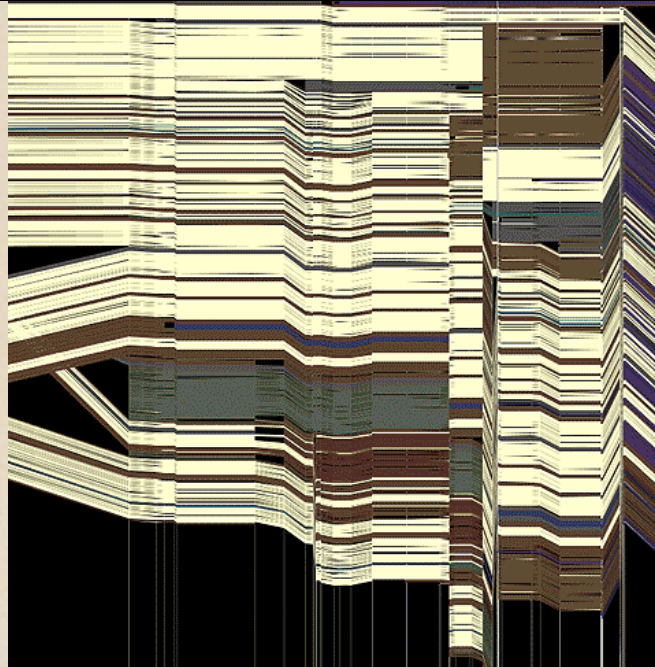
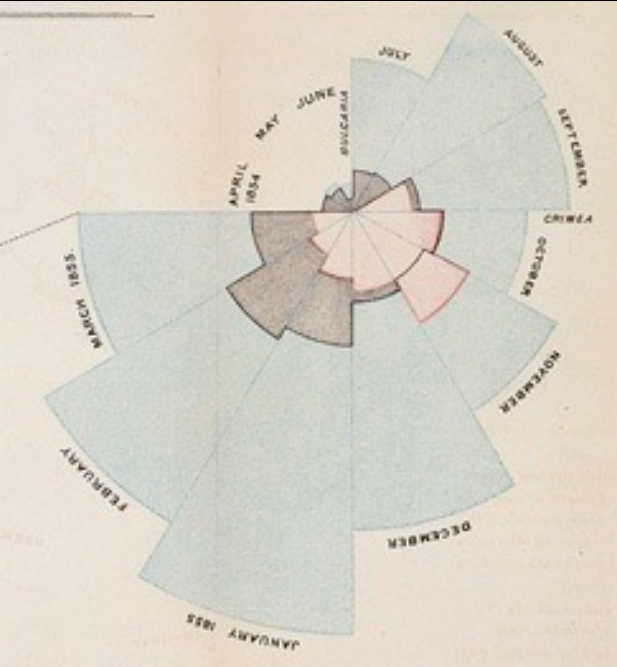


CSE 442 - Data Visualization

Visualization Tools



Jeffrey Heer University of Washington

How do people create visualizations?

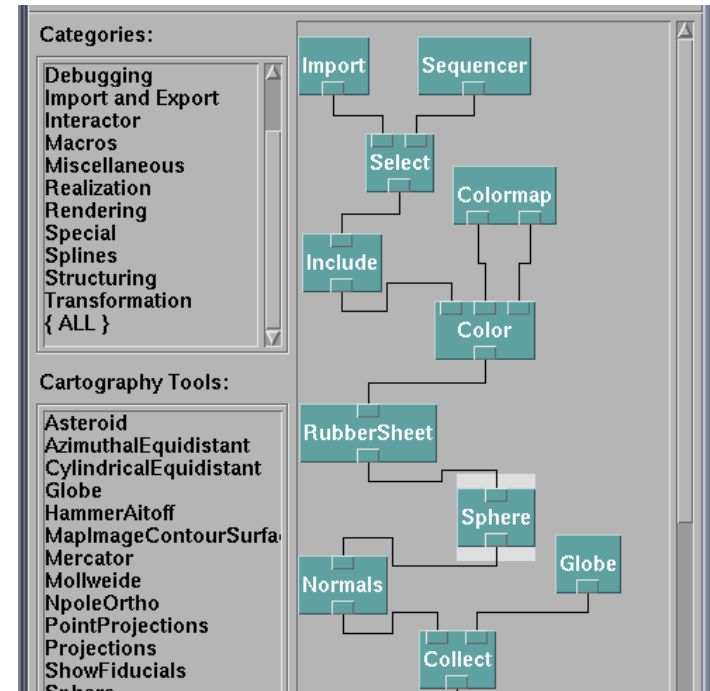


Chart Typology

Pick from a stock of templates
Easy-to-use but limited expressiveness
Prohibits novel designs, new data types

Component Architecture

Permits more combinatorial possibilities
Novel views require new operators,
which requires software engineering



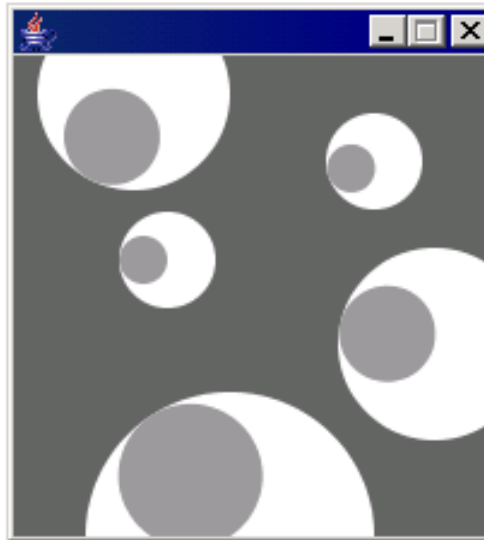
Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D



sketch_070126a \$

```
    ey = y;  
    size = s;  
  }  
  
  void update(int mx, int my) {  
    angle = atan2(my-ey, mx-ex);  
  }  
  
  void display() {  
    pushMatrix();  
    translate(ex, ey);  
    fill(255);  
    ellipse(0, 0, size, size);  
    rotate(angle);  
    fill(153);  
    ellipse(size/4, 0, size/2, size/2);  
    popMatrix();  
  }  
}
```





US Air Traffic, Aaron Koblin

Graphics APIs

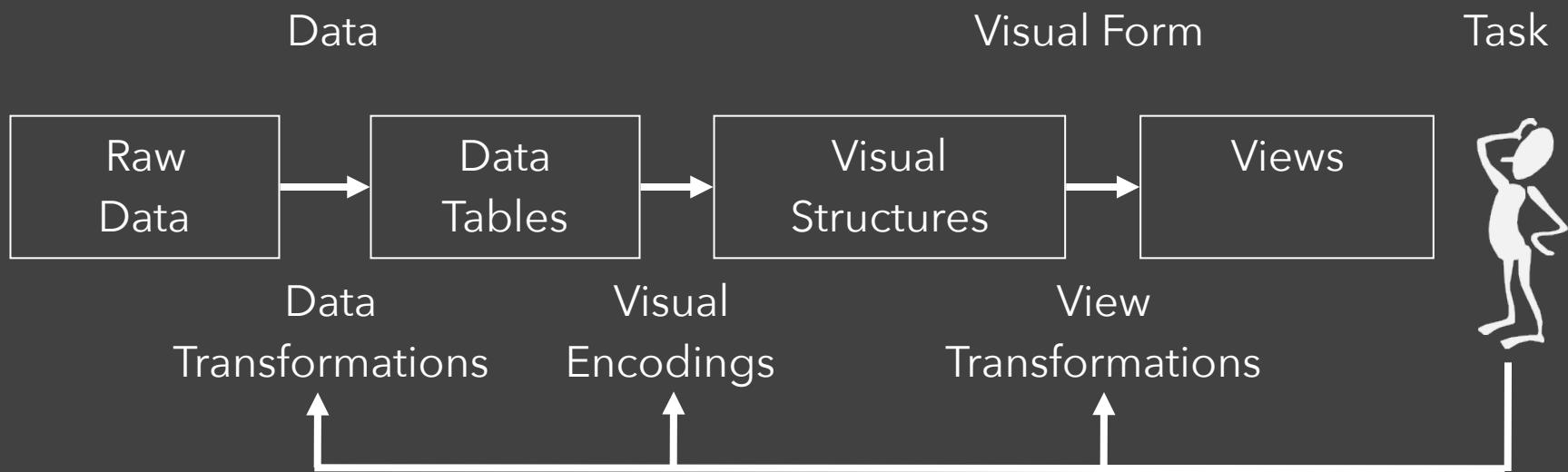
Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

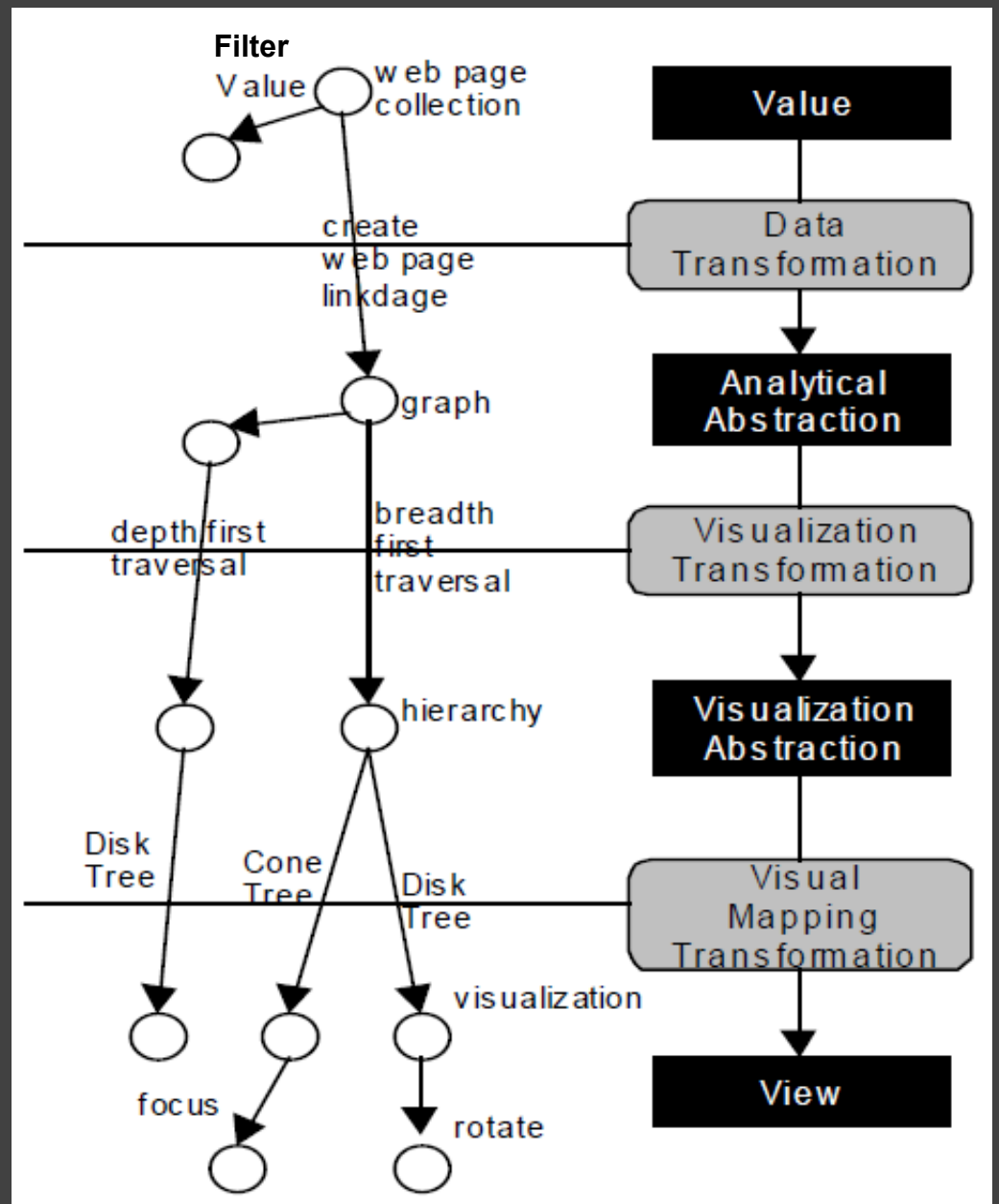
Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D



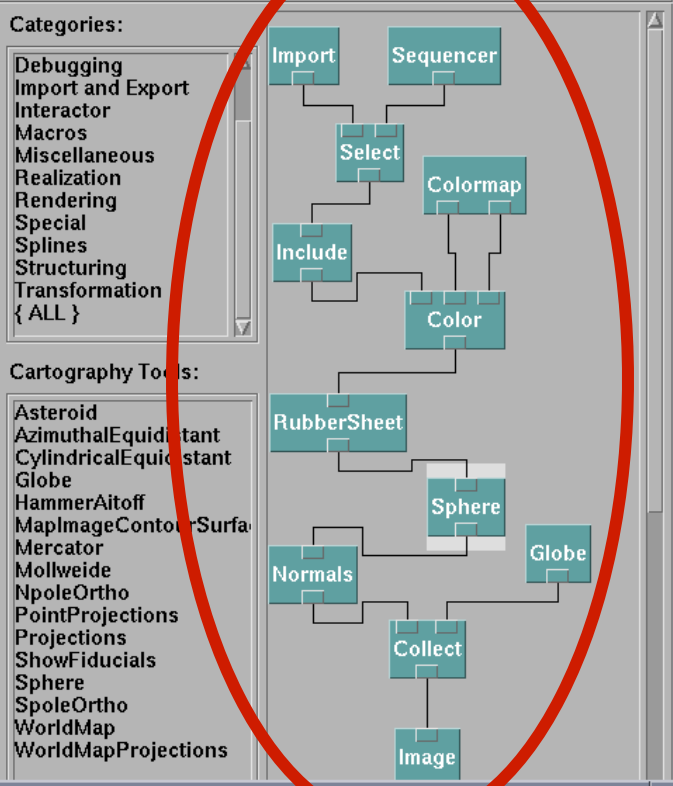
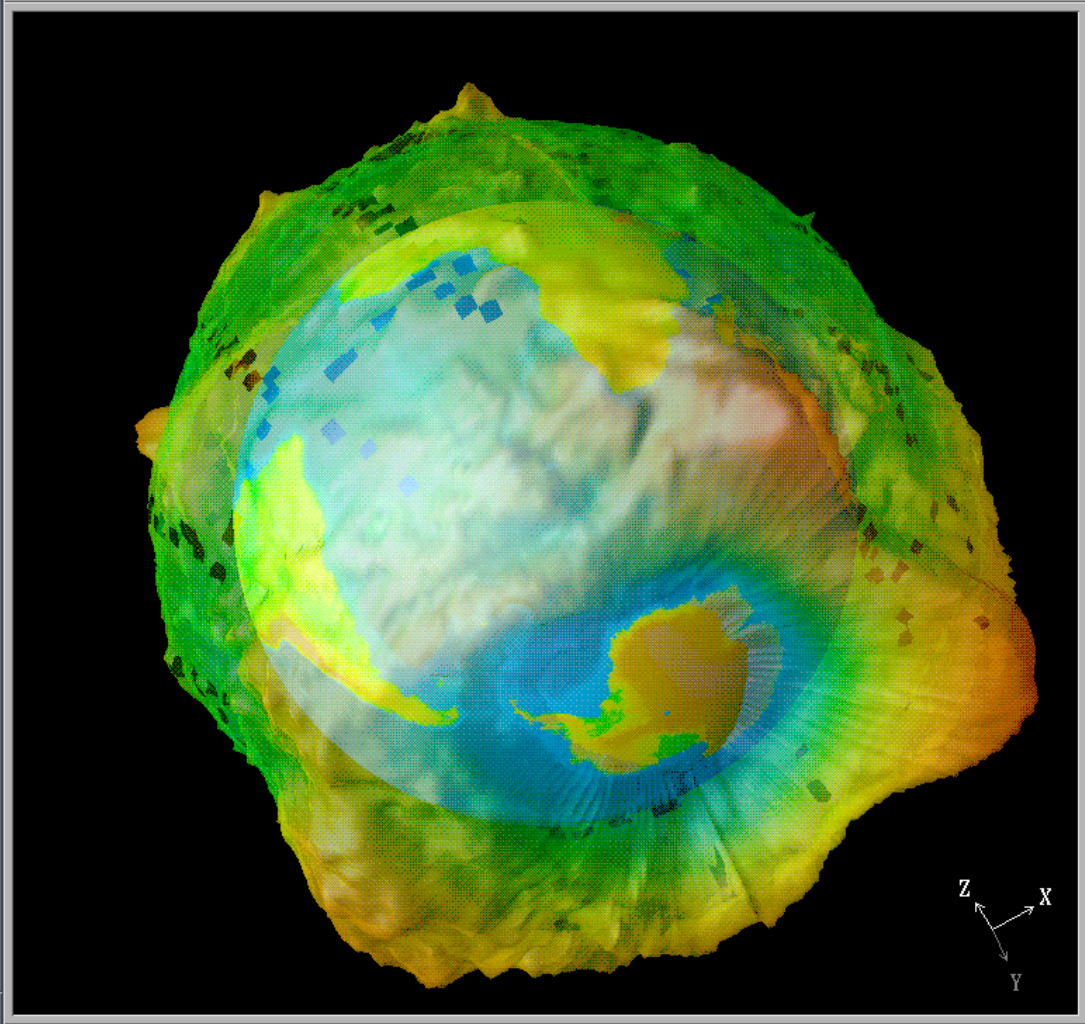
Data State Model

[Chi 98]



File Execute Windows Connection Options Help

File Edit Execute Windows Connection Options Help



Colormap Editor

File Execute Options Help

View Control...

Undo Ctrl+U Redo Ctrl+D

Mode: Rotate

Set View: None

Projection: Perspective

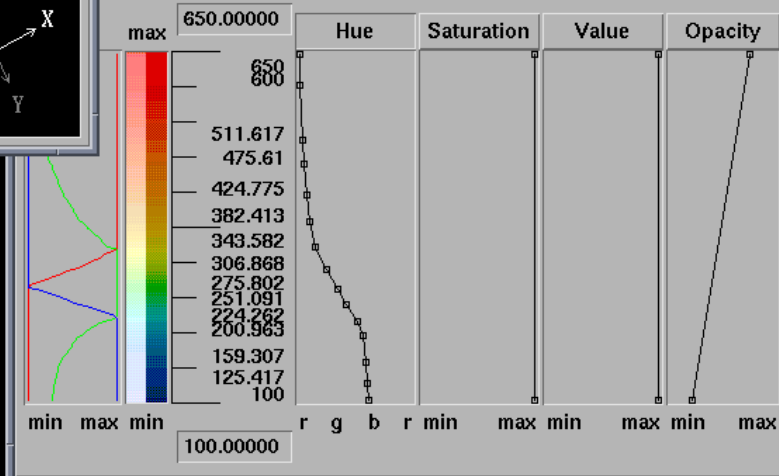
View Angle: 30.000

Close Reset Ctrl+F

Sequence Control

⏮ ⏪ ⏩ ⏭

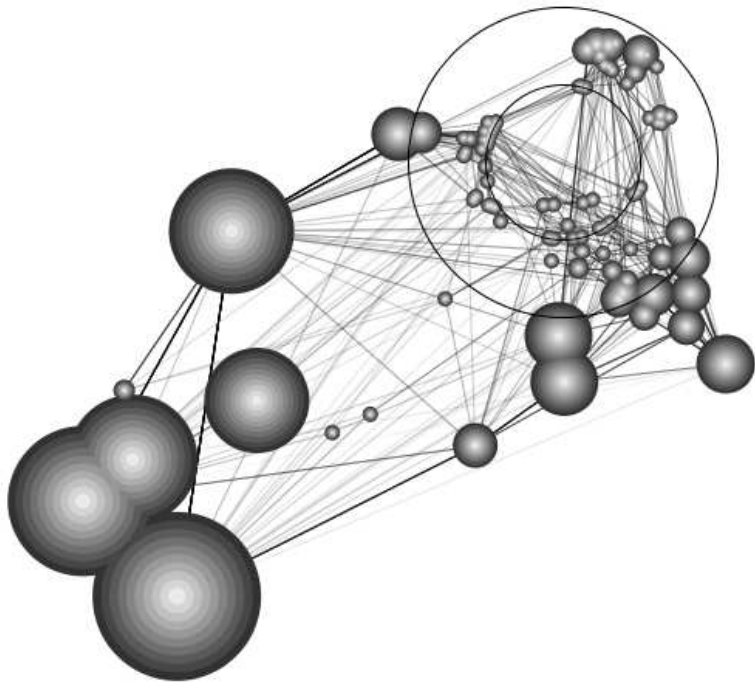
⏮ ⏪ ⏩ ⏭



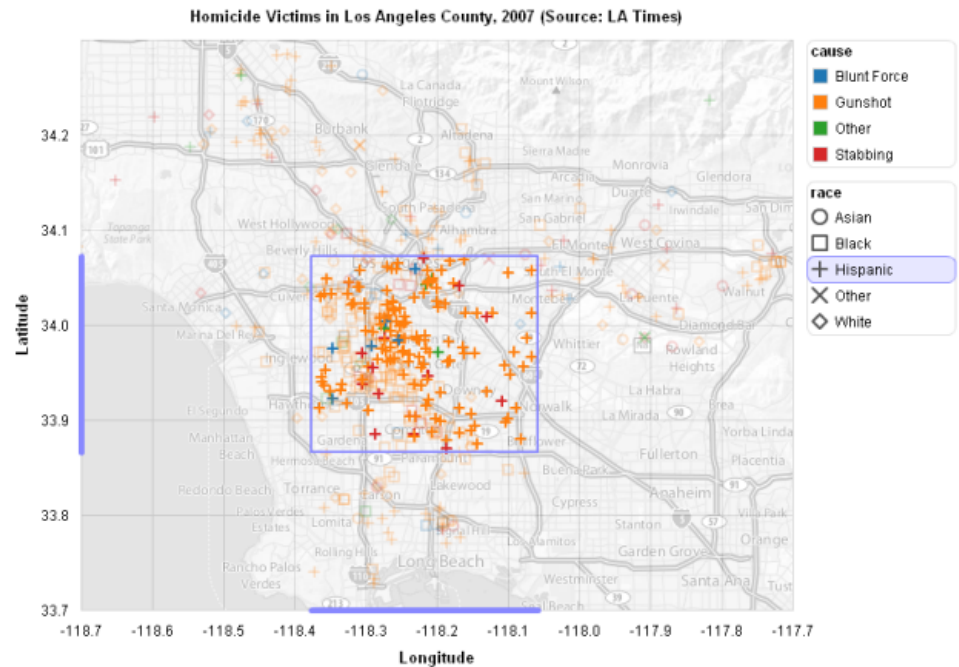
Prefuse & Flare

Operator-based toolkits for visualization design

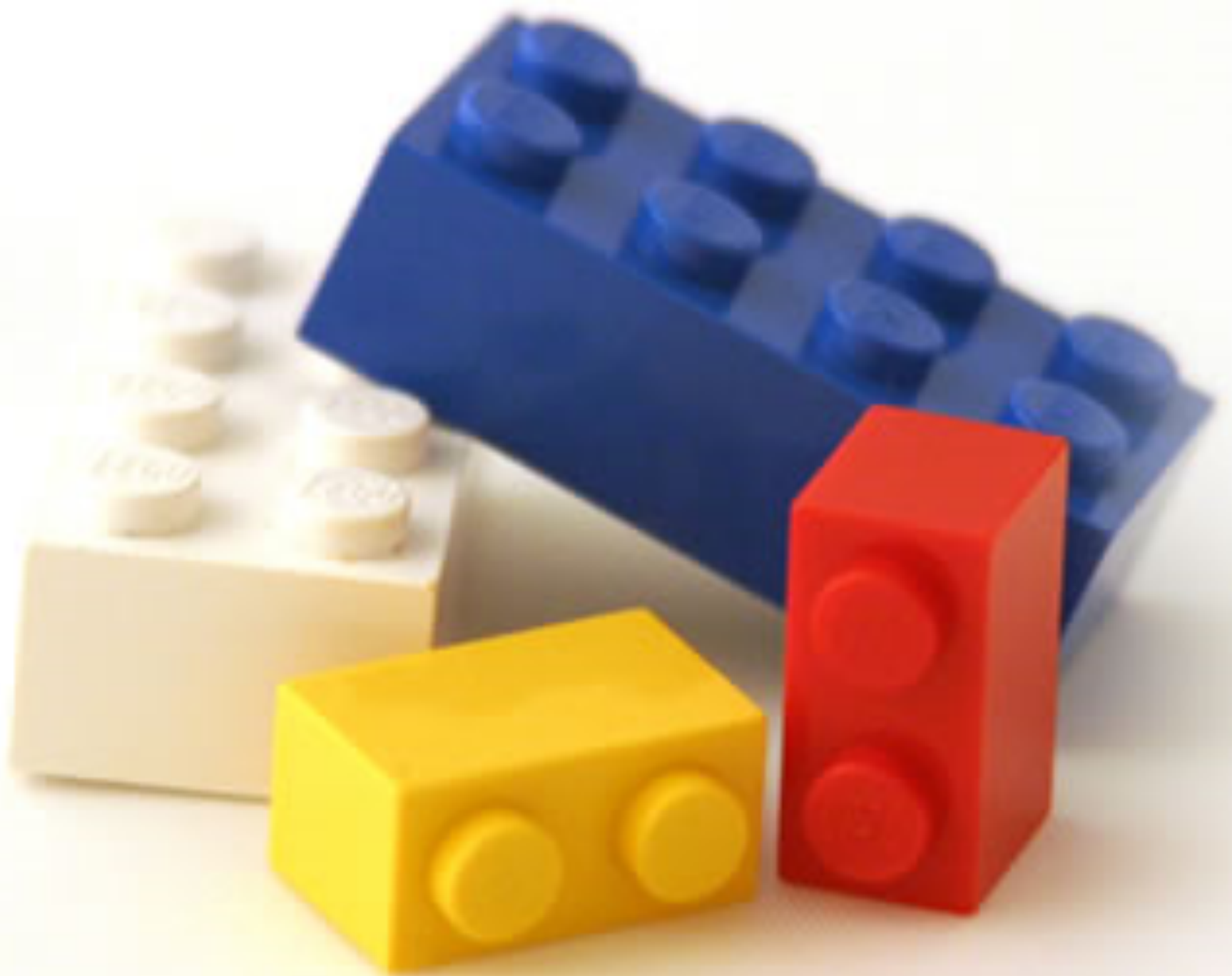
Vis = (Input Data -> Visual Objects) + Operators



Prefuse (<http://prefuse.org>)



Flare (<http://flare.prefuse.org>)





?

