

# Visualization Analysis & Design

## Full-Day Tutorial

### *Session 2*

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June 2014, Cambridge UK

<http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks.html#minicourse14>

# Outline

- **Visualization Analysis Framework**

Session 1 9:30-10:45am

- Introduction: Definitions
- Analysis: What, Why, How
- Marks and Channels

- **Idiom Design Choices, Part 2**

Session 3 1:15pm-2:45pm

- Manipulate: Change, Select, Navigate
- Facet: Juxtapose, Partition, Superimpose
- Reduce: Filter, Aggregate, Embed

- **Idiom Design Choices**

Session 2 11:00am-12:15pm

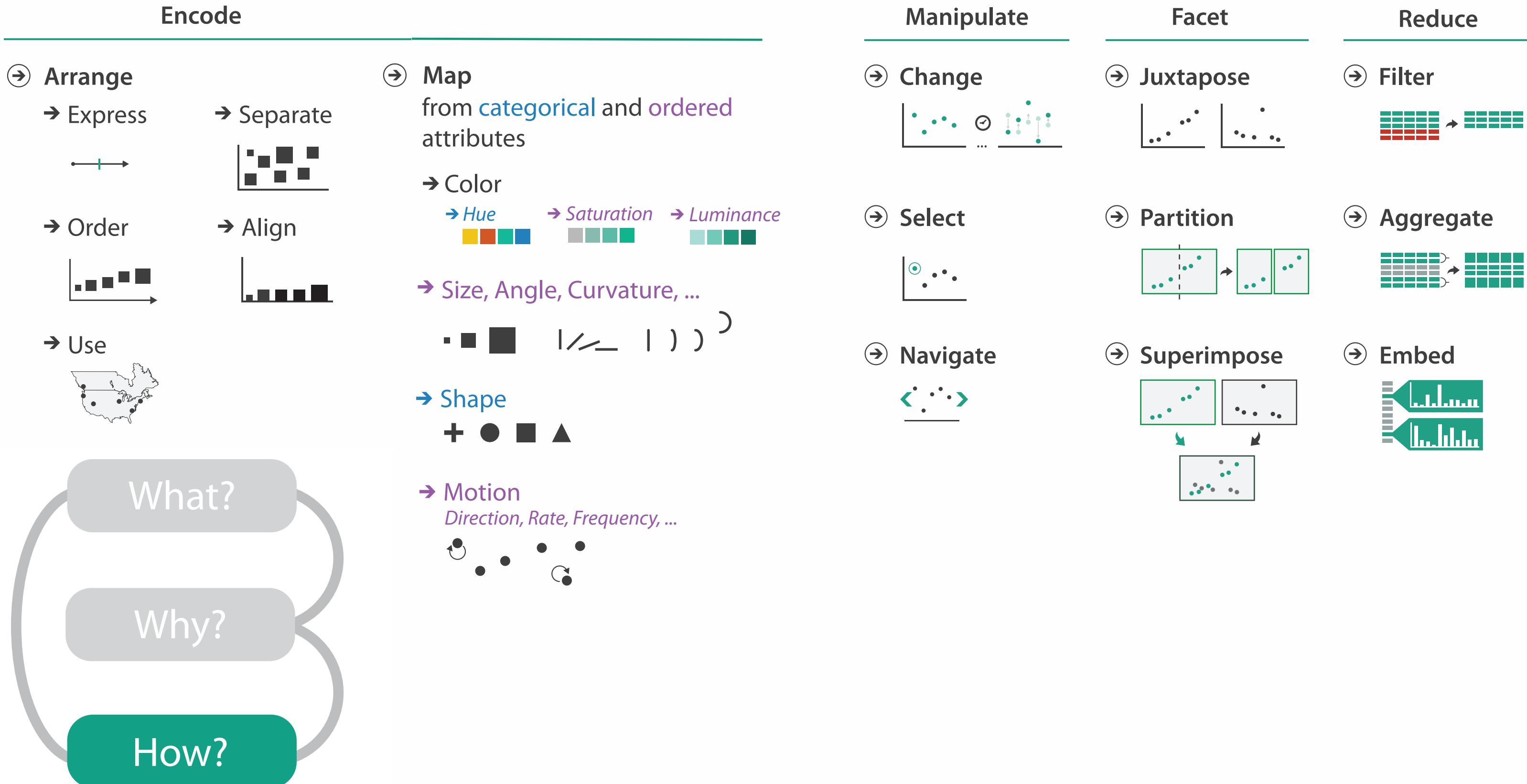
- **Arrange Tables**
- Arrange Spatial Data
- Arrange Networks and Trees
- Map Color

- **Guidelines and Examples**

Session 4 3-4:30pm

- Rules of Thumb
- Validation
- BioVis Analysis Example

# How?



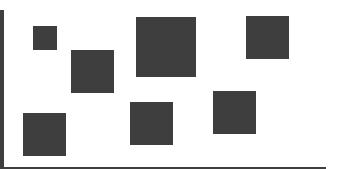
# Arrange space

## Encode

---

→ Arrange

→ Express



→ Order

→ Align



→ Use



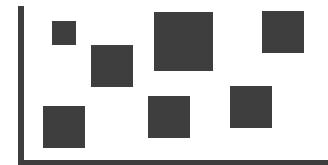
# Arrange tables

## → Express Values

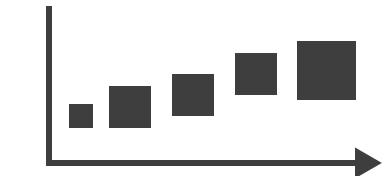


## → Separate, Order, Align Regions

→ Separate



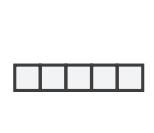
→ Order



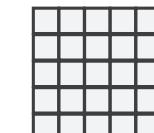
→ Align



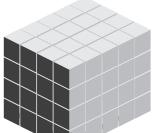
→ 1 Key  
*List*



→ 2 Keys  
*Matrix*

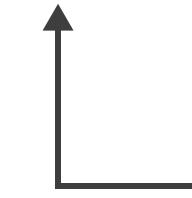


→ 3 Keys  
*Volume*

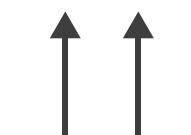


## → Axis Orientation

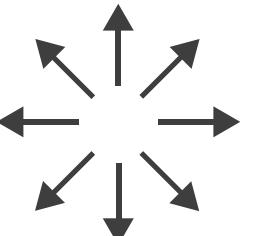
→ Rectilinear



→ Parallel

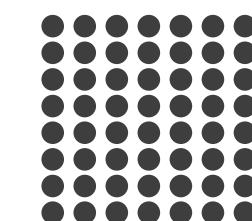


→ Radial

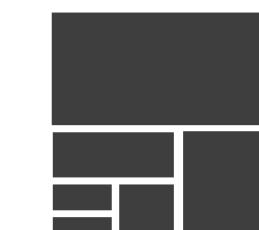


## → Layout Density

→ Dense



→ Space-Filling



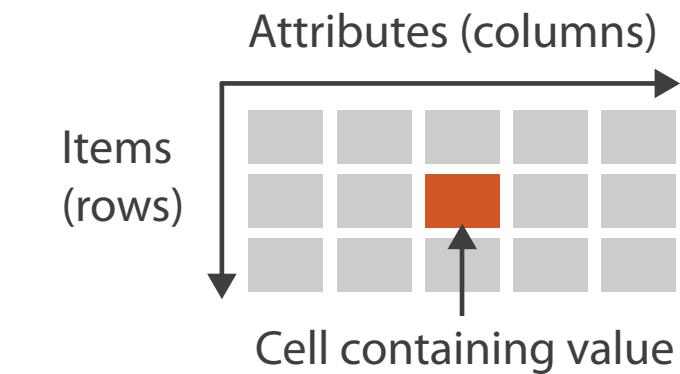
→ Many Keys  
*Recursive Subdivision*



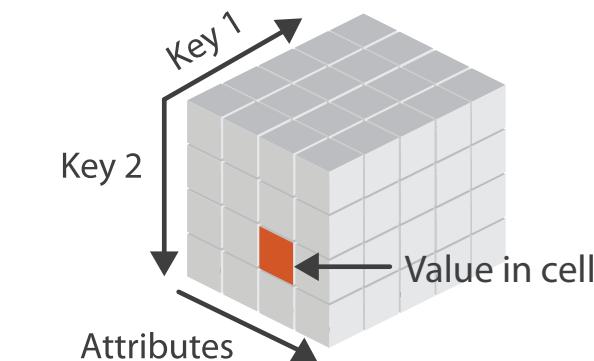
# Keys and values

- **key**
  - independent attribute
  - used as unique index to look up items
  - simple tables: 1 key
  - multidimensional tables: multiple keys
- **value**
  - dependent attribute, value of cell
- **classify arrangements by key count**
  - 0, 1, 2, many...

→ Tables



→ *Multidimensional Table*



→ Express Values

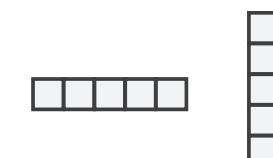
→ 1 Key

*List*



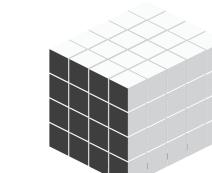
→ 2 Keys

*Matrix*



→ 3 Keys

*Volume*



→ Many Keys

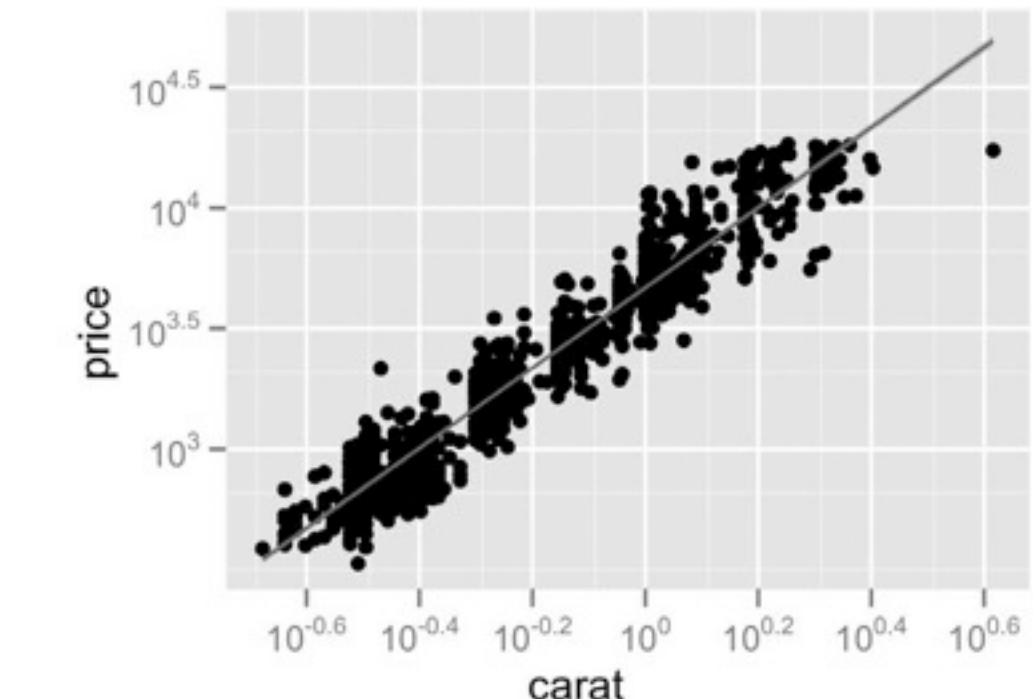
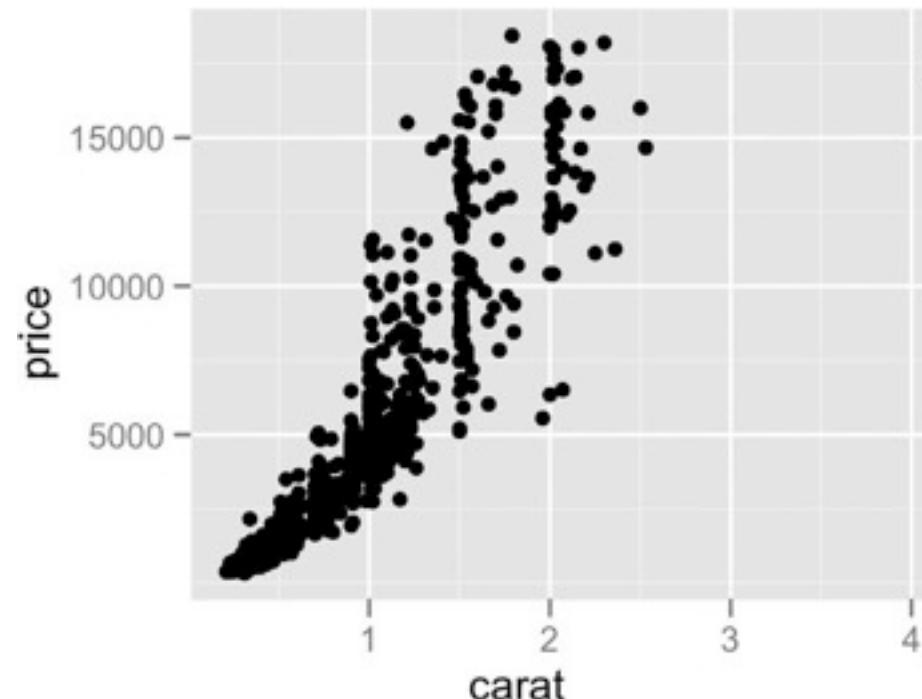
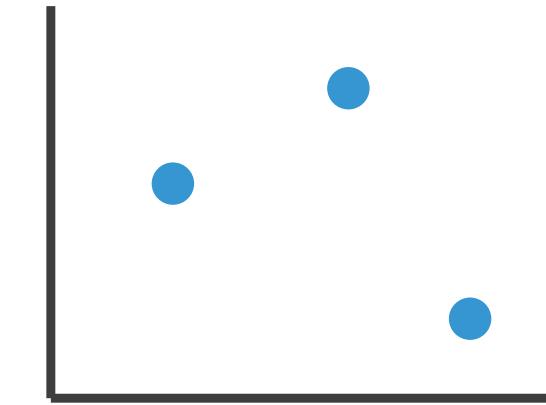
*Recursive Subdivision*



# Idiom: scatterplot

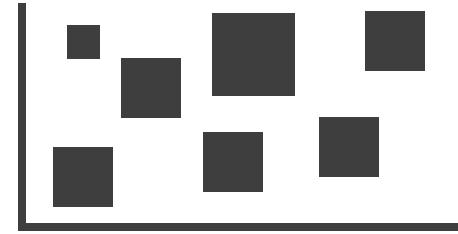
→ Express Values

- **express** values
  - quantitative attributes
- no keys, only values
  - data
    - 2 quant attrs
  - mark: points
  - channels
    - horiz + vert position
  - tasks
    - find trends, outliers, distribution, correlation, clusters
  - scalability
    - hundreds of items

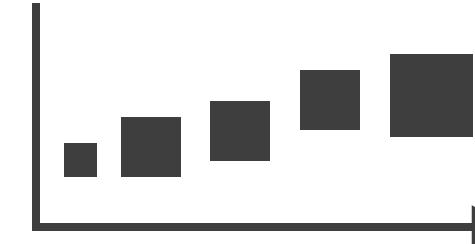


# Some keys: Categorical regions

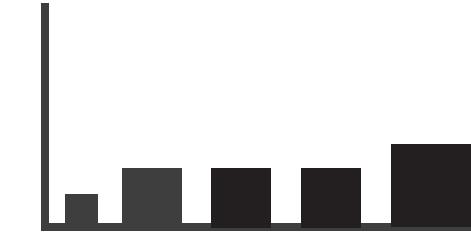
→ Separate



→ Order



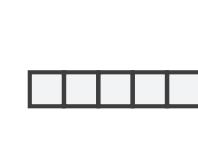
→ Align



- **regions:** contiguous bounded areas distinct from each other
  - using space to **separate** (proximity)
  - following expressiveness principle for categorical attributes
- use ordered attribute to **order** and **align** regions

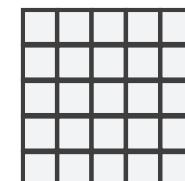
→ 1 Key

*List*



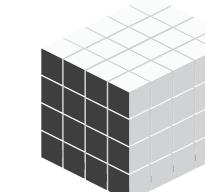
→ 2 Keys

*Matrix*



→ 3 Keys

*Volume*



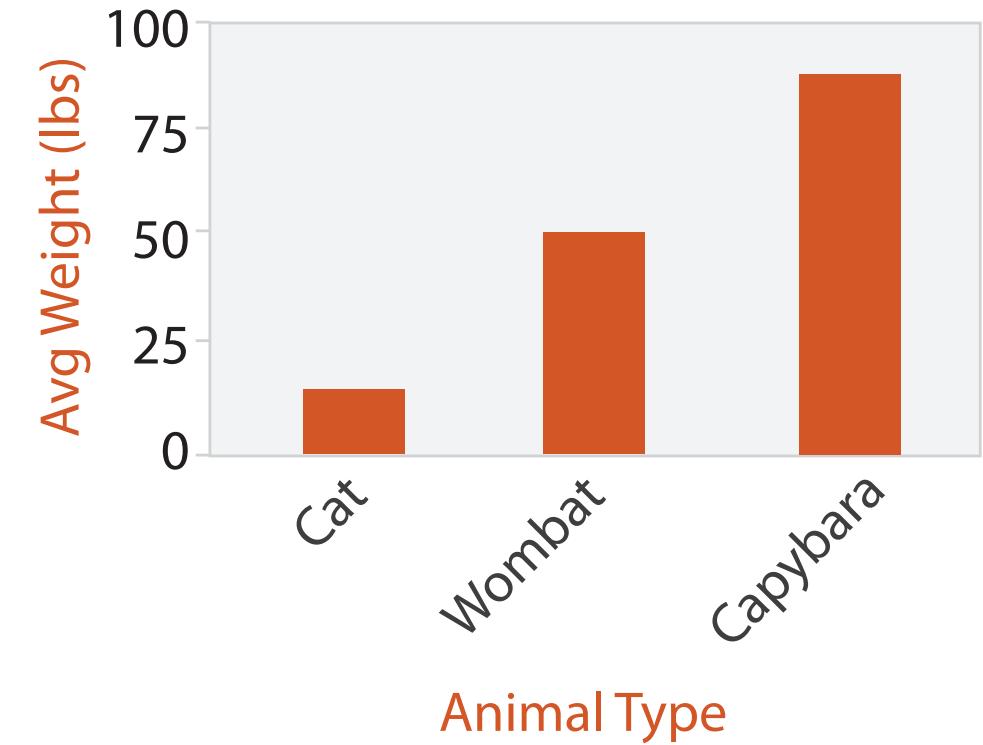
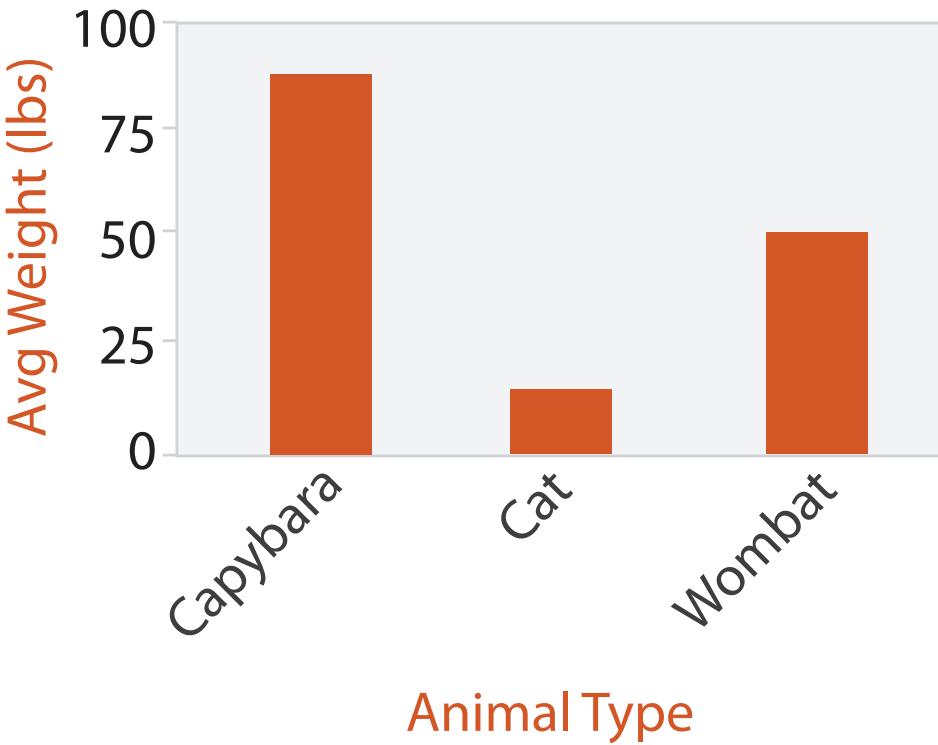
→ Many Keys

