

[poloclub.github.io/#cse6242](https://poloclub.github.io/#cse6242)

CSE6242 / CX4242

# Data & Visual Analytics



## Duen Horng (Polo) Chau

Associate Professor, College of Computing  
Associate Director, MS Analytics  
Georgia Tech



## Mahdi Roozbahani

Lecturer, Computational Science & Engineering, Georgia Tech  
Founder of **Filio**, a visual asset management platform

# Course Registration

We have capacity for 300 students. If you are on the waitlist, please wait for seats to be released. Class enrollment changes a lot during the first week of class.

## **CSE 6242 A**

129/220 seats filled

0 waitlist slots taken

**CSE 6242 Q, R** (distance-learning): 4 students

## **CX 4242 A**

69/70 seats filled

0 waitlist slots taken

# **Course TAs** **Be very very nice to them!**

**Sushanto Praharaj**

**Shrishti**

**Aastha Agrawal**

**Apurv Priyam**

**Neha Pande**

**Saifil Nizarali Momin**

Office hours (TBD) on course homepage

**<https://poloclub.github.io/cse6242-2020fall-campus/>**





**The course focuses on  
working with big data.**

(Also the focus of Polo's research group)





*Polo Club*  
— of —  
DATA SCIENCE

## Scalable. Interactive. Interpretable.

At [Georgia Tech](#), we innovate **scalable, interactive, and interpretable** tools that amplify human's ability to understand and interact with billion-scale data and machine learning models. Our current research thrusts: **human-centered AI** (interpretable, fair, safe AI; adversarial ML); **large graph visualization and mining**; **cybersecurity**; and **social good** (health, energy).



