tool visualisiert die Abstimmungsergebnisse der Parteien zu den Anträgen im Zeitraum 2007-2019. Individuelle Exploration der Daten wird durch Interaktivität ermöglicht. Mittels der DRS im vollständigen Antragstext können die original Dokumente unter pdok.bundestag.de



2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019

**Antrag vollständig**

Antrag auswählen um vollständige Information und ein **Balkendiagramm links** anzuzeigen.



## Course Projects

**2022**

### Explorable Cluster Workload Visualization *Malthe Thingholm, Johan Kjær Nielsen, Ivan Luchev*

Companies such as Google manage vast quantities of data over their various services. One such service is BORG, their computing cluster service. The dataset contains information about machines, deploys, and metrics, but it's so big that getting any useful information or even understanding what you're looking at is incredibly difficult and time-consuming. This visualization approaches the management and analysis of this data through data exploration. The final result is an interactive, expressive visualization that shows the user where the most CPU usage hours lie and allows the user to navigate to every corner of the data. On a larger scale, it allows the user to see relations in the data that would otherwise be obscured.



### Data Visualization for Exploring Spatial-Temporal Distributions of Bigfoot Sightings in the US *Stinna Weisberg Danger, Johannes Ellemose*

We constructed a visualization of Bigfoot sightings in the US using data from the Bigfoot Field Research Organization. The visualization consists of 4 views including a choropleth map, two radial charts, and an area chart all views the distribution of reported Bigfoot behavior over space and time. The visualization's interactivity consists of cross-filtering between these views, allowing the user to explore the data and gain insights on sasquatches' behavioral patterns.



### Electricity Visualization for German Energy Data *Michael Jörg Allgaier, Anthon Løbner, Denis Leu*

The Electricity Visualization for Germany contains data on electricity generation, consumption, import/export and emissions per kilowatt hour for the German electricity sector from 2015 to 2022. The data is combined and graphically purified into a comprehensive visualization utilizing several charts. Spanning from time series and column charts over a heatmap to a fully self-composable scatterplot, we enable the user to explore the German electricity sector from various perspectives. With the visualization, the user is optimally equipped to discover patterns, observe outliers and to develop an in-depth insight into the German electricity sector.



### Visualizing Denmark's Crime Statistics *Joachim Brendborg, Asger Ullersted Rasmussen*

This project was about visualizing the crime rates in different areas of Denmark. It shows over 5 different categories, how the crime rate has developed over time and across municipalities.

# EVALUATION CRITERIA

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- MSc level course => scholarly, academic project
- 10 ECTS => ~250-280 hrs. workload / student  
=> ~150 hrs. for the course project
- Visualization project => focus on analytic data visualization  
=> correctness of visualization
- Visualization design decisions are argued for
- Resulting visualization must be “interactive”
- Hand-in: Written report (max. 6 pages) + Video demo

**Due: 05-DEC-2025      Late submissions until 12-DEC-2025**

# PROJECT IDEAS & POTENTIAL DATASETS

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## Dataset Hubs:

- <https://github.com/awesomedata/awesome-public-datasets>
- <https://data.fivethirtyeight.com>
- <https://github.com/BuzzFeedNews>
- <https://cloud.google.com/bigquery/public-data/>
- <https://datasetsearch.research.google.com>
- <https://www.datavejviser.dk> or <https://www.opendata.dk>

## Possible Datasets to explore:

- Formula 1 Data: <https://openf1.org>
- Linux Kernel Releases: <https://kernelnewbies.org/LinuxVersions> (starting point)
- Wikipedia edits