*Recursive Subdivision*



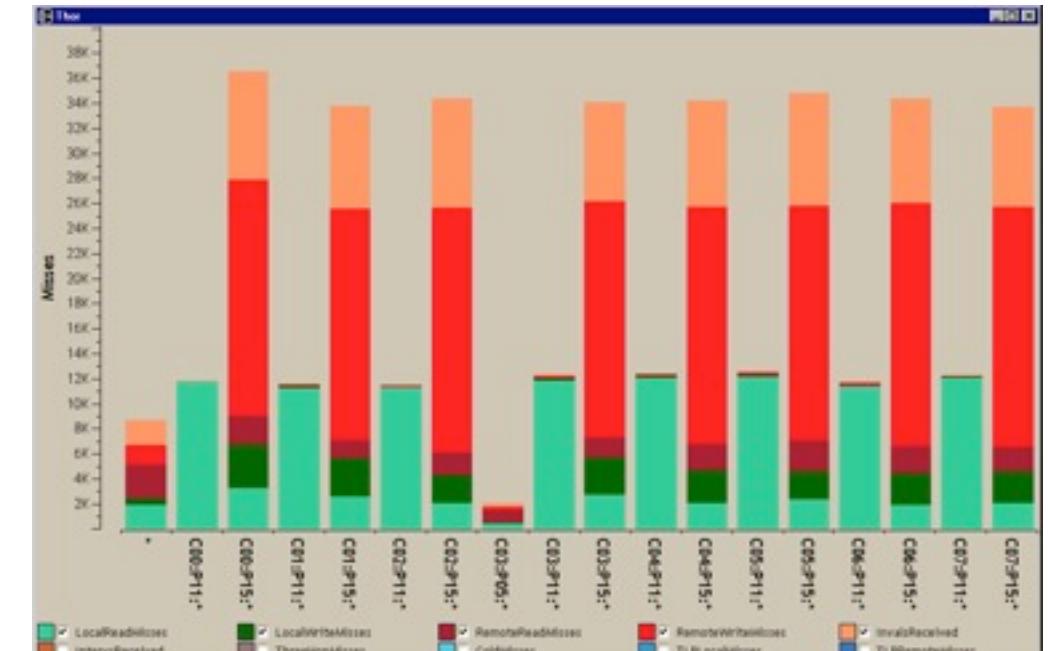
# Idiom: bar chart

- one key, one value
  - data
    - 1 categ attrib, 1 quant attrib
  - mark: lines
  - channels
    - length to express quant value
    - spatial regions: one per mark
      - separated horizontally, aligned vertically
      - ordered by quant attrib
        - » by label (alphabetical), by length attrib (data-driven)
  - task
    - compare, lookup values
  - scalability
    - dozens to hundreds of levels for key attrib



# Idiom: stacked bar chart

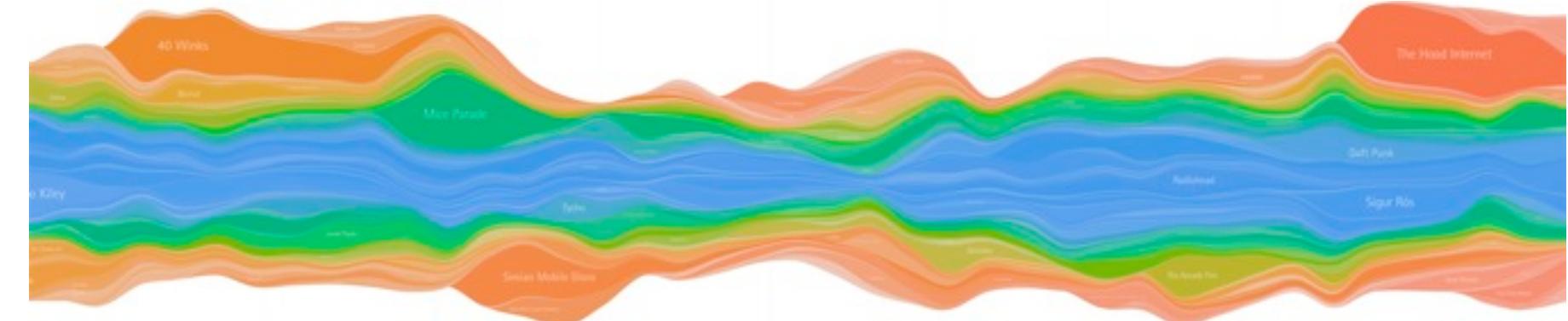
- one more key
  - data
    - 2 categ attrib, 1 quant attrib
  - mark: vertical stack of line marks
    - **glyph**: composite object, internal structure from multiple marks
  - channels
    - length and color hue
    - spatial regions: one per glyph
      - aligned: full glyph, lowest bar component
      - unaligned: other bar components
  - task
    - part-to-whole relationship
  - scalability
    - several to one dozen levels for stacked attrib



[Using Visualization to Understand the Behavior of Computer Systems. Bosch. Ph.D. thesis, Stanford Computer Science, 2001.]

# Idiom: streamgraph

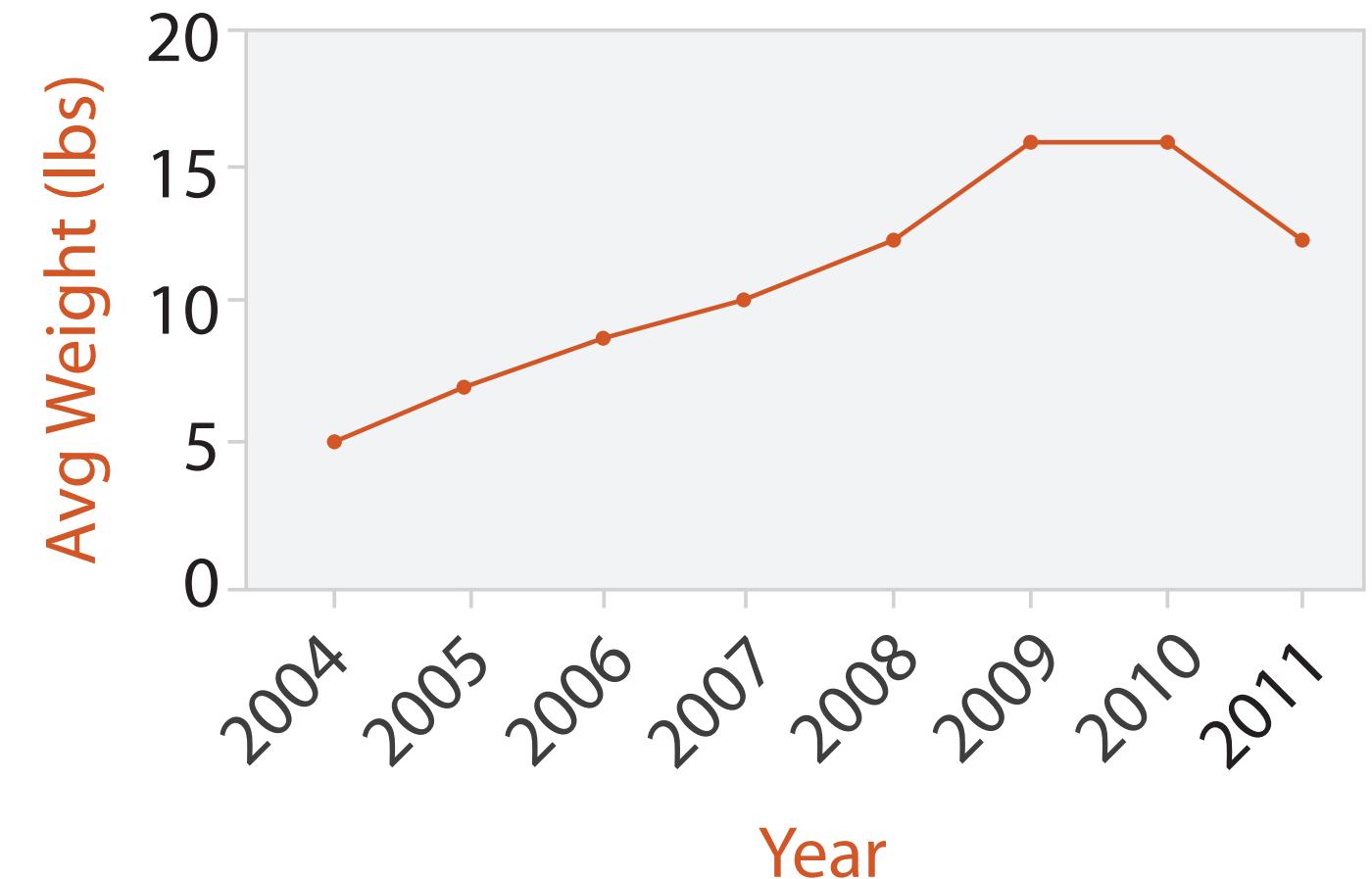
- generalized stacked graph
    - emphasizing horizontal continuity
      - vs vertical items
    - data
      - 1 categ key attrib (artist)
      - 1 ordered key attrib (time)
      - 1 quant value attrib (counts)
    - derived data
      - geometry: layers, where height encodes counts
      - 1 quant attrib (layer ordering)
    - scalability
      - hundreds of time keys
      - dozens to hundreds of artist keys
        - more than stacked bars, since most layers don't extend across whole chart



[Stacked Graphs Geometry & Aesthetics. Byron and Wattenberg. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis 2008) 14(6): 1245–1252, (2008).]

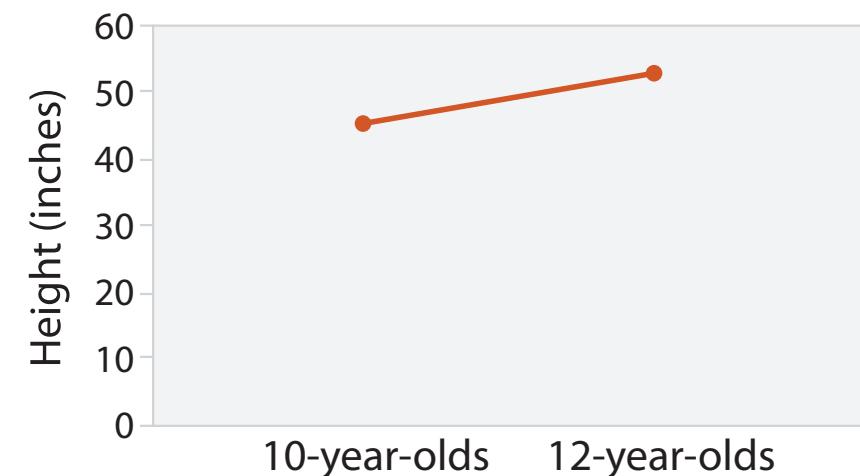
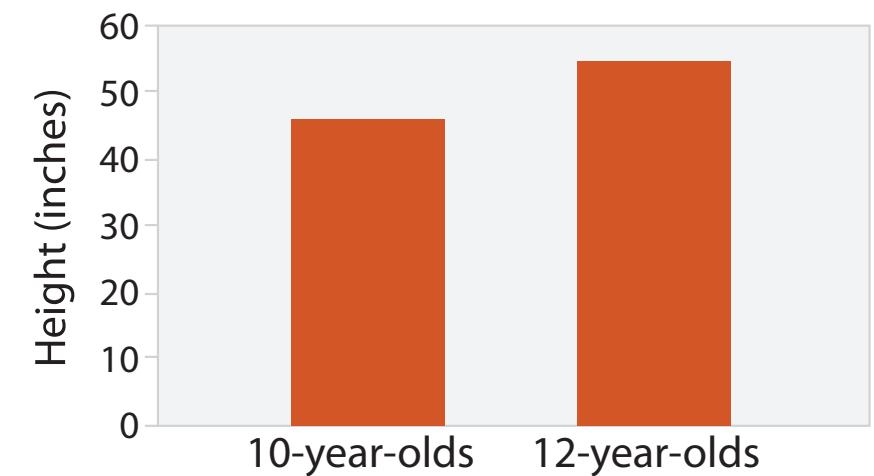
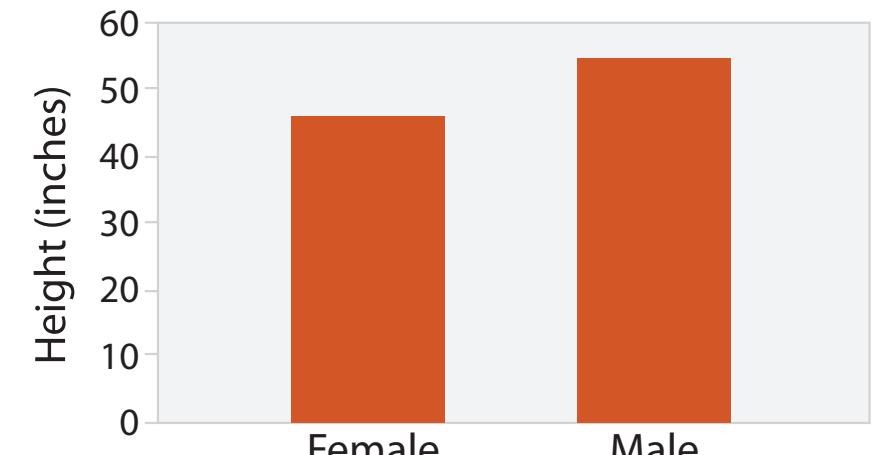
# Idiom: line chart

- one key, one value
  - data
    - 2 quant attrs
  - mark: points
    - line connection marks between them
  - channels
    - aligned lengths to express quant value
    - separated and ordered by key attrib into horizontal regions
  - task
    - find trend
      - connection marks emphasize ordering of items along key axis by explicitly showing relationship between one item and the next



# Choosing bar vs line charts

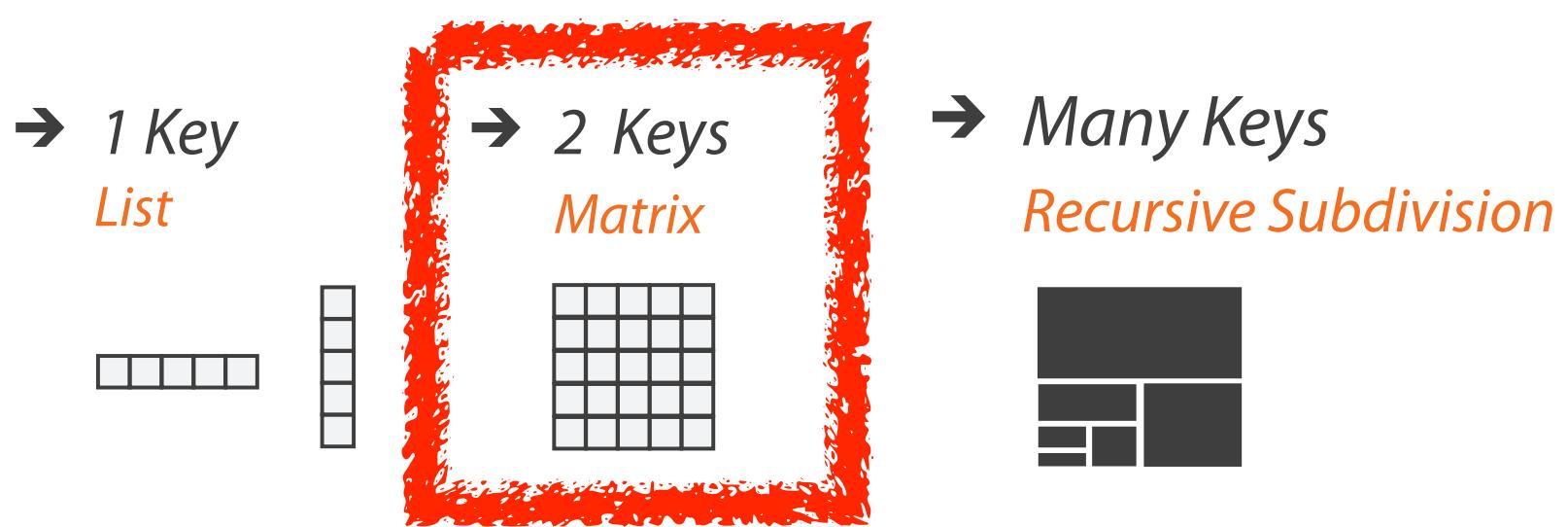
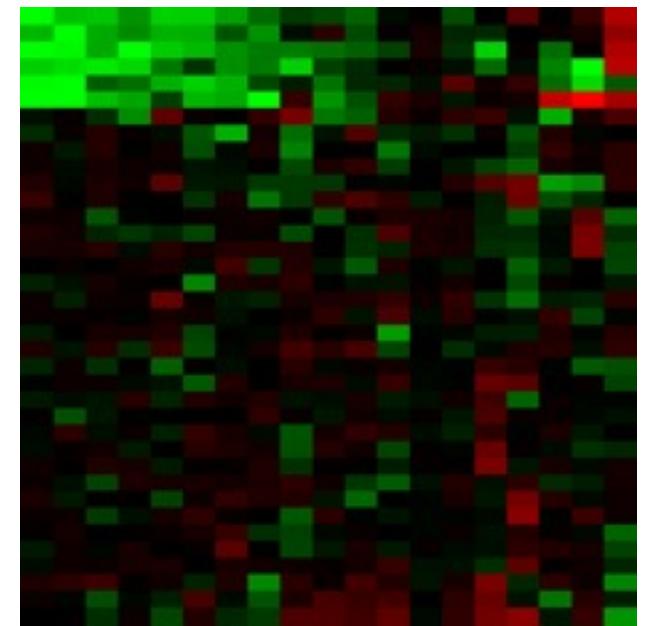
- depends on type of key attrib
  - bar charts if categorical
  - line charts if ordered
- do not use line charts for categorical key attrs
  - violates expressiveness principle
    - implication of trend so strong that it overrides semantics!
    - “The more male a person is, the taller he/she is”



after [Bars and Lines: A Study of Graphic Communication.  
Zacks and Tversky. Memory and Cognition 27:6 (1999),  
1073–1079.]

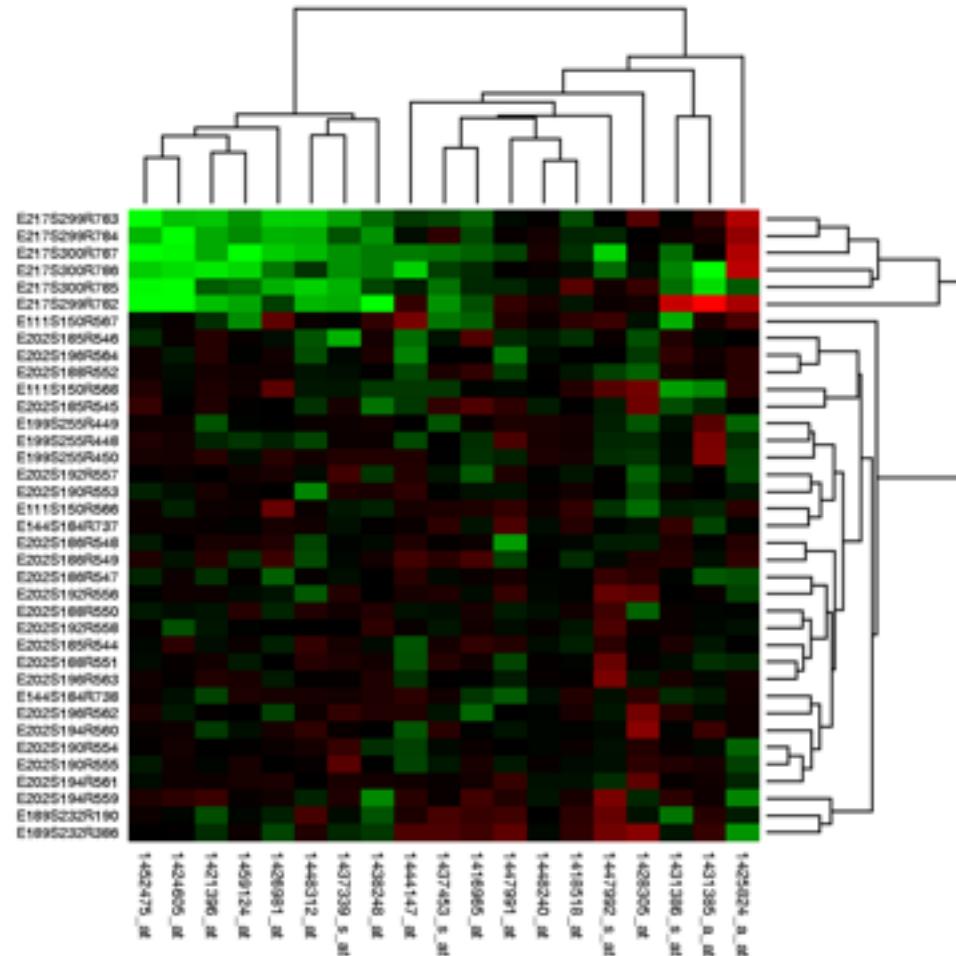
# Idiom: heatmap

- two keys, one value
  - data
    - 2 categ attrs (gene, experimental condition)
    - 1 quant attrib (expression levels)
  - marks: area
    - separate and align in 2D matrix
      - indexed by 2 categorical attributes
  - channels
    - color by quant attrib
      - (ordered diverging colormap)
  - task
    - find clusters, outliers
  - scalability
    - 1M items, 100s of categ levels, ~10 quant attrib levels



