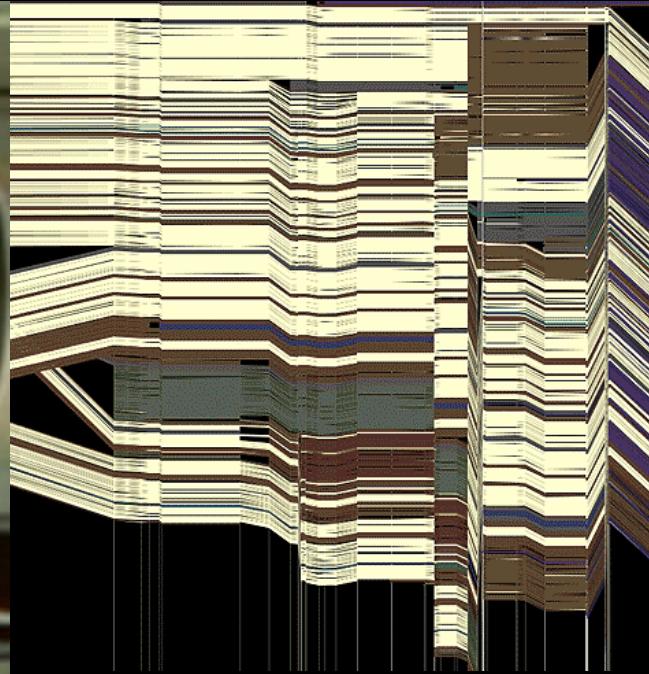
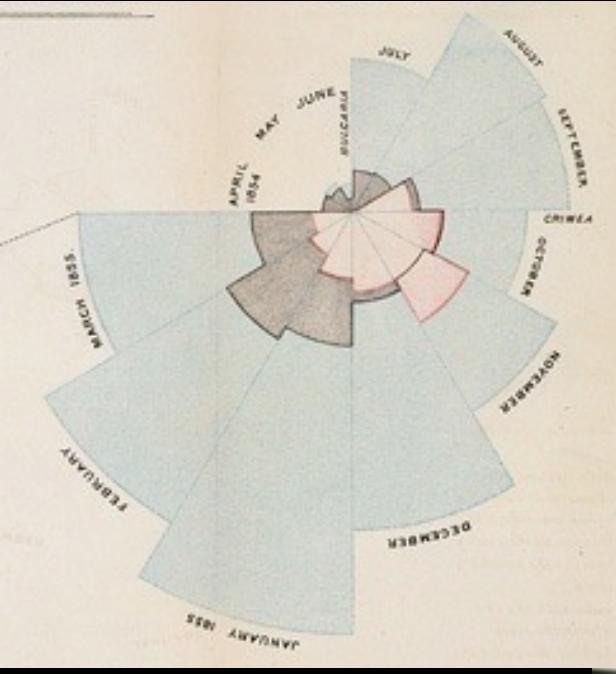


CSE 512 - Data Visualization

Visualization Tools



Jeffrey Heer University of Washington

How do people create visualizations?

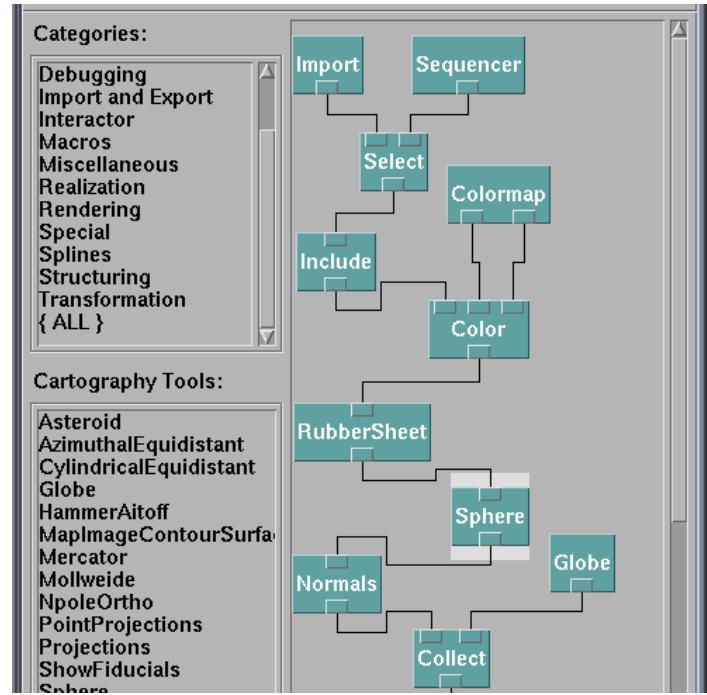
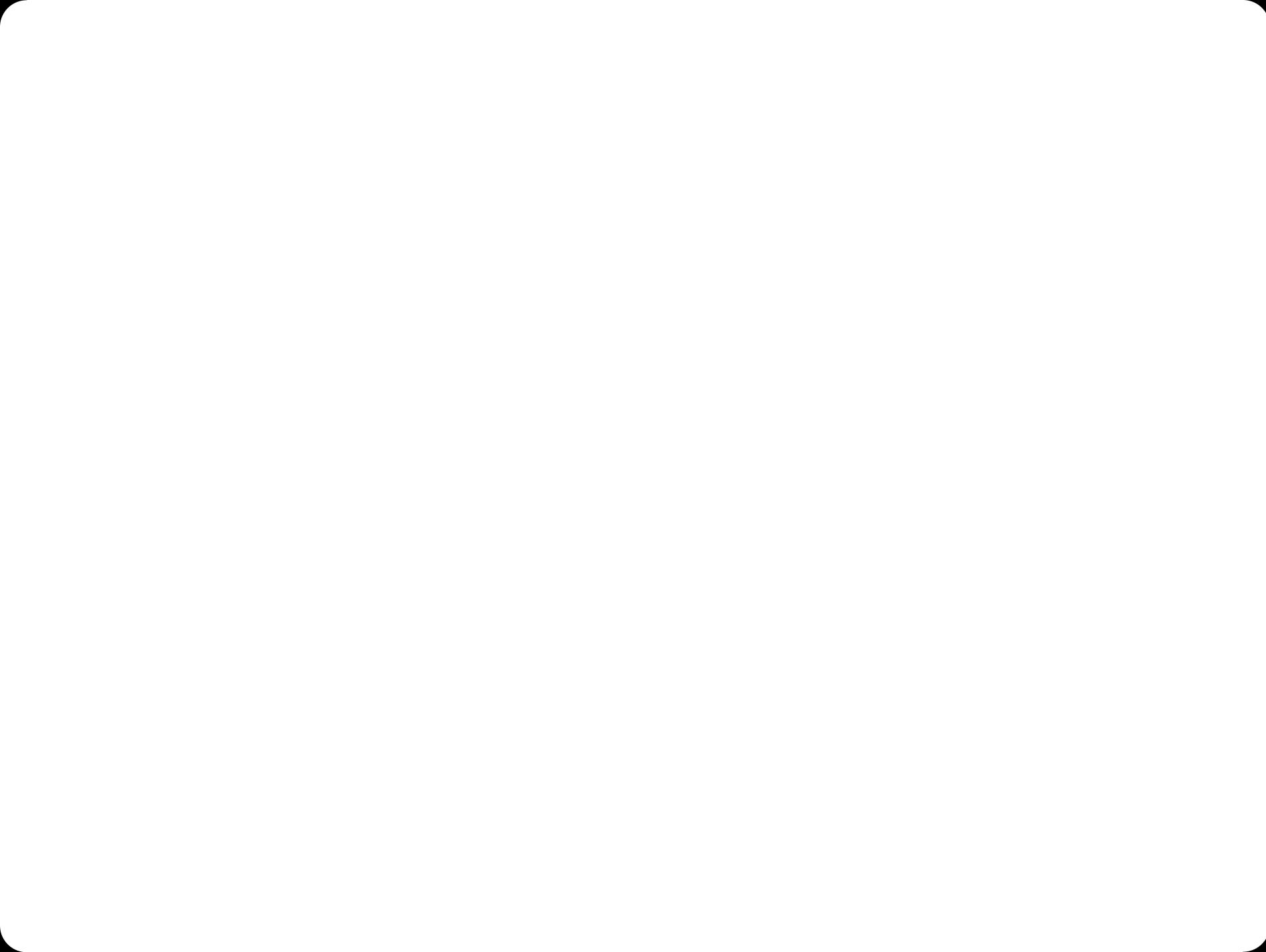


Chart Typology

Pick from a stock of templates
Easy-to-use but limited expressiveness
Prohibits novel designs, new data types

Component Architecture

Permits more combinatorial possibilities
Novel views require new operators,
which requires software engineering.



Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

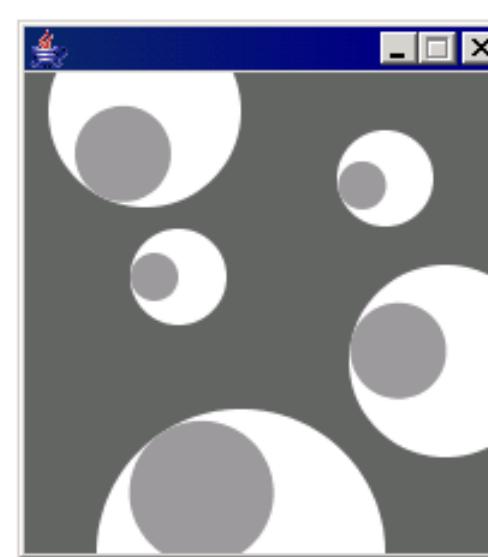


sketch_070126a \$

```
ey = y;
size = s;
}

void update(int mx, int my) {
    angle = atan2(my-ey, mx-ex);
}

void display() {
    pushMatrix();
    translate(ex, ey);
    fill(255);
    ellipse(0, 0, size, size);
    rotate(angle);
    fill(153);
    ellipse(size/4, 0, size/2, size/2);
    popMatrix();
}
}
```





US Air Traffic, Aaron Koblin

Graphics APIs

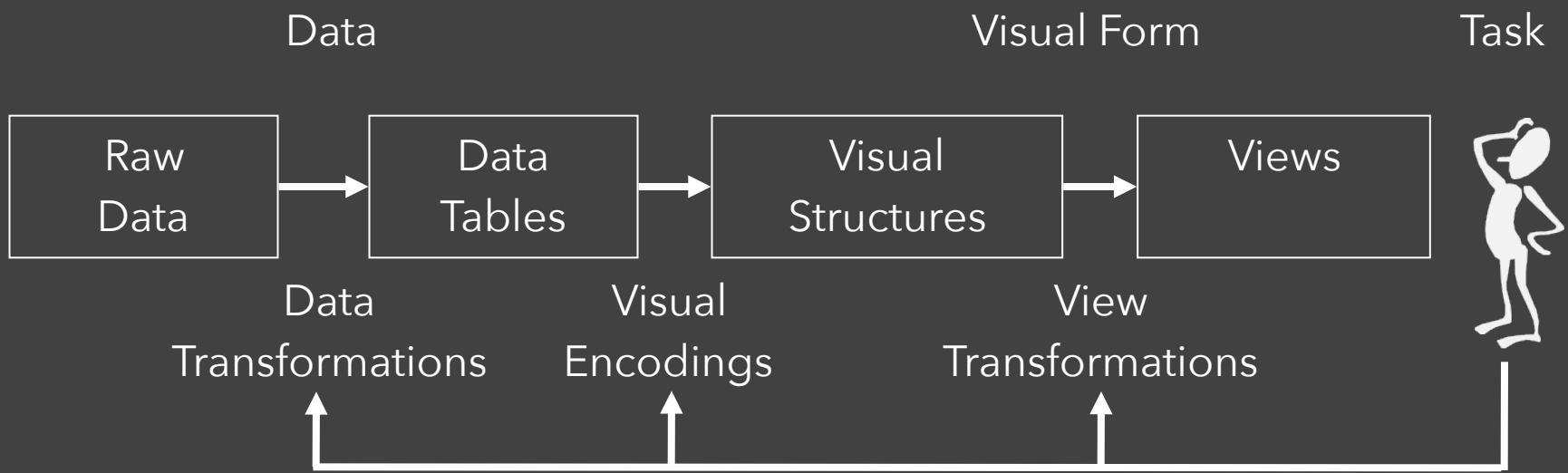
Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

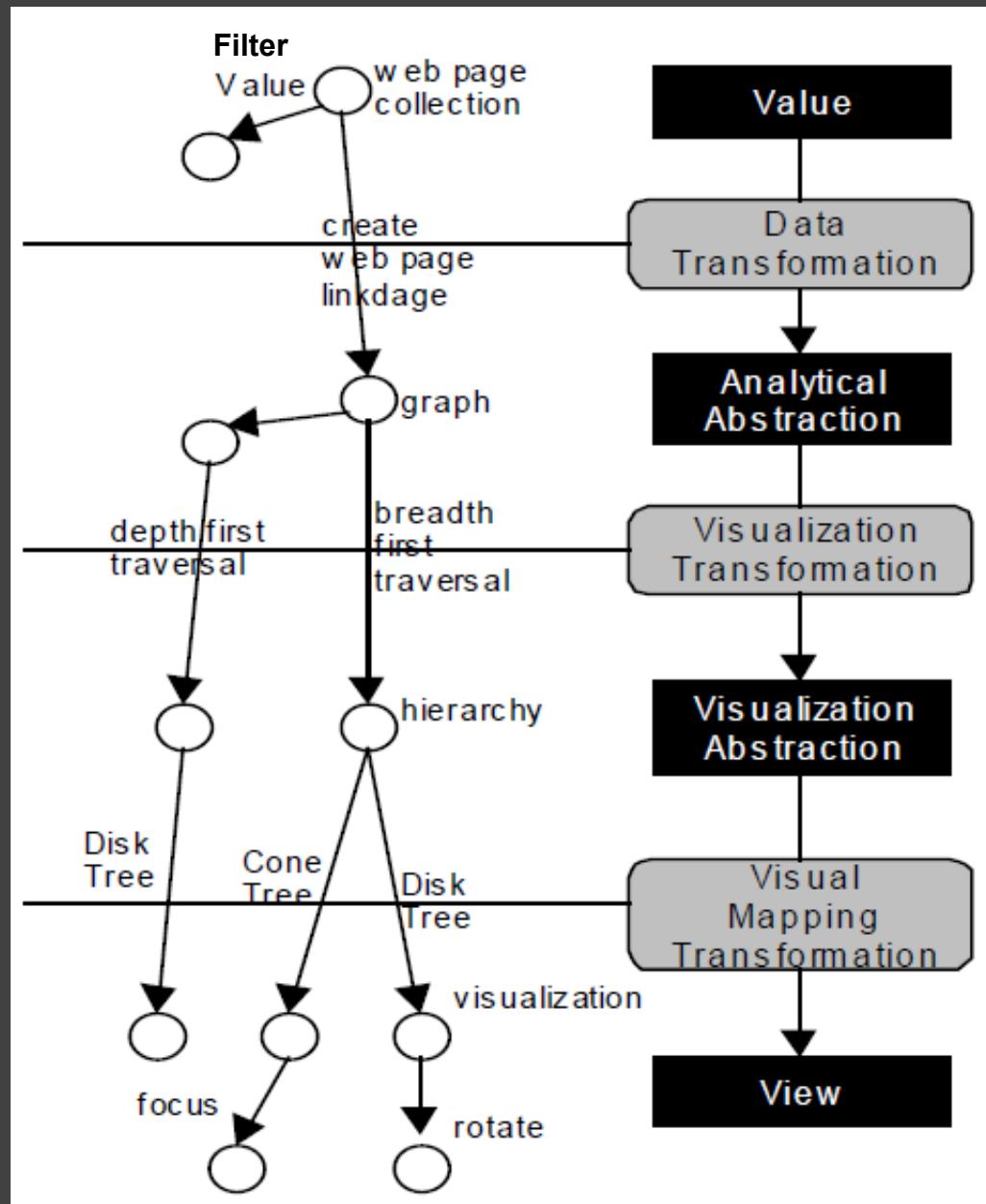
Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

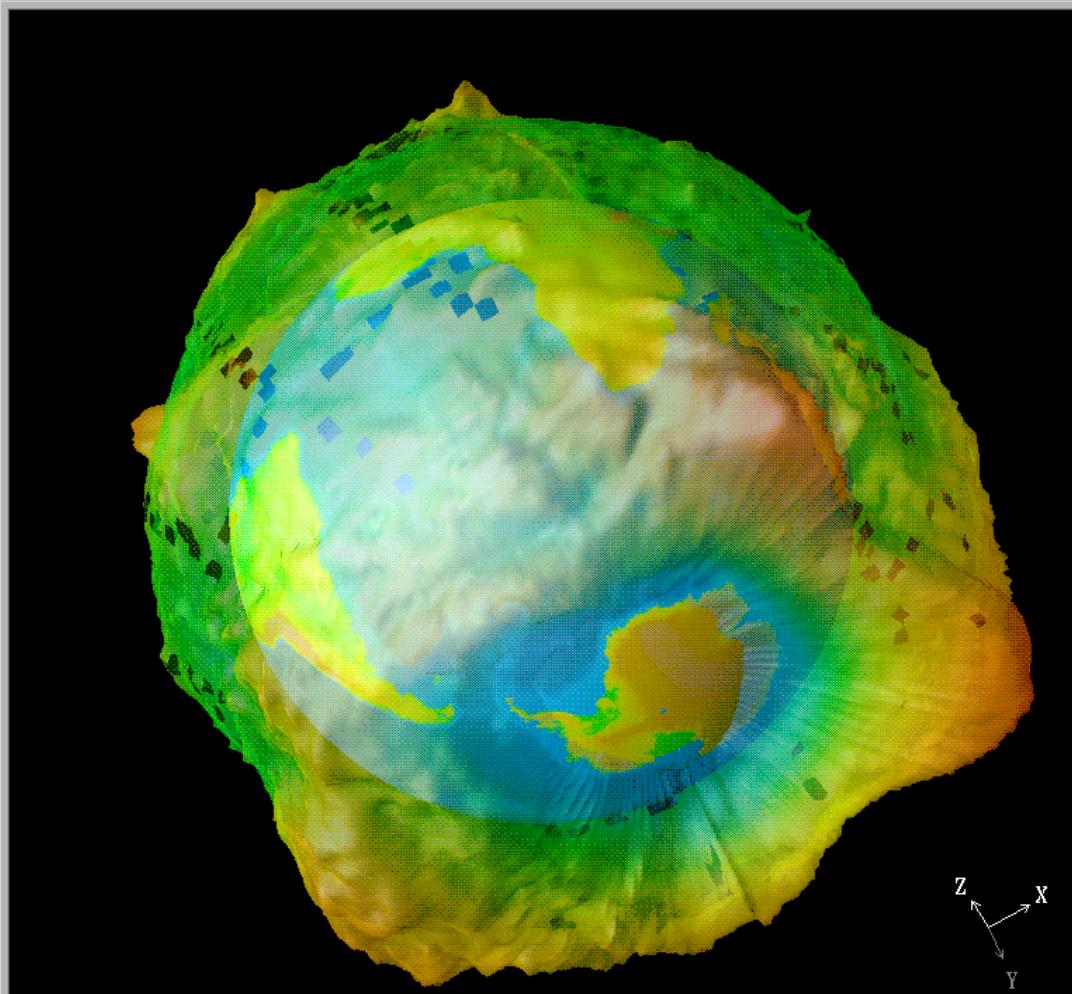


Data State Model

[Chi 98]



File Execute Windows Connection Options Help



View Control...

Undo Ctrl+U Redo Ctrl+D

Mode: Rotate

Set View: None

Projection: Perspective

View Angle: 30.000

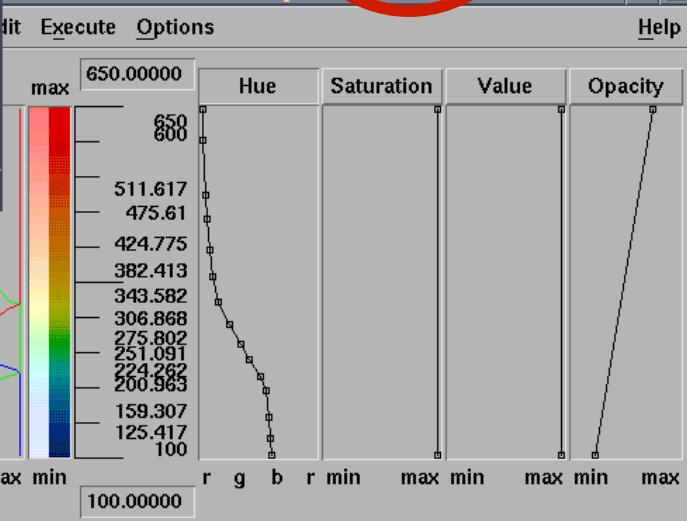
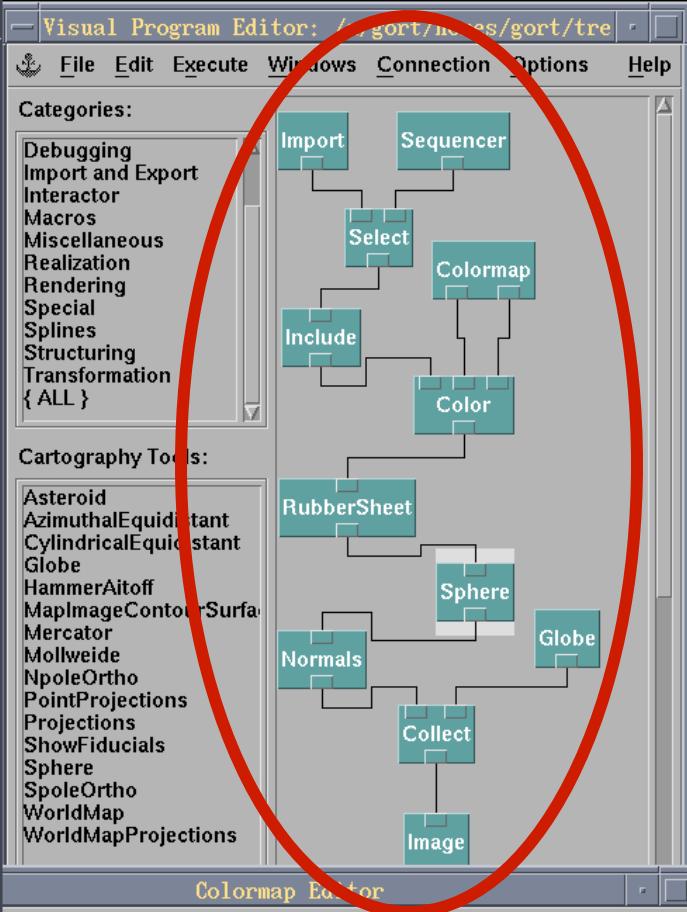
Sequence Control

Mode: ...

Set View: ...

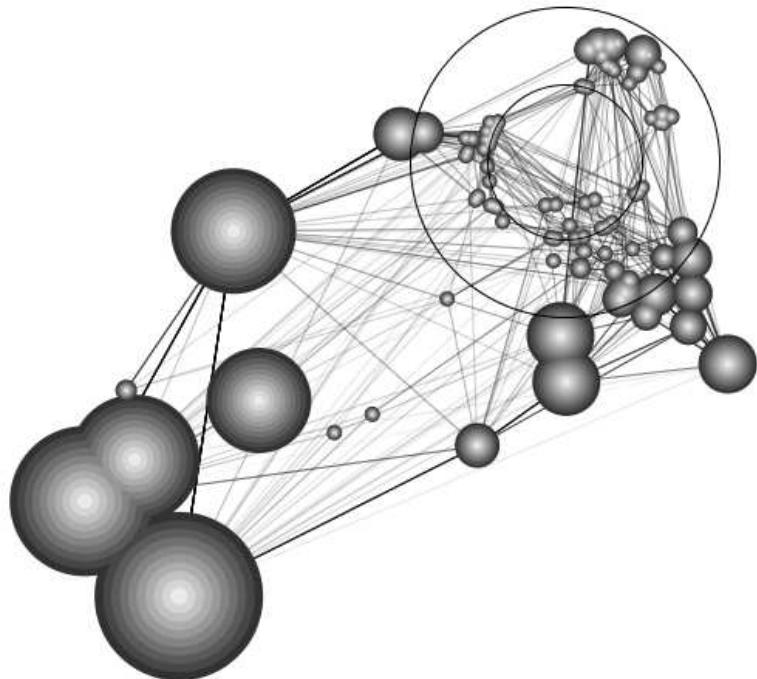
Projection: ...

View Angle: 30.000

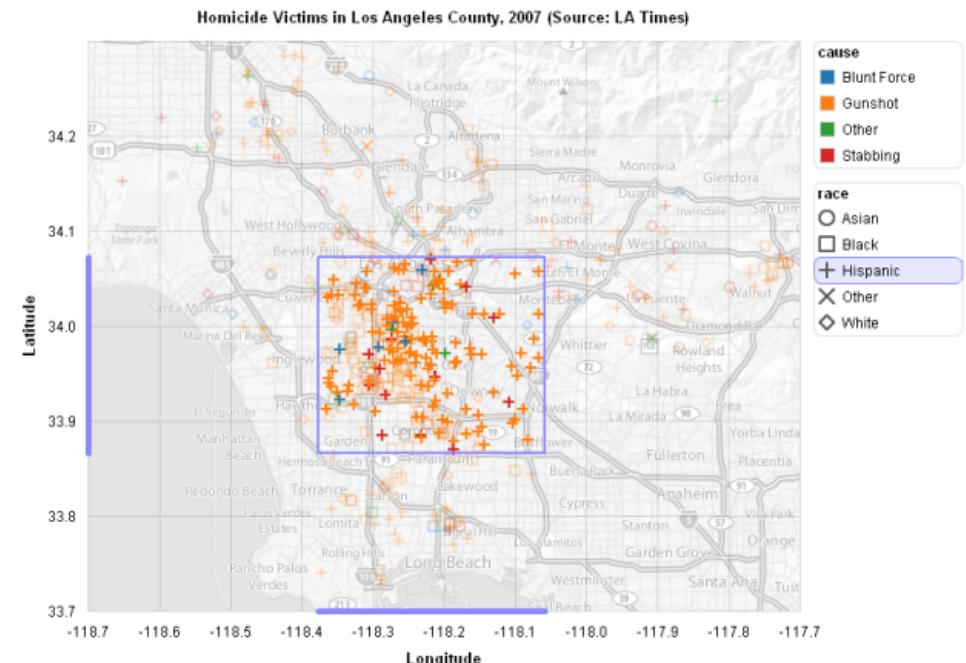


Prefuse & Flare

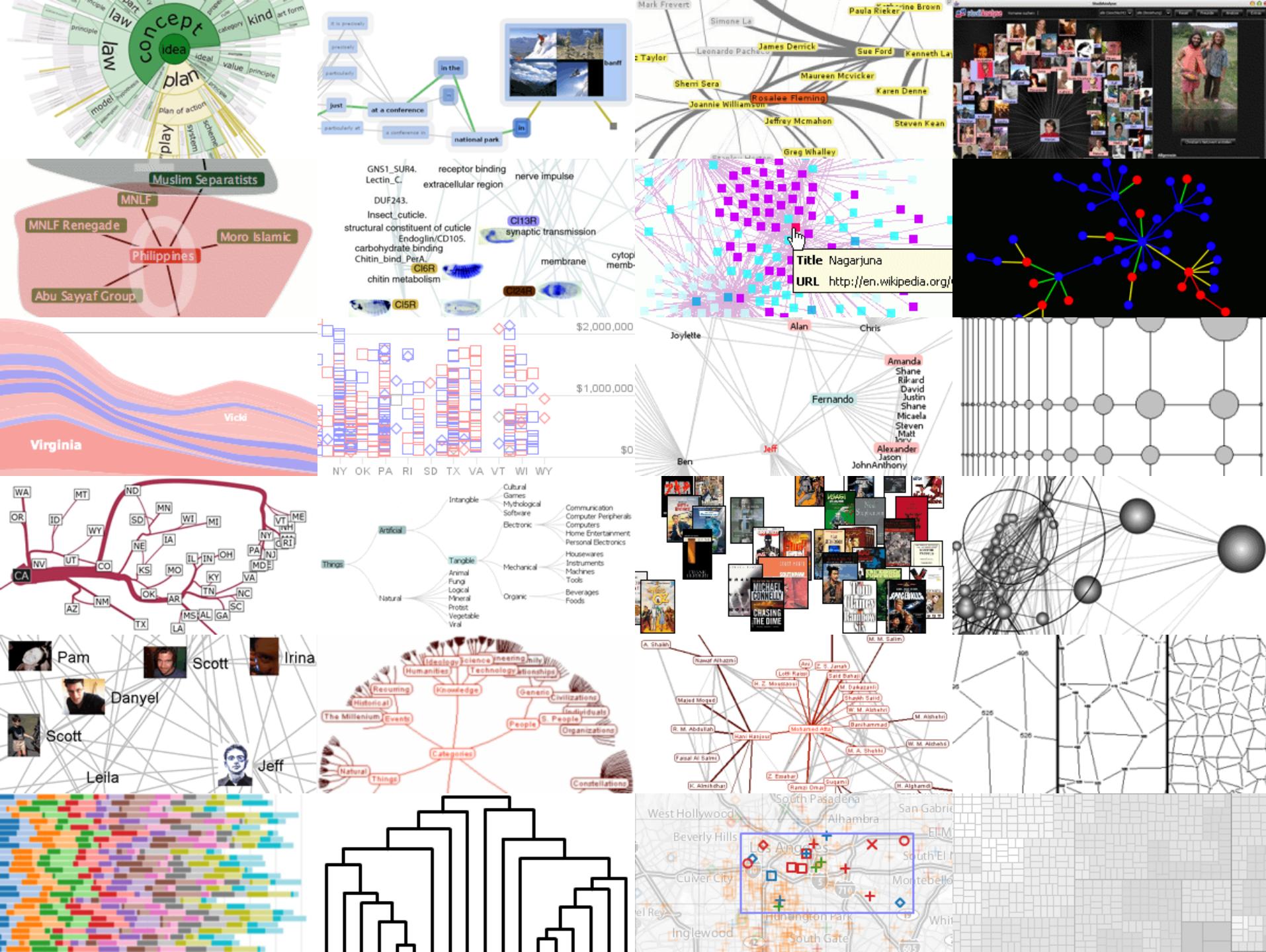
Operator-based toolkits for visualization design
Vis = (Input Data -> Visual Objects) + Operators

