

# **data visualization animations**

react week 2019  
friday, july 19th  
aucher serr

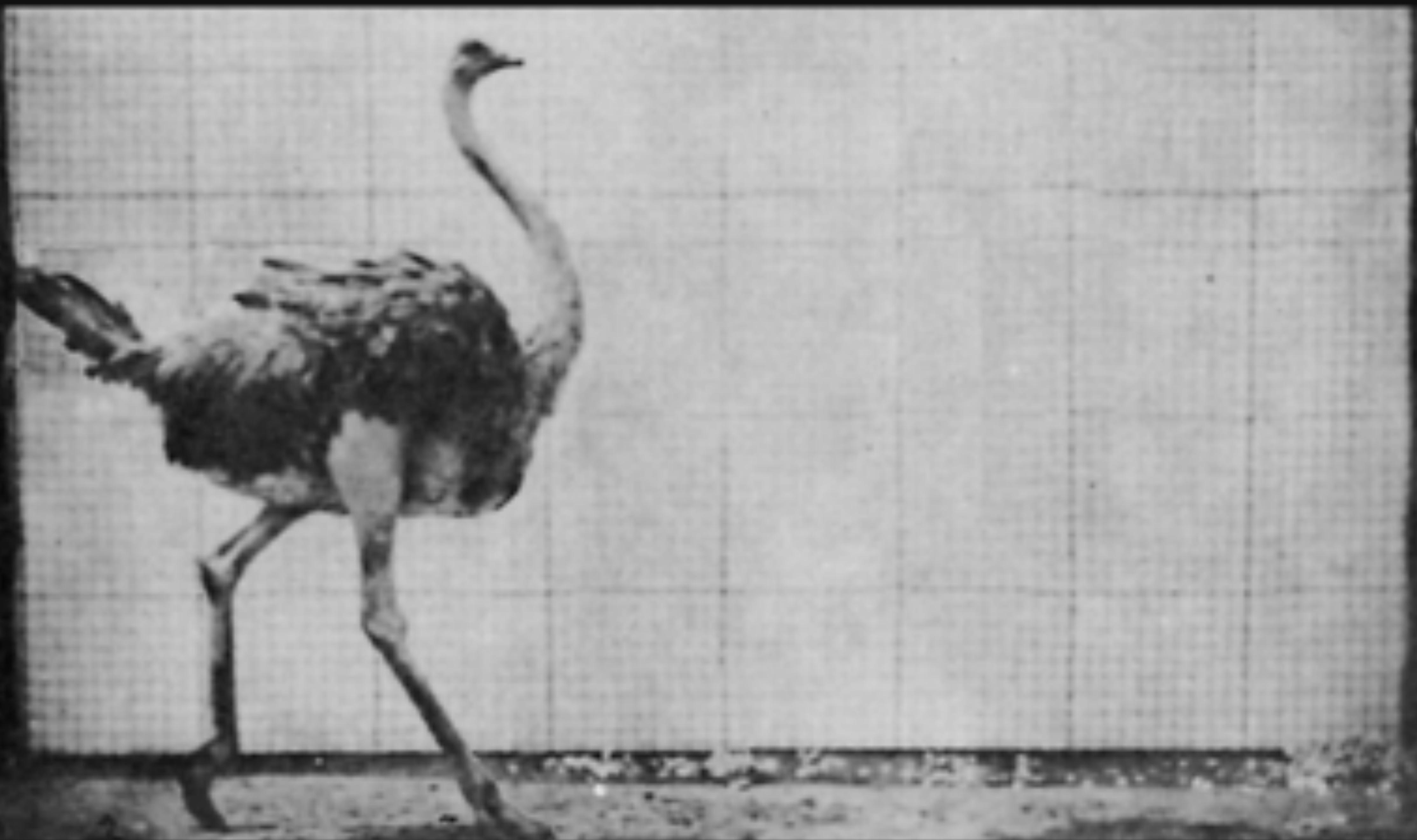
@aucher\_serr  auchers  
aucher.serr@gmail.com



@2nfo

but first...  
**a little  
experiment**

@aucher\_serr



2<sup>n</sup>

@2nfo

**life is a  
journey...**  
(and so are many  
animations)



where I  
spend  
my days  
now

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Two-N website. At the top right, there are links for 'ABOUT', 'PROCESS', 'PROJECTS', and 'CAREERS'. The main content area features a large image of a person working at a desk with multiple monitors. Overlaid on this image is a code snippet in a stylized font:

```
interface TwoN {  
    teamWork: (data: any) => dreamWork;  
}
```

Below the image, there are several smaller sections with data visualizations:

- NBC Election**: A map of the United States showing election results by state.
- Better Buying**: A bar chart comparing various media outlets (USA, TNT, ION, CNN, HGTV, FTFM, TEL, MSNBC, HIST, AEN, FOOD, FX, DISC) across different categories.
- Talent Lab**: A visualization showing a network of nodes and connections.
- WisdomTree Portfolio Developer**: A bar chart showing portfolio details for IWM (16.0%) and DGRE.
- Ending Child Marriage in India**: A visualization showing a progress bar at 67.4% for Rajasthan.
- Global Gender Gap Report Browser**: A visualization showing a progress bar for India.



@2nfo

@aucher\_serr

...we spend  
**A LOT** of time  
thinking about  
our animations



@2nfo

@aucher\_serr

# why animations?



@2nfo

@aucher\_serr

sally

nice

had

her

a

phone

day

forgot



@2nfo

@aucher\_serr

sally had a nice day

although unfortunately , but — because

she forgot her phone

# Proposition:

animations are to data visualization what  
punctuation/conjunctions are to language



@2nfo

@aucher\_serr

"Grammar makes language expressive. A language consisting of words and no grammar (statement = word) expresses only as many ideas as there are words. **By specifying how words are combined in statements, a grammar expands a language's scope.**"

"Grammar of Graphics" by Leland Wilkinson



Since 2006, the World Economic Forum (WEF) has published an annual [Global Gender Gap Report](#). In these reports, WEF "quantifies the magnitude of gender disparities and tracks their progress over time, with a specific focus on the relative gaps between women and men across four key areas: health, education, economy and politics."

The latest annual report, released in November 2016, covers 144 countries and marks the 11th installment. As the WEF notes, "more than a decade of data has revealed that progress is still too slow for realizing the full potential of one half of humanity within our lifetimes."

We analyzed this data and built an interactive story to explore it.

Scroll ↓



This interactive report was designed and built by [TWO-N](#), based on data from the World Economic Forum. To learn more about The Global Gender Gap Report, visit the [report's website](#).

[Download the full Global Gender Gap Report by WEF \(PDF\)](#)

[Download full raw data \(CSV\)](#)



TWO-N is an award-winning data visualization agency based in New York City. We design and build interactive software that turns data into graphically delightful informative experiences. To learn more about TWO-N, visit [two-n.com](#).

