

# Lecture 02: Visualization Design Pipeline

DS 4200  
SPRING 2023

Prof. Ab Mosca (*they/them*)  
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

Slides and inspiration from Cody Dunne, Michelle Borkin, Remco Chang, Dylan Cashman, Krzysztof Gajos, Hanspeter Pfister, Miriah Meyer, Jonathan Schwabish, and David Sprague

# Today

- Visualization Design Pipeline
- Finish ic-01

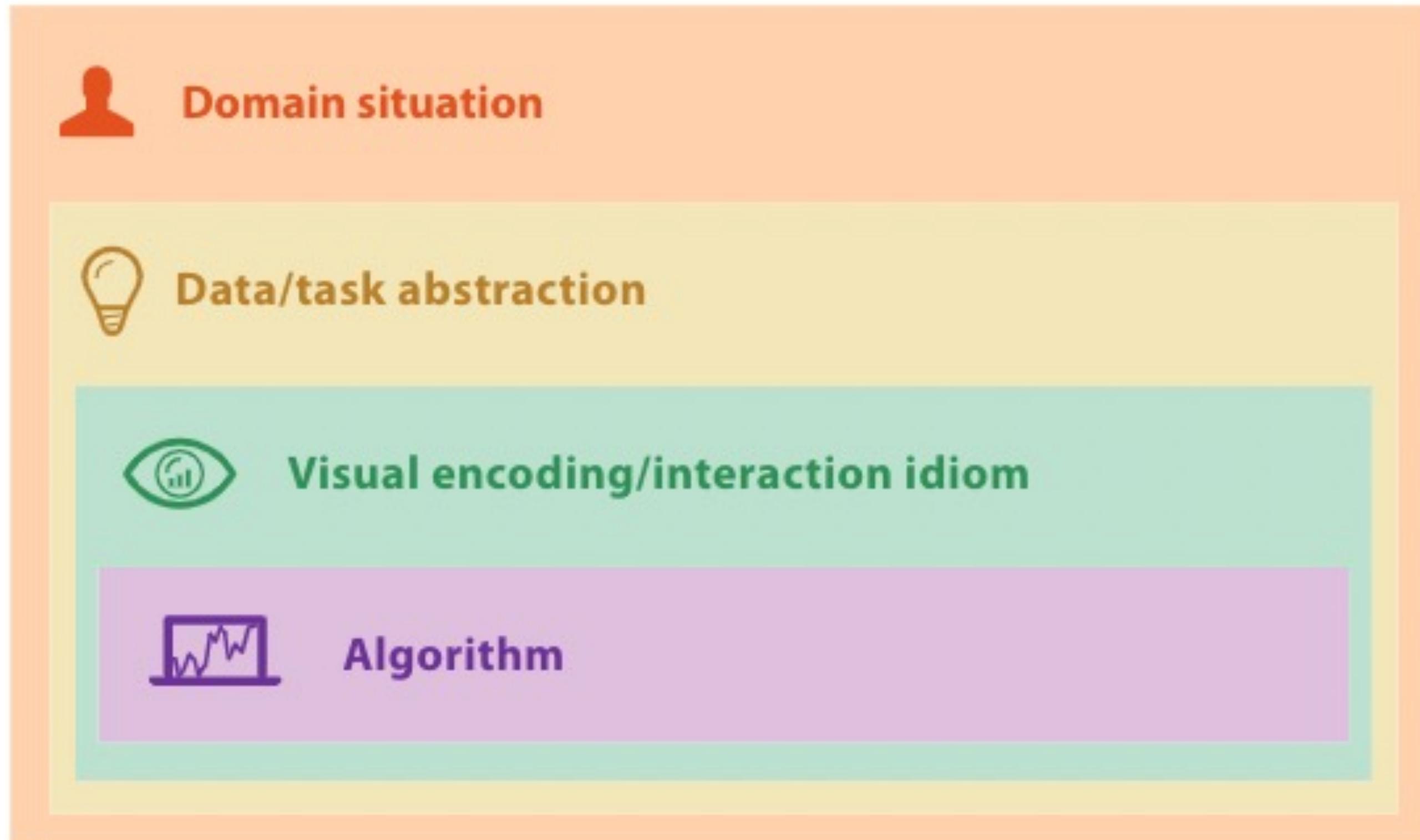
# Note

- hw-01 is out today!
- It is a partner assignment – use the find a partner post on piazza, or the break in class to find a partner

# VISUALIZATION DESIGN PIPELINE

# Munzner's Nested Model

## Nested Model



# Understanding a Domain Situation

Domain Situation

Target Users

Purpose

Current  
Workflow

Expertise

# Understanding Data / Task

## Data / Task Abstraction

Data

Task

Source

Ethics /  
Biases

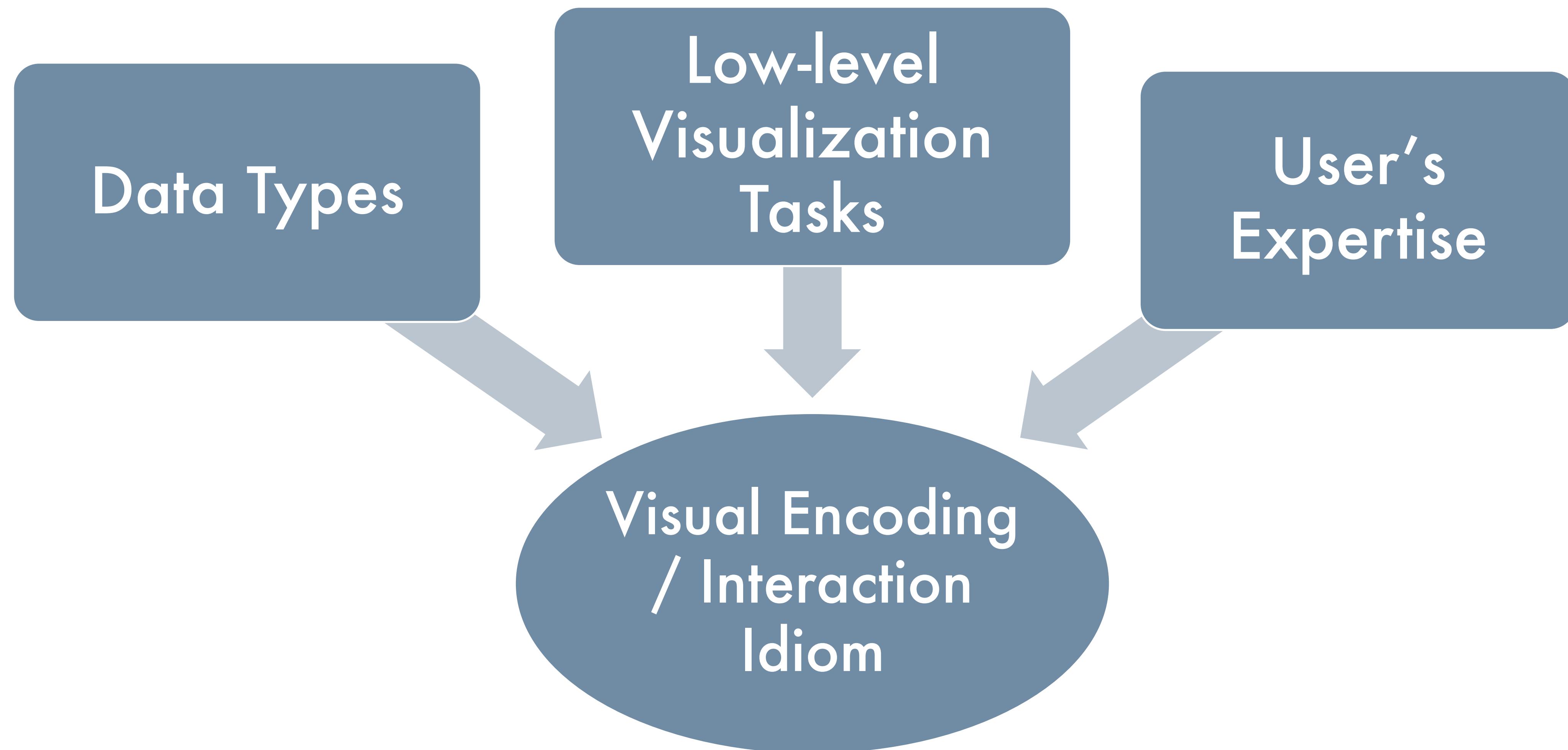
Types

Quality

Low-level  
workflow  
steps

Desired  
outcome

# Visual Encoding / Interaction Idiom



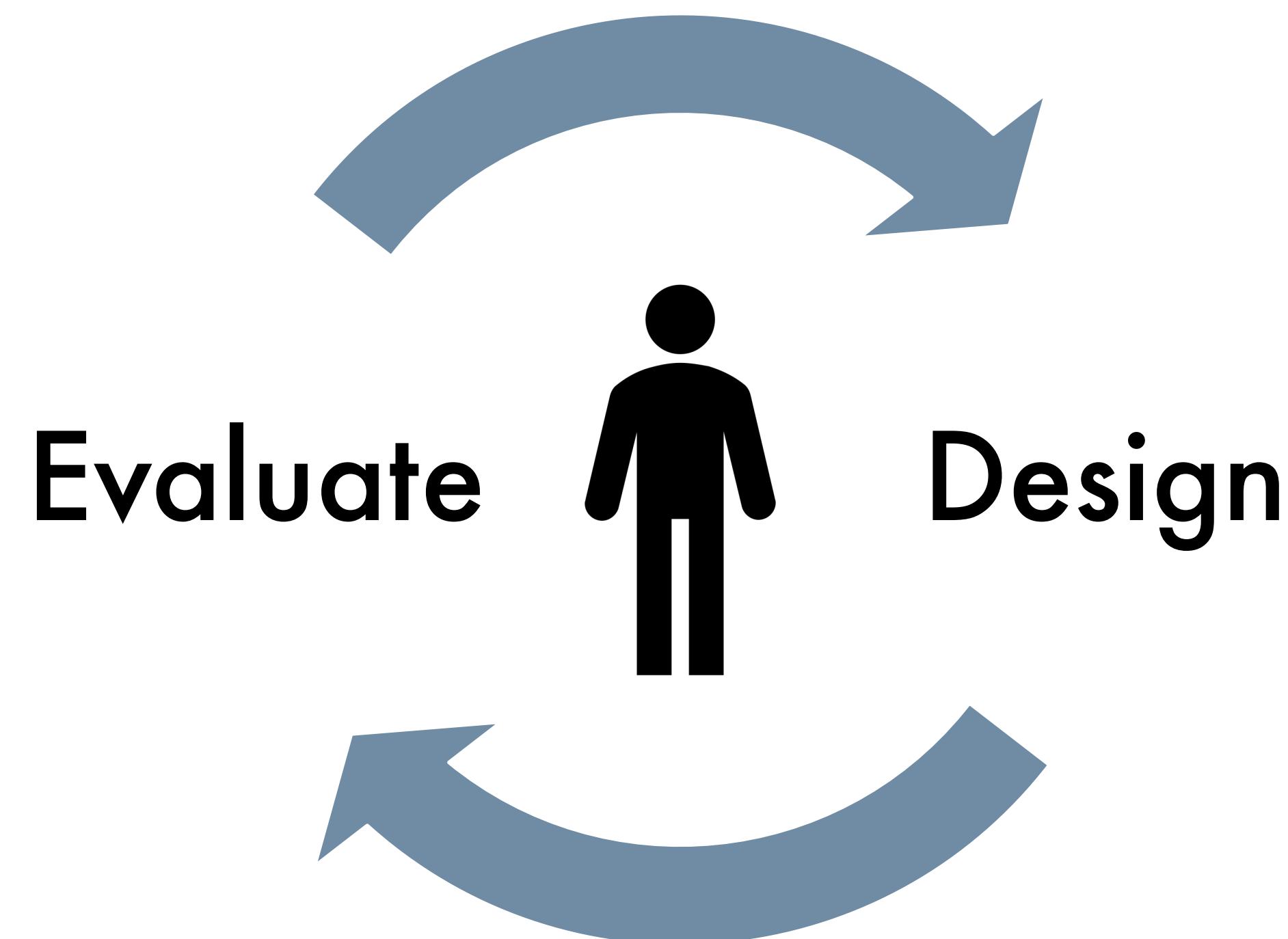
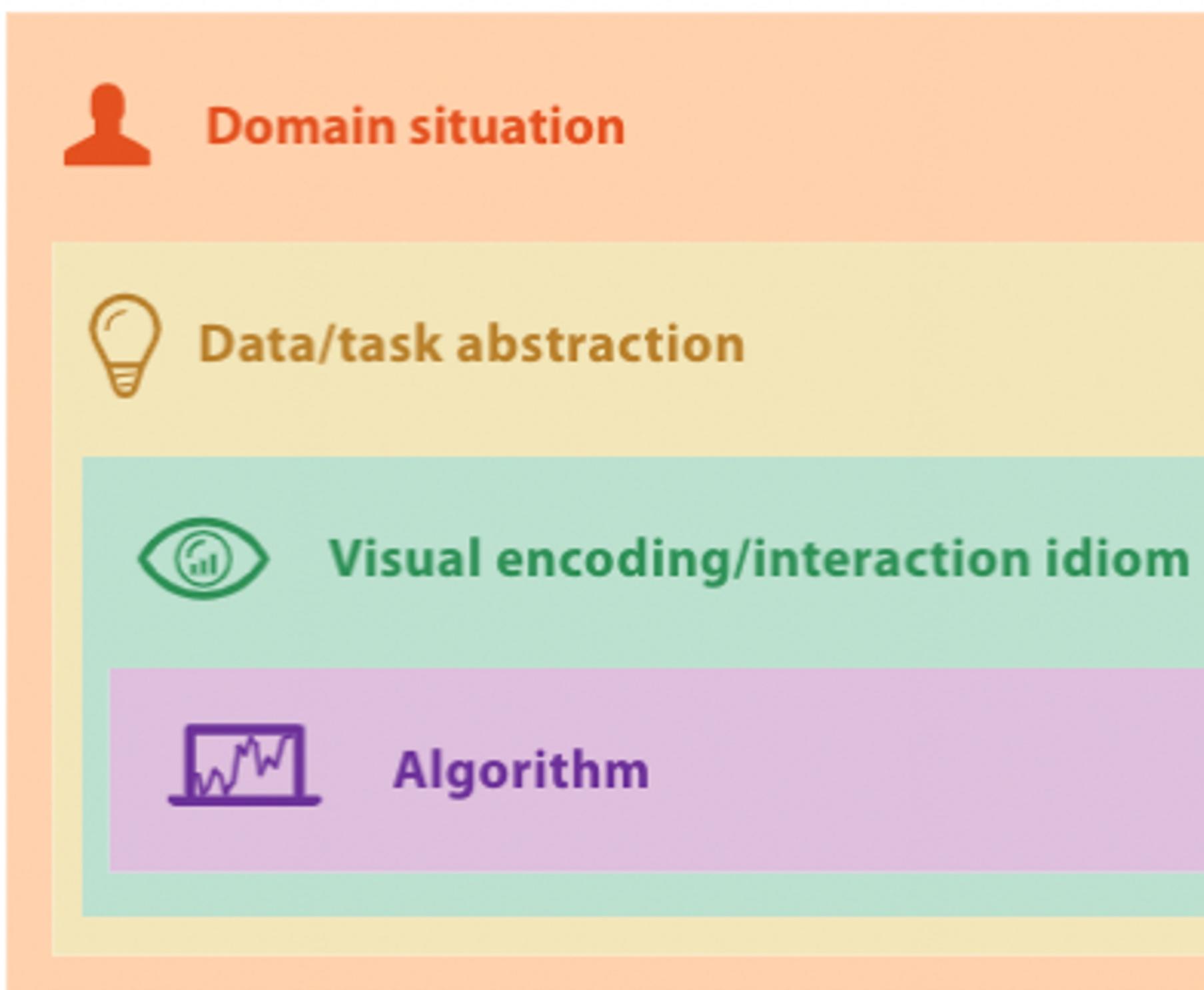
# Algorithm

Visual Encoding /  
Interaction Idiom  
(Visualization Design)

