

# Raising the Bar (Chart)

THE NEXT GENERATION OF VISUALIZATION TOOLS

Jeffrey Heer @jeffrey\_heer

Univ. of Washington + Trifacta



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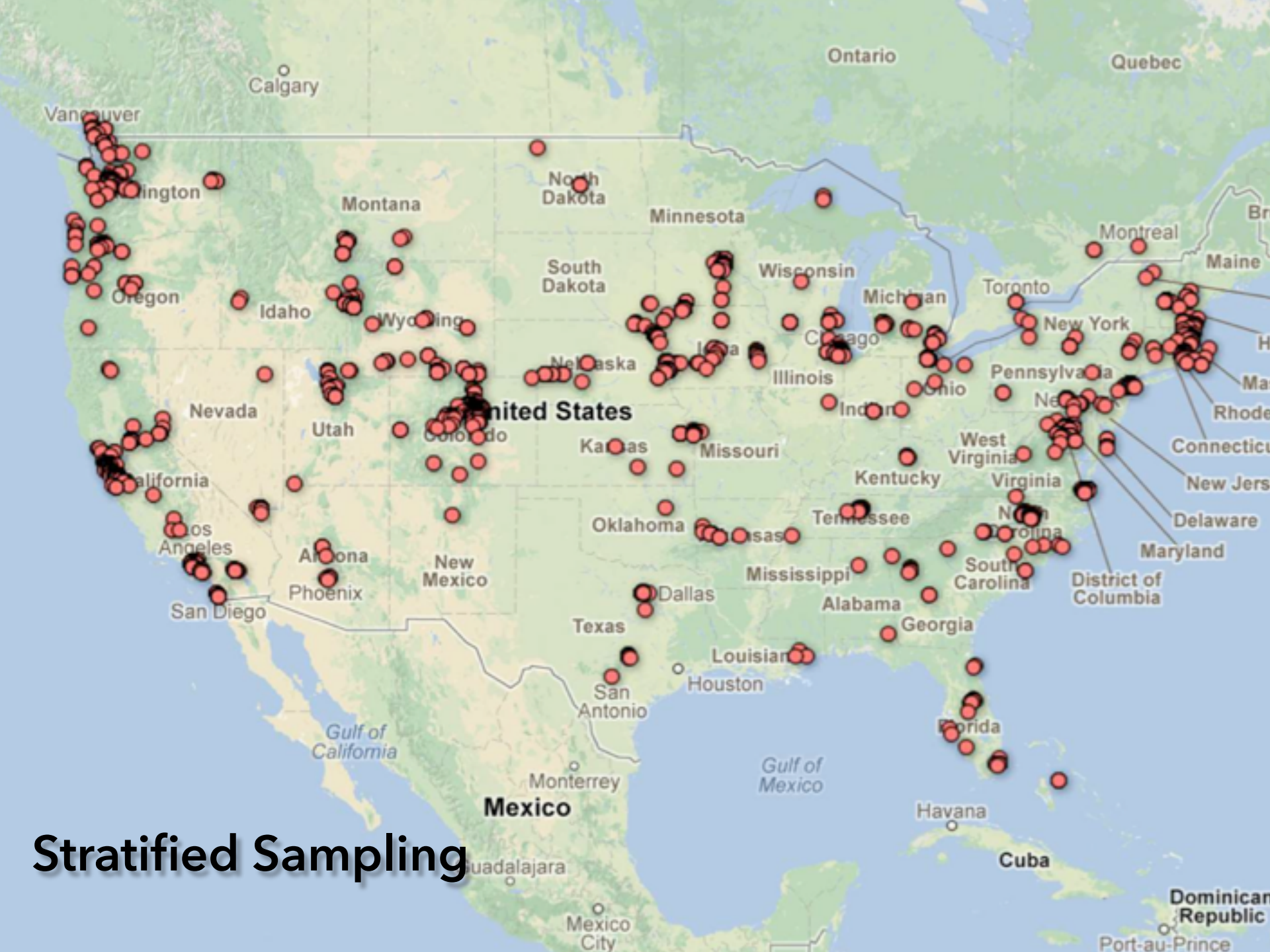
20 CONFERENCE 15

APR 6-7

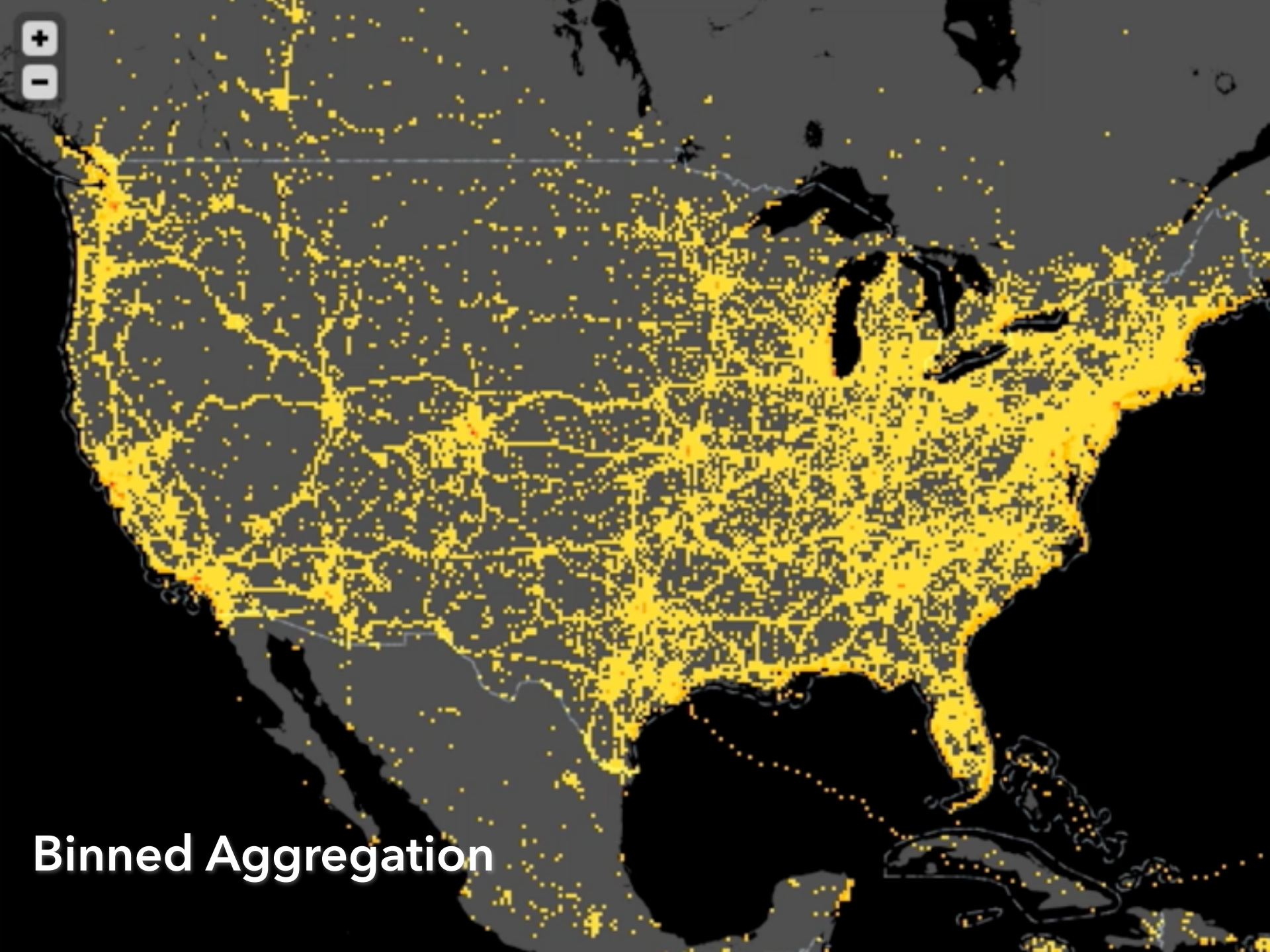
BOSTON, MA

[ TICKETS ]

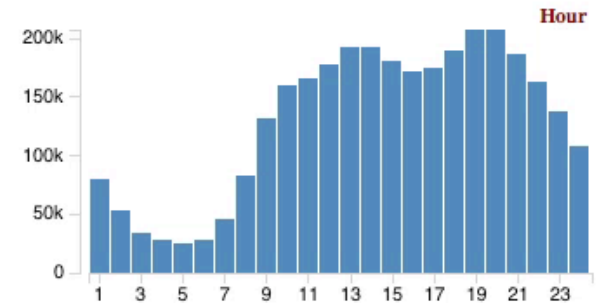
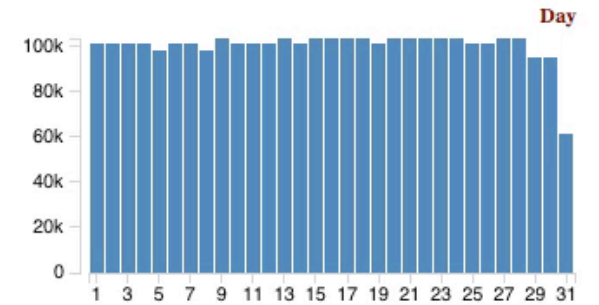
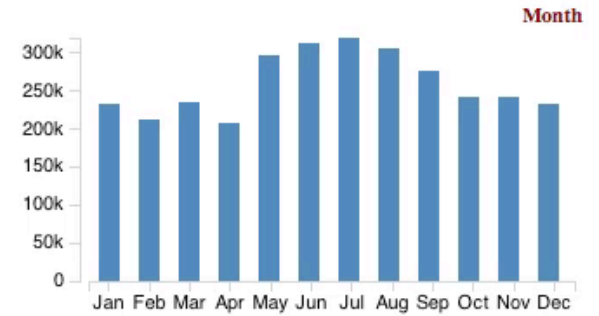
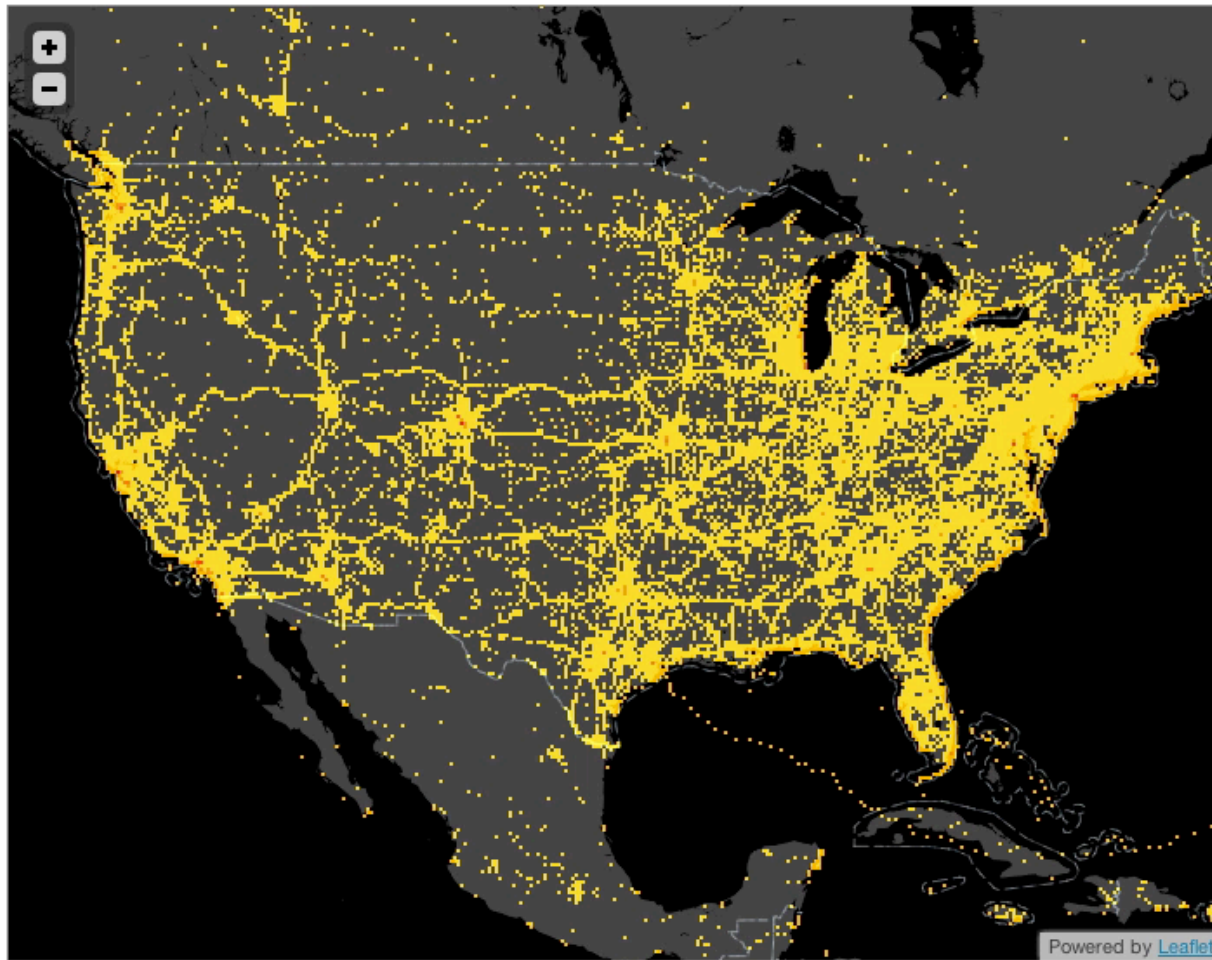
# Visualizing Big Data!



# Stratified Sampling



**Binned Aggregation**



# imMens: Real-Time Visual Querying of Big Data

with Z. Liu & B. Jiang

2:15 - 2:45

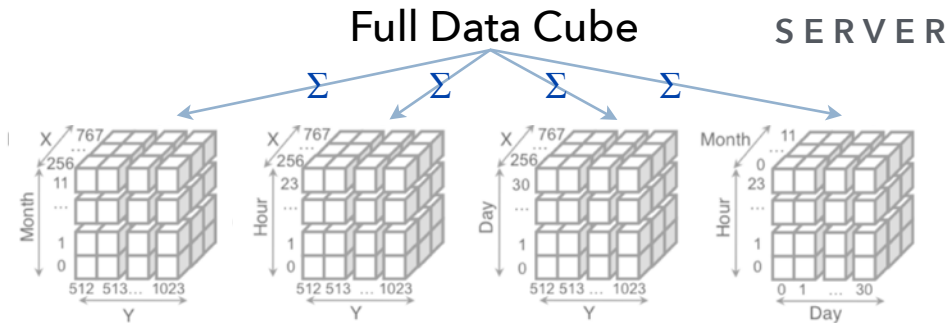


DANYEL FISHER

WHY EXPLORING BIG DATA IS  
HARD (AND WHAT WE CAN DO  
ABOUT IT)

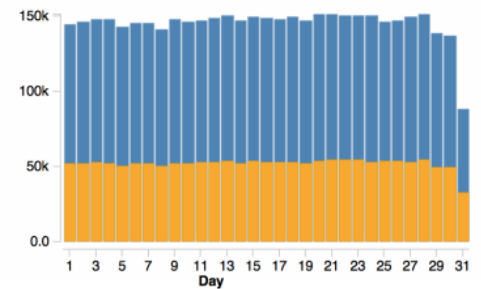
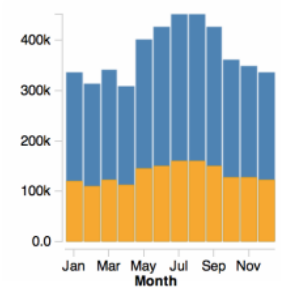
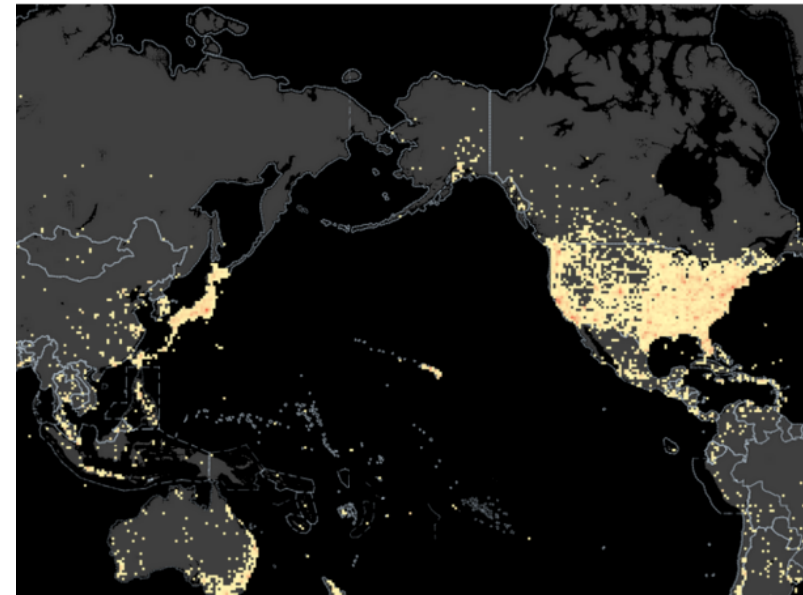
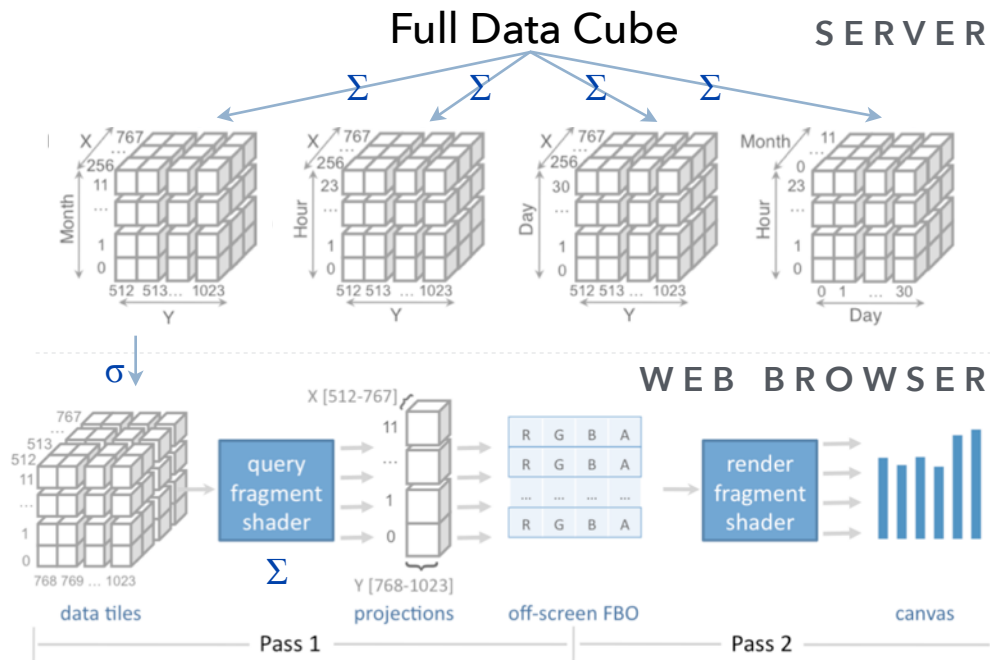


