



DSCI 554 LECTURE 6

PRE-ATTENTIVE FEATURES, INTERACTIVE VISUALIZATIONS WITH D3

Dr. Luciano Nocera

USC Viterbi

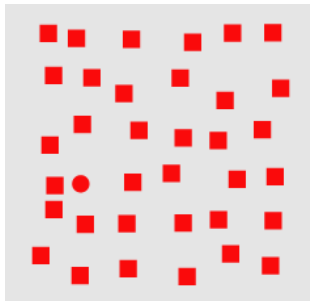
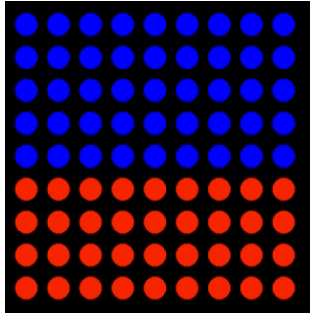
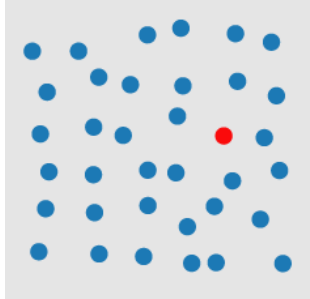
School of Engineering
Integrated Media Systems Center



OUTLINE

- Pre-attentive features
- Continuity of visual queries
- Interactive visualizations with D3

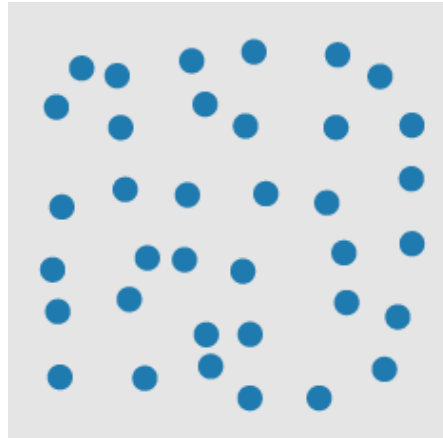
PREATTENTIVE PROCESSING [HEALEY 1996]



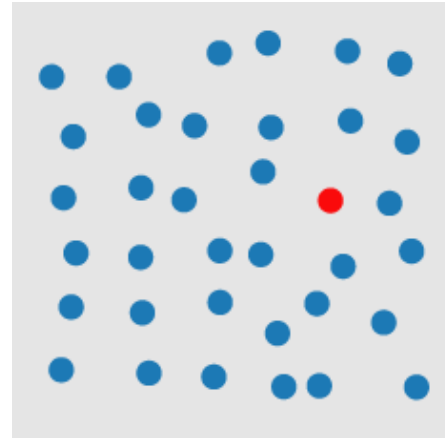
- Universal property
- Uses information from a single glimpse
- $< 200ms$ on large multi-element displays
- Does not involve attention
- Independent of:
 - Practice
 - Familiarity with the features
 - Number of distractors
- Can help present information at a glance

TARGETS, DISTRACTORS & VISUAL FEATURES



● target ● distractor



target absent



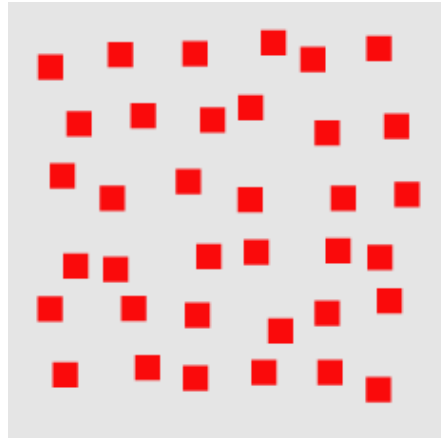
target present

Visual features	target	distractor
shape =	●	●
color ≠		

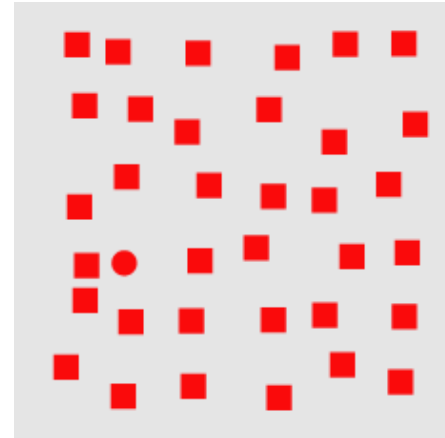


FEATURE INTERFERENCE

● target ■ distractor



target absent



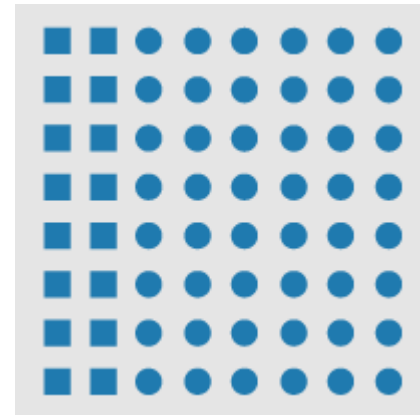
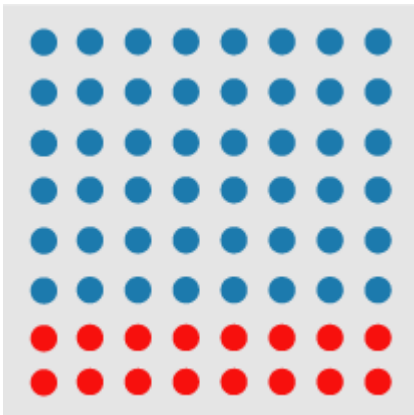
target present

Visual features	target	distractor
shape \neq	●	■
color =	■	

Feature interference occurs when a visual feature that is shared between the target and distractors interferes with the preattentive process

