

Task-driven Automated Data Visualization

Yunhai Wang

Shandong University

Data

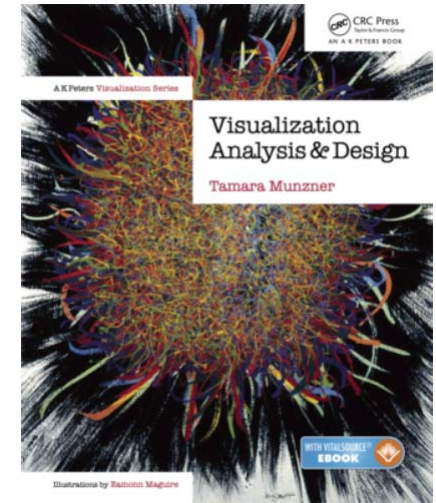
zation



Why are we using Visualization?

Tamara Munzner 2011:

“Computer-based visualization systems provide visual representations of datasets intended to help people carry out some **tasks** more effectively”



Data + Task = Visualization?^[1]

Ask which **visualization** is **best** suited to pursue a given **task**
on given input **data**

[1] H.-J. Schulz, T. Nocke, M. Heitzler, and H. Schumann. A design space of visualization tasks. Visualization and Computer Graphics, IEEE Transactions on, 19(12):2366–2375, 2013.

Domain Tasks

Infinite numbers of domain tasks!

Table 1. Questions for the analysis of conserved syntenic data, with the scale and relationship addressed by each. The scales are: *g*, genome; *c*, chromosome; *b*, block; and *f*, feature. The relationships are: *p*, proximity/location; *z*, size; *o*, orientation; and *s*, similarity.

question		scale				relationship			
		<i>g</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>o</i>	<i>s</i>
1	Which chromosomes share conserved blocks?	X				X			
2	For one chromosome, how many other chromosomes does it share blocks with?	X	X			X			
3	What is the density of coverage and where are the gaps on: chromosomes? blocks?	X	X	X		X			
4	Where are the blocks: on chromosomes? around a specific location on a chromosome?	X	X			X			
5	What are the sizes and locations of other genomic features near a block?		X			X	X		
6	How large are the blocks?		X				X		
7	Do neighboring blocks go to the same chromosome or relative location on a chromosome?	X	X			X			
8	Are the orientations matched or inverted for: block pairs? feature pairs?		X	X				X	
9	Do the orientations match for pairs of: neighboring blocks? features within a block?		X	X				X	
10	Are similarity scores alike: with respect to neighboring blocks? within a block?		X	X					X
11	Are the paired features within a block contiguous?			X		X			
12	How large is a feature relative to other genes within a block?			X			X		
13	What are the sizes, locations, and names of features within a block?			X		X	X		
14	What are the differences between individual nucleotides of feature pairs?				X				X

Genome

Mizbee, Infovis'10

3.1 Domain Tasks

Three main tasks in forecast calibration have been identified through close collaboration with a group of forecasters, observations on their routine work, and detailed discussions about their working flow.

- T1 **Generating Initial Forecast** An initial forecast is produced using a post-processing method, such as the analog method. This forecast is used as a basis for the subsequent calibration process.
- T2 **Detecting Regions of Interest (ROI)** The initial forecast derived after the post-processing step could have biases. Thus, forecasters need to detect ROIs where biases exist.
- T3 **Applying Detailed Calibrations** Calibrations are applied to the detected ROIs statistically or manually according to professional knowledge of the experts regarding the current weather state.

Visual voting, Scivis 2015

The analysts usually conduct a complex task through a set of low level tasks. These tasks typically focus on the behavior of the seller, such as:

- T1 Identifying time periods and/or sales categories of interest.
- T2 Identifying transactions with interesting patterns in specific attributes (e.g. payment amount ≥ 500) and examining their detailed information.
- T3 Identifying sellers with interesting transaction patterns, such as a seller making frequent transactions with small payment amounts.
- T4 Examining the transaction patterns of a specific seller.

VAST 2014

Weather

E-transactions

kernels.xls

Layout Formulas Data Review View Add-Ins

Shapes SmartArt Column Line Pie Bar Area Scatter Other Charts

Hyperlink Text Box Header & Footer WordArt Signature Line Object Syn

2-D Bar

3-D Bar

Cylinder

Cone

Pyramid

All Chart Types...

Too many methods!

	B	C	D		H	I	J
		task	row	col	d2	L1	L2
		SA	1		0	0	0
-color		SA	1		568	0	0.73568
-color		SA	1		119	0	0.73119
-color		SA	1		612	0	0.24612
-color		SA	1		0	0.8119	0.8119
-color		SA	1		568	0.8119	1.54758
-color		SA	1		119	0.8119	1.092620898
-color		SA	1		612	0.8119	1.05802
-color		SA	1		0	0.8417	0.8417
-color		SA	1		568	0.8417	1.57738
-color		SA	1		119	0.8417	1.117892639
-color		SA	1		612	0.8417	1.114942916
-color		SA	1		0	0.2825	1.08782
-color		SA	1		568	0.2825	0.2825
-color		SA	1		119	0.2825	1.01818
-color		SA	1		612	0.2825	0.788055399
-color		SA	1		16	0.53588	1.01369
-color		SA	1		0.24612	0.2825	0.783865464
-color		SA	1				0.52862
-color		SA	1				0.374674932

The screenshot shows the 'Format Axis' task pane in Microsoft Excel. The pane is titled 'Format Axis' and has a 'Close' button at the bottom right. It is divided into several sections:

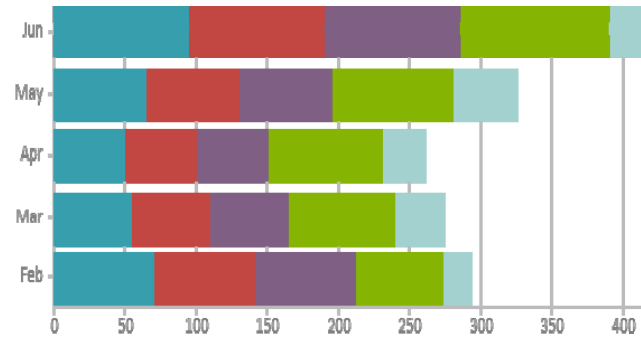
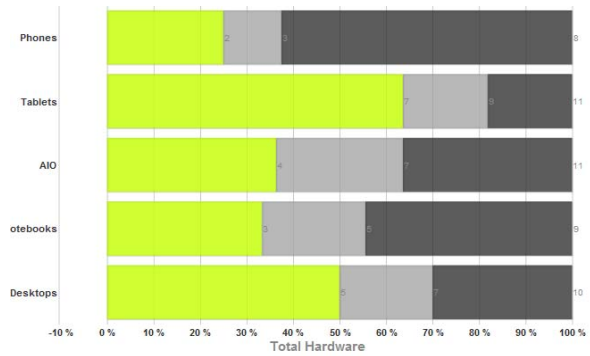
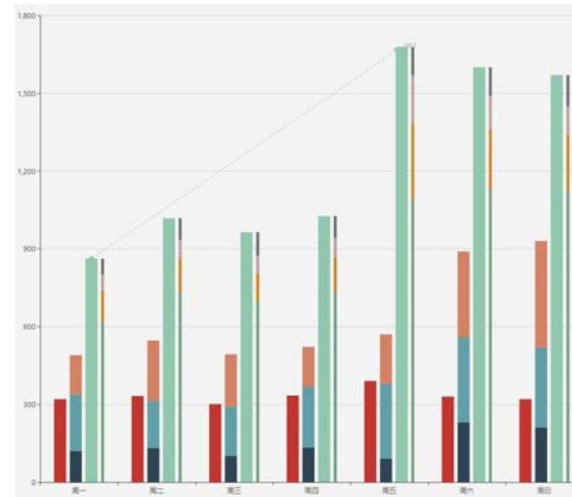
- Axis Options:** This section contains the following settings:
 - Minimum: Auto Fixed 10000.0
 - Maximum: Auto Fixed 100000.0
 - Major unit: Auto Fixed 10000.0
 - Minor unit: Auto Fixed 2000.0
 - Values in reverse order
 - Logarithmic scale Base: 10
 - Display units: None
 - Show display units label on chart
 - Major tick mark type: Outside
 - Minor tick mark type: None
 - Axis labels: Next to Axis
 - Floor crosses at:
 - Automatic
 - Axis value: 0.0
 - Maximum axis value

- Number:** A section for setting the number format.
- Fill:** A section for setting the fill color.
- Line Color:** A section for setting the line color.
- Line Style:** A section for setting the line style.
- Shadow:** A section for setting the shadow.
- 3-D Format:** A section for setting 3-D formatting.
- Alignment:** A section for setting alignment.

The background shows an Excel spreadsheet with a table of data. The table has columns labeled 'L1' and 'L2'. The data is as follows:

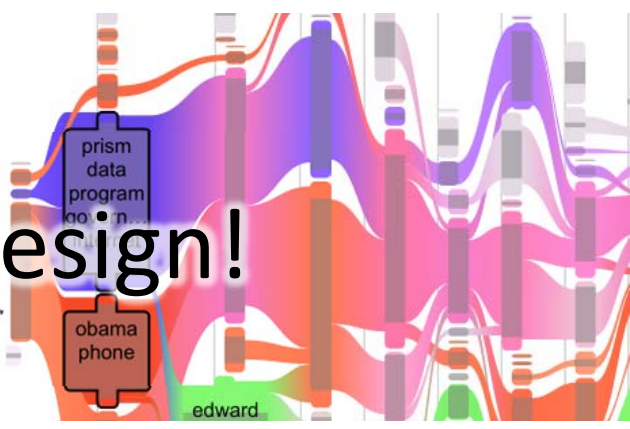
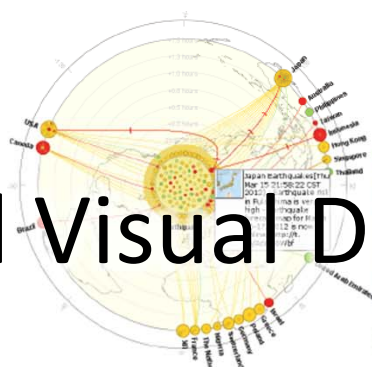
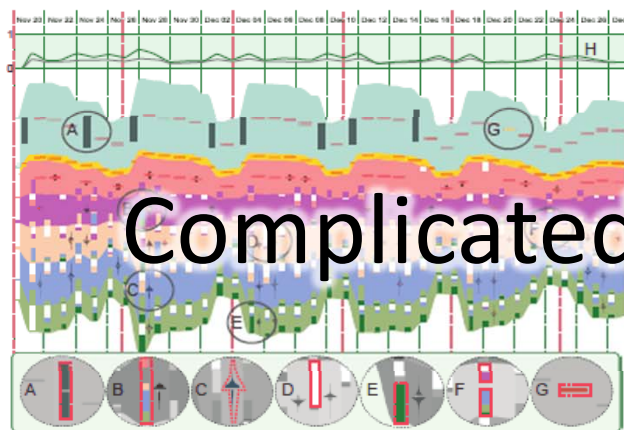
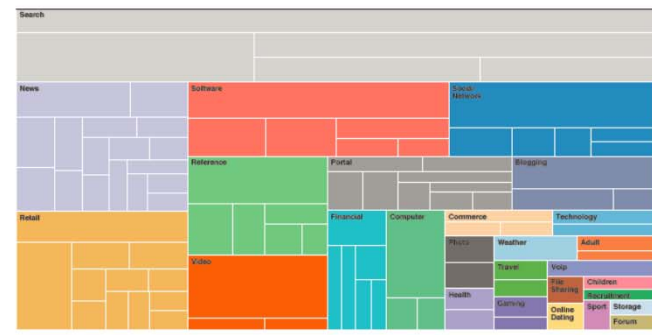
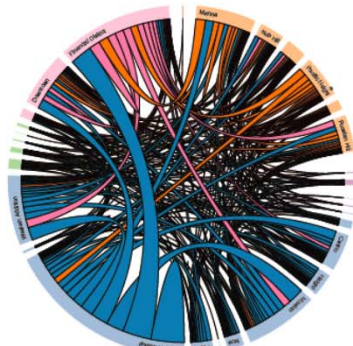
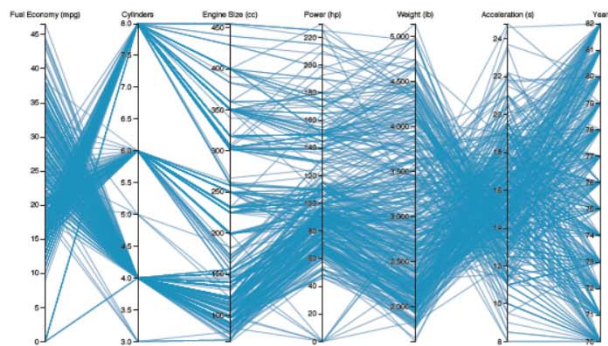
	L1	L2
0	0	0
0	0.73568	0.73568
0	0.73119	0.73119
0	0.24612	0.24612
8	0.8119	0.8119
1	1.54758	1.095630719
9	1.54309	1.092620898
9	1.05802	0.848384738
7	0.8417	0.8417
7	1.57738	1.117892639
7	1.57289	1.114942916
7	1.08782	0.876945805
5	0.2825	0.2825
5	1.01818	0.788055399
5	1.01369	0.783865464
5	0.52862	0.374674932

Too many parameters!

