


Interactive Feature Extraction

and

Focus+Context Flow Visualization

Helwig Hauser
VRVis Research Center,
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<http://www.VRVis.at/>



Overview

- About VRVis & Helwig Hauser
- Motivation, the basic idea
- An illustrative example
- Technological aspects
- SimVis specials
(SimVis: VRVis prototype)
- Case from automotive industry
- Summary, pro & contra, etc.

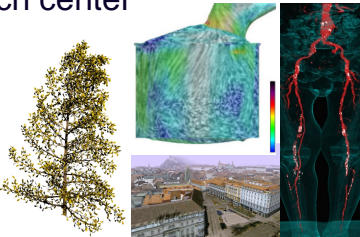
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<http://www.VRVis.at/>

Interactive Feature Extraction (IEEE Visualization 2004)



VRVis Research Center

- Non-university research center in Vienna, Austria
- Research in
 - virtual reality (VR...),
 - visualization (...Vis),
 - 3D rendering,
 - 3D reconstruction
- Co-financed projects (industry&funding), ~70 heads, ~45FTE, ~4MEUR turnover
- Operating since 2000, <http://www.VRVis.at/>



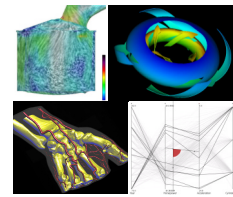
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- Visualization researcher since mid-1990s
 - flow visualization (~25 papers)
 - volume visualization (~15 ps.)
 - information visualization (10)
 - etc.
- Initiator of SimVis research @ VRVis
(SimVis: focus of this talk)
- Scientific director of VRVis (2003–)



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Why Feature-Based FlowViz?

- Flow datasets usually large and complex
 - 10^4 – 10^6 ... cells, 10^0 – 10^2 ... time steps
 - complex grid geometries (unstructured)
 - many data dimensions
- Tough challenge to gain insight
- Feature-based FlowViz = focussing
 - look at what is most interesting
 - concentrate on most important features
 - answer concrete user questions

Flows & Features – Directions

- From numbers to flow features...
- From plain to structured flows...
- From low-level to high-level...
- From syntax to semantics...
- From data to information...
- From local to global...
- Towards tangible flows...

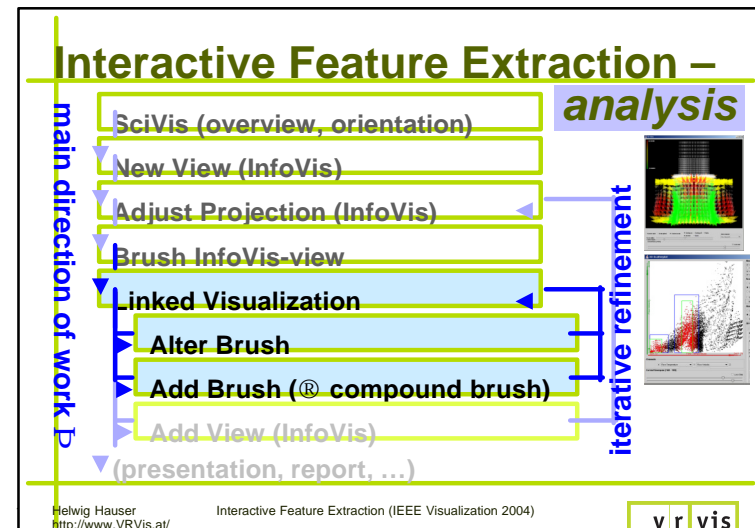
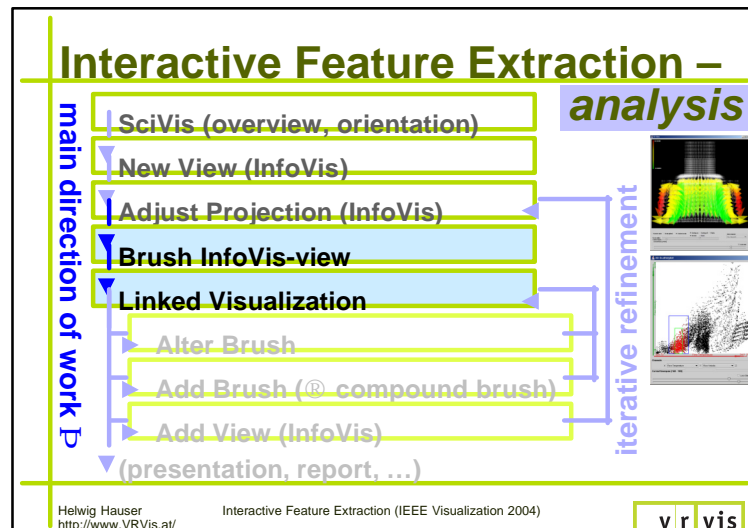
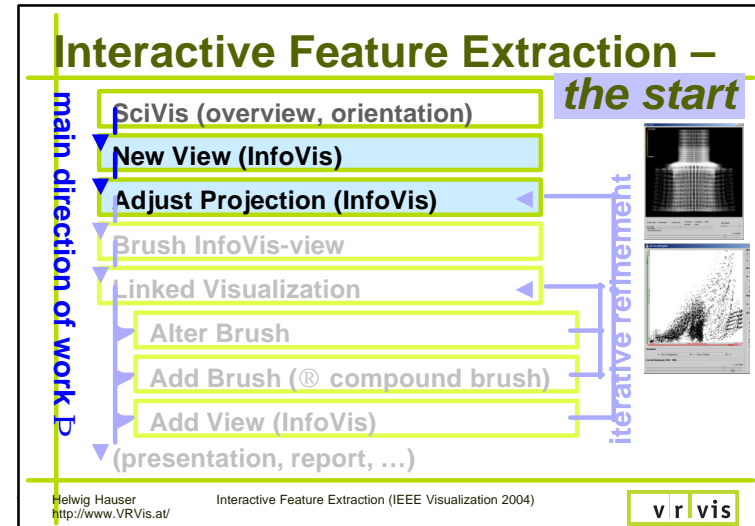
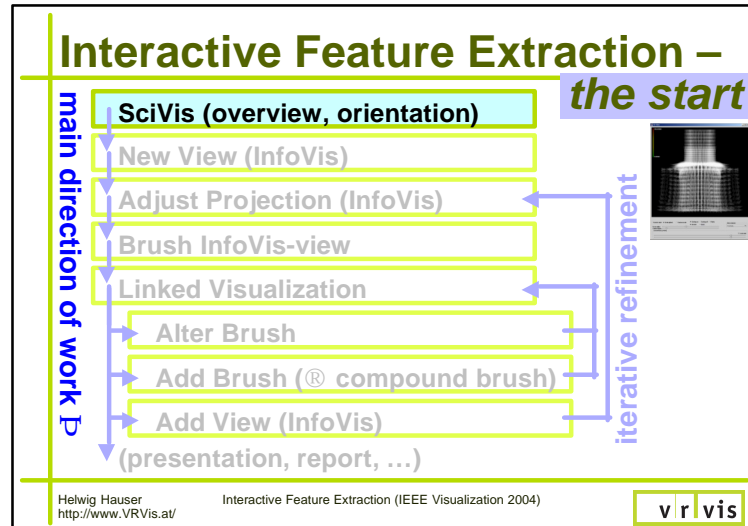
Feature Extraction – Variants