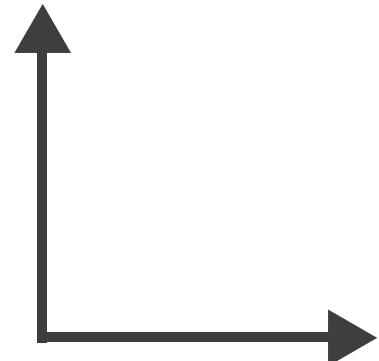
# Idiom: cluster heatmap

- in addition
  - derived data
    - 2 cluster hierarchies
  - dendrogram
    - parent-child relationships in tree with connection line marks
    - leaves aligned so interior branch heights easy to compare
  - heatmap
    - marks (re-)ordered by cluster hierarchy traversal

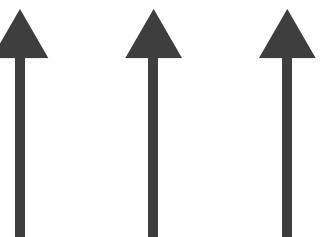


## → Axis Orientation

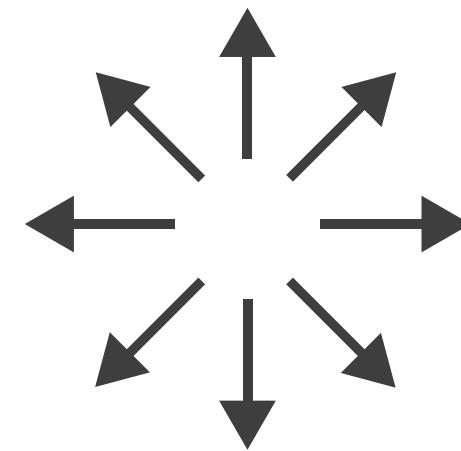
→ Rectilinear



→ Parallel



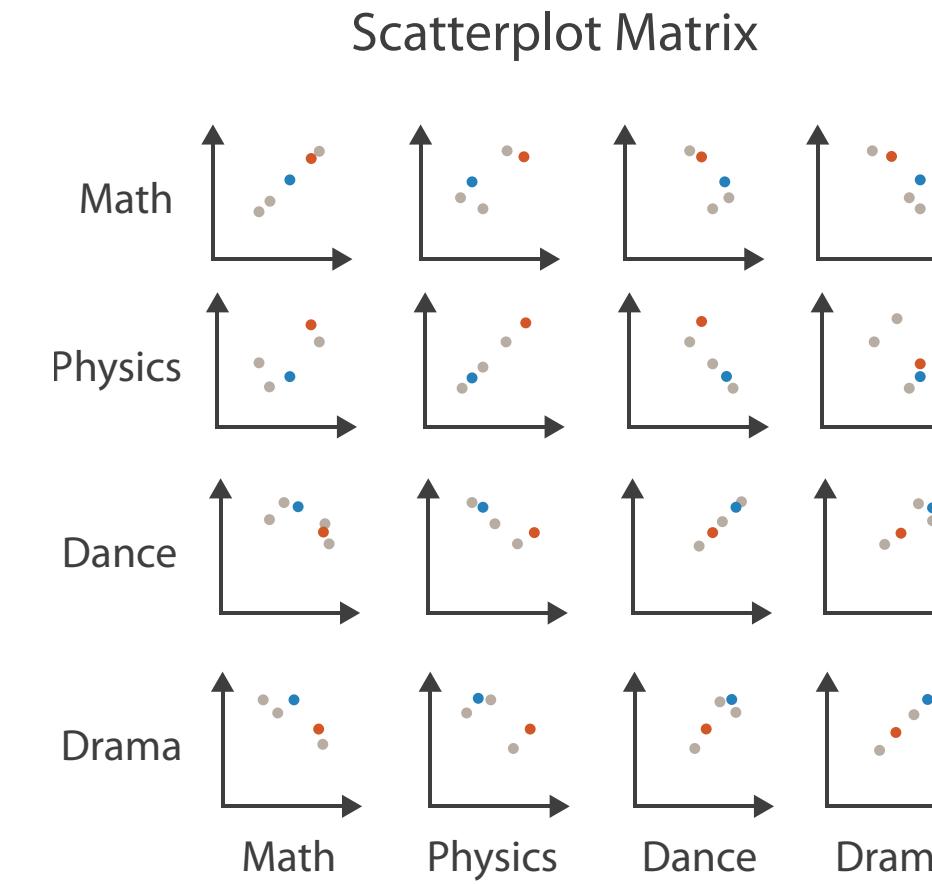
→ Radial



# Idioms: scatterplot matrix, parallel coordinates

- scatterplot matrix (SPLOM)

- rectilinear axes, point mark
- all possible pairs of axes
- scalability
  - one dozen attrs
  - dozens to hundreds of items



- parallel coordinates

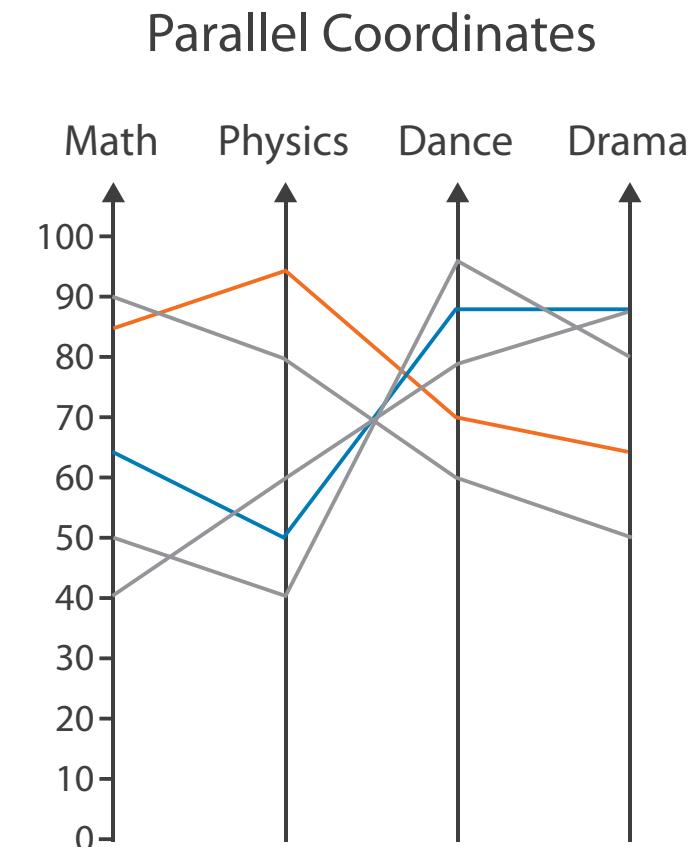
- parallel axes, jagged line representing item

- rectilinear axes, item as point

- axis ordering is major challenge

- scalability

- dozens of attrs
  - hundreds of items



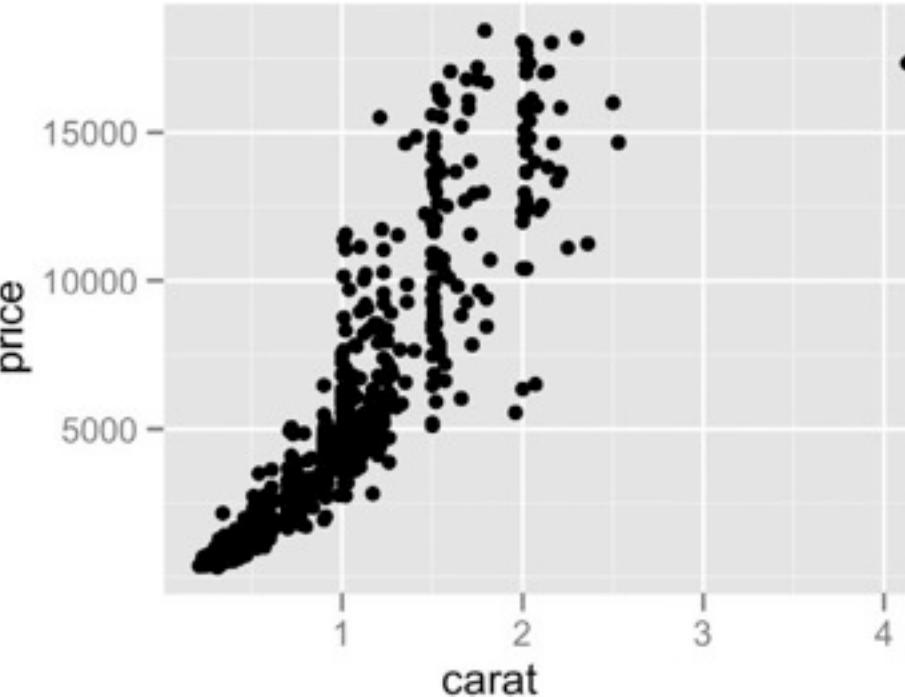
Table

	Math	Physics	Dance	Drama
1	85	95	70	65
2	90	80	60	50
3	65	50	90	90
4	50	40	95	80
5	40	60	80	90

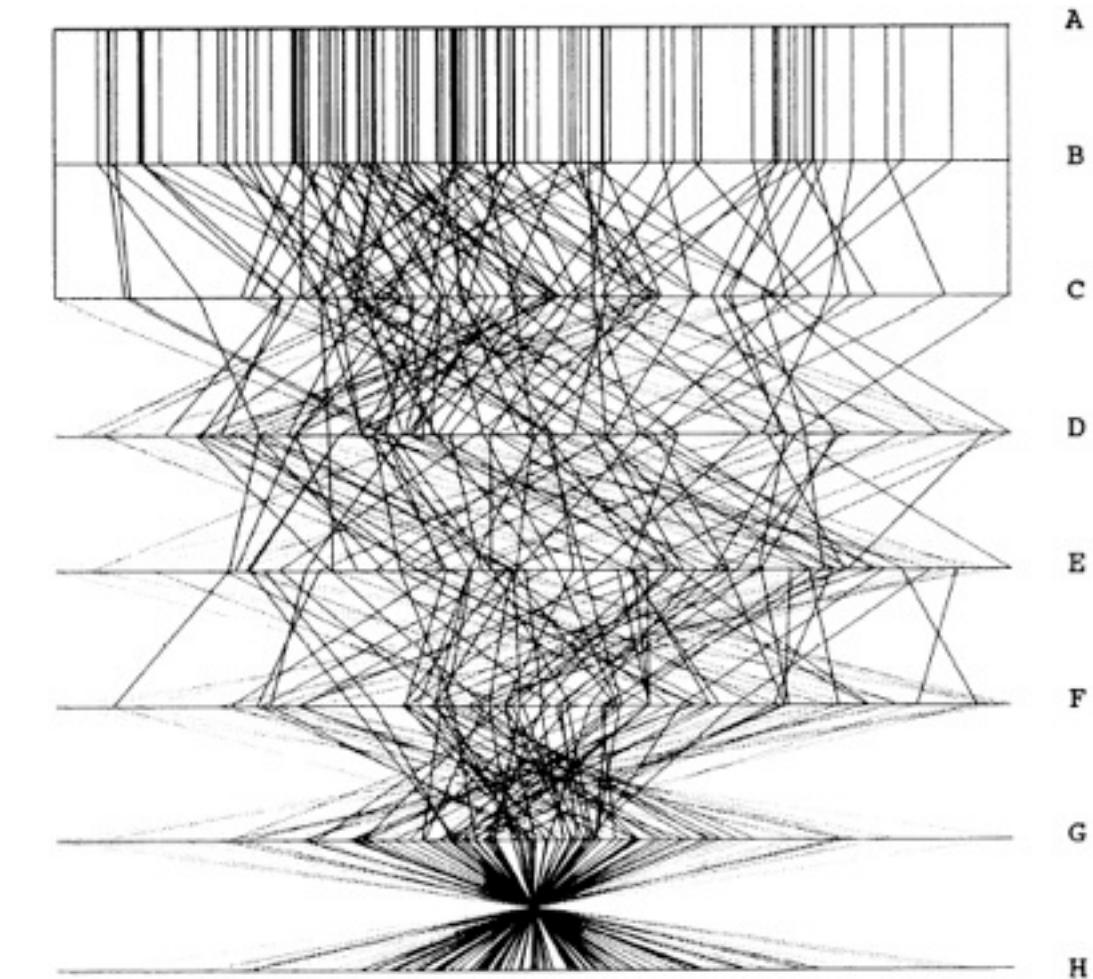
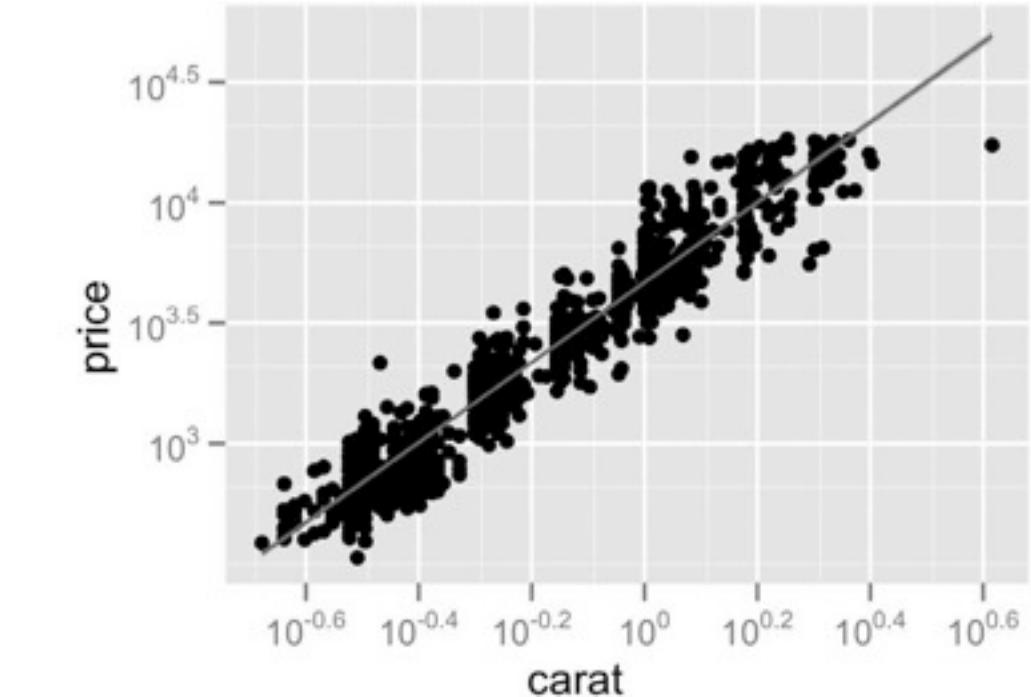
after [Visualization Course Figures. McGuffin, 2014. <http://www.michaelmcguffin.com/courses/vis/>]

# Task: Correlation

- scatterplot matrix
  - positive correlation
    - diagonal low-to-high
  - negative correlation
    - diagonal high-to-low
  - uncorrelated
- parallel coordinates
  - positive correlation
    - parallel line segments
  - negative correlation
    - all segments cross at halfway point
  - uncorrelated
    - scattered crossings



[A layered grammar of graphics. Wickham.  
Journ. Computational and Graphical Statistics  
19:1 (2010), 3–28.]

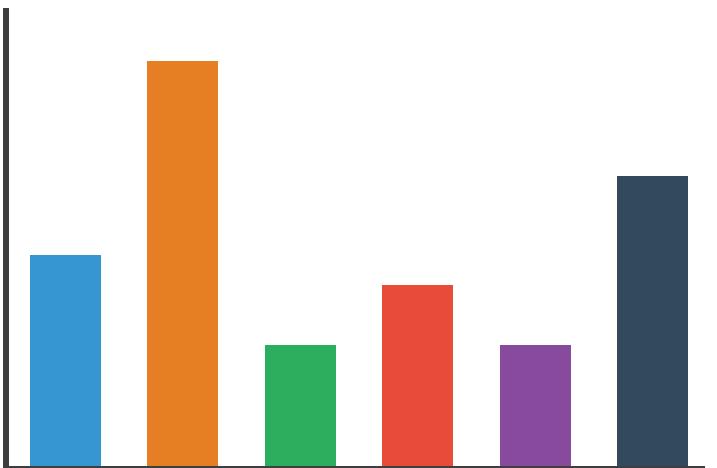
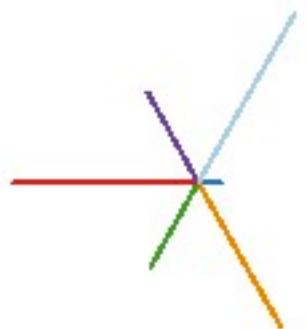
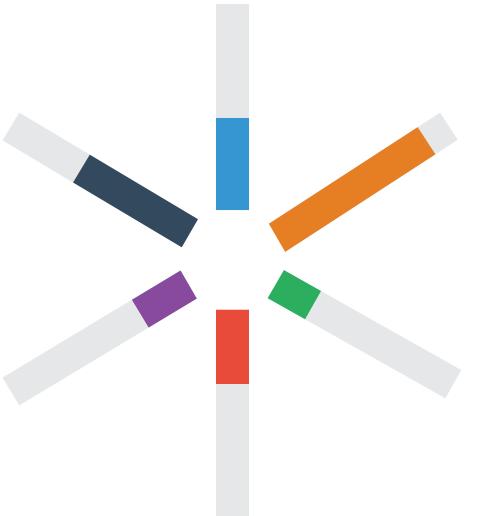


[Hyperdimensional Data Analysis Using Parallel Coordinates.  
Wegman. Journ. American Statistical Association 85:411  
(1990), 664–675.]

Figure 3. Parallel Coordinate Plot of Six-Dimensional Data Illustrating Correlations of  $\rho = 1, .8, .2, 0, -.2, -.8, \text{ and } -1$ .

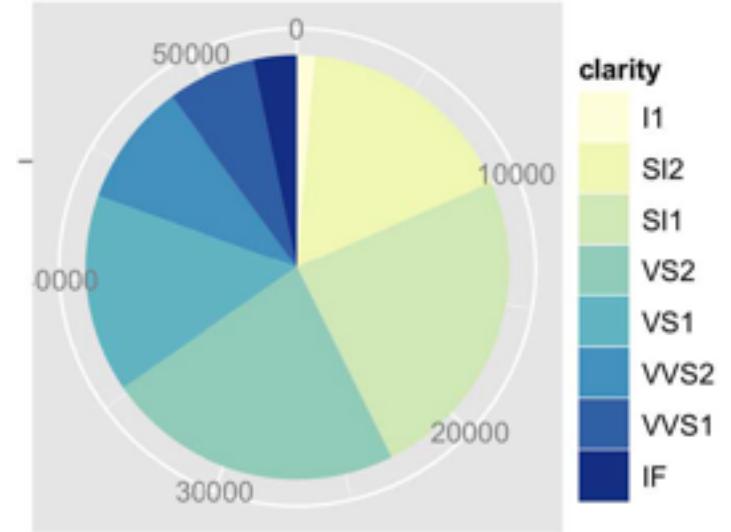
# Idioms: **radial bar chart, star plot**

- radial bar chart
  - radial axes meet at central ring, line mark
- star plot
  - radial axes, meet at central point, line mark
- bar chart
  - rectilinear axes, aligned vertically
- accuracy
  - length unaligned with radial
    - less accurate than aligned with rectilinear

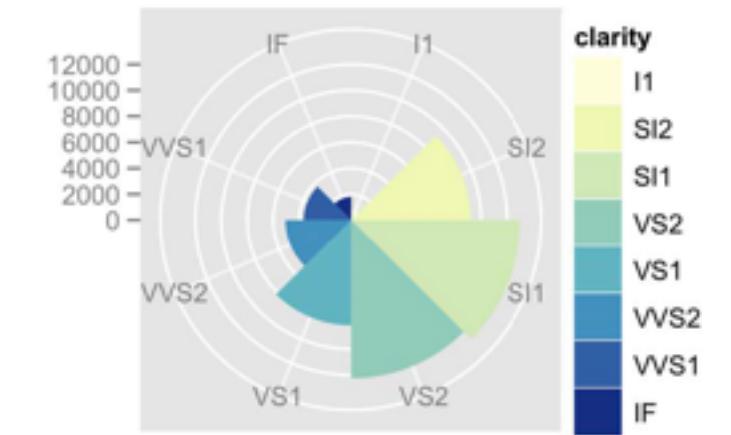


# Idioms: pie chart, polar area chart

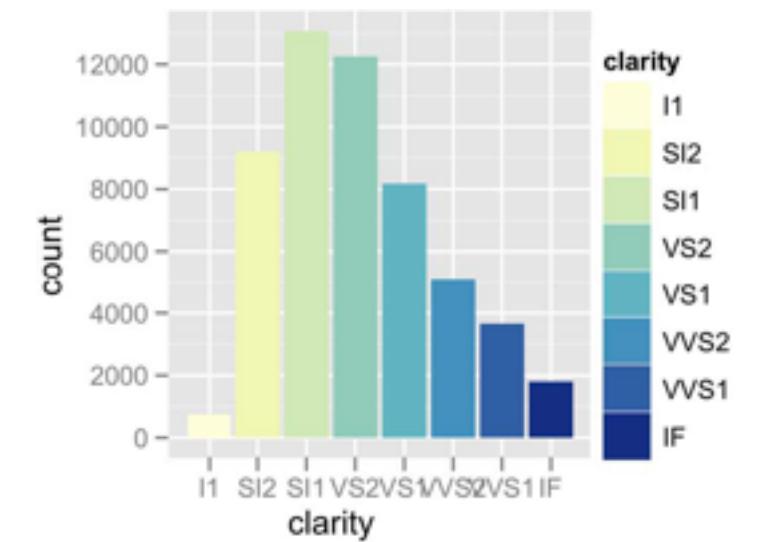
- pie chart
  - area marks with angle channel
  - accuracy: angle/area much less accurate than line length



