

# Translating Data into Images

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École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)

Faire des SHS avec le numérique – Séminaire du LaDHUL  
Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> 2018

Transforming  
Translating  
Projecting

B42-35

Marie Neurath  
& Robin Kinross

# Le Transformateur

TRADUIT DE L'ANGLAIS PAR

DAMIEN SUBOTICKI

Principes de création  
des diagrammes Isotype



# transform (transformer)

verb [*with object*]

**1** make a marked change in the form, nature, or appearance of: *lasers have transformed cardiac surgery* | *he wanted to **transform** himself **into** a successful businessman.*

**2** *Mathematics* change (a mathematical entity) by transformation.

## translate (traduire)

verb [with object]

**1** express the sense of (words or text) in another language: *several of his books were **translated into** English.*

**2** move from one place or condition to another: *she had been translated from familiar surroundings to a foreign court.*

**3** Physics cause (a body) to move so that all its parts travel in the same direction, without rotation or change of shape.

Callon, Michel. 1984. “Some Elements of a Sociology of Translation: Domestication of the Scallops and the Fishermen of St. Brieuc Bay.” *The Sociological Review* 32 (1): 196–233. doi:10.1111/j.1467-954x.1984.tb00113.x.

# project (projeter)

verb | prə'jekt | [with object]

1 estimate or forecast (something) on the basis of present trends: *spending was projected at \$72 million.*

2 [no object] extend outward beyond something else; protrude: *I noticed a slip of paper projecting from the book* | (as adjective **projecting**) : *a projecting bay window.*

3 throw or cause to move forward or outward: *seeds are projected from the tree.*

4 present or promote (a particular view or image): *he strives to project an image of youth.*

5 *Geometry* draw straight lines from a center of or parallel lines through every point of (a given figure) to produce a corresponding figure on a surface or a line by intersecting the surface.

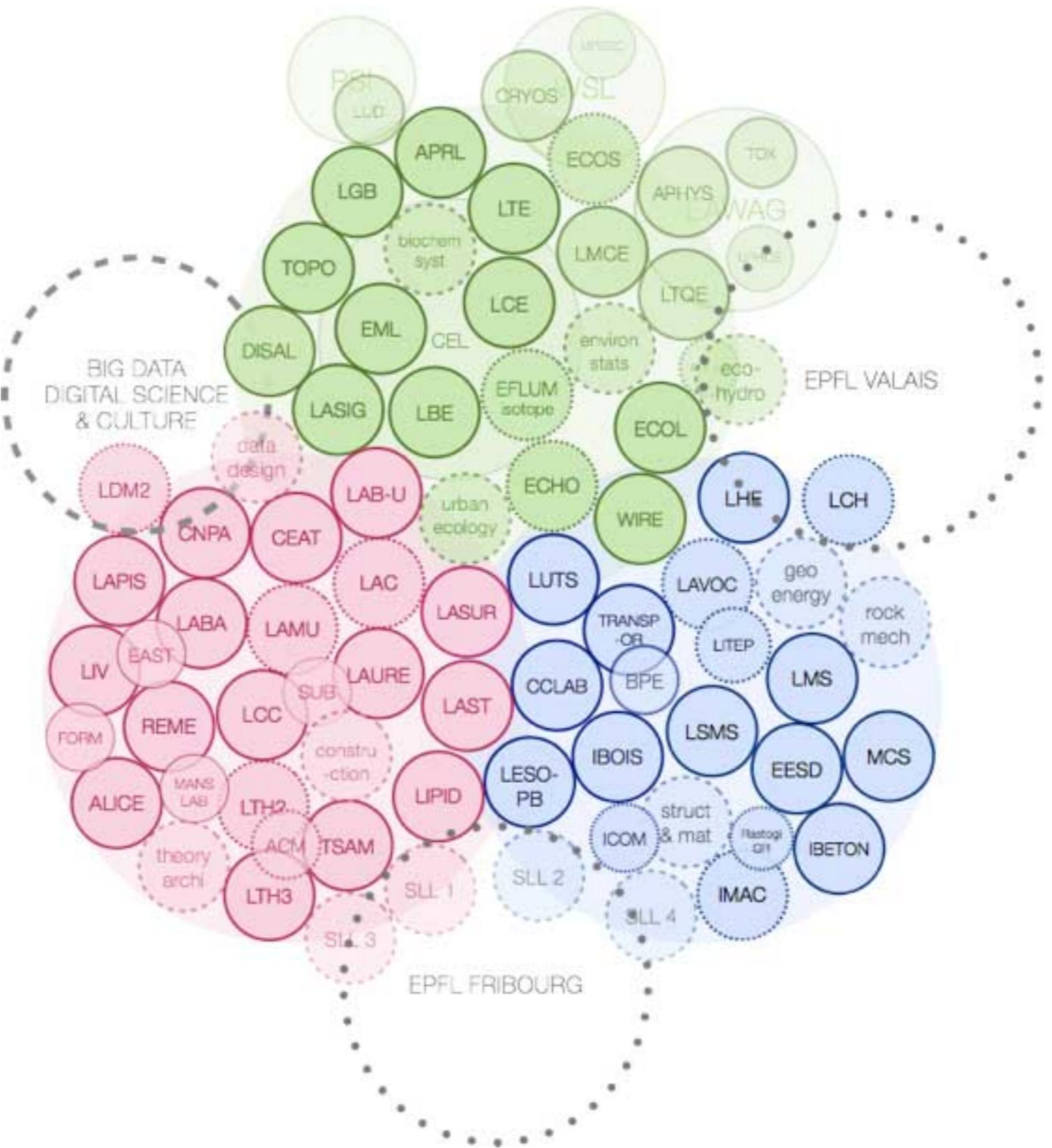
6 make a projection of (the earth, sky, etc.) on a plane surface.

