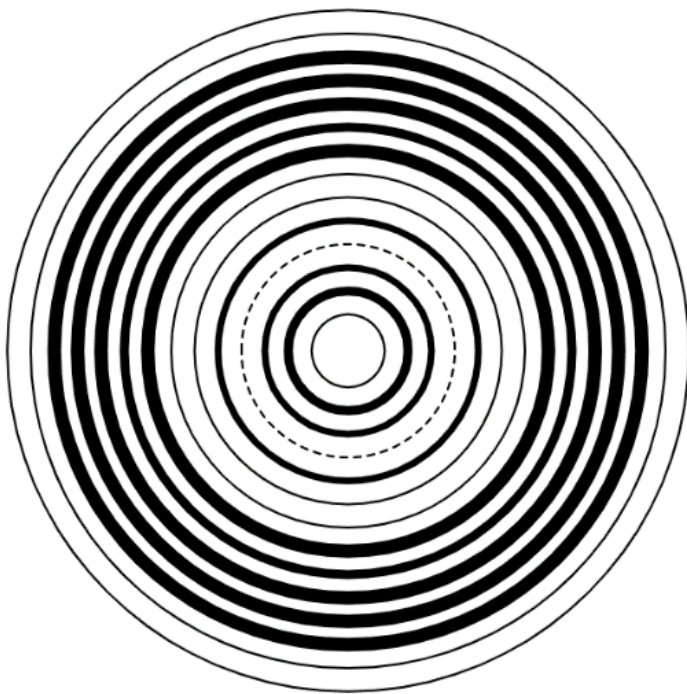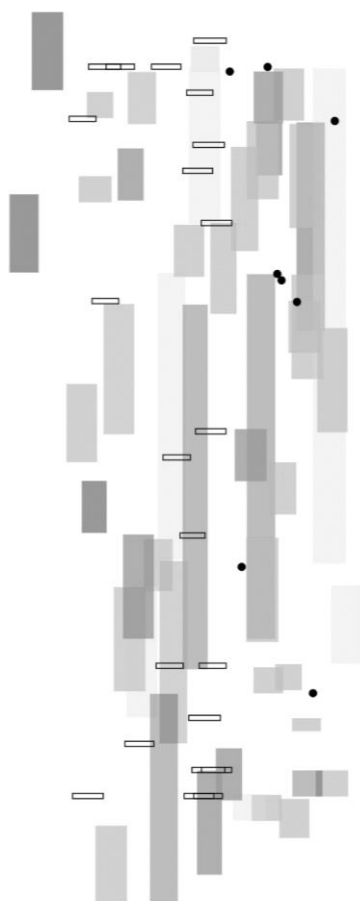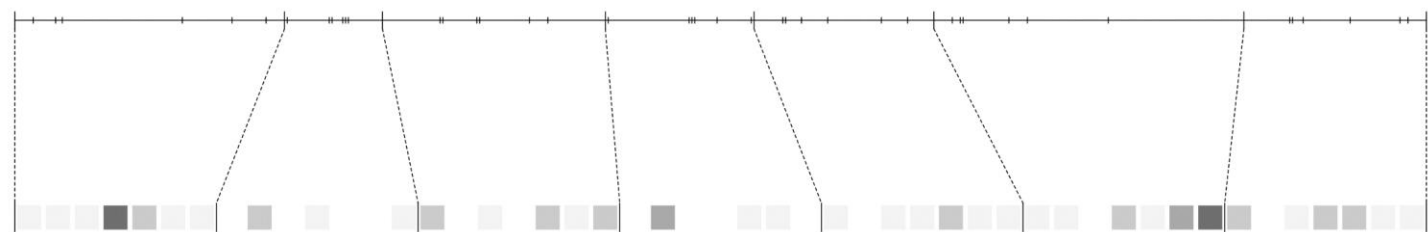Using p5.js for data sketching allows me to play with that data, making it both more meaningful (to me, by virtue of this expressive endeavor) and less meaningful (by using un-conventional visual mappings, or deliberately omitting some or all labels). In the process of *constructing these glyphs,* I can craft a familiarity or – hopefully- an intuition for the data.

the resulting image is like the skin a snake sheds (an artifact of a process that extends beyond the artifact)

The passage of time sloughs data, leaks numbers and bits left and right. Animation and interaction, the way that size and shape and position can heave to show *change* is all part of how visual choices *construct time*.

Randomness helps to *deconstruct false certainty*. The most usable tools for representing data visually take so many liberties. They seem to want to make everything look a lot more certain than it really is! The sharp edges and precisely-measurable sizes imply a false certainty. I don't want to flood the overall visual milieu with things that boast incommensurate certainty, but I want to make my tapestries of shapes and colors.

This is how I look at data that is difficult to look at too directly, with which I need familiarity and time.