

Project Plan

Team Tesla

*Consumers Report for Electric Car Sales, Reliability, and its
Contribution for the Ecosystem -- CO2*



HARVARD
Extension School

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Course of Studies: CS 171 - Visualization

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Github Repository: <https://goo.gl/JUjq3h>

MOTIVATION & ABSTRACT

The U.S. emits more greenhouse gas emissions per capita than any other nation. Approximately 33% of the CO₂ emission of the United States come from the transportation system. Moreover, a big part of the US growth in CO₂ emissions since 1990 comes from the increase in CO₂ emission out of transportation. Yet, in the last couple of years a new type of car has started to appear on US roads that is being hailed as the solution to the above problem, the electric car.

The project takes a deep dive into electric vehicle usage in the US. It is going to tell the story for a reader who could be a possible buyer of an electric vehicle in the near future. That mean it gives a general overview about electric vehicle technologies and how the environment can benefit from using it. Consequently that means guiding the reader through model overviews / market shares / sales statistics towards important usage questions like service and charging network.

KEYWORDS

Binary Decision Trees, C5.0, CART, Classification and Regression Trees, CO₂, D3, Data Visualization, Electric cars, Infographic, R, Market share, Sales Statistics, Tesla, Treemap

TEAM EXPECTATION AGREEMENT

It will be the aim of our team to successfully complete the final project of CS 171 with the maximum of grade performance and to ensure the understanding of all tenets, facts, and errata connected with the study of the final project for all group members. To this end, the following terms and conditions will be followed.

Terms and Conditions.

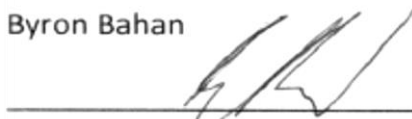
1. Under any and all circumstances, I will get what (team) work I am allotted to do, done and turned in on time.
2. If I am sick and unable to make it on the date a team assignment is due, I will contact my team members to make other arrangements to get my work turned in on time. Should an emergency arise that prevents me from attending a team meeting, I will notify my fellow team members immediately.
3. The team will schedule weekly meetings.
4. I will do my share of the team work, there will never be an occasion where one team member does all of the work nor will there be a time when a member does none of the work.
5. I will do everything in my capabilities to help my fellow team members understand each and every concept and problem and I will not hesitate to ask my fellow team members for help. I will communicate with my fellow team members about any concerns I have with our group work. I will promptly report any team functioning problems to the instructor.

Acceptance: Each of the below signed team members agrees to abide by the terms and conditions outlined herein. Breach of this contract will result in a verbal warning the first and second offences. Third offence violation will result in dismissal from the team.

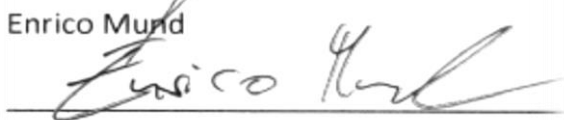
Tim Hagmann



Byron Bahan



Enrico Mund



1 Objectives and Goals

Our project will give a detailed overview of the current state of electric cars in the US. Our goal is to increase the reader's knowledge about this topic and to guide him through the many aspects. We will try to help the reader to form an opinion about this new technology.

Questions the project would like to answer:

Putting electric cars into context of the current environmental debate. At what magnitude do the individual states emit carbon dioxide and how much of this related to transportation. Can this be linked to usage of electric cars?

What is the economic situation of electric cars, do they sell? How many manufacturers offer electric cars in the US and how is the model variety and price range?

The electric car is a relatively new technology that entered the consumer market only recently, how is the technical reliability, are the users satisfied ?

Is it convenient to use an electric car ? Where can the consumer get service and where can he recharge his vehicle ?

2 Tasks

Using a choropleth map the reader will be able to select the displayed data and year to answer questions about spatial and temporal correlations between CO₂ emissions and usage of electric cars.

Sorting a treemap by sales numbers will answer the questions about the economic situation of electric cars. The reader will be able to navigate through the various models of electric cars and open individual branches to retrieve detailed information about varieties and prices.

The question about reliability and customer satisfaction will be answered by selecting data and generating a respective chart (line, bar, pie). Zooming into an overview map will give details about service and charging stations for electric vehicles.

3 Timeline & Milestones

| Date | Milestone | Detail |
|-----------|----------------------|--|
| 4. April | Project Plan | Project proposal & detailed project plan |
| 10. April | Final Project Plan | Finalizing of the project plan. |
| 17. April | Project re-design | Re-Design according to inputs |
| 24. April | Project prototype V1 | First Prototype |
| 1. May | Project prototype V2 | Review |
| 8. May | Final project V2 | Project Demo Screencast |

For the To-Do List see the following Google Docs Document:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1im6AxQdO5ty26s_ctbfIhhHfVXhD_Xew6FmFOslkGiA/edit?usp=sharing

4 Team Roles

4.1 Necessary Skills

- Project Management
- Design skills (Layout, Pictures etc.)
- Data Manipulation
- Web Scrapping
- API Connection
- Visualization
- HTML / CSS

4.2 Team Roles

Coordination, Coding & Data: Tim Hagmann

Sketching, Coding & Data: Enrico Mund

Coding & Data: Byron Bahan

5 Homepage

5.1 Storytelling Questions / Feature list

These question should be answered for the reader

| |
|--|
| The EV - What is it ? |
| How does it work ? (technology) |
| How does it work for the environment ? (renewable energies / sources of electricity) |
| Where is the electric car beneficial for the environment? |
| What can I buy ? (models) |
| What do other people buy ? (sales) |
| Where will I charge my new car / get service? |

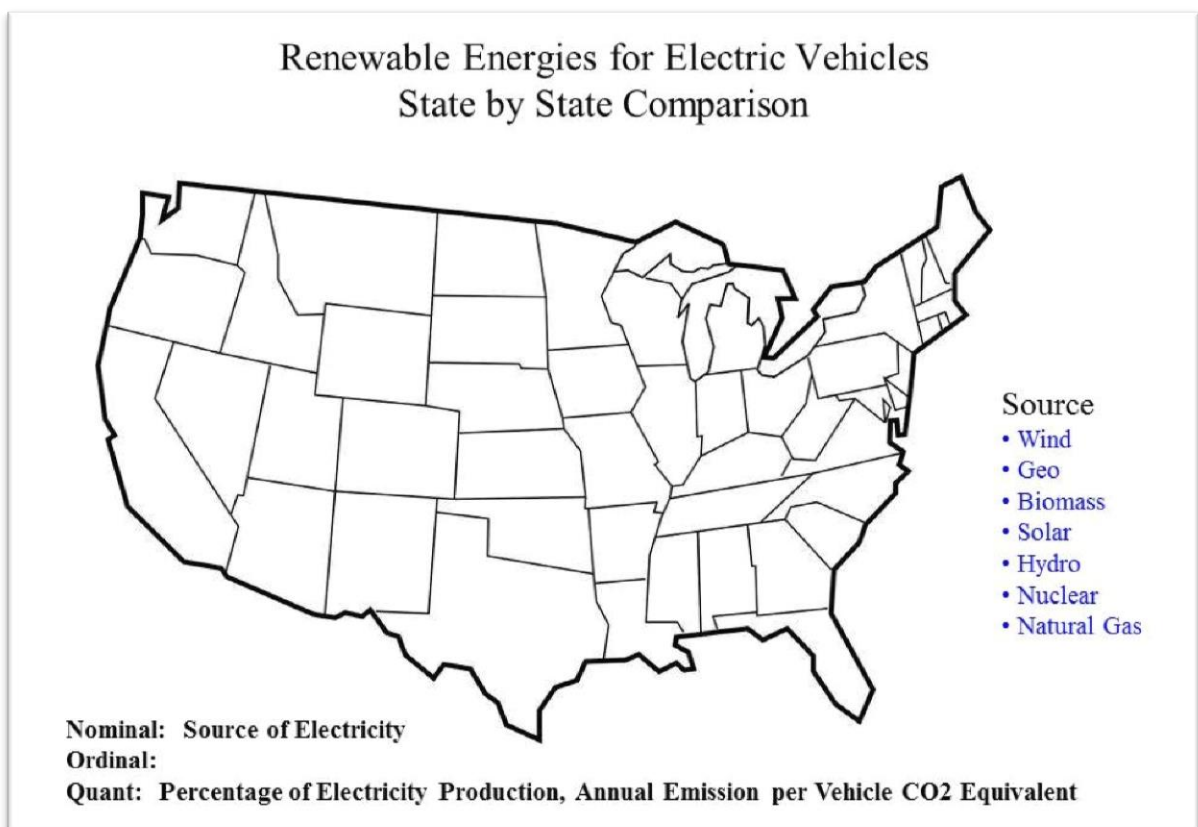
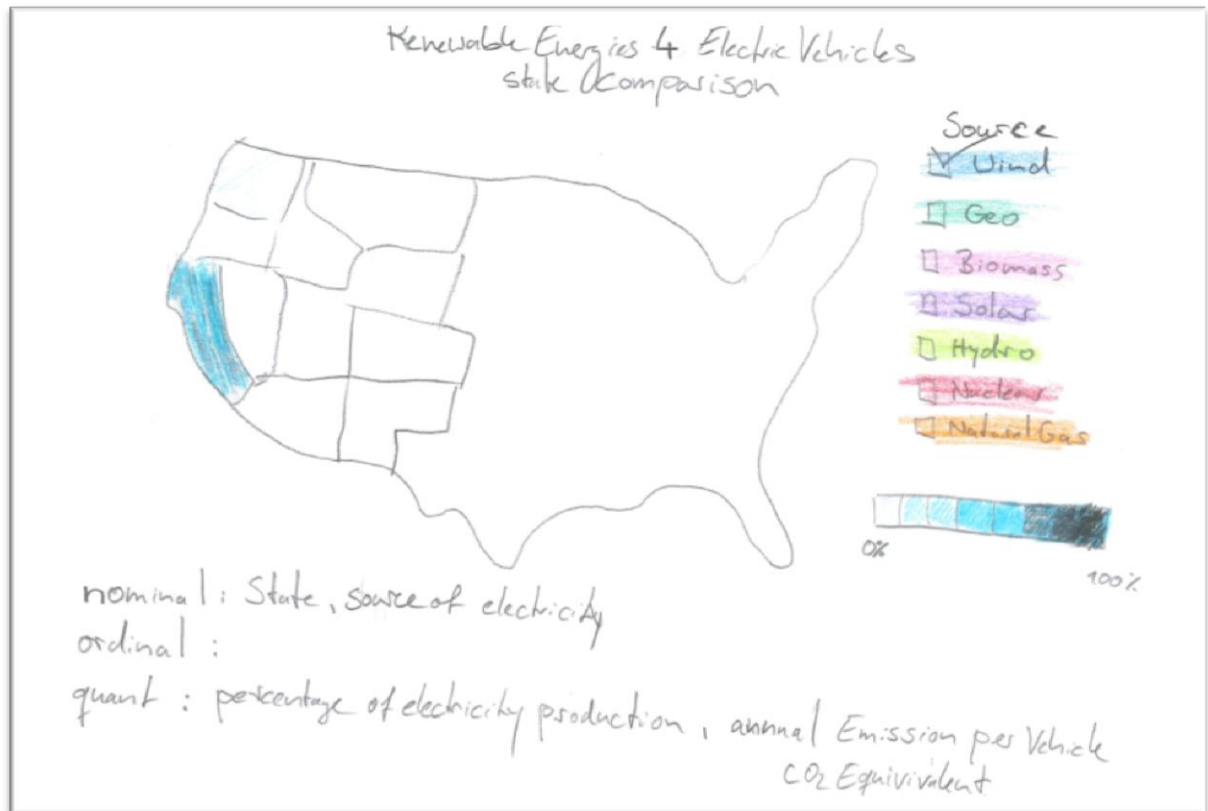
The final project include the following features:

- Implemented multiple coordinated linked views
- A novel visualization

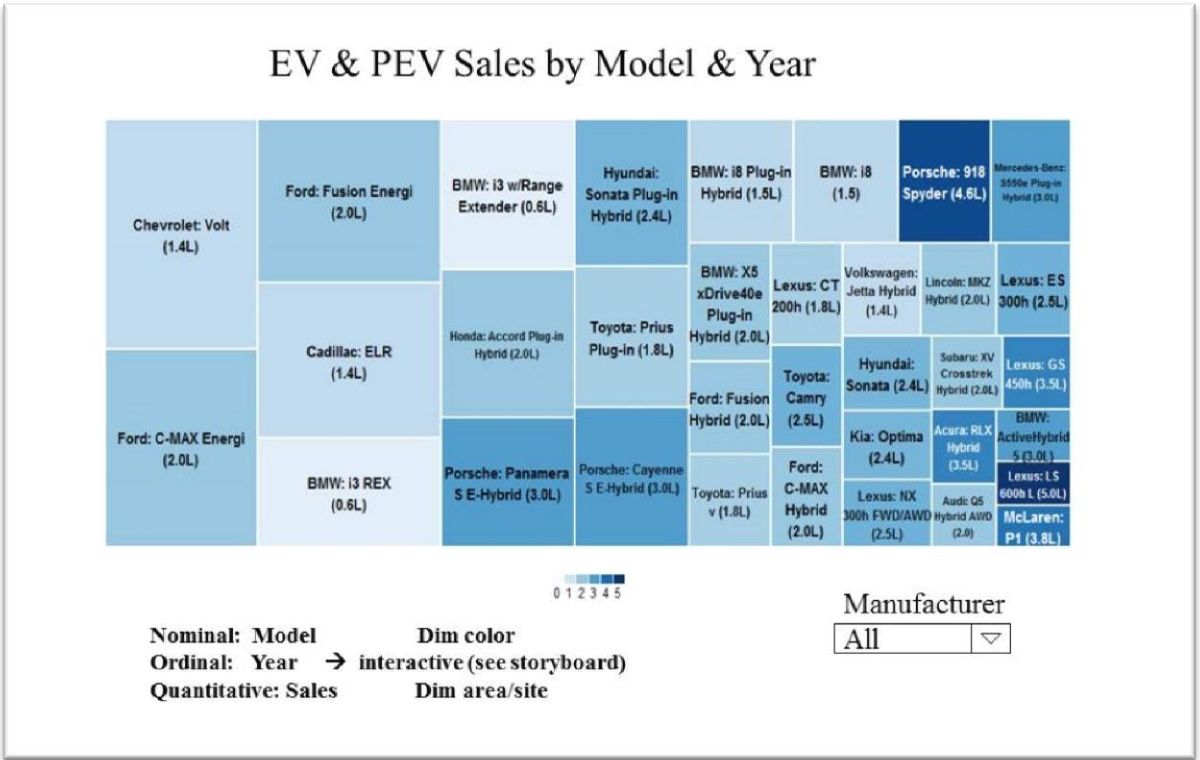
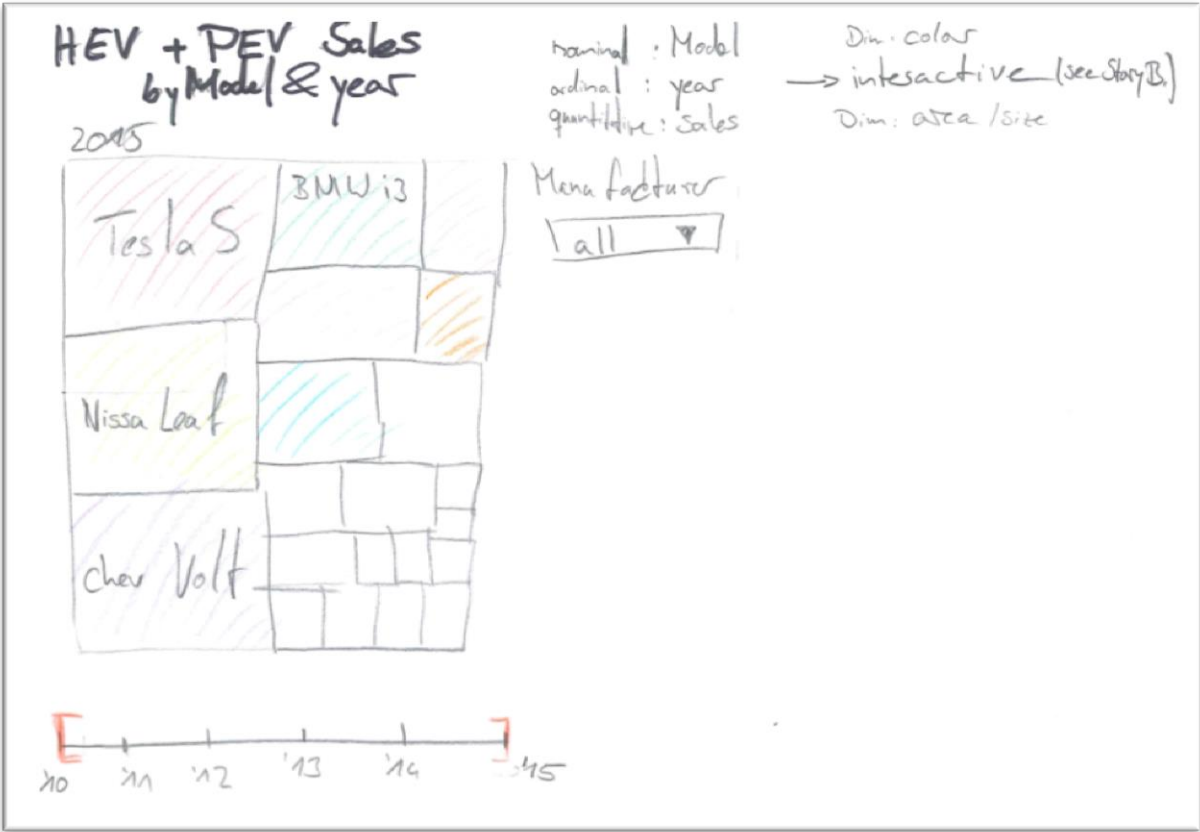
All visualizations have the goal to be:

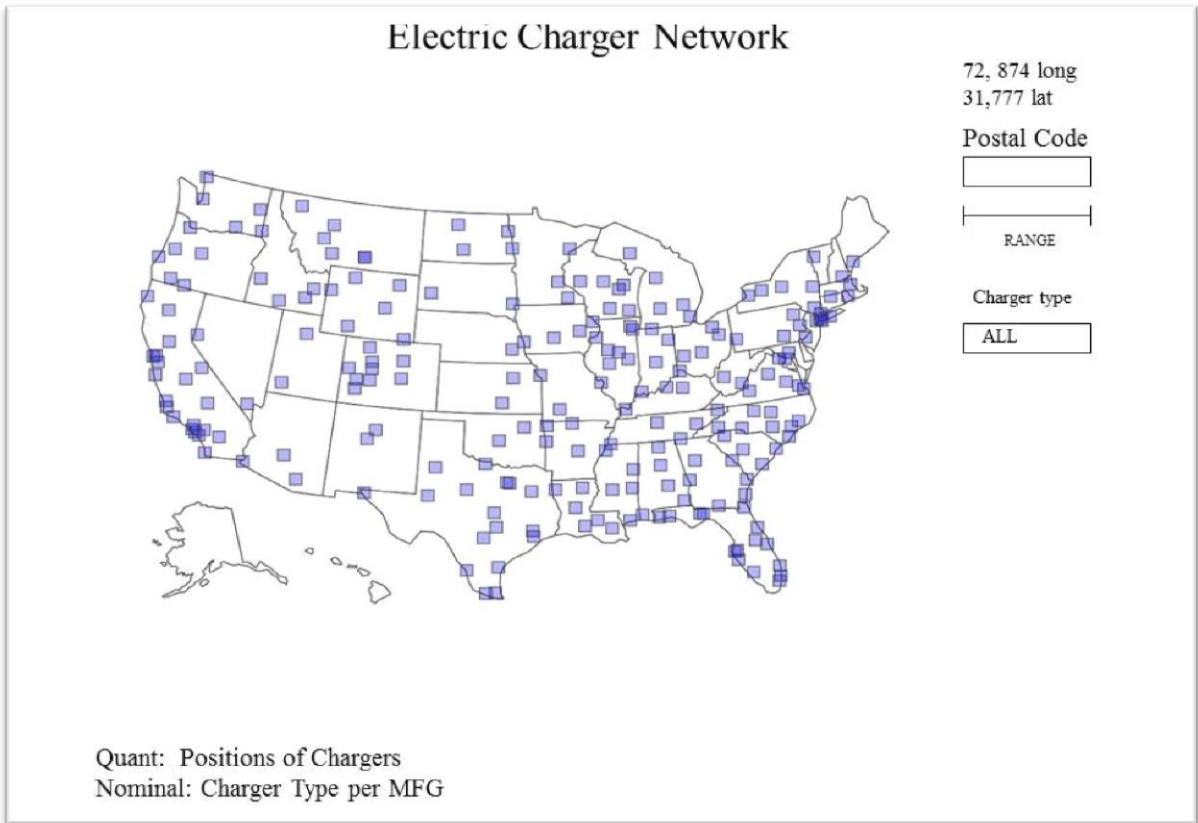
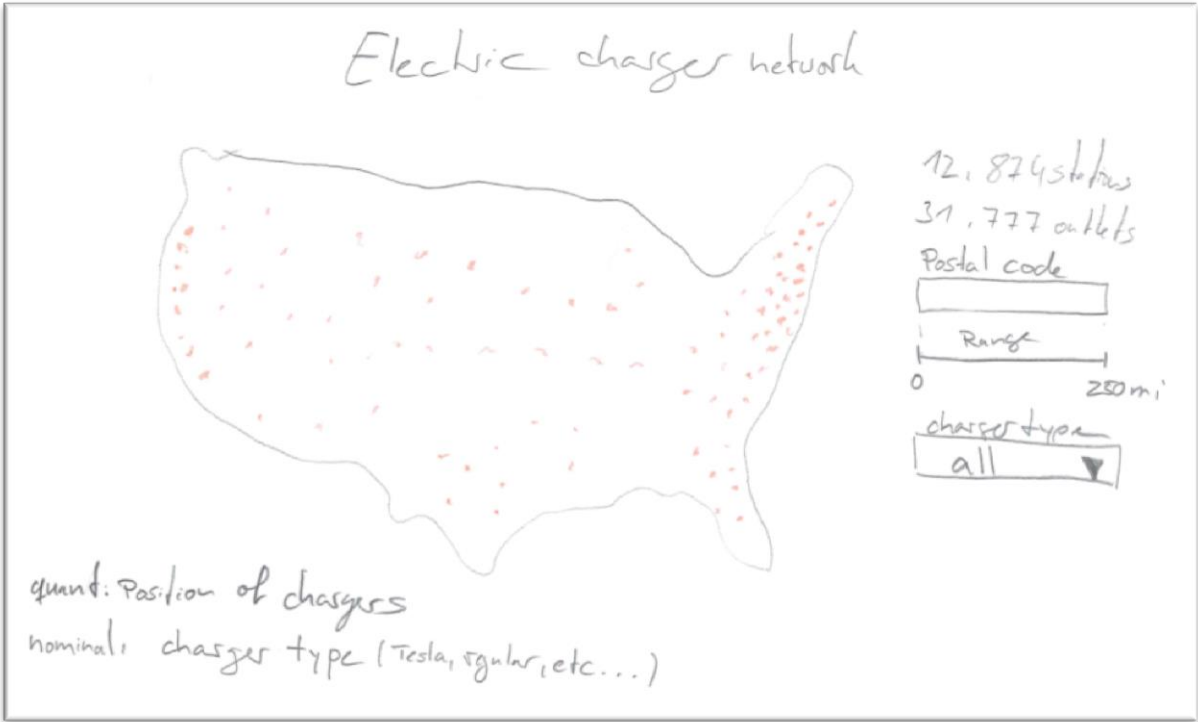
- Effective
- Innovative
- Clear and aid the storytelling
- Include sensible and effective interactions
- Goal oriented