Algorithm /  
Implementation

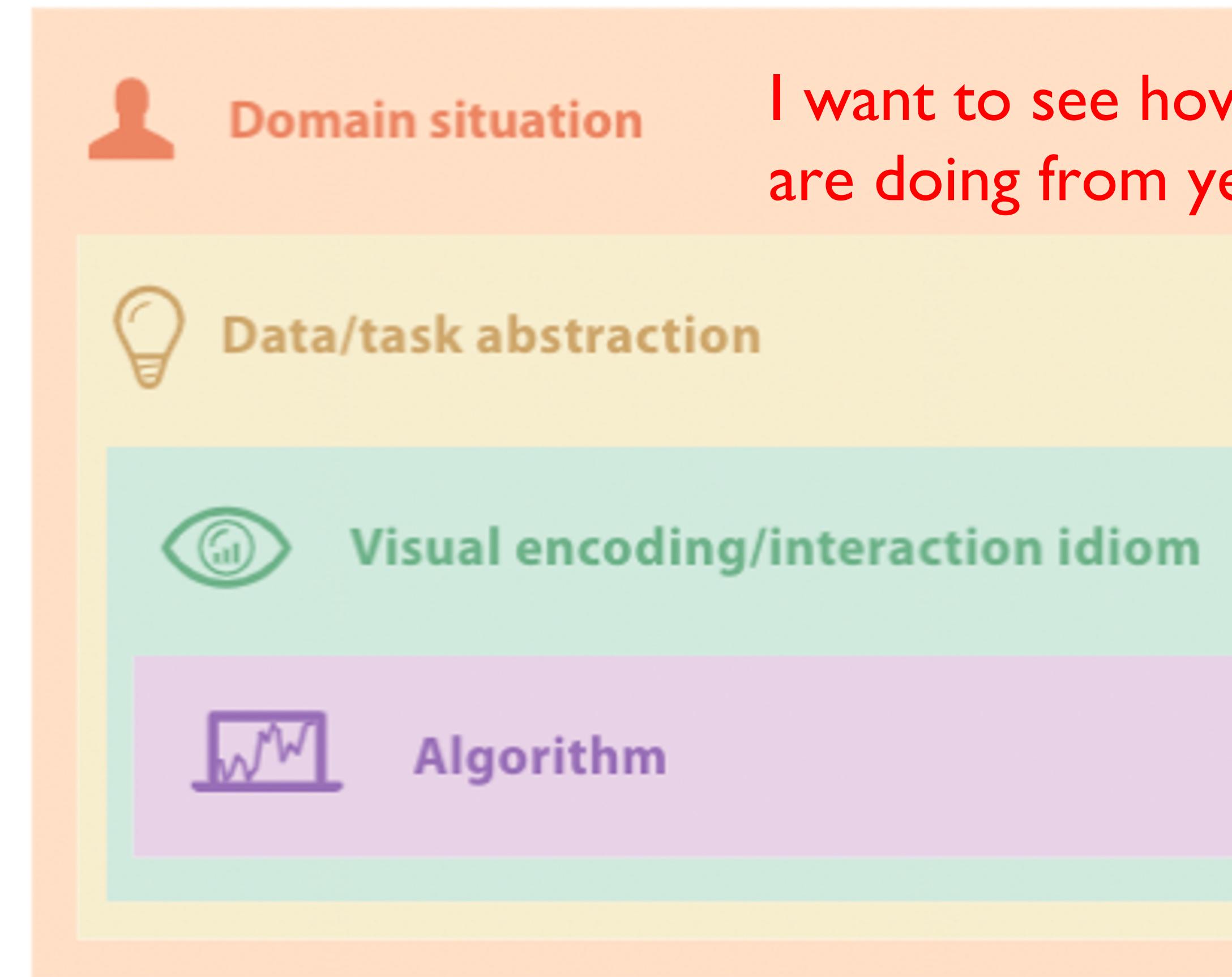
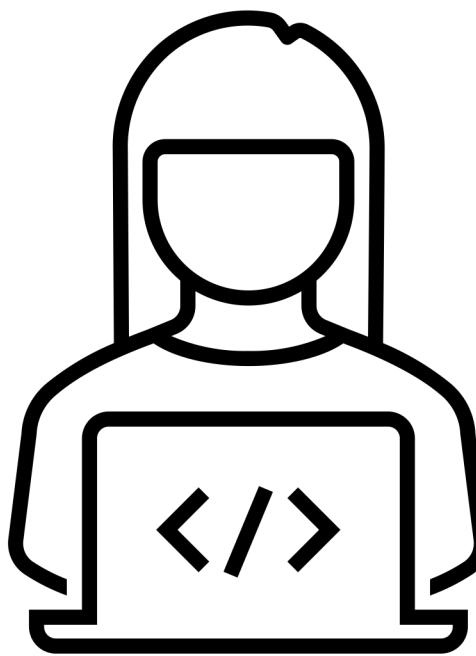
# Munzner's Nested Model

**Human-Centered, Iterative Design**

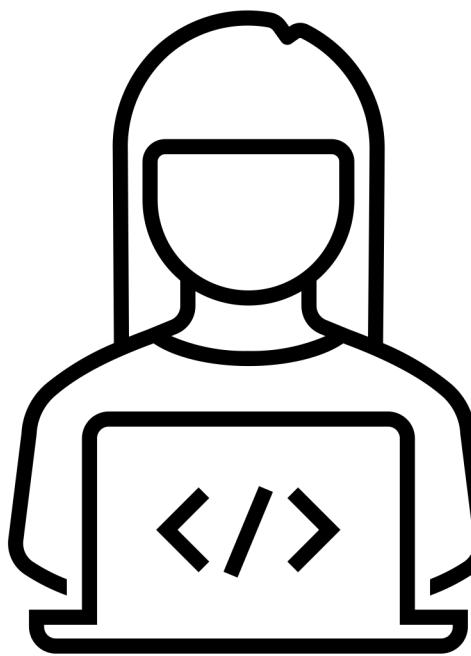


# Human-Centered Design

What do you need  
a visualization for?

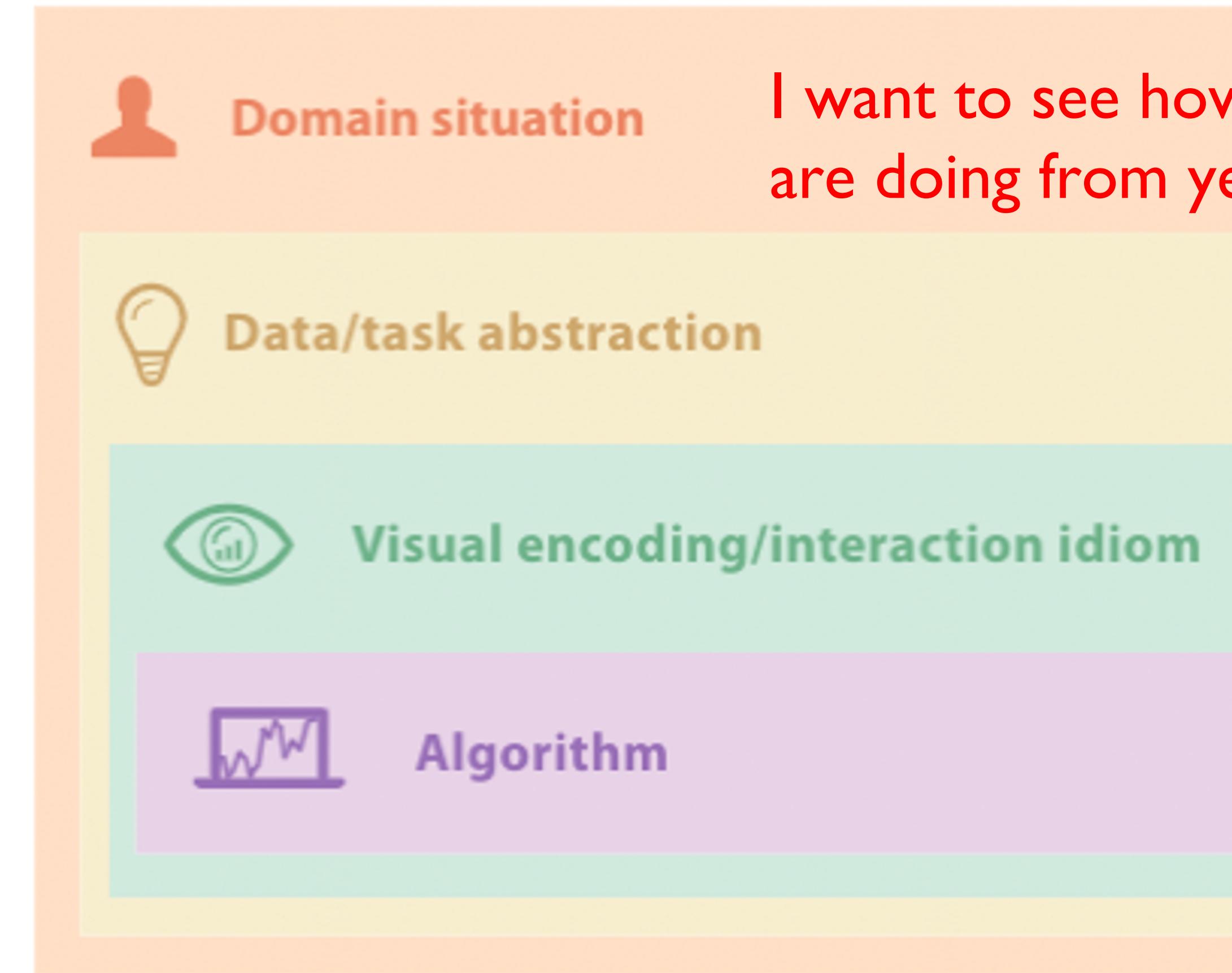


# Human-Centered Design

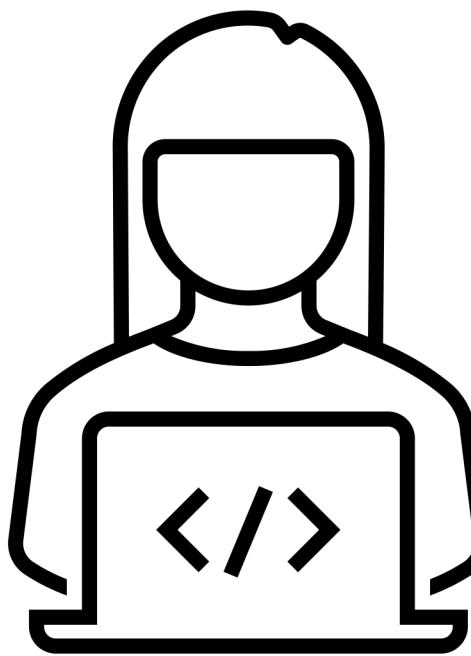


What do you need  
a visualization for?

How do you  
measure student  
success?

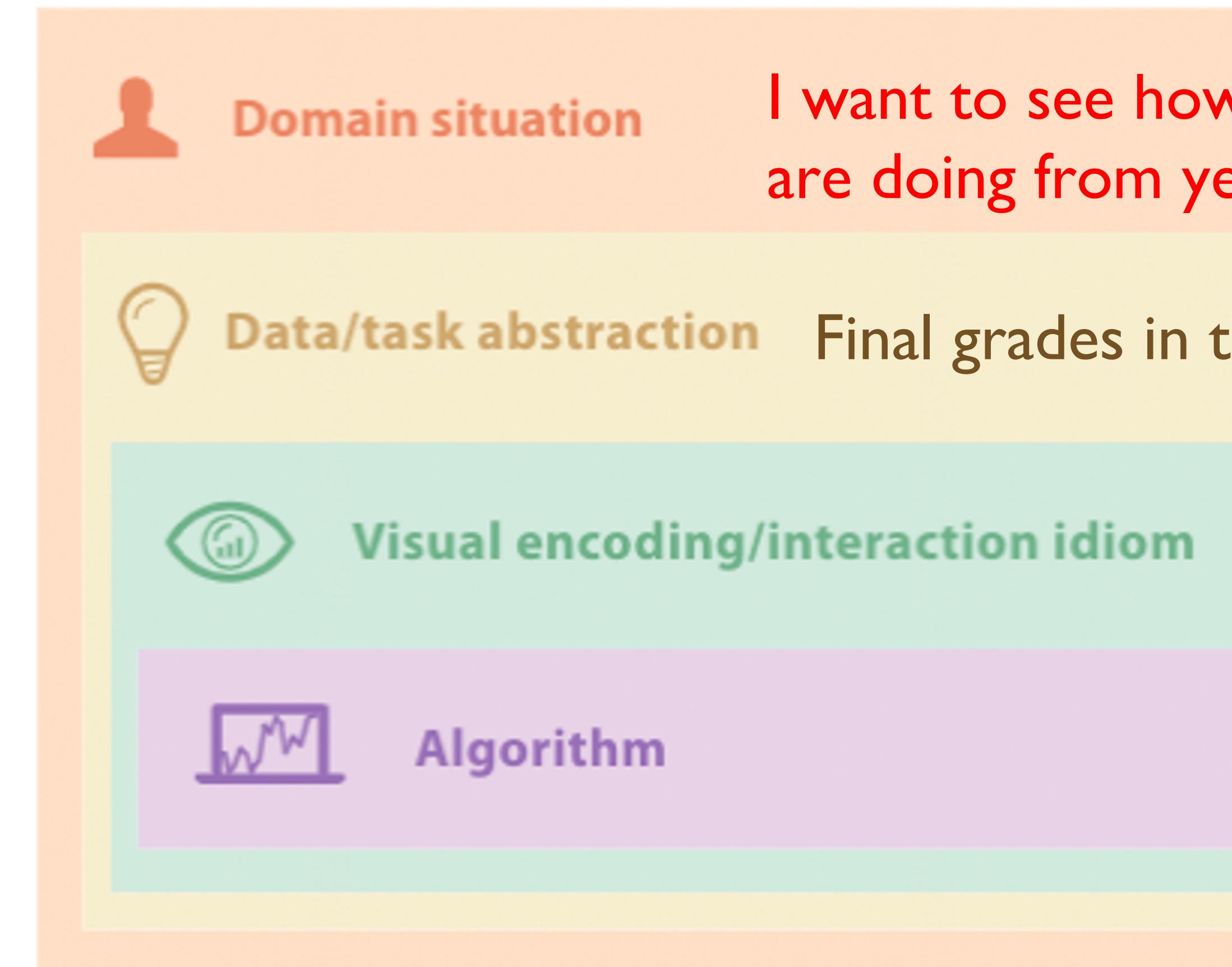


# Human-Centered Design

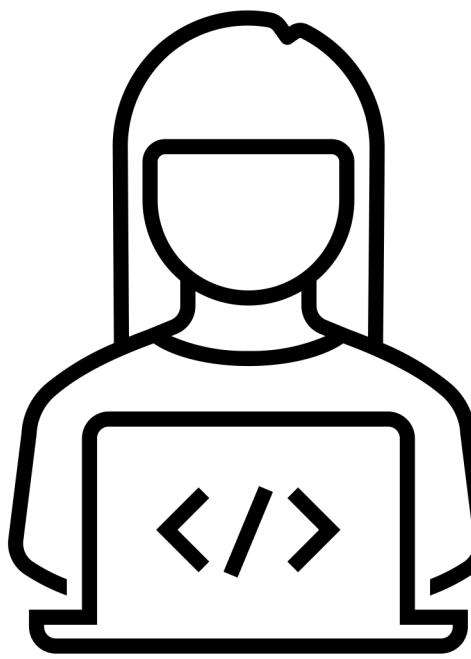


What do you need  
a visualization for?

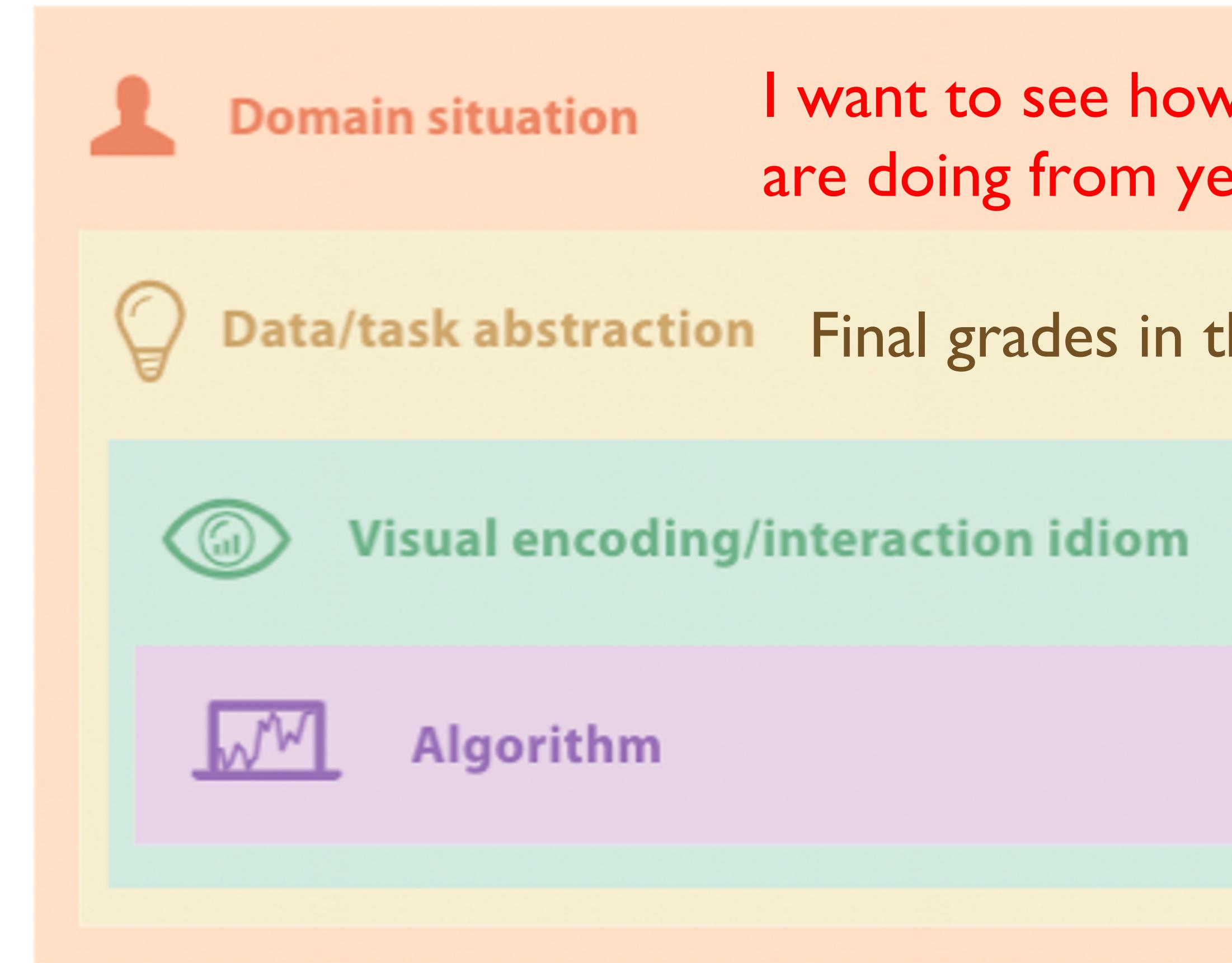
How do you  
measure student  
success?



