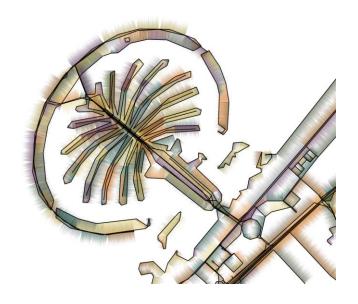
Cartographic Journal 50(1):8–18, 2013:

## Visual Abstraction and Stylization of Maps

**Tobias Isenberg** 





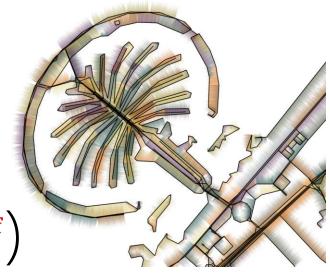
Cartographic Journal 50(1):8–18, 2013:

## Visual Abstraction and Stylization of Maps

**Tobias Isenberg** 







## abstraction

## visual abstraction

# interactive & exploratory visual abstraction

# interactive & exploratory visual abstraction

disclaimer: this is not about new graphics algorithms, but about using existing ones for a visual goal

## **Abstraction in NPR/Expressive Graphics**





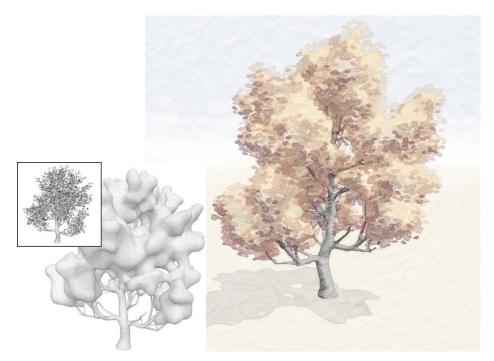


Curtis et al., 1997

Hertzmann, 1998

Hausner, 2001

## **Abstraction in NPR/Expressive Graphics**

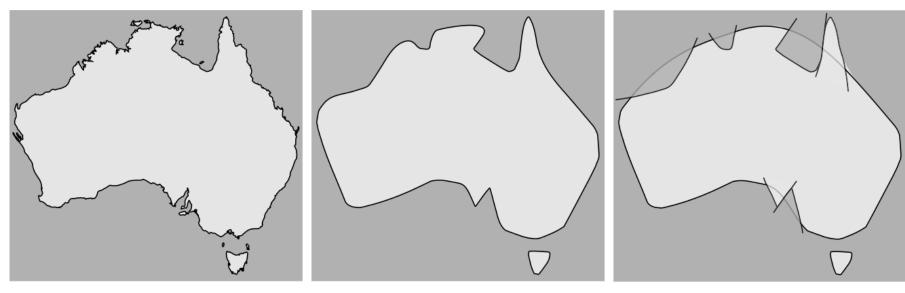


Luft & Deussen, 2006



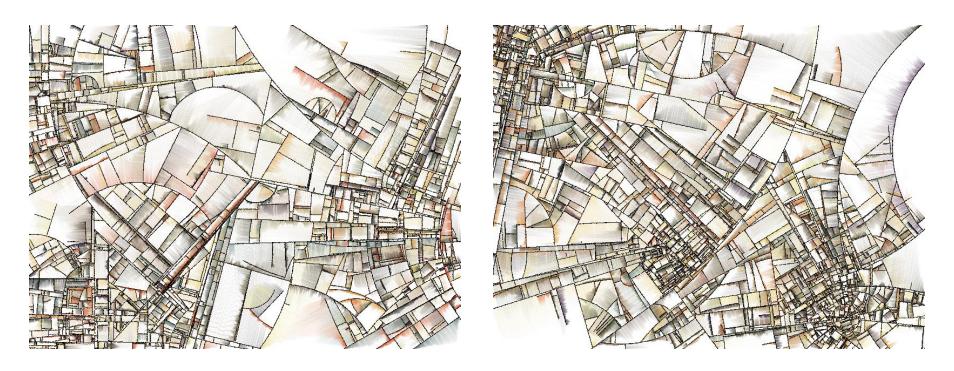
DeCarlo & Santella, 2002

## **Abstraction in NPR/Expressive Graphics**



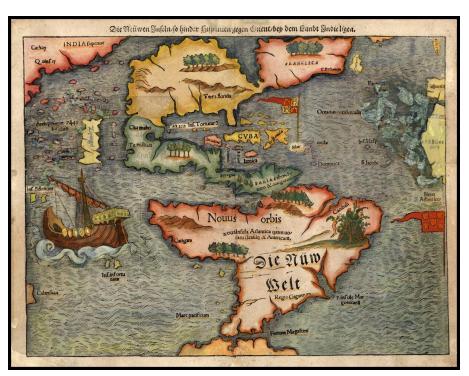