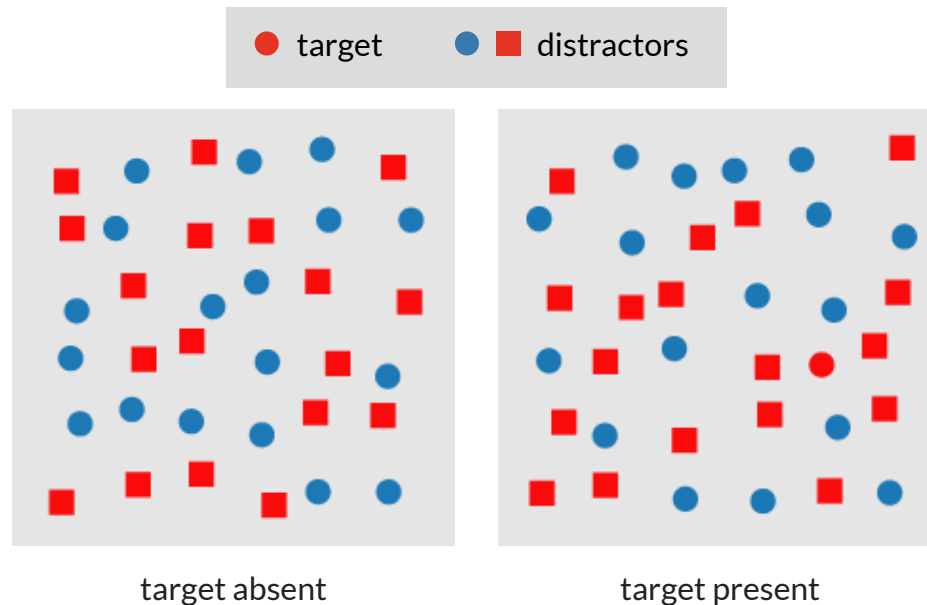
FEATURE HIERARCHY

Some visual features interfere more than others, e.g.,
“color” is easier to detect than “shape”



CONJUNCTION SEARCH

A conjunction search is a visual search involving a combination of non-unique features. In general a conjunction search cannot be done preattentively.



PREATTENTIVE TASKS

Target detection

Detect the presence or absence of a target element with a unique visual feature within a field of distractor elements

Boundary detection

Detect a texture boundary between two groups of elements, where all of the elements in each group have a common visual property

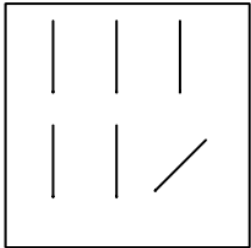
Region tracking

Track one or more elements with a unique visual feature as they move in time and space

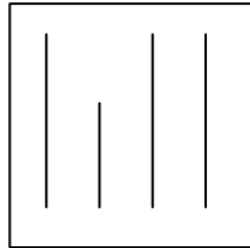
Counting & estimation

Count or estimate the number of elements with a unique visual feature

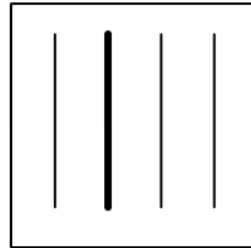
PREATTENTIVE FEATURES



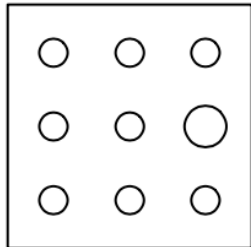
Orientation and collinearity



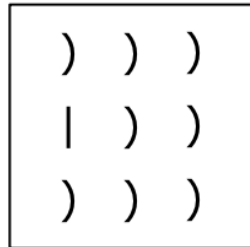
Length



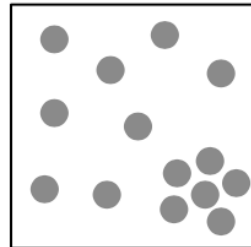
Width



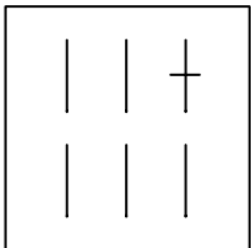
Size



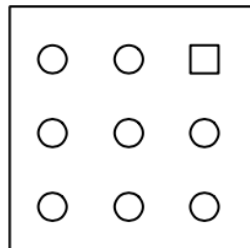
Curvature



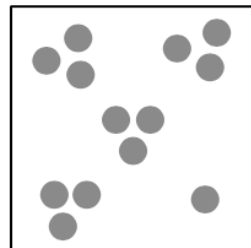
Spatial grouping



Added marks



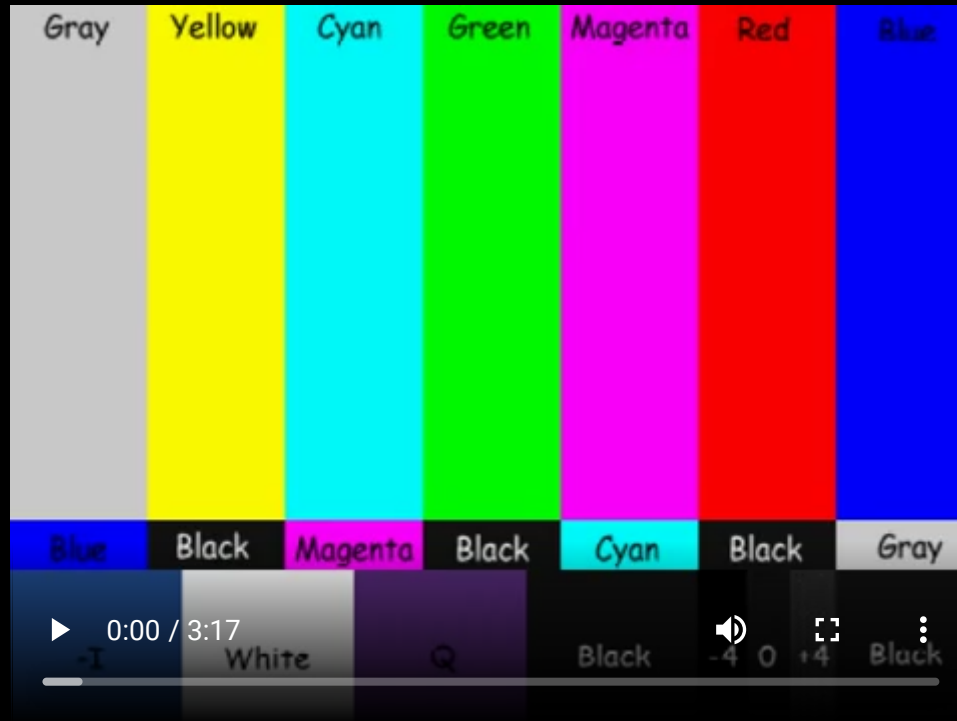
Shape



Numerosity

Visual features supporting preattentive processing:

- Color
- Orientation
- Size
- Motion
- Stereoscopic depth



Christopher G. Healey - Preattentive features and tasks

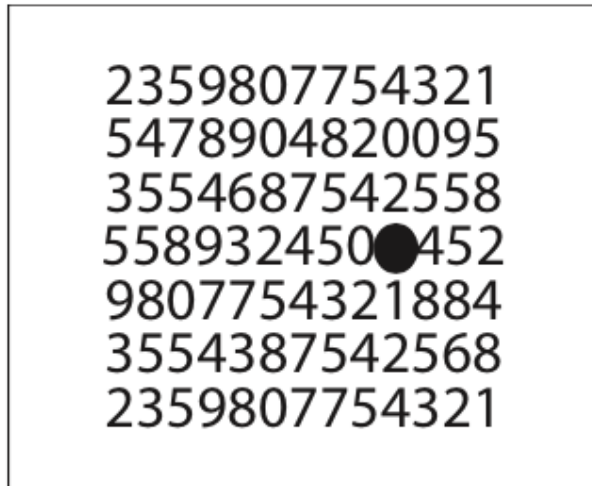
POP-OUT EFFECT

Pre-attentive tasks applied to visual queries

6
difficult



easy



difficult



easy



Ware, Colin. Visual thinking: For design. Morgan Kaufmann, 2010.

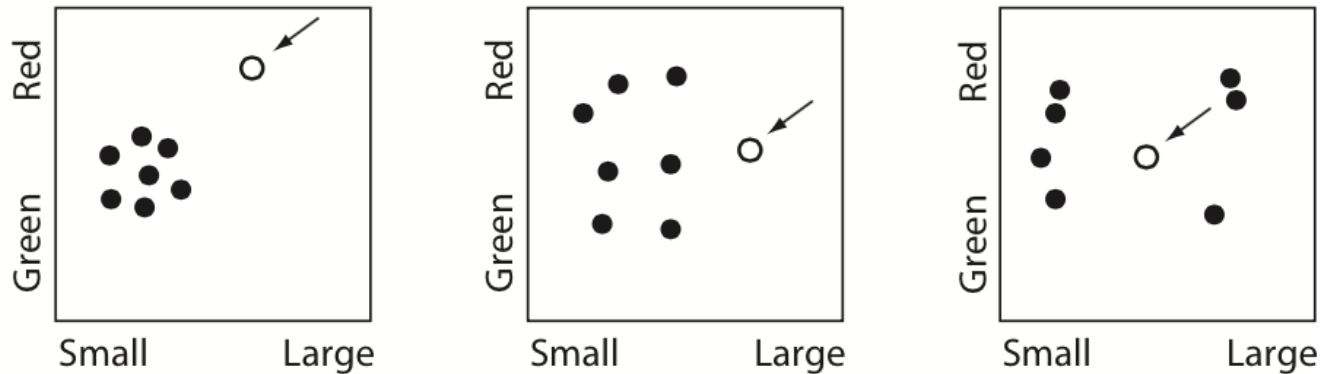
MAXIMIZING THE POP-OUT EFFECT

IN FEATURE SPACE, THE GREATER THE DISTANCE BETWEEN TARGET AND DISTRACTORS THE GREATER THE POP-OUT EFFECT

Objects to be searched



Corresponding feature space diagrams



DISTINCTIVENESS IN FEATURE SPACE - WARE, COLIN. VISUAL THINKING: FOR DESIGN. MORGAN KAUFMANN, 2010.

OUTLINE

- Pre-attentive features
- Continuity of visual queries
- Interactive visualizations with D3

THE ATTENTION TEST

▶ 0:00 / 1:15



The new ŠKODA Fabia attention test: <https://youtu.be/qpPYdMs97eE>



INATTENTIONAL BLINDNESS

- Failure to detect an unexpected stimulus that is fully visible
- Can usually only focus on one thing at the time
- The brain has to prioritize what to focus on

INATTENTIONAL BLINDNESS

- Failure to detect an unexpected stimulus that is fully visible
- Can usually only focus on one thing at the time
- The brain has to prioritize what to focus on