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D



Chart Typologies

Data Sets : State Quick Facts

Uploaded By: [zinggoat](#)

Created at: Friday May 18, 3:08 PM

Data Source: [US Census Bureau](#)

Description:

Tags: [people](#) [census](#)

[view as text](#)

[edit data set](#)

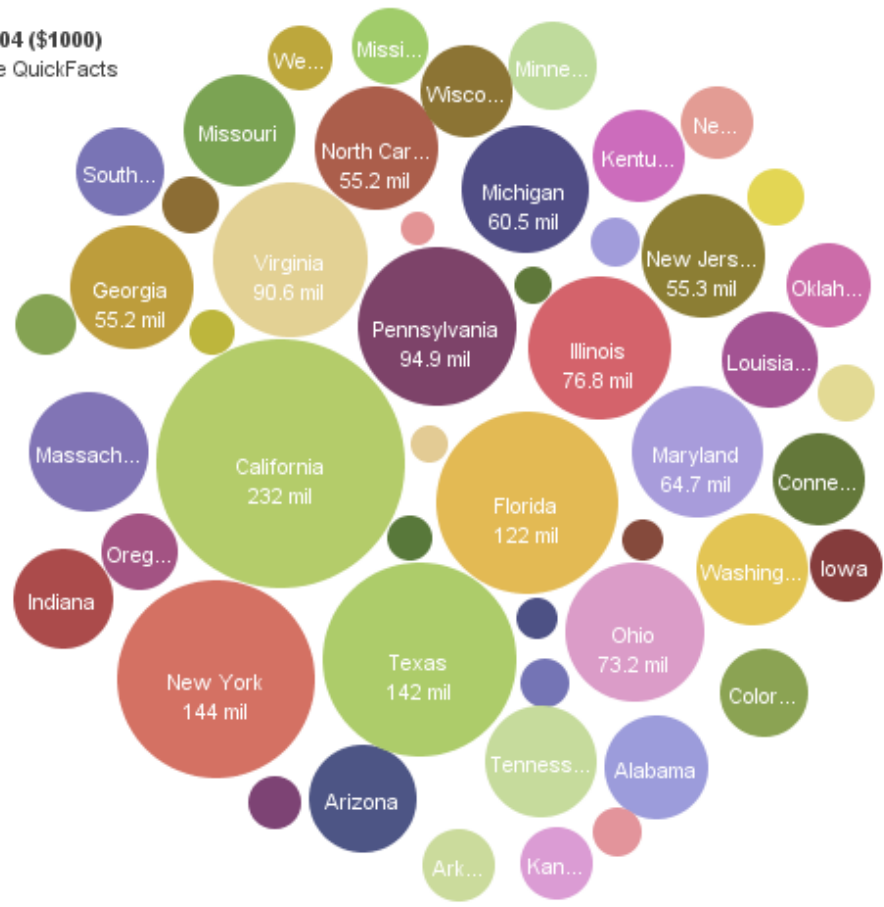
	People QuickFacts	Population 2005 estimate	Population percent change April 1 2000 to July 1 2005	Population 2000	Population percent change 1990 to 2000	Persons under 5 years old percent 2004	Persons under 18 years old percent 2004	Persons 65 years old and over percent 2004
1	Alabama	4557808	0.03	4447100	0.1	0.07	0.24	0.13
2	Alaska	663661	0.06	626932	0.14	0.08	0.29	0.06
3	Arizona	5939292	0.16	5130632	0.4	0.08	0.27	0.13
4	Arkansas	2779154	0.04	2673400	0.14	0.07	0.25	0.14
5	California	36132147	0.07	33871648	0.14	0.07	0.27	0.11
6	Colorado	4665177	0.08	4301261	0.31	0.07	0.26	0.1
7	Connecticut	3510297	0.03	3405565	0.04	0.06	0.24	0.14
8	Delaware	843524	0.08	783600	0.18	0.07	0.23	0.13
9	Florida	17789864	0.11	15982378	0.24	0.06	0.23	0.17
10	Georgia	9072576	0.11	8186453	0.26	0.08	0.26	0.1
11	Hawaii	1275194	0.05	1211537	0.09	0.07	0.24	0.14
12	Idaho	1429096	0.1	1293953	0.29	0.07	0.27	0.11
13	Illinois	12763371	0.03	12419293	0.09	0.07	0.26	0.12

Visualizations : Federal Spending by State, 2004

Creator: Anonymous
Tags: census people

People QuickFac... **Federal spending 2004 (\$1000)**
Click to select,
Ctrl-Click: multiple
Shift-Click: range
Disks colored by People QuickFacts

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland



Search>>

To highlight or find totals
click or ctrl-click.

Bubble Size: Federal spending 2004 (\$1000) | Label: People QuickFacts | Color: People QuickFacts

- Retail sales per capita 2002
- Minority-owned firms percent of total 1997
- Women-owned firms percent of total 1997
- Housing units authorized by building permits 2004
- Federal spending 2004 (\$1000)**
- Land area 2000 (square miles)
- Persons per square mile 2000
- FIPS Code

Census Bureau This data set has not yet been rated



MAD LIBS®

MY MUSIC LESSON

Every Wednesday, when I get home from school, I have a piano lesson. My teacher is a very strict house. Her name is

Hillary Clinton. Our piano is a Steinway Concert tree

and it has 88 ~~keys~~ cups. It also has a soft pedal and a/an

Smily pedal. When I have a lesson, I sit down on the piano

AIBERTO and play for 16 minutes. I do scales to

exercise my cats, and then I usually play a minuet by

Johann Sebastian washington. Teacher says I am a natural

Haunted House and have a good musical leg. Perhaps

when I get better I will become a concert vet and give

a recital at Carnegie hospital.

[M]ost charting packages channel user requests into a **rigid array of chart types**. To atone for this lack of flexibility, they offer a kit of post-creation editing tools to return the image to what the user originally envisioned. **They give the user an impression of having explored data rather than the experience.**

Leland Wilkinson
The Grammar of Graphics, 1999

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

File Edit View Format Data Analysis Table Bookmark Window Help



Schema

congress.csv Connection

Find:

Dimensions

- Abc Candidate
- Abc Candidate ID
- Abc General Elec Status
- Abc Incumbent/Challenger/Open-Seal
- # Party
- Abc Party Desig
- Abc Primary Elec Status
- Abc Runoff Elec Status
- Abc Spec Elec Status
- Abc State Code
- # Year
- Abc Measure Names

Measures

- # District
- # General Elec Pct
- # Total Receipts
- # Measure Values

Groups

Columns: Party Year

Rows: SUM(Total..)

Filters:

Level of Detail:

Mark:

Automatic

Text:

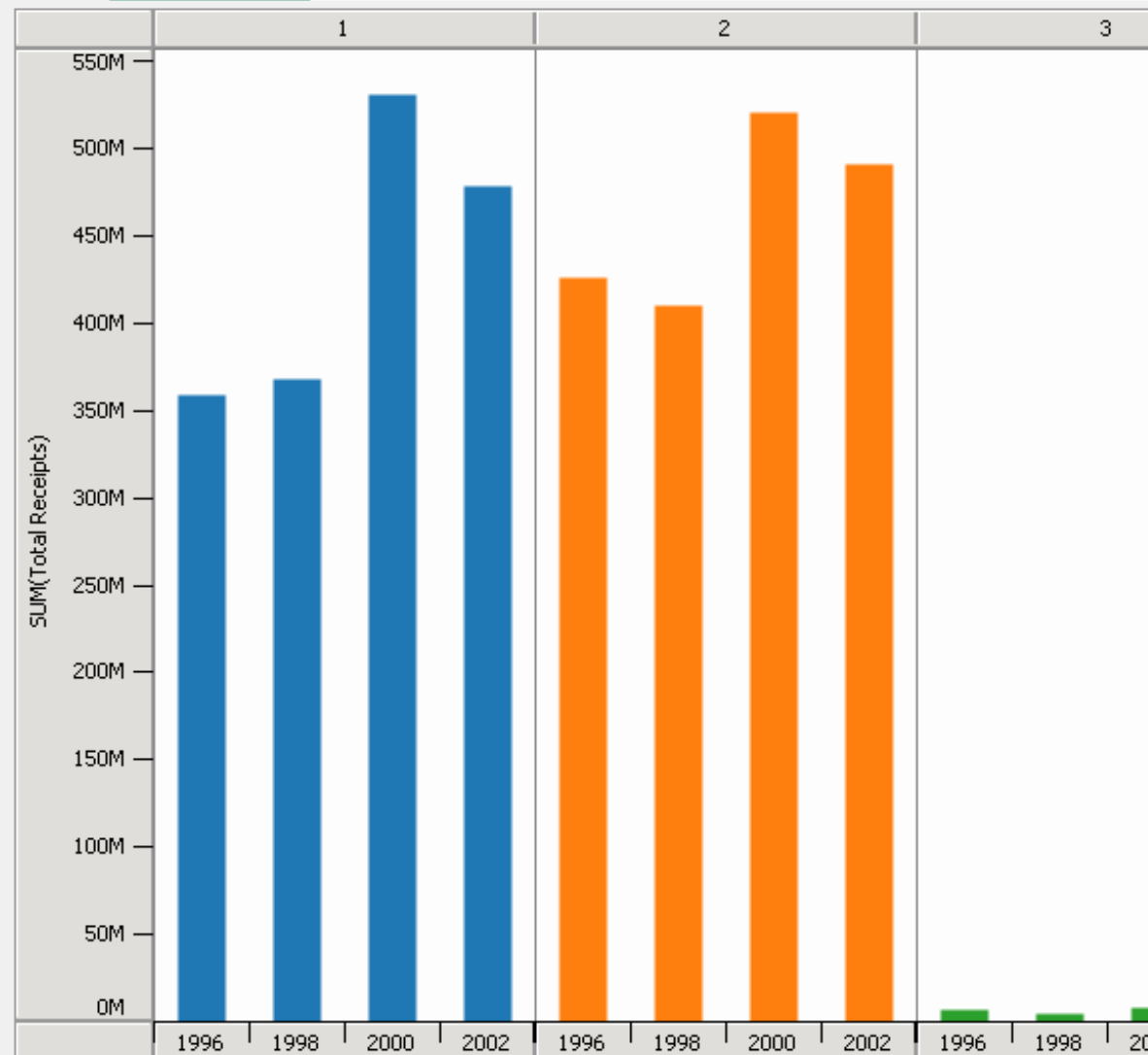
Color: Party

Size:

Legend:

- 1
- 2
- 3

Size:



Sheet 1

Statistics and Computing

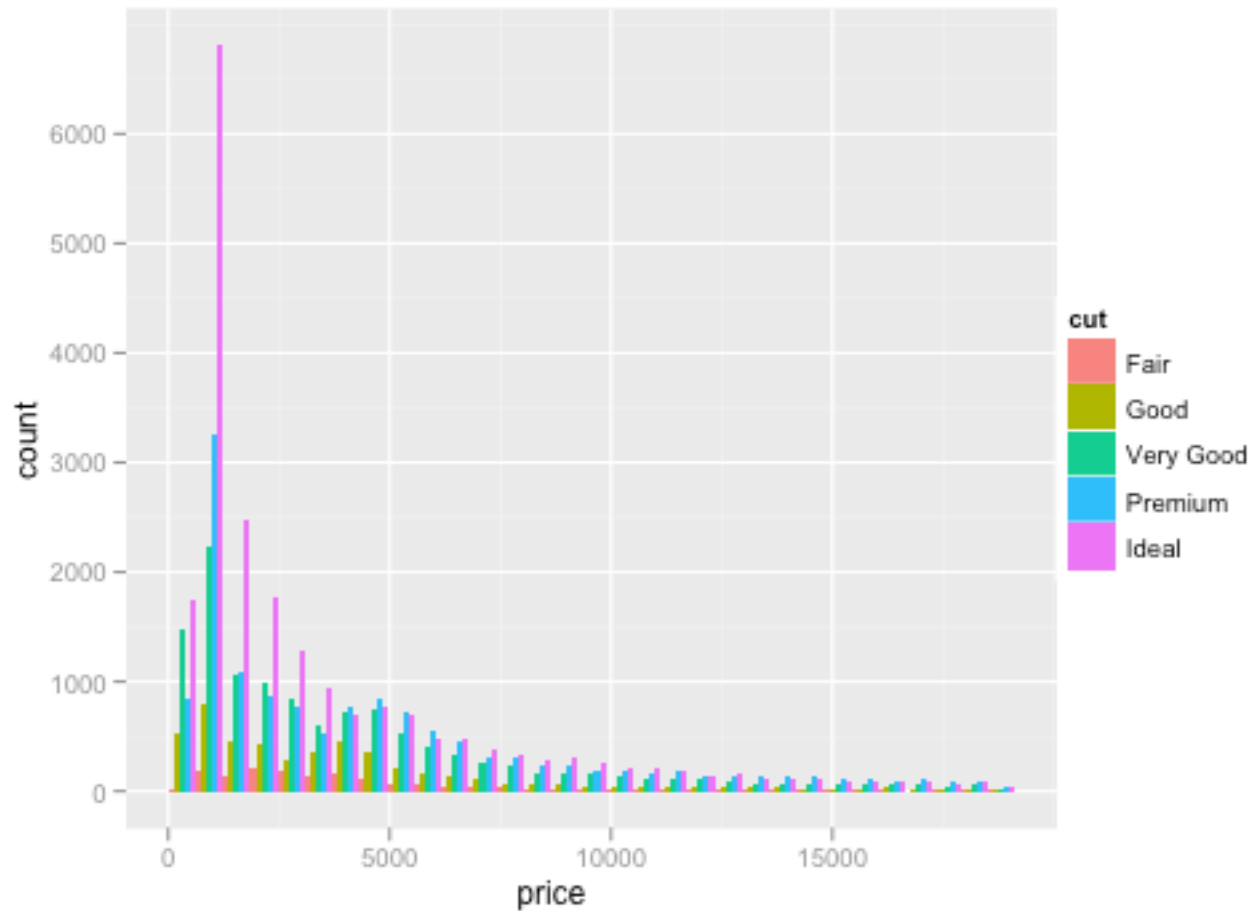
Leland Wilkinson

**The Grammar
of Graphics**

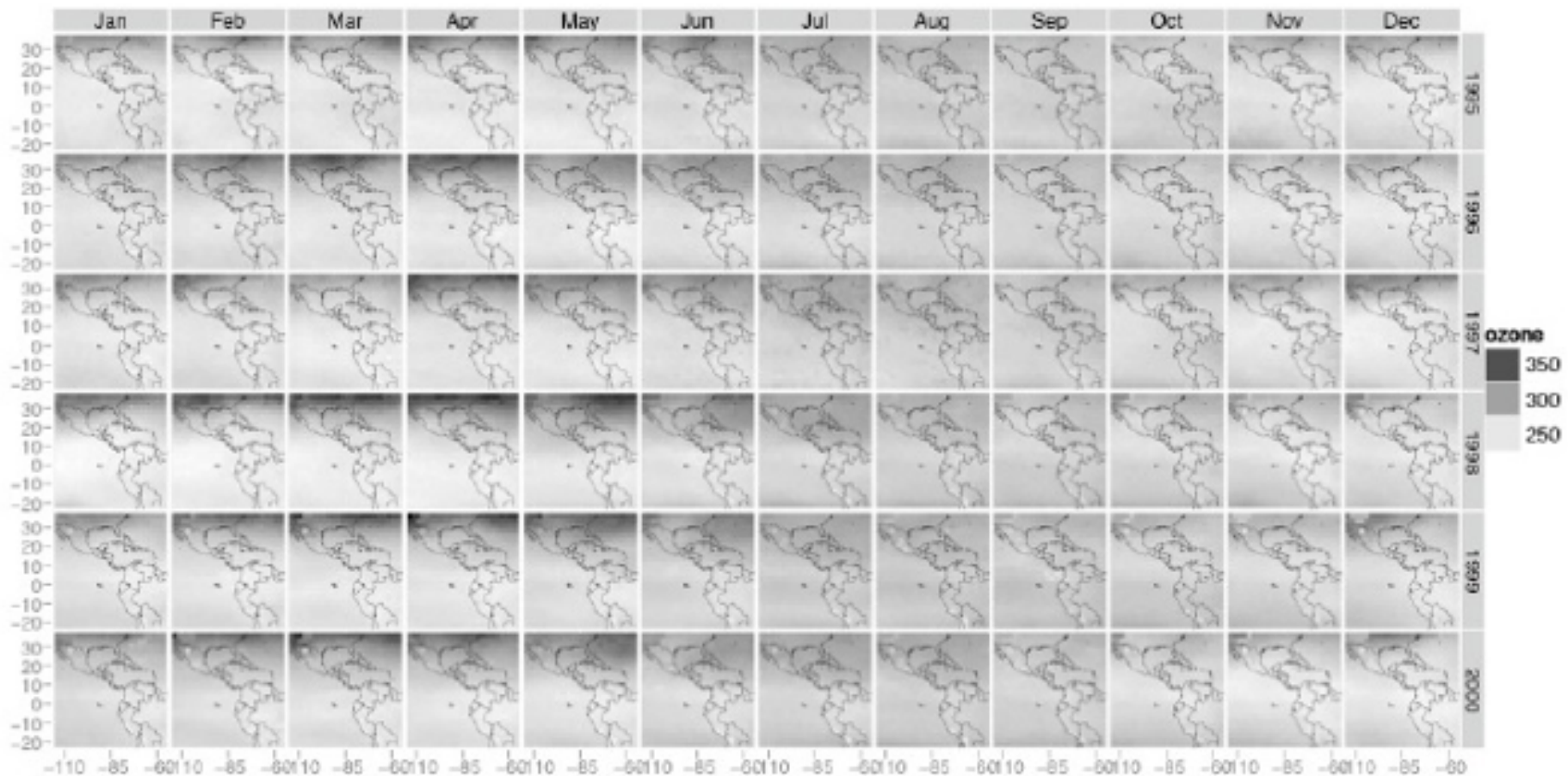
Second Edition

 Springer

```
ggplot(diamonds, aes(x=price, fill=cut))  
+ geom_bar(position="dodge")
```

```
ggplot(diamonds, aes(x=price, fill=cut))  
+ geom_bar(position="dodge")
```



```

qplot(long, lat, data = expo, geom = "tile", fill = ozone,
  facets = year ~ month) +
scale_fill_gradient(low = "white", high = "black") + map

```

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Ease-of-Use



Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Ease-of-Use



Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Expressiveness



Ease-of-Use



Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

?

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Expressiveness



Ease-of-Use



Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Visualization Grammars

Protovis, D3.js

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Expressiveness

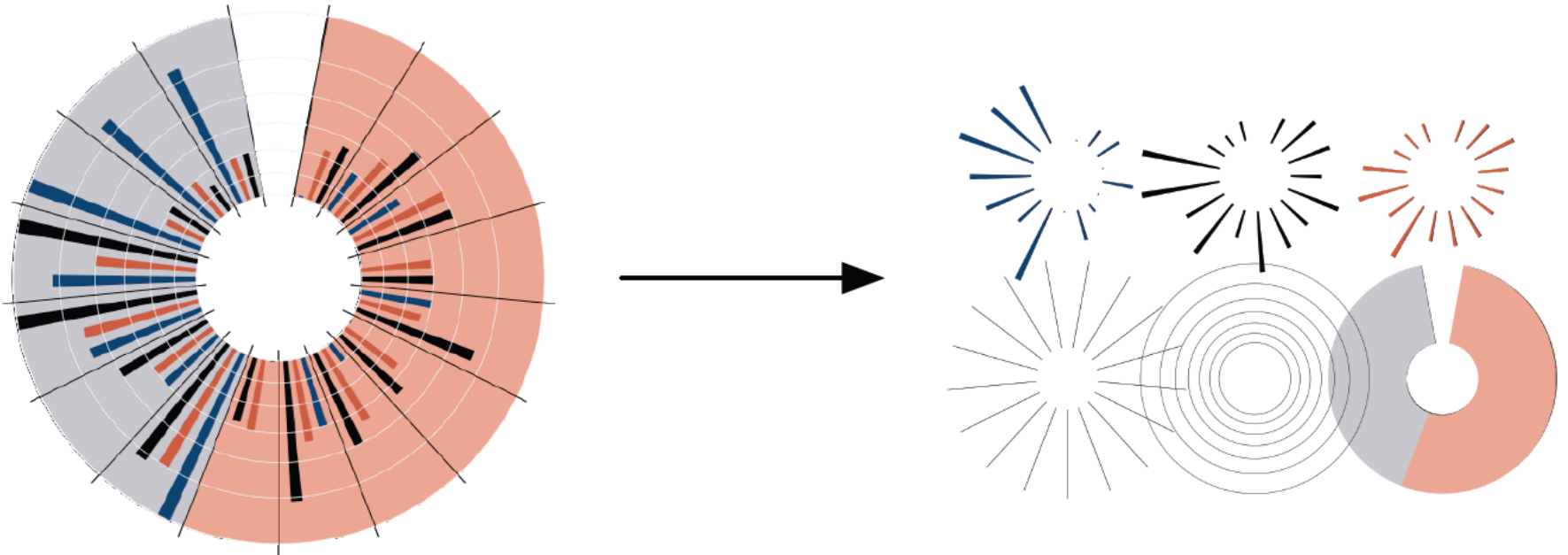


Protovis & D3

Today's first task is not to invent wholly new [*graphical*] techniques, though these are needed. Rather we need most vitally to recognize and reorganize the **essential of old techniques**, to **make easy their assembly in new ways**, and to **modify their external appearances to fit the new opportunities**.

