

# Topological Equivariant Artist Model for Visualization Library Architecture

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**Abstract**—The abstract goes here.

**Index Terms**—

## 1 INTRODUCTION

This paper uses methods from algebraic topology and category theory to develop a model of the transformation from data to graphical representation. This model provides a language to specify how data is structured and how this structure is carried through in the visualization, and serves as the basis for a functional approach to implementing visualization library components. Topology allows us to describe the structure of the data and graphics in a generalizable, scalable, and trackable way. Category theory provides a framework for separating the transformations implemented by visualization libraries from the various stages of visualization and therefore can be used to describe the constraints imposed on the library components [?], [?]. Well constrained modular components are inherently functional [?], and a functional framework yields a library implementation that is likely to be shorter, clearer, and more suited to distributed, concurrent, and on demand tasks [?]. Using this functional approach, this paper contributes a practical framework for decoupling data processing from visualization generation in a way that allows for modular visualization components that are applicable to a variety of data sets in different formats. **is it OK that this is something reviewer 4 wrote**

We restrict the properties of data that should be preserved to

**continuity** how elements in a dataset are organized, e.g. discrete rows in a table, networked nodes, pixels in an image, points on a line

**equivariance** functions on data that have an equivalent effect on the graphical representation, e.g. rotating a matrix has a matching rotation of the image, translating the points on a line has a matching visual shift in the line plot

### 2.1 Continuity

NAME	TEMP (°F)	PRCP (in.)
NEW YORK LAGUARDIA AP	61.00	0.4685
BINGHAMTON	-12.00	0.0315
NEW YORK JFK INTL AP	49.00	0.7402
ISLIP LI MACARTHUR AP	11.00	0.0709
SYRACUSE HANCOCK INTL AP	13.00	0.0118

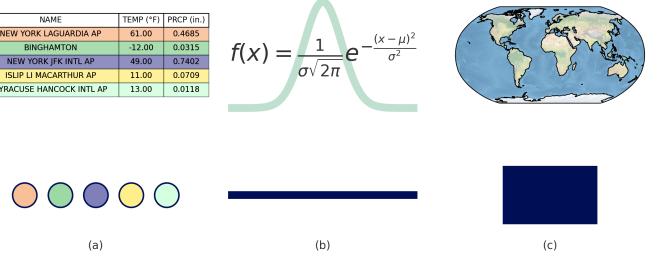


Fig. 1: Continuity is how elements in a data set are connected to each other, which is distinct from how the data is structured. The rows in (a) are discrete, therefore they have discrete continuity as illustrated by the discrete dots. The gaussian in (b) is a 1D continuous function, therefore the continuity of the elements of the gaussian can be represented as a line on an interval (0,1). In (c), every element of the globe is connected to its nearest neighbors, which yields a 2D continuous continuity as illustrated by the square.

Continuity describes elements in a data set are organized; this concept is termed topological properties by Wilkinson [?]. Wilkinson provides the examples of values that are isolated from each other, and therefore discrete, and values lying on a continuum or in a compact region. For example, in ??, each station record in the table is independent of the others; therefore, the continuity of the table is discrete. The data provided by the gaussian are points sampled along the curve, therefore the continuity of the points on the line is 1D continuous. Every point on the globe is connected to its 6 nearest cardinal neighboring points (NW, N, NE, E, SE,

## 2 RELATED WORK

This work aims to develop a model for describing visualization transformations that can serve as guidance for how to architecture a general purpose visualization library. We define a general purpose visualization library as one that provides non domain specific building block components [?] for building visualizations, for example functions for converting data to color or encoding data as dots. In this section, we describe how visualization libraries attempt this goal and discuss work that formally describes what properties of data should be preserved in a visualization.

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58 S, SW, W). We propose that a robust model of continuity  
 59 provides a way to develop library components that can  
 60 work on the data in small pieces in a manner where the  
 61 overall continuity of the data is preserved in the visual  
 62 transformation.



Fig. 2: Continuity is implicit in choice of visualization rather than explicitly in choice of data container. The line plots in (b) are generated by a 2D table (a). Structurally this table can be identical to the 2D matrix (a) that generates the image in (c).

63 The preservation of continuity can be made explicit<sup>63</sup>  
 64 as in the transformation of table to parallel coordinates<sup>64</sup>  
 65 in Ruchikachorn and Mueller [?], but is often expressed<sup>65</sup>  
 66 implicitly in the choice of visual algorithm (visualization<sup>66</sup>  
 67 type), as explored in taxonomies by Tory and Möller [?] and<sup>67</sup>  
 68 Chi [?].

69 For example, in ?? the same table can be interpreted<sup>64</sup>  
 70 as a set of 1D continuous curves when visualized as a  
 71 collection of line plots or as a 2D surface when visualized<sup>65</sup>  
 72 as an image. This means that often there is no way to<sup>66</sup>  
 73 express data continuity independent of visualization type<sup>67</sup>,  
 74 meaning most visualization libraries will allow, for example,  
 75 visualizing discrete data as a line plot or an image. General<sup>68</sup>  
 76 purpose visualization libraries such as Matplotlib [?], Vtk<sup>69</sup>  
 77 [?], [?], and D3 [?] carry distinct data models as part of<sup>70</sup>  
 78 the implementation of each visual algorithm. The lack of<sup>71</sup>  
 79 unified data model means that each plot in a linked [?], [?]<sup>72</sup>  
 80 visualization is treated as independent, as are the transforms<sup>73</sup>  
 81 converting each field in the data to a visual equivalent.<sup>74</sup>

