



When David meets Goliath: Combining Smartwatches with a Large Vertical Display for Visual Data Exploration

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How to design cross-device interaction for smartwatch and large displays?

Multi-Display Environments (MDE) allow separating shared and private views

Hand-held devices can support spatially-aware interaction styles

But what about smartwatch + large display?

Combination is underexplored, especially for vertical displays and visual analysis

Badam et al. 2017: *Visfer*



McGrath et al. 2012: *Branch-merge-explore*



Kister et al. 2017: *GraSp*



Langner et al. 2018: *VisTiles*



Brudy et al. 2016: *CurationSpace*



Smartwatches feature multiple advantages: wearable, lightweight, non-intrusive, personal

The combination with a large display leads to specific roles

Large display

= primary display, public and shared

Smartwatch

= user-specific storage

= mediator altering system reactions

= remote control for distant interaction



We contribute a conceptual framework supporting users during visual exploration

Item Sets & Connective Areas
= *What & Where*

Cross-Device Interactions
= *How*

Vision:
Bridge Large Display and Smartwatch
for Visual Analysis



Item Sets are a collection of entities that are stored on a user's smartwatch

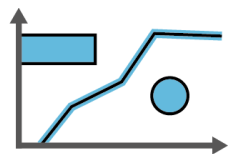


Two set types:

- data items (points of interest)
- configuration properties (settings of interest)

User-specific and stored as a list on the watch

Connective Areas (CA) provide contextual information about a user's intents



marks

create selections
from a visualization



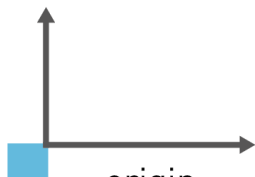
canvas

access stored
sets of data items



axes

access available
axes properties



origin

access available
chart properties

Users follow a specific intent when interacting

Idea:

Providing suitable functionalities based on the
Connective Area

Focusing a Connective Area by double-tap or hold

We propose a simple interaction workflow for data exploration



Pull



Preview

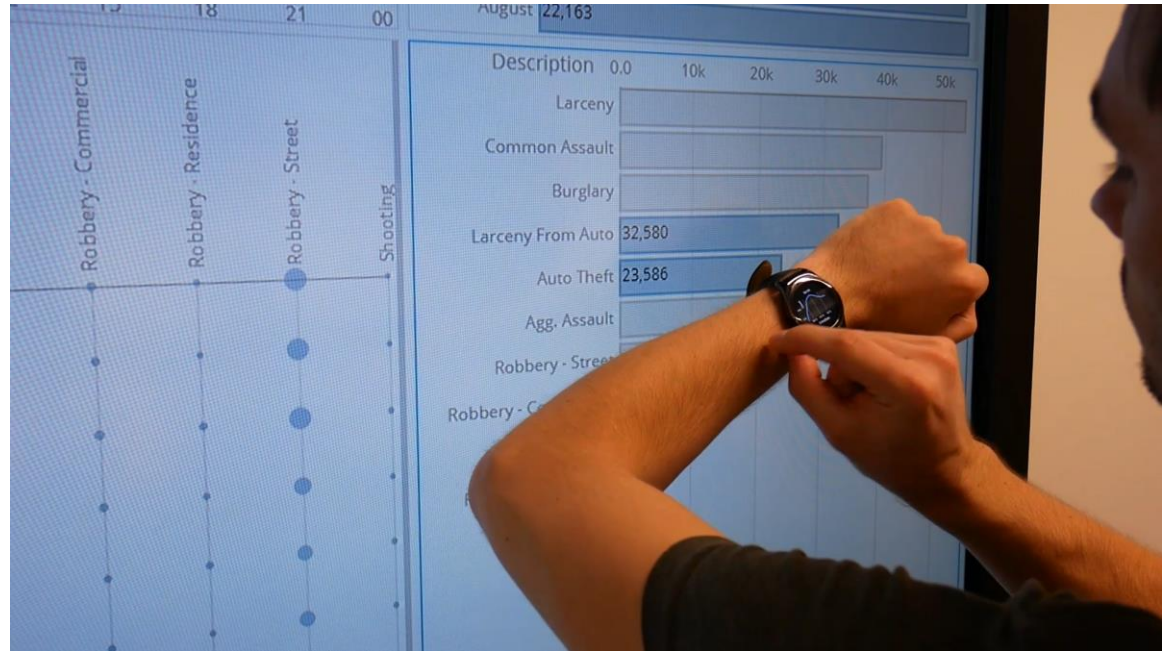
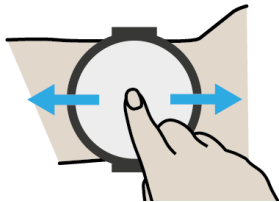


