Information Visualization MOOC

Session 5 – “With Whom”: Tree Data

Algorithm Comparison
• Radial Tree Layout
• Treemap Layout

http://ivmooc.cns.iu.edu
Radial Tree Layout

- All nodes lie in concentric circles that are focused in the center of the screen.
- Nodes are evenly distributed.
- Branches of the tree do not overlap.


Circle Placement

Maximum size of the circle corresponds to minimum screen width or height.
Distance between levels \( d := \) radius of max. circle size / number of levels in the graph.

Node Placement

**Level 0**
The root node is placed at the center.

**Level 1**
All nodes are children of the root node and can be placed over all 360° of the circle. Divide 2\(\pi\) by the number of nodes at level 1 to get angle space between the nodes on the circle.
**Levels 2 and greater**

Use information on number of parents, their location, and their space for children to place all level x nodes.

Loop through the list of parents and then loop through all the children for that parent and calculate the child’s location relative to the parent’s, adding in the offset of the limit angle.

After calculating the location, if there are any directories at the level, we must calculate the bisector and tangent limits for those directories.

We then iterate through all the nodes at level 1 and calculate the position of the node.

Bisector Limits -->
Tangent and bisector limits for directories

Between any two directories, a bisector limit is calculated to ensure that children do not overlap the children of an adjacent directory.

Pseudo Code

Loop through each level in the data structure

Switch level

  case 0:
      Find the center of the drawing area, to center the graph
      Set RootNode = CenterX, CenterY
  case 1:
      AngleSpace = (2π radians / NumNodesAtThisLevel)
      Loop through all nodes at this level
      Calculate x,y positions:
         If (Node.type == Parent)
            Calculate bisector limits and tangent limits for the node
      End loop
  case 2:
      Nodes in levels two and higher must be grouped according to their parent.
      Loop through all nodes at this level and get a list of the parent nodes
      And get the number of children for each parent
      Calculate the AngleSpace for each parent:
         AngleSpace = (leftLimit - rightLimit) / NumNodesForThisParent
      Foreach parent
         Loop through all nodes for that parent
         Calculate x,y position for the child node
         If (childnode.type == Directory)
            Calculate bisector and tangent limits
      End loop
      End foreach

End switch
Treemap Layout

Pseudo Code

Input
Tree root & a rectangular area defined by upper-left and lower-right coordinates P1(x1, y1), Q1(x2, y2).

Recursive Algorithm
active_node := root_node;
partitioning_direction := horizontal; // nodes are partitioned vertically at even levels and horizontally at odd levels

Treemap(active_node) {
    determine number n of outgoing edges from the active_node;
    if (n<1)
        end;
    if (n>1) {
        divide the region [x1, x2] in partitioning direction where the size of the n partitions correspond to their fraction (Size(child[i])/Size(active)) of the total number of bytes in the active_node;
        change partitioning_direction;
        for (1<=i<=n) do
            Treemap(child[i]);
    }
}
Strengths
• Utilizes 100% of display space.
• Shows nesting of hierarchical levels.
• Represents node attributes (e.g., size and age) by area size and color.
• Scalable to data sets of a million items.

Weaknesses
• Size comparison is difficult.
• Labeling is a problem.
• Cluttered display.
• Difficult to discern boundaries.
• Shows only leaf content information.

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