







Impact of Gaze Uncertainty on AOIs in Information Visualisations

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Area-of-Interest (AOI)



information visualisation Borkin et al. [2015]



webpage Drusch et al. [2014]



Gaze Estimation Error



Poor accuracy but good precision



Good accuracy and good precision



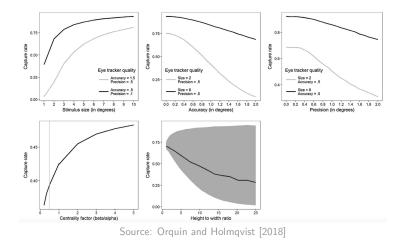
Poor accuracy and poor precision

Source: tobiipro.com

• Intrinsic error of all eye trackers Barz et al. [2016]



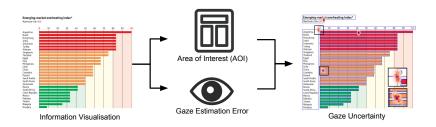
Capture Rate



 The increase in the size of AOIs and distances between AOIs can benefit the Capture Rate



Impact of Gaze Uncertainty on AOIs in Information



eye-tracking study on 40 visualisations in MASSVIS Borkin et al.
 [2015]



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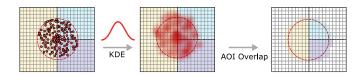


Impact of Gaze Uncertainty on AOIs

in Information Visualisations

Flipping Candidate

AOI Probability



the probability of assigning a fixation to the *i*th AOI:

$$p_i = \int_{x \in \Omega} \mathbb{1}_A(x) \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n K_h(x - x_j) \right) d^2x$$

 $\mathbb{I}_A(x)$: pixels that are covered by the *i*th AOI h: the bandwidth of Gaussian Kernel

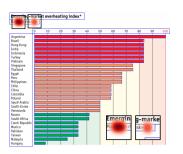


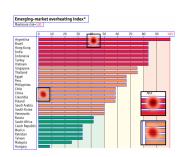
Flipping Candidate

The flipping candidate score s_k of rank k:

$$s_k = \sum_{i=1}^{N} p_i - \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} \left| p_i - \frac{1}{k} \right| \right), p_i \ge p_{i+1}$$

 $k = \operatorname{argmax}_i(s_i), j \in \{2, 3, 4\}$

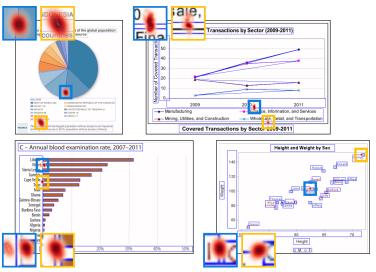


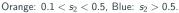


Examples of flipping candidates of rank 2 (left) and rank 3 (right).



Flipping Candidate







Metric I — Flipping Candidate Rate (FCR)

• $FCR = \frac{C}{N}$ of a scanpath

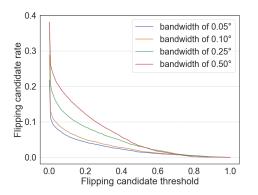
Flipping candidate threshold t: $max(s_j) > t, j \in \{2, 3, 4\}$

C: the number of flipping candidates

N: Scanpath length



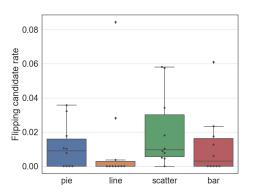
Flipping Candidate Threshold



Average flipping candidate rate for different thresholds.



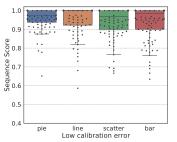
Flipping Candidate Rate Across Vistypes

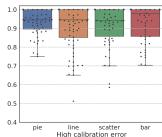


A flipping candidate threshold of 0.5, and a Gaussian bandwidth of 0.25 $^{\circ}$ was applied.



Sequence Score of Flipped Scanpaths

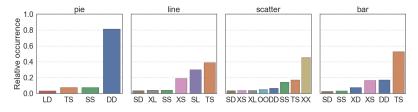




- \bullet 0.5 $^{\circ}$ as the criterion of low & high CE groups
- All flipping candidates are flipped to the second possible AOI



AOIs involved in Flipping Candidates



AOIs involved in flipping candidates of rank 2.

A: Annotation, D: Data, G: Graphics, L: Legend, O: Object, S: Source, paragraph, label, and header row text, denoted as Source etc., T: Title, X: Axis.



Impact of Gaze Uncertainty on AOIs

Hit Any AOI Rate (HAAR)

in Information Visualisations

Metric II — Hit Any AOI Rate (HAAR)

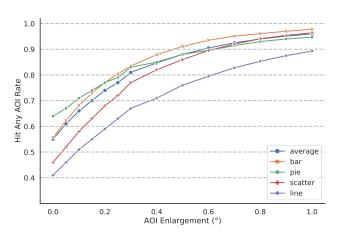
- The raw gaze data are not accessible in most public information visualisation datasets *Borkin et al.* [2015]; Zheng et al. [2018]
- Human attention is not naturally drawn by low saliency regions such as white spaces Matzen et al. [2017]

• HAAR =
$$\frac{HIT}{HIT + OFF}$$

HIT: the number of fixations that hit at least one AOI OFF: the number of fixations that do not land on any AOI



HAAR Across Visualisation Types



AOI enlargement factor by visual angle $^{\circ}$ and the Hit Any AOI Rate (HAAR).



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Take-home Messages

- If only fixations are available (no raw gaze data), only HAAR is applicable
- In practice, a smaller flipping candidate threshold (0.2-0.5) and an enlargement factor (around 1°) are desired
- Scatter and bar plots are most commonly designed in a way that causes more uncertainty than line and pie plots



Thanks for your attention!

Questions?

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www.perceptualui.org &



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