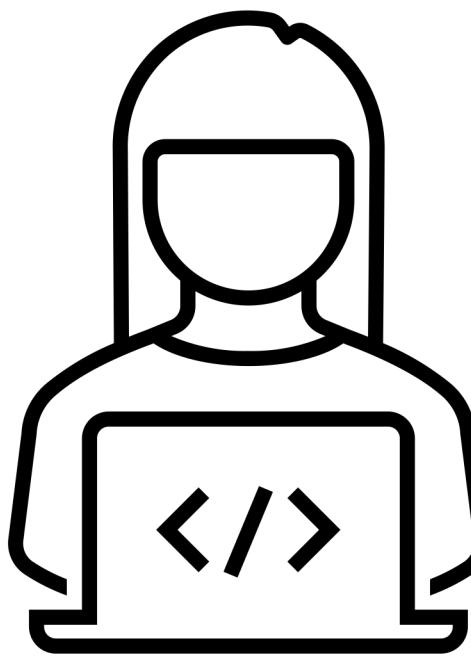
# Human-Centered Design



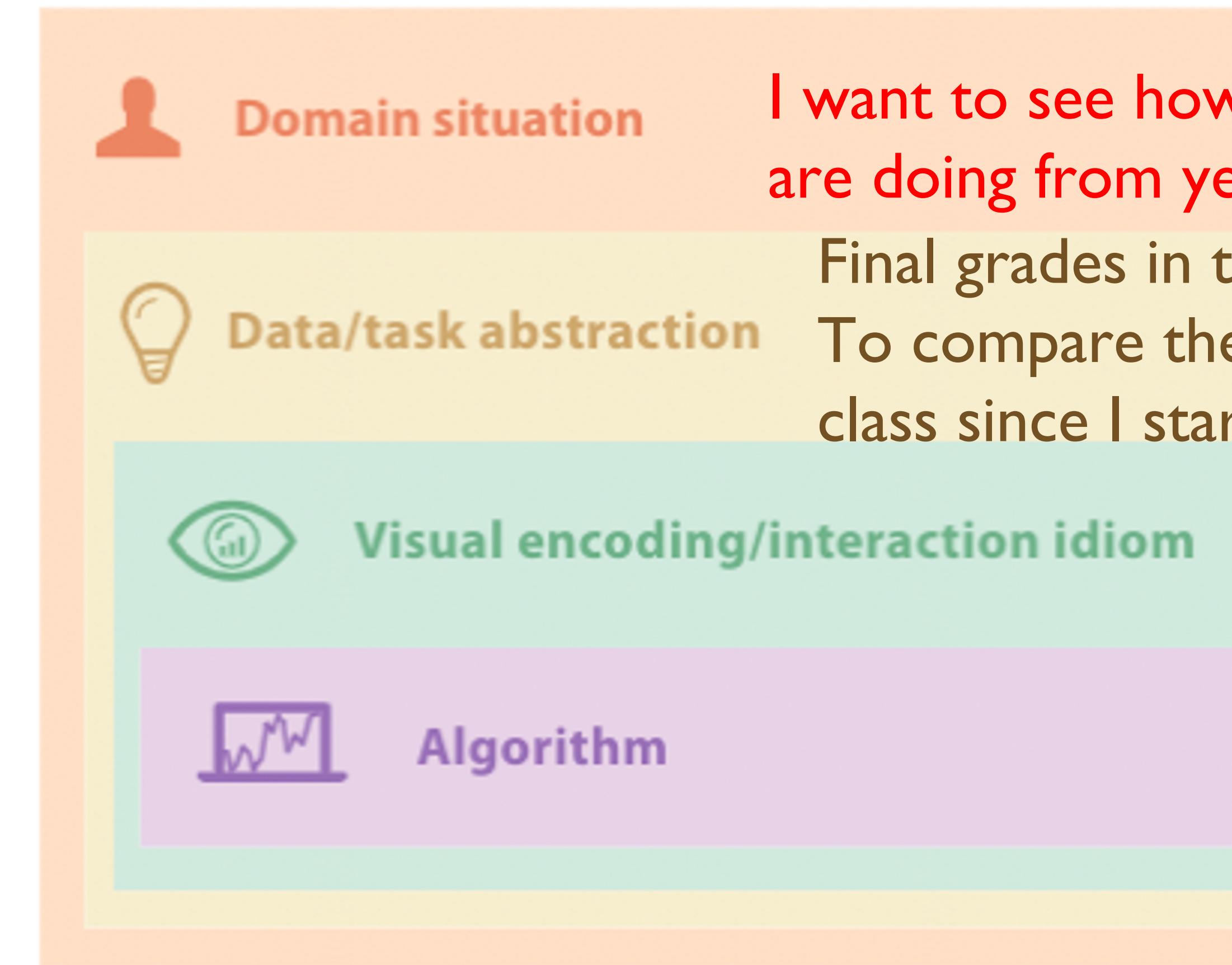
- What do you need a visualization for?
- How do you measure student success?
- What kinds of comparisons or statistics do you need?



# Human-Centered Design



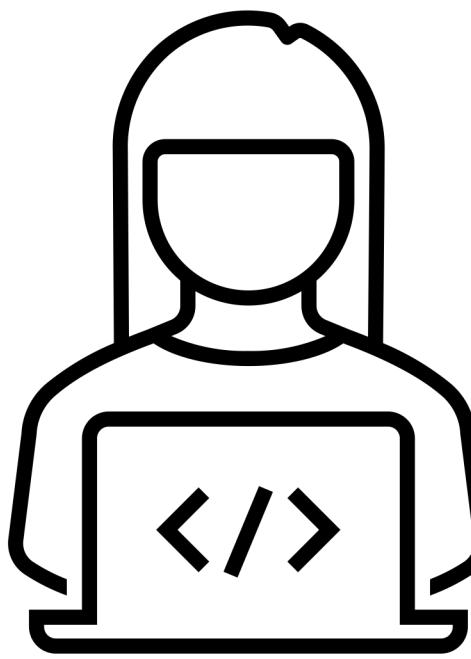
- What do you need a visualization for?
- How do you measure student success?
- What kinds of comparisons or statistics do you need?



I want to see how my students are doing from year to year.  
Final grades in the class.  
To compare the average final grade of each class since I started teaching.



# Human-Centered Design



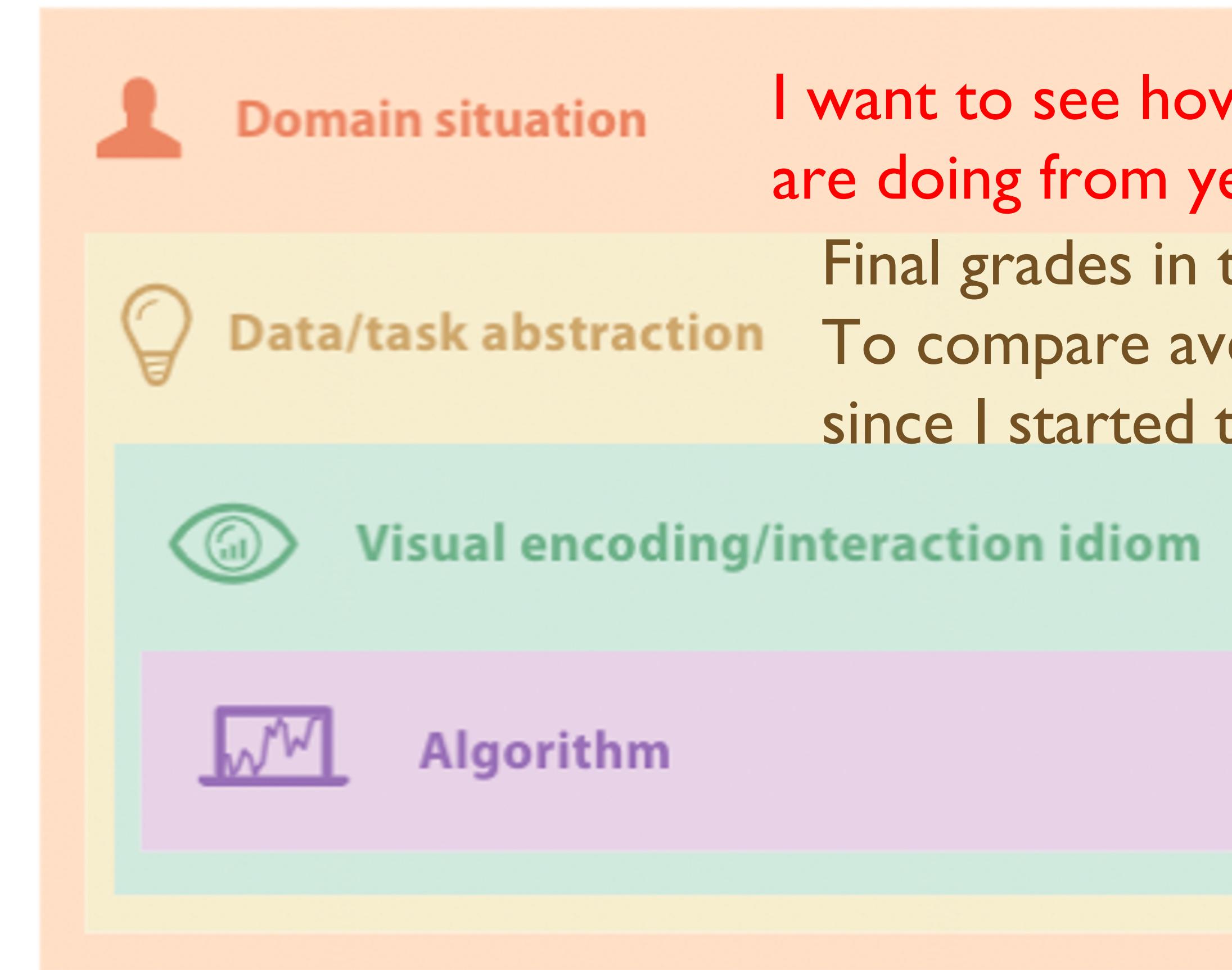
What do you need  
a visualization for?

How do you  
measure student  
success?

What kinds of comparisons  
or statistics do you need?

I'll start with a line chart  
showing average grade per  
year.

I'll code it in Tableau.



# Human-Centered Design

- Ground our designs in human needs
- Gather an understanding of the domain situation from our end users
- Check our work by iterating, i.e. continually verifying and evaluating our proposed visualization tool

# Example: PROACT

**PROACT: Iterative Design of a Patient-Centered Visualization for Effective Prostate Cancer Health Risk Communication**

Anzu Hakone, Lane Harrison, Alvitta Ottley, Nathan Winters, Caitlin Gutheil, Paul K. J. Han, Remco Chang

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON VISUALIZATION AND COMPUTER GRAPHICS VOL. 23, NO. 1, JANUARY 2017

# Example: PROACT

## PROACT: Iterative Design of a Patient-Centered Visualization for Effective Prostate Cancer Health Risk Communication

Anzu Hakone, Lane Harrison, Alvitta Ottley, Nathan Winters, Caitlin Gutheil, Paul K. J. Han, Remco Chang

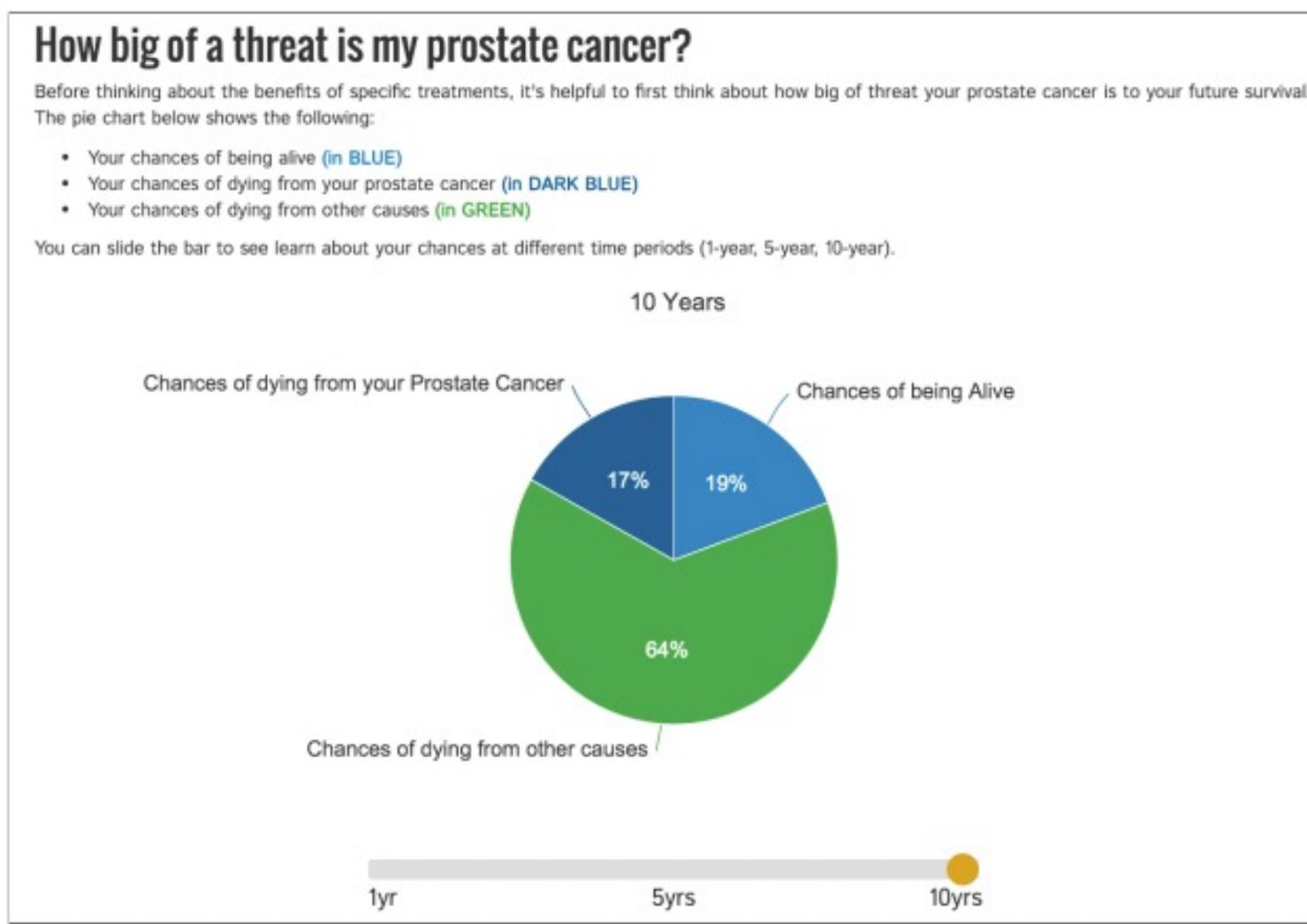
IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON VISUALIZATION AND COMPUTER GRAPHICS VOL. 23, NO. 1, JANUARY 2017

**Domain Situation:** Doctors need to communicate expected prognoses following active vs. conservative treatment of localized prostate cancer.

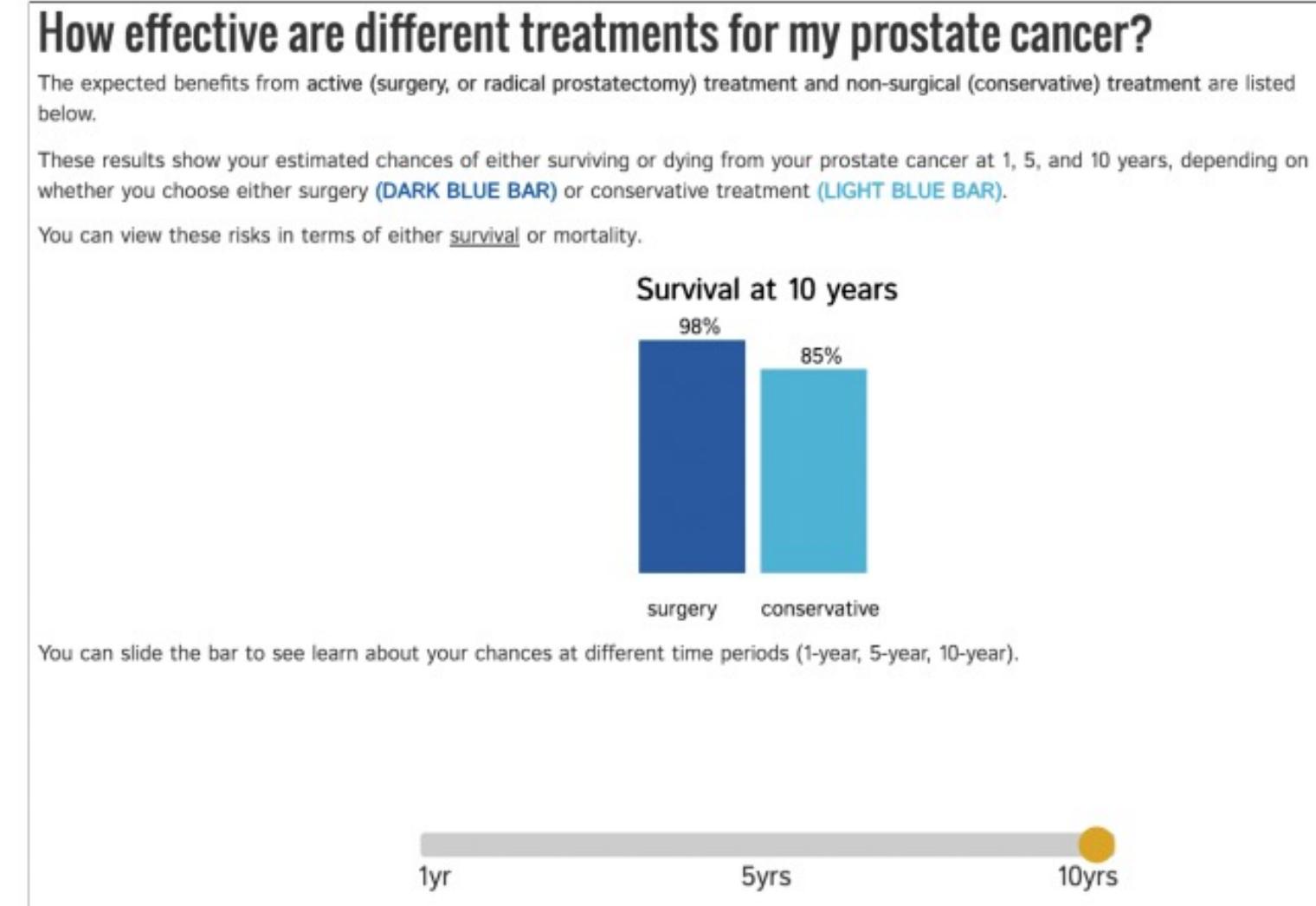
**Data / Tasks:** (1) Help patients understand personal risk at various years. (2) Help patients compare survival rates at various years given the two treatment options.

