

# **Evaluation and Review**

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**DSC 106: Data Visualization**

Sam Lau

UC San Diego

# Announcements

Final Project video due next week Tuesday.

This is the last lecture (of content):

**Fri Mar 7:** Final Project feedback session

**Wed Mar 12:** Final Project mock showcase

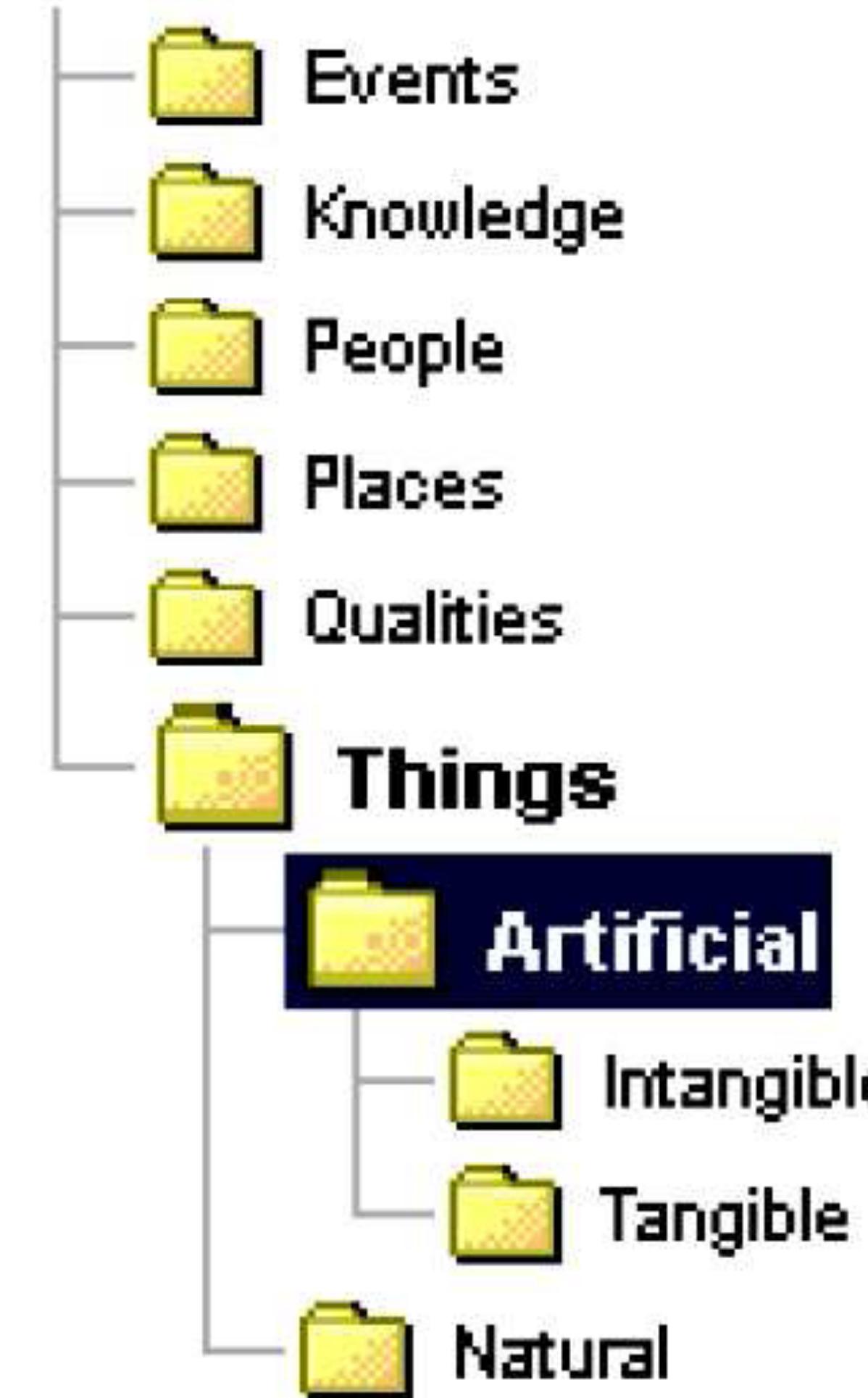
**Fri Mar 14:** Final Project video highlights

**Mon Mar 17:** Final Project due

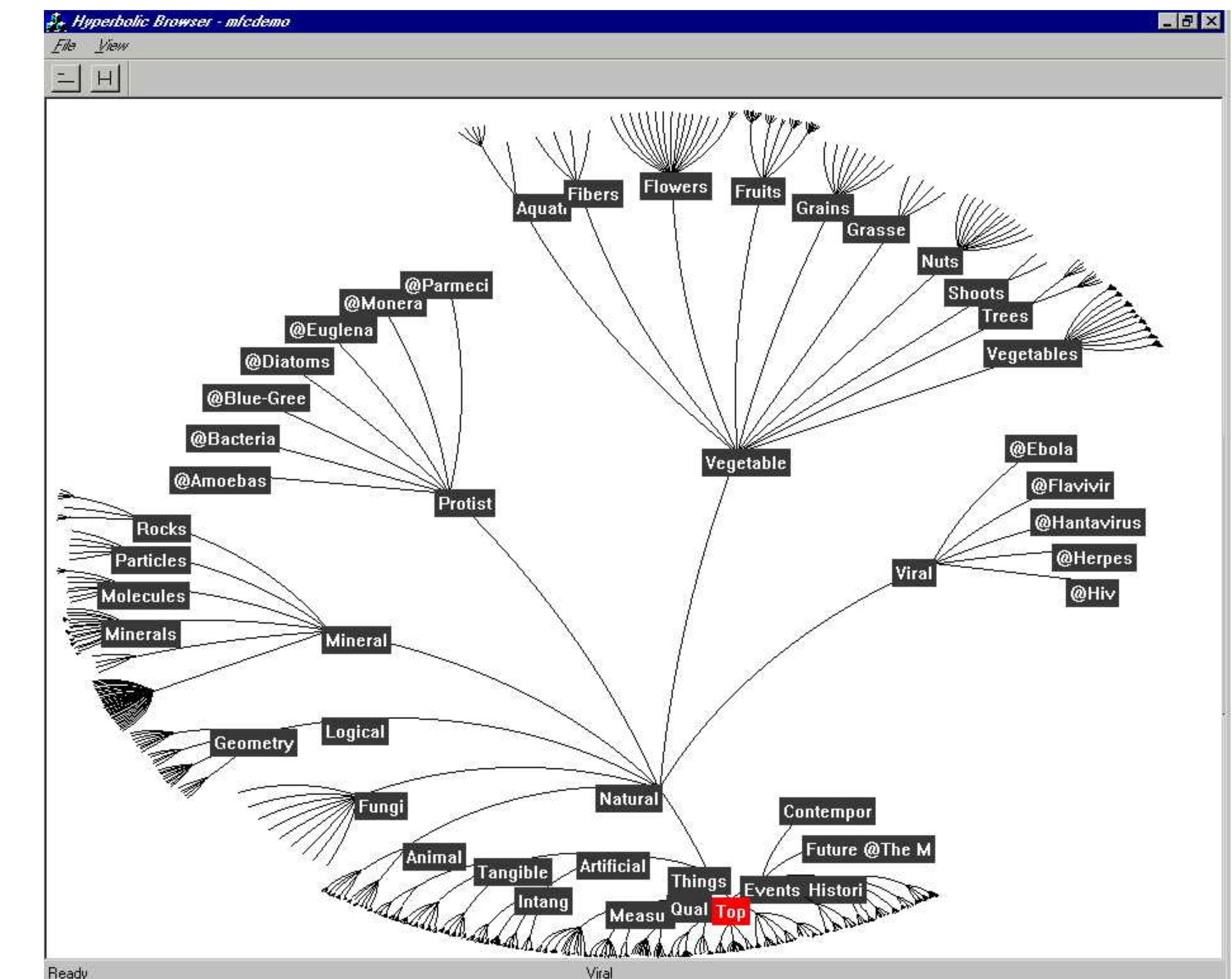
**Tue Mar 18:** Final Project Showcase

**How do we determine whether  
a visualization is effective?**

## Categories



VS



# Evaluation Methods

## Inspection or Principled Rationale

Apply design heuristics, perceptual principles

## Informal User Study

Have people use visualization, observe results

## Controlled Experiment

Choose appropriate tasks / users to compare

Choose metrics (time, error, what else?)

# Evaluation Methods

## Field Deployment or Case Studies

Observation and Interview

Document effects on work practices

## Theoretical Analysis

Algorithm time and space complexity

## Benchmarks

Performance (e.g., interactive frame rates)

Scalability to larger data sets

# Today

Evaluating Trees

Evaluating Spatial Navigation

Data Density of Time Series

Conclusion

# Today

Evaluating Trees

Evaluating Spatial Navigation

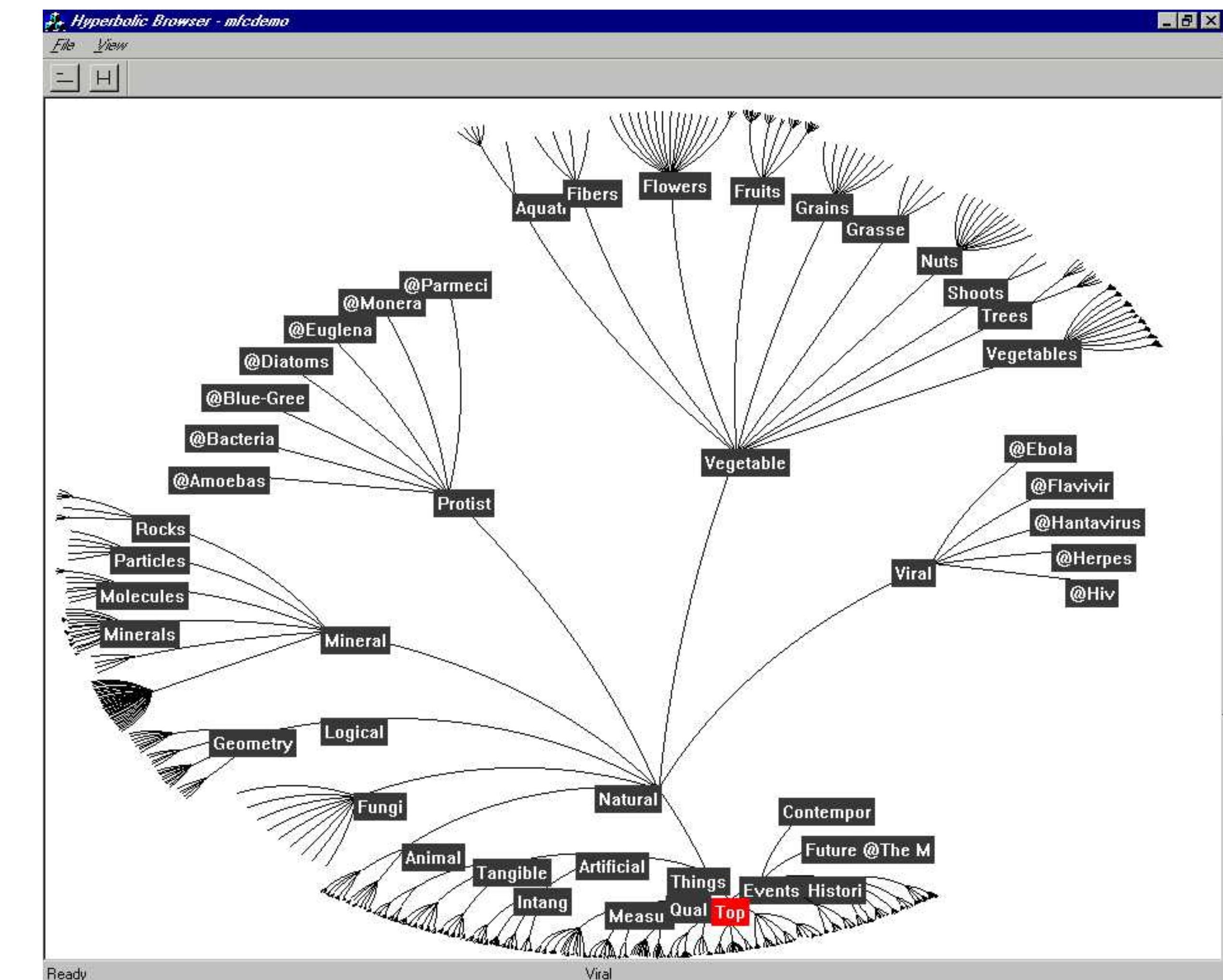
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# The Great Browse-Off! [CHI 97]

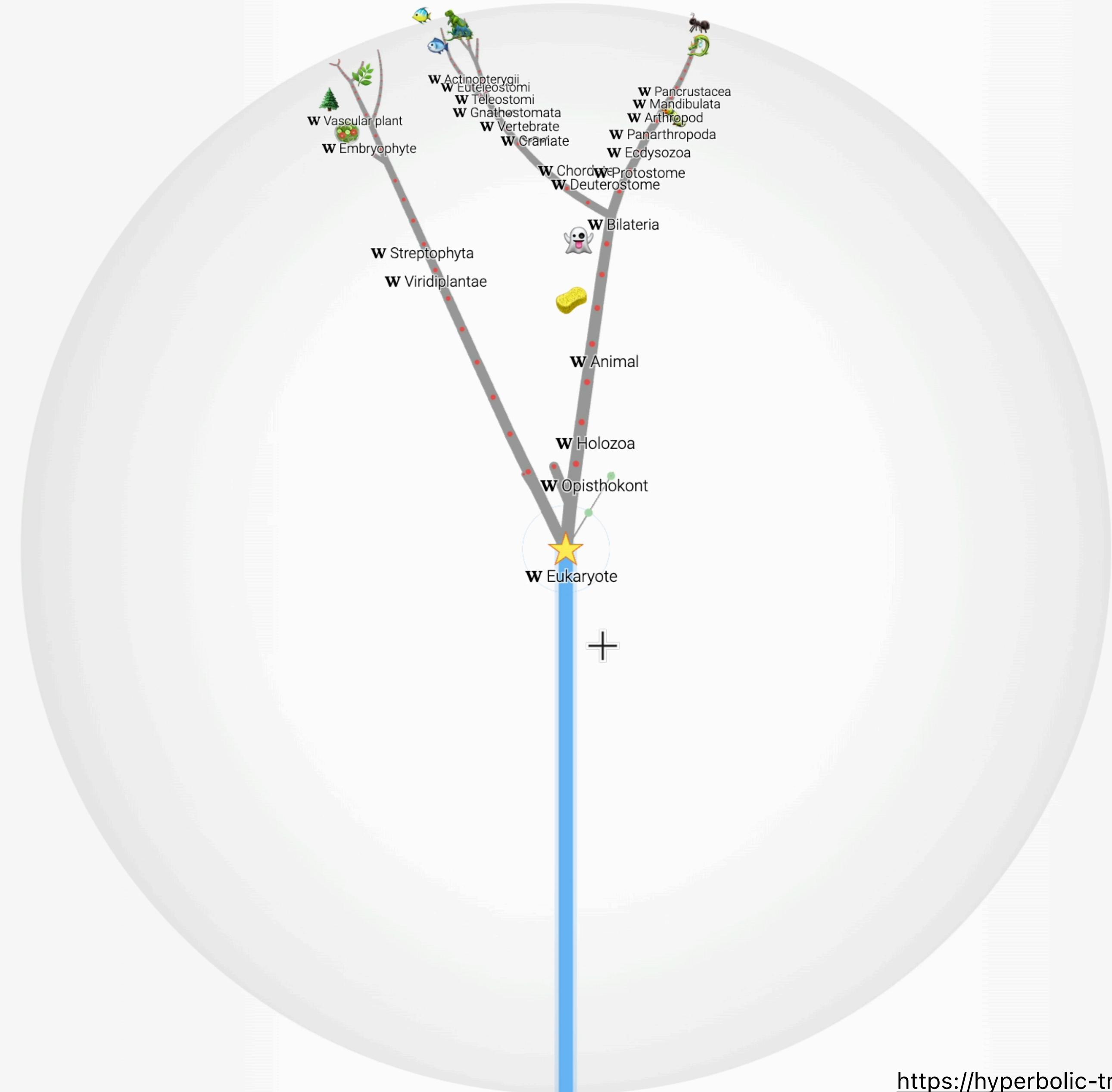


VS



Microsoft File Explorer

Xerox PARC Hyperbolic Tree



<https://hyperbolic-tree-of-life.github.io/>

## WIKIPEDIA



Wiki Loves  
FOLKLORE



Photograph your local culture, help Wikipedia and win!

## Eukaryote

Article Talk

文 A



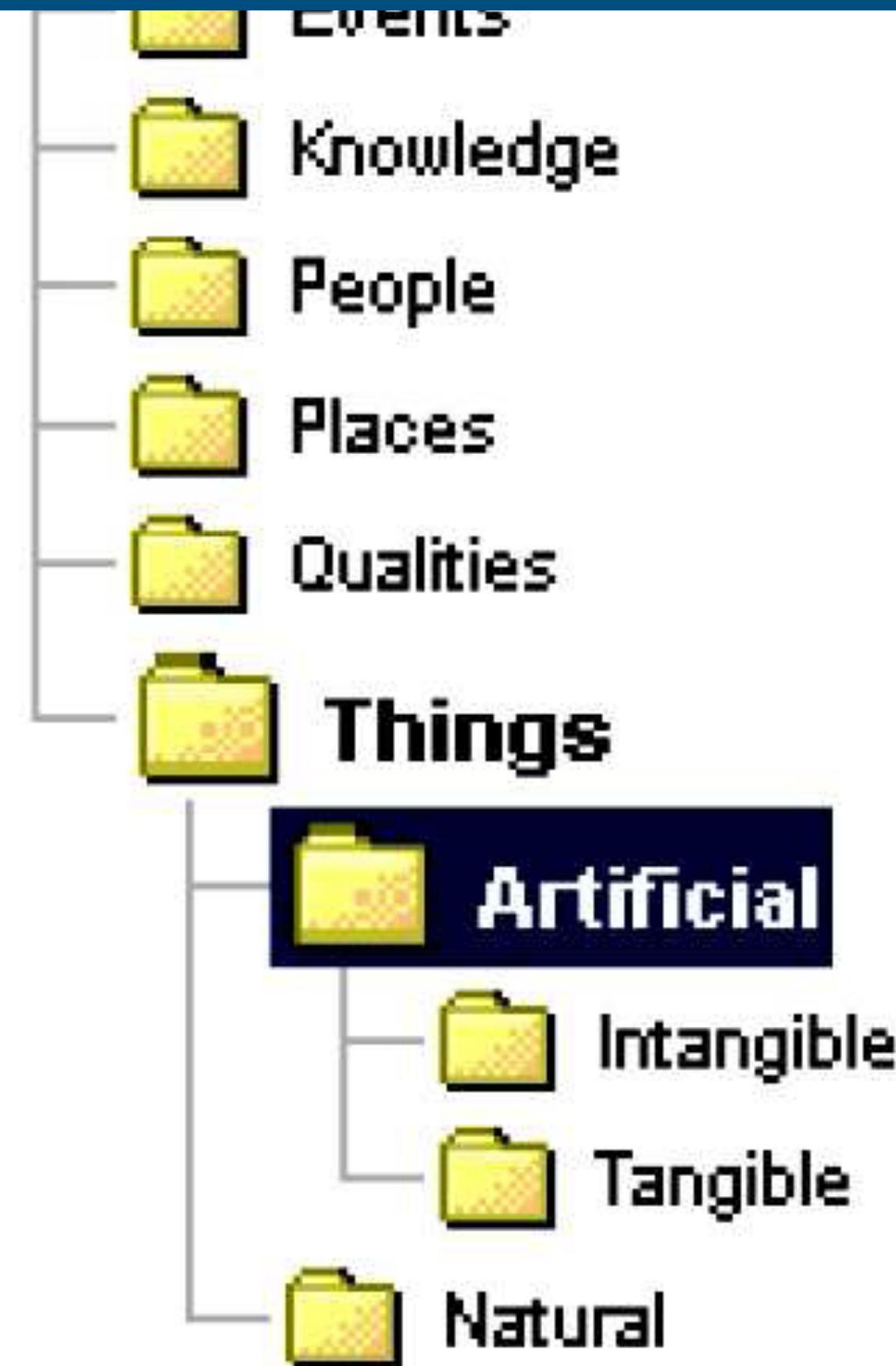
"Eukaryotic cell" redirects here. For the journal, see [Eukaryotic Cell \(journal\)](#).

The **eukaryotes** (*/ju:kærɪoʊts, -əts/* *yoo-KARR-ee-ohts, -əts*) constitute the domain of **Eukarya**, organisms whose **cells** have a membrane-bound **nucleus**. All **animals**, **plants**, **fungi**, and many **unicellular organisms** are eukaryotes. They constitute a major group of **life forms** alongside the two groups of **prokaryotes**: the **Bacteria** and the **Archaea**. Eukaryotes represent a small minority of the number of organisms, but given their generally much larger size, their collective **global biomass** is much larger than that of prokaryotes.



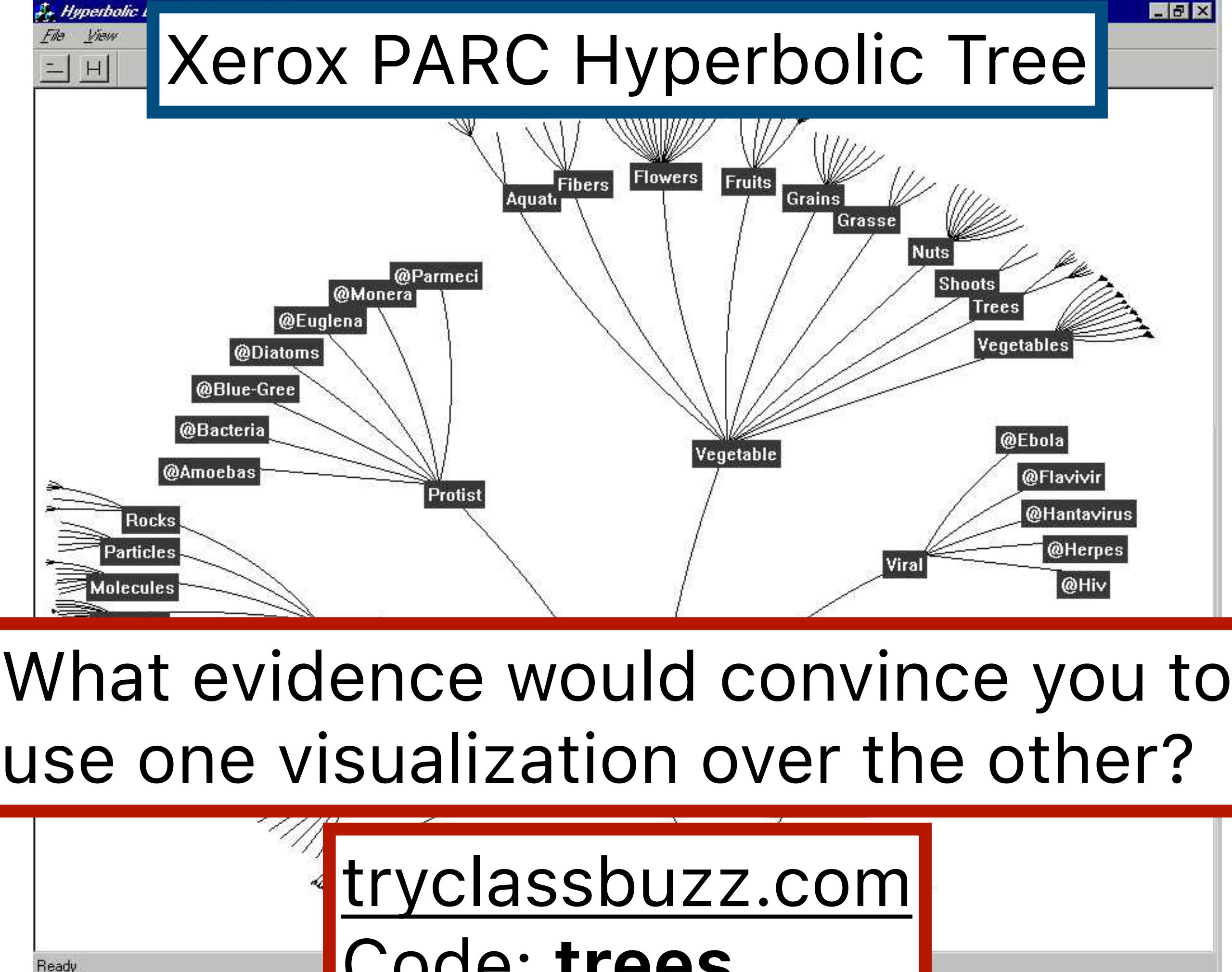
# How can we decide if one is better?

Microsoft File Explorer



VS

Xerox PARC Hyperbolic Tree



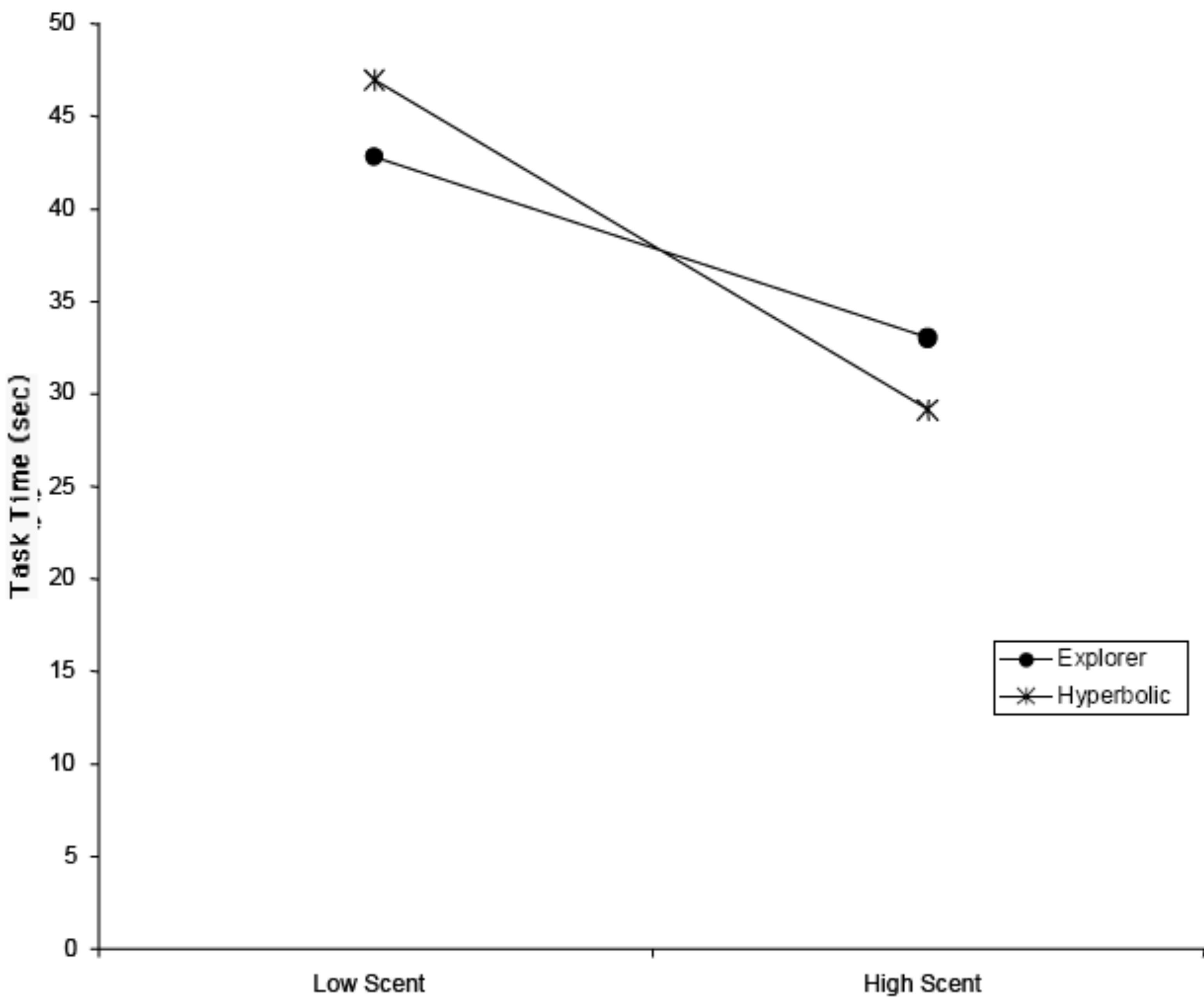
What evidence would convince you to use one visualization over the other?

