CSE 564
Visualization and Visual Analytics

Visualization of Hierarchies

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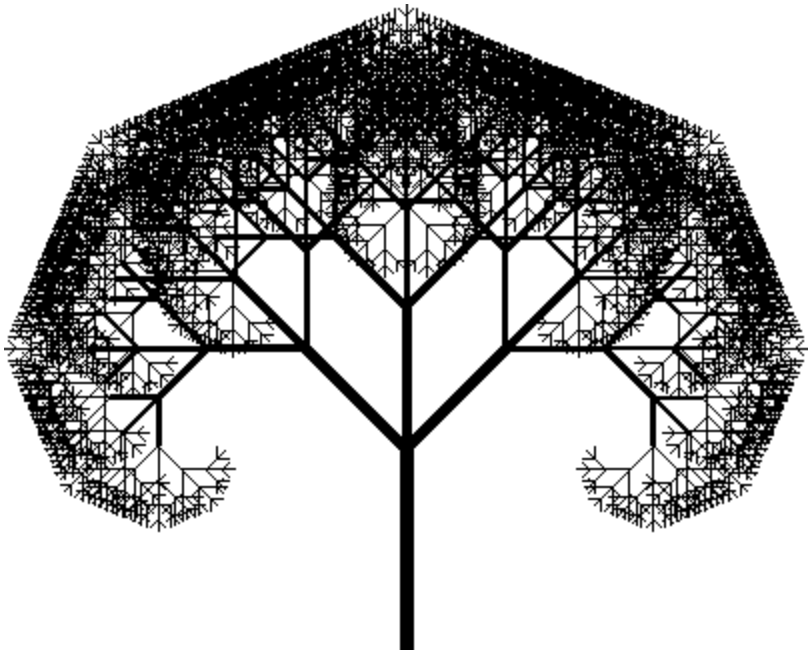
Lecture	Topic	Projects
1	Intro and logistics	
2	Basic visualizations and tasks, data types, examples, ethical considerations	
3	Data preparation (cleaning, imputation, data set integration)	
4	AI-assisted coding for VIS applications (design, debugging, refactoring)	Project #1 out
5	Big data and data reduction (distance/sim metrics, intro to clustering)	
6	High-D data: concept, subspaces, dimension reduction, PCA	
7	Cluster analysis: hierarchical, density, model, embedding, temporal	
8	Perception and cognition (human visual system, color, contrast)	Project #2(a) out
9	Visual design and aesthetics	
10	Visualization of multivariate and high-D data: linear methods, projections	
11	Vis. of multivariate and high-D data: non-linear methods, embeddings	
12	Visualization and AI: mutual support and capabilities (VIS4AI, AI4VIS)	Project #2(b) out
13	Principles of interaction: drive what is visualized, analyzed & how (HCI4VIS)	
14	Visual analytics, human-centered AI, mixed-initiative & collaborative VA	
15	Midterm #1 (tentative date)	
16	VA system design and evaluation, the nested model	
17	Midterm #1 discussion (tentative date)	Final proj. proposal call out
18	Visualization of hierarchical data	
19	Visualization of maps and data with geo-reference	
20	Visualization of graphs, networks (incl. derivation of causal networks)	Final project proposal due
21	Vis. of time-varying, time-series, streaming data, progressive visualization	
22	Visualization of text, LLMs, and semantic data	
23	Ed Tufte's principles and critiques, responsible visualization, uncertainty	
24	Design of effective infographics	Final proj. prelim report due
25	Foundations scientific and medical visualization, intro to volume rendering	
26	Scientific visualization	Bonus project out (Vol Ren)
27	Story telling with data, data journalism	
28	Midterm #2 (tentative date)	
Final	Final project demo on zoom (public)	All final proj. materials due

Hierarchies = Trees



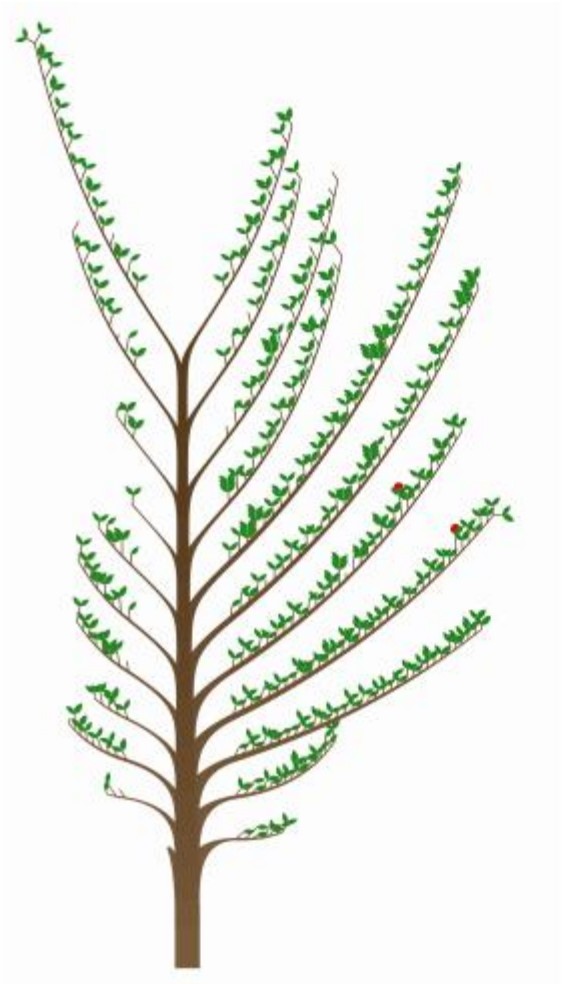
Tree – A Natural Metaphor

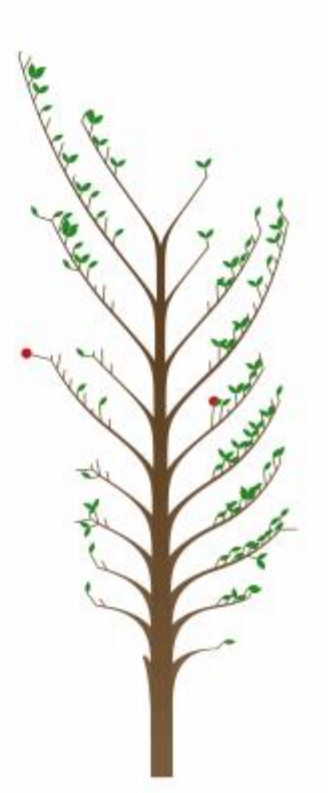
Mapping publications to a tree

- major leaves are papers
- minor leaves are co-authors
- height is time
- fruit are comments
- size or color is number of paper's citations
- journal papers on right side
- conference papers left side