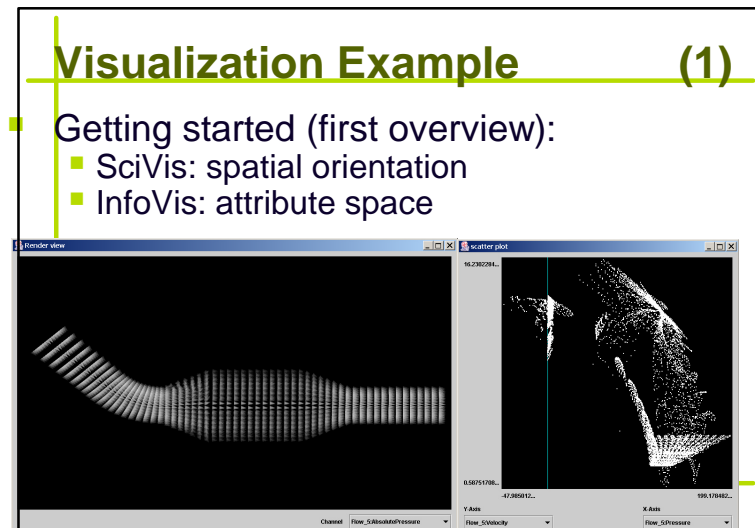
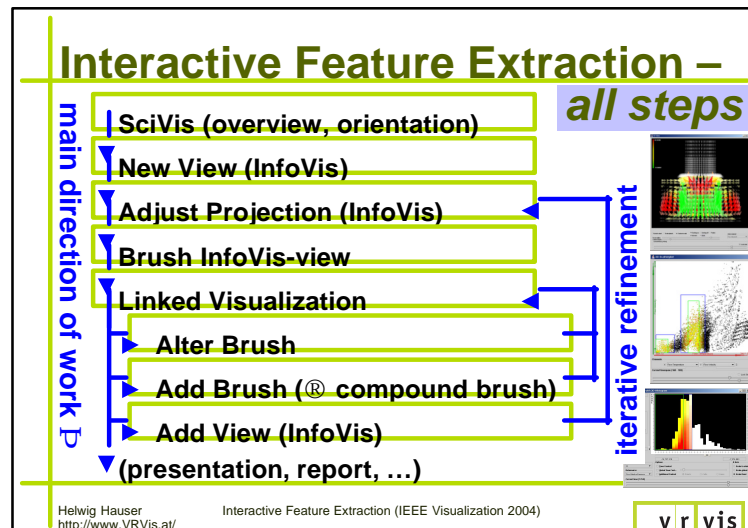
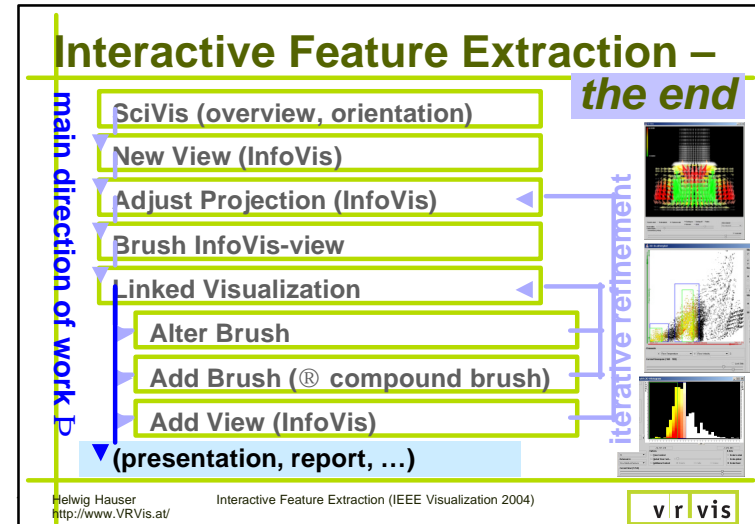
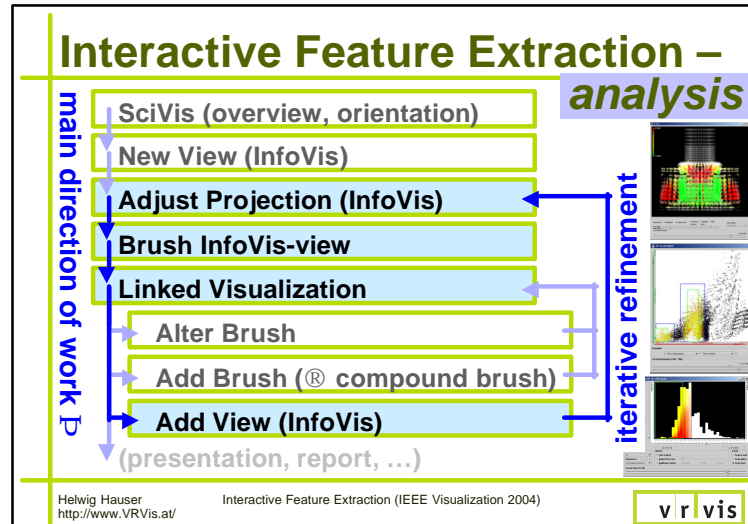
- ✓ Extraction of predefined features
 - vortices, vortex cores
 - shock waves
- ✓ Extraction of flow topology
 - critical points, separatrices
 - boundary switch points/connectors
- ✓ Extraction of flow patterns
 - convergent/divergent flow
 - rotating flow, swirl
- And? ® **Interactive Feature Extraction!**

(Overview by Post et al.)

