



**Matthew Brehmer** | @mattbrehmer | [mattbrehmer.ca](http://mattbrehmer.ca)

–  
Senior Research Staff, Tableau Research, Seattle WA | [research.tableau.com](http://research.tableau.com)

# New Multimodal Experiences for Communicating with an Audience about Data

**Matthew Brehmer**, Tableau Research

–

@ University of Utah SCII – Oct 5 2022

## About Tableau Research

[research.tableau.com](https://research.tableau.com)

**est. 2012 | director: Vidya Setlur**

a team of 9 researchers + architects, working on:

visualization, human-computer interaction,  
natural language processing / generation,  
cartography, applied machine learning, ...

# New Multimodal Experiences for Communicating with an Audience about Data

## **From Jam Session to Recital:**

Synchronous Communication and Collaboration  
around Data in Organizations

— — —

**VIS 2021**, with Robert Kosara

## **The Information in our Hands**

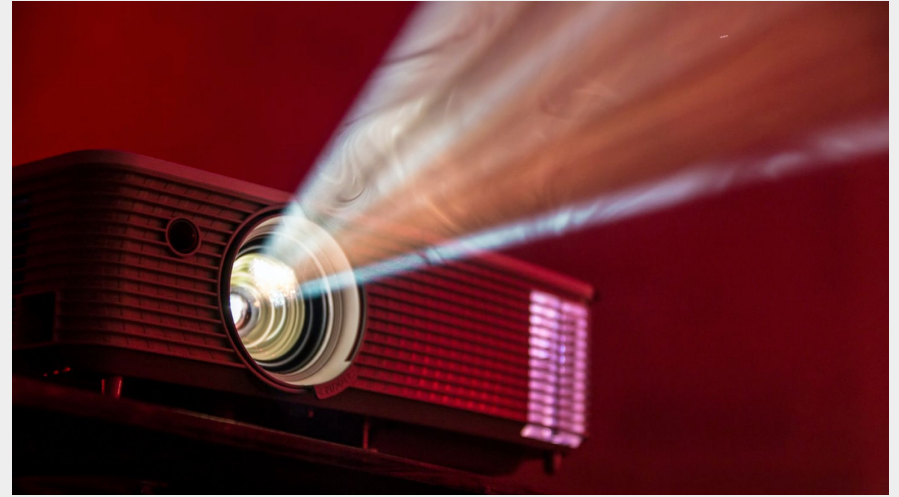
— — —

**Information+ 2021**

**Augmented Chironomia** for  
Presenting Data to Remote Audiences

— — —

**UIST 2022**, with Brian D. Hall and Lyn Bartram

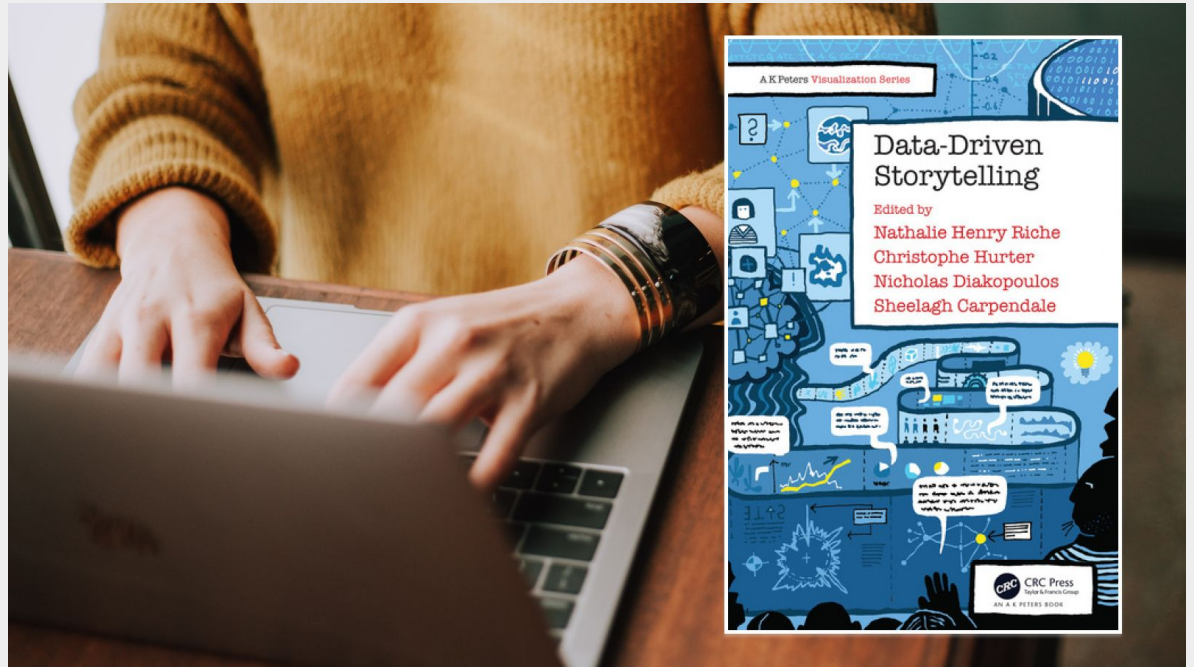


## From Jam Session to Recital

Synchronous Communication and Collaboration  
around Data in Organizations

— — —  
**VIS 2021**, Matthew Brehmer and Robert Kosara





## Communicating data to an audience

S. Drucker, S. Huron, R. Kosara, J. Schwabish, and N. Diakopoulos.  
In N. Henry Riche, C. Hurter, N. Diakopoulos, and S. Carpendale, eds.,