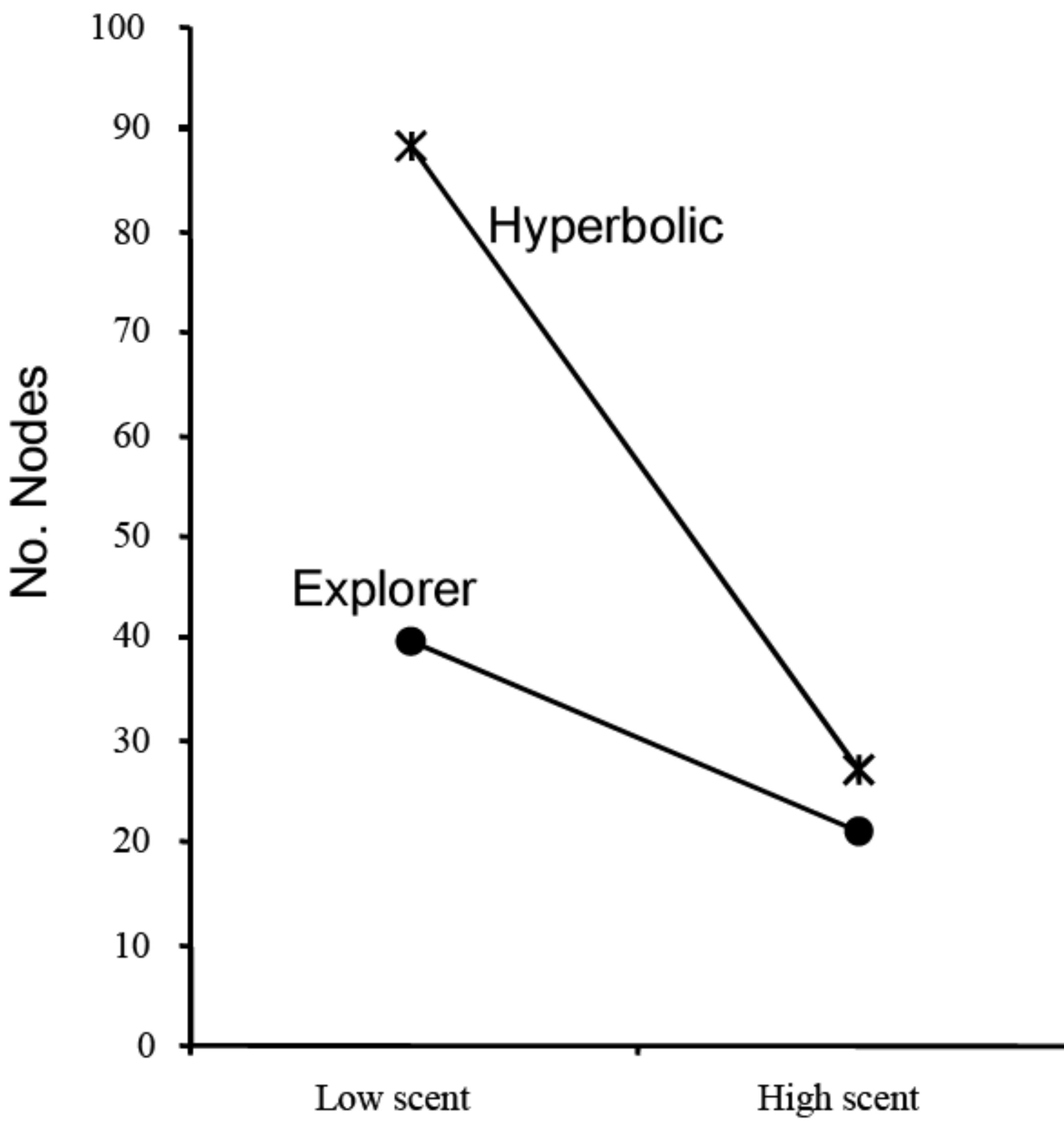
[tryclassbuzz.com](http://tryclassbuzz.com)  
Code: trees

# How do users navigate the tree?

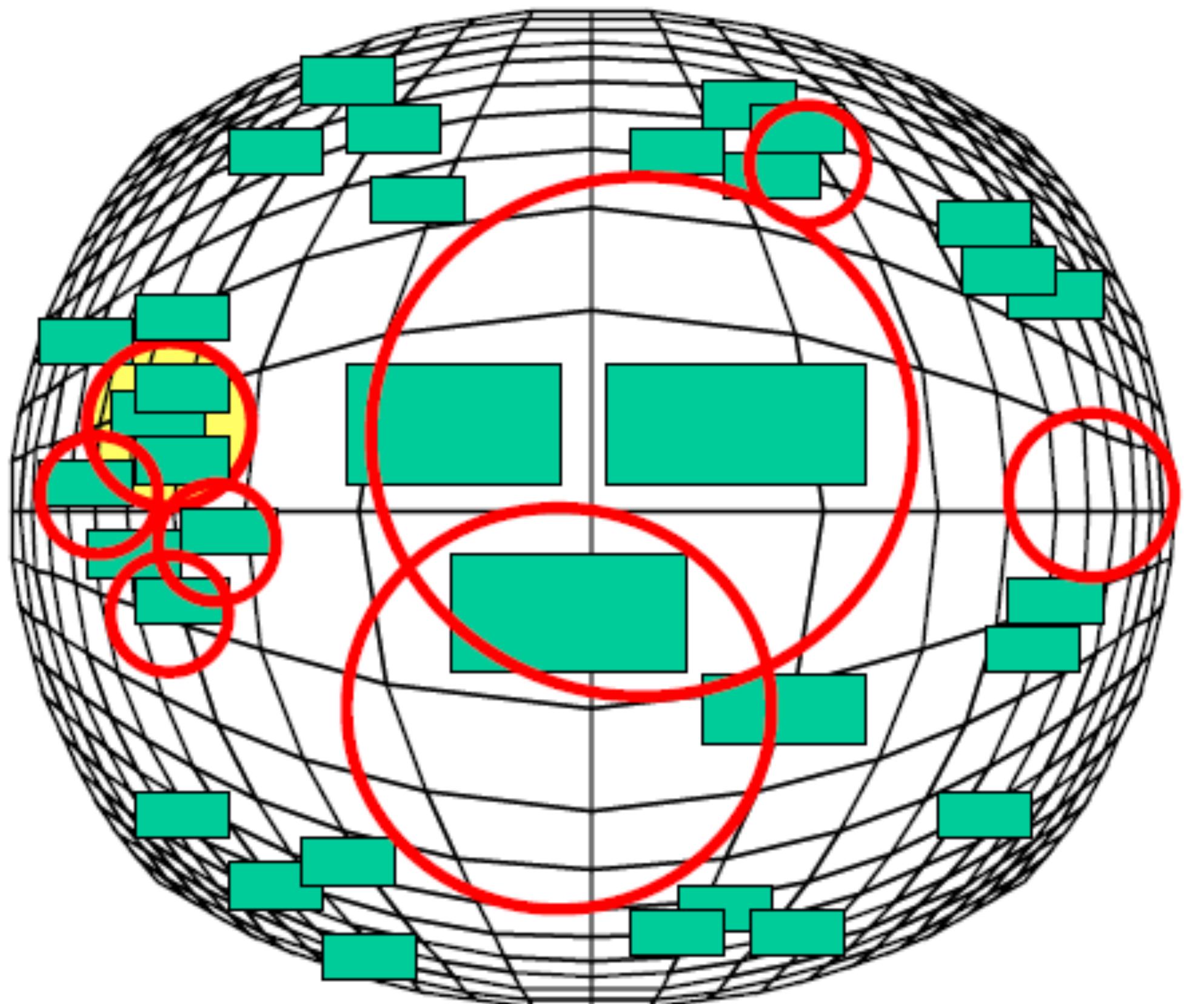
**Information Scent:** A user's (imperfect) perception of the value, cost, or access path of information sources obtained from proximal cues. [Pirolli & Card 99]

**Operationalize as:** the proportion of participants who correctly identified the location of the task answer from looking at upper branches in the tree.

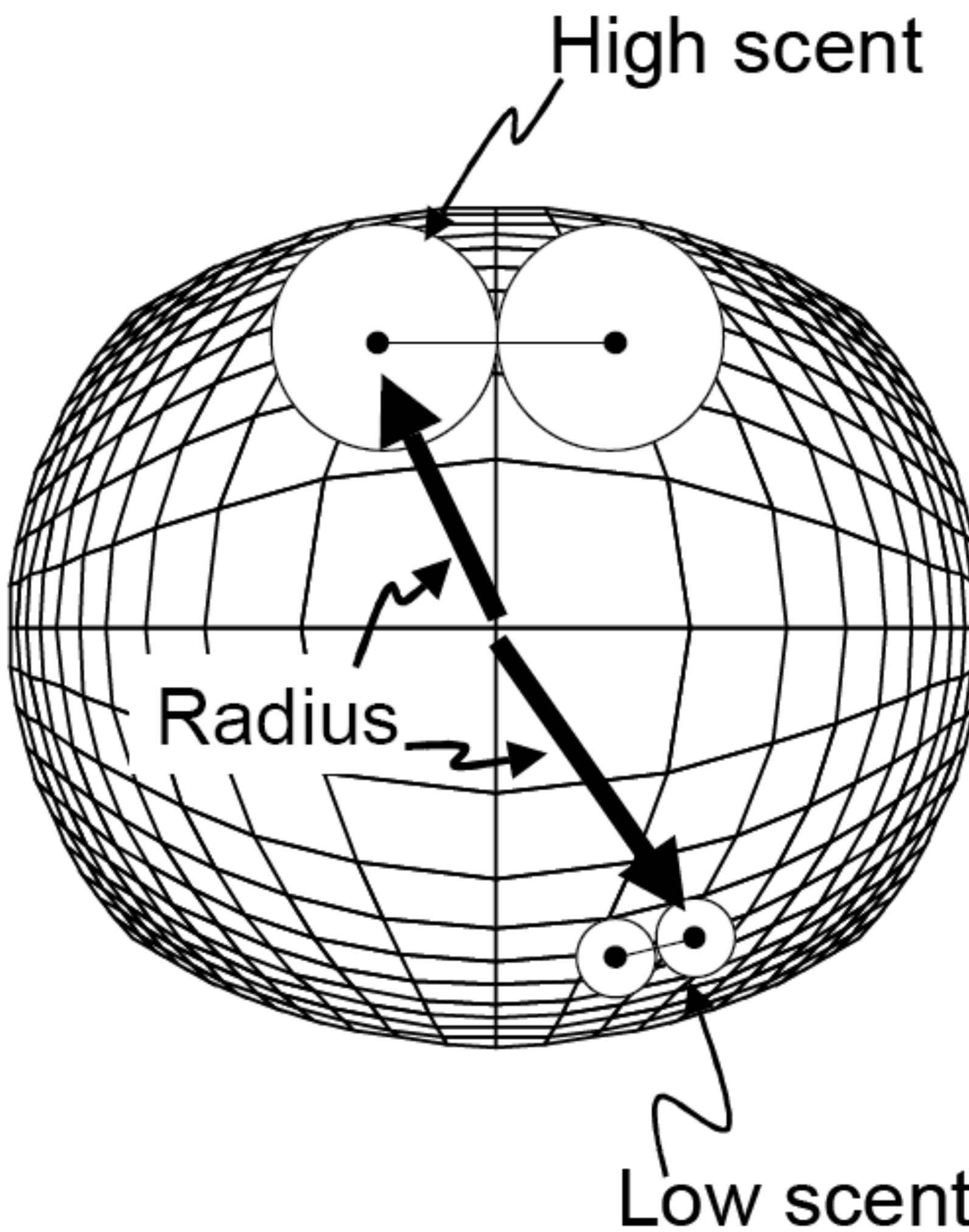




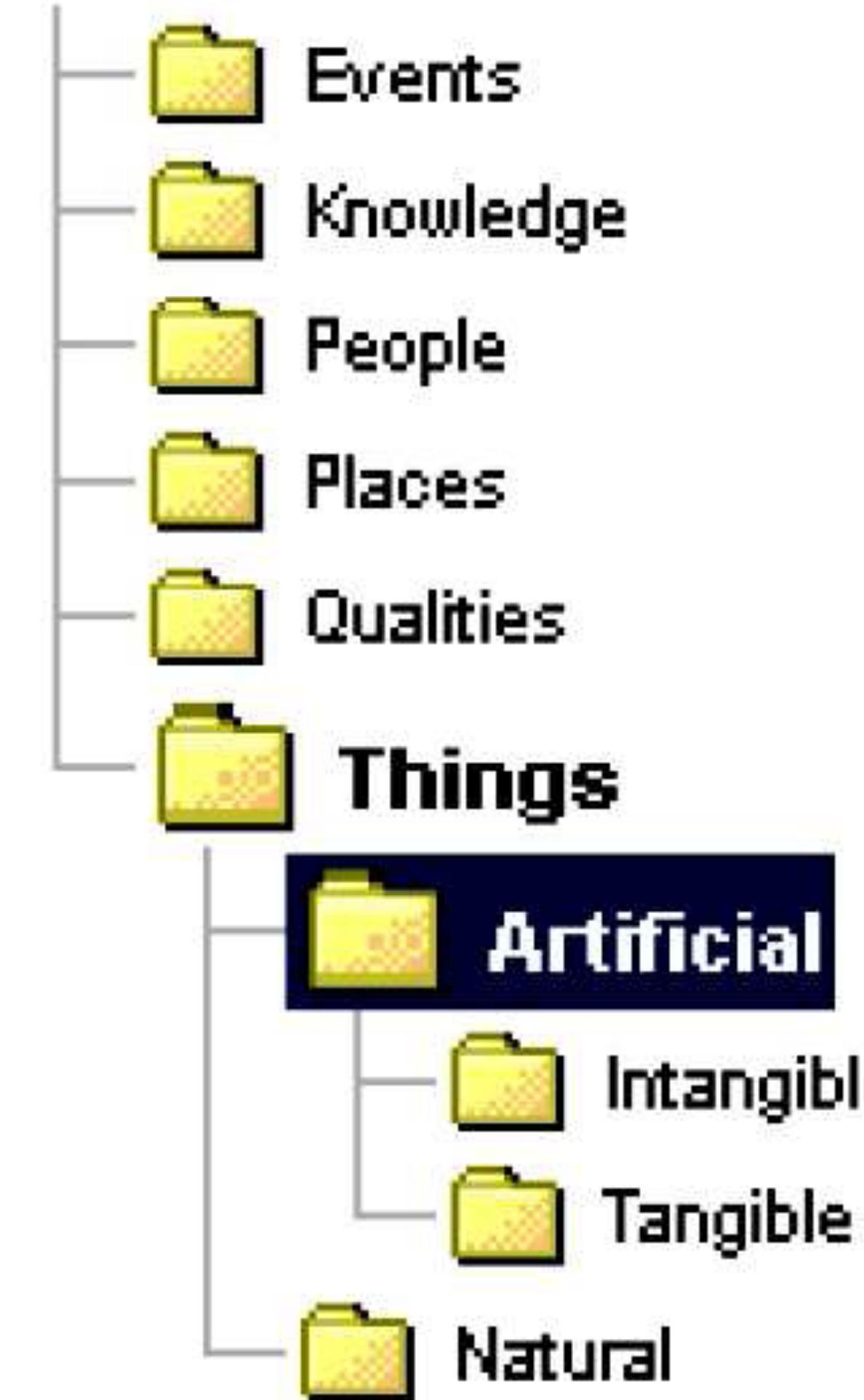
# An Adaptive Field of View?



(c)

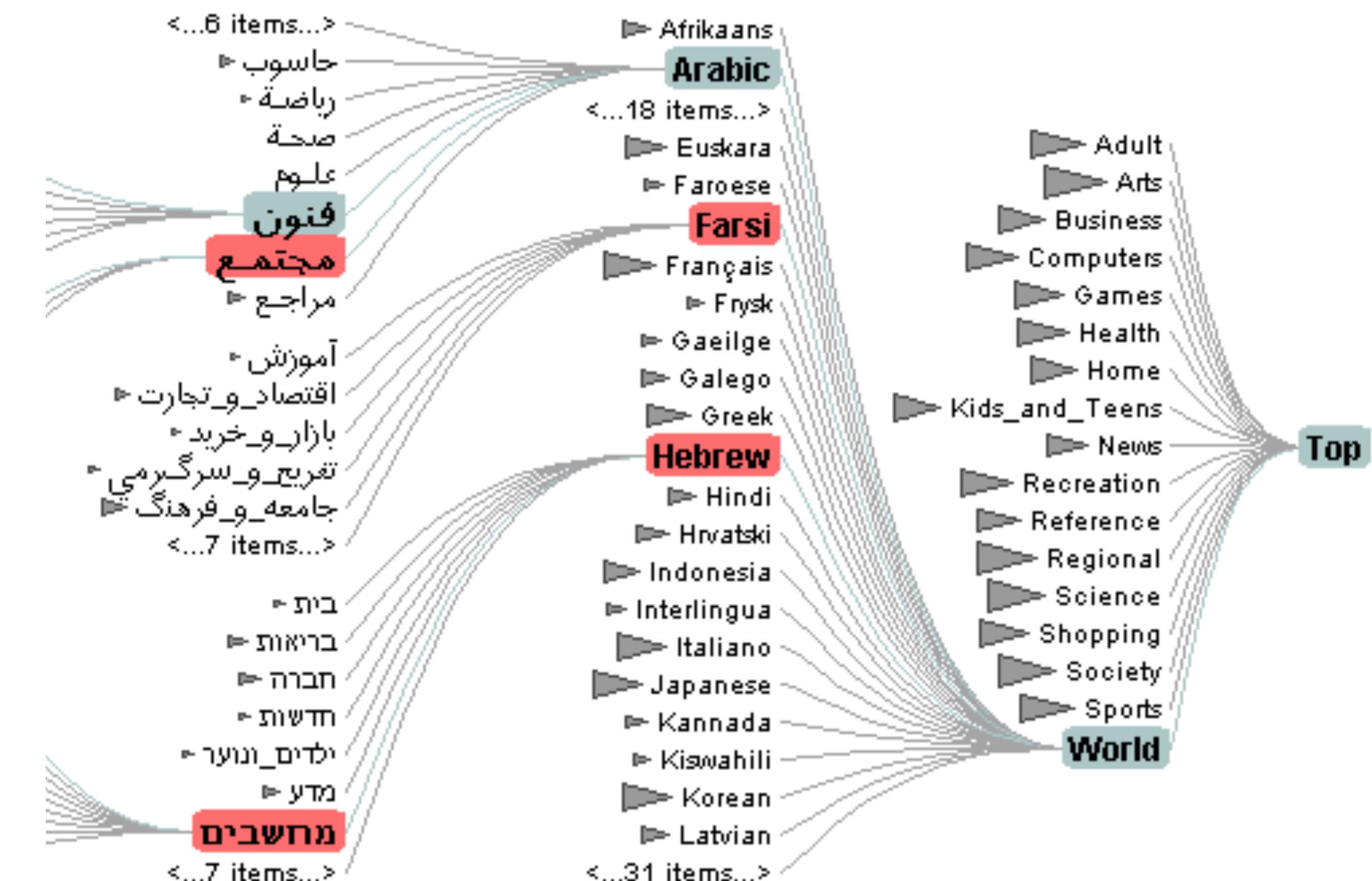


## Categories



VS

## Degree-of-interest Tree



# Evaluation of DOI Trees

## DOITree vs. Windows Explorer [Budiu, AVI 06]

Nodes visited (avg) DOI:83 Exp:53 p<.005

Revisitation (avg) DOI:6.6 Exp:8.2 p<.005

Divergence (avg) DOI:4.6 Exp:3.9 p<.001

DOITree more forgiving to navigation errors

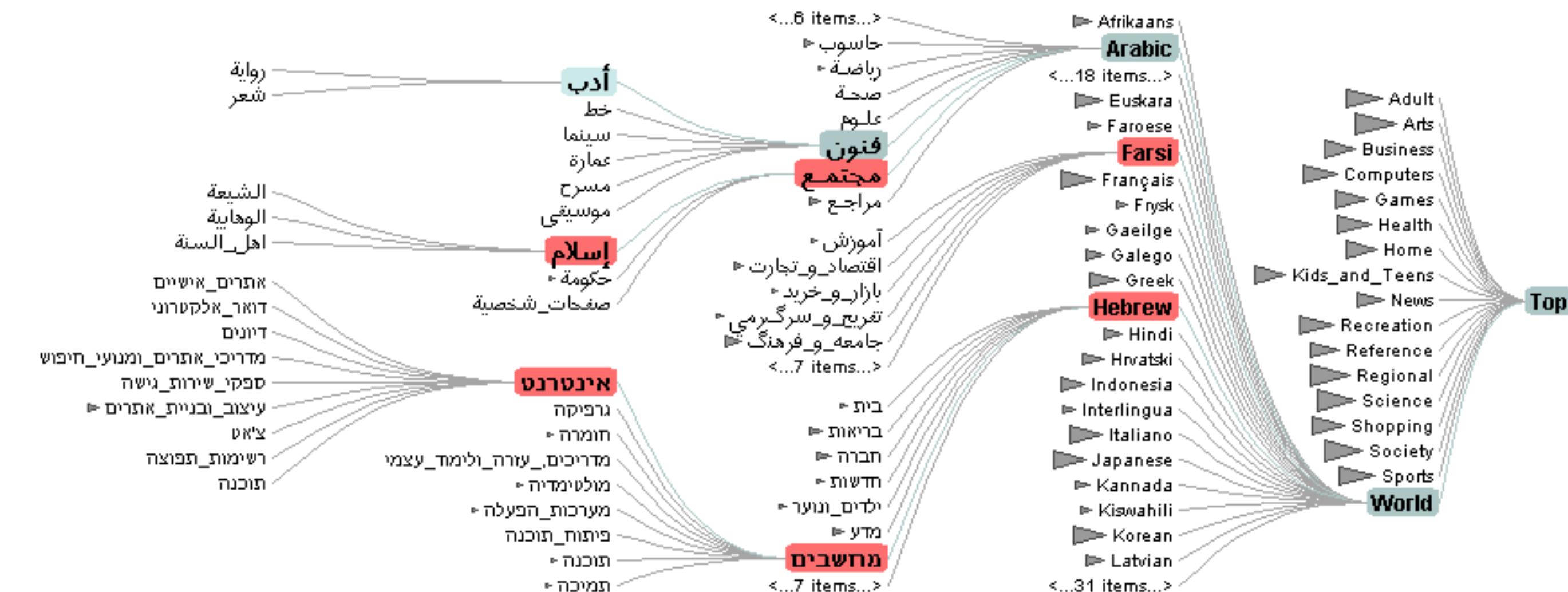
**BUT** no significant difference in task time

## DOITree vs. Google Directory [Pirolli, CHI 06]

DOITree has superior task knowledge transfer

# Design Guidelines

**Support rapid visual scanning**  
Most people don't read in circles!



# Design Guidelines

**Support rapid visual scanning**  
Most people don't read in circles!

**Showing more is not always better**  
Distractors can decrease task performance  
Interaction with quality of information scent

**Navigation cues critical to search**  
Informative labels or landmarks needed  
Poor information scent undermines search

# Today

Evaluating Trees

Evaluating Spatial Navigation

Data Density of Time Series

Conclusion

# Today

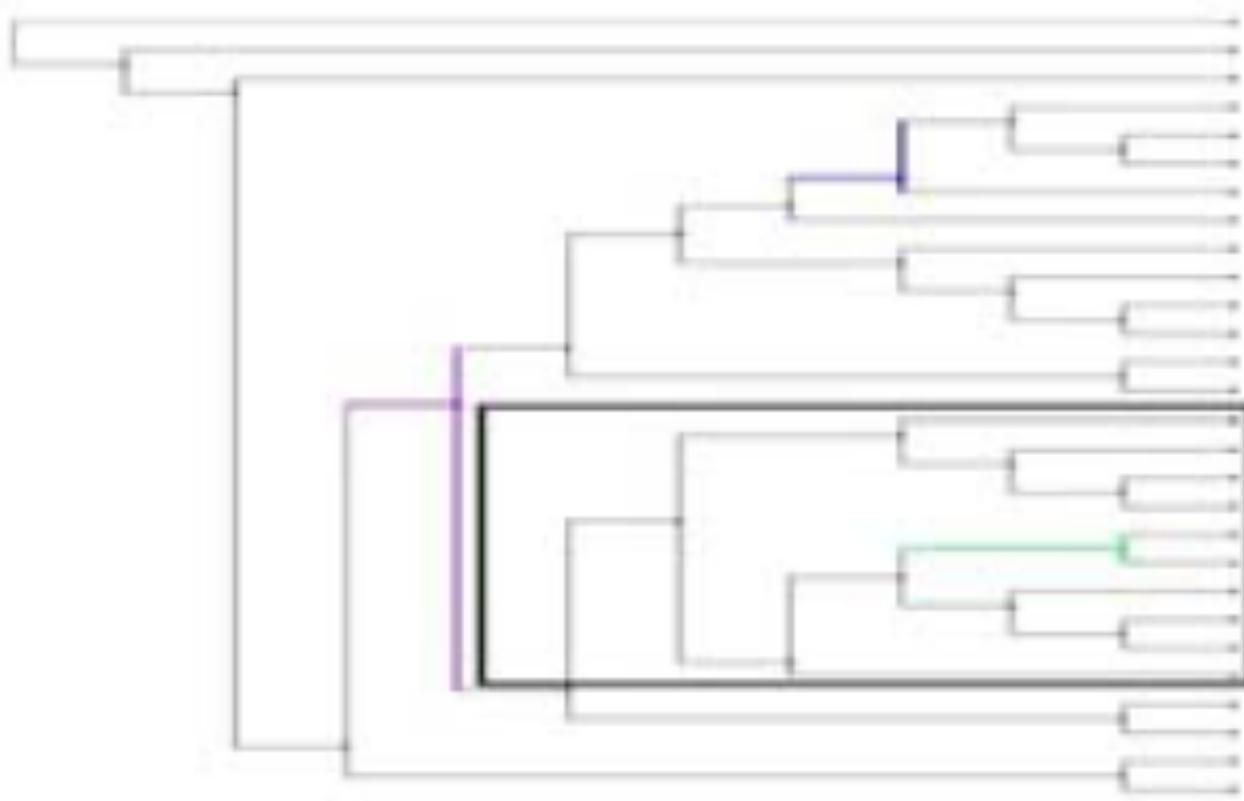
Evaluating Trees

Evaluating Spatial Navigation

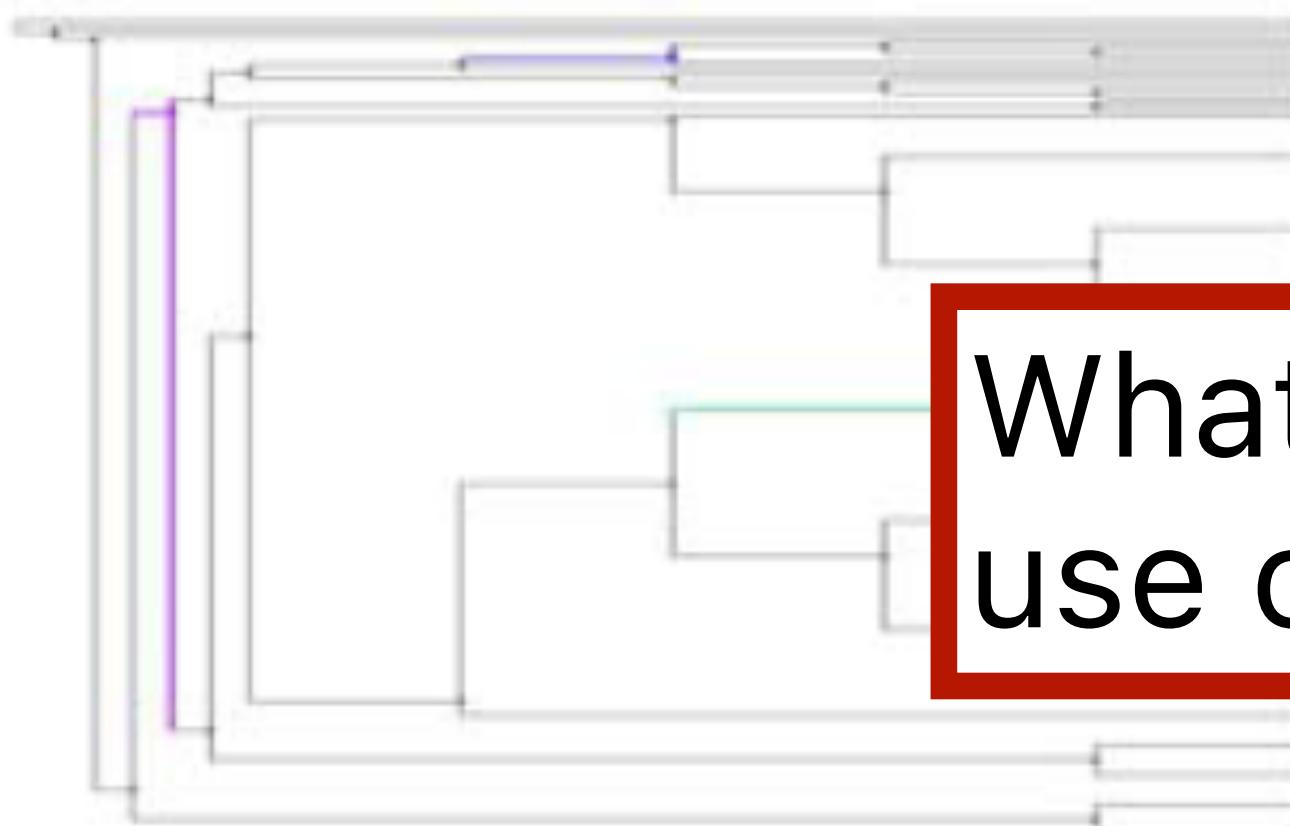
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# Pan & Zoom vs. Rubber Sheet



(i) PZN



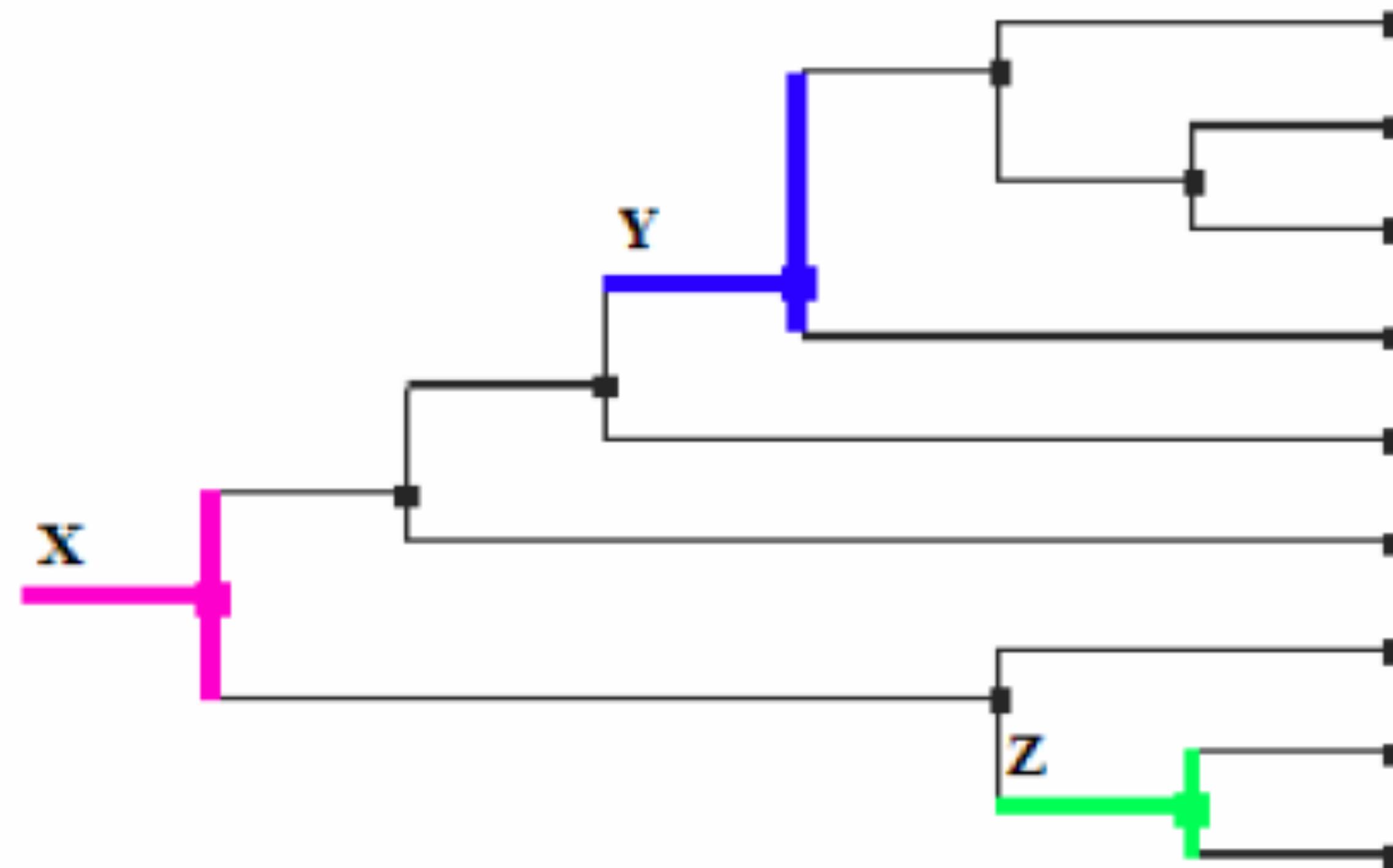
(ii) RSN

What evidence would convince you to use one visualization over the other?