Interact. Information Drill-Down

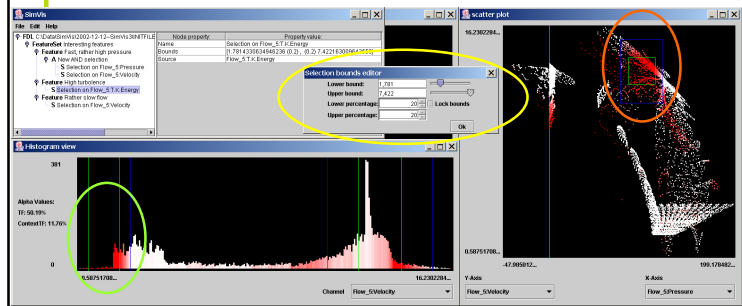
- Ben Shneiderman, 1996: overview first, zoom and filter, then details on demand (visual information seeking mantra)
- Exploration, analysis, then presentation
 - first exploration (no hypothesis)
 - then analysis (guided by hypotheses)
 - eventually presentation (of findings)





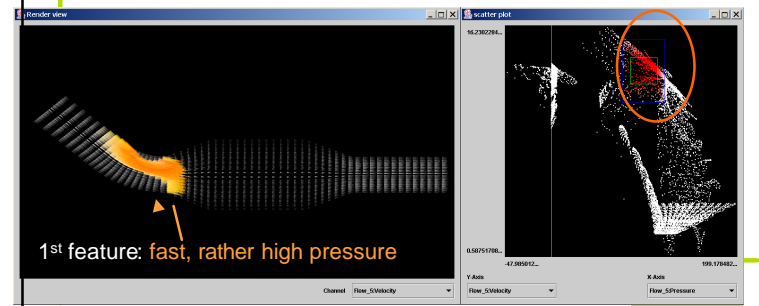
Visualization Example (2)

- Next: feature characterization (drill into)
 - interactive brushing in InfoVis views ○ ○
 - also numerical specification ○



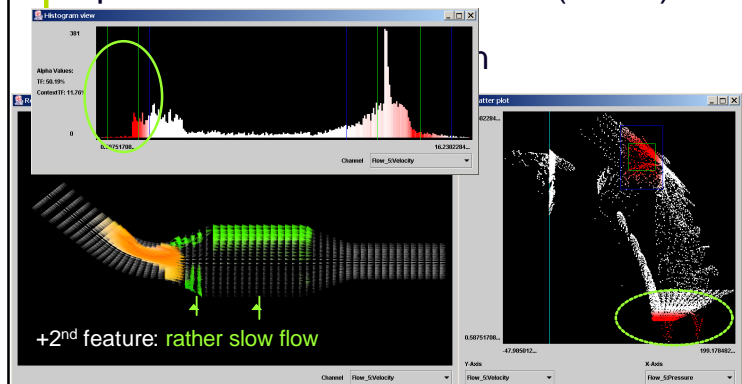
Visualization Example (3a)

- In parallel: linked visualization (relate)
 - 3D view: feature location
 - InfoVis: nDim investigation



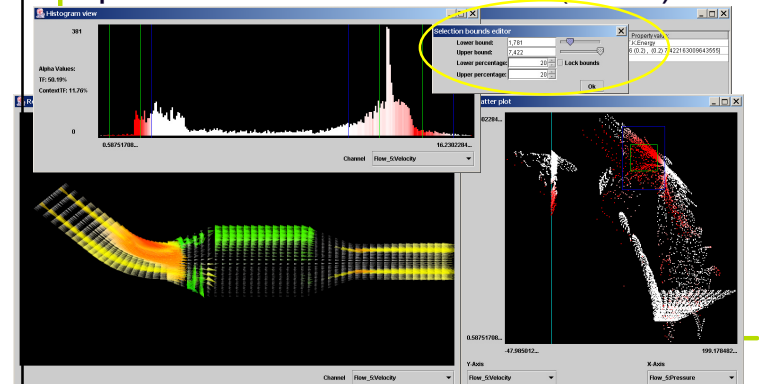
Visualization Example (3b)

- In parallel: linked visualization (relate)



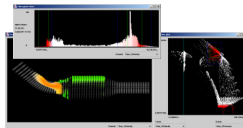
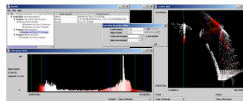
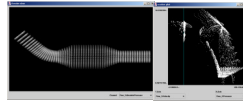
Visualization Example (3c)

- In parallel: linked visualization (relate)



Summary of Analysis Steps

- Overview
 - SciVis: spatial orientation
 - InfoVis: attribute space
- Feature characterization
 - interactive brushing
 - numerical specification
- Linked visualization (par.)
 - feature localization
 - n-dimensional analysis



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Technological Aspects

- Visualization with multiple views
- Linking and brushing
- Focus+context visualization
- Special emphasis on interaction, combination of InfoVis & SciVis

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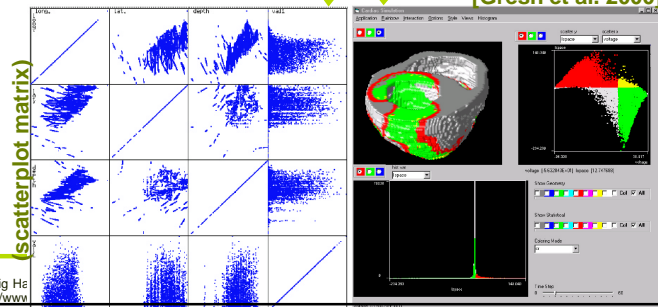
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Visualization – Multiple Views

- Show the same data in multiple views:
 - views of different kind
 - different projections

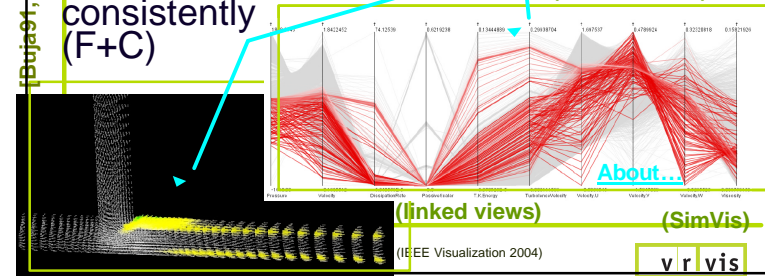
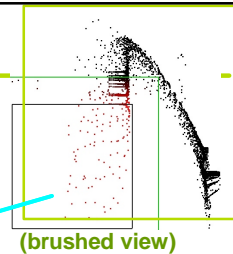
[Baldonado et al. 2000; Ward '94]



