

# Ch 2: Data Abstraction

**Tamara Munzner**  
Department of Computer Science  
University of British Columbia

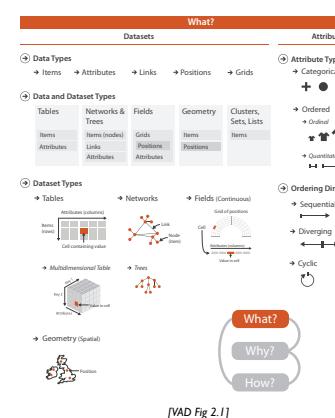
CPSC 547, Information Visualization  
Day 3: 17 September 2015

<http://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/courses/547-15>

## News

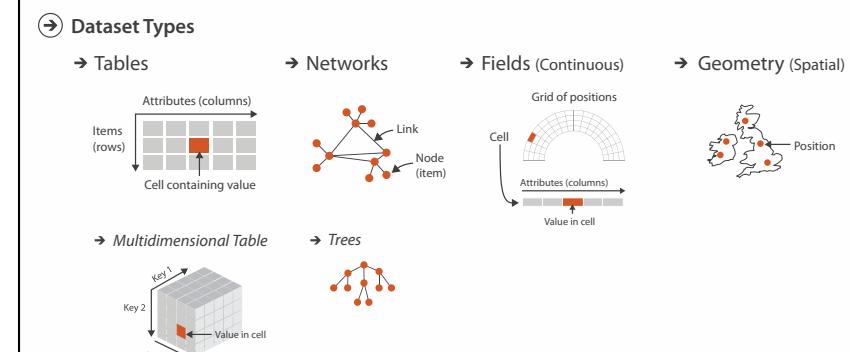
- Waitlist update: 32 registered and waitlist cleared
- Signup sheet - add yourself if you weren't here before  
—probably just new auditors?

## VAD Ch 2: Data Abstraction

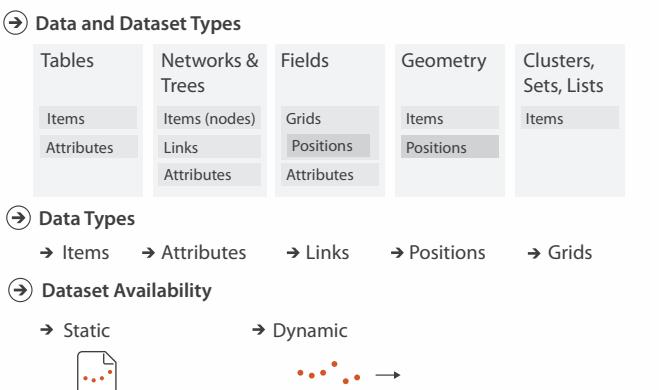


[VAD Fig 2.1]

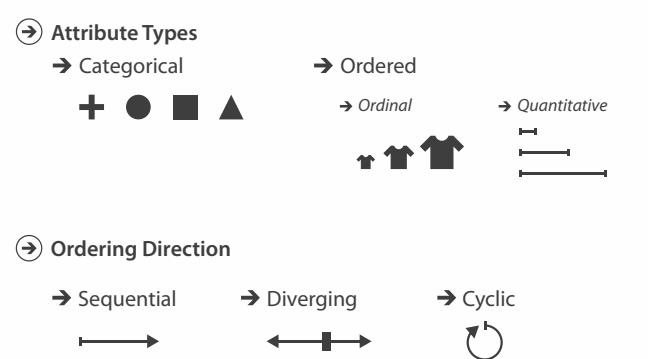
## Dataset types



## Dataset and data types



## Attribute types



## Further reading: Articles

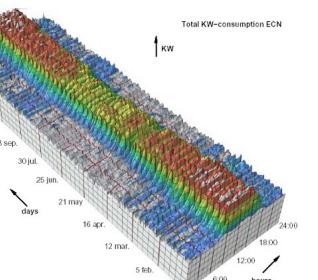
- [Mathematics and the Internet: A Source of Enormous Confusion and Great Potential](#). Walter Willinger, David Alderson, and John C. Doyle. Notices of the AMS 56(5):586-599, 2009.
- [Rethinking Visualization: A High-Level Taxonomy](#). InfoVis 2004, p 151-158, 2004.
- [The Eyes Have It: A Task by Data Type Taxonomy for Information Visualizations](#) Ben Shneiderman, Proc. 1996 IEEE Visual Languages
- [The Structure of the Information Visualization Design Space](#). Stuart Card and Jock Mackinlay, Proc. InfoVis 97.
- [Polaris: A System for Query, Analysis and Visualization of Multi-dimensional Relational Databases](#). Chris Stolte, Diane Tang and Pat Hanrahan, IEEE TVCG 8(1): 52-65 2002.

## Now: In-class Design Exercise

- Five time-series data scenarios
  - A: every 5 min, duration 1 year, 1 thing: building occupancy rates
  - B: every 5 min, 1 year, 2 things: currency exchange rates
  - C: several years and several things: 5 years, 10 currencies
  - D: 1 year, many things: 1000 machines (CPU load)
  - E: 1 year, several parameters, many things: 1 year, 10 params, 1000 machines
- Group exercise: 15-20 min
  - one group per table (4 max), 10 groups total
  - discuss/sketch possible visual encodings appropriate for data assigned to your group
- Reportback: 20-30 min
  - 2-3 min from each group
- Design space: 15-20 min

## Time-series data: Case A naive

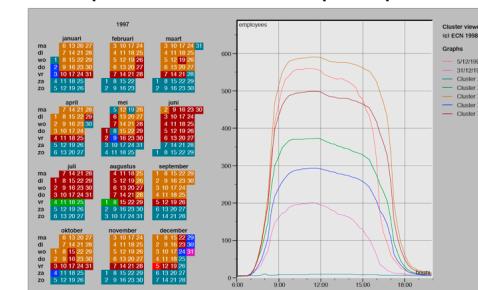
- extruded curves: detailed comparisons impossible



[Cluster and Calendar based Visualization of Time Series Data. van Wijk and van Selow, Proc. InfoVis 99.]

