

## Session 3

# Geographic Visualization



Online Course  
**Data Visualization  
for Professionals**

THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**Benjamin Bach**

June 2020

<http://benjbach.me>  
<https://datavis-online.github.io>

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# Outline

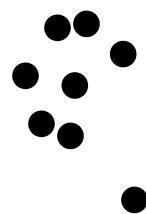
## How to visualize geographic data?

- Tasks
- Map projections
- Visualizing area data
- Visualizing point data
- Visualizing trajectories
- Visualizing time

# Tasks

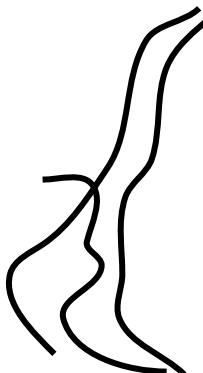
## • Locations (0D, Points)

- Distribution
- Sensity
- Values
- Distances
- Temporality



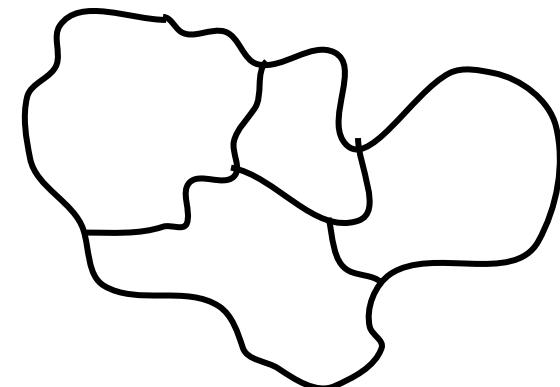
## • Areas (2D)

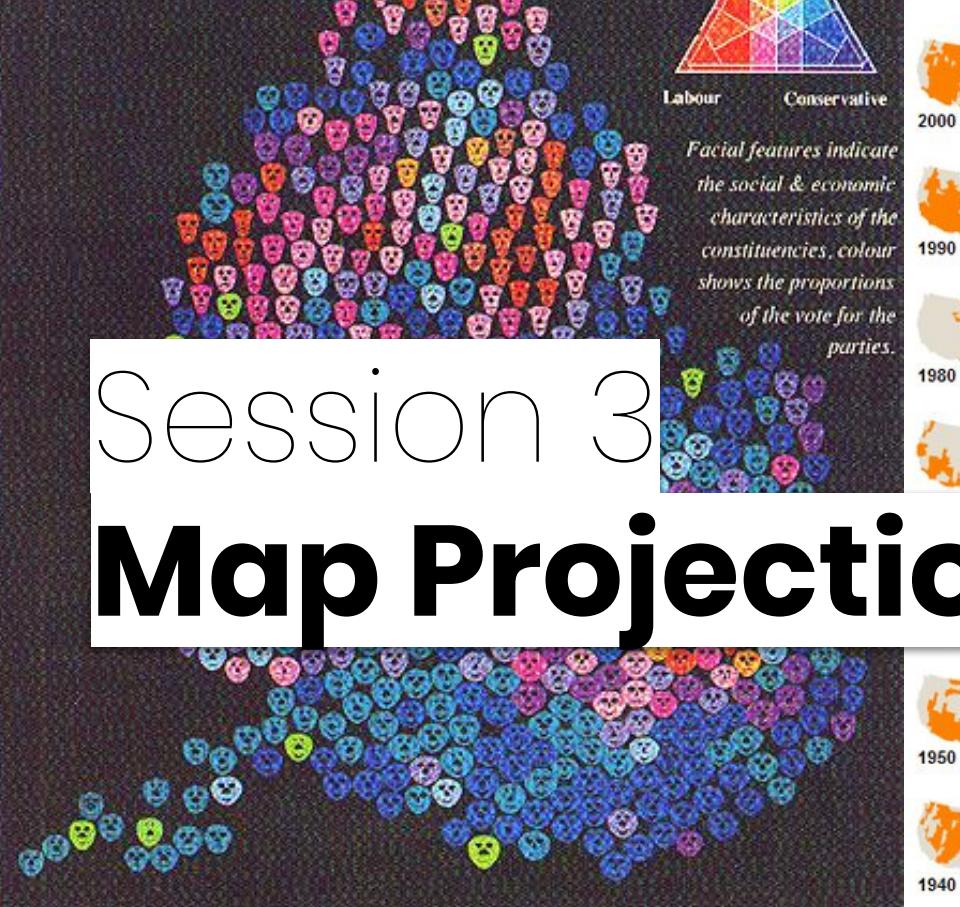
- Comparison
- Max/min values
- Geographic areas + trends and outliers
- temporality



## • Trajectories (1D, lines)

- Locations
- Common paths
- Directionality
- Temporality





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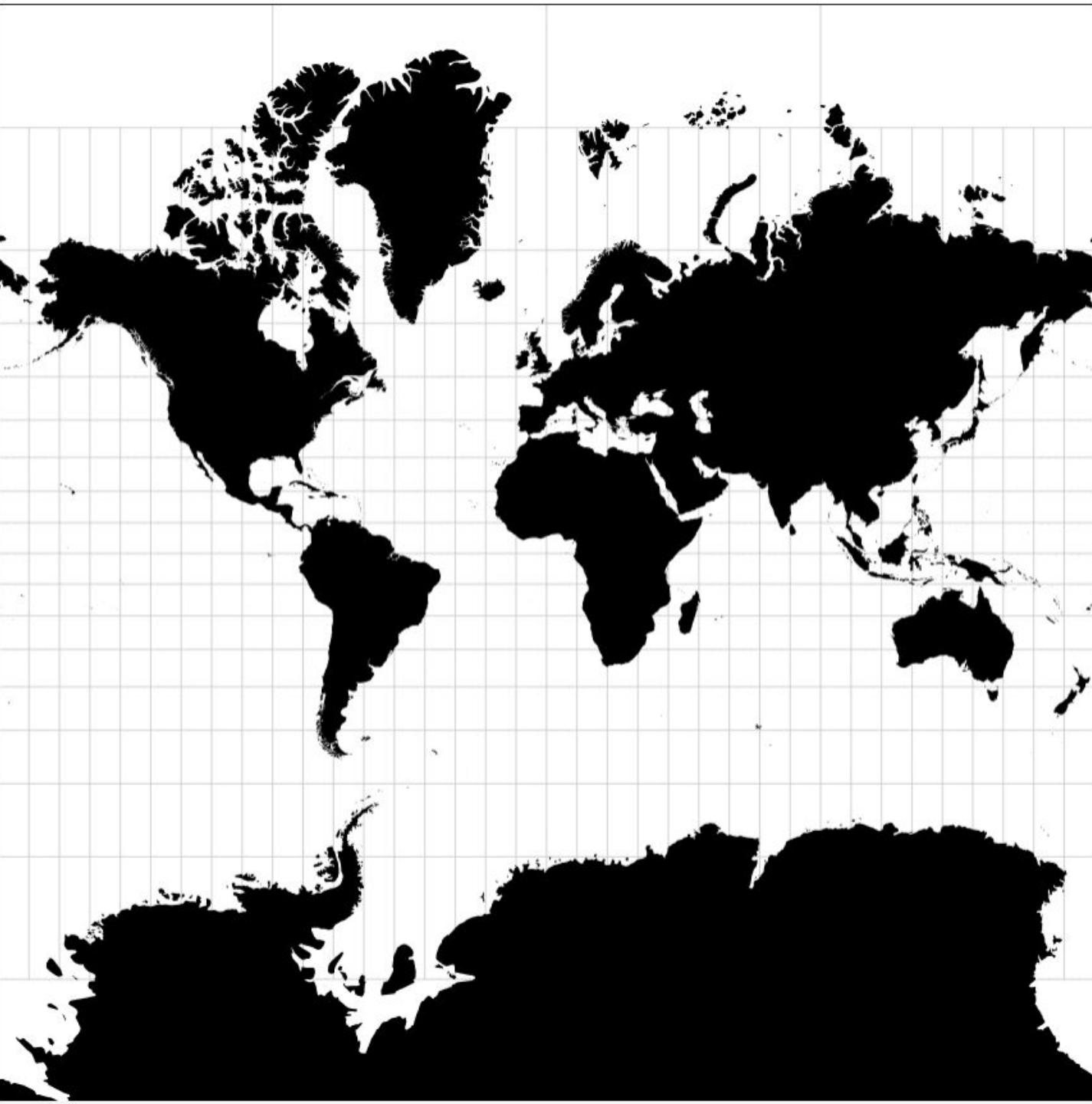
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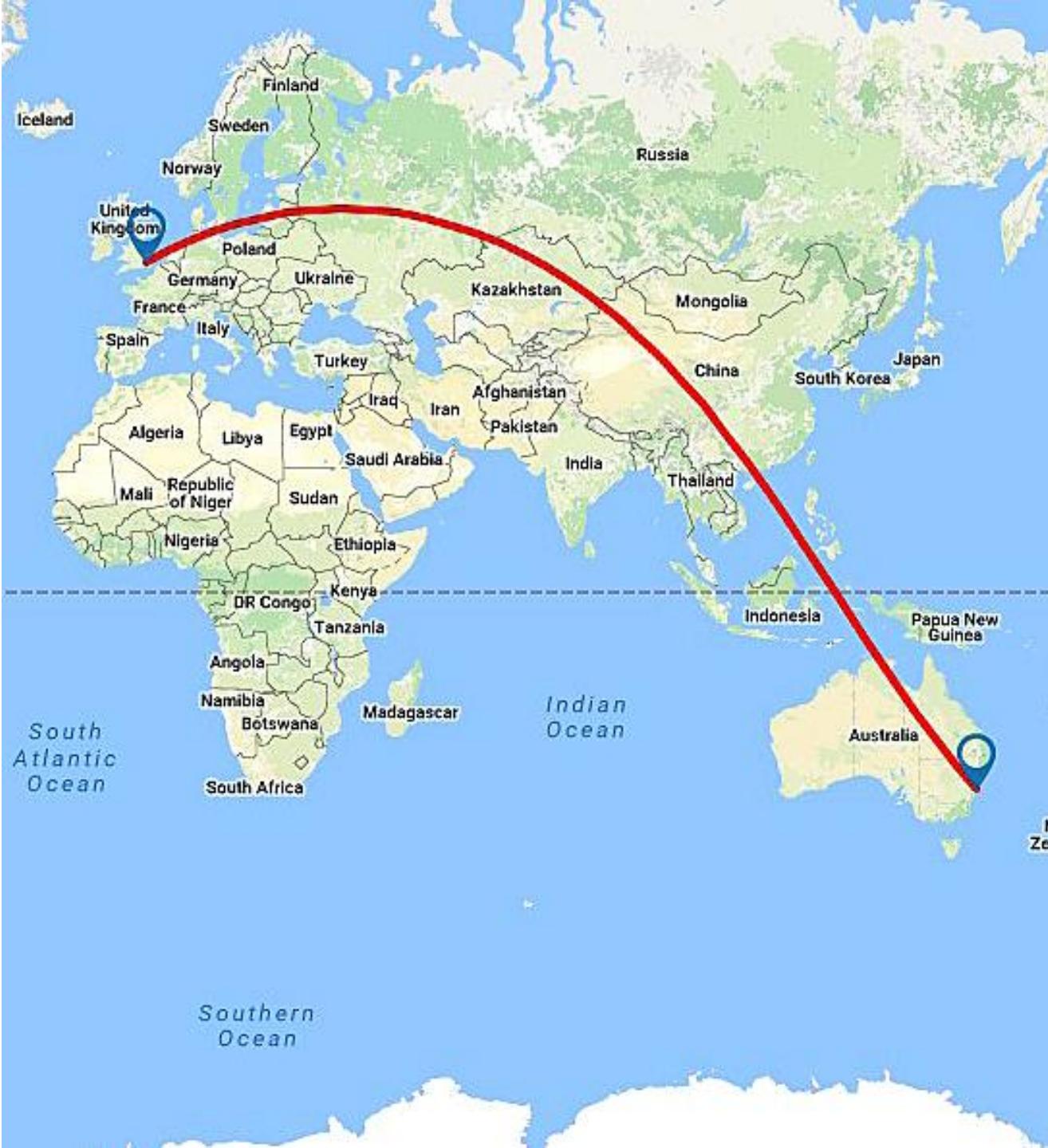
# The True Size Of...