 SHARE

# *Extensive Data Shows Punishing Reach of Racism for Black Boys*

By EMILY BADGER, CLAIRE CAIN MILLER, ADAM PEARCE and KEVIN QUEALY MARCH 19, 2018

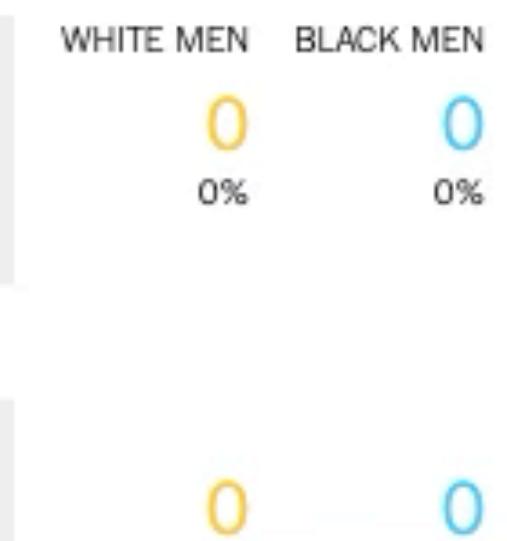
Black boys raised in America, even in the wealthiest families and living in some of the most well-to-do neighborhoods, still earn less in adulthood than white boys with similar backgrounds, according to a sweeping new study that traced the lives of millions of children.

White boys who grow up rich are likely to remain that way. Black boys raised at the top, however, are more likely to become poor than to stay wealthy in their own adult households.

Follow the lives of 185 boys who grew up in rich families ...



...and see where they end up as adults:



# benefits

---

## **Information Efficiency**

we can pack in a lot more information by leveraging the temporal dimension.

## **Object Constancy**

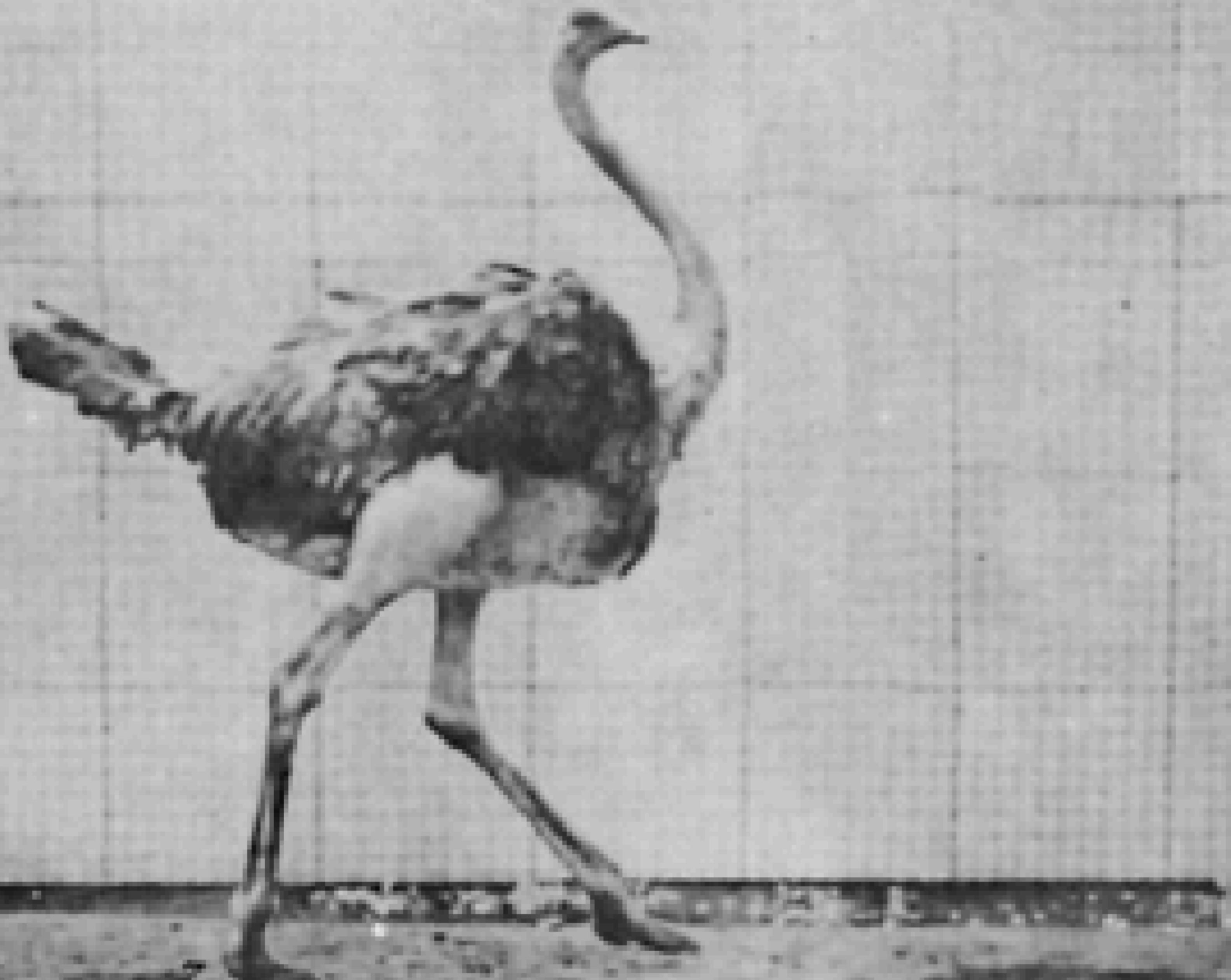
enables the user to track entities over time as they change form/shape/color.

## **Context and Way-finding**

allows us to show how data is structured and how things relate to each other.

## **Engaging and Playful**

drawing users in by giving them opportunities to explore data in new ways.