Push

Sets can be transferred between the devices via **pull** and **push** interaction on the watch

Swipe upwards the arm to **pull** the selection on the watch as a set

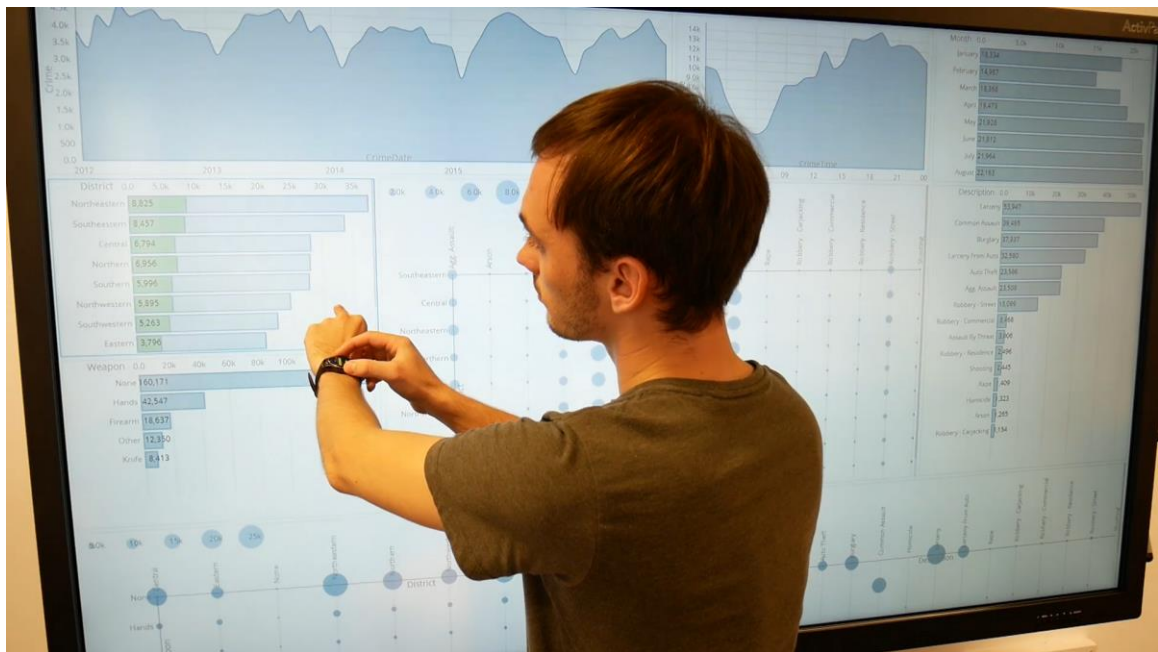
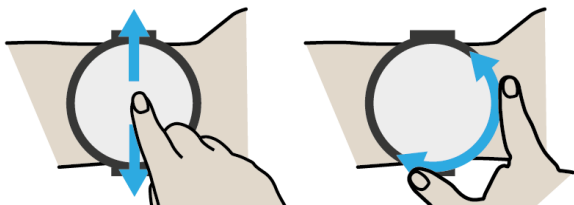
Swipe towards the hand to **push** the selection on the large display



The stored sets on the smartwatch can be **previewed** in any other visualization

