

# More on Time



## CS 4460 - Information Visualization Jim Foley

Some PPTs from Prof. John Stasko.

Last revision: October 2016

# A Taxonomy of Time Data

- Continuous – a series of values that change over time
  - Non-periodic
  - Periodic
- Discrete – an event that occurs at a specific time
  - Non-periodic (non-recurring)
  - Periodic
- More on next pages.....

Time	Value
10:00	57
10:01	62
10:02	60
10:03	60
Etc	etc

Time	Event
20 July 1957	John born
5 Sept. 1973	John graduates HS

# Time Series Examples



- As we step through examples, answer these questions about each example
  - What are similarities?
  - Differences?
  - When is each useful?
  - Pros/cons of each?
    - How much info is visually coded?
    - Scalable to more events & longer time scale / intervals?
    - How good for comparing multiple time series?

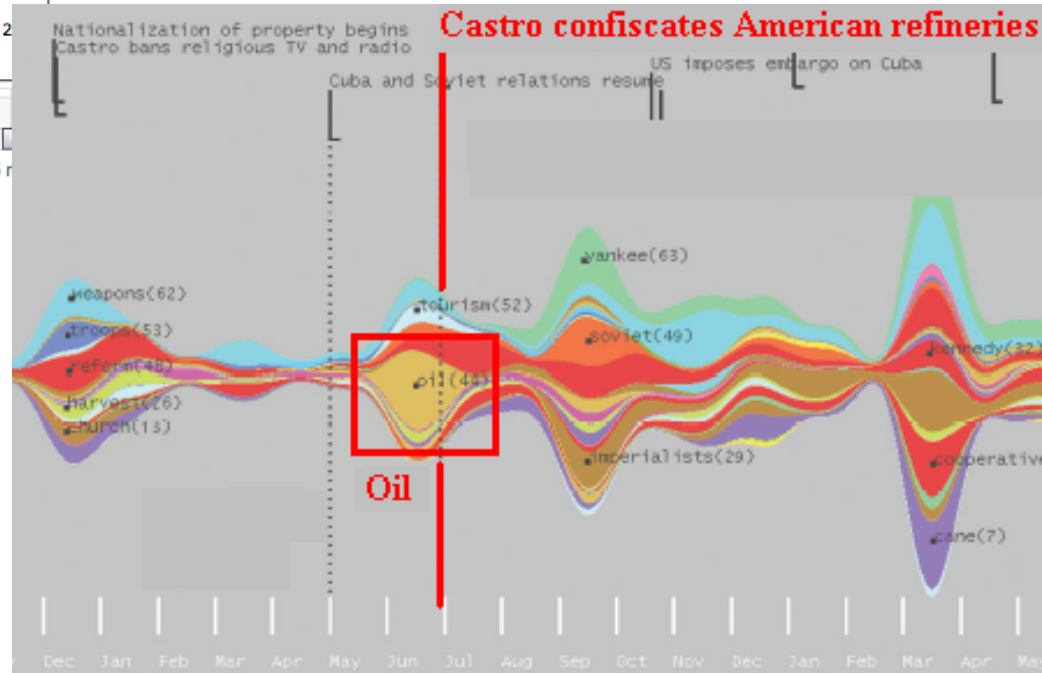
# Examples



- A** [Nationally Known Business Author Profiles Michigan Company](#)  
Trading Markets - 30 minutes ago
- B** [Earnings Preview: EMC Corp.](#)  
Daily Markets - 1 hour ago
- C** [Bank of America - Worst Performing Dow Component](#)  
TradersHuddle.com - 1 hour ago
- D** [Computer Point takes on IBM firms in Uganda](#)  
East African Business Week - 2 hours ago
- E** [IBM rolls out virtual desktop offering](#)

[All news for International Business Machines Corp. »](#)

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<https://eresearch.fidelity.com/eresearch/evaluate/snapshot.jhtml?symbols=AAPL>

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# Discuss



- What type of time data shown?
- When useful?
- How much info is visually coded?
- Scalable to more events & longer time scale / intervals?
- How good for comparing multiple time series?

# Example: Finding Daily Patterns



- Suppose you have a daily log, for a year, of energy consumption in a building, or number of people in building
  - Want to find common characteristics
  - Idea applies beyond this example

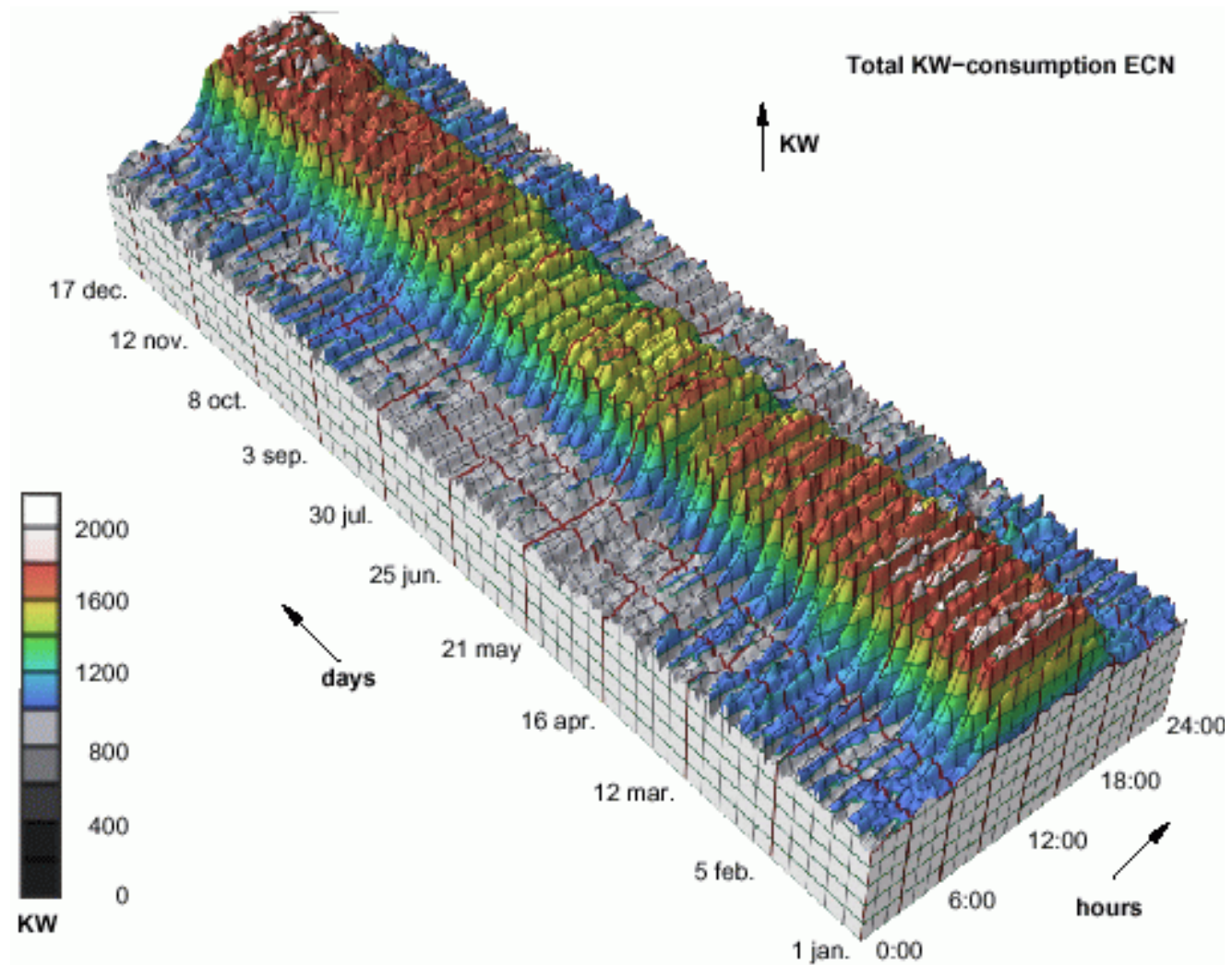
Wijk and Selow, *Cluster and Calendar based Visualization of Time Series Data*, InfoVis '99

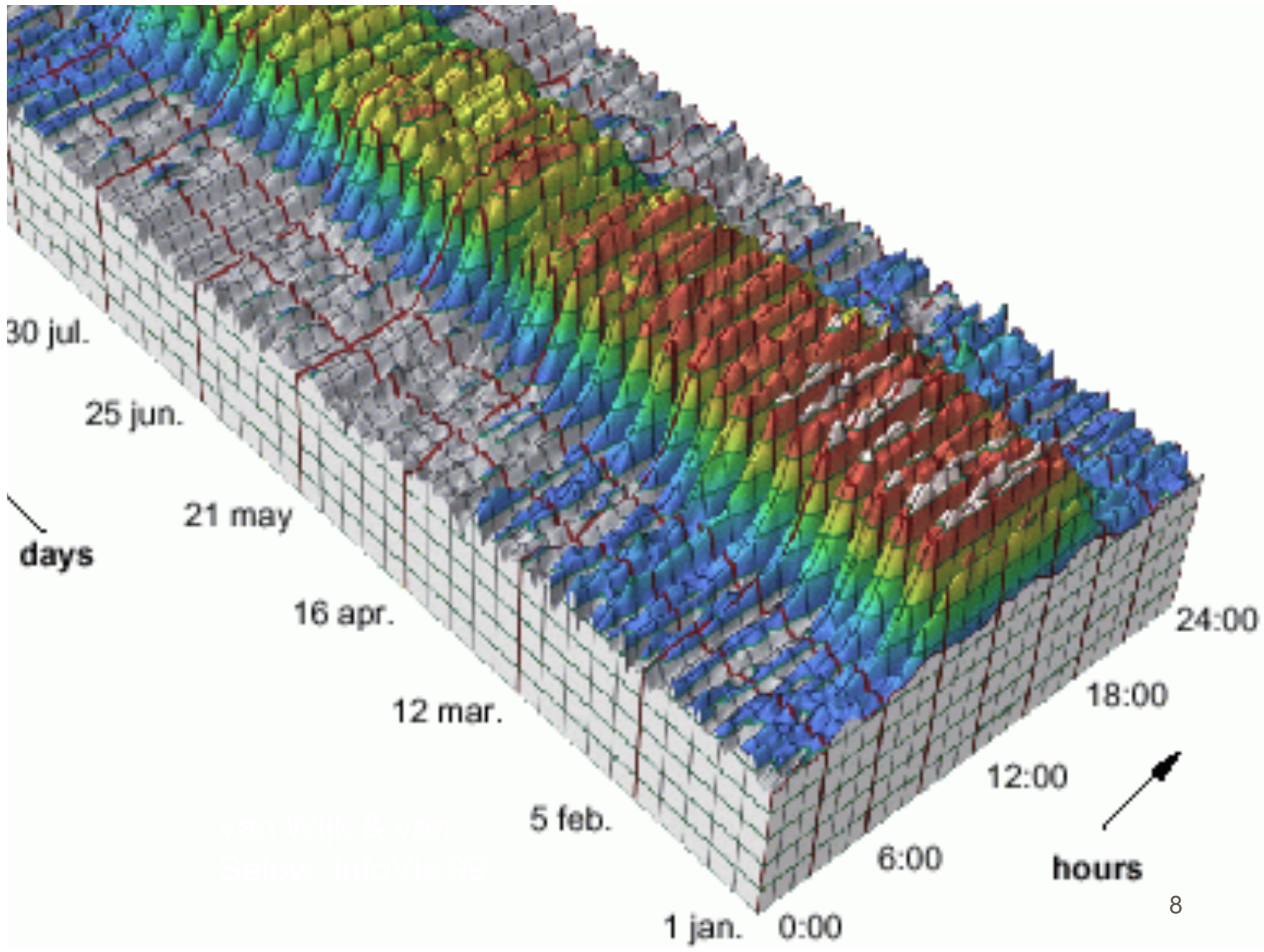
# Raw Data



- Ideas?

See larger view  
of data on  
next slide







# Discuss



- What type of time data shown?
- When useful?
- How much info is visually coded?
- Scalable to more events & longer time scale / intervals?
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# Use 'Cluster Analysis'



- Start with the  $n$  days, call each a cluster
- Find two most similar clusters
- Combine the two into one cluster
- Now have  $n-1$  clusters
- Repeat until some preset number left or a condition is met
- How can results be visualized?

