2D Visualization Techniques: an overview

Lyn Bartram
IAT 814 week 9
2.03.2009

These slides have been largely adapted from B. Zupan and M. Hearst

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Today

- Assignments and presentations
- Assignment 3 out this week
- Presentations start next week (Wednesday)

- Project presentations Week 12 and 13
- Project papers due Week 14.

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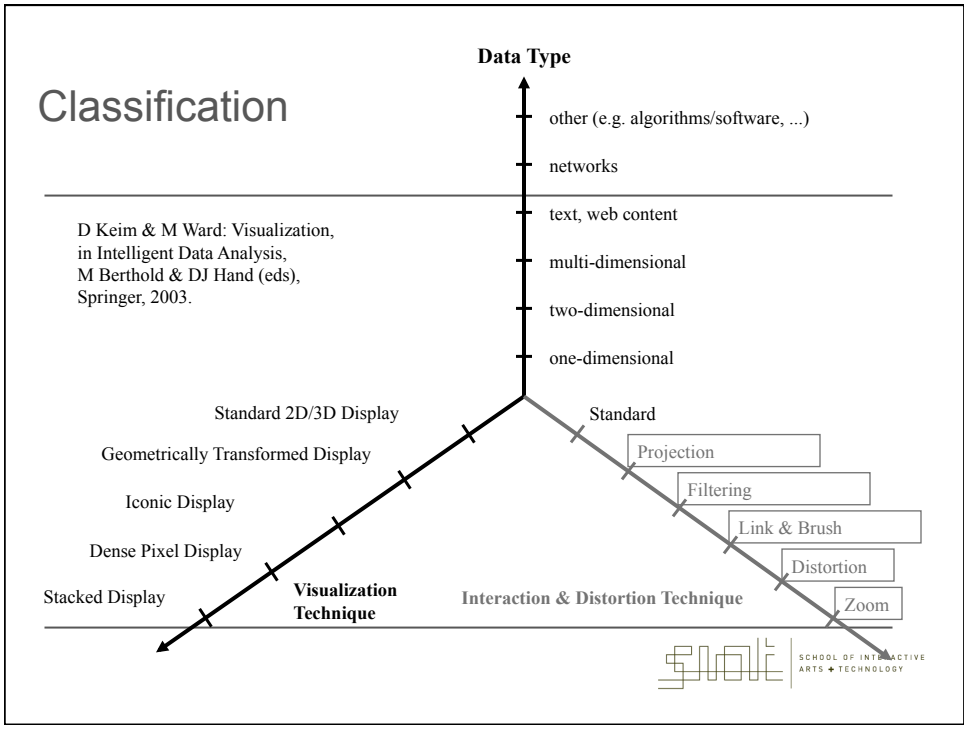
Classification
Data Type
other (e.g. algorithms/software, ...)
networks
text, web content
multi-dimensional
two-dimensional
one-dimensional
D Keim & M Ward: Visualization,
in Intelligent Data Analysis,
M Berthold & DJ Hand (eds),
Springer, 2003.
Standard 2D/3D Display
Geometrically Transformed Display
Iconic Display
Dense Pixel Display
Stacked Display
Visualization Technique
Standard
Projection
Filtering
Link & Brush
Distortion
Zoom
Interaction & Distortion Technique
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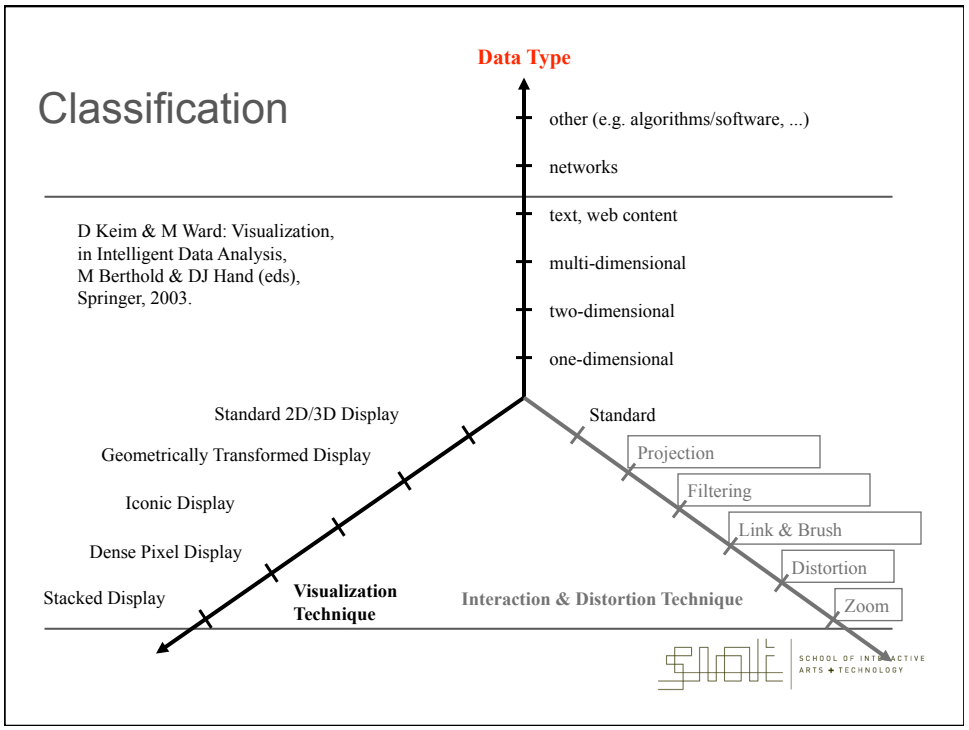
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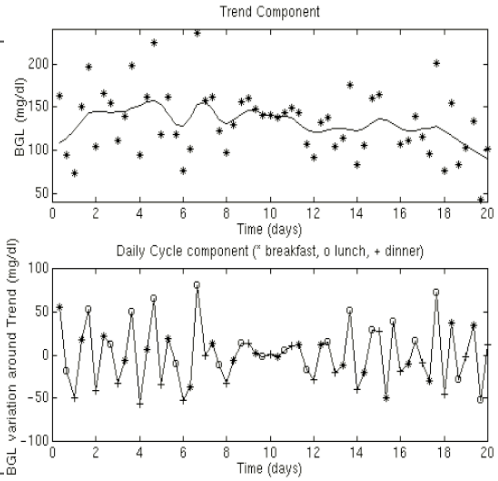
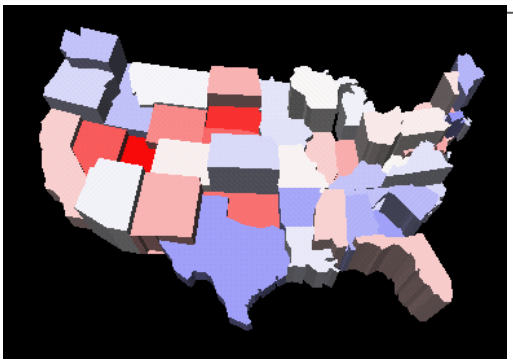
Data: One-Dimensional



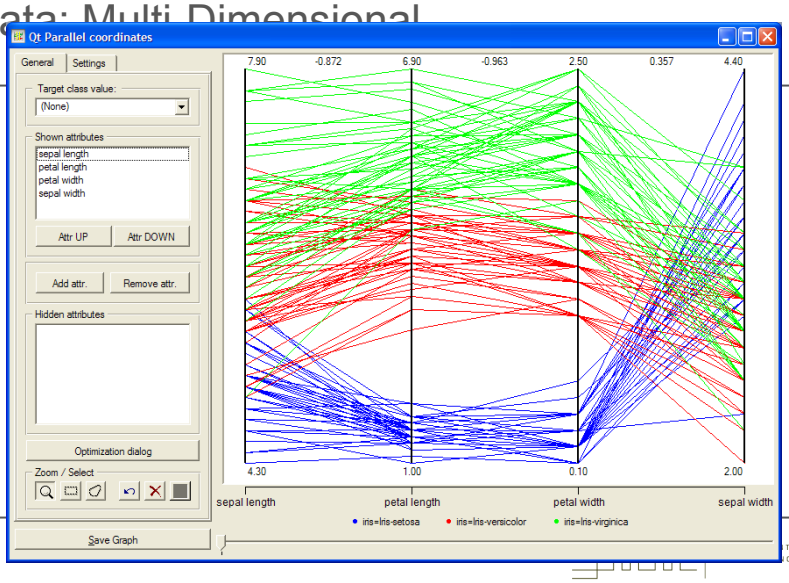
R Bellazzi: Mining Biomedical Time Series by Combining Structural Analysis and Temporal Abstractions, In Proc. of AMIA 1998.

Data: Two-Dimensional

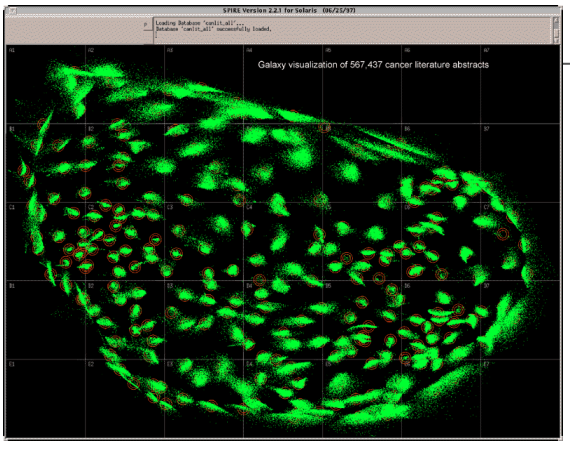


MineSet's Map Visualizer.