[tryclassbuzz.com](http://tryclassbuzz.com)  
Code: **trees**

# Experimental Task

Compare topological distance between nodes in a dendrogram.

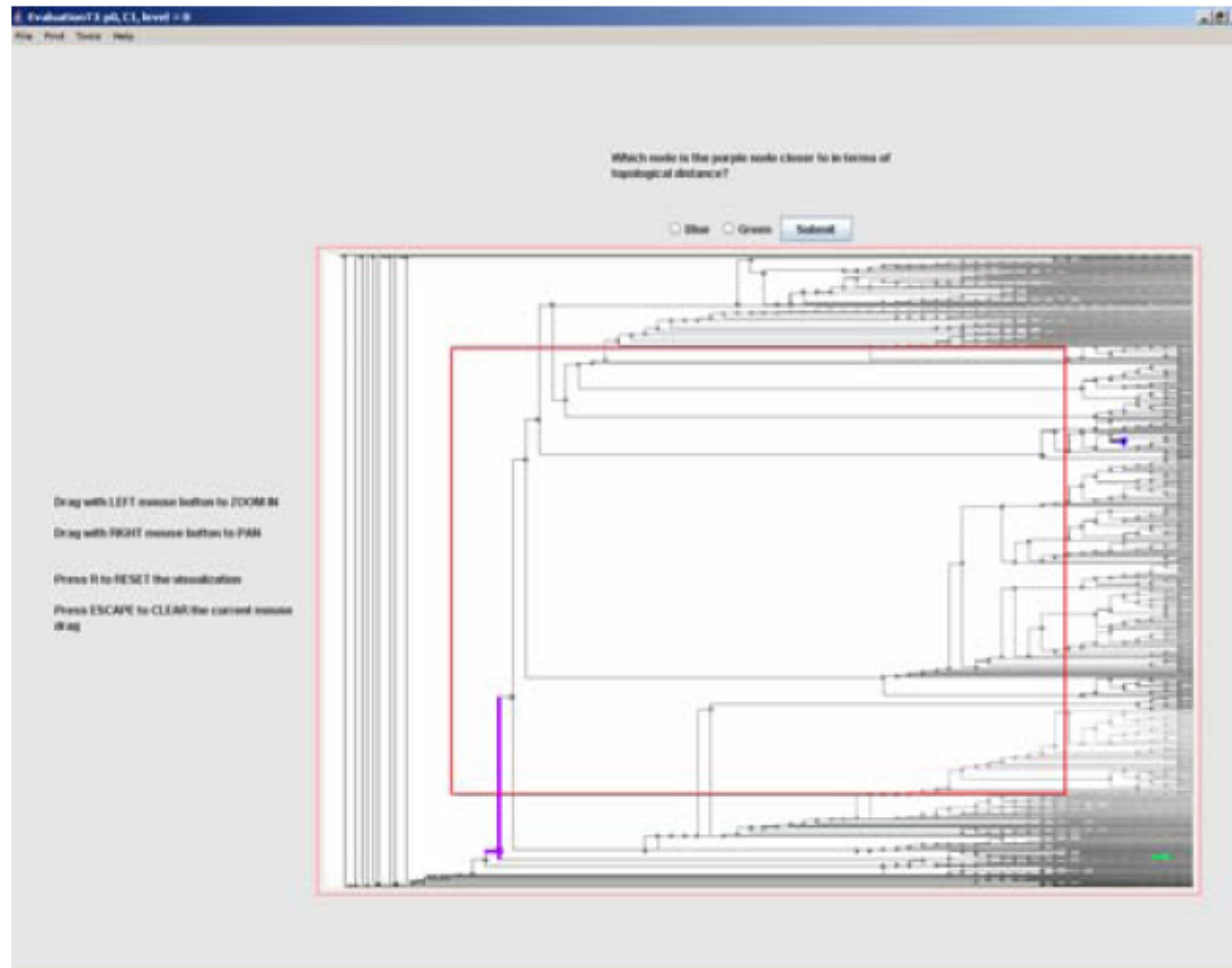


# Experimental

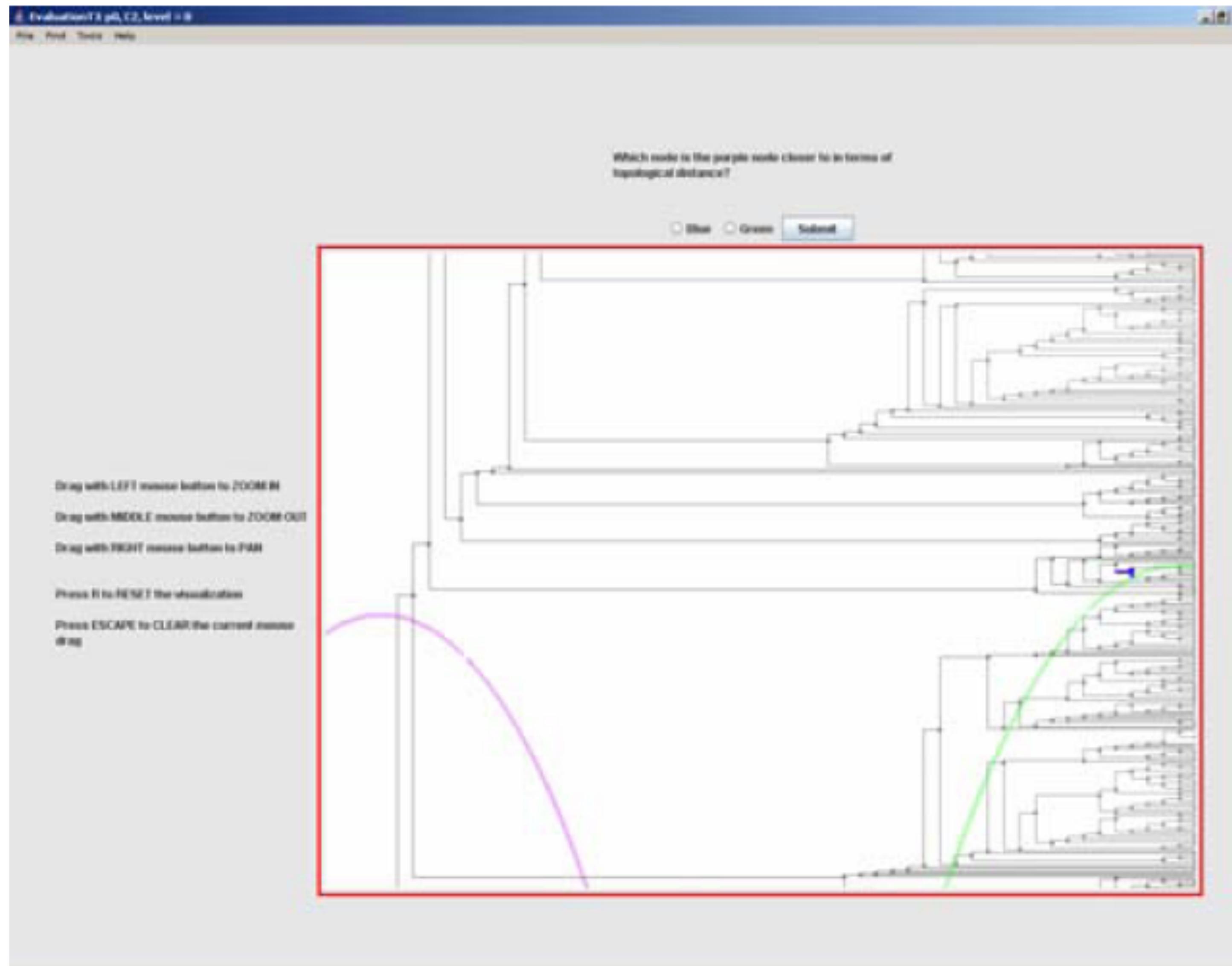
Compare performance in 4 conditions:

1. Pan & Zoom (no overview)
2. Pan & Zoom (with overview)
3. Rubber Sheet (no overview)
4. Rubber Sheet (with overview)

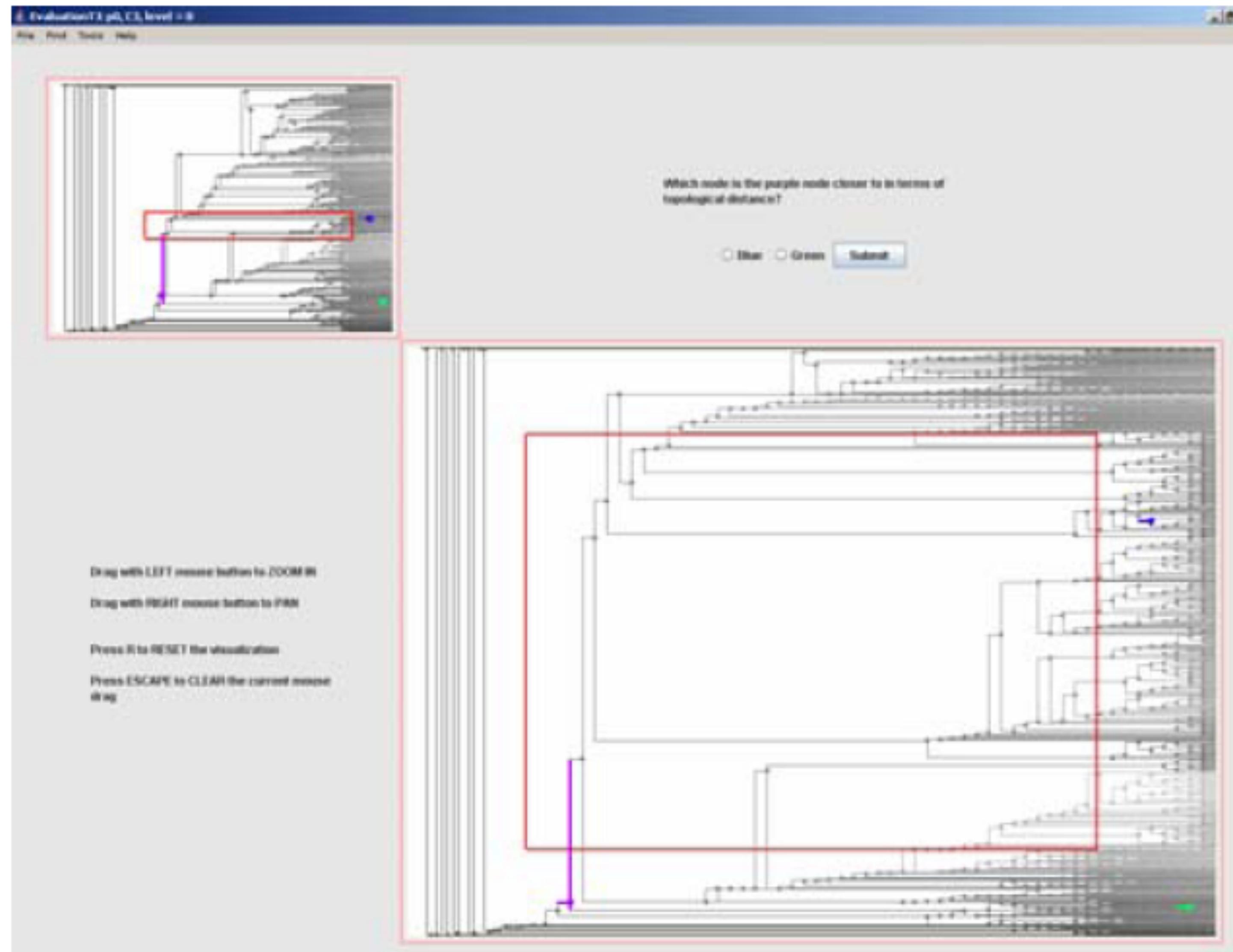
# 1. Rubber Sheet / No Overview



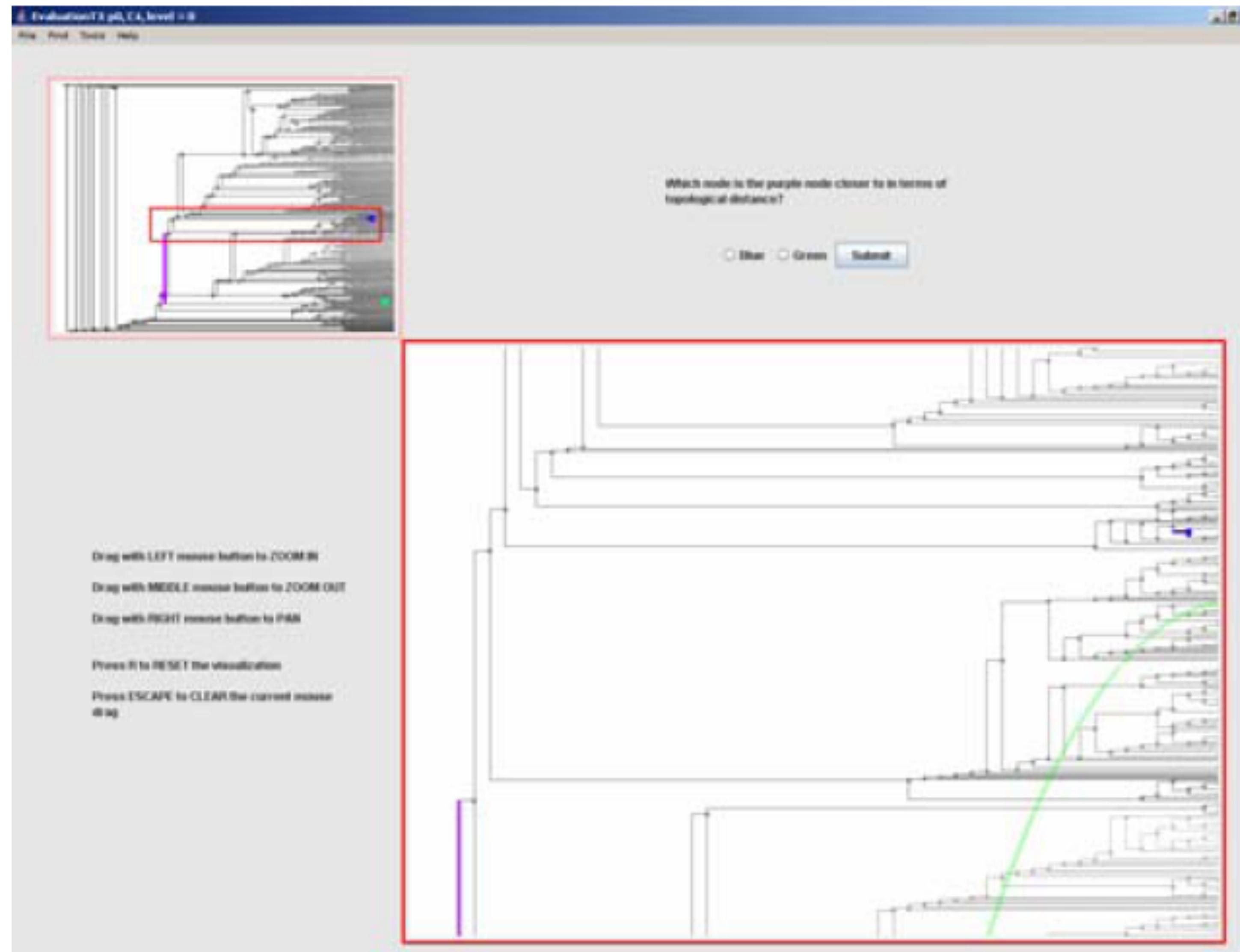
# 2. Pan & Zoom / No Overview



# 3. Rubber Sheet / Overview



# 4. Pan & Zoom / Overview



# Hypotheses

- H1: RSN interfaces perform better than PZN interfaces independently of the presence or absence of an overview.
- H2: For RSN, the presence of an overview does not result in better performance.
- H3: For PZN, the presence of an overview results in better performance.

# Results: H1 False

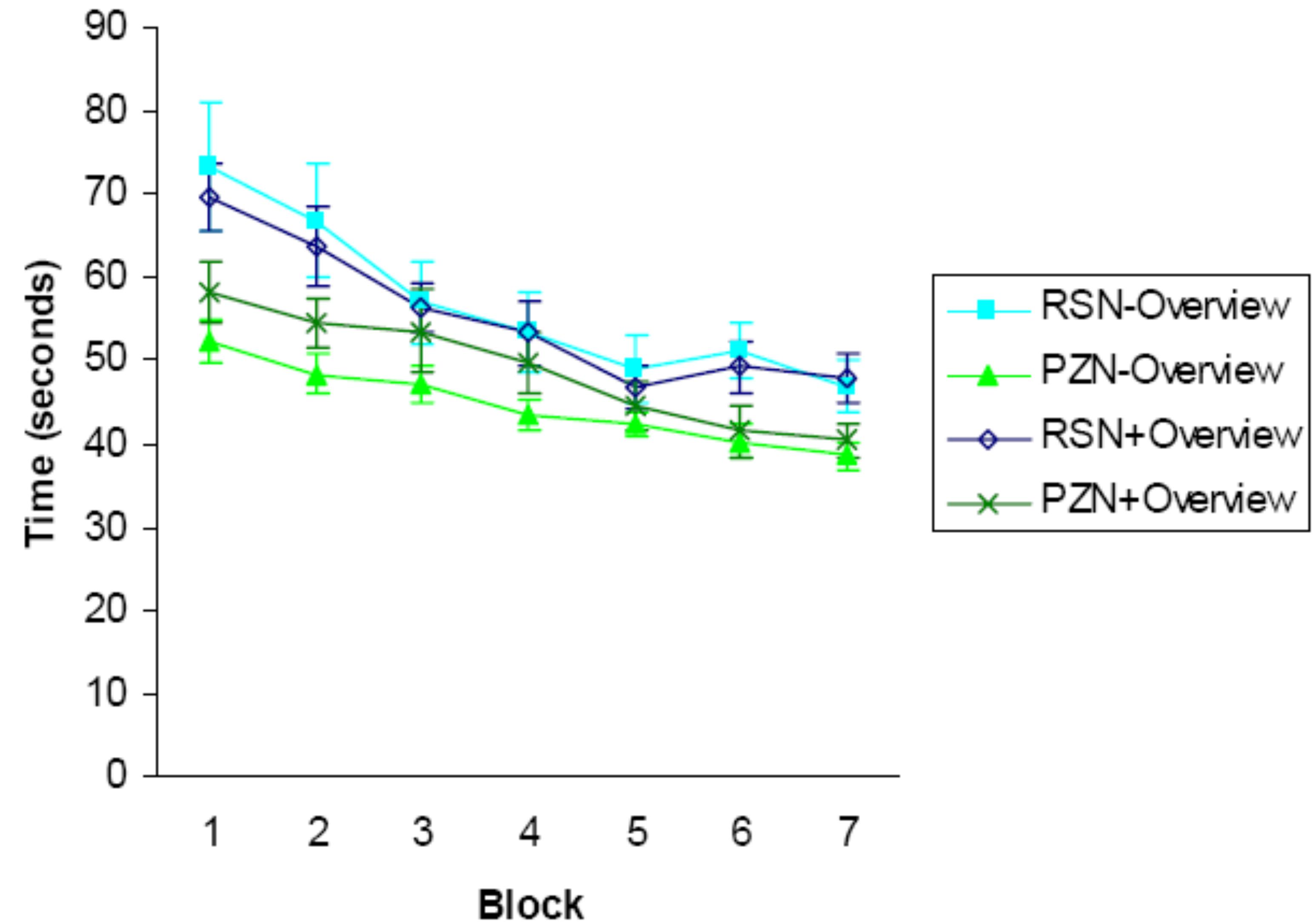


Figure 7: Mean completion times per trial for each interface by block in seconds (N=40).

# Results: H2 True, H3 False

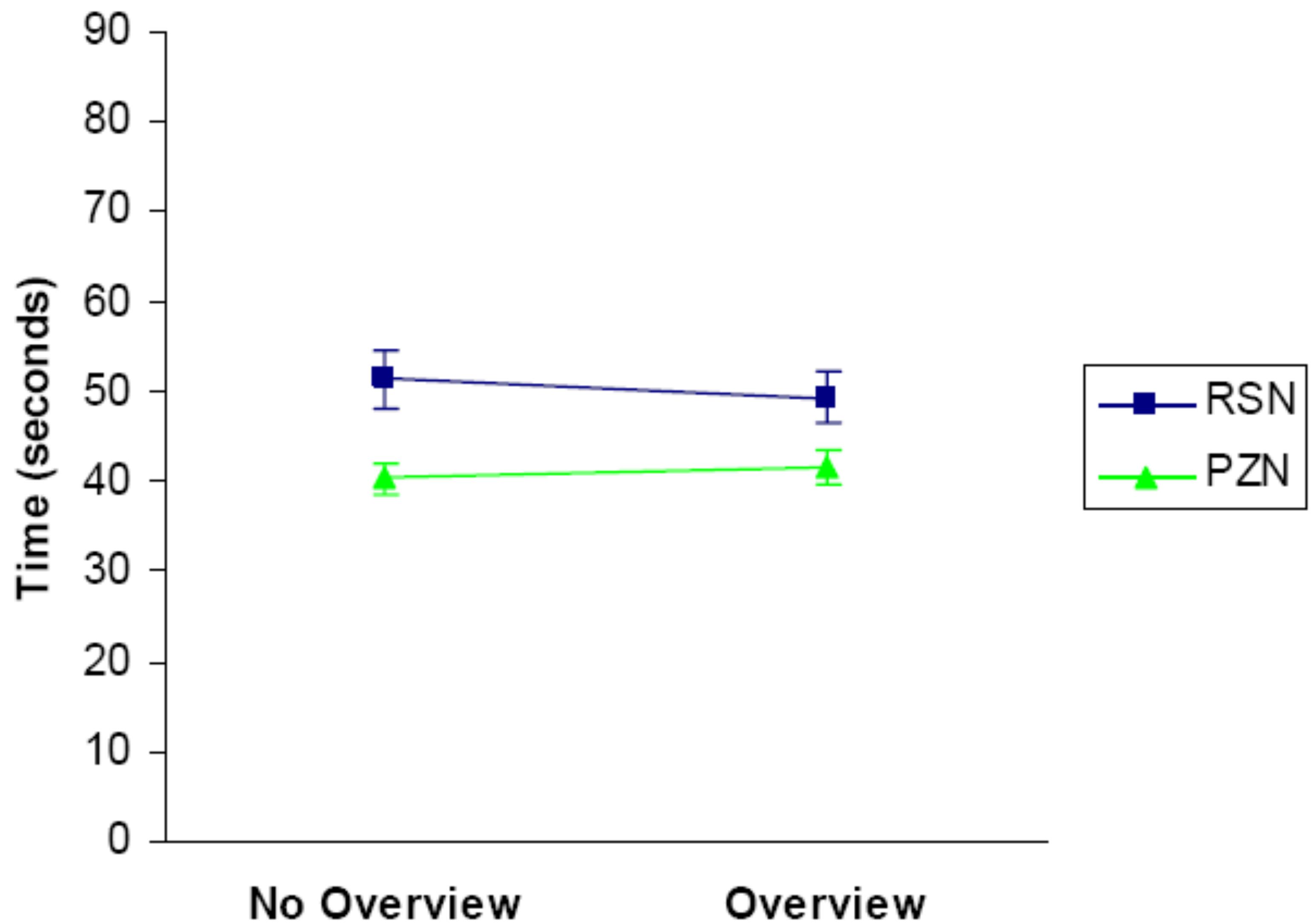


Figure 9: Block 7 mean per-trial completion times in seconds by navigation technique with and without an overview.

# Results

- R1. Pan & Zoom had lower completion times, navigation actions, resets, and reported mental demand.
- R2. Overview has no significant impact on rubber sheet navigation, though it was reported to reduce physical demand.
- R3. Overview has no significant impact on pan & zoom navigation, though it was reported to reduce physical demand.