# Example: PROACT

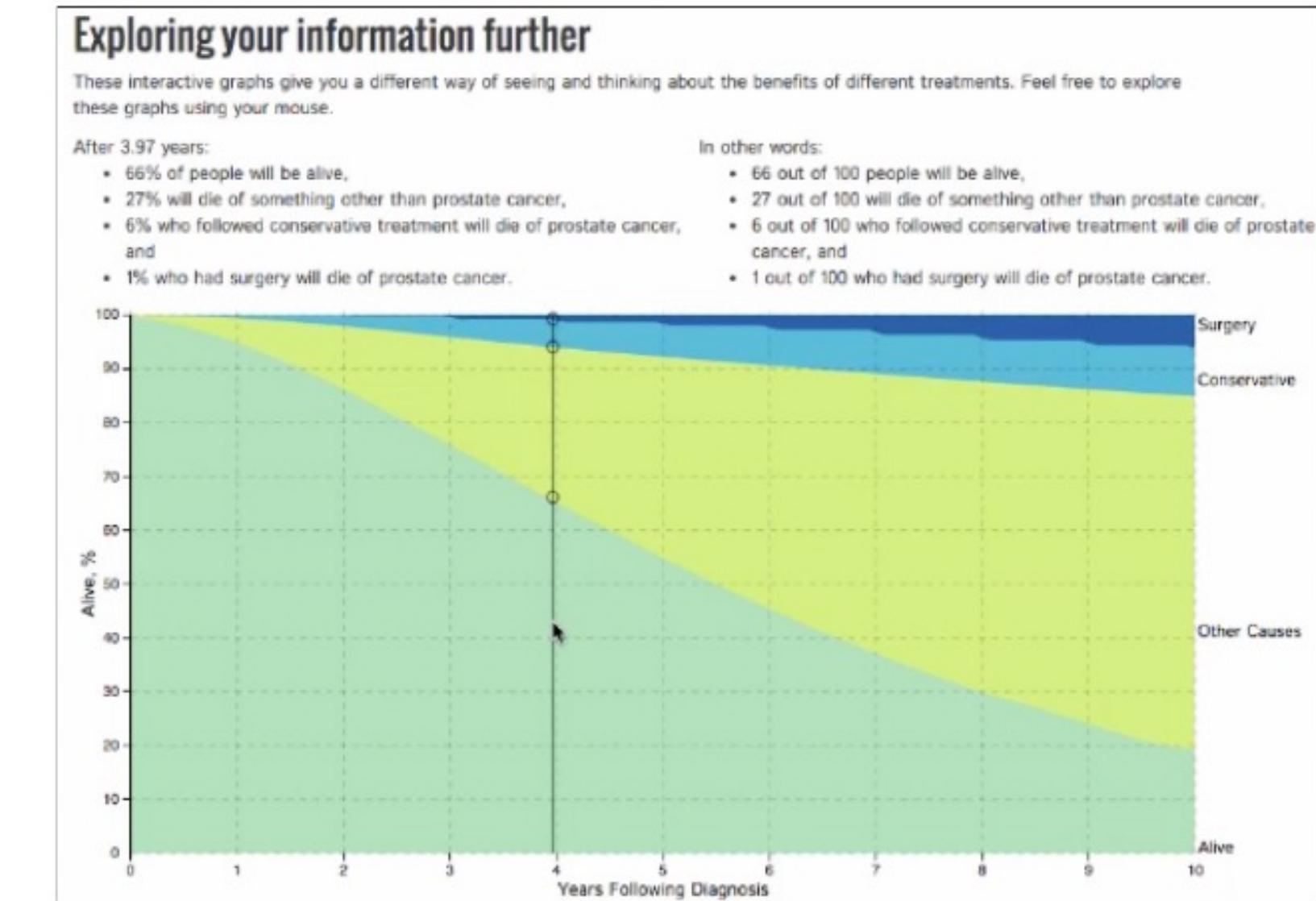
## Visual Encoding / Interaction Paradigm:



Pie chart showing morbidity rates with slider for years.



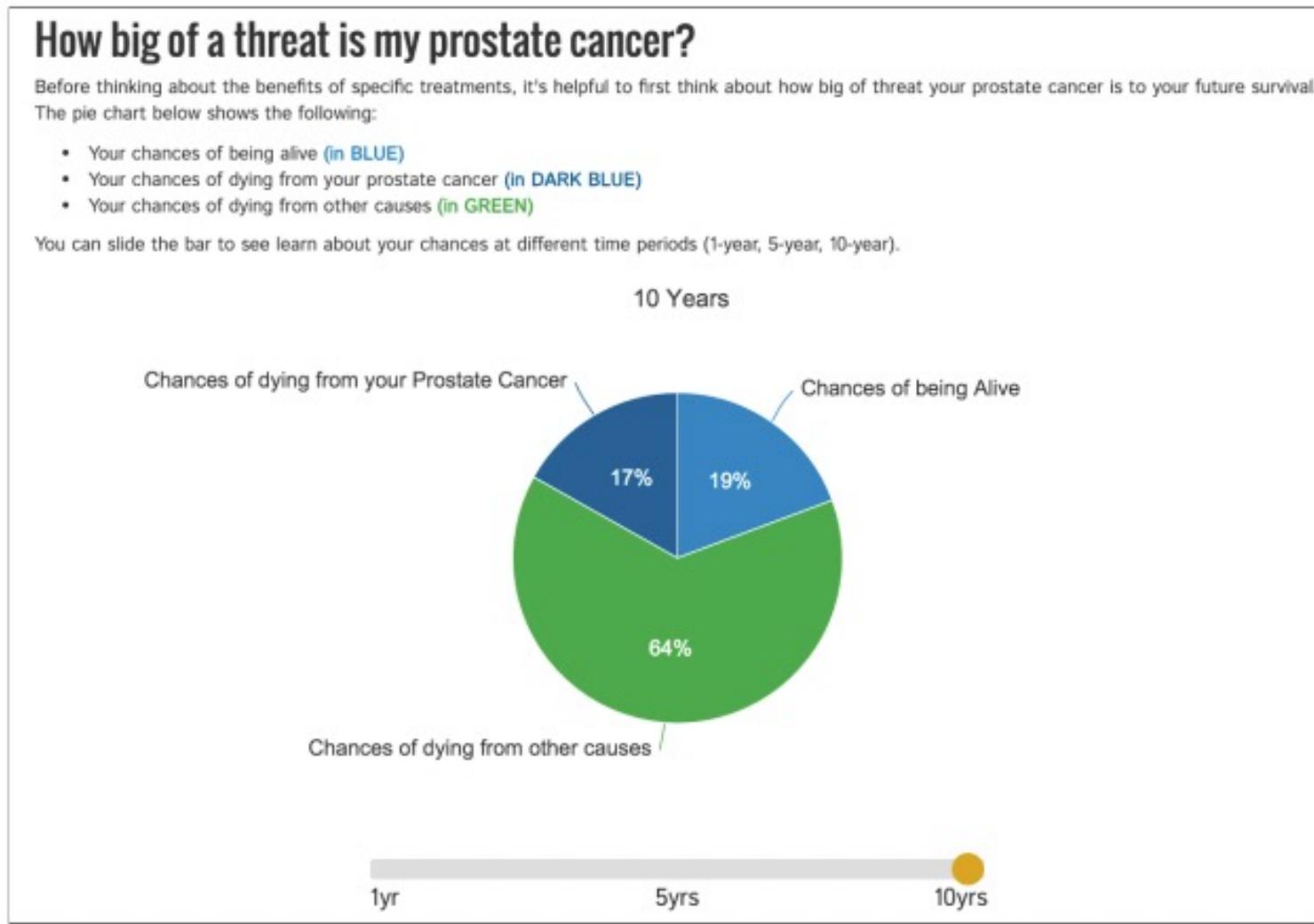
Bar chart showing survival rates with slider for years.



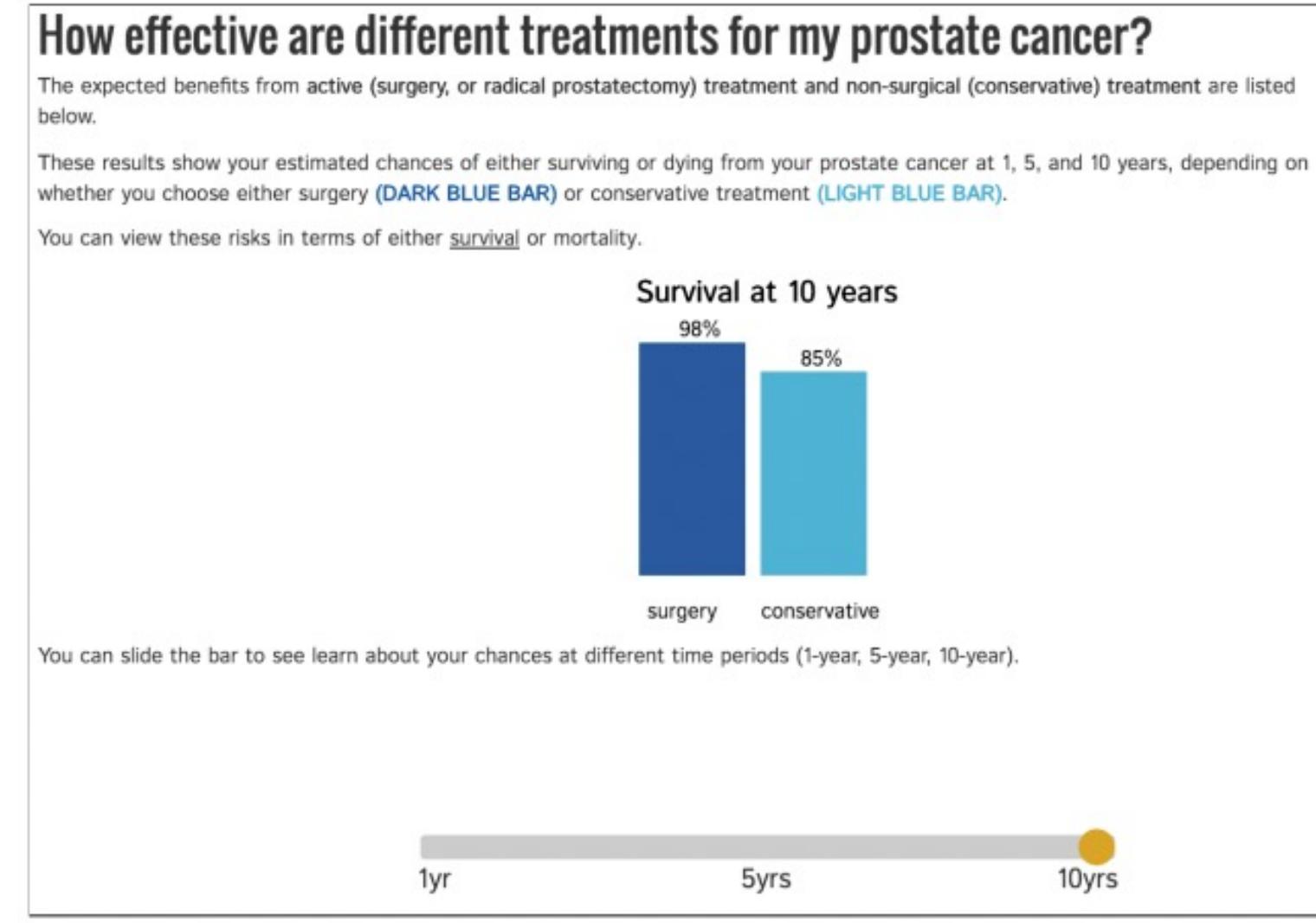
Temporal area chart of survival rates.

# Example: PROACT

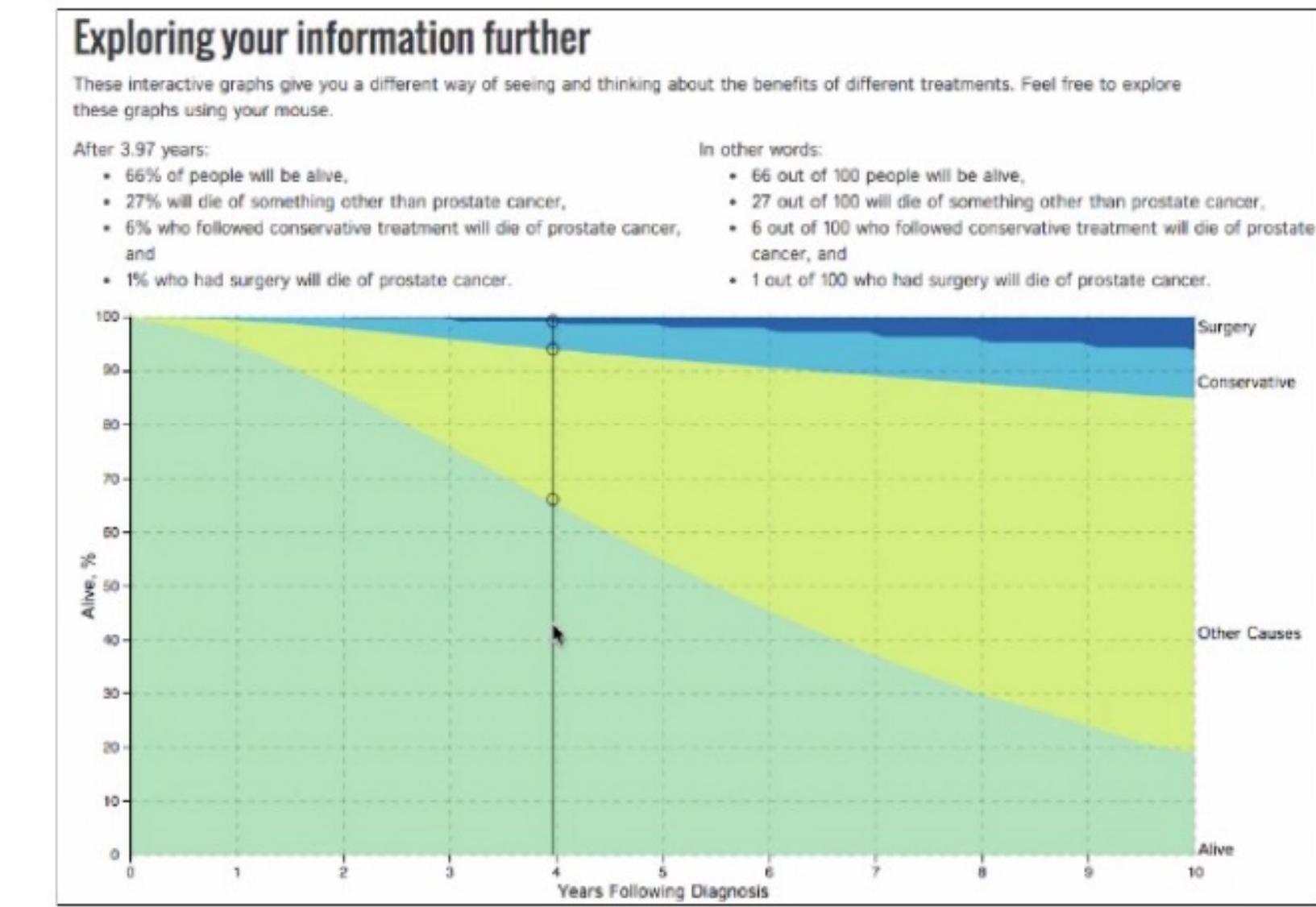
Evaluation showed...



Pie chart showing morbidity rates with **slider** for years.



