

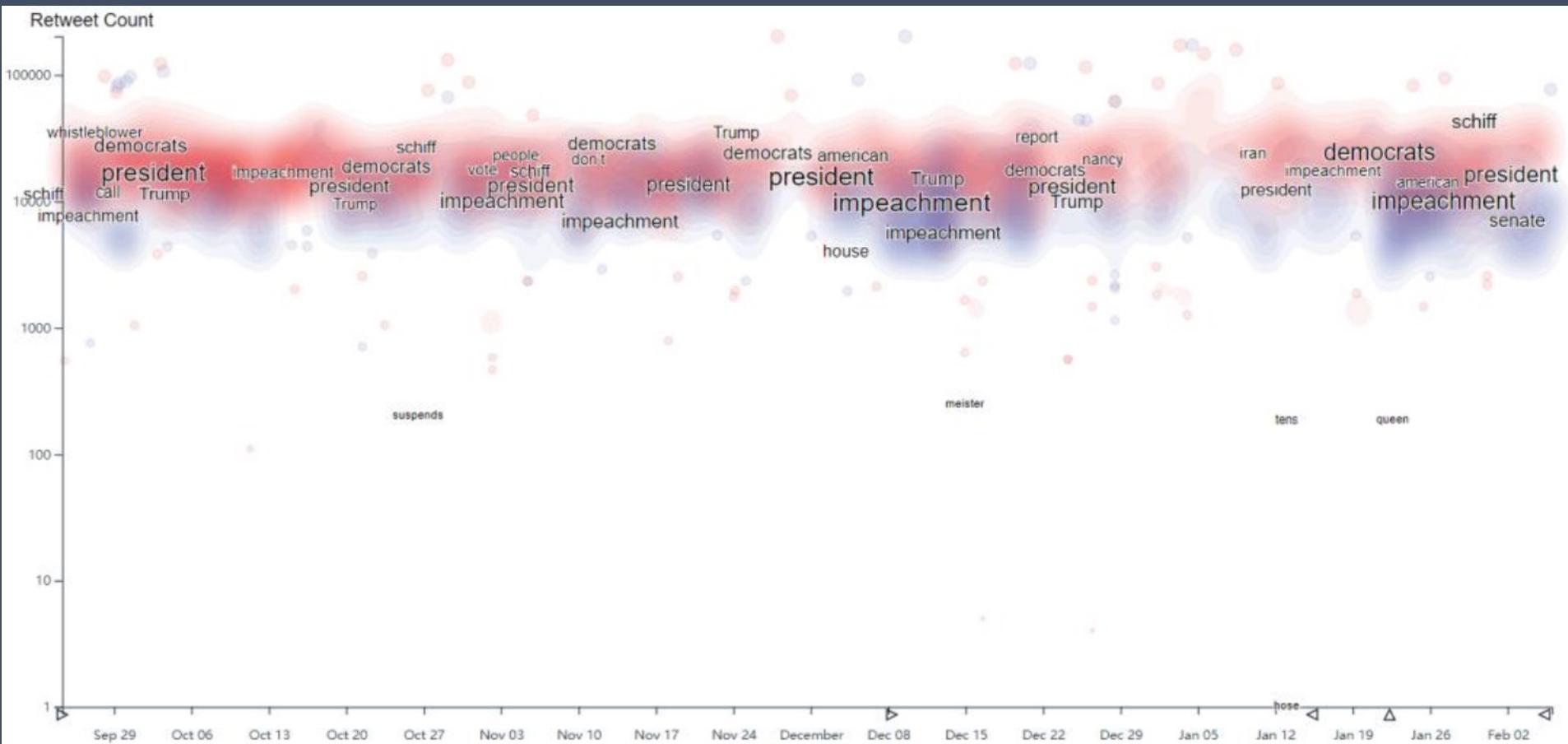
---

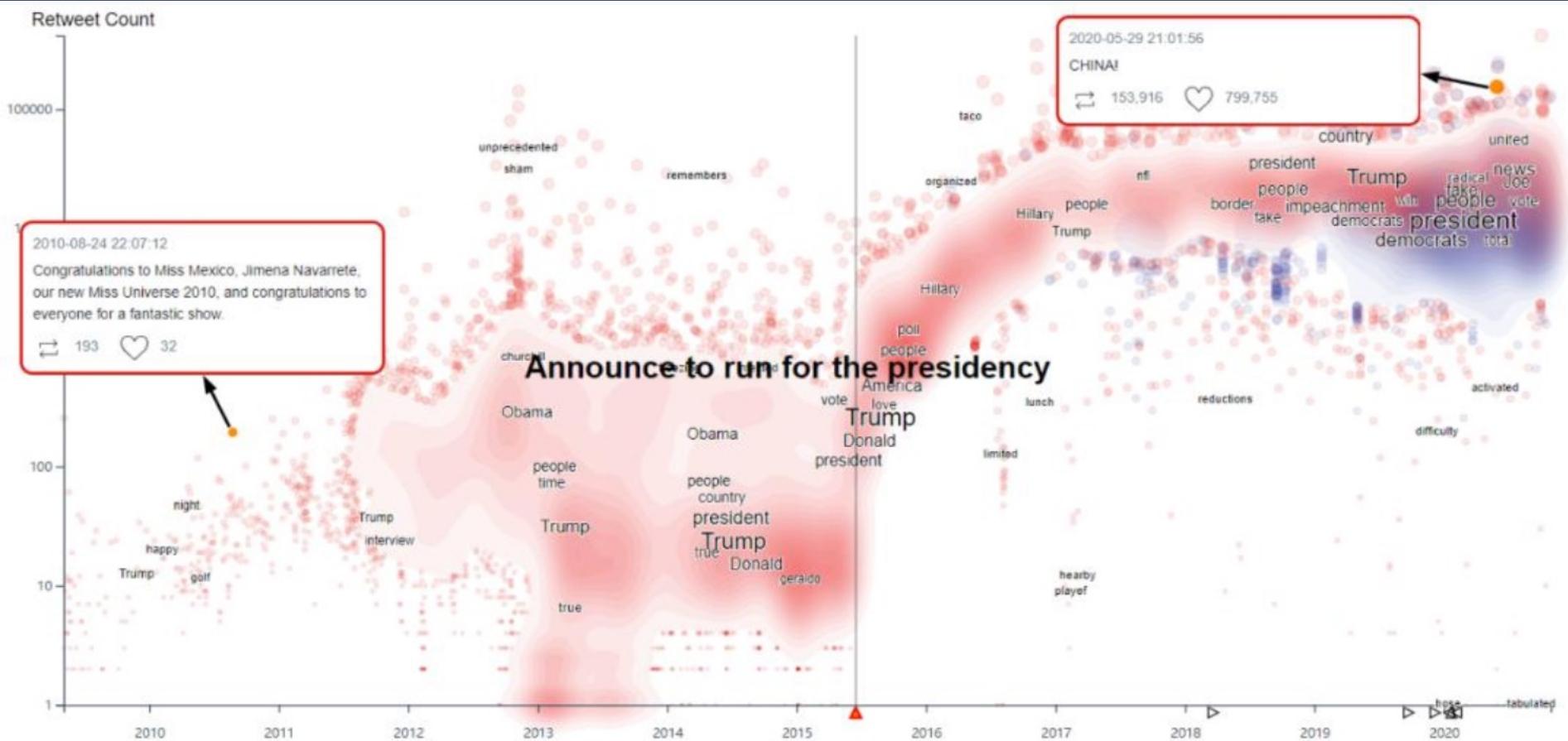
# Interactive Systems

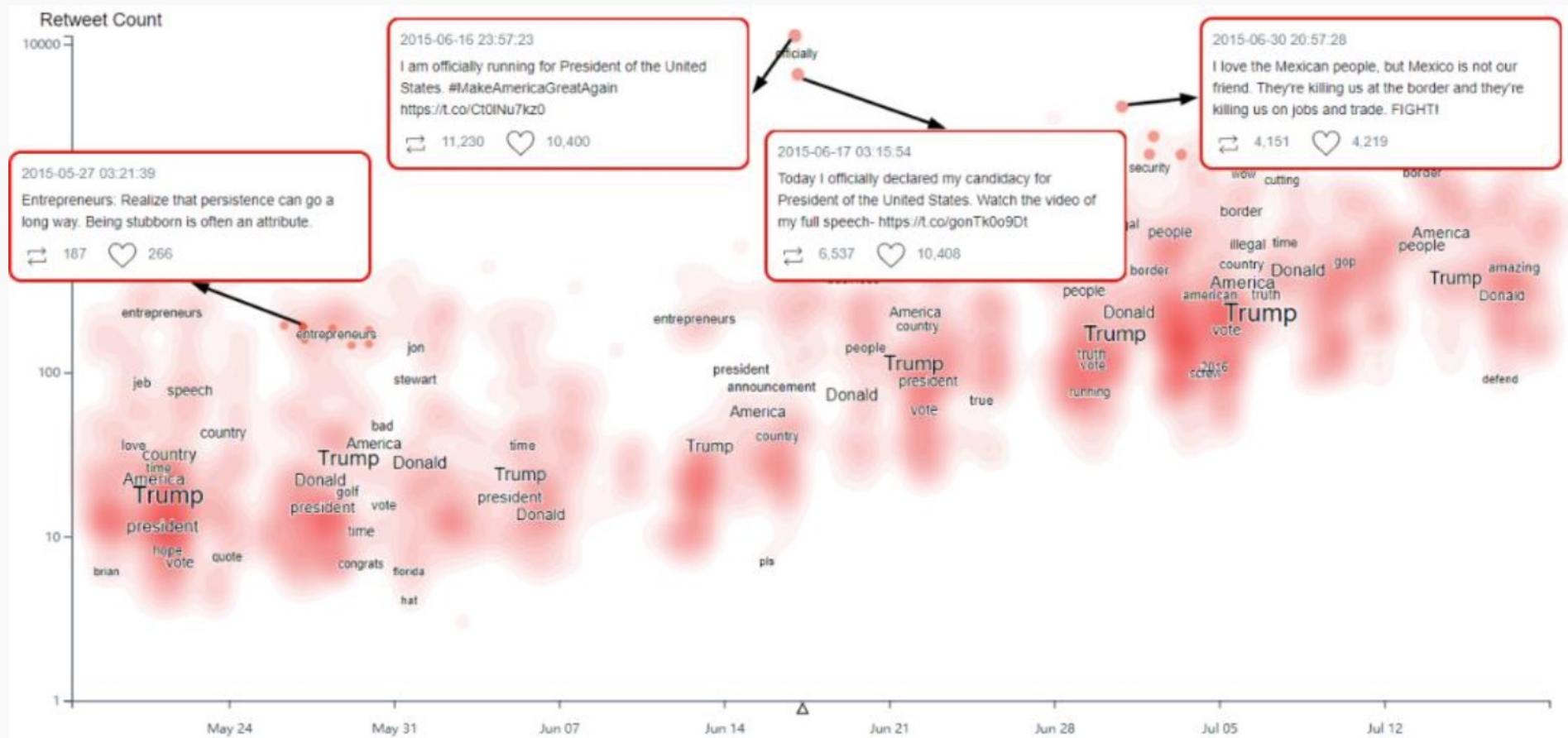
## Interaction in Visualization

Lingyun Yu

# Visualization









# Once Upon A Time

- Sketchpad Ivan Sutherland 1963



# Interactions in Visualization

- “Overview first, zoom and filter, and details on demand.”
  - Ben Schneiderman



# Representation and Interaction

---

There are two major components of visualization:

- **Representation** of objects users pay attention to, and
- **Interactions** which are operations users can apply.

# Outline

---

- Fundamental Interaction methods
- Interaction models
- Tasks, Techniques and Devices
- Take-away Messages

# Fundamental Interaction methods

# Fundamental Interaction Methods

---

- Yi et al. (TVCG 2007)
  - Select
  - Explore
  - Reconfigure
  - Encode
  - Abstract/Elaborate
  - Filter
  - Connect

# Fundamental Interaction Methods

---

- Yi et al. (TVCG 2007)
  - Select
  - Explore
  - Reconfigure
  - Encode
  - Abstract/Elaborate
  - Filter
  - Connect

# Select

---

- “Mark something as interesting.”
- Mark items of interest to keep track.
- Seems to often work as a preceding action to subsequent operations.

## Examples

- Select a landmark in Google Map.
- Select the Focus feature in TableLens.

# Method 1: Pop-up Tooltips

- Hovering mouse cursor brings up details of item.

## SIMPLE TOOLTIPS

2 years ago | 20 Replies

Easily add tooltips to your WordPress site. Tooltips will show when target element is hovered over. On mobile devices tooltips show when target element is tapped. You can easily pick your tooltip color settings in **Settings > Simple Tooltips**.

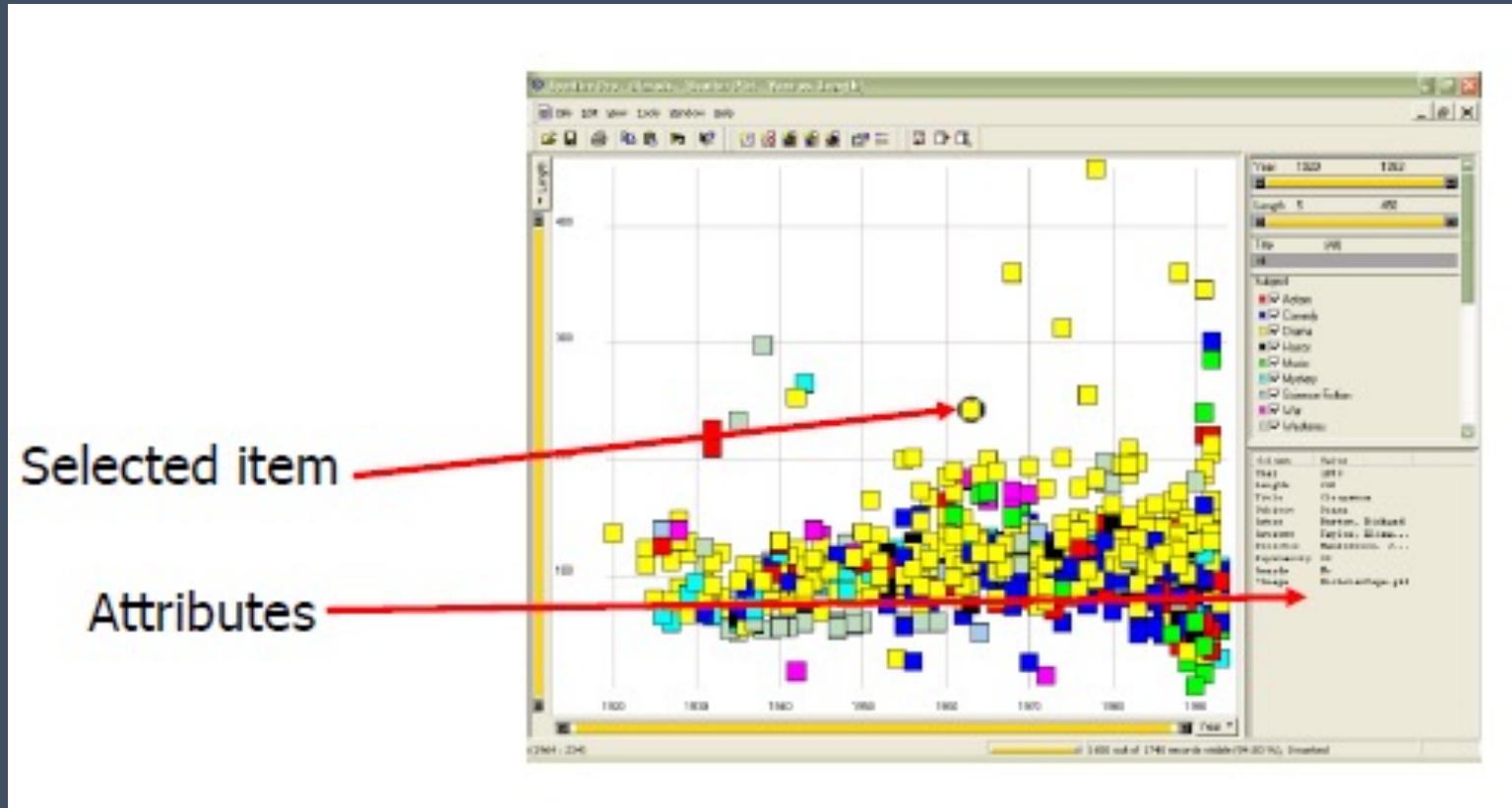
Now you know what it will  
look like

What Will it Look Like?

To see an example hover over this text. I'm using the plugin in many places on this site (for example, when you hover over the 'about me' picture in the top left of the page).

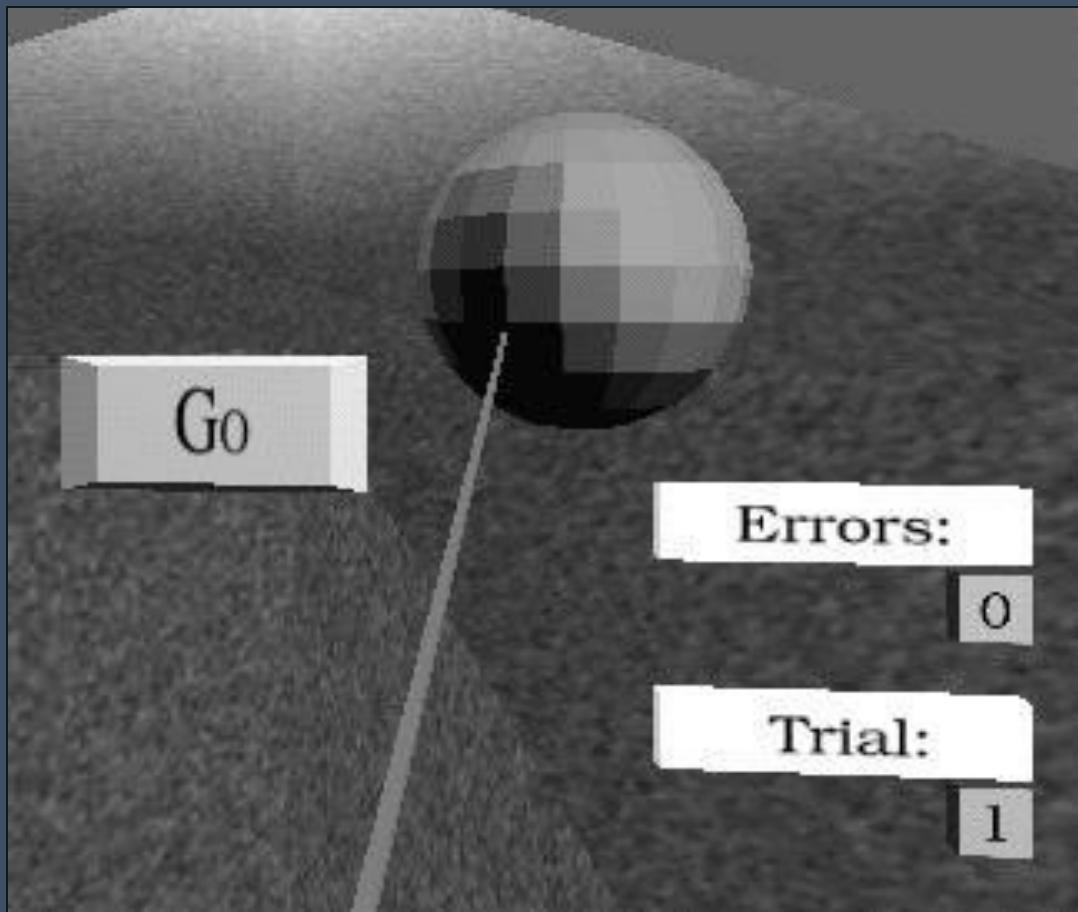
# Method 2: Picking (in 2D)

- Clicking on an item on a 2D projection: selects it, attributes of the selected item are shown.



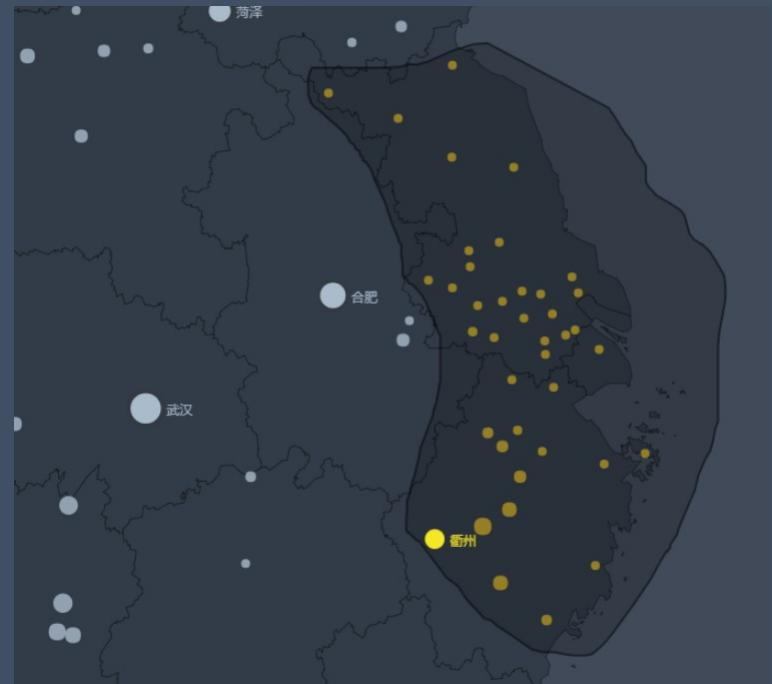
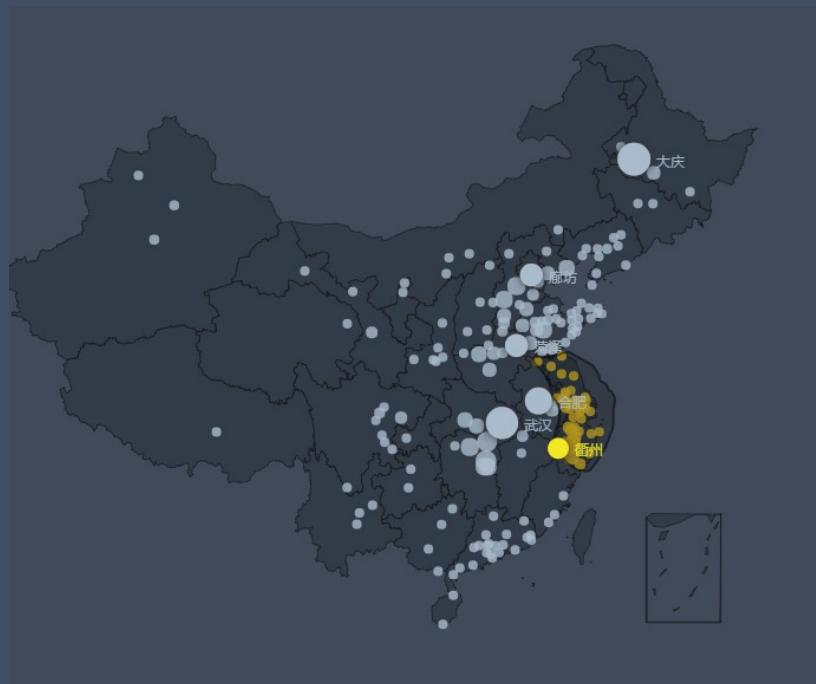
# Method 2: Picking (in 3D)

- Picking an item in a 3D space:



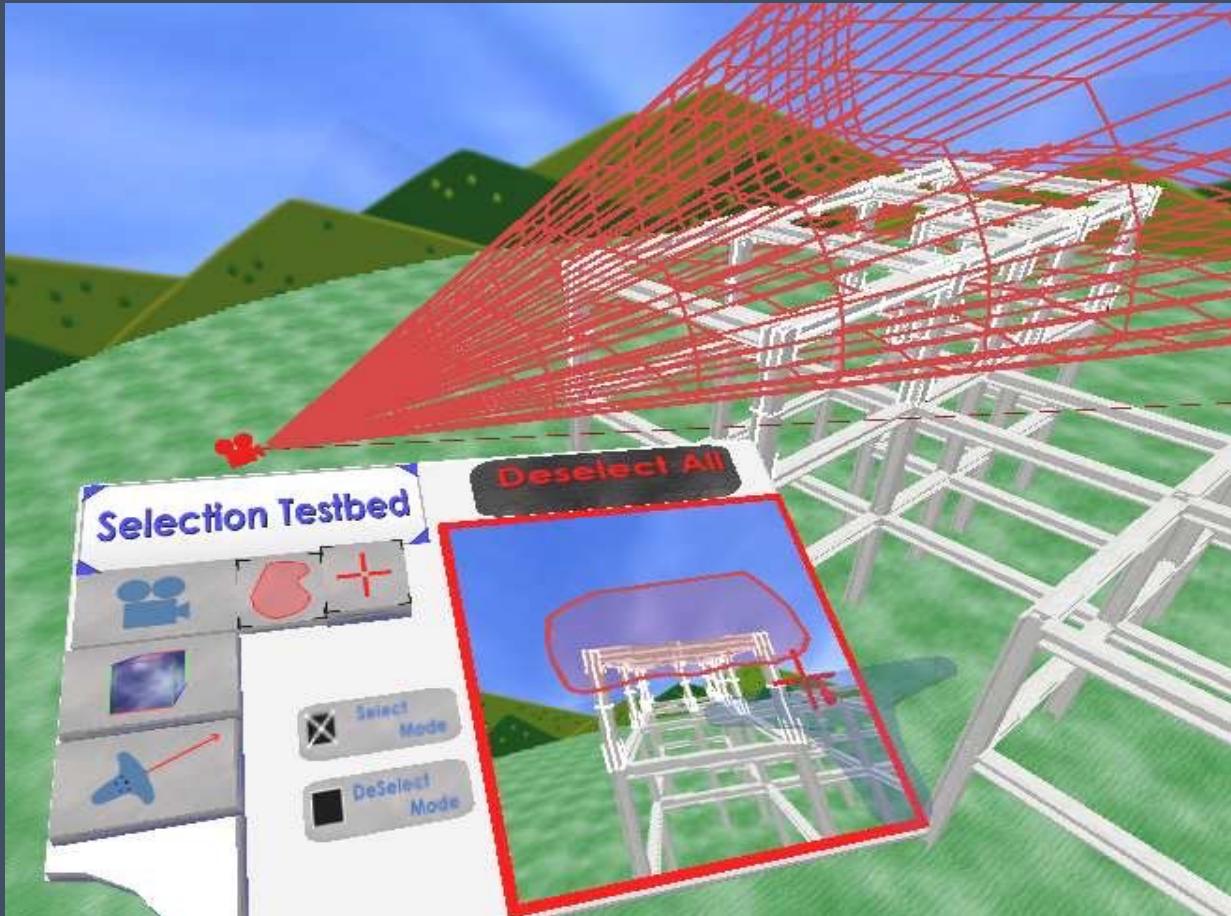
# Method 3: Lasso (in 2D)

- Select a region on the map and use amplification technology to visualize clusters in the selection.



