**CHAPTER 4**

**RESULT AND ANALYSIS**

This chapter provides the result and analysis of this project which includes the system flow, system development flow and system user interface (UI) explanation. This chapter will also focus on the process and the challenges faced during the development of the system.

**4.1 Introduction**

The main functionality for this system is to convert the election data into a hexagon tile grid map visualization. The election data were manually stored into a JSON file to make the retrieval of the data as smooth as possible.

The system is developed by using a combination of HTML, Cascading Stylesheet (CSS), Javascript (JS) and Data Driven Document (D3.js) together with D3.js hexagon plugin, hexbin. The HTML and CSS were used to setup the foundation of the User Interface (UI) of the system while JS and D3.js were used to implement the algorithm flow of the system such as creating and populating the hexagon based on the coordinate data stored in JSON file. The hexbin plugin of D3.js were used to help creating the hexagon tile for a better coordination. All of the output seen in the HTML document are in Simple Vector Graphic (SVG) format produced by D3.js.

**4.2 System Modelling**

This project consists of two types of files, namely the HTML file and the JSON data file. The HTML file contains the layout of the system UI and the logic behind the hexagon tile grid map. The logic uses D3.js, which is a Javascript library used in the same HTML file through the <script> tag. JSON files contains the data that are needed to process and populate into the system UI. The file structure is shown in Figure 4.2:

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| **Figure 4.1** File structure of the system |

Based on Figure 4.1, the files that are in the “json” folder contains the JSON data file that stores the data needed in order to run the system. The file, setting.json stores all the setting data such as the height and width of the SVG element, padding of the SVG element, radius of the hexagon, tooltip position and colors for the hexagon based on political party.

The parlimen-v1.html is the HTML document for the first version of the system. The parlimen-v2.html is the HTML document for the latest version of the system. This chapter explains about the latest version of the system which is parlimen-v2.html.

Files in “lib” folder contain all the library and dependencies that are used in the system. The file d3.min.js is the core library for D3.js, d3-hexbin.min.js contains the extended plugin of d3.js used to draw the hexagon and jquery-3.3.1.min.js contains the core library for jquery that will be used in the system.

The HTML files is the main file for the system that contains the HTML document for the UI and the Javascript for logical operation of the system. The structure of the file is shown in Figure 4.2:

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| **Figure 4.2** Main file coding structure, parlimen-v2.html |

Based on Figure 4.2, there are two main sections in the file. These sections are the HTML document section and Javascript section. The HTML document section contains the division that shows the data visualization. The Javascript section contains the import section and the script section. The import section is where all dependencies and libraries such as Jquery, D3.js and hexbin plugin are imported into the HTML document and the script section contains the logical part of the whole system.

**4.2.1 Single Hexagon Tile Setup**

This project uses the hexbin plugin for D3.js to draw the hexagon tile. Its ability to easily create a single hexagon tile is one of the reasons why this plugin was chosen in the first place. Hexbin plugin will produce a SVG path based on the developer’s configuration. The SVG path will eventually create a hexagon tile. The plugin generates the hexagon from the perspective of a circle. Therefore, the main parameter that the developer had to include is the radius of the hexagon tile and it is considered as the size of the hexagon. After that, the developer can plot the hexagon anywhere inside the SVG plain. Figure 4.4 shows the code for single hexagon tile setup:

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| **Figure 4.3** Coding for a single hexagon |

Figure 4.3 shows the code to draw a single hexagon using the D3.js library and hexbin plugin. In variable declaration section (from line 21 until 27), *coordinate* variable stores a list of coordinates (in this case, one coordinate) that are used to plot the hexagon. The variable *svg* stores the instance of the <svg> in the <div> element with id of “chart” and variable *hexbin* stores the instance of the hexbin plugin with the hexagon radius being declared as “10”. This means that the size of the hexagon is drawn based on the circle radius of 10 pixels. However, the size of hexagon is adjustable according to the development need. The developer can increase the radius to enlarge the size of hexagon and vice versa.

