CS 444: Big Data Systems

Chapter 7. Big Data Visualization

Chase Wu

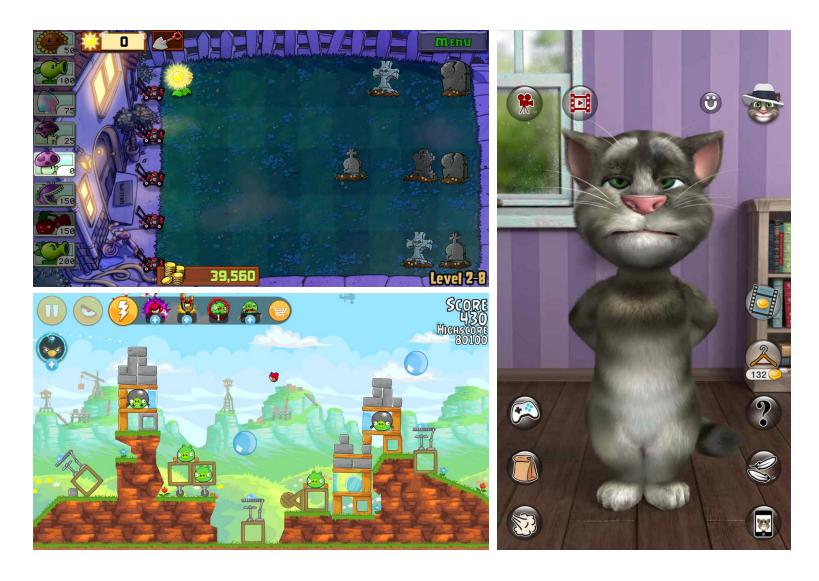
New Jersey Institute of Technology

Outline

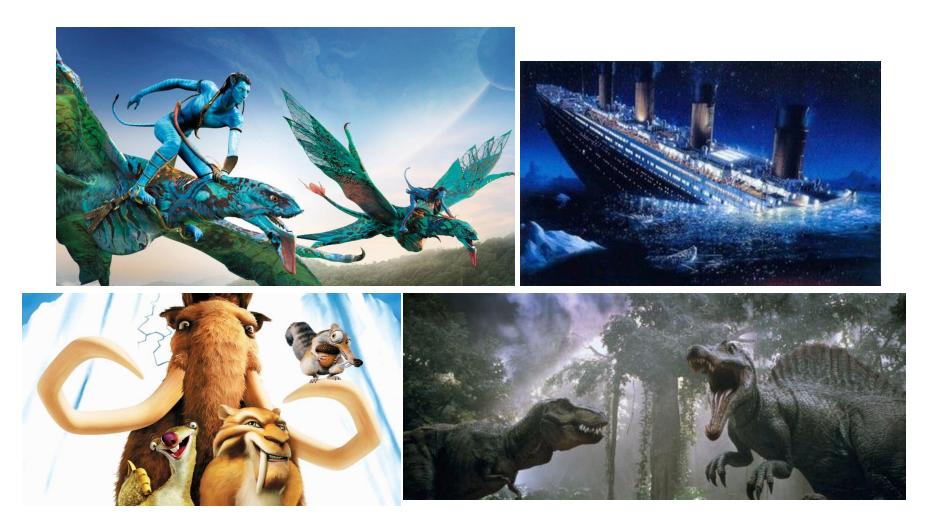
- Introduction to Computer Graphics
 - Images and Displays
 - Ray Tracing
- Big Data Visualization
 - Scientific (3D Volume) Visualization
 - Ray Casting
 - Marching Cubes
 - Information Visualization
 - Challenges and Techniques

What is Computer Graphics (CG)? What can we do with CG?

Video games

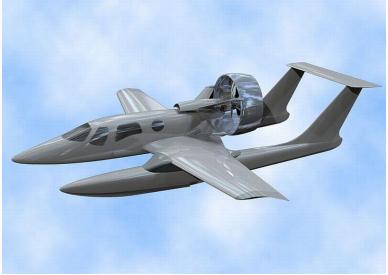


Cartoons and animated films



CAD/CAM

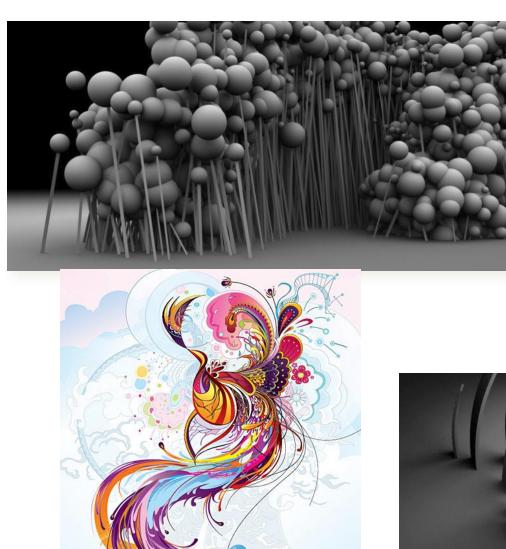


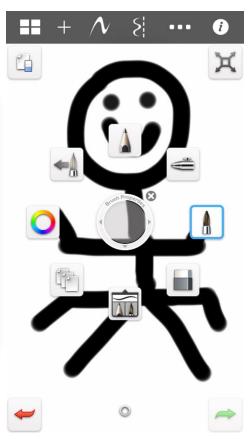


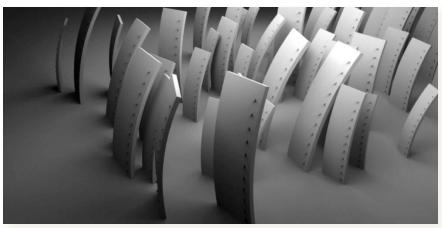




Artworks

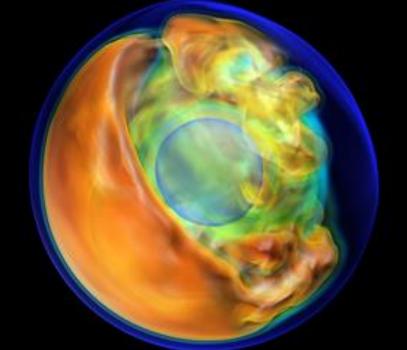






Visualization



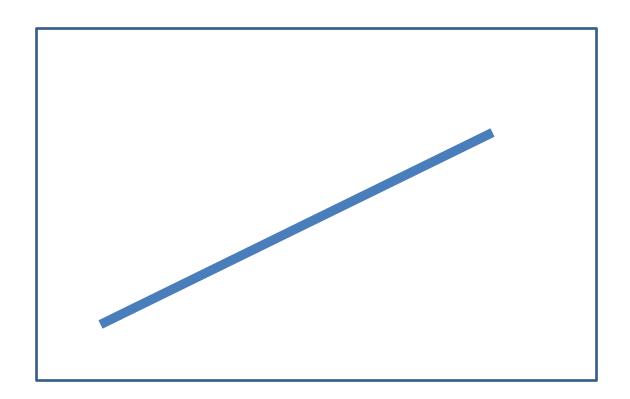




Size of each Cell: Stock Market Value

Color: Stock Change

What is an image?

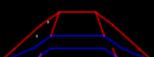


There are two ways to represent an image in a computer

- Vector Image
 - Use instructions to describe the shapes (lines or curves) with no reference to any particular pixel grid
 - A simple line segment: Start (0,0), End (5,3)
 - Advantage
 - Resolution independent, so can be displayed well on very high-resolution devices
 - Require very little memory
 - No aliasing of lines/curves
 - Disadvantage
 - Can only draw line segments
 - » More lines, more time needed
 - Must be rasterized before they can be displayed
 - » Rasterization: converting a vector image (shapes) to a raster image (dots)
 - » Virtually all displays used today are raster displays
 - » Dots are the only things modern displays can understand
 - Used for
 - Text, diagrams, mechanical drawings (use eps figures in a technical paper)
 - Other applications
 - » Crispness and precision are important
 - » Photographic images and complex shading are not needed



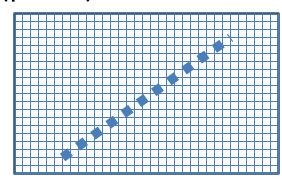






- Raster image
 - A 2D distribution of intensity or color (pixel?)
 - A function defined on a 2D plane

$$I:\mathbb{R}^2 o\dots$$



- A natural representation
- To do graphics, we must
 - Represent images: encode them numerically
 - Vector or raster
 - Display images: realize them as actual intensity distributions
 - Various display devices

Representative Display Technologies

- Computer displays
 - Raster CRT display
 - LCD display
- Printers
 - Laser printer
 - Inkjet printer

Color Displays

CRT

 Phosphor dot to produce finely interleaved color images Electron Guns Selection Shadow Mask LCD Magnified Phosphor-Dot Triangle Interleaved R,G,B pixels Screen

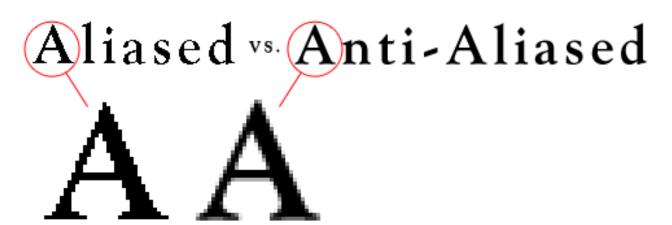
Raster Image Representation

- All these devices suggest 2D arrays of numbers
- Big advantage: represent arbitrary images
 - Approximate arbitrary functions by increasing resolution
 - Just need more memory for more pixels
 - Works because memory is cheap (brute force approach!)



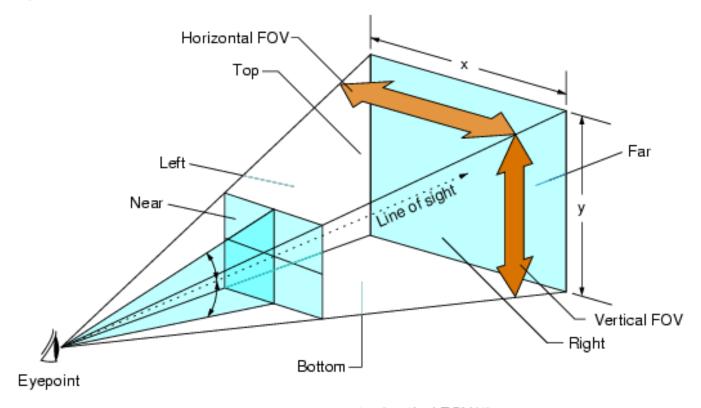
Raster Image Representation

- Disadvantage
 - Memory demand
 - Draw the whole screen "at once"
 - Need a framebuffer to hold the information for the whole image
 - Aliasing
 - This is what causes "jaggies"
 - The incoming signal (the desired image) can only be sampled at pixel centers on the display
 - Image is a sampled representation (image reconstruction)
 - Pixel means "this is the intensity around here"
 - LCD: intensity is constant over square regions
 - CRT: intensity varies smoothly across pixel grid



How do we draw an image in a computer?