<http://www.echartsjs.com/examples/#chart-type-map>

# Method 3: Lasso (in 3D)



Design and Evaluation of 3D Multiple Object Selection Techniques. Report, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, USA, 2005.

# Fundamental Interaction Methods

---

- Yi et al. (TVCG 2007)
  - Select
  - Explore
  - Reconfigure
  - Encode
  - Abstract/Elaborate
  - Filter
  - Connect

# Explore

---

- “Show me something different.”
  - Exploration enable users to examine a different subset of data.
  - Exploration overcome the limitation of display size.
- Examples
  - Panning in Google Earth
  - Navigation in 3D space

# Direct Walk

Linkages between cases : Exploring one may lead to another.

- Follow the hyperlinks on web pages.



<http://www.zju.edu.cn/>

# 3D Navigation



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tI\\_sJuA2LWg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tI_sJuA2LWg)

# Fundamental Interaction Techniques

---

- Select
- Explore
- **Reconfigure**
- Encode
- Abstract / Elaborate
- Filter
- Connect

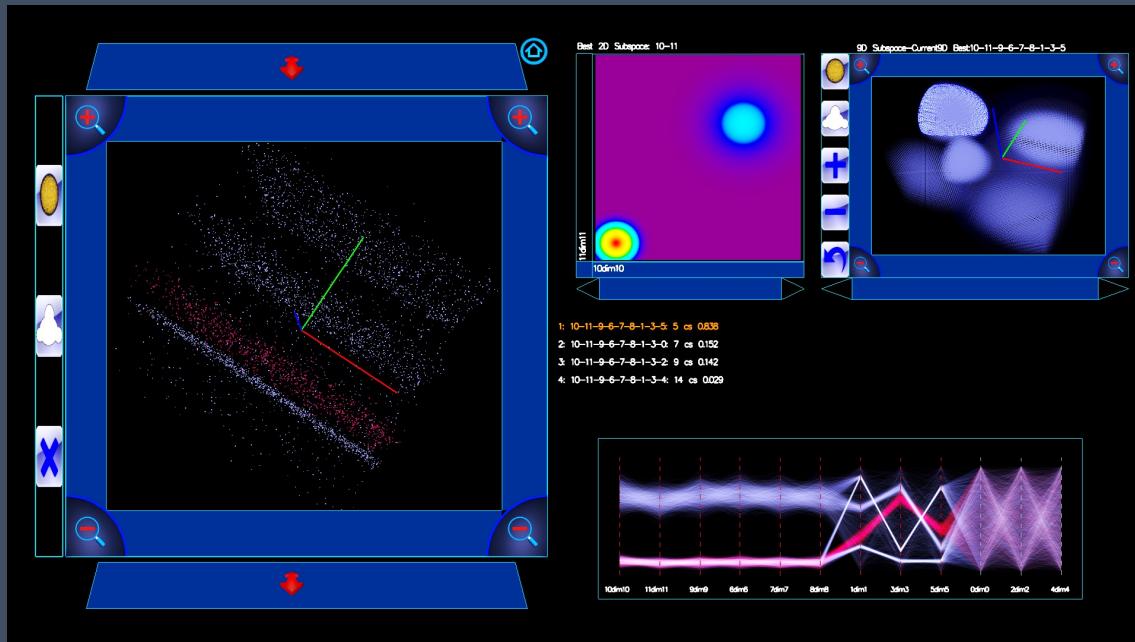
# Reconfigure

---

- “Show me a different arrangement.”
- Reconfiguring provides different perspectives by changing the spatial arrangement of representation.
- Examples
  - Sorting and rearranging columns in TableLens.
  - Changing the attributes in a scatter plot.

# Method 1: Rearrange View

- Keep same fundamental representation and what data is being shown, but rearrange elements by:
  - Alter positioning
  - Sort



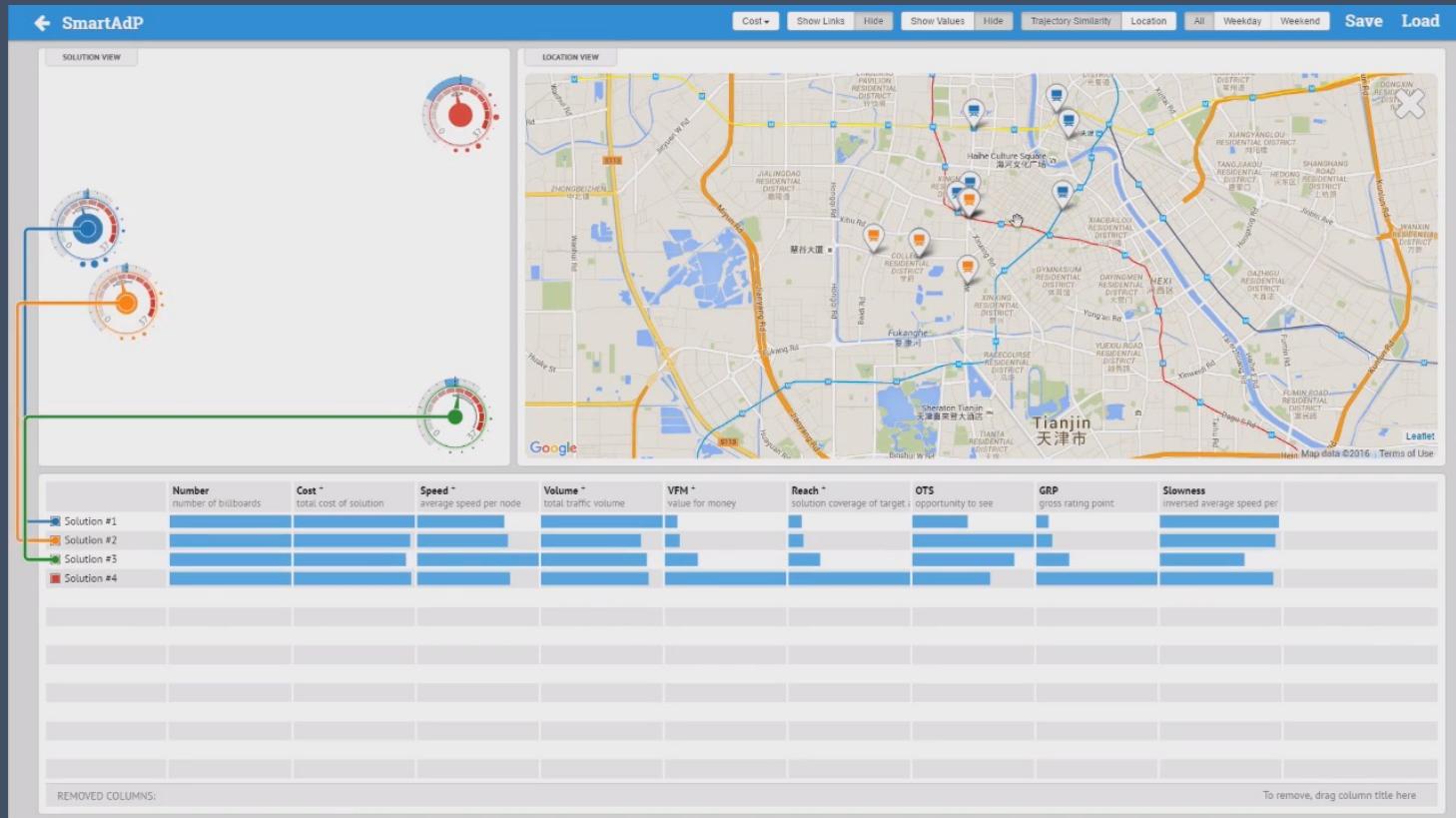
You can change the attributes in the scatter plots

You can move columns (attributes) left and right.

Touching 3D data. Interactive visualization of cosmological simulations. PhD thesis. University of Groningen.

# Method 2: Sorting

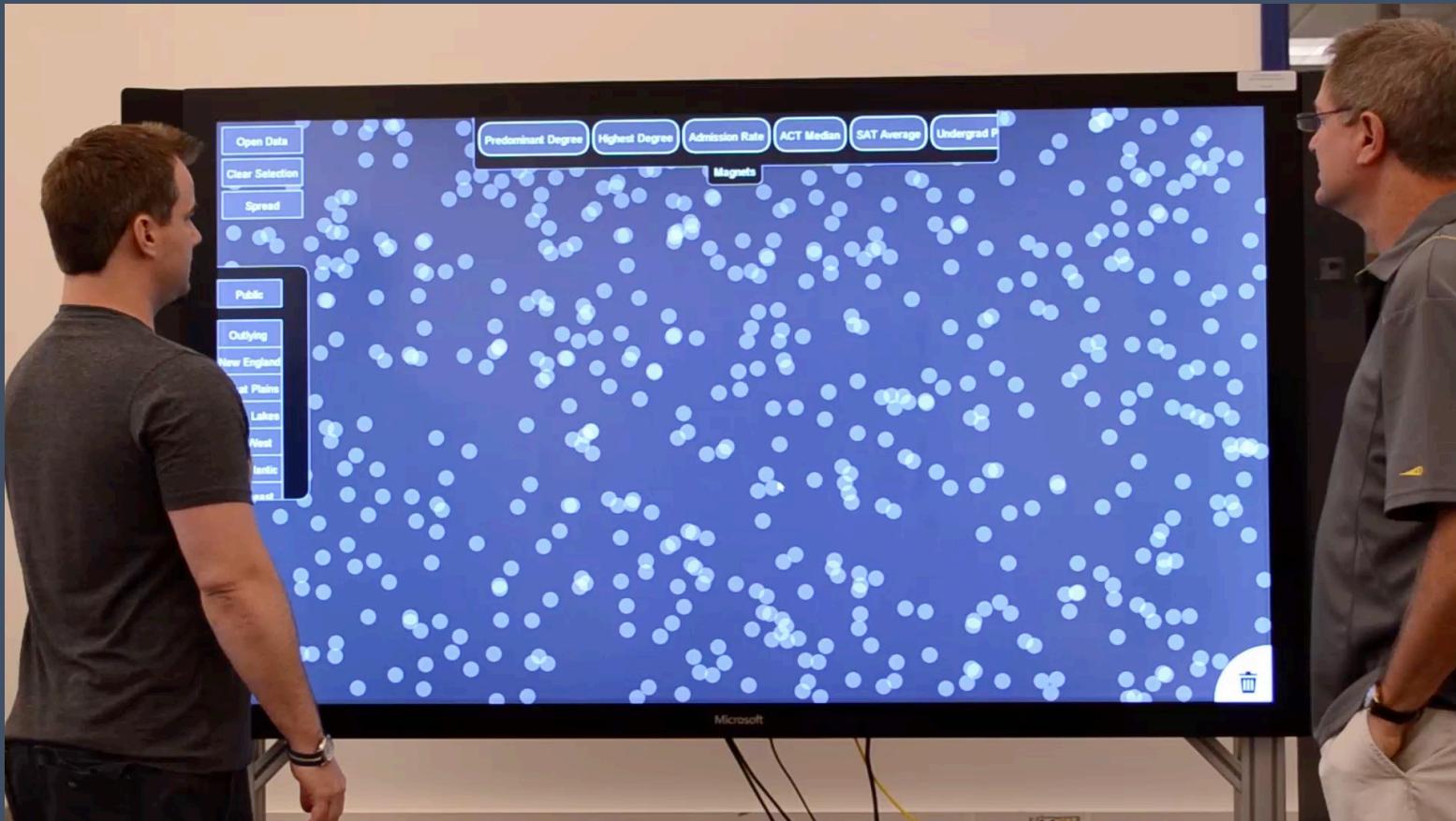
- Sort data with respect to a particular attribute.



Liu, Dongyu, et al Smartadp: Visual analytics of large-scale taxi trajectories for selecting billboard locations. IEEE TVCG 2017. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7vkYubfIVuo>

# Method 3: Reposition

- Dust & Magnet



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=laGJ4v7DEU0>

# Example

## Rolling the Dice

Multidimensional Visual Exploration  
using Scatterplot Matrix Navigation

Niklas Elmqvist  
Pierre Dragicevic  
Jean-Daniel Fekete

INRIA

Rolling the Dice: Multidimensional Visual Exploration using Scatterplot Matrix Navigation. TVCG. 2008

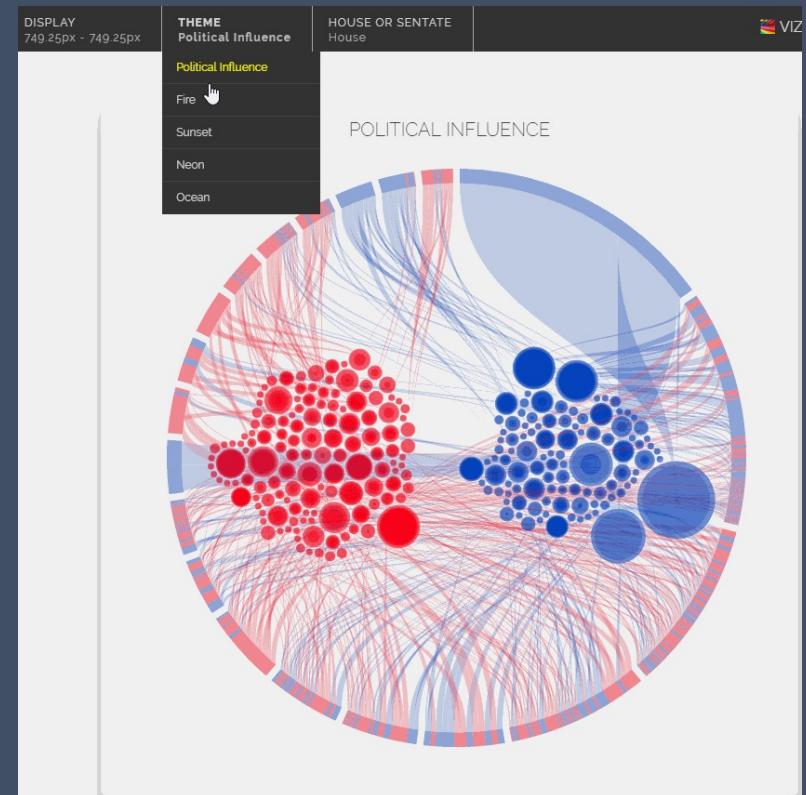
# Fundamental Interaction Techniques

---

- Select
- Explore
- Reconfigure
- **Encode**
- Abstract / Elaborate
- Filter
- Connect

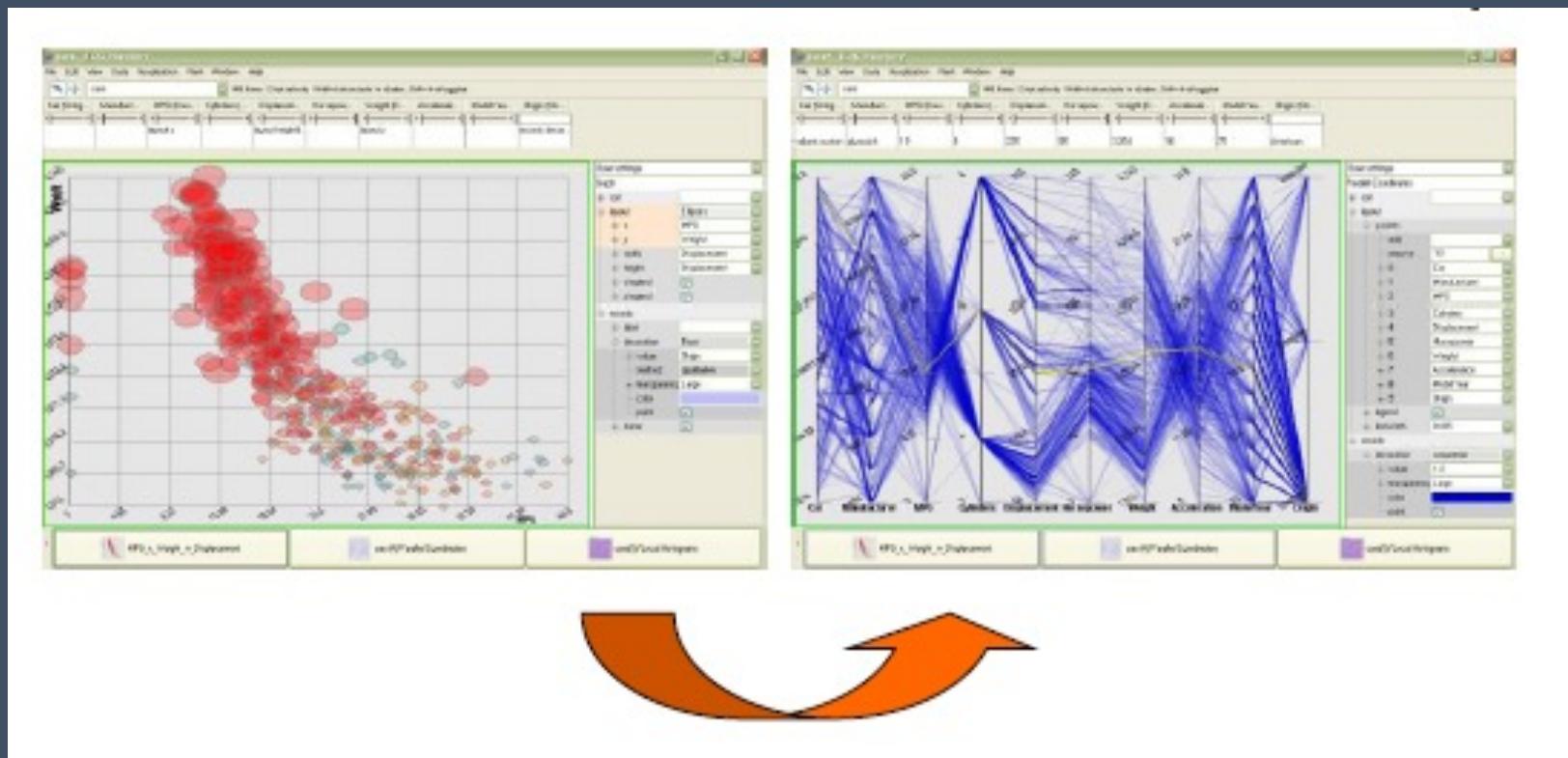
# Encode

- “Show me a different representation.”
- Change visual appearances.
- Examples
  - Changing color encoding
  - Changing size
  - Changing orientation
  - Changing shape



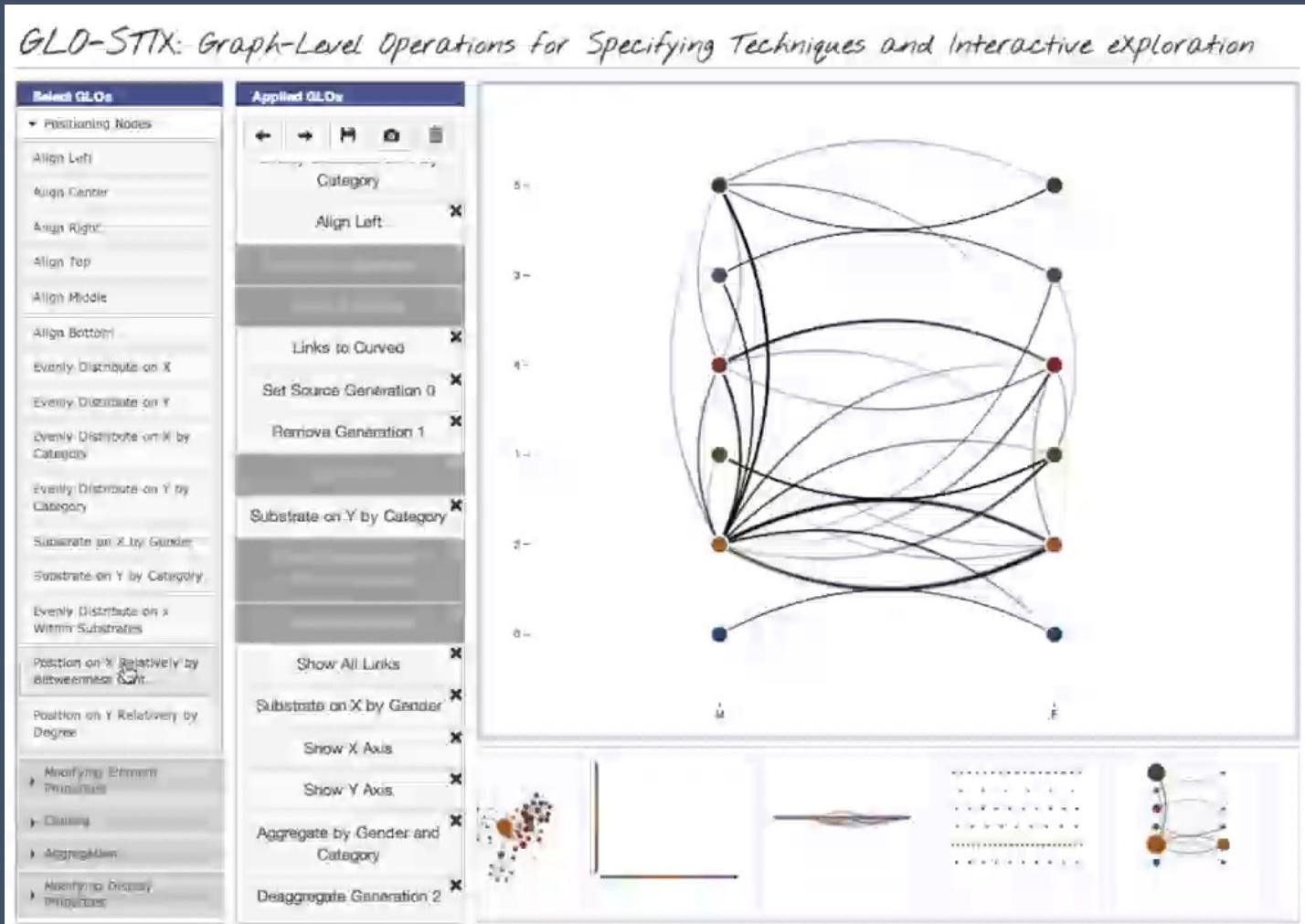
<https://github.com/d3/d3/wiki/Gallery>

# Examples



Selecting different representation from options at the bottom.