# An Aside – Cluster Analysis



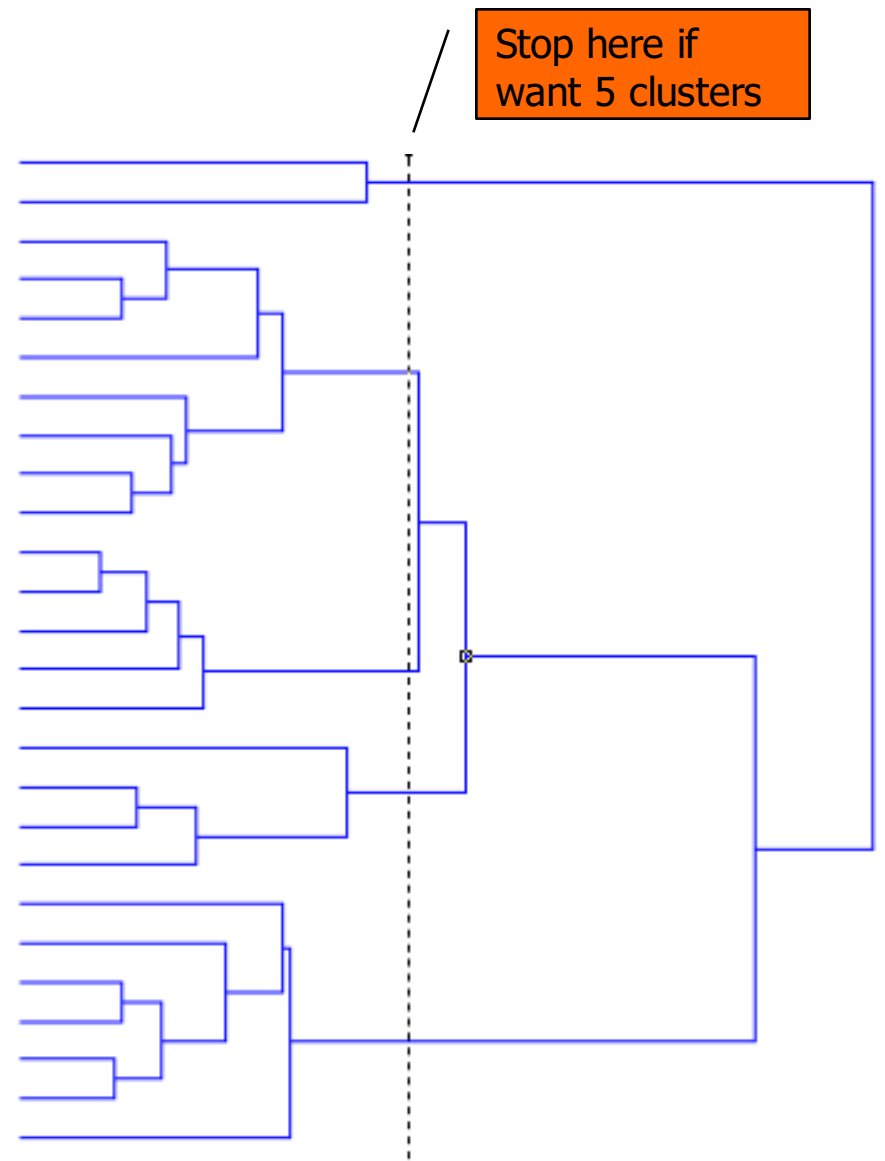
- Widely-used method
- Defining ‘close’ is key
  - Varies from one domain to another
  - Text - count differences – key words, tags
  - Pictures –look at features of some sort
  - Time-varying data
  - $\sum |\Delta_i|$ ,  $i$  varies over sample length, such as 24 hour period in previous example or over key word count for text

Why use absolute value of  $\Delta_i$  ?

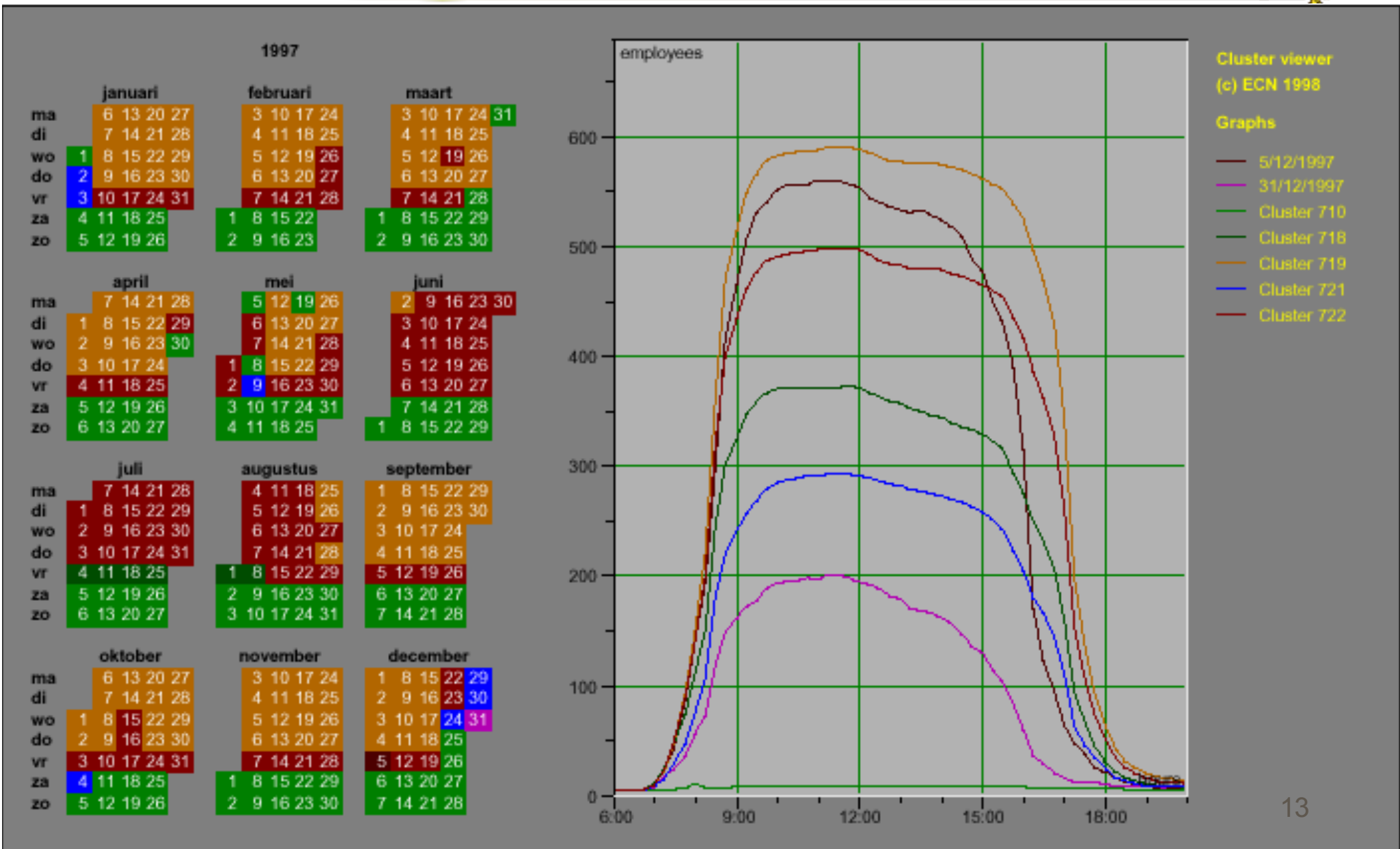
# An Aside - Dendrogram



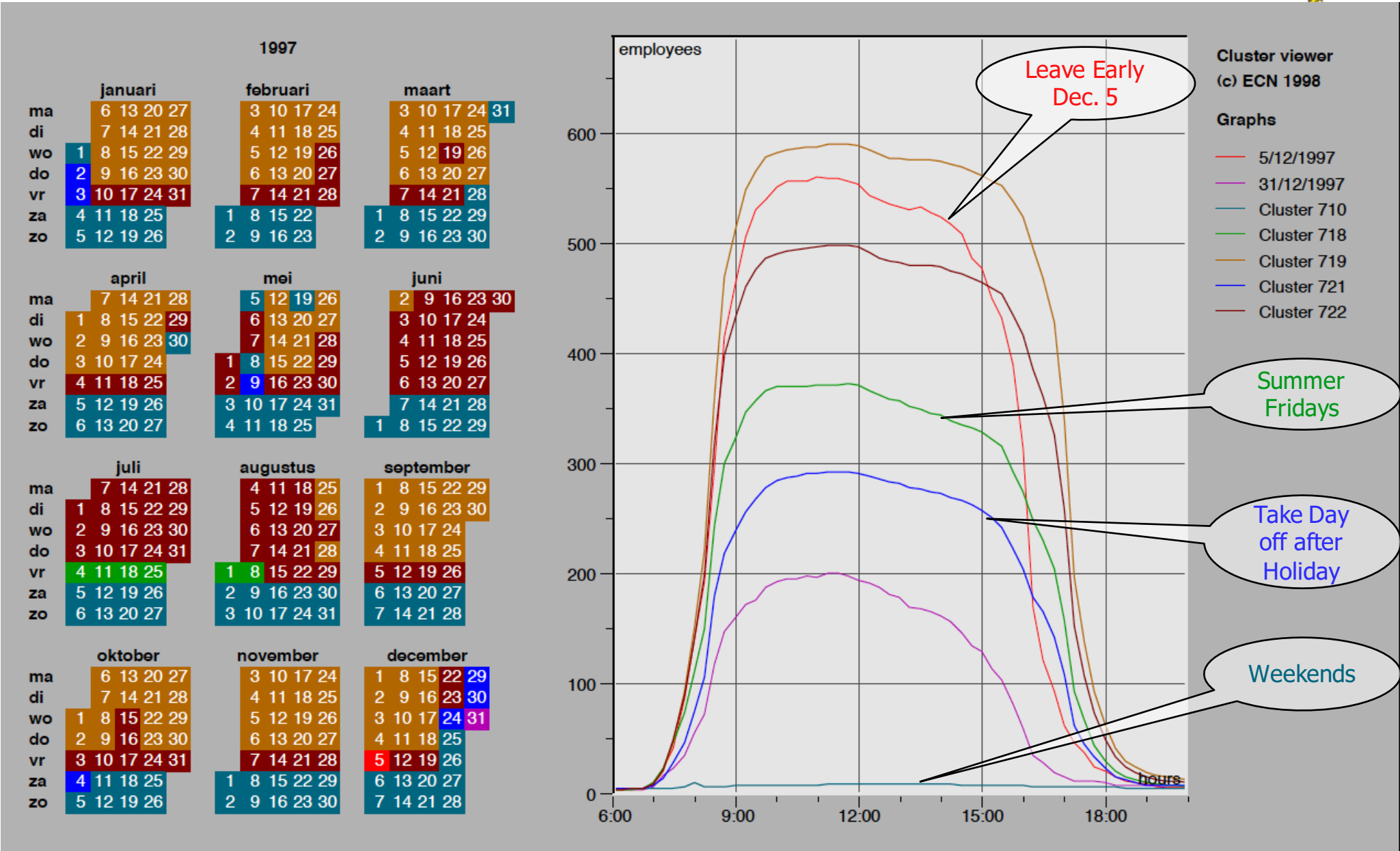
- Dendrogram – tree that results from clustering
  - Can show process until is a single cluster
  - Stop clustering when have as few as desired



# Cluster Display – People at Work



# Cluster Display – People at Work



# What Cluster Display Shows Us

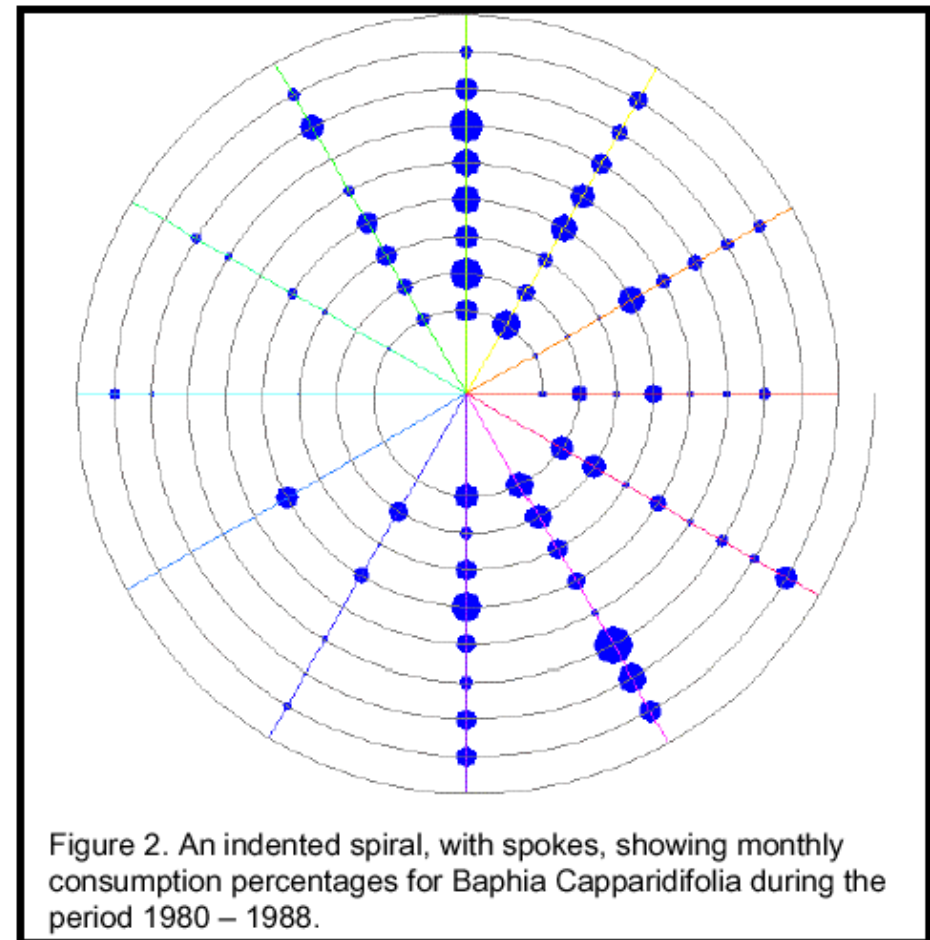


- Traditional office hours are followed
- Most are present late mornings
- Fewer are present on summer Fridays
- Very few people work holidays
- School vacations
- Day after holidays
- Many people leave at 4PM on 12/5
  - Very special in The Netherlands – St. Nicholas' Eve

# Example: Spiral Display - Periodic Data



- Useful if data follows a repetitive pattern
- Can reveal periodicity
  - One loop is one period
  - What if data NOT periodic?
- Time line becomes the spiral
  - Avoid problem of long time line
- *Could use concentric circles instead of spiral*



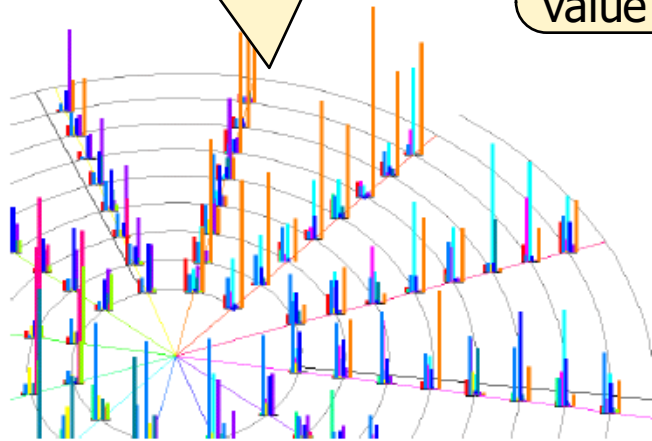
Konstan and Carlis, *Interactive Visualization of Serial Periodic Data*,  
UIST '98; data set is chimpanzee food consumption.



