Interactive Data Visualization

09

Evaluating Visualization Techniques



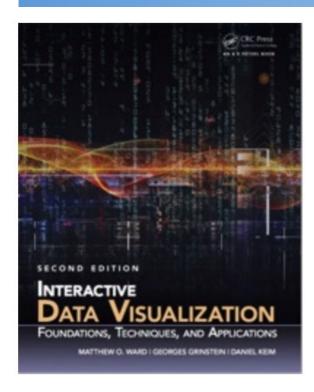
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Interactive Data Visualization: Foundations, Techniques, and Applications

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2015, 2nd Edition

ISBN: 9781482257373

ISBN (e-Book): 9781482257397

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Interactive Data Visualization

Introduction





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Performing rigorous evaluation is difficult and time-consuming!

Interactive Data Visualization



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- locate: to establish the position of an object;
- distinguish: to determine that an object is distinct or different from another;
- categorize: to classify objects into distinct types, such as different land cover or material types;
- cluster: to group similar objects based on some relationship. A related action is to segment, which consists of separating dissimilar objects;



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- correlate: to find a causal or reciprocal relationship between two or more objects, such as determining the relationship between interest rates and economic growth.





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 - How many falsely labeled correlations are acceptable?
 - For what data characteristics is it important that errors be minimized?



Interactive Data Visualization



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- Familiarity with data. Has the user examined this data previously and formed a reasonable mental model of its contents, or is this her first exposure to it? Is it similar to other data sets she has examined?

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- Familiarity with the visualization technique. Is this the user's first attempt to interpret the data using this particular kind of visualization, or has she spent considerable time using the technique?
- Familiarity with the visualization environment. Has the user employed the particular tool (or a similar one) in the past, or is it her first exposure? This differs from the previous factor, as a visualization technique can be implemented in several different packages, and aspects of the packages themselves can influence the effectiveness of the exploration of the data.

- In an ideal evaluation using human subjects, we would want the range of characteristics of the participants to be as similar as possible to the intended audience for the technique
- The results should be evaluated by grouping people with similar characteristics



Interactive Data Visualization



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- Type. In many cases, the data is all of the same type (e.g., floating-point numbers). Often, however, it is a mixture of types, such as text intermingled with numbers. All combinations of types that can occur should be tested.
- Size. Data sets in a particular domain can often take on a wide range of sizes, from a few records to thousands or millions of records. Tests should cover the normal size range, as well as extreme values for the size.

Dimensionality. While in many scientific domains the data generally have fixed dimensionality (one, two, or three), it is generally useful to test a visualization with all possible subsets of dimensions (slices or projections), as well as, with the normal dimensionality.



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- Number of parameters. The normal number of parameters in a data set varies widely from one domain to another. Visualization techniques should be tested with both univariate and multivariate data sets (unless only univariate data exists); indeed, a common test is to ascertain the maximum number of parameters that can be effectively displayed by a technique.

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- Distribution. Data can be uniformly or non-uniformly distributed, both in values and in attributes (such as spatio-temporal position). Tests should include some extreme cases.
- Real vs. Synthetic. For some types of evaluation (e.g., size tests) synthetic data is fine, but in general it is more convincing to use real data.



- Few domains have made concerted efforts to gather large numbers of data sets for testing:
 - The machine learning archive at the University of California
 - StatLib repository at CMU

- Some Links:
 - http://lib.stat.cmu.edu/datasets/
 - https://github.com/caesar0301/awesome-public-datasets
 - https://aws.amazon.com/public-datasets/
 - https://archive.org/details/datasets



Interactive Data Visualization



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- Computational performance. How quickly can the visualization be generated, using data sets of various sizes?
- Memory performance. How much computer memory is required to generate the visualization?
- Data limitations. What are the upper and lower bounds for the size and complexity of the data that can be visualized with this technique? At what point does the amount of information extractable from the visualization stabilize or decrease with increased data size/complexity? At what point does the error rate for performing the task increase to an unacceptable level?

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- Degree of usability. How easy is it to perform the task? How intuitive is the interpretation of the visualization? How intuitive are the controls for interactions?
- Degree of accuracy. How frequently is the user successful or unsuccessful in performing the desired task with this technique? Under what conditions are errors made, and how bad are the errors (i.e., distance from correctness)?



Interactive Data Visualization



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 - Observing users attempting to perform tasks, and noting the types of difficulties they are having, the features they commonly use, and their level of comfort/satisfaction with the tool.
 - Often, the evaluation starts with some usability goals or requirements, and the result of the evaluation indicates whether the goal or requirement has been met or not.



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 - The results of field tests are often qualitative, and may change significantly over time. They can be effective, especially if users are encouraged to submit questions and critiques that can lead to clarifications and improvements in functionality.



Case studies and use cases

- Rather than using experts, users, or student volunteers in evaluation, some visualization researchers attempt to validate the effectiveness of their techniques by showing real (or sometimes contrived) examples of how their method can be used in solving a particular problem or performing a given task.
- The key to this sort of evaluation is to ensure that the case studies are sufficiently realistic so that someone with a particular task to perform can be convinced that at least one of the case studies is

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Steps:

- Formulate a hypothesis
- Design the experiments

- Execute the experiments
- Analyze the results and validate the hypothesis



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- It is a good idea if the hypothesis includes information about task, user, and data.



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 - Measuring the usability of a tool would require the subjects to perform identical tasks that exercise only the usability issue, and not peripheral issues such as the color scheme or the hardware speed.

Execute the experiments



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 - Each participant should get a similar amount of instruction on performing the experiments, including identifying the procedure they should follow, the expected format of their responses, and the pace at which they should proceed.

