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New Multimodal Experiences for Communicating with an Audience about Data

Matthew Brehmer, Tableau Research

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@ University of Utah SCII – Oct 5 2022

About Tableau Research

research.tableau.com

est. 2012 | director: Vidya Setlur

a team of 9 researchers + architects, working on:

visualization, human-computer interaction,
natural language processing / generation,
cartography, applied machine learning, ...

New Multimodal Experiences for Communicating with an Audience about Data

From Jam Session to Recital:

Synchronous Communication and Collaboration
around Data in Organizations

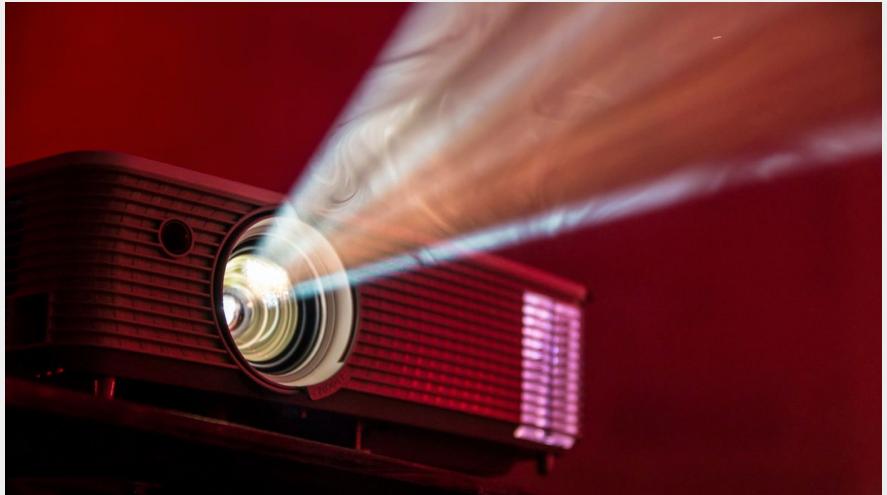
— — —
VIS 2021, with Robert Kosara

The Information in our Hands

— — —
Information+ 2021

Augmented Chironomia for Presenting Data to Remote Audiences

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UIST 2022, with Brian D. Hall and Lyn Bartram

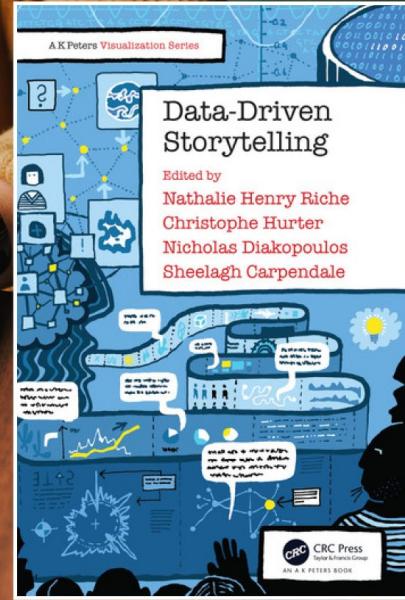


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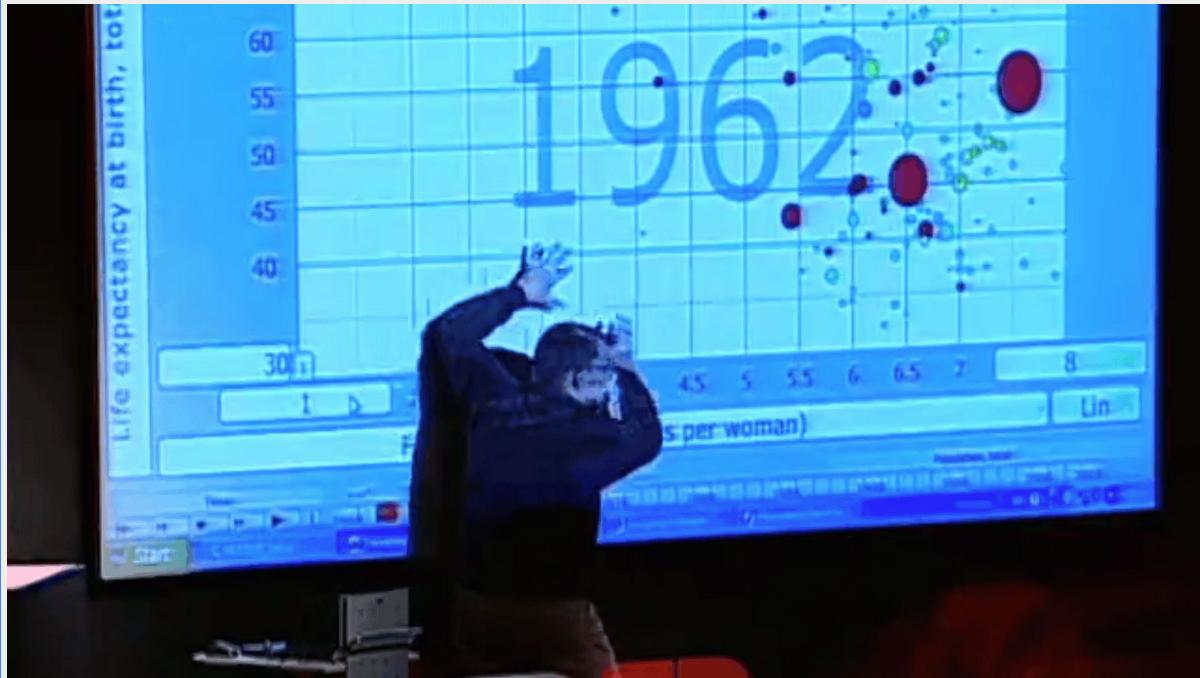




