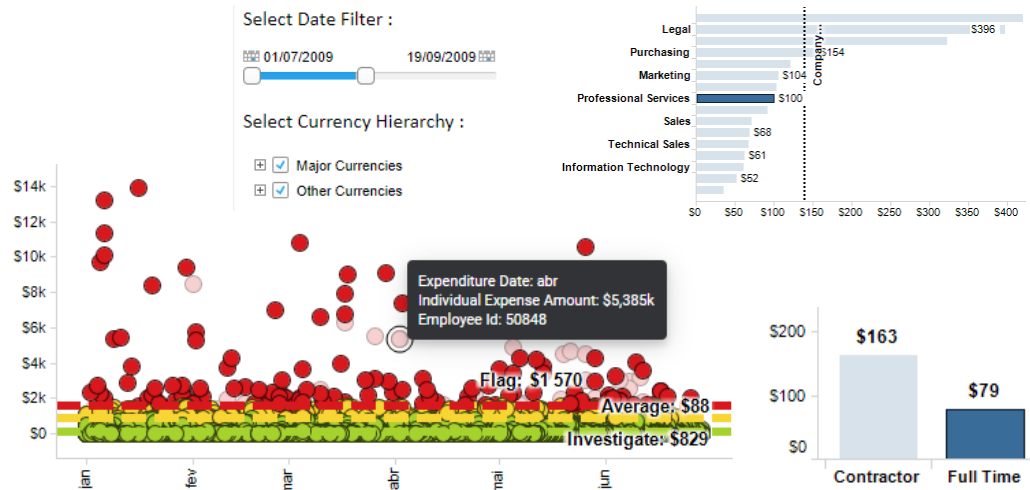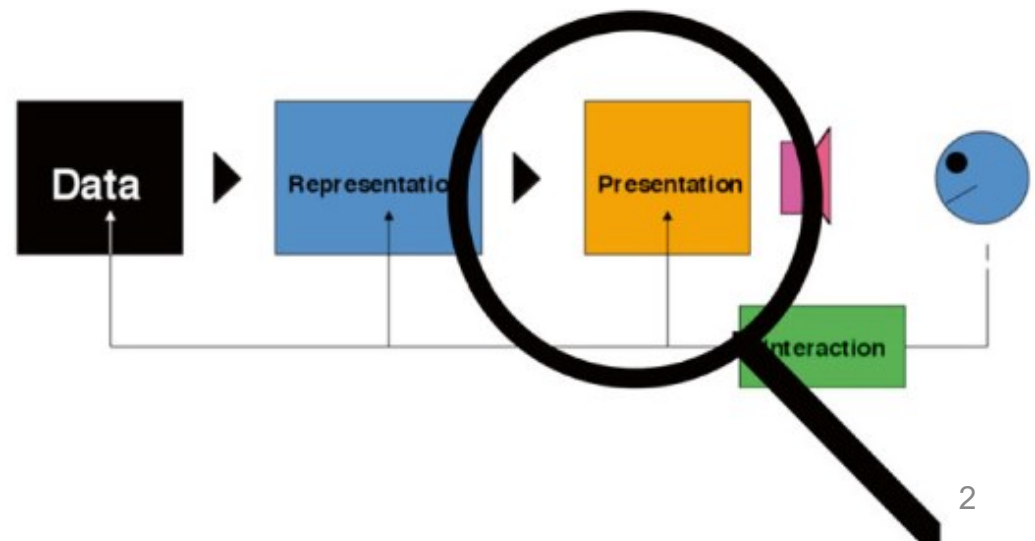# Presentation and Interaction

The presentation issue

- The issue of **layout** is important due to the limited screen real estate

- Irrespective of how data may be represented decisions have to be made:

    - **how the representation is to be displayed**

    - **whether it is to be displayed**

        (Spence, 2014)

- Links to representation and interaction are important

To help overcome space limitations

- Scrolling

- Overview + detail

- Distortion

- Suppression

- Zoom and pan

- Scrolling consists in moving displayed text or graphics on a screen in order to view different parts of them

- an obvious solution when a document is larger than the display area

- A long document can be moved past a "window"

- Often it is not a satisfactory solution

- Scrolling hides most of a document:

  there is not a view of context as well as detail

- Two separate views of detail and of context can be combined in a overview + detail view helps with the **focus + context** problem

"You are here"

Another example
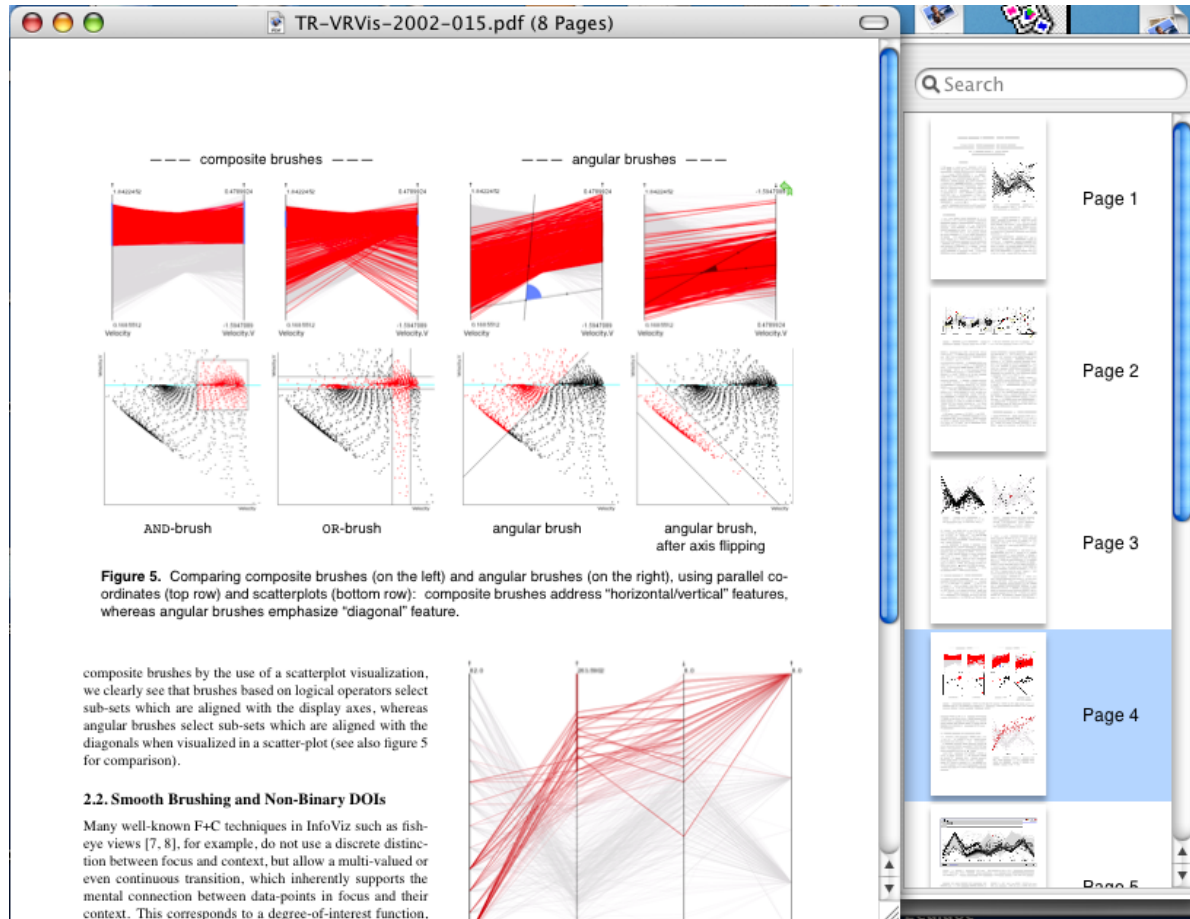
Detail plus Overview. Miniatures of pages of a pdf document provide useful context while attention is paid to detail of one page (Spence, 2007)

- Distortion offers a way of solving the **focus + context** problem
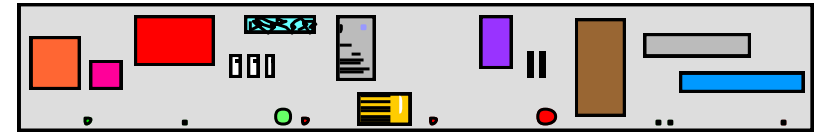
(a) An information space containing documents, emails, etc

- The bifocal display (Spence and Apperley, 1982) uses distortion and is based on a simple metaphor

direction of view

- Part of an information space can be viewed in detail; a bird's eye view is provided of the remainder

Original videos:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DaF5brrdpJw

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gNTQaH8MM98&NR=1
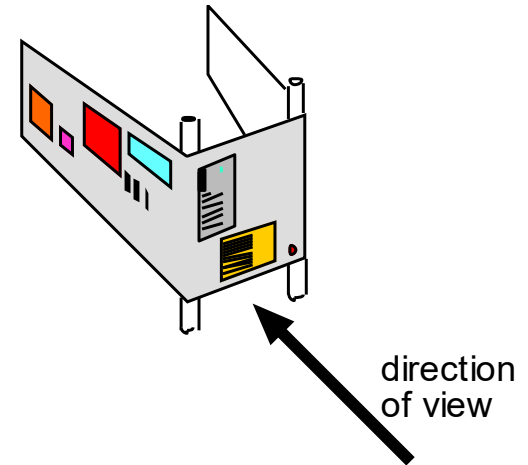
(b) The same space wrapped around two uprights.
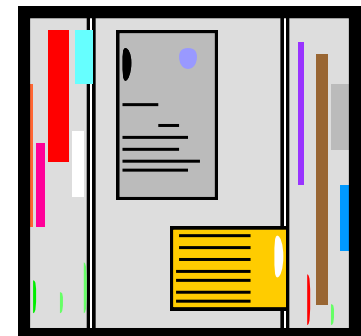
(c) Appearance of the information space when viewed from an appropriate direction