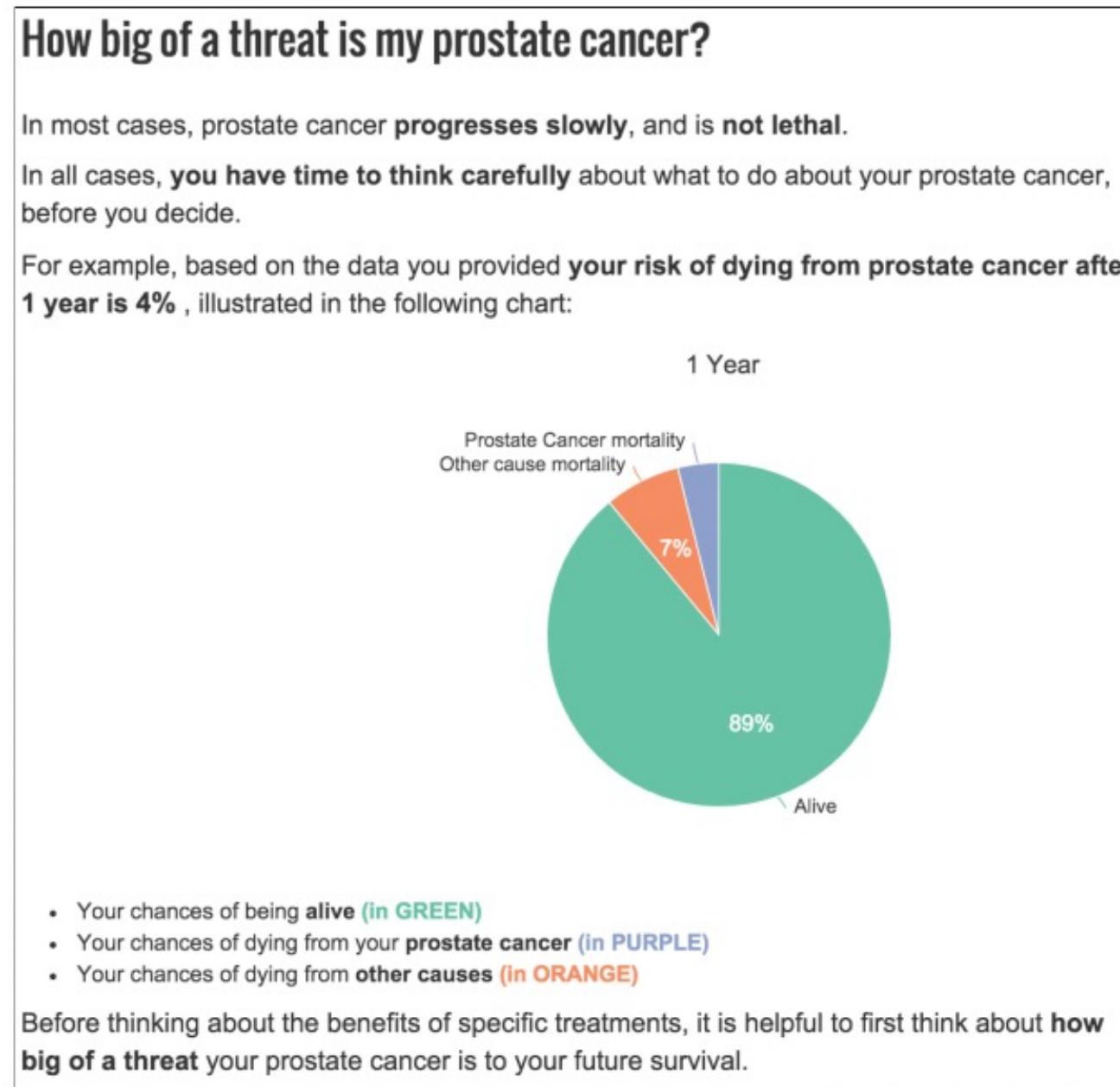
Bar chart showing survival rates with **slider** for years.



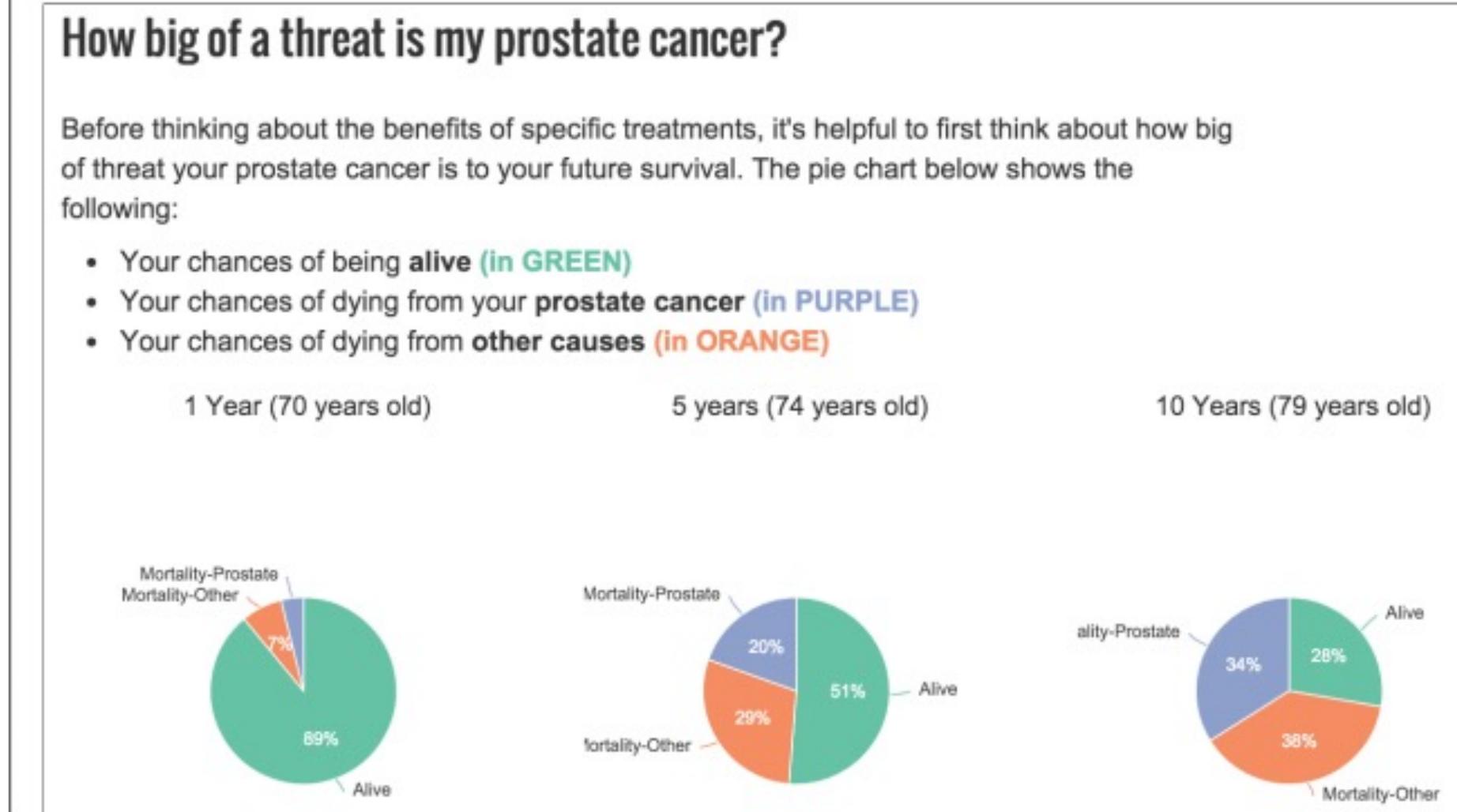
**Temporal area chart** of survival rates.

# Example: PROACT

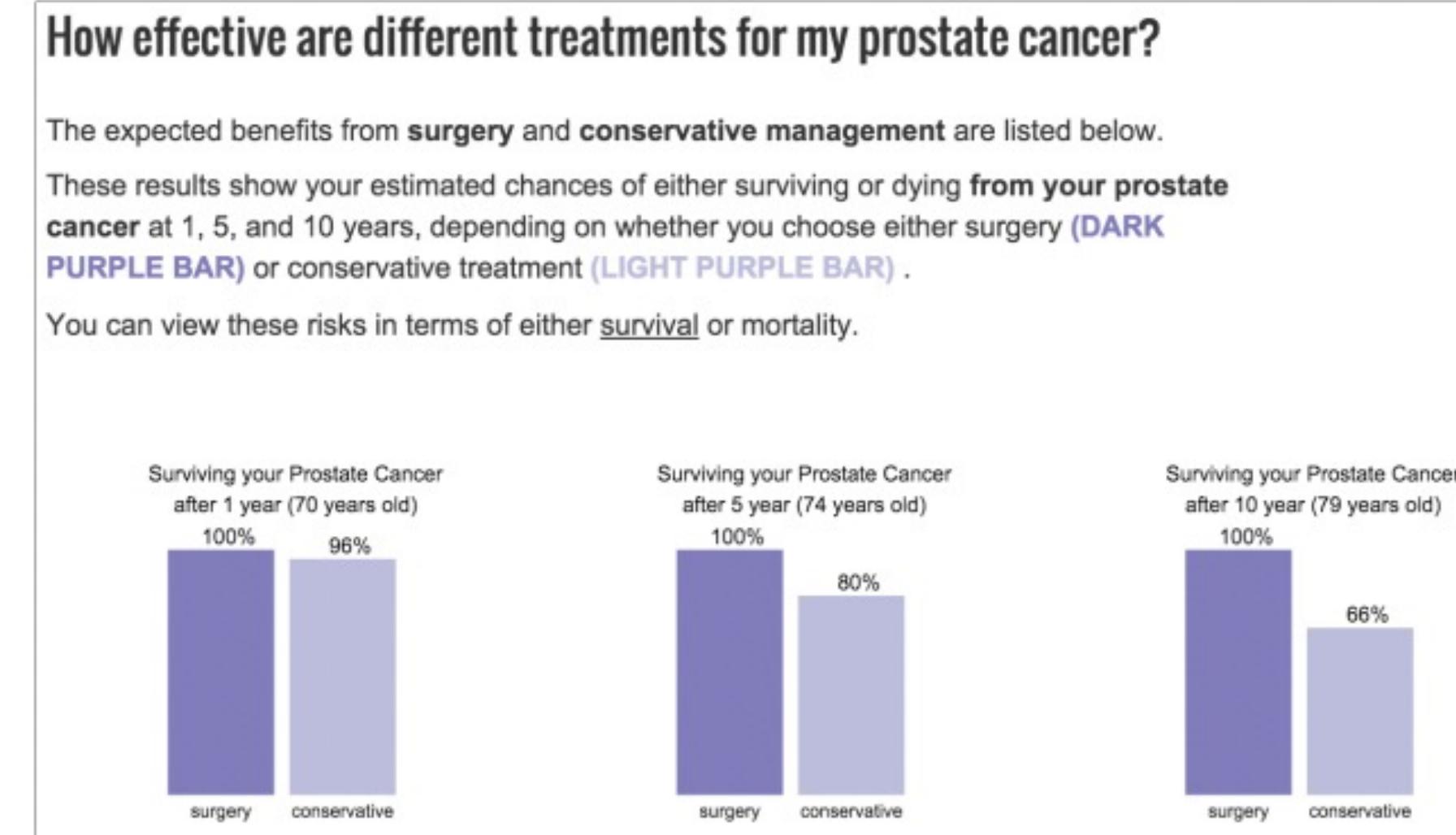
## REVISED Visual Encoding / Interaction Paradigm:



Pie chart with 1 year survival.



Pie charts showing morbidity rates over years.



Bar charts showing survival rates over years.

# Example: Jigsaw

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## Reflections on the evolution of the Jigsaw visual analytics system

Carsten Görg<sup>1</sup>, Zhicheng Liu<sup>2</sup> and John Stasko<sup>3</sup>

Information Visualization  
2014, Vol. 13(4) 336–345  
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DOI: 10.1177/1473871613495674  
[ivi.sagepub.com](http://ivi.sagepub.com)  


# Example: Jigsaw

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## Reflections on the evolution of the Jigsaw visual analytics system

Carsten Görg<sup>1</sup>, Zhicheng Liu<sup>2</sup> and John Stasko<sup>3</sup>

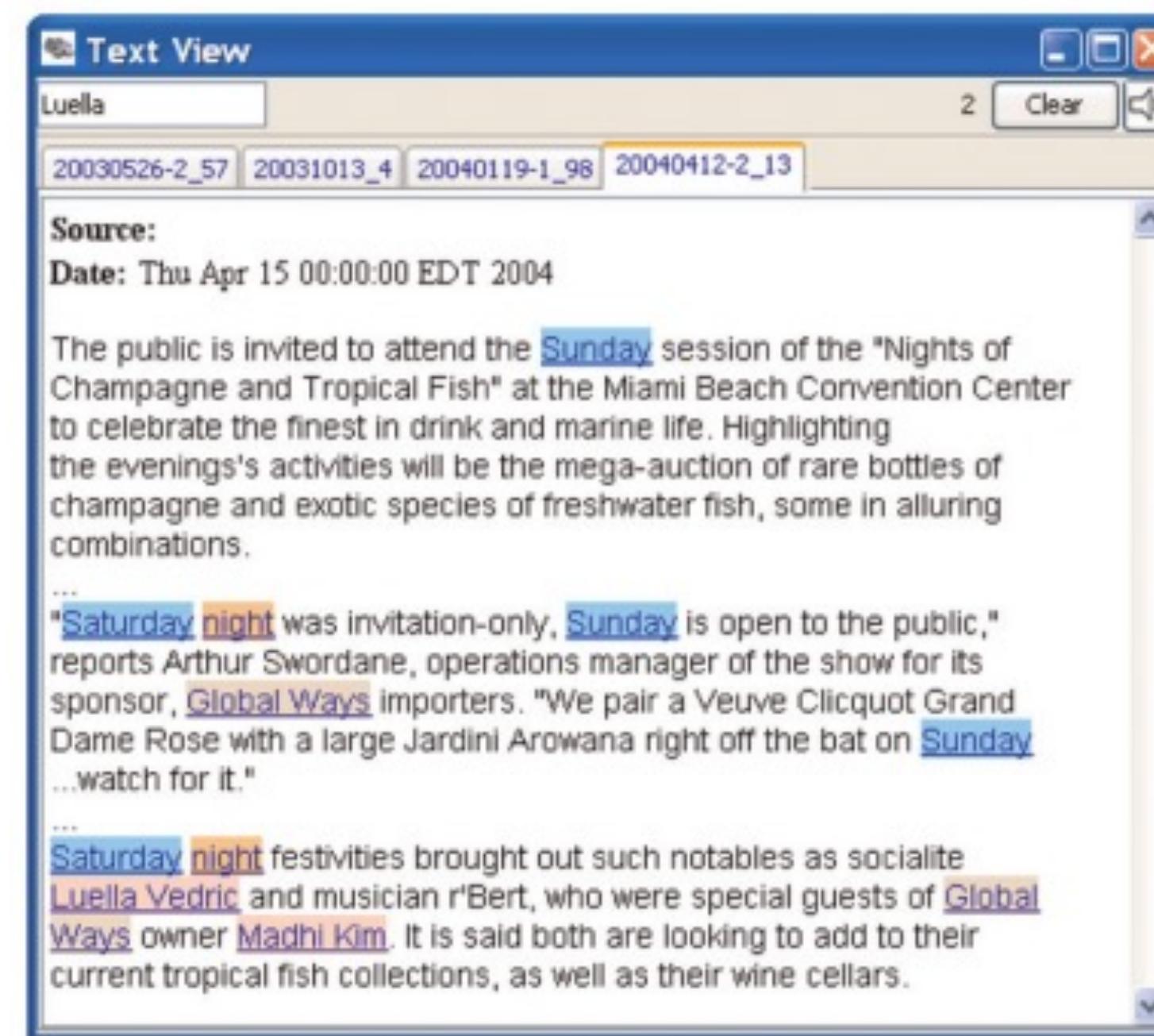
Information Visualization  
2014, Vol. 13(4) 336–345  
© The Author(s) 2013  
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[sagepub.co.uk/journalsPermissions.nav](http://sagepub.co.uk/journalsPermissions.nav)  
DOI: 10.1177/1473871613495674  
[ivi.sagepub.com](http://ivi.sagepub.com)  


**Domain Situation:** Intelligence analysts need to analyze collections of text for connections.

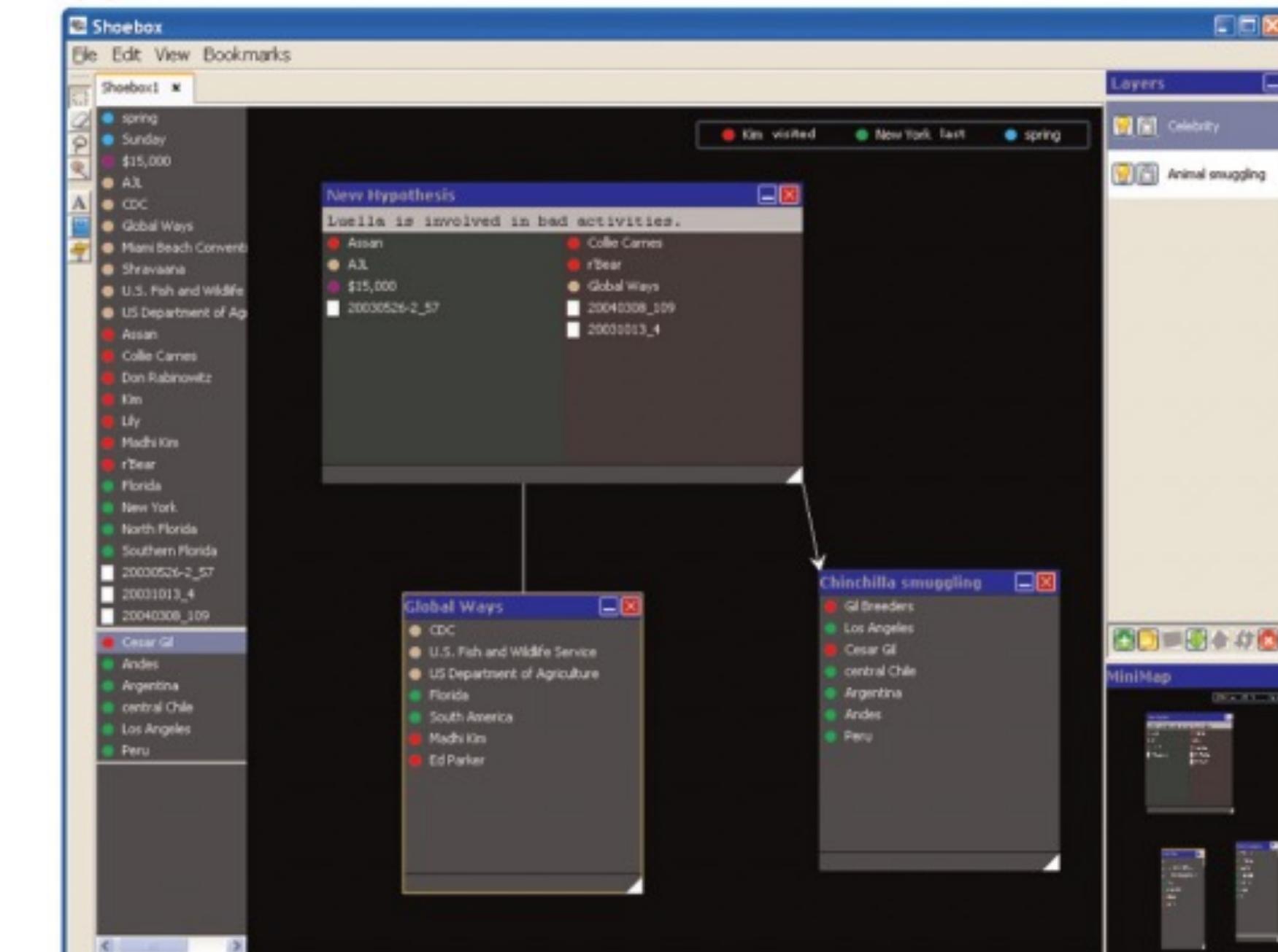
**Data / Tasks:** Group documents based on shared people, places, organizations, etc..