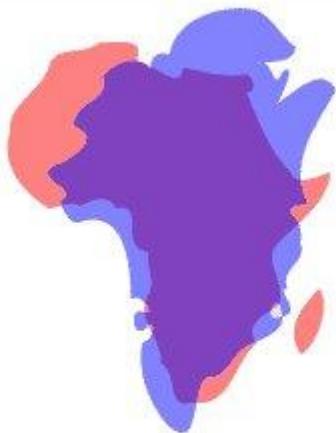
<https://thetruesize.com/>

# Projections: Trajectories

Direct flight:  
London–Sydney



# The True Size of Africa



Mercator



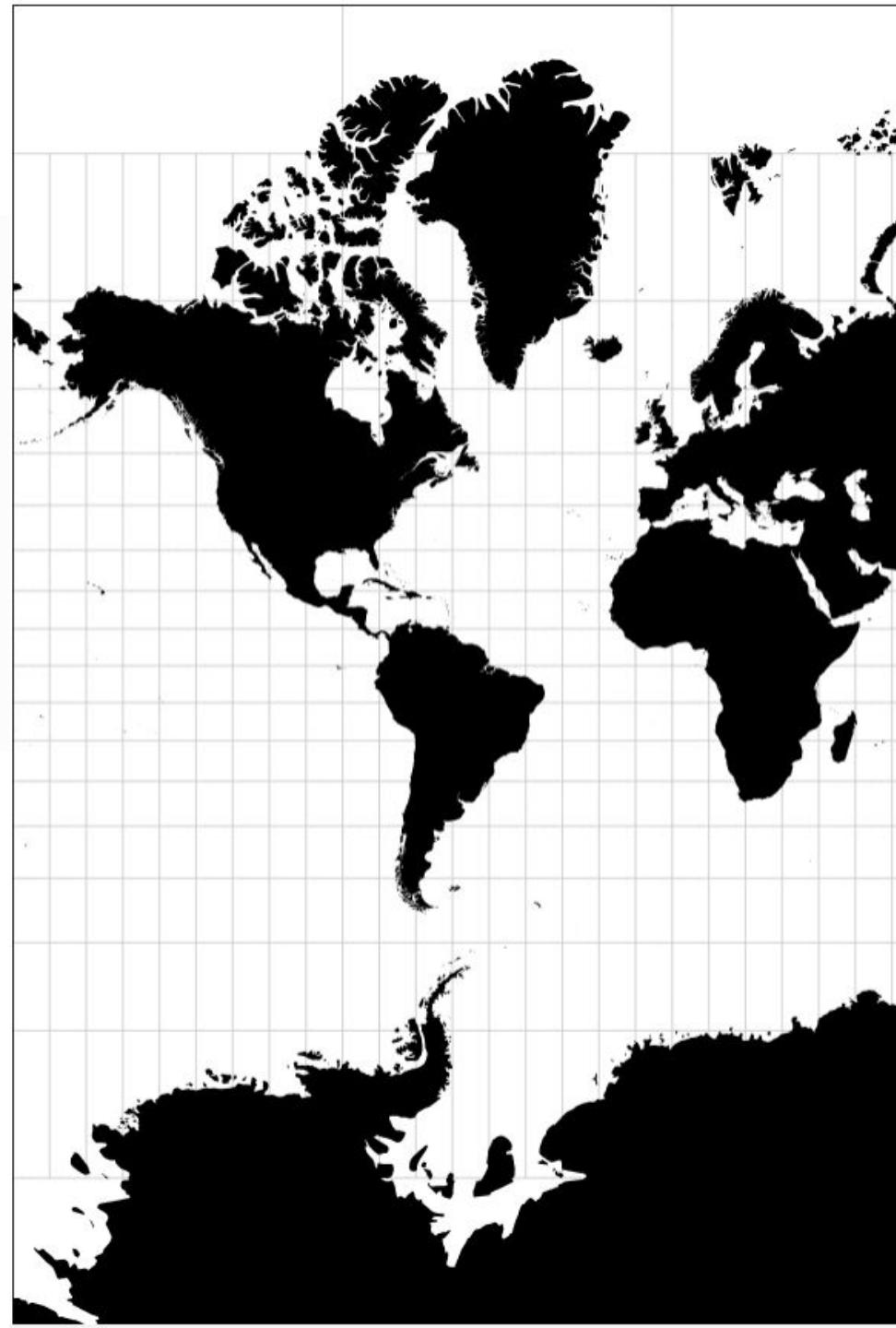
Actual



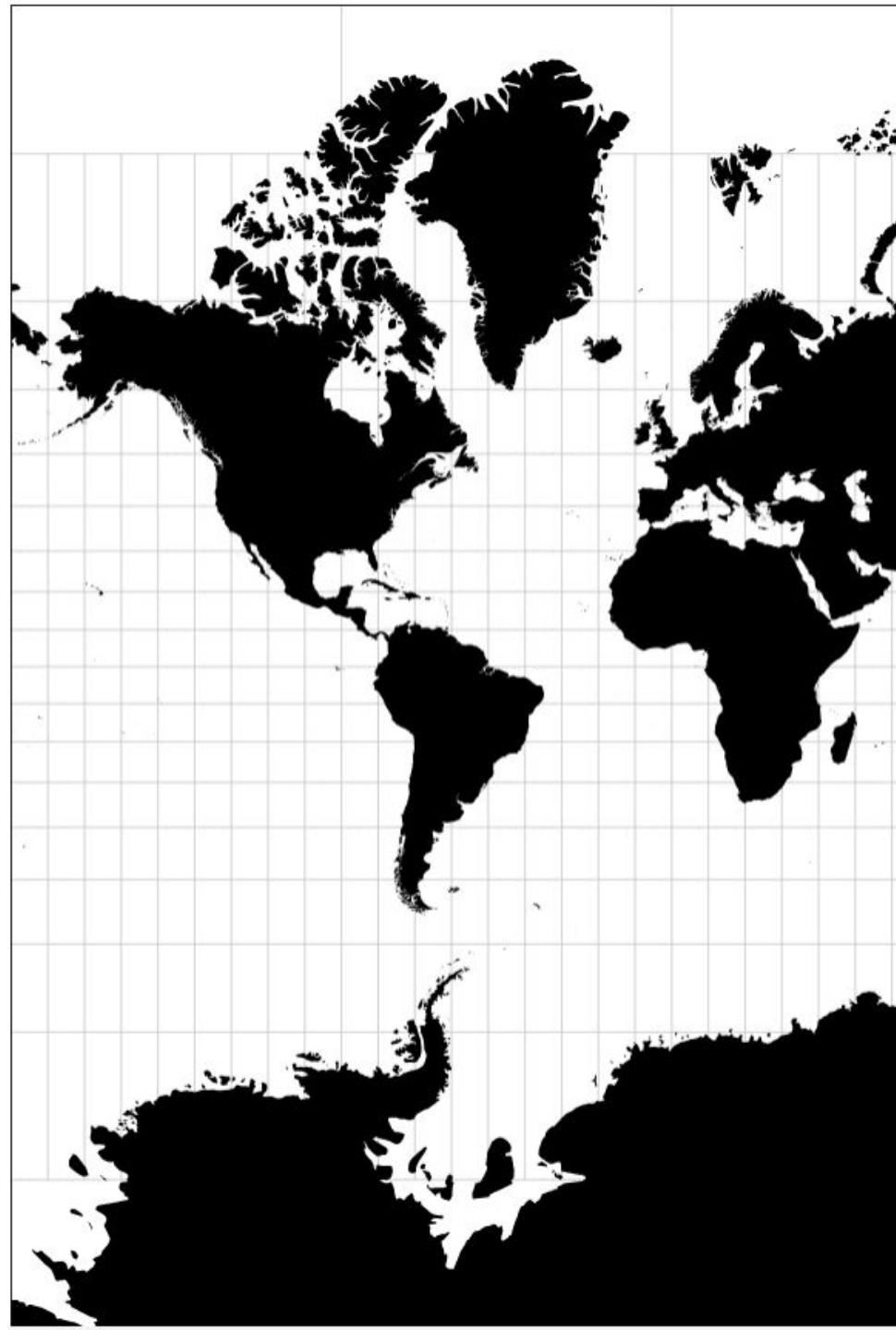
United States



Europe

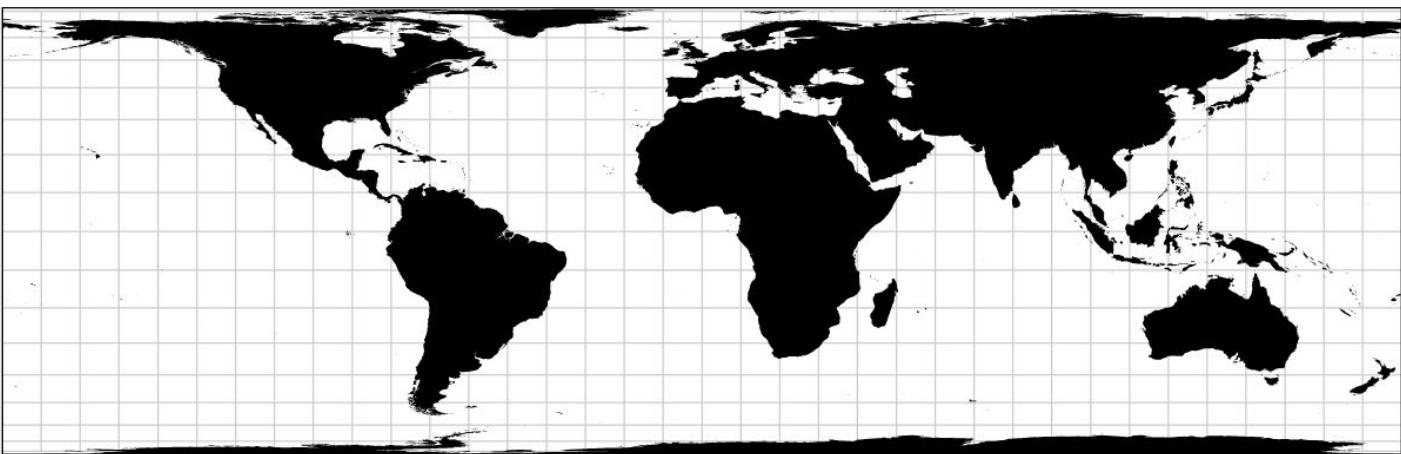


# Merkator Projection

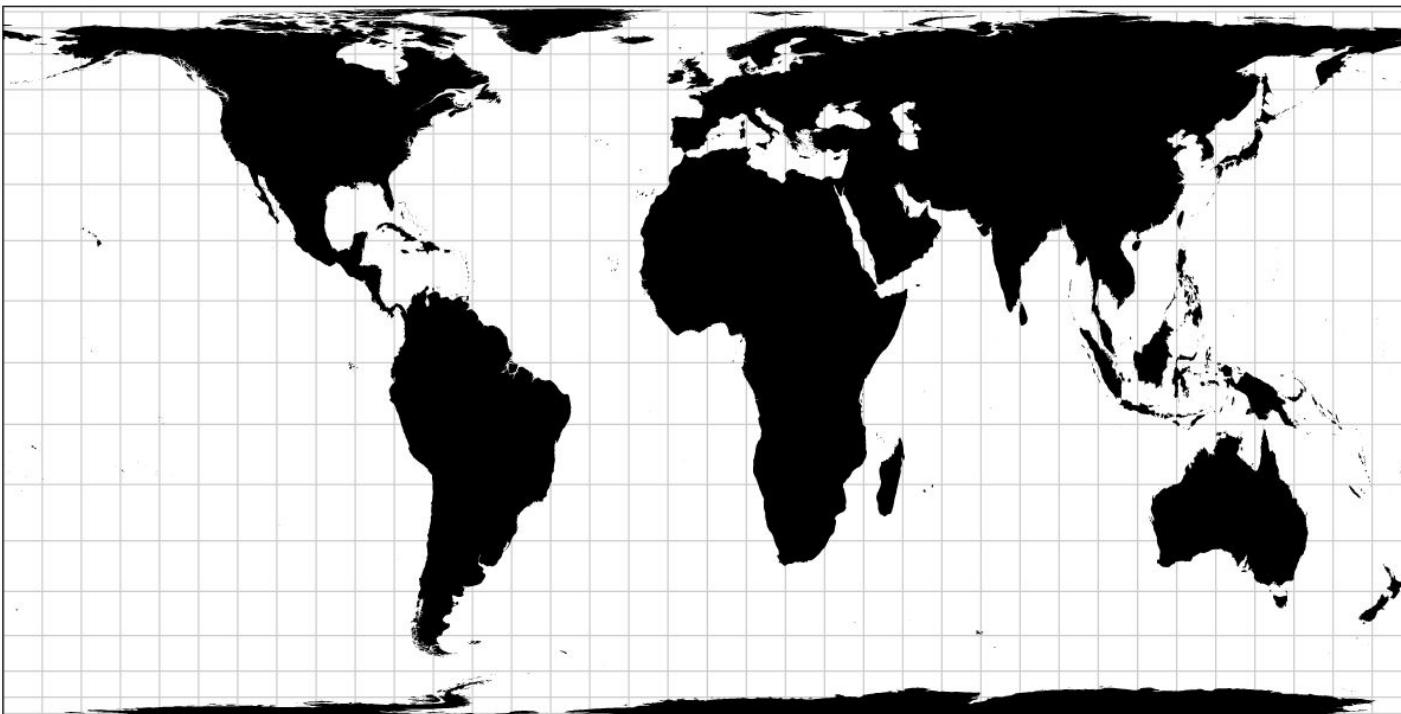


# Area preserving projections

Lambert:

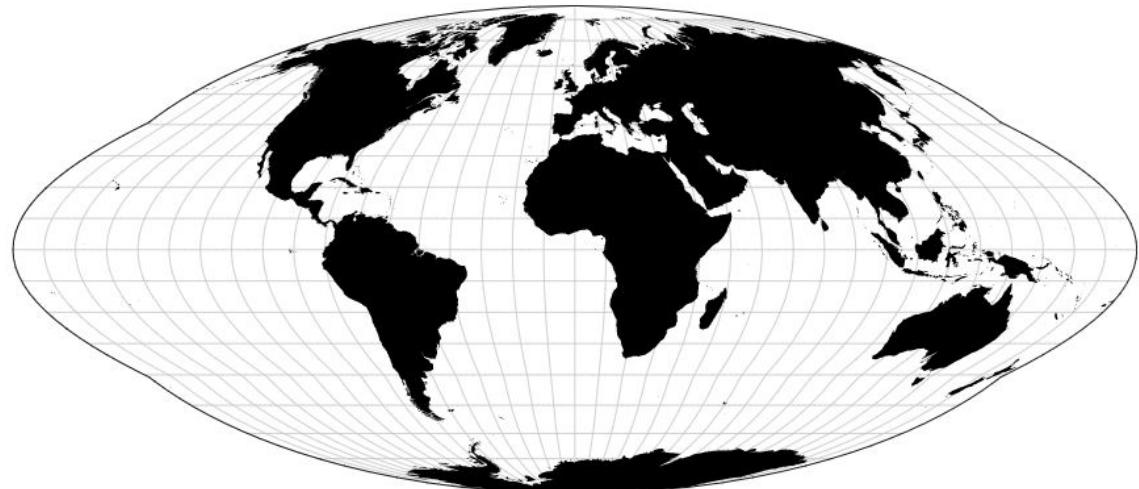


Hobo-Dyer

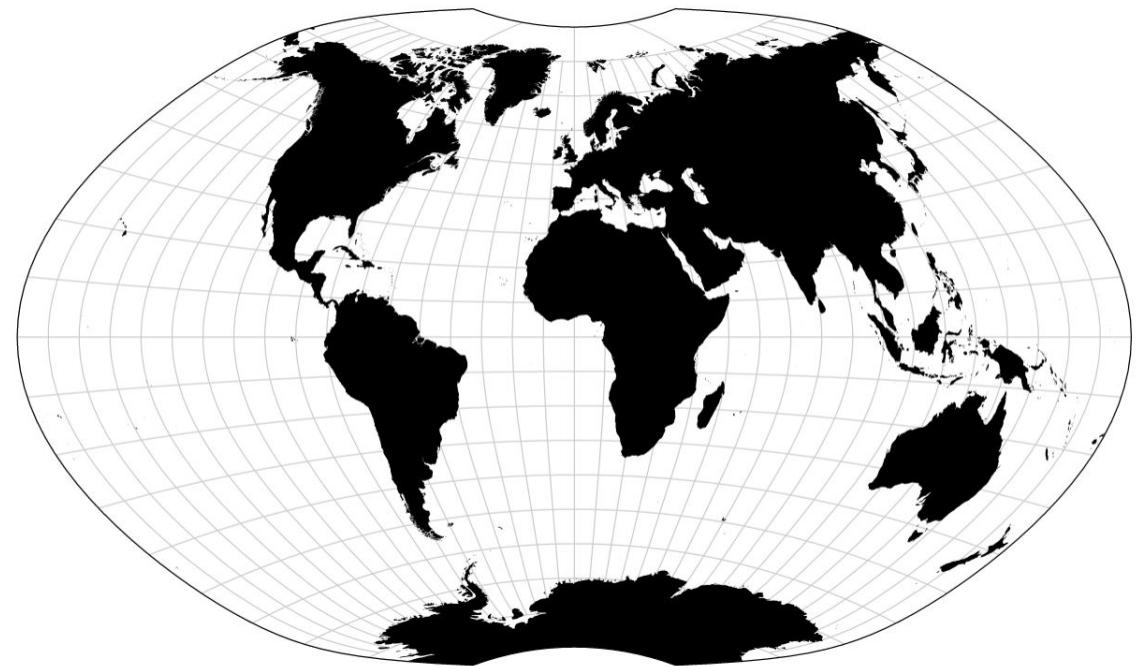


# Trade-offs

**Goode Homolosine**

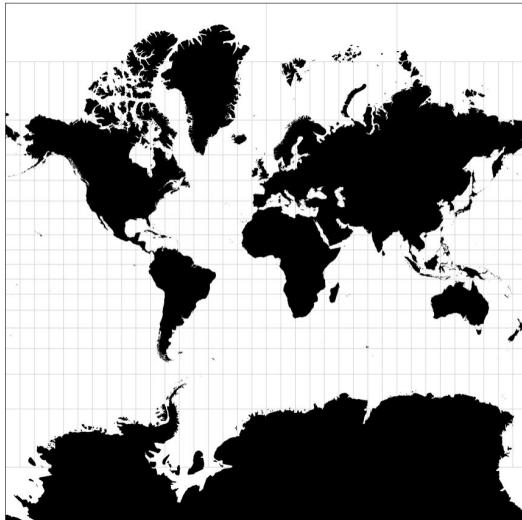


**Ginzburg IV**



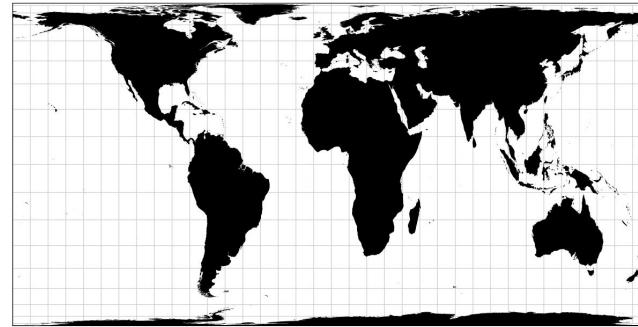
# Projections

- Preserve: shape, area, or angle, distance, direction
- Any projection can only preserve 1-2, not more
- > Tradeoff



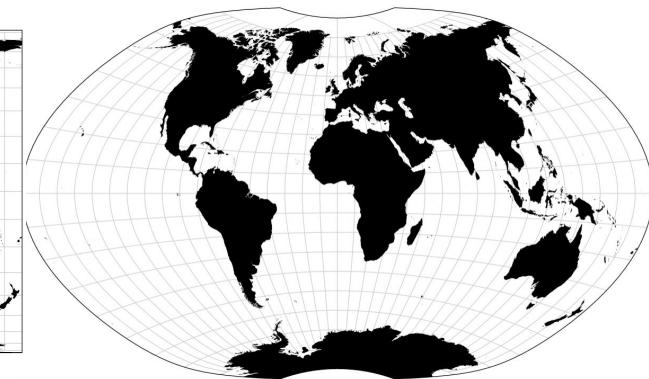
**Merkator**

Preserves shape



**Hobo-Dyer**

Preserves area



**Ginzburg IV**

# Local projections: Conic Conformal



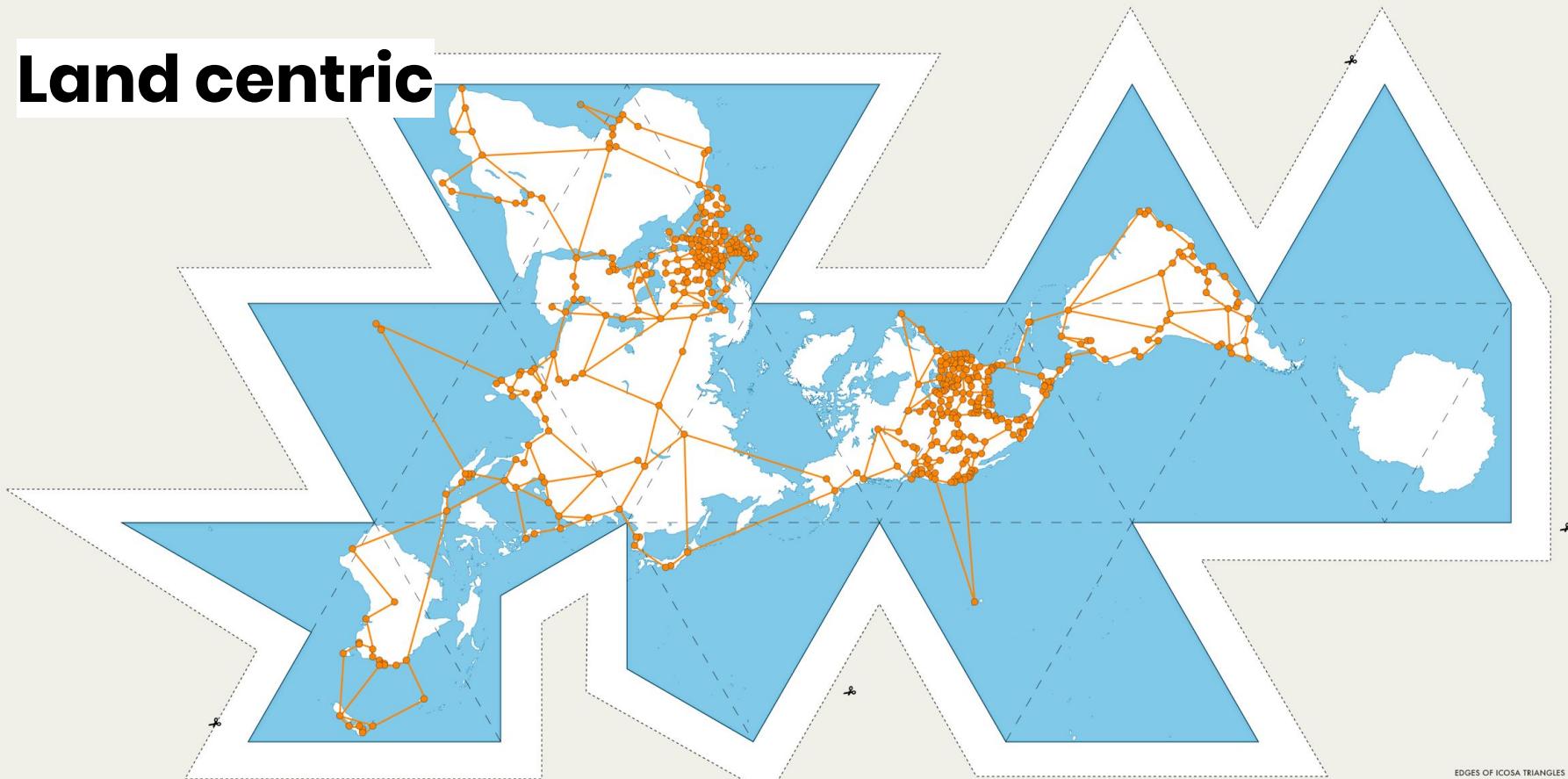
# Alternative Projections: Ocean centric