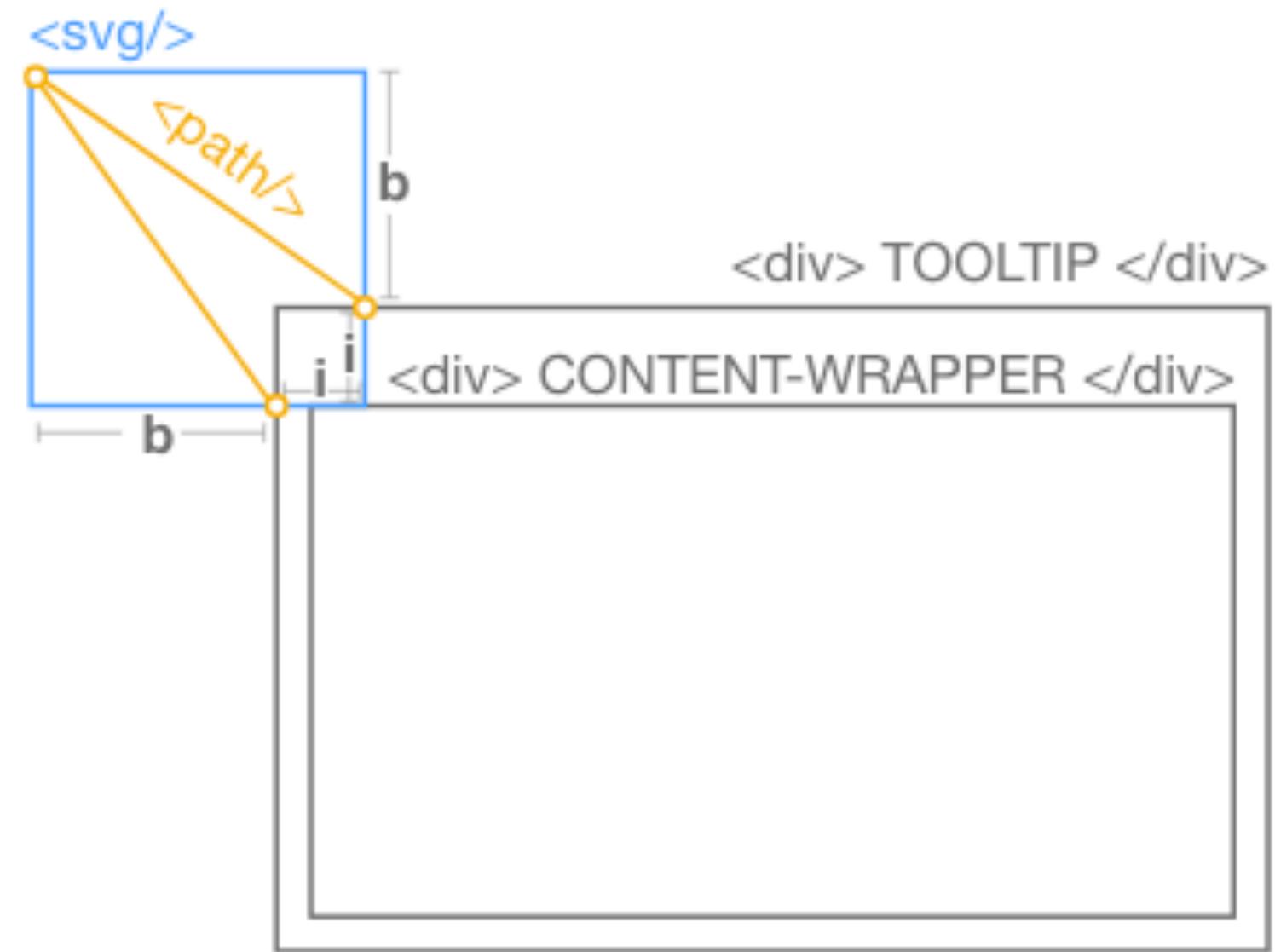
@2nfo

@aucher\_serr

# **case study: our humble tooltip**

<div> CONTAINING ELEMENT – MUST BE 'POSITION: RELATIVE/ABSOLUTE' <div>

TL - 'top-left'



TR - 'top-right'

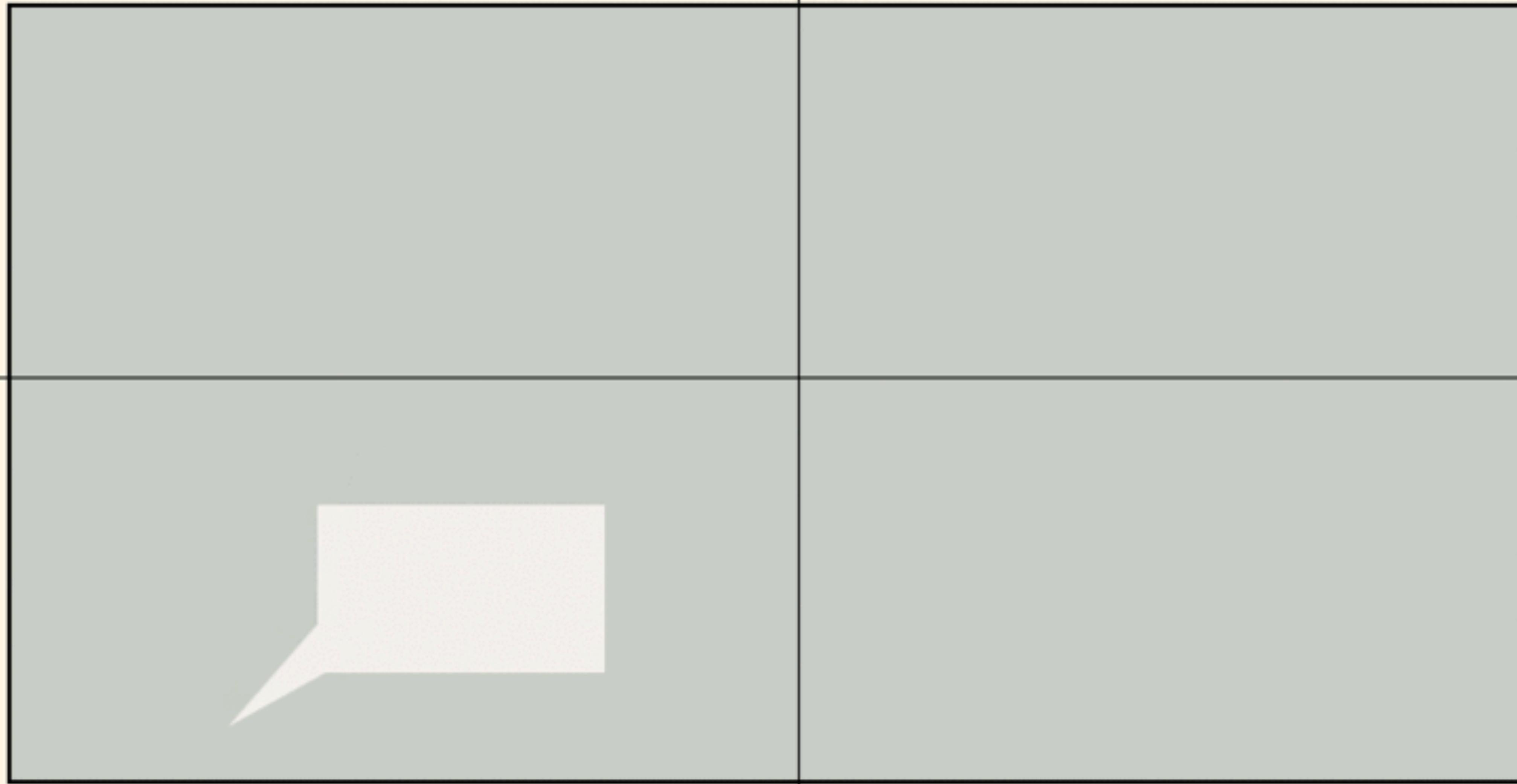
BL - 'bottom-left'

BR - 'bottom-right'

