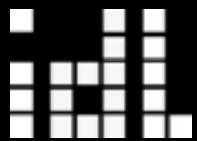


E F F E C T I V E Data Visualization

Jeffrey Heer @jeffrey_heer
U. Washington / Trifacta Inc.



Fundamentals

The Value of Visualization



Data Analysis & Statistics, Tukey & Wilk 1965



Four major influences act on data analysis today:

1. The formal theories of statistics.
2. Accelerating developments in computers and display devices.
3. The challenge, in many fields, of more and larger bodies of data.
4. The emphasis on quantification in a wider variety of disciplines.



While some of the influences of statistical theory on data analysis have been helpful, others have not.



Exposure, the effective laying open of the data to display the unanticipated, is to us a major portion of data analysis. Formal statistics has given almost no guidance to exposure; indeed, it is not clear how the **informality** and **flexibility** appropriate to the **exploratory character of exposure** can be fitted into any of the structures of formal statistics so far proposed.



Nothing - not the careful logic of mathematics, not statistical models and theories, not the awesome arithmetic power of modern computers - nothing can substitute here for the **flexibility of the informed human mind**.

Accordingly, both approaches and techniques need to be structured so as to **facilitate human involvement and intervention**.

Set A		Set B		Set C		Set D	
X	Y	X	Y	X	Y	X	Y
10	8.04	10	9.14	10	7.46	8	6.58
8	6.95	8	8.14	8	6.77	8	5.76
13	7.58	13	8.74	13	12.74	8	7.71
9	8.81	9	8.77	9	7.11	8	8.84
11	8.33	11	9.26	11	7.81	8	8.47
14	9.96	14	8.1	14	8.84	8	7.04
6	7.24	6	6.13	6	6.08	8	5.25
4	4.26	4	3.1	4	5.39	19	12.5
12	10.84	12	9.11	12	8.15	8	5.56
7	4.82	7	7.26	7	6.42	8	7.91
5	5.68	5	4.74	5	5.73	8	6.89

Summary Statistics

$$\mu_X = 9.0 \quad \sigma_X = 3.317$$

$$\mu_Y = 7.5 \quad \sigma_Y = 2.03$$

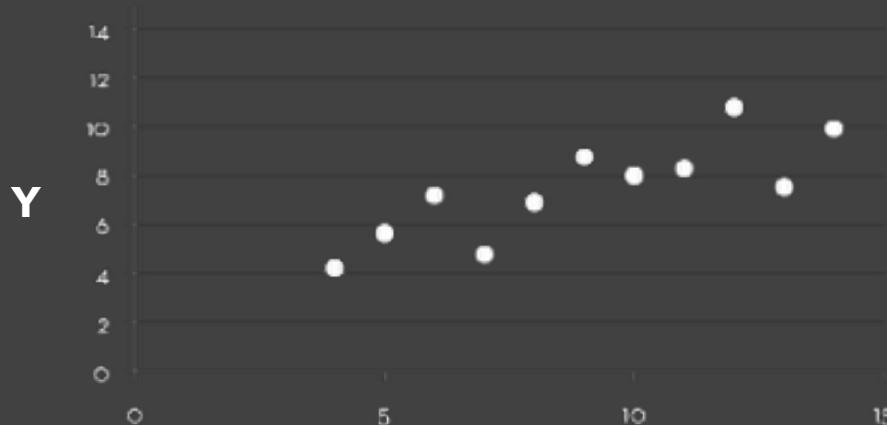
Linear Regression

$$Y = 3 + 0.5 X$$

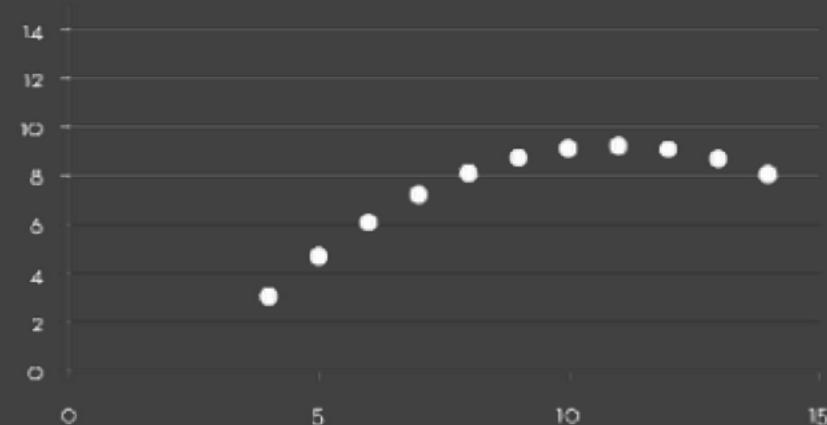
$$R^2 = 0.67$$

[Anscombe 1973]

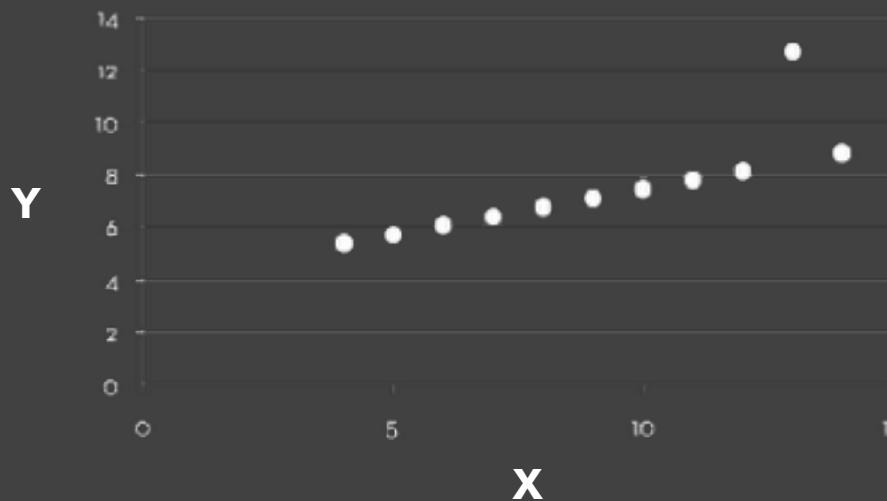
Set A



Set B



Set C



Set D



Abortion

(Revision as of 22:56 4 Jun 2003)

"**Abortion**," in its most commonly used sense, refers to the deliberate early termination of a pregnancy, resulting in the death of the fetus. [1] Medically, the term also refers to early termination of a pregnancy by nature ("spontaneous abortion" or miscarriage, which occurs in 1 in 5 of all pregnancies, usually within the first 12 weeks) or to the cessation of normal growth of a body part or organ. What follows is a discussion of the issues related to deliberate or "induced" abortion.

Methods

Depending on the stage of pregnancy an abortion can be performed by a number of different methods. The earliest terminations (before nine weeks gestation) a **chemical abortion** is the usual method, though **methotrexate** is usually the only legal method, although research has uncovered similar effects from **methotrexate and misoprostol**. Once the embryo reaches around the fifteenth week, **suction aspiration** or **vacuum abortion** is the most common approach, replacing the more risky **dilation and curettage** (D & C). From the fifteenth week up until around the eighteenth week a **surgical dilation and extraction** (S & X) or a **hysterotomy abortion**, similar to **cannibalization**.

As the fetus size increases other techniques may be used to secure abortion in the third trimester. Premature expulsion of the fetus can be induced with **acetylpromazine**, this can be coupled with injecting the amniotic fluid with saline or urea solution. Very late abortions can be brought about by the controversial **intrauterine dilation and extraction** (IUD) or a **hysterotomy abortion**, similar to **cannibalization**.

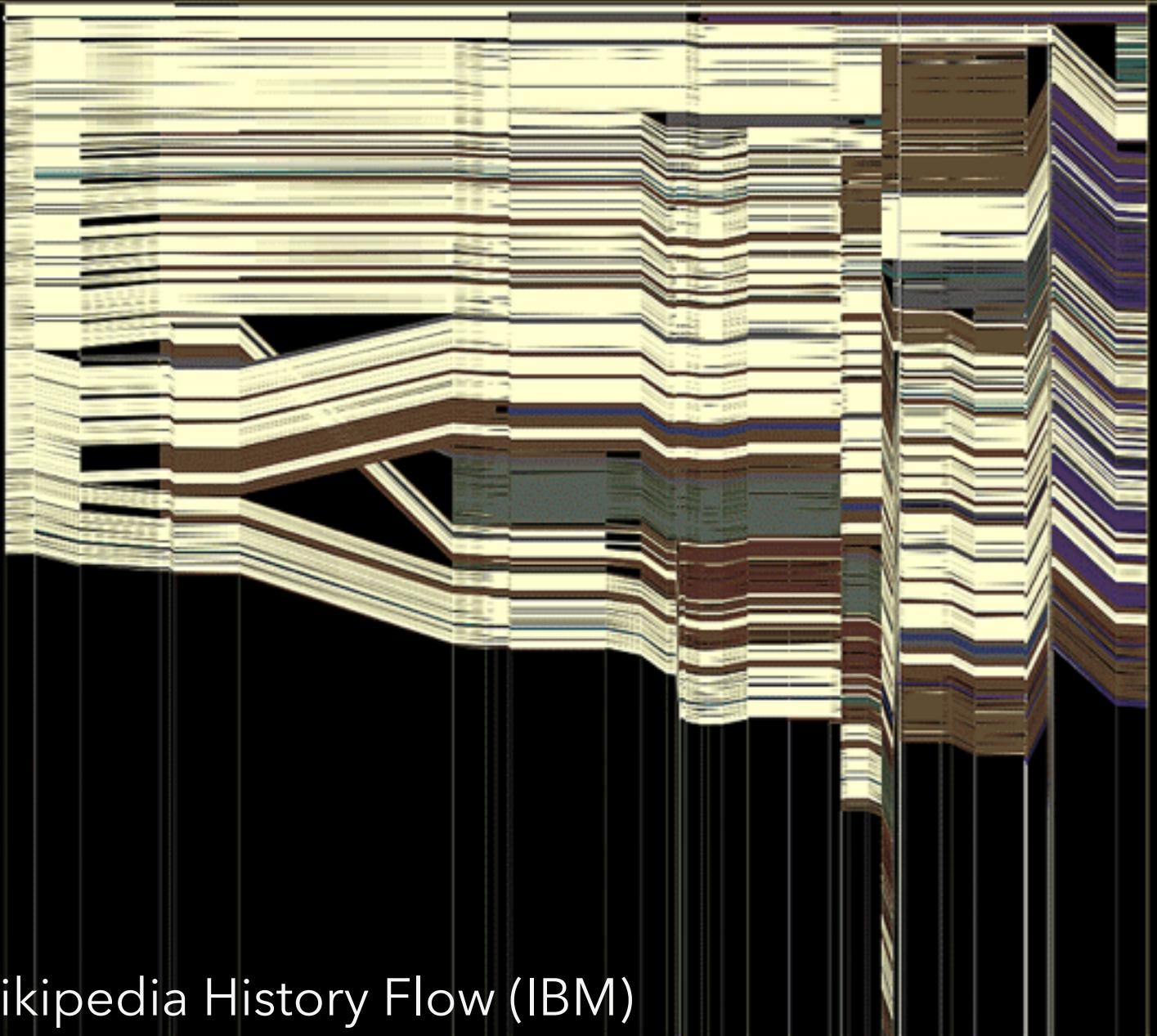
The controversy

The morality and legality of abortion is a highly controversial topic in **applied ethics** and is also discussed by **legal scholars** and **religious leaders**. Important facts about abortion are also reported by **sociologists** and **historians**.

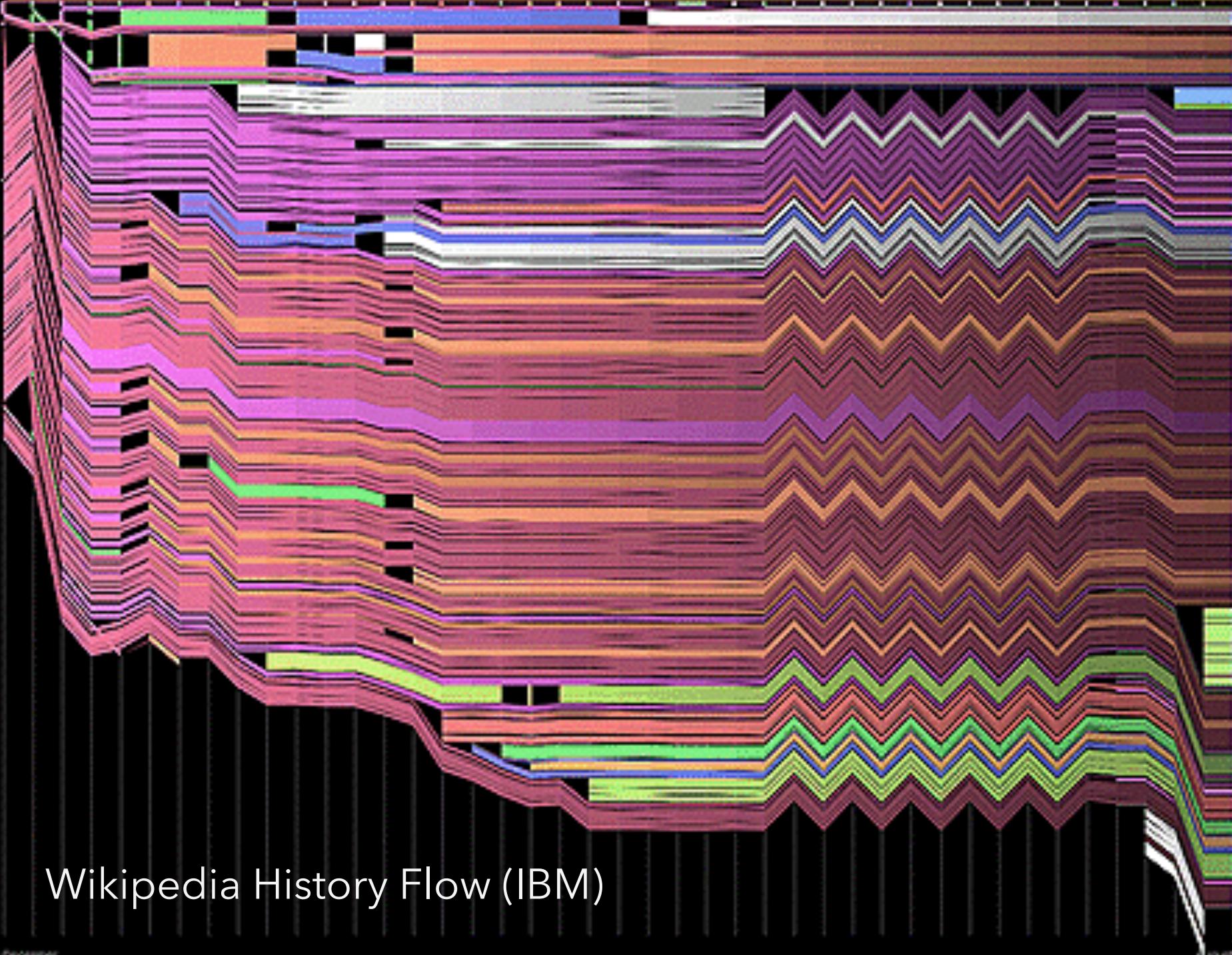
Abortion has been common in most societies, although it has often been opposed by some institutionalized religions and governments. **Catholic policy in the United States** and **abortion** became commonly accepted by the end of the 20th century. Additionally, abortion is accepted in China, India and other populous countries. The Catholic Church remains opposed to the procedure, however, and in other countries, notably the United States, and the (predominantly Catholic) Republic of Ireland, the controversy is extremely active, to the extent that even supporters of the respective positions are subject to harsh debate. While those on both sides of the argument are generally peaceful, if heated, in their expression of their position, the debate is sometimes characterized by violence. Though true of both sides, this is more marked on the side of those who are opposed to abortion, because of what they perceive as the gravity and urgency of their views.

The central question

The central question in the abortion debate is the clash of presumed or perceived rights. On one hand, is a fetus (sometimes called the "unborn") a person (pro-life/anti-abortion advocates) a human with a right to life, and if so, at what point in pregnancy does the fetus become human? On the other hand, is a fetus part of a woman's body?



Wikipedia History Flow (IBM)



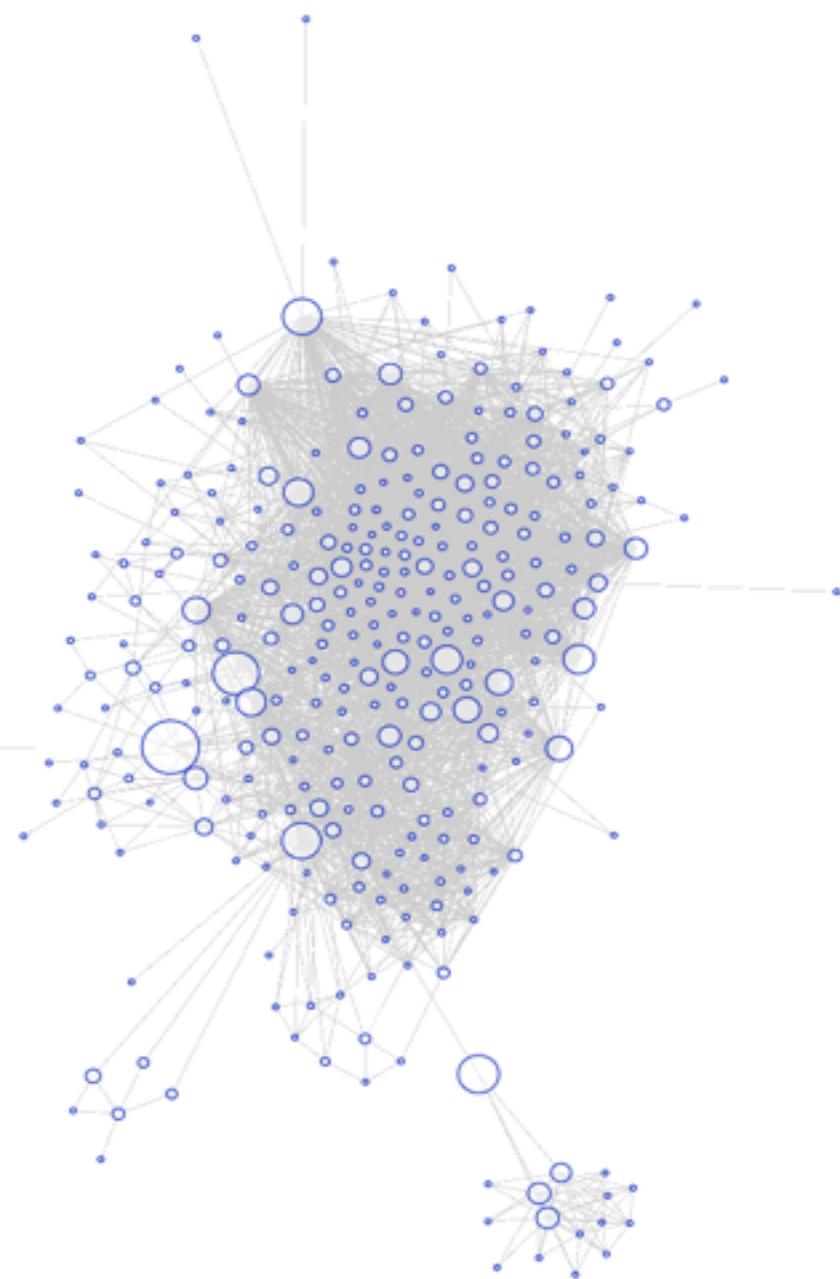
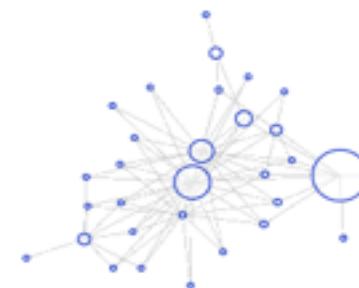
Graph Viewer

Roll-up by:

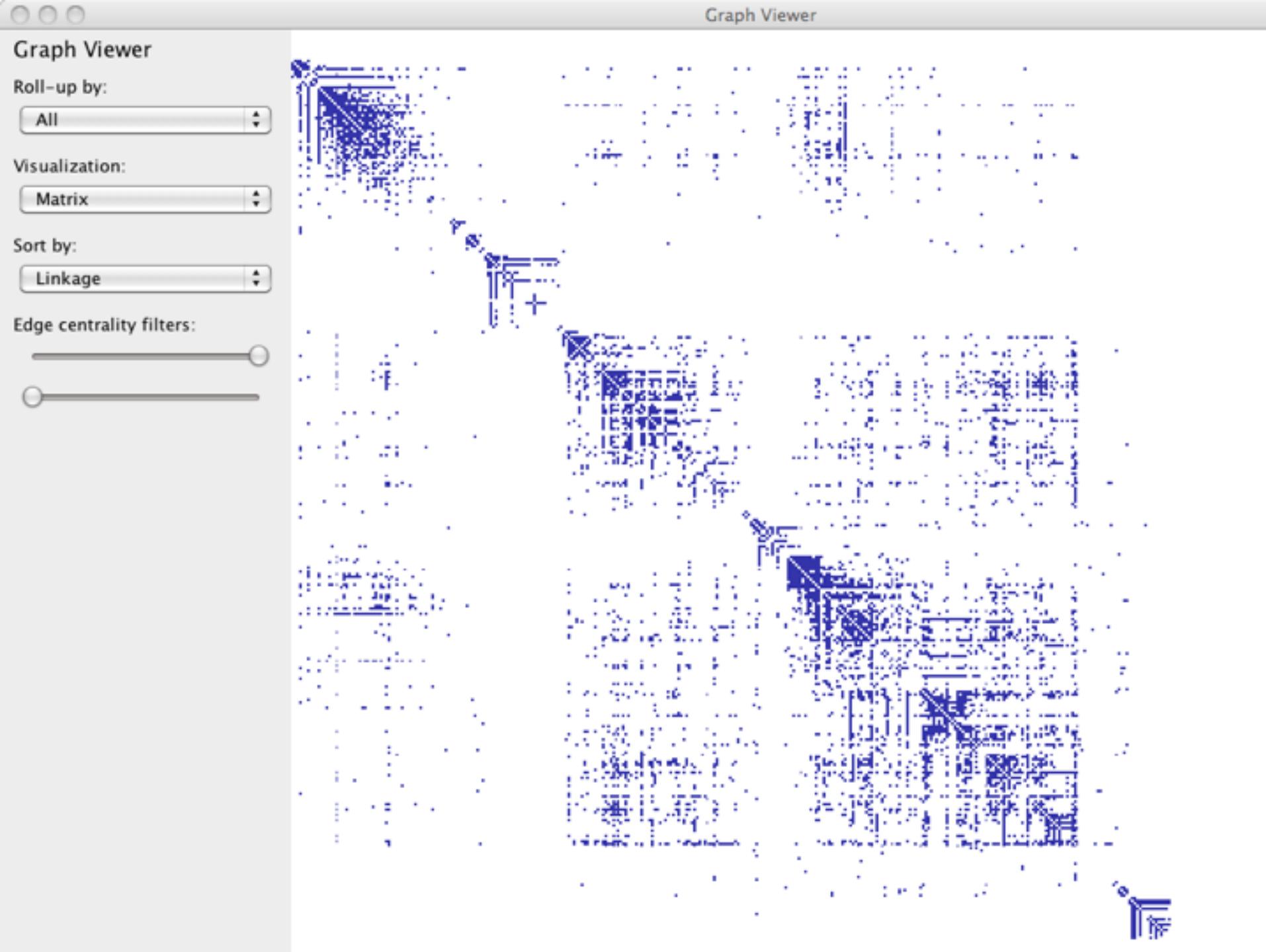
Visualization:

Sort by:

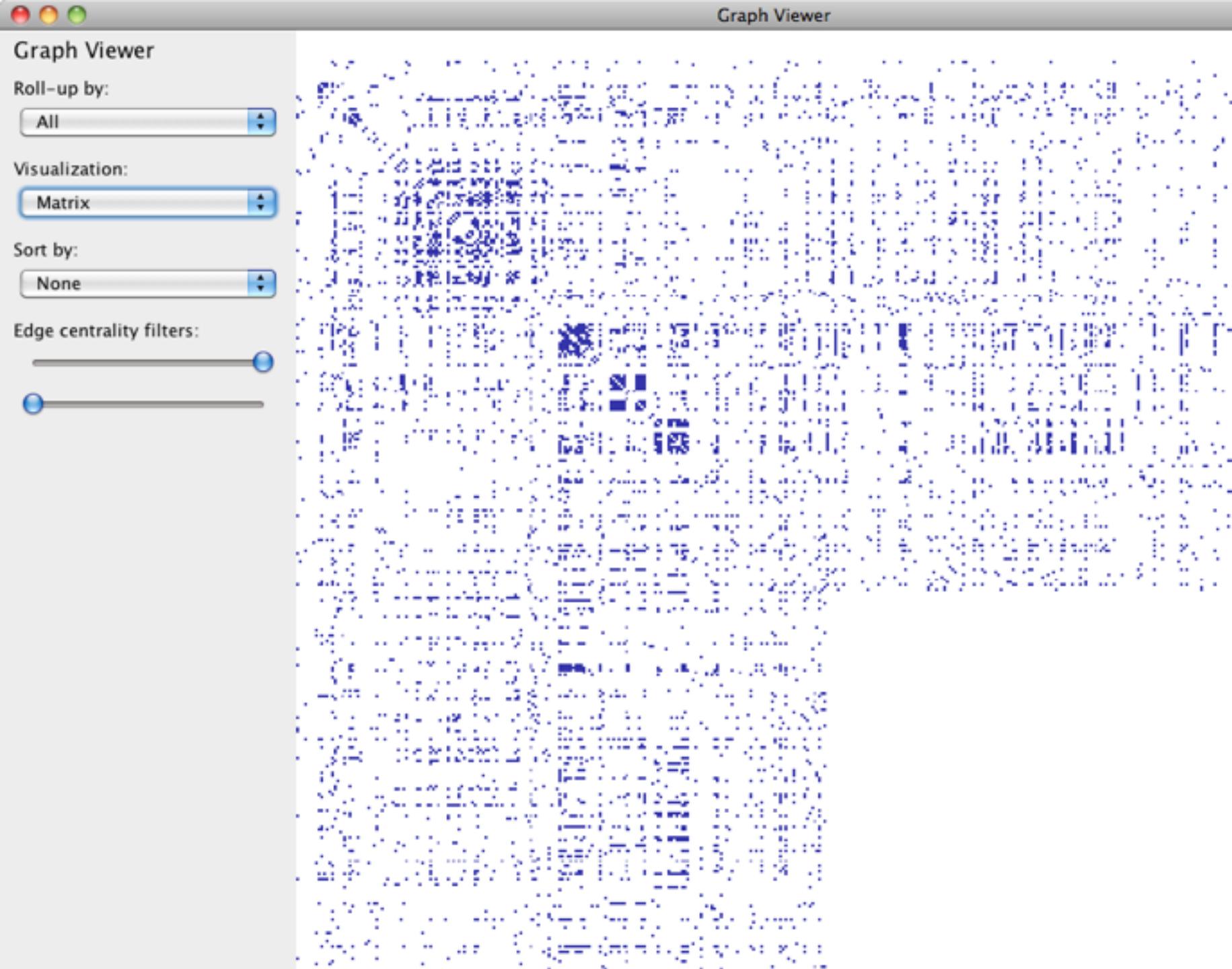
Edge centrality filters:

 Images Animate

Graph Viewer



Graph Viewer



What is Visualization?

"Transformation of the symbolic into the geometric"
[McCormick et al. 1987]

"... finding the artificial memory that best supports our
natural means of perception." [Bertin 1967]

"The use of computer-generated, interactive, visual
representations of data to amplify cognition."
[Card, Mackinlay, & Shneiderman 1999]

Why Create Visualizations?

Why Create Visualizations?

Answer questions (or discover them)

Make decisions

See data in context

Expand memory

Support graphical calculation

Find patterns

Present argument or tell a story

Inspire

The Value of Visualization

Data & Image Models

Visual Encoding

task
questions, goals
assumptions

data
physical data type
abstract data type

domain
metadata
semantics
conventions

processing
algorithms

mapping
visual encoding

image
visual channel
graphical marks

Nominal, Ordinal and Quantitative

Nominal, Ordinal and Quantitative

N - Nominal (labels or categories)

- Fruits: apples, oranges, ...

Nominal, Ordinal and Quantitative

N - Nominal (labels or categories)

- Fruits: apples, oranges, ...

O - Ordered

- Quality of meat: Grade A, AA, AAA

Nominal, Ordinal and Quantitative

N - Nominal (labels or categories)

- Fruits: apples, oranges, ...

O - Ordered

- Quality of meat: Grade A, AA, AAA

Q - Interval (location of zero arbitrary)

- Dates: Jan, 19, 2006; Location: (LAT 33.98, LONG -118.45)
- Only differences (i.e. intervals) may be compared

Nominal, Ordinal and Quantitative

N - Nominal (labels or categories)

- Fruits: apples, oranges, ...

O - Ordered

- Quality of meat: Grade A, AA, AAA

Q - Interval (location of zero arbitrary)

- Dates: Jan, 19, 2006; Location: (LAT 33.98, LONG -118.45)
- Only differences (i.e. intervals) may be compared

Q - Ratio (zero fixed)

- Physical measurement: Length, Mass, Temp, ...
- Counts and amounts

Nominal, Ordinal and Quantitative

N - Nominal (labels or categories)

- Operations: $=, \neq$

O - Ordered

- Operations: $=, \neq, <, >$

Q - Interval (location of zero arbitrary)

- Operations: $=, \neq, <, >, -$
- Can measure distances or spans

Q - Ratio (zero fixed)

- Operations: $=, \neq, <, >, -, \%$
- Can measure ratios or proportions

Visual Language is a Sign System

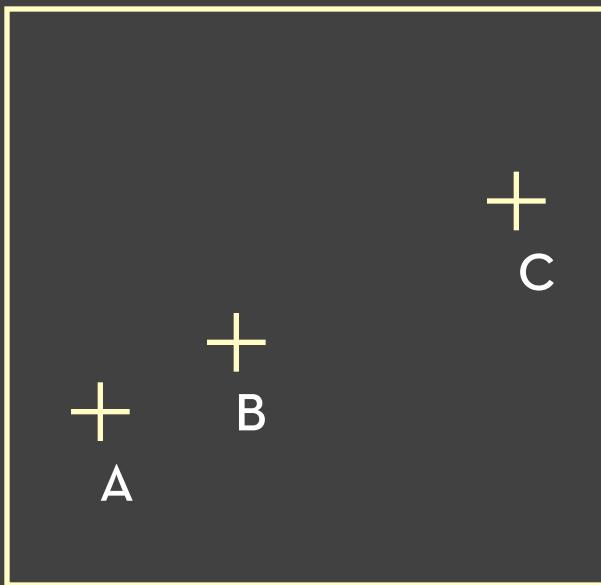


Jacques Bertin

Images perceived as a set of signs
Sender encodes information in signs
Receiver decodes information from signs

Sémiologie Graphique, 1967

Bertin's Semiology of Graphics



1. A, B, C are distinguishable
 2. B is between A and C.
 3. BC is twice as long as AB.
- ∴ Encode quantitative variables

"Resemblance, order and proportion are the three signfields in graphics." - Bertin

LES VARIABLES DE L'IMAGE

	POINTS	LIGNES	ZONES
XY 2 DIMENSIONS DU PLAN			
Z TAILLE			
VALEUR			

LES VARIABLES DE SÉPARATION DES IMAGES

GRAIN			
COULEUR			
ORIENTATION			
FORME			

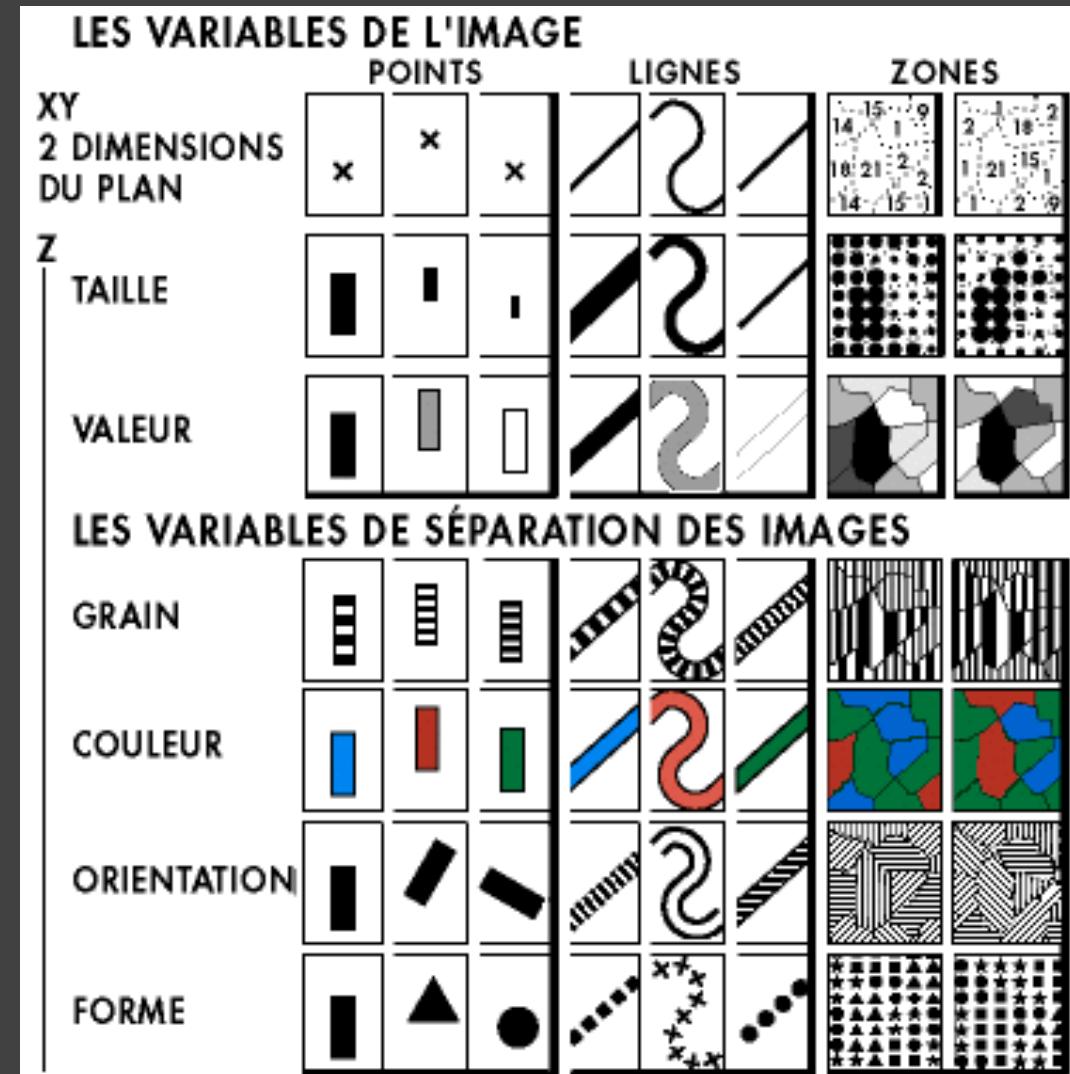
Visual Encoding Variables

Position (x 2)
Size
Value
Texture
Color
Orientation
Shape

		POINTS	LIGNES	ZONES
XY 2 DIMENSIONS DU PLAN	x	x	x	x
	z	z	z	z
	taille	taille	taille	taille
LES VARIABLES DE L'IMAGE				
VALEUR	1	2	3	4
LES VARIABLES DE SÉPARATION DES IMAGES				
GRAIN	1	2	3	4
COULEUR	1	2	3	4
ORIENTATION	1	2	3	4
FORME	1	2	3	4

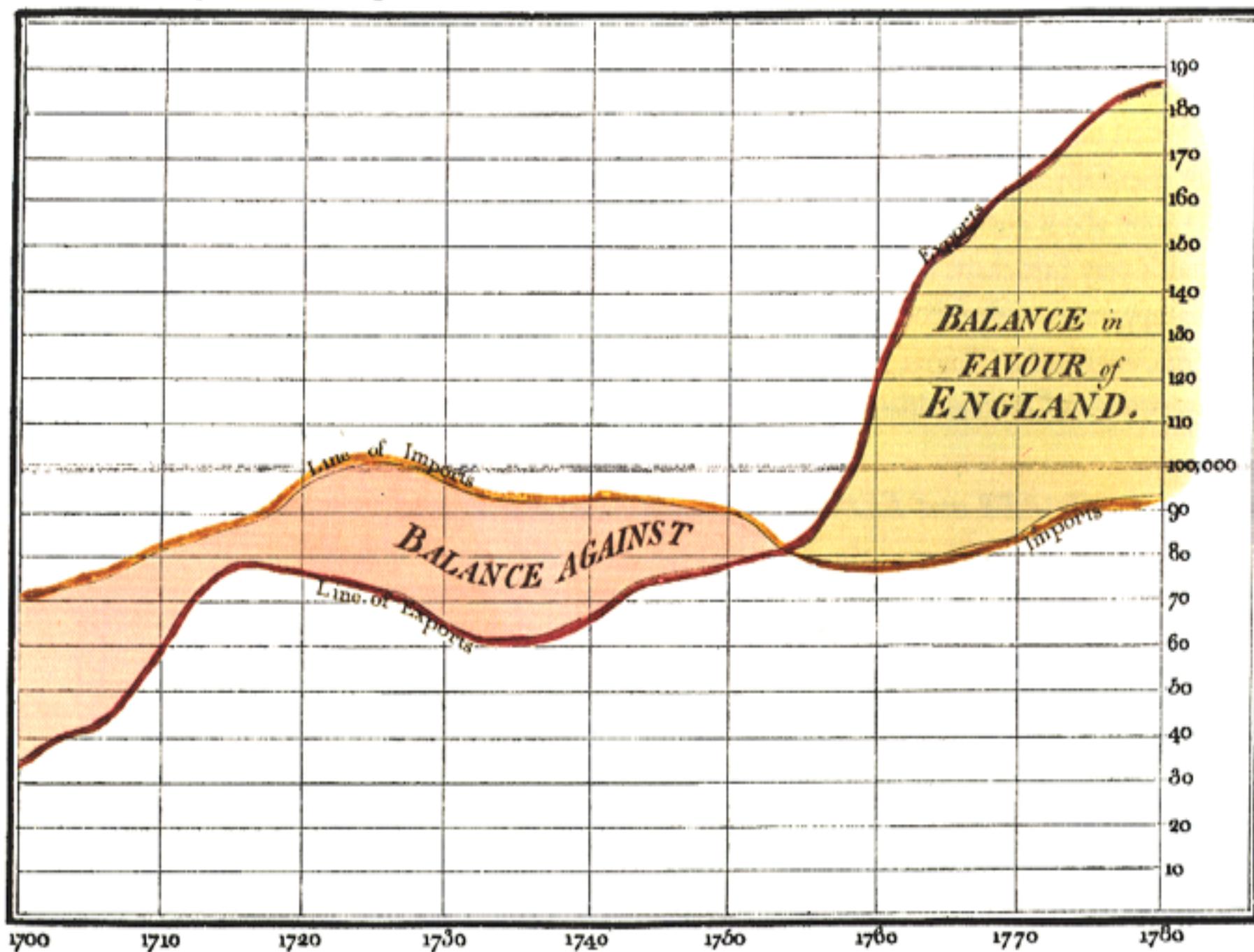
Visual Encoding Variables

Position
Length
Area
Volume
Value
Texture
Color
Orientation
Shape
Transparency
Blur / Focus ...

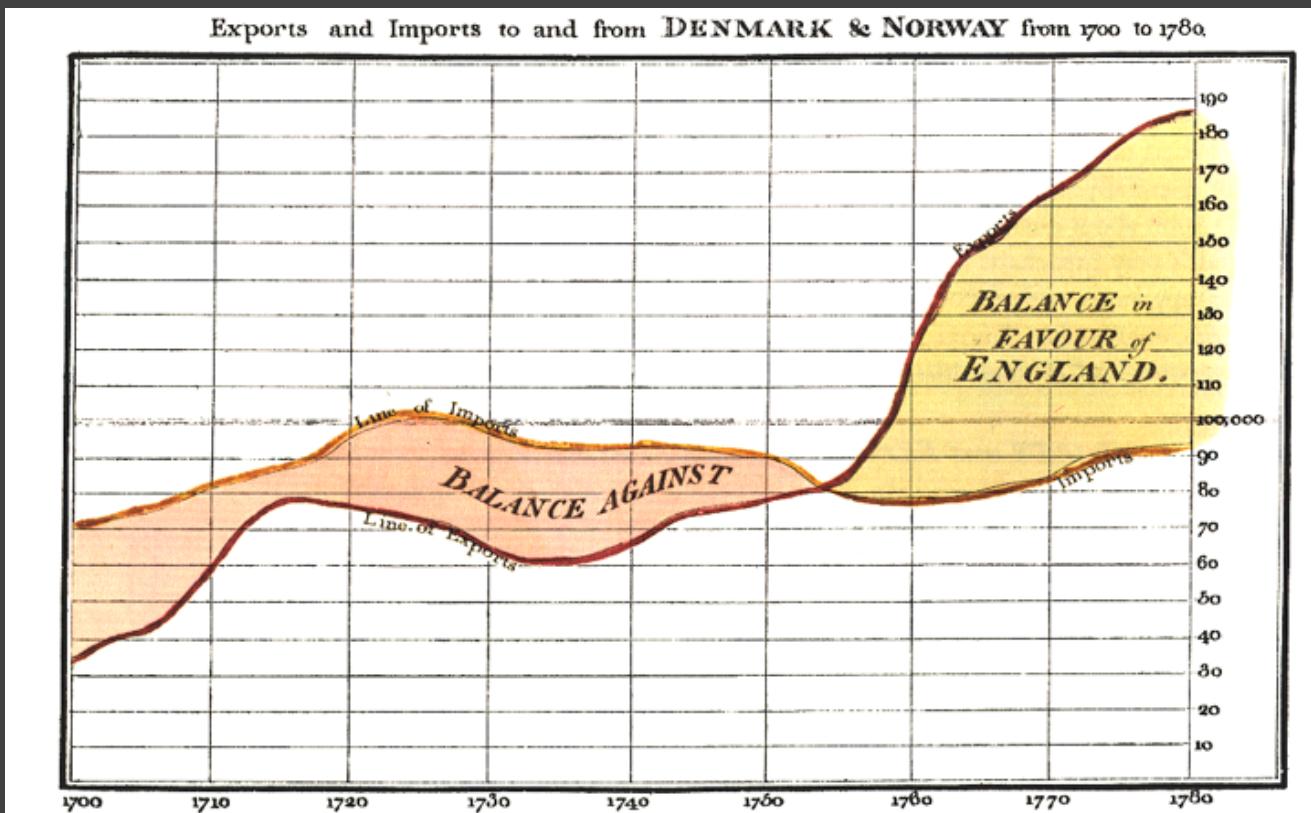


Deconstructions

Exports and Imports to and from DENMARK & NORWAY from 1700 to 1780.



William Playfair, 1786



X-axis: year (Q)

Y-axis: currency (Q)

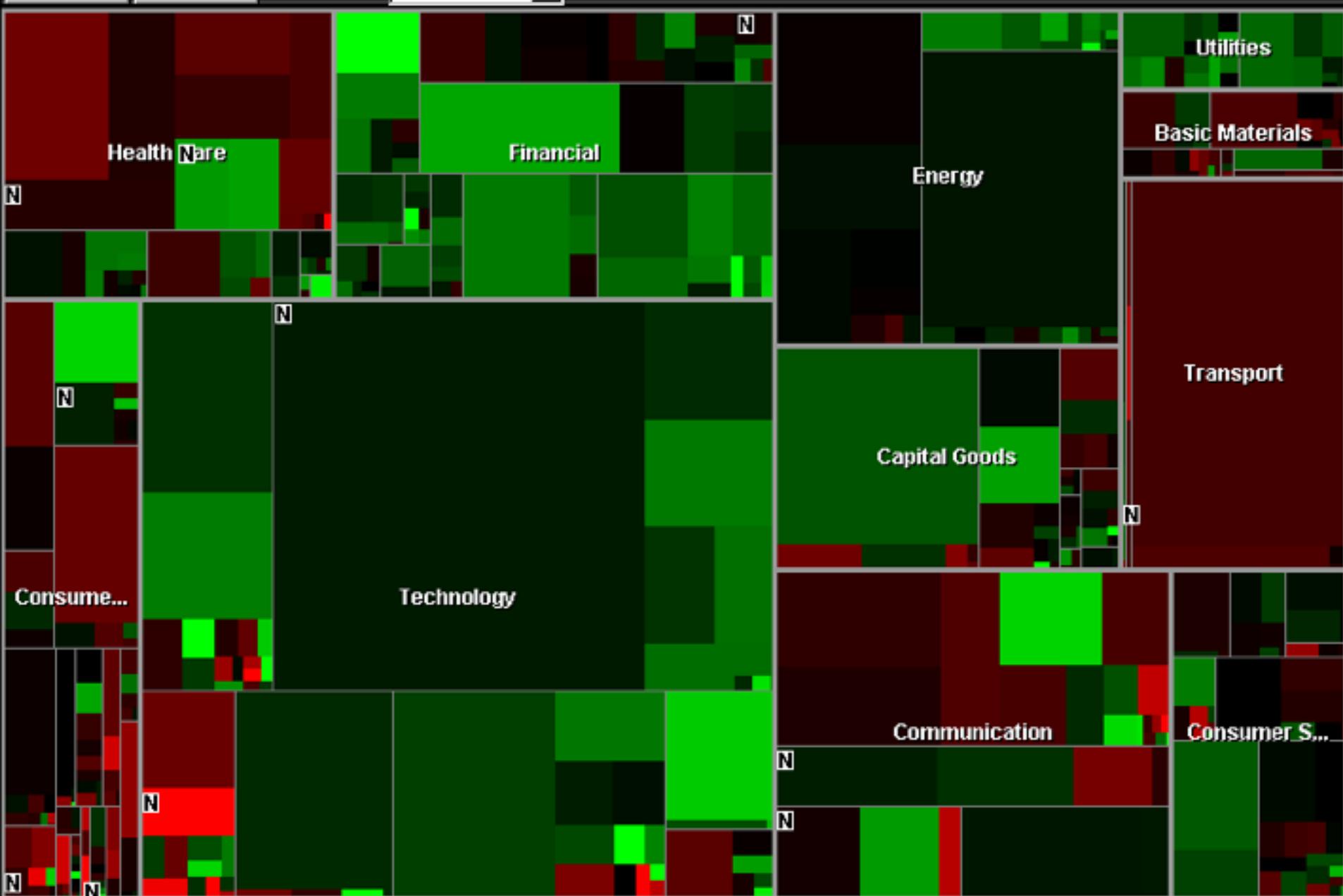
Color: imports/exports (N, O)

[Controls](#)[Instructions](#)[Headline Icons](#)

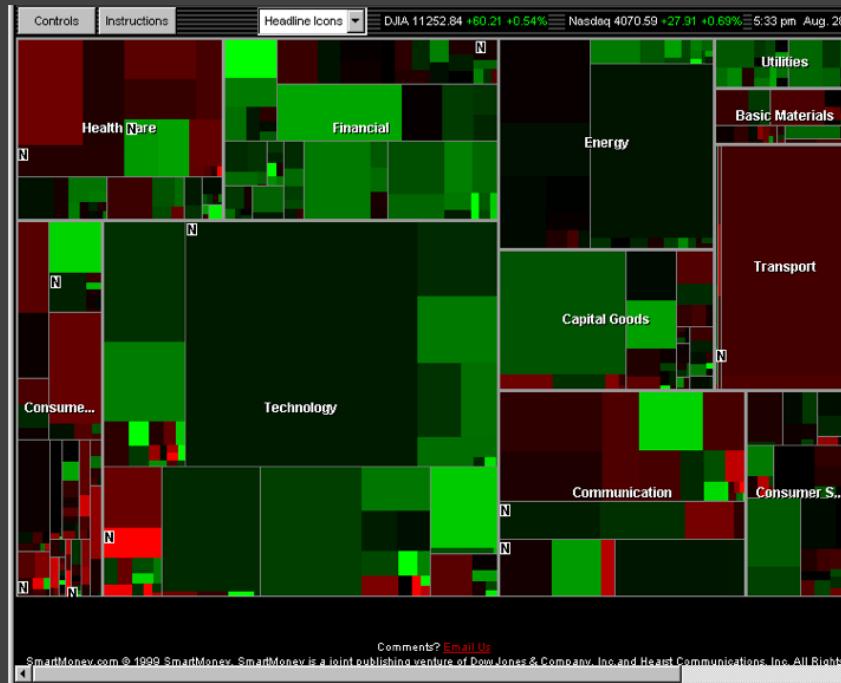
DJIA 11252.84 +60.21 +0.54%

Nasdaq 4070.59 +27.91 +0.69%

5:33 pm Aug. 28



Wattenberg's Map of the Market



Rectangle Area: market cap (Q)

Rectangle Position: market sector (N), market cap (Q)

Color Hue: loss vs. gain (N, O)

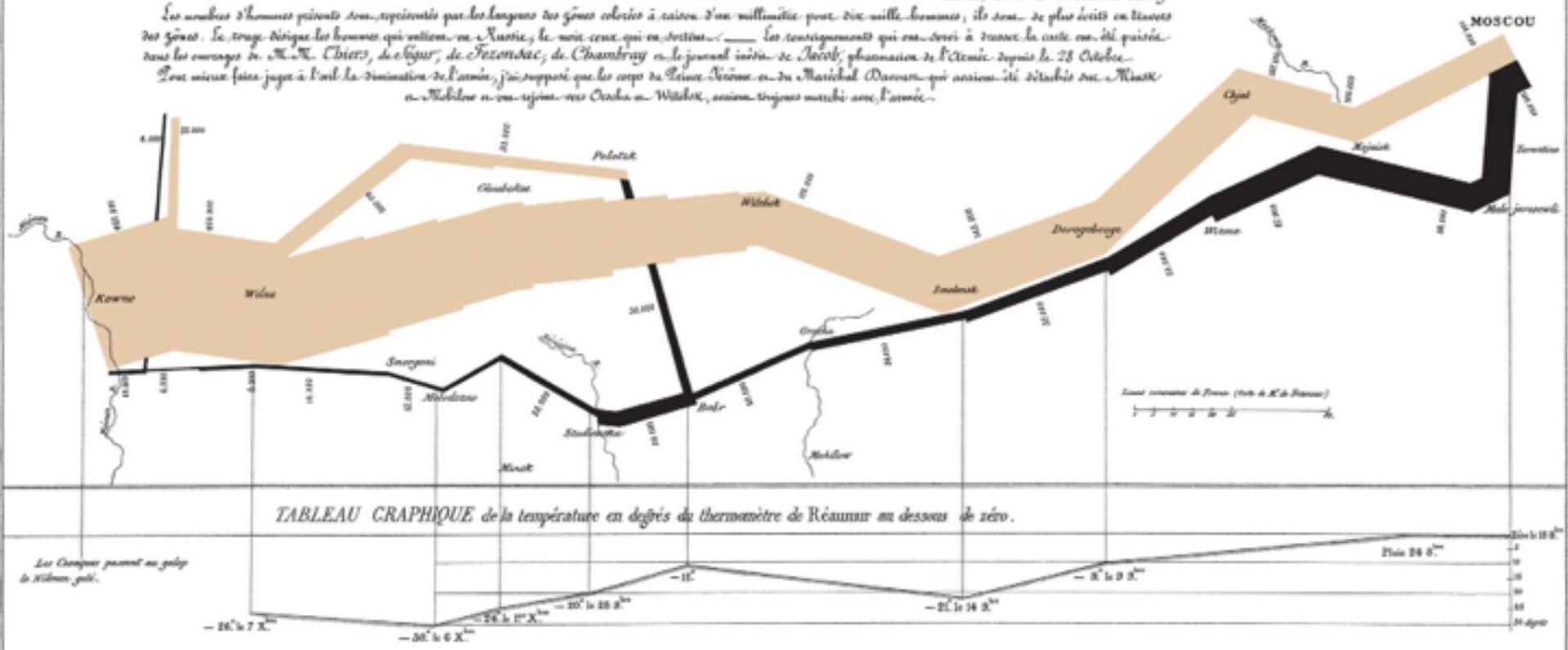
Color Value: magnitude of loss or gain (Q)

Minard 1869: Napoleon's March

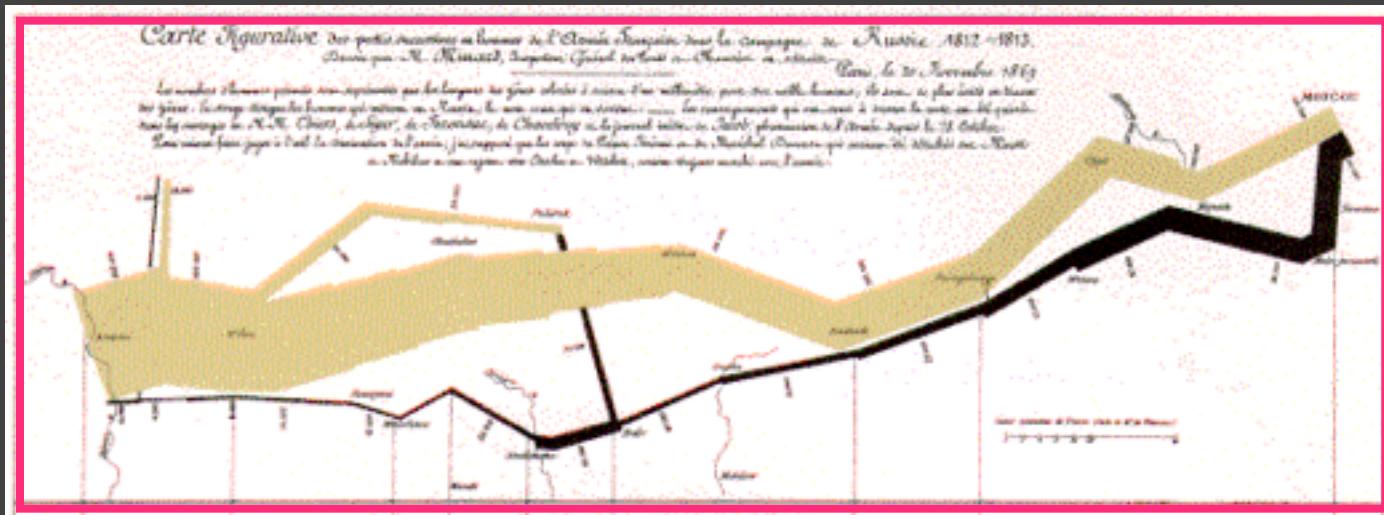
Carte Figurative des pertes successives en hommes de l'Armée Française dans la campagne de Russie 1812-1813.
Drawn by M. Minard, Imprimeur Général des Travaux et Charron in, Paris.