**Shang**  
CS PhD



**Fred**  
CSE PhD



**Nilaksh**  
CSE PhD



**Haekyu**  
CS PhD



**Scott**  
ML PhD



**Jay**  
ML PhD



**Austin**  
ML PhD



**Rahul**  
CS PhD



**Anmol**  
MS CSE



**Bob**  
CS Undergrad



**Jonathan**  
CS Undergrad



**Will**  
CS Undergrad



**Rob**  
CS Undergrad



**Omar**  
CS Undergrad



**Jon**  
CS Undergrad



**Robert**  
CS Undergrad



**Dongkyu**  
Post-Doc.

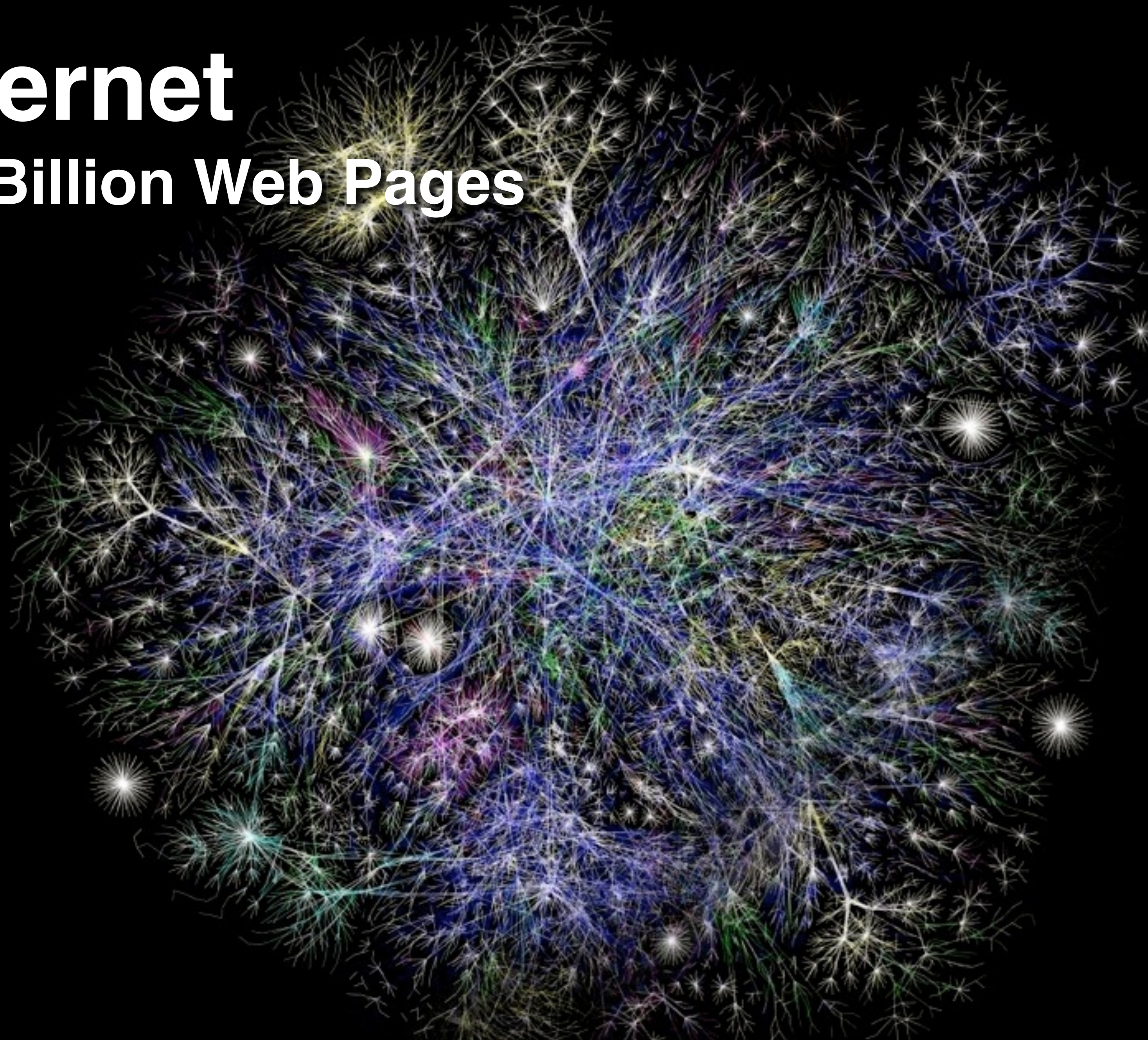


**Polo**  
Associate  
Prof



# Internet

## 50 Billion Web Pages





# Facebook

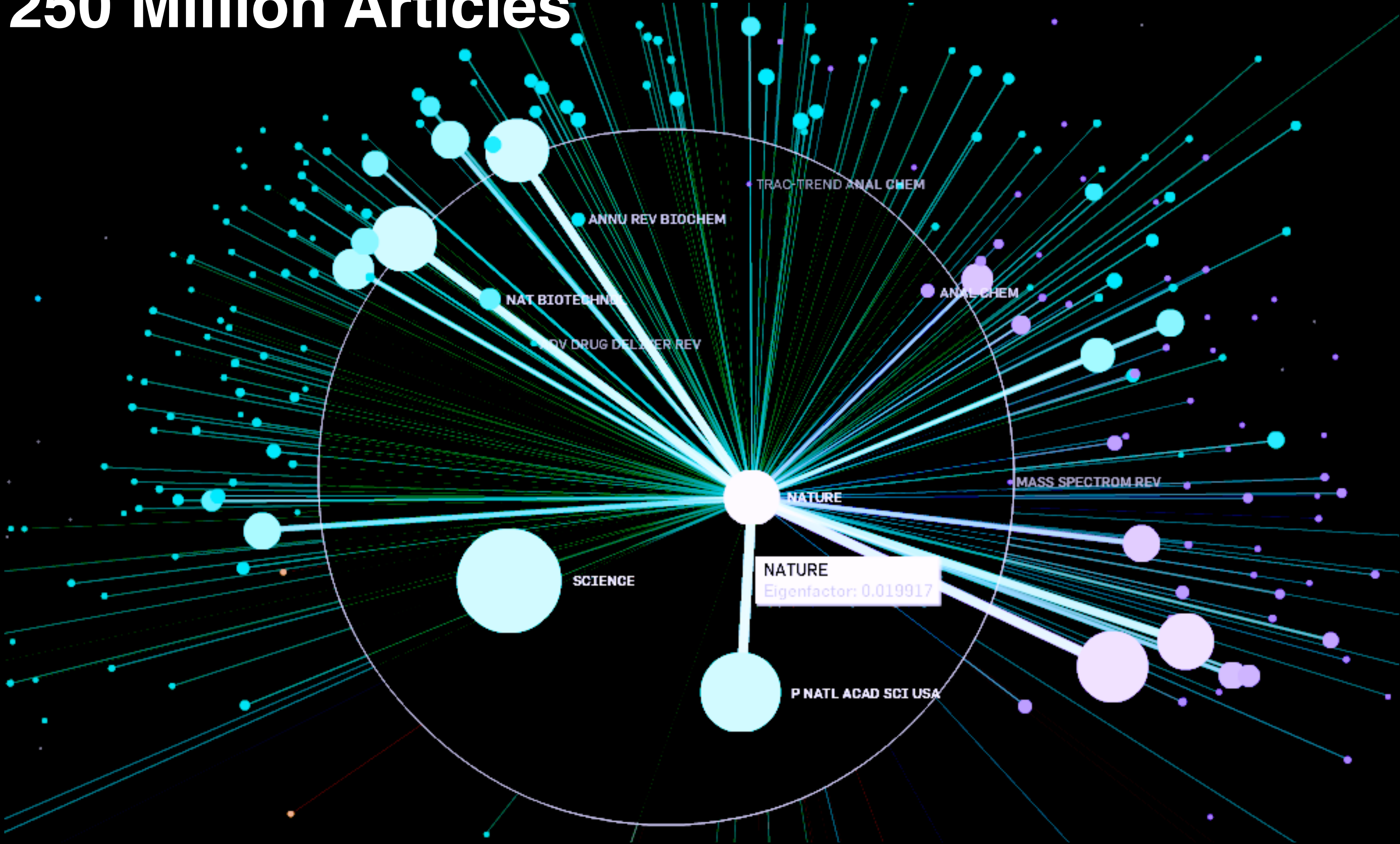
## 2 Billion Users





# Citation Network

## 250 Million Articles





# Many More

**twitter** 

Who-follows-whom (**500 million** users)

**amazon** 

Who-buys-what (**120 million** users)

 **at&t cellphone network**

Who-calls-whom (**100 million** users)

## Protein-protein interactions

**200 million** possible interactions in human genome



# “Big Data” Analyzed

Graph	Nodes	Edges
YahooWeb	1.4 Billion	6 Billion
Symantec Machine-File Graph	1 Billion	<b>37 Billion</b>
Twitter	104 Million	3.7 Billion
Phone call network	30 Million	260 Million