- polar area chart
  - area marks with length channel
  - more direct analog to bar charts

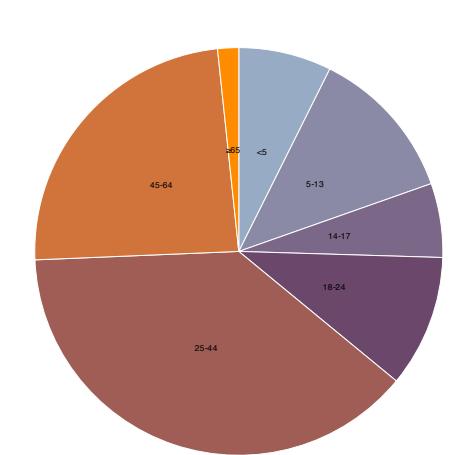
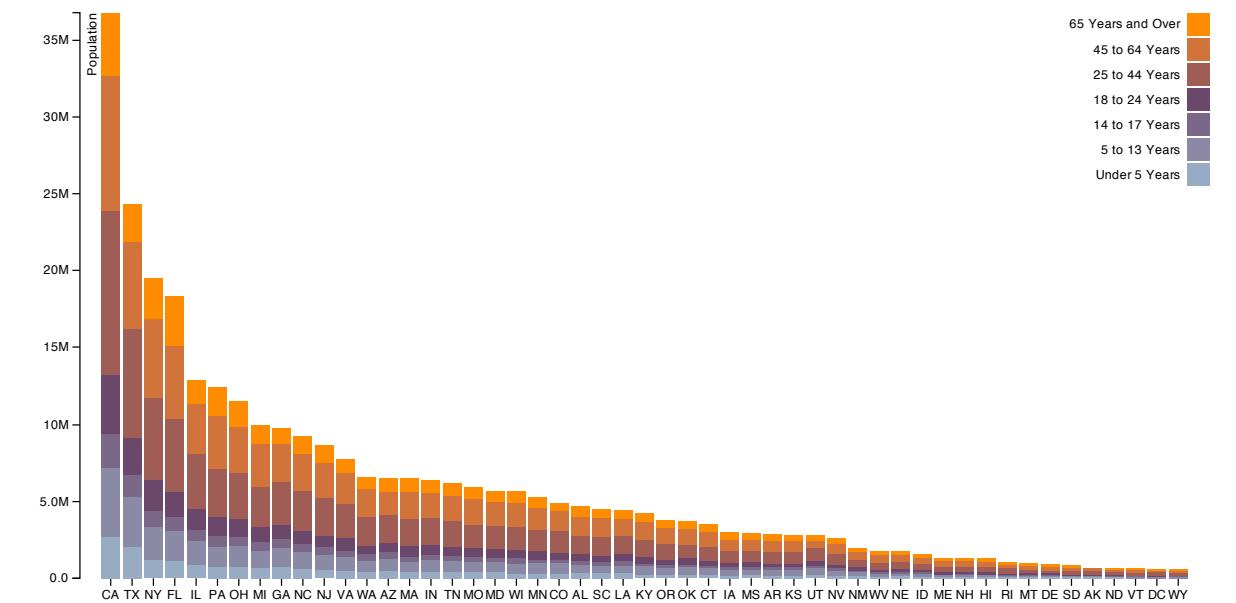
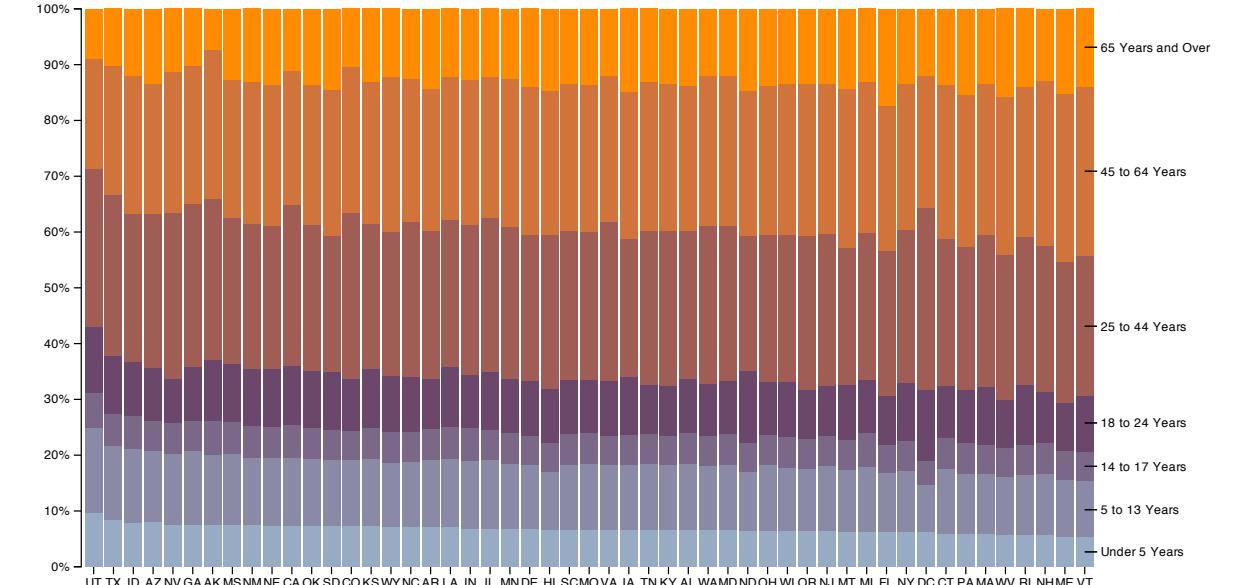


- data
  - 1 categ key attrib, 1 quant value attrib
- task
  - part-to-whole judgements



# Idioms: normalized stacked bar chart

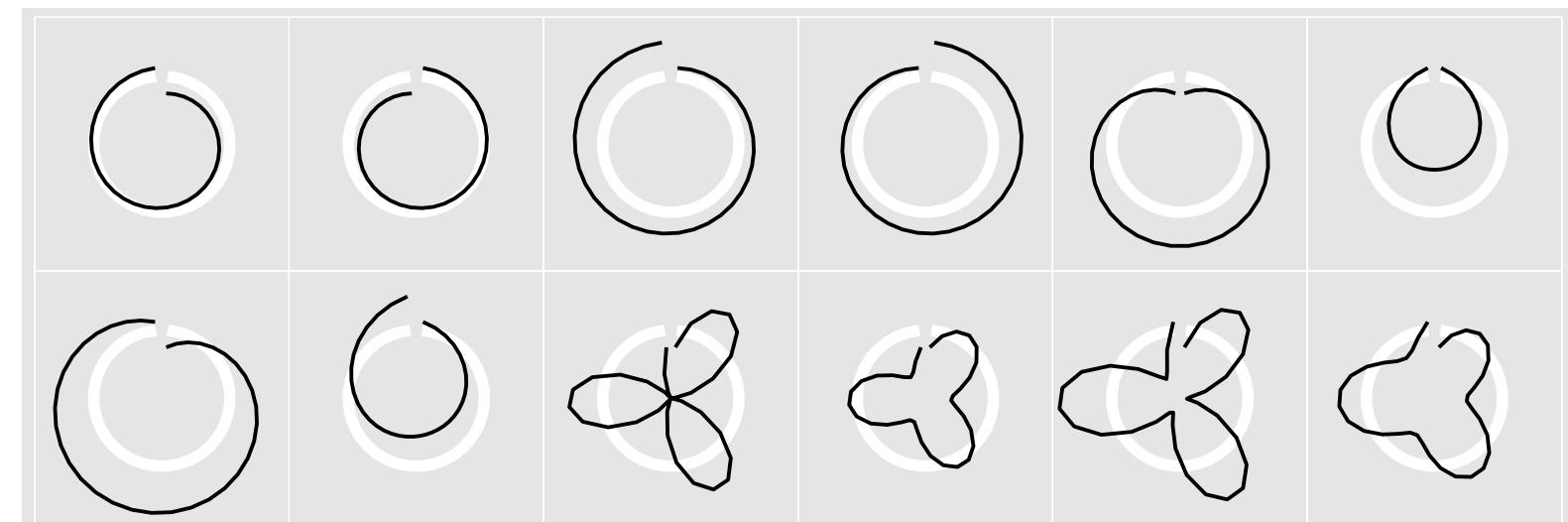
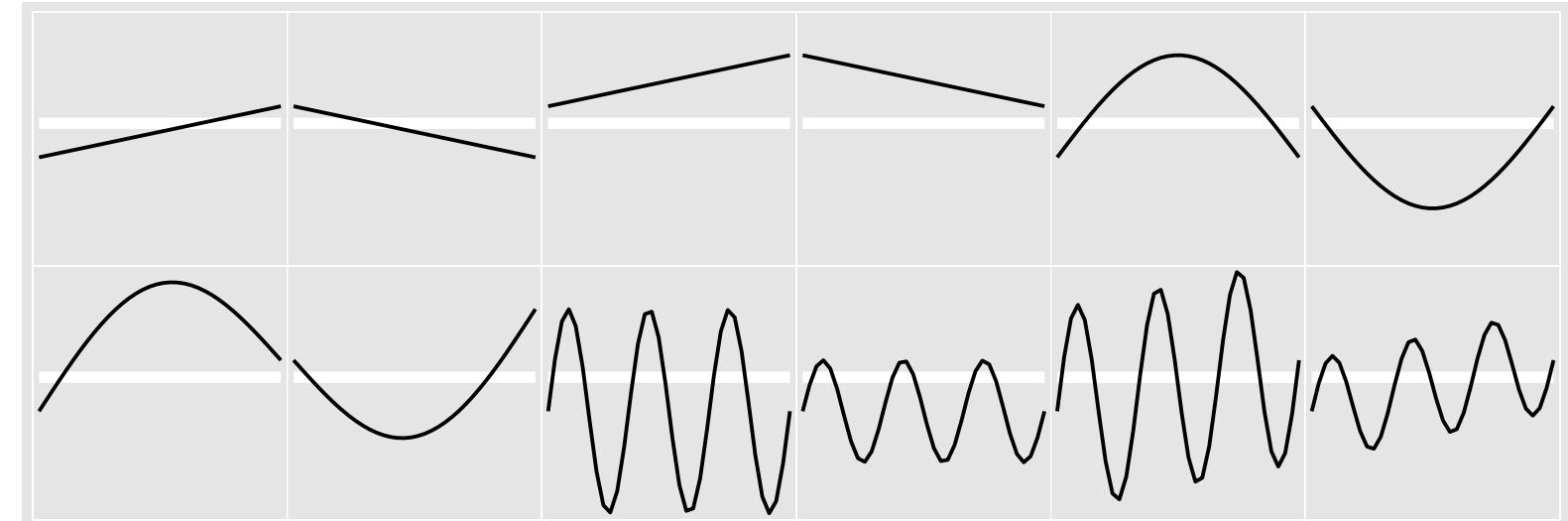
- task
  - part-to-whole judgements
- normalized stacked bar chart
  - stacked bar chart, normalized to full vert height
  - single stacked bar equivalent to full pie
    - high information density: requires narrow rectangle
- pie chart
  - information density: requires large circle



<http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/3887235>,  
<http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/3886208>,  
<http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/3886394>.

# Idiom: glyphmaps

- rectilinear good for linear vs nonlinear trends
- radial good for cyclic patterns



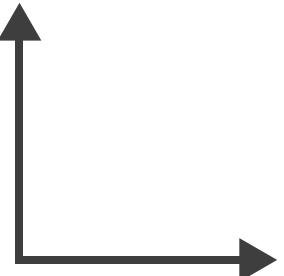
[*Glyph-maps for Visually Exploring Temporal Patterns in Climate Data and Models.*  
Wickham, Hofmann, Wickham, and Cook. *Environmetrics* 23:5 (2012), 382–393.]

# Orientation limitations

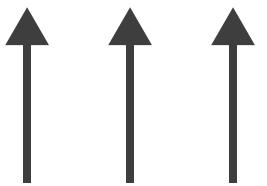
- rectilinear: scalability wrt #axes
  - 2 axes best
  - 3 problematic
    - more in afternoon
  - 4+ impossible
- parallel: unfamiliarity, training time
- radial: perceptual limits
  - angles lower precision than lengths
  - asymmetry between angle and length
    - can be exploited!

→ Axis Orientation

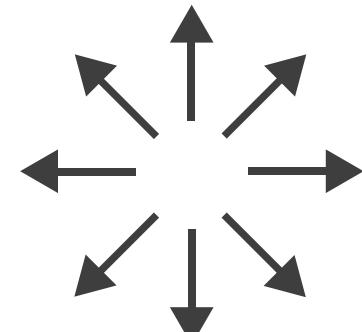
→ Rectilinear



→ Parallel



→ Radial



[*Uncovering Strengths and Weaknesses of Radial Visualizations - an Empirical Approach. Diehl, Beck and Burch. IEEE TVCG (Proc. InfoVis) 16(6):935–942, 2010.*]

# Further reading

- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters / CRC Press, Oct 2014.
  - *Chap 7:Arrange Tables*
- Visualizing Data. Cleveland. Hobart Press, 1993.
- A *Brief History of Data Visualization*. Friendly. 2008.  
<http://www.datavis.ca/milestones>

# Outline

- **Visualization Analysis Framework**

Session 1 9:30-10:45am

- Introduction: Definitions
- Analysis: What, Why, How
- Marks and Channels

- **Idiom Design Choices, Part 2**

Session 3 1:15pm-2:45pm

- Manipulate: Change, Select, Navigate
- Facet: Juxtapose, Partition, Superimpose
- Reduce: Filter, Aggregate, Embed

- **Idiom Design Choices**

Session 2 11:00am-12:15pm

- Arrange Tables
- **Arrange Spatial Data**
- Arrange Networks and Trees
- Map Color

- **Guidelines and Examples**

Session 4 3-4:30pm

- Rules of Thumb
- Validation
- BioVis Analysis Example

# Arrange spatial data

## → Use Given

### → Geometry

→ *Geographic*

→ *Other Derived*

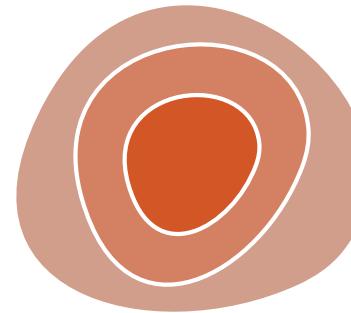


### → Spatial Fields

→ *Scalar Fields (one value per cell)*

→ *Isocontours*

→ *Direct Volume Rendering*



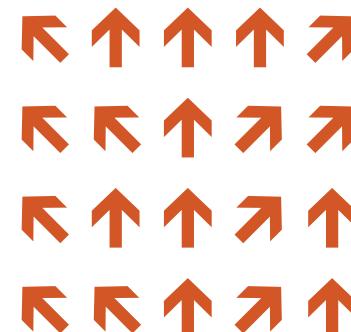
→ *Vector and Tensor Fields (many values per cell)*

→ *Flow Glyphs (local)*

→ *Geometric (sparse seeds)*

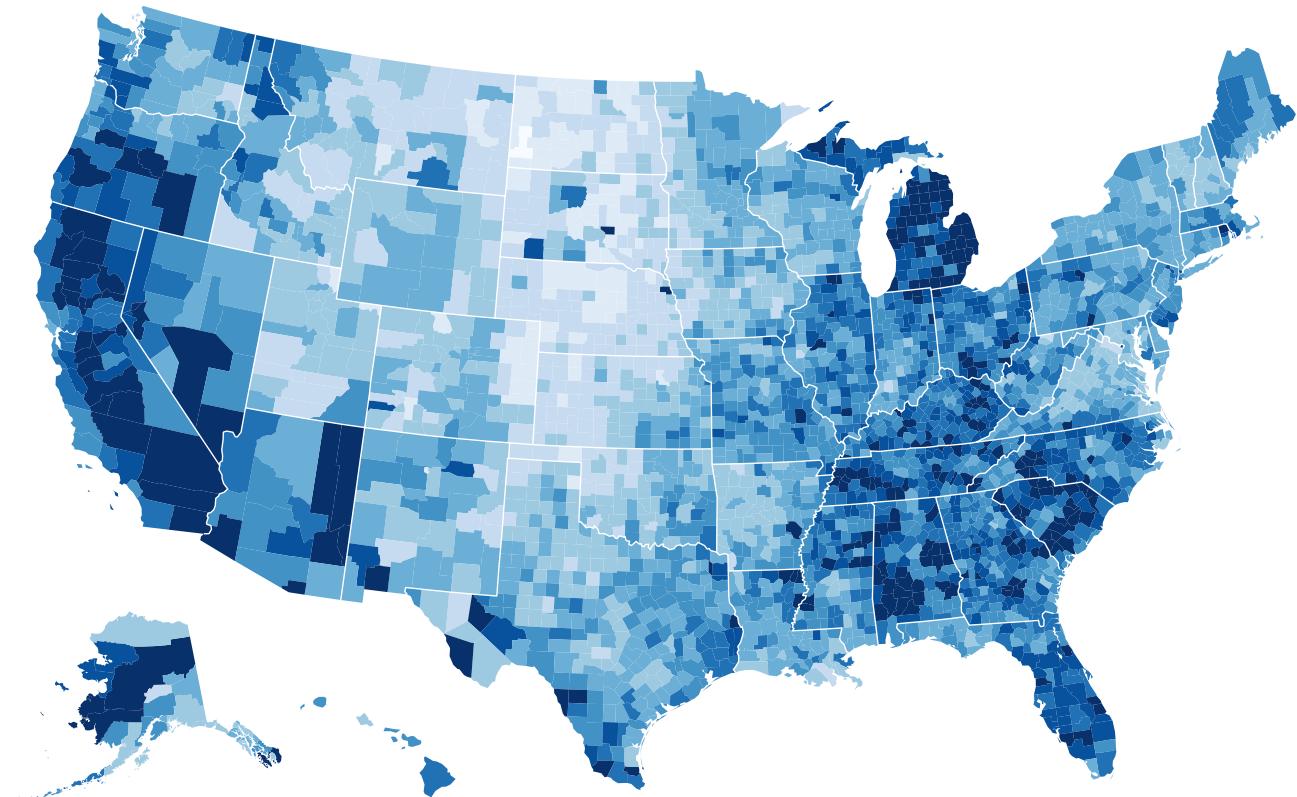
→ *Textures (dense seeds)*

→ *Features (globally derived)*



# Idiom: choropleth map

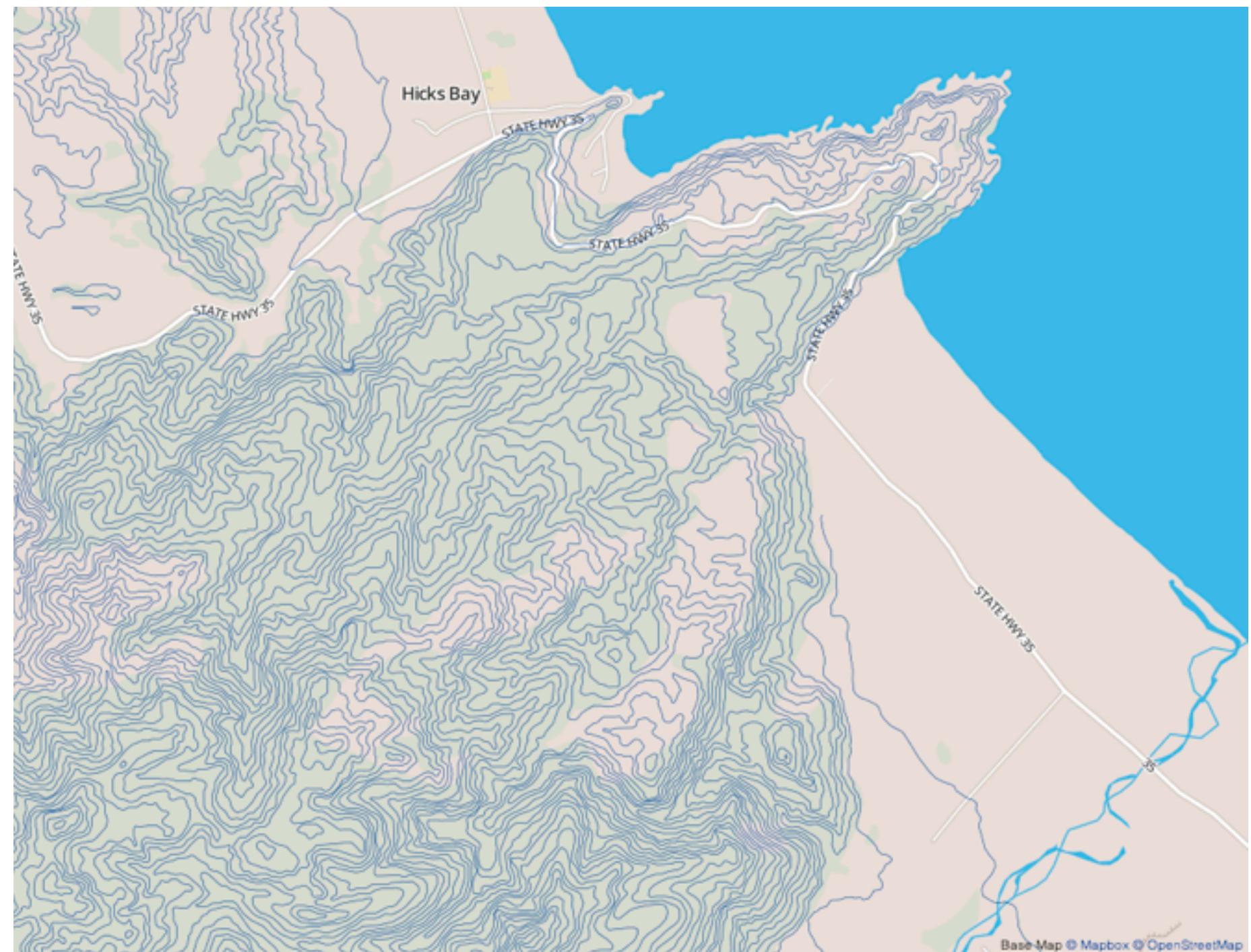
- **use given spatial data**
  - when central task is understanding spatial relationships
- **data**
  - geographic geometry
  - table with 1 quant attribute per region
- **encoding**
  - use given geometry for area mark boundaries
  - sequential segmented colormap



