

Boston, September 16th, 2020

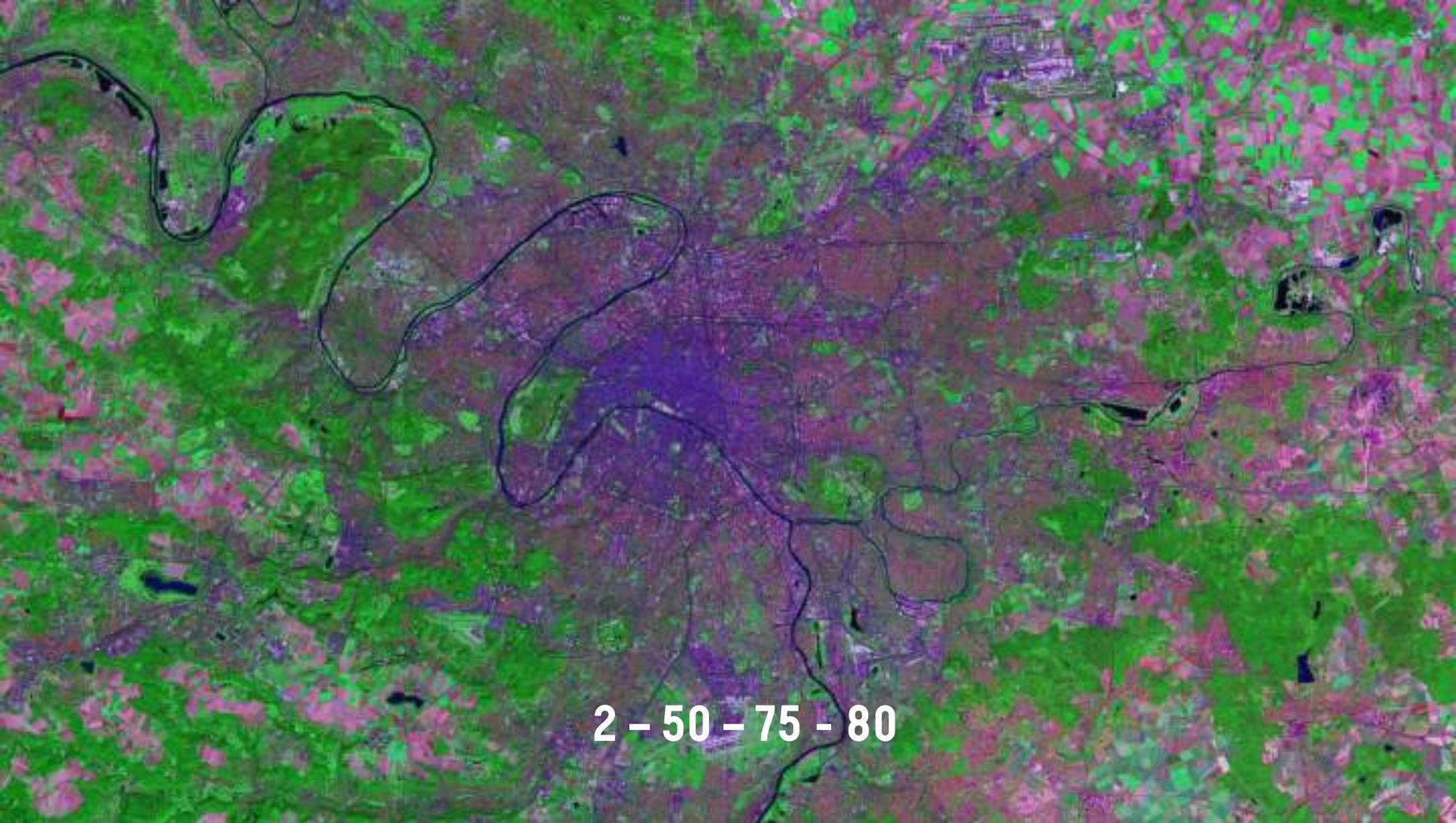
BCC Colombian Construction Congress

SENSEABLE CITIES JUST SOME THOUGHTS...

Carlo Ratti

Partner, Carlo Ratti Associati

Professor of the Practice of Urban Technologies, MIT



2 - 50 - 75 - 80



1990...

"we are headed for the death of cities"
{due to the continued growth of personal computing and
distributed organizations advances}
"cities are leftover baggage from the industrial era."

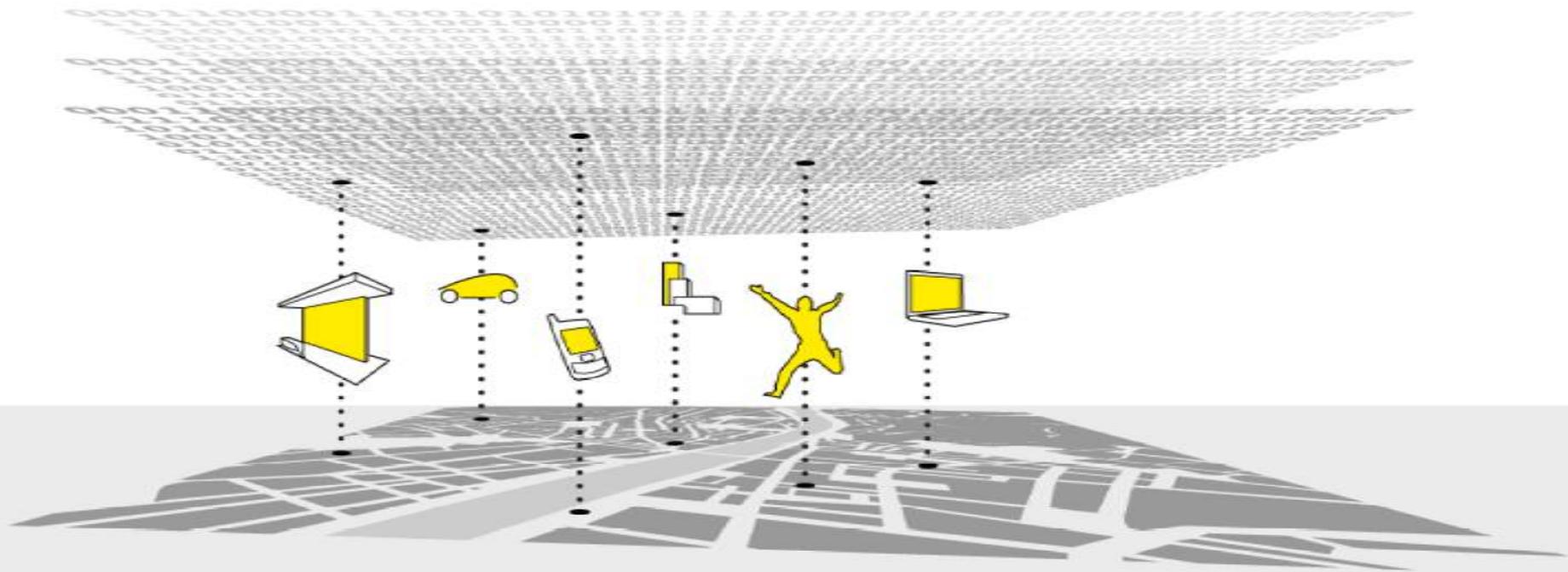
George Gilder (1995)



“in 2008, the world reaches an invisible but momentous milestone: for the first time in history more than half its human population, 3.3 billion people, will be living in urban areas. by 2030, this is expected to swell to almost 5 billion”.

United Nations Population Fund

<http://www.unfpa.org/swp/2007/english/introduction.html>





CARLO RATTI ASSOCIATI

London, UK

CARLO RATTI ASSOCIATI

Turin, Italy

SUPERPEDESTRIAN

Cambridge, MA

MAKR SHAKR

Turin, Italy

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SENSEABLE CITY LAB

Singapore

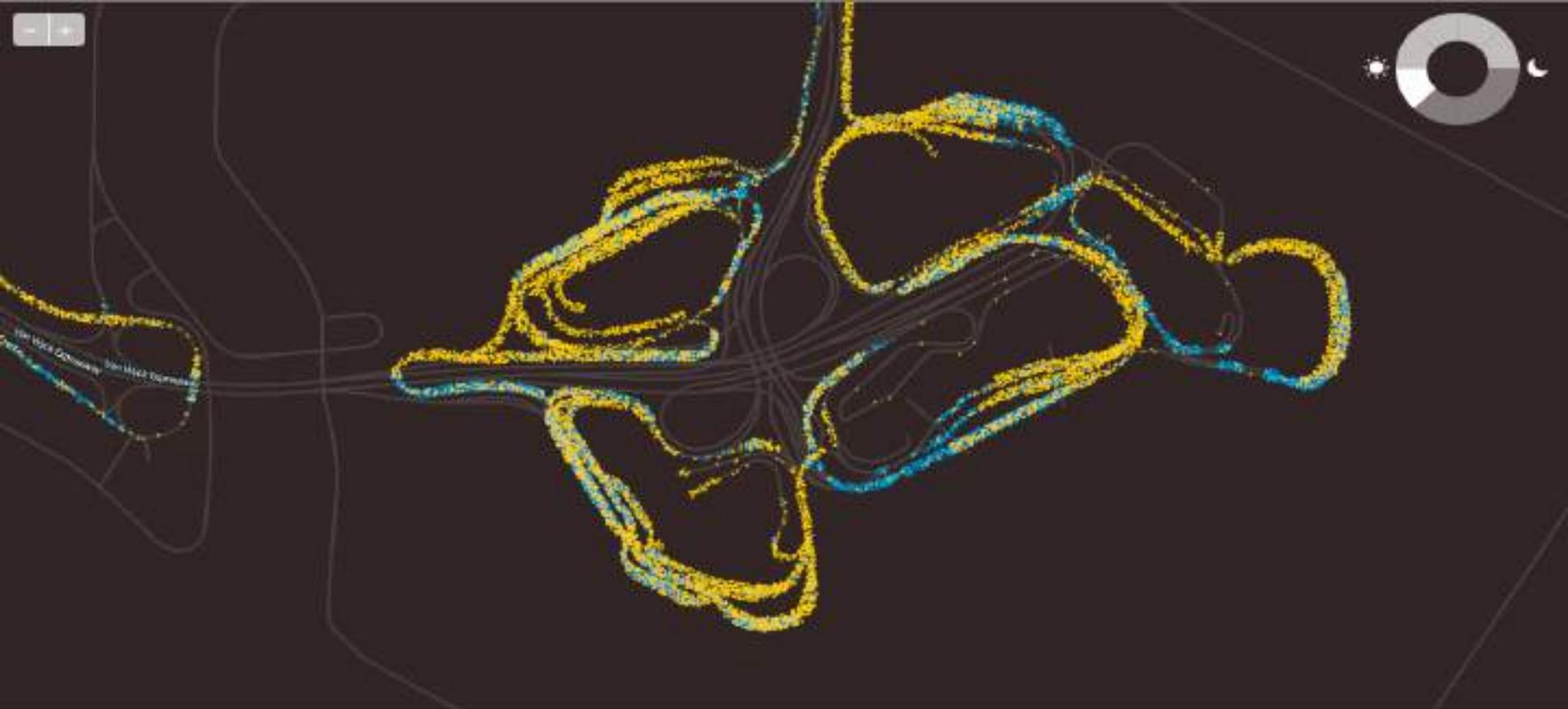
Some questions...

- 1. What about mobility?**
- 2. What about office spaces?**
- 3. What about retail?**
- 4. ... and urban experiences?**

- 1. What about mobility?**
2. What about office spaces?
3. What about retail?
4. ... and urban experiences?

05:55





hubcab

NYC
innovative
city solutions



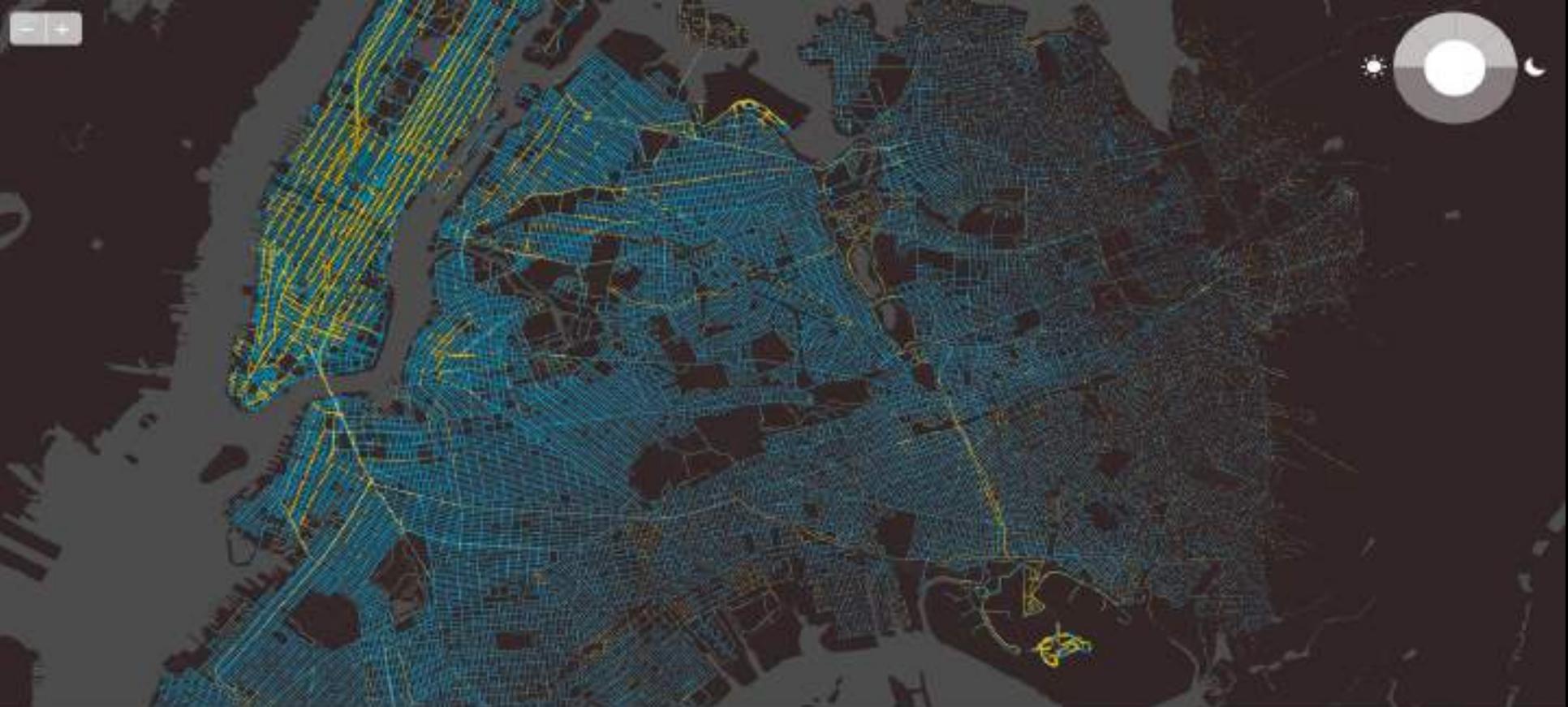
HubCab is an interactive visualization that invites you to explore the ways in which over 150 million taxi trips connect the City of New York in a given year. [Show me how it works.](#)



Taxi Pickup



Taxi Dropoff



hubcab

NYC
open/cab
city 100-11



HubCab is an interactive visualization that invites you to explore the ways in which over 150 million taxi trips connect the City of New York in a given year. [Show me how it works.](#)



Taxi Pickup



Taxi Dropoff

Sharing benefits

3,160,172 \$

1,052,627 mi

445,261 kg

225k

214k

hubcab



HubCab is an interactive visualization that invites you to explore the ways in which over 150 million taxi trips connect the City of New York in a given year. [Show me how it works.](#)

Taxi Pickup

West 15th Street

Total Pickups: 1069
Average duration: 12.4 min
Average distance: 3.61

Taxi Dropoff

East 54th Street

Total Dropoffs: 3053
Average duration: 30.2 min
Average distance: 2.38 mi

Quantifying the benefits of vehicle pooling with shareability networks

Paolo Santi^{a,b}, Giovanni Resta^b, Michael Szell^{a,1}, Stanislav Sobolevsky^a, Steven H. Strogatz^c, and Carlo Ratti^a

^aSenseable City Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139; ^bIstituto di Informatica e Telematica del Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, 56124 Pisa, Italy; and ^cDepartment of Mathematics, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853

Edited* by Michael F. Goodchild, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, and approved July 25, 2014 (received for review March 3, 2014)

Taxi services are a vital part of urban transportation, and a considerable contributor to traffic congestion and air pollution causing substantial adverse effects on human health. Sharing taxi trips is a possible way of reducing the negative impact of taxi services on cities, but this comes at the expense of passenger discomfort quantifiable in terms of a longer travel time. Due to computational challenges, taxi sharing has traditionally been approached on small scales, such as within airport perimeters, or with dynamical ad hoc heuristics. However, a mathematical framework for the systematic understanding of the tradeoff between collective benefits of sharing and individual passenger discomfort is lacking. Here we introduce the notion of shareability network, which allows us to model the collective benefits of sharing as a function of passenger inconvenience, and to efficiently compute optimal sharing strategies on massive datasets. We apply this framework

At the basis of a shared taxi service is the concept of ride sharing or carpooling, a long-standing proposition for decreasing road traffic, which originated during the oil crisis in the 1970s (6). During that time, economic incentives outbalanced the psychological barriers on which successful carpooling programs depend: giving up personalized transportation and accepting strangers in the same vehicle. Surveys indicate that the two most important deterrents to potential carpoolers are the extra time requirements and the loss of privacy (7, 8). However, the lack of correlations between socio-demographic variables and carpooling propensity (8), the design of appropriate economic incentives (9), and recent practical implementations of taxi-sharing systems in New York City (<http://bandwagon.io>) give ample hope that many social obstacles might be overcome in newly emerging “sharing economies” (10, 11).