Fung and Ma, Personal VIS 2015

Productive vs. Unproductive Researchers



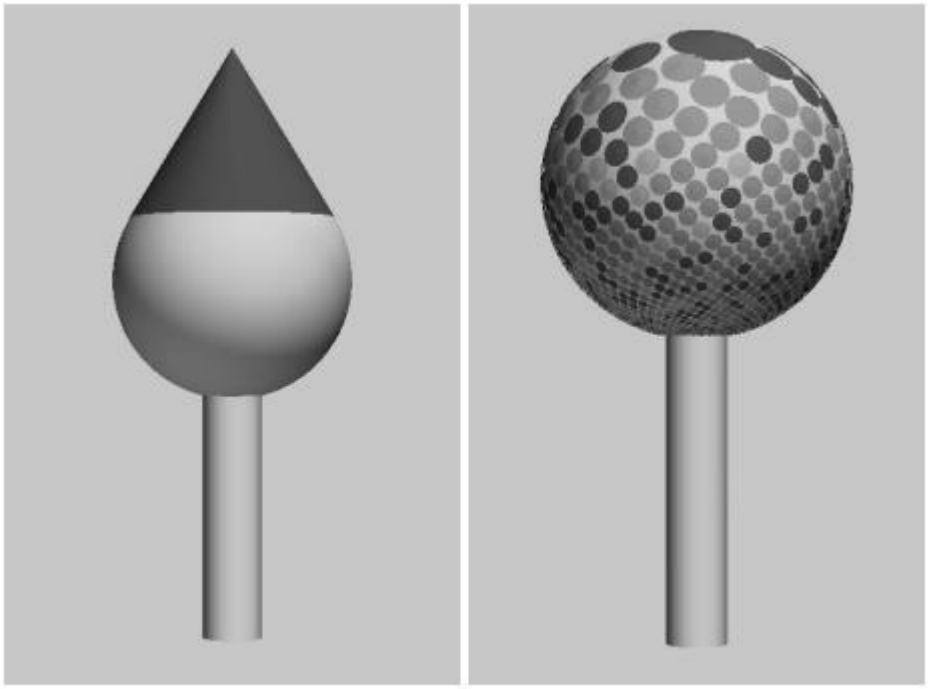


Productive

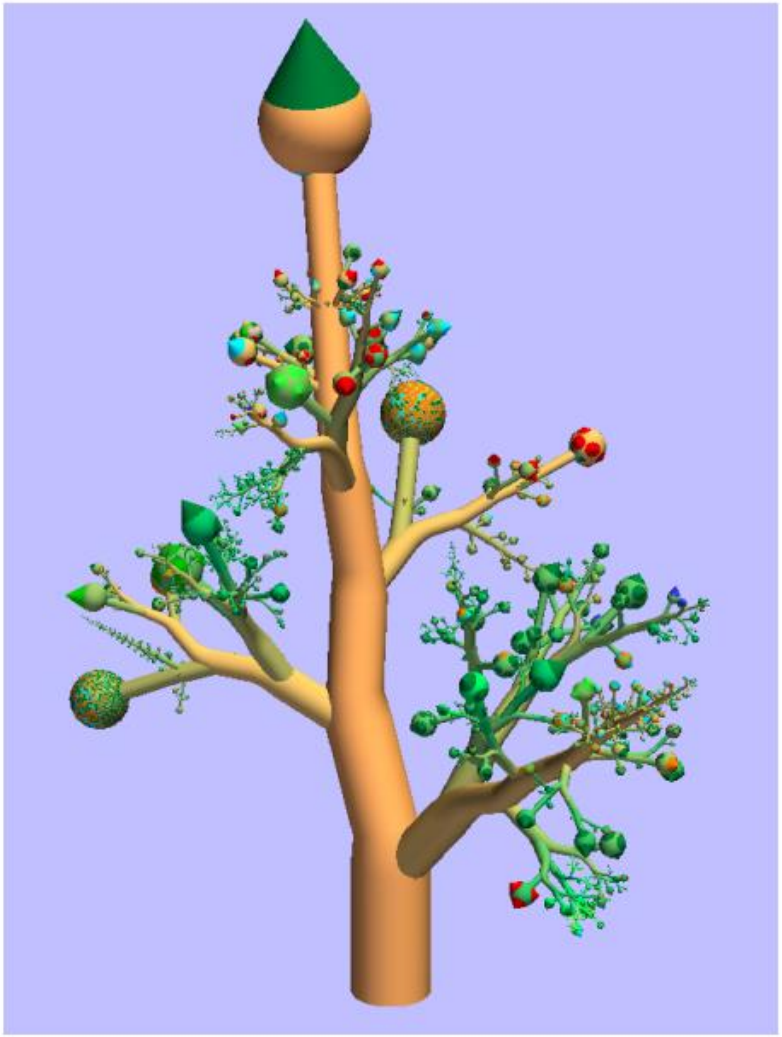
Unproductive

Botanical-Inspired Visualizations

Visualizing hard drives with tree cartoons



one file many files

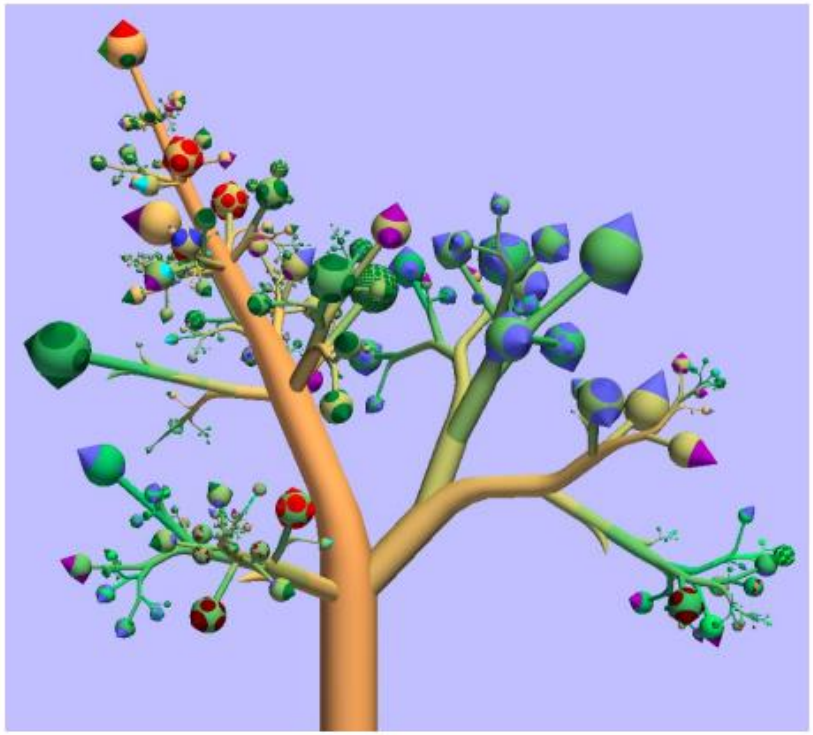


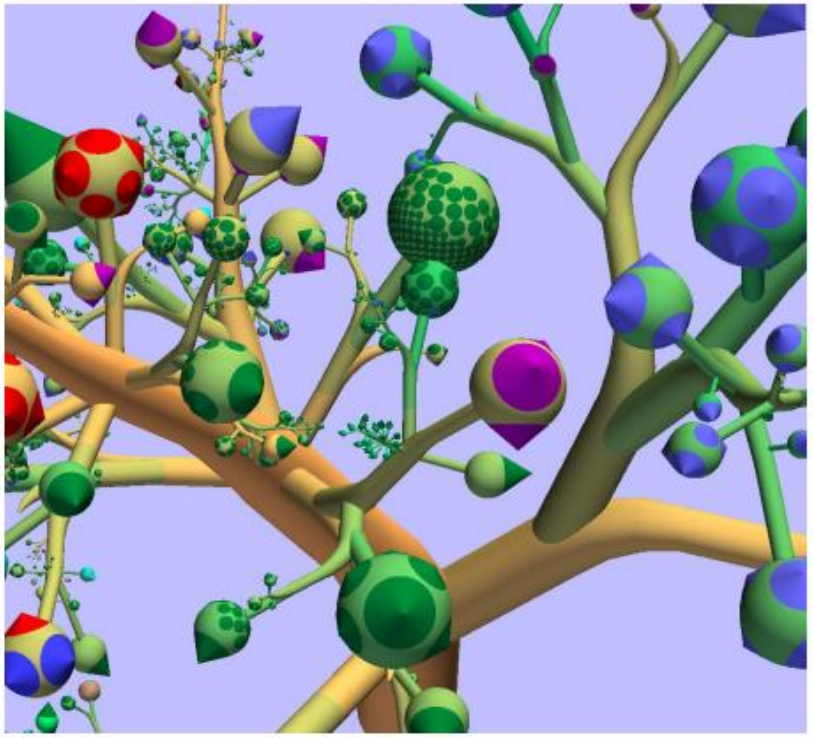
Kleiberg et al., IEEE InfoVis 2001

Botanical-Inspired Visualizations

Color maps to file type

- blue are pdf files, red are image files

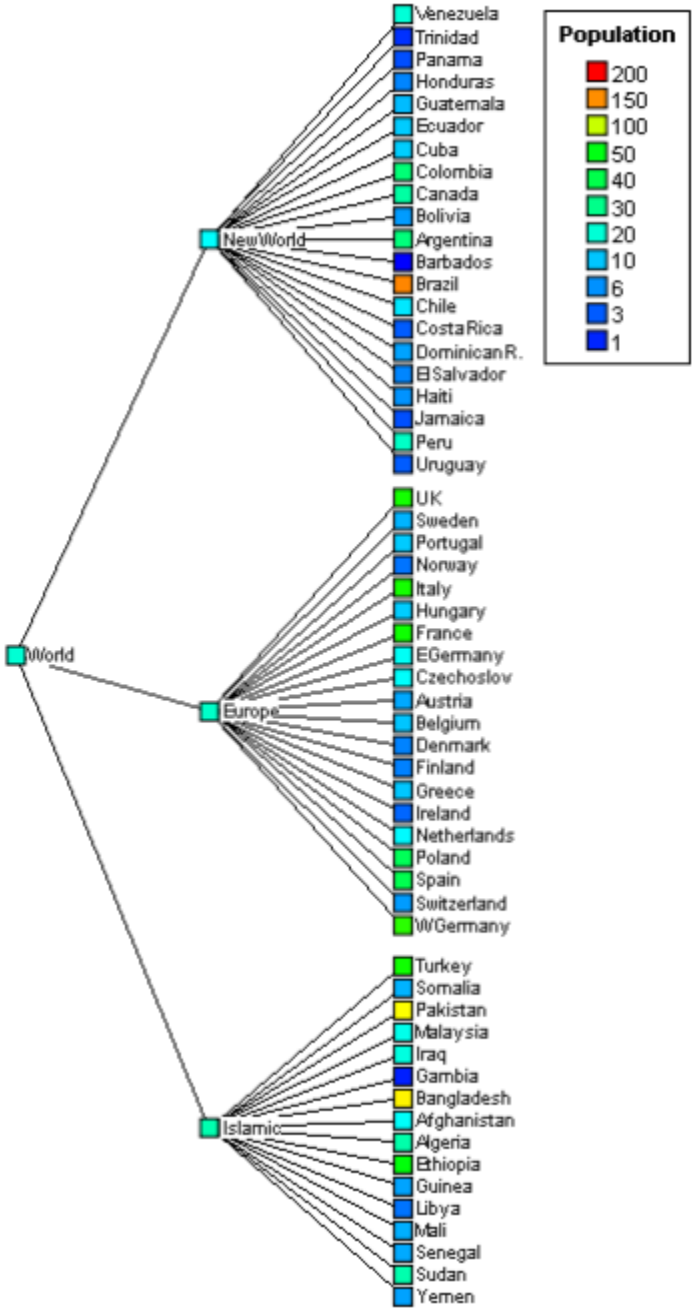




Conventional

Standard Node-Edge layout for a hierarchical network

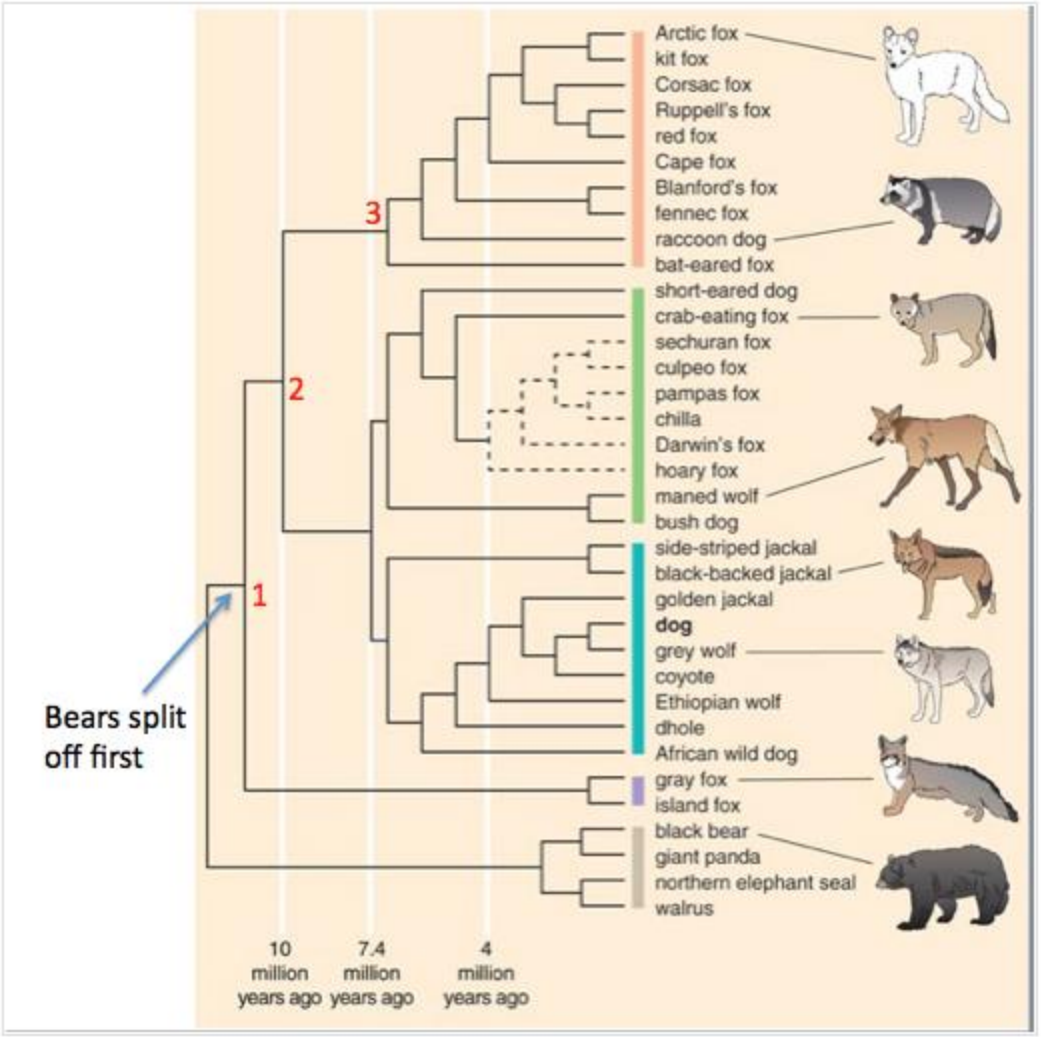
- 3 levels
- color maps to quantitative information (here population)