# Add Third Dimension for More Data

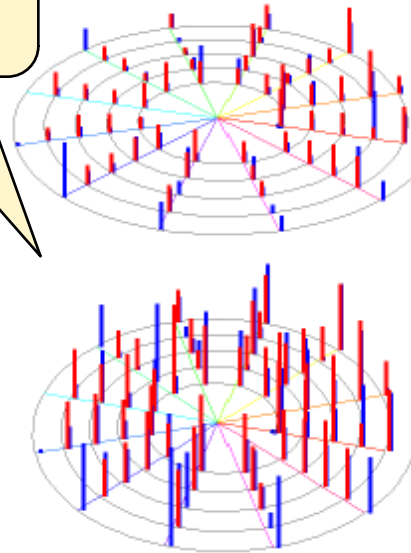


Multiple values  
per point



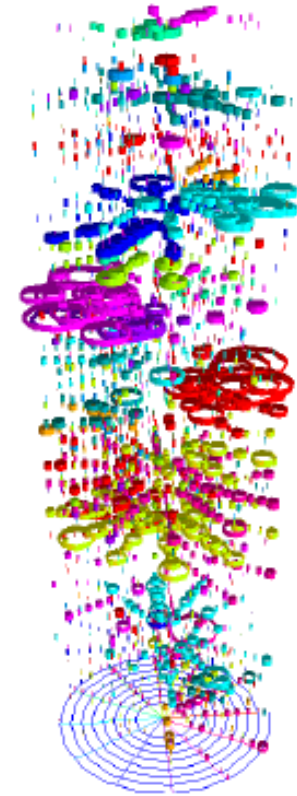
Mini bar-chart at each point

Small  
multiples; one  
value per point



Two linked  
spirals:

2 chimpanzees  
group avg size &  
max size



112 food types

Useful? 😊

# Discuss



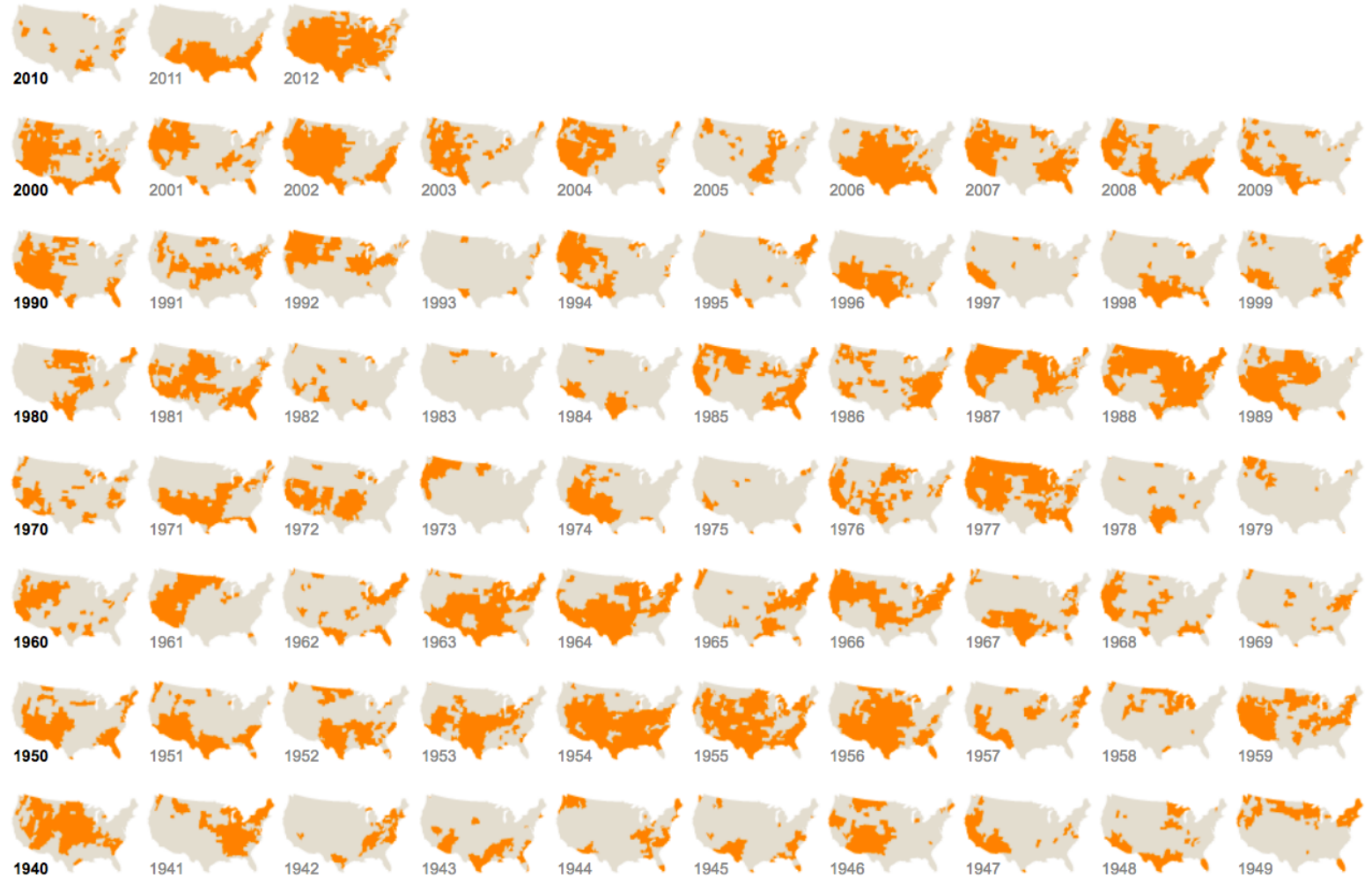
- What type of time data shown?
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# Time via Small Multiples

## Drought's Footprint

More than half of the country was under moderate to extreme drought in June, the largest area of the contiguous United States affected by such dryness in nearly 60 years. Nearly 1,300 counties across 29 states have been declared federal disaster areas. Areas under moderate to extreme drought in June of each year are shown in orange below.

[Related Article »](#)



# Time in 2D

*ms*

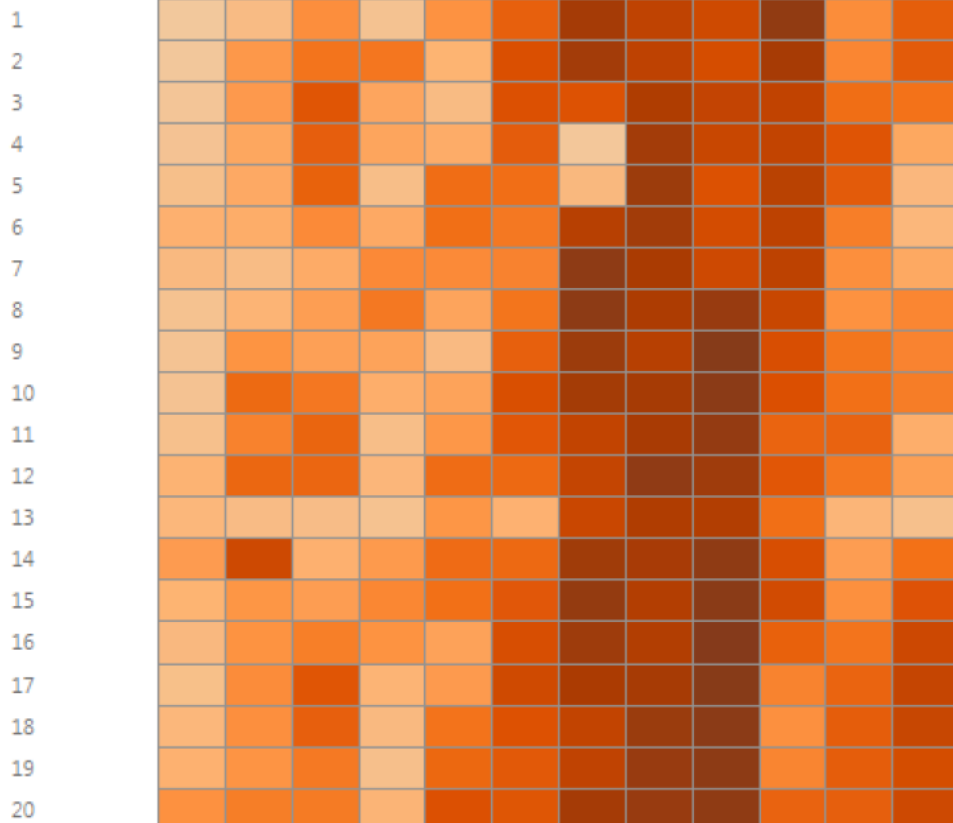
## How common is your birthday?

Two charts showing the most and least popular birthdays in the USA and England/Wales.  
The darker the colour, the more common that birthday is.