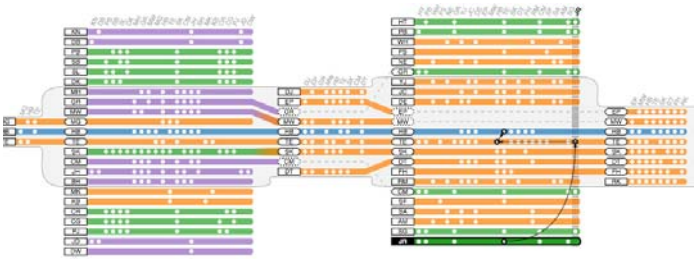
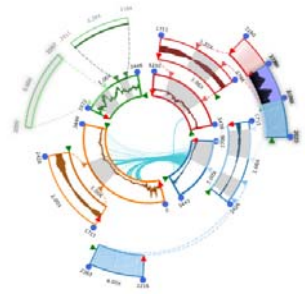
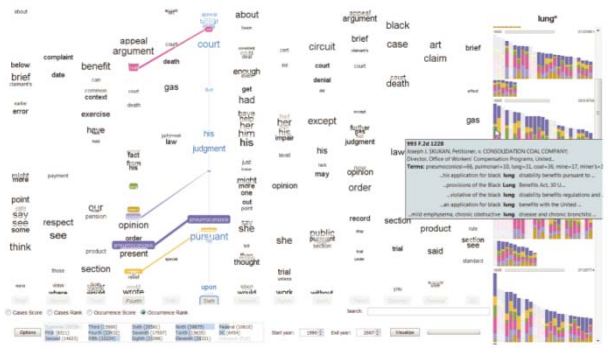


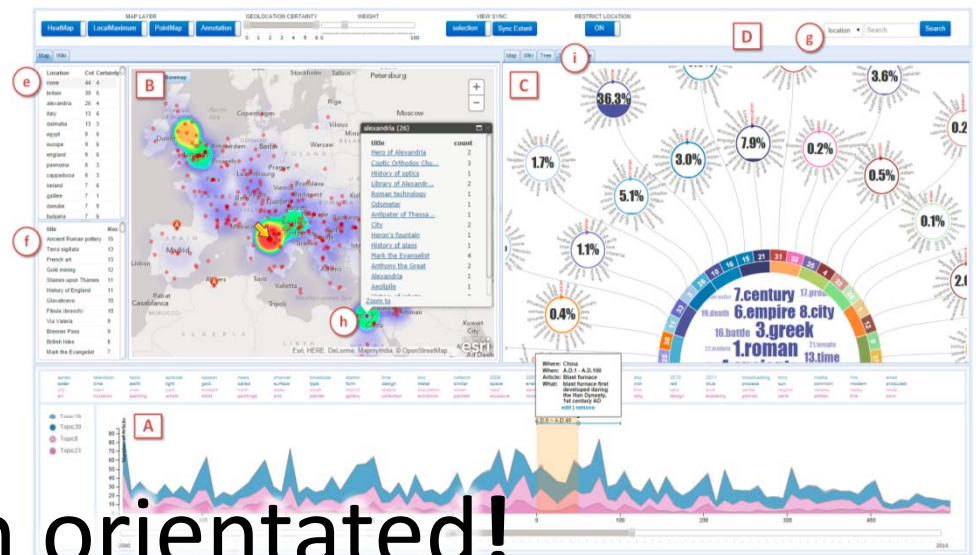
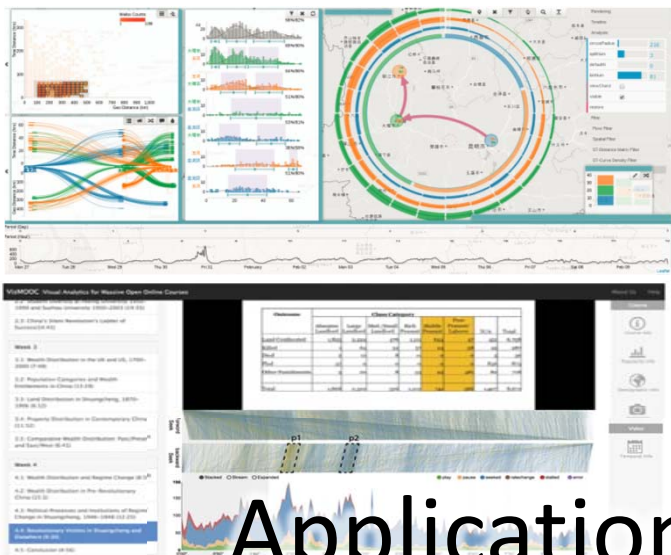
A tedious procedure!

**Unfortunately, our community
pays little attention on this!**

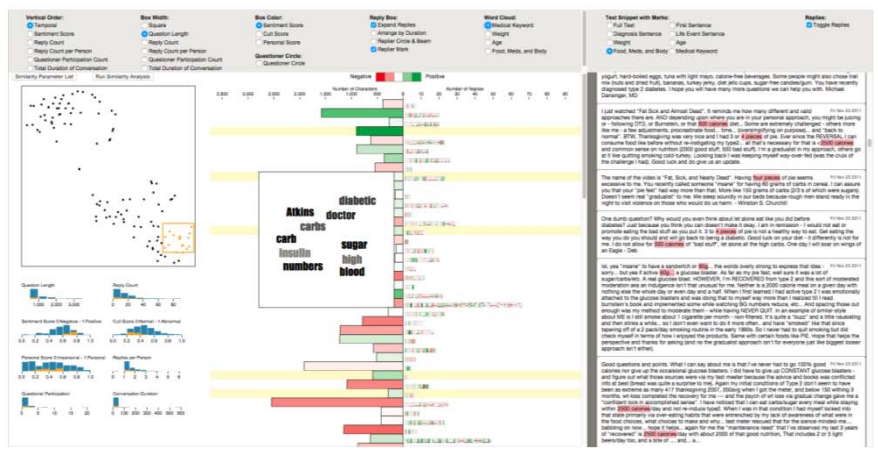
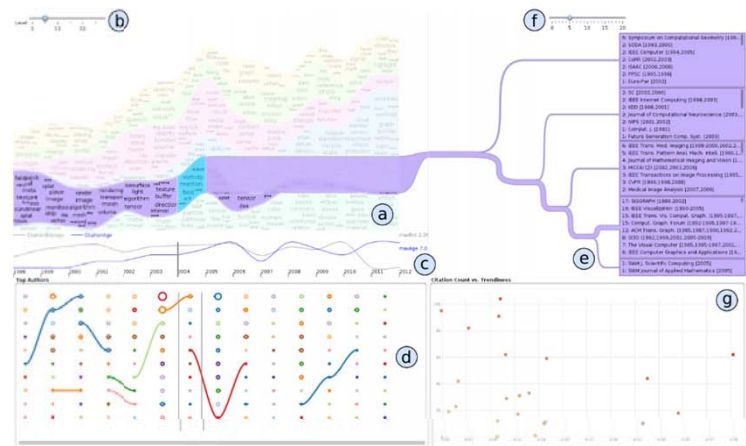


Complicated Visual Design!





Application orientated!



Gaps!

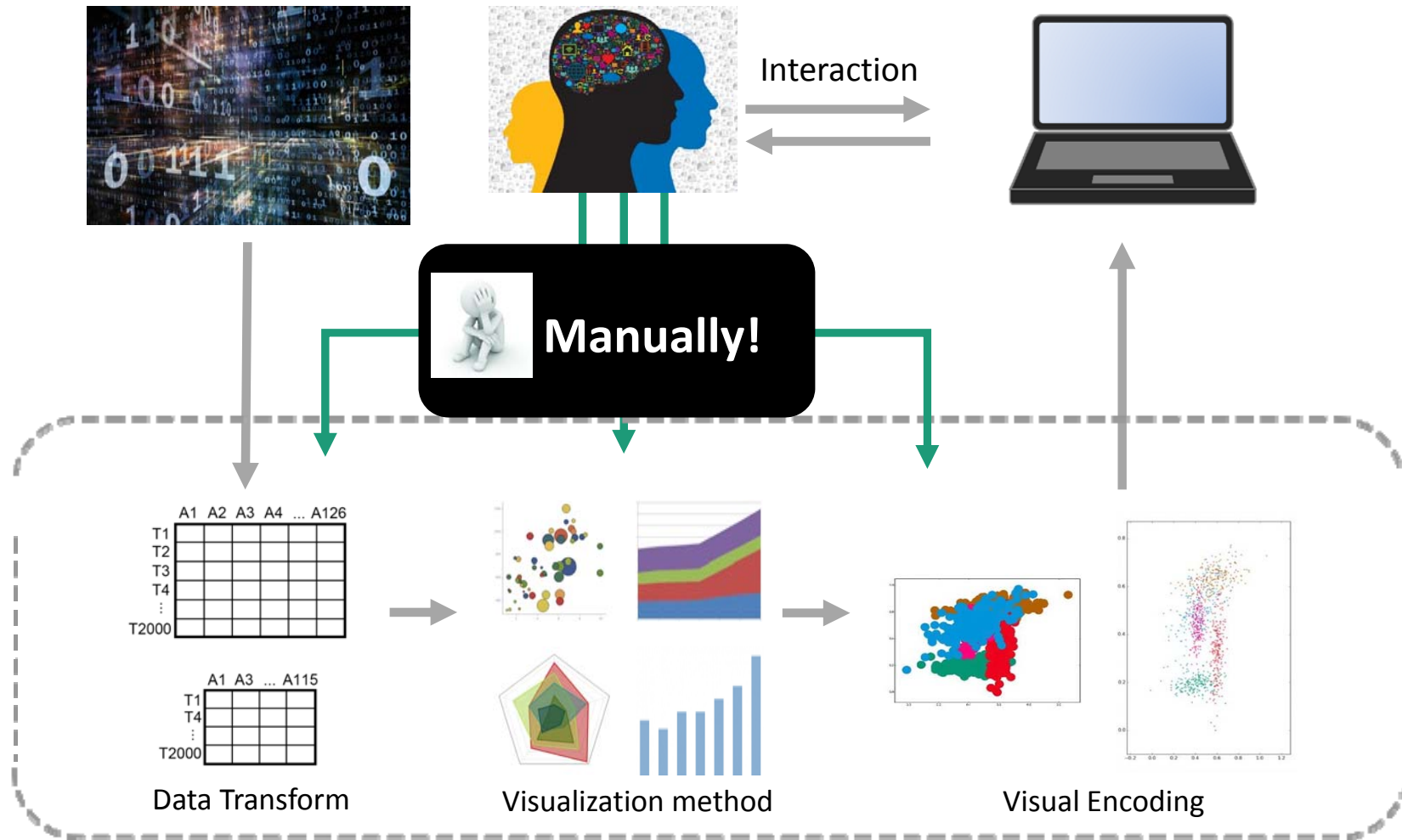
- It is **not easy** to make sense of unfamiliar visualization^[1];
- Most users have **few** experience in visual design but we have **many** different applications.