**We also work with small data.  
Small data also needs **love**.**



7

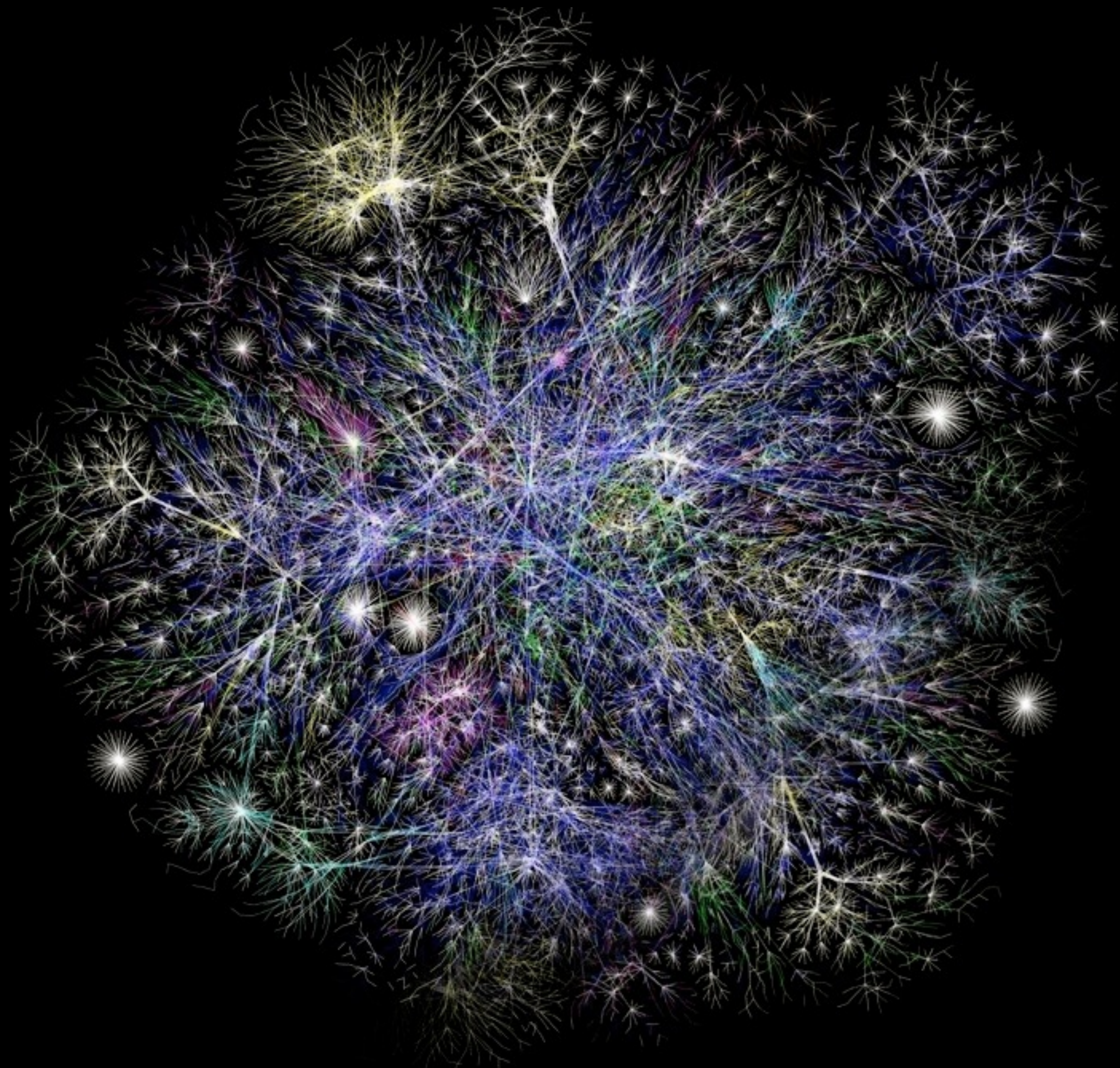


7 ± 2

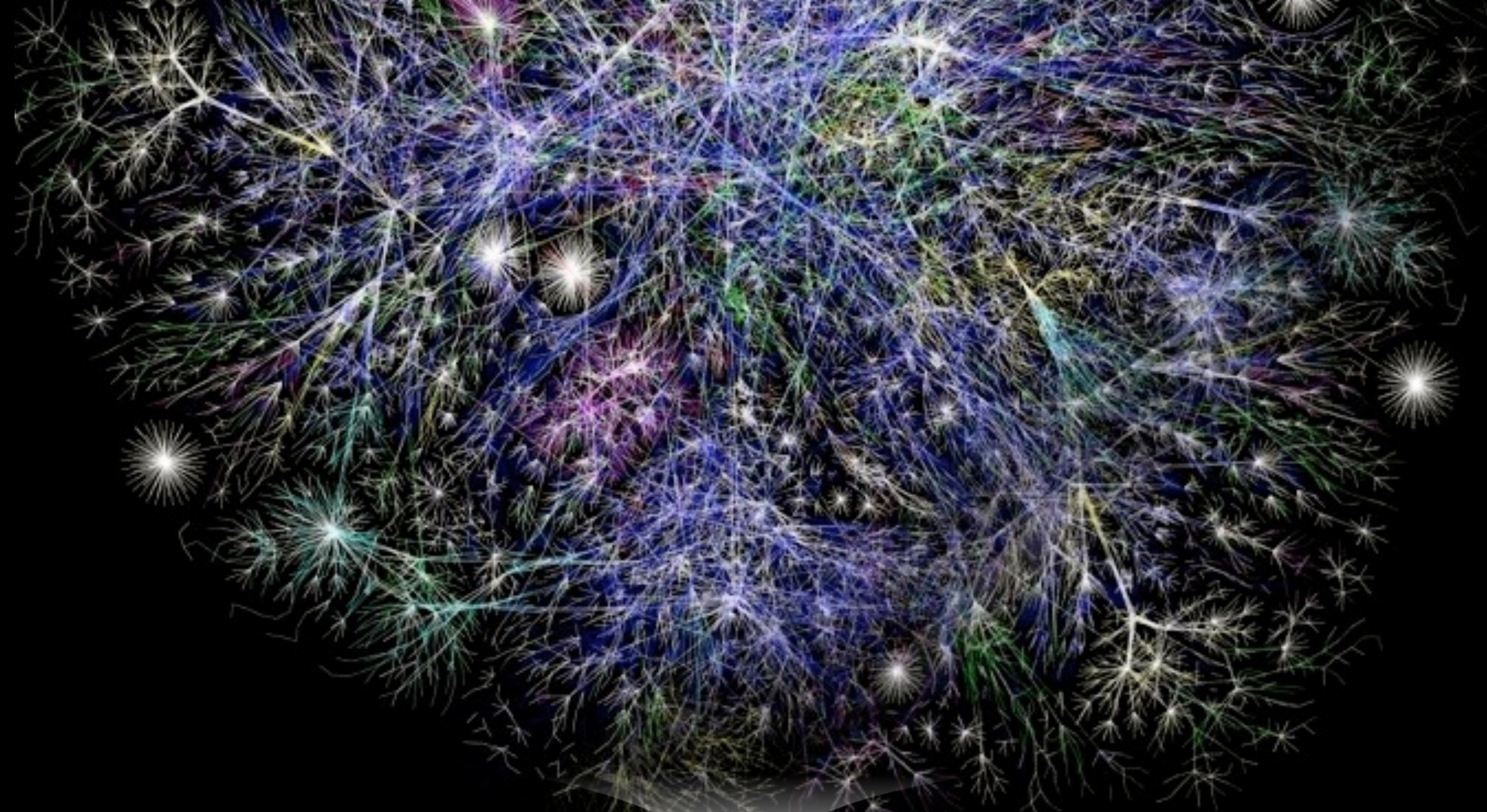
Number of **items** an average human  
holds in **working memory**

*George Miller, 1956*









7



**Data**



**Insights**



How to do that?

**COMPUTATION**  
+  
**HUMAN INTUITION**

Or, to ride the AI wave...

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**  
+  
**HUMAN INTELLIGENCE**