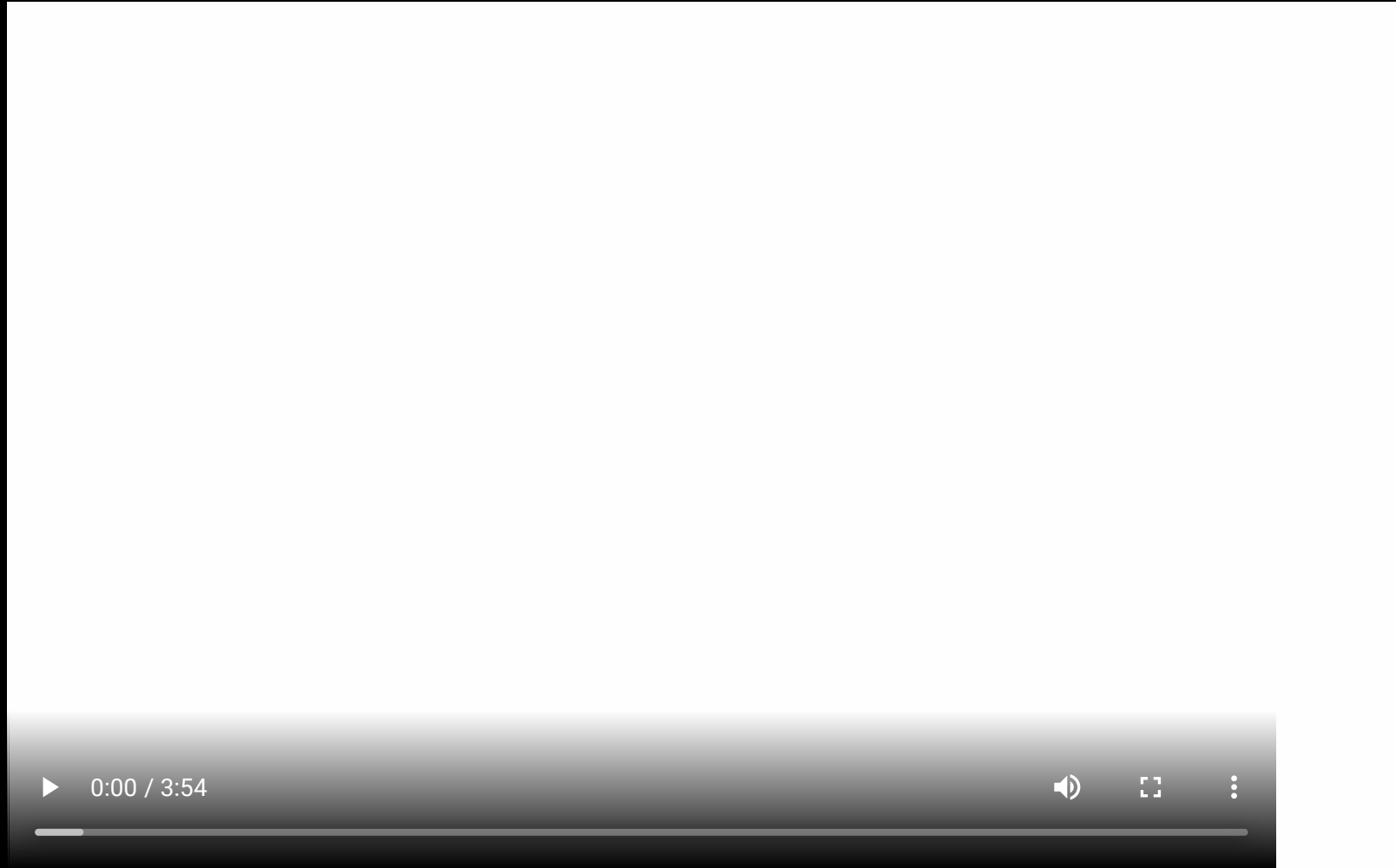
CHANGE BLINDNESS

- Not detecting a brief transitory event occurring in the visual field
- Happens when we blink or move our eyes quickly
- Involves very short term (iconic) memory

ANIMATED TRANSITIONS

- Animations between an initial and a final state
- Ensures **object constancy** (let's us track objects) during:
 - Filtering data
 - Reordering data
 - Resizing operations
 - Changing forms...

OBJECT CONSTANCY THROUGH ANIMATED TRANSITIONS



Animated Transitions in Statistical Data Graphics [Heer 2007]: <https://youtu.be/qpPYdMs97eE>

OUTLINE

- Pre-attentive features
- Continuity of visual queries
- Interactive visualizations with D3
 - Events and handling events
 - Updating visualizations
 - Updating the data
 - Data join selections
 - Updating scales and axes
 - Animated transitions

JAVASCRIPT event

Resource Events (e.g., load)

Focus Events (e.g., focus)

Form Events (submit)

View Events (e.g., resize)

Keyboard Events (e.g., keypress)

Mouse Events (e.g., click)

Drag & Drop Events

Media Events (e.g., play)

SVG events (SVGResize)

Document events

Popup events

Touch events

Network Events

Websocket Events

Session History Events

CSS Animation Events (animationstart)

Printing Events

Clipboard Events

Text Composition Events

CSS events

Script events

Window events

DOM mutation events

...

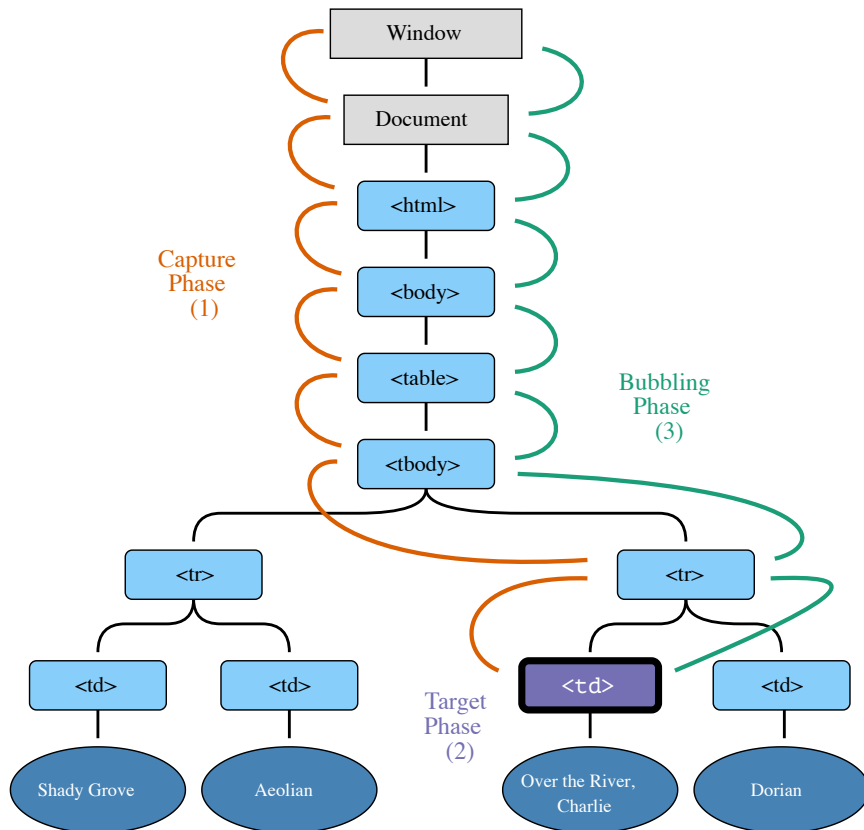
(most used in visualizations)

EVENT HANDLING

Once emitted, events are propagated in the DOM tree and processed by elements through event listeners

Event listener:

- Function attached to elements used to handle specific events
- The handler is called according to a specific propagation phase