5.2 2nd iteration of Sketches



ELECTRIC CAR SALES, RELIABILITY, AND ITS CONTRIBUTION FOR THE ECOSYSTEM





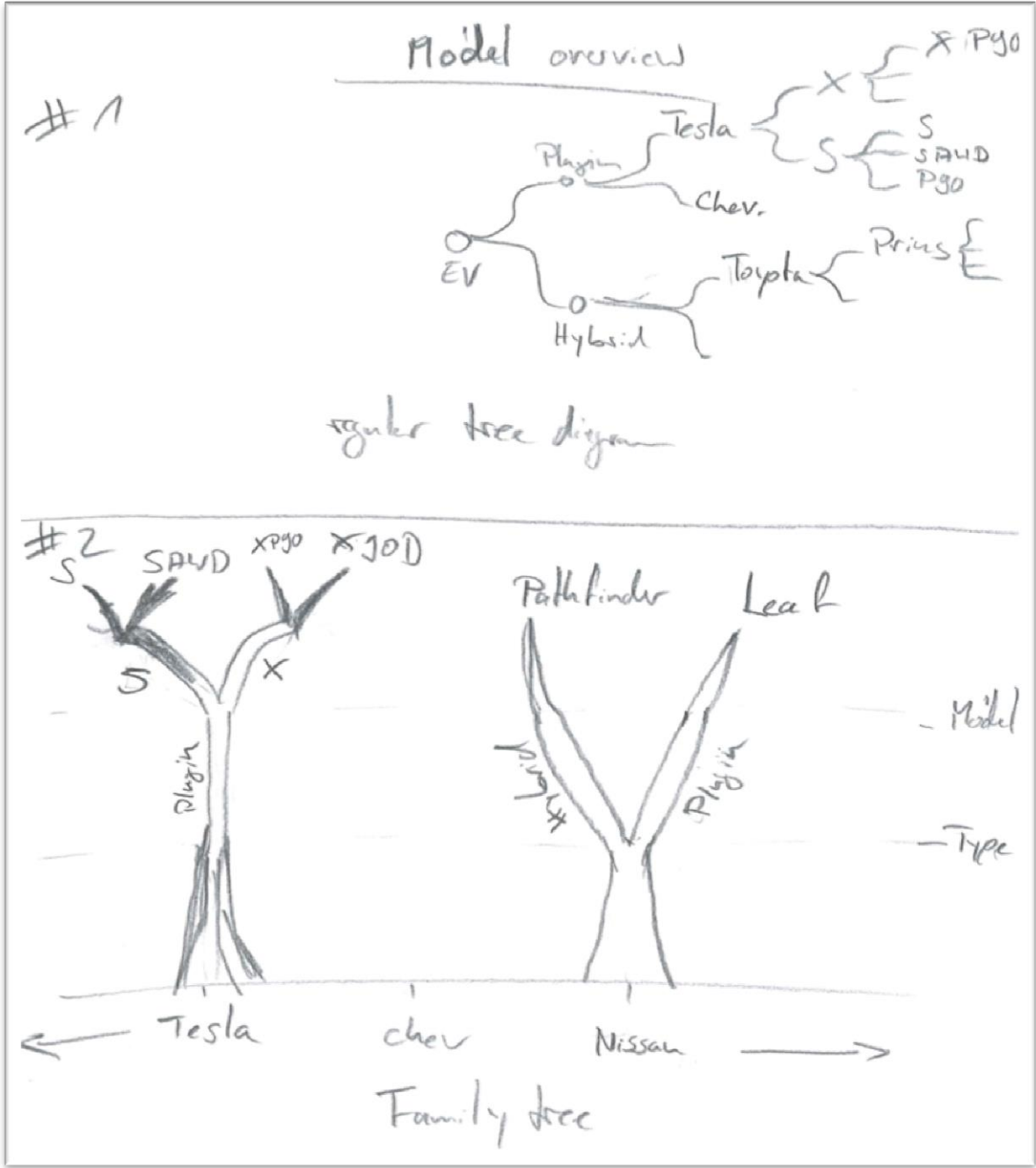
EV - Models & Details

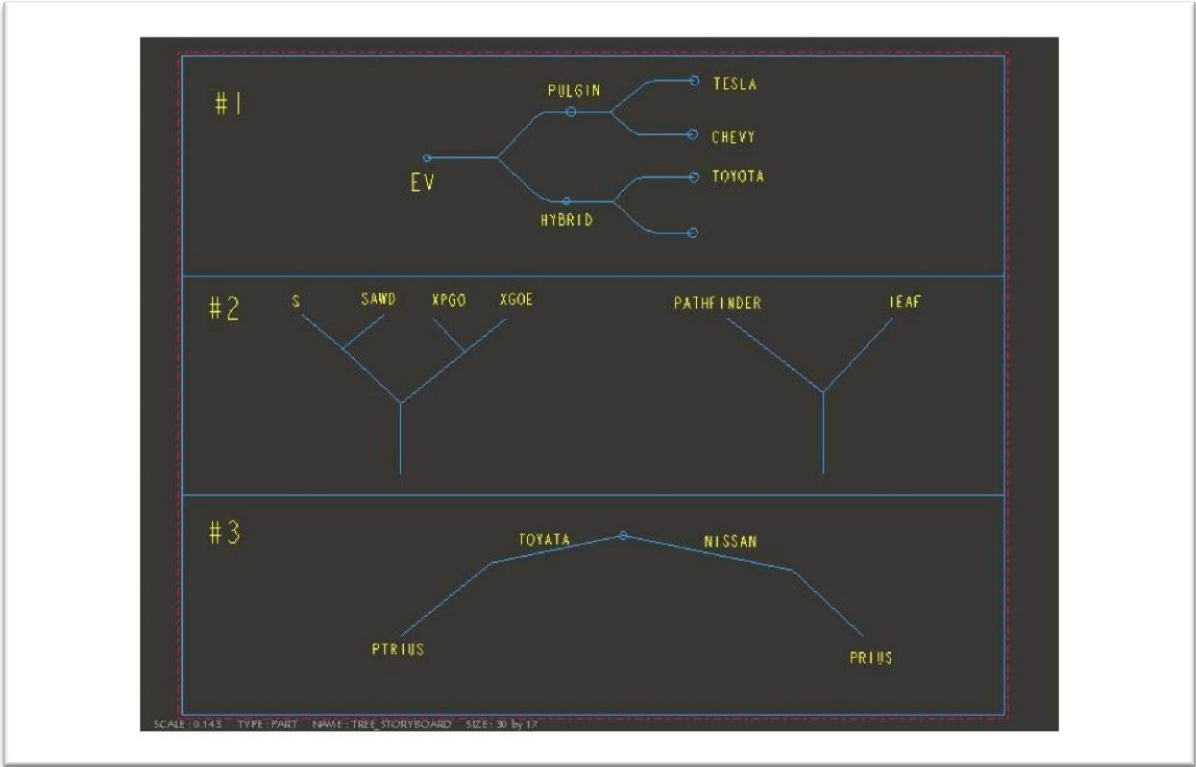
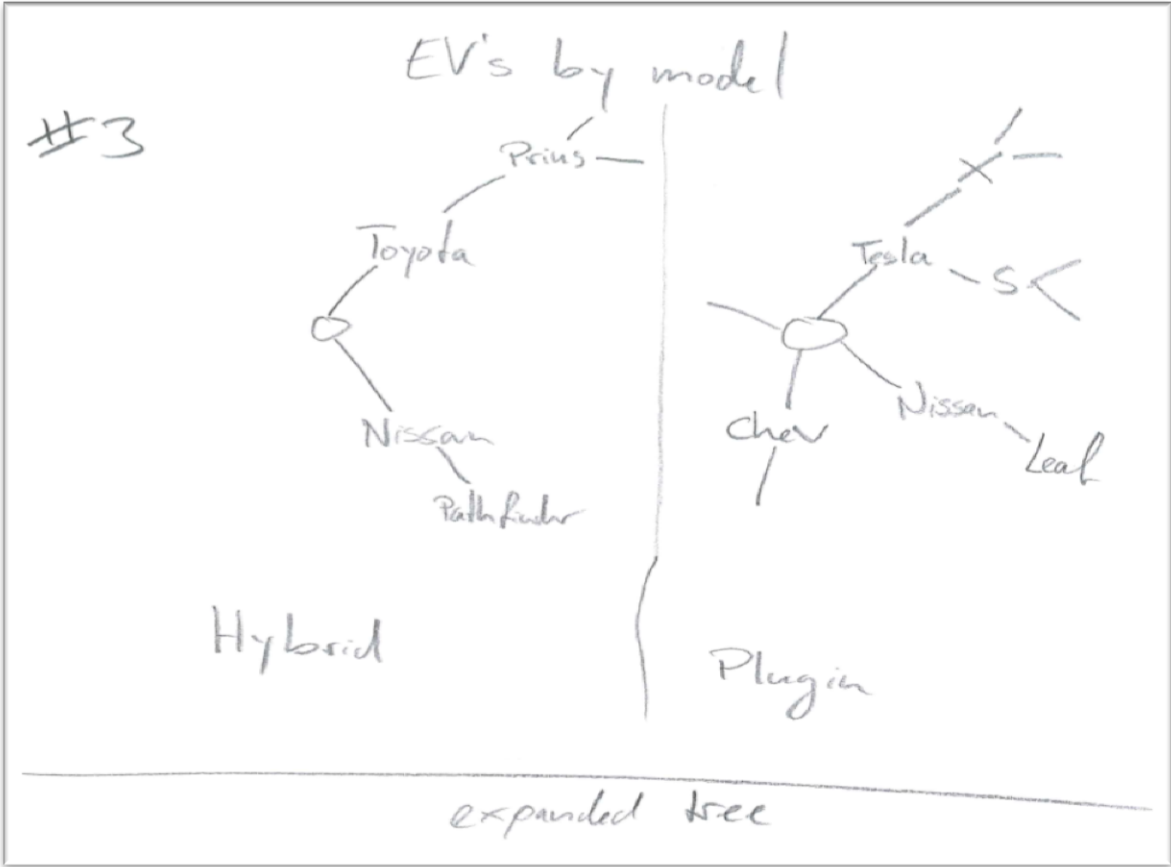
nominal : Manufacturer, Model, Category, Fuel