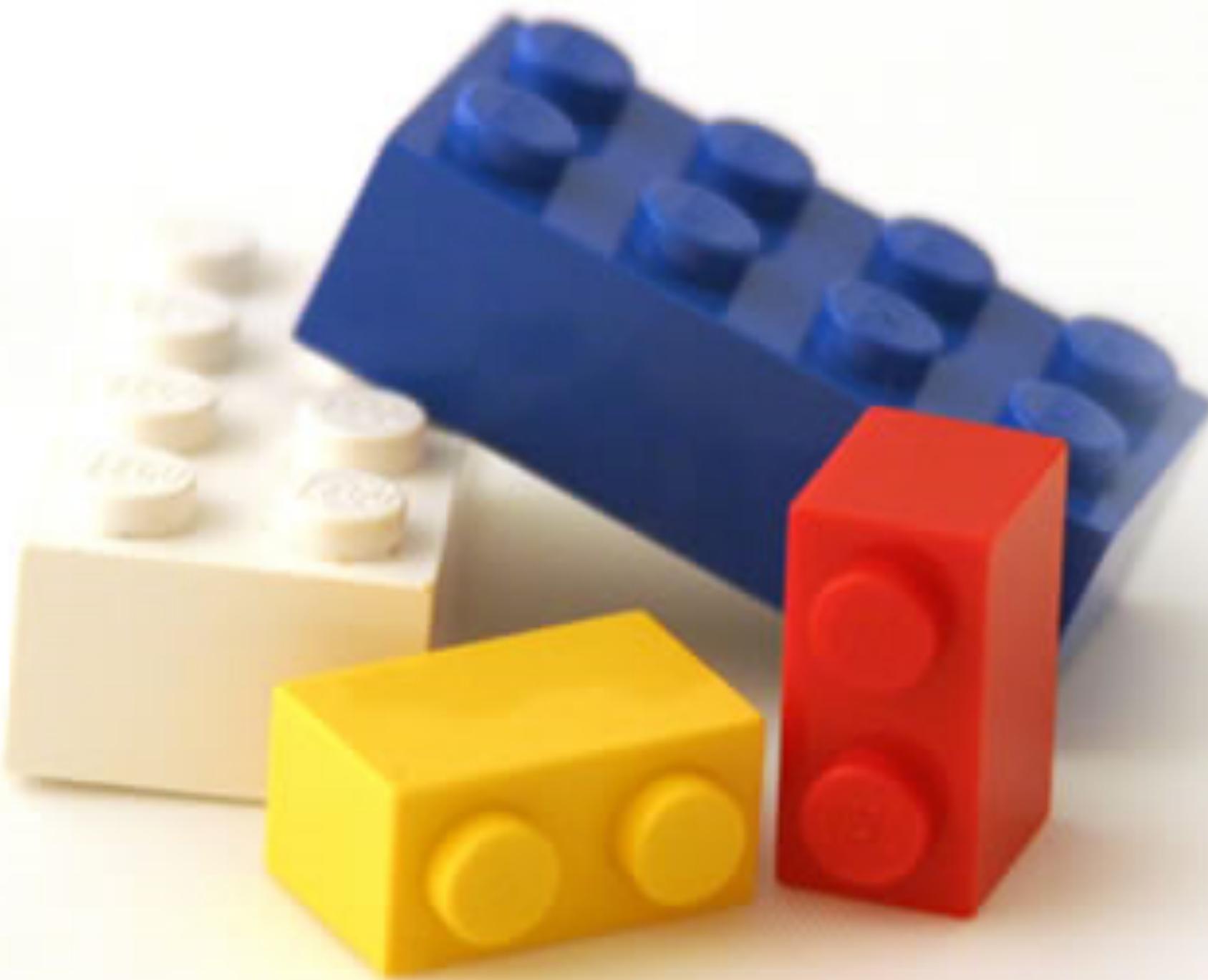


Prefuse (<http://prefuse.org>)



Flare (<http://flare.prefuse.org>)







Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D



Chart Typologies

Data Sets : State Quick Facts

Uploaded By: zinggoat

Created at: Friday May 18, 3:08 PM

Data Source: US Census Bureau

Description:

Tags: people census

[view as text](#)

[edit data set](#)

	People QuickFacts	Population 2005 estimate	Population percent change April 1 2000 to July 1 2005	Population 2000	Population percent change 1990 to 2000	Persons under 5 years old percent 2004	Persons under 18 years old percent 2004	Persons 65 years old and over percent 2004
1	Alabama	4557808	0.03	4447100	0.1	0.07	0.24	0.13
2	Alaska	663661	0.06	626932	0.14	0.08	0.29	0.06
3	Arizona	5939292	0.16	5130632	0.4	0.08	0.27	0.13
4	Arkansas	2779154	0.04	2673400	0.14	0.07	0.25	0.14
5	California	36132147	0.07	33871648	0.14	0.07	0.27	0.11
6	Colorado	4665177	0.08	4301261	0.31	0.07	0.26	0.1
7	Connecticut	3510297	0.03	3405565	0.04	0.06	0.24	0.14
8	Delaware	843524	0.08	783600	0.18	0.07	0.23	0.13
9	Florida	17789864	0.11	15982378	0.24	0.06	0.23	0.17
10	Georgia	9072576	0.11	8186453	0.26	0.08	0.26	0.1
11	Hawaii	1275194	0.05	1211537	0.09	0.07	0.24	0.14
12	Idaho	1429096	0.1	1293953	0.29	0.07	0.27	0.11
13	Illinois	12763371	0.03	12419293	0.09	0.07	0.26	0.12



Choosing a visualization type for State Quick Facts

Analyze a text



Tag Cloud

How are you using your words? This enhanced tag cloud will show you the words popularity in the given set of text.

[Learn more](#)



Wordle

Wordle is a toy for generating "word clouds" from text that you provide. The clouds give greater prominence to words that appear more frequently in the source text.

[Learn more](#)

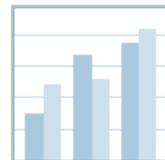


Word Tree

See a branching view of how a word or phrase is used in a text. Navigate the text by zooming and clicking.

[Learn more](#)

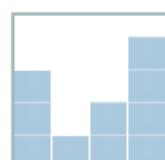
Compare a set of values



Bar Chart

How do the items in your data set stack up? A bar chart is a simple and recognizable way to compare values. You can display several sets of bars for multivariate comparisons.

[Learn more](#)



Block Histogram

This versatile chart lets you get a quick sense of how a single set of data is distributed. Each item in the data is an individually identifiable block.

[Learn more](#)

Visualizations : Federal Spending by State, 2004

Creator: Anonymous

Tags: census people

People QuickFac...

Federal spending 2004 (\$1000)

Disks colored by People QuickFacts

Click to select,
Ctrl-Click: multiple
Shift-Click: range

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland

250 mil
150 mil
100 mil
50 mil
0 mil

Search>>

Federal spending 2004 (\$1000)

Label

People QuickFacts

Color

People QuickFacts

To highlight or find totals
click or ctrl-click.

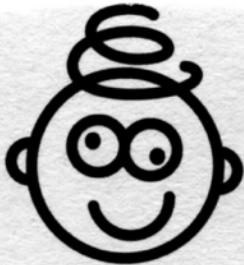
- Retail sales per capita 2002
- Minority-owned firms percent of total 1997
- Women-owned firms percent of total 1997
- Housing units authorized by building permits 2004
- Federal spending 2004 (\$1000)
- Land area 2000 (square miles)
- Persons per square mile 2000
- FIPS Code

Comments (1)

Census Bureau

This data set
has not yet been rated

rate
this



MAD LIBS®

MY MUSIC LESSON

Every Wednesday, when I get home from school, I have a piano lesson. My teacher is a very strict house. Her name is

Hillary Clinton
CELEBRITY (FEMALE)

Our piano is a Steinway Concert tree
NOUN
and it has 88 cups. It also has a soft pedal and a/an

smily ADJECTIVE pedal. When I have a lesson, I sit down on the piano

ALBERTO NOUN and play for 16 minutes. PERIOD OF TIME I do scales to

exercise my cats, PLURAL NOUN and then I usually play a minuet by

Johann Sebastian Washington
CELEBRITY (LAST NAME) Teacher says I am a natural

Haunted House NOUN and have a good musical leg. PART OF THE BODY Perhaps

when I get better I will become a concert vet PROFESSION and give

a recital at Carnegie hospital.
TYPE OF BUILDING

[M]ost charting packages channel user requests into a **rigid array of chart types**. To atone for this lack of flexibility, they offer a kit of post-creation editing tools to return the image to what the user originally envisioned. **They give the user an impression of having explored data rather than the experience.**

Leland Wilkinson

The Grammar of Graphics, 1999

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Schema

congress.csv Connection

Find:

Dimensions

- # Candidate
- # Candidate ID
- # General Elec Status
- # Incumbent/Challenger/Open-Seal
- # Party
- # Party Desig
- # Primary Elec Status
- # Runoff Elec Status
- # Spec Elec Status
- # State Code
- # Year
- # Measure Names

Measures

- # District
- # General Elec Pct
- # Total Receipts
- # Measure Values

Groups

Columns: Party ▾ Year ▾

Filters:

Rows: SUM(Total..) ▾

Level of Detail:

Mark: Automatic ▾

Text:

Color: Party ▾

Size:

Legend:

- 1 (Blue)
- 2 (Orange)
- 3 (Green)

Size:

Sum(Total Receipts)

Year	Group 1 (Party)	Group 2 (Party)
1996	~360M	~430M
1998	~370M	~410M
2000	~530M	~520M
2002	~480M	~490M

Sheet 1 /

Statistics and Computing

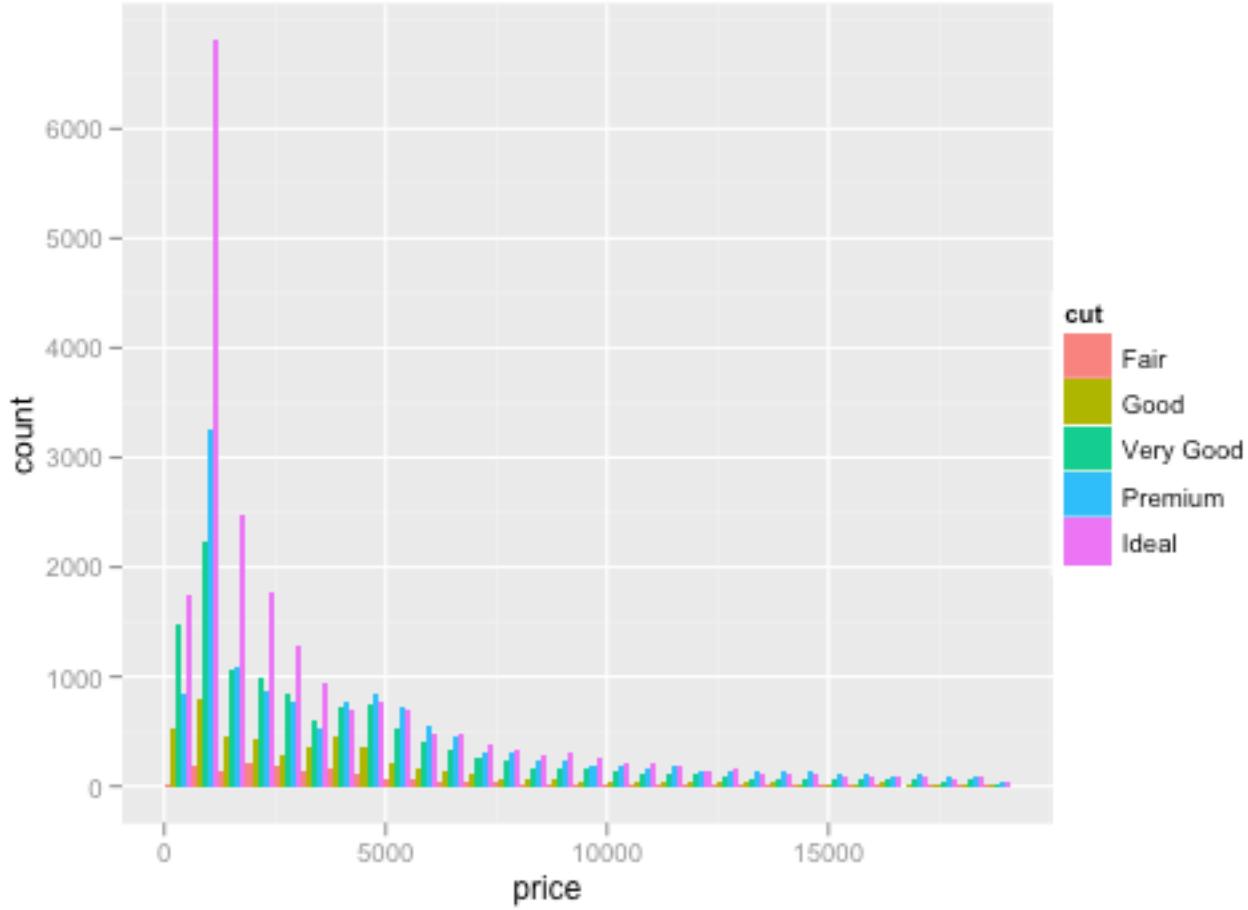
Leland Wilkinson

**The Grammar
of Graphics**

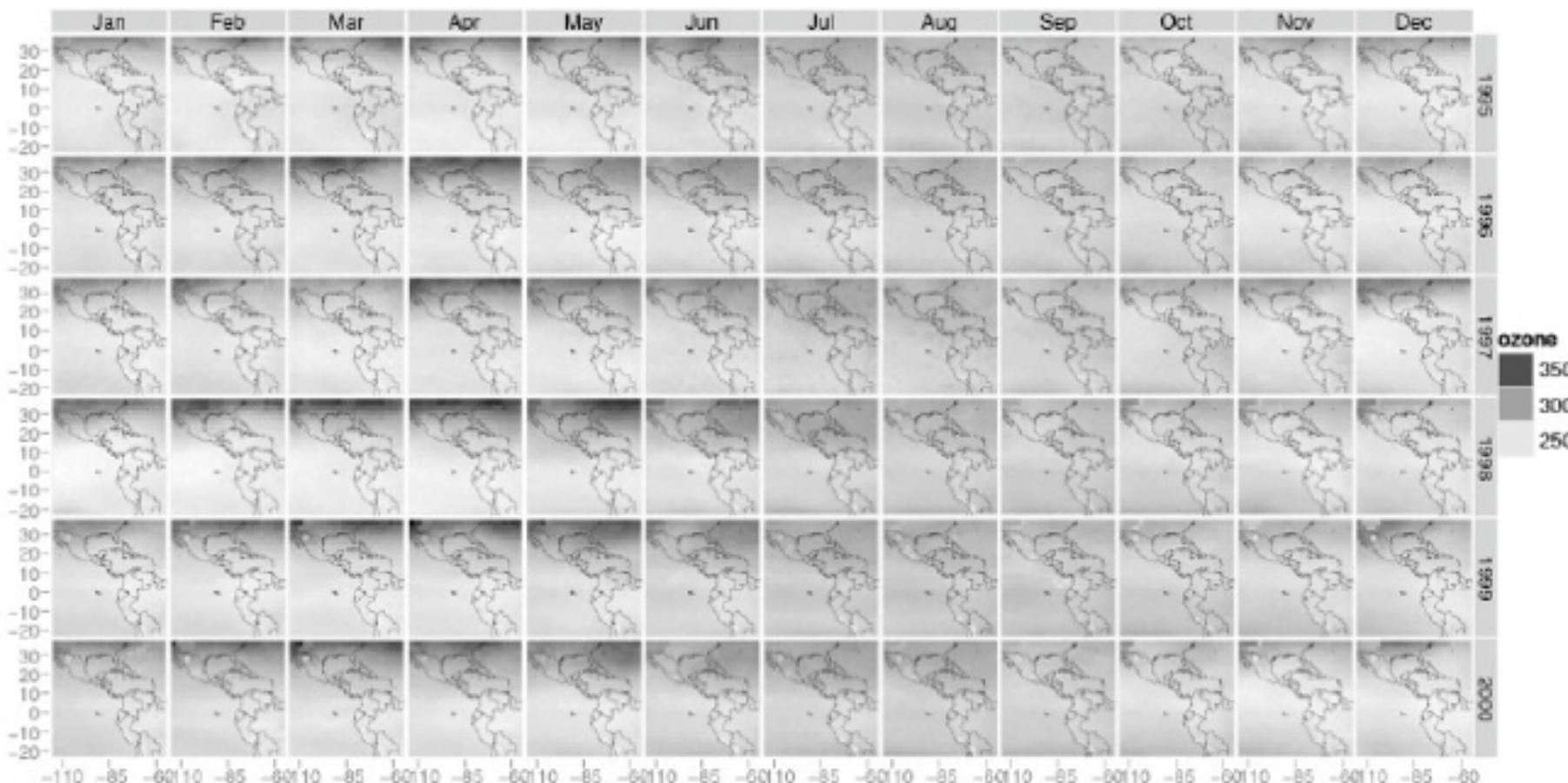
Second Edition

 Springer

```
ggplot(diamonds, aes(x=price, fill=cut))  
+ geom_bar(position="dodge")
```



```
ggplot(diamonds, aes(x=price, fill=cut))  
+ geom_bar(position="dodge")
```



```
qplot(long, lat, data = expo, geom = "tile", fill = ozone,  
      facets = year ~ month) +  
      scale_fill_gradient(low = "white", high = "black") + map
```

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Ease-of-Use



Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Ease-of-Use



Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2



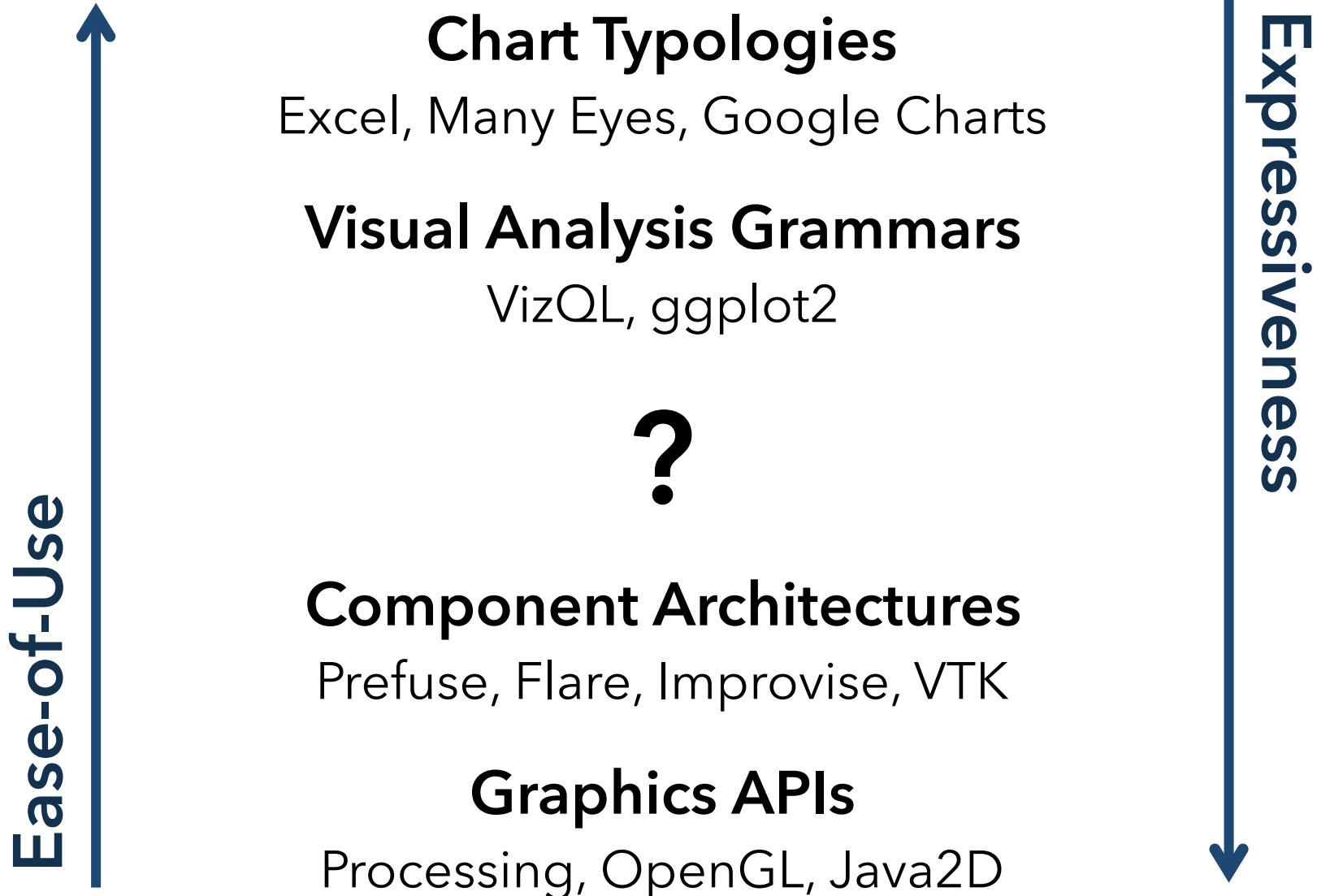
Expressiveness

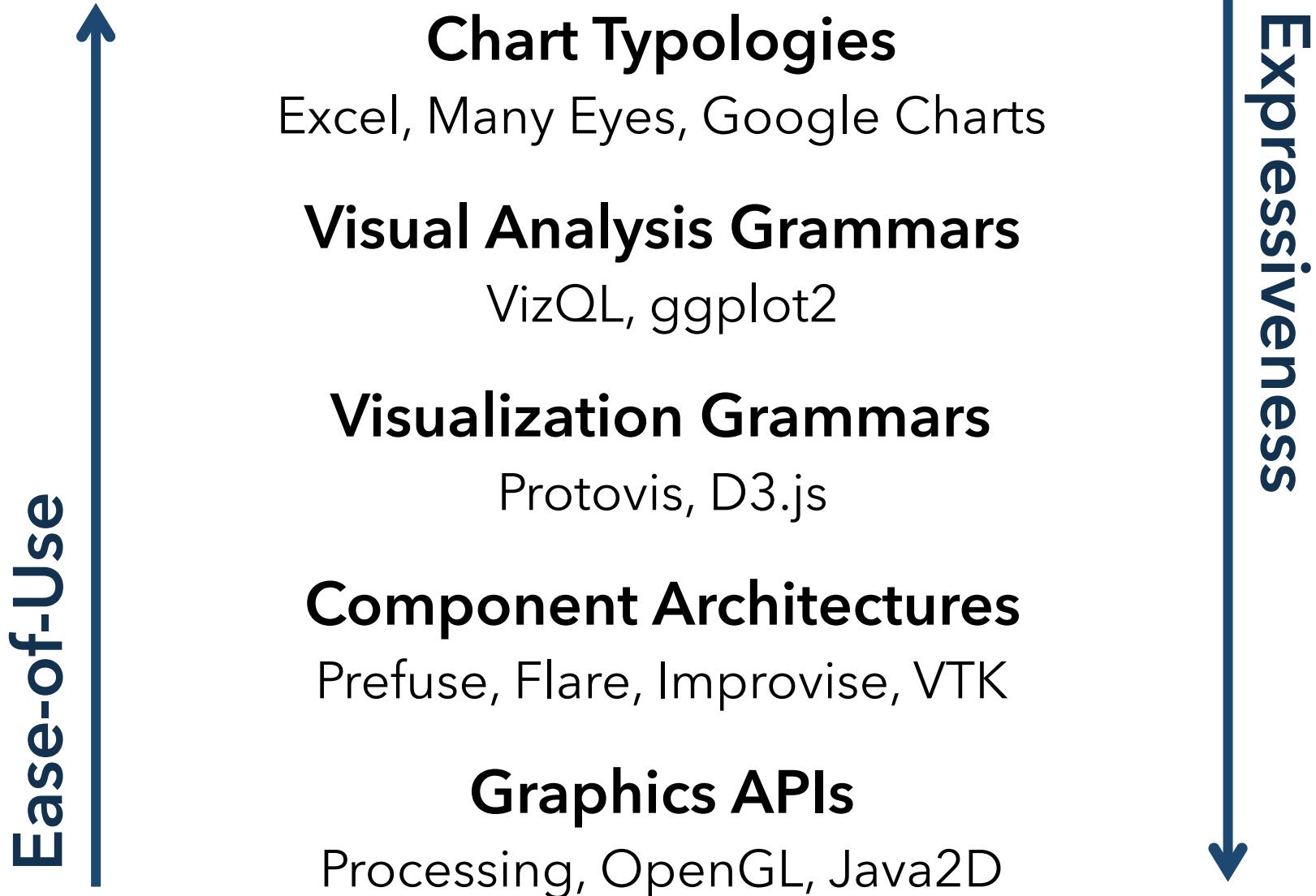
Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D



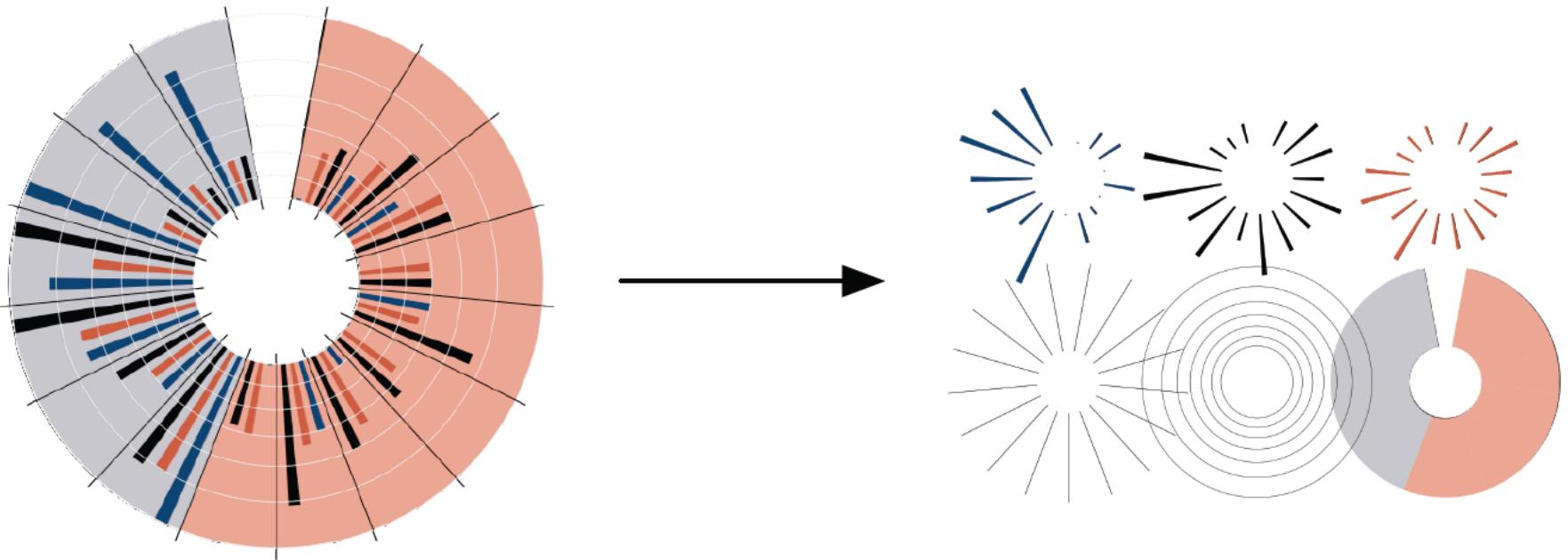


Protopis & D3

Today's first task is not to invent wholly new [graphical] techniques, though these are needed. Rather we need most vitally to recognize and reorganize the **essential of old techniques**, to **make easy their assembly in new ways**, and to **modify their external appearances to fit the new opportunities**.

J. W. Tukey, M. B. Wilk
Data Analysis & Statistics, 1965

Protopis: A Grammar for Visualization



A graphic is a composition of data-representative marks.