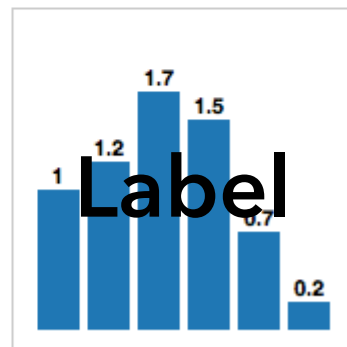
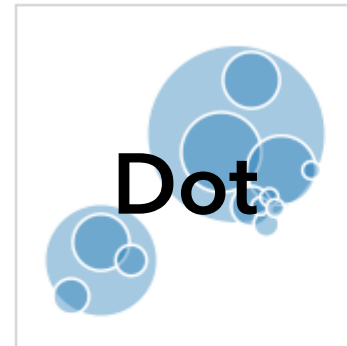
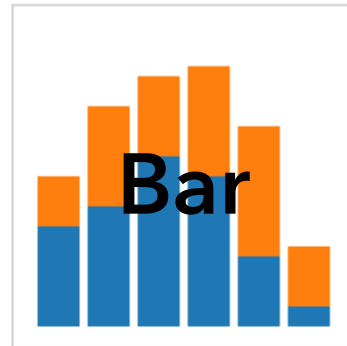
J. W. Tukey, M. B. Wilk
Data Analysis & Statistics, 1965

Protovis: A Grammar for Visualization



A graphic is a composition of data-representative marks.

with **Mike Bostock & Vadim Ogievetsky**

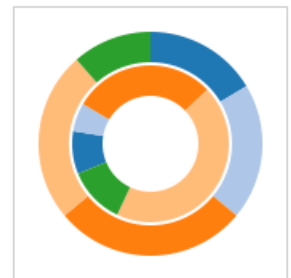
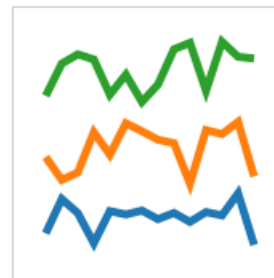
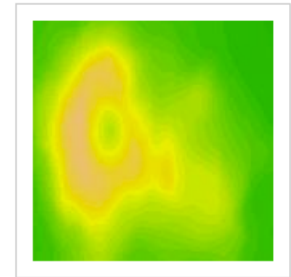
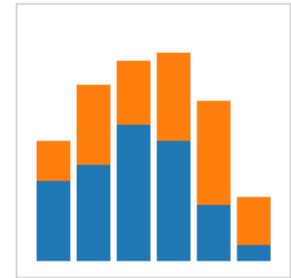


MARKS: Protovis graphical primitives

MARK

$$\lambda : D \rightarrow R$$

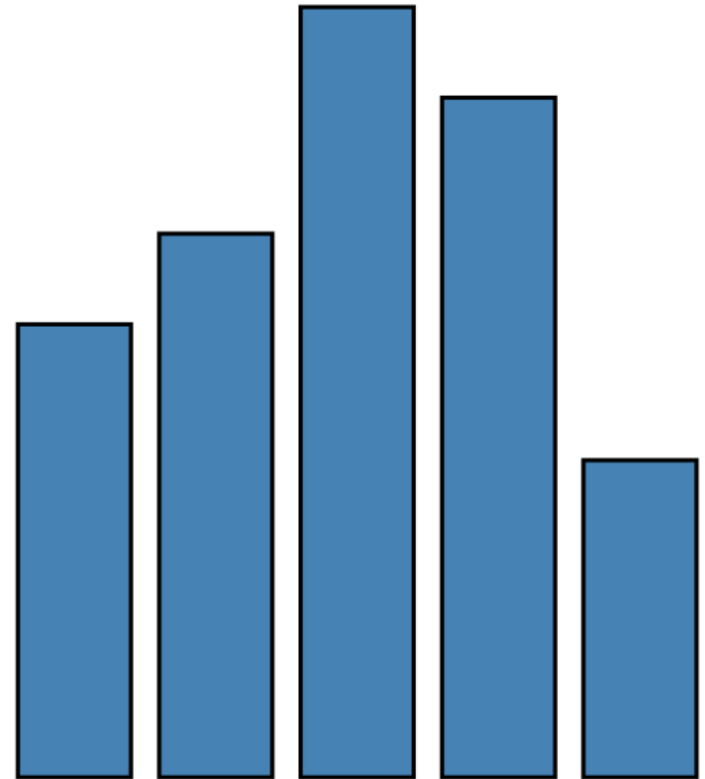
data	λ
visible	λ
left	λ
bottom	λ
width	λ
height	λ
fillStyle	λ
strokeStyle	λ
lineWidth	λ
...	λ



RECT

$$\lambda : D \rightarrow R$$

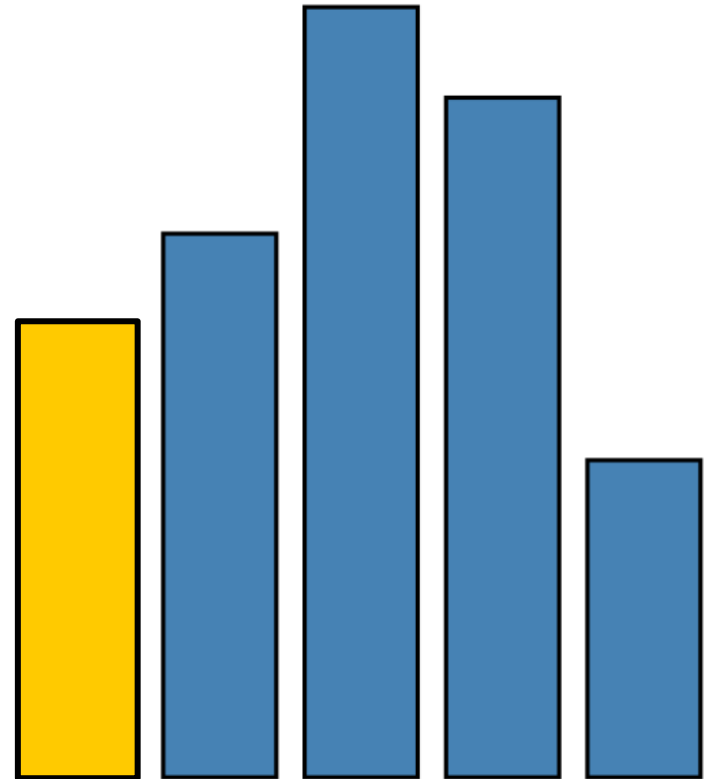
data	1	1.2	1.7	1.5	0.7
visible	true				
left	$\lambda: \text{index} * 25$				
bottom	0				
width	20				
height	$\lambda: \text{datum} * 80$				
fillStyle	blue				
strokeStyle	black				
lineWidth	1.5				
...	...				



RECT

$\lambda : D \rightarrow R$

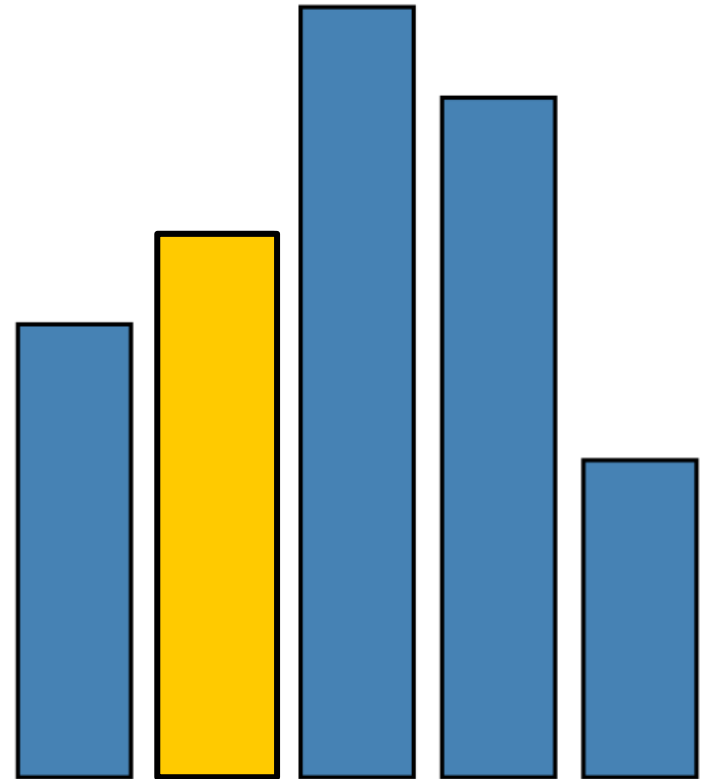
data	1	1.2	1.7	1.5	0.7
visible	true				
left	0 * 25				
bottom	0				
width	20				
height	1 * 80				
fillStyle	blue				
strokeStyle	black				
lineWidth	1.5				
...	...				



RECT

$\lambda : D \rightarrow R$

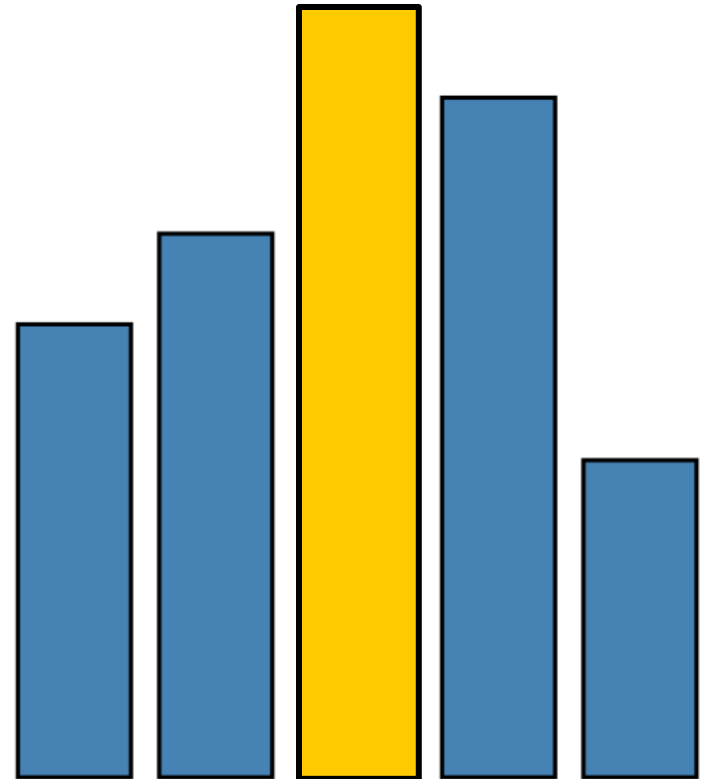
data	1	1.2	1.7	1.5	0.7
visible	true				
left	1 * 25				
bottom	0				
width	20				
height	1.2 * 80				
fillStyle	blue				
strokeStyle	black				
lineWidth	1.5				
...	...				



RECT

$\lambda : D \rightarrow R$

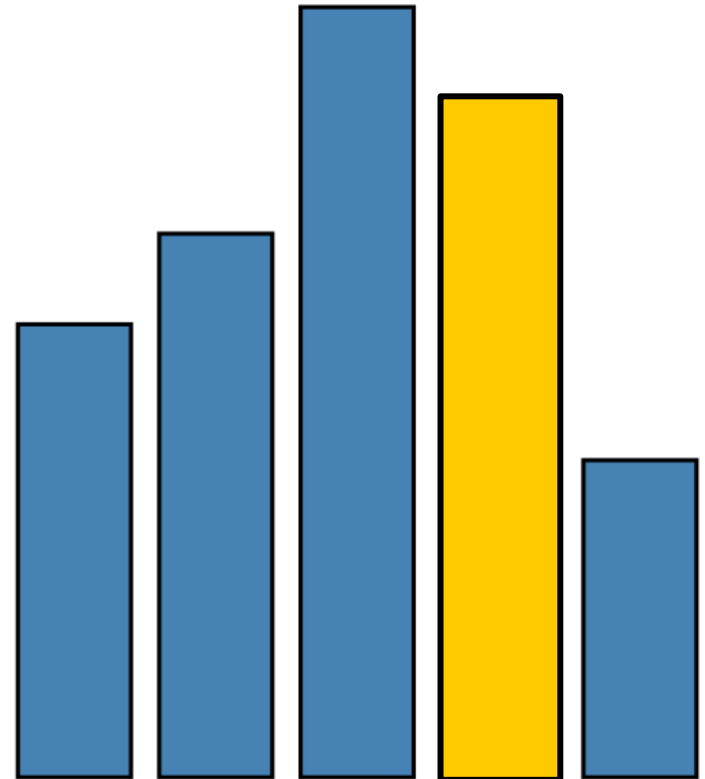
data	1	1.2	1.7	1.5	0.7
visible	true				
left	2 * 25				
bottom	0				
width	20				
height	1.7 * 80				
fillStyle	blue				
strokeStyle	black				
lineWidth	1.5				
...	...				



RECT

$\lambda : D \rightarrow R$

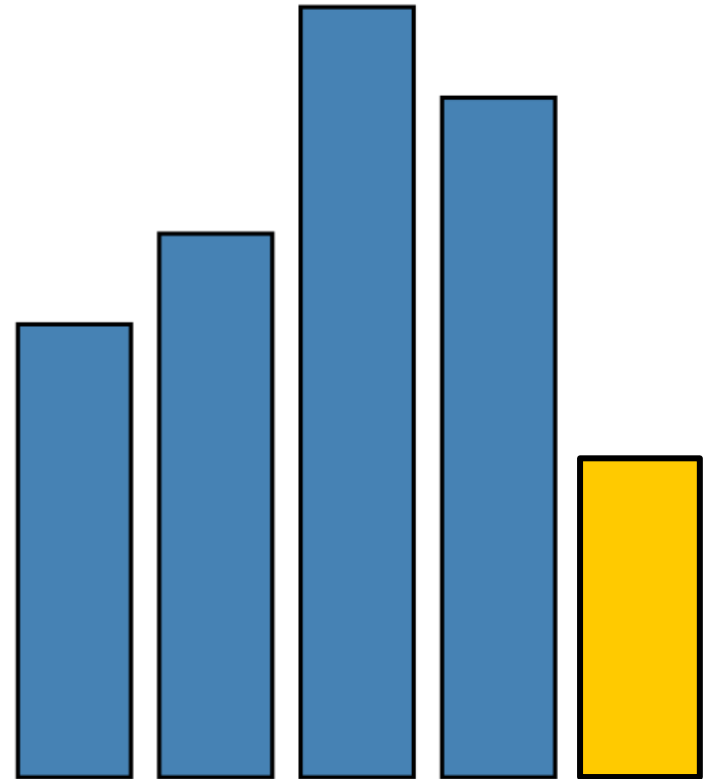
data	1	1.2	1.7	1.5	0.7
visible	true				
left	3 * 25				
bottom	0				
width	20				
height	1.5 * 80				
fillStyle	blue				
strokeStyle	black				
lineWidth	1.5				
...	...				



RECT

$\lambda : D \rightarrow R$

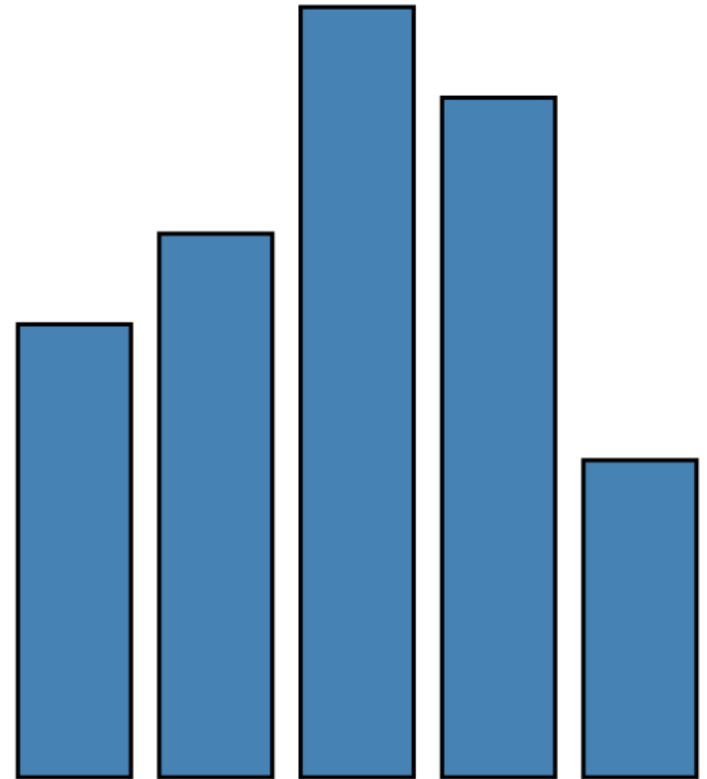
data	1	1.2	1.7	1.5	0.7
visible	true				
left	4 * 25				
bottom	0				
width	20				
height	0.7 * 80				
fillStyle	blue				
strokeStyle	black				
lineWidth	1.5				
...	...				



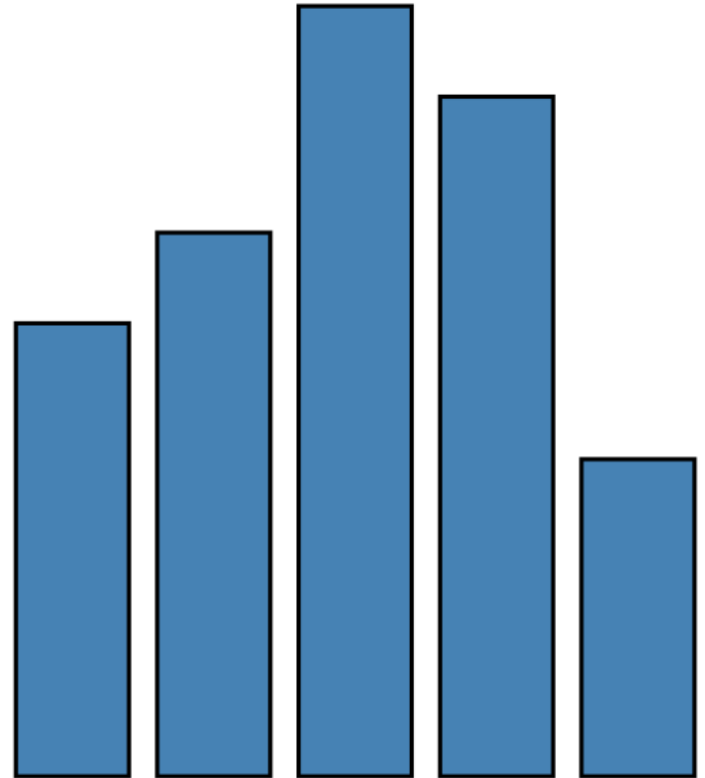
RECT

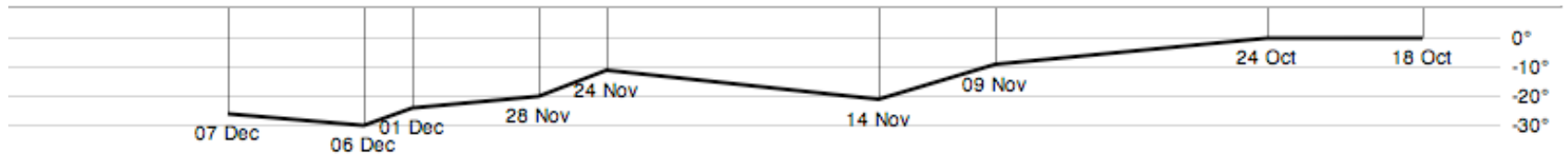
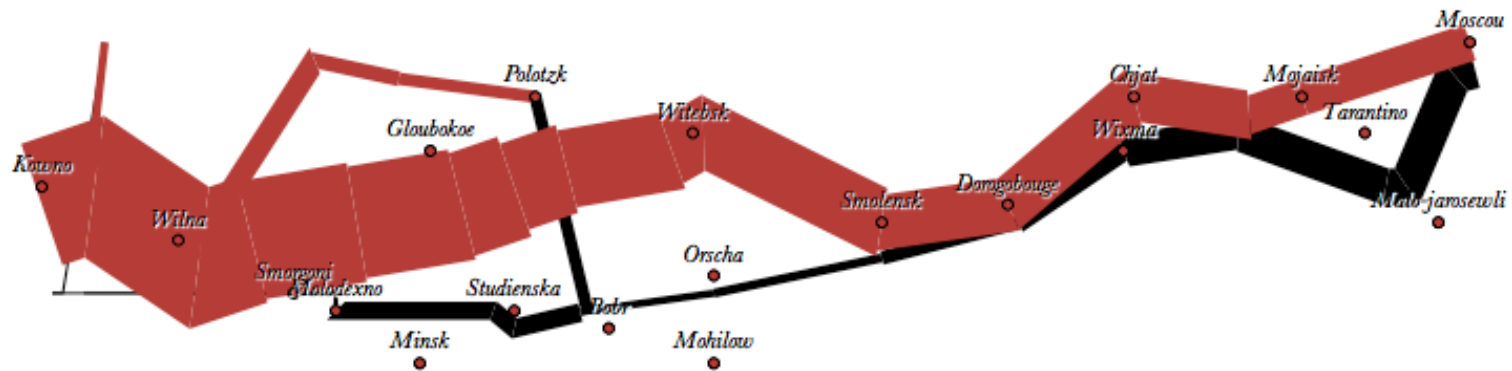
$\lambda : D \rightarrow R$

data	1	1.2	1.7	1.5	0.7
visible	true				
left	$\lambda: \text{index} * 25$				
bottom	0				
width	20				
height	$\lambda: \text{datum} * 80$				
fillStyle	blue				
strokeStyle	black				
lineWidth	1.5				
...	...				



```
var vis = new pv.Panel();  
vis.add(pv.Bar)  
  .data([1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.5, 0.7])  
  .visible(true)  
  .left((d) => this.index * 25);  
  .bottom(0)  
  .width(20)  
  .height((d) => d * 80)  
  .fillStyle("blue")  
  .strokeStyle("black")  
  .lineWidth(1.5);  
vis.render();
```





```
var army = pv.nest(napoleon.army, "dir", "group");
var vis = new pv.Panel();
```

```
var lines = vis.add(pv.Panel).data(army);
lines.add(pv.Line)
  .data(() => army[this.idx])
  .left(lon).top(lat).size((d) => d.size/8000)
  .strokeStyle(() => color[army[panelIndex][0].dir]);
```

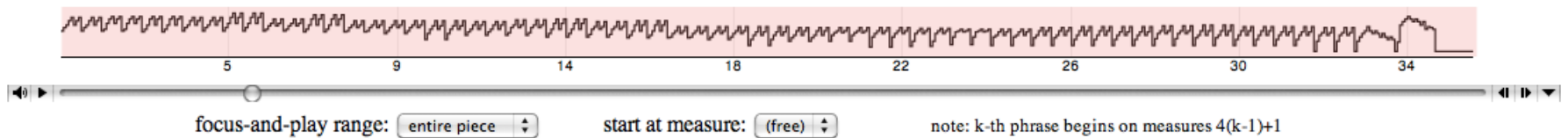
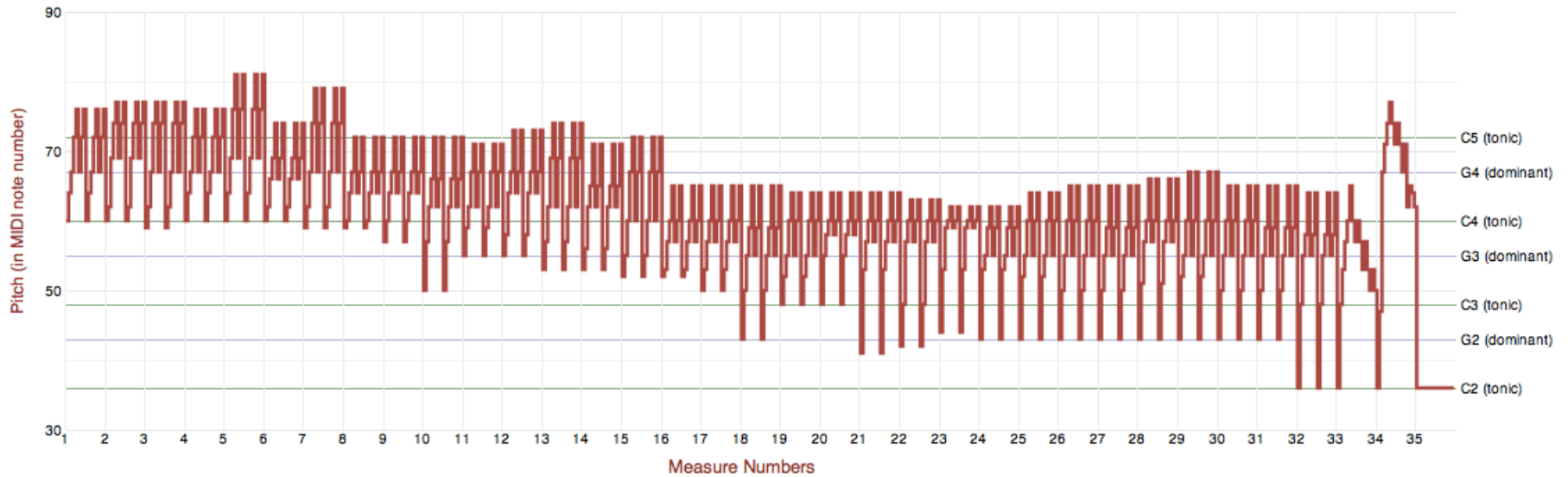
```
vis.add(pv.Label).data(napoleon.cities)
  .left(lon).top(lat)
  .text((d) => d.city).font("italic 10px Georgia")
  .textAlign("center").textBaseline("middle");
```

```
vis.add(pv.Rule).data([0,-10,-20,-30])
  .top((d) => 300 - 2*d - 0.5).left(200).right(150)
  .lineWidth(1).strokeStyle("#ccc")
  .anchor("right").add(pv.Label)
  .font("italic 10px Georgia")
  .text((d) => d+"°").textBaseline("center");
```