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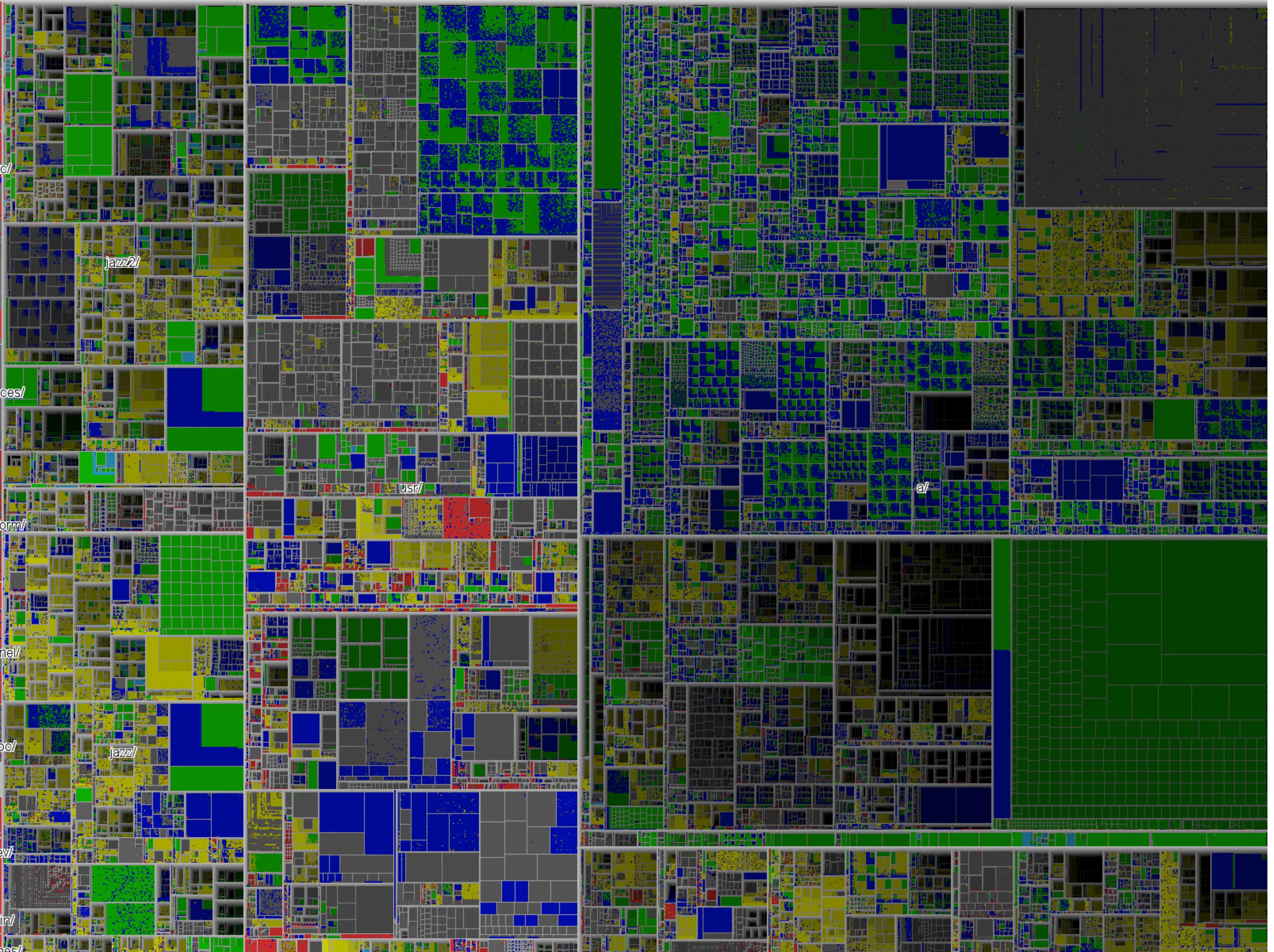
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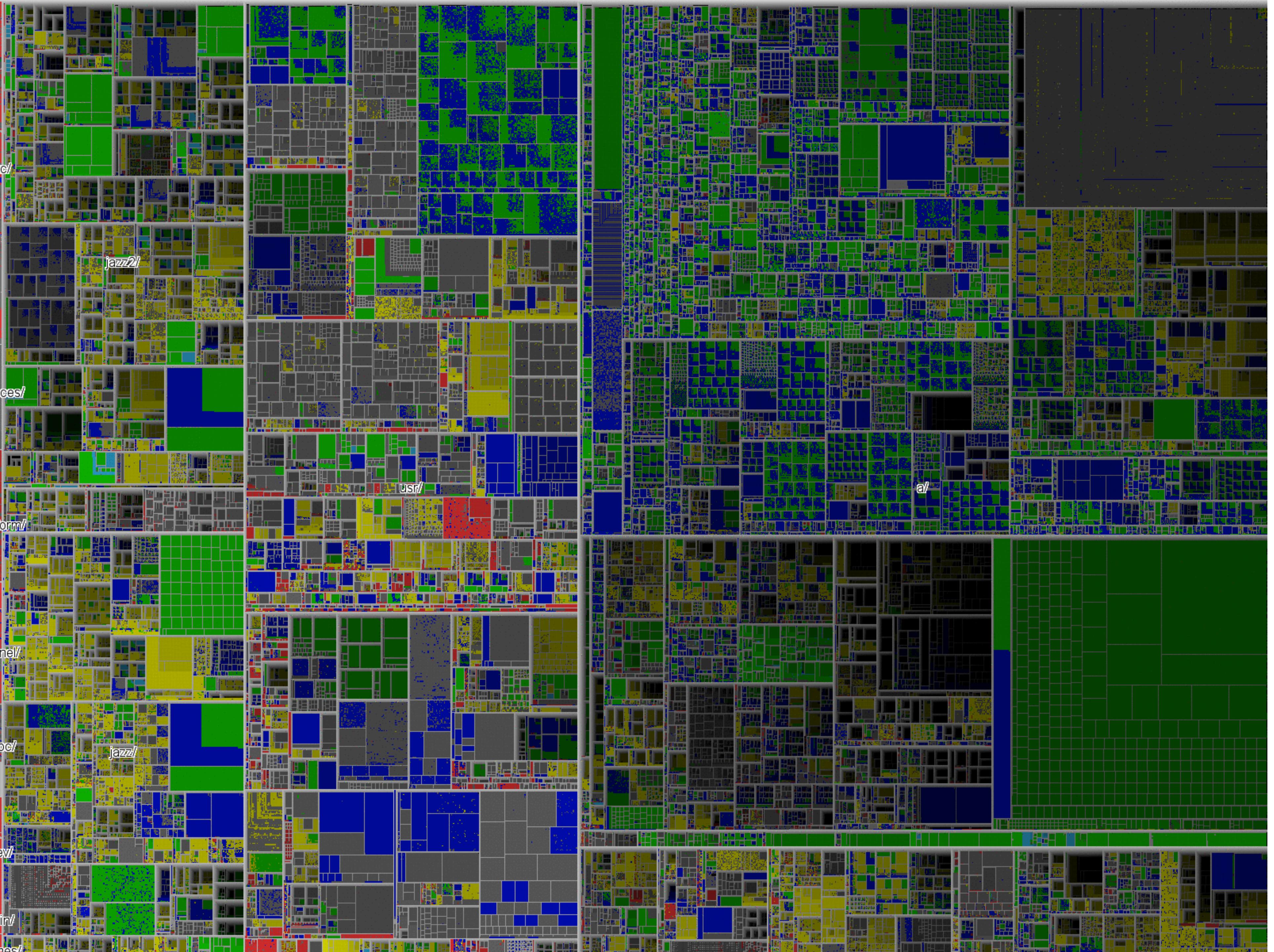
Conclusion

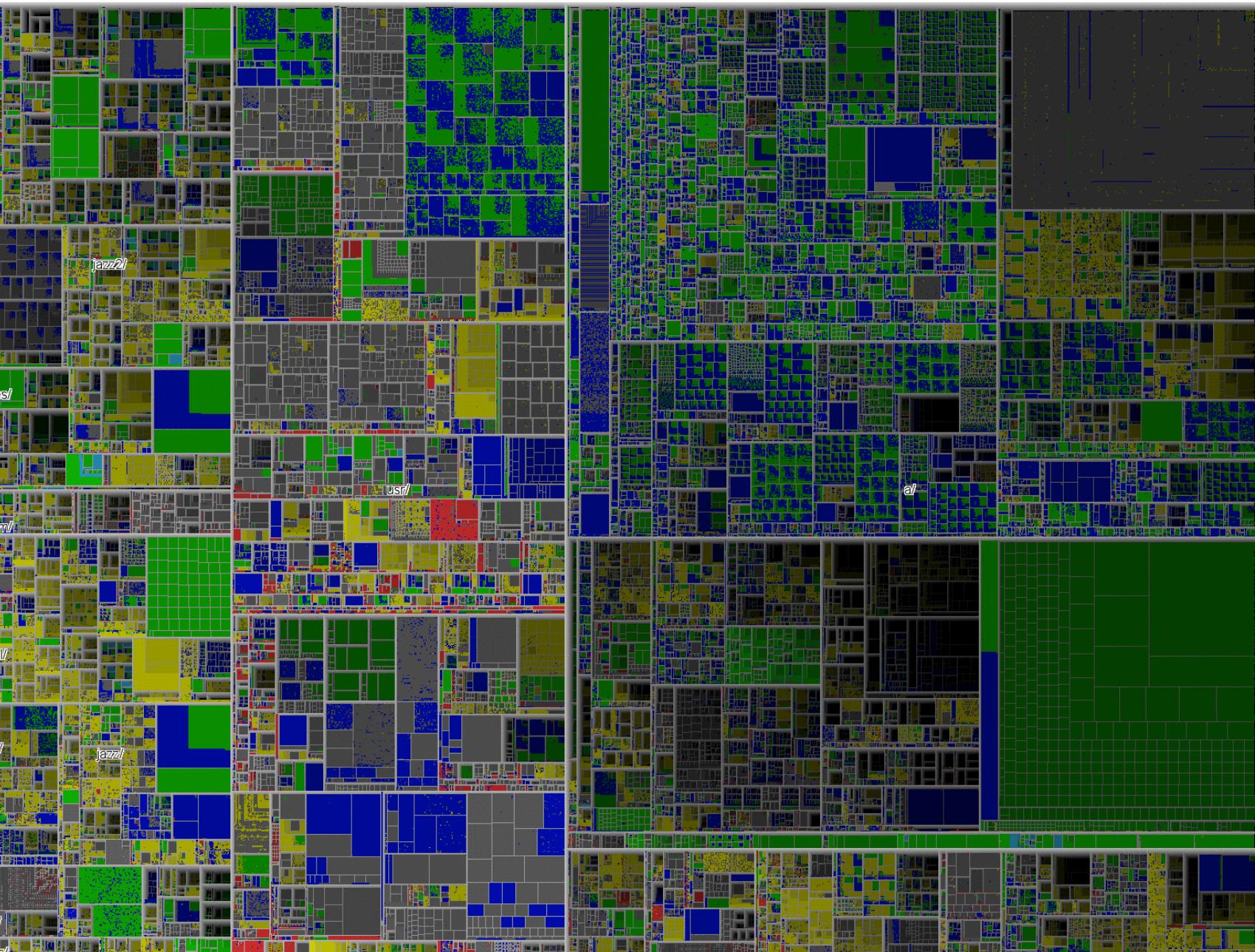


$$\text{Data Density} = \frac{(\# \text{ entries in data})}{(\text{area of graphic})}$$

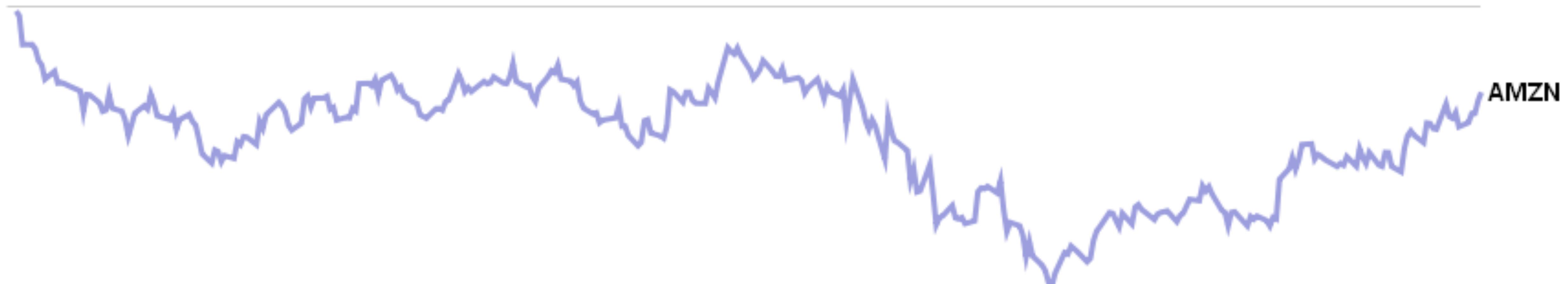
“Graphical excellence... gives to the viewer the greatest number of ideas in the shortest time with the least ink in the smallest space”

[Tufte 83]

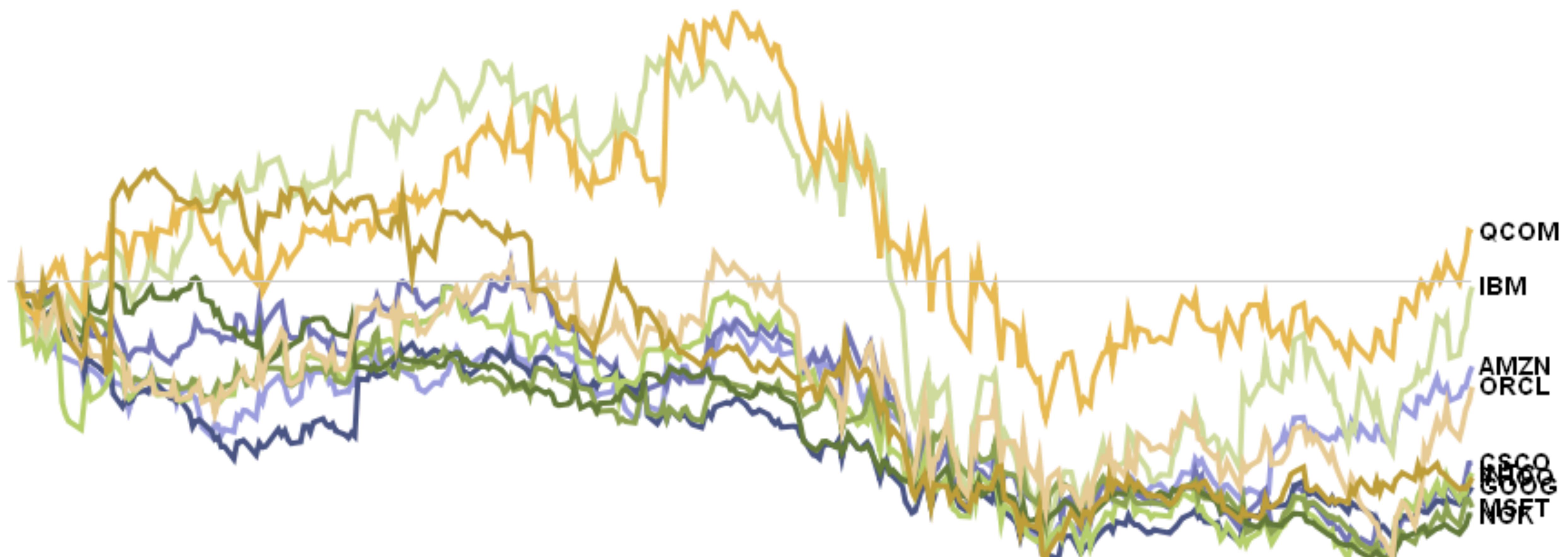




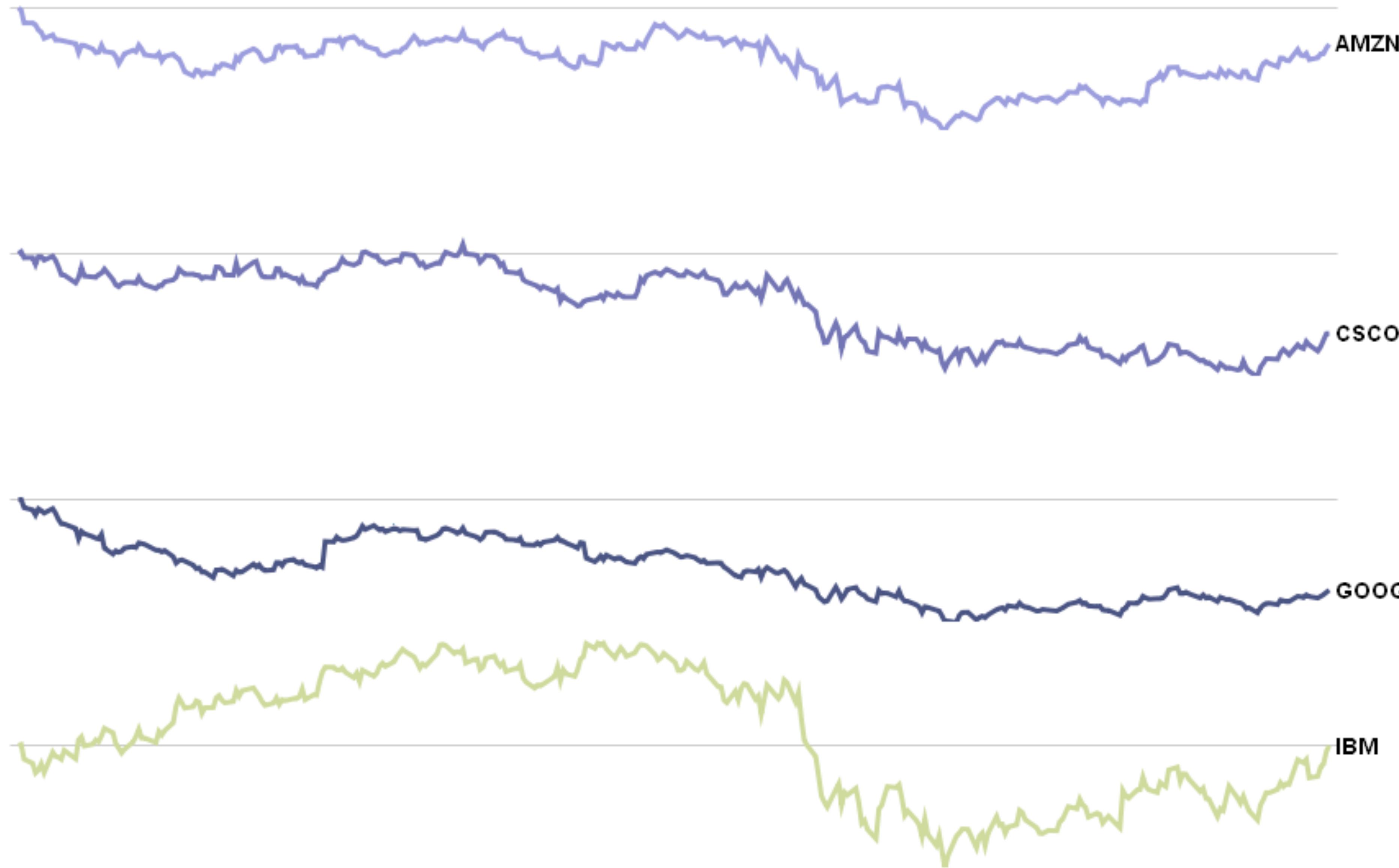
## Relative Technology Stock Performance: Jan 2008 - Present



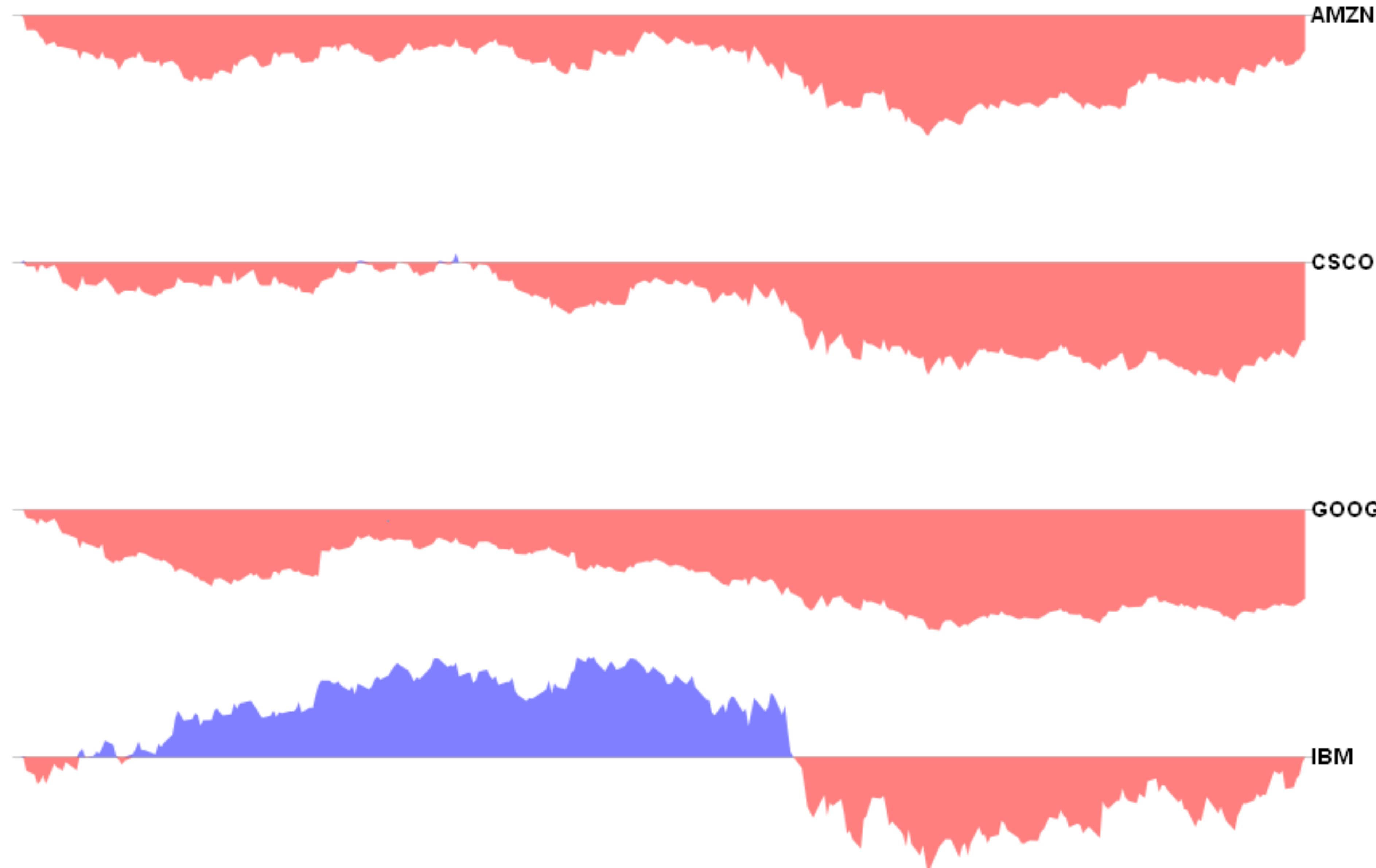
## Relative Technology Stock Performance: Jan 2008 - Present



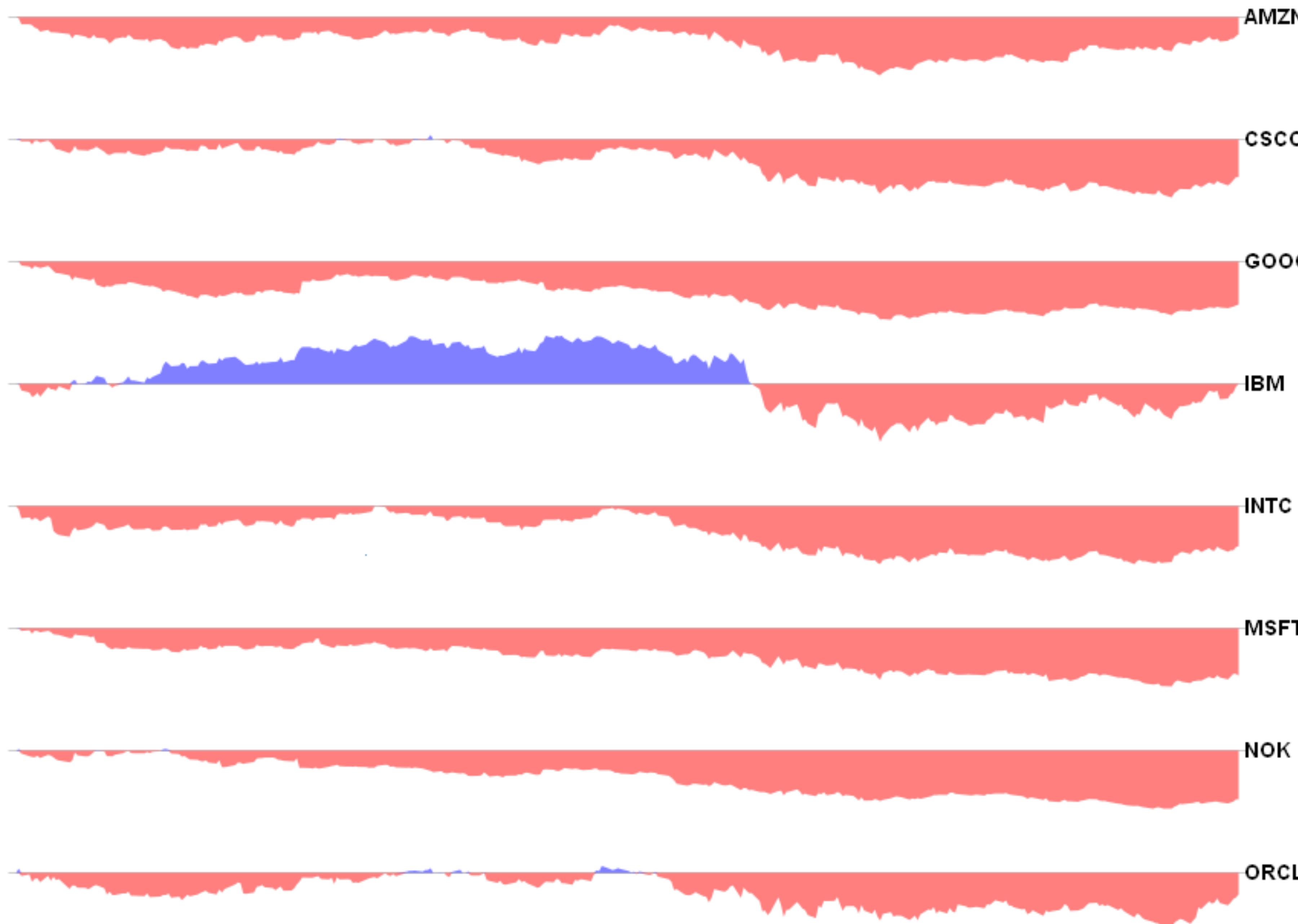
## Relative Technology Stock Performance: Jan 2008 - Present



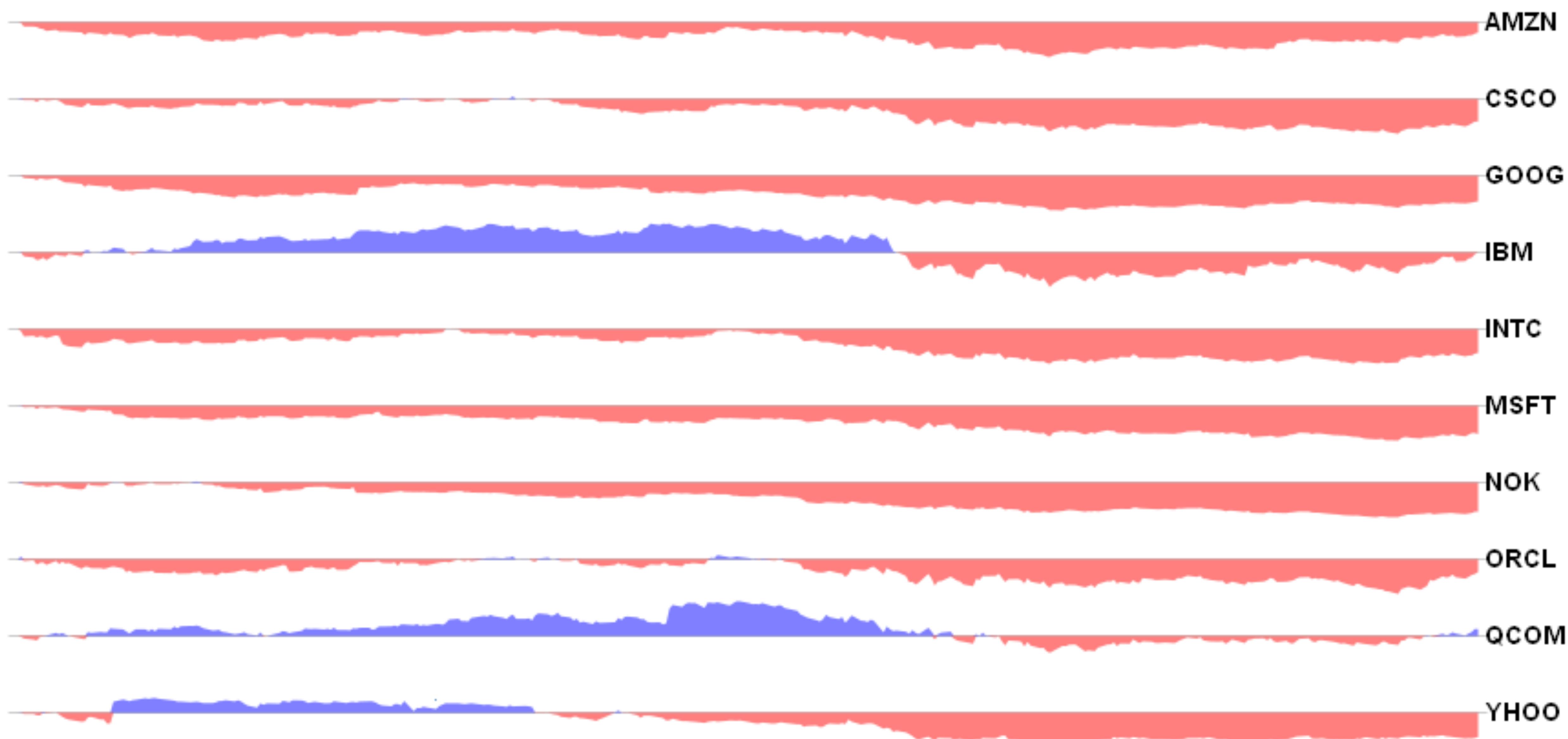
## Relative Technology Stock Performance: Jan 2008 - Present