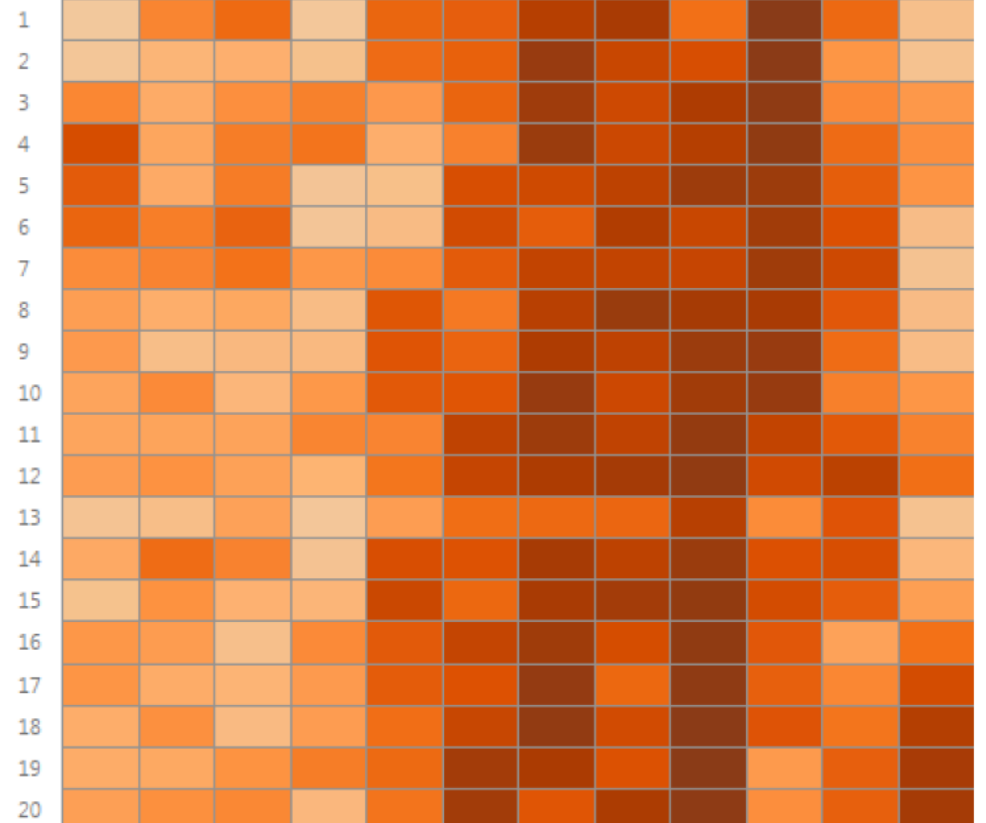
### USA

J F M A M J J A S O N D



### England and Wales

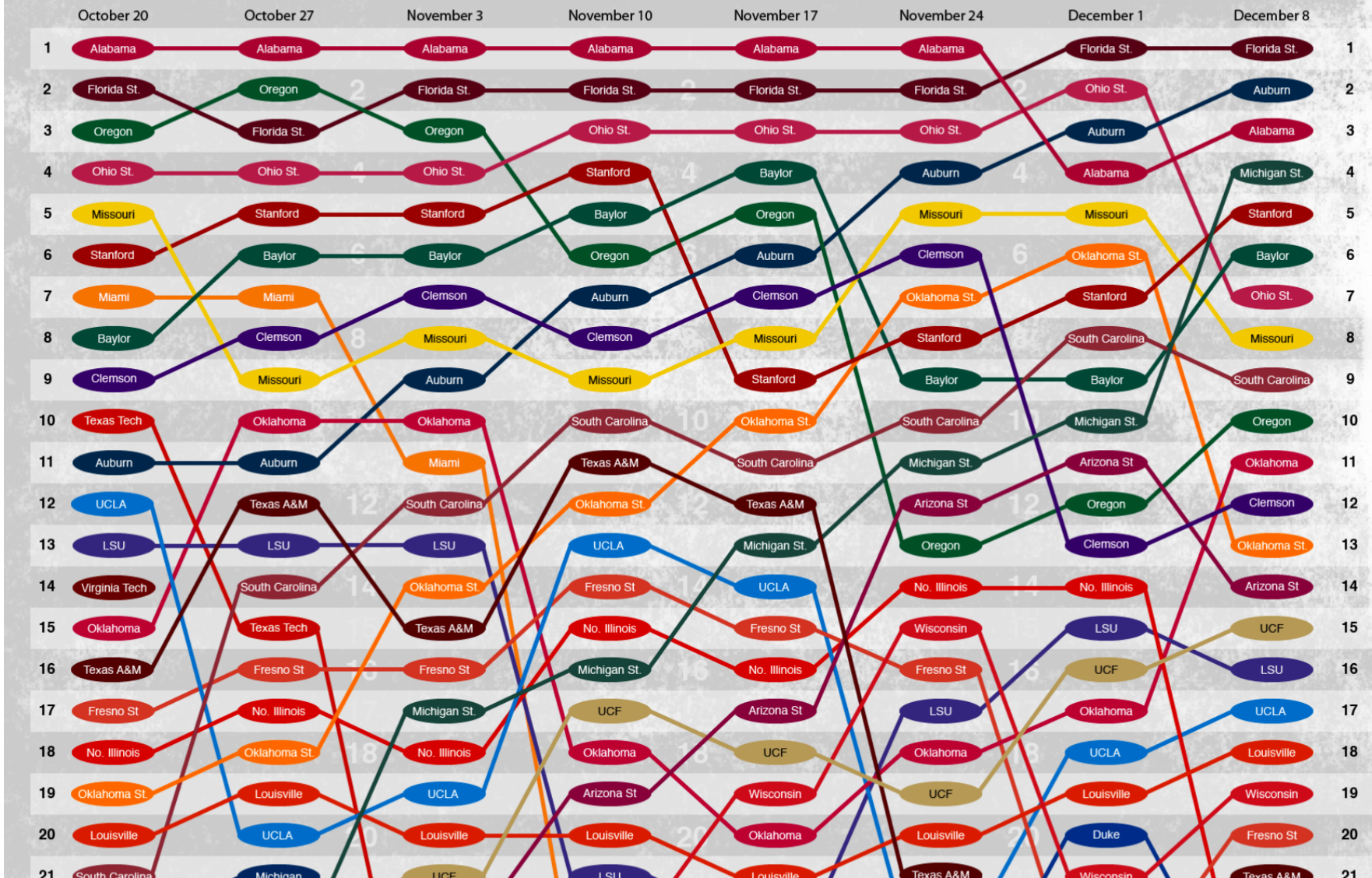
J F M A M J J A S O N D



# Time via Parallel Coordinates



## 2013 BCS College Football Rankings



# Design Exercise



- Data - for every hour of the day for an entire year
  - Number of road accidents in three different counties, plus total
- For each month, show aggregated accident counts for Sun, Mon, Tues etc, for each county & total
- Select date range and time of day range
- Now also show hour-by-hour accident count for each county & total, for the selected date/time ranges
  - (and possibly just for one day or the week during the selected date/time ranges)
- I have one design, looking for lots of creativity from y'all 😊

# Visualizing Time Intervals



1. Prostrate cancer progression
2. TimeSpan
3. Meeting discussions
4. Music over time
5. Story Lines
6. PERT Charts

# 1. Prostate Cancer Progression

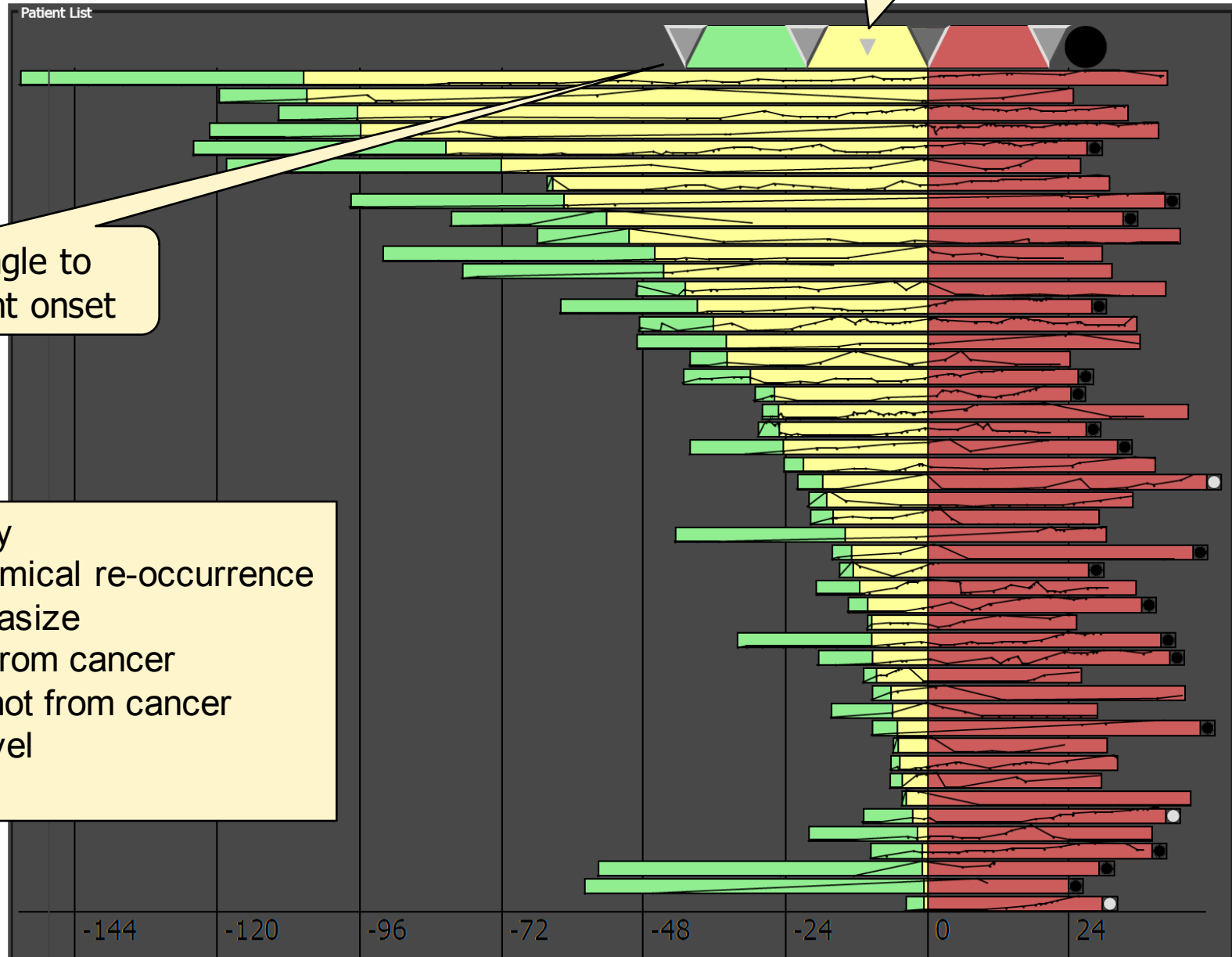
Click in colored area to sort by event duration



Click on triangle to align on event onset

Green: surgery  
Yellow: biochemical re-occurrence  
Red: metastasize  
Black (solid): death from cancer  
Black (dot): death not from cancer  
Spark lines: PSA level

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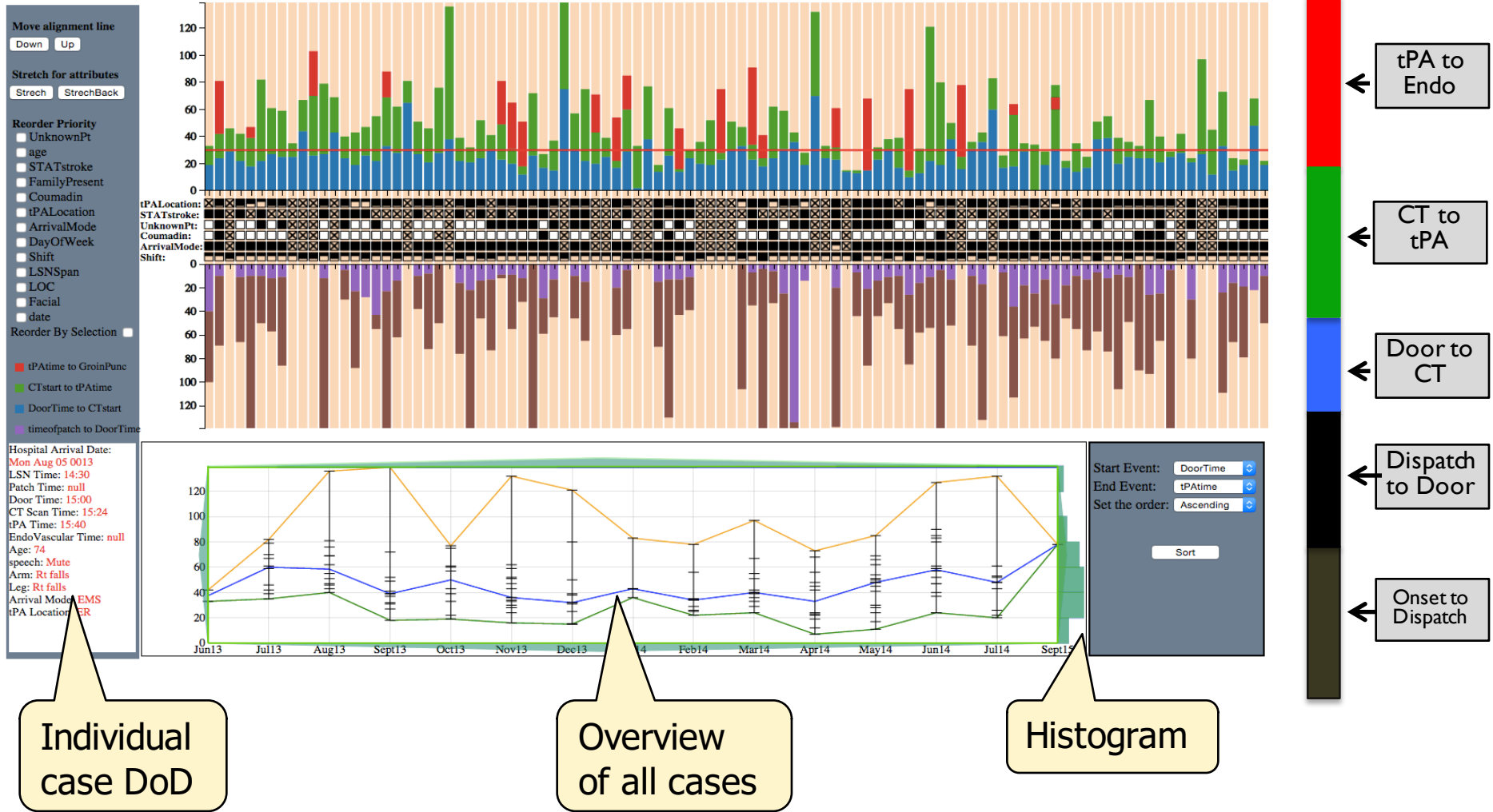




# 2. TimeSpan

<https://vimeo.com/143162420>

More refined view of all cases



# 3. Meeting Discussions



Alallah et. al, *Visualizing the Decision-making Process*,  
11th International Conference on  
Information Visualization (IEEE InfoVis  
2007)

