Information Visualization for Exploratory Search
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Interactive visual display of abstract information to help users:
- Find patterns, outliers and trends
- Explore data to build intuition
- Develop specific questions to be asked of more traditional mechanisms

Visuals help us think
- Provide a frame of reference, a temporary storage area
- Effectively increase short term memory
Excellent Pattern Recognition

How many 3’s?

1281736875613897654698450698560498286762
9809858453822450985645894509845098096585
9091030209905959595772564675050678904567
8845789809821677654872664908560912949686
PhotoMesa
– Zoomable Image Browser

- Browse large numbers of images
- See relationships among images
- Fast preview / detail

Annotate & Search
Cluster results
Query preview tells you where the data is

Commercialized at www.photomesa.com

Demo

[Suh, Ling, Bederson & Jacobs - UIST 2003]
[Bederson - UIST 2001]
[Combs & Bederson - DL 1999]