82 Domain specific libraries can often guarantee consistency<sup>75</sup>  
 83 because they have a single model of the data in their<sup>76</sup>  
 84 software design, as discussed in Heer and Agarwal [?]'s survey<sup>77</sup>  
 85 of visualization software design patterns. For example,  
 86 the relational database is core to tools influenced by APT,<sup>78</sup>  
 87 such as Tableau [?], [?] and the Grammar of Graphics [?]<sup>79</sup>  
 88 inspired ggplot [?], Vega [?] and Altair [?]. Images underpin<sup>80</sup>  
 89 scientific visualization tools such as Napari [?] and ImageJ<sup>81</sup>  
 90 [?] and the digital humanities oriented ImagePlot [?]. macro<sup>82</sup>  
 91 the need to visualize and manipulate graphs has spawned<sup>83</sup>  
 92 tools like Gephi [?], Graphviz [?], and Networkx [?].<sup>84</sup>

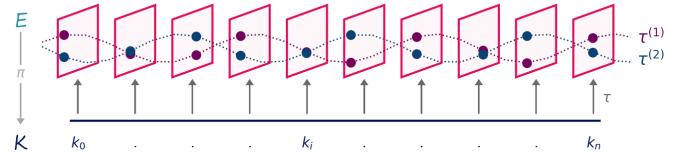


Fig. 3: A fiber bundle is mathematical construct that allows us to express the relationship between data and continuity. The **total space**  $E$  is the topological space in which the data is embedded. The **fiber** space  $F$  is embedded in  $E$  and is the set of all possible values that any **add big rectangle**  $E$

### 93 2.1.1 Fiber Bundles

94 The model described in this work provides a model for  
 95 expressing data sets with different topological properties.  
 96 We obtain this generality by using a mathematical structure  
 97 called a fiber bundles as the basis of our abstraction, as pro-  
 98 posed by Butler, Bryson, and Pendley [?], [?]. As described  
 99 by them, a fiber bundle is a formal model of the mapping  
 100 between data points and the underlying topological space  
 101 they lie in. For example, nodes on a network and the graph  
 102 of the network, an image and the underlying grid at which  
 103 the image is sampled, or table columns and the table index.

104 Formally, a fiber bundle is a mathematical structure  
 105  $(E, K, \pi, F)$

$$F \hookrightarrow E \xrightarrow{\pi} K \quad (1)$$

106 **Definition 2.1.** The **base space**  $K$  is a topological space,  
 107 which means it is a set  $K$  with a collection of open sets  
 108 [?] surrounding each element in the set. Open sets are a  
 109 collection of subsets  $\{U\}$  in a set  $K$ , including the empty  
 110 set, the whole set  $K$ , and every union and intersection of its  
 111 member subsets. For each point  $k \in K$ , there is a collection  
 112 of subsets  

$$\{U\} \subset K \text{ such that } k \in U \subseteq K$$
 [?], [?]

#### intuition about base space

113 **Definition 2.2.** The **fiber space**  $F$  is a topological space such  
 114 that for every  $k \in K$ , the fiber over that point is isomorphic  
 115 to the preimage of that point  $F_k \cong \pi^{-1}(\{k\})$ . All fibers  $F_k$  are  
 116 homeomorphic to each other [?], [?]

#### intuition about fiber

117 **Definition 2.3.** The **total space**  $E$  is the space reachable via  
 118 the projection map  $\pi$ . The total space is always locally trivial,  
 119 meaning  $E = K \times F$  over any open neighborhood  $U_k$ .

120 The fiber bundle is trivial when  $E = K \times F$  is true globally;  
 121 a non-trivial bundle can be thought of as the twisted fiber  
 122 product  $E = K \times_{\pi} F$  [?], [?]. The twisting refers to the  
 123 fiber  $F$  not aligning in the same direction over all  $\subseteq K$ .

$$F \hookrightarrow E \xrightarrow{\pi} K \quad (2)$$

124 How these spaces fit together is illustrated in ??, wherein  
 125 values lives in the fiber  $F \subseteq E$ . In this example, the fiber  $F$  is  
 126 the cartesian product of two sets  $F_0 \times F_1$  where each fiber  $F_i$   
 127 is ....

### 131 2.1.2 Sheaves

132 The set of all sections sections  $\{\tau^i : U_i \rightarrow E\}_{i \in I}$  over an  
 133 arbitrary open set  $U_i$  is denoted  $\Gamma(U_i, E)$ . The set of all  
 134 sections over the total space  $K$  is denoted  $\Gamma(K, E)$ .

135 The map from the open set to the set of sections is called  
 136 a presheaf  $\mathcal{O} : U_j \rightarrow \Gamma(U_j, E)$  [?], [?], [?]. The presheaf  
 137 preserves inclusion maps between the open sets open sets  $\iota$   
 138 and the inclusion map  $\iota^*$  between the sets of sections.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Gamma(U_1, E) & \xleftarrow{\iota^*} & \Gamma(U_2, E) \\ \uparrow \mathcal{O}_E & \uparrow \mathcal{O}_E & \uparrow \mathcal{O}_E \\ U_1 & \xrightarrow{\iota} & U_2 \end{array} \quad (3)$$

139 This means that a smaller space  $U_1$  is included in a larger  
 140 space  $U_2$  and a function that is continuous over a larger  
 141 space  $U_2$  is continuous over a subspace  $U_1 \subset U_2$ . Sheaves are  
 142 presheafs where sets of sections  $\Gamma$  are defined over unions of  
 143 open sets over a topology  $\bigcup_{j \in I} U_j \in E$  [?], [?]. Sheaves are  
 144 often used as an abstraction for keeping track of how data  
 145 over topological spaces is glued together [?] because they  
 146 model the data as sets of sections, continuity of the data  
 147 in the base, and how subsets fit together through inclusion  
 148 maps.