# Examples



Stolper et al. Glo-stix: Graph-level operations for specifying techniques and interactive exploration. IEEE TVCG, 2014  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a7ZkZRU6VBM>

# Examples



Interactive Exploratory Visualization of 2D Vector Fields. Computer Graphics Forum, 2008

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHX2\\_wnUJg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHX2_wnUJg)

# Fundamental Interaction Techniques

---

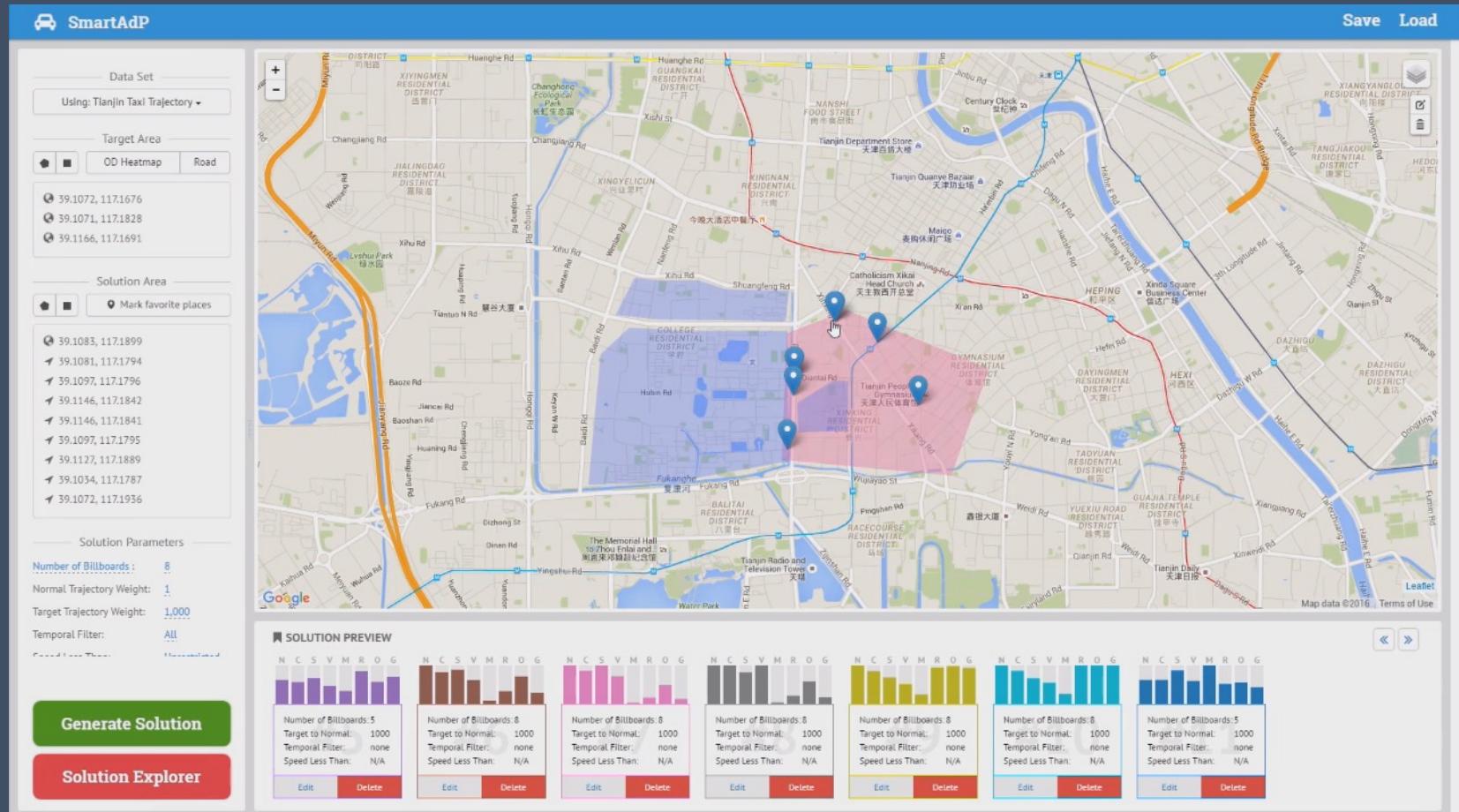
- Select
- Explore
- Reconfigure
- Encode
- **Abstract / Elaborate**
- Filter
- Connect

# Abstract/Elaborate

---

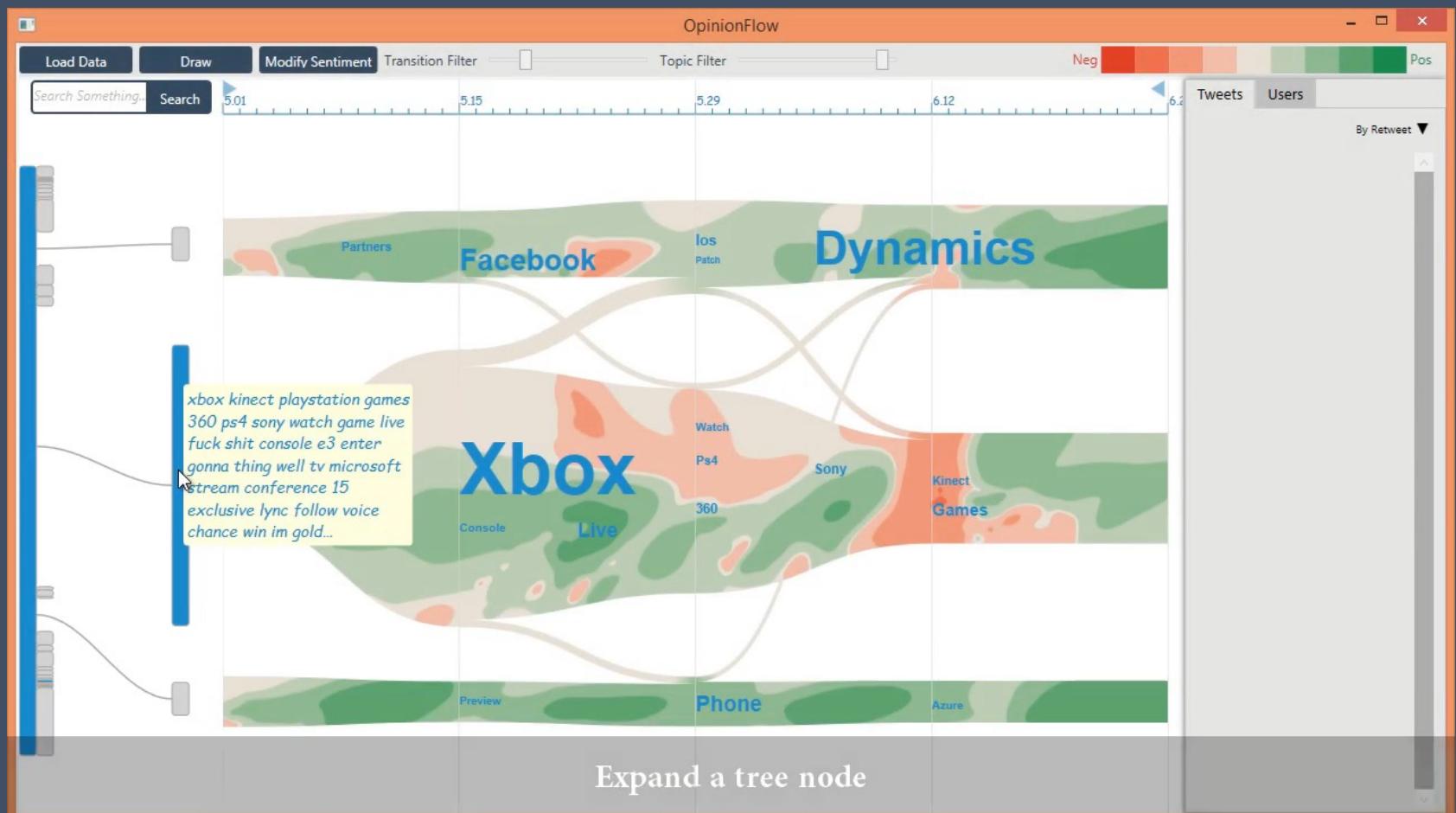
- “Show me more or less detail”.
- Adjust the level of abstraction (overview and details)
- Examples
  - Zooming (geometric zooming)
  - Unfolding sub-categories in an interactive pie chart
  - Details-on-demand

# Examples



SmartAdP: Visual Analytics of Large-scale Taxi Trajectories for Selecting Billboard Locations, VAST, 2016

# Examples



OpinionFlow: Visual Analysis of Opinion Diffusion on Social Media, TVCG, 2014

# Fundamental Interaction Techniques

---

- Select
- Explore
- Reconfigure
- Encode
- Abstract / Elaborate
- **Filter**
- Connect

# Filter

---

- “Show me something conditionally.”
- Change the set of data items being presented based on some specific conditions.
- Examples
  - Dynamic query

# Dynamic Query

- Probably best-known and one of most useful infovis techniques
- Let's explore more details...

DB Query

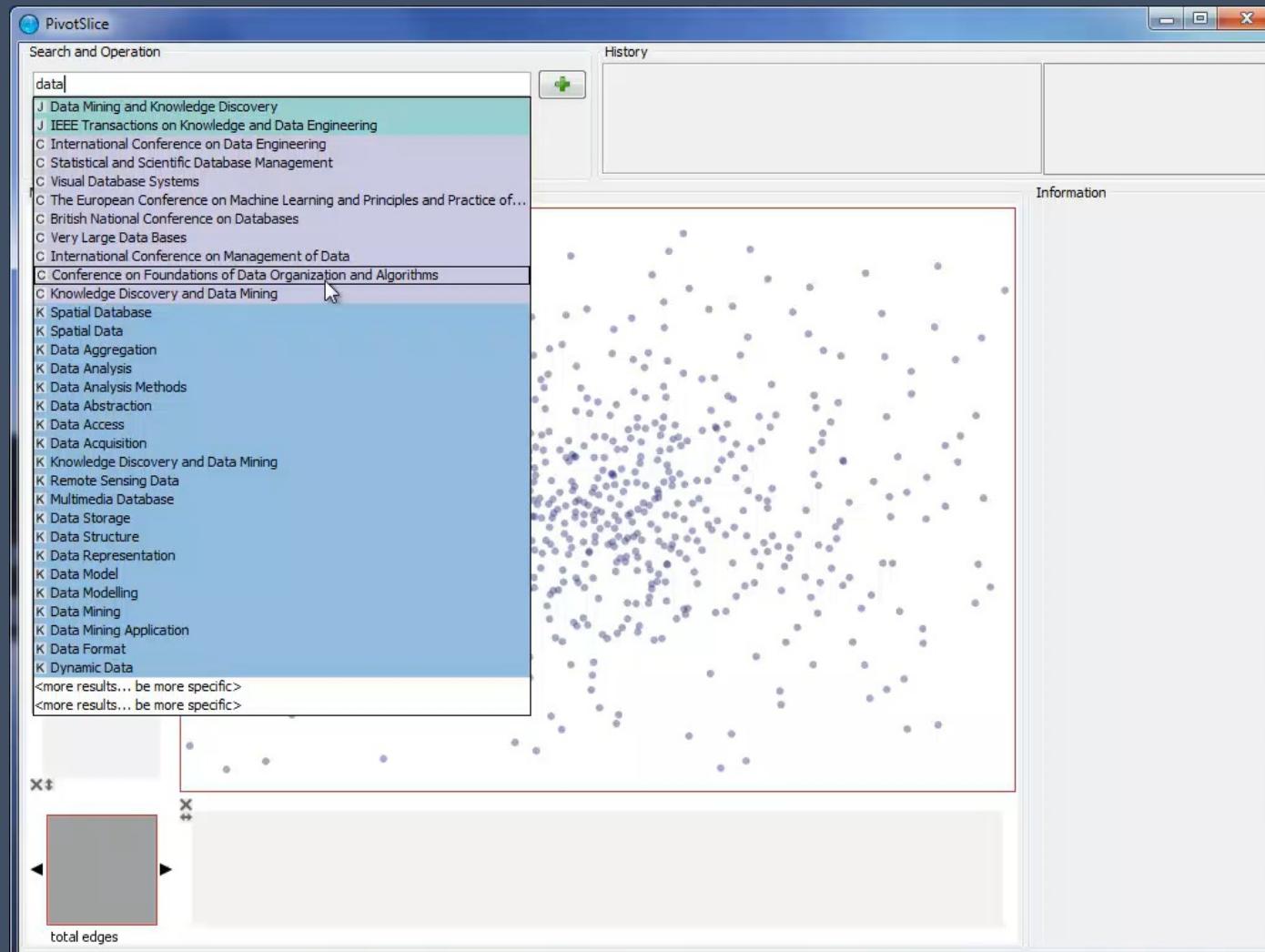
Query language

```
- Select house-address  
From atl-realty-db  
Where price >= 200,000 and  
    price <= 400,000 and  
    bathrooms >= 3 and  
    garage == 2 and  
    bedrooms >= 4
```

Usually we will get

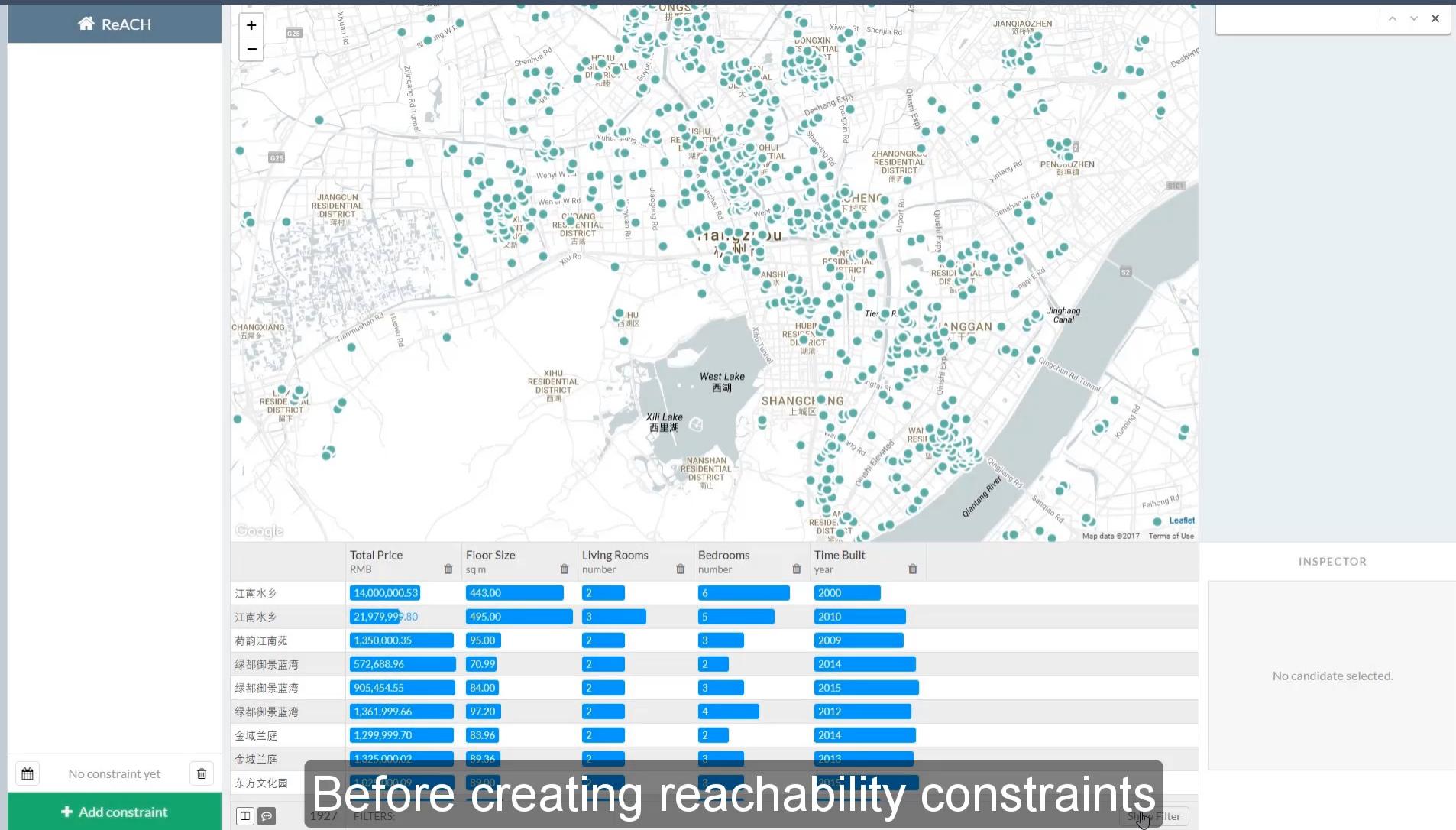
- 124 hits found
  - 1. 748 Oak St. - a beautiful ...
  - 2. 623 Pine Ave. -
  - ...
- 0 hits found

# Dynamic Query



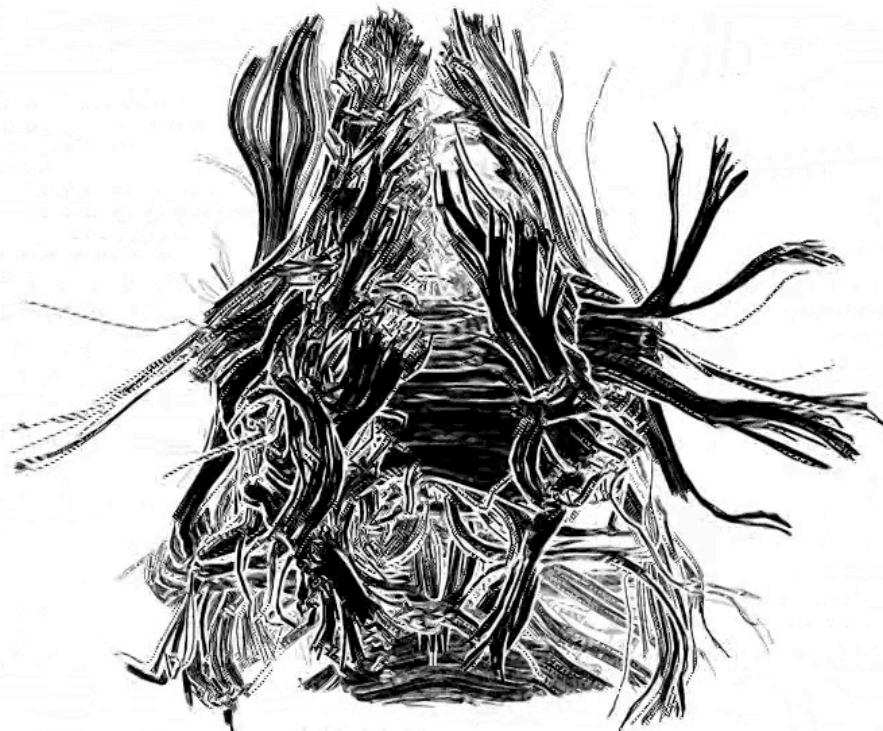
<http://vialab.science.uoit.ca/portfolio/pivotslice>

# Example



# Example

**fiber tracts (selection)**



Depth-Dependent Halos: Illustrative Rendering of Dense Line Data. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, 15(6):1299–1306, November/December 2009.

# Fundamental Interaction Techniques

---

- Select
- Explore
- Reconfigure
- Encode
- Abstract / Elaborate
- Filter
- **Connect**

# Connect

---

- “Show me related items.”
- Highlight associations and relationships.
- Show hidden data items that are relevant to a specified item.
- Examples:
  - Highlighting directly connected nodes
  - Brushing

# Linked Views

---

- Viewer may wish to examine different attributes of a data case simultaneously.
- Alternatively, viewer may wish to view data case under different perspectives or representations.
- But need to keep straight where the data case is.

# Linked Views

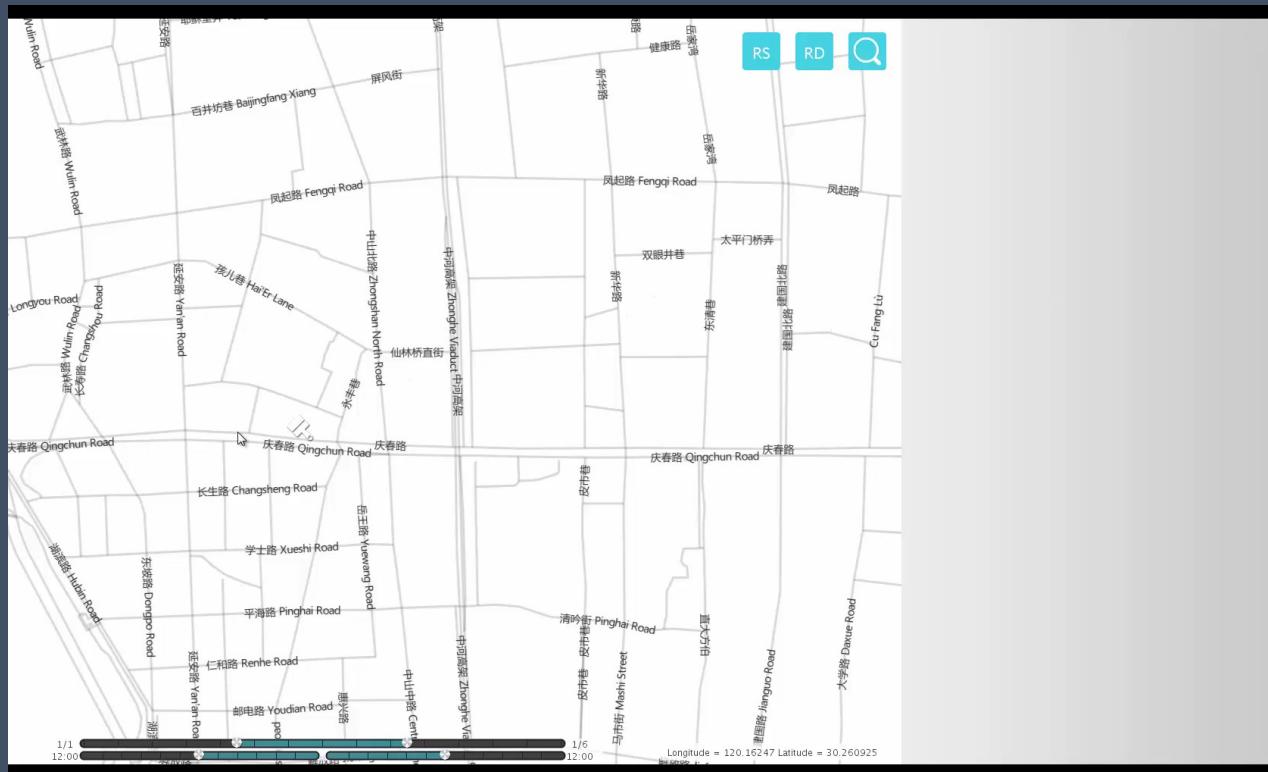
- Very common technique in InfoVis
- Applies when you have multiple views about the same data

Selecting or brushing a case in one view generates highlighting the case in the other views



# Brushing

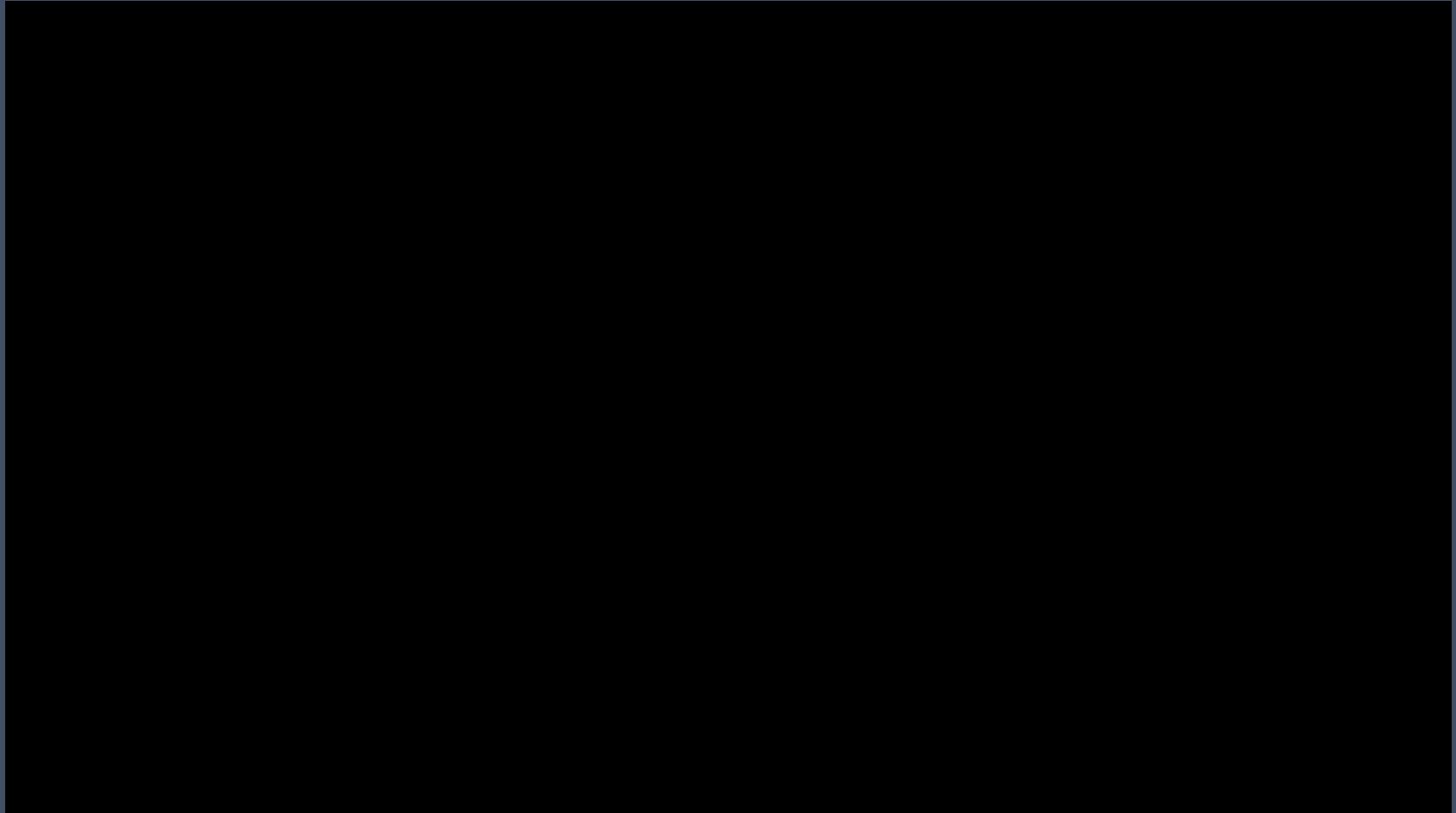
- Very common technique in InfoVis
- Applies when you have multiple views of the same data



A visual reasoning approach for data-driven transport assessment on urban roads. IEEE TVCG 2014.