**Data-Driven Storytelling.** AK Peters/CRC Press, 2018



👉 Hans Rosling's TED Conference Talks (2006, 2007)

[gapminder.com/videos](http://gapminder.com/videos)



## From Jam Session to Recital

Synchronous Communication and Collaboration  
around Data in Organizations

— — —  
**VIS 2021**, Matthew Brehmer and Robert Kosara





# From Jam Session to Recital

Synchronous Communication and Collaboration  
around Data in Organizations

— — —  
**VIS 2021**, Matthew Brehmer and Robert Kosara

## **Aim of this study:**

**Look beyond scenarios of individual,  
asynchronous consumption involving  
communicative data visualization ...**

**Understand scenarios of synchronous  
communication around data**

# From Jam Session to Recital

Synchronous Communication and Collaboration  
around Data in Organizations

— — —  
**VIS 2021**, Matthew Brehmer and Robert Kosara

**Interviews with 18 people who prepare  
and / or deliver presentations involving  
data within their organizations.**

**Reflection on current practices and  
frustrations.**

**3 design probes examining different  
aspects of presenting data.**

# From Jam Session to Recital

Synchronous Communication and Collaboration  
around Data in Organizations

— — —  
**VIS 2021**, Matthew Brehmer and Robert Kosara

## **Key findings:**

**3 scenarios for synchronous communication around data; a spectrum of formality**

**Collaboration: role diversity, content handoff + repurposing**

**Both slideware and business intelligence tools unsatisfying, for different reasons**

### **3 scenarios for synchronous communication around data; a spectrum of formality**





**Small collaborative team meetings around data can be likened to musical jam sessions.**

***“...showing them the doors, metaphorically speaking, the doors that are available that I found in the data, and then they would open them.” – P4, retail analyst***



**jam sessions as rehearsals for more formal presentations.**

**presentation materials used with manager to “*prove our point with charts*”**

– P3, manufacturing analyst



**Cross-functional team meetings around data can be likened to semi-improvised performances (e.g., live coffee house jazz).**

***“If you go to my engineering team, they care about the meaning [...] for the sales team, you are just looking at quotas: have you met the goal or not?”***

**– P13, data strategist**



**Presentations to executives and customers can be likened to formal recitals at the concert hall.**

***“As soon as everyone’s tied off on the validity and the accuracy of the numbers, we screenshot what we have and put that image directly into a slide”***

**– P05, communications specialist**

***“I get this sense of failure every time I’m going into PowerPoint [...but] if it will take three hours to build a ten minute presentation, I ain’t gonna do it.”***

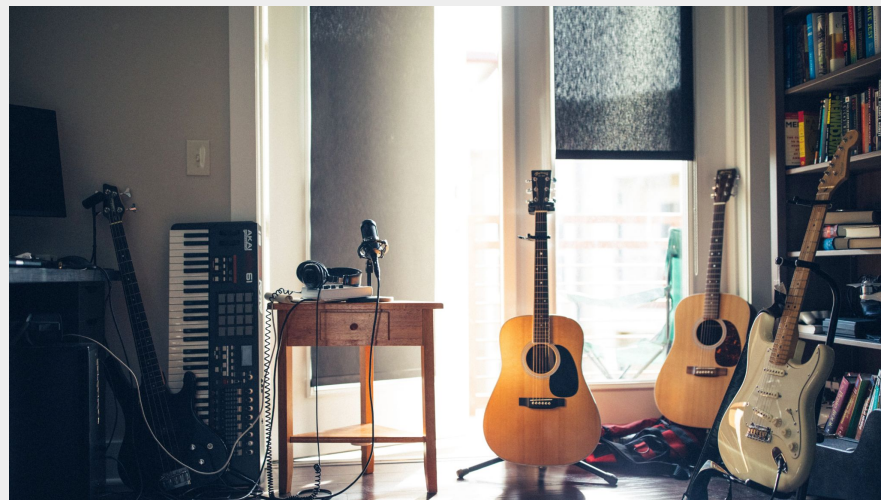
– P18, regional vice president of sales

***“I want to break up an otherwise boring series of charts [...] sometimes you need to do it in different ways to keep the [audience’s] attention.”***