In the process section (from line 29 until 37), the real operation of the hexagon drawing takes place. Firstly, line 30 shows a D3.js selection function *.selectAll()*, which selects all of the occurrence of <g> tag in the HTML document during execution. On line 31 and 32, for each data stored in the *coordinate* variable, the system will create a new instance of <path> tag inside the <g> tag. On line 33 until 35, the attribute of the <path> tag are initialized by using the *.attr()* function.

Most of the function in D3.js requires 2 parameters, name of the attribute and its value. The <path> tag requires the developer to include one main attribute, the *d* attribute. The *d* is used to draw a path by using the <path> tag in SVG plane (inside <svg> tag). The value for *d* attribute is a set of strings that determine the command for the drawing of the <path>. The value included for *d* is the coordinate command that includes the coordinate to which the hexagon will be plotted (as stored in the *coordinate* variable) and the shape drawing command the hexbin plugin generates by using the *.hexagon()* function. On line 36 and 37, the styling of the hexagon are stated using the *.style()* function. In this case, the style attribute that are being initialized is *stroke,* the border line color of the hexagon and *fill,* the color inside the hexagon. Developer can choose any color for the *stroke* and the *fill* attribute. The function will produce the output as shown in Figure 4.4:

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| **Figure 4.4** Single hexagon output |

**4.2.2 JSON Data File Setup**

This project stores all related data in JSON file format. There are 3 main JSON data files namely “setting.json”, “parliament.json” and “election.json”. Data stored in “setting.json” are used to store main setting of the system. The “parliament.json” file stores parliament setting data by states. Lastly, the “election.json” file stores the election result for each parliaments. There are two format of JSON data file which is array format and Javascript object format. The array format are data are stored as array in JSON file and they are represented as data inside a pair of square brackets ([]). The Javascript object format are data stored as object in JSON file and their data can be accessed using the dot (.) operator which is the same as accessing object attribute for Javascript. The data stored in Javascript object format are located inside a pair of curly braces ({}).

Data in “setting.json” file includes settings for the SVG elements, settings for hexagon (which is the hecagon radius), the settings for tooltip functionality and lists of colours used in the system including political party colour and colours for each states. Most of these settings are used to create the system user interface. Figure 4.5 show the content of “setting.json” data file:

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| **Figure 4.5** Data in “setting.json” file |

Data in “parliament.json” file include settings for each hexagon that represents each parliaments by states. The data includes the state name list of parliaments in the state. For each of the parliaments, it consists of the parliament code, parliament name and the coordinate of the hexagon that represents the parliament. The parliament code represents the code that will be used as a key to find the election data related to the parliament in “election.json” file. The hexagon coordinate are divided into *x* and *y* coordinates and this coordinates will be used to populate hexagon that are related to the particular parliament. Figure 4.6 shows the content of “parliament.json” data file:

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| **Figure 4.6** Data in “parliament.json” |

Data in “election.json” consist of the actual election data that are related to each of the parliaments. The data includes a list of states that stores the state name and a list of election result for each of the parliaments in that states. Each result consists of the parliament code, total voters, total votes for each political parties and the information about the winning party and candidate. Figure 4.7 shows the content of “election.json” file:

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| **Figure 4.7** Data in “election.json” |

D3.js comes with the functionality to read JSON data from external file. D3.js reads JSON data from external files by *d3.json()* function. The code for reading the json files are shown in Figure 4.8:

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| **Figure 4.8** Code snippet for *d3.json()* function |

The function for *d3.json()* requires two parameters which is a string of path for JSON file to be read and callback function after the function executes. The callback function can include one parameter which represents the data captured in the JSON file. By using this function, all the data stored in the external JSON files are stored in the parameter of the callback function. For example, in Figure 4.8, on line 78, all of the data retrieved in the “parliament.json” file will be stored into *parliamentList* variable. Then, the data can be accessed by using the same Javascript method of accessing object or array data depending on the data stored in the JSON file. For example, on line 86 and 87, the data stored in “parliament.json” are accessed using the *parliamentList* variable. The accessing of the data need to be in Javascript array format because the data stored for a list of parliaments in “parliament.json” is in array form. Then the coordinate of the parliament can be accessed using the dot (.) operator (same as accessing the attribute of Javascript object) because the coordinate data are stored as Javascript object.