- The physical world (real-life objects) is 3D
- The display is, virtually always, only 2D
- Projection: transform 3D model into 2D model



Aspect Ratio =
$$\frac{y}{x} = \frac{\tan(\text{vertical FOV/2})}{\tan(\text{horizontal FOV/2})}$$

Rendering Process

- Start
 - Original 3D geometric model
- Shading
 - Compute color of original geometry
 - · Based on lighting and surface color
- Projection
 - Project original 3D geometry to 2D model
- Clipping
 - Clip original geometry outside FOV
- Rasterization
 - Generate fragments from projected 2D model
- Fragment processing
 - Compute pixel colors from fragments
- End
 - Display pixels

Data Types for Raster Images

- Bitmaps: boolean per pixel (1 bpp): $I:\mathbb{R}^2 \to \{0,1\}$
 - black and white; e.g., fax
- Grayscale: integer per pixel: $I: \mathbb{R}^2 \to [0,1]$
 - shades of gray; e.g., black-and-white print
 - precision: usually byte (8 bpp); sometimes 10, 12, or 16 bpp
- Color: 3 integers (RGB) per pixel: $I:\mathbb{R}^2 o [0,1]^3$
 - full range of displayable color; e.g., color print
 - precision: usually byte[3] (24 bpp)
 - sometimes 16 (5+6+5), 30, 36, 48 bpp

Data Types for Raster Images

- Floating point: $I:\mathbb{R}^2 o \mathbb{R}_+$ or $I:\mathbb{R}^2 o \mathbb{R}_+^3$
 - more abstract, because no output device has infinite range
 - provides high dynamic range (HDR)
 - represent real scenes independent of display
 - becoming the standard intermediate format in graphics processors

Clipping

- first compute floating point (FP), then convert to integer
- full range of values may not "fit" in display's output range
- simplest solution: choose a maximum value, scale so that value becomes full intensity (2^n-1) in an n-bit integer image)

Data Types for Raster Images

- For color or grayscale, sometimes add alpha channel
 - describe transparency of images



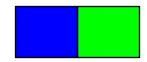
Storage Requirements for Images

- 1024 x 1024 image (1 megapixel, resolution)
 - bitmap 1bpp:
 - grayscale 8bpp:
 - grayscale 16bpp:
 - color 24bpp:
 - floating-point HDR color:
- What is the resolution of your camera? How much storage is needed for each picture?

Converting Pixel Formats

- Color to gray
 - could take one channel (blue, say)
 - leads to odd choices of gray value
 - combination of channels is better
 - but different colors contribute differently to lightness
 - which is lighter, full blue or full green?

Same pixel values.



Same luminance?

good choice: gray = 0.2 R + 0.7 G + 0.1 B







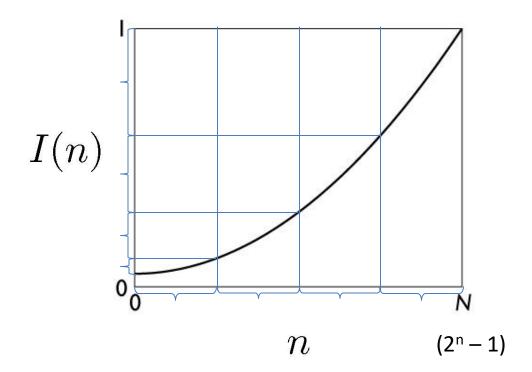
Intensity Encoding in Images

- What do the numbers in images (pixel values) mean?
 - they determine how bright that pixel is
 - bigger numbers are (usually) brighter
- <u>Transfer function</u>: function that maps input pixel value to luminance (intensity) of a displayed image

$$I = f(n)$$
 $f: [0, N] \rightarrow [I_{\min}, I_{\max}]$

- What determines this function?
 - physical constraints of display device or medium
 - desired visual characteristics

• Transfer function:



Constraints on Transfer Function

- Maximum displayable intensity, I_{max}
 - how much power can be channeled into a pixel?
 - LCD: backlight intensity, transmission efficiency (<10%)
 - projector: lamp power, efficiency of imager and optics
- Minimum displayable intensity, I_{min}
 - light emitted by the display in its "off" state
 - LCD: polarizer quality
 - CRT: stray electron flux
- Viewing flare k: light reflected by the display
 - very important factor determining image contrast in practice
 - 5% of I_{max} is typical in a normal office environment
 - requires much effort to make very black CRT and LCD screens

Dynamic Range

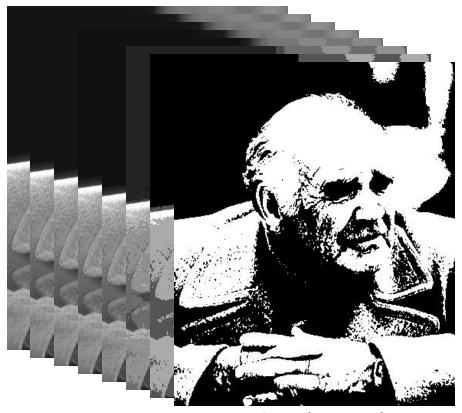
Dynamic range:

$$R_d = I_{\text{max}} / I_{\text{min}}$$
 or $(I_{\text{max}} + k) / (I_{\text{min}} + k)$

- determines the degree of image contrast that can be achieved
- a major factor in image quality!
- Ballpark values of common display devices
 - Desktop display in typical conditions: 20:1
 - Photographic print: 30:1
 - Desktop display in good conditions: 100:1
 - Photographic transparency (directly viewed): 1000:1
 - High Dynamic Range (HDR) display: 10,000:1

Converting Pixel Precision

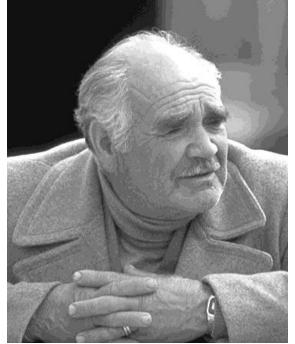
Up is easy; down loses information—be careful



1 bpp (2 grays)

Banding: noticeable intensity change between neighboring pixels

- Desirable property: the change from one pixel value to the next highest pixel value should not produce a visible contrast
 - Otherwise, smooth areas of images will show visible bands
- What contrasts are visible?
 - rule of thumb: under good conditions we can notice a <u>2%</u> change in intensity
 - we generally need smaller quantization steps in the darker tones than in the lighter tones (why?)
 - Darker tones have a lower intensity value
 - A smaller denominator leads to a higher percentage change
 - most efficient quantization is logarithmic



an image with severe banding

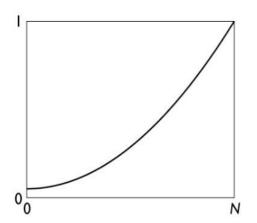
How many levels (pixel value range) are needed?

- Depends on dynamic range
 - 2% steps are most efficient:

$$0 \mapsto I_{\min}; 1 \mapsto 1.02I_{\min}; 2 \mapsto (1.02)^2 I_{\min}; \dots N \longrightarrow (1.02)^N I_{\min}$$

– How many steps (levels) needed per decade (10:1) of dynamic range?

$$R_d = \frac{I_{\text{max}}}{I_{\text{min}}} = \frac{(1.02)^N I_{\text{min}}}{I_{\text{min}}} = (1.02)^N = \frac{10}{1} = 10$$
$$\log(1.02)^N = N \log(1.02) = \log 10 = 1$$
$$N = \frac{1}{\log(1.02)} = \frac{1}{1/120} = 120$$

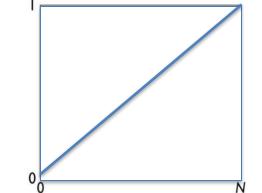


- 240 for desktop display with R_d 100:1
- 360 to print to film with *R*_d 1000:1
- 480 to drive HDR display with R_d 10,000:1

How many levels (pixel value range) are needed?

- If we want to use linear quantization (equal steps), how many levels are needed for R_d=10?
 - one step must be < 2% (1/50) of I_{min}
 - need to get from ~0 to $I_{\min} \cdot R_d$, so need about 50 R_d levels

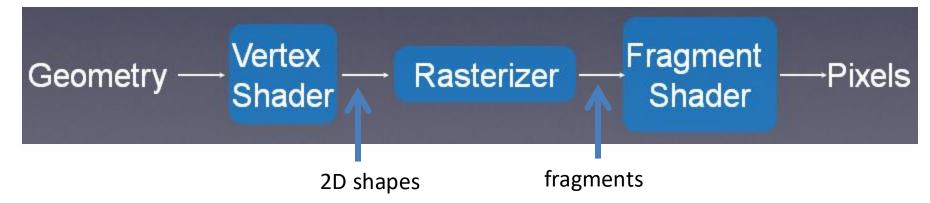
$$\frac{I_{\text{max}} - I_{\text{min}}}{step \ size} = \frac{I_{\text{min}} \cdot R_d - 0}{2\% \cdot I_{\text{min}}} = 50R_d$$



- 1500 for a print with R_d 30:1
- 5000 for desktop display with R_d 100:1
- 500,000 for HDR display with R_d 10,000:1
- Moral: 8 bits (256 levels) is just barely enough for low-end applications
 - but only if we are careful about quantization

How do we view the world?

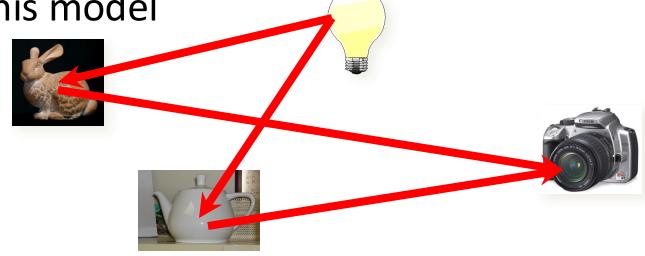
From the perspective of the graphics pipeline



- Light, surface, and camera
 - Light
 - determines the color of the surface
 - Surface
 - represents the 3D geometry in the scene
 - Camera
 - projects the 3D geometry onto the 2D view plane

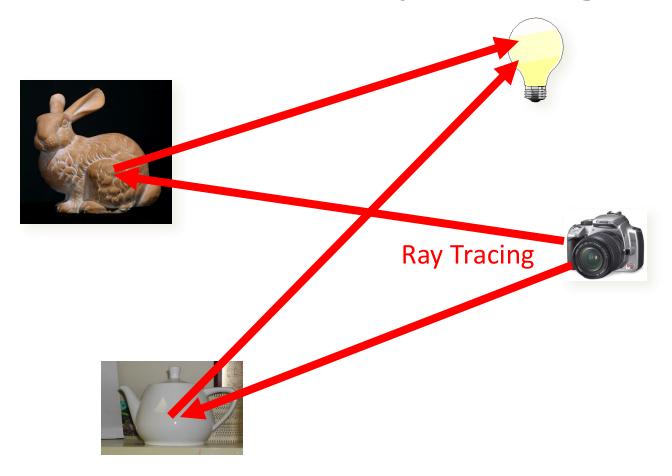
A Model of the Universe

Implement a straightforward algorithm based on this model

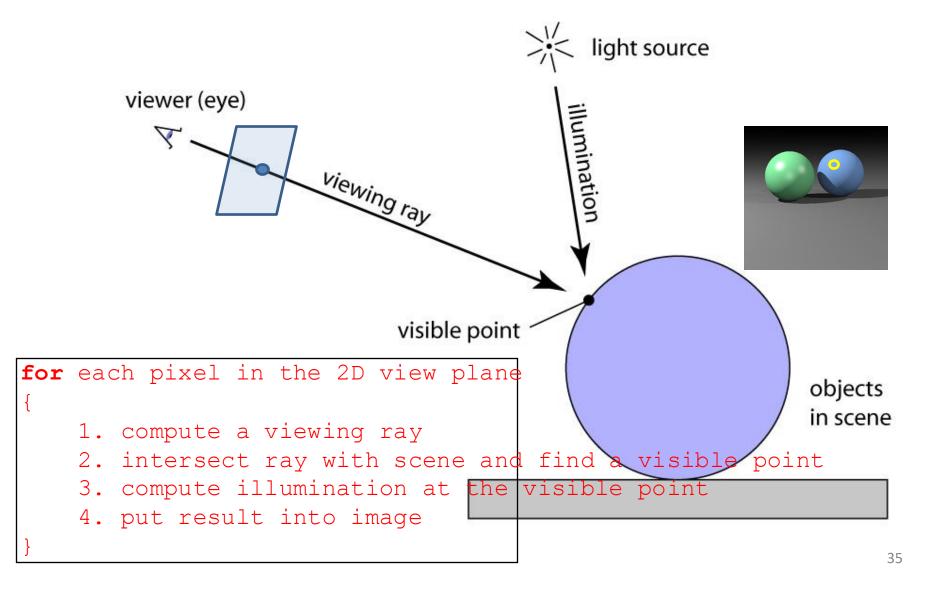


- What's the biggest issue with this model?
 - Inefficient
 - Many (probably most) light rays in a scene would never hit the image plane

A Solution: Ray Tracing!