# THE DATA VISUALIZATION SOCIETY MAP OF GLOBAL CONNECTIVITY

ON THE DYMAXION AIR-OCEAN WORLD MAP OF SPACESHIP EARTH

## Land centric



EDGES OF ICOSA TRIANGLES EQUAL TO

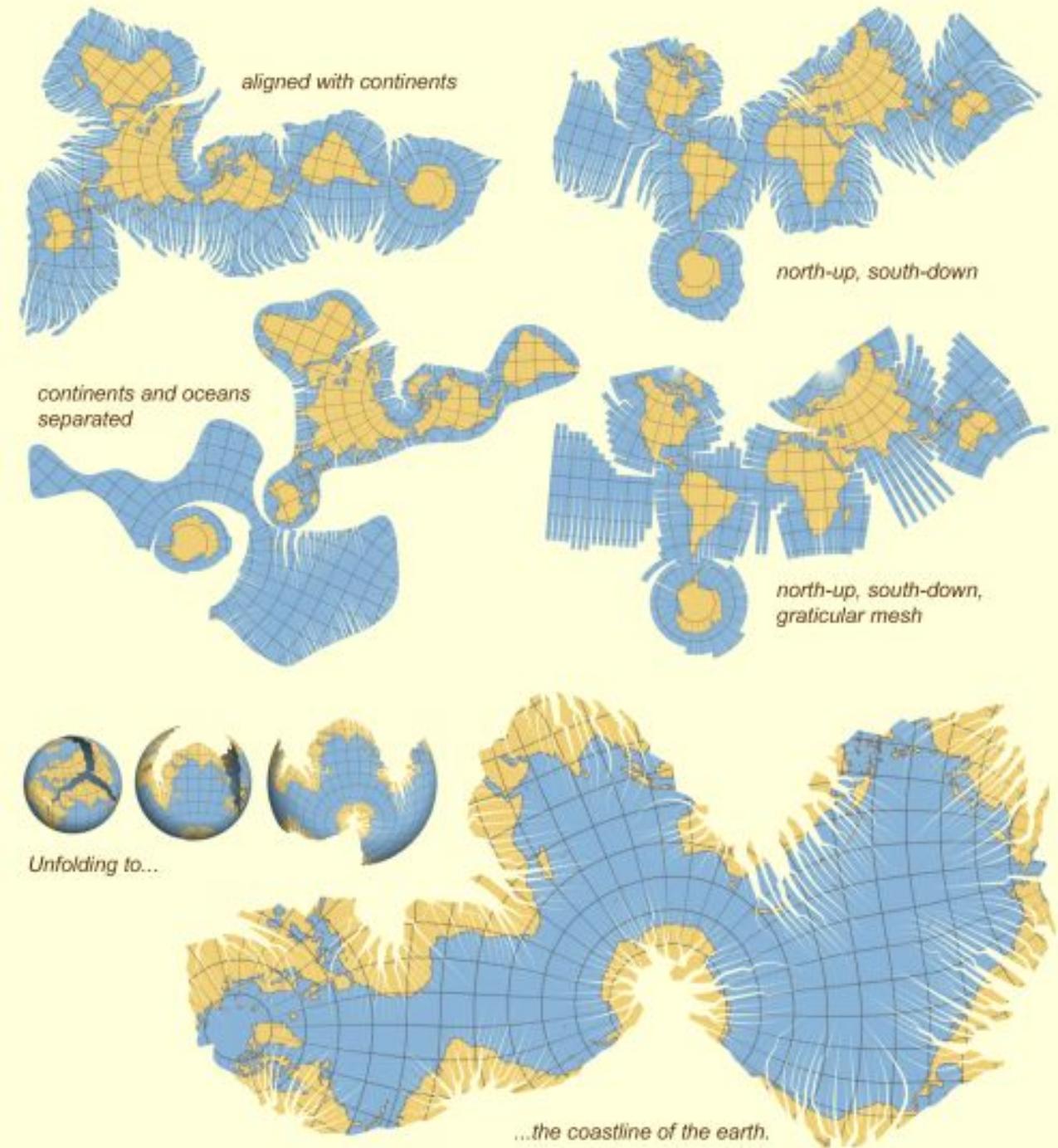
63° 26'  
3,806 NAUTICAL MILES  
8172 AIRCRAFT HOURS  
14 CONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT HOURS  
7 SHIP DAYS

SCALE VARIES APPROXIMATELY FROM 1:47,500,000  
TO 1:57,000,000

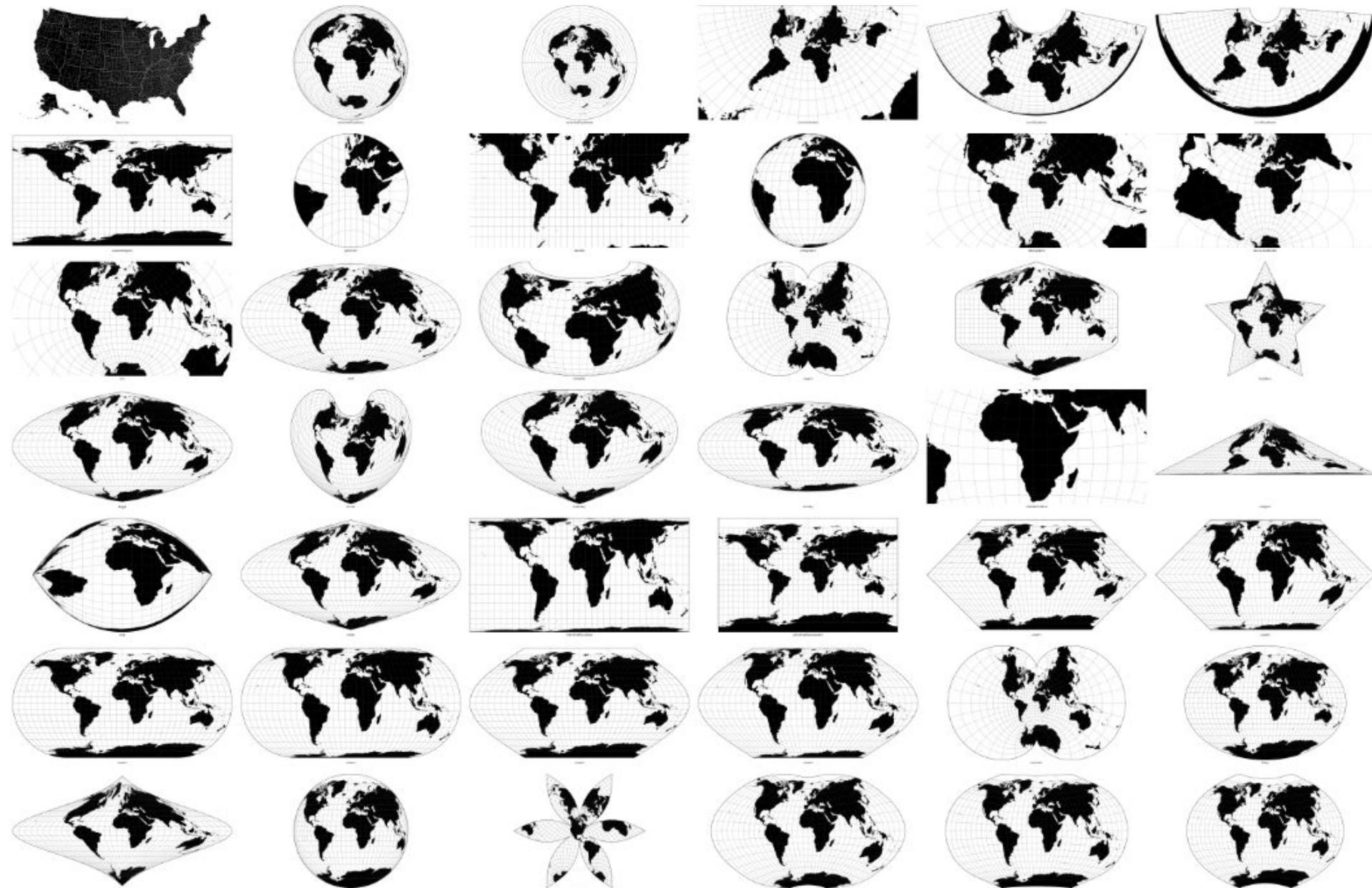
● = ONE PERSON

<https://medium.com/nightingale/a-little-help-from-my-friends-a-look-inside-the-data-visualization-society-map-of-global-ab5547149fe9>

# More projections



# More projections...





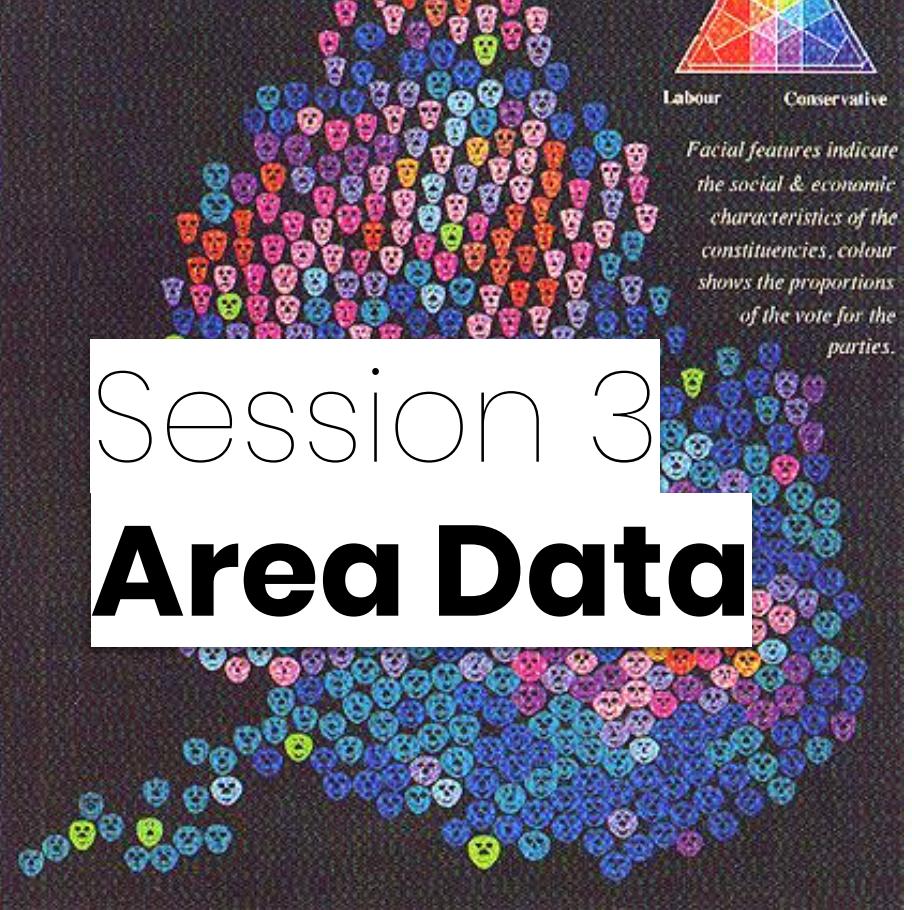
Van der Grinten II



Pause

Copyright © [Jason Davies](#). Based on Mike's [Projection Transitions](#).

<https://www.jasondavies.com/maps/transition/>



# Session 3

# Area Data



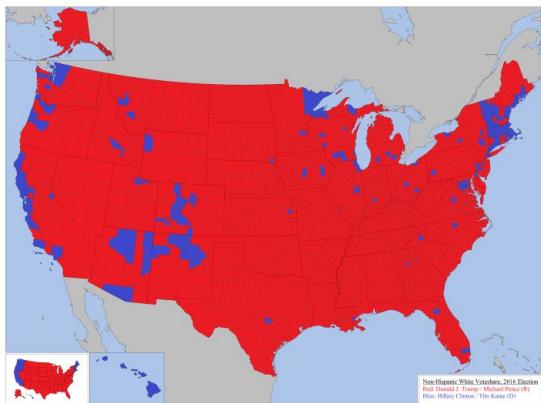
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# Most intuitive ... most harmful



## Choropleth maps

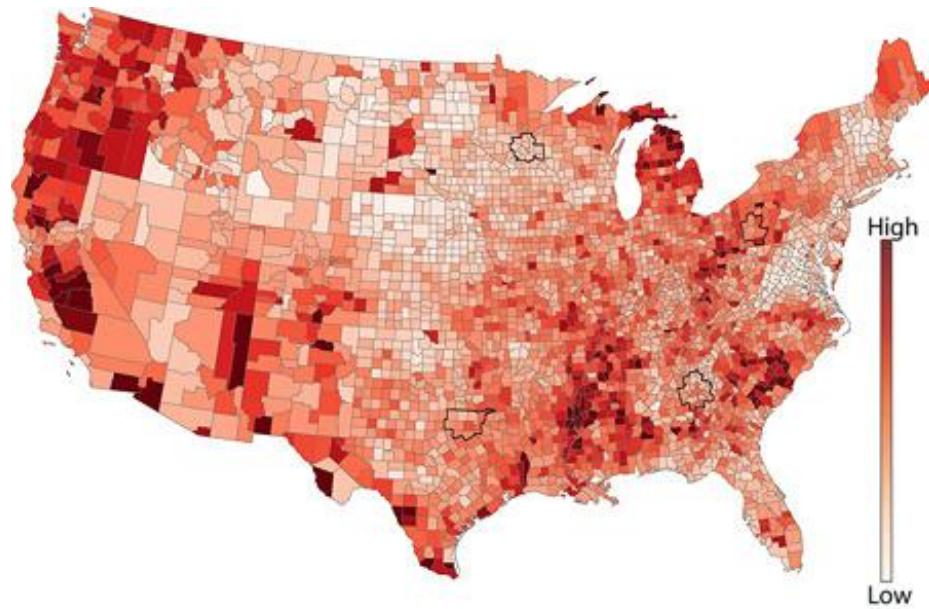
- Work well when comparing total surfaces
- Don't work well when showing data with different densities per area:

- Overemphasize large areas
- Hide small areas
- Overemphasize areas with low data-densities
- Underemphasize areas with high data-densities.

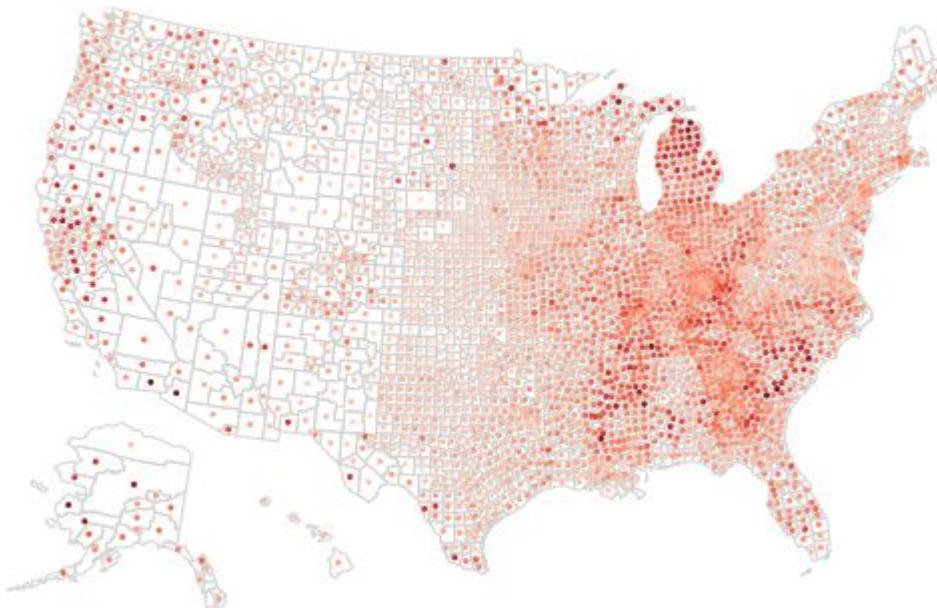
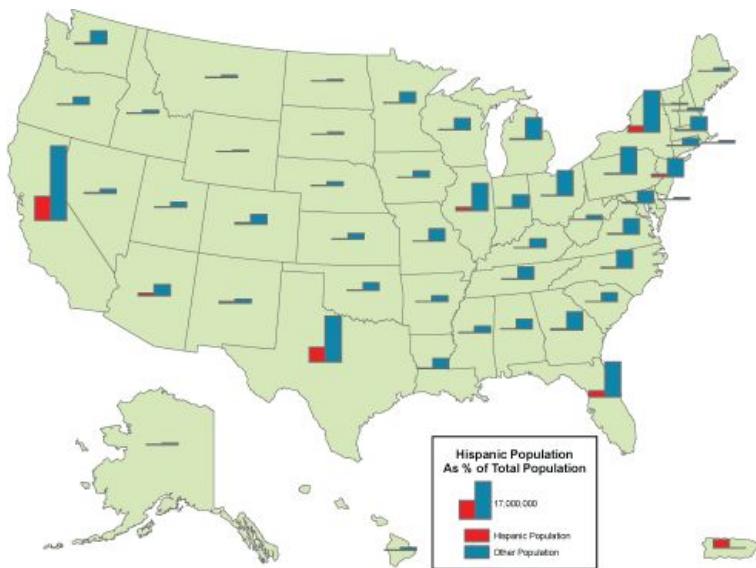
# Choropleth alternatives

## Dot-maps:

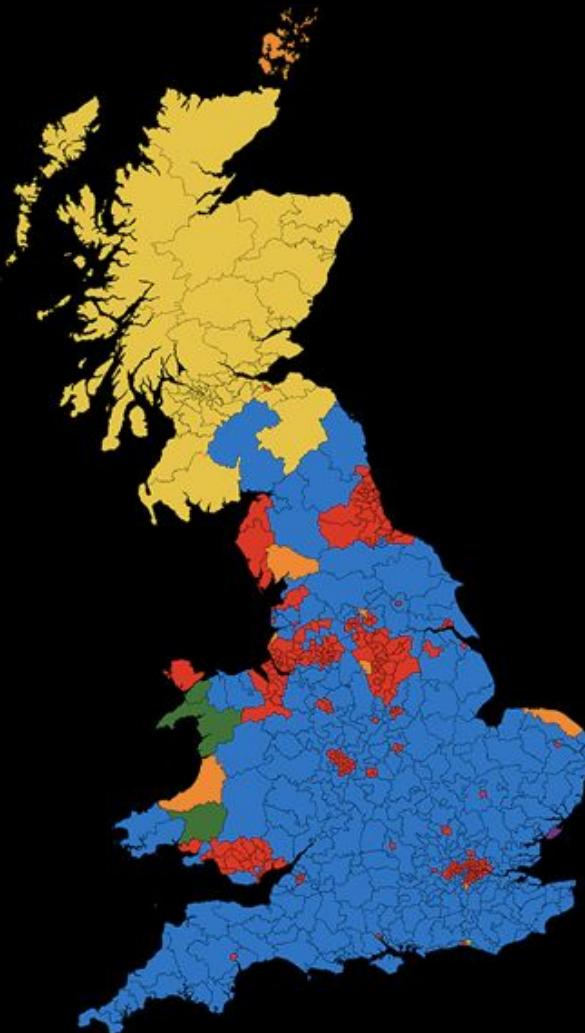
- Each area becomes dot
- Map shows area density as well as values