# Example: Jigsaw

## Visual Encoding / Interaction Paradigm:



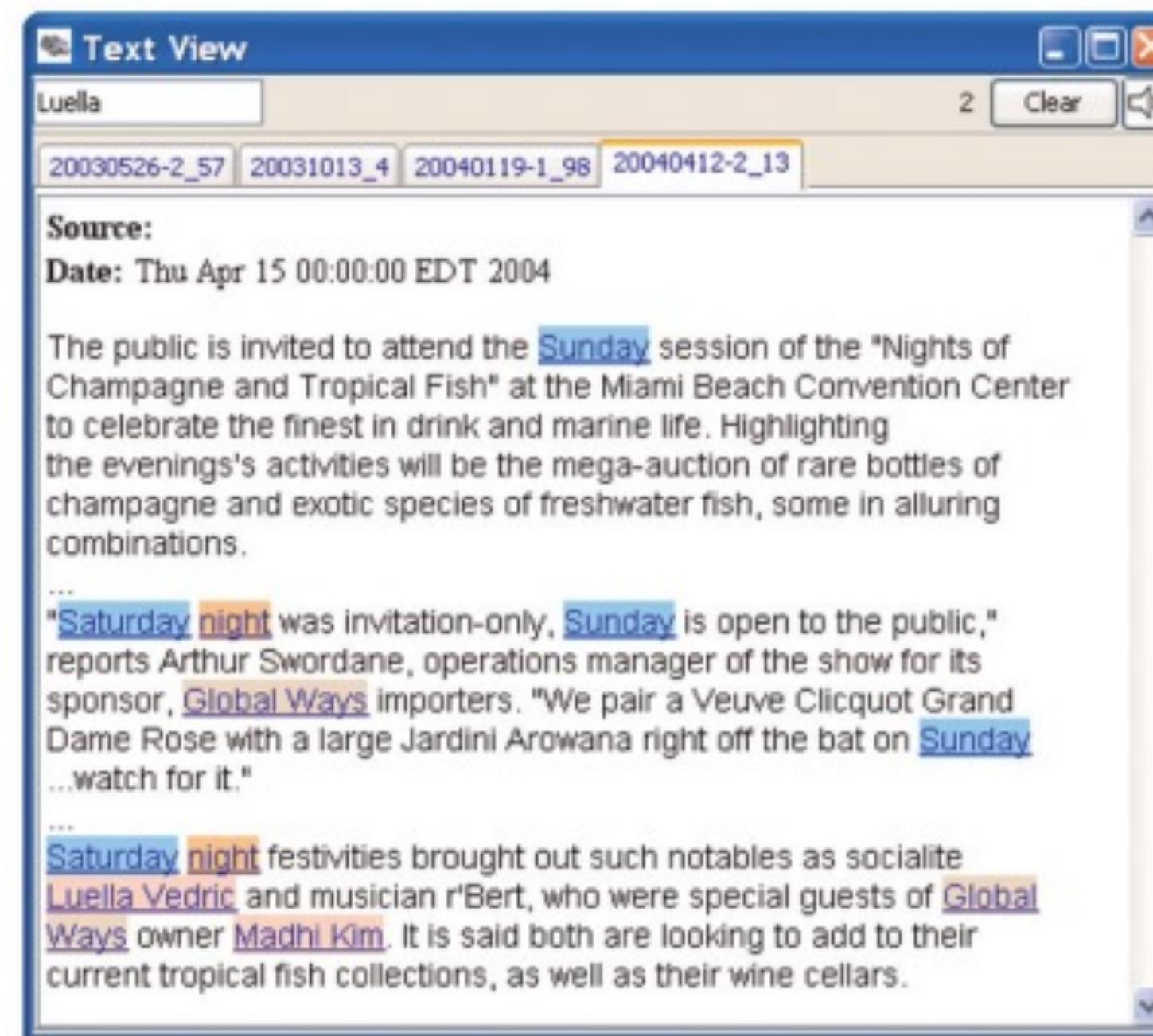
Documents shown in tabs with entities highlighted.



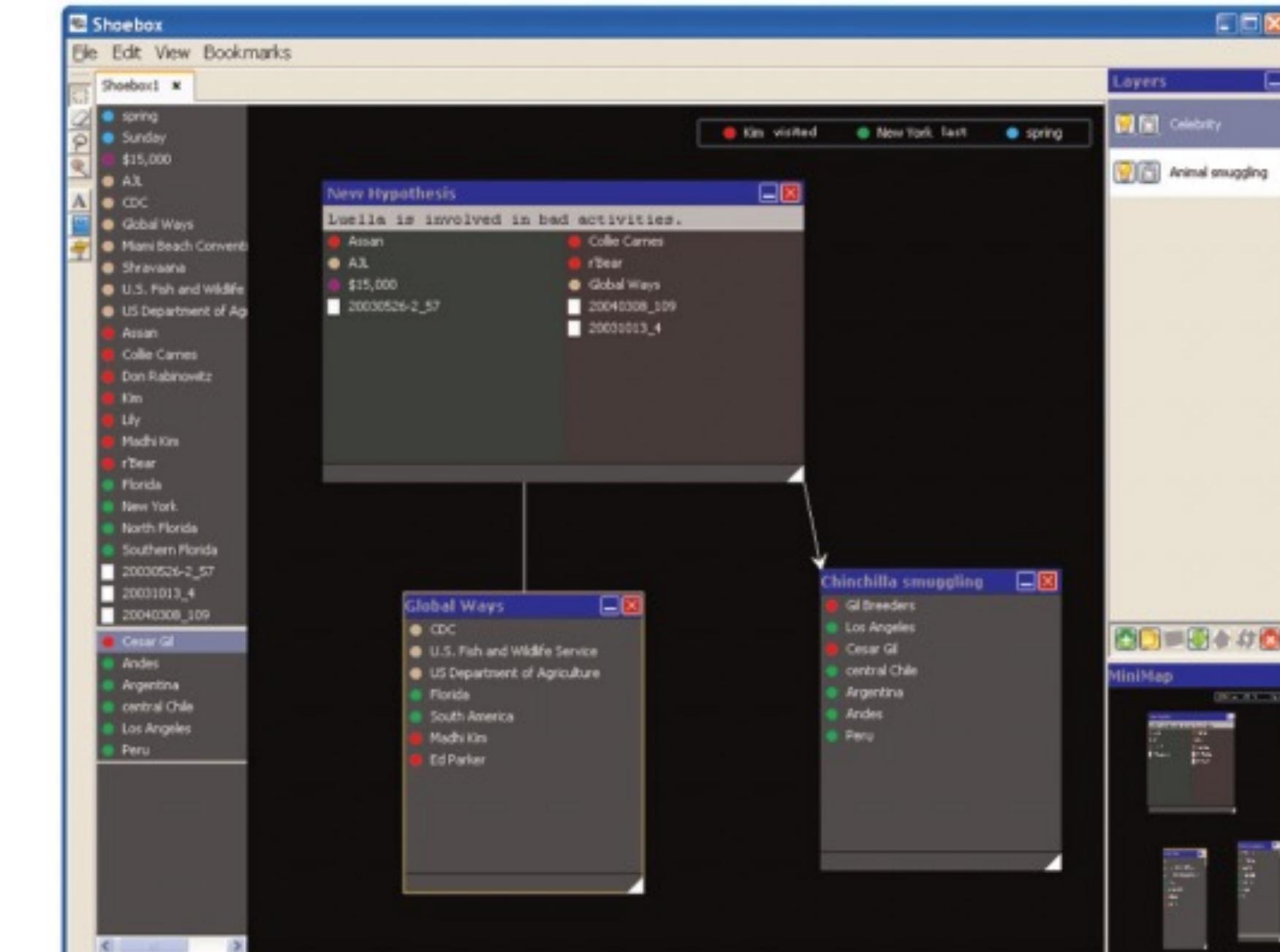
Manual note taking with automated layout.

# Example: Jigsaw

## Visual Encoding / Interaction Paradigm:



Documents shown in **tabs** with entities highlighted. Not enough information.



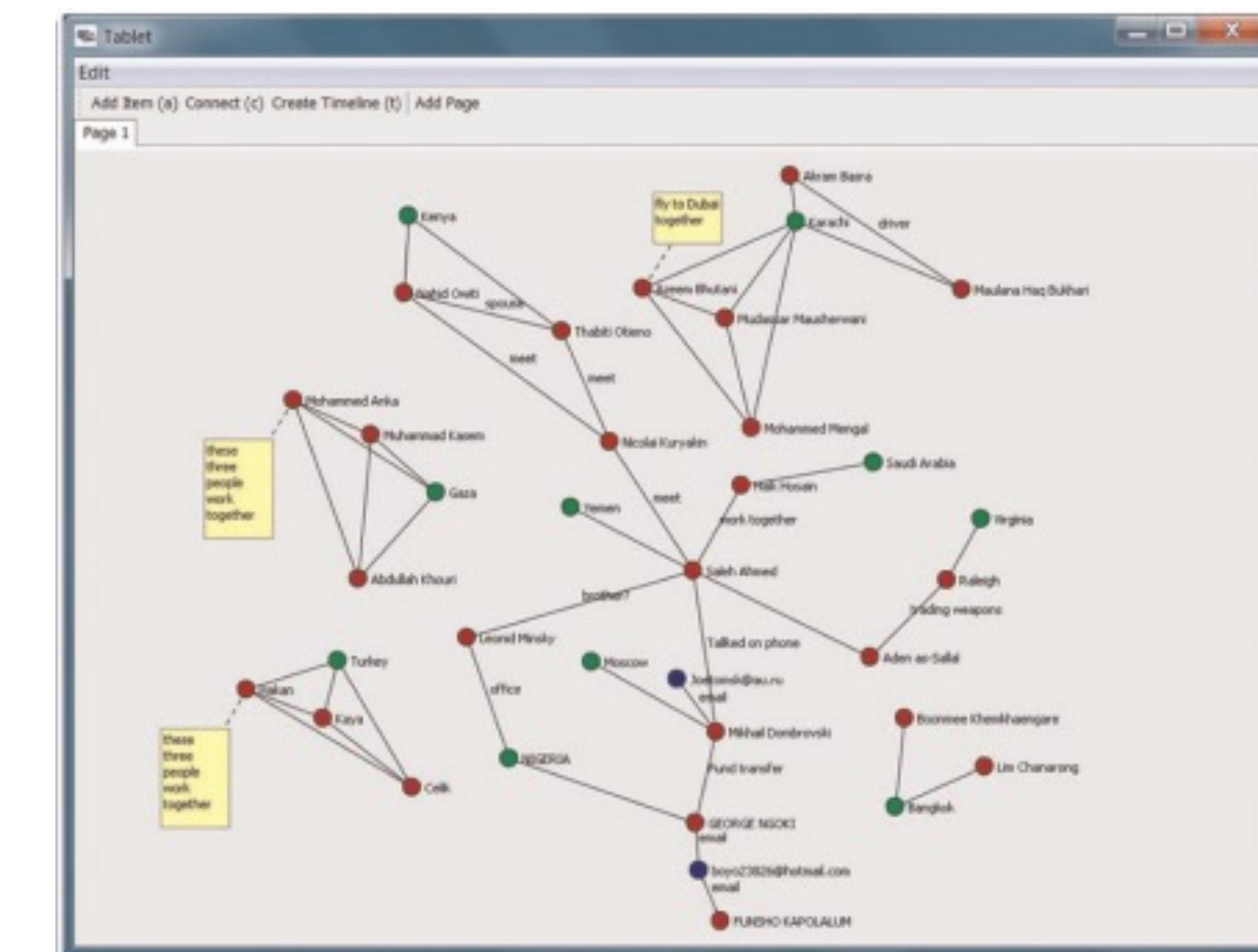
Manual note taking with **automated layout**. Not enough flexibility.

# Example: Jigsaw

## REVISED Visual Encoding / Interaction Paradigm:

The screenshot shows a window titled "Document View" with a toolbar at the top labeled "Edit View Bookmarks Export". A dropdown menu is open, showing "Only Entities". Below the toolbar is a scrollable list of documents. The fourth item in the list, "2 20040412-2\_13", is highlighted with a yellow background. To the right of the list is a tag cloud with words like "animal", "animals", "CITES", "dinner", "endangered", "exotic", "Luella Vedric", "mistreatment", "night", "people", "prevention", "r'Bear", "rights", "Saturday", "species", "SPOMA", "Sunday", "tropical", "wildlife", and "works". Below the tag cloud is a summary of the selected document: "Summary: "We pair a Veuve Clicquot Grand Dame Rose with a large Jardini Arowana right off the bat on Sunday ...watch for it." ... Saturday night festivities brought out such notables as socialite Luella Vedric and musician r'Bert, who were special guests of Global Ways owner Madhi Kim." The source is listed as "Source: Date: Apr 15, 2004". The content of the document discusses a special event at the Miami Beach Convention Center featuring rare bottles of champagne and exotic fish.

Documents shown in scrollable list  
with tag cloud and 1 sentence  
summary.



Freestyle organization (drag & drop),  
with ability to draw links and add post-  
it notes.

# Example: DIVA

## **Drug-Drug Interaction Visual Analytics (DIVA)**

*Stakeholder - U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ■ 2017-2018*

• Tabassum Kakar

# Example: DIVA

## Drug-Drug Interaction Visual Analytics (DIVA)

Stakeholder - U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ■ 2017-2018

• Tabassum Kakar

**Domain Situation:** FDA Analysts need to detect adverse reactions caused by drug-drug interactions (DDI).

**Data / Tasks:** Validate potential DDI signals in ML output.

machine-generated hypothesized DDIs.csv	
1,0.7788674254166842,2,[Completedsuicide],[CITALOPRAM] [CLONIDINE],11.0,100.0,[CITALOPRAM],207.0,21.2526,[CLONIDINE],40.0,21.6216	
2,0.7277271617784155,2,[Completedsuicide],[GABAPENTIN] [OXCARBAZEPINE],15.0,100.0,[OXCARBAZEPINE],16.0,25.0,[GABAPENTIN],151.0,22.9483	
3,0.6881226672259543,2,[Completedsuicide],[RISPERIDONE] [LISINOPRIL],15.0,93.75,[RISPERIDONE],44.0,17.8138,[LISINOPRIL],131.0,14.131599999999999	
4,0.675139023242752,2,[Completedsuicide],[HYDROCODONE] [LITHIUM],12.0,100.0,[LITHIUM],27.0,17.7632,[HYDROCODONE],65.0,23.8971	
5,0.6640494087880843,2,[Completedsuicide],[OLANZAPINE] [METOPROLOL],10.0,90.9091,[METOPROLOL],161.0,17.94870000000002,[OLANZAPINE],39.0,14.3382	
6,0.6483071033811938,2,[Completedsuicide],[RISPERIDONE] [AMLODIPINE],24.0,92.3077,[AMLODIPINE],119.0,12.9771,[RISPERIDONE],44.0,17.8138	
7,0.6464662323928254,2,[Drugineffective],[FLUDARABINE] [Prograf],20.0,100.0,[Prograf],65.0,22.5694,[FLUDARABINE],24.0,14.9068	
8,0.6460313886854082,2,[Completedsuicide],[ARIPIPRAZOLE] [HYDROCODONE],16.0,100.0,[ARIPIPRAZOLE],28.0,30.10749999999998,[HYDROCODONE],65.0,23.8971	
9,0.6315263555060503,2,[Completedsuicide],[VERAPAMIL] [ZOLPIDEM],11.0,100.0,[ZOLPIDEM],127.0,33.3333,[VERAPAMIL],57.0,27.8049	
10,0.6091982800104407,2,[Drugineffective],[BUSULFAN] [Prograf],12.0,85.7143,[BUSULFAN],12.0,20.339,[Prograf],65.0,22.5694	
11,0.5997682397322621,2,[Completedsuicide],[PROMETHAZINE] [CLONIDINE],10.0,83.3333,[PROMETHAZINE],55.0,22.541,[CLONIDINE],40.0,21.6216	
12,0.5987232977377239,2,[Completedsuicide],[HALOPERIDOL] [ALPRAZOLAM],10.0,83.3333,[HALOPERIDOL],31.0,19.2547,[ALPRAZOLAM],360.0,21.3018	
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14,0.5876932592129677,2,[Completedsuicide],[CITALOPRAM] [CELECOXIB],11.0,84.6154,[CITALOPRAM],207.0,21.2526,[CELECOXIB],12.0,17.3913	
15,0.5809555944509446,2,[Diseaseprogression],[TAXOTERE] [Xeloda],12.0,80.0,[TAXOTERE],24.0,15.68630000000001,[Xeloda],101.0,18.3303	
16,0.5699014048323247,2,[Completedsuicide],[GABAPENTIN] [LAMOTRIGINE],16.0,84.2105,[LAMOTRIGINE],95.0,25.4011,[GABAPENTIN],151.0,22.9483	
17,0.5652627217131766,2,[Completedsuicide],[COCAINE] [CARVEDILOL],17.0,94.4444,[COCAINE],71.0,25.9124,[CARVEDILOL],44.0,16.2362	
18,0.5622337177832996,2,[Drugabuse],[AMITRIPTYLINE] [DIPHENHYDRAMINE],32.0,86.4865,[DIPHENHYDRAMINE],131.0,24.7637,[AMITRIPTYLINE],98.0,19.1033	
19,0.5617764758515735,2,[Drugabuse],[AMITRIPTYLINE] [METAXALONE],11.0,91.6667,[METAXALONE],17.0,27.4194,[AMITRIPTYLINE],98.0,19.1033	
20,0.558428491195452,2,[Completedsuicide],[ACETAMINOPHENHYDROCODONE] [CLONAZEPAM],11.0,91.6667,[ACETAMINOPHENHYDROCODONE],91.0,35.68629999999996,[CLONAZEPAM],187.0,35.2166	
21,0.5524548133048992,2,[Completedsuicide],[BACLOFEN] [METHADONE],11.0,84.6154,[METHADONE],65.0,12.54830000000001,[BACLOFEN],46.0,18.7755	
22,0.5513973628923049,2,[Completedsuicide] [Toxicitytovariousagents],[TEMAZEPAM] [CARISOPRODOL],10.0,71.4286,[TEMAZEPAM],17.0,9.34066,[CARISOPRODOL],26.0,11.3537	
23,0.5435190633848127,2,[Bladdercancer],[METFORMINMETFORMIN] [ACTOS],14.0,82.35289999999999,[ACTOS],35.0,25.54739999999996,[METFORMINMETFORMIN],45.0,22.1675	

Example of a few Drug-drug Interaction (DDI) signals generated by machine-learning

# Example: DIVA

## User Research

### Target Users

Our users for DIVA are drug safety evaluators at the Division of Pharmacovigilance at the FDA who are responsible for the detection adverse drug reactions (signals).

