November 30, 2010

# Visual Analytics for Investigative Analysis and Exploration of Documents and Data

#### John Stasko

Information Interfaces Research Group School of Interactive Computing Georgia Institute of Technology

ISVC '10 Keynote









#### Data Overload

• How do we make use of the data rather than being overwhelmed by it?







## Human Vision

- Highest bandwidth sense
- Fast, parallel
- Pattern recognition
- Pre-attentive
- Extends memory and cognitive capacity
- People think visually

Impressive. Lets use it!





### Visualization

• "The use of computer-supported, interactive visual representations of data to amplify cognition."

– Card, Mackinlay, Shneiderman '98







• Cognition, not graphics

• "The purpose of visualization is insight, not pictures"





#### How?

- Visuals help us think
  - Provide a frame of reference, a temporary storage area
- Cognition  $\rightarrow$  Perception
- Pattern matching
- External cognition aid
  - Role of external world in thinking and reason

Larkin & Simon '87 Card, Mackinlay, Shneiderman '98





• InfoGraphics





### **NYC Weather**

#### 2220 numbers

NEW YORK CITY'S WEATHER FOR 1980 JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER ANNUAL TEMPERATURE HIGH July 21: 102° 1001 1001 80 90\* LINE INDICATES 80. 801 1980 NORMAL NORMAL HIGH 70' 60. 601 50' 40 LINE INDICATES NORMAL LOW LOW DEC. 25: -1 10 PRECIPITATION IN INCHES Normal Precipitation. 40.19 ACT NORMA ACTUAL NORMA 100 Percent 75 75 50 50 an A ¥. 25 25 RELATIVE HUMIDITY AS OF NOON

New York Times, January 11, 1981, p. 32.

#### Tufte, Vol. 1





# Atlanta Flight Traffic







## **Internet Traffic**

#### http://www.wired.com/magazine/2010/08/ff\_webrip/all/1







## Population

#### http://infographicsnews.blogspot.com/2009/04/mantras-joe-lertolas-maps.html







# Banking

#### http://www.guardian.co.uk/news/datablog/2009/mar/25/banking-g20#







#### Beer

#### http://www.mikewirthart.com/?cat=3







#### http://www.wordle.net

#### Wordle









http://infosthetics.com/archives/2008/09/funniest\_pie\_chart\_ever.html





### Purpose

- Two main uses of visualization
  - Analysis Understand your data better and act upon that understanding
  - Presentation Communicate and inform others more effectively





## 1. Analysis – When to Apply?

- Many other techniques for data analysis
  - Data mining, DB queries, machine learning...

- Visualization most useful in exploratory data analysis
  - Don't know what you're looking for
  - Don't have a priori questions
  - Trying to figure out what is interesting





### **Revisit the Definition**

• "The use of computer-supported, interactive visual representations of data to amplify cognition."

– Card, Mackinlay, Shneiderman '98

What does "amplify cognition" mean?





## An Alternate Take

 Hutchins argues that tools don't amplify or scaffold cognition (a more traditional cognitive science view)

– Eg, Our memory isn't amplified

• Instead, tools help transform the analytic process into another more doable one

Hutchins '94





## **Distributed Cognition**

- Cognitive system is composed of people and the artifacts they use
  - Cognition isn't only internal
- Changes in external representation spur changes in internal representation and understanding
- It is interaction with the external representations that drives this process





#### **Theoretical Basis for InfoVis**

- Leverage Hutchins' theory of distributed cognition (DCog) to explain the value and utility of infovis
- Use DCog as a supporting theoretical framework for infovis

Liu, Nersessian, Stasko IEEE TVCG '08





## **Characterizing Interaction**

#### • User intent is what matters

7 categoriesSelectExploreReconfigureEncodeAbstract/ElaborateFilterConnect



Yi et al TVCG '07





• Interactive visualizations





#### Map of the Stock Market

#### http://www.smartmoney.com/marketmap







### **Baby Name Wizard**

#### http://babynamewizard.com/namevoyager/

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#### **Movie Revenues**

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2008/02/23/movies/20080223\_REVENUE\_GRAPHIC.html







