On Glyph Design for Wind Information in En-Route Air Traffic Control

Linda Pfeiffer¹¹⁰^a, Michelle Martinussen² and Paul Rosenthal³⁶^b

¹Institute of Data Science, German Aerospace Center DLR, Jena, Germany ²Independent Researcher, Germany ³Institute for Visual and Analytic Computing, University of Rostock, Rostock, Germany

Keywords: Air Traffic Control, Wind Visualization, Empirical Study.

Abstract: Information about the wind situation is crucial for en-route air traffic controllers. In this paper, we compare several glyph designs for showing wind direction and speed by the means of an empirical study. The different designs are based on arrows, wind barbs, and text. During the study, we are measuring response times and accuracy. Moreover, we collect evidence of the applicability of those designs in en-route air traffic control by qualitative feedback from air traffic controllers. Our findings suggest, that the often-used wind barbs are less suited for assessing wind speed and direction. Instead, a combination of arrow and text should be favored.

1 INTRODUCTION

Since weather phenomena have a vast impact on aircraft behavior, air traffic controllers have to consider their effects in the planning of air traffic to ensure safe and fluent traffic flows. Wind influences, for example, the aircraft's speed and its climb rate. Hence, this information should constantly be available to the controller. Within this piece of work, we focus on the representation of wind data for displays in en-route air traffic control.

Air traffic controllers are facing a highly demanding task that includes the consideration of a multitude of information. Usually, an air traffic controller is seeking to plan the air traffic about 20 minutes in advance. However, constant changes in the flight situation, high traffic load, and unexpected events may require the controllers to decide within seconds. An intuitive and quickly perceivable representation of information is crucial in these situations. Current air traffic control interfaces in Germany represent wind either as a 2-dimensional field of wind barbs on a crowded weather display or in purely textual form. Both approaches are less suitable for fast and intuitive assessment in time-limited situations.

We conducted initial interviews with 6 air traffic controllers (4 male, 2 female) with a work experience ranging from several months to 30 years. We asked

them about their weather data needs and concrete experiences they have with the current weather representations. These interviews showed that an initial rough overview (no exact numbers) of the wind situation is needed and sufficient for the controllers. Also, giving wind information over the whole horizontal extent of the sector they are responsible for is unnecessary, as in en-route sectors the wind changes only little in the horizontal extent. Instead, wind information is needed for several altitudes within the sector. since the wind situation could change a lot between altitudes. Based on these spatial requirements we suggest a table-like design, representing wind speed and direction by glyphs and/or text in several altitudes. Note, that this design is not meant to be part of the main radar view that shows the aircraft's positions, since it may interfere with tasks like conflict detection. Similar to current weather displays, it is planned as a separate view next to the radar view.

In this paper we provide a comparison of several glyph designs based on arrows, wind barbs, and text that show wind direction and speed. We quantitatively compare them in terms of their response times and accuracy when assessing wind speed and direction. In addition, we report on the suitability of the approaches for the application domain, based on expert feedback on the designs.

164

Pfeiffer, L., Martinussen, M. and Rosenthal, P.

On Glyph Design for Wind Information in En-Route Air Traffic Control.

Copyright (c) 2021 by SCITEPRESS - Science and Technology Publications, Lda. All rights reserved

^a https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0135-6060

^b https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9409-8931

DOI: 10.5220/0010227701640172

In Proceedings of the 16th International Joint Conference on Computer Vision, Imaging and Computer Graphics Theory and Applications (VISIGRAPP 2021) - Volume 3: IVAPP, pages 164-172 ISBN: 978-989-758-488-6

2 RELATED WORK

Techniques for visualizing wind are mainly subject in the domain of flow and vector field visualization (Bujack and Middel, 2020; Johnson and Hansen, 2004; Laramee et al., 2004; Post et al., 2003). Within this domain, there are three groups of common approaches: glyphs (Borgo et al., 2013), showing magnitude and direction of the flow, geometric structures (McLoughlin et al., 2010; Reina et al., 2019), like streamlines or path lines, and techniques that blur textures with the flow (e.g. Line Integral Convolution (LIC) (Cabral and Leedom, 1993)).

