

Visualization Requirements for Knowledge-Based Systems

CHISEL Lab
University of Victoria, BC Canada
<http://chisel.cs.uvic.ca>

Margaret-Anne Storey Polly Allen Neil Ernst

Motivation

Evaluation

Case Study

Roadmap

Discussion

Visualization and Protégé

- Why visualize information?
- How can visualization help in Protégé?
 - Who are the users?
- Determine requirements for visualization use in Protégé
 - Formative evaluation techniques
 - An introspective Case Study explored
 - Adoption barriers
- Preliminary set of requirements and roadmap
- Discussion

The power of the unaided mind is highly overrated. Without external aids, memory, thought, and reasoning are all constrained. But human intelligence is highly flexible and adaptive, superb at inventing procedures and objects that overcome its own limits. The real powers come from devising external aids that enhance cognitive abilities. How have we increased memory, thought, and reasoning? By the inventions of external aids: It is things that make us smart.

(Norman, 1993)

External Cognitive Aids

- External cognition
 - Internal and external representation and processing weave together in thought
- External cognitive aids can enhance cognition
 - Slide rule
 - For multiplication, use of paper reduces the time required by a factor of 5 (for most people)
 - An important class of external cognitive aids that make us smart are graphical inventions and interactive visualizations

Information visualization

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- Visualize --
 - To form a mental image or vision
- Visualization is done by humans, it is not done by a computer
 - But the use of computer supported, interactive, visual representations of abstract data can amplify cognition
- Visualizations can help us gain insight into data

Interactive Visualizations that make us smart...

Motivation

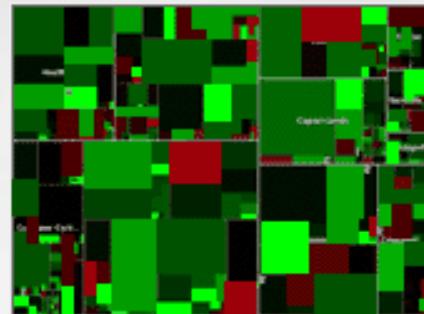
Evaluation

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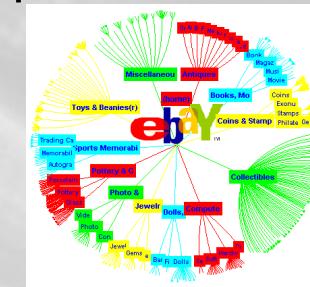
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<http://www.smartmoney.com/maps>



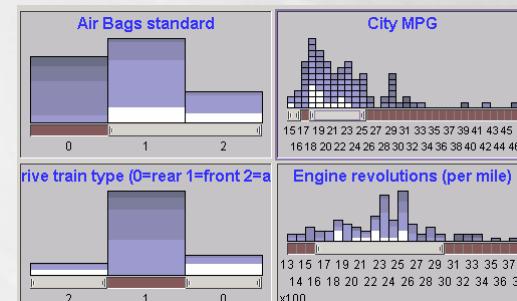
Hyperbolic Trees



SHriMP Views



Attribute Explorer



The Brain



An interactive visualization tool...