# US Open Tennis

#### http://www.usopen.org/ibm







### 2. Presentation – Tell a story

• Use visualization to communicate ideas, influence, explain







#### http://www.cnn.com/homeandaway







#### Workshop at VisWeek

#### http://thevcl.com/storytelling/

# **TELLING STORIES WITH DATA** ■ ■ □ □ ▲ ▲ ■ ● ■ □ ▶ ★

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#### Using visualization to create narratives and engage audiences

A VisWeek 2010 Workshop

While visualization is an excellent tool for discovery and analysis, it is also a powerful medium for communication. The best information graphics do more than just present numbers: they tell a story, engage and convince their readers, invite them to make a personal connection to the data, and help them tell stories of their own.

This <u>VisWeek 2010</u> workshop examined the construction of narratives with visualization. We drew participants with interests in visualization, social media, journalism, and the humanities.

#### Time and Place

This workshop took place on Tuesday, October 26th, 2010, from 8:30AM to

#### WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES?

Data can speak to people in a variety of different ways; with the right audience in the right context, a <u>simple line graph</u> can be dramatic.

A good data narrative includes a strong perspective that tells a story; it may lead the reader through the data or encourage them to make discoveries. Its designers know their audience and invite them to form a personal connection to the data. And most importantly, it guides its audience



Done

## **Strongest Benefits of Visualization**

- Facilitating awareness and understanding
- Helping to raise new questions and supply answers
- Generating insights
- Telling a story and making a point





# **Key Challenges**

- How to measure?
  - All those benefits are not easily quantifiable and measured

• Evaluation is perhaps primary open research challenge for visualization





### Academic Areas & Conferences



#### Vis (SciVis)



#### InfoVis





1995

#### 2006



# **Scientific Visualization**

- Primarily relates to and represents something physical or geometric
  - Often 3-D
  - Examples
    - Air flow over a wing
    - Stresses on a girder
    - Torrents inside a tornado
    - Organs in the human body
    - Molecular bonding





## **Information Visualization**

- What is "information"?
  - Items, entities, things which do not have a direct physical correspondence
  - Notion of abstractness of the entities is important too
  - Examples: baseball statistics, stock trends, connections between criminals, car attributes...




# **Example Domains for Info Vis**

- Text
- Statistics
- Financial/business data
- Internet information
- Software







## New Area Emerging

Visual analytics is the science of analytical reasoning facilitated by interactive visual interfaces

Available at <u>http://nvac.pnl.gov/</u> in PDF form







#### **Alternate Definition**

Visual analytics combines automated analysis techniques with interactive visualizations for an effective understanding, reasoning and decision making on the basis of very large and complex data sets



Keim et al chapter in *Information Visualization: Human-Centered Issues and Perspectives*, 2008





#### **Encompassing Notion**

- VA not really an "area" per se
  - More of an "umbrella" or encompassing notion
  - Combines multiple areas or disciplines

• Ultimately about using data to improve our knowledge and help make decisions





#### Human-Machine Synergy

- Combine strengths of both human and electronic data processing
  - Gives a semi-automated analytical process
  - Leverage what each does best







From Keim

#### Main Components



#### Production & presentation





## **Visual Analytics**

- Encompassing, integrated approach to data analysis
  - Use computational algorithms where helpful
  - Use human-directed visual exploration where helpful
  - Not just "Apply A, then apply B" though
  - Integrate the two tightly





## Going Beyond InfoVis

- Larger data, more heterogeneous
- Emphasis on sense-making and analytical reasoning
- Focus on complete applications





#### **VA-related** Areas

- Visualization
  - InfoVis, SciVis, GIS
- Data management
  - Databases, information retrieval, natural language
- Data Analysis
  - Knowledge discovery, data mining, statistics
- Cognitive Science
  - Analytical reasoning, decision-making, perception
- Human-computer interaction
  - User interfaces, usability





#### Transition

• My main research project of the past few years...