As we are not interested in representing a whole vector field and all of its details, we focus on the glyph-based designs that better reflect single data points. For representing the flow's direction and magnitude, classical designs like arrows or wind barbs, often used in meteorology, exist, but also more advanced designs that try to encode further information. Examples are the Flow Radar Glyphs (Hlawatsch et al., 2011) and the pathline glyphs (Hlawatsch et al., 2014) by Hlawatsch et al., that include information about time dependent dynamics, as well as the glyph design suggested by Wittenbrink et al. (Wittenbrink et al., 1996), that includes uncertainty information.

There is also a bunch of work assessing perceptual effects of and comparing classical glyph designs to other vector field representations by the means of an empirical study. Their findings suggest that arrows on a regular grid induce larger errors on an advection task than various streamlines, streamlets, and LIC approaches (Laidlaw et al., 2005; Pineo and Ware, 2010; Ho et al., 2015). In addition, they are less accurate and sometimes even slower when identifying and classifying critical points in a flow field (Laidlaw et al., 2005; Ho et al., 2015). Otherwise, arrows encoding the field's magnitude by length are better suited than streamlets, streamlines, and LIC for tasks where a visual attraction to regions with high speed is needed (Ho et al., 2015). However, these tasks are specific to the visualization of a whole flow field, while we are more interested in the assessment of orientation and magnitude at a specific point.

One step into the direction of this aim was done by Martin et al. (Martin et al., 2008). They found, that when reading wind barbs and estimating these over an area people usually underestimated wind speed and had a counter-clockwise bias in direction estimation. The task of estimating wind speed and direction at a specific point in a flow field was investigated in two studies by Ware, Pilar, and Plumlee. They found that streamlines with arrowheads and curved wind barbs are more accurate than classical wind barbs in estimating wind direction, while they did not find any difference in speed assessment (Pilar and Ware, 2013). The other study compared wind barbs with an arrowlike design encoding magnitude by relative size and traces/pathlets. They did not find any difference in the direction assessment. However, they found that pathlets outperformed wind barbs, which outperformed the arrow-like design in speed estimation (Ware and Plumlee, 2013).

Based on theories in neuroscience, Ware derived recommendations on the visualization of flow fields (Ware, 2008). He recommended using flow parallel streamlines instead of arrows for representing orientation and suggested several approaches for the design of asymmetry in order to perceive the direction's sign.

The application of these results can only partially be transferred to our designated scenario. For one thing, flow parallel methods, like streamlines, are not applicable in a scenario with only a few data points among one spatial dimension and the comparison of glyph based designs is restricted to wind barbs and arrowheads encoding speed by relative size. For another, we expect the assessment of wind speed and direction at a certain point to be less complex in our scenario, as participants only need to interpolate between two glyphs instead of four glyphs in a whole vector field.

3 WIND VISUALIZATION DESIGNS TO BE COMPARED

As mentioned above, en-route air traffic controllers need only one wind data point per sector in the horizontal extent but several data points in the vertical extent. These data points should be regularly sampled over the whole vertical extent of a flight sector (e.g., every 50th flight level, that represents 5,000 feet in altitude) having an overlap of at least 30 flight levels to the sectors above and beneath. Using this sampling rate, 6 data points are enough to cover an average en-route sector in Germany. We decided to encode altitude by position on the y-axis, since this best supports the usual mental model of altitude. This decision leads to a table-like design positioning glyphs and/or text, encoding wind magnitude and direction, equidistantly on top of each other.

As wind direction and speed should be easily assessable, we compare several data point representations (see Figure 1) by means of an empirical study. Encoding wind direction by slope best supports spatial reasoning. Thus, all glyphs encode wind direction by slope, leaving several options for encoding wind speed. Length is, according to Mackinlays



Figure 1: Illustration of the wind visualizations, compared in our study. The first column represents the altitude followed by wind speed and direction.

ranking of visual variables, after position most effective for encoding quantitative data (Mackinlay, 1986). Hence, we included a design using a progress bar (ProgressBarArrow) and a design encoding speed by line width (WidthArrow). Color value is less effective (Mackinlay, 1986), but it seemed natural to combine color value with an arrow without affecting its shape, so we included the design ValueArrow. Due to comparison to the representations used in current interfaces we also included textual representations as well as a classical wind barb design.