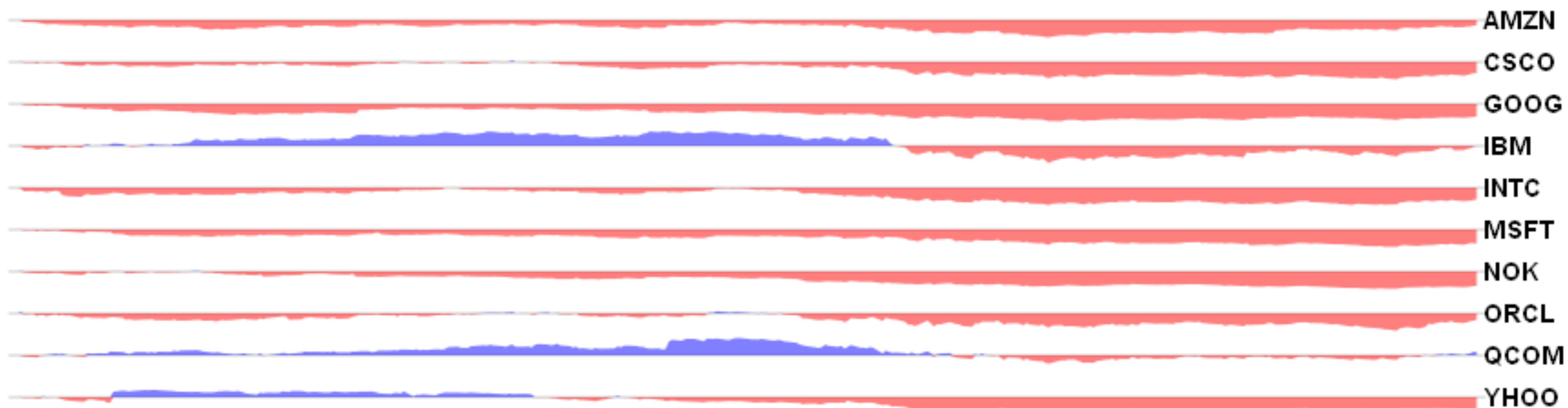
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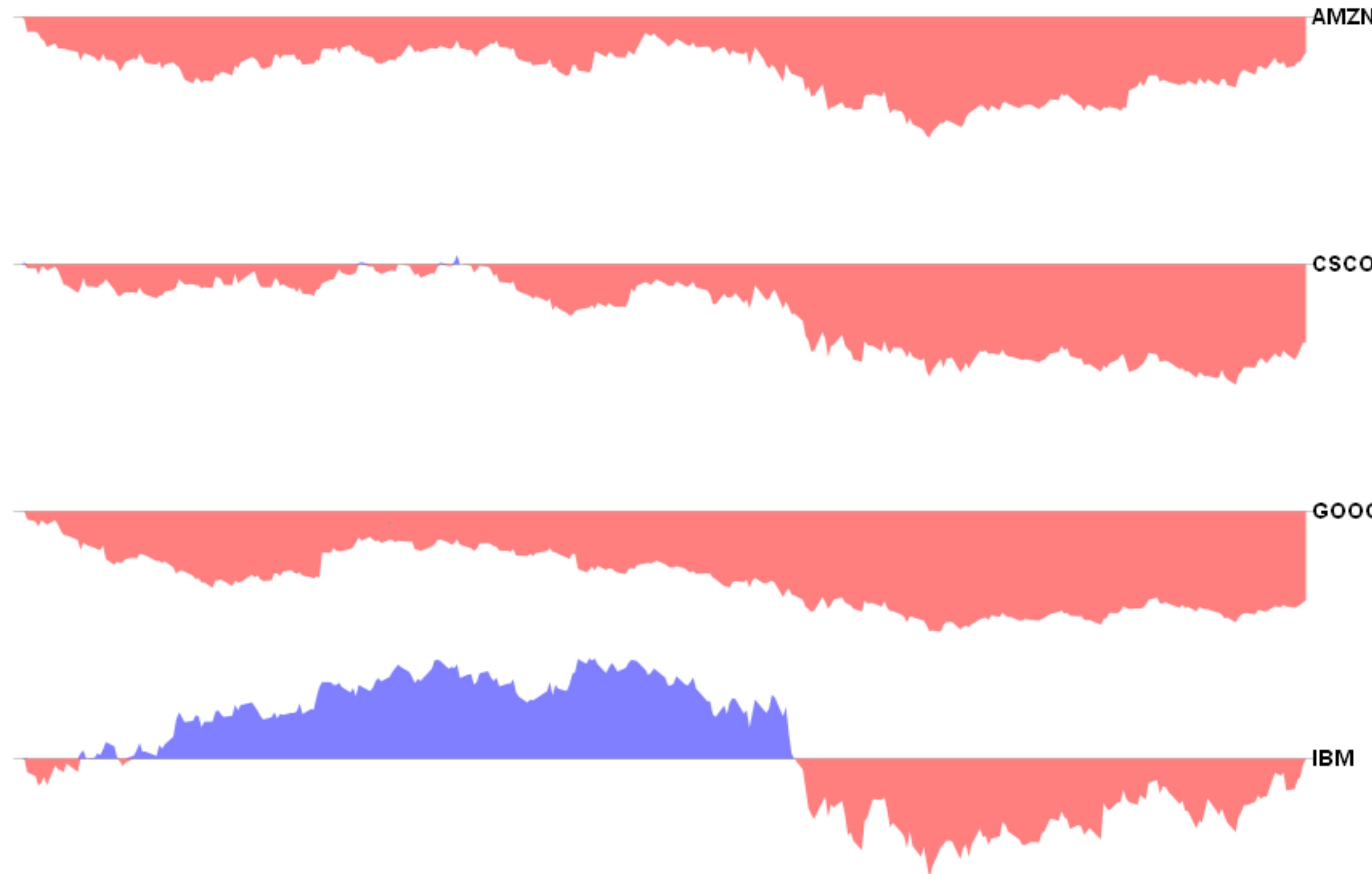
## Relative Technology Stock Performance: Jan 2008 - Present



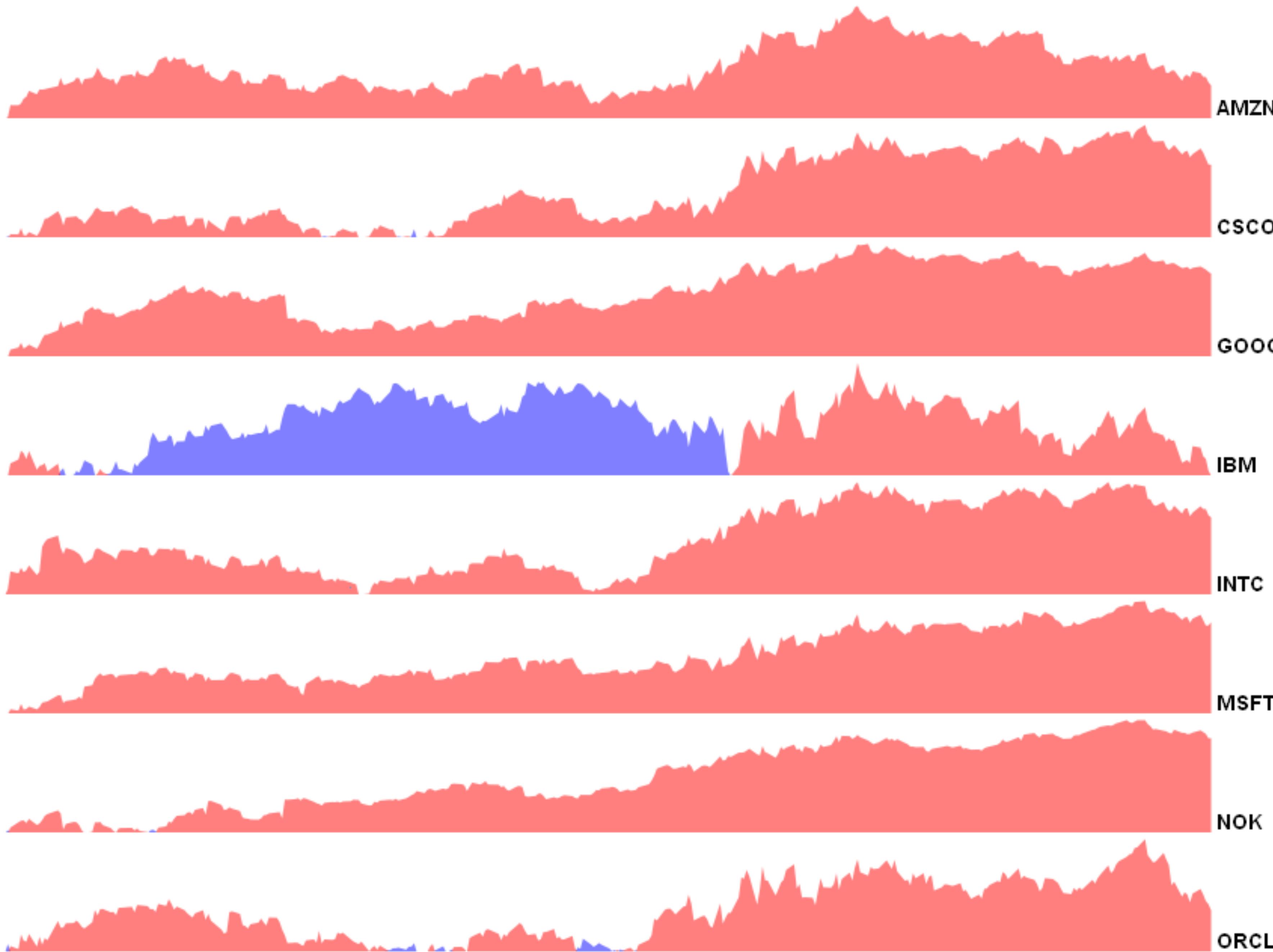
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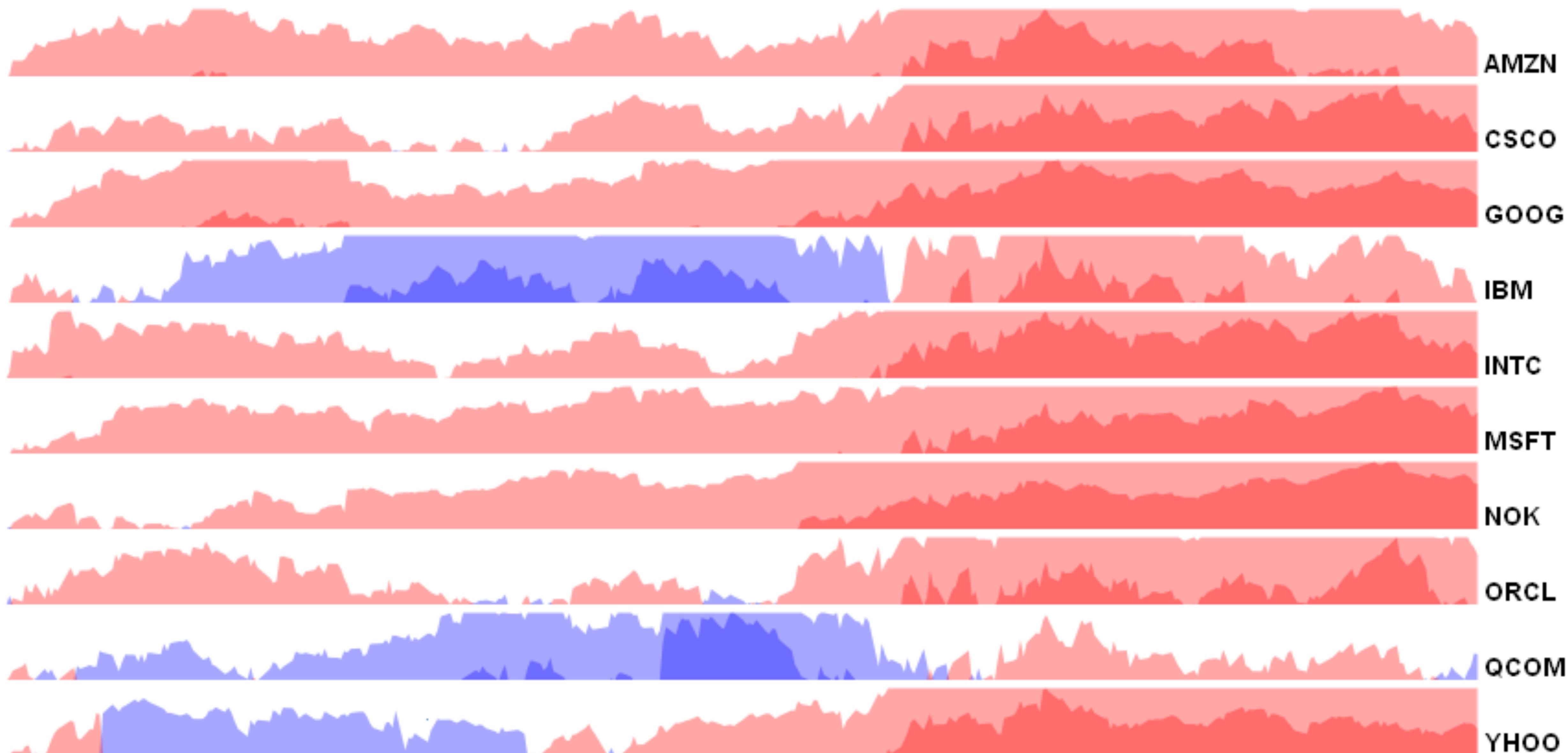
## Relative Technology Stock Performance: Jan 2008 - Present



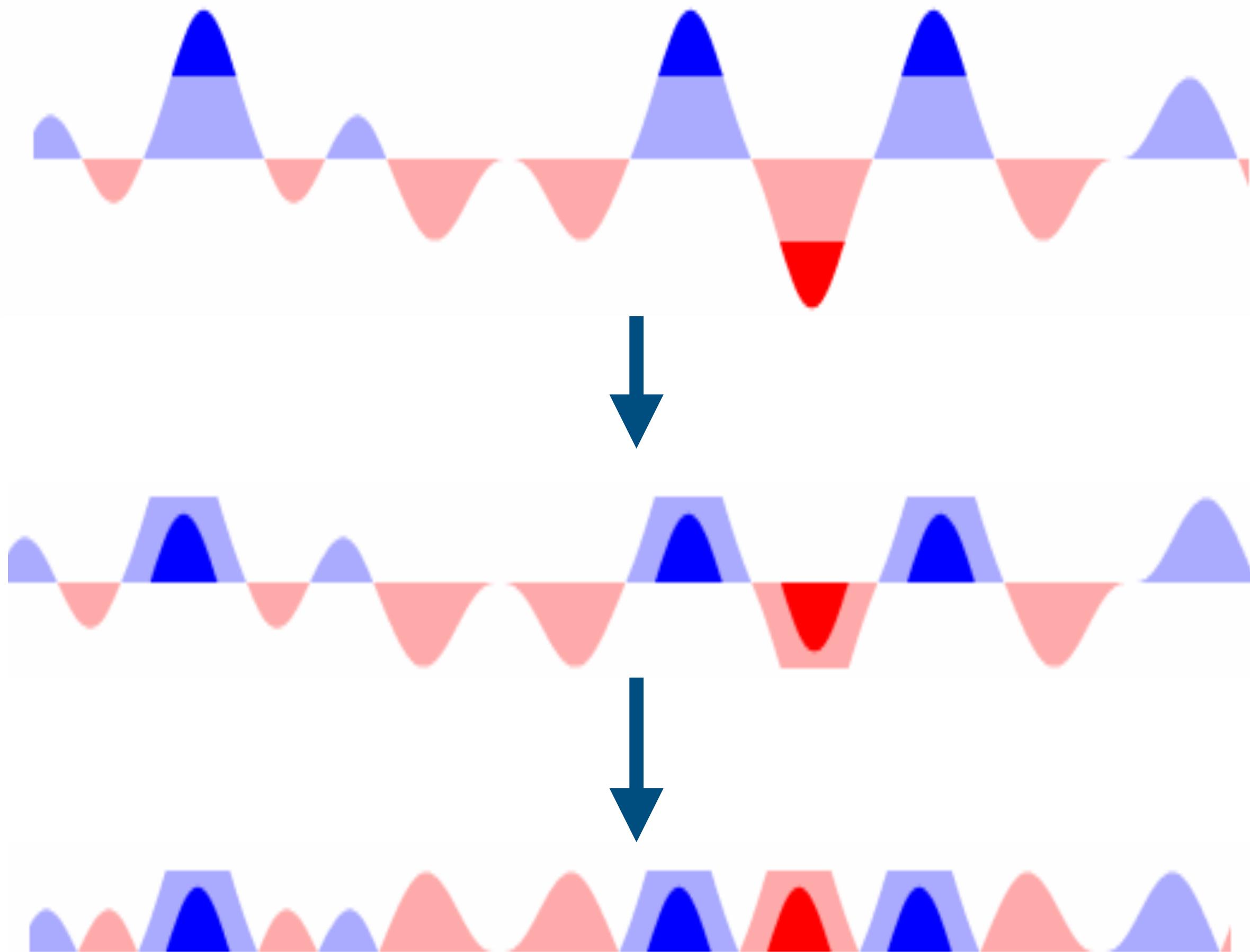
## Relative Technology Stock Performance: Jan 2008 - Present



## Relative Technology Stock Performance: Jan 2008 - Present



# Horizon graphs

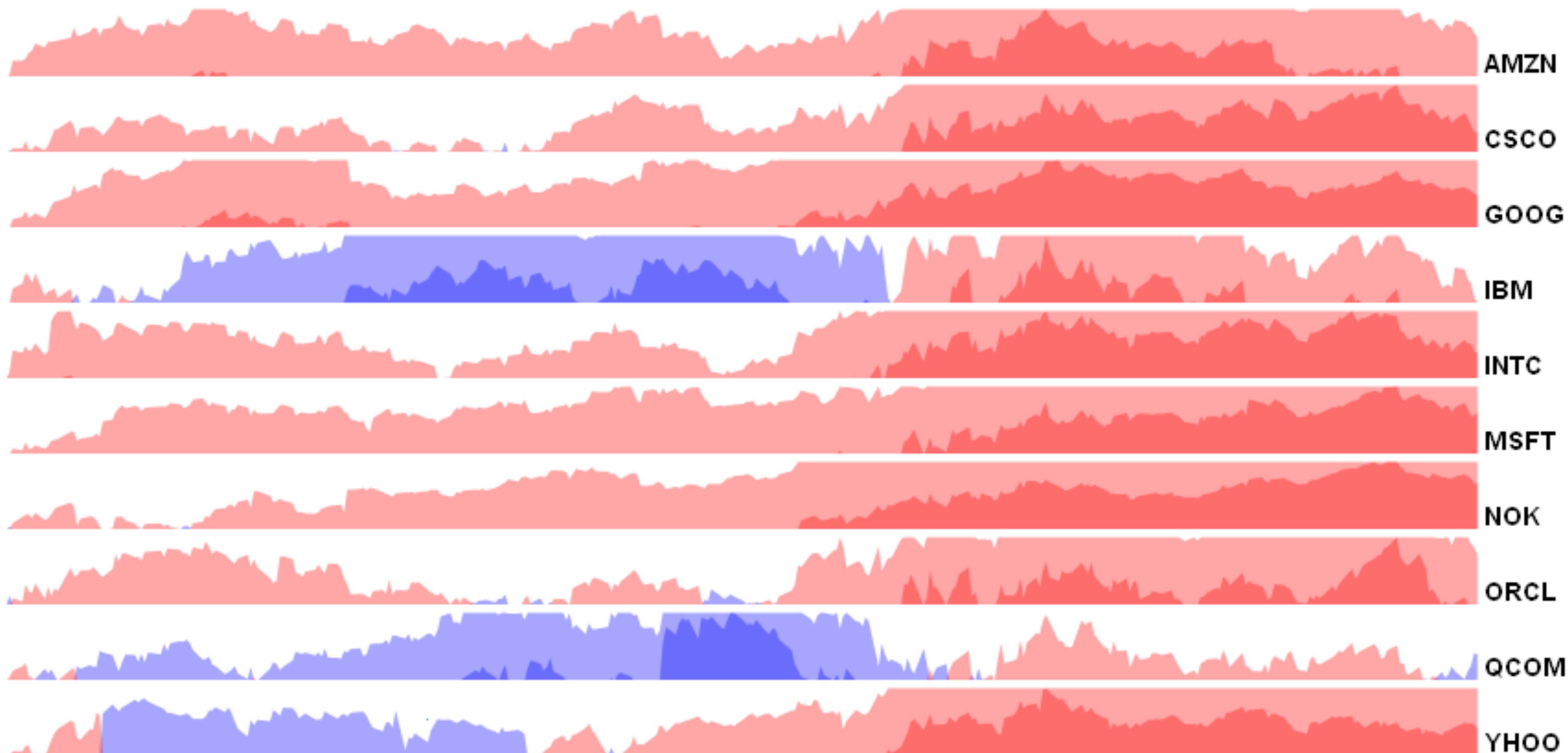


Segment Peaks

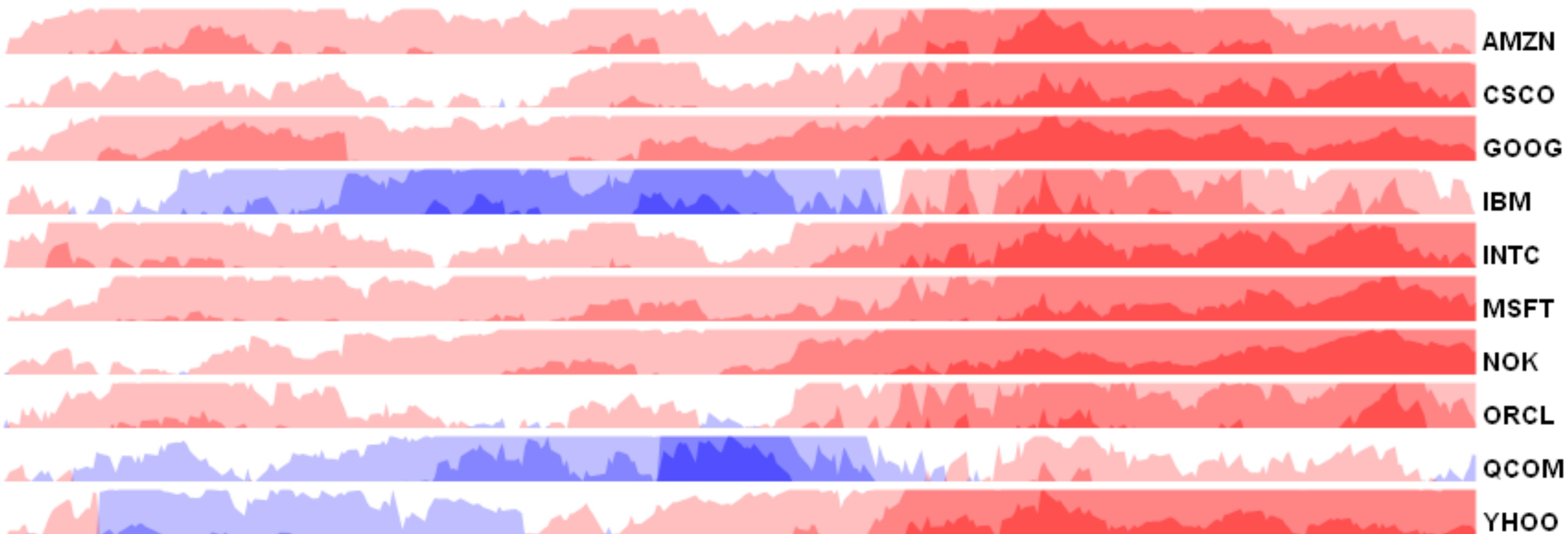
Layer segments

Mirror negative values

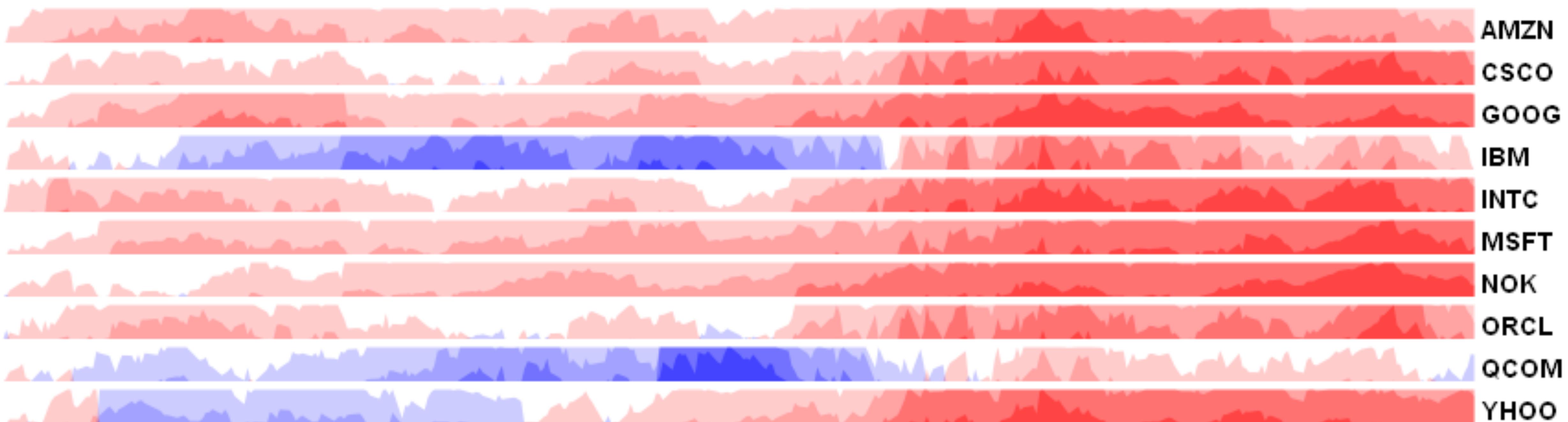
## Relative Technology Stock Performance: Jan 2008 - Present



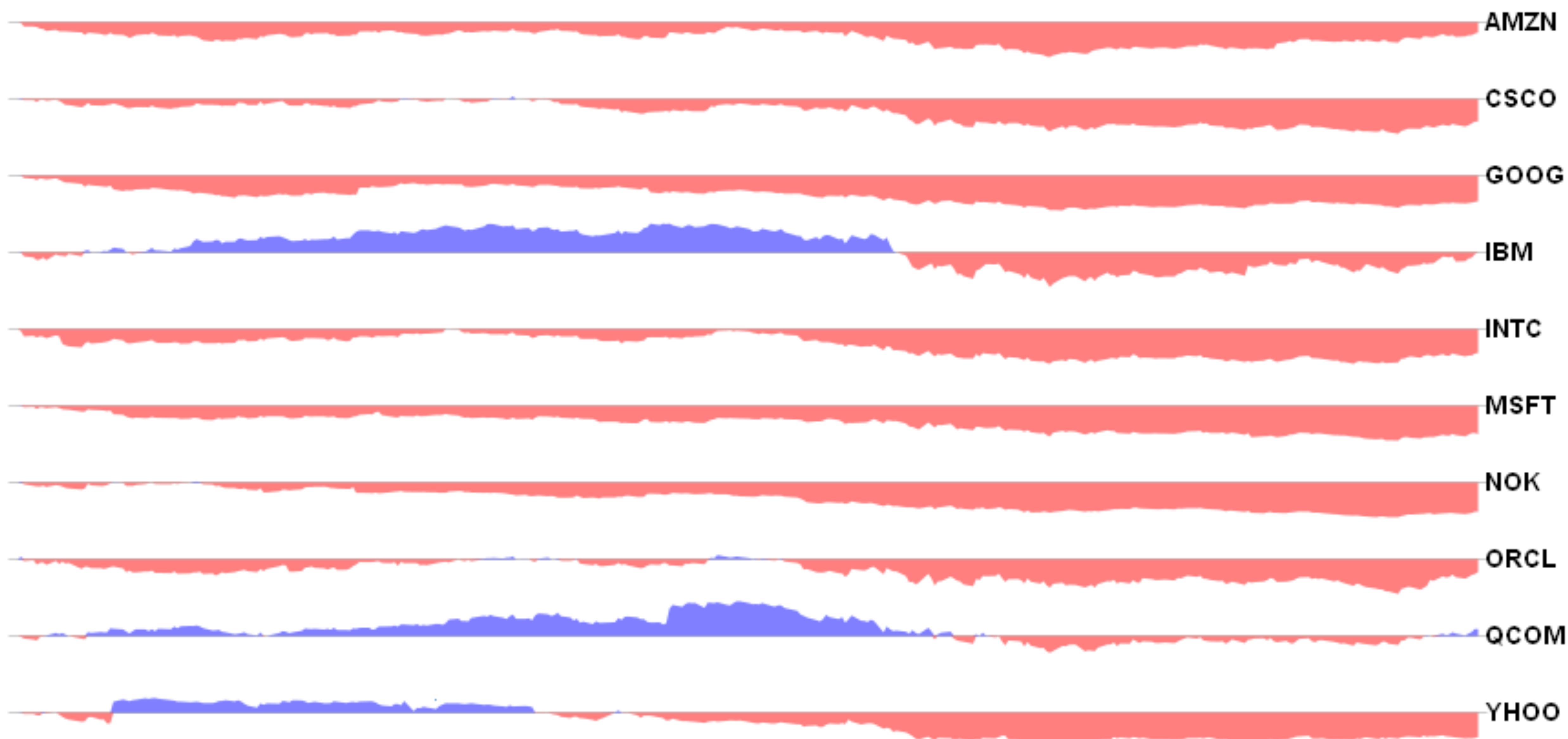
## Relative Technology Stock Performance: Jan 2008 - Present