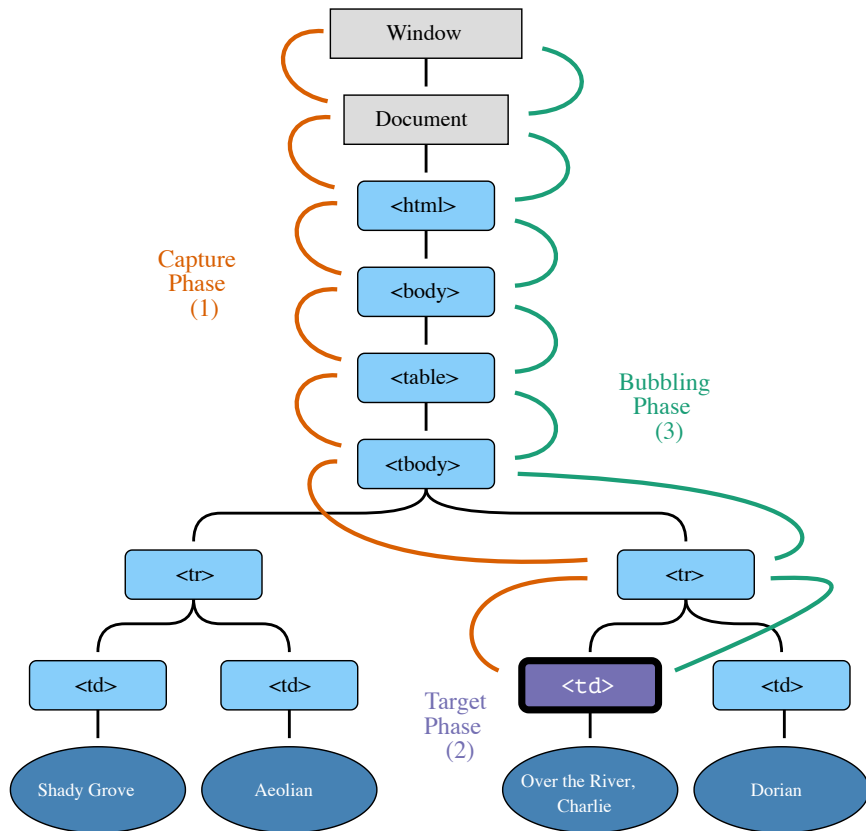


EVENT PROPAGATION PHASES

Phases:

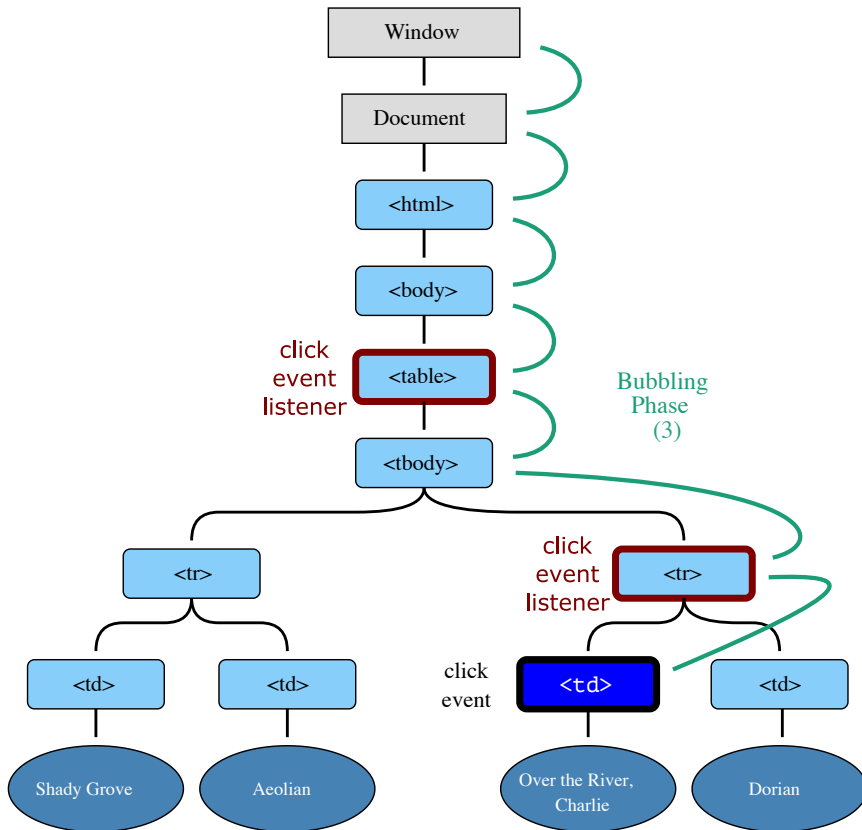
1. ↓ Capture phase: rarely used in code
2. → Target phase: element that originated the event (i.e., `event.target`)
3. ↑ Bubbling phase: default used in code

- Bubbling phase is the default phase
- Multiple listeners can be specified
- Phases are useful to respond to events when animating hierarchical data



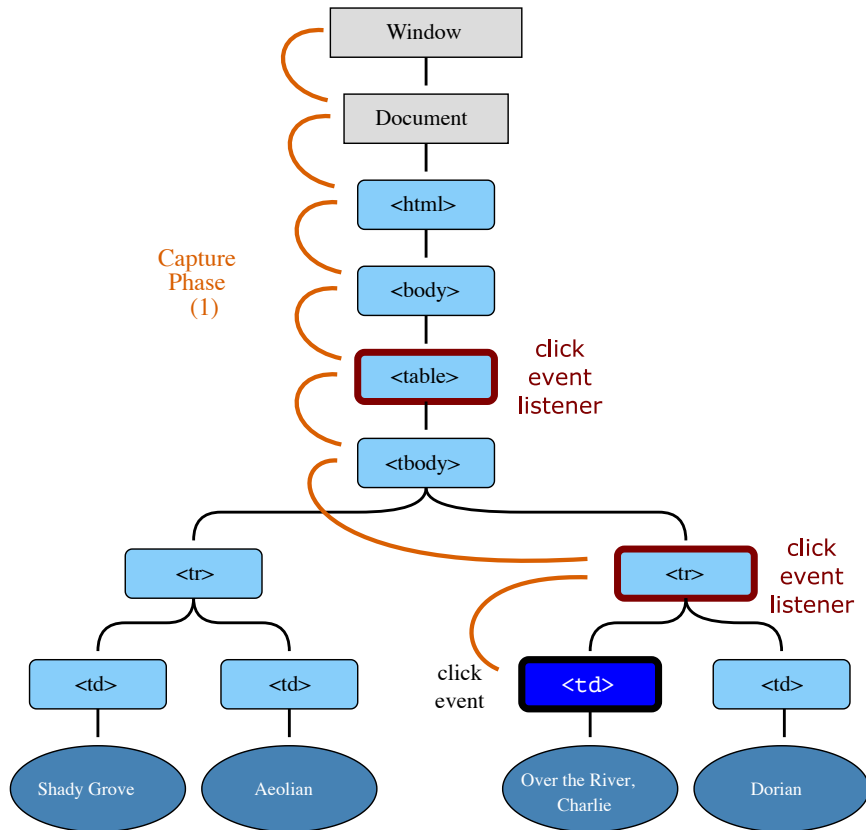
EXAMPLE USING BUBBLING

- The listener attached to the `<tr>` is called first
- The listener attached to the `<table>` is called last

