Designing Transparent Overlays

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The problem

- Visualizations for high-performance buildings
  - Operations
  - Management and planning
- Energy use
- Building occupancy patterns
- Weather
- Cost
- ......
- TIME
- Exploring use of overlays to compare intervals (data layers)
### The problem specifics

- A way to visualize events/periods to be overlaid on top of another (area) plot
- Need to be scalable, can communicate multiple overlapping events
- Components:
  - Start and end markers
  - Period
- Scalability and canvas size requirement, not obstructive to underlying data
- Assumption: use interaction like mouse over to help select/highlight

### Transparent washes

![Graph with banding effect]
Transparent washes (2)

Contrast effects

Spatial and contrast manipulations

"Ribbon" Triangular foot w/ same offset

Height offset
We clearly have more work to do

- We don’t understand all visual cues
- X-junctions are critical
- Can we discern layers and transparency without edges?