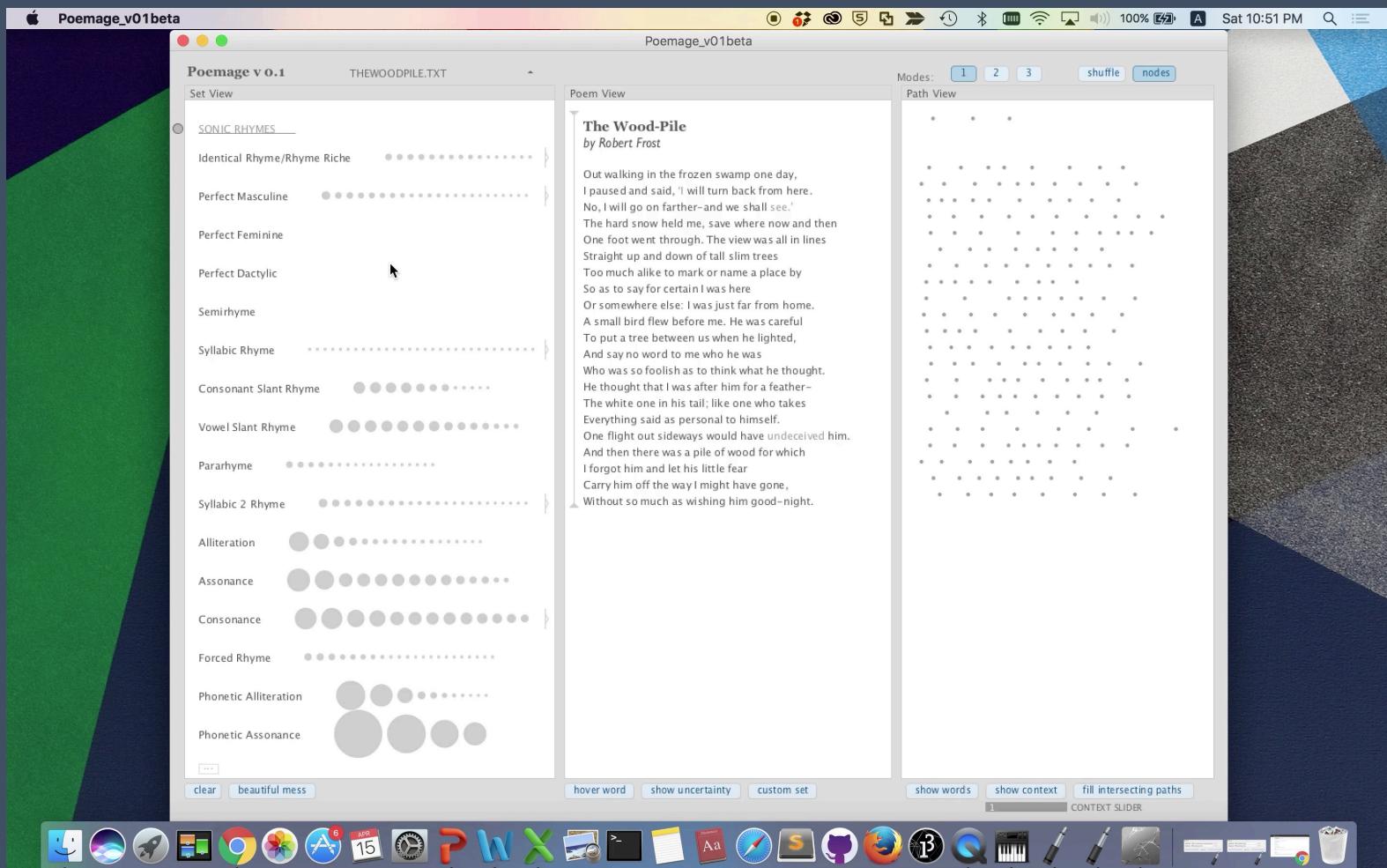
[http://www.cad.zju.edu.cn/home/vagblog/VAG\\_Work/IEEEVis2014/TaxiHash\\_Wangfei/wang%20\(1\).mp4](http://www.cad.zju.edu.cn/home/vagblog/VAG_Work/IEEEVis2014/TaxiHash_Wangfei/wang%20(1).mp4)

# Example



Yalcin et al. AggreSet: Rich and scalable set exploration using visualizations of element aggregations. IEEE TVCG 2016. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cSSAvDAre-E>

# Example



Poemage: Visualizing the Sonic Topology of a Poem. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proceedings of InfoVis 2015), pages 439-448, January 2016.

# Interaction models

# Interaction models

---

- Overview + Details
- Focus + Context

# Interaction models

---

- **Overview + Details**
- Focus + Context

# Overview + Details

---

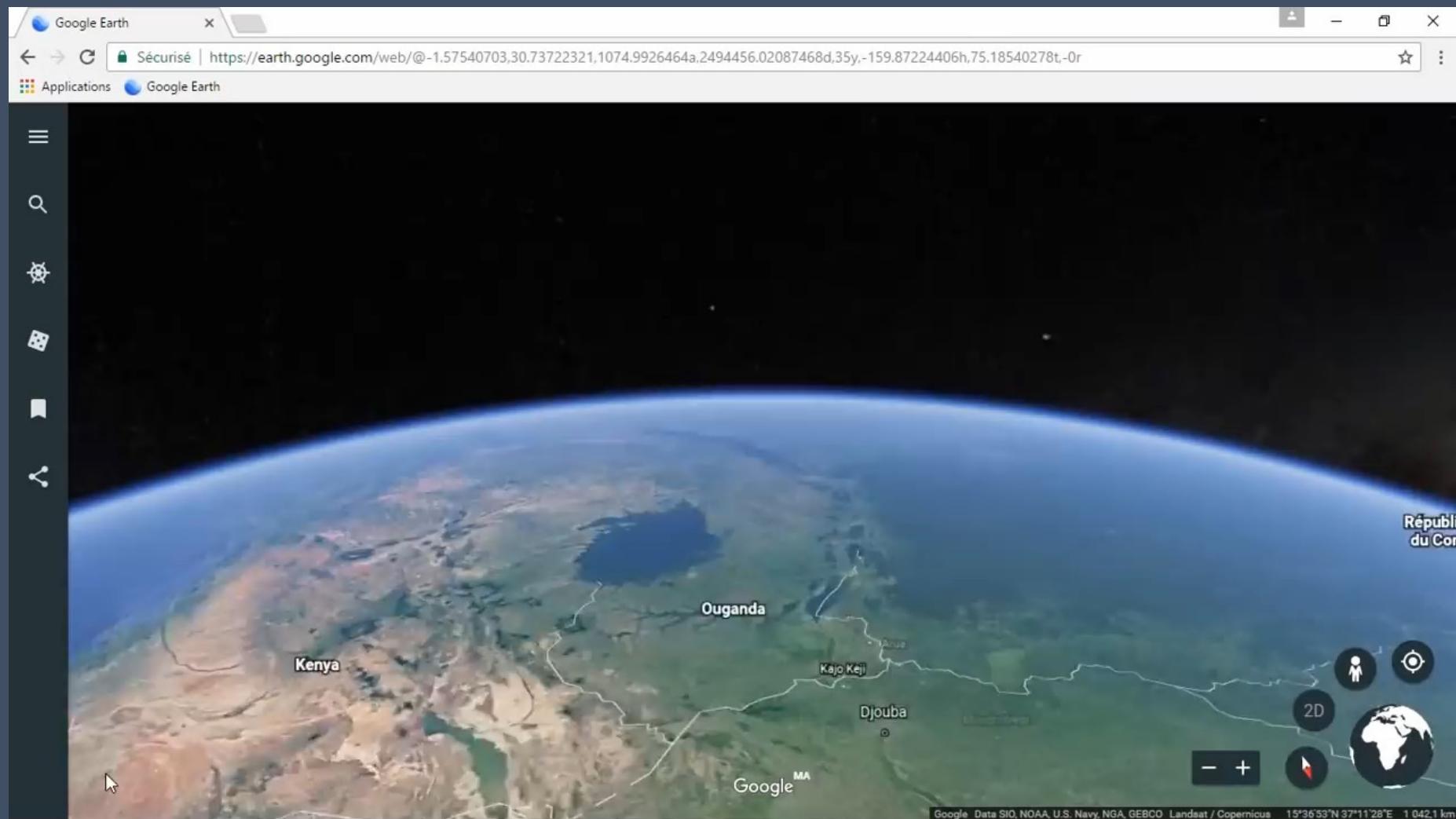
- Scale-Many data sets are too large to visualize on one screen.
  - Too many cases.
  - Too many variables.
  - May only be able to highlight particular cases or particular variables, but viewer's focus may change from time to time.
- Potential solutions lie in:
  - Data representation,
  - Interaction,
  - Or both.

# Examples

---

**Creating a TimeNotes Presentation**

# Examples



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=paqB4FrJN0w>

# Interaction models

---

- Overview + Details
- **Focus + Context**

# Why is it called Fisheye?

Fisheye Camera Lens



# Fisheye 1992

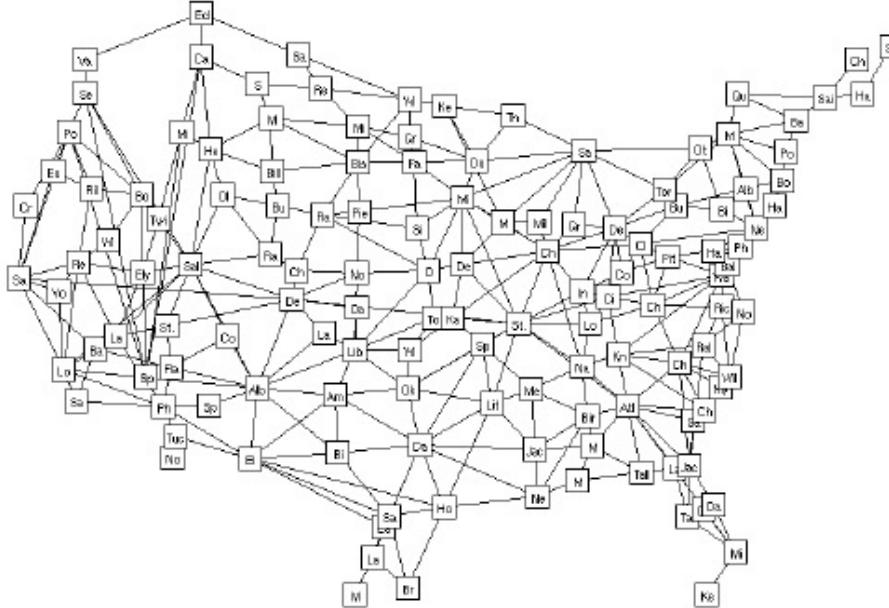


Figure 1: A graph with 134 vertices and 338 edges. The vertices represent major cities in the United States, and the edges represent paths between neighboring cities. (Typically, the edges would be annotated with the distance and driving time between the cities.) The *a priori importance* value assigned to each vertex is proportional to the population of the corresponding city. Fisheye views of this graph appear in Figures 2–6

Sarkar et al. Graphical fisheye views of graphs. SIGCHI ACM, 1992.

# Fisheye 1992

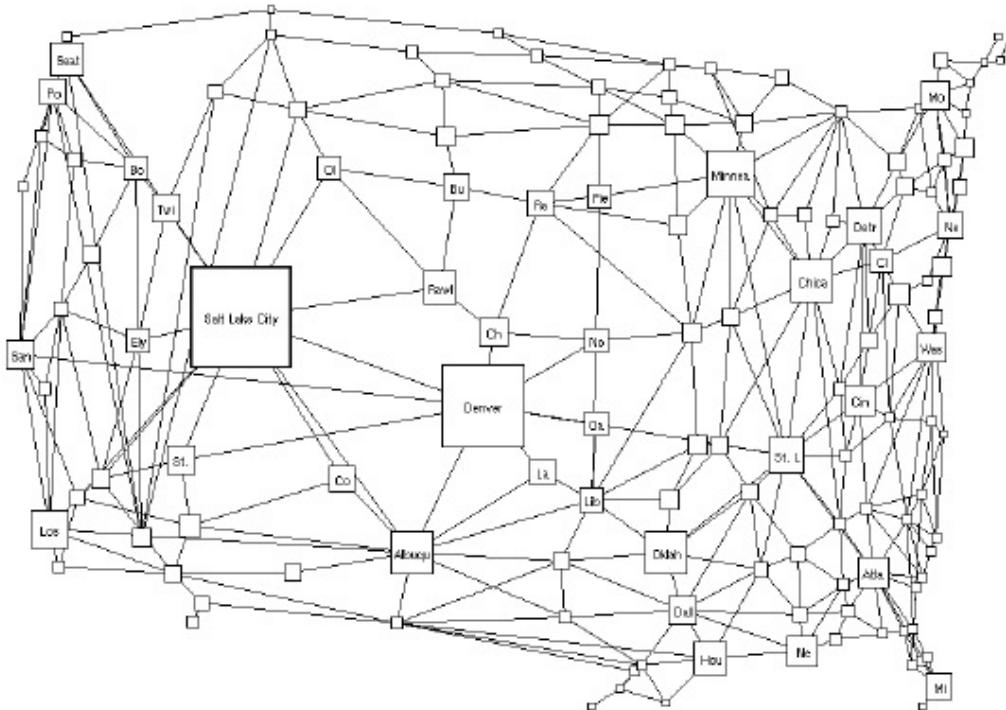
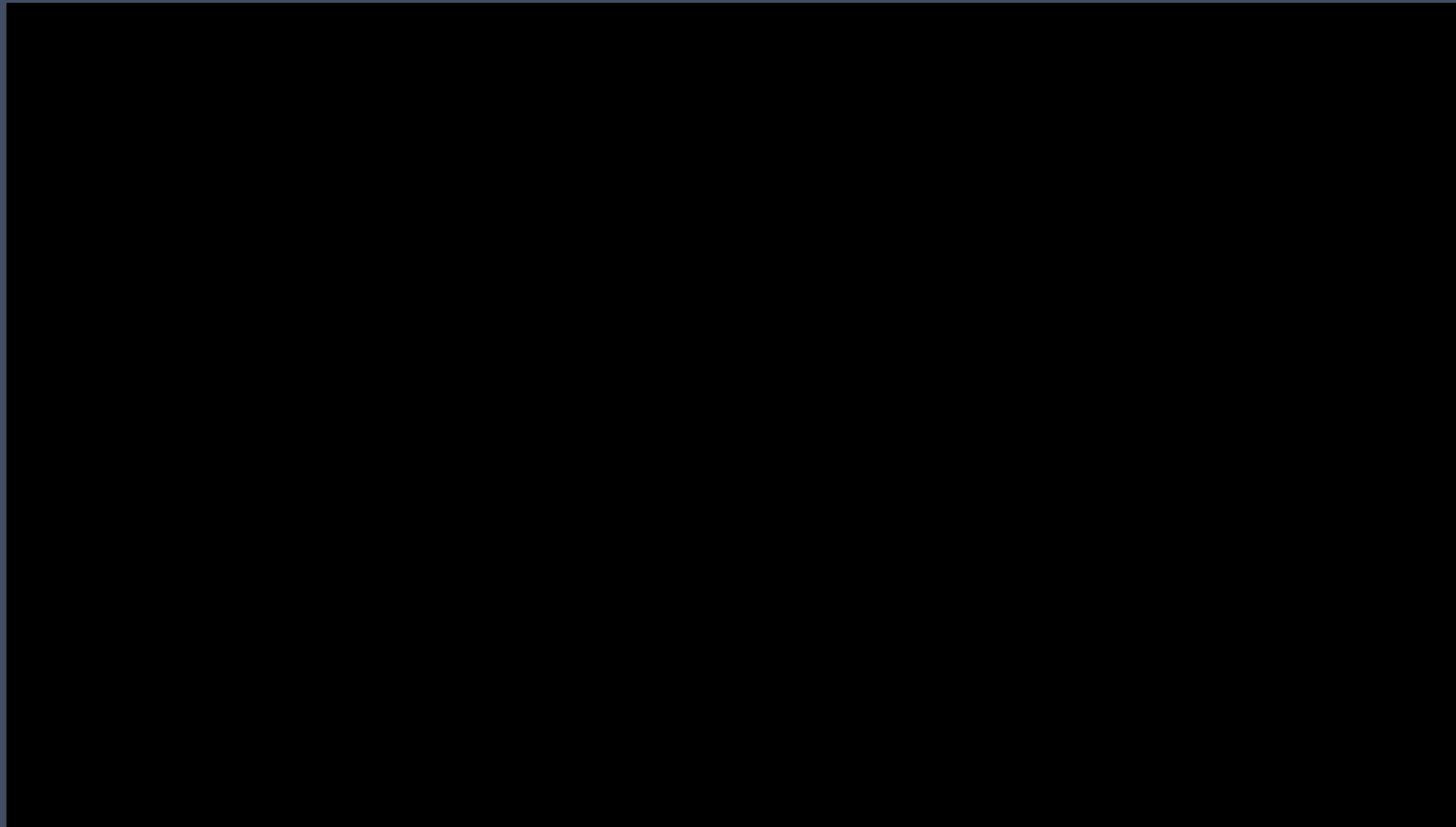


Figure 4: A fisheye view of the graph in Figure 1, with the focus on Salt Lake City. The level of distortion is the same as in Figure 3; only the location of the focus has changed. The values of the fisheye parameters are  $d = 2$ ,  $c = 0.5$ ,  $e = 0.5$ ,  $VWcutoff = 0$ .

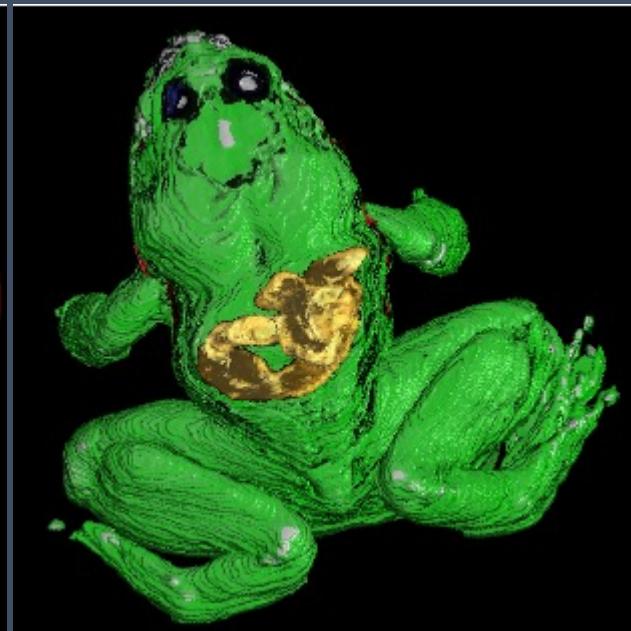
# Example

- Maps

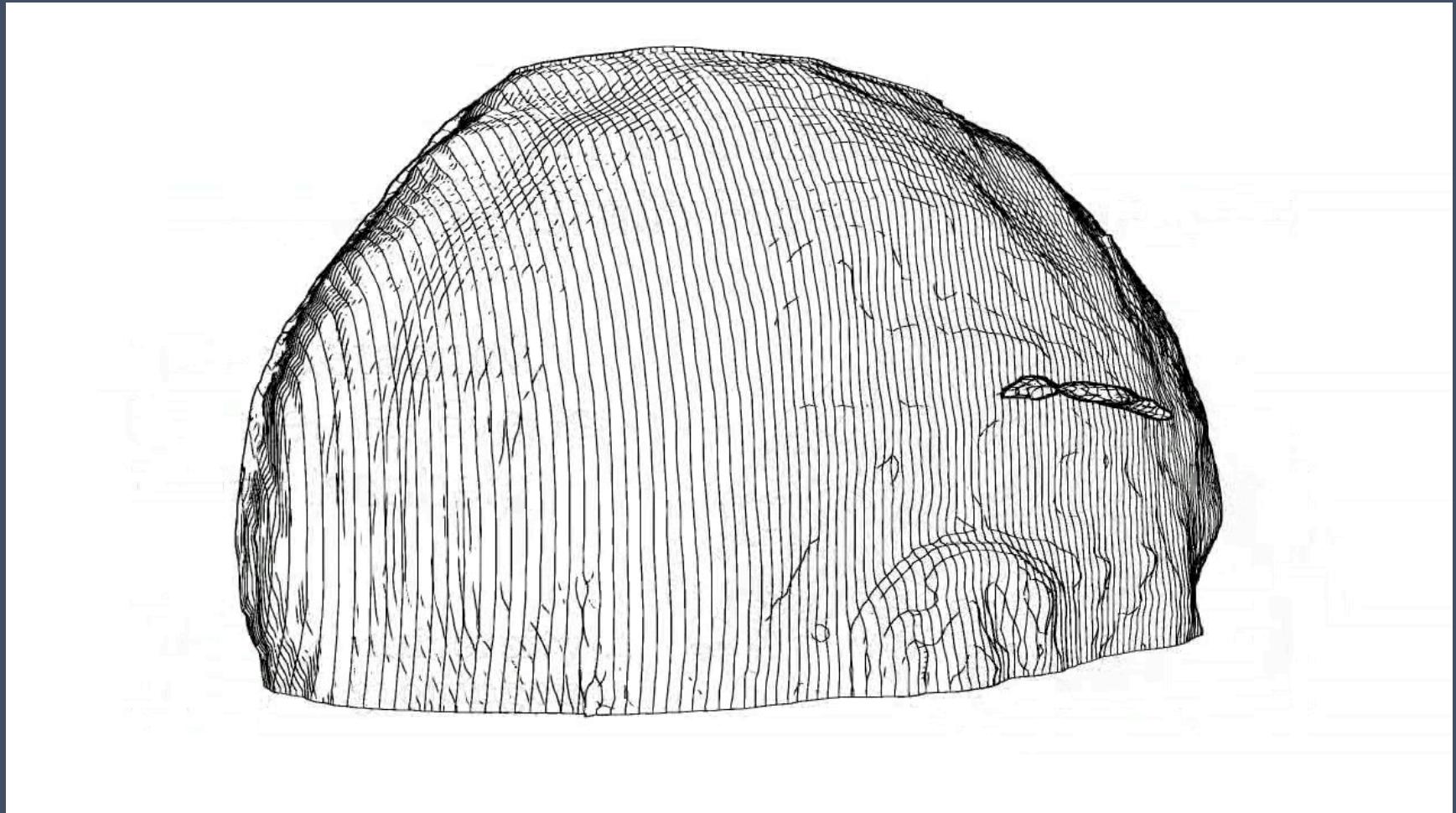


Tominski et al. 3d information visualization for time dependent data on maps. International Conference on Information Visualisation , 2005.

# The magic volume lens



# Focus & Context



DTI in Context: Illustrating Brain Fiber Tracts In Situ. Computer Graphics Forum, 29(3):1024–1032, June 2010.  
<http://tobias.isenberg.cc/VideosAndDemos/Svetachov2010DCI>

# Outline

---

- Fundamental Interaction methods
- Interaction models
- Tasks, Techniques and Devices
- Take-away Messages

# Tasks, Techniques and Devices

# Tasks, Techniques and Devices

---

- Interaction Tasks for Visualization
  - View and Object Manipulation
  - Visualization Widgets Manipulation
  - 3D Data Selection and Annotation
- Interaction Techniques and Devices
  - Touch Interaction
  - Tangible Interaction
  - Mid-air Interaction
  - Hybrid Interaction

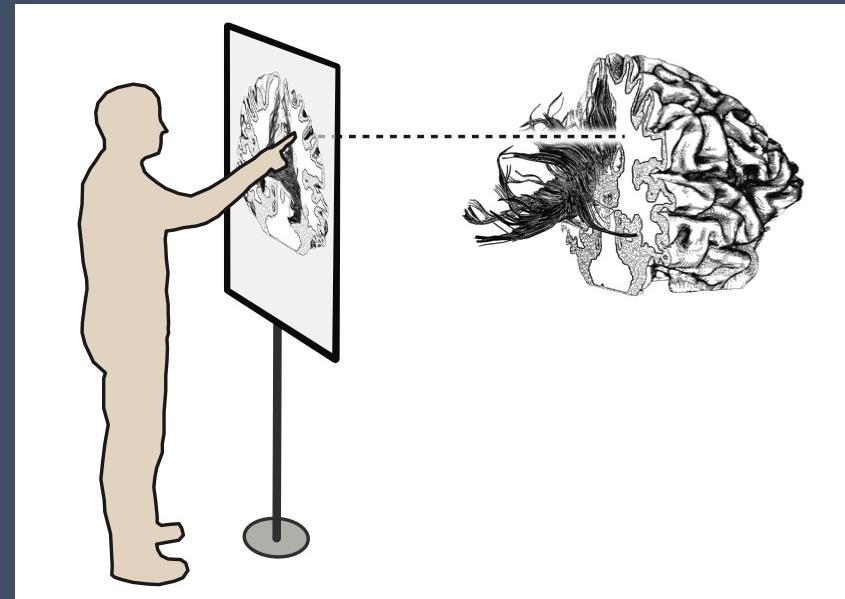
# Spatial Interaction

---

- Touch Interaction
- Tangible Interaction
- Mid-air Interaction
- Hybrid Interaction

# Touch / Pen-based Interaction

- Pros:
  - fast, precise, direct
  - increase the user's impression they are making direct manipulations
- Cons:
  - limited: used as a discrete interaction mechanism
  - limiting: many complex tasks (in particular for 3D manipulations) require input/control with more than three degrees of freedom



# Large vs Small Displays



(1)

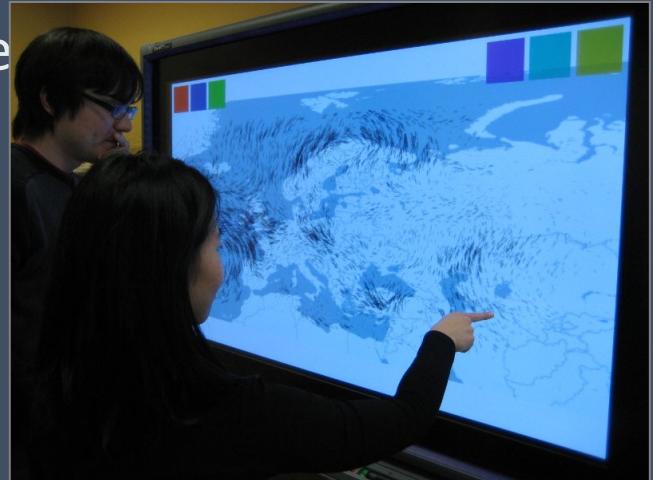


(2)

1. OpenSpace: Bringing NASA missions to the public. *IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications*, 2018
2. Glanceable Visualization: Studies of Data Comparison Performance on Smartwatches. *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*, 25(1):616–629, 2019.