4 USER STUDY

In a context with limited time for decision making, such as air traffic control, the fast and accurate extraction of information is of major importance. Thus, we set up an online experiment in order to judge the intuitive assessment of wind, using the suggested visualization designs in terms of response time and accuracy. This quantitative part of the study is complemented by qualitative feedback from air traffic controllers, to get a deeper understanding of the applicability of the designs in practice.

4.1 Methods

Participants. We decided to conduct the quantitative part with both, novices and experts and the qualitative part with expert users only. On the one hand, this allows us to measure the intuitive assessment of the glyphs and, thus, prevents any bias towards one option because of extensive training. On the other hand, despite restricted access to air traffic controllers, we get an impression on the specific characteristics of the application domain. 54 novices (mainly students) participated in the experiment (16 female, 37 male, 1 unknown). Their age ranged between 18 and 63 years with an average of 28 years. Furthermore 9 experts aged between 22 and 48 years with an average of 31 years (2 female and 7 male) completed the study. 8 of the experts were working as air traffic controllers in Germany and 1 was an air traffic control student. Their work experience in enroute sectors ranged from 1 year to 26 years with an

	0-9kn	$\boldsymbol{\ast}$ Which direction describes the wind direction on flight level \boldsymbol{z}	70 best?
50 🖌	10-19kn 20-29kn 30-39kn	from north (N) to south (S)	
100	40-49kn 50-59kn 60-69kn	 from northeast (NE) to southwest (SW) 	
150	70-79kn 80-69kn 90-99kn	from east (E) to west (W)	
200 /	0°	from southeast (SE) to northwest (NW)	
V	from N to S	from south (S) to north (N)	
250	from E to W 180°	from southwest (SW) to northeast (NE)	
300 1	from S to N 270° from W to E	from west (W) to east (E)	
	From W to E	from northwest (NW) to southeast (SE)	
	d speed on flight level 170?		

Figure 2: Screenshot of the interface presented to the participants.

average of 10 years. Except for 6 persons, all participants claimed to have normal or corrected to normal vision. One person had dyschromatopsia. The participants did not receive any reward.

Materials. We planned the experiment as an online experiment, which allowed us to have more participants in a short time period, but hindered us from controlling hardware-related displaying issues, like differences in color.

We prepared six scenarios based on weather datasets from Nancy, France. They were obtained from the open-source access of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce (NOAA Datasets, 2016). In order to map the values on every 50th flight level of a sector ranging from the 105th to the 256th flight level, a linear interpolation of the original data points was computed. From each of the scenarios, we generated one stimulus with each of the six visualizations. As the experiment followed a within-subjects design approach, each participant saw each of the scenarios in another visualization, while the mapping between scenario and visualization type was randomly assigned.

Procedure. After a welcome text and the participant information sheet, the experiment started by collecting some demographic data (gender, age, and vision) and information about the professional experience in air traffic control (e.g. years of experience,

country of employment, and whether the participant is mainly operating in en-route sectors).

In order to get familiar with the upcoming task, a training example was presented to the participants. Then, they were asked to judge the wind direction and wind speed at a certain altitude (See Figure 2 for a screenshot). We advised participants to answer as fast as possible. The altitude in question was usually located between two of the displayed data points. Participants solved this task once with each visualization type in a randomized order. Per participant, the scenarios were randomly assigned to the visualization type, such that each scenario was seen once by the participant. Each visualization type was briefly introduced to the participants by the explanations shown in Figure 1, before answering the questions regarding this visualization type.

We measured the error in speed judgments in knots, the error in direction judgments on an eightpoint wind rose, as well as response times in seconds. Expert users finished by answering a postquestionnaire about what they liked and disliked about the designs.

