CSE 412 - Intro to Data Visualization

Interaction

Jane Hoffswell  University of Washington
[There is an] apparent challenge that computational artifacts pose to the longstanding distinction between the physical and the social, in the special sense of those things that one designs, builds, and uses, on the one hand, and those things with which one communicates, on the other.

“Interaction”– in a sense previously reserved for describing a uniquely interpersonal activity – seems appropriately to characterize what goes on between people and certain machines as well.

Lucy Suchman, Plans and Situated Actions
Interaction between people and machines requires *mutual intelligibility* or *shared understanding*.
Gulfs of Execution & Evaluation

[Norman 1986]
Gulf of Execution

The difference between the user’s intentions and the allowable actions.

[Norman 1986]
Gulf of Execution
The difference between the user’s intentions and the allowable actions.

Gulf of Evaluation
The amount of effort that the person must exert to interpret the state of the system and to determine how well the expectations and intentions have been met.

[Norman 1986]
Gulf of Evaluation

Conceptual model: $x, y$ related?

Real world:

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Gulf of Evaluation

Conceptual model: x, y related?

Real world:
Gulf of Execution

Conceptual model: Draw a scatterplot

Real world
Move 90 30
Rotate 35
Pen down
...
Gulf of Execution

Conceptual model: 
Draw a scatterplot
Gulf of Execution
The difference between the user’s intentions and the allowable actions.

Gulf of Evaluation
The amount of effort that the person must exert to interpret the state of the system and to determine how well the expectations and intentions have been met.

[Norman 1986]
Interactive Visualization
Interaction Techniques

Are there “essential” interactive operations for exploratory data visualization?
Taxonomy of Interactions
Taxonomy of Interactions

Data and View Specification
Visualize, Filter, Sort, Derive
Taxonomy of Interactions

Data and View Specification
Visualize, Filter, Sort, Derive
Taxonomy of Interactions

Data and View Specification
Visualize, Filter, Sort, Derive

View Manipulation
Select, Navigate, Coordinate, Organize
Taxonomy of Interactions

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Data and View Specification
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View Manipulation
Select, Navigate, Coordinate, Organize

Process and Provenance
Record, Annotate, Share, Guide
Hours of footage lost each month due to dropped frames

- January 2013: 0 hours
- January 2014: 90 hours
- January 2015: 20 hours
- January 2016: 10 hours
Hours of footage lost each month due to dropped frames

- Framedrop problem discovered
- Issue announced publicly
- Upgrade causes glitch
Taxonomy of Interactions

Data and View Specification
Visualize, Filter, Sort, Derive

View Manipulation
Select, Navigate, Coordinate, Organize

Process and Provenance
Record, Annotate, Share, Guide
EXAMPLE:
Bertin’s Hotel Data
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1% CLIENTELE FEMALE
2% --- --- LOCAL
3% --- --- U.S.A.
4% --- --- SOUTH AMERICA
5% --- --- EUROPE
6% --- --- M.EAST, AFRICA
7% --- --- ASIA
8% BUSINESSMEN
9% TOURISTS
10% DIRECT RESERVATIONS
11% AGENCY --- ---
12% AIR CREWS
13% CLIENTS UNDER 20 YEARS
14% --- --- 20-35 --- ---
15% --- --- 35-55 --- ---
16% --- --- MORE THAN 55 --- ---
17% PRICE OF ROOMS
18% LENGTH OF STAY
19% OCCUPANCY
20% CONVENTIONS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>10% Occupancy</strong></th>
<th><strong>Active and Slow Periods</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>18 Length of Stay</strong></td>
<td><strong>Discovery Factors</strong></td>
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<td><strong>20 Conventions</strong></td>
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<td><strong>8 Businessmen</strong></td>
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<td><strong>11 Agency Reservations</strong></td>
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<td><strong>4 South America</strong></td>
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<th><strong>18 Air Crews</strong></th>
<th><strong>Recovery Factors</strong></th>
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<td><strong>18 Clients Under 20 Years</strong></td>
<td><strong>Winter</strong></td>
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<td><strong>16 Clients More Than 55 Years</strong></td>
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<td><strong>14 Clients From 20-35 Years</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2 Local Cliente</strong></td>
<td><strong>Winter-Summer</strong></td>
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<th><strong>7 Asia</strong></th>
<th><strong>Summer</strong></th>
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<td><strong>10 Direct Reservation</strong></td>
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<td><strong>17 Price of Rooms</strong></td>
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<td><strong>6 Middle East, Africa</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3 U.S.A.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>5 Europe</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>15 Clients From 35-55 Years</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
[Graphics and Graphic Information Processing, Bertin 81]
[Graphics and Graphic Information Processing, Bertin 81]
EXAMPLE:
Tukey et al.'s PRIM-9
Administrivia
A2: Exploratory Data Analysis

