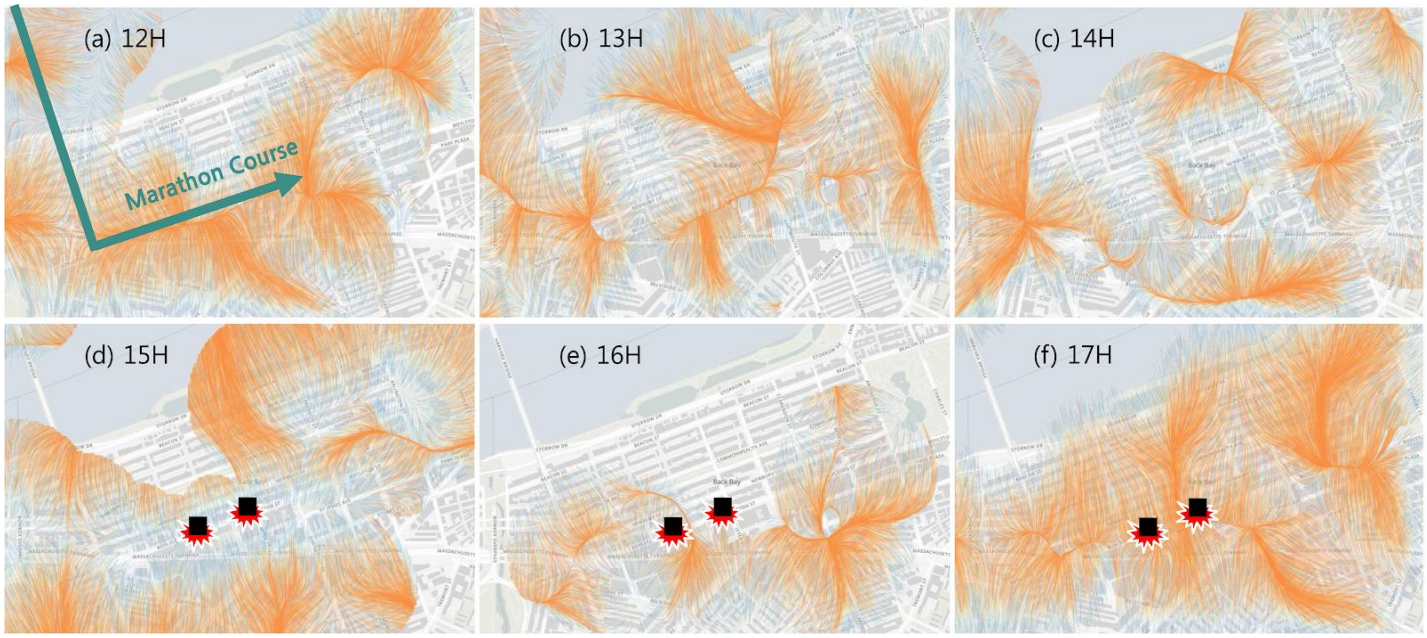
Ryan Williamson
CSE 5544
2/2/2019

Good:



This visualization aims to show movement patterns before and after the boston bombing. Geotagged tweets were grouped into buckets and a gravity model was used to turn the spatial points into flow maps. In my opinion I view this as an extremely effective visualization as it successfully demonstrates all of the movement phases surrounding the attack: watching the marathon, meandering around the race area, fleeing the scene, and returning afterwards. The most noticeable elements are the orange flow lines, which successfully used color to clearly separate the movement data from the background map and the marathon course. Part of what makes this visualization successful is the lack of distracting elements, only what is necessary to convey movement and tell the applicable story is present in the visualization. One enhancement I think could be made would be add arrows, or some gradient, to make it easier to understand where people are headed not just general patterns. Furthermore, the label of "12H", "16H" represents a timestamp but could be significantly improved to further demonstrate how the images are a timeseries. Potentially overlaying the images on top of each other in an animation could also help reinforce the temporal nature of the data.