# imMens - Real-time Querying of Big Data



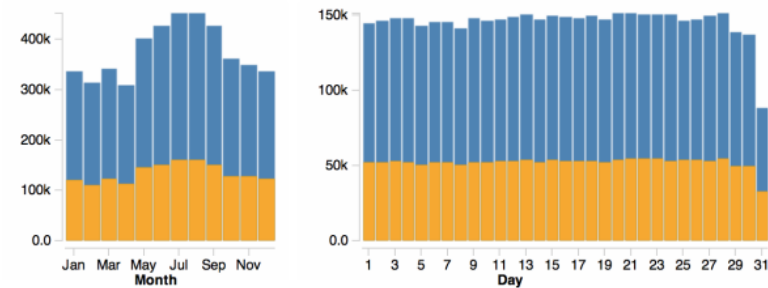
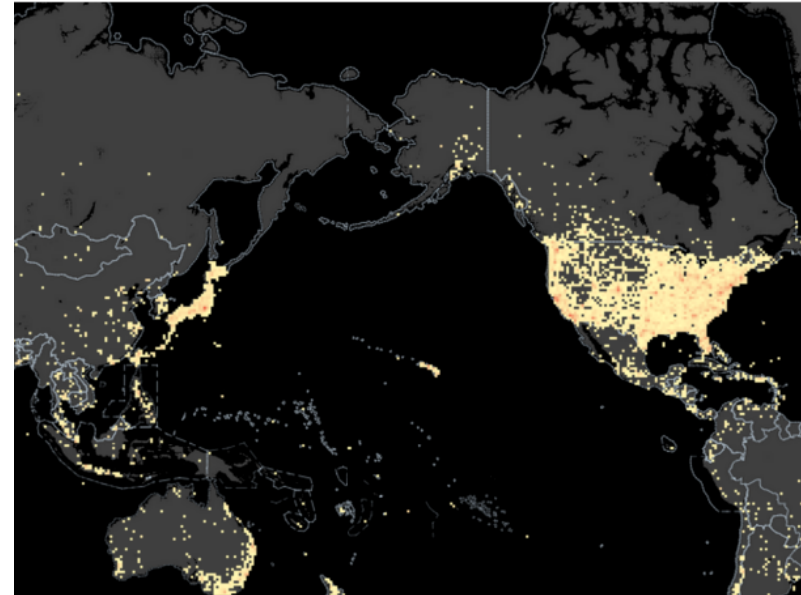
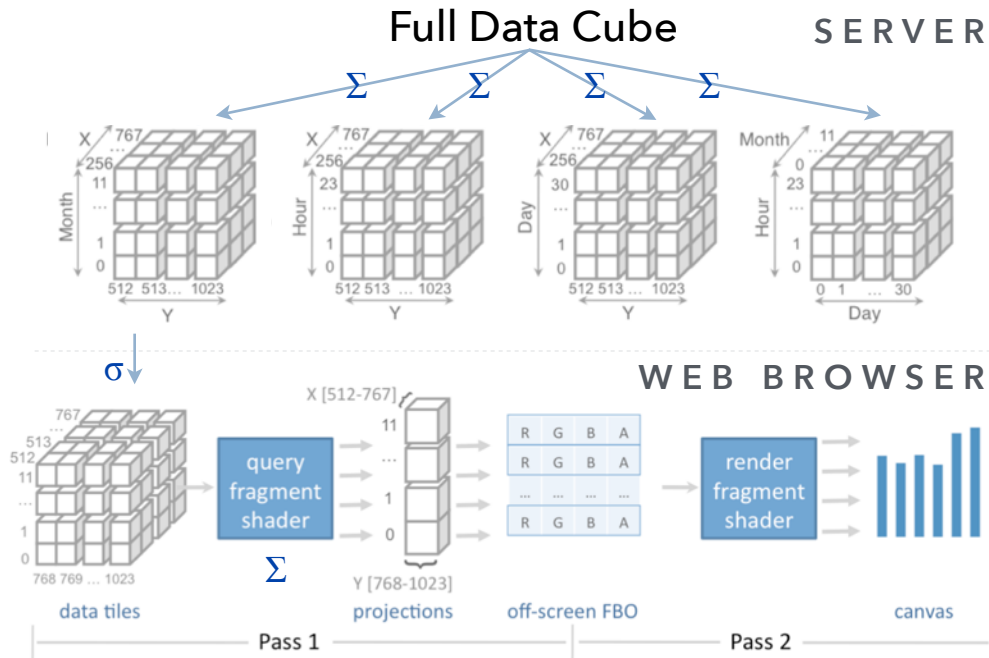
with **Z. Liu**, B. Jiang [EuroVis '13]

# imMens - Real-time Querying of Big Data



with **Z. Liu**, B. Jiang [EuroVis '13]

# imMens - Real-time Querying of Big Data



**50 fps** interactive querying of summary visualizations of **billions of data points**.

with **Z. Liu**, B. Jiang [EuroVis '13]

**WebGL!**

1:30 - 2:15



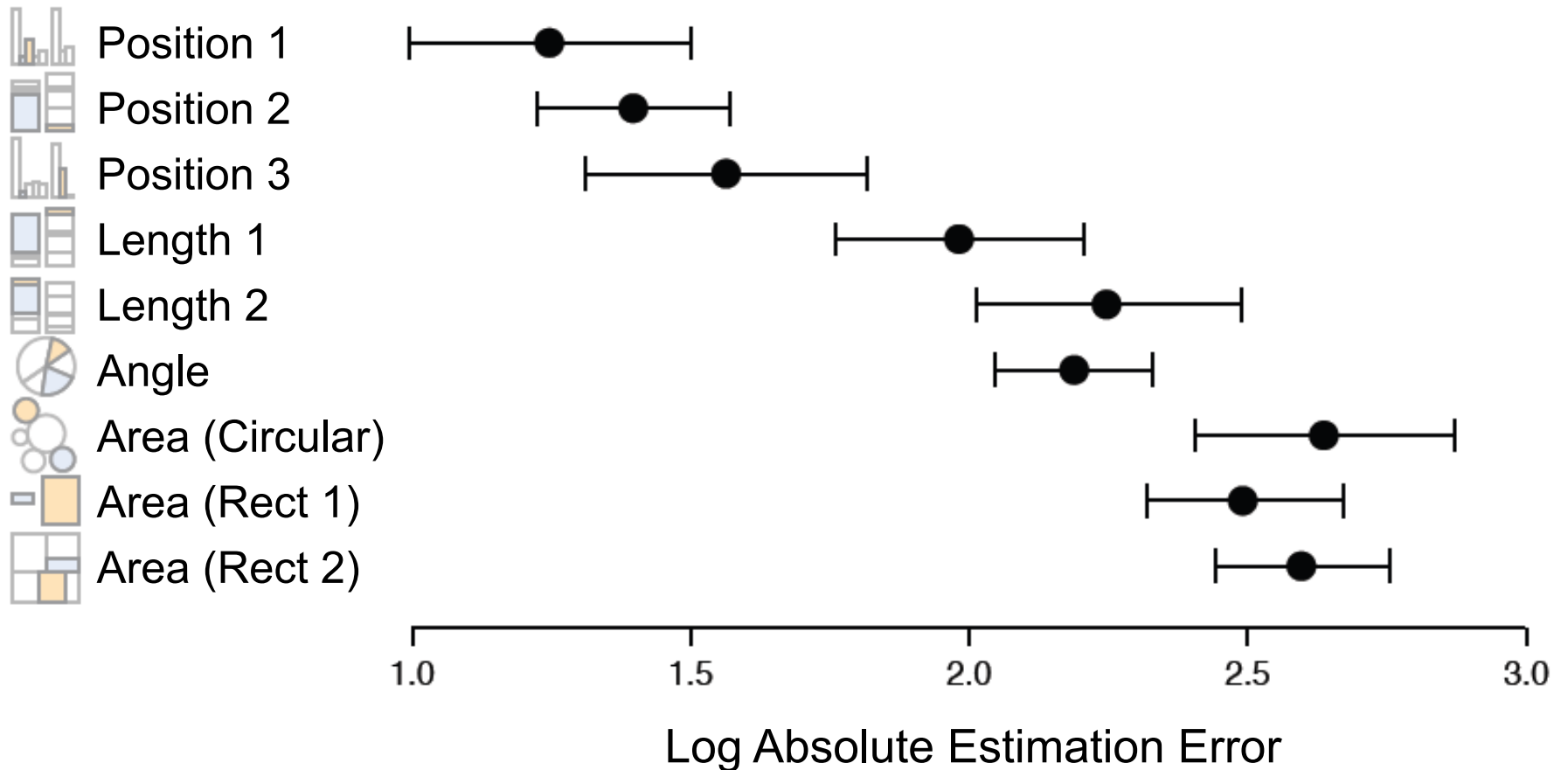
NICOLAS GARCIA BELMONTE  
WEBGL FOR GRAPHICS AND  
DATA VISUALIZATION

1:30 - 2:15



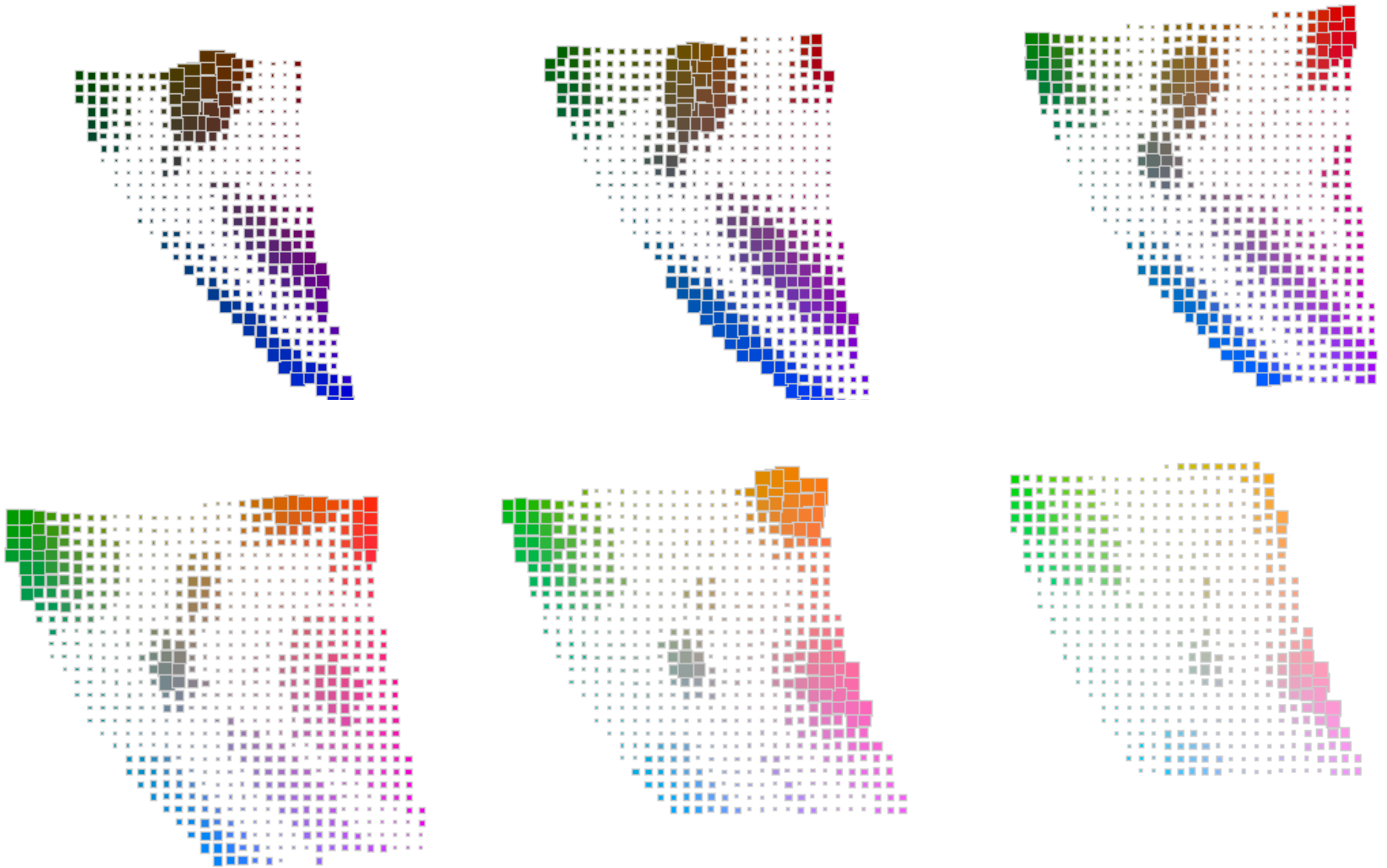
DOMINIKUS BAUR  
WEIGHING PERFORMANCE  
AGAINST PAIN: SVG, CANVAS  
AND WebGL

**Perception!**



## Graphical Perception [CHI'09, CHI'10, InfoVis'10...]

Experiments to assess the effectiveness of visual encodings.



## Cognitive Color Models [CHI '12, EuroVis '13]

Novel measures informing color-concept maps & palette design.



12:00 - 12:30



LANE HARRISON

USER-CENTERED  
VISUALIZATION RESEARCH



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[ TICKETS ]

3:00 - 3:30



NIGEL HOLMES

USING HUMOR TO INFORM

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# OPENVIS

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# Visualization Tools

*prefuse*

**Protovis**



vega



Data-Driven Documents

# Raising the Bar (Chart)

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Jeffrey Heer @jeffrey\_heer

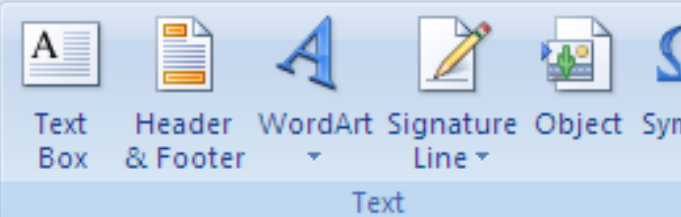
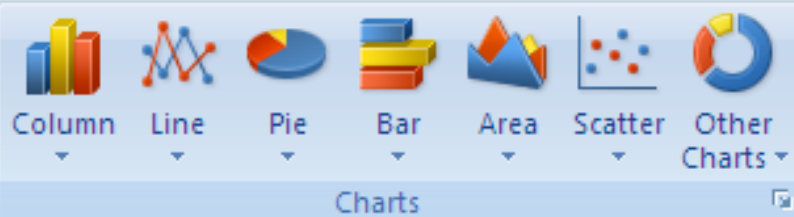
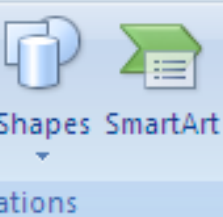
Univ. of Washington + Trifacta



How might we  
**create visualizations?**



Layout Formulas Data Review View Add-Ins



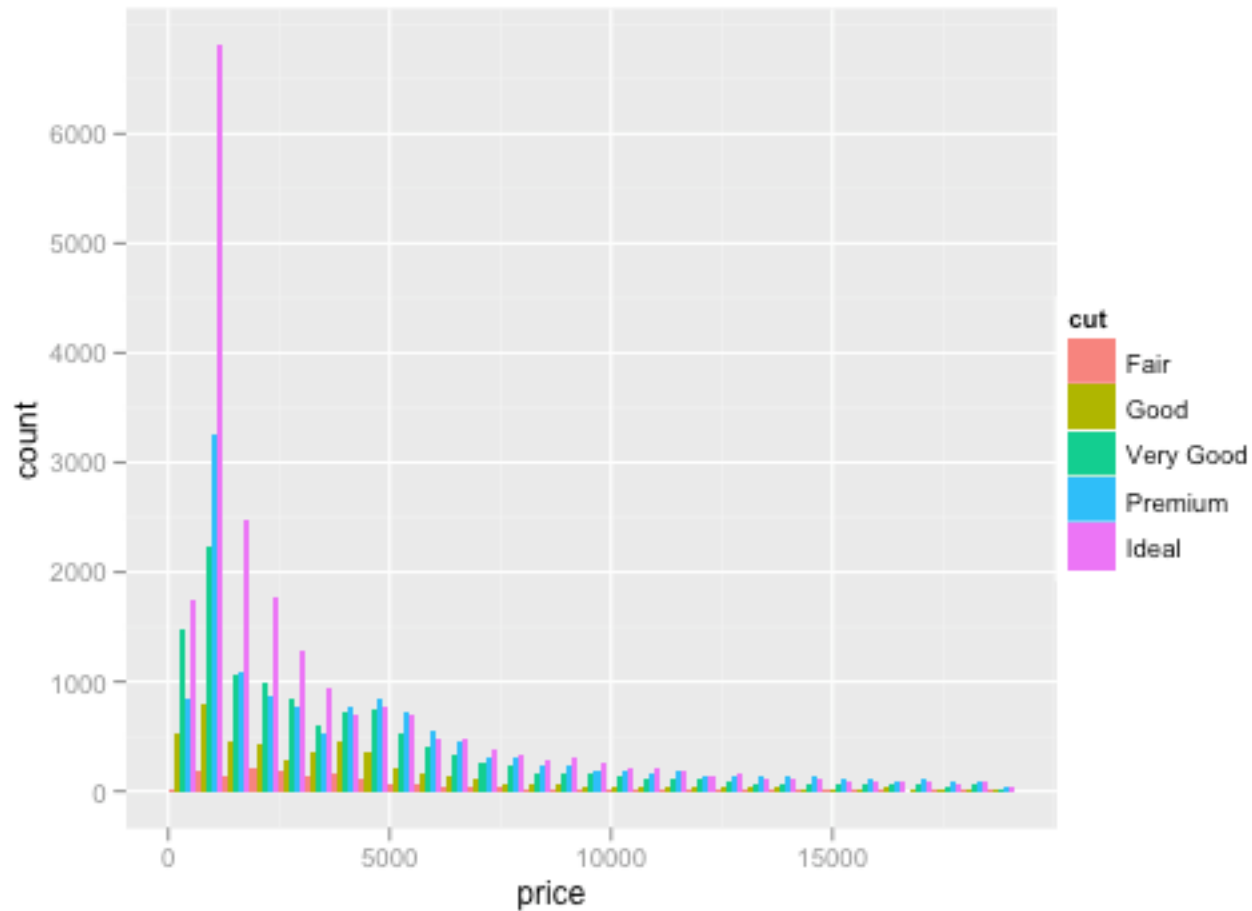
fx L1

B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
	task	row	col	d	d1	d2	L1	L2
-color	SA	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
-color	SA	1	2	0.63512	0.73568	0	0.73568	0.73568
-color	SA	1	3	0.59295	0.73119	0	0.73119	0.73119
-color	SA	1	4	0.45864	0.24612	0	0.24612	0.24612
-color	SA	1	5	0.49399	0	0.8119	0.8119	0.8119
-color	SA	1	6	0.85906	0.73568	0.8119	1.54758	1.095630719
-color	SA	1	7	0.81534	0.73119	0.8119	1.54309	1.092620898
-color	SA	1	8	0.71854	0.24612	0.8119	1.05802	0.848384738
-color	SA	1	9	0.57947	0	0.8417	0.8417	0.8417
-color	SA	1	10	0.91546	0.73568	0.8417	1.57738	1.117892639
-color	SA	1	11	0.91988	0.73119	0.8417	1.57289	1.114942916
-color	SA	1	12	0.77741	0.24612	0.8417	1.08782	0.876945805
-color	SA	1	13	0.29483	0	0.2825	0.2825	0.2825
-color	SA	1	14	0.75357	0.73568	0.2825	1.01818	0.788055399
-color	SA	1	15	0.73206	0.73119	0.2825	1.01369	0.783865464
-color	SA	1	16	0.53588	0.24612	0.2825	0.52862	0.374674932