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The Bifocal Display is an information presentation technique which allows a large data space to be viewed as a whole, while simultaneously a portion is seen in detail. The detail is seen in the context of the overview, with continuity across the boundaries, rather than existing in a disjoint window

https://www.interaction-design.org/literature/book/the-encyclopedia-of-human-computer-interaction-2nd-ed/bifocal-display
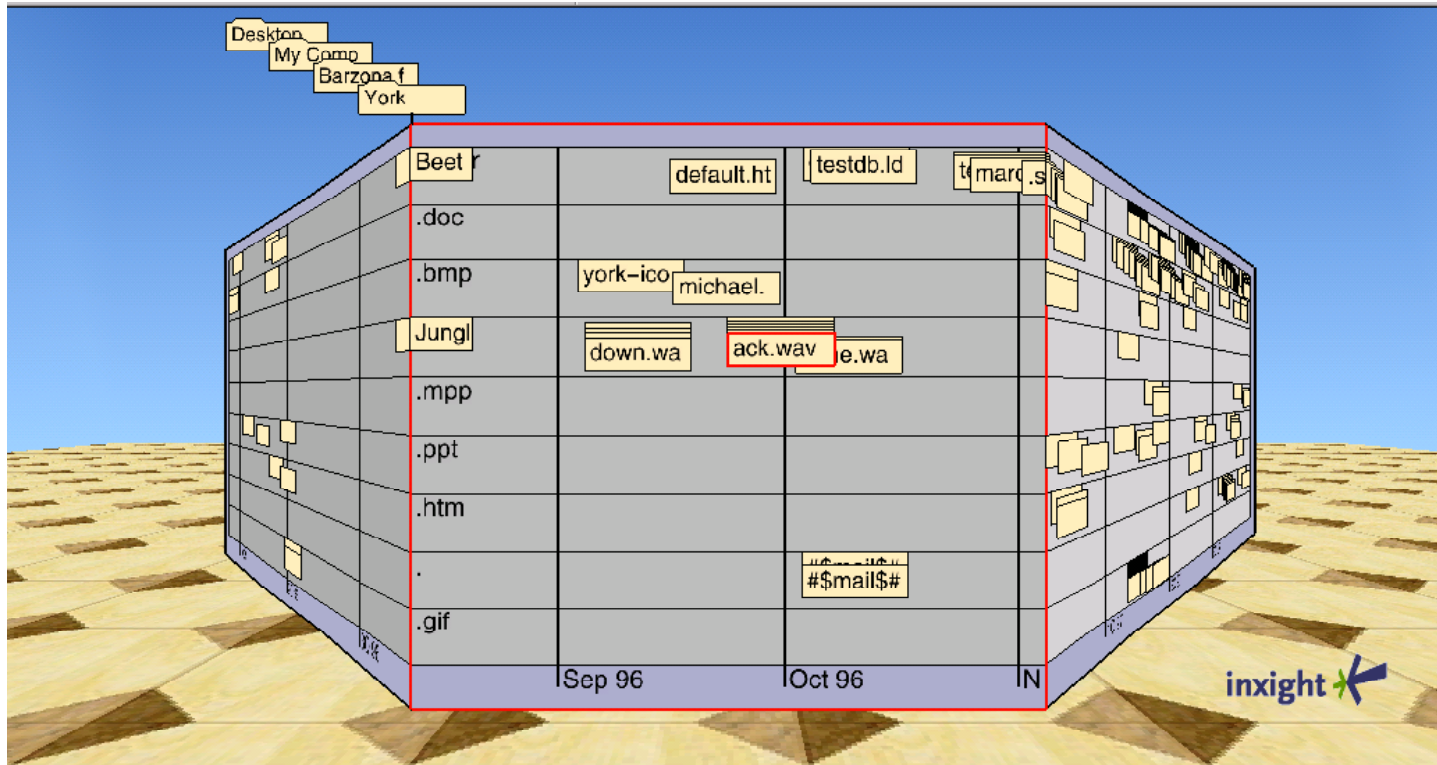
The Perspective Wall applies a 3D effect to the Bifocal Display
(Mackinlay et al.,1991)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hYUZbrWtCZg

Another example
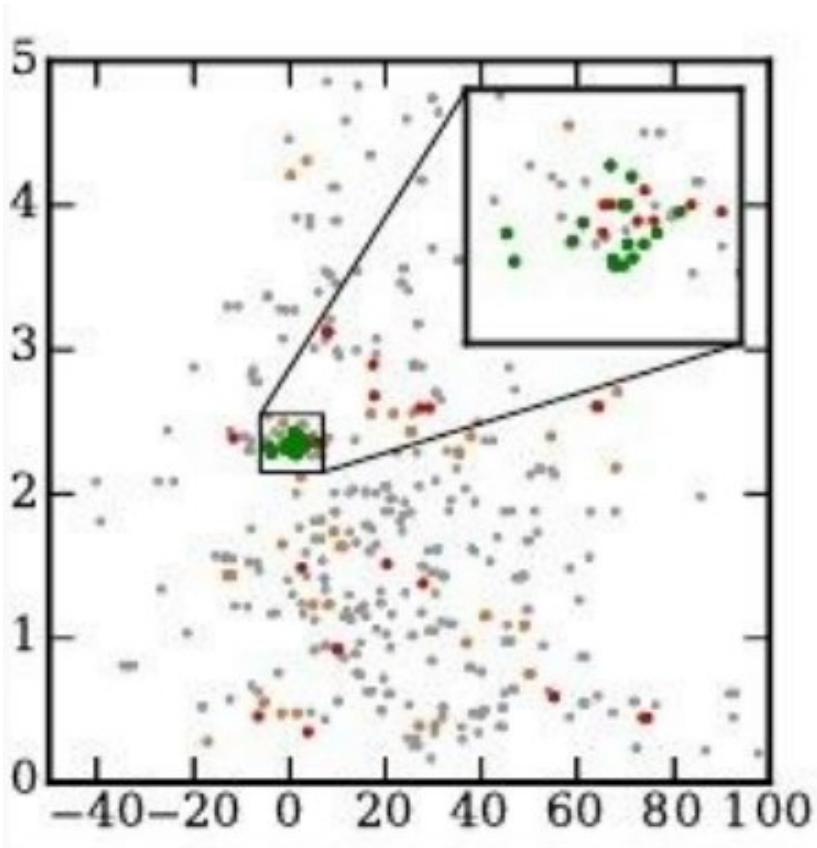
(Tao et al., 2021)

- The use of a "magnifying glass" helps minimize the **focus + context** problem

- a small region of interest is shown amplified and the context is maintained

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Example: a small region of interest a context map can be flexibly positioned to provide a magnified view

https://databricks.com/blog/2015/03/19/pantera-big-data-visualization-leverages-the-power-of-the-databricks-cloud.html

- The magic lens offers another way of solving the focus + context problem

•
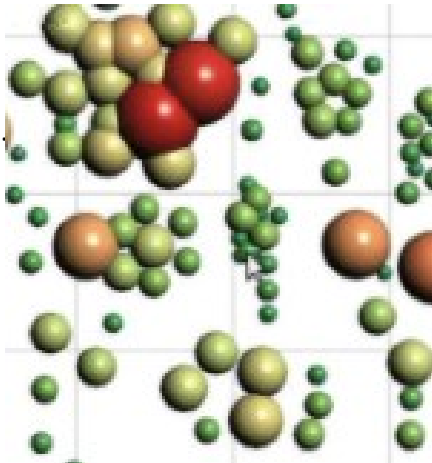
Original view
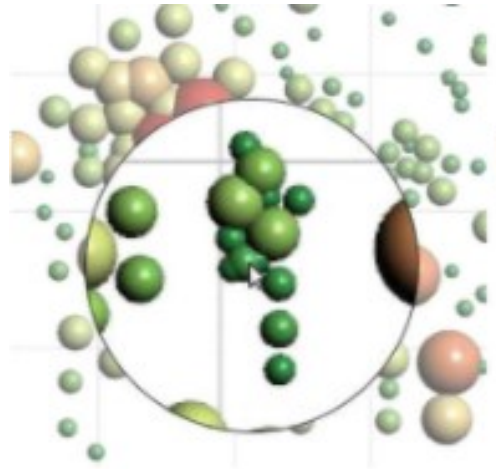
Simple magnification
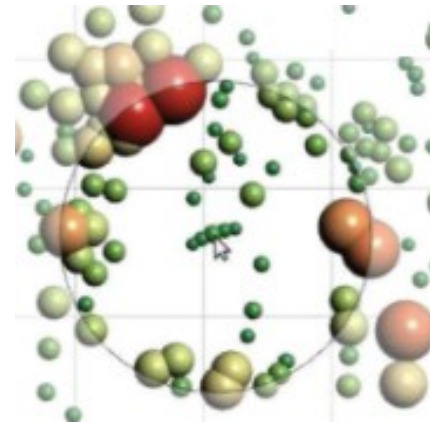
Fish-eye distortion

(Tominski et al., 2016)