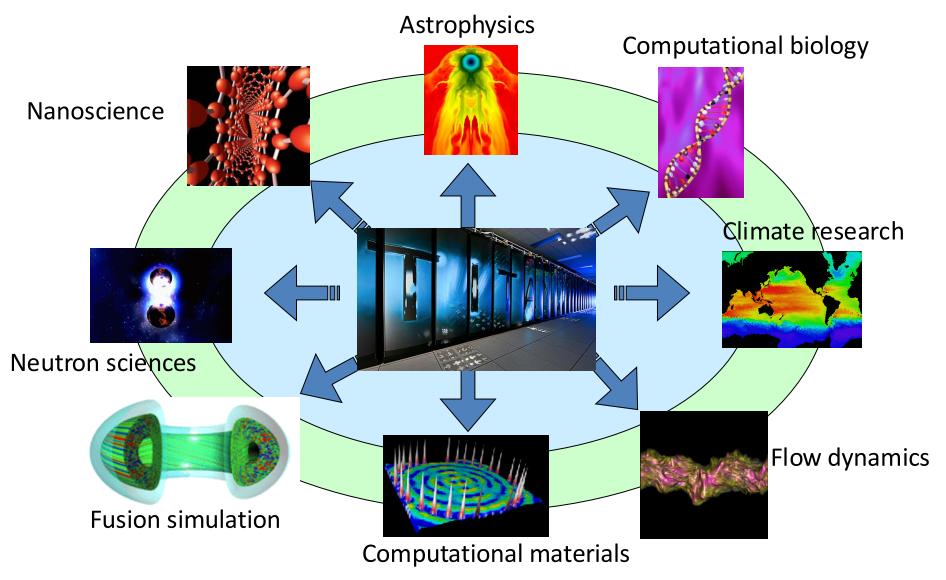
Ray Tracing Algorithm



Big Data Visualization

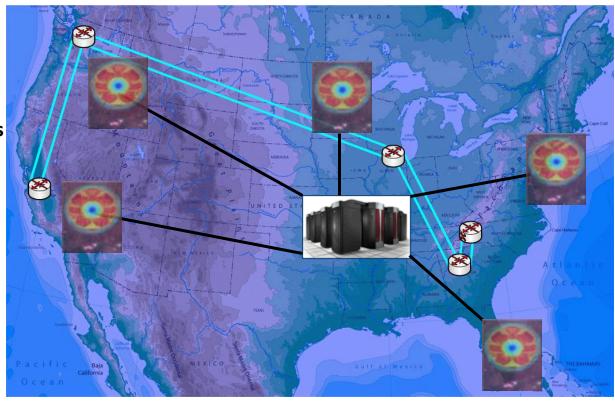
- Scientific (Volume) Visualization
- Information Visualization

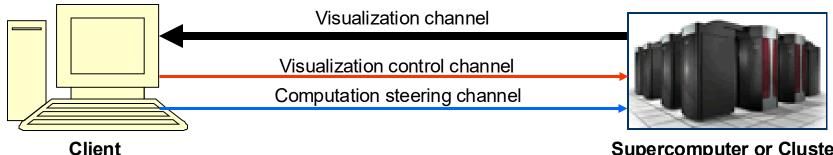
Scientific Visualization



Terascale Supernova Initiative (TSI)

- **Collaborative project**
 - Supernova explosion
- TSI simulation
 - 1 terabyte a day with a small portion of parameters
 - From TSI to PSI
- Transfer to remote sites
 - Interactive distributed visualization
 - **Collaborative data analysis**
 - **Computation monitoring**
 - **Computation steering**





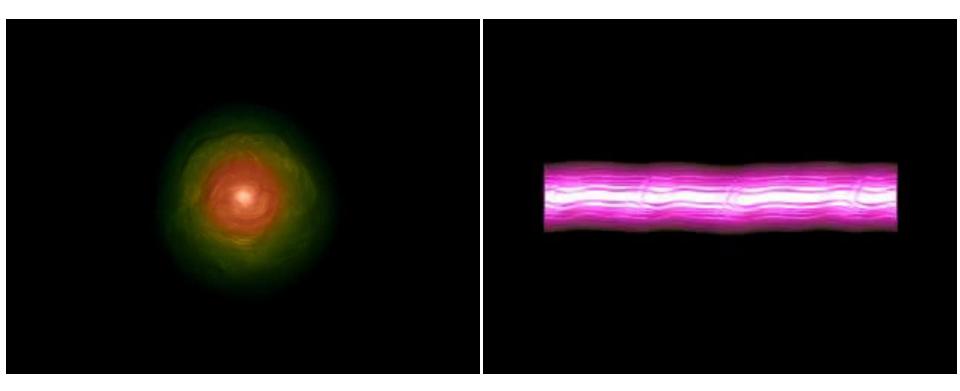
Supercomputer or Cluster

A Prototype System: Distributed Remote Intelligent Visualization Environment (DRIVE)

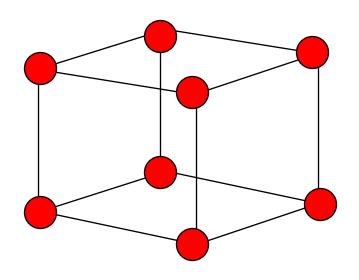
Two Examples in the Visualization of Large-scale Scientific Applications

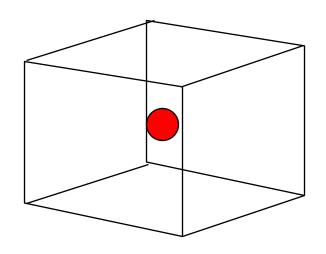
TSI explosion (density, raycasting)

Jet air flow dynamics (pressure, raycasting)



Volume Rendering Samples in a volume dataset





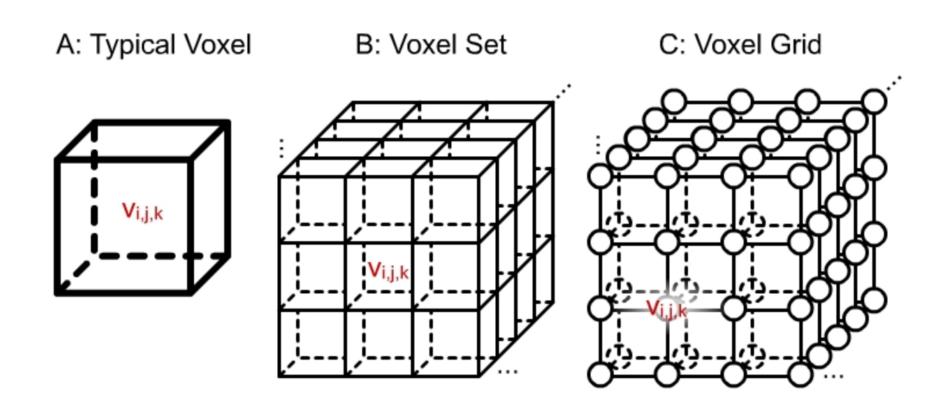
Voxel with samples at vertices.

Voxel with sample at center.

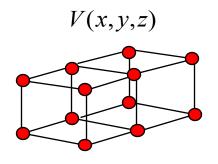
Voxels are for any data representation: <u>temperature</u>, <u>density</u>, <u>pressure</u>, etc.

Pixels are just for colors

Volume Dataset

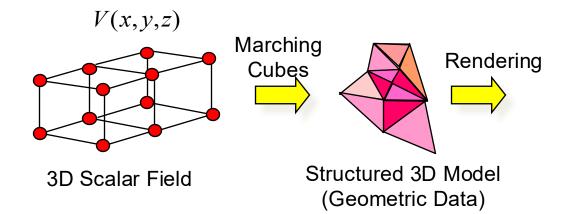


Volume Rendering Process

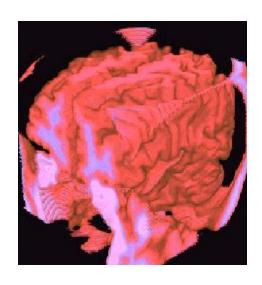


Ray Casting

3D Scalar Field

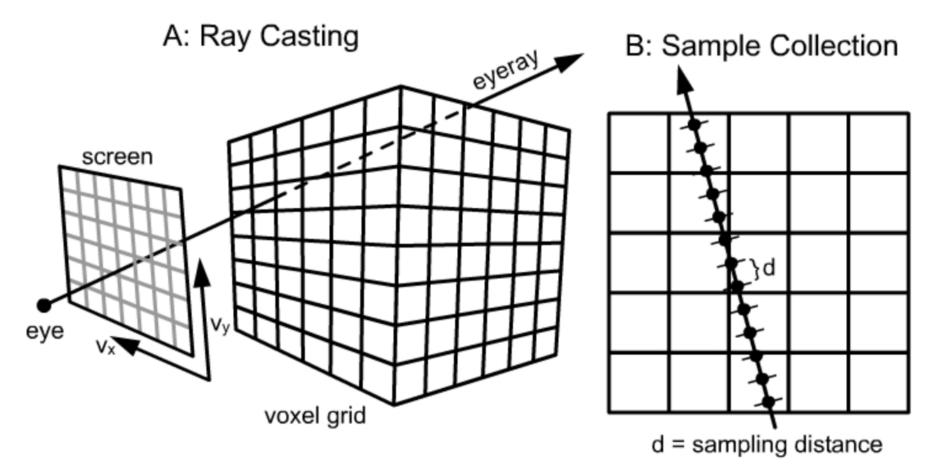


2D Scalar Image



Ray Casting

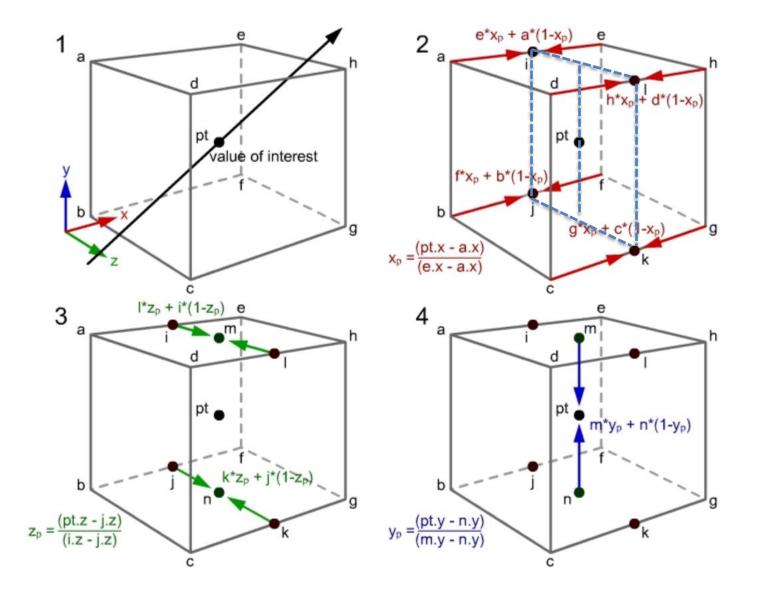
Ray Casting and Sample Collection



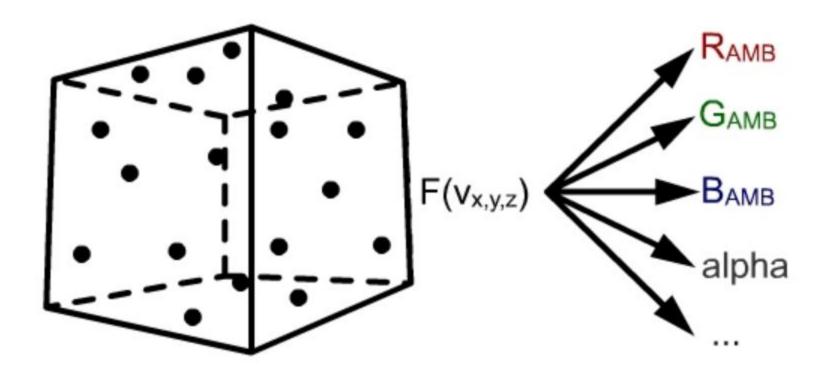
Sampling distance is a user-defined value