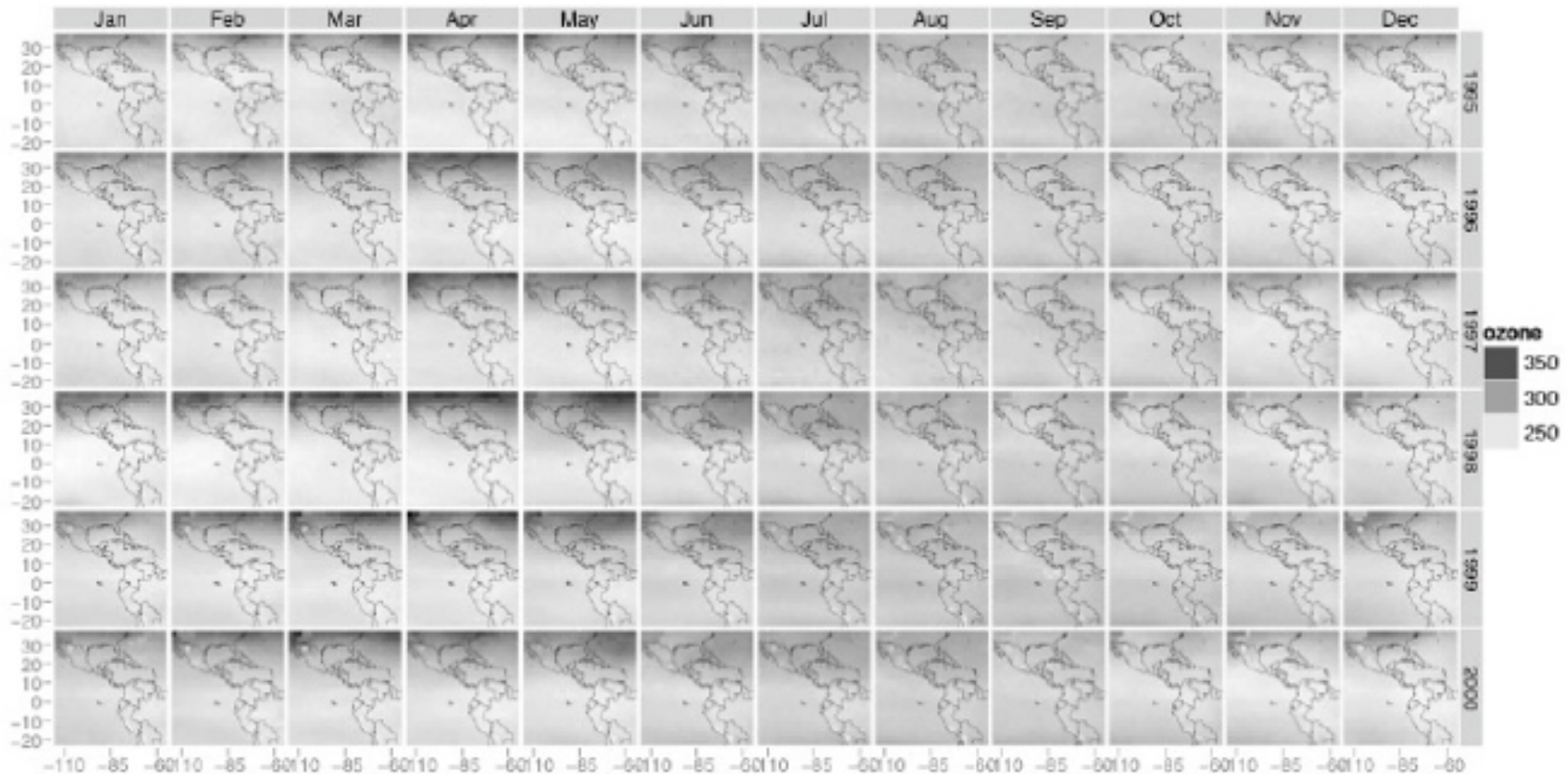




```
ggplot(diamonds, aes(x=price, fill=cut))  
+ geom_bar(position="dodge")
```



```
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
```

```

var svg = div.append("svg:svg")
    .attr("width", w)
    .attr("height", w)
    .append("svg:g")
    .attr("transform", "translate(" + rx + "," + ry + ")");

svg.append("svg:path")
    .attr("class", "arc")
    .attr("d", d3.svg.arc().outerRadius(ry - 120).innerRadius(0).startAngle(0).endAngle(2 * Math.PI))
    .on("mousedown", mousedown);

d3.json("data/flare-imports.json", function(classes) {
    var nodes = cluster.nodes(packages.root(classes)),
        links = packages.imports(nodes),
        splines = bundle(links);

    var path = svg.selectAll("path.link")
        .data(links)
        .enter().append("svg:path")
        .attr("class", function(d) { return "link source-" + d.source.key + " target-" + d.target.key; })
        .attr("d", function(d, i) { return line(splines[i]); });

    svg.selectAll("g.node")
        .data(nodes.filter(function(n) { return !n.children; }))
        .enter().append("svg:g")
        .attr("class", "node")
        .attr("id", function(d) { return "node-" + d.key; })
        .attr("transform", function(d) { return "rotate(" + (d.x - 90) + ")translate(" + d.y + ")"; })
        .append("svg:text")
        .attr("dx", function(d) { return d.x < 180 ? 8 : -8; })
        .attr("dy", ".31em")
        .attr("text-anchor", function(d) { return d.x < 180 ? "start" : "end"; })
        .attr("transform", function(d) { return d.x < 180 ? null : "rotate(180)"; })
        .text(function(d) { return d.key; })
        .on("mouseover", mouseover)
        .on("mouseout", mouseout);

    d3.select("input[type=range]").on("change", function() {
        line.tension(this.value / 100);
        path.attr("d", function(d, i) { return line(splines[i]); });
    });
});
});

```





# **Graphics APIs**

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

## **Component Architectures**

Prefuse, Flare, Improvise, VTK

## **Graphics APIs**

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

# **Chart Typologies**

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

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# **Visual Analysis Grammars**

VizQL, ggplot2

# **Component Architectures**

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# **Graphics APIs**

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

**Ease-of-Use**



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**Expressiveness**



**Ease-of-Use**



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## **Visual Analysis Grammars**

VizQL, ggplot2

## **Visualization Grammars**

Protovis, D3.js

## **Component Architectures**

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## **Chart Typologies**

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Charting  
Tools

---

## **Visual Analysis Grammars**

VizQL, ggplot2

Declarative  
Languages

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# What is a Declarative Language?

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Programming by describing *what*, not *how*

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

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

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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.

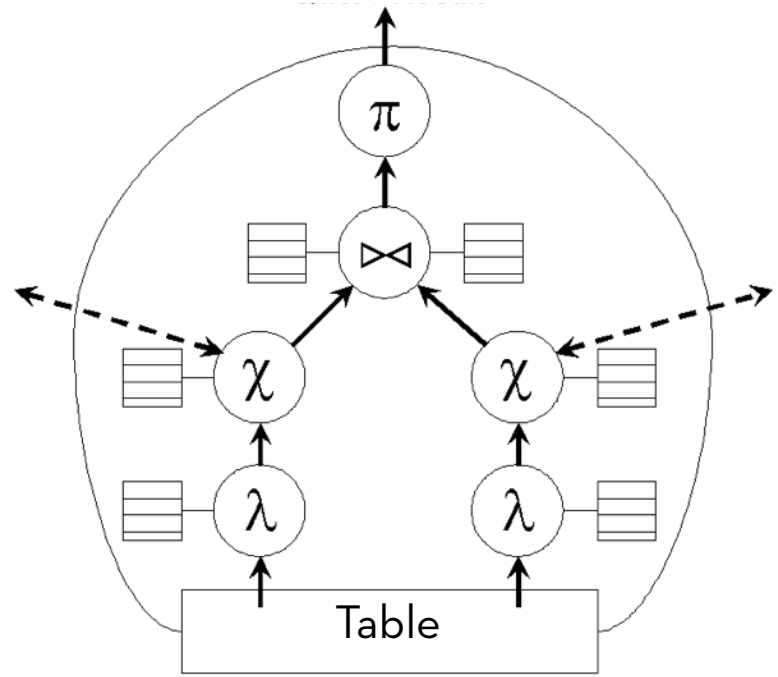
- Brooks: No Second Thoughts
- Herbert: The Corrosion of America
- Cohen: Turkey Steps Out
- Editorial: Mortgage Mess
- Bloggingheads: Jon Stewart's Power

**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>
    
    <script src="http://graphics8.nytimes.com/js/test/wto/wt_capi...">
    <span id="to_scrip">...</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

# Chart Typologies

Excel, Many Eyes, Google Charts

Charting  
Tools

---

## Visual Analysis Grammars

VizQL, ggplot2

Declarative  
Languages

## Visualization Grammars

Protovis, D3.js

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## Component Architectures

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Programming  
Toolkits

## Graphics APIs

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VizQL, ggplot2, *Vegalite*

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**Portability.** *Multiple devices, renderers, inputs.*

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**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.*

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Toolkits

## **Graphics APIs**

Processing, OpenGL, Java2D

## Interactive Data Exploration

Tableau, *Lyra, Polestar, Voyager*

Graphical  
Interfaces

## Visual Analysis Grammars

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**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

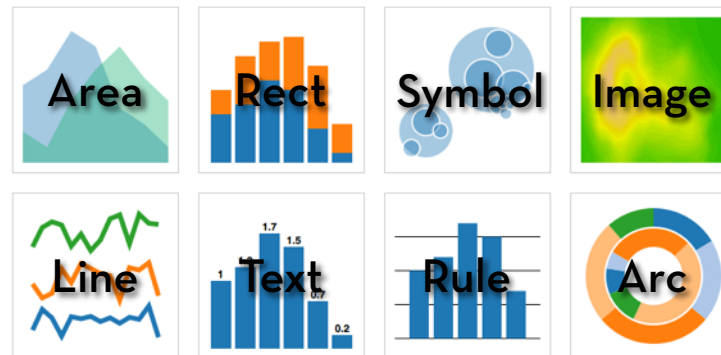
<b>Data</b>	Input data to visualize
<b>Transforms</b>	Grouping, stats, projection, layout
<b>Scales</b>	Map data values to visual values

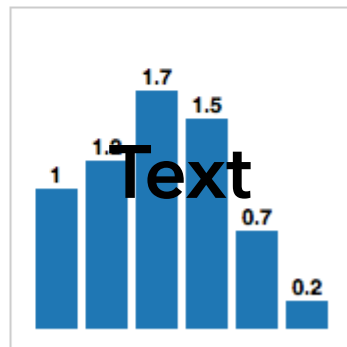
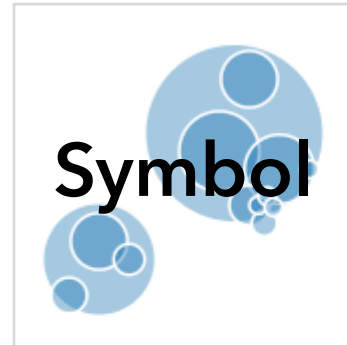
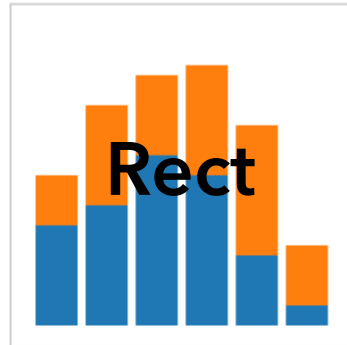
# Visualization Grammar

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

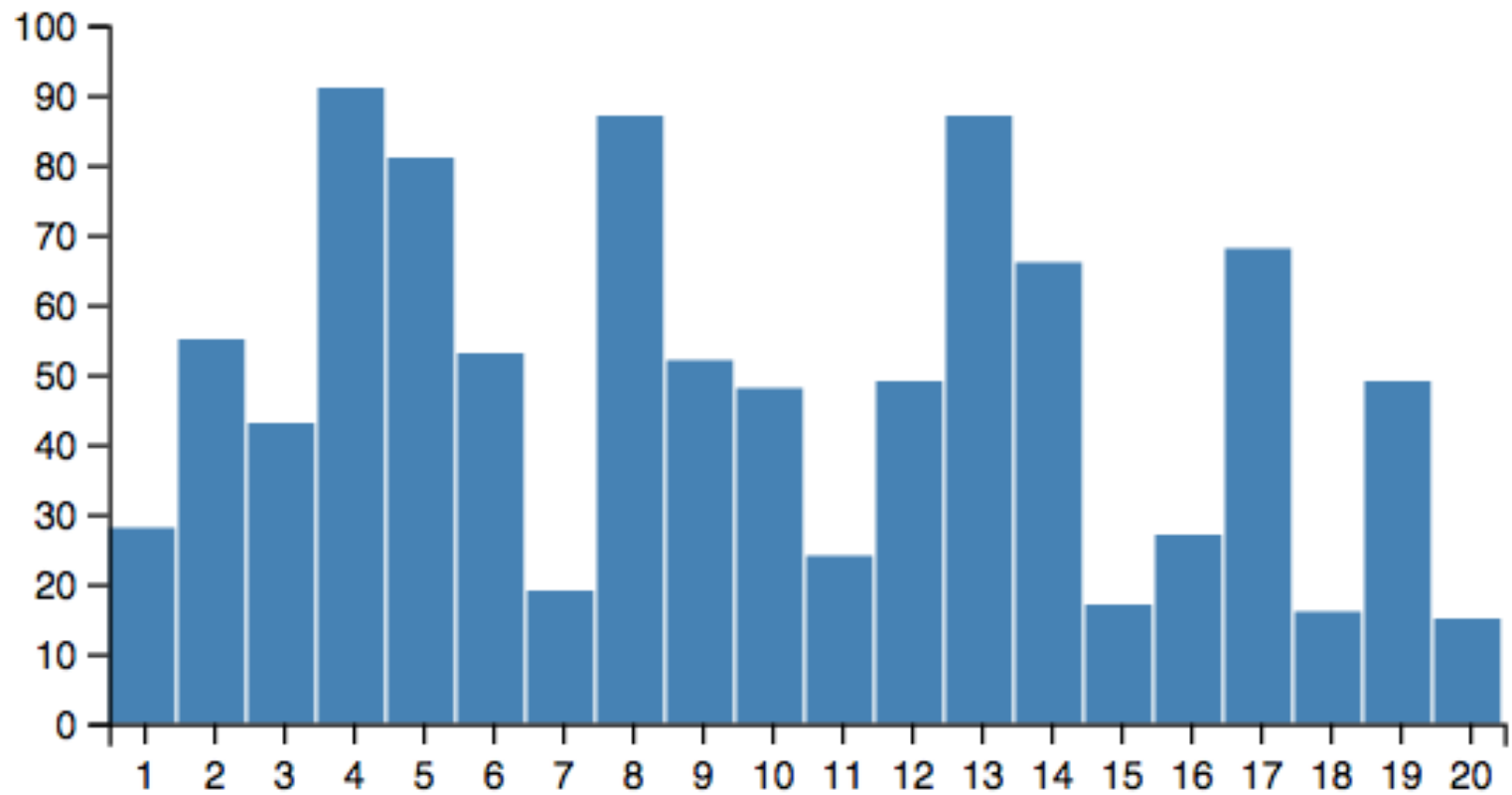
# Visualization Grammar

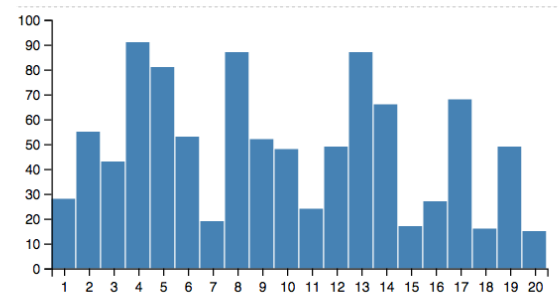
<b>Data</b>	Input data to visualize
<b>Transforms</b>	Grouping, stats, projection, layout
<b>Scales</b>	Map data values to visual values
<b>Guides</b>	Axes & legends visualize scales
<b>Marks</b>	Data-representative graphics





## MARKS: Graphical Primitives



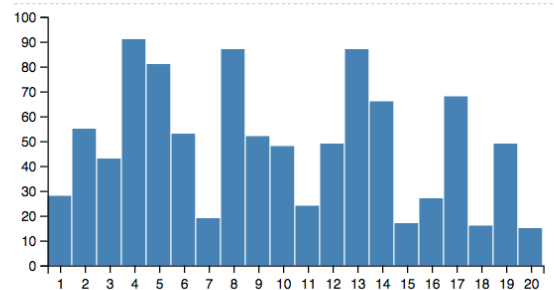




```

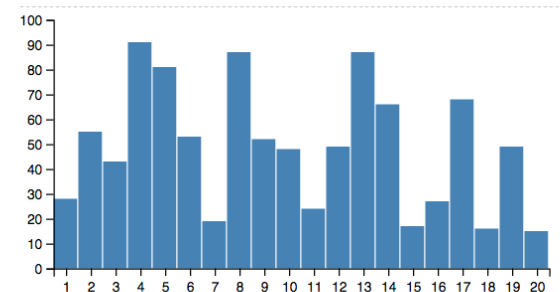
{
  "width": 400, "height": 200,
  "data": [
    {"name": "table", "url": "/data/sample.json"}
  ],
  "scales": [
    {
      "name": "x", "type": "ordinal",
      "range": "width",
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "x"}
    },
    {
      "name": "y",
      "range": "height", "nice": true,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

```



## Data + Transforms

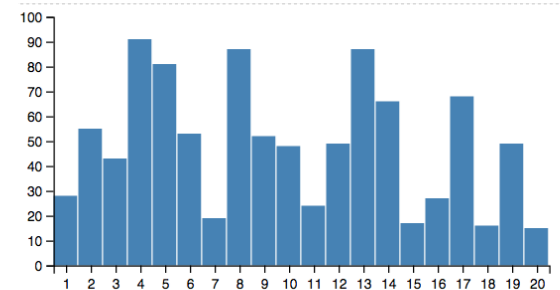
```
{
  "width": 400, "height": 200,
  "data": [
    {"name": "table", "url": "/data/sample.json"}
  ],
  "scales": [
    {
      "name": "x", "type": "ordinal",
      "range": "width",
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "x"}
    },
    {
      "name": "y",
      "range": "height", "nice": true,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

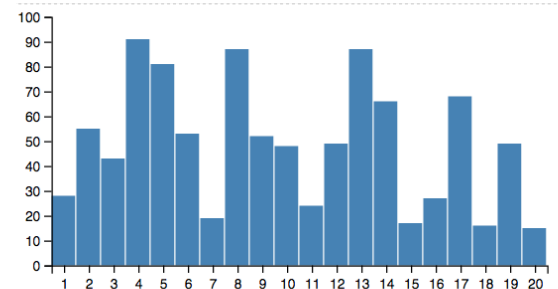


## Data + Transforms

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

Scales

Guides