Paris, le 20 Novembre 1869.
Les armées d'hommes peuvent être représentées par les longues des gênes coloris à cailler. L'un millimètre pour deux mille hommes, il sera de plus écrit en lettres des gênes. Le rouge désigne les hommes qui restent en Russie; le noir ceux qui en sortent. — Les renseignements qui me sont à donner la cause où il paraît dans les ouvrages de M. M. Chiat, de Clément, de Tocqueville, de Chambray et le journal intime de Jacob, pharmacien de l'Armée depuis le 28 Octobre.

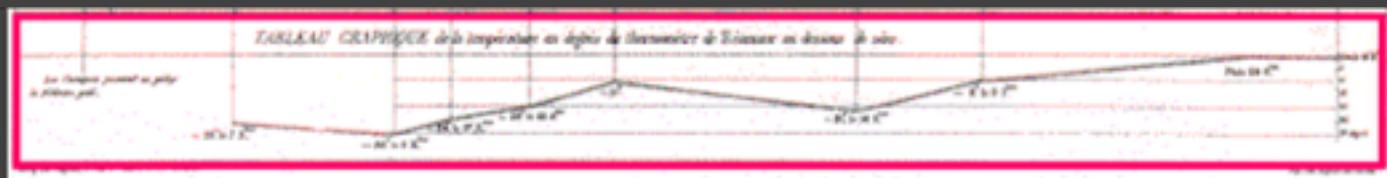
Tout mieux faire juge à l'ordre la diminution de l'armée, j'ai supposé que les corps de l'Armée et du Maréchal Davout qui avaient été détruits sur la Neman et Malibor n'en figuraient pas Orelle et Wladik, suivant toujours avec l'armée.



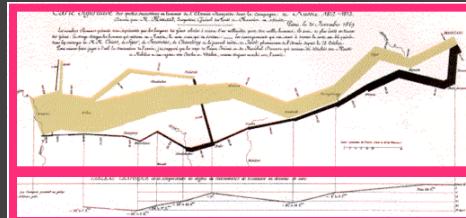
Single-Axis Composition



+



=

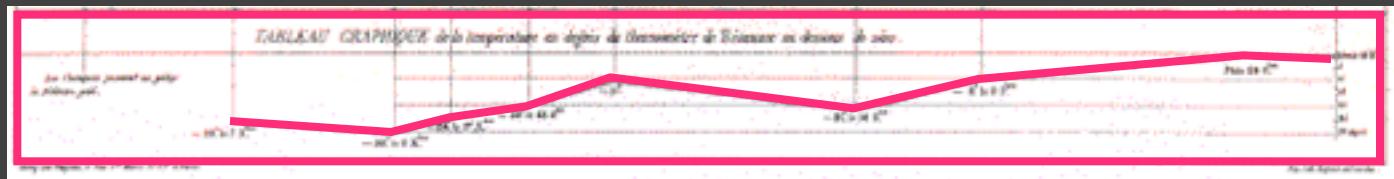


Mark Composition

Y-axis: temperature (Q)



X-axis: longitude (Q) / time (O)



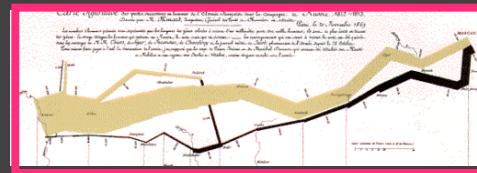
Temp over space/time ($Q \times Q$)

Mark Composition

Y-axis: longitude (Q)

 X-axis: latitude (Q)

 Width: army size (Q)



=
Army position ($Q \times Q$) and army size (Q)

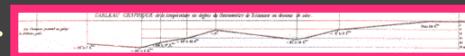
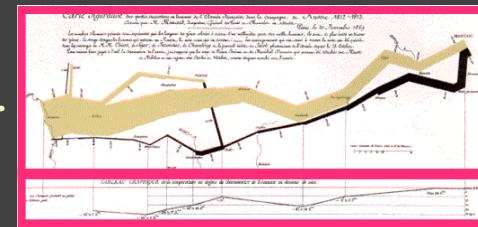
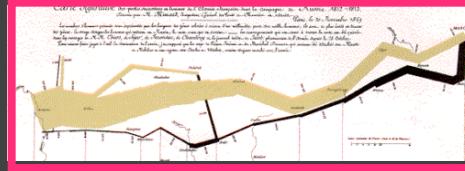
longitude (Q)

latitude (Q)

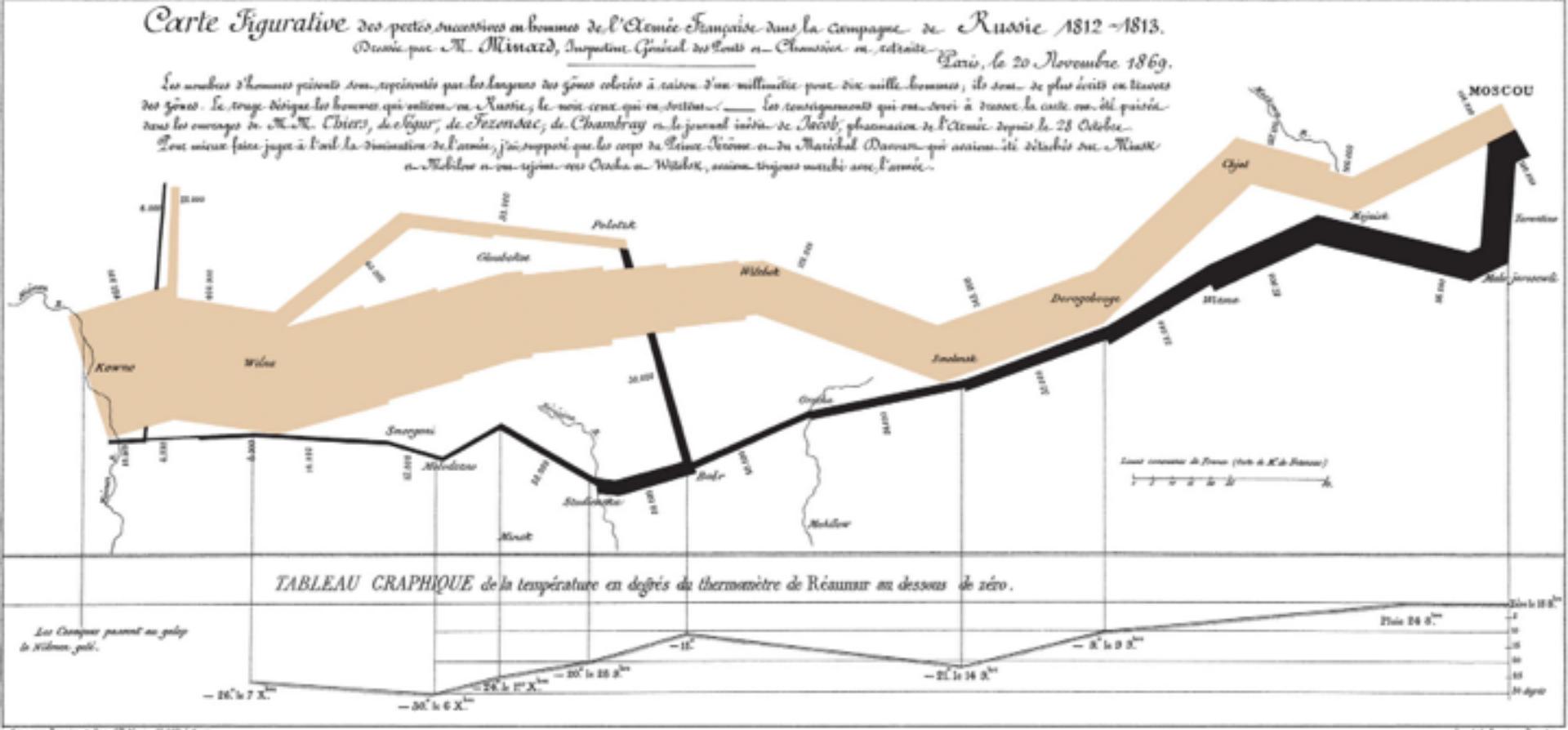
army size (Q)

temperature (Q)

latitude (Q) / time (O)



Minard 1869: Napoleon's March



Depicts at least 5 quantitative variables. Any others?

Multidimensional Data

Visual Encoding Variables

Position (X)

Position (Y)

Size

Value

Texture

Color

Orientation

Shape

~8 dimensions?

		LES VARIABLES DE L'IMAGE			
		POINTS	LIGNES	ZONES	
XY 2 DIMENSIONS DU PLAN	Z	x	x	x	
	TAILLE				
	VALEUR				
LES VARIABLES DE SÉPARATION DES IMAGES					
GRAIN					
COULEUR					
ORIENTATION					
FORME					

Example: Coffee Sales

Sales figures for a fictional coffee chain:

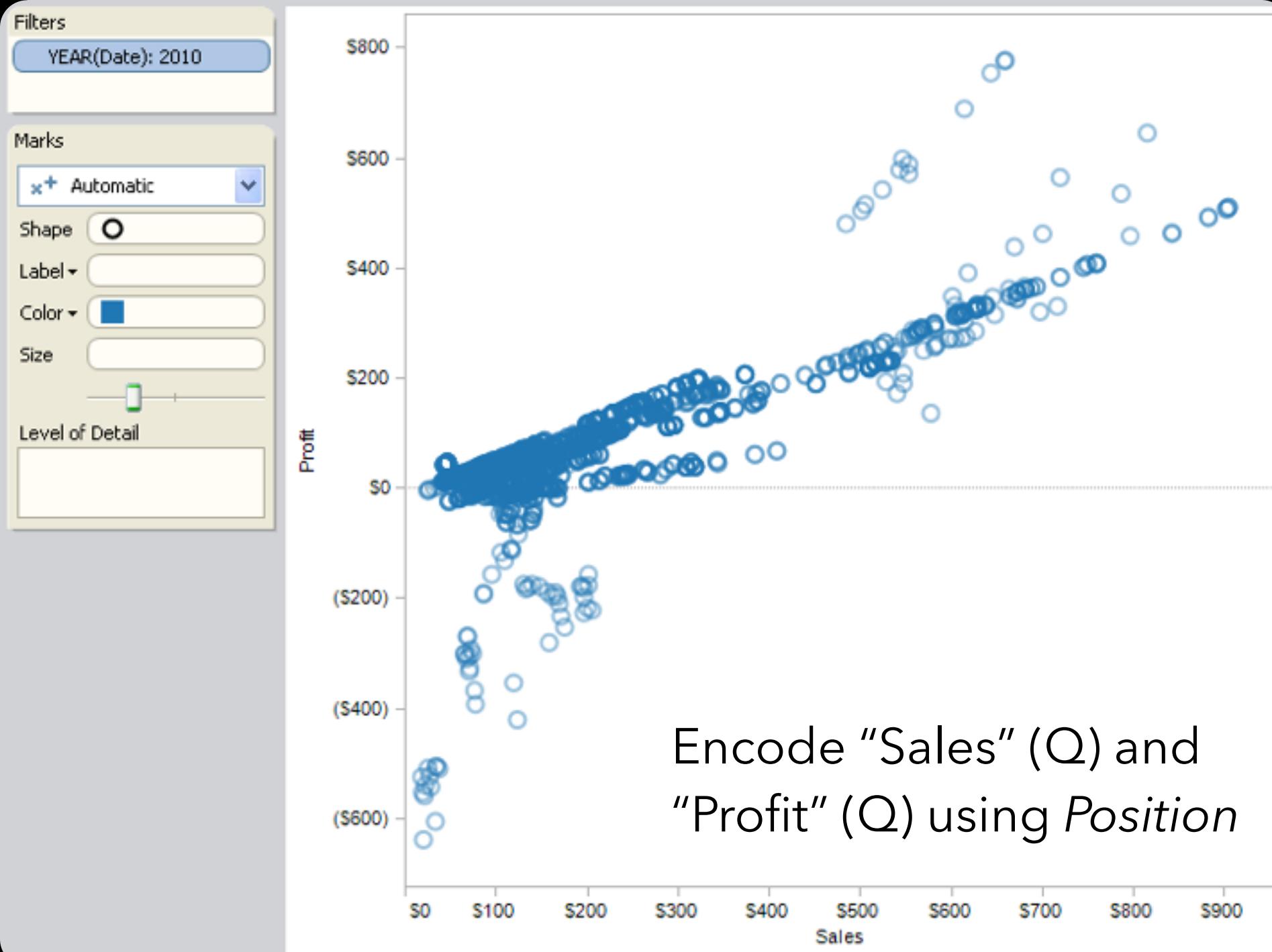
Sales Q-Ratio

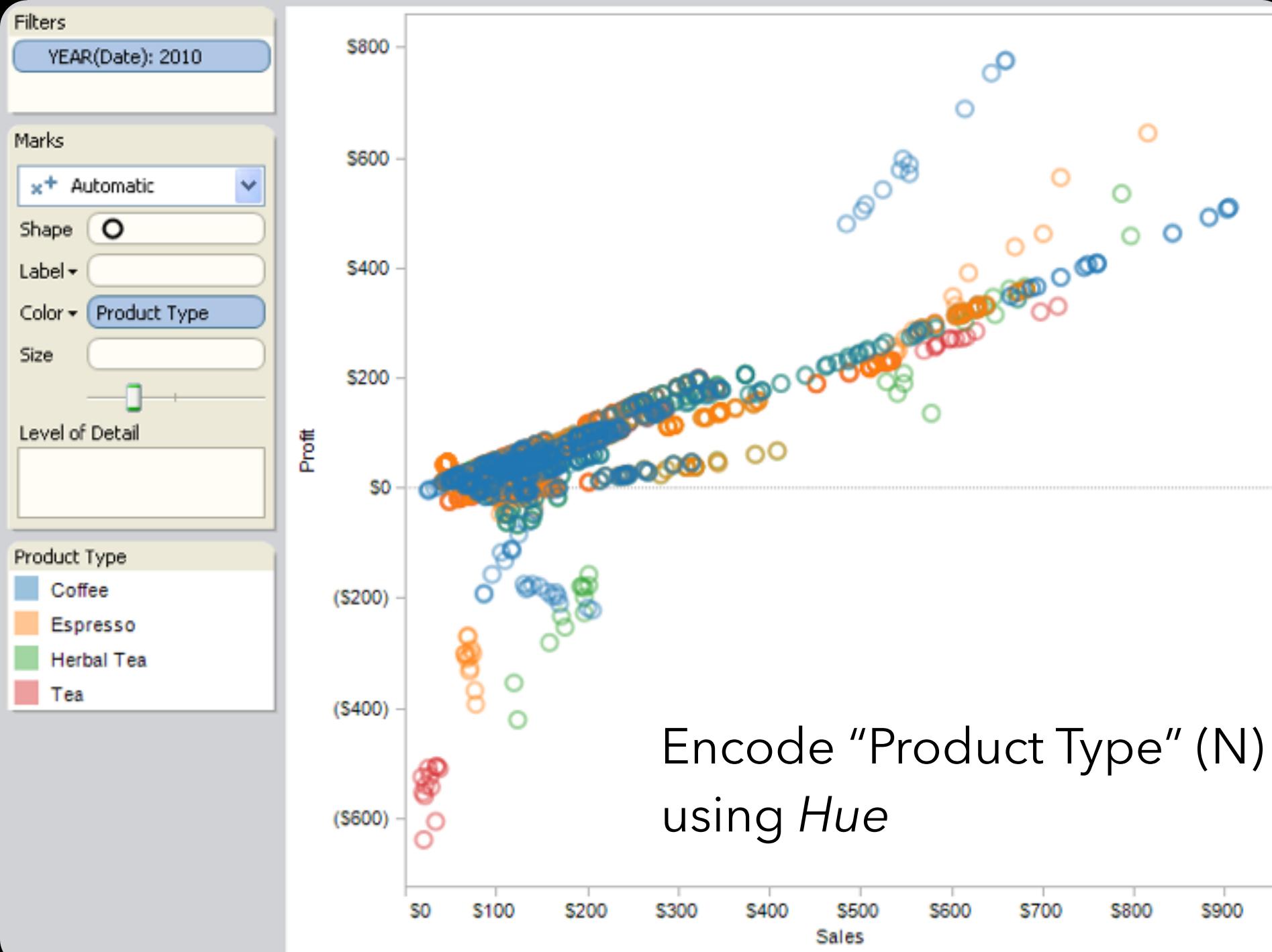
Profit Q-Ratio

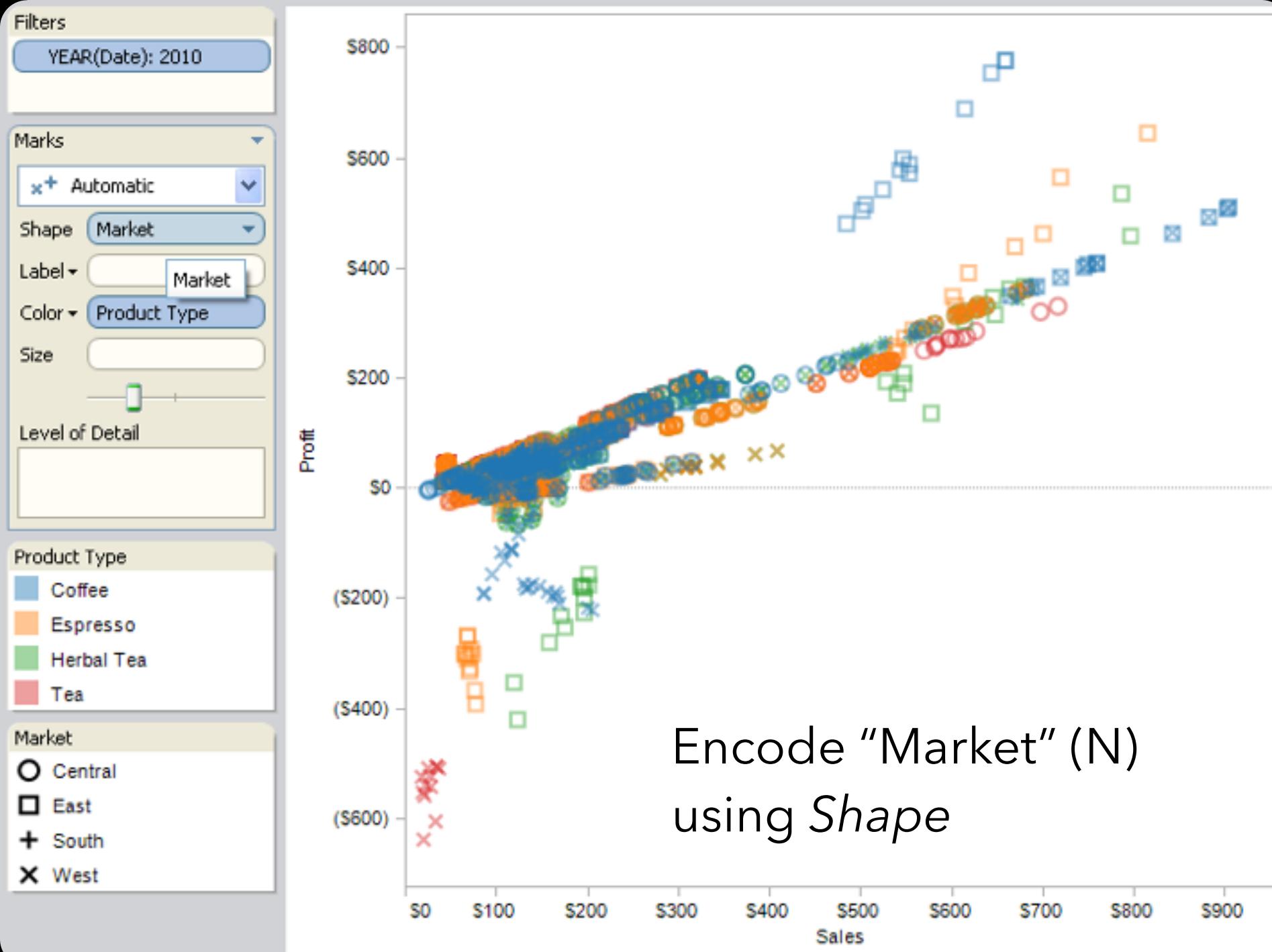
Marketing Q-Ratio

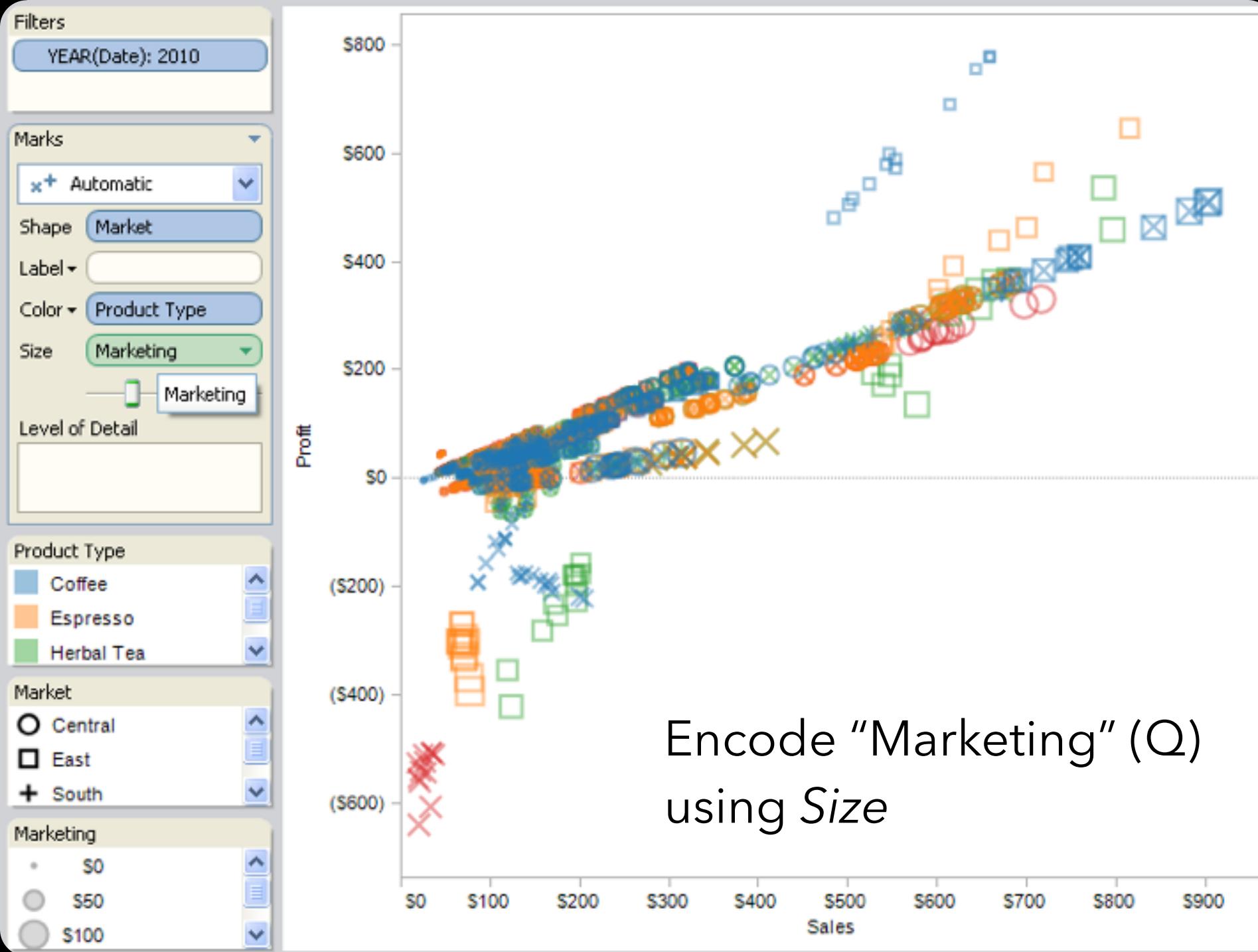
Product Type N {Coffee, Espresso, Herbal Tea, Tea}

Market N {Central, East, South, West}

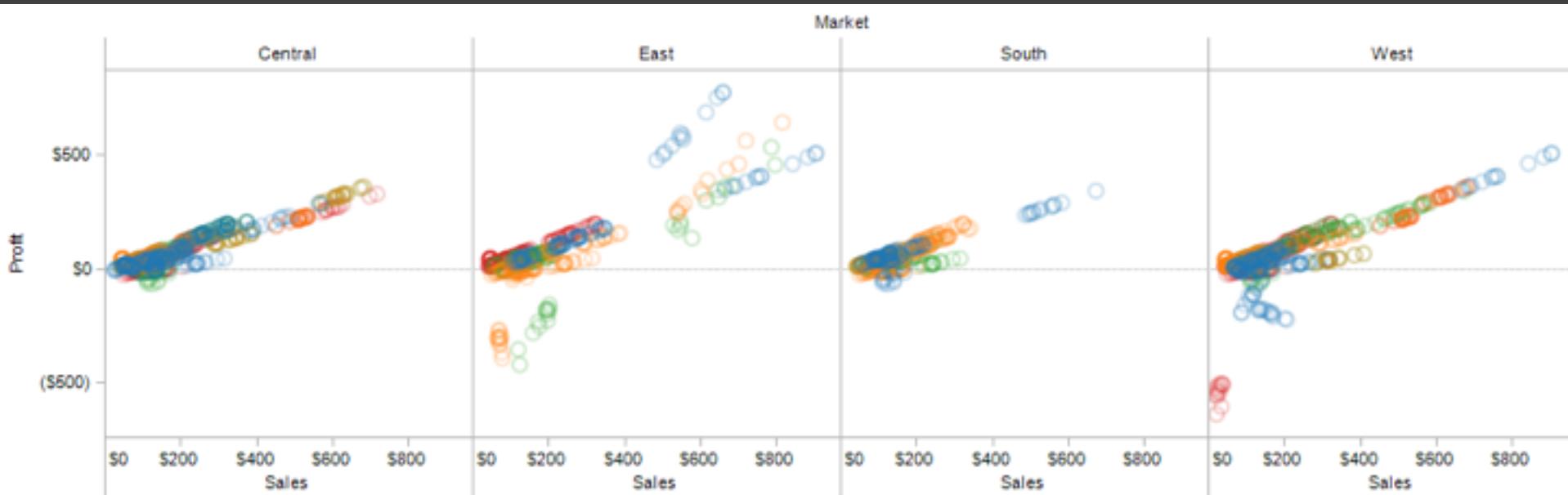








Trellis Plots



A *trellis plot* subdivides space to enable comparison across multiple plots.

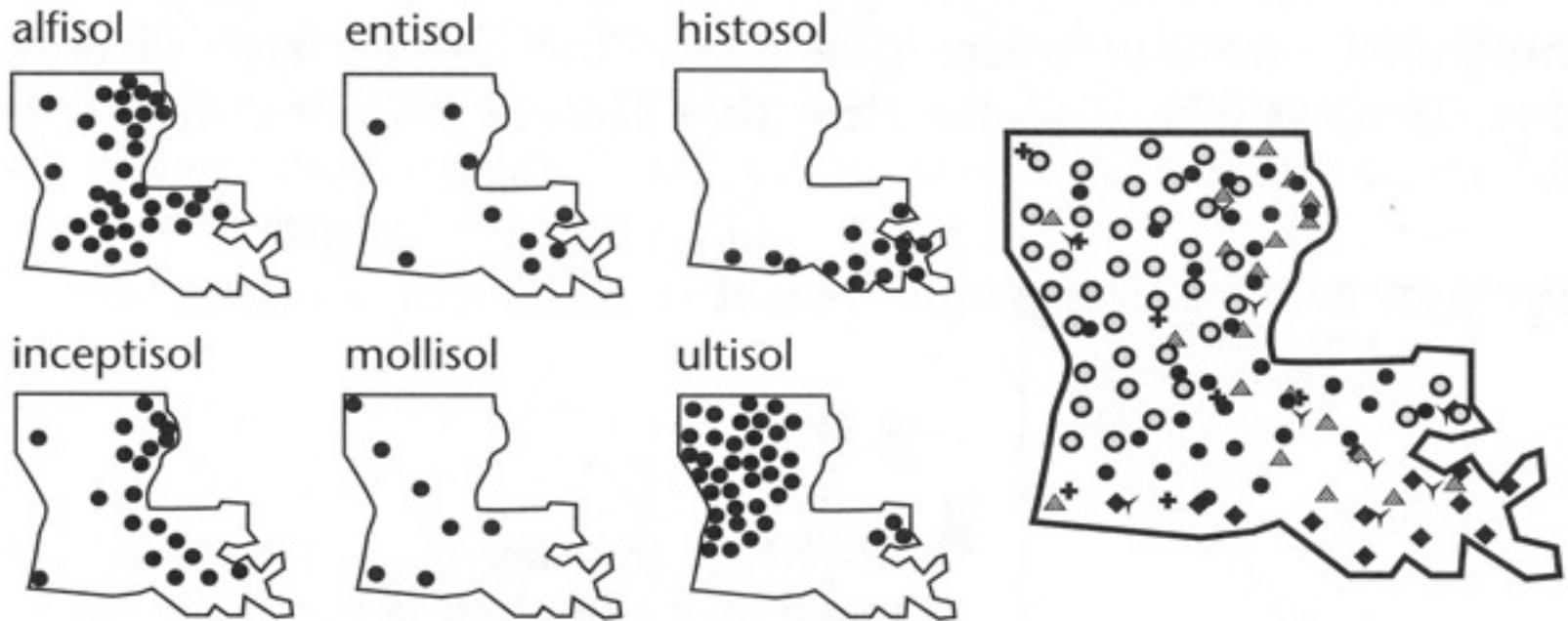
Typically nominal or ordinal variables are used as dimensions for subdivision.

Small Multiples



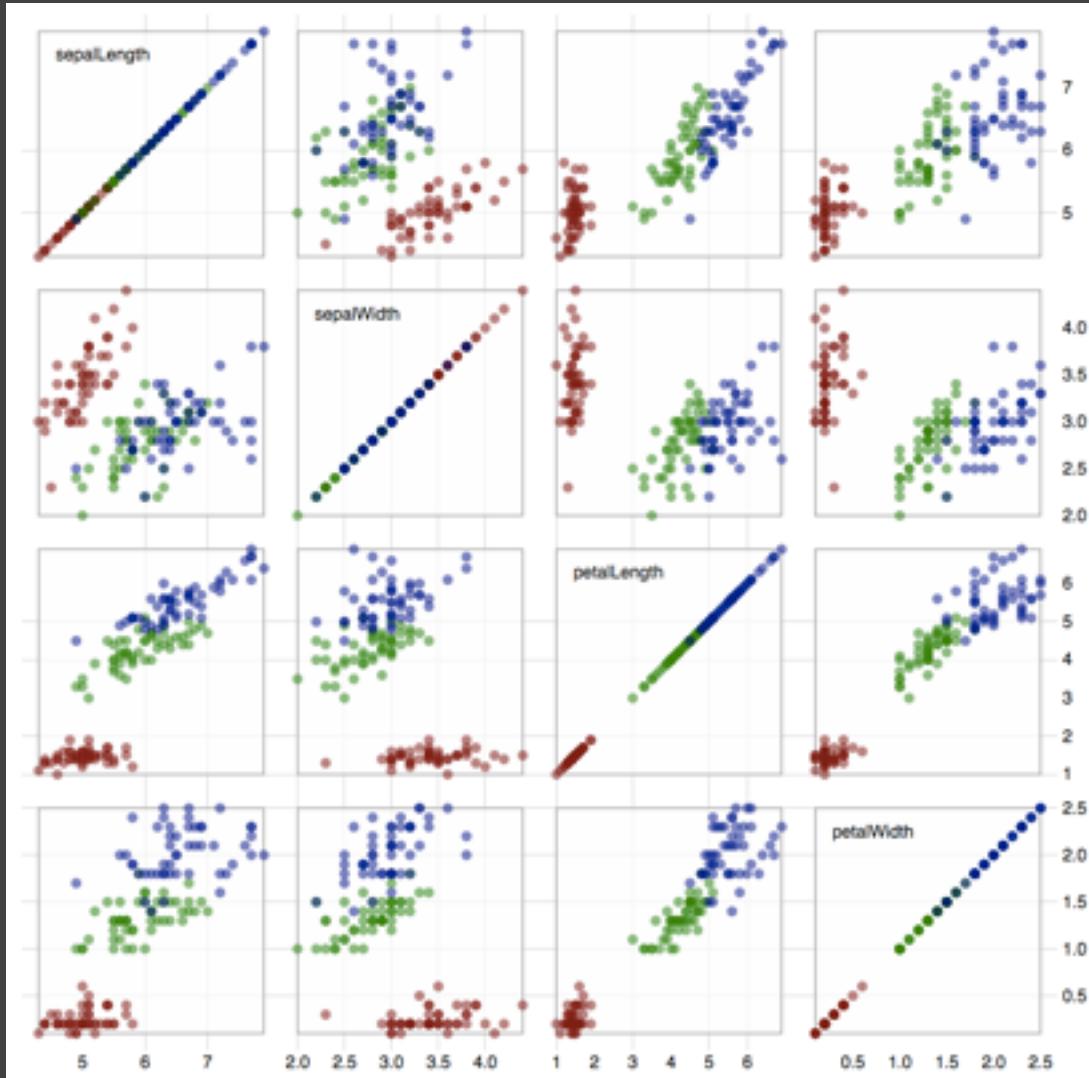
[MacEachren 95, Figure 2.11, p. 38]

Small Multiples

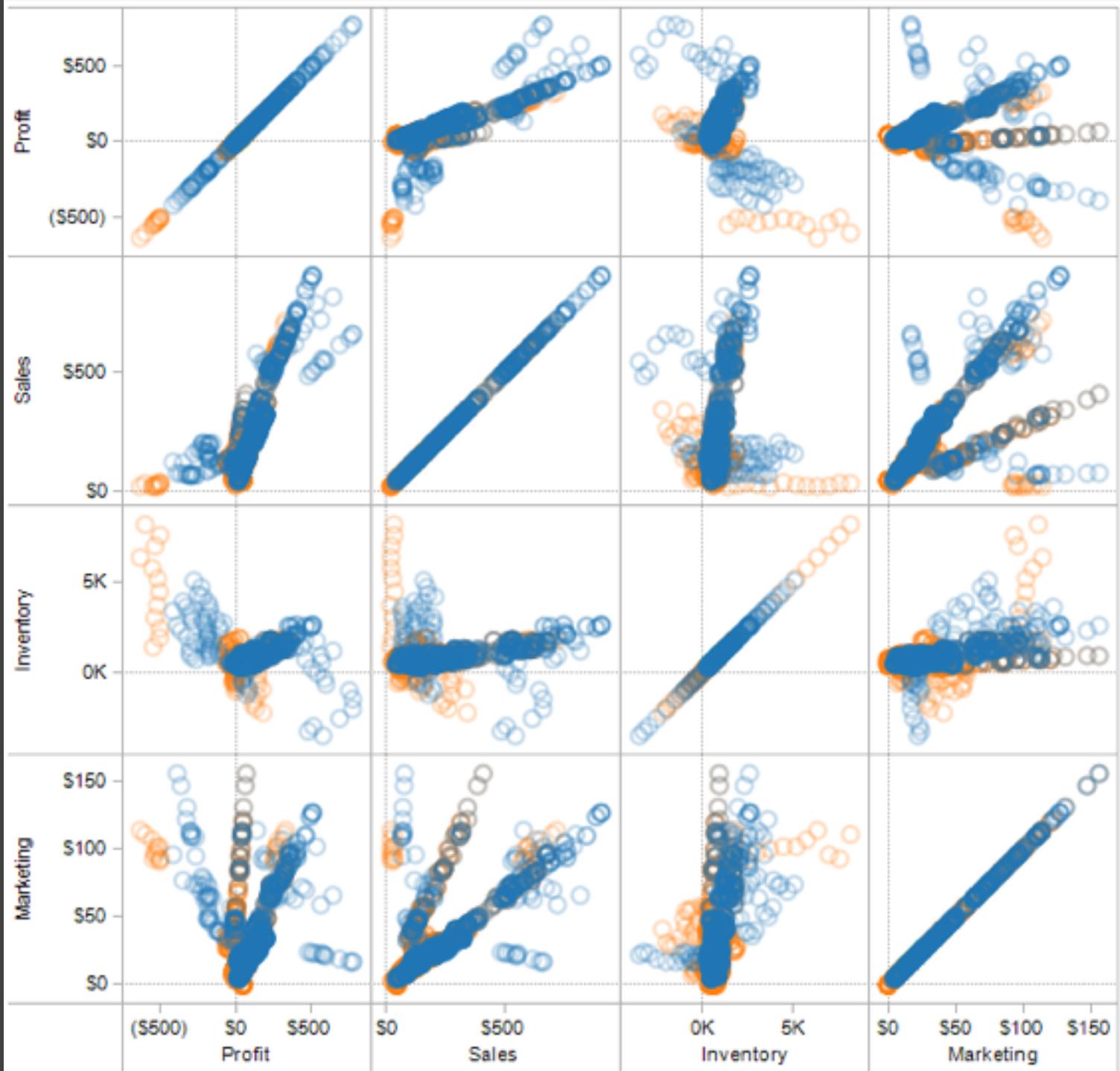


[MacEachren 95, Figure 2.11, p. 38]

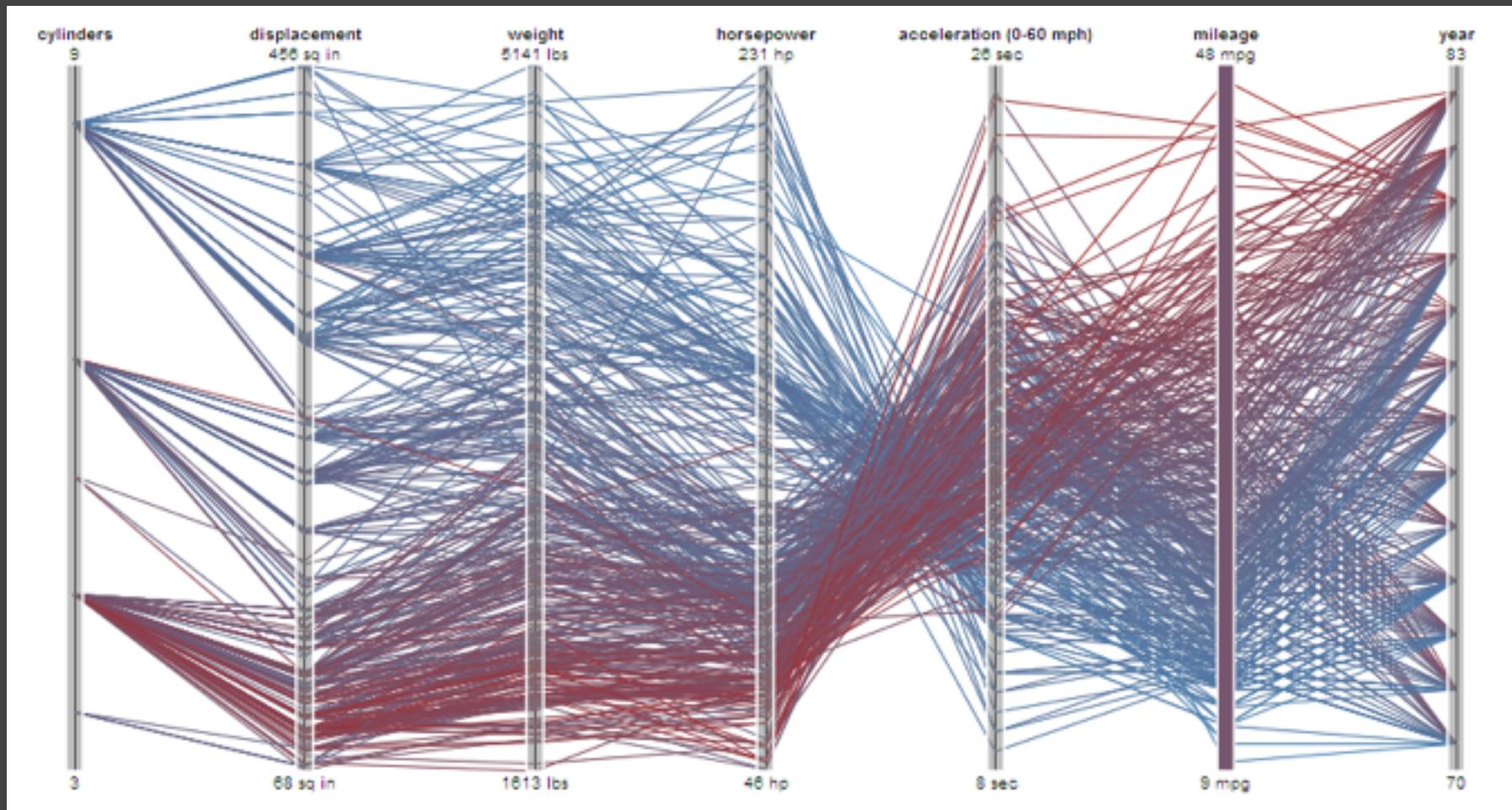
Scatterplot Matrix (SPLOM)

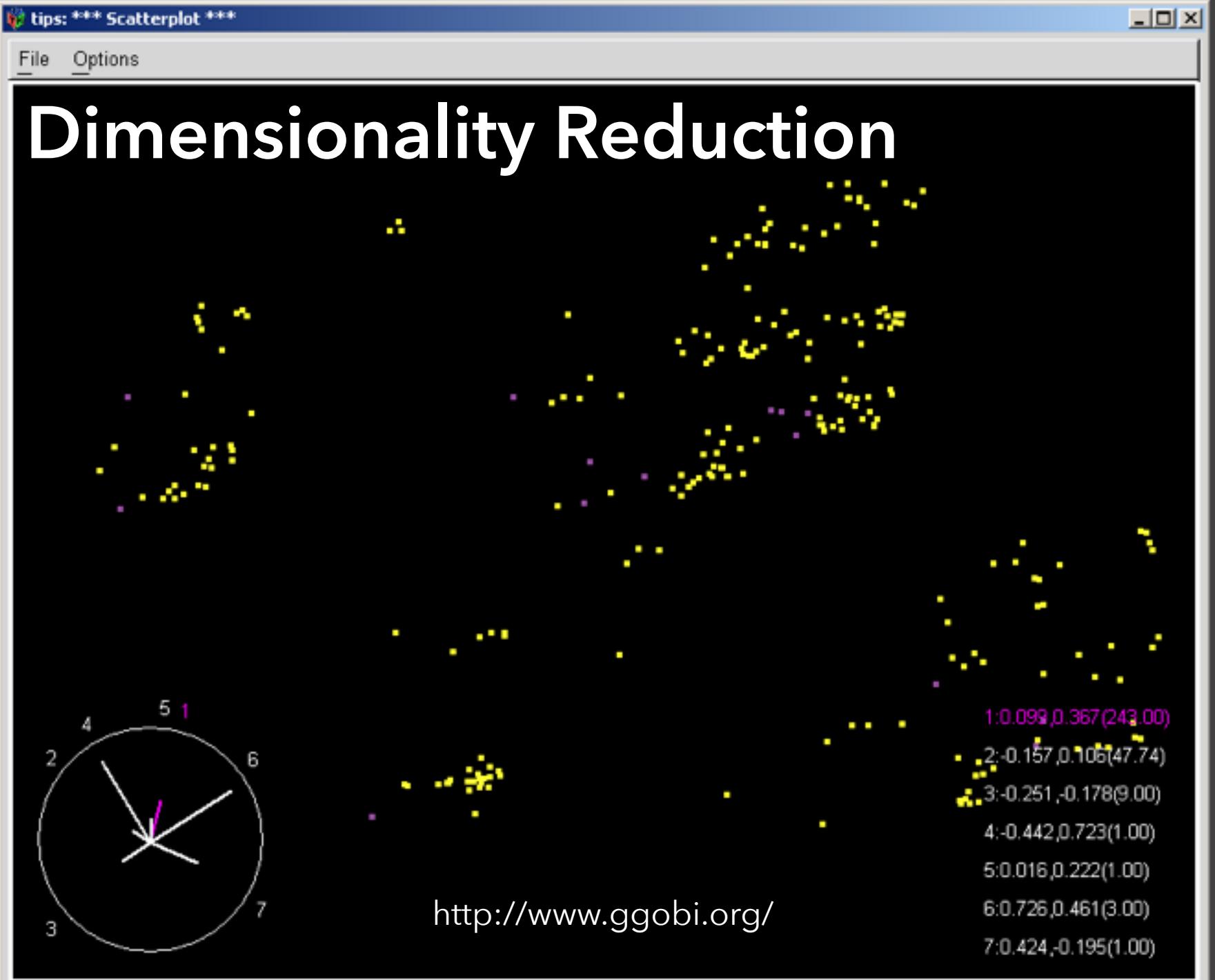


Scatter plots
for pairwise
comparison
of each data
dimension.

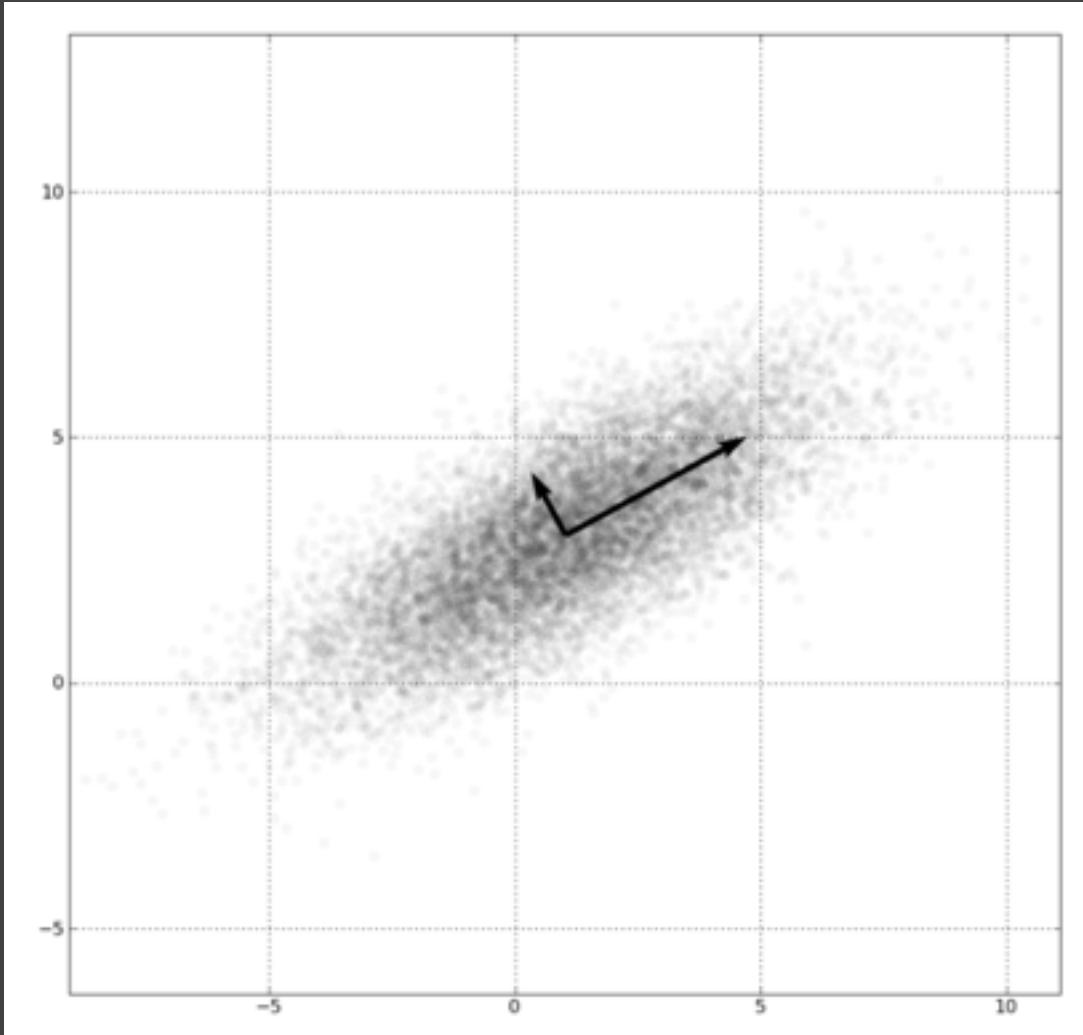


Parallel Coordinates [Inselberg]



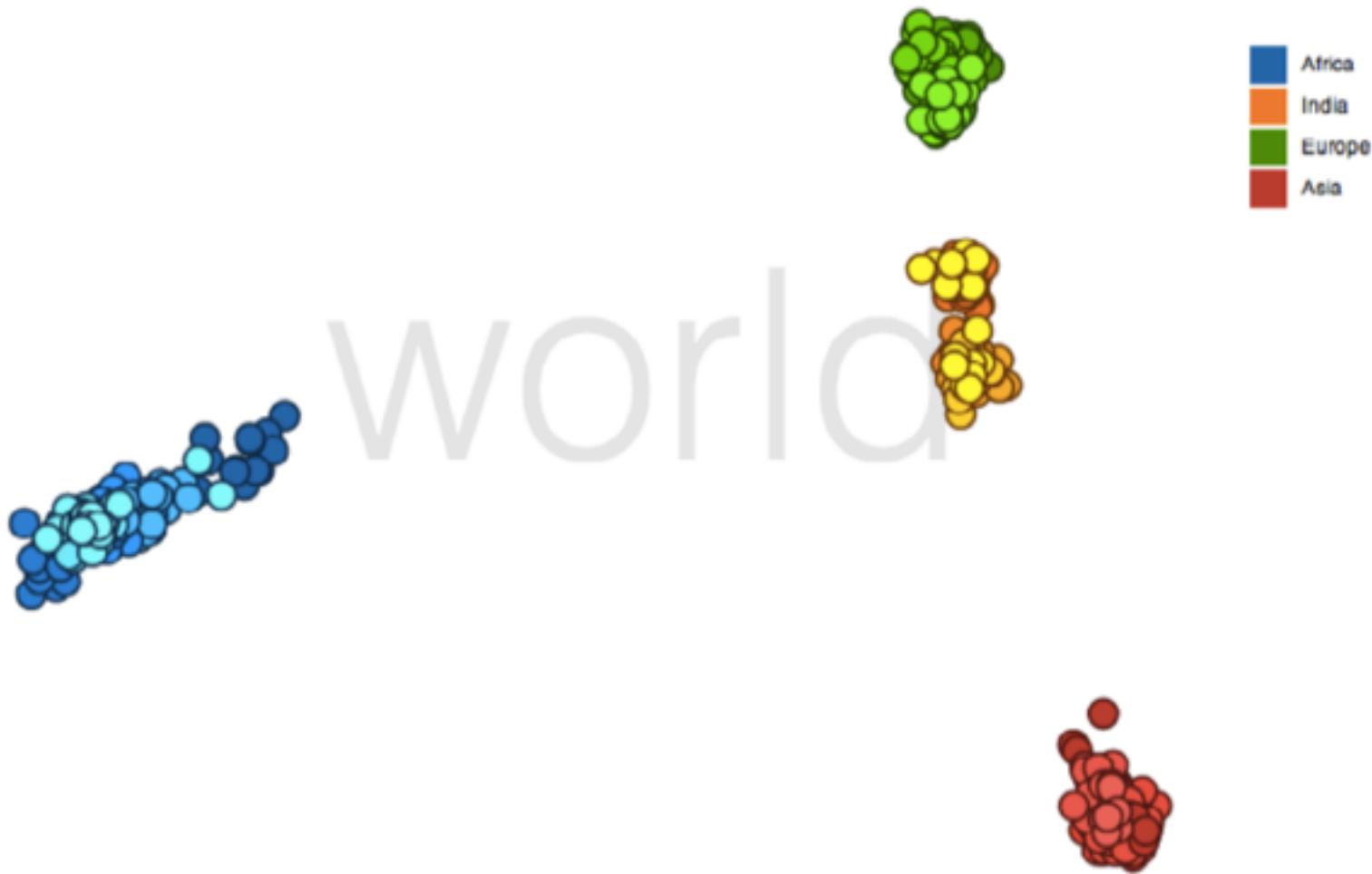


Principal Components Analysis



1. Mean-center the data.
2. Find \perp basis vectors that maximize the data variance.
3. Plot the data using the top vectors.

PCA on Genetic Sequences



Visualizing Multiple Dimensions

Strategies:

Avoid “over-encoding”

Use space and small multiples intelligently

Reduce the problem space

Use interaction to generate *relevant* views

Rarely does a single visualization answer all questions. Instead, the ability to generate appropriate visualizations quickly is key.

Perception

Design Principles

What makes a
visualization “good”?

Design Principles [Mackinlay 86]

Expressiveness

A set of facts is *expressible* in a visual language if the sentences (i.e. the visualizations) in the language express all the facts in the set of data, and only the facts in the data.

Effectiveness

A visualization is more *effective* than another visualization if the information conveyed by one visualization is more readily perceived than the information in the other visualization.

Design Principles [Mackinlay 86]

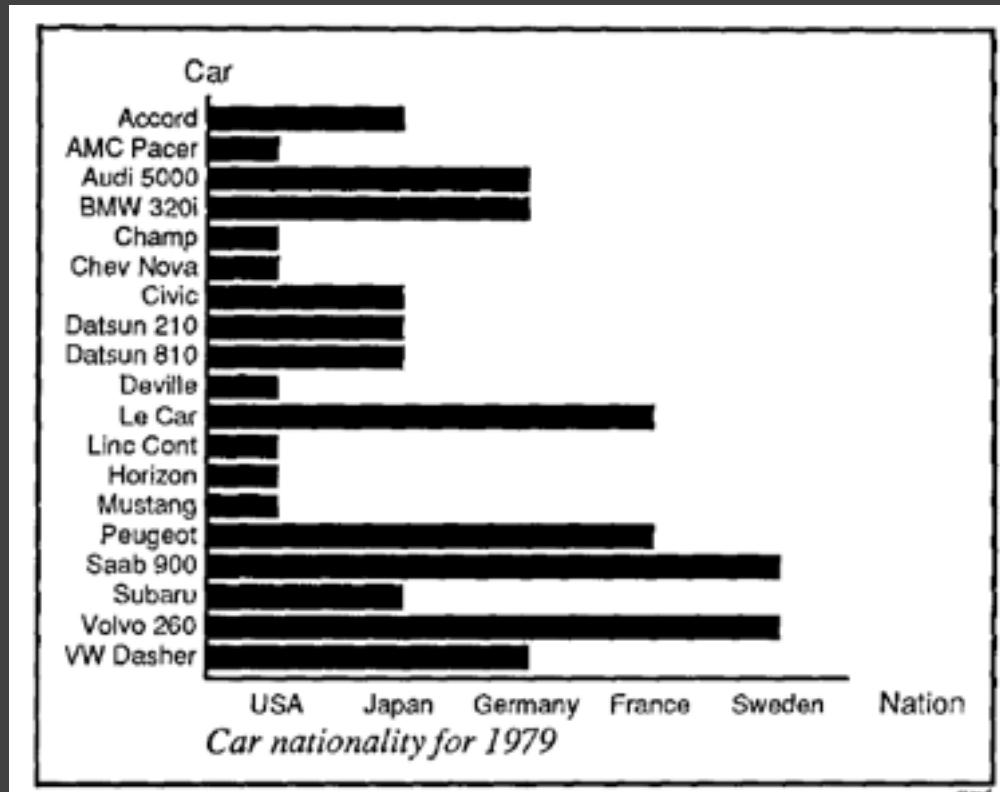
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Effectiveness

A visualization is more *effective* than another visualization if the information conveyed by one visualization is more readily perceived than the information in the other visualization.