Suppression finds valuable application in the Magic Lens (Stone et al., 1994)
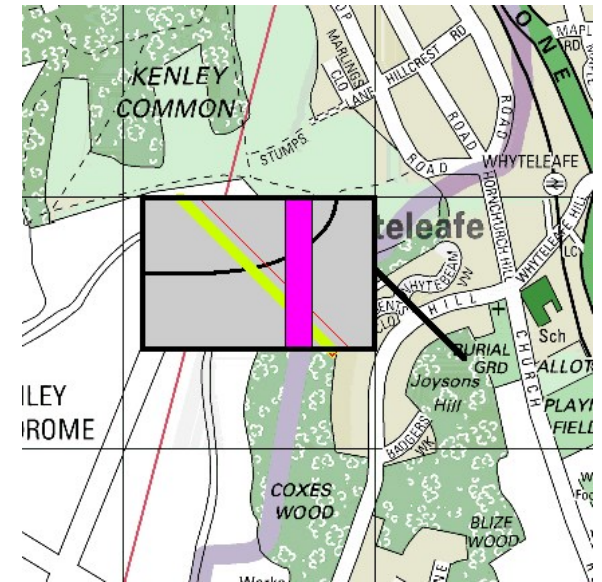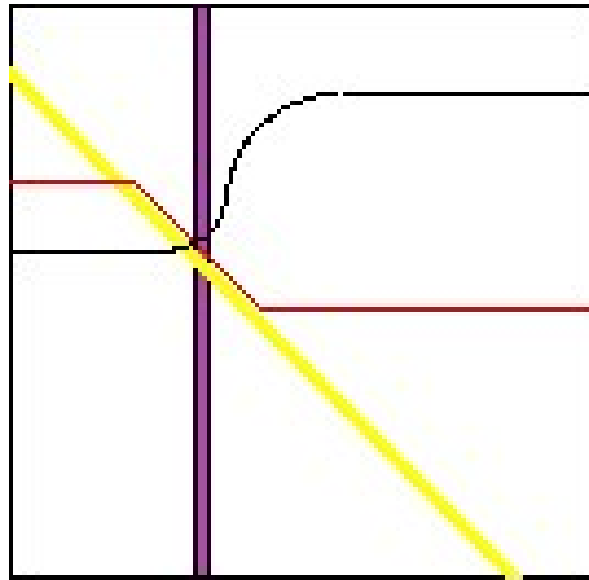
Magic Lens:
(a) shows a conventional map of an area,
(b) shows the location of services (gas, water and electricity pipes)
(c) a (movable) Magic Lens shows services in an area of interest, in context
(Spence, 2007)
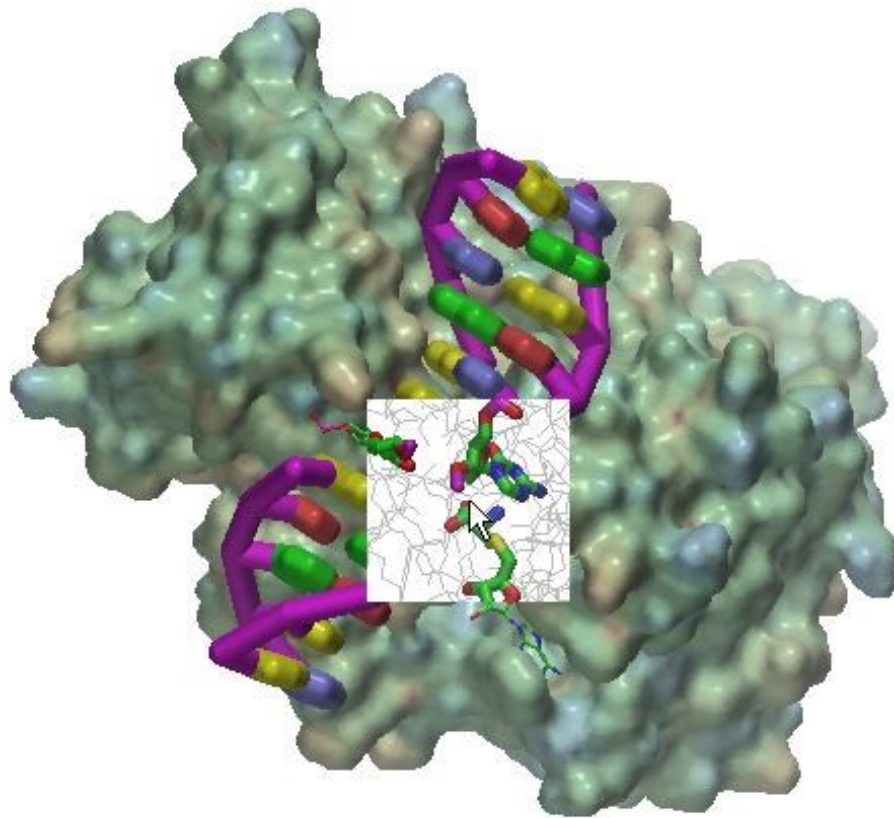
A molecular surface of the protein transferase colored by electrostatic potential bound to DNA shown as a schematic. The magic lens window allows a view of the atomic structure bonding to be shown, with the bound ligand structure highlighted as cylinders, thereby providing a view inside the protein (Spence, 2007)

The Magic Lens using Augmented Reality for Data Visualization

The Table Lens is method to dynamically explore large amounts of tabular data

The Table Lens
(Rao and Card, 1995)

- without distortion;
- with distortion (expansion) to show names

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qWqTrRAC52U
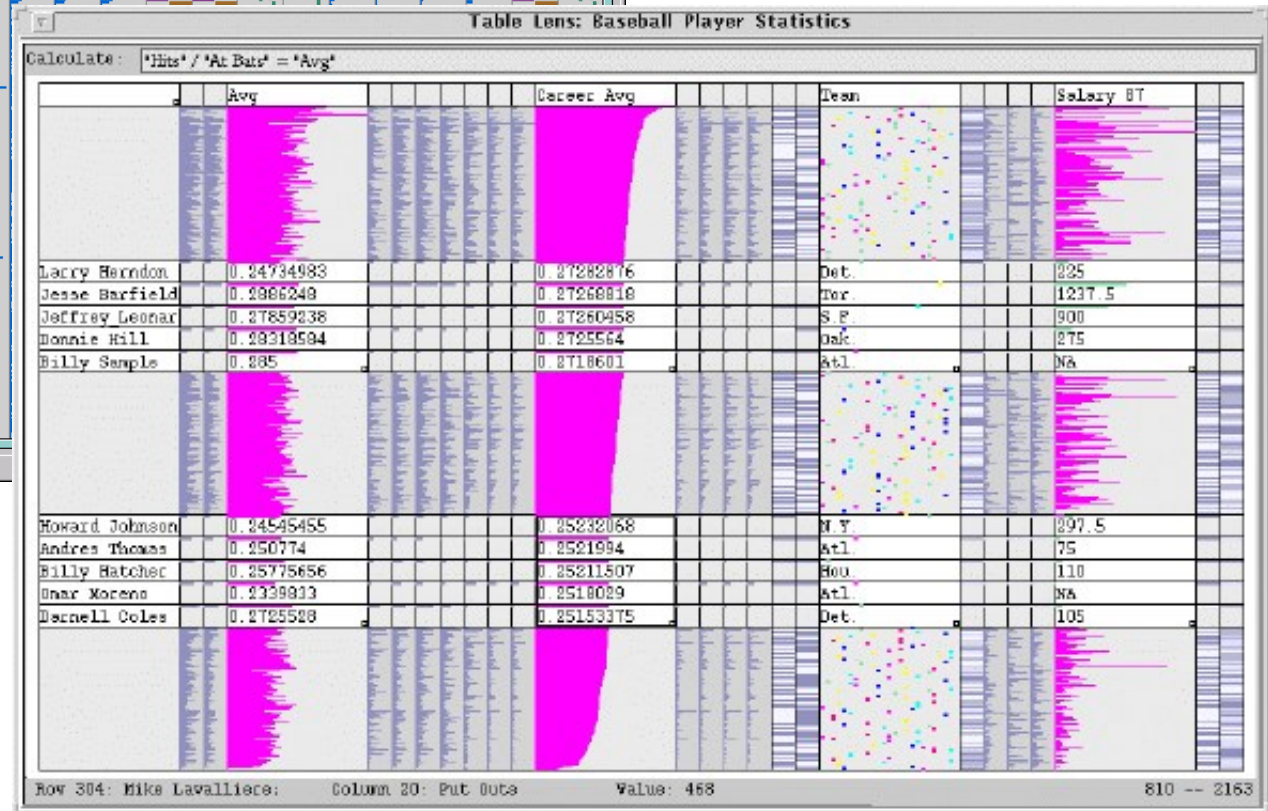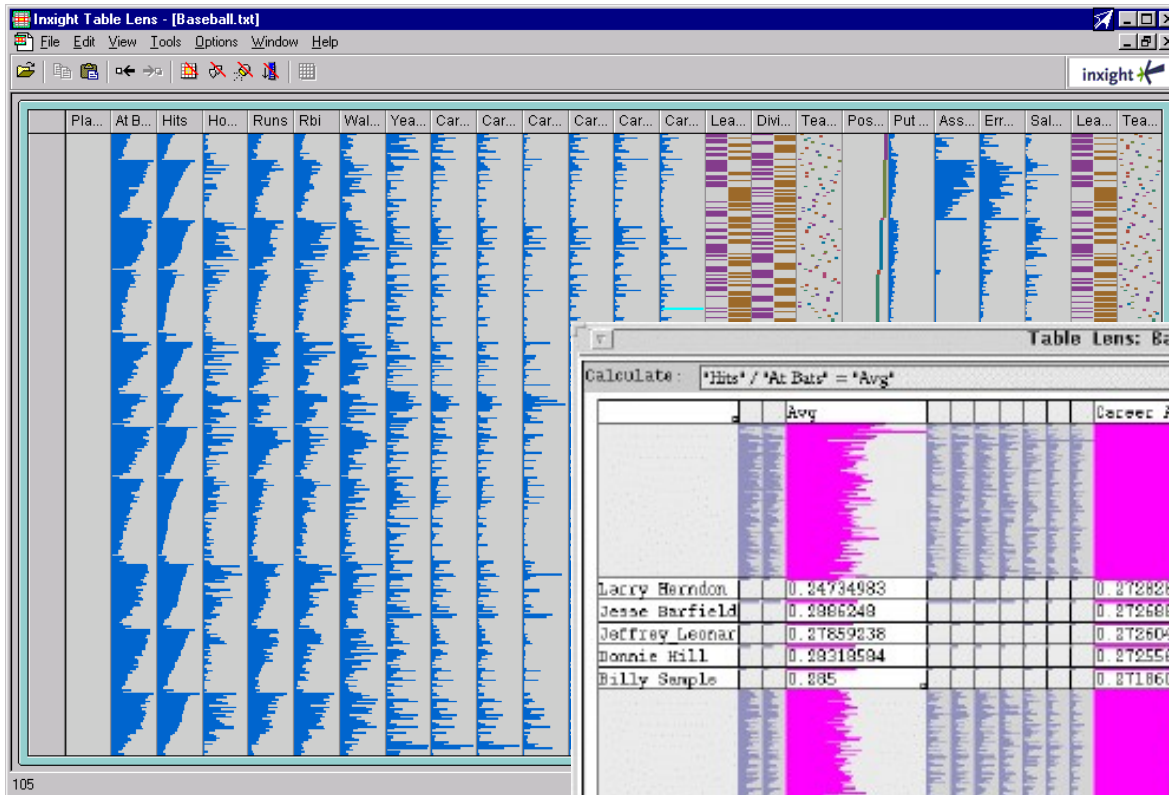
- This simple but powerful concept can be generalized

