Visualisation of Trees

Jean-Daniel Fekete INRIA Saclay – Île-de-France Projet AVIZ











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| Microsoft Internet Self-Repair | Thursday, August 3, 2000, 12:54 AM | — fc | Applications | AddressBook | Aladdin | |
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| Outlook Express 5.02 Folder | Thursday, August 3, 2000, 12:54 AM | - fc | Ø Mac OS 9 Ø QuickTime™ Folde | ① Clock GrabBag | Console Disk Copy | 000 |
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| Internet Utilities | Monday, January 29, 2001, 4:48 PM | — fc | | Music Player | Installer Keychain Access | Kind: Application |
| MacNFS | Friday, September B, 2000, 1028 AM | — fc | | 2 PPP Connect | Multiple Users | Size: 660 K8 Created: 10/25/00 |
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| Mozilla f | Tuesday, October 17, 2000, B:04 AM | — rc | fc | QuickTime Player | Print Center | |
| ₩ Netscape Communicator™ | Monday, October 16, 2000, 3:47 PM | 4 Kal | | Stickies | Script Editor | |
| Public/Demos | Monday, February 19, 2001, 3:47 PM | — ft | | System Preference | 👌 Software Update | |
| Research | Friday, February 16, 2001, 4:53 PM | — fc | | TextEdit | Terminal | |
| Service | Friday, February 16, 2001, 4:31 PM | — te | | 📁 Utilities | | |
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| Web Pages | Thursday, August 3, 2000, 12:56 AM | - fr | | | | |











































Network Visualization

Jean-Daniel Fekete INRIA Saclay – Île-de-France





- From a graph structure, we can compute the following properties:
 - Degree (input/output) of a vertex
 - Distance between two vertices (min number of hops from one to the other)
 - Connected components (weak/strong)
 - Diameter
 - Centrality of a vertex
 - Density of a graph



- Node Link Diagram
 - A node represents a vertex
 - A link represents an edge
- Adjacency Matrix
 - A line is a (source) vertex
 - A column is a (destination) vertex
 - A the intersection, the cell represents the edge



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Examples of Tasks on Graphs

- The main tasks related to graphs are:
 - Vertices: find their degree, if they are isolated (degree=0), source only (no incoming edge), sink (no outgoing edges), neighbors
 - Paths: shortest paths, all paths, cycles
 - Sub-Graph: connected components, etc.
- The list is unbounded, all the application domains add more useful tasks. However, there is a bounded list of very generic tasks.





































































Controlled Experiment: Node Link Diagrams vs. Adjacency Matrices

- The Tasks:
- Tasks related to the overview
 - Number of vertices
 - Number of arcs
- Tasks related to graph elements

 - Finding an element (a vertex, a link) Finding the most connected vertex (a central actor, a pivot, a hub)
 - Finding a common neighbor
 - Finding a path
 - Random graphs (3 sizes et 3 densities)
- 2 representations: Node-Link + Matrix
- **Results:**
- Node-link diagrams are preferable for small sparse graphs (20 vertices)

Matrices are more readable wrt dense graphs and medium/large graphs (> vertices) wrt the selected tasks, except path finding > 20

References:

Mohammad Ghoniem, Jean-Daniel Fekete and Philippe Castagliola Readability of Graphs Using Node-Link and Matrix-Based Representations: Controlled Experiment and Statistical Analysis, Information Visualization Journal, 4(2), Palgrave Macmillan, Summer 2005, pp. 114-135

















MatLink significantly improves matrices

Controlled experiment • SCORE COMPLETION TIME • 3 vis. x 6 datasets x 5 tasks Matrix , Node-Link, MatLink Data: From almost-trees To complete-graphs MatLink MAT NL MatLink MAT NL Including small-world networks Tasks: 1. CommonNeighbour, MatLink MAT D NL ERRORS 2. ShortestPath, 3. MostConnected, 4. ArticulationPoint, 5. LargestClique



NodeTrix: the NetVis Nirvana?















Challenges

- Exploring Very Large / Very Dense Networks
- Linking Exploration and Modeling
- Reordering Methods for Matrices
 - What is a good order and why?
 - Orderings for directed graphs
 - Multi-Scale Ordering (top-down methods)