More sampling results in a more clear, well approximated surface
 In general, the sampling distance should be less than the size of a voxel

3D Linear Interpolation



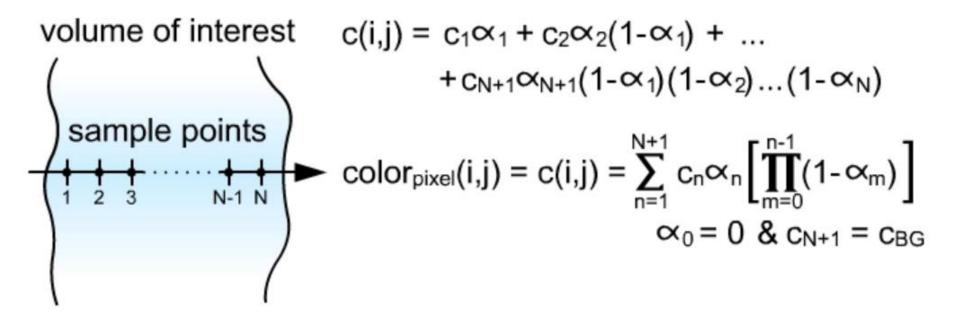
Transfer Function



Transfer functions are used to <u>convert sampled values to color and alpha</u> values to describe the surface

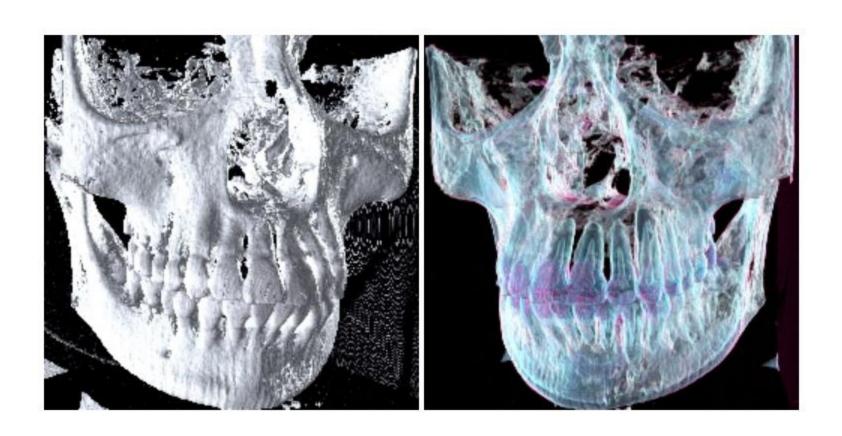
 Transfer functions are <u>entirely user defined</u> and are manipulated to make the surface coherent

Alpha Combination of Sample Color

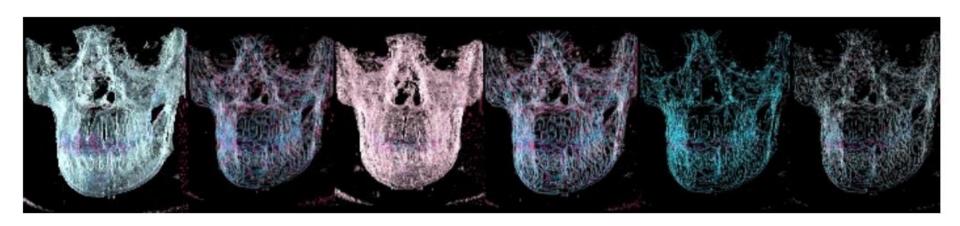


The combining of the samples is performed in such a way that the samples nearer to the observer (eye) obscure those behind it according to the surface alpha values.

Examples (without and with transparency)

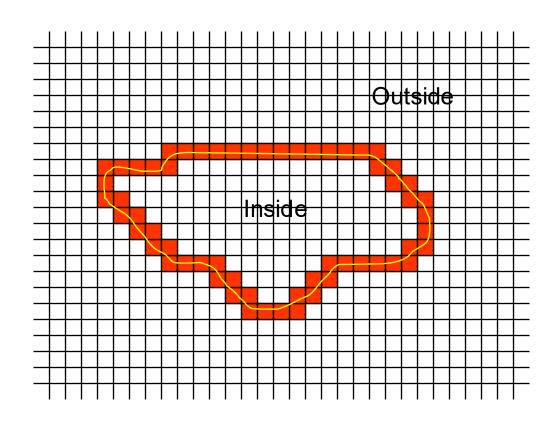


Using different transfer functions

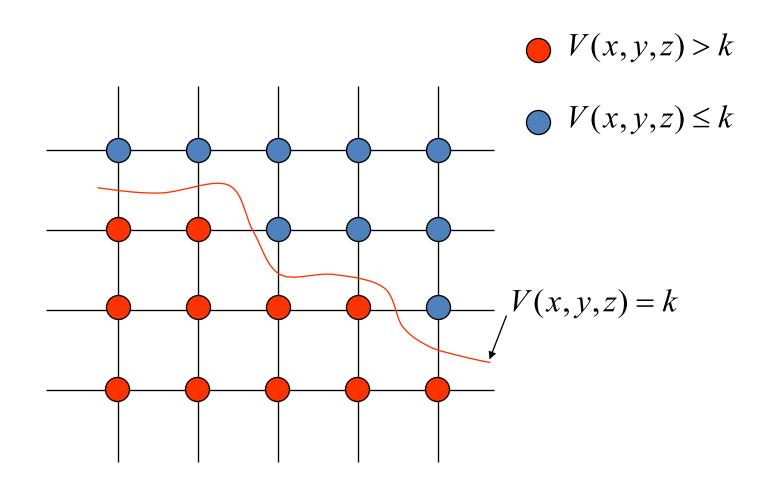


Marching Cubes

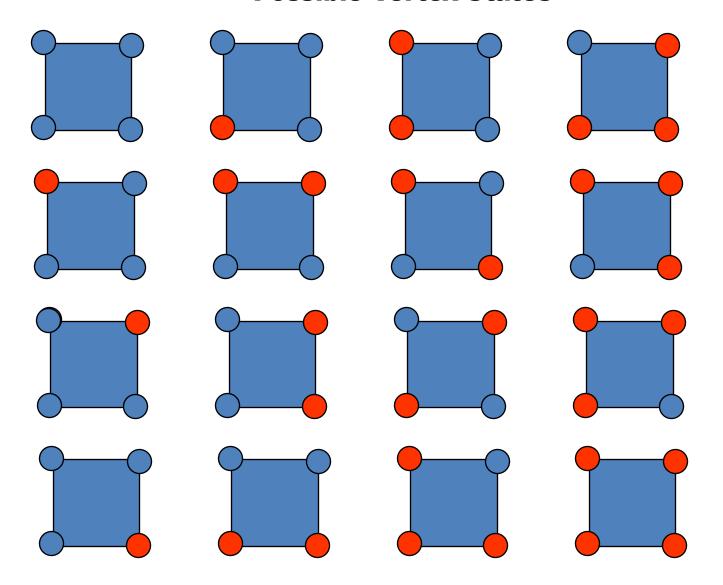
The "Marching Cubes" Algorithm Lorenson & Cline 1987



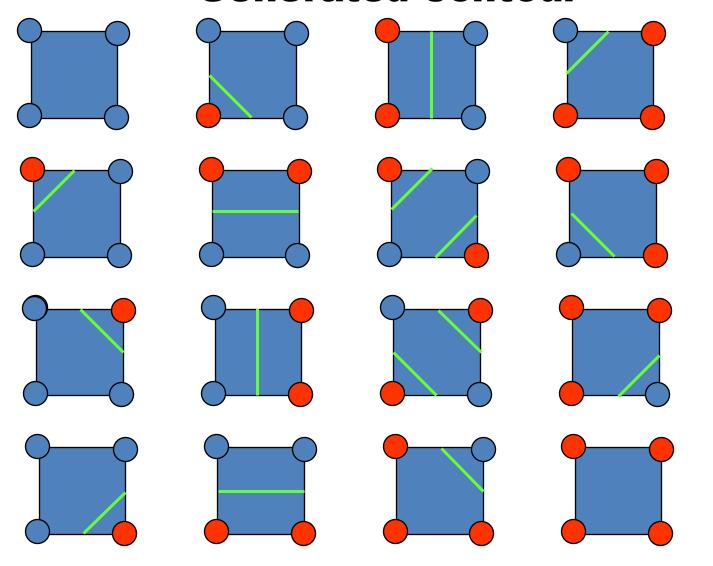
The "Marching Cubes" Algorithm



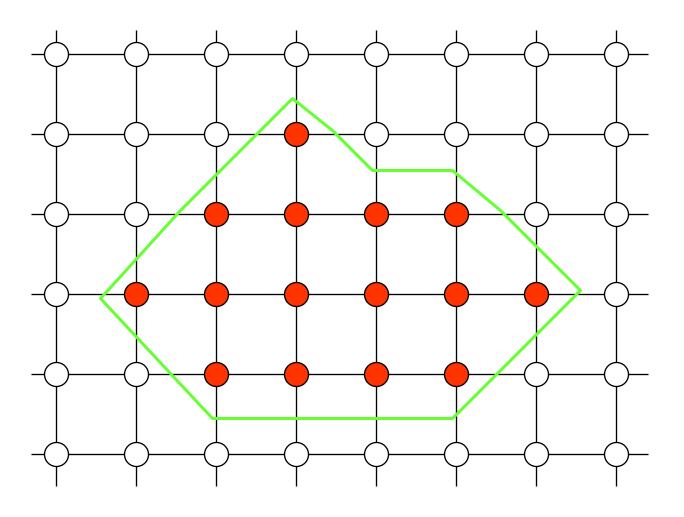
The "Marching Cubes" (Marching Square) Algorithm Possible Vertex States