- It is possible to use X and Y distortion

X-distortion

| Mar | April | May | June | July | | Aug | Sept | Oct |

11 Sun   Check slides, notes.
         Family barbeque

12 Mon   Fly LA
         Kathy to airport Model Maker

13 Tue

14 Wed

15 Thur

16 Fri
         Flight to SFO
         Tutorial set-up
         Tutorial
         United flight Heathrow

         Pointer
         Color OHs
         Jane + John

         Call Kathy

17 Sat   Fly LHR Kathy to collect
         Chapter 2/ see Dave March
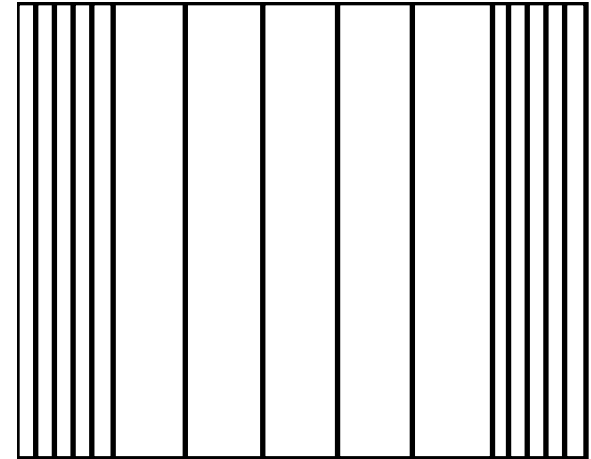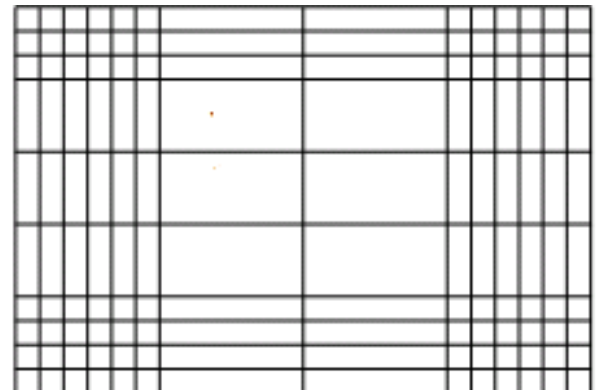
Calendar interface using X and Y distortion
(Bederson et al., 2003, 2004)

X and Y -distortion

The Table Lens a is method to dynamically explore large amounts of tabular data

https://ncva.itn.liu.se/education-geovisual-analytics/table-lens?l=en
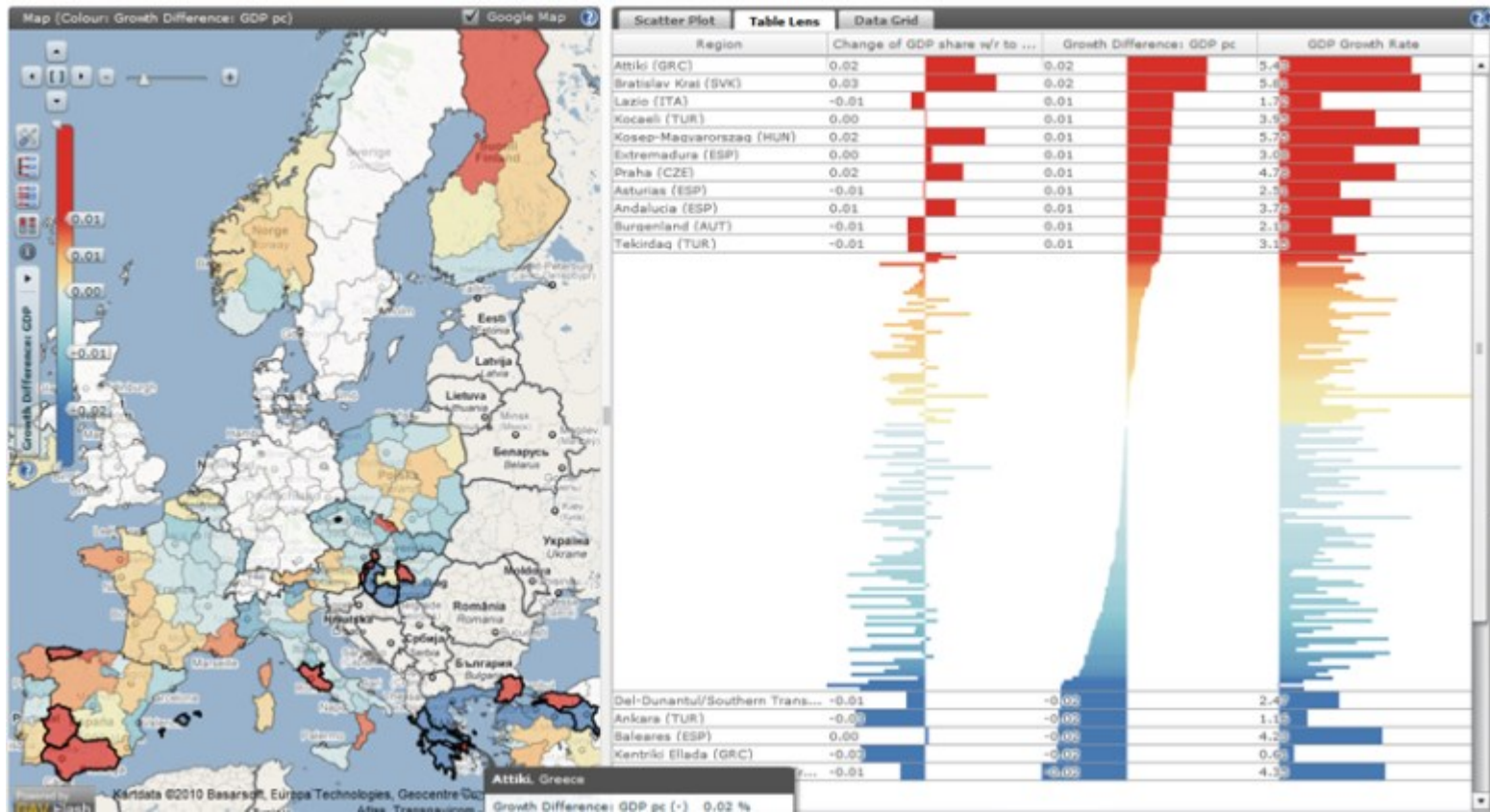
It allows to sort records, focus "zoom" in on interesting areas in the data (to reveal exact numerical information) using "focus + context''

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- Furnas proposed a Degree of Interest (DoI) to determine which data should be represented and presented and which should be suppressed

- The Degree of Interest of any item is expressed as a function of:

  - *A priori* importance (API)

  - Distance (D) between that item and the item which is currently the user's focus of interest

Example (Spence, 2007)
Considering only Distance:

3- The context defined by setting an upper threshold of unity for distance from a focus