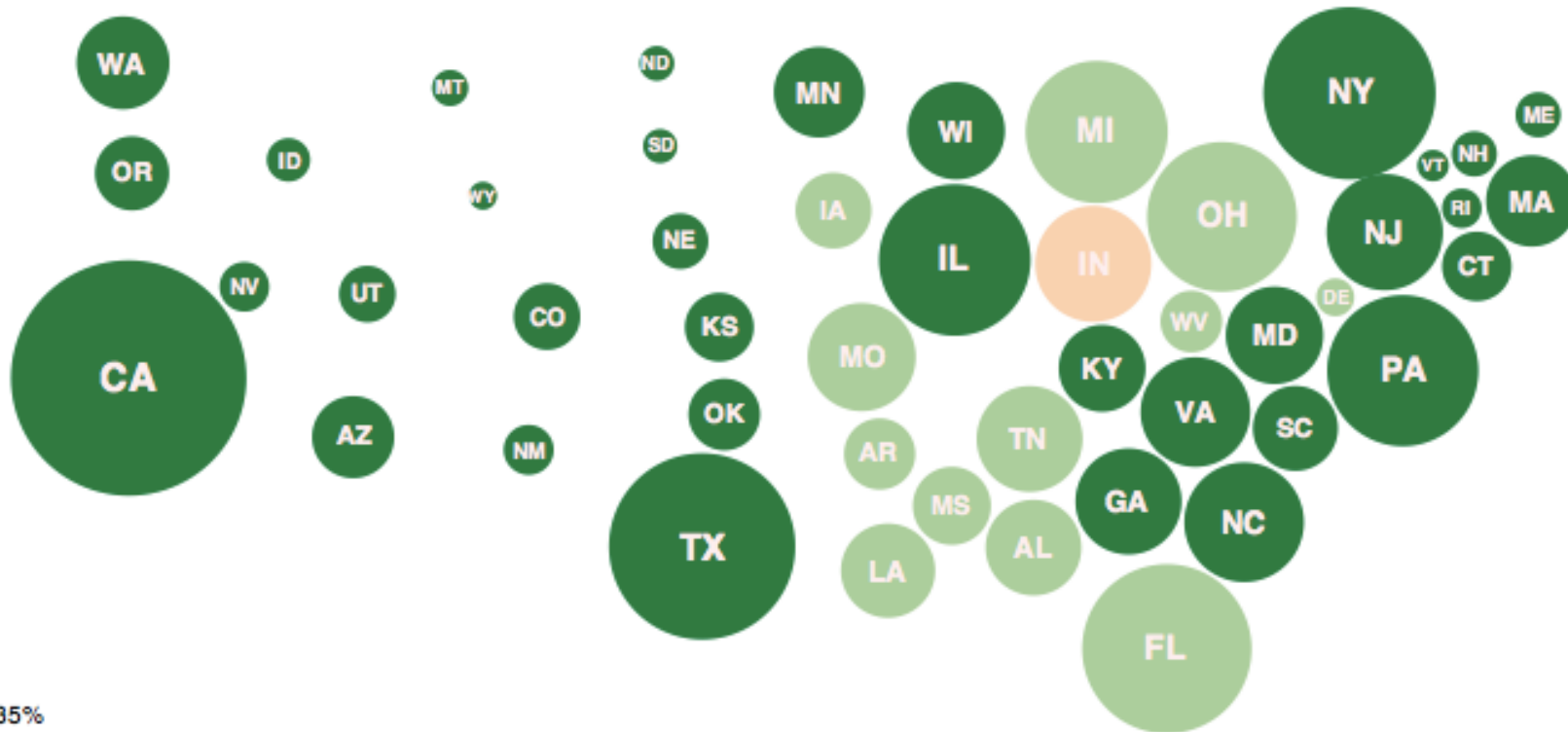
```
vis.add(pv.Line).data(napoleon.temp)
  .left(lon).top(tmp) .strokeStyle("#0")
  .add(pv.Label)
  .top((d) => 5 + tmp(d))
  .text((d) => d.temp+"° "+d.date.substr(0,6))
  .textBaseline("top").font("italic 10px Georgia");
```

**PRELUDE NO.1 IN C MAJOR, BWV 846
(FROM WELL-TEMPERED CLAVIER, BOOK 1)**

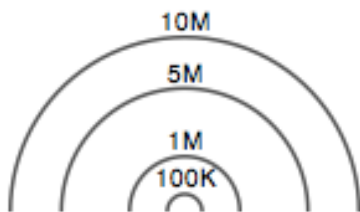
BY J.S. BACH

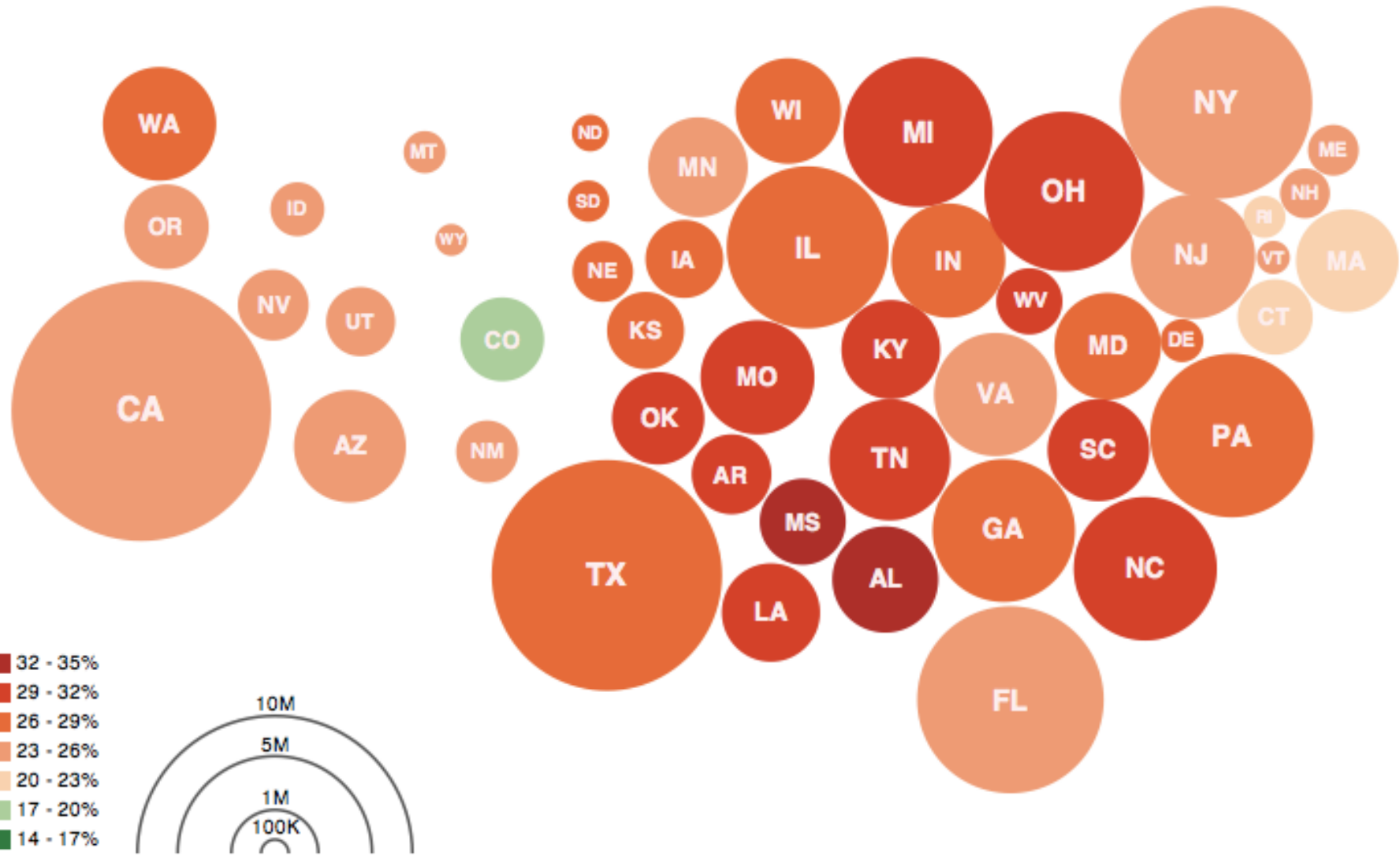


Bach's Prelude #1 in C Major | Jieun Oh

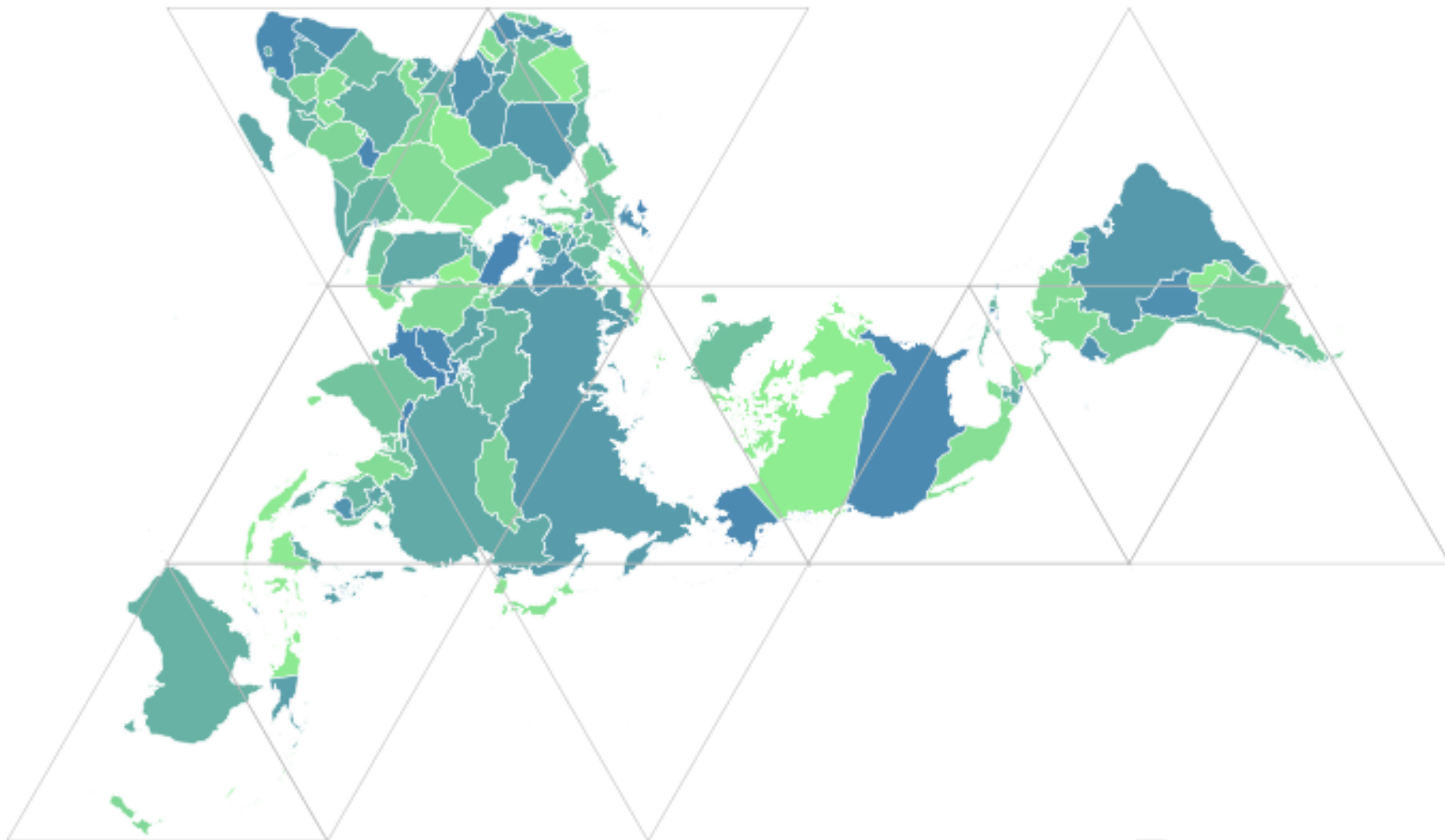


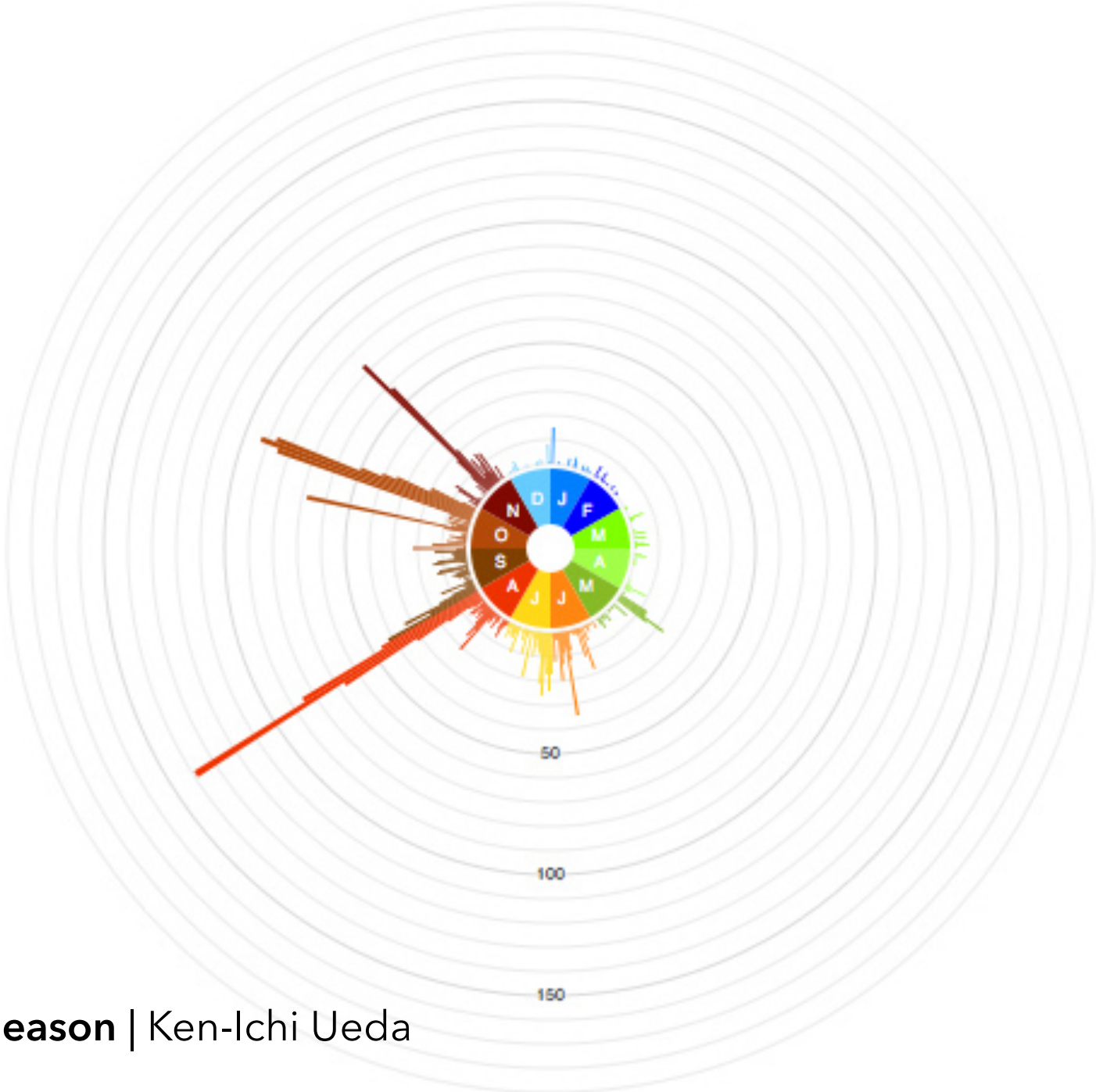
- 32 - 35%
- 29 - 32%
- 26 - 29%
- 23 - 26%
- 20 - 23%
- 17 - 20%
- 14 - 17%



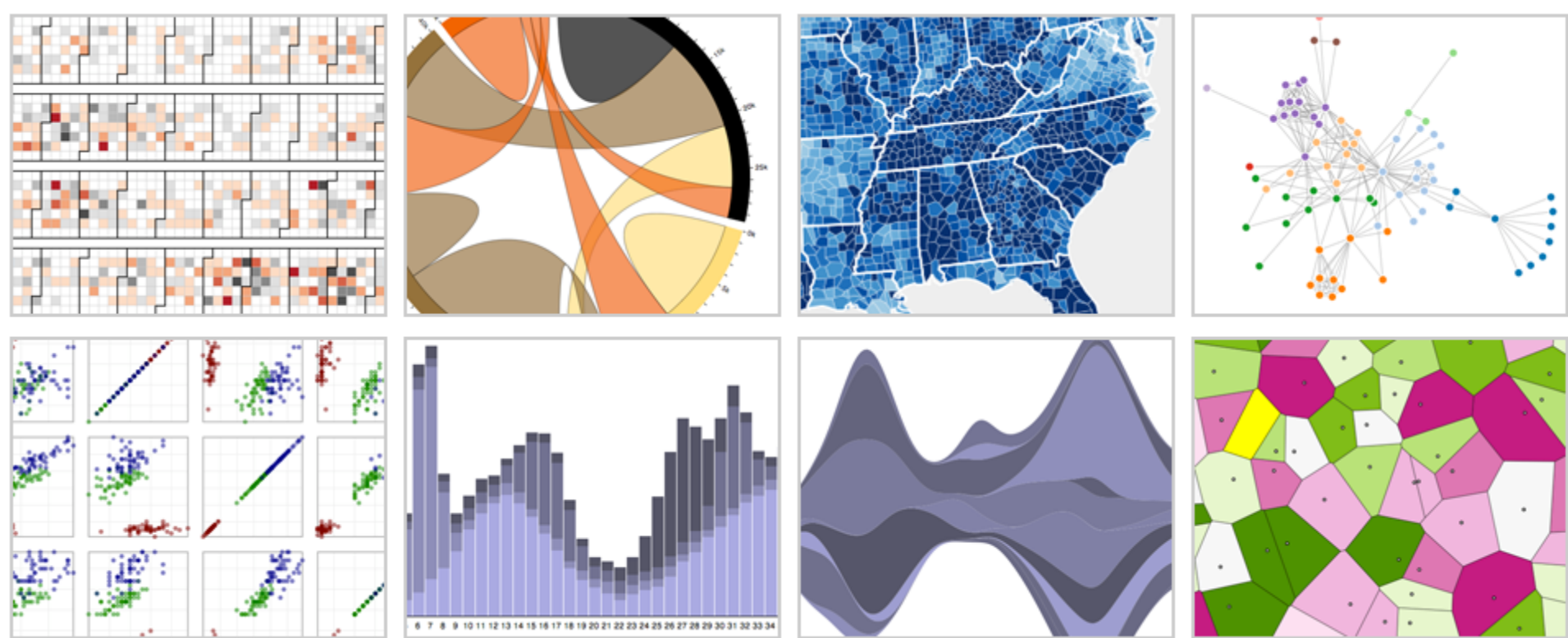


Obesity Map | Vadim Ogievetsky





d3.js Data-Driven Documents



with **Mike Bostock** & Vadim Ogievetsky

Protovis

Specialized mark types

- + Streamlined design
- Limits expressiveness
- More overhead (slower)
- Harder to debug
- Self-contained model

Specify a scene (nouns)

- + Quick for static vis
- Delayed evaluation
- Animation, interaction
are more cumbersome

Protovis

Specialized mark types

- + Streamlined design
- Limits expressiveness
- More overhead (slower)
- Harder to debug
- Self-contained model

Specify a scene (nouns)

- + Quick for static vis
- Delayed evaluation
- Animation, interaction
are more cumbersome

D3

Bind data to DOM

- Exposes SVG/CSS/...
- + Exposes SVG/CSS/...
- + Less overhead (faster)
- + Debug in browser
- + Use with other tools

Transform a scene (verbs)

- More complex model
- + Immediate evaluation
- + Dynamic data, anim,
and interaction natural

D3 Selections

The core abstraction in D3 is a *selection*.

D3 Selections

The core abstraction in D3 is a *selection*.

```
// Add and configure an SVG element
var svg = d3.append("svg")           // add new SVG to page body
    .attr("width", 500)              // set SVG width to 500px
    .attr("height", 300);           // set SVG height to 300px
```

D3 Selections

The core abstraction in D3 is a *selection*.

```
// Add and configure an SVG element
var svg = d3.append("svg")           // add new SVG to page body
    .attr("width", 500)              // set SVG width to 500px
    .attr("height", 300);           // set SVG height to 300px

// Select & update existing rectangles contained in the SVG element
svg.selectAll("rect")                // select all SVG rectangles
    .attr("width", 100)              // set rect widths to 100px
    .style("fill", "steelblue");     // set rect fill colors
```


Data Binding

Selections can *bind* data and **DOM** elements.

```
var values = [ {...}, {...}, {...}, ... ]; // input data as JS objects
```

Data Binding

Selections can *bind* data and **DOM** elements.

```
var values = [ {...}, {...}, {...}, ... ]; // input data as JS objects
```

```
// Select SVG rectangles and bind them to data values.
```

```
var bars = svg.selectAll("rect.bars").data(values);
```

Data Binding

Selections can *bind* data and **DOM** elements.

```
var values = [ {...}, {...}, {...}, ... ]; // input data as JS objects
```

```
// Select SVG rectangles and bind them to data values.
```

```
var bars = svg.selectAll("rect.bars").data(values);
```

```
// What if the DOM elements don't exist yet? The enter set represents data  
// values that do not yet have matching DOM elements.
```

```
bars.enter().append("rect").attr("class", "bars");
```

Data Binding

Selections can *bind* data and **DOM** elements.

```
var values = [ {...}, {...}, {...}, ... ]; // input data as JS objects
```

```
// Select SVG rectangles and bind them to data values.
```

```
var bars = svg.selectAll("rect.bars").data(values);
```

```
// What if the DOM elements don't exist yet? The enter set represents data  
// values that do not yet have matching DOM elements.
```

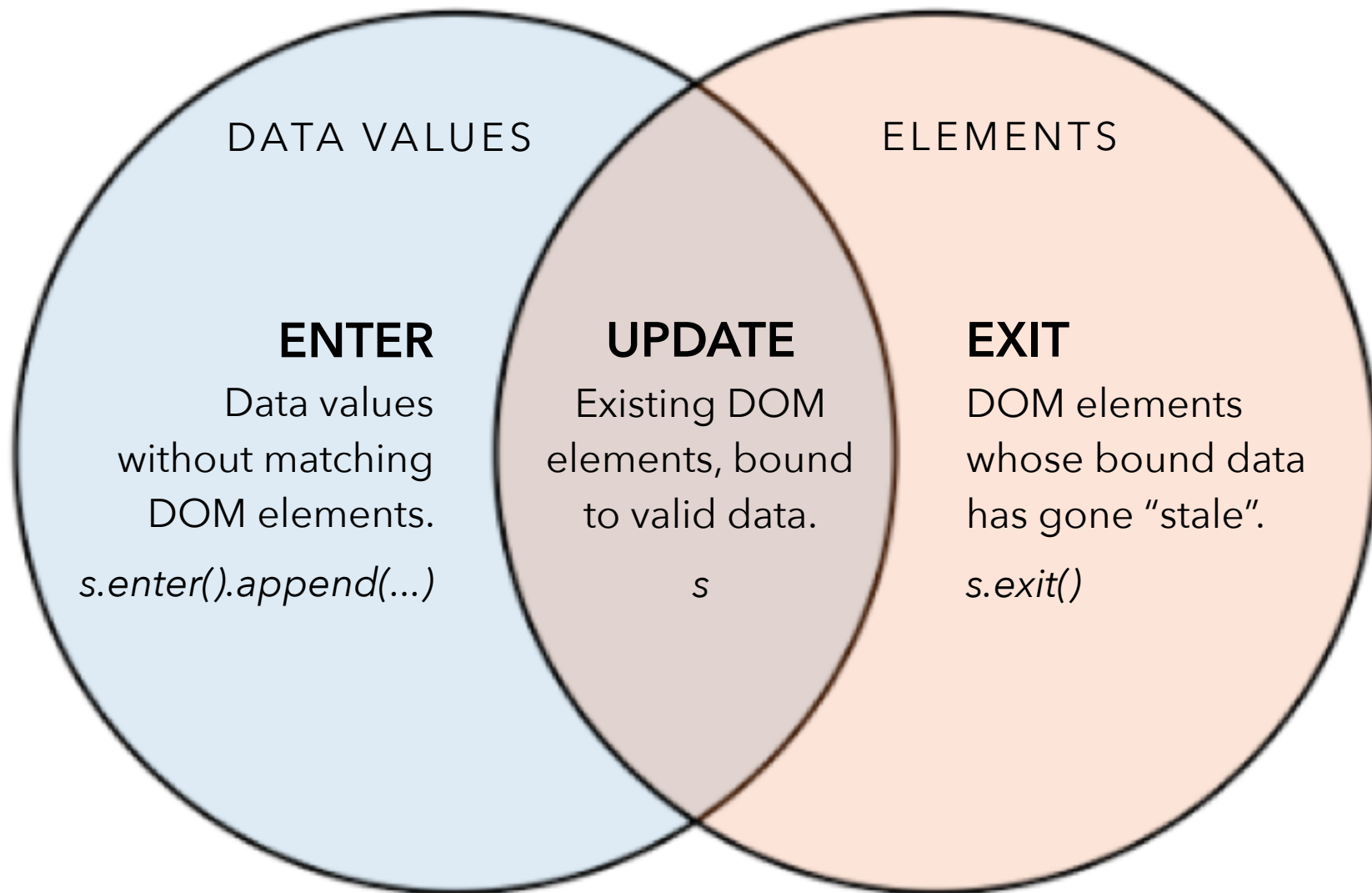
```
bars.enter().append("rect").attr("class", "bars");
```

```
// What if data values are removed? The exit set is a selection of existing  
// DOM elements who no longer have matching data values.
```

```
bars.exit().remove();
```

The Data Join

```
var s = d3.selectAll(...).data(...)
```



D3 Modules

Data Parsing / Formatting (JSON, CSV, ...)

Shape Helpers (arcs, curves, areas, symbols, ...)

Scale Transforms (linear, log, ordinal, ...)

Color Spaces (RGB, HSL, LAB, ...)

Animated Transitions (tweening, easing, ...)

Geographic Mapping (projections, clipping, ...)

Layout Algorithms (stack, pie, force, trees, ...)