Communicating data to an audience

S. Drucker, S. Huron, R. Kosara, J. Schwabish, and N. Diakopoulos.
In N. Henry Riche, C. Hurter, N. Diakopoulos, and S. Carpendale, eds.,

Data-Driven Storytelling. AK Peters/CRC Press, 2018



👉 **Hans Rosling's TED Conference Talks (2006, 2007)**

gapminder.com/videos



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From Jam Session to Recital

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Aim of this study:

**Look beyond scenarios of individual,
asynchronous consumption involving
communicative data visualization ...**

**Understand scenarios of synchronous
communication around data**

From Jam Session to Recital

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VIS 2021, Matthew Brehmer and Robert Kosara

**Interviews with 18 people who prepare
and / or deliver presentations involving
data within their organizations.**

**Reflection on current practices and
frustrations.**

**3 design probes examining different
aspects of presenting data.**

From Jam Session to Recital

Synchronous Communication and Collaboration
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VIS 2021, Matthew Brehmer and Robert Kosara

Key findings:

**3 scenarios for synchronous
communication around data; a spectrum
of formality**

**Collaboration: role diversity, content
handoff + repurposing**

**Both slideware and business intelligence
tools unsatisfying, for different reasons**

3 scenarios for synchronous communication around data; a spectrum of formality





Small collaborative team meetings around data can be likened to musical jam sessions.

“...showing them the doors, metaphorically speaking, the doors that are available that I found in the data, and then they would open them.” – P4, retail analyst



jam sessions as rehearsals for more formal presentations.

presentation materials used with manager to “prove our point with charts”
– P3, manufacturing analyst



Cross-functional team meetings around data can be likened to semi-improvised performances (e.g., live coffee house jazz).

"If you go to my engineering team, they care about the meaning [...] for the sales team, you are just looking at quotas: have you met the goal or not?"
– P13, data strategist



Presentations to executives and customers can be likened to formal recitals at the concert hall.

“As soon as everyone’s tied off on the validity and the accuracy of the numbers, we screenshot what we have and put that image directly into a slide”
– P05, communications specialist

“I get this sense of failure every time I’m going into PowerPoint [...but] if it will take three hours to build a ten minute presentation, I ain’t gonna do it.”

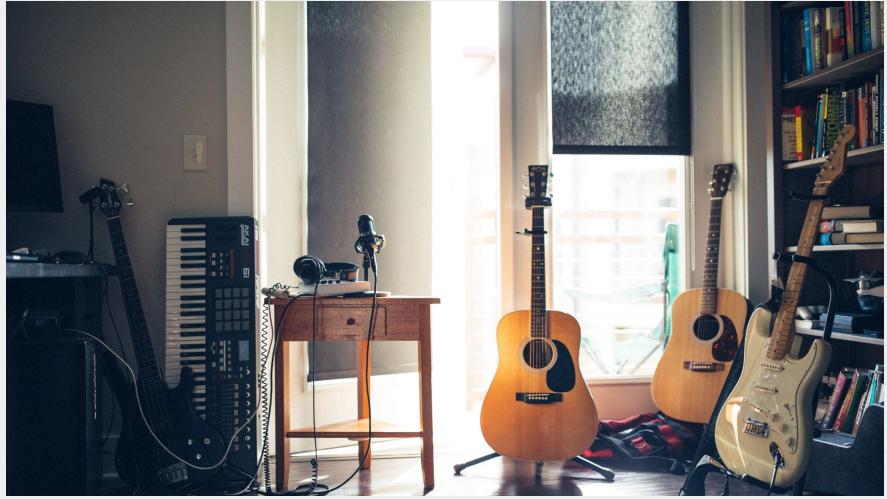
– P18, regional vice president of sales

“I want to break up an otherwise boring series of charts [...] sometimes you need to do it in different ways to keep the [audience’s] attention.”

– P9, marketing manager

“...to feel like a presentation versus a demo.”