149 *I've seen this convention before, but I also cite all these*  
 150 *people above* For more information on fiber bundles and  
 151 sheaves, see Hatcher [?], Munkres [?], Spanier [?] and Ghrist  
 152 [?], [?].

## 153 2.2 Equivariance

154 When introducing the retinal variables, Bertin informally  
 155 specifies that continuity is preserved in the mark and defines  
 156 equivariance constraints in terms of data and visual  
 157 variables being selective, associative, ordered, or quantitative [?]. In the *A Presentation Tool*(APT) model, Mackinlay  
 158 embeds the continuity constraint in the choice of visual  
 159ization type and generalizes the equivariance constraint to  
 160 preserving a binary operator from one domain to another [?].  
 161 The algebraic model of visualization [?], proposed by Kindlmann and Scheidegger, restricts equivariance to invertible  
 162 transformations. 186

### 165 2.2.1 Category Theory

166 In this work, we propose that equivariance constraints can  
 167 be expressed using category theory. Vickers et. al [?] provide  
 168 a brief introduction to category theory for visualization  
 169 practitioners, but their work focuses on reasoning about  
 170 visualization design, while this paper aims to provide guidance  
 171 on designing visualization library components. Briefly,  
 172 we introduce concepts in category theory that we use to  
 173 describe our model in ?? and ??.

174 *the notation here may need to be X and Y*

175 **Definition 2.4.** A category  $C$  consists of a collection of  
 176 objects  $c$  with identity  $\text{id}_c : c \rightarrow c$  and the set of morphisms  
 177 between every two objects  $f : c_1 \rightarrow c_2$ , [?], [?].

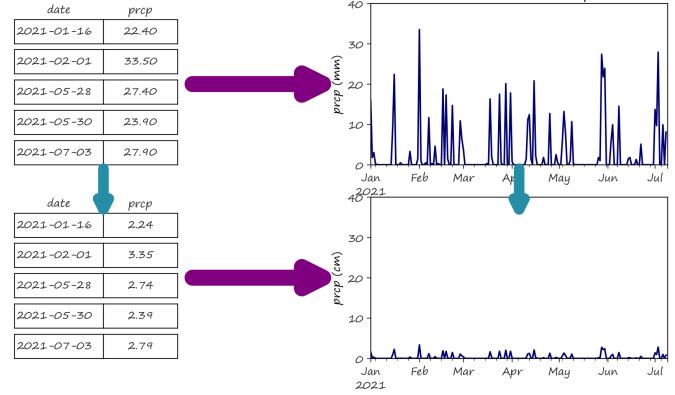


Fig. 4: Equivariance is that a transformation on the data has a corresponding transformation in the graphical representation. For example, in this figure the data is scaled by a factor 10. Equivalently the line plot is scaled by factor of 10, resulting in a shrunken line plot. Either a transformation on the data side can induce a transformation on the visual side, or a transformation on the visual side indicates that there is also a transformation on the data side.

The set of morphisms between objects is termed the hom set  $\text{hom}_C(C_1, C_2)$ . The morphisms on the category compose

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & \text{id}_{C_2} & & \\ & & \downarrow & & \\ \text{id}_{C_1} & \curvearrowright & C_1 & \xrightarrow{f} & C_2 \\ & & \searrow & & \downarrow g \\ & & & & C_3 \\ & & & & \curvearrowleft \text{id}_{C_3} \end{array}$$

and are constructed such that the following axioms hold [?]:  
**associativity** if  $f : C_1 \rightarrow C_2$ ,  $g : C_2 \rightarrow C_3$  and  $h : C_3 \rightarrow C_4$   
 then  $h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f$   
**identity** for every  $f : C_1 \rightarrow C_2$  there exists identity morphisms  $f \circ \text{id}_{C_1} = f = \text{id}_{C_2} \circ f$

**Definition 2.5.** An opposite category  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$  is a category with all the same objects of category  $\mathcal{C}$  and but the morphisms are reversed. For example  $f : C_1 \rightarrow C_2$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $f : C_2 \rightarrow C_1$  in  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$ .

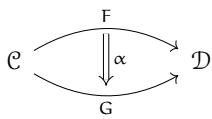
**Definition 2.6.** A functor is a morphism between any two categories  $\mathfrak{F} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ . A functor has the properties of identity and composition [?]

A functor preserves the structure of the category, namely morphisms and the source and target objects of those morphisms, composition of morphisms, and identity morphisms [?]. Contravariant functors are functors where the morphisms in  $\mathcal{C}$  go in the opposite direction from the morphisms in  $\mathcal{D}$ .

**Definition 2.7.** A presheaf  $\mathcal{O}$  as introduced in ??, is a functor  $\mathcal{O} : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ . [?]

**Definition 2.8.** A natural transformation is a morphism of functors  $\alpha : F \rightarrow G$  where  $F, G$  are functors from  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $\mathcal{D}$ . [?], [?]