Mi et al., 2009

## Inspiration: Substrate simulation by Tarbell



http://www.complexification.net/gallery/machines/substrate/

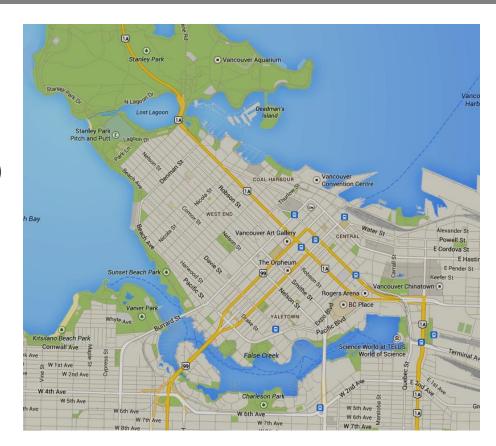
## Inspiration: (Old) Artistic Map Depictions





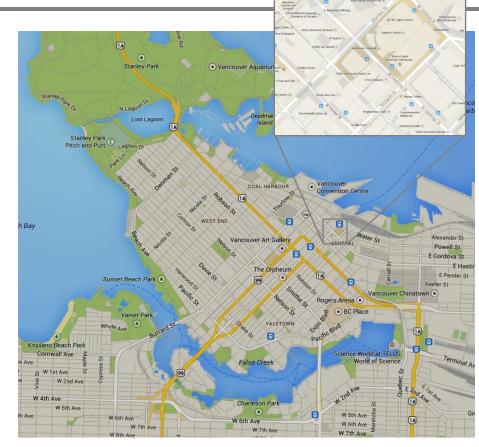
## **Abstraction in Cartography**

- abstraction based on scale level
- show more or less detail
- show elements (e.g., streets)
  wider than they are
  in reality
- elements are shown/ hidden depending on a map's purpose



## **Abstraction in Cartography**

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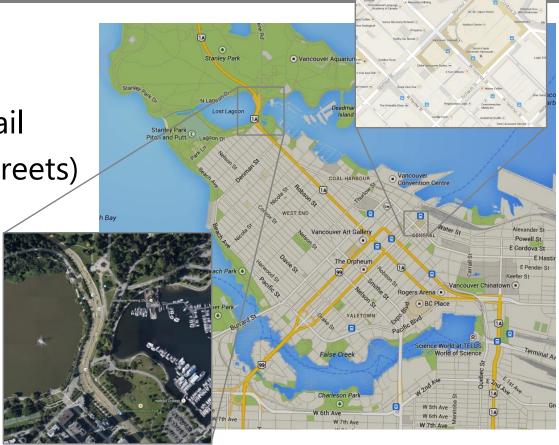
abstraction based on scale level

show more or less detail

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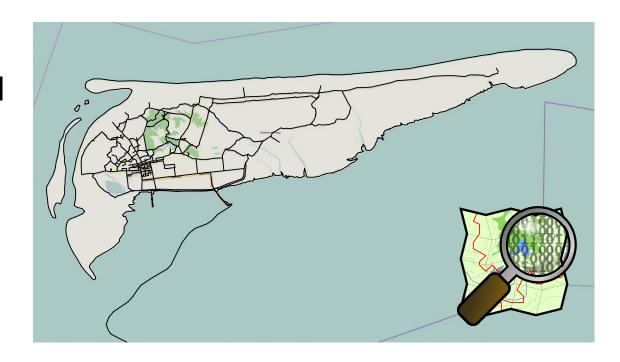
### Input Data & Its Characteristics

- map data from OpenStreetMap
- graph of polygonal streets/paths and shape elements
- geographic and political elements
- data not always consistent/correct