## "Bar-maps":

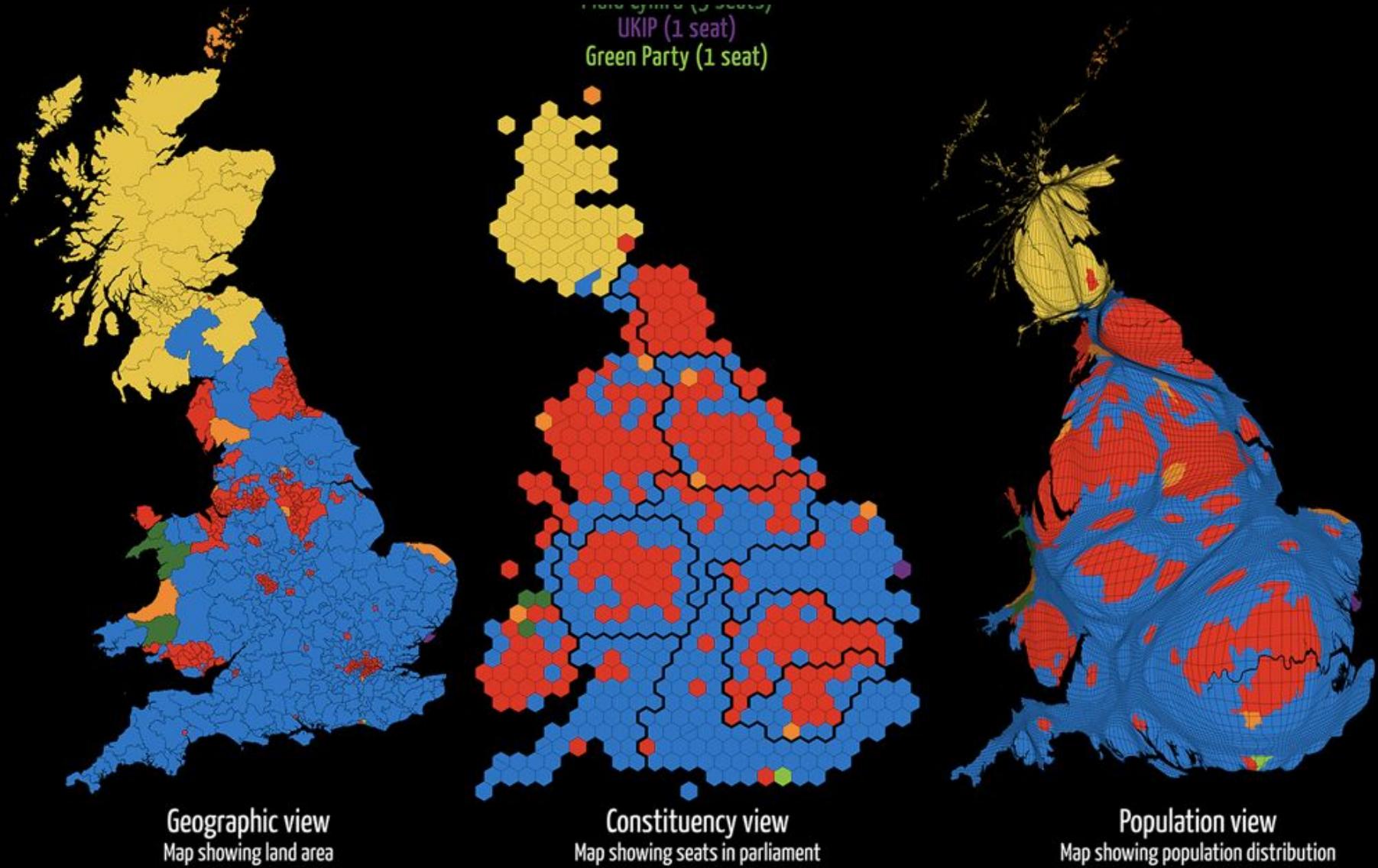


# Choropleth alternatives: Distortions



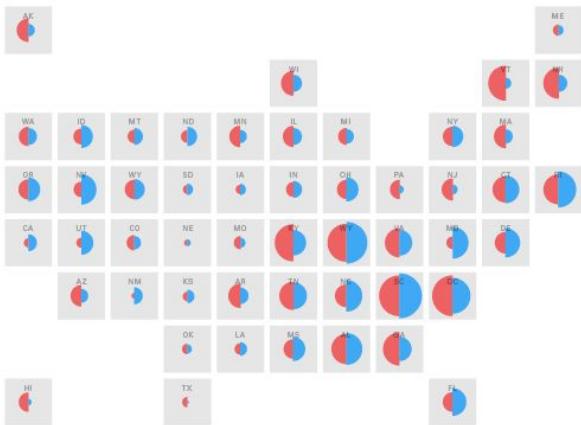
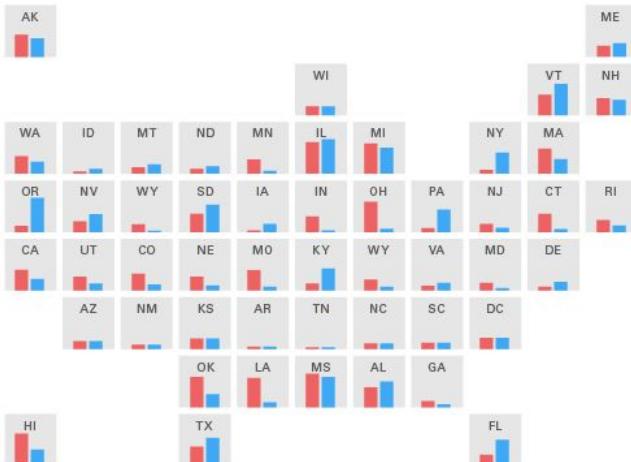
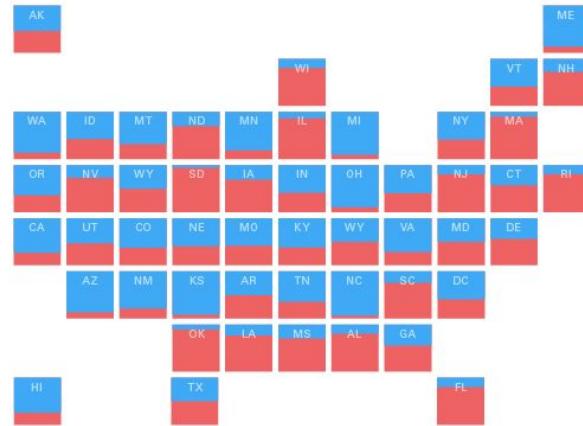
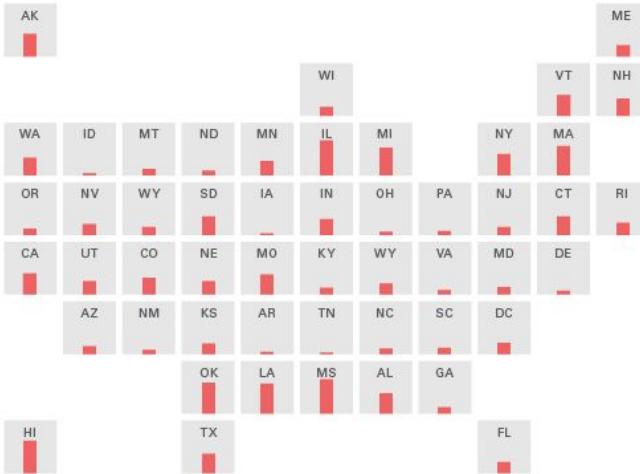
Geographic view  
Map showing land area

# Choropleth alternatives: Distortions

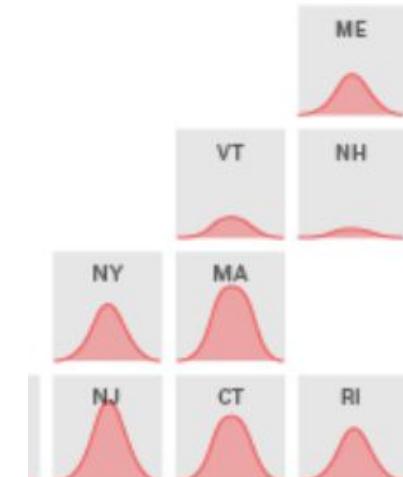
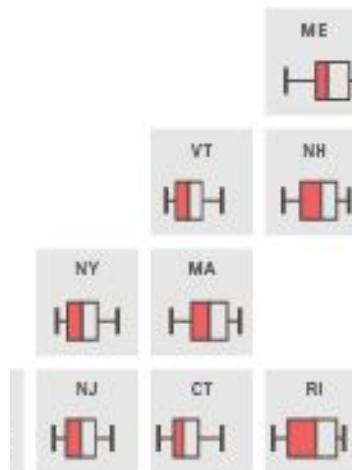
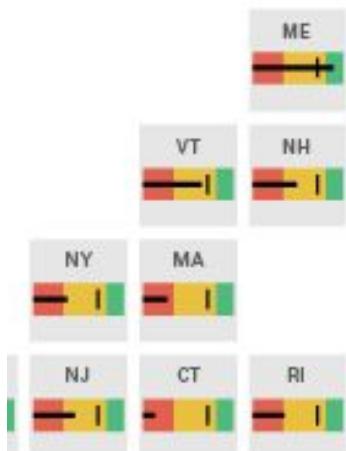
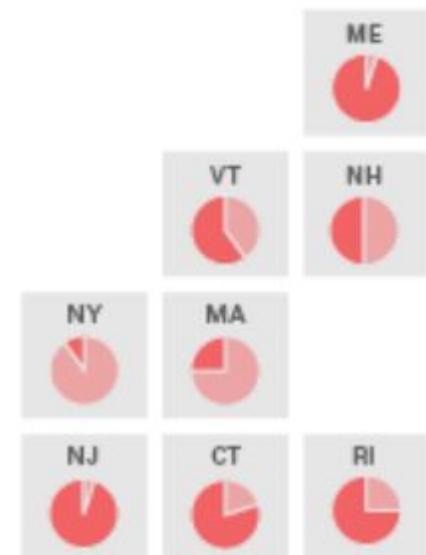
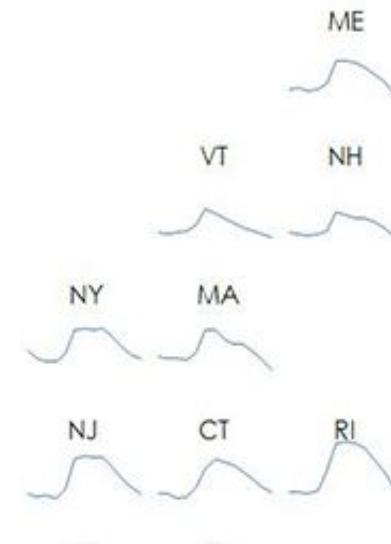
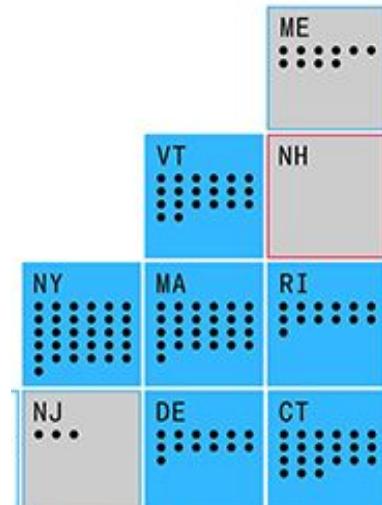
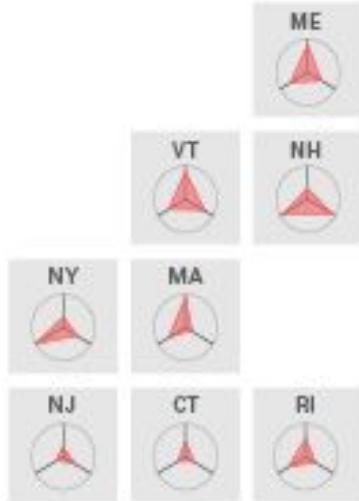


# Choropleth alternatives

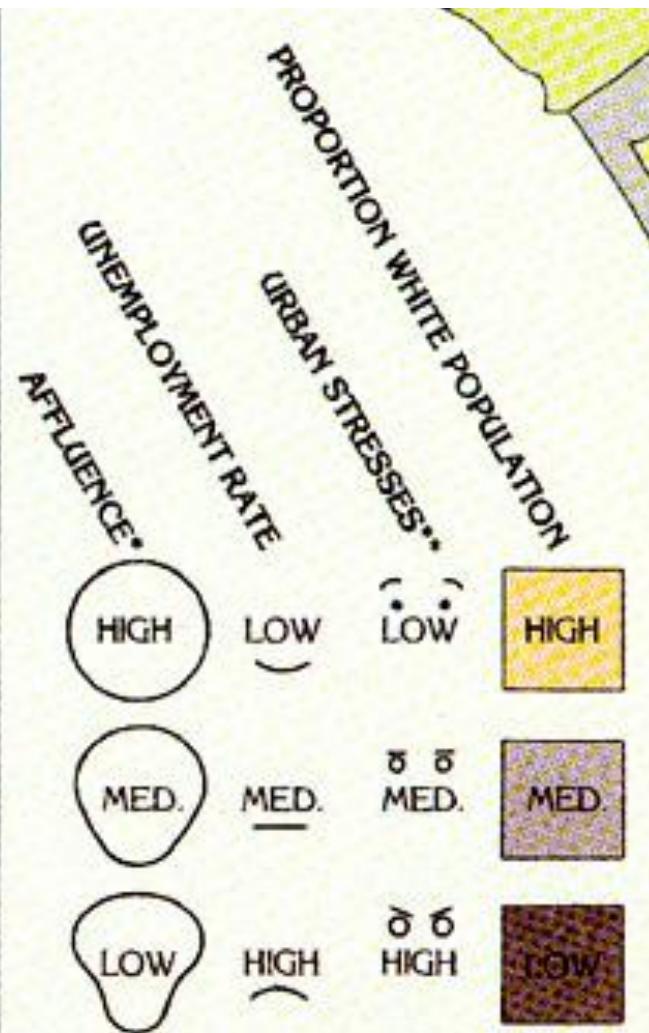
## Equal Areas + Glyphs



# Multivariate map data: Glyphs



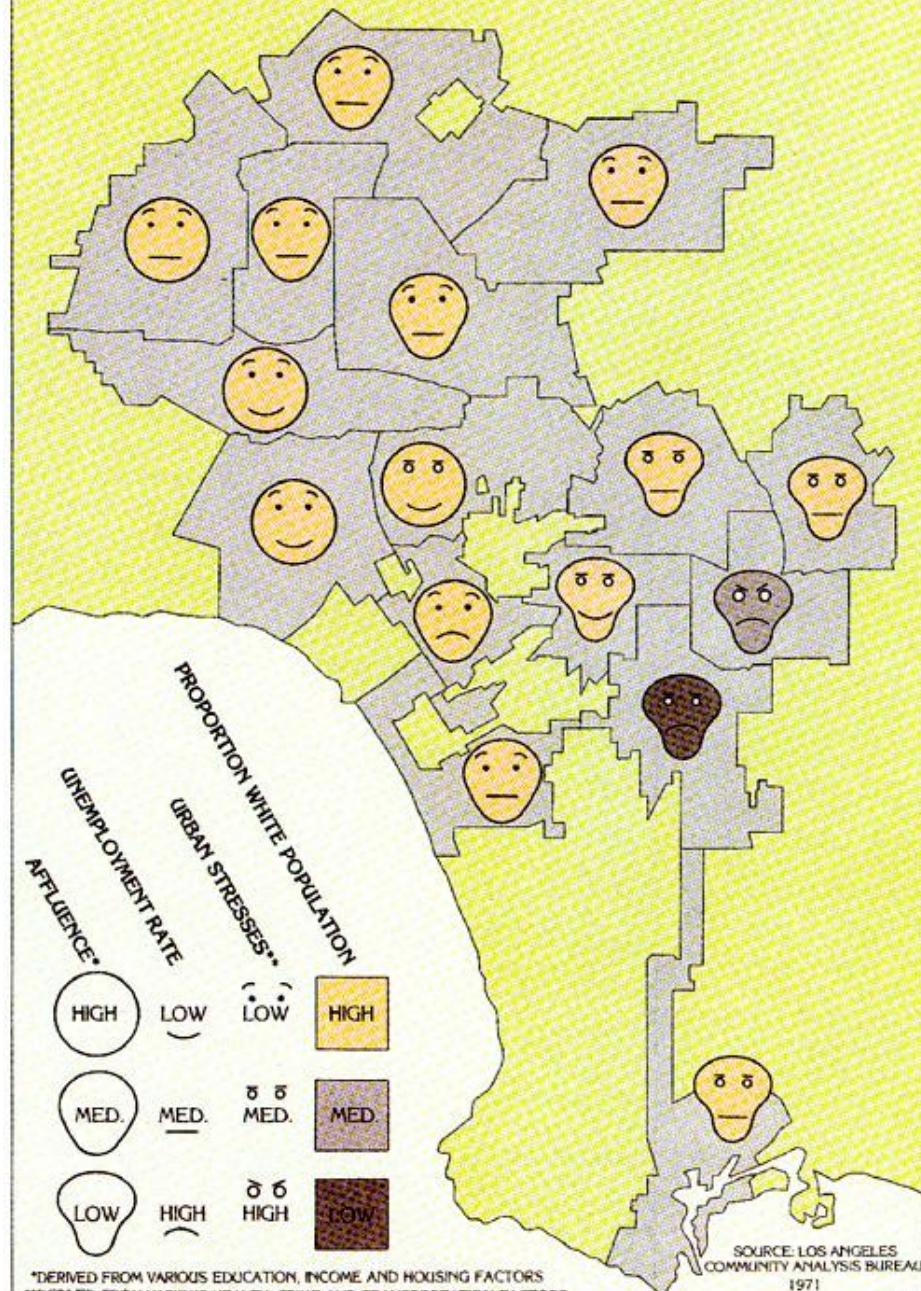
# Chernoff Faces



\*DERIVED FROM VARIOUS EDUCATION, INCOME AND I

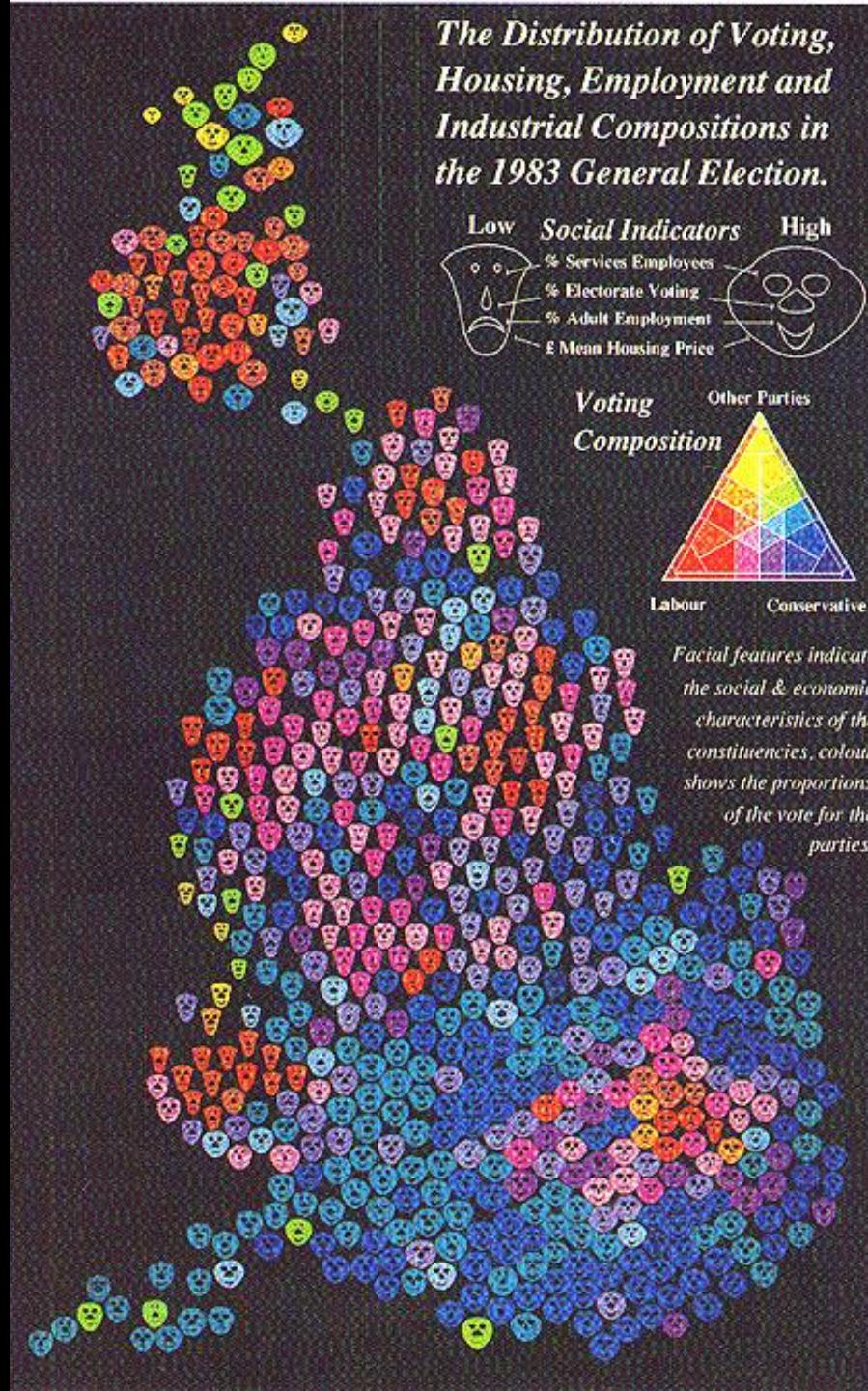
\*\*DERIVED FROM VARIOUS HEALTH, CRIME AND TRANS