Expresses facts not in the data



A length is interpreted
as a quantitative value.

Fig. 11. Incorrect use of a bar chart for the *Nation* relation. The lengths of the bars suggest an ordering on the vertical axis, as if the USA cars were longer or better than the other cars, which is not true for the *Nation* relation.

Design Principles [Mackinlay 86]

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Effectiveness

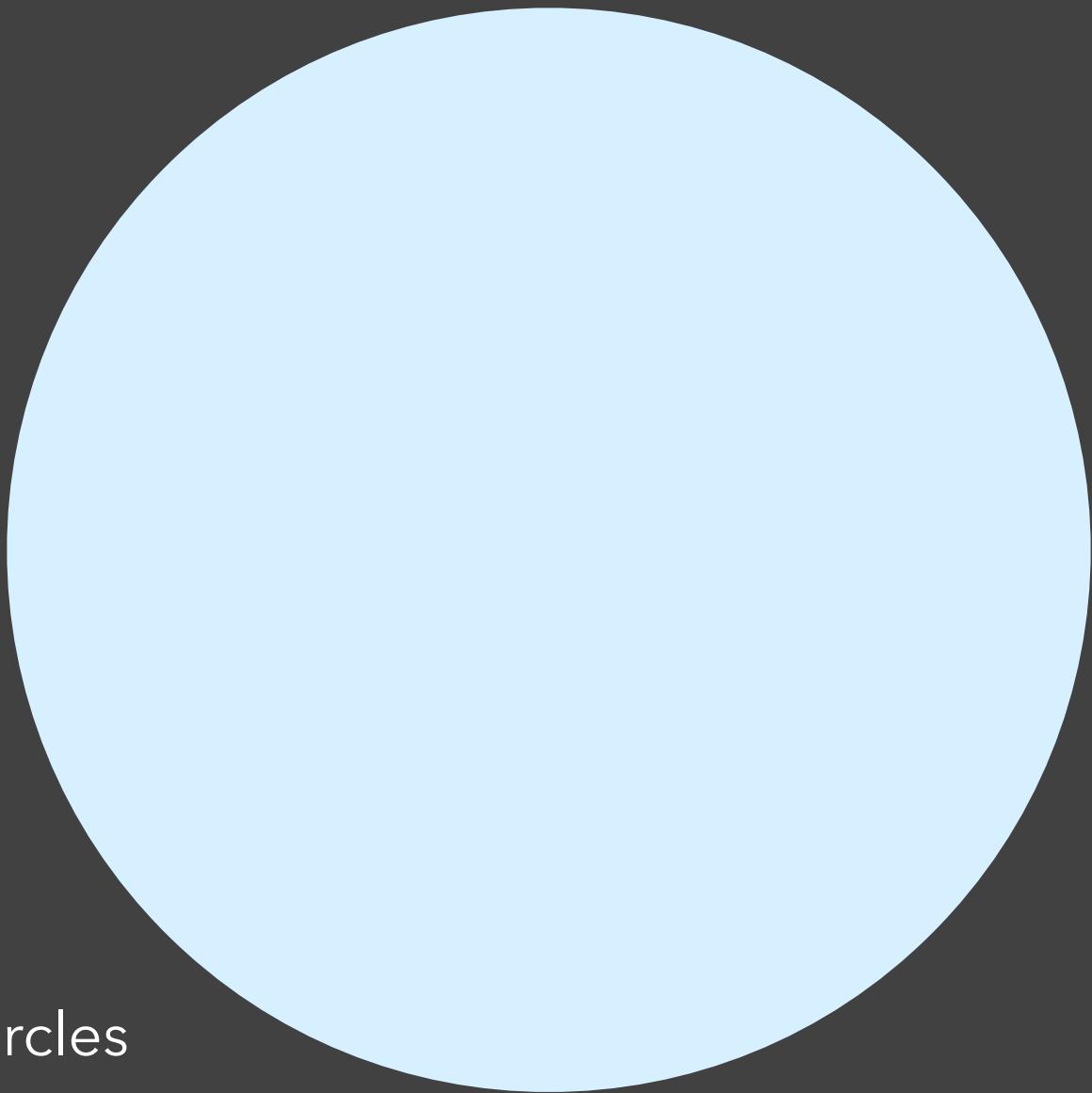
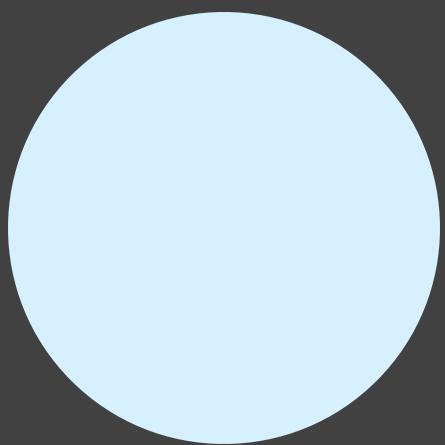
A visualization is more *effective* than another visualization if the information conveyed by one visualization is more readily perceived than the information in the other visualization.

Design Principles *Translated*

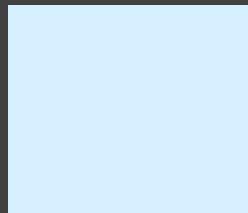
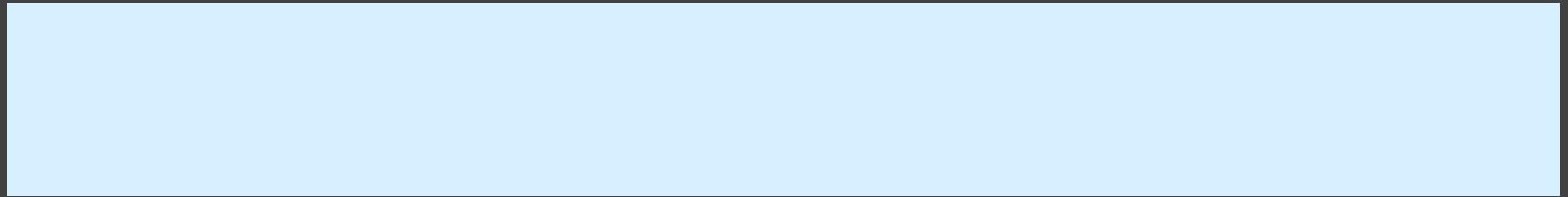
Tell the truth and nothing but the truth
(don't lie, and don't lie by omission)

Use encodings that people decode better
(where better = faster and/or more accurate)

Graphical Perception



Compare area of circles



Compare length of bars

Steven's Power Law

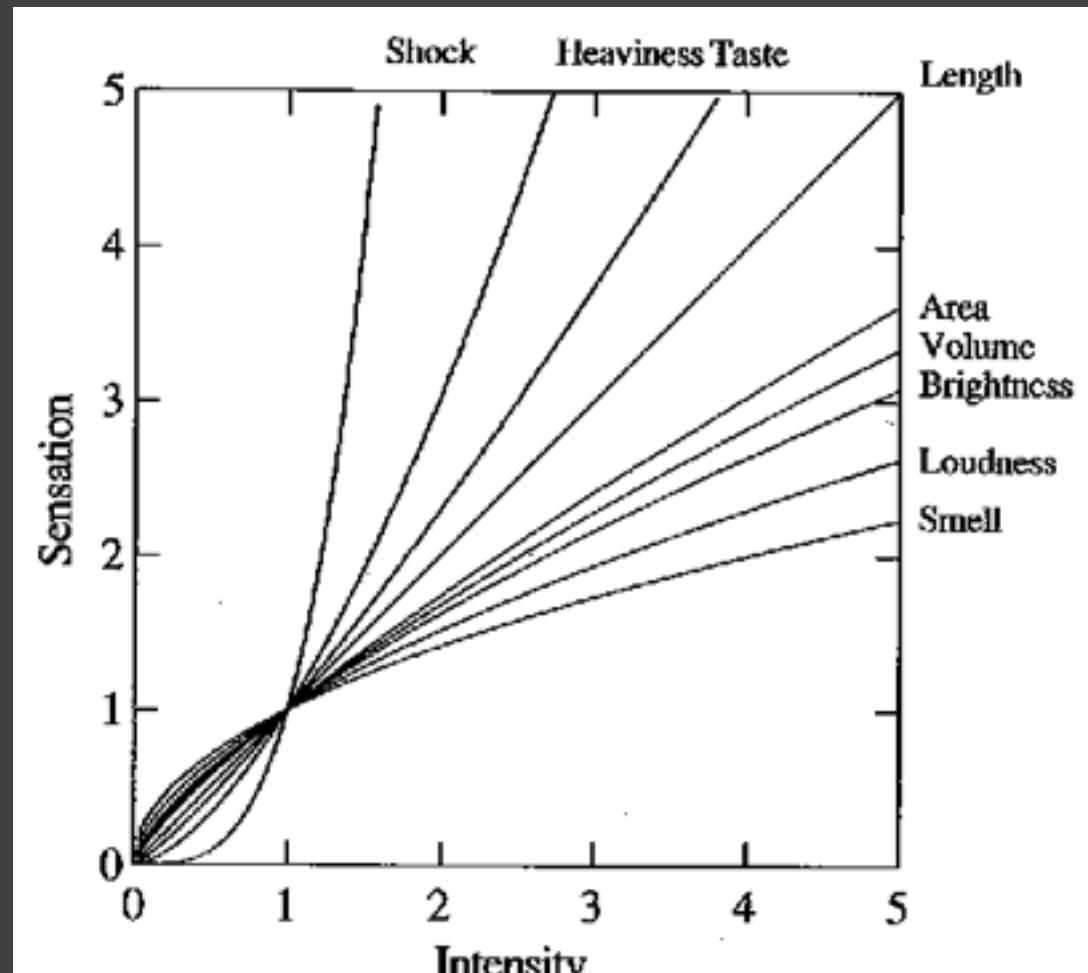
$$S = I^P$$

Exponent
(Empirically Determined)

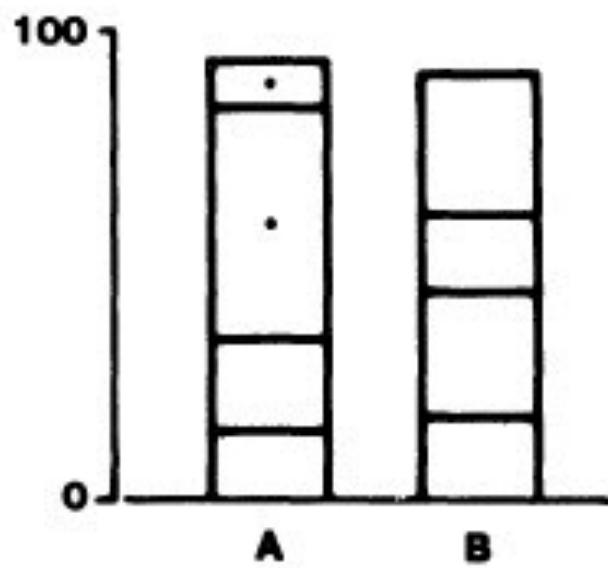
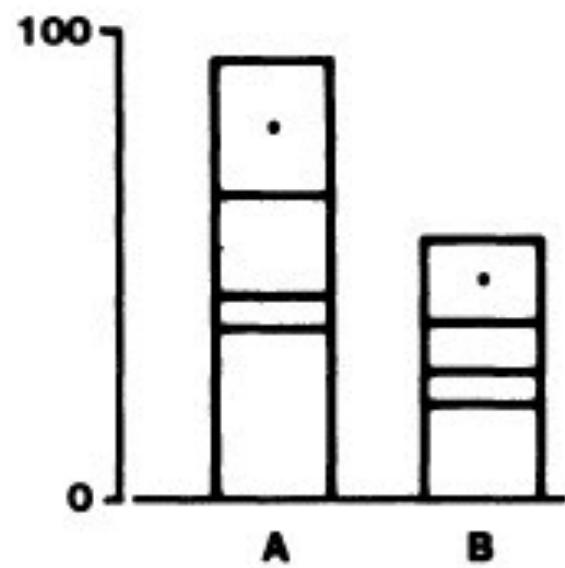
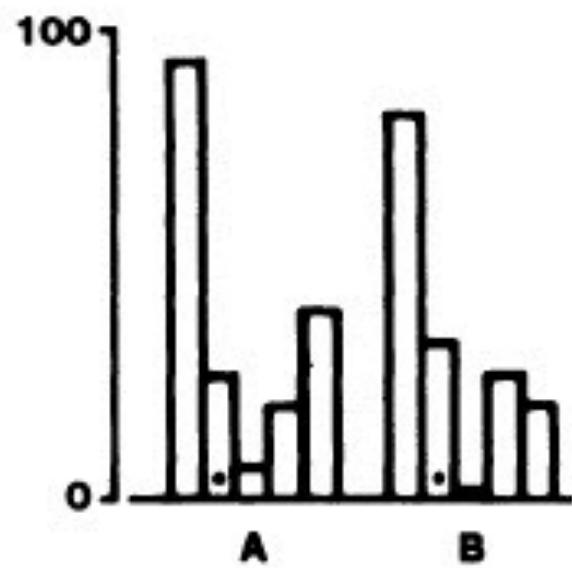
↓

↑ Perceived Sensation ↑ Physical Intensity

Predicts bias, not necessarily accuracy!



[Graph from Wilkinson 99, based on Stevens 61]



Graphical Perception [Cleveland & McGill 84]

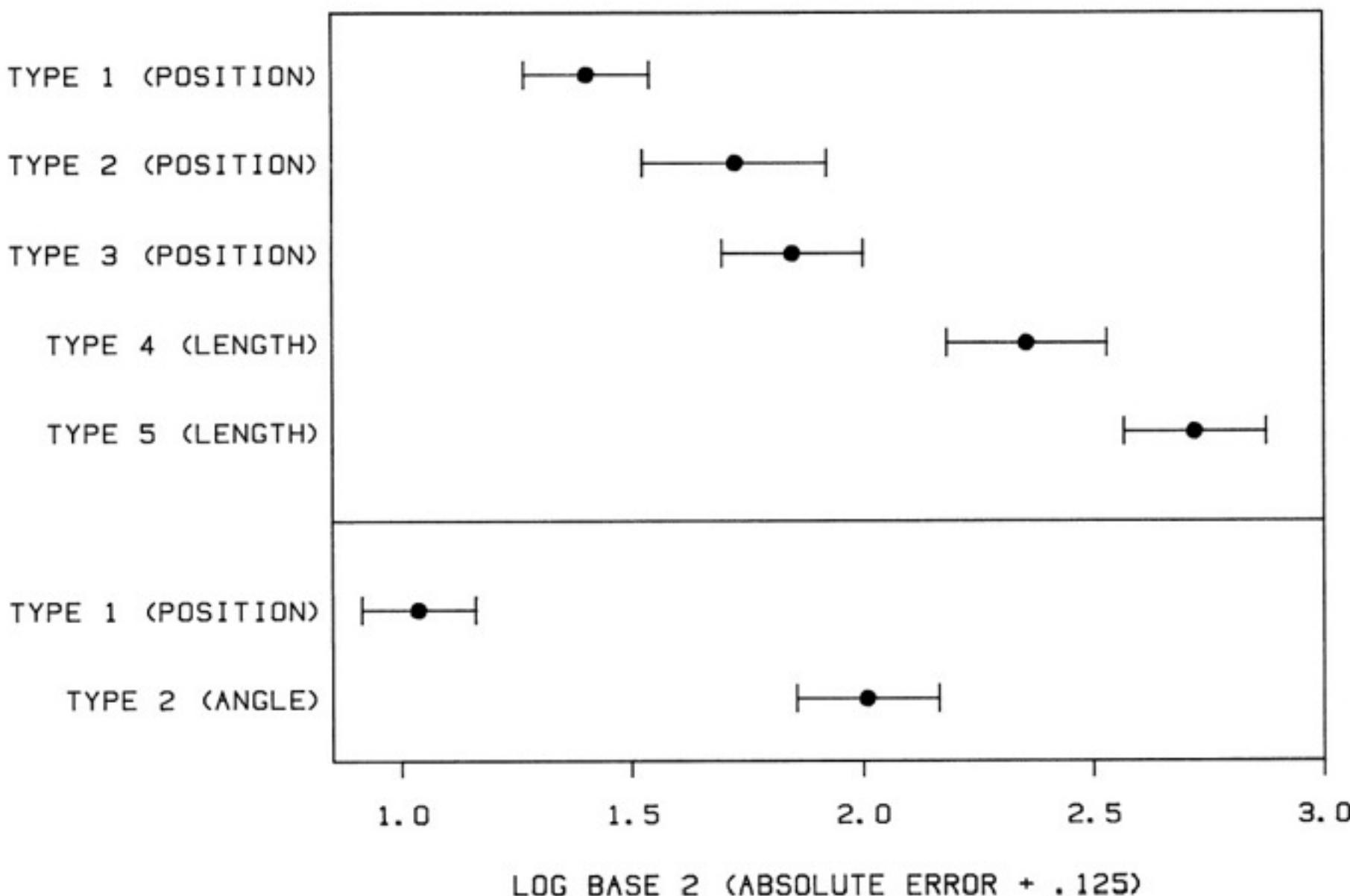
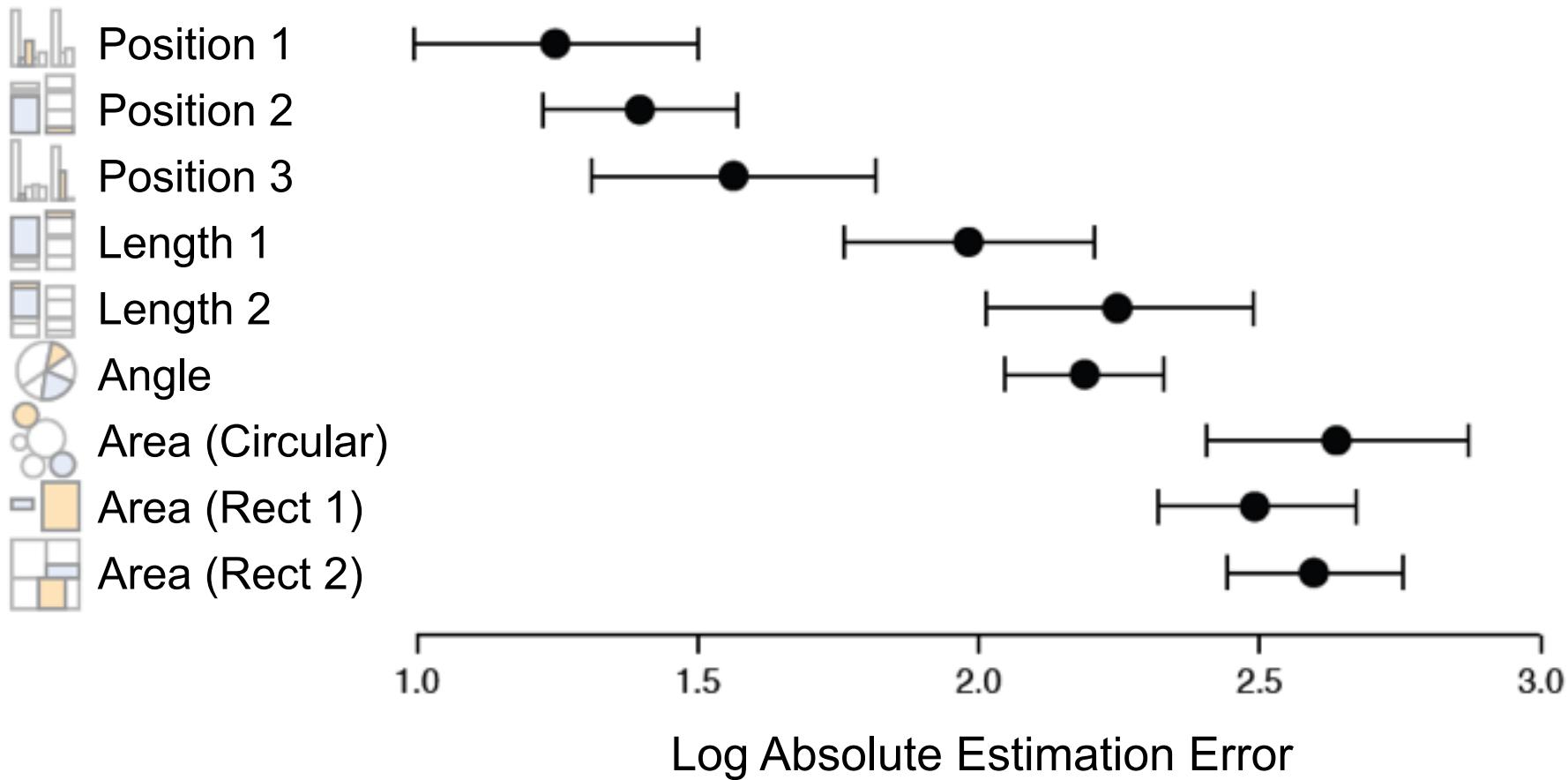


Figure 16. Log absolute error means and 95% confidence intervals for judgment types in position-length experiment (top) and position-angle experiment (bottom).



Graphical Perception Experiments

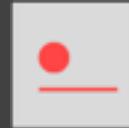
Empirical estimates of encoding effectiveness

Relative Magnitude Estimation

Most accurate



Least accurate



Position (common) scale



Position (non-aligned) scale



Length



Slope



Angle



Area



Volume



Color hue-saturation-density

Effectiveness Rankings

[Mackinlay 86]

QUANTITATIVE

Position
Length
Angle
Slope
Area (Size)
Volume
Density (Value)
Color Sat
Color Hue
Texture
Connection
Containment
Shape

ORDINAL

Position
Density (Value)
Color Sat
Color Hue
Texture
Connection
Containment
Length
Angle
Slope
Area (Size)
Volume
Shape

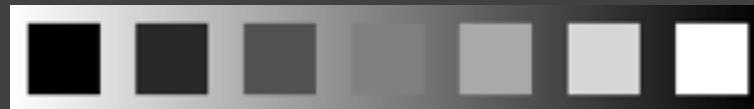
NOMINAL

Position
Color Hue
Texture
Connection
Containment
Density (Value)
Color Sat
Shape
Length
Angle
Slope
Area
Volume

Color

Encoding Data with Color

Value is perceived as ordered
∴ Encode ordinal variables (O)



∴ Encode continuous variables (Q) [not as well]

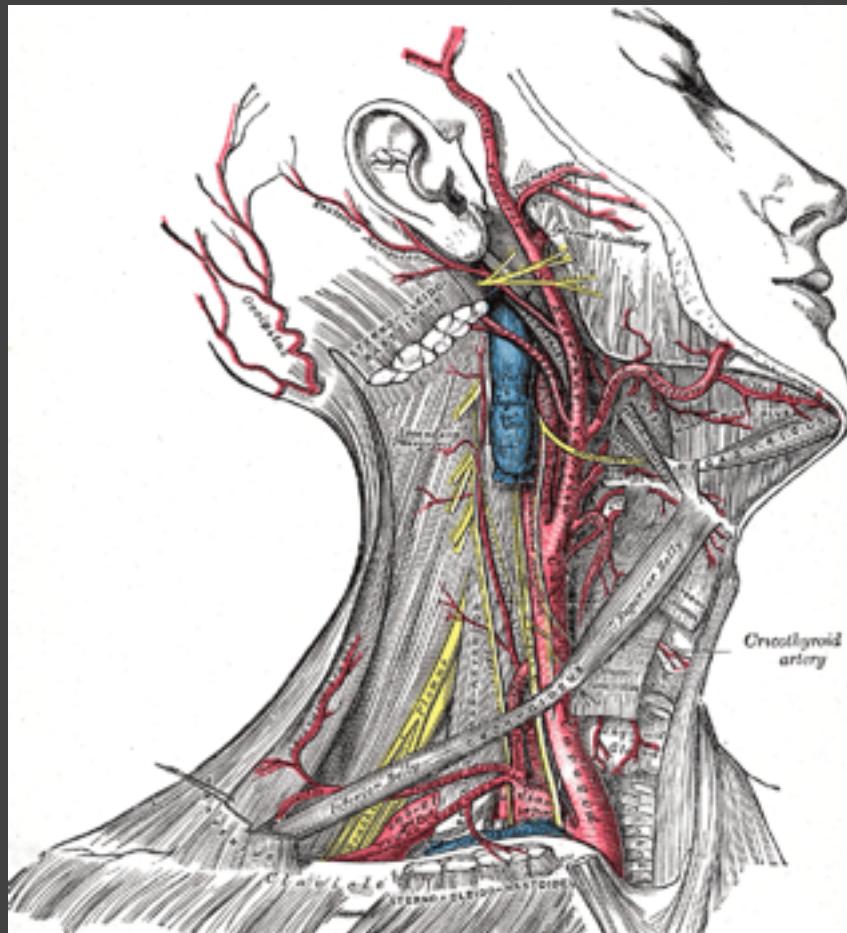


Hue is normally perceived as unordered
∴ Encode nominal variables (N) using color



Categorical Color

Gray's Anatomy

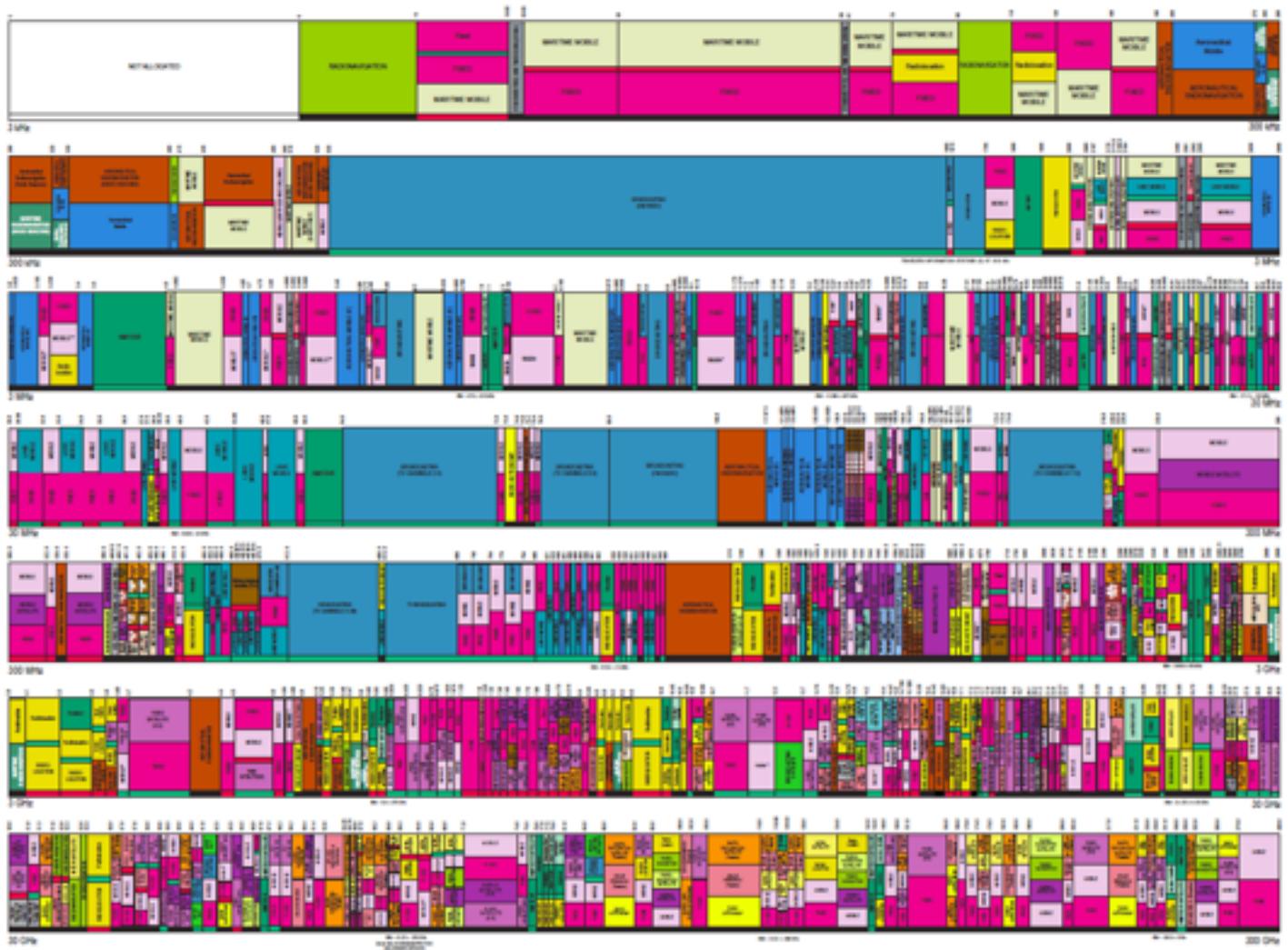


Superficial dissection of the right side of the neck, showing the carotid and subclavian arteries. (<http://www.bartleby.com/107/illus520.html>)

Allocation of the Radio Spectrum

UNITED STATES FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS THE RADIO SPECTRUM

RADIO SERVICES COLOR LEGEND	
INTERNATIONAL	RESERVE
INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE	RESERVE
INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR	RESERVE
WHITE	RESERVE
INTERNATIONAL	TELECOMMUNICATIONS
INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE	TELECOMMUNICATIONS
INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR	TELECOMMUNICATIONS
WHITE	TELECOMMUNICATIONS
INTERNATIONAL	INDUSTRIAL
INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE	INDUSTRIAL
INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR	INDUSTRIAL
WHITE	INDUSTRIAL
INTERNATIONAL	PHOTOCOMMUNICATION
INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE	PHOTOCOMMUNICATION
INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR	PHOTOCOMMUNICATION
WHITE	PHOTOCOMMUNICATION
INTERNATIONAL	SPAC
INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE	SPAC
INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR	SPAC
WHITE	SPAC
INTERNATIONAL	SPAC RESERVE
INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE	SPAC RESERVE
INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR	SPAC RESERVE
WHITE	SPAC RESERVE
INTERNATIONAL	MILITARY
INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE	MILITARY
INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR	MILITARY
WHITE	MILITARY
ACTIVITY CODE	
GOVERNMENT USE	GOVERNMENT/GOVERNMENT SUPPORT
MANUFACTURER USE	MANUFACTURER/GOVERNMENT SUPPORT
ALLOCATION/USAGE DESIGNATION	
GENERAL	GENERAL
PROFESSIONAL	PROFESSIONAL
SPECIAL	SPECIAL



Allocation UNITED STATES FREQUENCY ALLOCATION THE RADIO SPECTRUM

RADIO SERVICES COLOR LEGEND		
AERONAUTICAL MOBILE	INTERSATELLITE	RADIO ASTRONOMY
AERONAUTICAL MOBILE SATELLITE	LAND MOBILE	RADIODETERMINATION SATELLITE
AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION	LAND MOBILE SATELLITE	RADIOLOCATION
AMATEUR	MARITIME MOBILE	RADIOLOCATION SATELLITE
AMATEUR SATELLITE	MARITIME MOBILE SATELLITE	RADIONAVIGATION
BROADCASTING	MARITIME RADIONAVIGATION	RADIONAVIGATION SATELLITE
BROADCASTING SATELLITE	METEOROLOGICAL AIDS	SPACE OPERATION
EARTH EXPLORATION SATELLITE	METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE	SPACE RESEARCH
FIXED	MOBILE	STANDARD FREQUENCY AND TIME SIGNAL
FIXED SATELLITE	MOBILE SATELLITE	STANDARD FREQUENCY AND TIME SIGNAL SATELLITE

RADIO SERVICES COLOR LEGEND

AERONAUTICAL MOBILE	INTERSATELLITE	RADIO ASTRONOMY
AERONAUTICAL MOBILE SATELLITE	LAND MOBILE	RADIODETERMINATION SATELLITE
AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION	LAND MOBILE SATELLITE	RADIOLOCATION
AMATEUR	MARITIME MOBILE	RADIOLOCATION SATELLITE
AMATEUR SATELLITE	MARITIME MOBILE SATELLITE	RADIONAVIGATION
BROADCASTING	MARITIME RADIONAVIGATION	RADIONAVIGATION SATELLITE
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EARTH EXPLORATION SATELLITE	METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE	SPACE RESEARCH
FIXED	MOBILE	STANDARD FREQUENCY AND TIME SIGNAL
FIXED SATELLITE	MOBILE SATELLITE	STANDARD FREQUENCY AND TIME SIGNAL SATELLITE

ACTIVITY CODE

Palette Design & Color Names

Minimize overlap and ambiguity of colors.

Color Name Distance											Salience	Name
0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.20	.47	blue 62.9%
1.00	0.00	1.00	0.97	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.96	1.00		.90	orange 93.9%
1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.90	0.99		.67	green 79.8%
1.00	0.97	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.95	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00		.66	red 80.4%
0.98	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.96	0.91	0.97	1.00	0.99		.47	purple 51.4%
1.00	1.00	1.00	0.95	0.96	0.00	0.97	0.93	0.98	1.00		.37	brown 54.0%
1.00	1.00	1.00	0.99	0.91	0.97	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00		.58	pink 71.7%
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.97	0.93	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00		.67	grey 79.4%
1.00	0.96	0.90	1.00	1.00	0.98	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00		.18	yellow 31.2%
0.20	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	.25	blue 25.4%
Tableau-10											Average 0.97	.52

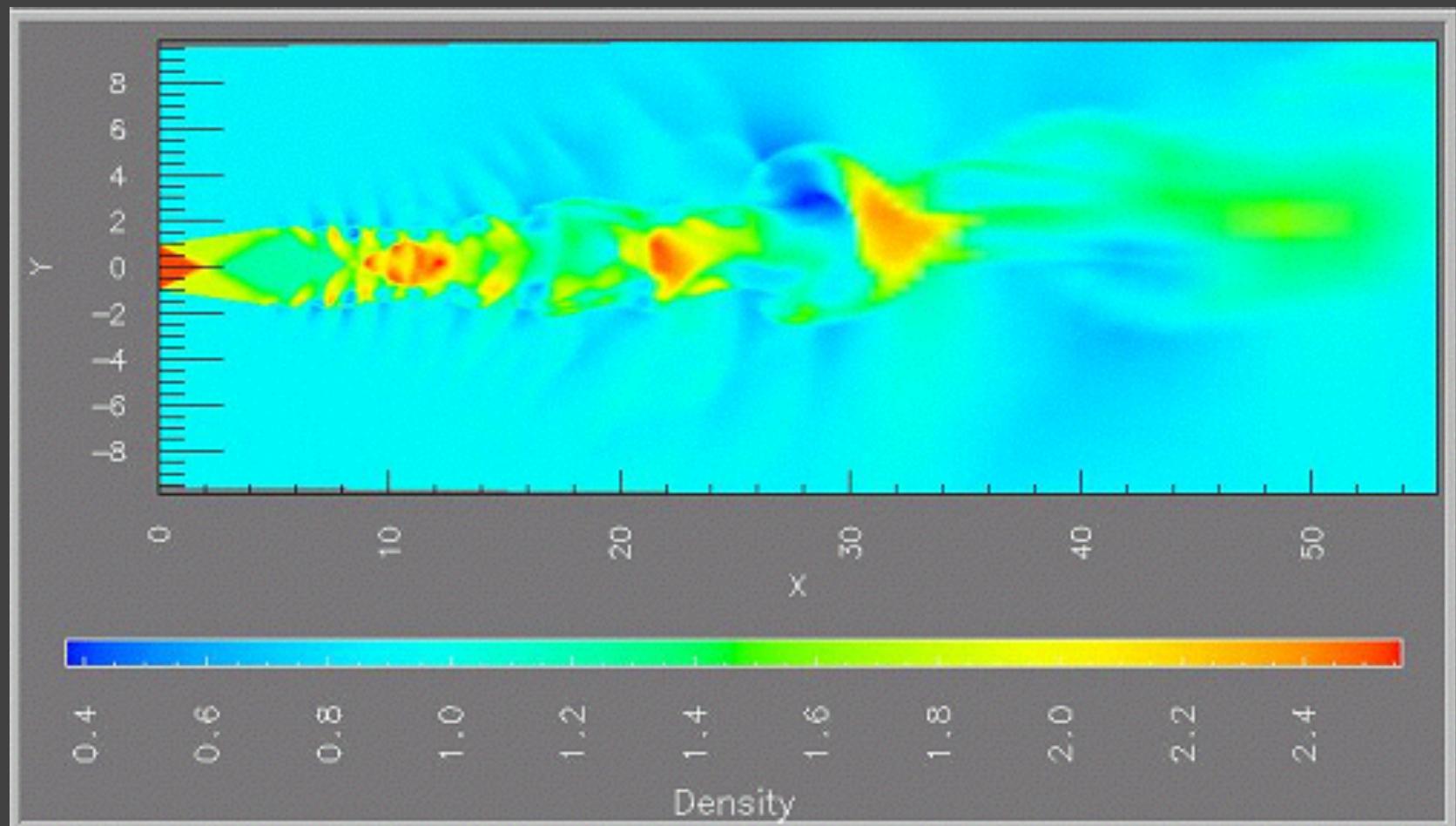
Palette Design & Color Names

Minimize overlap and ambiguity of colors.

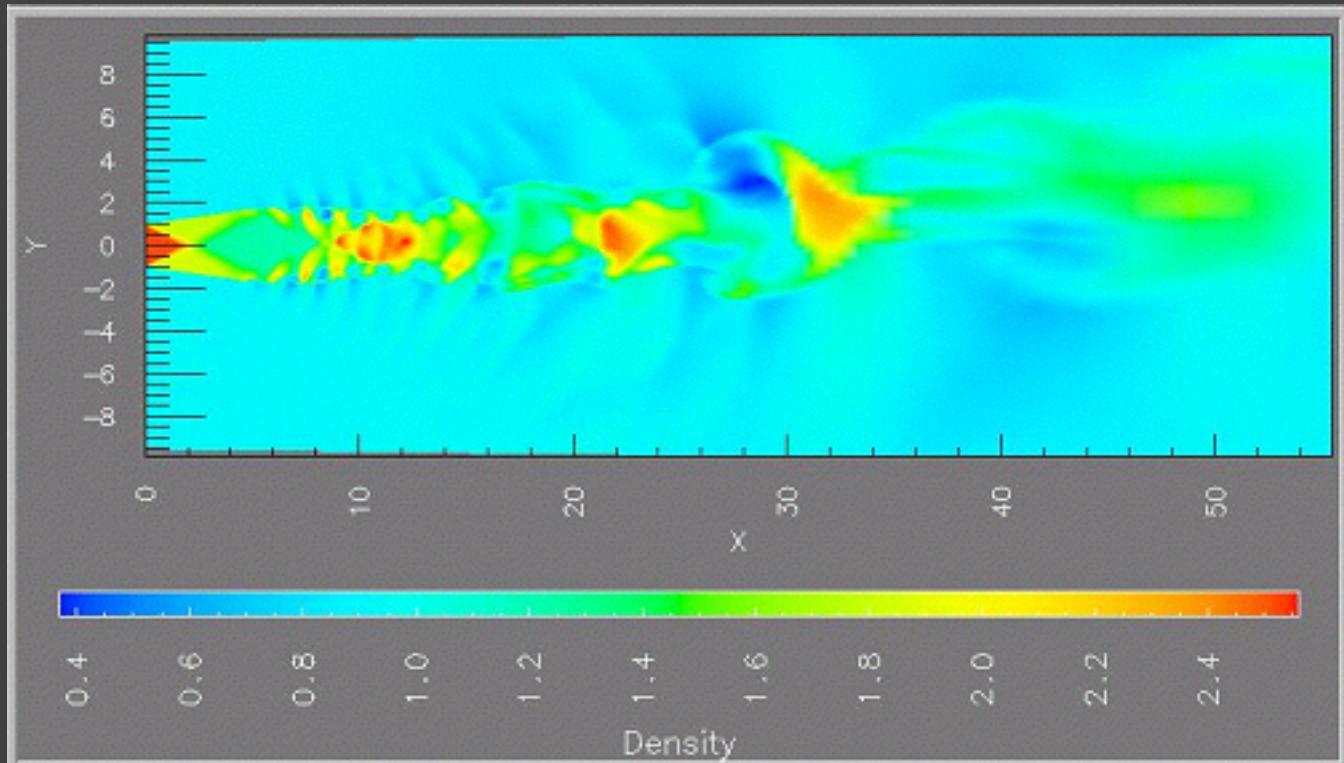
Color Name Distance											Salience	Name
0.00	1.00	1.00	0.89	0.07	1.00	0.35	0.99	1.00	0.89		.30	blue 50.5%
1.00	0.00	0.99	1.00	1.00	0.92	1.00	0.84	0.98	0.99		.21	red 27.8%
1.00	0.99	0.00	1.00	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.17	1.00		.34	green 36.8%
0.89	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.98	1.00	0.71	0.93	1.00	0.32		.55	purple 67.3%
0.07	1.00	0.98	0.98	0.00	1.00	0.36	1.00	0.97	0.95		.20	blue 36.6%
1.00	0.92	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.97	0.99	1.00		.39	orange 51.9%
0.35	1.00	1.00	0.71	0.36	1.00	0.00	0.95	0.92	0.42		.13	blue 15.7%
0.99	0.84	1.00	0.93	1.00	0.97	0.95	0.00	0.98	0.85		.16	pink 29.4%
1.00	0.98	0.17	1.00	0.97	0.99	0.92	0.98	0.00	0.97		.12	green 21.7%
0.89	0.99	1.00	0.32	0.95	1.00	0.42	0.85	0.97	0.00		.30	purple 23.9%
Excel-10											Average	0.87
												.27

Quantitative Color

Rainbow Color Maps

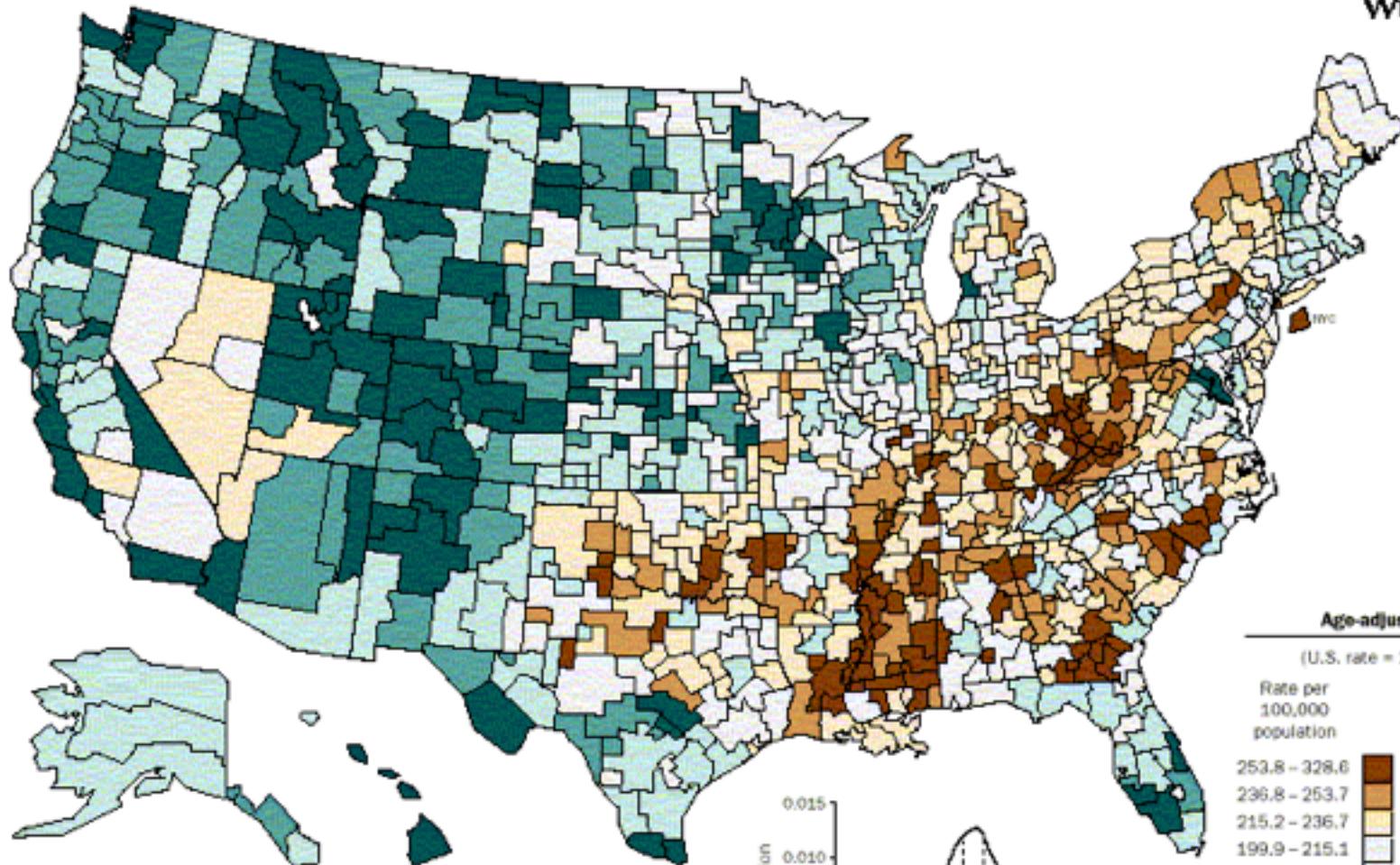
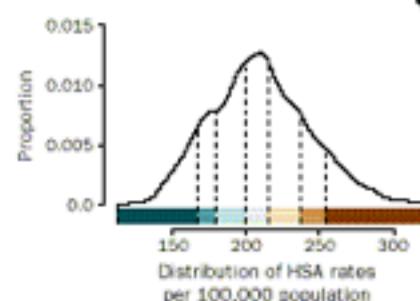


Be Wary of Rainbows!



1. People segment colors into classes
2. Hues are not naturally ordered
3. Different lightness emphasizes certain scalar values
4. Low luminance colors (blue) hide high frequencies

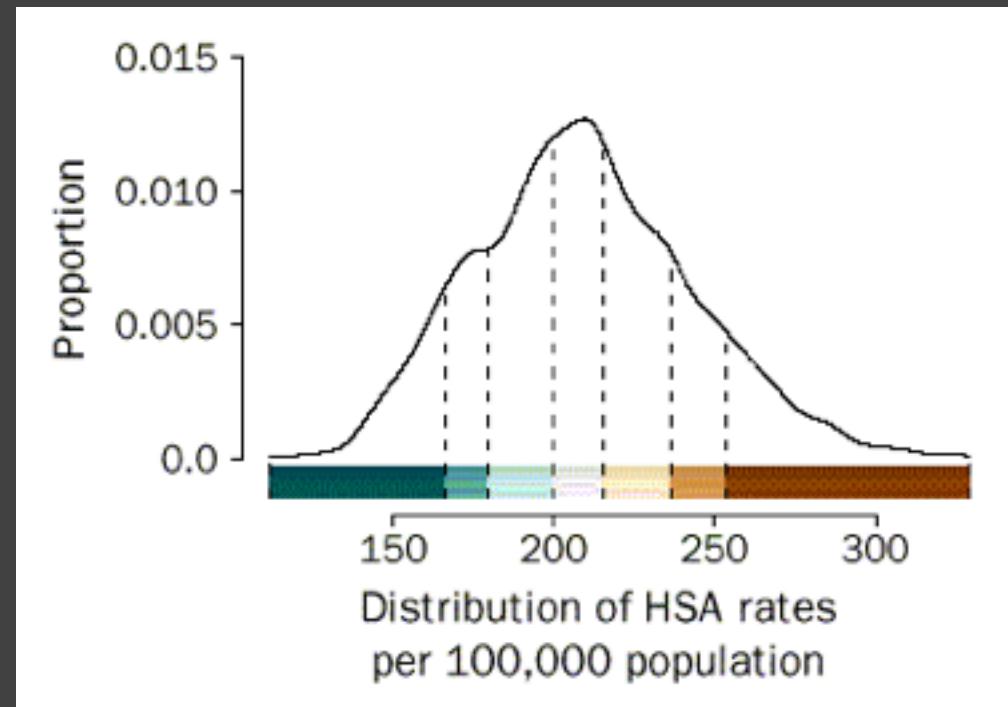
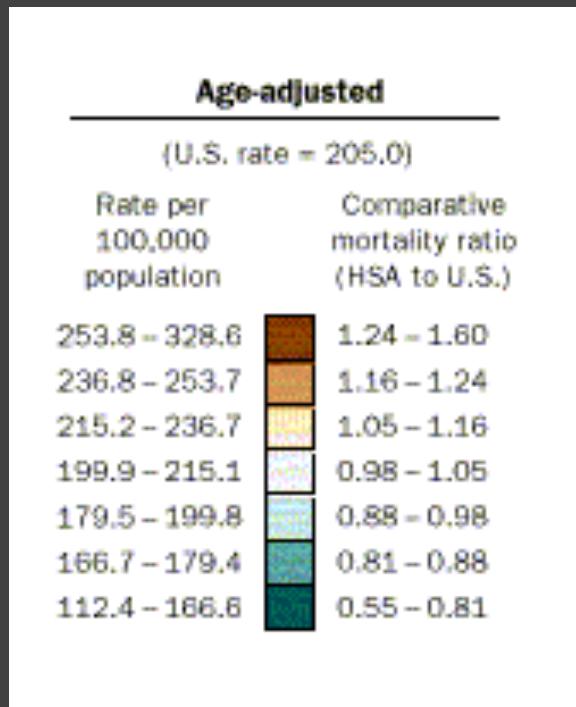
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES BY HSA, 1988-92

HEART DISEASE
WHITE MALEICD-9 Categories 390-398,
402, 404-429

Age-adjusted	
(U.S. rate = 205.0)	
Rate per 100,000 population	Comparative mortality ratio (HSA to U.S.)
253.8 - 328.6	1.24 - 1.60
236.8 - 253.7	1.16 - 1.24
215.2 - 236.7	1.05 - 1.16
199.9 - 215.1	0.96 - 1.05
179.5 - 199.8	0.88 - 0.98
166.7 - 179.4	0.81 - 0.88
112.4 - 166.6	0.55 - 0.81

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS

Classing Quantitative Data



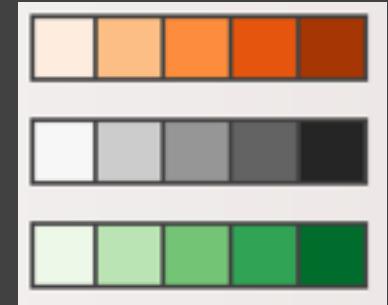
Age-adjusted mortality rates for the United States.
Common option: break into 5 or 7 quantiles.