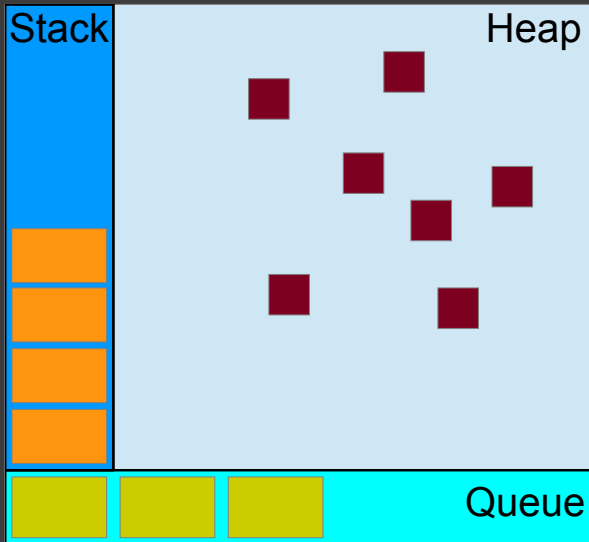


EXAMPLE USING CAPTURE

- The listener attached to the `<table>` is called first
- The listener attached to the `<tr>` is called last



JAVASCRIPT EVENT LOOP



Concurrency model and the event loop

- **Stack**: stack of frames for function calls to be executed.
- **Heap**: memory used for JS object.
- **Queue**: list of messages to be processed.

- Messages are added anytime an event occurs to the queue and there is an **event listener** attached to it.
- Messages on the queue are handled in turn starting with the oldest one by:
 1. Removing the message from the queue
 2. Calling the message function passing the message as parameter
- Called functions are added as a new stack frame.
- Functions are processed until the stack is empty, then the event loop will process the next message in the queue.

DOM level 0 inline (one event handler per element)

```
<div id="#d0" onclick="document.getElementById('#d0').style.color = 'red'; return false;">
  DOM level 0 inline (one event handler per element)
</div>
```

DOM level 0 traditional (one event handler per element)

```
var makeGreen = function () {
  document.getElementById('#div01').style.color = 'green' };

document.getElementById('#div01').onclick = makeGreen; //assign an event handler
//document.getElementById('#div01').onclick = null; //remove event handler
```

DOM level 2 (multiple event handlers per element)

```
var makeBlue = function () {
  document.getElementById('#d2').style.color = 'blue' };

var makeOrange = function () {
  document.getElementById('#d2').style.color = 'orange' };

var div = document.getElementById('#d2');
//target.addEventListener(type, listener[, useCapture]);
div.addEventListener("click", makeBlue, true); //useCapture=true, capture phase
div.addEventListener("click", makeOrange); //useCapture=false default, use bubbling phase

//target.removeEventListener(type, listener[, useCapture]);
//div.removeEventListener("click", makeOrange, false); //remove handler
```

HANDLING EVENTS WITH **CSS HOVER PSEUDO-CLASS**

A CSS pseudo-class is a keyword added to a selector that specifies a special state of the selected element(s).

```
blockquote:hover {  
  background-color: orangered;  
  color: white;  
}
```

HANDLING EVENTS WITH D3

```
//selection.on(typenames[, listener[, capture]]);
//Sets DOM level 2 event listeners
//typenames: event type string
//listener: call-back
//capture: useCapture flag

var flag = false;
d3.select("#b0")
  .on("click", function(event) {
    console.log(event); //event object
    if (event.metaKey) { //check if event has meta key
      d3.select("#b1") //select and modify d01
        .text('b1: b0 event')
        .style("background-color", function() {
          flag = !flag;
          return flag ? "red" : "lightseagreen";
        });
    }
  })

d3.select("#b1")
  .on("mouseout click", function() { //multiple typenames allowed separated with spaces
    d3.select(this) //this == element for this event listener
      .text('b1: b1 event')
      .style("background-color", function() {
        flag = !flag;
        return flag ? "orange" : "lightseagreen";
      });
  })
})
```

b0 (⌘ click)

b1

HANDLING EVENTS IN D3 DATA JOIN



```
var data = [15, 70, 30, 20];
var svg = d3.select('#c00');
svg.append('text')
  .attr('id', 'v00')
  .attr('x', '20')
  .attr('y', '20')
  .style('font-size', '18px');

svg.selectAll('rect')
  .data(data)
  .enter()
  .append('rect')
  .attr('x', function (d, i) { return i * 35; })
  .attr('y', function (d) { return 80 - d; })
  .attr('width', function (d) { return 30; })
  .attr('height', function (d) { return d; })
  .attr('fill', function (d) { return 'blue'; })
  .on("mouseover", function (event, d) {
    d3.select(this).style('fill', 'orangered');
    console.log(event)
    d3.select('#v00').text('event=' + event + ' d=' + d);
  })
  .on("mouseout", function (event, d) {
    d3.select(this).style('fill', 'blue');
    d3.select('#v00').text('');
  });
```

OUTLINE

- Pre-attentive features
- Continuity of visual queries
- Interactive visualizations with D3
 - Events and handling events
 - Updating visualizations
 - Updating the data
 - Data join selections
 - Updating scales and axes
 - Animated transitions

UPDATING THE DATA

JAVASCRIPT ARRAY METHODS

- `array.map` returns array where a function is called on every element
- `array.sort` sorts in place the elements of the array.
- `array.slice` shallow copy of a portion of an array into a new array object
- `array.shift` remove the first element from the array
- `array.splice` changes array by removing existing and/or adding new elements

D3-ARRAY METHODS

- `d3.min` compute the minimum value in an array
- `d3.max` compute the maximum value in an array
- `d3.ascending` comparator function to use with `array.sort`
- `d3.descending` comparator function to use with `array.sort`

OUTLINE

- Pre-attentive features
- Continuity of visual queries
- Interactive visualizations with D3
 - Events and handling events
 - Updating visualizations
 - Updating the data
 - Data join selections
 - Updating scales and axes
 - Animated transitions