# Affinity Map

*the case study*

The Affinity Map is a visual representation of **ENAC**  
ENAC is the school of building constructions that gathers  
**Architecture, Civil and Environmental Engineering**

The ENAC is composed by **three institutes,**  
**seventy laboratories** and a **thousand of scholars**



*Personal view of Marilyne Andersen of ENAC*

# Representing Academic Practice

*the exercise, the thesis*

## *Academic Practice*

Many activities

Different according to discipline

Not only literature

## *Collaboration*

An academic practice

Multidimensional (writing, teaching, etc.)

Multi-scale (scholars, laboratories, etc.)

# *Affinity*

Intellectual and operational closeness between individuals

Actual and potential

A way to describe the academic practice

## *Visualization*

Mostly hidden

Can be made visible

Can be made visible through affinities

## *Questions about Representing Academic Practice*

Which data describes the academic practice?

How to translate these data using visual grammar?

Is there an ethics concerning scholar representation?

# Data Investigation

*embrace all of the different practices*

1) manque description ??

Indicators	Primary source	Secondary source	To be specially required in online labs'activity report?
Focus topics (thematics)	Symphony database	Lab's websites (research)	Maybe (would be nice to have the user confirming existing data from Symphony/lab's website for instance)
Keywords	Lab's websites (metadata "keywords", from audit 2011)	<del>Lab's websites</del>	Idem <del>No possible</del>
Expertise areas	Symphony database	Lab's websites (expertise box)	Idem
Publications keywords and contents/abstract	Infoscience		No
Publications co-authors and their institutions	Infoscience (but institutions may be labelled variously...)	People's publication page	No
Alumni a3 (activity sector, localization)	Alumni database (with probable confidentiality issues?)		No
Co-teaching	IS-Academia	People's teaching page	Maybe (it could be provided by selecting the joint Professor from a list in the online formular?)
Industrial partners	Audit 2011 or lab's annual reports (extract from "valorization, collaboration & network")	Lab's annual reports	Yes (should be structured in an easy way for being extracted)
Main funding organizations	EPFL Grants database (maybe not possible?)		Yes (proposing a selectable list?) <del>de quelques</del> autres
Link to flagship projects	Audit 2011 or lab's annual reports		Yes (proposing a selectable list, if possible?)
People & Team	<del>Annuaires sur tout</del> People's pages (Expertise+Biography&Work +Teaching)		No
Lab's activities (events co-organised, guest speaker invitation, ...)	Memento	News flux	Maybe

News

Faire une liste affinant

laisser les gens proposer extrême  
ce qu'ils considèrent comme flagship

A 2 chose différentes

Il n'a pas de sens  
du moment qu'il y  
a accès aux flux!

comment  
gérer les mouvements ?