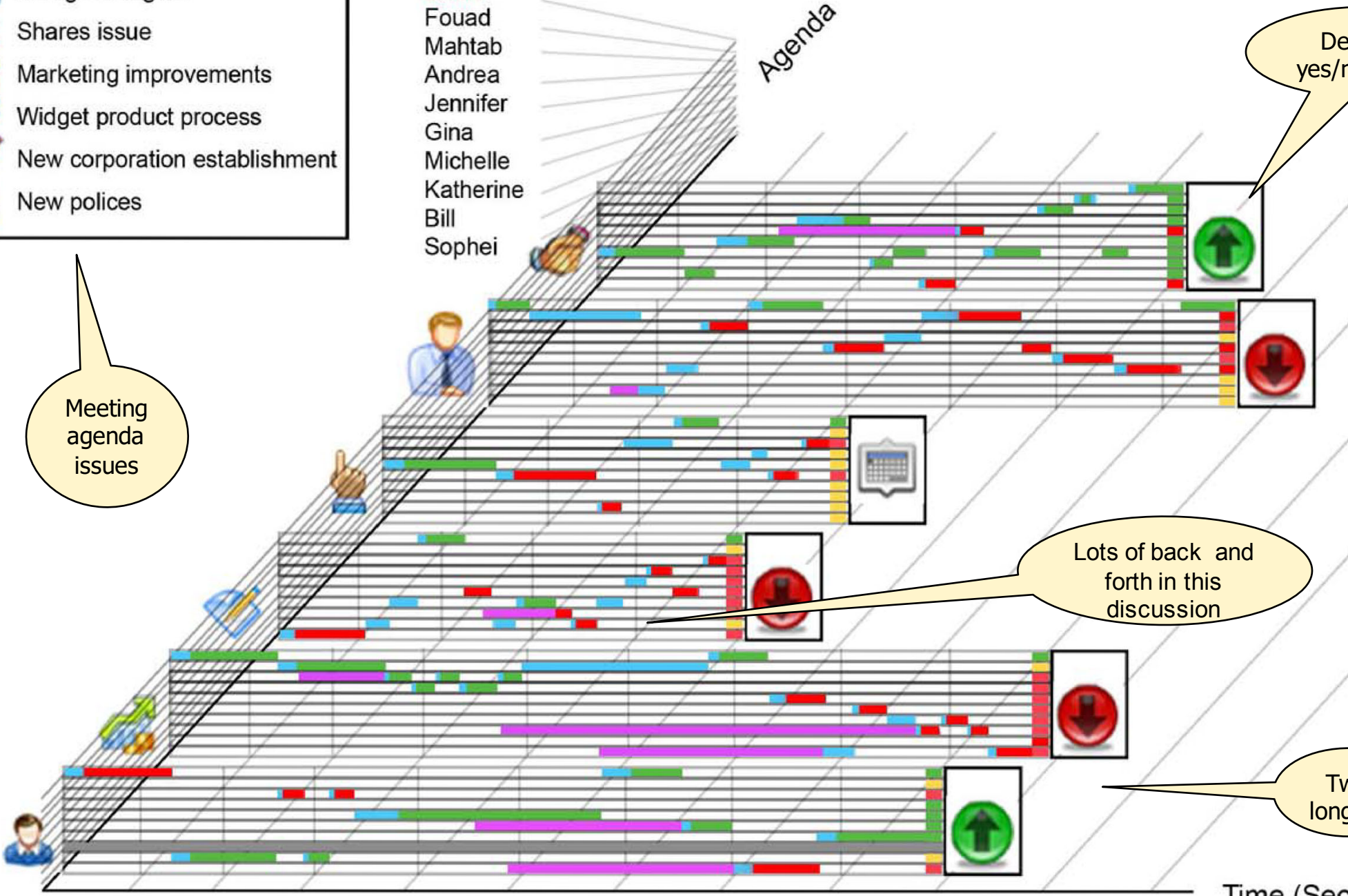
Adapted from a CS4460 presentation  
by Dylan Demyanek, William Harris  
and Kristina Makarova

-  Hiring managers
-  Shares issue
-  Marketing improvements
-  Widget product process
-  New corporation establishment
-  New polices

Participants

- Dean
- Fouad
- Mahtab
- Andrea
- Jennifer
- Gina
- Michelle
- Katherine
- Bill
- Sophei

Agenda



Meeting agenda issues

Lots of back and forth in this discussion

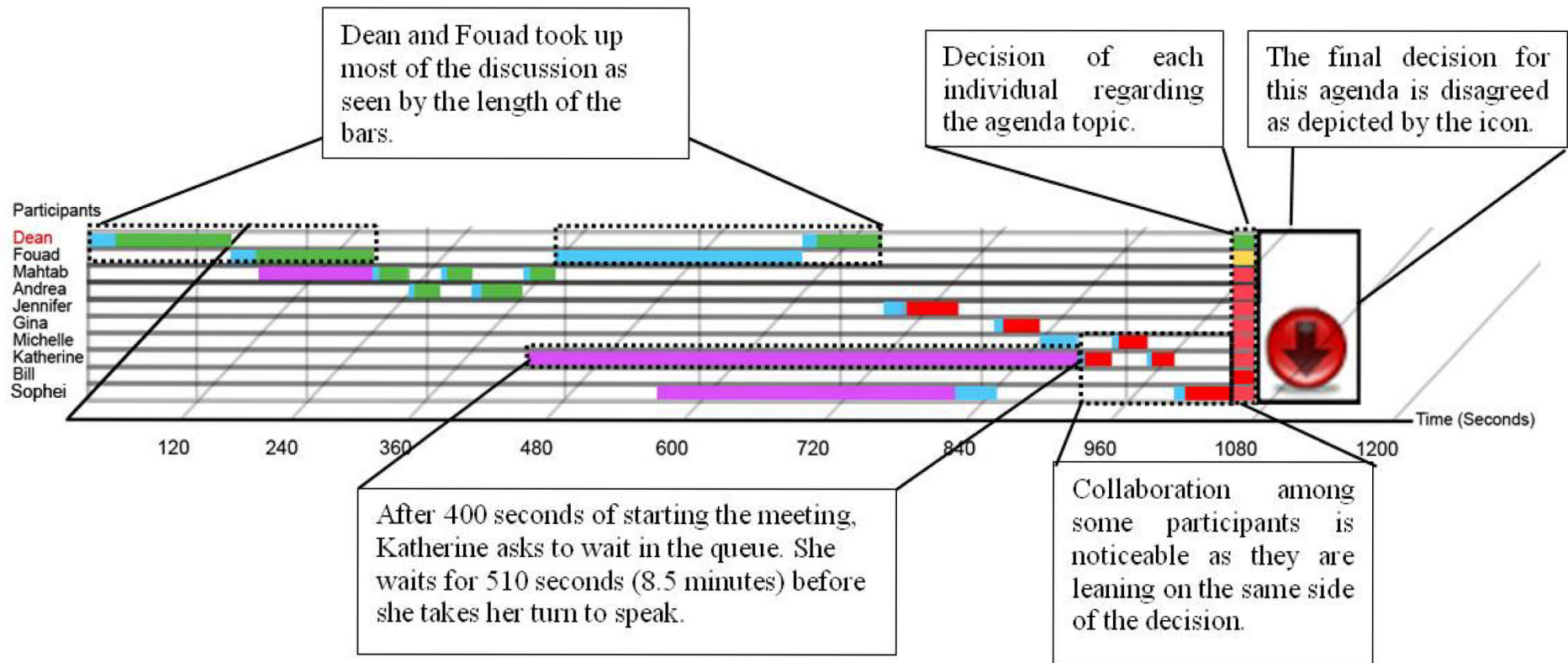
Tv long

De yes/r

Time (Sec)

120 240 360 480 600 720 840 960 1080 1200 1320

# Time Line Close-up



## Individual activities

- Speaking for
- Speaking against
- Speaking not decided
- Queued to speak
- Attending
- Not attending

## Individual decision

- Agreed
- Disagreed
- Abstain

## Group decision

- ↑ Agreed
- ↓ Disagreed
- ⏸ Deferred

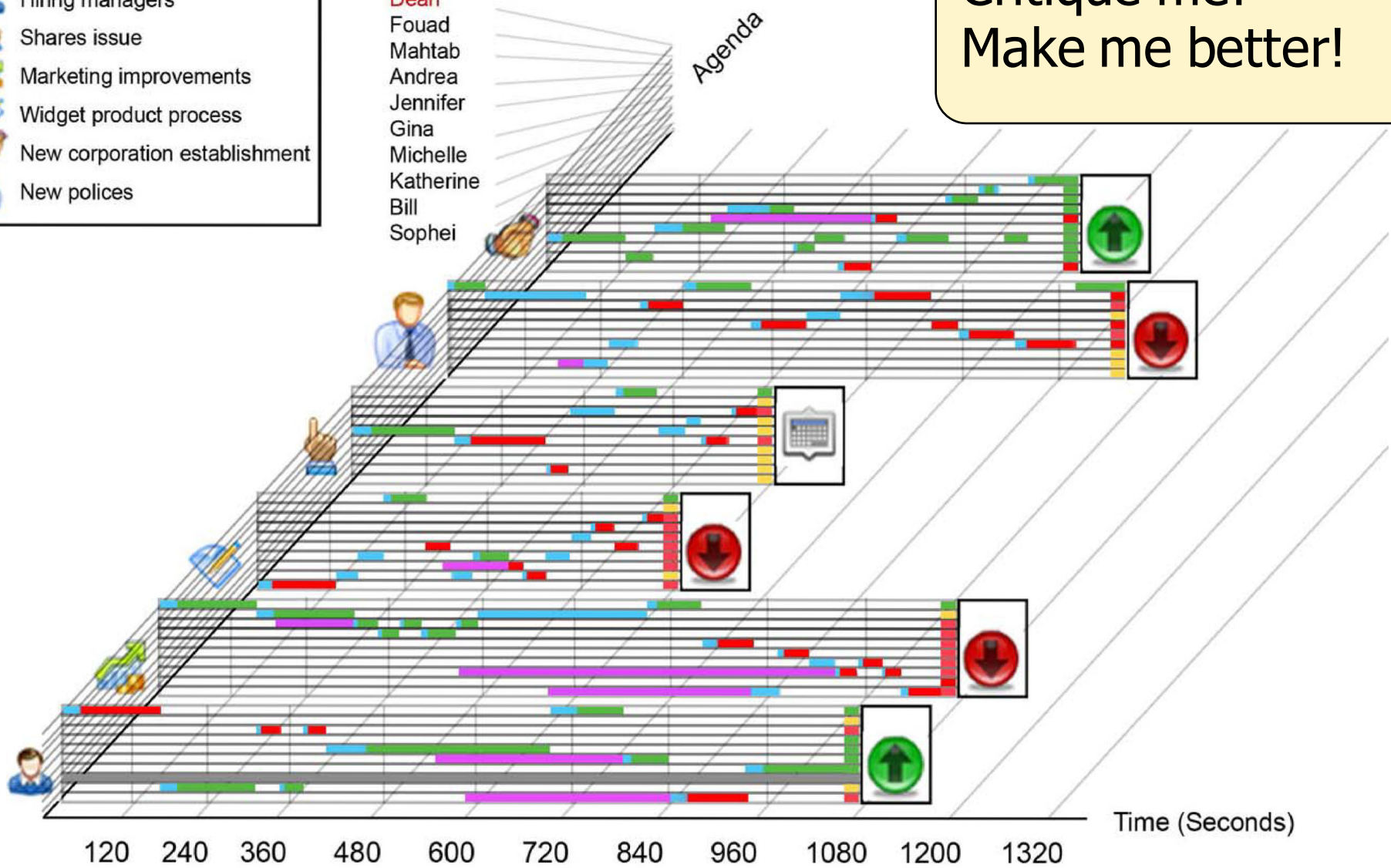
Meeting name: Meeting No.13, Date: December, 9th, 2006, Location: E2-460, Purpose: Annual meeting

-  Hiring managers
-  Shares issue
-  Marketing improvements
-  Widget product process
-  New corporation establishment
-  New polices

Participants

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Critique me!  
Make me better!

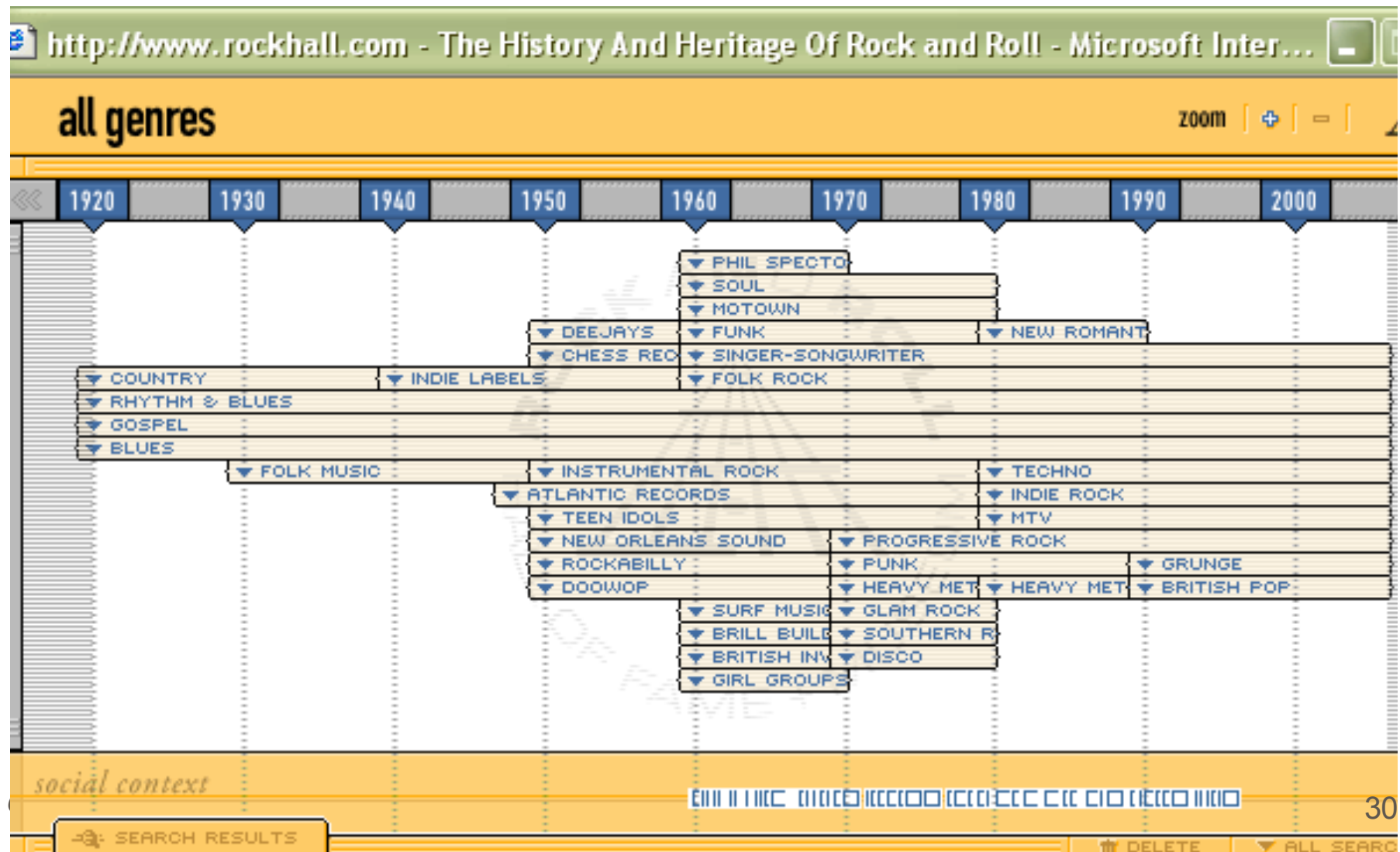


# 4. Music Over Time



History of Genres

<http://rockhall.com/timeline/> (dead link)