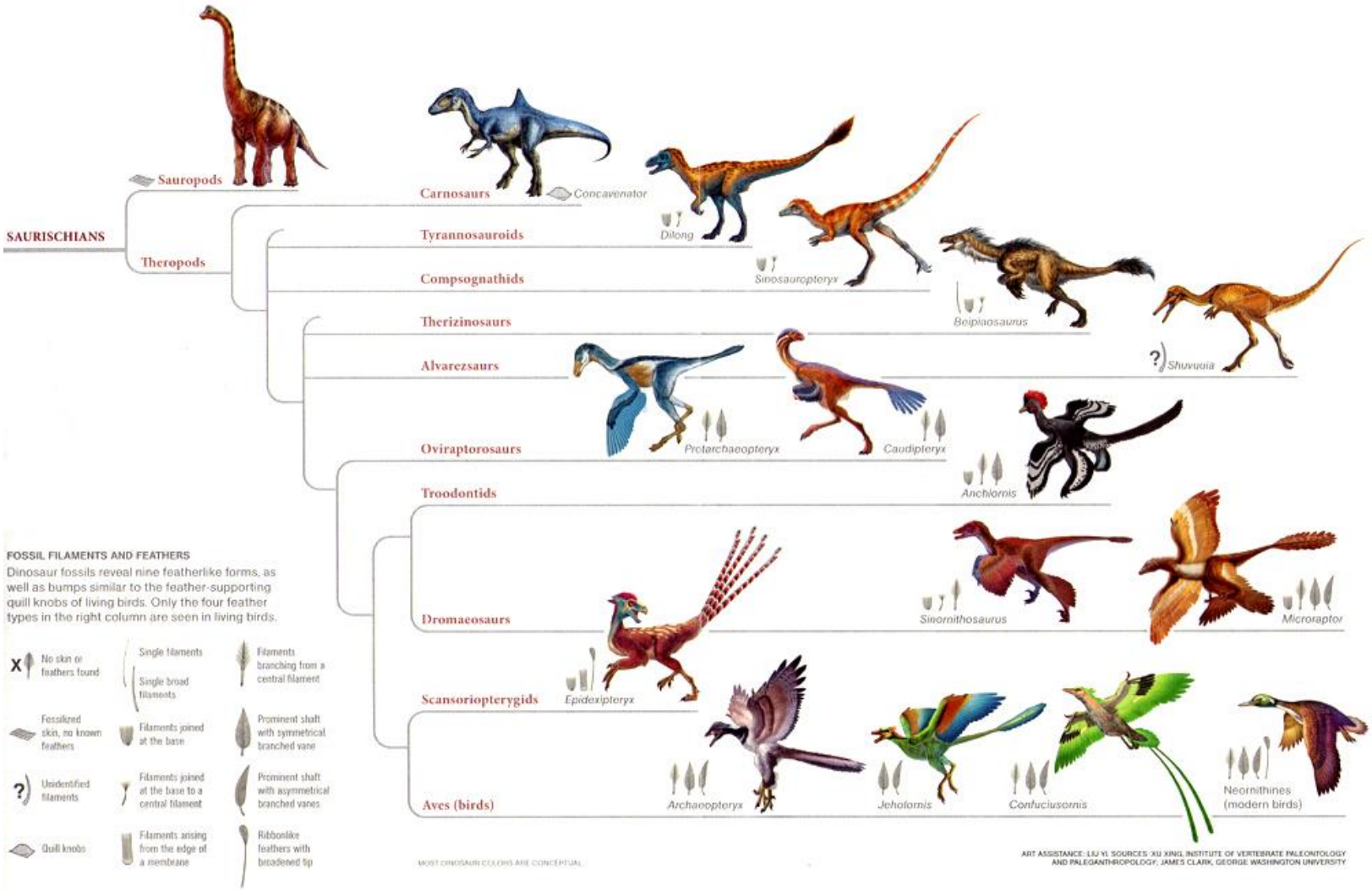
DENDROGRAM

Typically used to depict classification hierarchies

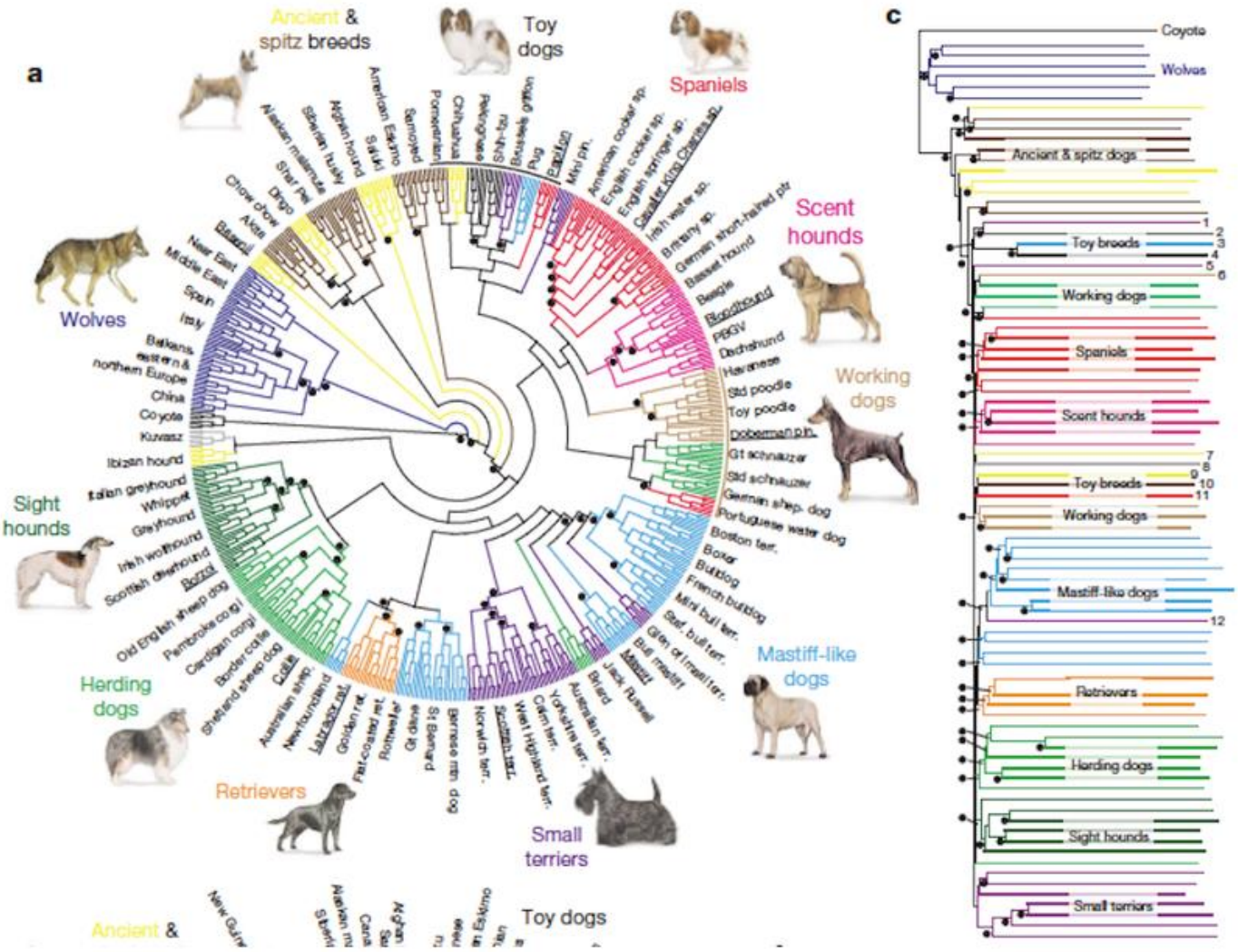
- split-off points visualize proximity



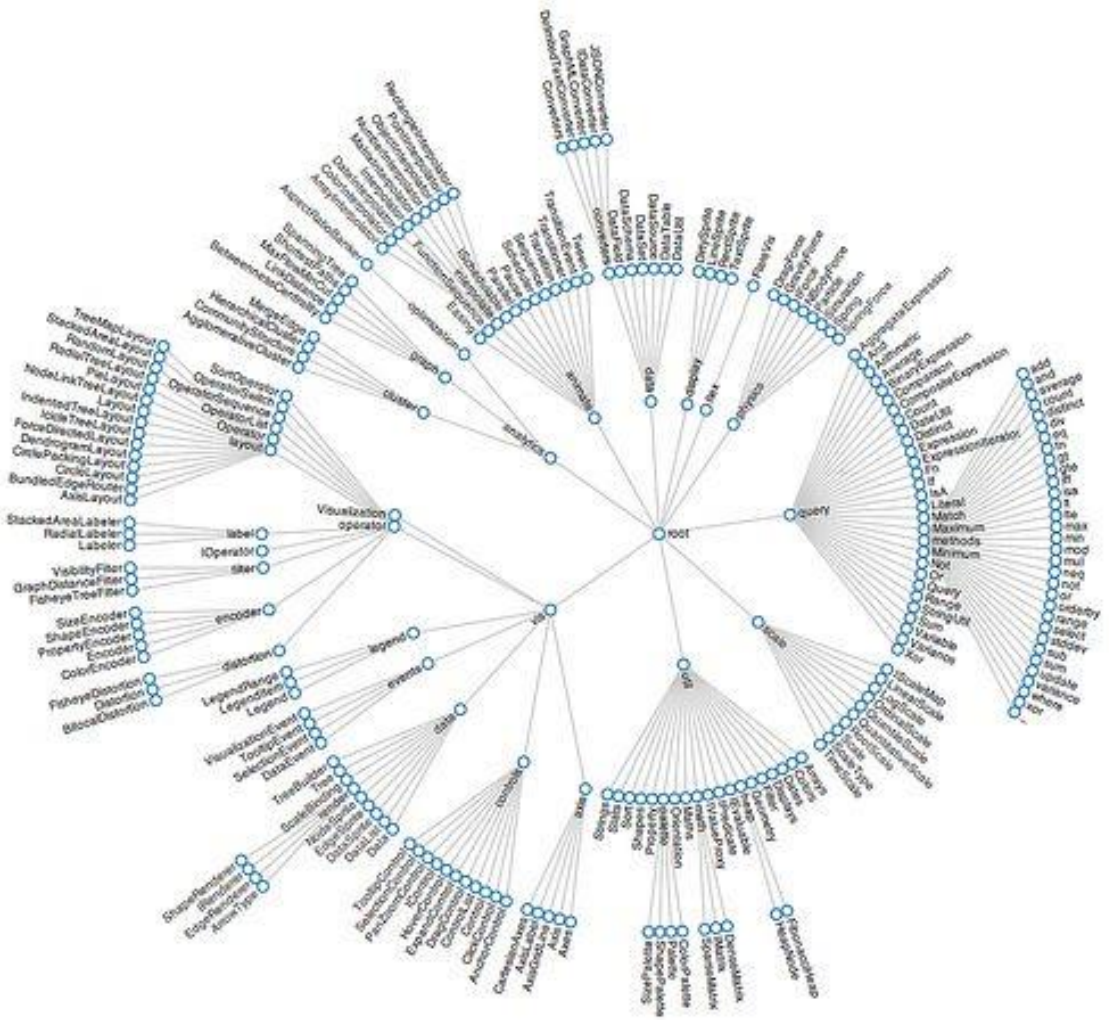
Birds and Dinosaurs



Circles Are More Space-Efficient



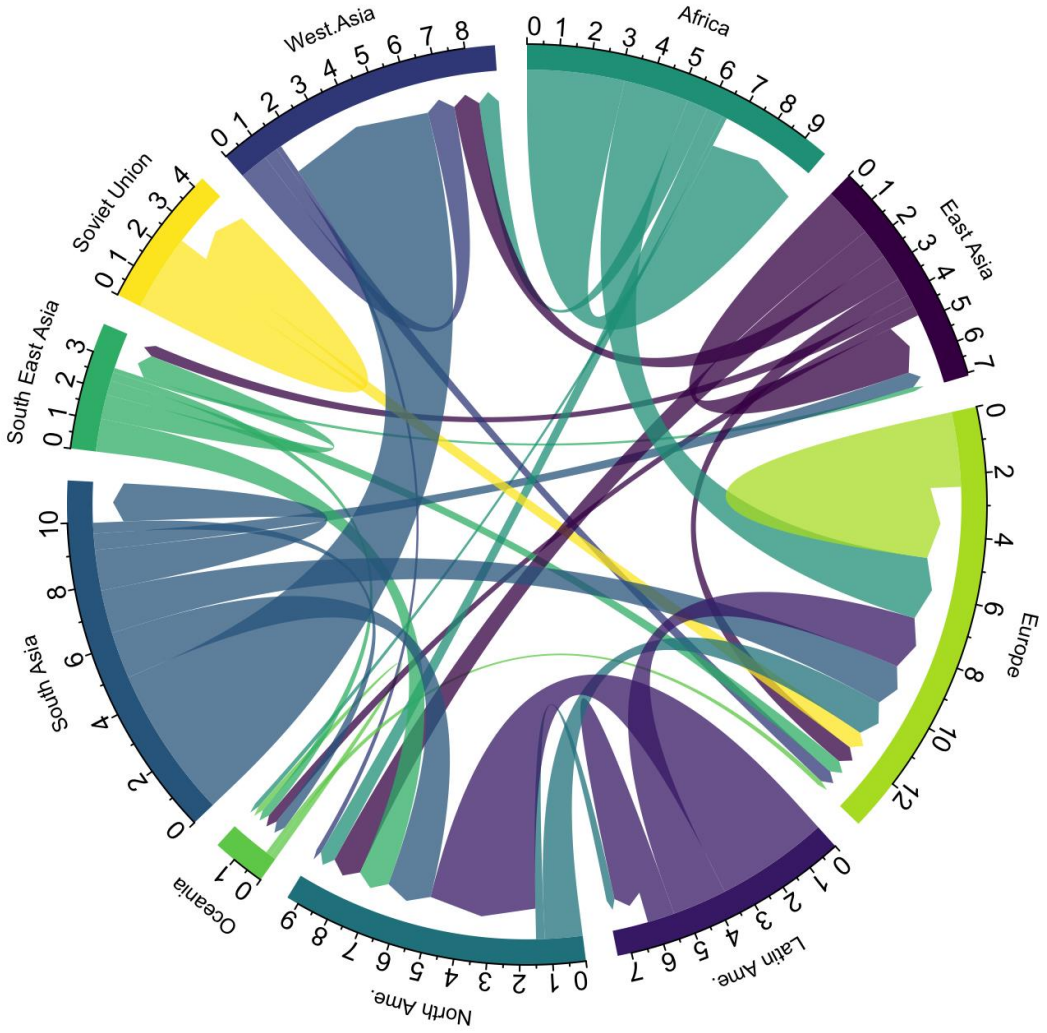
Radial Hierarchical Visualization



Chord Diagrams

Represents flows or connections between several entities

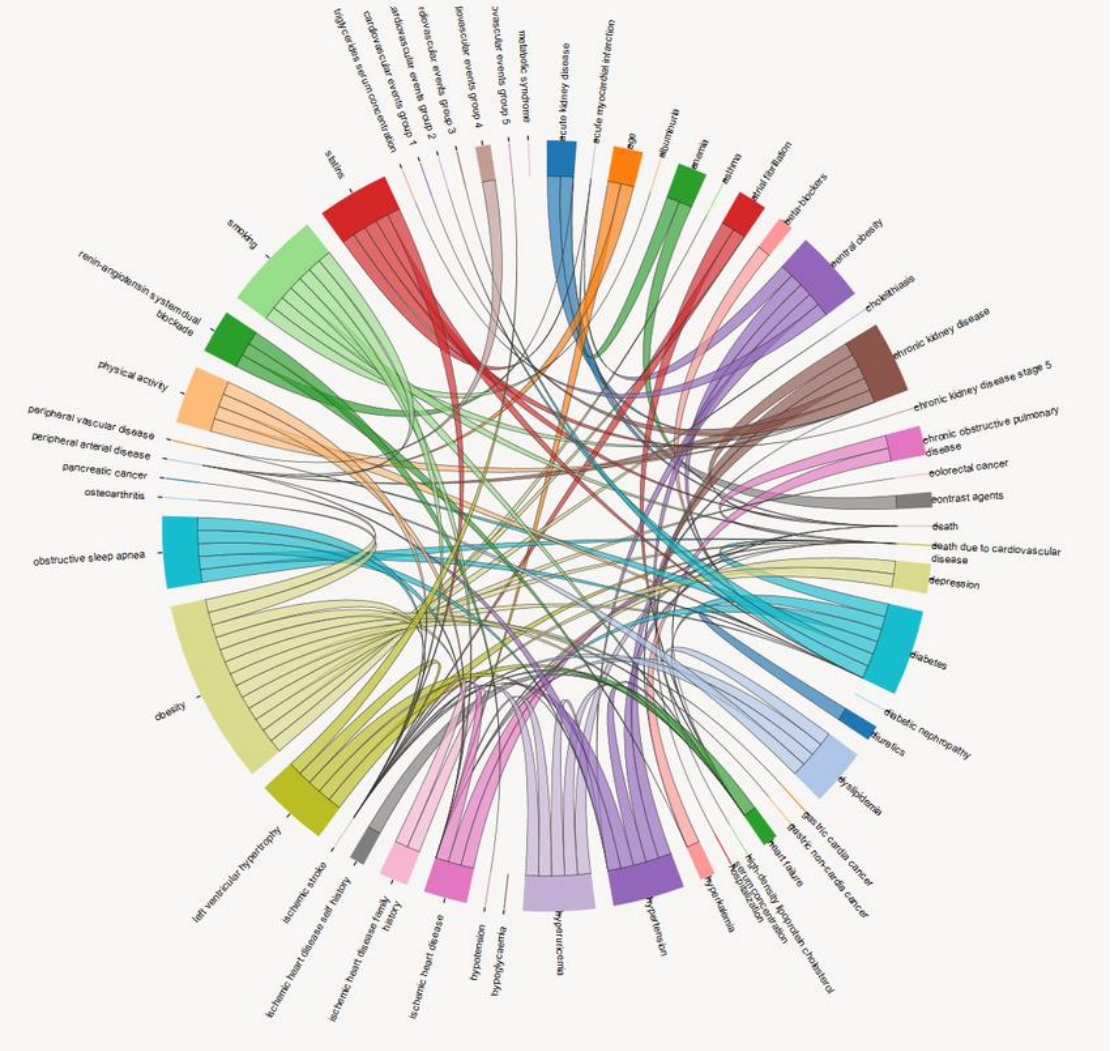
- for example the number of people migrating from one country to another



More Complex Chord Diagram

Can we make it easier to read?

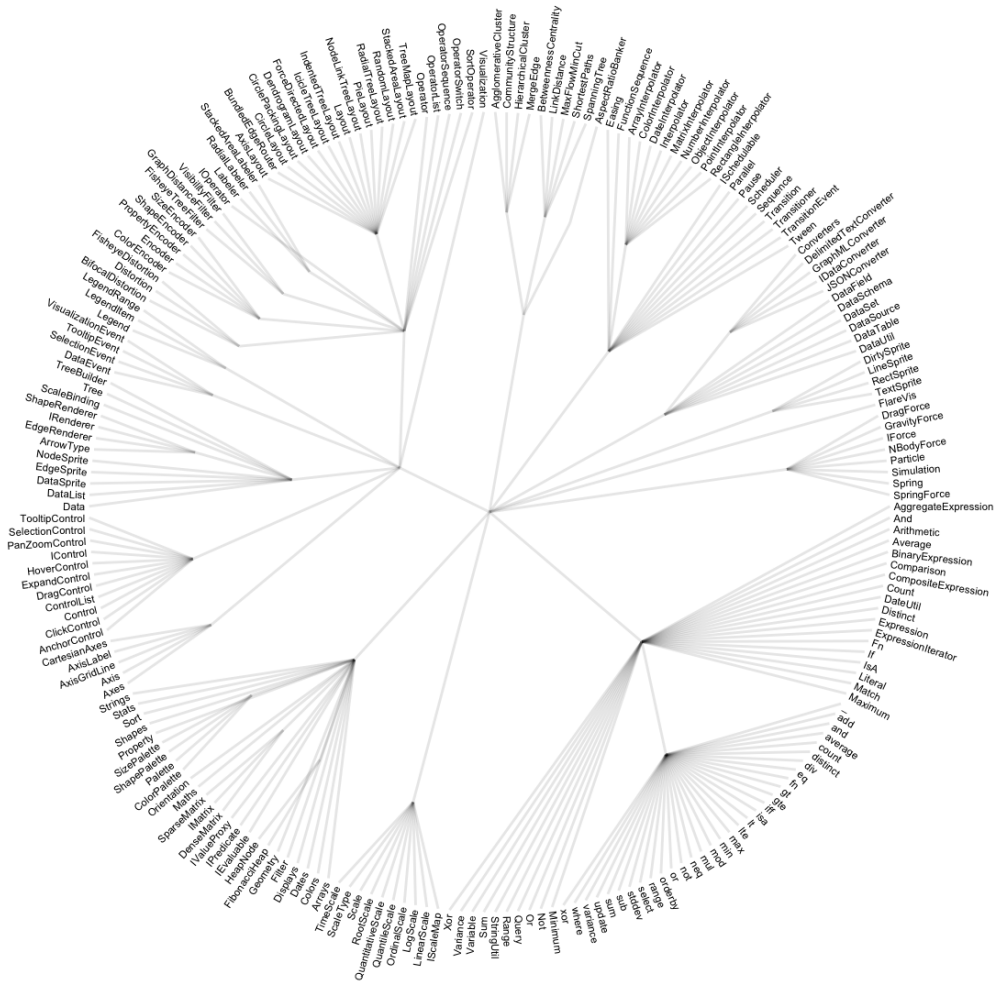
- yes
- via edge bundling



Hierarchical Chord Diagram

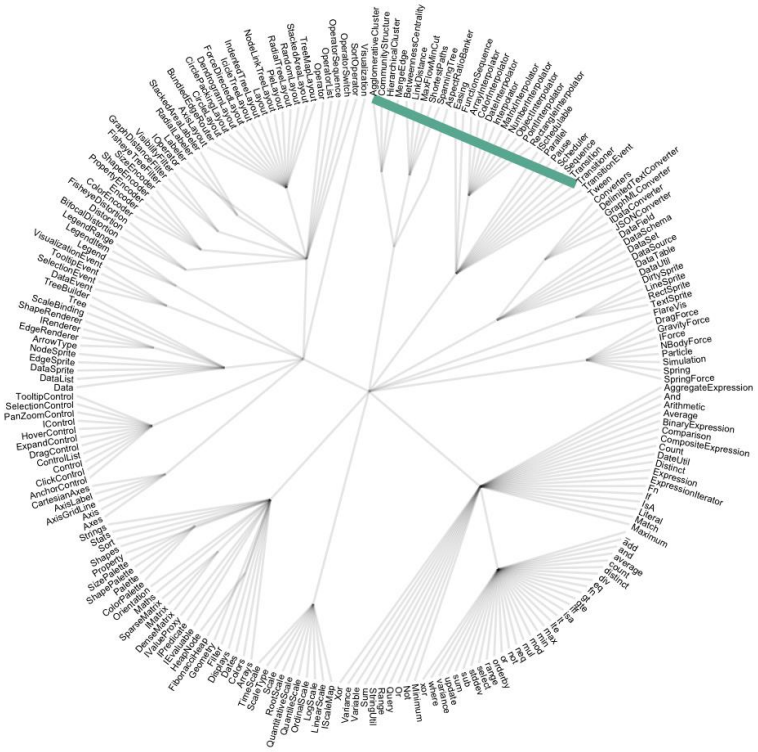
Hierarchy of the Flare ActionScript visualization library