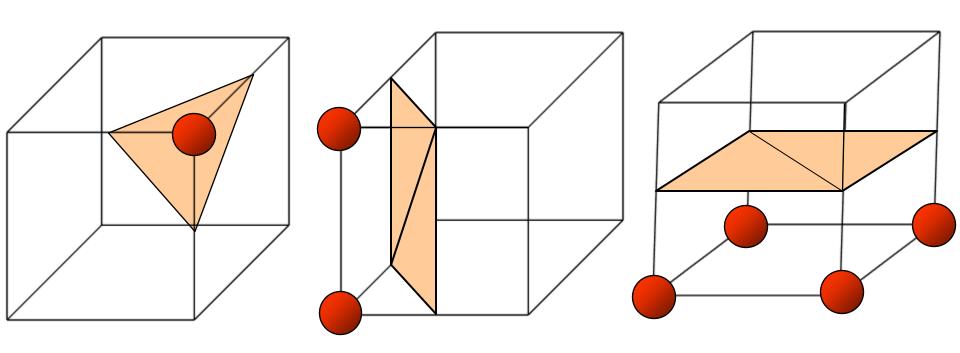
The "Marching Cubes" Algorithm Generated contour



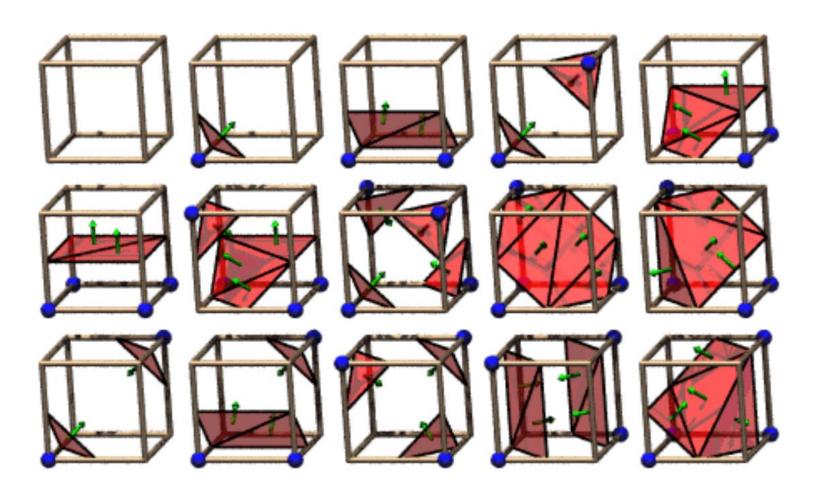
Generation of contour from subcontours



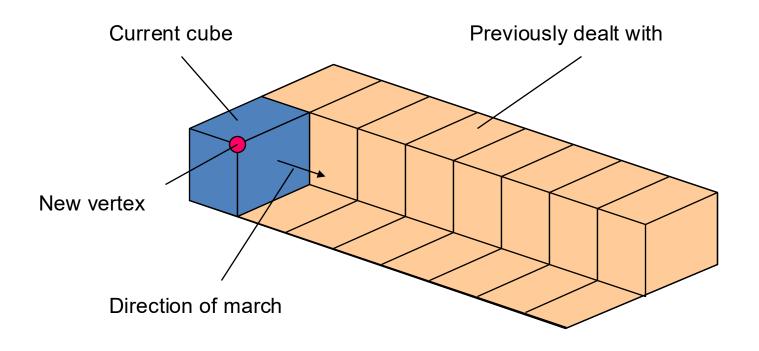
Marching Cubes Algorithm in 3D Isosurface generation



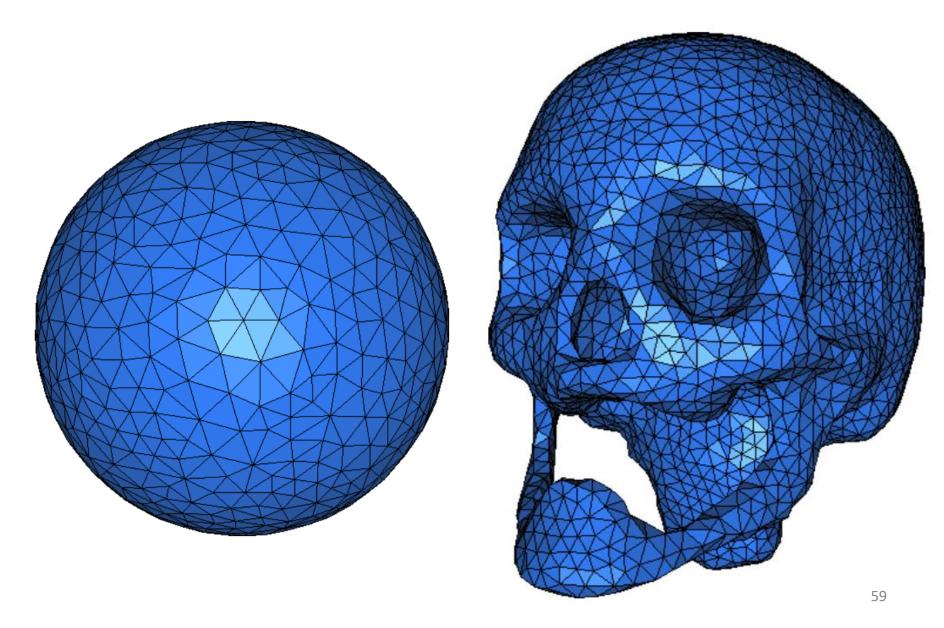
15 Cases



Marching Cubes



Triangulation Examples



Information Visualization

"... finding the artificial memory that best supports our natural means of perception." (Bertin, 1983)

"The use of computer-supported, interactive, visual representations of abstract data to amplify cognition." (Card, Mackinlay, Shneiderman, 1999)

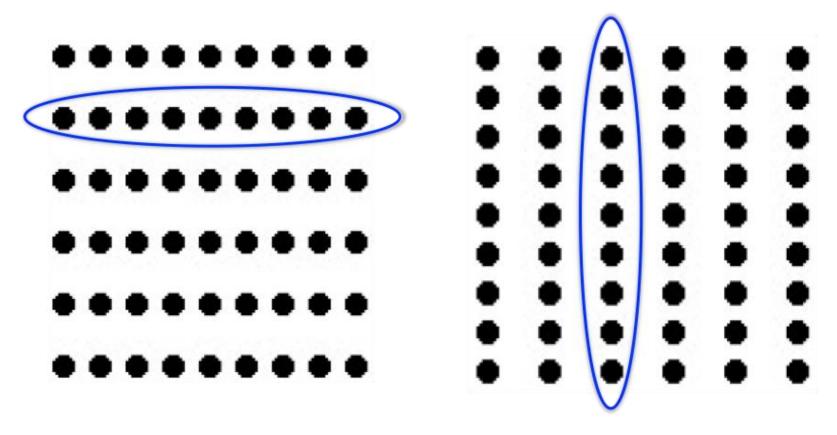
Visual Thinking: Example 1

• Counting the number of 3s in the following Text:

1235693234870452973467 0378937043679709102539

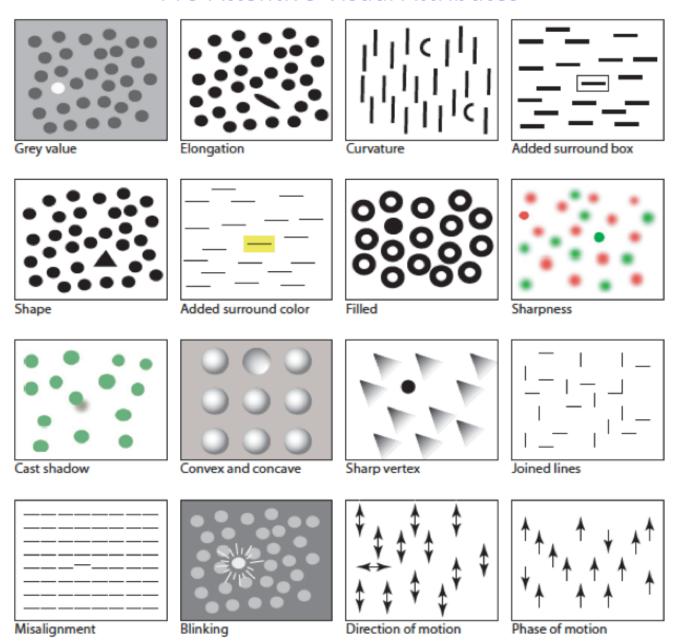
Visual Thinking: Example 2

Identify the groups of dots in the following figures



Law of Proximity we tend to group elements that are closest to each other

Pre-Attentive Visual Attributes



Big Data Era: Data, Data, and Data How do we make sense of the data?

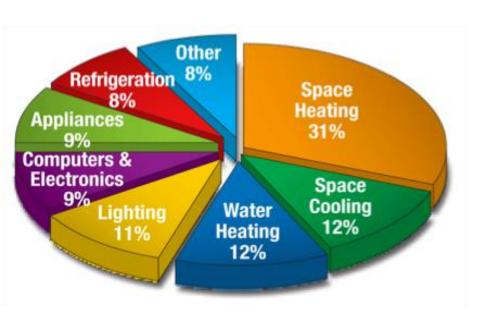


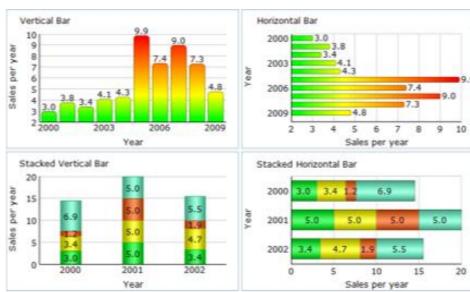
340 million tweets a day!



4 billion messages a day!