Quantitative Color Encoding

Sequential color scale

Constrain hue, vary luminance/saturation

Map higher values to darker colors



Quantitative Color Encoding

Sequential color scale

Constrain hue, vary luminance/saturation

Map higher values to darker colors



Diverging color scale

Useful when data has meaningful “midpoint”

Use neutral color (e.g., grey) for midpoint

Use saturated colors for endpoints

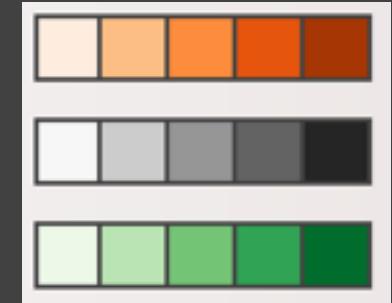


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Limit number of steps in color to 3-9

Color Brewer: Palettes for Maps

number of data classes on your map
3 [learn more >](#)

the nature of your data
sequential [learn more >](#)

pick a color scheme: BuGn

multihue single hue

(optional) only show schemes that are:

colorblind safe print friendly

photocopy-able [learn more >](#)

pick a color system

229, 245, 249 RGB CMYK HEX

153, 216, 201

44, 162, 95

adjust map context

roads

cities

borders

select a background

solid color

terrain

SCORE CARD

how to use | updates | credits

COLORBREWER 2.0

color advice for cartography

Hints for the Colorist

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Use **only a few** colors (~6 ideal)

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Respect the **color blind**

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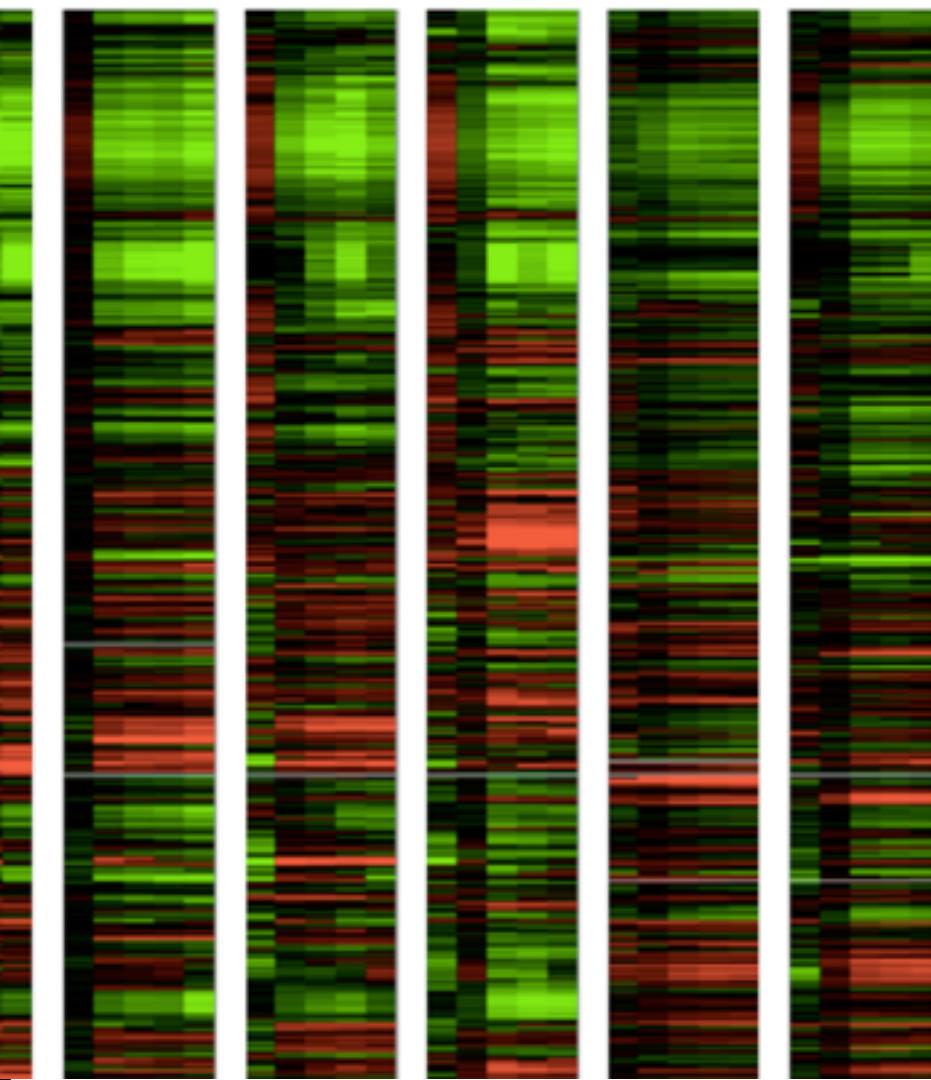
Respect the **color blind**

Take advantage of **perceptual color spaces**

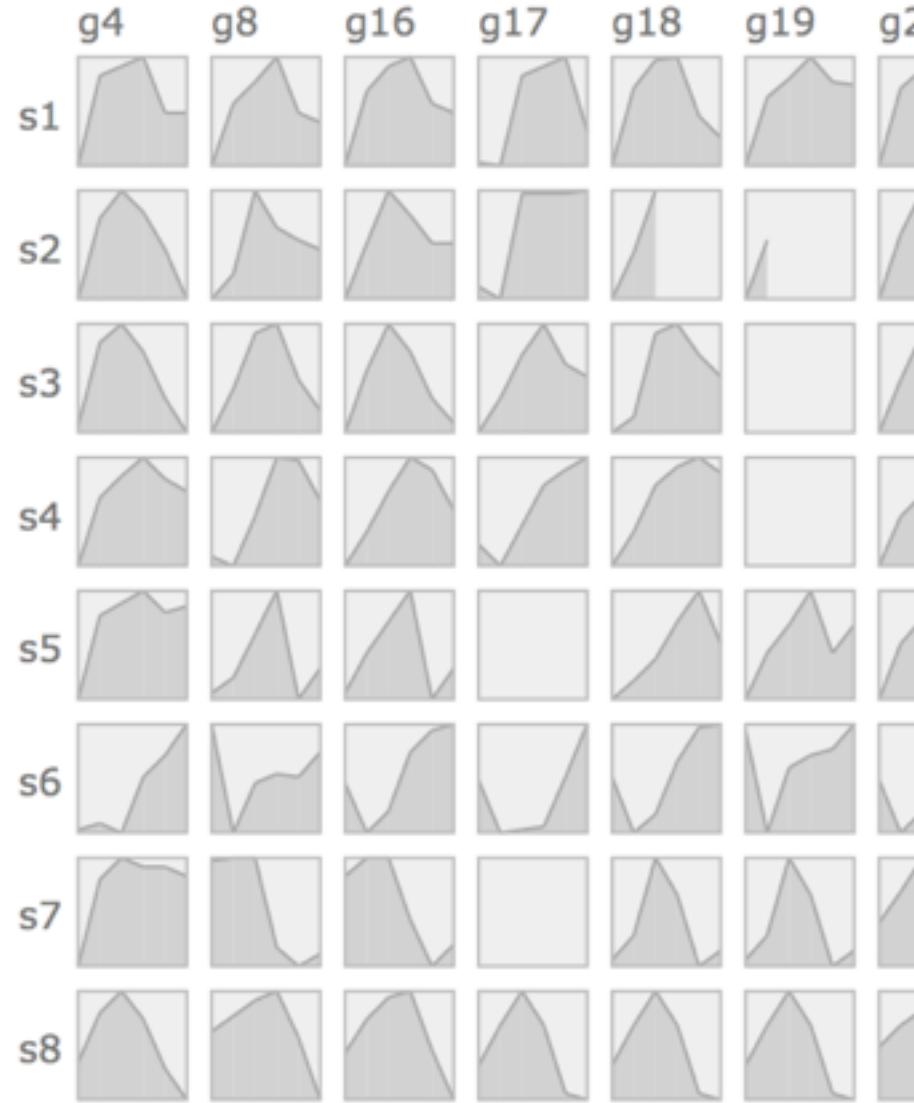
Perceptual Re-designs

Gene Expression Time-Series [Meyer et al 11]

Color Encoding



Position Encoding

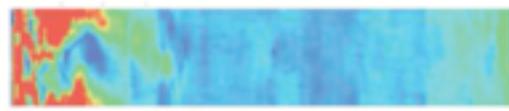


Artery Visualization

[Borkin et al 11]

Rainbow Palette

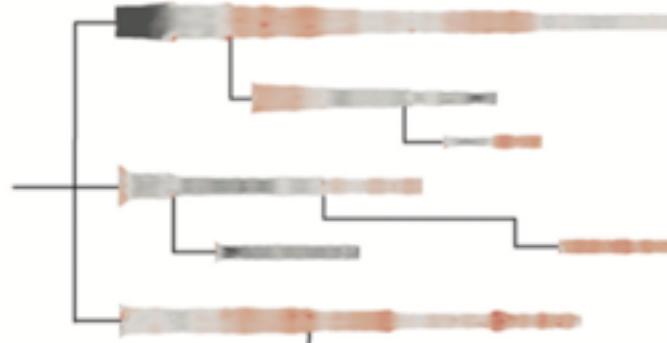
2D



Shear Stress (Pa)

3
2
1
0

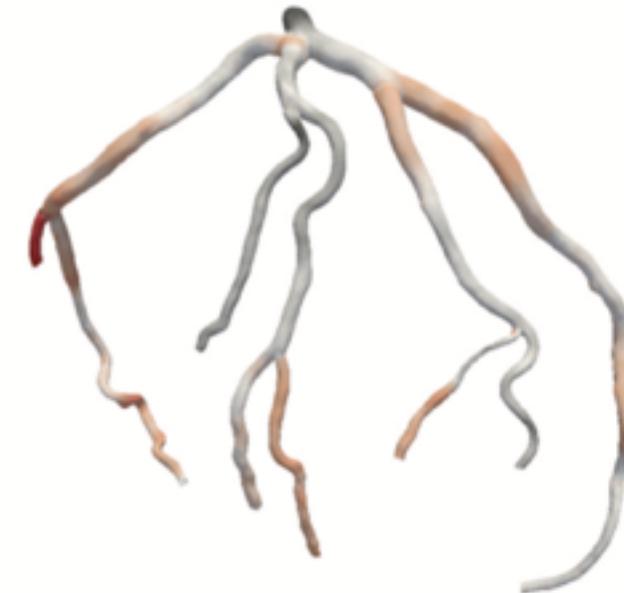
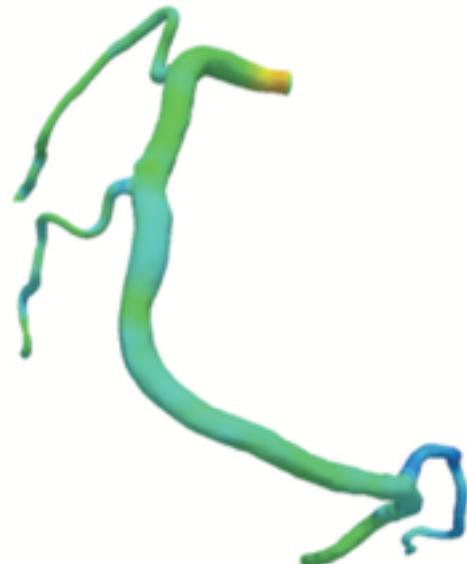
Diverging Palette



Shear Stress (Pa)

3
2
1
0

3D



Artery Visualization

[Borkin et al 11]

Rainbow Palette

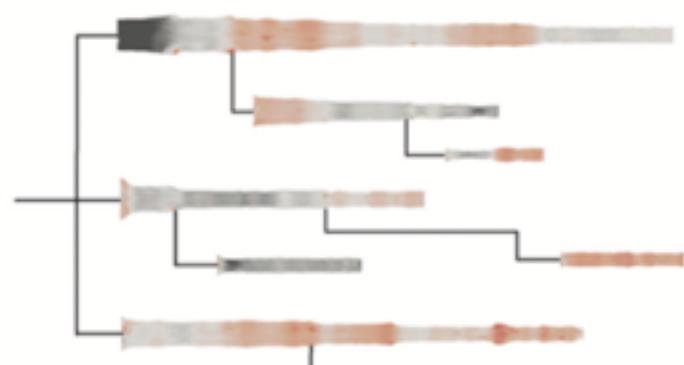
Accuracy: **62%**

2D

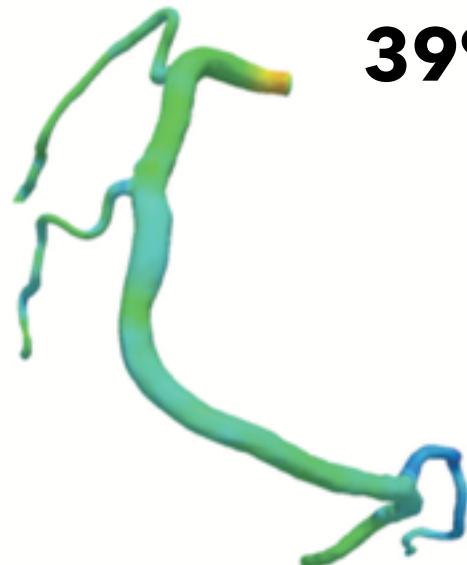


92%

Diverging Palette

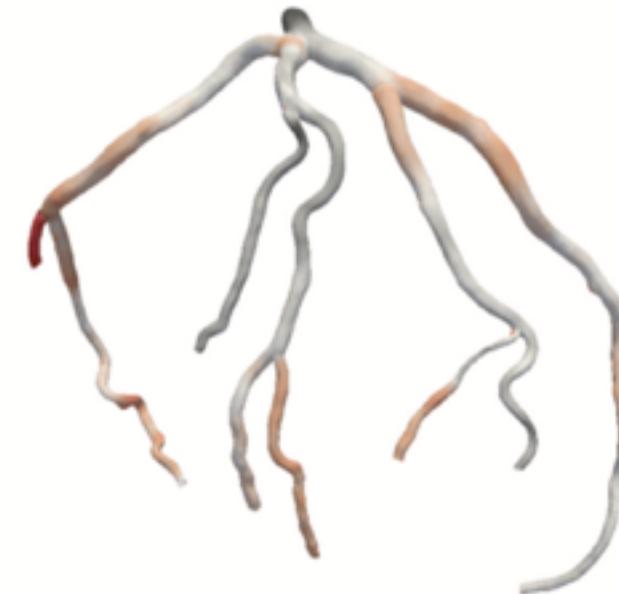


3D



39%

71%



Interaction

Taxonomy of Interactions

Taxonomy of Interactions

Data and View Specification

Visualize, Filter, Sort, Derive

Taxonomy of Interactions

Data and View Specification

Visualize, Filter, Sort, Derive

View Manipulation

Select, Navigate, Coordinate, Organize

Taxonomy of Interactions

Data and View Specification

Visualize, Filter, Sort, Derive

View Manipulation

Select, Navigate, Coordinate, Organize

Process and Provenance

Record, Annotate, Share, Guide

Selection

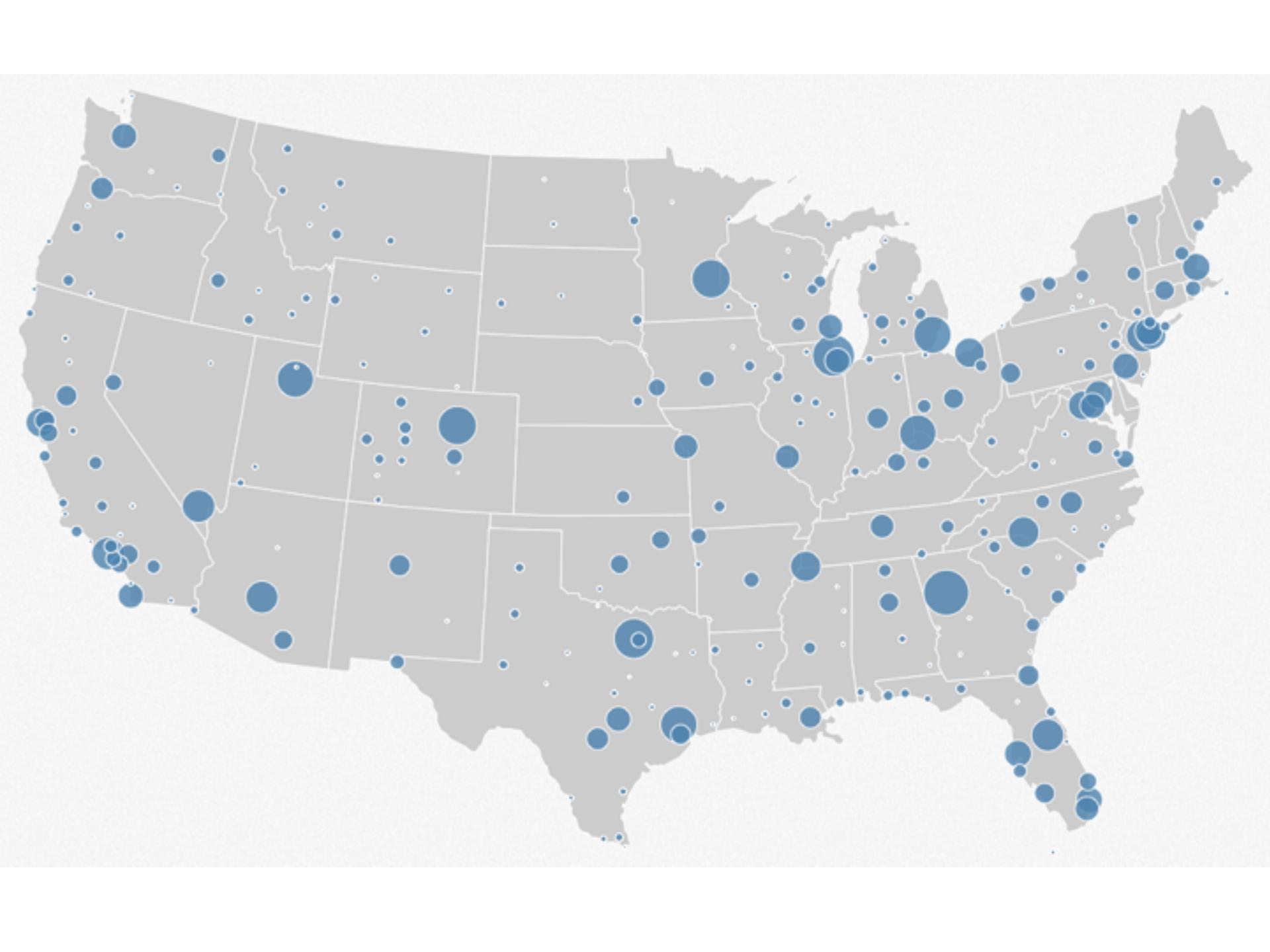
Basic Selection Methods

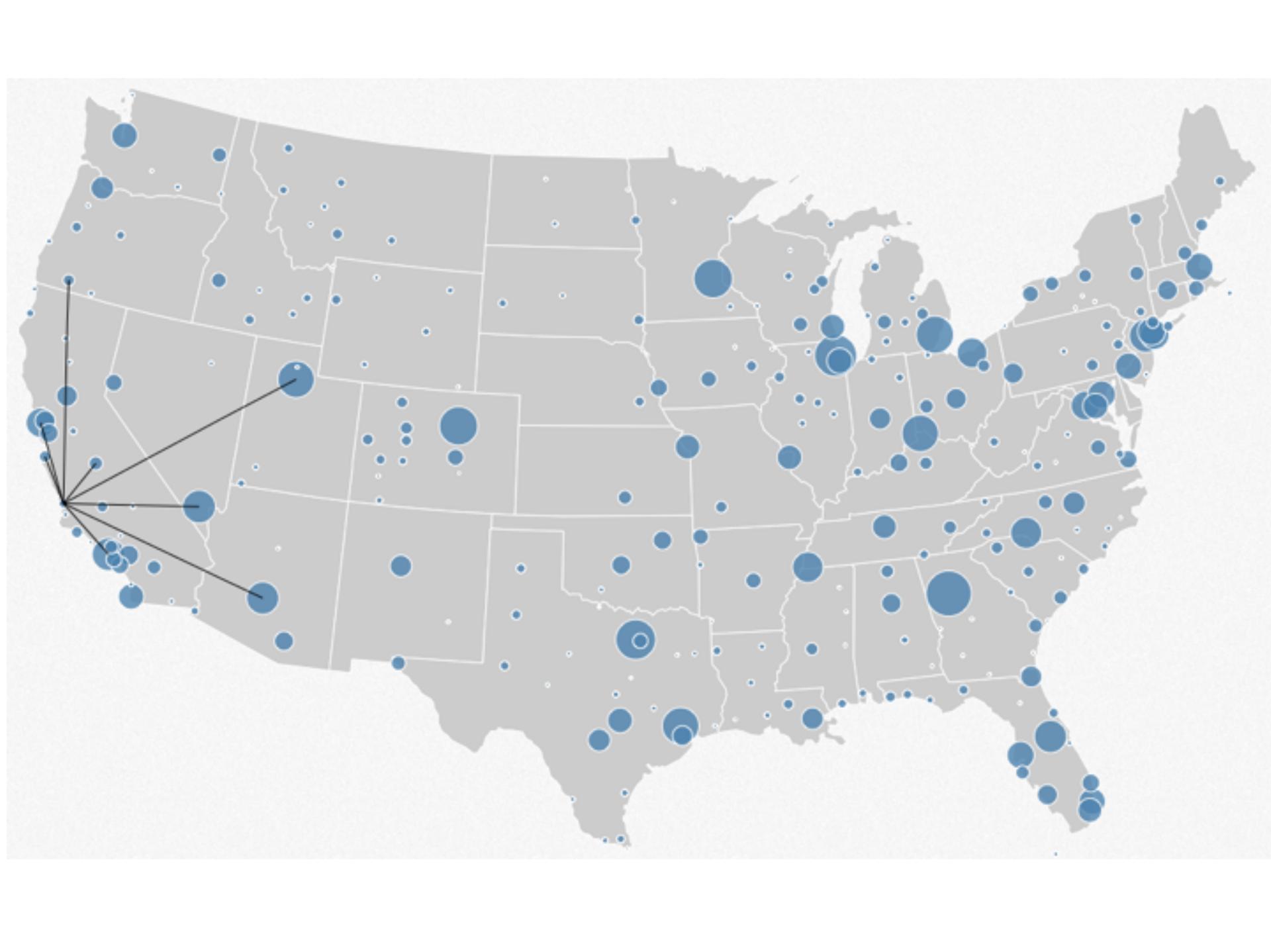
Point Selection

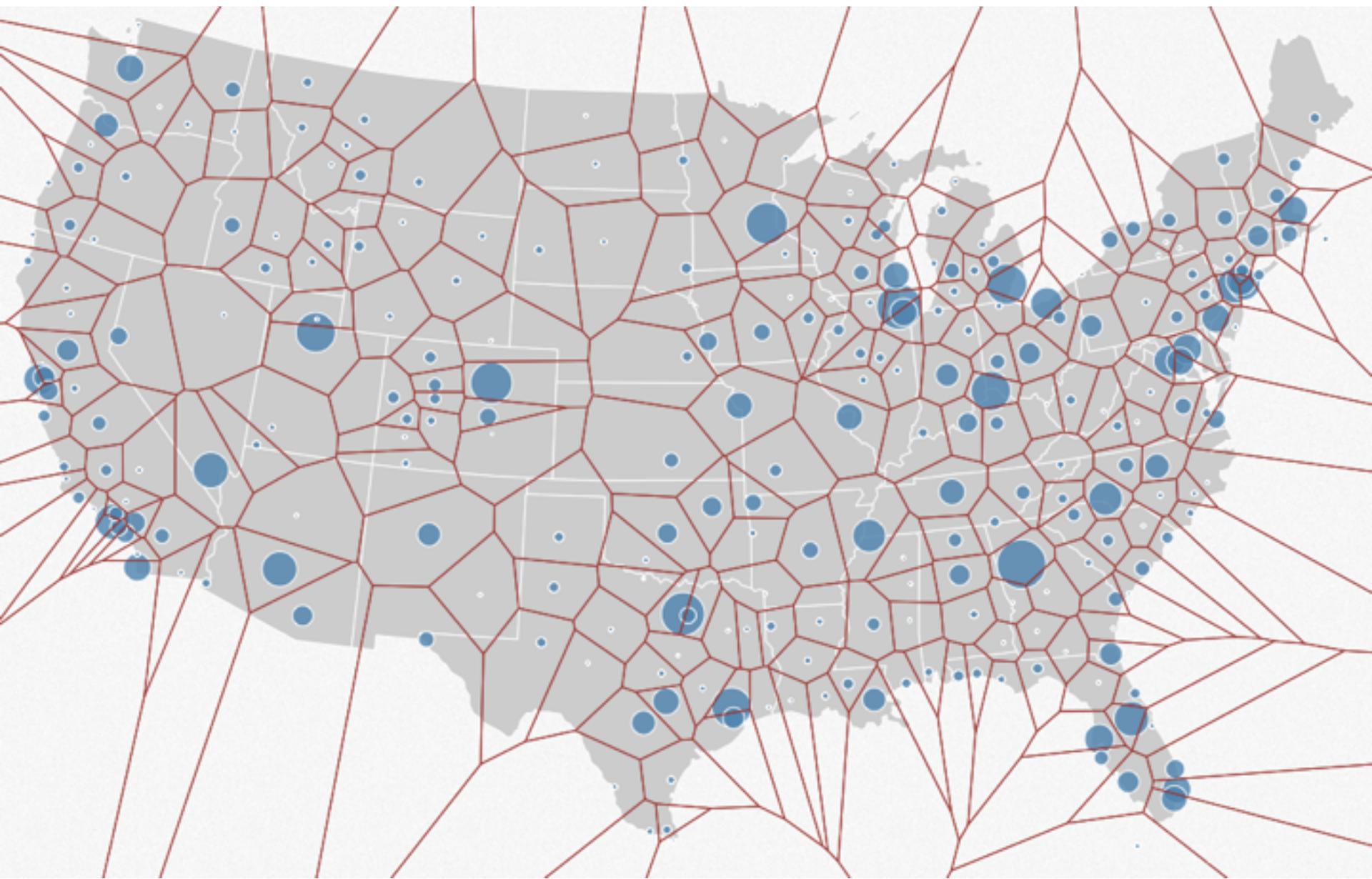
Mouse Hover / Click

Touch / Tap

Select Nearby Element (e.g., Bubble Cursor)







Basic Selection Methods

Point Selection

Mouse Hover / Click

Touch / Tap

Select Nearby Element (e.g., Bubble Cursor)

Region Selection

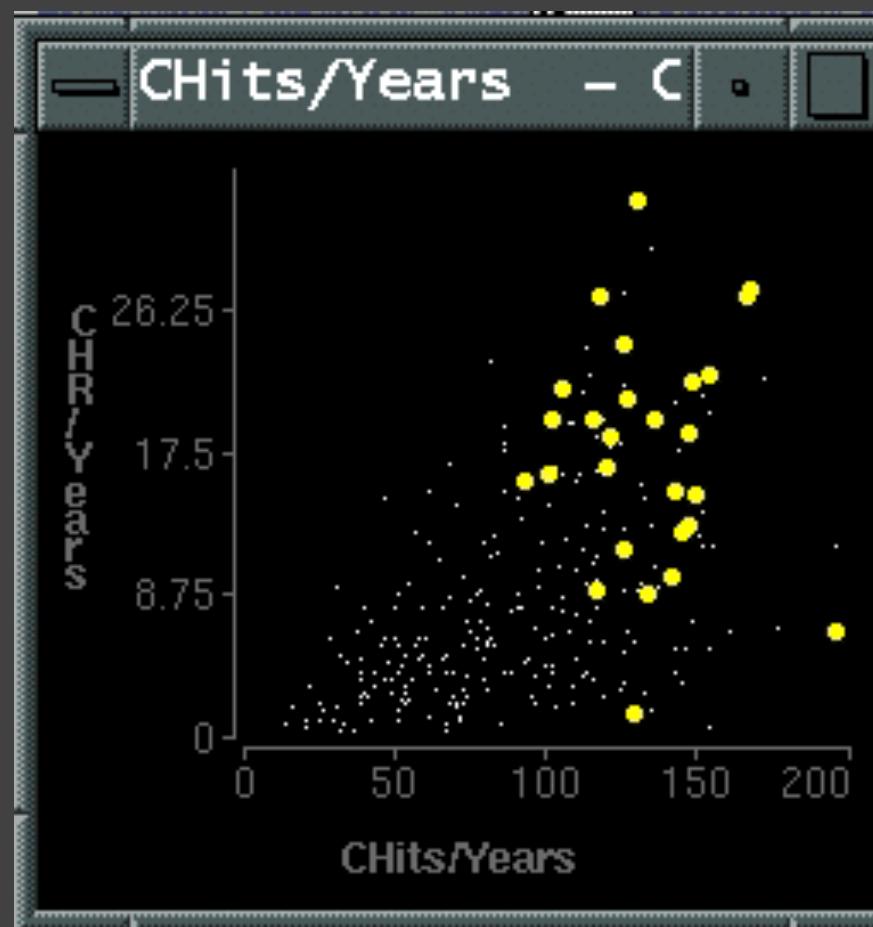
Rubber-band (rectangular) or Lasso (freehand)

Area cursors ("brushes")

Brushing & Linking

Brushing

Direct attention to a subset of data [Wills 95]



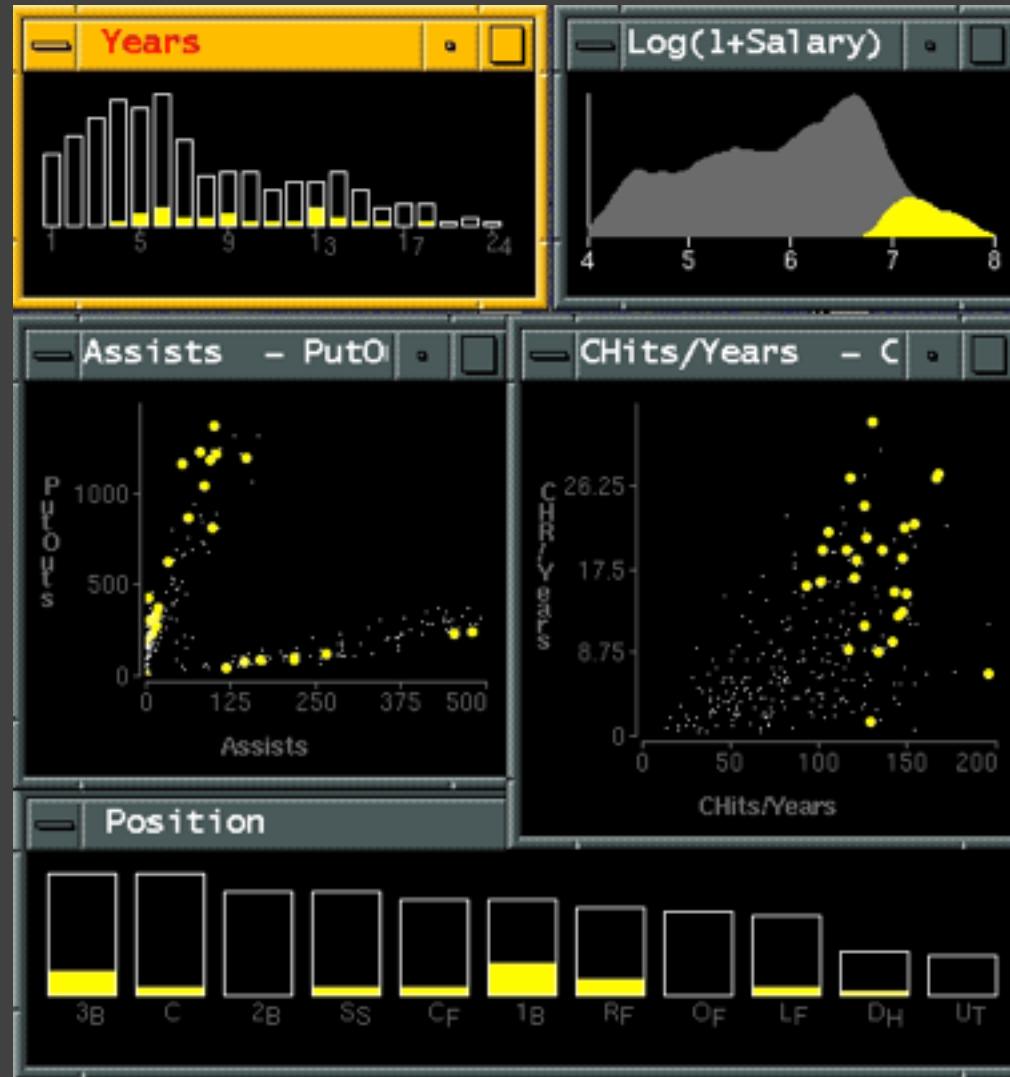
Brushing & Linking

Select ("***brush***") a subset of data

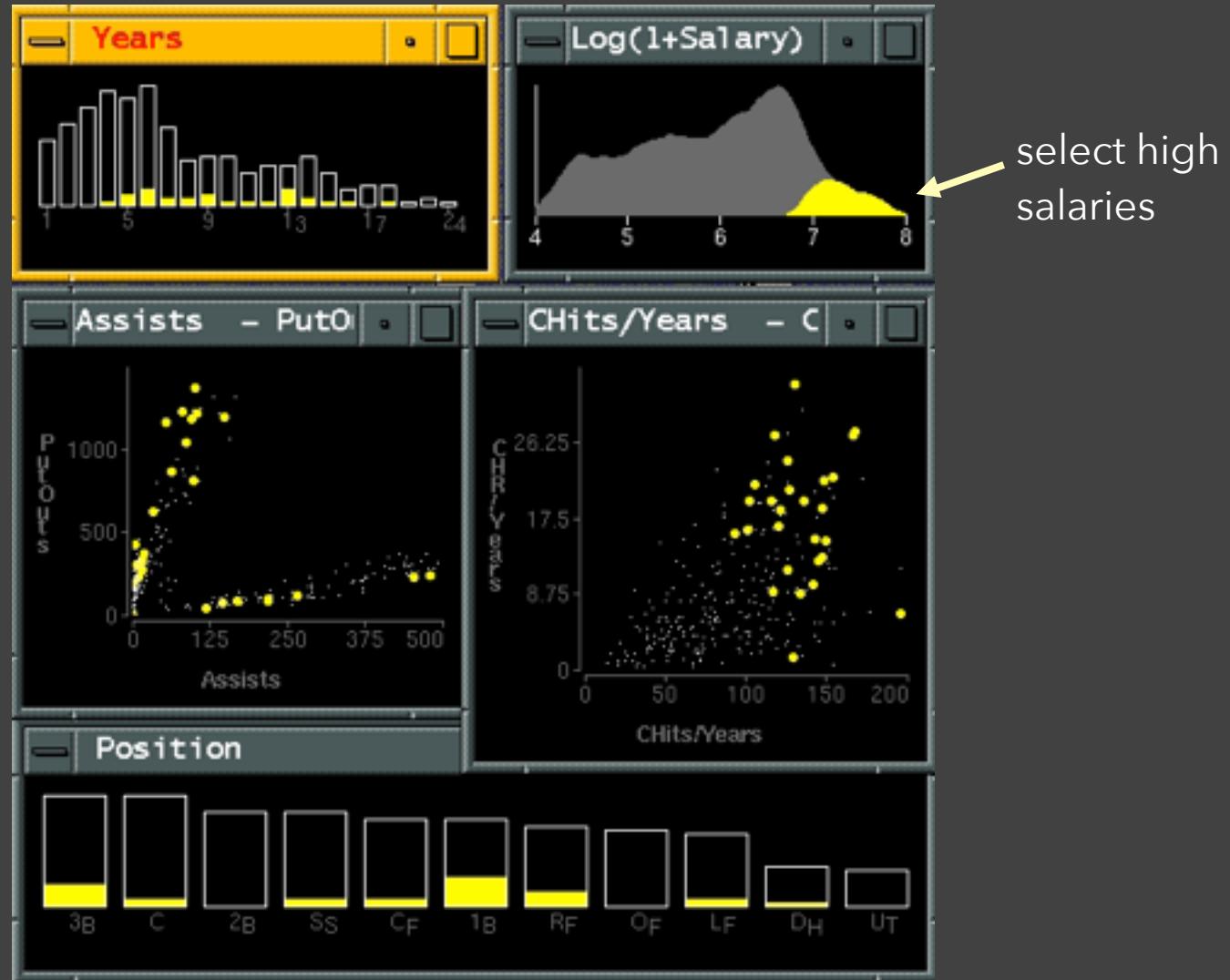
See selected data in other views

The components must be ***linked***
by *tuple* (matching data points), or
by *query* (matching range or values)

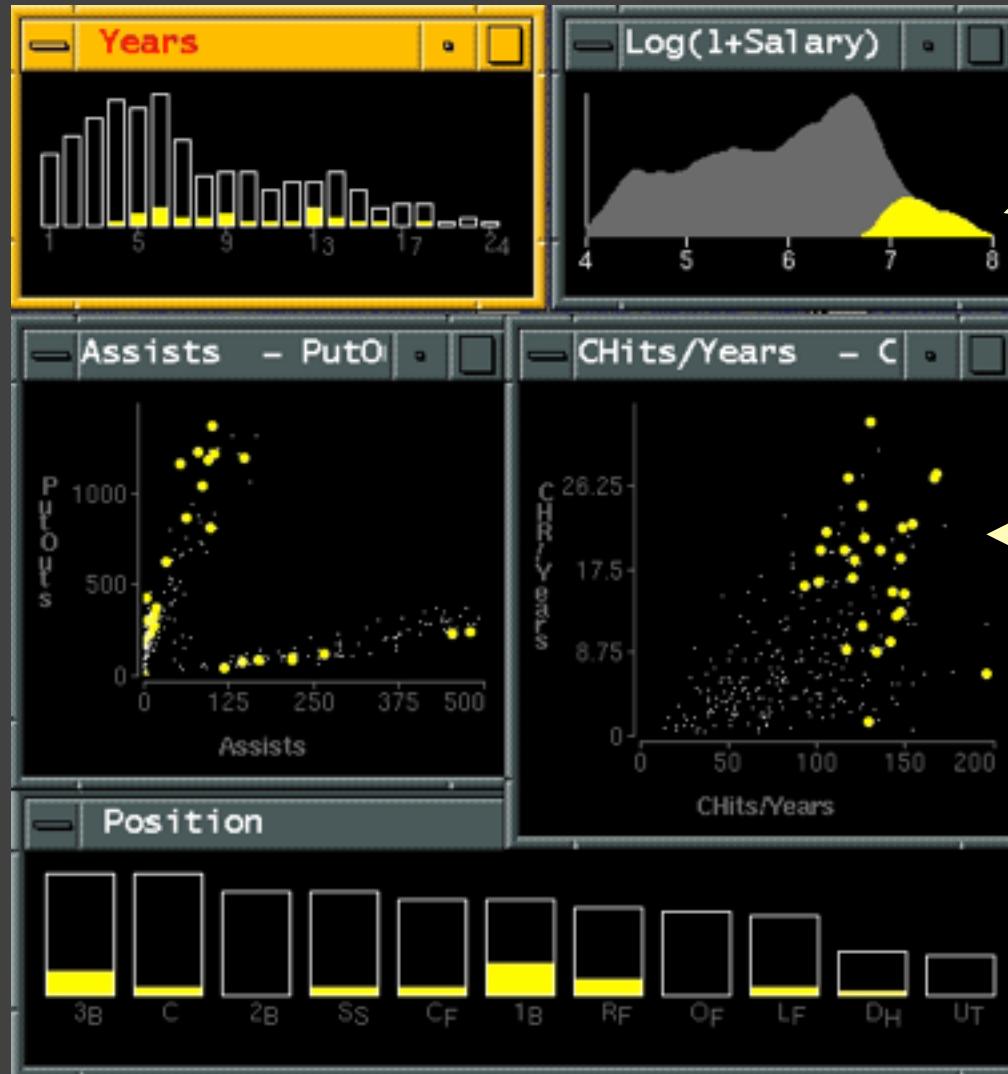
Baseball Statistics [Wills 95]



Baseball Statistics [Wills 95]



Baseball Statistics [Wills 95]



select high salaries

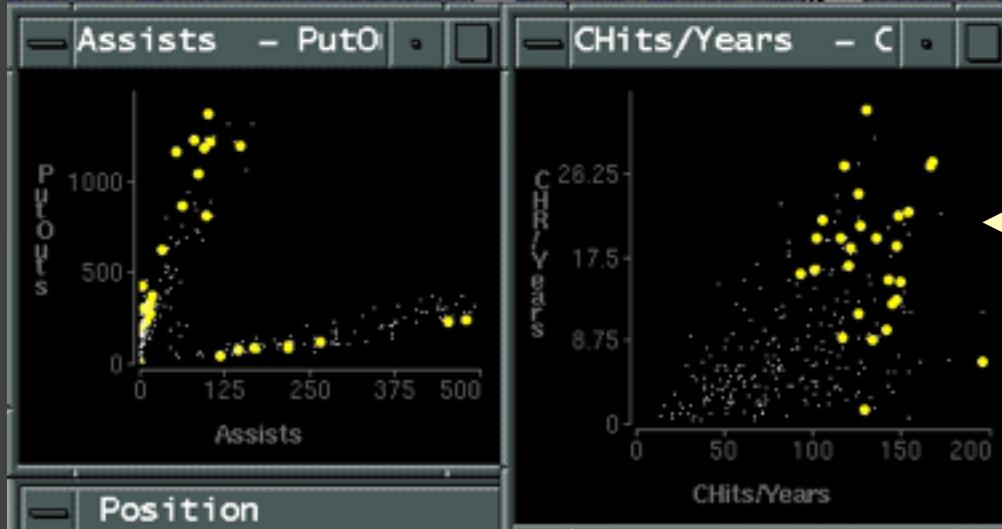
avg career HRs vs avg career hits (batting ability)

Baseball Statistics [Wills 95]

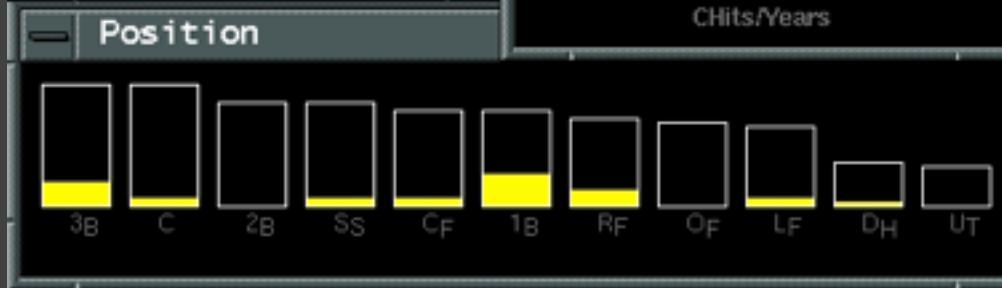
how long
in majors



select high
salaries



avg career
HRs vs avg
career hits
(batting ability)



Baseball Statistics [Wills 95]



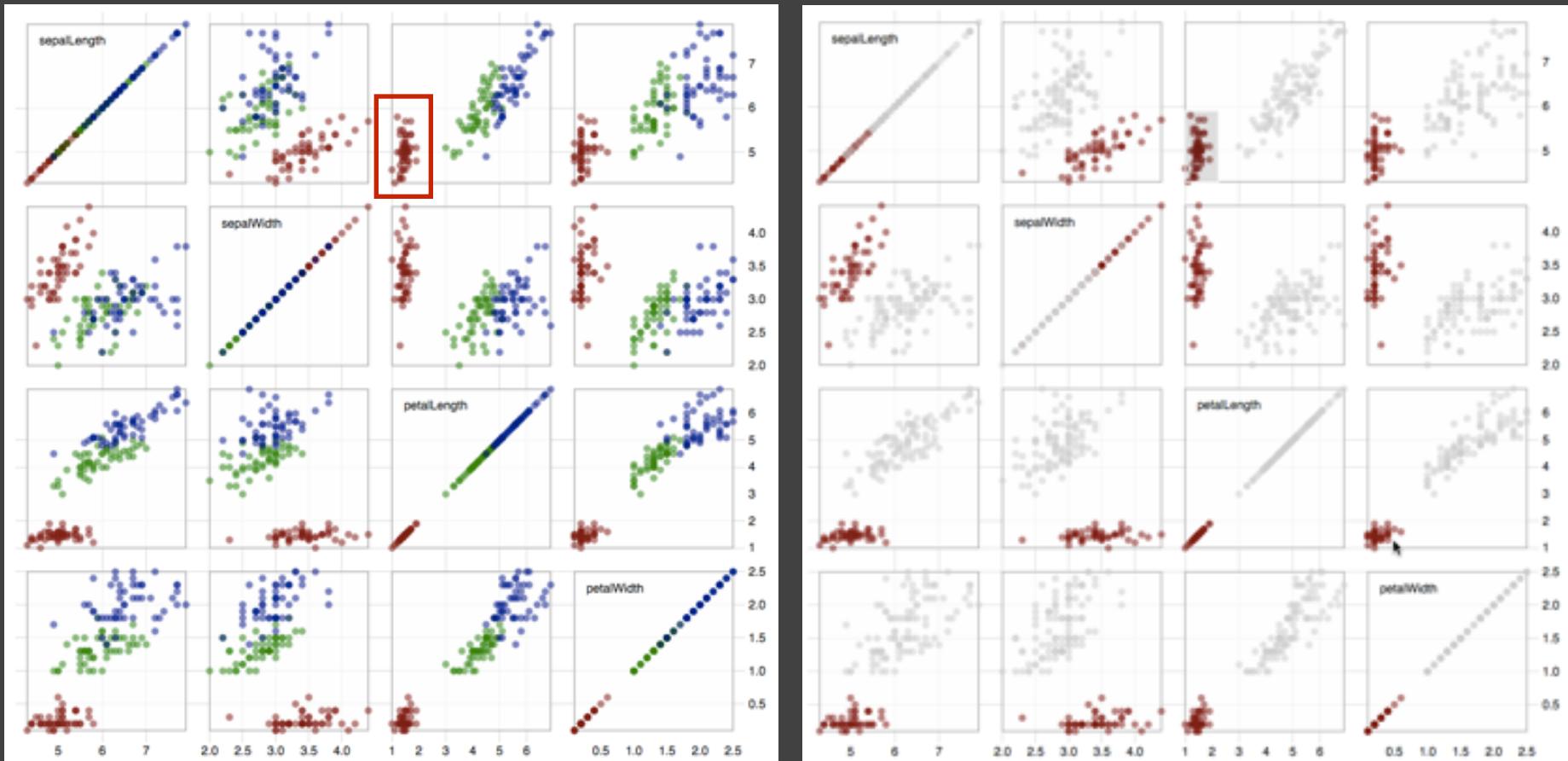
Baseball Statistics [Wills 95]



Linking Assists to Positions



Brushing Scatterplots



Dynamic Queries

Query & Results

```
SELECT house FROM seattle_homes
```

```
WHERE price < 1,000,000 AND bedrooms > 2
```

```
ORDER BY price
```

Dynamic Browser : DC Home Finder			
IdNumber	Dwelling	Address	City
2	House	5256 S. Capitol St.	Beltsville, MD
4	House	5536 S. Lincoln St.	Beltsville, MD
5	House	5165 Jones Street	Beltsville, MD
8	House	5007 Jones Street	Beltsville, MD
9	House	4872 Jones Street	Beltsville, MD
17	House	5408 S. Capitol St.	Beltsville, MD
20	House	5496 S. Capitol St.	Beltsville, MD
85	Condo	5459 S. Lincoln St.	Laurel, MD
86	Condo	5051 S. Lincoln St.	Laurel, MD
88	Condo	5159 Hamilton Street	Laurel, MD
92	Condo	5132 Hamilton Street	Laurel, MD
93	Condo	5221 S. Lincoln St.	Laurel, MD
94	Condo	5043 S. Lincoln St.	Laurel, MD
95	Condo	4970 Jones Street	Laurel, MD
97	Condo	4677 Jones Street	Laurel, MD
98	Condo	4896 S. Capitol St.	Laurel, MD
99	Condo	5048 S. Capitol St.	Laurel, MD
100	Condo	4597 31st Street	Laurel, MD
101	Condo	5306 S. Lincoln St.	Laurel, MD
103	Condo	5562 Glass Road	Laurel, MD
105	Condo	5546 Hamilton Street	Laurel, MD
152	House	7670 31st Street	Upper Marlboro, MD

Issues with Textual Queries

1. For programmers
2. Rigid syntax
3. Only shows exact matches
4. Too few or too many hits
5. No hint on how to reformulate the query
6. Slow question-answer loop
7. Results returned as table

HomeFinder



[Williamson and Shneiderman 92]

Direct Manipulation

1. Visual representation of objects and actions
2. Rapid, incremental and reversible actions
3. Selection by pointing (not typing)
4. Immediate and continuous display of results

Zipdecode [Fry 04]



2

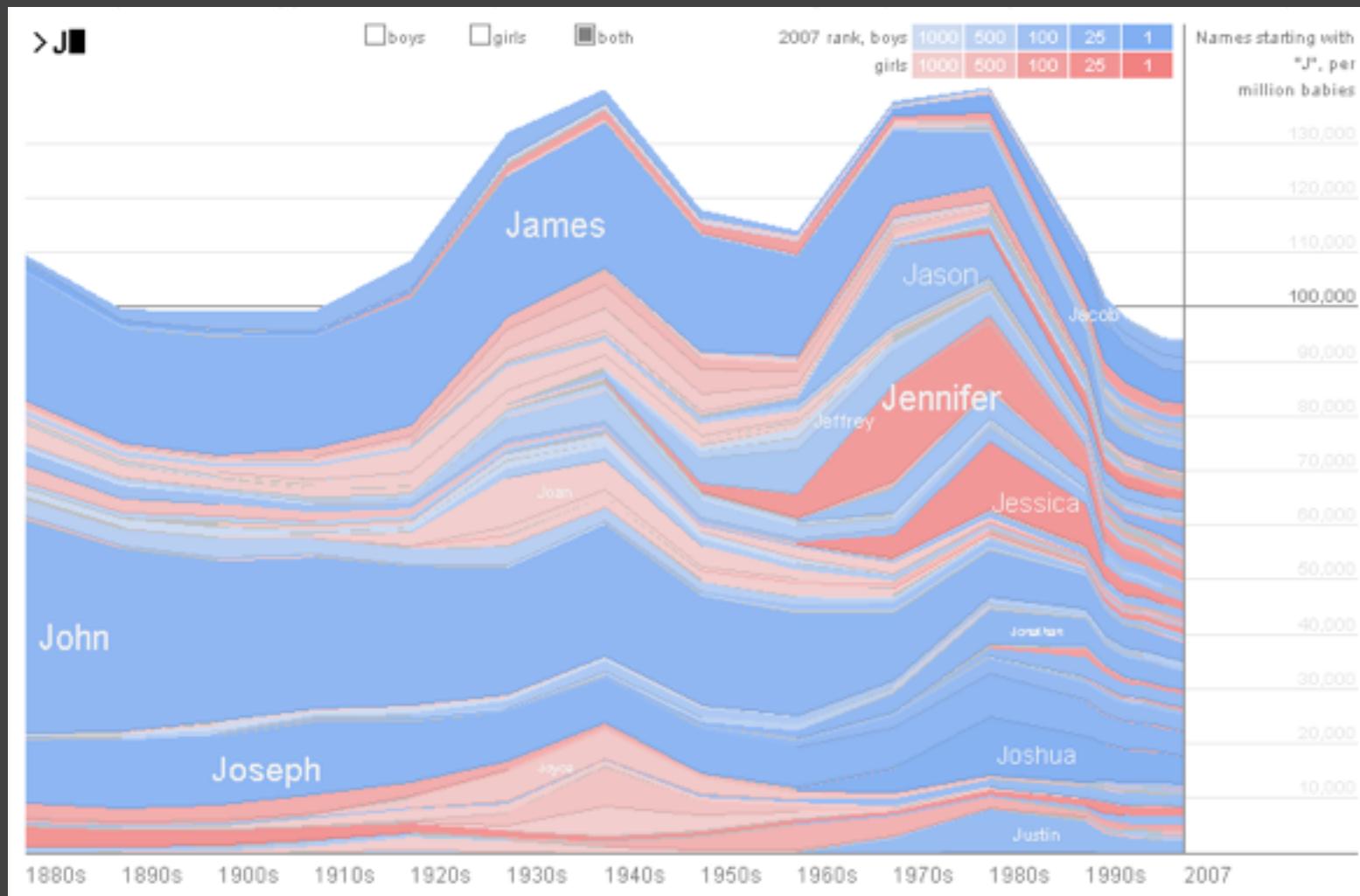
zoom

Hit the letter **z**, or click the word **zoom** to enable or disable zooming.

Hold down **shift** while typing a number to replace the previous number
(U.S. keyboards only).