Quantitative Analysis. First, we transformed the individual answers to an comparable error measure. For wind speed, we subtracted the correct value belonging to the corresponding scenario from the estimated value. Negative values, hence, indicate an underestimation, positive values an overestimation. For calculating the absolute wind direction error, the dis-



Figure 3: Average response time for novices (orange) as well as experts (green), visualized with the corresponding 95% bootstrapped confidence intervals for each visualization design. Letters denote significance groups. That is, two conditions sharing the same letter do not differ significantly. Designs enclosed by a violet border show a significant difference between novices and experts.

tance to the correct answer on a 8-point wind rose was calculated. Hence, the wind direction error is a value between 0 and 4. For the non-absolute direction error positive values indicate a clockwise bias and negative values indicate a counter-clockwise error, while an 180° error was set to 0.

In order to compare the visualization designs according to the errors in estimating wind speed and direction as well as response time, we computed for each design 95% confidence intervals, respectively. Since the data did not reflect the assumption of normality, we decided to use a bootstrapping approach instead of computing conventional confidence intervals. We drew 10,000 bootstrap samples, computed their means, and computed the 95% confidence intervals using the percentile method (Efron and Tibshirani, 1986). Accordingly, we calculated 95% confidence intervals for the paired differences between the designs for inferential analysis. If one of the latter confidence intervals does not contain the value zero, their difference can be considered as statistically significant at a significance level of $\alpha = 0.05$. We did these computations once for the group of novices and once for the group of experts. Furthermore, we calculated 95% confidence intervals for the differences between experts and novices.

Qualitative Analysis. For analyzing the qualitative feedback for each design, we encoded and classified the data using a bottom up coding approach. In a sec-



Figure 4: Average absolute speed error for novices (orange) as well as experts (green) visualized with the corresponding 95% bootstrapped confidence intervals for each visualization design. Letters denote significance groups. That is, two conditions sharing the same letter do not differ significantly.

ond cycle, we classified whether each comment was positive about the design in question or negative and counted those.

4.2 Quantitative Part: Results

The point estimates, their corresponding 95% bootstrapped confidence intervals, as well as significance groups (significant differences only exist between those groups) are illustrated in Figures 3, 4, and 5. The paired differences between the designs are shown in the appendix.

Response Time. Most obvious, air traffic controllers performed with a mean of 25.83 seconds about 15.67 seconds faster than novices. The differences between the expert group and the novices were significant for each design. Both groups performed significantly fastest (($\alpha < 0.05$) with the TextArrow design (significance group A). In contrast to the experts, there was a third significance group (C) consisting of the WindBarbs and TextText designs that showed significantly slower response times than any other design for novices.

Speed Error. Concerning the absolute speed error, the resulting significance groups are not as clearly separated as for the response times. Nevertheless, novices were significantly more accurate using one of the designs encoding speed as text than they were using the designs ProgressBarArrow, ValueArrow, ValueArrow



absolute direction error (on a eight-point-compass-rose)

Figure 5: Average direction error for novices (orange) as well as experts (green) visualized with the corresponding 95% bootstrapped confidence intervals for each visualization design. Letters denote significance groups. That is, two conditions sharing the same letter do not differ significantly. Designs enclosed by a violet border show a significant difference between novices and experts.

or WindBarbs. Within the experts group, this tendency is less clear. Air traffic controllers, however, showed additionally significant differences between the ProgressBarArrow design and the WindBarbs and ValueArrow designs. There were no significant differences between air traffic controllers and novices.

Considering the non-absolute values of the speed error, the confidence intervals of the design TextText showed a systematic overestimation of the values in both groups (Novices: [1.2830,4.6981], Experts: [3.3846,17.3850]). Additionally, the designs ProgressBarArrow and WindBarbs were overestimated by the novices ([0.6159,10.4810], [4.0566,13.3770]).