1-The organization tree of a company

President

S

P

K   M   N

F   G

2- Distance 'D' of each node from the focus of attention

2

1

3

3

2   2

Focus

P

4   4

1

1

1

2   2

Context

S

P   Focus

K   M   N

4- Display that might be associated with the focus and context defined

S

P

Production director

K   M   N
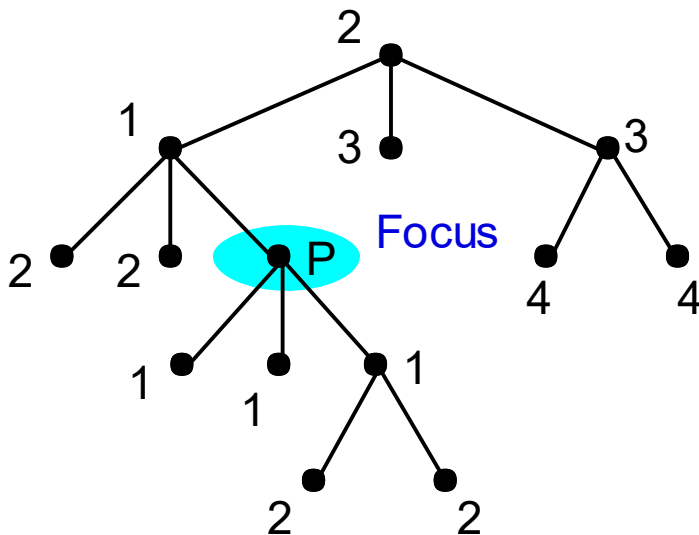
Example (Spence, 2007)
Considering a priori importance:

A priori importance:

Distance to the focus:

Focus
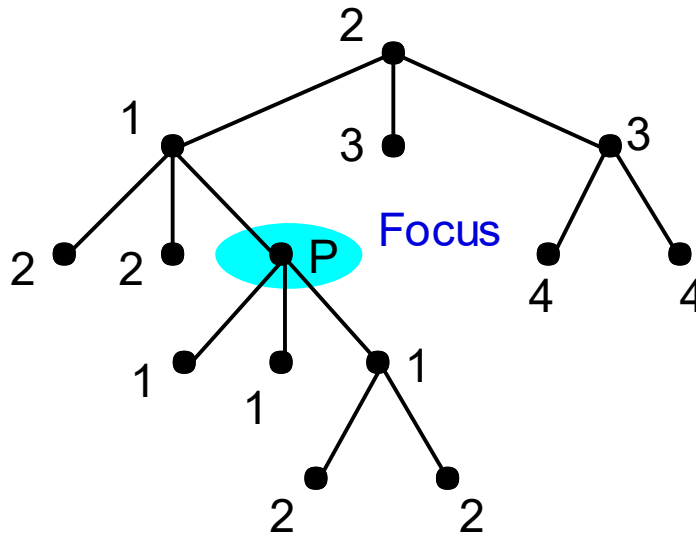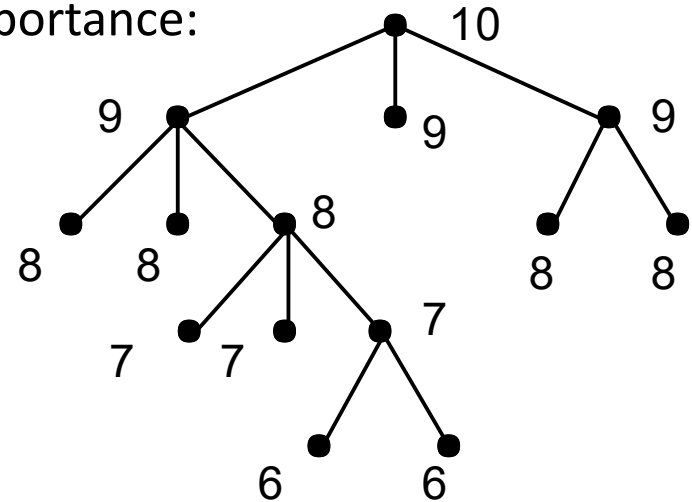
What is shown/suppressed:

Context

Focus
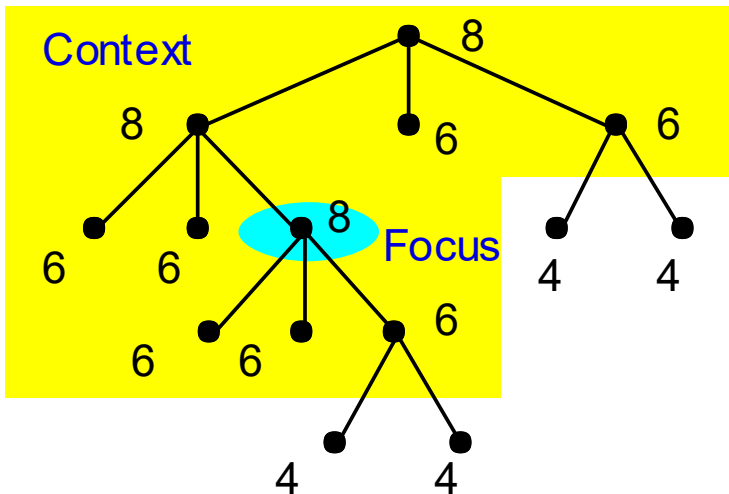
Nodal values of Degree of Interest:

DoI =API – D

Setting a lower limit of 6 for DoI identifies the nodes within the shaded region

Example:
Part of an engineering drawing
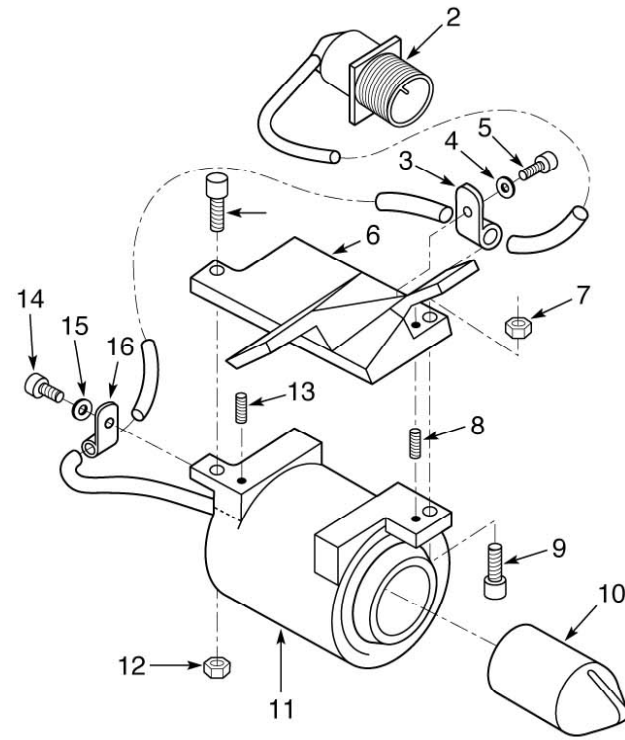
The engineering drawing simplified
in the context of a suspected fault

(Spence, 2007)
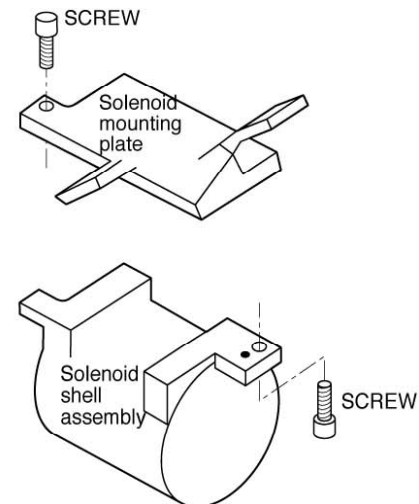
Another example :
Encoding the DOI of program elements by monitoring the programmer's activity

1- Package explorer: Only the files and libraries relevant for the task are visible

2- Problems list: highlights problems of interest
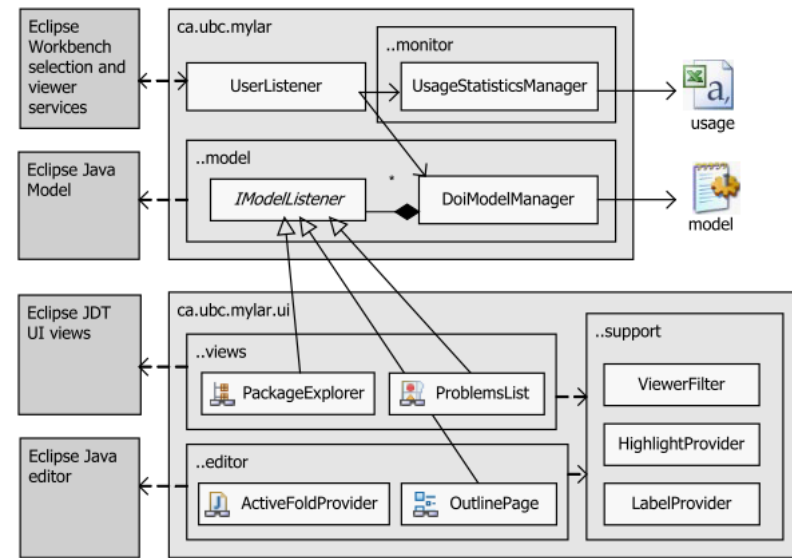
(Kersten & Murphy, 2005)