### Key Research Questions and Areas

- How drug safety reports are analyzed?
- What are the key challenges users currently face?
- Observe and understand users' current review process.

### Methodology

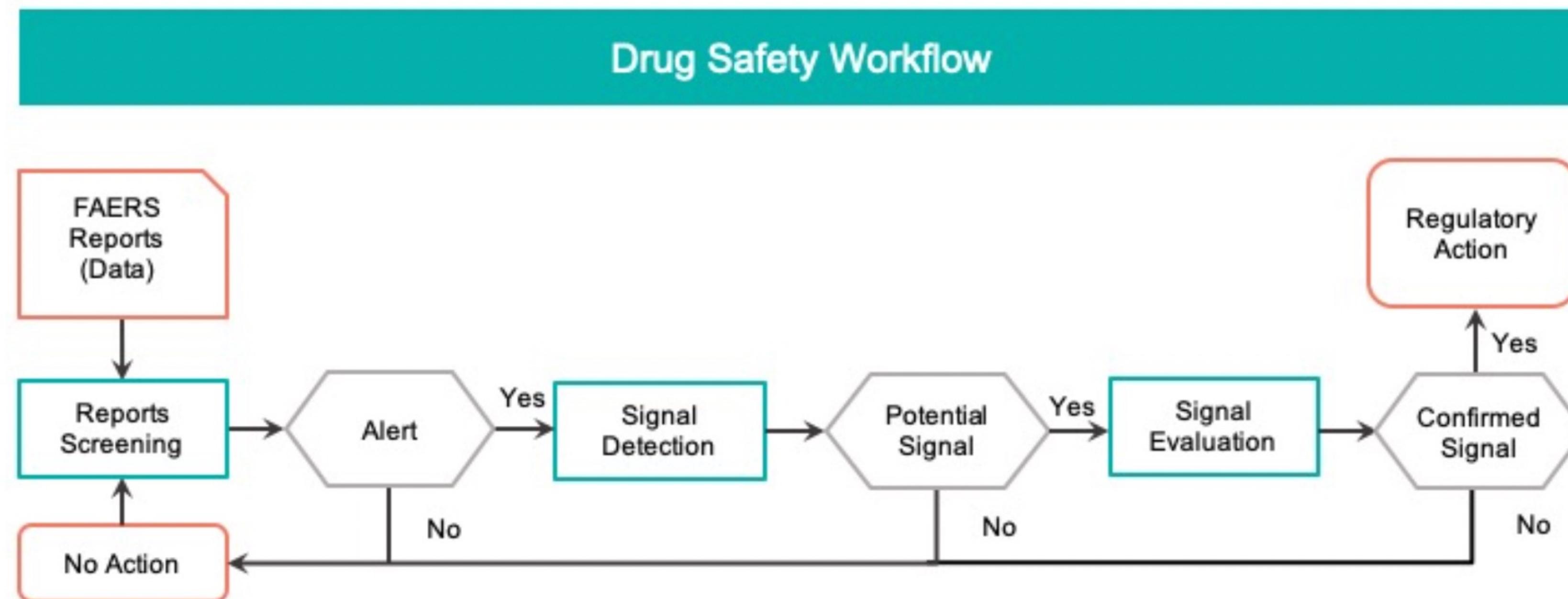
The user research took a total of two weeks and included the following activities with five users.

- **Week 1 (Phase 1).** 45 minutes remote interviews to get an overview of their workflow.
- **Week 2 (Phase 2a).** 30 minutes contextual inquiry to observe users at work.
- **Week 2 (Phase 2b).** 30 minutes in person interviews for follow-up discussion and clarification.

# Example: DIVA

## User Workflow for Signal Detection

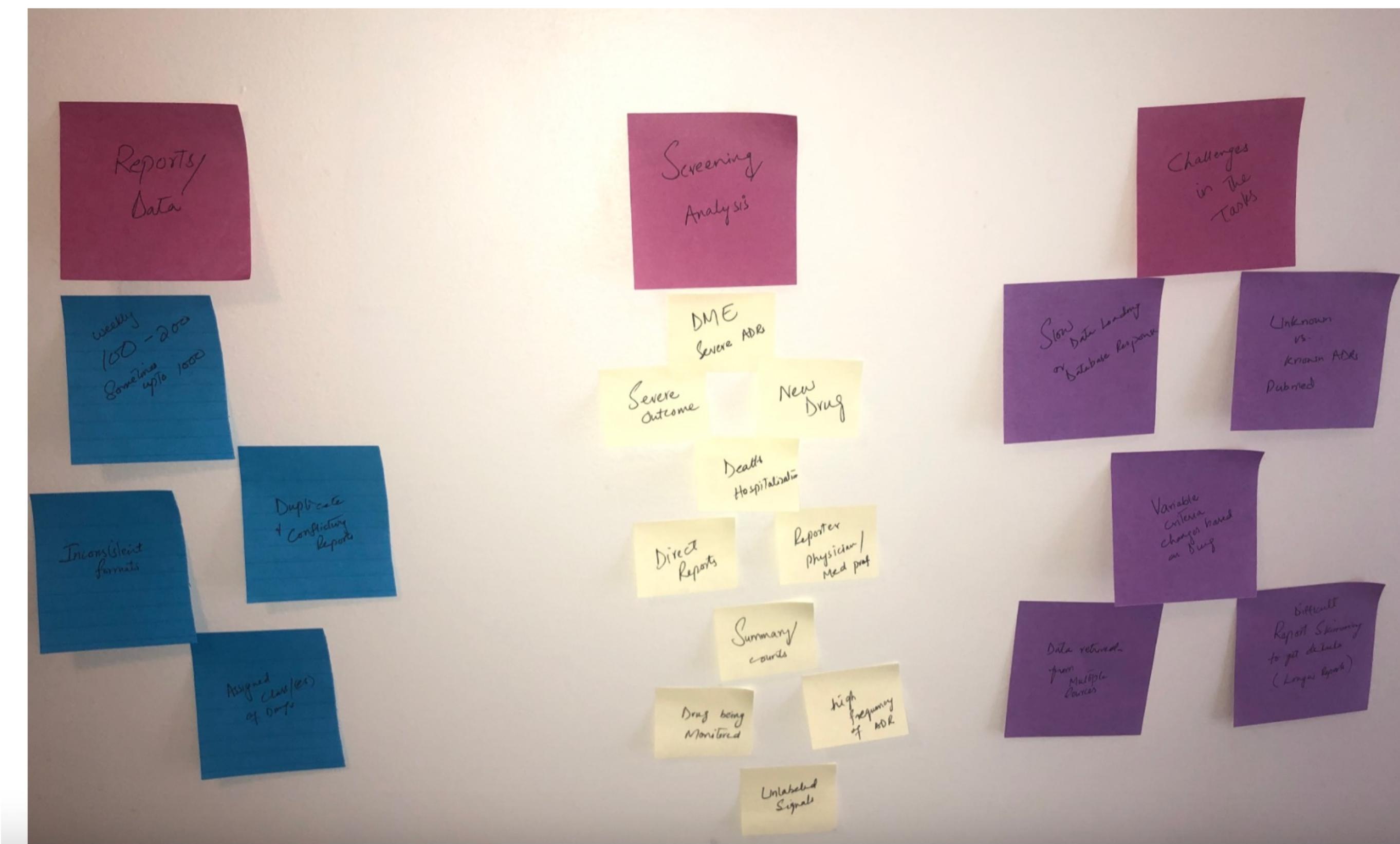
Based on our interviews in Phase 1, the drug safety review workflow is summarized below.



# Example: DIVA

## Affinity Diagram to Categorize Users' Needs

Based on the user research, an affinity diagram was created to identify and group users' needs and concerns.



# Example: DIVA

## Key Findings from User Research

Based on the user research, the following features were identified as high priority for the visual analytics to help in the analysis of the DDI signals.

- Provide an overview of all DDI signals.
- Allow analysts to segment and prioritize signals.
- Integrate information about previously known (discovered) signals.
- Facilitate identification of unknown (undiscovered) signals.
- Facilitate identification of severe adverse reactions.
- Access to raw reports supporting the signals.

## Design Process

### DDI Signals Data to be Visualized

Based on our user research, we integrated domain knowledge into an already complex DDI signal generated by machine learning. The final data model to be visualized consists of the following elements.

- The two interacting drugs (DDI).
- A set of adverse reactions associated with the DDI.
- A numeric score (machine learning metric) that represents the significance of the signal.
- Domain knowledge about the signal status being known or known.
- Domain knowledge about the signal having a severe reaction (DME).

## Literature Review

To start, we reviewed academic research papers and other published best practices for designing visualizations for machine-learning output and drug related information. In addition to the required features, we learned some best practices and guidelines for designing multiple coordinated views - such as details on demand, selecting chart types based on the data and task, and direct manipulation of data.

# Example: DIVA

## Visual Design and Prototypes to Get User Feedback

Given the complexity of the DDI signals and user tasks, designing a single visualization is not feasible. Based on literature review and heuristic analysis of different visualization techniques for the underlying data, we considered various visualizations.

Table Layout 1 - highlighted Rows have highest scores

Drugs	Drug 2	Reaction	Significance Score	Status
Zameta	Altobee	Neutropenia	93.43	Unknown
Zameta	Palasee	Neutropenia	90.15	Unknown
Zameta	Palasee	Migraine	81.36	Unknown
:	:	:	:	:
Each row is a DDI signal				

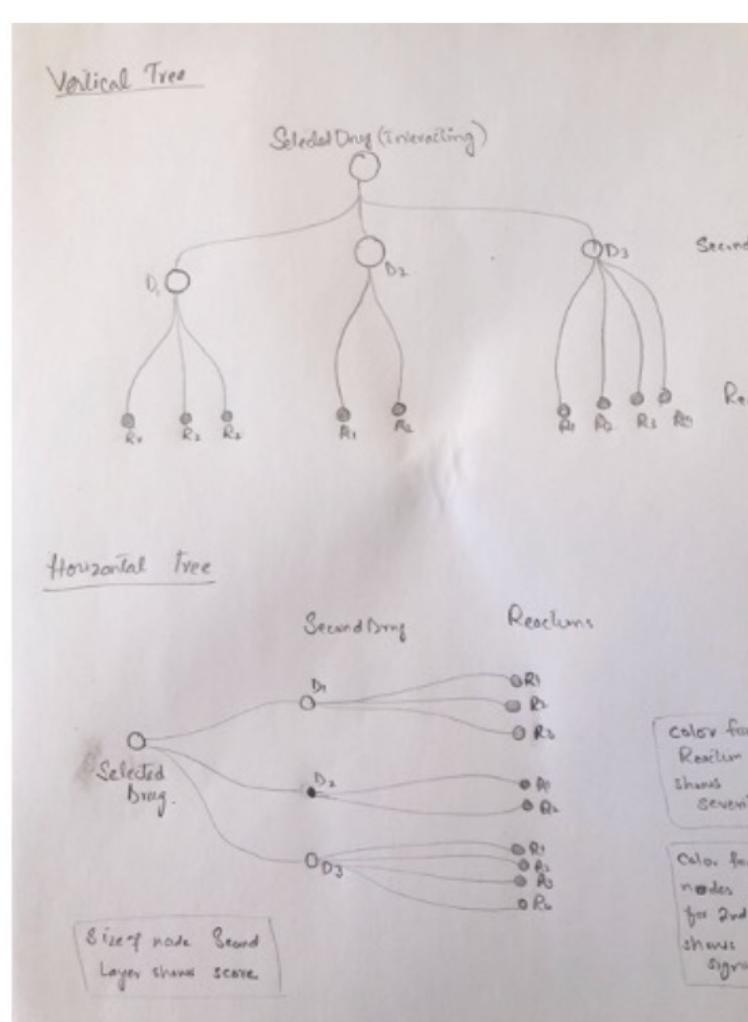
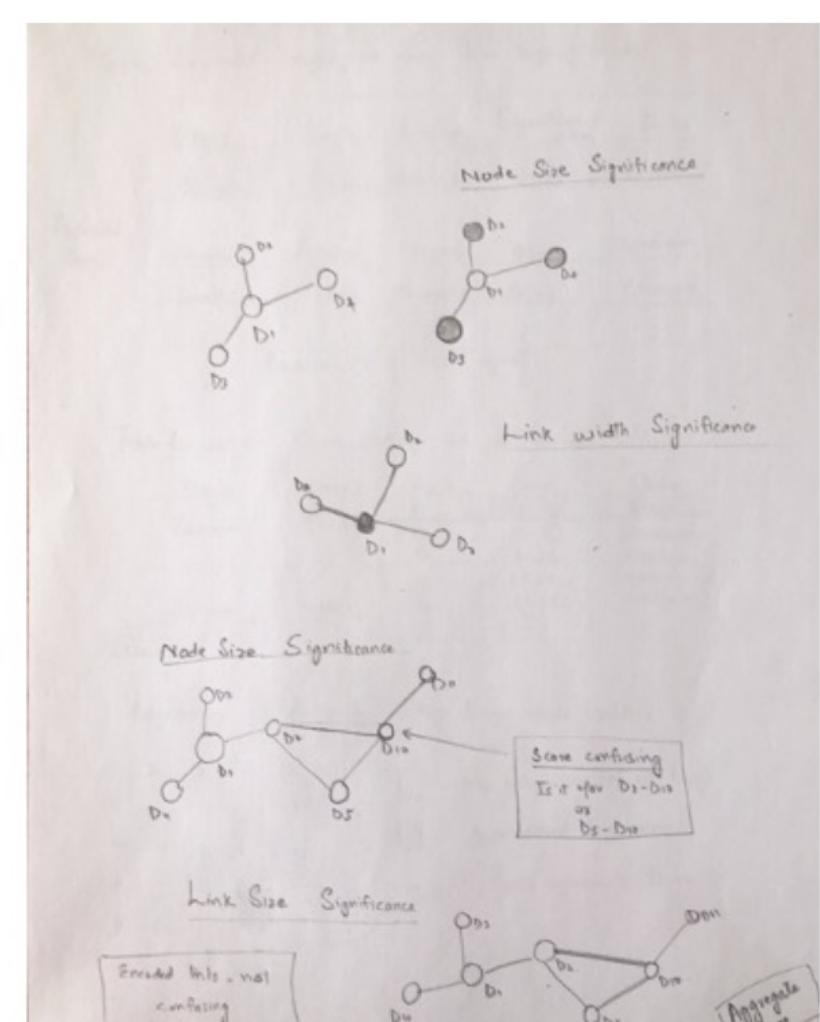
  

Table Layout 2 - Combining Cells with similar b1/b2

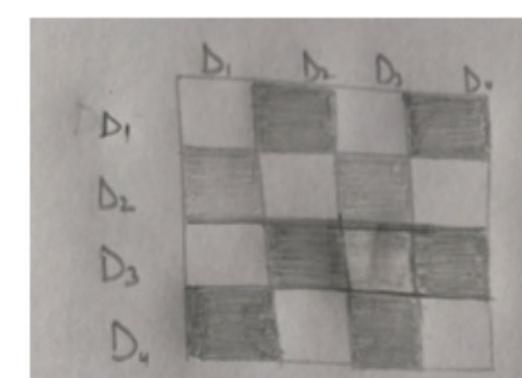
Drugs	Drug 2	Reaction	Score	Status
Zameta	Palasee	R1	92.43	Unknown
Zameta	Palasee	R2	90.15	Unknown
Zameta	Palasee	R3	81.36	Unknown
Aspirin	bigavirin	R4	65.20	Unknown
Aspirin	bigavirin	R5	17.22	Unknown
:	:	:	:	:

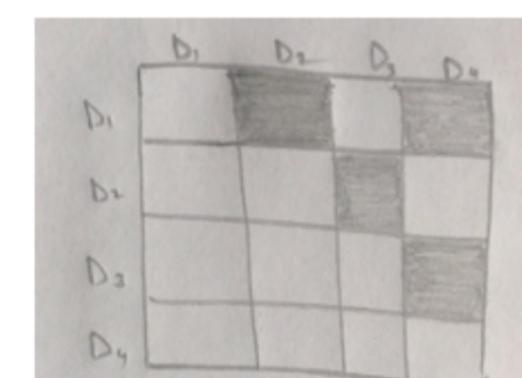
Adjacency Matrix - Only drugs visible (D1-D5)



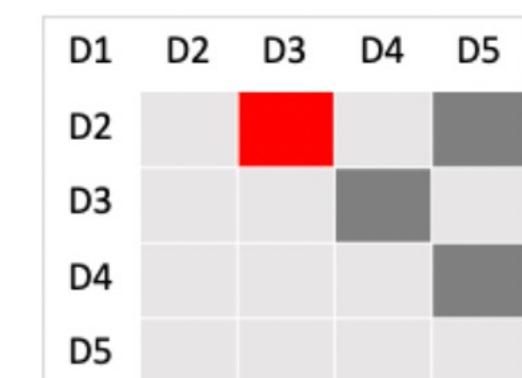
To help users explore the set of all the machine-generated drug-drug interactions (DDIs) the first suitable candidate is an Adjacency Matrix (below figures). Due to sparsity of the matrix for real data, alternatively, a node-link diagram is designed.