<b>Information</b>	<b>Affinity type</b>	<b>Source</b>
Lab thematics	Potential	Symphony
Lab thematics	Potential	EPFL website
Individual expertise	Potential	Symphony
Individual expertise	Potential	EPFL website
Keywords	Potential	Audit 2011
Keywords	Potential	Infoscience
Co-authoring	Actual	Infoscience
Co-teaching	Actual	IS-Academia
Co-advising	Actual	IS-Academia
Grants	Actual	Grant database
Industrial partners	Actual	Audit 2011

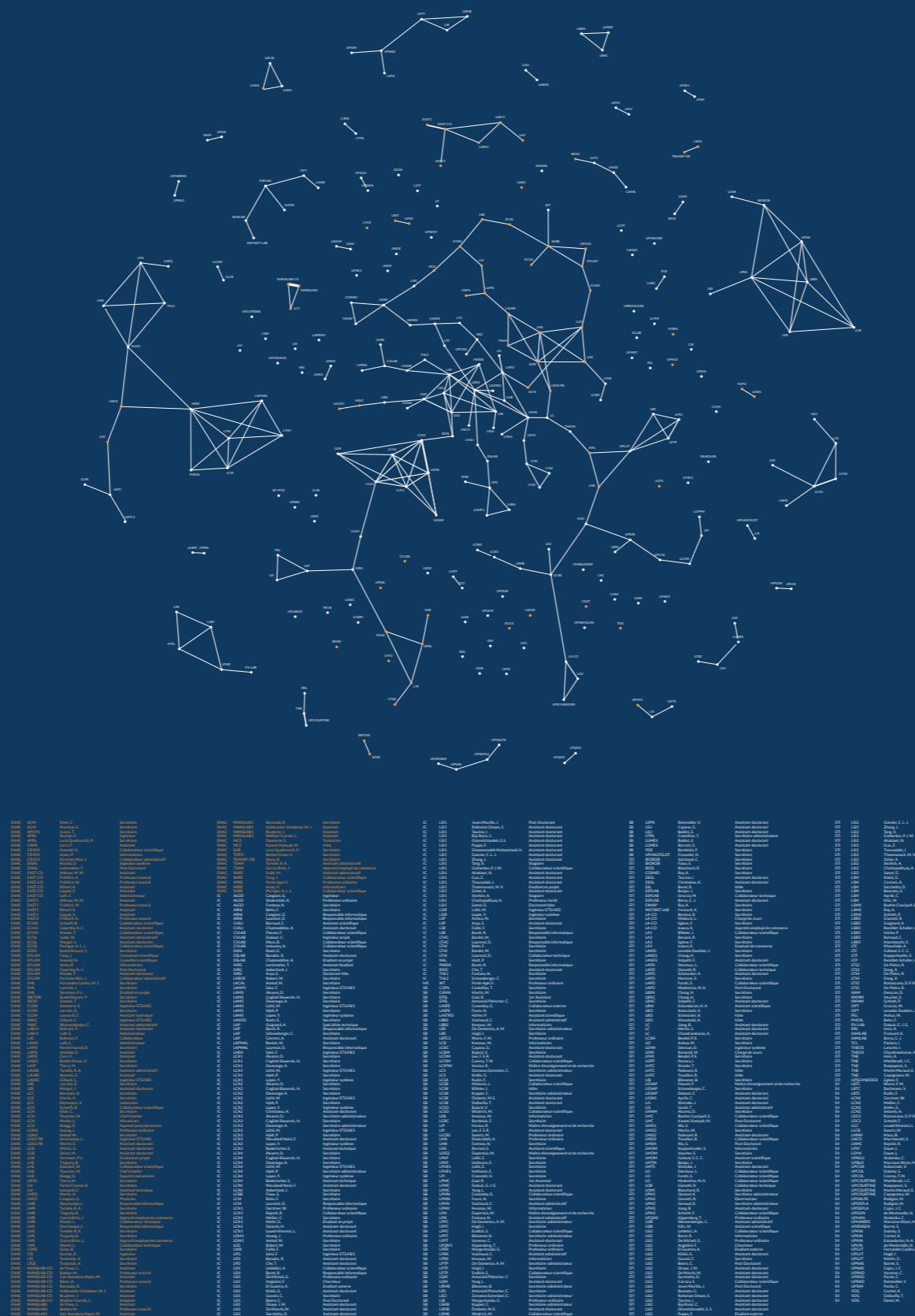
*Table of digital traces, the strikethrough identifies not usable data.*