– P5, communications specialist



implications for tool design:

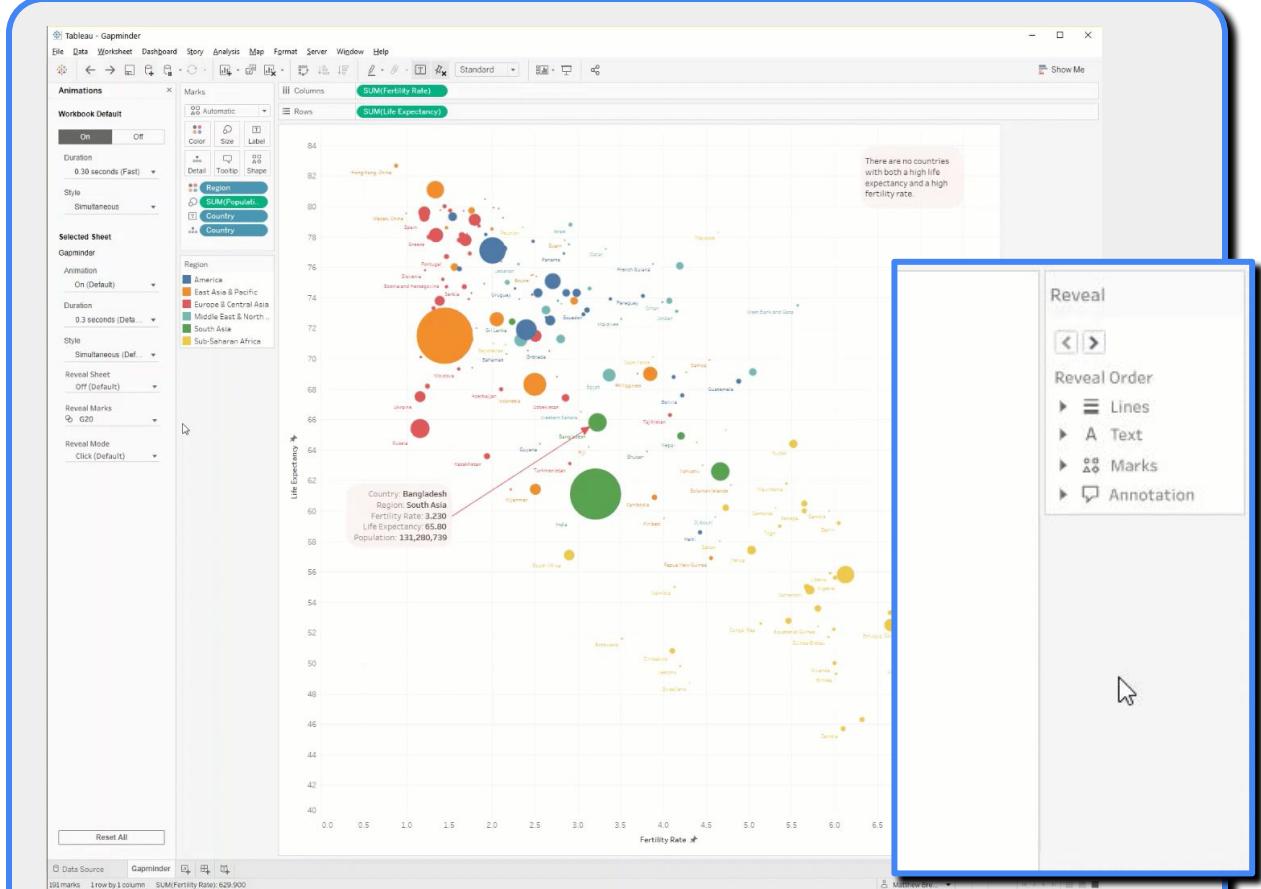
**... creativity support, less tool-switching,
support collaborative hand-offs**