**4.2.3 Hexagon Tile Grid Map Plotting**

This project implements the pointy-top hexagon because the hexbin plugin are not developed with a flat-top hexagon in mind. However, by using hexbin plugin, flat-top hexagon can still be created nonetheless just by transforming (rotate) a single hexagon, but there are some problems related with the rotation of the hexagon. The problems are explained in detail in the discussion section. Moreover, this project implements the offset coordinate system which uses the classical 2-dimensional coordinate system (x-axis and y-axis). The reason why this project uses the offset coordinate system is it is one of the popular coordinate system for 2-dimensional visualization and hexbin plugin implements it.

Hexbin plugin implements the offset coordinate system and requires the developer to only input the list of coordinates for each hexagon. From the coordinate, hexbin will create a hexagon path and place the hexagon on the specified coordinate. Furthermore, hexbin will also automatically place a partially overlapping hexagon side by side or completely overlap them. So, there will be no partially overlapped hexagon in the visualization

The process of populating the hexagon in the visualization is the system will retrieve the parliament coordinate data from JSON file first. Then, it will process the retrieved data and store the data into a single variable so that it is able to pass on to the hexbin plugin. The hexbin plugin will take a single value that consist lists of coordinates of the parliaments and produce a path to place in the SVG DOM element.

The parliament coordinate data are retrieved from the “parliament.json” data file and this will result in multiple data that are related to the parliament settings. However, some of the data are not needed for this process because at this stage, the system will only need the coordinate of the parliament to populate the hexagon. The system will filter the retrieved data so that only parliament coordinate is retrieved and save the data into a separate variable to be used in the next stage. Figure 4.9 shows the coding on how to retrieved the data in “parliament.json” and filter the data so that only the coordinate data are retrieved and save them in a separate variable:

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| **Figure 4.9** Code to store parliament coordinate from “parliament.json” file |

Based on Figure 4.9, on line 78, D3.js uses *d3.json()* function in order to retrieve data in “parliament.json” data file and store the retrieved data in *parliamentList* variable. On line 80 until 91, the data retrieved from “parliament.json” will be filtered and only parliament coordinate data will be taken. The coordinate data are stored in the *parliamentCoordinateList* variable. The coordinate data are retrieved from “parliament.json” by accessing the value of *coordinate.x* and *coordinate.y*.

After the coordinate data has been retrieved, the system will populate the hexagon for each of the specified coordinate. Figure 4.10 shows the code for this process:

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| **Figure 4.10** Code to populate hexagon tile based on parliament coordinate |

Based on Figure 4.10, on line 66 until 70, *svg* variable are declared to initialize the width, height & location of the SVG element in the HTML. The width and height of the SVG element are initialized based on the *setting* value retrieved from “setting.json” data file. The *hexbin* variable initializes the hexbin plugin by setup the hexagon radius value retrieved from “setting.json” data file also.

On line 96 until 107, a list of *<g>* tags are initialized in the SVG element to represent states in Malaysia. The *<g>* tags represents a group of *<path>* tags that will be created by hexbin plugin (hexagon paths). Furthermore, on line 97, the list of parliaments that was initialized previously are made as the input for the creation of the *<g>* tags which in turn will initialize all states of Malaysia. This is because the *parliamentList* variable stores a 2-dimensional array that incorporates two things, which is the list of states and a list of parliaments within those states. For this steps, D3.js will only read the list of states and not the list of parliaments within the states to populate the *<g>* tags and it will iterate all of the data to create the *<g>* tags for every states. On line 99 until 107, the attribute and style of each *<g>* tags are initialized for every itteration. The attribute that are initialized is the *id* which is the name of the state itself and the style that are initialized are the *fill* and *stroke* of the hexagons which will set the colour of the hexagon to the colour as in “setting.json” file.