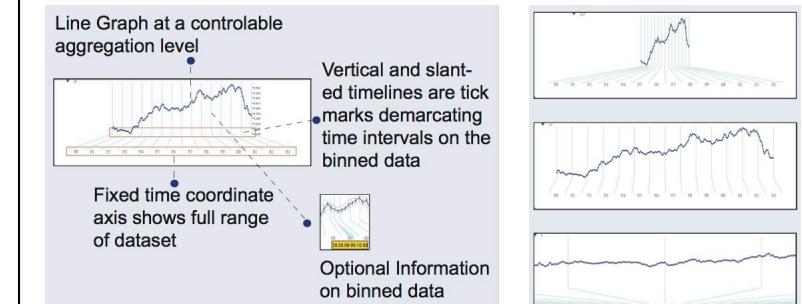
## Case A: Better Cluster-Calendar Solution

- derived data: cluster hierarchy
- juxtapose multiple views: calendar, superimposed 2D curves



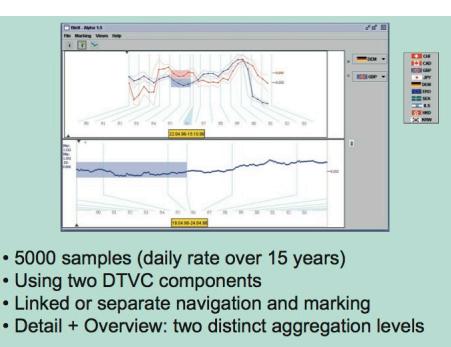
[Cluster and Calendar based Visualization of Time Series Data. van Wijk and van Selow, Proc. InfoVis 99.]

## Case A: BinX



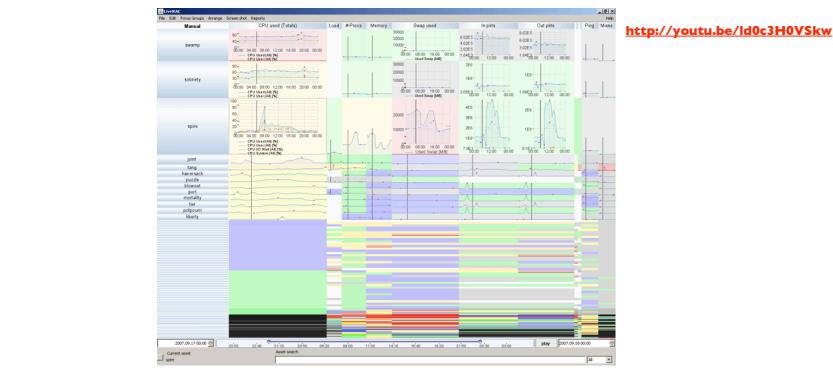
[BinX: Dynamic Exploration of Time Series Datasets Across Aggregation Levels. Lior Berry and Tamara Munzner.]  
InfoVis 2004 Posters Compendium, pp 5-6.

## Case B:



[BinX: Dynamic Exploration of Time Series Datasets Across Aggregation Levels. Lior Berry and Tamara Munzner.]  
InfoVis 2004 Posters Compendium, pp 5-6.

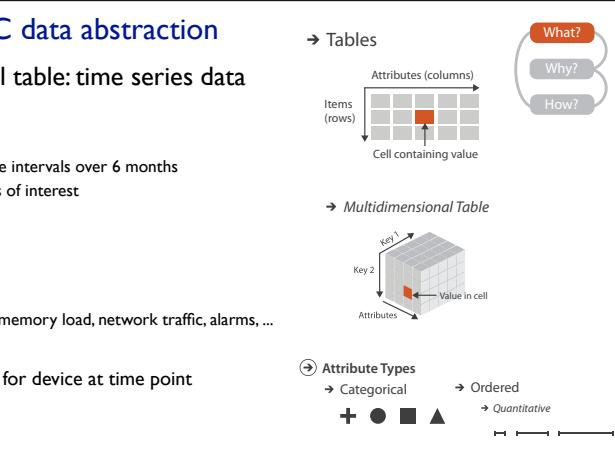
## Case E: LiveRAC video



[LiveRAC - Interactive Visual Exploration of System Management Time-Series Data. McLachlan, Munzner, Koutsos, North. Proc. Conf. on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2008, pp 1483-1492.]

## Case E: LiveRAC data abstraction

- multidimensional table: time series data
  - key attributes
    - time
      - 50,000: 5-minute intervals over 6 months
      - multiscale levels of interest
    - devices
      - 4000
    - parameters
      - 20
      - ex: CPU usage, memory load, network traffic, alarms, ...
  - value attributes
    - parameter value for device at time point
      - quantitative
    - device groups
      - categorical



## Next Time

- to read
  - VAD Ch. 3: Task Abstraction
  - [Design Study Methodology: Reflections from the Trenches and the Stacks](#), Michael Sedlmair, Miriah Meyer, and Tamara Munzner. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis 2012), 18(12):2431-2440, 2012.
  - paper type: model