DATA JOIN WITH ENTER SELECTION



```
//We start with some data...
var data = [{item: 'A', value: 3},
            {item: 'B', value: 1},
            {item: 'C', value: 2}];

enter = svg.selectAll("rect")
  .data(data)
  .enter();

enter.append("rect")
  .attr("x", 50)
  .attr("y", function(d, i) { return i * 25; })
  .attr("width", function(d) { return d.value * 100; })
  .attr("height", 20)

enter.append("text")
  .attr('font-size', '18px')
  .attr('text-anchor', 'middle')
  .attr('alignment-baseline', 'middle')
  .attr("x", 20)
  .attr("y", function(d, i) { return 10 + i * 25; })
  .text((d) => { return d.item; });
```

```
//... and at some point we change the data
data = [{item: 'A', value: 1}, //update
        {item: 'B', value: 3}, //update
        //{item: 'C', value: 2}, //remove
        {item: 'D', value: 3}]; //add

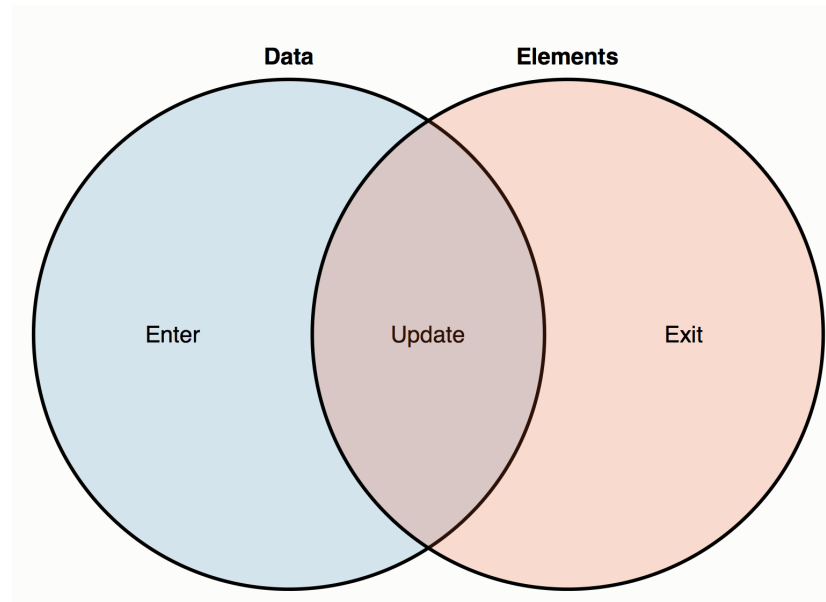
enter = svg.selectAll("rect") //data join
  .data(data)
  .enter();

enter.append("rect") //enter selection is empty!
  .attr("x", 50)
  .attr("y", function(d, i) { return i * 25; })
  .attr("width", function(d) { return d.value * 100; })
  .attr("height", 20)

enter.append("text") //enter selection is empty!
  .attr('font-size', '18px')
  .attr('text-anchor', 'middle')
  .attr('alignment-baseline', 'middle')
  .attr("x", 20)
  .attr("y", function(d, i) { return 10 + i * 25; })
  .text((d) => { return d.item; });
```

NEED DATA JOIN ON UPDATE AND EXIT SELECTIONS!

DATA JOIN SELECTIONS



Enter : data array size $>$ selection size

Update : data array size = selection size

Exit : data array size $<$ selection size

THE GENERAL UPDATE PATTERN

1. DATA "JOIN": `selection.data(...)`

Join new data with old elements, if any.

Returns a reference to the *"update"* selection.

2. UPDATE

Update old elements as needed.

3. ENTER: `selection.enter()`

Create new elements as needed.

4. ENTER + UPDATE: `selection.merge(...)`

Merge the entered elements with the update selection and apply operations to both.

5. EXIT: `selection.exit()`

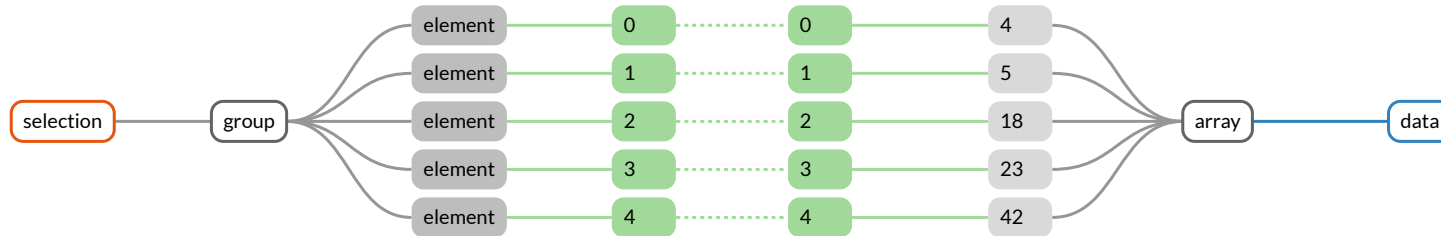
Remove old elements as needed.

See Mike Bostok's [General Update Pattern I](#), [General Update Pattern II](#) and [General Update Pattern III](#)

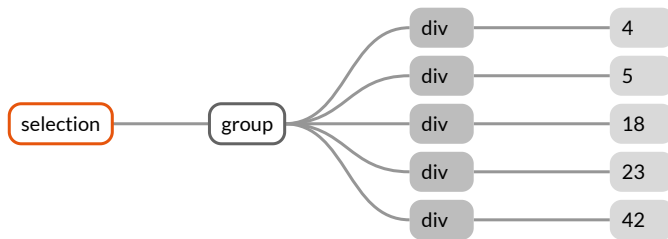


selection.data(dataset)

```
var dataset = [4, 5, 18, 23, 42];
```



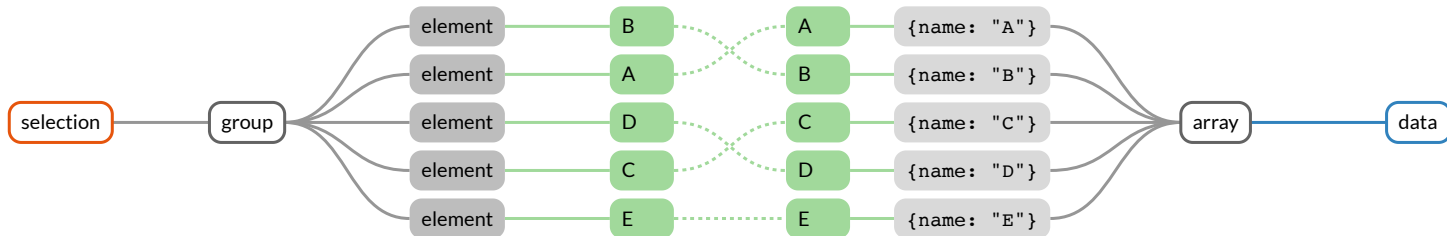
```
//maps data according to data and selection order, the first datum  
//in values is assigned to the first element in the selection and so on  
d3.selectAll('div').data(dataset);
```