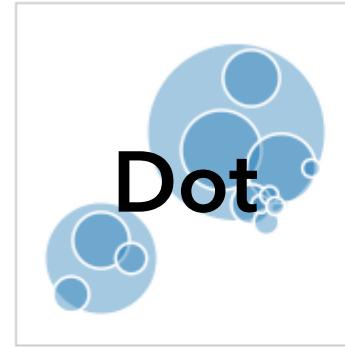
with **Mike Bostock & Vadim Ogievetsky**



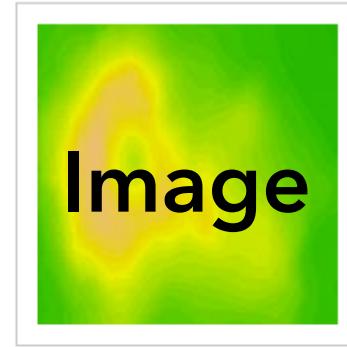
Area



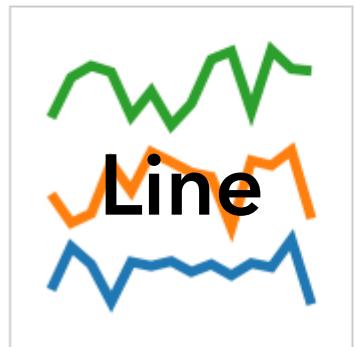
Bar



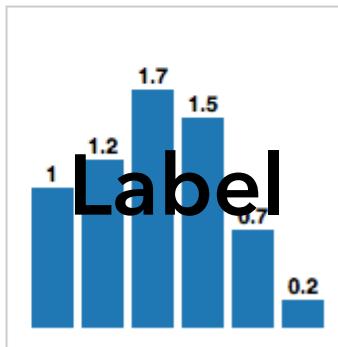
Dot



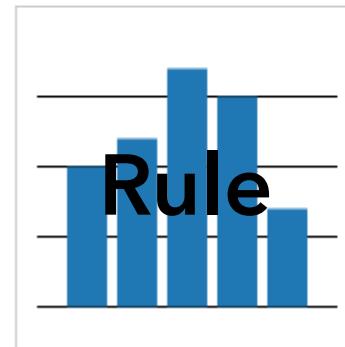
Image



Line



Label



Rule



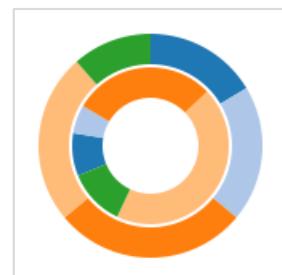
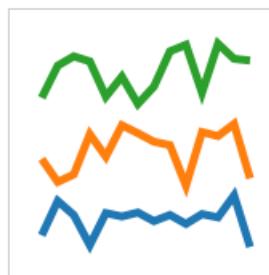
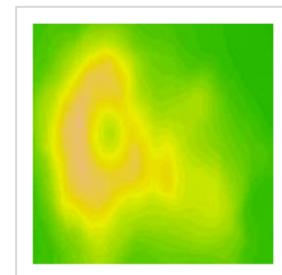
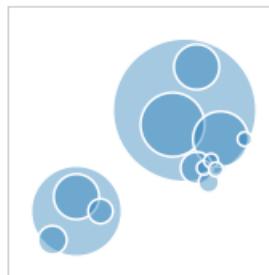
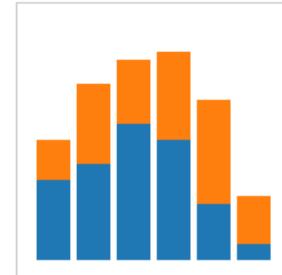
Wedge

MARKS: Protovis graphical primitives

MARK

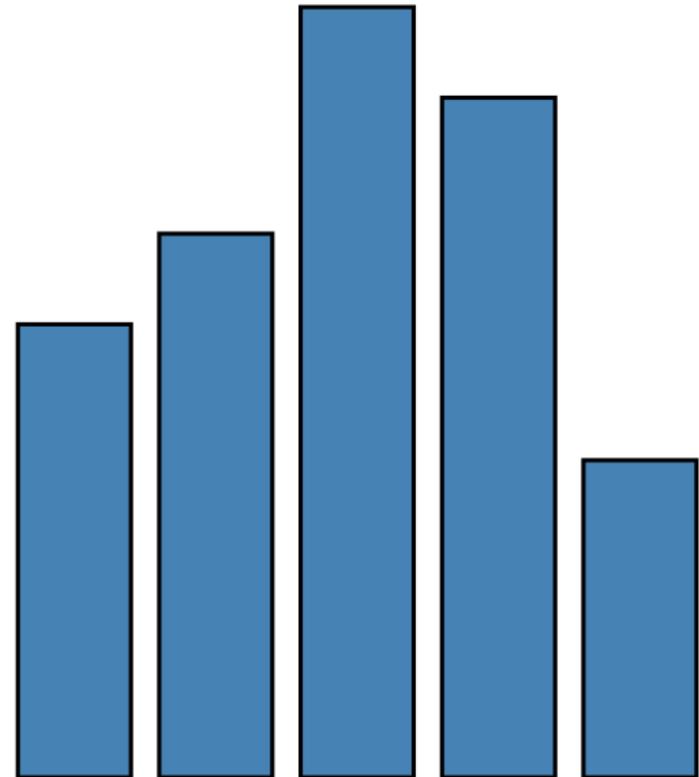
$$\lambda : D \rightarrow R$$

data	λ
visible	λ
left	λ
bottom	λ
width	λ
height	λ
fillStyle	λ
strokeStyle	λ
lineWidth	λ
...	λ



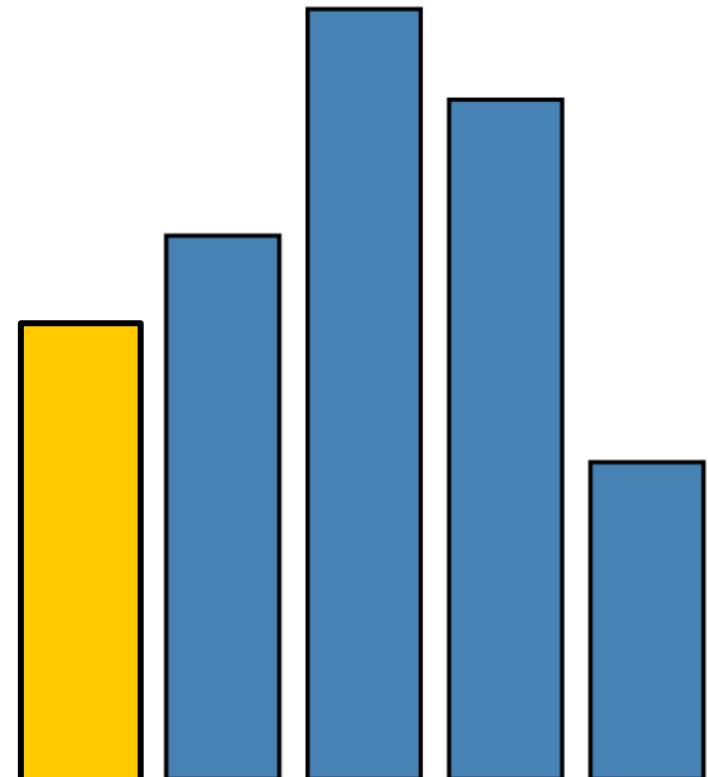
RECT $\lambda : D \rightarrow R$

data	1 1.2 1.7 1.5 0.7
visible	true
left	$\lambda: \text{index} * 25$
bottom	0
width	20
height	$\lambda: \text{datum} * 80$
fillStyle	blue
strokeStyle	black
lineWidth	1.5
...	...



RECT $\lambda : D \rightarrow R$

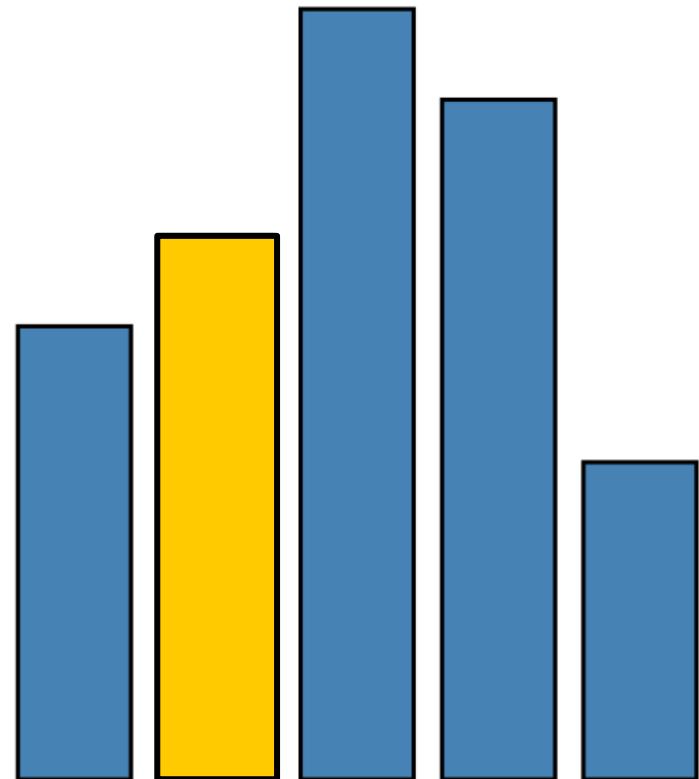
data	1	1.2	1.7	1.5	0.7
visible		true			
left		0 * 25			
bottom		0			
width		20			
height		1 * 80			
fillStyle		blue			
strokeStyle		black			
lineWidth		1.5			
...		...			



RECT

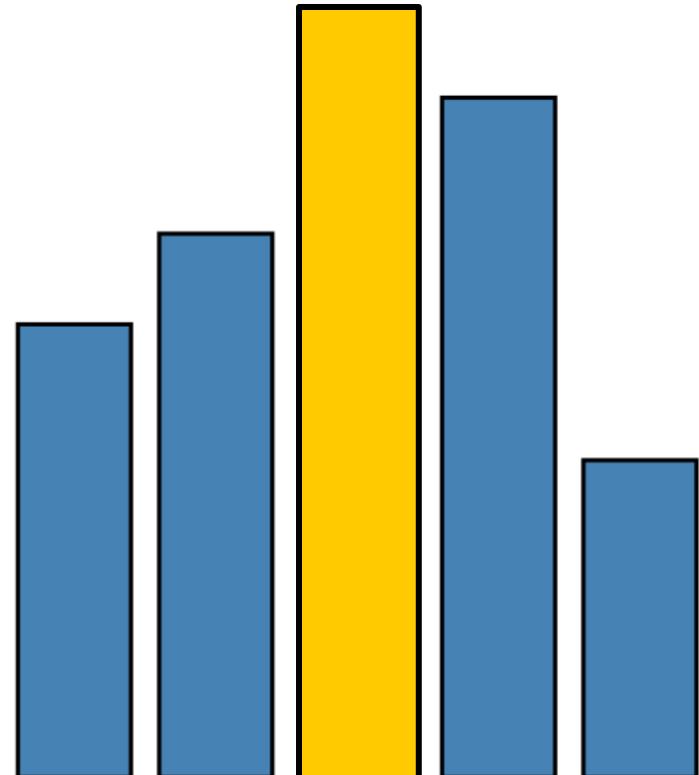
$\lambda : D \rightarrow R$

data	1 1.2 1.7 1.5 0.7
visible	true
left	1 * 25
bottom	0
width	20
height	1.2 * 80
fillStyle	blue
strokeStyle	black
lineWidth	1.5
...	...



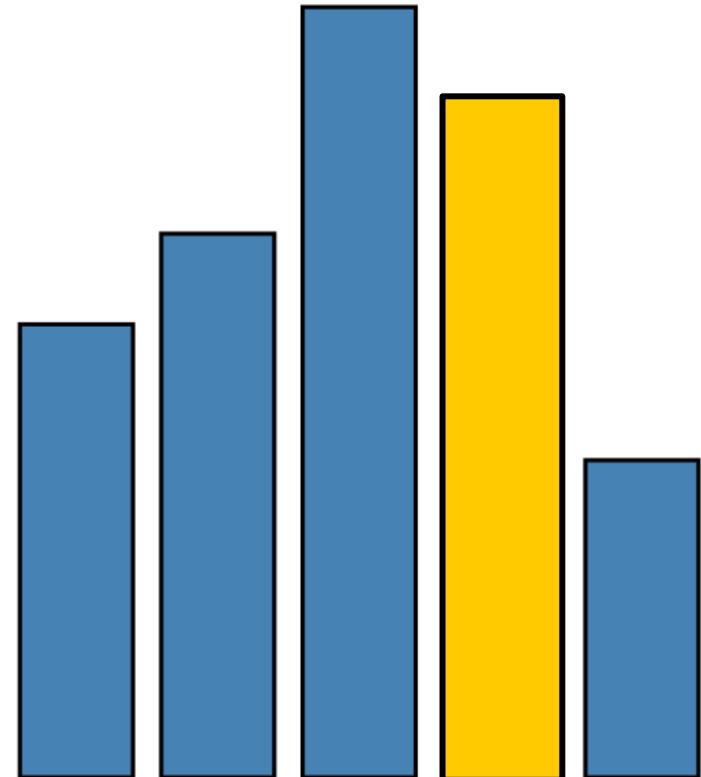
RECT $\lambda : D \rightarrow R$

data	1 1.2 1.7 1.5 0.7
visible	true
left	2 * 25
bottom	0
width	20
height	1.7 * 80
fillStyle	blue
strokeStyle	black
lineWidth	1.5
...	...



RECT $\lambda : D \rightarrow R$

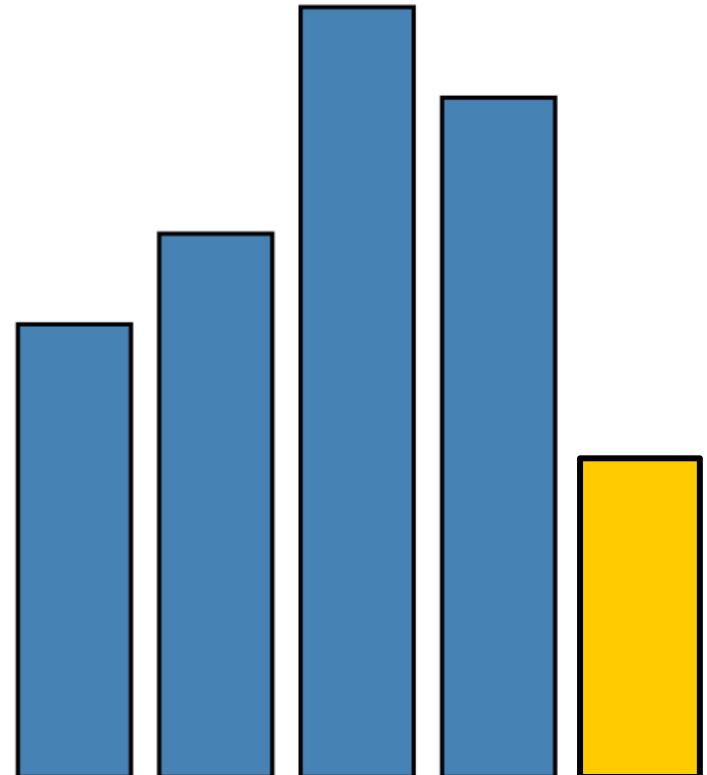
data	1 1.2 1.7 1.5 0.7
visible	true
left	3 * 25
bottom	0
width	20
height	1.5 * 80
fillStyle	blue
strokeStyle	black
lineWidth	1.5
...	...



RECT

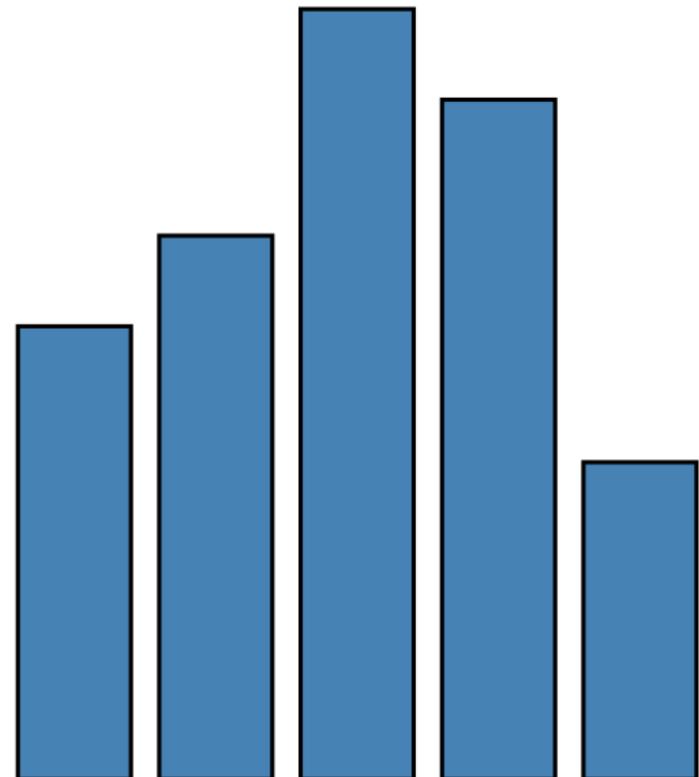
$\lambda : D \rightarrow R$

data	1 1.2 1.7 1.5 0.7
visible	true
left	4 * 25
bottom	0
width	20
height	0.7 * 80
fillStyle	blue
strokeStyle	black
lineWidth	1.5
...	...

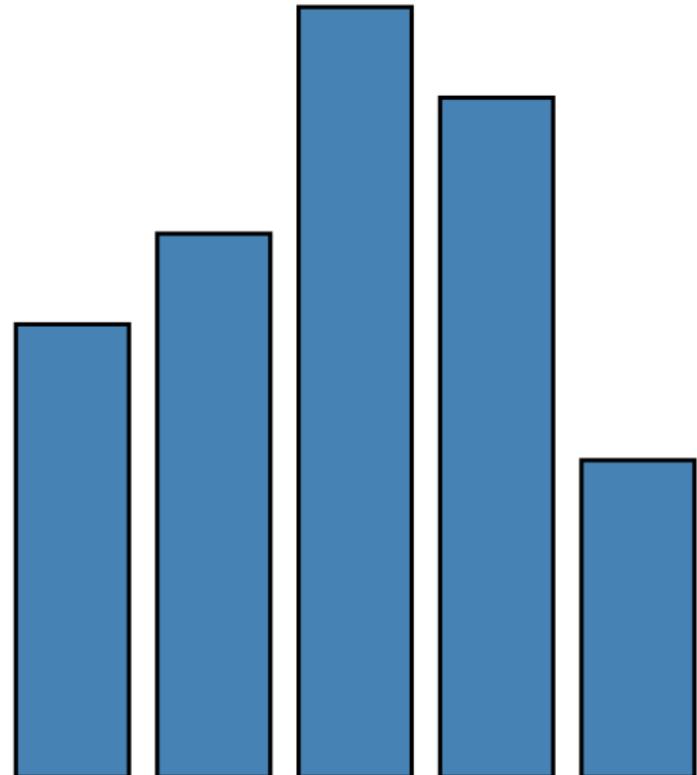


RECT $\lambda : D \rightarrow R$

data	1 1.2 1.7 1.5 0.7
visible	true
left	$\lambda: \text{index} * 25$
bottom	0
width	20
height	$\lambda: \text{datum} * 80$
fillStyle	blue
strokeStyle	black
lineWidth	1.5
...	...



```
var vis = new pv.Panel();
vis.add(pv.Bar)
  .data([1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.5, 0.7])
  .visible(true)
  .left(function(d) this.index * 25)
  .bottom(0)
  .width(20)
  .height(function(d) d * 80)
  .fillStyle("blue")
  .strokeStyle("black")
  .lineWidth(1.5);
vis.render();
```



```

var data = [[3,4,5,3], [3,5,1,2]];
var vis = new pv.Panel()
  .data(data)
  .height(50);
vis.add(pv.Line)
  .left(function(d) this.index * 50)
  .bottom(function(d) d * 10)
  .strokeStyle("#3a68a4")
  .add(pv.Dot);
vis.render();

```



Panel

<i>data</i>	[[3,4,5,3], [3,5,1,2]]
<i>height</i>	50

Line

<i>data</i>	?
<i>datatype</i>	Integer
<i>left</i>	index * 50
<i>bottom</i>	data * 10
<i>stroke</i>	1px, #3a68a4

Dot

<i>data</i>	?
<i>datatype</i>	?
<i>left</i>	?
<i>bottom</i>	?
<i>stroke</i>	?

Panel

```
data [ [3,4,5,3], [3,5,1,2] ]  
height 50
```

Line

```
data ?  
datatype Integer  
left index * 50  
bottom data * 10  
stroke 1px, #3a68a4
```

Dot

```
data ?  
datatype ?  
left ?  
bottom ?  
stroke ?
```

Root

Panel [3,4,5,3]

Panel [3,5,1,2]

Line

Dot

Line

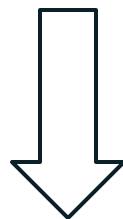
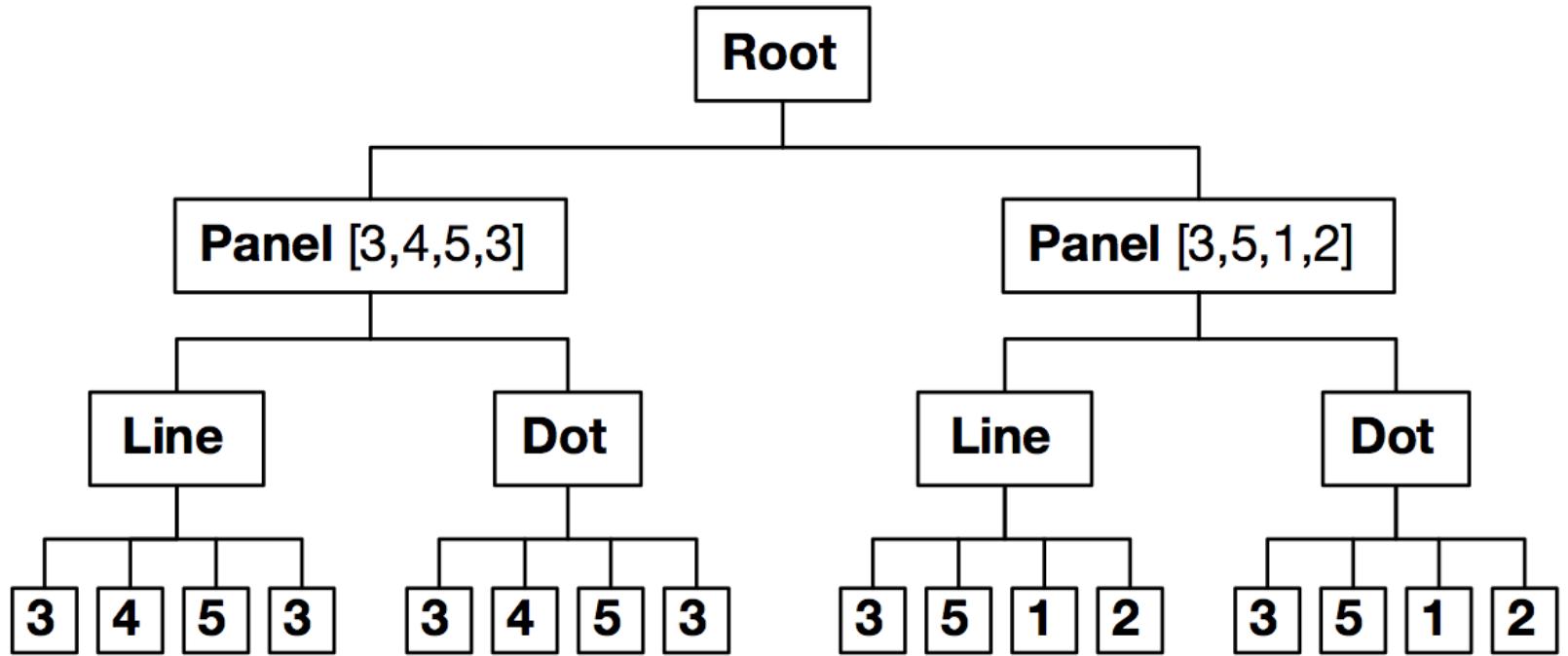
Dot

3 4 5 3

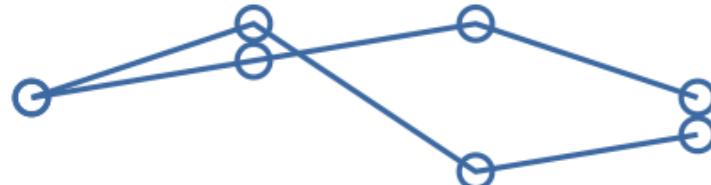
3 4 5 3

3 5 1 2

3 5 1 2



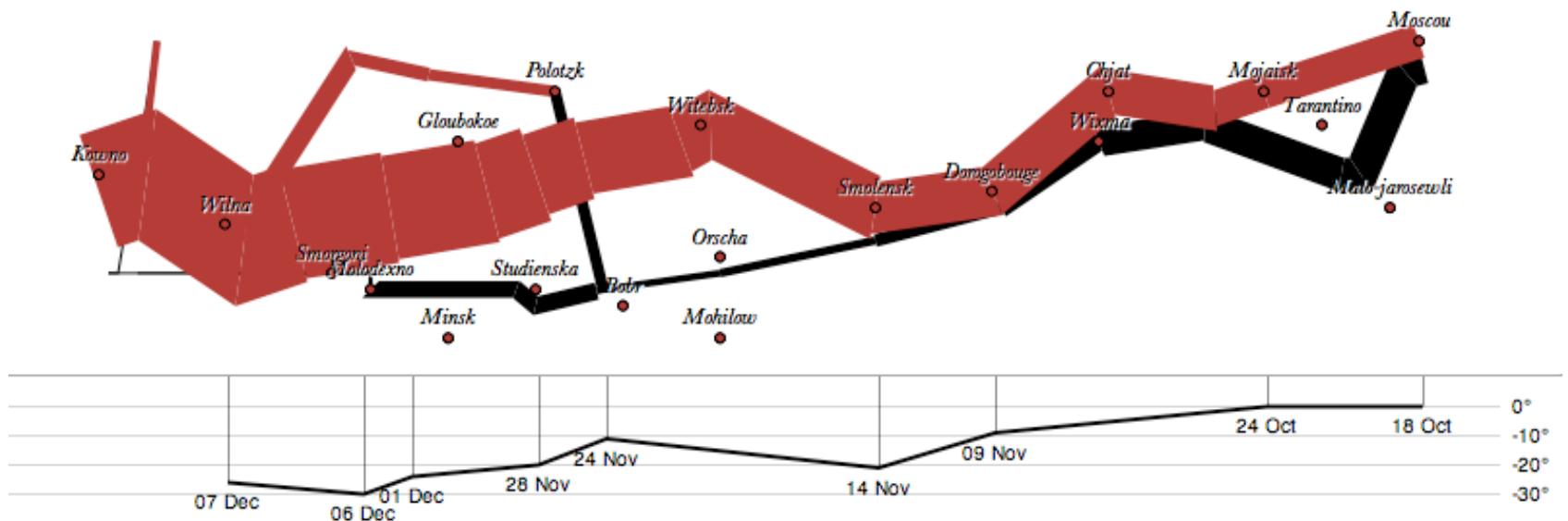
Render
(e.g., as SVG)



Event Handling
DOM -> Protovis

.on("mousemove",
function(d,i){...})





```

var army = pv.nest(napoleon.army, "dir", "group");
var vis = new pv.Panel();

var lines = vis.add(pv.Panel).data(army);
lines.add(pv.Line)
  .data(function() army[this.idx])
  .left(lon).top(lat).size(function(d) d.size/8000)
  .strokeStyle(function() color[army[panelIndex]
    [0].dir]);

vis.add(pv.Label).data(napoleon.cities)
  .left(lon).top(lat)
  .text(function(d) d.city).font("italic 10px Georgia")
  .textAlign("center").textBaseline("middle");