**... interactive visualization, yet still a
presentation, not a tool demo**

... direct viewer attention on-the-fly



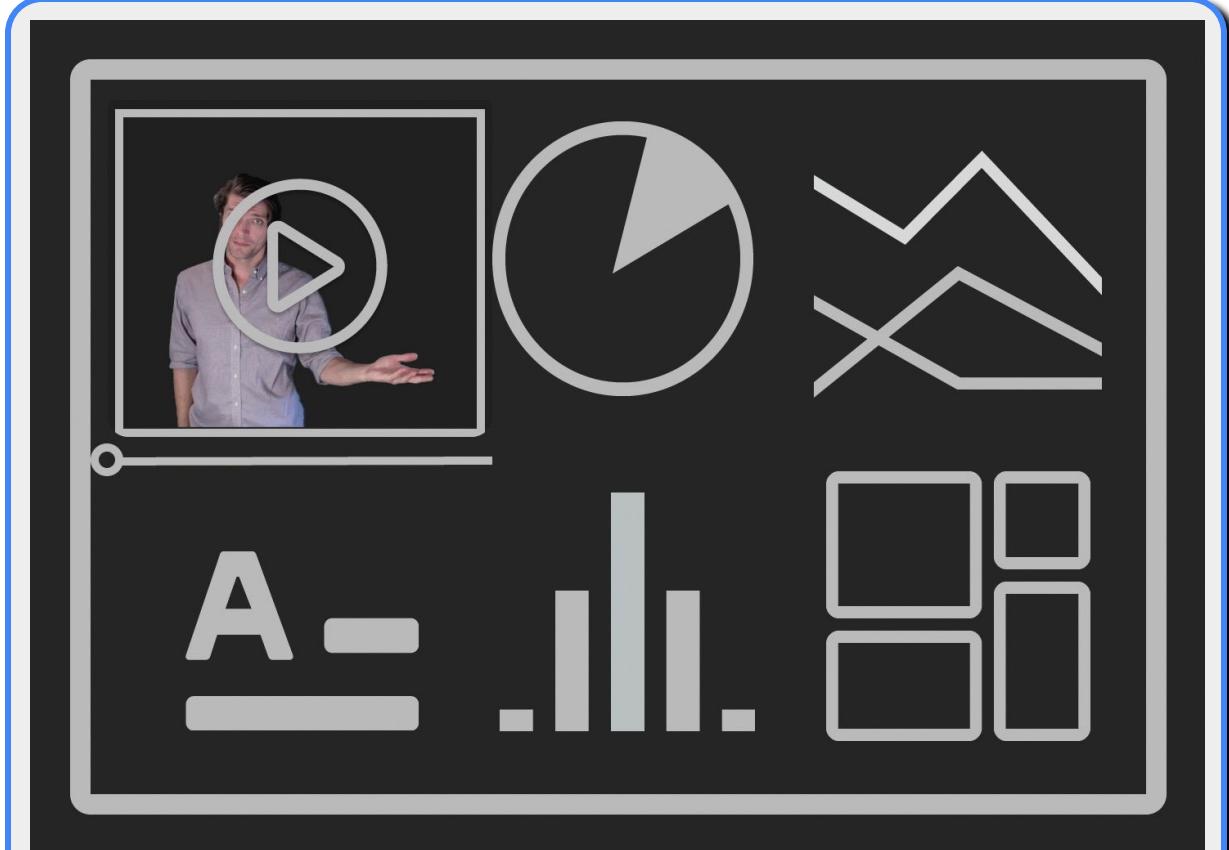
slideware-inspired reveal controls for any chart / dashboard component



👉 sideware-inspired reveal controls for a Tableau worksheet



A secondary display “presenter view” for a business intelligence workbook



👉 a video “tour guide” for a business intelligence dashboard

The SuperBookStore Bestsellers Dashboard

▶ 00:00 This video will introduce you to SuperBookStore's dashboard of top rated books over the past 25 years.

I'll first direct your attention to the top right. Here's a scatterplot of our highest rated and bestselling fiction titles over the past 20 years, from 1996 to 2016, where larger circles correspond to more ratings.

00:19 And here is our bestselling non-fiction titles shown below them, and as you can see our non-fiction titles tend to have higher scores but fewer ratings than our fiction titles.

You'll also notice that we've seen more bestsellers in the early half of the last decade.

00:27 Now added in blue is the remainder of our highest rated titles, those that were not bestsellers.

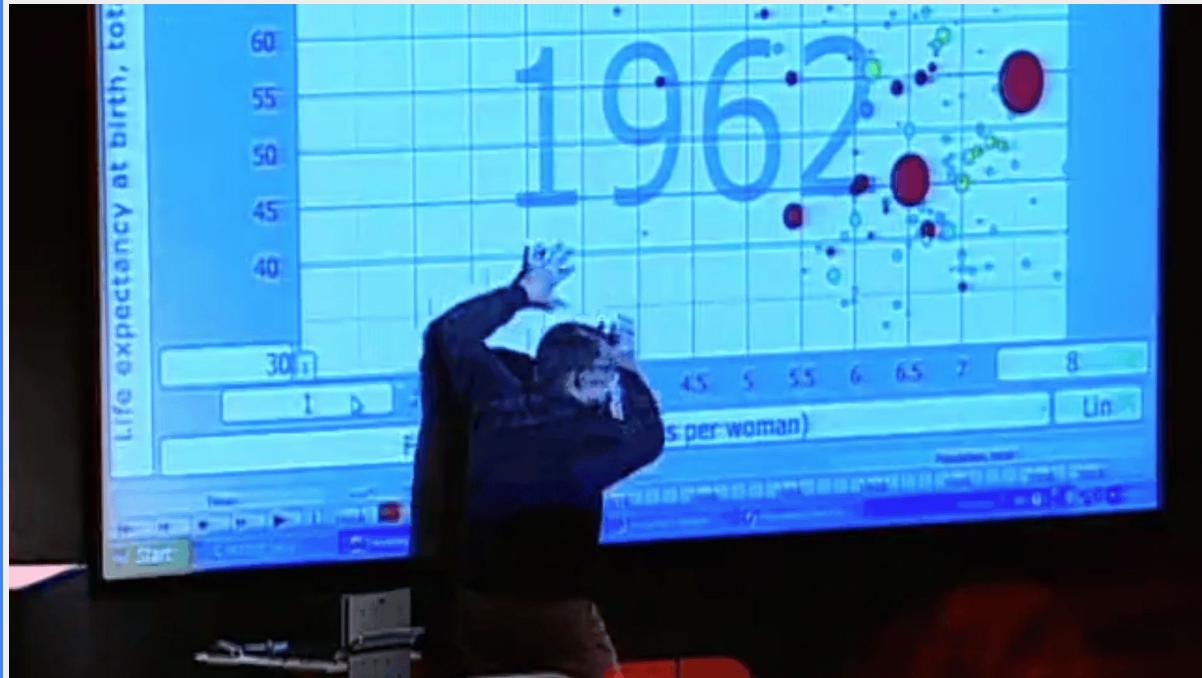
00:38 I'll now click back on additional tabs on this dashboard to include more