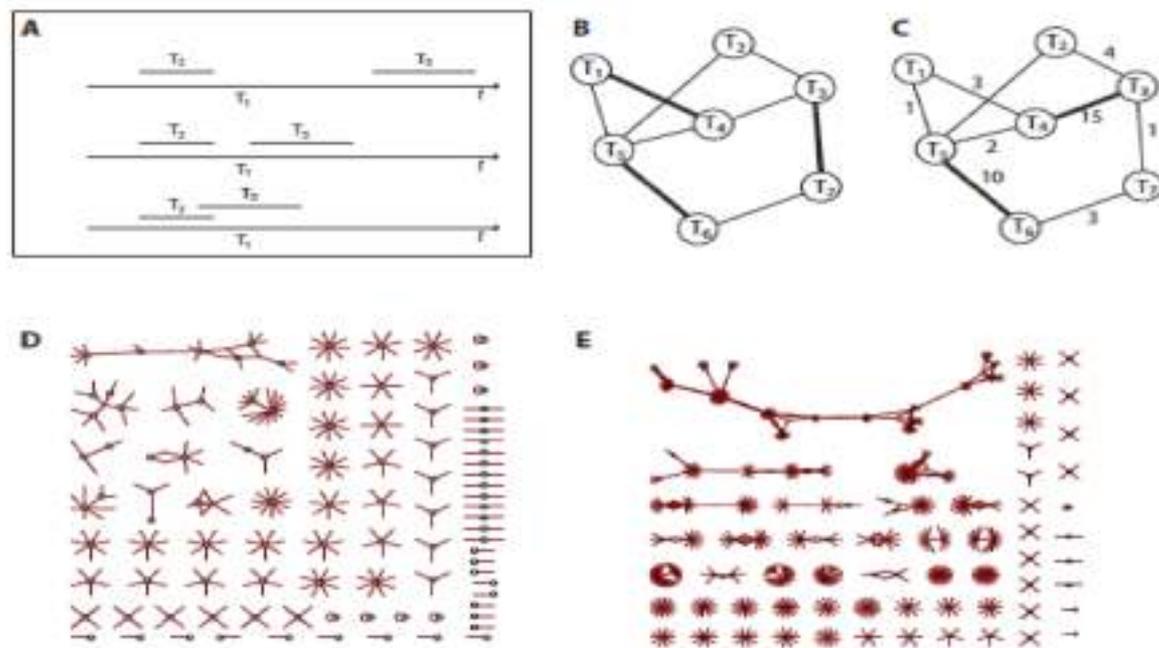
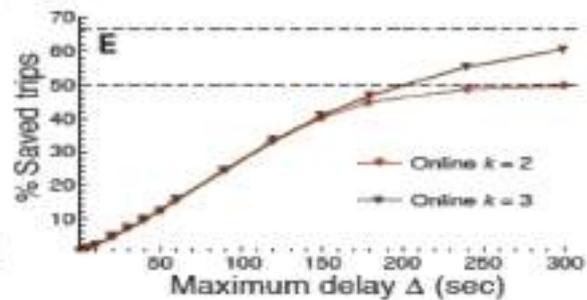
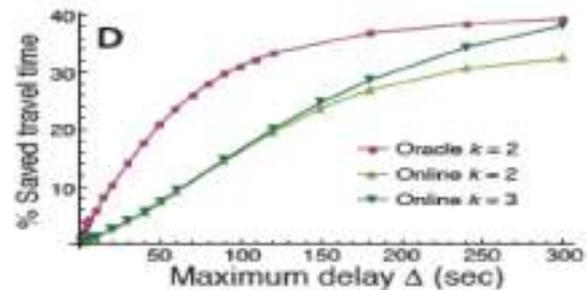
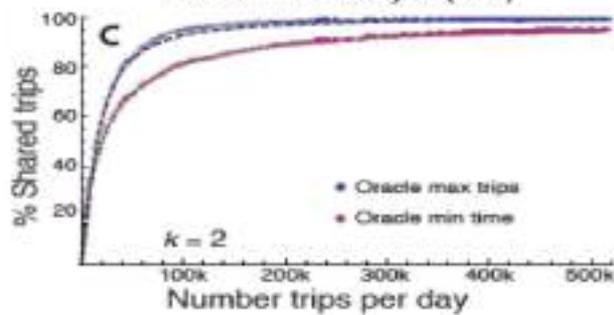
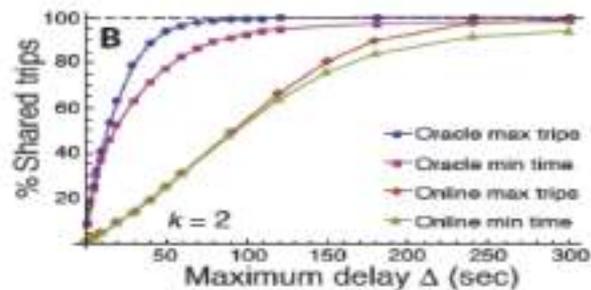
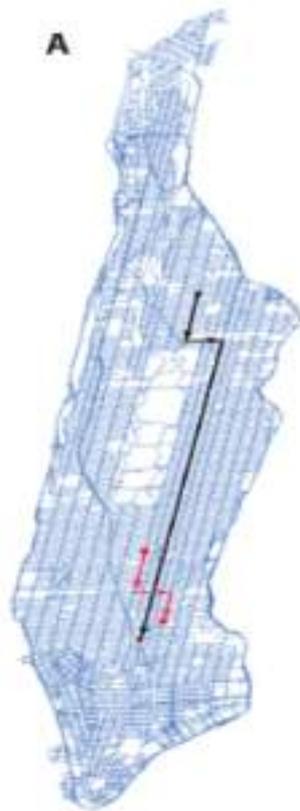


Figure 1: Shareability networks. (A) Trip sharing model and taxi capacity. Each of the three cases involves three trips T_1 , T_2 , and T_3 to be shared, but ordered differently in time t . The top case corresponds to a feasible sharing according to our model with $k = 2$, and the trips can be accommodated in a taxi with capacity ≥ 2 . The middle case corresponds to a model with $k = 3$ since three trips are combined; notice that the three trips can be combined in a taxi with capacity two since two of the combined trips are non-overlapping. The bottom case corresponds to $k = 3$, but here a taxi capacity ≥ 3 is needed to accommodate the combined trips. (B) Example of maximum matching ($\#$) in a simple shareability network. The links belonging to the maximum matching are displayed in bold. (C) Example of maximum weighted matching ($\#$). (D) Exemplary subset of the shareability network corresponding to 100 consecutive trips for values of $\Delta = 30$ sec and (E) $\Delta = 60$ sec, showing network densification effects and thus an increase of sharing opportunities with longer time-aggregation. Open links point to trips outside the considered set of trips. Isolated nodes are represented as self-loops. Node positions are not preserved across the networks.



nature



THE INTERNATIONAL WEEKLY JOURNAL OF SCIENCE

Network analysis
of journeys reveals
optimum size for New
York taxi fleet: [PAGES 324](#)

DRIVING FORCE

5 NATURE JOURNAL
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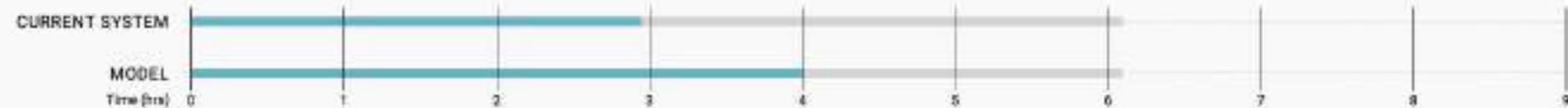
Working hour optimization

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

TYPES OF CAR MODES

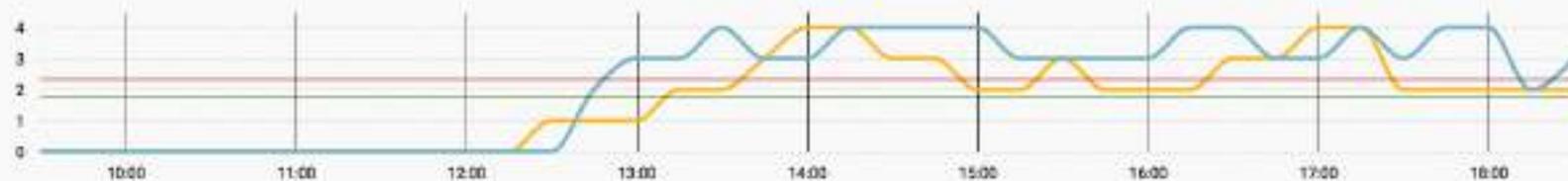
Cumulated time with and without passenger in a typical working day

— With passenger — Without passenger

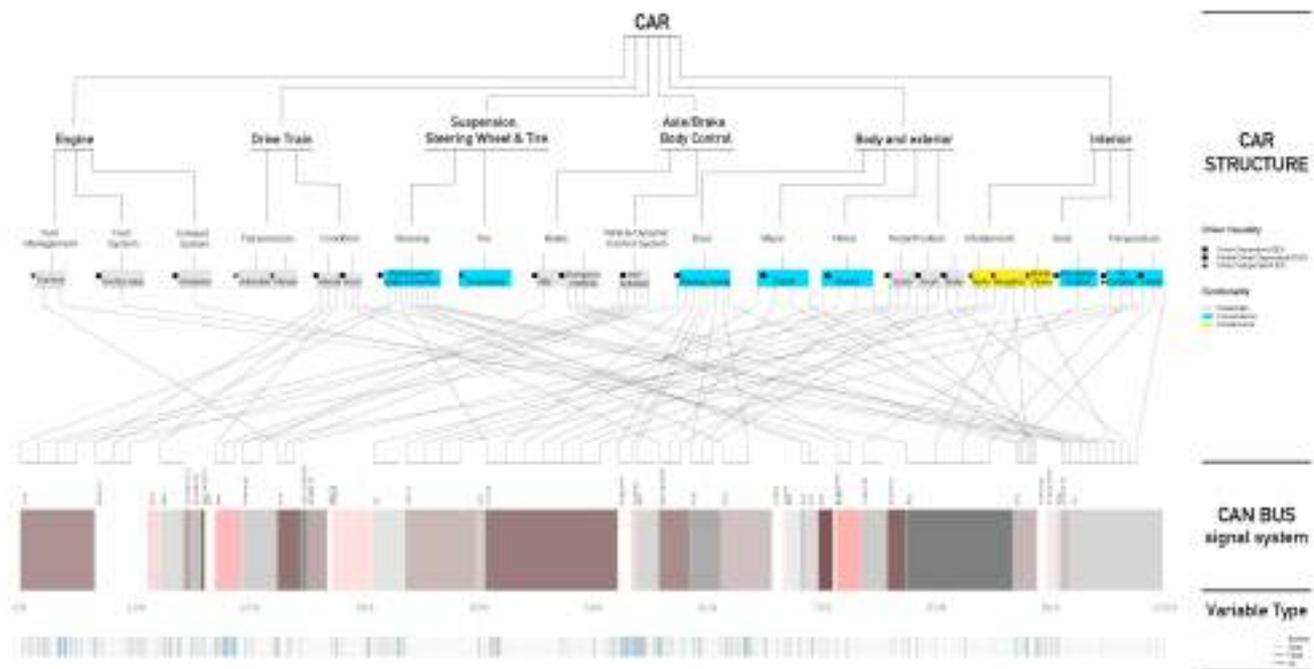


TRIPS SERVED BY HOUR AND CAR (CUMULATIVE FOR 1 HOUR)

— Current situation — Model — Avg. number of trips for the current system — Avg. number of trips for the model



The displayed cars represent the median number of trips for both the system and model.





The Car as an Ambient Sensing Platform

BY EMANUELE MASSARO, CHAEWŌN AHN, AND CARLO RATTI

MIT Sensable City Lab, Cambridge, MA 02139 USA

PAOLO SAMTI

MIT Sensable City Lab Cambridge, MA 02139 USA and Istituto di Informatica e Scienze del CNR, Pisa 56100, Italy

RAINER STAHLMANN AND ANDREAS LAMPRECHT

UWM AC, Augsburg D-85085, Germany

MARTIN BOEDDER AND MARKUS HUBER

Infineon Group of America Electronic Research Lab, Bedford, MA 02119 USA



FIG. 1. The vision of cars used as pervasive sensing platforms. Car data are communicated to remote servers through wireless communications, possibly also without driver consent and aggregation. Data signed to be transmitted for traffic flow and quality control is obtained from the multiple data streams collected by a single vehicle, as well as from data generated by different vehicles.

In recent years, cars have evolved from purely mechanical to versatile cyber-physical systems that generate large amounts of real-time data. These data are instrumental to the proper working of the vehicle itself, but make them available to a multitude of other uses. For instance, GPS technologies have

recently been used for a large number of industry studies in the academic scenario (e.g., [1, 2]), as well as in real-world apps such as Google Traffic and Waze. The use of vehicle data is already having a profound impact on science, industry, economy, and society at large. Now, imagine that instead of accessing one single source of vehicle-generated data (GPS), one can access the entire wealth of data exchanged on the controller area network (CAN) bus to sense and measure everything in over 4000 signals sampled at high frequency, corresponding to a few gigabytes of data per hour. What would be the implications, opportunities, and challenges sparked by this transition?

This transition is now being made possible by the so-called connected car paradigm, which allows vehicle CAN bus data to be recorded and wirelessly transmitted to external servers for analysis. Thus, the car sensing dimension, which can be informally understood as the number of different signals that a vehicle records and makes available for data analysis, is increasing from 1 (or a few) to 4000 or above.

In the rest of the article, we discuss the groundbreaking effects that transition will have on our ability of sensing roads and the urban living systems itself. Guided by the preliminary

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Crowdsensing Framework for Monitoring Bridge Vibrations Using Moving Smartphones

This paper discusses new services that can be delivered in urban environments through big data generated by the public's smartphones, enhancing the relationship between a city and its infrastructure.

By THOMAS J. MATAZZO¹, PAOLO SANTI, SHAMIM N. PNEZAD, KRISTOPHER CARTER, CARLO RAYTTI, BARBARA MCGHEE, CHRIS DRISCOLL, AND NOEL JACOB

ABSTRACT Cities are encountering relative deficits in infrastructure service while they are experiencing rapid technological advancements and overloads in transportation systems. Standard bridge evaluation methods rely on visual inspections, which are infrequent and subjective, ultimately affecting the structural assessments on which maintenance plans are based. The operational behavior of a bridge must be observed more regularly and over an extended period in order to sufficiently track its condition and avoid unexpected rehabilitation. Mobile sensor networks are candidate to monitoring bridges vibrates routinely, with benefits that have been demonstrated in recent structural health monitoring (SHM) research. Though smartphone accelerometers are integrated sensors, they can contribute valuable information to SHM, especially when aggregated, e.g., via crowdsourcing, in an application on the Harvard Bridge (Boston, MA). It is shown that acceleration data collected using smartphones in moving vehicles contains consistent and significant indicators of the first three modal frequencies of the bridge. In particular, the results here are more precise when informed by known prior smartphone datasets were combined. This evidence is the first to support the

hypothesis that smartphone data, collected while vehicles passing over a bridge, can be used to detect several modal frequencies of the bridge. The result defines an opportunity for local governments to make partnerships that encourage the collection of low-cost bridge vibration data, which can contribute to more effective management and informed decision-making.

KEYWORDS | Big Data; Bridge Management; Crowdsourcing; Damage Detection; Structural Health Monitoring; System Identification; Vehicular Networks; Wireless Sensor Networks; Intelligent Infrastructure

The state of U.S. infrastructure can be described as aging: about 48% of bridges are over 50 years old, in each day of 2010, Americans took 188 million trips over structurally deficient bridges [1], [2], and the backlog in bridge rehabilitation is estimated at \$121 billion. For effective currency and transit between U.S. states, federal laws require biennial bridge condition evaluations. Local governments and transportation authorities manage bridges and are responsible for a majority of the funding they employ inspections, their fees and preventive plans based on engineering assessments and allocated budgets. Yet, routine inspection protocols are sparse in time, and when done include means or other technological tools, and as a result, can miss damage indicators and/or lead to improper diagnoses.

A visual inspection is the primary condition evaluation method which, while often thorough, is subjective by nature and can be impaired by obstructive construction elements or other physical obstructions [3]–[5]. Even if a compromised structural component is in clear sight of a professional bridge inspector, early signs of damage,

¹Work on this research was partially supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant CMMI-1033766. The authors would like to thank the Harvard Bridge Authority for their support and the Harvard University Transportation Center (HUTC) for their support. The authors would also like to thank the Harvard University Transportation Center (HUTC) for their support. The authors would also like to thank the Harvard University Transportation Center (HUTC) for their support. The authors would also like to thank the Harvard University Transportation Center (HUTC) for their support.