```

```

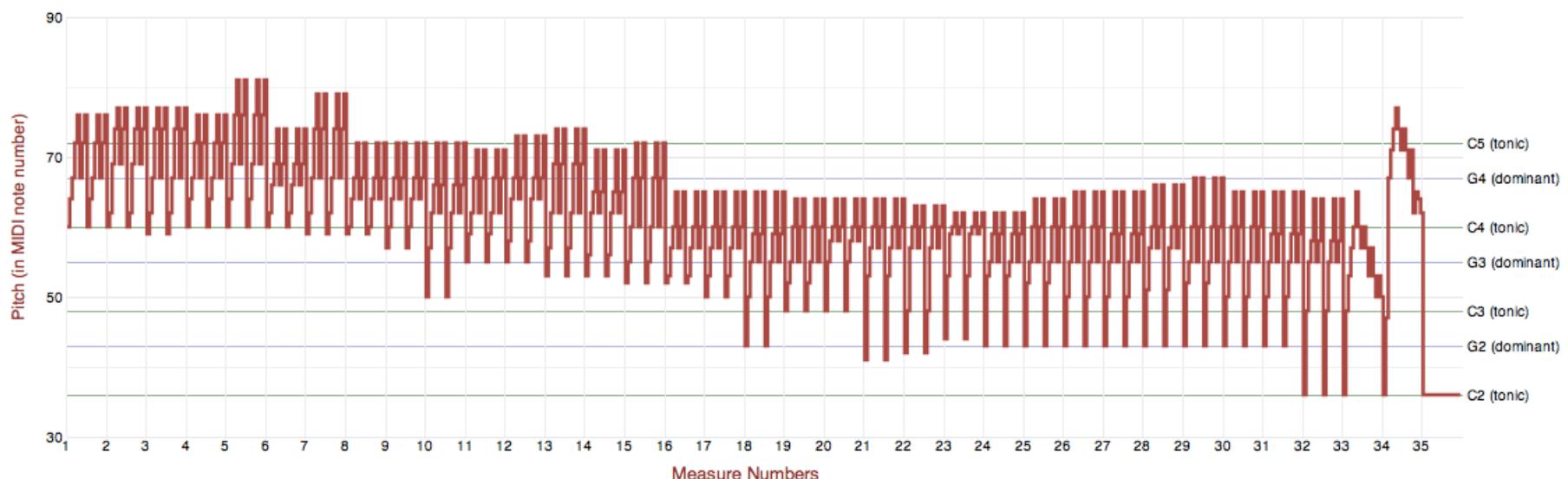
vis.add(pv.Rule).data([0,-10,-20,-30])
  .top(function(d) 300 - 2*d - 0.5).left(200).right(150)
  .lineWidth(1).strokeStyle("#ccc")
  .anchor("right").add(pv.Label)
  .font("italic 10px Georgia")
  .text(function(d) d+"°").textBaseline("center");

vis.add(pv.Line).data(napoleon.temp)
  .left(lon).top(tmp).strokeStyle("#0")
  .add(pv.Label)
  .top(function(d) 5 + tmp(d))
  .text(function(d) d.temp+"° "+d.date.substr(0,6))
  .textBaseline("top").font("italic 10px Georgia");

```

PRELUDE NO.1 IN C MAJOR, BWV 846
(FROM WELL-TEMPERED CLAVIER, BOOK 1)

BY J.S. BACH



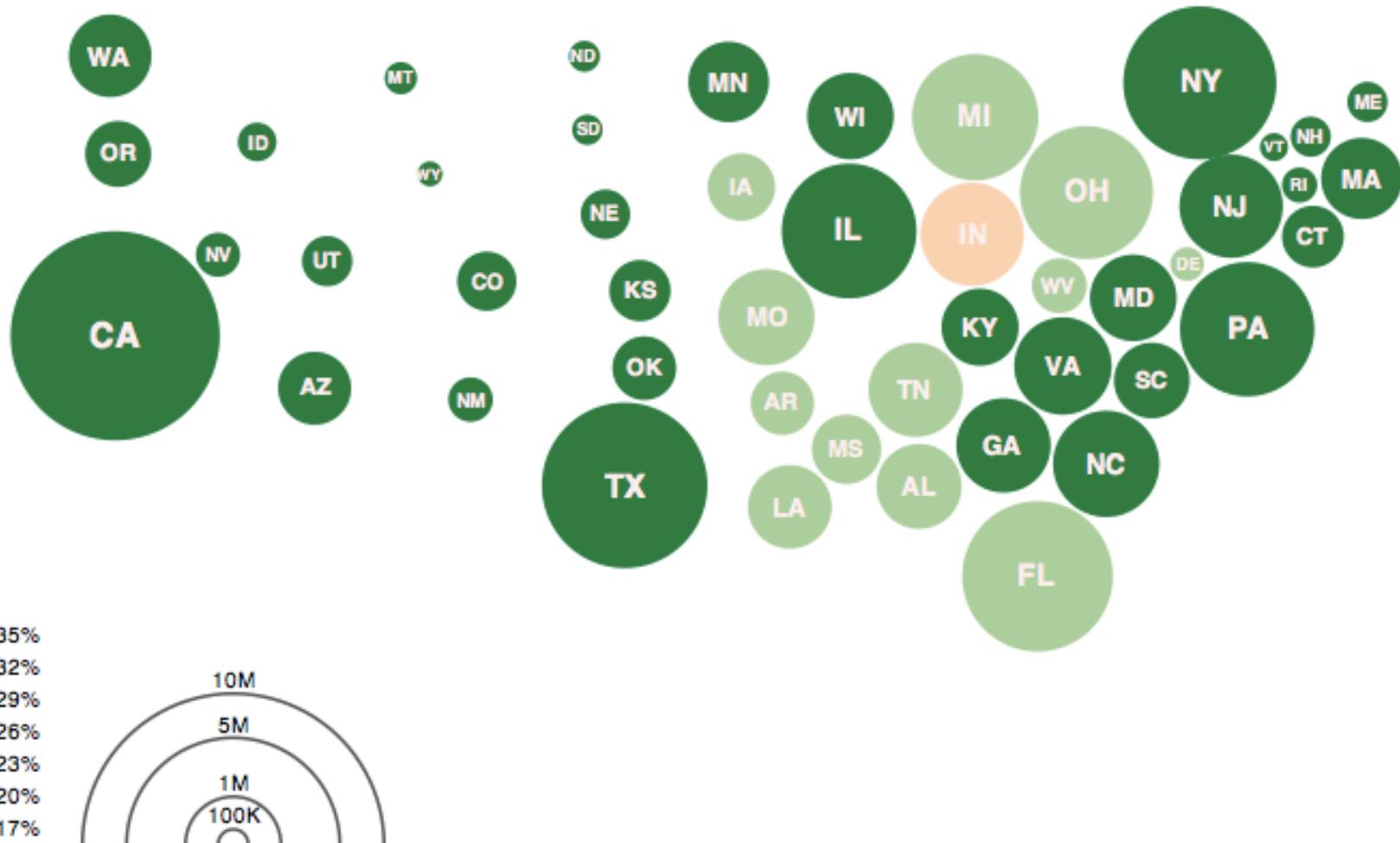
[◀] [▶] [◀◀] [▶▶] [↑] [↓]

focus-and-play range:

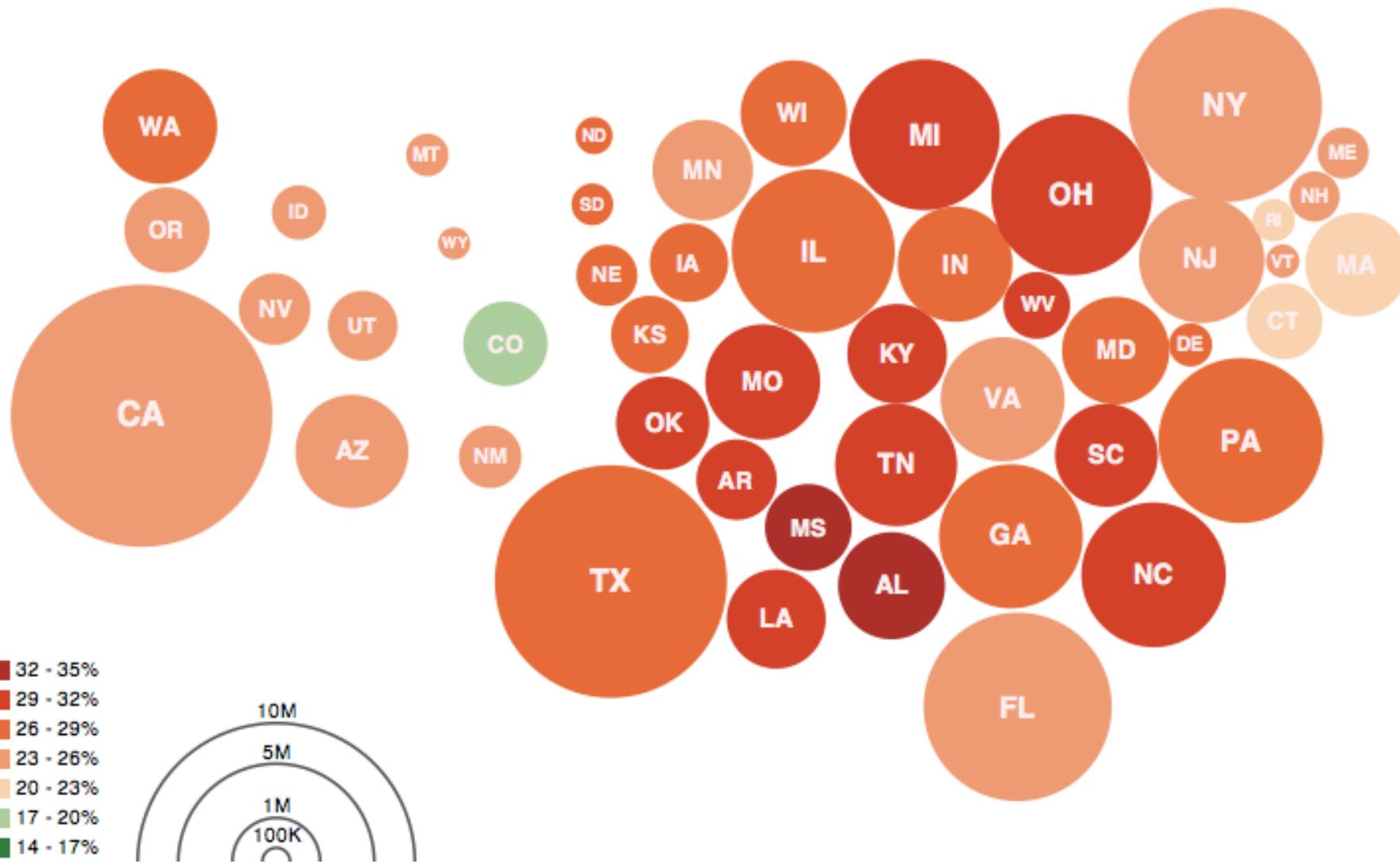
start at measure:

note: k-th phrase begins on measures $4(k-1)+1$

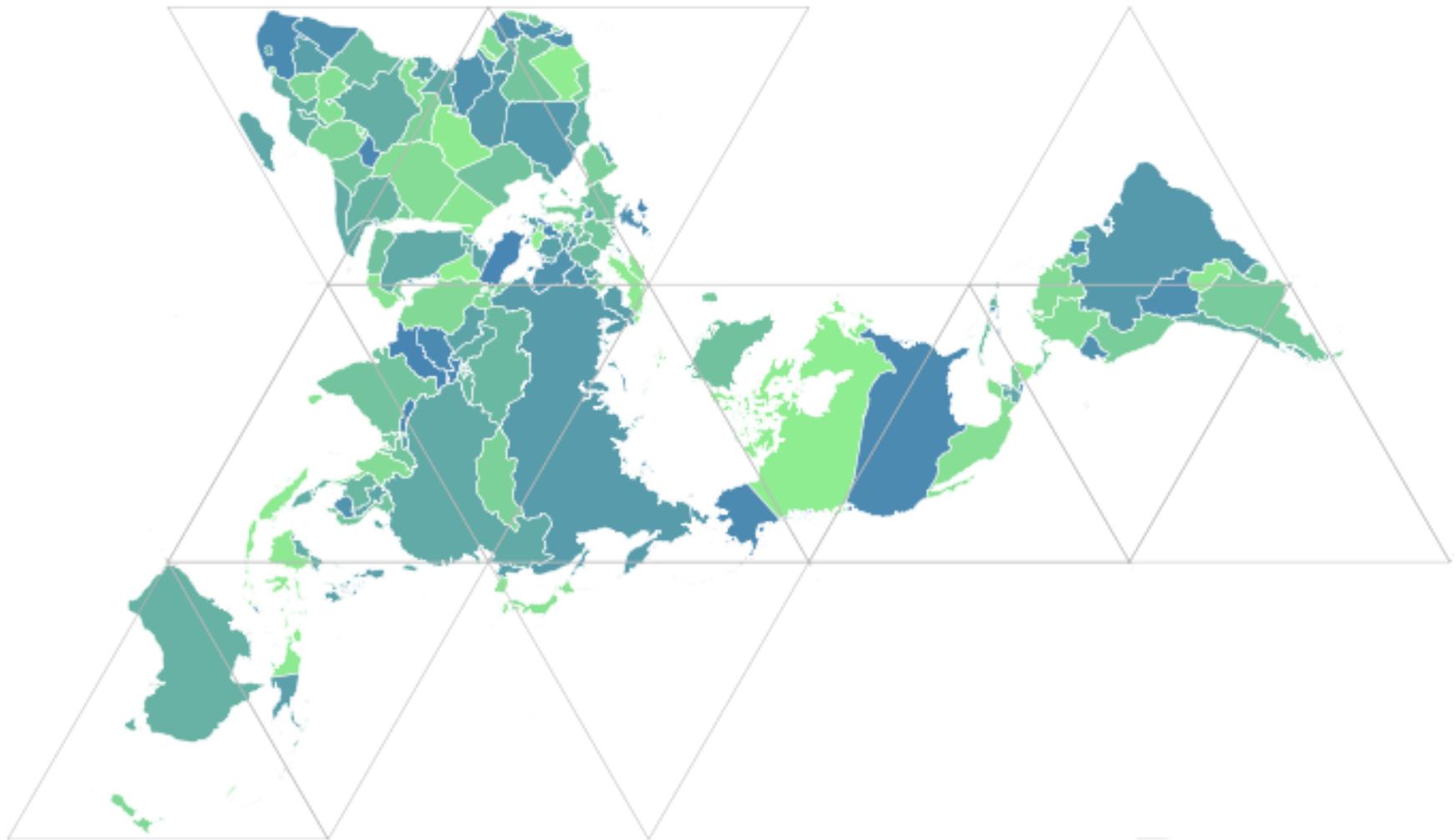
Bach's Prelude #1 in C Major | Jieun Oh



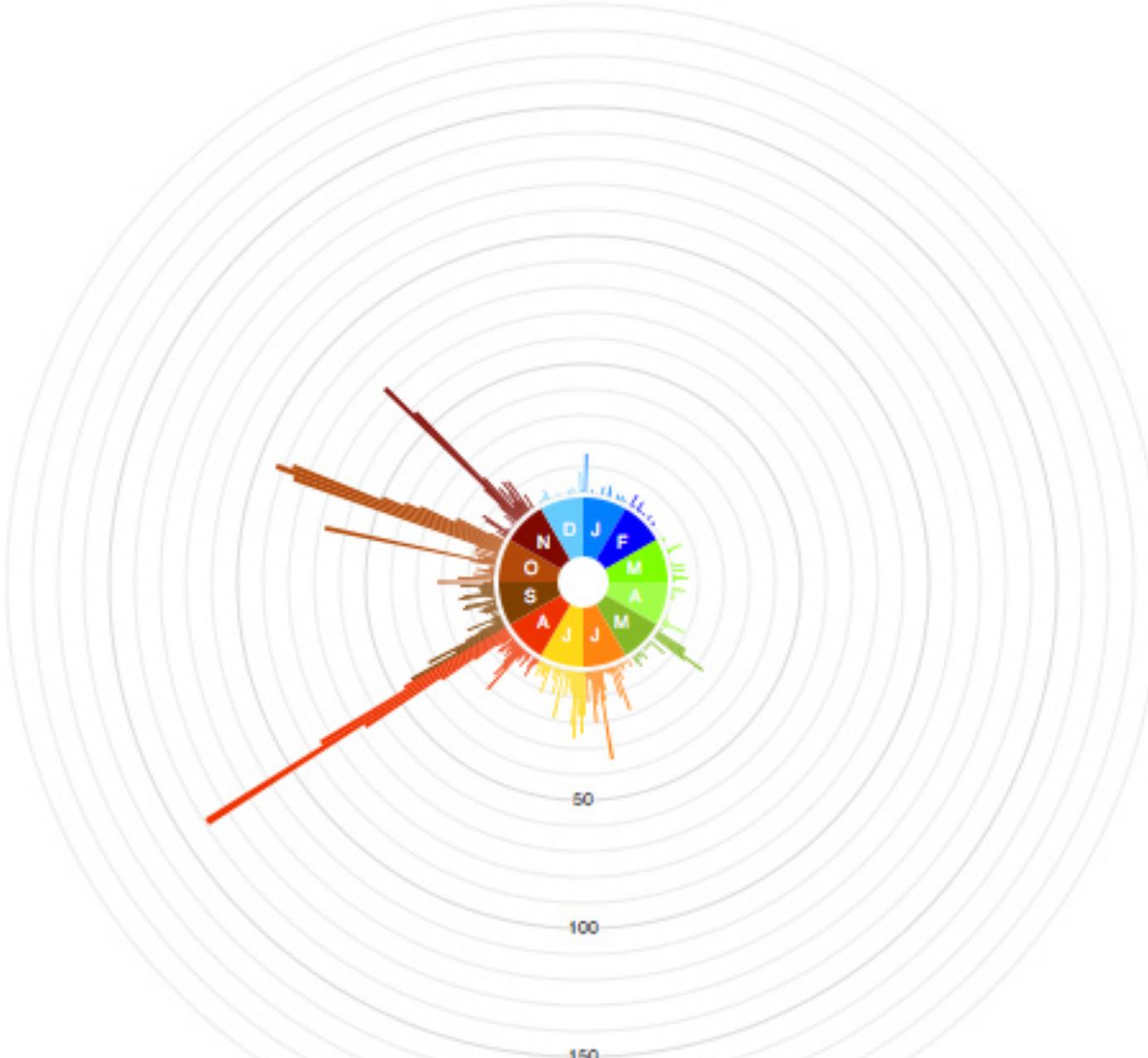
Obesity Map | Vadim Ogievetsky



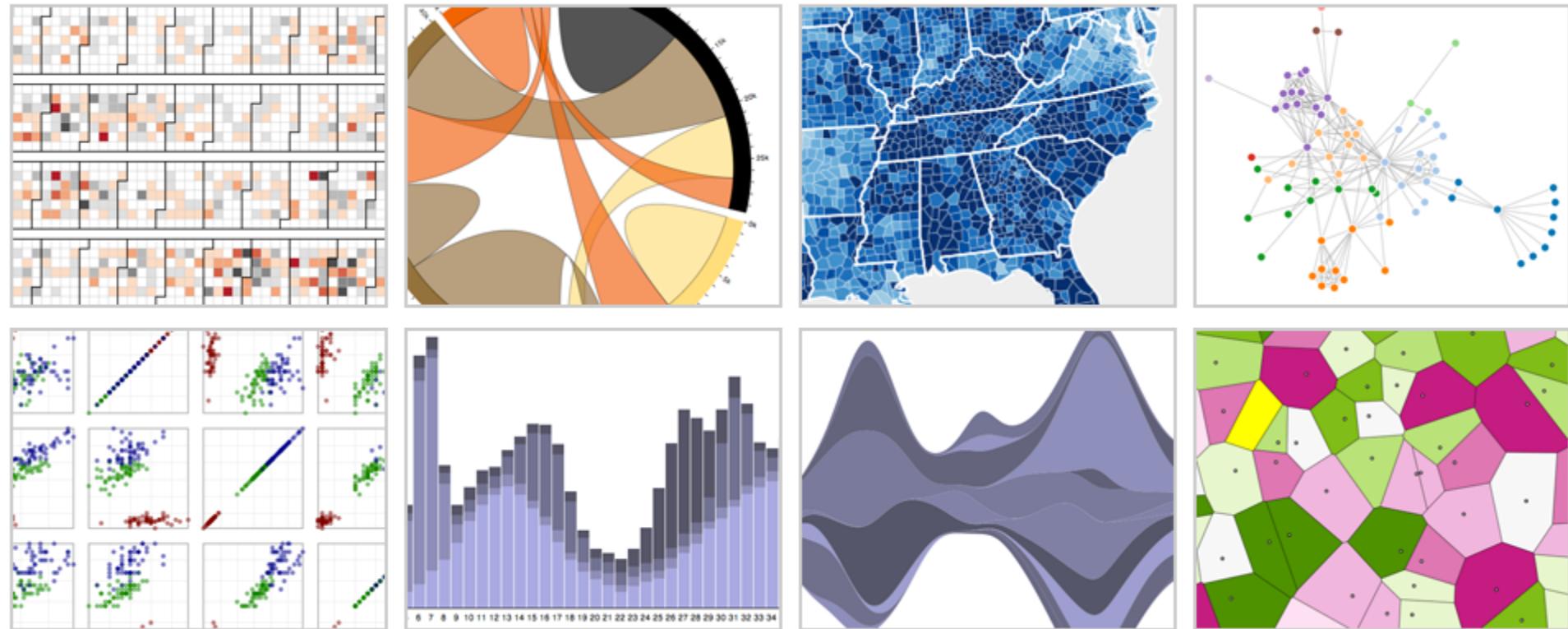
Obesity Map | Vadim Ogievetsky



Dymaxion Maps | Vadim Ogievetsky



d3.js Data-Driven Documents



with **Mike Bostock** & Vadim Ogievetsky

Protopis

Specialized mark types

- + Streamlined design
- Limits expressiveness
- More overhead (slower)
- Harder to debug
- Self-contained model

Specify a scene (nouns)

- + Quick for static vis
- Delayed evaluation
- Animation, interaction
are more cumbersome

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D3

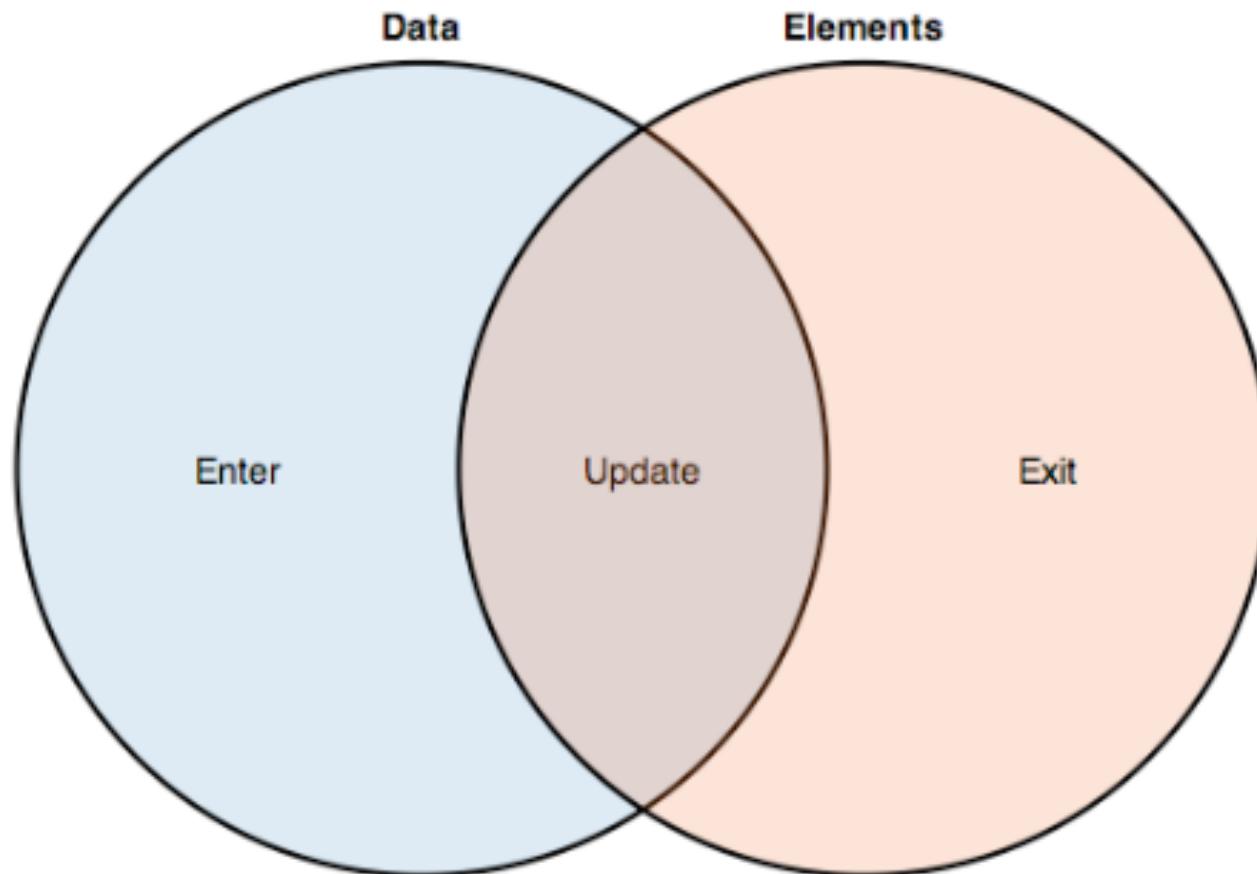
Bind data to DOM

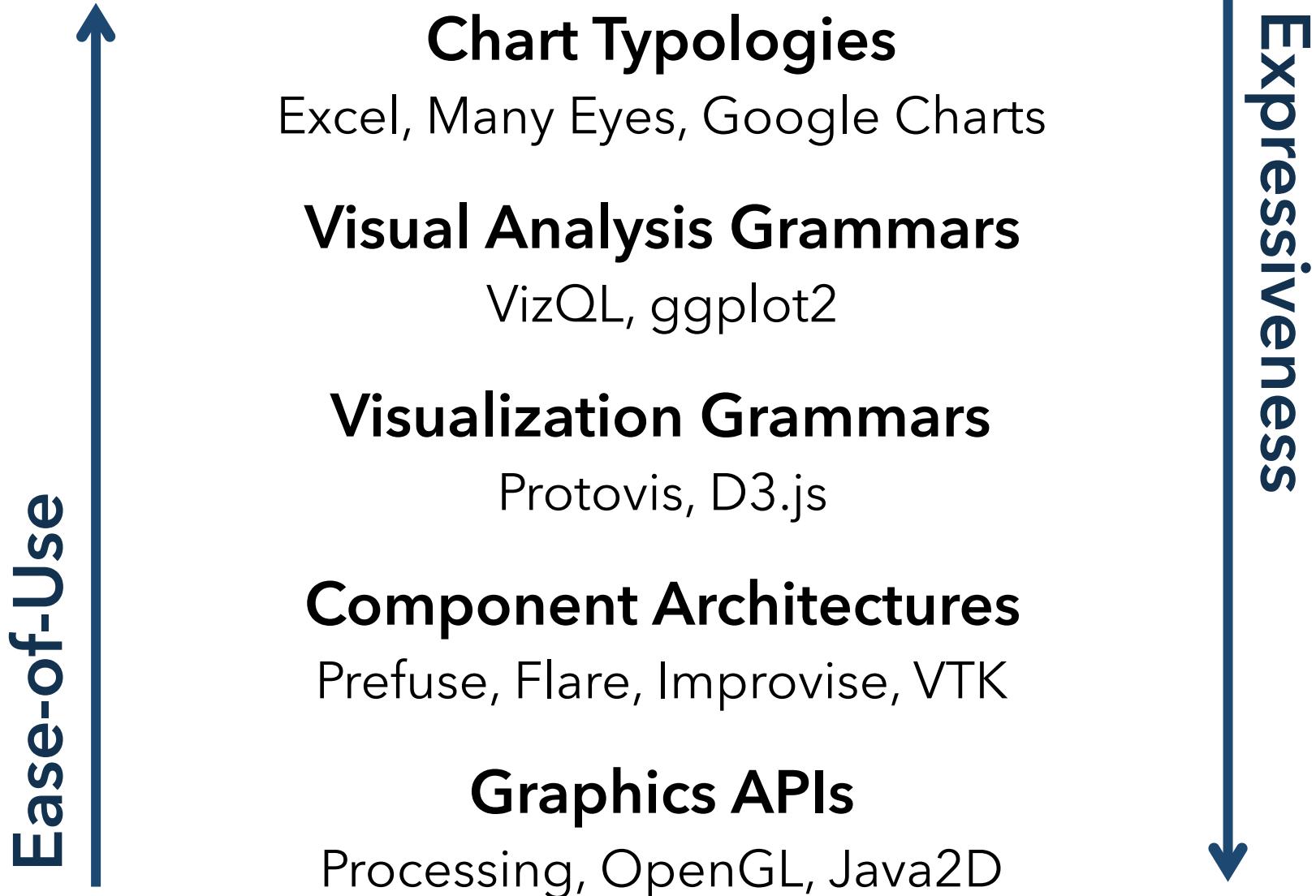
- Exposes SVG/CSS/...
- + Exposes SVG/CSS/...
- + Less overhead (faster)
- + Debug in browser
- + Use with other tools

Transform a scene (verbs)

- More complex model
- + Immediate evaluation
- + Dynamic data, anim,
and interaction natural

Selection + Data Join





Administrivia

A2: Exploratory Data Analysis

Use visualization software to form & answer questions

First steps:

Step 1: Pick domain & data

Step 2: Pose questions

Step 3: Profile the data

Iterate as needed

Create visualizations

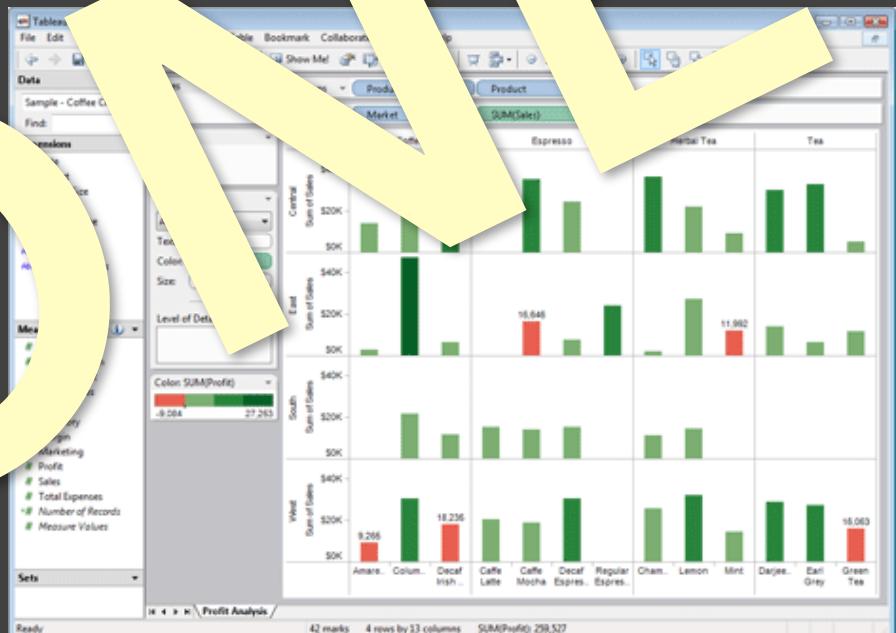
Interact with data

Refine your questions

Make a notebook

Keep record of your analysis

Prepare a final graphic and caption



Due by 5:00pm
Monday, April 18

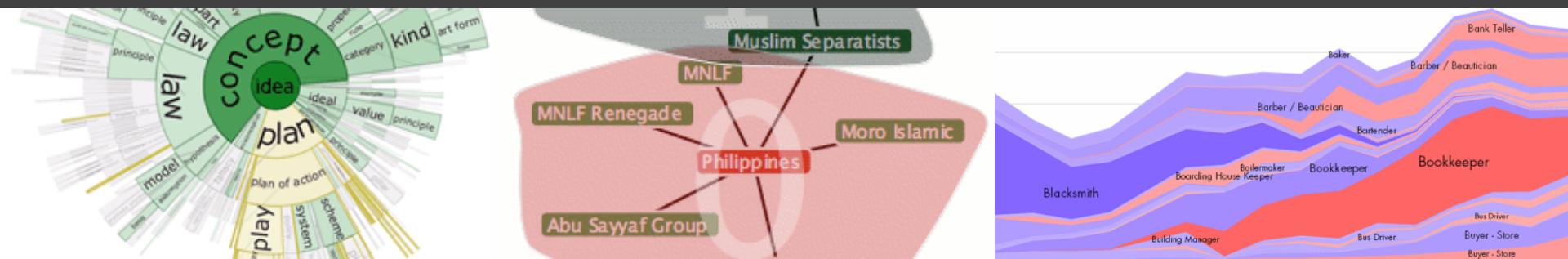
A3: Interactive Visualization

Create an interactive visualization application. Choose a data domain and an appropriate visualization technique.