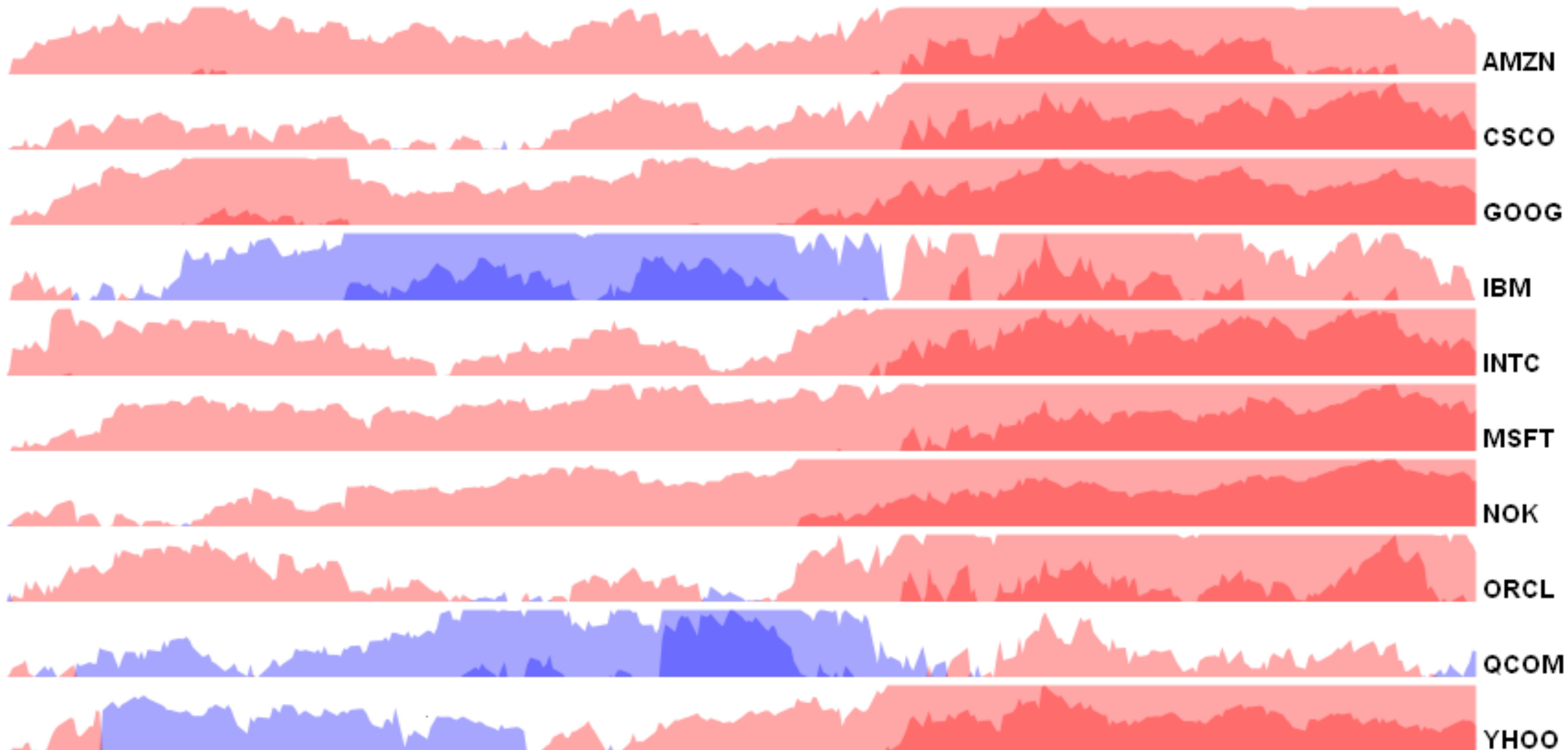
## Relative Technology Stock Performance: Jan 2008 - Present



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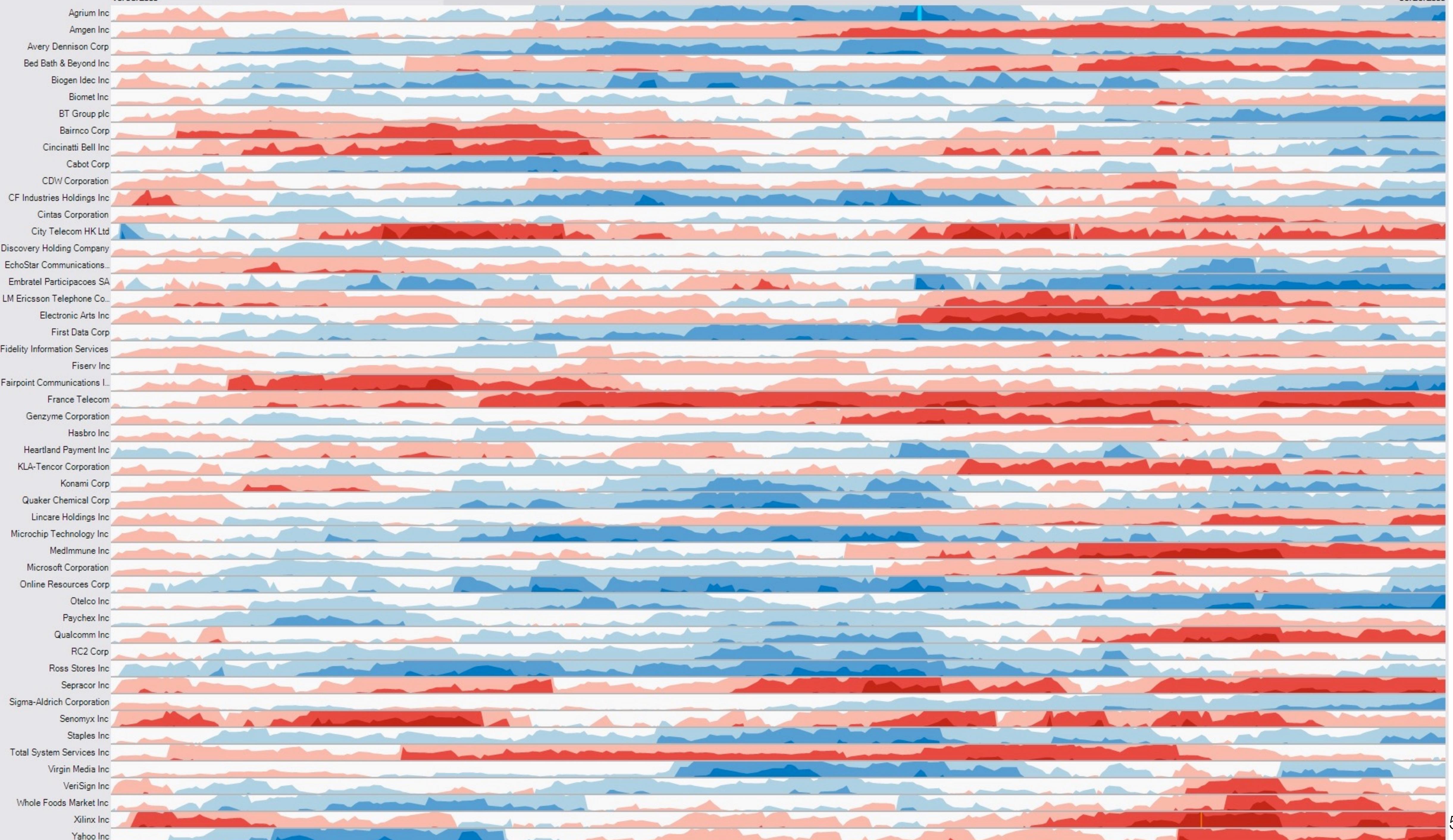


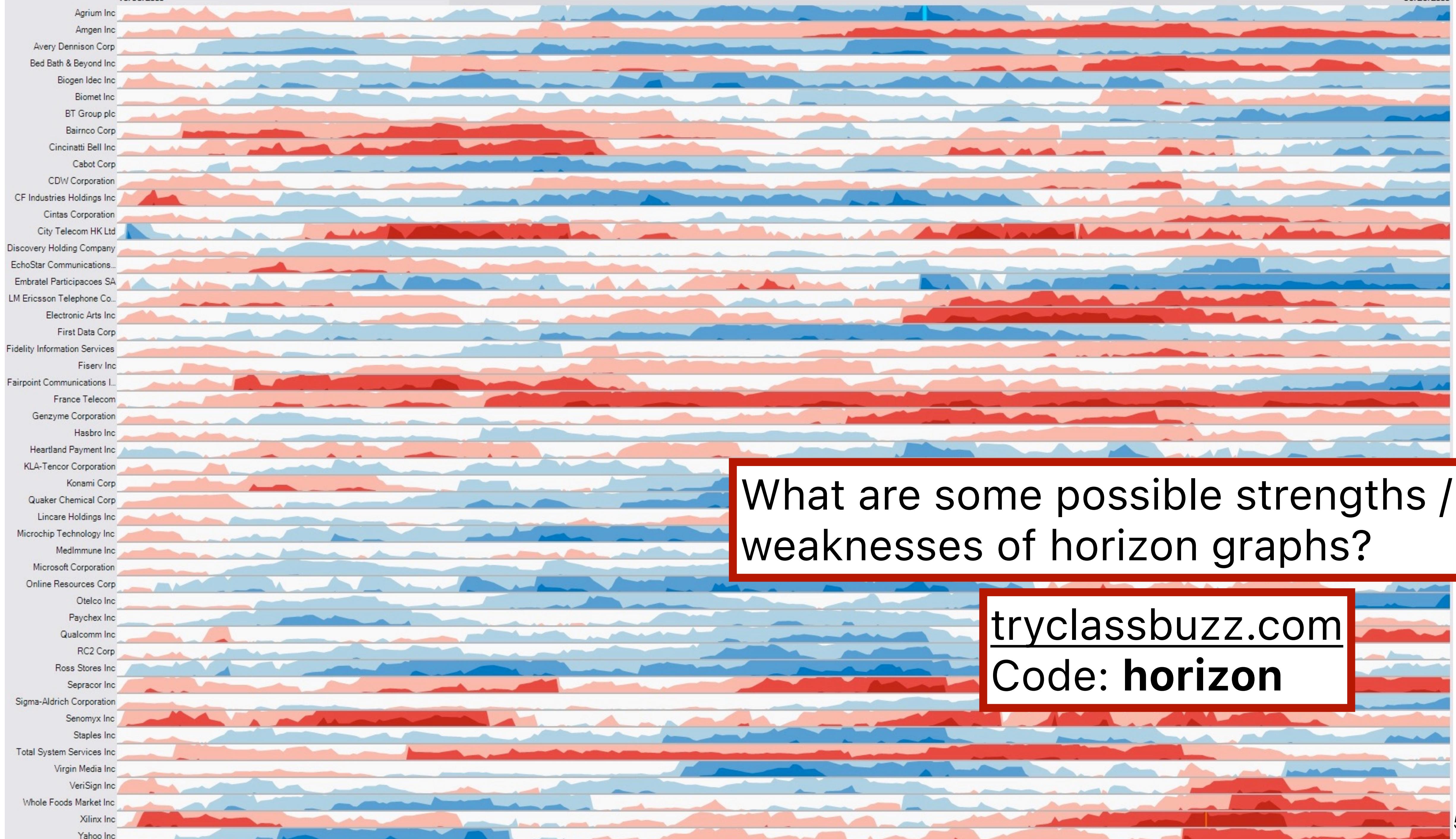
## Relative Technology Stock Performance: Jan 2008 - Present



10/03/2005

09/29/2006





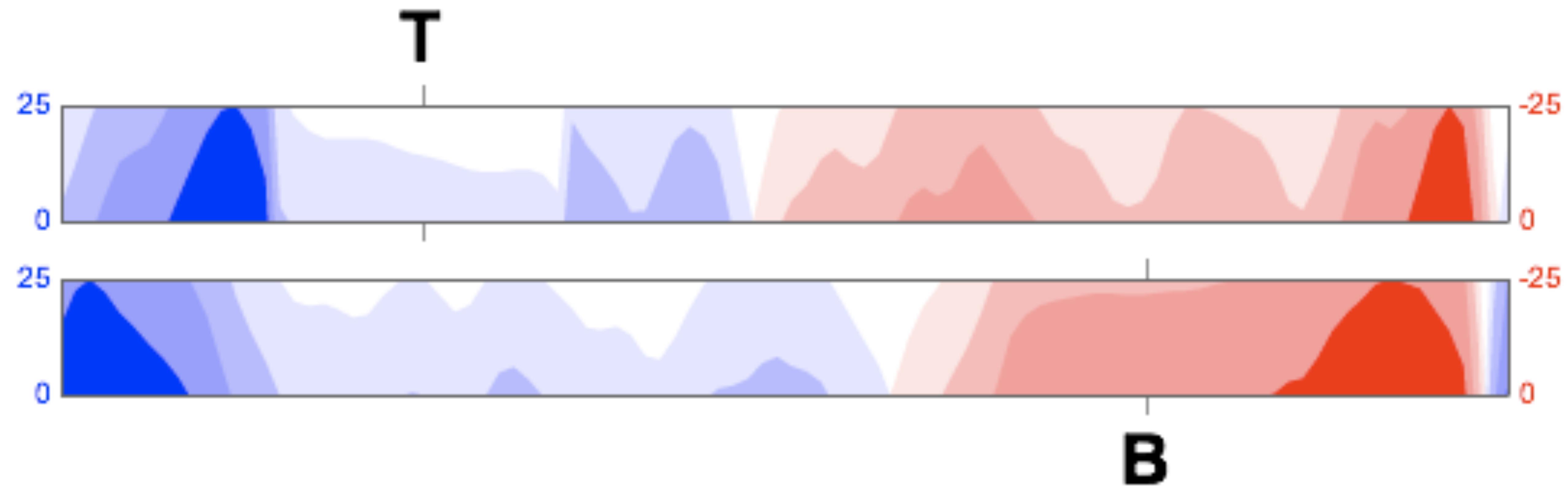
What are some possible strengths / weaknesses of horizon graphs?

[tryclassbuzz.com](http://tryclassbuzz.com)  
Code: horizon

# Experiment: Chart Type & Size

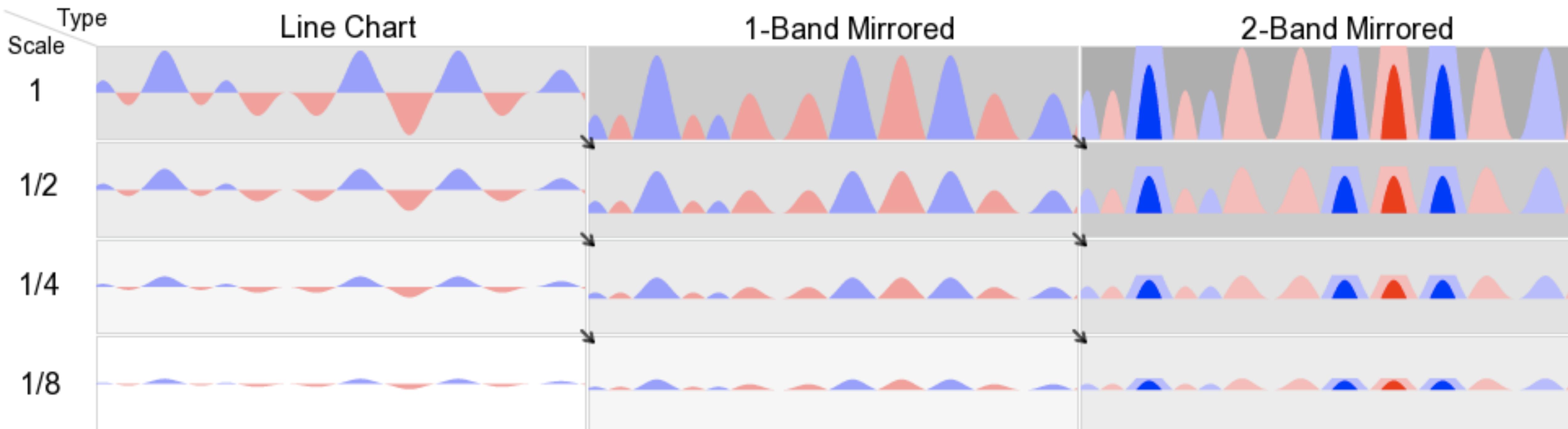
**Q1:** How do mirroring and layering affect estimation time and accuracy compared to line charts?

**Q2:** How does chart size affect estimation time and accuracy?



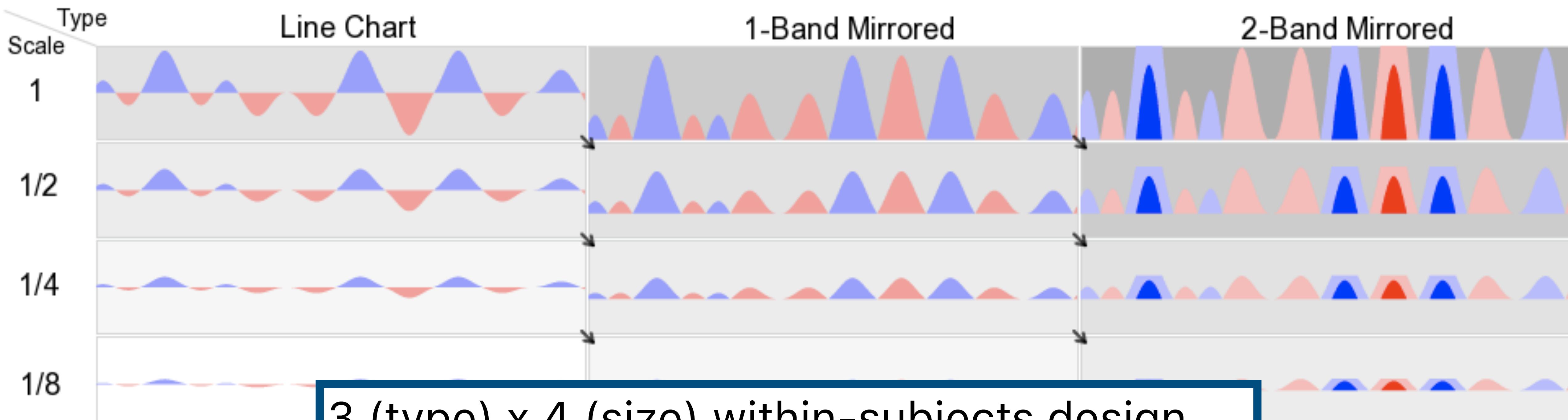
Estimate the difference between T and B (0-200) to within 5 values.

# Experiment Design



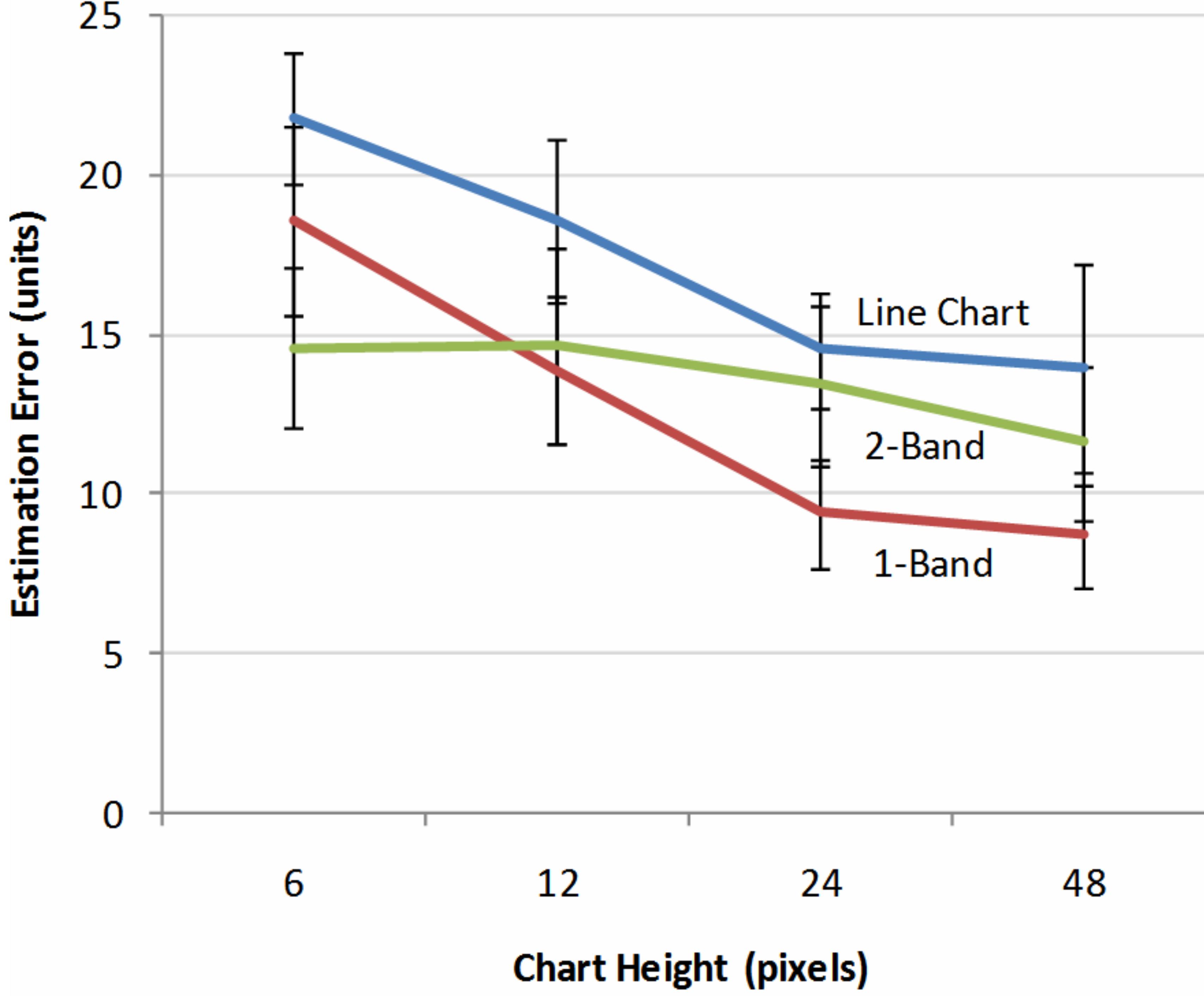
3 (chart type) x 4 (size) within-subjects design  
N = 30 (17 male, 13 female), undergrads  
14.1 inch LCD display, 1024 x 768 resolution  
At scale = 1, chart is 13.9 x 1.35 cm (48 px)

# Experiment Design



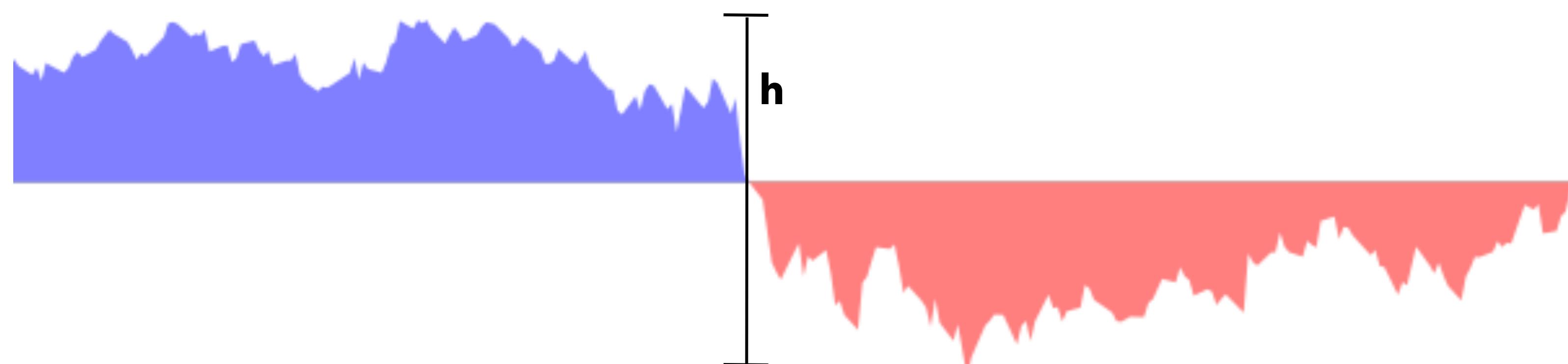
3 (type) x 4 (size) within-subjects design  
N = 30 (17 male, 13 female), undergrads

2 (type) x 3 (size:1/8, 1/12, 1/24) follow-up  
N = 8 (6 male, 2 female), engineering grads