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Linking and Brushing

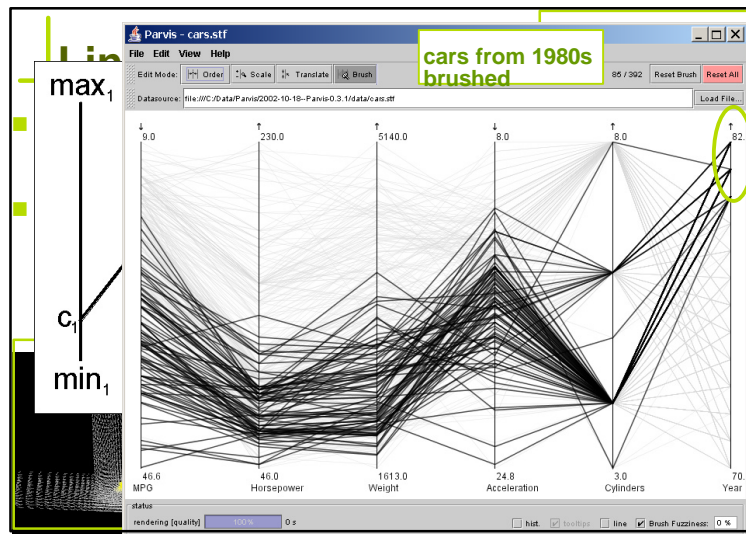
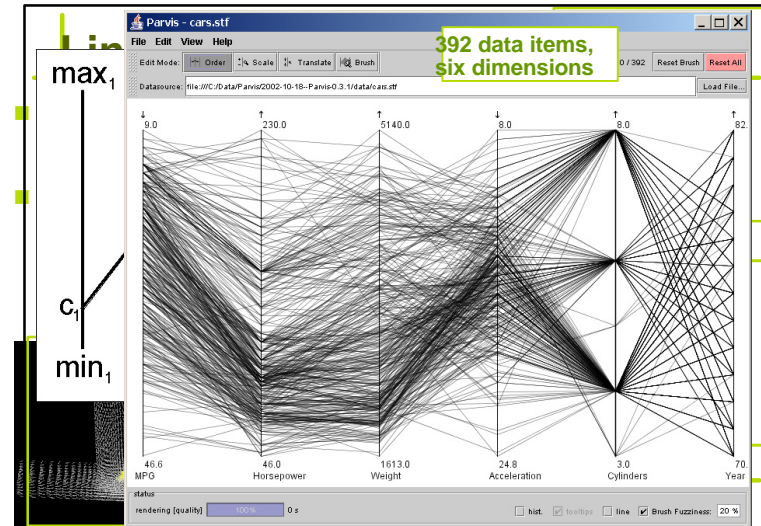
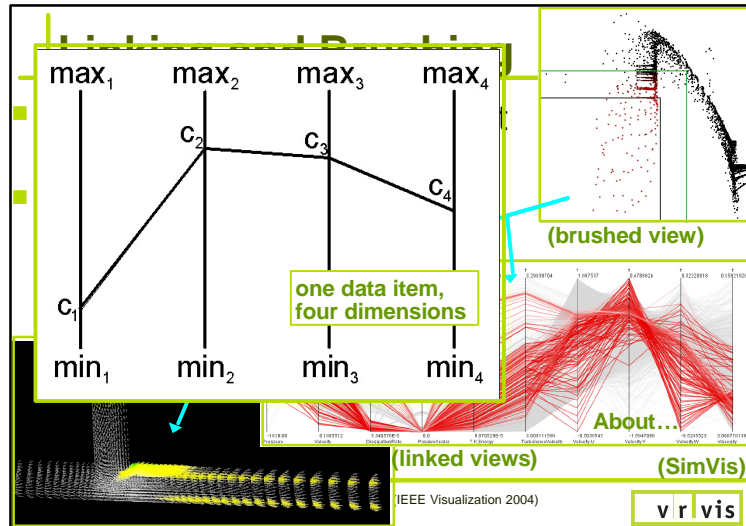
- Brushing: mark data subset as especially interesting
- Linking: enhance brushed data in linked views consistently (F+C)



[Bujia91, ...]

(IEEE Visualization 2004)

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Focus+Context Visualization

[Mackinlay et al., 1991]

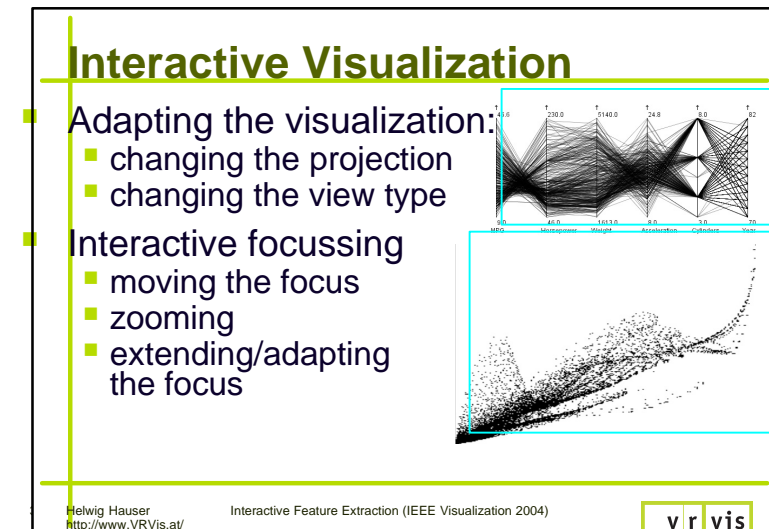
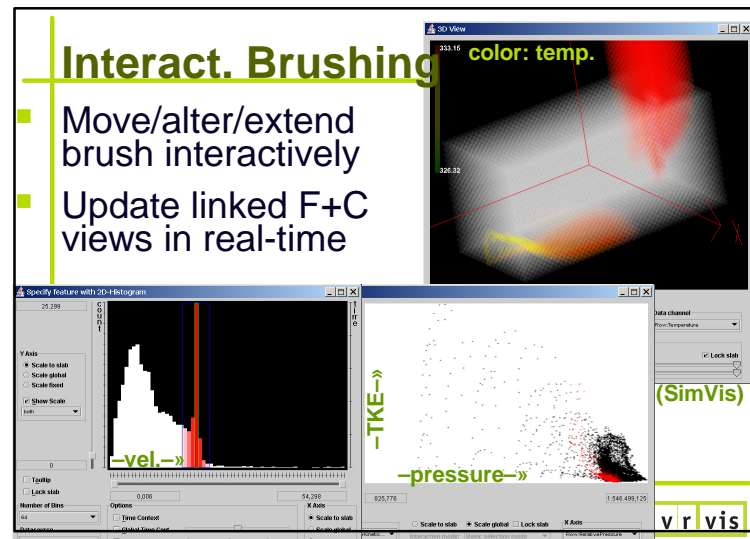
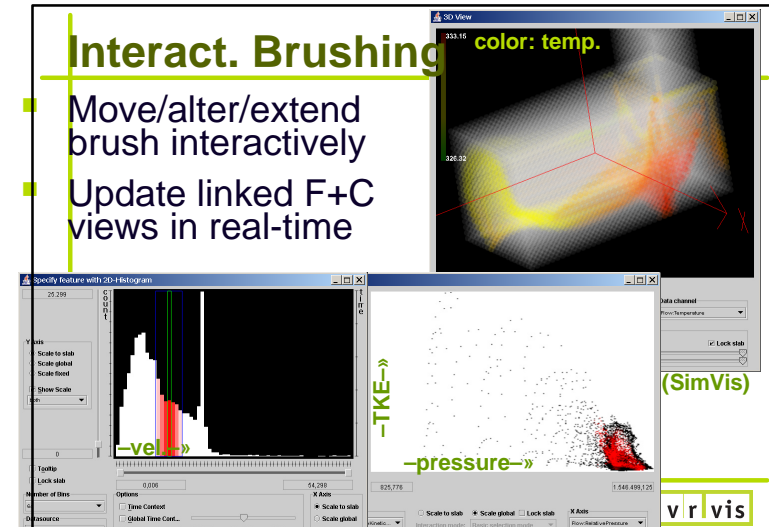
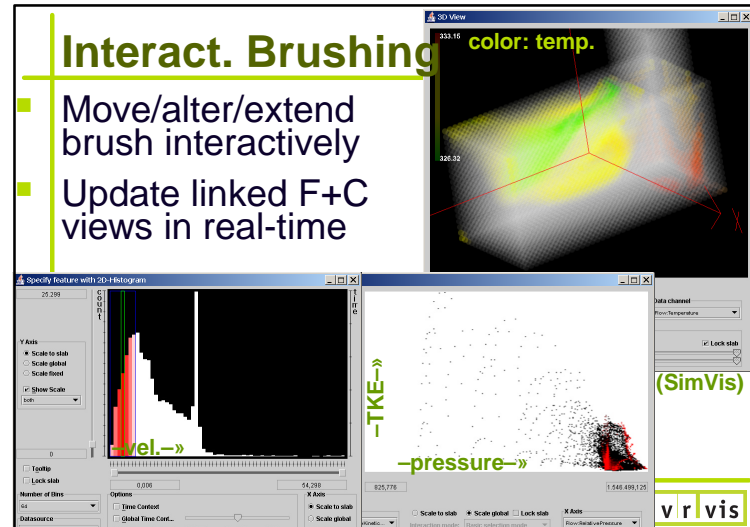
- Traditionally space distortion
 - more space for data of interest
 - rest as context for orientation
- Generalized F+C visualization
 - emphasize data in focus (color, opacity, ...)
 - differentiated use of visualization resources