Data: Multi-Dimensional



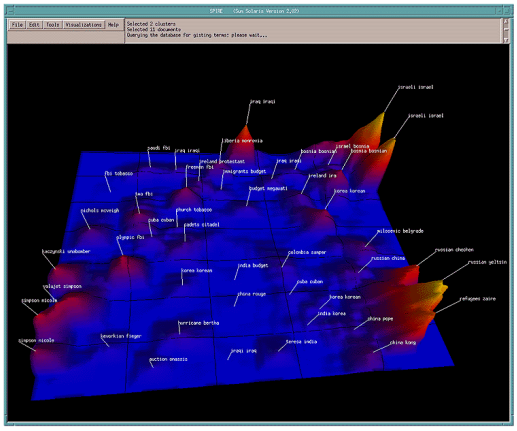
Data: Text



From Inspire (TM) Software, see www.pnl.gov/infoviz/technologies.html

- Galaxies visualization
- Uses the "night sky" visualization to represent a set of documents
- One document – one star
- Stars clustered together represent related documents
- Includes analytical tools to investigate groups and time-based trends, query contents

Data: Text



ThemeView (TM)

Topics or themes of text documents shown ~~in relief map of a~~ natural terrain

The height of a peek relates to the strength of the topic

From Inspire (TM) Software, see www.pnl.gov/infoviz/technologies.html

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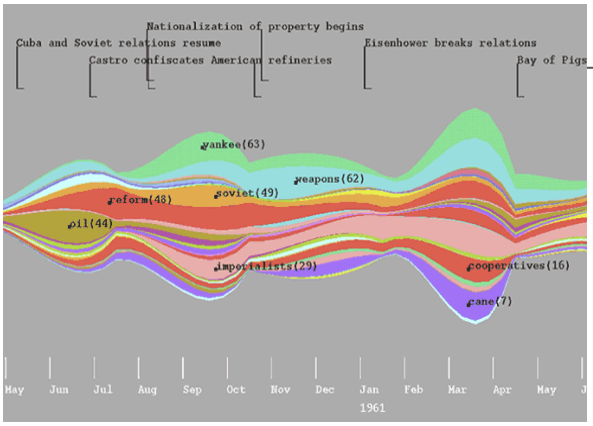
Data: Text



Theme River (TM)

Identification of time related trends ~~and patterns~~

Themes represented as colored streams

The width of the stream relates to the collective strength of a theme

From Inspire (TM) Software, see www.pnl.gov/infoviz/technologies.html

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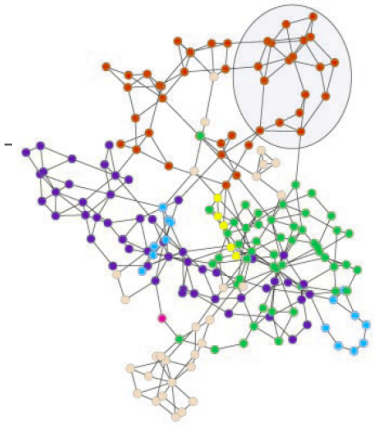
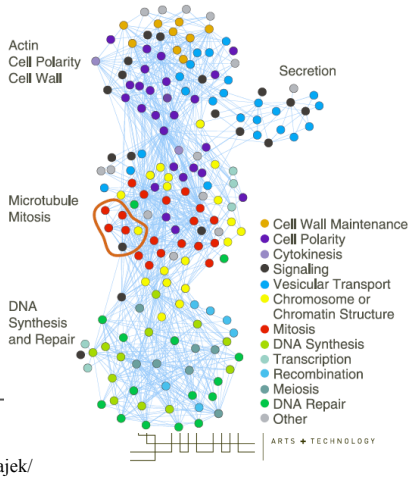
Data: Networks



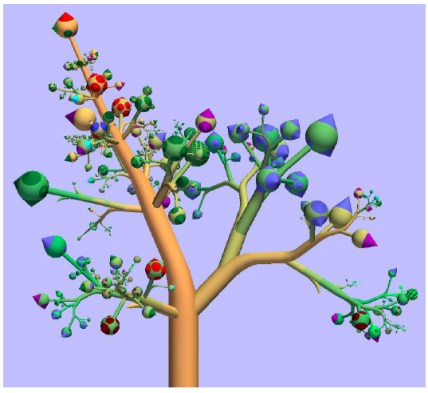
E. coli metabolic network (colors denote predominant biochemical class of metabolites)
Ravasz et al., Science 297, 30 Aug 2002.

S. cerevisiae gene interaction network
Tong et al., Science 303, 6 Feb 2004.

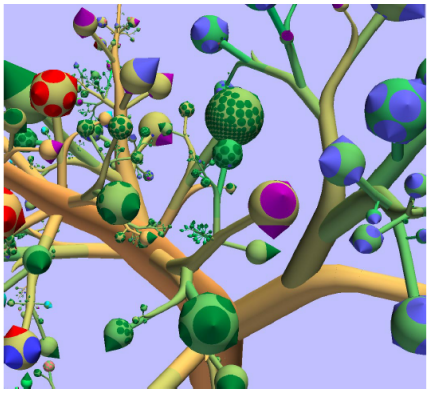


V Batagelj, A Mrvar: Pajek @ vlado.fmf.uni-lj.si/pub/networks/pajek/

Data: Tree Hierarchies



Unix home directory



Selected detail

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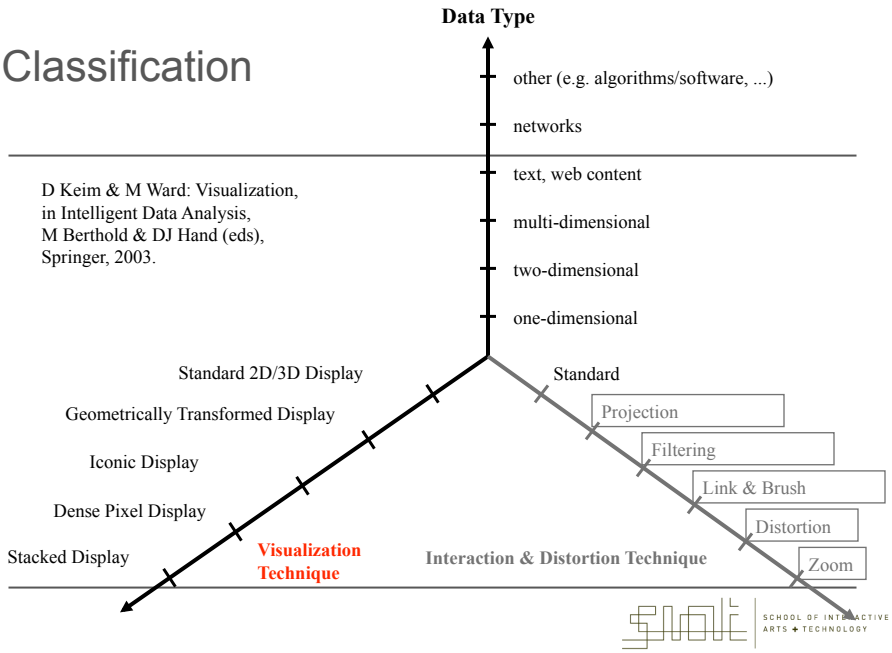
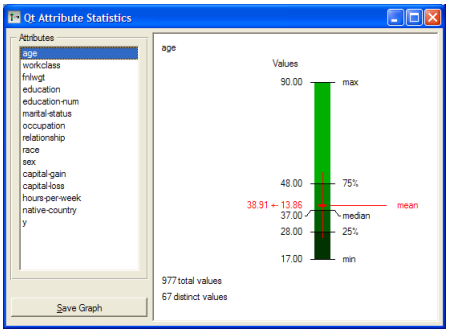
Kleiberg *et al.*: Botanic Visualization of Huge Hierarchies, In InfoVis, 2001.

Classification



Standard 2D/3D

- x-y (x-y-z) plots
- bar charts
- line graphs
- histograms
- maps



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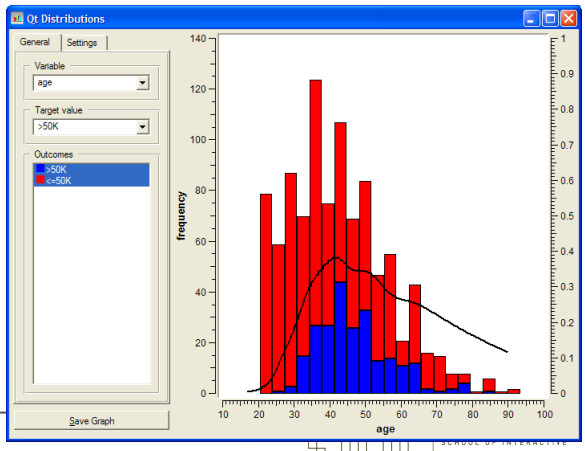

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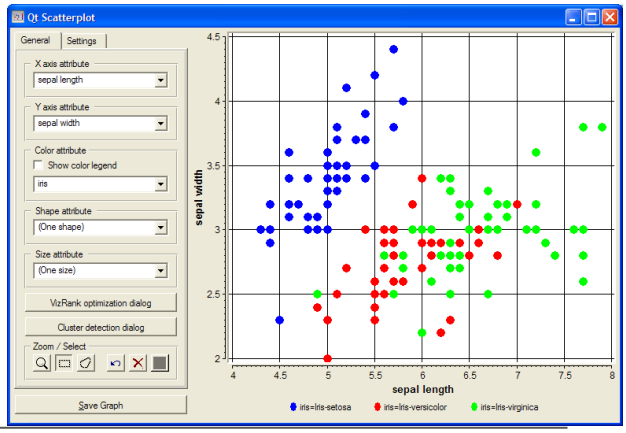
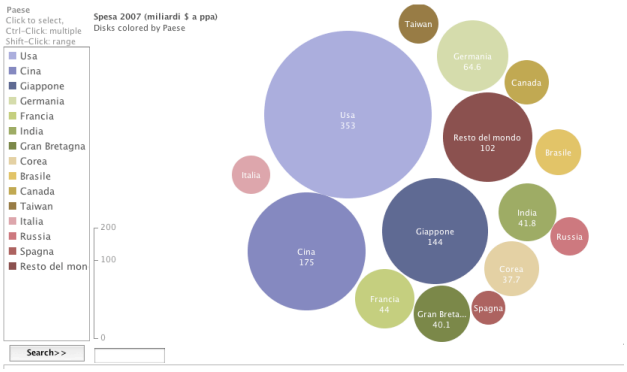