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 - Audience should be of sufficient size to make the results statistically significant. For testing a single attribute of a visualization, at least 15–20 subjects with similar backgrounds.



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- For quantitative variables of the experiments, such as data set size, it is useful to plot results against the variable.



Interactive Data Visualization



Context

- Using social semantic knowledge to improve annotations in personal photo collections, PhD from Nuno Datia, 2015
- The Logical Day Event Segmentation (LDES) algorithm uses the creation time of photos to fulfill a base segmentation. The spatial information is used to fine-tune the limits of each segment.

The LDES was tested by a set of volunteers.

The research statement of the study is that users accept the segmentations suggested by LDES, with minor changes



Test

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The empirical study involved 14 participants who have provided us with some of their rolls (35 in total). There was a balance in terms of gender, with eight males and six females. Their age ranged from 21 to 55 years, covering a wide range of ages (see Figure 6.9). Most of them are computer science students. We provided them with some guidelines to help the roll selection, namely:

- 1. the photos should have location information;
- 2. the temporal range of each roll should have more than 1 day;
- 3. the rolls should reflect real sequences of photos, without a pre-selection.

The participants were responsible for selecting the rolls. For the record, we used all of the provided sets, even though some do not fulfil all three guidelines.



6.1.2.2 Test Design

The experimental unit in this empirical user test is the pair < participant, roll >. There are some participants that share some rolls. Two rolls are shared between two participants each, and four rolls are shared between two participants. Those rolls represent situations where the participants are simultaneously the photographer and the subject. The segmentations are presented independently to each user. Thus, the 14 participants, interacting with 35 different rolls, makes the 43 experimental units in the test.

Figure 6.12 describes the flow used in the experimental user tests, made using a web application. It includes:

- 1. a questionnaire;
- 2. a training phase and;
- 3. the test itself.

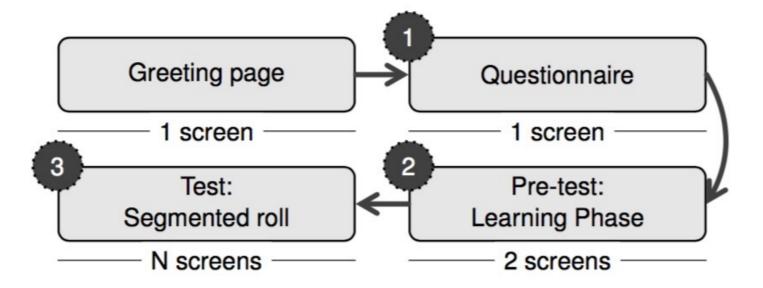


Figure 6.12: Representation of the test flow.

- **Step 2: The training phase** After the questionnaire, the participant passes to a *pre-test learning phase*. The goal is to let the participant learn how photos are presented in the segments and how to change the segmentation, permitting an exploratory interaction. The learning phase has two steps, that share a similar layout:
 - 1. a first one, introduces some simple terms and calls the participant attention to the way the segmentation is presented, showing the basic interaction, and
 - a second one, where the participant can freely interact with the user interface (UI), changing the segmentation at will. This includes the creation of new segments, and changing photos from one segment to another.

A participant can repeat the learning steps, as it is possible to go back and forth thorough them. Figure 6.13 depicts the first step of the learning phase. The left-hand side, marked as ⓐ, displays a representation of a segmentation. The tooltips indicate the locations of the labels, what a segment is, and identifies the contents of a segments — photos. The photos are labelled with letters, so the order can be checked, after the participant changes

Training phase

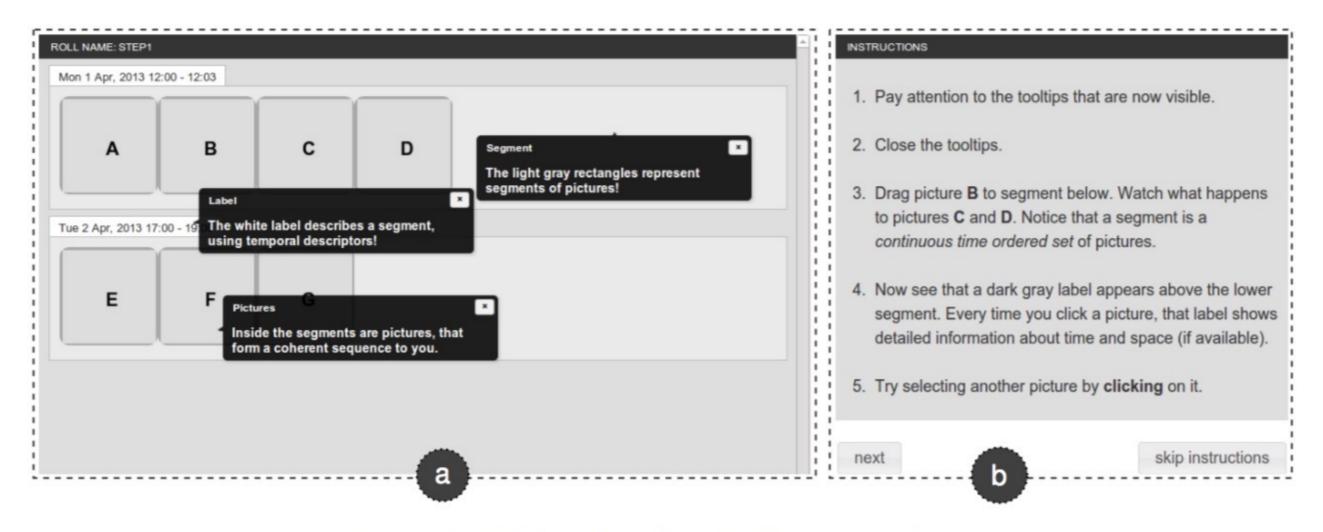
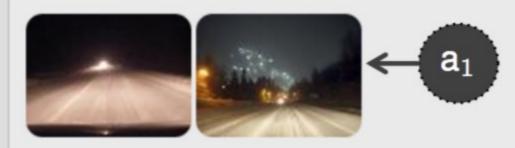


Figure 6.13: Interface for the learning phase.