```

{
  "width": 400, "height": 200,
  "data": [
    {"name": "table", "url": "/data/sample.json"}
  ],
  "scales": [
    {
      "name": "x", "type": "ordinal",
      "range": "width",
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "x"}
    },
    {
      "name": "y",
      "range": "height", "nice": true,
      "domain": {"data": "table", "field": "y"}
    }
  ],
  "axes": [
    {"type": "x", "scale": "x"},
    {"type": "y", "scale": "y"}
  ],
  "marks": [{
    "type": "rect",
    "from": {"data": "table"}, (Data + Transforms)
    "properties": {
      "enter": {
        "x": {"scale": "x", "field": "x"},
        "width": {"scale": "x", "band": true, "offset": -1},
        "y": {"scale": "y", "field": "y"},
        "y2": {"scale": "y", "value": 0},
        "fill": {"value": "steelblue"}
      }
    }
  ]
}

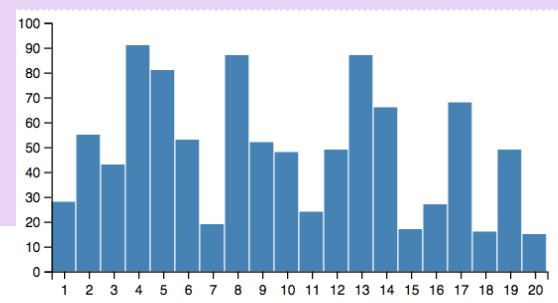
```

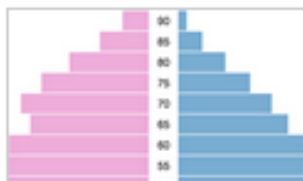
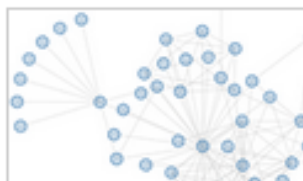
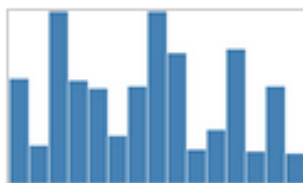
## Data + Transforms

## Scales

## Guides

## Marks





# vega

[vega.min.js](#) (188k)

[Source](#) (GitHub)

**Vega** is a visualization grammar, a declarative format for creating, saving and sharing visualization designs.

With Vega you can describe data visualizations in a JSON format, and generate interactive views using either HTML5 Canvas or SVG.

Read the [tutorial](#), browse the [documentation](#), join the [discussion](#), and explore visualizations using the web-based [Vega Editor](#).



**Vega**

**D3.js**

**JavaScript**

**SVG**

**Canvas**

**Lyra**

**Vega**

**D3.js**

**JavaScript**

**SVG**

**Canvas**





## The Lyra Visualization Design Environment (VDE) <sup>alpha</sup> Arvind Satyanarayan, Kanit "Ham" Wongsuphasawat, Jeffrey Heer

PEOPLE  
PAPERS  
VIDEO  
CODE



[idl.cs.washington.edu/projects/lyra](http://idl.cs.washington.edu/projects/lyra)

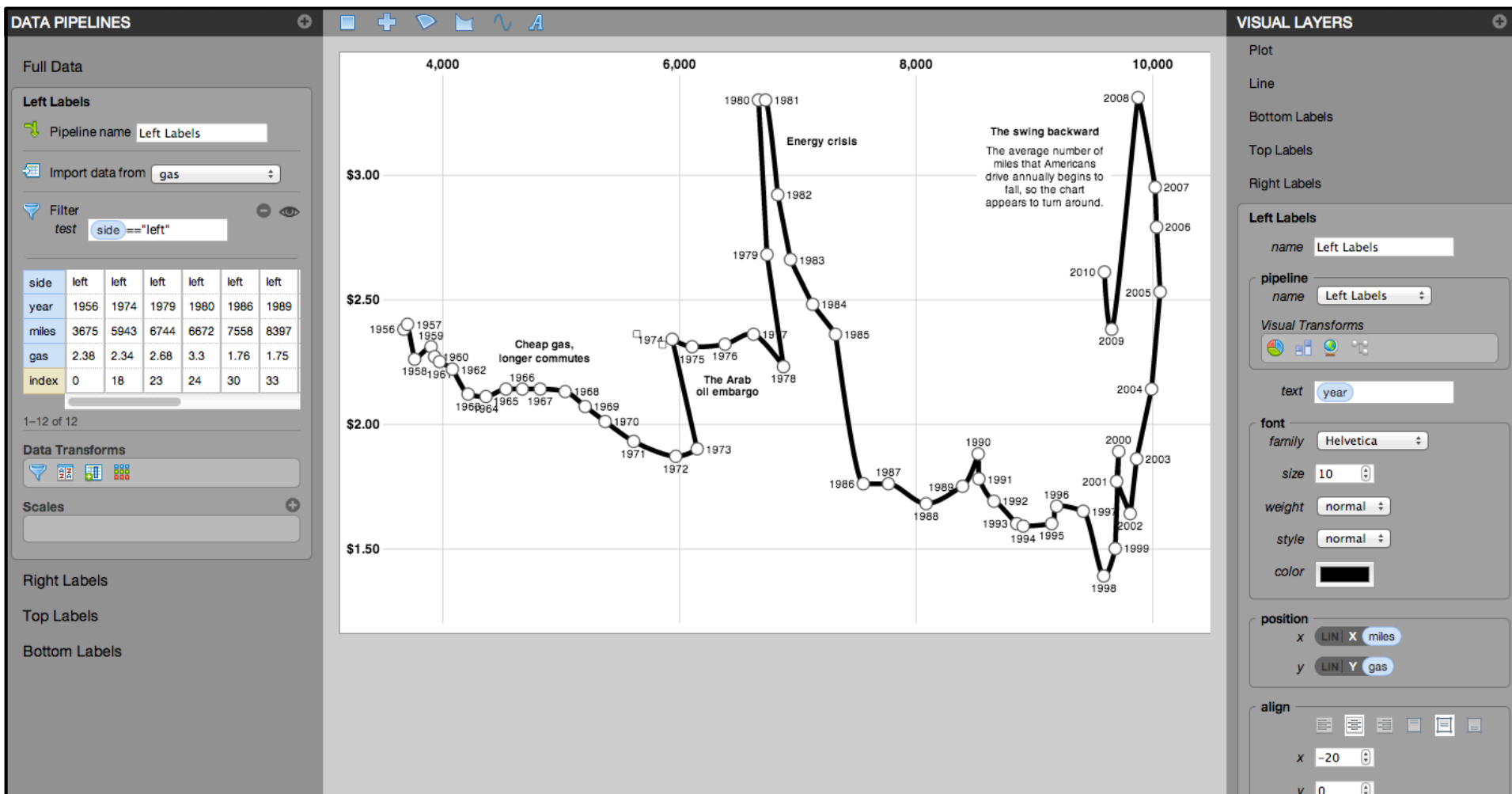
William Playfair's classic chart comparing the price of wheat and wages in England recreated in the Lyra VDE.

### 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.

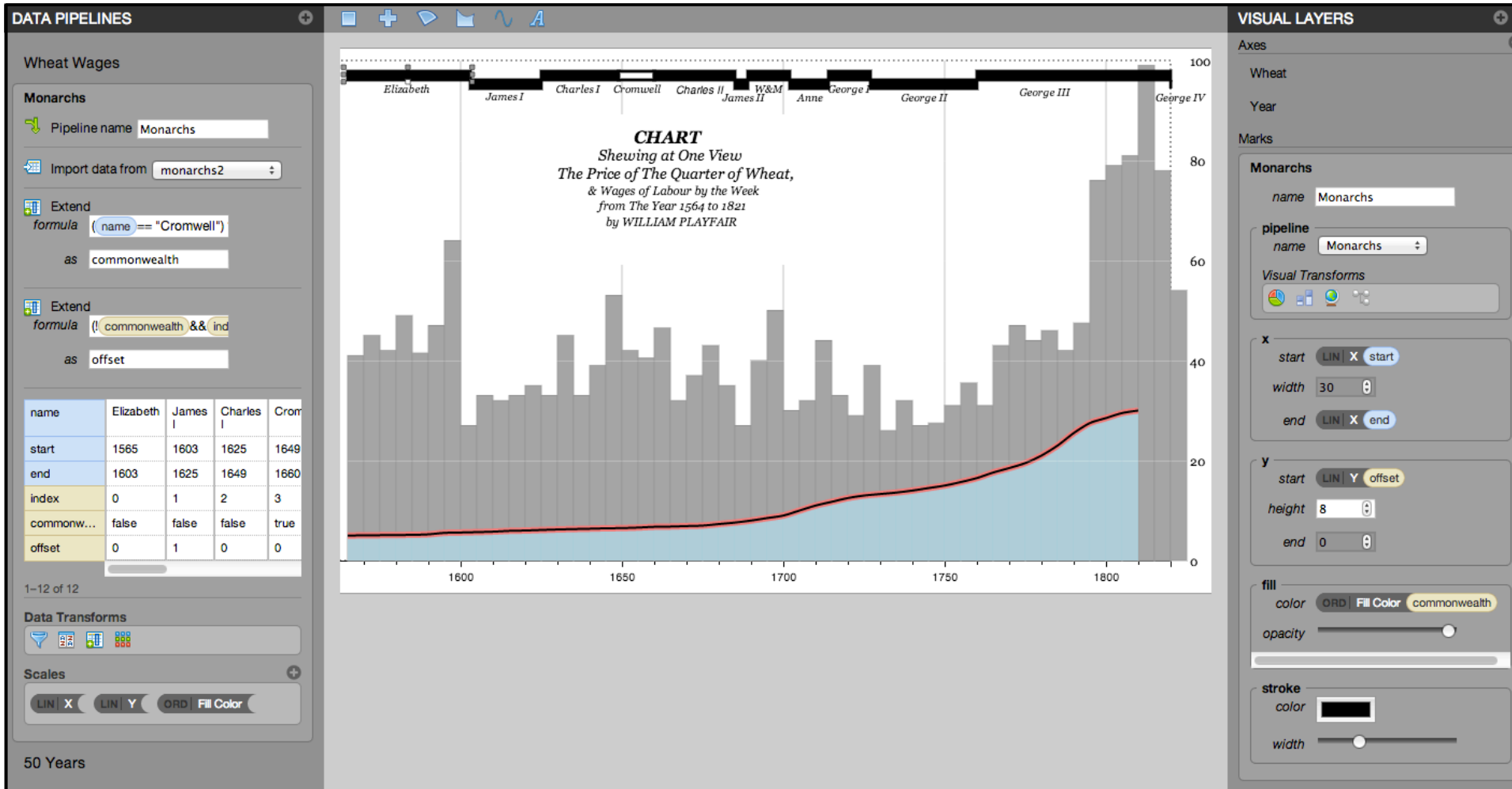


# Lyra A Visualization Design Environment



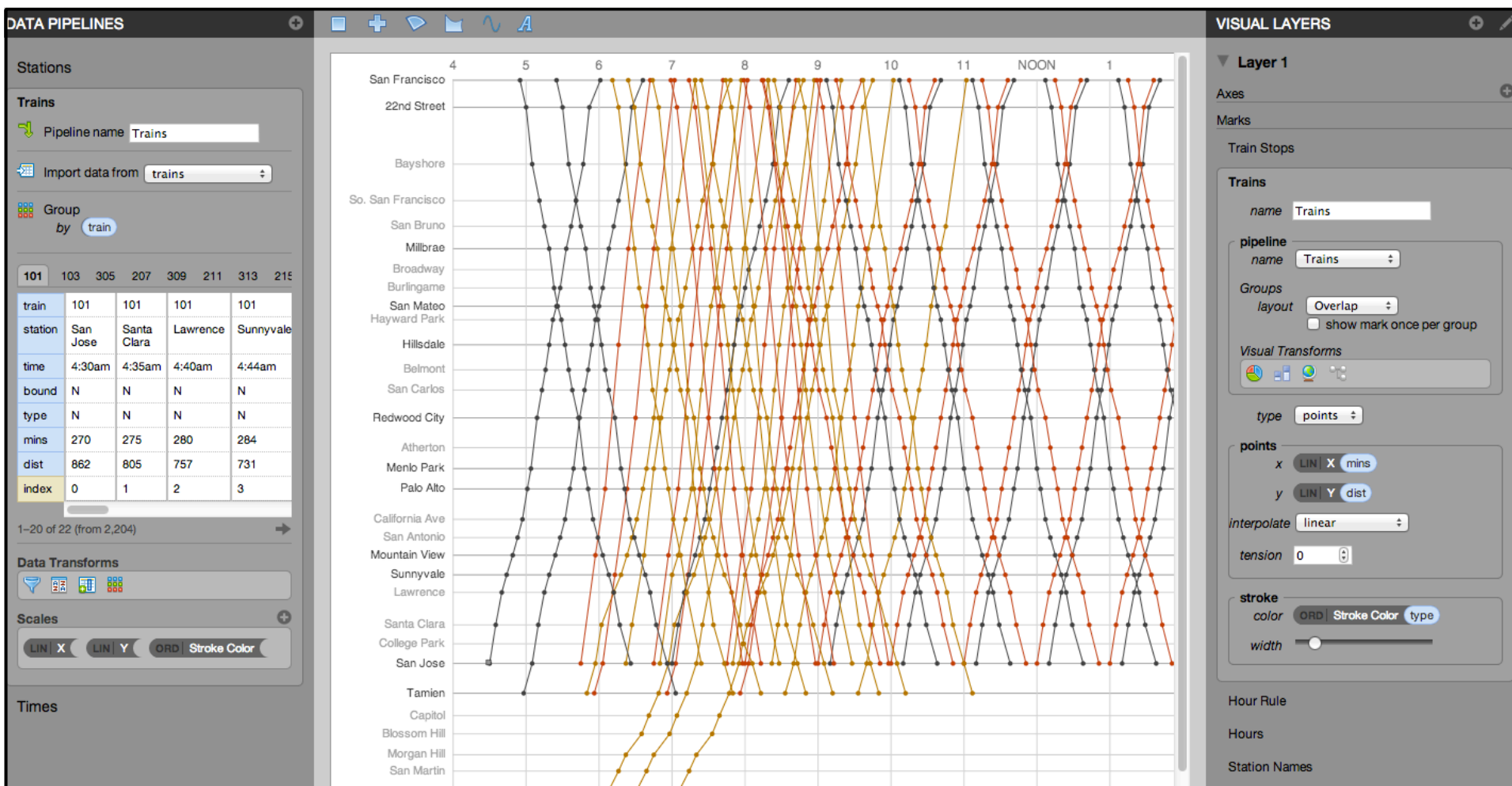
Driving Shifts into Reverse by Hannah Fairfield, NYTimes

# Lyra A Visualization Design Environment



by William Playfair

# Lyra A Visualization Design Environment



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

**Lyra**

**Vega**

**D3.js**

**JavaScript**

**SVG**

**Canvas**

**Lyra**

**Vegalite**

**Vega**

**D3.js**

**JavaScript**

**SVG**

**Canvas**

# Vegalite

**A formal model for statistical graphics**

Inspired by *Grammar of Graphics* & *Tableau*

Includes **data transformation & encoding**

# Vegalite

**A formal model for statistical graphics**

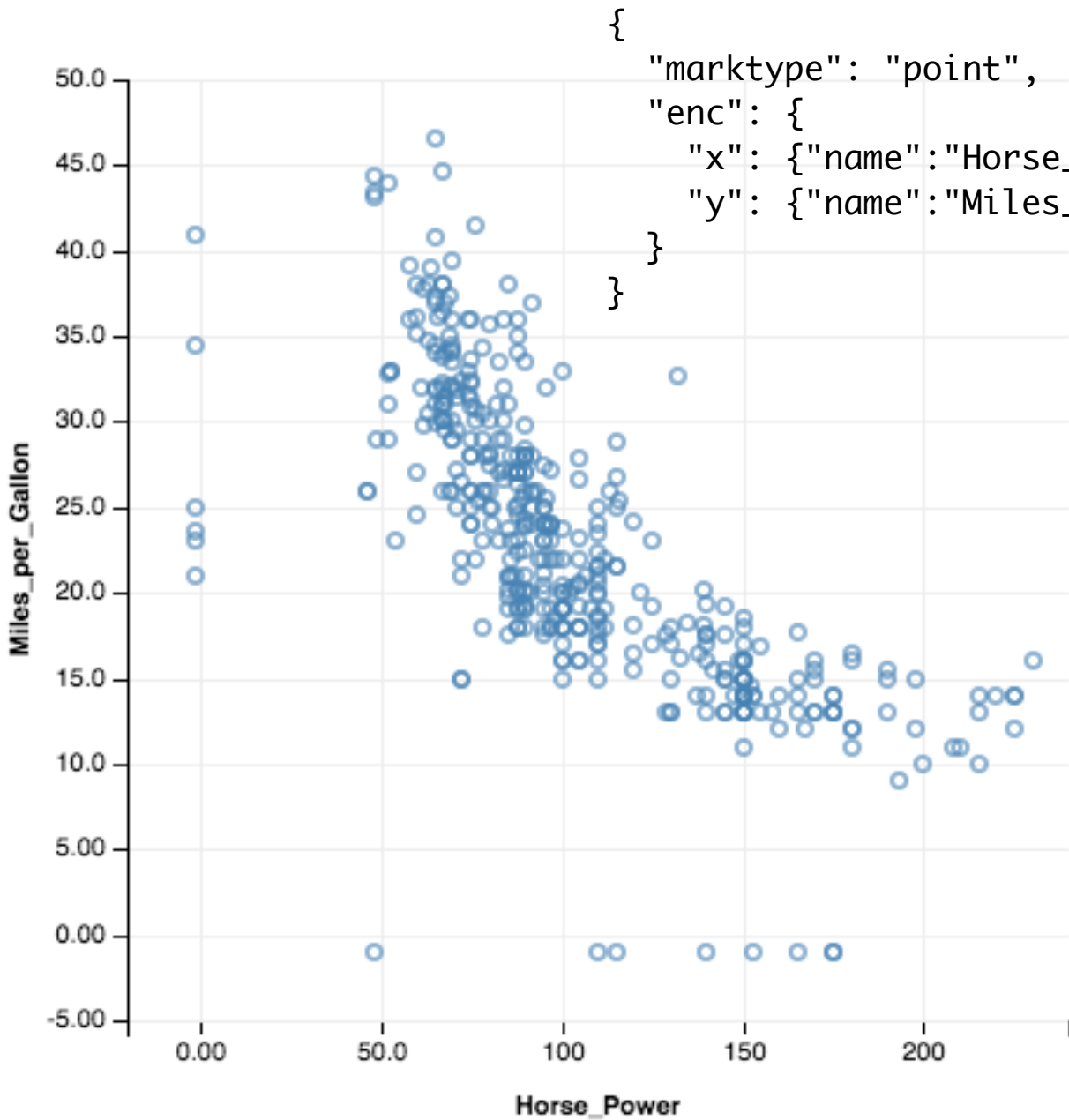
Inspired by *Grammar of Graphics* & *Tableau*

Includes **data transformation & encoding**

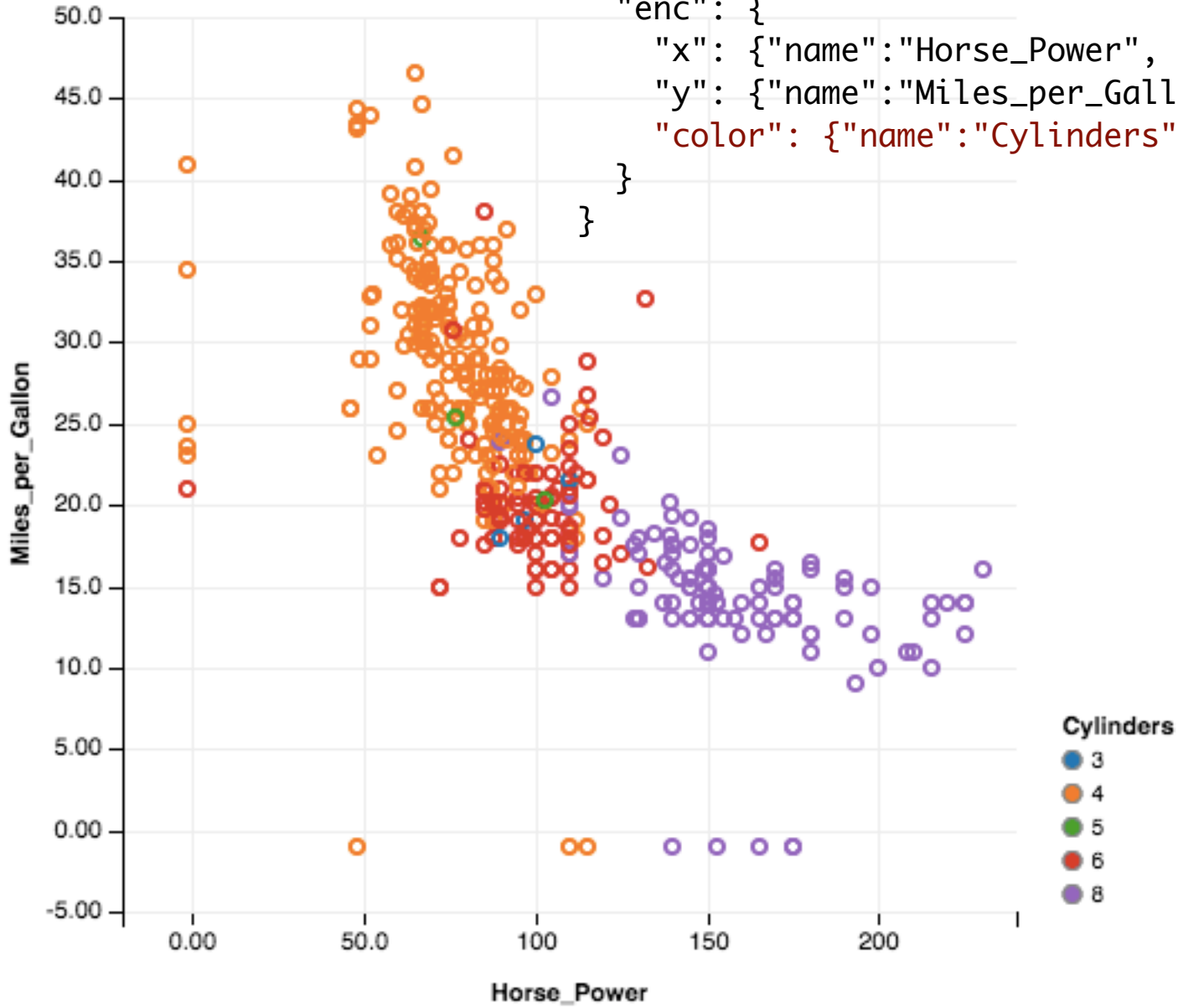
Uses a simple, concise **JSON format** that  
compiles to full-blown **Vega specifications**

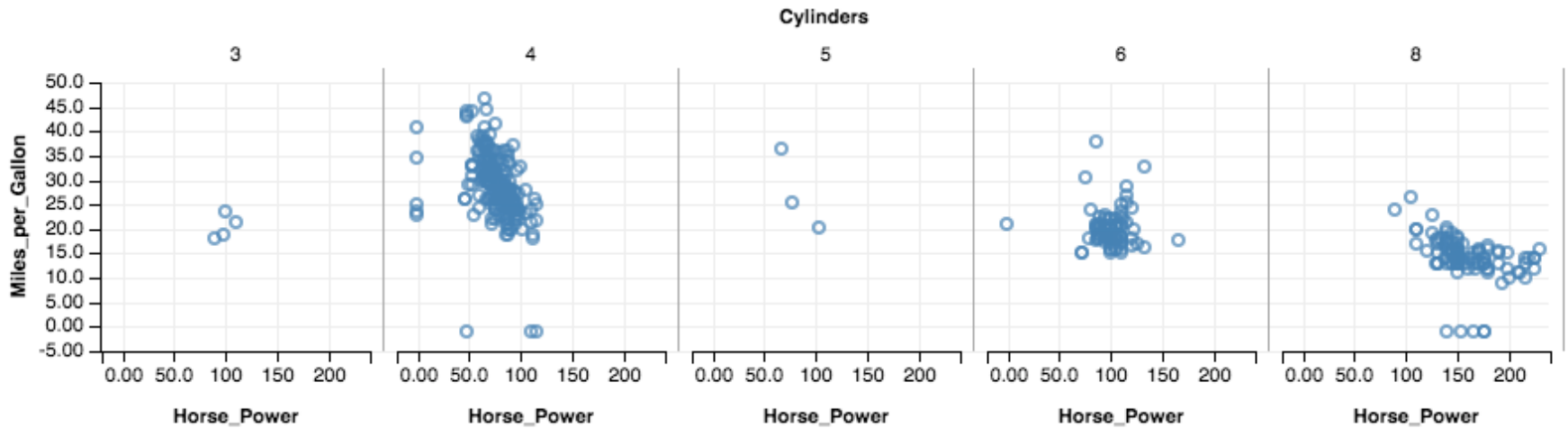
Easy **programmatic generation!**





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

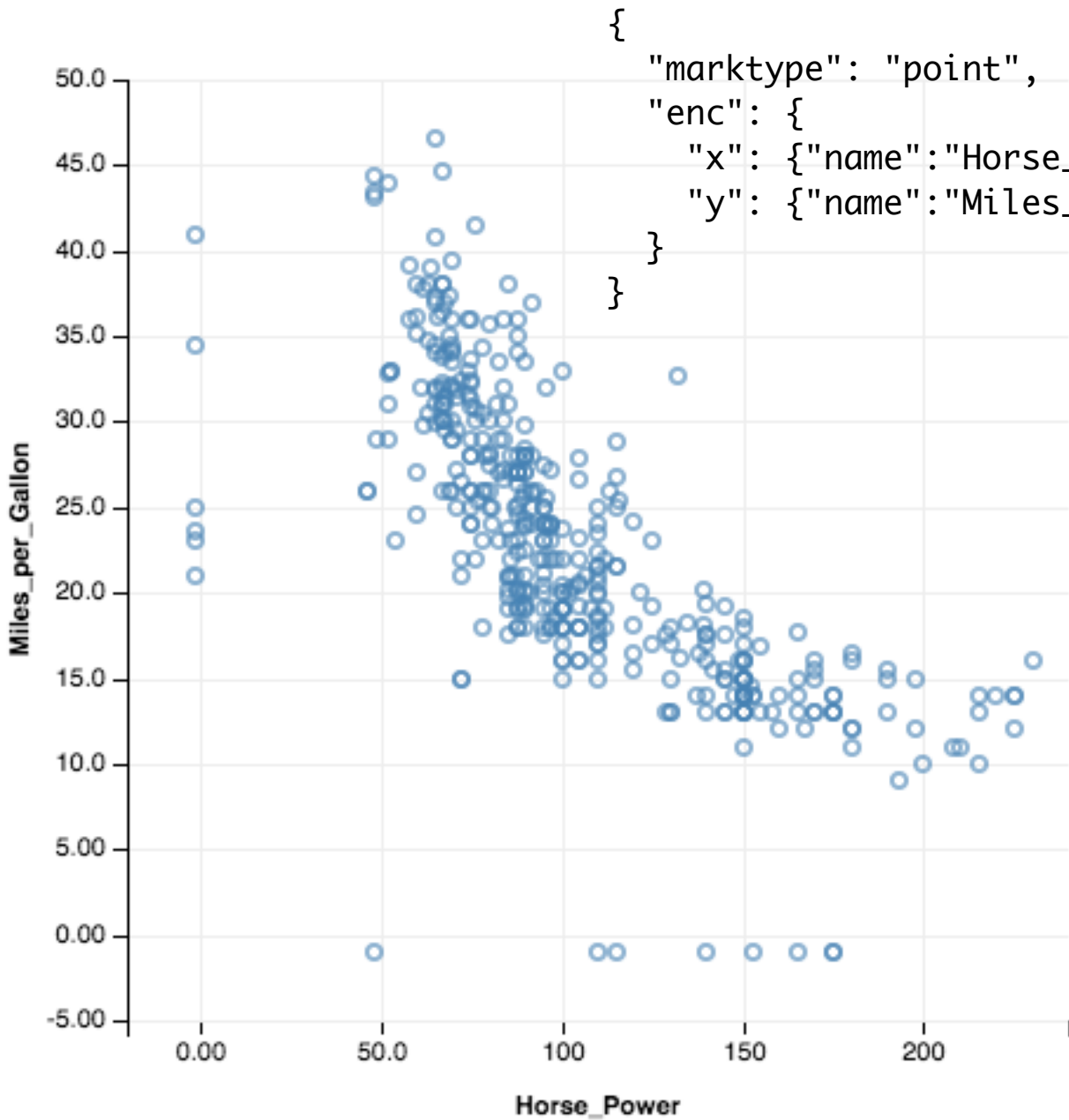


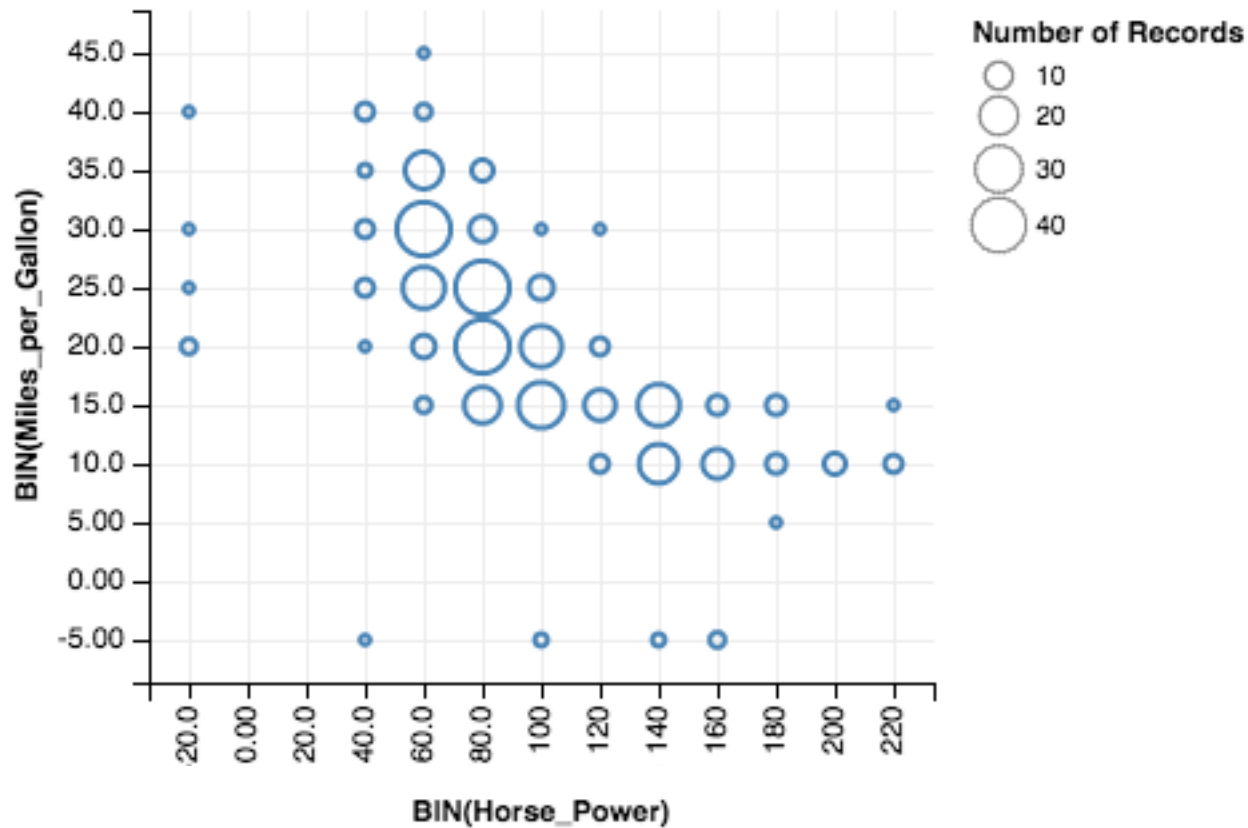