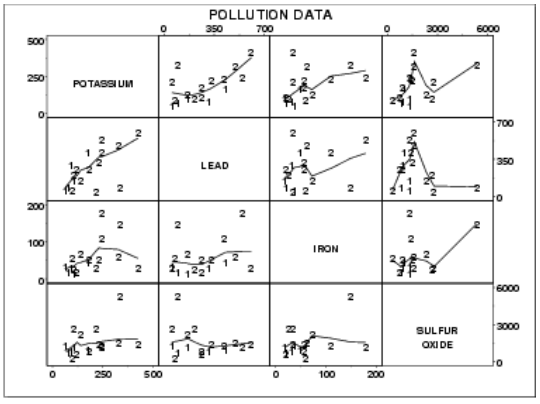
Standard 2D/3D

- x-y (x-y-z) plots
- bar charts
- line graphs
- Bubble charts
- histograms
- maps



Geometrically Transformed Displays

- includes several classes of visualizations
- projection pursuit, finding “interesting transformations” of multi-dim data set
- scatterplot matrix
- parallel coordinates



Geometrically Transformed I

- Parallel coordinates

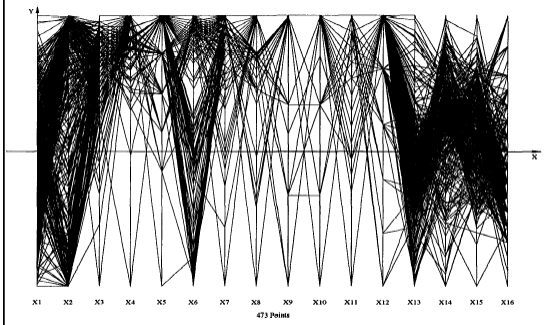


Figure 1: The full dataset consisting of 473 batches

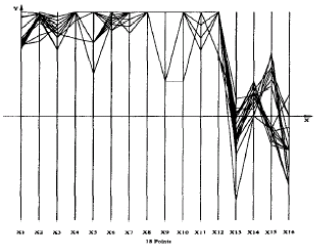


Figure 2: The batches high in Yield, $X1$, and Quality, $X2$.

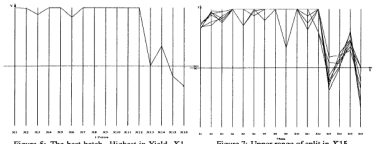
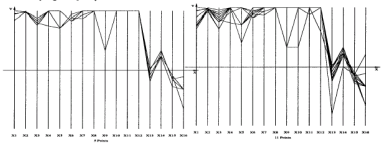
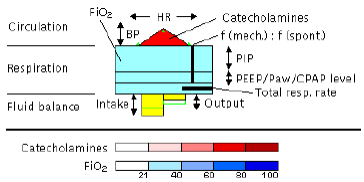


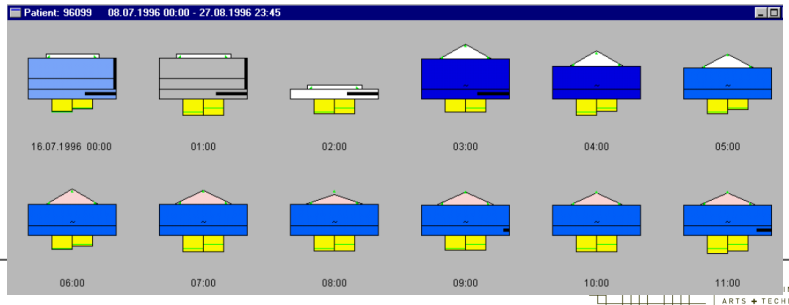
Figure 5: The best batch. Highest in Yield, $X1$, and very high in Quality, $X2$.

Figure 7: Upper range of split in $X15$



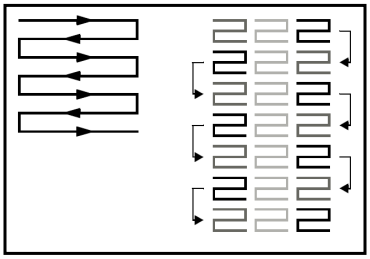
Iconic Displays

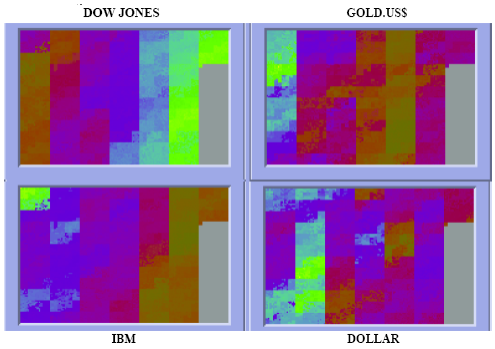




W Horn *et al.*: Metaphor graphics to visualize ICU data over time, In IDAMAP 1998.

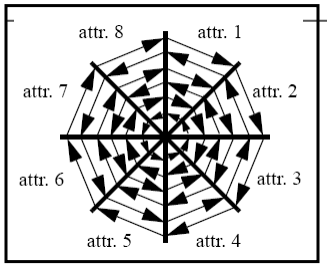
Dense Pixel Displays

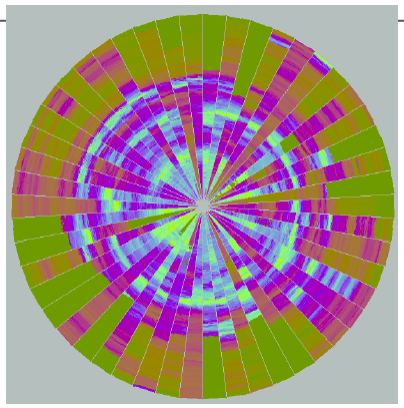




DA Keim *et al.*: Recursive Pattern: A technique for visualizing very large amounts of data Proc. Visualization 95, pages 279-286, 1995.

Dense Pixel Displays

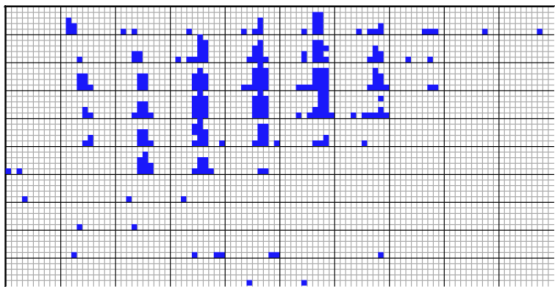




Ankerst *et al.:* Circle Segments: A technique for visually exploring large multidimensional data sets. In Proc. Visualization 96, Hot Topic Session, 1996.

Stacked Displays

- an example is dimensional stacking
- embed one coordinate system within the other
- e.g. two attributes in one system, then another two when drilling down



J LeBlanc *et al.*: Exploring n-dimensional databases. In Proc. Visualization 90, pages 230-239, 1990.

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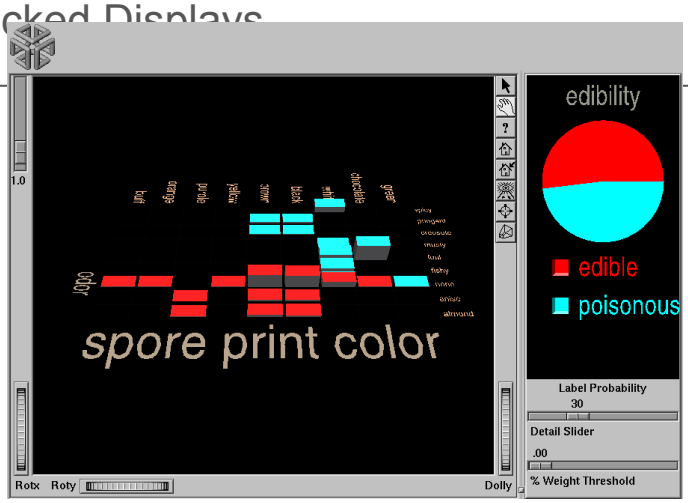
Stacked Displays