- elements are organized in several folders, such as query, data, scale…
- each folder is then subdivided in subfolders and so on.
- can be visualized as a radial dendrogram

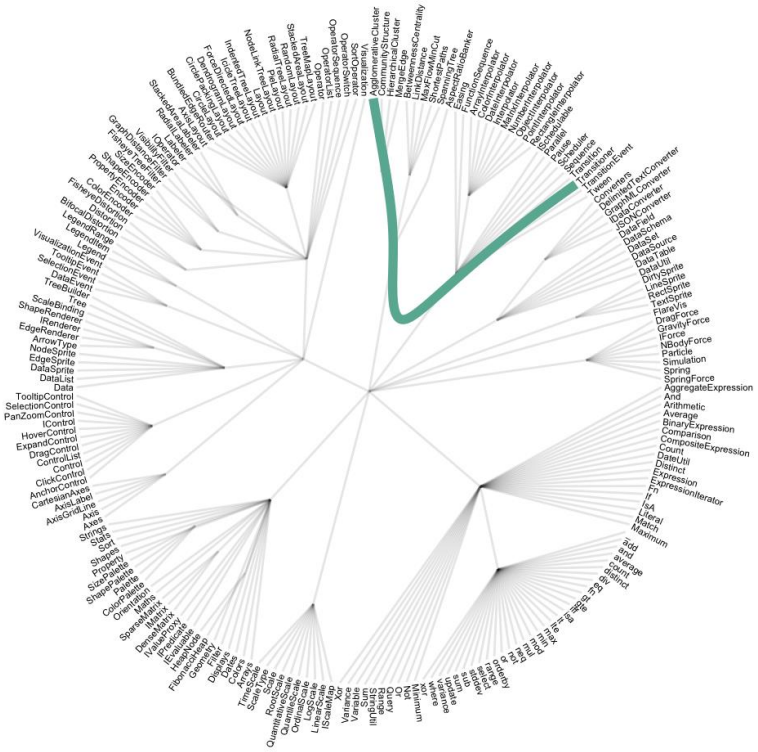


Hierarchical Chord Diagram

Visualize dependencies in the library



bad: straight line



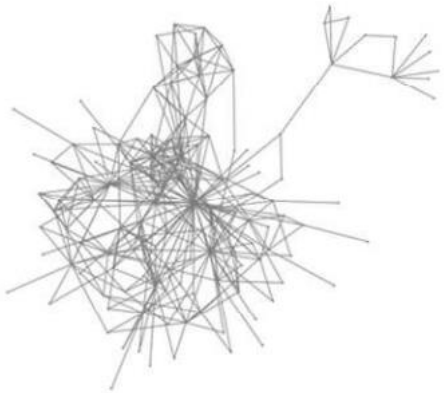
better: follow a hierarchical edge bundling line

Edge Bundling

Apply the bundling to every adjacency connection of the dataset

- show the hierarchy of the dataset
- decrease the clutter as much as possible
- bundling the electrical wires together in order to reduce clutter
- and fan them out at their terminus in order to connect them to the terminals

Radial Plots and Edge Bundles

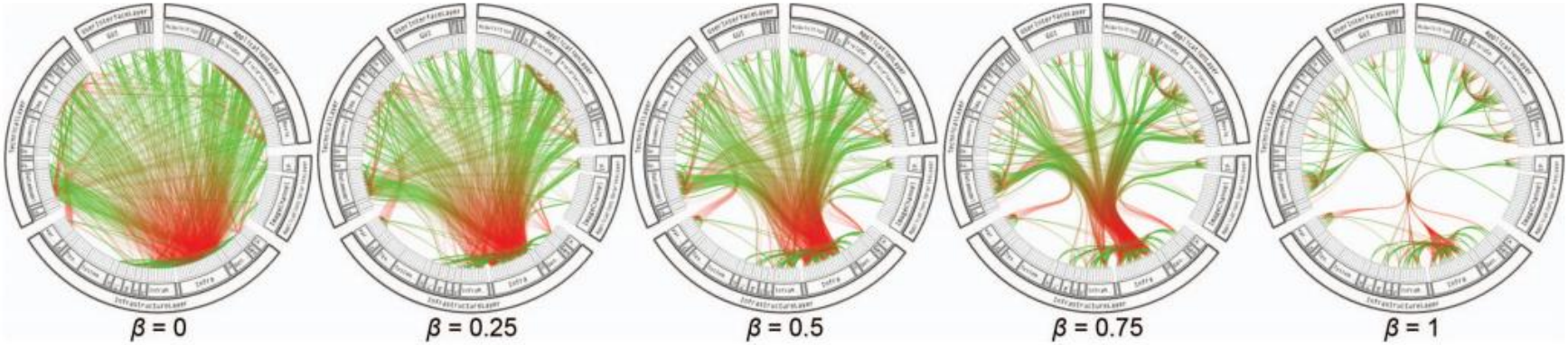


Original Graph

Jia et al., Computer Graphics Forum 2011

Levels of Edge Bundling

Edges are represented by splines with tension β



Setting β

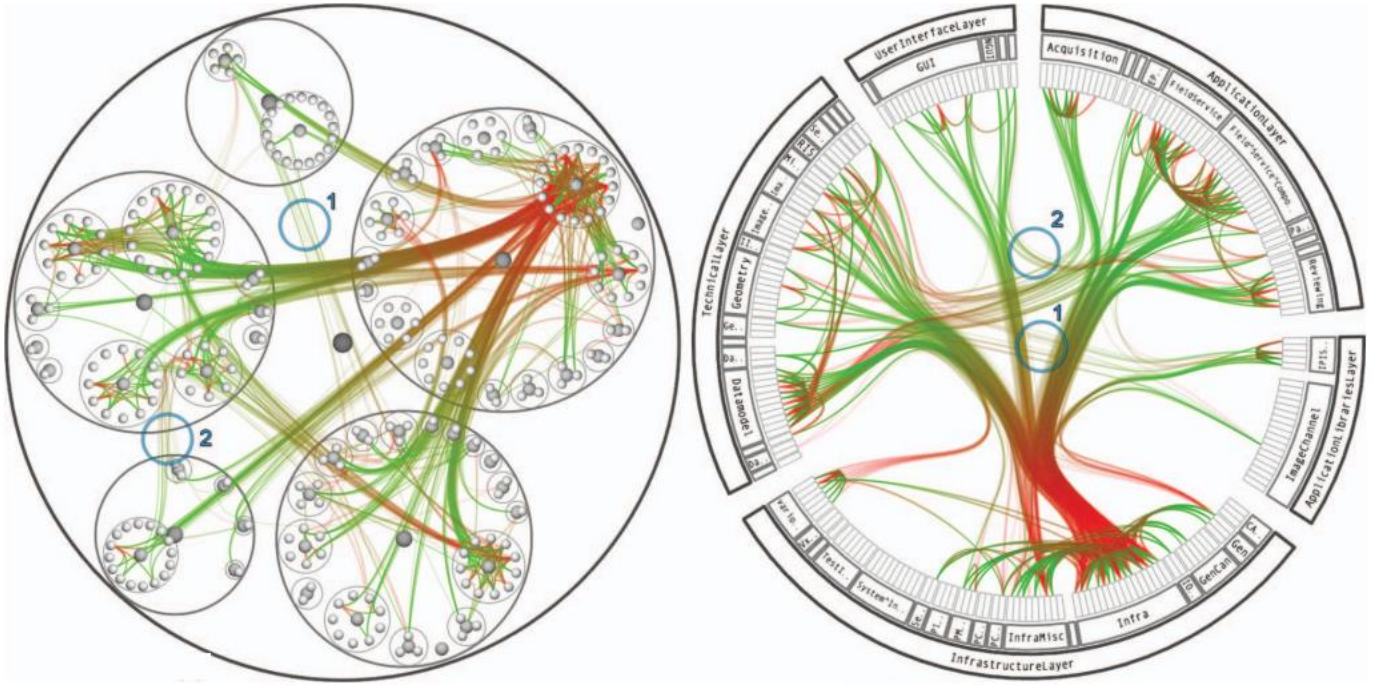
- low values mainly provide low-level, node-to-node connectivity information
- high values provide high-level information

Holten, IEEE TVCG 2006

Edge Bundling Example

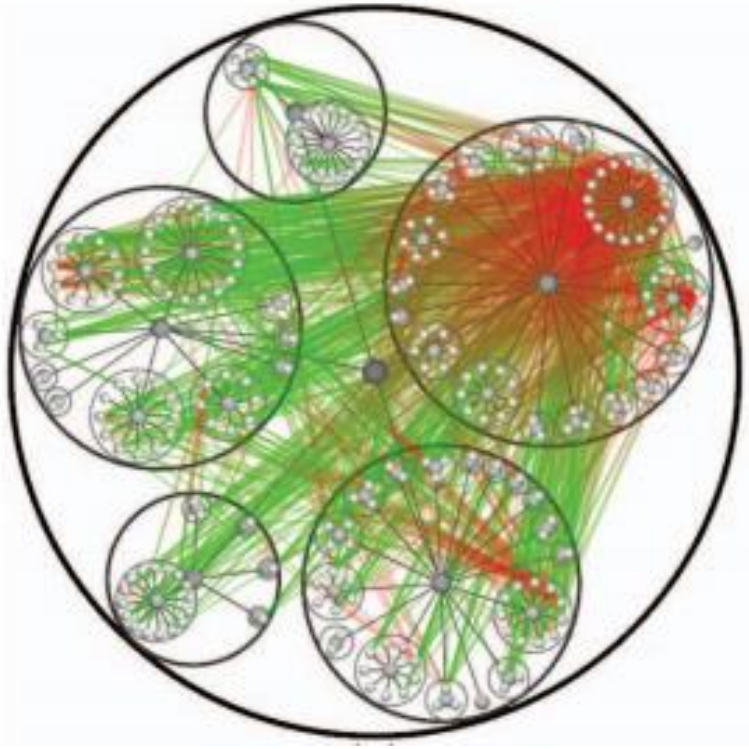
Software system call graph

- green is caller, red is callee

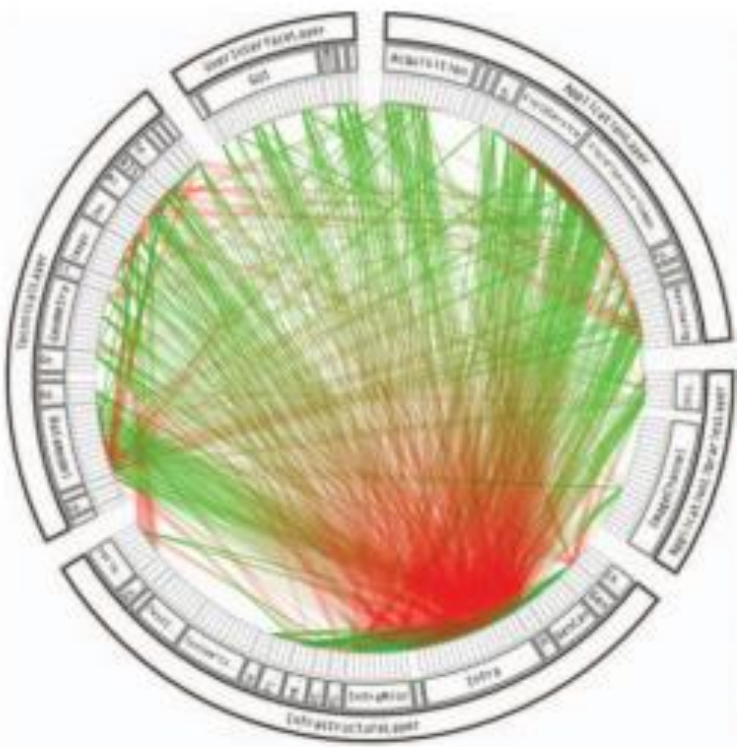


balloon layout (isolated processes) radial layout (more integrated)