```

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

```





```

{
  "marktype": "point",
  "enc": {
    "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**

**Vegalite**

**Vega**

**D3.js**

**JavaScript**

**SVG**

**Canvas**

**Polestar**

**Lyra**

**Vegalite**

**Vega**

**D3.js**

**JavaScript**

**SVG**

**Canvas**

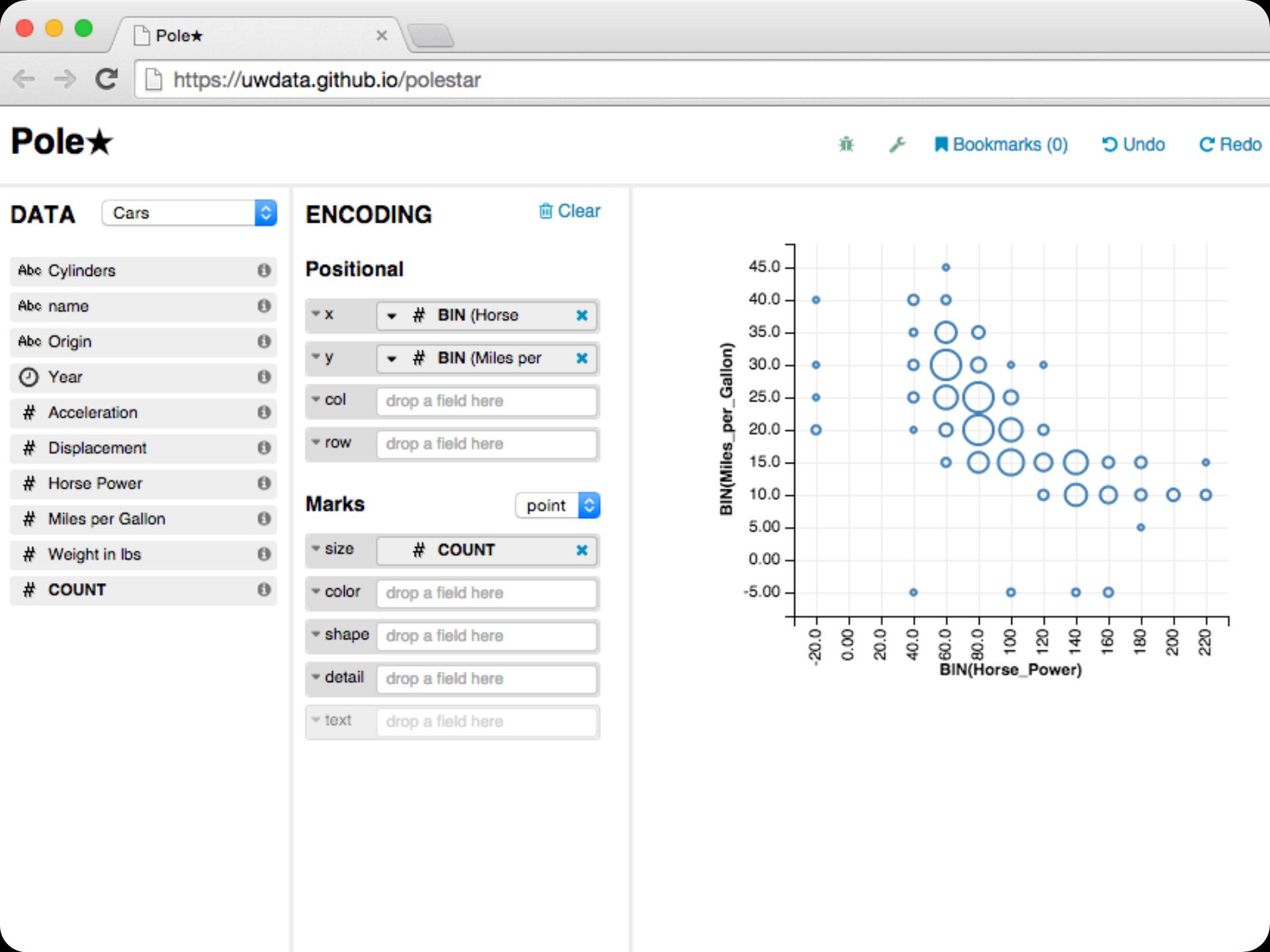
# Polestar

A graphical interface for **Vegalite**

**Rapid visualization** via drag-and-drop

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





**Polestar**

**Lyra**

**Vegalite**

**Vega**

**D3.js**

**JavaScript**

**SVG**

**Canvas**

**Voyager**

**Polestar**

**Lyra**

**Vegalite**

**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*

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**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



# Data Voyager

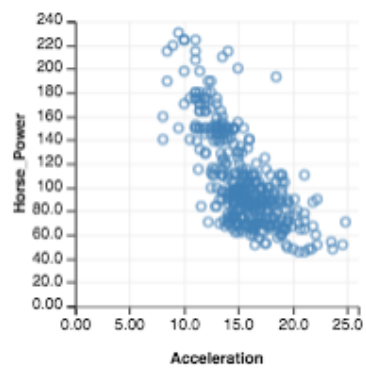
**DATA** Cars

- Abc Cylinders
- Abc name
- Abc Origin
- AUTO (Year)
- # AUTO (Acceleration)
- # AUTO (Displacement)
- # AUTO (Horse Power)
- # AUTO (Miles per Gallon)
- # AUTO (Weight in lbs)
- # COUNT

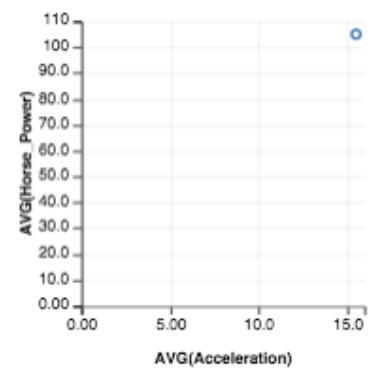
Reset

Showing Data Variations for # AUTO (Acceleration) # AUTO (Horse Power)

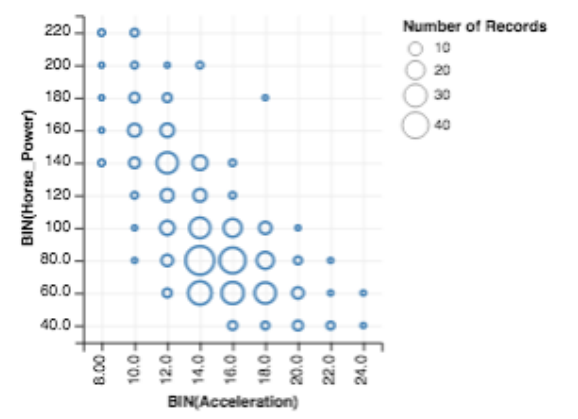
# Acceleration # Horse Power



# AVG (Acceleration) # AVG (Horse Power)

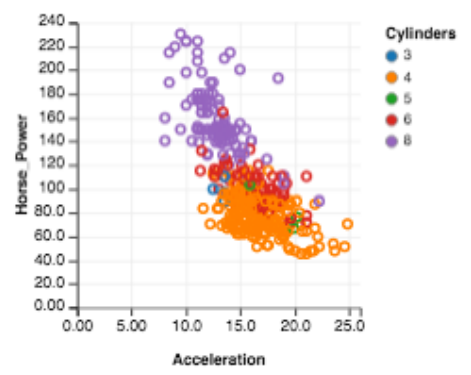


# BIN (Acceleration) # BIN (Horse Power) # COUNT

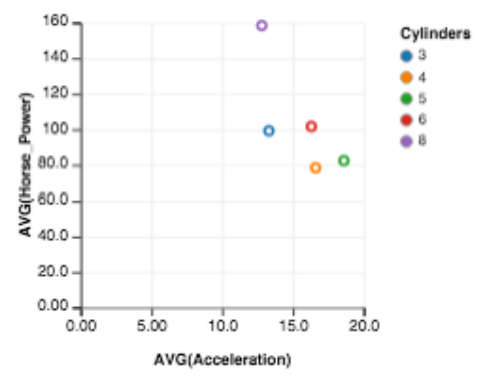


Showing Data Variations for # AUTO (Acceleration) # AUTO (Horse Power) with one additional field.