<http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/4060606>

# Idiom: topographic map

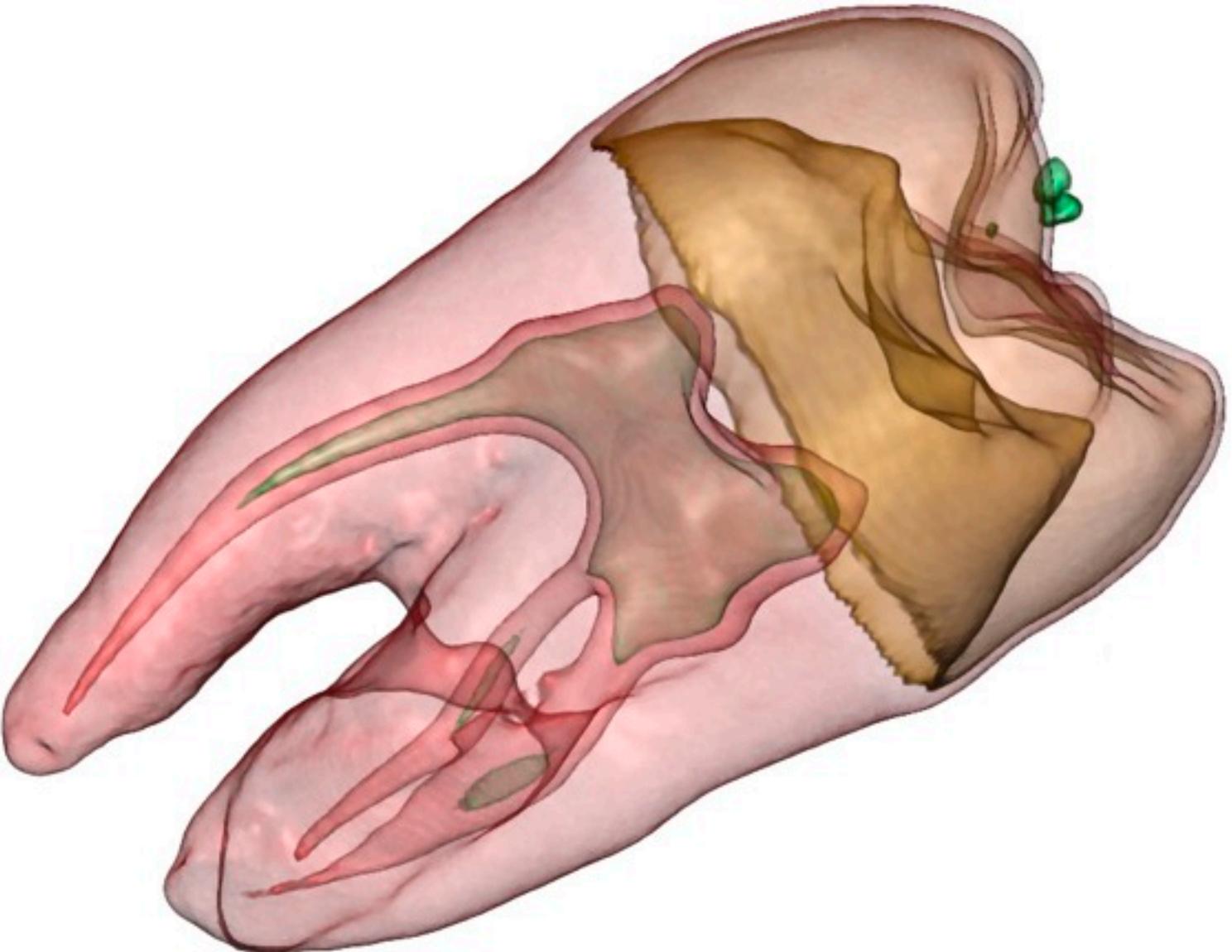
- data
  - geographic geometry
  - scalar spatial field
    - 1 quant attribute per grid cell
- derived data
  - isoline geometry
    - isocontours computed for specific levels of scalar values



Land Information New Zealand Data Service

# Idiom: **isosurfaces**

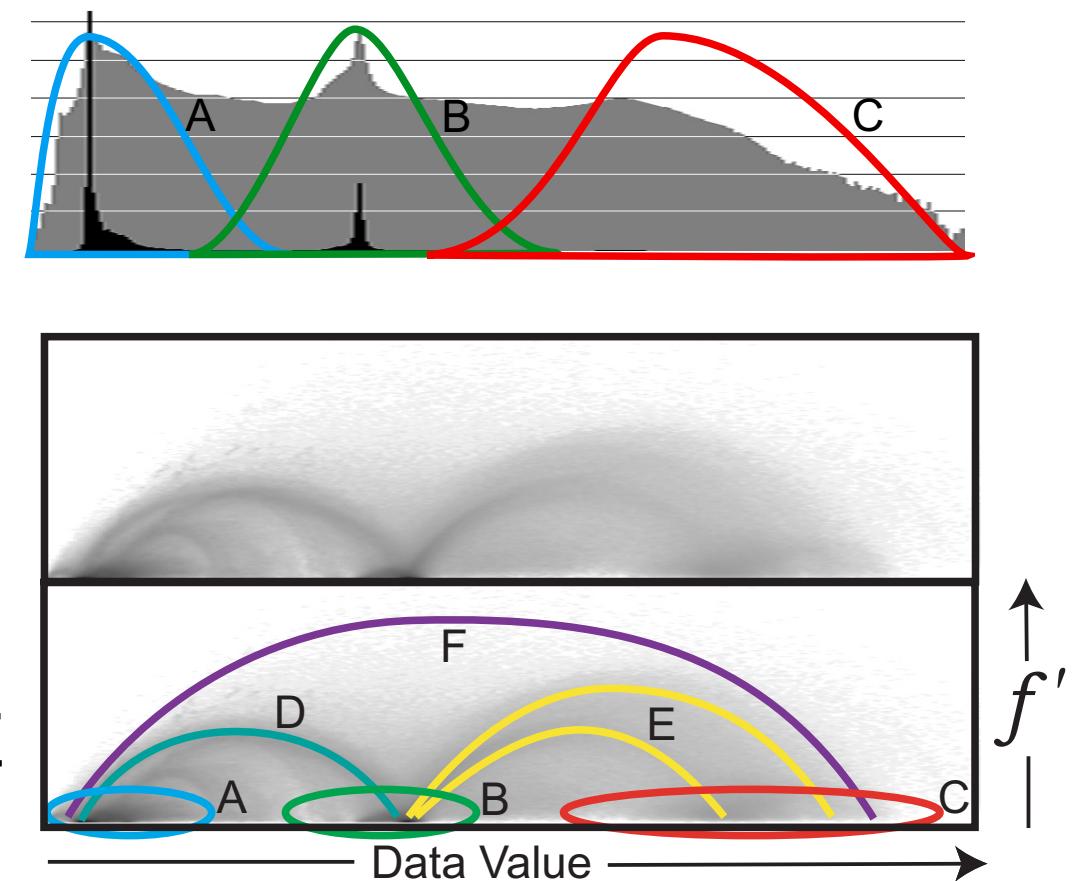
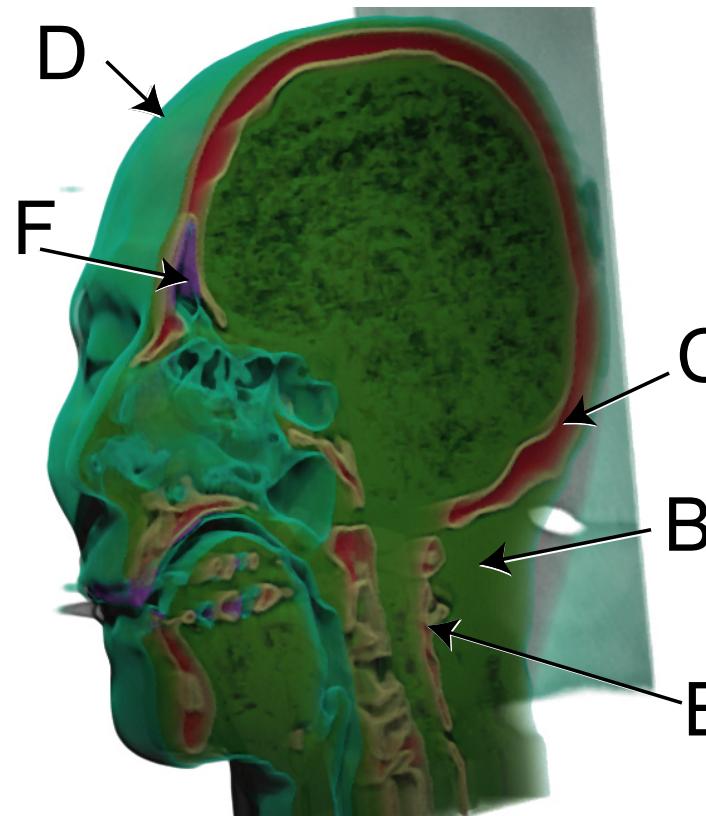
- data
  - scalar spatial field
    - 1 quant attribute per grid cell
- derived data
  - isosurface geometry
    - isocontours computed for specific levels of scalar values
- task
  - spatial relationships



[Interactive Volume Rendering Techniques. Kniss. Master's thesis, University of Utah Computer Science, 2002.]

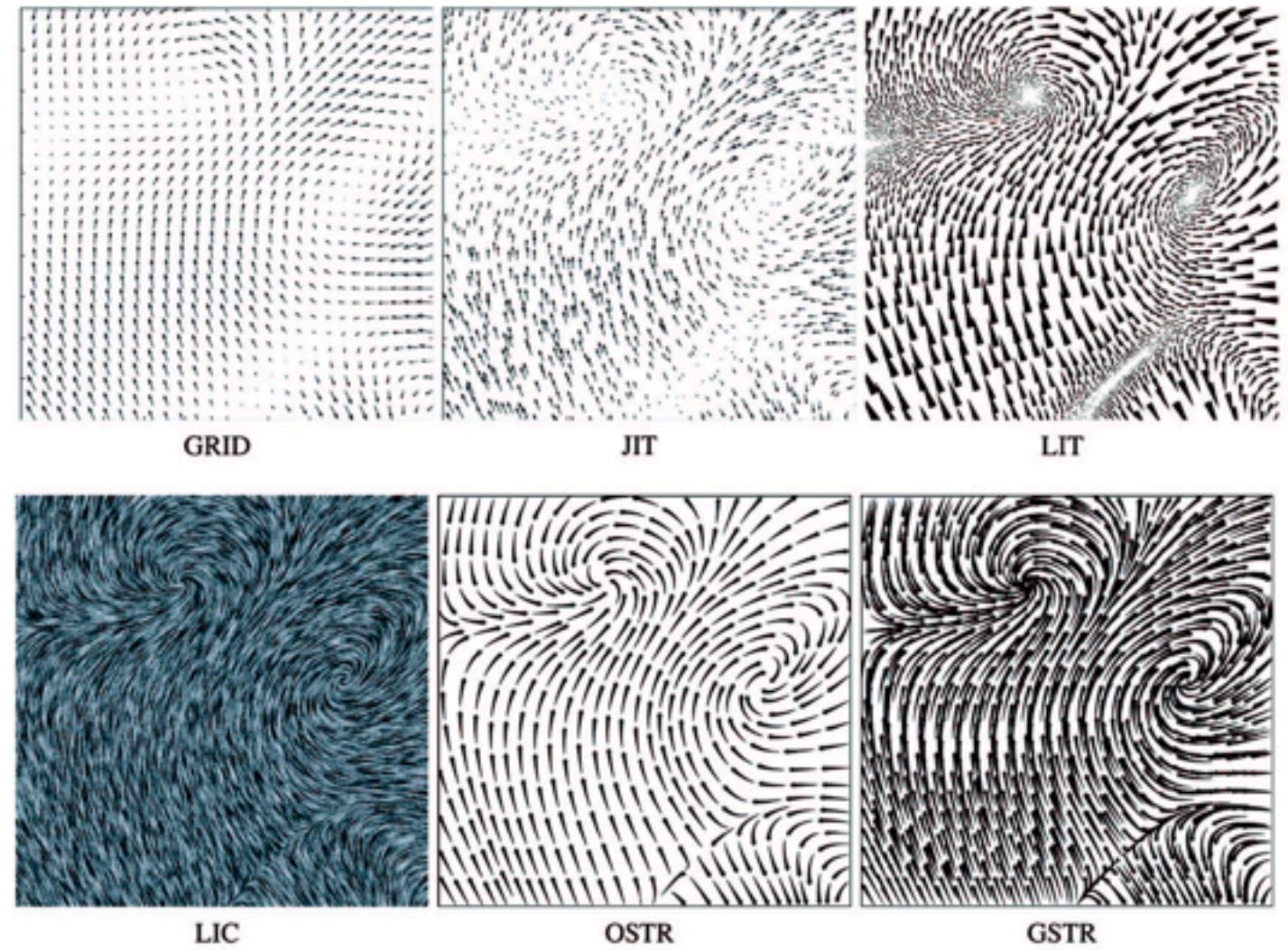
# Idioms: DVR, multidimensional transfer functions

- direct volume rendering
  - **transfer function** maps scalar values to color, opacity
    - no derived geometry
- multidimensional transfer functions
  - derived data in joint 2D histogram
    - horiz axis: data values of scalar func
    - vert axis: gradient magnitude (direction of fastest change)
    - [more on cutting planes and histograms later]

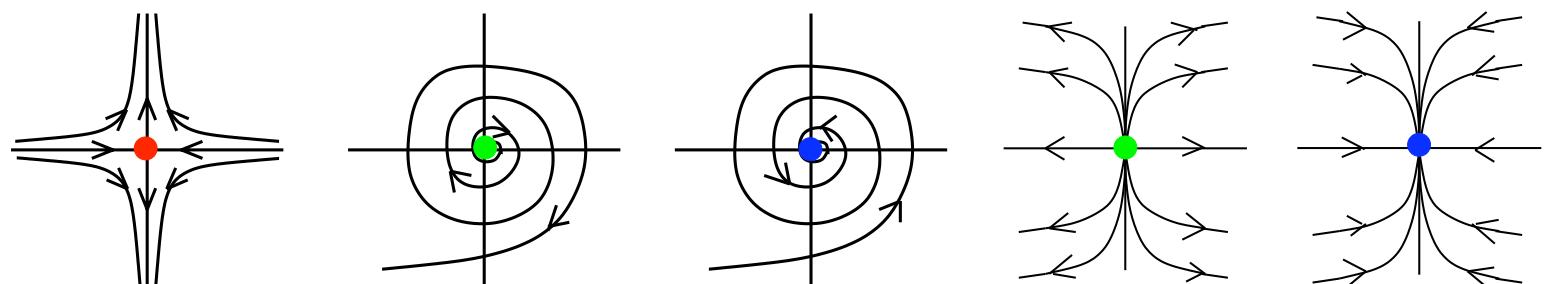


# Vector and tensor fields

- data
  - many attrs per cell
- idiom families
  - flow glyphs
    - purely local
  - geometric flow
    - derived data from tracing particle trajectories
    - sparse set of seed points
  - texture flow
    - derived data, dense seeds
  - feature flow
    - global computation to detect features
      - encoded with one of methods above



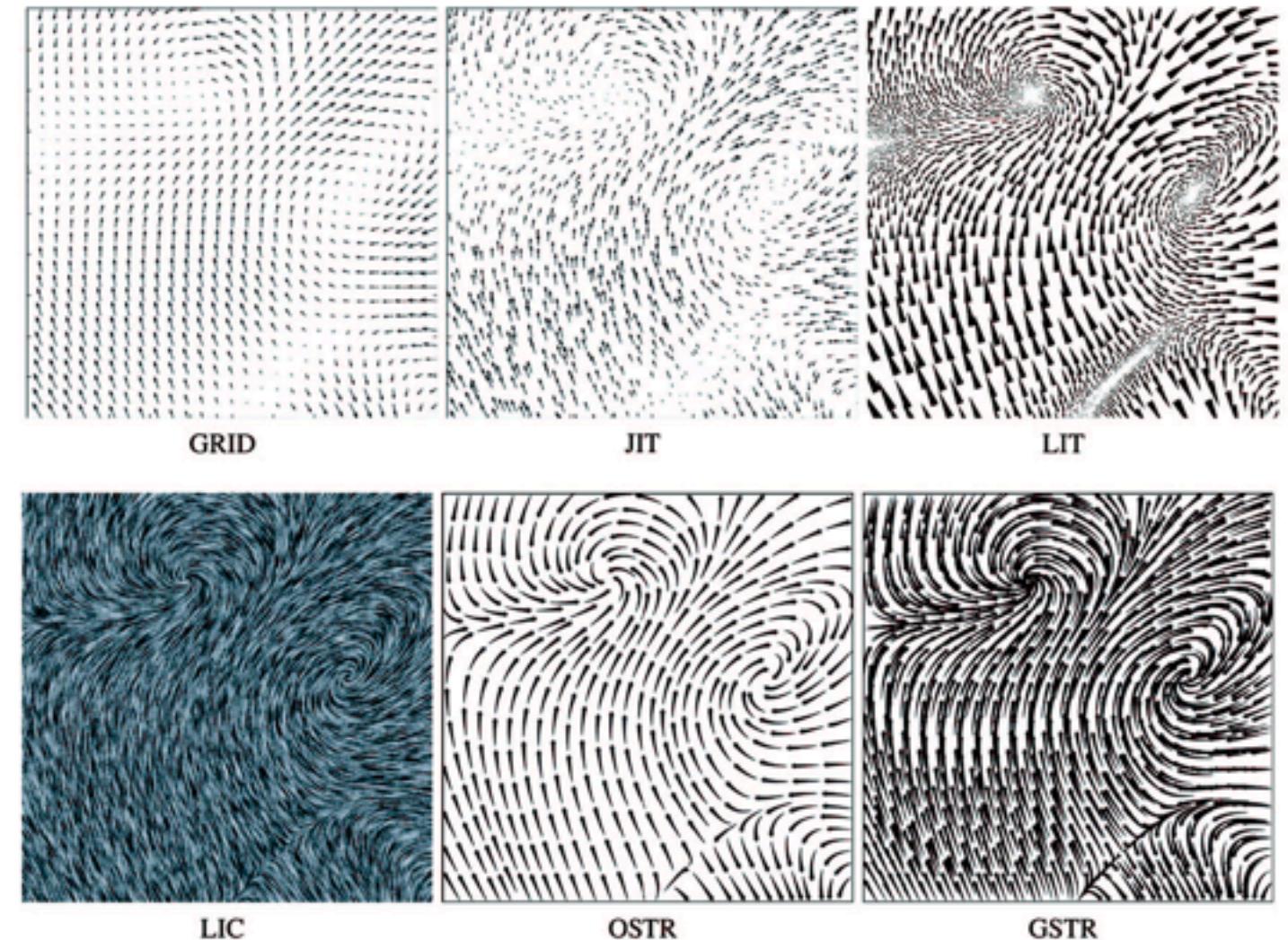
[Comparing 2D vector field visualization methods: A user study. Laidlaw et al. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics (TVCG) 11:1 (2005), 59–70.]



