Course : Data Visualization **Lecturer :** Tamara Mchedlidze Utrecht University, Dept. of Information and Computing Sciences



Lecture Overview

- Multilayer network
- Visualization types for multilayer networks
- Algorithm for visualization in 2.5D
- Edge simplification bundling
- An algorithm for edge bundling
- Proposed technique for the implementation



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- analysis of graph patters across layers reveal complex facts about the data

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- here layers are $\{\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3, \ell_4\}$, $\ell_1 = LinkedIn$,
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- node v = a appears as $(v, \ell_1), (v, \ell_2), (v, \ell_3)$ in V_m



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- epidemiology, sociology (including criminology), digital humanities

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many names: multi-label, multi-edge, multirelational, multiplex, heterogeneous, multimodal, multiple edge set networks, interdependent networks, interconnected networks, networks of networks, ... – unified under a single framework by Kivelä et al. 2014

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Have you seen relational data that need to be modeled as multilevel networks?

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Types of visualizations of multilayer networks



1-dimensional: circular, linear

• 1-dimensional representations rely on Gestalt principle of continuation to perceptually group the layers

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- 2.5D layers are are different planes stacked next to each other
- 3D depth is indicating the layer, camera movement is necessary

1-dimensional representaiton: circular

 Mushroom data set from the UC Irvine Machine Learning Repository



Visualization of Frequent Itemsets with Nested Circular Layout and Bundling Algorithm, Bothorel et al 2013
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Which of the techniques you know can you use to construct this layout?



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- multimodal NSF funding data consisting of Institutions, PIs (and Co-PIs), Projects, program managers (Pr-Man), NSF programs (Programs), and NSF directorates (Dir)
- remind parallel coordinate plots



Visual Analytics for Multimodal Social Network Analysis: A Design Study with Social Scientists, Ghani et al, 2013

- Hive plot: axes are arranged radially
- investigation among nano-toxicity type, nanomaterial and particle size



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- reduce clutter using layer dublication



2-dimensional representaiton: color

 flow of maritime traffic: nodes represent ports and different edge colours represent different modes of shipping



Multilayer dynamics of complex spatial networks: The case of global maritime flows, Ducuet, 2017

 use constrained layouts to separate the nodes of different layers spatially



nodes – physical compounds in a cell; that are separated by physical membranes, creating compartments defining their subcellular location – layeredge; edges interactions among nodes

SetCoLa: High-Level Constraints for Graph Layout, Hoffswell et al, 2018

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161 plants, herbivores, and carnivores with 592 links between entities – feeding links, groups – clustering, layers – trophic hierarchy

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Biological pathways: nodes – proteins, edges–interactions. Rather visualization of clusters, but can be used to show layers too.

Scalable, Versatile and Simple Constrained Graph Layout, Dwyer 2009

2.5-dimensional representaition

- each layer is drawn on a plane and planes are stacked in 3D parallel to each other
- use 2D layout algorithms for a single layer
- same node can appear on many layers similar positions are desired. Same for reducing edge clutter.



metabolic network, protein interaction networks and gene regulatory network; inter-layer edges: proteins are the result of gene expression, special proteins known as enzymes help transforming metabolites to another.

Visual Analysis of Overlapping Biological Networks, Fung et al, 2009

2.5-dimensional representaition

- same node can appear across layers and lie at the same position
- aggregated layer is possible



- first layer: interaction of genes in Saccharomyces cerevisiae; second layer: genes with similar interaction profiles are connected to each other; third layer: aggregated network
- right edge colors represent layers

MuxViz: A Tool for Multilayer Analysis and Visualization of Networks, De Do,enico et al, 2015.

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• Multilayer analysis of HIV-1 genetic interaction network

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- Aggregate the graphs over the layers into a single graph G = (V, E)
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- Use coordinates of the nodes of *G* to construct the layouts of the rest layers

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Same method as before is possible, but how to use the flexibility in node position in order to construct better layout?



- If it is not essential that same node has exactly the same position over the layers, or there are not many identical nodes over the layers
- Assume we have 3 layers ℓ_1, ℓ_2, ℓ_3 , let G_i be graph induced by $\{(v, \ell_i) \in V_m : v \in V\}, i = 1, 2, 3$



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- Model inter-layer edges as zero-length spring (attraction only)
- Draw G₂ and the inter-layer edges using a force directed layout











 edge bundling as a method to layout edges in multilayer network visualizations







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- edge bundling as a method to layout edges in multilayer network visualizations
- bundle only the inter-layer (or intra-layer) edges
- edge bundling is not specific for multilayer network visualizations, isualization techniques for categorical analysis of social networks with multiple edge



sets, Crnovrsanin et al, 2014

Edge bundling

Method for reduction of clutter in a graph layout

"Change the shape of edges by visually bundling them together analogous to the way electrical wires and network cables are merged into bundles..." [Holten, van Wijk, 09]