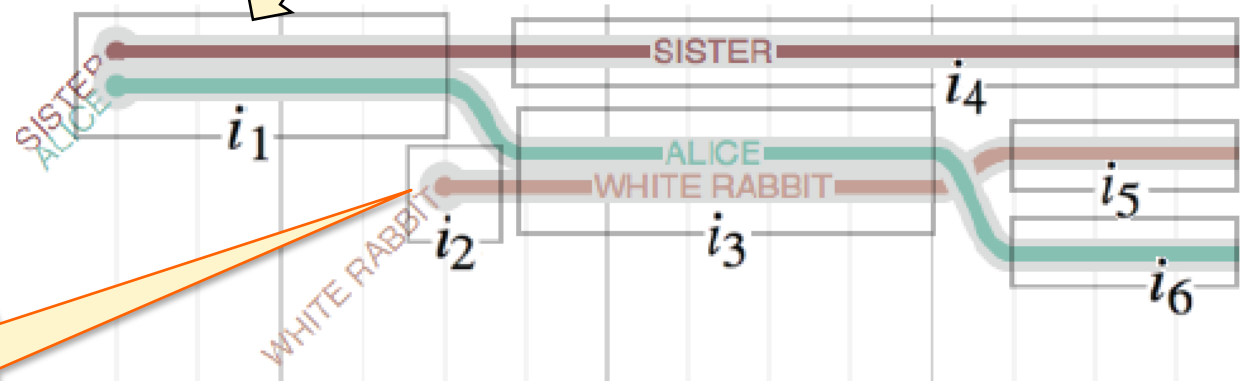


# 5. Storylines



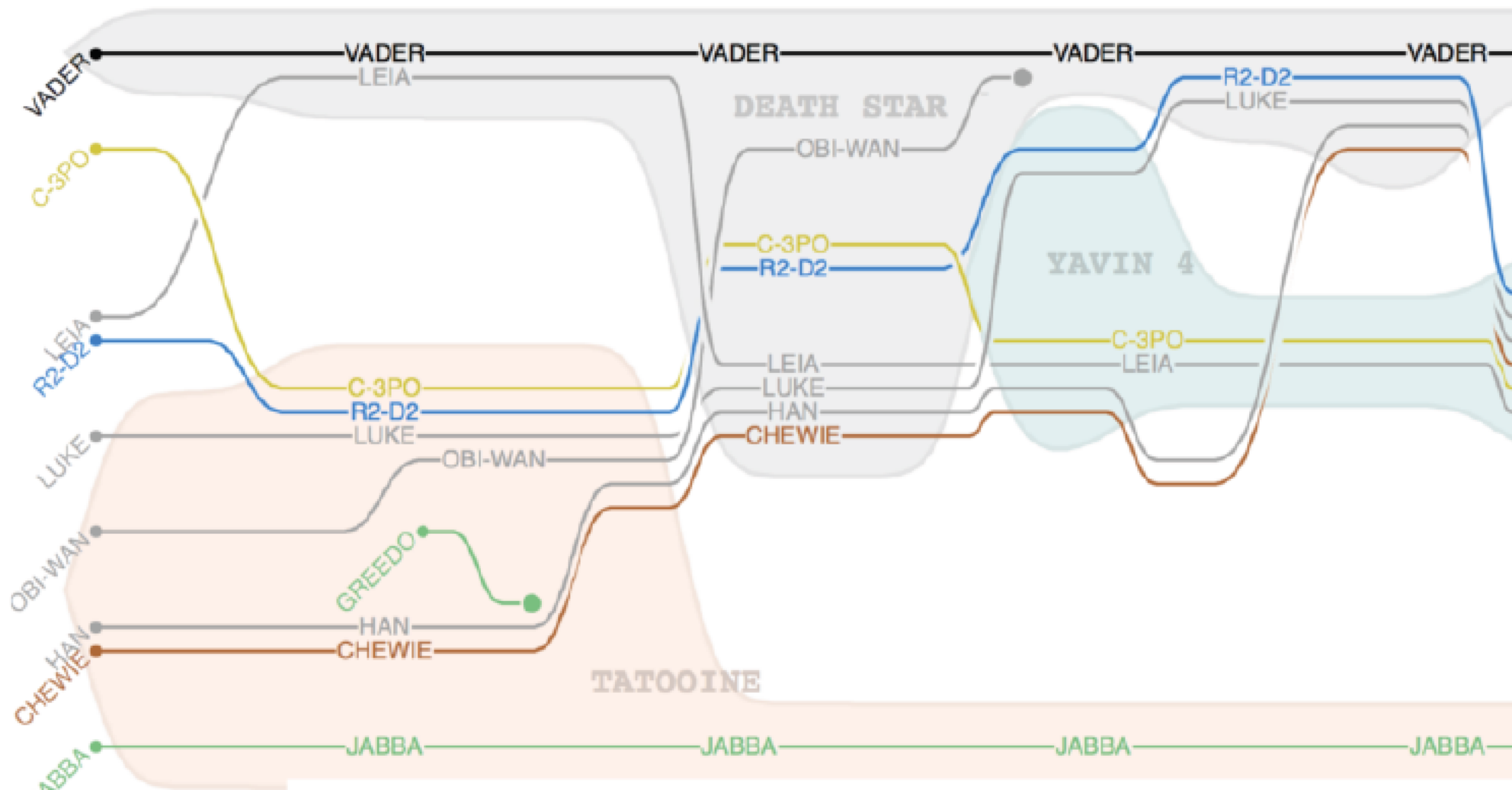
$i_k$	$t_k$	$d_k$	$M_k$
$i_1$	0	4	SISTER, ALICE
$i_2$	4	0	WHITE RABBIT
$i_3$	5	5	ALICE, WHITE RABBIT
$i_4$	5	217	SISTER
$i_5$	11	21	WHITE RABBIT
$i_6$	11	6	ALICE

Sister & Alice together from  $t=0$ , duration  $d=4$



White rabbit enters at  $t=4$ , joins Alice at  $t=5$  for  $d=5$

- Design Considerations for Optimizing Storyline Visualizations, Yuzuru Tanahashi and Kwan-Liu Ma, IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, Dec. 2012



- Lines representing interacting characters must be adjacent.
- Otherwise, lines must not be adjacent.
- A line must not bend except to converge or diverge with another line.



# 6. PERT/Gnatt

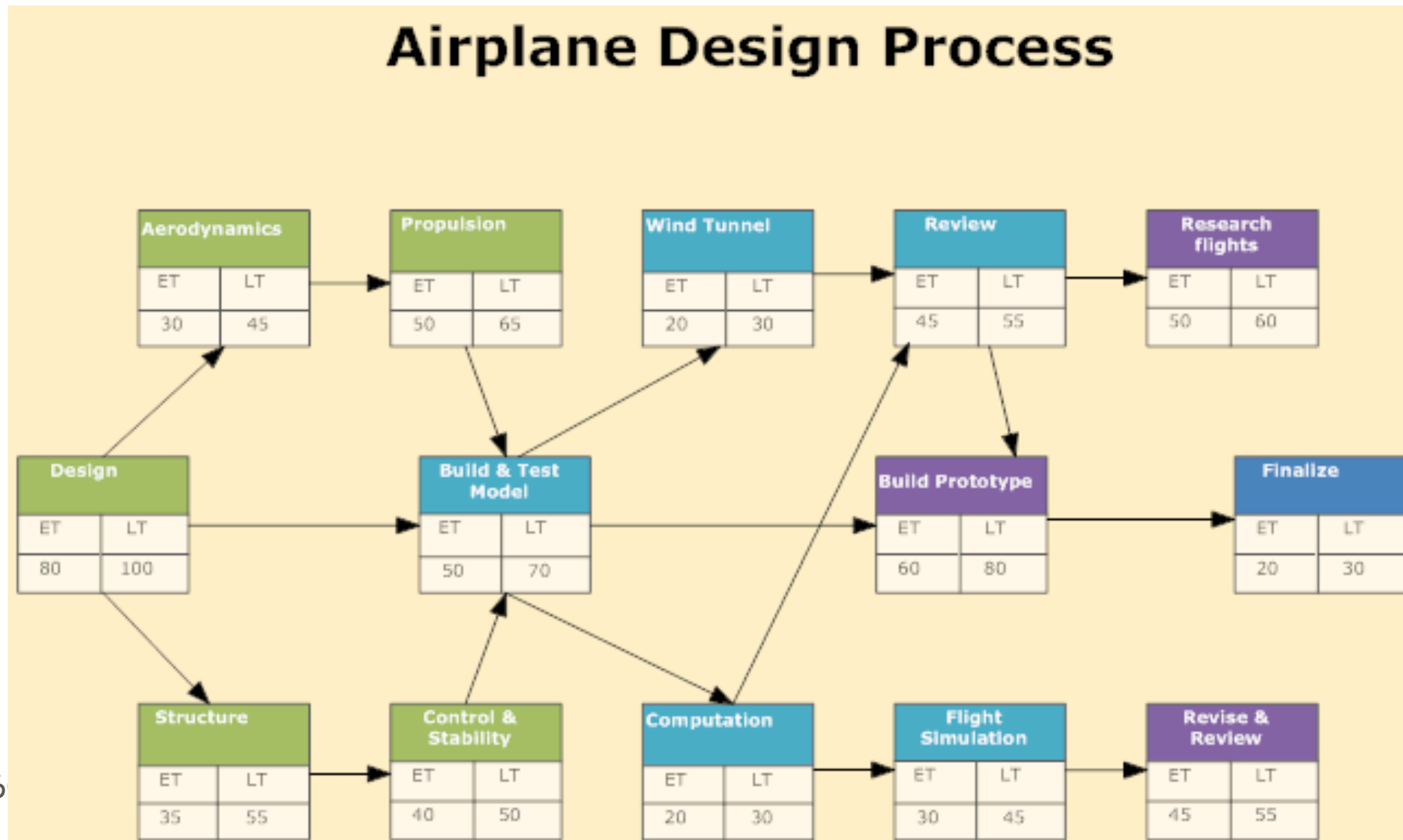


- Project (write software, design/build plane, hire new person) involves
  - Multiple steps, each having a time interval (or range)
  - Some steps depend on other steps