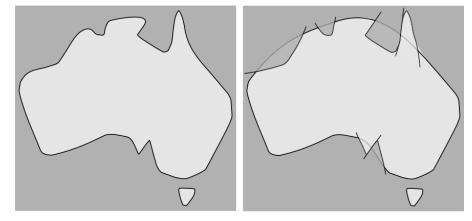
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#### Constraints for the Abstraction

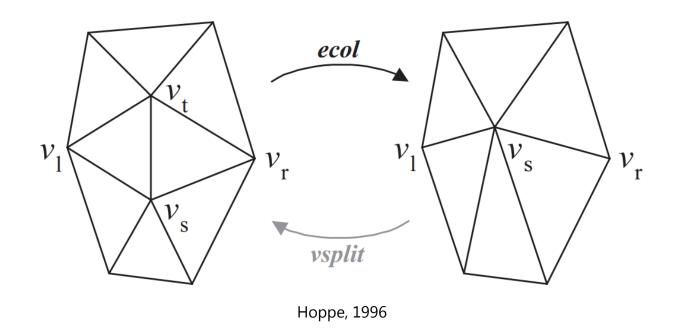
- data: polygonal network
- no inside/outside
- ordered sequence of abstraction steps



Mi et al., 2009

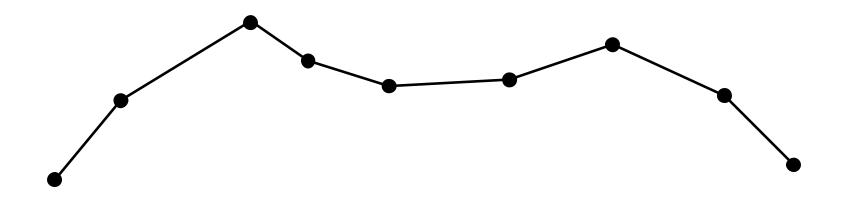
- abstraction not by quantitative quality but by visual effect: not only simplification but relocation
- iterative application & interactive exploration

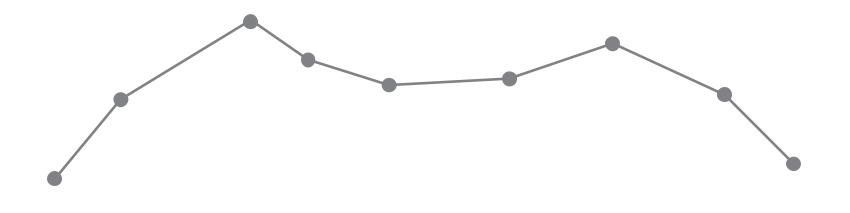
## **Abstraction by Progressive Meshes**

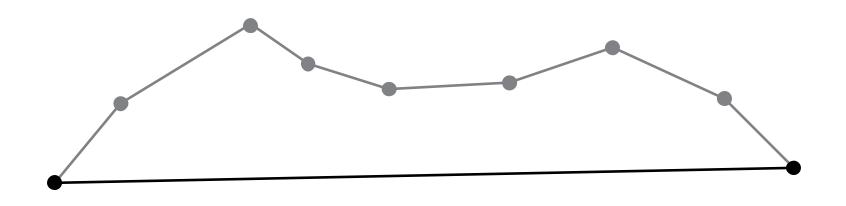


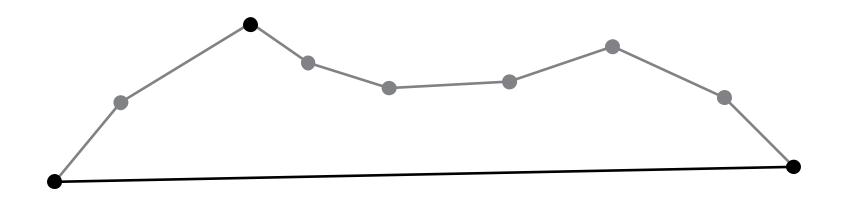
## **Abstraction by Progressive Meshes**

