CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method to sort graphical objects, the method comprising:

receiving input effective to generate graphical objects at original locations in a collaboration space;

receiving input effective to select an attribute to sort the graphical objects in the collaboration space;

identifying unique attribute values of the attribute across the graphical objects;

generating multiple containers to sort the graphical objects into, including one container for each of the unique attribute values;

receiving input effective to make shadow copies of the graphical objects in the collaboration space, wherein the collaboration space is divided into a first pre-defined area or region and a second pre-defined area or region, wherein a first set of the graphical objects is positioned within the first pre-defined area or region and a second set of the graphical objects is positioned within the second pre-defined area or region;

displaying a popup menu including a first button effective to cause each of the graphical objects in the collaboration space to be sorted and a second button effective to cause only a subset of the shadow copies of the graphical objects corresponding to the first set of the graphical objects to be sorted within the containers;

receiving input effective to select the second button; and

in response to the input effective to select the second button:

sorting, from the subset of the shadow copies of the graphical objects corresponding to the first set of the graphical object, all the shadow copies of the graphical objects that include any given one of the unique attribute values for the attribute into the corresponding container without sorting a subset of the shadow copies of the graphical objects corresponding to the second set of the graphical objects into the corresponding container; and

leaving originals of the graphical objects at the original locations in the collaboration space.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the attribute includes author, shape, color, reaction, reactor, vote, tag, or keyword.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving input effective to select and tag one of the graphical objects with a tag.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving input effective to tag multiple graphical objects in the collaboration space in sequence via keyboard input only.

5. A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium having computer-executable instructions stored thereon that are executable by a processor device to perform or control performance of the method of claim 1.

6. A method to sort graphical objects, the method comprising:

receiving input effective to generate graphical objects at original locations in a collaboration space;

receiving input effective to select an attribute to sort the graphical objects in a collaboration space;

identifying unique attribute values of the attribute across the graphical objects;

generating multiple containers to sort the graphical objects into, including one container for each of the unique attribute values;

receiving input effective to make duplicates of the graphical objects in the collaboration space, wherein the collaboration space is divided into a first pre-defined area or region and a second pre-defined area or region, wherein a first set of the graphical objects is positioned within the first pre-defined area or region and a second set of the graphical objects is positioned within the second pre-defined area or region;

displaying a popup menu including a first button effective to cause each of the graphical objects in the collaboration space to be sorted and a second button effective to cause only a subset of the duplicates of the graphical objects corresponding to the first set of the graphical objects to be sorted within the containers;

receiving input effective to select the second button; and

in response to the input effective to select the second button:

sorting, from the subset of the duplicates of the graphical objects corresponding to the first set of the graphical objects, all the duplicates of the graphical objects that include any given one of the unique attribute values for the attribute into the corresponding container without sorting a subset of the duplicates of the graphical objects corresponding to the second set of the graphical objects into the corresponding container; and

leaving originals of the graphical objects at the original locations in the collaboration space.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising:

receiving input effective to make an alteration to one or more of the duplicates of the graphical objects; and

altering the one or more duplicates of the graphical objects without affecting the originals of the graphical objects in the collaboration space.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein:

the unique attribute values of the attribute include a first attribute value and a second attribute value;

generating the multiple containers includes generating a first container for the first attribute value and a second container for the second attribute value; and

sorting, from the subset of the duplicates of the graphical objects corresponding to the first set of graphical objects includes sorting the duplicates of the graphical objects corresponding to the first set of graphical objects that have the first attribute value for the attribute into the first container and sorting the duplicates of the graphical objects corresponding to the first set of graphical objects that have the second attribute value for the attribute into the second container.

9. The method of claim 6, wherein the attribute includes author, shape, color, reaction, reactor, vote, tag, or keyword.

10. The method of claim 6 further comprising sorting each of the graphical objects in the collaboration space prior to sorting, from the subset of the duplicates of the graphical objects corresponding to the first set of the graphical objects, all the duplicates of the graphical objects

that include any given one of the unique attribute values for the attribute into the corresponding container.

11. A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium having computer-executable instructions stored thereon that are executable by a processor device to perform or control performance of the method of claim 6.