201 The natural transformation acts as a wrapper of sorts 242



202 such that  $\alpha(F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}) = G : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  commutes for any 247  
203 morphism  $f : c \rightarrow c'$  [?]. Arbitrary morphisms on sheaves 248  
204 are natural transforms [?], [?]. 249

205 For more information on category theory, see Barr and 250  
206 Wells [?], Fong and Spivak [?], Riehl [?] and Bradley et al. 251  
207 [?].

### 208 3 ARTIST

209 In this section, we use category theory to formally express 252  
210 the implicit assumptions that visualization library compo- 253  
211 nents make in transforming data into graphical represen- 254  
212 tations. We propose that the visualization transformation can 255  
213 be modeled as a functor, which we call the *Artist*  $A^1$ . The 256  
214 artist  $A$  converts data, which we model as the sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_E$  257  
215 to graphics in the sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_H$ . We formulate this association as 258

$$254 A : \mathcal{O}_E \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_H \quad (5)$$

216 In this section we describe the structure of the data and 259  
217 graphic spaces, which we formulate as objects in categories 260  
218 and the morphisms between those objects. We then use 261  
219 these definitions to express the structure that an artist must 262  
220 preserve. Finally, we propose that artists can be composed 263  
221 by manufacturing new artists based on various types of 264  
222 input data. 265

#### 223 3.1 Categorical Artist

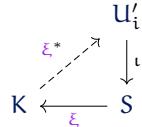
224 Fiber bundles, as introduced in ??, serve as the model of 266  
225 data and graphic spaces in our model. In this section, we 267  
226 introduce categorical formulations of the topological spaces 268  
227 that make up a fiber bundle. 269

228 We introduce the category  $\mathcal{K}$  to encapsulate the subsets 270  
229 of the continuity and the inclusion maps that glue them 271  
230 together. 272

231 **Definition 3.1.** The category of open sets  $\mathcal{K}$  consists of 273

- 232 • *objects* open sets  $U_i \in \{\text{openset}\}$  in the topological 274  
233 space  $(K, \mathcal{T})$ , including the empty set  $\emptyset$  and the 275  
234 maximum set  $K$ . 276
- 235 • *morphisms*  $i : U_i \hookrightarrow U_j$  for all  $U_i, U_j \subset E$  277

236 We also introduce a category of open sets called  $S$  that 278  
237 encapsulates the topology of the graphic display space. 279  
238 The category  $\mathcal{H}$  has inclusion morphisms  $i : U_i' \hookrightarrow U_{i'}'$  280  
239 including into the total set  $H$ . We introduce a surject map 281  
240  $\xi : H \rightarrow E$  from the graphic base space to the data base 282  
241 space. Given the morphism  $i$



<sup>1</sup>We call this transformation the artist because the *Artist* object in Matplotlib [?]

242 we propose that the map  $\xi$  can be pulled back to a map 243  
243 between open sets in  $K$  and open sets in  $S$ . This map is the 244  
244 functor

$$\xi^* : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{H} \quad (7)$$

245 that maps from the data base space to the graphic base 246  
246 space. The map  $\xi^*$  is a lookup map between where a point 247  
247 is located in the data and where it is located on screen.

248 **Definition 3.2.** The category  $E$  is a subcategory of **Set** and 249  
249 consists of

- *objects* sets of sections  $\Gamma(U_j, E)$  for all  $U_j \subset E$
- *morphisms*  $i^* : \Gamma(U_k, E) \hookrightarrow \Gamma(U_j, E)$  for all  $U_j, U_k \subset E$

252 We model data as the sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_E : \mathcal{K}^{op} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$



253 where the map  $\varphi$  is any arbitrary function between sheafs. 254  
254 The sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_E$  over a limit of open sets that contain a point 255  
255  $k \in K$  is approximately the same as a sheaf over a point  $k$  256  
256 and is called the stalk  $\mathcal{O}_{E|k} := \lim_{U \ni k} \Gamma(U, E)$  [?].

257 **Definition 3.3.** The fiber category  $\mathcal{F}$  is a monoidal category 258  
258 [?], which means it is a category equipped with a bifunctor 259  
259  $\otimes : \mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$

- *object* a monoid object  $F$ . A monoid is a set with a 260  
260 binary operator that is associative, closed, and for 261  
261 which the set contains an identity element  $i$  [?].
- *morphisms*  $F \otimes F \rightarrow F$  and unit  $i \rightarrow F$

262 The bifunctor  $\otimes$  preserves identity and composition 263  
263 fongInvitationAppliedCategory2019 for fibers that consist 264  
264 of many fields. Given a pair of objects  $X, Y$ , the functor 265  
265 yeilds a set of pairs  $\{(x, y) | x \in X, y \in Y\}$ . For the associated 266  
266 morphisms  $f : X \rightarrow X$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow Y$ , the function  $(f \times g) : 267$   
 $(X \times Y) \rightarrow (X \times Y)$  is pointwise  $(f \times g)(x, y) := (f(x), g(y))$ . This 268  
268 bookkeeping means that the fiber category  $\mathcal{F}$  can encode 269  
269 a large variety of collections of data fields because it is a 270  
270 product category of arbitrary categories.

271 For example, a lists of strings is an instance of an object 272  
272 in **Set**, networks are an instance of **Graph**, and images are 273  
273 vector spaces which are a specific type of topological space 274  
274 **Top**. The morphisms  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{F}}$  are functions from the data to 275  
275 itself, for example the binary operations, group actions, and 276  
276 measurement scales discussed in ?? . These functions could 277  
277 also be monoid actions [?], which provide a way of applying 278  
278 partial order relations to data [?], such as to build multi- 279  
279 ranked indicators [?].

