Supporting Crime Analysis through Visual Design

Roger Beecham, Jason Dykes, Aidan Slingsby, Cagatay Turkay
giCentre, City University London

**MOTIVATION** Academia has contributed an array of analytics that can be used in crime analysis. But what crime analysts really want are tools for flexibly exploring data that are "transparently usable" [1]. We design exploratory analysis software for crime analysis that offers some sophistication in data selection, aggregation and comparison, but with interaction techniques and representations that can be easily understood, navigated and communicated.

![User-defined sets](image)

**DESIGN MAXIM 1** Techniques for filtering and selection should be coherent and consistent across views.

**DESIGN MAXIM 2** Representations should support understanding of both the size and relative distribution of a phenomenon.

**DESIGN MAXIM 3** Visual cues should be provided that help orient analysts.

**DESIGN MAXIM 4** Data aggregations and abstractions should not be vulnerable to misinterpretation.

This research was funded by the EU under the EC Grant Agreement No. FP7-IP-608142, awarded to Middlesex University and partners.