[Hauser... 2001, 2003]

(color) (opacity) (style) (frequency) (space)

alternatives...

V I V I S



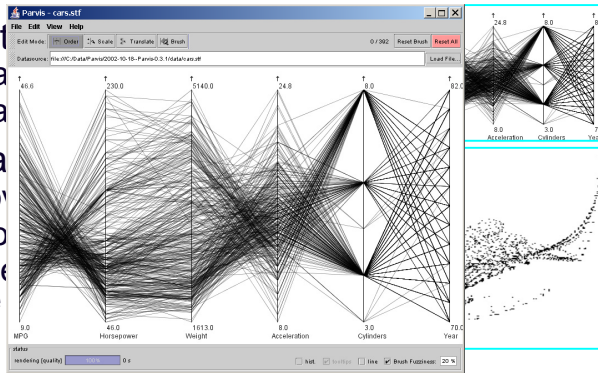
Interactive Visualization

Adapt

- cha
- cha

Inter

- mov
- zoo
- exte
- the



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Interactive Feature Extraction (IEEE Visualization 2004)

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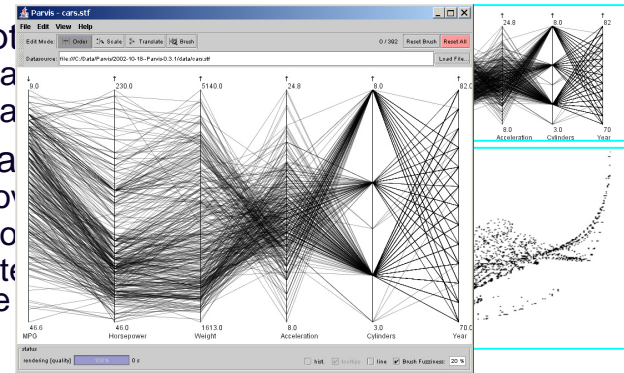
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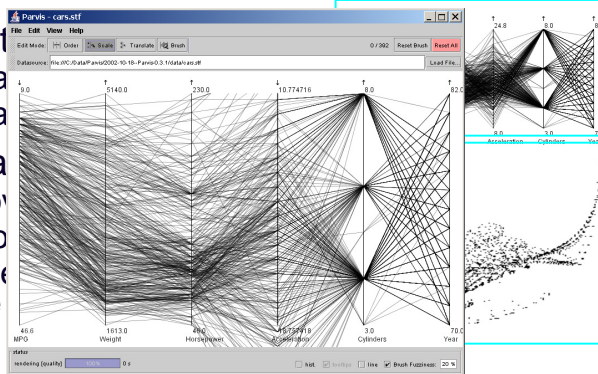
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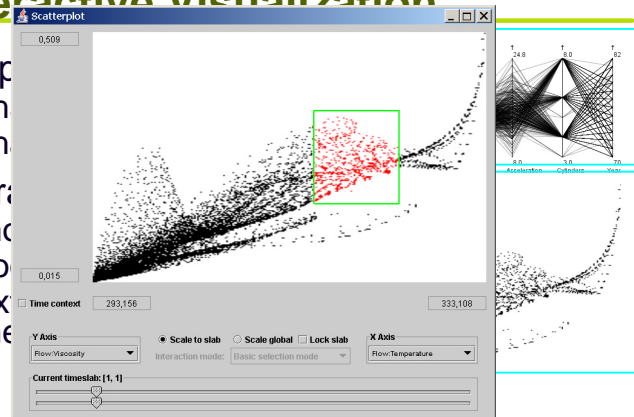
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vrvis

