CiteVis: Visual Analysis of Overlapping Citation Intents as Dynamic Sets

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Abstract:

A scientific article can be cited with different intents over several years. The citation intents can be inferred by classifying the citation text into different categories. With multiple citations to the same article, the citation intent categories overlap, making their analysis more challenging. We model the categories as dynamic sets and propose an approach to visualize temporal citation trends of an article across overlapping citation intents. The approach supports comparison between the citation trends of two seed articles of interest. The implemented prototype supports searching and selecting seed articles from a Semantic Scholar dataset.

Example:

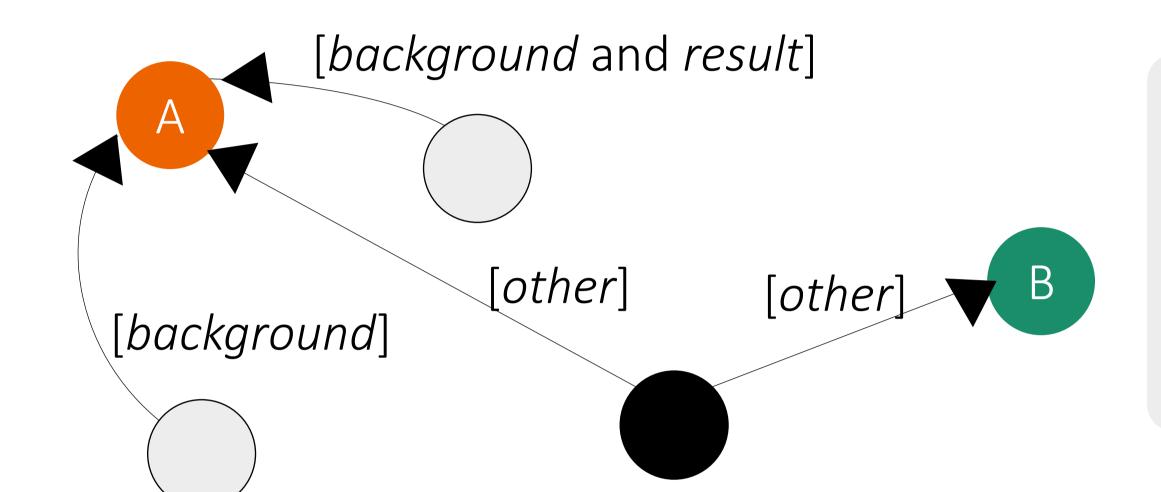
Seed Article A: Narrative Visualization: Telling Stories with Data [1]

Seed Article B: UpSet: Visualization of Intersecting Sets [2]

Citation Intents:

- 1. background: "The citation states, mentions, or points to the background information giving more context about a problem, concept, approach, topic, or importance of the problem in the field" [3]
- methodology: "Making use of a method, tool, approach or dataset" [3]
- 3. result: "Comparison of the paper's results/findings with the results/findings of other work" [3]
- 4. other: unclassified citations