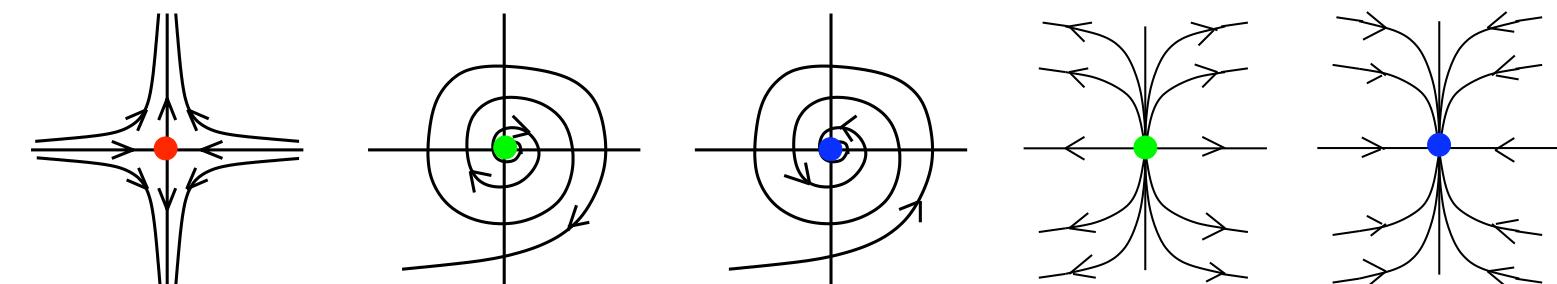
[Topology tracking for the visualization of time-dependent two-dimensional flows. Tricoche, Wischgoll, Scheuermann, and Hagen. Computers & Graphics 26:2 (2002), 249–257.]

# Vector fields

- empirical study tasks
  - finding critical points, identifying their types
  - identifying what type of critical point is at a specific location
  - predicting where a particle starting at a specified point will end up (advection)



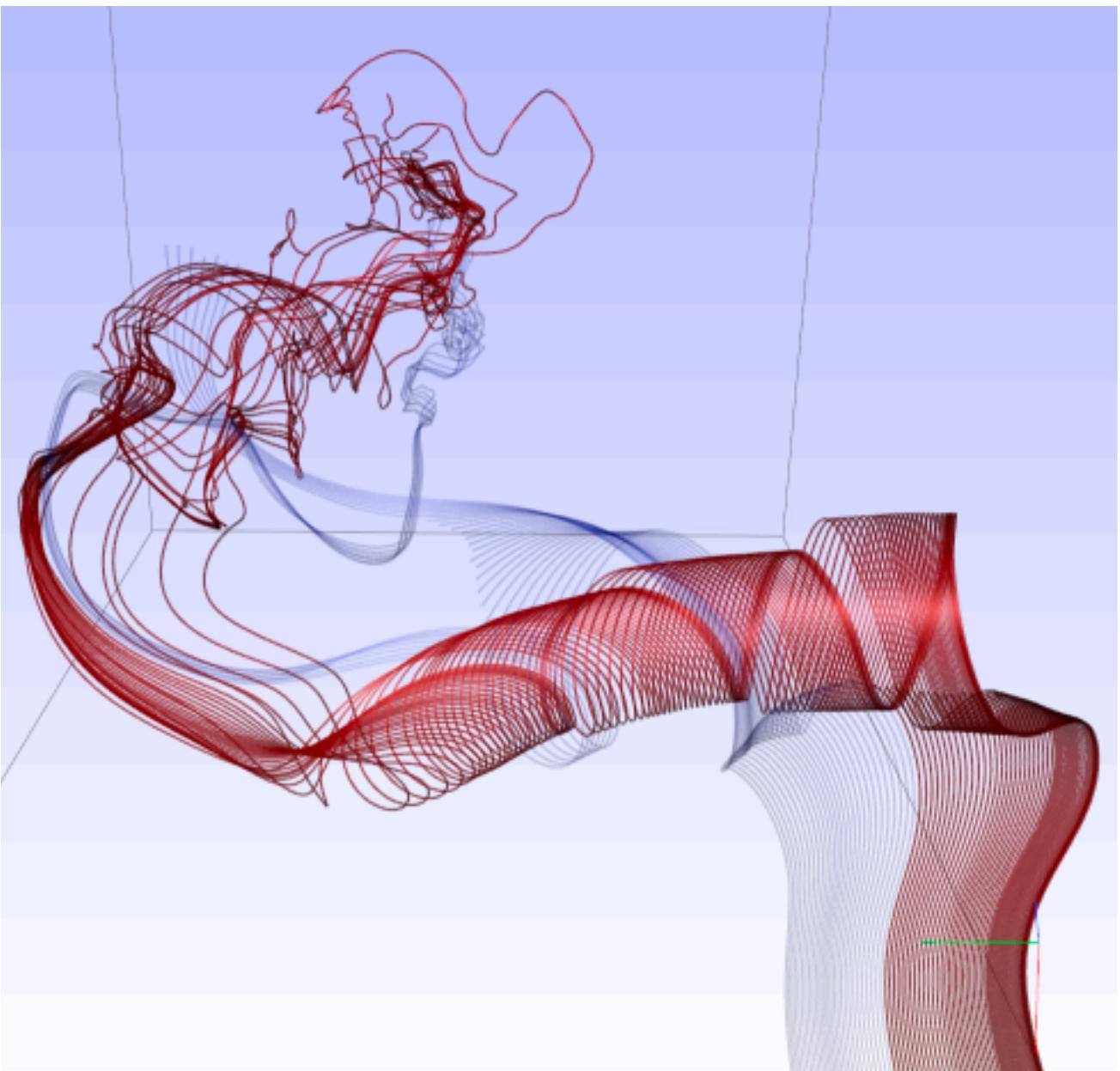
[Comparing 2D vector field visualization methods: A user study. Laidlaw et al. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics (TVCG) 11:1 (2005), 59–70.]



[Topology tracking for the visualization of time-dependent two-dimensional flows. Tricoche, Wischgoll, Scheuermann, and Hagen. Computers & Graphics 26:2 (2002), 249–257.]

# Idiom: similarity-clustered streamlines

- data
  - 3D vector field
- derived data (from field)
  - streamlines: trajectory particle will follow
- derived data (per streamline)
  - curvature, torsion, tortuosity
  - signature: complex weighted combination
  - compute cluster hierarchy across all signatures
  - encode: color and opacity by cluster
- tasks
  - find features, query shape
- scalability
  - millions of samples, hundreds of streamlines



[*Similarity Measures for Enhancing Interactive Streamline Seeding.*  
McLoughlin, Jones, Laramee, Malki, Masters, and Hansen. IEEE Trans.  
Visualization and Computer Graphics 19:8 (2013), 1342–1353.]

## Further reading

- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters / CRC Press, Oct 2014.
  - *Chap 8:Arrange Spatial Data*
- How Maps Work: Representation, Visualization, and Design. MacEachren. Guilford Press, 1995.
- Overview of visualization. Schroeder and Martin. In The Visualization Handbook, edited by Charles Hansen and Christopher Johnson, pp. 3–39. Elsevier, 2005.
- Real-Time Volume Graphics. Engel, Hadwiger, Kniss, Reza-Salama, and Weiskopf. AK Peters, 2006.
- Overview of flow visualization. Weiskopf and Erlebacher. In The Visualization Handbook, edited by Charles Hansen and Christopher Johnson, pp. 261–278. Elsevier, 2005.

# Outline

- **Visualization Analysis Framework**

Session 1 9:30-10:45am

- Introduction: Definitions
- Analysis: What, Why, How
- Marks and Channels

- **Idiom Design Choices, Part 2**

Session 3 1:15pm-2:45pm

- Manipulate: Change, Select, Navigate
- Facet: Juxtapose, Partition, Superimpose
- Reduce: Filter, Aggregate, Embed

- **Idiom Design Choices**

Session 2 11:00am-12:15pm

- Arrange Tables
- Arrange Spatial Data
- **Arrange Networks and Trees**
- Map Color

- **Guidelines and Examples**

Session 4 3-4:30pm

- Rules of Thumb
- Validation
- BioVis Analysis Example

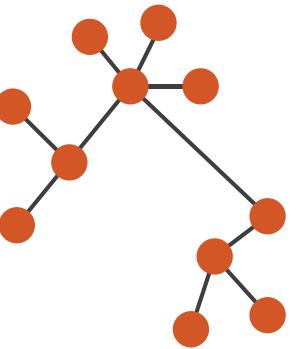
# Arrange networks and trees

## → Node-link Diagrams

Connections and Marks

NETWORKS

TREES



## → Adjacency Matrix

Derived Table

NETWORKS

TREES

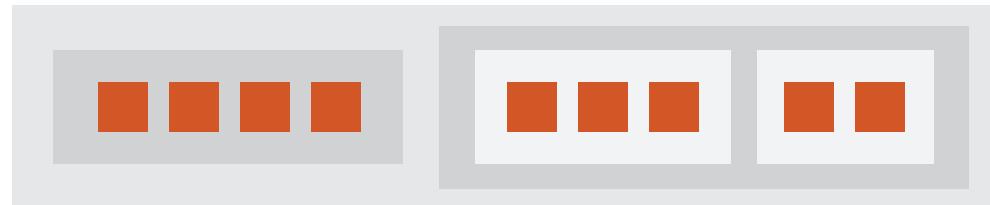
■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■

## → Enclosure

Containment Marks

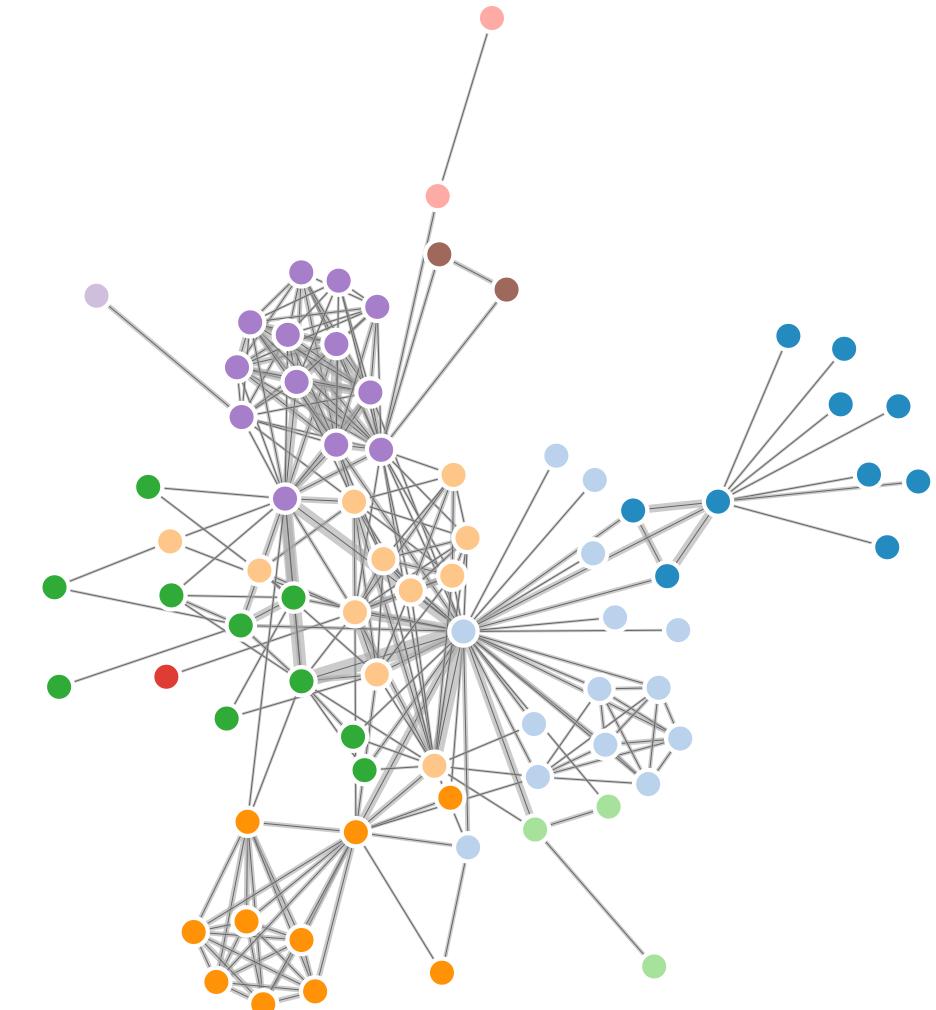
NETWORKS

TREES



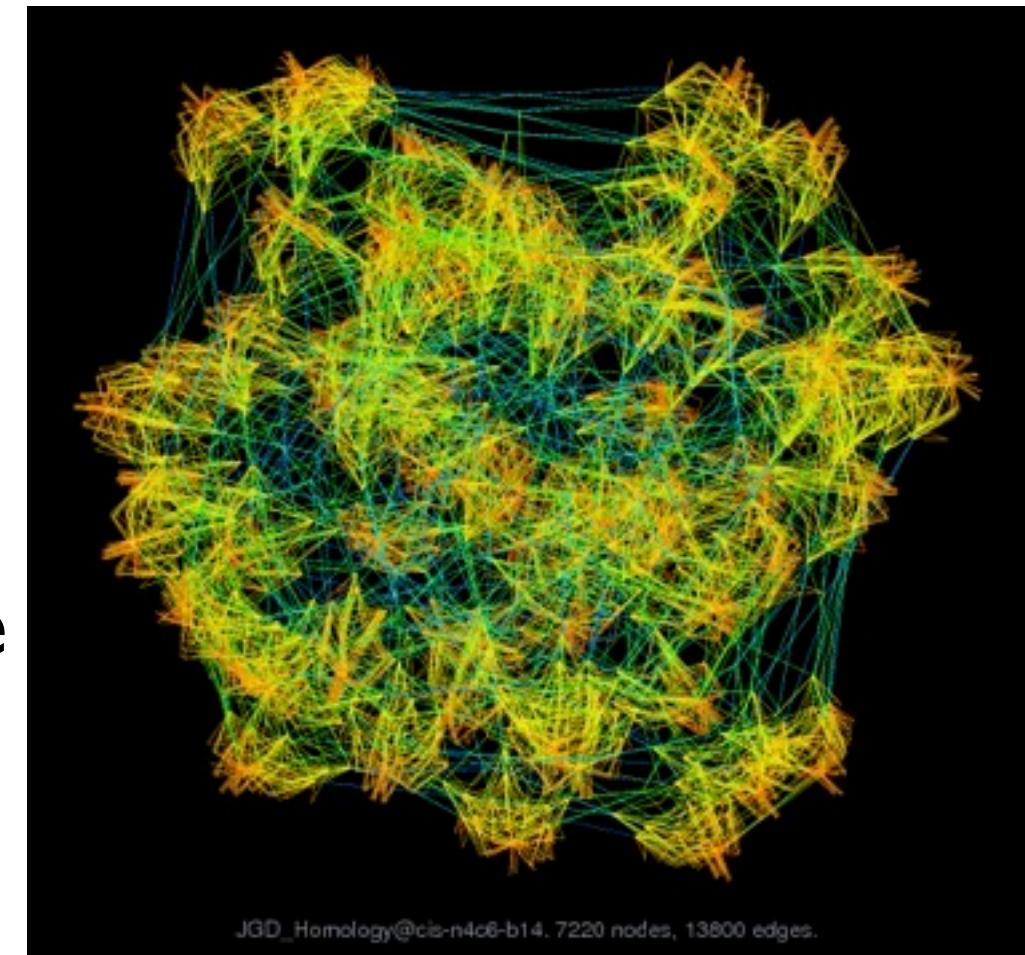
# Idiom: force-directed placement

- visual encoding
  - link connection marks, node point marks
- considerations
  - spatial position: no meaning directly encoded
    - left free to minimize crossings
  - proximity semantics?
    - sometimes meaningful
    - sometimes arbitrary, artifact of layout algorithm
    - tension with length
      - long edges more visually salient than short
- tasks
  - explore topology; locate paths, clusters
- scalability
  - node/edge density  $E < 4N$

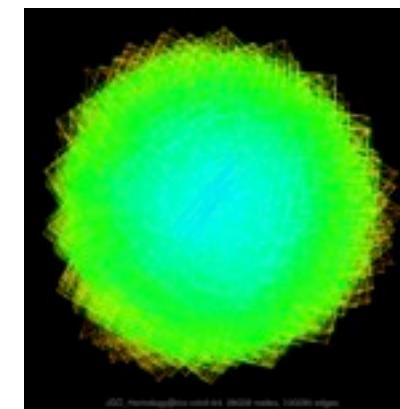


# Idiom: **sfdp** (multi-level force-directed placement)

- data
  - original: network
  - derived: cluster hierarchy atop it
- considerations
  - better algorithm for same encoding technique
    - same: fundamental use of space
    - hierarchy used for algorithm speed/quality but not shown explicitly
    - (more on algorithm vs encoding in afternoon)
- scalability
  - nodes, edges: 1K-10K
  - hairball problem eventually hits



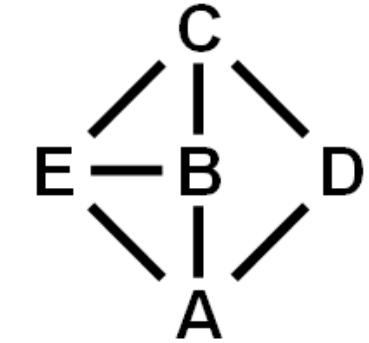
[Efficient and high quality force-directed graph drawing.  
Hu. *The Mathematica Journal* 10:37–71, 2005.]



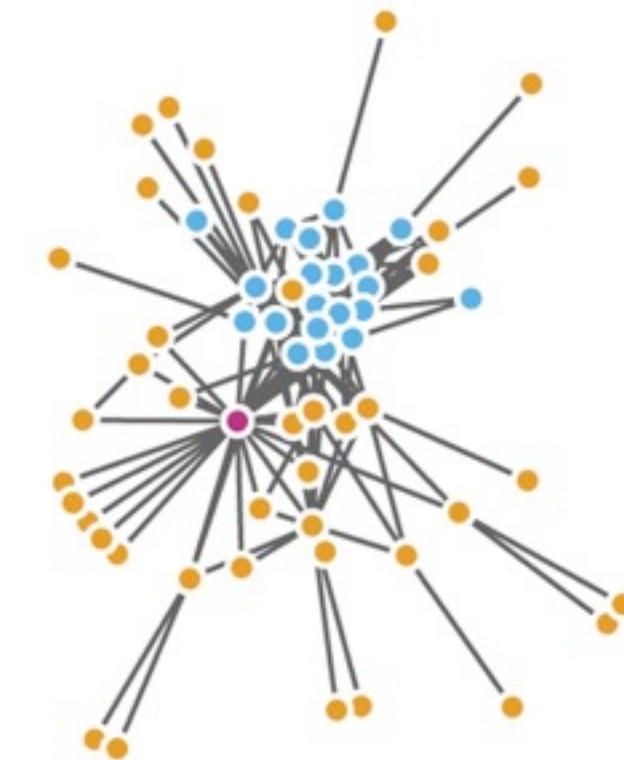
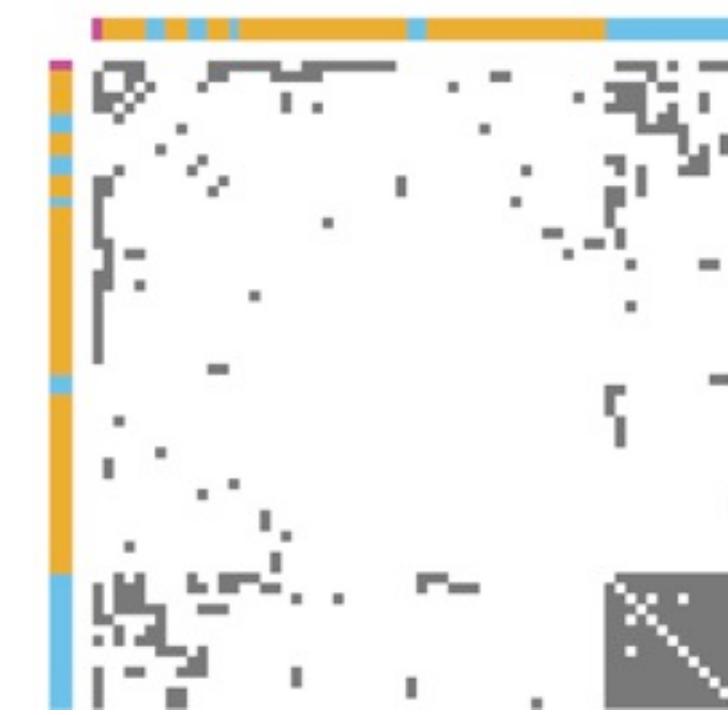
# Idiom: adjacency matrix view

- data: network
  - transform into same data/encoding as heatmap
- derived data: table from network
  - 1 quant attrib
    - weighted edge between nodes
  - 2 categ attribs: node list x 2
- visual encoding
  - cell shows presence/absence of edge
- scalability
  - 1K nodes, 1M edges

	A	B	C	D	E
A	A				
B		B			
C			C		
D				D	
E					E



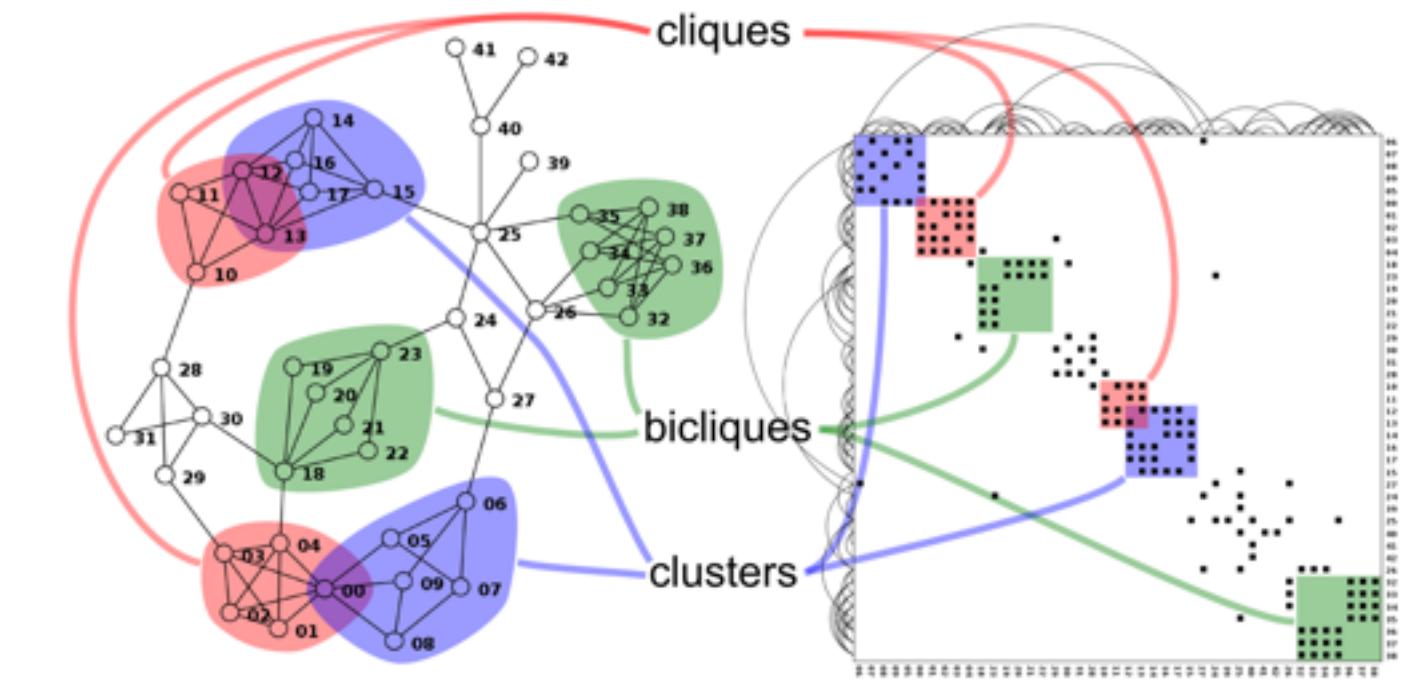
[NodeTrix: a Hybrid Visualization of Social Networks.  
Henry, Fekete, and McGuffin. IEEE TVCG (Proc. InfoVis)  
13(6):1302-1309, 2007.]