3- Outline: interest-based filtering shows only what is related to the task

4- Active Pointcut Navigator: actively updated

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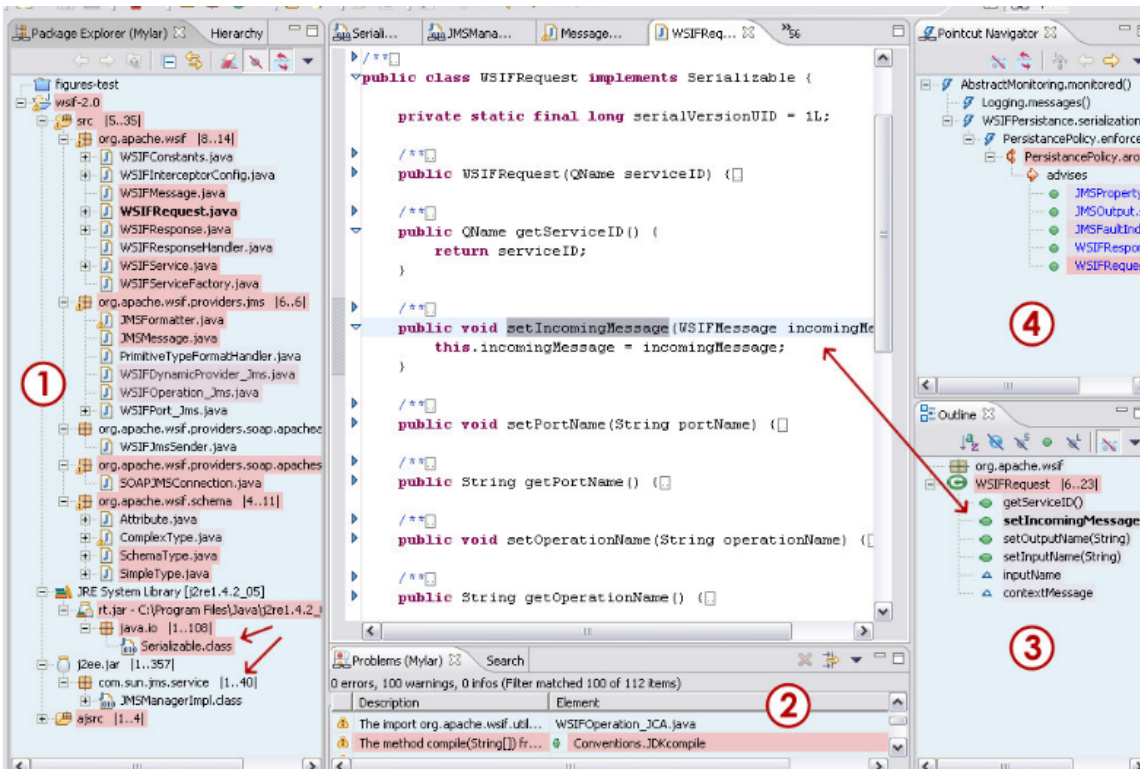
Another example :

• providing both overview and detail on a dynamic citation network is a challenge, and small changes can be drowned out by larger ones

• a degree-of-interest specification by which the user can identify salient changes at the desired scale and importance may help
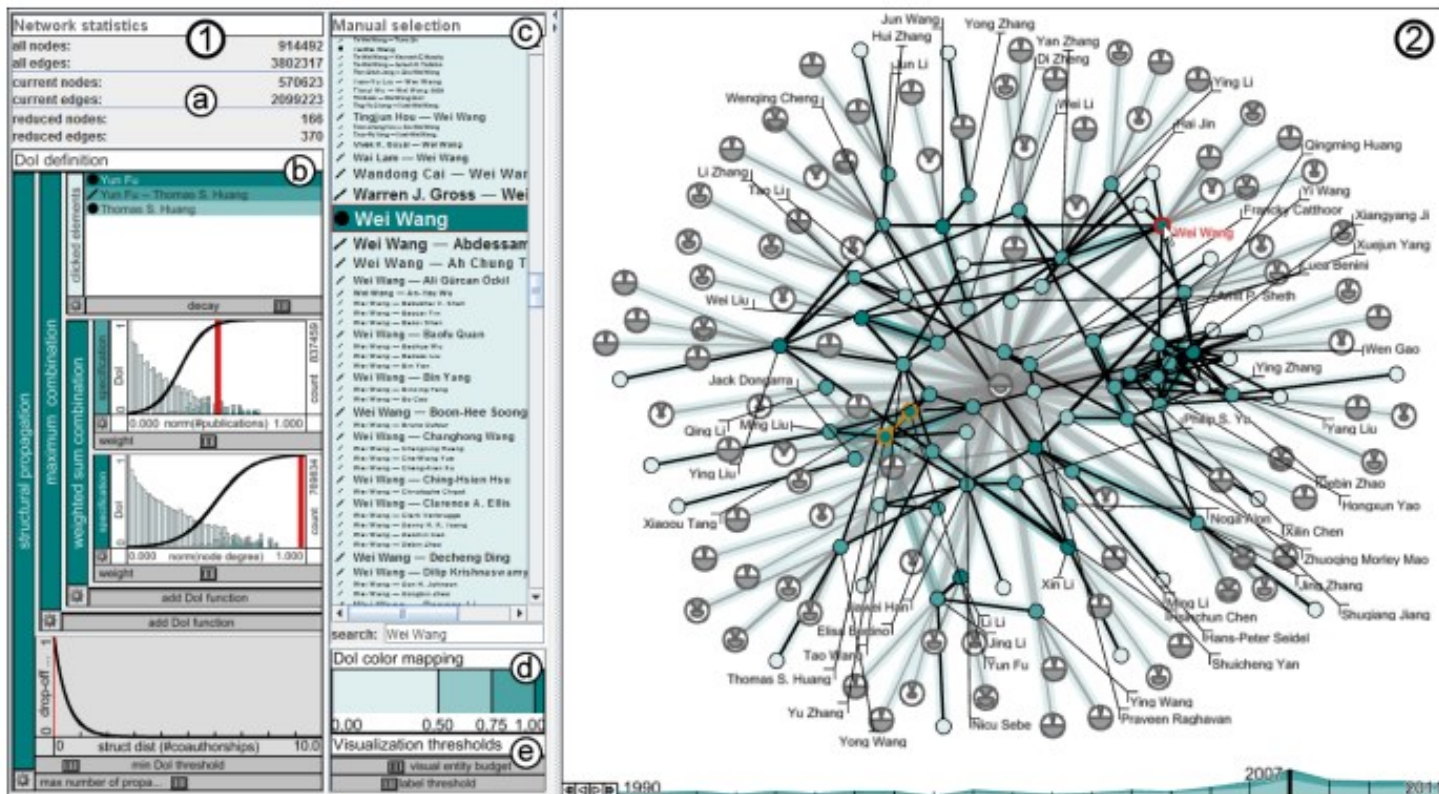
Two main views: (1) the DoI view and (2) the Network view (a snapshot of the DBLP dataset for the year 2007 reduced according to the defined DoI function).
(Abello et al., 2014)
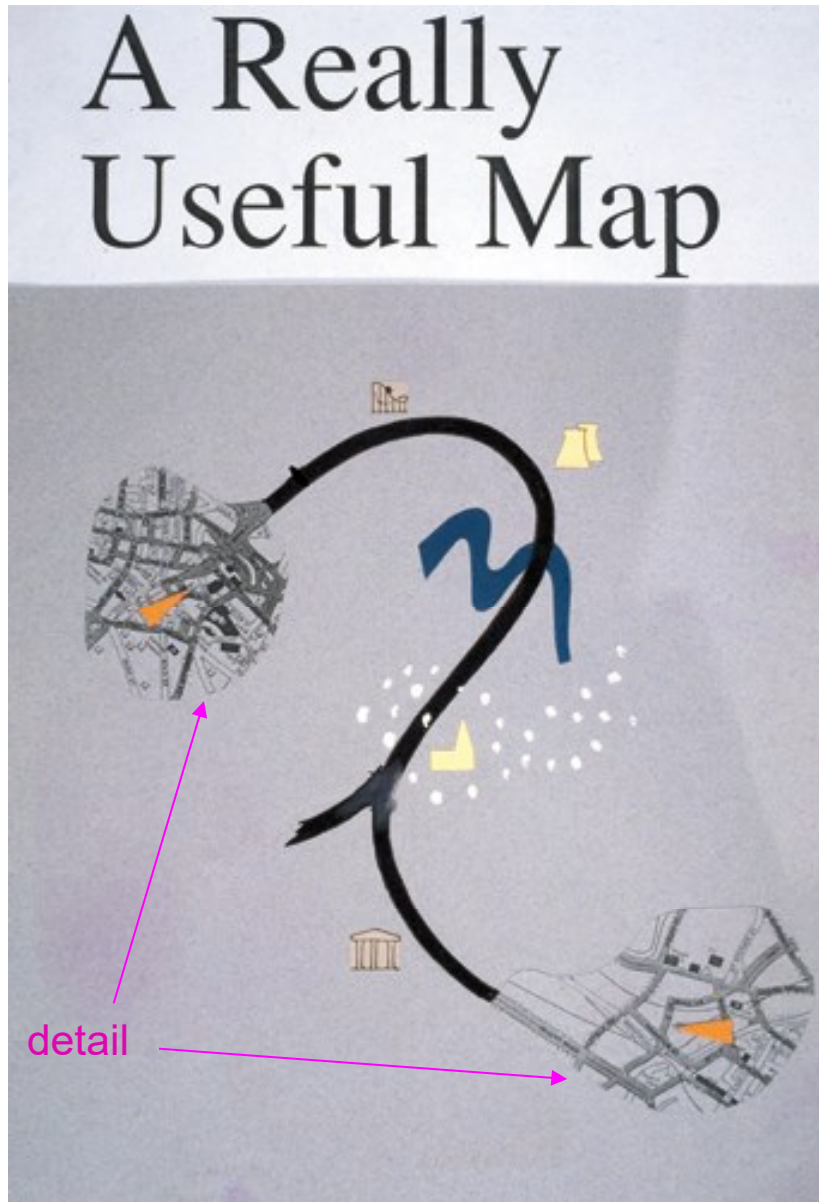
A combination of distortion and suppression can be beneficial