Decision table visualization from SGI's MineSet

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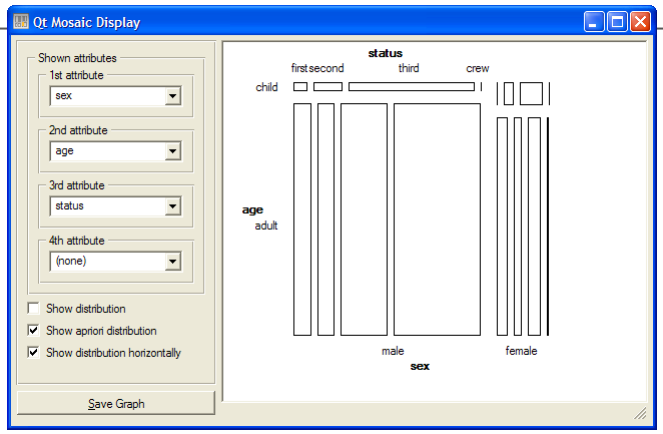
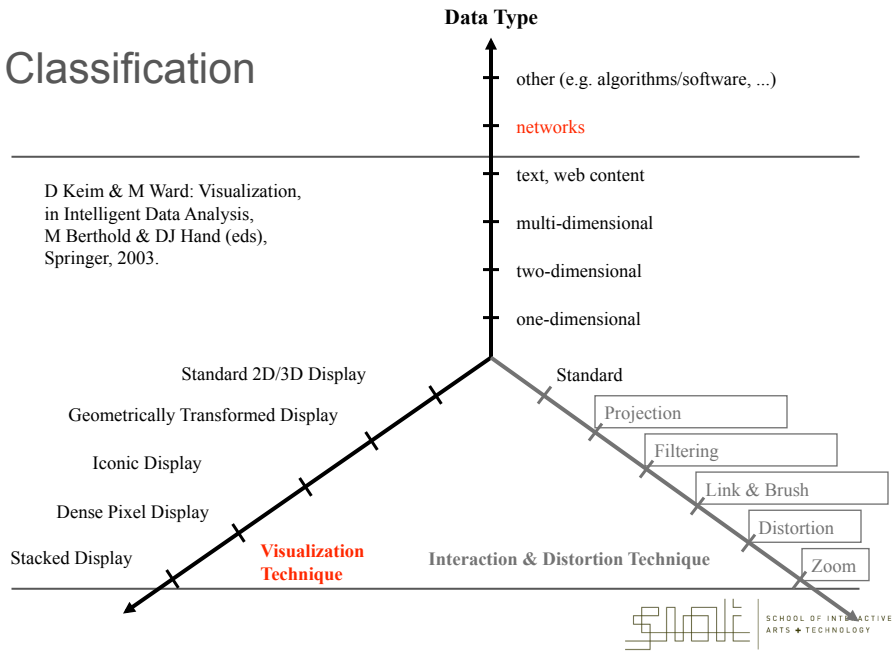
Stacked Displays



Mosaic display in Orange.

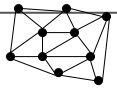
Classification



Visualizing Networks

- Networks/graphs vs trees
- Algorithms for network layout
- Multidimensional networks
- New toolkits

Graph and Tree Data Structures



- **Graphs**:
  - Representations of structured, connected data
  - Consist of a set of ***nodes*** (data) and a set of ***edges*** (relations)
  - Edges can be **directed** or **undirected**

- **Trees**:
  - Graphs with a specific structure
    - connected graph with n-1 edges
  - Representations of data with natural hierarchy
  - Nodes are either ***parents*** or ***children***

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When is Graph Visualization Applicable?

- Ask the question: *is there an inherent relation among the data elements to be visualized?*
  - If YES – then the data can be represented by nodes of a graph, with edges representing the relations.
  - If NO – then the data elements are "unstructured" and goal is to use visualization to analyze and discover relationships among data.

    Source: Herman, Graph Visualization and Navigation in Information Visualization: a Survey

Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

Common Applications

- Process Visualization (e.g., Visio)
- Dependency Graphs
- Biological Interactions (Genes, Proteins)
- Computer Networks
- Social Networks
- Simulation and Modeling

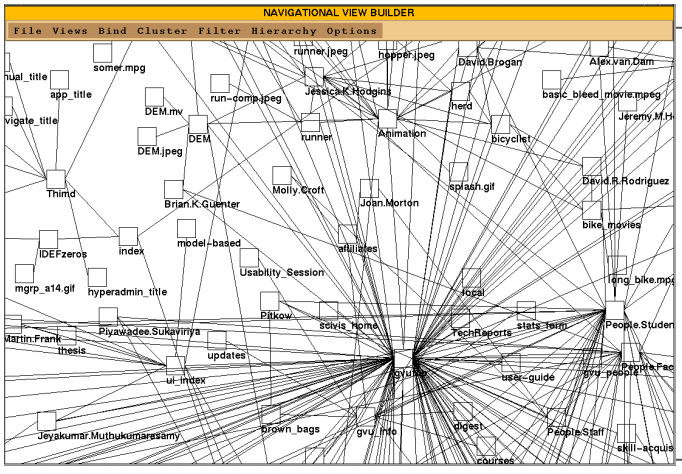
Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

Graph Layout

- How to position the nodes and edges?
- The **primary** concern with networks
  - while inheriting other issues such as color, size, etc
- The topic of the Graph Drawing conference (as well as numerous InfoVis papers) and even multiple books.

Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

Graphs: the problem



- YUK ……

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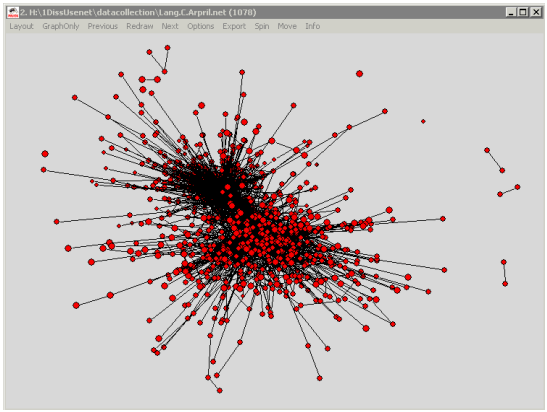
Graph Layout: The Problem



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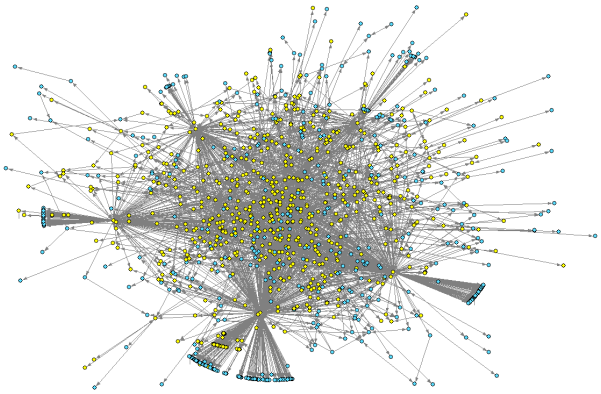

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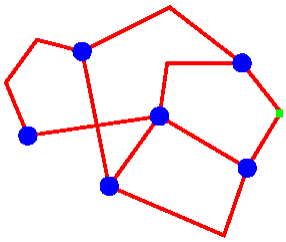
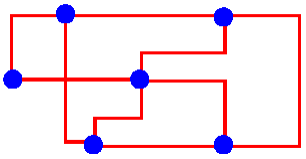
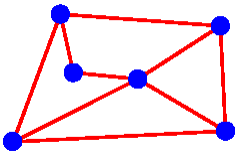
Traditional Graph Drawing



poly-line graphs
(includes bends)

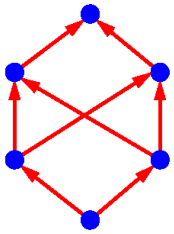
orthogonal
drawing





planar, straight-
line drawing

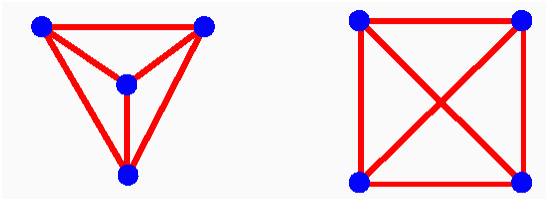
upward drawing of DAGs



Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

Aesthetic constraints

- Minimize link crossings
- Minimize link lengths
- Minimize link bends
- Maximize symmetries
- Mathematically difficult to do everything



- Unsuited for interactive visualization
- Prioritise and precompute

Layout Approaches

- Tree-ify the graph - then use tree layout
- Hierarchical graph layout
- Radial graph layout
- Optimization-based techniques
  - Includes spring-embedding / force-directed layout
- Adjacency matrices
- Structurally-independent layout
- On-demand revealing of subgraphs
- Distortion-based views
  - Hyperbolic browser

- (this list is not meant to be exhaustive)

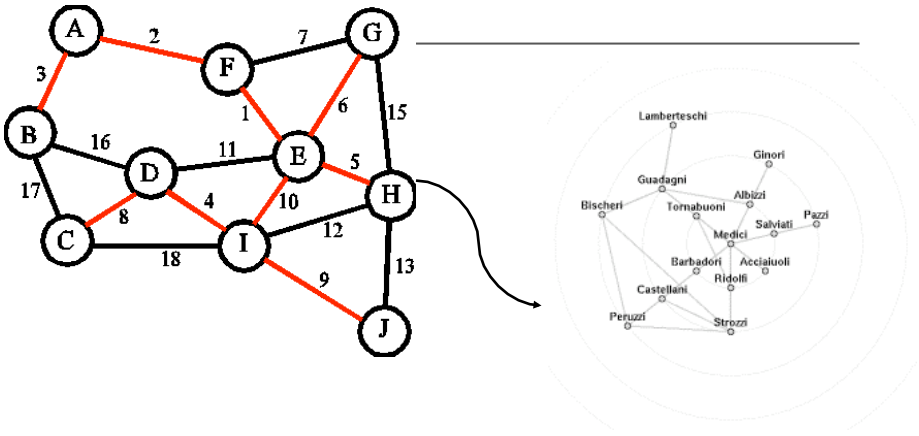
Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

Tree-based graph layout

- Select a tree-structure out of the graph
  - Breadth-first-search tree
  - Minimum spanning tree
  - Other domain-specific structures
- Use a tree layout algorithm
- Benefits
  - Fast, supports interaction and refinement
- Drawbacks
  - Limited range of layouts

Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

Tree-ify the graph



Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

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Hierarchical graph layout

- Use directed structure of graph to inform layout
- Order the graph into distinct levels
  - this determines one dimension
- Now optimize within levels
  - determines the second dimension
  - minimize edge crossings, etc
- The method used in graphviz's "dot" algorithm
- Great for directed acyclic graphs, but often misleading in the case of cycles

Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

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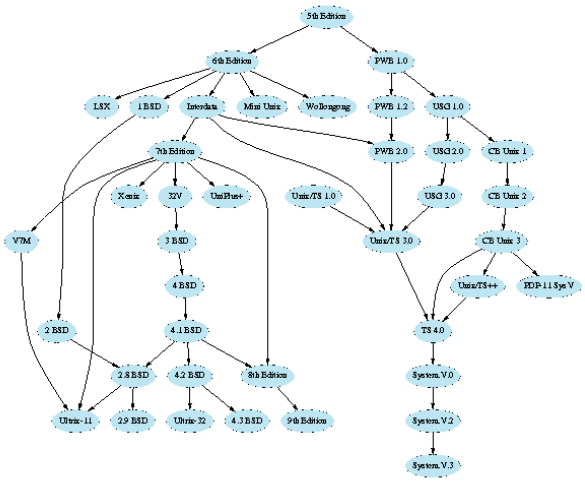
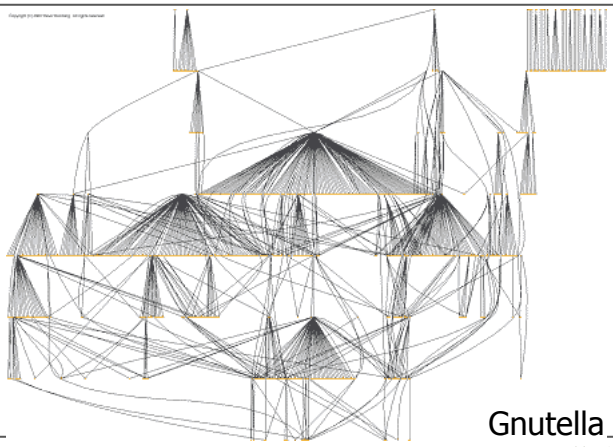
Hierarchical Graph Layout

- Evolution of the UNIX operating system
- Hierarchical layering based on descent



Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

Hierarchical graph layout



Gnutella network

Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

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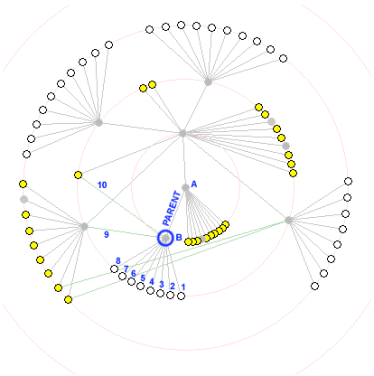
Radial Layout

- **Animated Exploration of Graphs with Radial Layout**, Yee et al., 2001
- Gnutella network



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Optimization-based layout

- Specify constraints for layout
  - Series of mathematical equations
  - Hand to "solver" which tries to optimize the constraints
- Examples
  - Minimize edge crossings, line bends, etc
  - Multi-dimensional scaling (preserve multi-dim distance)
  - Force-directed placement (use physics metaphor)
- Benefits
  - General applicability
  - Often customizable by adding new constraints
- Drawbacks
  - Approximate constraint satisfaction
  - Running time; "organic" look not always desired

Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

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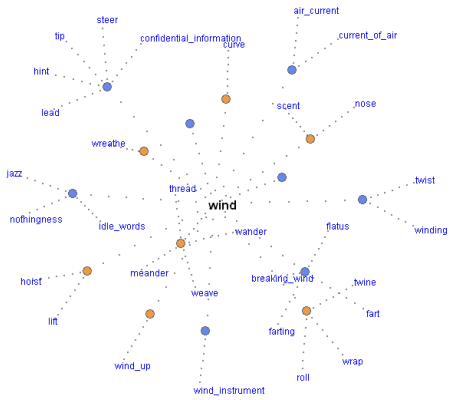
Example: Force-Directed Layout



Uses physics model to layout graph,

Nodes repel each other, edges act as springs, and some amount of friction or drag force is used.

Special techniques to dampen “jitter”.

visual wordnet http://www.kylescholz.com/projects/wordnet

visuwords http://www.visuwords.com/

Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

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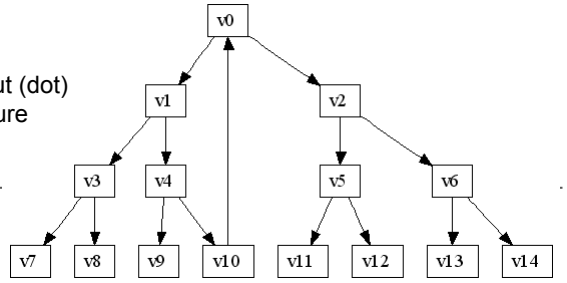
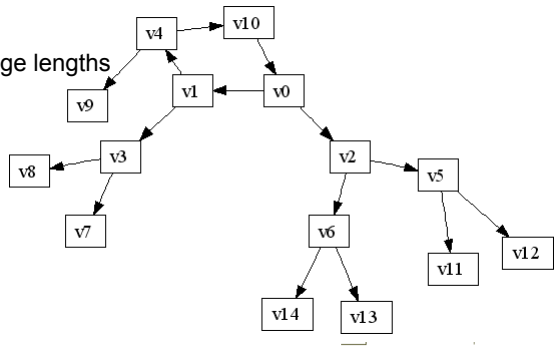
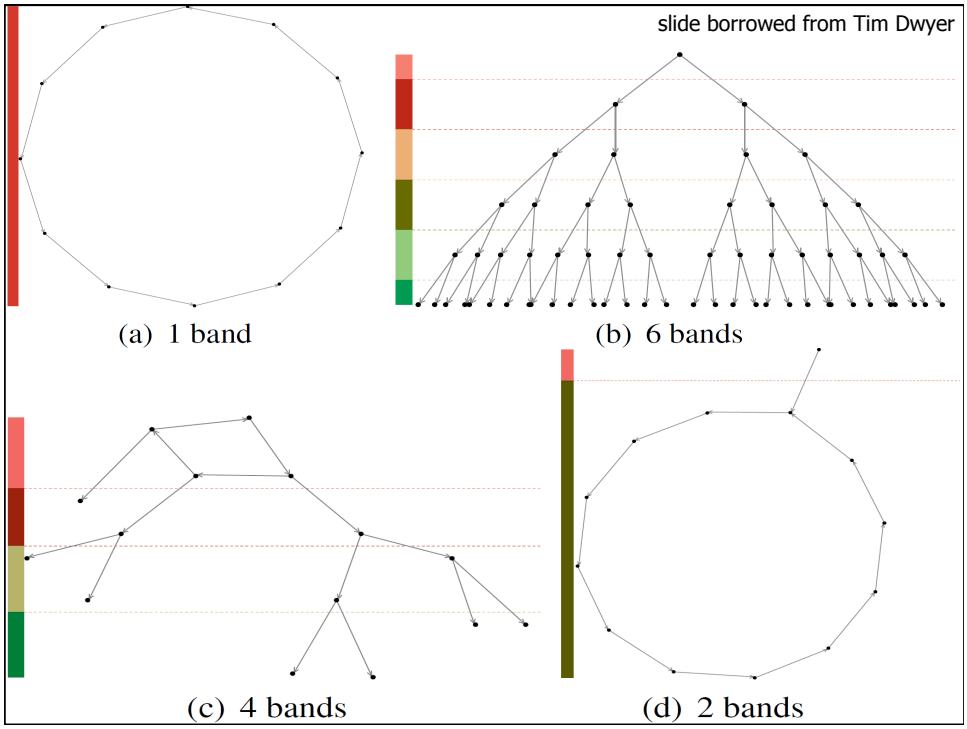
Typical Sugiyama layout (dot)
- preserves tree structure



Alternative method
- preserves uniform edge lengths



slide borrowed from Tim Dwyer

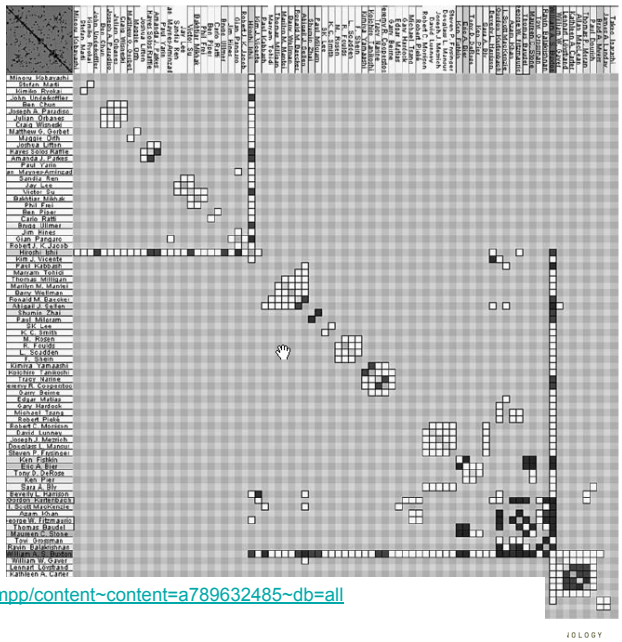


Adjacency Matrices

- So far, only looked at node-link diagrams
- Often doesn't scale well due to edge-crossings, occlusion, etc. --> hard to read
- One solution: adjacency matrix
  - show graph as table
  - nodes as rows/columns
  - edges as table cells

Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

Matrices

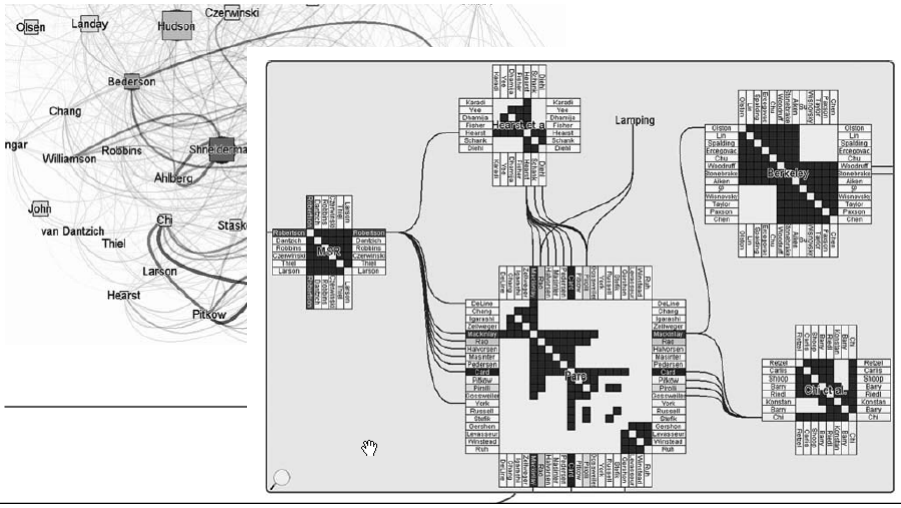


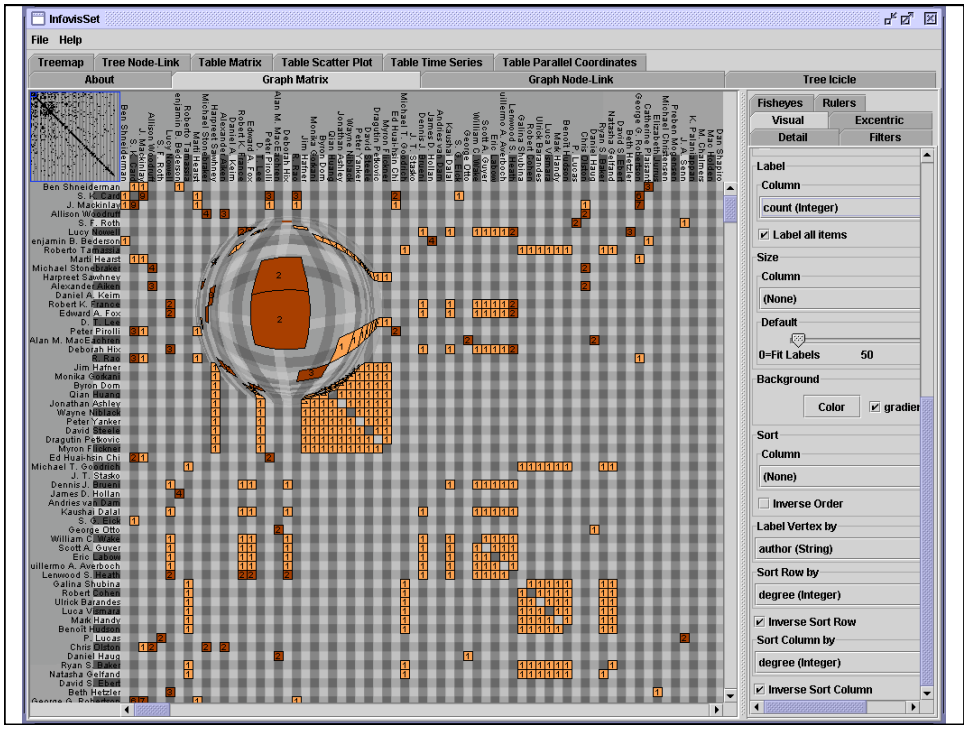
http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a789632485~db=all

20 Years of Four HCI Conferences: A Visual Exploration
Henry et al. IJHCI 2007

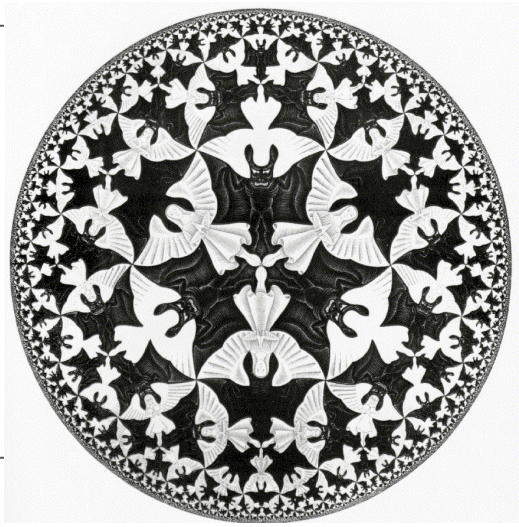
Matrices with Submatrices

- http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a789632485~db=all





Hyperbolic Browser: Inspiration



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Using Distortion and Focus + Context

- The Hyperbolic Tree Browser
  The Hyperbolic Browser: A Focus + Context Technique for Visualizing Large Hierarchies, Lamping & Rao, CHI 1996.
  - http://www.inxight.com/products/sdks/st/
  - Uses non-Euclidean geometry as basis of focus + context technique
    - The hyperbolic browser is a projection into a Euclidean space – a circle
  - The circumference of a circle increases at a linearly with radius (2 PI)
  - The circumference of a circle in hyperbolic space increases exponentially
- Exponential growth in space available with linear growth of radius
  - Makes tree layout easy
- Size of objects decreases with growth of radius
  - Reduces expense of drawing trees when cut-off at one pixel

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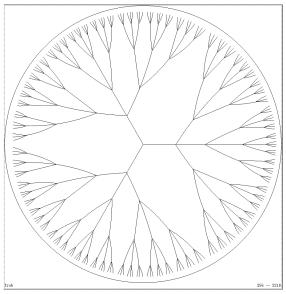
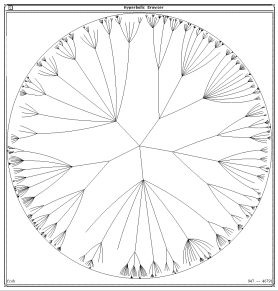
Appearance of Initial Layout

- Root mapped at center
- Multiple generations of children mapped out towards edge of circle
- Drawing of nodes cuts off when less than one pixel





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User orientation on refocus

- Problem
  - Hyperbolic Geometry can allow disorienting rotations of objects when refocusing
- Solution one:
  - Preserve initial angular orientation of parent to child nodes
- Solution two:
  - Preserve left to right orientation of parent to child nodes beginning with initial display

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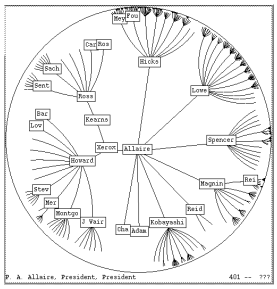
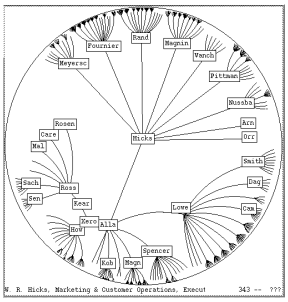
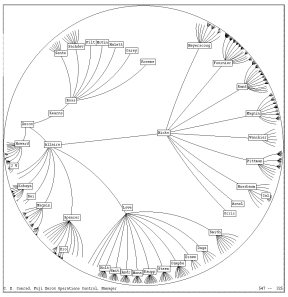
User orientations - Solutions

Preserving Angular Orientation





Left to Right Ordering



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Structurally-Independent Layout

- Ignore the graph structure.
- Base the layout on other attributes of the data
- Examples:
  - Geography
  - Time
- Benefits
  - Often very quick layout
  - Optimizes communication of particular features
- Drawbacks
  - May or may not present structure well

Slide adapted from Jeff Heer

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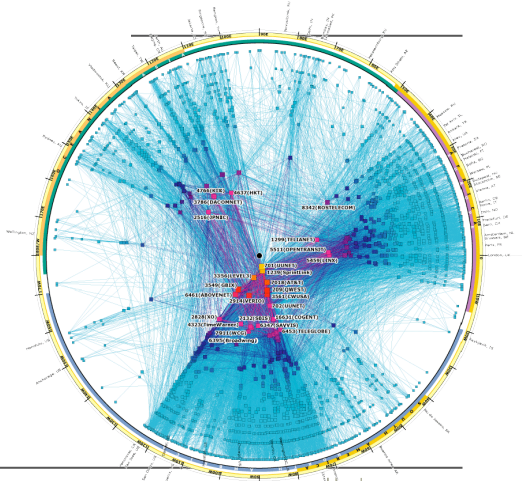
Structurally Independent Layout

- The “Skitter” Layout
  - Internet Connectivity
- Angle = Longitude
  - geography
- Radius = Degree
  - # of connections

Skitter, www.caida.org



http://www.caida.org/research/topology/as_core_network/2007/images/ascore-simple.2007_big.png

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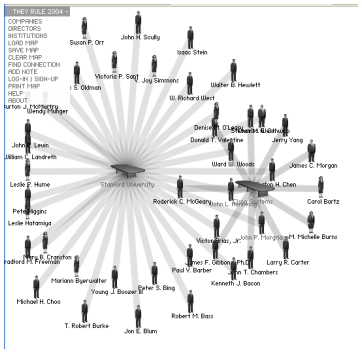
Progressive Disclosure

- Only show subsets that are currently selected
- http://www.theyrule.net/
- http://kylescholz.com/projects/wordnet/wordnet2.html

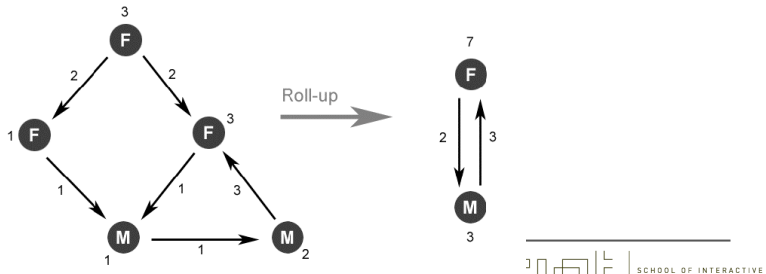


Problem: Multivariate Graphs

- What if you want to associate information with the nodes and edges?
- Typical approach: vary
  - Size of nodes
  - Color of nodes
  - Fatness of edges
  - Colors of edges
- However, it's hard to make quantitative comparisons when these retinal cues are spread throughout the graph.