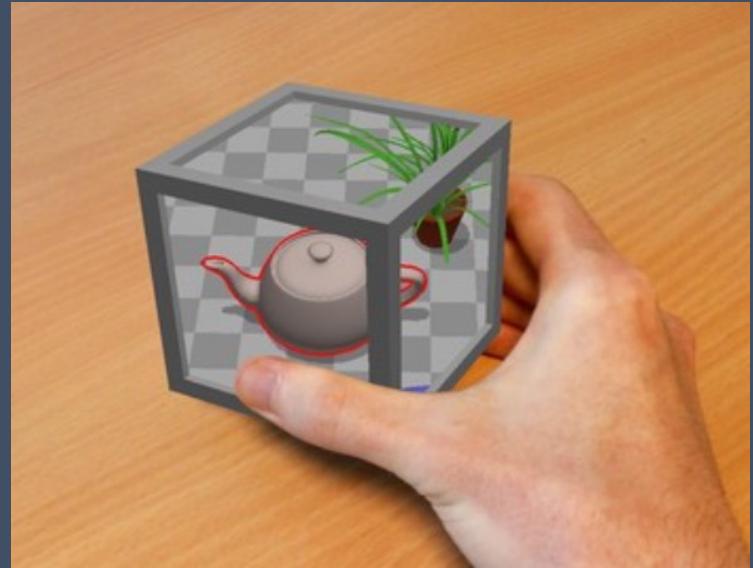
# Horizontal vs. Vertical Displays

- PC: display oriented vertically
  - (Horizontal) desktop shown on a (vertical) screen
- Wall displays: vertical orientation
  - White/black board
- Tabletop displays:
  - Tabletop
- Other orientations: tilted
  - Drafting boards



# Tangible Interaction

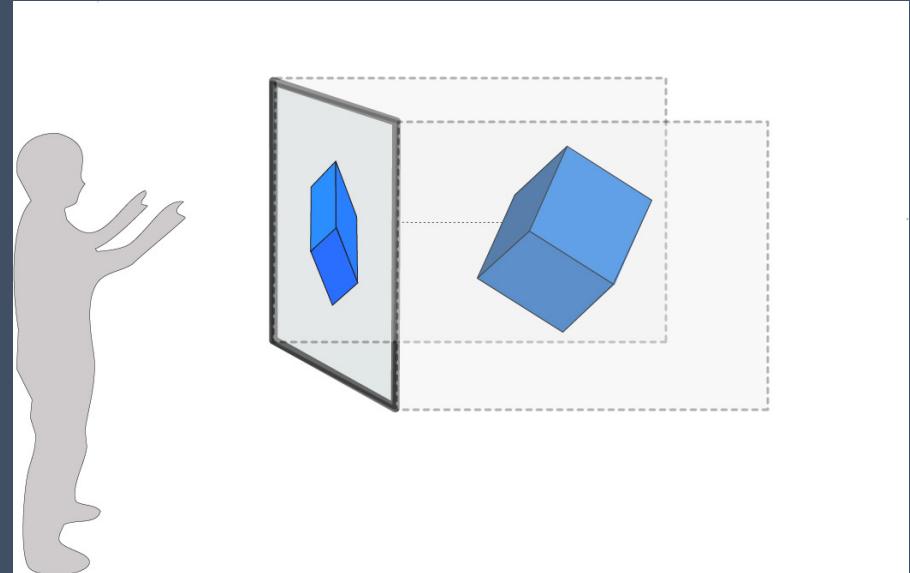
- allow users to achieve complex 3D manipulations with simple real-world style gestures
- more flexible than other interaction paradigms
- Manipulations with these devices can be programmed to feel realistic, as they would in the real world



**Issartel et. al.** *A Tangible Volume for Portable 3D Interaction*. In Adjunct Proceedings of the International Symposium on Mixed and Augmented Reality pages 215–220, 2016.

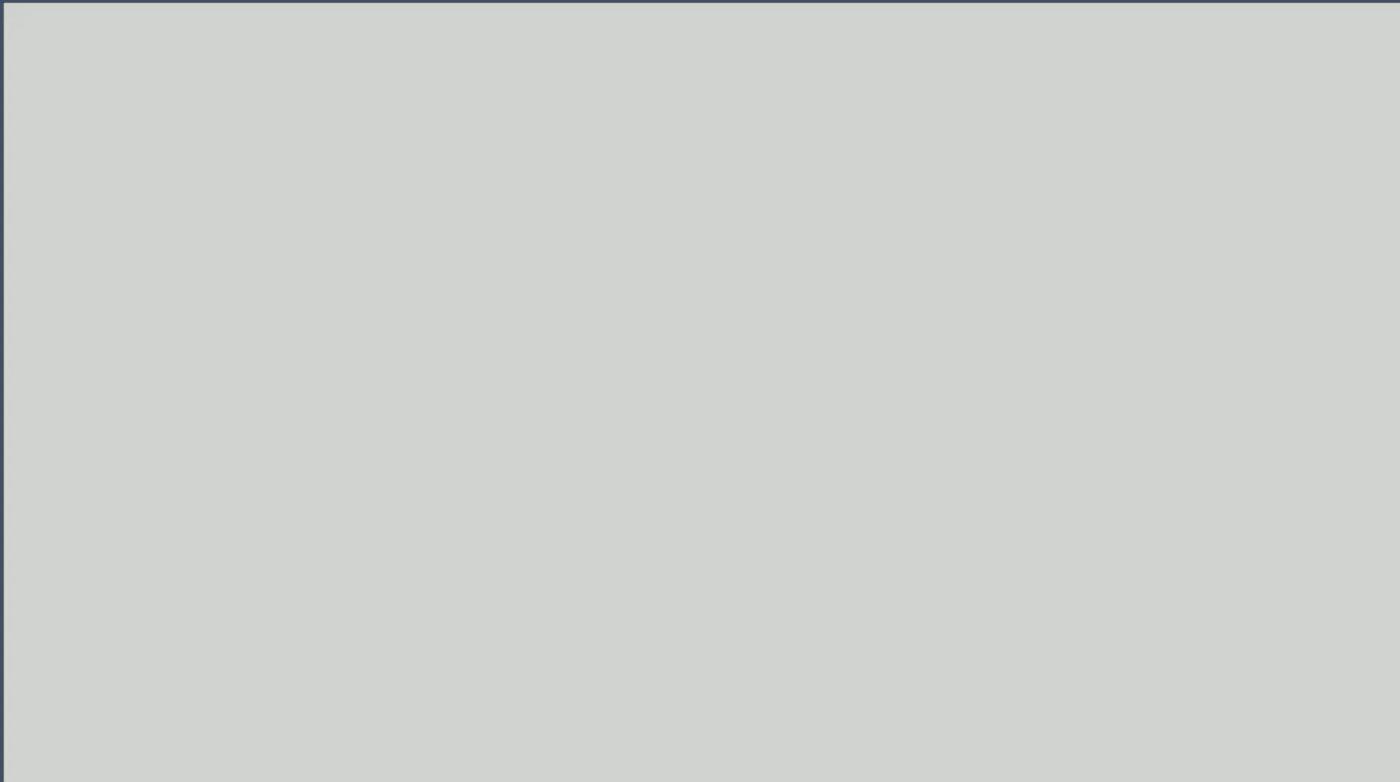
# Mid-air gestural interaction

- touchless interaction
- mimics the physical actions we make in the real world



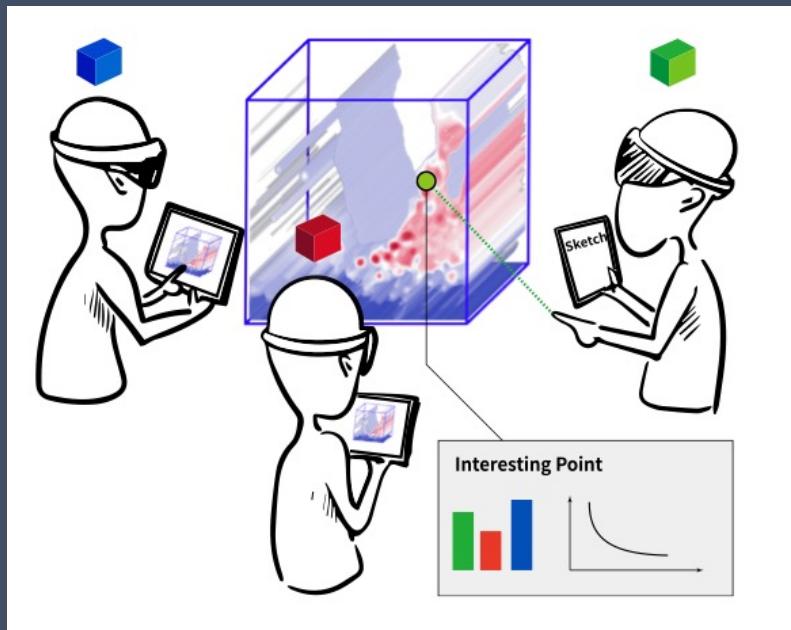
# Mid-air Interaction

- Finger-Level 3D Input: Leap Motion
  - 3D sensing on a smaller scale, smaller space
  - More precision: finger-accurate tracking



# Hybrid Interaction

- combine multiple interaction paradigms together
- overcome the inherent limitations of a device
  - augmenting the number of DOF that can be manipulated
  - reduce the occlusion limitation with tactile interaction
- combine the benefits of two interaction paradigms
- simply tackle complicated tasks



Sereno et. al Supporting Volumetric Data Visualization and Analysis by Combining Augmented Reality Visuals with Multi-Touch Input. In Posters at the Eurographics/IEEE VGTC Annual Visualization Conference (EuroVis), pages 21–23, 2019.

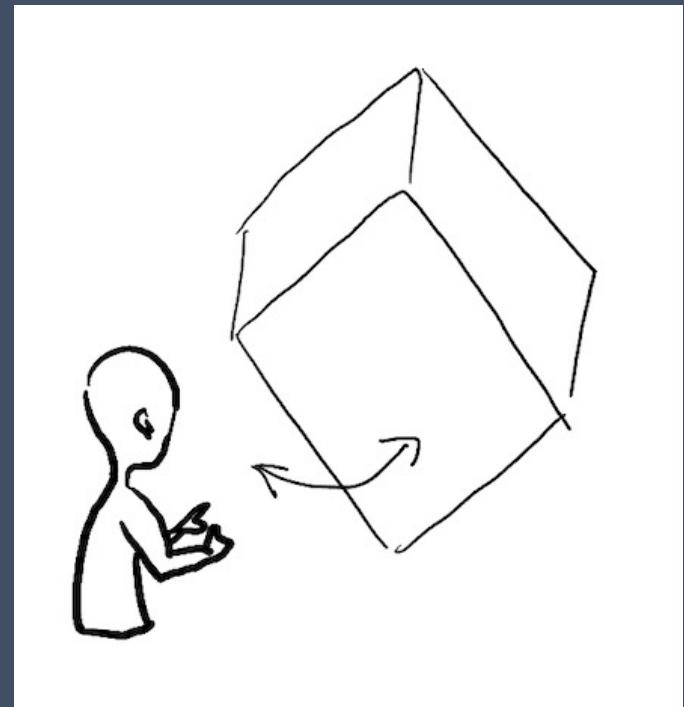
# Interaction Tasks for Visualization

---

- View and Object Manipulation
- Visualization Widgets Manipulation
- 3D Data Selection and Annotation

# Volumetric view & object manipulation

- Volumetric view and clipping manipulation tasks are fundamental to visualize spatial 3D data effectively
  - a single viewpoint, all of the important aspects of the data may be analyzed
  - adjust the viewpoint of the rendering(s) or to manipulate clipping planes within the data
- Manipulation of cutting planes or transfer function editors.



# Astronomical visualization

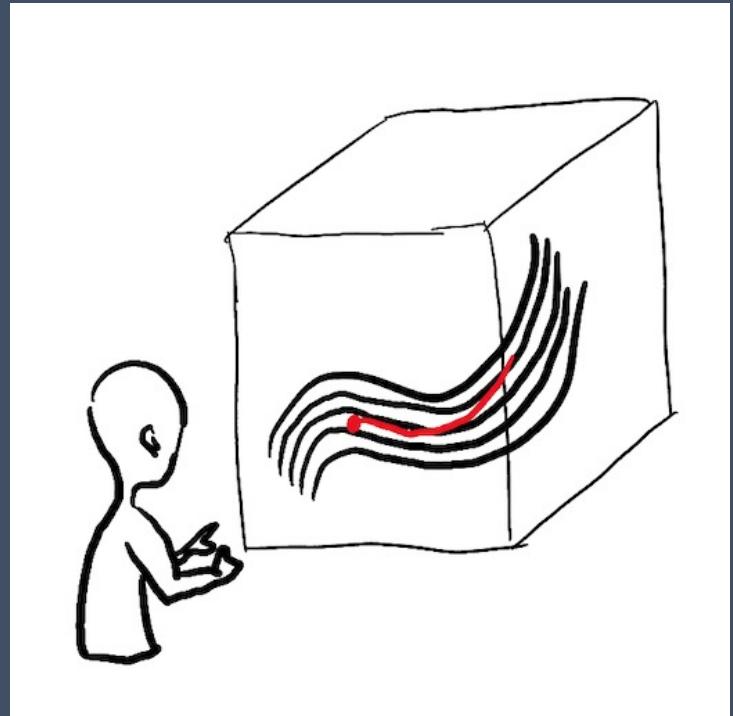


# Medical visualization



# Defining, placing, & manipulating visualization widgets

- visualization widgets is required to more deeply explore and interrogate the data
- virtual tools that are manipulable by users in much the same way as any traditional 2D or 3D user interface widget
- Cutting plane, particle seeding, 3D placement, magic lens, measurement widgets



# Flow visualization

## Continuous Navigation of Nested Abstraction Levels

Matthew van der Zwan Alexandru Telea Tobias Isenberg



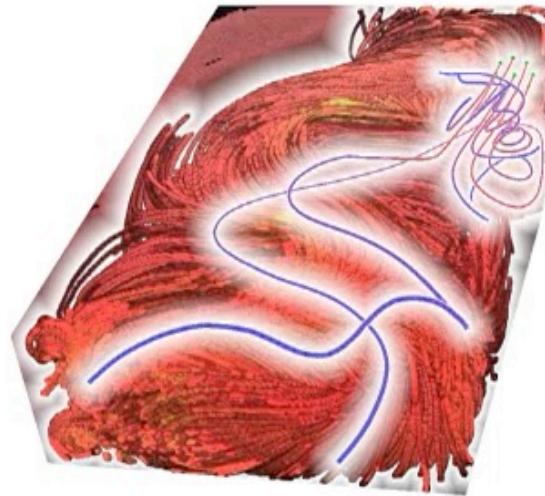
university of  
groningen

**digiteo**

Research in science and technology of information

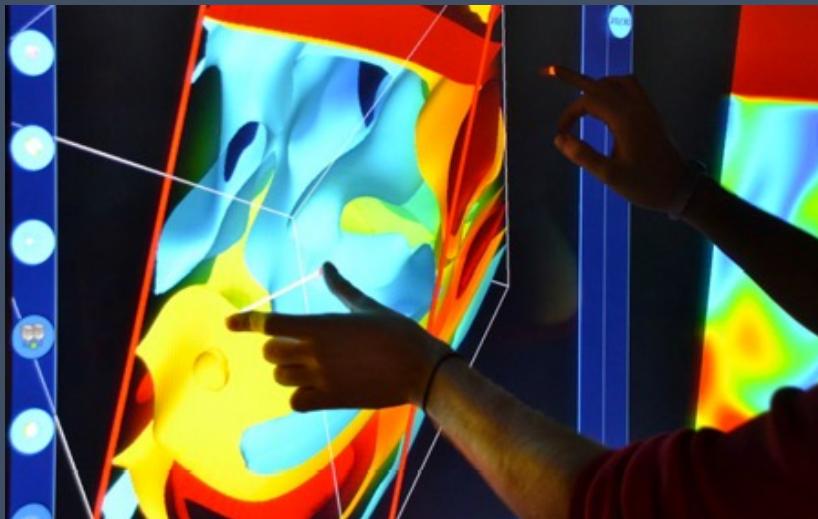


**inria**  
informatics mathematics

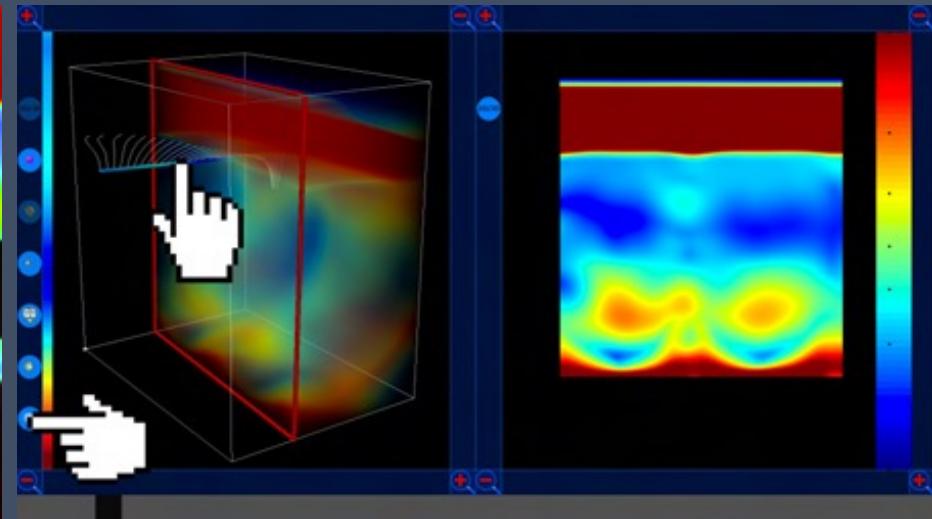


Matthew van der Zwan, Alexandru Telea, and Tobias Isenberg (2012) *Continuous Navigation of Nested Abstraction Levels*. In Miriah Meyer and Tino Weinkauf, eds., Short Paper Proceedings of the EG/IEEE VGTC Conference on Visualization (EuroVis, June 5-8, Vienna, Austria). Goslar, Germany. Eurographics Association, pages 13–17, 2012.

# Touch & Manipulation of Visualization Widgets



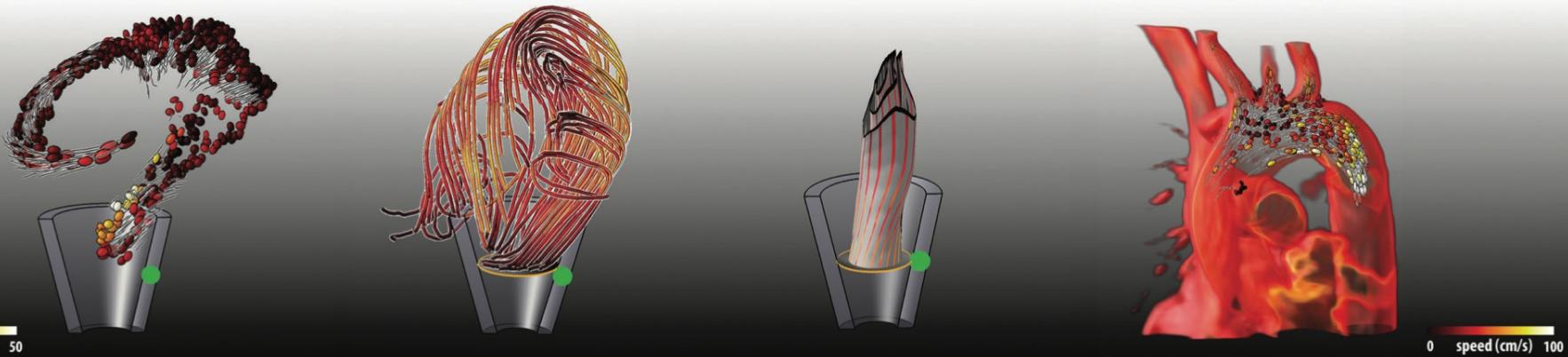
Cutting plane interaction



Drilling interaction

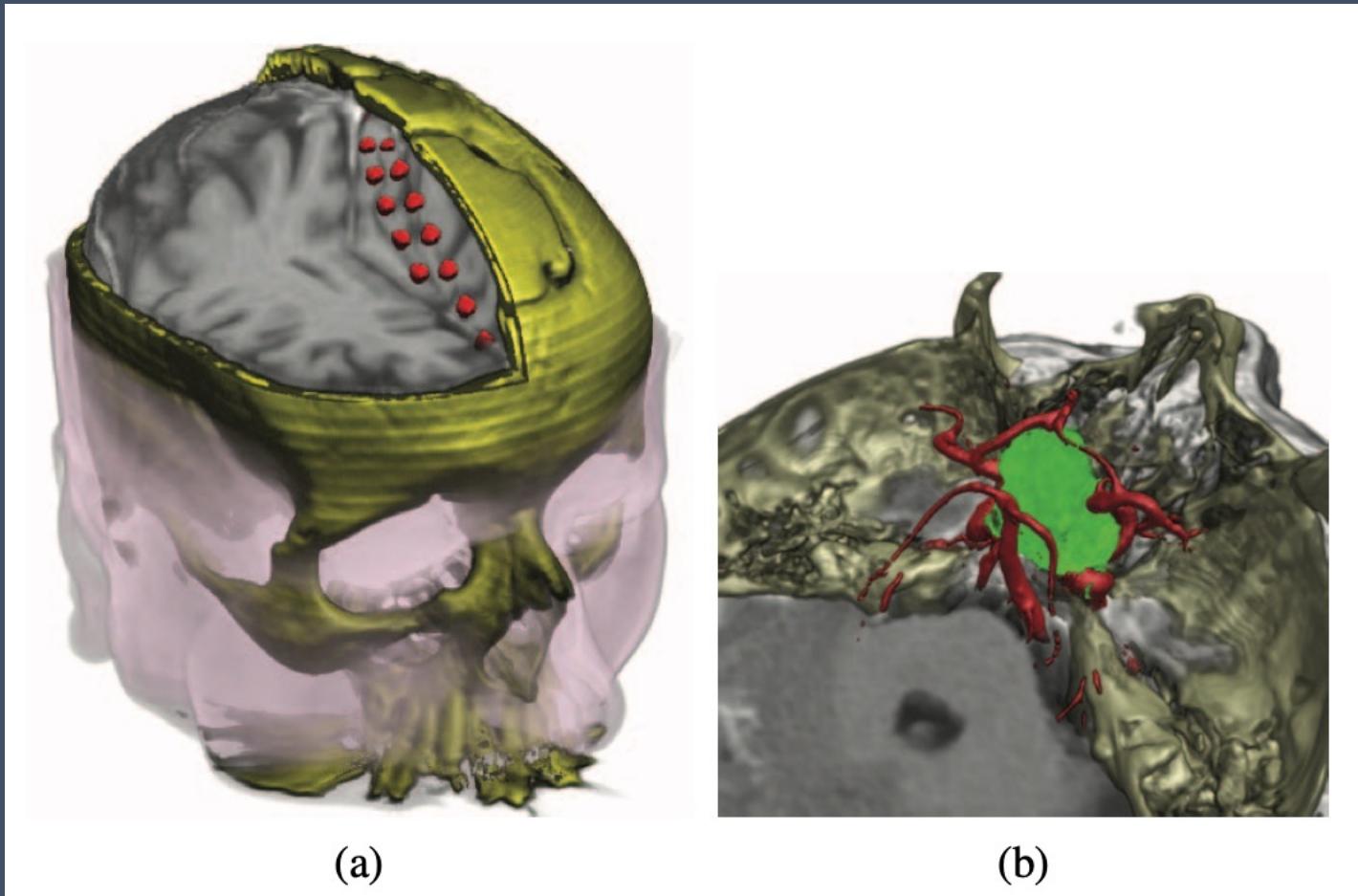
A design study of direct-touch interaction for exploratory 3D scientific visualization. Computer Graphics Forum 31, 3 (June 2012), 1225–1234

# Defining, placing, & manipulating visualization widgets



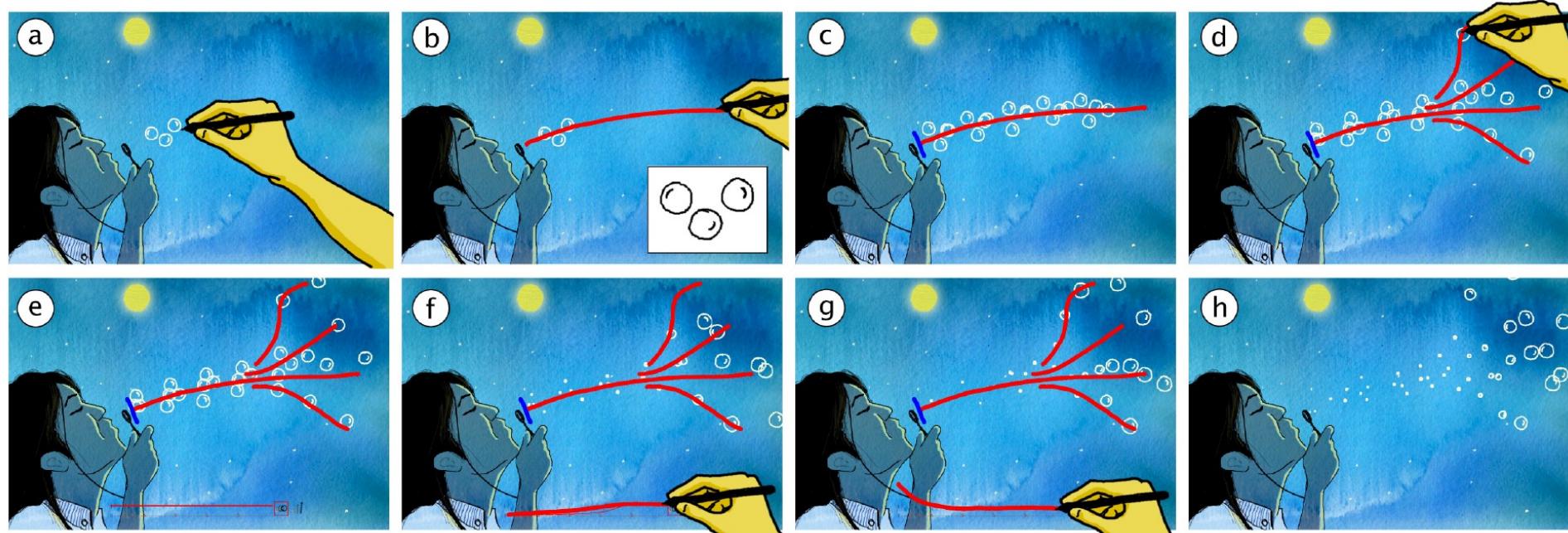
R. van Pelt *et al.*, "Interactive Virtual Probing of 4D MRI Blood-Flow," in *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*, vol. 17, no. 12, pp. 2153-2162, Dec. 2011, doi: 10.1109/TVCG.2011.215.