– P9, marketing manager

***“...to feel like a presentation versus a demo.”***

– P5, communications specialist



**implications for tool design:**

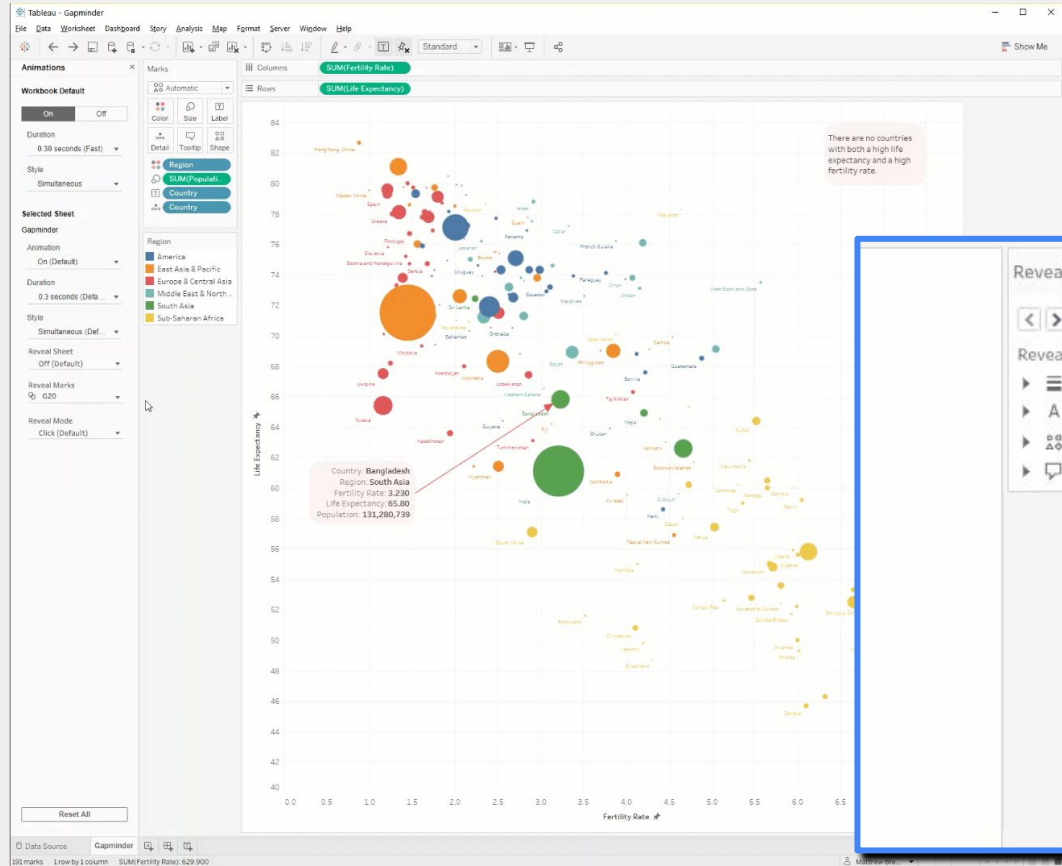
**... creativity support, less tool-switching,  
support collaborative hand-offs**

**... interactive visualization, yet still a  
presentation, not a tool demo**

**... direct viewer attention on-the-fly**



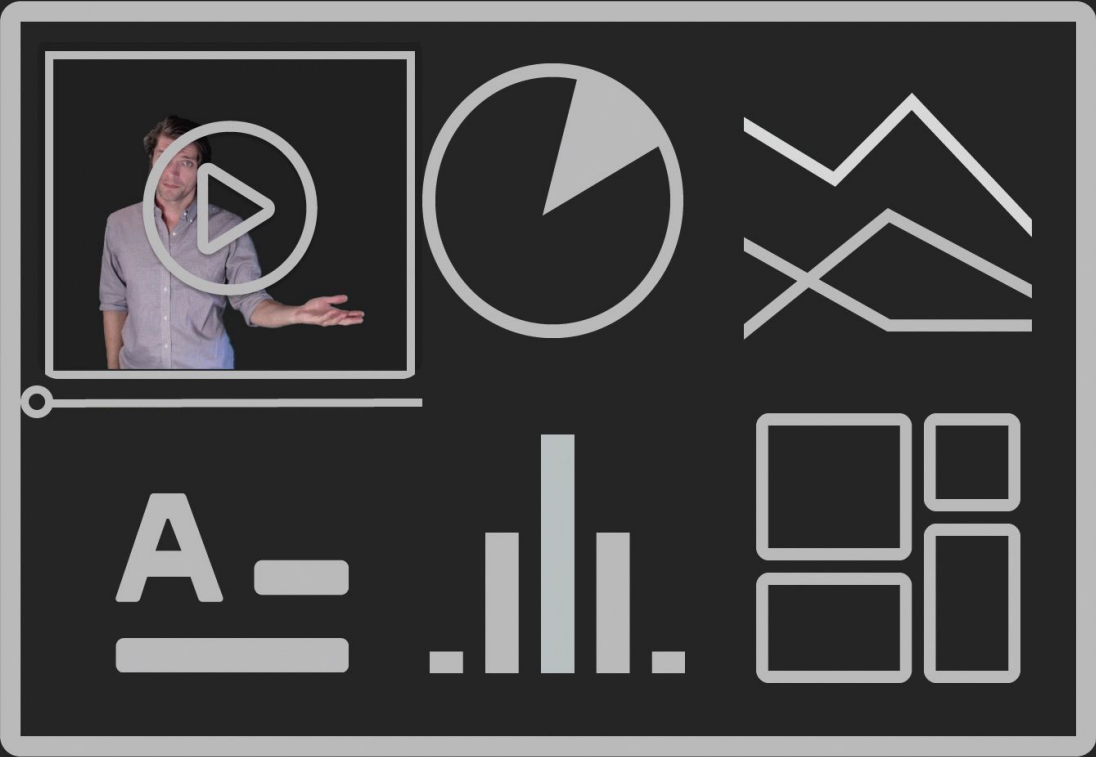
**slideware-inspired reveal controls for any chart / dashboard component**