Without Edge Bundling



balloon layout

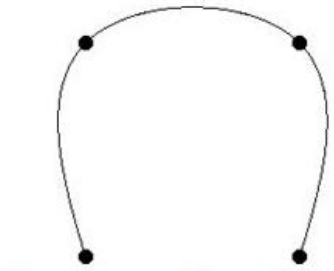


radial layout

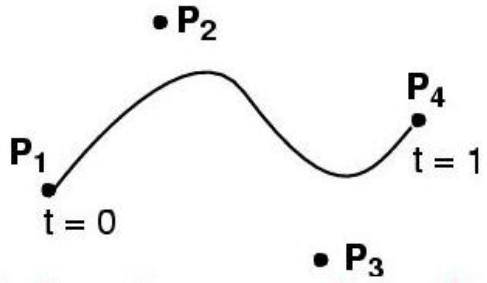
Curved Edges Modeled as Splines

Curved edges are represented as *splines*

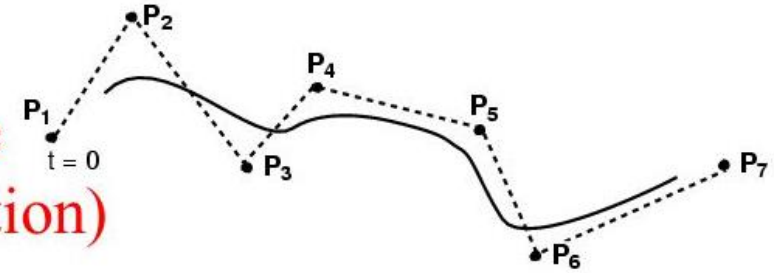
- a spline is a smooth curve defined by some control points
- moving the control points changes the curve



Interpolation



Bézier (approximation)



BSpline (approximation)

Primer: Uniform Cubic B-Spline

A B-Spline curve is defined as follows: $X(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} P_k B_{k,d}(t)$

- n is the total number of control points
- d is the order of the curves, $2 \le d \le n+1$, d typically 3 or 4
- $B_{k,d}$ are the uniform B-spline blending functions of degree d-1
- P_k are the control points
- Each $B_{k,d}$ is only non-zero for a small range of t values, so the curve has local control

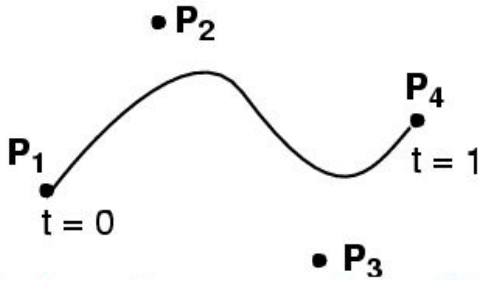
Or in matrix form:

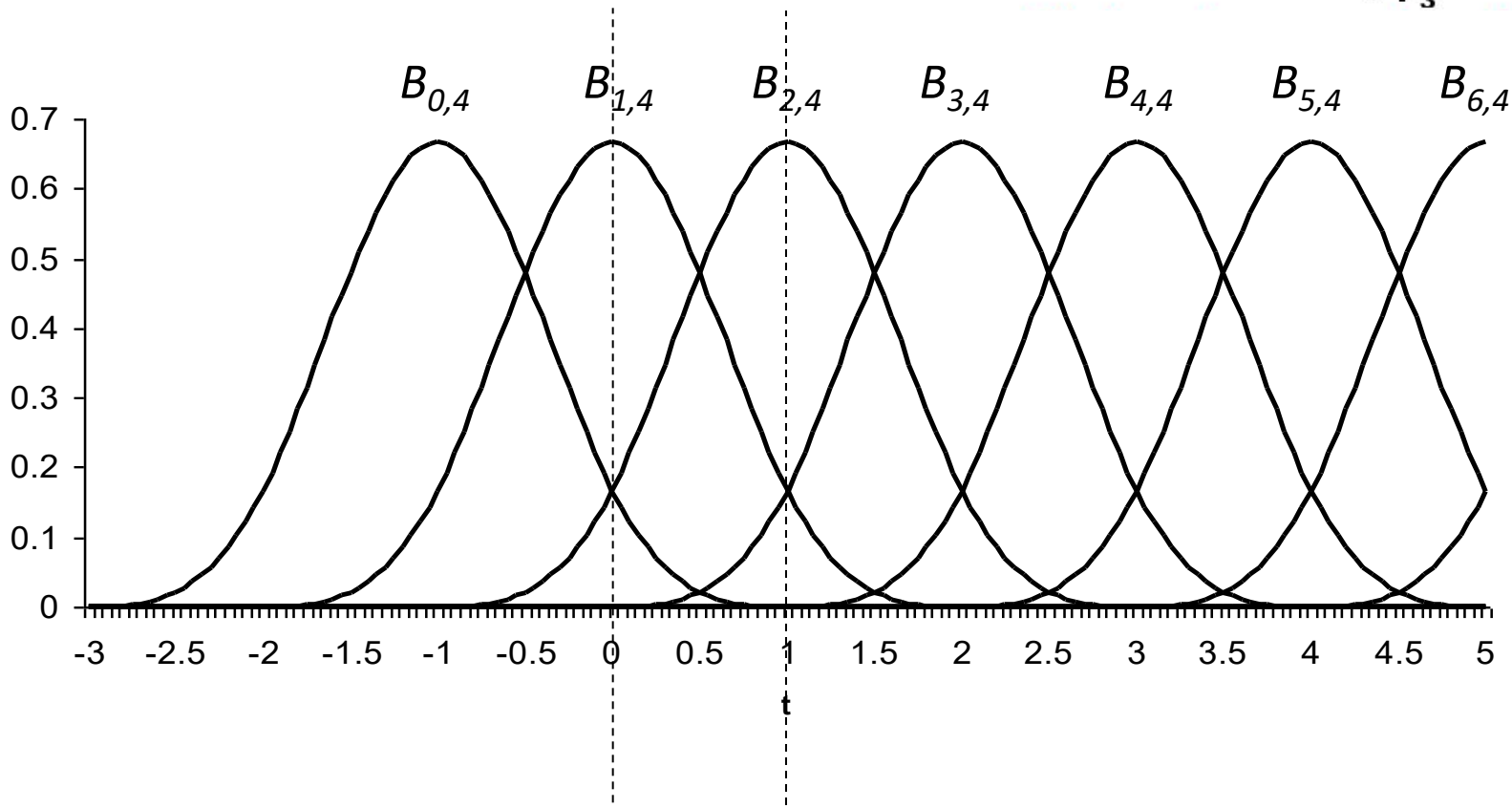
$$x(t) = \frac{1}{6}\begin{bmatrix} P_0 & P_1 & P_2 & P_3 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 0 & 4 \\ -3 & 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} t^3 \\ t^2 \\ t \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- t is the *parametric variable*
- defined on [0,1]

Primer: Uniform Cubic B-Spline

Four basis functions B must be active to define the B-Spline curve



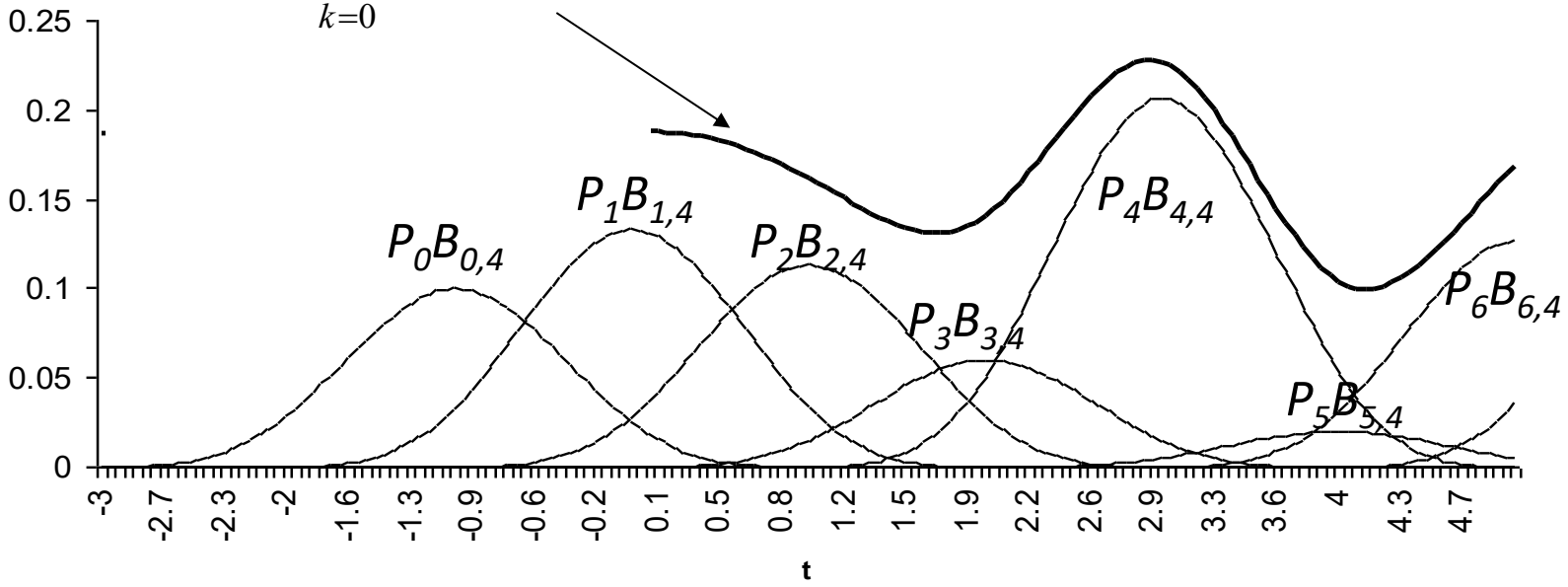


Primer: Uniform Cubic B-Spline

The locations of the control points scale the basis functions

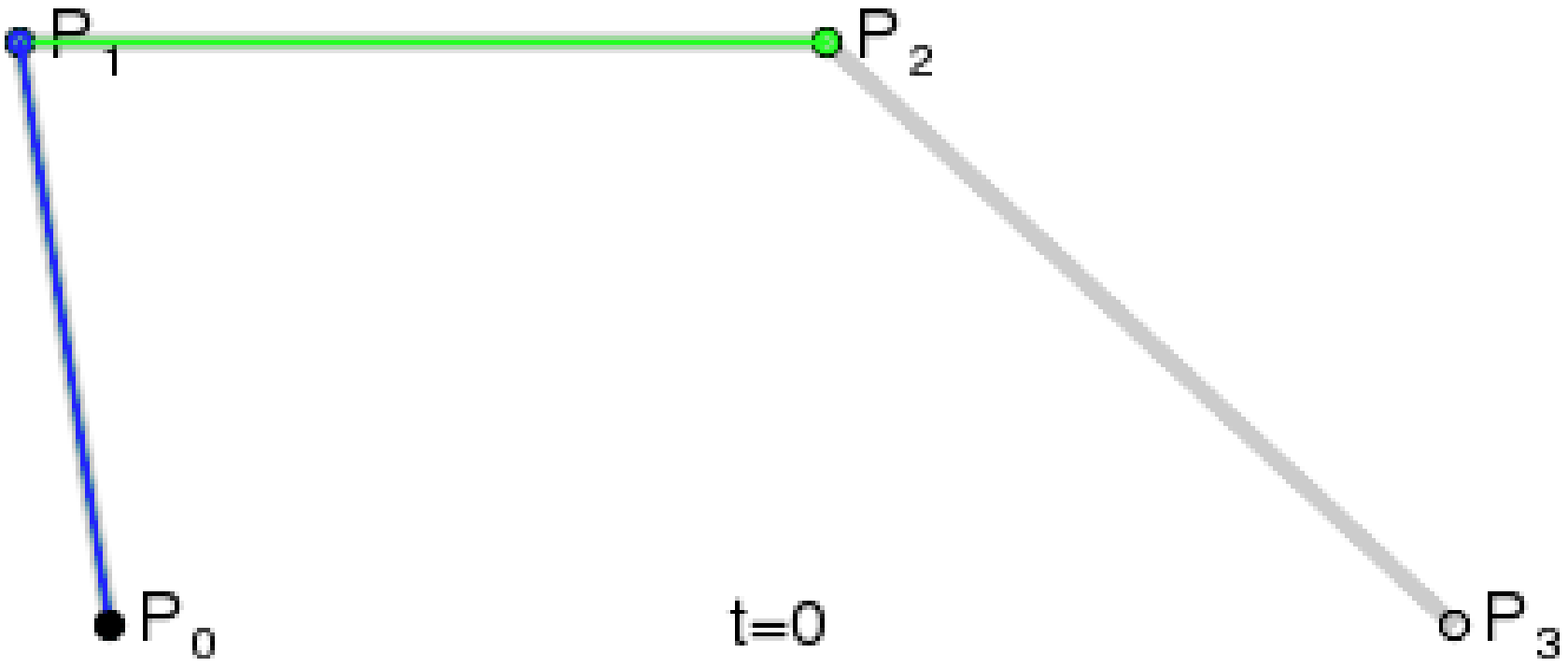
- in this simple example we see a continuous 1D function generated from 6 control points and basis functions

$$X(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} P_k B_{k,4}(t)$$



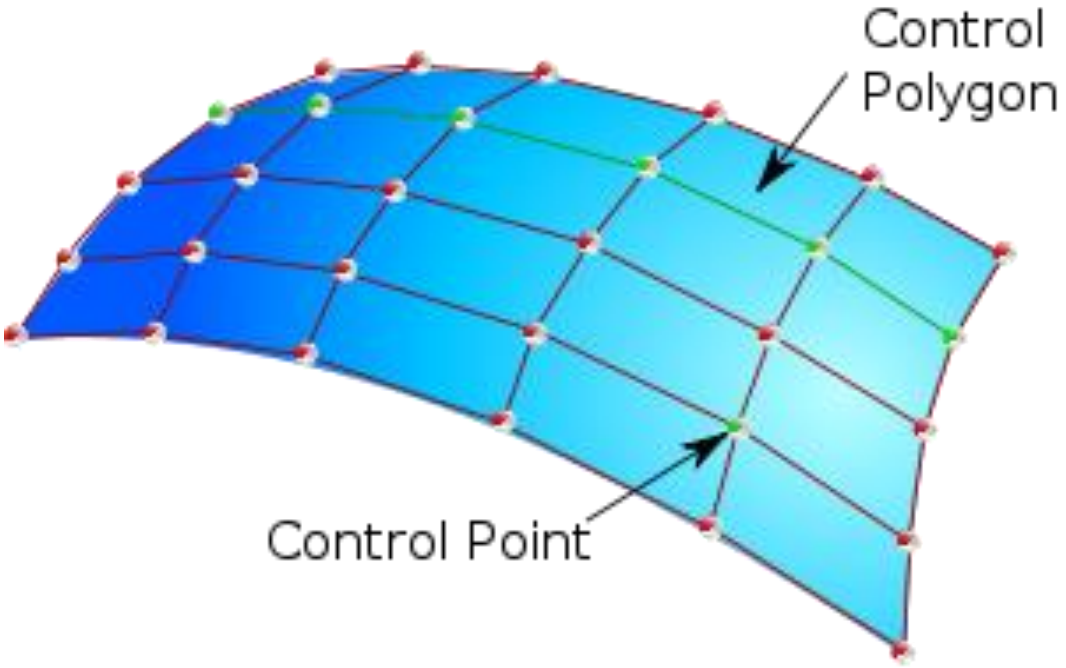
The curve can't start until there are 4 basis functions active