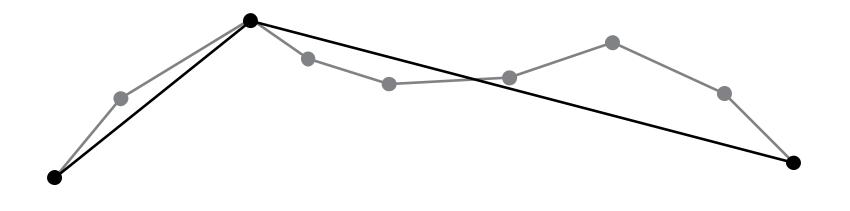


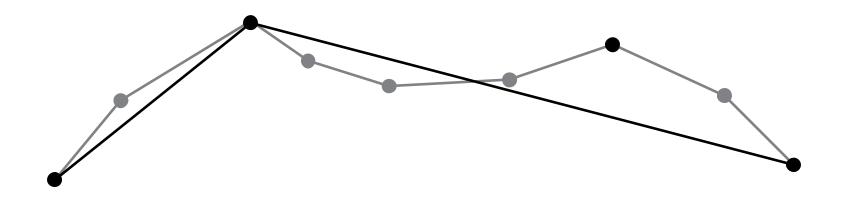


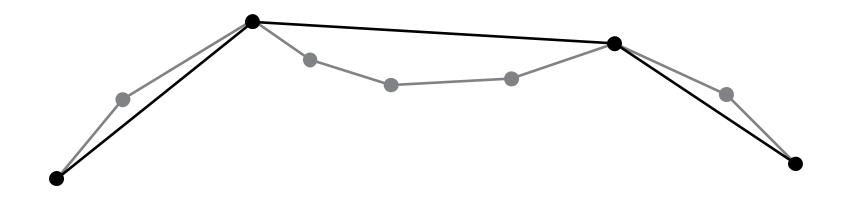


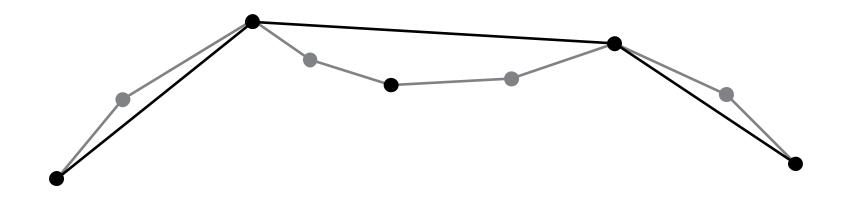


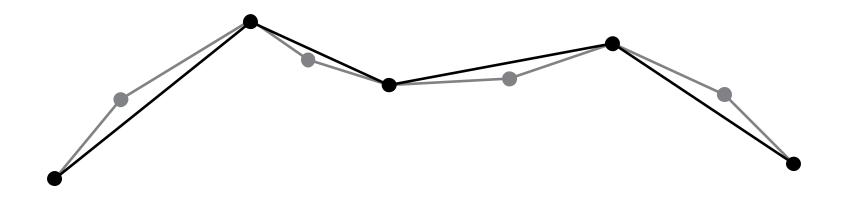


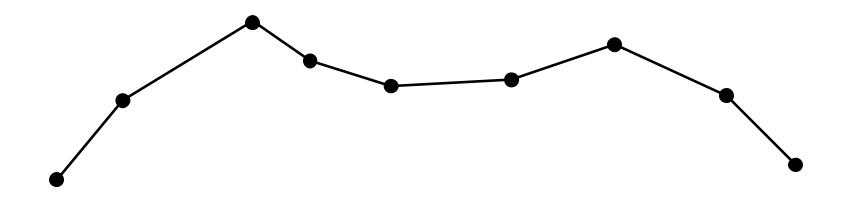






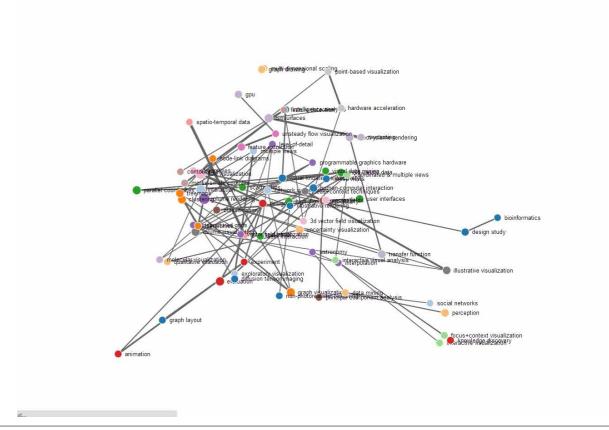








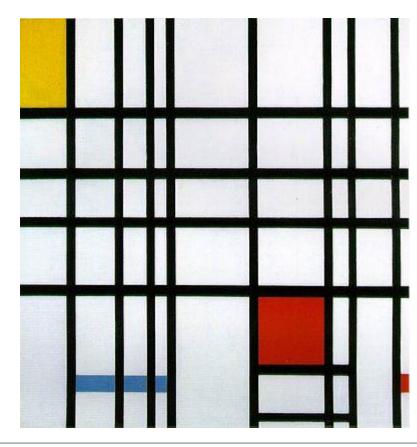