# Life in Los Angeles



# Chernoff Faces

- + Individual values
- + Spatial correlation
  
- Some vis-variables are more prominent
- Some vis-variables are hard to perceive and estimate

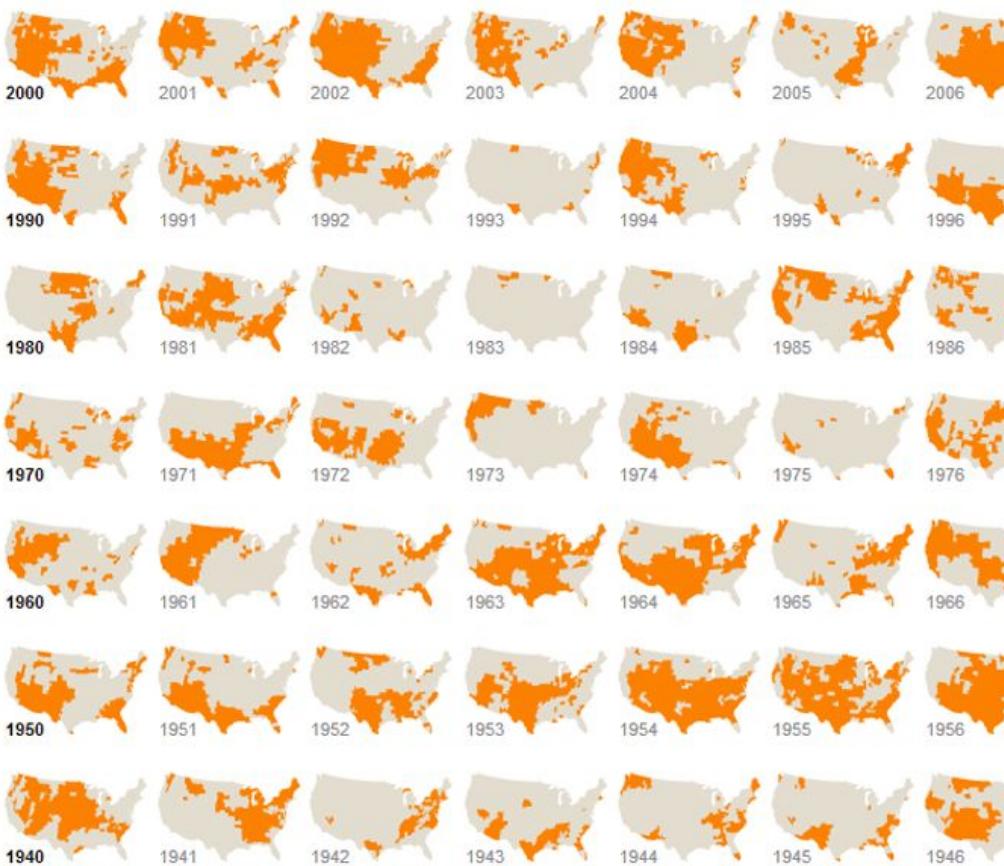
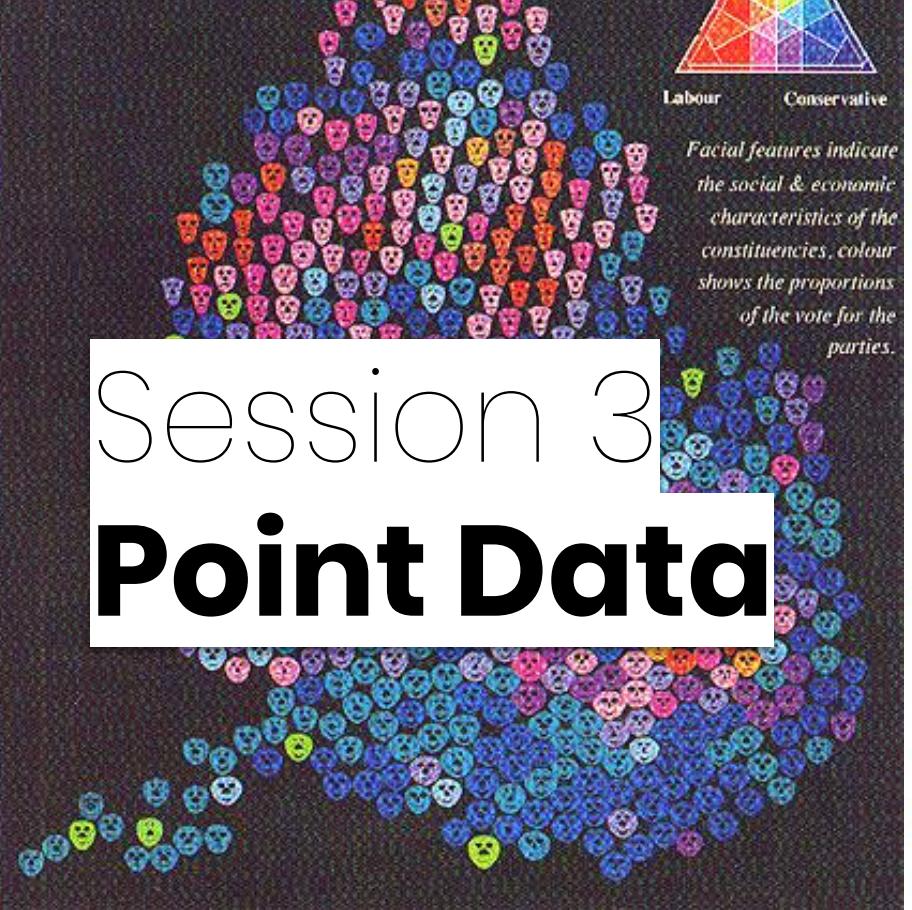


2000: State-level support (orange) or opposition (green) on school vouchers, relative to the national average of 45% support

# Small Multiples



Orange and green colors correspond to states where support for vouchers was greater or less than the national average.  
The seven ethnicreligious categories are mutually exclusive. "Evangelicals" includes Mormons as well as born-again Protestants.  
Where a category represents less than 1% of the voters of a state, the state is left blank.



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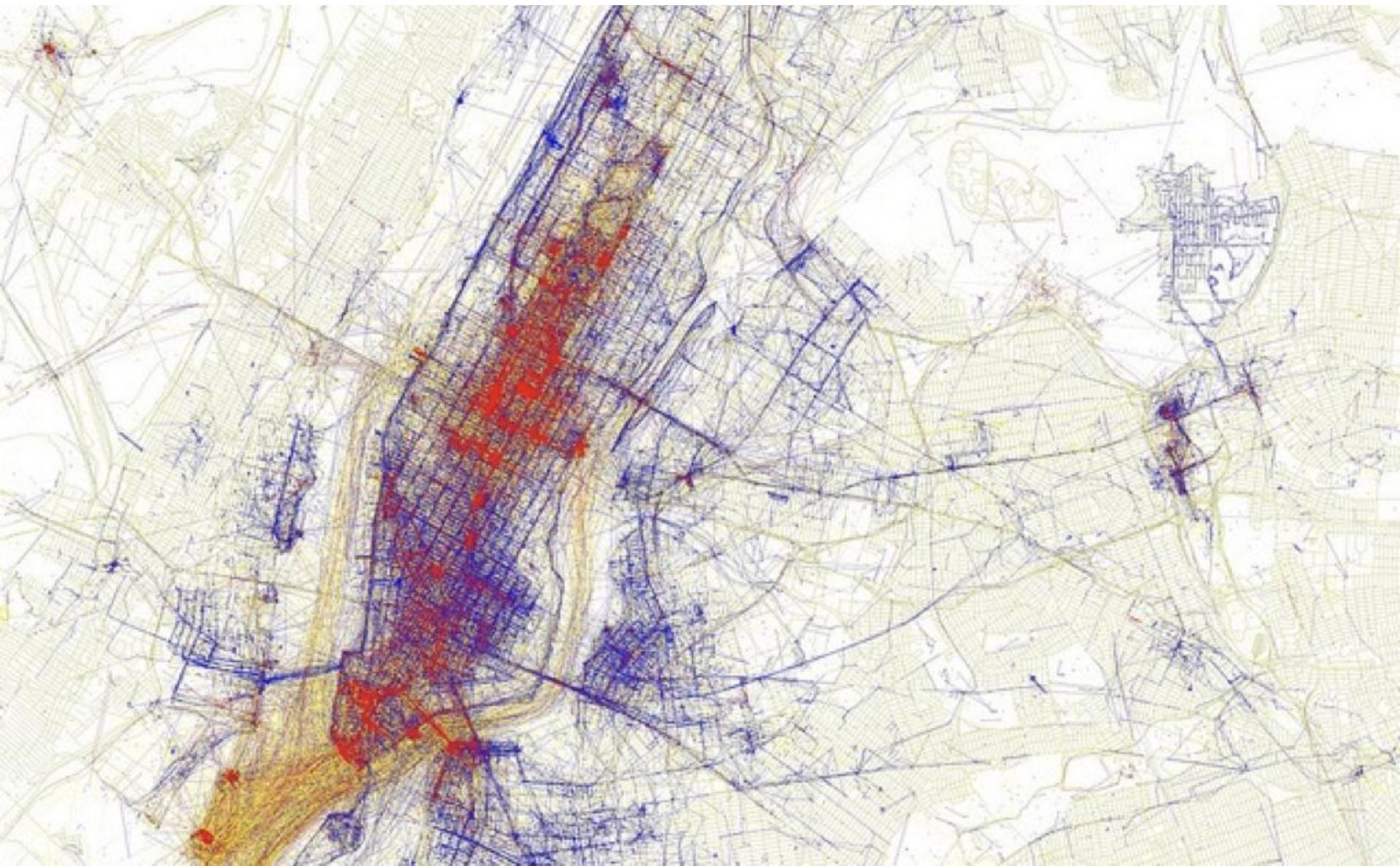
**Benjamin Bach**

June 2020

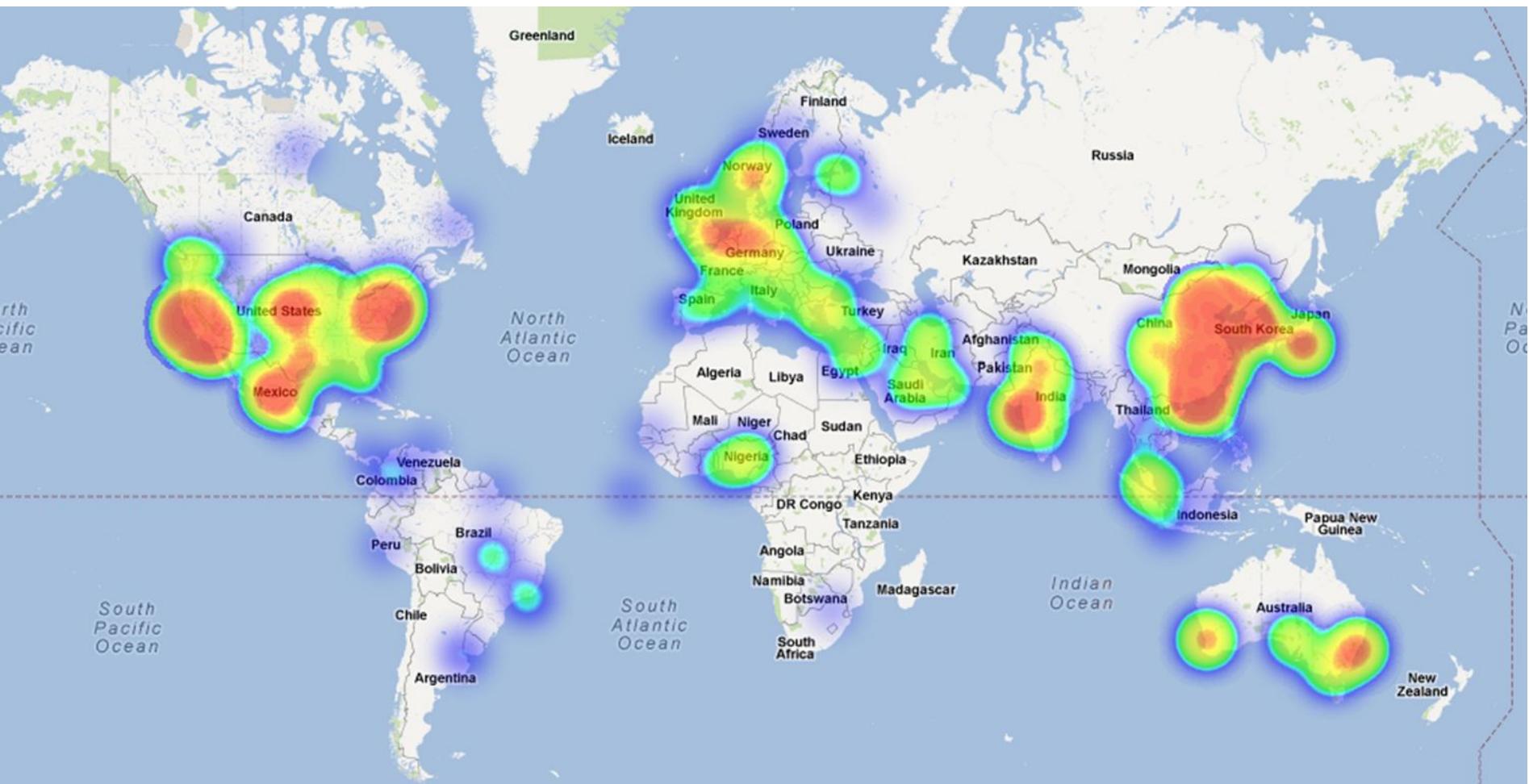
<http://benjbach.me>  
<https://datavis-online.github.io>

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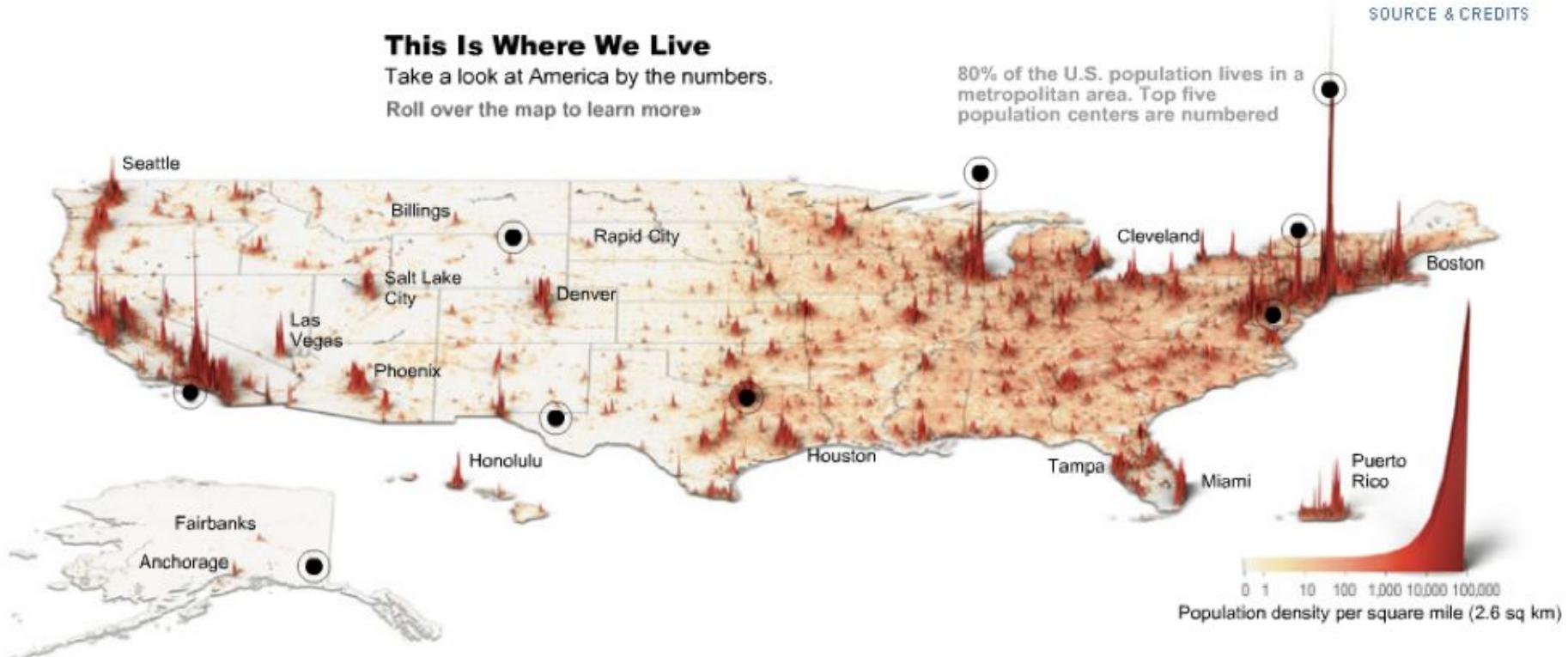
# Point map