[1] Sukwon Lee, Sung-Hee Kim, Ya-Hsin Hung, Heidi Lam, Youn-Ah Kang, Ji Soo Yi: How do People Make Sense of Unfamiliar Visualizations?: A Grounded Model of Novice's Information Visualization Sensemaking. IEEE Trans. Vis. Comput. Graph. 22(1): 499-508 (2016)

Our solution

Task-driven Automated
Data Visualization

Traditional Visualization Pipeline



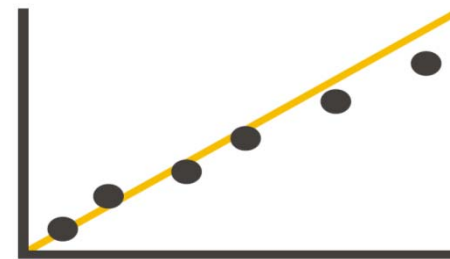
Abstract tasks



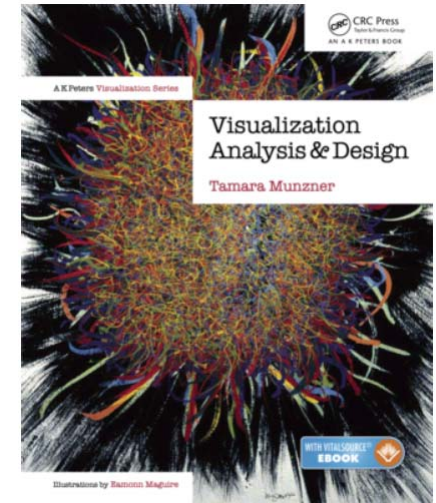
Trend



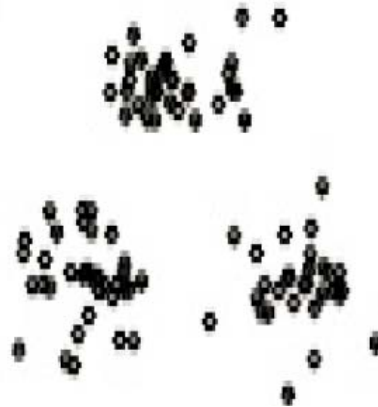
Outlier



Correlation



Distribution

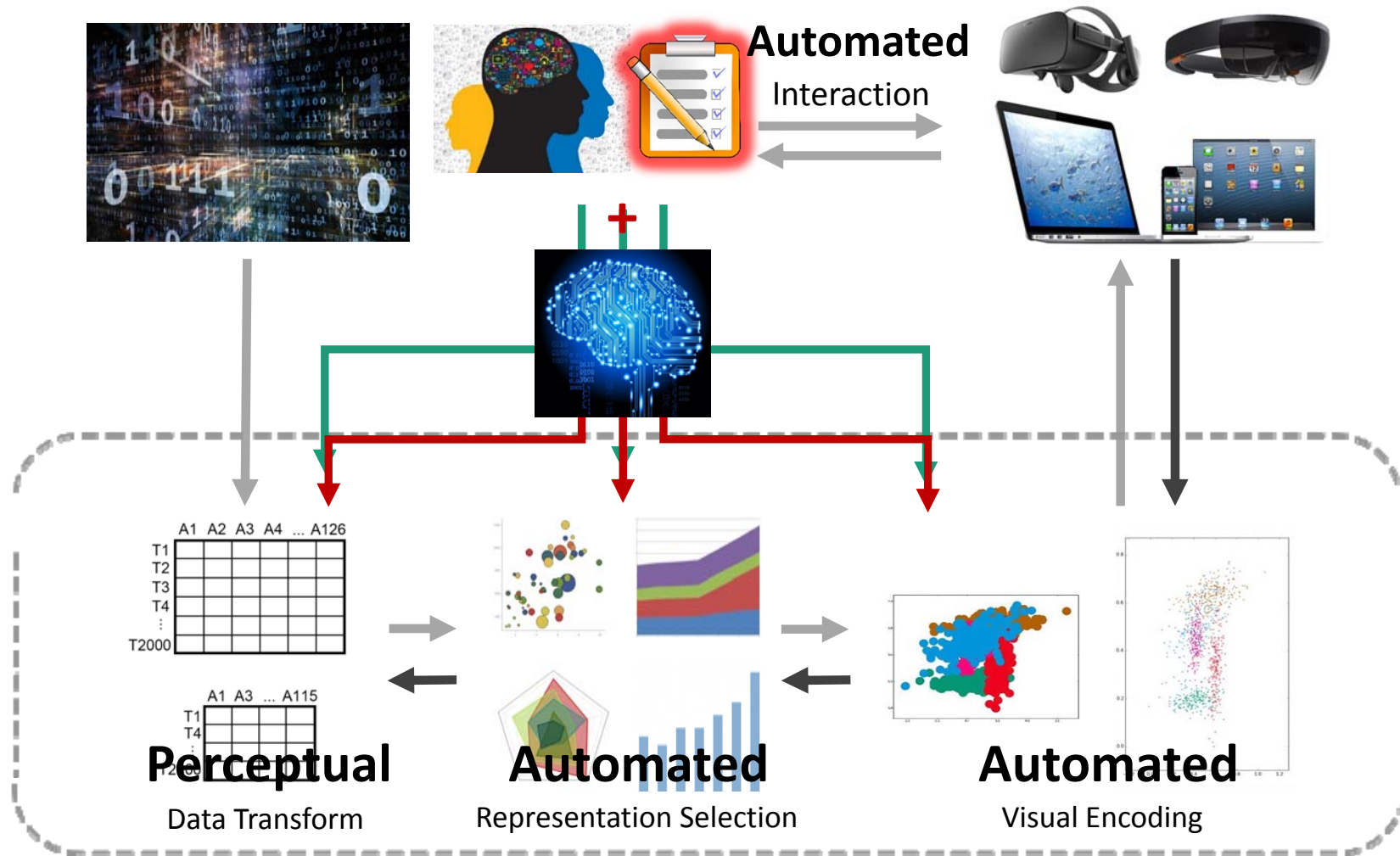


Clusters



Similarity

Task-driven Automated Visualization Design

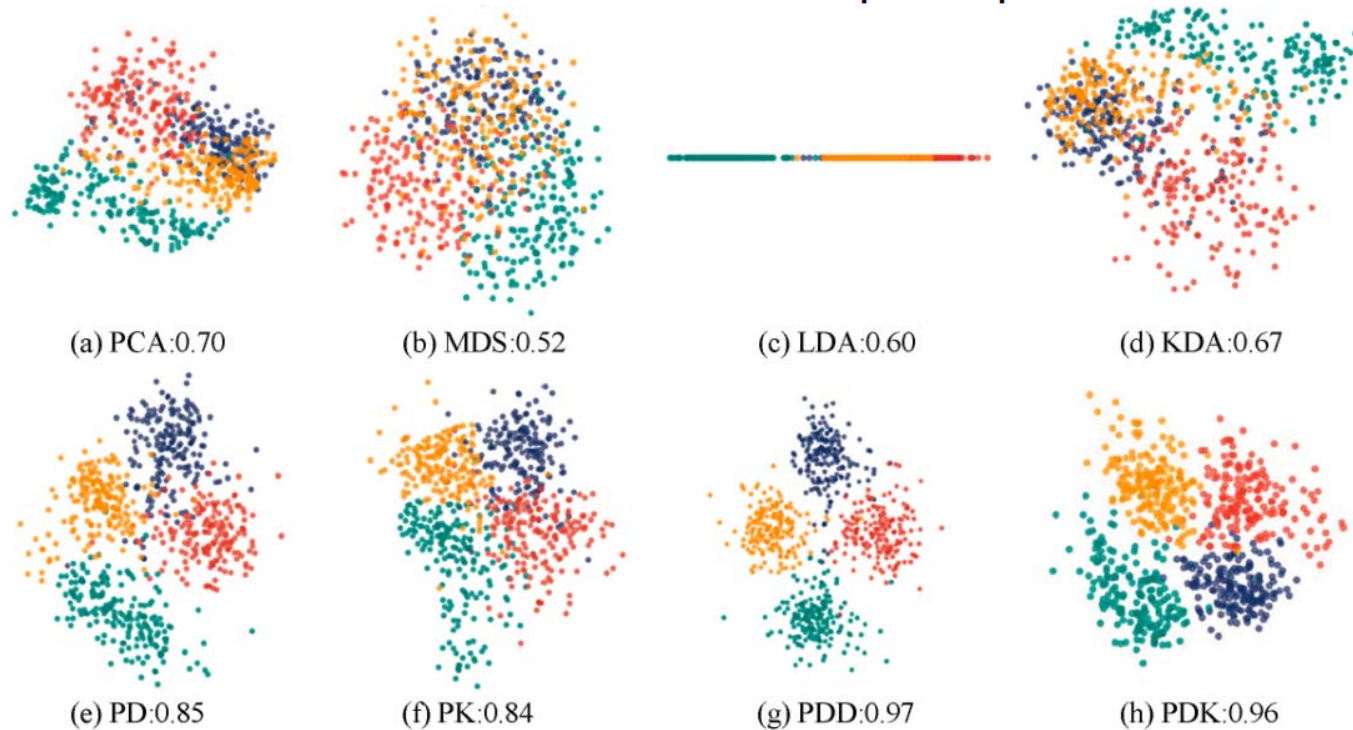


A Perception-Driven Approach to Supervised Dimensionality Reduction for Visualization

[Yunhai Wang](#)¹ [Kang Feng](#)¹ [Xiaowei chu](#)¹ [Jian Zhang](#)² [Chi-Wing Fu](#)³
[Michael Sedlmair](#)⁴ [Xiaohui Yu](#)¹ [Baoquan Chen](#)¹

¹Shandong University ²CNIC, CAS ³the Chinese University of Hong Kong ⁴University of Vienna, Austria

IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics 2017



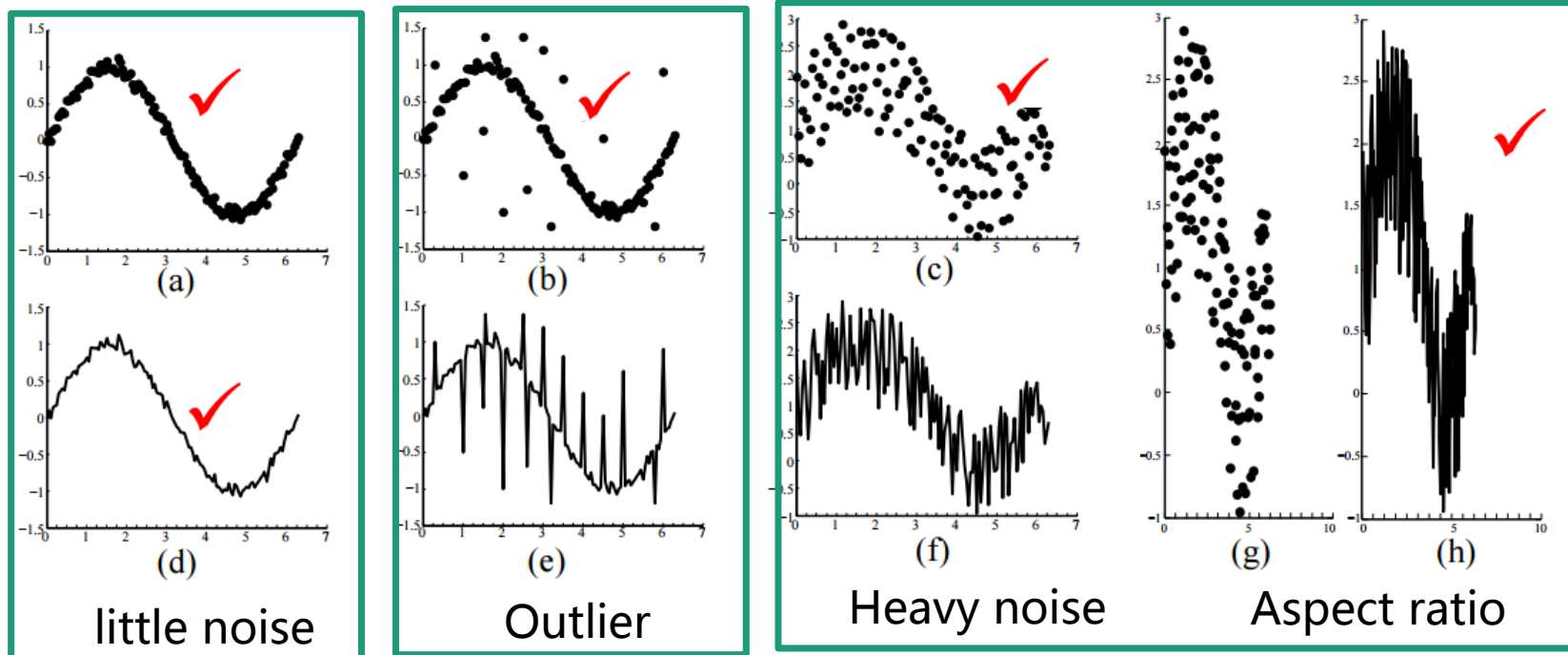
Perceptual Data Transform

Line Graph or Scatter Plot? Automatic Selection of Methods for Visualizing Trends in Time Series

[Yunhai Wang](#)^{1*} [Fubo Han](#)^{1*} [Lifeng Zhu](#)² [Oliver Deussen](#)³ [Baoquan Chen](#)¹

¹Shandong University ²Southeast University ³University Konstanz

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Automated Visualization Selection

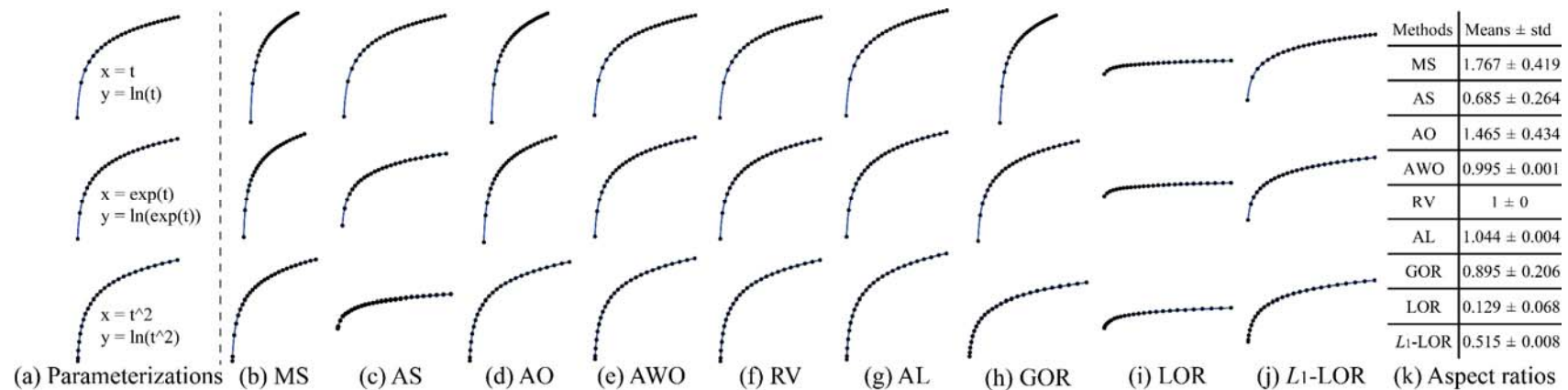
Is There a Robust Technique for Selecting Aspect Ratio in Line Charts?

