

Assignment 3, Part C – Grid Views

In the old days, web pages would present tabular data using the <table> tag. If you were lucky, the column names would be clickable and would sort results accordingly.

With JavaScript, we can move these interactions to the client side. That means that sorting on columns won't require a full page reload. That makes things faster. We can also make features like text search on column data go faster by doing it client-side instead of server-side.

For this assignment, we will use an existing Grid implementation:

DataTables

<http://datatables.net/>

The objective is to become familiar with a specific Grid View plugin. In Assignment 4, we'll combine what we learn here with Highcharts, a flexible graphing and plotting library.

Getting Started

Begin by spending some time on the DataTables website. Read the feature bullets on the splash page (<http://datatables.net/>) and spend some time looking through the examples (<http://datatables.net/examples/>).

Your Mission

To complete the assignment:

- Download DataTables
- Explore the examples directory, note how you actually place a DataTable in your webpage
- Download the IRS 2011 Tax Tables, translate the first twelve lines under the 95,000 section to a JSON format compatible with DataTables
 - <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i1040tt.pdf> (see page 12)
 - You should have a line for 95,000 – 95,050 with columns for Single, Married Filing Jointly, etc. Repeat all the way till line 95,550 – 95,600
 - Cookie bonus point if you translate the entire tax table to JSON
- Create a webpage which
 - Create a DataTable on the page
 - Loads the IRS tax information from a separate file using AJAX, as explained here: http://datatables.net/release-datatables/examples/data_sources/ajax.html