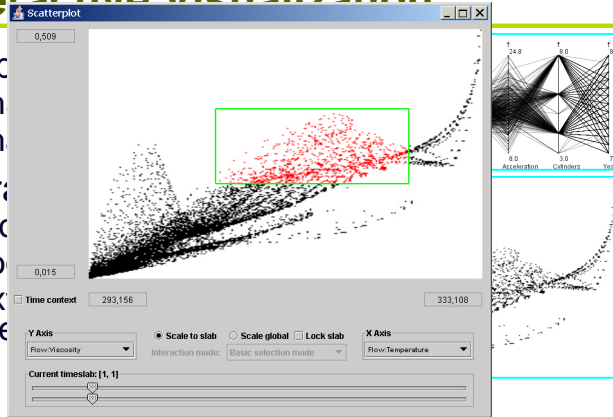
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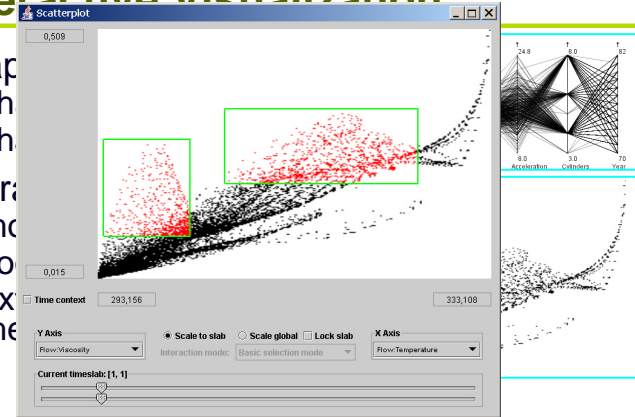
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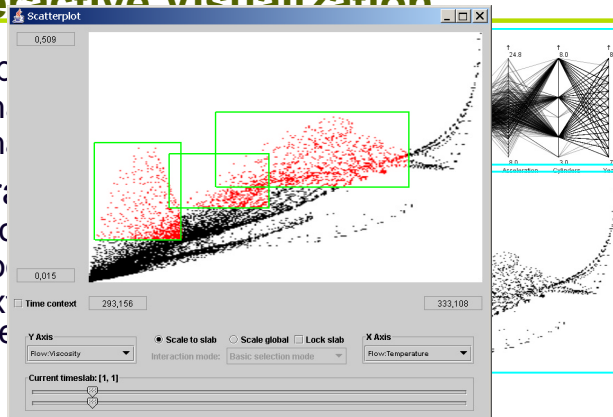
Interactive Visualization

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SimVis Specials *SimVis: VRVis prototype*

- Feature definition language
- Fuzzy classification (degrees of interest)
- Advanced brushing mechanisms
- Attribute derivation
- Extended views

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Feature Definition Language

- User interest is represented explicitly as degree of interest (DOI)
- DOI: additional data dimensions
- Brushing results in DOI attribution
- Feature characterization: tree structure through logical operators
- Follows natural language
- In/out: XML

[Doleisch et al. 2003]

Example:
interesting are ...
... flow regions where
pressure is low
AND temp. is high
AND velocity is high

```
FeatureSet interesting features
  Feature Fast, rather high pressure
    A New AND selection
      S Selection on Flow_5.Pressure
      S Selection on Flow_5.Velocity
  Feature High turbulence
    S Selection on Flow_5.T.K.Energy
  Feature Rather slow flow
    S Selection on Flow_5.Velocity
```

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Interactive Feature

(2004)

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Feature Definition Language

SimVis

File Edit Help

FDL C:\Data\SimVis\2002-12-12-SimVis3\UNITFILE

Node property: Property value:

Name	Selection on Flow_5.T.K.Energy
Bounds	[1.7814330634946236 (0.2) , (0.2) 7.422163009643555]
Source	Flow_5.T.K.Energy

Selection bounds editor

Lower bound: 1.781

Upper bound: 7.422

Lower percentage: 20%

Upper percentage: 20%

Lock bounds

Ok

interesting are ...
... flow regions where
pressure is low
AND temp. is high
AND velocity is high

Follows natural language

In/out: XML

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Interactive Feature

(2004)

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Fuzzy Classification

- $DOI \in [0, 1] - 0 \dots$ not interesting
 $1 \dots 100\%$ interesting
- Requires fuzzy logic for combination, we use

$$c = a \wedge b \Leftrightarrow c = \min(a, b)$$

$$c = a \vee b \Leftrightarrow c = \max(a, b)$$

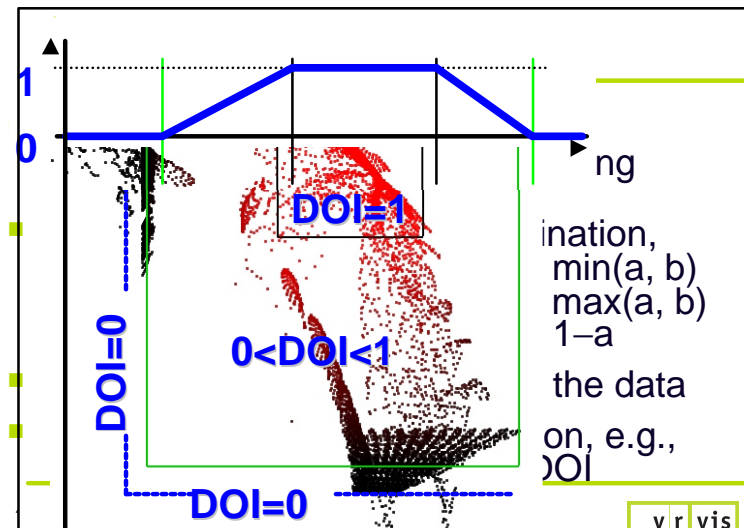
$$c = \neg a \Leftrightarrow c = 1 - a$$
- Matches the smooth nature of the data
- Goes well with F+C visualization, e.g., opacity varies gradually with DOI

[Doleisch & Hauser 2002]

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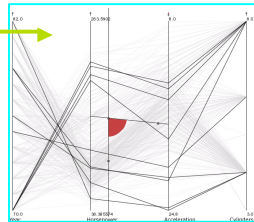
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Advanced Brushing

- Smooth brushing to acquire gradual DOI-values
- Angular brushing in parallel coordinates to brush relations
- Compound brushes to build up a DOI tree
(cf. Martin... '95, Wills '96, Chen 2003)
- Alternative brush shapes to ease interactive feature access



[Hauser et al. 2002]

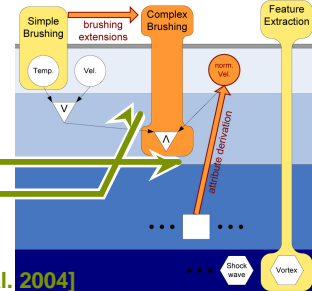
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Attribute Derivation

- Comprehensible ways to derive synthetic data dimensions from original data
 - data smoothing
 - derivative information
 - similarity information
 - local minima/maxima
- Attribute derivation + advanced brushing = access to complex features



[Doleisch et al. 2004]

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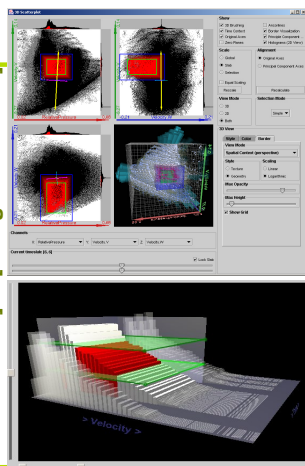
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Extended Views

- InfoVis for large data
- 3D (3D scatterplot, histogram in 3D) with improvements wrt. perception
- Time esp. treated
- Advanced F+C vis. (four-level F+C vis.)