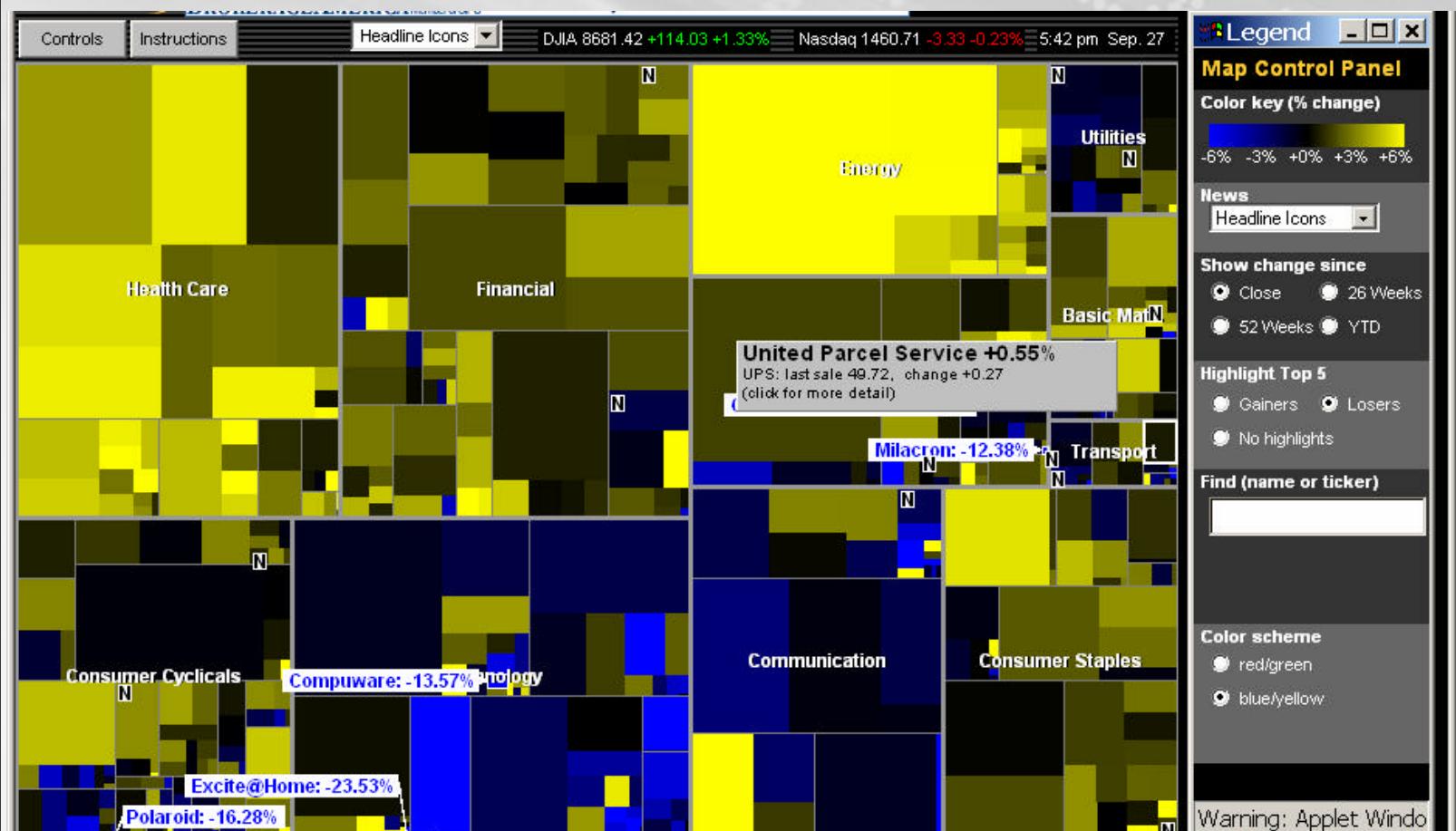
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Zooming in to one sector