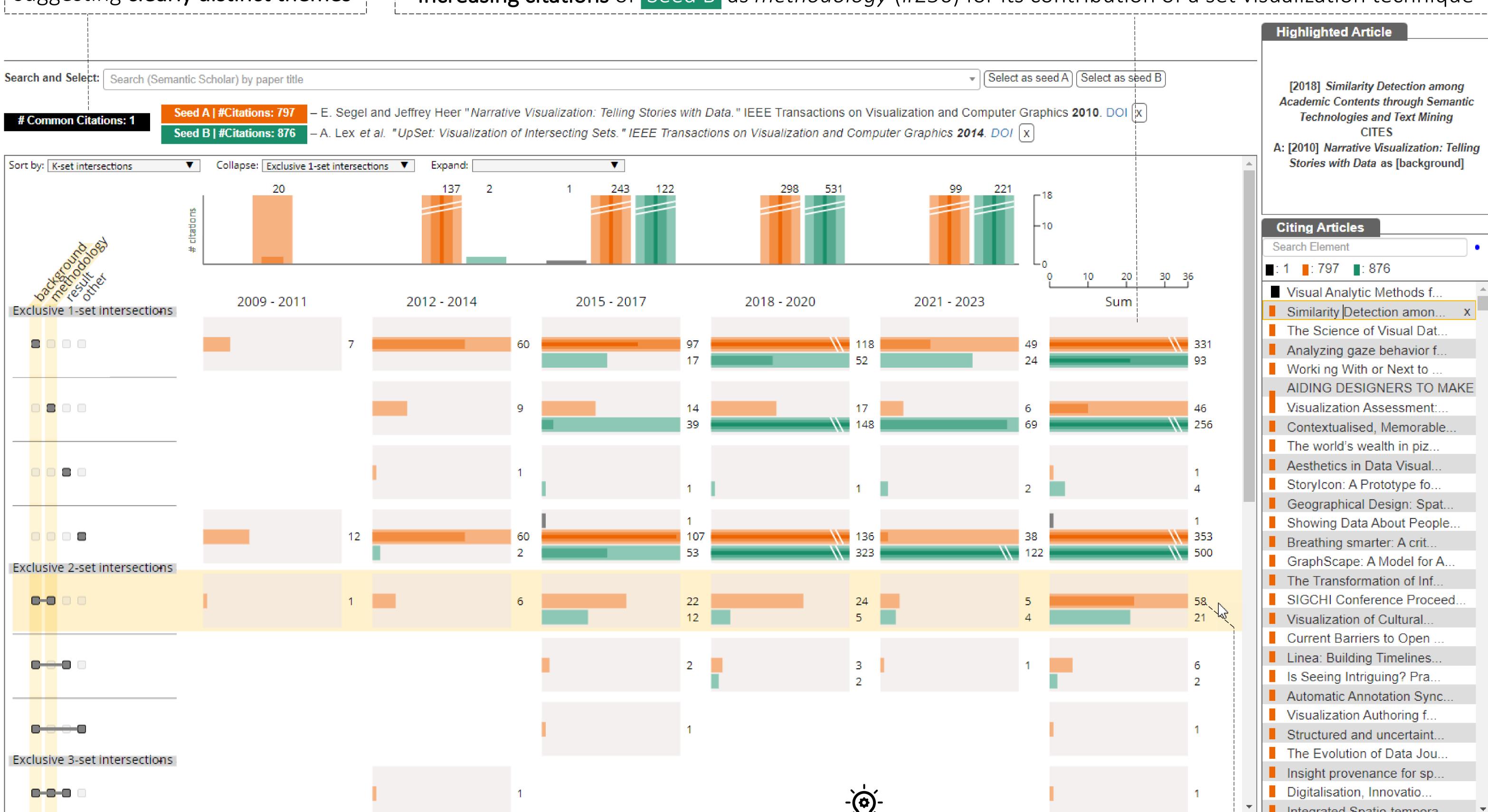
Citations of A: Cited for establishing background?, comparing results? other? -(0)-



Analysis Questions:

- 1. How to analyze the **trends in** overlapping citation intents of an article?
- 2. How to compare the citation **intents** of two articles?

Only one common citation, suggesting clearly distinct themes - Seed A cited mostly as background (#331); cited with two intents methodology and background (#58) Increasing citations of Seed B as methodology (#256) for its contribution of a set visualization technique



Discussion:

References:

CiteVis helps in analyzing:

- the type of contributions an article makes and comparing to another article
- the character of joint research at the intersection of the selected articles
- shifts in the perception of an article over time

citation count of seed A is **higher** in the combination

Both articles were cited as background and methodology;

Details: https://s-agarwl.github.io/citevis

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[1] E. Segel and J. Heer, "Narrative Visualization: Telling Stories with Data." in IEEE TVCG, 2010

- [2] A. Lex et al. "UpSet: Visualization of Intersecting Sets." in IEEE TVCG, 2014
- [3] A. Cohan, et al. "Structural scaffolds for citation intent classification in scientific publications." In NAACL, 2019