# How to do that?

## COMPUTATION

Automatic

Summarization,  
clustering, classification

>Millions of nodes

## INTERACTIVE VIS

User-driven; iterative

Interaction, visualization

Thousands of nodes

Both develop methods for making  
sense of network data



# How to do that?

## COMPUTATION

Automatic

Summarization,  
clustering, classification

>Millions of nodes

## INTERACTIVE VIS





# How to do that?

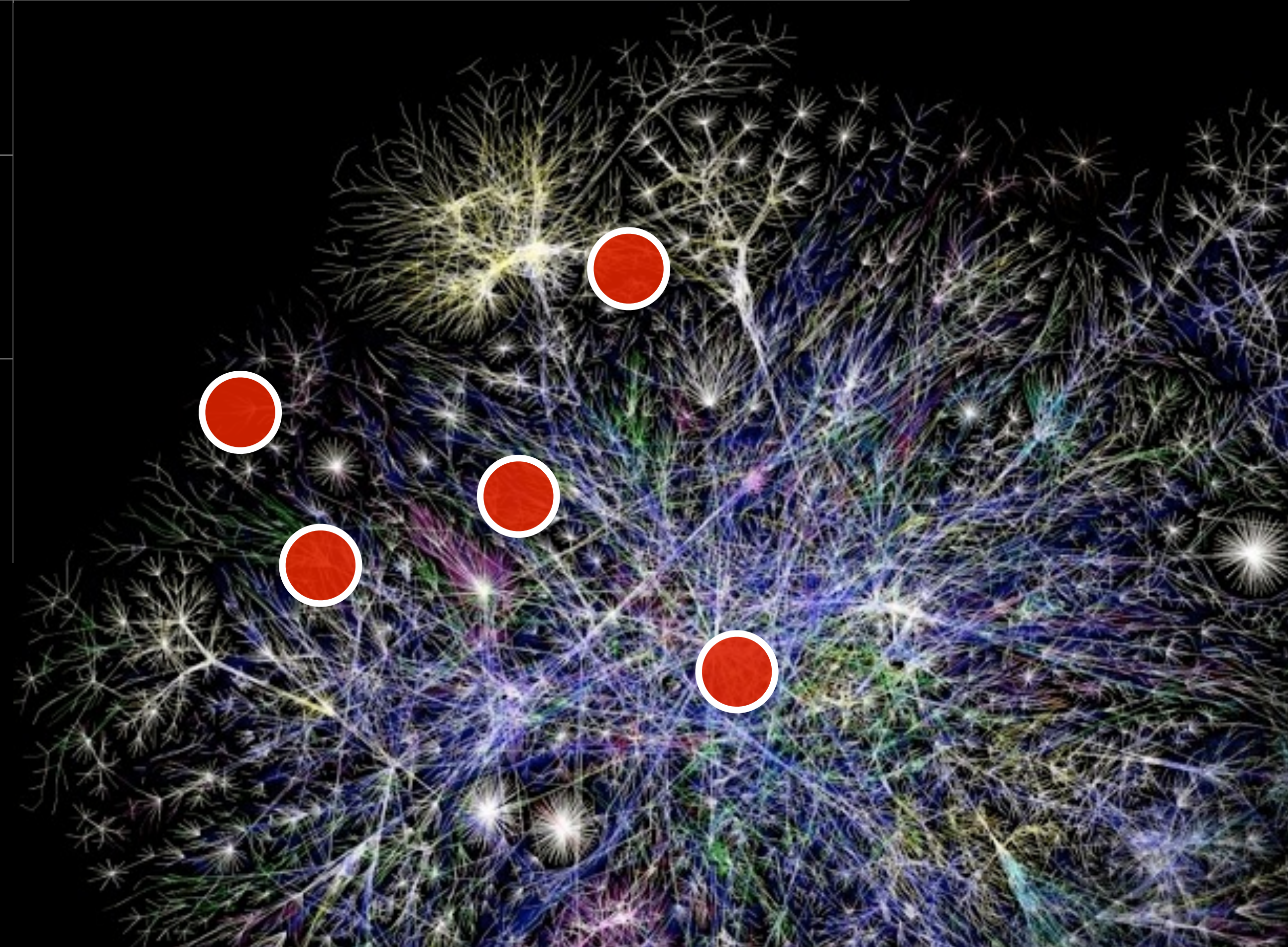
## COMPUTATION

Automatic

Summarization,  
clustering, classification

>Millions of nodes

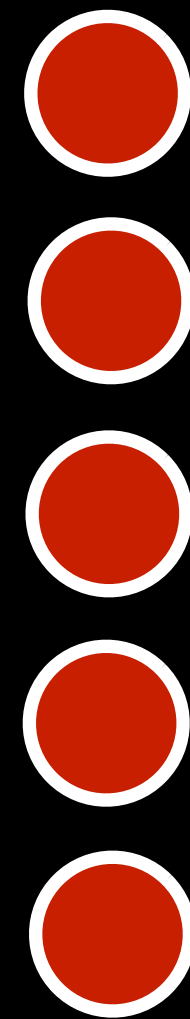
## INTERACTIVE VIS





# How to do that?

## COMPUTATION



## INTERACTIVE VIS

User-driven; iterative

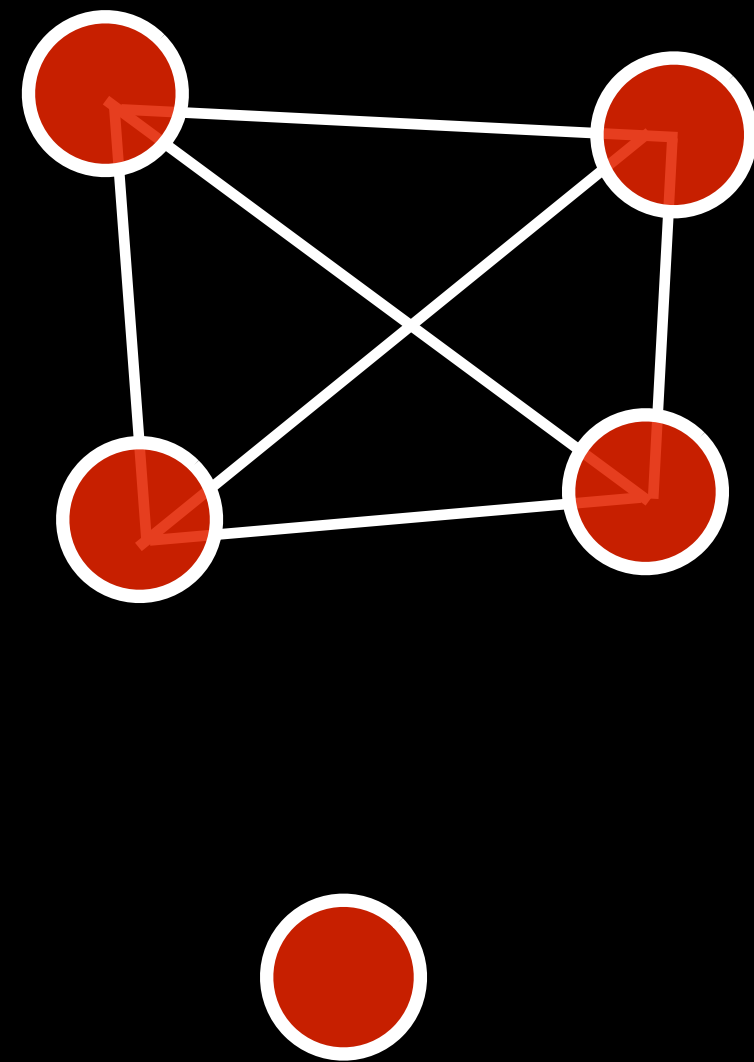
Interaction, visualization

Thousands of nodes



# How to do that?

## COMPUTATION



## INTERACTIVE VIS

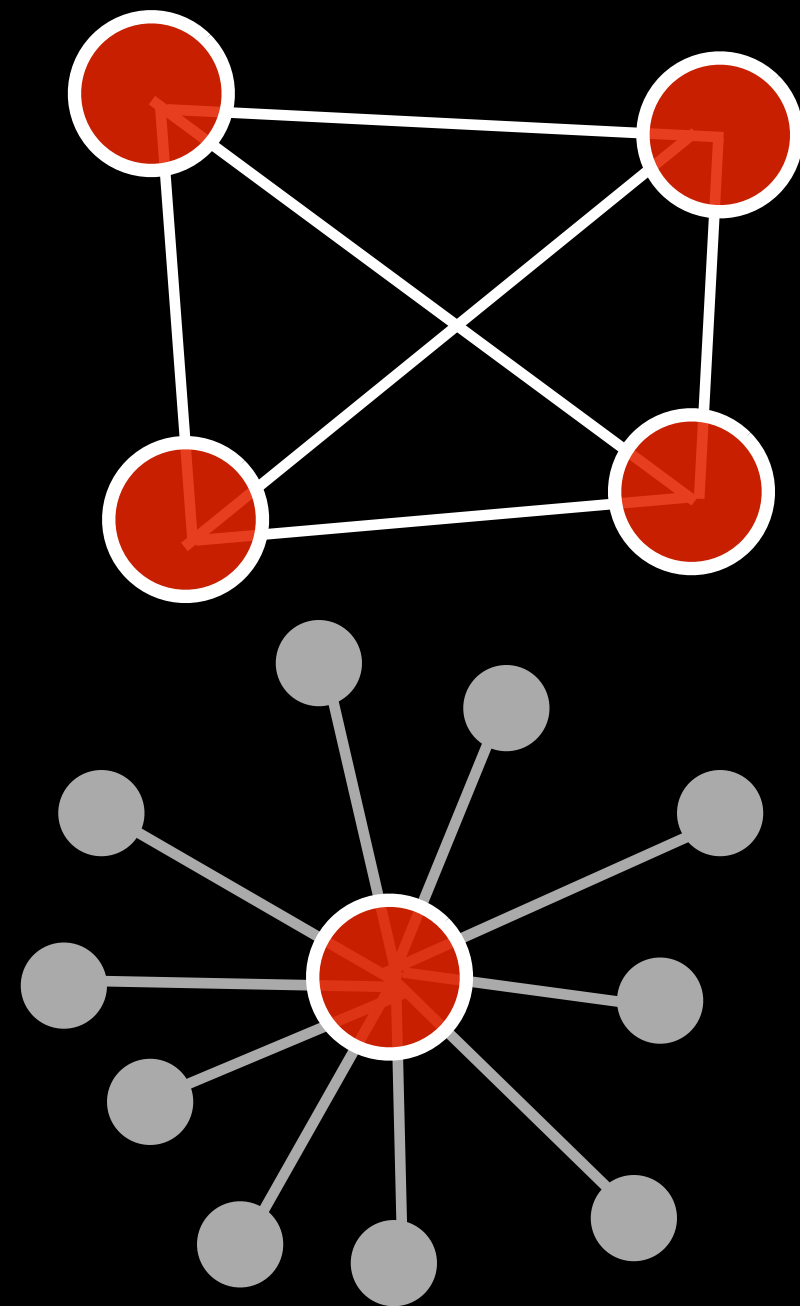
User-driven; iterative

Interaction, visualization

Thousands of nodes

# How to do that?

## COMPUTATION



## INTERACTIVE VIS

User-driven; iterative

Interaction, visualization

Thousands of nodes



# Our Approach for Big Data Analytics

**DATA MINING**

**HCI**

Human-Computer  
Interaction

Automatic

User-driven; iterative

Summarization,  
clustering, classification

Interaction, visualization

>Millions of items

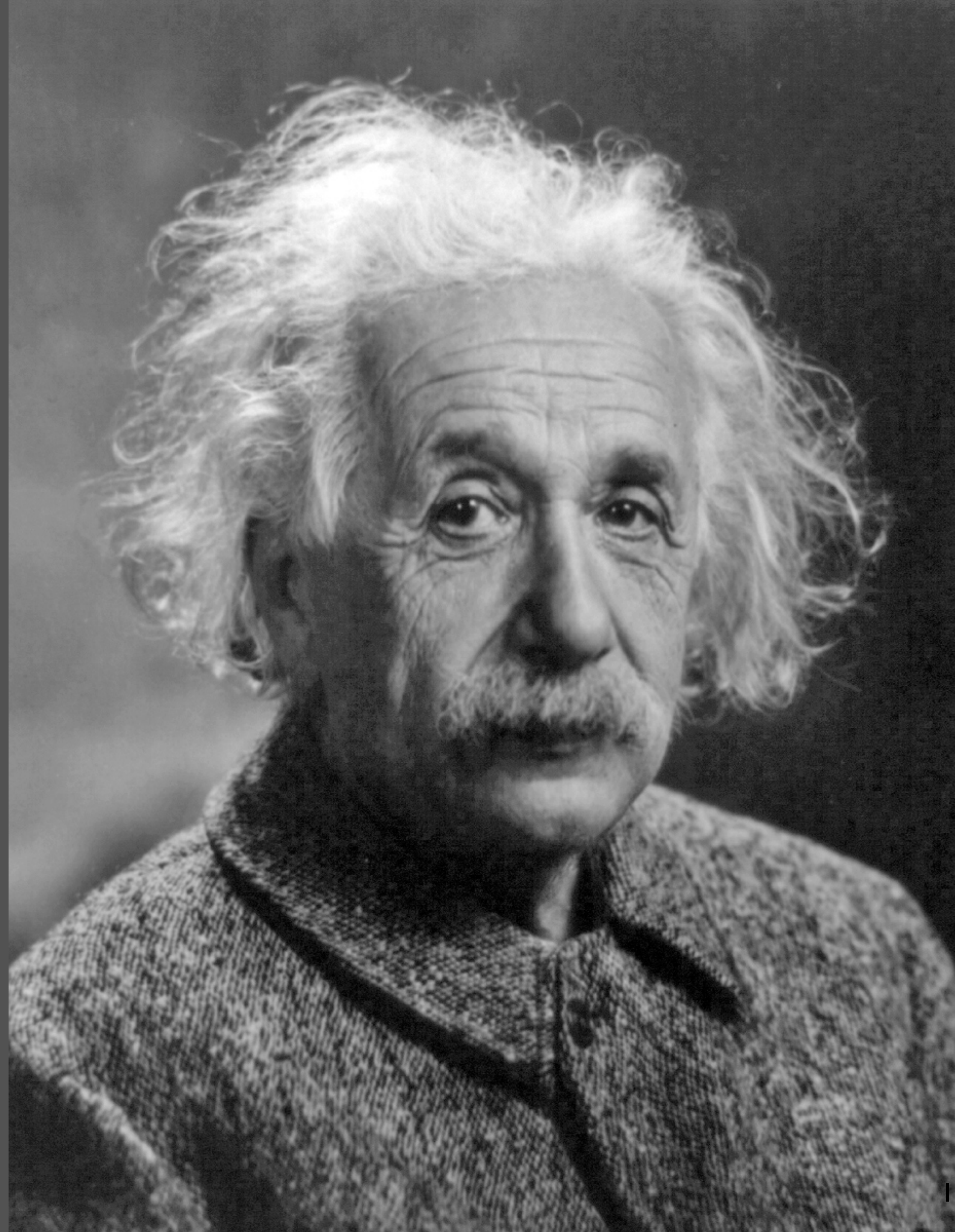
Thousands of items

Our research combines the  
**Best of Both Worlds**

**Our mission & vision:**

**Scalable, interactive, usable**  
**tools for big data analytics**





“Computers are incredibly fast,  
accurate, and stupid.

Human beings are incredibly  
slow, inaccurate, and brilliant.

Together they are powerful  
beyond imagination.”

(Einstein might or might not have said this.)

# Logistics

## **Course website**

(policies, syllabus, schedule, etc.)

<https://poloclub.github.io/cse6242-2020fall-campus/>  
(link also available on Canvas)

## **Discussion, Q&A, find teammates**

## **Piazza**

(link/tab available on Canvas)

Make sure you're in the right Piazza!  
(CSE-6242-001, CSE-6242-OAN have their Piazza forums too)

## **Assignment Submission**

## **Canvas**



# Course Homepage

For syllabus, schedule, projects, datasets, etc.