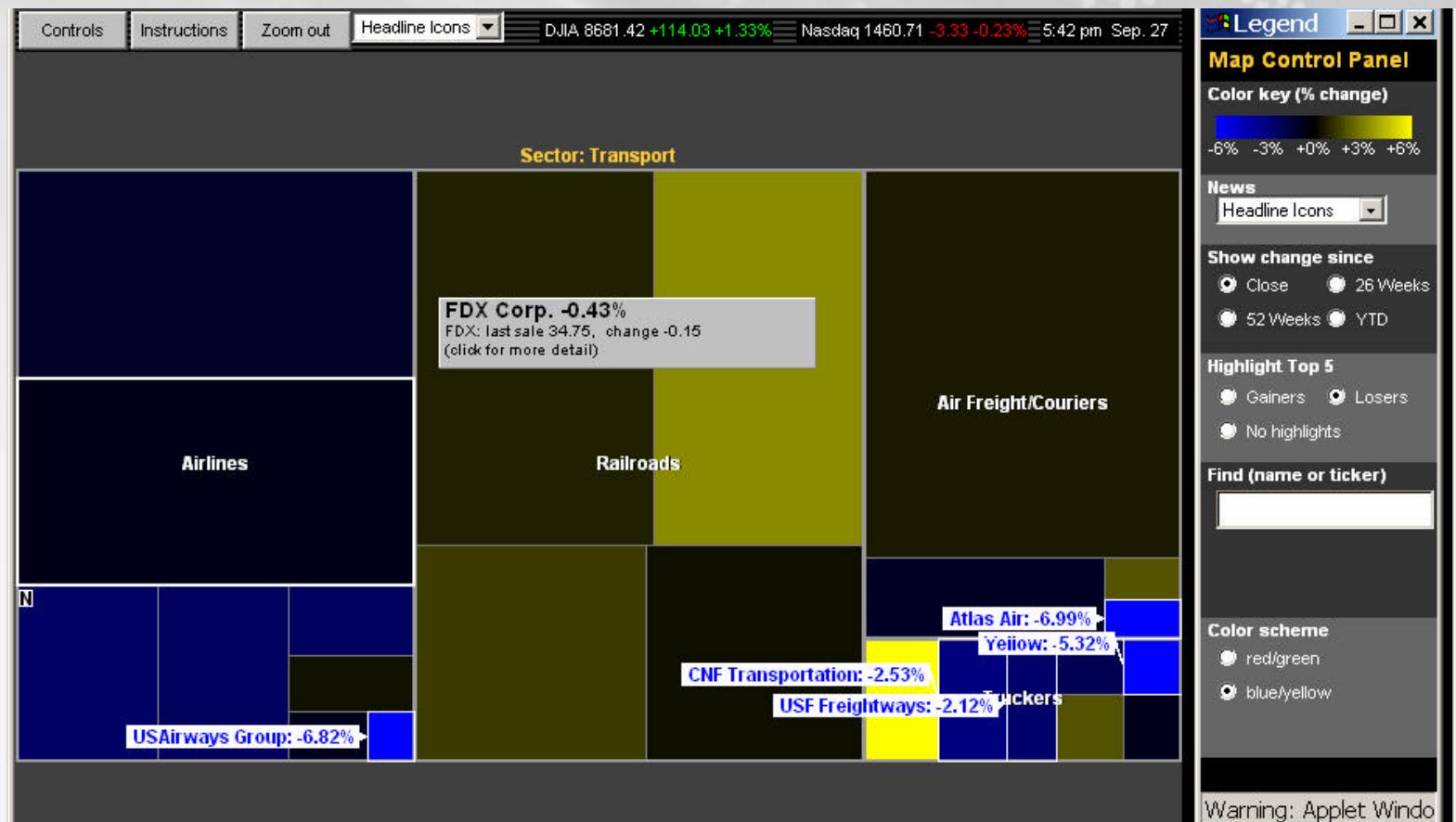
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Zooming in to look at Airlines