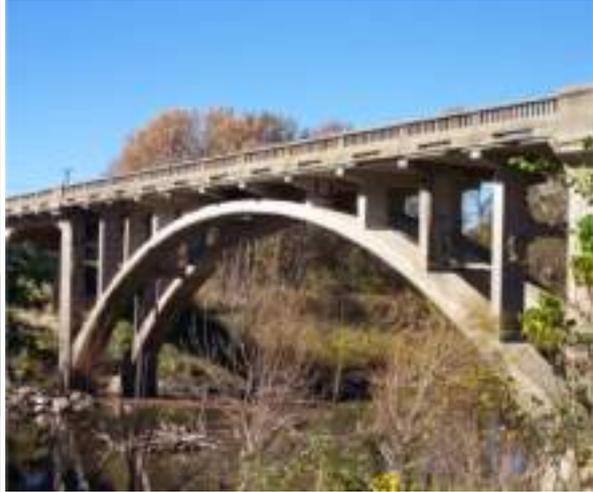
²Work on this research was partially supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant CMMI-1033766. The authors would like to thank the Harvard Bridge Authority for their support and the Harvard University Transportation Center (HUTC) for their support. The authors would also like to thank the Harvard University Transportation Center (HUTC) for their support. The authors would also like to thank the Harvard University Transportation Center (HUTC) for their support.

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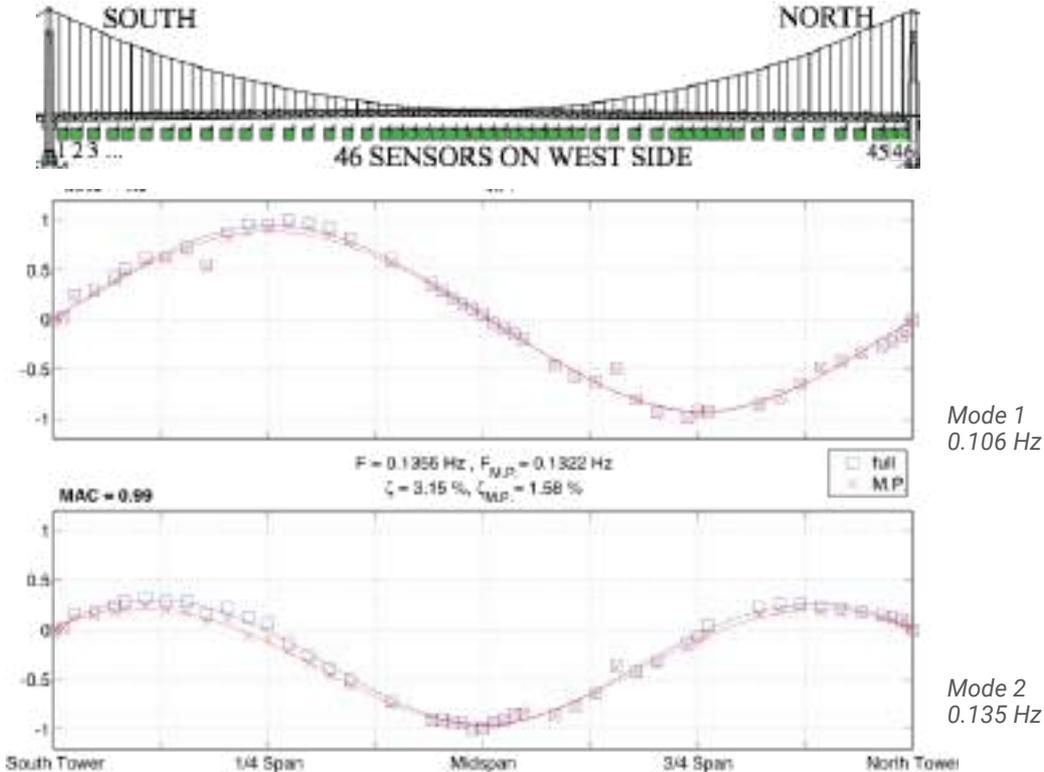




Jonathan Wiggs, Boston Globe



STRUCTURAL FINGERPRINT

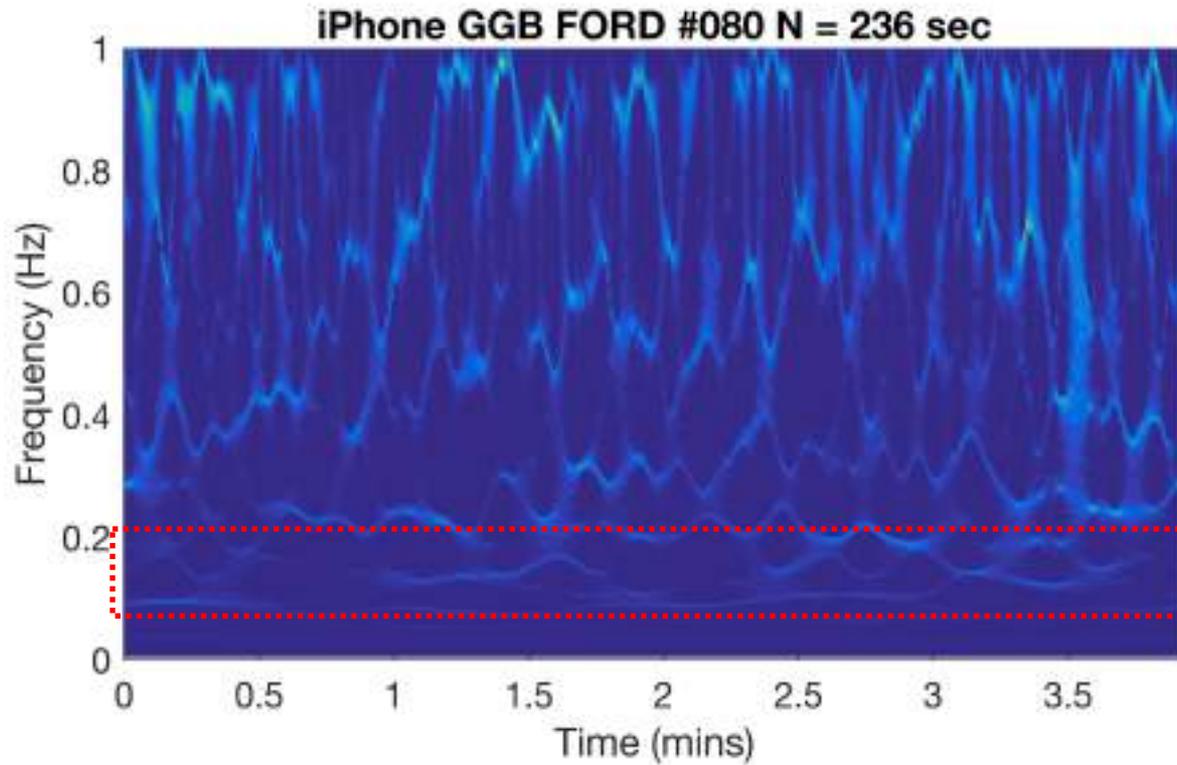




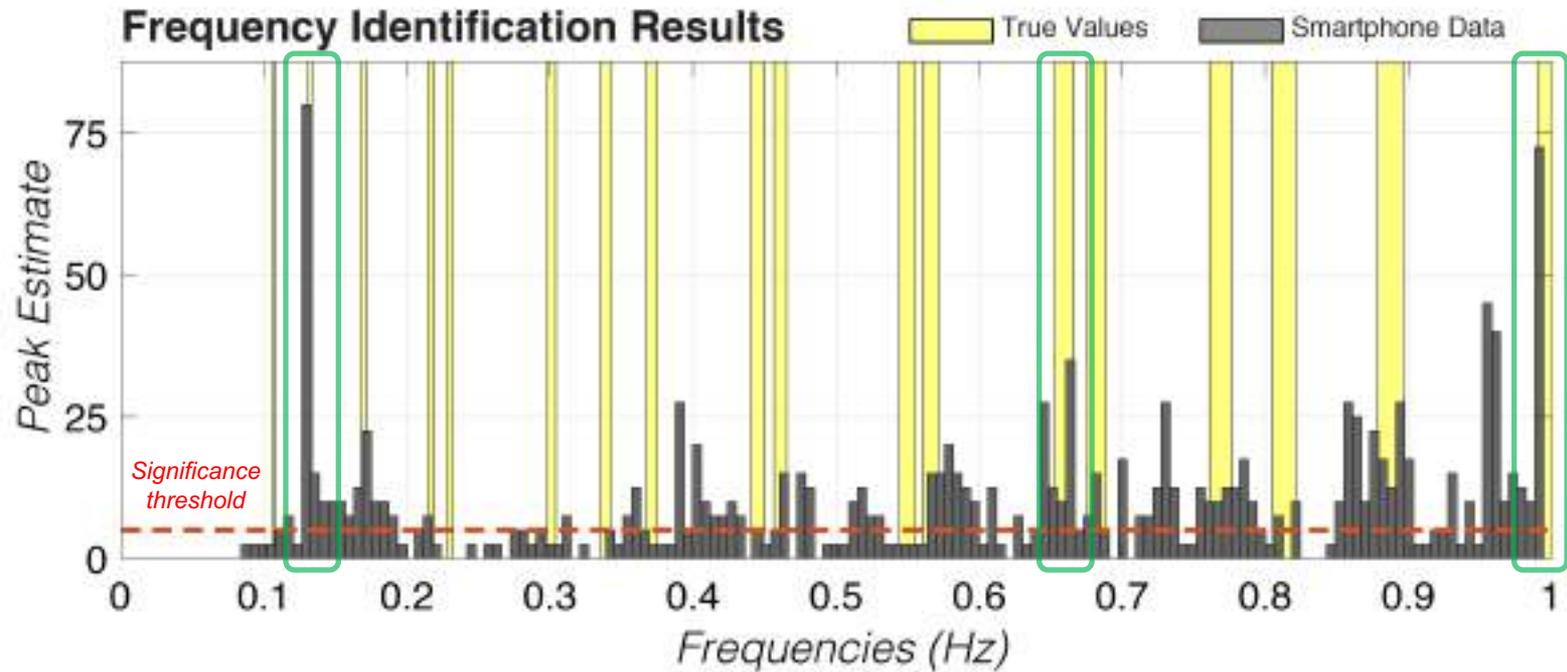




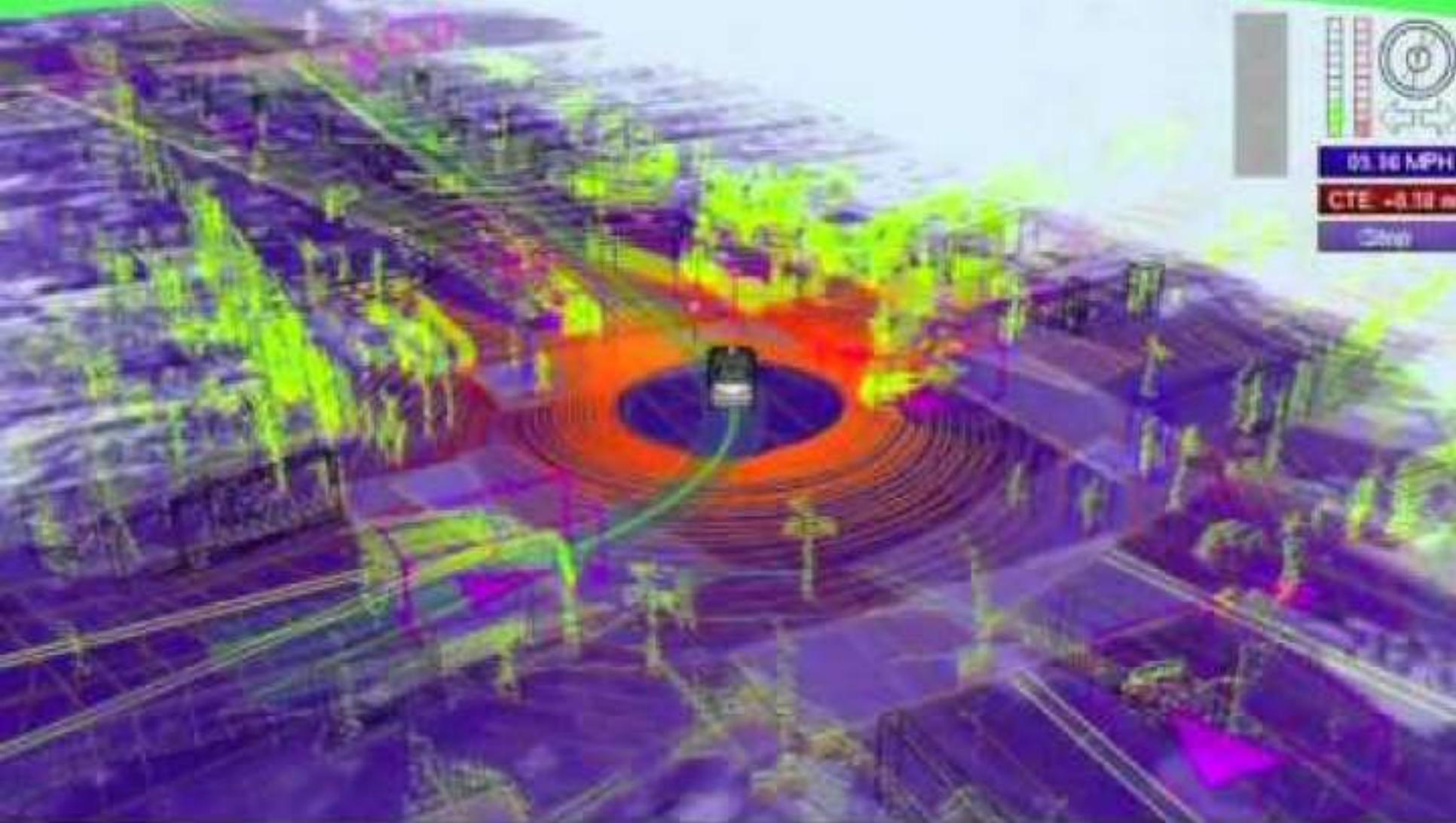
SPECTRAL ANALISYS



SPECTRAL ANALYSIS







05.18 MPH

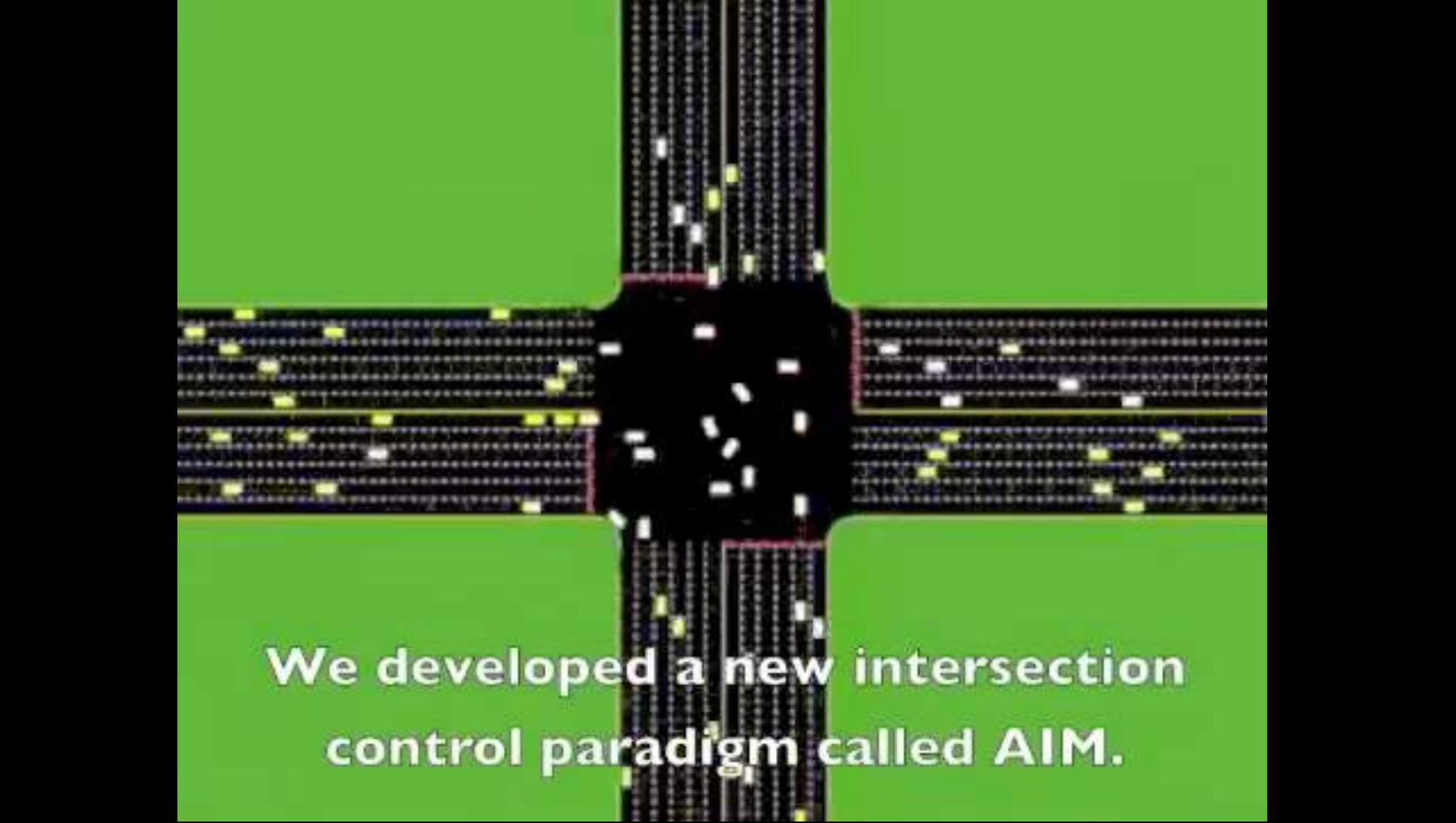
CTE -0.18 m

Clear





DRIVE
TO
RIGHT



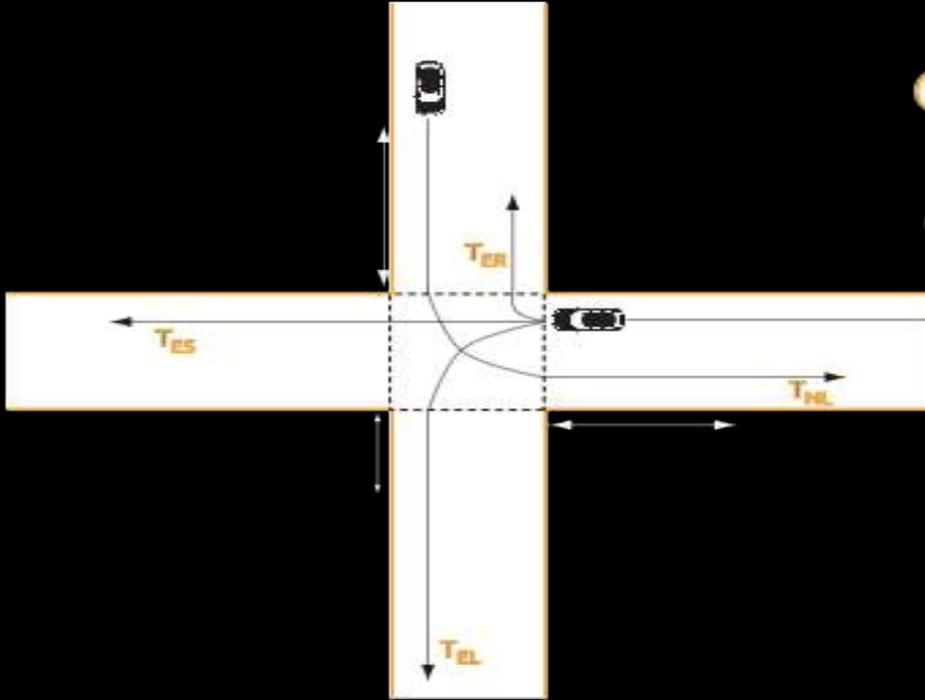
We developed a new intersection control paradigm called AIM.