Yunhai Wang¹ Zeyu Wang¹ Fubo Han¹ Lifeng Zhu² Jian Zhang³
 Changhe Tu¹ Oliver Deussen⁴ Baoquan Chen¹

¹Shandong University ²Southeast University ³Computer Network Information Center ⁴University of Konstanz

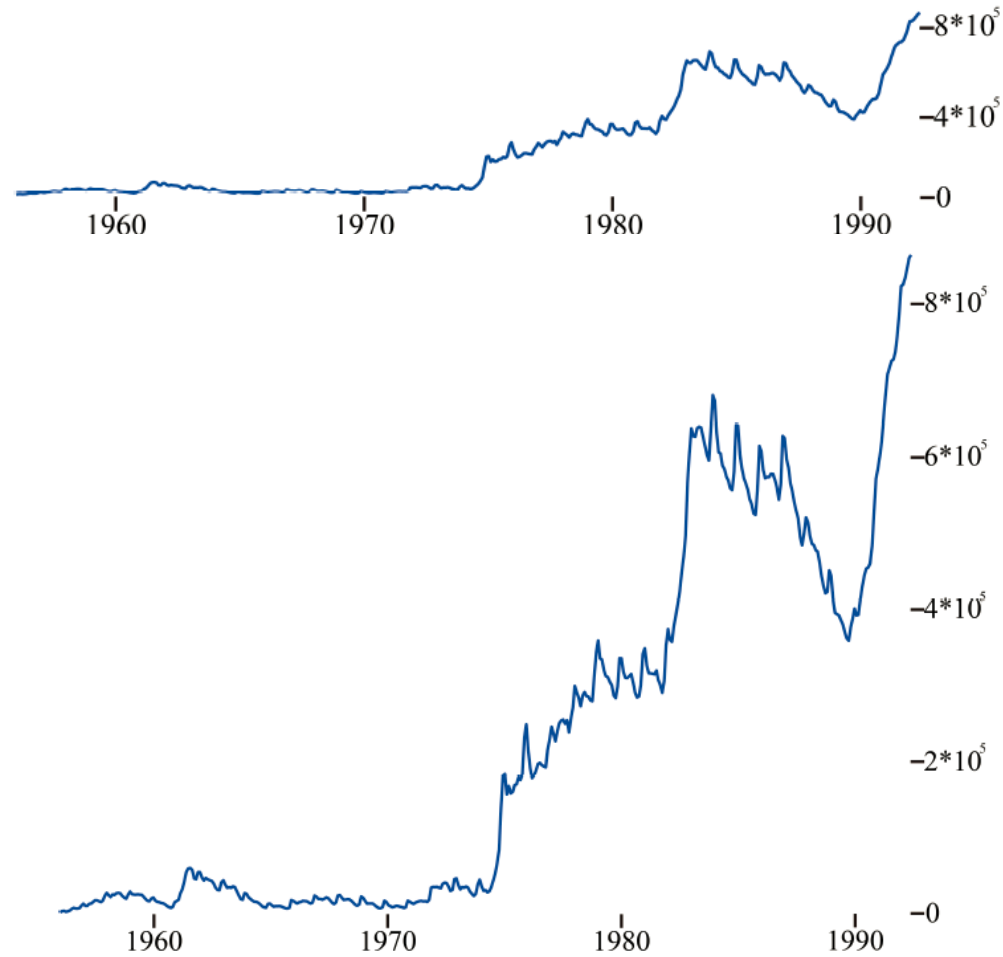
Submitted to IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics

Under Minor Revision



Automated Visual Encoding

Aspect ratio strongly impacts graphical perception

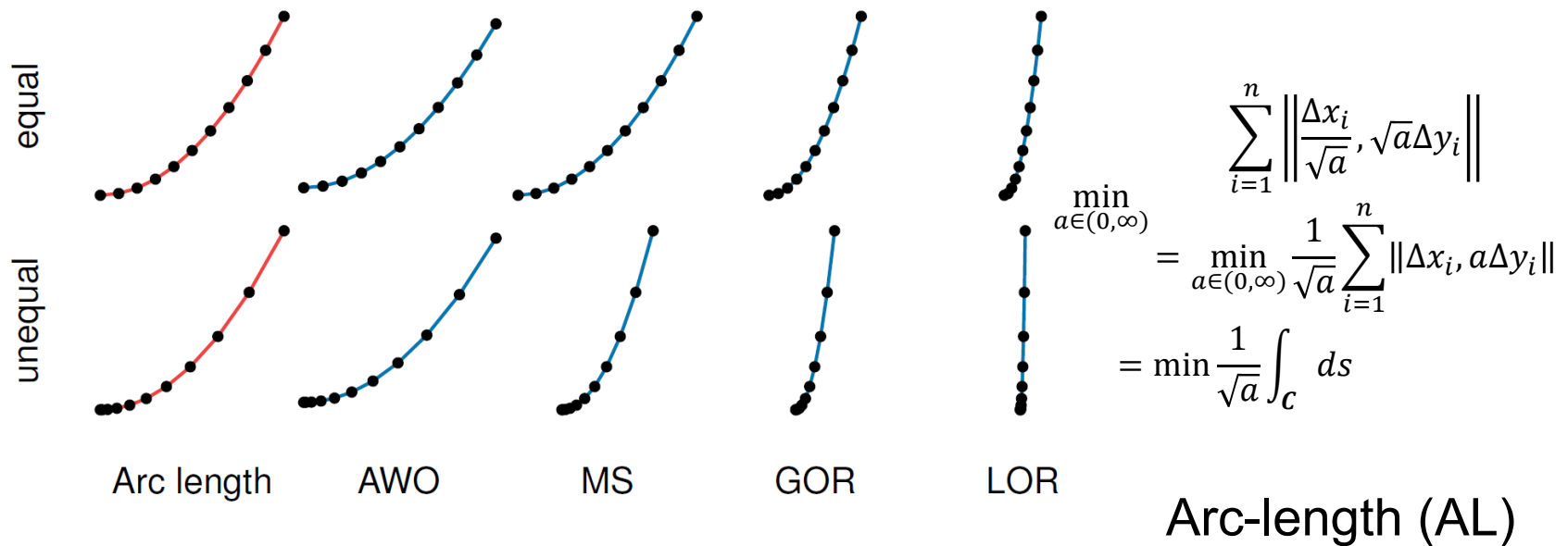


(b) Aspect ratio = 0.752

Many aspect ratio selection methods!

Name of Method	Abbr.	Ref.	Def.	Para. Invar.
Median Absolute Slope	MS	[3]	Eq. 3	×
Average Absolute Slope	AS	[7]	Eq. 4	×
Average Absolute Orientation	AO	[3]	Eq. 5	×
Arc Length Weighted Average Absolute Orientation	AWO	[4]	Eq. 6	✓
Global Orientation Resolution	GOR	[7]	Eq. 8	×
Local Orientation Resolution	LOR	[7]	Eq. 9	×
L_1 -norm based Local Orientation Resolution	L_1 -LOR	Ours	Eq. 17	✓
Resultant Vector	RV	[8]	Eq. 10	✓
Arc Length	AL	[9]	Eq. 11	✓

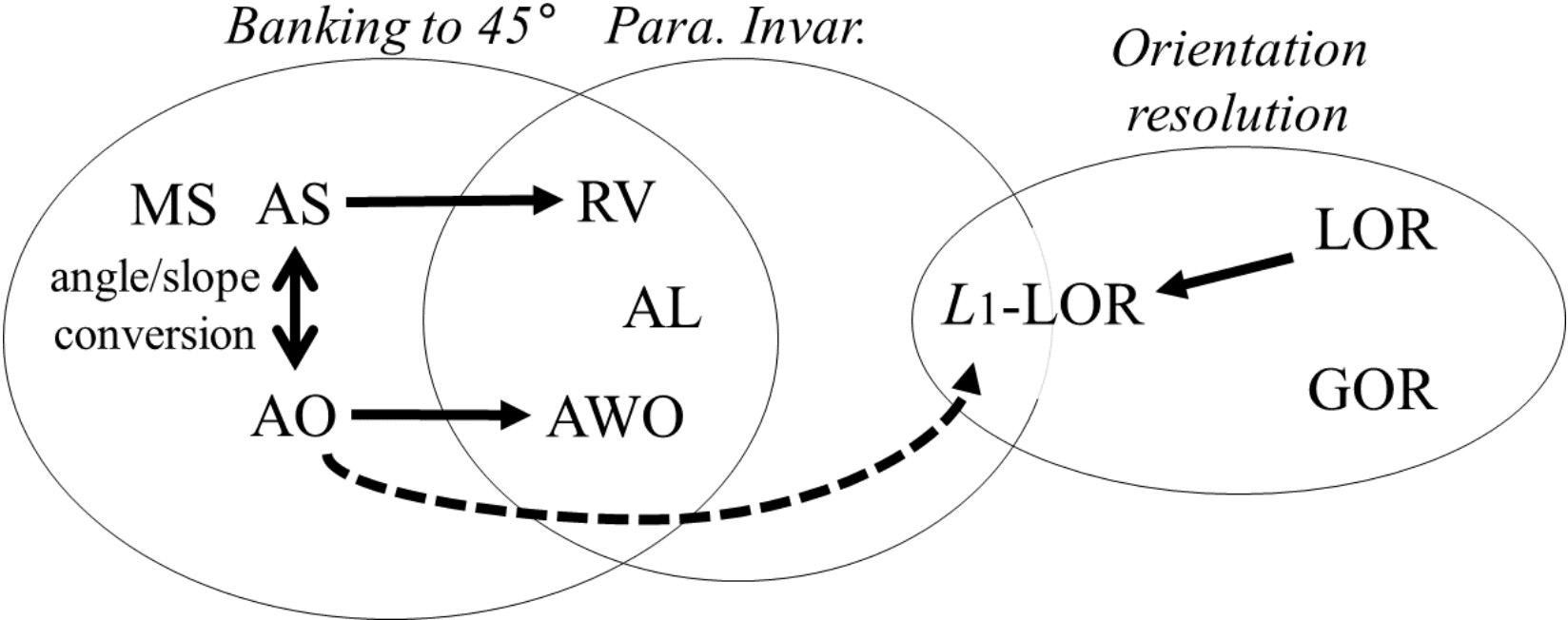
Our Contribution I



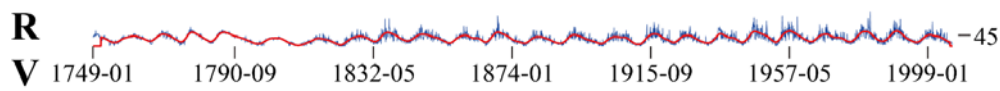
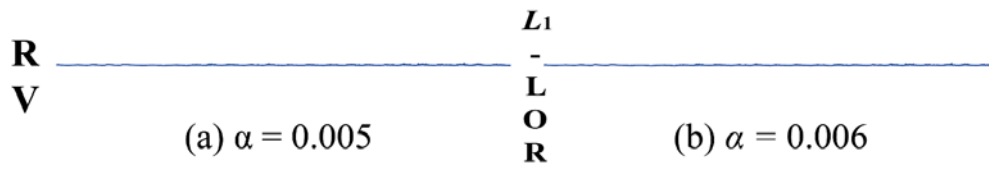
Why some methods are
parameterization invariant?

