

Trends in Visual Computing

Eduard Gröller

Institute of Computer Graphics and Algorithms
Vienna University of Technology

Vienna University of Technology (VUT)

- VUT consists of 8 faculties
 - Scientific staff: ≈ 3.600
 - Students: ≈ 27.000 students
 - Graduates: $1.790 + 169$ Ph.D. (2011)
- Faculty of Informatics
- Seven computer science institutes
- Institute of Computer Graphics and Algorithms (ICGA)
- Computer Graphics at ICGA (Purgathofer)
 - Rendering group (RVR): Wimmer
 - Visualization group (vis-group): Gröller

Eduard Gröller

Teaching at ICGA

- Bachelor Studies: Media Informatics und Visual Computing
- Master Studies: Visual Computing
- Lectures (examples):
 - Introduction to Visual Computing
 - Computer Graphics
 - Rendering
 - Real-time Graphics
 - Introduction to Colour Science
 - Virtual Reality
 - Computeranimation
 - Visualization 1+2
 - Information Visualization
 - Medical Visualization 1+2
 - Augmented Reality on Mobile Devices

Eduard Gröller

Vis-Group and Funding and Projects

Funding Sources: FWF, FFG, Austrian Academy of Sciences, General Hospital Vienna.

Project Partners: vrlvis, University of Bergen Norway, Upper Austria University of Applied Sciences.

(Data) Visualization (1)

"The use of computer-supported, interactive, visual representations of (abstract) data to amplify cognition"

- Data is increasing in complexity and variability

Eduard Gröller

Visualization - Visual Computing

Visualization Pipeline

Visualization is part of Visual Computing

Visual Computing is acquisition, representation, processing, analysis, synthesis, and usage of visual information

Eduard Gröller

Visual Computing is a Lot...

- Computer Graphics
graphical user interfaces, animations ...
- Computer Vision /Pattern Recognition
modeling human vision...
- Visualization
displaying volume- and other high-dimensional data...
- Interactive Visual Analysis
presenting multidimensional data for analysis...
- Visual Sensors
recording methods for obtaining visual information
- Modeling
digital models from data/images
- Rendering
real-time visualization, illumination simulation, visibility...
- Virtual/Augmented Reality
combining real and virtual environments
- Human-Computer-Interaction
the interface between users and computers

GS/WP

Visual Computing embedded in Science

The purpose of visual computing is **insight**, not images

Computational Sciences

Virtual Petri Dish → Virtual Microscope

Scientific Computing → Visual Computing

Visual Computing embedded in Science

Challenges in Visual Computing

- New Data Sources - Novel Imaging Modalities
-
-
-
-
-

Eduard Gröller

New Data Sources - Novel Imaging Modalities

- Challenges
 - Very large (abstract) data sets
 - High-dimensional, multi-valued, multi-modal, heterogeneous
 - Time varying
 - Spatially sparse/dense, temporally sparse/dense
 - Need for registration
 - Need for feature extraction
- Examples
 - Web 2.0
 - Sonar Explorer

Data → Vis. Goal → Visualization Technique

Eduard Gröller

New Data Sources – Web 2.0

- Social networks, wikis, blogs, data warehouses

[Pfeffer 2007]

- Examples
 - Facebook
 - Twitter
 - LinkedIn
 - YouTube

Eduard Gröller

Novel Imaging Modalities – Sonar Explorer (1)

- 4D sonar data
- Cones with res: 25x20x1319
- Ping rate 1 Hz
- 2 GB/ping
- Time steps overlapping
- Highly anisotropic
- Noisy
- Signal strength reduced with spreading and absorption

[Balabanian et al. 2007]

Eduard Gröller

Novel Imaging Modalities – Sonar Explorer (2)

- Fish school monitoring
 - Size of school
 - Center of gravity
 - Shape parameters
 - Motion characteristics

Overall Processing Pipeline

Data Acquisition → Visual Analysis and Selection → Data Reduction → Survey Map → Sonar Explorer

[Balabanian et al. 2007]