“In Milan, traffic lights are instructions.
In Rome, they are suggestions.
In Naples, they are Christmas decorations.”

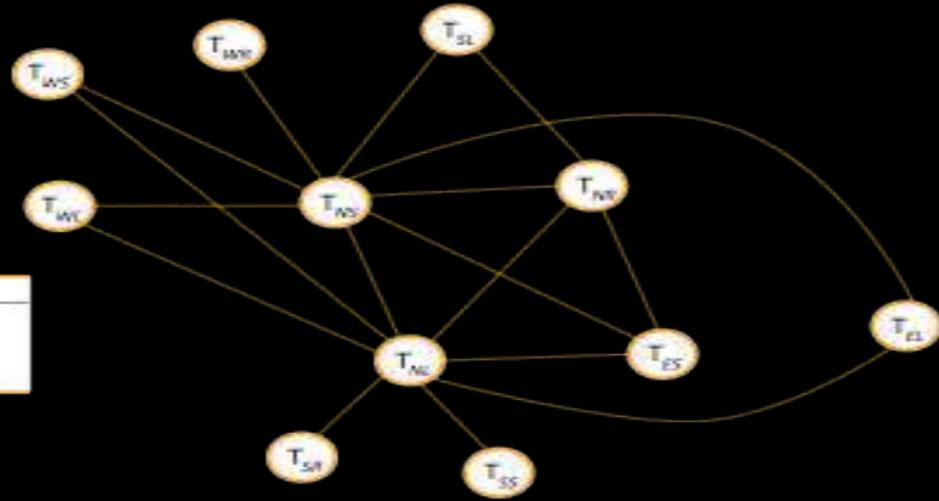
Antonio Martino

Former Minister of Foreign Affairs (1994) and Minister of Defense (2001-2006)

■ Access to intersection based on Incompatibility Network and



Vehicle trajectories
(partial view)



Incompatibility Network
(partial view)

■ Access to intersection based on Incompatibility Network and safety constraints

Safety constraint

- based on tailgate distance (a.k.a. two seconds rule) for vehicles with compatible trajectories
- based on vehicle stopping distance for vehicles with incompatible trajectories



Typically, $d_{tail} < d_{stop}$



City Drive







Micromobility re-engineered

Superpedestrian raises \$20 million for durable electric scooters

Kyle Wiggers

@Kyle_L_Wiggers

November 19, 2019 6:25 PM

Transportation

f t in



1. What about mobility?
2. What about office spaces?
3. What about retail?
4. ... and urban experiences?

WORKSPACES

If Work Is Digital, Why Do We Still Go to the Office?

by [Carlo Ratti](#) and [Matthew Claudel](#)

APRIL 13, 2016

WHAT TO READ NEXT



[7 Factors of Great Office Design](#)

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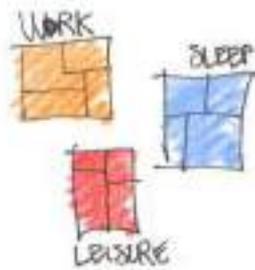


Le Corbusier , Charte d'Athene 1931, IV CIAM

“The four keys to urban planning are the four functions of the city: dwelling, work, recreation (use of leisure time), transportation”

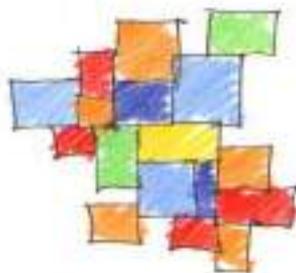
1931

CHARTER D'ATHÈNES



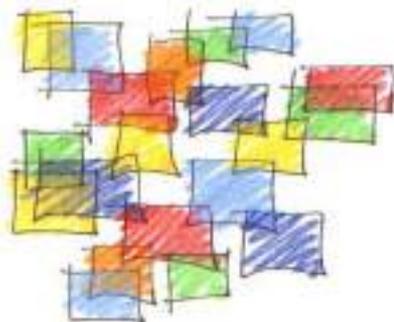
1960

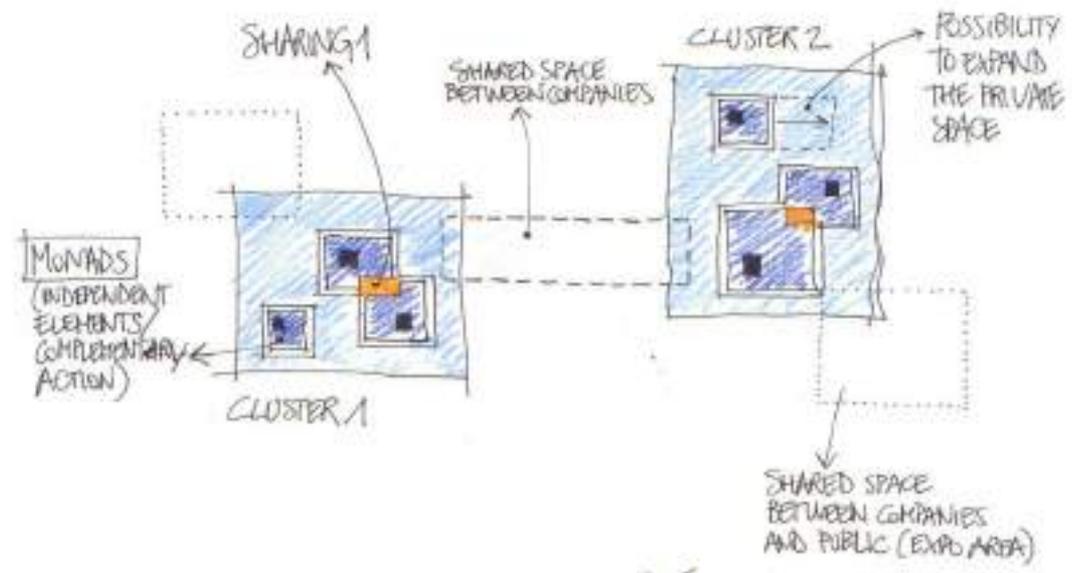
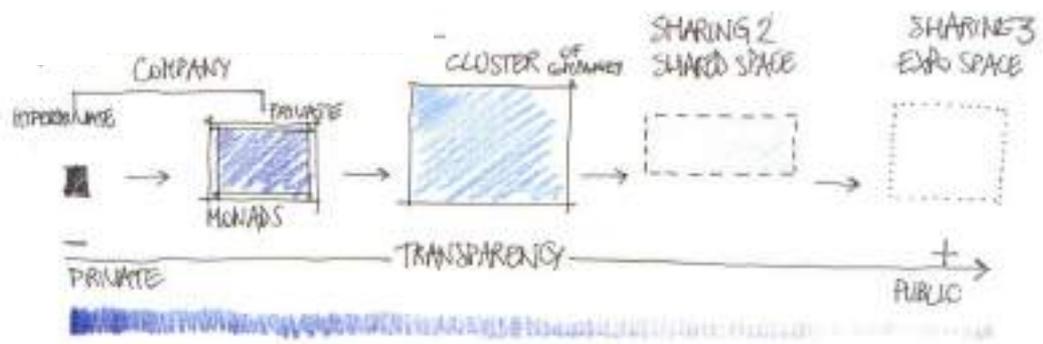
JANE JACOBS