Thu 25 Dec, 2008 17:49 - 18:09

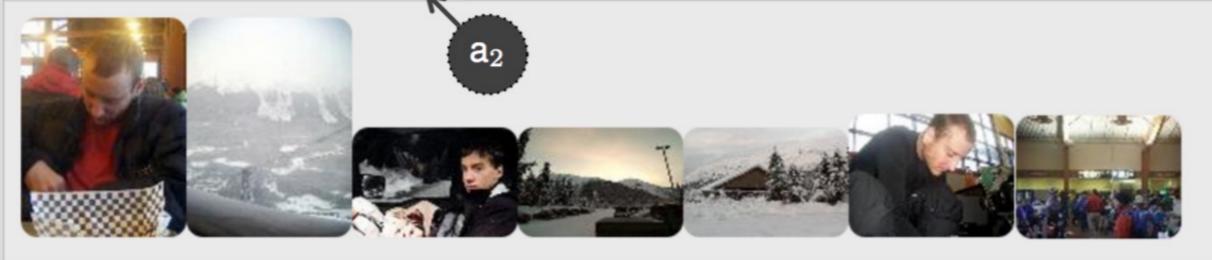


Fri 26 Dec, 2008 09:57 - 10:23

Fri 26 Dec, 2008 @ 10:23:19, probably at Anchorage Municipality



Fri 26 Dec, 2008 14:44 - Sat 27 Dec, 2008 12:33



Sat 27 Dec, 2008 16:11 - 18:36



Experiment Analysis

6.1.5 Experiment analysis

As stated earlier, the research statement that we want to assess in this empirical study is that users will accept the temporal coherent segmentation provided by LDES, with none or minor changes. During the empirical study, we collected several data, namely:

- 1. the participant's modified segmentation;
- 2. the stream of actions made on the segmentation, by the participant;
- 3. the perceived quality of the segmentation.

Experiment Analysis

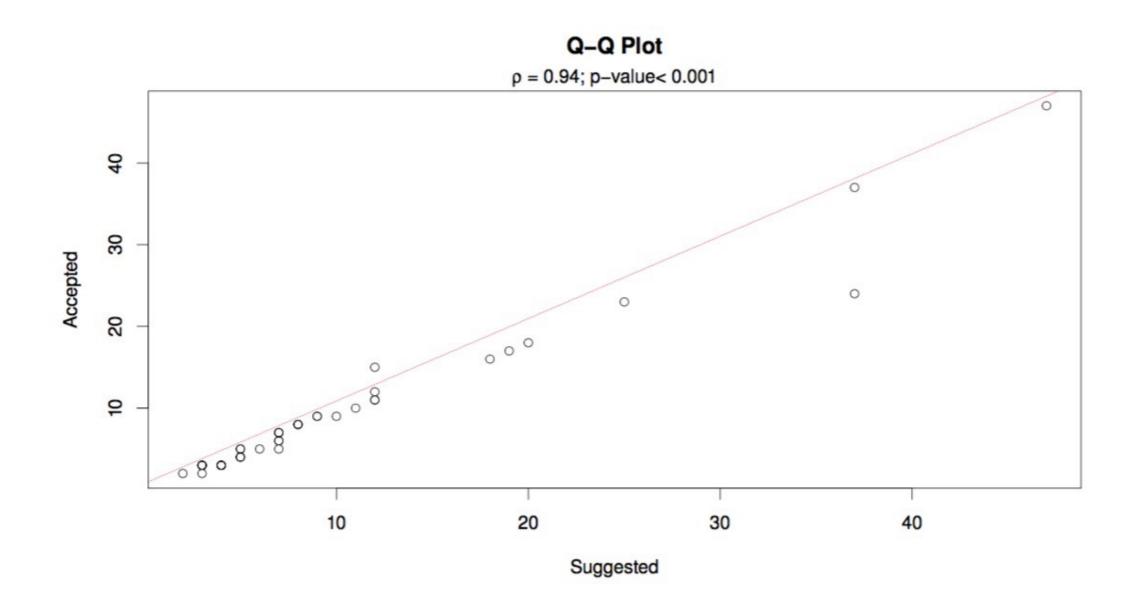


Figure 6.20: Quantile-Quantile plot for the no. of segments for the suggested segmentations and user-modified segmentations.



Interactive Data Visualization



- A set of experiments for assessing.
 - The strengths and weaknesses of three multivariate visualization techniques,
 namely scatterplot matrices, parallel coordinates, and star glyphs,
 - Two distinct tasks: cluster analysis and outlier detection.