2<sup>n</sup>

@2nfo

@aucher\_serr



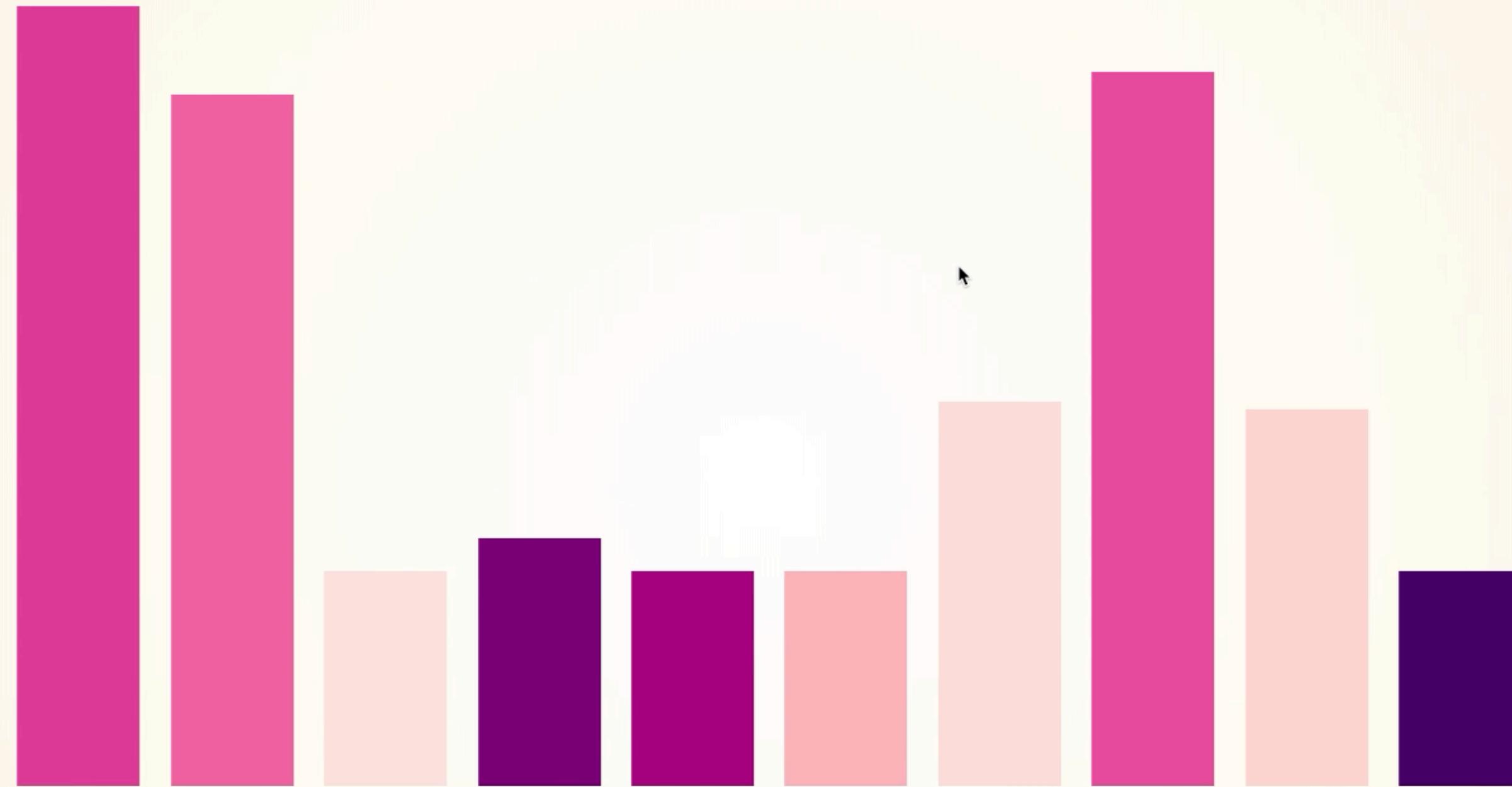


@2nfo

@aucher\_serr

# starting point

tooltip shows up whenever user hovers  
over a data element





@2nfo

```
const App = () => {
  ...
  return (
    <div className="App">
      <div className="chart-wrapper">
        {data.map((d, i) => (
          <div
            key={d.id}
            className="bar"
            onMouseOver={onMouseMove}
            style={{
              left: `${xScale(i)}px`,
              height: `${yScale(d.height)}px`,
              width: `${xScale.bandwidth()}px`,
              backgroundColor: `${colorScale(d.value)}`
            }}
          />
        )));
      </div>
      <Tooltip
        origin={origin}
        generateContent={generateContent}
        isVisible={isVisible}
        options={options}
      />
    </div>
  )
}
```

@aucher\_serr

```
1 const Tooltip = () => {
2 ...
3   return (
4     <div
5       className={"Tooltip"}
6       style={{
7         left: `${tooltipDims[X]}px`,
8         top: `${tooltipDims[Y]}px`,
9       }}
10    >
11      <div className="content-wrapper">
12        {generateContent()}
13      </div>
14      <svg className="tooltip-tail">
15        <path/>
16      </svg>
17    </div>
18  );
19 }
```