ordinal : Model year,

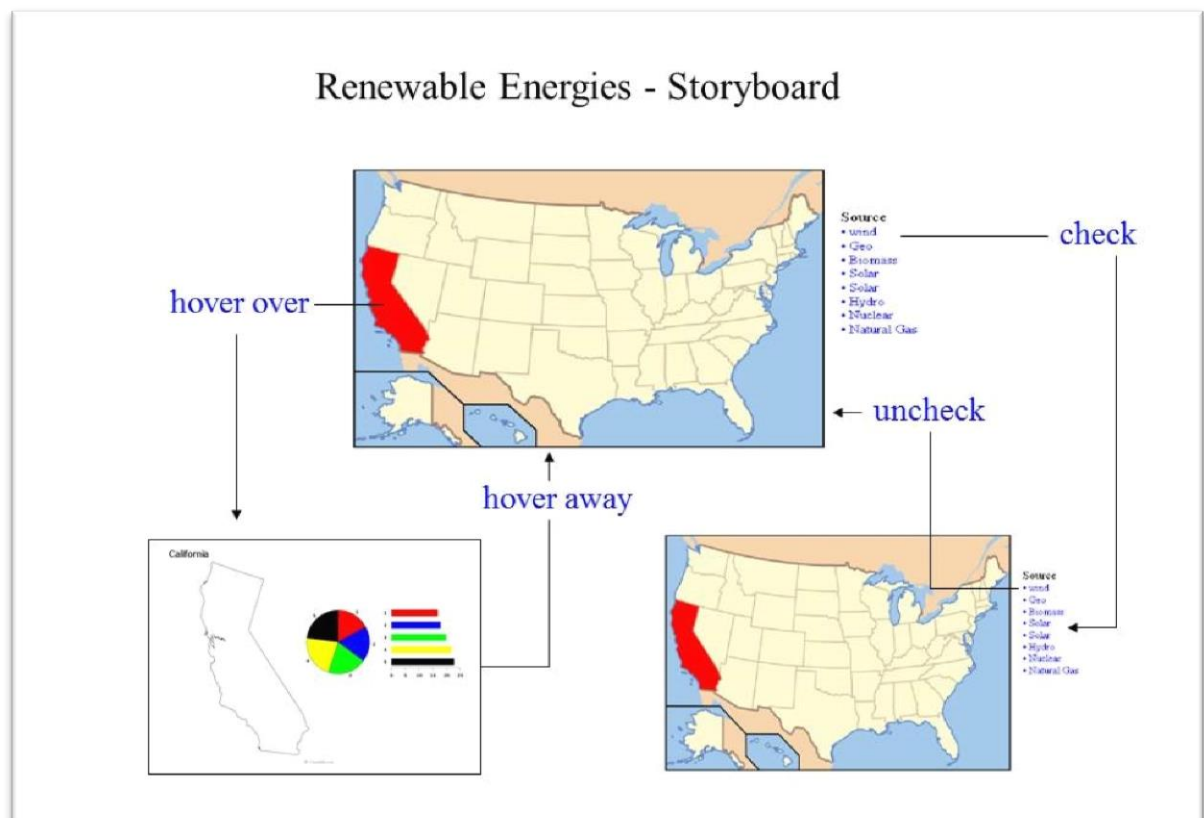
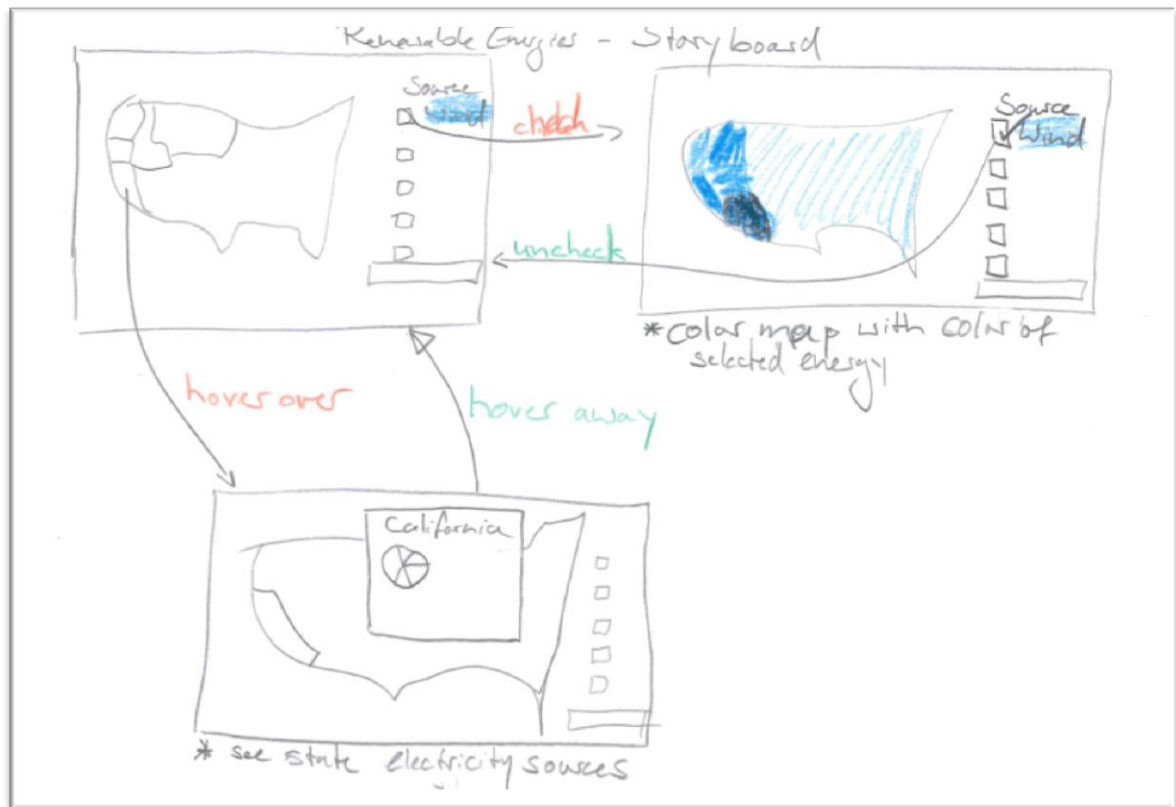
quant : Engine Size / Power Output, Fuel Economy

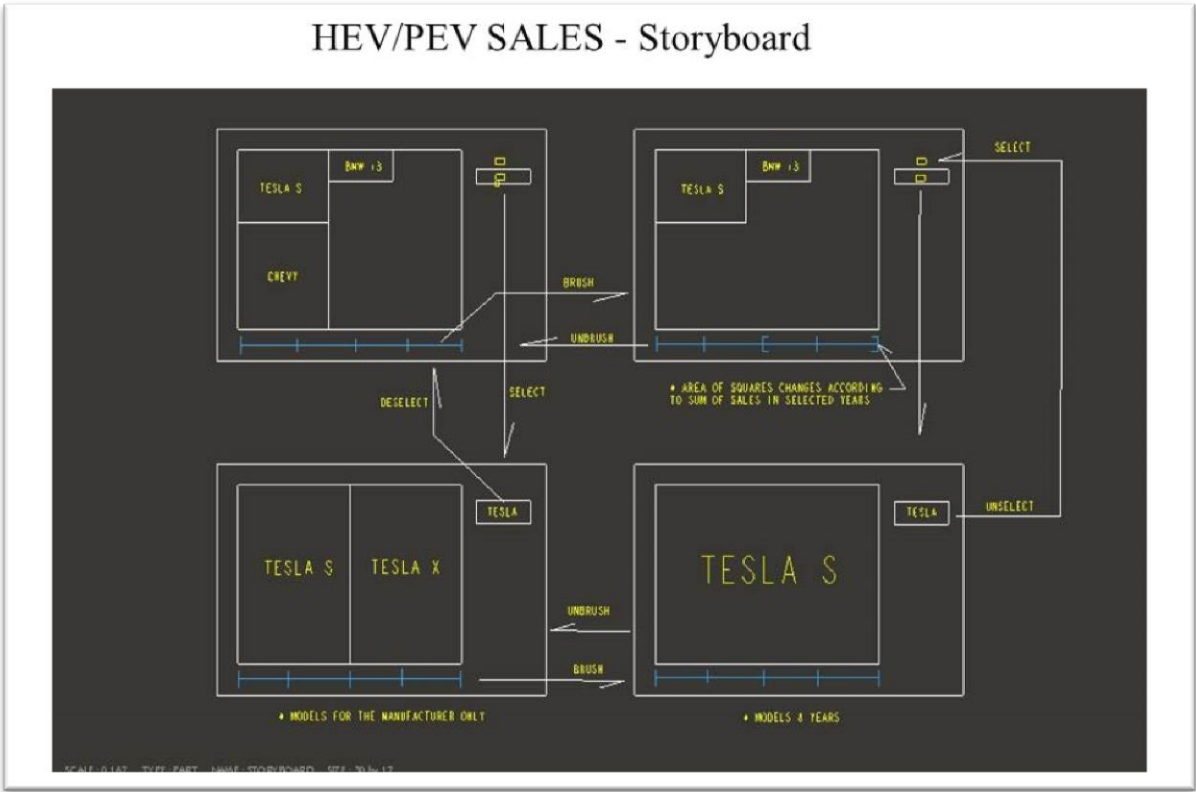
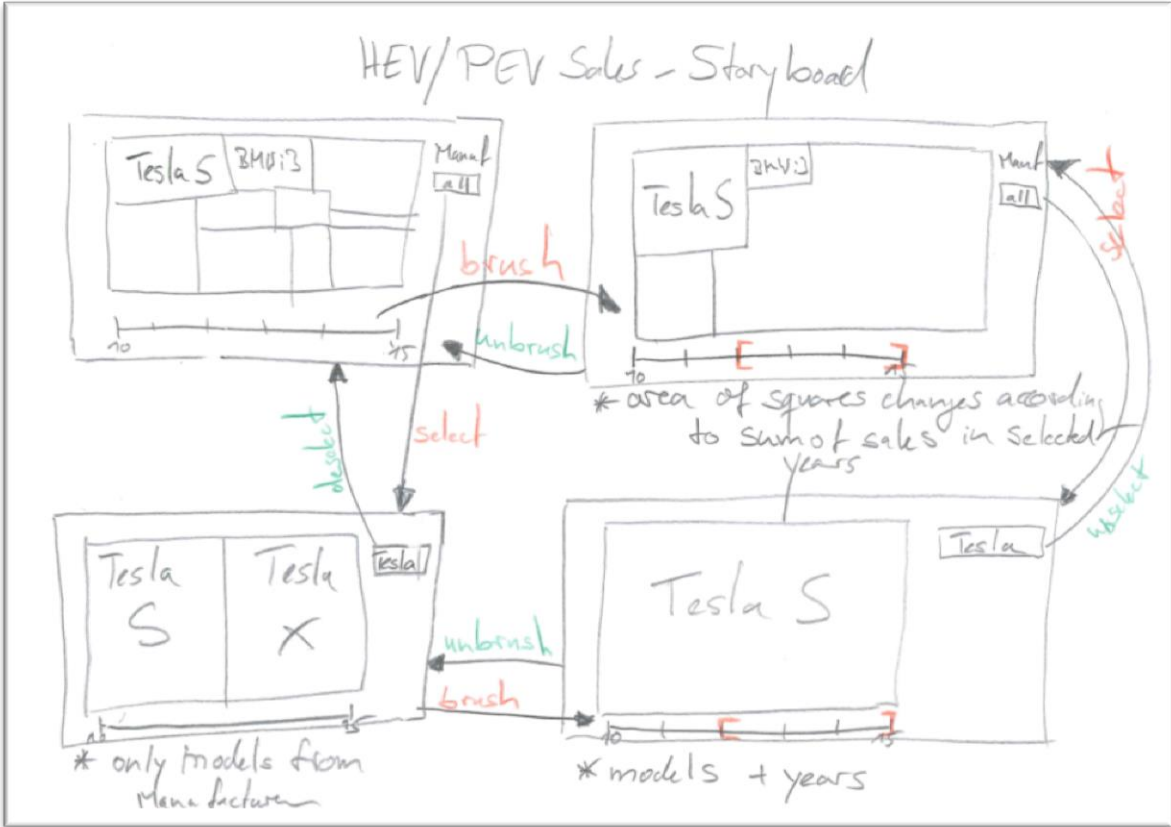
fill in selected Vis