Cubic B-Spline Animated



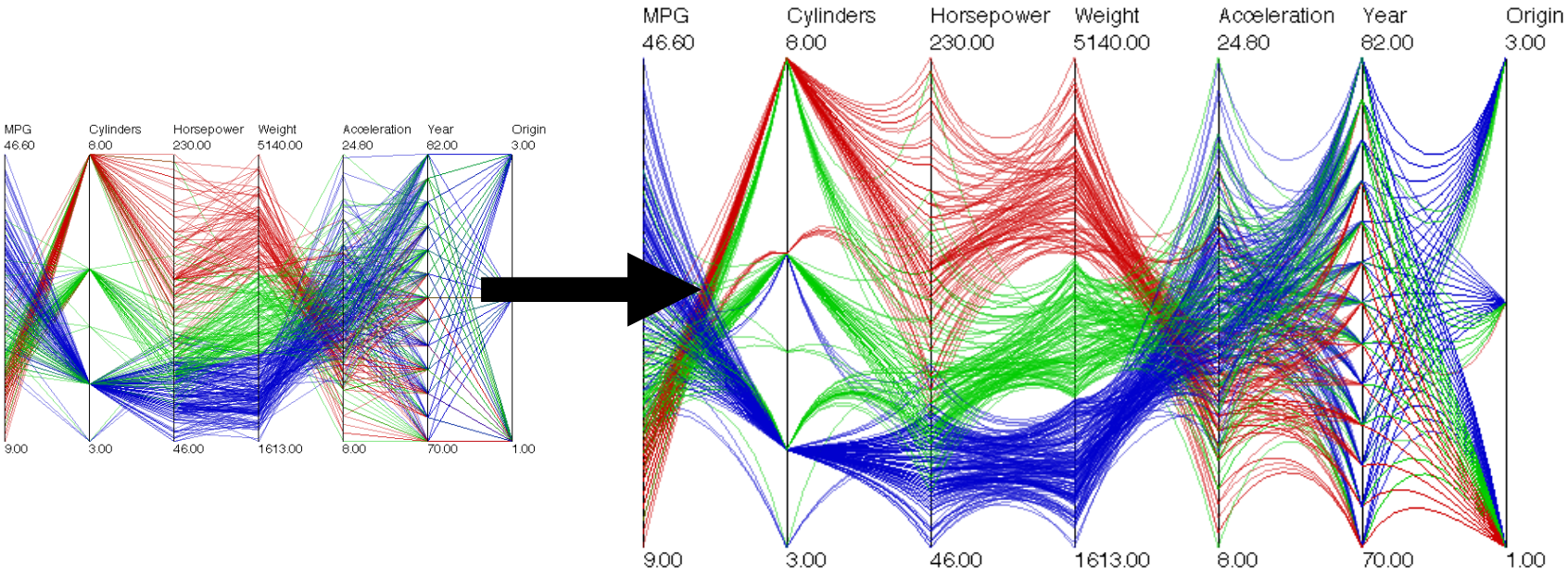
Extension to Surfaces

B-spline surface



Application to Parallel Coordinates

One straightforward way of reducing clutter is to replace polylines with polycurves:



Each line segment is replaced with an end-point interpolating, quadratic B-spline. A tension parameter can be controlled by the user.

McDonnell and Mueller, Computer Graphics Forum, 2008

Edge Bundling (cont.)

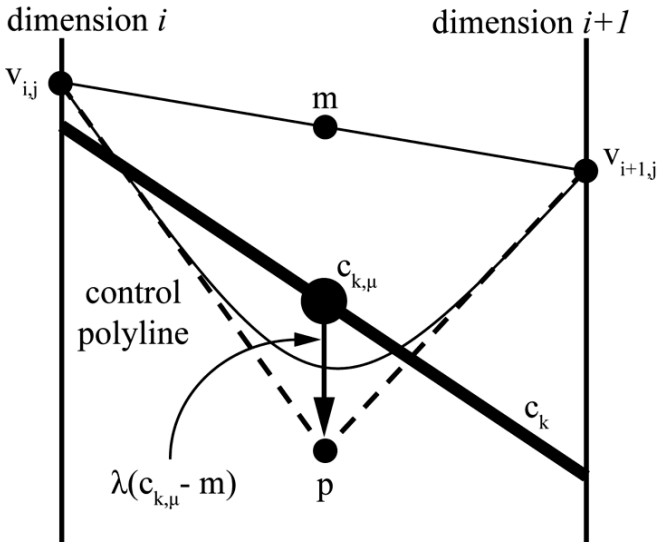
Let m be the mid-point in viewport coordinates of $v_{i,j}$ and $v_{i+1,j}$, end-points of a line segment

Let c_k be the cluster to which this segment belongs and $c_{k,\mu}$ be its mid-point in viewport coordinates

Let λ and β be tension parameters (usually λ = 0.75) and 0 ≤ β ≤ 1 is set by the user

The control points of the spline are given by:

- (-1, $v_{i,j}$)
- (0, βm + (1 -β)p)
- (1, $v_{i+1,j}$)

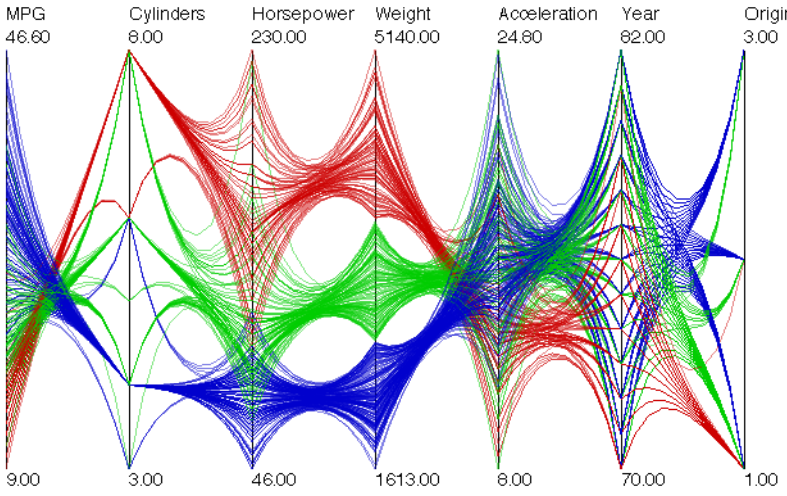


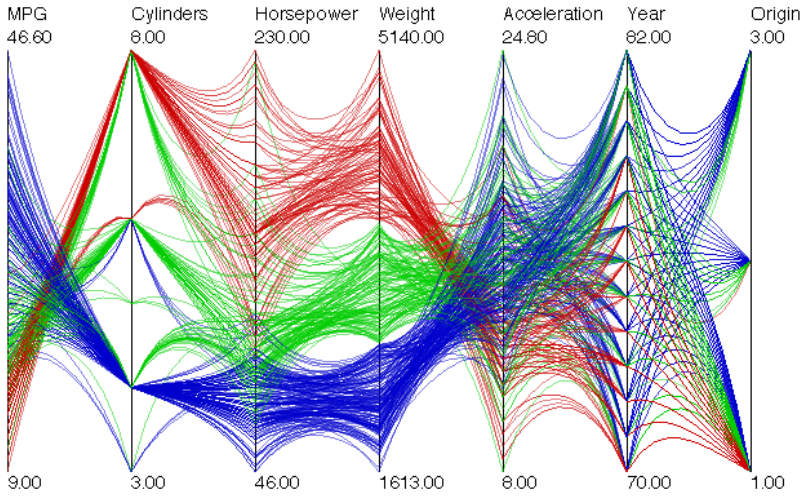
Edge Bundling (cont.)

The tension can be changed to control the amount of clutter reduction

In our implementation, the λ parameter is fixed, but the β parameter can be changed in the GUI

Examples of medium and low tension, respectively:





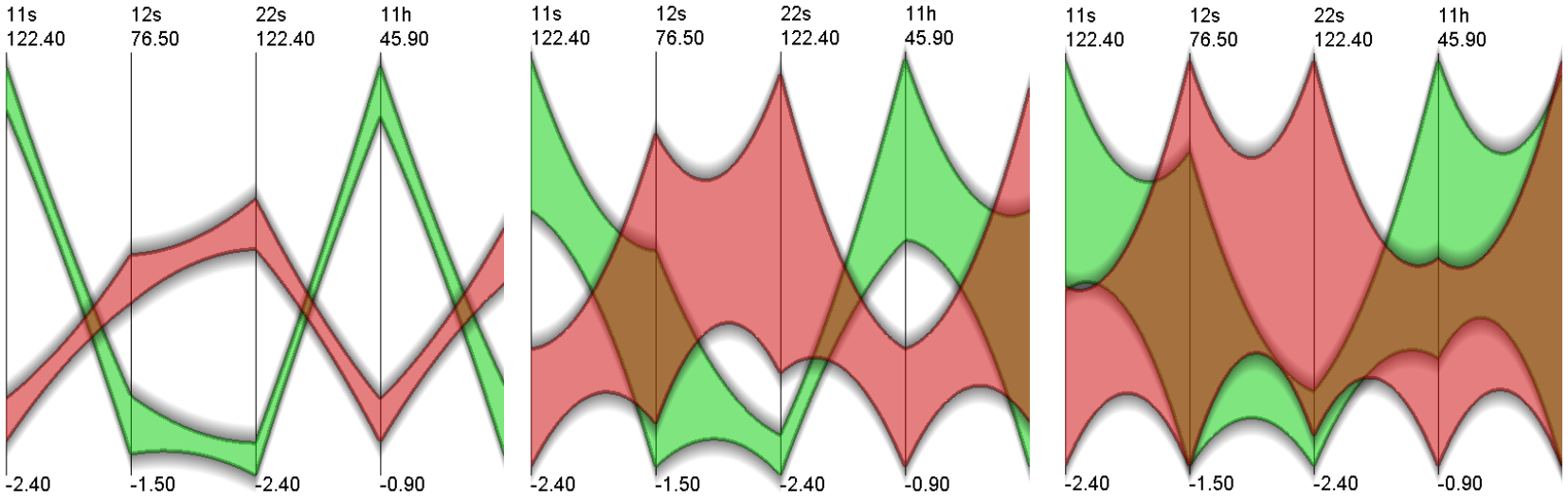
Cluster Rendering

Recall that clusters are often rendered as heavy line segments on top of the dataset

In IPC we render the clusters as polygonal meshes

They help to show the ranges of each cluster along axes

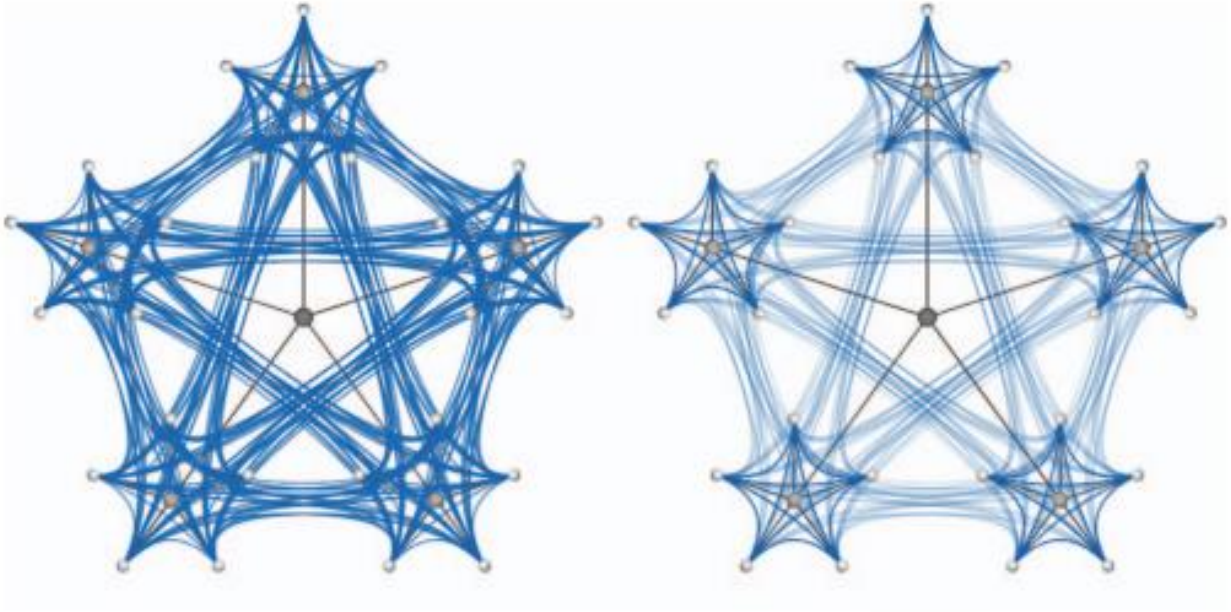
The vertical “spread” can be controlled by the user



Alpha (Opacity) Blending

Draw curves at different opacities

- long curves: low opacities (high transparencies)
- short curves: high opacity (makes short curves visible)