# Virtual Resolution (VR)

The un-mirrored, un-layered height of a chart



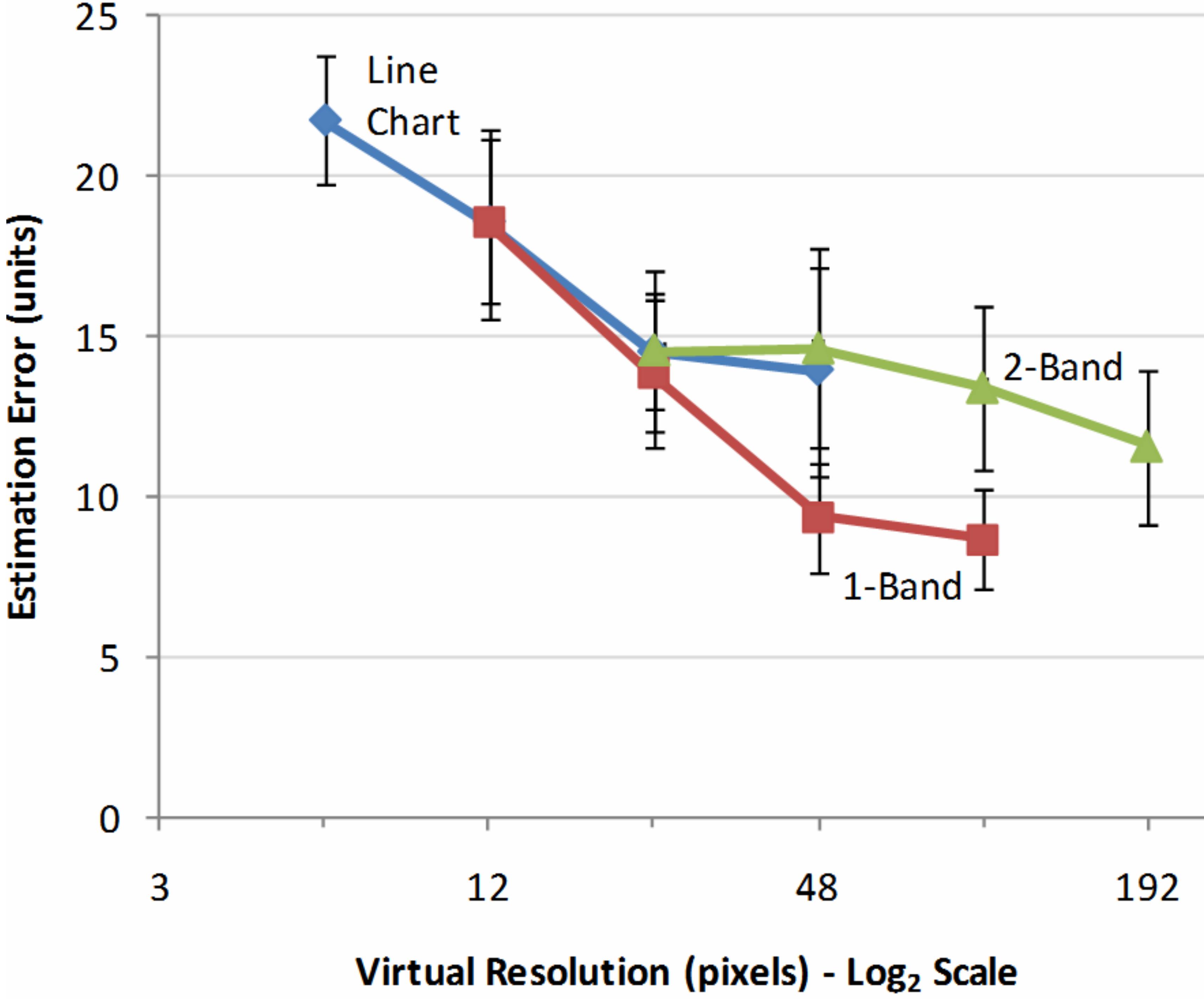
$$VR = h$$

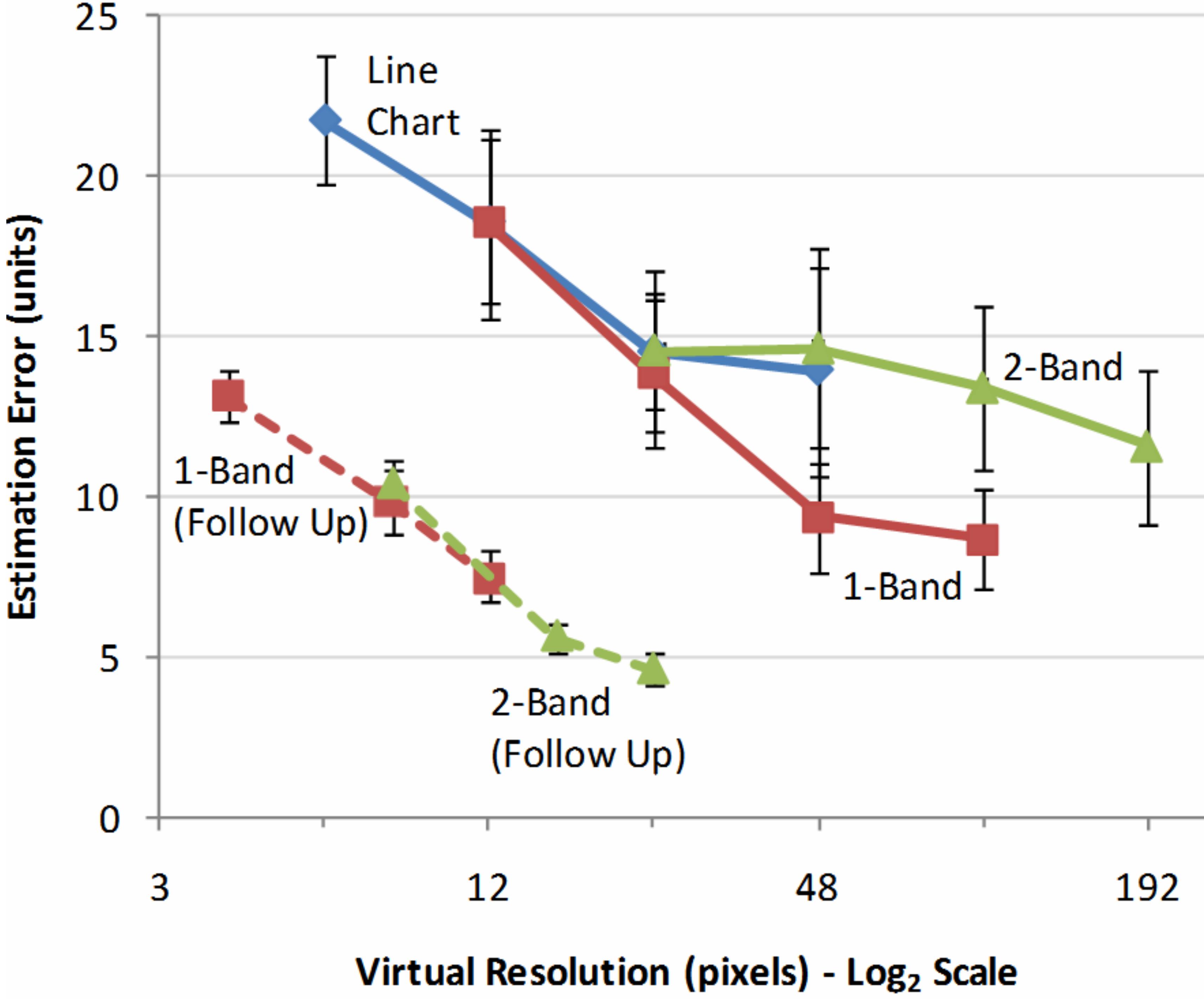


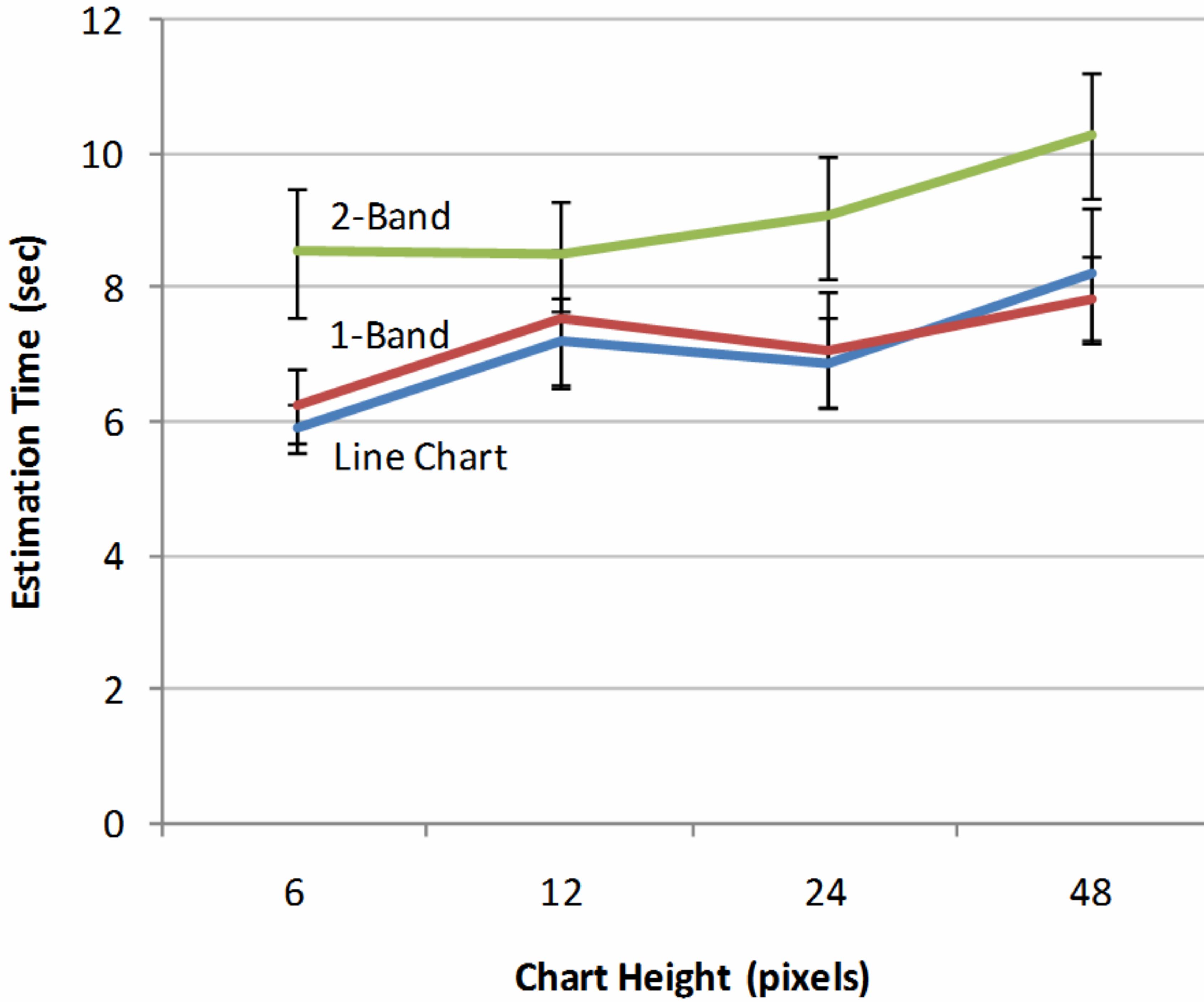
$$VR = 2h' = h$$



$$VR = 4h'' = h$$







# Results

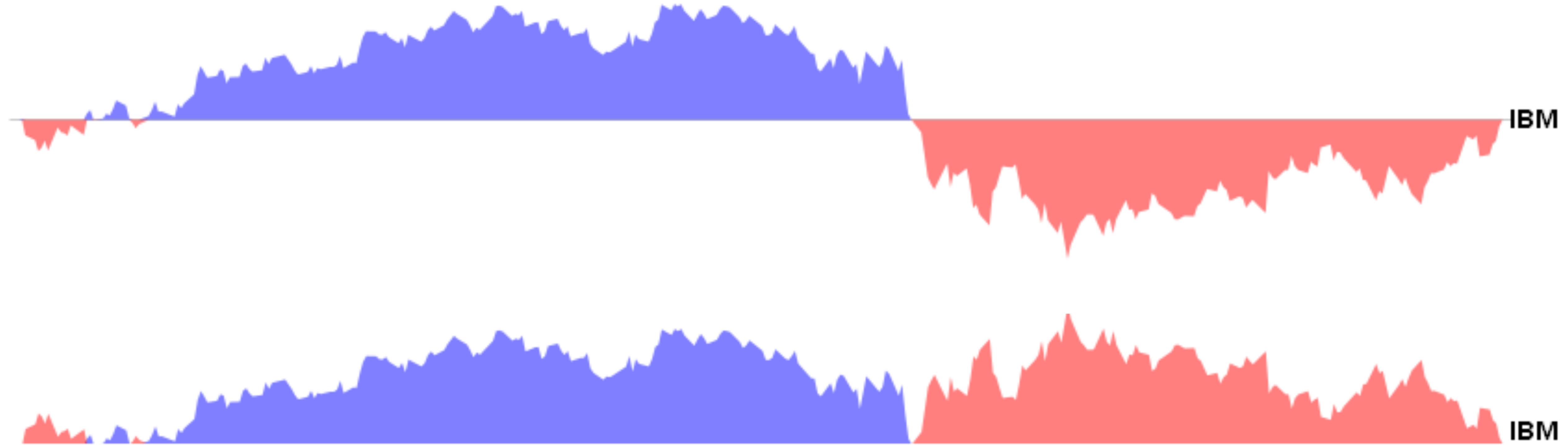
**Q1:** 2-band horizon graph (but not mirrored graph) has higher baseline estimation time and error.

**Q2:** Estimation error increases as the *virtual resolution* decreases.

Estimation time decreases as the *physical height* decreases.

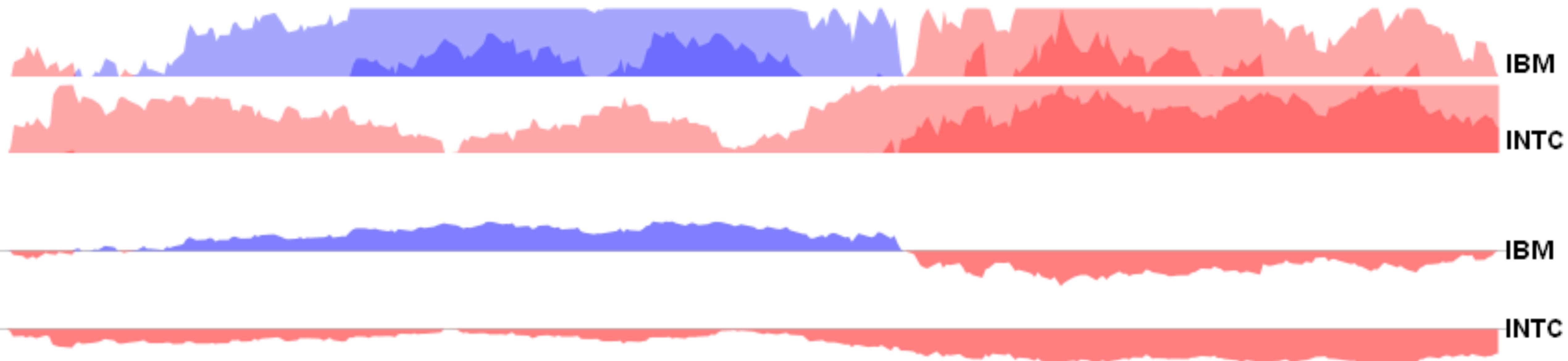
# Design Guidelines

Mirroring does not hamper perception



# Design Guidelines

Mirroring does not hamper perception  
Layered bands beneficial for smaller charts



# Design Guidelines

Mirroring does not hamper perception

Layered bands beneficial for smaller charts

Optimal chart sizing

Sweet spots in time/error curves

6.8mm (24 px) for line chart & mirrored chart

3.4mm (12 px) for 2-band horizon graph

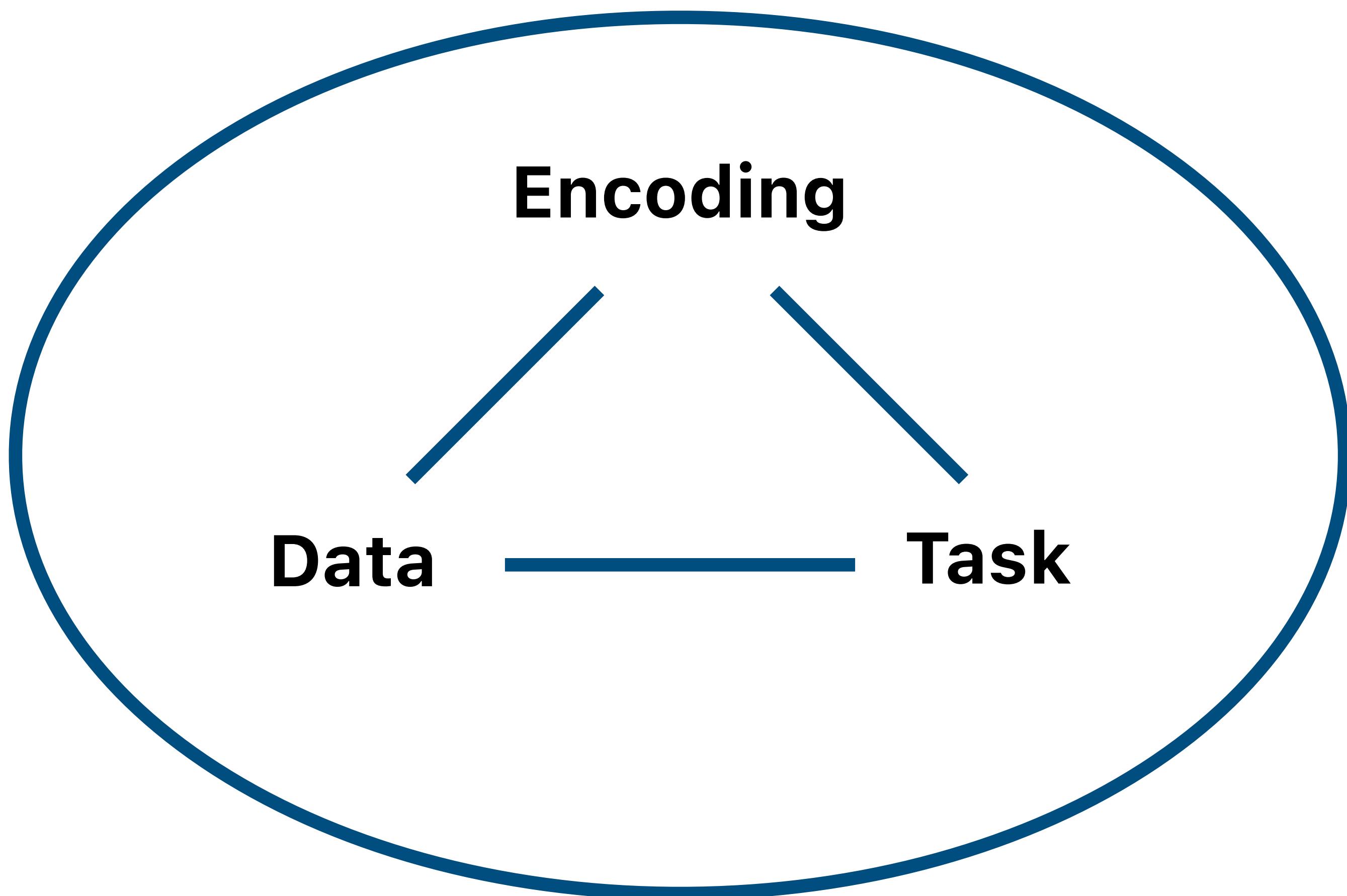
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**Users & Domain**

# Today

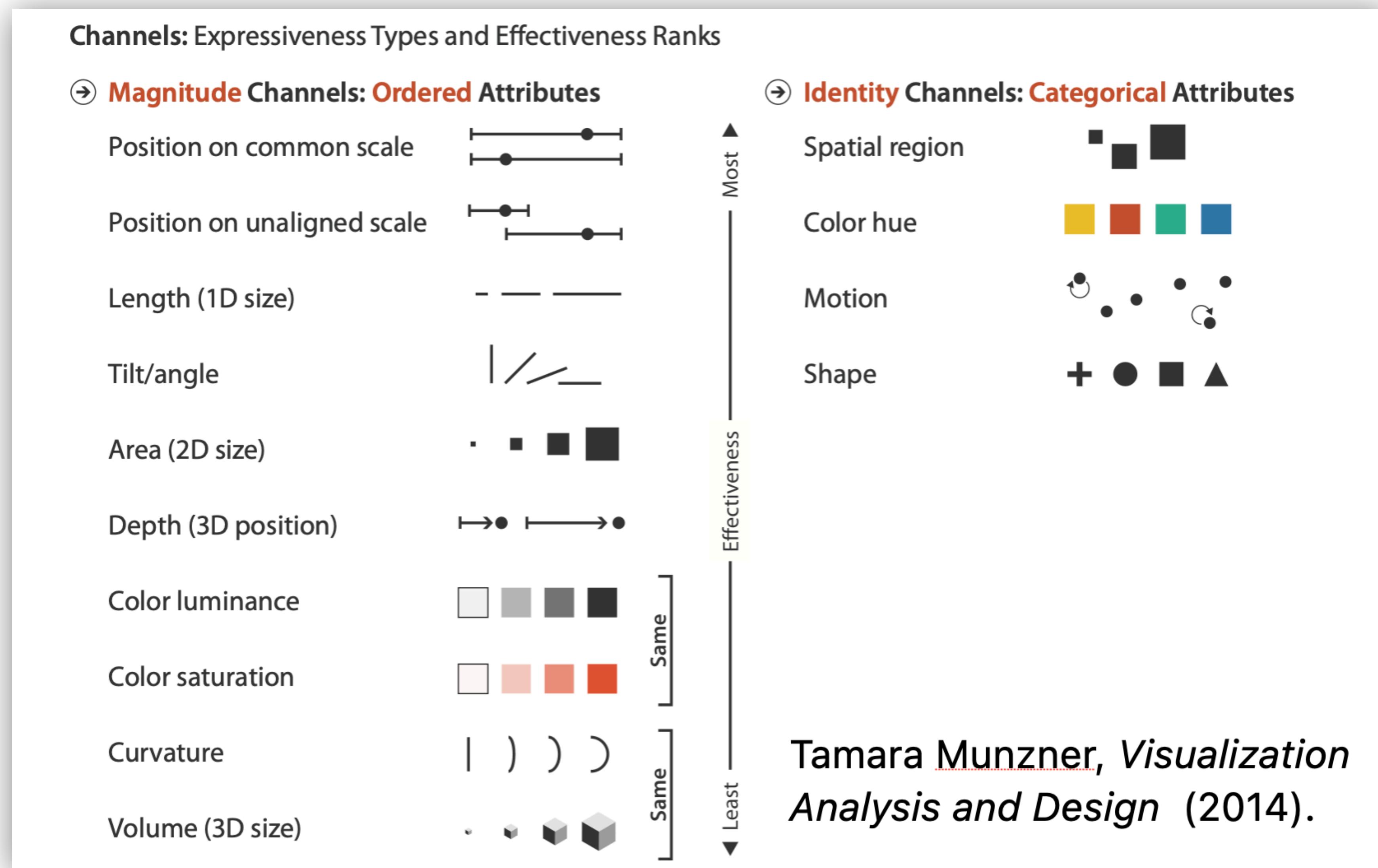
Evaluating Trees

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# Data and Image Models



# Visual Encoding and Dark Patterns

Truncating the y-axis?

To emphasize Q-interval (vs. Q-ratio)  
If the zero value doesn't make much sense.  
If it is the norm (e.g., stock charts).



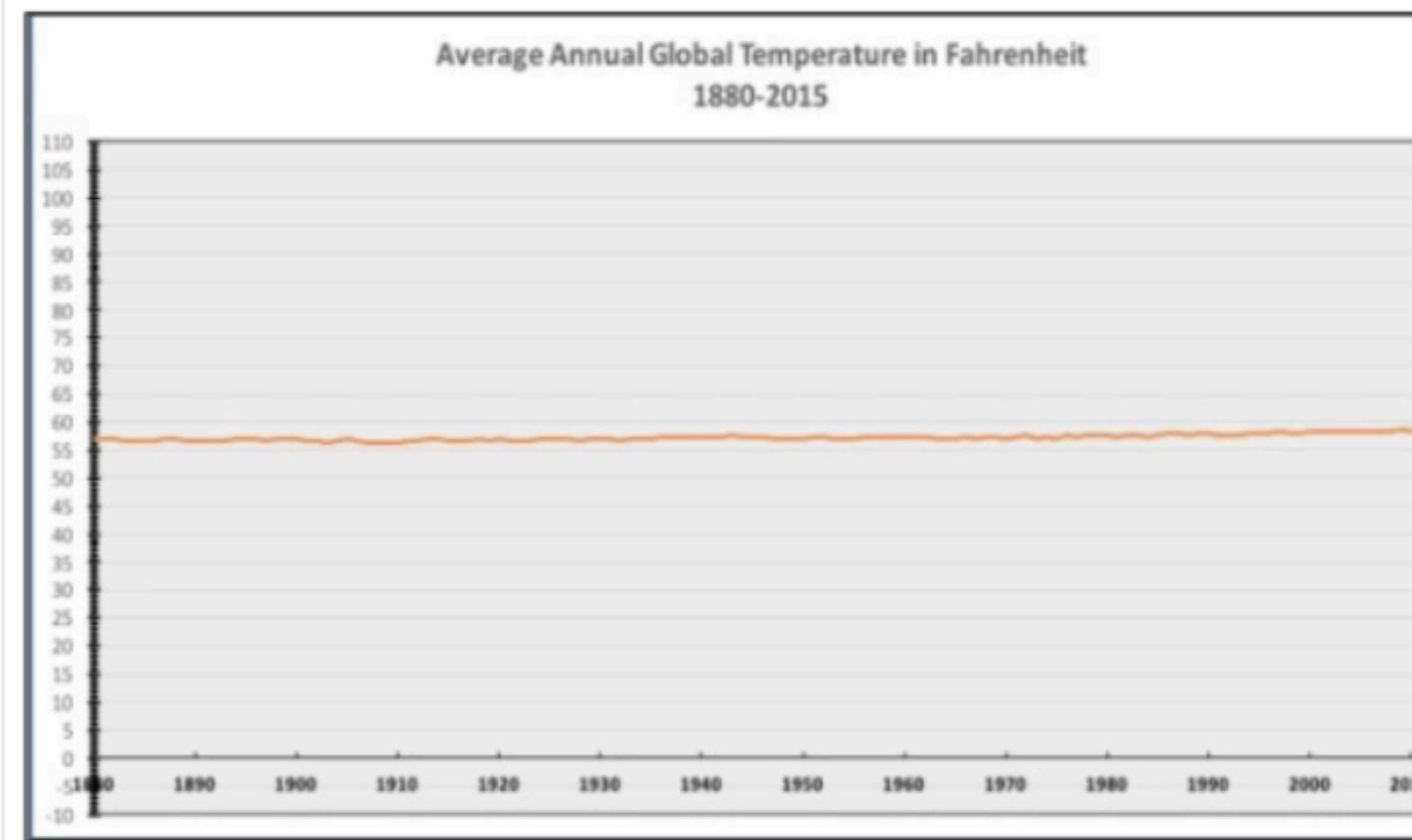
National Review

@NRO

Follow

The only [#climatechange](#) chart you need to see. [natl.re/wPKpro](http://natl.re/wPKpro)

(h/t [@powerlineUS](#))



12:36 PM - 14 Dec 2015

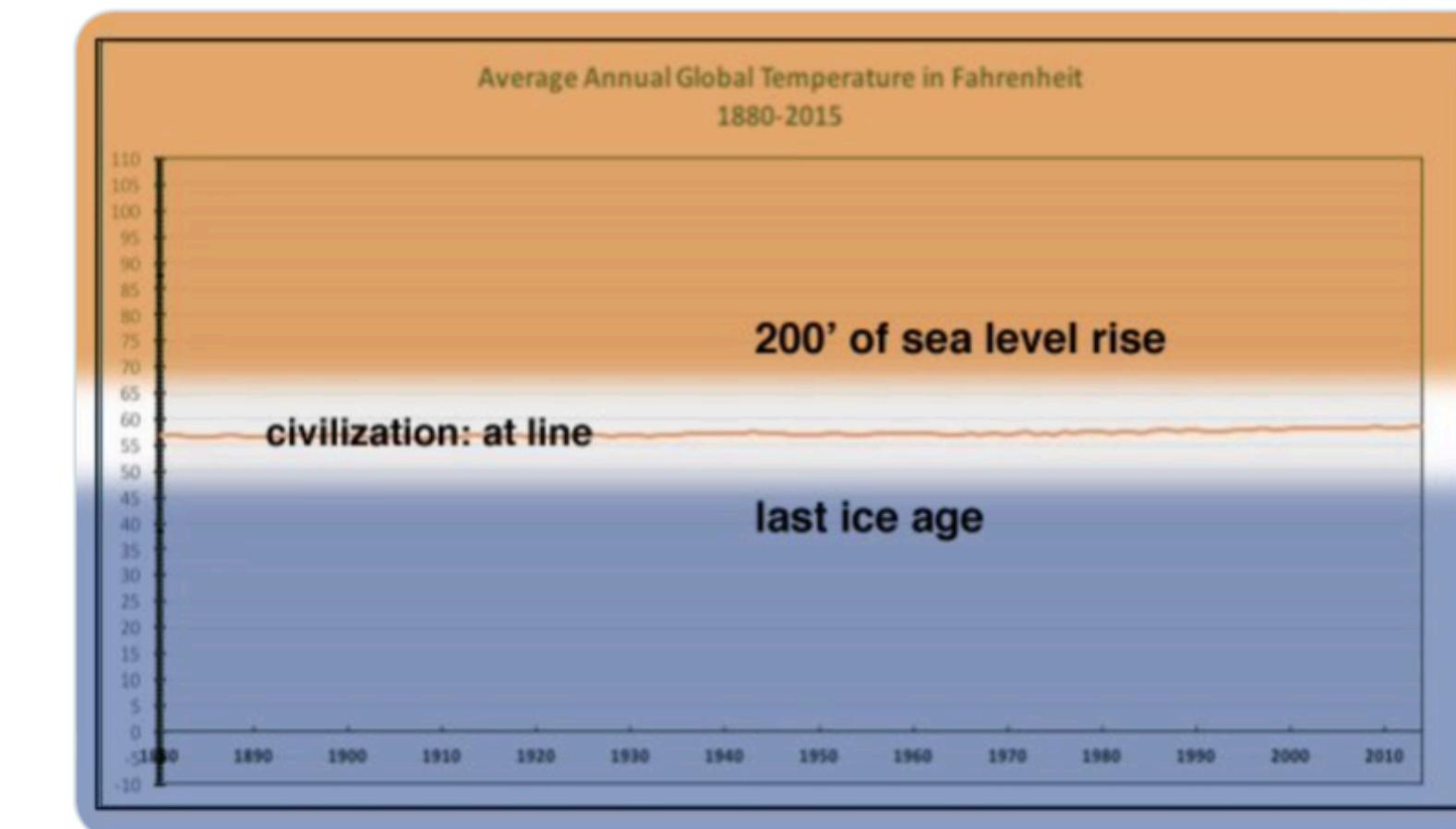


City Atlas  
@cityatlas

...

Replying to @NRO

@NRO @powerlineUS @bradplumer I'm sure someone else has fixed this for you, but here you go. Great idea, thx --



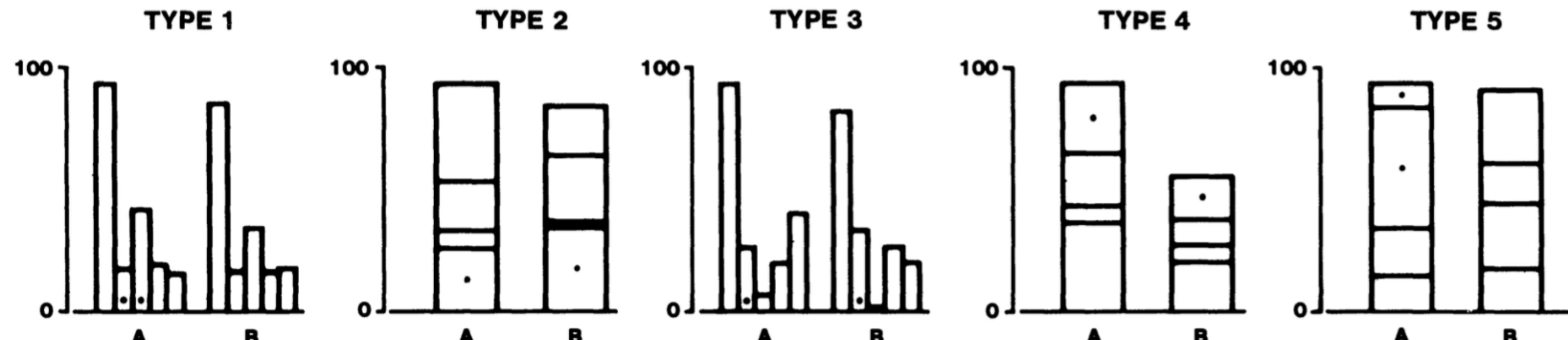
5:28 PM · Dec 14, 2015

78 Retweets 1 Quote Tweet 208 Likes

39

# Perception

## Graphical Perception Studies



*Figure 4. Graphs from position-length experiment.*

What proportion is the smaller marked section of the larger?