Examples: Visualizing Numerical Data



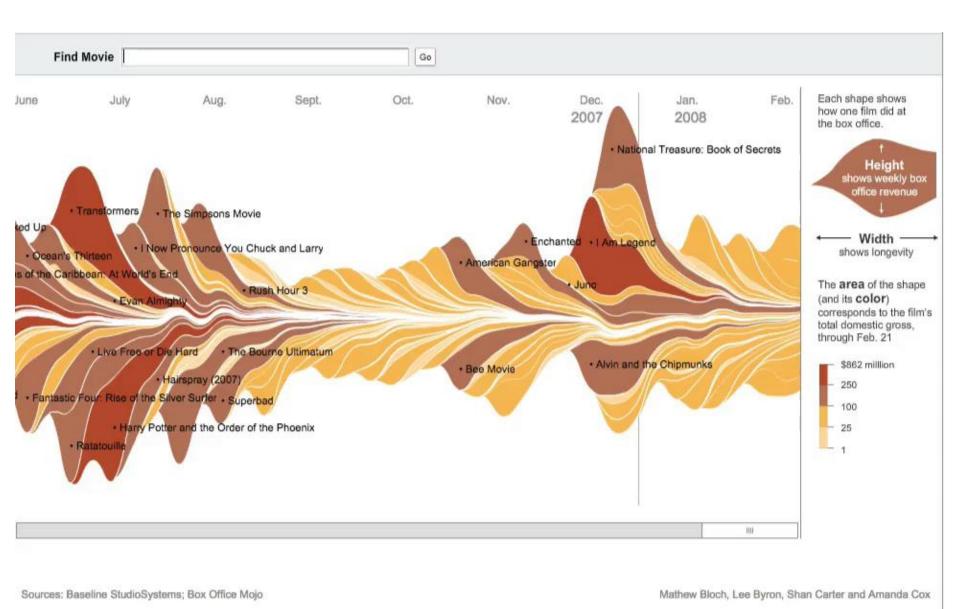




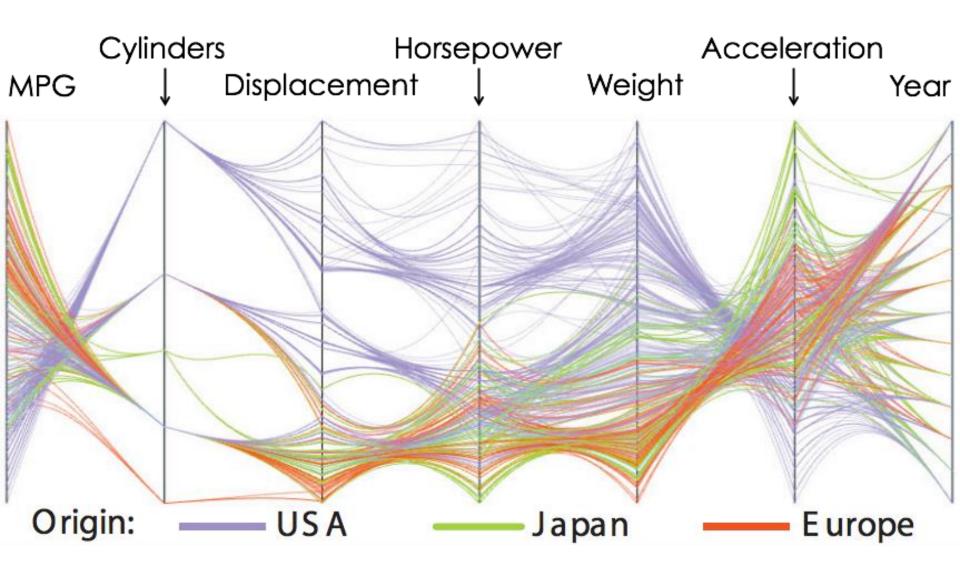


Size of each cell: Stock Market Value

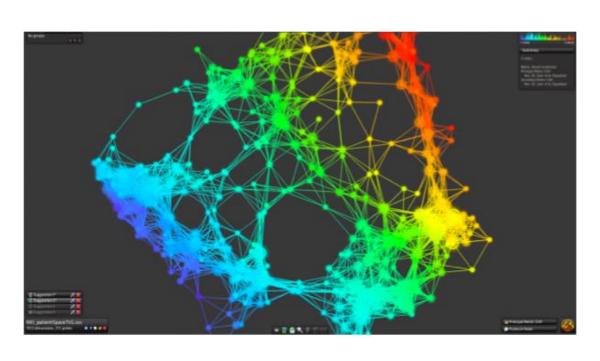
Color: Stock Change



Example: Multi-Dimensional Data



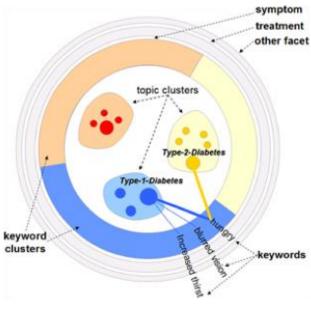
Examples: Visualizing Structured Data



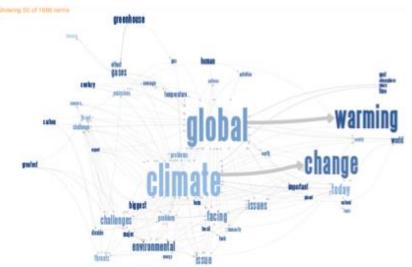


Examples: Visualizing Unstructured Data

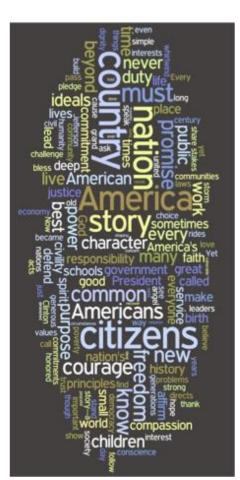




Address of the second line and the second line



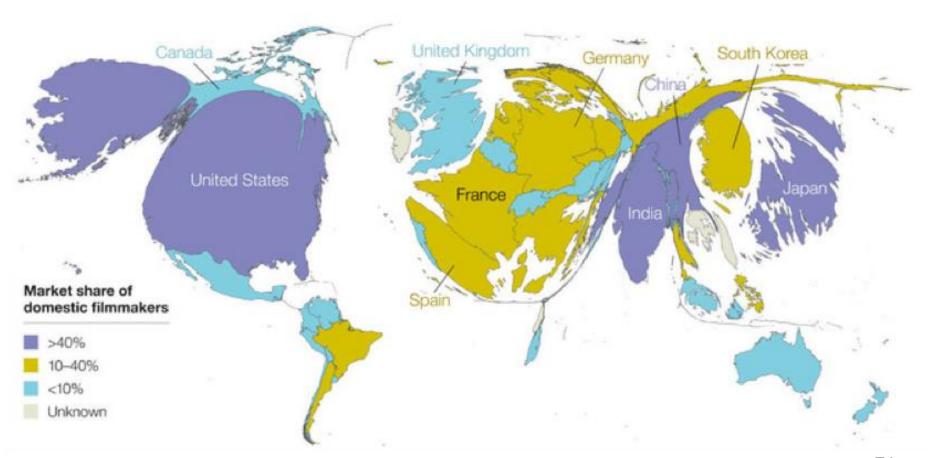
Visualization of Text Documents



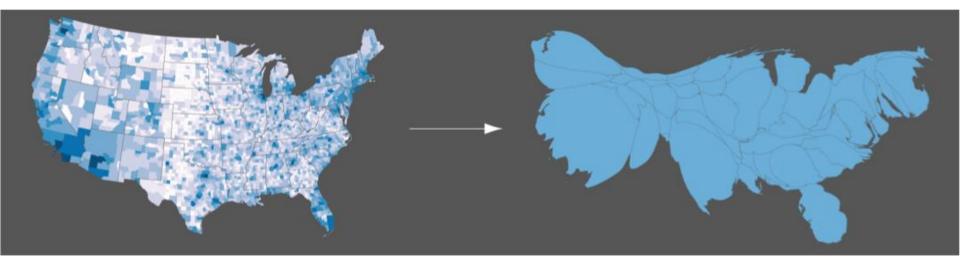
Examples: Geospatial

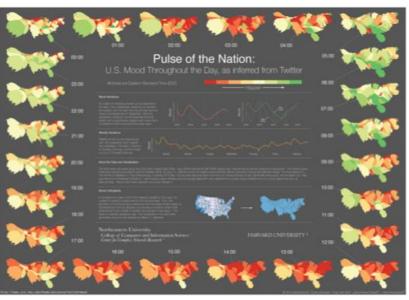
Larger cinema markets support stronger domestic film industries.

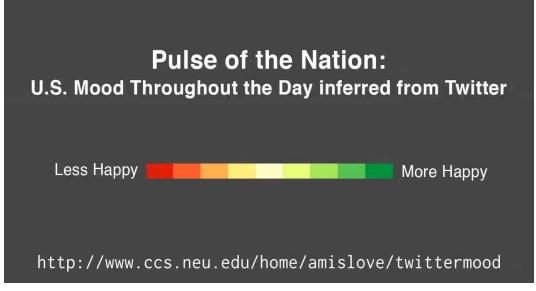
Countries sized by relative share of worldwide box office revenue, 2009



Example: Visualizing Spatial Temporal Data







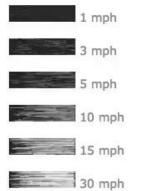
Examples: Visualizing Spatial Temporal Data

wind map

N.

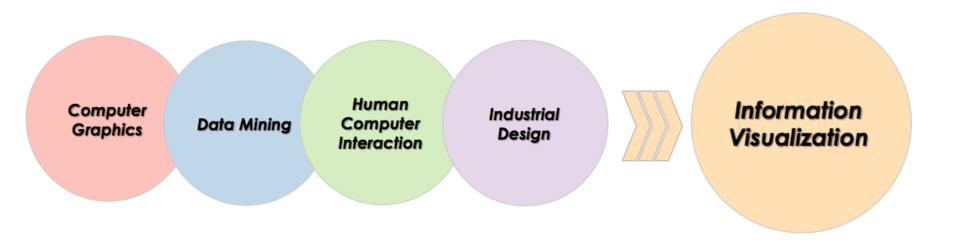
Dec. 3, 2014 11:35 am EST (time of forecast download)

top speed: 31.5 mph average: 8.2 mph

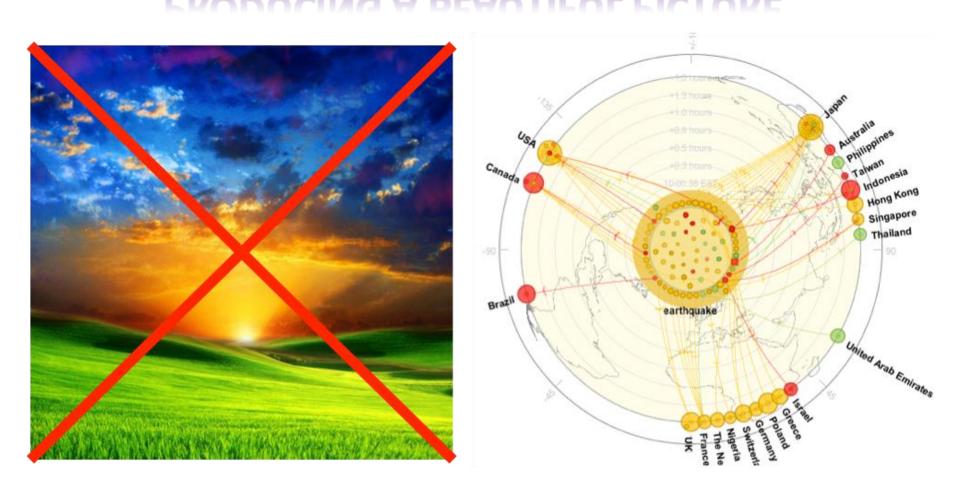




An Interdisciplinary Field

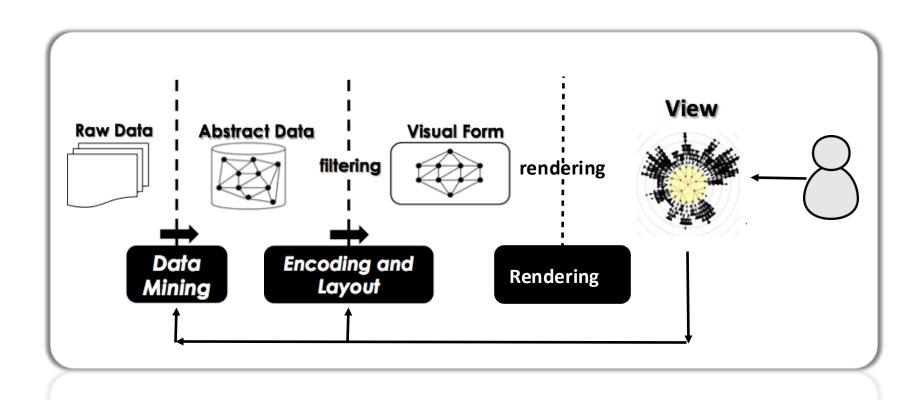


VISUALIZATION IS NOT JUST ABOUT PRODUCING A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE



The purpose of visualization is to reveal the insight of the data!

Visualization & Visual Analysis Reference Model



Functions of Visualization

- Record Information (Store & Summarize) :
 - Photographs, blueprints, ...
- Explore information (analyze):
 - Process and calculate
 - Reason about data
 - Feedback and interaction
- Explain Information (present):
 - convey information to others
 - Share and persuade
 - Collaborate and revise
 - Emphasize important aspect of data

Big Data Visualization

- Challenges
- Techniques

Big Data Visualization

76425 species



Tree of Life by Dr. Yifan Hu

14.8 million tweets



The information diffusion graph of the death of Osama bin Laden by Gilad Lotan

500 million users

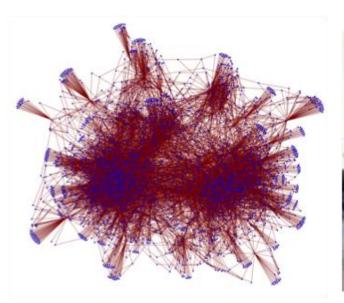


Facebook friendship graph by Paul Butler

Challenging Task:

Squeezing millions and even billions of records into million pixels (1600 X 1200 = 2 million pixels

Challenges



Visual clutter

How can we avoid visual clutters like overlaps and crossings?