Interactive Behaviors (brush, zoom, drag, ...)

Many of these correspond to future lecture topics!

Ease-of-Use



Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Visualization Grammars

Protovis, D3.js

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Expressiveness



Administrivia

A2: Exploratory Data Analysis

Use visualization software to form & answer questions

~~First steps: (Due Mon 4/10)~~

Step 1: Pick domain & data

Step 2: Pose questions

Step 3: Profile the data

Iterate as needed

Create visualizations

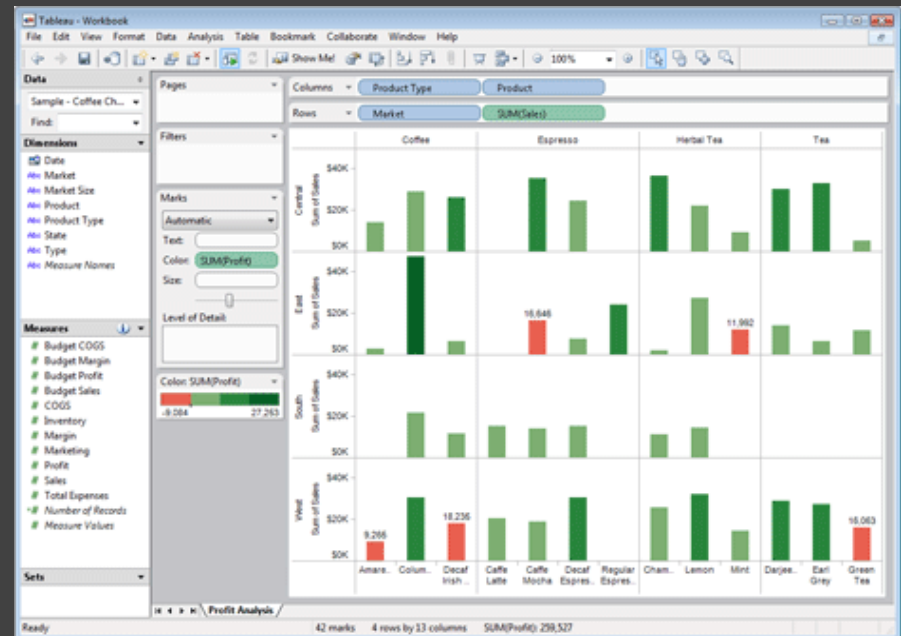
Interact with data

Refine your questions

Author a report

Screenshots of most insightful views (10+)

Include titles and captions for each view



Due by 5:00pm

Friday, April 14

Tutorials!

~~Web Programming: JavaScript, SVG, CSS~~

~~Thursday, April 6 - 4:30-5:50pm - PAA A118~~

Introduction to D3.js

Thursday, April 13 - 4:30-5:50pm - PAA A118

A Visualization Tool Stack

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Visualization Grammars

Protovis, D3.js

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Charting
Tools

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Declarative
Languages

Visualization Grammars

Protovis, D3.js

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Programming
Toolkits

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Charting
Tools

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Declarative
Languages

Visualization Grammars

Protovis, D3.js

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Programming
Toolkits

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

What is a Declarative Language?

What is a Declarative Language?

Programming by describing *what*, not *how*

What is a Declarative Language?

Programming by describing *what*, not *how*

Separate **specification** (*what you want*) from **execution** (*how it should be computed*)

What is a Declarative Language?

Programming by describing *what*, not *how*

Separate **specification** (*what you want*) from **execution** (*how it should be computed*)

In contrast to **imperative programming**, where you must give explicit steps.

What is a Declarative Language?

Programming by describing *what*, not *how*

Separate **specification** (*what you want*) from **execution** (*how it should be computed*)

In contrast to **imperative programming**, where you must give explicit steps.

```
d3.selectAll("rect")
  .data(my_data)
  .enter().append("rect")
  .attr("x", function(d) { return xscale(d.foo); })
  .attr("y", function(d) { return yscale(d.bar); })
```

— 2010 Midterm Elections —
Tea Party Vow to Deter Voter Fraud Is Called Scare Tactic
 By IAN URBINA 2:19 PM ET
 Voting rights group say that Tea Party members' plan to question voters' eligibility at the polls is intended to suppress minority and poor voters.



Painting at 99, With No Compromises
 By ROBIN FINN
 An exhibition celebrating Will Barnet's centennial year traces his evolution as a modern American artist.

OPINION »
OP-ED CONTRIBUTOR
Humans to Asteroids: Watch Out!
 How to keep near-Earth objects from hitting us.

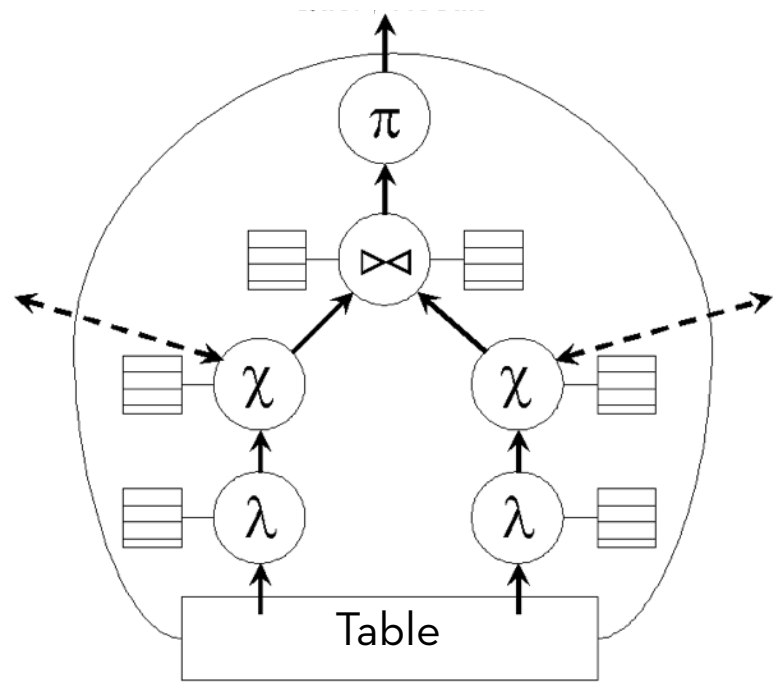
- Brooks: No Second Thoughts
- Herbert: The Corrosion of America
- Cohen: Turkey Steps Out
- Editorial: Mortgage Mess
- Bloggingheads: Jon Stewart's Power

MARKETS » At 3:56 PM ET
[S.&P. 500](#) | [Dow](#) | [Nasdaq](#)

```

<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01 Transitional//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/loose.dtd">
<!--[if IE]><![endif]-->
<html>
  <head>...</head>
  <body id="home" style="visibility: visible;">
    <script src="http://connect.facebook.net/en_US/all.js"></script>
    <div id="fb-root"></div>
    <a name="top"></a>
    <div id="shell">
      <ul id="memberTools">...</ul>
      <!-- ADXINFO classification="text_ad" campaign="nyt2010-circ-... -->
      <div class="tabsContainer">...</div>
      <!-- close .tabsContainer -->
      <div id="page" class="tabContent active">...</div>
      <!--close page -->
    </div>
    <!--close shell -->
    <script type="text/javascript" language="JavaScript">...</script>
    
    <span id="to">...</span>
    <script type="text/javascript">...</script>
    
    <script type="text/javascript" src="http://graphics8.nytimes.c
  
```

HTML / CSS



```

SELECT customer_id, customer_name,
       COUNT(order_id) as total
FROM customers
INNER JOIN orders ON
  customers.customer_id
  = orders.customer_id
GROUP BY customer_id, customer_name
HAVING COUNT(order_id) > 5
ORDER BY COUNT(order_id) DESC
  
```

SQL

Why Declarative Languages?

Why Declarative Languages?

Faster iteration. Less code. Larger user base.

Why Declarative Languages?

Faster iteration. Less code. Larger user base.

Better visualization. *Smart defaults.*

Why Declarative Languages?

Faster iteration. Less code. Larger user base.

Better visualization. *Smart defaults.*

Reuse. *Write-once, then re-apply.*

Why Declarative Languages?

Faster iteration. Less code. Larger user base.

Better visualization. *Smart defaults.*

Reuse. *Write-once, then re-apply.*

Performance. *Optimization, scalability.*

Why Declarative Languages?

Faster iteration. Less code. Larger user base.

Better visualization. *Smart defaults.*

Reuse. *Write-once, then re-apply.*

Performance. *Optimization, scalability.*

Portability. *Multiple devices, renderers, inputs.*

Why Declarative Languages?

Faster iteration. Less code. Larger user base.

Better visualization. *Smart defaults.*

Reuse. *Write-once, then re-apply.*

Performance. *Optimization, scalability.*

Portability. *Multiple devices, renderers, inputs.*

Programmatic generation.

Write programs which output visualizations.

Automated search & recommendation.

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Charting
Tools

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Declarative
Languages

Visualization Grammars

Protovis, D3.js

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Programming
Toolkits

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Charting
Tools

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2, *Vega-Lite*

Declarative
Languages

Visualization Grammars

Protovis, D3.js, *Vega*

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Programming
Toolkits

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts



Charting
Tools

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2, *Vega-Lite*

Declarative
Languages

Visualization Grammars

Protovis, D3.js, *Vega*

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Programming
Toolkits

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2, *Vega-Lite*

Declarative
Languages

Visualization Grammars

Protovis, D3.js, *Vega*

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Programming
Toolkits

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

Interactive Data Exploration

Tableau, *Lyra, Polestar, Voyager*

Graphical
Interfaces

Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2, *Vega-Lite*

Declarative
Languages

Visualization Grammars

Protovis, D3.js, *Vega*

Component Architectures

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

Programming
Toolkits

Graphics APIs

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D



JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Visualization Grammar

Visualization Grammar

Data

Input data to visualize

Visualization Grammar

Data Input data to visualize

Transforms Grouping, stats, projection, layout

Visualization Grammar

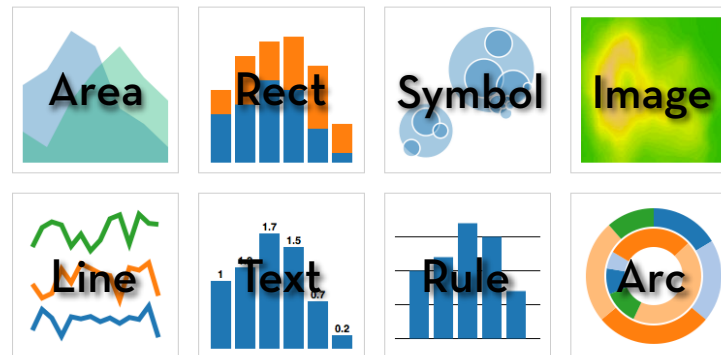
Data	Input data to visualize
Transforms	Grouping, stats, projection, layout
Scales	Map data values to visual values

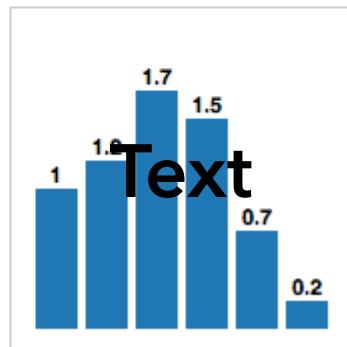
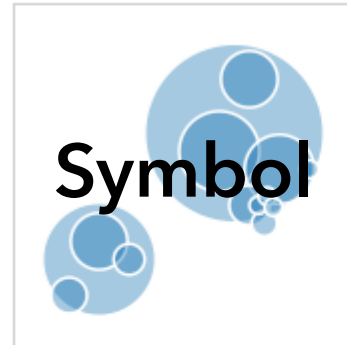
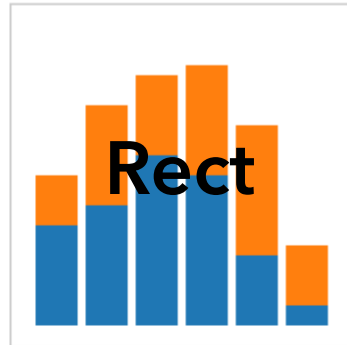
Visualization Grammar

Data	Input data to visualize
Transforms	Grouping, stats, projection, layout
Scales	Map data values to visual values
Guides	Axes & legends visualize scales

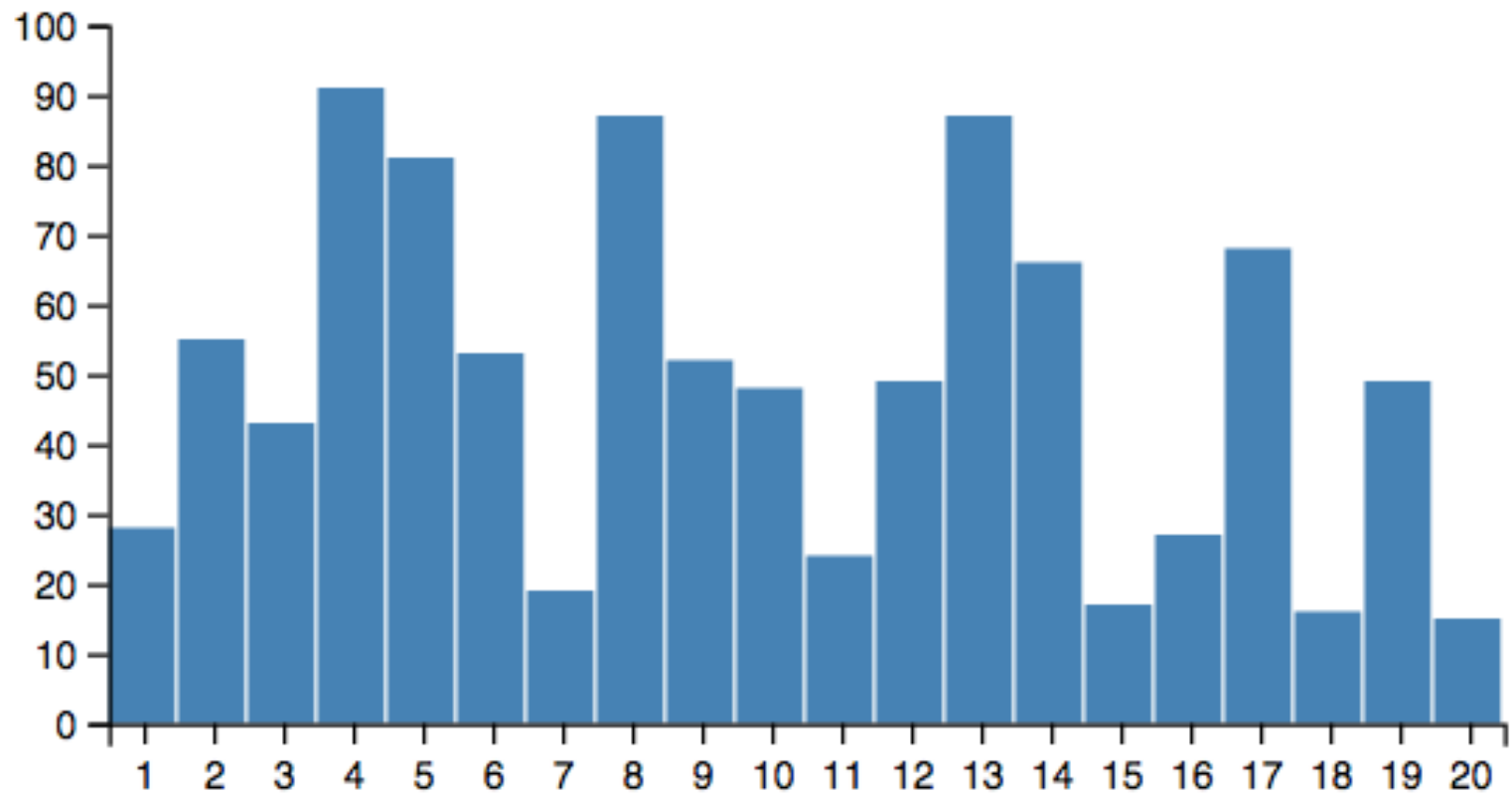
Visualization Grammar

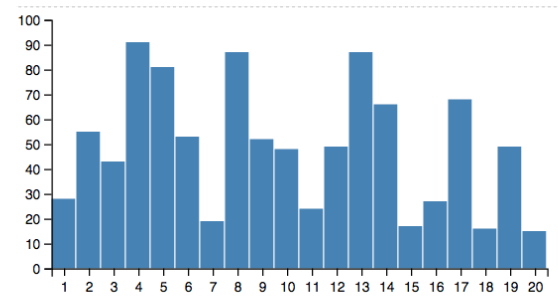
Data	Input data to visualize
Transforms	Grouping, stats, projection, layout
Scales	Map data values to visual values
Guides	Axes & legends visualize scales
Marks	Data-representative graphics





MARKS: Graphical Primitives

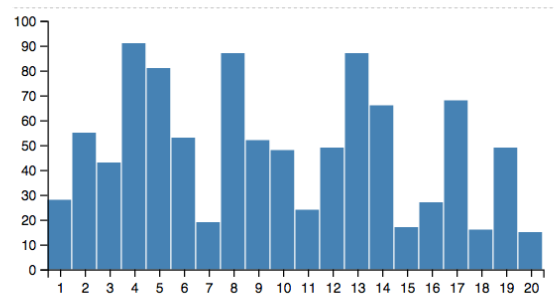




```

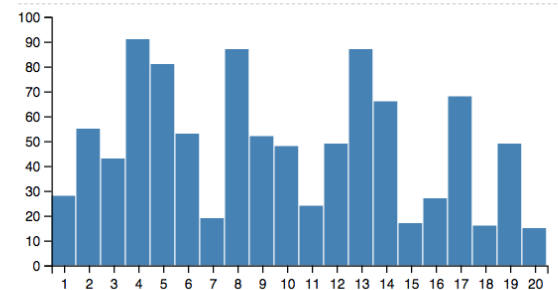
{
  "width": 400, "height": 200,
  "data": [
    {"name": "table", "url": "/data/sample.json"}
  ],
  "scales": [
    {
      "name": "x", "type": "band",
      "range": "width",
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "x"}
    },
    {
      "name": "y", "type": "linear",
      "range": "height", "nice": true,
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "y"}
    }
  ],
  "axes": [
    {"orient": "left", "scale": "x"},
    {"orient": "bottom", "scale": "y"}
  ],
  "marks": [{
    "type": "rect",
    "from": {"data": "table"},
    "encode": {
      "enter": {
        "x": {"scale": "x", "field": "x"},
        "width": {"scale": "x", "band": 1, "offset": -1},
        "y": {"scale": "y", "field": "y"},
        "y2": {"scale": "y", "value": 0},
        "fill": {"value": "steelblue"}
      }
    }
  ]
}

```



Data + Transforms

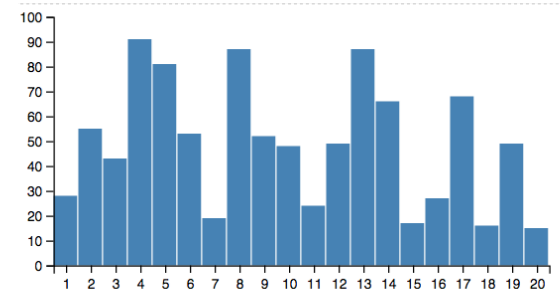
```
{
  "width": 400, "height": 200,
  "data": [
    {"name": "table", "url": "/data/sample.json"}
  ],
  "scales": [
    {
      "name": "x", "type": "band",
      "range": "width",
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "x"}
    },
    {
      "name": "y", "type": "linear",
      "range": "height", "nice": true,
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "y"}
    }
  ],
  "axes": [
    {"orient": "left", "scale": "x"},
    {"orient": "bottom", "scale": "y"}
  ],
  "marks": [{
    "type": "rect",
    "from": {"data": "table"},
    "encode": {
      "enter": {
        "x": {"scale": "x", "field": "x"},
        "width": {"scale": "x", "band": 1, "offset": -1},
        "y": {"scale": "y", "field": "y"},
        "y2": {"scale": "y", "value": 0},
        "fill": {"value": "steelblue"}
      }
    }
  ]
}
```



Data + Transforms

Scales

```
{
  "width": 400, "height": 200,
  "data": [
    {"name": "table", "url": "/data/sample.json"}
  ],
  "scales": [
    {
      "name": "x", "type": "band",
      "range": "width",
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "x"}
    },
    {
      "name": "y", "type": "linear",
      "range": "height", "nice": true,
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "y"}
    }
  ],
  "axes": [
    {"orient": "left", "scale": "x"},
    {"orient": "bottom", "scale": "y"}
  ],
  "marks": [{
    "type": "rect",
    "from": {"data": "table"},
    "encode": {
      "enter": {
        "x": {"scale": "x", "field": "x"},
        "width": {"scale": "x", "band": 1, "offset": -1},
        "y": {"scale": "y", "field": "y"},
        "y2": {"scale": "y", "value": 0},
        "fill": {"value": "steelblue"}
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

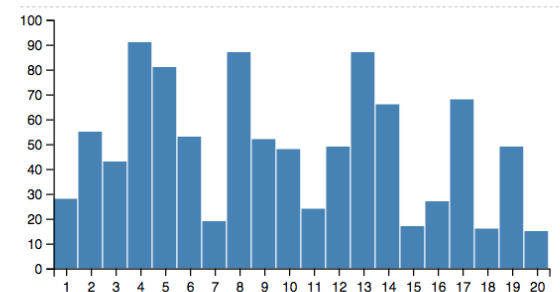


Data + Transforms

Scales

Guides

```
{
  "width": 400, "height": 200,
  "data": [
    {"name": "table", "url": "/data/sample.json"}
  ],
  "scales": [
    {
      "name": "x", "type": "band",
      "range": "width",
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "x"}
    },
    {
      "name": "y", "type": "linear",
      "range": "height", "nice": true,
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "y"}
    }
  ],
  "axes": [
    {"orient": "left", "scale": "x"},
    {"orient": "bottom", "scale": "y"}
  ],
  "marks": [{
    "type": "rect",
    "from": {"data": "table"},
    "encode": {
      "enter": {
        "x": {"scale": "x", "field": "x"},
        "width": {"scale": "x", "band": 1, "offset": -1},
        "y": {"scale": "y", "field": "y"},
        "y2": {"scale": "y", "value": 0},
        "fill": {"value": "steelblue"}
      }
    }
  ]
}
```



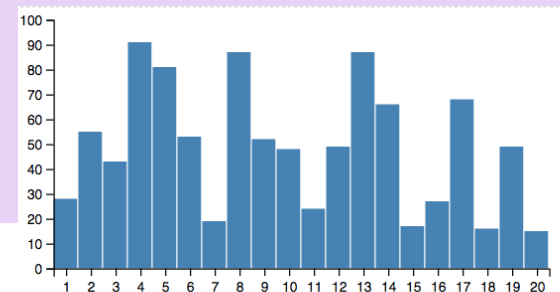
Data + Transforms

Scales

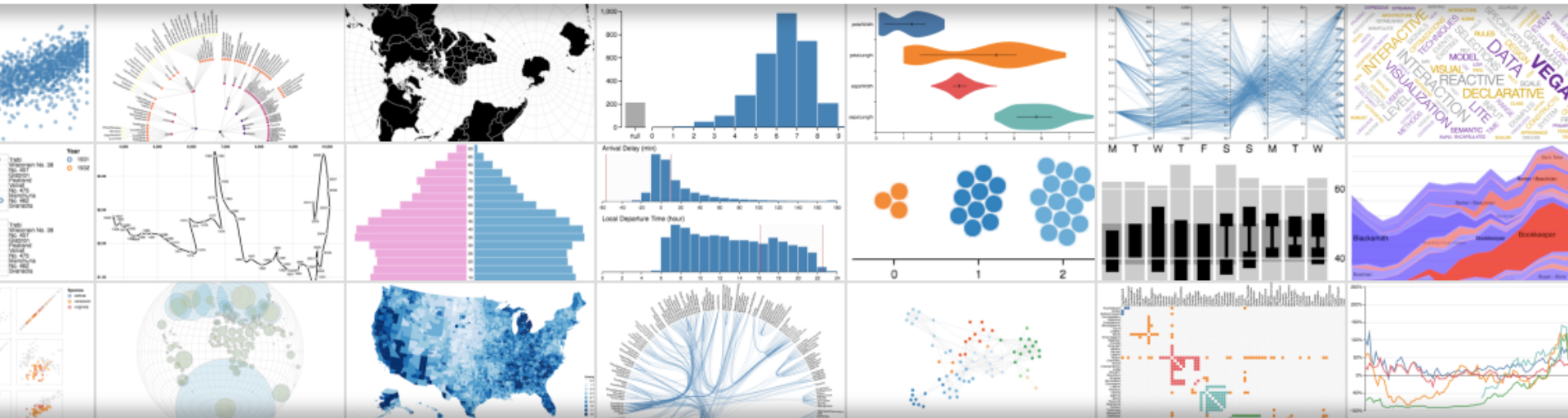
Guides

Marks