Many methods



j) 3DHEB directional

i) FFTEB

Multiple techniques



spring embedders (FDEB)



medial axes





tree layouts & splines



graph clustering

kernel density estimation

Multiple techniques



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- Γ drawing/layout function
- *B* bundling function

 $\forall (e_i, e_j) \in E \times E \text{ such that } e_i \neq e_j \land k(e_i, e_j) < k_{\max} \rightarrow \delta(B(\Gamma(e_i)), B(\Gamma(e_j))) \ll \delta(\Gamma(e_i), \Gamma(e_j))$

 k_{max} – maximum similarity of the edges that still need to be bundled

k–similarity of two edges; δ – similarity of two curves



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the distance between curves after bundling is small

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• An attraction electrostatic force $F_e(\{p_i, q_i\}) = \frac{1}{||p_i - q_i||}$ is used between each pair of corresponding subdivision points of *P* and *Q*, thus between p_0 and q_0 , p_1 and q_1 , ...



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- The overall force on point p_i is $F_{p_i} = k_P \cdot (||p_{i-1} - p_i)|| + ||p_i - p_{i+1}||) + \sum_{Q \in E} \frac{1}{||p_i - q_i||}$



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$$k_P - \text{constant for edge } P$$



Edge bundling: performance

• Fig.b – performance of the model given up to now. Here all edges interact with all.



Edge bundling: performance

- Fig.b performance of the model given up to now. Here all edges interact with all.
- Increasing the value of K gives less bundling overall and therefore in parts of the graph where a high amount of bundling is still desirable



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- $C_a(P, Q) = 0$ if $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$ and $C_a(P, Q) = 1$ if $\alpha = 0$, i.e. *P* and *Q* are parallel



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- $C_v(P, Q) = 1$ if P_m coincides with I_m (ideal position), $C_v(P, Q) = 0$ if P is outside the band of sight of Q



Edge compatibility measures: combined

• The overall compatibility is defined as $C_e(P, Q) = C_a(P, Q) \cdot C_s(P, Q) \cdot C_p(P, Q) \cdot C_v(P, Q)$



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- The overall compatibility is defined as $C_e(P, Q) = C_a(P, Q) \cdot C_s(P, Q) \cdot C_p(P, Q) \cdot C_v(P, Q)$
- The overall force on point p_i is then redefined as $F_{p_i} = k_P \cdot (||p_{i-1} - p_i)|| + ||p_i - p_{i+1}||) + \sum_{Q \in E} \frac{C_e(P,Q)}{||p_i - q_i||}$ k_P - constant for edge P



Edge bundling summary

Input: G = (V, E) undirected graph with vertex placement, number of cycles $C \in \mathbb{N}$, number of iterations in the first cycle $I_0 \in \mathbb{N}$, step size $s_0 \in \mathbb{N}$, number of subdivision points in the first cycle n_0 interaction function $C_e : E \times E \to \mathbb{R}$ **Output:** Layout with bundled edges

- $n \leftarrow n_0$ initial number of subdivisions
- $t \leftarrow 1$ iteration counter
- $I \leftarrow I_0$ number of iterations in the first cycle
- $c \leftarrow 1$ cycle counter
- $s \leftarrow s_0$ step size

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- US airlines graph with inverse linear and inverse quadratic model



Edge bundling: inspiration

Inspiration: edges are ancestor-descendant relationship in the genealogy of modern and ancient genomes. Edge width – how many times the relationship is observed, color – age of the ancestor



A unified genealogy of modern and ancient genomes, Wohns et al. Nature 2022

Edge bundling: discussion



Edge bundling: discussion





- What are the benefits and the drawbacks of the bundled layouts?
- When are the edge bundling techniques appropriate to use?





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- experiment with political blogosphere, argument network (besides the two clusters, nodes and edges have different types)
Tutorial task (bonus)

- expand your method to work for many layers/clusters
- you need to find a way to arrange an arbitrary number of boxes – inspiration cola.js, yEd



Reading and Next



Additional Reading

Paper "The State of the Art in Multilayer Network Visualization" (F. McGee, M. Ghoniem, G. Melancon, B. Otjacques and B. Pinaud)

Paper "Force Directed Edge Bundling" (D. Holten, J. J. van Wijk)

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Next

12	March 20	Tutorial: multilevel and bundling	Alister
	March 22	High-dimensional data visualization: basics	Alex
13	March 27	Tutorial	Alister
	March 29	High-dimensional data visualization: advanced	Alex
14	April 3	Final Presentations	Students
	April 5	Final Presentations	Students

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