- Outlier Detection and Measurement Experiments
 - Stage 1. develop a quantifiable definition for an outlier and create an algorithm capable of labeling data points appropriately



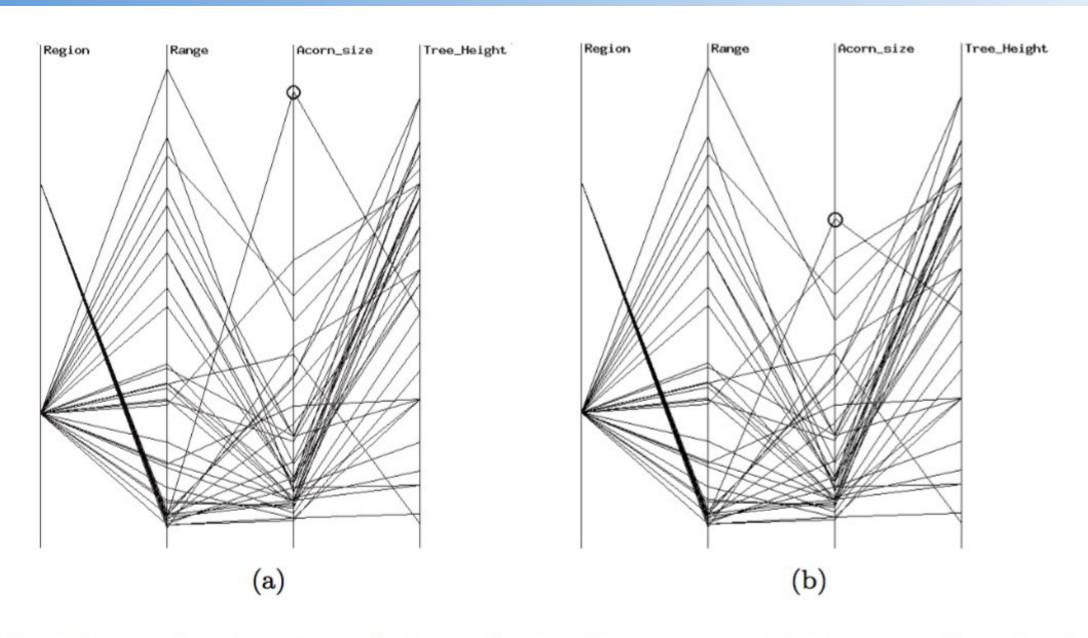
- Outlier Detection and Measurement Experiments
 - Stage 1. develop a quantifiable definition for an outlier and create an algorithm capable of labeling data points appropriately
 - Stage 2. Data sets, both real and simulated, were then acquired or generated that contained outliers, according to the definition in Stage 1. For some data sets, the degree of separation between the outliers and the main bodies of data points were varied to test subject sensitivity



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 - Stage 1. develop a quantifiable definition for an outlier and create an algorithm capable of labeling data points appropriately
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 A total of six outlier experiments were designed, and each was repeated three times for the three visualization techniques being tested.





Parallel coordinates view of data set describing acorn attributes, with a single outlier (circled, in the acorn size dimension) (a) in its original position and (b) with the distance artificially shortened [442]. (Image © 1997 IEEE.)



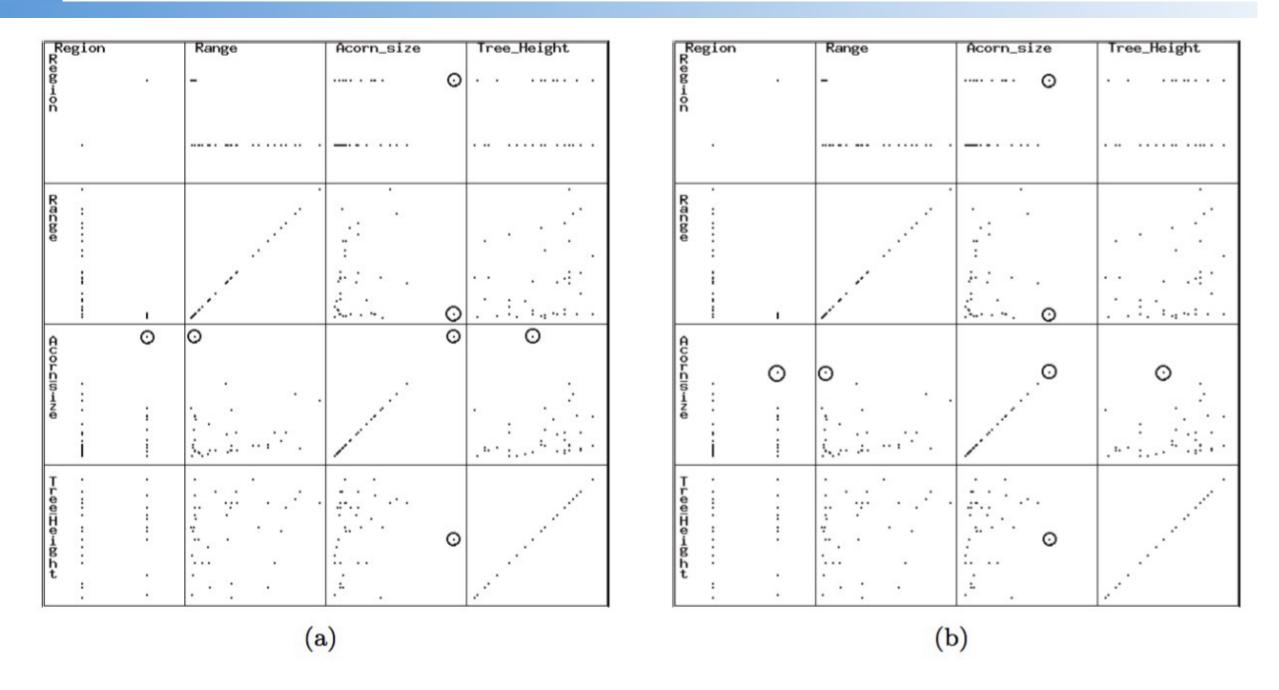


Figure 14.2. Identifying outliers with scatterplot matrices: same data as previous figure, using scatterplot matrices [442]. (Image © 1997 IEEE.)



Stage3.

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- They were shown a set of 18 images of data sets containing between 0 and 6 outliers. The subjects were asked not to spend more than one minute per image. The tasks given to them were:
 - Determine if an image contains one or more outliers.
 - Identify the points believed to be outliers.