It is a map appropriate to a journey from one city to another

This example uses the concept of rubber sheet distortion

detail

distortion

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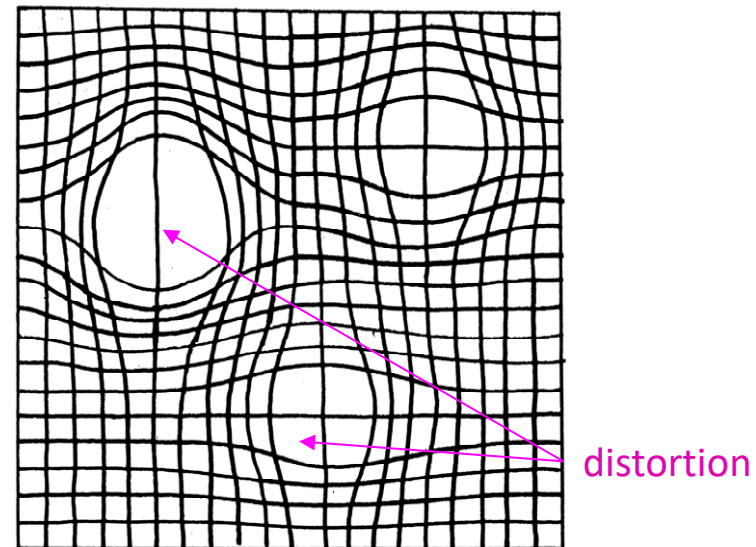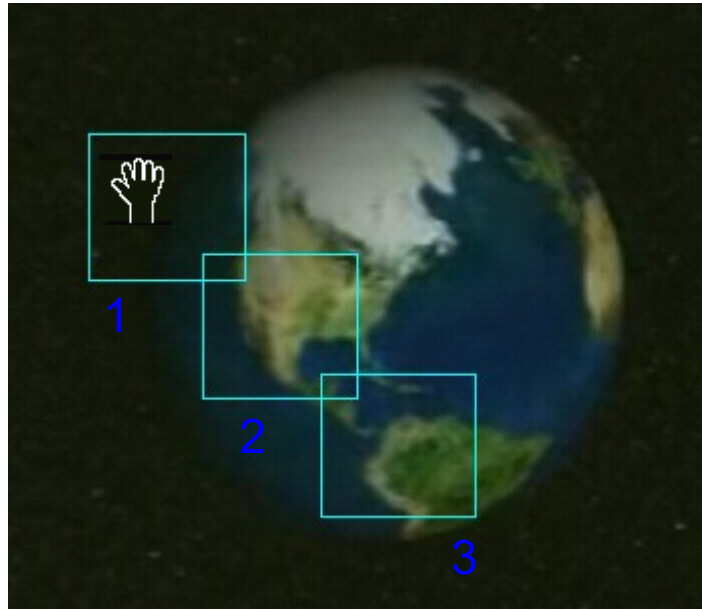
Panning is the smooth movement of a viewing frame over a 2D image
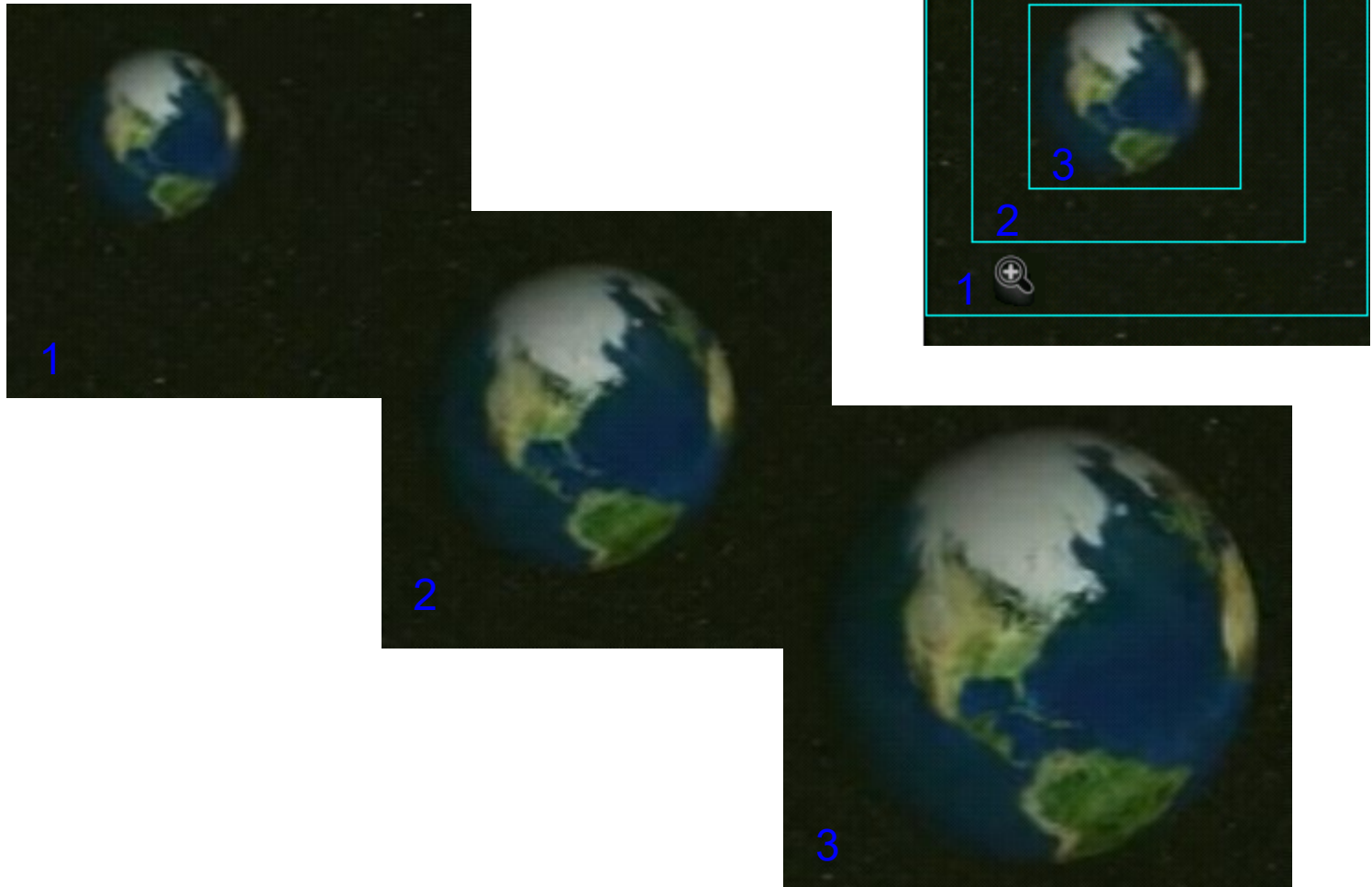
Zooming is the increasing magnification of a fraction of an image (or *vice versa*)
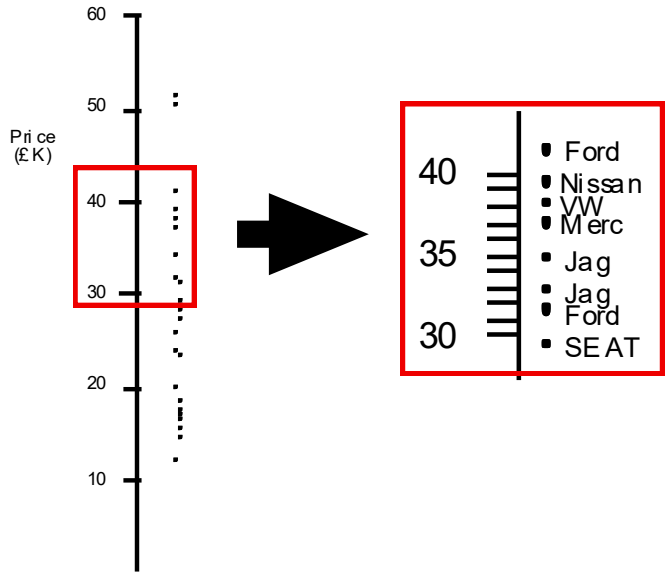
In semantic zoom the meaning conveyed by the new view differs from the conveyed by the previous one

(Spence, 2007)

Visual Information-Seeking Mantra
(Shneiderman, 1996)

"Overview first, zoom and filter, then details-on-demand"

Few, S., The Surest Path to Visual Discovery

https://www.perceptualedge.com/articles/b-eye/path_to_visual_discovery.pdf

Not always... (some domain experts operate under a Details-first model (not Overview-first)

Annotation

- Is about creating extra layers of data detail through interactive events such as hovering or clicking

- This is particularly useful to reveal actual data values or extra detail about a given category or event

- By having the backup of absolute data accuracy through the values, allows using a more creative visual representation

- It's almost like having a "perceptual safety net" (Kirk, 2019)

Annotation

- Can help explain and facilitate the viewing and interpretive experience:
  - Titles and introductions
  - Captions, labels and units
  - User guides
  - Attribution
  - Data sources

https://medium.com/@Elijah_Meeks/making-annotations-first-class-citizens-in-data-visualization-21db6383d3fe

World Energy Survey Analysis

This analysis is based upon historical data for energy consumption and production in over 65 countries worldwide from 1965 through 2010. Use the following pages to explore the data and explore the following questions:
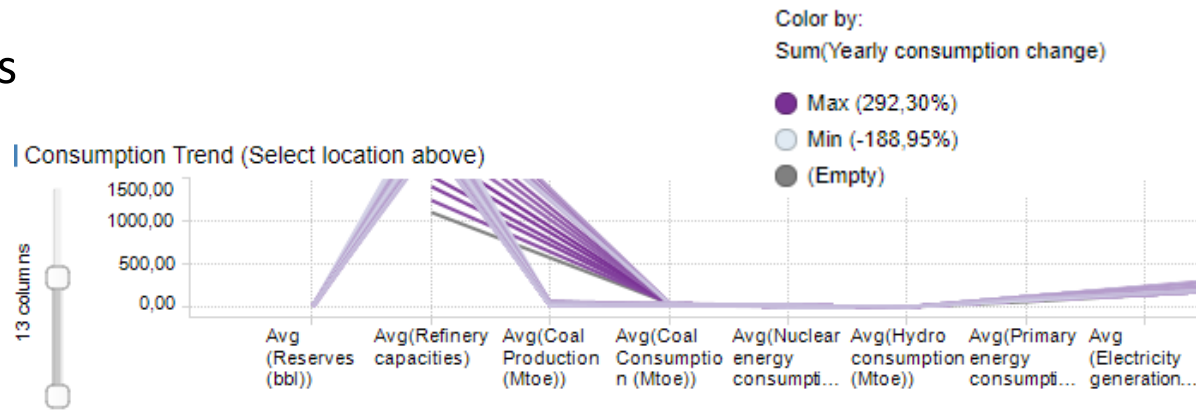
✔ How has world energy consumption grown and changed over the last 45 years?
✔ How does energy consumption compare across countries?