280 The fiber space over a point is embedded in the stalk 281  
281 over that point  $F_k \hookrightarrow \mathcal{F}_k$ . The sheaf maps  $\varphi$  restricted to the 282  
282 stalk are members of  $\text{hom}_{\mathcal{F}}(F, F)$ . The maps  $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{F}}(F, F)$  283  
283 include the types of data transformations described in ?? . 284  
284 When a fiber bundle is trivial, we can dispense with lo- 285  
285 calization and directly consider the fiber maps  $\text{Hom}(F_k, F_k)$  286  
286 over a point  $k$ . In ?? , we assume that the fiber bundles are 287  
287 trivial.

The domain of the artist function is the space of all possible graphics. As with the domain  $\mathcal{O}_E$ , the graphic space is modeled with fiber bundle equivalent categories:

<b>fiber bundle</b>	<b>data</b>	<b>graphic</b>
<b>base space</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>total space</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>H</b>
<b>fiber space</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>D</b>
$\pi^{-1}$	$\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{E}}$	$\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{H}}$

The category  $\mathcal{H}$  has as objects the sets of functions that  
 generate every arbitrary graphic over the open sets in  $\mathcal{H}_{22}$ .  
 While  $\mathcal{H}$  is the domain of the artist  $A$ , the range of  $A$  is the  
 subset of graphics  $\mathcal{O}_A \subset \mathcal{O}_E$  such that structure imposed by  
 $\varphi_E$  commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}_E & \xrightarrow{\quad A \quad} & \mathcal{O}_A \\ \varphi_E \downarrow & & \downarrow \varphi_A \\ \mathcal{O}_E & \xrightarrow{\quad A \quad} & \mathcal{O}_A \end{array} \quad \begin{matrix} 326 \\ (9) \\ 327 \end{matrix}$$

The equivariance condition expressed in ?? is that a graphic generated by transforming and then visualizing data  $A(\varphi_E(O_{\lceil \text{L} \cup \text{U} \cup \text{I} \rceil}))$  can equivalently be generated by visualizing the data and then transforming the graphic  $\varphi_A(A(O_E))$ . This is a formal statement of the equivariance illustrated in ??

304 In ??, we show a method of constructing the artist such  
305 that the constraints of ?? and ?? can be satisfied, thereby  
306 ensuring equivariance and the preservation of continuity.  
307 We then use this formulation to guide the development of  
308 visualization library components in ??.

## 309 3.2 Composition of Artists

Visualizations generally consist of more than one visual element, for example line plots, a legend, axis ticks, spines, and labels. We propose that we can express expected consistency between these elements as a preservation of morphisms between objects of different data categories  $\mathcal{E}$ .

### 3.2.1 Shared Index

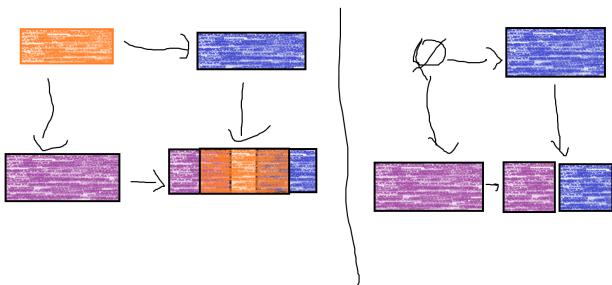


Fig. 5: In ??, the input object  $\mathcal{O}_E$  encodes a continuous function over spaces  $E_a$ ,  $E_b$  and overlapping space  $E_c$ . In this figure, the visual transformation is to a point on the line on screen. An artist that preserves the continuity of the function must generate graphics such that functions evaluated  $k \in K_a \cap K_b$

<sup>316</sup> An example of overlapping indexing is a parallelized version of a sliding window algorithm where window over-

laps must resolve to the same value at the same position [?];

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K_c & \xleftarrow{\iota} & K_b \\ \downarrow \iota & & \downarrow i_{K_b} \\ K_a & \xrightarrow{i_{K_a}} & K_a \sqcup_{K_c} K_b \end{array} \quad (10)$$

where the projection functions  $i_{K_a}, i_{K_b}$  behave such that  $i_{K_a}(k)|_{k \in K_b} = [k]$ ,  $i_{K_b}(k)|_{k \in K_a} = [k]$ , meaning the projection functions yield equivalent points in the disjoint union  $K_a \sqcup_{K_c} K_b$ . Data that is completely disjoint in the index, as shown in ??, is a special case where  $K_c = \emptyset$  and therefore there is no constraint on the artist with regards to how this data is rendered.