Performance issues

How can we render the huge datasets in real time with rich interactions?



Limited cognition

How can users understand the visual representation when the information is overwhelming?

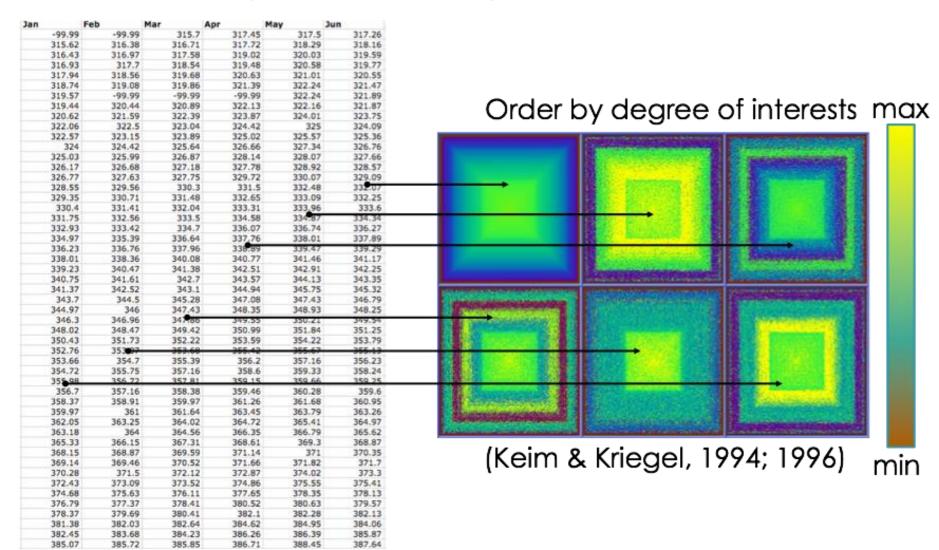
Techniques (1): Pixel Oriented Visualization



A multidimensional data item contains 6 attributes

Technique(1): Pixel Oriented Visualization

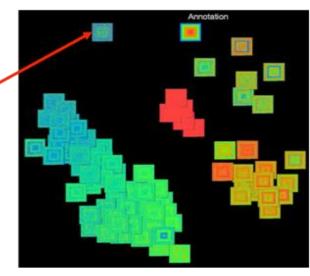
Database visualization (10,000 items, 6 dimensions)



Techniques (1): Pixel Oriented Visualization

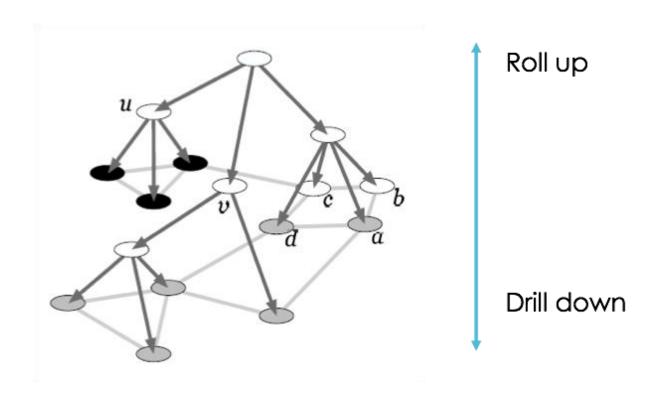
Different Ways for splitting the display region

	lan	Feb		Mar		Apr		May		Jun		Jut		ug	Sep		Oct		YOY		Dec		Annual Averag
1958	-99.1		-99.99		315.7		317.45		317.5		17.26		315.86	314.0		313.2		12.44		313.33		314.6	-99.99
959	315.6		316.38		116.71		317.72		318.29		18.16		316.54	314		313.84		13.26		314.8		315.56	315.98
960	316.		316.97		317.58		319.02		320.03		19.59		318.18	315.5		314.16		13.84		315		316.19	316.91
961	316.1		317.7		118.54		319.48		320.58		19.77		318.57	316.		314.0		15.38		316.1		317.01	317.64
962	317.5		318.56		319.68		320.63		321.01		20.55		319.58	317		316.25		15.42		316.69		317.7	318.45
1963	318.		319.08		119.86		321.39		322.24		21.47		319.74	317.		316.21		15.99		317.12		318.31	318.99
964	319.5		-99.99		99.99		-99.99		322.24		21.89		320.44	318		316.7		16.79		317,79		318.71	-99.99
1965	319.		320.44		120.89		322.13		322.16		21.87		321.39	318		317.81		317.3		318.87		319.42	320.04
966	320.		321.59		122.39		323.87		324.01		23.75		322.39	320.3		318.64		318.1		319.79		321.08	321.38
1967	322.0		322.5		323.04		324.42		325		24.09		322.55	320.5		319.31		19.31		320.72	-	321.96	322.16
968	322		323.15		123.89		325.02		325.57		25.36		324.14	322.0		320.41		20.25		321.31	-	322.84	323.05
969	35		324.42		325.64		326.66		327.34		26.76		325.88	323.6		322.38		21.78		322.85		324.12	324.63
970	325.0		325.99		326.87		328.14		328.07		27.66		326.35	324.6		323.1		23.16		323.98		325.13	325.68
971	326		326.68		127.18		327.76		328.92		28.57		327.34	325.4		323.36		23.57		324.8		326.01	326.32
972	326.		327.63		327.75		329.72		330.07		29.09		328.05	326.3		324.93		25.06		326.5		327.55	327.45
973	328.		329.56		330.3		331.5		332.48		32.07		330.87	329.		327.51		27.18		326.16		328.64	329.68
974	329.3		330.71		331.48		332.65		333.09	- 3	32.25		331.18	329		327.43		27.37		328.46		329.57	330.25
975	330		331.41		132.04		333.31		333.96		333.6		331.91	330.0		328.56		28.34		329.49		330.76	331.15
976	331.7		332.56		333.5		334.58		334.87		34.34		333.05	330.5		329.3		28.94		330.31	-	331.68	332.15
977	332.		333.42		334.7		336.07		336.74		36.27		334.93	332.		331.59		31.16		332.4		333.85	333.9
978	334.		335.39		136.64		337.76		338.01		37.89		336.54	334.6		332.76		32.55		333.92		334.95	335.51
979	336.		336.76		337.96		338.89		339.47		39.29		337.73	336.0		333.91		33.86		335.29		336.73	336.85
980	338.		338.36		340.08		340.77		341.46		41.17		339.56	337		335.88		36.02		337.1	-	338.21	338.69
981	339.		340.47		341.38		342.51		342.91		42.25		340.49	338.4		336.69		35.86		338.36		339.61	339.6
982	340.		341.61		342.7		343.57		364.13		43.35		342.06	339.8		337.98		37.86		339.26		340.49	3 1.13
983	341.		342.52		343.1		344,94		345.75		45.32		343.99	342.		339.86		39.99		341.15		342.99	342.78
984	343		344.5		345.28		347.08		347.43		46.79		345.4	343.2		341.07		41.35		342.98		344.22	344.42
985	344.5		346		347.43		348.35		348.93		48.25		346.56	344.6		343.09		342.8		344.24		345.55	345.9
986	346		346.96		347.86		349.55		350.21		49.54		347.94	345		344.85		64.17		345.66	-	346.9	347.15
987	348.1		348.47		149.42		350.99		351.84		51.25		349.52	348		346.45		46.36		347.81		348.96	348.93
988	350.		351.73		352.22		353.59		354.22		53.79		352.38	350.4		348.72		45.88		350.07	-	351.34	351.48
989	352.		353.07		353.68		355.42		355.67		55.13		353.9	351.6		349.8		49.99		351.29		352.52	352.91
990	353.0		354.7		155.39		356.2		357.16		56.23		354.82	352.5		350.96		51.18		352.83		354.21	354.19
991	354.		355.75		357.16		358.6		359.33		58.24		356.17	354.0		352.15		52.21		353.75		354.99	355.59
992	355.5		356.72		157.81		359.15		359.66	_	59.25		357.02	35		353.01		53.31		354.16		355.4	356.37
993	356		357.16		158.38		359.46		360.28	-	359.6		357.57	355.5		353.69		53.99		355.34		356.8	357,04
995	358.		358.91		159.97 161.64		361.26		361.68		60.95		359.55 361.9	357.4		355.84 358.05		55.99		357.58		359.04	358.89 360.88
995	362.0		363.25		364.02		363.45		365.41		63.26		363.65	359.4 361.4		359.45		359.6		359.56		362.33	362.64
995	363.		364		164.56		364.72		366.79		65.62		364.47			360.19		60.77		362.43		364.28	363.76
998	365.		366.15		367.31		368.61		369.3		68.87		367.64	362.5		363.9		64.23		365.46		366.97	366.63
999	368.		368.87		369.59		371.14		371		70.35		369.27	366.9		364.63		65.13		366.67		368.01	368.31
000	369.		369.46		370.52		371.66		371.82	-	371.7		370.12	368.1		366.62		66.73		368.29		369.53	369.48
1001	370.2		371.5		172.12		372.87		374.02		373.3		371.62	369.5		367.96		68.09		369.68		371.24	371.02
1002	372.		373.09		373.52		374.86		375.55		75.41		374.02	371.4		370.7		70.25		372.08		373.78	373.1
1003	374.5		375.63		376.11		377.65		378.35		78.13		376.62	374		372.99		73.01		374.35		375.7	375.64
1004	376.7		377.37		178.41		380.52		380.63		79.57		377.79	375.1		374.07		74.24		375.86		377,47	377.38
1005	378.		379.69		380.41		382.1		382.28		82.13		380.66	378.7		376.42		76.88		378.32		380.04	379.67
2005	381.		382.03		182.64		384.62		384.95		84.06		382.29	380.4		378.67		79.06		380.14		381.74	381.84
2007	382.		383.68		184.23		386.26		386.39		85.87		384.39	381.7		380.73		80.81		382.33		383.69	383.55
1008	385.0		385.72		385.85		386.71		388.45		87.64		386.1	383.1		382.91		82.73		383.96		385.0	385.34
	2021	41	200.74	_	14.5-53		200.12		200.72		100.00	_	20014	202-	-	304-74		Me-I'd		202.70	_	202.44	202.27



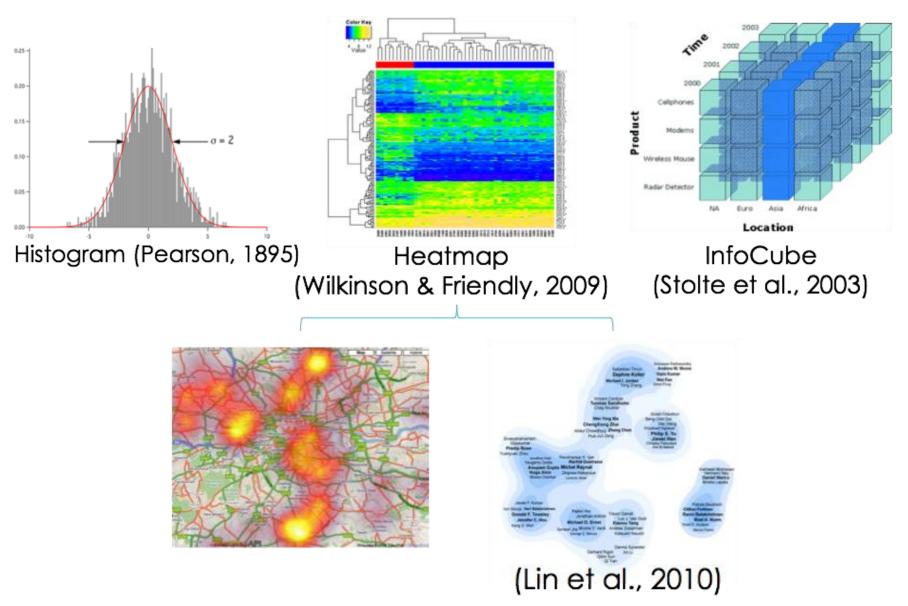
(Yang et al., 2006)