Line integral

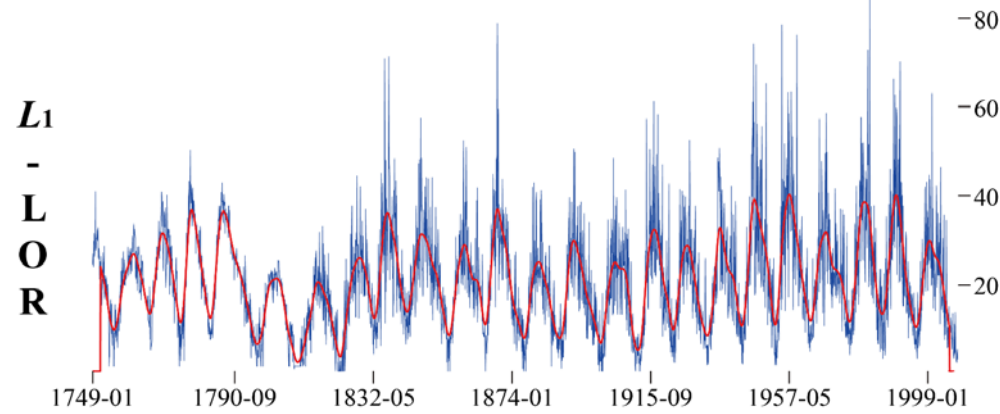
Our Contribution II



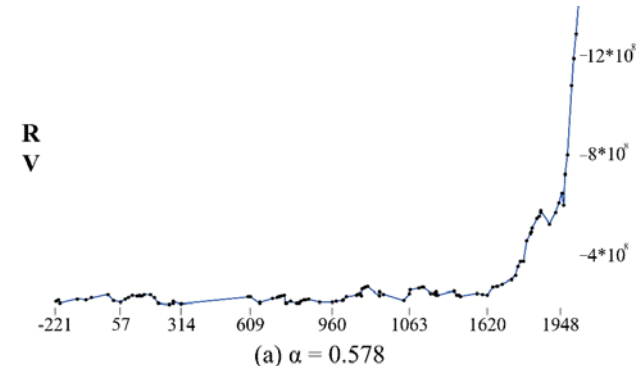
Our Contribution III: dual-scale banking



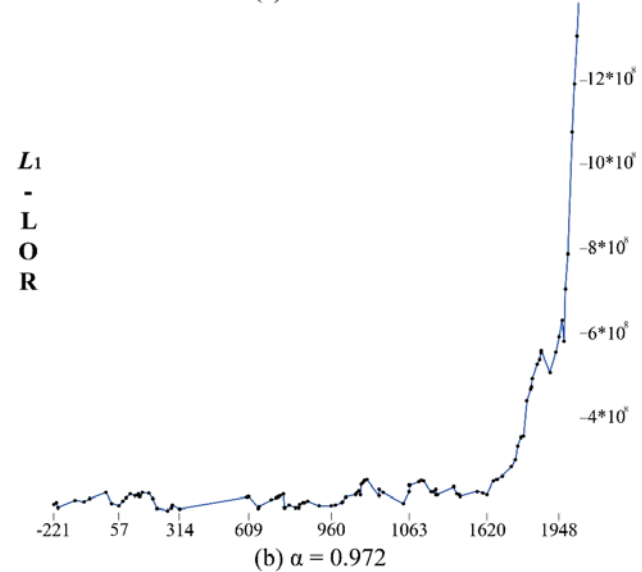
(c) $\alpha = 0.038$



(d) $\alpha = 0.457$



(a) $\alpha = 0.578$



(b) $\alpha = 0.972$

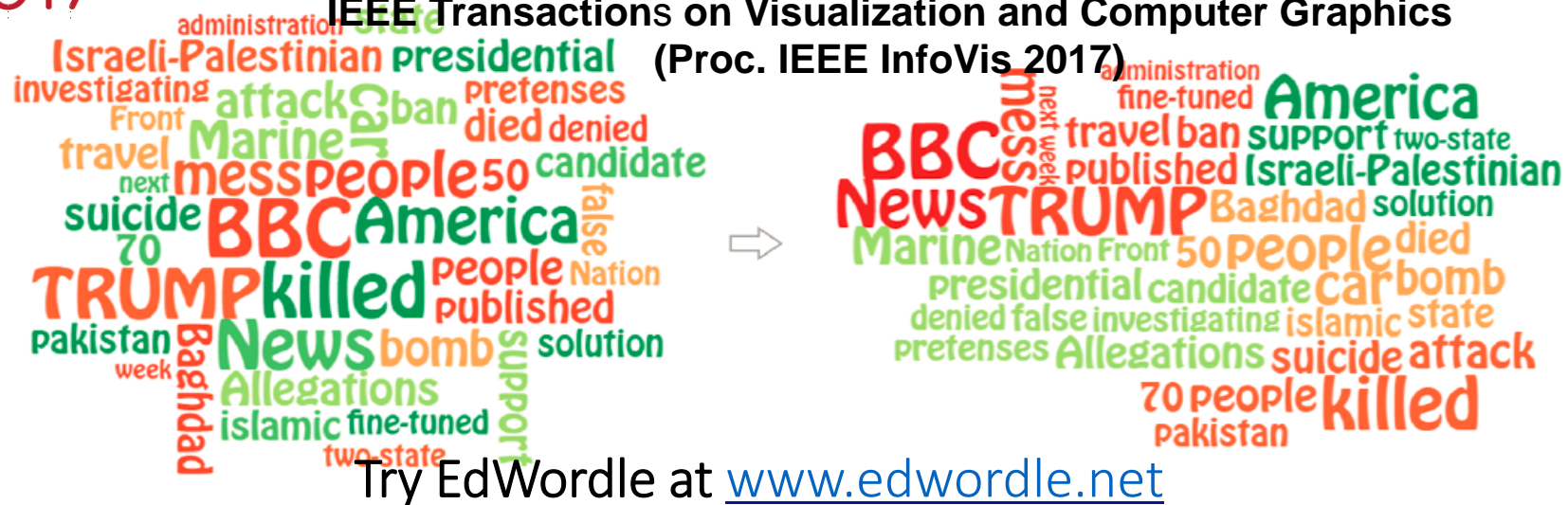
EdWordle: Consistency-preserving Word Cloud Editing



Yunhai Wang, Xiaowei Chu, Chen Bao, Lifeng Zhu
Oliver Deussen, Baoquan Chen and Michael Sedlmair

IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics

(Proc. IEEE InfoVis 2017)

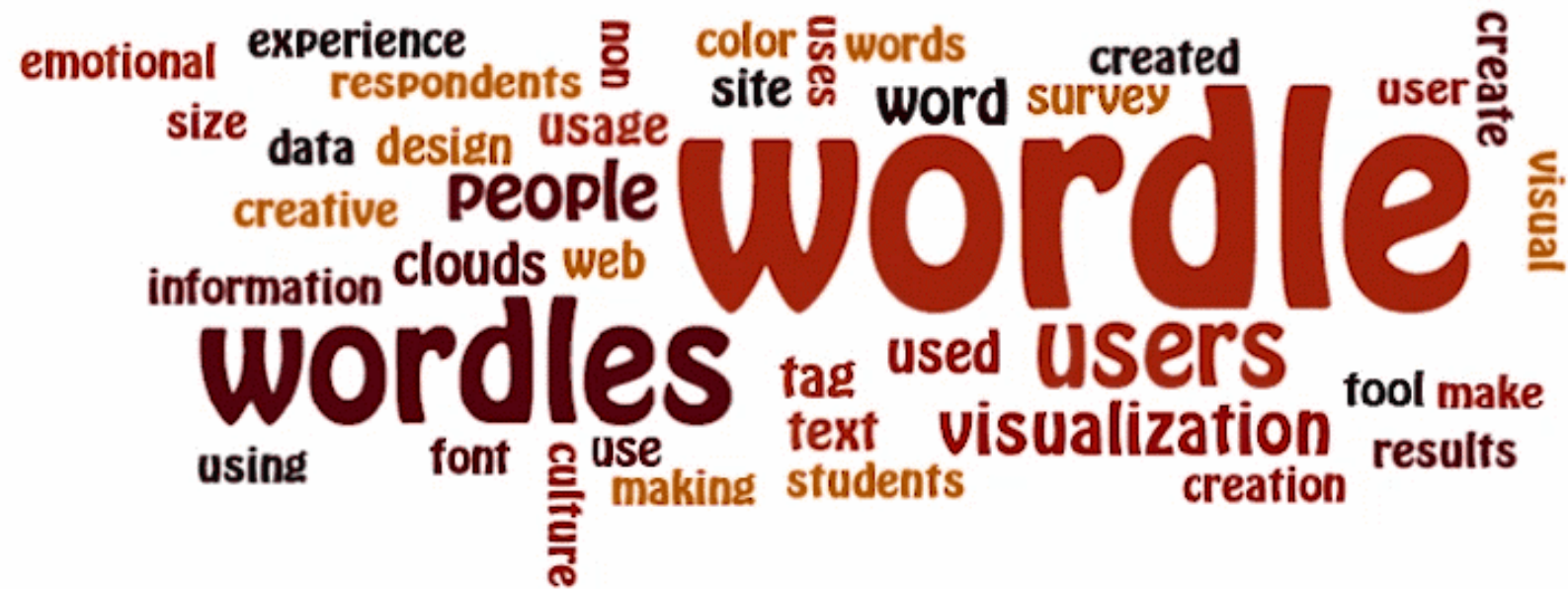


Try EdWordle at www.edwordle.net

Fig. 1. Result of a case study with a professional writer who sought to visualize a BBC news feed: the left image shows the input Wordle layout; the right image shows the layout that was created using EdWordle. The writer ordered related words into semantically meaningful groups, one group per story. Each group was organized spatially together and color-coded, creating a layout that the user referred to as a "storytelling cloud".

Automated Visual Interaction

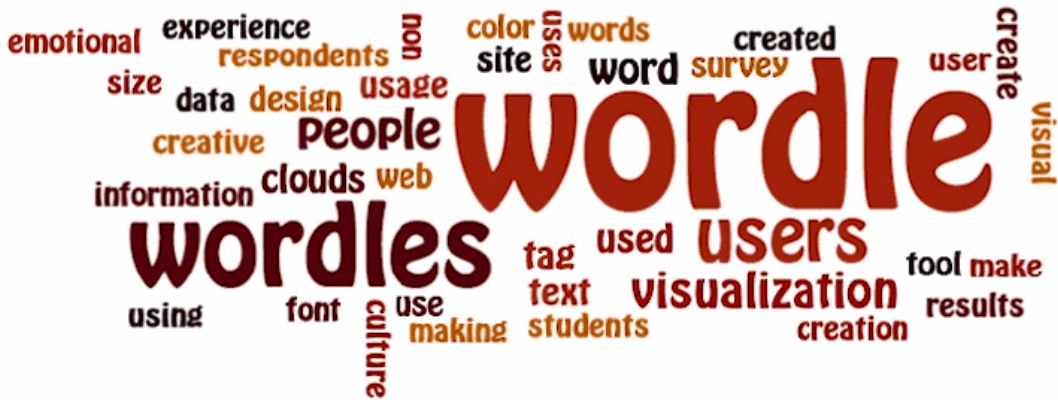
ManiWordle



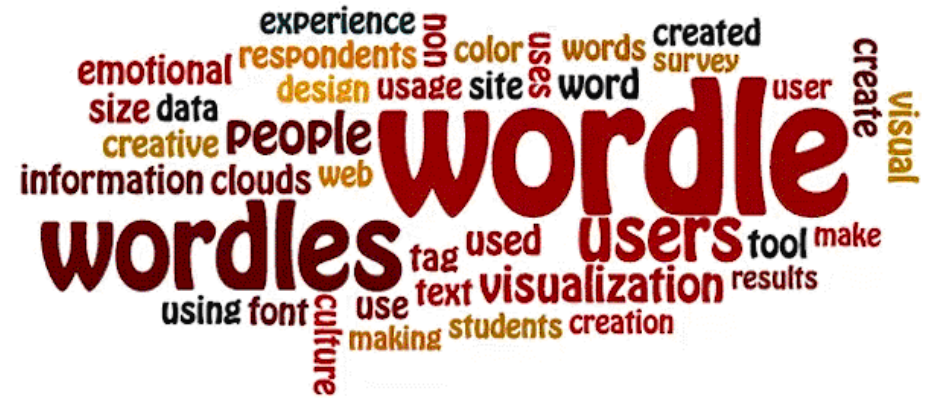
EdWordle



ManiWordle



EdWordle



Our System: www.edwordle.net

EdWordle Home Create FAQ Reference

EdWordle

EdWordle is a tool for editing "word clouds" based on the [Wordle](#). The initial word cloud can be generated from the input text or read from an existing one. You can re-font, re-colore, resize, move, rotate, add and delete words to create custom visualizations.

EdWordle's main benefit is that it allows a neighborhood-preserving editing process, which keeps words at predictable and close locations during and after the editing process. Like Wordle, the images you create with Wordle are yours to use however you like. You can save them to your own desktop to use as you wish.

[Create Now »](#)

Some examples created by others and you can further edit them:

[Edit it!](#) [Edit it!](#) [Edit it!](#) [Edit it!](#)

@copyright 2017

EdWordle Home Create FAQ Reference

Now, you can edit! Click [here](#) to see how to use.