**If you Google “cse6242”, you will see many matches.  
Make sure you click the correct site!**

CSE6242A,Q,R/CX4242A [Schedule](#) [Homework](#) [Project](#) [Warnings](#) [Policies](#) [Datasets](#) [Resources](#)

There are [multiple CSE6242 sections](#). This is the course homepage for [campus CSE6242A,Q,R/CX4242A](#).

CSE6242A,Q,R/CX4242A Fall 2020

**Data and Visual Analytics**

Georgia Tech, College of Computing

Topic preview (live): Tuesdays, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Topic Q&A (live): Thursdays, 3:00pm-4:00pm

# Join Piazza ASAP

via [canvas.gatech.edu](https://canvas.gatech.edu)

Home

Modules

Assignments

Quizzes

Piazza

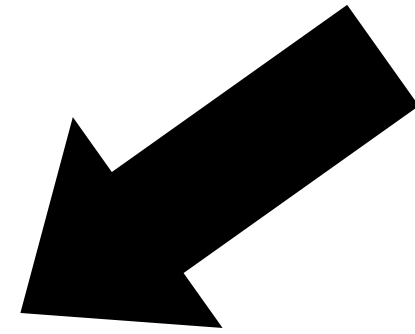
Media Gallery

Grades

People

CIOS

BlueJeans



## Announcements and Discussion

We use Piazza for all announcements and discussion. Everyone must join this class's Piazza (link available on Canvas). Double check that you are joining the correct Piazza! There are multiple concurrent course sections with the same name and course number taking place, e.g., online for OMSA and OMSCS, and campus for Atlanta-based students.

The fastest way to get help with homework assignments is to post your questions on Piazza. That way, not only our TAs and instructor can help, your peers can too.

If you prefer that your question addresses to only our TAs and the instructor, you can use the private post feature (i.e., check the "Individual Students(s) / Instructors(s)" radio box).

While we welcome everyone to share their experiences in tackling issues and helping each other out, but please do not post your answers, as that may affect the learning experience of your fellow classmates.

For special cases such as failed submissions due to system errors, missing grades, failed file uploads, emergencies that prevent you from submitting, personal issues, you can contact the staff using a private Piazza post.

Canvas will be used for submission of assignments and projects, but not for announcements or discussion.



# Important to join Piazza because...

- We will announce events related to this class and data science in general
  - Distinguished lectures
  - Seminars
  - Hackathons
  - Company recruitment events