Eduard Gröller

Challenges in Visual Computing

- New Data Sources - Novel Imaging Modalities
- Ensembles, Uncertainty, Parameter Spaces
-
-
-
-
-
-

Eduard Gröller

Visual Steering to Support Decision Making in Visdom

J. Waser, R. Fuchs, H. Ribičić, Ch. Hirsch, B. Schindler, G. Blöschl, E. Gröller

Visdom

v r vis

Flood emergency assistance

- New Orleans 2005: 17th canal levee breach

Image courtesy of USACE, US Army Corps of Engineers

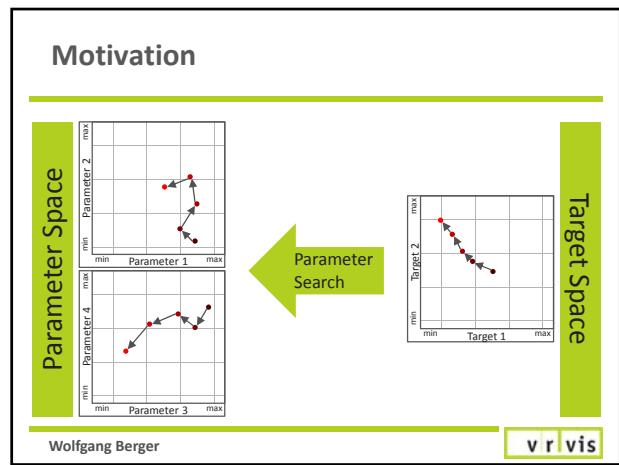
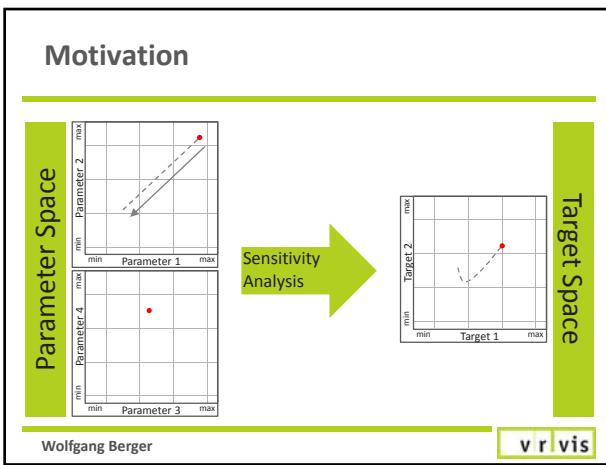
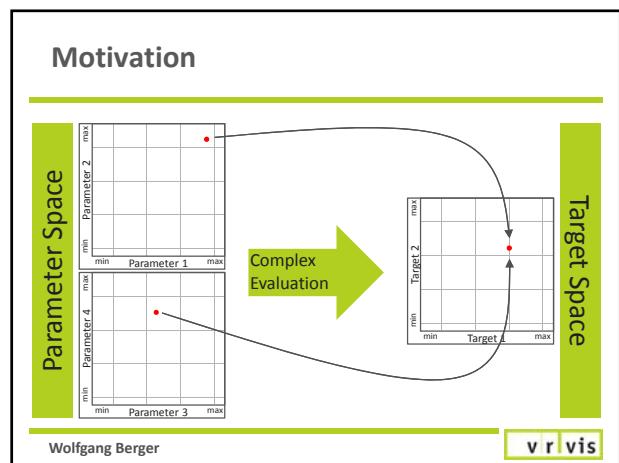
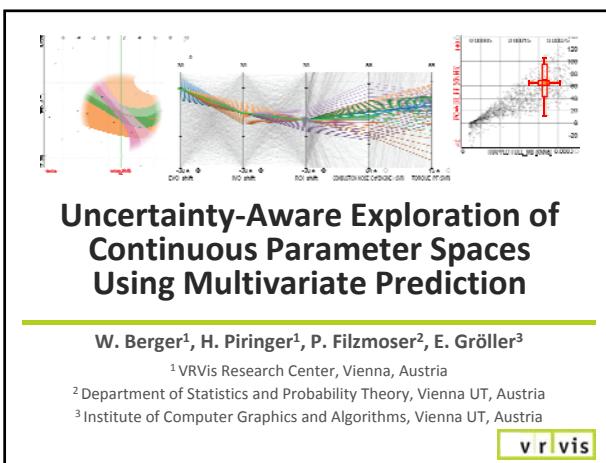
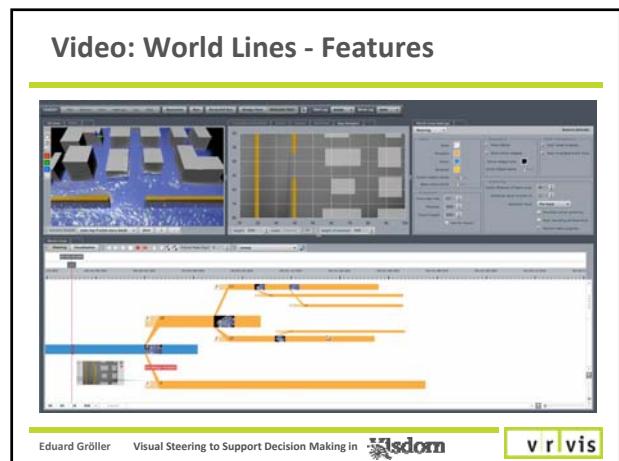
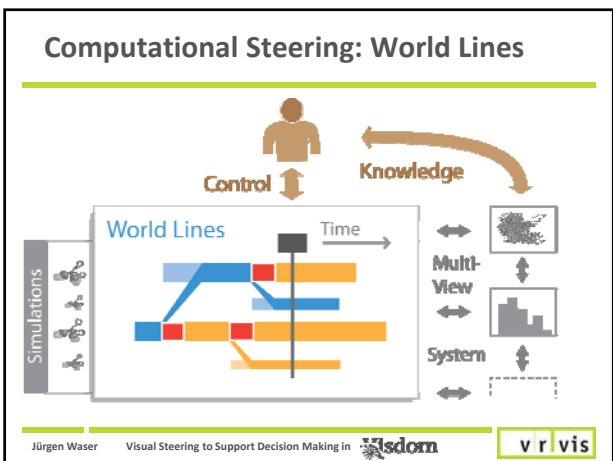
Jürgen Waser Visual Steering to Support Decision Making in Visdom v r vis