```
{
  "width": 400, "height": 200,
  "data": [
    {"name": "table", "url": "/data/sample.json"}
  ],
  "scales": [
    {
      "name": "x", "type": "band",
      "range": "width",
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "x"}
    },
    {
      "name": "y", "type": "linear",
      "range": "height", "nice": true,
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "y"}
    }
  ],
  "axes": [
    {"orient": "left", "scale": "x"},
    {"orient": "bottom", "scale": "y"}
  ],
  "marks": [{
    "type": "rect",
    "from": {"data": "table"},
    "encode": {
      "enter": {
        "x": {"scale": "x", "field": "x"},
        "width": {"scale": "x", "band": 1, "offset": -1},
        "y": {"scale": "y", "field": "y"},
        "y2": {"scale": "y", "value": 0},
        "fill": {"value": "steelblue"}
      }
    }
  ]
}
```



Vega – A Visualization Grammar



Vega is a *visualization grammar*, a declarative language for creating, saving, and sharing interactive visualization designs. With Vega, you can describe the visual appearance and interactive behavior of a visualization in a JSON format, and generate web-based views using Canvas or SVG.

Vega provides basic building blocks for a wide variety of visualization designs: [data loading](#) and [transformation](#), [scales](#), [map projections](#), [axes](#), [legends](#), and [graphical marks](#) such as rectangles, lines, plotting symbols, etc. Interaction techniques can be specified using [reactive signals](#) that dynamically modify a visualization in response to [input event streams](#).

Version 3.0.0-beta.28

A *Vega specification* defines an interactive visualization in a [JSON](#) format. Specifications are parsed by Vega's JavaScript *runtime* to generate both static images or interactive web-based views. Vega provides a convenient representation for computational generation of visualizations, and can serve as a foundation for new APIs and visual analysis tools.

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Lyra

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas



The Lyra Visualization Design Environment (VDE) ^{alpha} Arvind Satyanarayan, Kanit "Ham" Wongsuphasawat, Jeffrey Heer

PEOPLE
PAPERS
VIDEO
CODE



idl.cs.washington.edu/projects/lyra

William Playfair's classic chart comparing the price of wheat and wages in England recreated in the Lyra VDE.

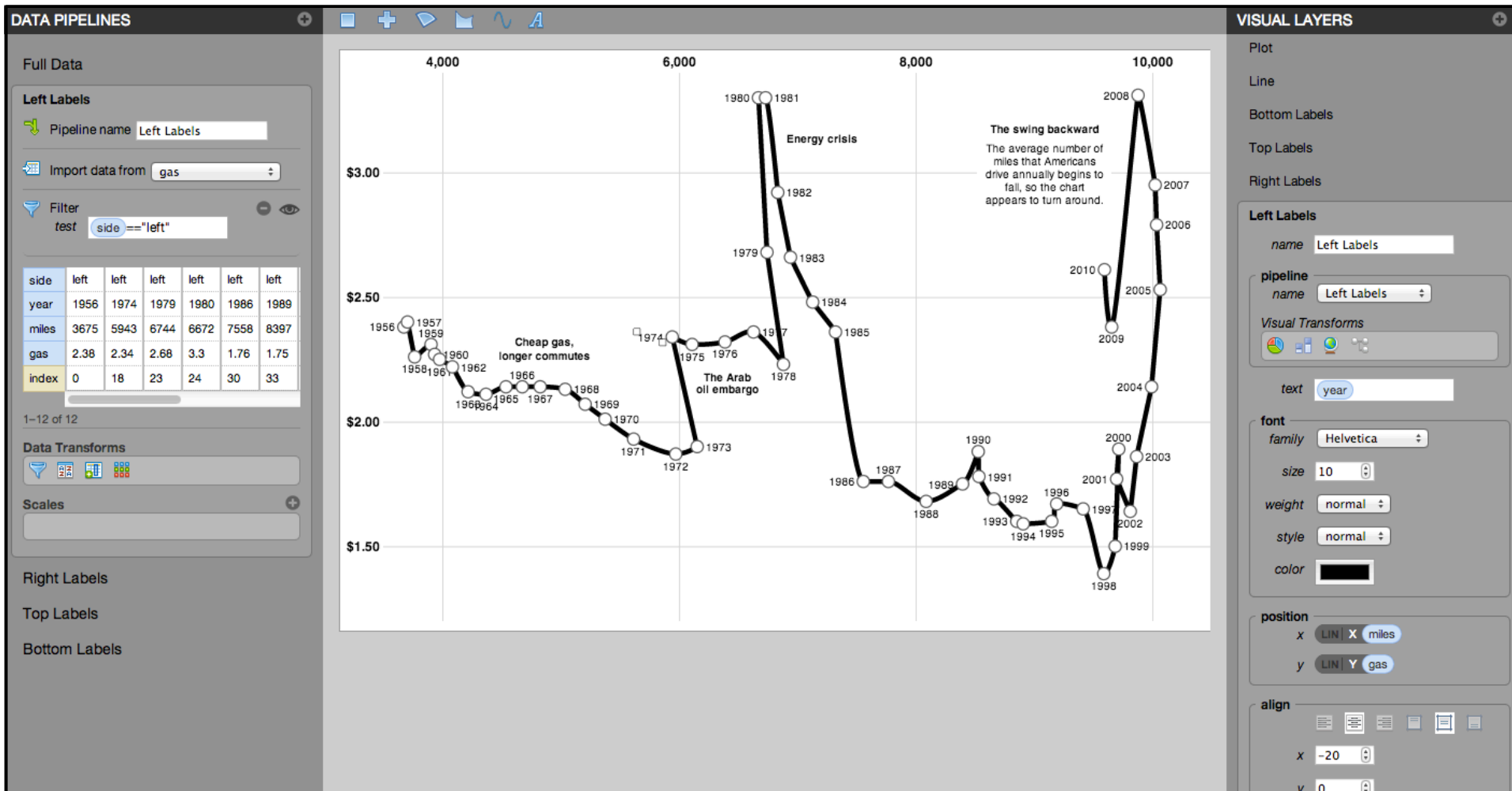
ABSTRACT

Lyra is an interactive environment that enables custom visualization design without writing any code. Graphical "marks" can be bound to data fields using property drop zones; dynamically positioned using connectors; and directly moved, rotated, and resized using handles. Lyra also provides a data pipeline interface for iterative visual specification of data transformations and layout algorithms. Lyra is more expressive than interactive systems like Tableau, allowing designers to create custom visualizations comparable to hand-coded visualizations built with D3 or Processing. These visualizations can then be easily published and reused on the Web.



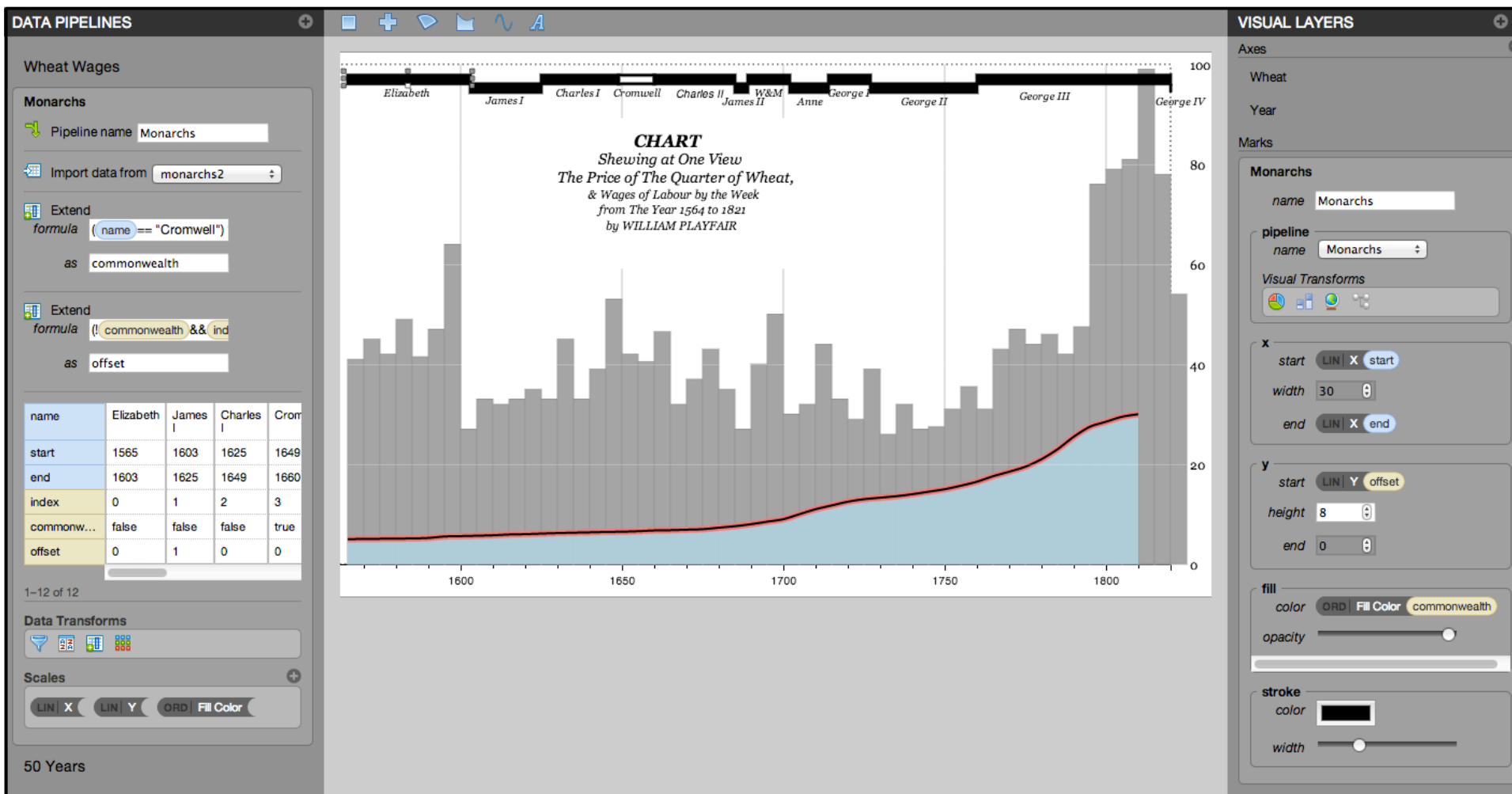
Lyra: An Interactive Visualization Design Environment

Lyra A Visualization Design Environment



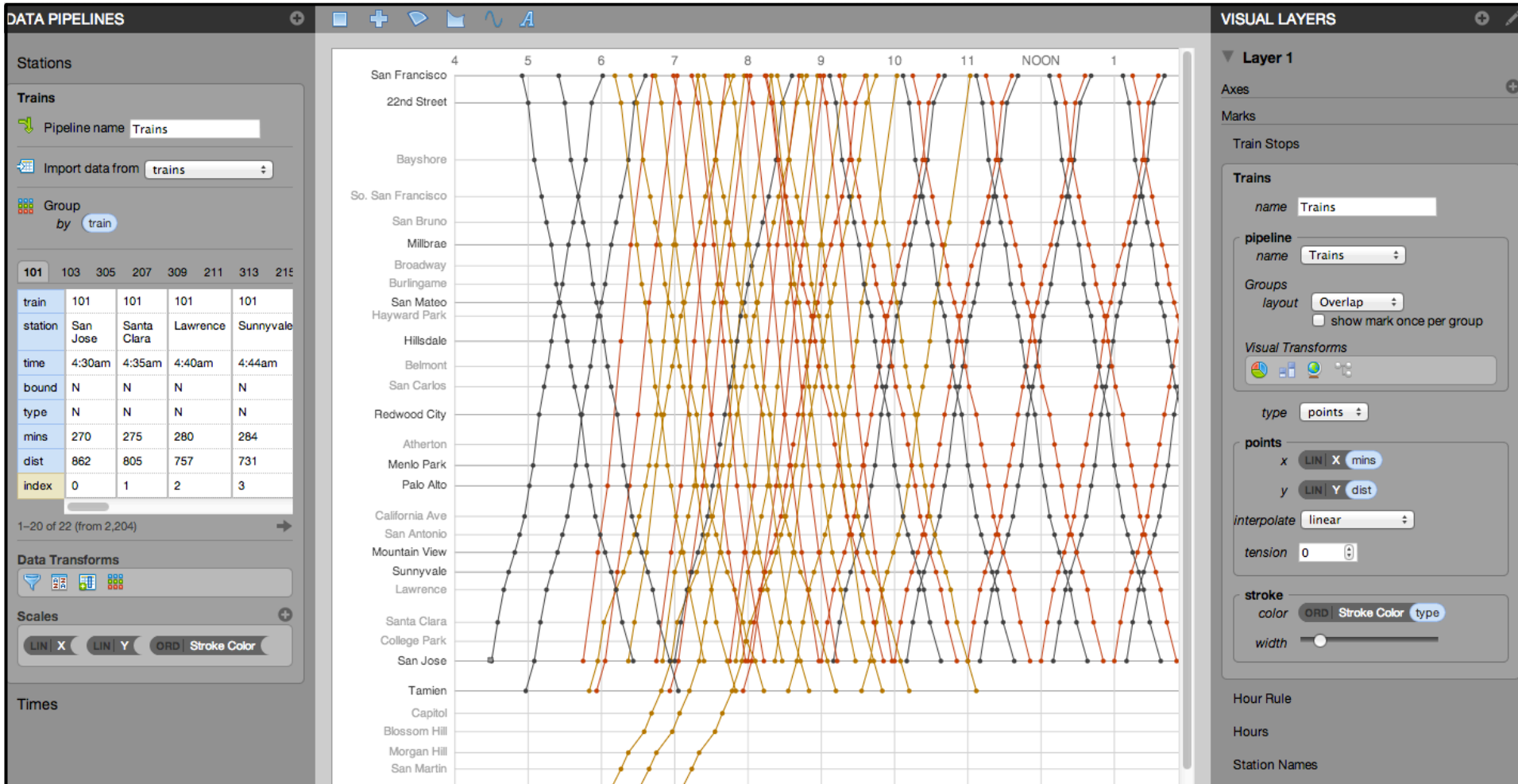
Driving Shifts into Reverse by Hannah Fairfield, NYTimes

Lyra A Visualization Design Environment



by William Playfair

Lyra A Visualization Design Environment



based on the **Railway Timetable** by E. J. Marey

Lyra A Visualization Design Environment

DATA PIPELINES

Zip Codes

Pipeline name

Import data from

Group by

33	36	72	78	25	44	23	50	09
zip	00210	00211	00212					
lat	+43.005895	+43.005895	+43.005895					
lon	-071.013202	-071.013202	-071.013202					
code	U	U	U					
city	PORTSMOUTH	PORTSMOUTH	PORTSMOUTH					
state	33	33	33					
county	015	015	015					
index	0	1	2					
key	33	33	33					

1-20 of 284 (from 42,192)

Data Transforms

Scales

ORD Stroke Color

VISUAL LAYERS

Visual Transforms

Geo

type Latitude/Longitude

latitude lat

longitude lon

projection mercator

center

x -98.35

y 39.50

translate

x 350

y 170

scale 775

rotate 0

precision 0

clip angle 0

output x y

type points

points

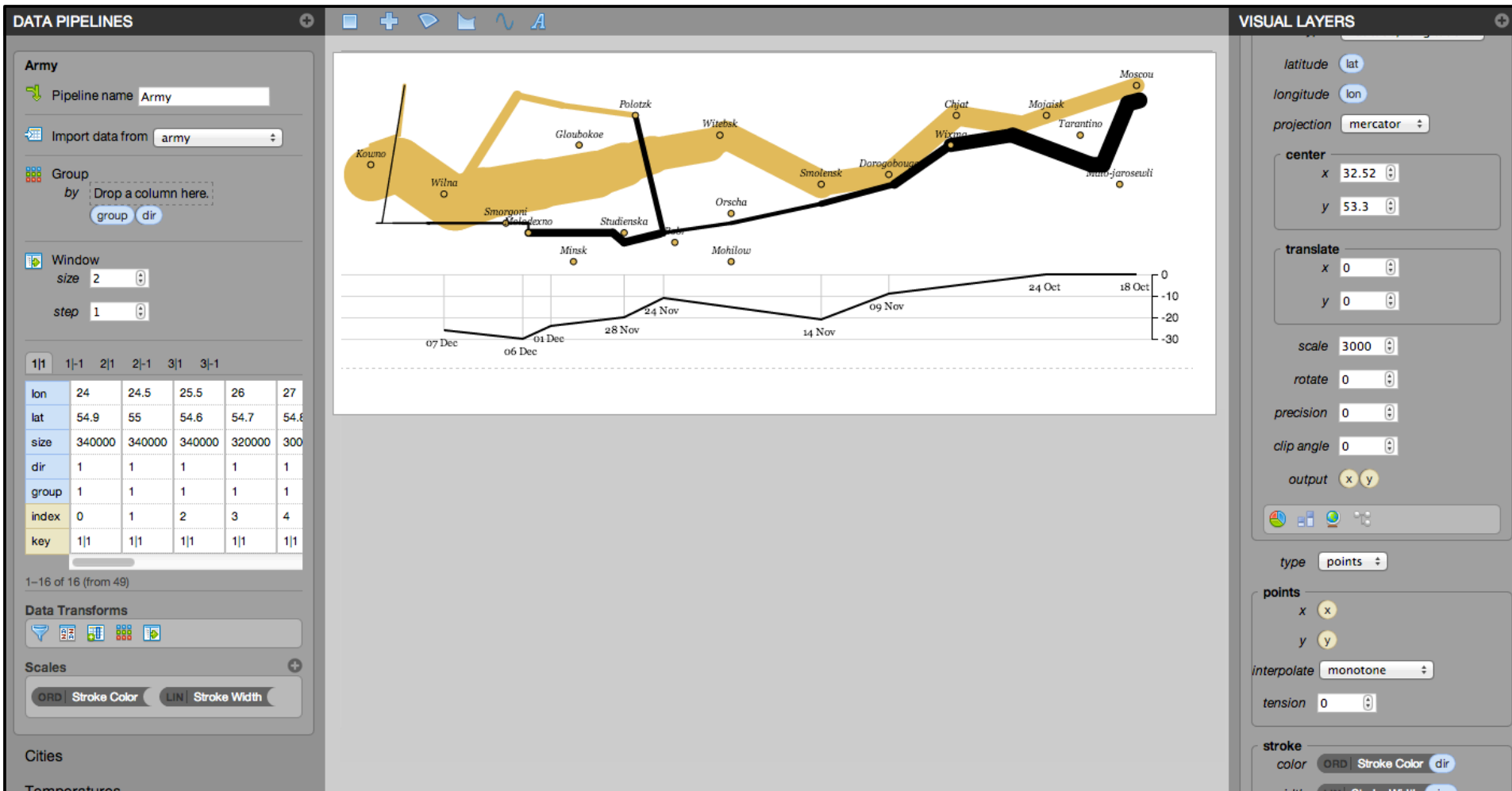
x x

y y

interpolate monotone

tension 0

Lyra A Visualization Design Environment



Napoleon's March by Charles Minard

Lyra

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Lyra

Vega-Lite

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Vega-Lite

A formal model for statistical graphics

Inspired by *Grammar of Graphics* & *Tableau*

Includes **data transformation & encoding**

Vega-Lite

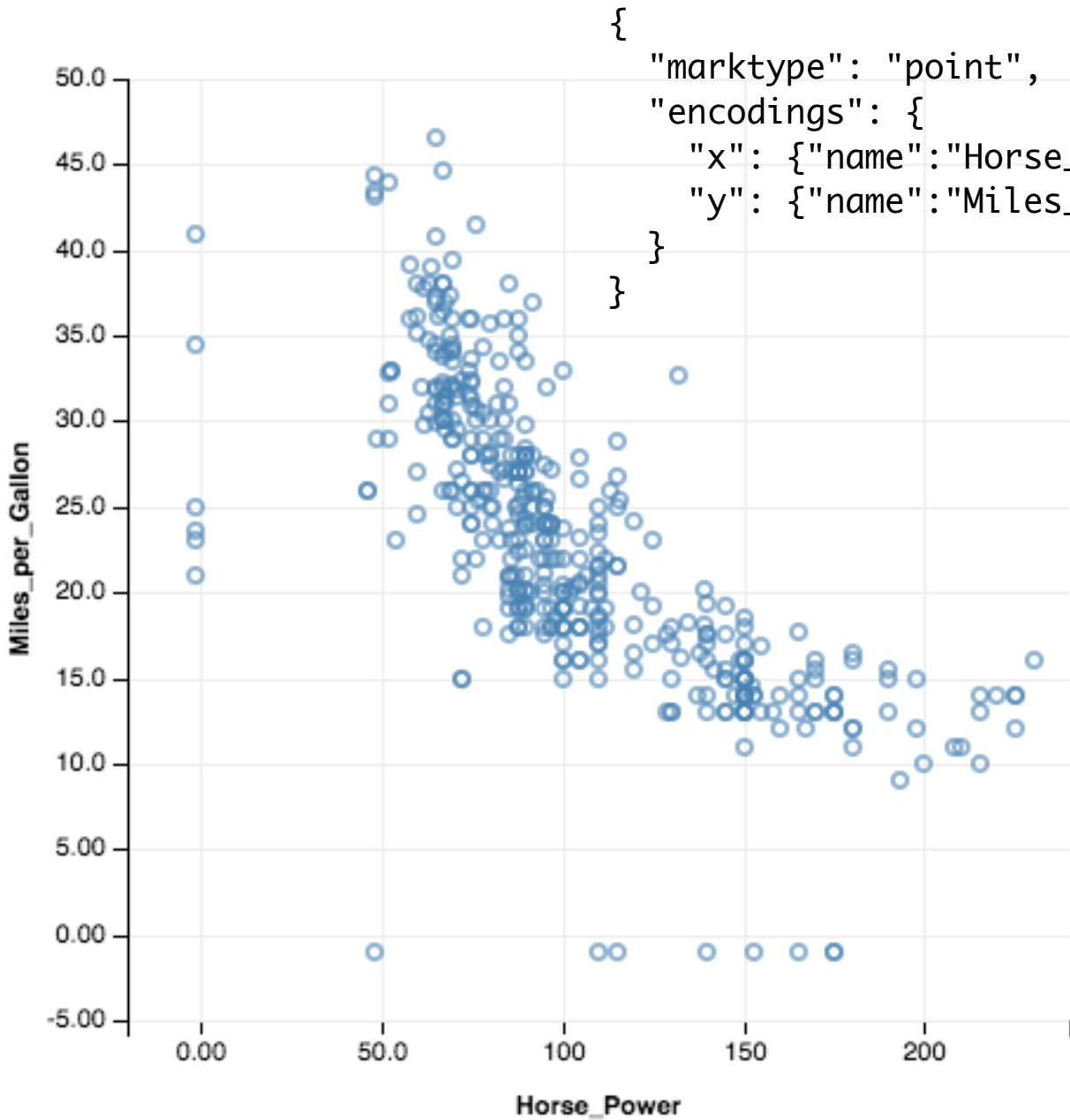
A formal model for statistical graphics

Inspired by *Grammar of Graphics* & *Tableau*

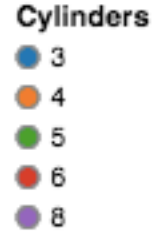
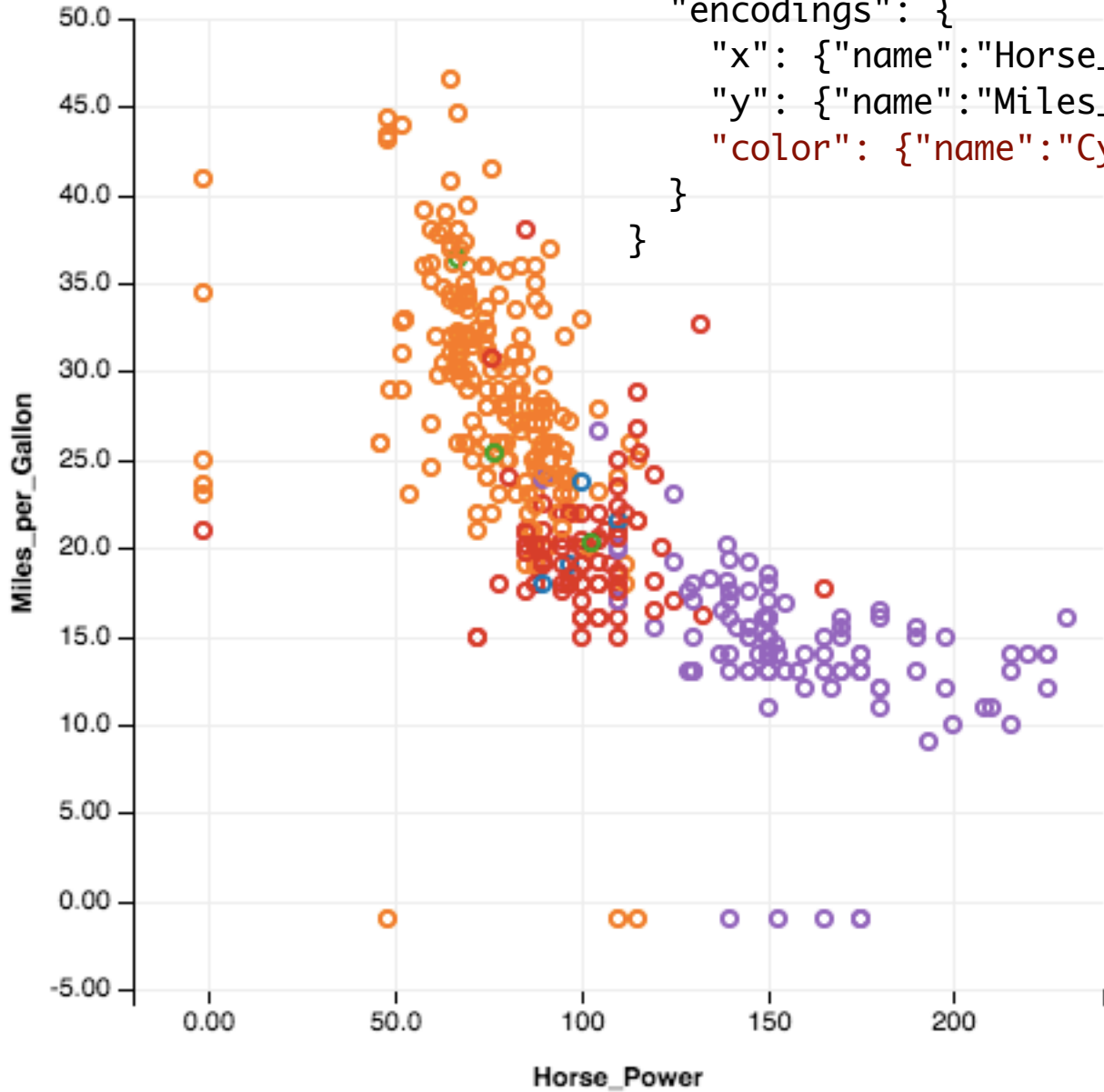
Includes **data transformation & encoding**

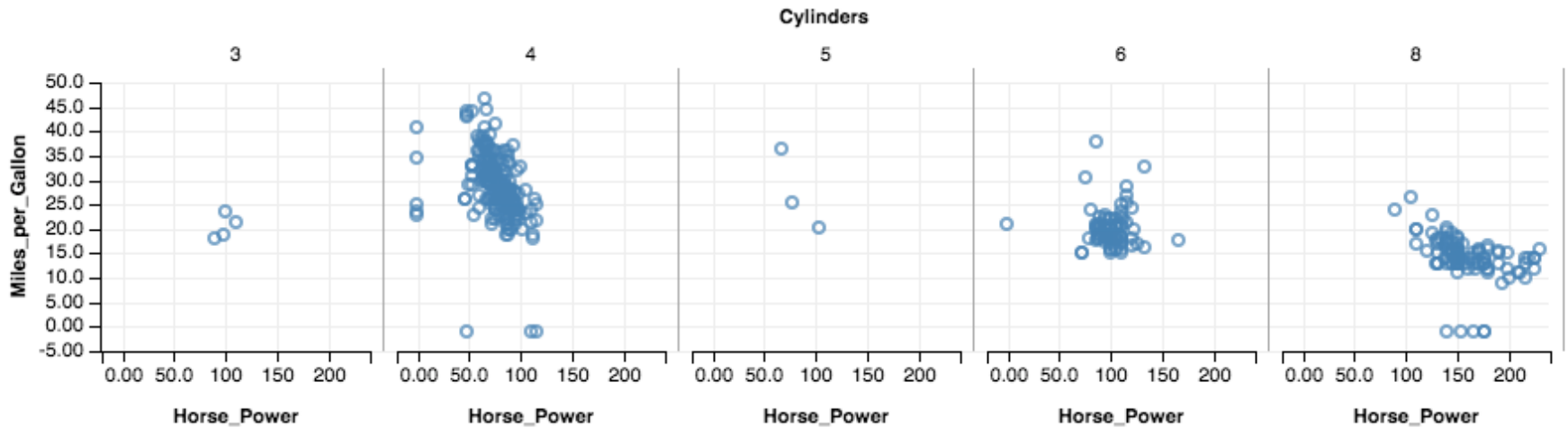
Uses a simple, concise **JSON format** that
compiles to full-blown **Vega specifications**

Easy **programmatic generation**