- ♦ The subjects (19 computer science graduate students with minimal exposure to data visualization) were trained to interpret the visualization technique(s) to be assessed and given examples of data sets with identified outliers(approximately one hour of training).
- ♦ They were shown a set of 18 images of data sets containing between 0 and 6 outliers. The subjects were asked not to spend more than one minute per image. The tasks given to them were:
 - Determine if an image contains one or more outliers.
 - Identify the points believed to be outliers.
 - Estimate the degree of separation of each outlier on a 5-point scale.



- Stage 4.
 - Given the subject responses, the usefulness of each visualization method tested was assessed in terms of outlier detection and measurement across data sets with different characteristics.
 - The percentages of correctly and incorrectly detected outliers were tallied.
 - The average error in estimating the degree of separation.



See the Cluster Detection and Measurement Experiments on page 442

- For both tasks,
 - scatterplot matrices generally fared best,
 - followed by star glyphs positioned by principal component analysis,
 - and lastly by parallel coordinates



Interactive Data Visualization

One more example for Data VIS



Interactive Data Visualization

Visualização de dados para auxiliar a defesa da floresta contra incêndios

- Manuel de la Cueva -

LINK



"Visualização de dados para auxiliar a defesa da floresta contra incêndios"

Manuel de La Cueva Couto Henriques

Contexto

Esta tese de mestrado tem como objectivo criar visualizações interactivas de dados que apresentem informação sobre incêndios florestais. Esta informação pode estar relacionada com as previsões meteorológicas, elevação do terreno, tipo de vegetação, o perímetro do incêndio e até a sua gravidade. Estes dados são muito importantes para compreender o que está a ocorrer no terreno e tomar decisões mais conscientes.

Para testar a qualidade destas visualizações foi criado este website. Aqui será submetido a uma avaliação experimental que consiste num conjunto de tarefas que precisará de responder recorrendo a diferentes tipos de visualizações. Serão registados os tempos e respostas dadas por cada tarefa.

Não deve voltar atrás ou actualizar as páginas deste site, isso introduzirá erros na plataforma e terá de começar do início. Por esse motivo, se tiver alguma dúvida ou problema, poderá contactar-me directamente através do meu número de telemóvel: 969476629.

Sugiro a utilização do Google Chrome, pois este site apenas foi testado para esse browser.

Por favor preencha todos os campos abaixo apresentados. Quando estiver preparado(a) para começar a avaliação experimental clique no botão "Começar".

O nome servirá apenas para o contactar no caso de dúvida, para um questionário ou outra eventualidade que possa surgir relacionada com esta avaliação.

Nome
Idade ©
Sexo
Feminino
Masculino
Tem alguma experiência em combate a incêndios? Sim
○ Não
Tem alguma experiência com o MacFire? Sim
○ Não
Tem alguma experiência com SIG (Sistemas de Informação Geográfica)? Sim
○ Não
Tem alguma experiência com Visualizações Interativas de Dados? Sim
○ Não

Conceitos básicos de combate a incêndios florestais

Como seleccionou que não tinha experiência em combate a incêndios florestais, esta página contem alguns conceitos básicos que deve conhecer para completar as tarefas da avaliação experimental. Por favor, leia com atenção os seguintes tópicos e não hesite em colocar alguma questão.

Frentes de fogo

As frentes de fogo são a frente principal de propagação do fogo. De todo o perímetro do fogo, são as zonas mais intensas e a que se propaga mais rapidamente de todo o incêndio.

Geralmente, a direcção de propagação é igual à direcção do vento.

Flancos do incêndio

Os flancos do incêndio são as laterais do incêndio. São maiores em extensão do que as frentes de fogo mas menos intensas.

Quando o vento muda de direcção os flancos podem passar a ser frentes de fogo, sendo uma situação bastante perigosa. Quando isto acontece, estas novas frentes de fogo são bastante extensas e devastam grandes quantidades de terreno em pouco tempo.



Meteorologia

As condições meteorológicas têm um papel importantíssimo no comportamento do fogo. Geralmente, influenciam o incêndio da seguinte maneira:

A direcção do vento define a direcção de propagação do incêndio.

A velocidade do vento define a velocidade da propagação do incêndio. A situação fica bastante grave quando a velocidade atinge valores superiores a 30 Km/h.

A humidade relativa do solo define o estado de secura da vegetação. Quando mais seca a vegetação é, mais suscetível é ao aparecimento e à propagação de incêndios. A ocorrência do incêndio é bastante grave quando a humidade atinge valores inferiores a 30%.

A **temperatura** está directamente relacionada com a humidade relativa. Durante o dia a temperatura sobe e a humidade diminui, acontecendo o oposto à noite. A gravidade do incêndio é bastante acentuada quando a temperatura do vento atinge valores superiores a **30° celsius**, sendo por isso o Verão a estação com maior número de fogos florestais.

Topografia

A elevação do terreno afecta o combate a incêndios florestais de duas maneiras possíveis:

Pode impedir o acesso de veículos terrestres ou de pessoas a determinadas zonas, devido a inclinações muito acentuadas.

Define a velocidade de propagação do incêndio. O fogo propaga-se mais rapidamente a subir uma encosta, pois consegue apanhar com facilidade as folhas das árvores mais à frente. Contrariamente, o fogo propaga-se mais devagar a descer encostas pois tem mais dificuldade em chegar às folhas das árvores seguintes.



Conceitos básicos de Macfire

Como seleccionou que não tinha experiência com MacFire, esta página contem alguns conceitos básicos que deve conhecer para completar as tarefas da avaliação experimental. Por favor, leia com atenção os seguintes tópicos e não hesite em colocar alguma questão.