Book Ratings (sized by # Ratings) of Bestselling Fiction over Time

A scatterplot showing the relationship between publication year (X-axis, 1996 to 2016) and rating (Y-axis, 3.2 to 4.4). The size of the orange circles represents the number of ratings for each title. A horizontal dotted line is drawn at approximately 4.0. A vertical dotted line is drawn at approximately 2001. A blue circle highlights a point in the lower-right quadrant.

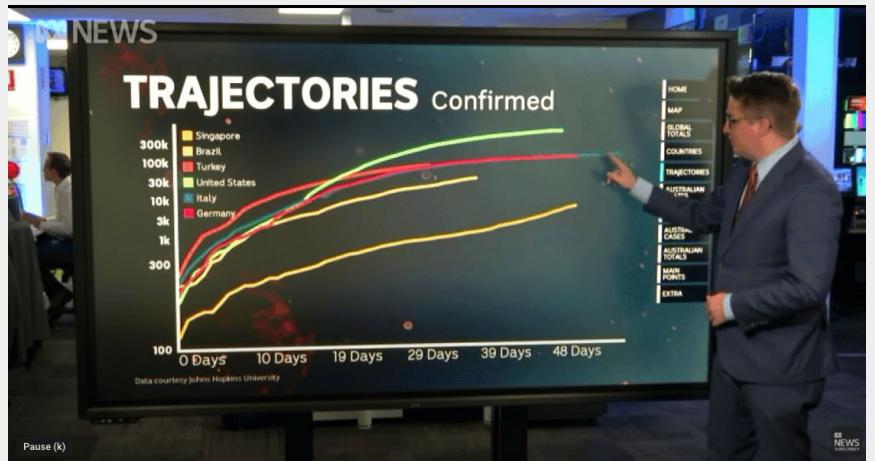
Author	Author Gen.	Title	Genre	Is Best Seller	Yr	Author ..	Pages	Rating	Rating ..
Alice Munro	female	Hateship, Friendship, Cour	Fiction	True	2001	69	323	4.1	12,639
		Selected Stories	Fiction	True	1996	62	688	4.3	5,357
Anthony Doerr	male	All the Light We Cannot S	Fiction	True	2014	41	531	4.3	50,482
Barkley Kingsolver	female	The Poisonwood Bible	Fiction	True	1998	43	546	4.0	559,572
Clive Cussler	male	The Riddle of the Fiddlin	Fiction	True	2011	37	512	4.0	88,523
Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie	female	Americanah	Fiction	True	2013	36	477	4.0	159,595
Chris Ware	male	Building Stories	Fiction	True	2012	45	260	4.3	5,374
Colson Whitehead	male	The Underground Railroad	Fiction	True	2016	47	306	4.0	82,601
Dave Eggers	male	A Hologram for the King	Fiction	True	2012	42	312	3.3	22,613
Donna Tartt	female	The Goldfinch	Fiction	True	2013	50	771	3.9	456,286
Elena Ferrante	female	The Story of the Lost Chil	Fiction	True	2015	71	480	4.4	27,561
Emma Donoghue	female	Room	Fiction	True	2010	41	401	4.0	42,432
George Saunders	male	Tenth of December	Fiction	True	2013	54	272	4.0	42,946
Hilary Mantel	female	Bring Up the Bodies (The	Fiction	True	2012	60	407	4.3	51,146
Ian McEwan	male	Atonement	Fiction	True	2002	53	351	3.9	363,350
Ian McGuire	male	The North Water	Fiction	True	2016	52	272	4.0	12,646
Jeanineette Walls	female	Half Broke Horses	Fiction	True	2009	48	272	4.0	118,529
Jonathan Franzen	male	A Gentleman in His O	Fiction	True	2010	48	288	3.6	138,608
Jessyca Ward	female	Sing, Unbound, Sing	Fiction	True	2017	41	295	4.1	1,031
Jonathan Franzen	male	Freedom	Fiction	True	2010	53	351	3.9	126,779
Karen Russell	female	Swamplandia!	Fiction	True	2011	29	323	3.2	43,049