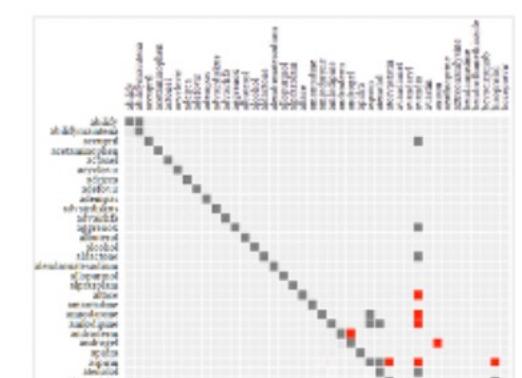
Each axis represents four drugs (D<sub>1</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>, etc.). Shaded cells represent an interaction between two drugs exist in the machine generated signals.



No order between DDIs. Interaction between D<sub>1</sub>-D<sub>2</sub> is same as D<sub>2</sub>-D<sub>1</sub>. Only used the only the upper triangular matrix.

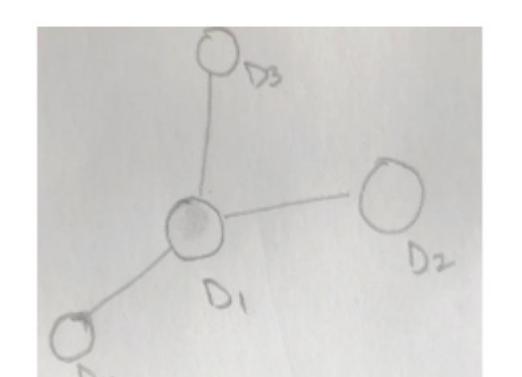


Color of the cell is mapped to the significance score of the DDI interaction used by the machine learning algorithm to rank signals.

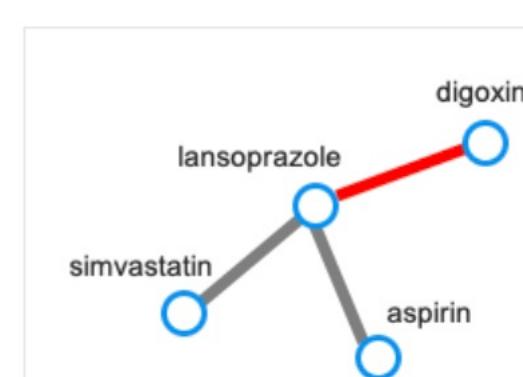


Adjacency matrix using D3.js with real DDI data has high sparsity, due to hundreds of drugs having unequal number of interactions with each other

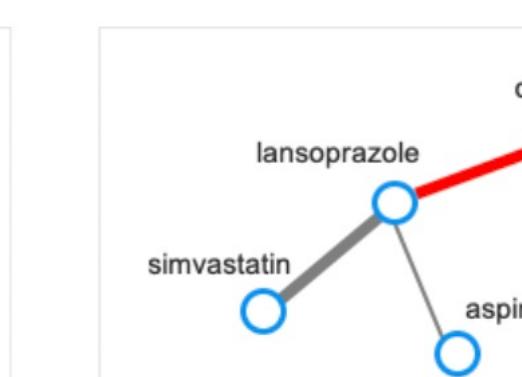
In the node-link diagrams (following figure), the nodes are mapped to the drugs and the links depict the interaction between drugs. The visual encodings, i.e., color and size of the links (Screening view) and nodes (Triage view) are mapped to the significance score of the signals and status of the reactions, respectively.



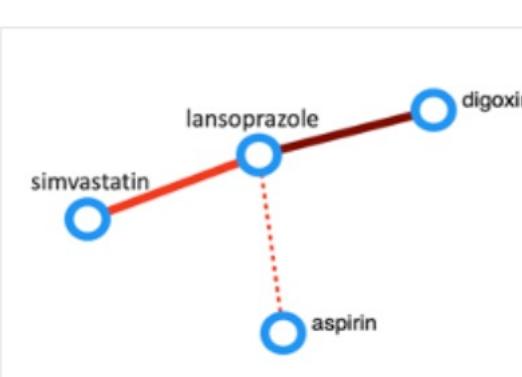
Nodes represent drugs, and links between nodes represent a machine-generated drug-drug interaction.



Links are encoded with score using color hue. Red color shows a high score, grey means a low score.

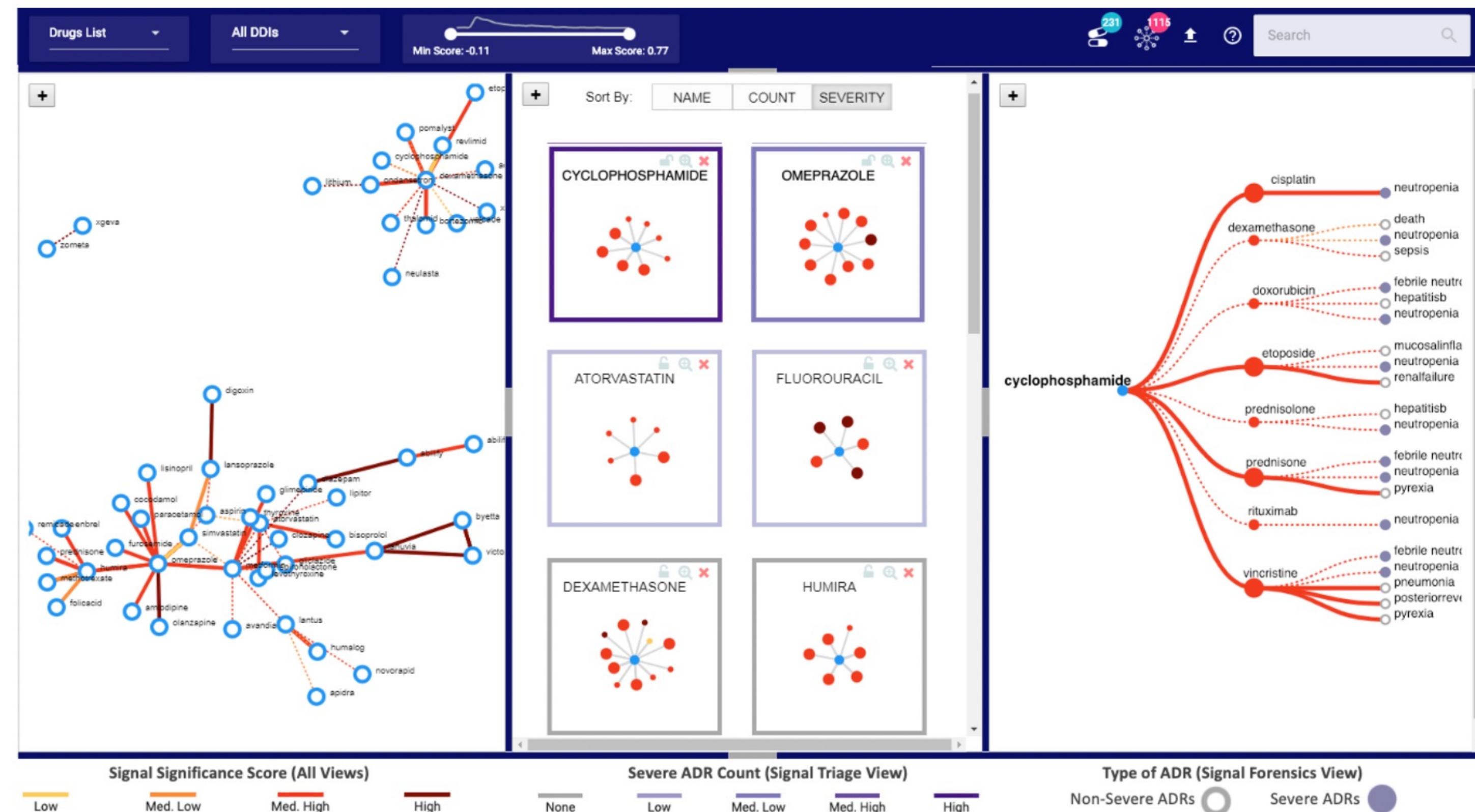


The signal status (known or unknown) is mapped to the link size. Thin = known signal and thick= unknown.



In the final design, color saturation is used to encode score. Both link shape and size are used to encode status.

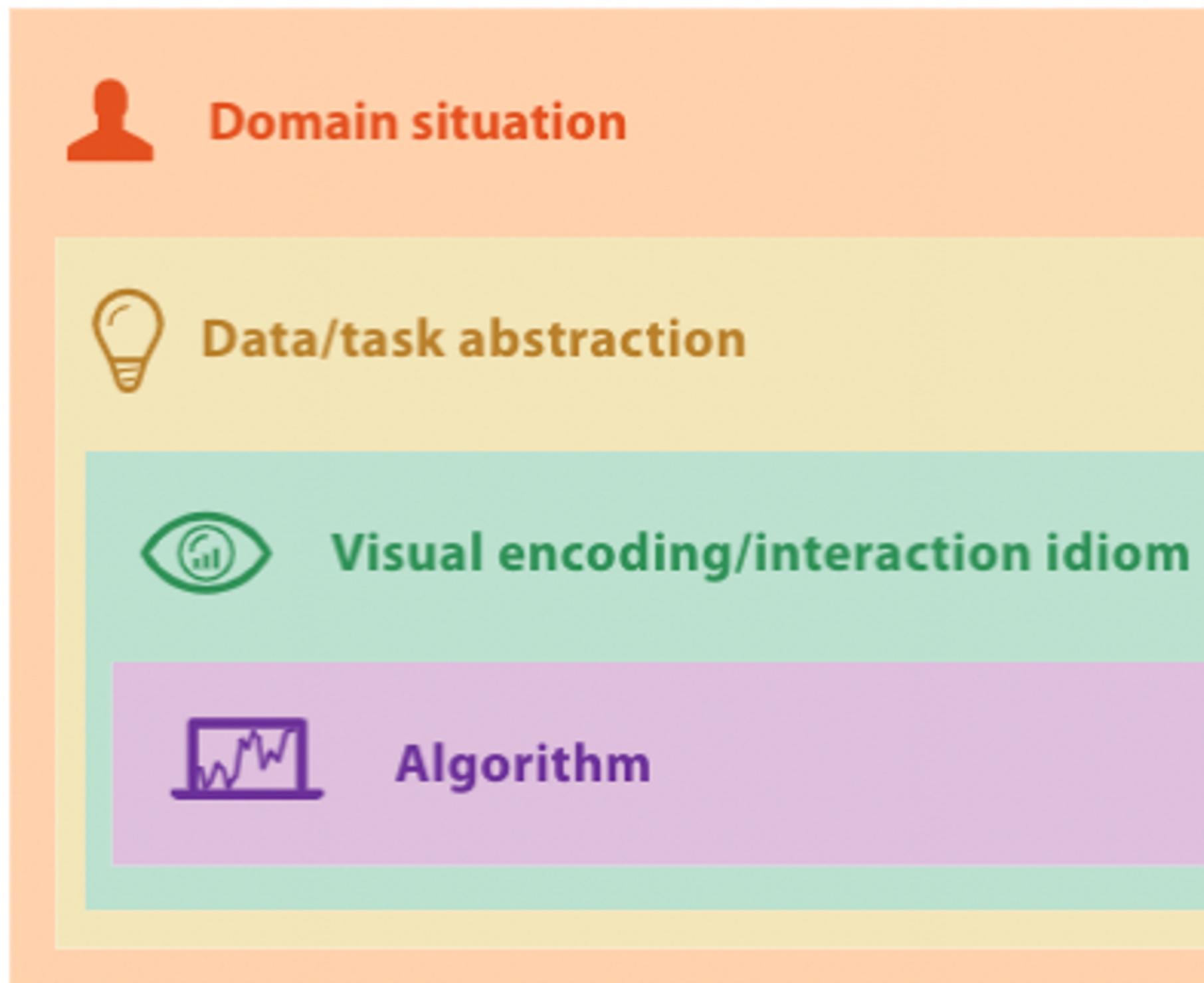
# Example: DIVA



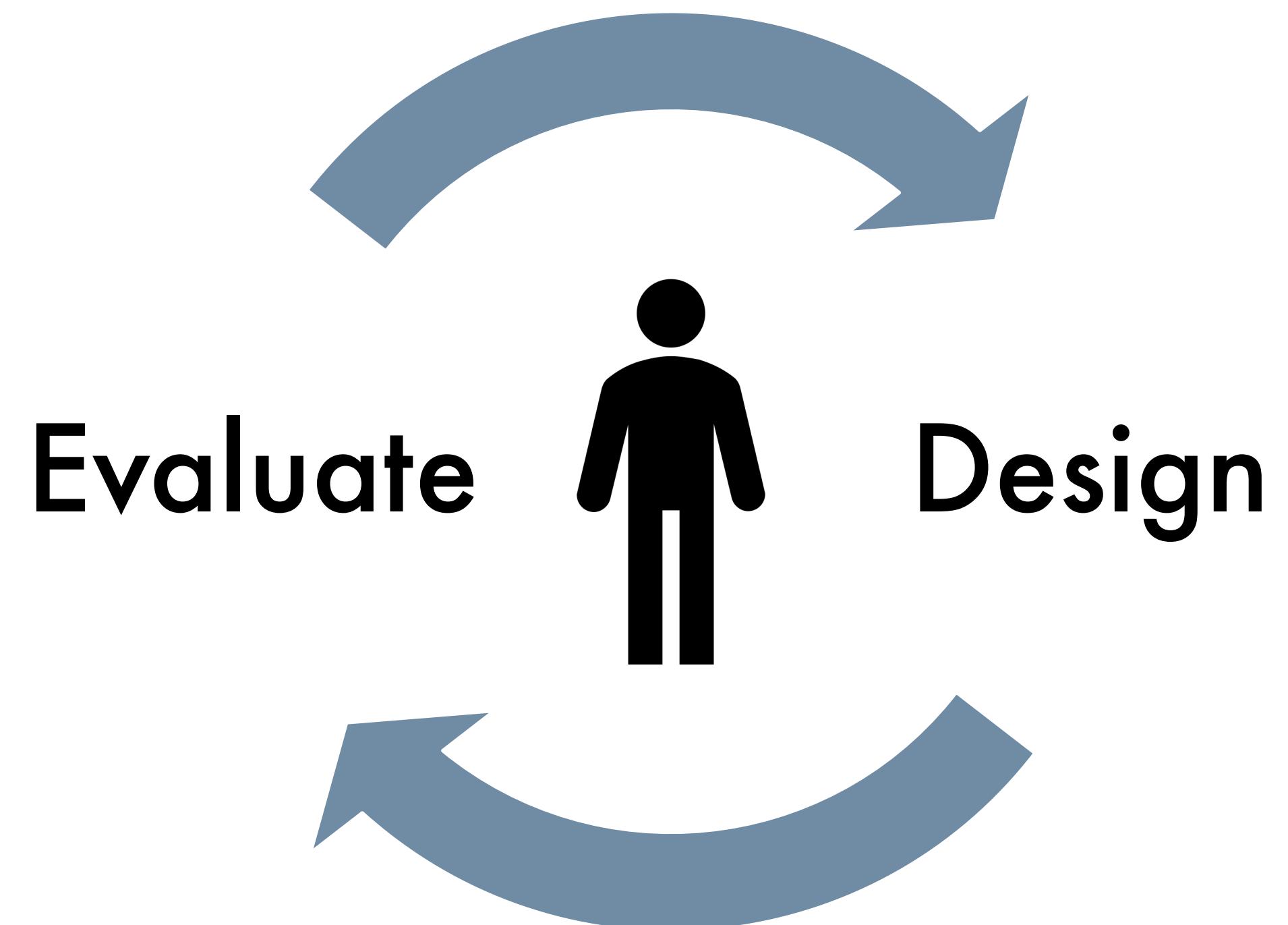
DIVA Interface. **Left:** Screening view to explore the DDI signals. **Middle:** Triage view to prioritize signals related to specific drugs. **Right:** Forensics view to get the adverse reaction details of a drug related signals.

# Visualization Design Pipeline

**Human-Centered, Iterative Design**



Munzner's Nested Model



Let's take a break! Stretch, go for  
a walk, be social ☺

Be back here in 10 mins.

FINISH IC-01

# Summary

## **Today we:**

- Reviewed Visualization Design Pipeline
- Finished ic-01

**ic-01 is DUE today.**

**hw-01 is OUT today.**