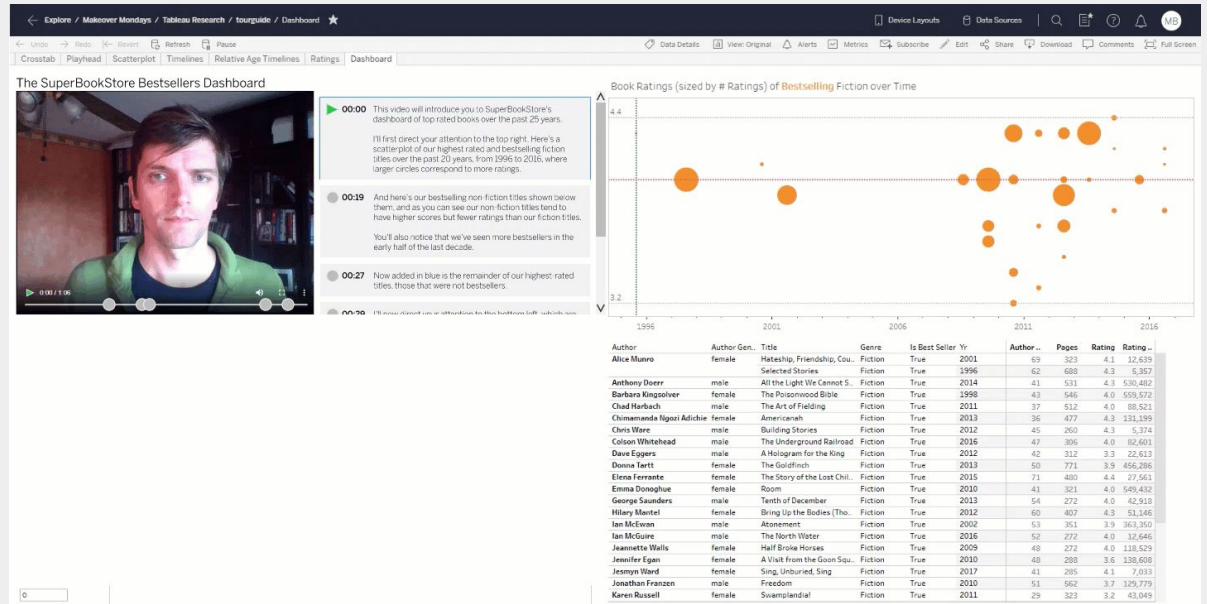
 slideware-inspired reveal controls for a Tableau worksheet



**A secondary display “presenter view” for a business intelligence workbook**



👉 a video “tour guide” for a business intelligence dashboard

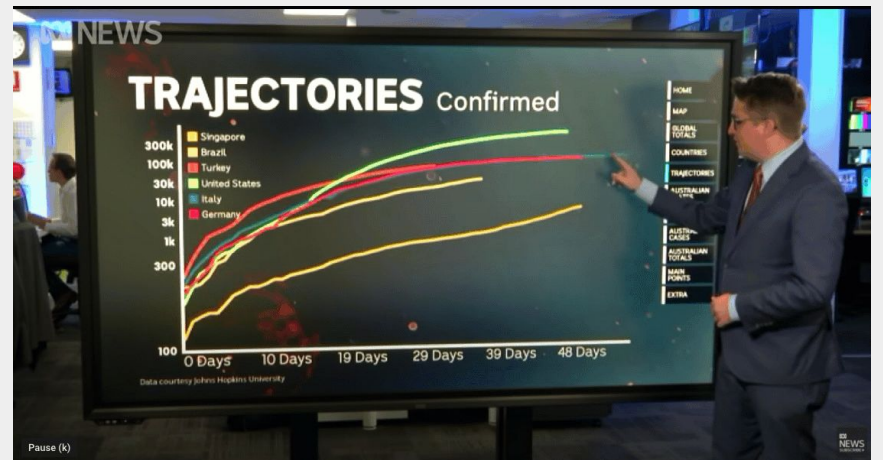
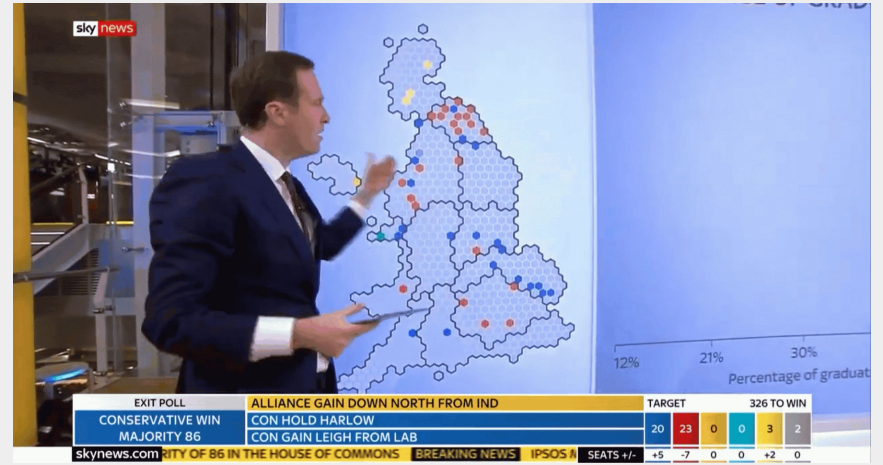