👉 a prototype video “tour guide” for a Tableau dashboard



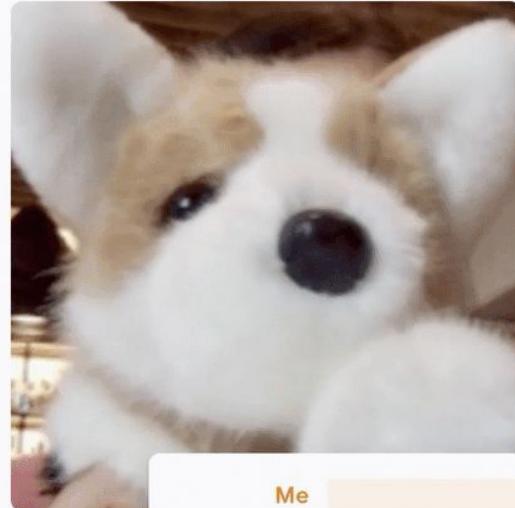
👉 **Hans Rosling's TED Conference Talks (2006, 2007)**

gapminder.com/videos





"The Information in Our Hands" – Information+ Conference 2021



Me

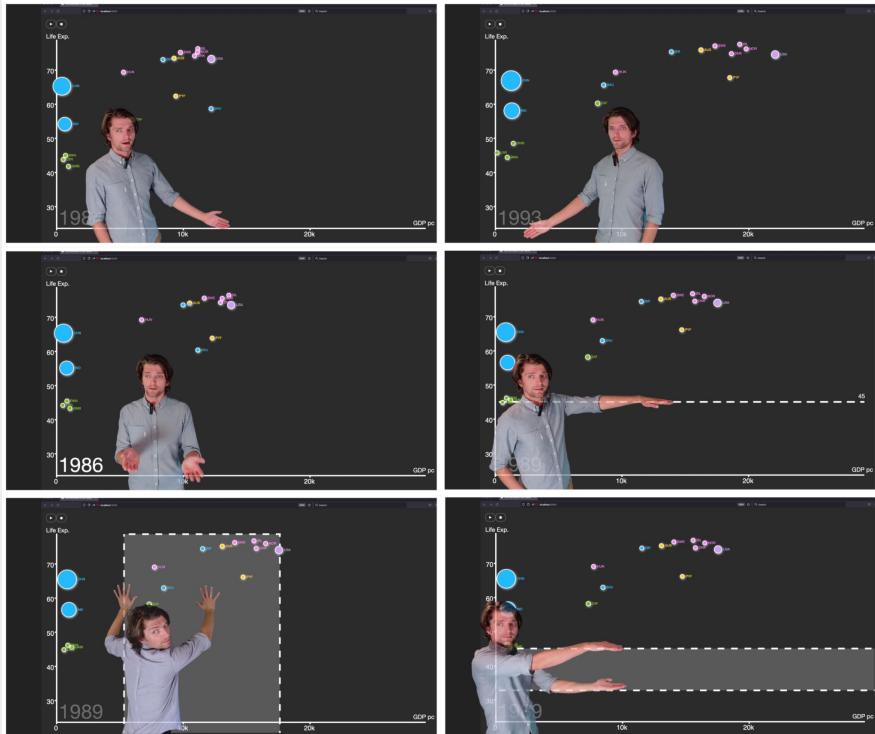
Me + Dog <3

20%

Teachable Machine

**Train a computer to recognize your own
images, sounds, & poses.**

A fast, easy way to create machine learning models for



"The Information in Our Hands"