## **Abstraction by Force Direction**



## **Abstraction by Force Direction**

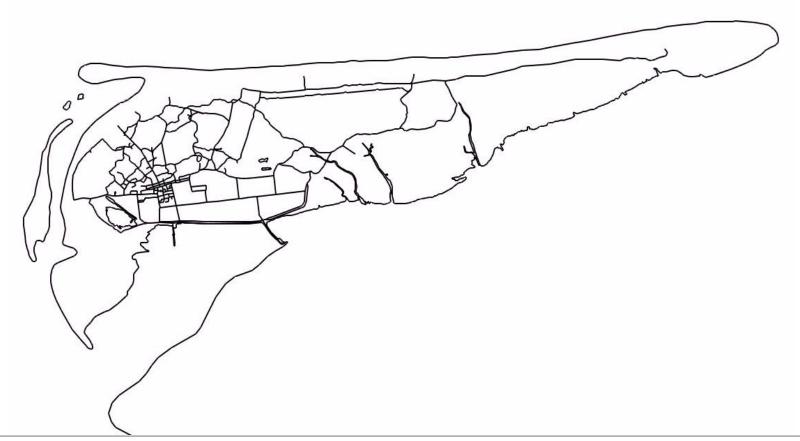


## Abstraction by Orthogonalization

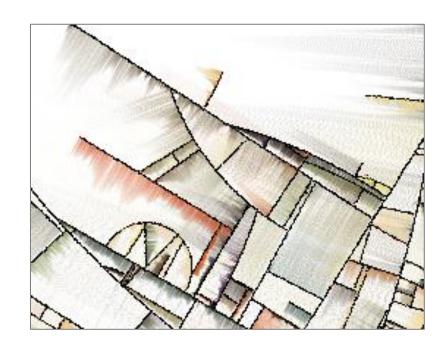


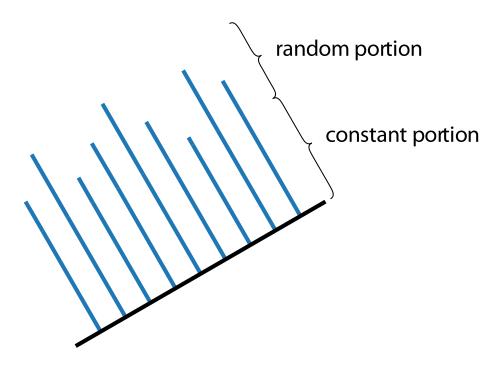
Composition with Yellow, Blue and Red (1937–42) by Piet Mondrian (1872–1944)