### 3.2.2 Shared Fields

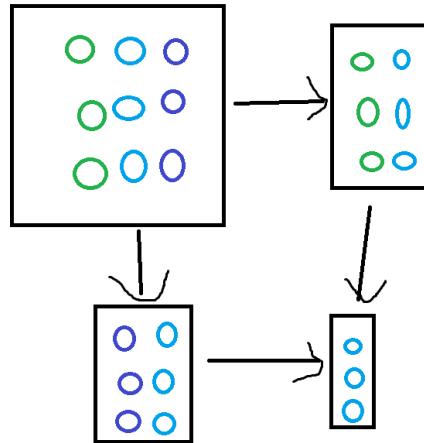


Fig. 6: The fiber spaces  $F_a, F_b$  have a shared fiber space  $F_c$ . If they are input into the same artist  $A_1$ , then an equivariant transformation is one where  $F_c$  is transformed to a visual element in a consistent matter. In this figure,  $F_c$  is mapped to the x-axis for both  $F_a$  and  $F_b$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{F}_a \times \mathbb{F}_b & \xrightarrow{\text{proj}_a} & \mathbb{F}_a \\ \downarrow \text{proj}_b & & \downarrow \text{proj}_c \\ \mathbb{F}_b & \xrightarrow{\text{proj}_b} & \mathbb{F}_c \end{array} \quad (11)$$

`??` and `??` can be composed to specify how different aspects of the structure of a multivariate nested dimensional dataset, such as a spatio-temporal weather dataset, should be preserved in a visualization. **this is probably the power of this model and should maybe get a figure?**

## 4 CONSTRUCTION AND FORMAL PROPERTIES OF ARTISTS

Following from ??, the artist A is a natural transformation

$$\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{E}} \quad (12)$$

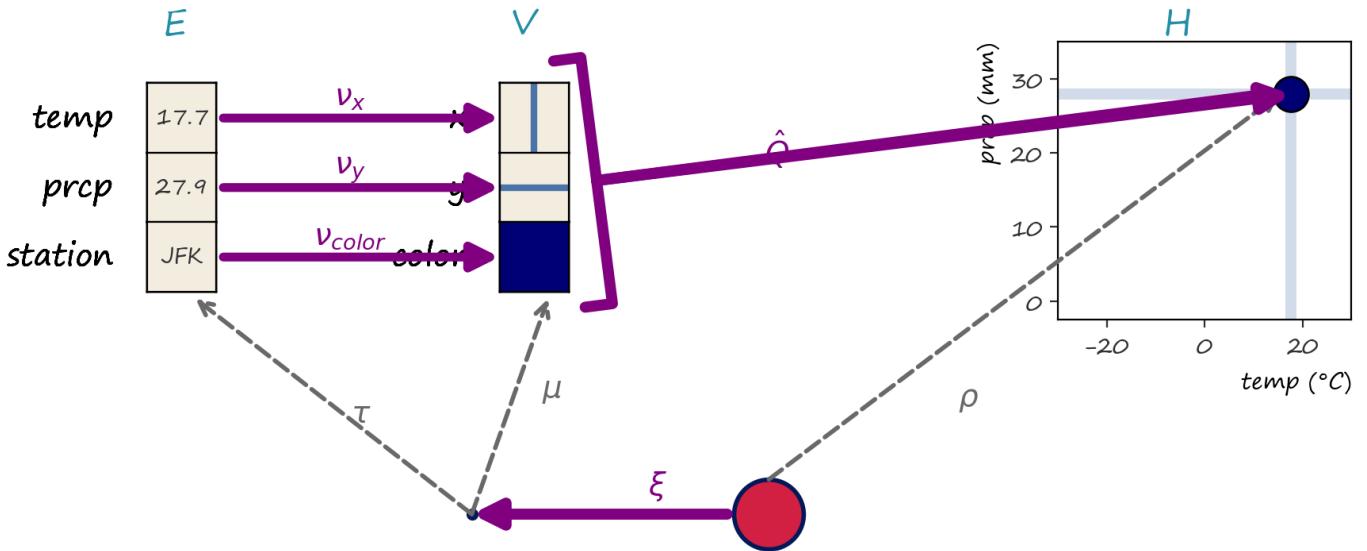


Fig. 7

336 that we construct to preserve continuity and equivariance.<sup>362</sup>

337 **Definition 4.1.** We define the natural transformation  $\text{Artist}^A$  as the tuple  $(\xi, \nu, Q, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{H})$  where<sup>363</sup>

- 339 1)  $\nu : E \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  is a bundle map from data values to the<sup>364</sup>  
340 visual variables they are mapped to<sup>365</sup>
- 341 2)  $Q : \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{V}} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_A$  is a sheaf map that builds a graphic<sup>366</sup>  
342 generating function parameterized by the visual<sup>367</sup>  
343 variables<sup>368</sup>
- 344 3)  $\xi : S \rightarrow K$  is a surjective map from the graphic<sup>369</sup>  
345 topological base to the data topological base<sup>370</sup>

346 and  $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $\mathcal{V}$ , and  $\mathcal{H}$  are the categorical representations of  
347 fiber bundles that model the data, visual variable, and  
348 graphic space of the data to visual transformation. We  
349 construct the artist to have two stages

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{\xi} & \mathcal{V} \\ \pi \downarrow & \swarrow \pi & \uparrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{V}} \\ K & & \mathcal{K} \xrightarrow{\xi^*} S \end{array} \quad (13)$$

350 which are the data to visual variable map  $\nu$  at the bundle  
351 level and the visual variable to graphic map  $Q$  at the  
352 sheaf level. Usage of the bundle directly in an equation or  
353 diagram - ,  $V, H$  - denotes that the function can be evaluated  
354 pointwise over  $k \in K$ . Use of the categorical form -  $\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{H}$   
355 - denotes that the function is evaluated over an openset  
356 object, meaning that the function needs knowledge of both a  
357 value over a point and some information about neighboring  
358 values.