1. Choose a data set and storyboard your interface
2. Implement the interface using tools of your choice
3. Submit your application and produce a final write-up

You should work in groups of 2-3.

Due by 5pm on **Monday, May 2**



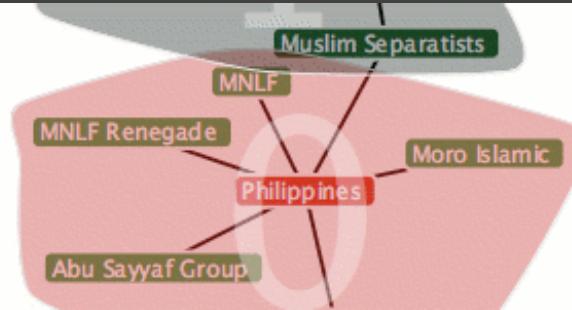
A3: Project Partners

For A3, you should work in **groups of 2-3**.

If you do not have a partner, you should:

Use the facilities on Canvas

Stay after class to meet potential partners

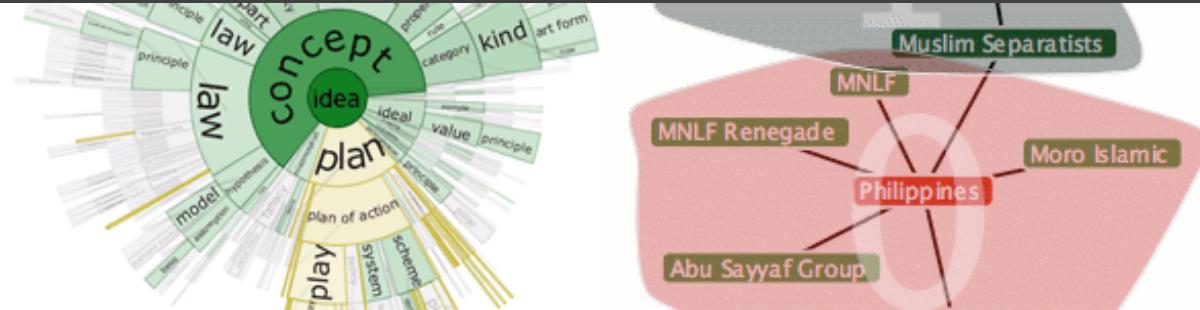


Assignment 3 Tips

Start now. It will take longer than you think.

Keep it simple. Choose a minimal set of interactions that enables users to explore and generate interesting insights. Keep the design clean.

Promote engagement. How do your chosen interactions reveal interesting observations?



D3.js Tutorial

Date: **Tuesday, April 19**

Time: **3pm to 4:20pm**

Location: **PAA, Room 114A**

D3.js is a popular JavaScript visualization library,
valuable for A3 and your Final Project...

A Visualization Tool Stack

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Visualization Grammars

Protopis, D3.js

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

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What is a Declarative Language?

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Programming by describing *what*, not *how*

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Separate **specification** (*what you want*) from
execution (*how it should be computed*)

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In contrast to **imperative programming**,
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Programming by describing *what*, not *how*

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execution (*how it should be computed*)

In contrast to **imperative programming**,
where you must give explicit steps.

```
d3.selectAll("rect")
  .data(my_data)
  .enter().append("rect")
  .attr("x", function(d) { return xscale(d.foo); })
  .attr("y", function(d) { return yscale(d.bar); })
```



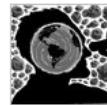
The New York Times

Tuesday, October 26, 2010 Last Update: 3:50 PM ET

ING DIRECT



OPINION »
OP-ED CONTRIBUTOR
Humans to Asteroids:
Watch Out!
How to keep
near-Earth
objects from
hitting us.



- Brooks: No Second Thoughts | Comments (200)
- Herbert: The Corrosion of America
- Cohen: Turkey Steps Out
- Editorial: Mortgage Mess
- Bloggingheads: Jon Stewart's Power

MARKETS » At 3:56 PM ET
S.&P. 500 | Dow | Nasdaq

Joshua Kristal for The New York Times

Painting at 99, With No Compromises

By ROBIN FINN

An exhibition celebrating Will Barnet's centennial year traces his evolution as a modern American artist.

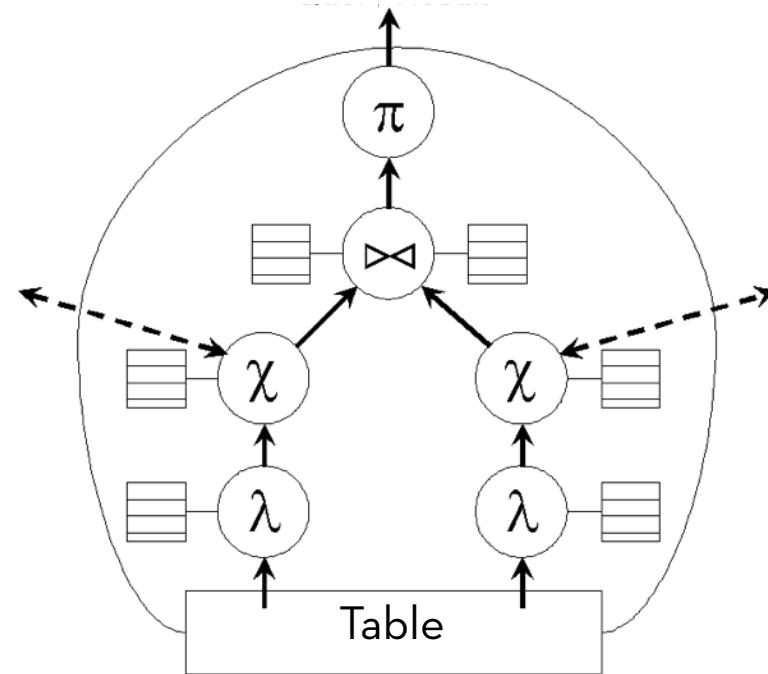
Glaxo Pays \$750 Million Fine for Tainted Products

By GARDNER HARRIS and DUFF

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01 Transitional//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/loose.dtd">
<!--[if IE]><![endif]-->
<html>
  <head>...</head>
  <body id="home" style="visibility: visible; ">
    <script src="http://connect.facebook.net/en_US/all.js"></script>
    <div id="fb-root"></div>
    <a name="top"></a>
    <div id="shell">
      <ul id="memberTools">...</ul>
      <!-- ADXINFO classification="text_ad" campaign="nyt2010-circ-...>
      <div class="tabsContainer">...</div>
      <!-- close .tabsContainer -->
      <div id="page" class="tabContent active">...</div>
      <!--close page -->
    </div>
    <!--close shell -->
    <script type="text/javascript" language="JavaScript">...</script>
    </script>
<span id="autoScript"></span>
<script type="text/javascript">...</script>

<script type="text/javascript" src="http://graphics8.nytimes.c...
```

HTML/CSS



```
SELECT customer_id, customer_name,
COUNT(order_id) as total
FROM customers
INNER JOIN orders ON
customers.customer_id
= orders.customer_id
GROUP BY customer_id, customer_name
HAVING COUNT(order_id) > 5
ORDER BY COUNT(order_id) DESC
```

SQL

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Portability. *Multiple devices, renderers, inputs.*

Programmatic generation.

Write programs which output visualizations.

Automated search & recommendation.

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Interactive Data Exploration

Tableau, *Lyra, Polestar, Voyager*

Graphical
Interfaces

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JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Visualization Grammar

Visualization Grammar

Data

Input data to visualize

Visualization Grammar

Data

Input data to visualize

Transforms

Grouping, stats, projection, layout

Visualization Grammar

Data	Input data to visualize
Transforms	Grouping, stats, projection, layout
Scales	Map data values to visual values

Visualization Grammar

Data	Input data to visualize
Transforms	Grouping, stats, projection, layout
Scales	Map data values to visual values
Guides	Axes & legends visualize scales

Visualization Grammar

Data

Input data to visualize

Transforms

Grouping, stats, projection, layout

Scales

Map data values to visual values

Guides

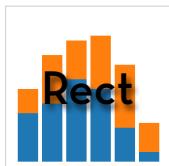
Axes & legends visualize scales

Marks

Data-representative graphics



Area



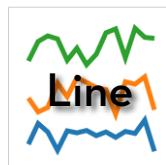
Rect



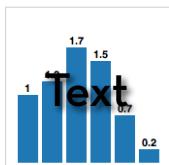
Symbol



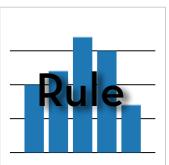
Image



Line



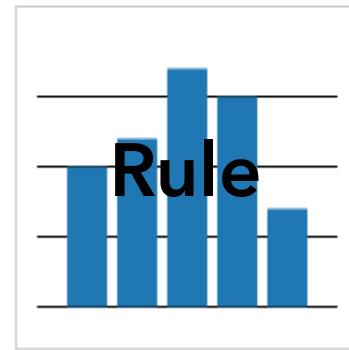
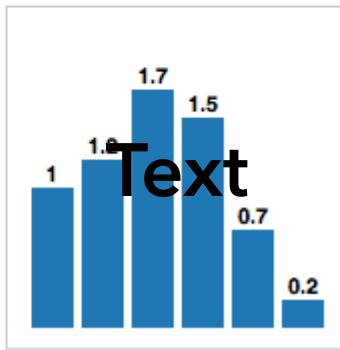
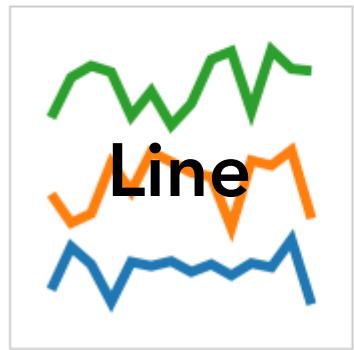
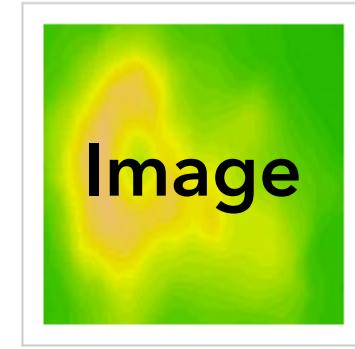
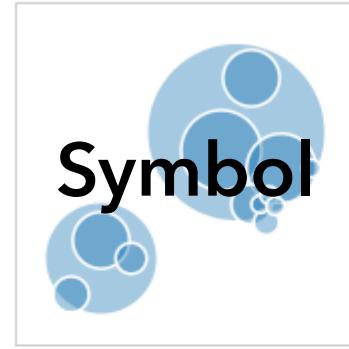
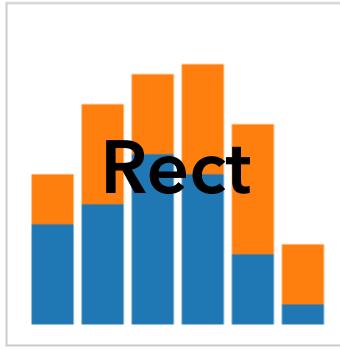
Text



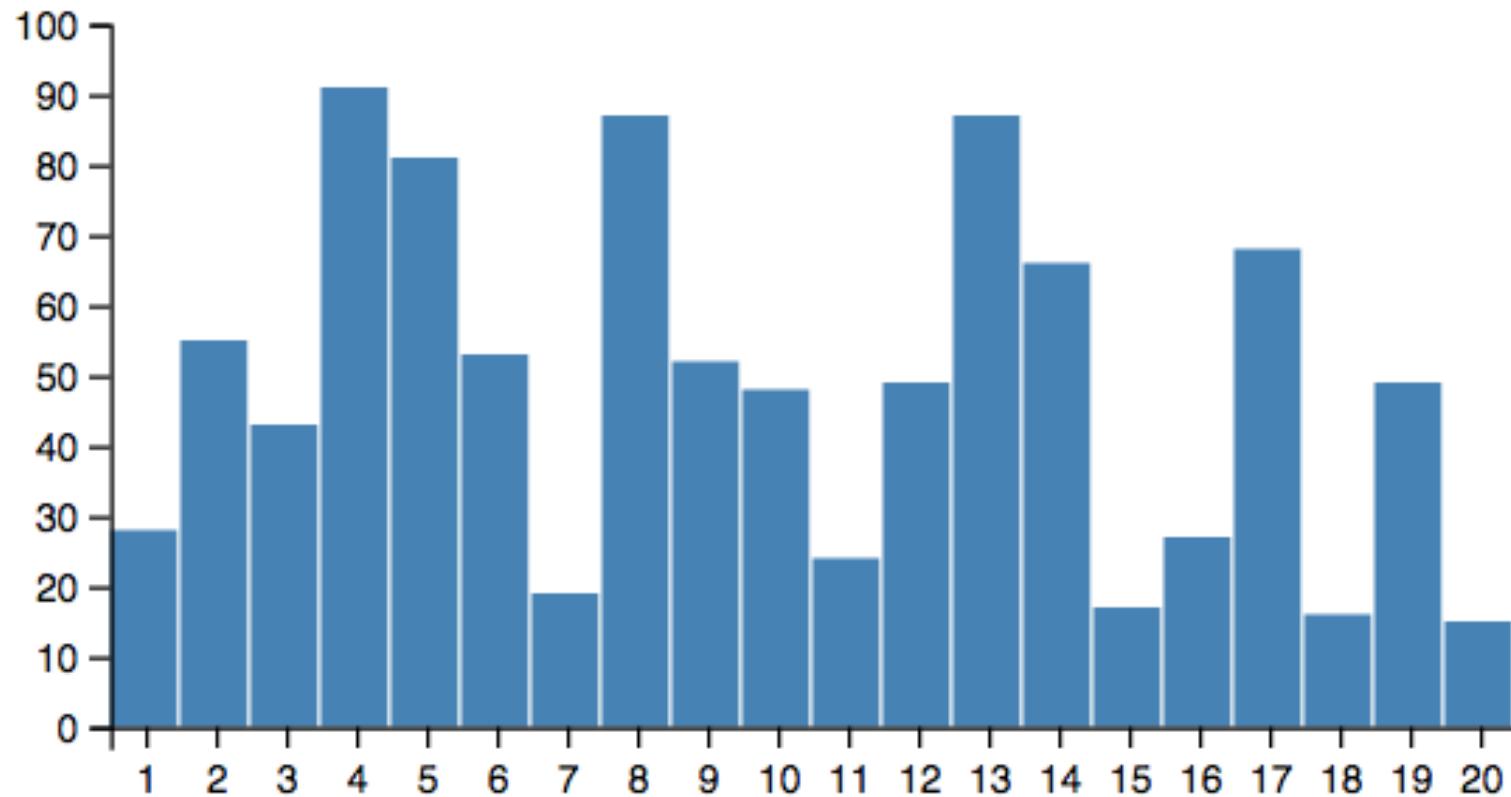
Rule

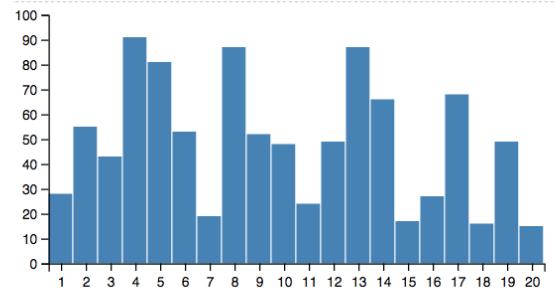


Arc

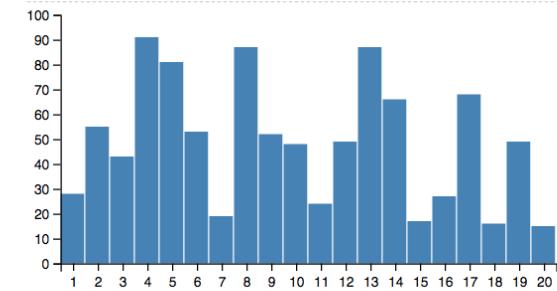


MARKS: Graphical Primitives



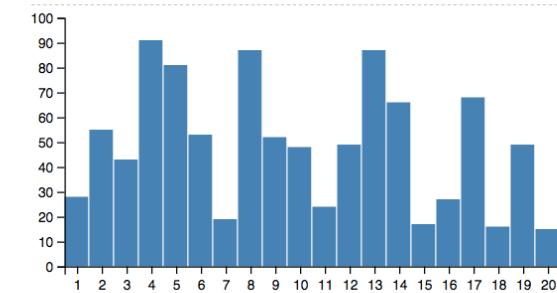


```
{
  "width": 400, "height": 200,
  "data": [
    {"name": "table", "url": "/data/sample.json"}
  ],
  "scales": [
    {
      "name": "x", "type": "ordinal",
      "range": "width",
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "x"}
    },
    {
      "name": "y",
      "range": "height", "nice": true,
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "y"}
    }
  ],
  "axes": [
    {"type": "x", "scale": "x"},
    {"type": "y", "scale": "y"}
  ],
  "marks": [
    {
      "type": "rect",
      "from": {"data": "table"},
      "properties": {
        "enter": {
          "x": {"scale": "x", "field": "x"},
          "width": {"scale": "x", "band": true, "offset": -1},
          "y": {"scale": "y", "field": "y"},
          "y2": {"scale": "y", "value": 0},
          "fill": {"value": "steelblue"}
        }
      }
    }
  ]
}
```



Data + Transforms

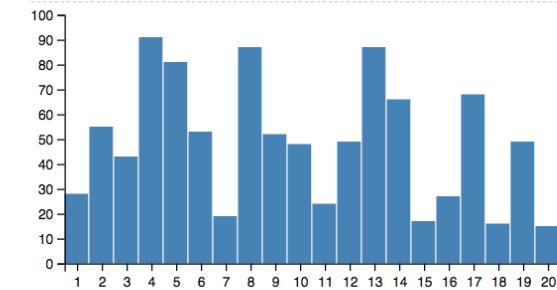
```
{  
  "width": 400, "height": 200,  
  "data": [  
    {"name": "table", "url": "/data/sample.json"}  
  ],  
  "scales": [  
    {  
      "name": "x", "type": "ordinal",  
      "range": "width",  
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "x"}  
    },  
    {  
      "name": "y",  
      "range": "height", "nice": true,  
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "y"}  
    }  
  ],  
  "axes": [  
    {"type": "x", "scale": "x"},  
    {"type": "y", "scale": "y"}  
  ],  
  "marks": [  
    {  
      "type": "rect",  
      "from": {"data": "table"},  
      "properties": {  
        "enter": {  
          "x": {"scale": "x", "field": "x"},  
          "width": {"scale": "x", "band": true, "offset": -1},  
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          "fill": {"value": "steelblue"}  
        }  
      }  
    }]  
}
```



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{
  "width": 400, "height": 200,
  "data": [
    {"name": "table", "url": "/data/sample.json"}
  ],
  "scales": [
    {
      "name": "x", "type": "ordinal",
      "range": "width",
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "x"}
    },
    {
      "name": "y",
      "range": "height", "nice": true,
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "y"}
    }
  ],
  "axes": [
    {"type": "x", "scale": "x"},
    {"type": "y", "scale": "y"}
  ],
  "marks": [
    {
      "type": "rect",
      "from": {"data": "table"},
      "properties": {
        "enter": {
          "x": {"scale": "x", "field": "x"},
          "width": {"scale": "x", "band": true, "offset": -1},
          "y": {"scale": "y", "field": "y"},
          "y2": {"scale": "y", "value": 0},
          "fill": {"value": "steelblue"}
        }
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

Data + Transforms

Scales

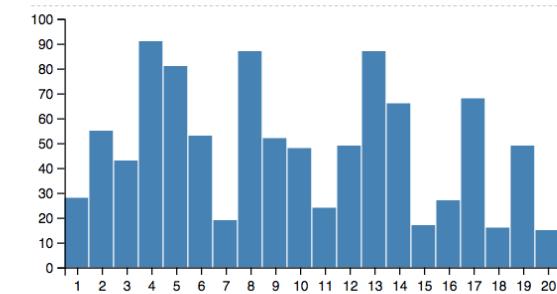


```
{
  "width": 400, "height": 200,
  "data": [
    {"name": "table", "url": "/data/sample.json"}
  ],
  "scales": [
    {
      "name": "x", "type": "ordinal",
      "range": "width",
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "x"}
    },
    {
      "name": "y",
      "range": "height", "nice": true,
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "y"}
    }
  ],
  "axes": [
    {"type": "x", "scale": "x"},
    {"type": "y", "scale": "y"}
  ],
  "marks": [
    {
      "type": "rect",
      "from": {"data": "table"},
      "properties": {
        "enter": {
          "x": {"scale": "x", "field": "x"},
          "width": {"scale": "x", "band": true, "offset": -1},
          "y": {"scale": "y", "field": "y"},
          "y2": {"scale": "y", "value": 0},
          "fill": {"value": "steelblue"}
        }
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