# Heat maps



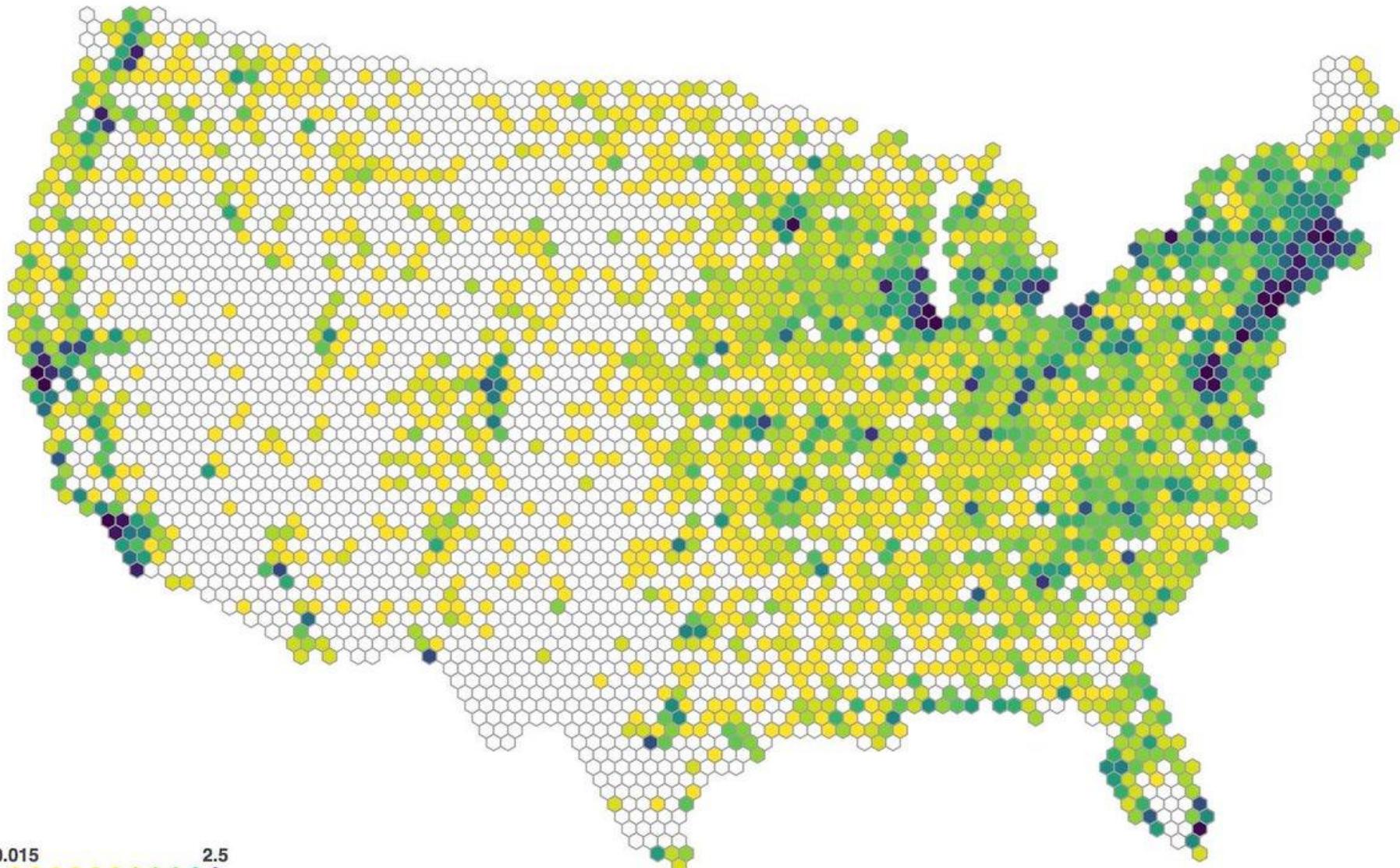
# Elevation map

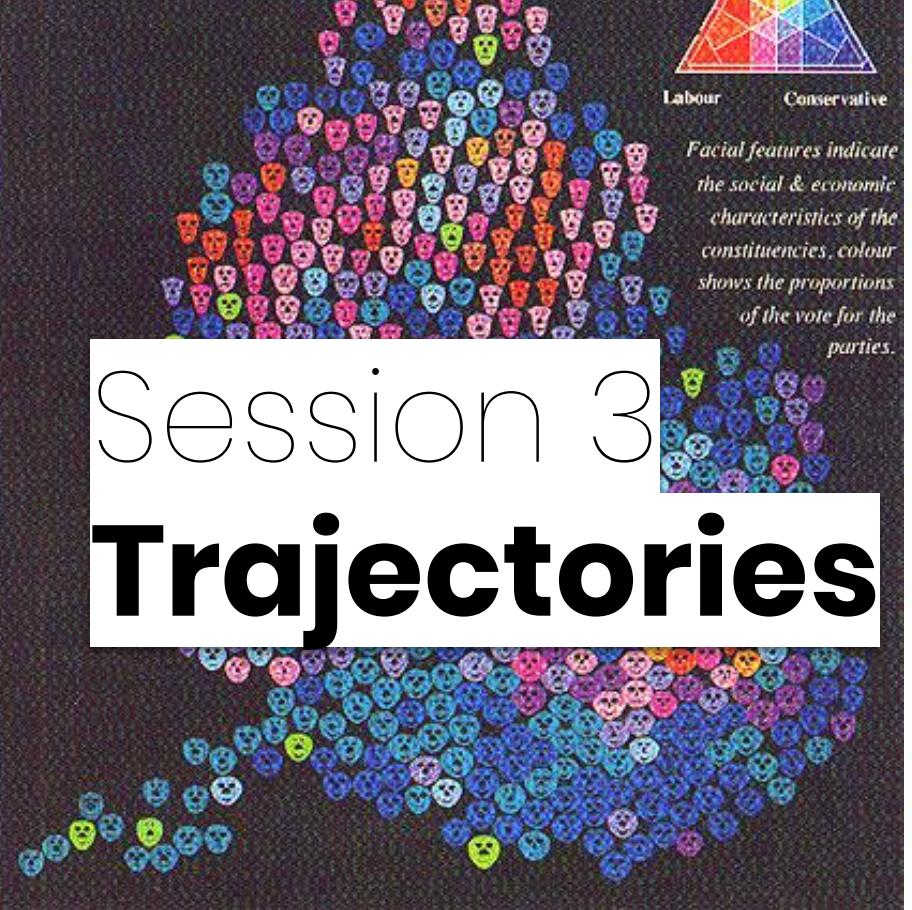


- + Can show huge differences in values
- + Allows for comparison

- Geographic distortion
- Possible occlusion

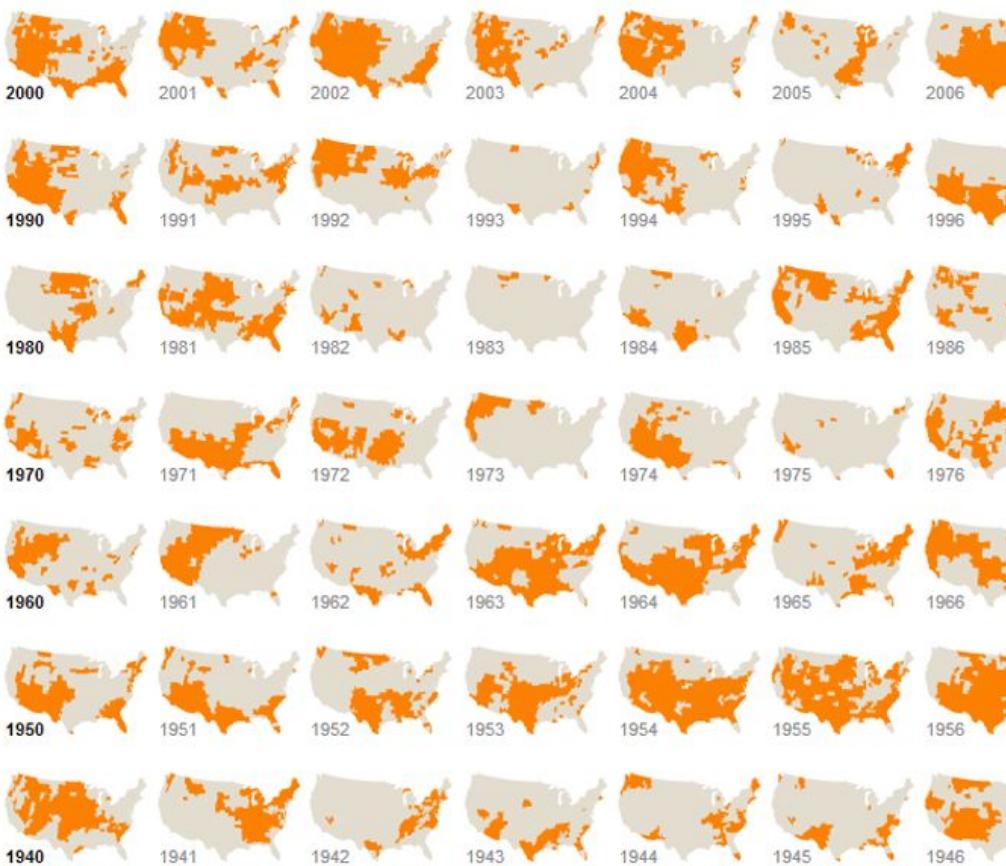
# Binning





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# Trajectories



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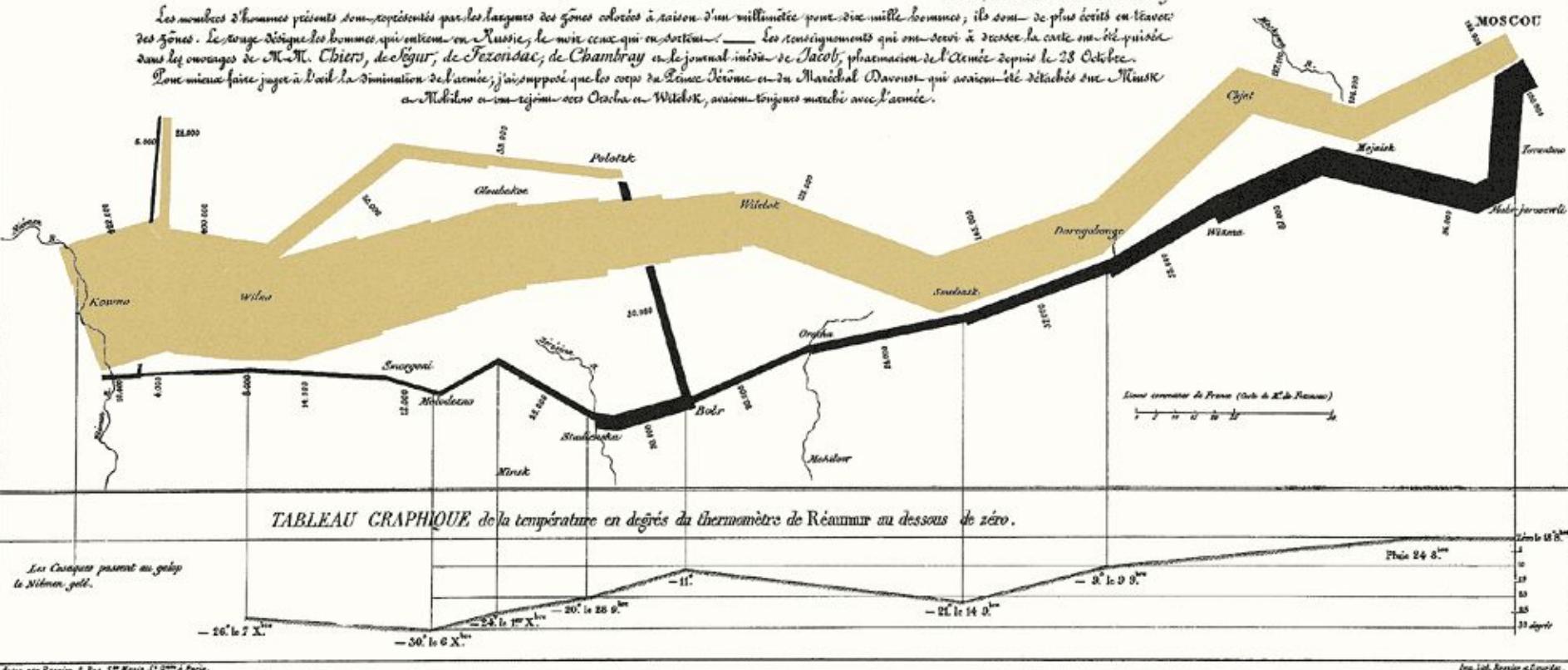
## Carte Figurative des pertes successives en hommes de l'Armée Française dans la Campagne de Russie 1812-1813.

Demande au M. Minard, Inspecteur Général des Ponts et Chaussées en rédaction.

Paris, le 20 November 1869

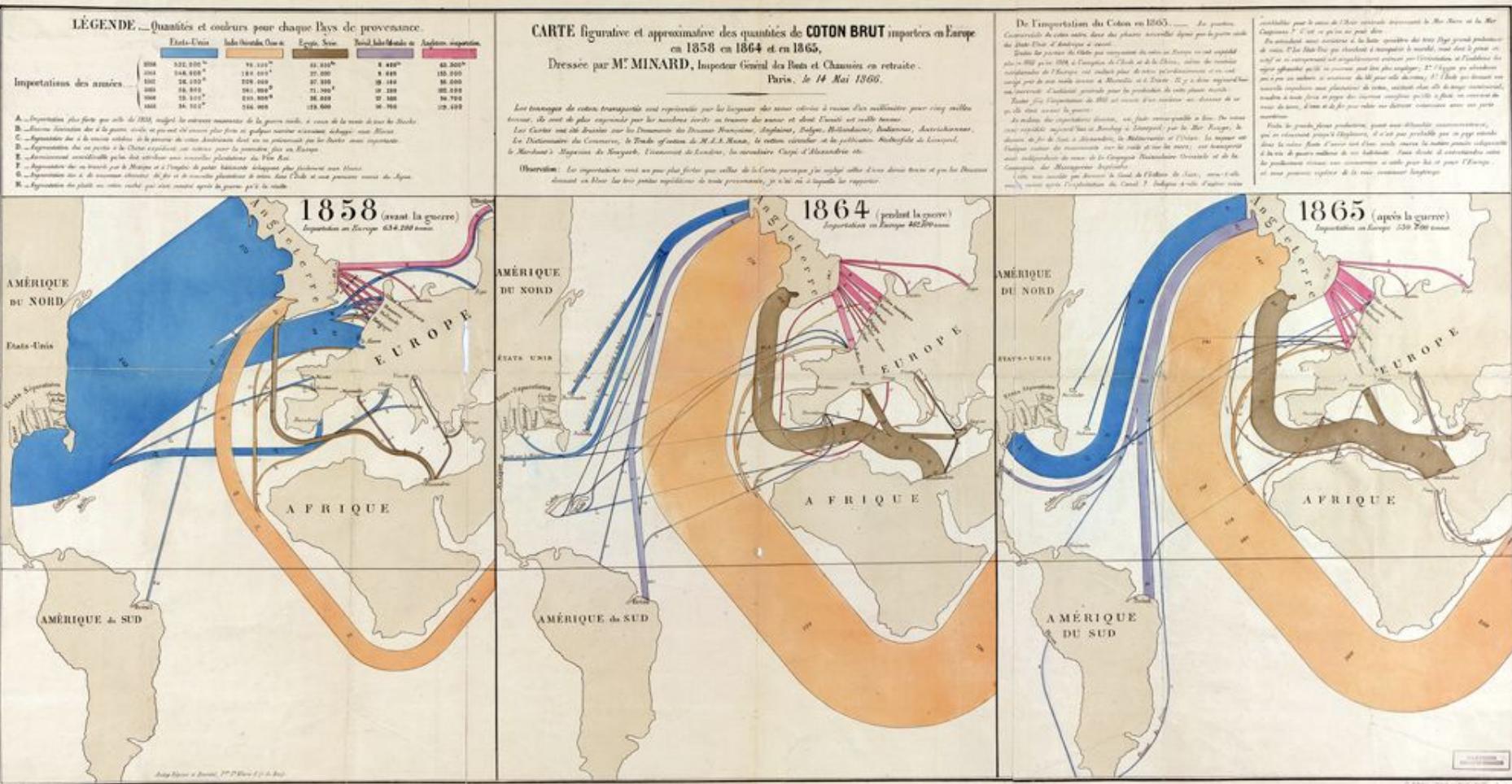
Les nombreuses plaintes sont, rappelées par les langues des zones colonisées à raison d'un milliardaire pour dix mille hommes; ils sont de plus écrits en faveur des zones. Le rouge démontre la bonté qui réigne en Russie, le noir cesse qui en sortira. — Les renseignements qui ont servi à dresser la carte sont tirés dans les ouvrages de M.-M. Chiers, de Séguir, de Férouzeau, de Chambray et le journal intitulé de Jacob, publication de l'Académie depuis le 28 Octobre.

Une autre fois, juge à l'ail la démission de l'amie; j'ai supposé que les corps de l'ame, l'ame et du Maréchal Davout, qui avaient été détachés pour l'assister au mariage avec Odeux en Wiltshire, étaient toujours marchés avec l'amie.