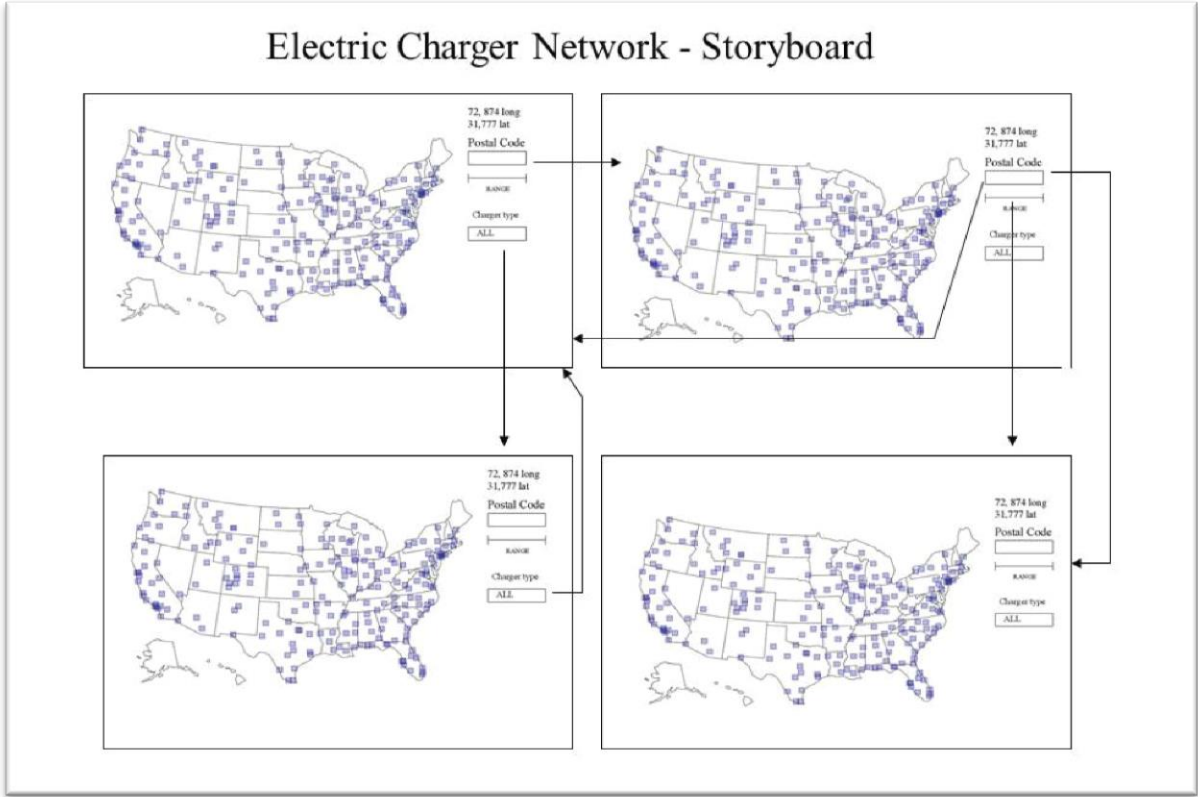
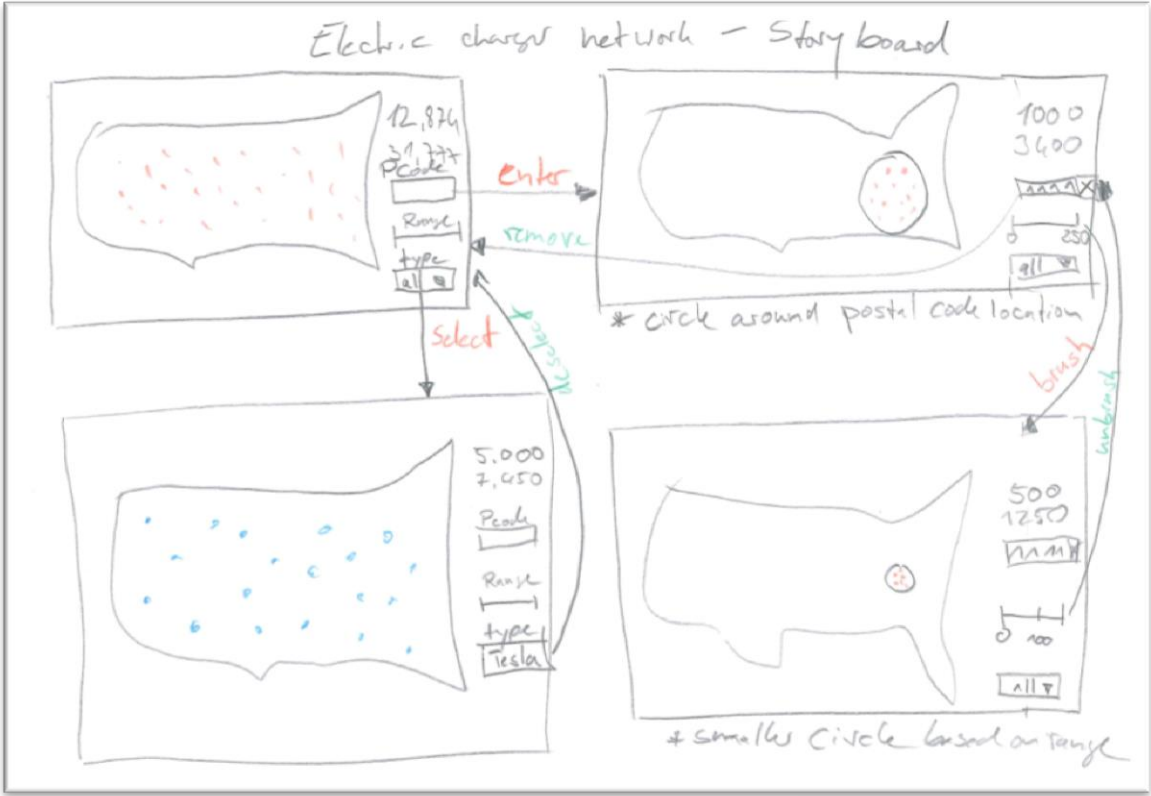