# Course Goals



# What is **Data** & **Visual Analytics**?

# What is **Data** & **Visual Analytics**?

No formal definition!



# What is **Data** & **Visual Analytics**?

No formal definition!

**Polo's definition:**

the *interdisciplinary* science of combining **computation techniques** and **interactive visualization** to transform and model data to aid **discovery, decision making, etc.**

What are the “ingredients”?



# What are the “ingredients”?

Need to worry (a lot) about: storage, complex system design, scalability of algorithms, visualization techniques, interaction techniques, statistical tests, etc.

Wasn't this complex before this big data era. Why?

# THE WORLD OF DATA

NUMBER OF EMAILS SENT EVERY SECOND

2.9 MILLION



DATA CONSUMED BY HOUSEHOLDS EACH DAY

375 MEGABYTES



VIDEO UPLOADED TO YOUTUBE EVERY MINUTE

20 HOURS



DATA PER DAY PROCESSED BY GOOGLE

24 PETABYTES



TWEETS PER DAY

50 MILLION



TOTAL MINUTES SPENT ON FACEBOOK EACH MONTH

700 BILLION



DATA SENT AND RECEIVED BY MOBILE INTERNET USERS

1.3 EXABYTES



PRODUCTS ORDERED ON AMAZON PER SECOND

72.9 ITEMS



IN THE 21ST CENTURY, we live a large part of our lives online. Almost everything we do is reduced to bits and sent through cables around the world at light speed. But just how much data are we generating? This is a look at just some of the massive amounts of information that human beings create every single day.



# What is **big data**? Why care?

**Many businesses are based on big data.**

**Search engines:** rank webpages, predict what you're going to type

**Advertisement:** infer what you like, based on what your friends like; show relevant ads

**E-commerce:** recommends movies/products (e.g., Netflix, Amazon)

Health IT: patient records (EMR)

Finance

# Good news! Many jobs!

## Most companies are looking for “data scientists”

*The data scientist role is critical for organizations looking to extract insight from information assets for ‘big data’ initiatives and requires a **broad combination** of skills that may be fulfilled better as a team*

- Gartner (<http://www.gartner.com/it-glossary/data-scientist>)

Breadth of knowledge is important.  
This course helps you learn some important skills.