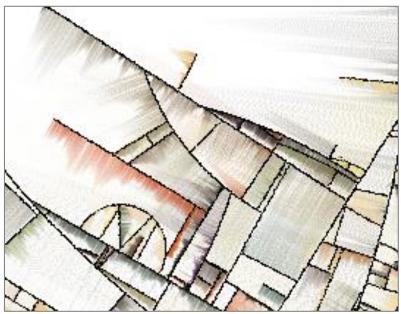
## Abstraction by Orthogonalization

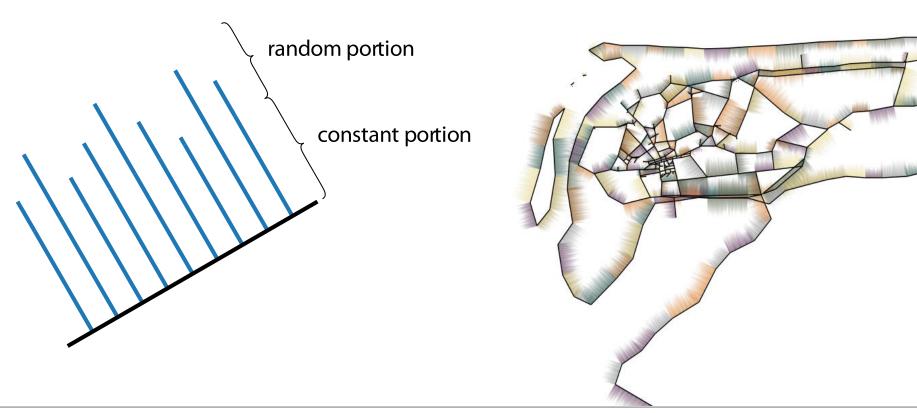


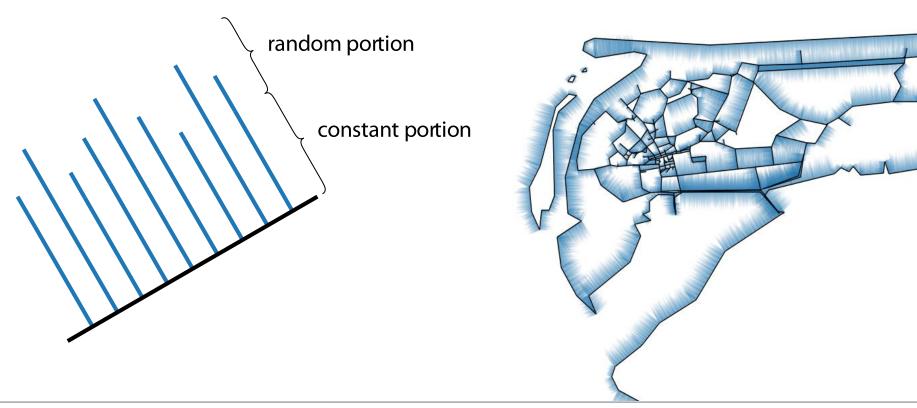
## Realization to Match Visual Inspiration