5.3 Storyboard



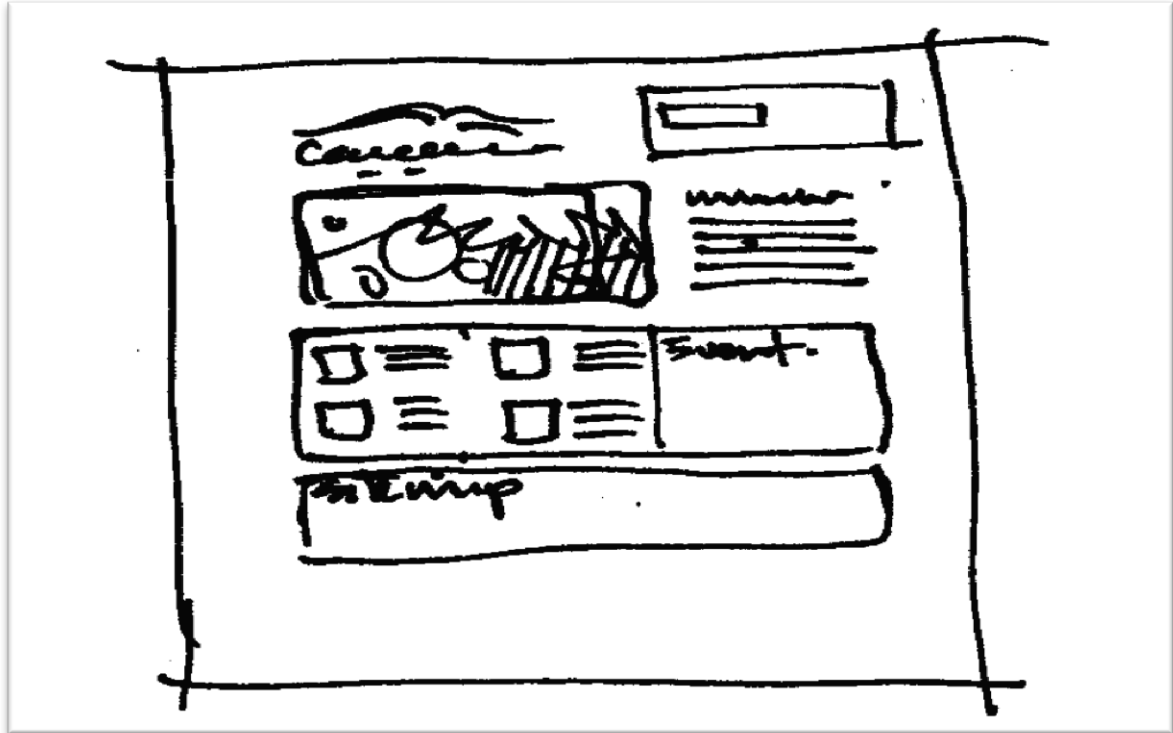




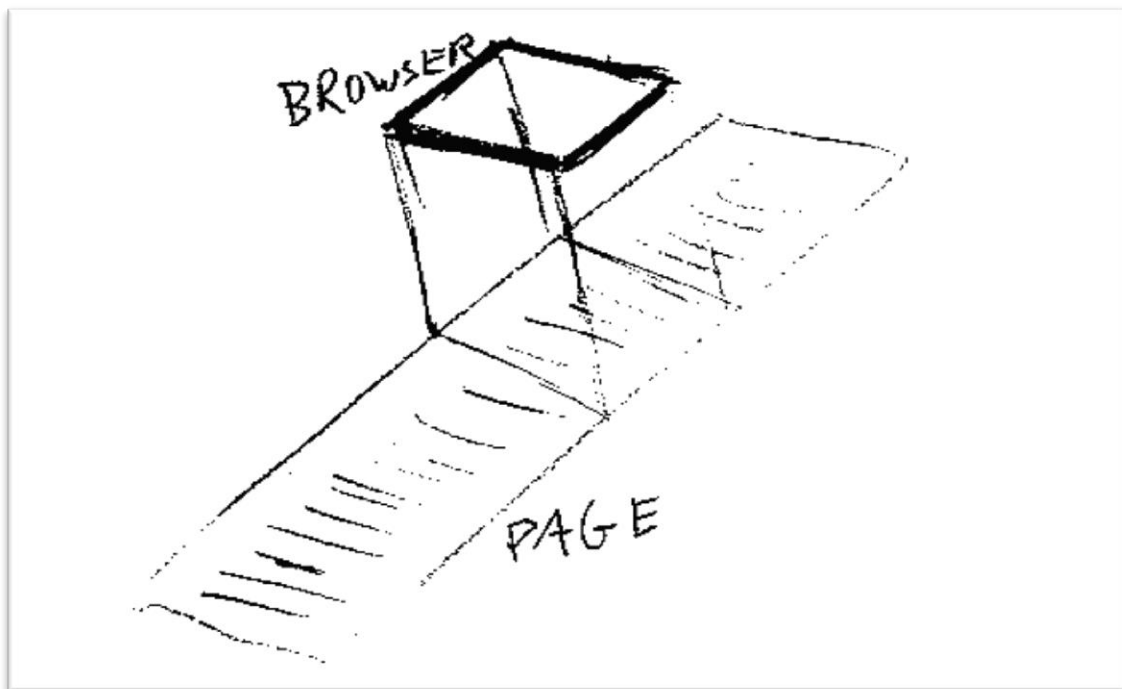
5.4 Webpage Layout

We are using Bootstrap default layouts and are following a vertical scrolling approach. That means that all the information is on one page and the user is scrolling to the page to get to the information.

Bootstrap layout (Main Page)



Vertical scrolling (Page Logic)



6 Data

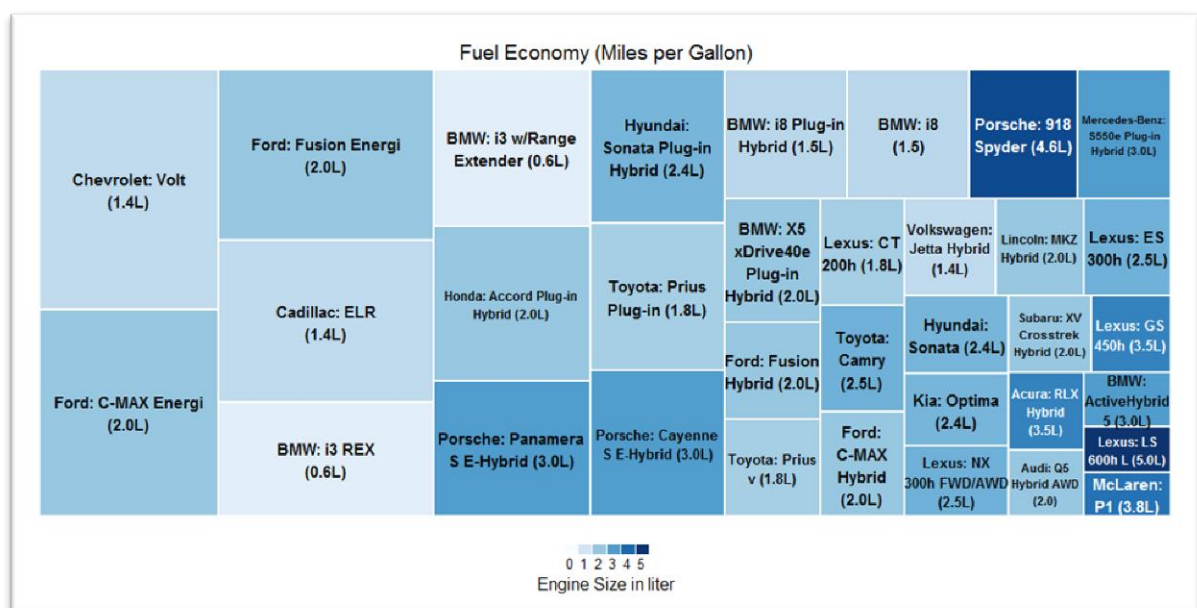
The primary data source will be <http://www.afdc.energy.gov/data/> from the US Department of Energy. We have acquired sufficient data to generate at least 2 different visualizations without much data cleaning.

We will rely on an API provided by <http://developer.nrel.gov/docs/transportation/alt-fuel-stations-v1/> to implement a third visualization. The API is very well documented and shouldn't require a great amount of work to obtain useful data.