Mike Bostok's How Selections Work

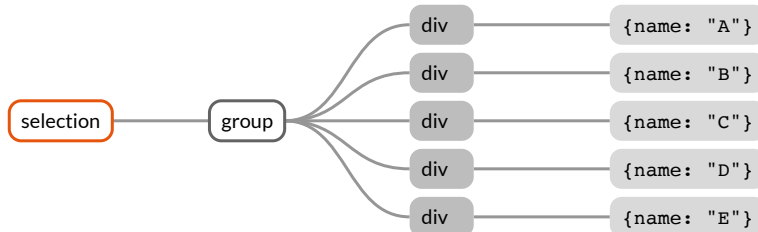
selection.data(dataset, key)

```
var dataset = [{name: "A", frequency: .08167},  
  {name: "B", frequency: .01492},  
  {name: "C", frequency: .02780},  
  {name: "D", frequency: .04253},  
  {name: "E", frequency: .12702}];
```



```
//updates can occur anywhere in the data array, depending  
//on the overlap between the old and new values
```

```
function name(d) { return d.name; } //returns the key for a datum  
d3.selectAll("div").data(dataset, name);
```



OUTLINE

- Pre-attentive features
- Continuity of visual queries
- Interactive visualizations with D3
 - Events and handling events
 - Updating visualizations
 - Updating the data
 - Data join selections
 - Updating scales and axes
 - Animated transitions

UPDATING SCALES AND AXES

1. Adjust the scale properties:

```
var dataset = [{name: "A", frequency: .08167},
  {name: "B", frequency: .01492},
  {name: "C", frequency: .02780},
  {name: "D", frequency: .04253},
  {name: "E", frequency: .12702}];

y.domain([d3.min(dataset, function (d) { return d.frequency; }),
  d3.max(dataset, function (d) { return d.frequency; })])
  .range([0, 600]);

x.domain(dataset.map((d) => { return d.name; })) //ordinal scale
  .range([0, width]);
```

2. Redraw the axes:

```
svg.select('.axis')
  .call(xAxis);
```

OUTLINE

- Pre-attentive features
- Continuity of visual queries
- Interactive visualizations with D3
 - Events and handling events
 - Updating visualizations
 - Updating the data
 - Data join selections
 - Updating scales and axes
 - **Animated transitions**

TRANSITION BETWEEN STATES (HTML)

Done with CSS

Transition width and background-color

```
<div id="delay1">Transition width and background-color</div>

<style>
#delay1 { /* initial state */
  transition-property: width, background-color;
  transition-duration: 3000ms;
  transition-delay: 1000ms;
  transition-timing-function: ease-in-out;
  width: 480px;
  background-color: darkorange; }

#delay1:hover { /* final state */
  transition-property: width, background-color;
  transition-duration: 3000ms;
  transition-delay: 1000ms;
  transition-timing-function: ease-in-out;
  width: 960px;
  background-color: cornflowerblue; }
</style>
```

TRANSITION BETWEEN STATES (SVG)

Done with CSS: same as HTML with SVG attributes!

```
<svg style="background-color: mistyrose" width="100%" height="30px">
  <rect id="delay2" x="0" y="5" width="450" height="20"></rect>
</svg>
<style>
  #delay2 {
    transition-property: width, fill;
    transition-duration: 3000ms;
    transition-delay: 1000ms;
    transition-timing-function: ease-in-out;
    width: 480px;
    fill: darkorange; }

  #delay2:hover {
    transition-property: width, fill;
    transition-duration: 3000ms;
    transition-delay: 1000ms;
    transition-timing-function: ease-in-out;
    width: 960px;
    fill: cornflowerblue; }
</style>
```

EASING: CSS TIMING FUNCTIONS

Method of distorting time to control apparent motion in animation. The timing function defines an acceleration curve controlling the speed of the transition over its duration.

```
/* Keyword values */
transition-timing-function: ease;
transition-timing-function: ease-in;
transition-timing-function: ease-out;
transition-timing-function: ease-in-out;
transition-timing-function: linear;
transition-timing-function: step-start;
transition-timing-function: step-end;

/* Function values */
transition-timing-function: steps(4, end);
transition-timing-function: cubic-bezier(0.1, 0.7, 1.0, 0.1);
transition-timing-function: frames(10);

/* Multiple timing functions */
transition-timing-function: ease, step-start, cubic-bezier(0.1, 0.7, 1.0, 0.1);

/* Global values */
transition-timing-function: inherit;
transition-timing-function: initial;
transition-timing-function: unset;
```

See the [Easing Functions Cheat Sheet](#) and [MDN web docs transition-timing-function](#)



TRANSITIONS WITH D3

```
<svg id="svg20" style="background-color: mistyrose" width="100%" height="30px"></svg>
<script>
  d3.select("#svg20")
    .append("rect")
    .attr("y", 5)
    .attr("width", 480)
    .attr("height", 20)
    .attr("fill", "darkorange")
    .on("mouseover", function () {
      d3.select(this)
        .transition() //selection.transition() works on the selection
        .delay(1000) //transition delay in ms
        .duration(3000) //transition duration in ms
        .ease(d3.easeBounce) //specify easing function, defaults to d3.easeCubic
        .attr("width", 960) //final transition state
        .attr("fill", "cornflowerblue"); //final transition state
    })
    .on("mouseout", function () {
      d3.select(this)
        .transition()
        .delay(1000)
        .duration(3000)
        .attr("width", 480)
        .attr("fill", "darkorange");
    });

  //Only one transition at the time per element!

  //d3.transition() works also on data joins where
  //function(d, i) {...} can be used with .delay() and .duration()
  //to implement staggered transitions
</script>
```