Flood emergency assistance

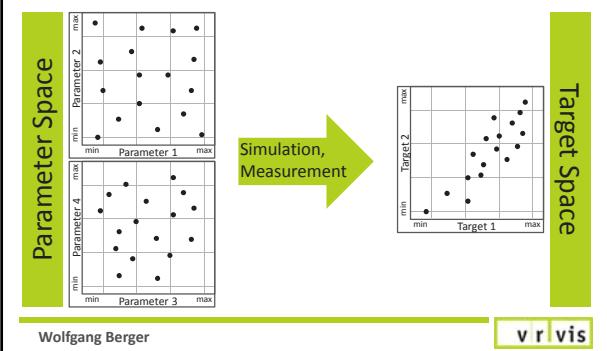
- Evaluation of breach-closure techniques in a laboratory model

A. Sattar, A. Kassem, and M. Chaudhry. 17th street canal breach closure procedures. *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*, 134(11):1547–1558, 2008.

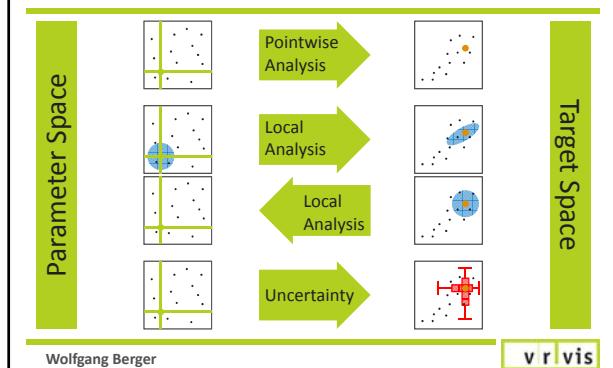
Jürgen Waser Visual Steering to Support Decision Making in Visdom v r vis