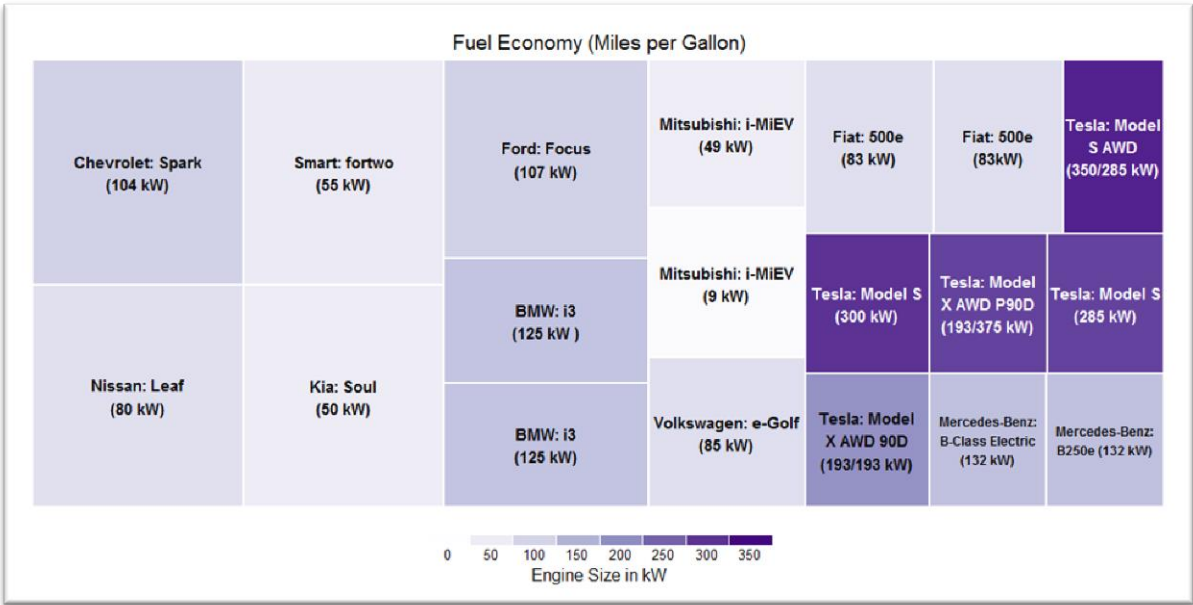
A fourth visualization will require some web-scraping from http://www.afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/electric_emissions.php. This data source will most likely require the largest amount of data munging, because it is not documented and will rely on reverse engineering. However we are confident that we can solve this within a reasonable time limit.

We also did some preliminary data analysis and data munging on one of the datasets. That is, the “Electric Vehicles by Model” set. The reproducible R-Code as well as the data is on a private Github repository: <https://github.com/greenore/cs171-project>

Fuel Economy for Hybrids

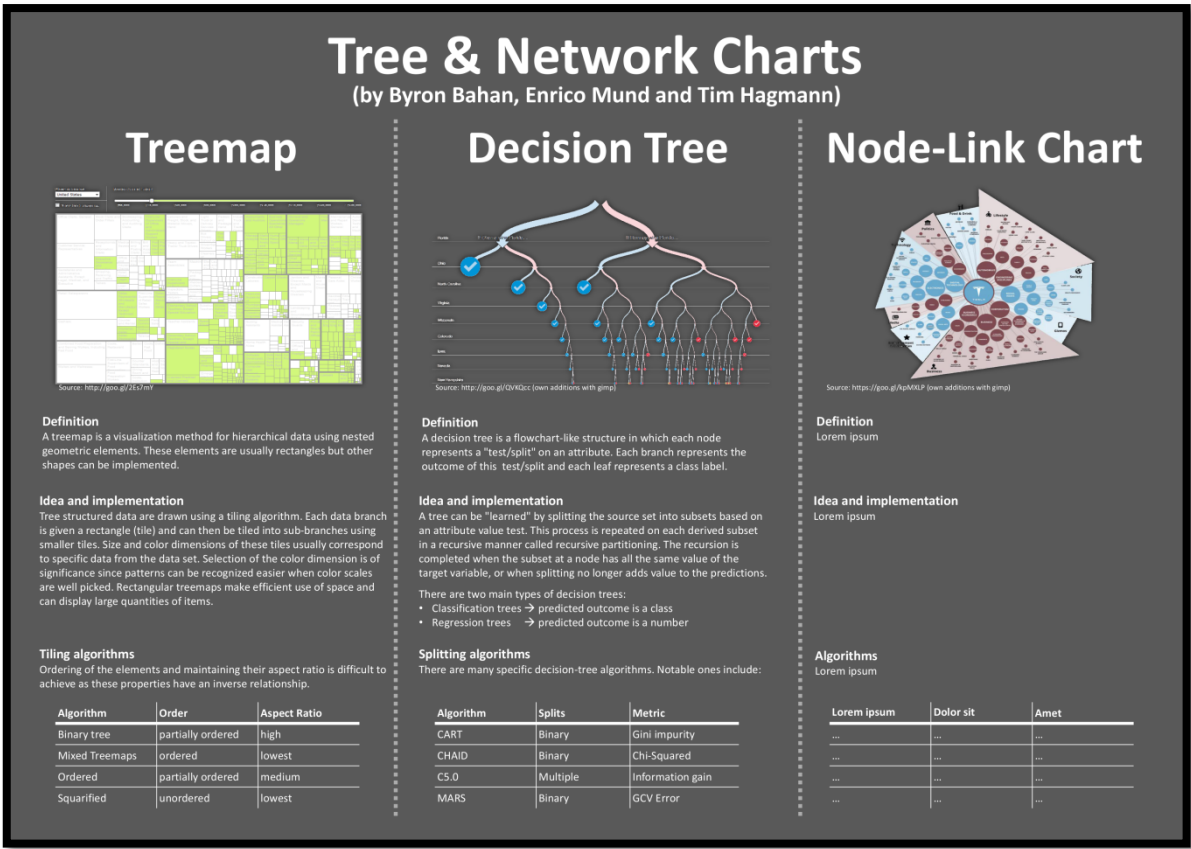


Fuel Economy for Electric Cars



APPENDIX

A1 Poster



A2 Vis Exploration Questionnaire

CS 171

Vis Exploration Poster Session

Please submit this questionnaire - one sheet for each team member - and a photo of your poster (one per team) with your homework

The timetable gives you an overview which expert group has to present and which expert group will go around and explore visualization techniques. Please stand next to your poster when your expert group is presenting.

| | | Presenting | Exploring |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| 2:45 - 3:00 | A — Geographical Data / Maps | A | B C D |
| 3:00 - 3:15 | B — Trees & Networks | B | A C D |
| 3:15 - 3:30 | C — Visualization for Text | C | A B D |
| 3:30 - 3:45 | D — Vis for High Dimensional Data | D | A B C |
| 3:45 - 4:00 | Vote for your best poster | | |

Best Poster Award: Please put your sticky dots on the posters that you like most. You can put multiple dots on the same poster if you wish to do so.

One Minute Paper: Please do not forget to submit the one minute papers! You have until tomorrow.

Name: Tim Hagmann

Group name: Team Tesla

List **three** visualization techniques you found most commonly on the posters about Geographical Data

- Choropleth
- Heat Map
- Sunburst plot



List **three** visualization techniques you found most commonly on the posters about Trees and Networks

- Node-Link
- Treemaps
- Binary Tree

List **three** visualization techniques you found most commonly on the posters about Text Visualization

- Word Cloud
- Word Network
- Word Tree

List **three** visualization techniques you found most commonly on the posters about High Dimensional Data

- Parallel Coordinates
- Star Maps
- Horizon Graph

Next lecture: Evaluation & Innovation with D3



Vis Exploration Poster Session

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One Minute Paper: Please do not forget to submit the one minute papers! You have until tomorrow.

Name: Byron Bahan

Group name: Team Tesla

List **three** visualization techniques you found most commonly on the posters about Geographical Data

Pie Chart
Scattered Plots
Data Layers



List **three** visualization techniques you found most commonly on the posters about Trees and Networks

MESH
STAR
TREE

List **three** visualization techniques you found most commonly on the posters about Text Visualization

Bamboo
ManyEyes
WordSmith

List **three** visualization techniques you found most commonly on the posters about High Dimensional Data

Biological Data
Random Field Data
Collaborative Filtering Data

Next lecture: Evaluation & Innovation with D3



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One Minute Paper: Please do not forget to submit the one minute papers! You have until tomorrow.

Name: Enrico Mund

Group name: Team Tesla

List **three** visualization techniques you found most commonly on the posters about Geographical Data

- Heat Map
- Flow Map
- Choropleth



List **three** visualization techniques you found most commonly on the posters about Trees and Networks

- Treemap
- Sunburst Plot
- Sankey Diagramm

List **three** visualization techniques you found most commonly on the posters about Text Visualization

- Word Network
- Word Tree
- Word Cloud

List **three** visualization techniques you found most commonly on the posters about High Dimensional Data

- Three Dimensional
- Parallel Coordinates
- Horizon Graph

Next lecture: Evaluation & Innovation with D3