👉 a prototype video “tour guide” for a Tableau dashboard

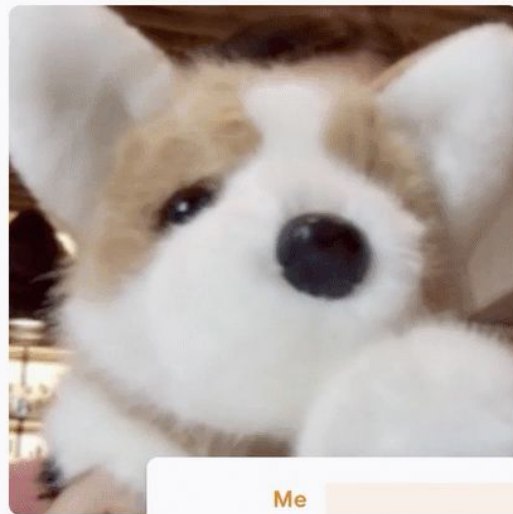


👉 Hans Rosling's TED Conference Talks (2006, 2007)

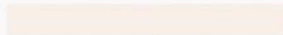
[gapminder.com/videos](https://gapminder.com/videos)



👉 ***"The Information in Our Hands"*** – Information+ Conference 2021

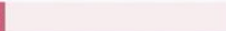


Me



Me + Dog <3

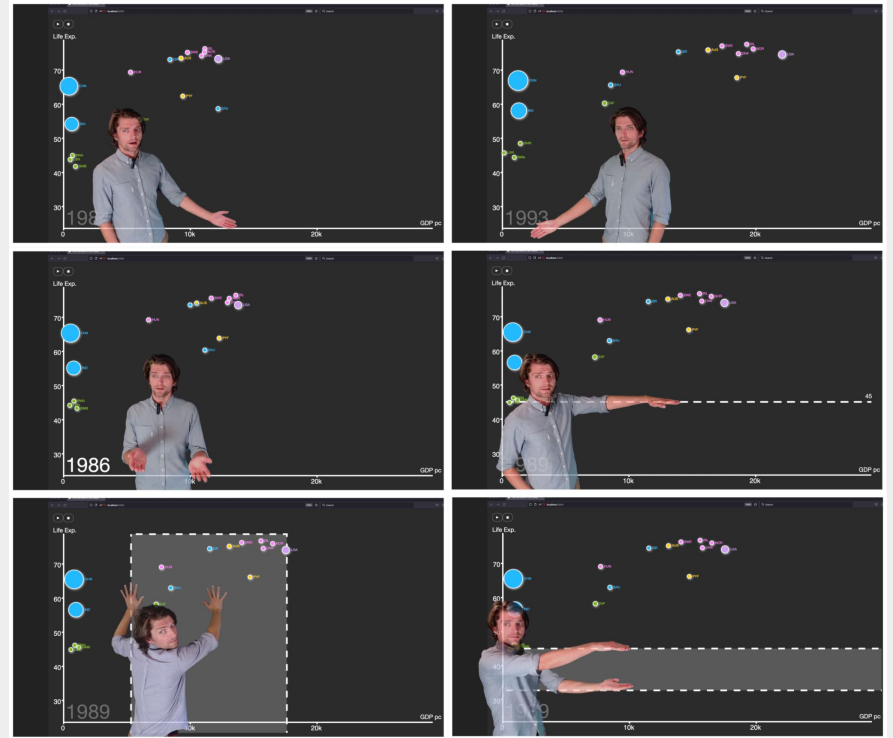
20%



## Teachable Machine

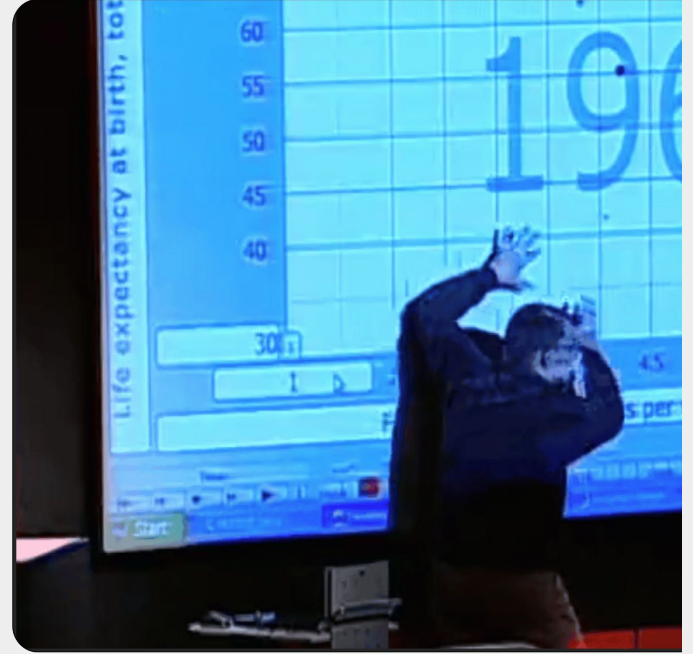
**Train a computer to recognize your own images, sounds, & poses.**

A fast, easy way to create machine learning models for



## 👉 ***"The Information in Our Hands"***

Information+ Conference 2021



👉 Hans Rosling's TED Conference Talks (2006, 2007)

[gapminder.com/videos](http://gapminder.com/videos)



👉 **"200 Countries, 200 Years, 4 Minutes"** – Hans Rosling, BBC 2010



👉 **"200 Countries, 200 Years, 4 Minutes"** – Hans Rosling, BBC 2010



**Matthew Brehmer**  
TABLEAU RESEARCH





## Live ML anywhere

MediaPipe offers open source cross-platform, customizable ML solutions for live and streaming media.