# Defining, placing, & manipulating visualization widgets



J. Beyer, M. Hadwiger, S. Wolfsberger and K. Bühler, "High-Quality Multimodal Volume Rendering for Preoperative Planning of Neurosurgical Interventions," in *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*, vol. 13, no. 6, pp. 1696-1703, Nov.-Dec. 2007, doi: 10.1109/TVCG.2007.70560.

# Transfer function



Draco: Bringing Life to Illustrations with Kinetic

# Transfer function

## Semantics by Analogy for Illustrative Volume Visualization

*Moritz Gerl*

*Peter Rautek*

*Tobias Isenberg*

*M. Eduard Gröller*



university of  
groningen

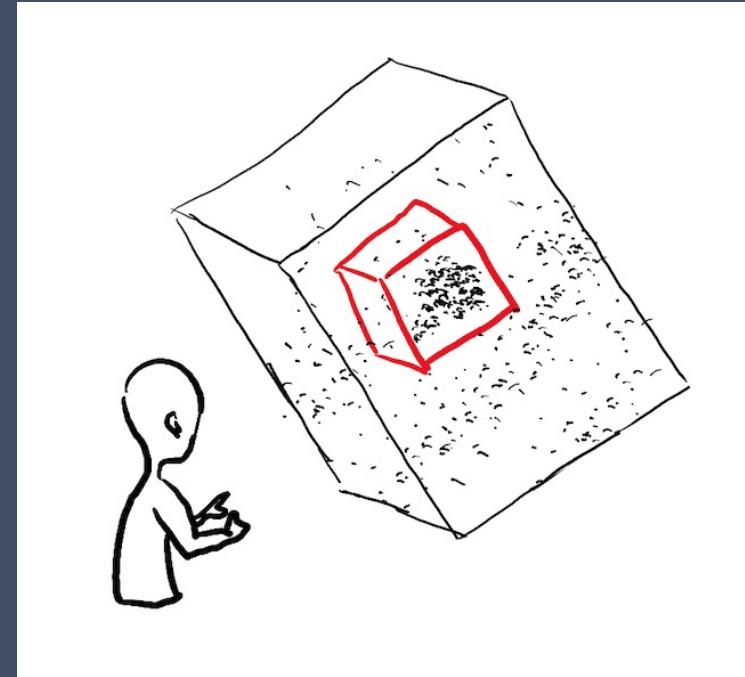


TECHNISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
WIEN  
Vienna University of Technology



# 3D data selection & annotation

- Selection: the first step in accessing deeper information about some subset or feature of the 3D spatial data
- Annotation: insights or questions



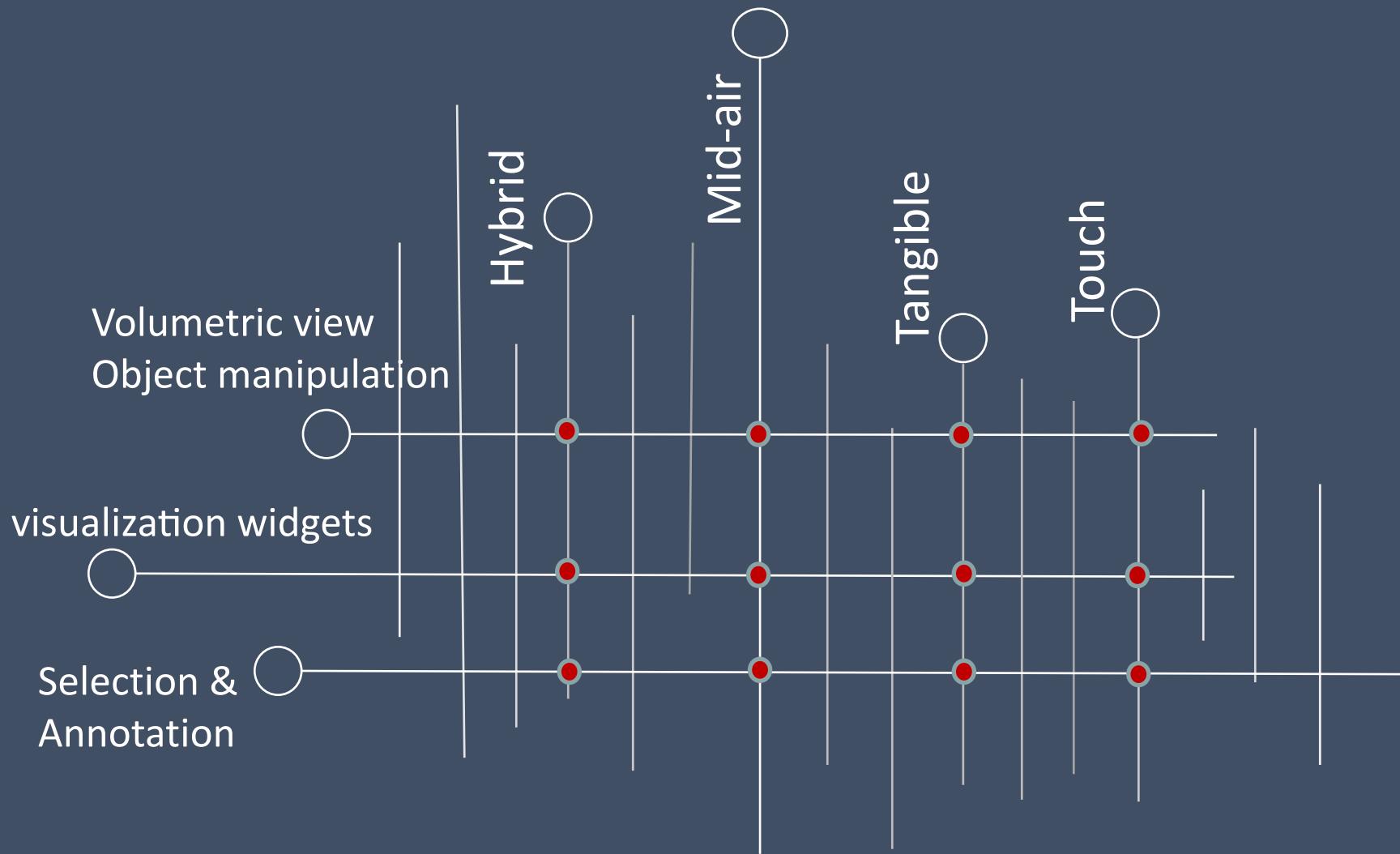
# Annotation

## HyperLabels: Browsing of Dense and Hierarchical Molecular 3D Models

IEEE TVCG

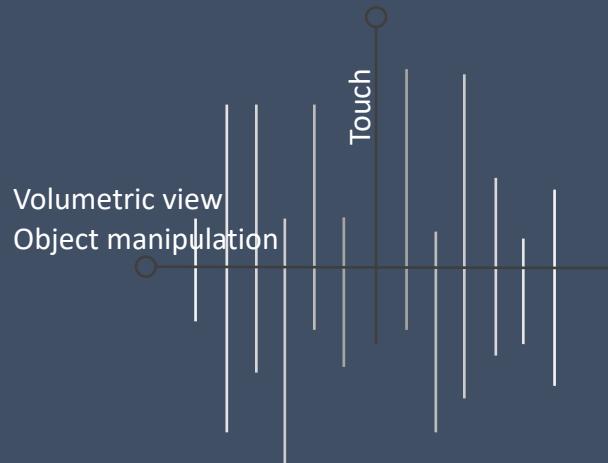
David Kouřil, Tobias Isenberg, Barbora Kozlíková, Miriah Meyer, M. Eduard Gröller, and Ivan Viola (2021) *HyperLabels—Browsing of Dense and Hierarchical Molecular 3D Models*. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, 27, 2021. To appear.

# Spatial interaction for 3D visualization



# Touch/pen Interaction & Volumetric view / object manipulation

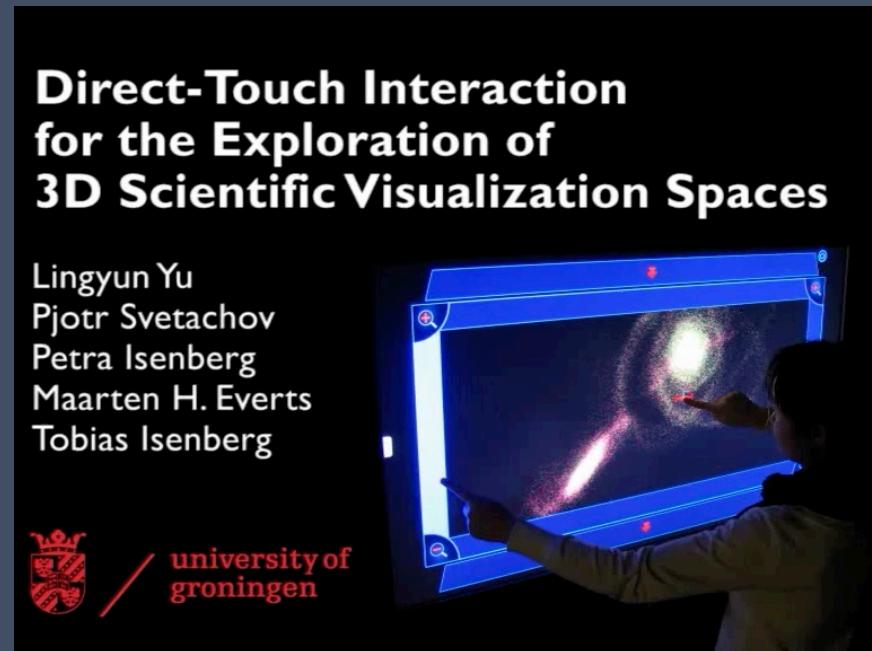
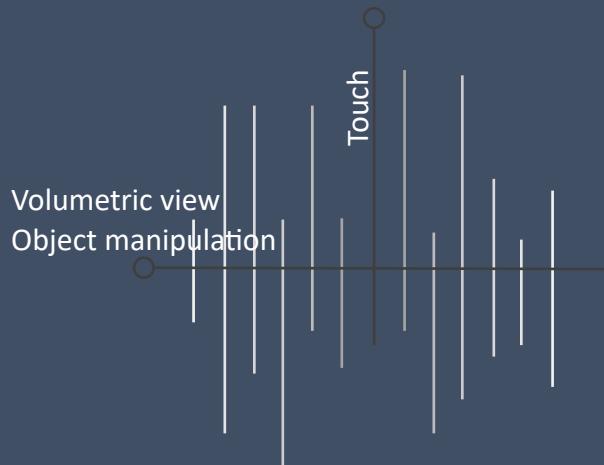
- Separate and constrain DOFs
- Precise control
- Combine with pressure



Supporting Sandtray Therapy on an Interactive Tabletop. CHI 2010

# Touch/pen Interaction & Volumetric view / object manipulation

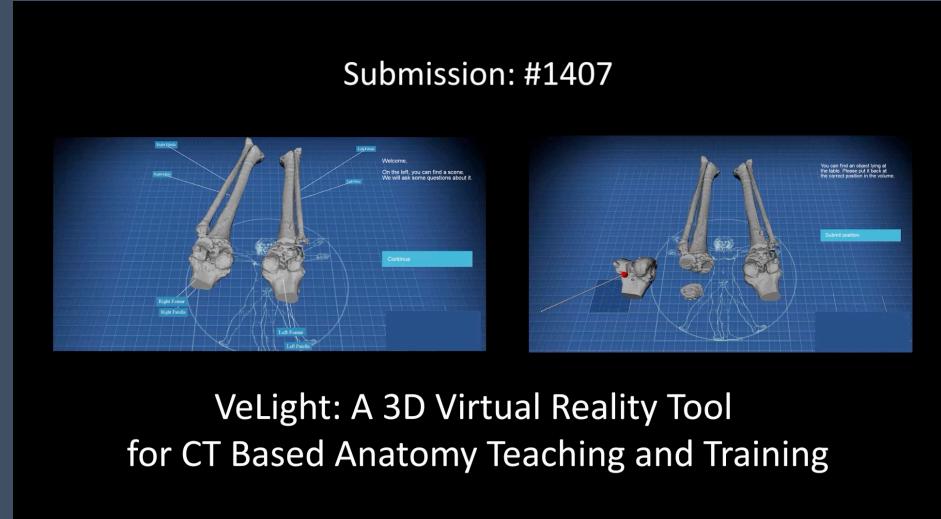
- Separate and constrain DOFs
- Precise control
- Combine with pressure



Yu et.al. FI3D: Direct-Touch Interaction for the Exploration of 3D Scientific Visualization Spaces. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, 16(6):1613–1622, November/December 2010.

# Tangible interaction & Volumetric view / object manipulation

- props used as intuitive proxies for manipulating data and slicing planes
- constraining the interaction (not utilizing all 6-DOF) can often be useful



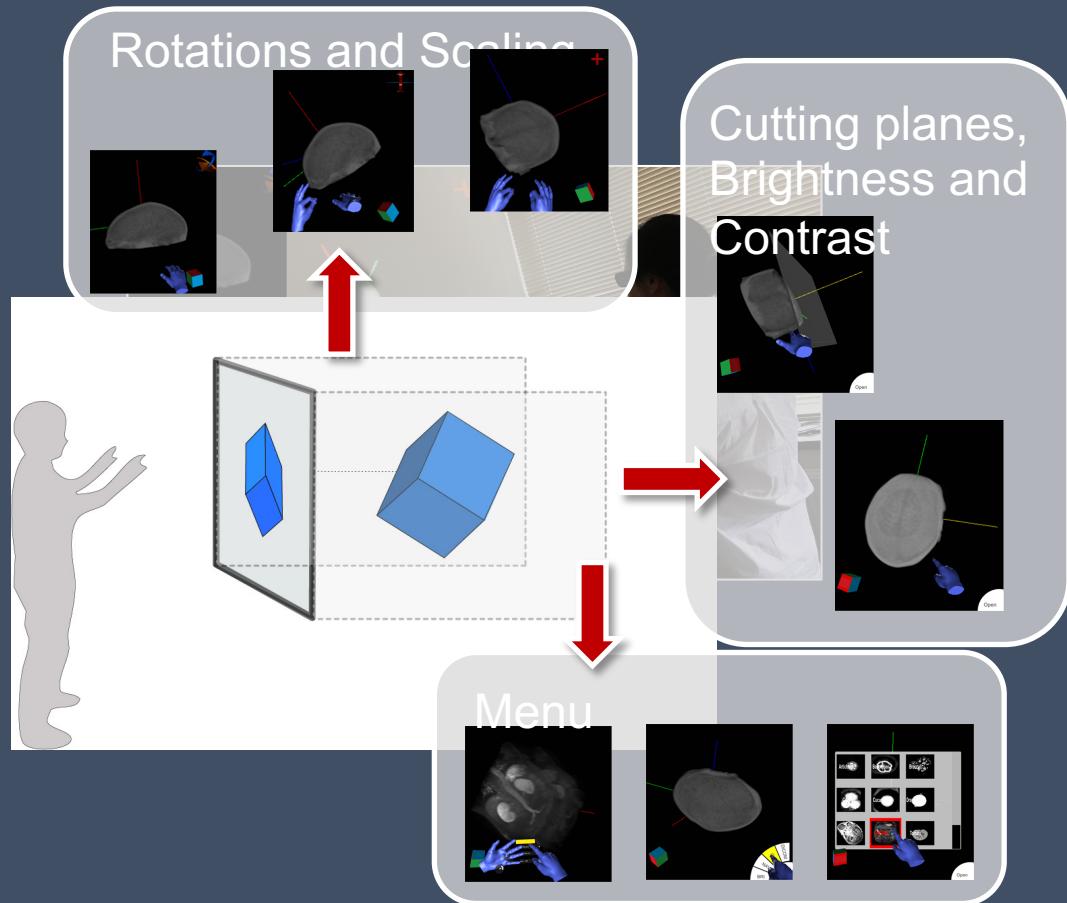
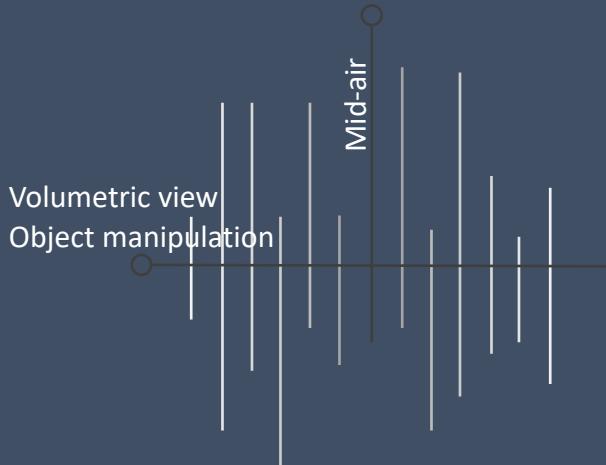
# Hybrid Interaction

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- The idea to combine different interaction techniques and devices was suggested and investigated in the 1990s and 2000s.
- The combinations of techniques: pressure and touch interaction, touch and tangible interaction, mid-air interaction and touch interaction, mid-air interaction and tangible interaction, etc.
- The **benefits** includes:
  - reduce the occlusion issue of touch interaction;
  - combine the benefits of two (or many) interaction paradigms;
  - tackle complicated tasks.

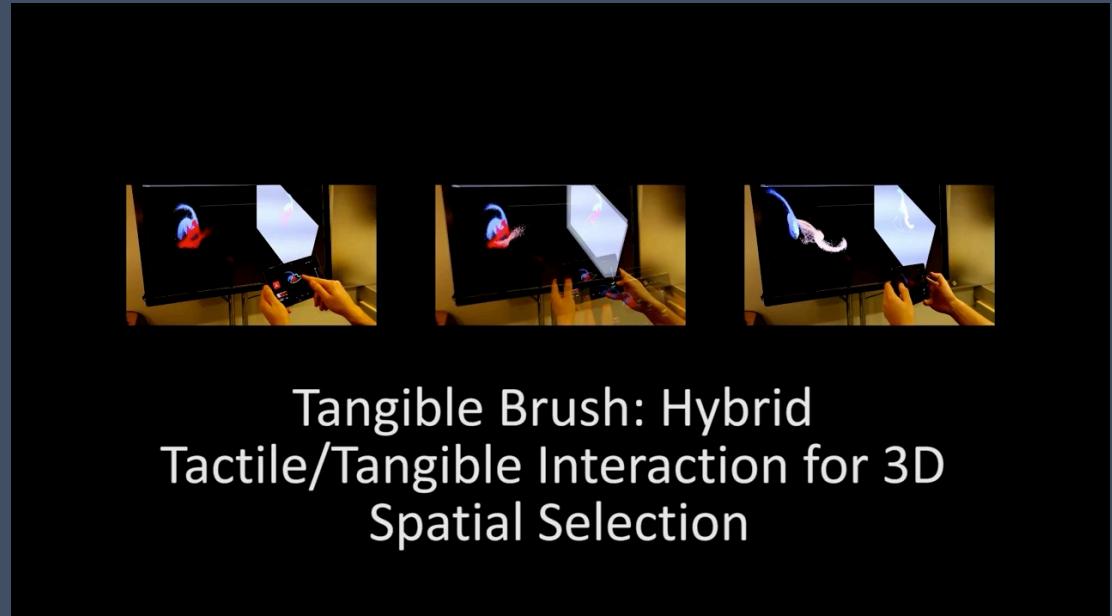
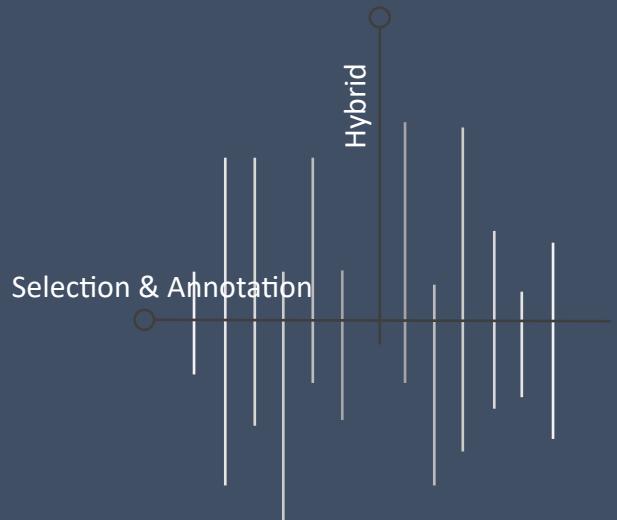
# Mid-air interaction & Volumetric view / object manipulation

- natural 3D manipulations
- constrained by the application domain
- Receive little attention



# Hybrid interaction & Selection / Annotation

- More flexible

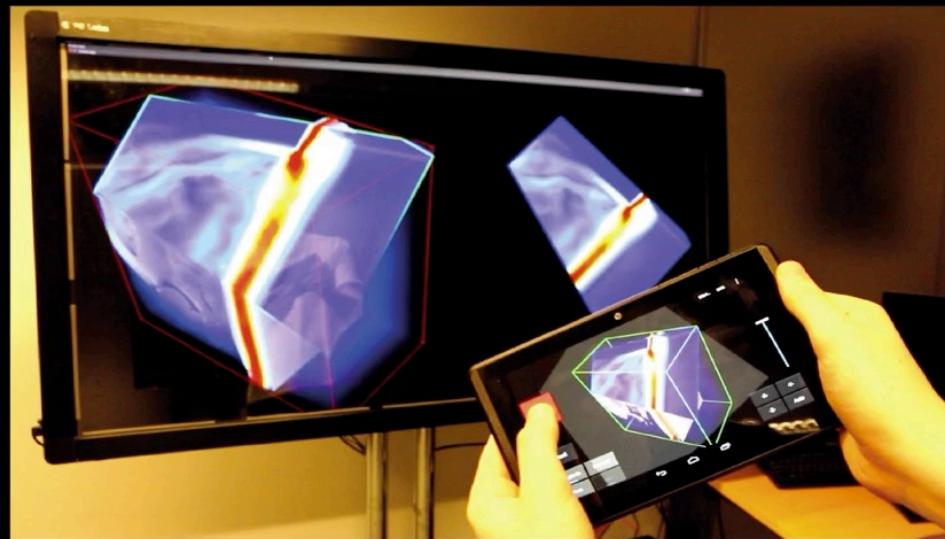


BESANÇON L., SERENO M., YU L., AMMI M., ISENBERG T.: Hybrid touch/tangible spatial 3D data selection. Computer Graphics Forum 38, 3 (June 2019), 553–567.

# Hybrid Interaction & Manipulation of Visualization Widgets

## Hybrid Tactile/Tangible Interaction for 3D Data Exploration

Lonni Besançon  
Paul Issartel  
Mehdi Ammi  
Tobias Isenberg



Hybrid tactile/tangible interaction for 3D data exploration. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics 23, 1 (Jan. 2017), 881–890.

# Future work

Opportunities for future research

# Previously...

---

- A lot of work has been done in 2D data interaction.
- 3D interaction is more challenging when applied to complex features or structures of 3D datasets.
- 3D interaction becomes more interesting when taking users' intention into consideration.