#### Jigsaw

#### Visualization for Investigative Analysis across Document Collections

- Law enforcement & intelligence community
- Fraud (finance, accounting, banking)
- Academic research
- Journalism & reporting
- Consumer research

"Putting the pieces together"







### The Jigsaw Team

#### Current:

Carsten Görg Zhicheng Liu Youn-ah Kang Jaeyeon Kihm Jaegul Choo

#### and many alumni





#### **Problem Addressed**

#### Help "investigators" explore, analyze and understand large document collections

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#### Spreadsheets



Blogs





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#### **Our Focus**

- Entities within the documents
  - Person, place, organization, phone number, date, license plate, etc.
- Thesis: A story/narrative/plot/threat within the documents will involve a set of entities in coordination











#### **Entity Identification**

- Must identify and extract entities from plain text documents
  - Crucial for our work
- Not our main research focus We use tools from others





#### Sample Document

Report: 20040510-4\_16 May 14 2004

VANCOUVER, British Columbia - A Canadian immigration panel is considering whether accused environmental saboteur Tre Arrow can apply for refugee status in Canada.

Arrow, 30, who is wanted for fire bombing logging and cement trucks in Oregon, asked the Canadian authorities to remain in Canada as a political refugee at a hearing in Vancouver on Tuesday.

A key issue will be whether Arrow is affiliated with a terrorist group, which would immediately disqualify him from receiving refugee status in Canada, authorities said.

The Immigration and Refugee Board is scheduled to decide by May 31 whether Arrow is affiliated with the Earth Liberation Front, a group the FBI considers a terrorist organization responsible for scores of attacks on property over the past dozen years.





#### **Entities Identified**

Source:

Date: May 14, 2004

VANCOUVER, British Columbia - A Canadian immigration panel is considering whether accused environmental saboteur Tre Arrow can apply for refugee status in Canada.

**Arrow**, 30, who is wanted for fire bombing logging and cement trucks in <u>Oregon</u>, asked the Canadian authorities to remain in <u>Canada</u> as a political refugee at a hearing in <u>Vancouver</u> on <u>Tuesday</u>.

A key issue will be whether **Arrow** is affiliated with a terrorist group, which would immediately disqualify him from receiving refugee status in Canada, authorities said.

The Immigration and Refugee Board is scheduled to decide by May 31 whether Arrow is affiliated with the Earth Liberation Front, a group the FBI considers a terrorist organization responsible for scores of attacks on property over the past dozen years.





## Sample Document 2

Title: Proving Columbus was Wrong Abstract: In this work, we show the world is really flat. To do this, we build a bunch of ships. Then we... **PI:** Amerigo Vespucci Co-PI: Vasco de Gama, Ponce de Leon **Organization:** Northwest Central Univ. Amount: 123,456 **Program Mgr: Ephraim Glinert Division: IIS** ProgramElementCode: 2860





#### **Entities Already Identified**

Title: Proving Columbus was Wrong Abstract: In this work, we show the world is really flat. To do this, we build a bunch of ships. Then we... **PI:** Amerigo Vespucci Co-PI: Vasco de Gama, Ponce de Leon **Organization:** Northwest Central Univ. Amount: 123,456 Entities **Program Mgr: Ephraim Glinert Division: IIS** ProgramElementCode: 2860





#### Connections

- Entities relate/connect to each other to make a larger "story"
- Connection definition:
  - Two entities are connected if they appear in a document together
  - The more documents they appear in together, the stronger the connection





## Jigsaw

- Multiple visualizations (views) of documents, entities, & their connections
- Views are highly interactive and coordinated
- User actions generate events that are transmitted to and (possibly) reflected in other views







#### System Views



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#### The Need for Pixels





#### Demo

- NSF grant info
  - Text: Title + abstract
  - Entities: PI, co-PI, organization, PM, keywords, amount, program, ...
- NSF > CISE > IIS
- 2005-2010
  - 2,070 awards

Thanks to Remco Chang (UNCC/Tufts)





#### Console

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#### **Graph View**



#### **Document Cluster View**







#### **Document Grid View**

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#### **Circular Graph View**







#### **Scatterplot View**






# **Computational Analyses**

- Document summarization
- Document similarity
- Document clustering by content
  - Text or entities
- Sentiment analysis