[File -](#)
[Re-Layout](#)
[WordsList](#)
[Add Word](#)
[Force Off](#)
[ReWordle](#)
[See Box](#)
01
Bg color:
Font:

[Undo](#) [Redo](#)

@copyright 2017

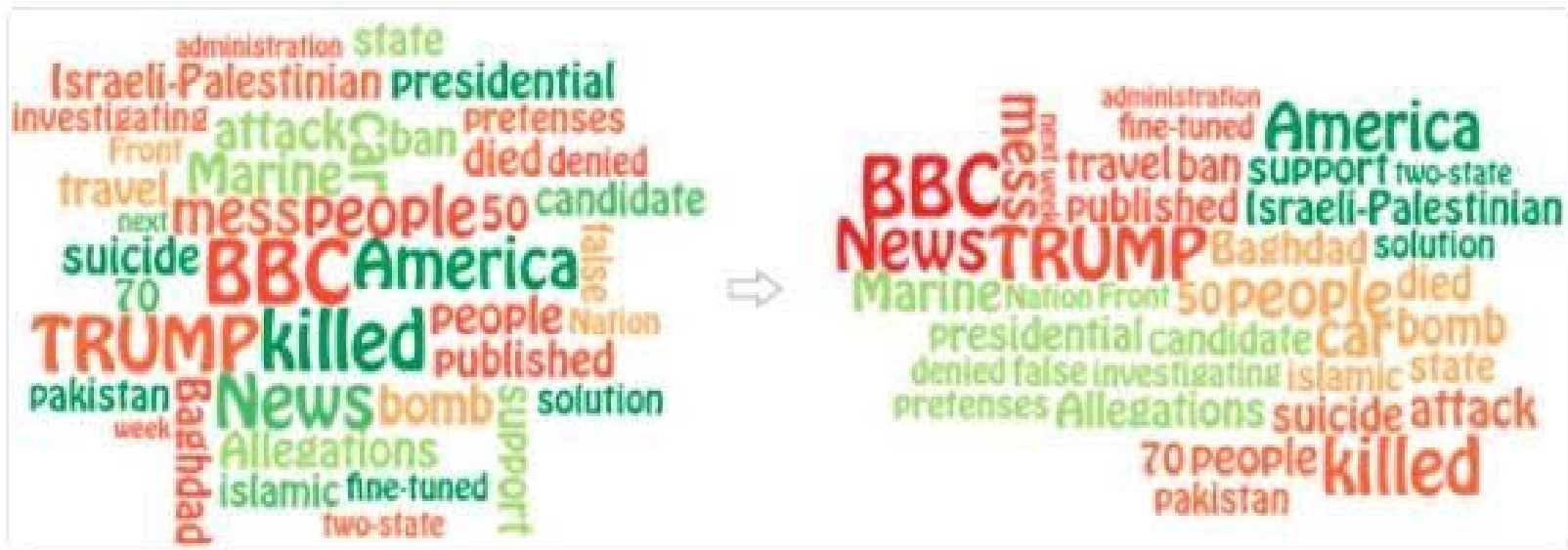
Consistency-Preserving Wordle Editing!

John A Guerra Gómez and Krist Wongsuphasawat liked



Robert Kosara @eagereyes · 7h

EdWordle: Consistency-preserving Word Cloud Editing – move words without everything moving around. #IEEEVIS edwordle.net



1 10 7



Petra Isenberg @dr_pi · 7h

[#ieevis](#) the paper I presented yesterday as an EdWordle - and using fall colors because we like them better right at this time of the year



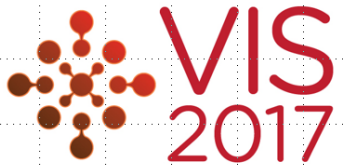
2



8



Revisiting Stress Majorization as a Unified Framework for Interactive Constrained Graph Visualization



Yunhai Wang, Yanyan Wang, Yinqi Sun, Lifeng Zhu, Kecheng Lu
Chi-Wing Fu, Michael Sedlmair, Oliver Deussen, and Baoquan Chen

**IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics
(Proc. IEEE InfoVis 2017)**

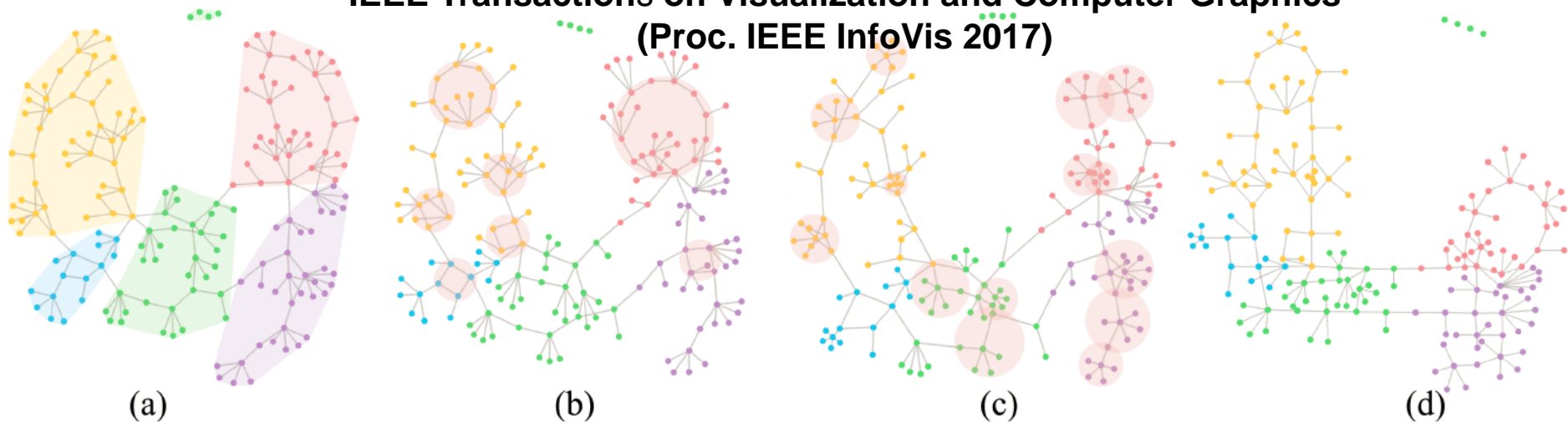


Fig. 1. Our unified framework for constrained graph visualization allows us to create graph layouts with various constraints: a) cluster non-overlap (CN); b) CN + circle constraint (CC); c) CN + star constraint (SC); and d) CN + CC + SC + edge direction constraint.

Automated Visual Interaction



¹ Shandong University



² Southeast University



³ The Chinese University of HongKong



⁴ University of Vienna



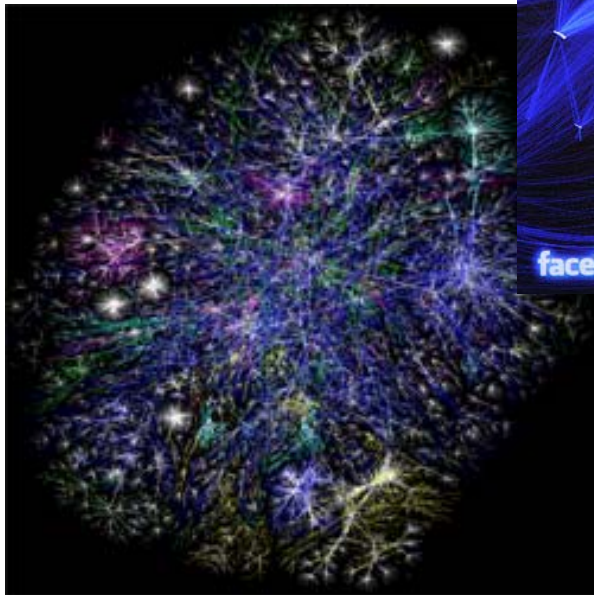
⁵ Konstanz University and VCC SIAT

Revisiting Stress Majorization as a Unified Framework for Interactive Constrained Graph Visualization

Yunhai Wang¹, Yanyan Wang¹, Yinqi Sun¹, Lifeng Zhu², Kecheng Lu¹

Chi-Wing Fu³, Michael Sedlmair⁴, Oliver Deussen⁵, and Baoquan Chen¹

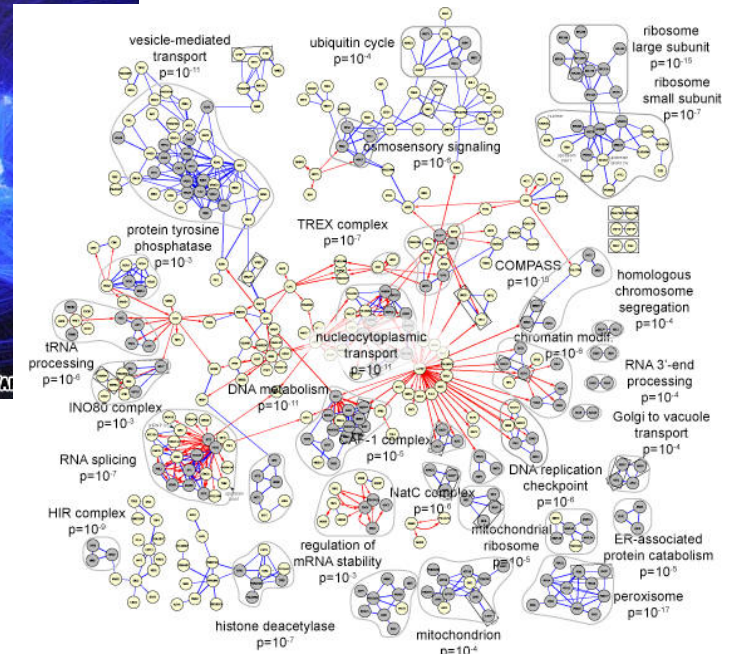
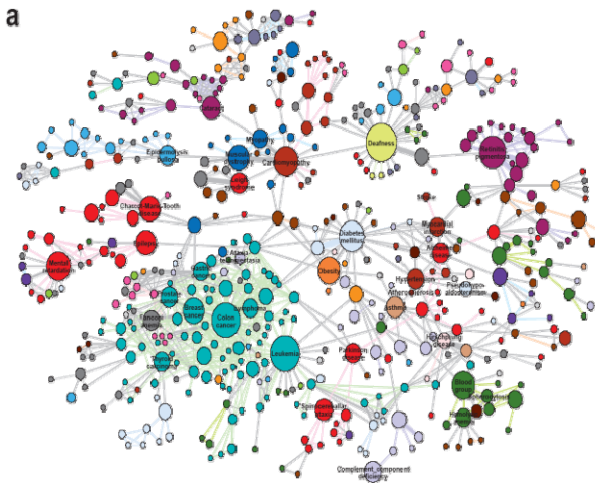
Graphs are everywhere!



The Internet [2005]



Social Networks [2010]



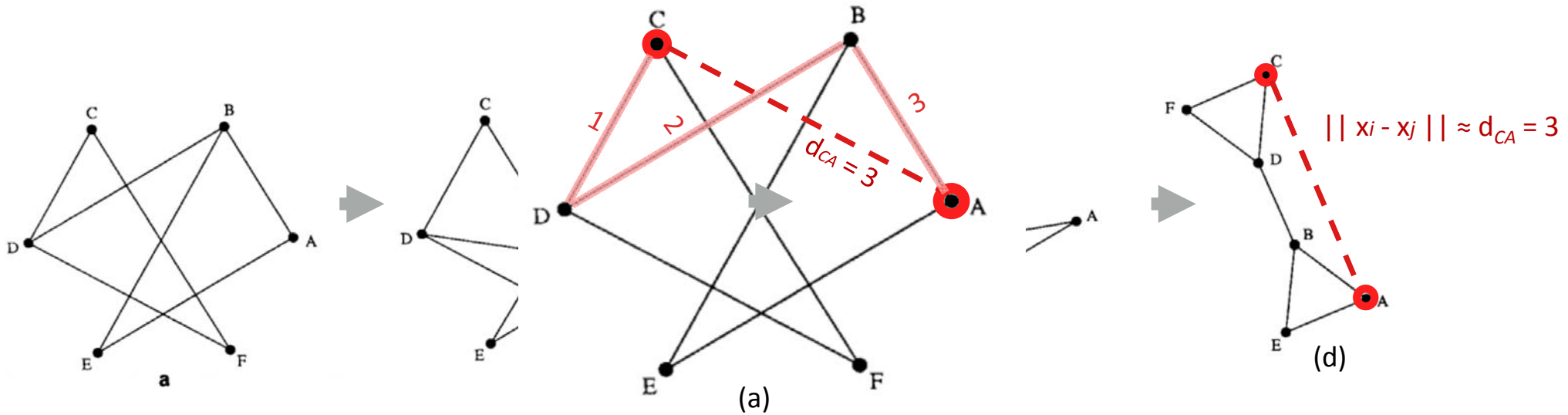
Gene Regulatory Graph
[Decourty 2008]

Human Disease Network
[Barabasi 2007]

Node-link Graph Visualization

- Stress model:

$$\min \sum_{i,j \in V} w_{ij} (|| x_i - x_j || - d_{ij})^2$$



The energy minimization process
[Kamada et al. 1989]