Solution: Wattenberg's Pivot Graphs

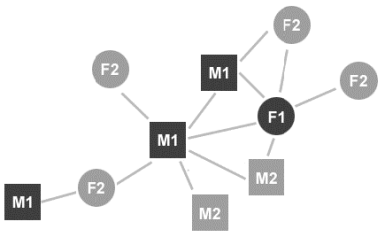
- Use "roll-up" idea from OLAP to compress and re-express graph data.
  - Aggregate all nodes that have the same values on each of those dimensions, and aggregate edges accordingly.
- In graph below,
  F = Female, M = Male, Numbers mean counts



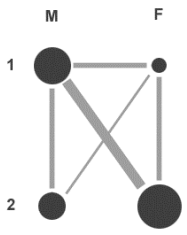
Visual Exploration of Multivariate Graphs, Wattenberg, IEEE Infoviz ???

Multidimensional Pivot Graphs

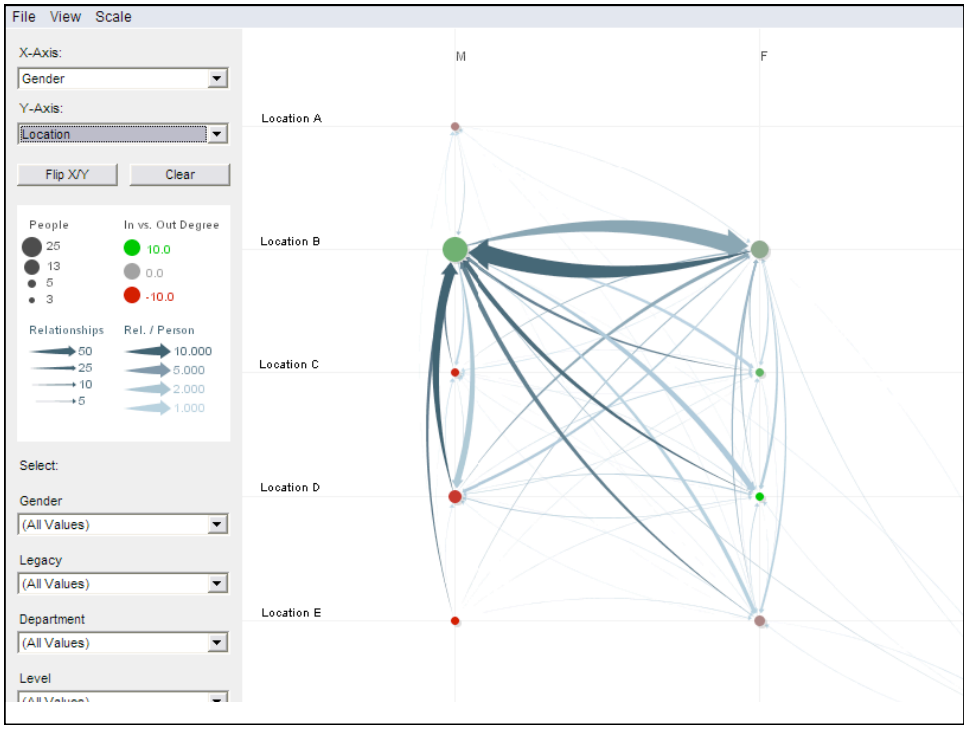
- What is added, and what is lost, from this transformation?



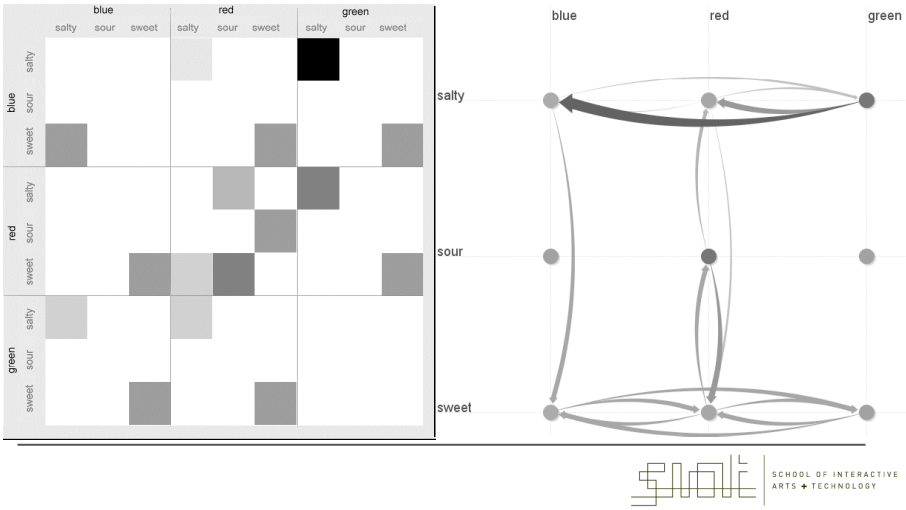
Node and Link Diagram



PivotGraph Roll-up



Compare 2D Pivot Graph with 2D Matrix



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Issues with Pivot Graphs

- Disconnected components may become connected
- Acyclic graphs may obtain cycles

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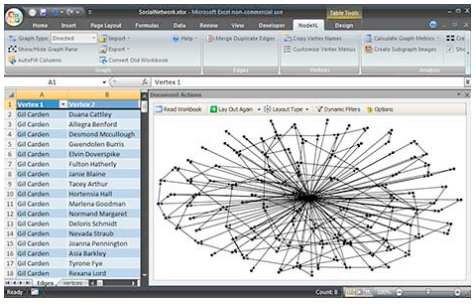
New toolkits!

Networks for excel by Marc Smith et al. at Microsoft research
  - Used to be called .Netmap
  - Now called NodeXL
  - Requires windows-specific software
- (Search on “excel NodeXL”)



- Chart Tamer for Excel
- Stephen Few et al.

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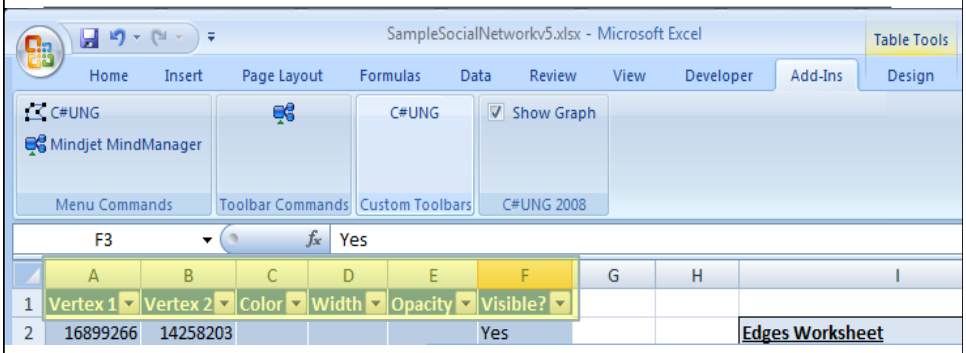
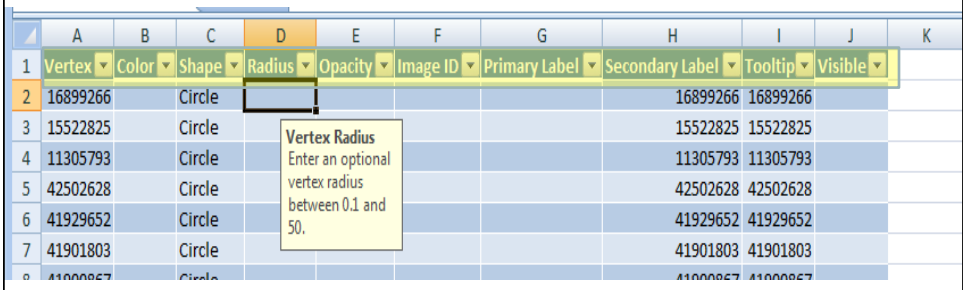
.NetMap: Edges Worksheet