#### **Recommend Related Entities**

#### 🛸 Entities recommended for: Los Angeles Times, Cesar Gil date organization place time money person today PETA Dennis Kucinich United States last night ~ ~ ~ last year Humane Society Kucinich. U.S. late night Faron Gardner Wednesday FBI Washington USDA last week Michael Markarian America U.S. Department of Ag... Thursday Collie Carnes Texas ELF Friday Robert L. Ehrlich Jr. California 2003 Creutzfeldt Jakob Frans de Waal Europe Fund for Animals Sarah Brosnan Africa last month Chiron Los Angeles Last year this month FDA. San Francisco V SPOMA ¥ ¥ last fall Ohio Recommened entity: Faron Gardner ^ Path: Los Angeles Times - (20030714-2 25) - Animal Justice League - (20030602-1 66 / 20030818 23) - Faron Gardner Path: Cesar Gil - (20030609\_4) - Faron Gardner





# **Document Import**

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- Jigsaw data file format
  - Our own xml

- DB?
  - Go to Excel
  - Go to text, transform to Jigsaw data file





<award>

<awardnumber>0640291</awardnumber> <title>SGER: Distributed Spatial Partitioning Algorithms for Scalable Processing of Mobile <nsforganization>IIS </nsforganization> cprograms>DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</programs> <startdate>September 1, 2006</startdate> <lastamendmentdate>September 12, 2007</lastamendmentdate> <principalinvestigator>Liu, Ling</principalinvestigator> <state>GA</state> <organization>GA Tech Research Corporation - GA Institute of Technology </organizatic <awardinstrument>Standard Grant </awardinstrument> <programmanager>Le Gruenwald </programmanager> <expirationdate>February 29, 2008</expirationdate> <awardedamounttodate>65502</awardedamounttodate> <co pinames></co pinames> <piemailaddress>lingliu@cc.gatech.edu <organizationstreetaddress>Office of Sponsored Programs </organizationstreetaddress> <organizationcity>Atlanta </organizationcity> <organizationstate>GA</organizationstate> <organizationzip>30332</organizationzip> <organizationphone>4048944819</organizationphone> <nsfdirectorate>CSE </nsfdirectorate> <programelementcodes>7485</programelementcodes> cprogramreferencecodes>HPCC|9218|7484</programreferencecodes> <fieldofapplications>0104000 |</fieldofapplicati</pre> Information Systems <awardnumber>0640291</awardnumber> <abstract>IIS-0640219 Ling Liu &lt;lingliu@cc.gatech.edu&gt; Georgia Institute of Institu </award>

#### Scraped XML





<document>

<docID>0808863</docID> <docDate>July 1, 2008</docDate> <docSource></docSource> <docText>FODAVA-Lead: Dimension Reduction and Data Reduction: Foundations for Visualization FODAVA-Lead: Dimension Reduction and Data Reduction: Foundations for Visualization The FODAVA (Foundations of Data Analysis and Visualization) Lead research team at the Georgia Institute of Technology provides unified expertise in the critical areas for providing leadership of the FODAVA effort, including machine learning and computational statistics, information visualization, massive-dataset algorithms and data structures, and optimization theory. The team is focused on the fundamental theory and approaches to make breakthroughs in data representations and transformations. The work is directed along the two main axes of scale reduction, data reductio <directorate>CSE</directorate> <award-instr>Continuing grant</award-instr> cprogramreferencecode>HPCC</programreferencecode> <programreferencecode>9218</programreferencecode> <keyword>visualization</keyword> <keyword>algorithms</keyword> <fieldofapplication>0000912 Computer Science</fieldofapplication> <state>GA</state> <organization>GA Tech Research Corporation - GA Institute of Technology</organization> <keyword>data analysis</keyword> <keyword>information visualization</keyword> <keyword>machine learning</keyword> <amount>1200000</amount> <pi>Park, Haesun</pi> <copi>John Stasko</copi> <copi>Alexander Gray</copi> <copi>Renato D. C. Monteiro</copi> <copi>Vladimir Koltchinskii</copi> <progmgr>Lawrence Rosenblum</progmgr> <division>CCF</division> <keyword>visual analytics</keyword> <programelementcode>I114</programelementcode> <programelementcode>H194</programelementcode> </document>