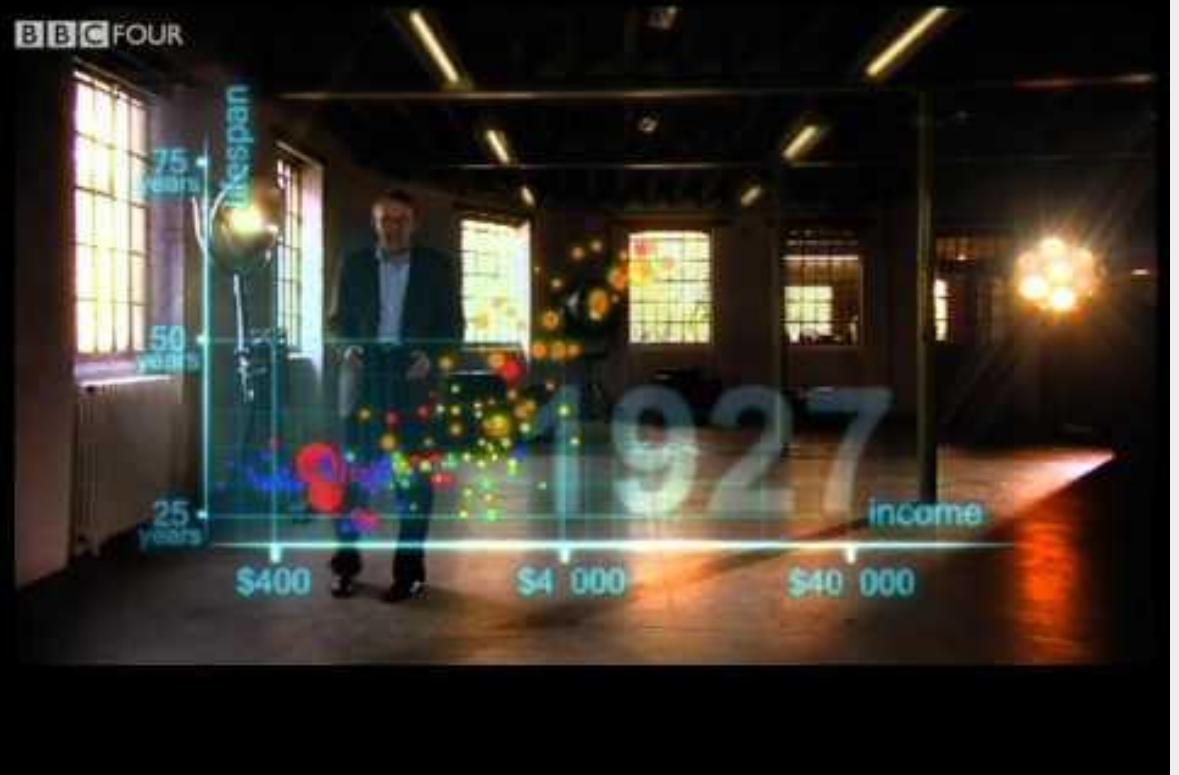
Information+ Conference 2021



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BBC FOUR



"200 Countries, 200 Years, 4 Minutes" – Hans Rosling, BBC 2010



👉 "200 Countries, 200 Years, 4 Minutes" – Hans Rosling, BBC 2010



Matthew Brehmer
TABLEAU RESEARCH





Live ML anywhere

MediaPipe offers open source cross-platform,
customizable ML solutions for live and streaming media.

ARTICLE

Using space to talk and gesture about numbers

Evidence from the TV News Archive

Bodo Winter, Marcus Perlman*, and Teenie Matlock

University of California, Merced / *University of Wisconsin, Madison

This paper examines naturally occurring gestures produced in descriptions of numbers and quantities in television newscasts. The results of our analysis show that gestures reveal the metaphorical and spatial nature of numerical thinking. That is, speakers' hands mimic known spatial mappings between space and quantity, including horizontal mappings (smaller quantities left, larger quantities right), vertical mappings (smaller quantities down, larger quantities up) and size-based mappings (smaller quantities "small", larger quantities "large"). Speakers frequently switch between these different spatial mappings, and they sometimes combine them within the same gesture. This points to the flexibility of how metaphors can become expressed in gesture, and how domains such as number and quantity can be conceptualized through multiple compatible source domains.

Keywords: metaphor, mathematics, number, quantity, TV news



1. **Primo q. suffragio
mittre debet, p.
ille qui intravit e
et promisit q. omni
esset in colla app
elle et pro alteri
runt applicari p.**

**Non esse en
temus uo si
st certissim
eis si isti ca
tores / pra
mag exilii
stitionis /
ceres por
tumanda i
subripi po
gio / neq
ner turpi
stani / neq
mutari /
soli se diu**

**ad rebus
nullius potest
deum temere
spectantem rice**

B. C.



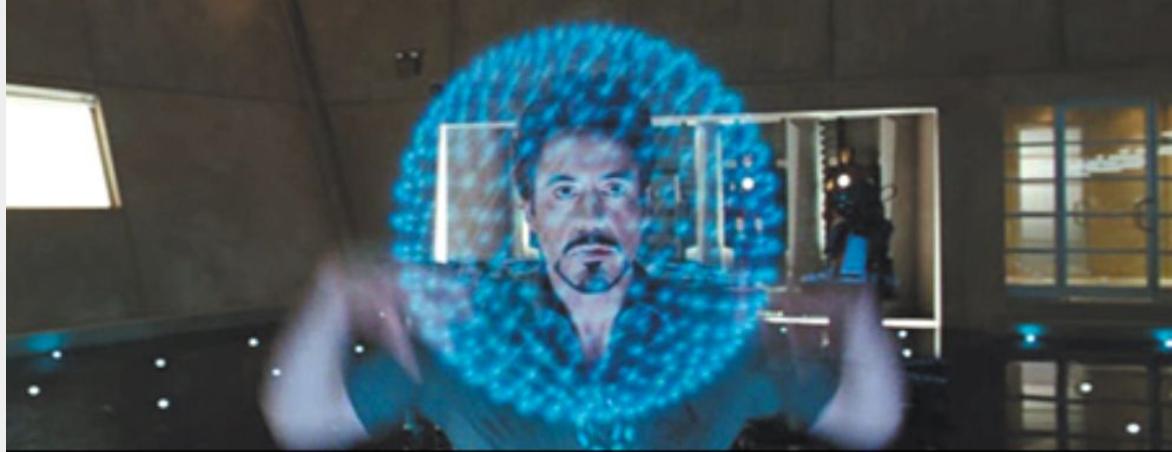


👉 ***Augmented Chironomia for Presenting Data to Remote Audiences***

Brian D. Hall, Lyn Bartram, Matthew Brehmer

to appear at ACM UIST 2022







Functional gestures

modify system behavior

“Operational gestures”

performed in relation to visual elements

Illustrative gestures

→ Deictic gestures

Iconic gestures

Metaphoric gestures

Affective gestures

*convey emotion and emphasis...
used to persuade and argue*

“Expressive gestures”
*can precede, co-occur with,
or follow an operational gesture*