## ARTICLE

# Using space to talk and gesture about numbers

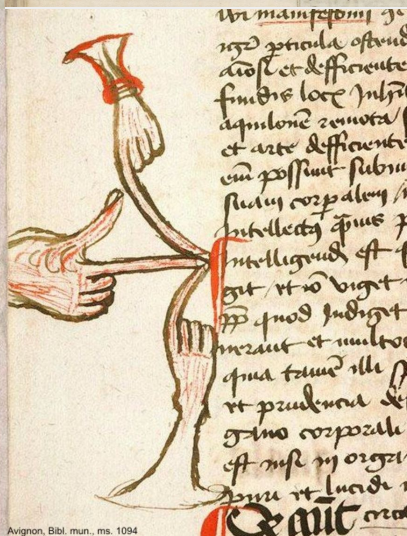
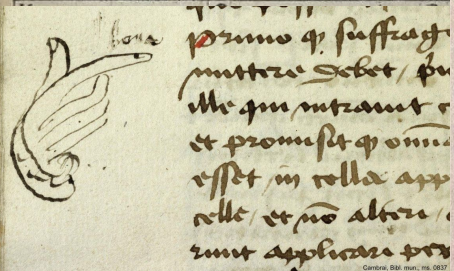
## Evidence from the TV News Archive

Bodo Winter, Marcus Perlman\*, and Teenie Matlock

University of California, Merced / \*University of Wisconsin, Madison

This paper examines naturally occurring gestures produced in descriptions of numbers and quantities in television newscasts. The results of our analysis show that gestures reveal the metaphorical and spatial nature of numerical thinking. That is, speakers' hands mimic known spatial mappings between space and quantity, including horizontal mappings (smaller quantities left, larger quantities right), vertical mappings (smaller quantities down, larger quantities up) and size-based mappings (smaller quantities "small", larger quantities "large"). Speakers frequently switch between these different spatial mappings, and they sometimes combine them within the same gesture. This points to the flexibility of how metaphors can become expressed in gesture, and how domains such as number and quantity can be conceptualized through multiple compatible source domains.