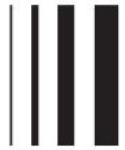
# Charles Joseph Minard (1781-1870)

# Flow Diagram



# Encoding information

Thickness



Hue



Transparency, Saturation, Brightness



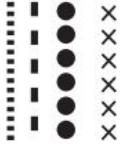
Texture



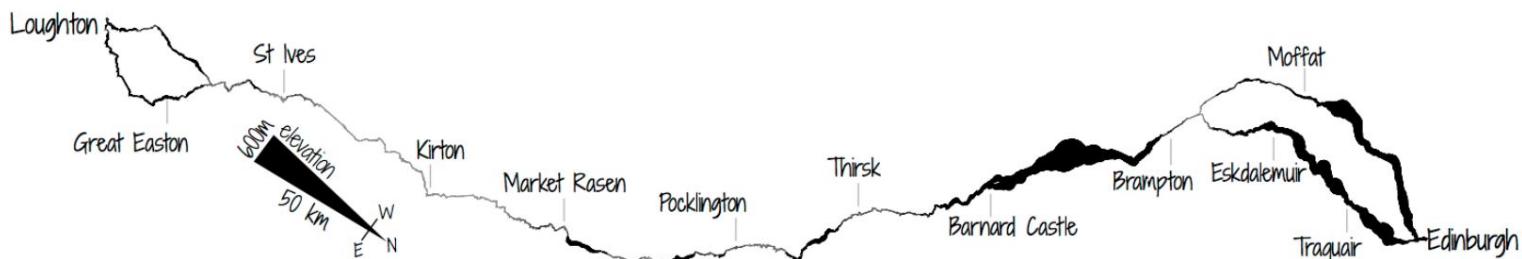
Text

Text along a curve to encode data

Particles

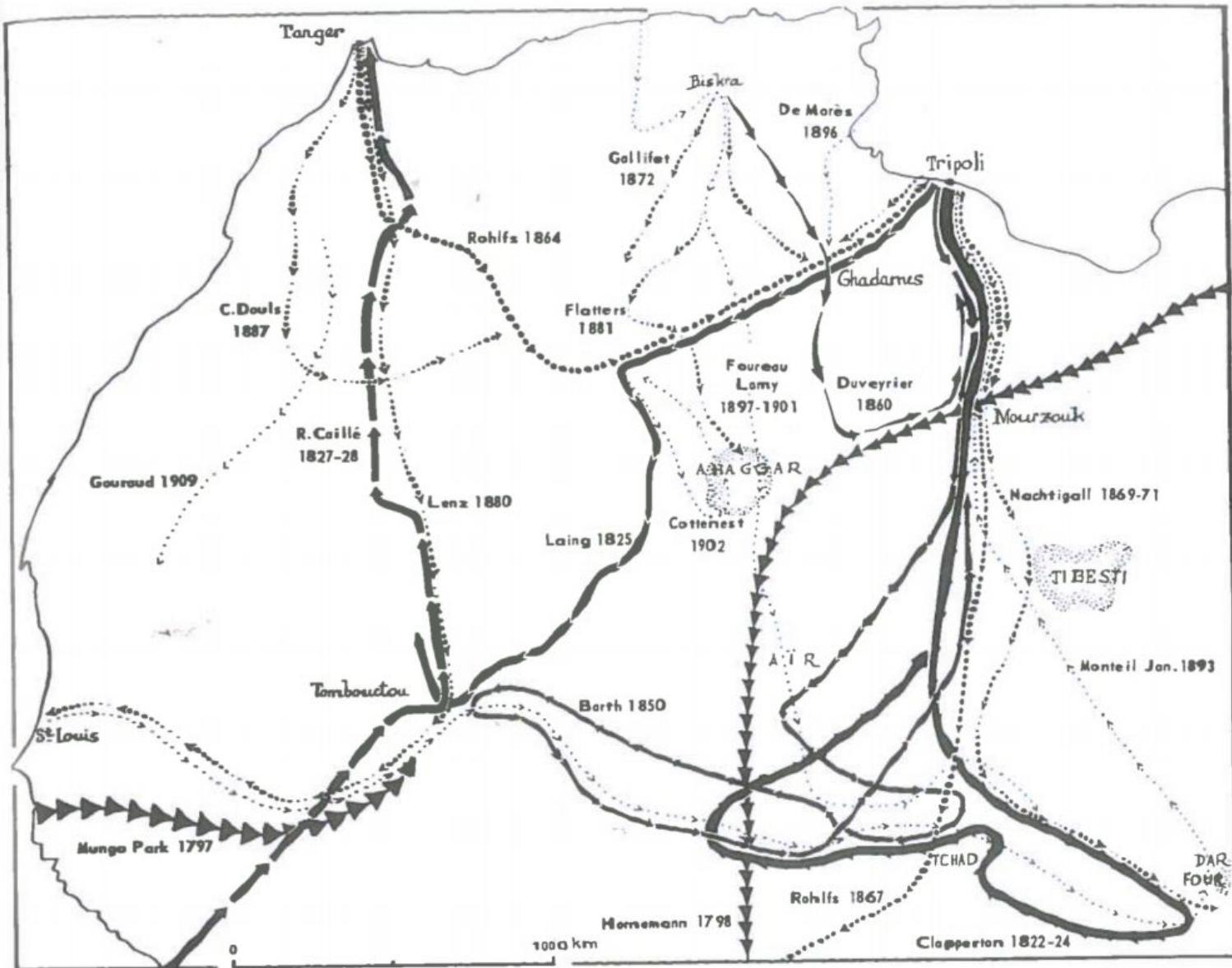
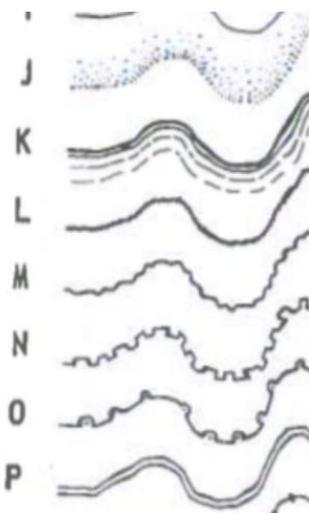


<https://medium.com/the-data-experience/bicycles-in-the-city-f9529d918388>

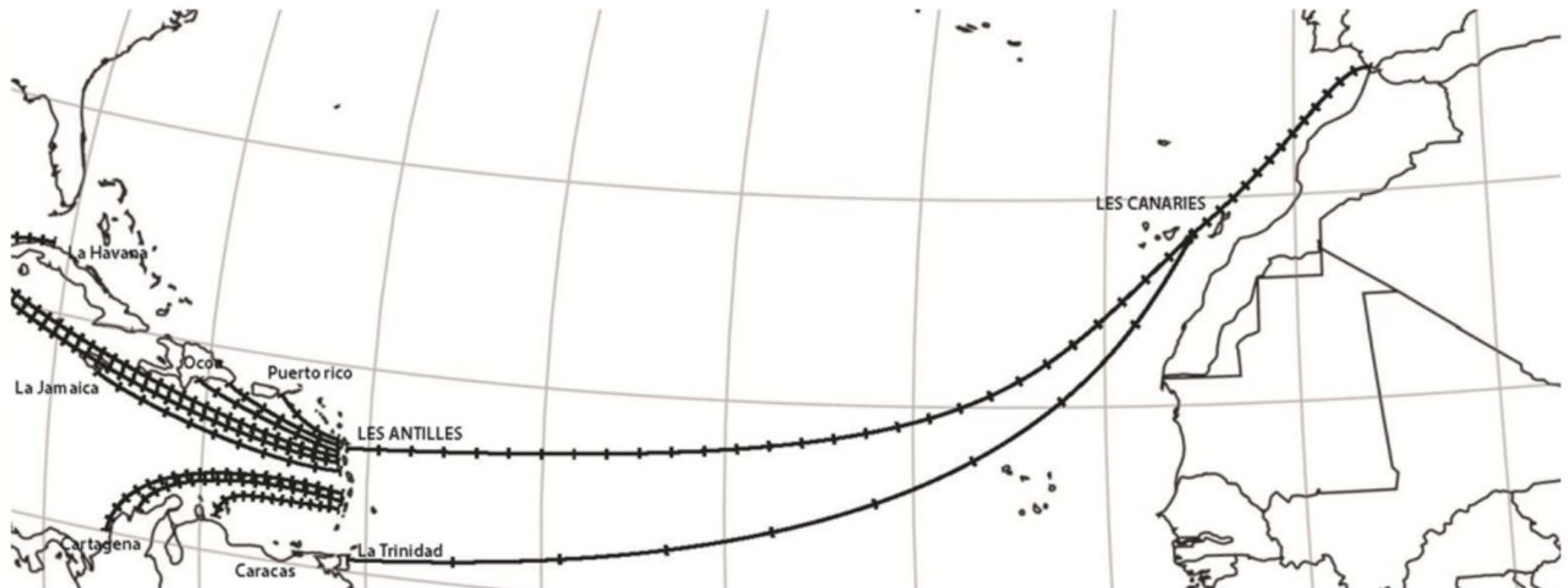


Wood, Jo. "Visualizing personal progress in participatory sports cycling events." *IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications* 35.4 (2015): 73-81.

# Texture



# Time steps / velocity



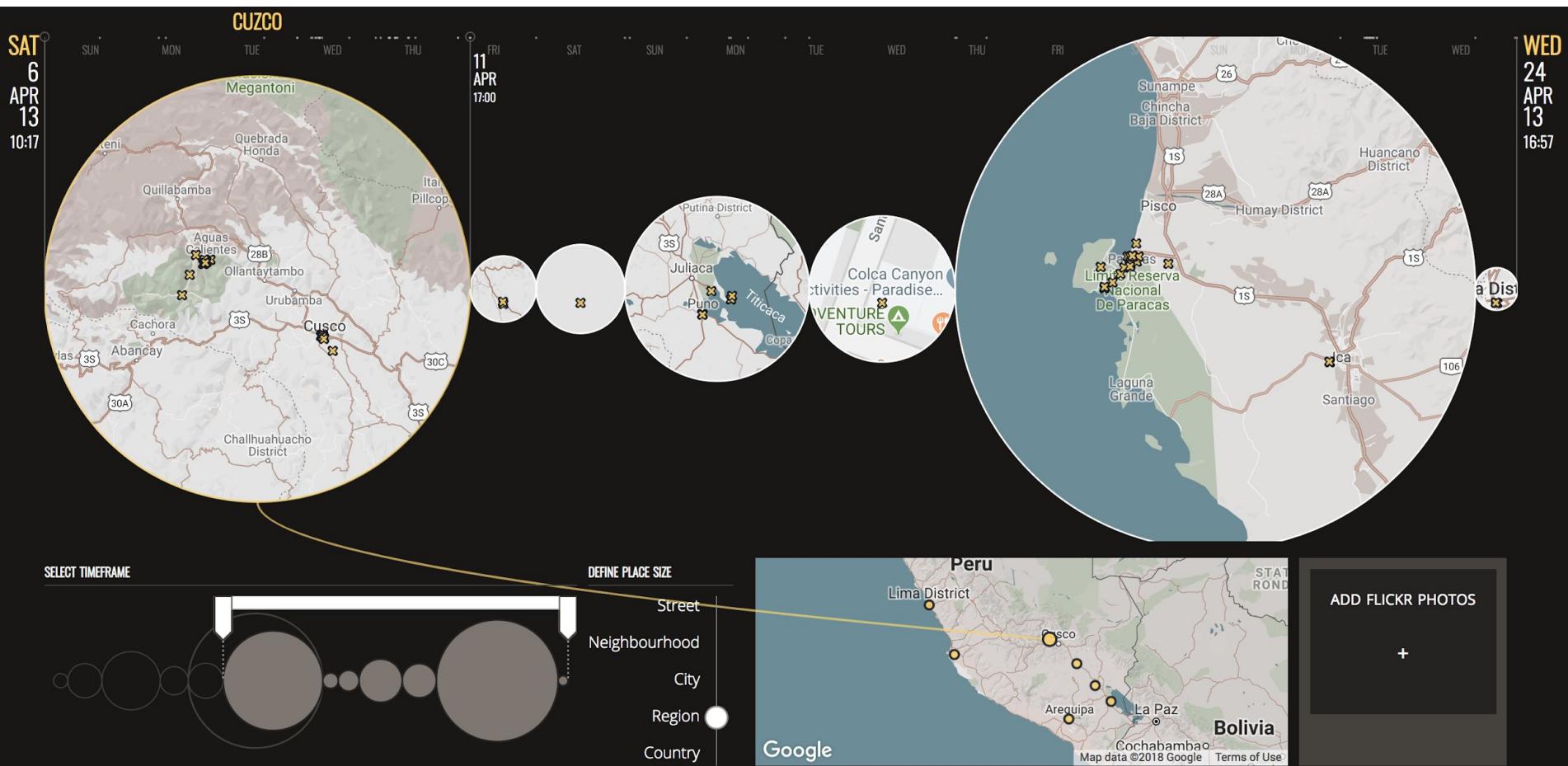
*Columbus journeys to the Americas*

# Animation: animating particles

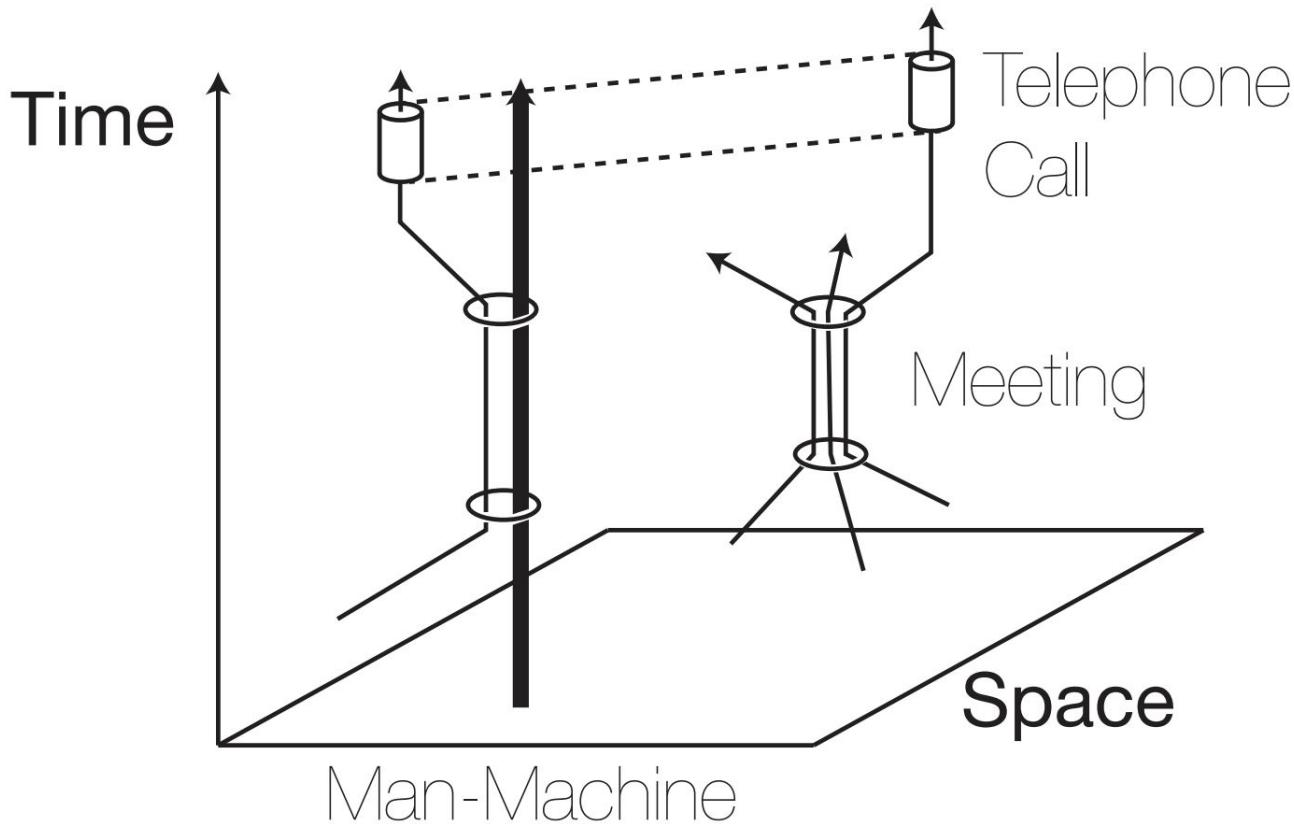
<http://ilda.saclay.inria.fr/flownet/>



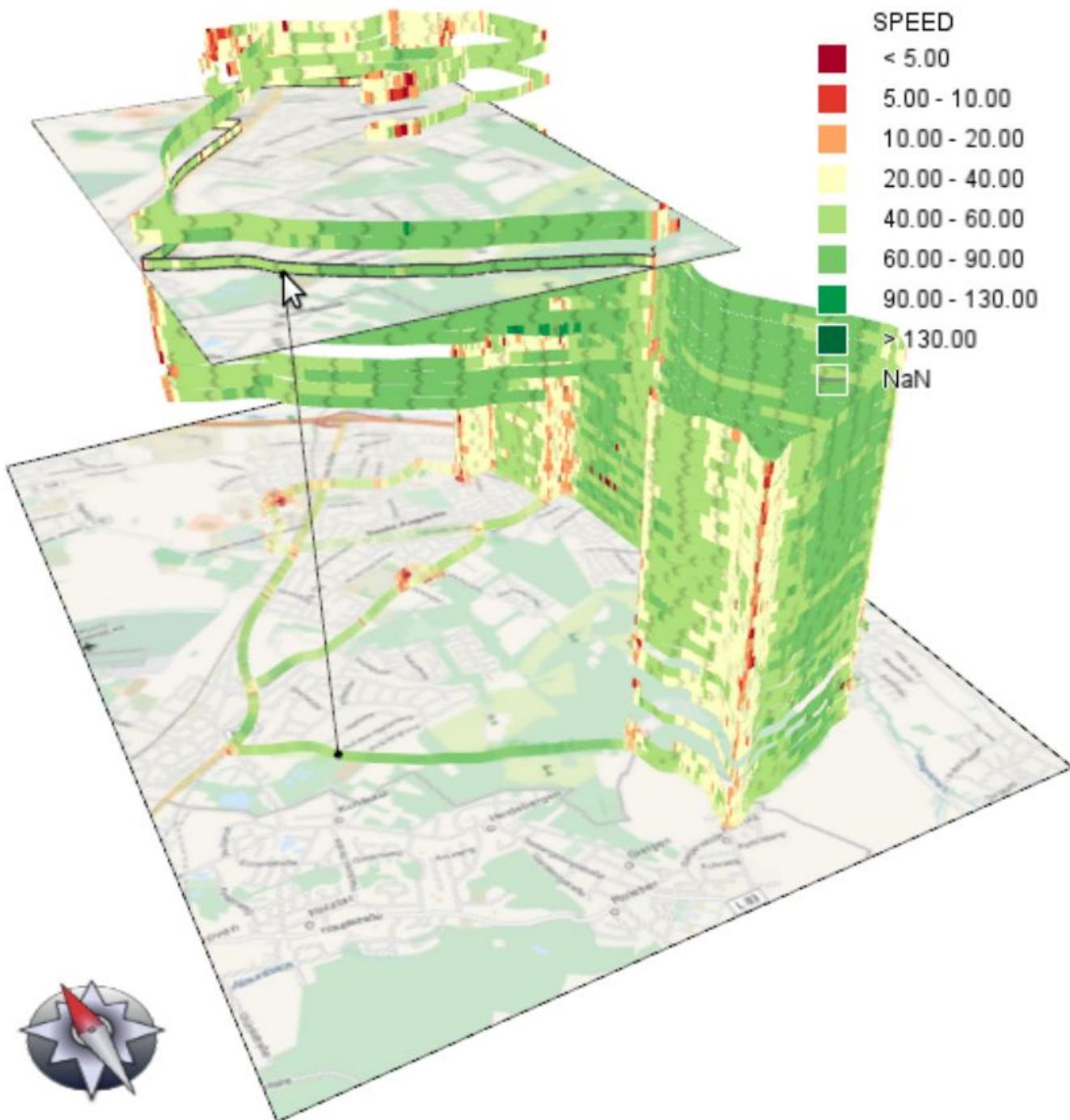
# Visits



# Space-Time Cubes



Bach, Benjamin, et al. "A Descriptive Framework for Temporal Data Visualizations Based on Generalized Space-Time Cubes." *Computer Graphics Forum*. Vol. 36. No. 6. 2017.