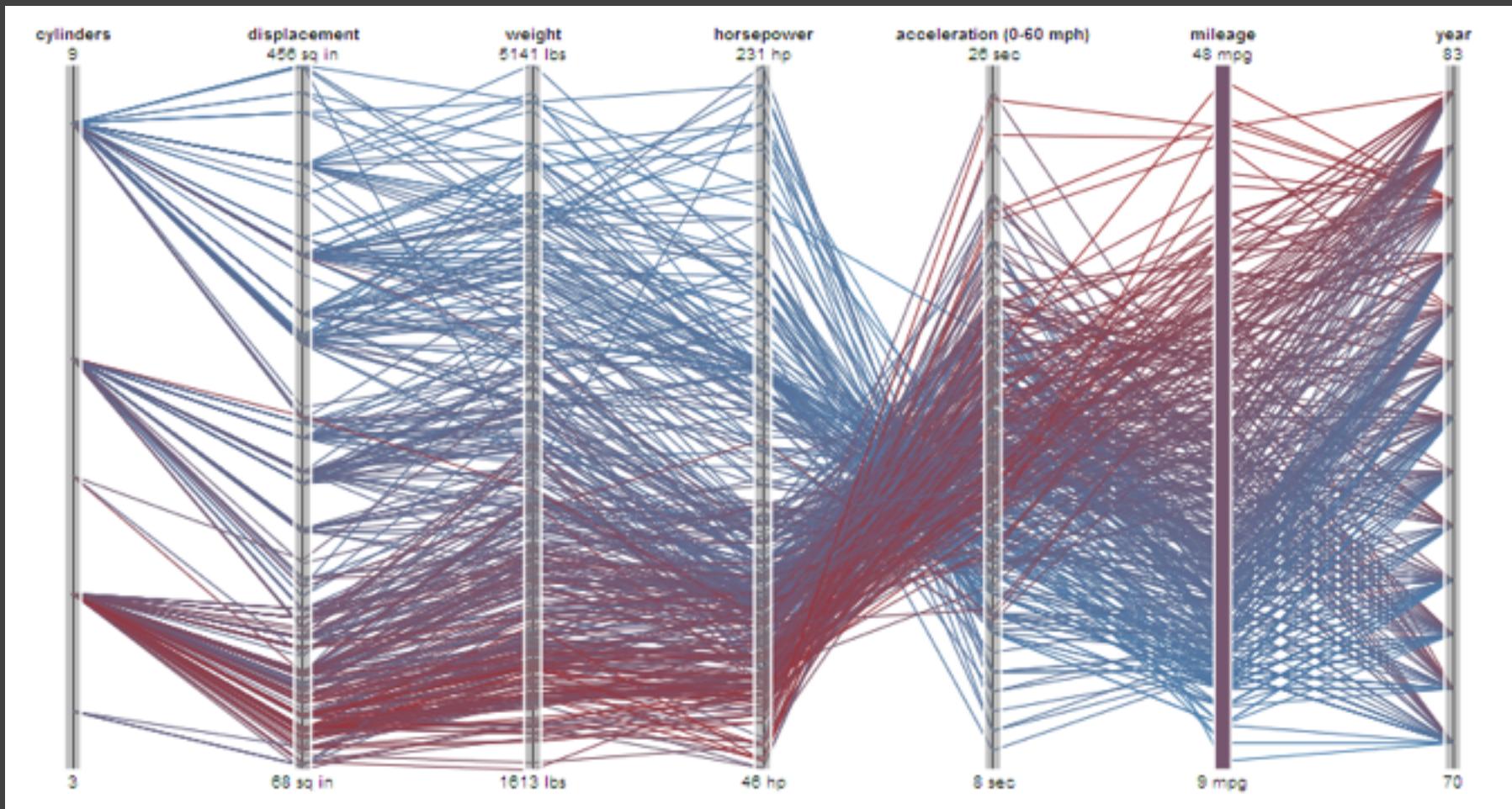
<http://benfry.com/zipdecode/>

NameVoyager [Wattenberg 06]

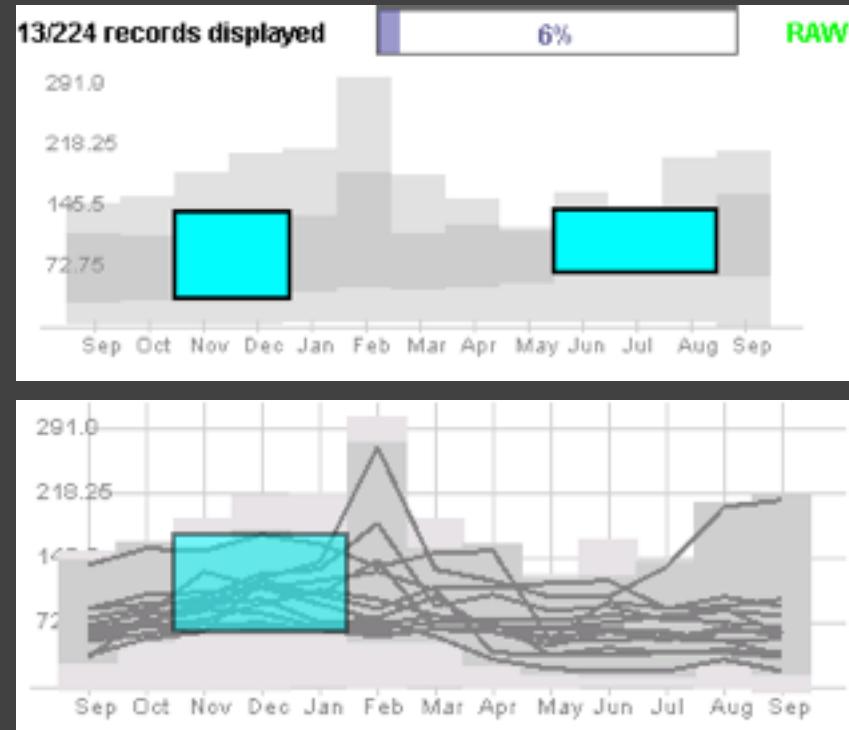
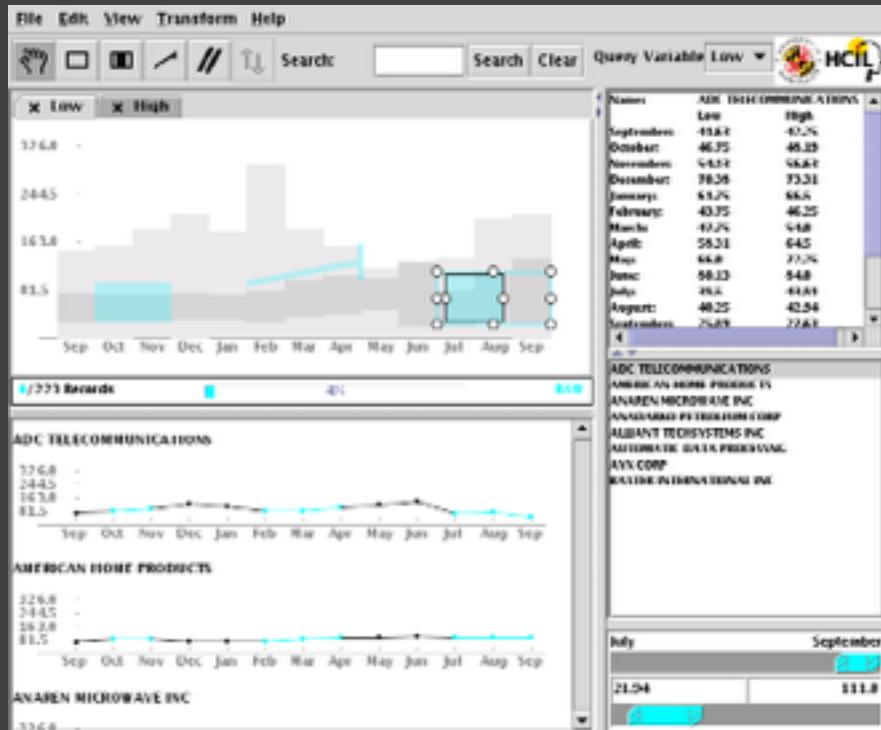


<http://www.babynamewizard.com/voyager>

Parallel Coordinates [Inselberg]

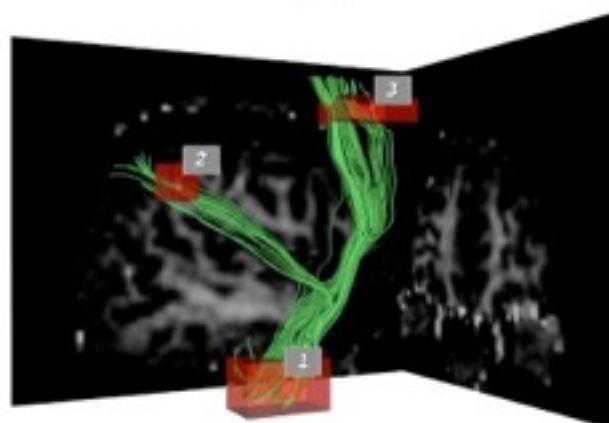
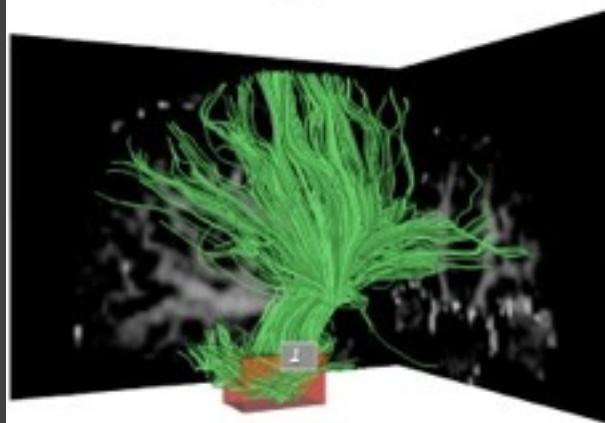
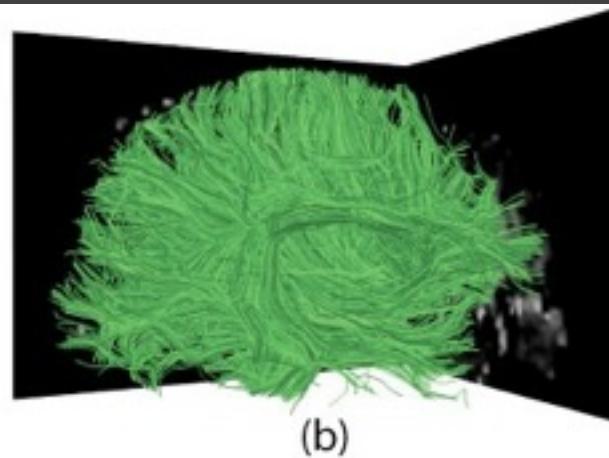
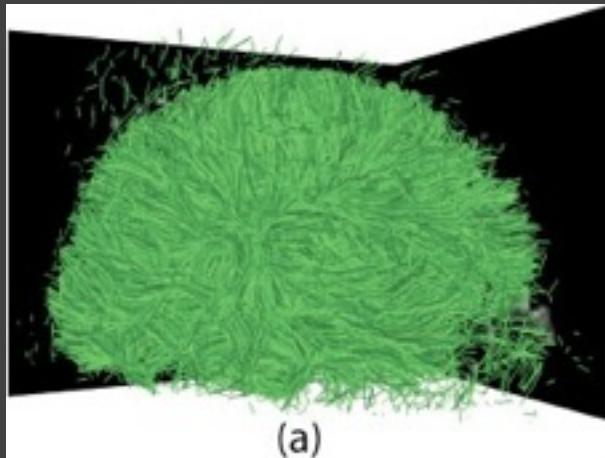


TimeSearcher [Hocheiser 02]

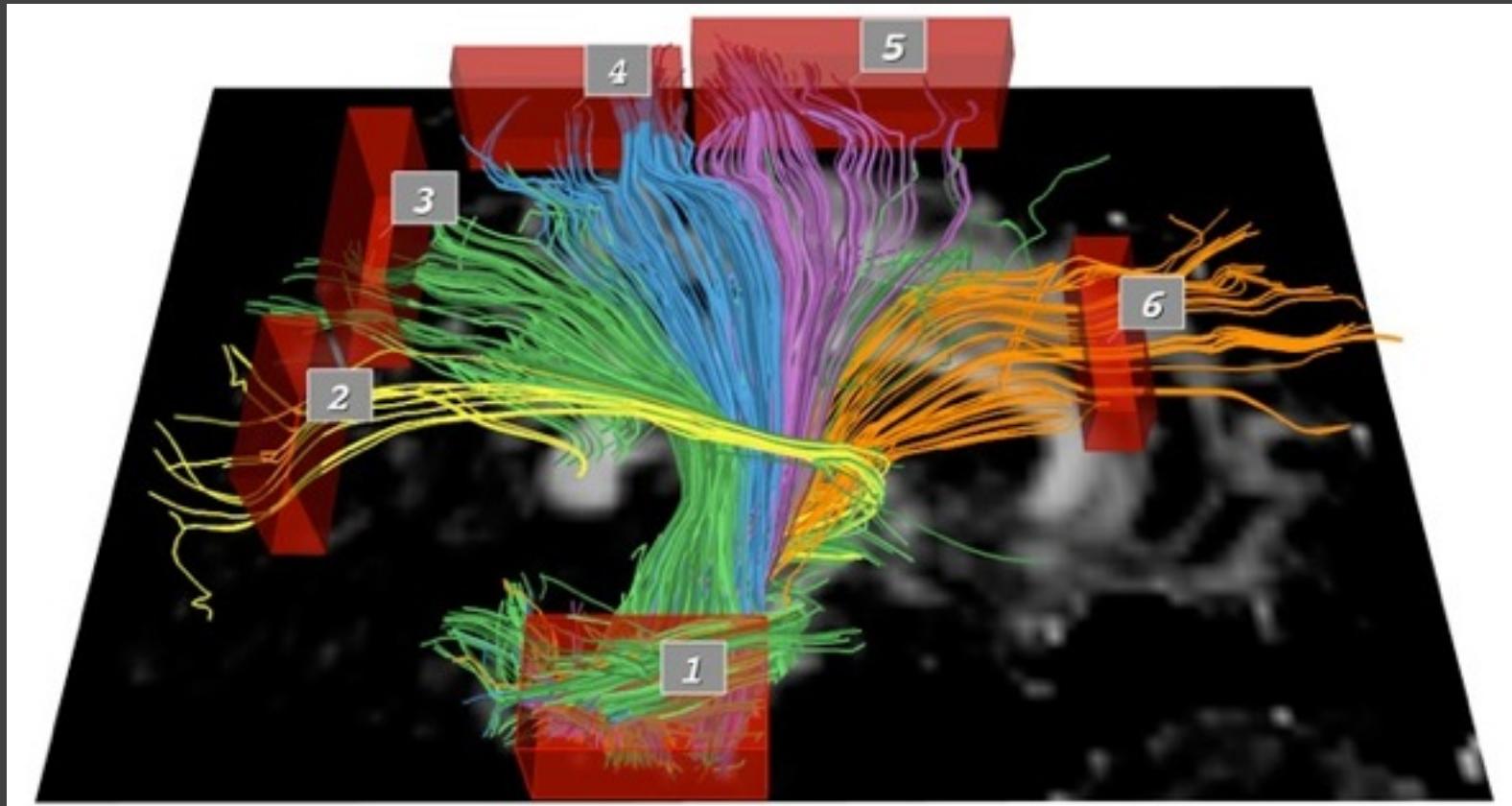


Builds on Wattenberg's [2001] idea for sketch-based queries of time-series data.

3D Dynamic Queries [Akers 04]



3D Dynamic Queries [Akers 04]



Pros & Cons

Pros

Controls useful for both novices and experts

Quick way to explore data

Pros & Cons

Pros

Controls useful for both novices and experts

Quick way to explore data

Cons

Simple queries

Lots of controls

Amount of data shown limited by screen space

Who would use these kinds of tools?

Examples

Analysis Example: MTurk Participation

Data Set: Turker Participation

Turker ID

String (N)

Avg. Completion Rate

Number [0,1] (Q)

Collected in 2009 by Heer & Bostock.

What questions might we ask of the data?

What charts might provide insight?

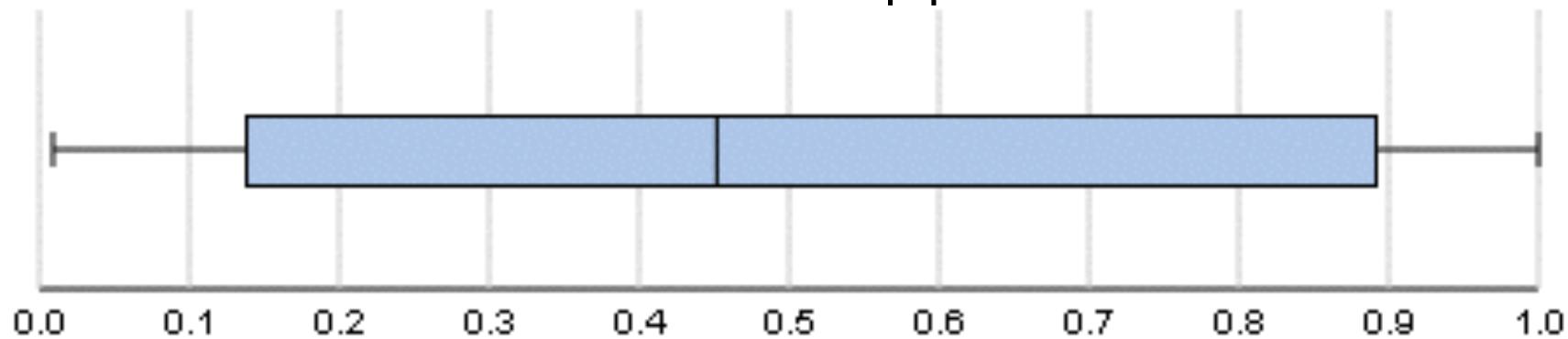
Min

Median

Max

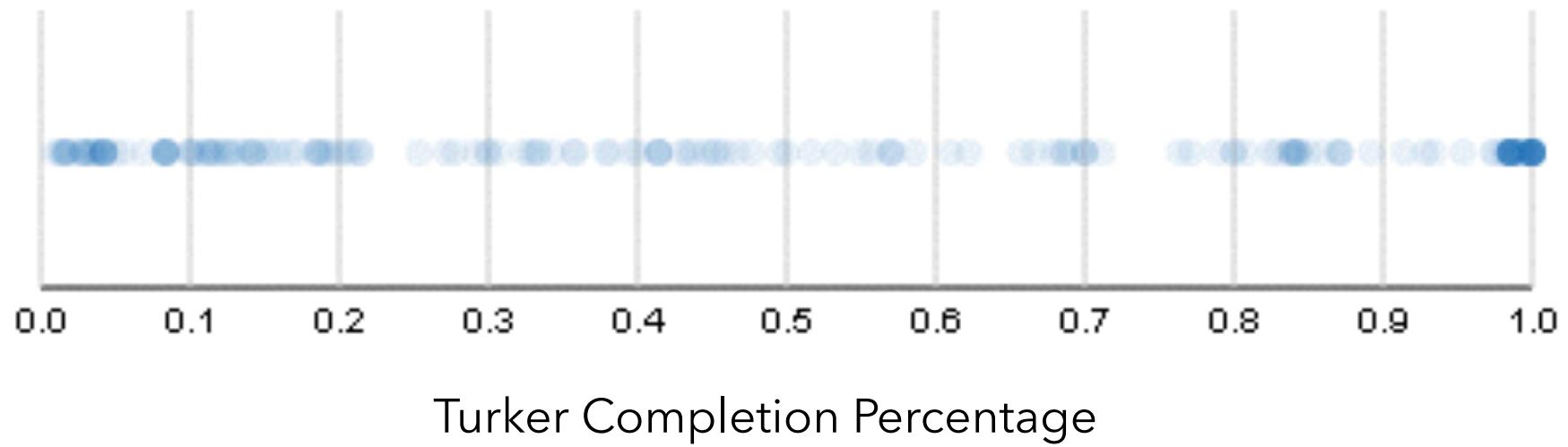
Lower Quartile

Upper Quartile

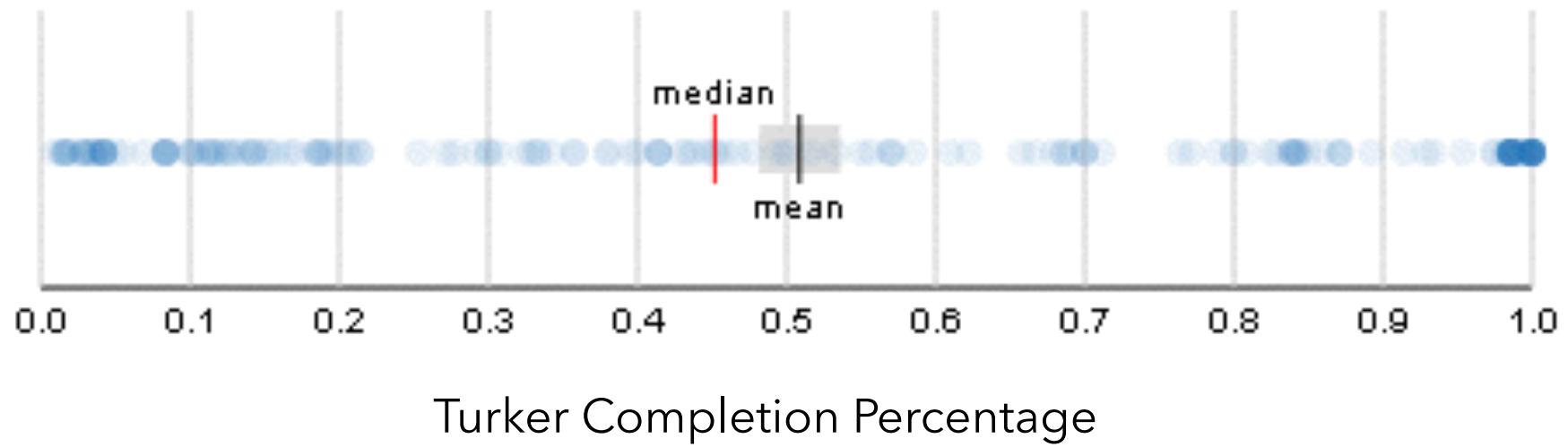


Turker Completion Percentage

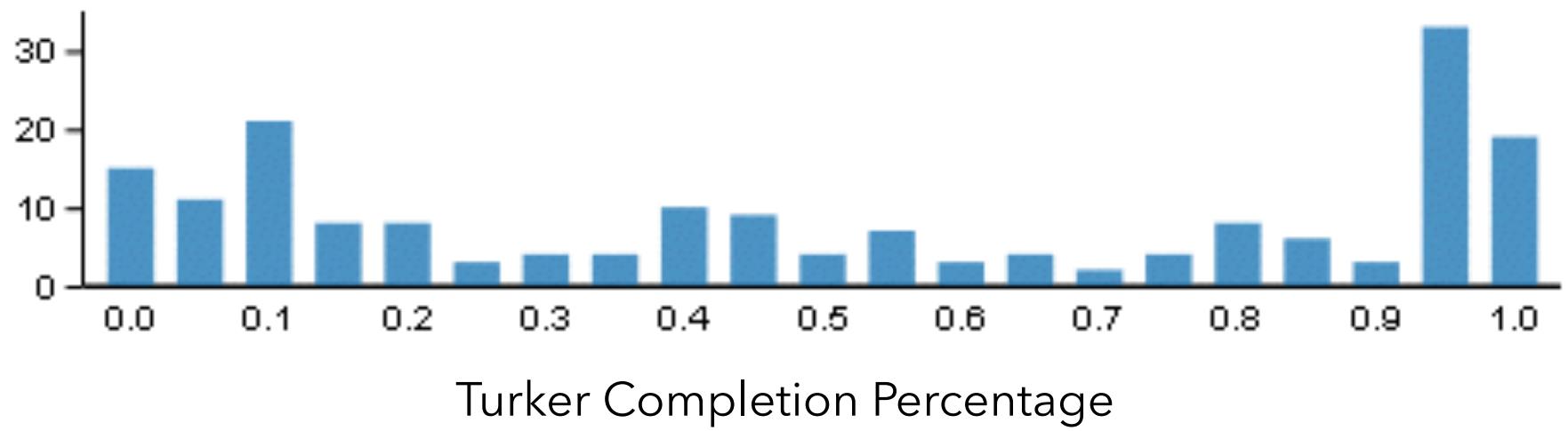
Box Plot



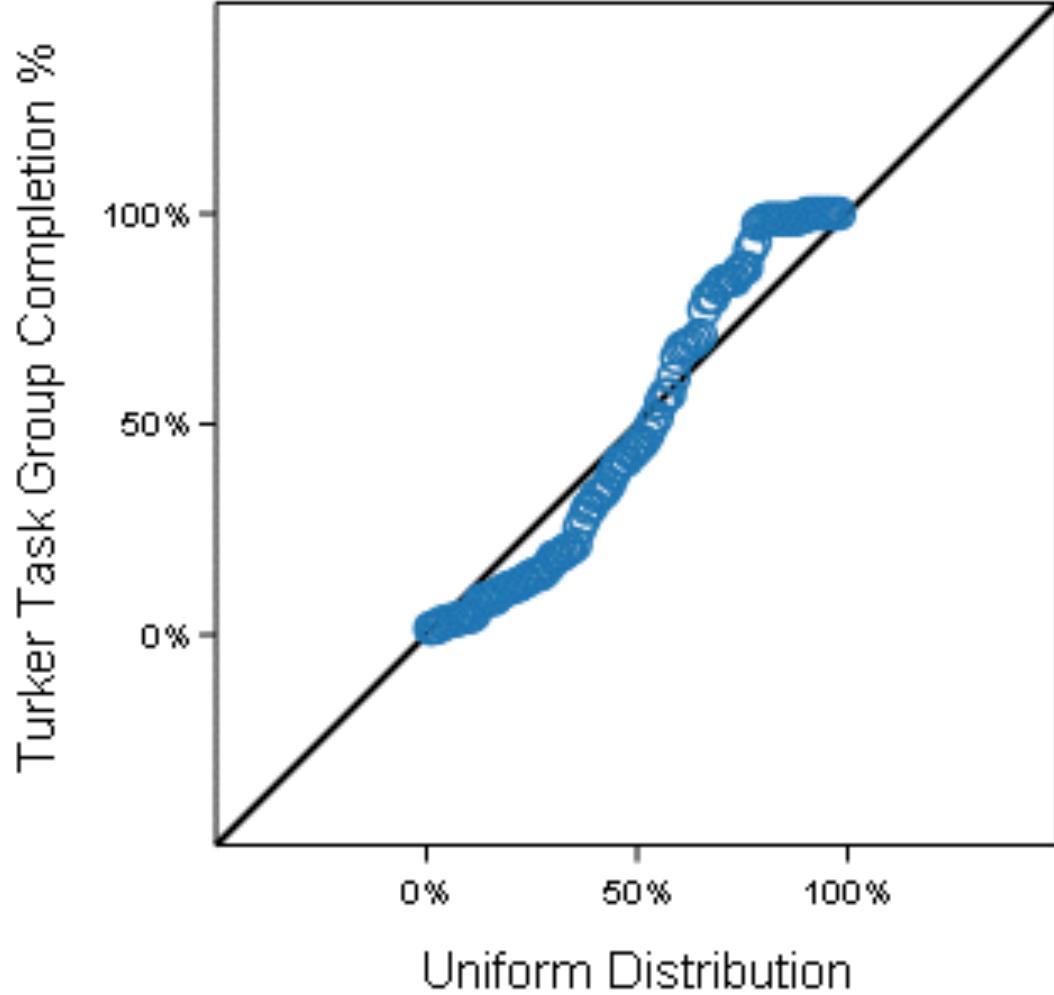
Dot Plot (with transparency for overlap)



Dot Plot (with Reference Lines)



Histogram (binned counts)

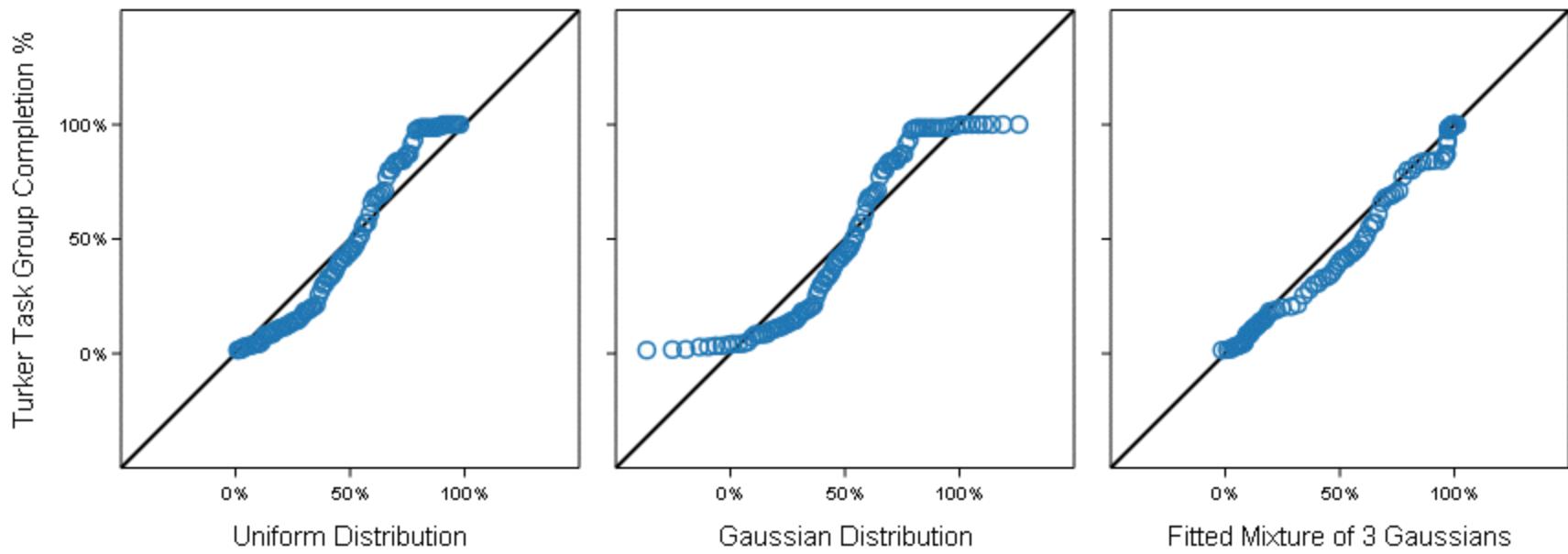


Quantile-Quantile Plot

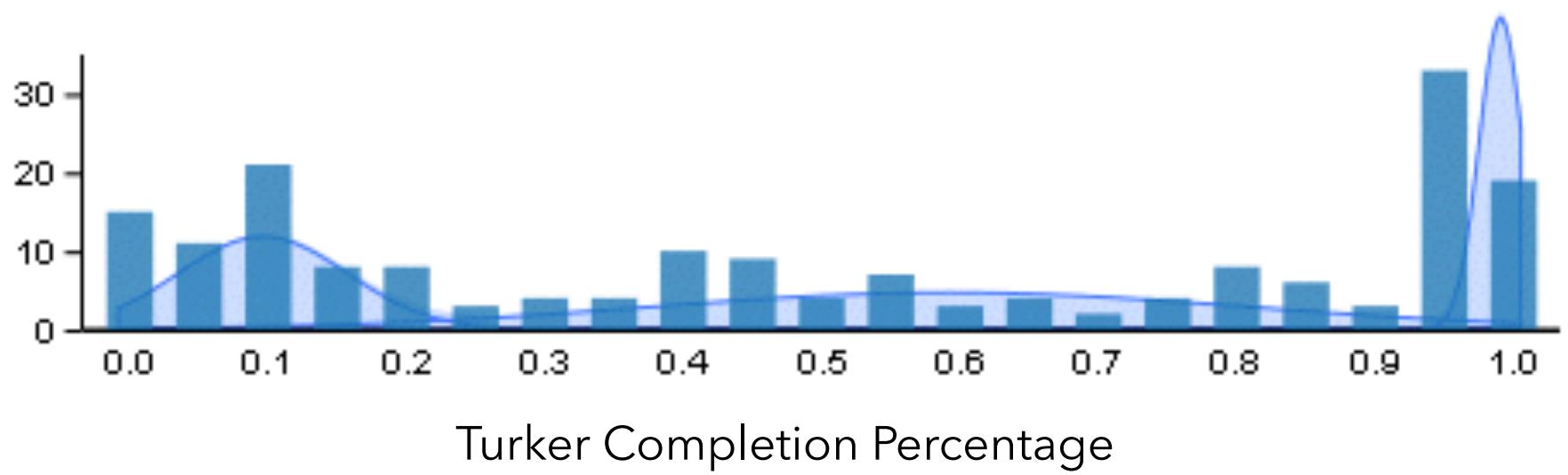
Used to compare two distributions; in this case, one actual and one theoretical.

Plots the quantiles (here, the percentile values) against each other.

Similar distributions lie along the diagonal. If linearly related, values will lie along a line, but with potentially varying slope and intercept.



Quantile-Quantile Plots



Histogram (+ Fitted Mixture of 3 Gaussians)

Data Set: Turker Participation

Even for “simple” data, a variety of graphics might provide insight. Tailor the choice of graphic to the questions being asked, but be open to surprises.

Graphics can be used to understand and help assess the quality of statistical models.

Premature commitment to a model and lack of verification can lead an analysis astray.

Analysis Example: Antibiotic Effectiveness

Data Set: Antibiotic Effectiveness

Genus of Bacteria	String (N)
Species of Bacteria	String (N)
Antibiotic Applied	String (N)
Gram-Staining?	Pos / Neg (N)
Min. Inhibitory Concent. (g)	Number (Q)

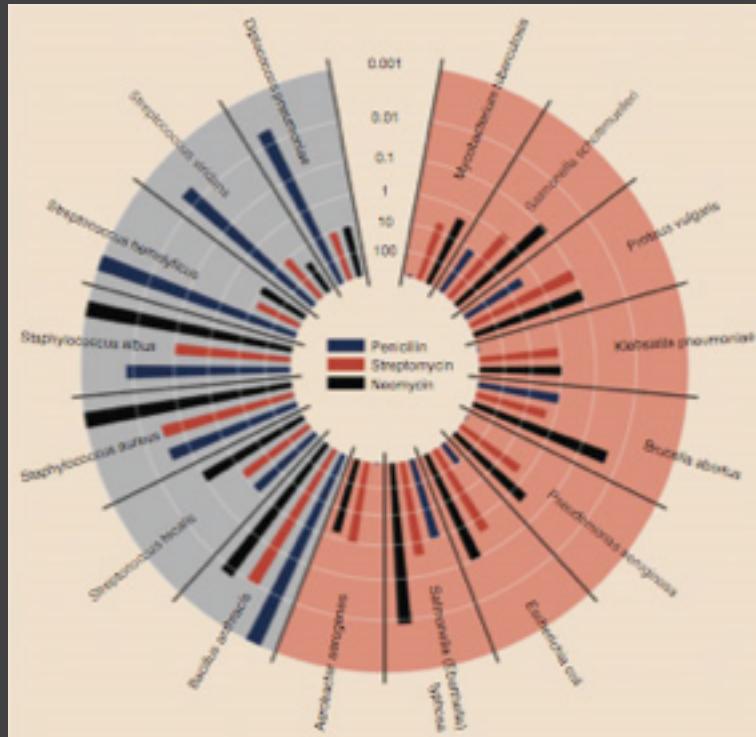
Collected prior to 1951.

What questions might we ask?

Table 1: Burtin's data.

Bacteria	Antibiotic			Gram Staining
	Penicillin	Streptomycin	Neomycin	
<i>Aerobacter aerogenes</i>	870	1	1.6	negative
<i>Brucella abortus</i>	1	2	0.02	negative
<i>Brucella anthracis</i>	0.001	0.01	0.007	positive
<i>Diplococcus pneumoniae</i>	0.005	11	10	positive
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	100	0.4	0.1	negative
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	850	1.2	1	negative
<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>	800	5	2	negative
<i>Proteus vulgaris</i>	3	0.1	0.1	negative
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	850	2	0.4	negative
<i>Salmonella (Eberthella) typhosa</i>	1	0.4	0.008	negative
<i>Salmonella schottmuelleri</i>	10	0.8	0.09	negative
<i>Staphylococcus albus</i>	0.007	0.1	0.001	positive
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	0.03	0.03	0.001	positive
<i>Streptococcus fecalis</i>	1	1	0.1	positive
<i>Streptococcus hemolyticus</i>	0.001	14	10	positive
<i>Streptococcus viridans</i>	0.005	10	40	positive

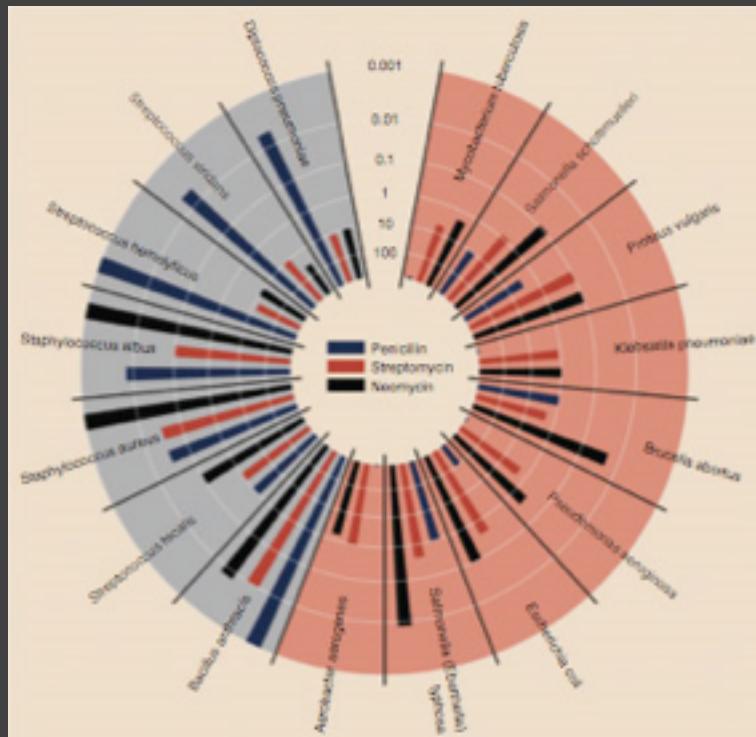
How do the drugs compare?



Bacteria	Penicillin	Antibiotic Streptomycin	Neomycin	Gram stain
<i>Aerobacter aerogenes</i>	870	1	1.6	-
<i>Brucella abortus</i>	1	2	0.02	-
<i>Bacillus anthracis</i>	0.001	0.01	0.007	+
<i>Diplococcus pneumoniae</i>	0.005	11	10	+
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	100	0.4	0.1	-
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	850	1.2	1	-
<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>	800	5	2	-
<i>Proteus vulgaris</i>	3	0.1	0.1	-
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	850	2	0.4	-
<i>Salmonella (Eberthella) typhosa</i>	1	0.4	0.008	-
<i>Salmonella schottmuelleri</i>	10	0.8	0.09	-
<i>Staphylococcus albus</i>	0.007	0.1	0.001	+
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	0.03	0.03	0.001	+
<i>Streptococcus fecalis</i>	1	1	0.1	+
<i>Streptococcus hemolyticus</i>	0.001	14	10	+
<i>Streptococcus viridans</i>	0.005	10	40	+

Original graphic by Will Burin, 1951

How do the drugs compare?



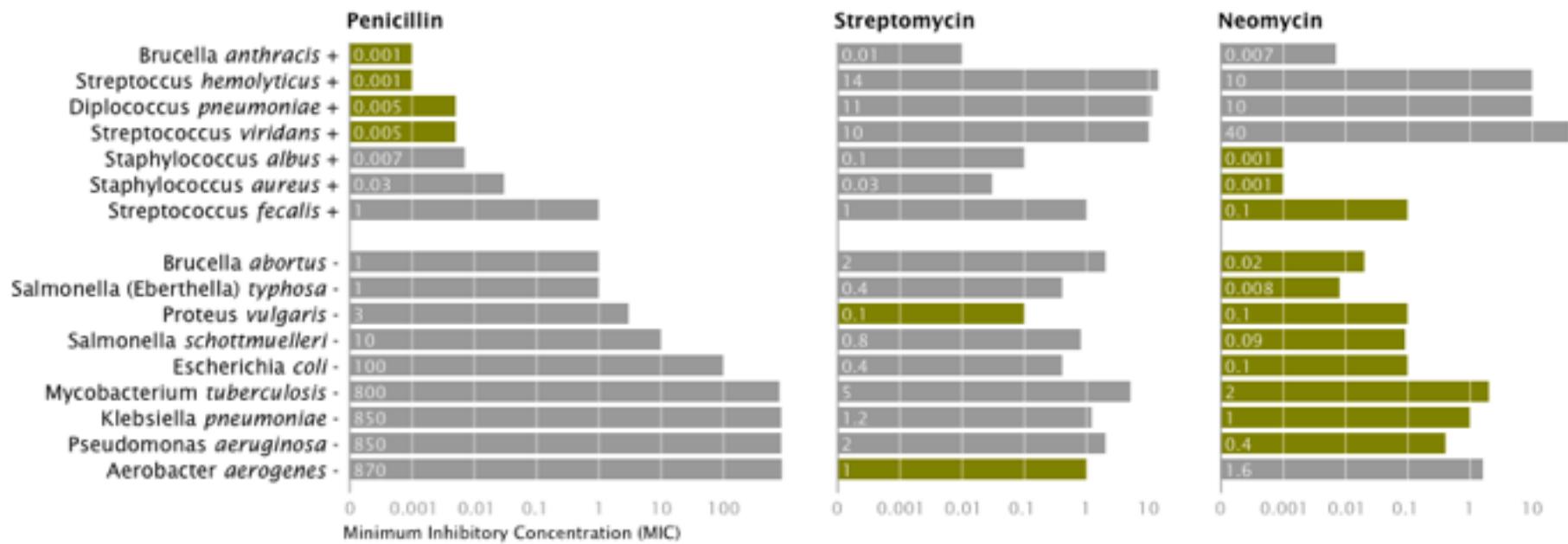
Bacteria	Penicillin	Antibiotic Streptomycin	Neomycin	Gram stain
<i>Aerobacter aerogenes</i>	870	1	1.6	-
<i>Brucella abortus</i>	1	2	0.02	-
<i>Bacillus anthracis</i>	0.001	0.01	0.007	+
<i>Diplococcus pneumoniae</i>	0.005	11	10	+
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	100	0.4	0.1	-
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	850	1.2	1	-
<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>	800	5	2	-
<i>Proteus vulgaris</i>	3	0.1	0.1	-
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	850	2	0.4	-
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<i>Staphylococcus albus</i>	0.007	0.1	0.001	+
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	0.03	0.03	0.001	+
<i>Streptococcus fecalis</i>	1	1	0.1	+
<i>Streptococcus hemolyticus</i>	0.001	14	10	+
<i>Streptococcus viridans</i>	0.005	10	40	+

Radius: $1 / \log(\text{MIC})$

Bar Color: Antibiotic

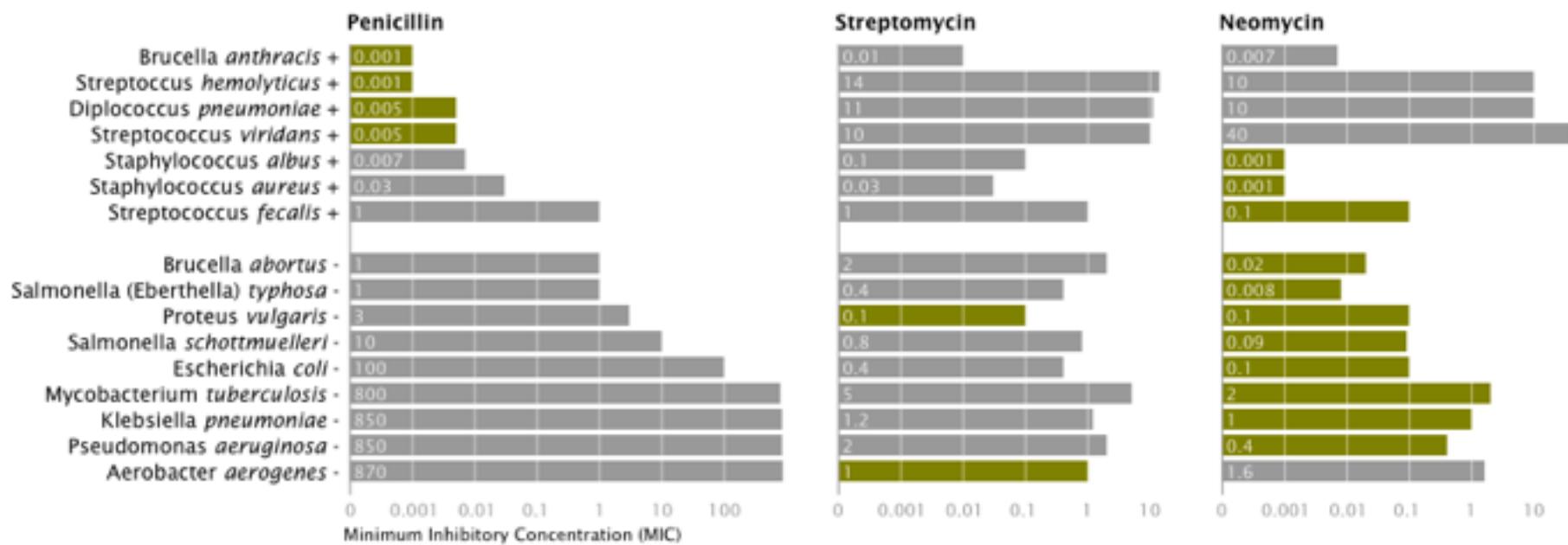
Background Color: Gram Staining

How do the drugs compare?



Mike Bostock
Stanford CS448B, Winter 2009

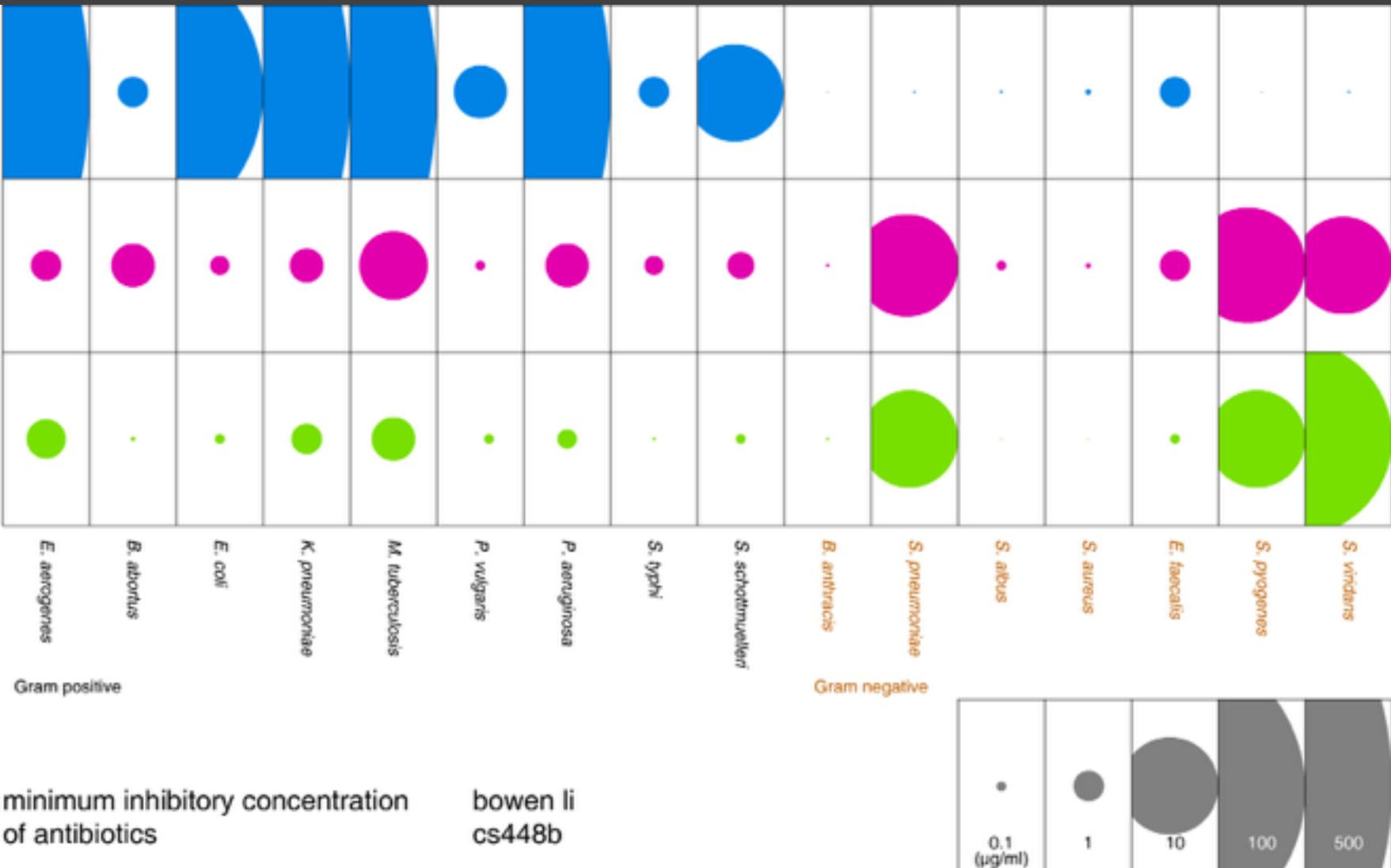
How do the drugs compare?



X-axis: Antibiotic | $\log(\text{MIC})$

Y-axis: Gram-Staining | Species

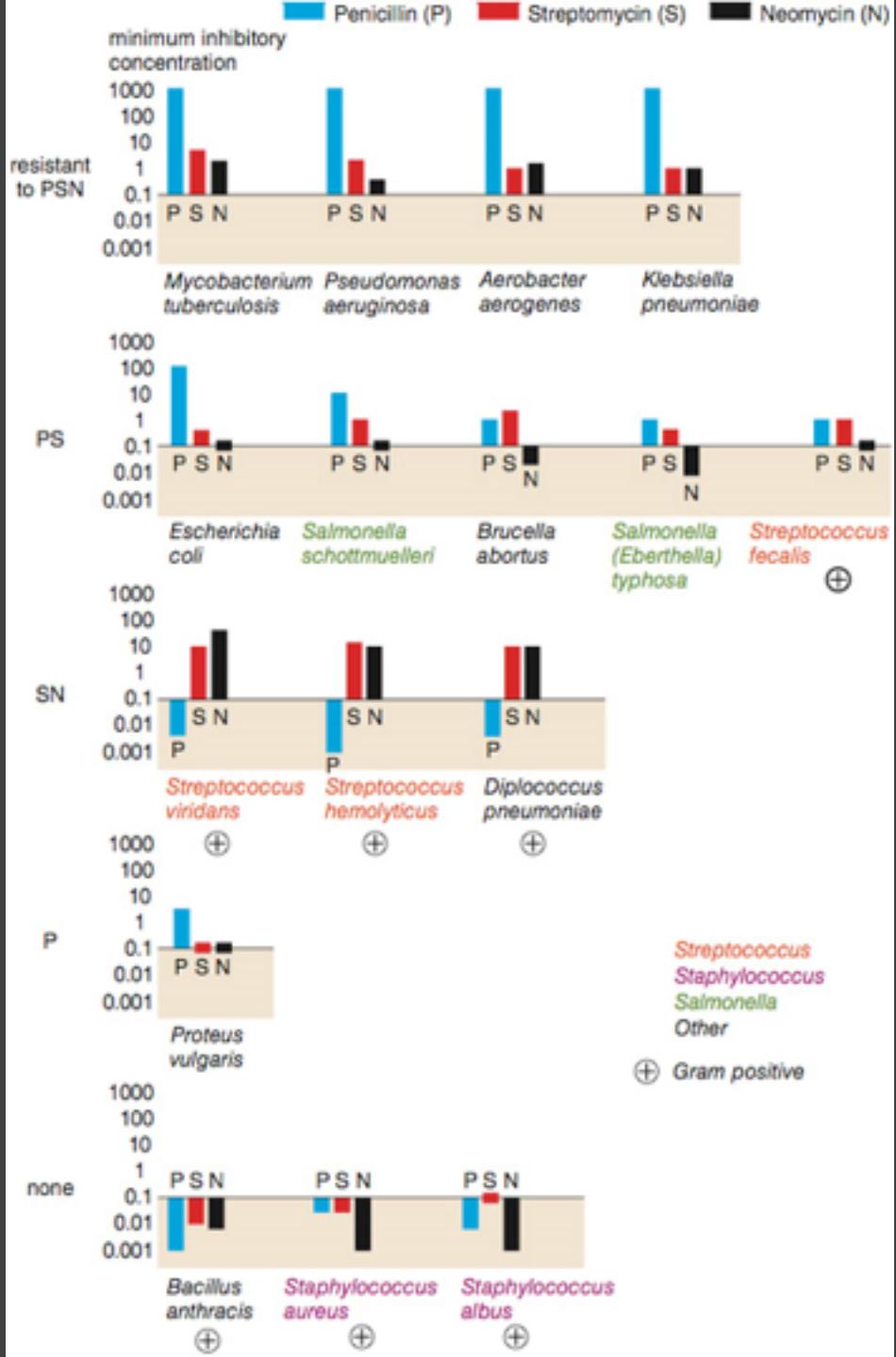
Color: Most-Effective?



Bowen Li
Stanford CS448B, Fall 2009

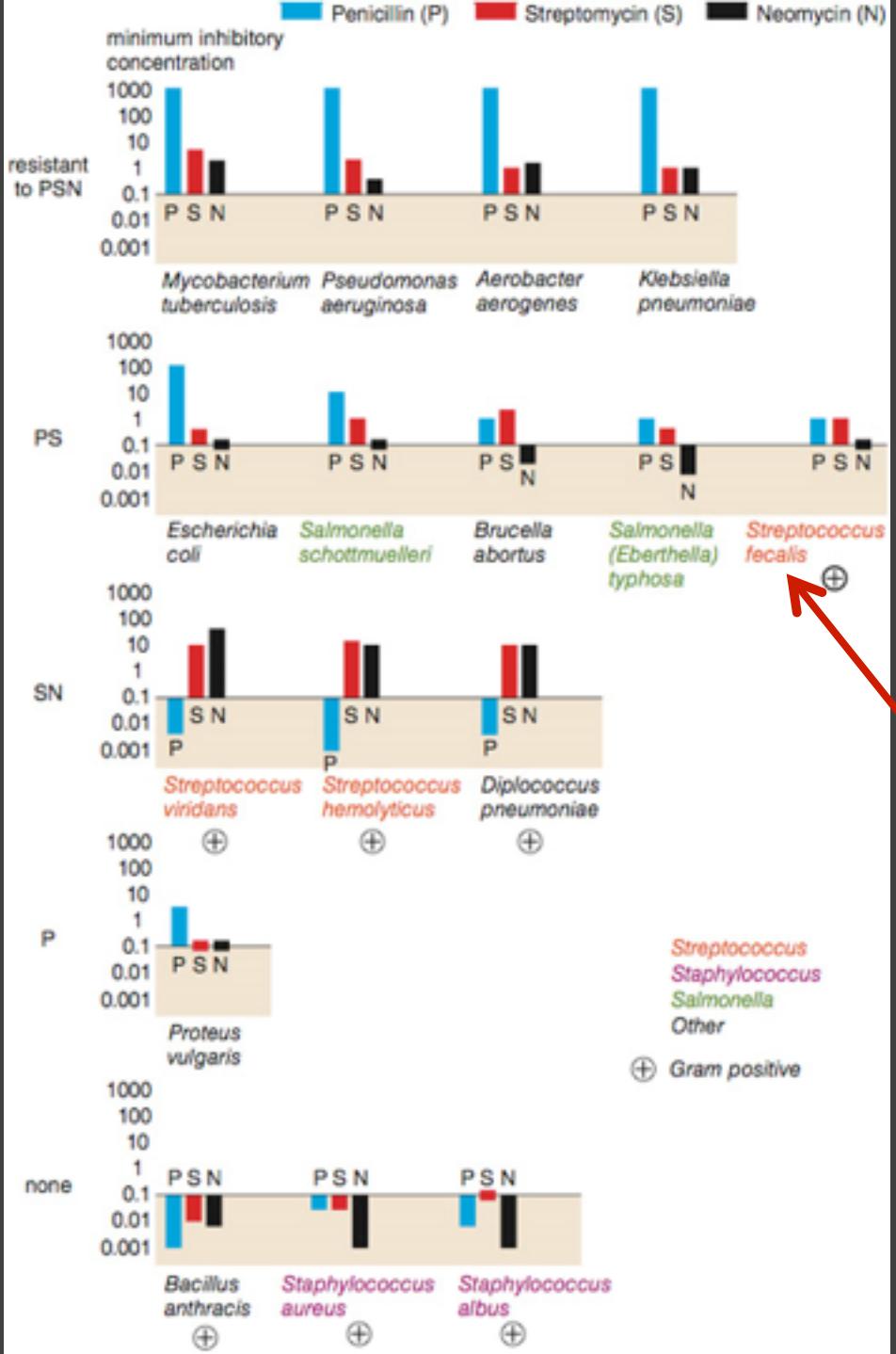
Do the bacteria
group by antibiotic
resistance?

Do the bacteria group by antibiotic resistance?



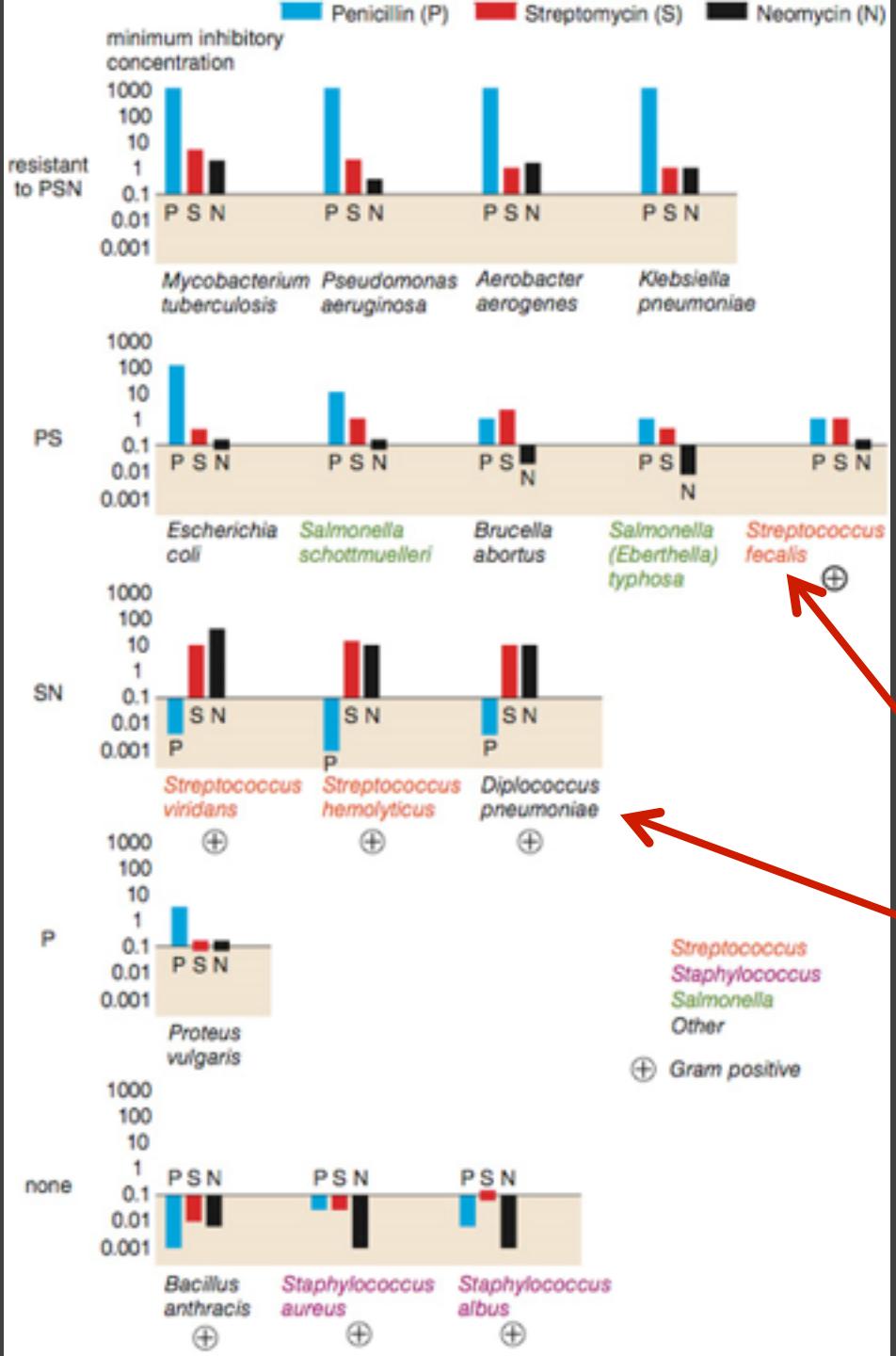
Wainer & Lysen
American Scientist, 2009

Do the bacteria group by antibiotic resistance?



