Digestable: Condensed Views of Tabular Data

Authors: David Borland, David Gotz

Summary:

Tables are a common, flexible, and effective method for displaying data, and are easily understood by a wide audience. However, their effectiveness suffers with larger datasets. We introduce Digestable, a visualization tool that generates condensed views of tabular data to enable the identification of high-level features, while supporting detailed exploration. Digestable uses a familiar tabular organization of the data, and the interface for producing condensed views is based on a standard interaction technique for tables: sorting. The visualizations produced by Digestable enable users to obtain a holistic view of the dataset and support the identification of features such as outliers and relationships between variables. We present the Digestable interface, including the methods used to produce condensed views and the visualizations and interactions supporting data exploration.

ACM Author Affiliations: David Borland: UNC-Chapel Hill; David Gotz: University of North Carolina