Mapas digitais

O Macfire é um sistema informático que permite visualizar informação do terreno directamente num mapa. Estes mapas pode ser imagens de satélite (por exemplo, o Google Maps) ou cartografia mais complexa com informação topográfica ou de utilização do terreno.

Uma das informações mais importantes nestes mapas é a indicação da localização de frentes de fogo, flancos e área ardida.



Estado do incêndio

O estado do incêndio diz respeito à localização de frentes de fogo, flancos e área ardida. Esta informação é adicionada no MacFire à mão por agentes situados no terreno. Esta informação tem uma simbologia específica.

A área ardida é representada através de polígonos e tem uma cor cinzenta.

As **frentes de fogo** e os **flancos** são representadas através de **linhas**. Estas linhas podem ter 3 cores diferentes:

Linhas **vermelhas** são frentes de fogo **muito activas**. São extremamente difíceis de apagar e geralmente não são combatidas directamente com recurso a água.

Linhas **laranjas** são frentes de fogo **activas**. São frentes difíceis de apagar mas possibilitam o combate directo.

Linhas amarelas são frentes de fogo pouco activas. São fáceis de apagar.

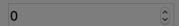
Continuar

Tarefa 0

Esta tarefa serve apenas para compreender o processo de avaliação. Não será registado o tempo ou a resposta dada.

Questão:

Após clicar no botão "Mostrar Visualização", indique qual o número que aparece na janela de visualização.



Antes de Começar 1/5

Tarefa 24

Encontra-se no dia 22 de Julho de 2019. Certifique-se que procura informação para a resposta com referência a este dia.

otão.

A primeira coisa a fazer é olhar para o canto superior esquerdo do ecrã. Aqui terá a contextualização da tarefa para o guiar na resposta e nas visualizações disponibilizadas.

Próximo

Tarefa 0

Esta tarefa serve apenas para compreender o processo de avaliação. Não será registado o tempo ou a resposta dada.

Questão:

Após clicar no botão "Mostrar Visualização", indique qual o número que aparece na janela de visualização.



Após ler a tarefa e a questão, clique neste botão.

Mostrar Visualização

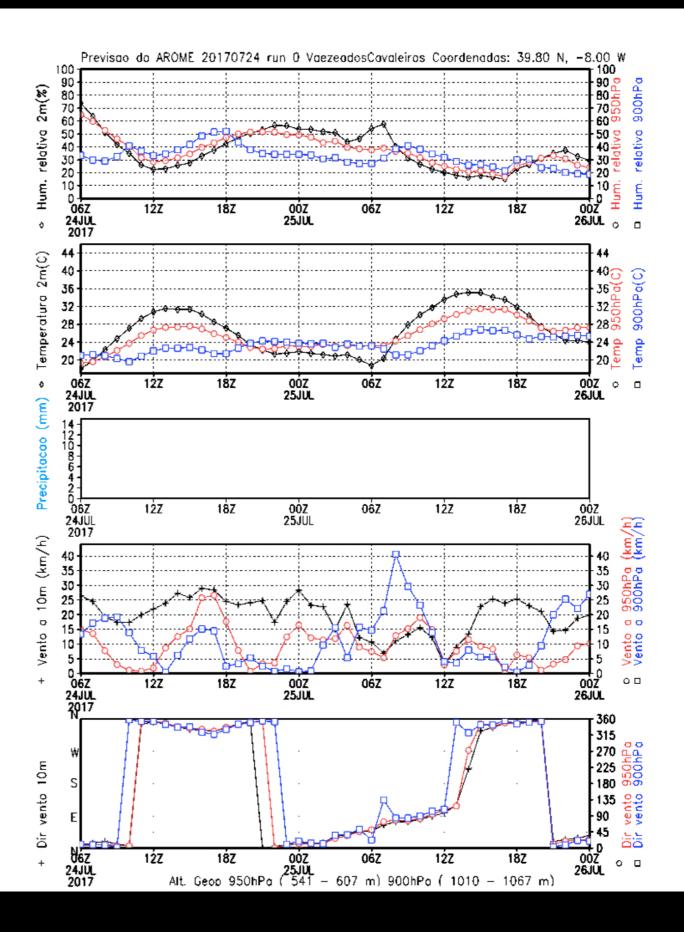
Tarefa 1/47

Encontra-se no dia **25 de Julho** de 2017. Certifique-se que procura informação para as respostas com referência a este dia.

A visualização do lado direito utiliza 3 linhas com cores diferentes. Utilize a **linha preta** para responder às perguntas.

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7		90	ナコ	\sim
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Qual a velocidade do vento máxima entre as 12 e as 18 horas?



Tarefa 5/47

Encontra-se no dia 22 de Maio de 2020.

Contudo, procure informação para o dia 24 de Maio de 2020. Pode interagir com a visualização para escolher o dia.

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w	ч	C 2	La	u	٠.

Qual a temp	peratura	máxima	entre	as	12	е	as	18
noras?								