Direction Error. Regarding the direction error, we barely found significant differences for novices. Only with ProgressBarArrow participants seemed to perform more accurate than with TextText. Although the results are not significant, it seems that participants tend to be more accurate with an arrow design than with TextText or WindBarbs. This tendency is confirmed by the results of the experts group. WindBarbs led to significantly less accurate answers than the arrow-based designs did. Except for the TextArrow design, there were also significant differences between the TextText design and the arrow-based designs. Surprisingly, we found only one significant difference between air traffic controllers and novices. Even though air traffic controllers should be

trained in reading wind barbs, they performed significantly less accurate with the WindBarbs design than novices did.

Considering the non-absolute direction error, we only found a slight but significant bias for the ValueArrow design in the novices group. Novices tended to have a slight clockwise bias ([0.0370,0.2037]). Beyond this, we didn't find any further biases for the assessment of direction.

4.3 Quantitative Part: Discussion

Within the application domain, a fast and accurate assessment of the current wind speed and direction on each flight level is necessary. Our results show that air traffic controllers are significantly faster in making their decisions at a similar accuracy level than novices are. The, nevertheless, quite long response times between 20 and 30 seconds on average are no reason to worry, since they can be explained by the time needed for entering the responses and the unfamiliar representation (remember that participants judged wind speed and direction only once for each visualization type).

Our results for speed error suggest using a design representing speed as text. However, this result has to be seen within the realm of the limitations of this study. One limitation may be the measuring method. We asked participants to report speed in knots. There is thus a natural favor for the textual representations, as they directly provide this value, so that the participants did not have to transfer the representation and the only error that remains arises from interpolation between levels. Nevertheless, the results for the experts group do also suggest rather using a progress bar for speed representation than using wind barbs or an encoding via value, which perfectly aligns with Mackinlays ranking of visual variables (Mackinlay, 1986).

The results in direction error suggest using an arrow based design in the application domain for representing direction instead of text or wind barbs. Especially air traffic controllers were less accurate with the latter designs than they were with most of the arrowbased designs.

In accordance with the before-mentioned encodings, the response times clearly suggest using the TextArrow design. However, these results have to be seen in the light of the same shortcomings regarding the measurement method. Despite the choice of the best suitable glyph design for representing wind direction and speed in en-route air traffic control, our results suggest that the currently used designs are a fairly bad choice. Novices are significantly slower when using purely textual representations or wind barbs. Using more intuitive designs would especially help air traffic control students. Even more critical is the finding that actual air traffic controllers are clearly less accurate when using wind barbs.

When comparing our results to the related work, we were not able to confirm the findings by Martin et al. (Martin et al., 2008). In contrast to their finding that wind barbs lead to a systematic underestimation of wind speed when assessed over an area, we found a systematic overestimation of wind speed when interpolated between two wind barbs. Neither could we find any counterclockwise bias when assessing wind direction. Also, a general conclusion whether arrows or wind barbs are generally better suited for speed and direction assessment is not feasible. While Ware and Plumlee showed that arrows, encoding speed by size, performed worse than wind barbs in speed assessment (Ware and Plumlee, 2013), we did not find any significant difference between wind barbs and the arrow designs encoding speed by width or value. And while our results suggest, either by being slower or by less accurate results, that wind barbs are less suited for representing direction than arrows are, the authors did not find any significant differences between their designs in direction error.

4.4 Qualitative Part: Results and Discussion

Encoding Direction. For the different encodings of wind direction, there were most positive comments (28) about representing wind direction by an arrow. Arrows were perceived by the controllers as easy and fast to read, intuitive, and as a clear encoding. While for most of the participants the arrow's accuracy was good, two controllers still had concerns about it. These controllers, however, did enjoy the good readability and quick overview provided by arrows. Adding some pop-up information, showing the exact numbers when focusing a certain arrow, may solve the issues about accuracy. Encoding wind direction as text was mainly enjoyed due to the accuracy, but was criticized due to the slow reading speed. Most questionable was the encoding of wind direction with wind barbs as at least one participant was confused about the direction and four more found the direction hard to determine. The issues with reading direction from wind barbs are also reflected by the air traffic controllers accuracy in the quantitative part of the study.