# PERT Chart - Time Dependencies

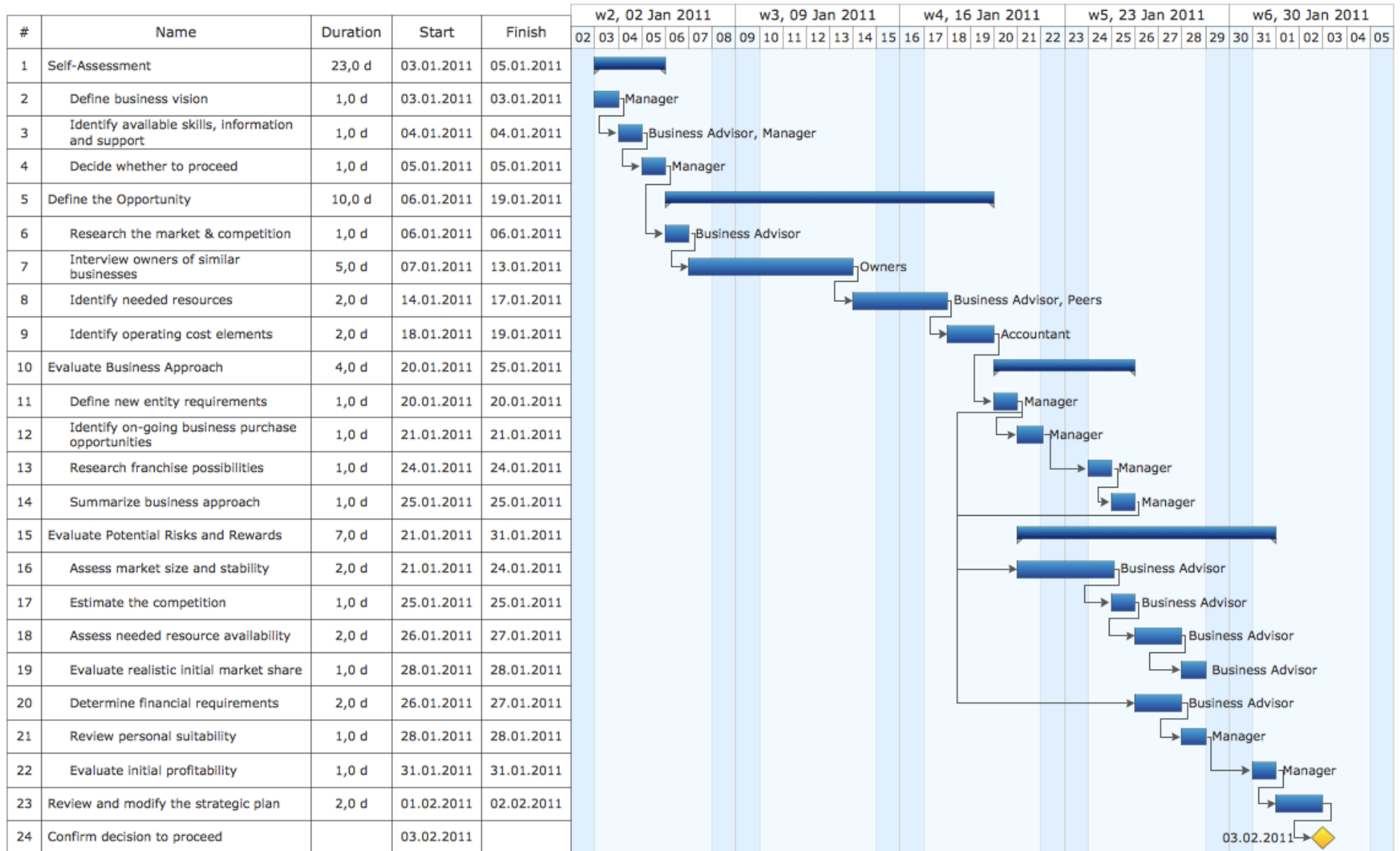


- PERT = Project Evaluation and Review Technique

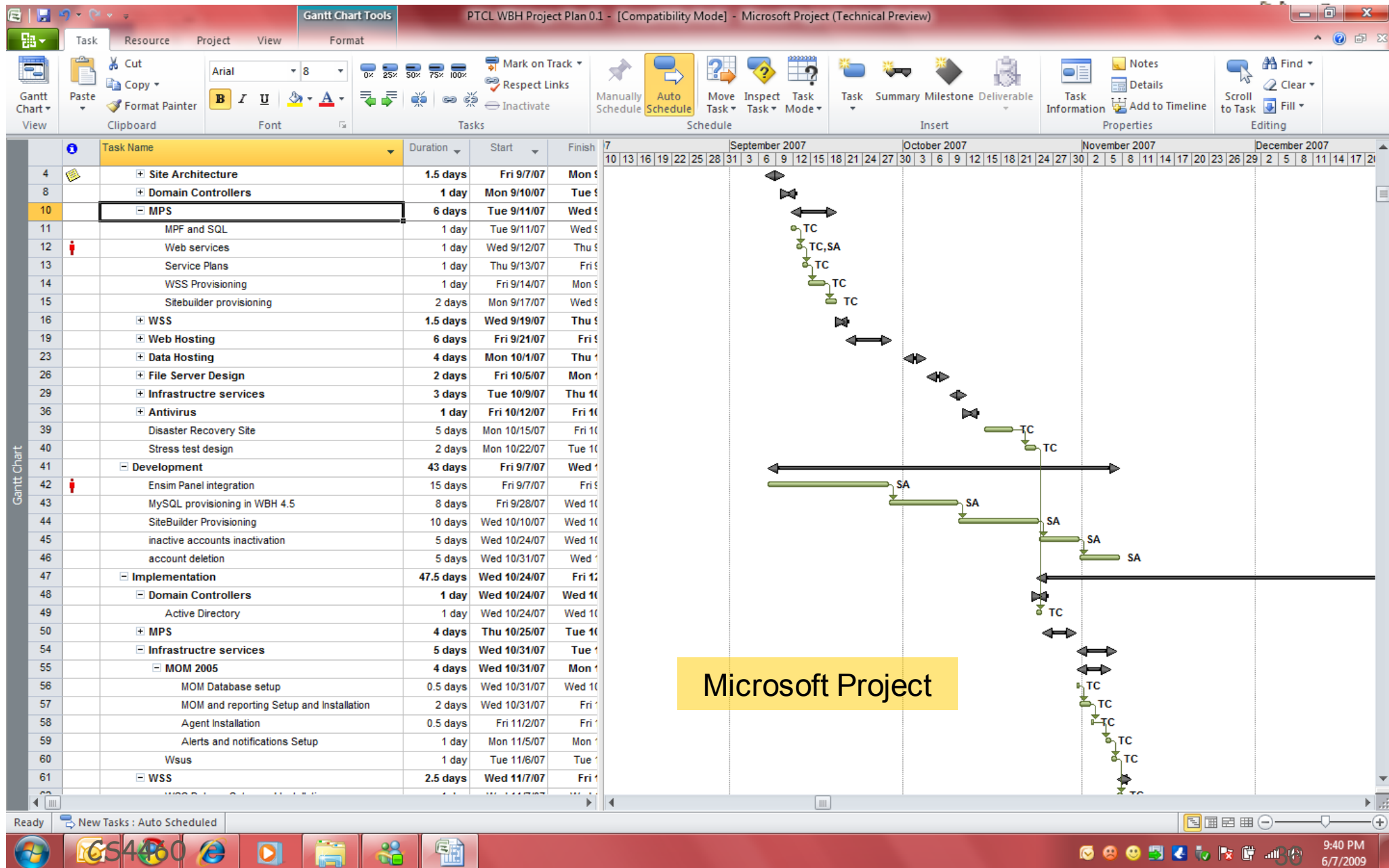


# Gnatt Chart

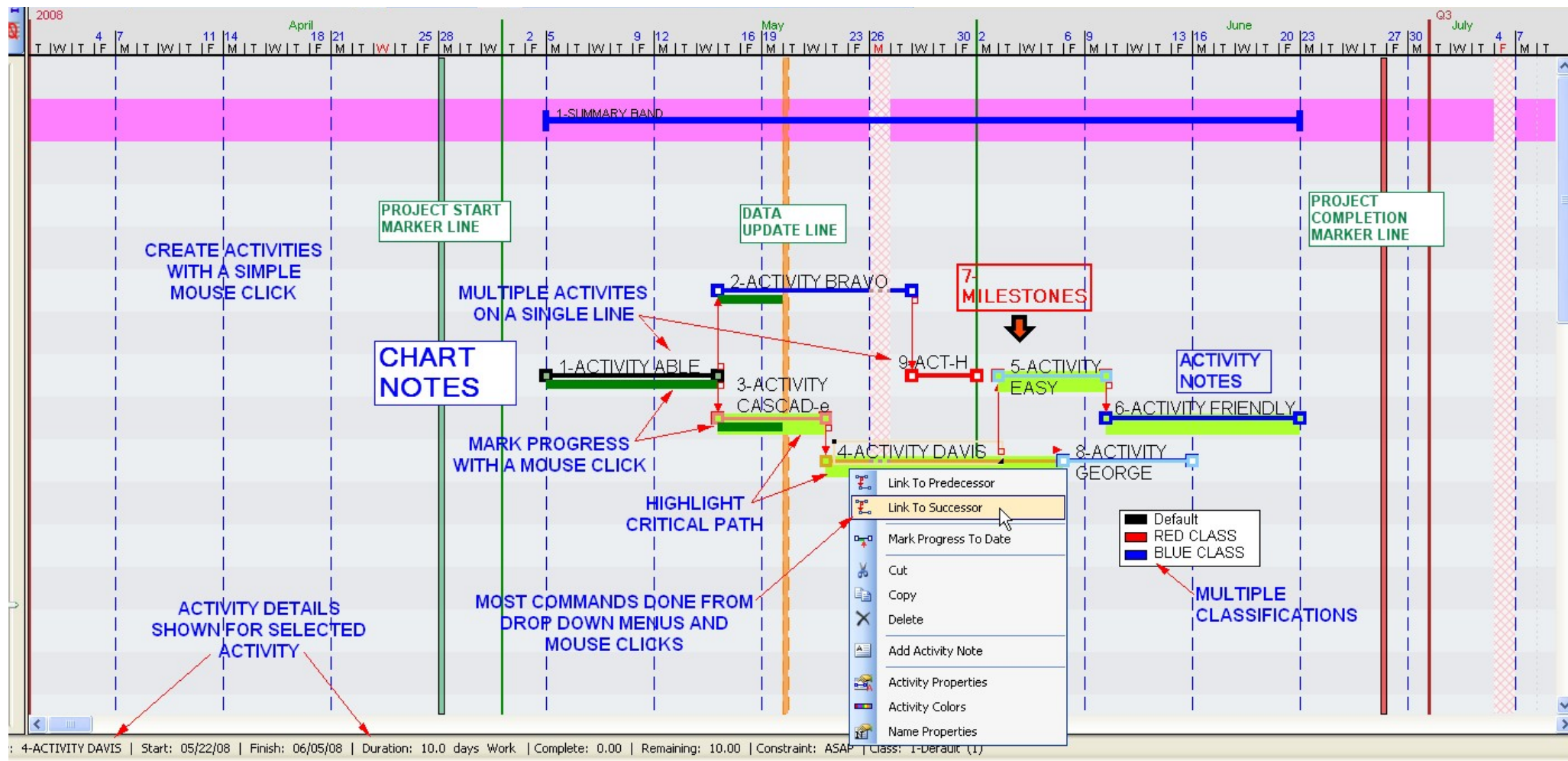
## Strategic Plan for New Business



# Many Project Mg't Products!



# One from Georgia Tech



# End of Visualizing Time Intervals



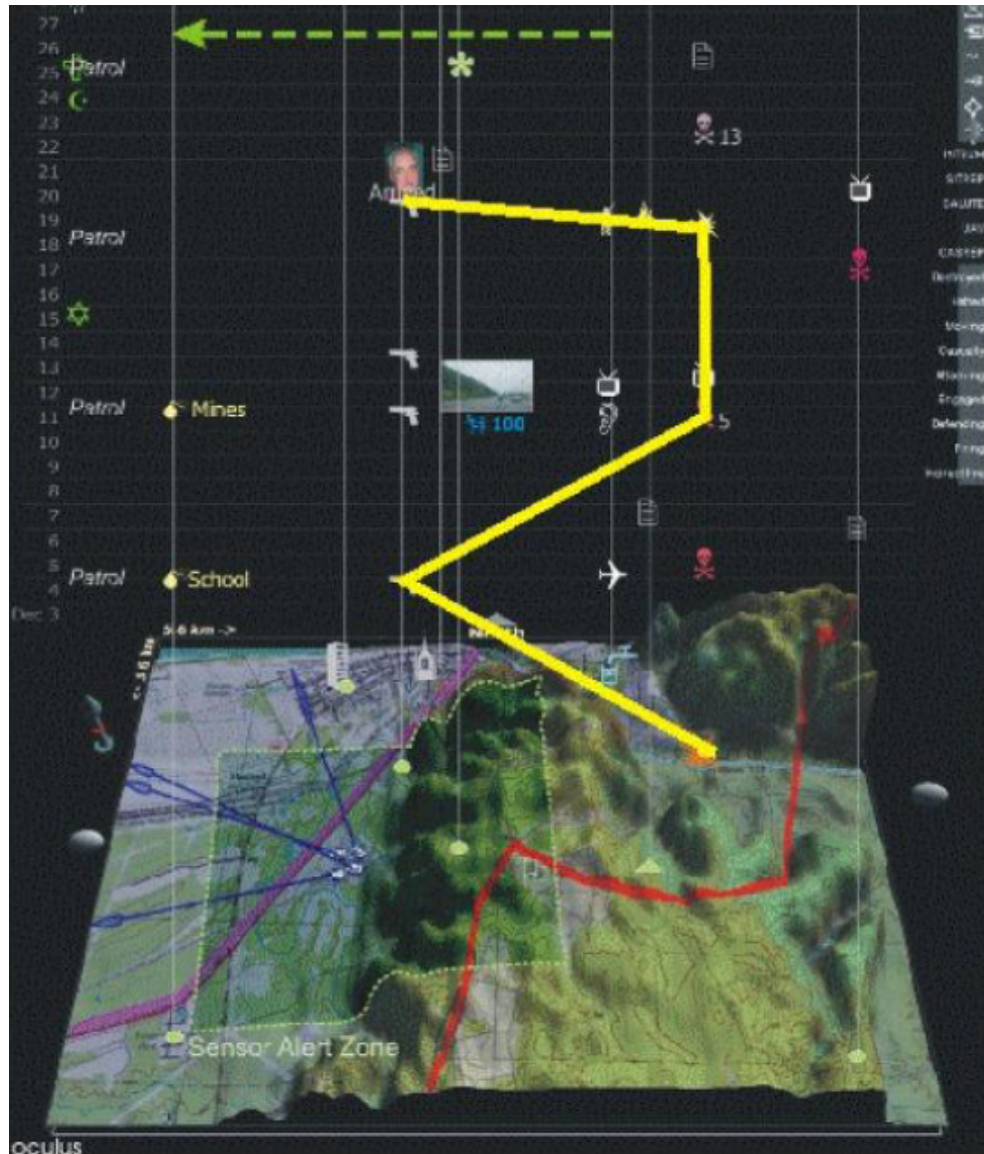
- Examples we have seen
  1. Prostrate cancer progression
  2. TimeSpan
  3. Meeting discussions
  4. Music over time
  5. Story Lines
  6. PERT Charts
- Explain each to a partner
  - What is not clear?
  - What are commonalities? Differences?
  - How are intervals visualized in each?
  - How do time intervals relate to one another in each?
  - How deal with scalability in each?