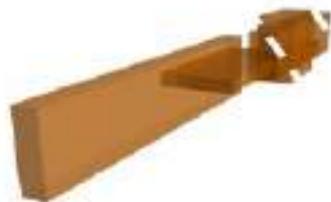


2000

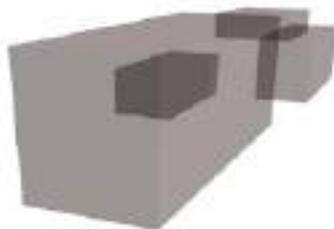
DIGITAL REVOLUTION



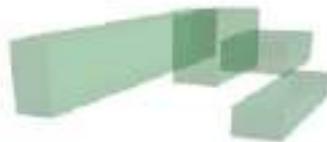




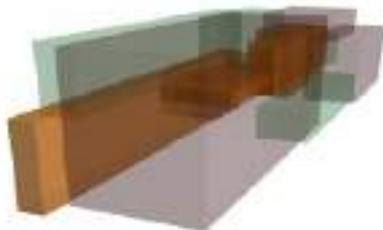
Circulation



Private



Open



Composite

MIT campus

Location: Boston, MA

Area: 168 acres

People: 10,320 students and 9,414 total employees

Buildings: over 190





TM

ZONE

Before



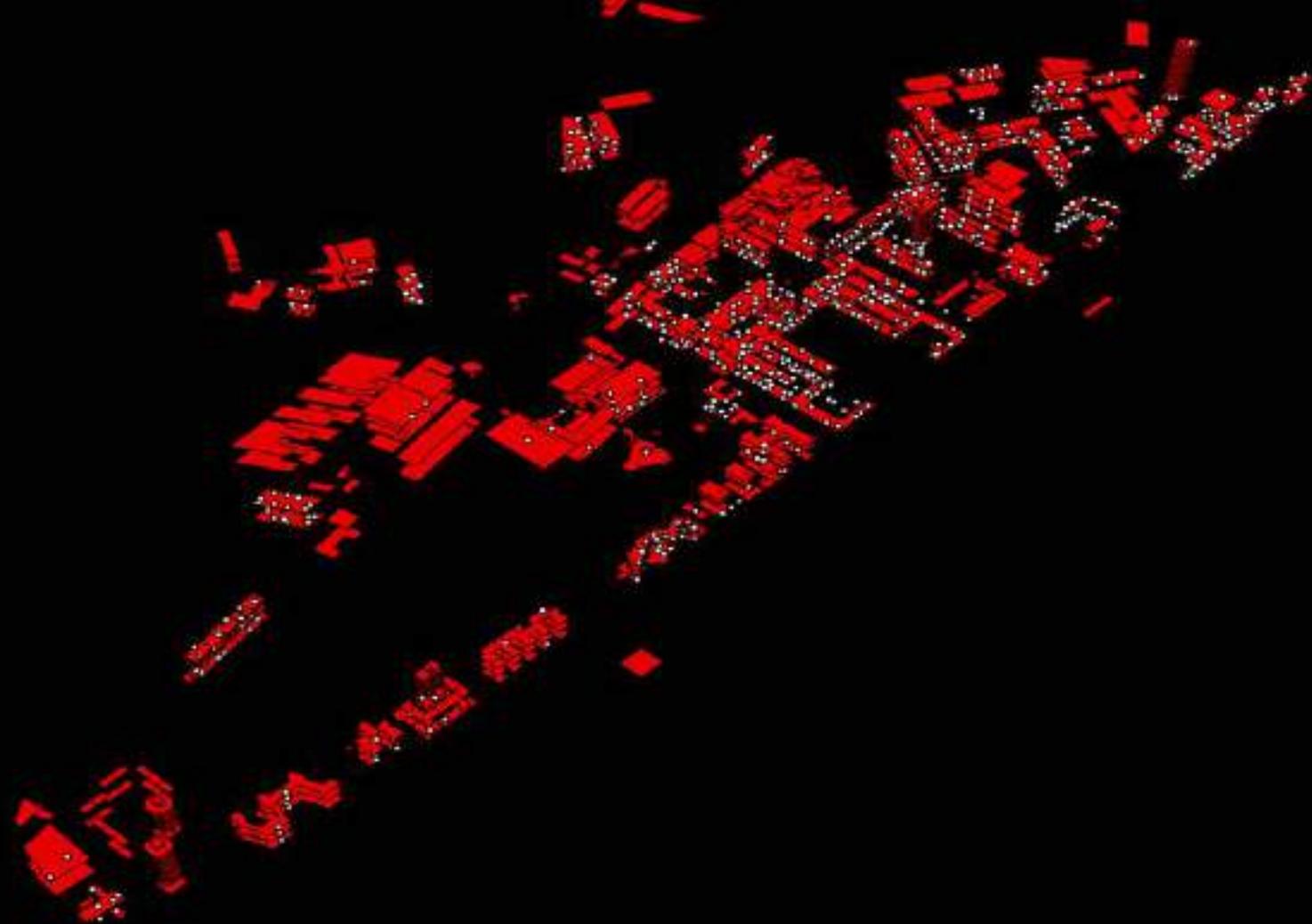
After







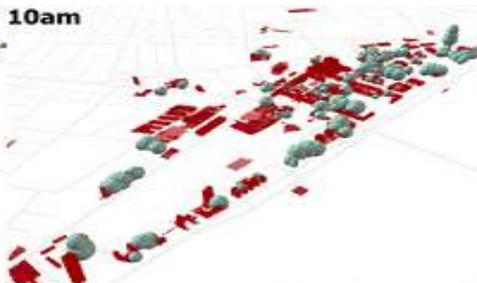
we work



9am



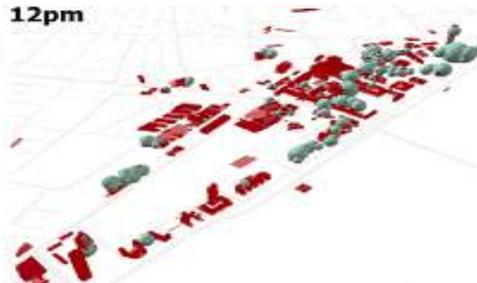
10am



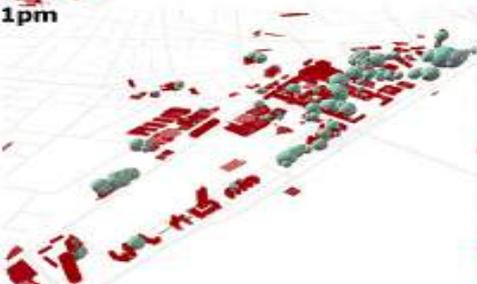
11am



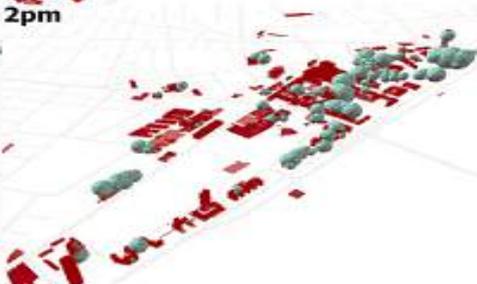
12pm



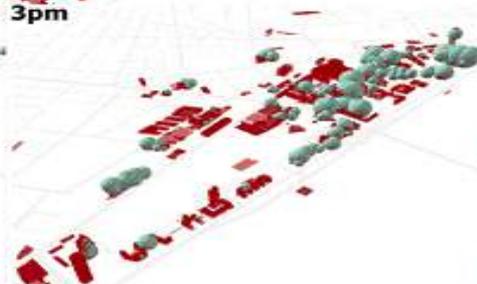
1pm



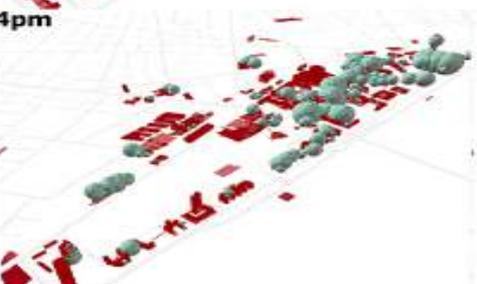
2pm



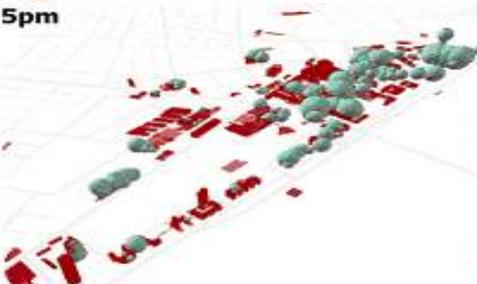
3pm



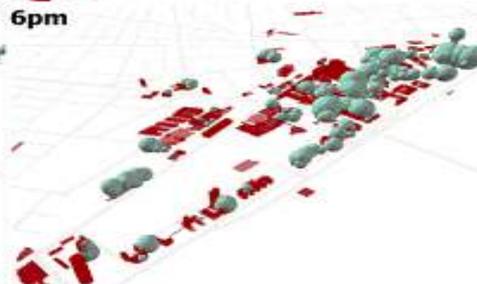
4pm



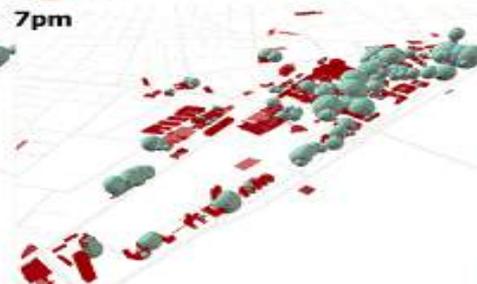
5pm



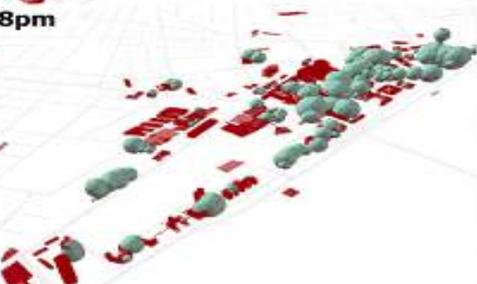
6pm



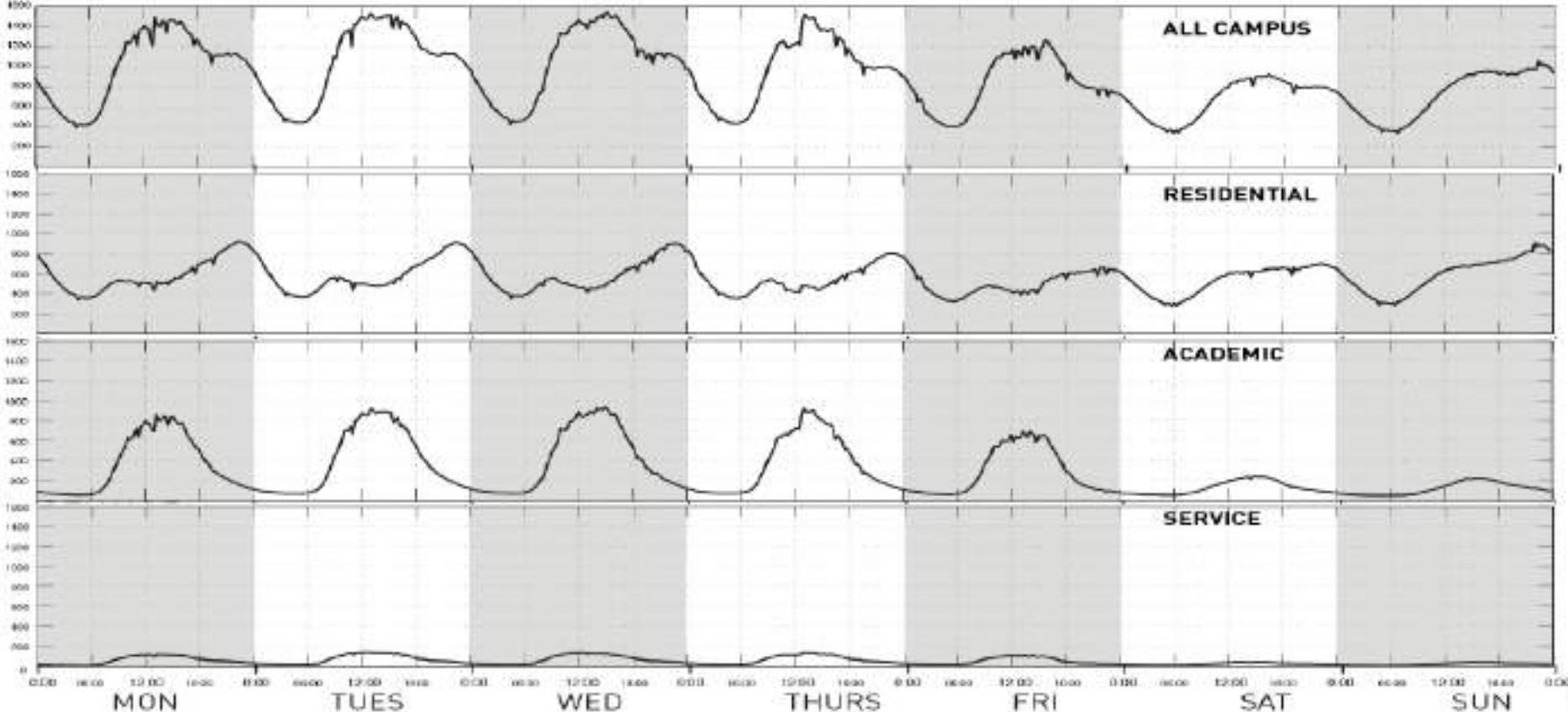
7pm



8pm

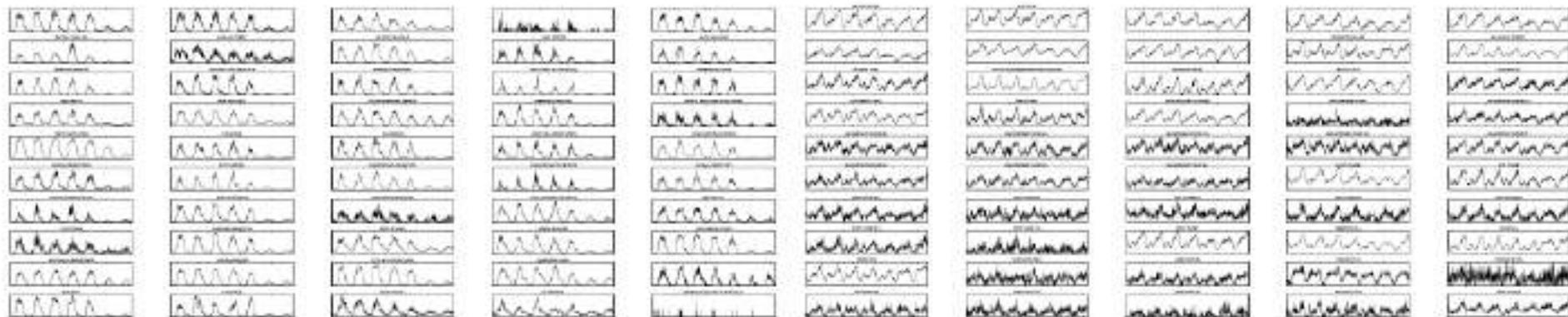


Summary slide of the signals from the three program types discussed earlier - compared to the signature of the entire campus. The user number is the average weekly number of people connecting to the internet via WiFi.

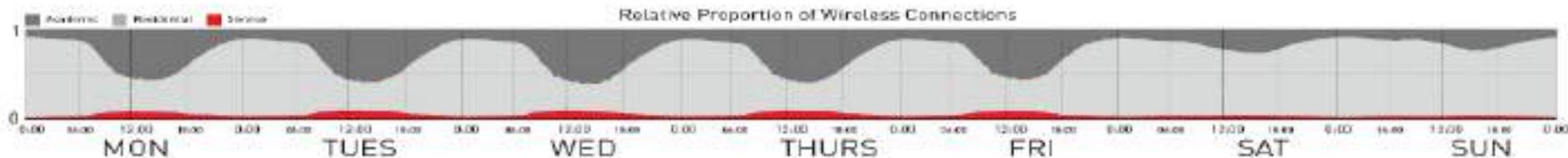


3. MIT CAMPUS

The average weekly WiFi signals from individual buildings give us a fingerprint of each building. Can these be correlated (calibrated?) to the type of people living in particular dorms? Do physicists have different WiFi usage than chemists?



Calculating the average relative proportions of total WiFi connections among the three program types (academic/residential/service) over the course of a week reveals characteristic WiFi behavior in the three program types. Although the service building WiFi use is much lower than the two other program types, in general, the service and academic buildings show a similar increase in WiFi use during normal daylight hours, while the residential use increases at night. This difference diminishes during the weekend.



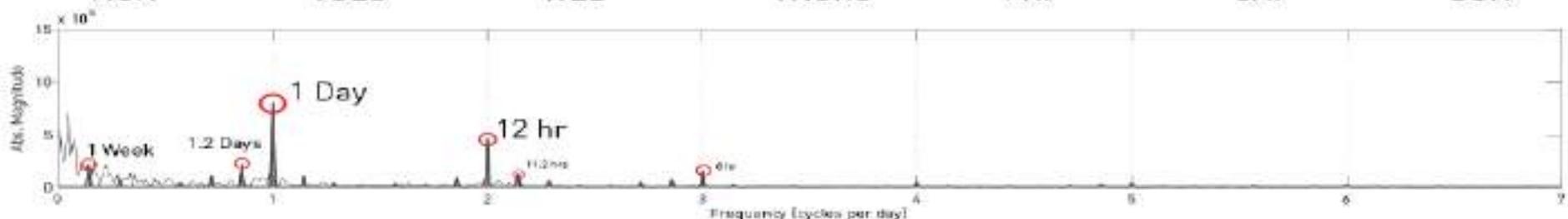
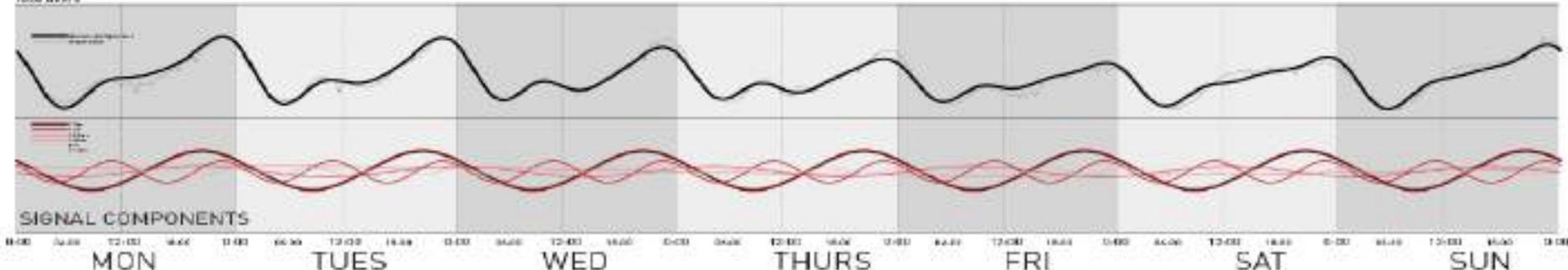
3.1 MIT FFT

Taking an FFT of the average weekly time series allows us to separate the WiFi signatures into individual components. Shown below are the original signature, the reconstructed signature, the six frequencies used to reconstruct the synthetic time series, and the spectral graph of the original time series. The thickness and color of the individual components are a function of the magnitude of the frequency shown in the lowermost plot. The primary frequencies for residential buildings correspond to periods of 1 day, 12 hours, 1.2 days, 8 hours, and 1 week. The diurnal cycle is as expected for people who sleep at night and work during the day. The 12hr and 8hr periods correspond to daily activities such as going to class and accessing the internet in the evening. Note the largest WiFi signal comes just before midnight. Since these are mostly students in dorms, it is not surprising.

As can be seen below, the FFT technique is ideal for characterizing and extracting fundamental components of periodic behavior. Is a city periodic? I would say yes - it is governed by cycles and thus, unlike the eigenvector technique which is more interested in canonical forms (periodic or not), tends to make a lot of intuitive sense for urban analysis.

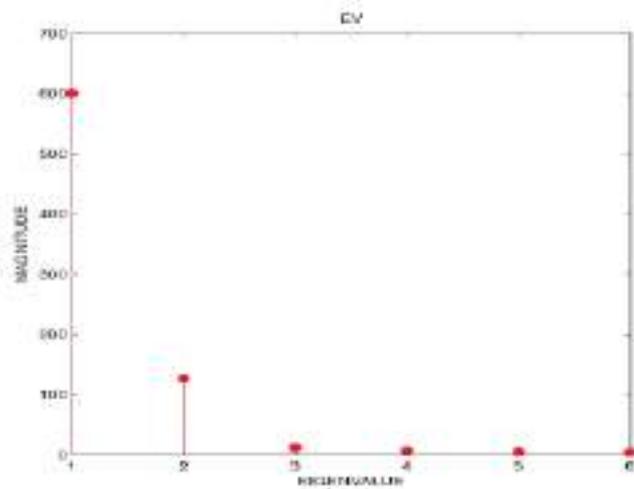
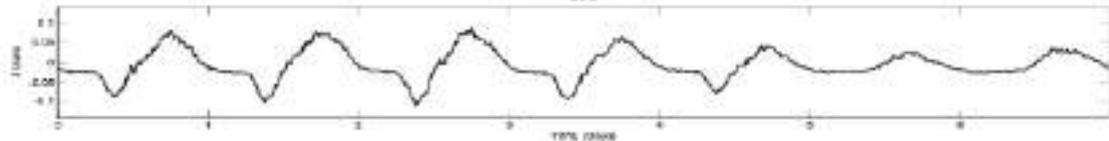
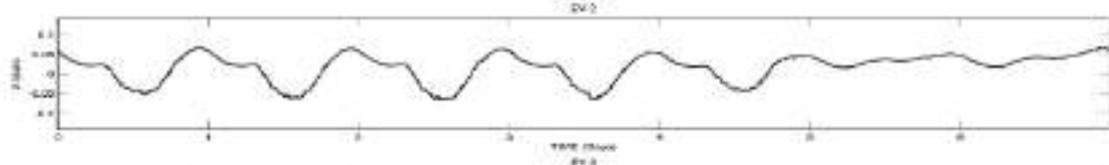
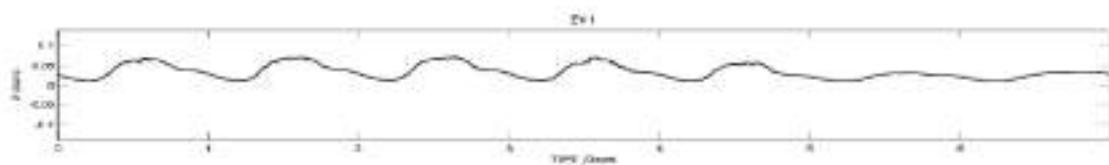
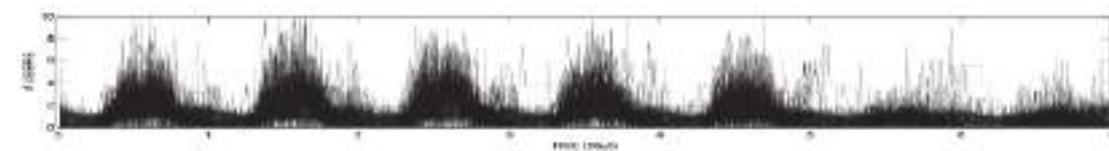
RESIDENTIAL

1000 users



3.2 MIT EIGENVECTOR ANALYSIS AND K-MEAN CLUSTERING

The test of seeing whether WiFi antennas in Simmons Hall could be grouped according to very localized usage patterns was partially successful - there are still many uncertainties about the accuracy of the results - so it was decided to use all of the antennas on the MIT campus to determine the 14 week average signal and then calculate the eigenvectors /eigenvalues and k-mean clustering. Shown below are the results of the eigenvector analysis.





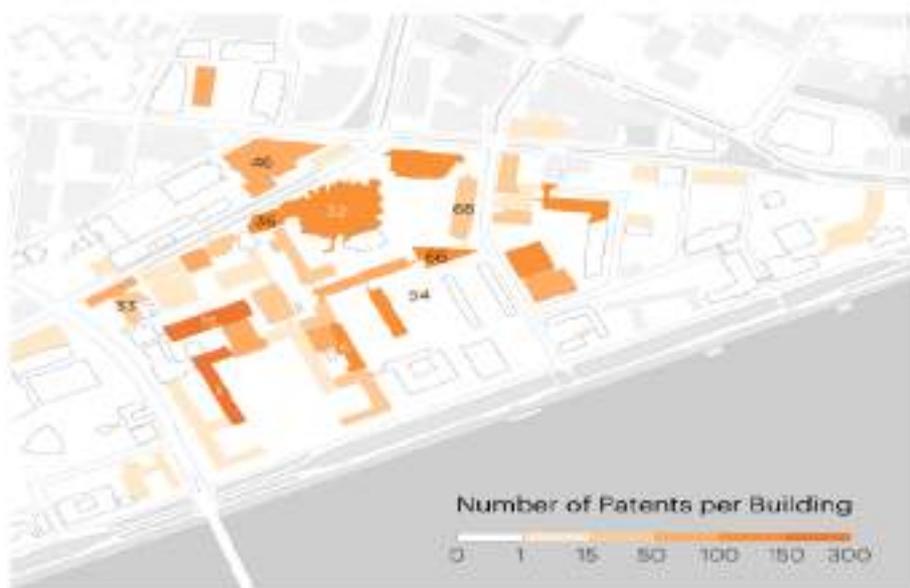


Figure 4. Patent and paper output per building between 2004 and 2014. On these choropleth maps, buildings are color coded by output volume and labeled with their name (the facility code). Colors are assigned using a Jencks algorithm with five buckets.