**Keywords:** metaphor, mathematics, number, quantity, TV news



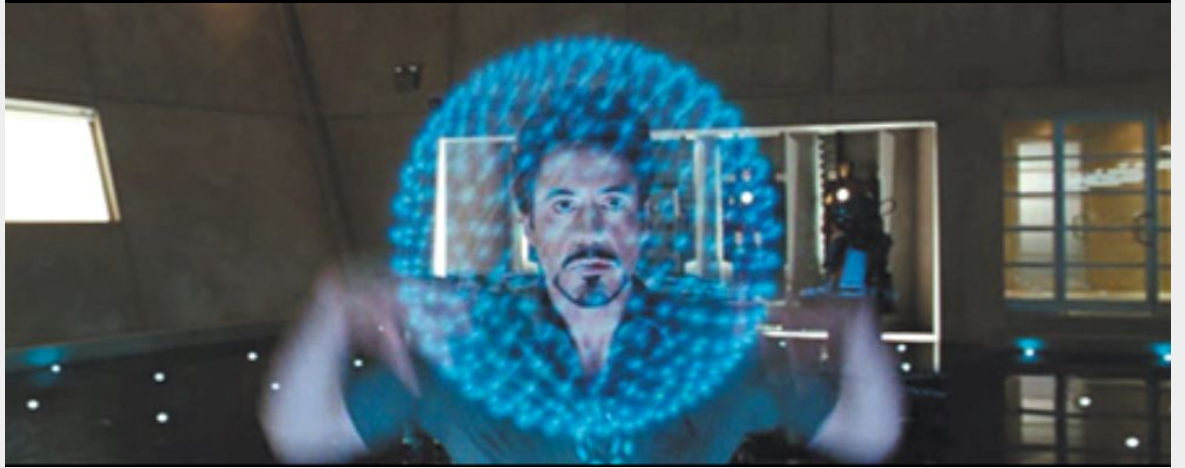


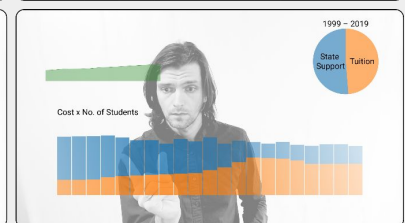
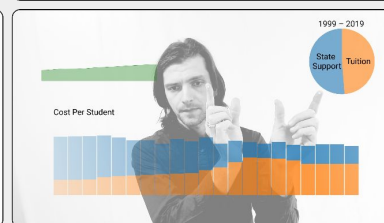
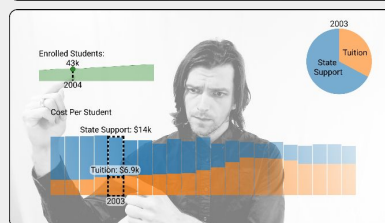
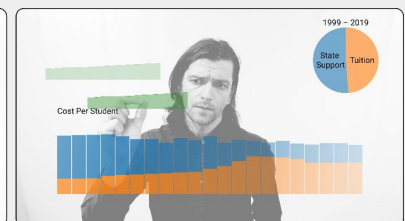
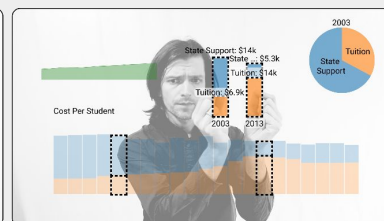
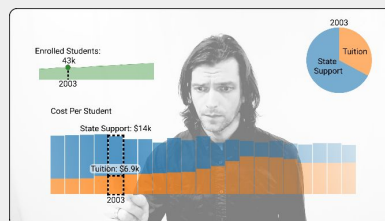
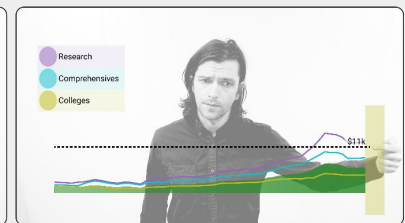
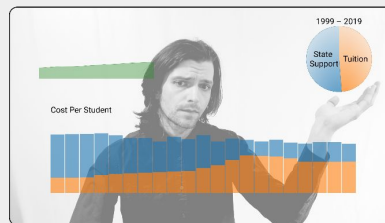
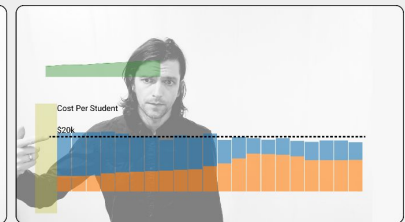
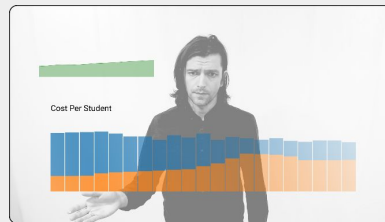
👉 ***Augmented Chironomia for Presenting Data to Remote Audiences***

Brian D. Hall, Lyn Bartram, Matthew Brehmer

to appear at ACM UIST 2022







## Functional gestures

*modify system behavior*

*direct attention to visual elements*

## “Operational gestures”

*performed in relation to visual elements*

## Illustrative gestures

Deictic gestures

Iconic gestures

Metaphoric gestures

## Affective gestures

*convey emotion and emphasis...  
used to persuade and argue*

## “Expressive gestures”

*can precede, co-occur with,  
or follow an operational gesture*



👉 **Chalktalk: A visualization and communication language – As a tool in the domain of computer science education.**

Ken Perlin, Zhenyi He, and Karl Rosenberg

arXiv preprint (2018) 1809.07166

# Embodied Interactions for Novel Immersive Presentational Experiences

Fabrice Matulic

Lars Engeln

Christoph Träger

Raimund Dachzelt

Interactive Media Lab Dresden  
Technische Universität Dresden



## Abstract

In this work, we introduce and propose a preliminary realisation of a concept to enhance live multimedia presentations, where presenters are directly integrated in their presentation content as interactive avatars. Using multimodal input, especially body gestures, presenters control those embedded avatars through which they can interact with the virtual presentation environment in a fine-grained fashion, i.e. they are able to manipulate individual presentation elements and data as virtual props. The goal of our endeavour is to create novel immersive presentational experiences for live stage performances (talks, lectures etc.) as well as for remote conferencing in more confined areas such as offices and meeting rooms.