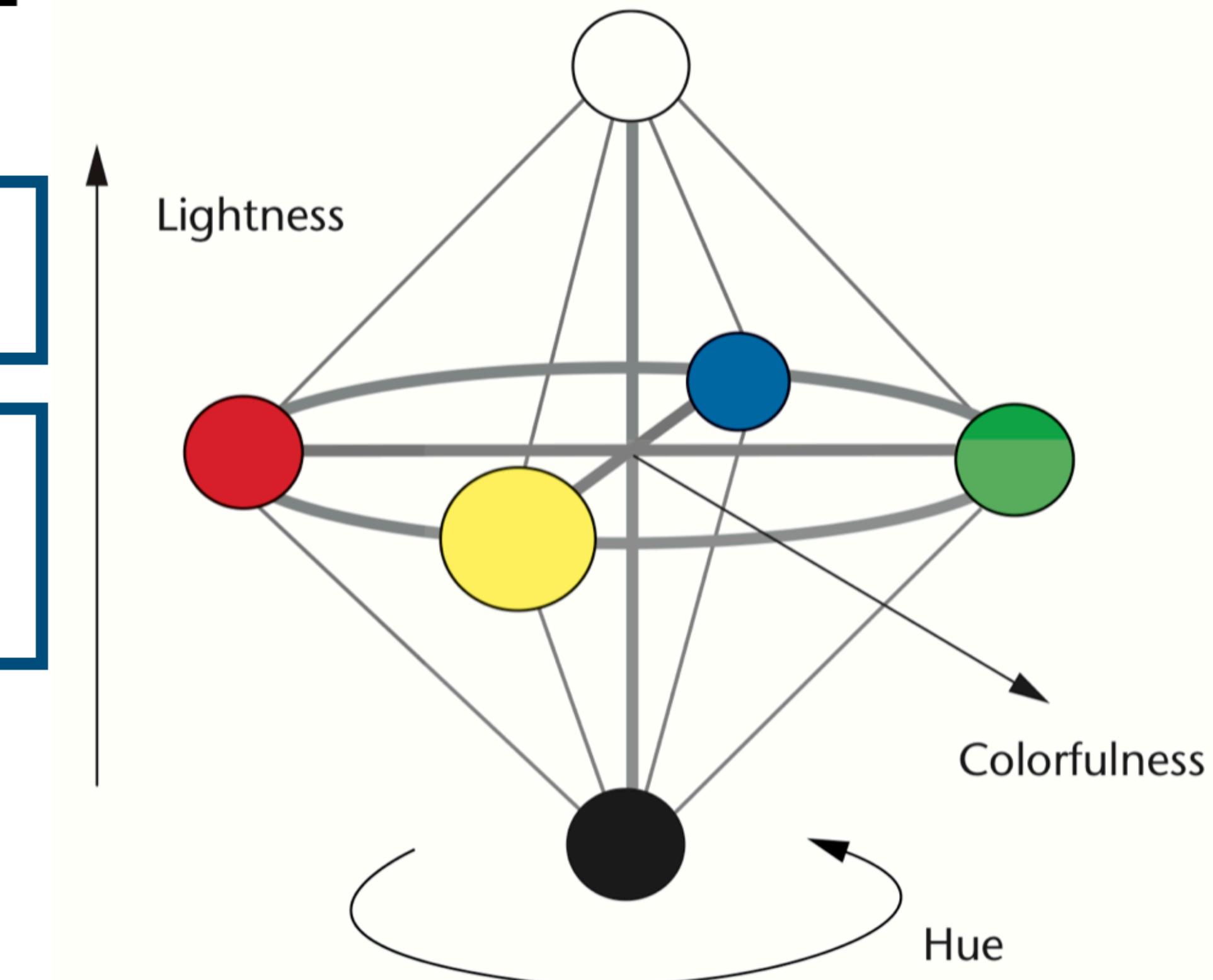
# Color

## OKLAB Color Space

Oklab is modern version of CIELAB that we recommend

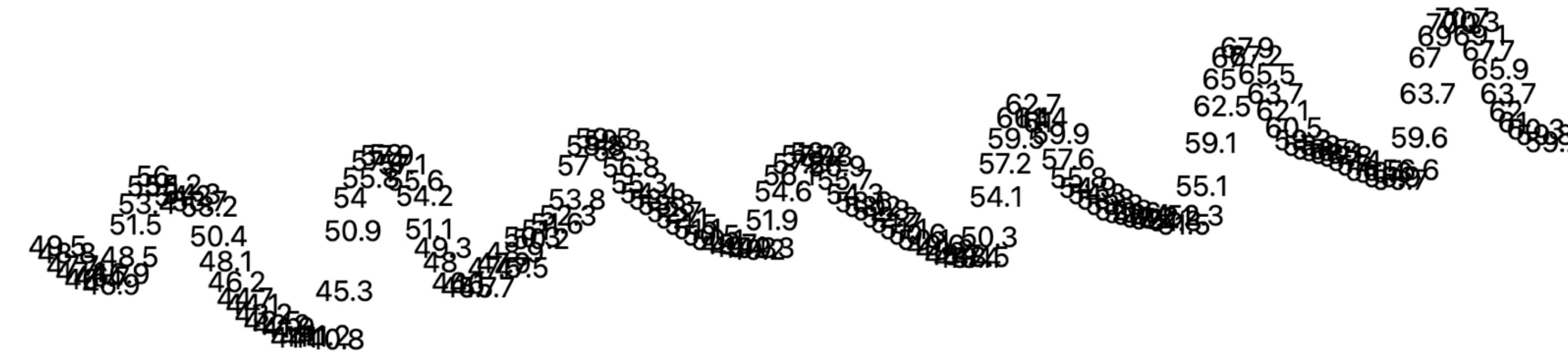
In CSS:

`oklch(65% 50% 0)`



# JavaScript

Now, let's make our very first data visualization in JS:



[js-lecture/weather02/](#)

(demo)

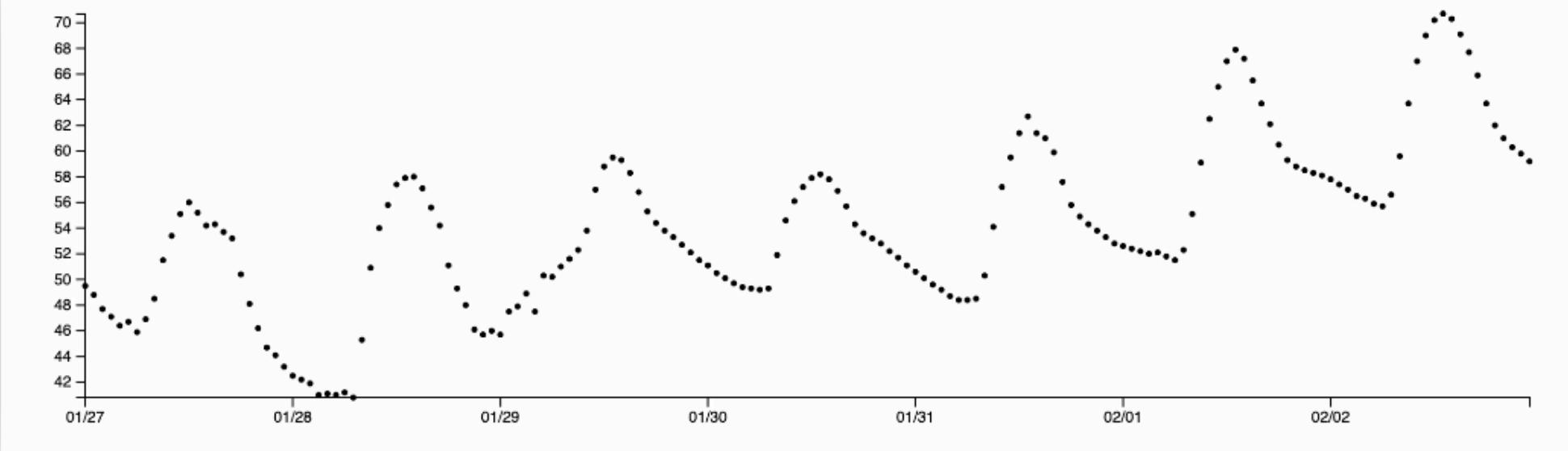
[js-lecture/weather03/](#)

(demo)

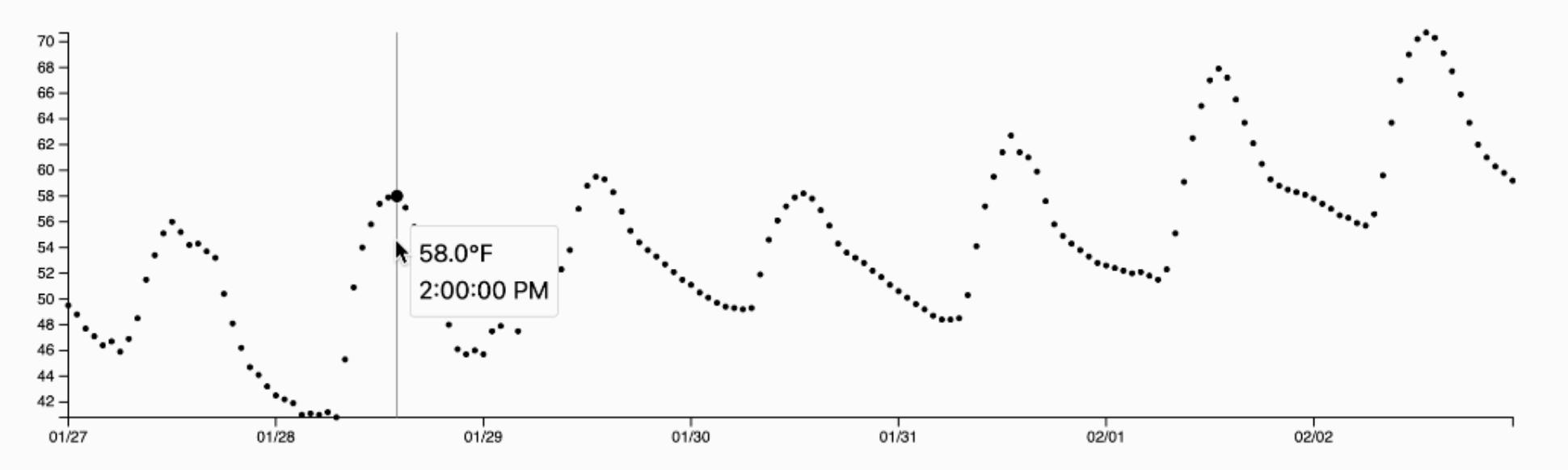
# D3

## Step 5: Improving our tooltip

Before:

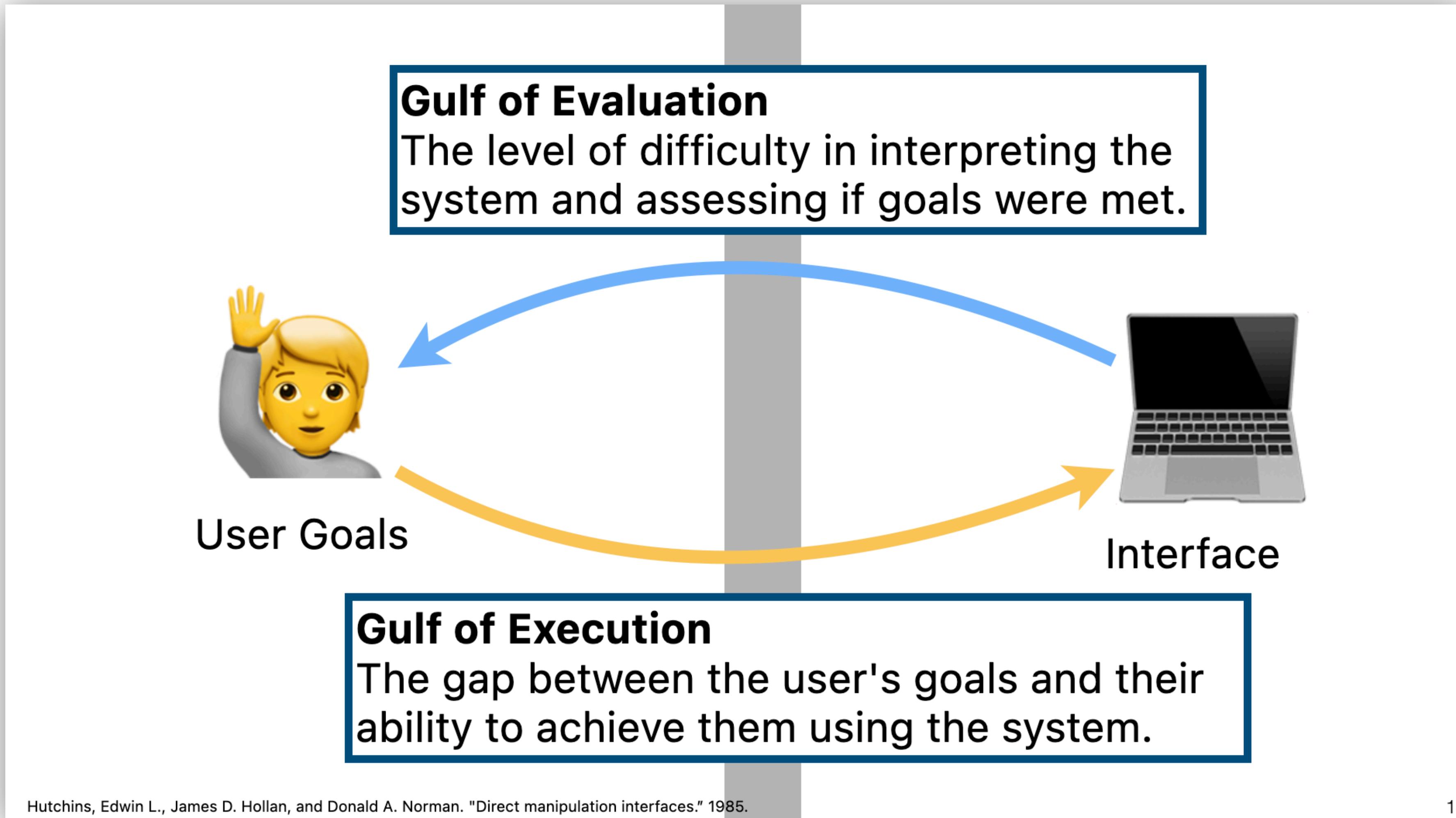


After:

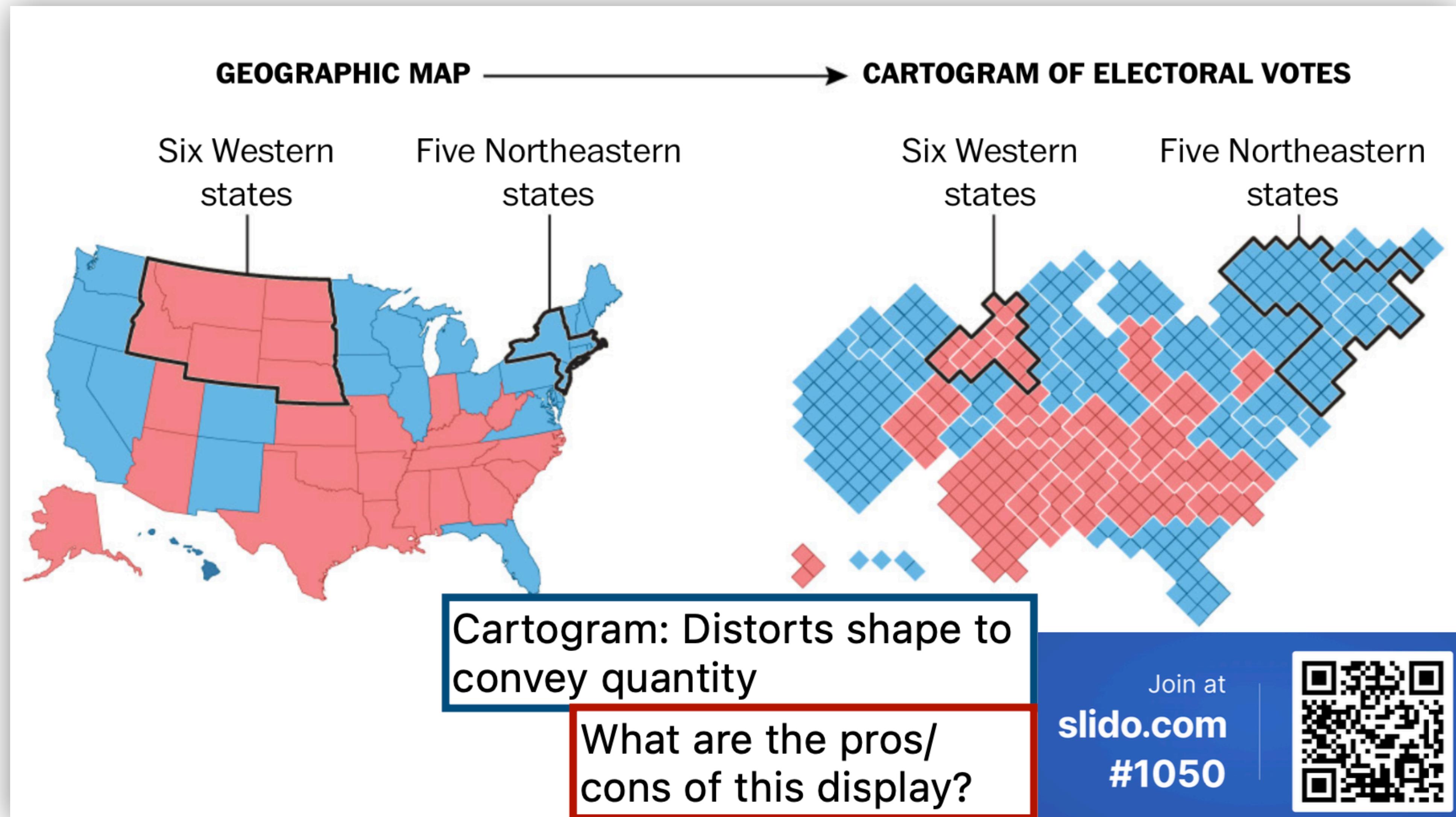


**Demo: d3-lecture/weather05**

# Interaction



# Maps



# Narrative

The screenshot shows a slide from an interactive slideshow titled "Interactive Slideshow". The slide features a title "A visual introduction to machine learning" and a subtitle explaining that machine learning uses statistical learning techniques to identify patterns in data. It includes a diagram of three waveforms and a "SCROLL" button. A red oval highlights the "SCROLL" button. The URL <http://www.r2d3.us/visual-intro-to-machine-learning-part-1/> is at the bottom. The slide is part of a larger presentation with a header "R2 D3" and a footer "41".

R2  
D3

## Interactive Slideshow

A visual introduction to machine learning

In machine learning, computers apply **statistical learning** techniques to automatically identify patterns in data. These techniques can be used to make highly accurate predictions.

Keep scrolling. Using a data set about homes, we will create a machine learning model to distinguish homes in New York from homes in San Francisco.

“Scrolly”-telling

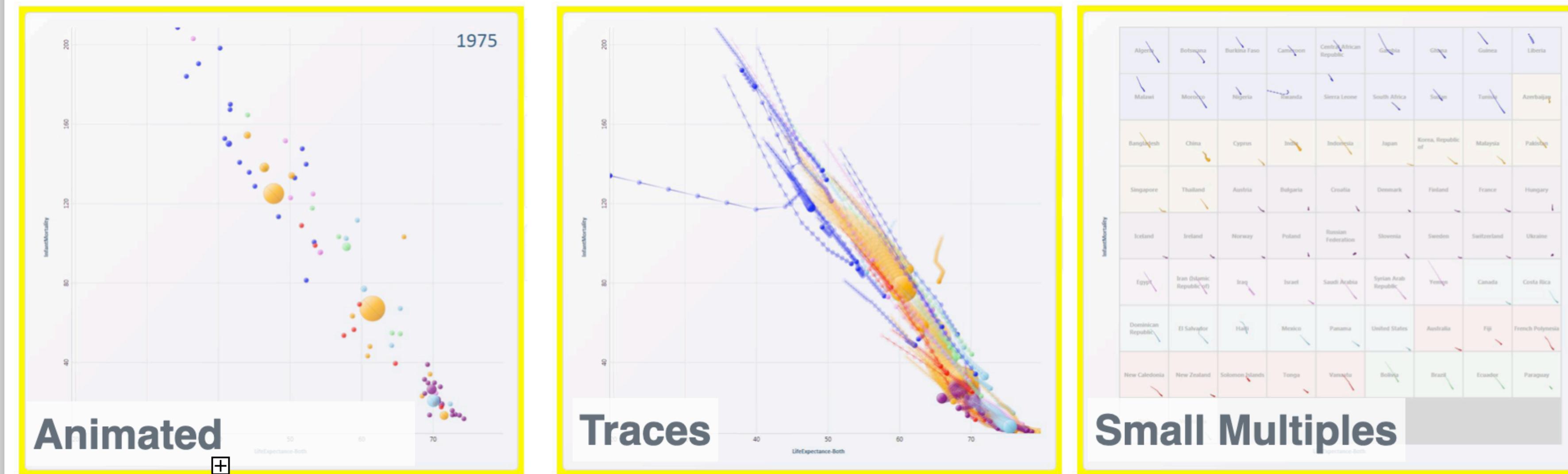
SCROLL

<http://www.r2d3.us/visual-intro-to-machine-learning-part-1/>

# Animation

## Study Conclusions

Analysis Task and Presentation Task.  
Presentation condition included narration.  
Subjects asked comprehension questions.



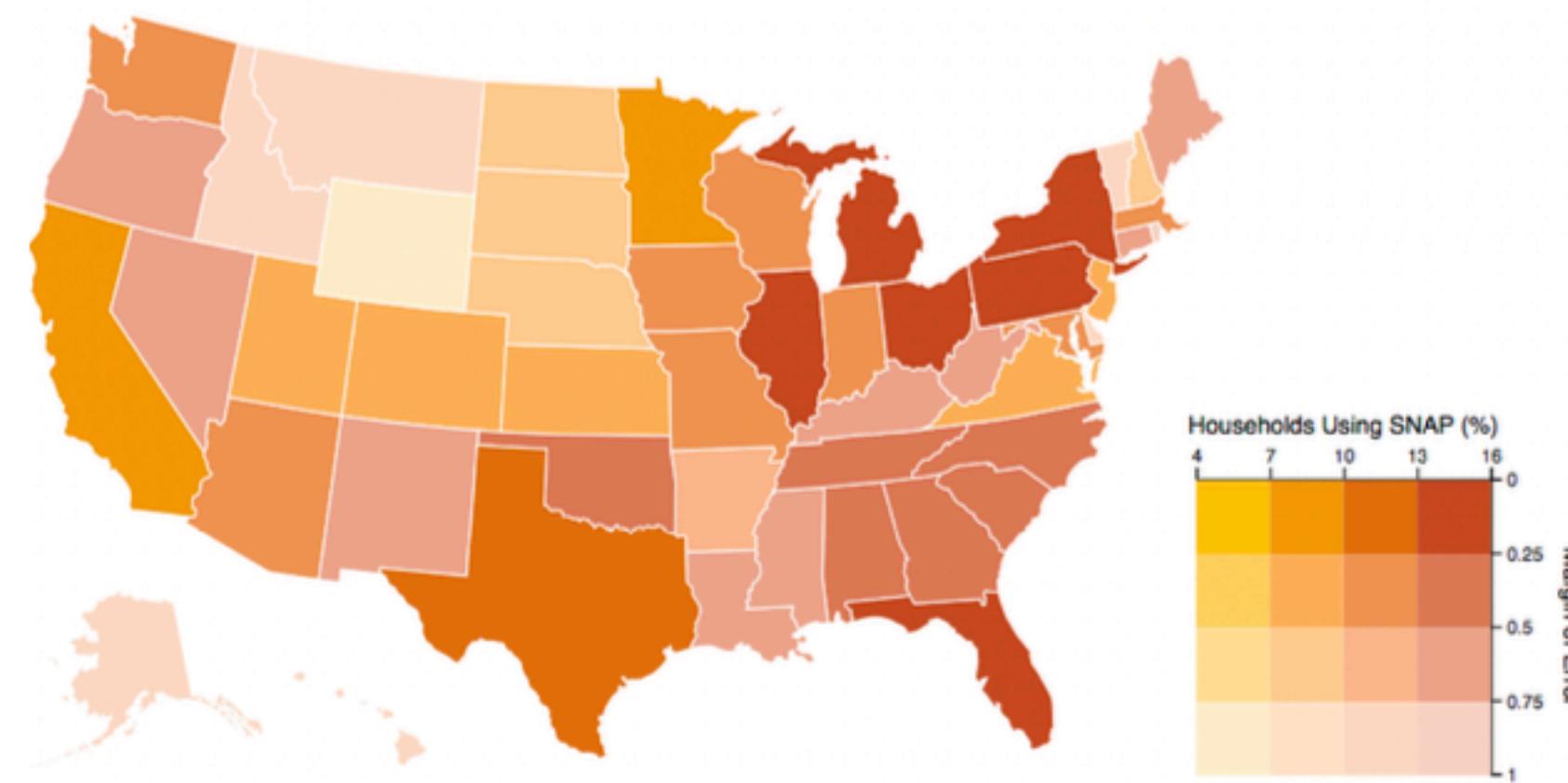
Which condition would participants:  
be more **accurate**, be **faster**, and **prefer**?

[tryclassbuzz.com](http://tryclassbuzz.com)  
Code: **anim**

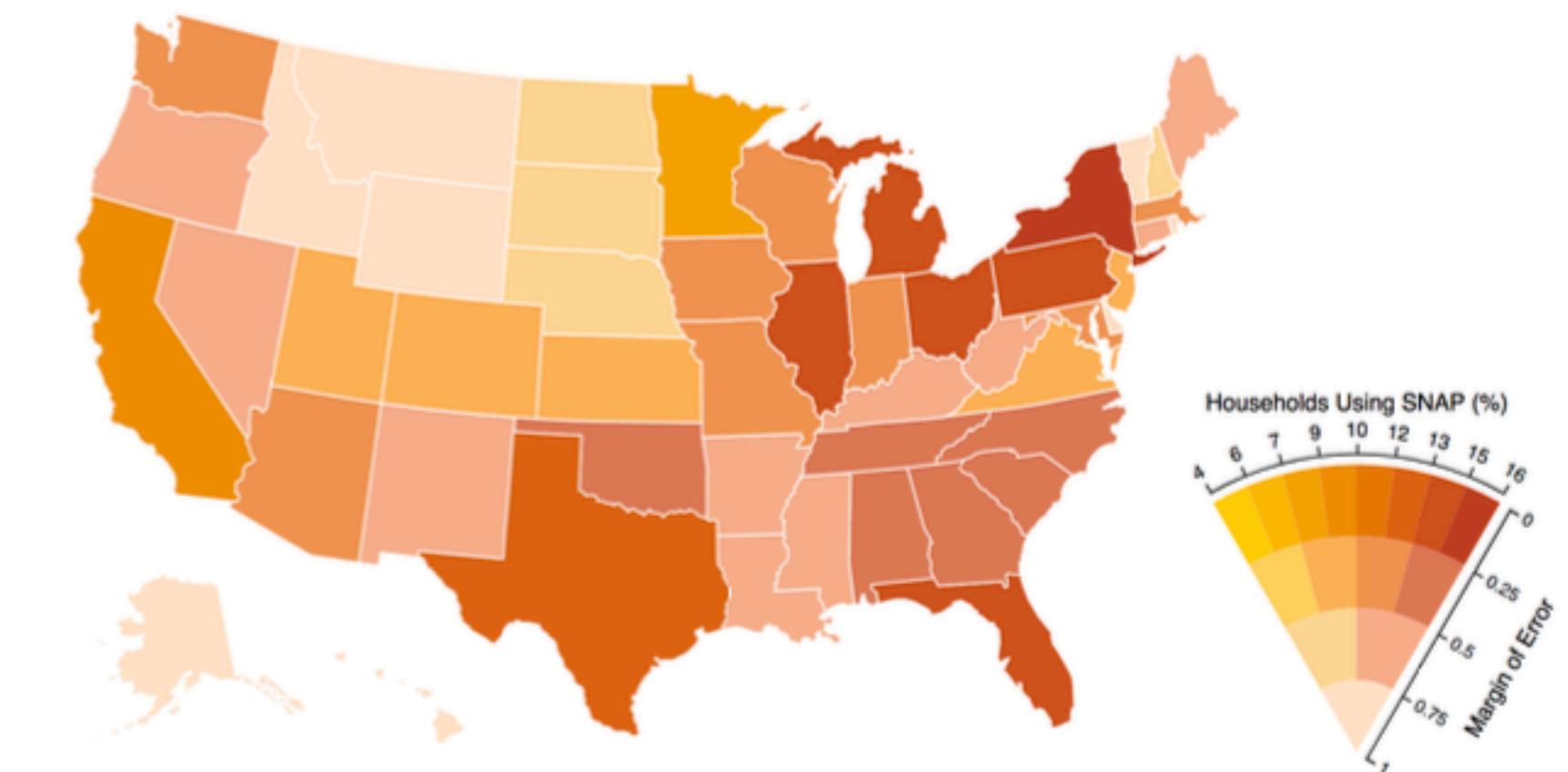
59

# Uncertainty

For uncertainty, use **visual variables** instead of visualizing point estimates



Bivariate Map (Data + Uncertainty)



Value-Suppressing Uncertainty Map

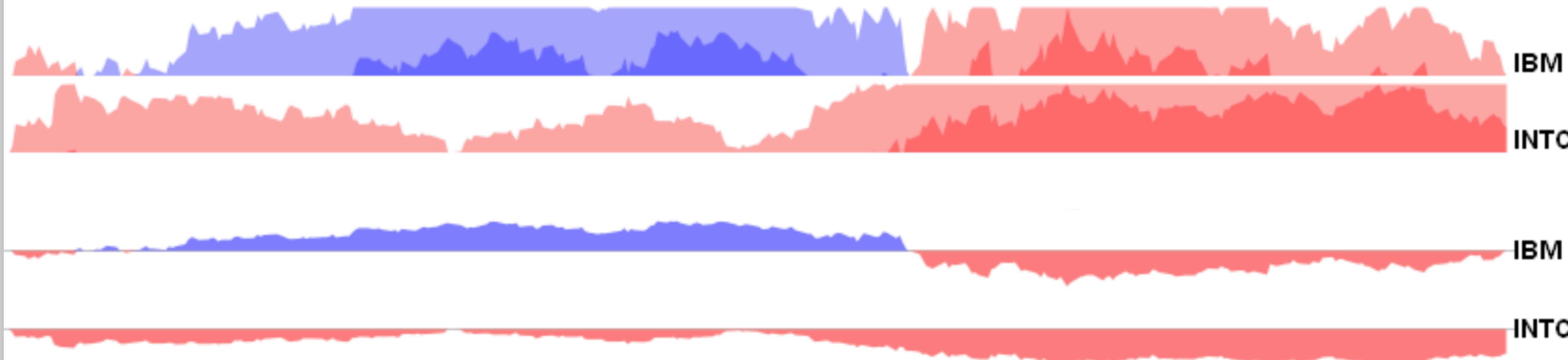
[Correll, Moritz, & Heer, 2018]

# Evaluation

## Design Guidelines

Mirroring does not hamper perception

Layered bands beneficial for smaller charts



# **Thank You!**

**TAs: Giorgia, Muchan, Smruthi**

**Tutors: Ethan, Gabriel, Nate, Jesse, Chris,  
Anastasiya, Bill, Lauren**

**Apply to join our staff in the future!**