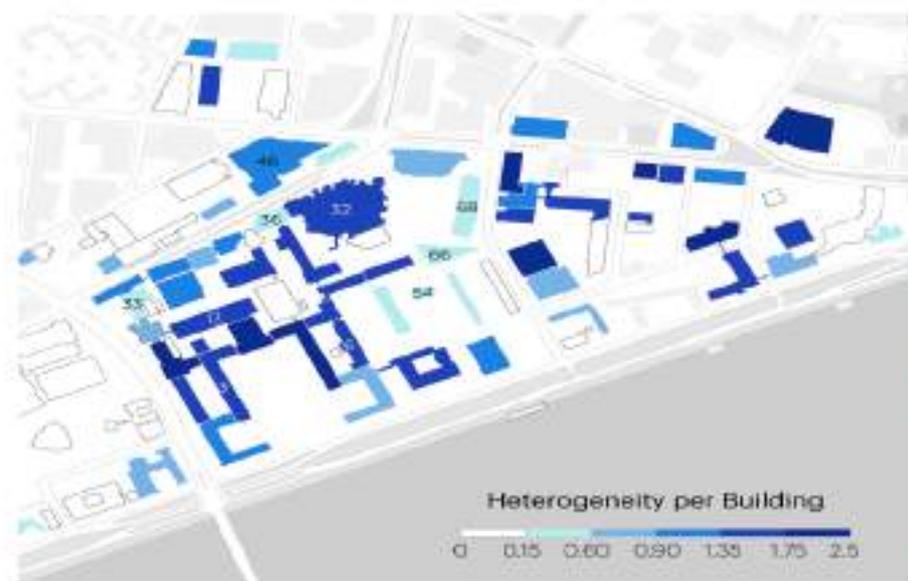
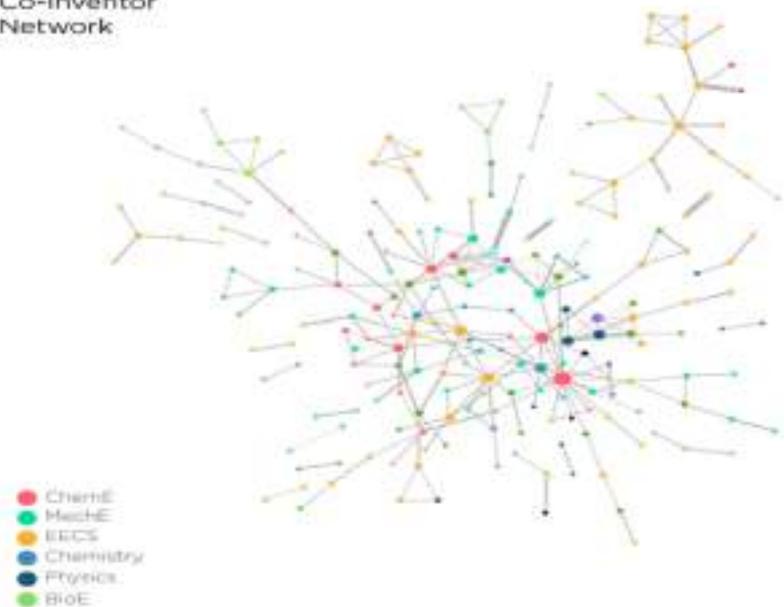


Figure 7. MIT campus buildings, coded according to heterogeneity, as calculated using the Shannon measure of information entropy. This shows variation in faculty departmental affiliations per building. Values range from 0 to 2.5, classified with a Jencks algorithm. Buildings are labeled by name (facility code).

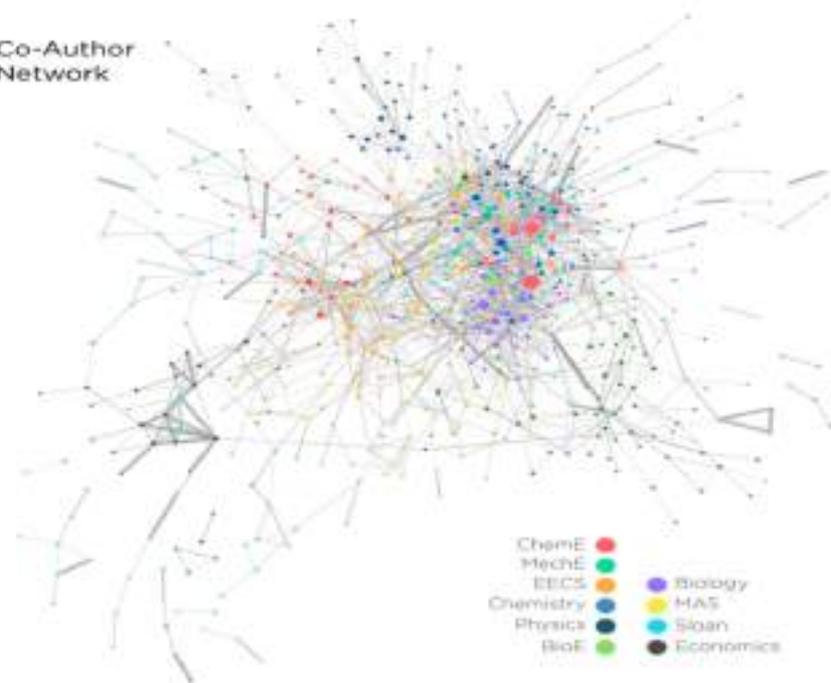


Figure 8. MIT campus buildings, coded according the average total area of lab and office space per faculty member. There is a distribution of values from 145ft² to 2,065ft² allocated per faculty member. Buildings are labeled by name (facility code).

Co-Inventor Network



Co-Author Network





passion
working
space











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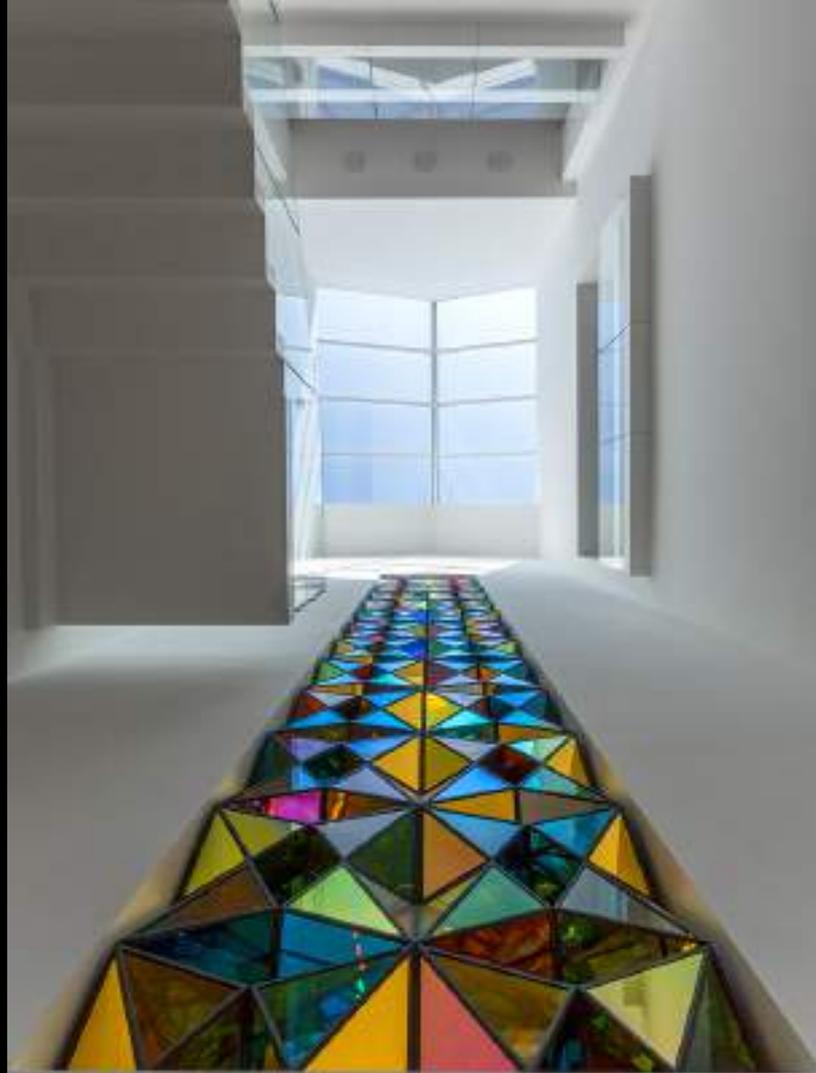
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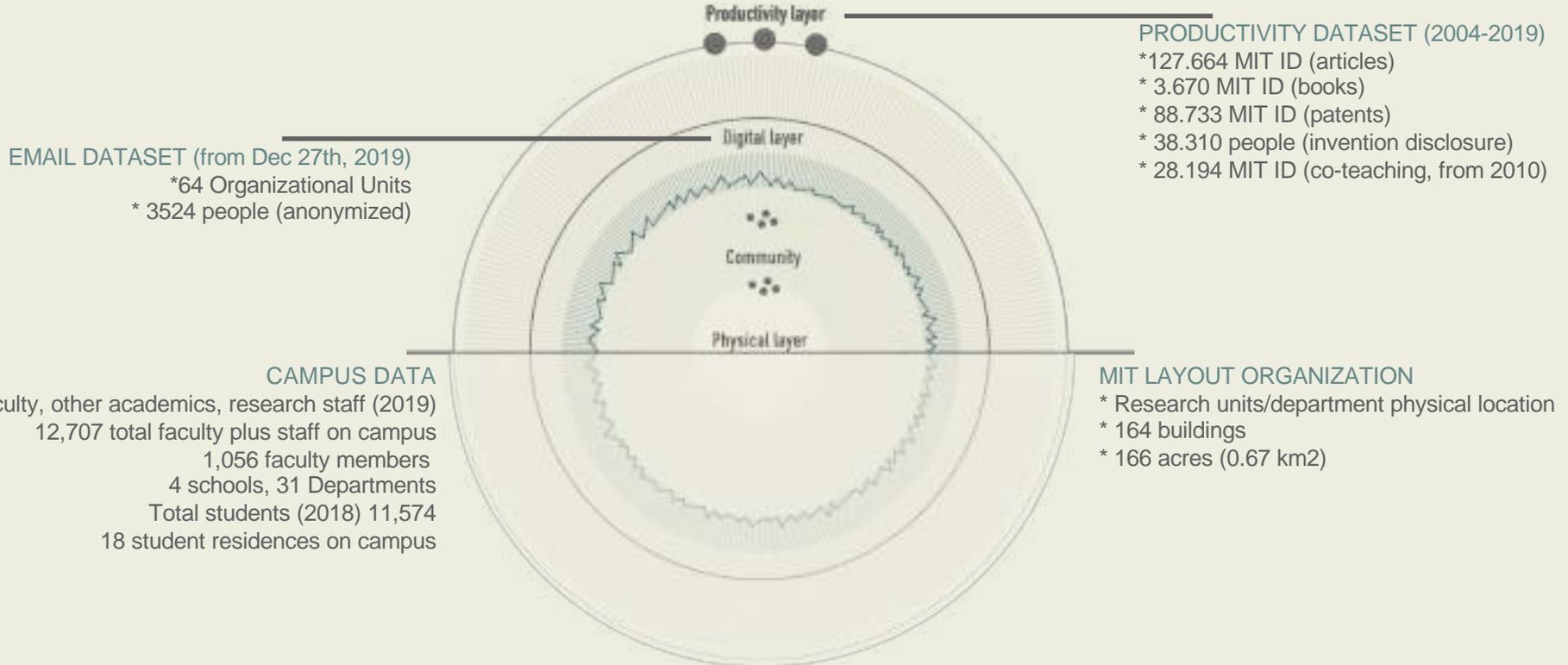
Twitter announces employees will be allowed to work from home 'forever'

The company said those who want to return to the office won't likely do so until at least September and reopening will be 'careful'

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- [Live global updates](#)

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EMAIL DATASET

3523 ANONYMIZED People's MIT email accounts (Faculty, Fellow Researchers)

64 RESEARCH UNITS/DEPARTMENTS

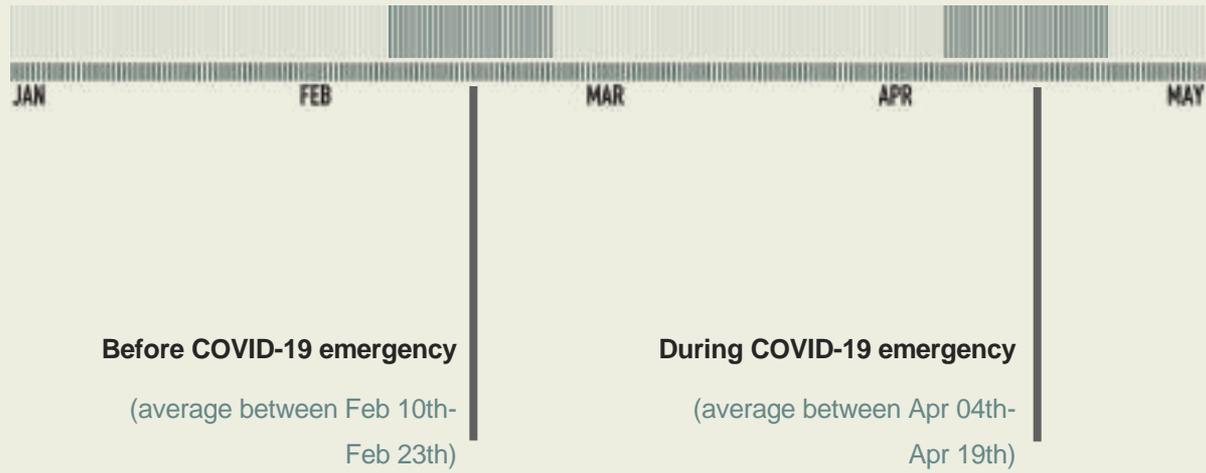
5 PEOPLE OF EACH RANDOMIZED GROUP

TIME variable

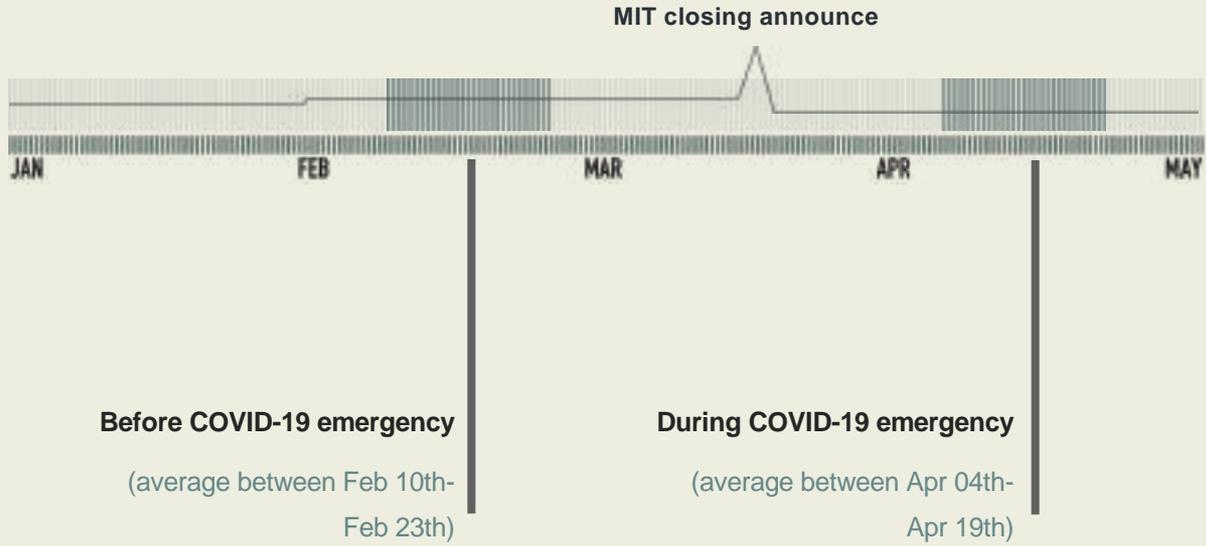
We kept track of all communications related to COVID-19