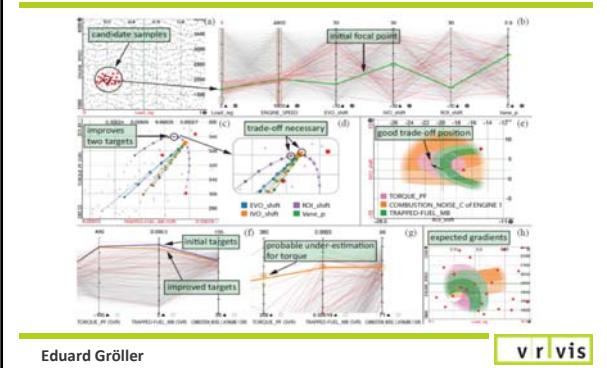
Motivation



Contribution



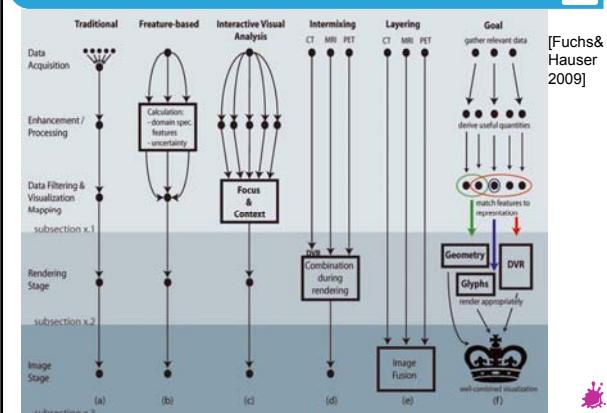
Application Example: Car Engine Design



Challenges in Visual Computing

- New Data Sources - Novel Imaging Modalities
 - Ensembles, Uncertainty, Parameter Spaces
 - Multivariate, Heterogeneous Data
 -
 -
 -
 -

Visualization of Multi-Variate Scientific Data



Coping with Complexity and Variability

- Reducing data complexity well established
 - Sub-setting
 - Slicing
 - Projection
 - Dimension reduction
 - Clustering
 - Reducing visual complexity ??
 - Integrated views
 - Comparative visualization
 - Fuzzy visualization

Cardiac Data Visualization [Termeer et al.]

■ Fusion of 4 diverse data types

The diagram illustrates the integration of four types of cardiac data:

- LE MRI data:** LE contours and scar classification.
- WH MRI data:** Heart model and coronary artery tree.
- Schematic views:** BEP and transmurality.
- Anatomical views:** Overview and cut-through.

These components are linked through a global cursor and automatic viewpoints, allowing for interactive navigation between different types of visualizations.

Cardiac Data Visualization - Examples

■ Interactive navigation
■ Perfusion simulation
■ Stenosis simulation

Eduard Gröller

This section displays several examples of cardiac data visualization:

- A circular view showing a cross-section of the heart with various colored regions.
- A 3D wireframe model of a heart with internal structures.
- A detailed anatomical view of a heart with color-coded regions and a small inset showing a cut-through.

4D MRI Blood Flow [van Pelt et al.]

Eduard Gröller

This section shows two 3D visualizations of 4D MRI blood flow:

- A visualization of blood flow in the heart's chambers and major vessels.
- A visualization of blood flow in the peripheral vessels, showing complex color-coded flow patterns.

Generalized Polyhedral Grids [Muigg, Doleisch et al.]

This section illustrates the use of generalized polyhedral grids:

- A 3D visualization of a complex shape (e.g., a heart) with a grid overlaid, showing flow or field distribution.
- A diagram below explains the structure of the grid:
 - Face Sequences:** Shows sequences for Front and Back faces using letters (a, b, c, d, e, f) and brackets (e.g., [a b] [c d]).
 - Linking:** Shows front and back links between adjacent faces, with arrows indicating orientation (next face back/facing).