Noticias

Quem somos | Onde estamos | Conselho científico | Recrutamento | Projetos | eBiblioteca | Enciclopédia ipma | Contactos | 🚟 English

ok

Pesquisa

Bivalves Pescas e aquacultura Aeronáutica Agricultura Espaço Fogos Rurais IPMA > Tempo > Previsão localidade horária Selecione Distrito/Ilha: Lisboa \$ Selecione a Cidade/Vila: Lisboa **†**) protocolo com o comité olímpico de portugal Lisboa, Lisboa 22 Sex 23 Sáb 24 Dom 25 Seg 26 Ter 27 Qua 28 Qui 29 Sex 30 Sáb COMITÉ OLÍMPICO IPMA apoia atletas nacionais 2020-05-14 relatório final \bigcirc Climate Change and European Fisheries and Aquaculture NW NW NW 0% 0% Projeto CERES 2020-05-14 reunião online 9H 10H 11H 12H 13H 14H 16H 17H 18H 19H 20H 21H 22H 23H 0H Probabilidade de ocorrência de precipitação, igual ou superior a 0.3 mm, nas últimas 3 horas SEAFOODTOMORROW Temperatura / Temperatura sentida 2020-05-13 | 19° | 21° | 23° | 24° | 25° | 26° | 27° | 26° | 25° | 24° | 23° | 22° | 20° | 19° | 20° | 19° | 19° | 19° | Ver mais notícias \bigcirc \bigcirc 1.7 1.7 1.8 1.8 1.0 1.1 1.2 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.4 1.5 1.6 NW 18° 17° 17° 17° 17° 17° 17° 17° **Avisos Meteorológicos**

Para mais informações de avisos meteorológicos consulte aqui-

Informação sobre a previsão:

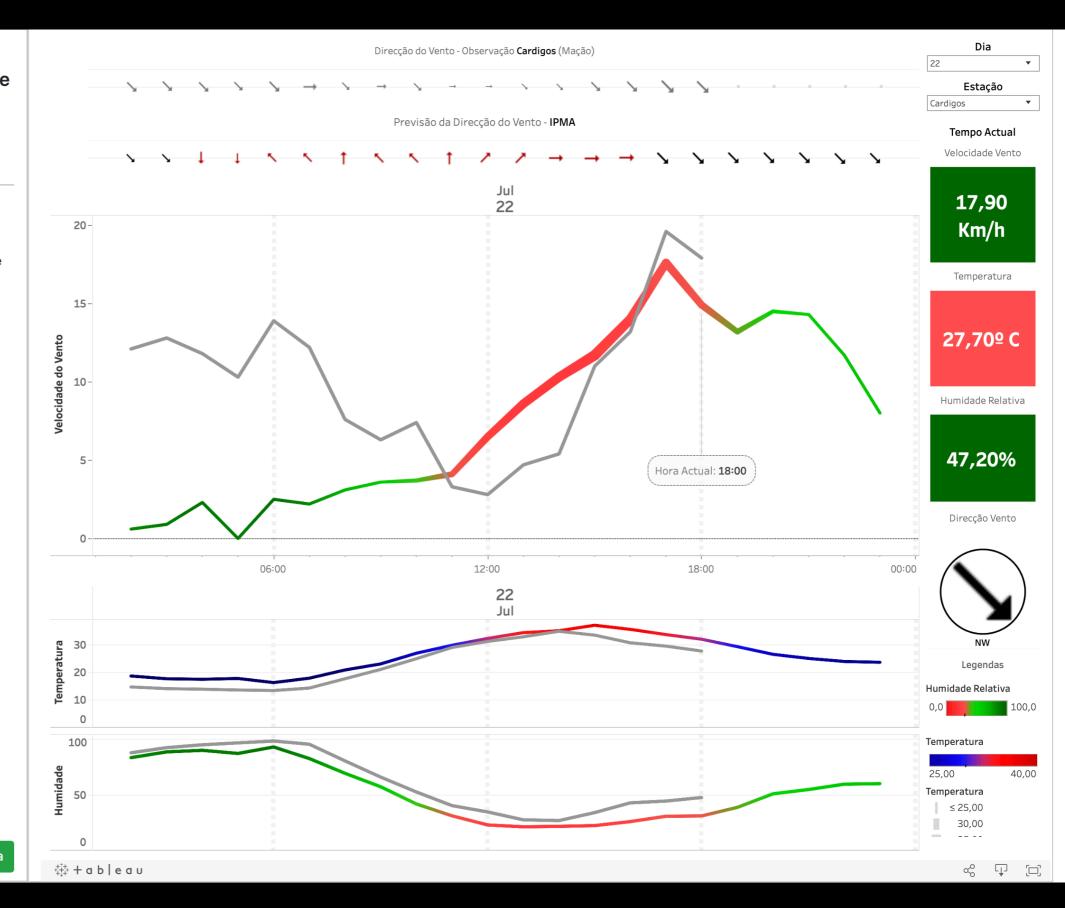
- As previsões disponibilizadas são obtidas automaticamente através de processamento estatístico das previsões de dois modelos numéricos (ECMWF e AROME), sendo atualizadas duas vezes por dia. Em situações de diferenças significativas entre a previsão e a realidade, as previsões disponibilizadas para as capitais de distrito e ilhas podem ser corrigidas por meteorologistas.
- Devido à natureza dos fenómenos meteorológicos, o estado do tempo, em algumas situações, poderá não ser reproduzido adequadamente pelos modelos numéricos. Deste modo, esta previsão poderá ser distinta da previsão descritiva elaborada pelos meteorologistas, pois estes têm ao seu dispor informação adicional e mais atualizada, pelo que o utilizador deverá consultar também essa previsão e eventuais avisos meteorológicos
- Para aferir a incerteza da previsão em termos de precipitação, são apresentados dois valores de probabilidade de precipitação:
- a) na previsão diária é apresentada a probabilidade de precipitação (igual ou superior a 1mm/24h), a qual é um indicador útil para averiguar se poderá ocorrer chuva e/ou neve durante esse dia:

Tarefa 6/47

Encontra-se no dia **22 de Julho** de 2019. Certifique-se que procura informação para a resposta com referência a este dia.

Questão:

Qual a velocidade do vento máxima entre as 12 e as 18 horas, segundo as previsões do IPMA?



Tarefa 46/47

Encontra-se no dia 25 de Julho de 2017 às 18:00 horas. Existe um incêndio que começou às 16:00 horas e propagou-se no sentido Sul, como poderá ver na visualização do lado direito.