👉 Chalktalk: A visualization and communication language – As a tool in the domain of computer science education.
Ken Perlin, Zhenyi He, and Karl Rosenberg

arXiv preprint (2018) 1809.07166

Embodied Interactions for Novel Immersive Presentational Experiences

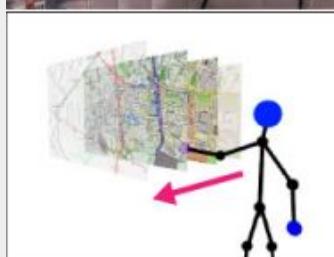
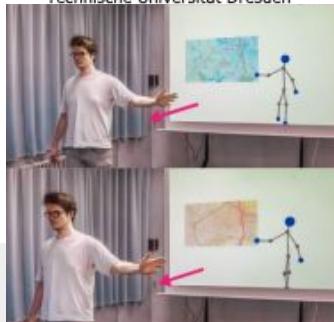
Fabrice Matulic

Lars Engeln

Christoph Träger

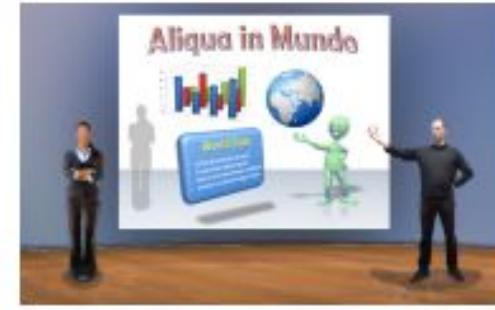
Raimund Dachselt

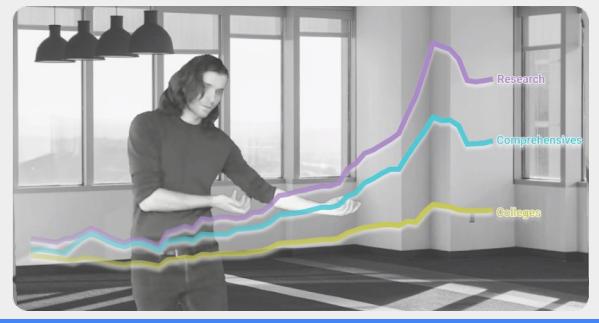
Interactive Media Lab Dresden
Technische Universität Dresden



Abstract

In this work, we introduce and propose a preliminary realisation of a concept to enhance live multimedia presentations, where presenters are directly integrated in their presentation content as interactive avatars. Using multimodal input, especially body gestures, presenters control those embedded avatars through which they can interact with the virtual presentation environment in a fine-grained fashion, i.e. they are able to manipulate individual presentation elements and data as virtual props. The goal of our endeavour is to create novel immersive presentational experiences for live stage performances (talks, lectures etc.) as well as for remote conferencing in more confined areas such as offices and meeting rooms.





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Discussion

Open Questions, Future Work ...

Creativity support for presenting data

**Remote + mixed collaborative environments,
role diversity + knowledge asymmetry ...**

Maintaining suspense and dramatic reveals ...

Interaction support for both presenter + viewer

**Gestural interaction beyond interface control:
gesture to support rhetoric and affect**

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Published in Tableau Engineering Blog



Robert Kosara

Oct 26, 2021 · 4 min read



How Do People Communicate and Collaborate with Data in Organizations?

Data is everywhere in organizations, but how do people actually use it to communicate, present, and collaborate? Matt Brehmer and I investigated this question in a pair of studies that we report on in a paper to be published at the VIS 2021 conference this week, titled [From Jam Session to Recital: Synchronous Communication and Collaboration Around Data in Organizations](#). In addition to asking about people's uses of data presentations in meetings, we showed them a series of mock-ups for ideas that we thought would make for better recorded and live presentations.

adapted from:

From Jam Session to Recital

Synchronous Communication and Collaboration around Data in Organizations

— — —
VIS 2021, Matthew Brehmer & Robert Kosara



Charts in Context

How charts are shared in different settings and how context influences design, accessibility, and understanding

Featuring Matthew Brehmer,
Frank Elavsky, and Keke Wu



Data Visualization Society fireside chat (Jan 24 2022)

Matthew Brehmer, Frank Elavsky, & Keke Wu, hosted by Amanda Makulec

youtu.be/rYVtNEH4e4o



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