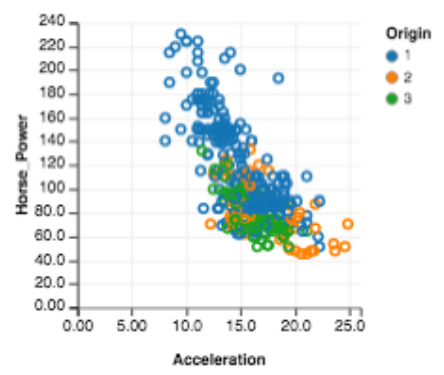
# Acceleration # Horse Power Abc Cylinders



# AVG (Acceleration) # AVG (Horse Power) Abc Cylinders



# Acceleration # Horse Power Abc Origin



# AVG (Acceleration) # AVG (Horse Power) Abc Origin



# Acceleration # Horse Power YEAR (Year)







User



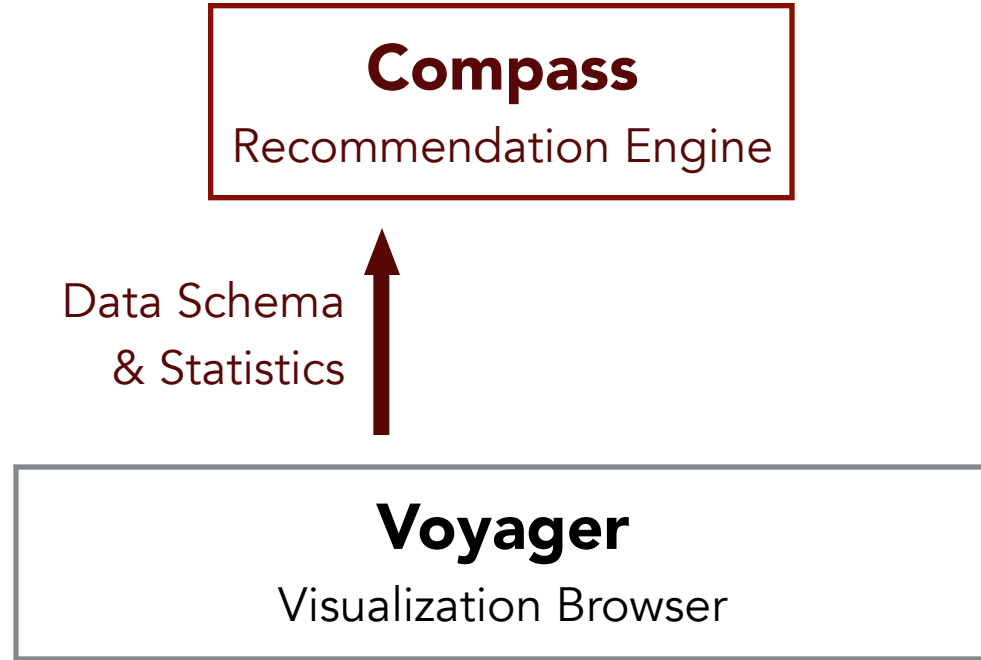
User

Data Set





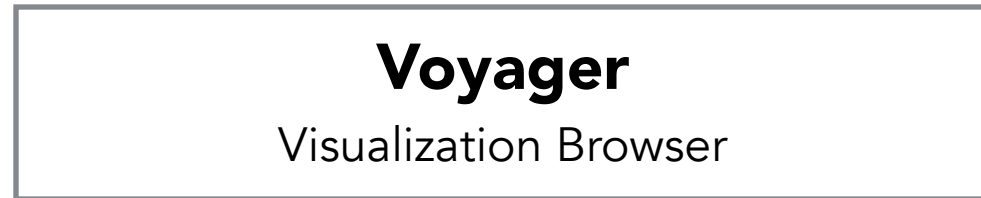
User



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



Data Schema  
& Statistics

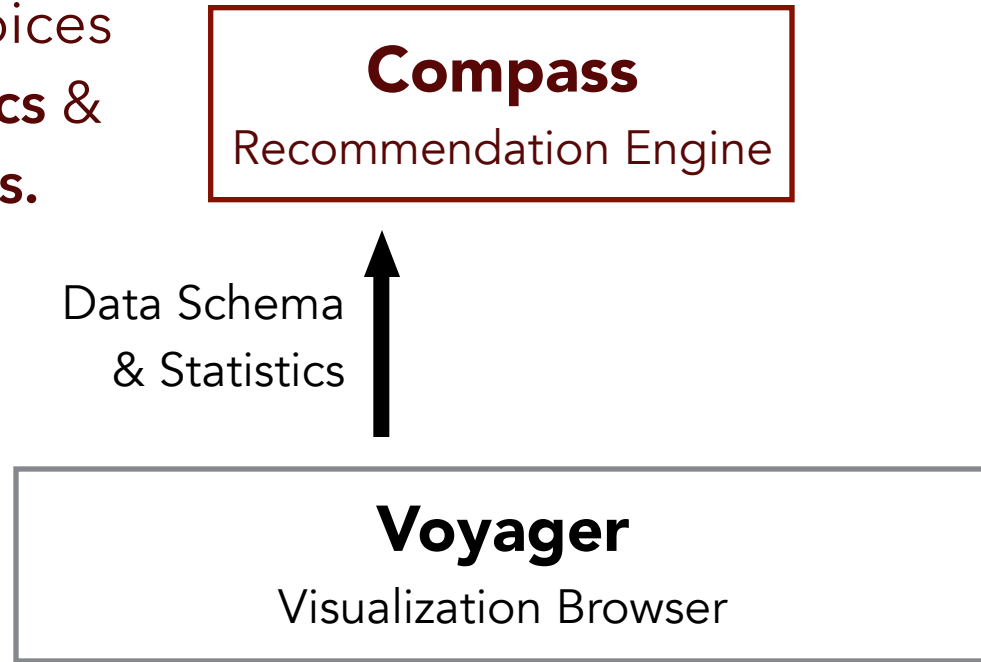


User

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

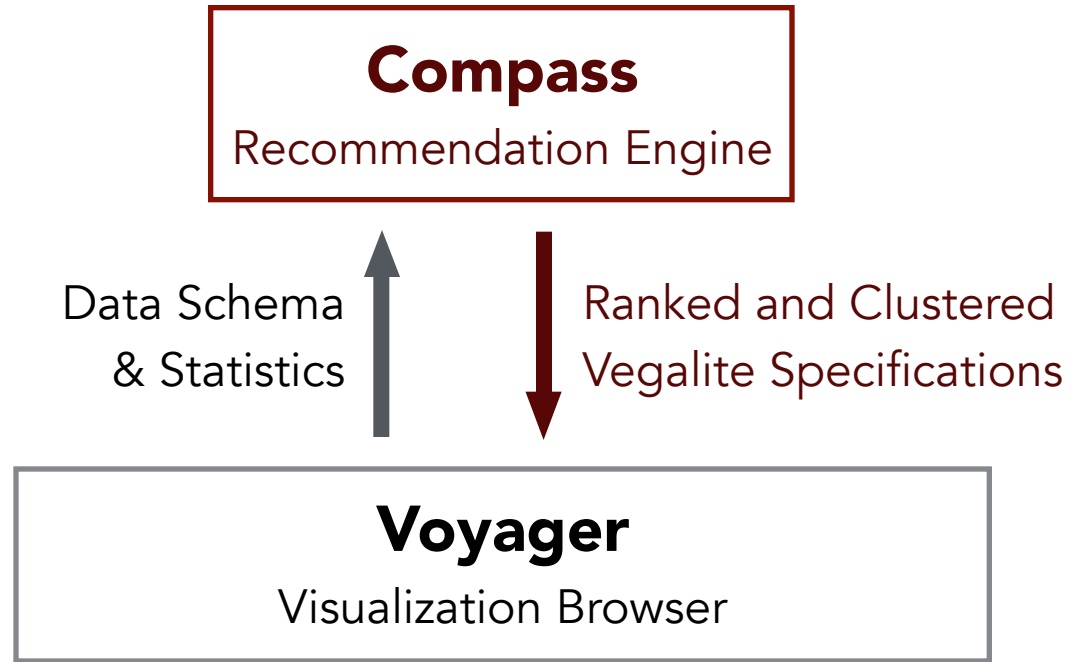


User





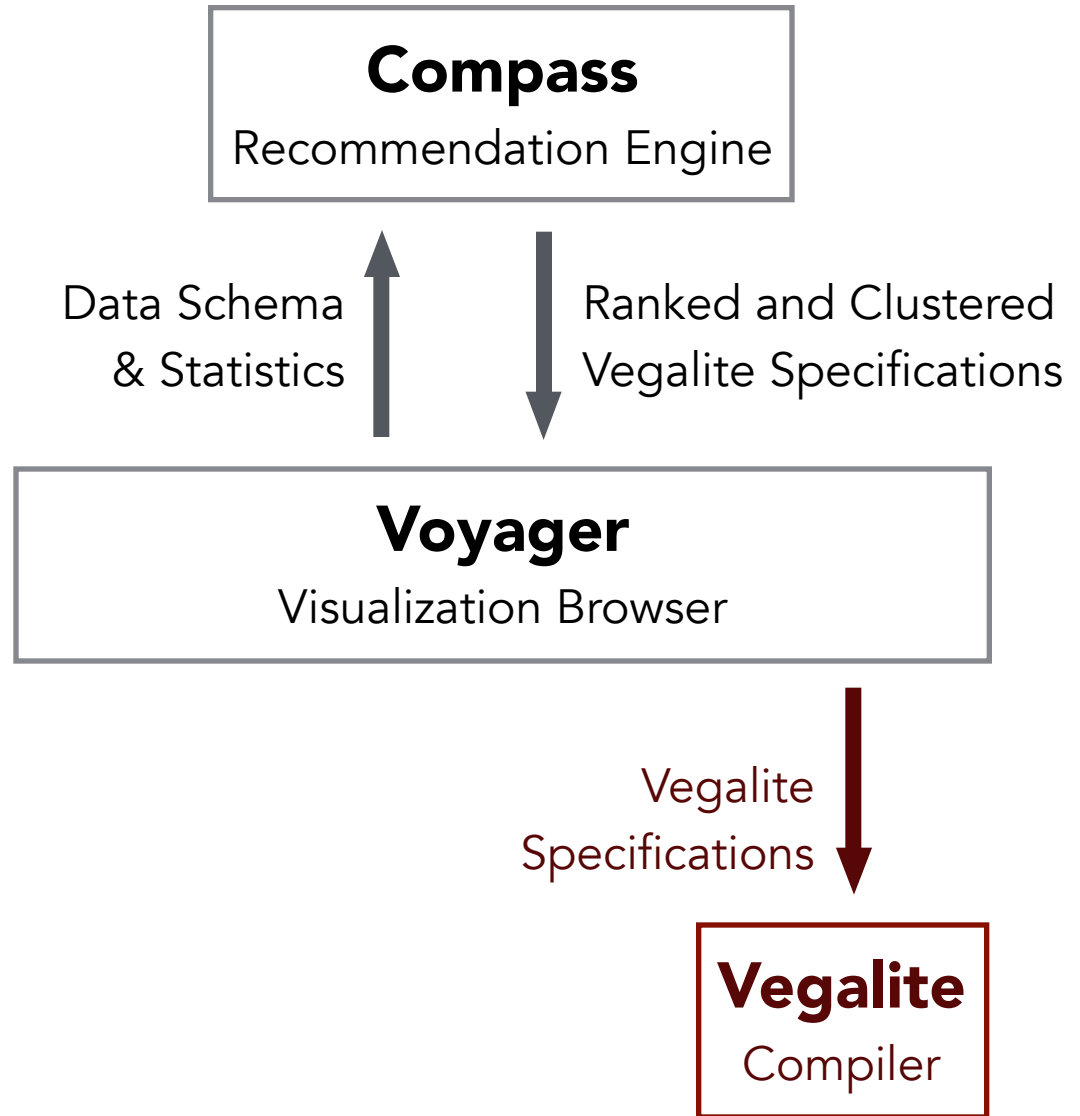
User





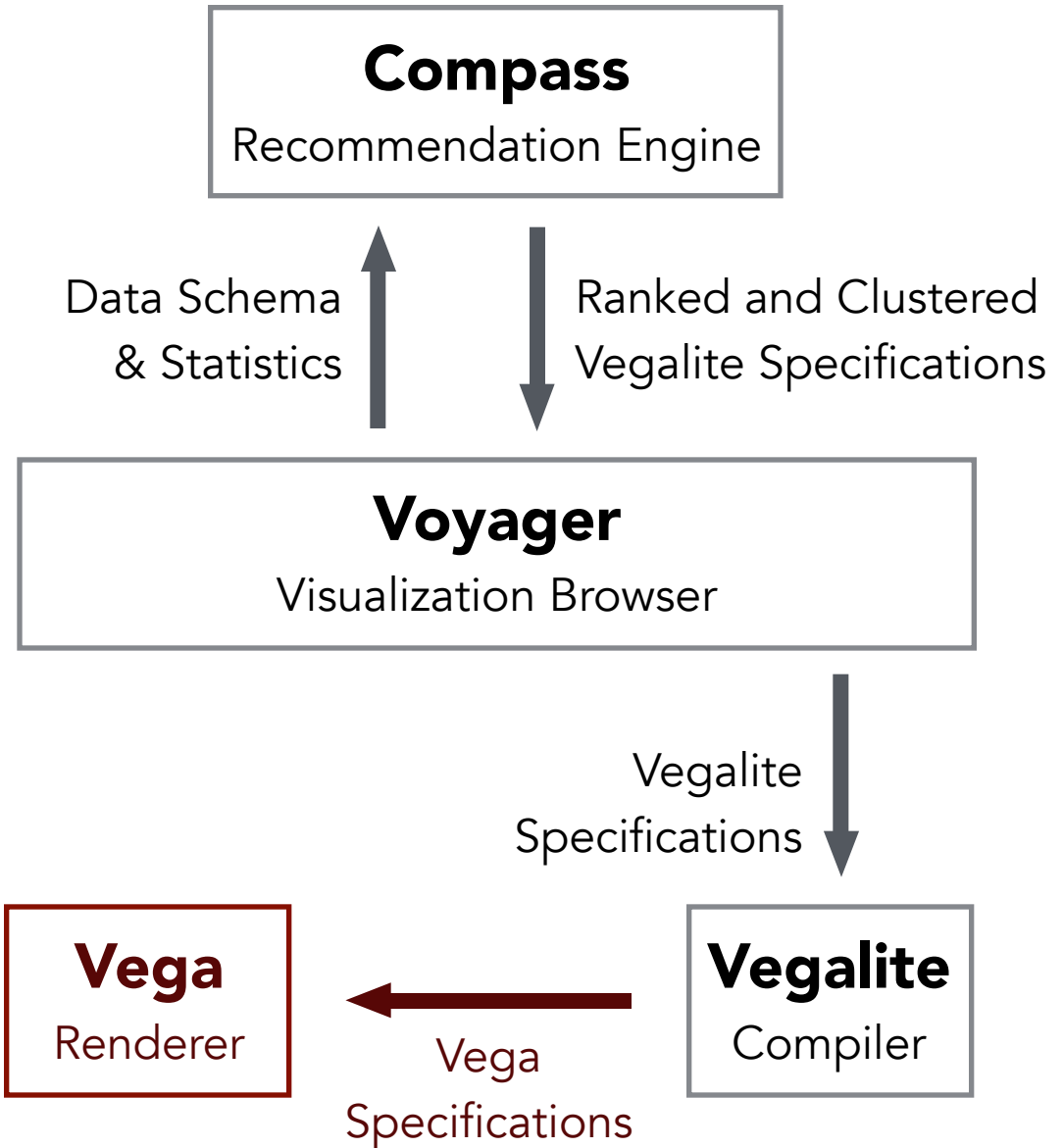


User



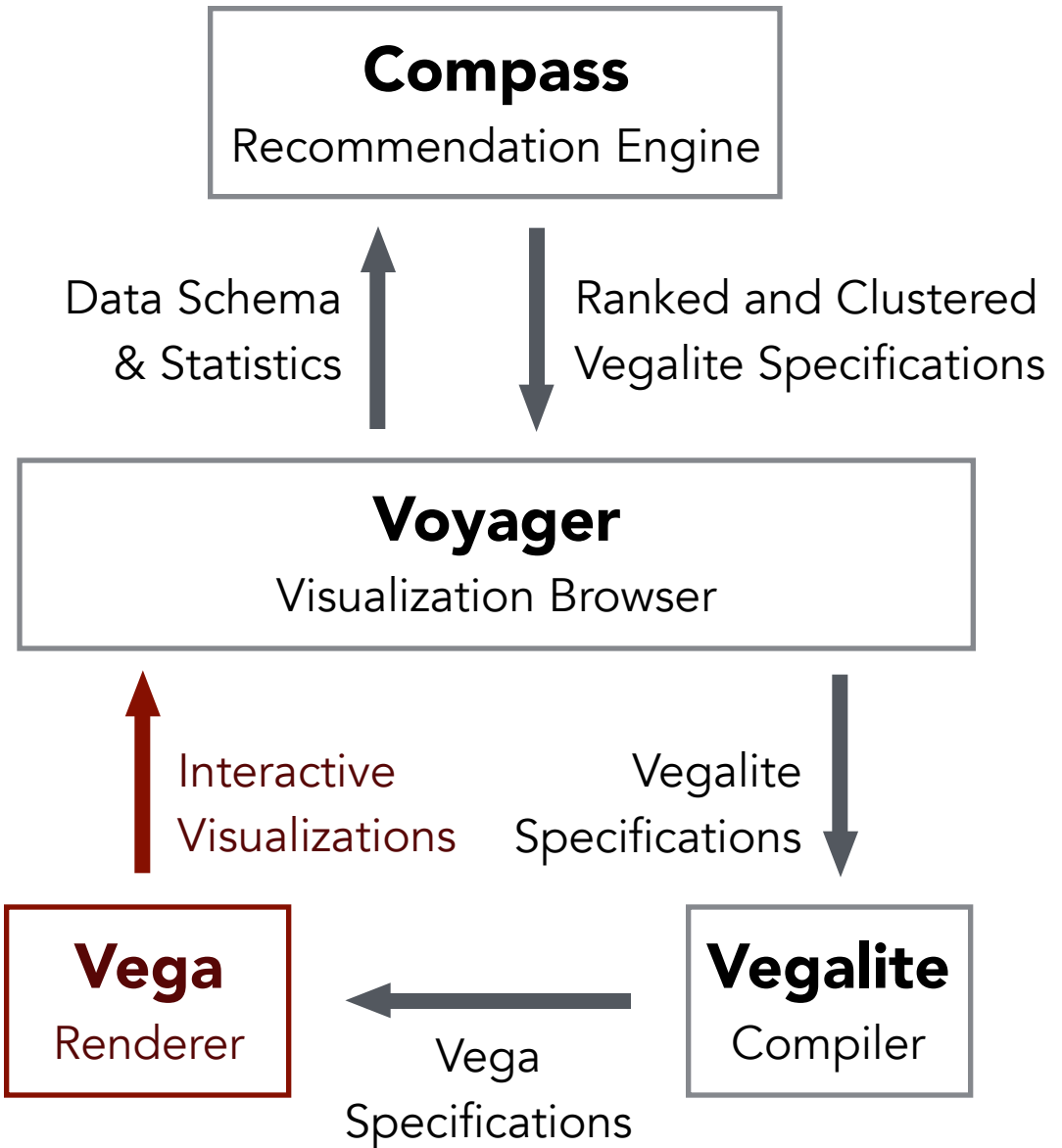


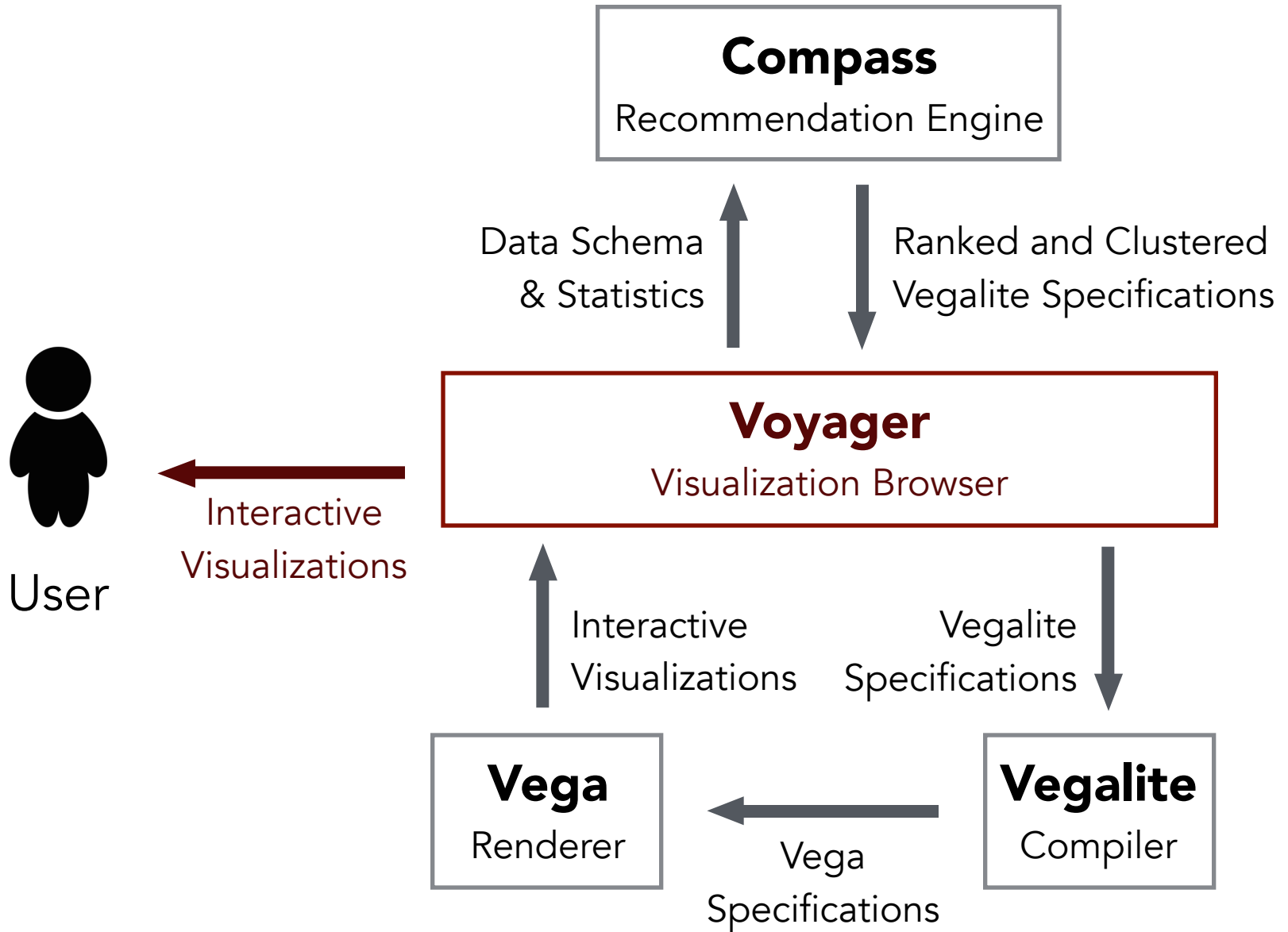
User

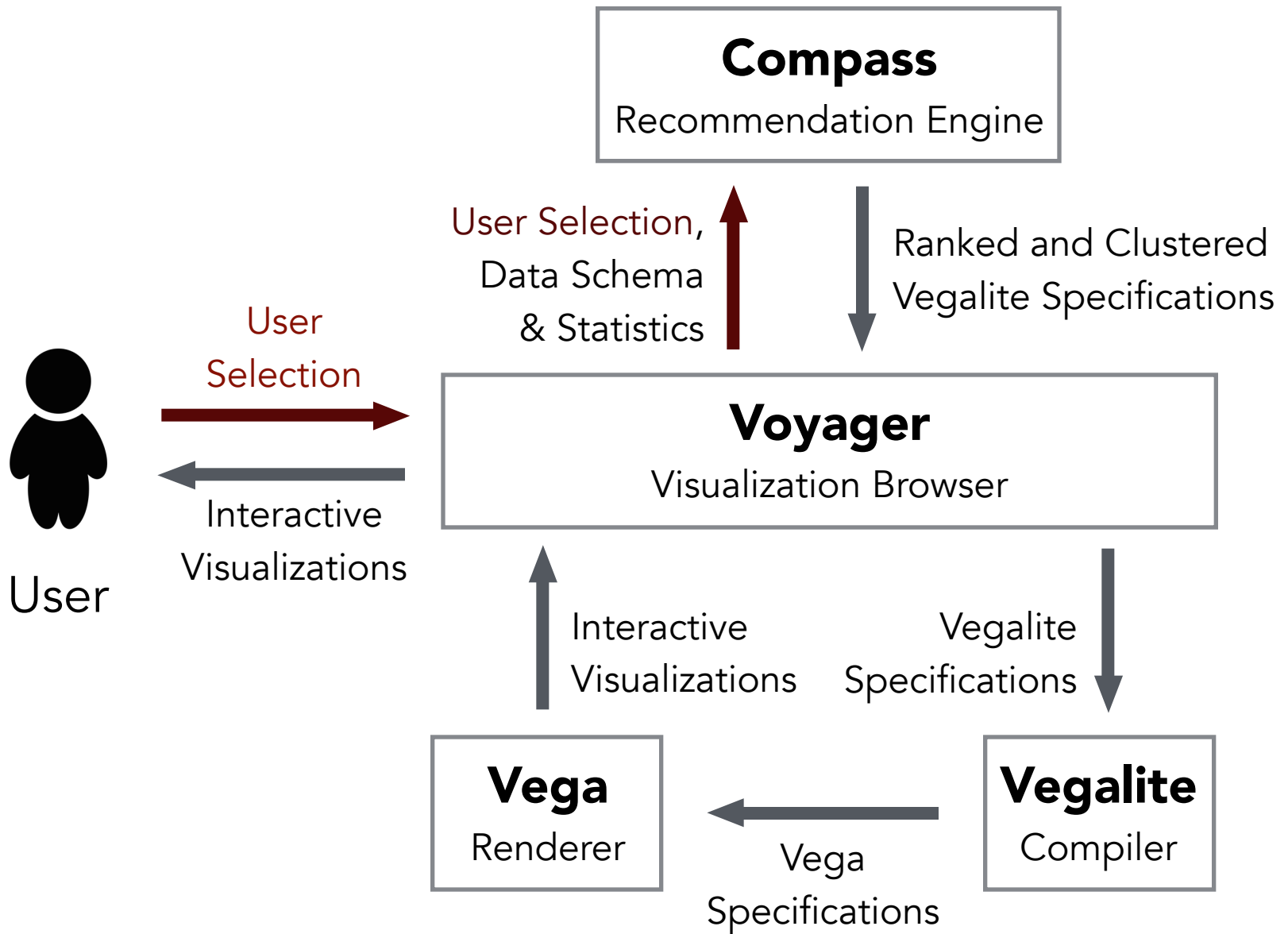




User



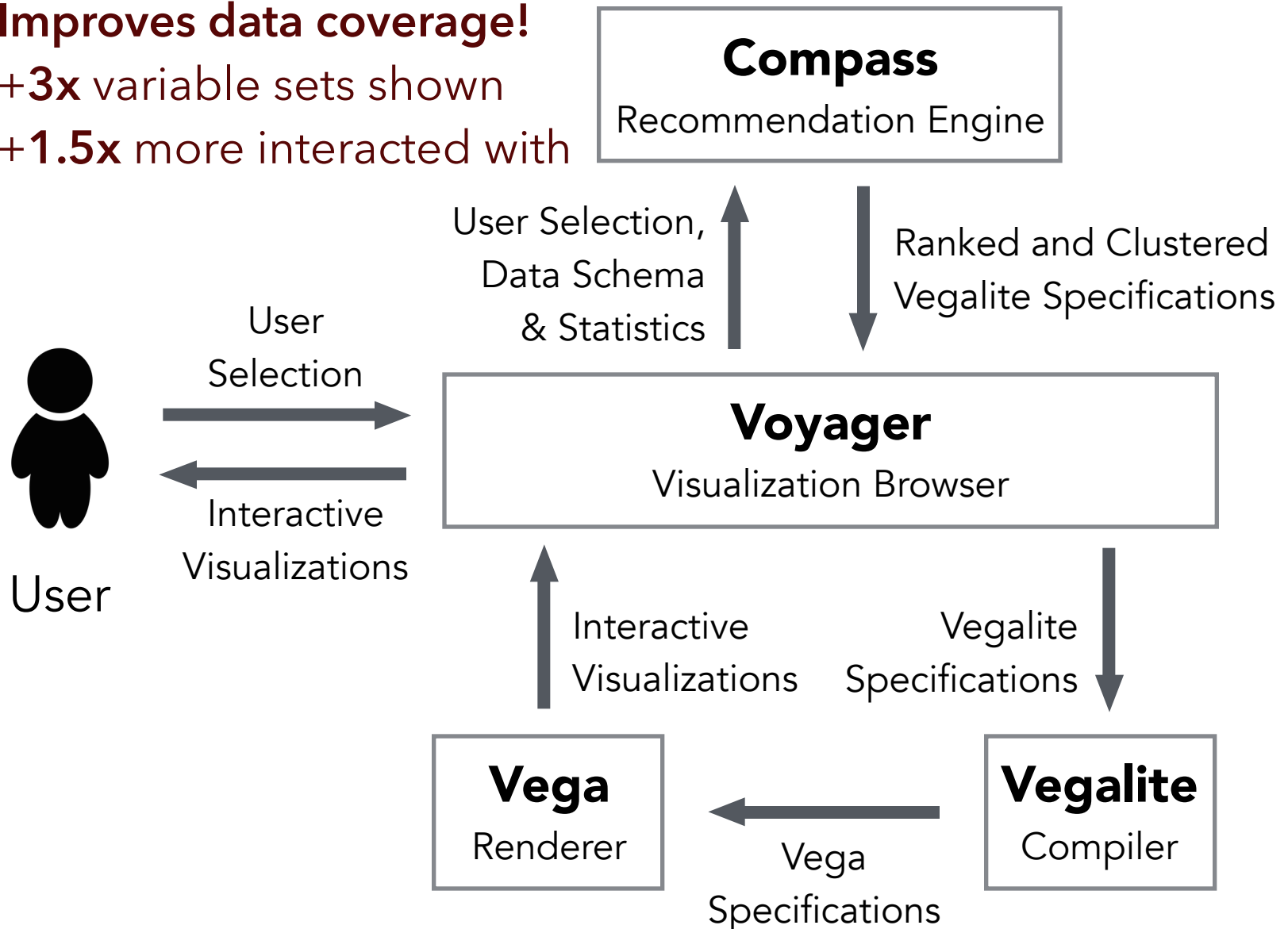




## Improves data coverage!

+3x variable sets shown

+1.5x more interacted with



**Voyager**

**Polestar**

**Lyra**

**Vegalite**

**Vega**

**D3.js**

**JavaScript**

**SVG**

**Canvas**

**Voyager**

**Polestar**

**Lyra**

**Vegalite**

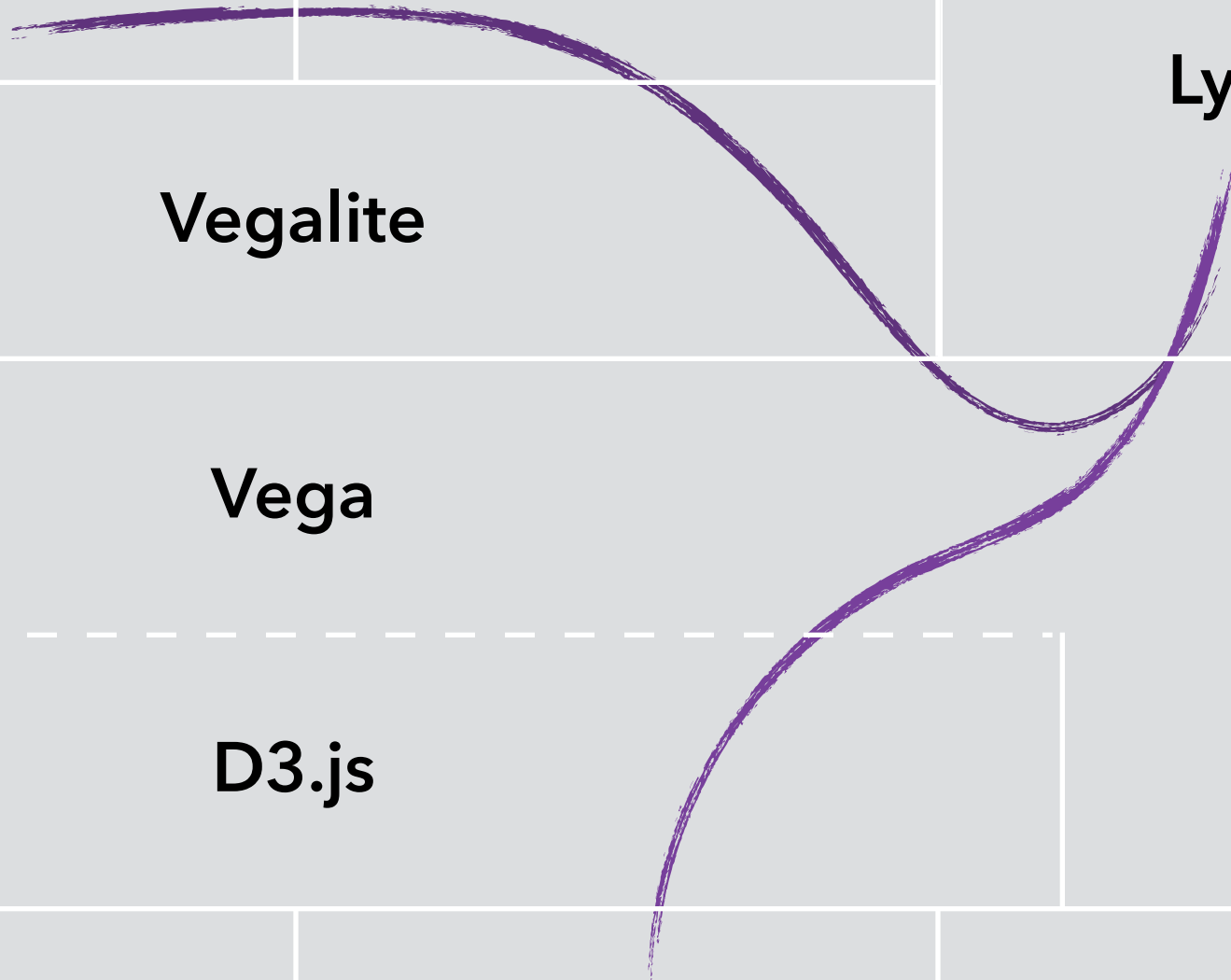
**Vega**

**D3.js**

**JavaScript**

**SVG**

**Canvas**





**One last thing...**

What about  
**interaction?**

**Voyager**

**Polestar**

**Lyra**

**Vegalite**

**Vega**

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**JavaScript**