Challenges in Visual Computing

Eduard Gröller

■ New Data Sources - Novel Imaging Modalities
■ Ensembles, Uncertainty, Parameter Spaces
■ Multivariate, Heterogeneous Data
■ Visual Analytics (\leftrightarrow SciVis \leftrightarrow InfoVis)

■

■

■

Visual Analytics (\leftrightarrow SciVis \leftrightarrow InfoVis)

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

What do we have?

- Automatic Knowledge Discovery & Information Mining
- Interactive Visual Data-Exploration

What do we need?

Tight Integration of Visual and Automatic Data Analysis Methods with Database Technology for a Scalable Interactive Decision Support

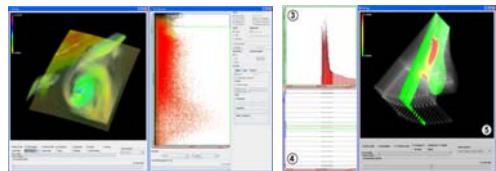
Visual Data-Exploration

The diagram illustrates the Visual Data-Exploration process:

- Data feeds into Visualization and Models.
- Visualization and Models feed into Knowledge.
- Knowledge feeds back into Data, Visualization, and Models.
- Information Mining is also shown as a component.

[Keim, Thomas 2007]

SimVis: Interactive Visual Analysis of Large & Complex Simulation Data



Helmut Doleisch et al.

Challenges in Visual Computing

- New Data Sources - Novel Imaging Modalities
- Ensembles, Uncertainty, Parameter Spaces
- Multivariate, Heterogeneous Data
- Visual Analytics (\leftrightarrow SciVis \leftrightarrow InfoVis)
- Interaction (Knowledge-assisted, User-centric)
-
-

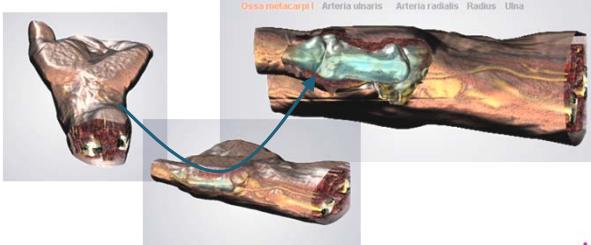
Eduard Gröller



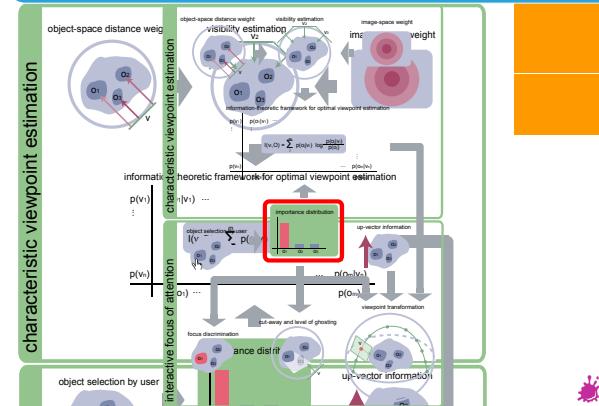
Importance-Driven Focus of Attention (1)

- Guided navigation between characteristic views

[Viola et al. 2006]



Importance-Driven Focus of Attention (2)

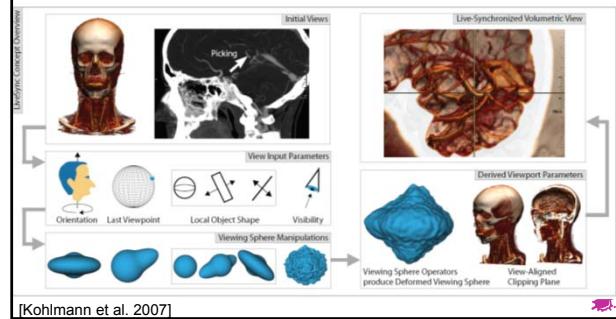


Importance-Driven Focus of Attention (3)