```
{  
  "marktype": "point",  
  "encodings": {  
    "x": {"name": "Horse_Power", "type": "Q"},  
    "y": {"name": "Miles_per_Gallon", "type": "Q"},  
    "color": {"name": "Cylinders", "type": "O"}  
  }  
}
```

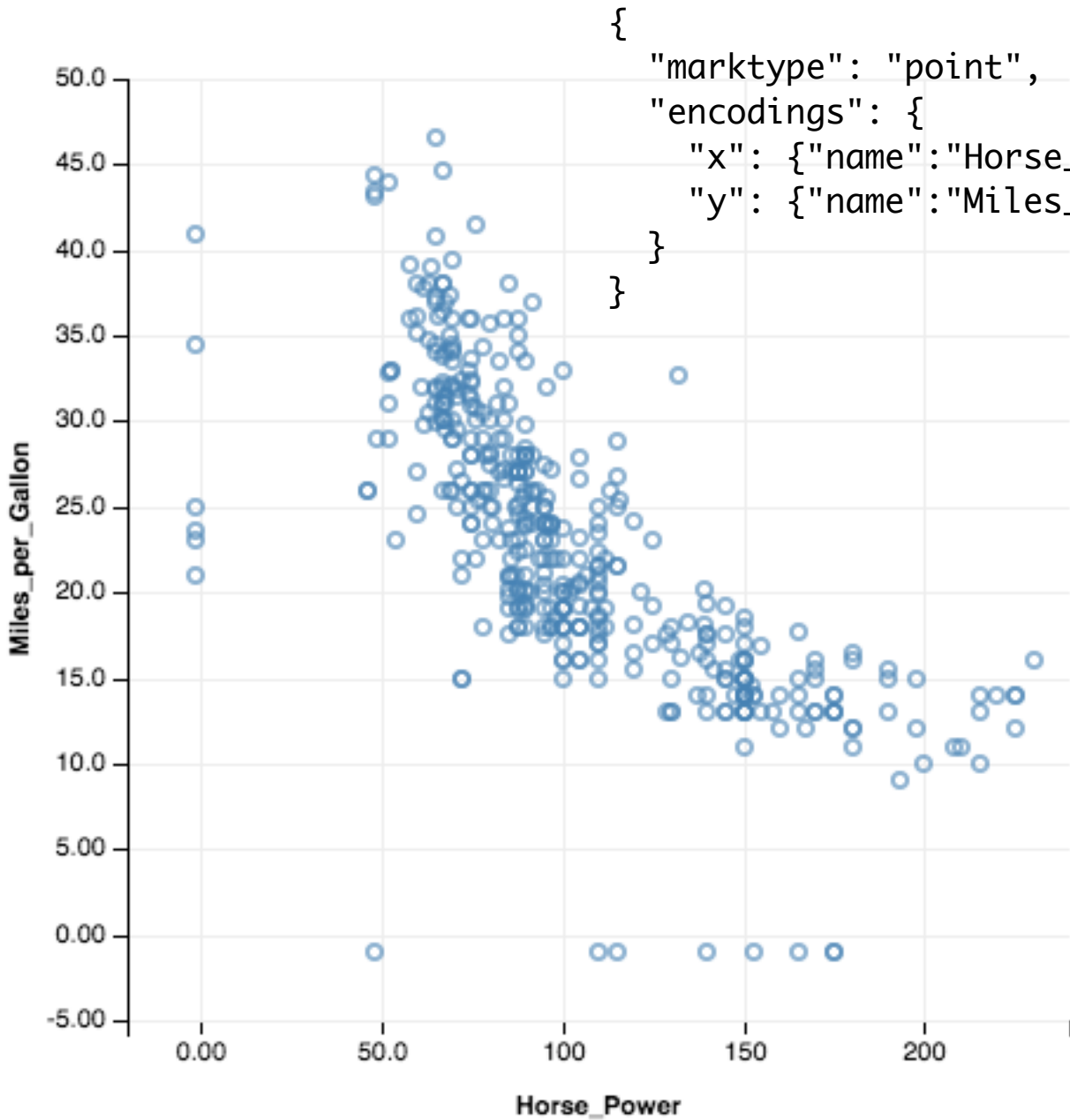


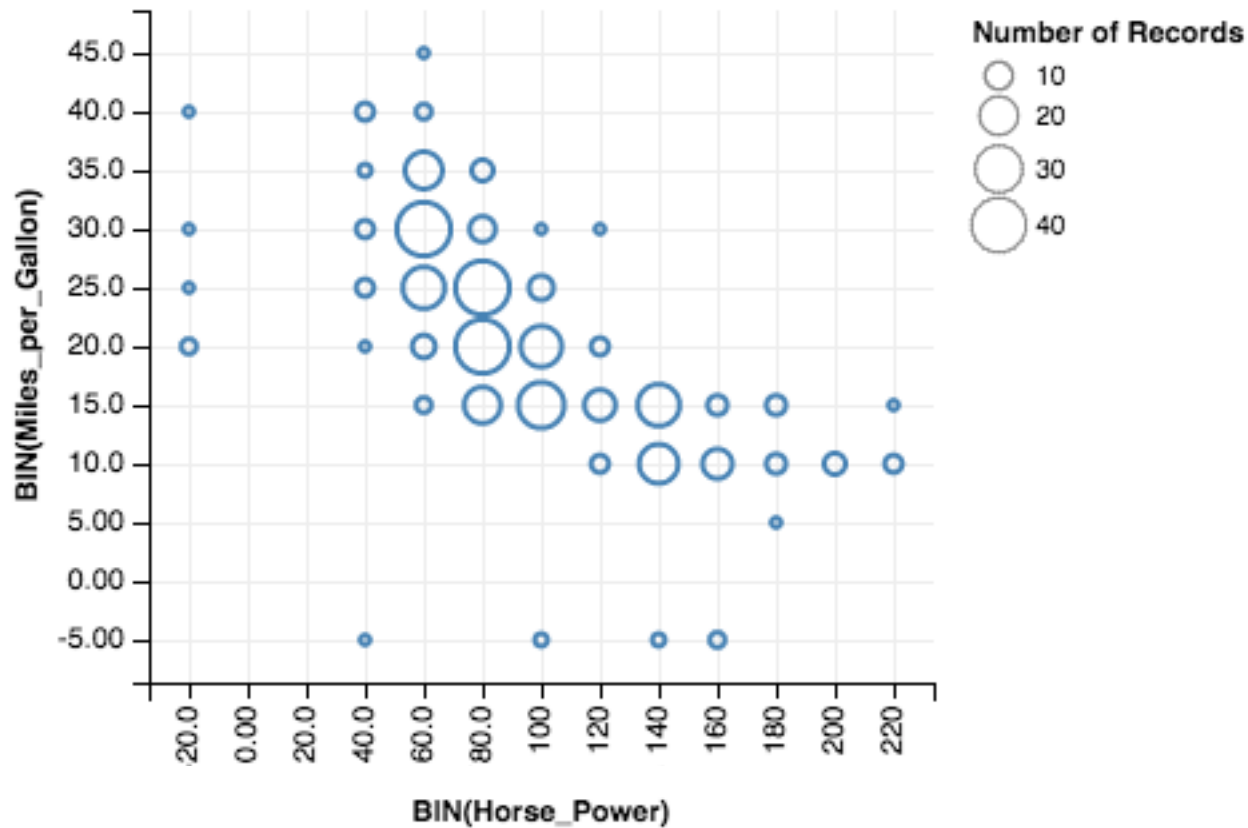


```

{
  "marktype": "point",
  "encodings": {
    "x": {"name": "Horse_Power", "type": "Q"},
    "y": {"name": "Miles_per_Gallon", "type": "Q"},
    "col": {"name": "Cylinders", "type": "O"}
  }
}

```