[Points of view: Networks. Gehlenborg and Wong. Nature Methods 9:115.]

# Connection vs. adjacency comparison

- adjacency matrix strengths
  - predictability, scalability, supports reordering
  - some topology tasks trainable
- node-link diagram strengths
  - topology understanding, path tracing
  - intuitive, no training needed
- empirical study
  - node-link best for small networks
  - matrix best for large networks
    - if tasks don't involve topological structure!

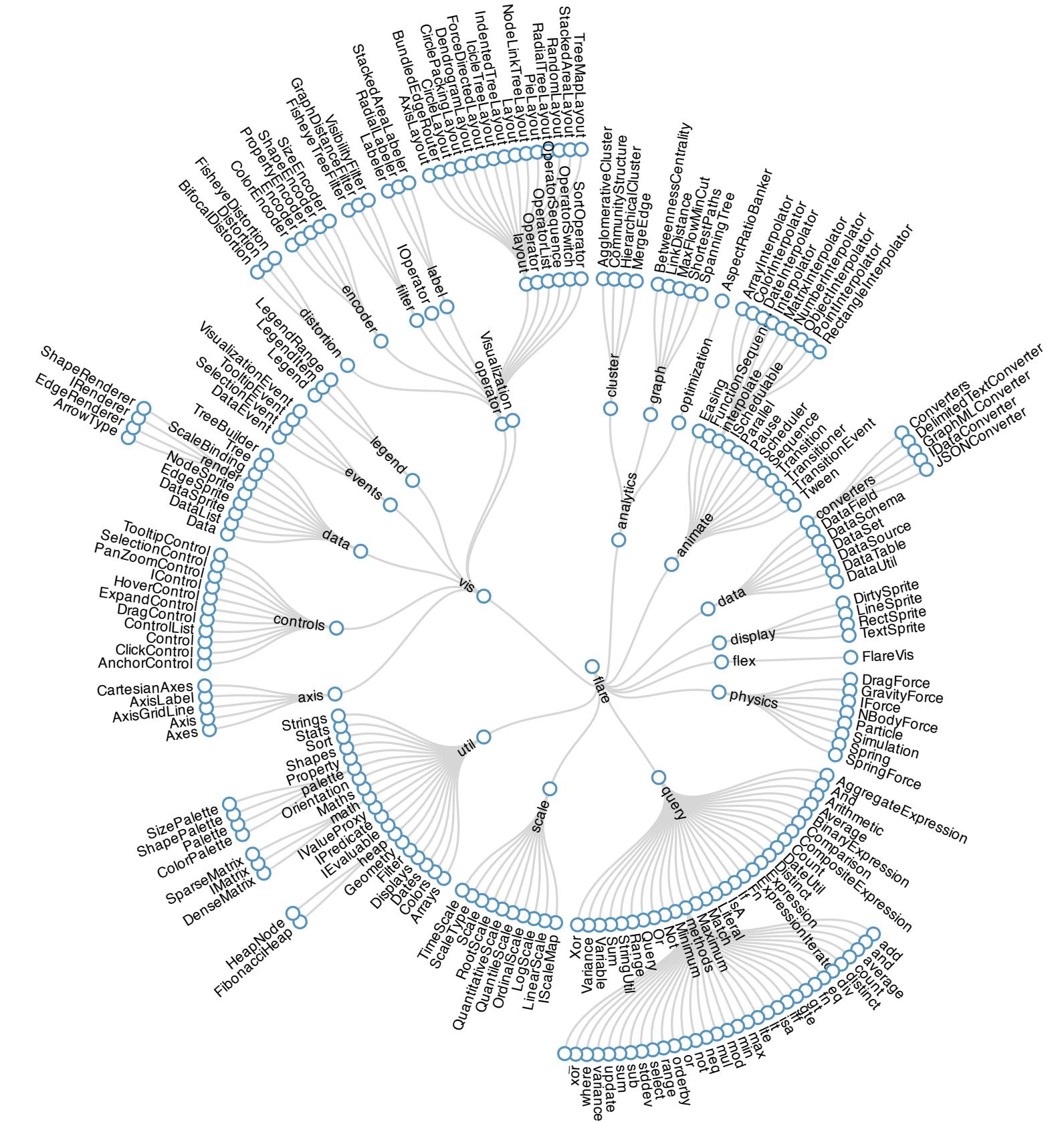


<http://www.michaelmcguffin.com/courses/vis/patternsInAdjacencyMatrix.png>

[On the readability of graphs using node-link and matrix-based representations: a controlled experiment and statistical analysis.  
Ghoniem, Fekete, and Castagliola. *Information Visualization* 4:2 (2005), 114–135.]

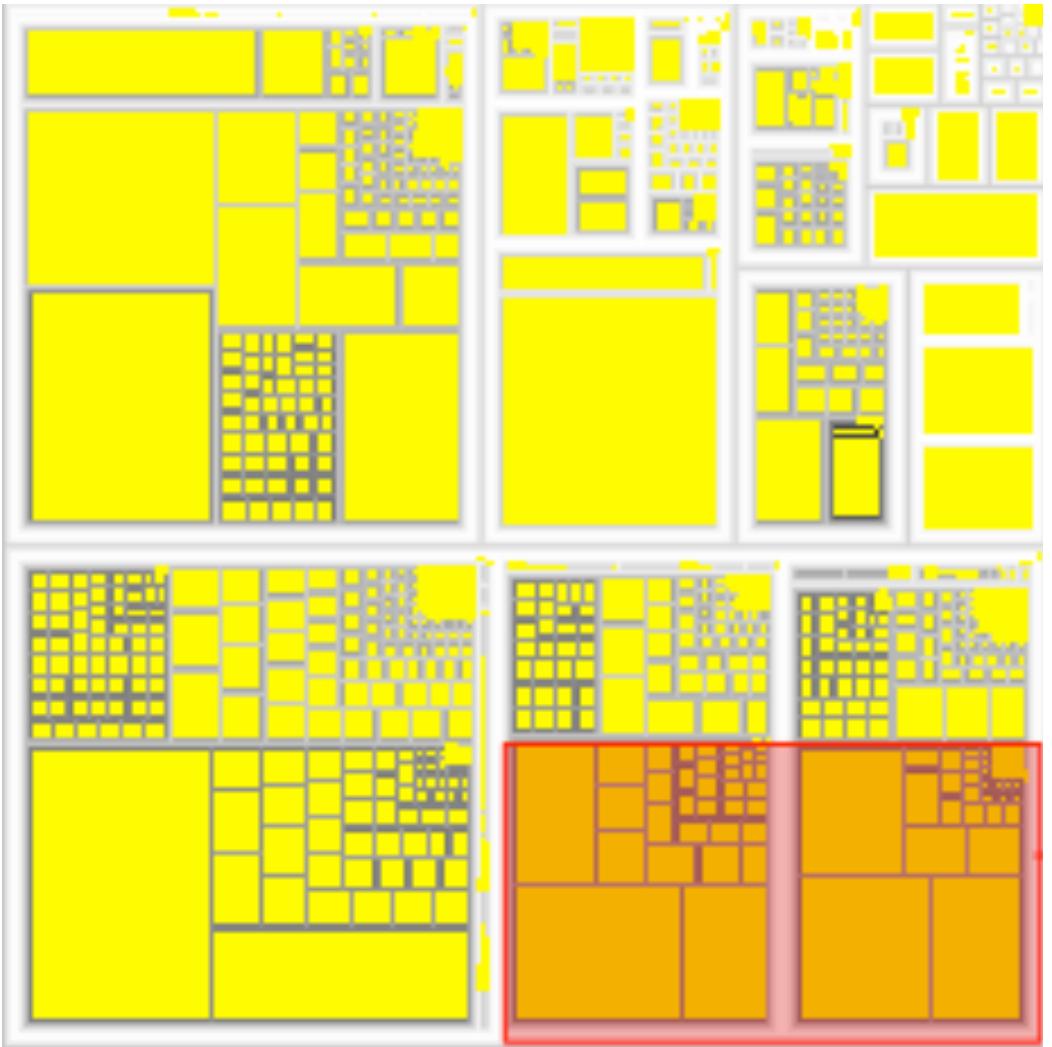
# Idiom: radial node-link tree

- data
  - tree
- encoding
  - link connection marks
  - point node marks
  - radial axis orientation
    - angular proximity: siblings
    - distance from center: depth in tree
- tasks
  - understanding topology, following paths
- scalability
  - 1K - 10K nodes



# Idiom: treemap

- data
  - tree
  - 1 quant attrib at leaf nodes
- encoding
  - area containment marks for hierarchical structure
  - rectilinear orientation
  - size encodes quant attrib
- tasks
  - query attribute at leaf nodes
- scalability
  - 1M leaf nodes

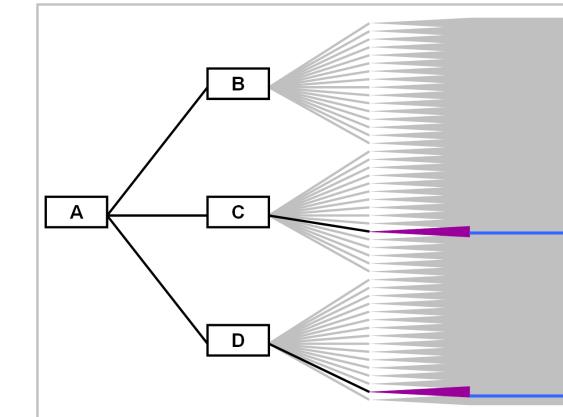
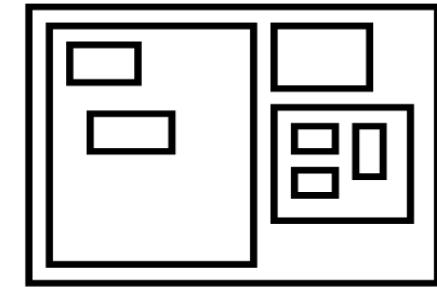
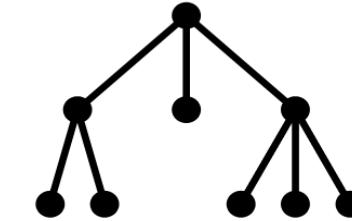
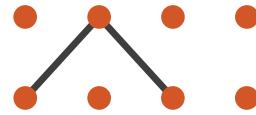
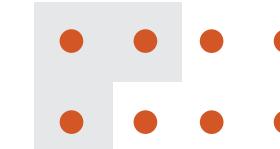


[http://tulip.labri.fr/Documentation/3\\_7/userHandbook/html/ch06.html](http://tulip.labri.fr/Documentation/3_7/userHandbook/html/ch06.html)

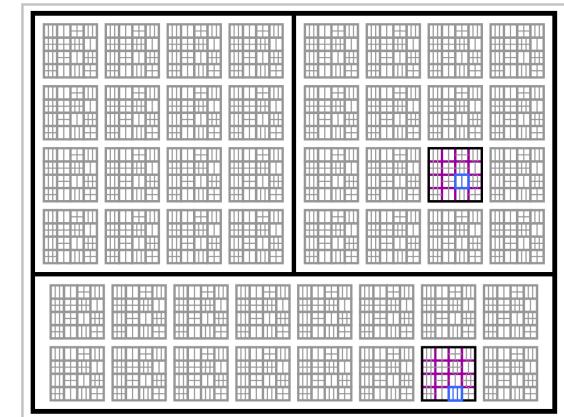
# Link marks: Connection and Containment

- marks as links (vs. nodes)
  - common case in network drawing
  - 1D case: connection
    - ex: all node-link diagrams
    - emphasizes topology, path tracing
    - networks and trees
  - 2D case: containment
    - ex: all treemap variants
    - emphasizes attribute values at leaves (size coding)
    - only trees

→ Containment → Connection



Node-Link Diagram

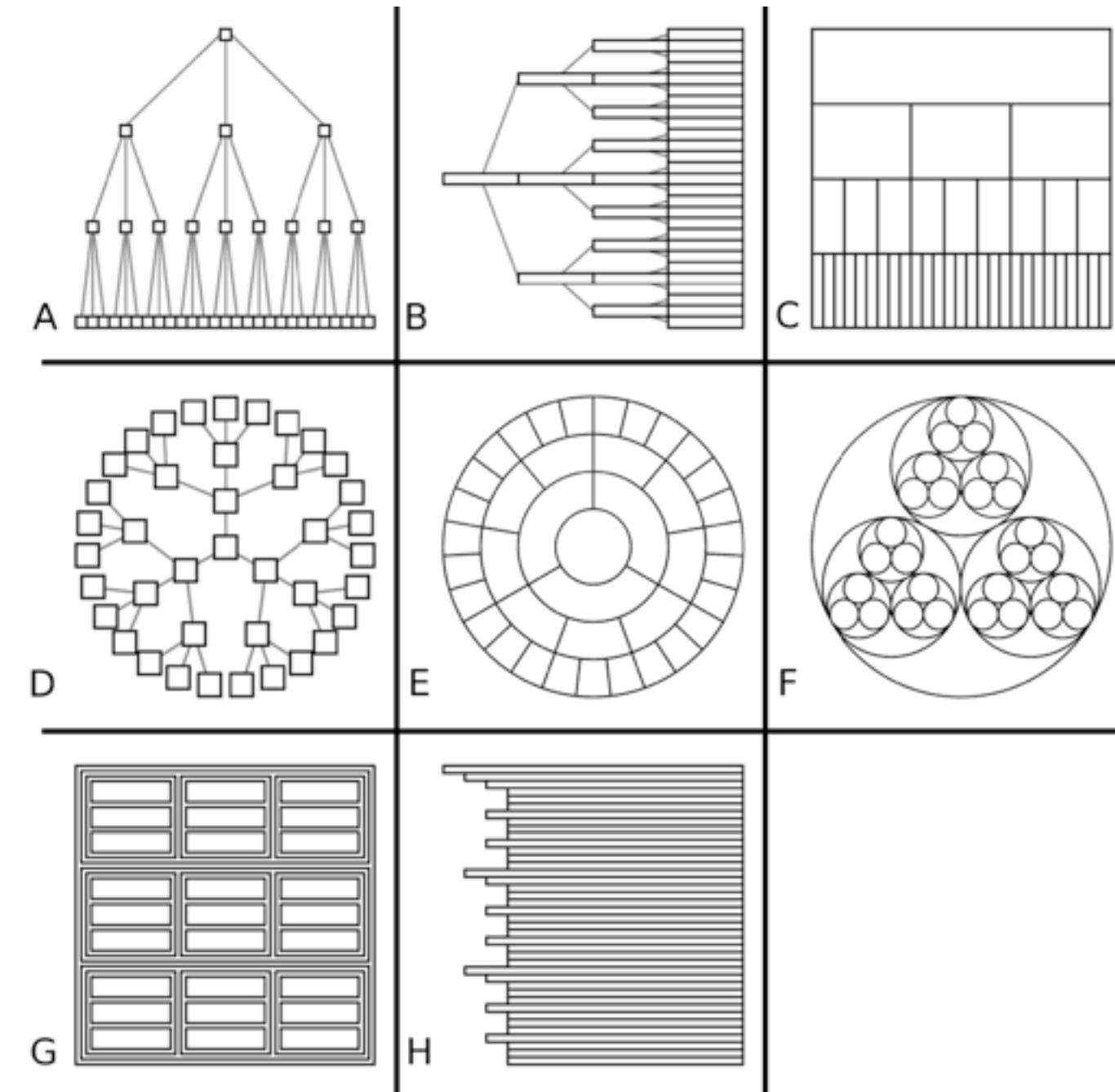


Treemap

[*Elastic Hierarchies: Combining Treemaps and Node-Link Diagrams*. Dong, McGuffin, and Chignell. Proc. InfoVis 2005, p. 57-64.]

# Tree drawing idioms comparison

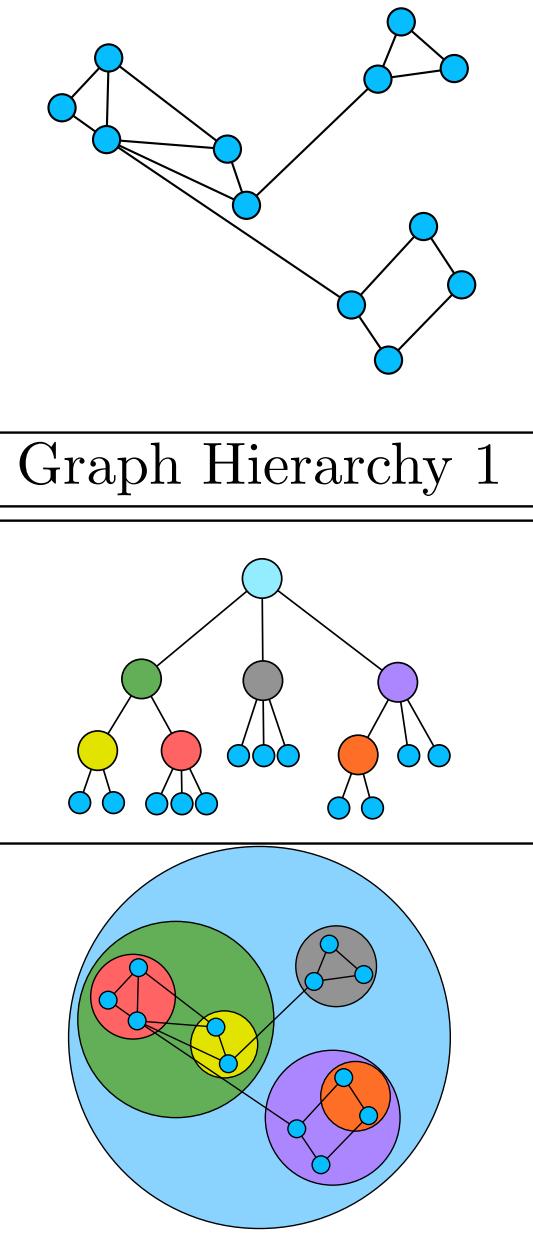
- data shown
  - link relationships
  - tree depth
  - sibling order
- design choices
  - connection vs containment link marks
  - rectilinear vs radial layout
  - spatial position channels
- considerations
  - redundant? arbitrary?
  - information density?
    - avoid wasting space



[Quantifying the Space-Efficiency of 2D Graphical Representations of Trees. McGuffin and Robert. Information Visualization 9:2 (2010), 115–140.]