TIME variable



TIME variable



Before COVID-19 EMERGENCY

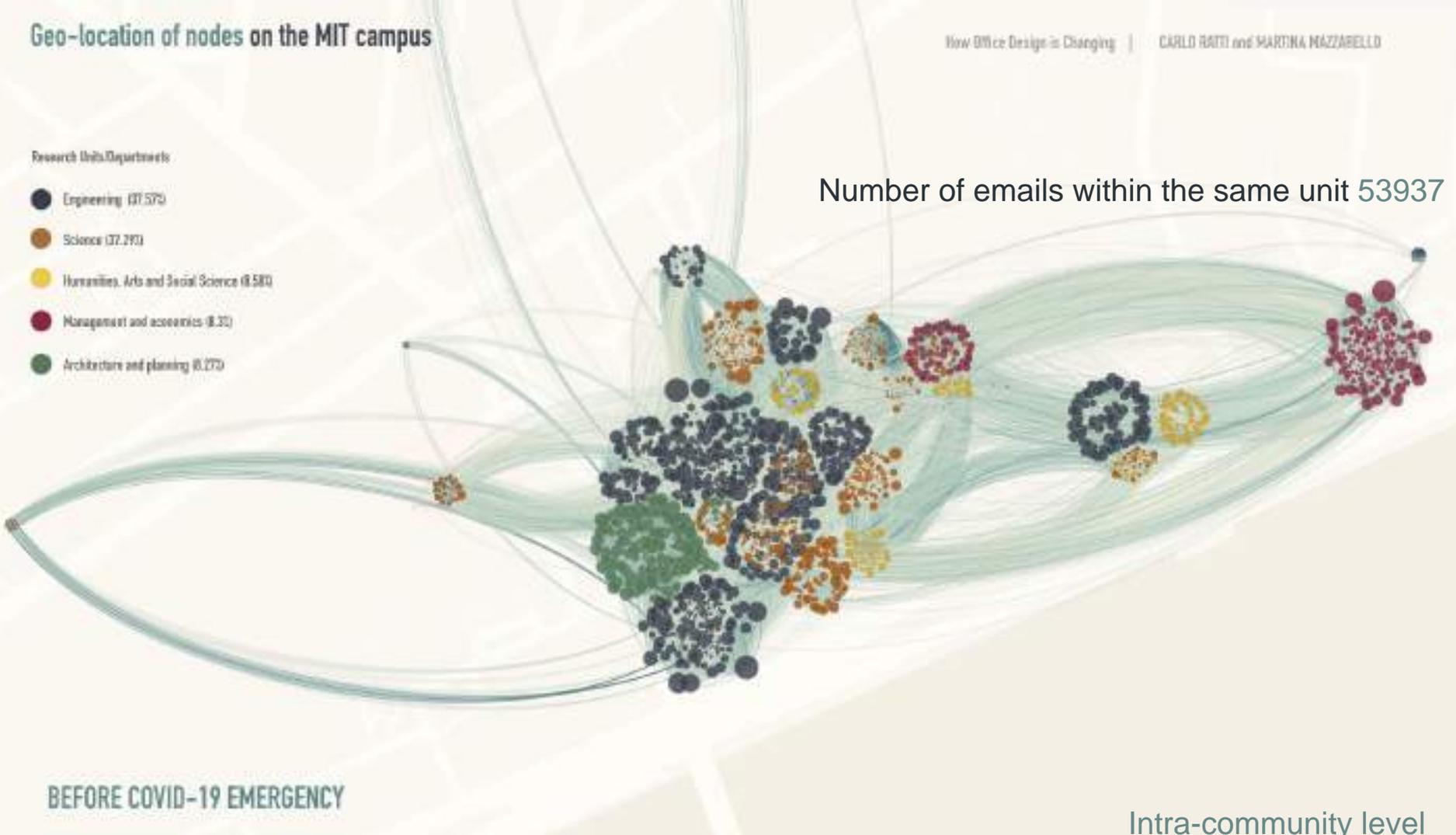
February 2020

Geo-location of nodes on the MIT campus

Research Units/Departments

- Engineering (37,570)
- Science (27,293)
- Humanities, Arts and Social Science (8,580)
- Management and economics (8,371)
- Architecture and planning (6,270)

Number of emails within the same unit 53937



BEFORE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

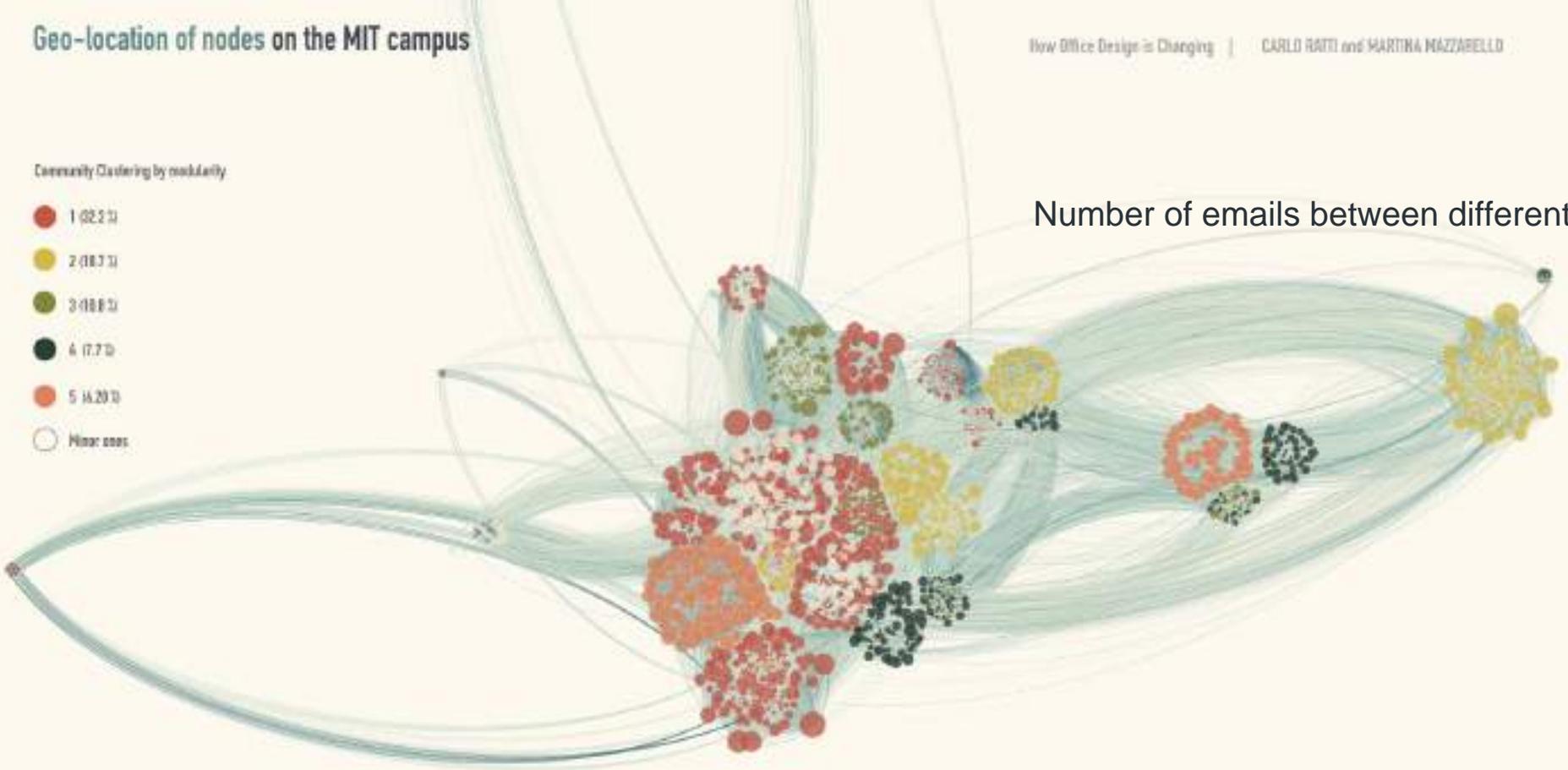
Intra-community level

Geo-location of nodes on the MIT campus

Community Clustering by modularity

- 1 (22.2%)
- 2 (18.7%)
- 3 (18.8%)
- 4 (7.7%)
- 5 (4.2%)
- Minor ones

Number of emails between different un...



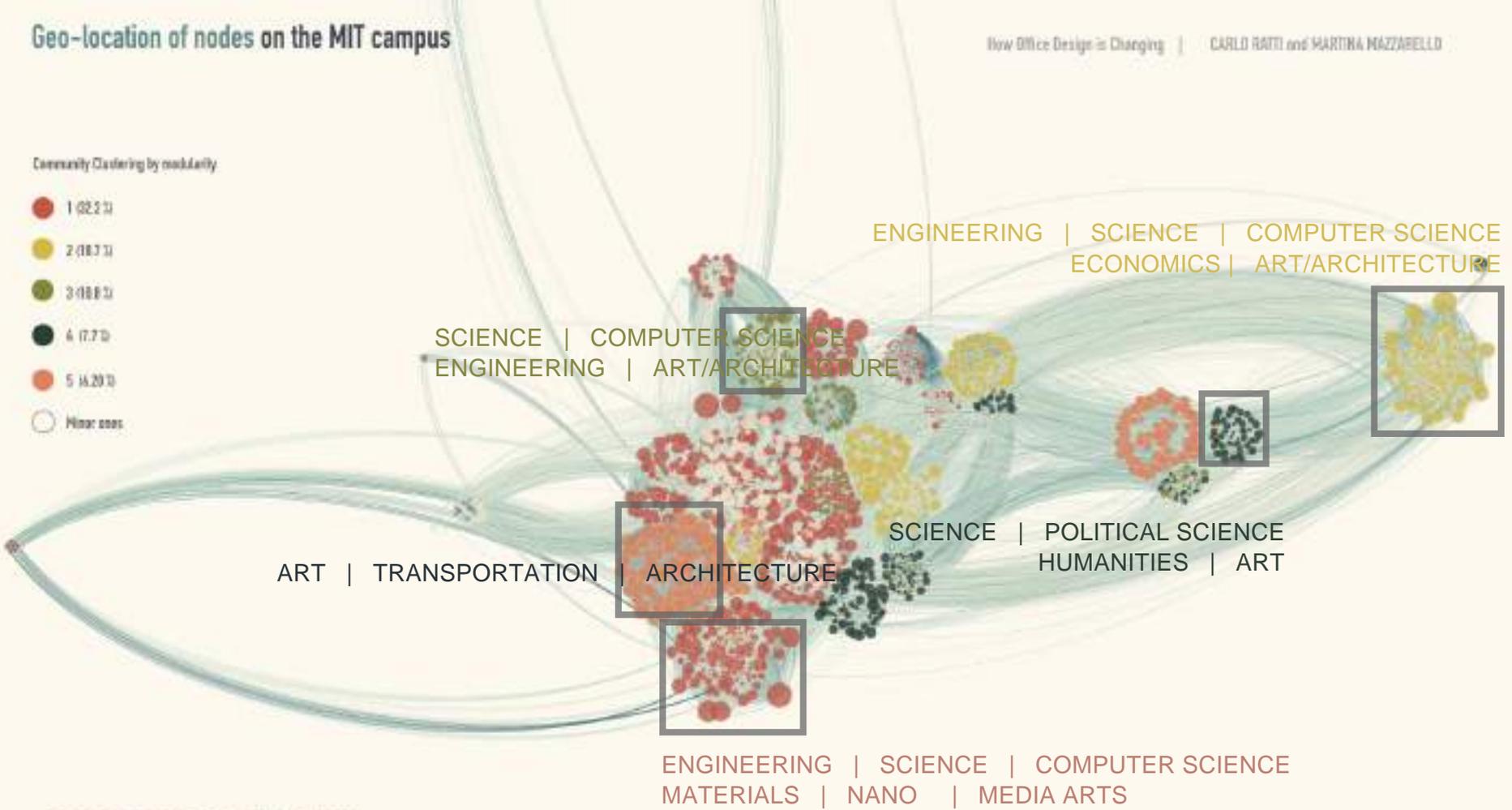
BEFORE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

Inter-community level

Geo-location of nodes on the MIT campus

Community Clustering by modularity

- 1 (22.2%)
- 2 (18.7%)
- 3 (18.8%)
- 4 (7.7%)
- 5 (6.2%)
- Minor ones



BEFORE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

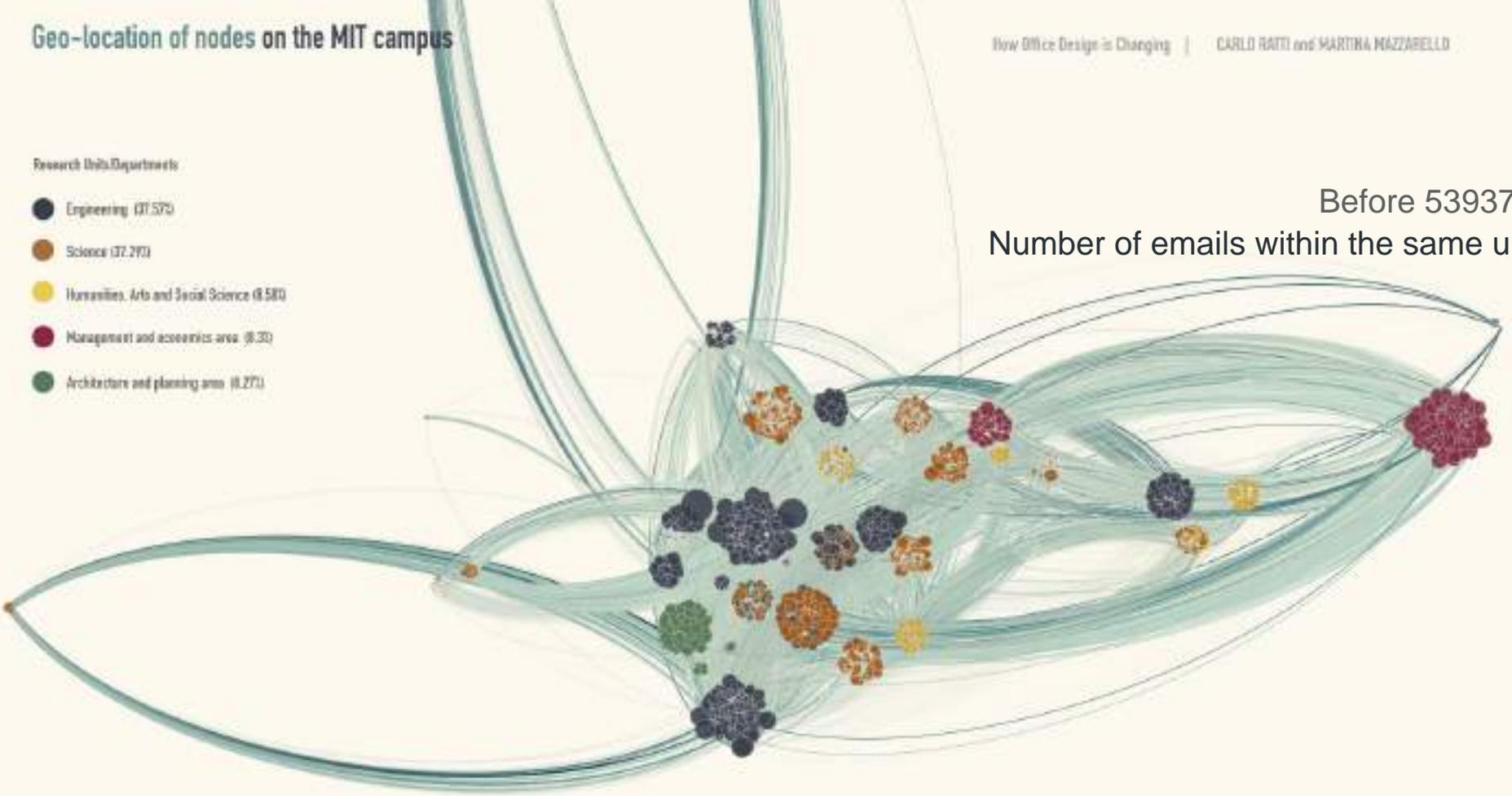
During COVID-19 EMERGENCY

April 2020

Geo-location of nodes on the MIT campus

Research Units/Departments

- Engineering (37,570)
- Science (22,297)
- Humanities, Arts and Social Science (8,580)
- Management and economics area (8,30)
- Architecture and planning area (8,271)