# Course Schedule

(Analytics Building Blocks)

Collection

Cleaning

Integration

Analysis

Visualization

Presentation

Dissemination

# Building blocks. **Not Rigid “Steps”.**

Collection

**Can skip some**

Cleaning

**Can go back (two-way street)**

Integration

- **Data types** inform **visualization** design

Analysis

- **Data size** informs choice of **algorithms**

Visualization

- **Visualization** motivates more **data cleaning**

Presentation

- **Visualization** challenges algorithm assumptions

Dissemination

e.g., user finds that results don't make sense



# Course Goals

- Learn **visual** and **computation** techniques and use them in **complementary** ways
- Gain a **breadth** of knowledge
- Learn **practical** know-how by working on **real data & problems**

# Grading

- [50%] 4 homework assignments
  - End-to-end analysis
  - Techniques (computation and vis)
  - “Big data” tools, e.g., Hadoop, Spark, etc.
- [50%] Group project -- 4 to 6 people
- [**bonus points**] pop quizzes  
(conducted via Canvas; each ~10min each, available over few days)
  - Each quiz is worth **1% course grade**
- **No exams**



# Policies. Very Important!

(on course website)

Grading, plagiarism, collaboration,  
late submission, and the “**warnings**”  
about the difficulty this course

# From Previous Classes...

- Class projects turned into papers at top conferences (KDD, IUI, etc.)
- Projects as portfolio pieces on CV
- Increased job and internship opportunities
  - Former students sent me “thank you” notes



# Aurigo: An Interactive Tour Planner for Personalized Itineraries

Alexandre Yahia\*, Antoine Chassang\*, Louis Raynaud\*, Hugo Duthil\*, Duen Horng (Polo) Chau  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
{alexandre.yahia, antoine.chassang, l.raynaud, hduthil, polo}@gatech.edu

## ABSTRACT

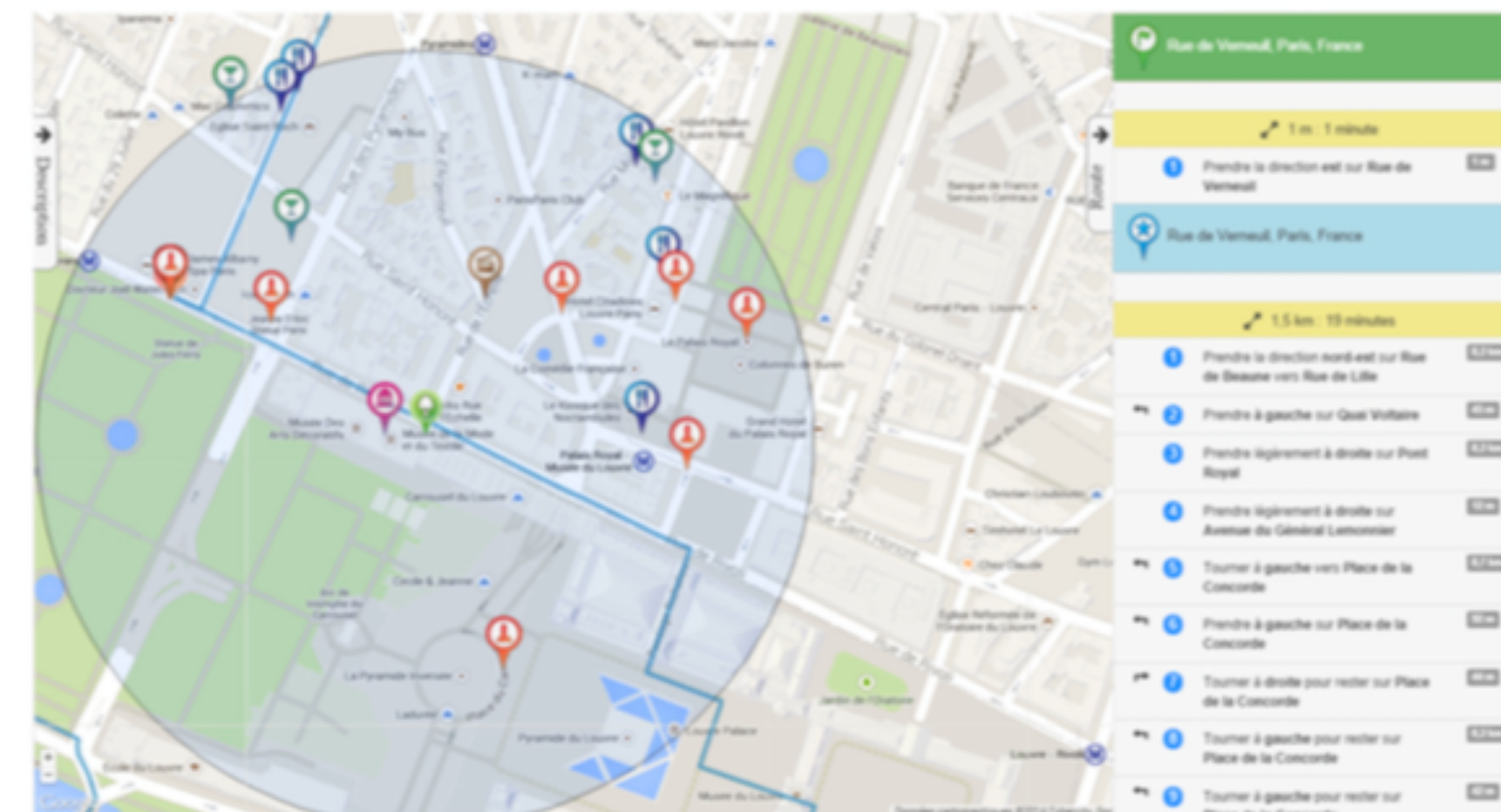
Planning personalized tour itineraries is a complex and challenging task for both humans and computers. Doing it manually is time-consuming; approaching it as an optimization problem is computationally NP hard. We present Aurigo, a tour planning system combining a recommendation algorithm with interactive visualization to create personalized itineraries. This hybrid approach enables Aurigo to take into account both quantitative and qualitative preferences of the user. We conducted a within-subject study with 10 participants, which demonstrated that Aurigo helped them find points of interest quickly. Most participants chose Aurigo over Google Maps as their preferred tools to create personalized itineraries. Aurigo may be integrated into review websites or social networks, to leverage their databases of reviews and ratings and provide better itinerary recommendations.