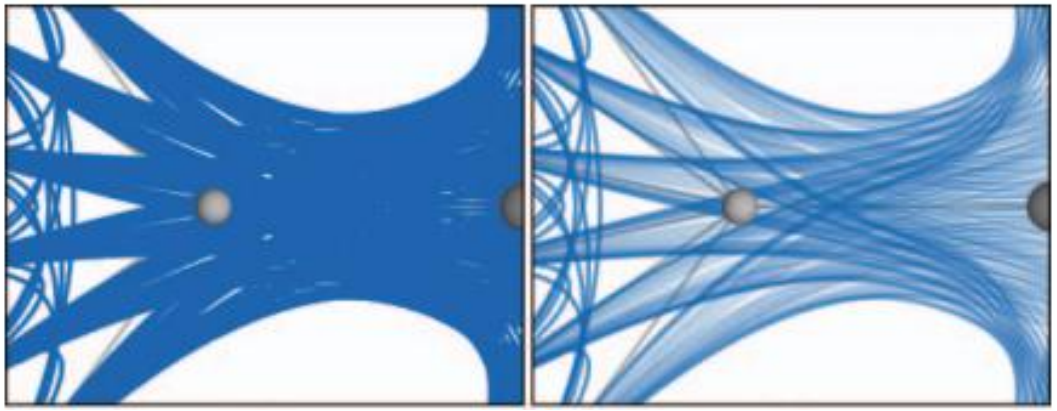


alpha blending disabled

alpha blending enabled

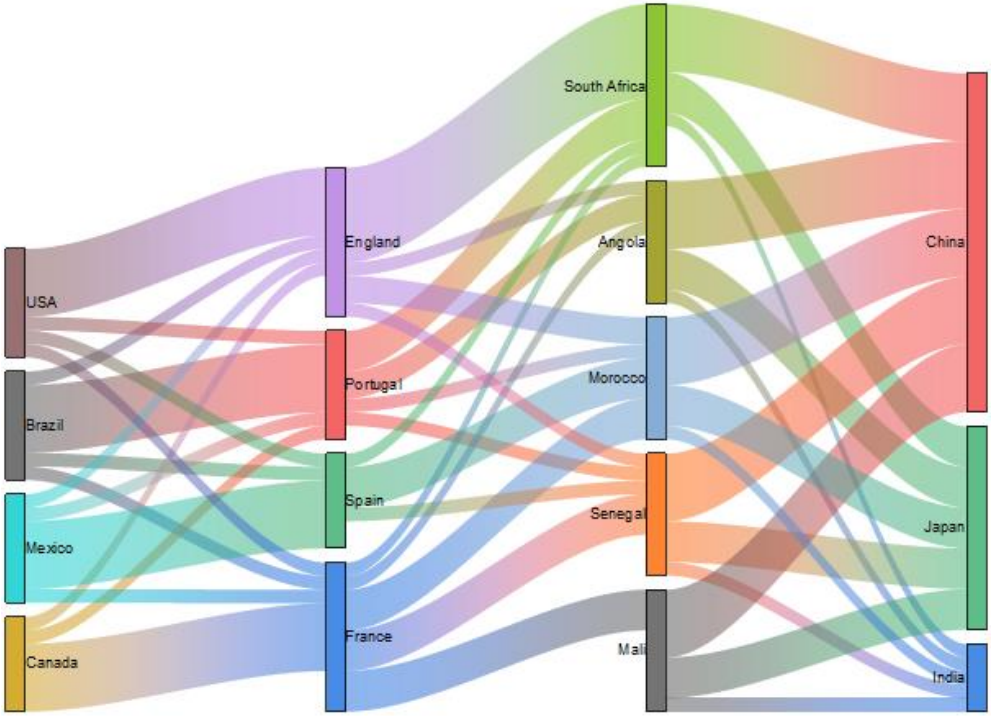
Alpha (Opacity) Blending

Alpha blending also enables visualization of sub-bundles and differentiation of lines



alpha blending disabled alpha blending enabled

Sankey Diagram



Another bundling technique

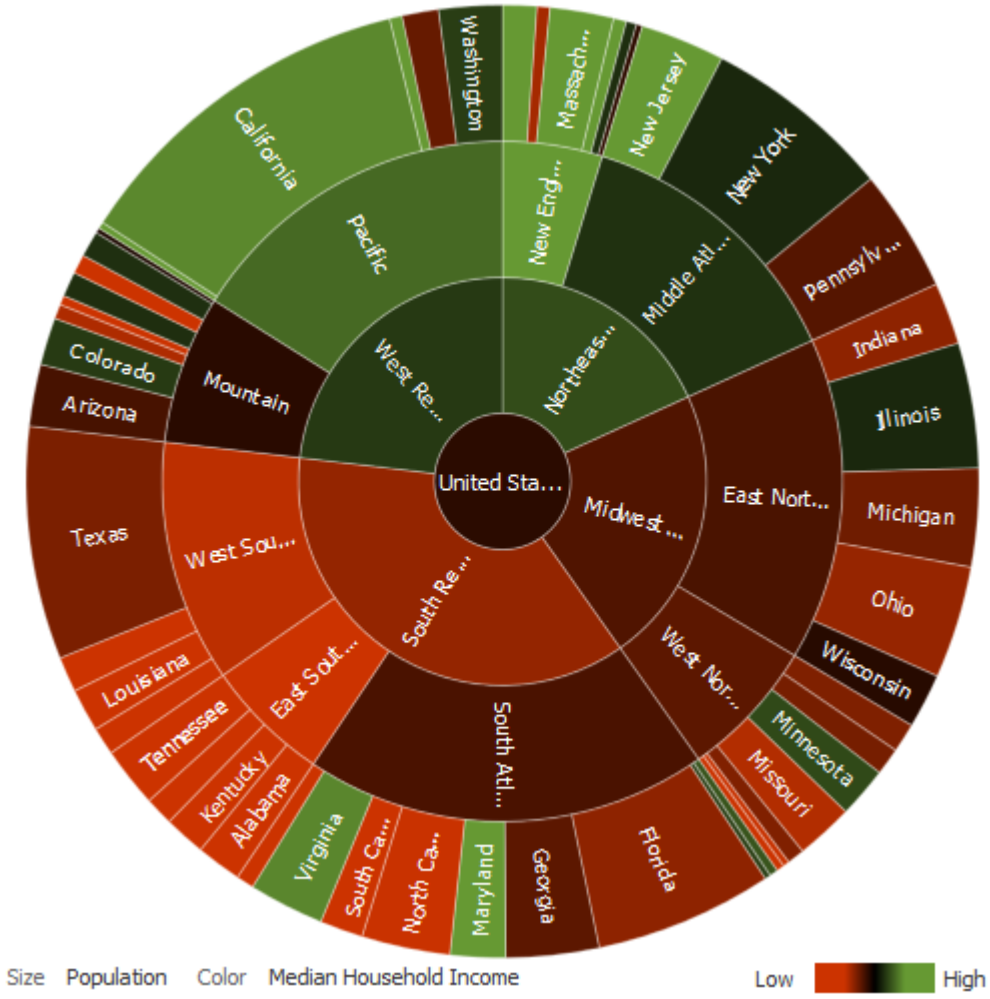
- flow diagram
- the width of the arrows is proportional to the flow rate

Use cases:

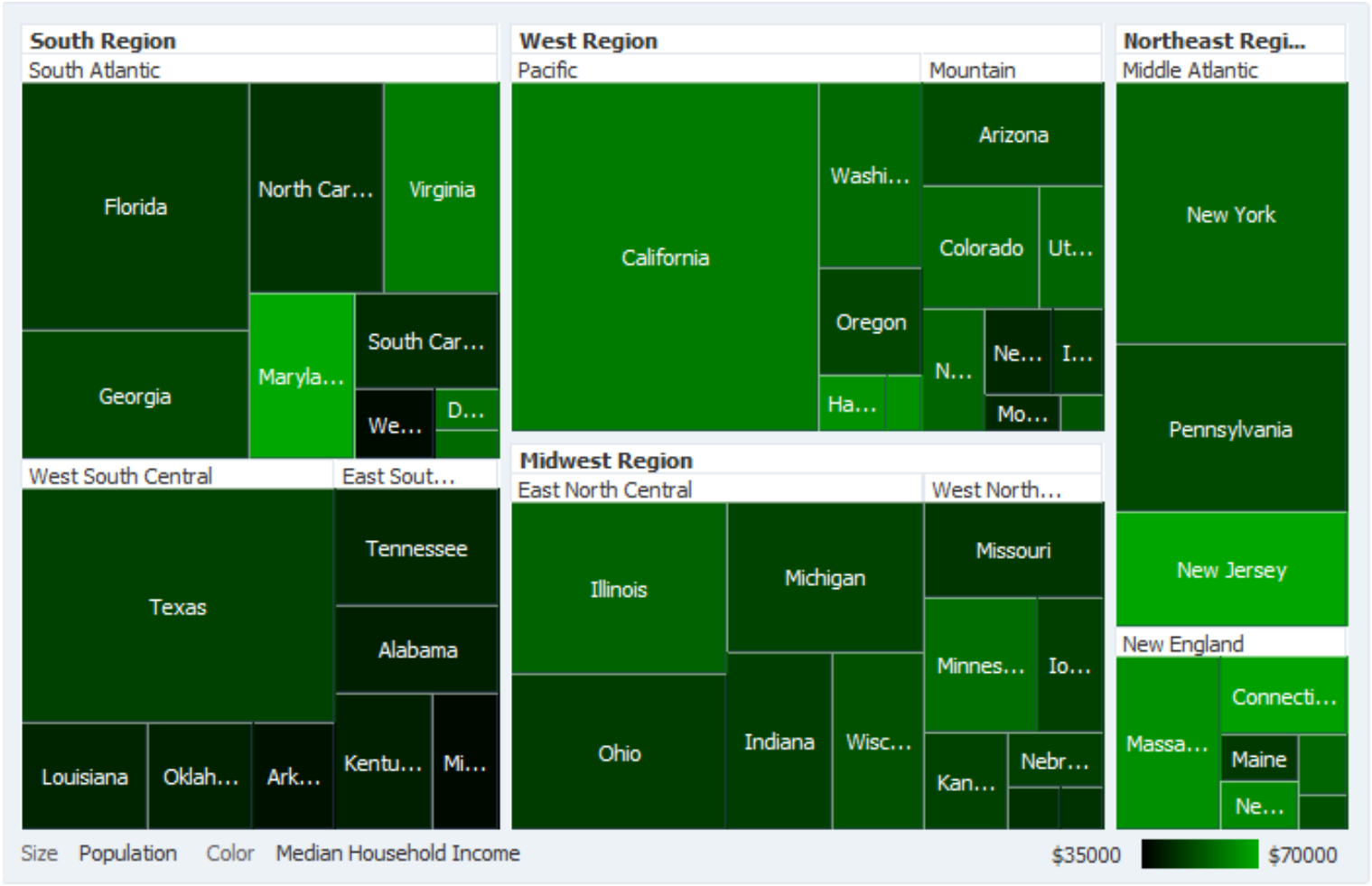
- where money came from and went to (budgets, contributions)
- flows of energy from source to destination
- flows of goods from place to place