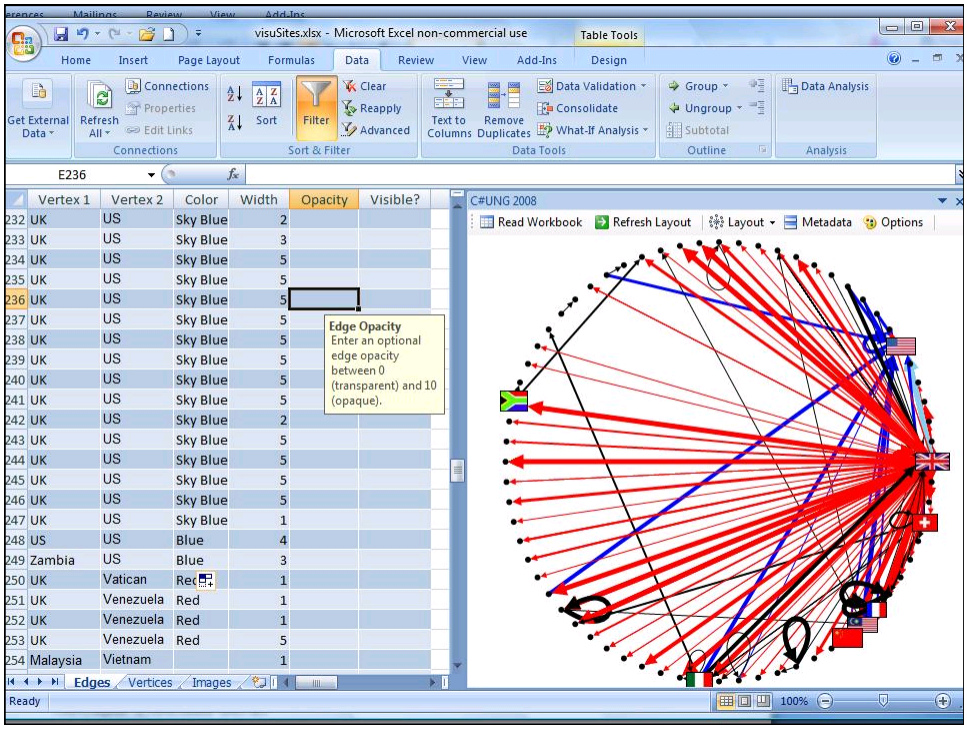


Slide courtesy Marc Smith

.NetMap: Vertices Worksheet



Slide courtesy Marc Smith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Remove Duplicates
Data Validation
Consolidate
What-If Analysis
Group
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Subtotal
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249 Zambia | US | Blue | 3
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251 UK | Venezuela | Red | 1
252 UK | Venezuela | Red | 1
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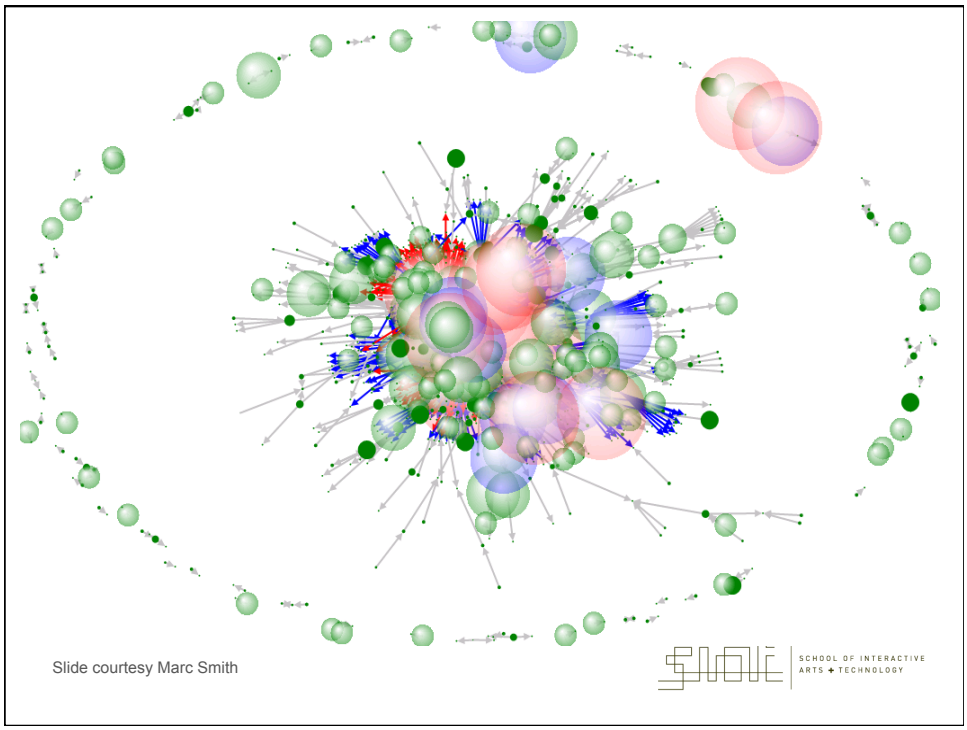
Slide courtesy Marc Smith
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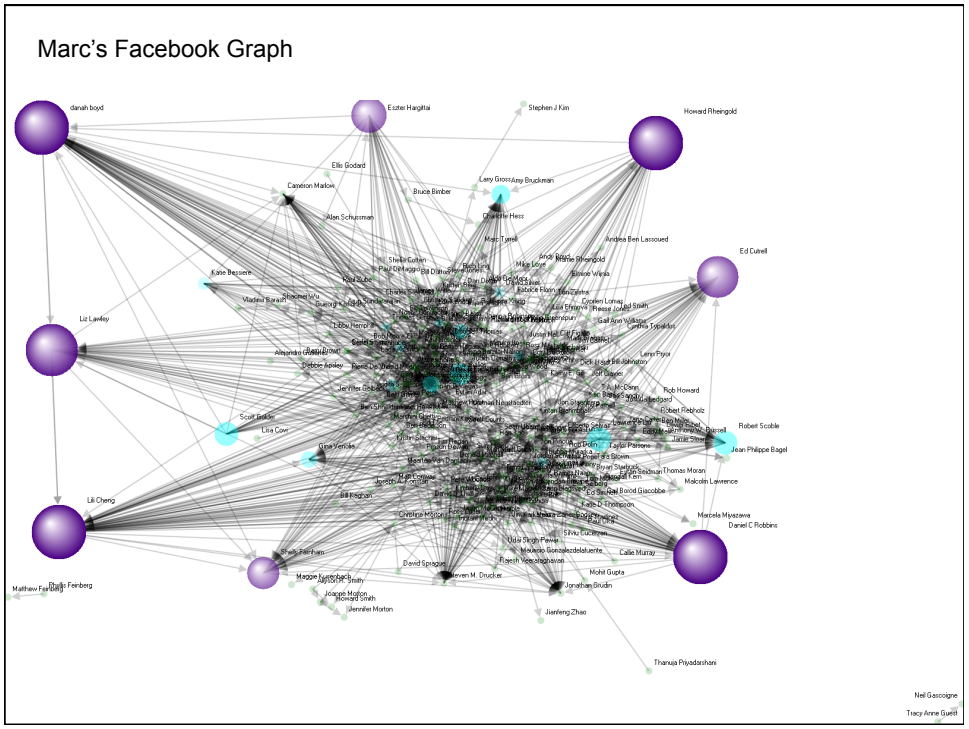
Marc's Facebook Graph
danah boyd
Howard Rheingold
Ed Cutrell
Liz Lawley
Lili Cheng
Robert Scoble
Jean Philippe Bagel
Malcolm Lawrence
Marcela Miyazawa
Daniel C Robbins
Jonathan Grudin
Jianfeng Zhao
Thanuja Priyadarshani
Neil Gascoigne
Tracy Anne Guelli

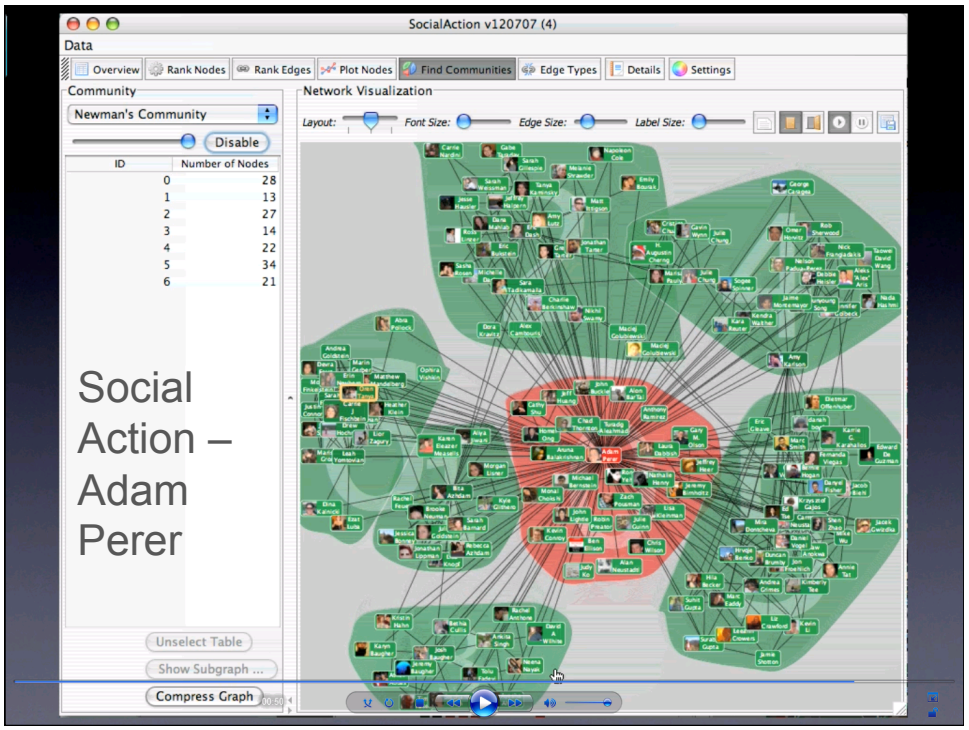
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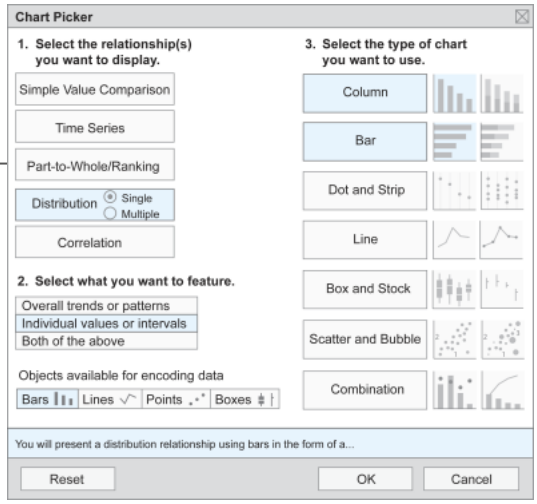
Chart Tamer



- Stephen Few + XL[3]
- Function-based

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