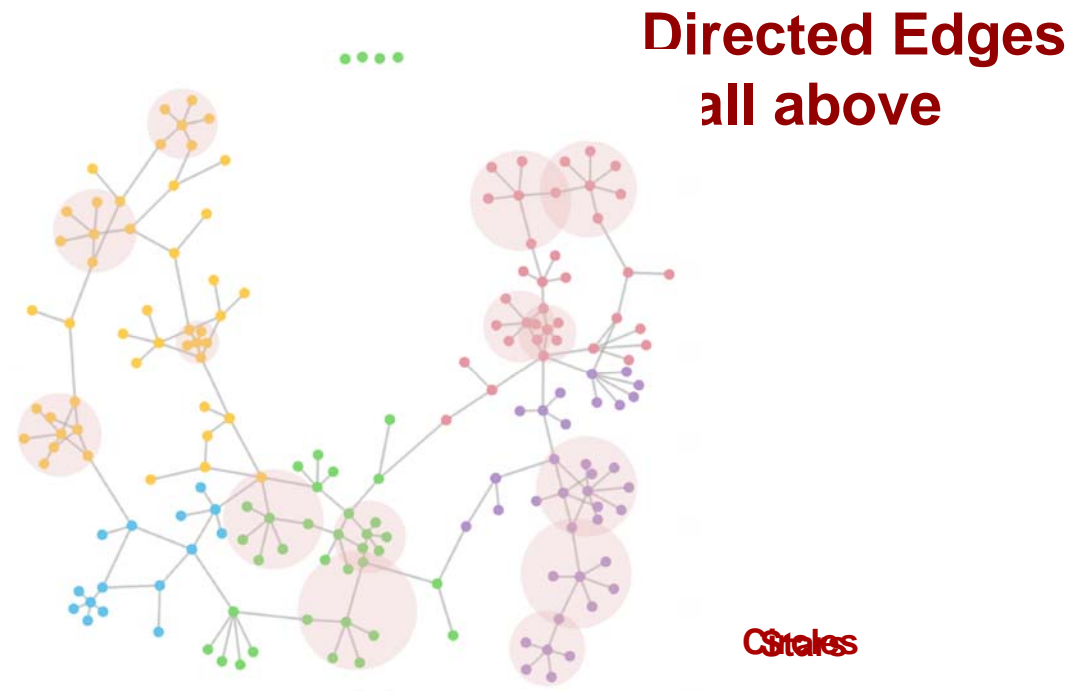
Task-driven Graph Layout: User constraints

Design various constraints to help explore the structures of interest.

Aesthetic Criteria:

- Minimizing cluster overlapping
- Maximizing the minimum angle between edges leaving a node (star)
- Circles are salient structures
- Maximizing edge orthogonality
- Minimizing edge crossing
- Maximizing symmetry
-

[H. C. Purchase et al. 2002]

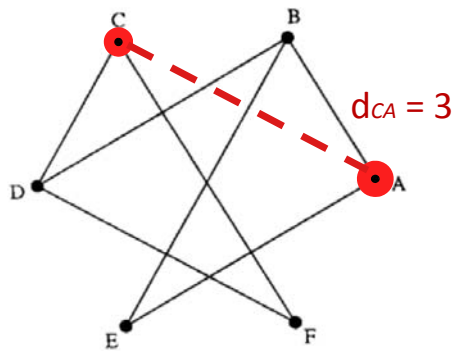


Constrained Layouts Modelled from our framework

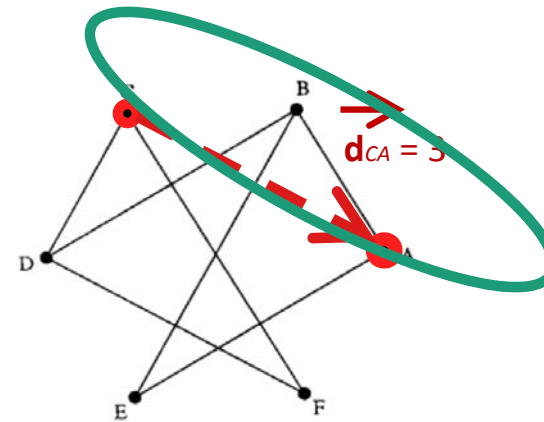
Core Idea

Introducing **edge vector** in the “stress model” (reformulating stress majorization) to provide **inherent (unified)** support to general layout constraints.

- » Classical stress model: distance only
- » We: **distance + angle** (i.e. **vector**)



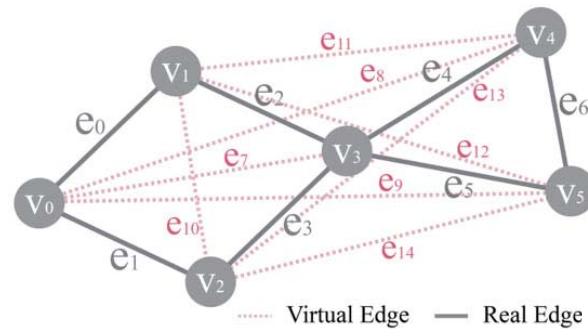
Stress model: scalar



Ours: vector

Stress Model

- Given a graph $G(V,E)$



- Stress model:

$$\min S(\mathbf{X}) = \min \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} (\| \mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j \| - d_{ij})^2$$

Stress Majorization

$$S(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} d_{ij}^2 + \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2 - 2 \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} d_{ij} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|$$



$$S(\mathbf{X}) \leq \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} d_{ij}^2 + \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2 - 2 \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} d_{ij} \frac{(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j)^\top (\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_j)}{\|\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_j\|}$$

Reformulation in Vector Form

$$S(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} d_{ij}^2 + \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2 - 2 \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} d_{ij} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|$$



$$S(\mathbf{X}) \leq \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} d_{ij}^2 + \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2 - 2 \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} d_{ij} \frac{(\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_j) \cdot (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j)}{\|\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_j\| \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|}$$

Edge vectors

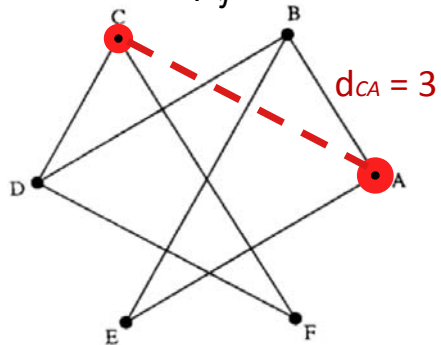
Reformulation in Vector Form

$$S(\mathbf{X}) \leq \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} d_{ij}^2 + \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2 - 2 \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} \frac{(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j)^T (\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_j)}{\|\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_j\|} d_{ij}$$

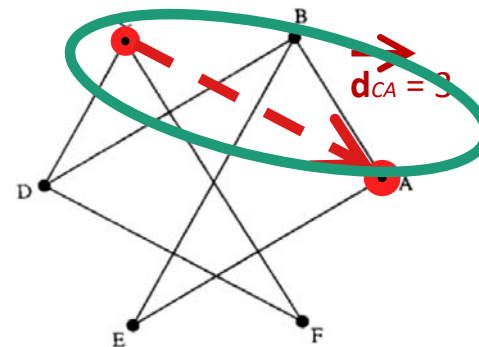
$$= \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{d}_{ij}\|^2$$

$$\mathbf{d}_{ij} = d_{ij} \frac{(\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_j)}{\|\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_j\|}$$

Stress model: $\sum_{i < j} w_{ij} (\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\| - d_{ij})^2$



Stress model scalar



Ours: vector

Incorporating User Constraints

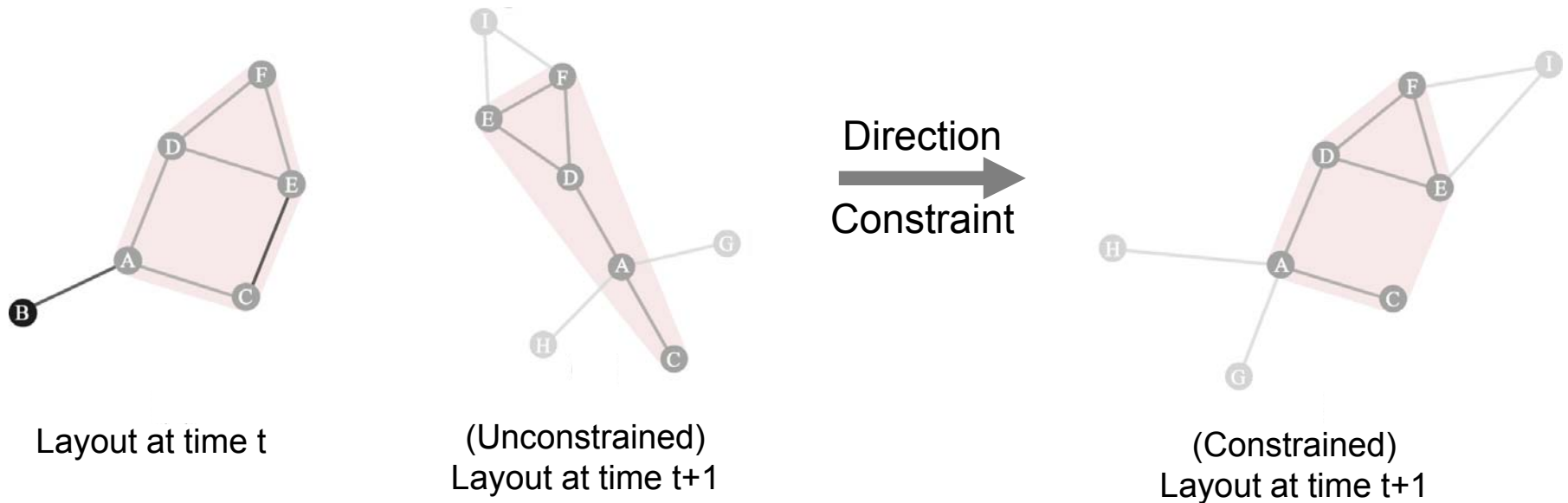
- Define \mathbf{d}'_{ij} — target edge vectors for constraints
 - $\|\mathbf{d}'_{ij}\|$ **distance** constraints between node pairs
 - $\vec{\mathbf{d}}'_{ij}$ **direction** constraints between node pairs

User Constraints

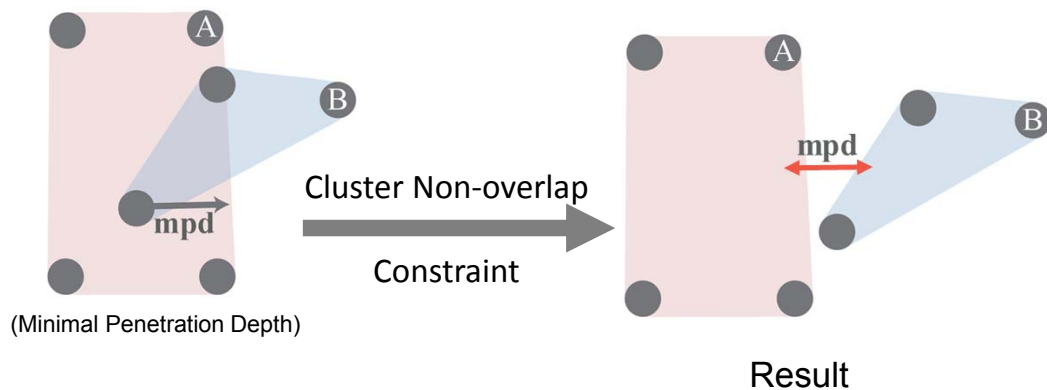
1. Direct Constraint
2. Metrics-based Constraint
3. Shape-based Constraint

1. Direct Constraint

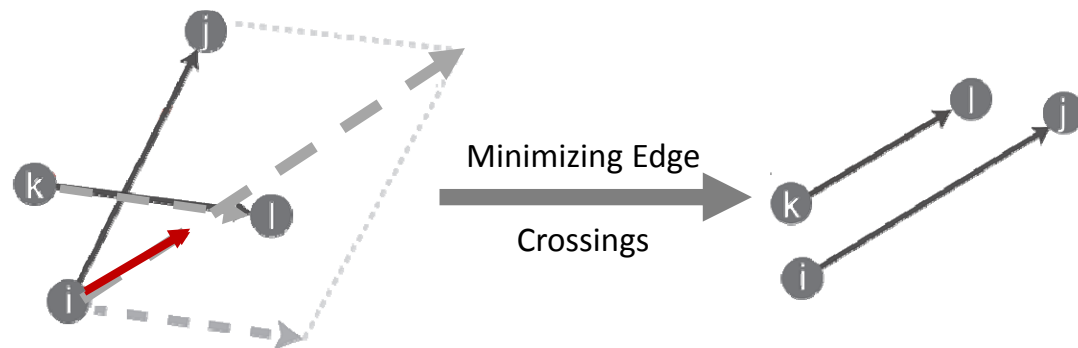
- Edge **Length** / **Direction** Constraint
 - Temporal Coherent Dynamic Graph Visualization



