The Hermeneutic Circle of Data Visualization

Dario Rodighiero (EPFL) & Alberto Romele (UC Lille/UPorto)
Human-technology-world relations

Embodied relations = (human-technology) → world

Hermeneutic relations = human → (technology-world)

Alterity relations = human → technology-(world)

Background relations = technology → (human-world)

Cyborg relations = (human/technology) → world

Immersion relations = human ↔ technology/world

Composite relations = human → (technology → world)

Hermeneutic relations (Wiltse’s version) = human → ([trace|substrate] → world)

Writing relations = human ← algorithm → text → world

Next relation = ?
a) Iterativity

b) Collectivity
Case Study - The Affinity Map
Case Study - The Affinity Map
Designer and Reader Iterativity

1. Iterativity of the designer (design process)
2. Iterativity of the reader (personal improvement)
3. Double iterativity of reader and designer
The Double Hermeneutic Circle
Potential Formulas for Iterativity

Human ∞ (technology-world)

Human ◯ (technology-world)

Human ₩ (technology-world)

Human ↠ (technology-world) ←
a) Iterativity

b) Collectivity
Case Study - The Affinity Map
Collectivization Diagram
Two possible conclusions
First Conclusion

Material encounter between

- *Postphenomenology* (analysis “in-depth”)
- *Actor-Network Theory* (analysis “in-width”)
- *Hermeneutics* (iterativity)
Second Conclusion

Governance or governmentality?
Thanks

https://dariorodighiero.com/
https://www.albertoromele.com/
http://ifilosofia.up.pt/projects/data-wisdom