Use visualization software to form & answer questions

First steps:
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 (8+)
Include titles and captions for each view

Due by 11:59pm Monday, Apr 19
A3: Ethical & Deceptive Visualization

Use visualizations to communicate and influence insights
Design both an ethical and deceptive visualization

**Ethical Visualization:** honestly and transparently communicate the data with an effective and expressive visualization design that is easy to interpret for viewers

**Deceptive Visualization:** intentionally influence viewer's perception to mislead their insights, without revealing it's role as the deceptive design

Due by 11:59 pm PT, Monday May 3rd
A3: Ethical & Deceptive Visualization

Use visualizations to communicate and influence insights.

Design both an ethical and deceptive visualization.

Step 1: Pick a dataset
Consider using the same data for your final project.

Step 2: Pose question(s) and identify insights
Use exploratory data analysis to get familiar with the data.
Document your questions in your assignment write-up.

Step 3: Design visualizations
Create your ethical and deceptive visualization designs.
Consider how visual and narrative elements can be incorporated.
A3: Ethical & Deceptive Visualization

**Deliverables** (upload via Canvas; see A3 page)
Image of your visualization (.png or .jpg format)
Images should be named *ethical* and *deceptive* accordingly
Image itself should not give away which design is which
Write-up including a short description + design rationale

**Due by 11:59 pm PT, Monday May 3rd**

**Assignment A3b: Peer Evaluation** (see course website)
Provide constructive feedback on four peer designs
Guess which visualization designs are deceptive and ethical
**Due by 11:59pm PT, Monday May 10th (the following Monday)**
Required Readings for Wed 4/21

Easing Functions Cheat Sheet.

Chapters 11, 12 in Interactive Data Visualization for the Web. Scott Murray.
Selection
Basic Selection Methods

Point Selection
Mouse Hover / Click
Touch / Tap
Select Nearby Element (e.g., Bubble Cursor)
Basic Selection Methods

Point Selection
Mouse Hover / Click
Touch / Tap
Select Nearby Element (e.g., Bubble Cursor)

Region Selection
Rubber-band (rectangular) or Lasso (freehand)
Area cursors (“brushes”)
Brushing & Linking
Brushing

Direct attention to a subset of data [Wills 95]
Brushing & Linking

Select ("brush") a subset of data
See selected data in other views

The components must be linked by tuple (matching data points), or by query (matching range or values)
Brushing Scatterplots
Cross-Filtering

Arrival Delay (min)

Local Departure Time (hour)

Travel Distance (miles)
Baseball Statistics [Wills 95]
Linking Assists to Positions
Dynamic Queries
SELECT house FROM seattle_homes
WHERE price < 1,000,000 AND bedrooms > 2
ORDER BY price
Issues with Textual Queries

1. For programmers
2. Rigid syntax
3. Only shows exact matches
4. Too few or too many hits
5. No hint on how to reformulate the query
6. Slow question-answer loop
7. Results returned as table
HomeFinder

The yellow dots above are homes in the DC area for sale. You may get more information on a home by selecting it.
You may drag the 'A' and 'B' distance markers to your office or any other location you want to live near.
Select distances, bedrooms, and cost ranges by dragging the corresponding slider boxes on the right.
Select specific home types and services by pressing the labeled buttons on the right.

[Williamson and Shneiderman 92]
Direct Manipulation

1. Visual representation of objects and actions
2. Rapid, incremental and reversible actions
3. Selection by pointing (not typing)
4. Immediate and continuous display of results
• The Attribute Explorer
Zipdecode [Fry 04]

Hit the letter z, or click the word zoom to enable or disable zooming.

Hold down shift while typing a number to replace the previous number (U.S. keyboards only).

http://benfry.com/zipdecode/
NameVoyager [Wattenberg 06]

http://www.babynamewizard.com/voyager
DimpVis [Kondo 14]
Parallel Coordinates [Inselberg]
Builds on Wattenberg’s [2001] idea for sketch-based queries of time-series data.
Query by Slope!
Pros & Cons

Pros
Controls useful for both novices and experts
Quick way to explore data
Pros & Cons

Pros
Controls useful for both novices and experts
Quick way to explore data

Cons
Simple queries
Lots of controls
Amount of data shown limited by screen space

Who would use these kinds of tools?
Summary

Most visualizations are interactive
Even passive media elicit interactions

Good visualizations are task dependent
Pick the right interaction technique
Consider the semantics of the data domain

Fundamental interaction techniques
Selection / Annotation, Sorting, Navigation, Brushing & Linking, Dynamic Queries