Hierarchies with Sun Burst Displays

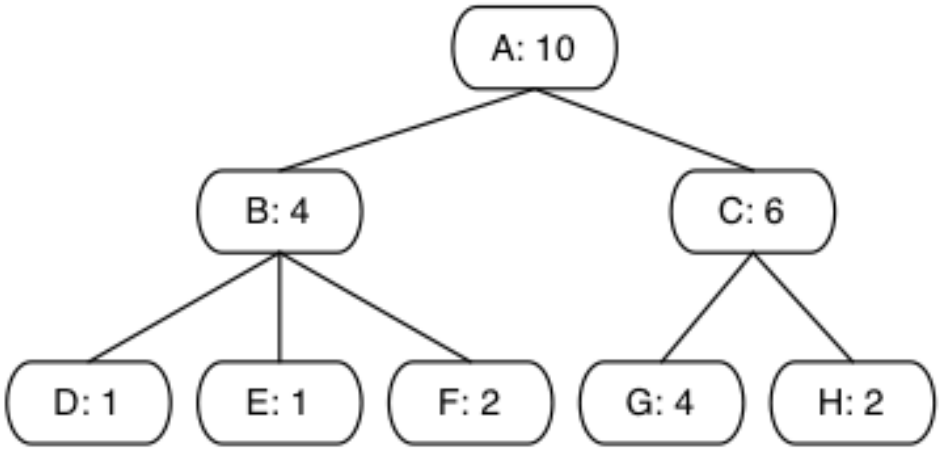
Sunburst with Partition of Unity

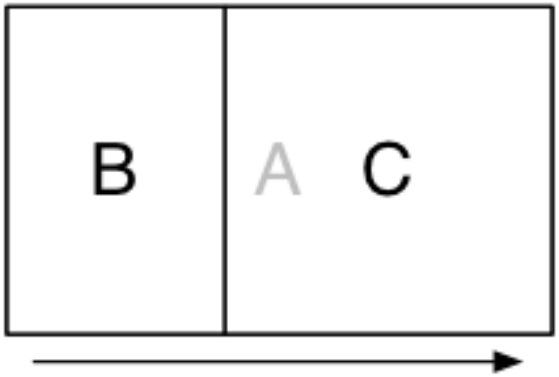


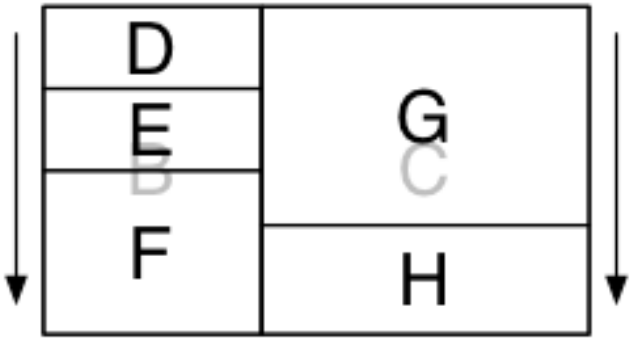
Same Data with Treemap



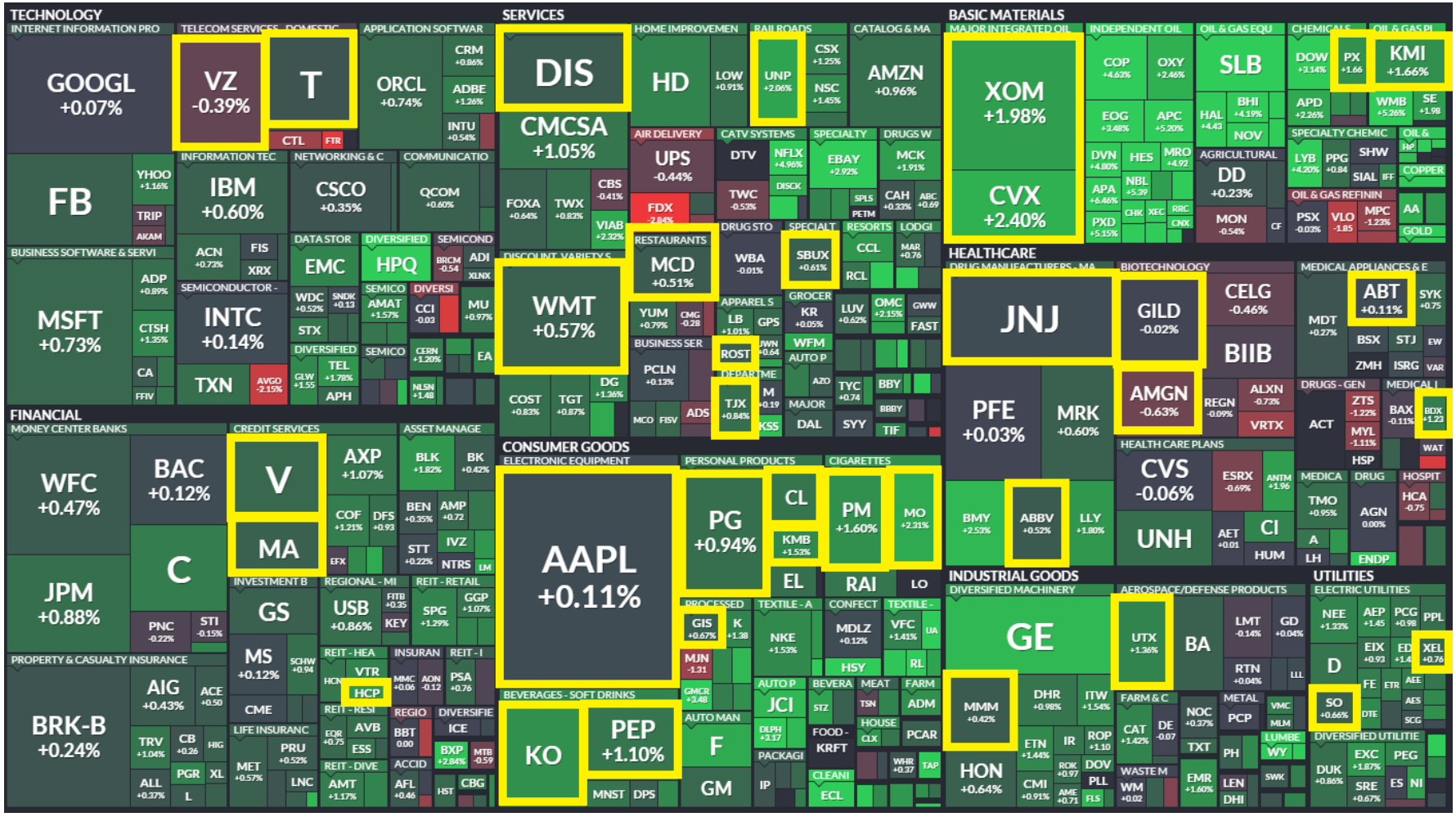
Treemap Construction





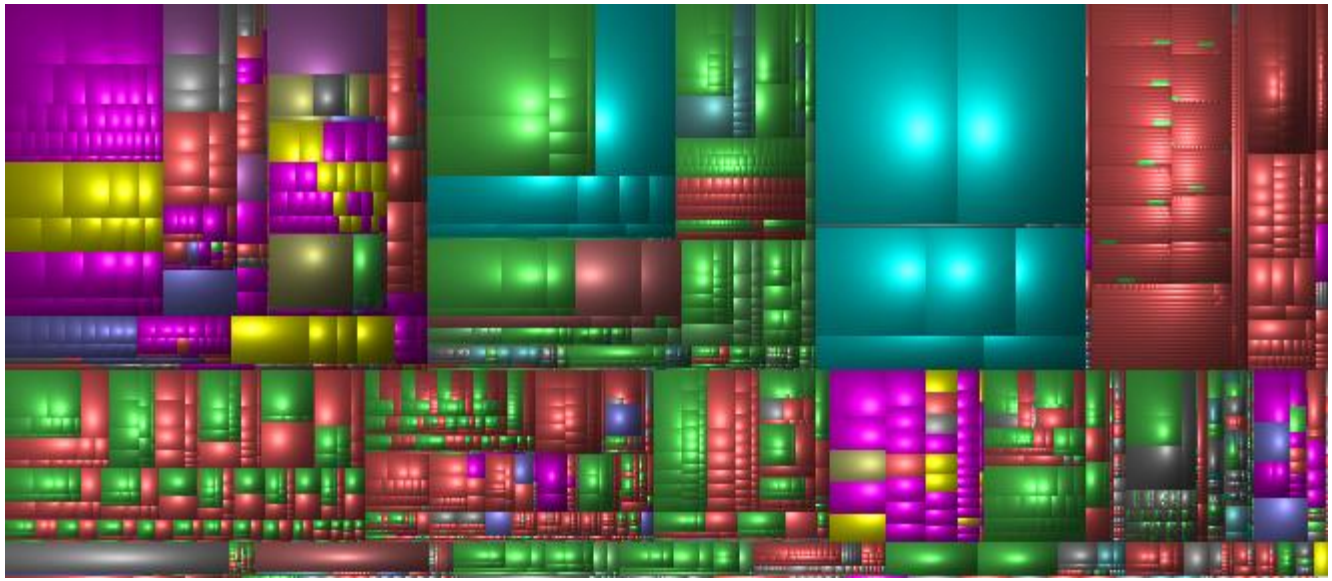


Treemap for Stock Portfolio



Size is mapped to market cap, yellow boxes are investor's holdings

Cushion Treemap



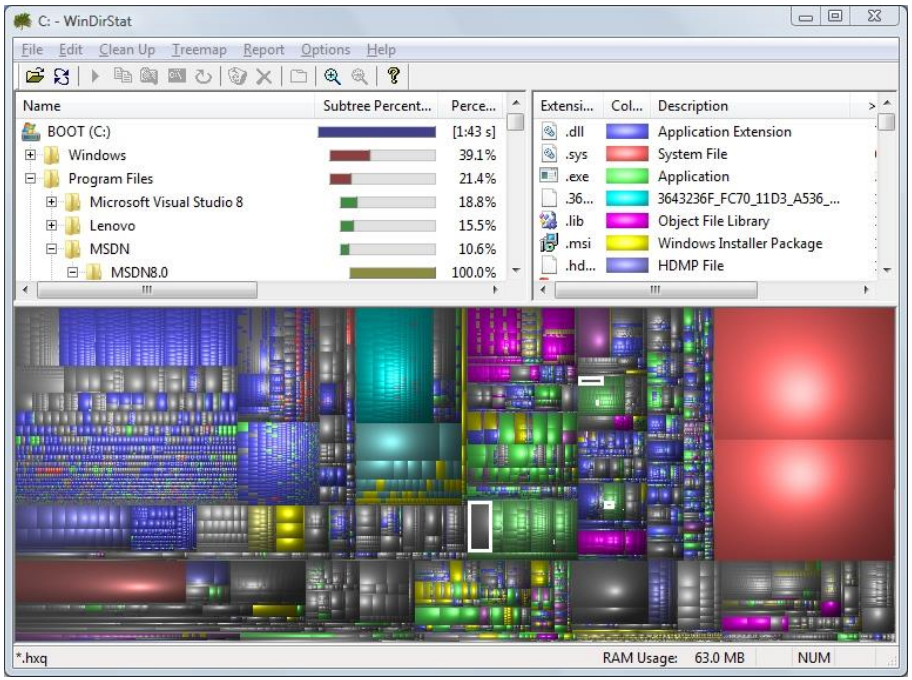
Advantages

- due to perceived discontinuity in texture between nodes, lines are no longer necessary to separate nodes
- more of the space can be used for the actual node display
- much smaller nodes can be shown than in a flat treemap

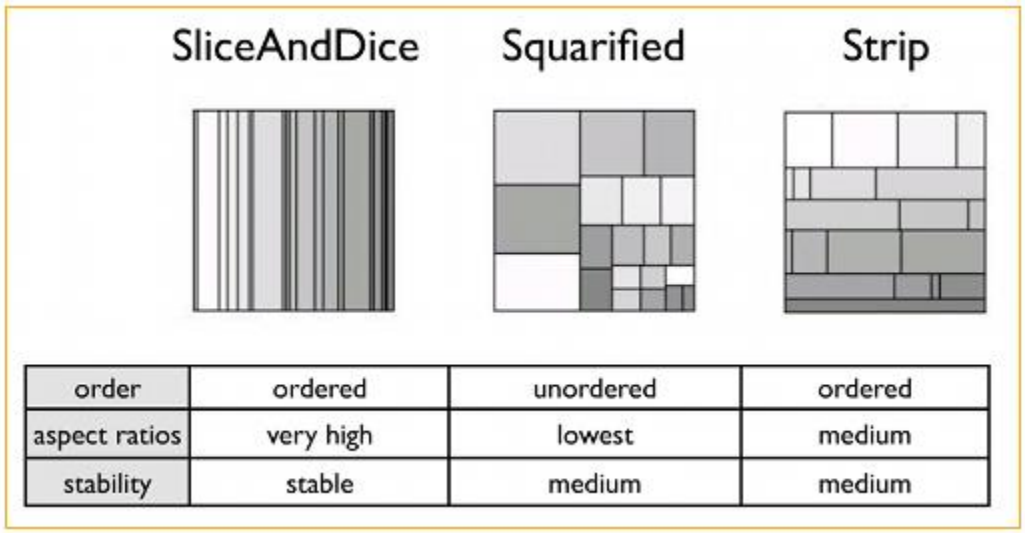
Treemap for Disk Drives

Used in programs like

- WinDirStat (Windows)
- KDirStat (Linux)
- DiskInventory (Mac)



Treemap Variations



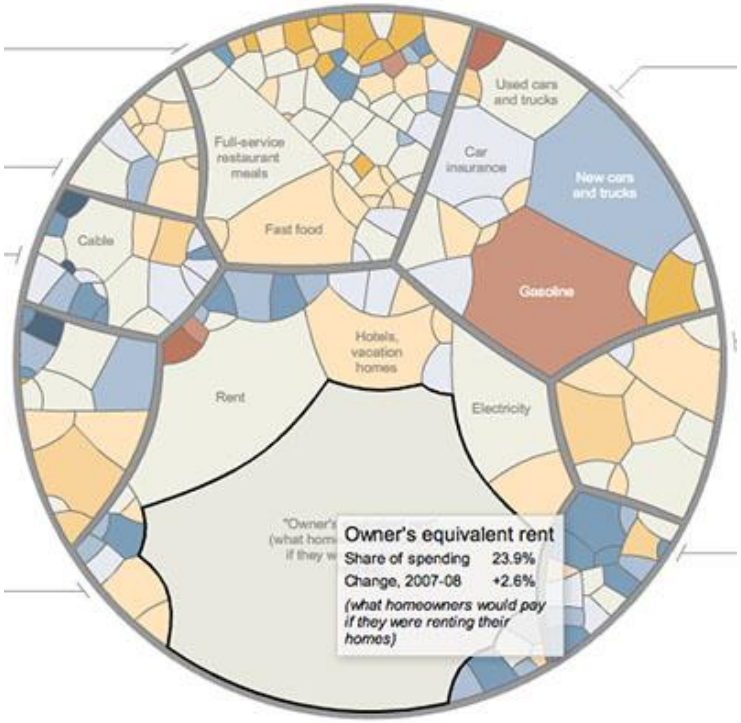
order	ordered	unordered	ordered
aspect ratios	very high	lowest	medium
stability	stable	medium	medium

Squarified treemap is preferred

- it's difficult to visually compare long slivery tiles with tiles that have a more even aspect ratio
- a squarified treemap makes the map more globally comparable

Voronoi treemap

- based on Voronoi tesselation



Constructing a Squarified Tree map

Optimization criterion

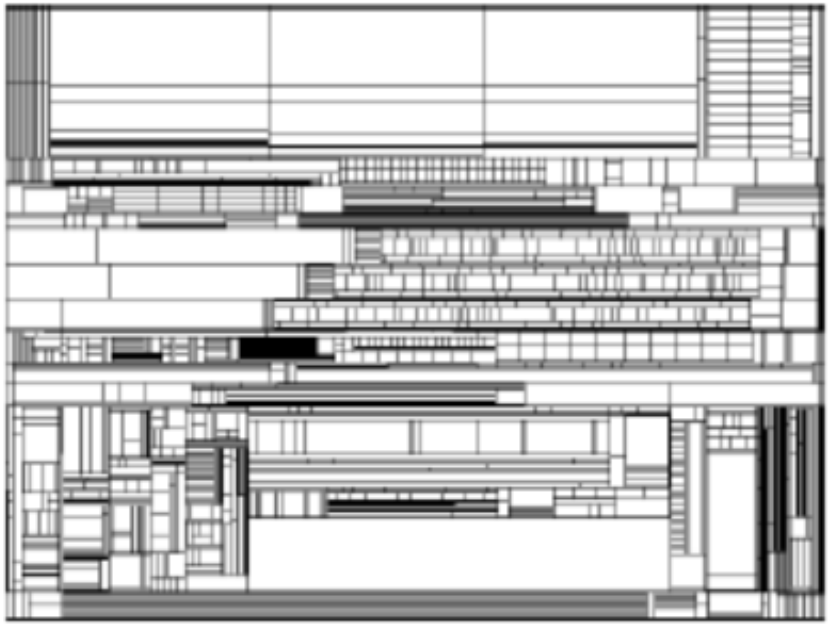
- keep aspect ratio of boxes close to 1

Sequence:

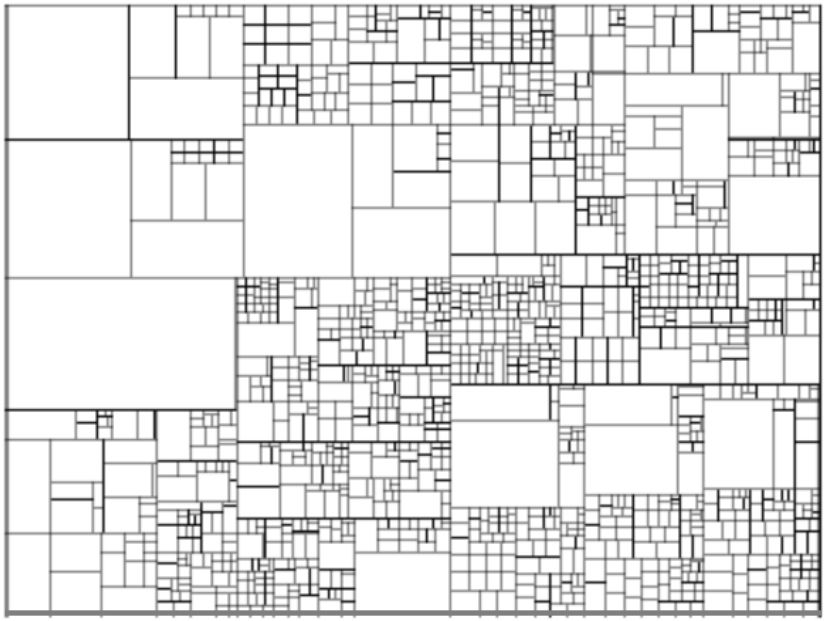
- steps 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10
- steps 3, 6, 8 would increase the aspect ratios of the boxes
- start a new row

Bruls, Huizing, Van Wijk, (2000). Squarified Treemaps. *Data Visualization.* Springer

Squarified Treemap Example



standard layout



squarified

Can greatly improve

- ability to compare the magnitude of different leaf nodes
- at the same time maintain some level of the original hierarchy