Information Science and Technology Seminar Speaker Series

Chris North
Virginia Tech

Semantic Interaction in Visual Analytics -- Towards the Goal of Cognition+Computation

Wednesday, May 29, 2013

3:00 - 4:00 PM

TA-3, Bldg. 1690, Room 102 (CNLS Conference Room)

Abstract: To enable insight into data, interactive visual analytics seeks to marry human cognition with analytical computation. Interaction is at the core of the problem. What capabilities do each of these parties (cognition and computation) bring to the table, and how can they be effectively combined? How are they different and what is the common ground? How can human analysts interact with complex mathematical models? What are the usability issues associated with analytics? How can we design data transformation methods that respond to human action? How can we visually represent these processes and data? How can this scale up to multiple users, algorithms, and data types? While we certainly won't be able to answer all these questions :), we will discuss them and look at an example approach called semantic interaction, which seeks to find common ground between human and computer to support the sensemaking process in text analytics.

Biography: Dr. Chris North is an Associate Professor of Computer Science at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. There, he directs the GigaPixel Display Laboratory and is a member of the Center for Human-Computer Interaction. He received his Ph.D. at the University of Maryland, College Park in 2000. His research is in the areas of human-computer interaction, information visualization, visual analytics, large high-resolution displays, and visualization evaluation methods. He is currently the papers co-chair for IEEE VAST 2013.

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