#### 4.1 Data Domain

360 We model data as sections of a fiber bundle  $(E, \pi, K, F)$ . We  
361 encode the continuity of the data as the base space  $K$ . We

model the data as the section  $\tau$  because, as described in ??, the section is the map from the indexing space  $K$  to the space of possible data values  $F$ . We adopt Spivak's formulation of the fiber as a (column name, data domain) simple schema [?], [?]. Spivak formally maps column names and field types to the set of values associated with the field type, for example  $\mathbb{R}$  for a float column named *temperature*. This allows for field based selection of values, while inclusion allows for continuity (index) based selections.

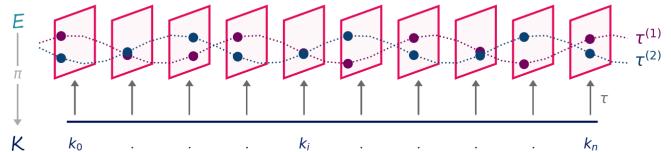


Fig. 8: replace with more concrete

One example of encoding data as a section of a fiber bundle is illustrated in ???. In this example, the data is a **not totally decided yet** table of weather station data. Here we are interested in the time series of temperature values in the data, so we encode the continuity as the 1D interval  $K$ . In this multivariate data set, the fields we want to visualize are *time*, *temperature*, and *station*. The fiber space  $F$  is the cartesian cross product of the fibers of each field

$$F = F_{\text{time}} \times F_{\text{temperature}} \times F_{\text{station}}$$

where each field fiber is the set of values that are valid for the field:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{\text{time}} &= \mathbb{R} \\ F_{\text{temperature}} &= \mathbb{R} \\ F_{\text{station}} &= \{s_0, s_1, \dots, s_i, \dots, s_n\} \end{aligned}$$

The section  $\tau$  is the abstraction of the data being visualized. The section at a point  $k \in K$  in the base space returns a value from each field in the fiber.

$$\tau(k) = ((\text{time}, t_k); (\text{precipitation}, p_k); (\text{station name}, n_k))$$

## 4.2 Graphic Codomain

The object of the graphic category  $\mathcal{H}$  is the fiber bundle  $H$ . The bundle  $H$  has the same structure as the data bundle  $E$ .

$$D \hookrightarrow H$$

$$\pi \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} \nu \\ \rho \end{pmatrix}$$

$$S$$
(14)

with a fiber space  $D$  embedded in the total space  $H$  and a section map  $\rho : S \rightarrow H$ . The attributes of the graphic bundle  $(H, \pi, D, S)$  encode attributes of the graphic and display space

**base space**  $S$  continuity of display space (e.g. screen, 3D print)

**fiber space**  $D$  attributes of the display space (e.g. a pixel =  $(x, y, r, g, b, a)$ )

**section**  $\rho$  graphic generating function

We represent the graphic output as a fiber bundle because it is an abstraction that is generalizable to various output mediums (screens, 3D prints) and types of graphics.

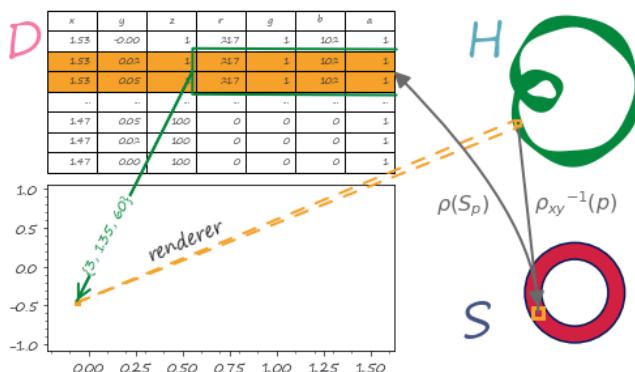


Fig. 9

As illustrated in ??, in this work,  $H$  assumes the the display is an idealized 2D screen. **include some more about the figure** The graphic section  $\rho$  is an abstraction of rendering. For example,  $\rho$  can be a specification such as PDF [?], SVG [?] or an OpenGL scene graph [?], or a rendering engine such as Cairo [?] or AGG [?].

## 4.3 Visualization Library Components

### 4.3.1 Visual Bundle $V$

$$P \hookrightarrow V$$

$$\pi \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} \nu \\ \mu \end{pmatrix}$$

$$K$$
(15)

### 4.3.2 Data to Visual Encodings: $\nu$

maybe figure out how to put these side by side nicely

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{\nu} & V \\ \pi \downarrow & \swarrow \pi & \\ K & & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} F & \xrightarrow{\nu} & P \\ \tau \downarrow & \nearrow \mu & \\ K & & \end{array} \quad (16)$$

Since the functor  $\xi$  is bundle wise, it can be evaluated at the bundle at a point, which is the fiber space; therefore  $\xi$  is a functors from the product category  $\mathcal{F}$  to the product category  $\mathcal{P}$ . This constraint is expressed in our construction of  $\nu$

which means equivariance of

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tau & \xrightarrow{\nu} & \mu \\ \varphi \downarrow & & \downarrow \nu_{\varphi} \\ \tau' & \xrightarrow{\nu} & \mu' \end{array} \quad (17)$$

Since the functor  $\nu$  acts on product categories, it can be decomposed into  $\nu_i$  component functors that act on corresponding sections  $\tau_i$  of the fiber  $F_i$ .

$$\{\nu_0, \dots, \nu_n\} : \{\tau_0, \dots, \tau_n\} \mapsto \{\mu_0, \dots, \mu_n\} \quad (18)$$