# Context/Structure aware Interactions

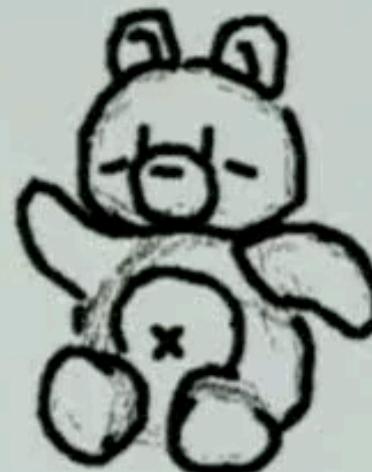
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*Point cloud selection methods*

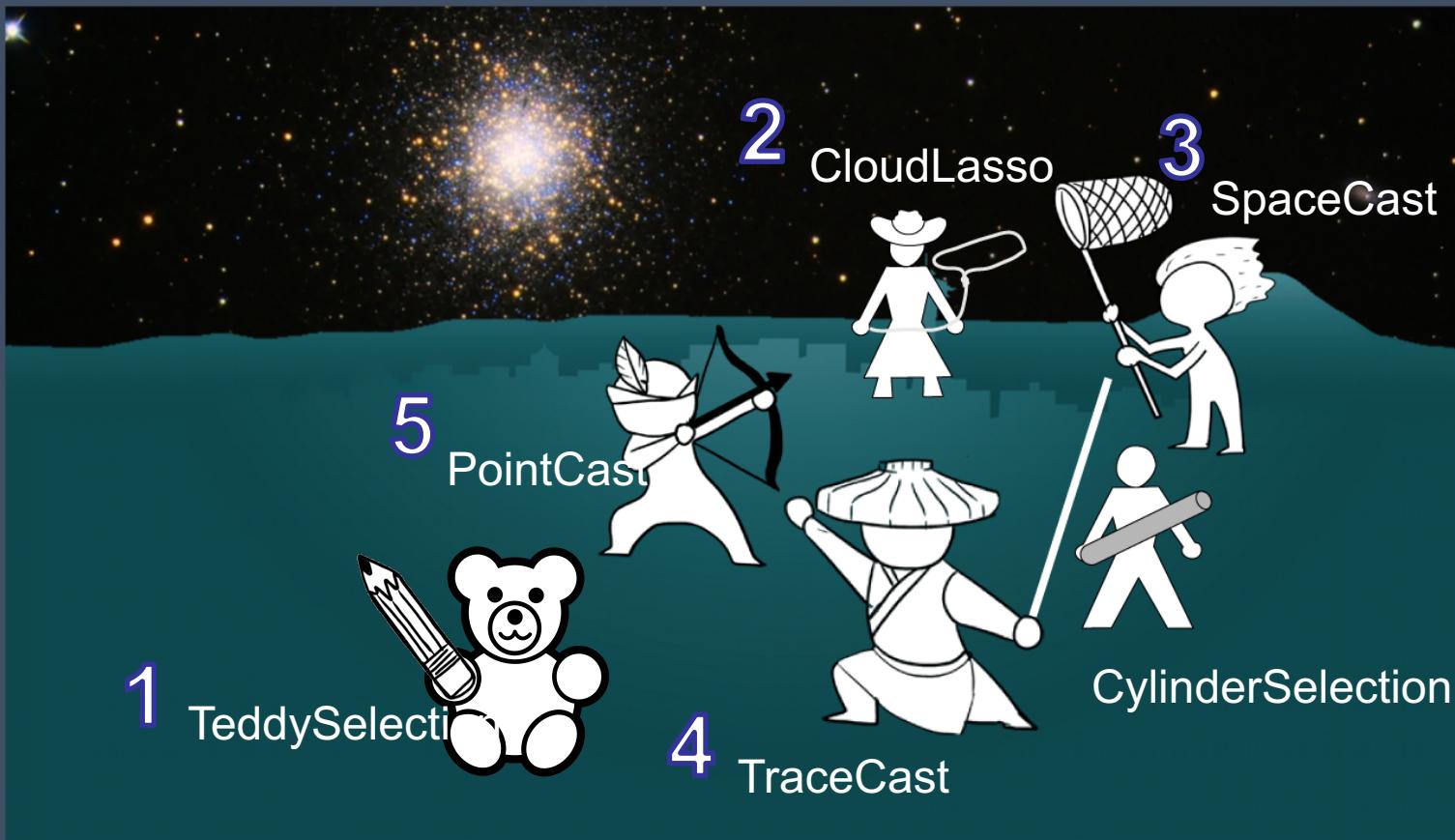
# Teddy

## Teddy: A Sketching Interface for 3D Freeform Design

Takeo Igarashi  
Hidehiko Tanaka  
Satoshi Matsuoka



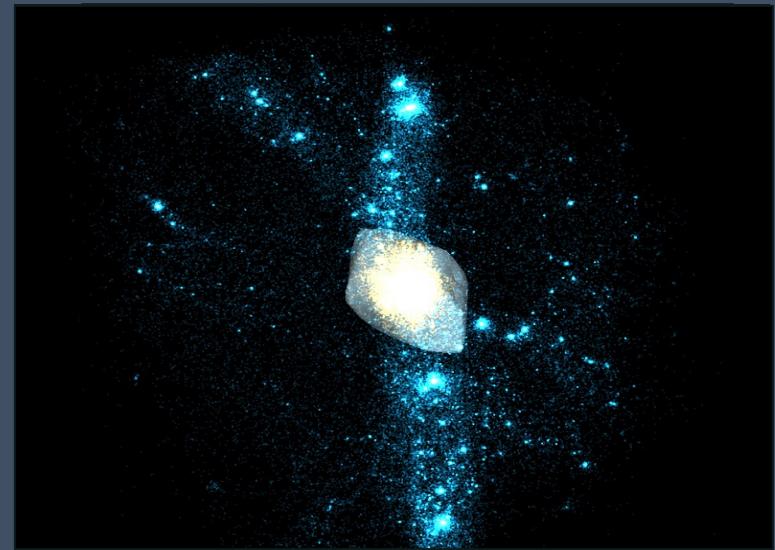
# Particle selection techniques



- Efficient Structure-Aware Selection Techniques for 3D Point Cloud Visualizations with 2DOF Input [Yu et al., 2012].
- CAST: Effective and Efficient User Interaction for Context-Aware Selection in 3D Particle Clouds. [Yu et al., 2016].

# The Problem: Selection of 3D Subspaces

- 3D spatial data - basis of many visualization research questions
- **problem:** why/how to efficiently select subspaces in 3D?
  - raycasting requires large objects
  - want spatial selection from 2D (Tablet Freehand Lasso)
  - iterative selection too tedious



Wingreen & Stavropoulos, 2005  
Cylinder Selection

# Interactive Selection Techniques

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- *spatial selection* rather than object-based selection
- *two-dimensional input* (PC, touch displays)
- *2D lasso* interaction: *intended* selection
- *structure-aware selection* in 3D depth

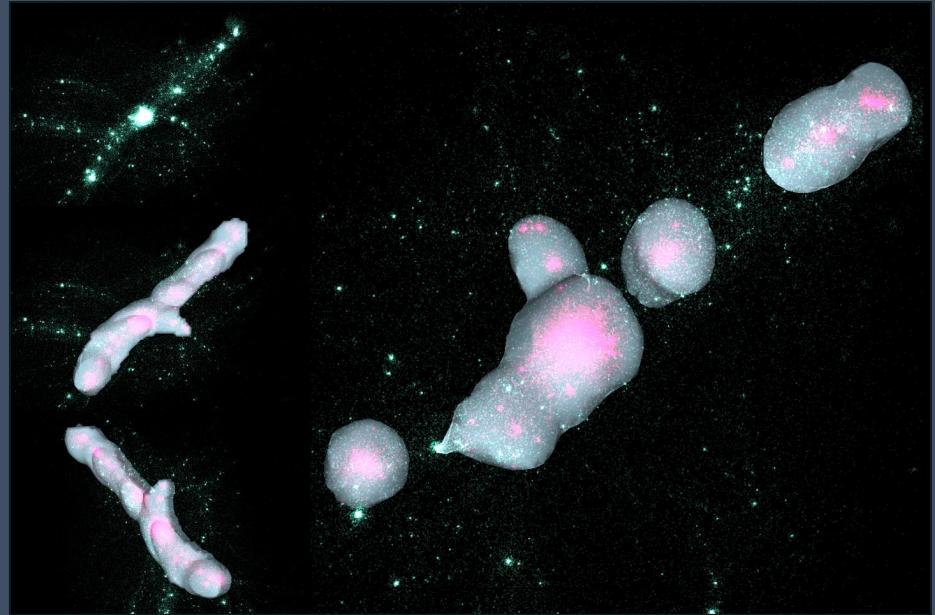
# Cloudlasso

- *spatial, structure-aware* 3D selection techniques
- *2D lasso* interaction:
  - particle density or the scalar properties of volume data
  - Select all dense clusters through the 3D space that is enclosed by the drawn lasso



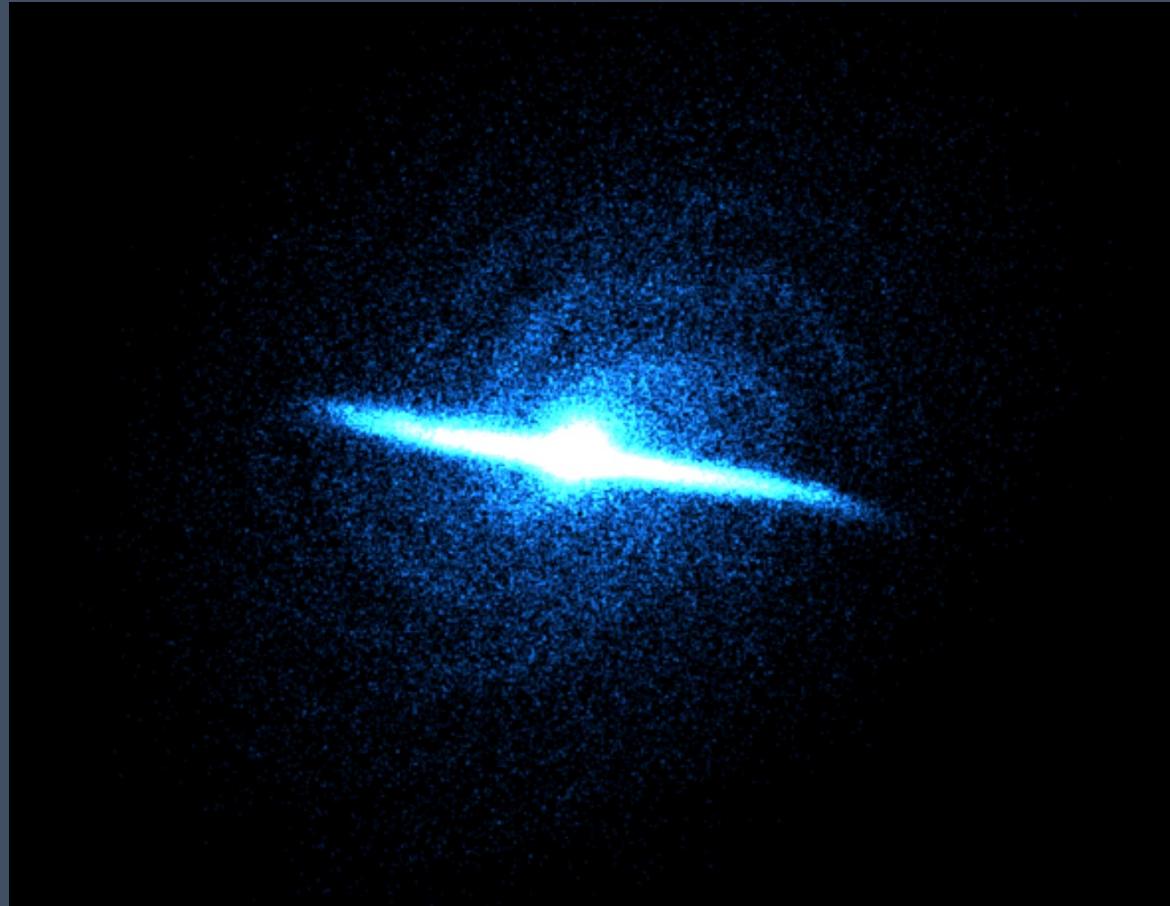
# Cloudlasso

- structure-aware selection
- separate clusters
- interactive adjustment of selection threshold
- performance:  
Marching Cubes:  $\approx 0.4$  sec.  
density estimation:  
 $4\text{--}6$  sec. for  $\approx 2 \bullet 10^5$  particles



# Video: CloudLasso Selection & Interaction

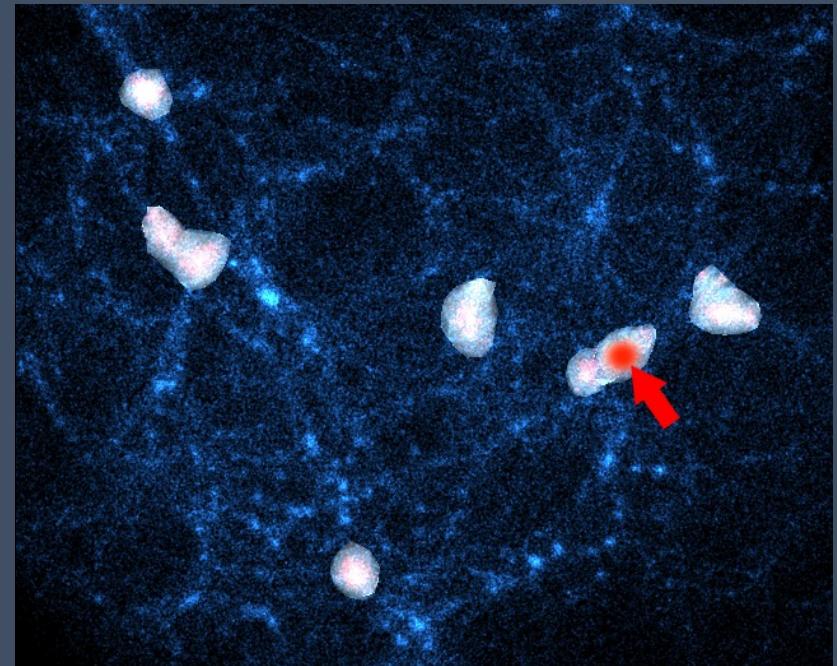






# Cast family

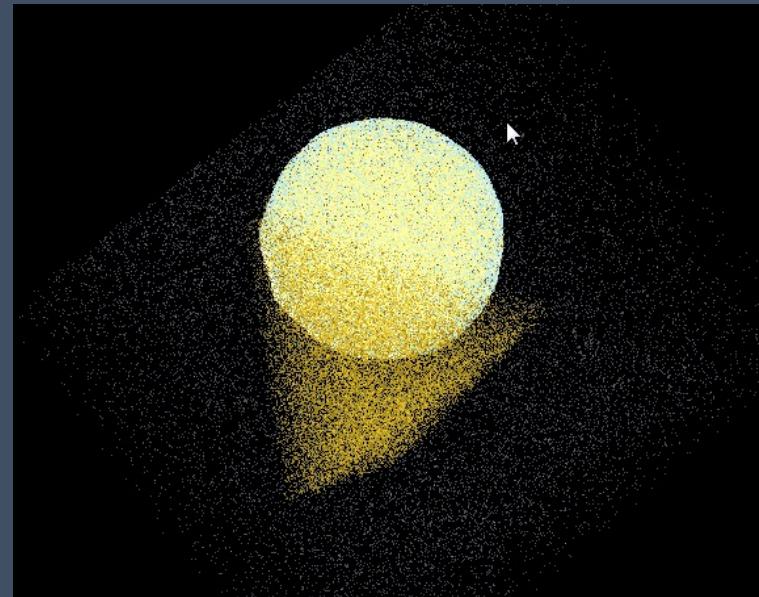
- *spatial, context-aware* selection techniques
  - Input : 2D lasso / point
  - Location or shape
  - Output: *intended* 3D selection



SpanCast

# SpaceCast

- the idea: Selecting only the part that has the best overlap with the input lasso.
- principle:
  - identify the volume set  $V$  where the density  $\rho$  is above the threshold  $\rho_0$  (only consider the regions inside of the lasso)
  - project each volume  $V_k$  to an area  $S_k$  on the screen
  - compare to the  $SL$ , compute the overlap
  - identify  $S_{kM}$  that has the maximal overlap and determine the selection volume to be  $V_{kM}$

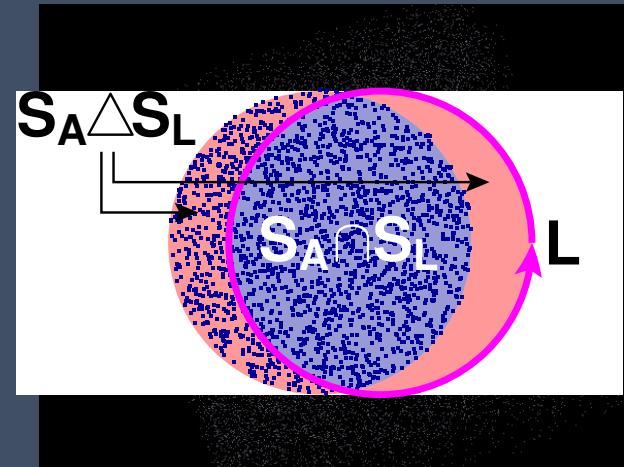


# Video: SpaceCast

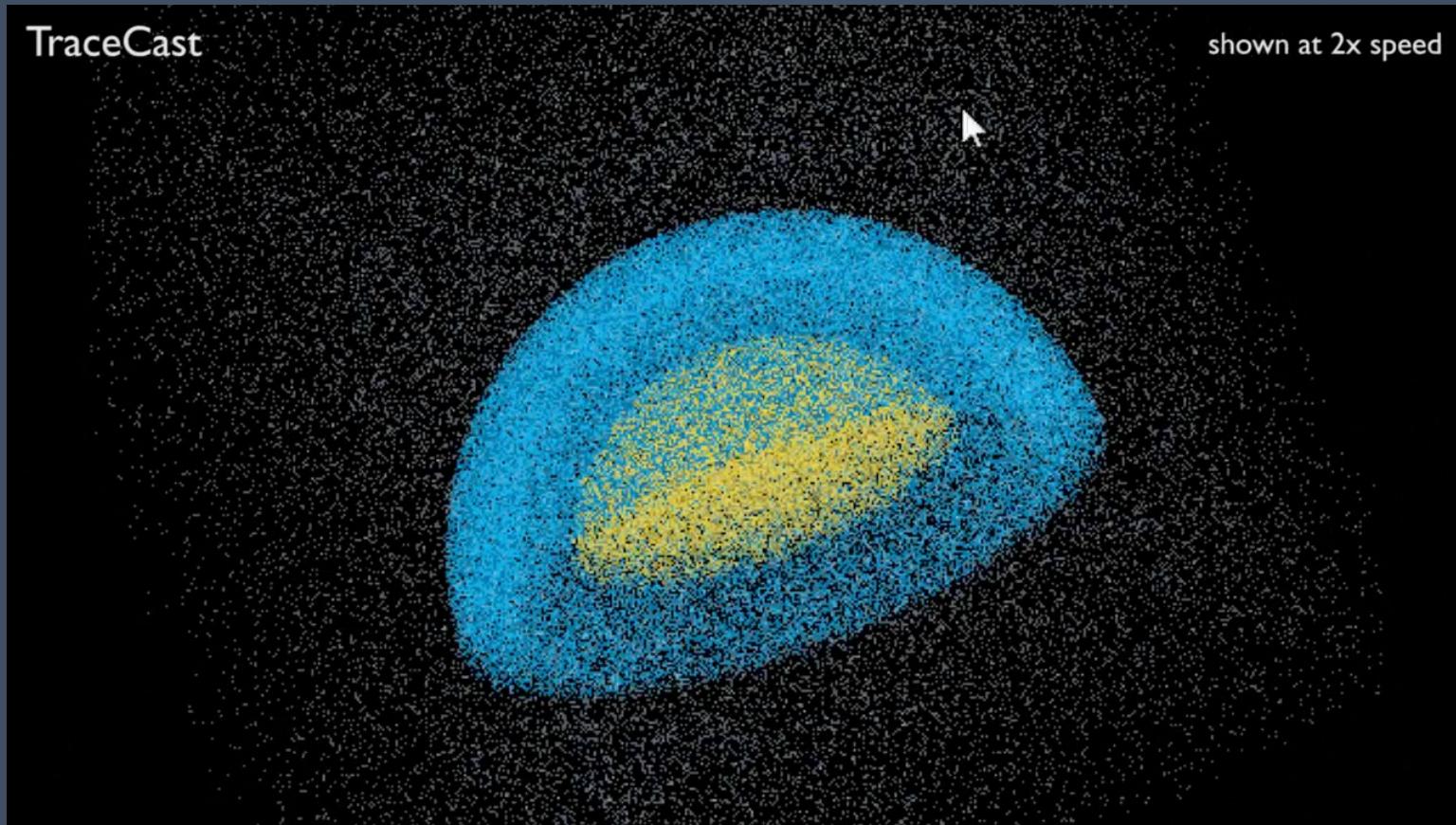


# TraceCast

- the idea: Selecting the candidate cluster whose 2D projection is best approximated by the drawn stroke.
- principle:
  - identify the volume set  $V$  (consider the regions outside  $F$ ).
  - project each volume  $V_k$  to an area  $S_k$  on the screen
  - compare to the  $SL$ , compute the overlap  $M_k = \text{area}(S_k \cap SL) - \text{area}(S_k \Delta SL)$
  - identify  $M_k$  that has the maximal overlap and determine the selection volume to be  $V_k M$

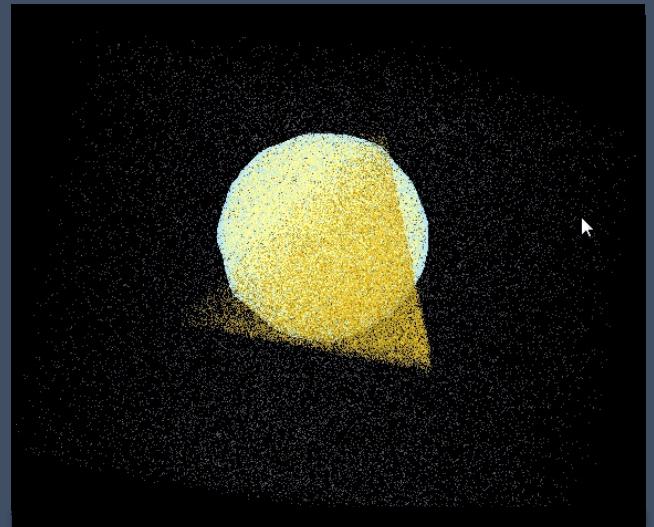


# Video: TraceCast



# PointCast

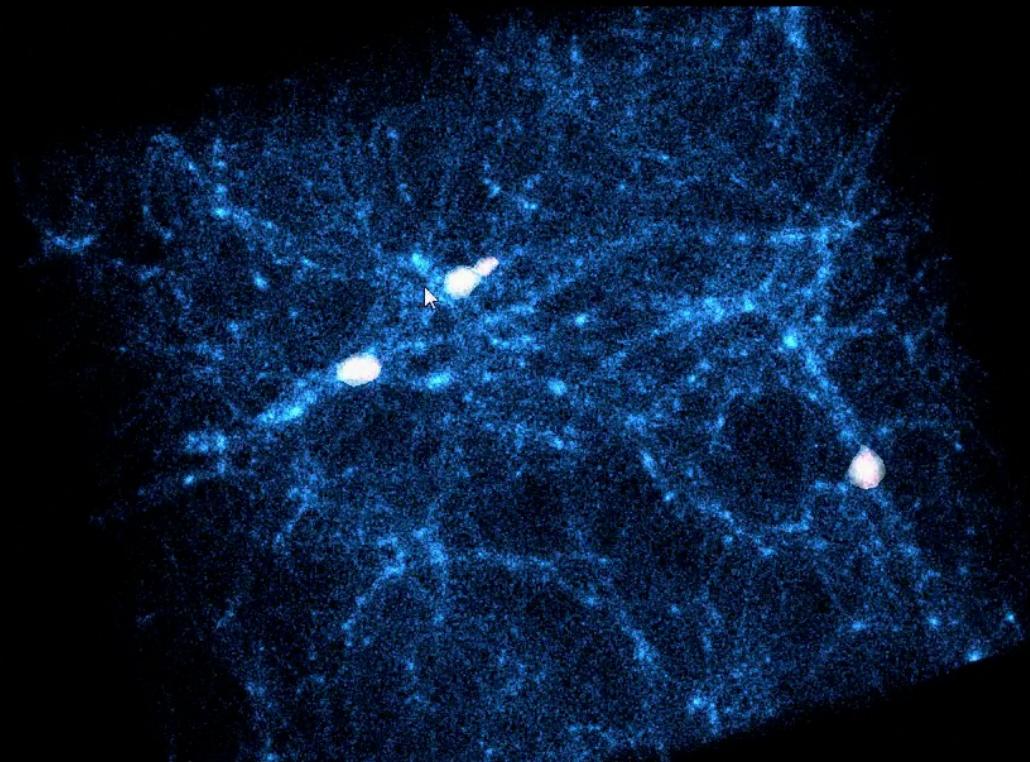
- the idea: a single click or touch action to mark a cluster.
- principle:
  - project a ray into the dataset.
  - sample the particle density  $\rho$  at equally spaced points along the ray.
  - identify clusters along this ray.
  - select the closest one.