Techniques (2): Aggregation & Level of Details (LOD)

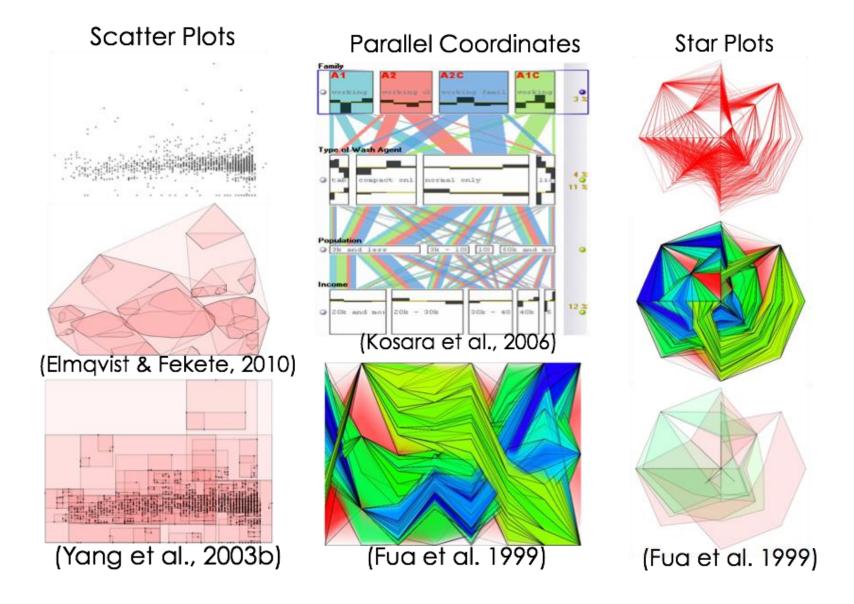


Building a tree for aggregating data items in either a bottom-up or top-down approach

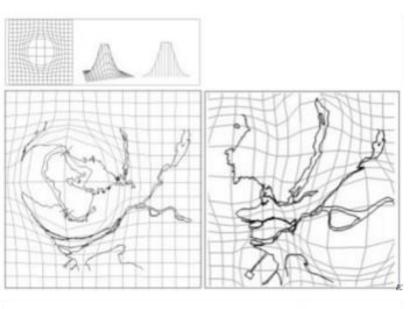
Technique (2): Aggregation & LOD

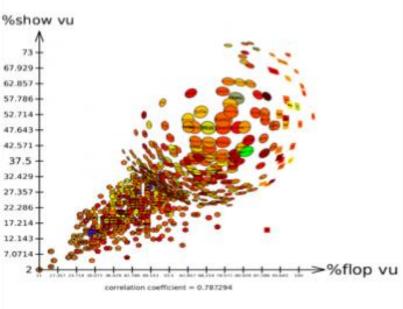


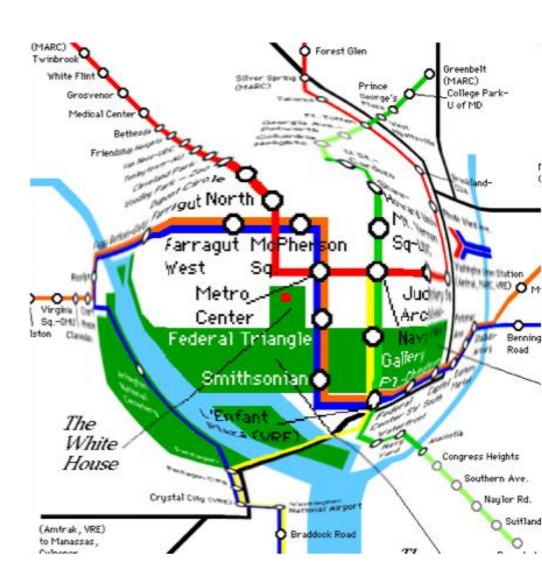
Techniques (2): Aggregation & LOD



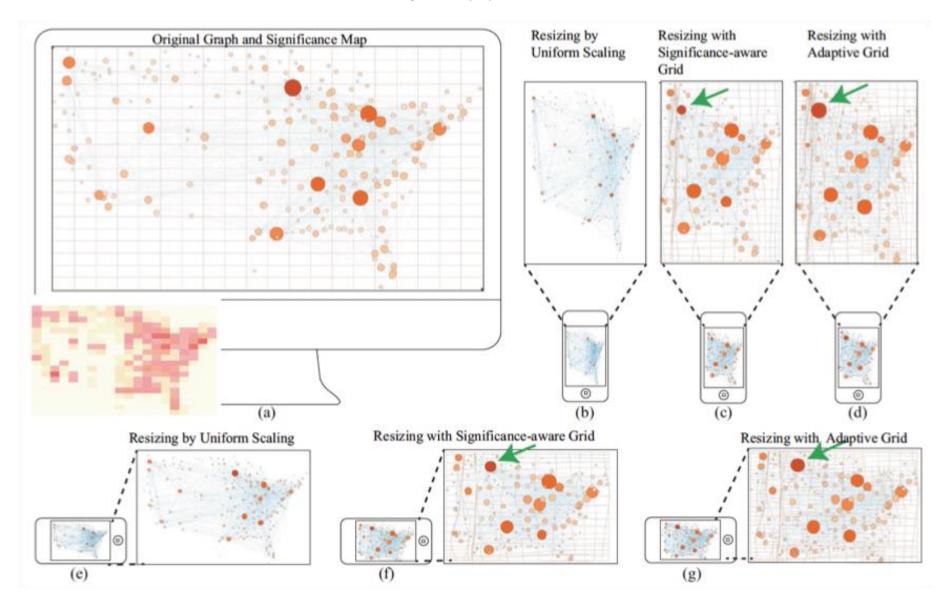
Technique (3): Distortion







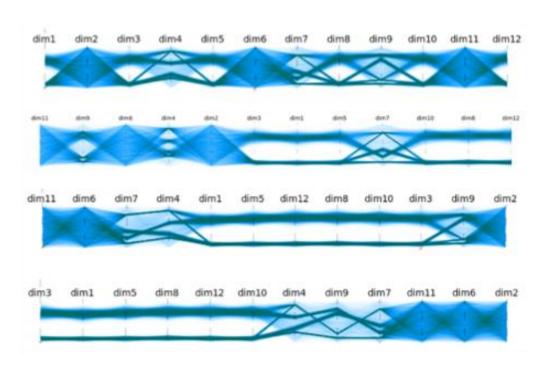
Techniques (3): Distortion



Technique (4): Clutter Reduction

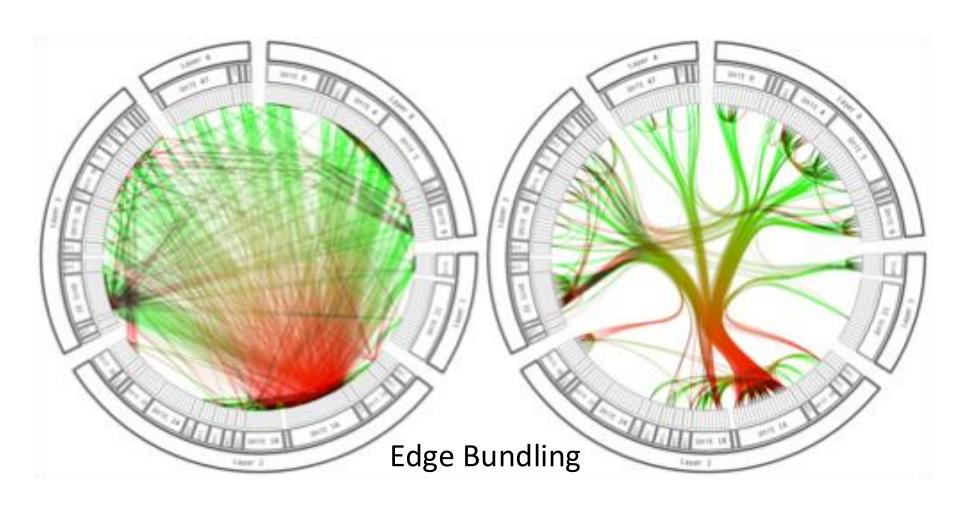


Sampling

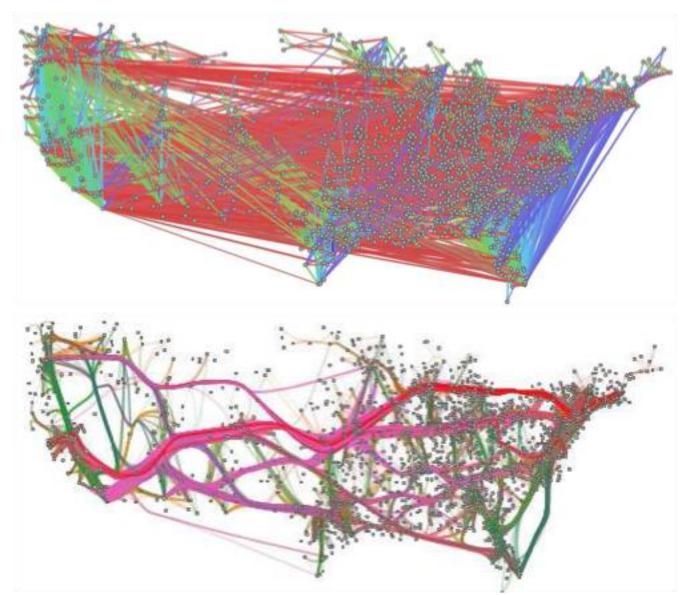


Reordering

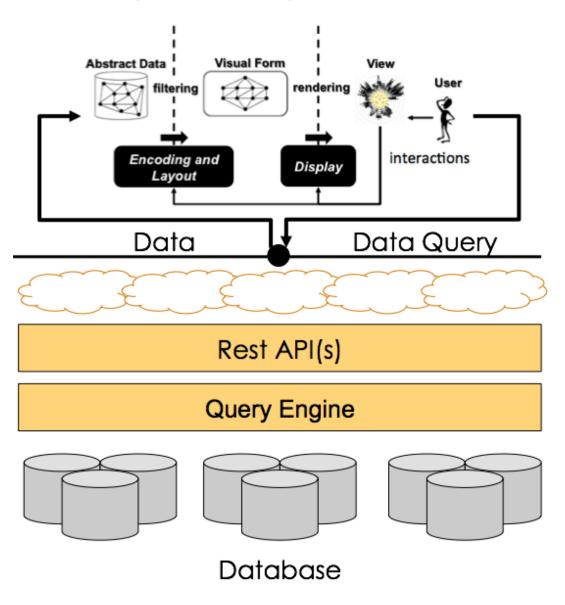
Technique (4): Clutter Reduction



Technique (4): Clutter Reduction



Technique (5): Query-based Visualization



Case Study

ContexTour: Multifaceted Visuailzation of Research Communities

Context Tour Data Transformation & Analysis