Questão:

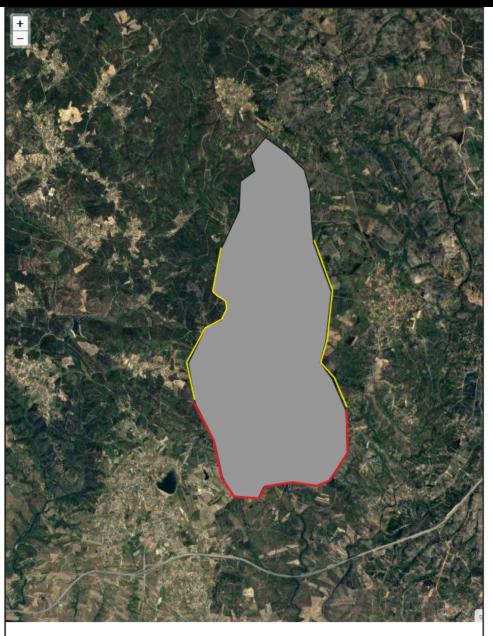
Tendo em conta as previsões da direcção do vento, os flancos do fogo vão passar a ser frentes de fogo até ao final do dia?

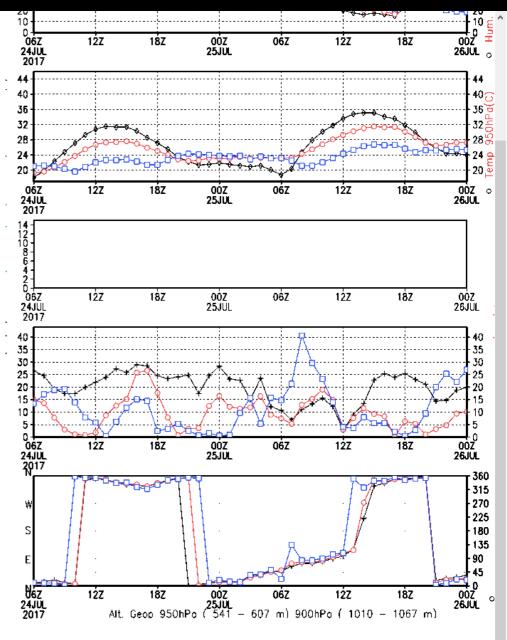
O Sim

○ Não

Legenda:

Frente de Fogo Pouco Activa
Frente de Fogo Muito Activa
Área Ardida





Tarefa 45/47

Encontra-se no dia 22 de Julho de 2019 às 18:00 horas. Existe um incêndio que começou às 12:00 horas e propagou-se no sentido Sudeste, como poderá ver na visualização do lado direito.

Questão:

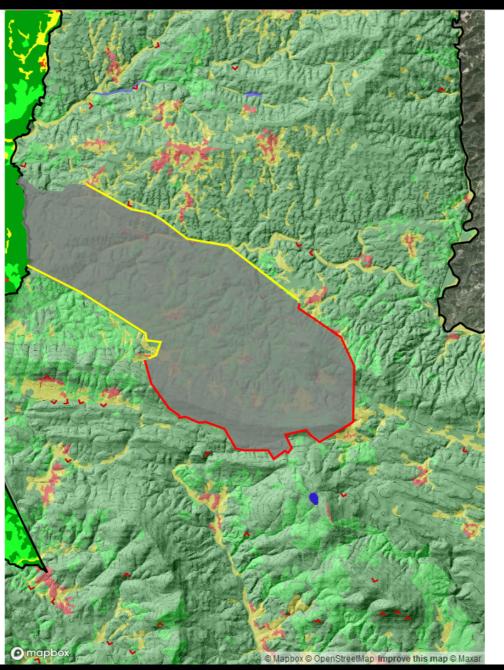
Tendo em conta as previsões da direcção do vento, os flancos do fogo vão passar a ser frentes de fogo até ao final do dia?

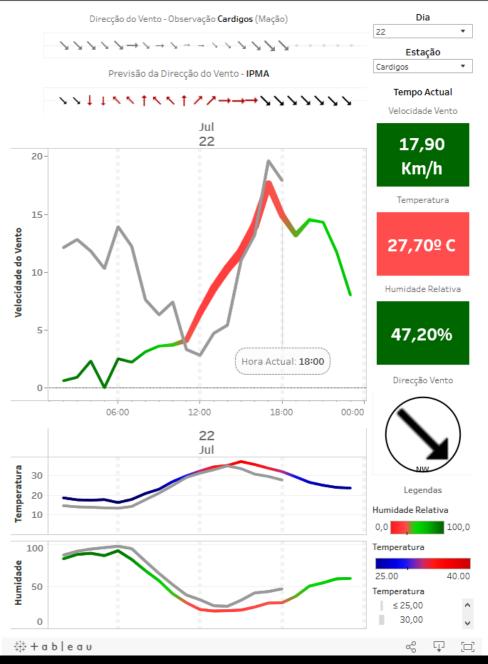
O Sim

○ Não

Legenda:

	Frente de Fogo Pouco Activa
	Frente de Fogo Muito Activa
	Área Ardida
	Território Artificializado
	Terreno Agricula e Pastagens
	Superfícies Agroflorestais e Mato
	Floresta
	Espaços com Pouca Vegetação
	Água
^	Direção da Subida de Encosta Acentuada





Interactive Data Visualization

Further Reading and Summary



Further Reading

Pag 431 - 445 from Interactive Data Visualization: Foundations,

Techniques, and Applications, Matthew O. Ward, Georges Grinstein,

Daniel Keim, 2015

See also Chapter 16 Research Directions in Visualization, 475 - 487