# Example: Time + Geography

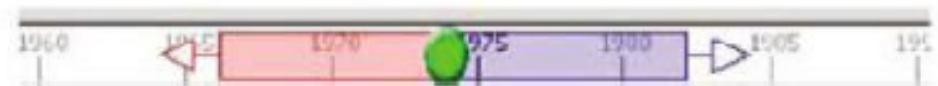
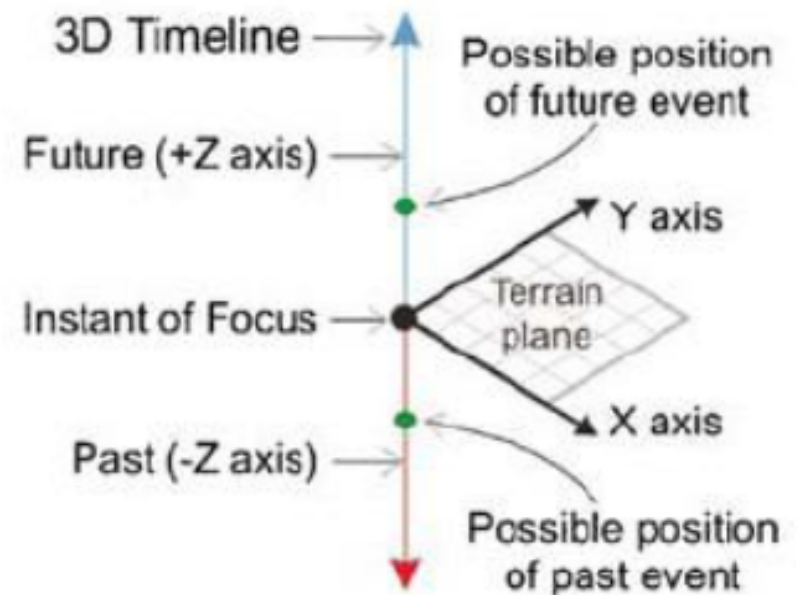


- Typically superimpose temporal events on a map
  - Intelligence analysis
  - Literary plot analysis
  - Military planning
  - Maybe in future plan plots for interactive games
- Following figures from GeoTime, a product of Uncharted (previously Oculus)  
<https://www-prev.uncharted.software/>

# GeoTime Spatial Timelines



- Vertical time axis (z-axis)
- Terrain plane (xy





# GeoTime Example



- From <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CEsF8ARh8Jo>

- My file

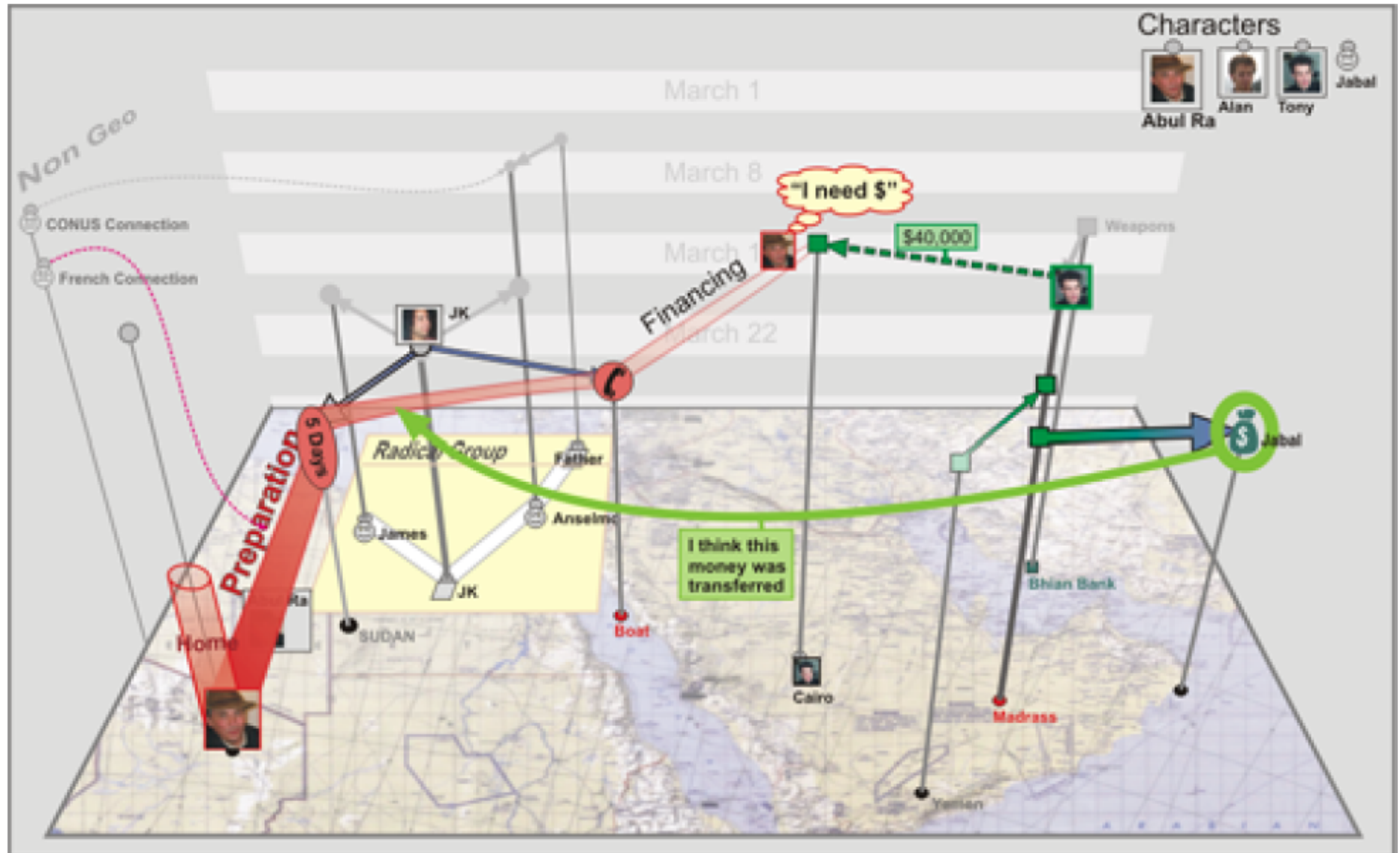
CS4460 GeoTime\_ Investigating IED Attacks.flv

# Time and Geography Story



Or an intelligence analysis ....

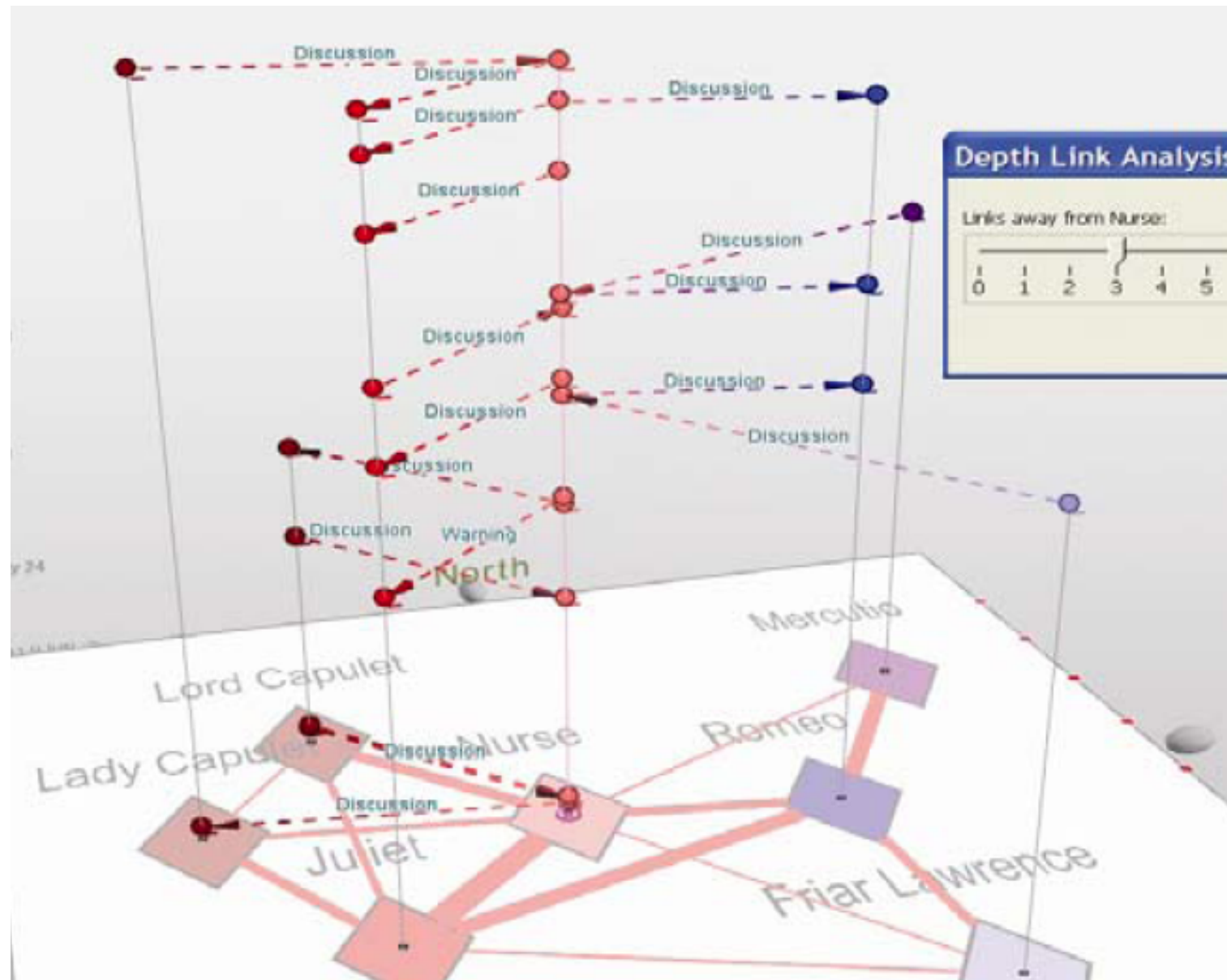
GeoTime



# Literary Dialogue



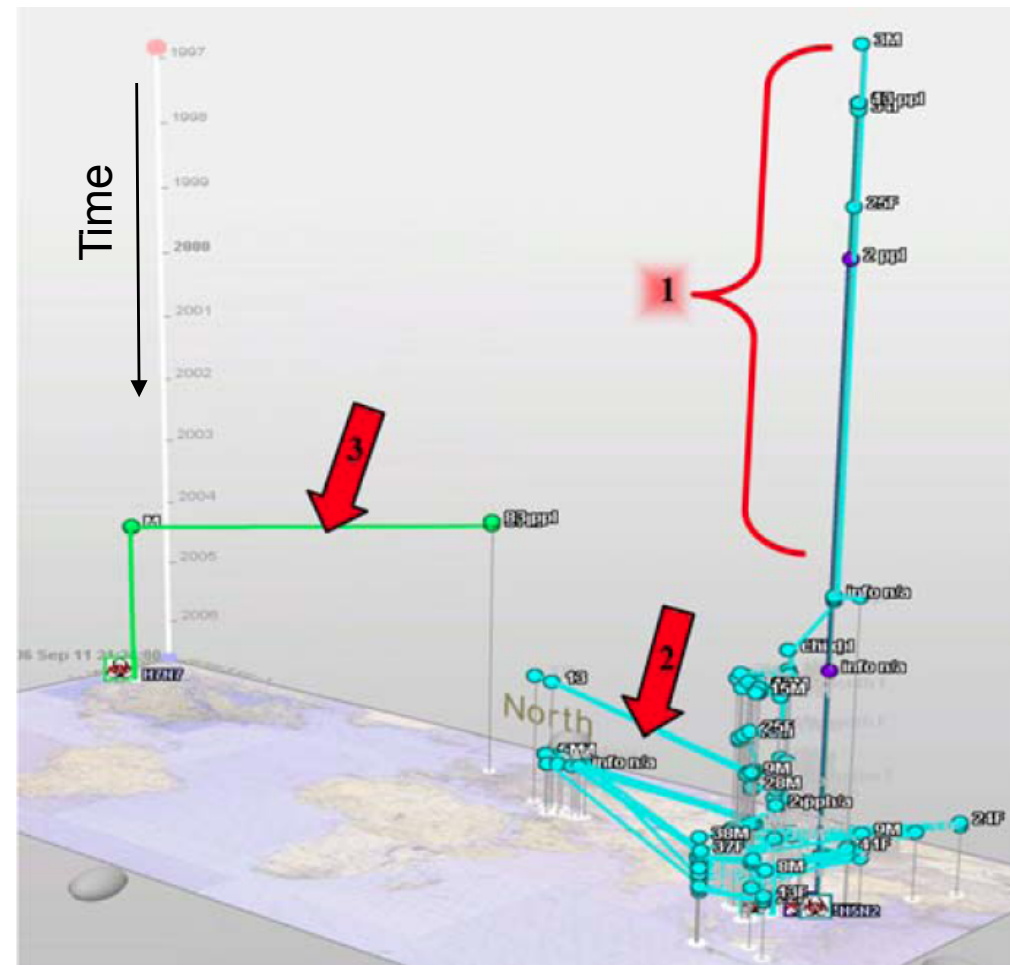
Discussion between Romeo and Juliet, filtered to just show those connected to the nurse.



# Avian Flu Spread



- Worldwide human cases of avian flu. Sporadic localized activity seen in Asia until 2003 (1).
- H5N1 cases increased in frequency in 2004 (2) with the bulk of disease activity in Asia.
- Isolated incidents of strain H7N7 found in Canada and Europe (3).



# Time Series Tasks – More??



- Compare two time series
- Find highs and lows
- Determine periodicity
- When did X happen?
- Did A happen before or after B?
  - Or did they occur simultaneously?
- How long did it take?
- When will it happen again?
- How often did X occur?
  
- What else did we see happening?

# Wrapping up Time – Some Take-aways



- How decide what type of Infovis to use with what type of temporal data?
  - Temporal data types – remember continuous, discrete, periodic
  - Which of the examples work with which types?
- Compressing/expanding time axis
- Dependencies (as in PERT charts)
- It is not just time, it is time plus other data
  - Possibly including maps
- When to use Infovis, when not to?

# The End