Encoding Speed. In contrast to our expectation, there were only a few positive comments on the sev-

eral graphical encodings of speed. Encoding speed as width or value of an arrow was perceived by two controllers as suitable for a good but imprecise overview. Apart from the lack of accuracy, these designs were criticized for not being intuitive, readable, and for their 'ugly' appearance. Similarly, the wind barbs' speed encoding was perceived by one controller as suitable for a fast overview, but, apart from this, it was perceived as slow to read (because of counting), not intuitive, and awkward. Even though the ProgressBarArrow design was more accurate than the ValueArrow and WindBarbs designs, air traffic controllers did not find any positive words about this design. Similarly, as the aforementioned designs, it was criticized for its lack of accuracy and for neither being intuitive nor easily readable. In contrast to the other encodings for wind speed, text was liked by 7 controllers due to its accuracy and clarity. Even if the quantitative results may be in favor of the text based encoding due to the measuring method, it is still the most liked encoding for speed.

Further Design Issues. Two controllers indicated to prefer designs combining direction and speed in one symbol, which reduces the number of objects on the screen. Unfortunately, these designs were perceived as hard to read, even by the aforementioned two controllers. There were some comments for improvement about the designs, showing wind direction and speed in separated glyphs, since in aviation the usual way to declare wind is to show the direction in degrees first, followed by the speed. Thus, changing the order of the columns may increase the readability for air traffic controllers. Additionally, the ordering of the rows should be inverted to better represent the increasing altitude from the ground.

Summary. Similar to the quantitative results, the qualitative results suggest using a combination, encoding direction by an arrow and speed by a number, while wind barbs seem to be less suited for the application domain. When judging a glyph design, air traffic controllers are highly concerned about the accuracy a design offers but prefer also a design providing a quick overview. For better applicability in the domain, columns and rows of the table should be ordered such that speed representation follows direction and that flight levels follow an ascending ordering from the ground to the top.

5 CONCLUSION

We compared the assessment of wind direction and speed using several glyph and text-based representations by means of an empirical experiment as well as qualitative feedback by air traffic controllers. Quantitative and qualitative results, both suggest that WindBarbs are less suited for a quick but fairly accurate overview of the wind data. In addition, both results highlight a design, encoding speed by text and direction by an arrow (TextArrow) for the application in en-route air traffic control. However, the exact numbers should be accessible on demand, as these are needed for the communication to pilots.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work was partly done at the former Visual Computing Laboratory at Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany. We thank all of our study participants.

REFERENCES

- Borgo, R., Kehrer, J., Chung, D. H. S., Maguire, E., Laramee, R. S., Hauser, H., Ward, M., and Chen, M. (2013). Glyph-based Visualization: Foundations, Design Guidelines, Techniques and Applications. In Sbert, M. and Szirmay-Kalos, L., editors, *Eurograph*-
- *ics 2013 State of the Art Reports.* The Eurographics Association.
- Bujack, R. and Middel, A. (2020). State of the art in flow visualization in the environmental sciences. *Environmental Earth Sciences*, 79(2).
- Cabral, B. and Leedom, L. C. (1993). Imaging vector fields using line integral convolution. In *Proceedings of the* 20th Annual Conference on Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques, SIGGRAPH '93, pages 263— -270, New York, NY, USA. Association for Computing Machinery.
- Efron, B. and Tibshirani, R. (1986). Bootstrap methods for standard errors, confidence intervals, and other measures of statistical accuracy. *Statistical Science*, 1(1):54–75.
- Hlawatsch, M., Leube, P., Nowak, W., and Weiskopf, D. (2011). Flow Radar Glyphs—Static Visualization of Unsteady Flow with Uncertainty. *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*, 17(12):1949–1958.
- Hlawatsch, M., Sadlo, F., Jang, H., and Weiskopf, D. (2014). Pathline glyphs: Pathline glyphs. *Computer Graphics Forum*, 33(2):497–506.
- Ho, H.-Y., Yeh, I.-C., Lai, Y.-C., Lin, W.-C., and Cherng, F.-Y. (2015). Evaluating 2D Flow Visualization Using Eye Tracking. *Computer Graphics Forum*, 34(3):501– 510.