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Jambalaya

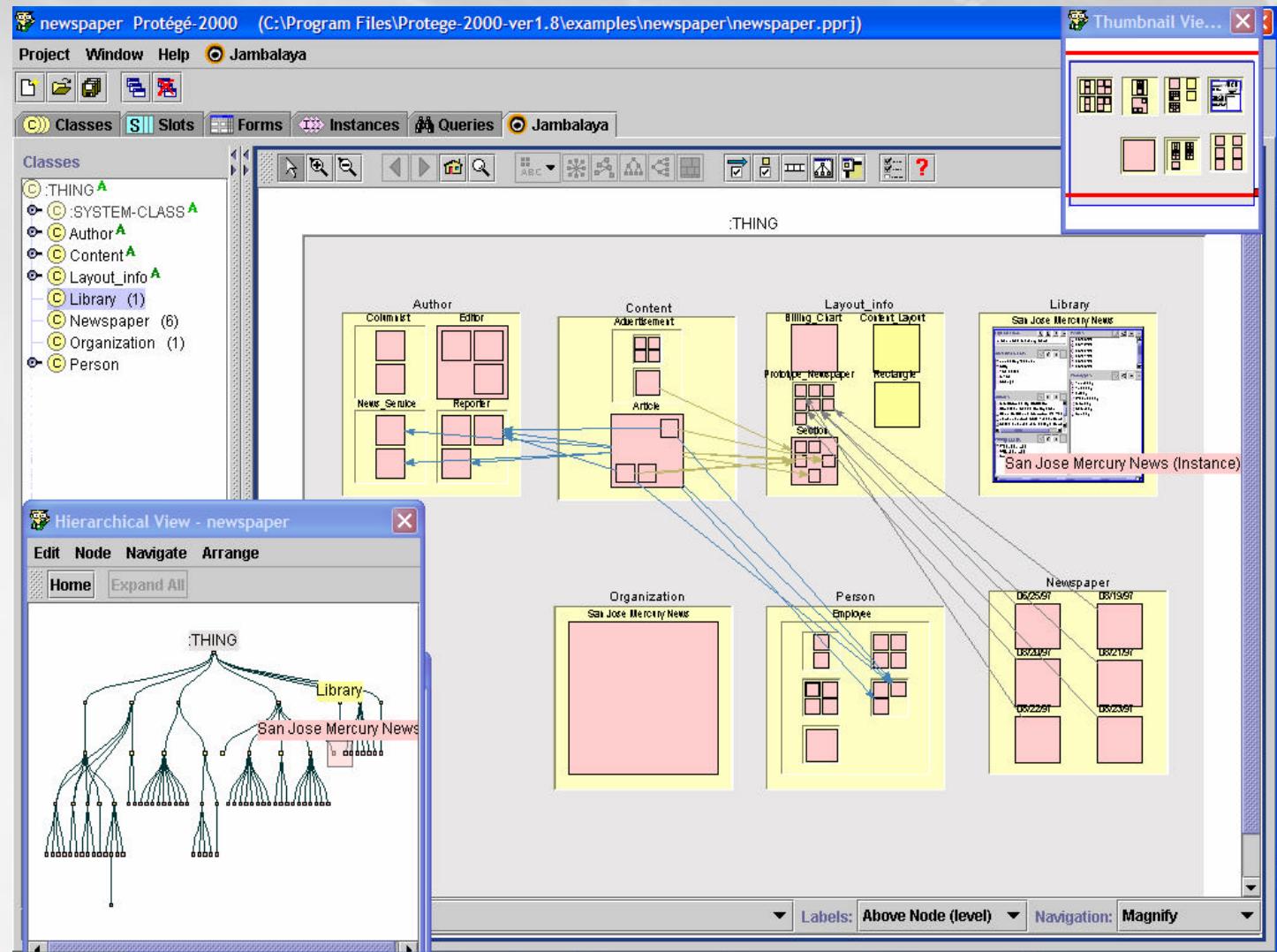
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Who are the potential Users for visualization?

- Modelers – expert and novice
- Team of modelers (managers)
- End users

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Empirical Evaluation in KE: Some Challenges

- Lack of incentives to participate: time and effort required
- Amassing enough experts
- Lack of generalizability of results
- Many previous evaluations have focused on characteristics of the models built: system-resources, capabilities
- Needed: more evaluations from the user's perspective

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Summative vs. Formative Evaluation

- Summative evaluates a tool against its requirements once it has been developed

What happens if we don't know the requirements?

- Formative evaluation guides the development/refinement of a tool

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Gathering requirements for supporting users through...

- User Surveys
- Contextual Inquiry and Observation Case Studies
 - National Cancer Institute in Washington, D.C.
 - Foundational Model of Anatomy at University of Washington
- Introspective Case Study

The goal: Enough results for generalizations!

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Contextual Inquiry in KE

Some tasks performed by knowledge engineers:

- Frequent use of 'search' dialog: repeated searches for same 2 terms, moving frequently between 2 focused areas
- Changing the hierarchical relationship to verify modeling: users needed to find concept of interest in the new hierarchy
- Understanding interactions between several relationships, transitive relationships