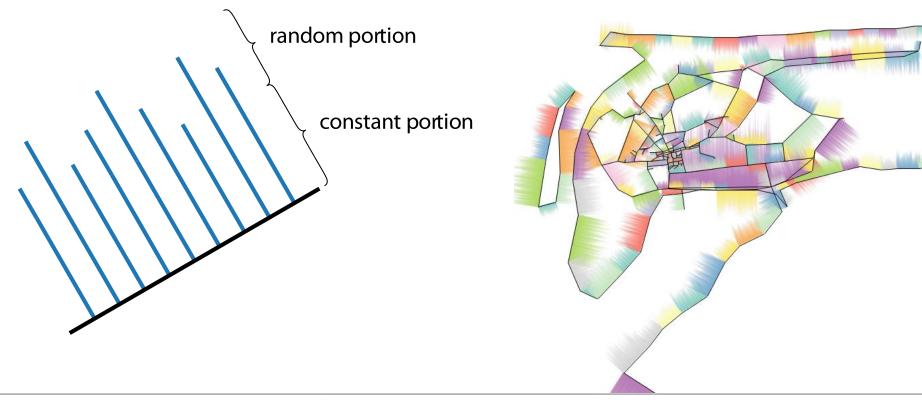




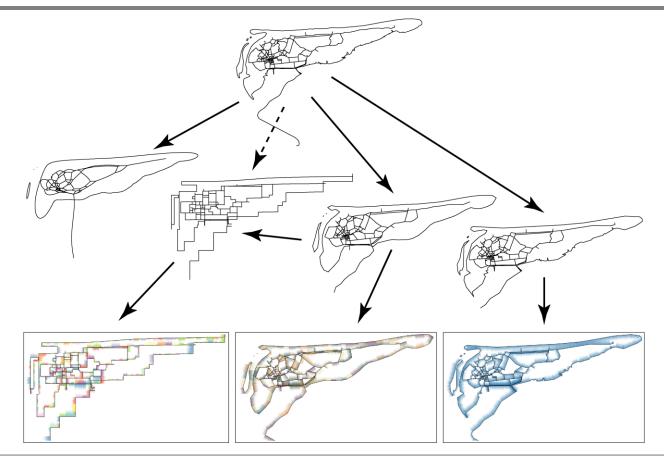




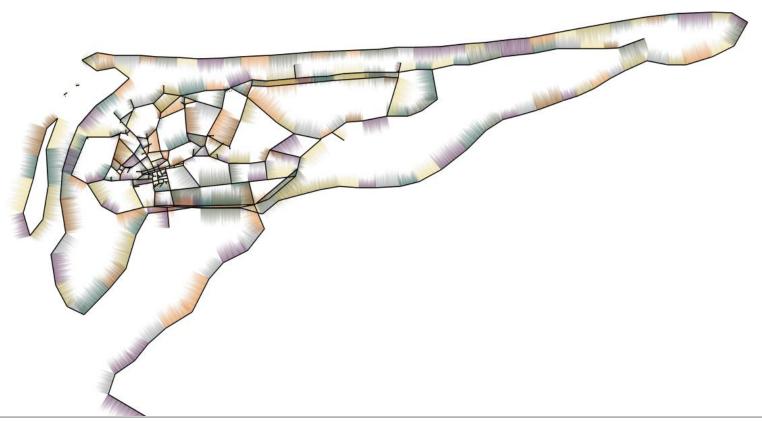


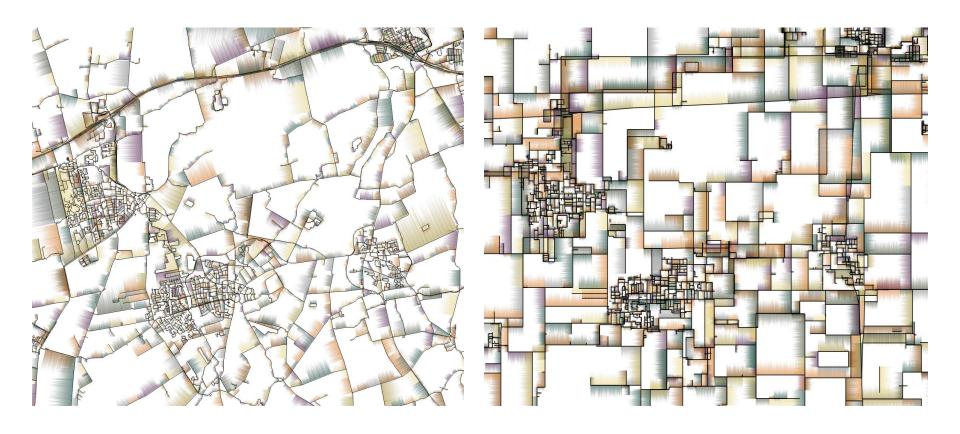


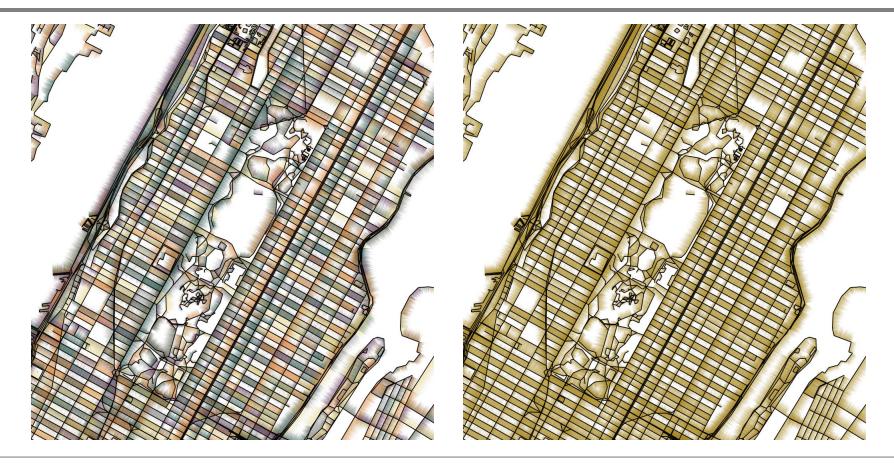
### How to use the different elements together