- Johnson, C. and Hansen, C. (2004). Visualization Handbook. Academic Press, Inc., USA.
- Laidlaw, D., Kirby, R., Jackson, C., Davidson, J., Miller, T., da Silva, M., Warren, W., and Tarr, M. (2005). Comparing 2D Vector Field Visualization Methods: A User Study. *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*, 11(01):59–70.
- Laramee, R. S., Hauser, H., Doleisch, H., Vrolijk, B., Post, F. H., and Weiskopf, D. (2004). The state of the art in flow visualization: Dense and texture-based techniques. *Computer Graphics Forum*, 23(2):203–221.
- Mackinlay, J. (1986). Automating the design of graphical presentations of relational information. *ACM Trans. Graph.*, 5(2):110–141.
- Martin, J. P., Swan, J. E., Moorhead, R. J., Liu, Z., and Cai, S. (2008). Results of a User Study on 2D Hurricane Visualization. *Computer Graphics Forum*, 27(3):991– 998.
- McLoughlin, T., Laramee, R. S., Peikert, R., Post, F. H., and Chen, M. (2010). Over two decades of integrationbased, geometric flow visualization. *Computer Graphics Forum*, 29(6):1807–1829.
- NOAA Datasets (2016). Datasets by the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). url: http://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/igra/, Last accessed: September 11, 2016.
- Pilar, D. H. F. and Ware, C. (2013). Representing Flow Patterns by Using Streamlines with Glyphs. *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graph ics*, 19(8):1331–1341.
- Pineo, D. and Ware, C. (2010). Neural modeling of flow rendering effectiveness. ACM Transactions on Applied Perception, 7(3):1–15.
- Post, F. H., Vrolijk, B., Hauser, H., Laramee, R. S., and Doleisch, H. (2003). The state of the art in flow visualisation: Feature extraction and tracking. *Computer Graphics Forum*, 22(4):775–792.
- Reina, G., Gralka, P., and Ertl, T. (2019). A decade of particle-based scientific visualization. *European Physical Journal Special Topics*, 227(14):1705–1723.
- Ware, C. (2008). Toward a Perceptual Theory of Flow Visualization. *IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications*, 28(2):6–11.
- Ware, C. and Plumlee, M. D. (2013). Designing a better weather display. *Information Visualization*, 12(3-4):221–239.
- Wittenbrink, C., Pang, A., and Lodha, S. (Sept./1996). Glyphs for visualizing uncertainty in vector fields. *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*, 2(3):266–279.

APPENDIX

Table 1: 95% bootstrapped confidence intervals based on 10,000 bootstrap samples for the differences between the designs based on novices data. Confidence intervals not containing the value 0 can be interpreted as significant differences at an significance level $\alpha = 0.05$.

Design A	Design B	Response Times		Abs Speed Error		Abs Direction Error	
-	_	Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper
DesignA	DesignB	LowerRT	UpperRT	LowerSE	UpperSE	LowerDE	UpperDE
ProgressBarArrow	WidthArrow	-6.2465	2.0909	-2.2495	7.3264	-0.3704	0.2593
ProgressBarArrow	ValueArrow	-5.9669	0.8138	-2.8846	3.7115	-0.4630	0.2407
ProgressBarArrow	TextArrow	1.0194	9.0271	1.2500	8.4038	-0.2963	0.2773
ProgressBarArrow	TextText	-13.3200	-4.4443	1.6923	9.5385	-0.6667	-0.0370
ProgressBarArrow	WindBarbs	-17.2430	-6.5378	-8.4231	3.6154	-0.61111	0.1852
WidthArrow	ValueArrow	-4.8371	3.5065	-5.3585	1.6792	-0.4074	0.2963
WidthArrow	TextArrow	3.1122	11.1290	-0.6226	5.4717	-0.2593	0.3148
WidthArrow	TextText	-11.1120	-2.1104	0.3208	5.3396	-0.6852	0.0741
WidthArrow	WindBarbs	-15.6310	-3.7218	-10.0940	0.5849	-0.5185	0.2037
ValueArrow	TextArrow	3.8624	11.4510	2.1698	6.3774	-0.2037	0.4074
ValueArrow	TextText	-10.4100	-1.5302	2.2453	7.2075	-0.6296	0.1296
ValueArrow	WindBarbs	-15.9550	-3.1163	-7.3019	1.5472	-0.4259	0.2593
TextArrow	TextText	-17.6730	-9.6813	-1.3962	2.2264	-0.7222	0.0370
TextArrow	WindBarbs	-23.7140	-10.7690	-11.4520	-2.8118	-0.4629	0.0921
TextText	WindBarbs	-9.0652	2.4856	-11.8300	-3.3774	-0.2778	0.5926