37

Creating Interaction

Enhancements in technology over the past decade have created incredible opportunities to construct powerful interactive visualizations

The development of an interactive design requires technical capabilities

Technical constraints should be pondered:

  - as platform compatibility,
  - data loading speed,
  - server capacity
  …

If not correctly tackled the usefulness and UX is compromised

Creating Interaction

- When the complexity of the data is incompatible with a static portrayal, interaction is vital

- Careful consideration of the motivation and intention is still needed; specifically: what functional experience is the goal of the design?
  - exploratory,
  - explanatory,
  - or maybe a combined design?

- Different features and functions should be considered:

  – Manipulating variables and parameters (e.g. select, filter, modify, sort, …)

 – Adjusting the view

  – Annotating details

  – Animation

Manipulating variables and parameters

- The ability to select, filter, exclude, or modify certain variables is a valuable way of letting the user interact with different slices of the data

- Grouping and sorting options are common for extracting new insights

- You can also modify a variable using a slider to see changes across numerous values of the variable

- Brushing —highlighting a set of data marks—is a powerful way of focusing in on a subset view the presented data

Manipulating variables and parameters (e.g. select, filter, modify, sort, …)

select

brushing

sort

41
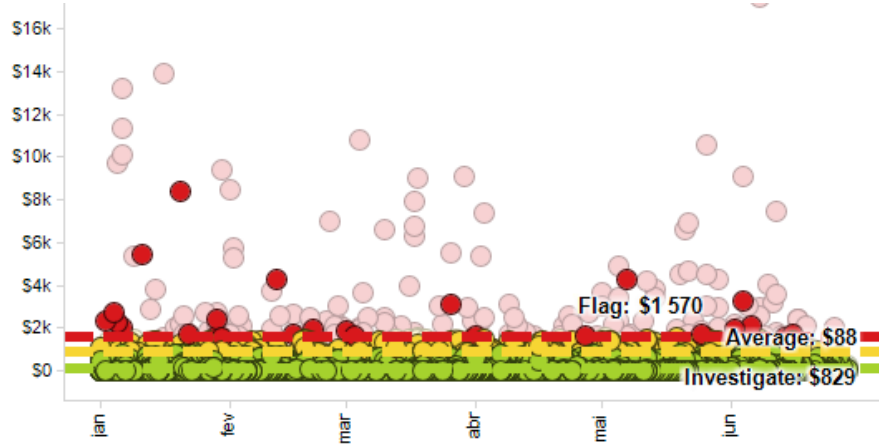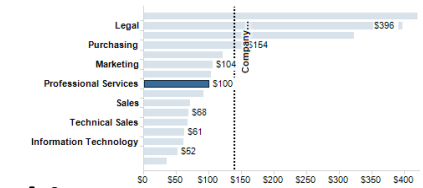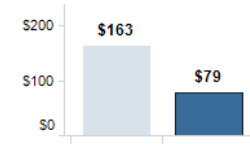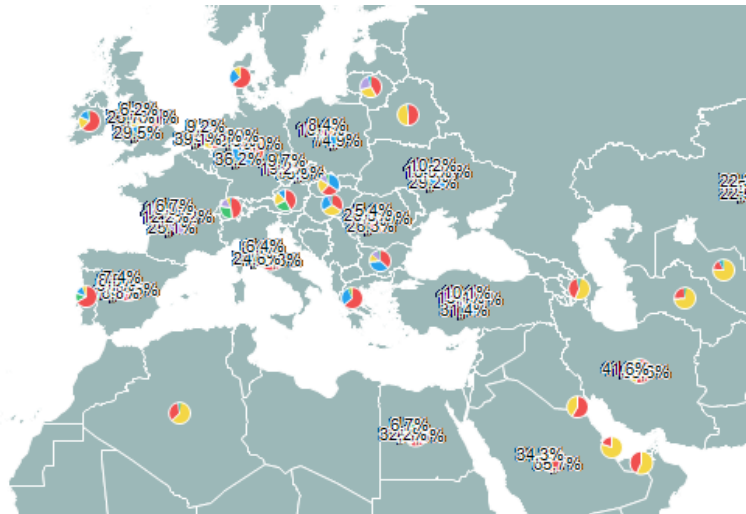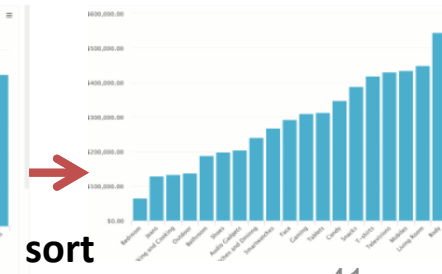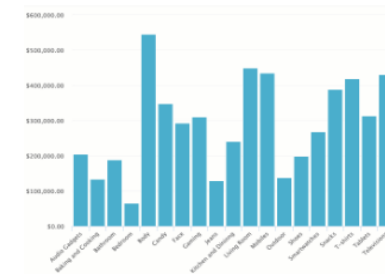
Example: Portuguese Higher Education access data

Candidates and institutions data were provided by [Direcção Geral do Ensino Superior](#) (2012, 2013 and 2014) of Portuguese students applications to Higher Education (115636 students applications from 20 districts to 305 institutions).

Adjacency Matrix

Map

by Tiago Brito
(MSc thesis, UA)

https://migration-flow.herokuapp.com/
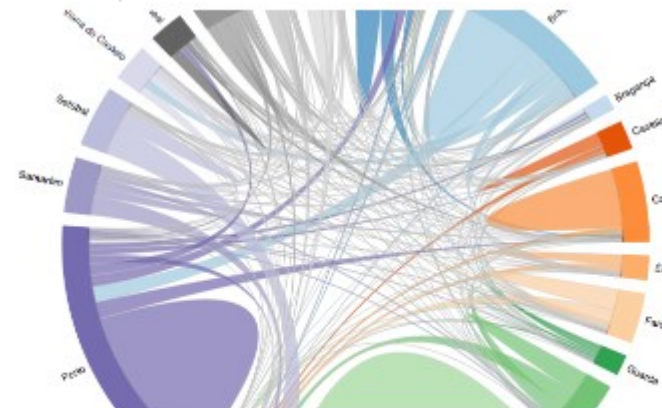
Chord Diagram

Main bibliography

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- Spence, R., *Information Visualization, Design for Interaction*, 2nd ed., Prentice Hall, 2007

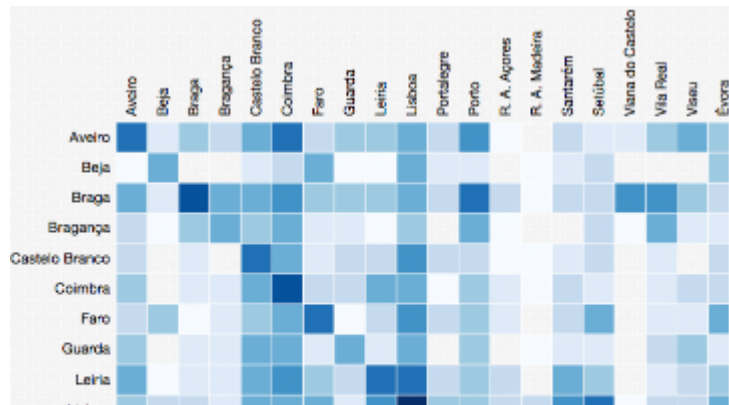- Kirk, A., *Data Visualisation: A Handbook for Data Driven Design*, SAGE Publications, 2019

- Kirk, A., *Data Visualization: a successful design process*, Packt Publishing, 2012

- Munzner, T., Visualization Analysis and Design, A K Peters/CRC Press, 2014

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- Cockburn, A., Karlson, A., and Bederson, B., "A Review of Overview + Detail , Zooming , and Focus + Context Interfaces," *ACM Comput. Surv*., January, 2009. https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/1456650.1456652

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- W. Tao, et al, "Kyrix-S: Authoring Scalable Scatterplot Visualizations of Big Data," IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, vol. 27, no. 2, pp. 401-411

- Tominski, C., Gladisch, S., Kister, U., Dachselt, R. and Schumann, H., "Interactive Lenses for Visualization : An Extended Survey," *Comput. Graph. Forum*, vol. 36, no. 6, pp. 173–200, 2017. https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/cgf.12871

- Visualization Wiki, http://www.wikiviz.org/wiki/Main_Page

Examples: https://www.tibco.com/products/tibco-spotfire/learn/demos