# Video: PointCast

PointCast

shown at 2x speed

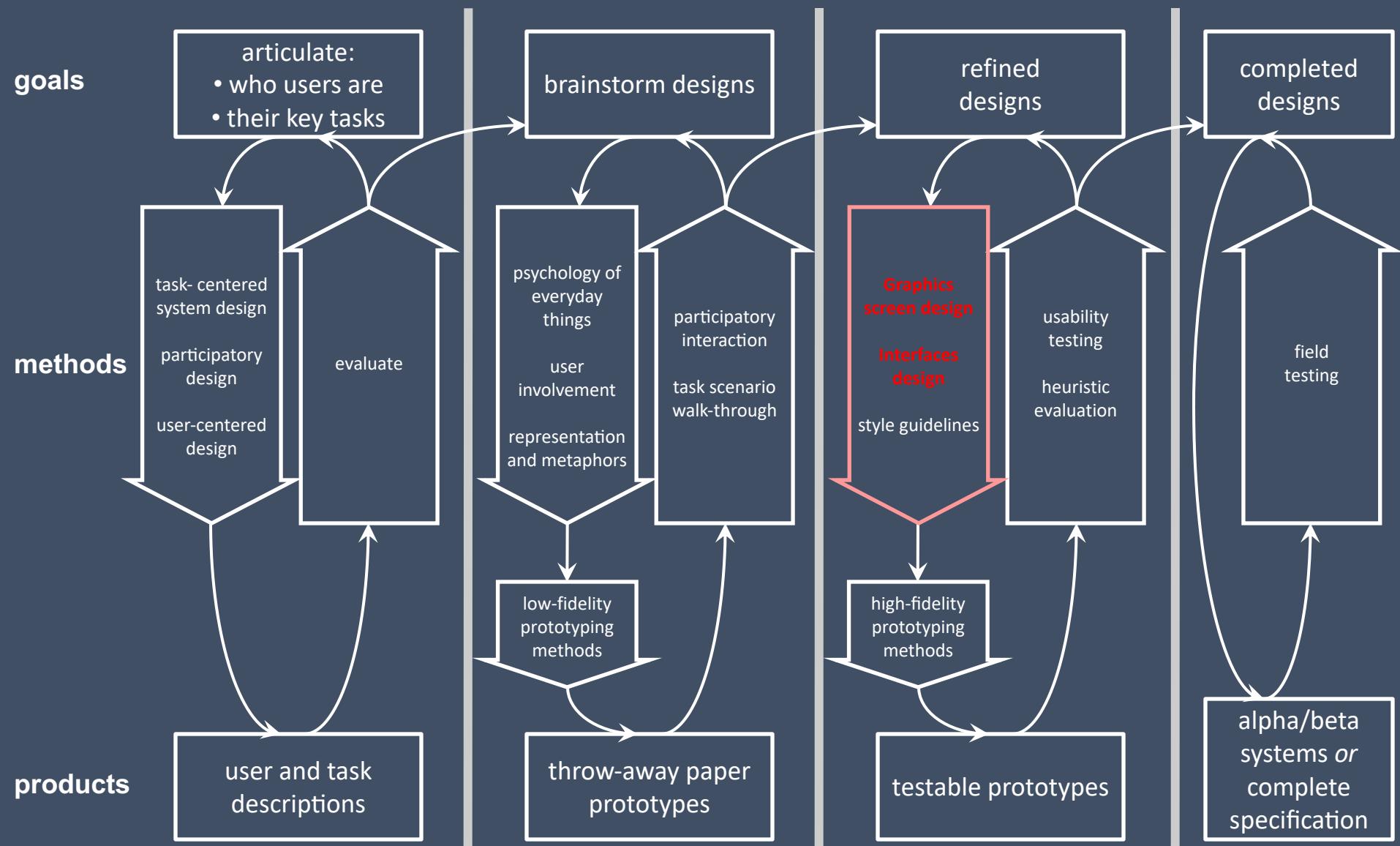


data: Millennium-II simulation

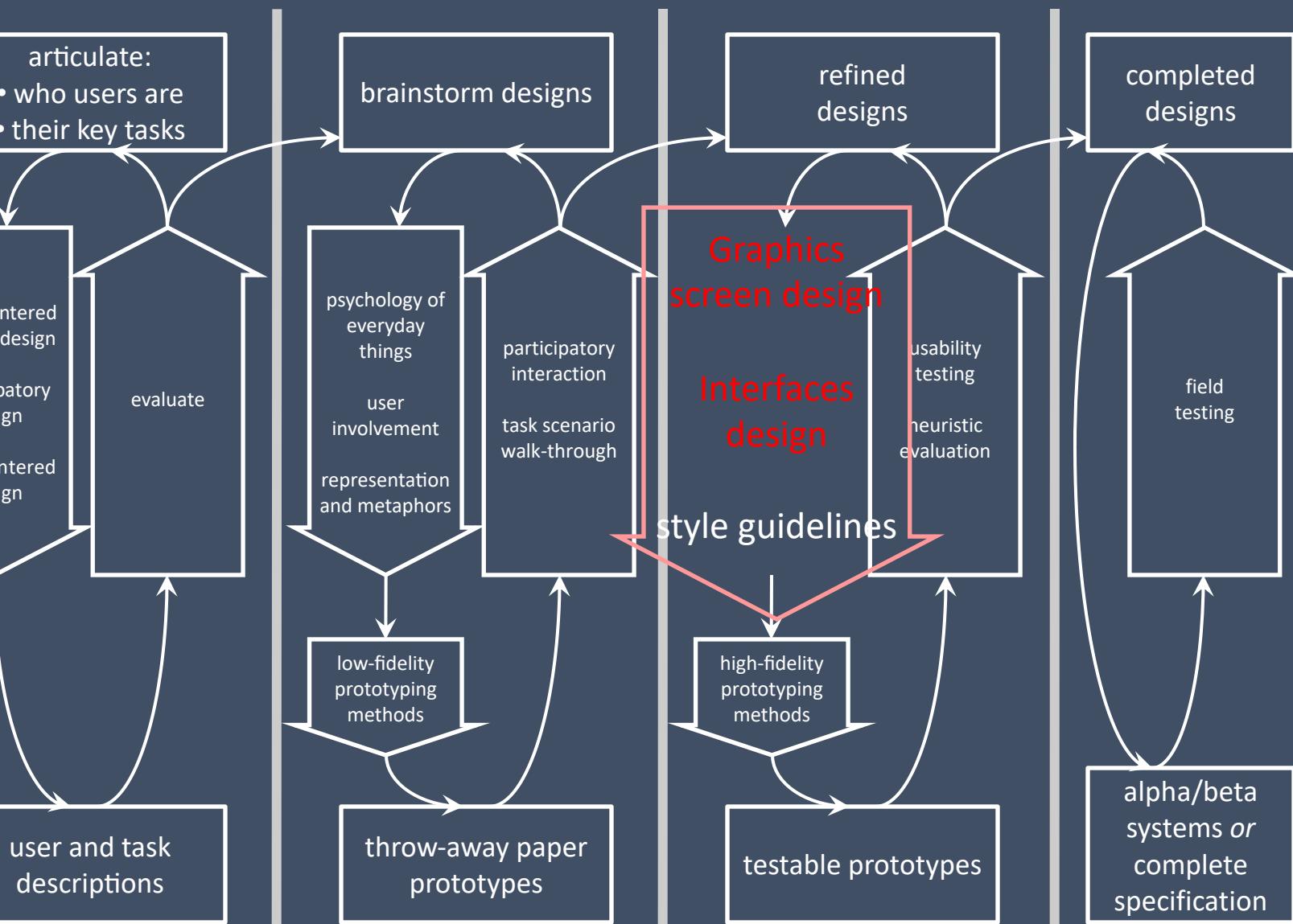
## Comparison between WYSIWYP and picking most contributing position

*MRI scan of the abdomen*

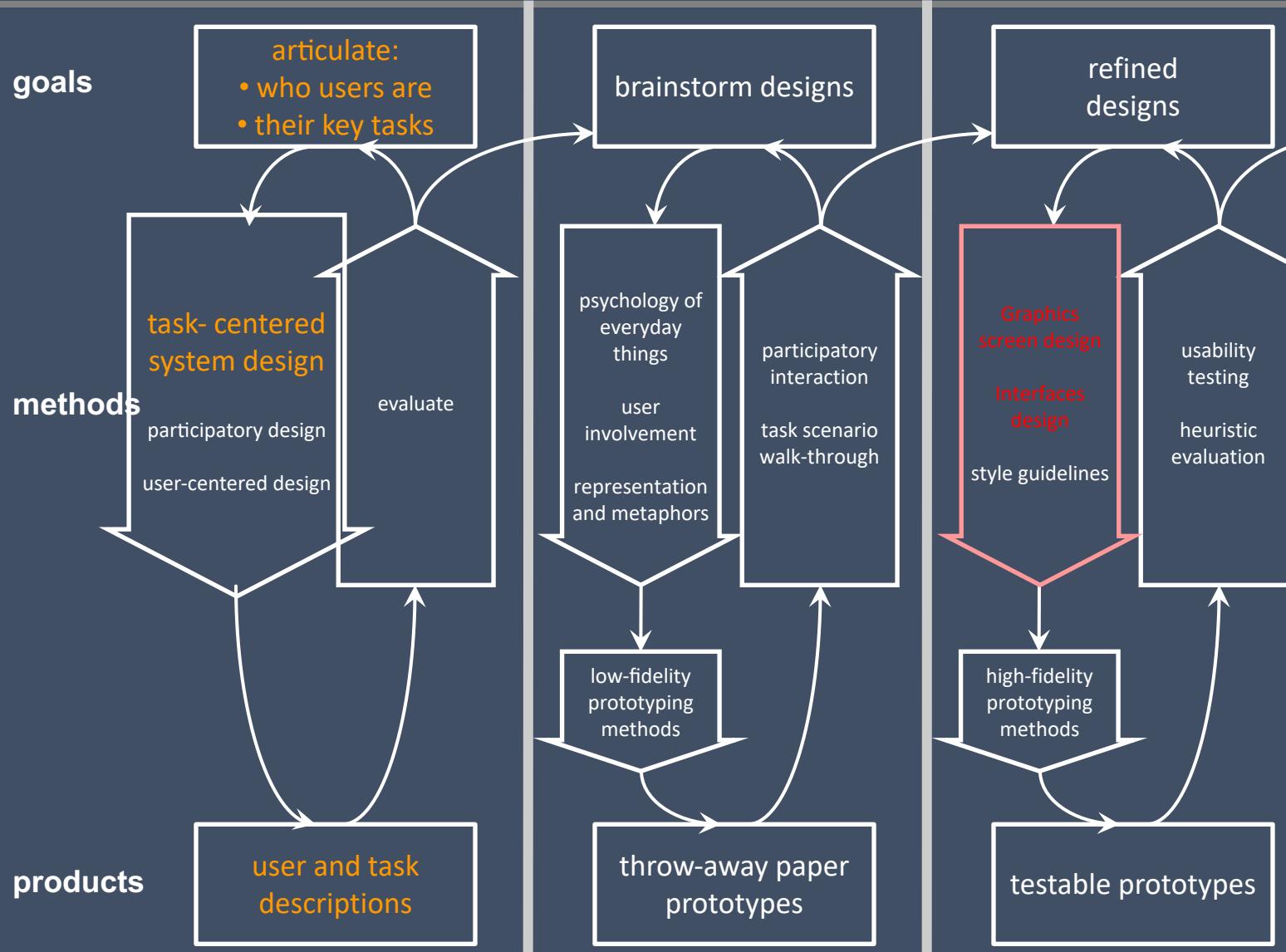
# An Interface Design Process



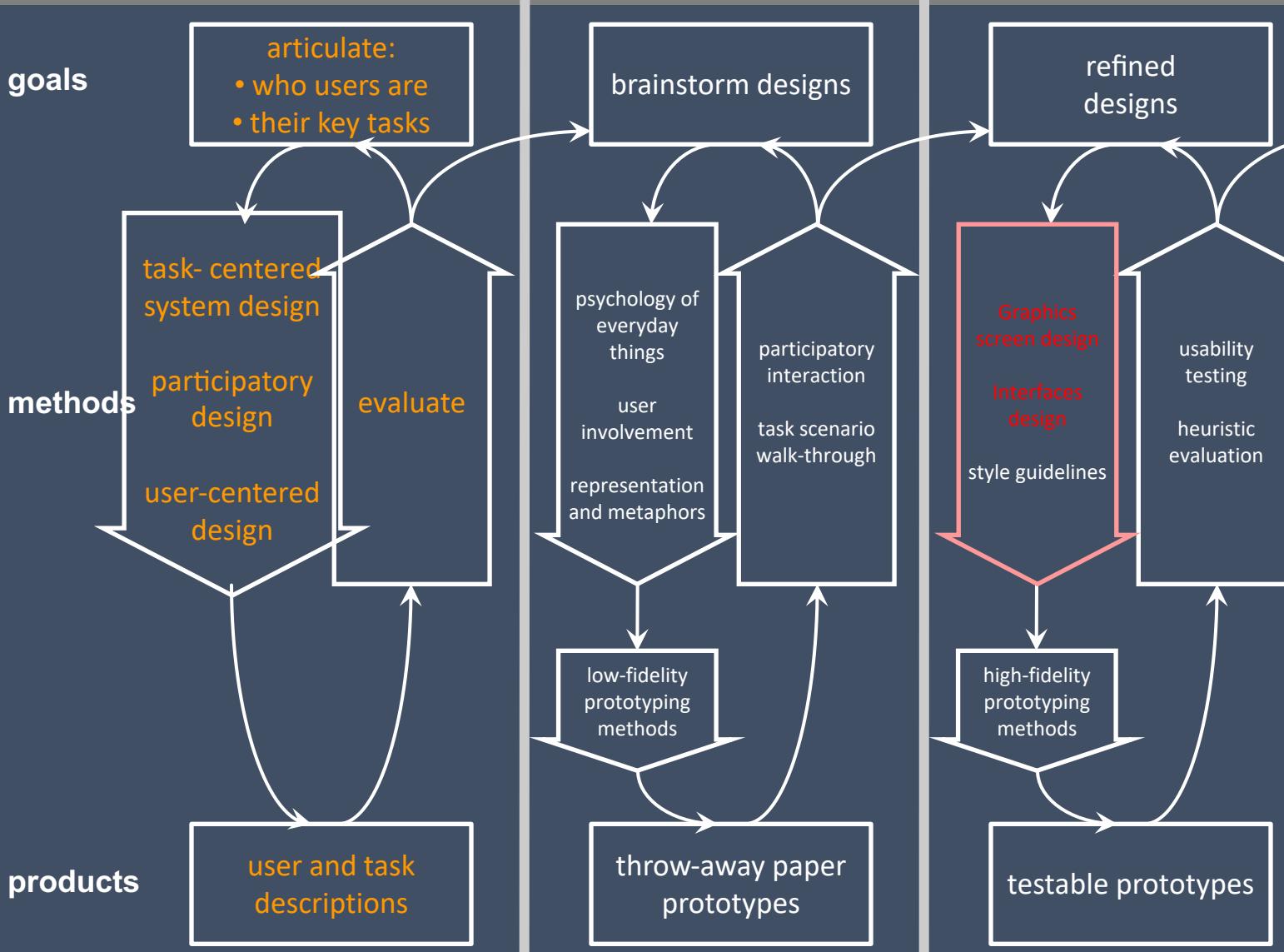
# Interface Design Process



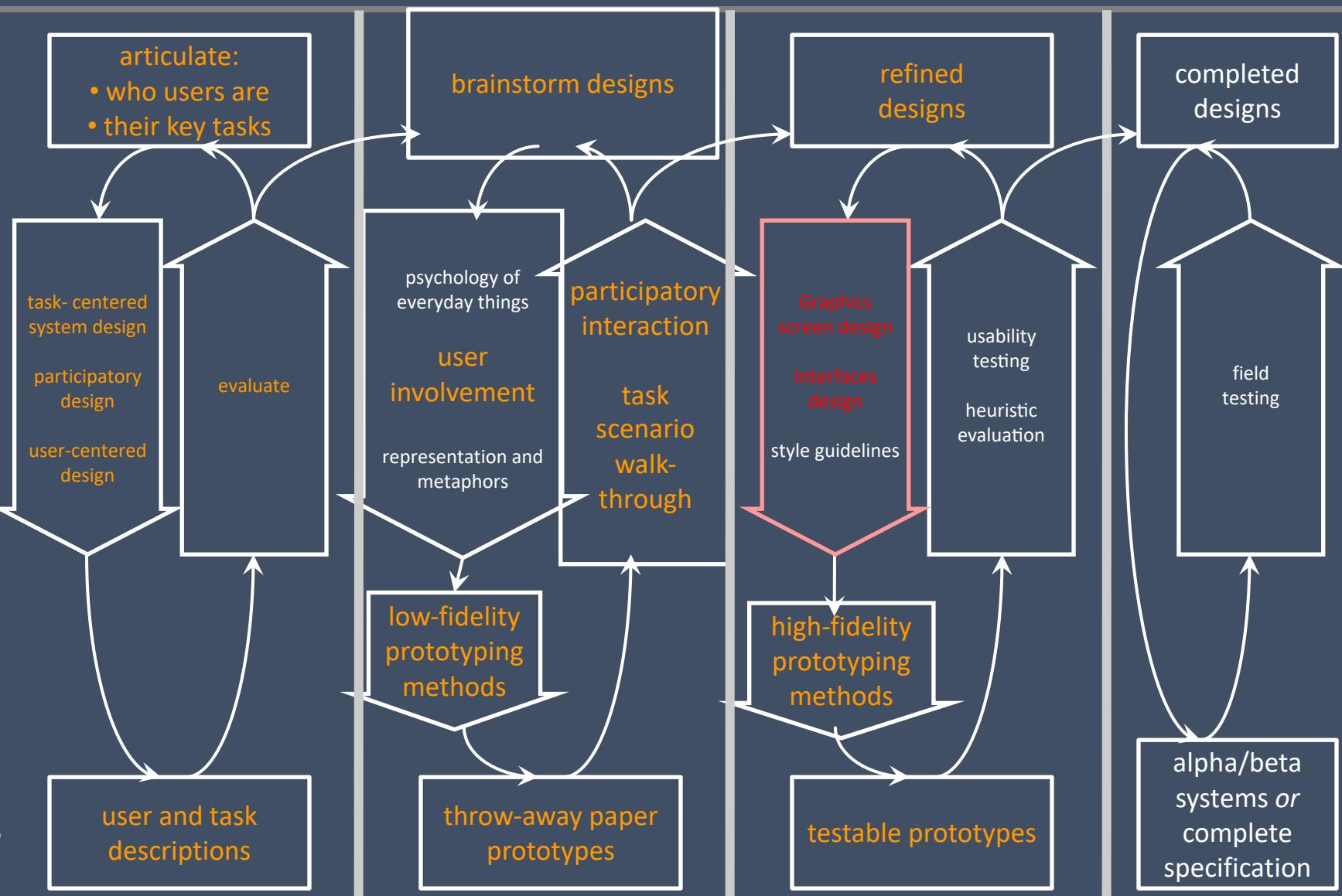
# An Interface Design Process



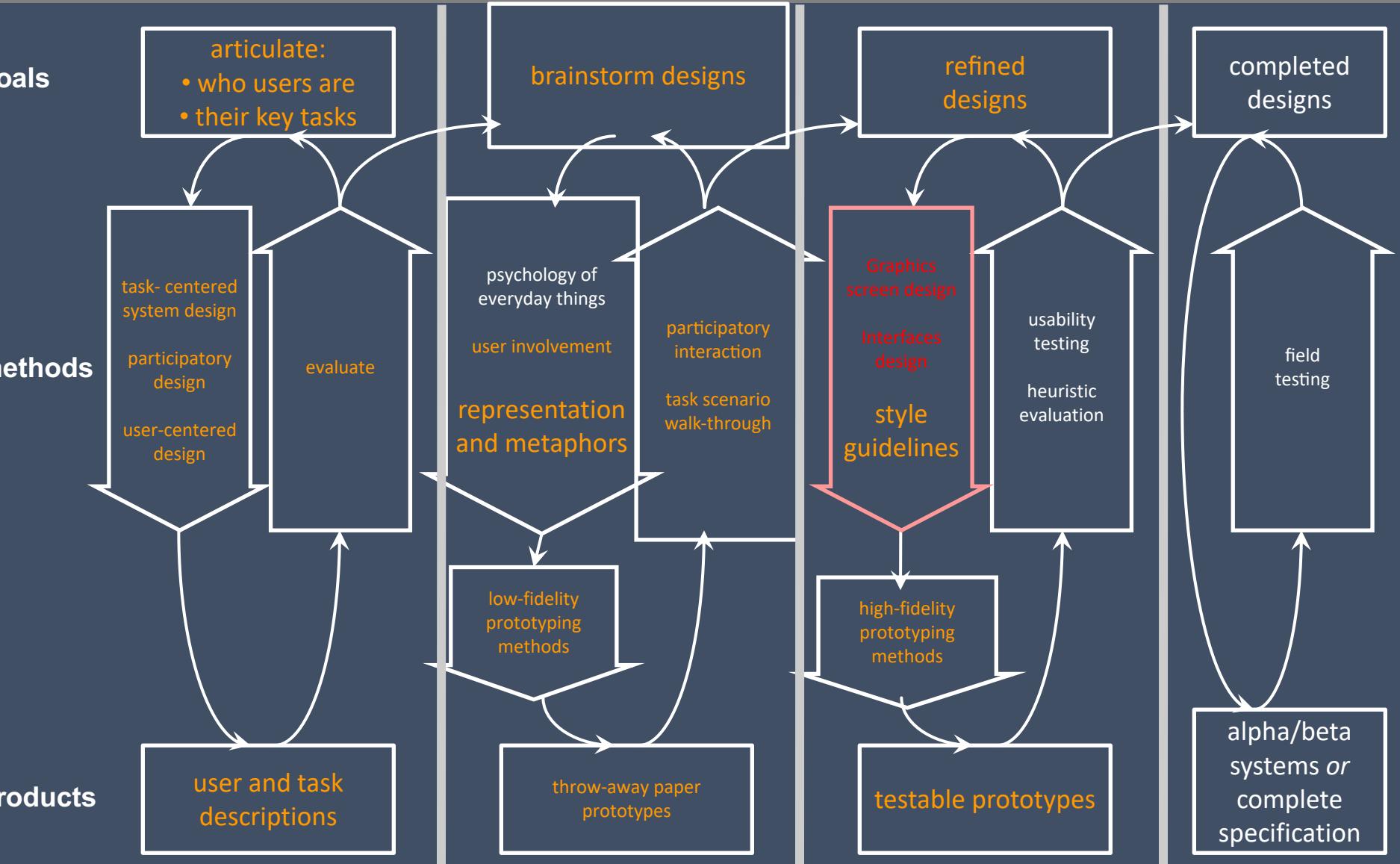
# An Interface Design Process



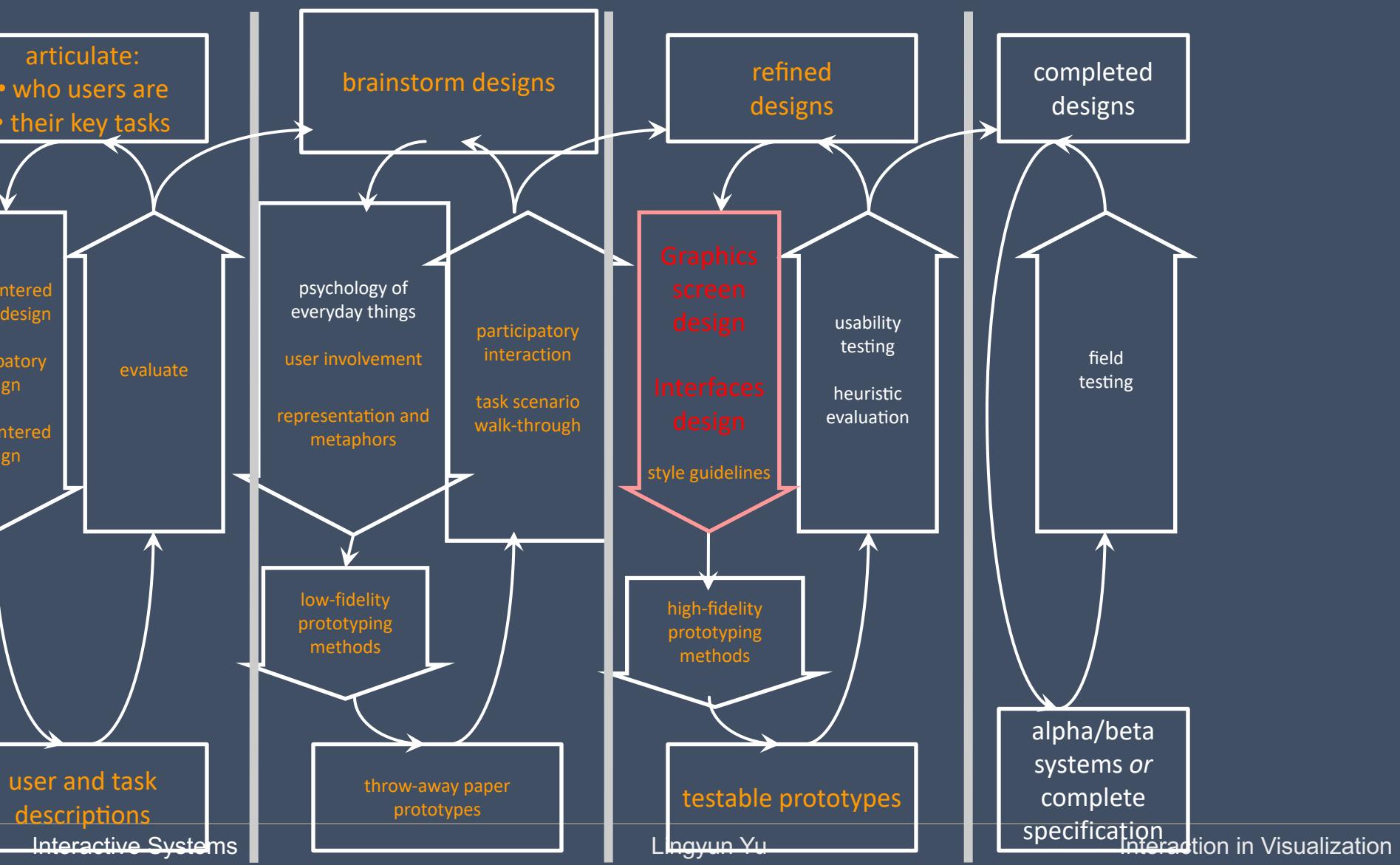
# An Interface Design Process



# An Interface Design Process



# An Interface Design Process



# An Interface Design Process