@2nfo

@aucher\_serr

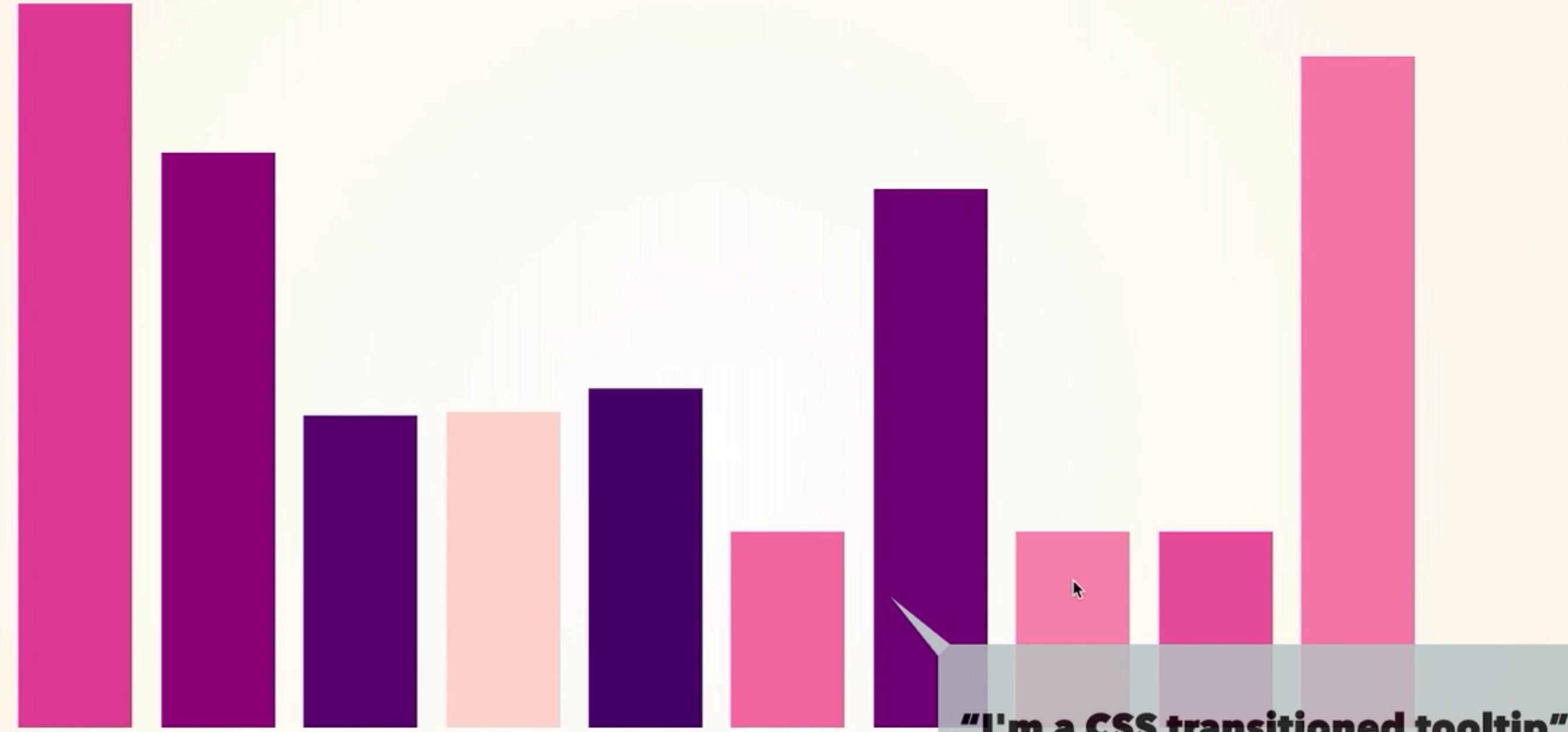
# adding delay

tooltip moves to new location but  
transitions there gradually

2<sup>n</sup>

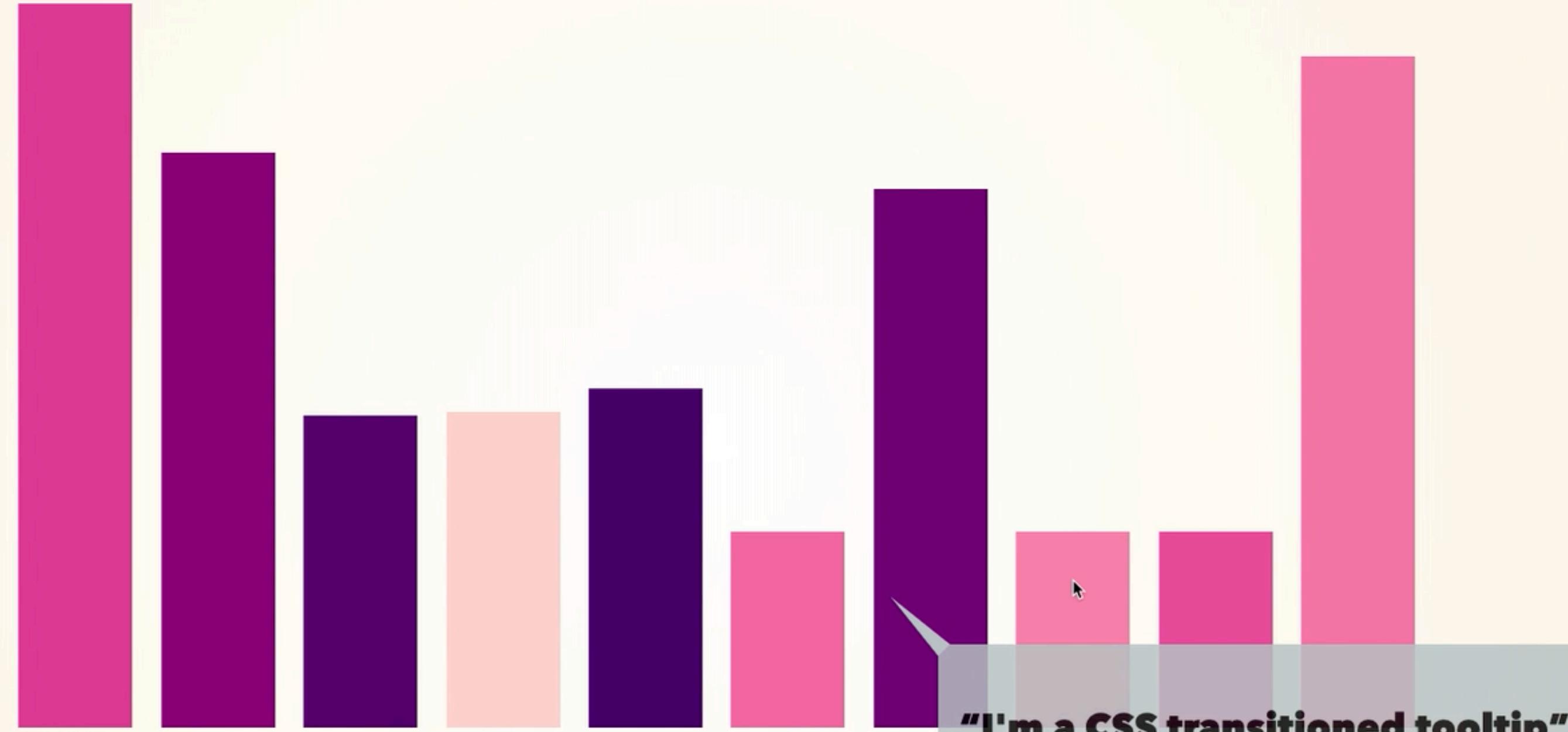
@2nfo

@aucher\_serr



```
1 const Tooltip = () => {
2 ...
3   return (
4     <div
5       className={"Tooltip"}
6       style={{
7         left: `${tooltipDims[X]}px`,
8         top: `${tooltipDims[Y]}px`,
9         transition: `top ${duration}ms , left ${duration}ms`
10      }}
11    >
12      <div className="content-wrapper">
13        {generateContent()}
14      </div>
15      <svg className="tooltip-tail">
16        <path/>
17      </svg>
18    </div>
19  );
20 }
```

```
1 const Tooltip = () => {
2 ...
3   return (
4     <div
5       className={"Tooltip"}
6       style={{
7         left: `${tooltipDims[X]}px`,
8         top: `${tooltipDims[Y]}px`,
9         transition: `top ${duration}ms , left ${duration}ms`
10      }}
11    >
12      <div className="content-wrapper">
13        {generateContent()}
14      </div>
15      <svg className="tooltip-tail">
16        <path/>
17      </svg>
18    </div>
19  );
20 }
```



# blooper interlude

read: path transitions can be hard!



