# A Study on Glyph-based Visualisation with Dense Visual Context

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The supplementary material contains the questionnaire asked to the participants of the focus group study.

## 1. Questionnaire

# 1.1. Static Dots vs. Animated Dots

**Q1a.** Do you find it is easier to see **all individual files** (identified by a search) when they are presented as static dots or animated dots?

files are easier to see		they are about the		files are easier to see
with static dots		same		with animated dots
1	2	3	4	5

**Q1b.** Do you find it is easier to see the **underlying directory** (**folder**) **structure** in a treemap when files are shown as static dots or animated dots?

folders are easier to see with static dots		they are about the same		folders are easier to see with animated dots
1	2.	3	4	5

Q1c. Do you find static dots or animated dots more irritating/annoying?

static dots are more		they are about the		animated dots are
irritating / annoying		same		more irritating / annoying
1	2	3	4	5

## 1.2. Static Dots vs. Static Glyphs

Q2a. How easy or difficult is for you to learn the visual encoding of file attributes in glyphs?

very d	ifficult		needs some effort, but		very easy
			generally it is OK		
	1	2	3	4	5

Q2b. How easy or difficult is for you to remember the visual encoding of file attributes in glyphs?

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very difficult		needs some effort, but generally it is OK		very easy
 1	2	3	4	5

**Q2c.** How willing are you to **learn and memorise** the visual encoding of file attributes in glyphs if your job requires you to carry out file search frequently (e.g. more than 20 times per day)?

I will not learn it even		if required, I am OK		I will learn it without
this is required				any persuasion
1	2	3	4	5

**Q2d.** In order for the glyphs to have advantages over static dots, how frequently do you feel that one will have to carry out file searches as part of one's job?

# glyphs are advantageous only if one does file search

glyphs are never	1-20 times a day	21-40 times a day	40 or more times a	glyphs are always
advantageous			day	advantageous
1	2	3	4	5

**Q2e.** Do you find it is easier to **see the underlying directory (folder) structure** in a treemap when files are shown as static dots or static glyphs?

folders are easier to		they are about the		folders are easier to
see with static dots		same		see with static glyphs
1	2	3	4	5

## 1.3. Static Glyph vs. Animated Glyphs

Q3a. Do you find it is easier to see all individual files (identified by a search) when they are presented as static glyphs or animated glyphs?

files are easier to see		they are about the	files are easier to see	
with static glyphs		same		with animated glyphs
1	2.	3	4	5

**Q3b.** Do you find it is easier to **see individual file attributes** (e.g., type, size, last modified date) when they are presented as static glyphs or animated glyphs?

attributes are easier		they are about the		attributes are easier
to see with static		same		to see with animated
glyphs				glyphs
1	2.	3	4	5

**Q3c.** Do you find it is easier to **see the underlying directory** (**folder**) **structure** in treemap when files are shown as static glyphs or animated glyphs?

folders are easier to see with static glyphs		they are about the same		folders are easier to see with animated
				glyphs
1	2	3	4	5

Q3d. Do you find static glyphs or animated glyphs more irritating / annoying?

static glyphs are more irritating / annoying		they are about the same		animated glyphs are more irritating /
				annoying
1	2	3	4	5

# 1.4. Animated Dots vs. Animated Glyphs

**Q4a.** Do you find it is easier to **see the underlying directory (folder) structure** in a treemap when files are shown as animated dots or animated glyphs?

folders are easier to		they are about the		folders are easier to
see with animated		same		see with animated
dots				glyphs
1	2	3	1	5

**Q4b.** Do you find animated dots or animated glyphs more **irritating / annoying**?

animated dots are more irritating /		they are about the same		animated glyphs are more irritating /
annoying				annoying
1	2	3	4	

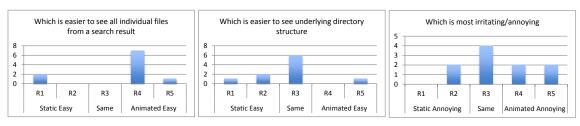
# 2. General Discussion

The general discussion session (about 20 minutes) will be recorded in order for the researchers to transcript your views more accurately. No written statement is required, but you are welcome use the space below to write down any additional comments and suggestions. In the general discussions, we are interested in your comments and suggestions about: (a) The design of glyphs, including but not limited to visual encoding for different attributes, overall glyph size, use of colours, etc.. (b) The timing of the animation for dots or glyphs. (c) If there is irritation or annoyance with animated dots or glyphs, how can it be alleviated? (d) Mechanisms for leaning and remembering glyph encoding. (e) Any other aspects that you think important.

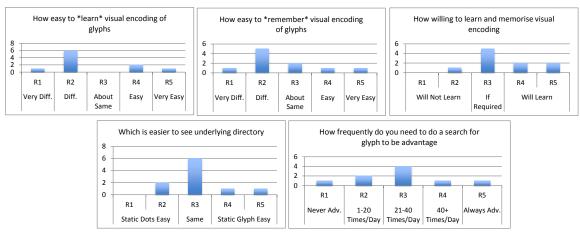
# 3. Results

The results of the focus group study is presented in figure 1.

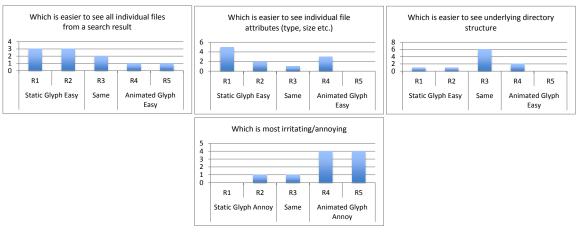
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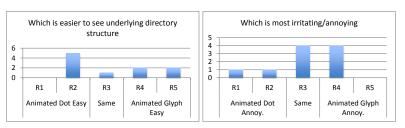
#### (a) Static Dots vs. Animated Dots



## (b) Static Dots vs. Static Glyphs



## (c) Static Glyph vs. Animated Glyphs



(d) Animated Dots vs. Animated Glyphs

Figure 1: Results of the qualitative evaluation of the system.