Data + Transforms

Scales

Guides



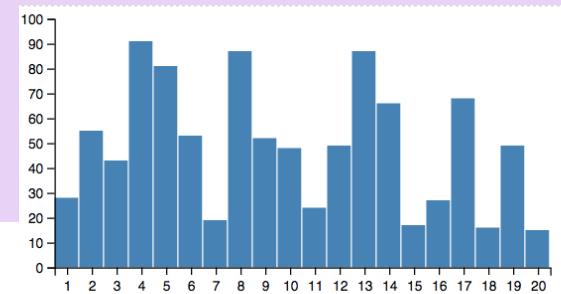
```
{
  "width": 400, "height": 200,
  "data": [
    {"name": "table", "url": "/data/sample.json"}
  ],
  "scales": [
    {
      "name": "x", "type": "ordinal",
      "range": "width",
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "x"}
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      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "y"}
    }
  ],
  "axes": [
    {"type": "x", "scale": "x"},
    {"type": "y", "scale": "y"}
  ],
  "marks": [
    {
      "type": "rect",
      "from": {"data": "table"}, (Data + Transforms)
      "properties": {
        "enter": {
          "x": {"scale": "x", "field": "x"},
          "width": {"scale": "x", "band": true, "offset": -1},
          "y": {"scale": "y", "field": "y"},
          "y2": {"scale": "y", "value": 0},
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        }
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

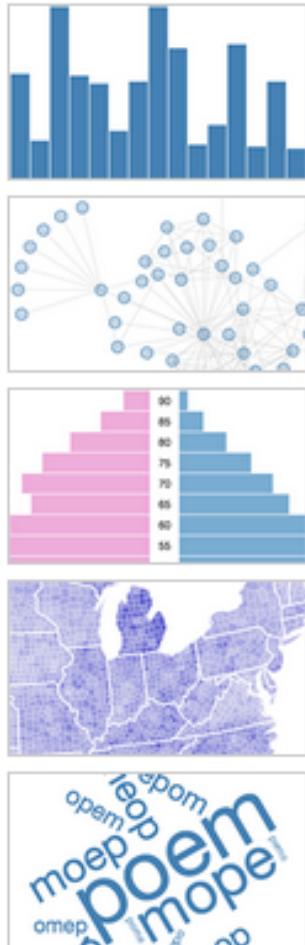
Data + Transforms

Scales

Guides

Marks





vega

[vega.min.js \(188k\)](#)
[Source \(GitHub\)](#)

Vega is a visualization grammar, a declarative format for creating, saving and sharing visualization designs.

With Vega you can describe data visualizations in a JSON format, and generate interactive views using either HTML5 Canvas or SVG.

Read the [tutorial](#), browse the [documentation](#), join the [discussion](#), and explore visualizations using the web-based [Vega Editor](#).



Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Lyra

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

The Lyra Visualization Design Environment (VDE) alpha

Arvind Satyanarayan, Kanit "Ham" Wongsuphasawat, Jeffrey Heer



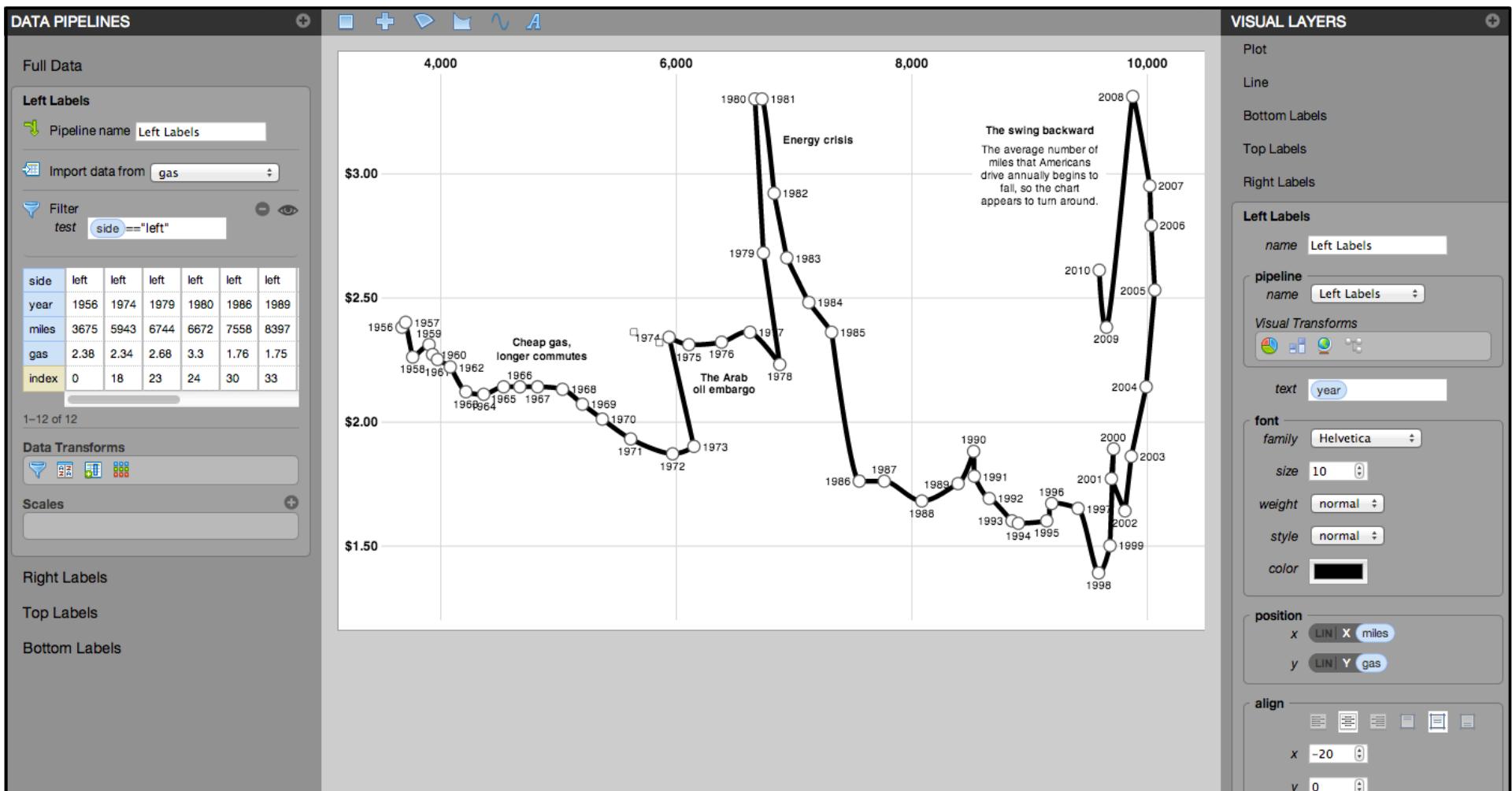
William Playfair's classic chart comparing the price of wheat and wages in England recreated in the Lyra VDE.

ABSTRACT

Lyra is an interactive environment that enables custom visualization design without writing any code. Graphical "marks" can be bound to data fields using property drop zones; dynamically positioned using connectors; and directly moved, rotated, and resized using handles. Lyra also provides a data pipeline interface for iterative visual specification of data transformations and layout algorithms. Lyra is more expressive than interactive systems like Tableau, allowing designers to create custom visualizations comparable to hand-coded visualizations built with D3 or Processing. These visualizations can then be easily published and reused on the Web.

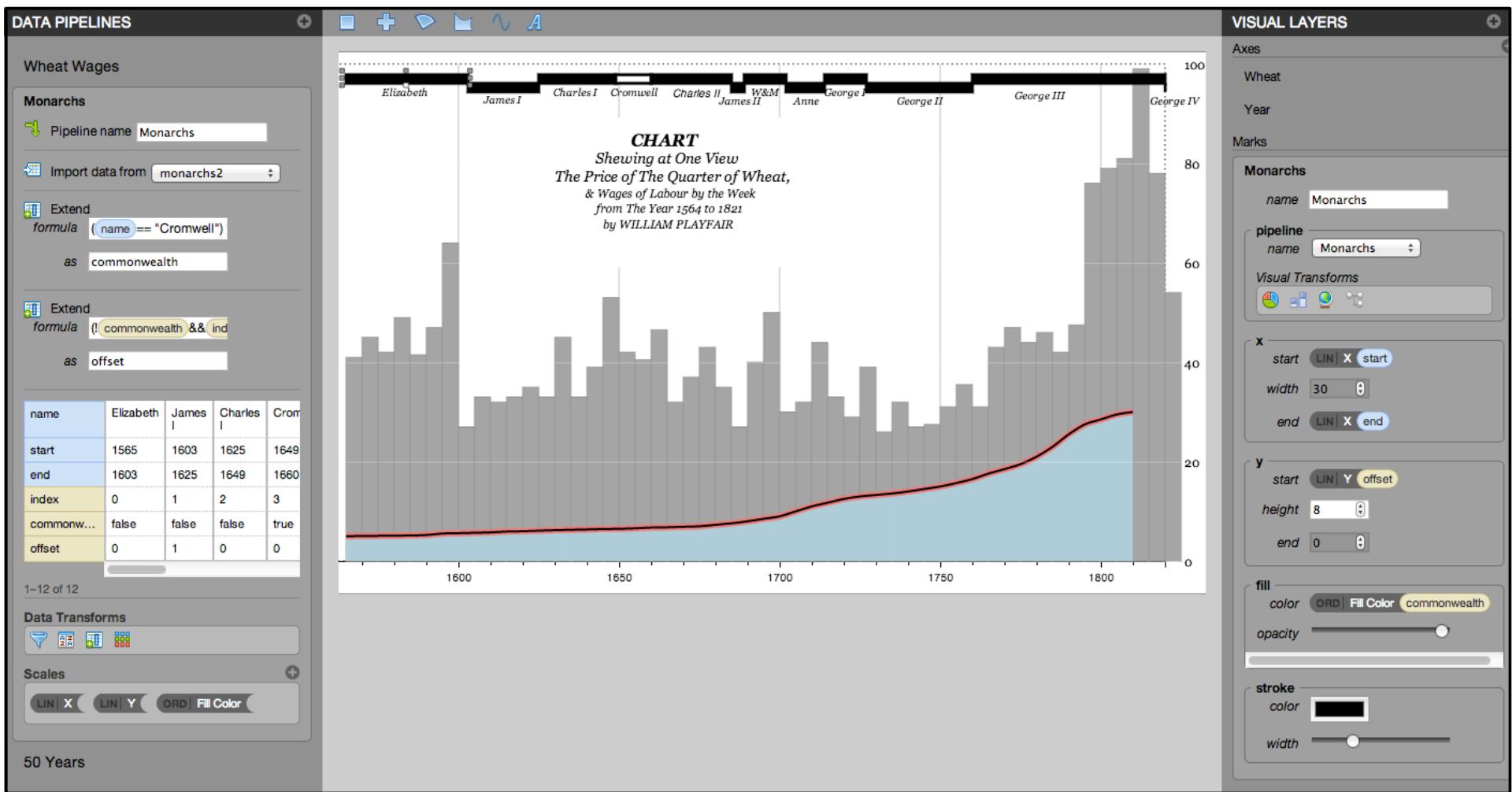
Lyra: An Interactive Visualization Design Environment

Lyra A Visualization Design Environment



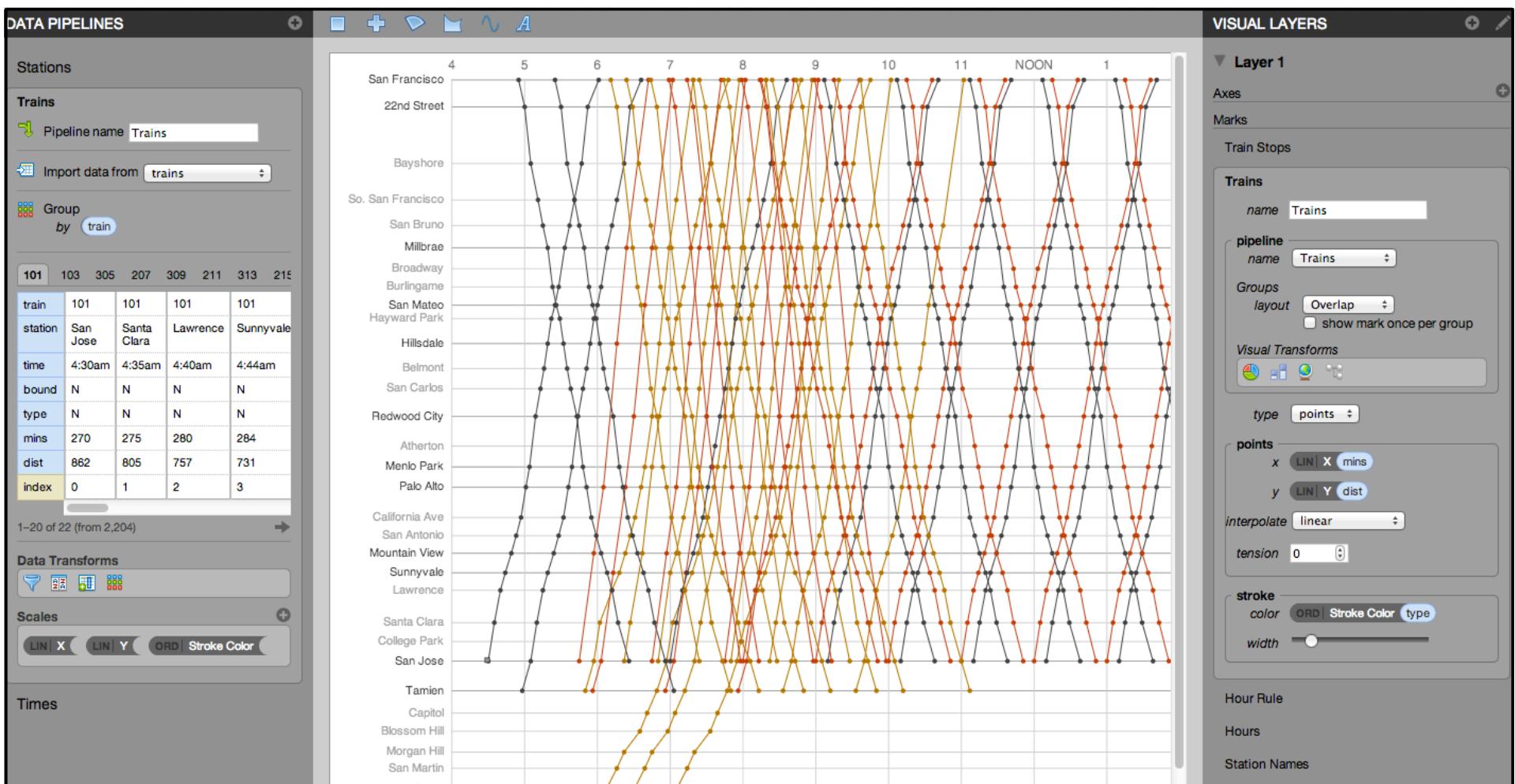
Driving Shifts into Reverse by Hannah Fairfield, NYTimes

Lyra A Visualization Design Environment



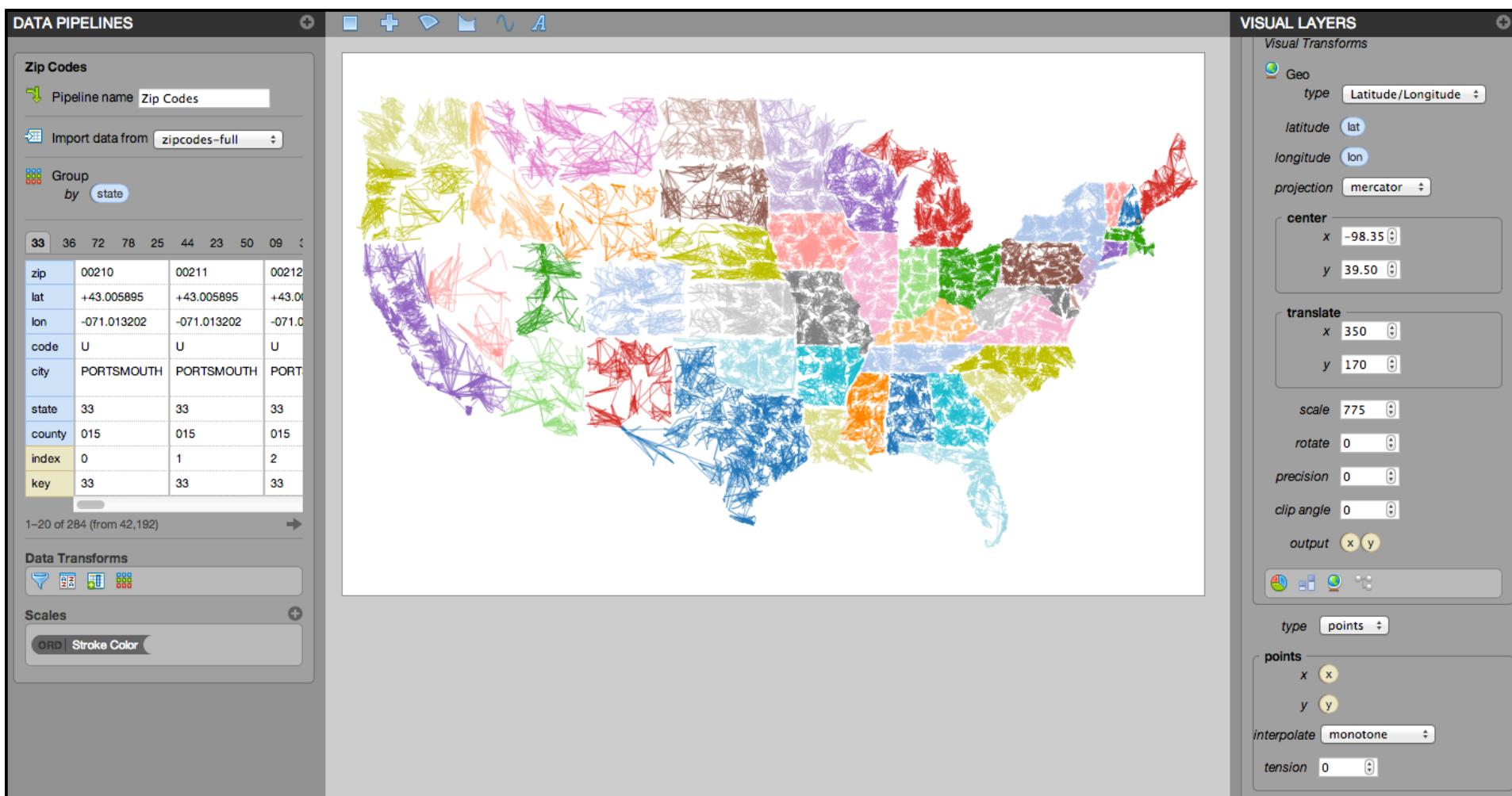
by William Playfair

Lyra A Visualization Design Environment



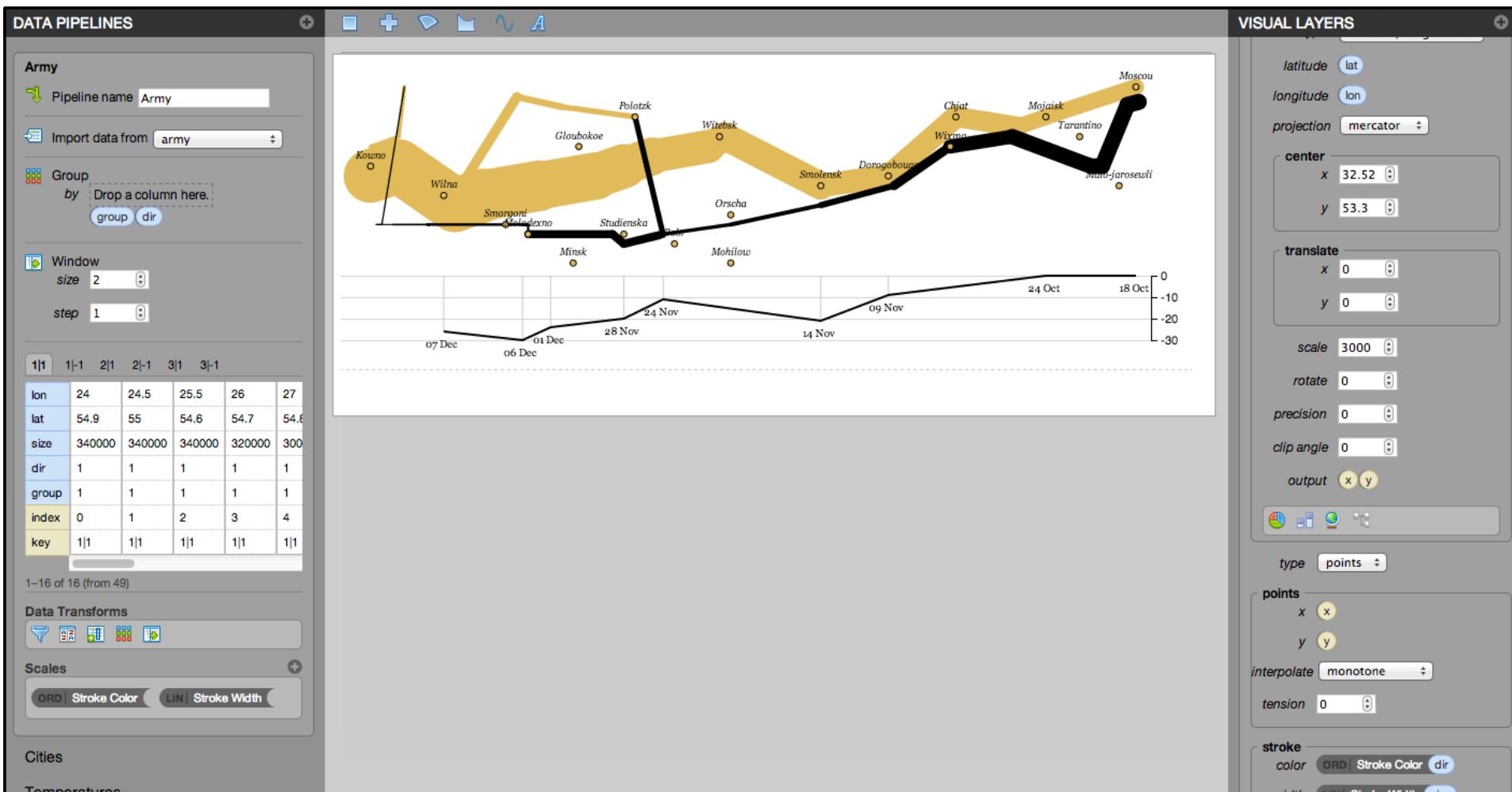
based on the **Railway Timetable** by E. J. Marey

Lyra A Visualization Design Environment



ZipScribble by Robert Kosara

Lyra A Visualization Design Environment



Napoleon's March by Charles Minard

Lyra

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Lyra

Vega-Lite

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Vegalite

A formal model for statistical graphics

Inspired by *Grammar of Graphics* & *Tableau*

Includes **data transformation & encoding**

Vegalite

A formal model for statistical graphics

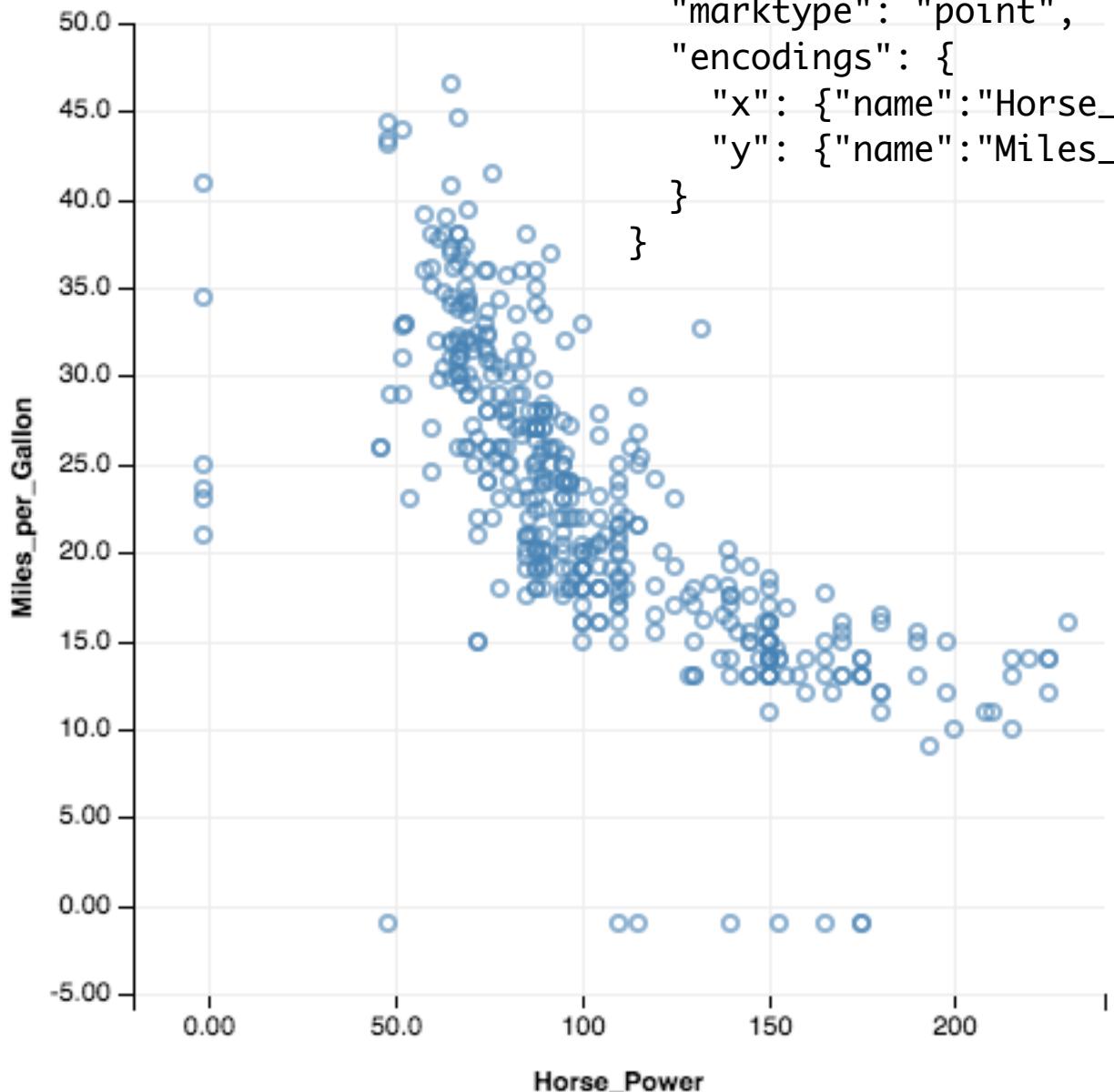
Inspired by *Grammar of Graphics* & *Tableau*

Includes **data transformation & encoding**

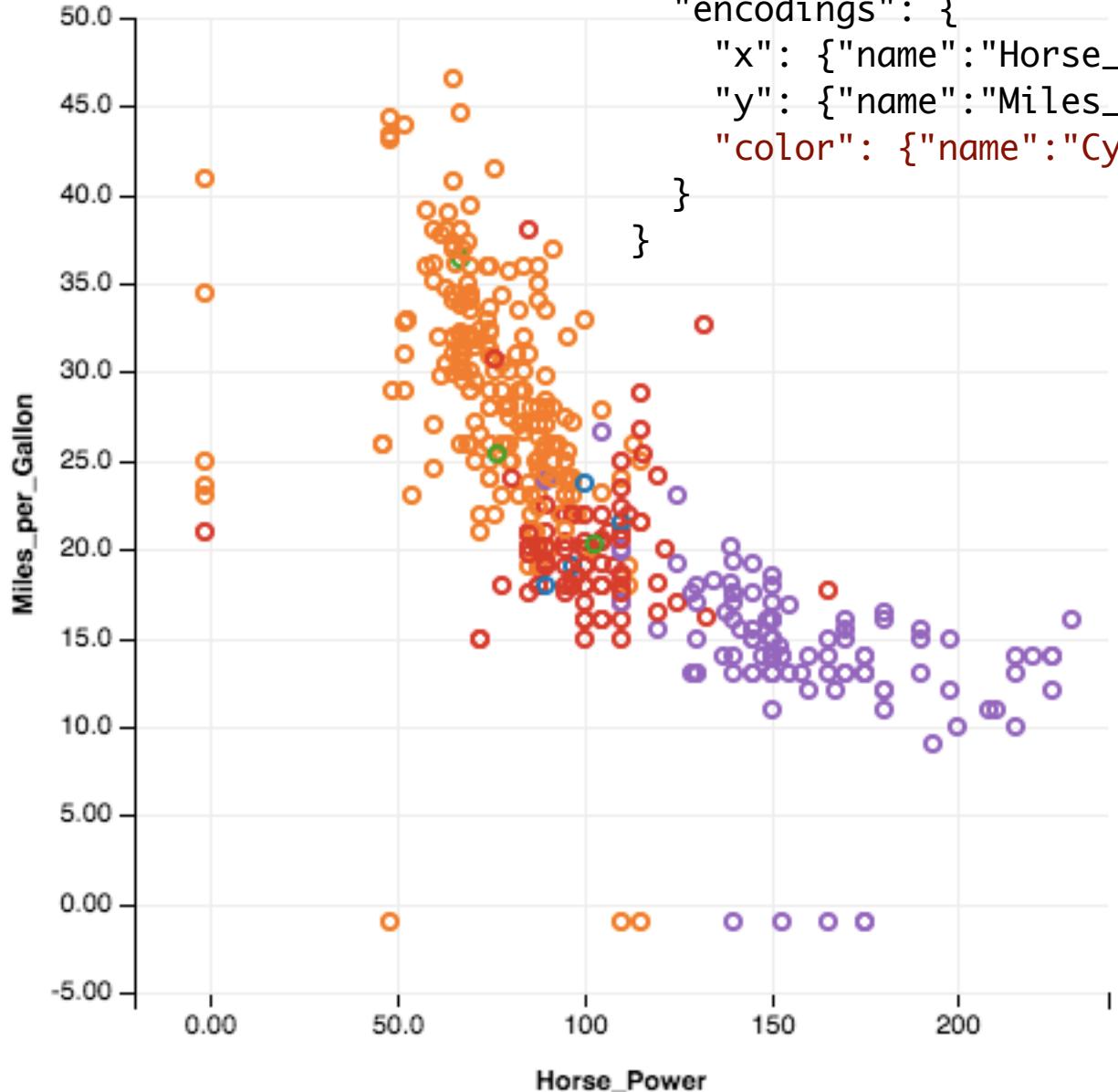
Uses a simple, concise **JSON format** that
compiles to full-blown **Vega specifications**

Easy **programmatic generation**

```
{  
  "marktype": "point",  
  "encodings": {  
    "x": {"name": "Horse_Power", "type": "Q"},  
    "y": {"name": "Miles_per_Gallon", "type": "Q"}  
  }  
}
```

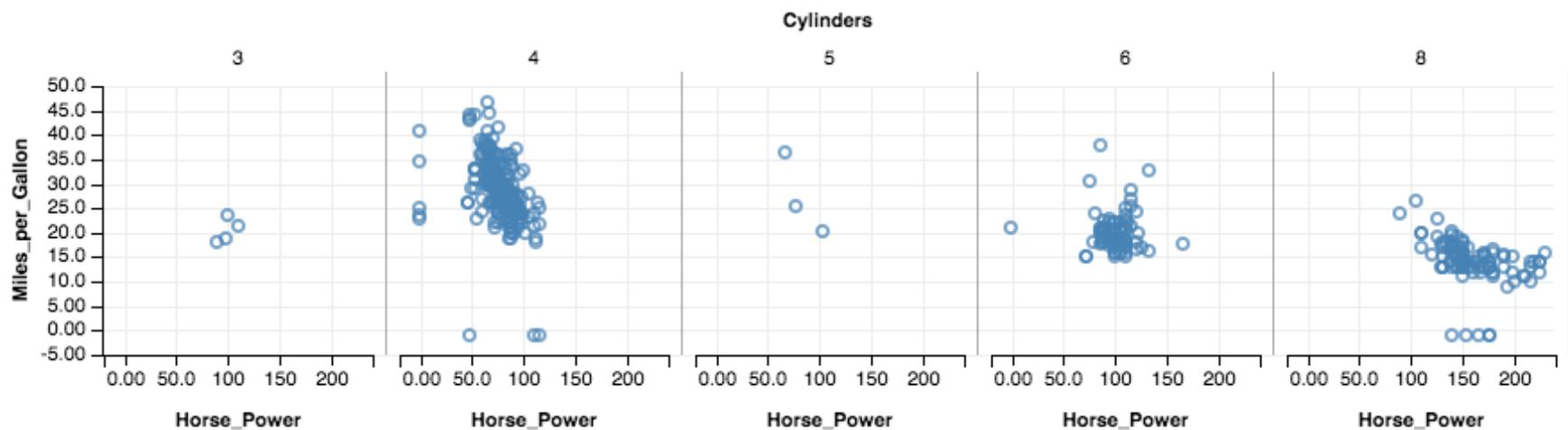