Before 53937
Number of emails within the same unit

DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY

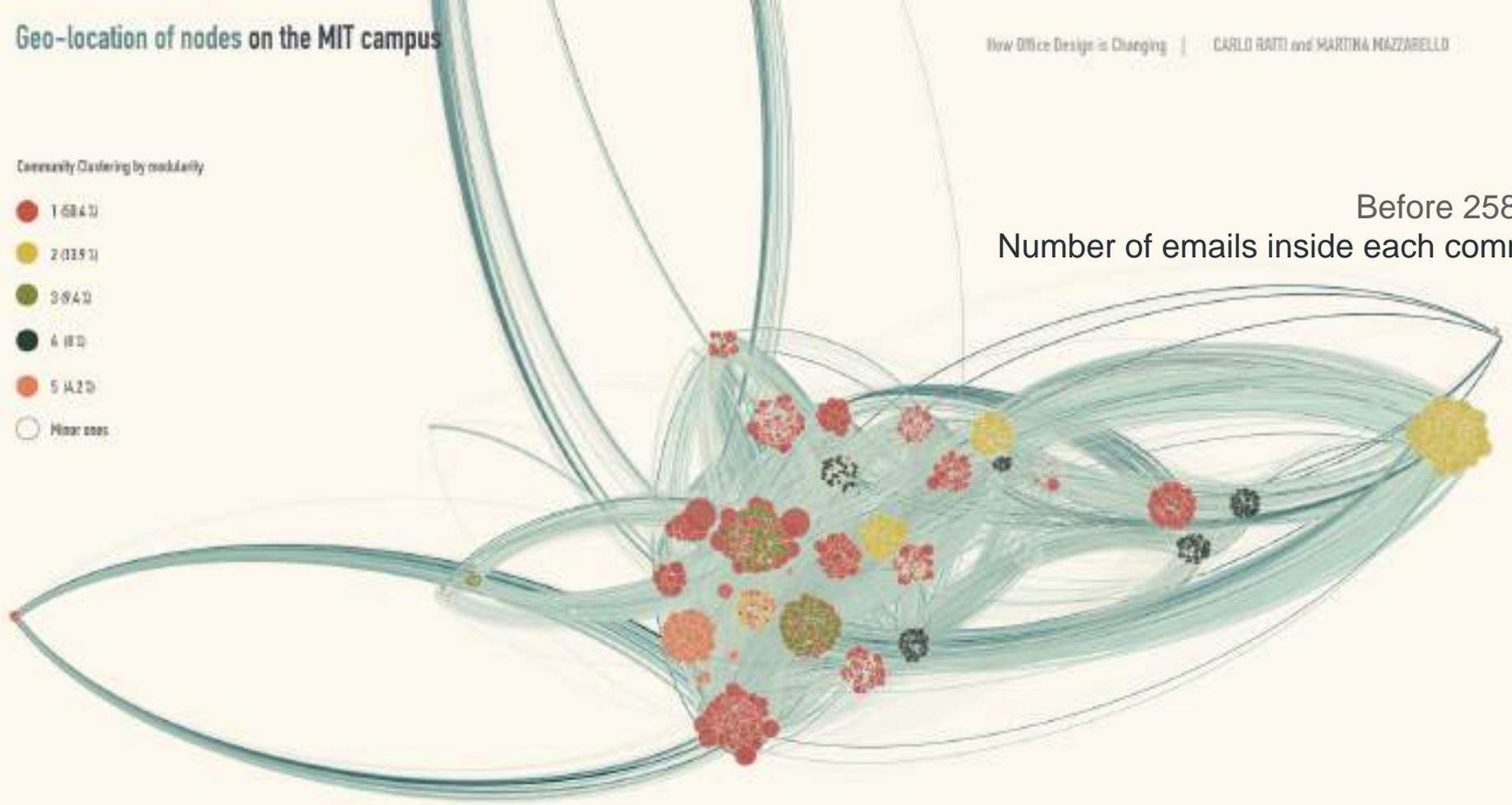
19% INCREASED IN

Geo-location of nodes on the MIT campus

Community Clustering by modularity

- 1 (5843)
- 2 (1393)
- 3 (943)
- 4 (83)
- 5 (423)
- Minor ones

Before 25884
Number of emails inside each commu



DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY

22% INCREASED IN

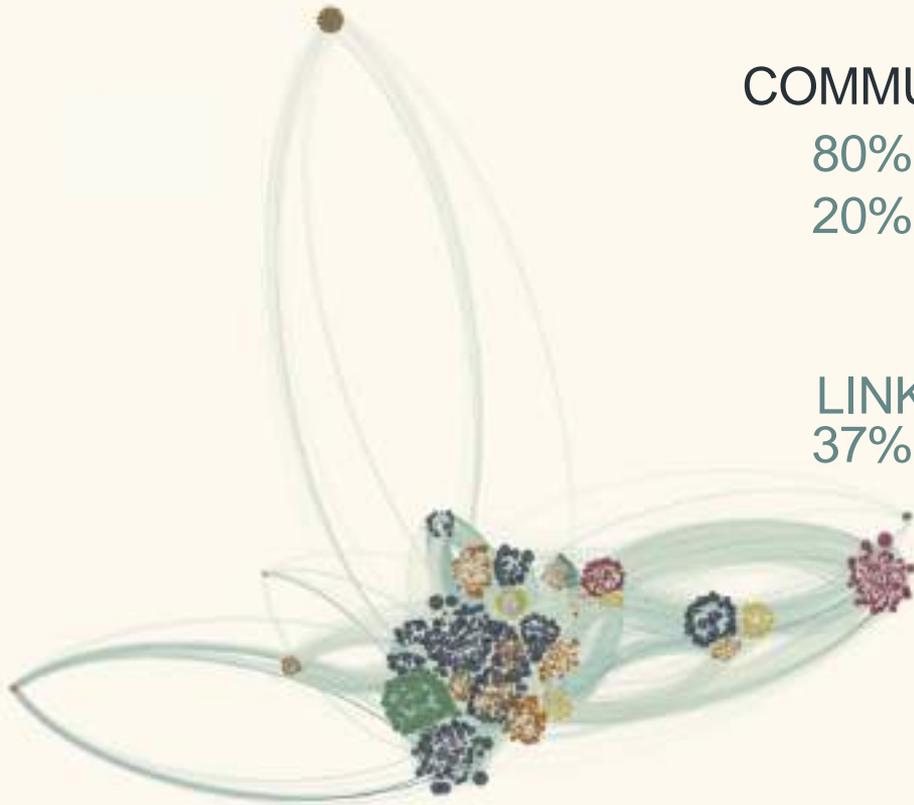
INCREASE at the similar level at the intra and inter-community level.

There is a stronger connection among same units in virtual communications.

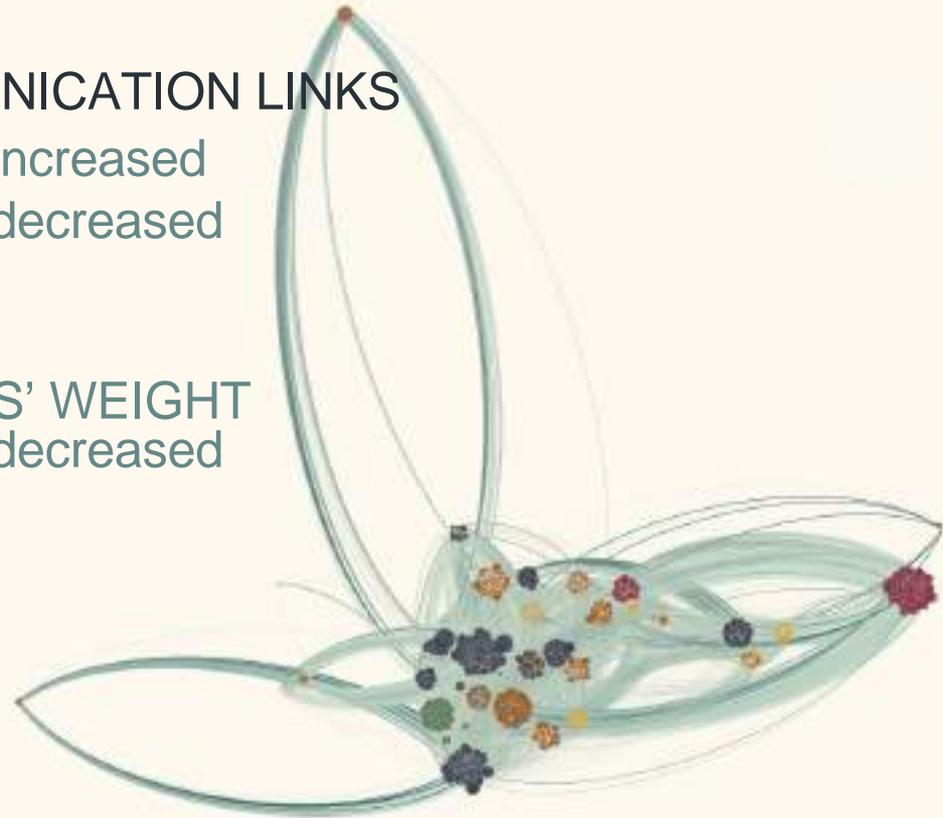
COMMUNICATION LINKS

80% increased
20% decreased

LINKS' WEIGHT
37% decreased



BEFORE COVID-19 EMERGENCY



DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY

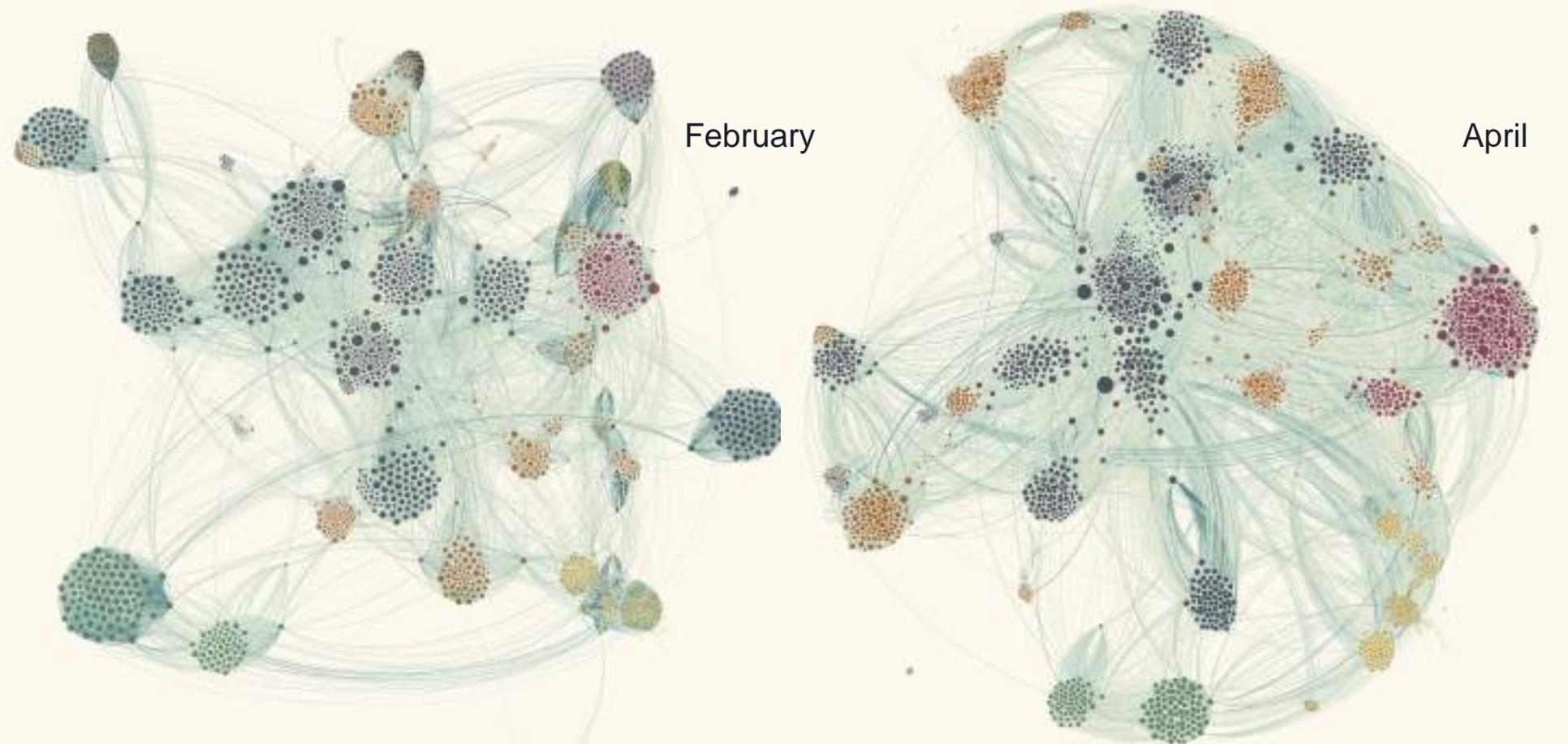
Comparison

February

April

BEFORE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

AFTER COVID-19 EME



The Strength of Weak Ties¹

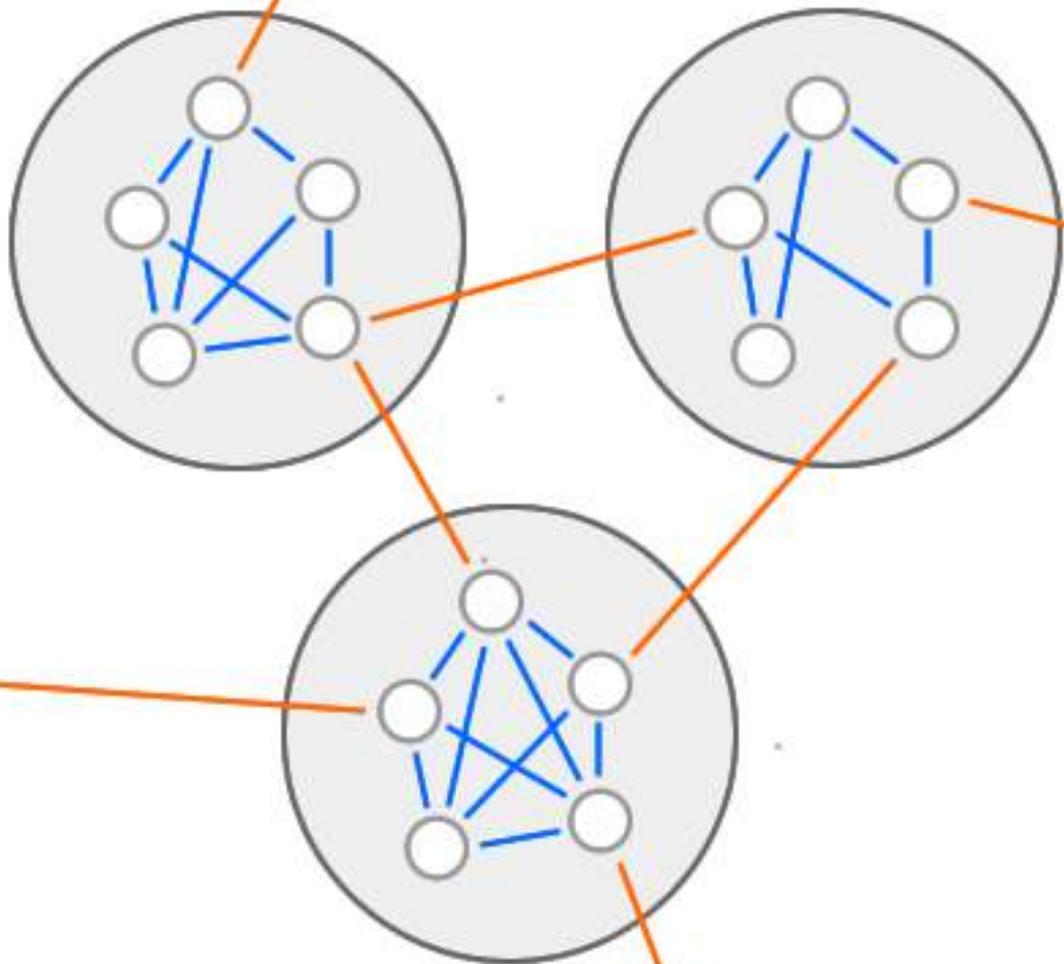
Mark S. Granovetter

Johns Hopkins University

Analysis of social networks is suggested as a tool for linking micro and macro levels of sociological theory. The procedure is illustrated by elaboration of the macro implications of one aspect of small-scale interaction: the strength of dyadic ties. It is argued that the degree of overlap of two individuals' friendship networks varies directly with the strength of their tie to one another. The impact of this principle on diffusion of influence and information, mobility opportunity, and community organization is explored. Stress is laid on the cohesive power of weak ties. Most network models deal, implicitly, with strong ties, thus confining their applicability to small, well-defined groups. Emphasis on weak ties lends itself to discussion of relations *between* groups and to analysis of segments of social structure not easily defined in terms of primary groups.

A fundamental weakness of current sociological theory is that it does not relate micro-level interactions to macro-level patterns in any convincing way. Large-scale statistical, as well as qualitative, studies offer a good deal of insight into such macro phenomena as social mobility, community organization, and political structure. At the micro level, a large and increasing body of data and theory offers useful and illuminating ideas about what transpires within the confines of the small group. But how interaction in small groups aggregates to form large-scale patterns eludes us in most cases.

I will argue, in this paper, that the analysis of processes in interpersonal networks provides the most fruitful micro-macro bridge. In one way or another, it is through these networks that small-scale interaction becomes translated into large-scale patterns, and that these, in turn, feed back into small groups.



Group/Network

Group members, because of their frequent interaction, tend to think alike over time. This reduces the diversity of ideas, and in worst-case scenarios leads to "groupthink"

Weak Ties

Weak ties are relationships between members of different groups. They are utilized infrequently and therefore don't need a lot of management to stay healthy. They lead to a diversity of ideas, as they tie together disparate modes of thought.

Strong Ties

Strong ties are relationships between people who work, live, or play together. They are utilized frequently and need a lot of management to stay healthy. Over time, people with strong ties tend to think alike, as they share their ideas all the time.

Are we losing *weak ties*, usually relates to our physicality?

FIRST RESULTS

bridges in last two weeks of Feb (pre covid): 111.0 +- 8.85

bridges in last two weeks of April (post covid): 96 +- 6

HYPOTHESIS

—> Diversity is reinforced by physicality.

—> Diversity comes with serendipitous exchange - as unexpected encounters in the physical space at MIT.

FIRST RESULTS

—> Volume exchanged at the Intra-community level is 19% increased

—> Volume exchanged at the Inter-community level almost at the similar level.

Sella





Sella

Sella





@senseable_city_lab, @crassociati



@ senseablecity, @crassociati



@ senseablecity, @crassociati