```

{
  "marktype": "point",
  "encodings": {
    "x": {"name": "Horse_Power", "type": "Q", "bin": {"maxbins": 15}},
    "y": {"name": "Miles_per_Gallon", "type": "Q", "bin": {"maxbins": 15}},
    "size": {"name": "*", "type": "Q", "aggr": "count"}
  }
}

```

Lyra

Vega-Lite

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Polestar

Lyra

Vega-Lite

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

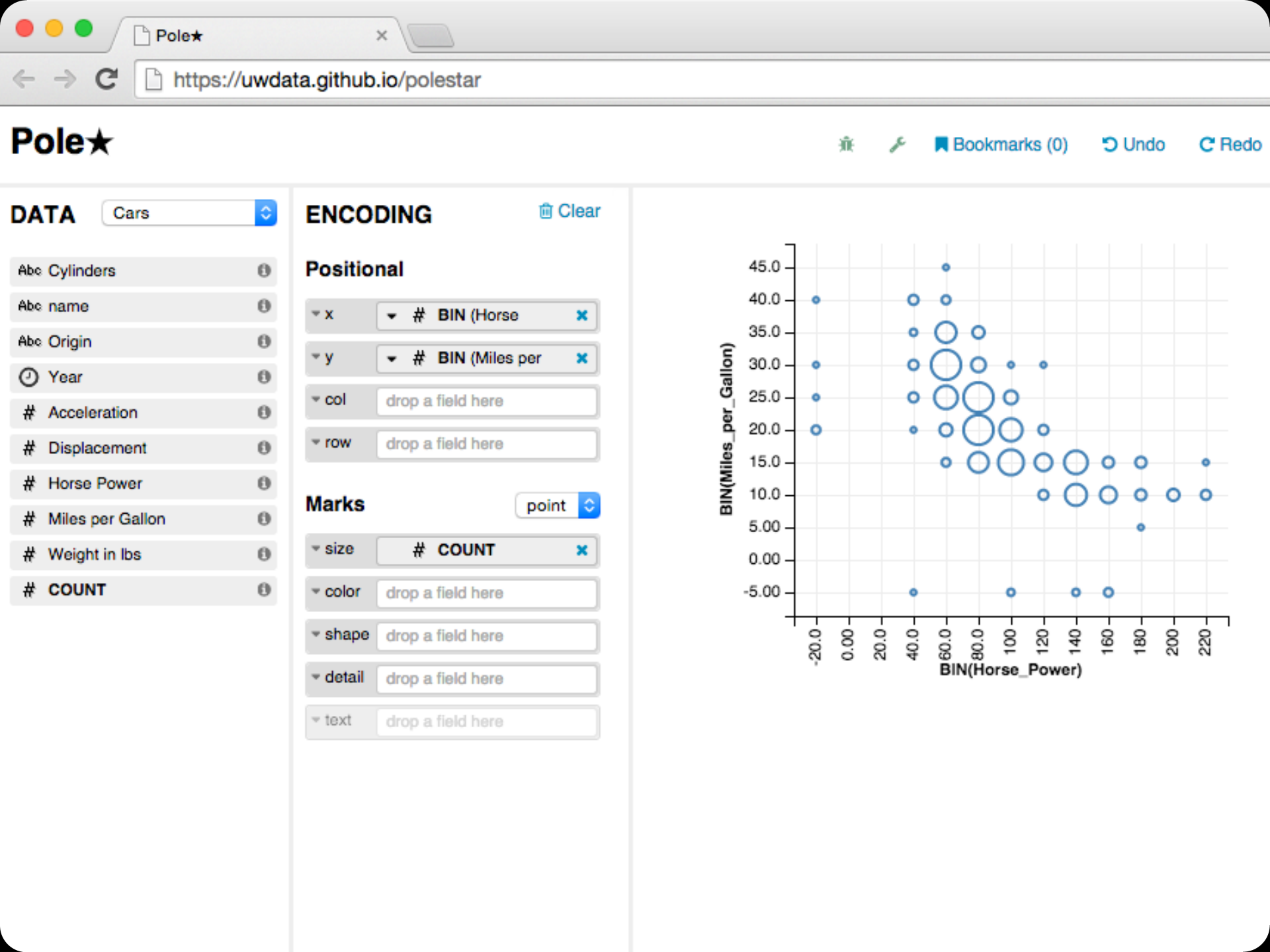
Canvas

Polestar

A graphical interface for **Vega-Lite**

Rapid visualization via drag-and-drop

Named in honor of **Polaris**, the research project that led to **Tableau**.



Polestar

Lyra

Vega-Lite

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Voyager

Polestar

Lyra

Vega-Lite

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Voyager

Reduce tedious manual specification

Voyager

Reduce tedious manual specification

Support early-stage data exploration

Encourage *data coverage*

Discourage *premature fixation*

Voyager

Reduce tedious manual specification

Support early-stage data exploration

Encourage *data coverage*

Discourage *premature fixation*

Approach: browse a gallery of visualizations

Voyager

Reduce tedious manual specification

Support early-stage data exploration

Encourage *data coverage*

Discourage *premature fixation*

Approach: browse a gallery of visualizations

Challenge - *combinatorial explosion!*

Voyager

Reduce tedious manual specification

Support early-stage data exploration

Encourage *data coverage*

Discourage *premature fixation*

Approach: browse a gallery of visualizations

Challenge - *combinatorial explosion!*

Automatic recommendation of useful views

+ **end-user steering** to focus exploration

Voyager 2

Secure https://uwdata.github.io/voyager2/

datavoyager

Bookmarks (0) Undo Redo

Data

Cars Change

Fields

- Cylinders
- Name
- Origin
- Year
- Acceleration
- Displacement
- Horsepower
- Miles per Gallon
- Weight in lbs
- COUNT

Wildcards

- Categorical Fields
- Temporal Fields
- Quantitative Fields

Encoding Clear

x YEAR (Year)

y # MEAN (Miles per

column drop a field here

row drop a field here

Marks auto

size drop a field here

color drop a field here

shape drop a field here

detail drop a field here

text drop a field here

any drop a field here

Filter Filter invalid numbers

Related Views All Add Categorical Field Add Quantitative Field Hide

Add Categorical Field

YEAR (Year) # MEAN (Miles per Gallon) Cylinders

MEAN(Miles_per_Gallon)

YEAR(Year)

Cylinders

- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 8

YEAR (Year) # MEAN (Miles per Gallon) Origin

MEAN(Miles_per_Gallon)

YEAR(Year)

Origin

- Europe
- Japan
- USA

Debug · Report an Issue

Voyager. Wongsuphasawat et al. *InfoVis'15, CHI'17*



User



User

Data Set

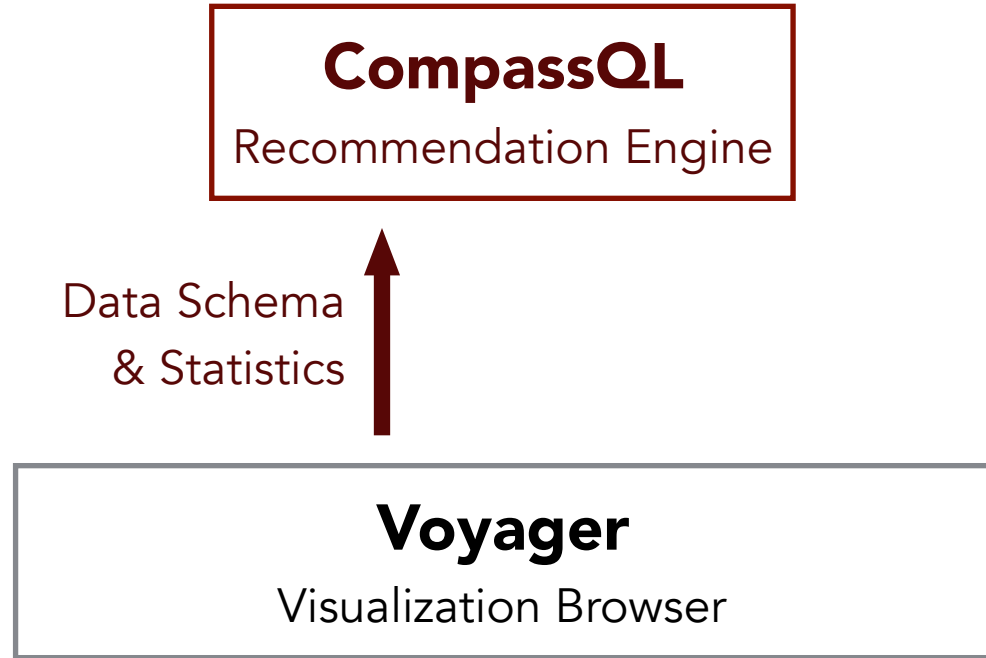


Voyager

Visualization Browser




User



1. Select **data variables**
2. Apply **transformations**
3. Pick visual **encodings**



Data Schema
& Statistics

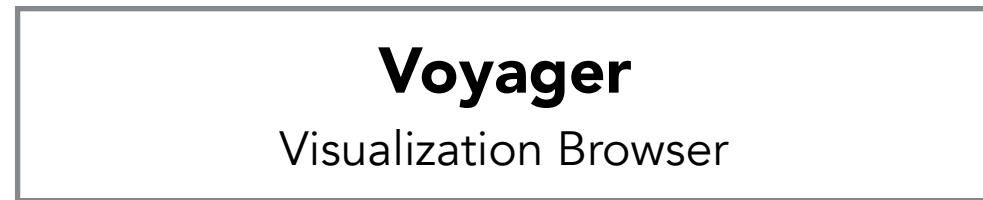


User

Constrain & rank choices
by **data type, statistics &**
perceptual principles.



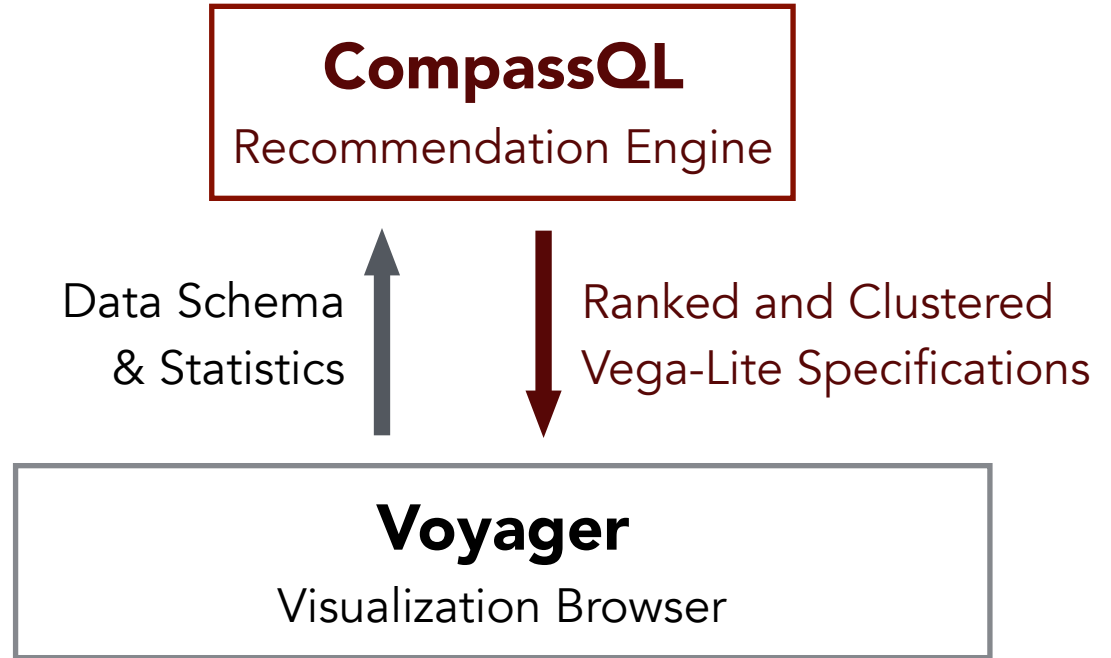
Data Schema
& Statistics



User

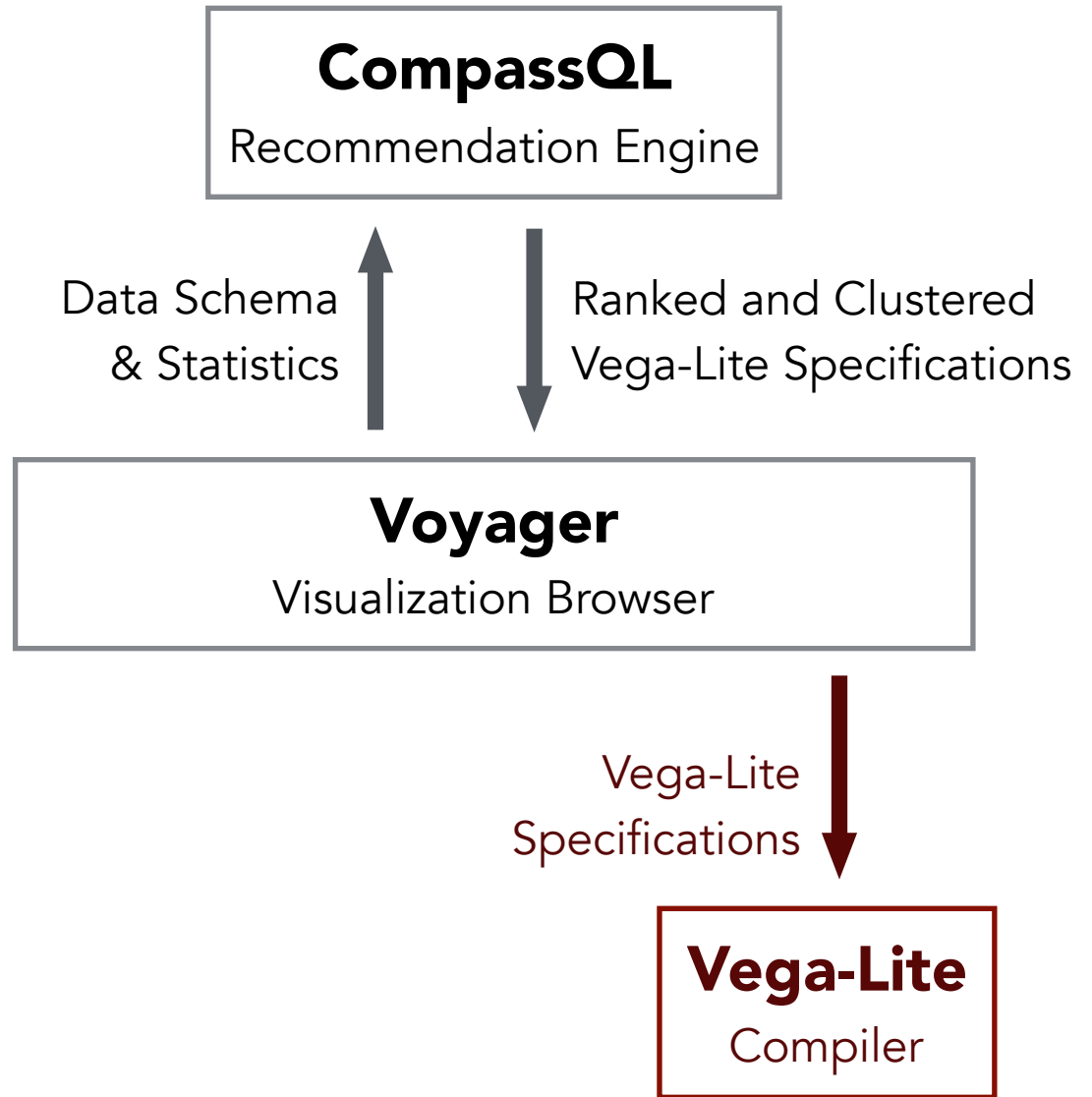


User



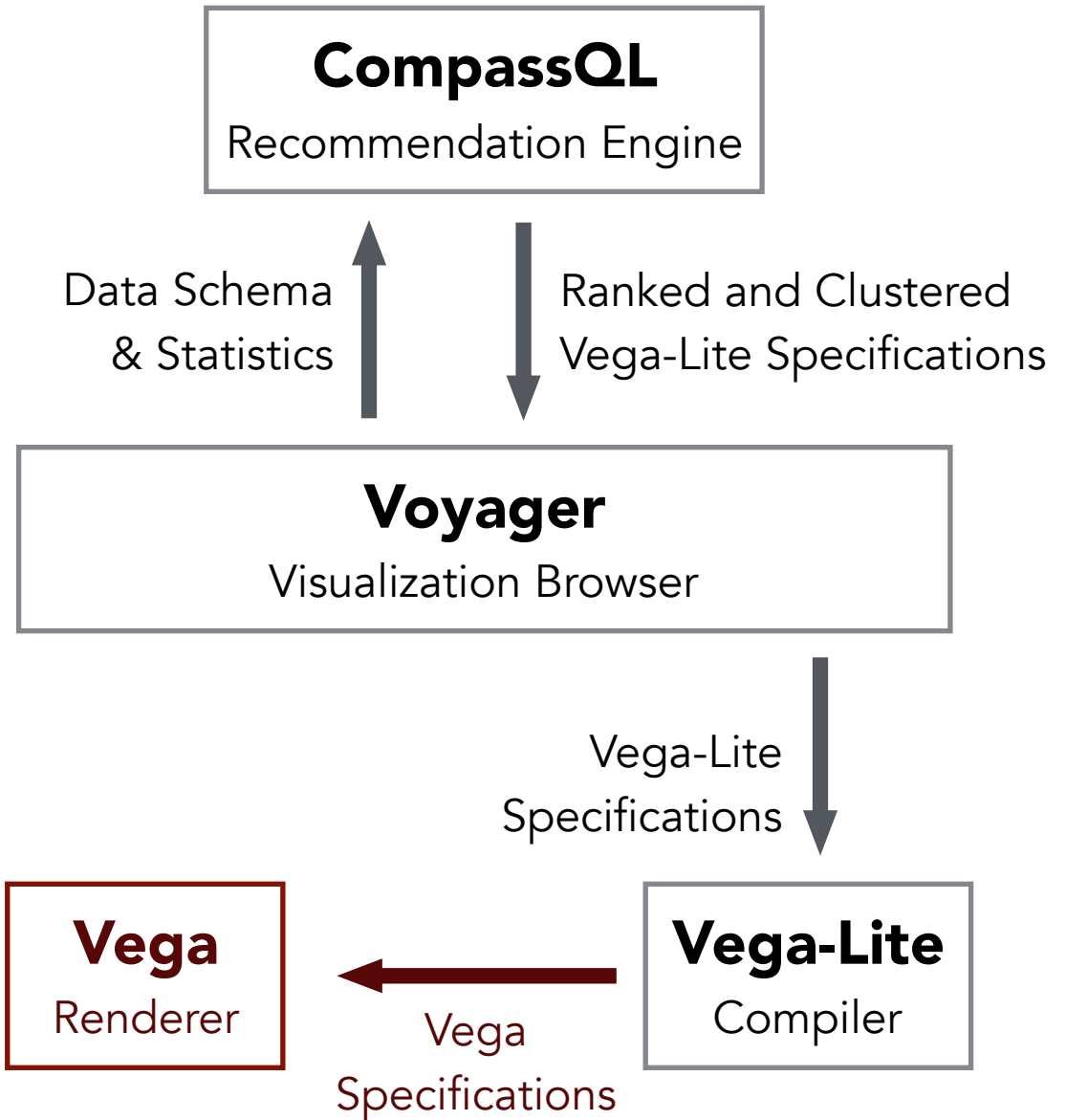


User



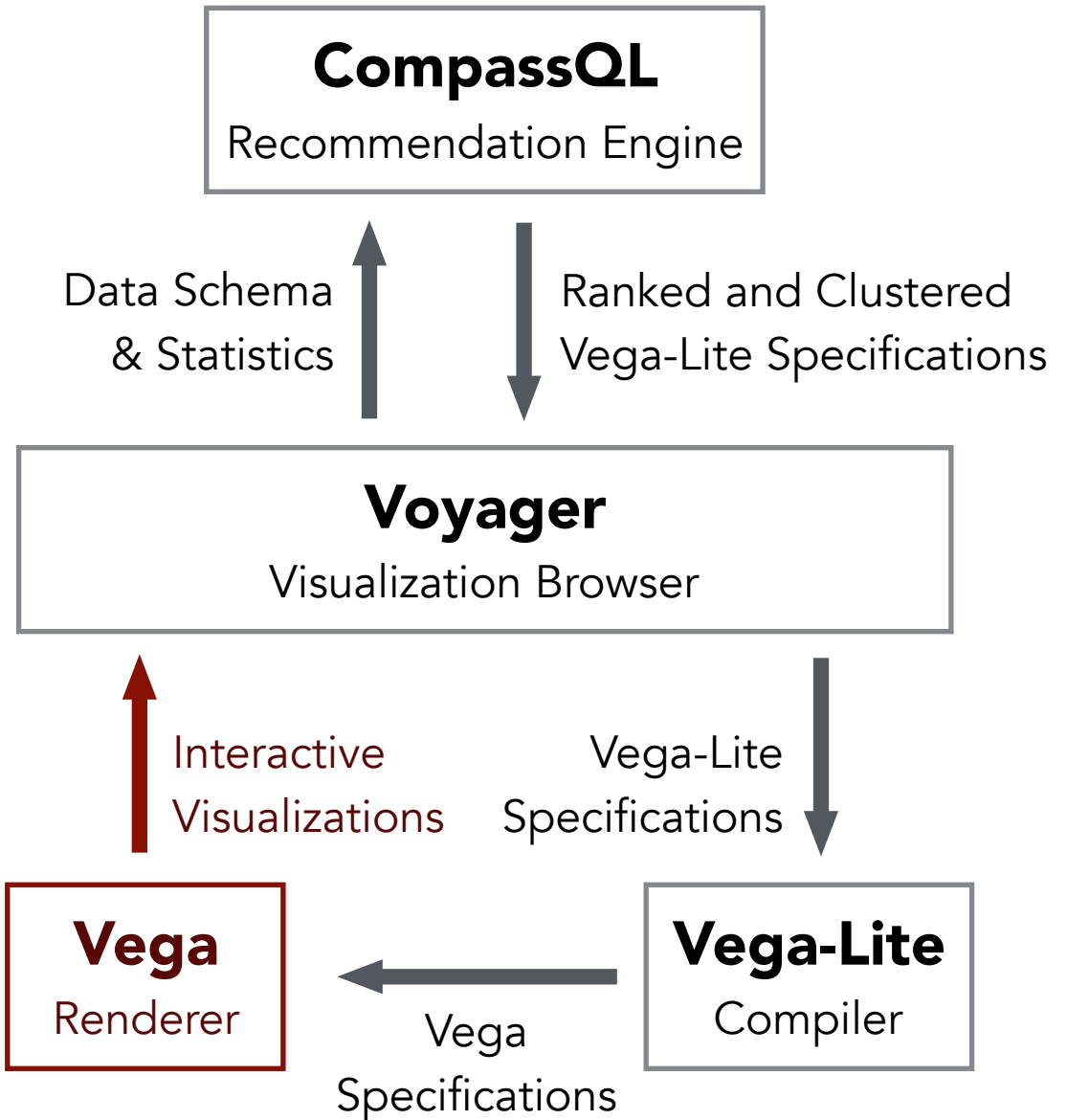


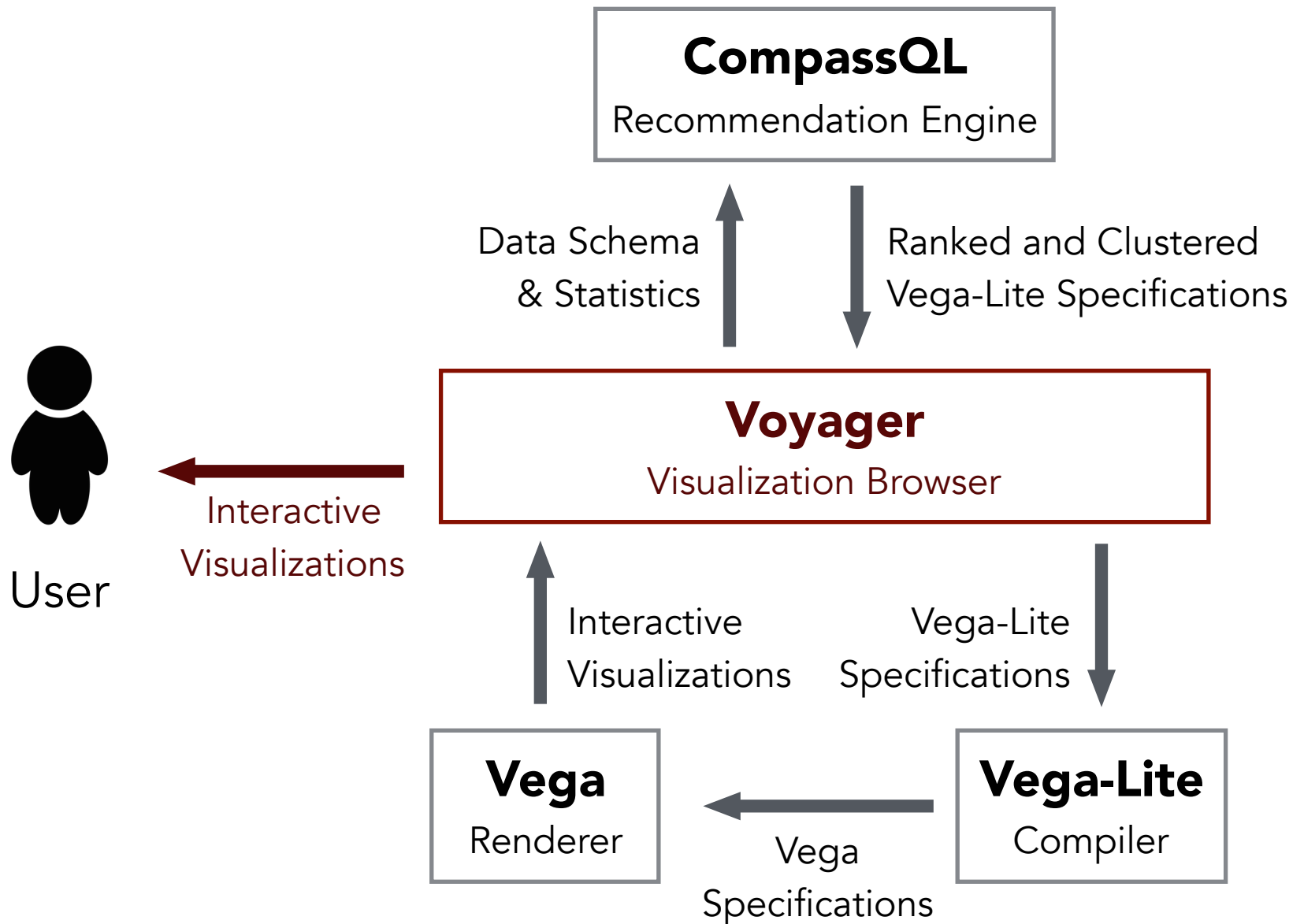
User

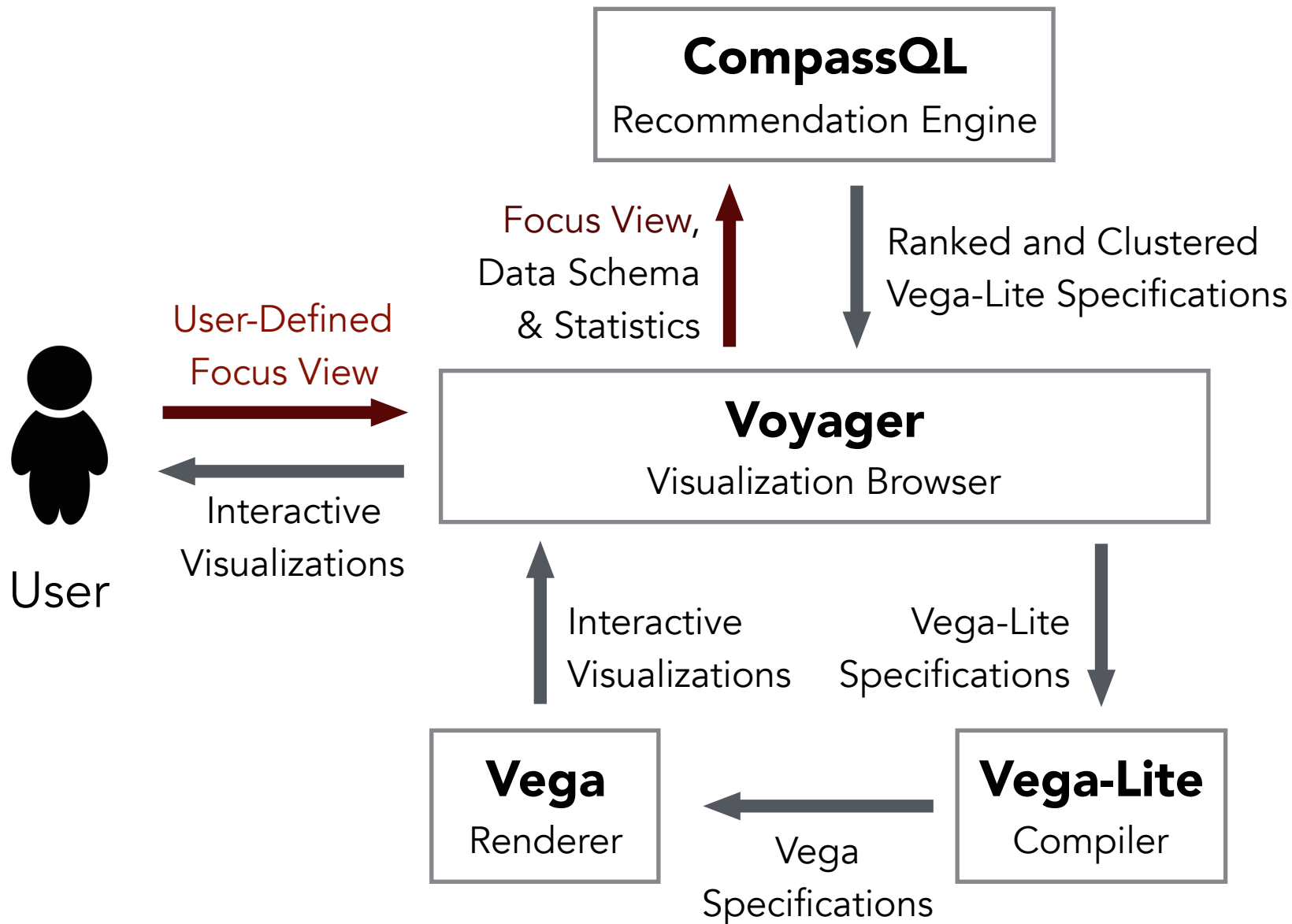




User



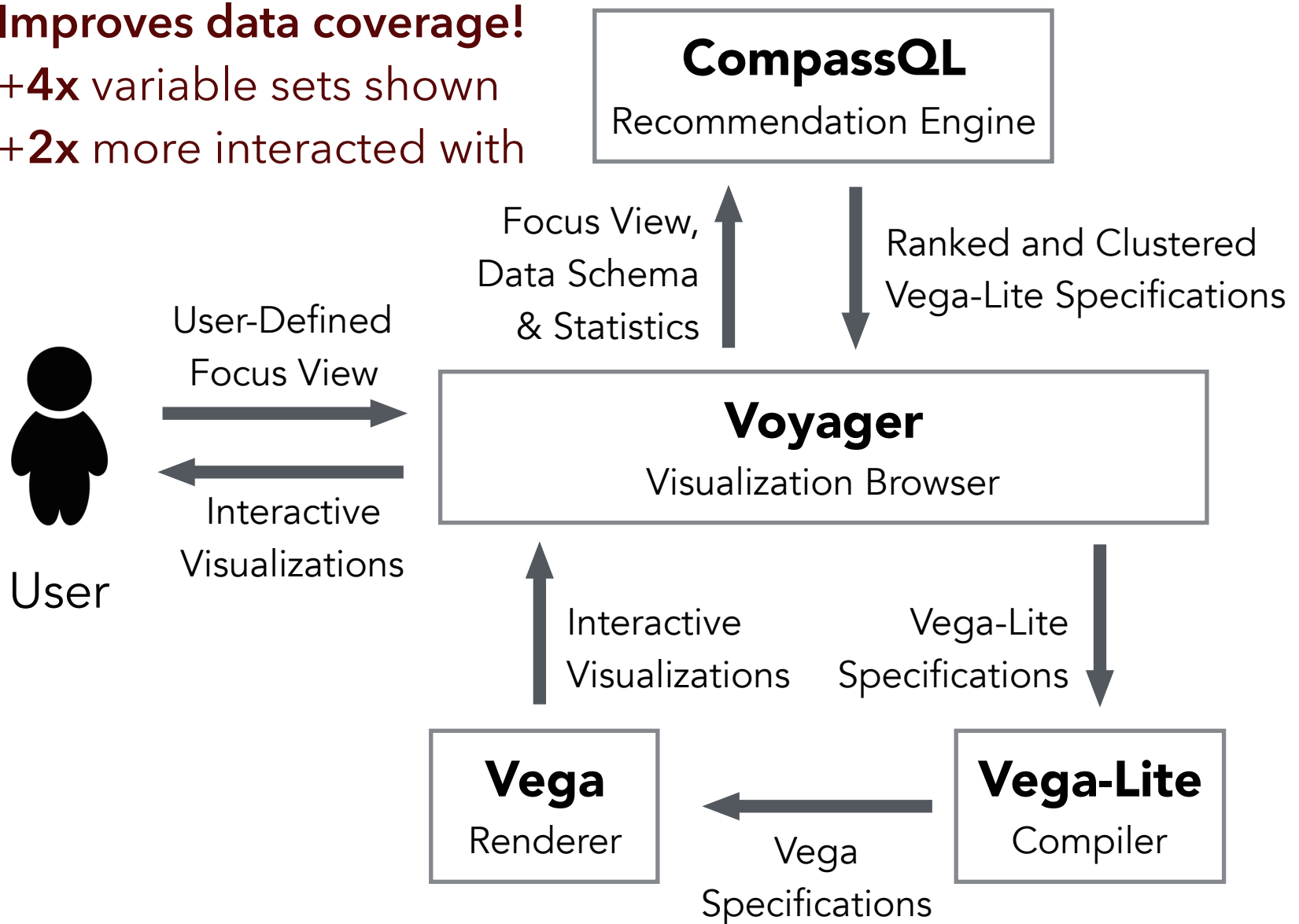




Improves data coverage!

+4x variable sets shown

+2x more interacted with



Voyager

Polestar

Lyra

Vega-Lite

Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas

Voyager

Polestar

Lyra

Vega-Lite

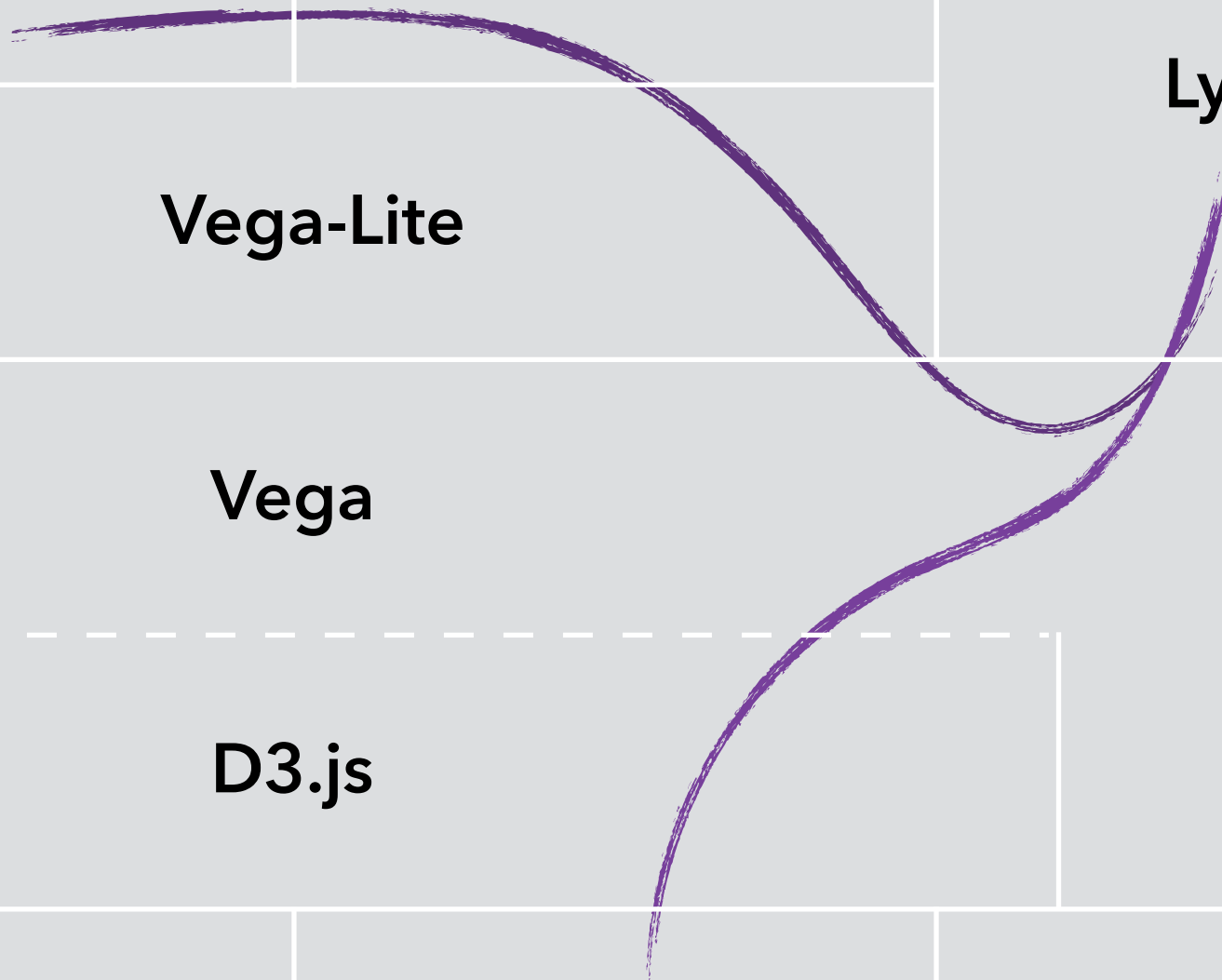
Vega

D3.js

JavaScript

SVG

Canvas



Open Challenges

Designing interactions interactively

How to convey + depict interactions?

Enhancing the "gallery" experience

Rapid assessment of multiple graphics

Embedding large views in small spaces?

Improving visualization recommenders

Learning from users, domain adaptation

Debugging tools [Hoffswell et al. *EuroVis'16*]