[Piringer et al. 2004]

[Kosara... 2004]



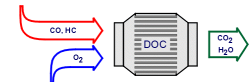
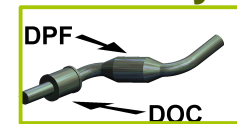
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Case from Automotive Industry

- Diesel Exhaust System
 - Diesel Oxidation Catalyst
 - Diesel Particulate Filter
- DOC: reduce emissions
- DPF: trap soot particles
- Periodic regeneration of DPF (oxidation)
 - should burn soot as much as possible
 - should last as short as possible
- Data: CFD simulation (#: ~1/4M, 37 d_i, 20 t_j)

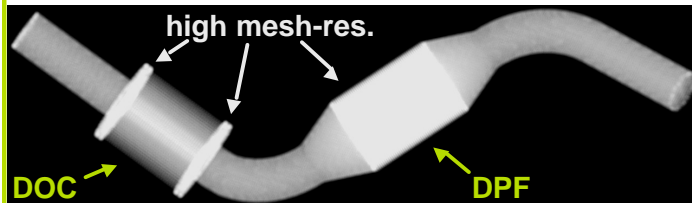


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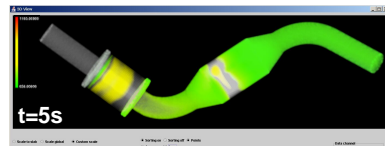
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Case: Overview and Exploration



- Three bands of temperature
($725^{\circ}\text{C} \pm \Delta$, $875^{\circ}\text{C} \pm \Delta$, $1025^{\circ}\text{C} \pm \Delta$)
- Through 80s of time

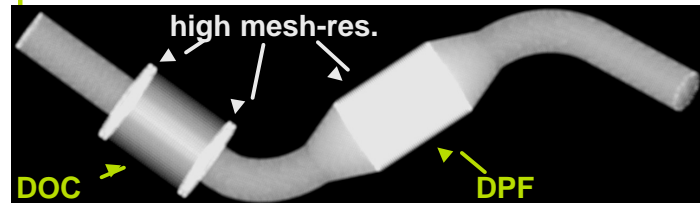


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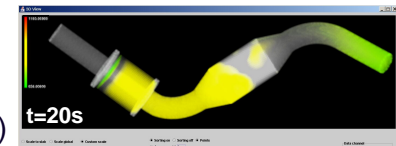
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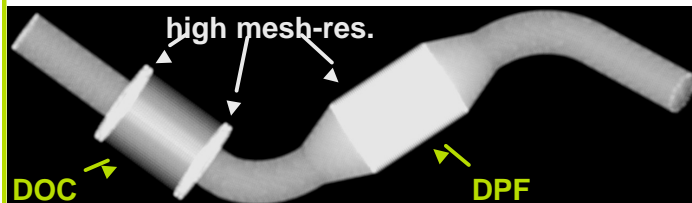


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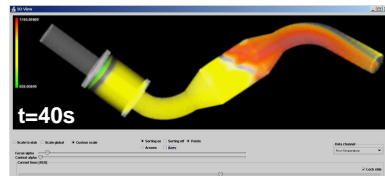
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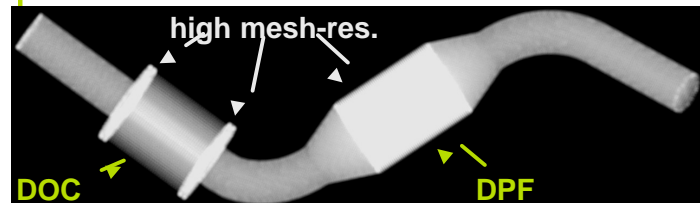


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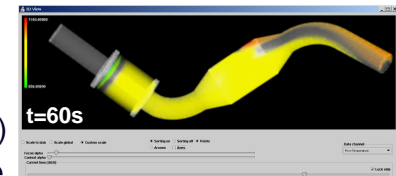
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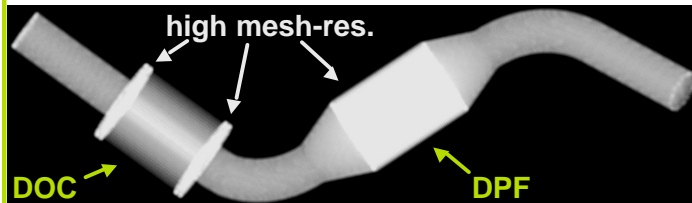


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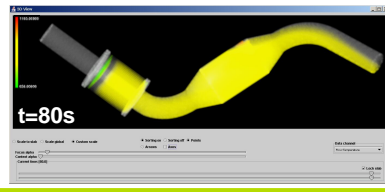
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- Through 80s of time



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Case: Diesel Exhaust System

Case study: three application questions

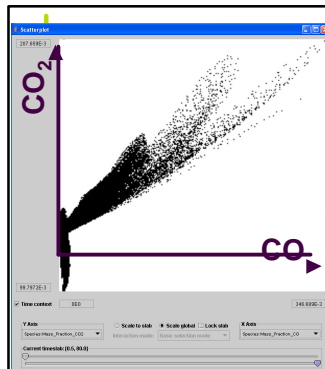
[Doleisch et al. 2004]

- Does soot oxidize completely (if not, why)?
- Where/how does soot oxidize (and why)?
- How about thermal stress in the PDF? *see paper...*
- Oxidation yields CO , CO_2 and happens at high temperatures
- Gradients $d \text{ soot_mass} / d t \ll 0$
 \Rightarrow lots of soot is oxidized

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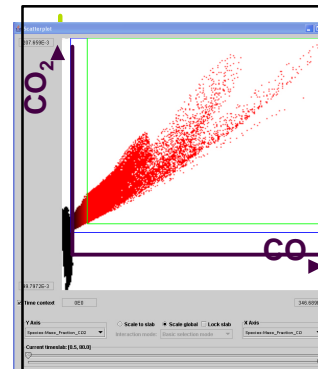
Oxidation Analysis

1. show emissions (CO , CO_2)

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Analysis

1. show emissions (CO , CO_2)
2. focus on CO , CO_2 (1st brush)