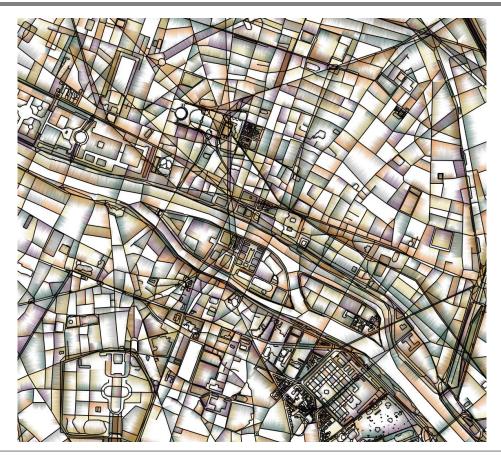


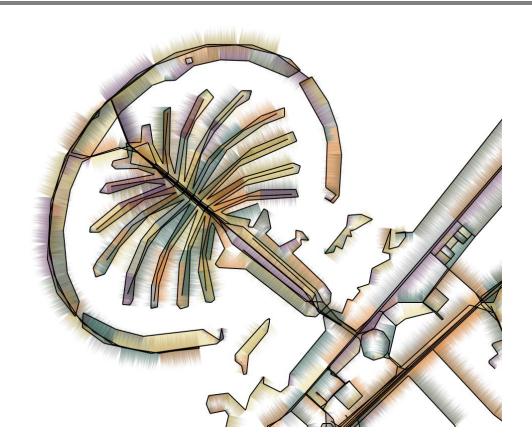
#### **Interactive Visual Abstraction: Demo**

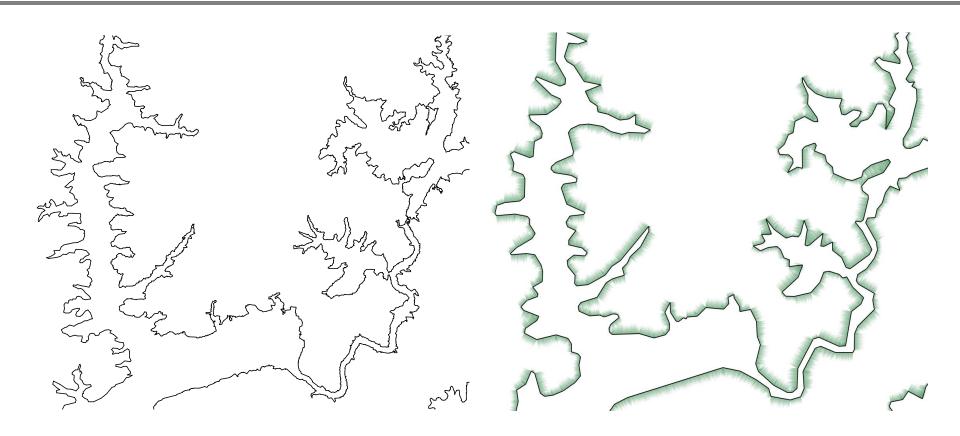












#### **Limitations and Further Thoughts**

- visual abstraction limited by data
- currently only line primitives; would like other shapes
- application of shading limited by data encoding
- practical limitation: size of map downloads (OSM API)
- practical limitation: only most detailed scale level available
- practical limitation: interactive control could be better; would like to go back and forth

#### But what does this all mean?

- does it have a practical use? as such probably not really
- do you get aesthetic results? in the eye of the beholder
- is it fun? I believe so, started as a fun side project
- can I try it out? yes, go to: http://tobias.isenberg.cc/VideosAndDemos/Isenberg2013VAS
- can we learn something from it? I think so:
  - dedicated control of abstraction in expressive graphics
  - the many forms of abstraction and their capabilities/limitations
- is it useful? maybe ...

#### Future Work = Past Work: Bristle Maps



Kim et al. Bristle Maps: A Multivariate Abstraction Technique for Geovisualization. IEEE TVCG, 19(9):1438–1454, 2013

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Kim et al. Bristle Maps: A Multivariate Abstraction Technique for Geovisualization. IEEE TVCG, 19(9):1438–1454, 2013

#### **Thanks**

- publication: Cartographic Journal
  50(1):8–18, February 2013.
  doi> 10.1179/1743277412Y.0000000007
- url & tool: http://tobias.isenberg.cc/ VideosAndDemos/Isenberg2013VAS



I'd love to hear about & see your results