## Author Keywords

User Interfaces; Visualization; Recommendation; Tour itinerary planning

## ACM Classification Keywords

IUI Full conference paper  
(e.g. HCI): User interfaces





# ISPARK: Interactive Visual Analytics for Fire Incidents and Station Placement

Subhajit Das, Andrea McCarter, Joe Minieri, Nandita Damaraju, Sriram Padmanabhan, Duen Horng (Polo) Chau

Georgia Tech  
Atlanta, GA, USA

{das, andream, jminieri, nandita, sriramp, polo}@gatech.edu

## ABSTRACT

In support of helping to reduce the response time of fire-fighters, and thus deaths, injuries, and property loss due to fires, we introduce ISPARK. The ISPARK system determines where fire stations should be located, analyzes the primary causes of fires, the existing infrastructure, and response times, by using visualizations which show the GIS mapping of fire stations on a dashboard. Incidents and response times are shown as additional layers, with clustering of fire incidents to determine predicted fire station locations, forecasting of fire incidents using regression, causal, infrastructure, and personnel analysis, creating an interactive, multi-faceted method for locating fire stations. A comparison of urban and rural fire incident response times is another dimension of this study. We demonstrate ISPARK's usage and benefits using a publicly available dataset describing 300,000 fire incidents in the states of Massachusetts and Maine. ISPARK is generalizable to other geographic areas



Figure 1: Screenshot of ISPARK showing actual (pink) and predicted (green) fire station locations in Maine determined by our approach, using coordinates with actual driving distances from fire stations to actual fire incidents. Fire incidents are shown as small yellow dots. ISPARK reduces the average



# PASSAGE: A Travel Safety Assistant With Safe Path Recommendations For Pedestrians

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## Abstract

Atlanta has consistently ranked as one of the most dangerous cities in America with over 2.5 million crime events recorded within the past six years. People who commute by walking are highly susceptible to crime here. To address this problem, our group has developed a mobile application, PASSAGE, that uses real-time crime data to find "safe paths" for pedestrians in Atlanta. The application uses a user interface to allow users to input their starting and ending points.

## Author

Safe Path  
Pulse

## ACM

H.5.2  
User-Centered  
ory

## Int

Georgia  
Institute of  
Technology

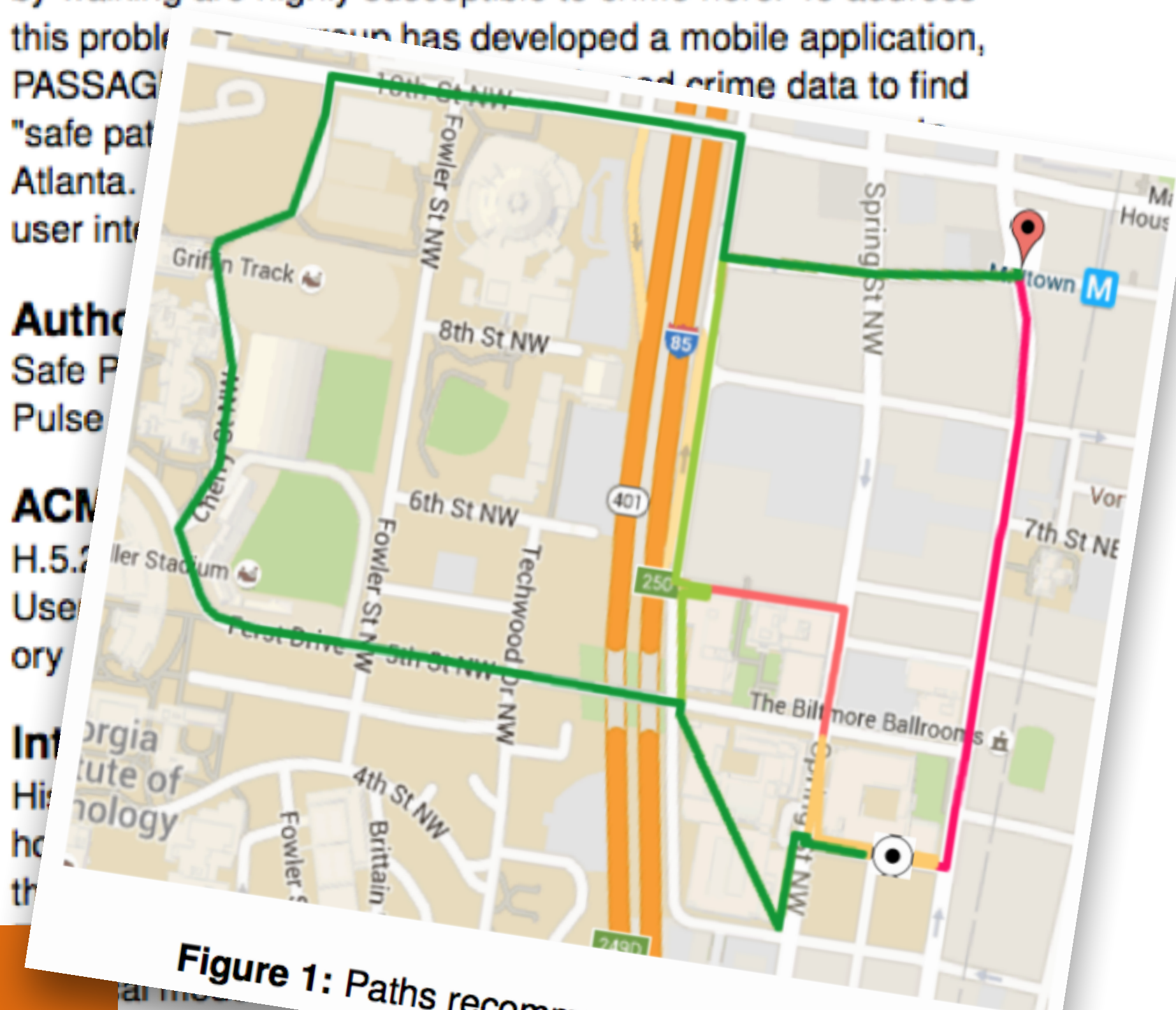


Figure 1: Paths recommended by PASSAGE



*“I feel like the concepts from your class are like a **rite of passage for an aspiring data scientist**. Assignments lead to a feelings of accomplishment and truly progressing in my area of passion.”*

*“I really get more intuition about how to **deal with data with some powerful tools in HW3** [uses AWS]. That feeling is beyond description for me.”*

*“I would like to say thank you for your class! Thanks to the skills I got from the class and the project, **I got the offer.**”*

# What we expects from you

- Actively participate throughout the course!
- If you need help, let us know — the earlier you let us know, the more help we can offer
- Help your fellow classmates out, e.g., help answer questions on Piazza
- Share your ideas! Ideas for improving learning experiences, let us know