Table 2: 95% bootstrapped confidence intervals based on 10,000 bootstrap samples for the differences between the designs based on experts data. Confidence intervals not containing the value 0 can be interpreted as significant differences at an significance level $\alpha = 0.05$.

Design A	Design B	Response Times		Abs Speed Error		Abs Direction Error		
		Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper	
DesignA	DesignB	LowerRT	UpperRT	LowerSE	UpperSE	LowerDE	UpperDE	
ProgressBarArrow	WidthArrow	-4.2253	3.7315	-11.3080	2.3846	-0.4615	0.1539	
ProgressBarArrow	ValueArrow	-11.9680	0.9354	-28.3850	0.0769	-0.2308	0.2308	
ProgressBarArrow	TextArrow	0.5324	8.6446	-2.1538	5.7692	-1.0000	0.0000	
ProgressBarArrow	TextText	-7.6269	2.3646	-9.4615	6.0000	-1.3846	-0.2308	
ProgressBarArrow	WindBarbs	-6.0369	2.7438	-19.3080	-1.3077	-2.6154	-0.8462	
WidthArrow	ValueArrow	-12.3090	0.8669	-23.2310	6.3058	-0.1539	0.4615	
WidthArrow	TextArrow	0.5039	8.5784	0.3846	12.3850	-0.8462	0.3077	
WidthArrow	TextText	-9.2322	3.7253	-4.3077	10.1540	-1.3846	0.0000	
WidthArrow	WindBarbs	-5.7967	2.3331	-15.5370	4.5385	-2.3846	-0.6923	
ValueArrow	TextArrow	5.2793	1.5269	1.7692	28.7690	-1.0769	0.1539	
ValueArrow	TextText	-2.5392	9.3899	0.3846	22.8460	-1.4615	-0.2308	
ValueArrow	WindBarbs	-2.7183	9.7161	-11.2310	16.7690	-2.6923	-0.7692	
TextArrow	TextText	-11.4740	-2.6846	-9.5385	3.0000	-1.0769	0.3846	
TextArrow	WindBarbs	-11.7590	-0.5194	-20.6150	-3.2308	-2.1538	-0.5385	
TextText	WindBarbs	-5.3284	8.3773	-21.5380	2.1538	-1.9231	0.0769	

Table 3: 95% bootstrapped confidence intervals based on 10,000 bootstrap samples for the differences between experts and novices. Confidence intervals not containing the value 0 can be interpreted as significant differences at an significance level $\alpha = 0.05$.

Difference	Response Time		Absolute S	peed Error	Absolute Direction Error		
	Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper	
ProgressBarArrow	5.9165	20.7683	-5.7688	6.8269	-0.1595	0.4444	_
WidthArrow	8.6454	22.4990	-14.1160	1.1726	-0.3746	0.4259	
ValueArrow	3.8039	17.8624	-29.2452	2.4469	-0.0826	0.6083	
TextArrow	7.3457	18.4133	-8.2467	2.2322	-0.9501	0.3490	
TextText	11.0097	28.0319	-13.1233	0.6240	-1.0883	0.4401	
WindBarbs	14.1151	33.1170	-19.9535	4.1292	-2.3063	-0.3761	