On line 148 until 159, each of the parliaments in the states are initialized based on the data stored in *parliamentCoordinateList*. On line 149, the value of the hexagon path are input together with the parliament coordinate value. The .*hexbin()* function returns a list of hexagon paths that will be used to populate the hexagon. On line 152, each paths of the hexagon of the parliament are initialized and each of them are given the “.parliament” class attribute to make the HTML element selection process easier. On line 154 until 156, the id of each parliaments is initialized which is the parliament code itself. On line 158, the attribute *d* of the *<path>* tag is initialized and it represents the path of the hexagon as well as the coordinate the hexagon should be placed.

From the above code, it will produce the output as shown in Figure 4.11:

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| **Figure 4.11** Output for the population of hexagon tiles |

**4.2.4 Mouse On Hover Tooltip Setup**

This system implements D3.js event listener to make the map interactive. One of the event listener that are used is the “mouse on hover” event. This event will be triggered when the viewer hovers their mouse pointer over the specified elements. The triggered event can be initialized with any action depending on the developer needs. However, for this project, a tooltip will pop up beside the mouse pointer icon when the viewer hover over their mouse pointer on the *<g>* tags that consist of the Malaysian states and the *<path>* tags which is the hexagon of the parliament. When the viewers hover over the states, the tooltip will show the name of the states and when they hover over the parliaments, the tooltip will show the parliament code and parliament name. The code for this event listener are shown in Figure 4.11:

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| **Figure 4.11** Code for mouse hover each states event listener |

Based on Figure 4.11, the codes represent the settings needed for D3.js to initialize the event listener for mouse hover for each of the states. On line 72 shows the tooltip element that are initialized first before it is being used, on line 107 until 114 shows the hover over event are initialized for each state, line 115 until 119 shows the event that will be triggered when the mouse pointer is moved while hovering over the states and line 120 until 123 shows the event that will be triggered when the mouse pointer no longer hovers over the state.

The event listener are triggered by D3.js from the function *.on()*. This function requires two parameters namely an event name that indicates the event that the D3.js will be listening and the callback function that will do the action when the event is triggered. The event name is a string that describes the name of the event. For example, “mouseover” event lets D3.js listen for event when a mouse pointer is hovering over the specified element, “mousemove” lets D3.js listen for event when the mouse pointer is moving within the specified element and “mouseout” lets D3.js listener for event when the mouse pointer is no longer hovering over the specified element.

When the mouse pointer hovers over the states, the tooltip will appear beside the mouse pointer with the transitioning effect from zero percent opacity to 90 percent opacity. On line 108, the condition for the variable *level* is included to differentiate whether the tooltip should be about the state or about the parliament. When the mouse pointer is moving inside the states, the tooltip will follow the mouse pointer. When the mouse pointer is no longer hovers over the states, the tooltip will fade by reducing its opacity from 90 percent until zero percent.

The event listener for each hexagon that represents the parliament is the same as event listener for each state but with a minimal difference which is the information that it pops up. The information that will pops up when the mouse hover over the parliaments are the parliament code and its name side by side. The code for event listener for each of the parliament hexagon are stated in Figure 4.12:

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| **Figure 4.12** Code for mouse over each parliament |

Based on Figure 4.12, on line 160 until 169 is the event that will be triggered when the mouse pointer hovers over the hexagon tile which in this case is it will pop up a tooltip beside the mouse pointer with the parliament code and its name while transitioning itself from zero percent until 90 percent opacity. On line 170 until 174 is the event that will be triggered when the mouse pointer moves while hovering over the hexagon which is the tooltip will follow the mouse pointer. On line 175 until 178 is the event that will be triggered when the mouse pointer no longer hovers over the hexagon tile which will result in the tooltip slowly transitioning its opacity from 90 percent to zero percent.