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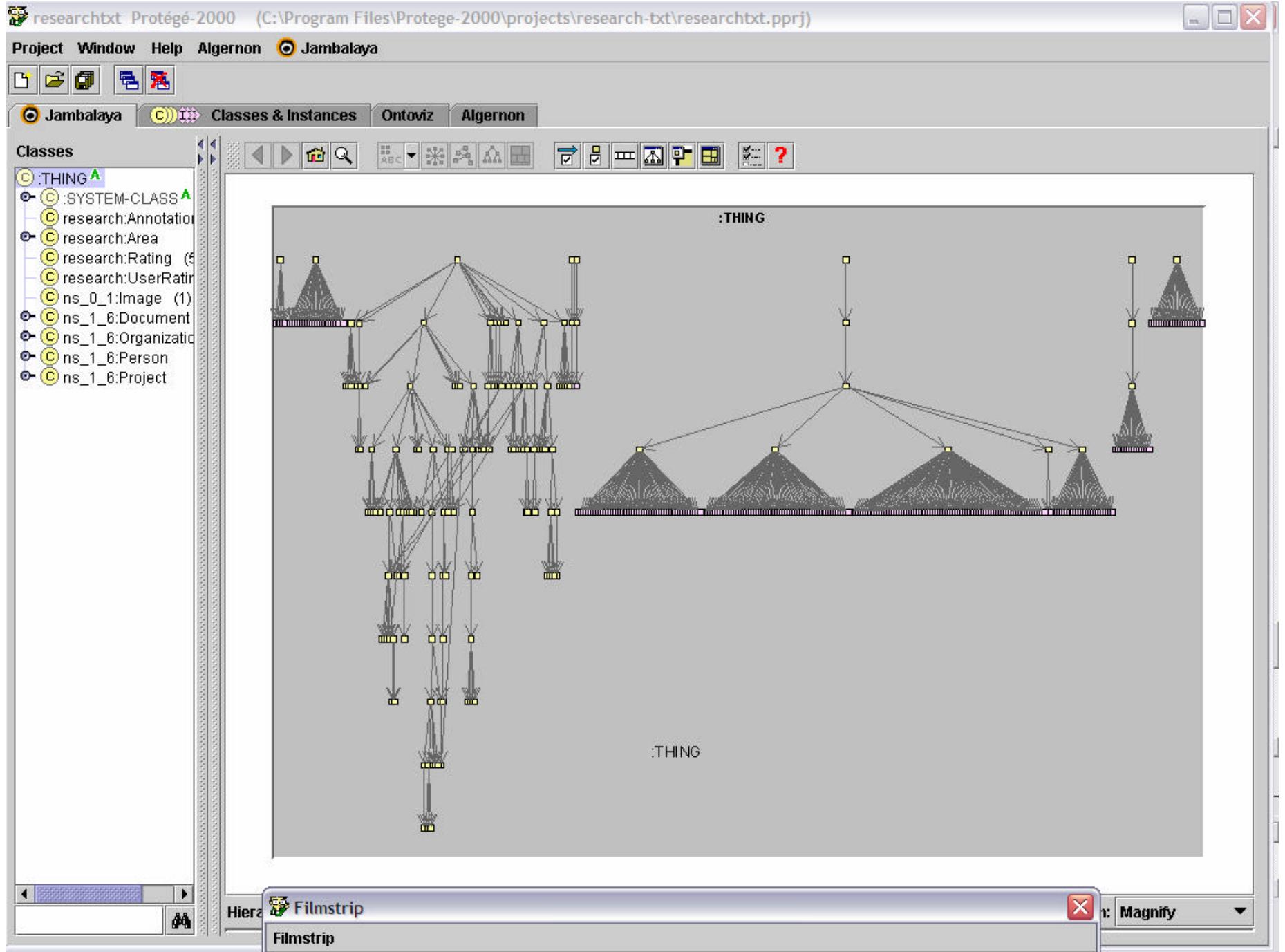
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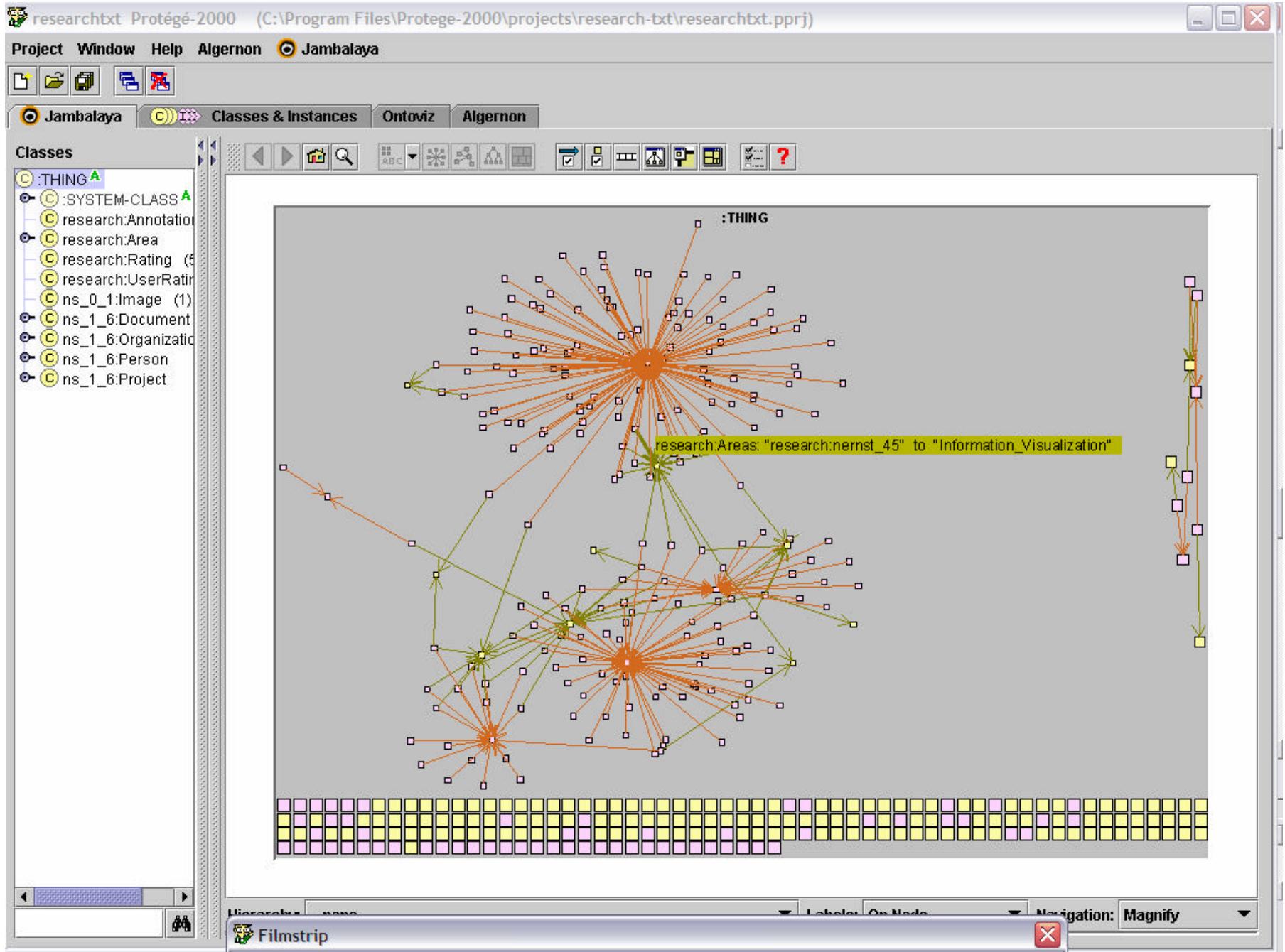
Case Study Experience