@2nfo

```
1 const Tooltip = ({origin}) => {
2
3   useEffect(() => {
4     // Maths
5     const prevPath = calculatePath(prevOrigin)
6     const path = calculatePath(origin)
7
8     d3.select(pathRef)
9       .attr("d", prevPath)
10      .transition()
11      .attr("d", path)
12    }, [origin])
13
14  return (
15    <div className={"Tooltip"}>
16      <div className="content-wrapper">
17        {generateContent()}
18      </div>
19      <svg className="tooltip-tail">
20        <path ref={pathRef}/>
21      </svg>
22    </div>
23  );}
```

@aucher\_serr

## Tooltip

Graph Content

TempContent



2<sup>n</sup>

@2nfo

@aucher\_serr

## Tooltip

Graph Content

TempContent



@2nfo

@aucher\_serr

# final tooltip

css moves tooltip container, path is  
recalculated on each frame with  
RequestAnimationFrame





@2nfo

```
1 const Tooltip = ({ origin }) => {
2   ...
3   useEffect(() => {
4
5     const animate = () => {
6       // Maths, updates path
7       const isDone = updatePath()
8
9       if (!isDone) {
10         return window.requestAnimationFrame(animate)
11       }
12     }
13
14     animate()
15   }, [origin])
16
17   return (
18     <div className={'Tooltip'}>
19       <div className="content-wrapper">{generateContent()}</div>
20       <svg className="tooltip-tail">
21         <path ref={pathRef} />
22       </svg>
23     </div>
24   )
25 }
26
```

@aucher\_serr

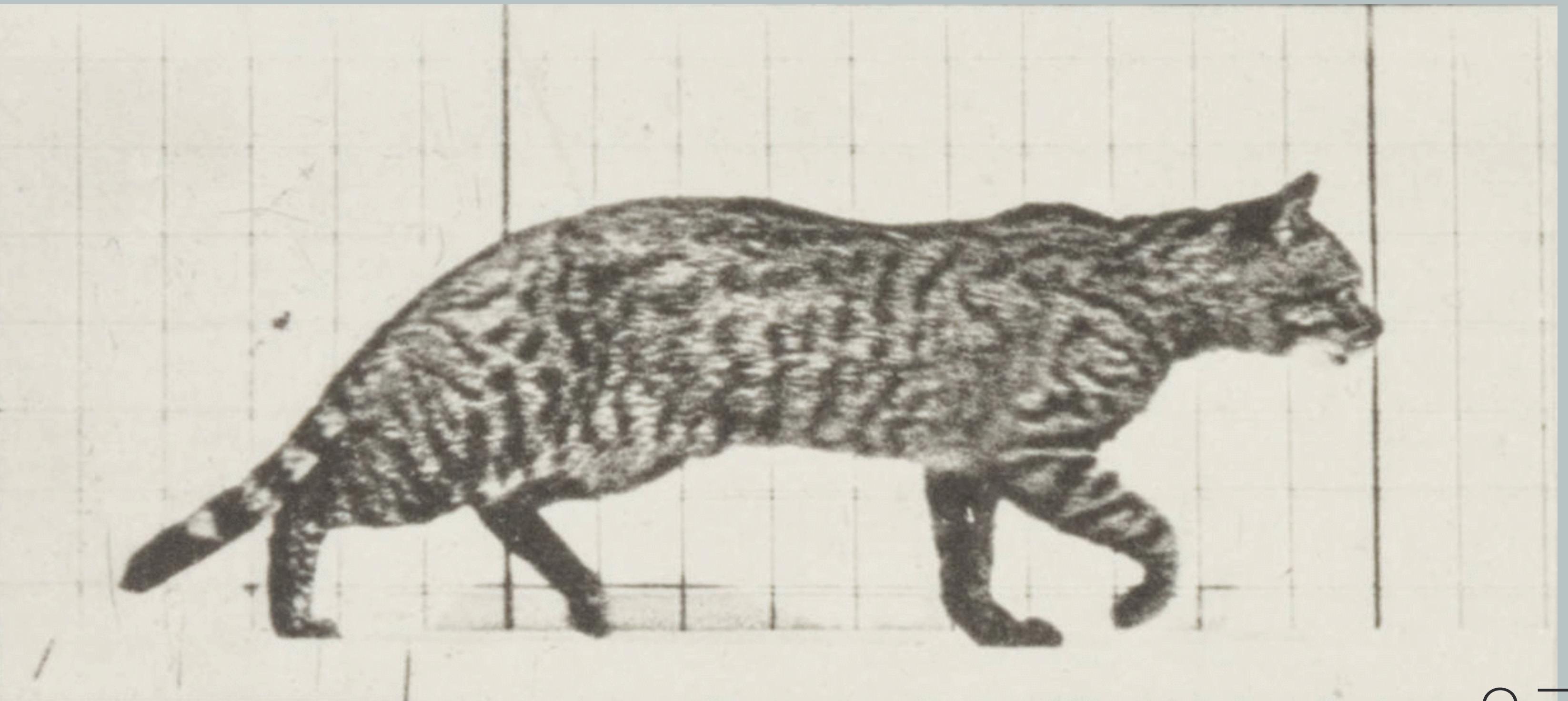


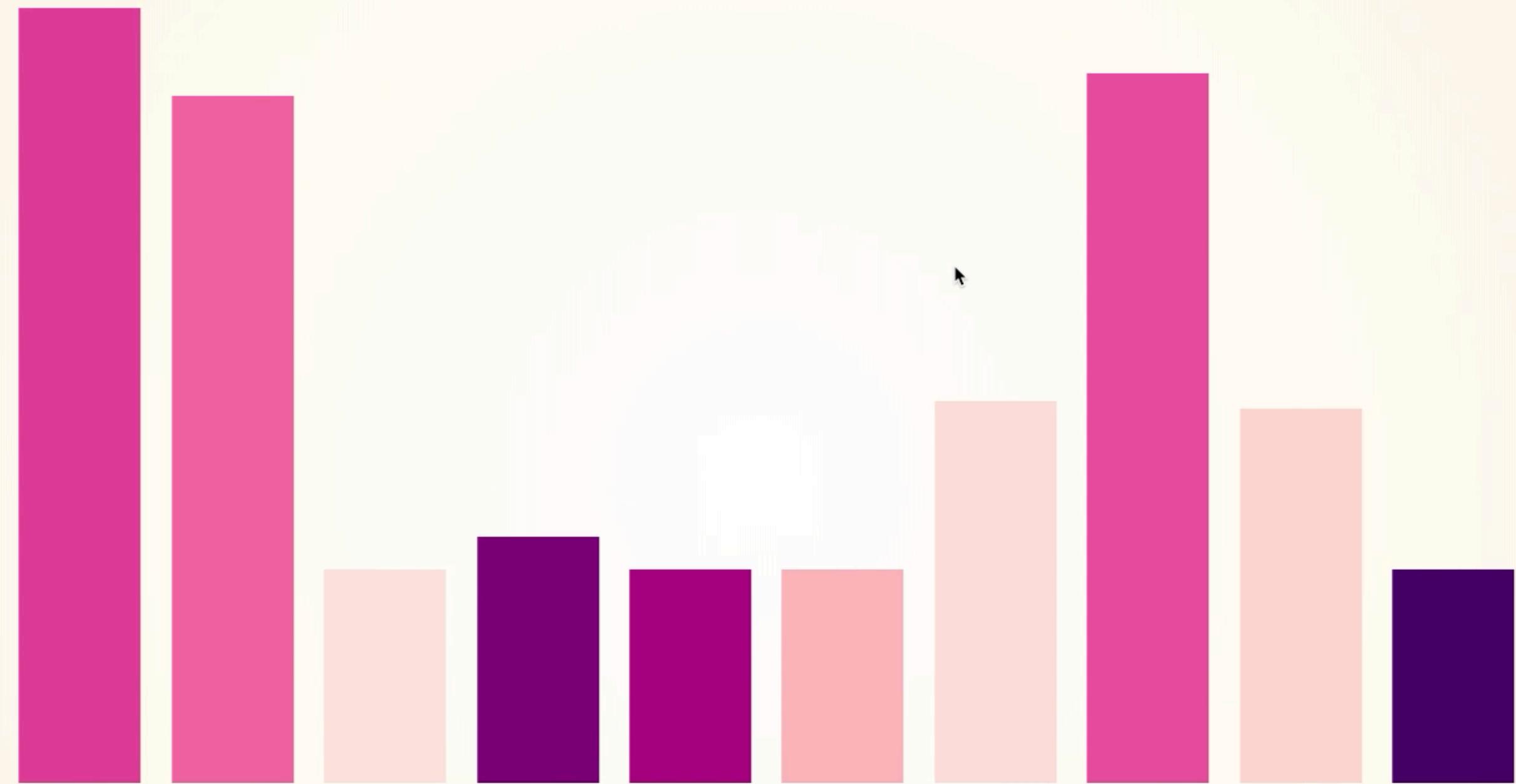
@2nfo

```
1 const Tooltip = ({ origin }) => {
2   ...
3   useEffect(() => {
4     ...
5     const animate = () => {
6       // Maths, updates path
7       const isDone = updatePath()
8
9       if (!isDone) {
10         return window.requestAnimationFrame(animate)
11       }
12     }
13
14     animate()
15   }, [origin])
16
17   return (
18     <div className={'Tooltip'}>
19       <div className="content-wrapper">{generateContent()}</div>
20       <svg className="tooltip-tail">
21         <path ref={pathRef} />
22       </svg>
23     </div>
24   )
25 }
26
```