## ENSEIGNEMENTS DE L'ENAC QUI PARTAGENT DES COLLABORATEURS

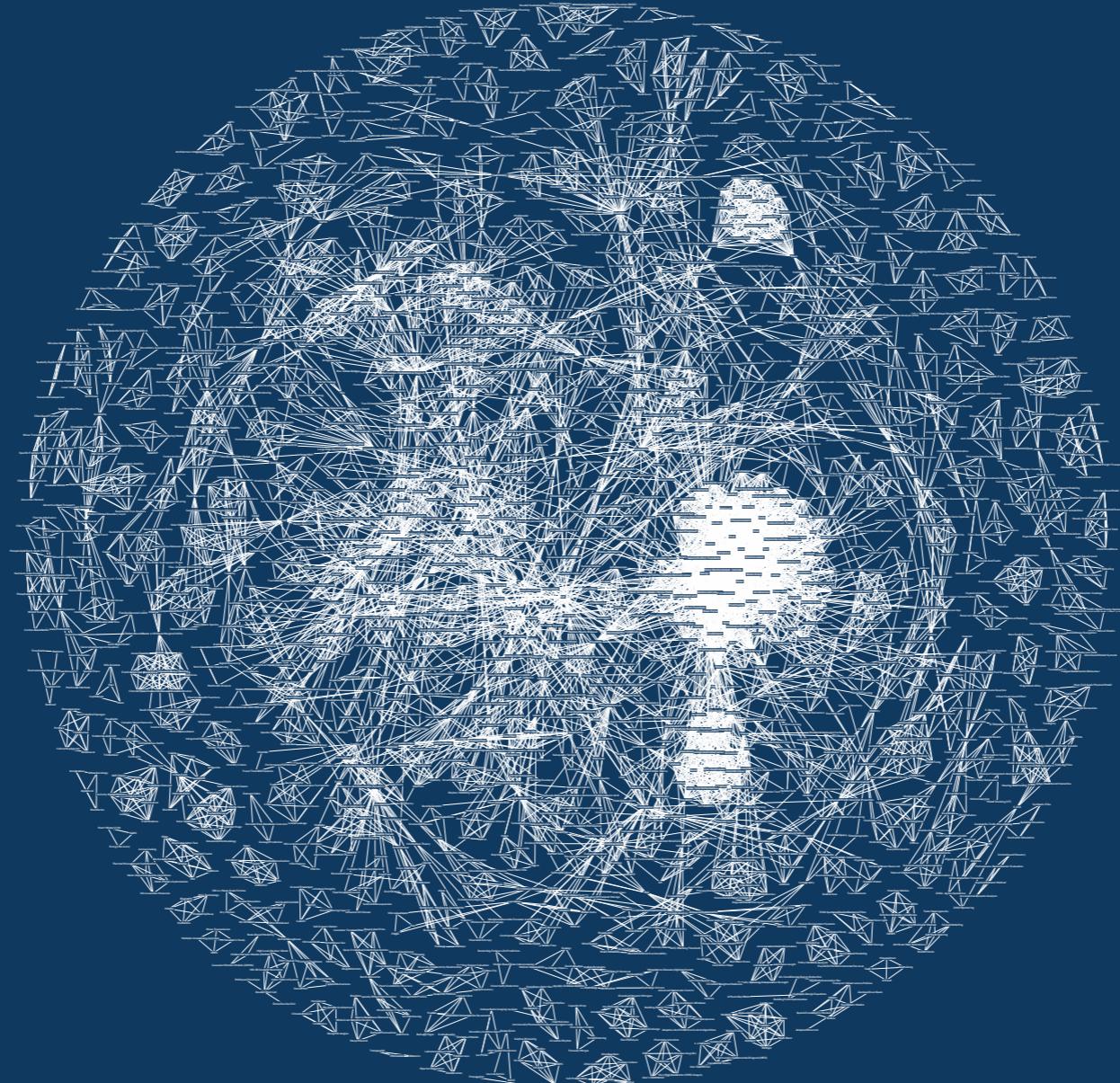


# LABORATOIRES DE L'EPFL QUI PARTAGENT DES COLLABORATEURS





## MOTS CLÉS PARTAGÉS ENTRE