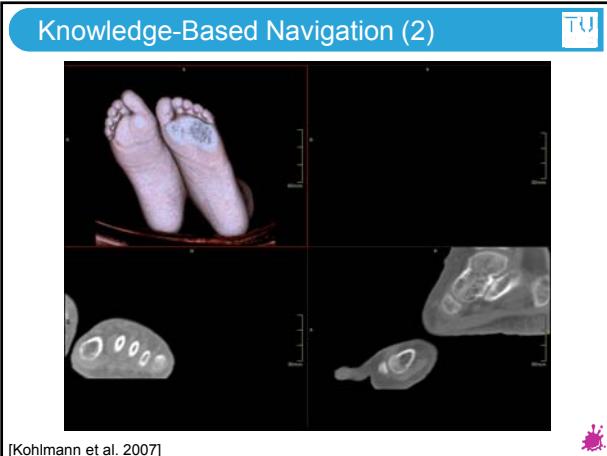


Knowledge-Based Navigation (1)

- Interaction with 2D slices
- Automatic generation of expressive 3D views

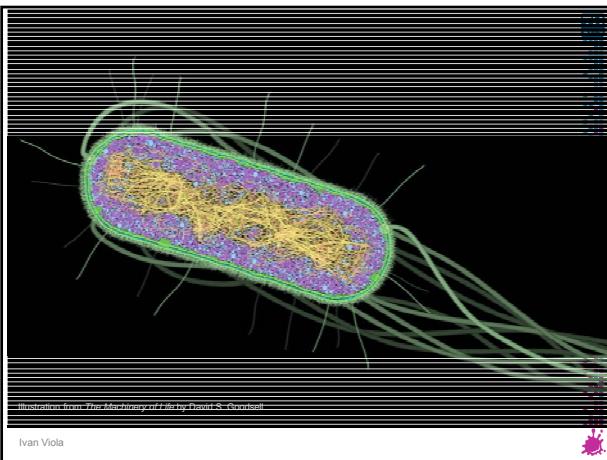
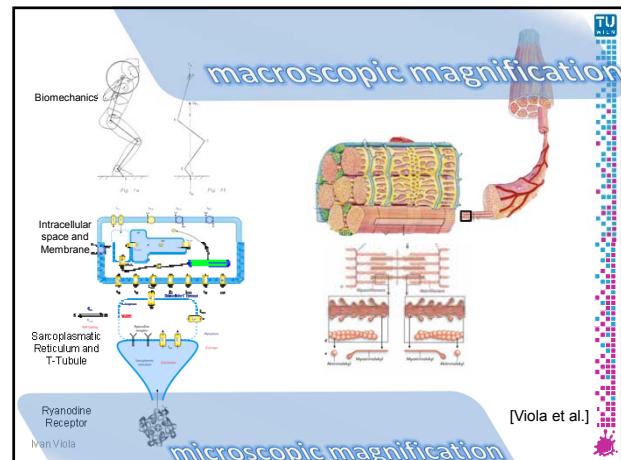


[Kohlmann et al. 2007]



- ### Challenges in Visual Computing
- New Data Sources - Novel Imaging Modalities
 - Ensembles, Uncertainty, Parameter Spaces
 - Multivariate, Heterogeneous Data
 - Visual Analytics (\leftrightarrow SciVis \leftrightarrow InfoVis)
 - Interaction (Knowledge-assisted, User-centric)
 - Scalability
 -
- Eduard Gröller

- ### Scalability
- Challenges [Keim, Thomas 2007]
 - amount of data and dimensionality
 - numbers of data sources and heterogeneity
 - data quality and data resolution
 - dynamicity and novelty
 - data representation and visual resolution
 - Examples
 - Focus+Context
 - Aggregation
 - Abstraction and Illustration
- Eduard Gröller

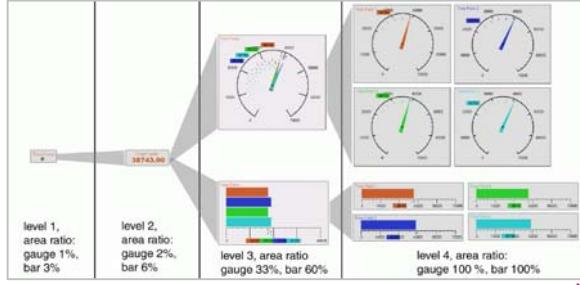


- ### Scalability - Process Visualization (1)
- Improving singular instruments
 - History encoding
 - Multi-instruments
 - Levels of detail (LOD)
 - Improving the monitoring system
 - Focus+Context (F+C) rendering
 - Collision avoidance
-
- [Matković et al. 2002]
- Eduard Gröller