@aucher\_serr

# how this works

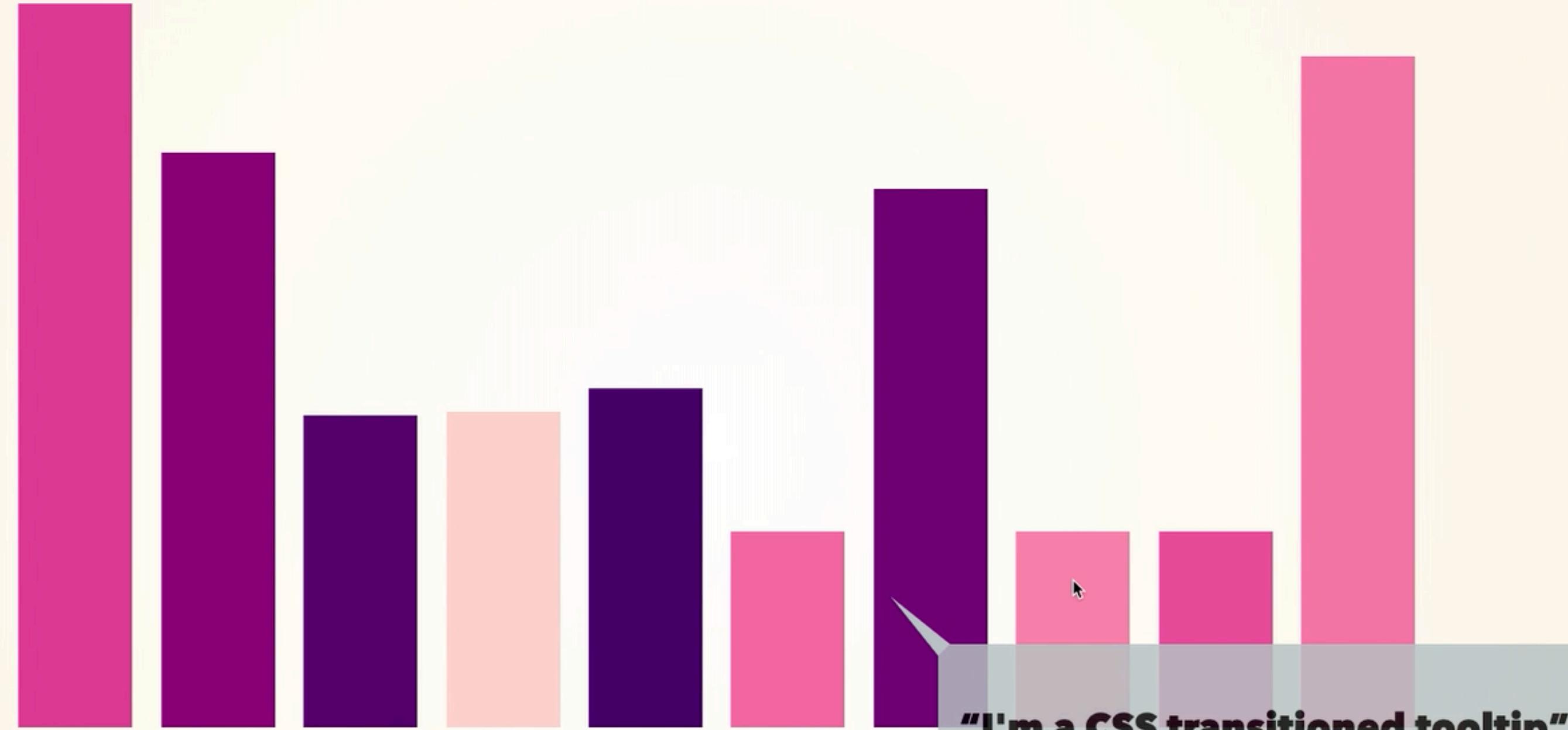




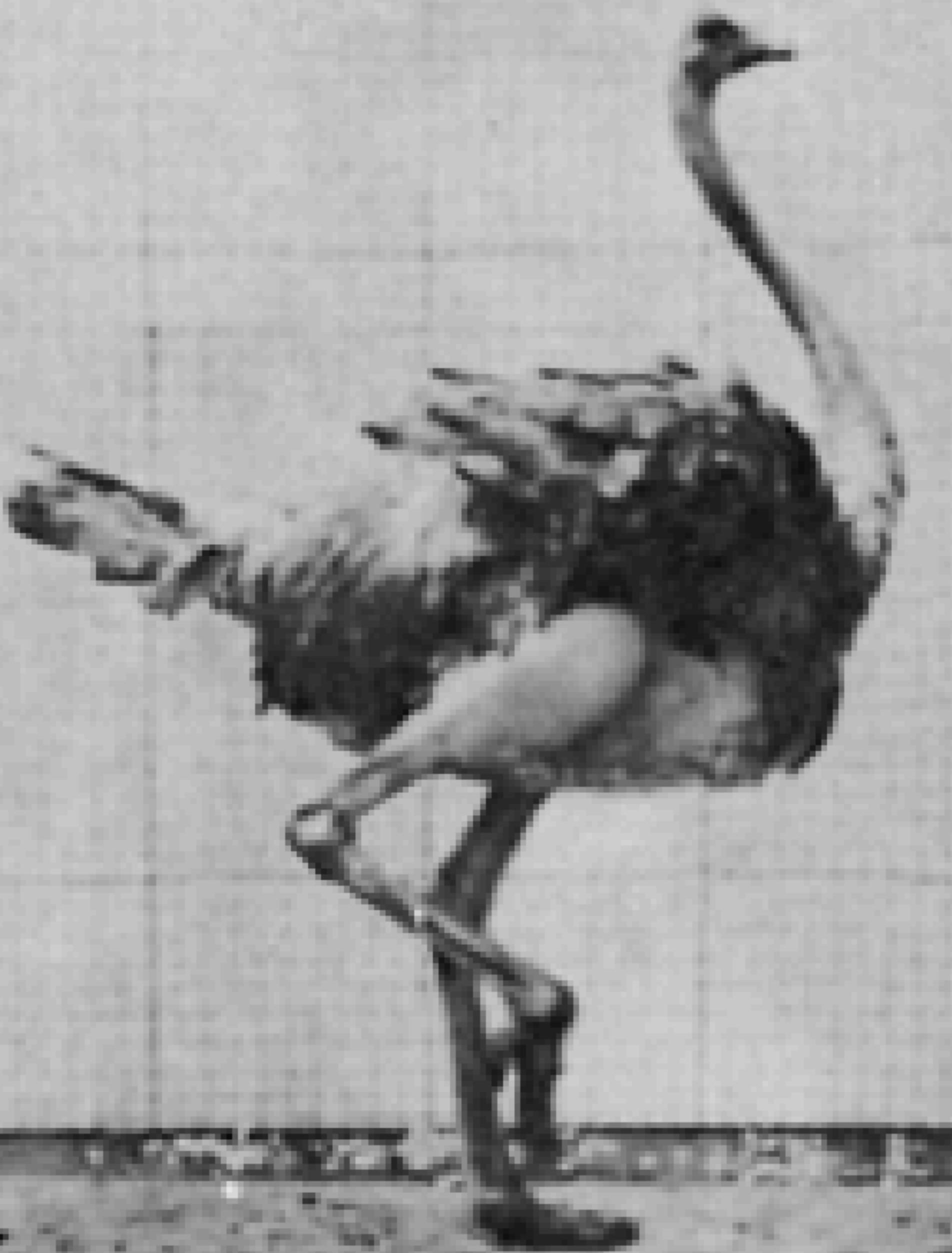
2<sup>n</sup>

@2nfo

@aucher\_serr









@2nfo

## **Interpolation**

specifying what is changing and how we get from point A to point B.

## **Duration and Delay**

deciding how long an animation should take and when should it start.

## **Timing and Orchestration**

exploring easing functions, as well as how the animation should unfold (staggering).

## **Object Lifecycle**

elements should behave differently depending on state relative to the app.

---

# **building blocks**

# our toolkit

## **CSS Transitions**

by far our most frequently used!

## **React (CSS) Transition Group**

helpful for orchestrating entering and exiting elements.

## **D3.js**

great utility function, easing functions, element lifecycle control (enter, update, exit).