- Real-world problem: Organizational Knowledge Management in Academic Groups
- SHriMPBib: stores bibliographic reference data about academic papers read by the group, and group knowledge about those papers
- Insights into support required for knowledge modelers, knowledge base users, and into visualization support

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- Technical details:
 - java-based web page with access to Protégé knowledge base.
 - User-viewable ontology project
 - Export to common formats such as BibTeX and Endnote.
- What does Jambalaya show?
 - Modeler:
 - Is the model consistent with the domain?
 - E.g. What relationships need to be there to show what I want?
 - End-user:
 - Who should I ask about subject X?
 - What areas does the group work in/have expertise in?
 - What are the best papers to read for a new group member?





Adoption challenges

- Problem: convince people that this tool will help them
- What are the innovation characteristics of this tool?
 - Relative advantage, compatibility, complexity, triability, observability
 - Relative to the potential user's perspective
- Last mile problem: moving software into the hands of the users - not something academia is particularly good at (present company excepted, of course!)
- Questions to keep in mind:
 - What practices are currently used? How can WE adapt to them? (*not, "here's a neat tool"*)
 - Work on tool interoperability as well e.g. common exchange mechanisms (OWL, SVG, JPG)

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Lessons for Large Projects

- Find a champion to spread the message (observability)
- Work with the users - address compatibility
- Active demos and explanations – tackle relative advantage
- Wizards and scripts (complexity, trialability)

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Review

- Looked at requirements at a high-level
- Did some evaluations to focus on these
 - Including an introspective case study
 - And literature review
- Examined how to get our tool adopted
- Suggestions for visualization requirements....