Tominski, Christian, et al. "Stacking-based visualization of trajectory attribute data." *IEEE Transactions on visualization and Computer Graphics* 18.12 (2012): 2565-2574.





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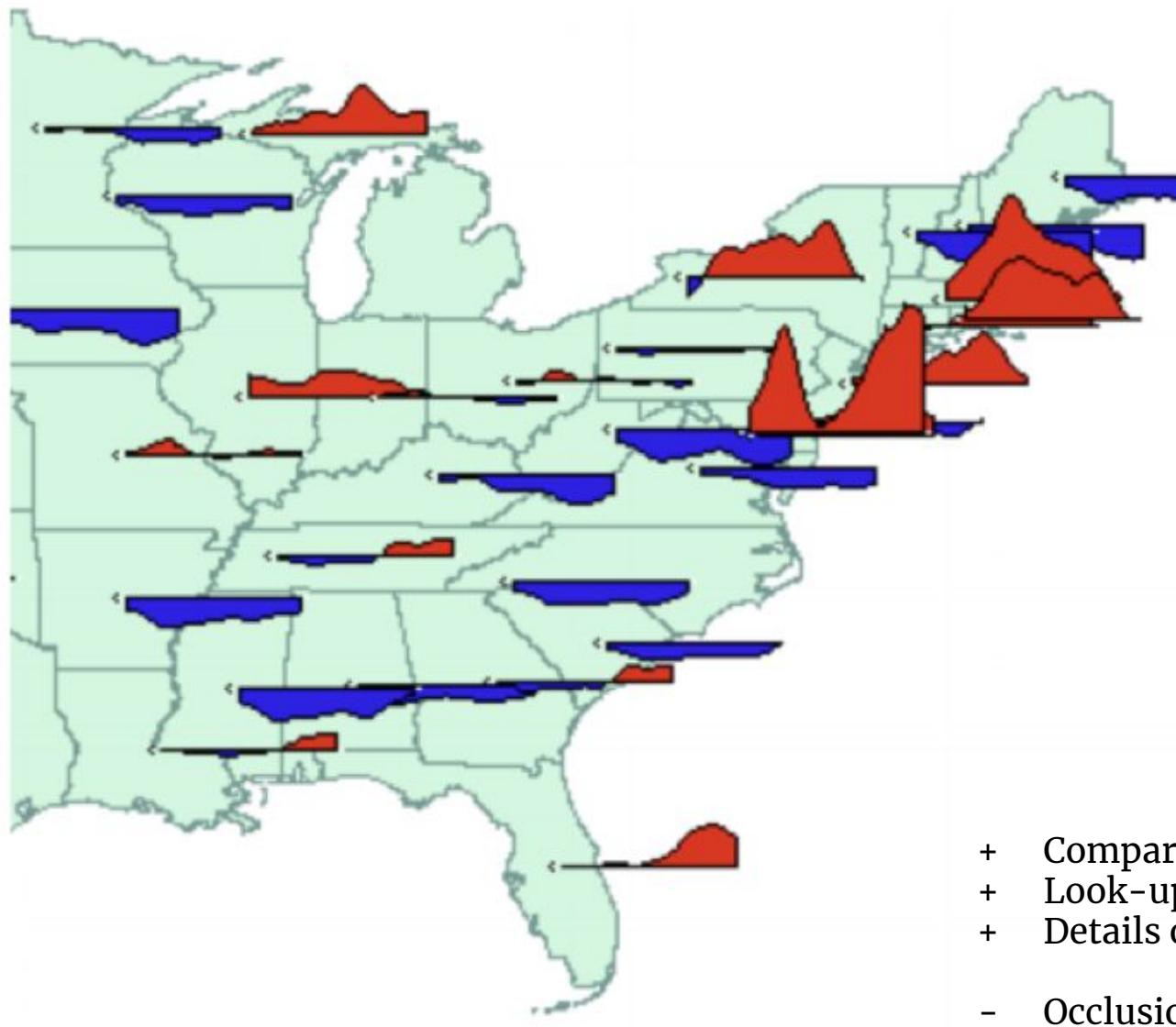
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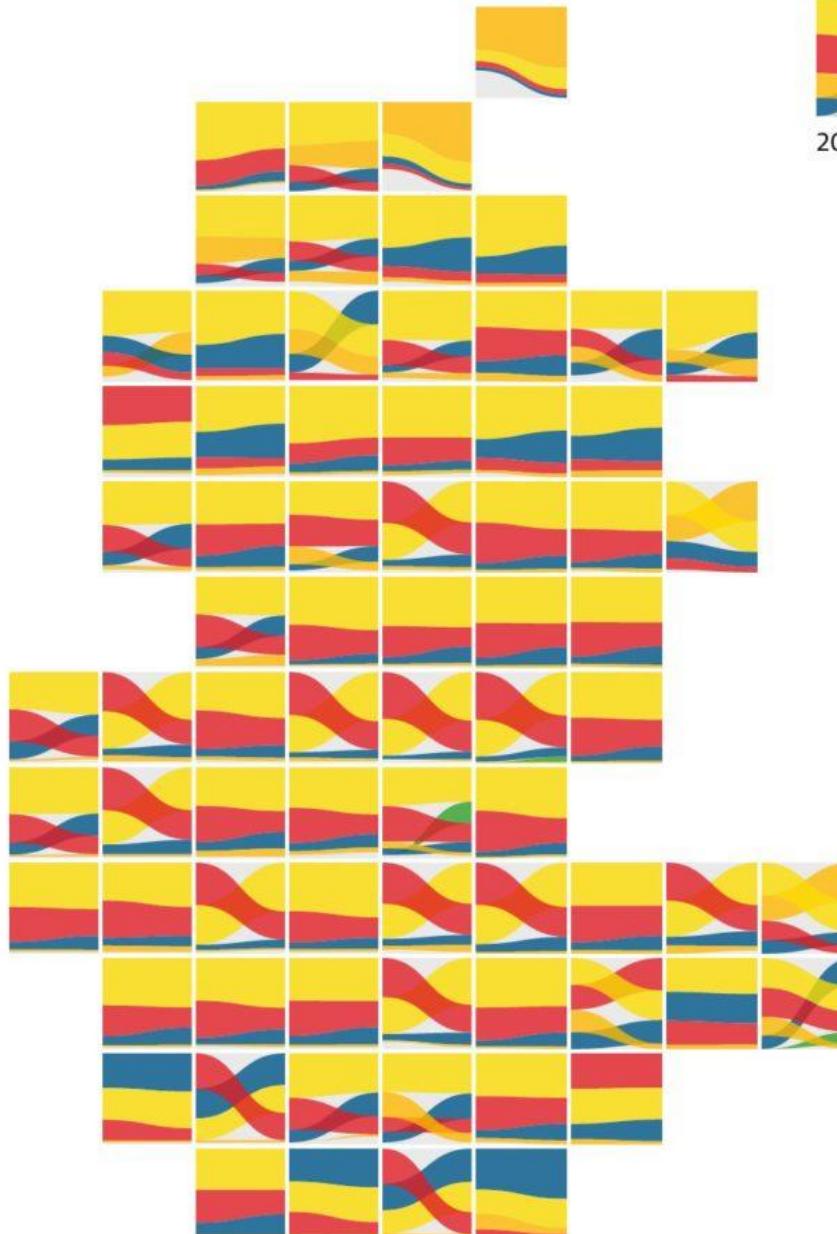
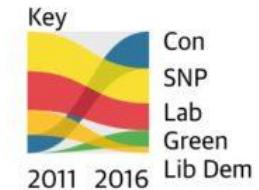
# Small Multiples





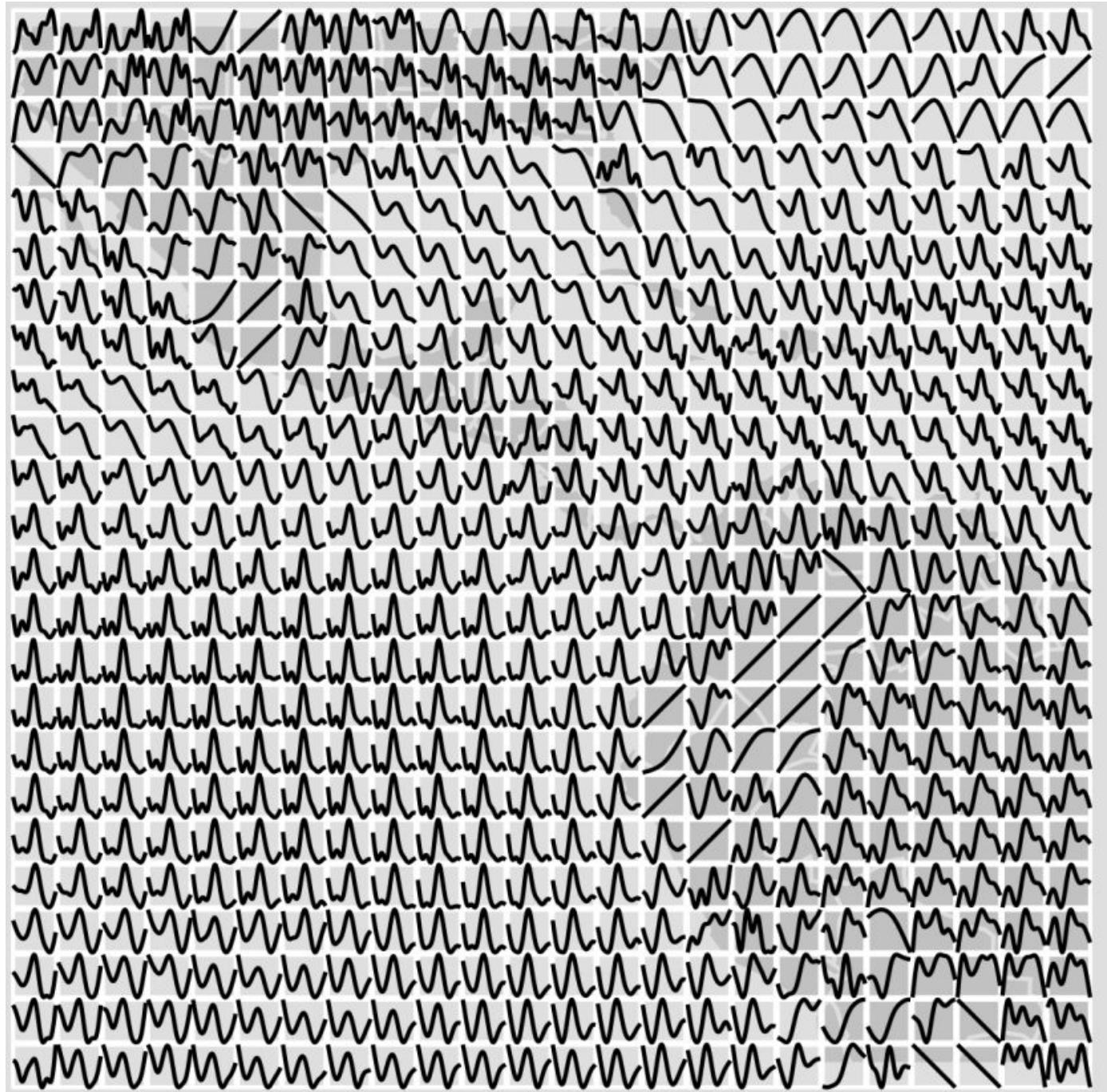
# How Scotland's political geography changed, seat by seat

## Geo-flow

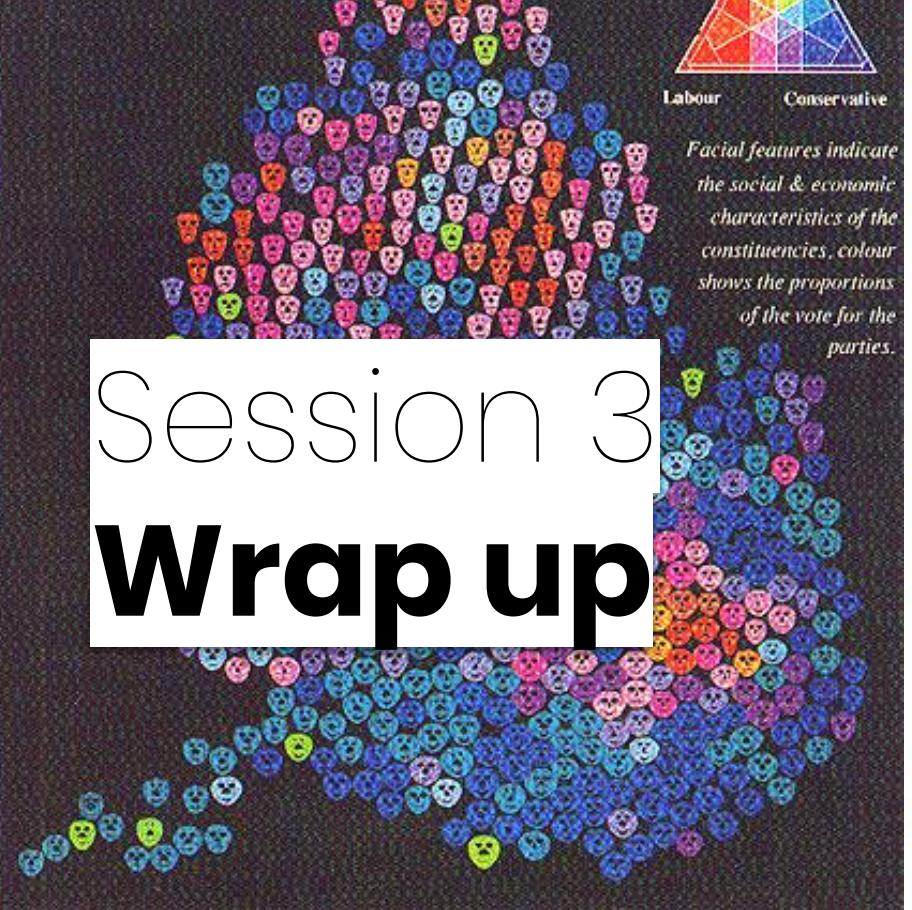


- + Compare regions
- + Look-up regions
- + Details on regions
  
- Compare far away glyphs
- Glyphs can become small

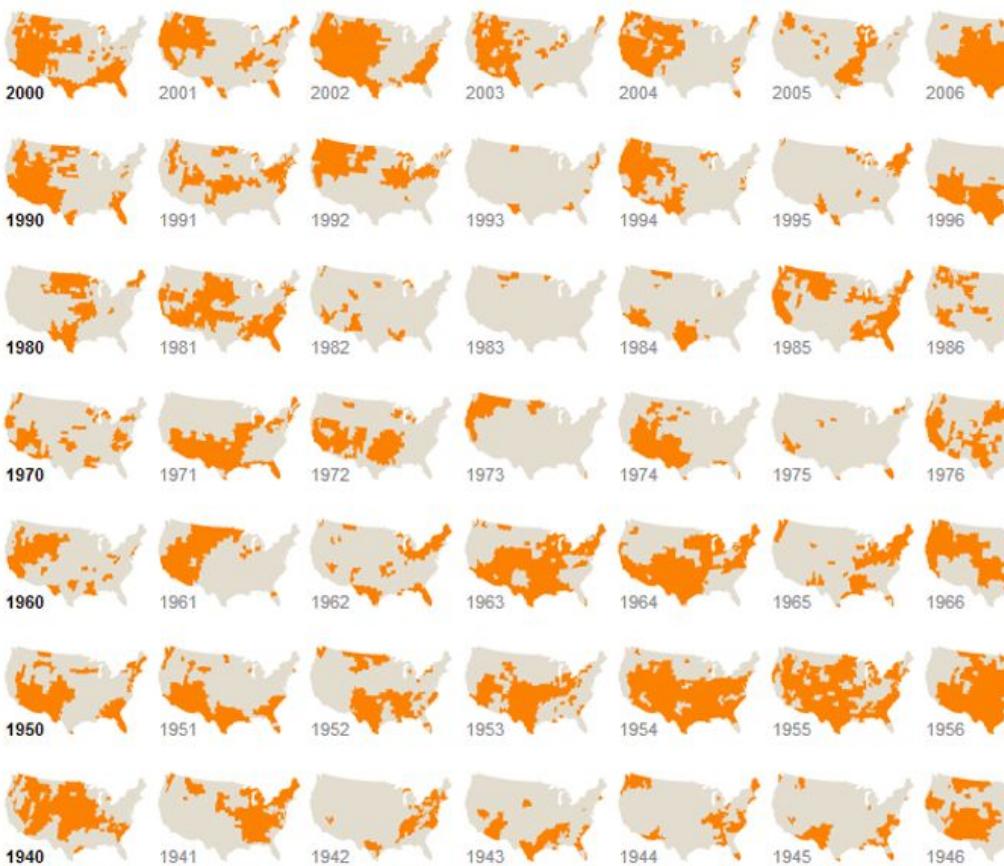
# Glyph Maps



<https://vita.had.co.nz/papers/glyph-maps.pdf>



# Session 3 Wrap up



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# Further reading

- Alberto Cairo: The Truthful Art: Chapter 10: Mapping Data
- Bertin, Jacques. *Semiology of graphics; diagrams networks maps.* No. 04; QA90, B7.. 1983.
- Andrienko, Gennady, et al. "Space, time and visual analytics." *International journal of geographical information science* 24.10 (2010): 1577–1600.
- Andrienko, Natalia, and Gennady Andrienko. *Exploratory analysis of spatial and temporal data: a systematic approach.* Springer Science & Business Media, 2006.
- Bach, Benjamin, et al. "A descriptive framework for temporal data visualizations based on generalized space-time cubes." *Computer Graphics Forum.* Vol. 36. No. 6. 2017.
- Bach, Benjamin, et al. "Ways of Visualizing Data on Curves." 2018.