## **RequestAnimationFrame**

when we need frame x frame control over our animation.

special mention: Tween.js, React-Spring

# questions to think about when designing data visualizations transitions

## **What is Point A and B?**

What are the points you are transitioning between and what is their semantic connection?

## **What Happens if Interrupted?**

What is the user expectation, should the transition jump to the end? Return to the beginning? Tween to the new position?

## **What is the Element Lifecycle?**

How do these elements behave and change as they enter, exit, and update?

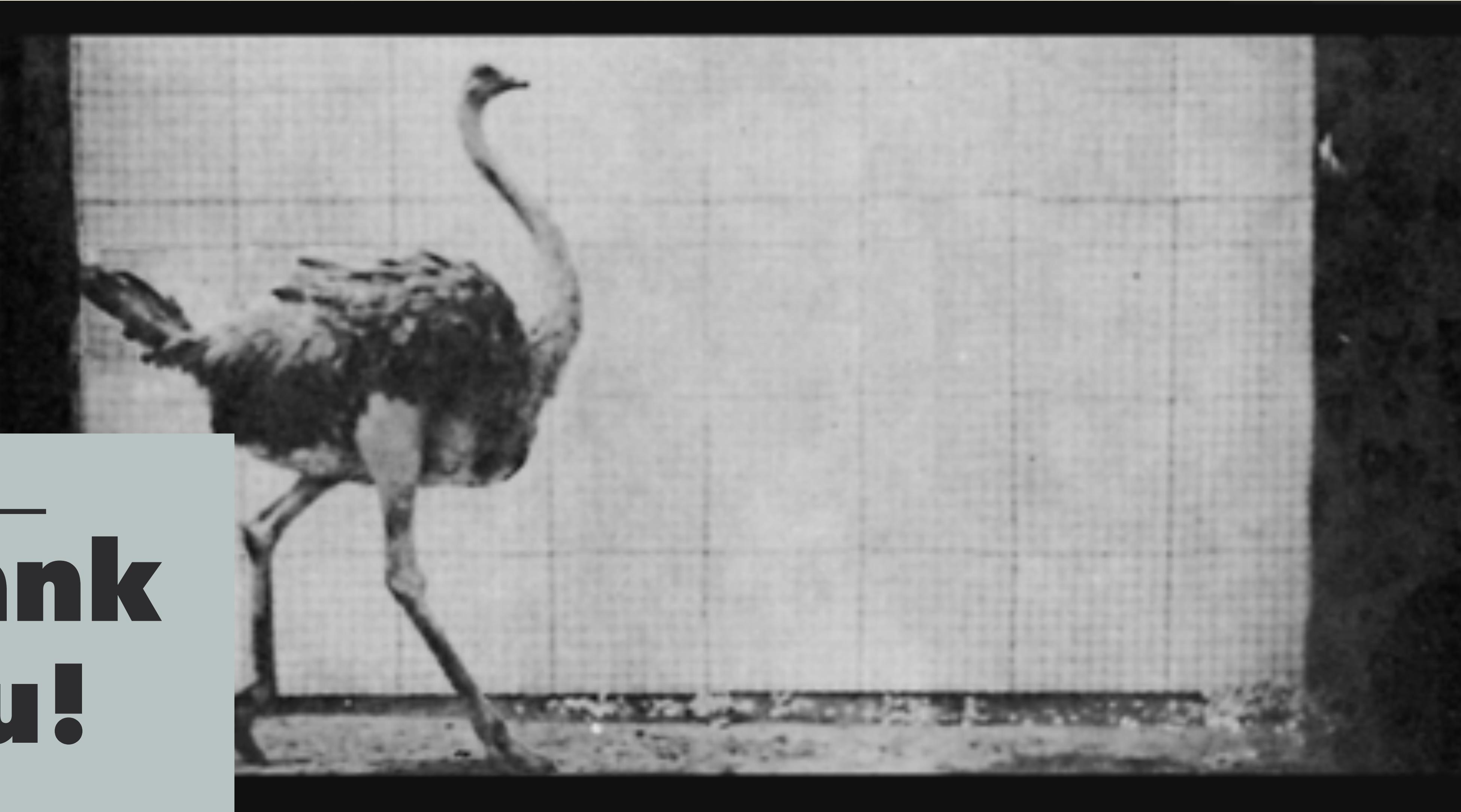
## **Can This Delight and Engage?**

How can you enrich a viewer's world? Convey more meaning? Draw people in, in a surprising and satisfying way?

2<sup>n</sup>

@2nfo

@aucher\_serr



---

**thank  
you!**

auchers

aucher.serr@gmail.com