

CS855: Data Visualization (Assignment 4)

Information Visualization using Parallel Coordinates and Tree Maps

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Abstract—This report explains the algorithms used for visualization of human liver data and cars evaluation data, details the data used and provides the insight of the visualization.

Keywords—parallel coordinates, tree maps;

I. INTRODUCTION

This assignment does a multivariate data visualization using parallel coordinates on human liver data and draws a tree map of car evaluation data.

II. DATASET

A. Data Procurement

Both the datasets were obtained from UCI archive of ML datasets. The file format used for reading data is *.csv. Each .csv contains multiple attributes and one final classifier.

B. Data Processing

A separate class DataHandler.pde was written to parse the .csv input file and handle all data operations.

III. VISUALIZATION

There are two types of visualizations:

A. Parallel Coordinates

Every attribute is given a unique axis with its range normalized to provide consistency in visualization. Each row of data is mapped on the axis (using linear interpolation) by drawing a line between each point in a given order. Order of axis/attributes can be changed by dragging the axis.

B. Tree Maps

The data structure used to store the tree map is a rectangle class with an ArrayList of rectangles as an attribute. Rectangles are drawn recursively using a simple slice-and-dice algorithm.

C. User Interaction

- Axes in parallel coordinates can be moved by dragging them with mouse.

- Tree Map can be zoomed in/out by clicking on either half of the screen

IV. INSIGHT

- Parallel coordinates can be used to find correlations, trends, outliers and clusters in dataset.
- Tree maps provide an easy way to understand visualization of large datasets.

REFERENCES

- [1] <http://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/datasets/Liver+Disorders>
- [2] <http://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/datasets/Car+Evaluation>