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User Objectives

- Expert modelers: Author new concepts, refinement, reorganization, verification, identify reusable concepts
- Novice modelers: Understand existing model (structural level and patterns of instances and relationships)
- Team support: Awareness, resolving conflicts, communication
- Managers: monitoring (domain and model consistency), verification, work assignment

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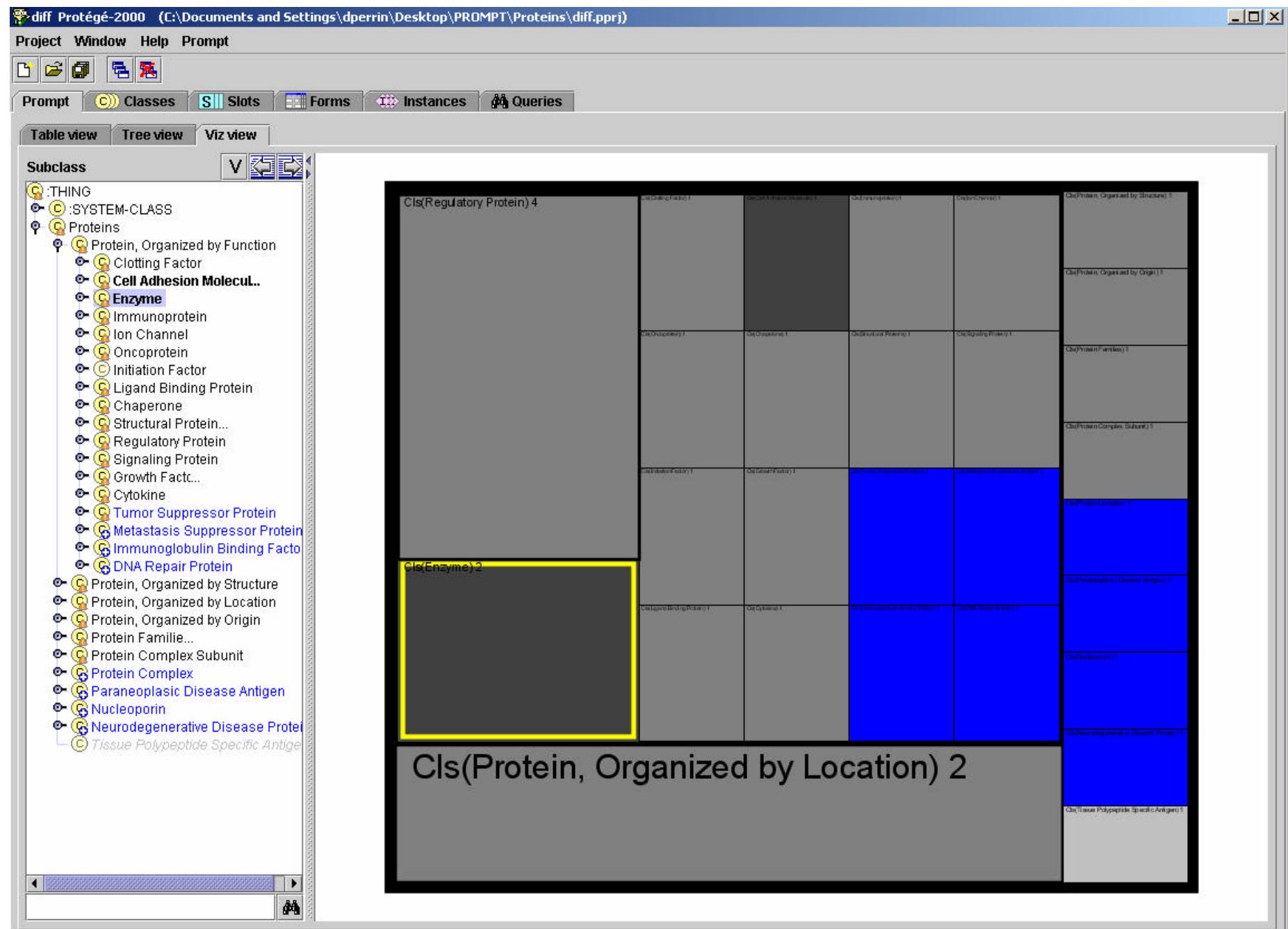
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Some visualization requirements and proposed solutions: A Roadmap

- Flexibility (scripting)
- Scalability (working sets)
- On demand visualization tailored to specific needs (lightweight bookmarks, new abstractions)
- Navigation support (drilling down through multiple relationships)
- Team support (PromptViz, Protégé 2, Live bookmarks)
- OWL (visualizing classification)