The result of the above code is shown in Figure 4.13:

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| **Figure 4.13** Output of the tooltip mouse hover over event listener |

**4.2.5 Mouse On Click Popup Setup**

[popup will show the election data]

**4.2.6 Hexagon Tile Colour Setup**

For each of the hexagon tiles in the map, they are coloured according to the event that occurs and the position that they are representing. There is an event that will cause their colour to change which is when the user clicked on the state. This event will cause the clicked state to be focused by reducing the opacity of the surrounding states and change the colour of each hexagon in that state. The colour change is based on the party that have won. The code for the colour setup are shown in Figure 4.14:

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| **Figure 4.14** Code for hexagon tile color setup |

Based on Figure 4.14, line 155 until 160 shows the code for setting up the colour of each states. D3.js provides a simple function for the developer to change the style of the HTML elements dynamically. This function can be accessed by calling *.style()* function. This function requires two parameters namely the properties of the element to be changed and its value. The value of the properties can be processed further by calling anonymous function in the second parameter. For example, on line 155, the *.style()* function are called with the parameter of “fill” and a callback function. The “fill” indicates that the developer wanted to change the “fill” properties of the element (which will fill up the element with the specified colour) and the callback function will return appropriate value for the properties which in this case, it returns a colour code stored in “setting.json” file. In addition, on line 158, the properties “stroke” will determine the element’s stroke colour. This property are used to change the border colour of each of the hexagon.

Furthermore, on line 198 until 213 shows the code for setting up the colour of each individual hexagon tile and this statement are called inside the *.on()* function with the “click” event listener. So, the colour of the hexagon will change when the viewer click the state. On line 198, the stroke colour property of the hexagon are changed into “white” value using the *.style()* function with “stoke” property set as its first parameter. On line 199, the “fill” property of the hexagon are changed using the *.style()* function “fill” property as its first parameter and an anonymous function as its second parameter. The anonymous function shown in line 199 until 212 are used to return the appropriate colour of the hexagon tile according to which party won during the election for that parliament.

**4.3 User Interface**

The user interface (UI) of this system are categorised into three simple levels which shows different information for each level. The first level shows the basic or the main view of the system when the viewer has loaded the system. The second layer shows the information when the viewer clicked on one of the states. The third layer shows the information when the viewer clicks on each of the individual hexagon that represents each parliaments.

**4.3.1 First Level information**

The first level information shows the basic information of the map which is the position of the states, state colours and the state names. The states are a group of hexagons that represents a parliament. Each states has their label that represents their name. Figure 4.15 shows the view of first level of information:

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| **Figure 4.15** The first level information |

**4.3.2 Second Level Information**

The second level of information shows demographic information for a single state. This level are triggered when the viewer clicked on one of the states. The map will be zoomed in to the clicked state and all other state will blur out in the background. These effects will help the viewer to focus on a single state instead of focusing on a multiple state. Moreover, a popup will show beside the zoomed state and it sows a demographic information for that state such as population by gender and population by ethnics.

The hexagon that represents the parliament will change its colour into party colour that had won the election in that parliament and a white line will appear around each of the hexagon to help the viewer differentiate between parliaments. A tooltip will also be shown when the viewer hover over each of the hexagons and it shows the parliament code together with its name.

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| **Figure 4.16** Second level of information |

**4.3.3 Third Level Information**

The third level of information presents the viewers the main information of the election for each of the hexagon. These levels of information are accessed when the viewer clicked on one of the hexagons in the second level of information. The only thing that changes in this level is the value in the popup dialog.

The popup will now show the election result that represent each of the parliament. The information includes the parliament code, parliament names, name of winning party and winning candidate, total voters and total votes for each party. All of these information are stored in the “election.json” data file.

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| **Figure 4.17** Third level of information |

**4.4 Evaluation**

**4.5 Deployment**

**4.6 Discussion**

Even though flat-top hexagon can still be achieved by using a transformation method (rotation), the coordinate system will not be the same and this will lead to a randomly generated hexagon even though the developer uses the same coordinate for each of the hexagon. For example, a pointy-top hexagon coordinate is at (0, 0), but when it is rotated 90°, the coordinate that were registered will still be the same which is (0, 0), but the actual coordinate that the were shown by the browser is (-10, 10) which in this case is not the same as the expected output. The expected output is a rotated hexagon tile with a same coordinate.

**4.7 Summary**