2. Metrics-based Constraint

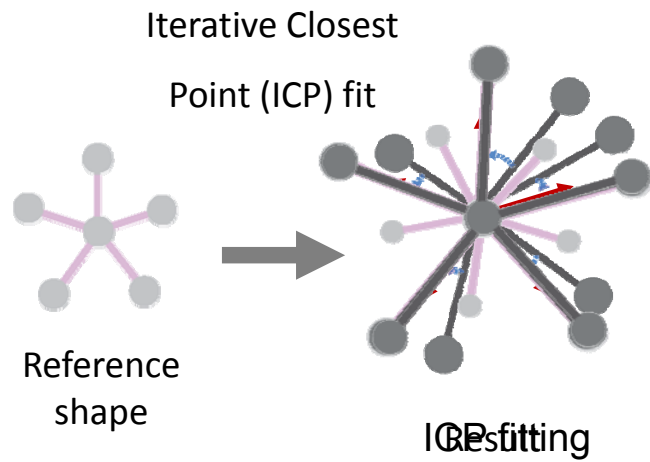


Non-overlap Constraint

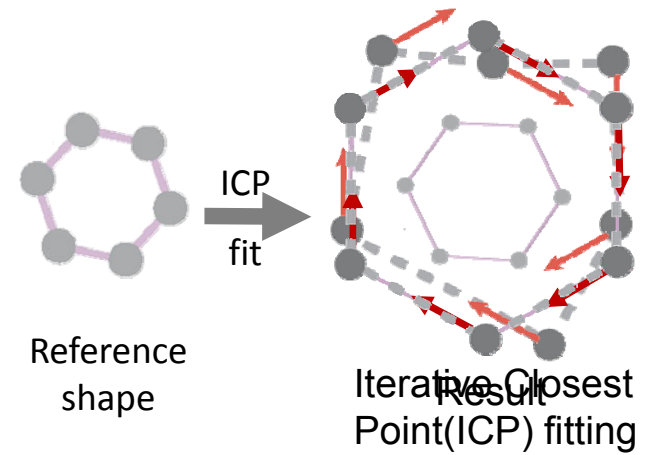


Minimizing Edge Crossings

3. Shape-based Constraint

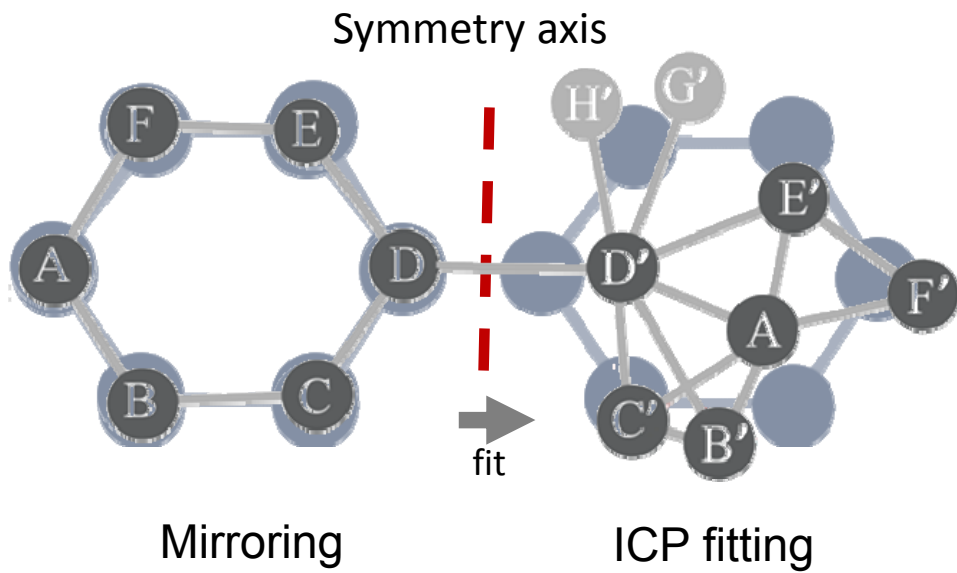


Star Constraint



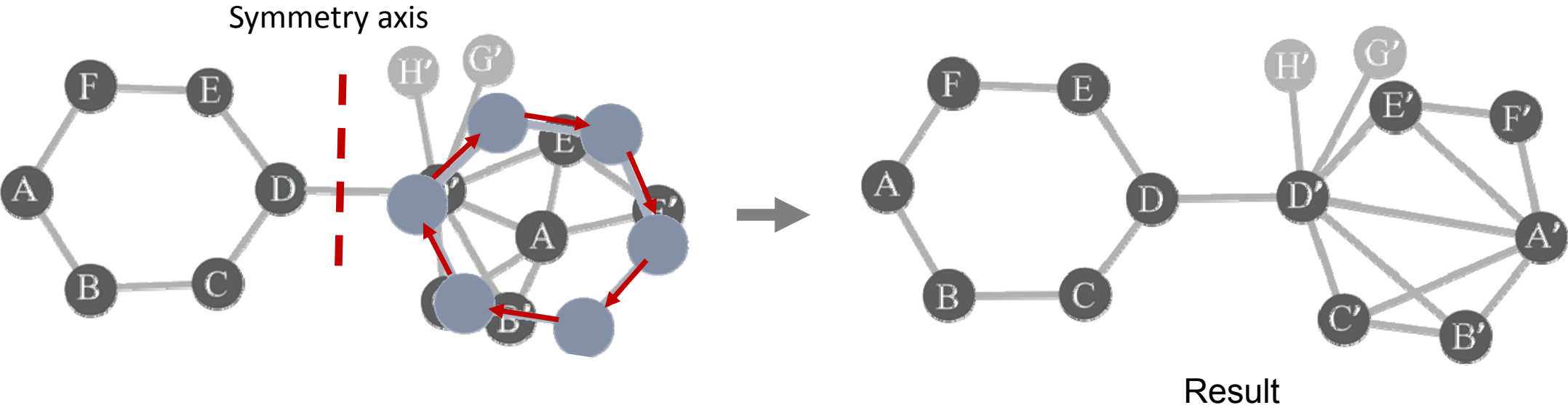
Circle Constraint

3. Shape-based Constraint



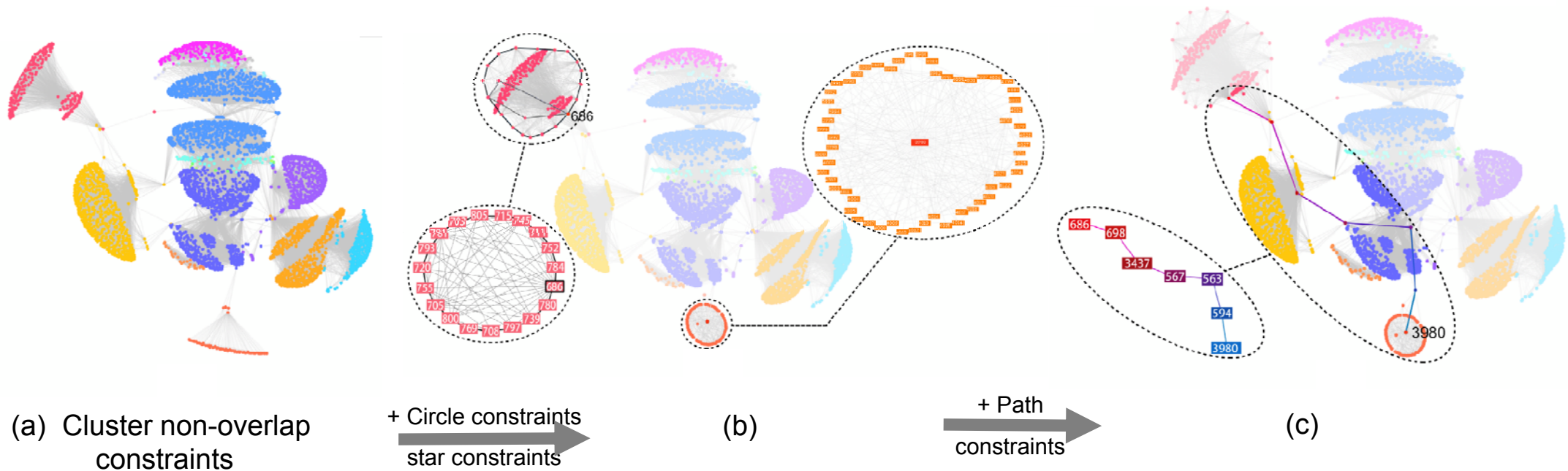
Symmetry Constraint

3. Shape-based Constraint



Symmetry Constraint

Constraint-based Graph Exploration



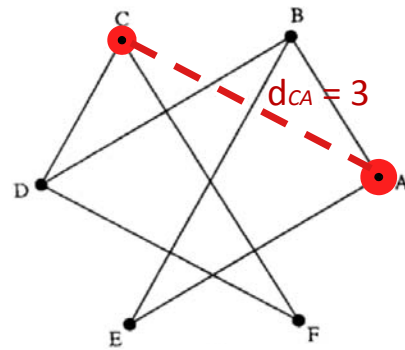
Facebook4039 Graph
4039 nodes, 88234 edges

More details can be found from:

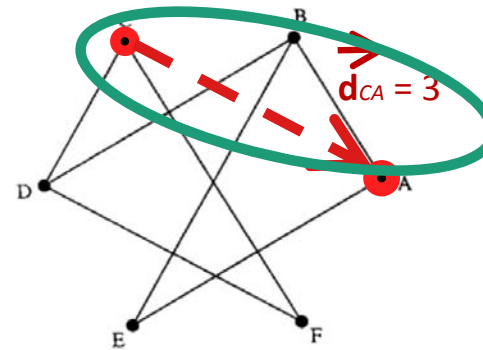
<http://www.yunhaiwang.org/infovis17/vectormds/index.html>

Code, system, and data are available at:

https://github.com/Yanyan-Wang/vectorized_stress_majorization

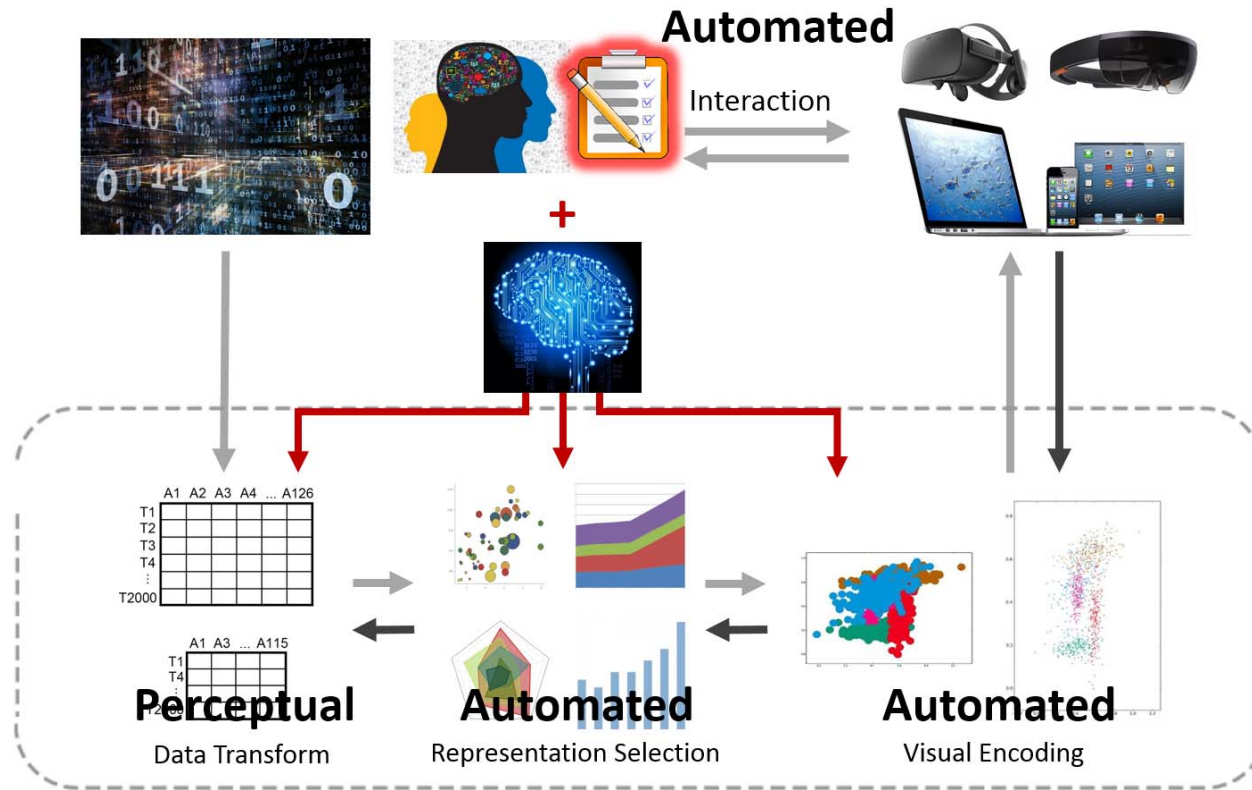


Stress majorization scalar



Ours: vector

Thanks!



<http://www.yunhaiwang.org/>