One example of this is

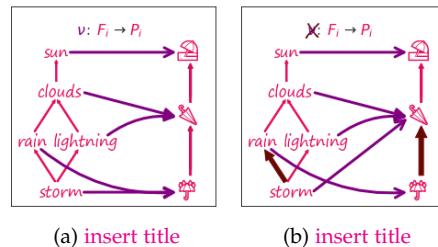


Fig. 10: is a weird nu, colors are a but much

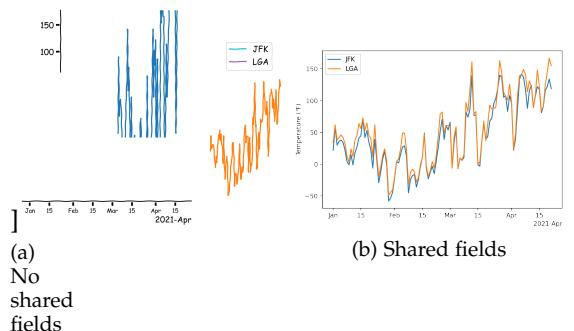


Fig. 11: In ??, the input object  $\mathcal{O}_E$  encodes a continuous function over spaces  $E_a$ ,  $E_b$  and overlapping space  $E_c$ . In this figure, the visual transformation is to a point on the line on screen. An artist that preserves the continuity of the function must generate graphics such that functions evaluated  $k \in K_a \cap K_b$  replace a w/ fiber cross diagram? - use first half introduced in ??

4.3.2.1 Multiview Constraints: The concept that shared data fields should be encoded visually in a consistent

409 is formally expressed by Qu and Hullman [?] as the notion  
 410 that the same field should have the same scale.

411 We enforce the equivariance constraint specified in ?? by  
 412 constructing artists that apply  $\nu$  encoders such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F_a & \xrightarrow{\nu_c} & P_c \\ \text{proj}_a \searrow & \nearrow \nu_c & \\ & F_c & \\ \text{proj}_b \searrow & \nearrow \nu'_c & \\ F_b & \xrightarrow{\nu'_c} & P_c' \end{array} \quad (19)$$

#### 413 4.3.3 Visual to Graphic: $Q$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{V} & & H \\ \uparrow \circ_v & \xrightarrow{Q} & \uparrow \circ_A \\ \mathcal{K} & & S \end{array} \quad (20)$$

$$\rho \xrightarrow{Q(m_j \circ \mu_i)} \rho'$$

Fig. 12: rework this as a commutative box w/ the r in E row  
 associated w/ this  $\hat{q}(k)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P_{\perp} & \xrightarrow{Q_a} & \mathcal{O}_A \\ & \searrow p_c & \swarrow l_c \\ & P_{\perp} & \\ & \nearrow p'_c & \nwarrow l'_c \\ P_L & \xrightarrow{Q_b} & \mathcal{O}_{A'} \end{array}$$

#### 414 4.3.4 Graphic to Data: $\xi$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} E & & V & & H \\ \pi \searrow & & \swarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi \\ & K & \xleftarrow{\xi} & & \\ & & \uparrow \iota & & \end{array}$$

415 The functor  $\xi$  is a deformation retract, which means....

416 [?], [?]

417 By homotopy lifting?

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & u_j & \\ & \nearrow \xi^* & \downarrow \iota \\ K & \xleftarrow{\xi} & S \\ & \downarrow \iota & \\ K_c & \xleftarrow{\xi} & S_b \\ & \downarrow \iota & \uparrow \iota \\ K_a & \xleftarrow{\xi} & S_c \end{array}$$

418 talk about  $\xi$  even though is not explicitly implemented

419 The mapping between graphic and data space expresses  
 420 how... This is what allows the artist to generate graphics  
 421 where the subset of data on view is dynamically updated,  
 422 such as pan and zoom navigation [?] and sliding windows  
 423 on streaming data [?], [?].

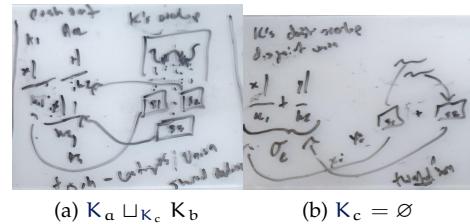


Fig. 13: probably doesn't need the  $k=0$

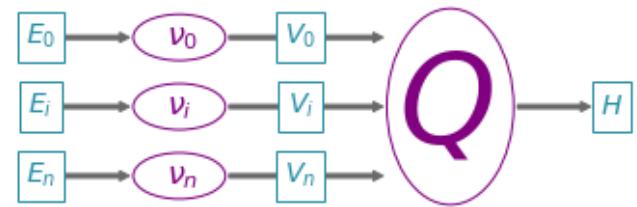


Fig. 14:  $\nu\&$

## 5 CASE STUDY

We implement the arrows in ???. axesArtist is a parent artist that acts as a screen. This allows for the composition described in ??

### 5.1 A

---

```
(21) 1 for local_tau in axesArtist.artist.data.query(screen_bounds, dpi):
  2   mu = axesArtist.artist.graphic.mu(local_tau)
  3   rho = axesArtist.artist.graphic.qhat(**mu)
  4   H = rho(renderer)
```

---

where the artist is already parameterized with the  $\xi$  functions and which fibers they are associated to:

---

```
(22) 1
```

---

#### 5.1.1 $\xi$

#### 5.1.2 $\nu$

#### 5.1.3 $\hat{Q}$

## 6 DISCUSSION

### 6.1 Limitations

### 6.2 future work

## 7 CONCLUSION

The conclusion goes here.

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