Not a streptococcus!
(realized ~30 yrs later)

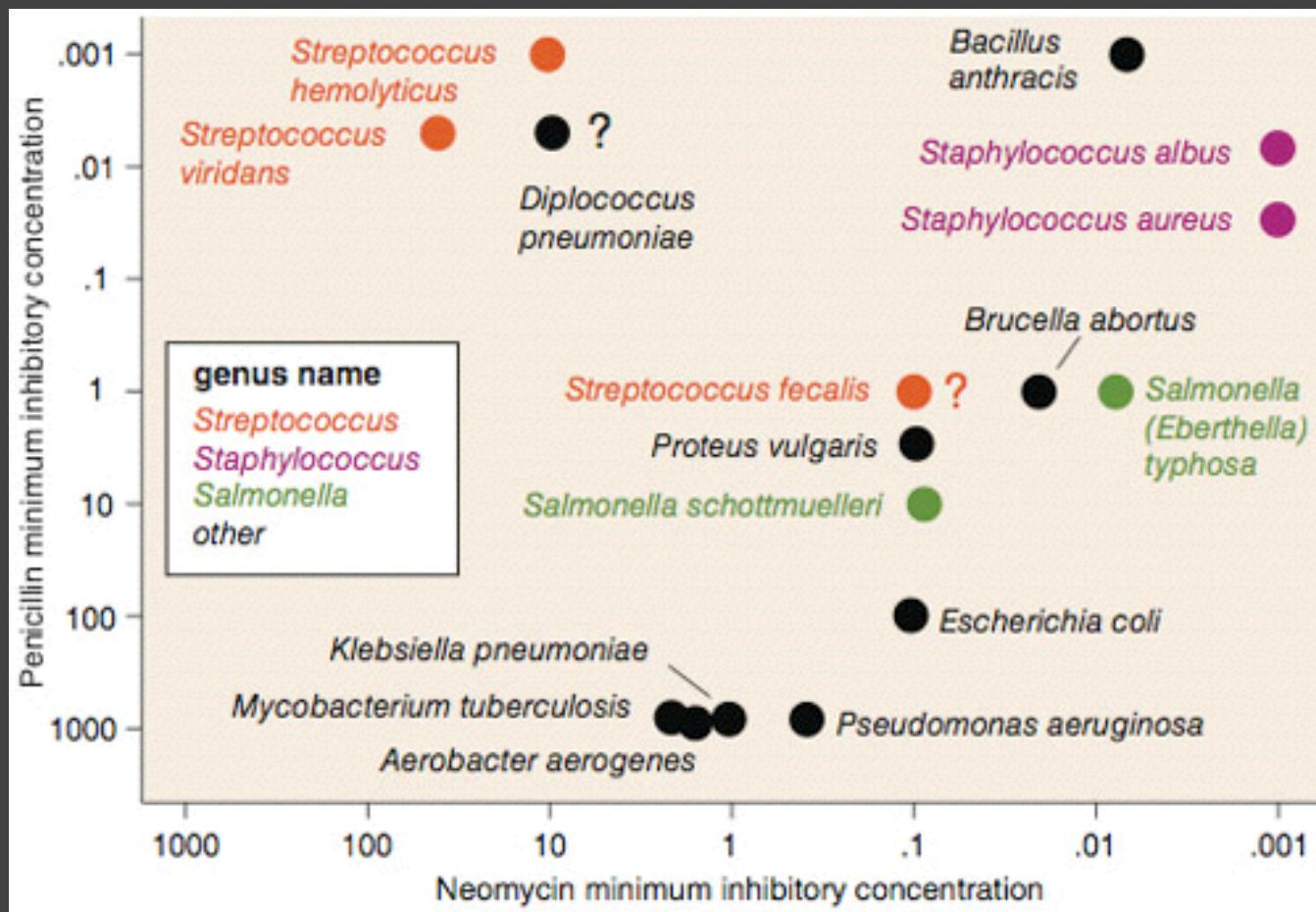
Do the bacteria group by antibiotic resistance?



Not a streptococcus!
(realized ~30 yrs later)

Really a streptococcus!
(realized ~20 yrs later)

**Do the bacteria group by resistance?
Do different drugs correlate?**



Do the bacteria group by resistance?
Do different drugs correlate?

Wainer & Lysen
American Scientist, 2009

Lesson: Iterative Exploration

Exploratory Process

- 1 Construct graphics to address questions
- 2 Inspect “answer” and assess new questions
- 3 Repeat...

Transform data appropriately (e.g., invert, log)

“Show data variation, not design variation” -Tufte

Visualizing Big Data



Tall data

Tall data

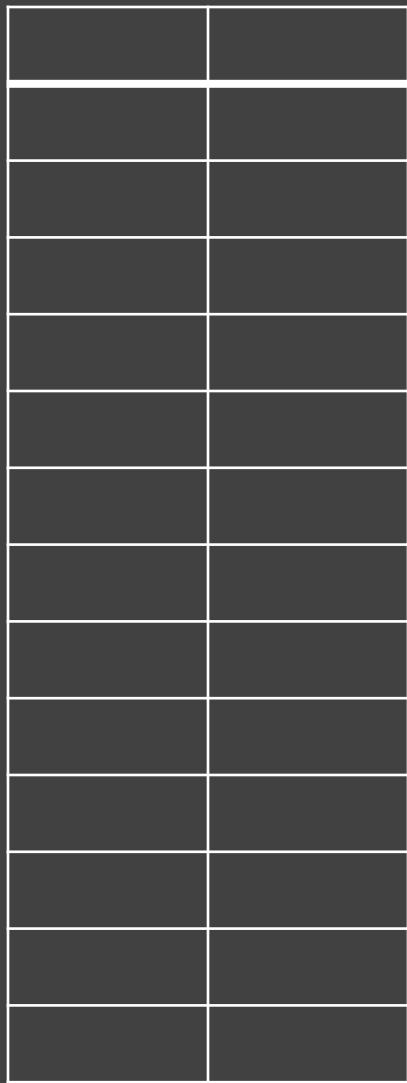
...	...

Wide data

...

...

Tall data



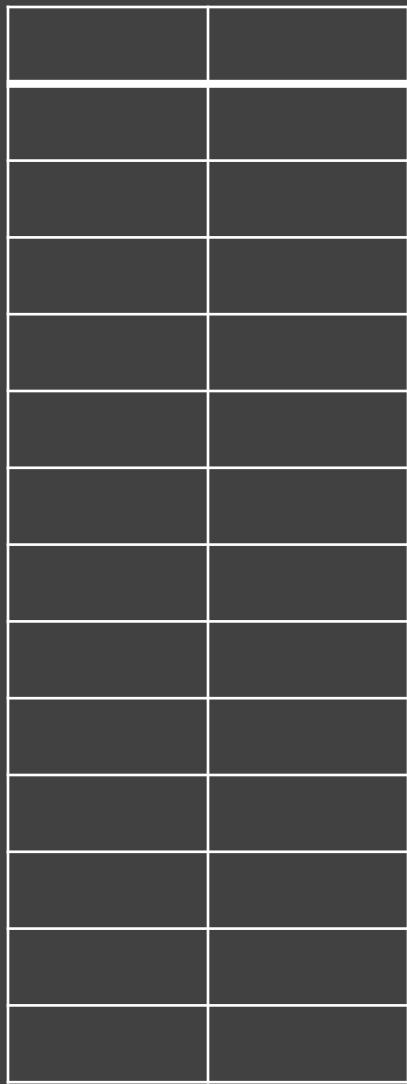
Wide data



Diverse data



Tall data



Wide data



Diverse data



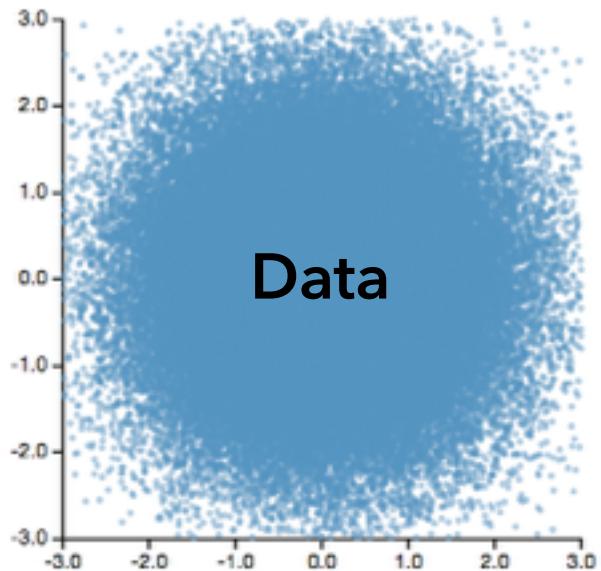
How can we visualize and
interact with **billion+ record**
databases in real-time?

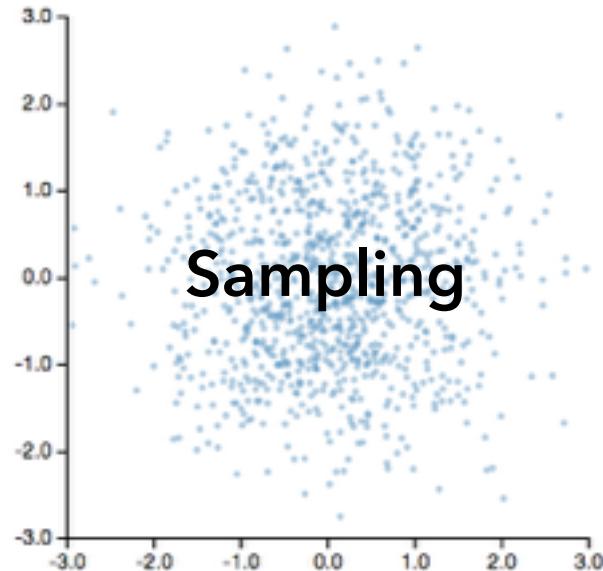
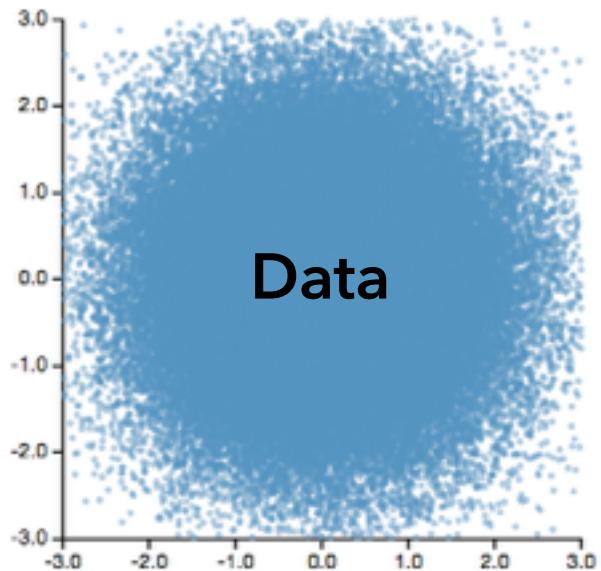
Two Challenges:

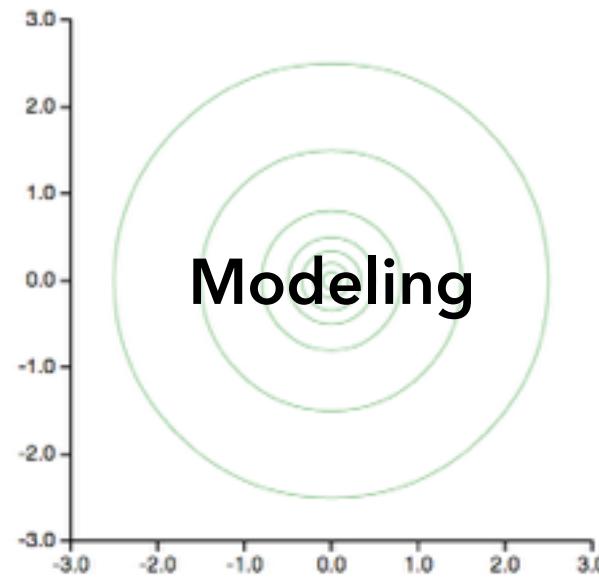
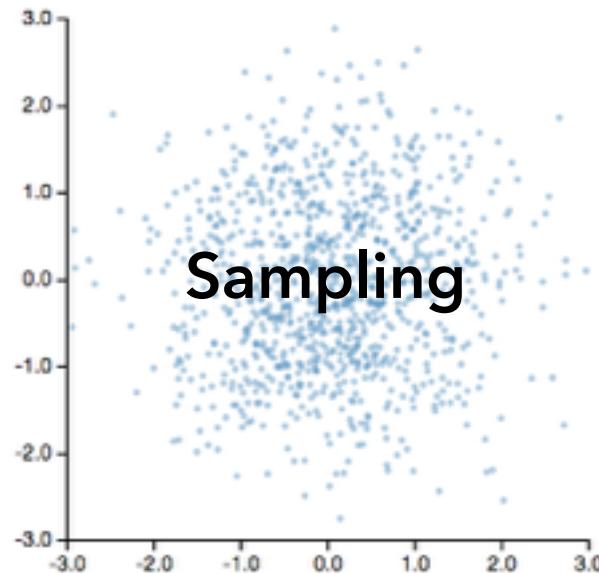
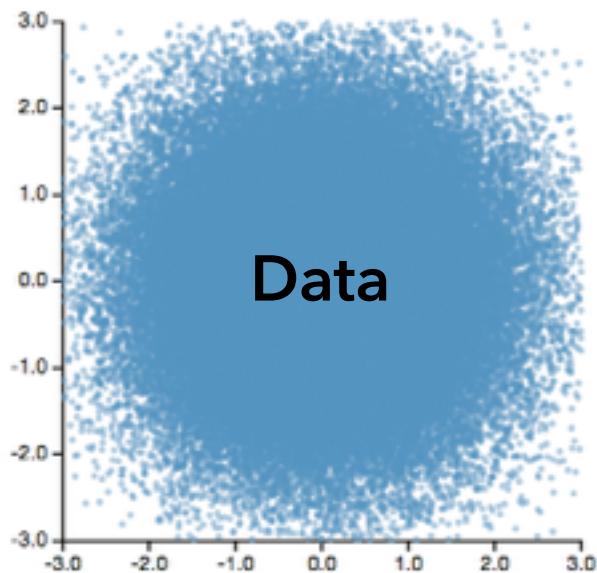
1. Effective **visual encoding**
2. Real-time **interaction**

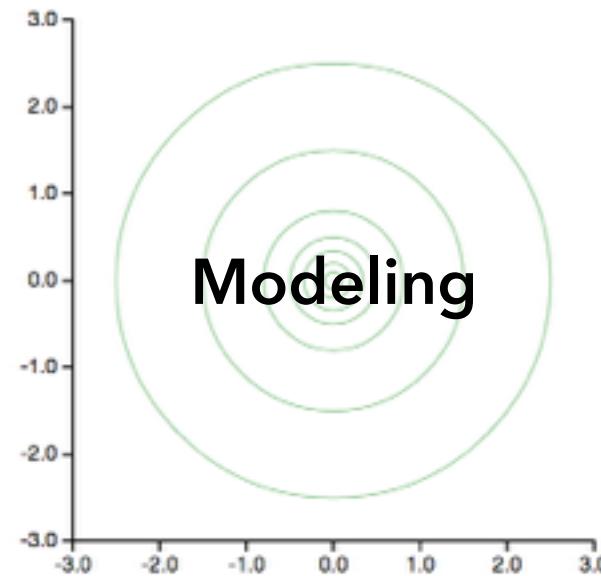
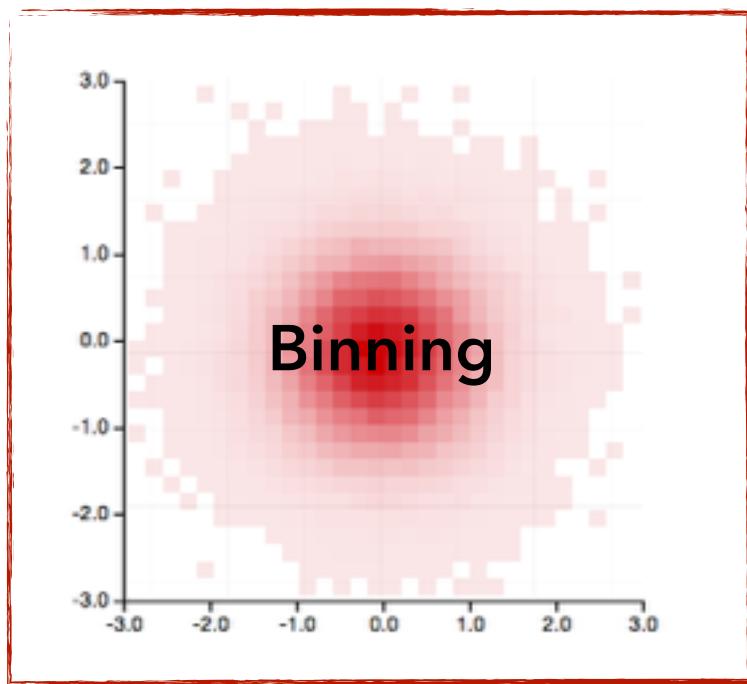
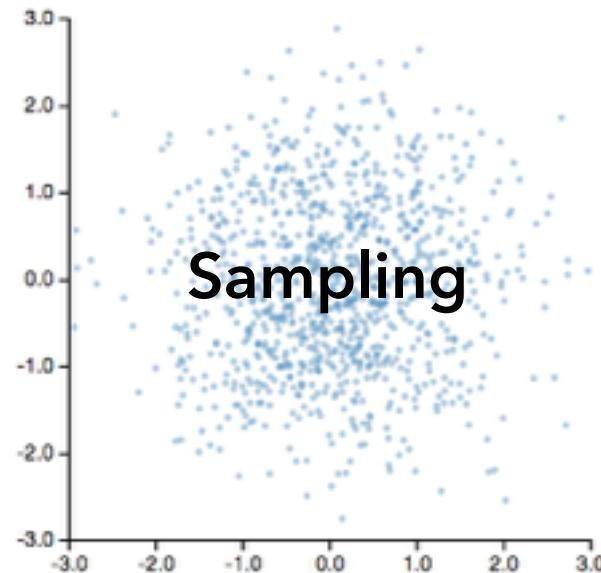
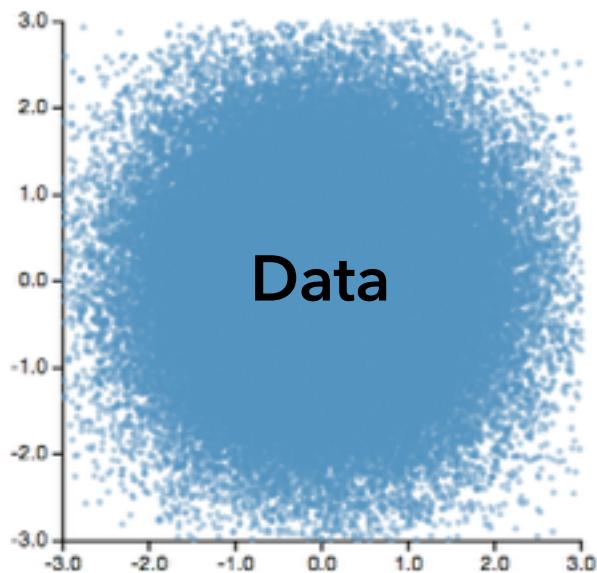
Perceptual and interactive scalability should be limited by the chosen resolution of the visualized data, not the number of records.

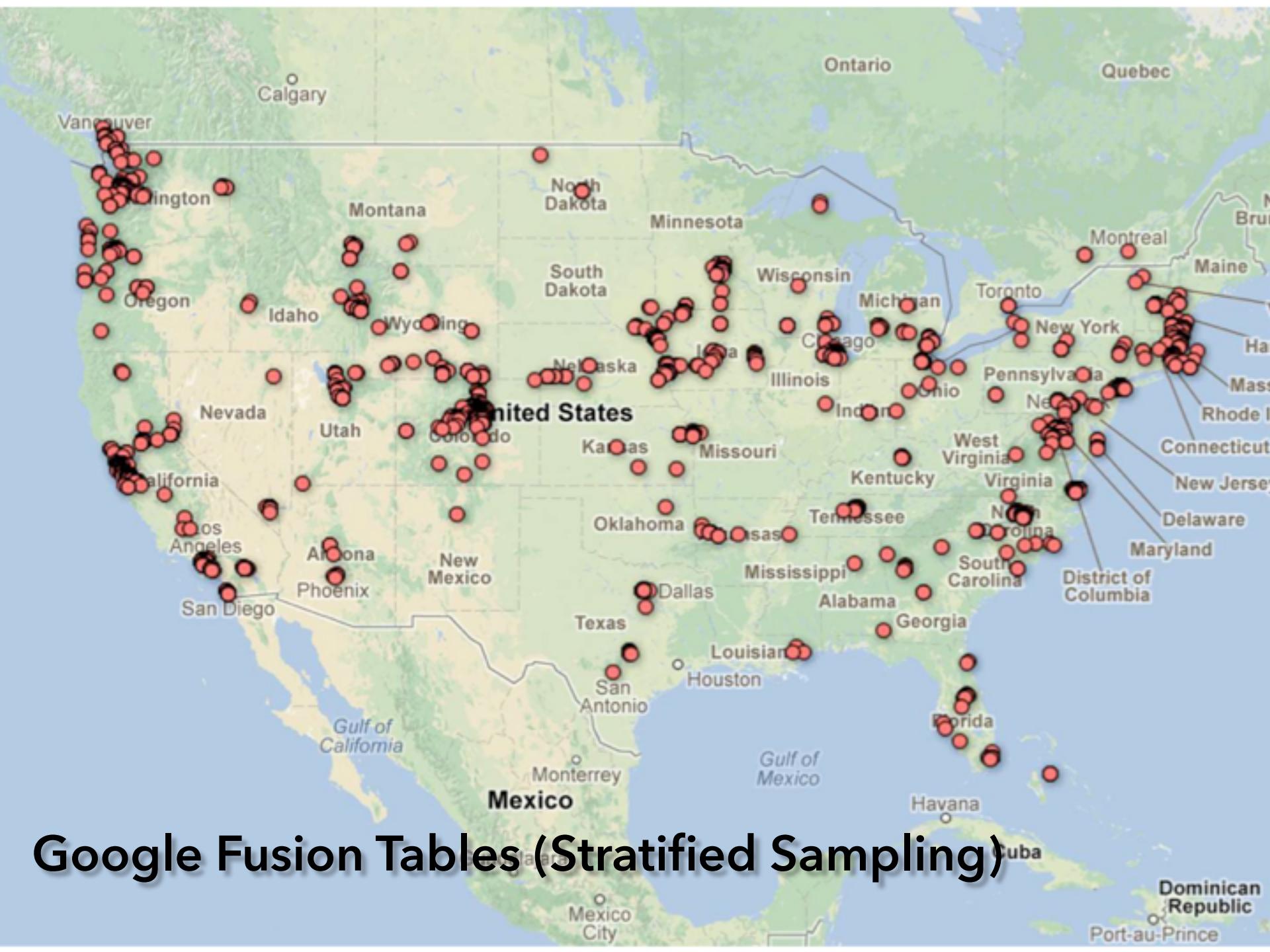
Perception



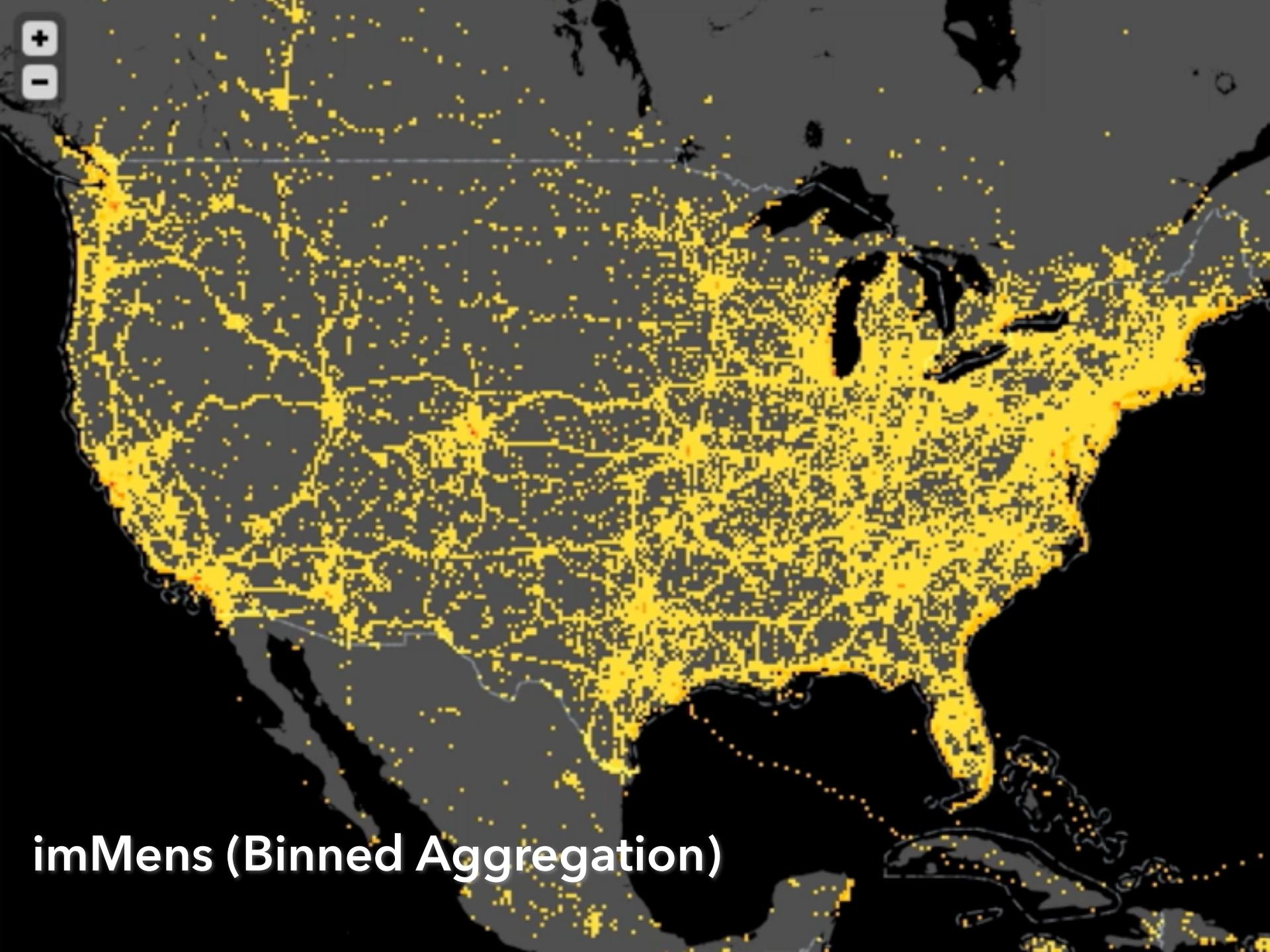








Google Fusion Tables (Stratified Sampling)



imMens (Binned Aggregation)

Bin > Aggregate (> Smooth) > Plot

1. **Bin** Divide data domain into discrete “buckets”

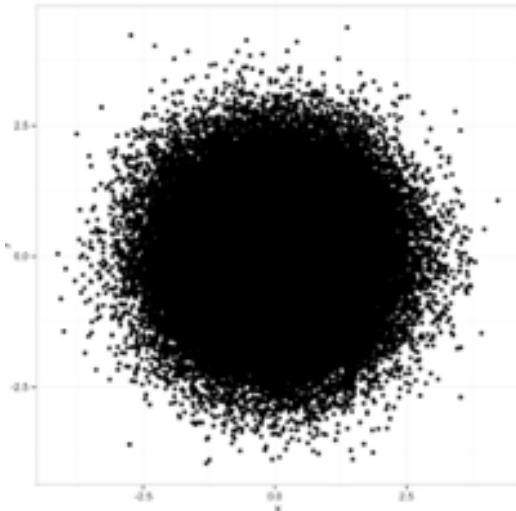
Categories: Already discrete (but check cardinality)

Numbers: Choose bin intervals (uniform, quantile, ...)

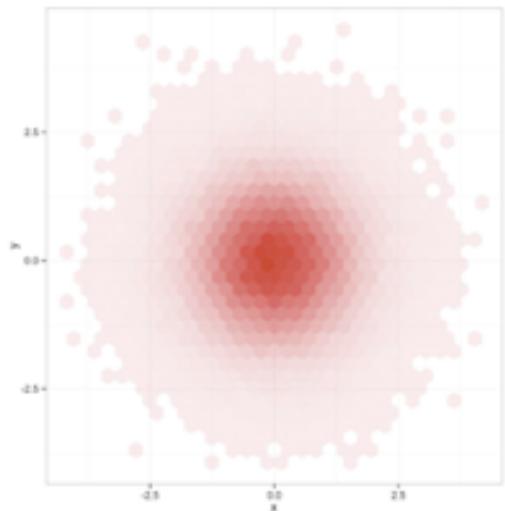
Time: Choose time unit: Hour, Day, Month, etc.

Geo: Bin x, y coordinates *after* cartographic projection

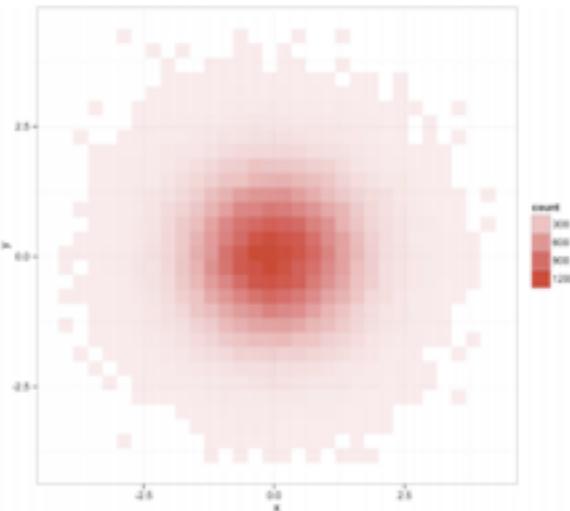
Hexagonal or Rectangular Bins?



100,000 Data Points



Hexagonal Bins



Rectangular Bins

Hex bins better estimate density for 2D plots,
but **the improvement is marginal** [Scott 92], while
rectangles support **reuse** and **query processing**.

Bin > Aggregate (> Smooth) > Plot

1. **Bin** Divide data domain into discrete “buckets”

Categories: Already discrete (but check cardinality)

Numbers: Choose bin intervals (uniform, quantile, ...)

Time: Choose time unit: Hour, Day, Month, etc.

Geo: Bin x, y coordinates *after* cartographic projection

Bin > Aggregate (> Smooth) > Plot

1. Bin Divide data domain into discrete “buckets”

Categories: Already discrete (but check cardinality)

Numbers: Choose bin intervals (uniform, quantile, ...)

Time: Choose time unit: Hour, Day, Month, etc.

Geo: Bin x, y coordinates *after* cartographic projection

2. Aggregate Count, Sum, Average, Min, Max, ...

Bin > Aggregate (> Smooth) > Plot

1. Bin Divide data domain into discrete “buckets”

Categories: Already discrete (but check cardinality)

Numbers: Choose bin intervals (uniform, quantile, ...)

Time: Choose time unit: Hour, Day, Month, etc.

Geo: Bin x, y coordinates *after* cartographic projection

2. Aggregate Count, Sum, Average, Min, Max, ...

(3. Smooth) Optional: smooth aggregates [Wickham '13])

Bin > Aggregate (> Smooth) > Plot

1. Bin Divide data domain into discrete “buckets”

Categories: Already discrete (but check cardinality)

Numbers: Choose bin intervals (uniform, quantile, ...)

Time: Choose time unit: Hour, Day, Month, etc.

Geo: Bin x, y coordinates *after* cartographic projection

2. Aggregate Count, Sum, Average, Min, Max, ...

(3. Smooth) Optional: smooth aggregates [Wickham '13])

4. Plot Visualize the aggregate summary values

Plot: Visual Encoding

Use Most Effective Encoding [Cleveland & McGill '84]

1D Plot -> Position or Length Encoding

Histograms, line charts, etc.

Plot: Visual Encoding

Use Most Effective Encoding [Cleveland & McGill '84]

1D Plot -> Position or Length Encoding

Histograms, line charts, etc.

2D Plot -> Area or Color Encoding

Spatial dimensions (x, y) already allocated.

While less effective than **area** for magnitude estimation, **color** can be used at the per-pixel level and provides an overall “gestalt”

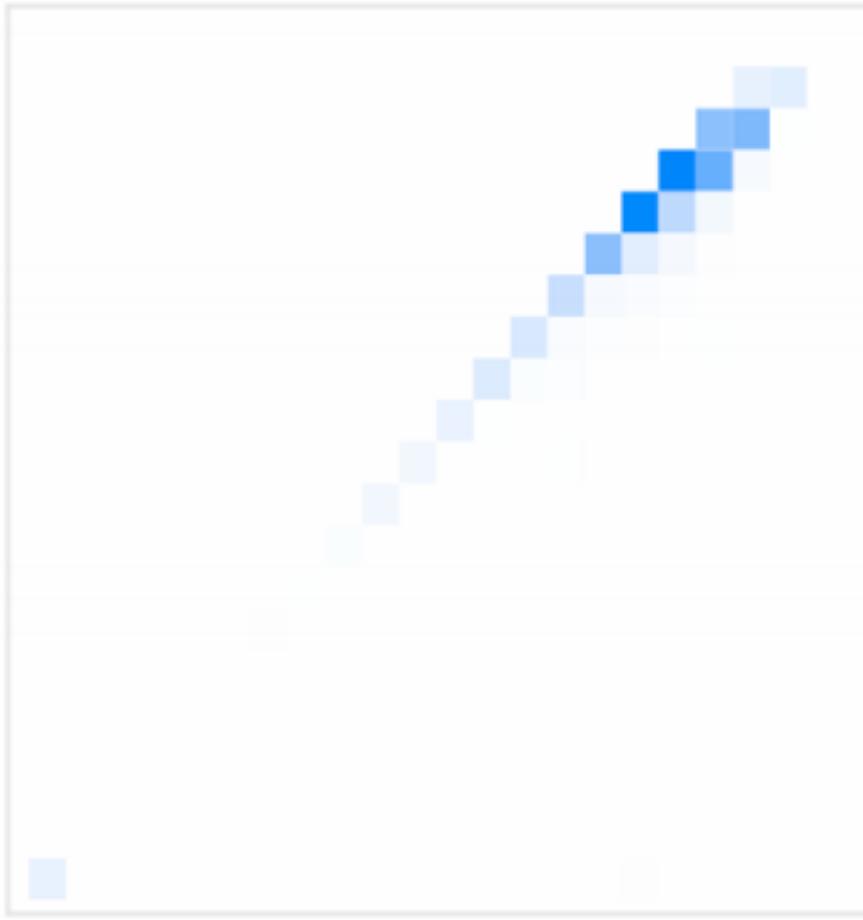
Design Space of Binned Plots

Numeric

Ordinal

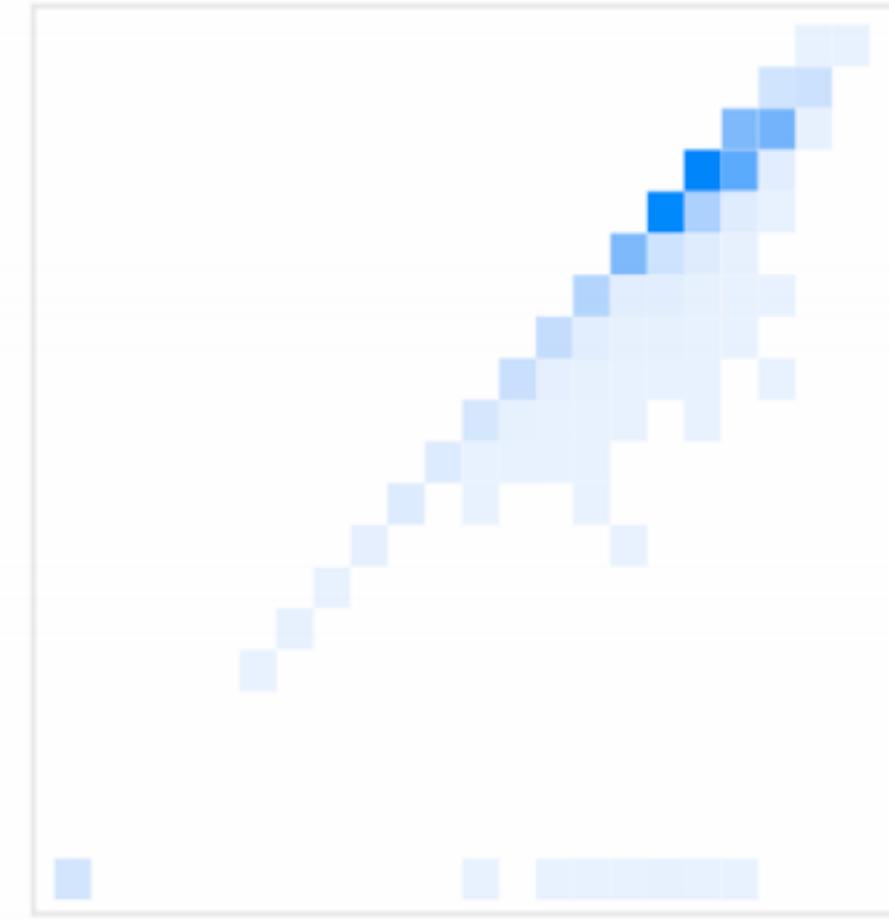
Temporal

Geographic



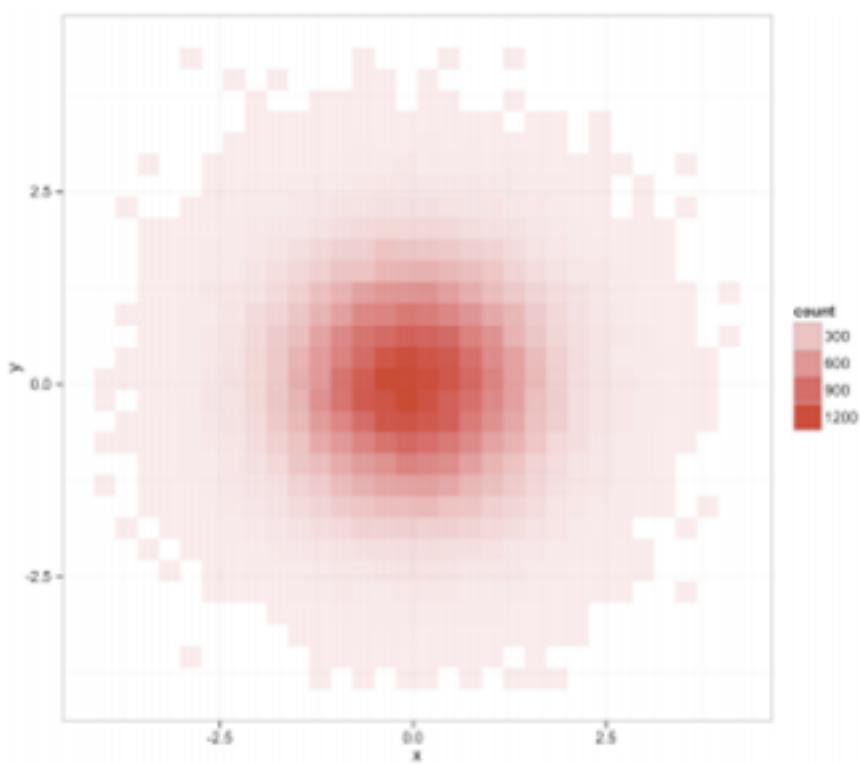
Standard Color Ramp

Counts near zero are white.
-> Outliers are missed

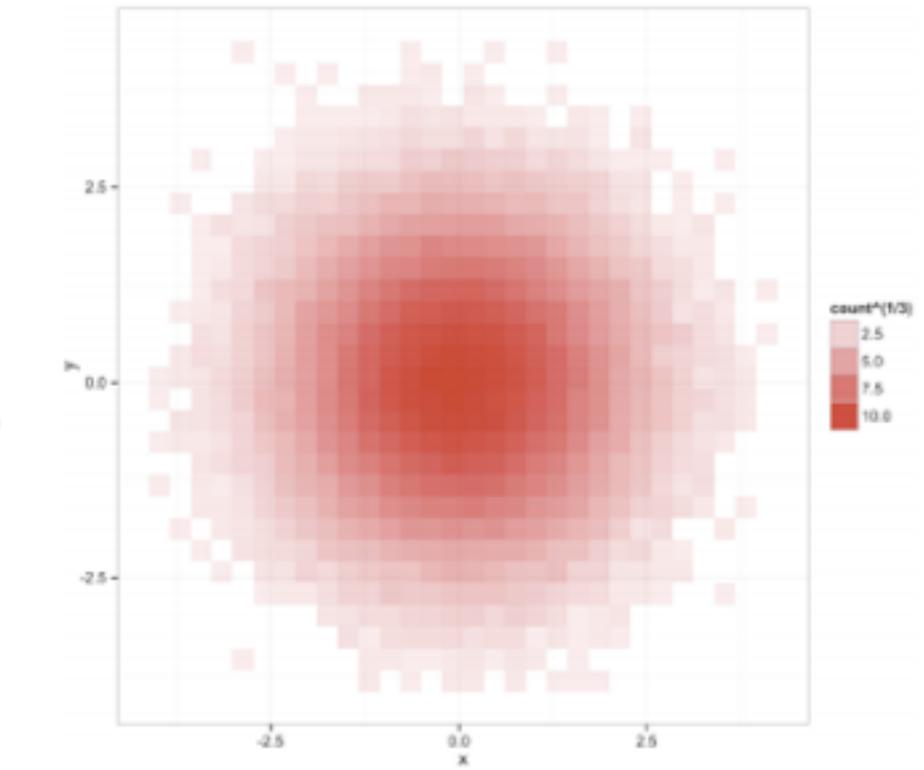


Add Discontinuity after Zero

Counts near zero remain visible.
-> Outliers can be seen



Linear Alpha Interpolation
is not *perceptually* linear.



Cube-Root Alpha Interpolation
approximates perceptual linearity.

Color Encoding

$$Y = \alpha + \left(\frac{\hat{x} - x_{min}}{x_{max} - x_{min}} \right)^\gamma (1 - \alpha)$$

↓
Data Value ($x > 0, x \geq x_{min}, x \leq x_{max}$)

↑
Luminance (in range 0-1)

Color Encoding

Min. Non-Zero Intensity ($\alpha=0.15$) [1] Perceptual Scaling ($\gamma=1/3$) [2]

$$Y = \alpha + \left(\frac{\hat{x} - x_{min}}{x_{max} - x_{min}} \right)^\gamma (1 - \alpha)$$

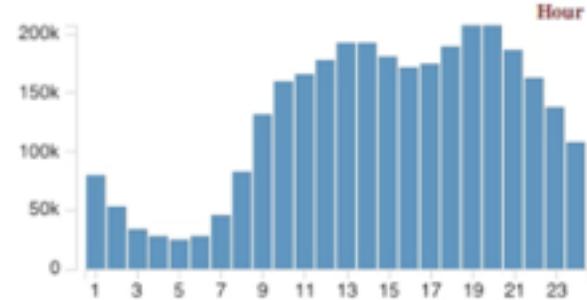
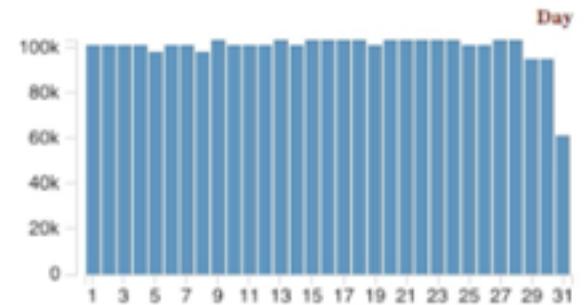
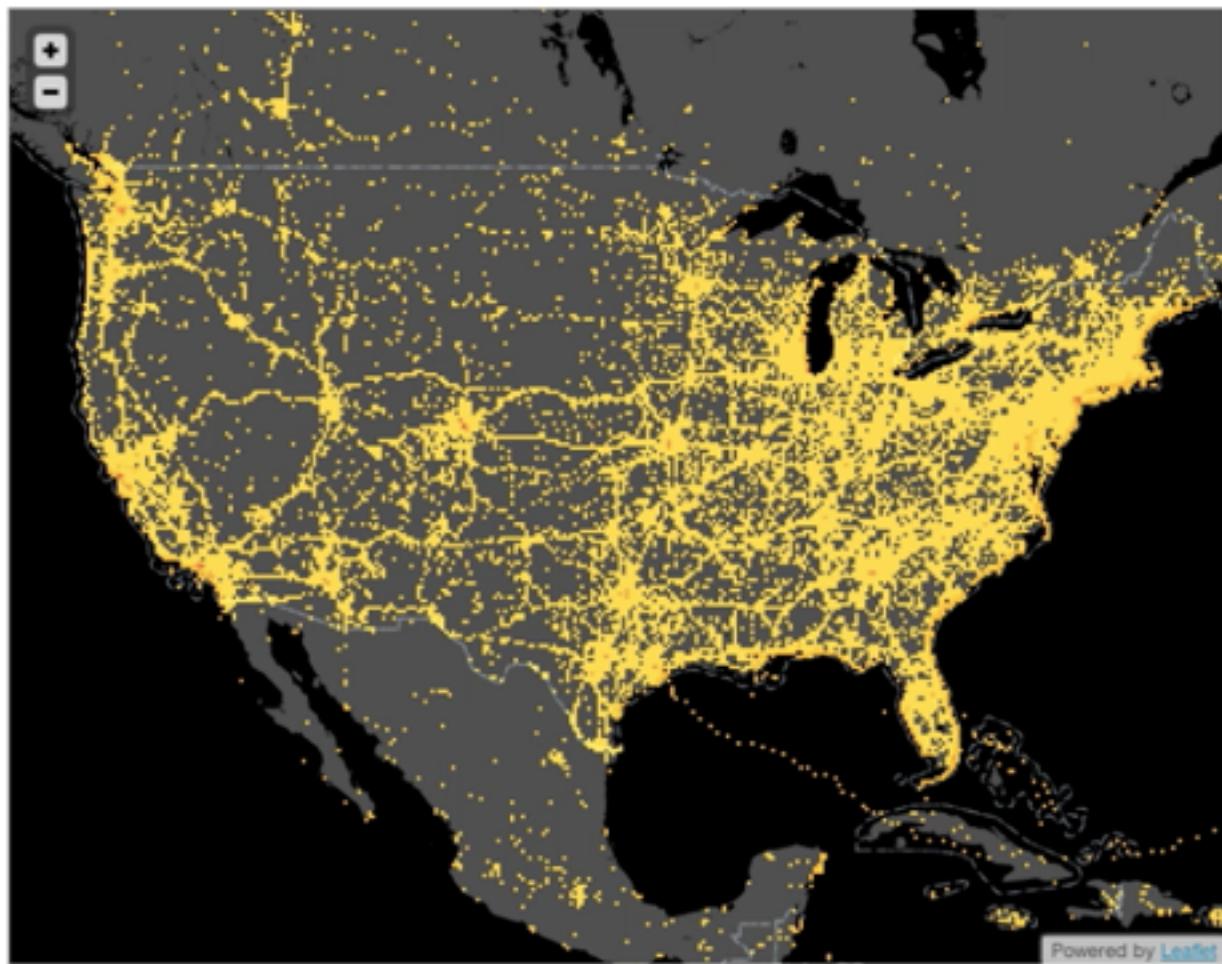
↑ ↑ ↗
User-Adjustable Min/Max Values [3]

- [1] Keep small non-zero values visible (outliers!)
- [2] Match color ramp to perceptual distances
- [3] Enable exploration across value ranges

Interaction

Interaction Techniques?