# New Multimodal Experiences for Communicating with an Audience about Data

## **From Jam Session to Recital:**

Synchronous Communication and Collaboration  
around Data in Organizations

— — —

**VIS 2021**, with Robert Kosara

## **The Information in our Hands**

— — —

**Information+ 2021**

**Augmented Chironomia** for  
Presenting Data to Remote Audiences

— — —

**UIST 2022**, with Brian D. Hall and Lyn Bartram

## Discussion

Open Questions, Future Work ...

**Creativity support for presenting data**

**Remote + mixed collaborative environments,  
role diversity + knowledge asymmetry ...**

**Maintaining suspense and dramatic reveals ...**

**Interaction support for both presenter + viewer**

**Gestural interaction beyond interface control:  
gesture to support rhetoric and affect**

# New Multimodal Experiences for Communicating with an Audience about Data

**Matthew Brehmer**, Tableau Research

–

@ University of Utah SCII – Oct 5 2022



Published in Tableau Engineering Blog



Robert Kosara

Oct 26, 2021 · 4 min read



## How Do People Communicate and Collaborate with Data in Organizations?

Data is everywhere in organizations, but how do people actually use it to communicate, present, and collaborate? Matt Brehmer and I investigated this question in a pair of studies that we report on in a paper to be published at the VIS 2021 conference this week, titled *From Jam Session to Recital: Synchronous Communication and Collaboration Around Data in Organizations*. In addition to asking about people's uses of data presentations in meetings, we showed them a series of mock-ups for ideas that we thought would make for better recorded and live presentations.

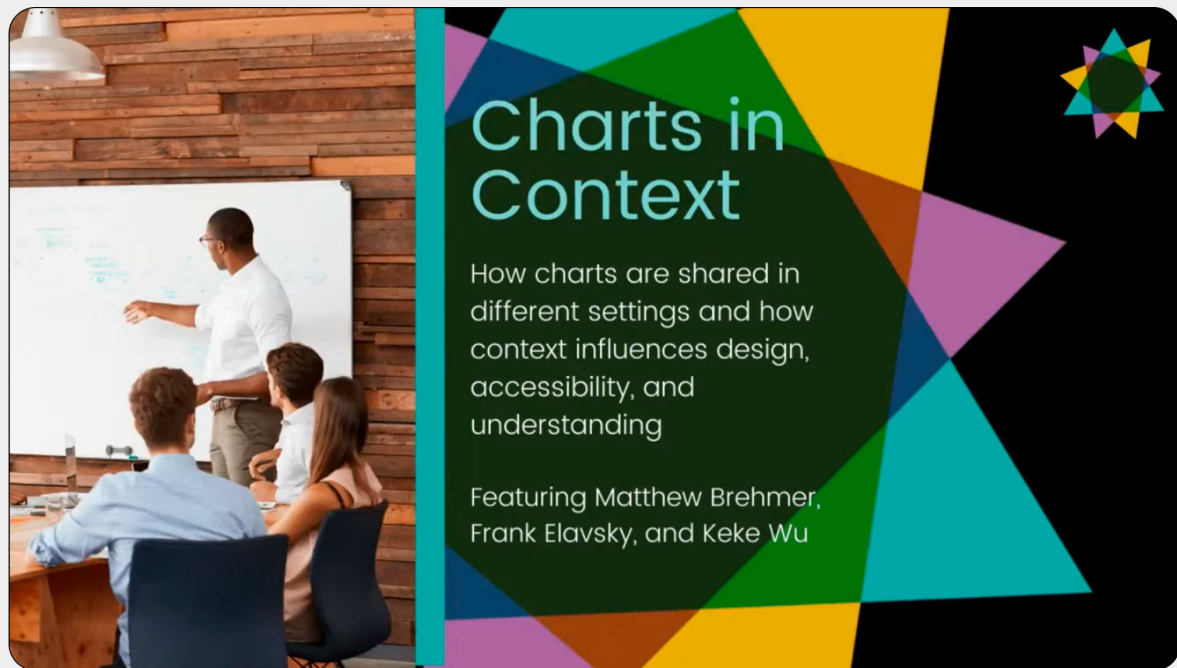
adapted from:

### From Jam Session to Recital

Synchronous Communication and Collaboration  
around Data in Organizations

— — —

**VIS 2021**, Matthew Brehmer & Robert Kosara



### **Data Visualization Society fireside chat (Jan 24 2022)**

Matthew Brehmer, Frank Elavsky, & Keke Wu, hosted by Amanda Makulec

[youtu.be/rYVtNEH4e4o](https://youtu.be/rYVtNEH4e4o)



**Matthew Brehmer** | @mattbrehmer | [mattbrehmer.ca](http://mattbrehmer.ca)

–  
Senior Research Staff, Tableau Research, Seattle WA | [research.tableau.com](http://research.tableau.com)