- Collaborate with and learn from other visualization researchers in this area

Questions and Discussion



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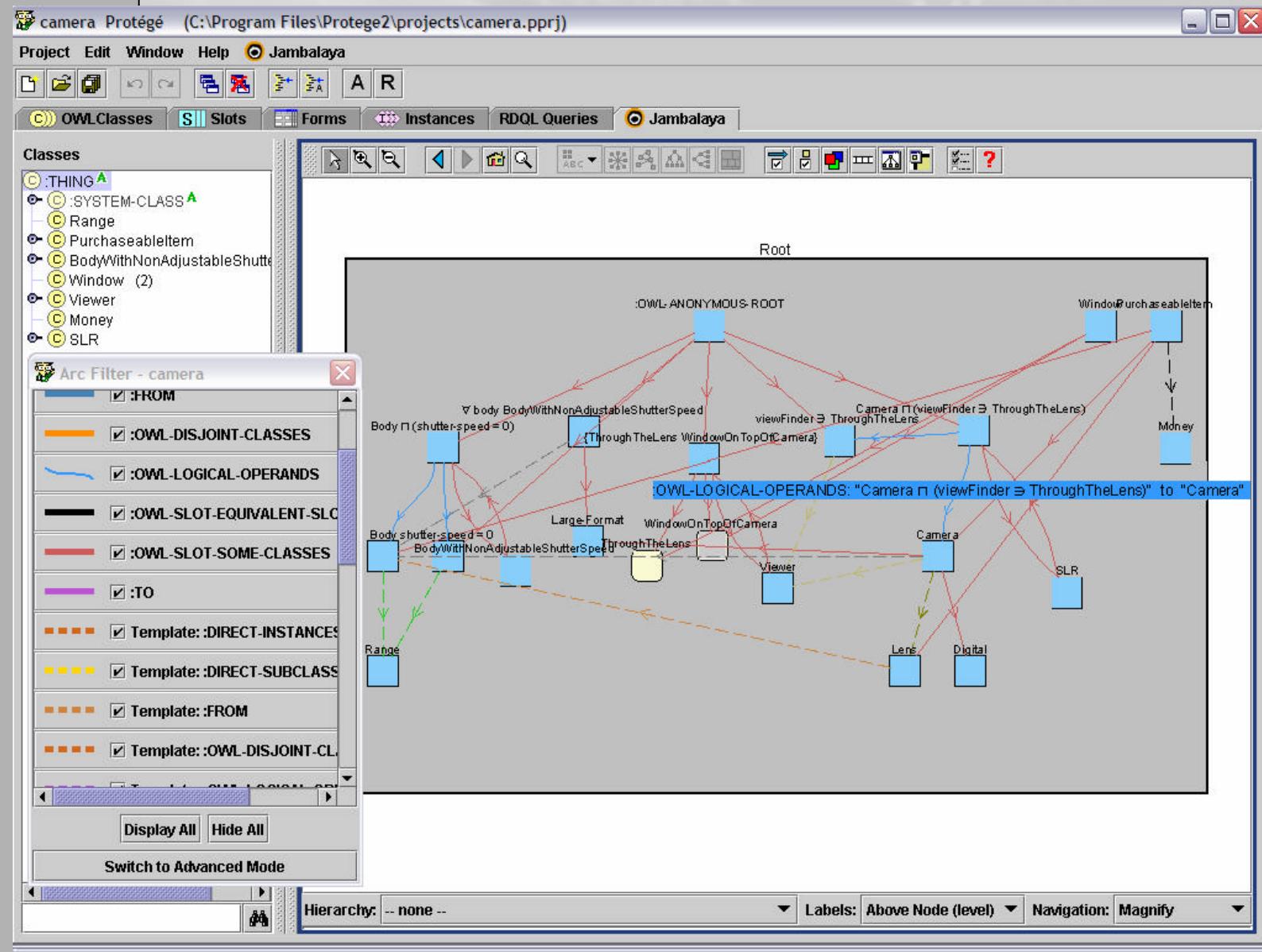
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OWL Visualization



Related work:

E. Rogers, *Diffusion of Innovations*

Gary Kwok-Chu Ng, *Visualization Techniques for Ontology Development*

van Harmelen et al., *Ontology-based information visualization*

CFP: Visualizing Information for Knowledge Engineering
Workshop at KCAP 2003, October 23-25.

See <http://www.cs.uvic.ca/~nernst/vike> for more details

