Hierarchies and Trees 2 (Space-filling)

CS 7450 - Information Visualization
November 9, 2016
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Learning Objectives

- Understand original treemap algorithm
- Appreciate different applications of treemaps
  - Stocks, tennis, software, elections, ...
- Explain shortcomings of original algorithm and why squarified treemaps often preferred
- Explain shortcomings of squarified algorithms
- Describe SunBurst layout
- Compare and contrast SunBurst to Treemap (+/-)
- Describe circle-packing approach
Hierarchies

- Definition
  - Data repository in which cases are related to subcases
  - Can be thought of as imposing an ordering in which cases are parents or ancestors of other cases

Last Time: Node-Link Reps

- Traditional
- ConeTree
- SpaceTree

- Hyperbolic tree
- Lamping & Rao
- Card, Mackinlay & Robertson
- Plaisant, Grosjean & Bederson
Treemap Example

Old one I built for our Sun workstations

Quiz
Applications

- Can use Treemap idea for a variety of domains
  - File/directory structures
  - Basketball statistics
  - Software diagrams
  - Tennis matches

Software Visualization App

- SeeSys: Software Metrics Visualizing System
- Uses treemap-like visualization to present different software metrics
- Displays:
  - Size
  - Recent development
  - High fix-on-fix rates
  - History and growth

Baker and Eick
JVLC '95
Sample View 1

Subsystems in a software system. Each rectangle represents the non-comment source code in a subsystem. Area means size.

Sample View 2

Bug rates by subsystem and directory.

- Bars represent individual directories in the subsystems.
- Added functionality
- Bug fixes
- Represents new code in this release.
Tennis Viewing Application

- Analyze, review and browse a tennis match
- Space-filling/treemap-like hierarchy representation for a competition tree
- Shows match, sets, games, points
- Uses lenses to show shot patterns
- Red/green to encode two players
- Composite colors on top of each other

Jin and Banks
IEEE CG&AJ ’97

Visualization Make-up

Match

Set

Games

Composite
Simulated Match Results

Match view

Bond won

Set results

Lens showing ball movement on individual points

Game results

Treemap?

Very nice infographic

http://blog.wired.com/wiredscience/2008/06/awesome-infogra.html
Treemap Affordances

- **Good**
  - Representation of two attributes beyond node-link: color and area

- **Not as good**
  - Representing structure
    - What happens if it’s a perfectly balanced tree of items all the same size?
    - Also can get long-thin aspect ratios
    - Borders help on smaller trees, but take up too much area on large, deep ones

Aspect ratios

These kinds of rectangles are visually unappealing

Which has bigger area?
Variation

• Can rectangles be made more square?
  …..think about it……

• In general, a very hard problem!

Variation: “Cluster” Treemap

• SmartMoney.com Map of the Market
  – Illustrates stock movements
  – “Compromises” treemap algorithm to avoid bad aspect ratios
  – Basic algorithm (divide and conquer) with some hand tweaking
  – Takes advantage of shallow hierarchy
  – www.smartmoney.com/marketmap
A good day :^)
More recent times

Sept. 29, 2008

Newer One (also now defunct)

I don’t like it as much

(Where’s the nice control panel?)
A variant

https://finviz.com/map.ashx

SmartMoney Review

- Tufte-esque micro/macro view
- Dynamic user interface operations add to impact
- One of best applications of an InfoVis techniques that I’ve seen
Other Treemap Variations

- Squarified treemap
  - Bruls, Huizing, van Wijk, EuroGraphics ’00
  - Alternate approach, similar results

Square Algorithm Problems

- Small changes in data values can cause dramatic changes in layout
- Order of items in a group may be important
New Square Algorithms

• Pivot-by-size and pivot-by-middle

Partition area into 4 regions
Pick pivot element Rp
  Size: Largest element
  Middle: Middle element
R₁ - elements earlier in list than pivot
R₂ - elements in list before R₃ and also that makes Rp have aspect ratio closest to 1

Shneiderman & Wattenberg
InfoVis '01

New Variation

• Strip treemap

Use strips to place items
Put new rectangle into strip
If it makes average aspect ratio of all rectangles in strip go down, keep it there
If it makes aspect ratio go up, put it back and move to next strip

Bederson, Shneiderman & Wattenberg
ACM Trans on Graphics '02
Compare results

- slice and dice
- squarified
- strip
- pivot
techniques by
  - aspect ratio
    width to height
  - structural change
    metric designed to
    measure movements
    of items
  - readability
    metric based on changes
    in direction of eye gaze as
    items scanned
Showing Structure

- Regular borderless treemap makes it challenging to discern structure of hierarchy, particularly large ones
  - Supplement Treemap view
  - Change rectangles to other forms

Variation: Cushion Treemap

Add shading and texture to help convey structure of hierarchy

Van Wijk & van de Wetering
InfoVis '99
SequoiaView

File visualizer built using cushion treemap notion

Demo

Internet News Groups

NetScan

Fiore & Smith
Microsoft
2012 Presidential Election

http://www.treemap.com/datasets/uselections/?goback=.gde_80552_member_184123140  

Scaleing Up

Fig. 5. Hierarchical Network Map displaying all 19,731 autonomous systems (one can still zoom in twice for details) on a large display wall (5.20m x 2.15m, 8.0 Megapixels, powered by eight projectors). The query interface on the top left shows the traffic distribution over time and specifies the selected data, in this case the traffic entering the gateway of the University of Konstanz on well-known ports (0-1023) on 29 November 2005 using “transferred bytes” as measure with logarithmic color mapping. One recognizes a heavy traffic load from AS 3320 (red) of “Deutsche Telekom” as well as to neighboring autonomous systems in Germany. A port histogram reveals high activity on the Web ports 80 and 443. For security and privacy reasons, the data was aggregated and sanitized.