# Idiom: GrouseFlocks

- data: compound graphs
  - network
  - cluster hierarchy atop it
    - derived or interactively chosen
- visual encoding
  - connection marks for network links
  - containment marks for hierarchy
  - point marks for nodes
- dynamic interaction
  - select individual metanodes in hierarchy to expand/contract



[*GrouseFlocks: Steerable Exploration of Graph Hierarchy Space*. Archambault, Munzner, and Auber. *IEEE TVCG* 14(4): 900-913, 2008.]

# Further reading

- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters / CRC Press, Oct 2014.
  - *Chap 9:Arrange Networks and Trees*
- Visual Analysis of Large Graphs: State-of-the-Art and Future Research Challenges. von Landesberger et al. Computer Graphics Forum 30:6 (2011), 1719–1749.
- Simple Algorithms for Network Visualization: A Tutorial. McGuffin. Tsinghua Science and Technology (Special Issue on Visualization and Computer Graphics) 17:4 (2012), 383–398.
- Drawing on Physical Analogies. Brandes. In Drawing Graphs: Methods and Models, LNCS Tutorial, 2025, edited by M. Kaufmann and D. Wagner, LNCS Tutorial, 2025, pp. 71–86. Springer-Verlag, 2001.
- Treevis.net: A Tree Visualization Reference. Schulz. IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications 31:6 (2011), 11–15. <http://www.treevis.net>
- Perceptual Guidelines for Creating Rectangular Treemaps. Kong, Heer, and Agrawala. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis) 16:6 (2010), 990–998.

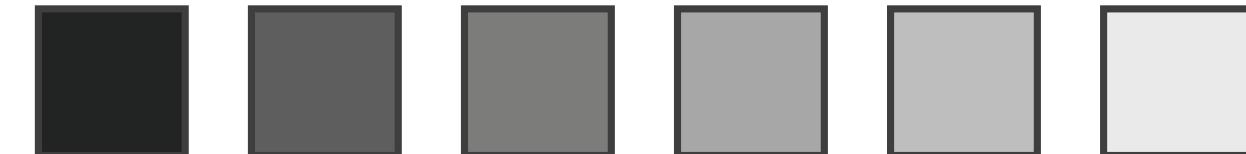
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  - BioVis Analysis Example

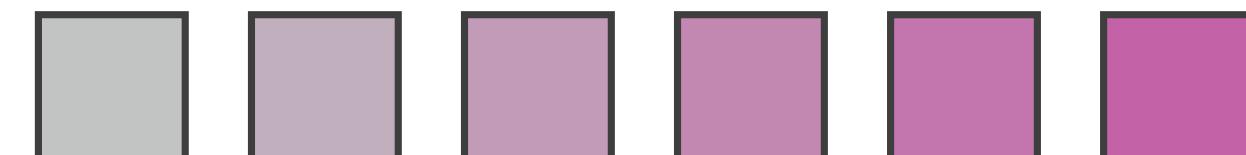
# Color: Luminance, saturation, hue

- 3 channels
  - what/where for categorical
    - hue
  - how-much for ordered
    - luminance
    - saturation
- other common color spaces
  - RGB: poor choice for visual encoding
  - HSL: better, but beware
    - lightness  $\neq$  luminance
- transparency
  - useful for creating visual layers
    - but cannot combine with luminance or saturation

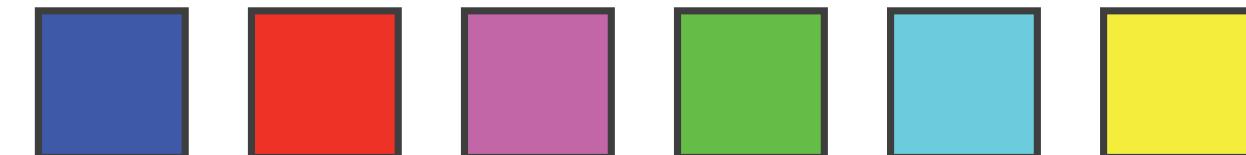
Luminance



Saturation



Hue



Corners of the RGB color cube



L from HLS  
*All the same*



Luminance values



# Colormaps

→ Categorical



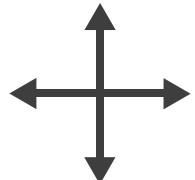
→ Ordered

→ Sequential

→ Diverging



→ Bivariate



- categorical limits: noncontiguous

- 6-12 bins hue/color

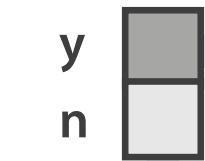
- far fewer if colorblind

- 3-4 bins luminance, saturation

- size heavily affects salience

- use high saturation for small regions, low saturation for large

Binary



Categorical

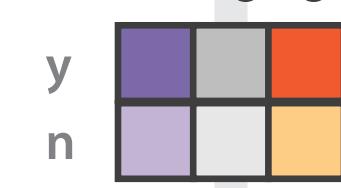


Binary

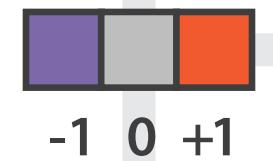


Categorical

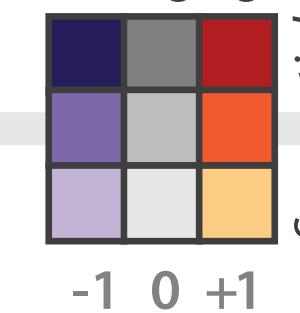
Diverging



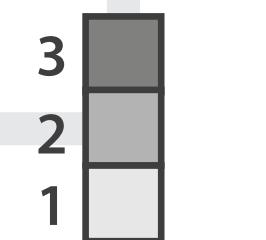
Diverging



Diverging

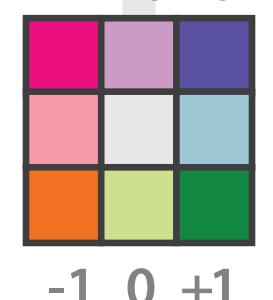


Sequential

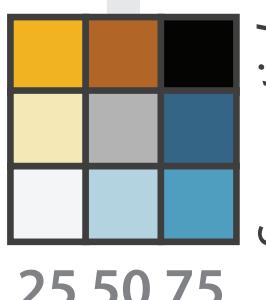


Sequential

Diverging



Diverging

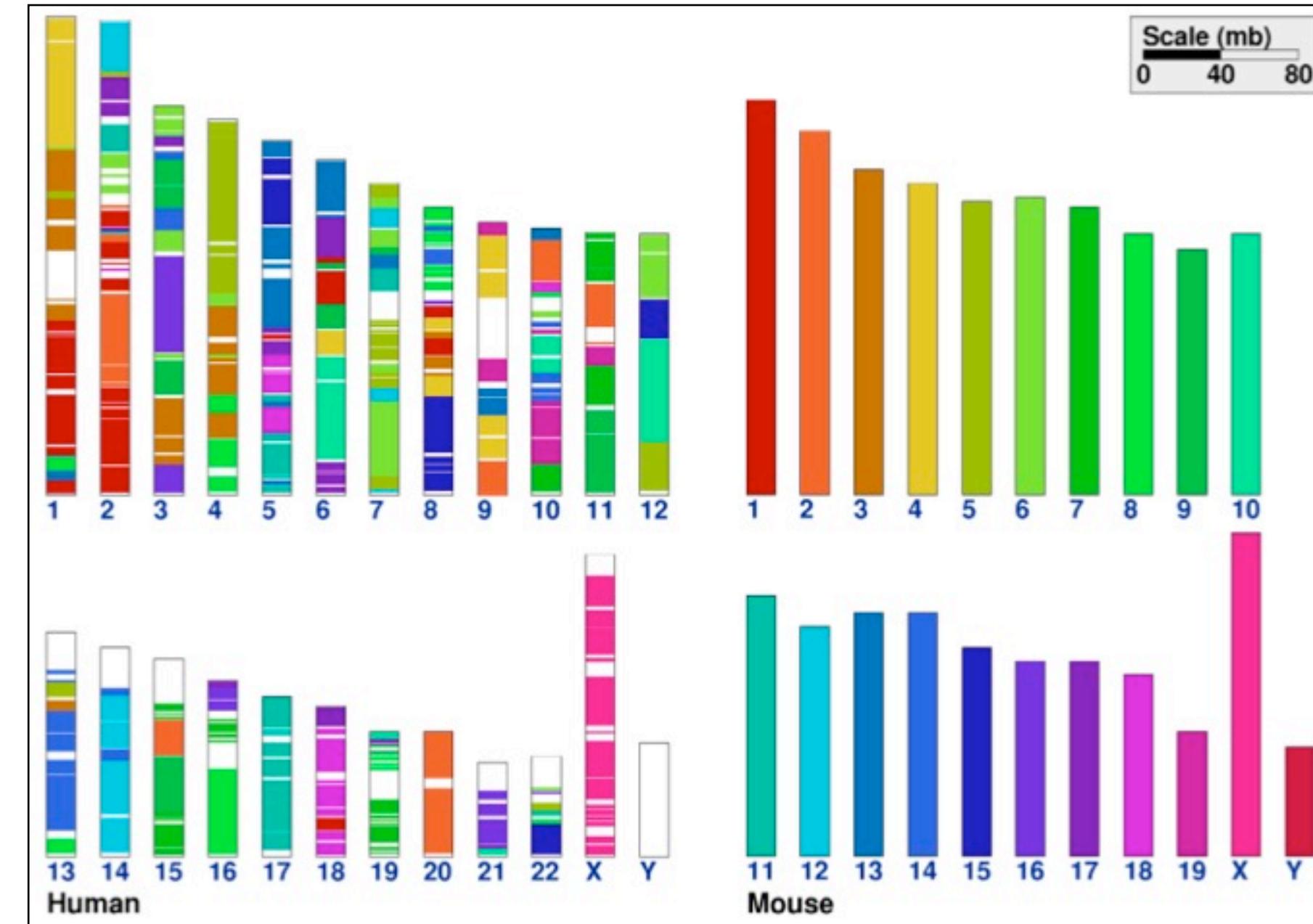


Sequential

after [Color Use Guidelines for Mapping and Visualization. Brewer, 1994.  
<http://www.personal.psu.edu/faculty/c/a/cab38/ColorSch/Schemes.html>]

# Categorical color: Discriminability constraints

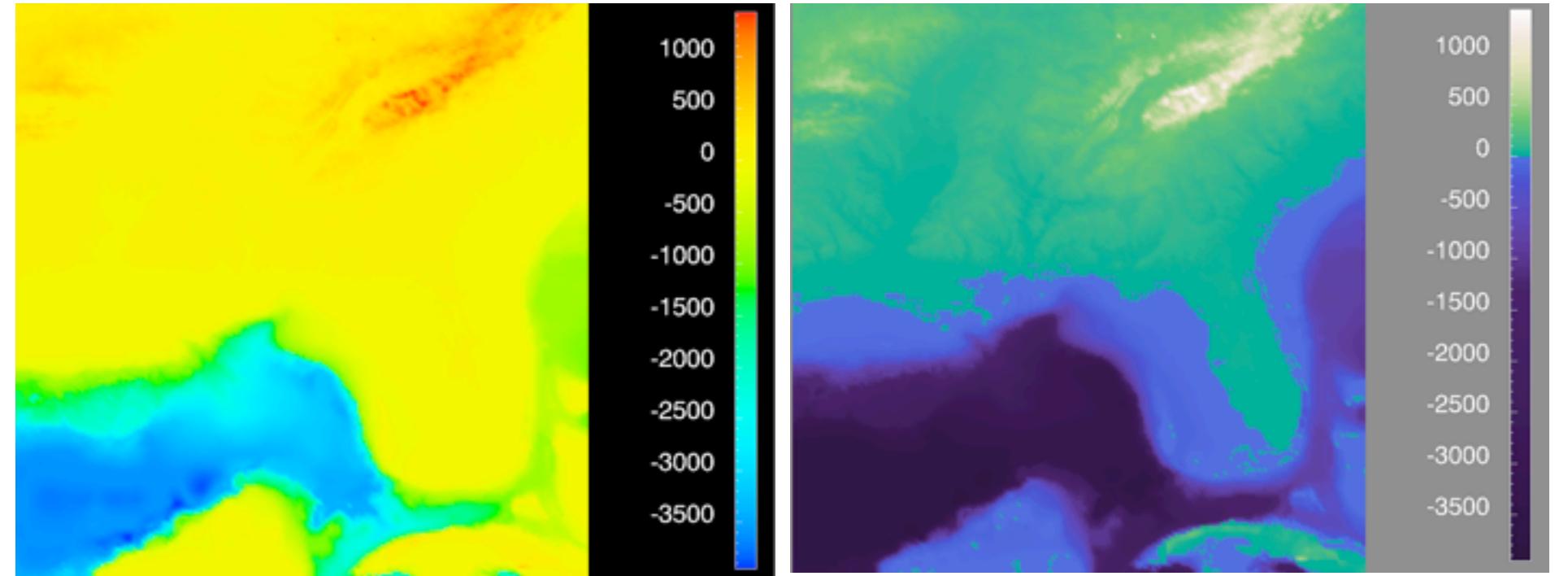
- noncontiguous small regions of color: only 6-12 bins



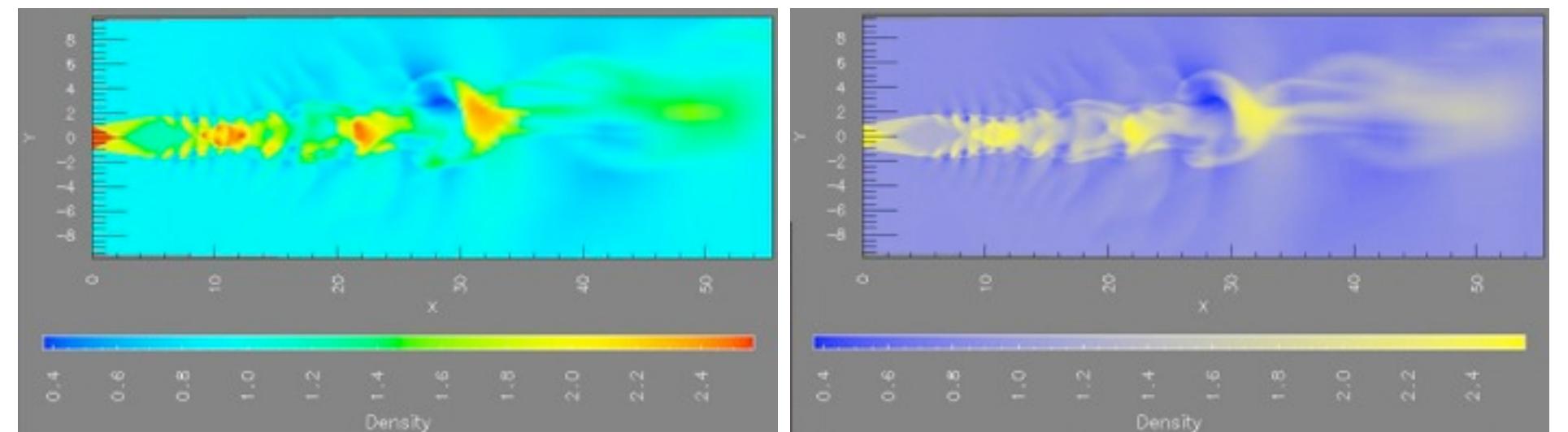
[Cinteny: flexible analysis and visualization of synteny and genome rearrangements in multiple organisms. Sinha and Meller. BMC Bioinformatics, 8:82, 2007.]

# Ordered color: Rainbow is poor default

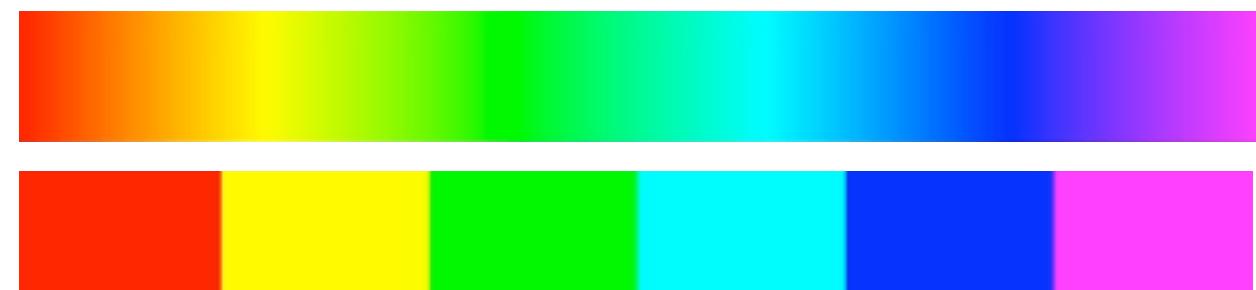
- problems
  - perceptually unordered
  - perceptually nonlinear
- benefits
  - fine-grained structure visible and nameable
- alternatives
  - fewer hues for large-scale structure
  - multiple hues with monotonically increasing luminance for fine-grained
  - segmented rainbows good for categorical, ok for binned



[Why Should Engineers Be Worried About Color? Treinish and Rogowitz 1998. <http://www.research.ibm.com/people/l/lloyd/color/color.HTM>]



[A Rule-based Tool for Assisting Colormap Selection. Bergman, Rogowitz, and Treinish. Proc. IEEE Visualization (Vis), pp. 118–125, 1995.]



[Transfer Functions in Direct Volume Rendering: Design, Interface, Interaction. Kindlmann. SIGGRAPH 2002 Course Notes]

# Map other channels

- size
  - length accurate, 2D area ok, 3D volume poor
- angle
  - nonlinear accuracy
    - horizontal, vertical, exact diagonal
- shape
  - complex combination of lower-level primitives
  - many bins
- motion
  - highly separable against static
    - binary: great for highlighting
  - use with care to avoid irritation

→ Size, Angle, Curvature, ...

→ Length



→ Angle



→ Area



→ Curvature



→ Volume

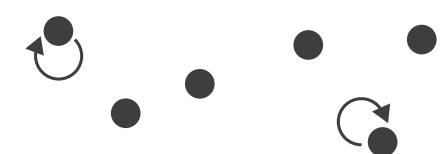


→ Shape

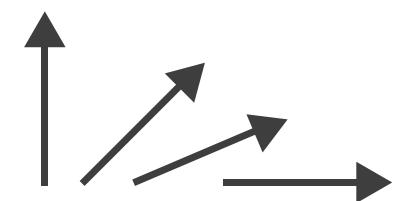
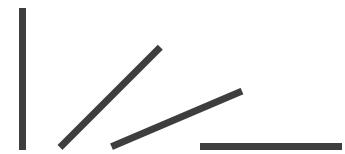


→ Motion

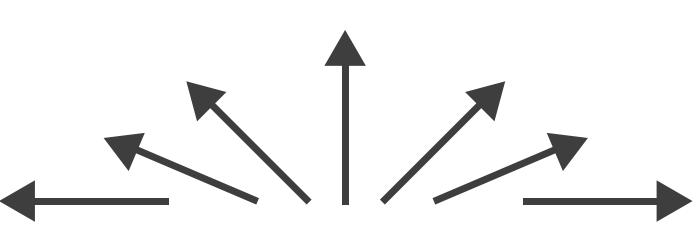
→ Motion  
Direction, Rate,  
Frequency, ...



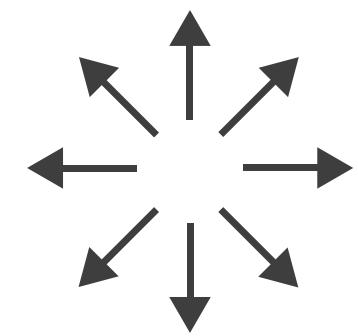
# Angle



Sequential ordered  
line mark or **arrow glyph**



Diverging ordered  
arrow glyph



Cyclic ordered  
arrow glyph

## Further reading

- Visualization Analysis and Design. Munzner. AK Peters / CRC Press, Oct 2014.
  - *Chap 10: Map Color and Other Channels*
- ColorBrewer, Brewer.
  - <http://www.colorbrewer2.org>
- *Color In Information Display*. Stone. IEEE Vis Course Notes, 2006.
  - <http://www.stonesc.com/Vis06>
- A Field Guide to Digital Color. Stone. AK Peters, 2003.
- *Rainbow Color Map (Still) Considered Harmful*. Borland and Taylor. IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications 27:2 (2007), 14–17.
- Visual Thinking for Design. Ware. Morgan Kaufmann, 2008.
- Information Visualization: Perception for Design, 3rd edition. Ware. Morgan Kaufmann / Academic Press, 2004.

# Outline

- **Visualization Analysis Framework**

Session 1 9:30-10:45am

- Introduction: Definitions
- Analysis: What, Why, How
- Marks and Channels

- **Idiom Design Choices, Part 2**

Session 3 1:15pm-2:45pm

- Manipulate: Change, Select, Navigate
- Facet: Juxtapose, Partition, Superimpose
- Reduce: Filter, Aggregate, Embed

- **Idiom Design Choices**

Session 2 11:00am-12:15pm

- Arrange Tables
- Arrange Spatial Data
- Arrange Networks and Trees
- Map Color

- **Guidelines and Examples**

Session 4 3-4:30pm

- Rules of Thumb
- Validation
- BioVis Analysis Example