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**Canvas**

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**Lyra**

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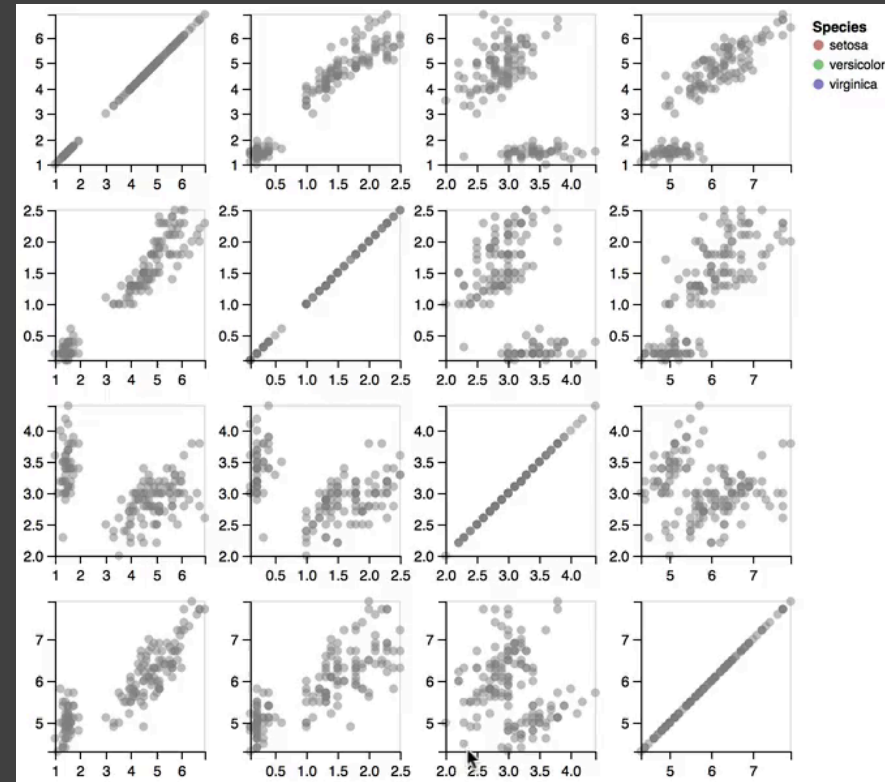
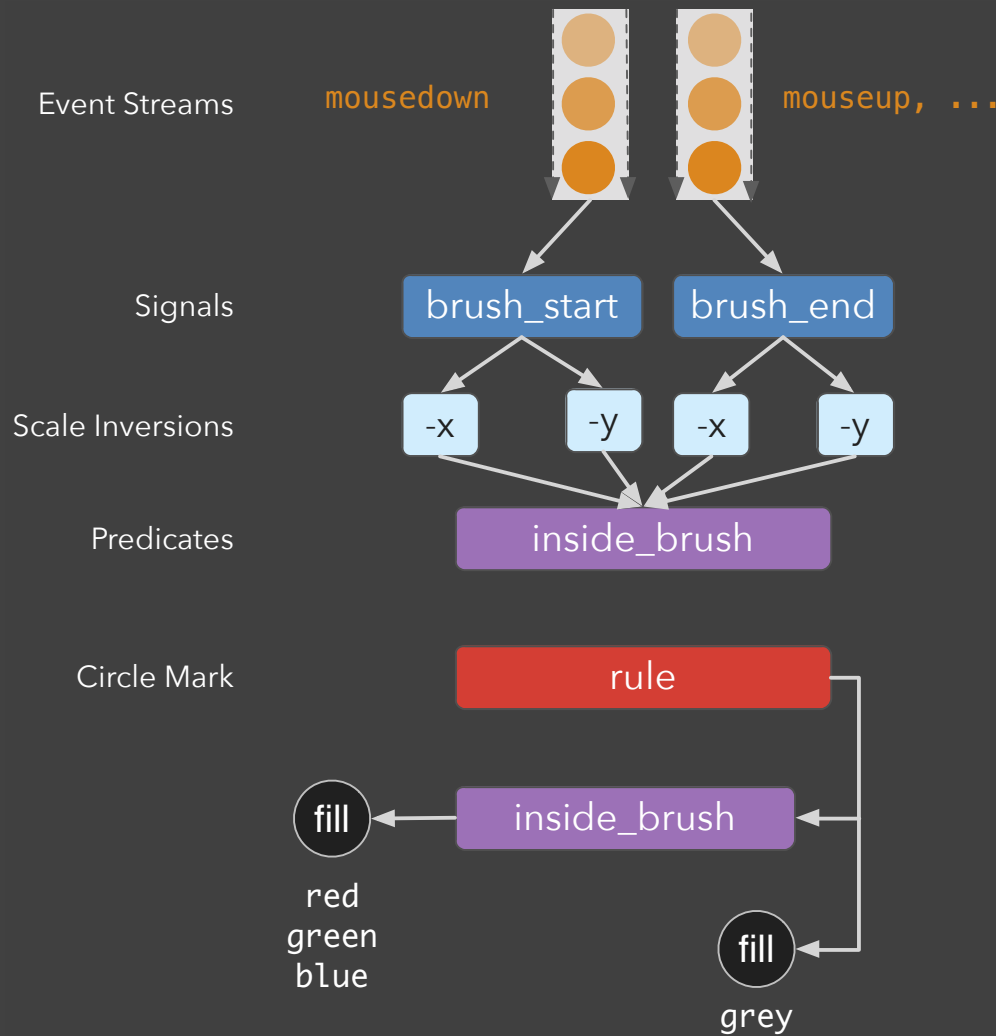
**Vega**

**D3.js**

**JavaScript**

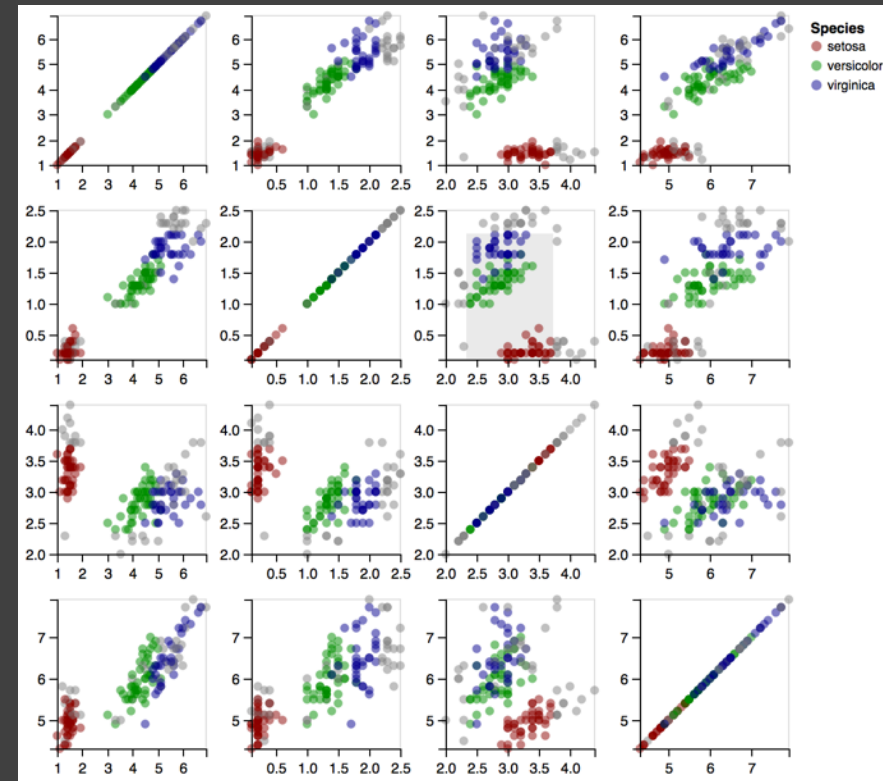
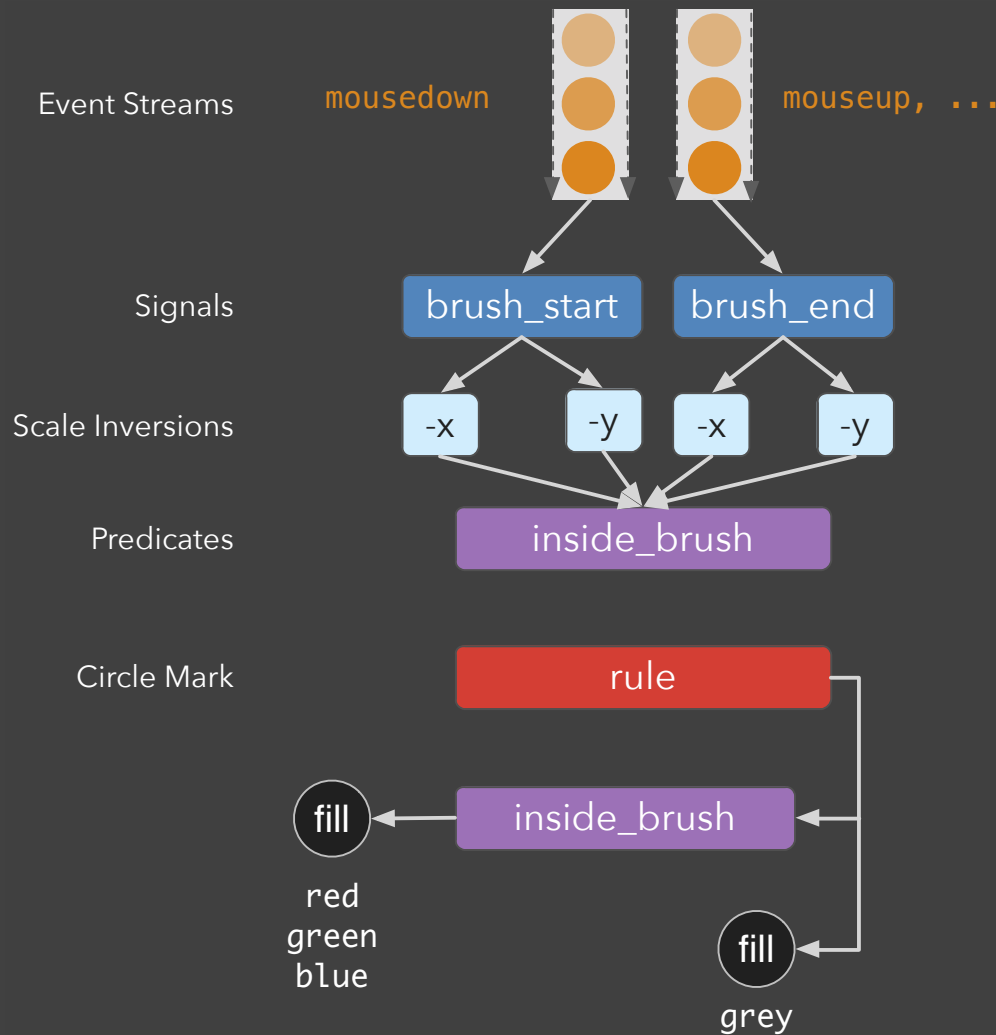
**SVG**

**Canvas**



## Reactive Vega

Satyanarayan et al. [UIST'14]



Key Insight: **Treat user input as first-class streaming data**  
 Adapt methods from functional reactive programming

# Vega 2.0 ("Reactive Vega")

Single declarative model for specifying  
**visual encodings + interaction techniques**

# Vega 2.0 ("Reactive Vega")

Single declarative model for specifying  
**visual encodings + interaction techniques**

**JSON → Reactive Dataflow Graph**

Designed ground-up for **streaming data**

Performance matches or exceeds D3



# Vega 2.0 ("Reactive Vega")

Single declarative model for specifying  
**visual encodings + interaction techniques**

**JSON → Reactive Dataflow Graph**

Designed ground-up for **streaming data**

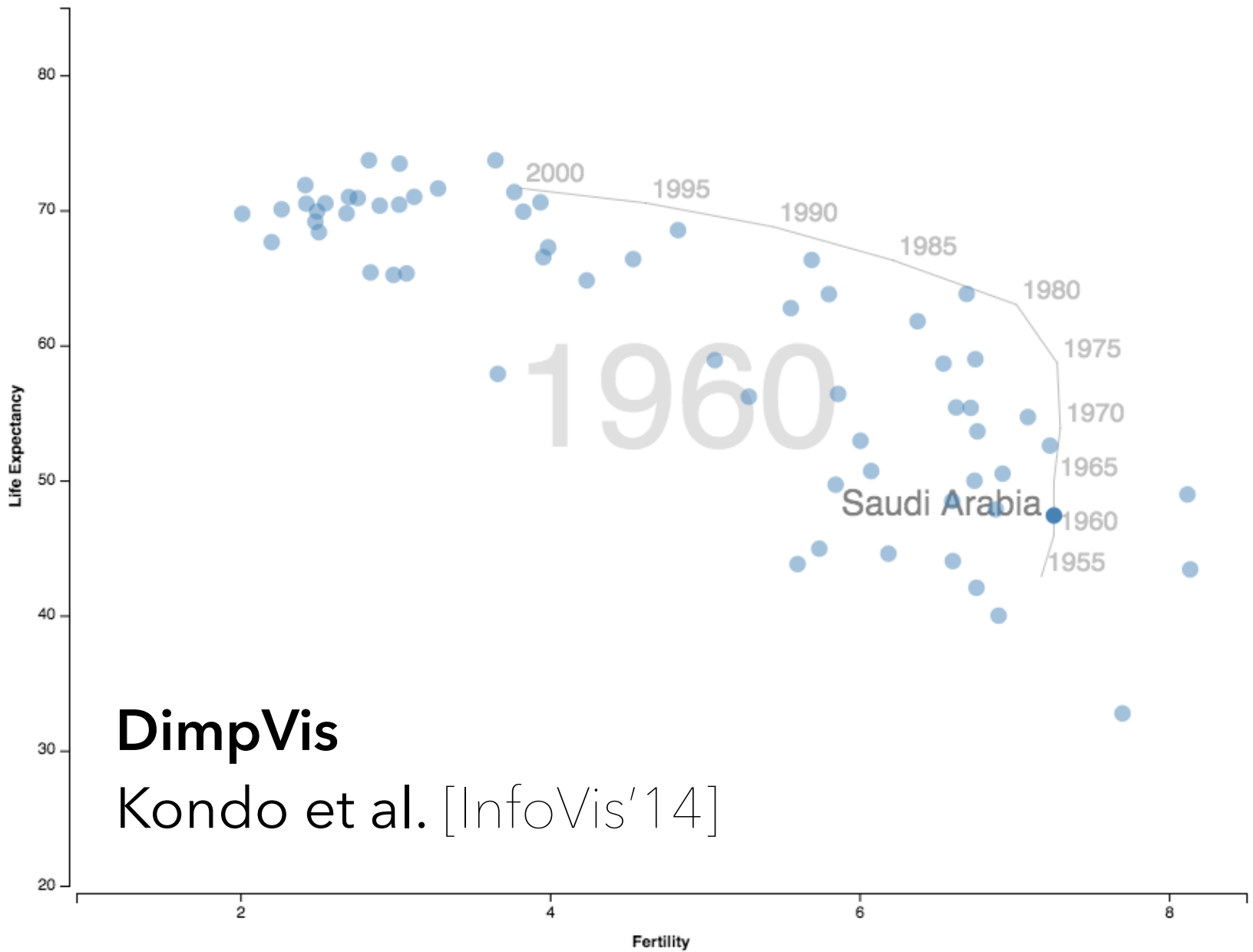
Performance matches or exceeds D3

**Portable**

Client (*browser*) or server-side (*node.js*)

Pick your renderer: *Canvas, SVG, ...*

Pick your input: *mouse, touch, ...*