Mansmann & Vinnik  
TVCG ’06
Another Problem

- What if nodes with zero value (mapped to area) are very important?
  - Example: Stock or mutual fund portfolios: Funds you don’t currently hold have zero value in your portfolio, but you want to see them to potentially buy them

- Solutions?

FundExplorer

- Show mutual fund portfolios, including funds not currently held
  - Area maps to your relative investment in fund

- Want to help the user with portfolio diversification as well
  - If I add fund X, how does that overlap with my current fund holdings?
Solution

- Context Treemap – Treemap with small distortion
  - Give zero-valued items (all together) some constant proportion of screen area
  - Provide dynamic query capabilities to enhance exploration leading to portfolio diversification

FundExplorer

Video
InfoVis ‘03

Demo
Voronoi Treemaps

The World of Treemaps

Maryland HCIL website devoted to Treemaps
Limitation?

- What is primary shortcoming of treemap as a hierarchical data set representation?

- How could we do better?
  - Keep advantages without incurring disadvantages

Another Technique

- What if we used a radial rather than a rectangular space-filling technique?
  - We saw node-link trees with root in center and growing outward already...

- Make pie-tree with root in center and children growing outward
  - Radial angle now corresponds to a variables rather than area
Radial Space-Filling

Chuah  
InfoVis '98

Andrews & Heidegger  
InfoVis '98
**SunBurst**

- Root directory at center, each successive level drawn farther out from center
- Sweep angle of item corresponds to size
- Color maps to file type or age
- Interactive controls for moving deeper in hierarchy, changing the root, etc.
- Double-click on directory makes it new root
Empirical Study

- Compared SunBurst to Treemap (borderless) on a variety of file browsing tasks
  - SunBurst performed as well (or better) in task accuracy and time
  - Learning effect - Performance improved with Treemap on second session
  - Strong subjective preference (51-9) for SunBurst
  - Participants cited more explicit depiction of structure as an important reason

More to come on evaluation...

SunBurst Negative

- In large hierarchies, files at the periphery are usually tiny and very difficult to distinguish
Fix: Objectives

• Make small slices bigger
• Maintain full circular space-filling idea
• Allow detailed examination of small files within context of entire hierarchy
• Don’t alter ratios of sizes
• Avoid use of multiple windows or lots of scrollbars
• Provide an aesthetically pleasing interface in which it is easy to track changes in focus

3 Solutions

• Three visualization+navigation techniques developed to help remedy the shortcoming
  – Angular detail
  – Detail outside
  – Detail inside
Angular Detail

- Most “natural”
- Least space-efficient
- Most configurable by user

Detail Outside

- Exhibits non-distorted miniature of overview
- Somewhat visually disconcerting
- Focus is quite enlarged (large circumference and 360°)
- Relatively space efficient
Detail Inside

- Perhaps least intuitive and most distorting
- Items in overview are more distinct (larger circumference)
- Interior 360° for focus is often sufficient

See in Action

Video

Stasko & Zhang
InfoVis '00
Key Components

- Two ways to increase area for focus region: larger sweep angle and longer circumference
- Smooth transitions between overview and focus allow viewer to track changes
- Always display overview
- Allow focus selections from anywhere: normal display, focus or overview regions

Potential Follow-on Work

- Multiple foci
- Varying radii for different levels in hierarchy
- Use quick-keys to walk through neighboring files
- Smarter update when choosing new focus region from existing focus
- Fourth method: expand angle of focus in place by compressing all others
InterRing

Provides many of those follow-on capabilities and new operations

Yang, Ward & Rudensteiner
InfoVis '02

Even Sand Crabs Do It

Survey of Radial Techniques

More Alternatives

- Combine space-filling hierarchy presentations (really nesting) with zooming
- Children drawn inside of parent, but not totally encompassing
**Grokker**

Demo

Defunct

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**Zoomology**

CS 7450
Spring '03 project

InfoVis '03 Contest Winner Best Student entry
Alternate View

Video

Circle Packing  

Wang, Wang, Dai & Wang  
CHI '06
Hybrid Approaches

- Mix node-link and space-filling

EnCon

- Explicit combination of node-link and treemap-like techniques
- Partition space into hierarchical regions, then draw node link into that
Summary

- Node-link diagrams or space-filling techniques?
- It depends on the properties of the data
  - Node-link typically better at exposing structure of information structure
  - Space-filling good for focusing on one or two additional variables of cases
Great Visual Summary

Downloadable poster

http://www.informatik.uni-rostock.de/~hs162/treeposter/oldposter/poster.html

Zoomed In
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Reading

- Mereilles, chapter 1

Assignment Return

- HW 4
- Thoughts
**HW 6**

- Draw a graph
- 10-vertex abstract graph provided
- You draw a node-link representation
- Follow the directions!
  - Bring one copy
  - Name on back
- Due Monday 9th (no late submissions)
- Don’t spend a lot of time

**Upcoming**

- Graphs & Networks 1 and 2
References

- Spence and CMS texts
- All referred to papers