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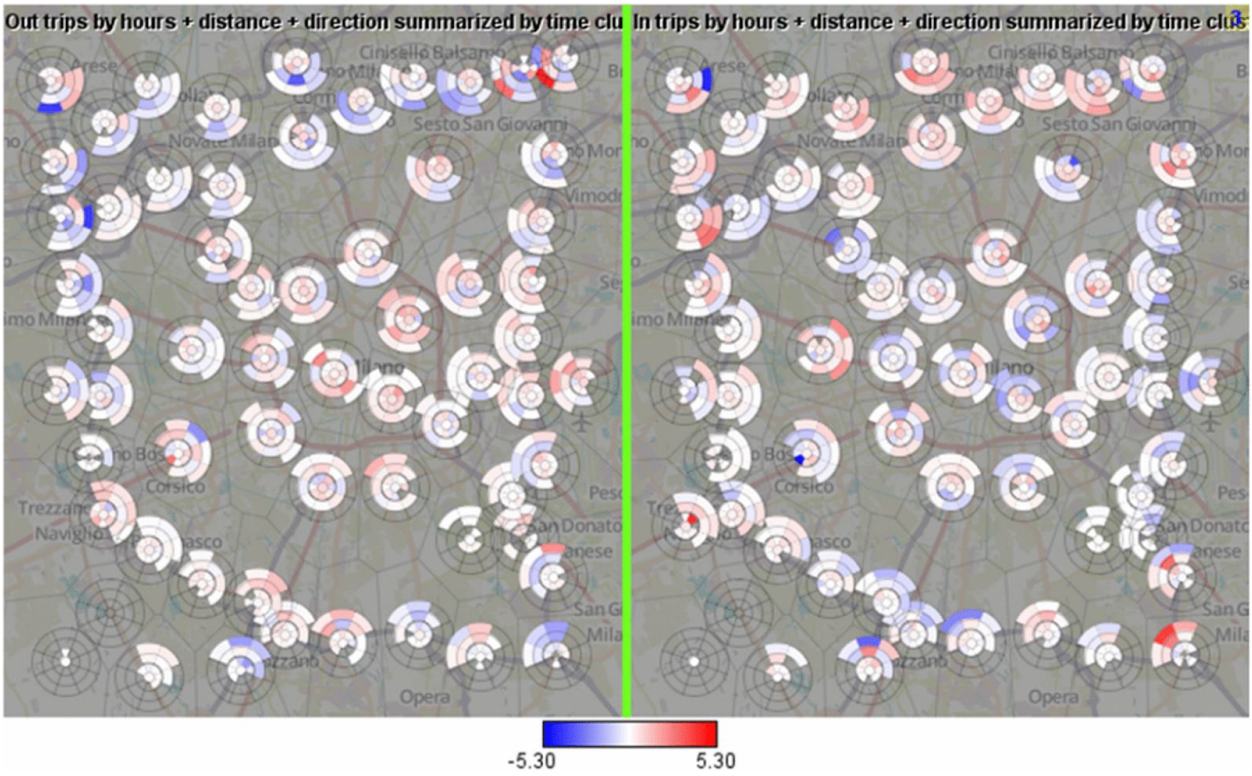
Bad:



This visualization is also attempting to visualize spatial temporal data. The circles represent direction and color represents the distance traveled in the respective direction. After spending a lot of time analyzing it you can begin to understand what it is trying to represent but it is rather difficult to interpret as there is a lot of visual noise making in an ineffective visualization. The most notable elements are the large circles but the lines separating them into segments that identify directionality are very difficult to see. Furthermore, there is no scale for the map so it is nearly impossible to estimate the distances from each circle. Color is used effectively as a gradient to delineate between -5.30 to 5.30 but a description of what the number represents is missing. In terms of potential improvements, a reduction in visual noise by eliminating some of the clusters would be helpful as you could then see the direction delineations better. Additionally, moving towards smoother edges in the circle could also help for identifying general trends.