Scalability - Process Visualization (2)



- Various instruments can be used to construct Levels of Detail (LODs)



Eduard Gröller

Scalability - Process Visualization (3)



Process Visualization with Levels of Detail

K. Matkovic, H. Hauser,
R. Sainitzer and E. Gröller

Eduard Gröller

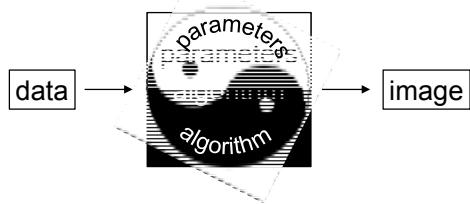
Challenges in Visual Computing



- New Data Sources - Novel Imaging Modalities
- Ensembles, Uncertainty, Parameter Spaces
- Multivariate, Heterogeneous Data
- Visual Analytics (\leftrightarrow SciVis \leftrightarrow InfoVis)
- Interaction (Knowledge-assisted, User-centric)
- Scalability
- Visual Computing in the Cloud

Eduard Gröller

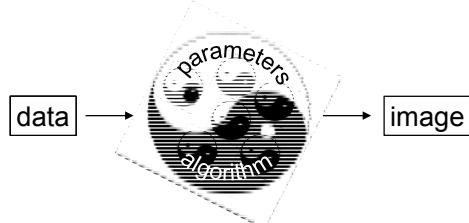
Problem Solving: Algorithm + Parameters



- Parameter space analysis
 - ◆ Robustness, stability: well established in other disciplines
 - ◆ Increased interest in visualization
 - Variations
 - Ensembles
 - Knowledge-assisted visualization

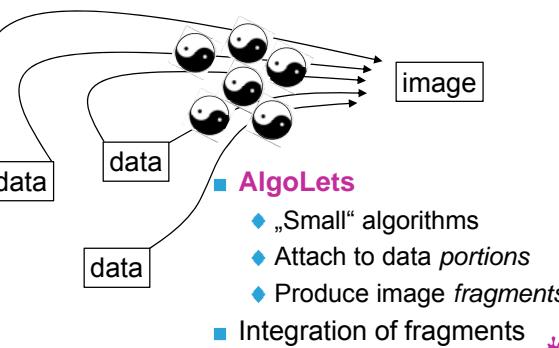
Eduard Gröller

AlgoLets: The Next Generation



Eduard Gröller

AlgoLets: The Next Generation



Eduard Gröller

Visual Computing: Topics for the Future ?

Integrated Views

[Balabanian et al., 2010]

Fuzzy Visualization

[Rautek et al., 2007]

Comparative Visualization

[Malik et al., 2010]

If distance to plane is very low
then skin-style is opaque

If distance to plane is not very low
then skin-style is transparent and muscle-style is transparent

Eduard Gröller

Challenges in Visual Computing

- New Data Sources - Novel Imaging Modalities
- Ensembles, Uncertainty, Parameter Spaces
- Multivariate, Heterogeneous Data
- Visual Analytics (\leftrightarrow SciVis \leftrightarrow InfoVis)
- Interaction (Knowledge-assisted, User-centric)
- Scalability
- Visual Computing in the Cloud

Bring visual computing into the workflow of users!!

Eduard Gröller

Thank You for Your Attention

**Questions ?
Comments?**

Acknowledgments

Wolfgang Berger	Harald Piringer
Jean-Paul Balabanian	Werner Purgathofer
Helmut Doleisch	Peter Rautek
Raphael Fuchs	Hrvoje Ribičić
Helwig Hauser	Georg Stowanski
Armin Kanitsar	Maurice Termeer
Peter Kohlmann	Roy van Pelt
M. Muddassir Malik	Anna Vilanova
Kresimir Matković	Ivan Viola
Philipp Muigg	Jürgen Waser
...	