**DimpVis**

Kondo et al. [InfoVis'14]

**Voyager**

**Polestar**

**Lyra**

**Vegalite**

**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

# 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, debugging, debugging...*

**All Open Source...**

# Vega A VISUALIZATION GRAMMAR



Vega is a declarative format for creating, saving, and sharing visualization designs. With Vega, visualizations are described in JSON, and generate interactive views using either HTML5 Canvas or SVG.

## TOOLKITS

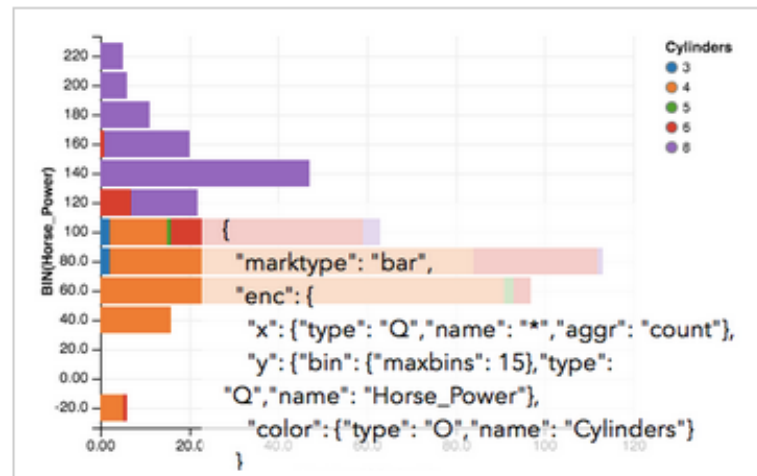


VEGA offers a full declarative visualization grammar, suitable for expressive custom interactive visualization design and programmatic generation.

[Tutorial](#) | [Documentation](#) | [Discussion Forum](#)

v1.5 (stable): [download](#), [examples](#), [github](#)

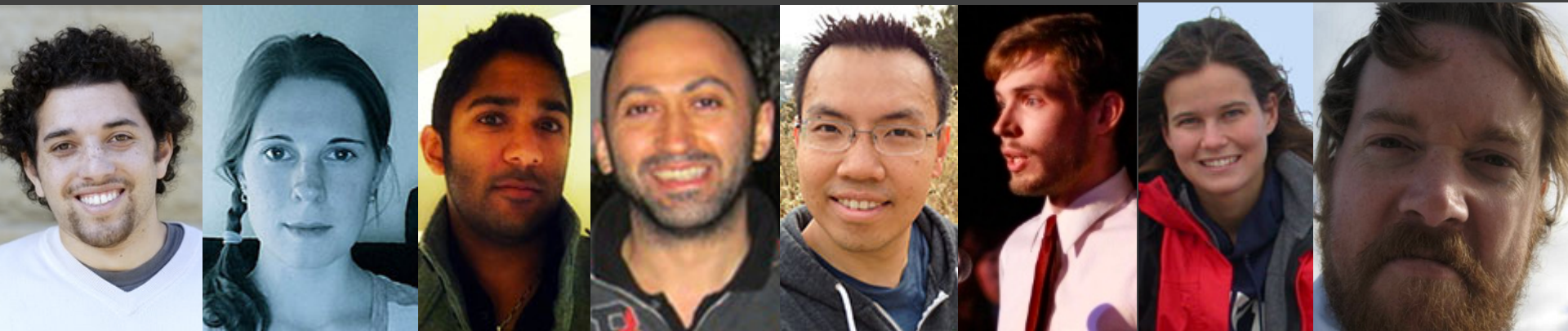
**NEW** v2.0 (dev): [download](#), [examples](#), [github](#)



**NEW** VEGALITE provides a higher-level grammar for visual analysis, comparable to ggplot or Tableau, that generates complete Vega specifications.

[Online Editor](#) | [GitHub](#)

# vega.github.io



**ISTC**  
BIG DATA



GORDON AND BETTY  
**MOORE**  
FOUNDATION





**ISTC**  
BIG DATA



GORDON AND BETTY  
**MOORE**  
FOUNDATION

# Raising the Bar (Chart)

THE NEXT GENERATION OF VISUALIZATION TOOLS

Jeffrey Heer @jeffrey\_heer

<http://vega.github.io/>