```
{  
  "marktype": "point",  
  "encodings": {  
    "x": {"name": "Horse_Power", "type": "Q"},  
    "y": {"name": "Miles_per_Gallon", "type": "Q"},  
    "color": {"name": "Cylinders", "type": "O"}  
  }  
}
```



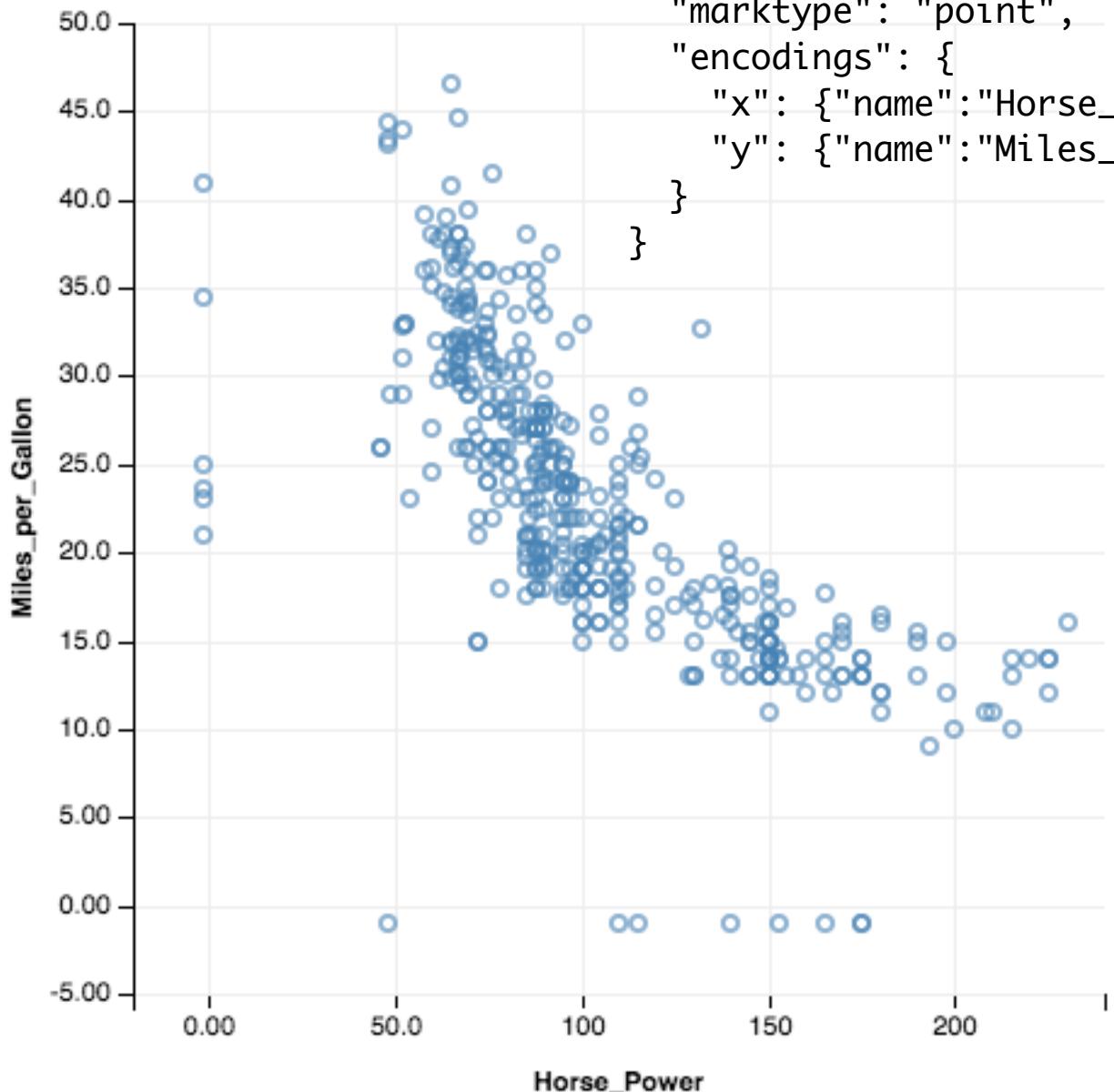
Cylinders

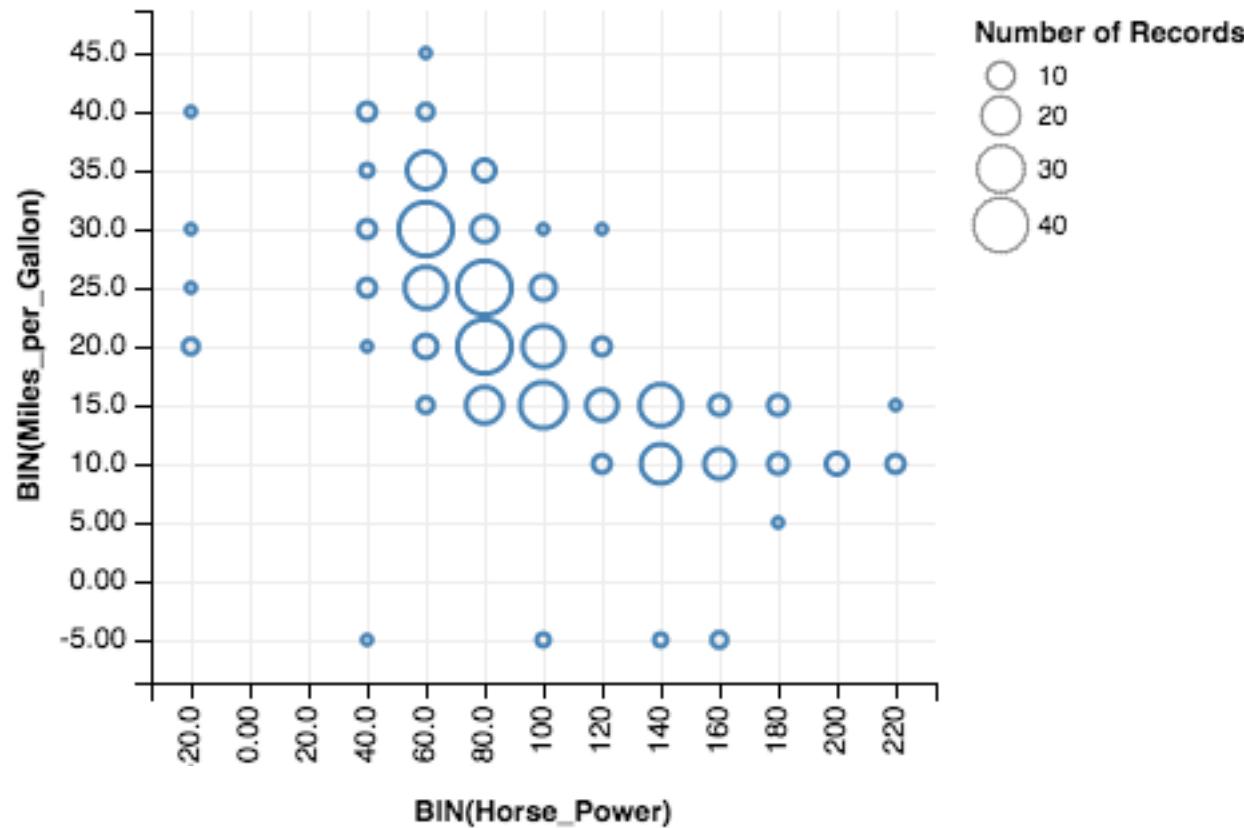
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 8



```
{  
  "marktype": "point",  
  "encodings": {  
    "x": {"name": "Horse_Power", "type": "Q"},  
    "y": {"name": "Miles_per_Gallon", "type": "Q"},  
    "col": {"name": "Cylinders", "type": "O"}  
  }  
}
```

```
{  
  "marktype": "point",  
  "encodings": {  
    "x": {"name": "Horse_Power", "type": "Q"},  
    "y": {"name": "Miles_per_Gallon", "type": "Q"}  
  }  
}
```