References (1)

- Matković, K., Hauser, H., Seinert, R., Gröller, E.: Process Visualization with Levels of Detail. IEEE Symposium on Information Visualization 2002 Proceedings, 2002, pp. 67–70.
- Viola, I., Feixas, M., Sbert, M., Gröller, E.: Importance-Based Focus of Attention. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. Visualization 2006), 12(5):933–940, 2006.
- Balabanian, J.-P., Viola, I., Ona, E., Patel, R., Gröller, E.: Sonar Explorer: A New Tool for Visualization of Fish Schools from 3D Sonar Data. Data Visualization – EUROVIS 2007, Proceedings Eurographics / IEEE-VGTC Symposium on Visualization (2007), pp. 155–162.
- Rautek, P., Bruckner, S., Gröller, E.: Semantic Layers for Illustrative Volume Rendering. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. Visualization 2007), 13(4):1336–1343, 2007.
- Kohlmann, P., Bruckner, S., Kanitsar, A., Gröller, E.: LiveSync: Deformed Viewing Spheres for Knowledge-Based Navigation. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. Visualization 2007), 13(6):1544–1551, 2007.
- Termeer, M., Besold, J.O., Breeuwer, M., Vilanova, A., Gerritsen, F., Gröller, E.: CoViCAD: Comprehensive Visualization of Coronary Artery Disease. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. Visualization 2007), 13(6):1632–1639, 2007.
- Kohlmann, P., Bruckner, S., Kanitsar, A., Gröller, E.: LiveSync++: Enhancements of an Interaction Metaphor. Proceedings Graphics Interface 2008, pp. 81–88.
- Leinen, M., Bruckner, S., Kohlmann, M., Vilanova, A., Gerritsen, F., Gröller, E., Nagel, E.: Visualization of Myocardial Perfusion Derived from Coronary Anatomy. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. Visualization 2008), 14(6):1595–1602, 2008.
- Balabanian, J.-P., Viola, I., Gröller, E.: Interactive Illustrative Visualization of Hierarchical Volume Data. Proceedings of Graphics Interface 2010, May 31st–June 2nd 2010, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, pp. 137–144.
- Malik, M.M., Heinzel, C., Gröller, E.: Comparative Visualization for Parameter Studies of Dataset Series. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, 16(5):829–840, 2010.
- Waser, J., Fuchs, R., Ribičić, H., Schindler, B., Blöschl, G., Gröller, E.: World Lines. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. Visualization 2010), 16(6):1458–1467, 2010.

Eduard Gröller

References (2)

- van Pelt, R., Besold, J.O., Breeuwer, M., Clough, R.E., Gröller, E., ter Haar Romenij, B., Vilanova, A.: Exploration of 4D MRI Blood-Flow using Stylistic Visualization. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics 16(6):1339–1347, 2010.
- Berger, W., Piringer, H., Filzmoser, P., Gröller, E.: Uncertainty-Aware Exploration of Continuous Parameter Spaces Using Multivariate Prediction. Computer Graphics Forum, 30(3):911–920, 2011.
- Waser, J., Ribičić, H., Fuchs, R., Hirsch, Ch., Schindler, B., Blöschl, G., Gröller, E.: Nodes on Ropes: A comprehensive Data and Control Flow for Steering Ensemble Simulations. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. Visualization 2011), 17(12):1872–1881, 2011.
- Muigg, Ph., Hadwiger, M., Doleisch, H., Gröller, E.: Interactive Volume Visualization of General Polyhedral Grids. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. Visualization 2011), 17(12):2115–2124, 2011.
- van Pelt, R., Besold, J.O., Breeuwer, M., Clough, R.E., Gröller, E., ter Haar Romenij, B., Vilanova, A.: Interactive Virtual Probing of 4D MRI Blood-Flow. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics 17(12):2153–2162, 2011.
- Ribičić, H., Waser, J., Gurbat, R., Sadransky, B., Gröller, E.: Sketching Uncertainty into Simulations. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, 18(12):2255–2264, 2012. doi: 10.1109/TVCG.2012.261.

Eduard Gröller