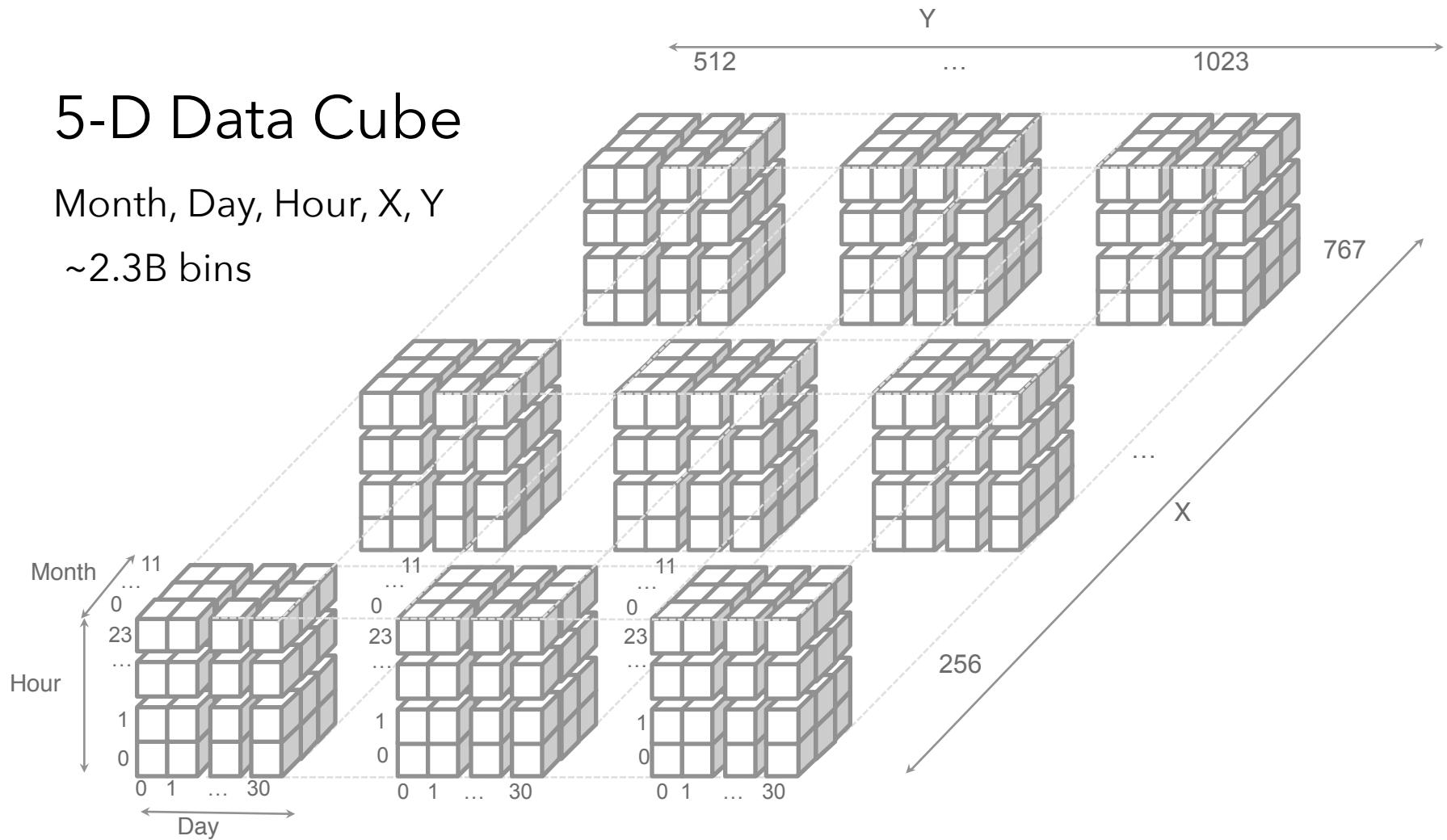
- 1. Select Detail-on-Demand
- 2. Navigate Pan & Zoom
- 3. Query Brush & Link



5-D Data Cube

Month, Day, Hour, X, Y

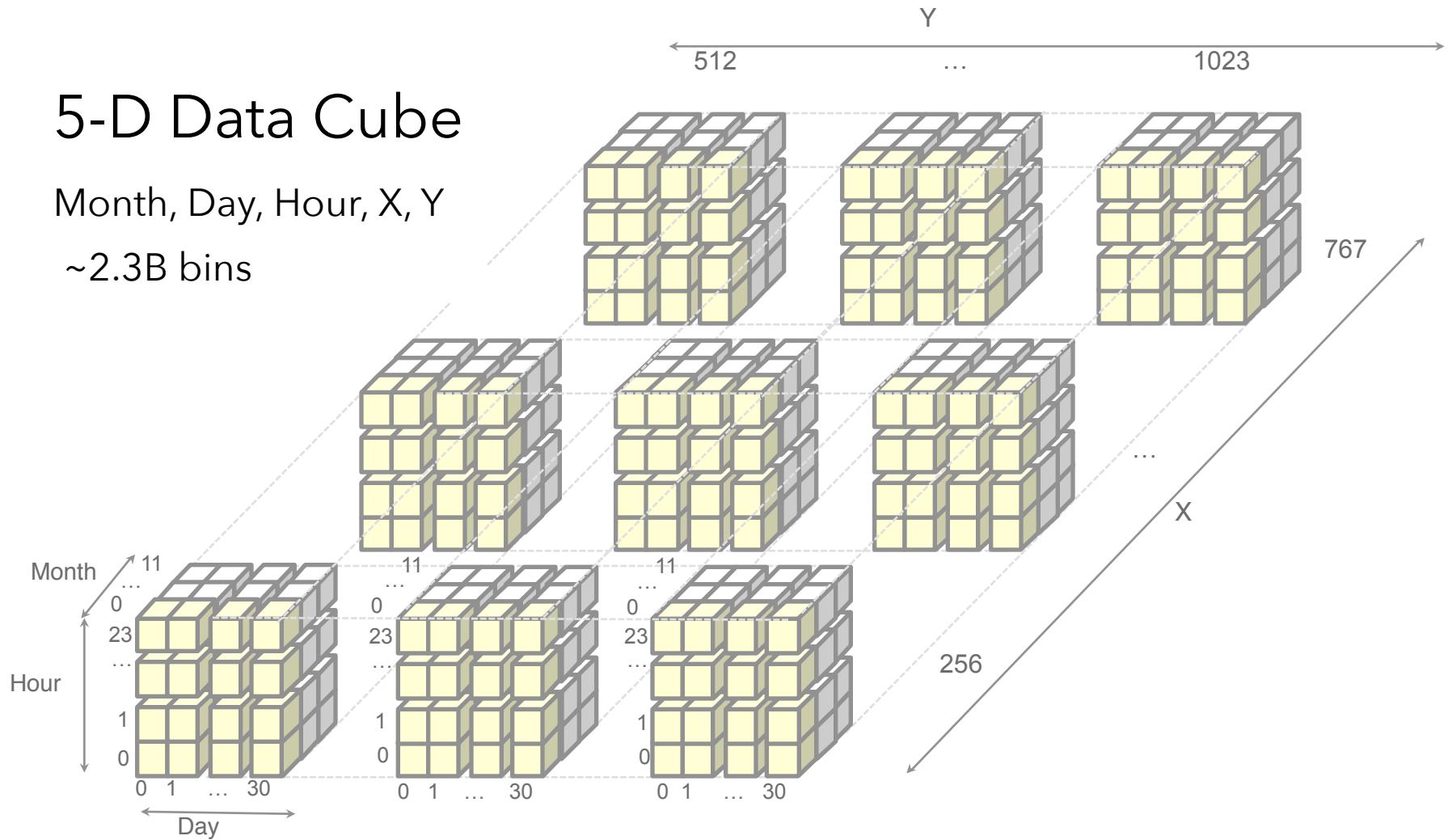
~2.3B bins

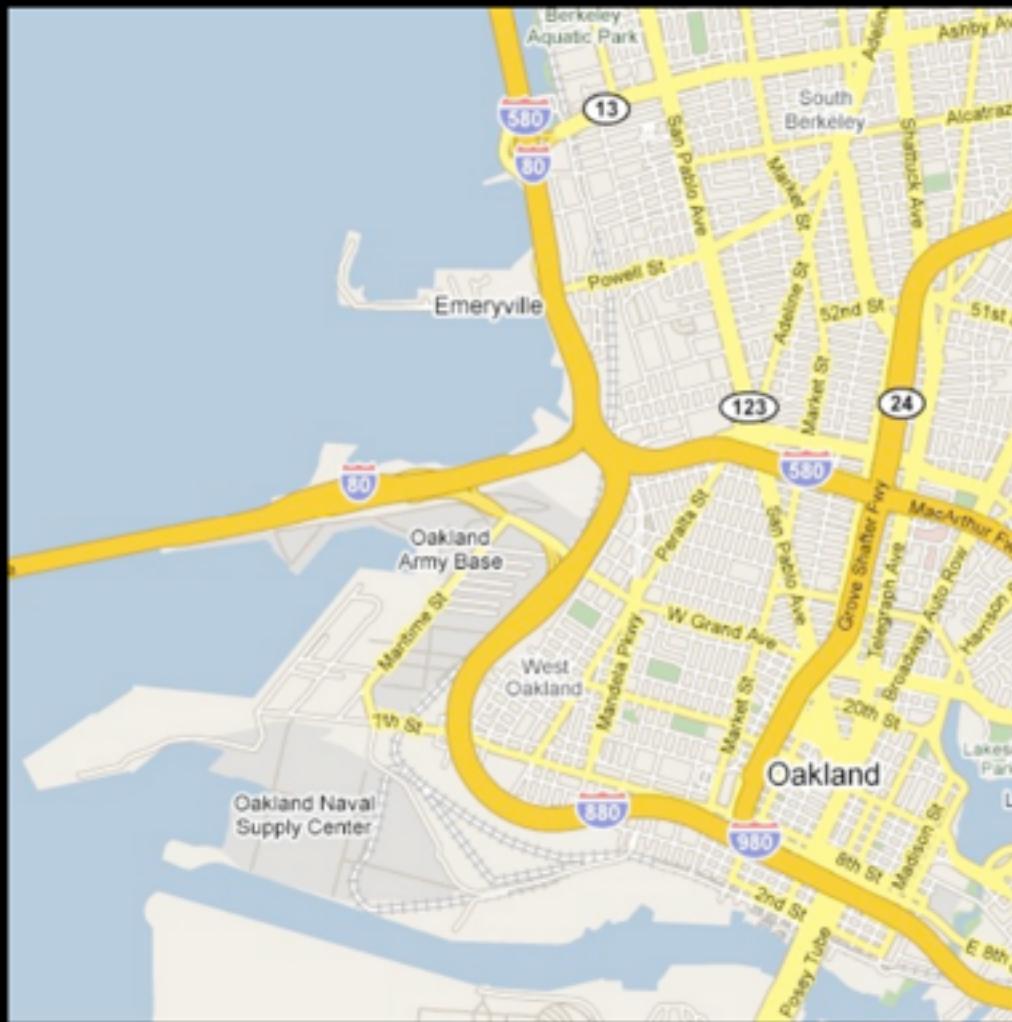


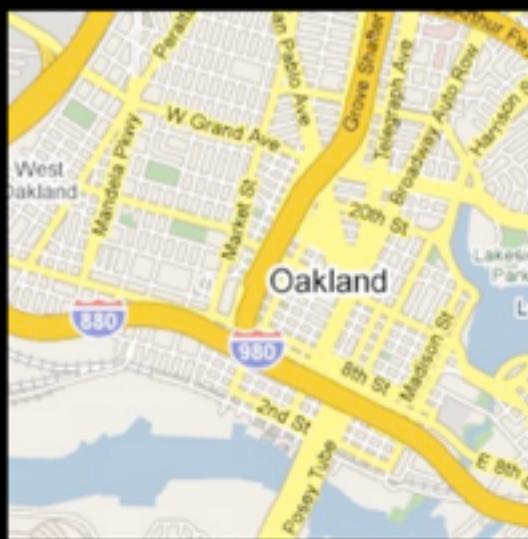
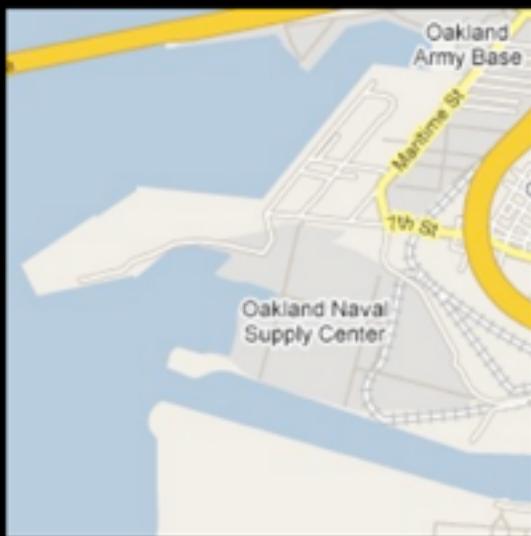
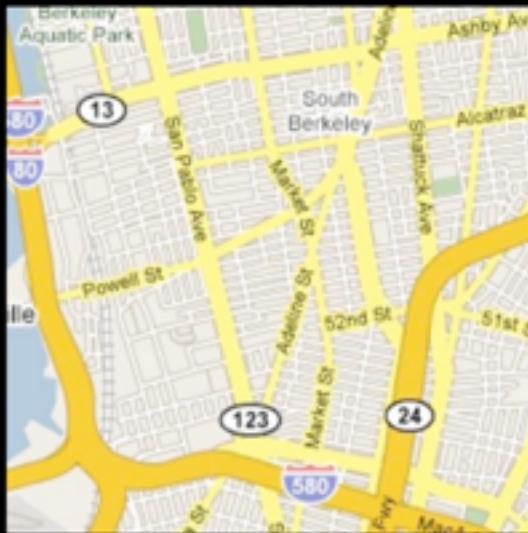
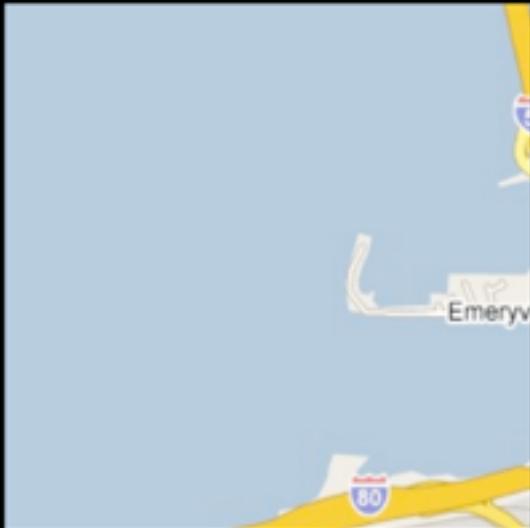
5-D Data Cube

Month, Day, Hour, X, Y

~2.3B bins



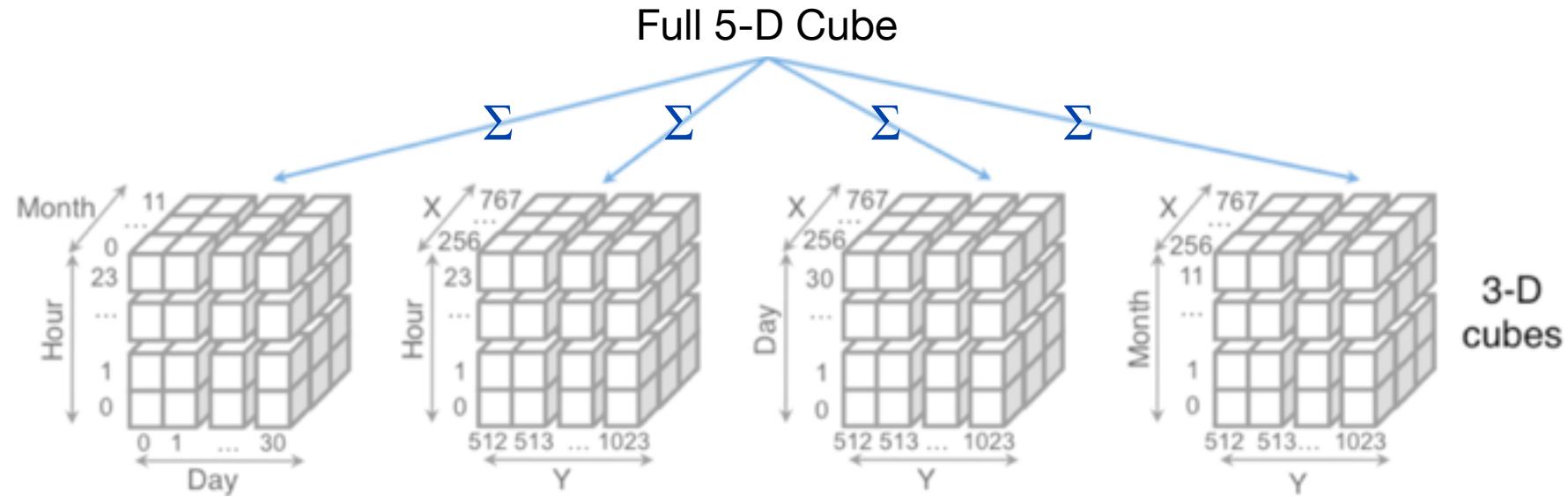




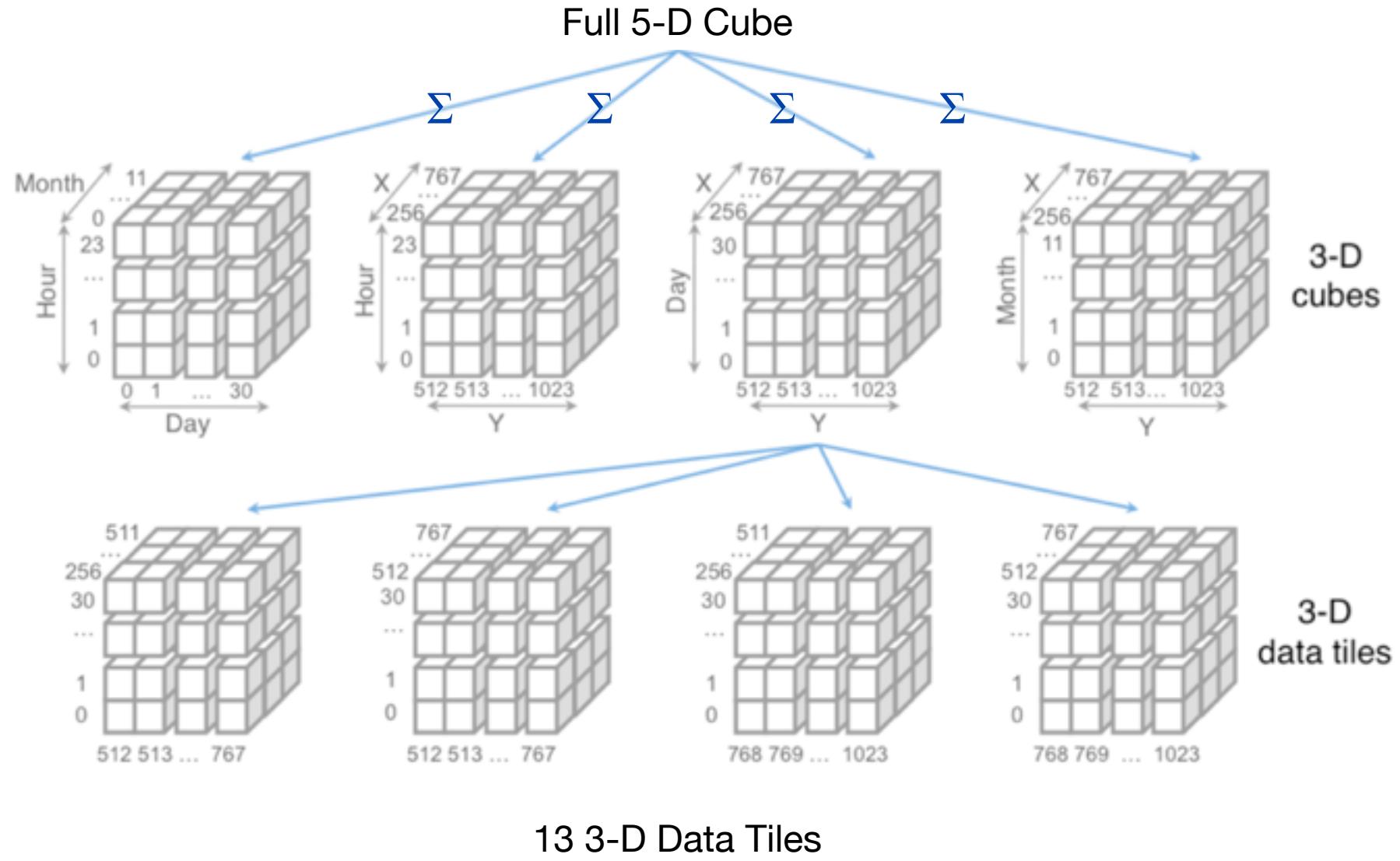
Multivariate Data Tiles

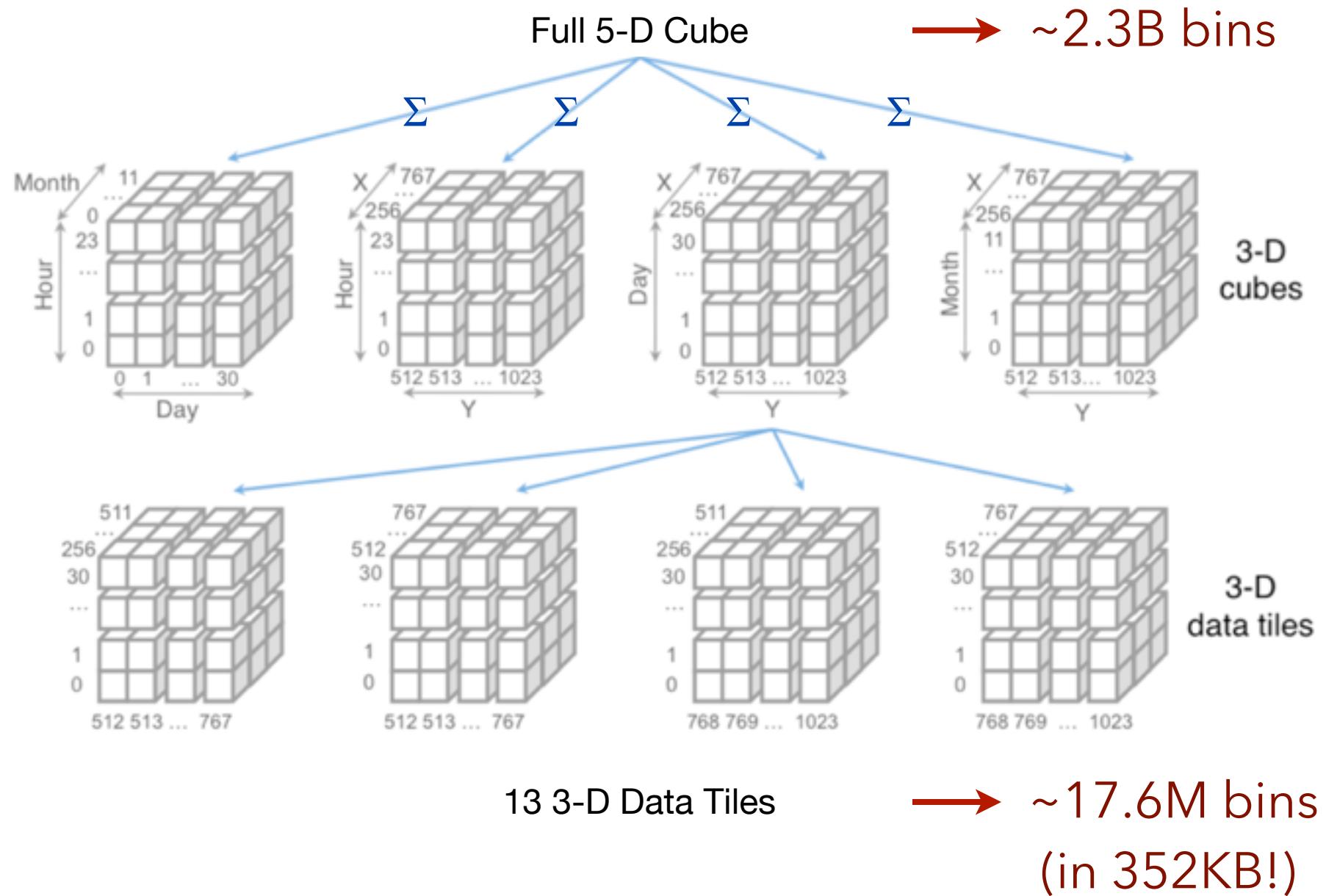
1. Send data, not pixels
2. Embed multi-dim data

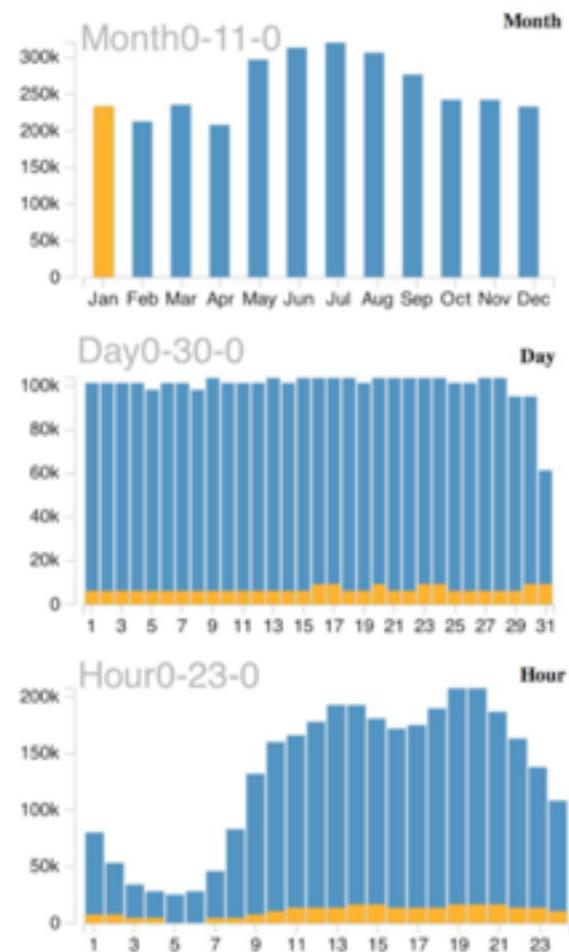
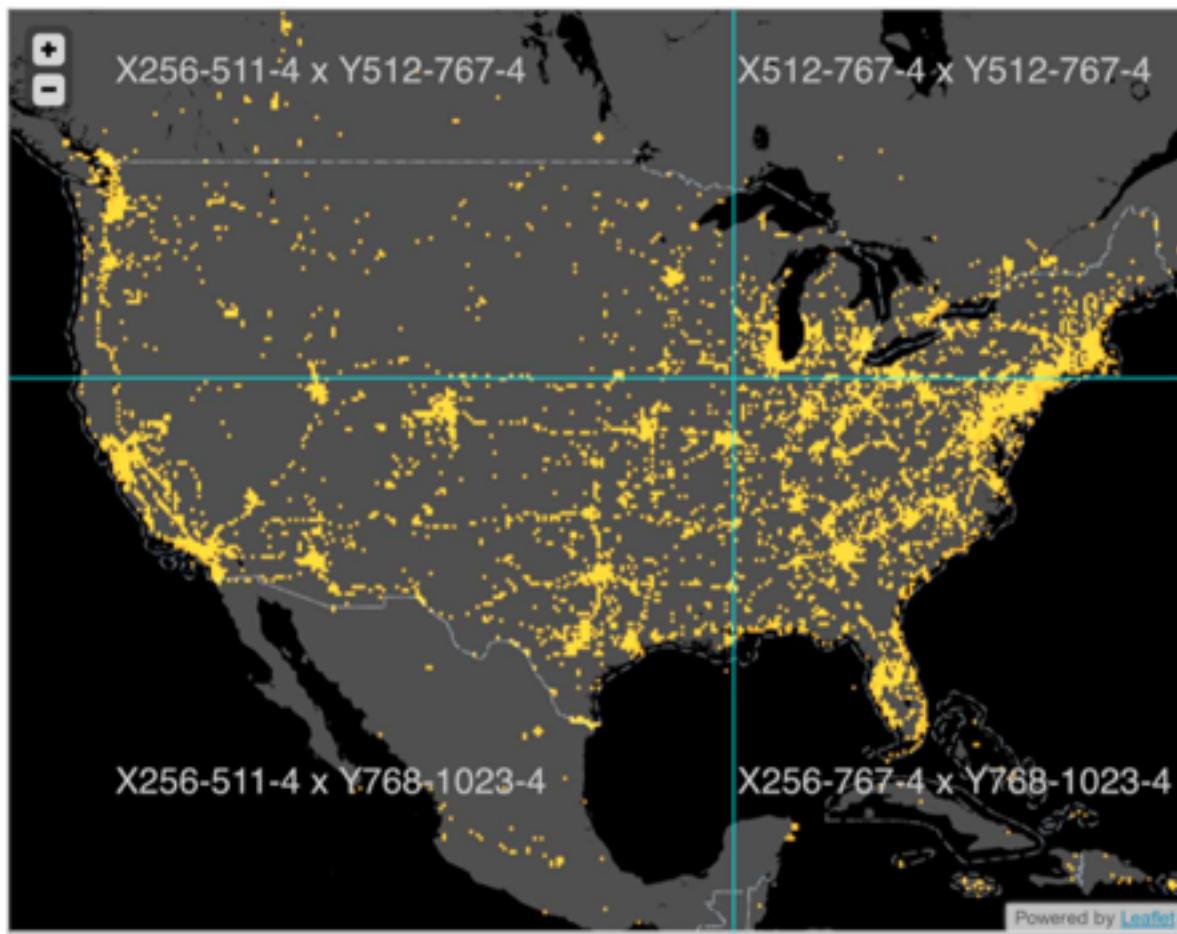
Full 5-D Cube

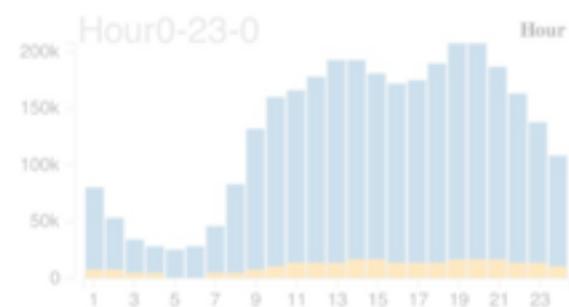
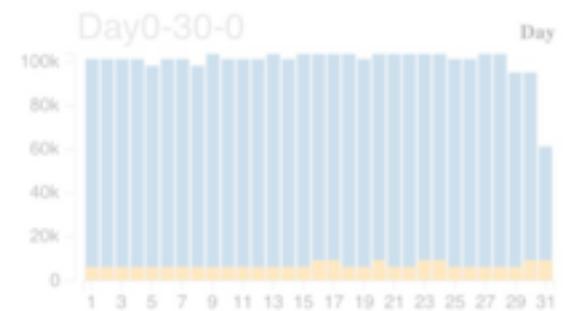
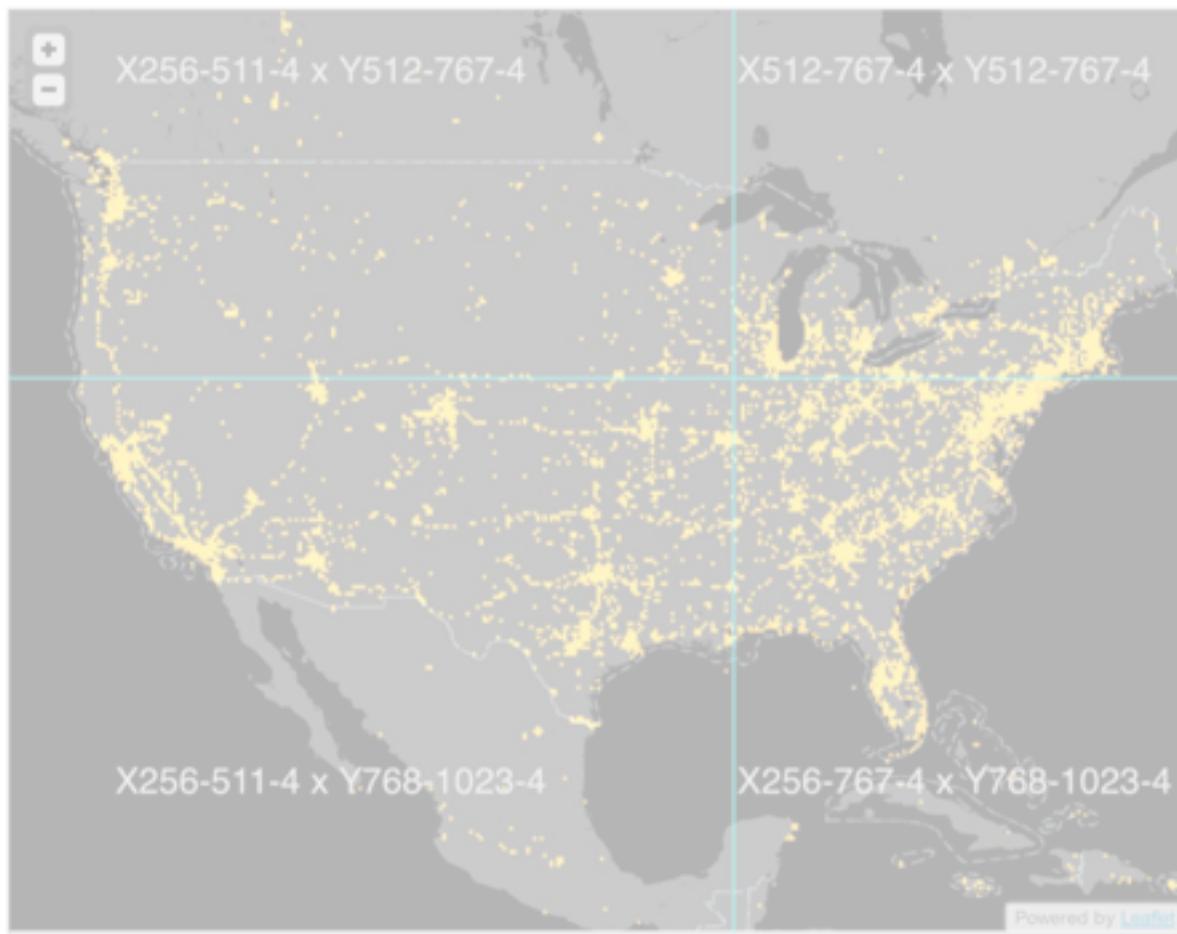


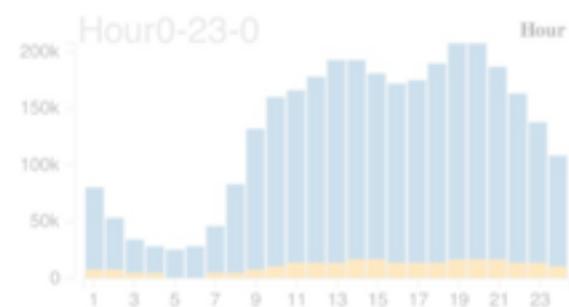
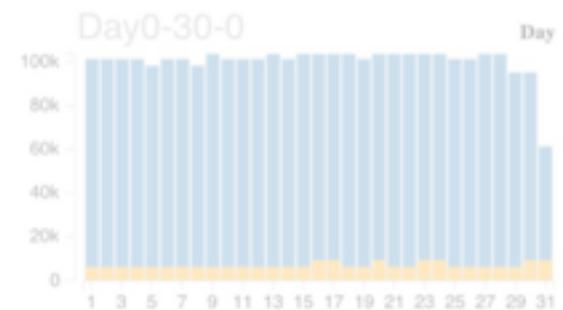
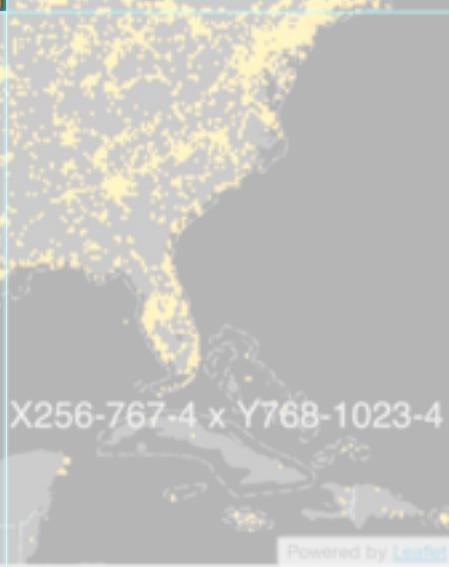
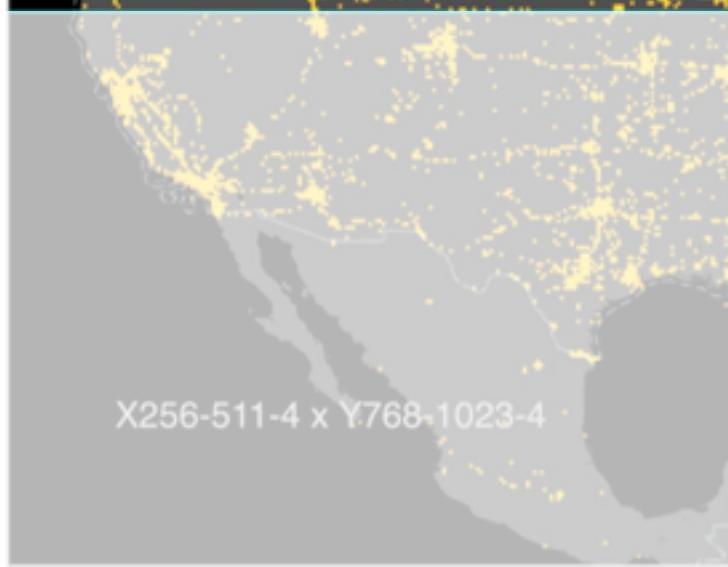
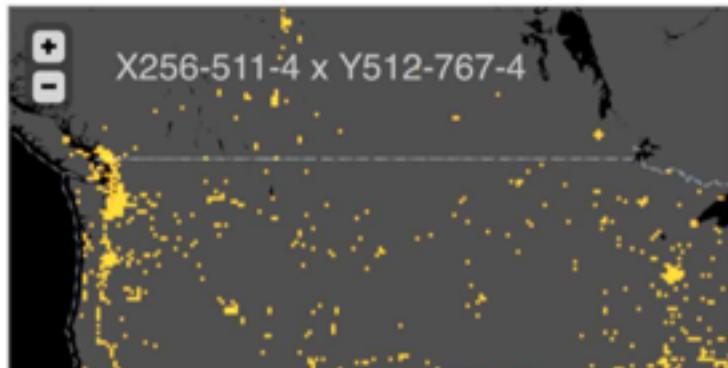
For any pair of 1D or 2D binned plots, the maximum number of dimensions needed to support brushing & linking is **four**.

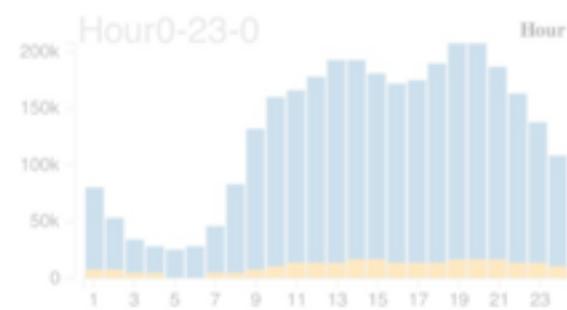
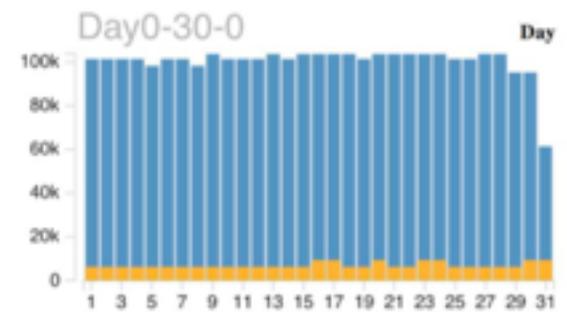
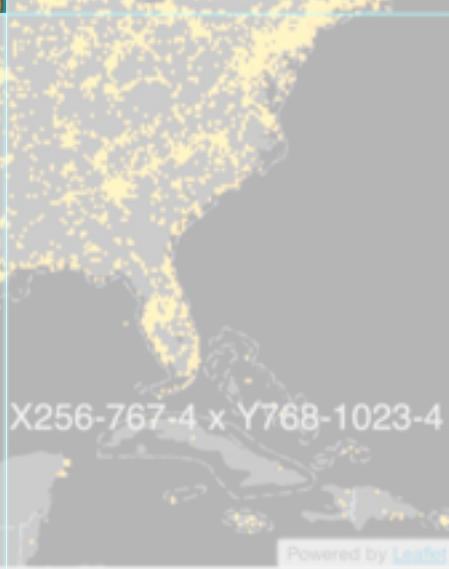
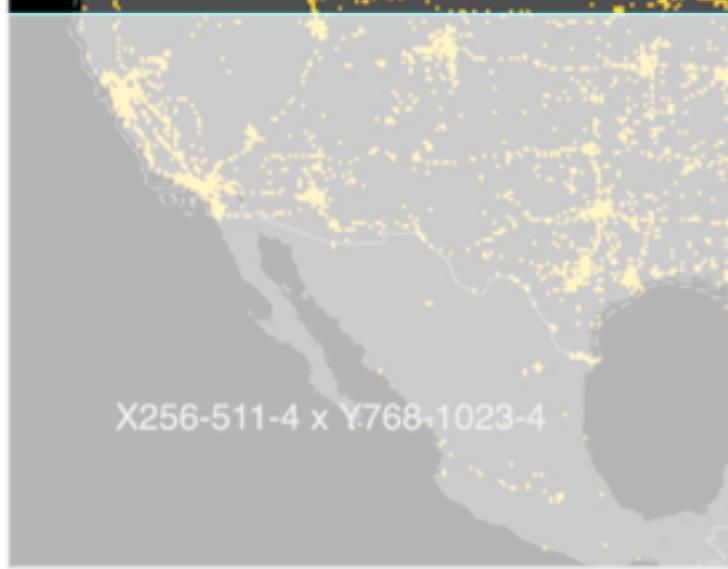
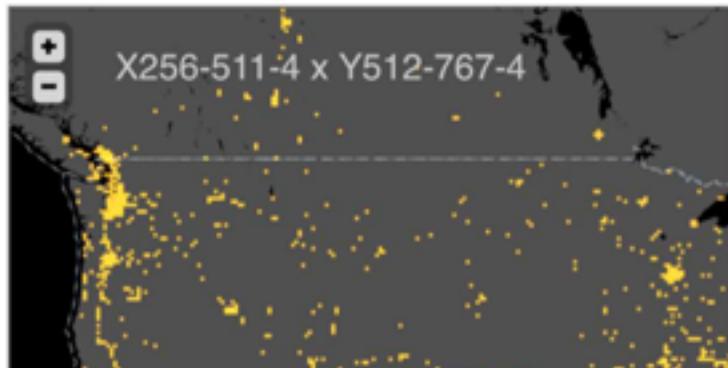




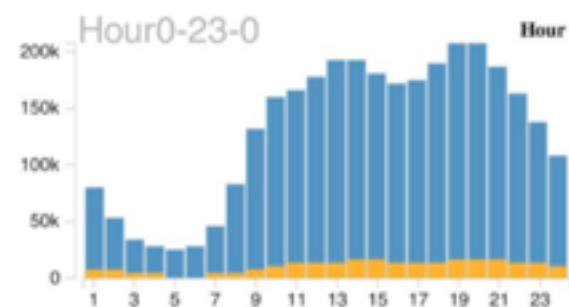
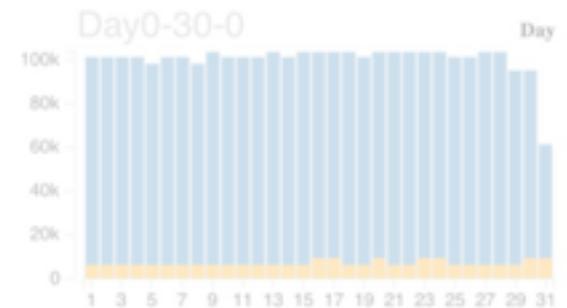
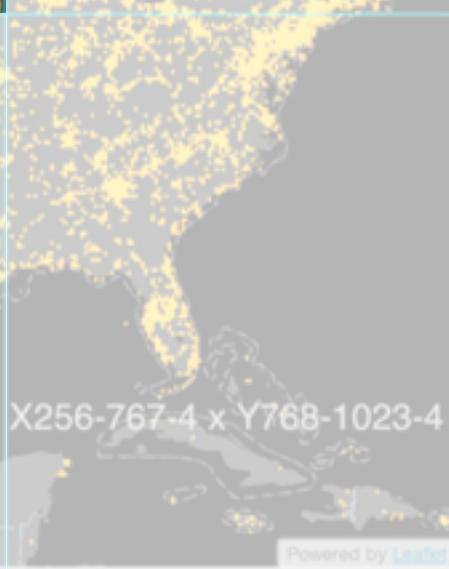
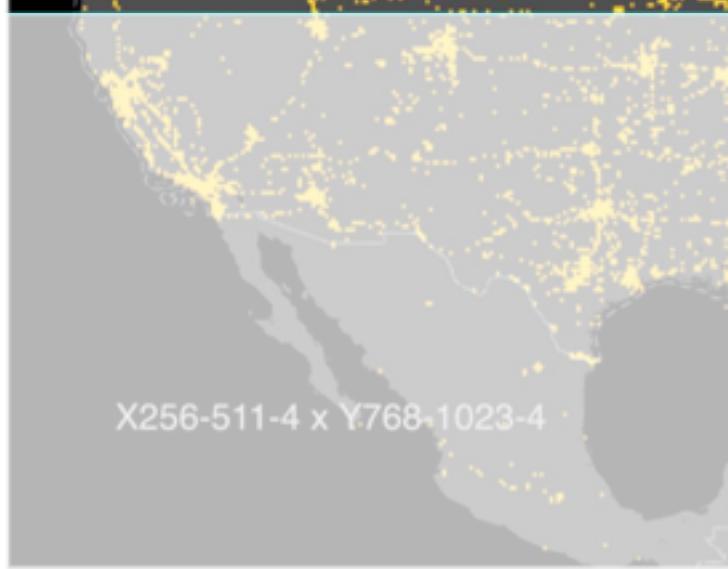
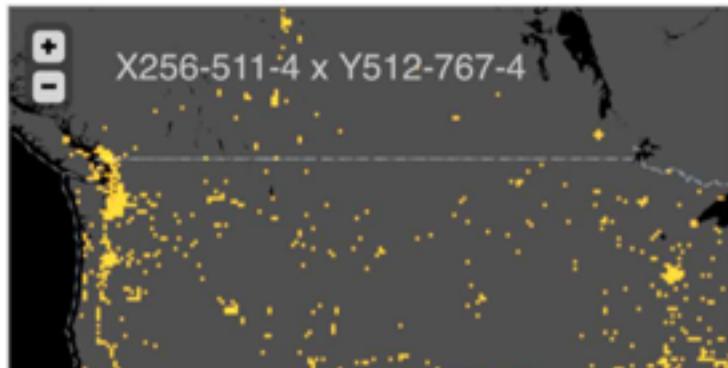


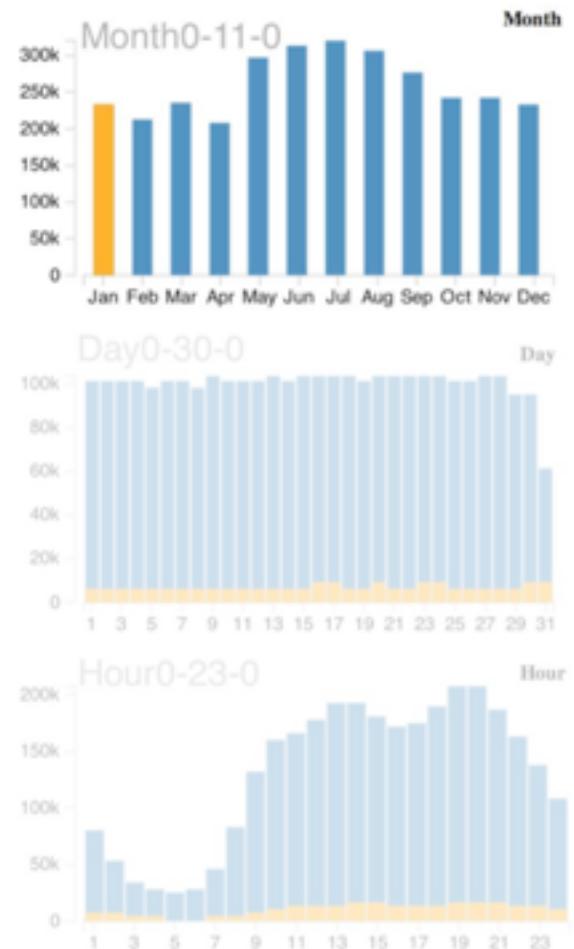
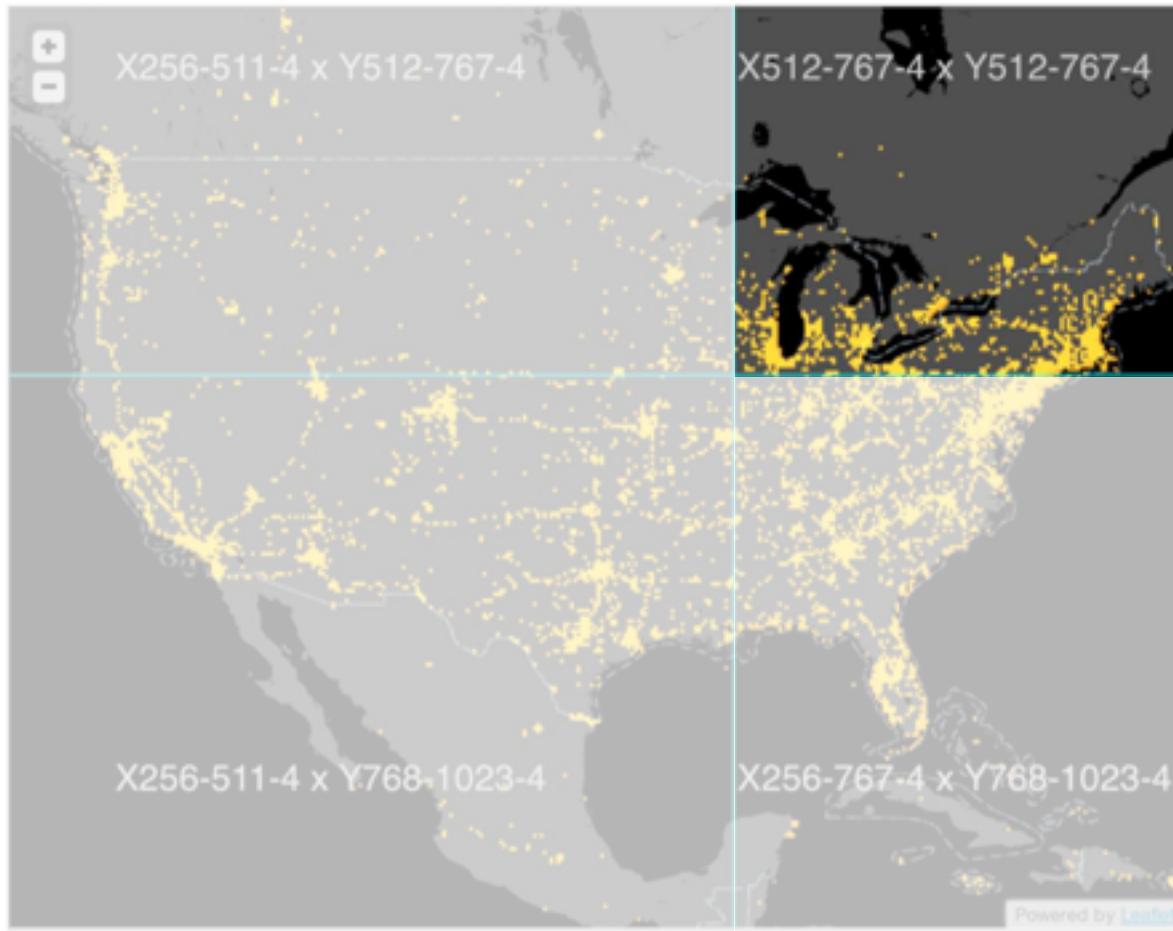


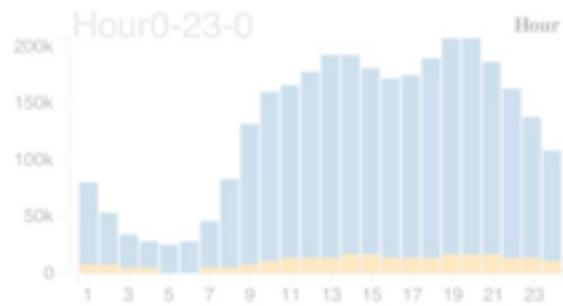
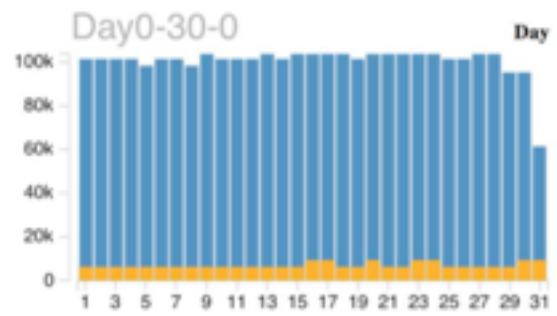
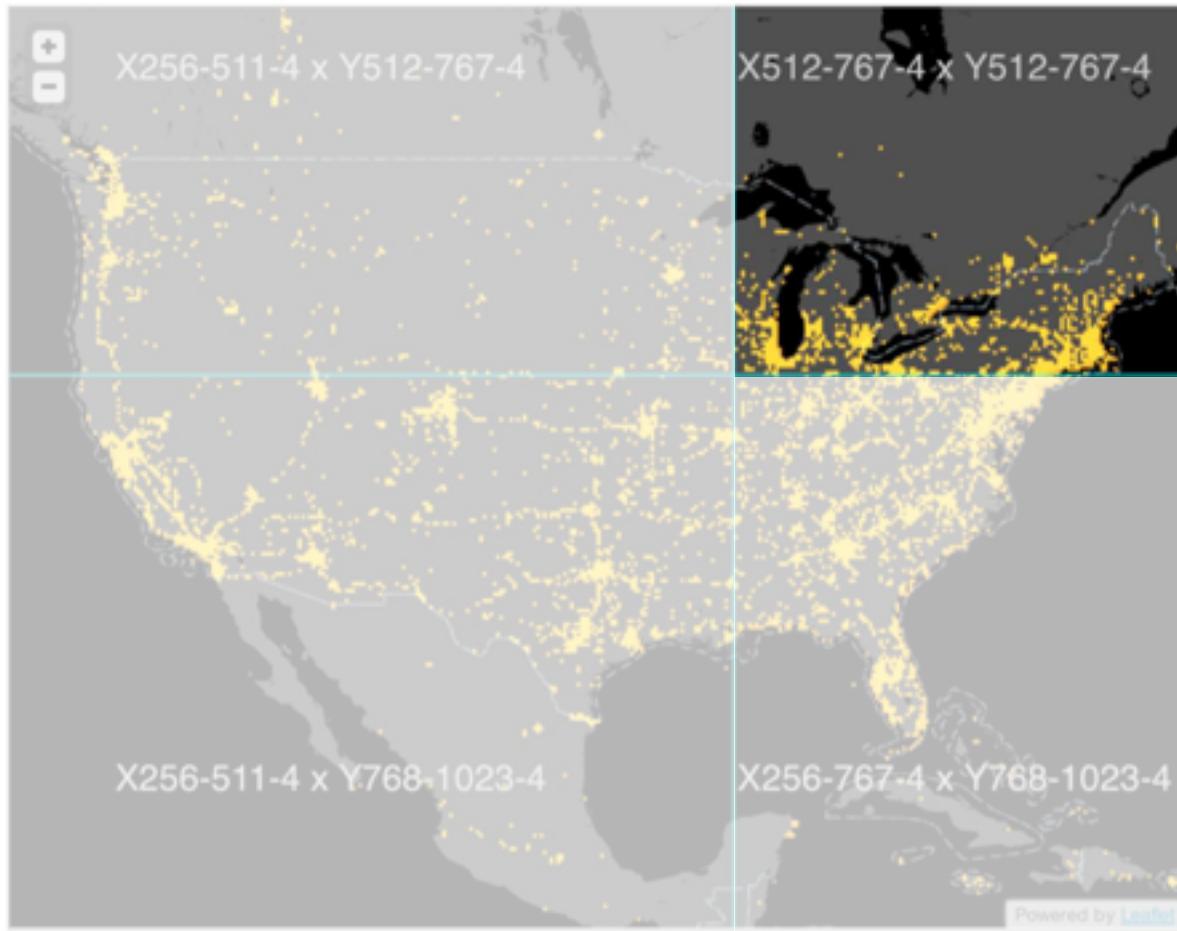


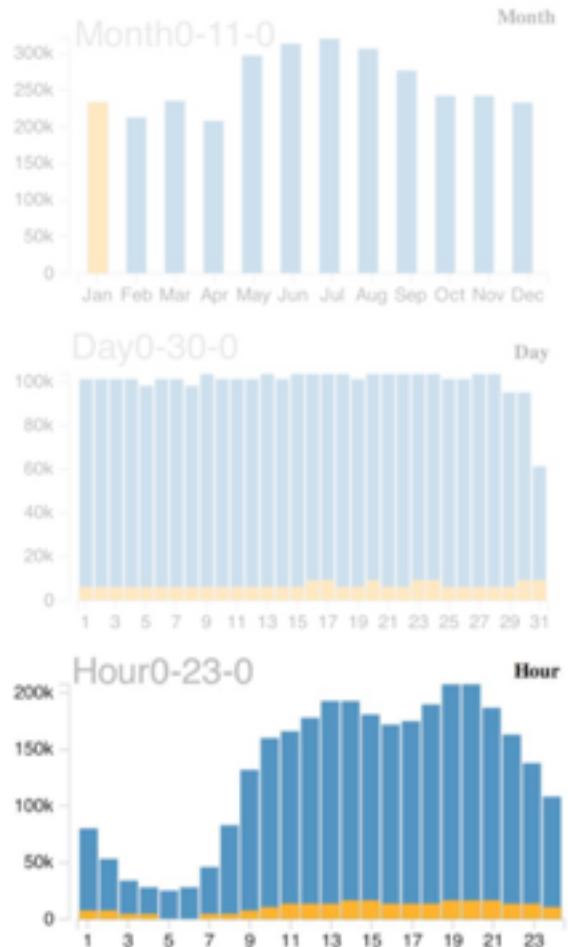
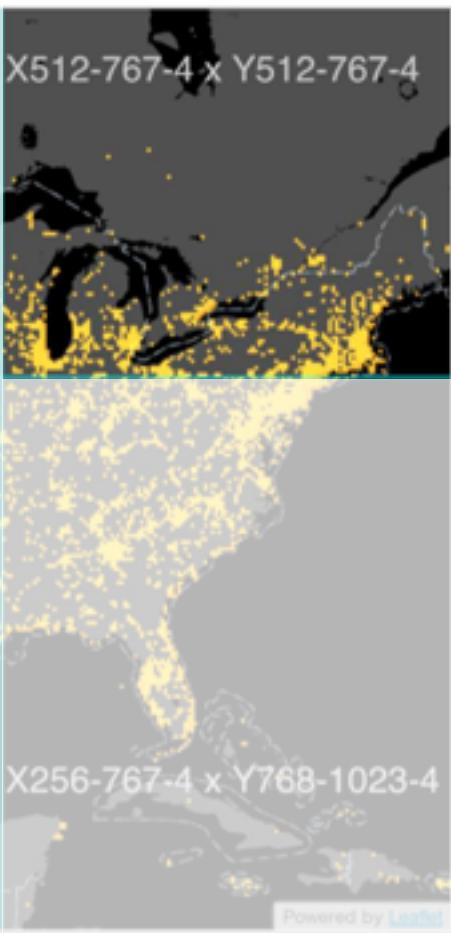