Focus another CA by holding or double-tapping

Swipe up and down or rotate the bezel to switch the previewed sets



Sets can also be **manipulated** and combined directly on the smartwatch

Select set(s) on the watch

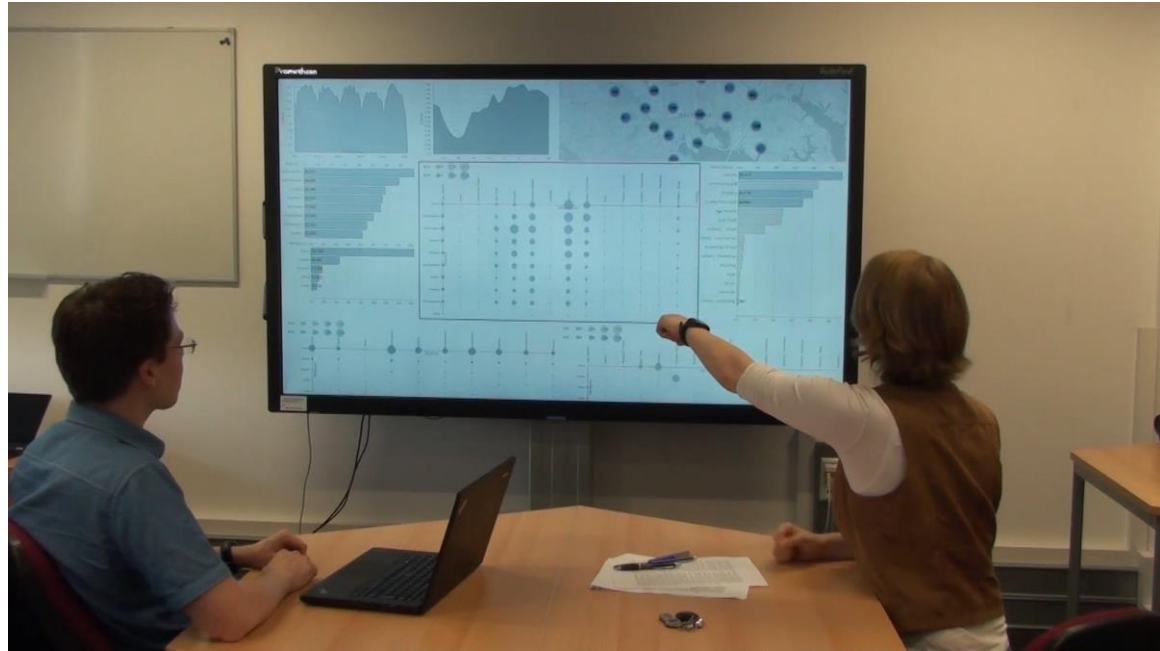
Apply filters or bundle as well as combine multiple sets



All interaction techniques also allow for **remote interaction**

Focus CA through
pointing with the watch

Pull, preview, and push
as before



We conducted a user study to identify interaction **workflows** and differences in **insights**

10 Participants
5 female, 5 male

2 Interface conditions

Baltimore crime dataset

9 Tasks per condition

- finding values
- identifying extrema
- comparison



We observed more **flexible interaction workflows** when using the smartwatch

Moving back and forth

- 8 participants
- for visual comparison
- helps to gain overview of LD

Performing interaction remotely

- 3 participants
- for visual comparison, finding values, finding extrema
- avoid physical movements



Using the smartwatch also had an impact on the insights

More detailed observations for visual comparison

- focus on visualizations, not configuration

Focused interactions for more observations

- repeating interactions on LD



Open Research Questions & Outlook

What are differences when using another mobile device than a smartwatch?

What functions are further required to support collaboration?

How can we provide a general cross-device visual exploration framework?



In the big picture, smartwatches are a promising addition for multi-display environments

Flexible workflows are important to efficiently support users

Smartwatches can be a powerful toolbox complementing other devices

Importantly, they can be applied to applications beyond visual exploration



Thank you!



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