```
{
  "marktype": "point",
  "encodings": {
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    "y": {"name": "Miles_per_Gallon", "type": "Q", "bin": {"maxbins": 15}},
    "size": {"name": "*", "type": "Q", "aggr": "count"}
  }
}
```

Lyra

Vega-Lite

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Polestar

Lyra

Vega-Lite

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

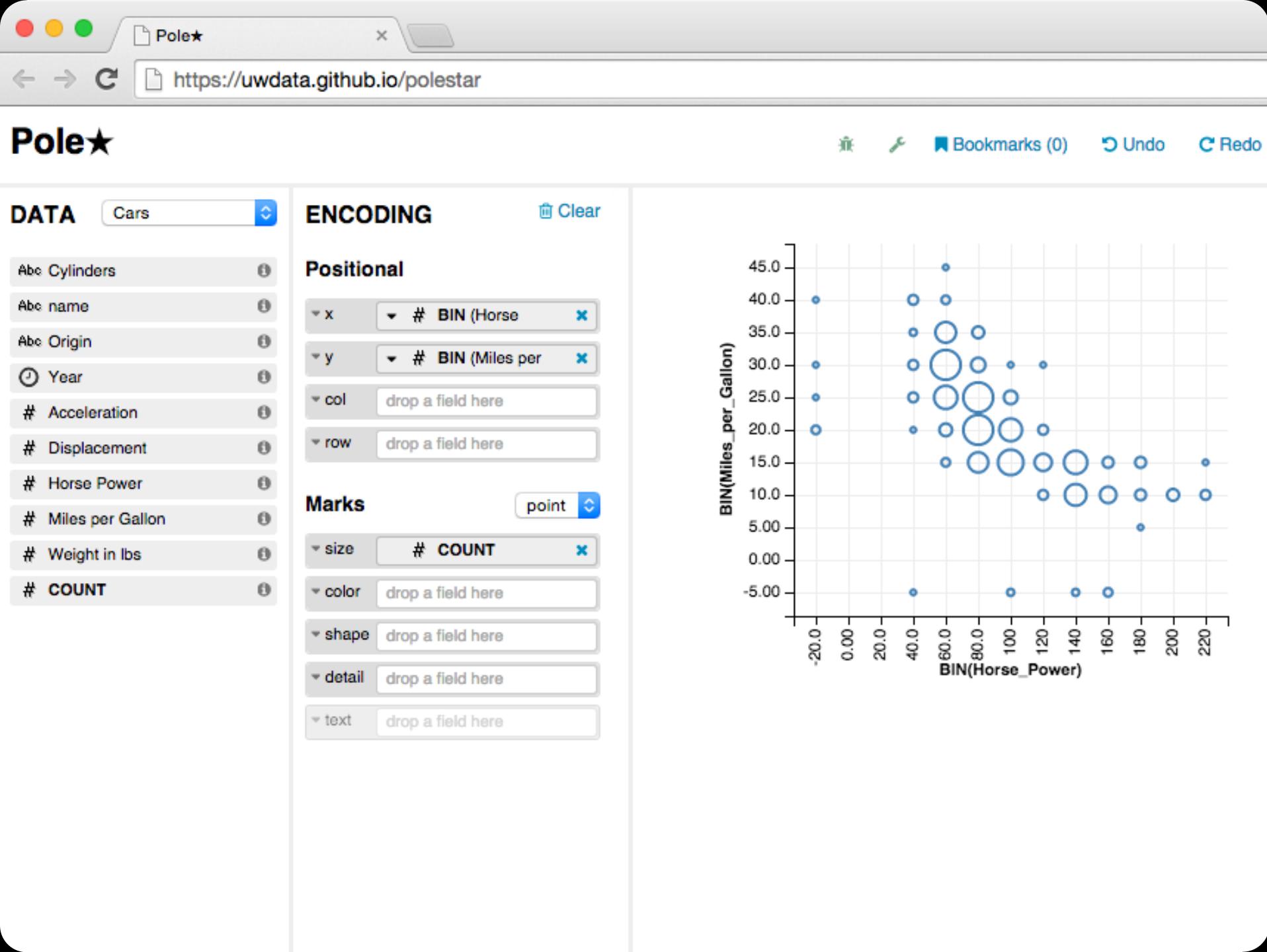
Canvas

Polestar

A graphical interface for **Vega-Lite**

Rapid visualization via drag-and-drop

Named in honor of **Polaris**, the research project that led to **Tableau**.



Polestar

Lyra

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Voyager

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Voyager

Reduce tedious manual specification

Voyager

Reduce tedious manual specification

Support early-stage data exploration

Encourage data coverage

Discourage premature fixation

Voyager

Reduce tedious manual specification

Support early-stage data exploration

Encourage data coverage

Discourage premature fixation

Approach: browse a gallery of visualizations

Voyager

Reduce tedious manual specification

Support early-stage data exploration

Encourage data coverage

Discourage premature fixation

Approach: browse a gallery of visualizations

Challenge - combinatorial explosion!

Voyager

Reduce tedious manual specification

Support early-stage data exploration

Encourage data coverage

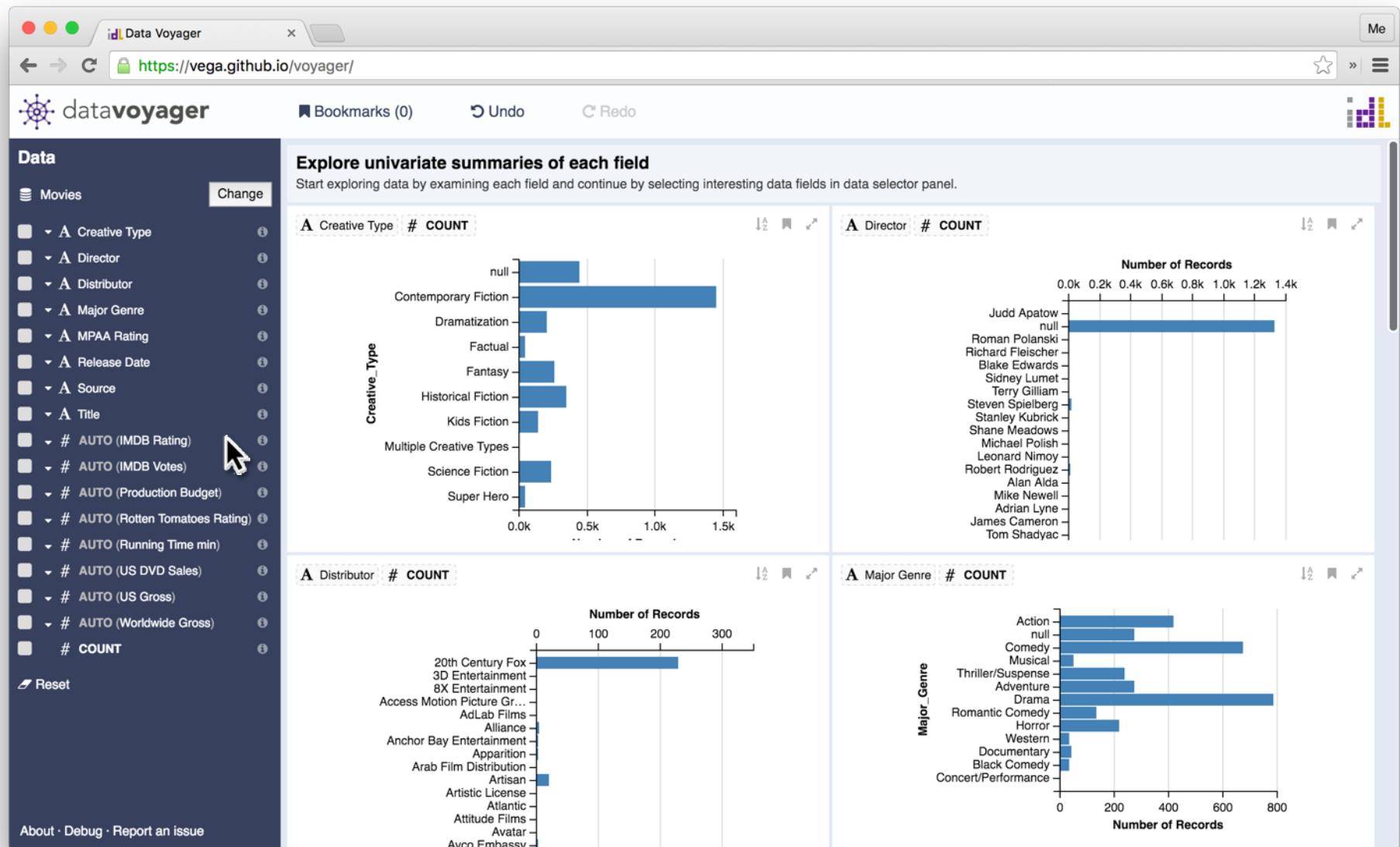
Discourage premature fixation

Approach: browse a gallery of visualizations

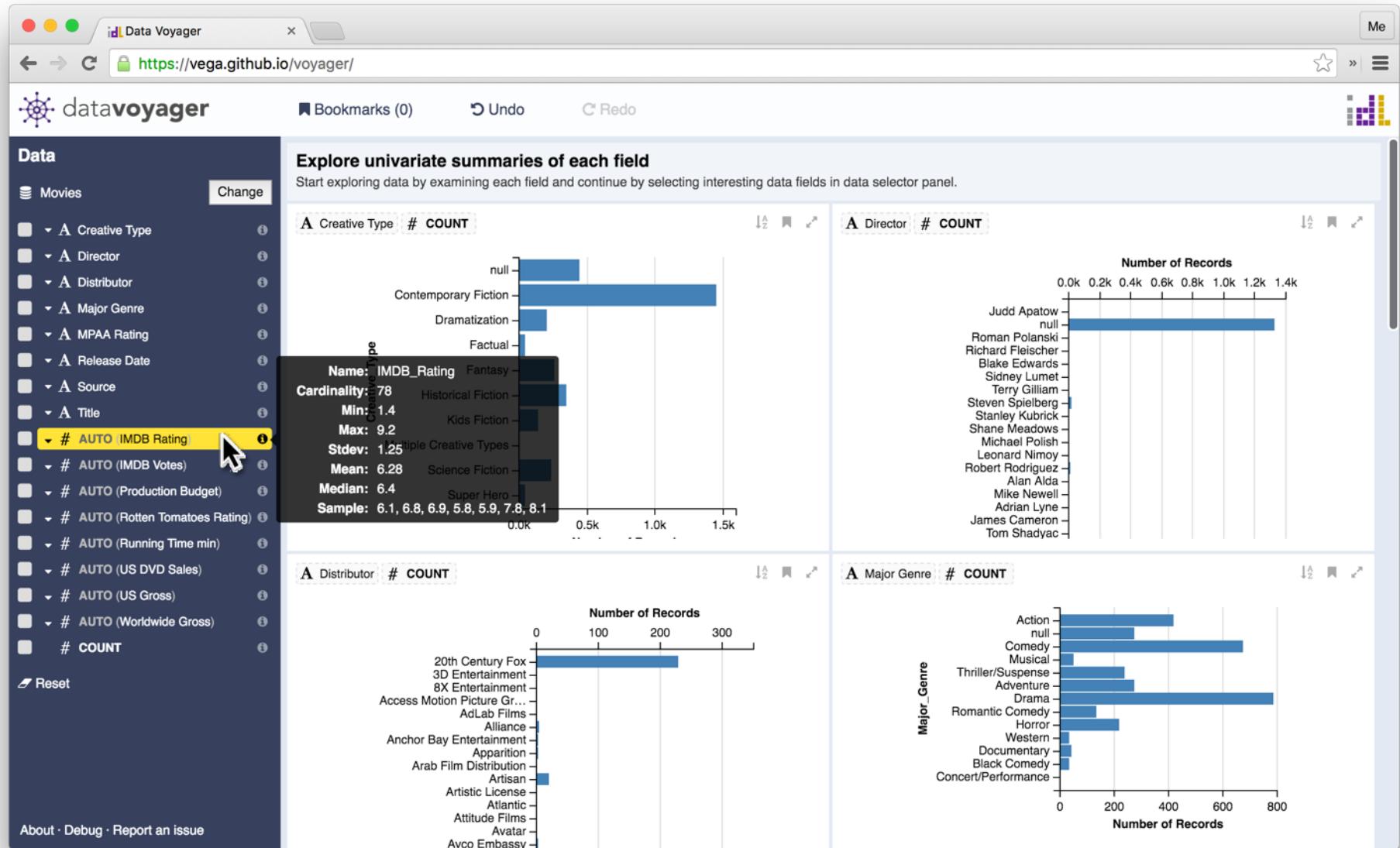
Challenge - combinatorial explosion!

Automatic recommendation of useful views

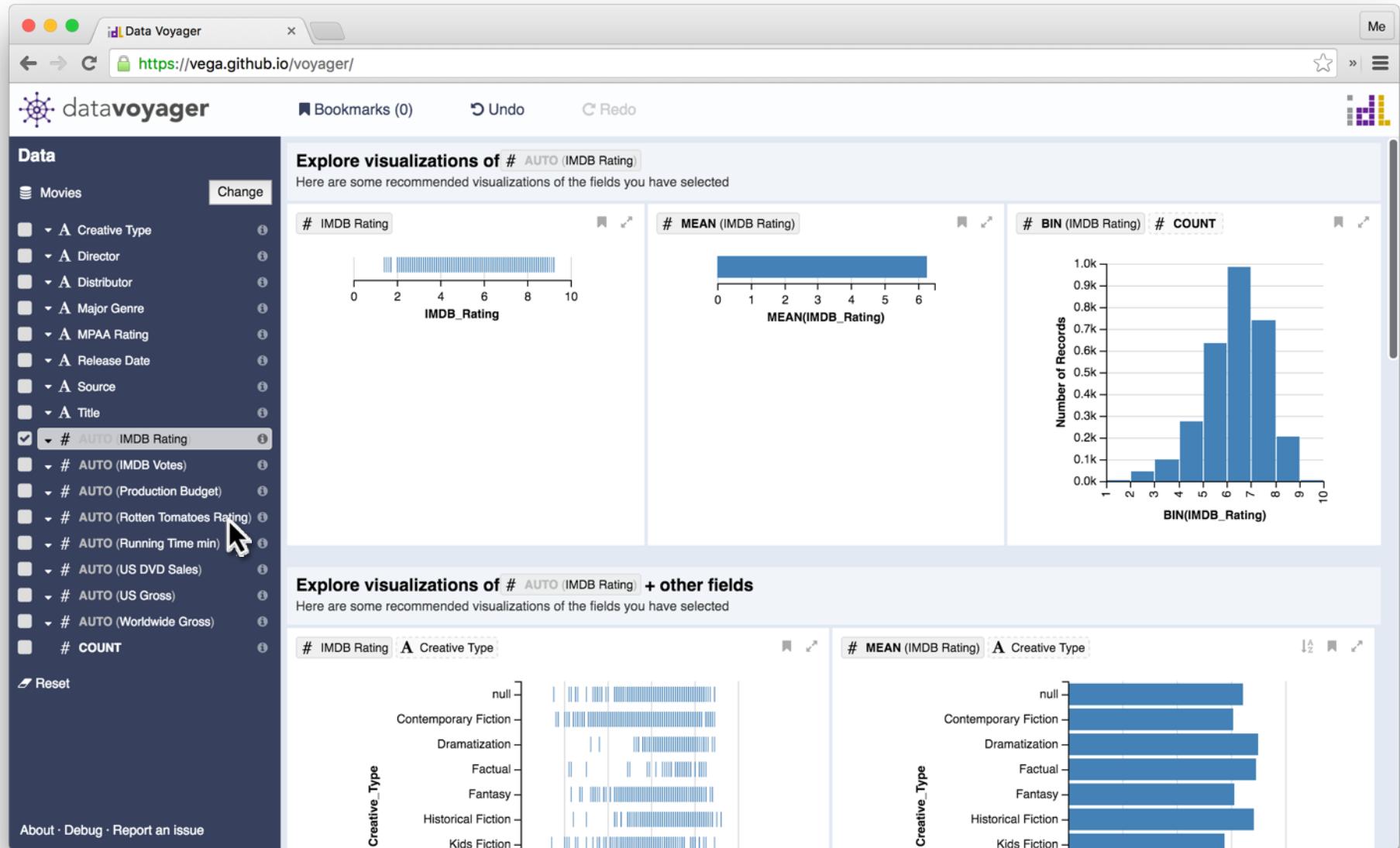
+ **end-user steering** to focus exploration



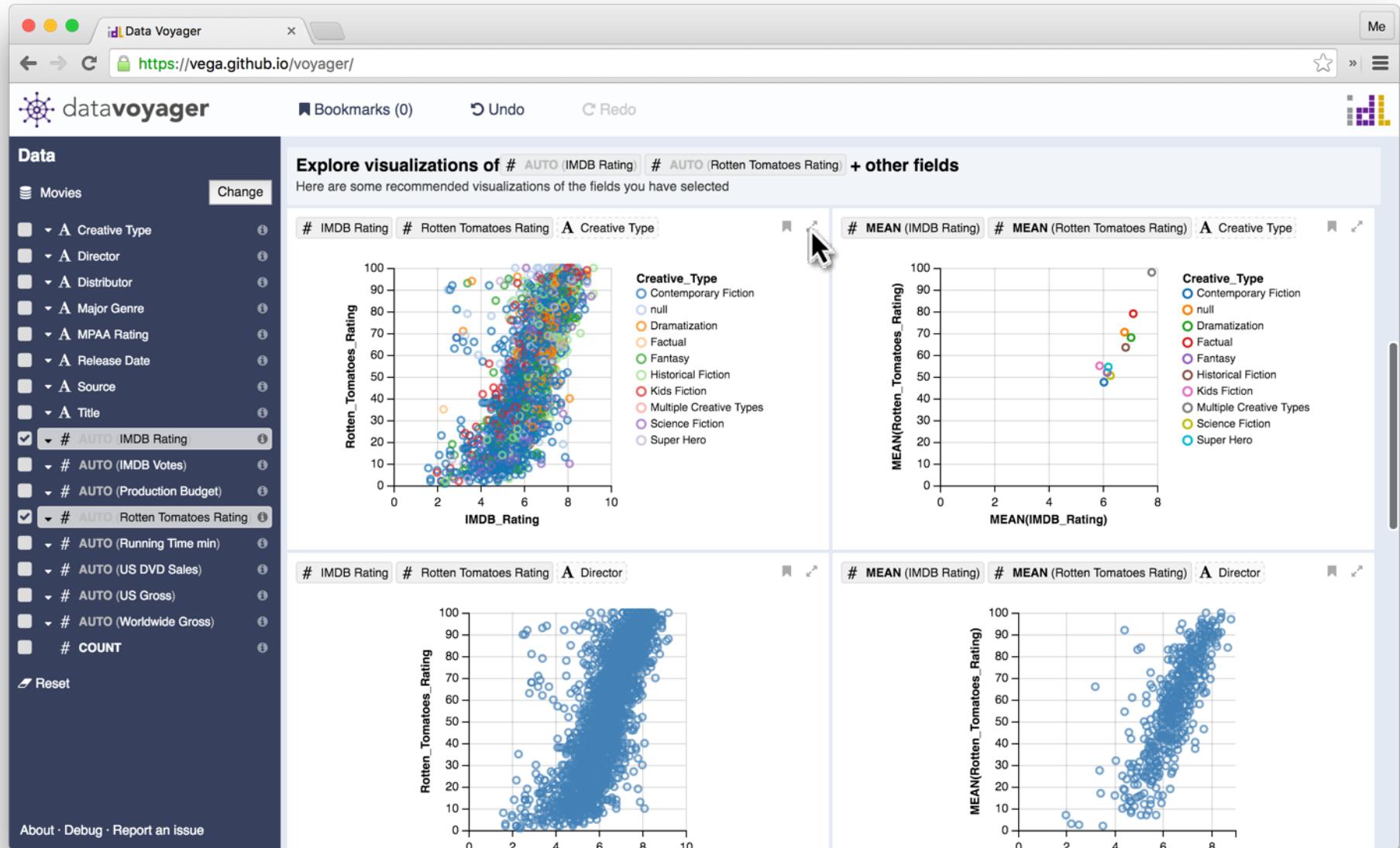
Voyager. Kanit Wongsuphasawat, Dominik Moritz et al. InfoVis'15



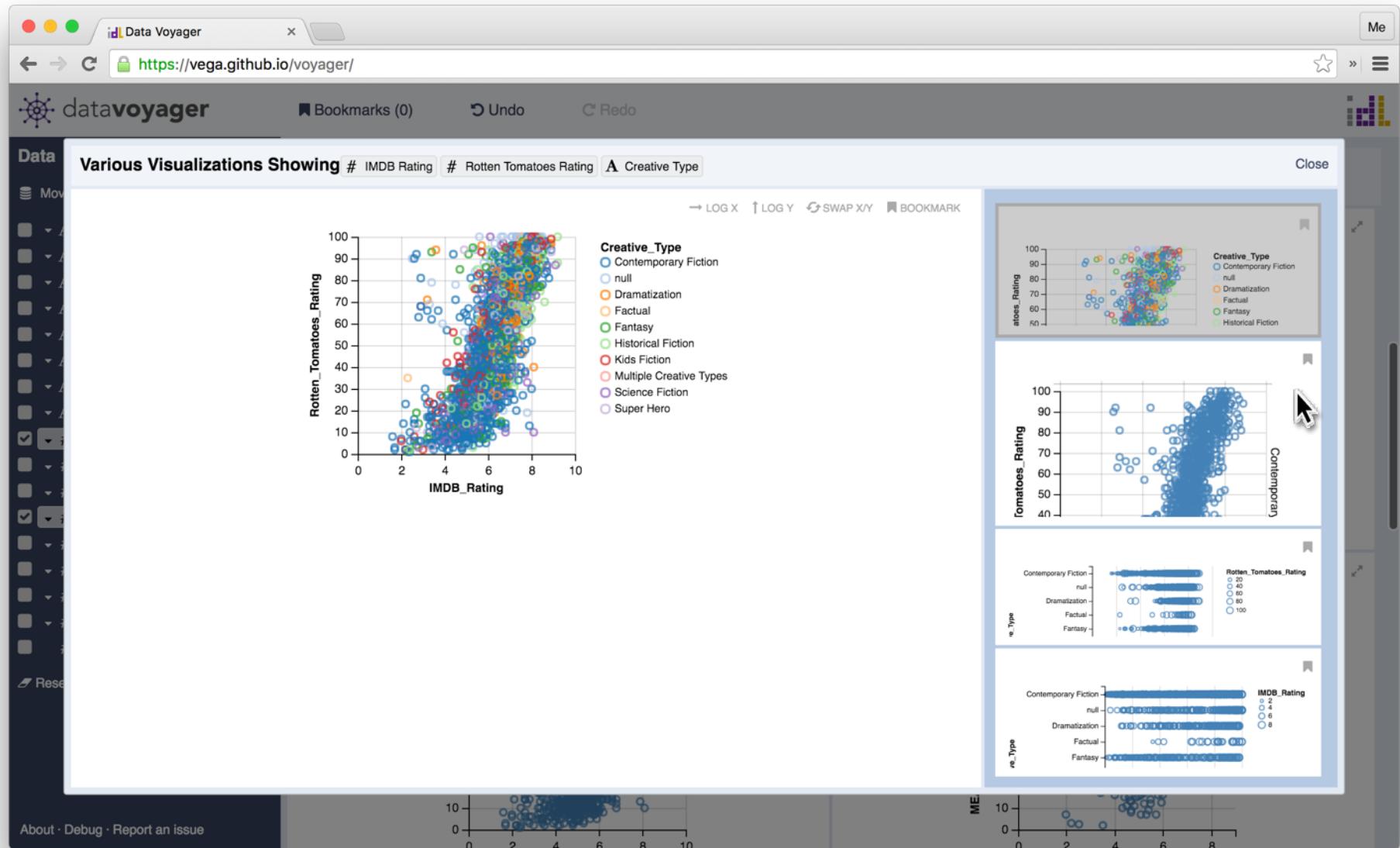
Voyager. Kanit Wongsuphasawat, Dominik Moritz et al. InfoVis'15



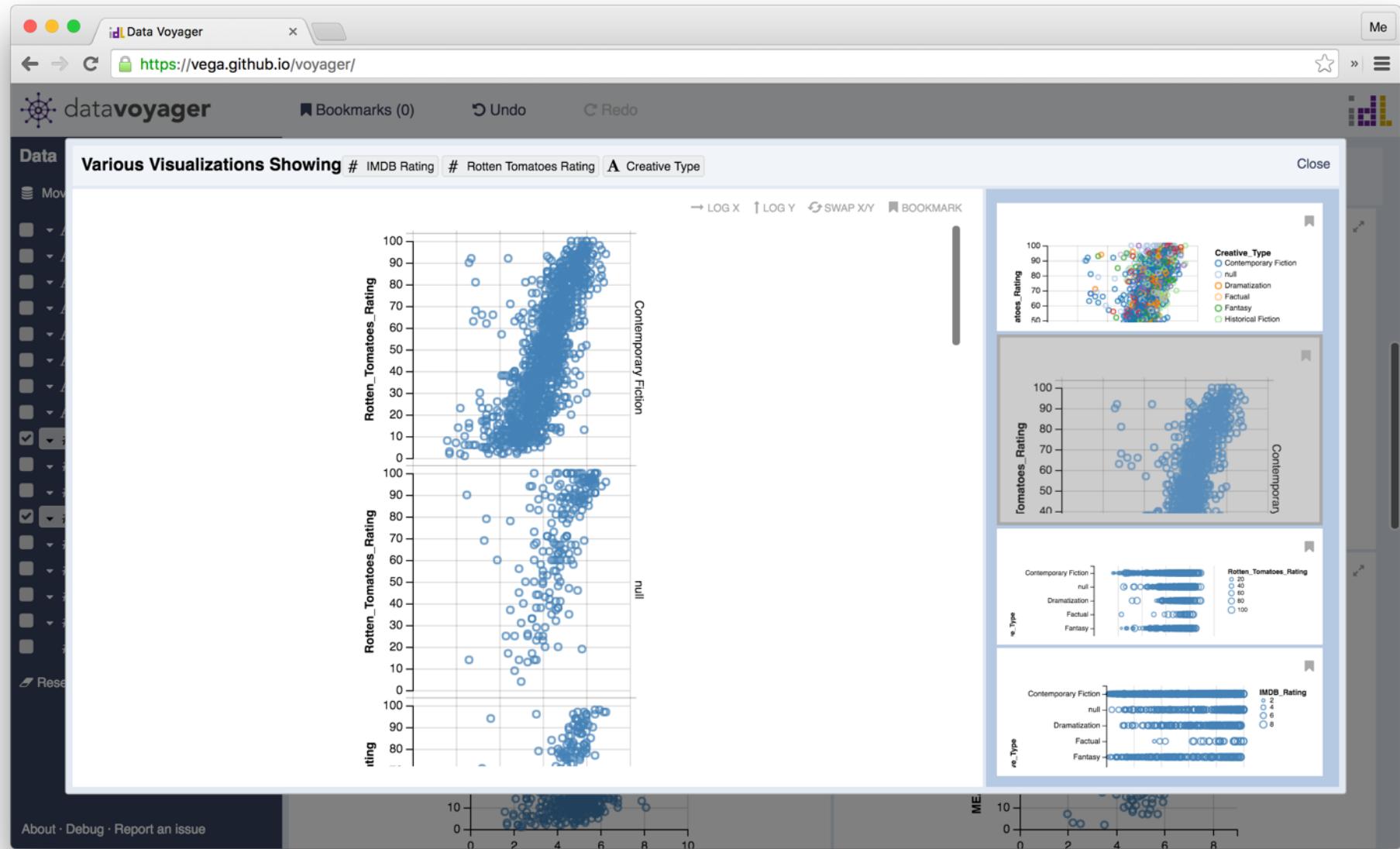
Voyager. Kanit Wongsuphasawat, Dominik Moritz et al. InfoVis'15



Voyager. Kanit Wongsuphasawat, Dominik Moritz et al. InfoVis'15



Voyager. Kanit Wongsuphasawat, Dominik Moritz et al. *InfoVis'15*



Voyager. Kanit Wongsuphasawat, Dominik Moritz et al. *InfoVis'15*



User



Data Set



User



User

Data Schema
& Statistics

Compass

Recommendation Engine



Voyager

Visualization Browser

1. Select **data variables**
2. Apply **transformations**
3. Pick visual **encodings**



User

Data Schema
& Statistics

Compass

Recommendation Engine



Voyager

Visualization Browser

Constrain & rank choices
by **data type, statistics** &
perceptual principles.



User

Compass

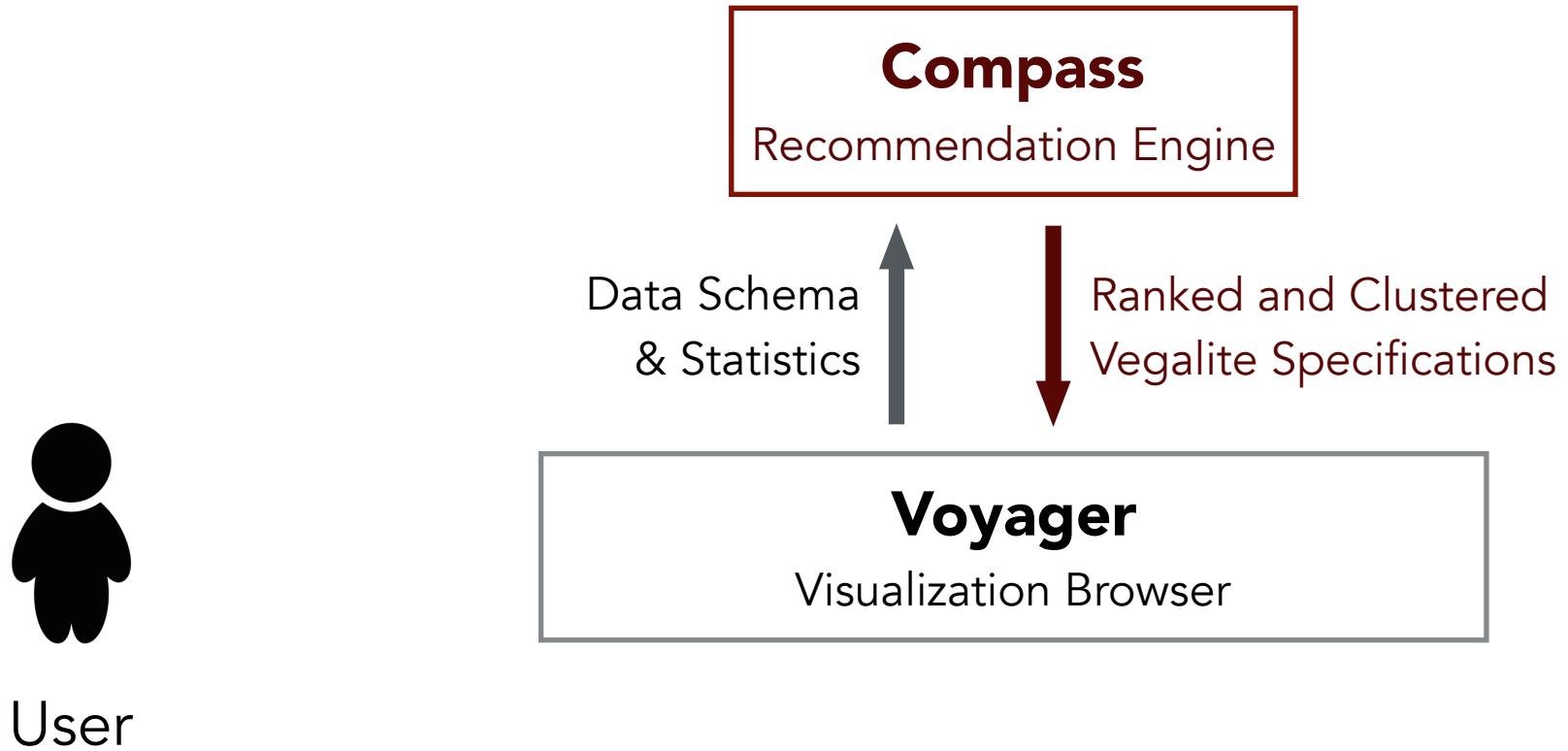
Recommendation Engine

Data Schema
& Statistics



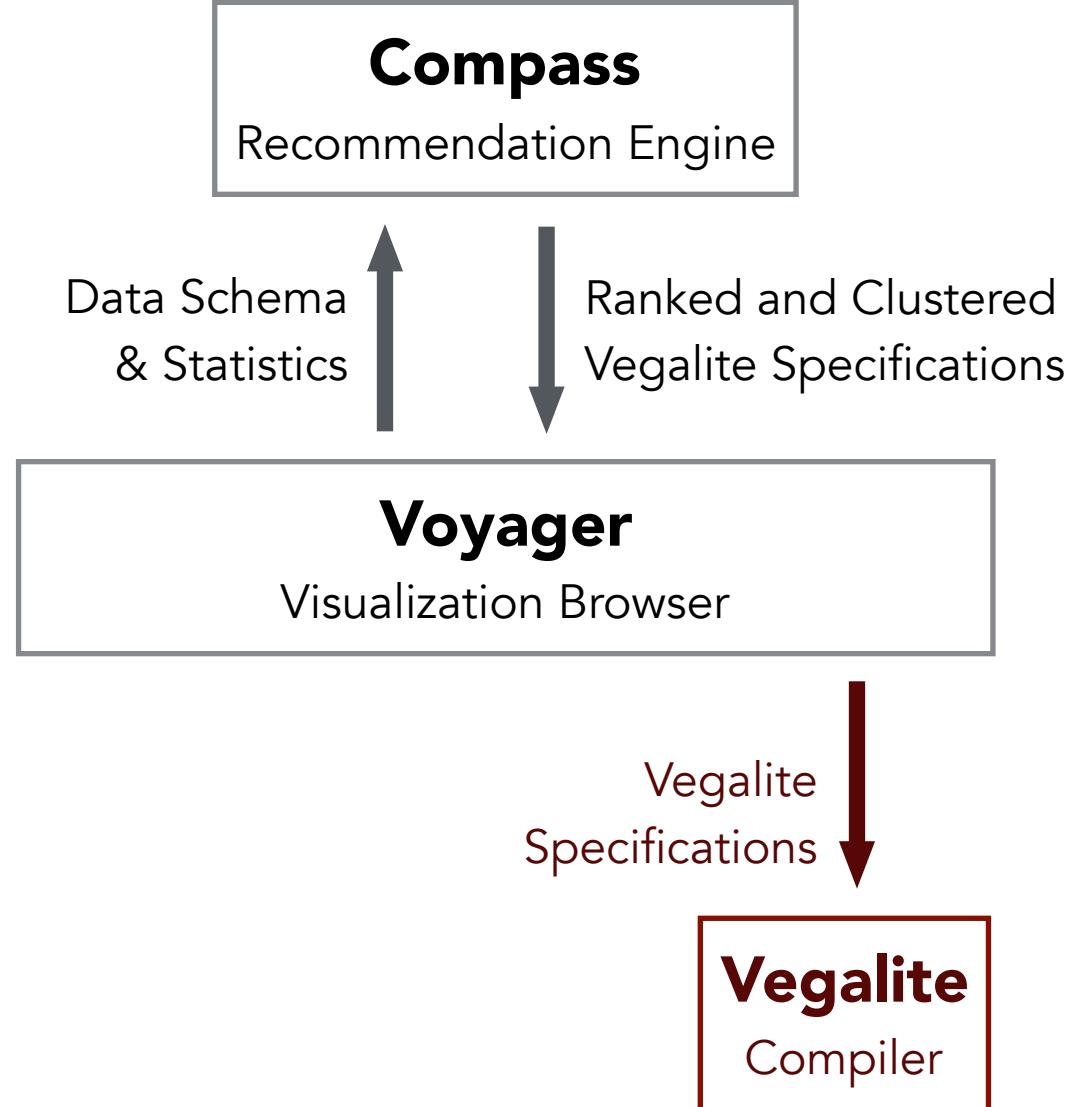
Voyager

Visualization Browser





User



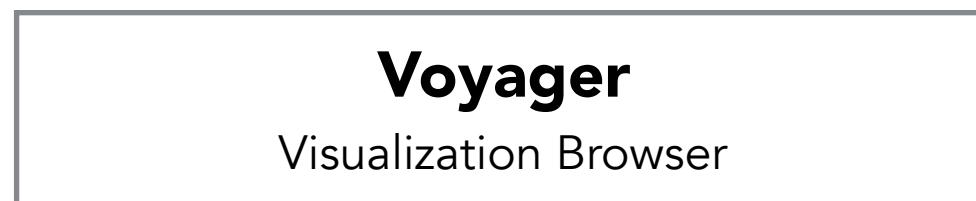


User



Data Schema
& Statistics

Ranked and Clustered
Vegalite Specifications

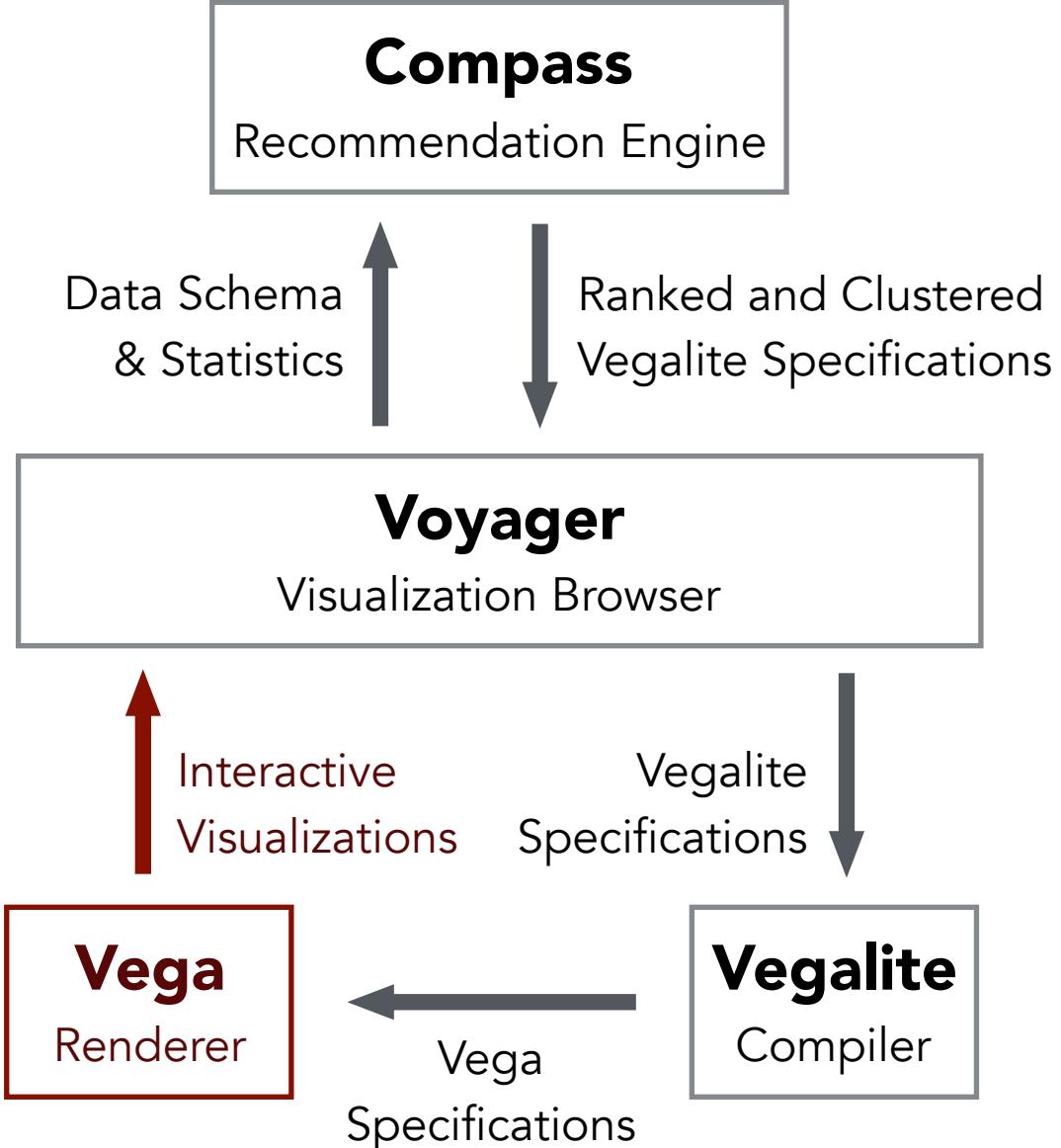


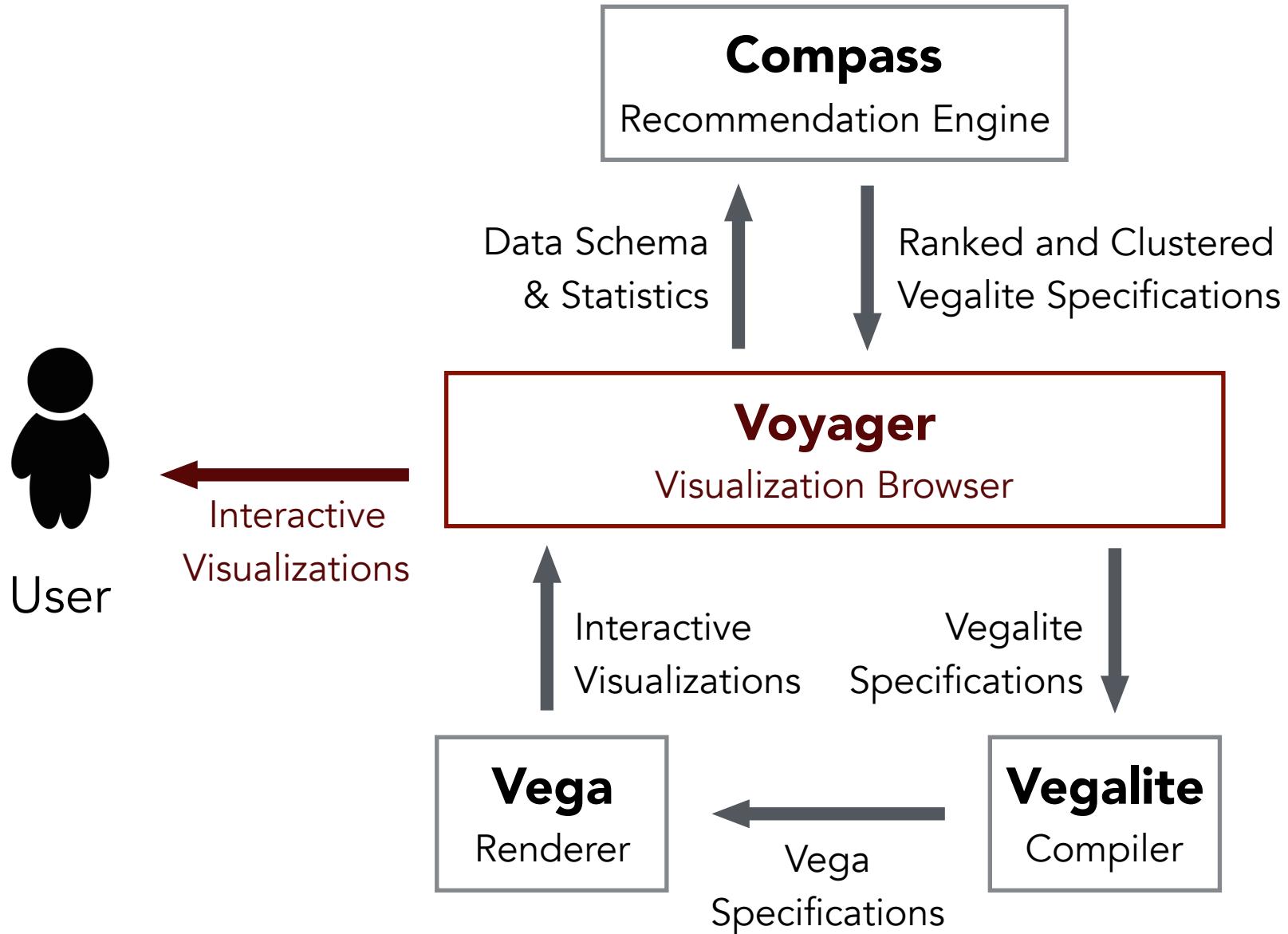
Vegalite
Specifications

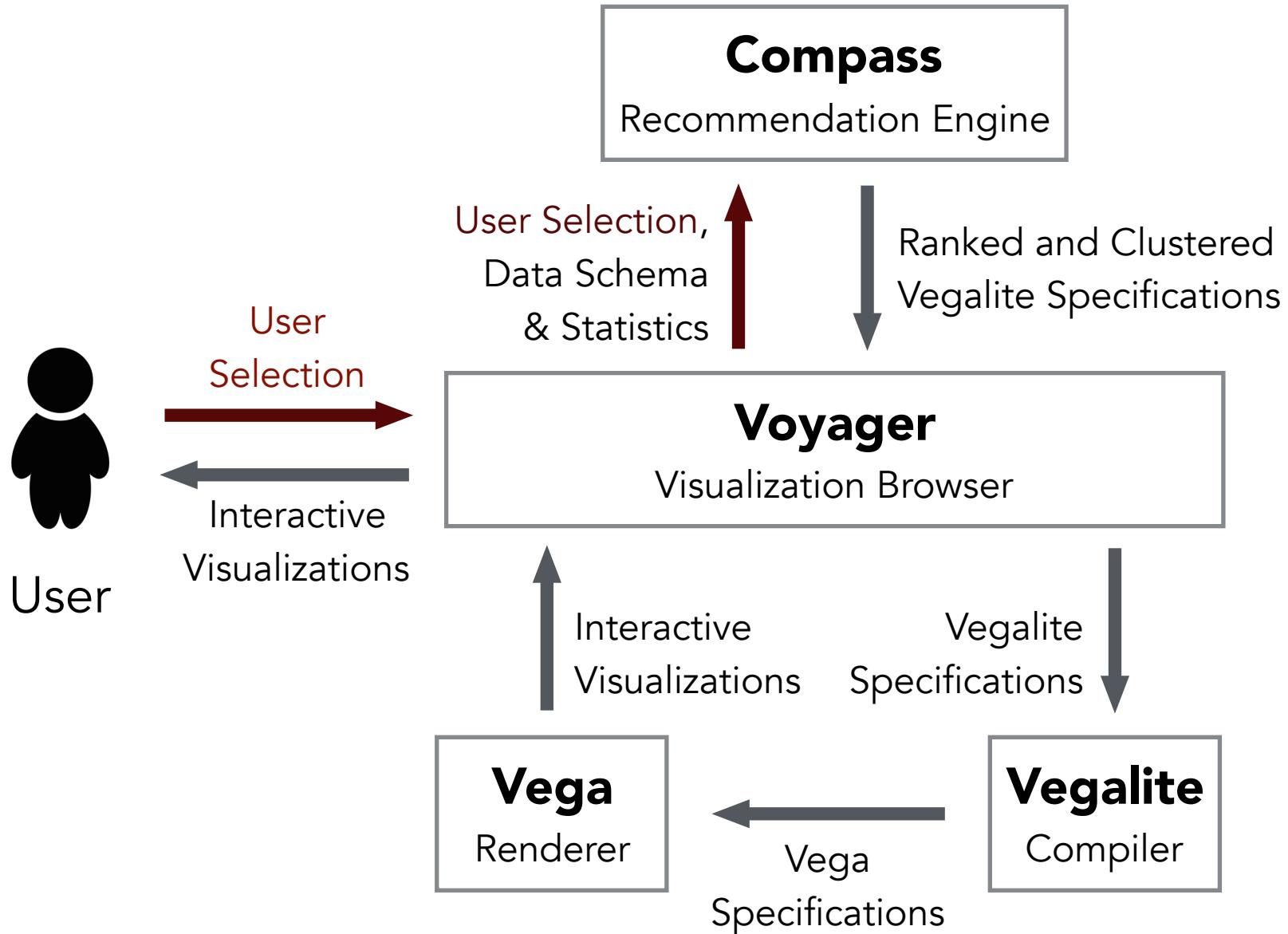




User







Improves data coverage!

+3x variable sets shown

+1.5x more interacted with



User

User Selection

Interactive
Visualizations

Compass

Recommendation Engine

User Selection,
Data Schema
& Statistics

Ranked and Clustered
Vegalite Specifications

Voyager

Visualization Browser

Interactive
Visualizations

Vegalite
Specifications

Vega

Renderer

Vega
Specifications

Vegalite

Compiler

Voyager

Polestar

Lyra

Vegalite

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Voyager

Polestar

Vegalite

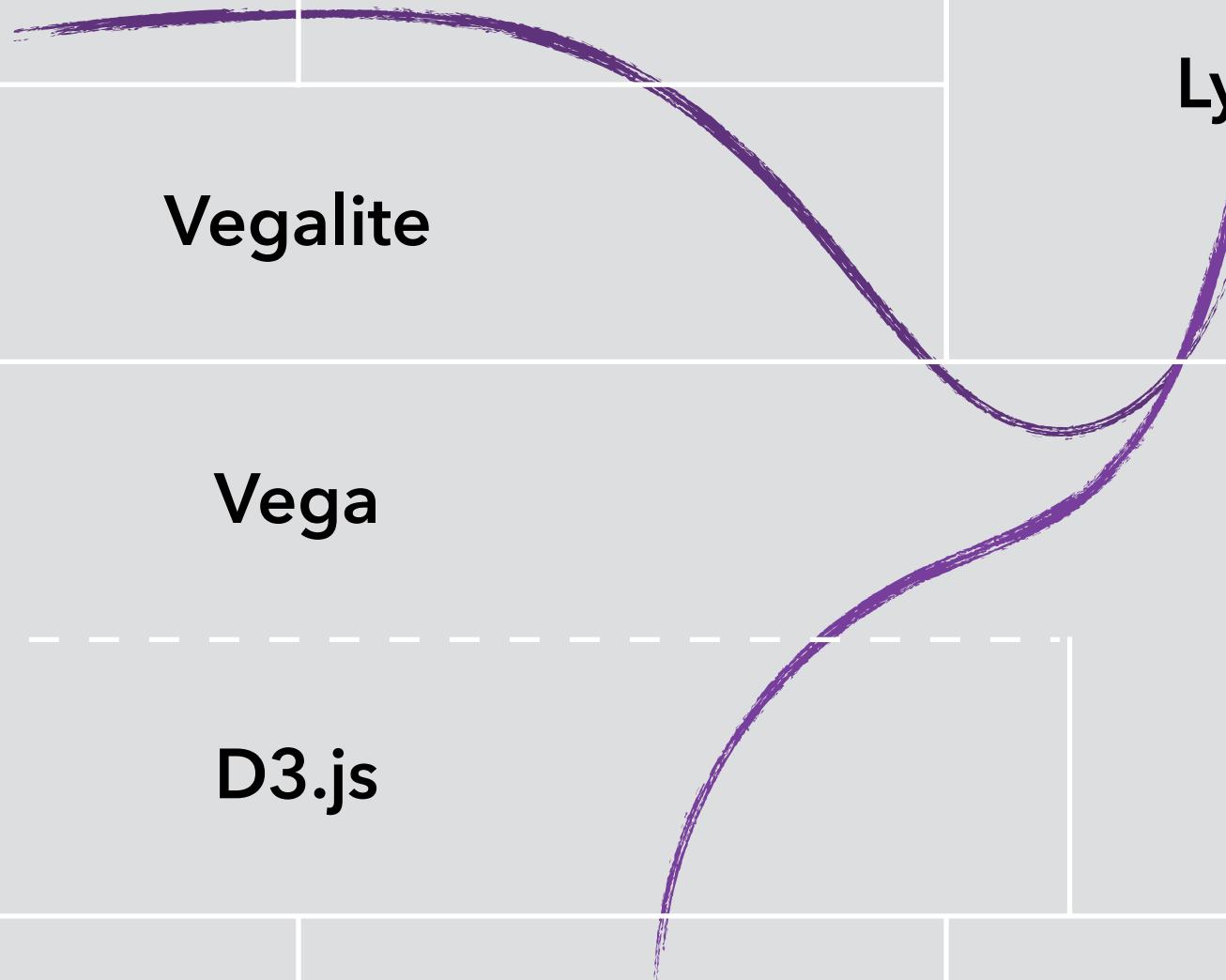
Vega

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Lyra



Open Challenges

Designing interactions interactively

How to convey + depict interactions?

Enhancing the “gallery” experience

Rapid assessment of multiple graphics

Embedding large views in small spaces?

Improving visualization recommenders

Learning from users, domain adaptation

Debugging tools