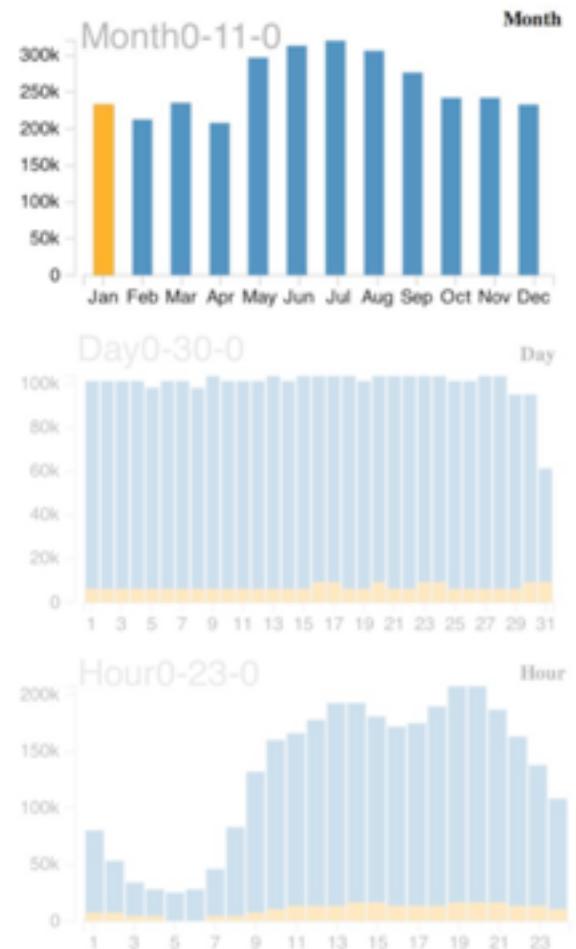
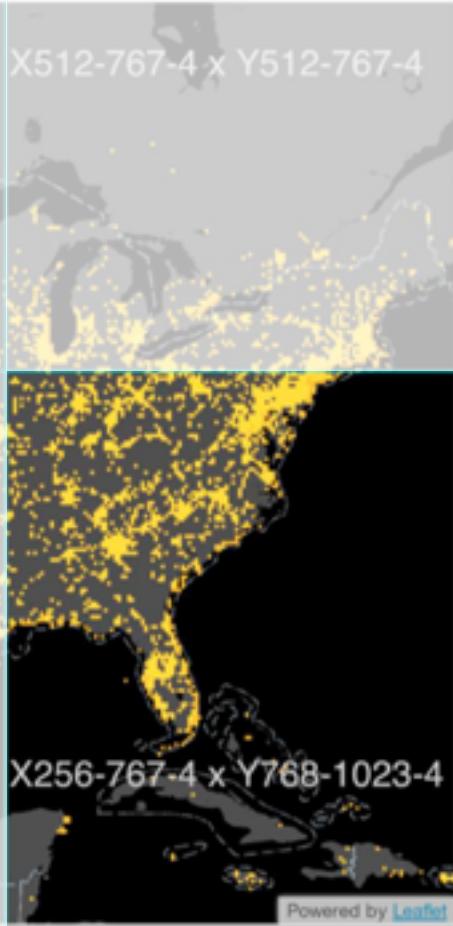
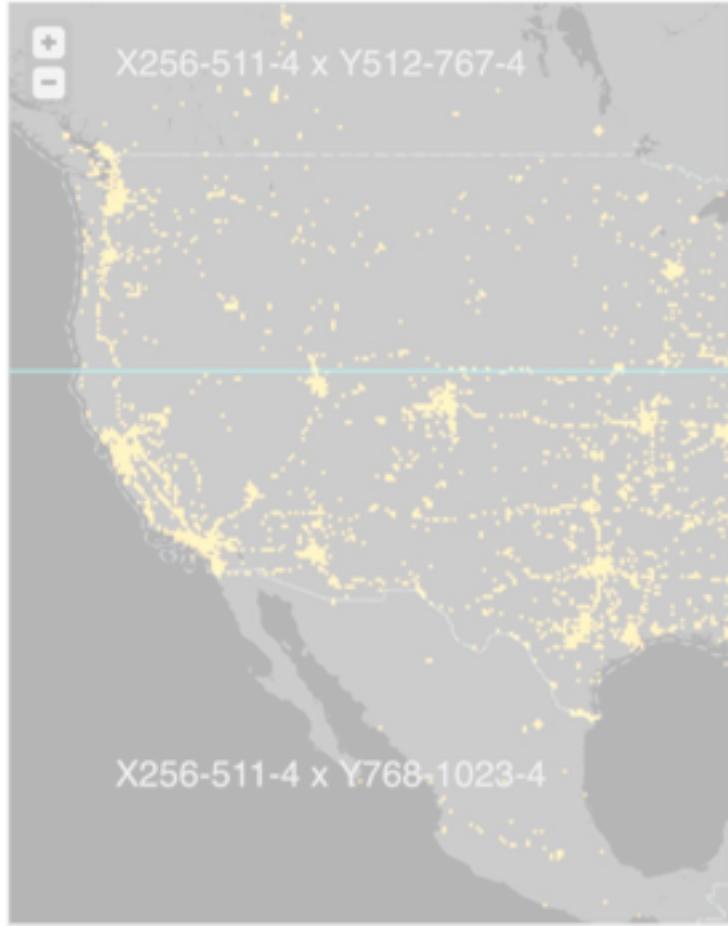
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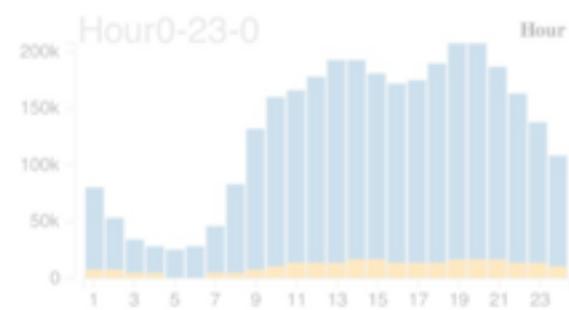
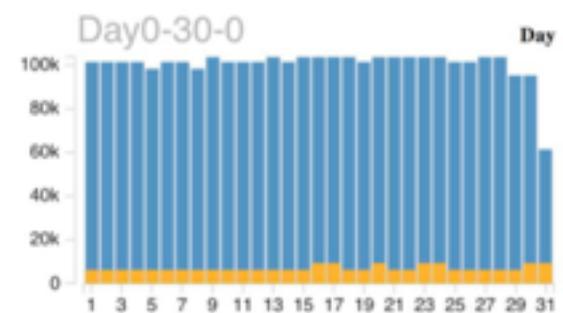
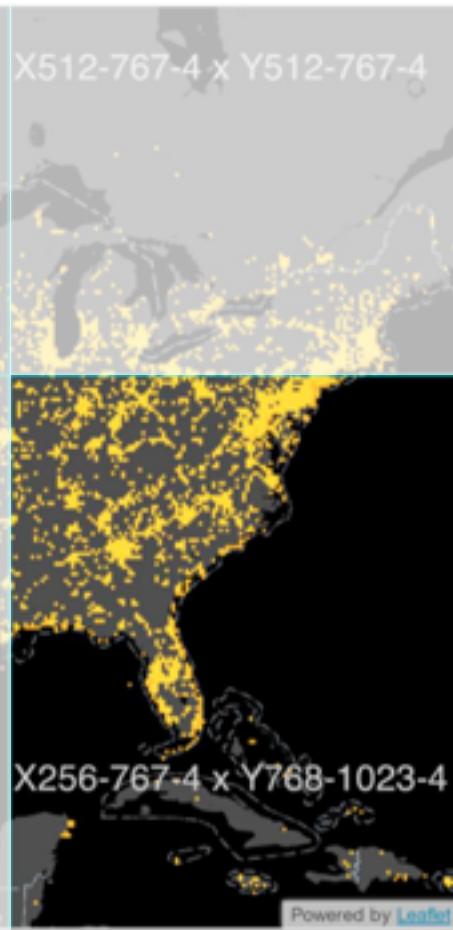
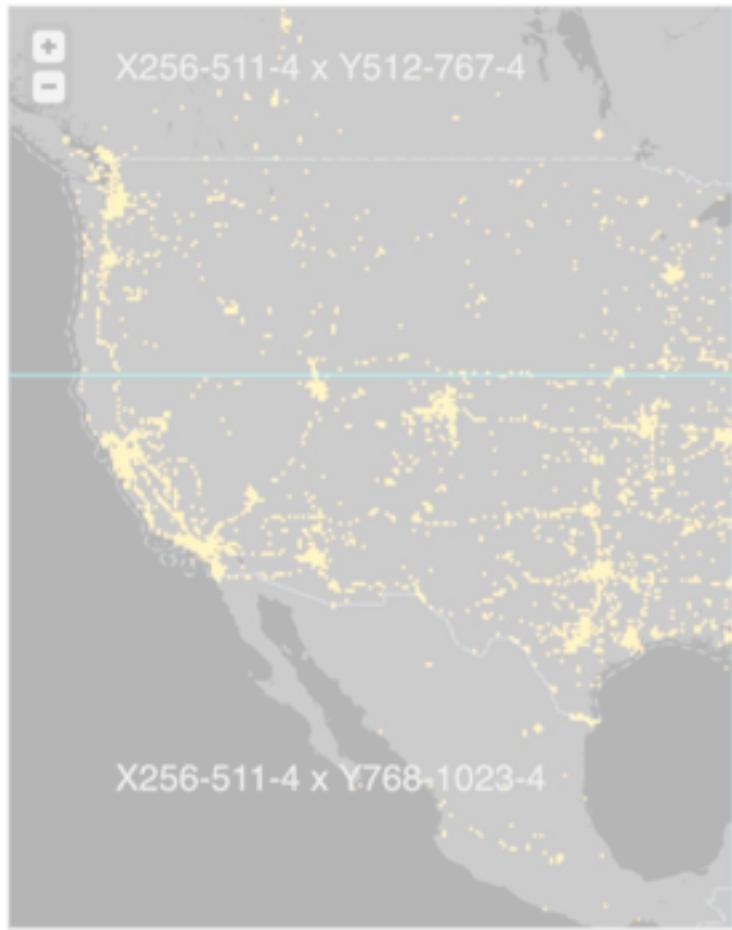


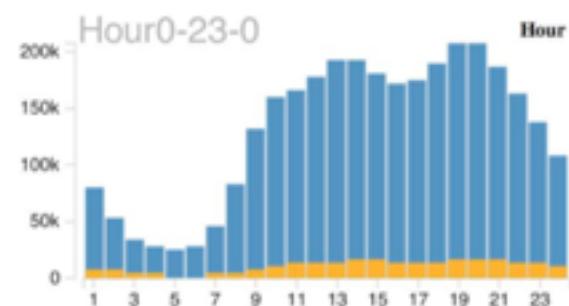
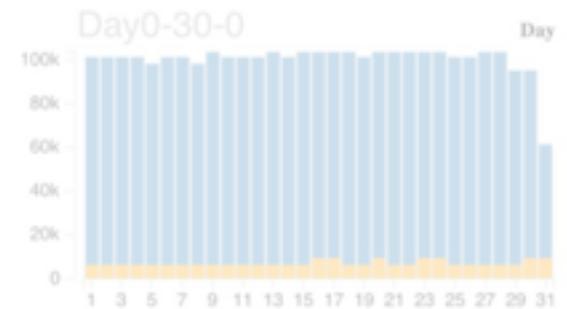
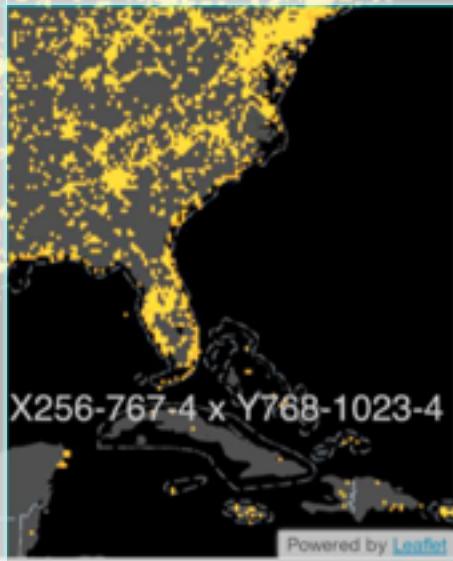
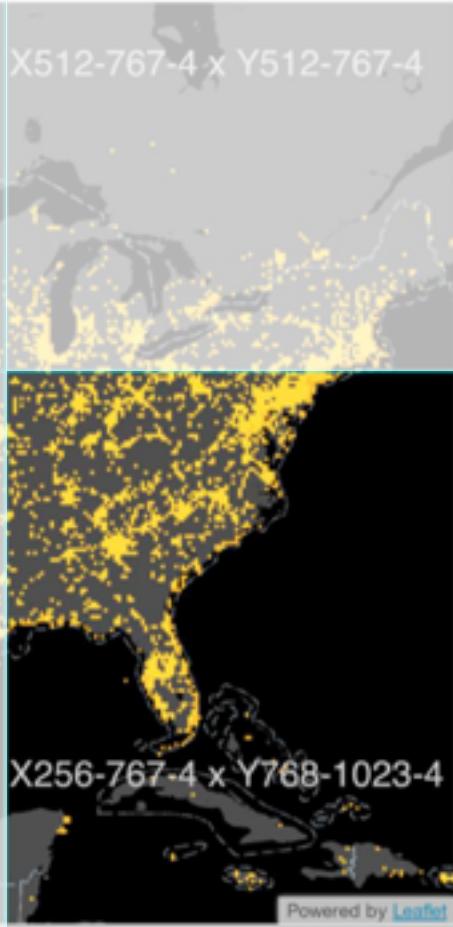
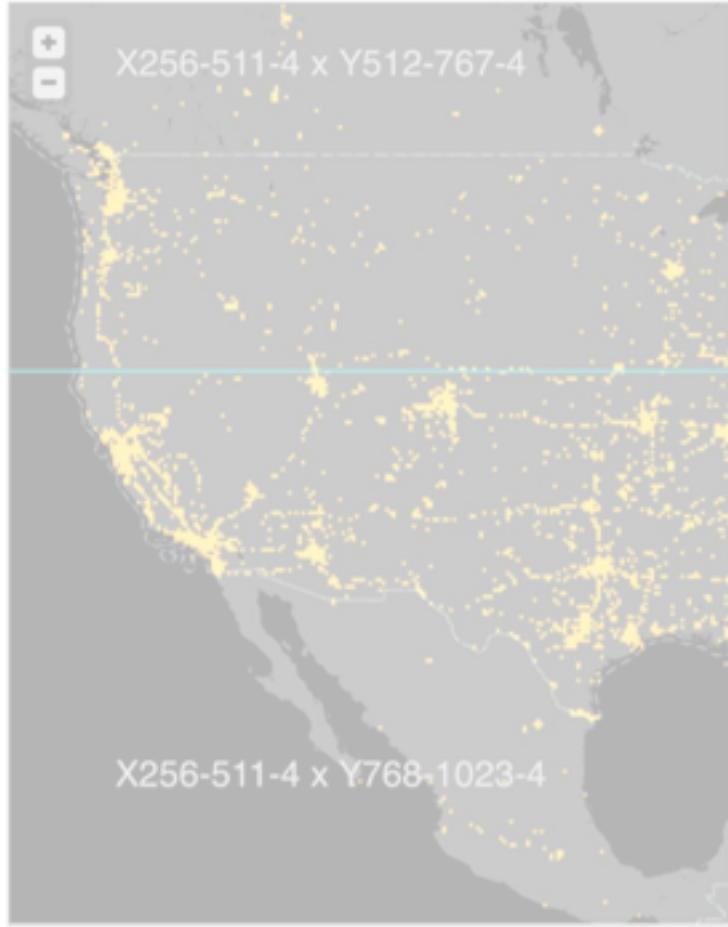


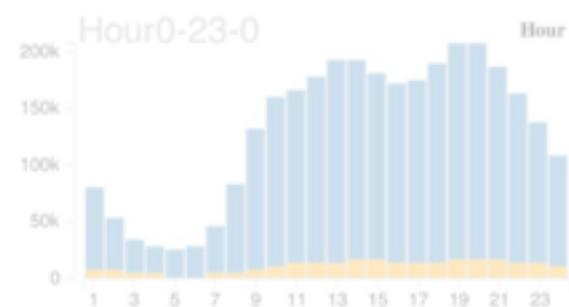
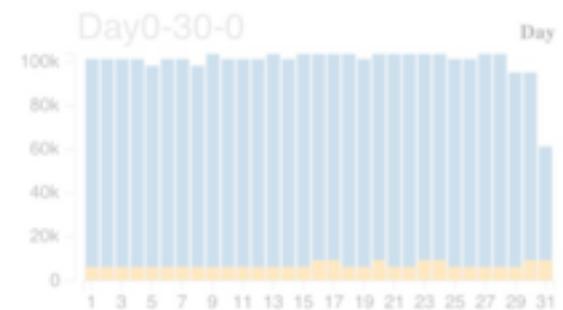
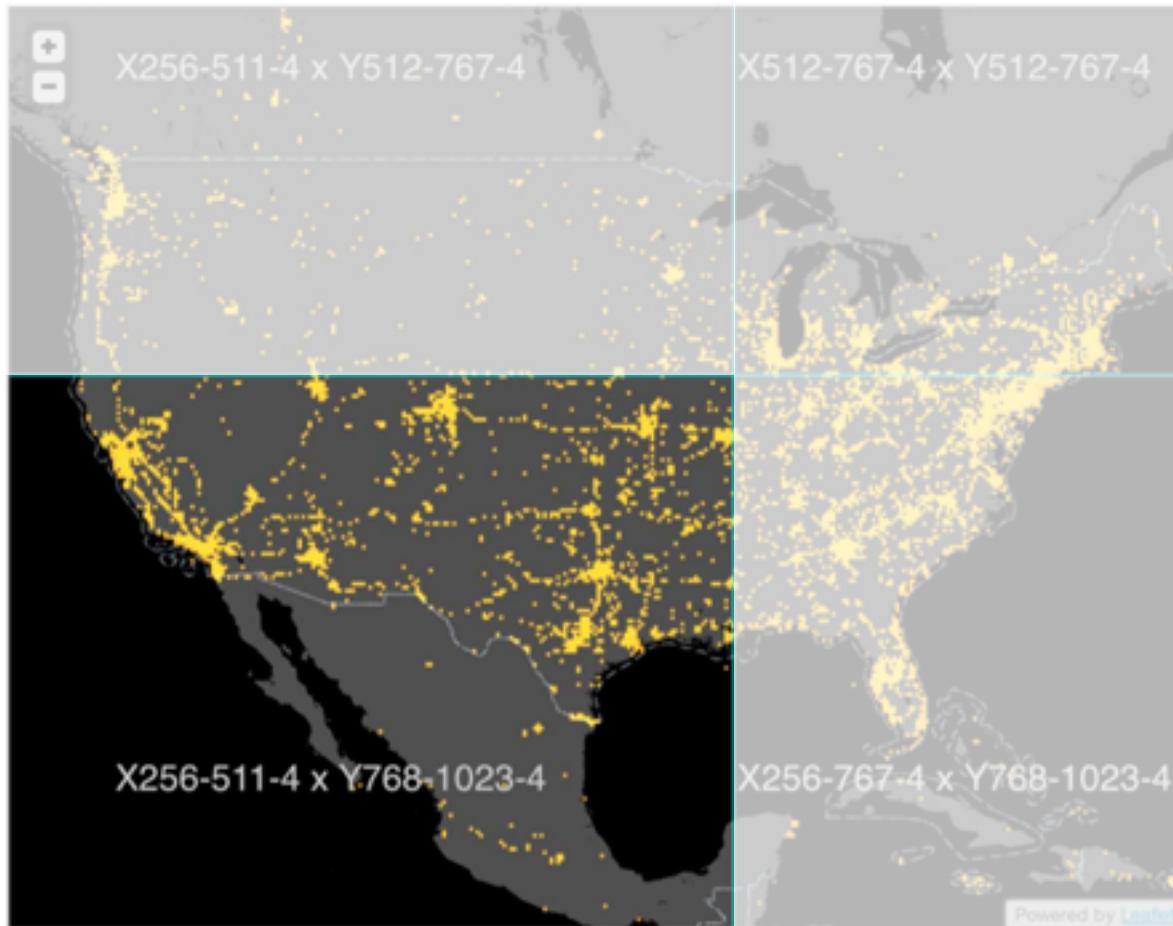




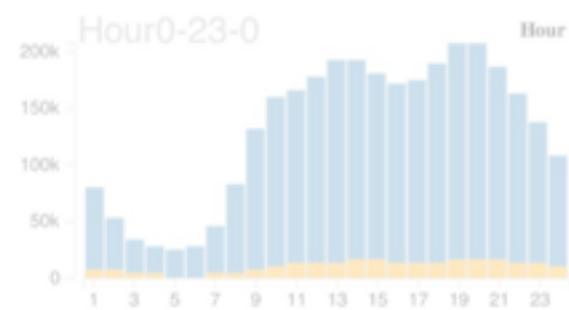
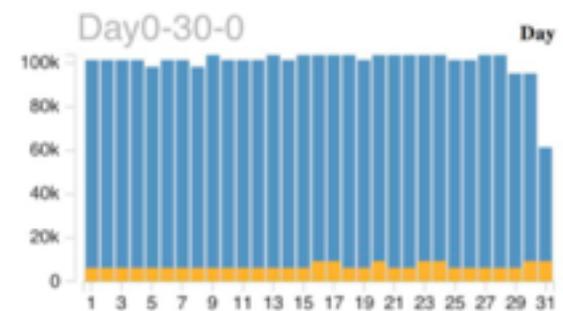
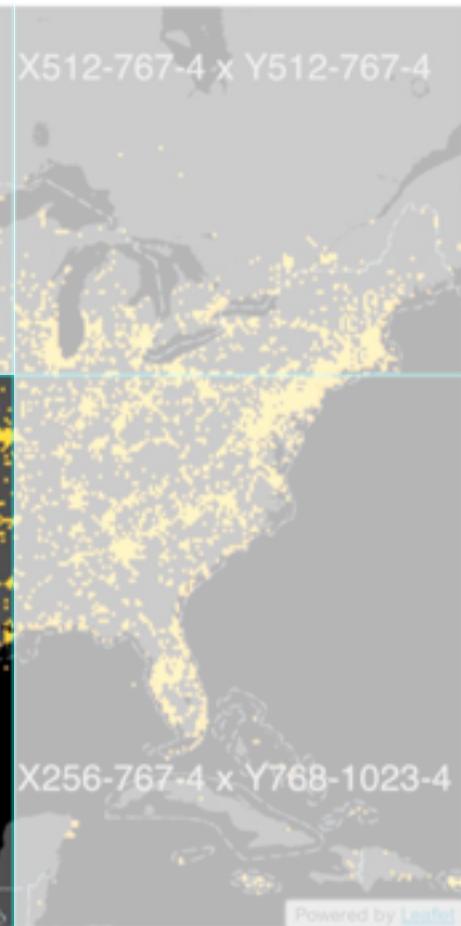
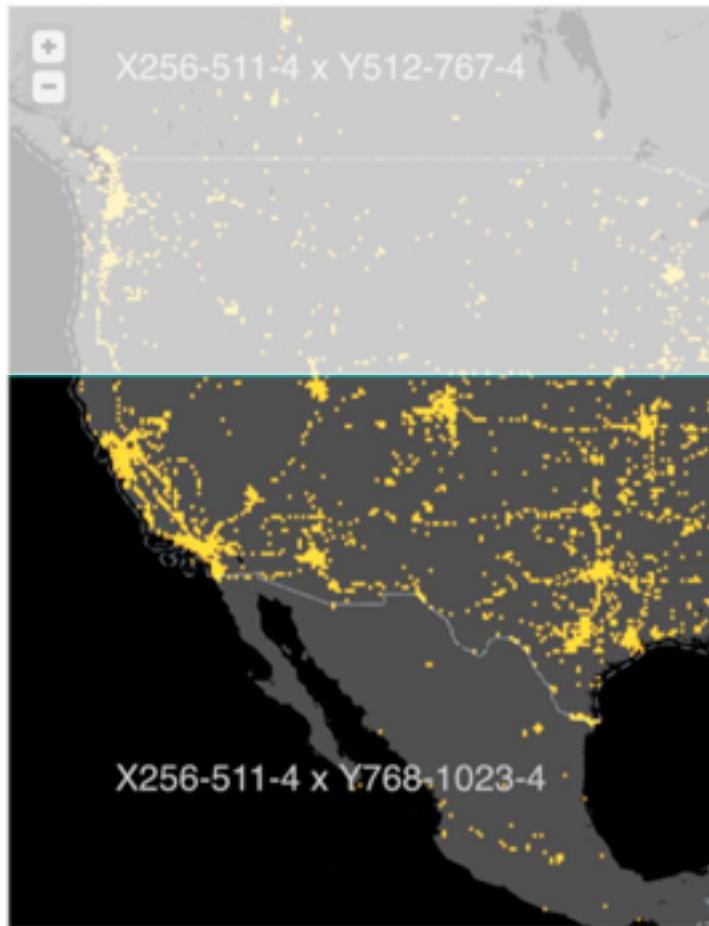


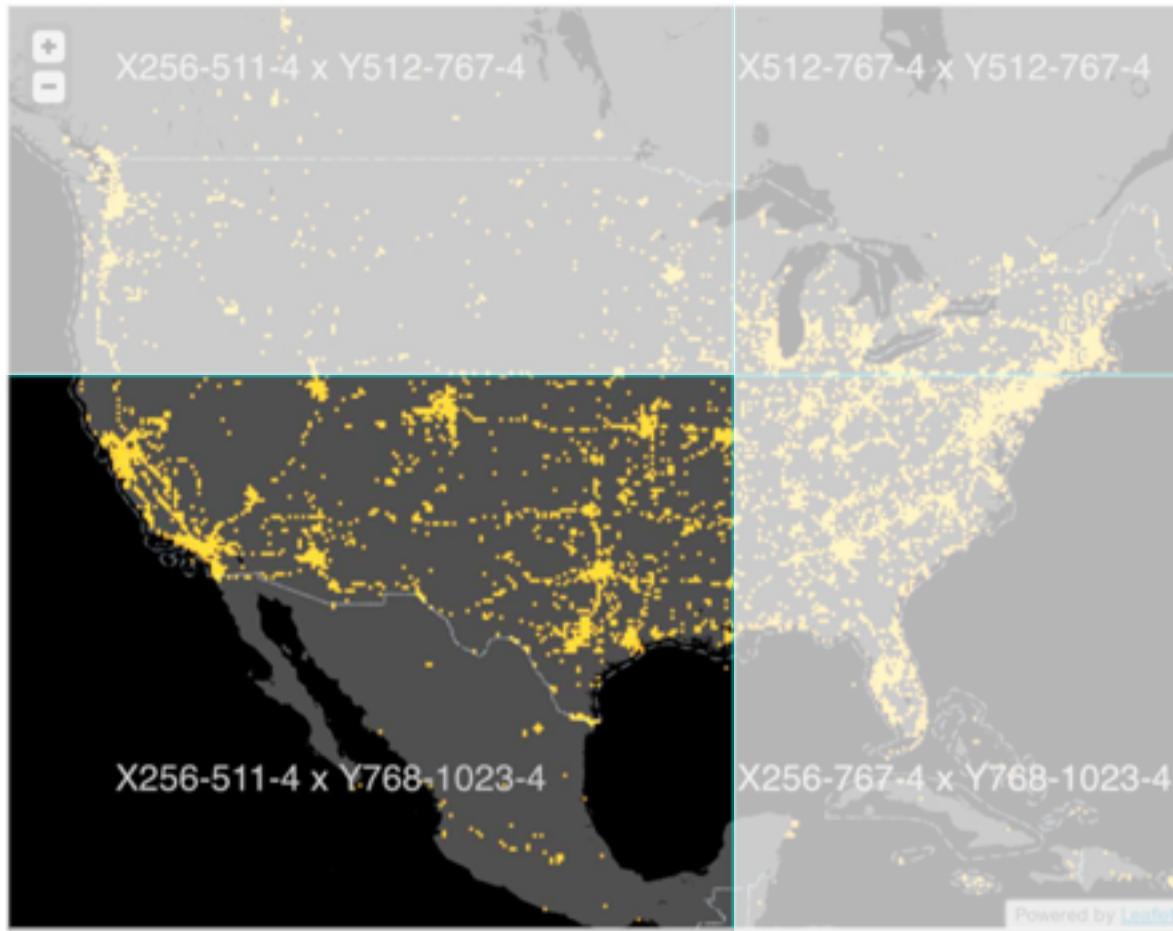




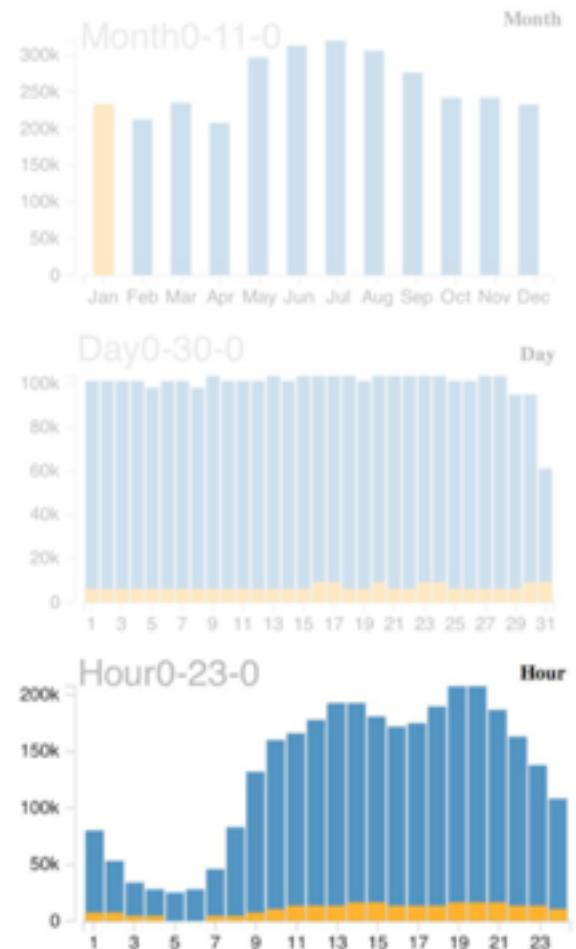


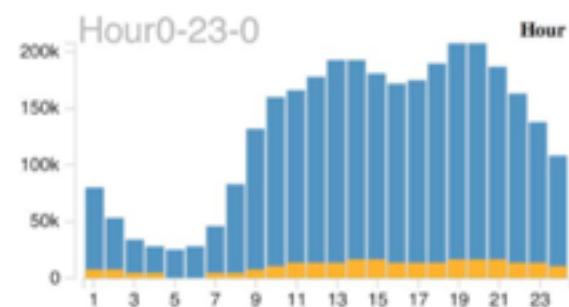
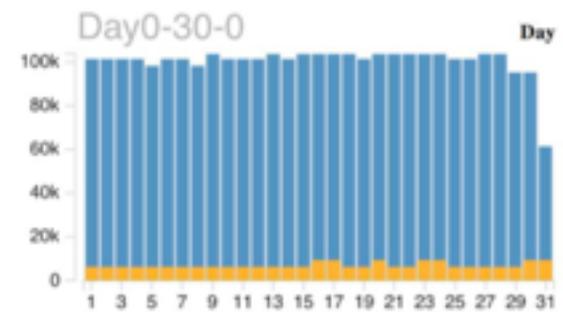
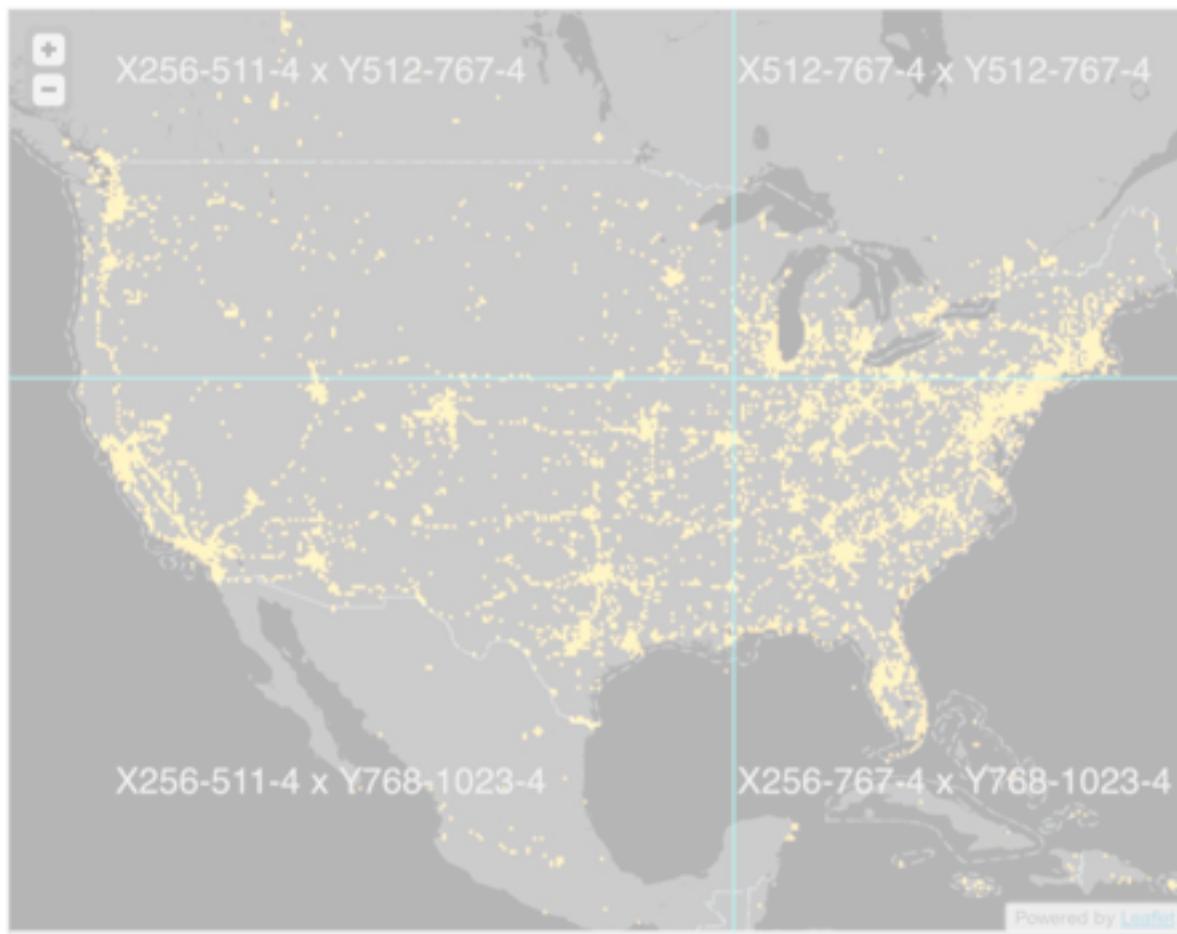
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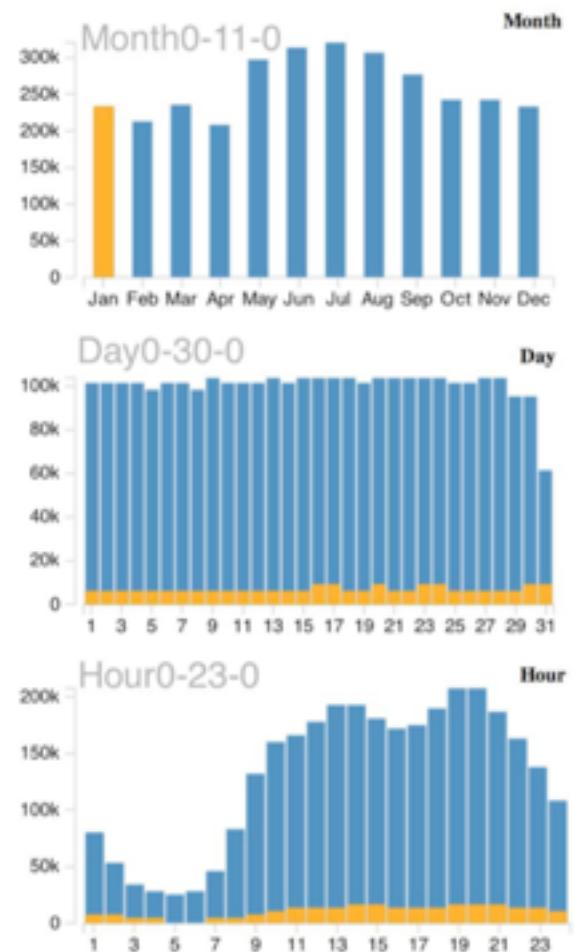
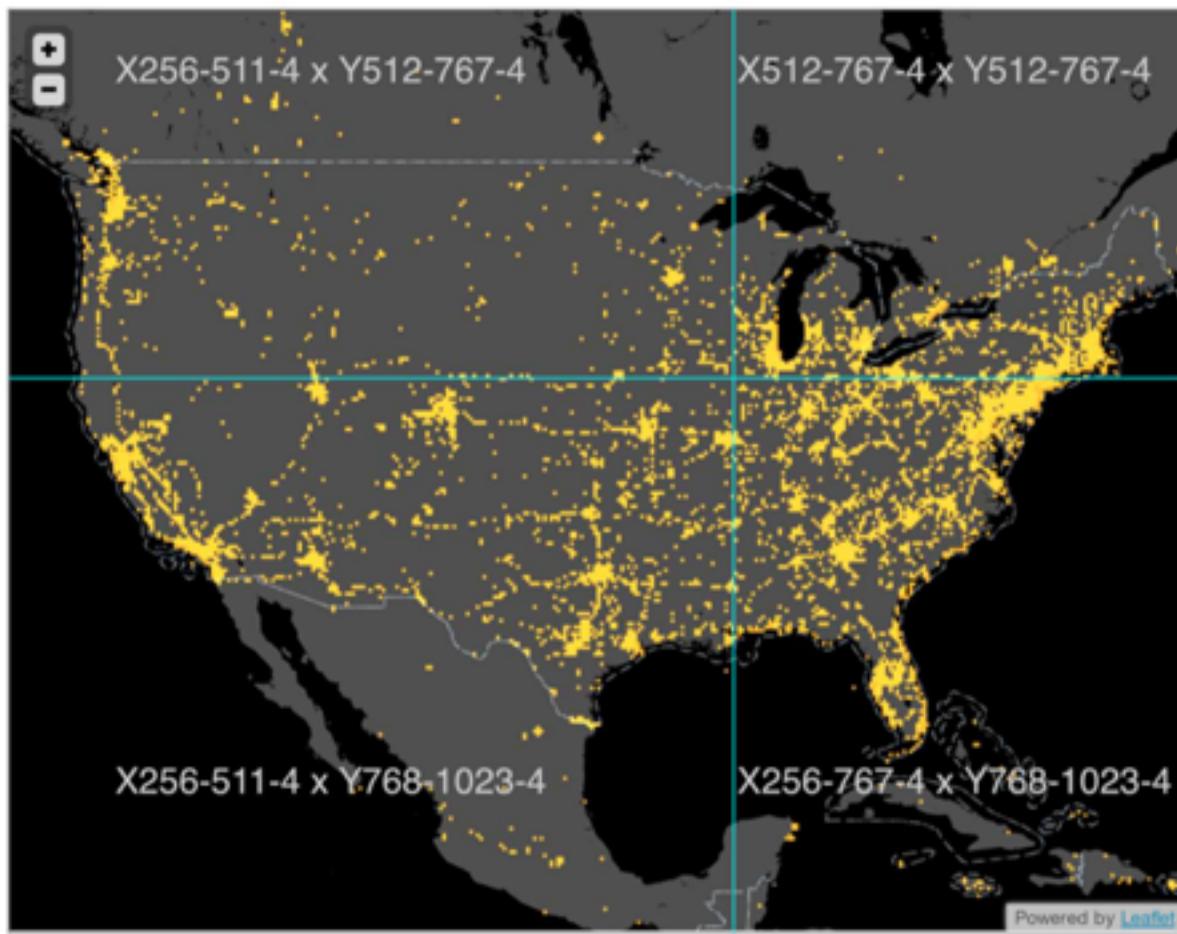




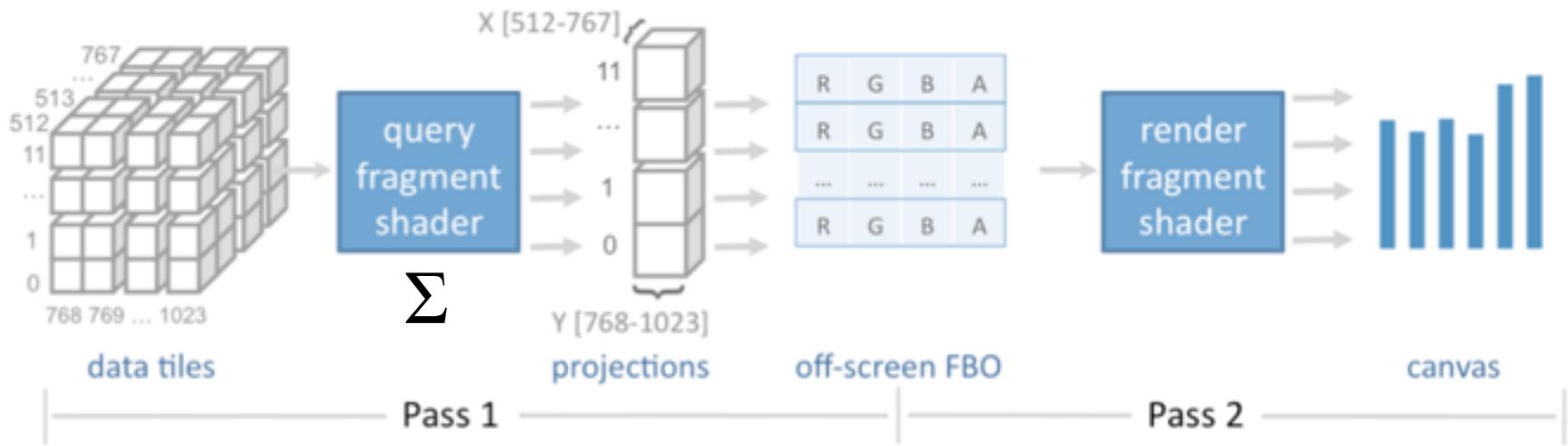
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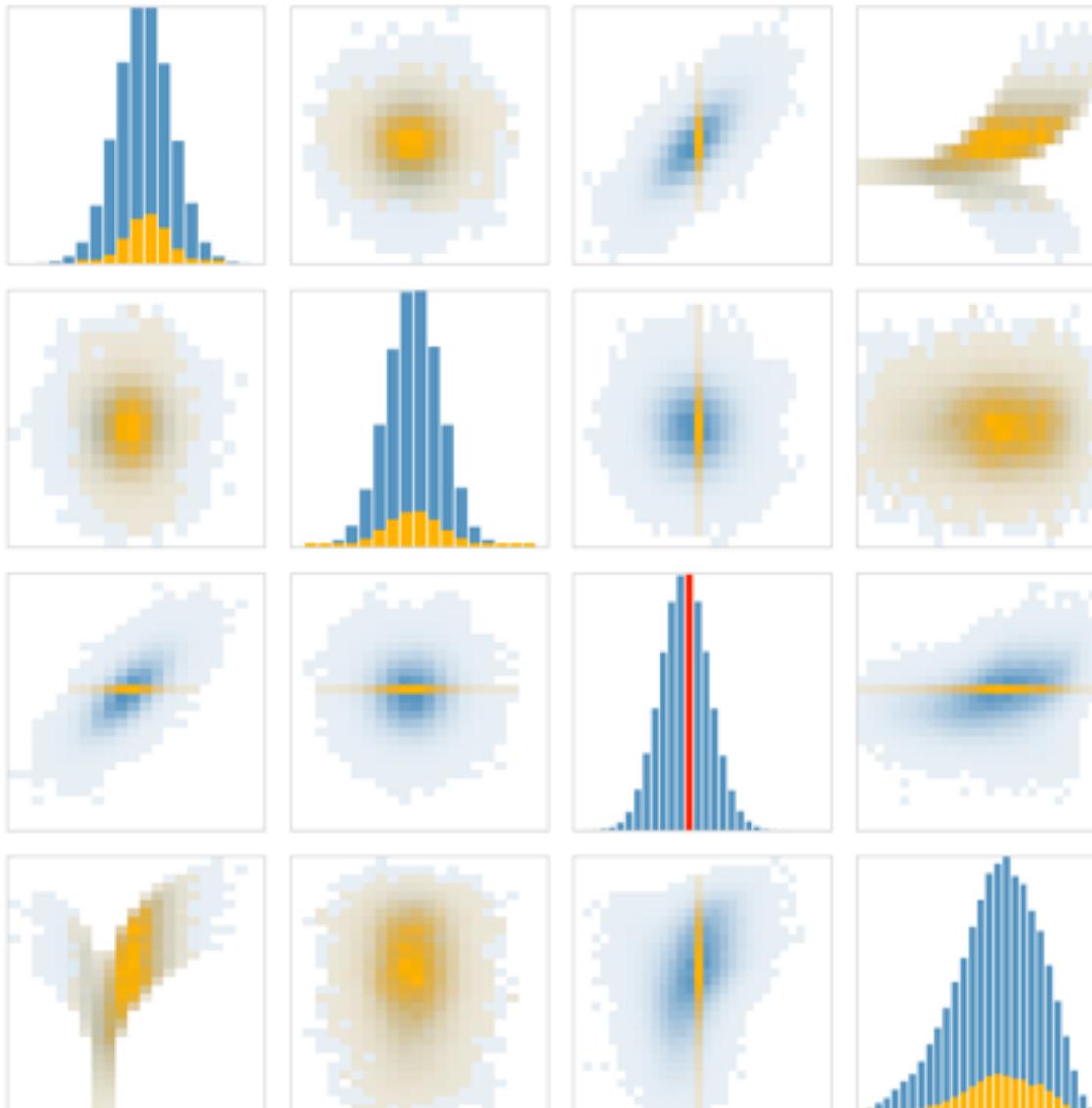


Query & Render on GPU (WebGL)



Pre-compute tiles & send from server.
Bind data tiles as image textures.
Execute queries in parallel on GPU.

Performance Benchmarks



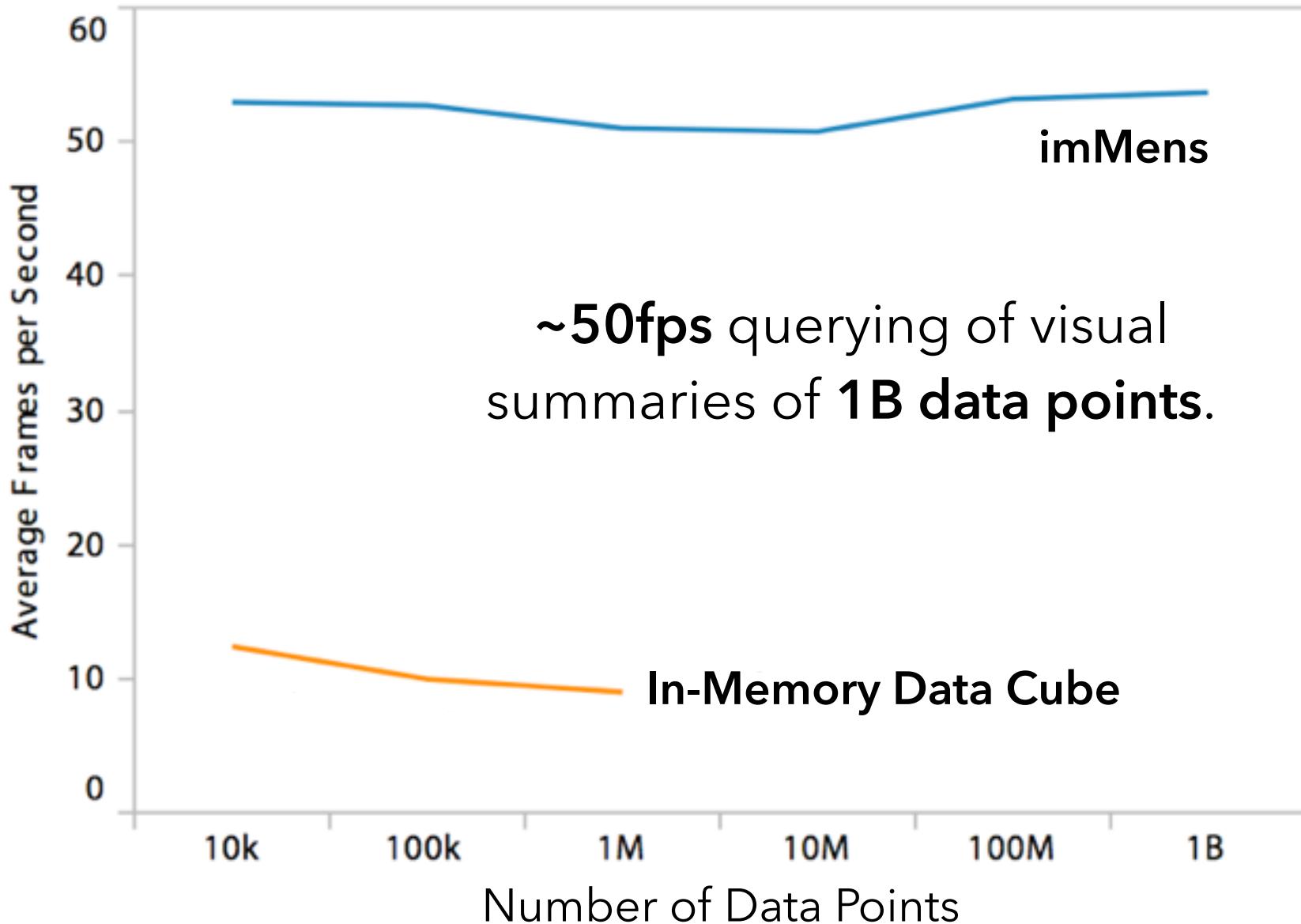
Simulate interaction:
brushing & linking
across binned plots.

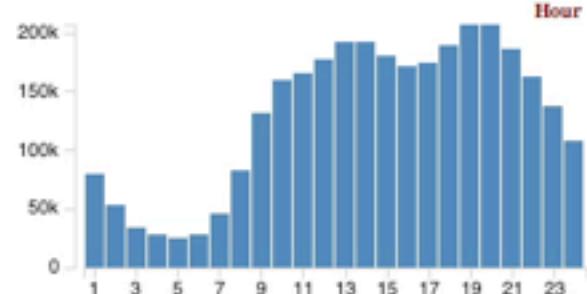
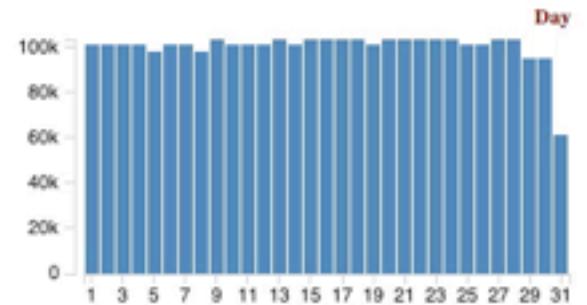
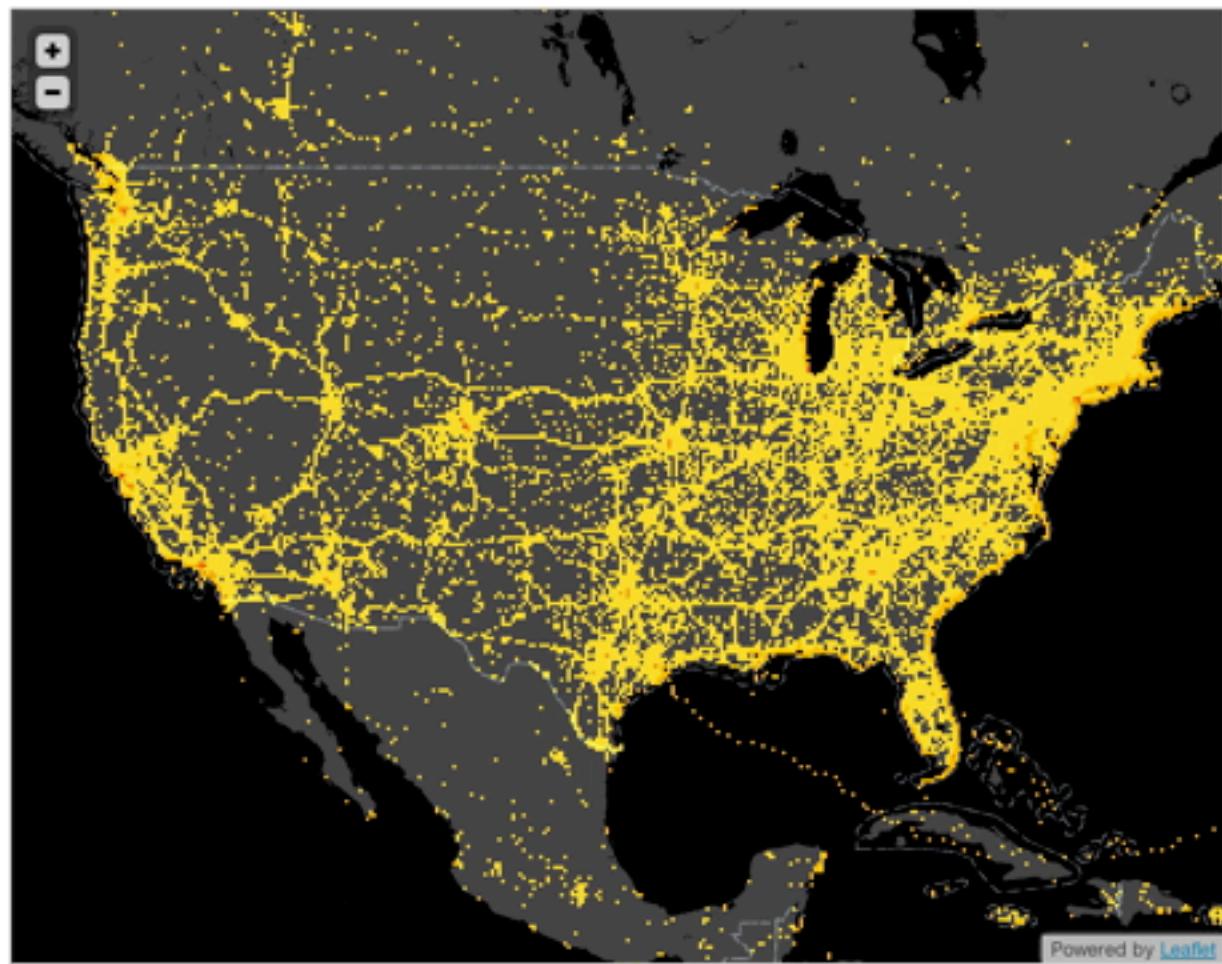
- 4x4 and 5x5 plots
- 10 to 50 bins

Measure time from
selection to render.

Test setup:
2.3 GHz MacBook Pro
NVIDIA GeForce GT 650M
Google Chrome v.23.0

5 dimensions x 50 bins/dim x 25 plots





Visualizing Big Data

Acknowledgments

Zhicheng "Leo" Liu, Biye Jiang

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Maneesh Agrawala, Pat Hanrahan