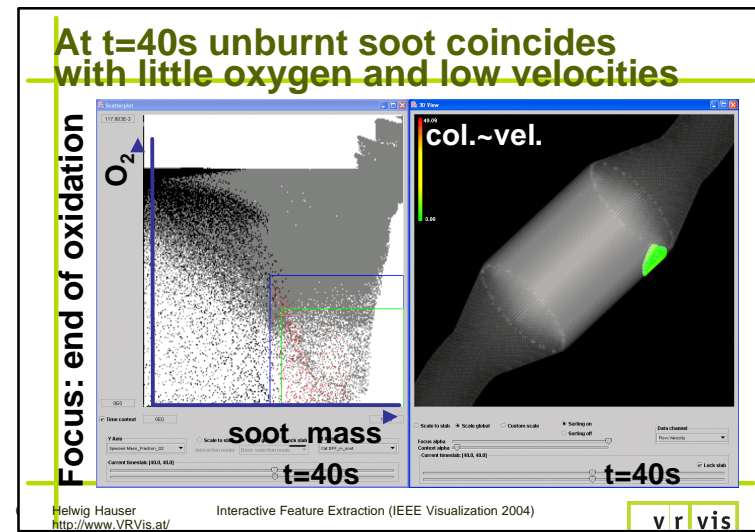
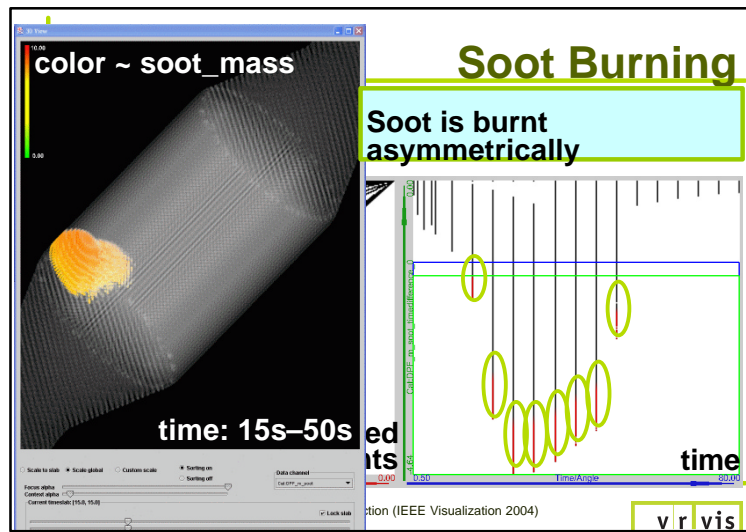
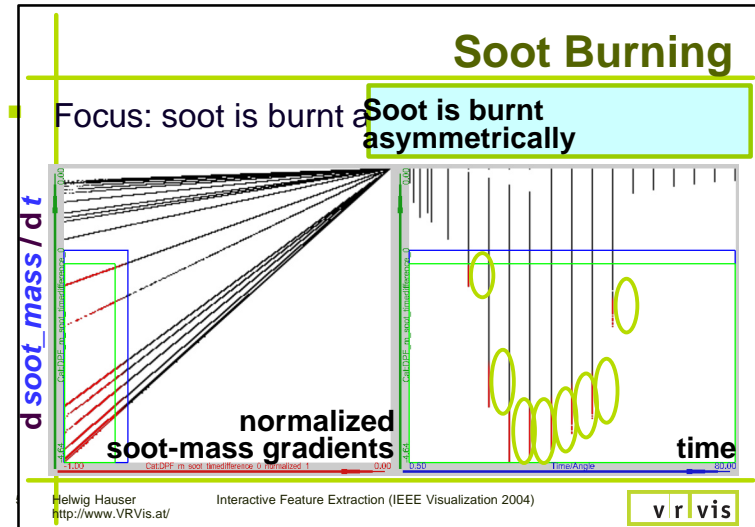
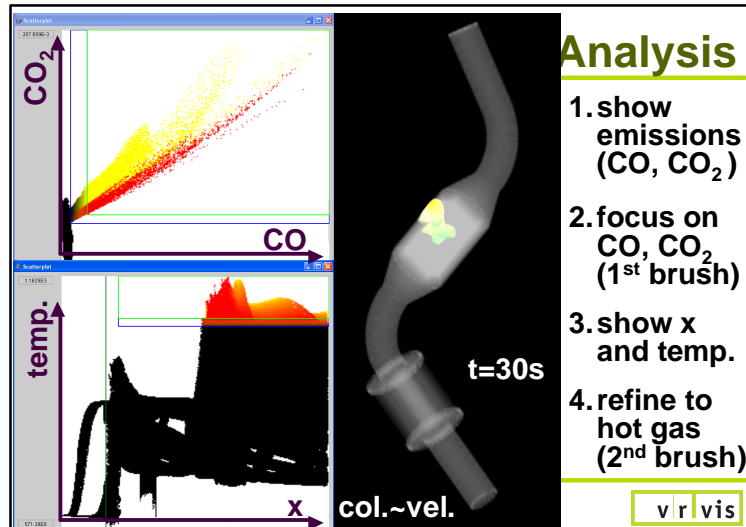
t=30s

col.~vel.

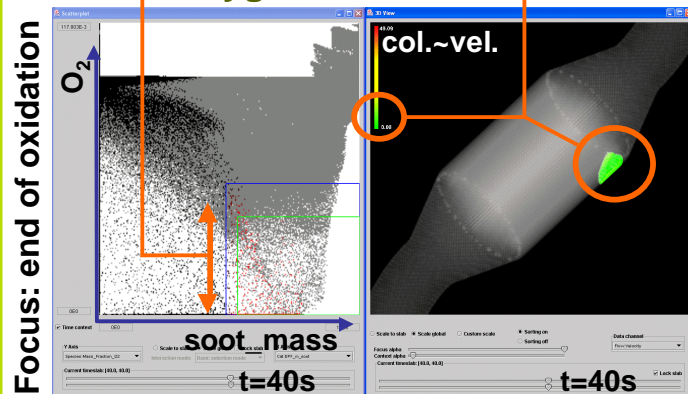
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At t=40s unburnt soot coincides with little oxygen and low velocities



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Interactive Feature Extraction

- Enable interactive, visual flow analysis
- Use the “language” of engineers
- Make feature extraction comprehensible
- Enable information drill-down
- Iterative feature specification

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Interactive Feature Extraction

Pro

- + general approach (works with data from different fields)
- + very flexible (analysis adapts to user interests)
- + user in the loop (visual feedback, iterative refinement)
- + useful for exploration (as well as for analysis)
- + smooth feature boundaries (agrees with the nature of flow sim. data)
- + comprehensible (analysis in the terms of the engineers)

Contra

- potentially computationally expensive (context remains in memory, frequent DOI computations)
- not for all kinds of features (limited feature complexity)
- suboptimal for presentation (InfoVis is abstract, requires learning)

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