#### Jigsaw Datafile Format



# **EI** Correction

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🛆 2 in	nfovis074376144		Technical note: visually encoding program test informati	on to find faults in softwar	re
🗅 2 ir	nfovis084658127		Large test suites are frequently used to evoluate softwa	ro cyctome and to locate	orroro
1 ir	nfovis084658139		Unfortunately, this process can generate a huge amoun	t of data that is difficult to	enuis.
$\triangle 2$ r	ntovis084658146		interpret manually. We have created a system, TARANT	ULA, that visually encode	es test
	1TOVISU95290708		data to help find program errors. The system uses a pri	Add as Concept entity	
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# **Entity Aliasing**

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visual analytics	Munzner, T.	1997	I graphical user interfaces
l business	Ward, M.O.	I 1998	I grayscale shading
case study	Wattenberg, M.	1999	I historical trend analysis
l database	Hanrahan, P.	■ 2000	\\ I image processing
evaluation	Rundensteiner, E.A.	■ 2001	I image visualization
🔳 graph	Shneiderman, B.	■ 2002	I immediate context graph
intelligence analysis	van Ham, F.	<b>2003</b>	indoor radio
I metrics	🔳 van Wijk, J.J.	■ 2004	I information display
I aesthetics	Carpendale, S.	■ 2005	I information mural
∎ animation	Heer, J.	2006	I information navigation
I awareness	Ribarsky, W.	2007	I information visualization
I bioinformatics	Yang, J.	2008	I inspection techniques
I brushing	Ebert, D.S.	2009	I inter-attribute visual analysis
I categorical	North, C.		I interactive systems
∎ cluster	Thomas, J.		interactive visualisation
I cognition	Wong, P.C.		interactive visualization
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#### **Alias Representation**







# **Other Domains**

- Intelligence & law enforcement
  - Stasko et al, Information Visualization '08
- Academic papers, PubMed
  - Görg et al, KES '10
- Consumer reviews
  - Görg et al, HCIR '10
- Investigative reporting
- Topics on the web (medical condition)
- Software
  - Ruan et al, SoftVis '10





# To Learn More & Availability

#### http://www.gvu.gatech.edu/ii/jigsaw

Available for (free) trial use

Send email to: stasko@cc.gatech.edu







# Conclusion

- Visualization is about fostering new insights
  - Analysis
  - Presentation
- Measuring the effects is challenging
- Text/documents is a fascinating new area for visual analytics research





# Acknowledgments

 Work conducted as part of the Southeastern Regional Visualization and Analytics Center, supported by DHS and NVAC and the DHS Center of Excellence in Command, Control & Interoperability (VACCINE Center)



 Supported by NSF IIS-0414667, CCF-0808863 (FODAVA lead), NSF IIS-0915788







#### Thanks!

#### http://www.gvu.gatech.edu/ii

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Propiet Interactive Computing at Georgia Tech, develops computing technologies Projects that help people take advantage of information to enrich their lives. More about the lab approach			John is giving a Keynote lecture at the Intl. Symposium on Visual Computing in Las Vegas at the end of November.	
Resources	■Projects		We presented a paper at InfoVis 2010 about our work on	
Talks Videos John Stasko Mengdie Hu Youn ah Kang Zhicheng Liu Zach	Jigsaw         Using visualization and visual analytics to help analysis and sensemaking on document collections.         Visual Analytics for Intelligence Analysis         Informing the design of visual analytics systems for intelligence analysis.         Dotlink360         Analyzing and exploring converging business ecosystems through visual analytics.         Information Visualization and Visual Analytics         Helping people explore, analyze, and understand data	ACTIVE DOWNLOADS PAPERS ACTIVE PAPERS ACTIVE PAPERS	the theory of interaction in information visualization, and we won two awards in the 2010 VAST Challenge. We presented a paper about adding new initial computational text analysis capabilities to Jigsaw at the HCIR '10 Workshop in August. John co-organized a Dagstuhl seminar on Information Visualization this June in Germany. We are part of the new VACCINE (Visual Analytics for Command, Control, and Interoperability) DHS Center of Excellence led by Purdue University.	
Jaeyeon Kihm Tanyoung Done	Imprint         Imprint           Imprint         Empowering workers to use visualizations of printer data	ACTIVE PAPERS	II Lab - Visit our lab CS 7450 - InfoVis Class VACCINE Center FODAVA Center	>