LES PUBLICATIONS

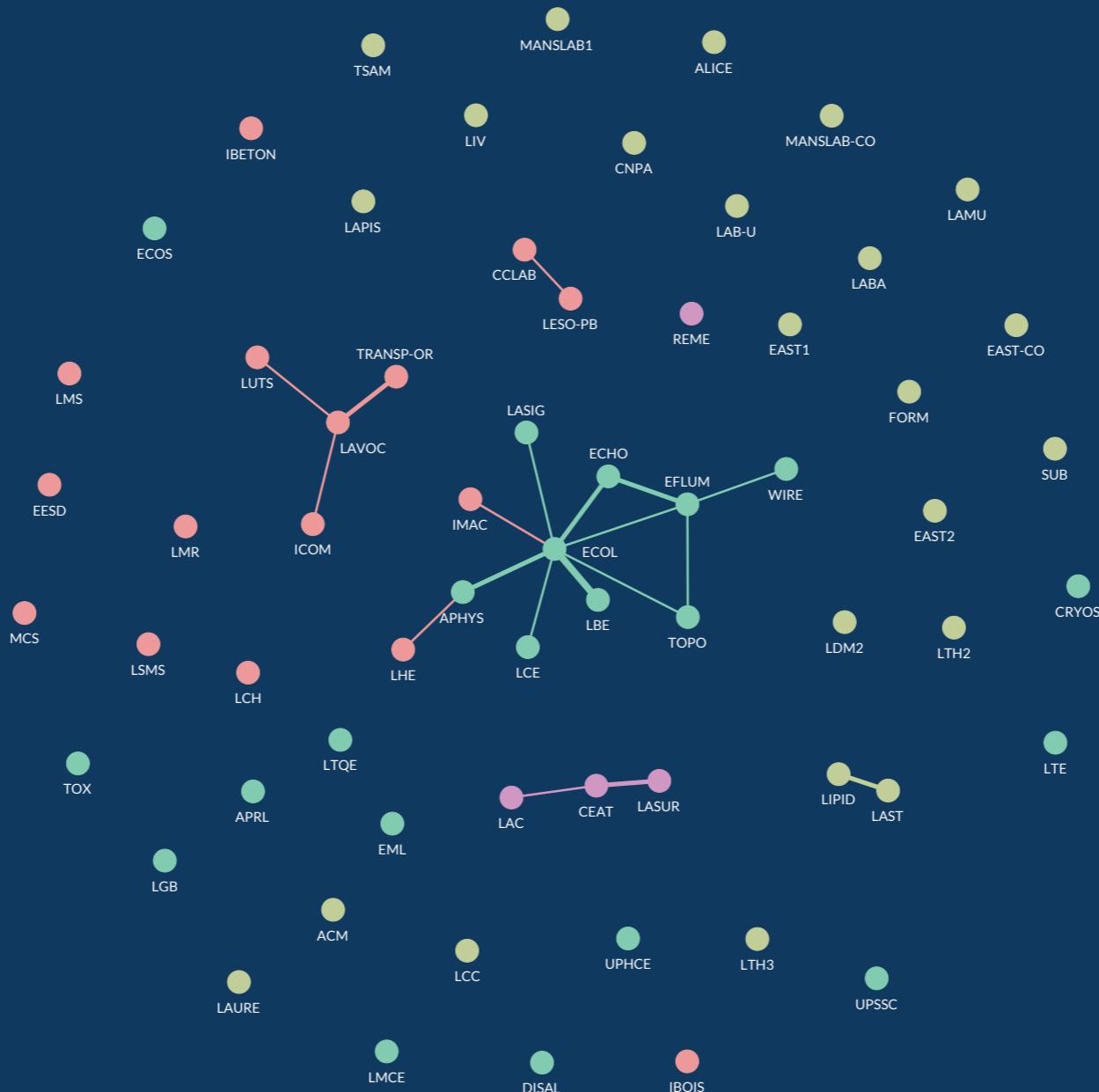


Le tableau ci-dessous liste les mots clés partagés entre les publications, classés par fréquence d'apparition dans les publications. Les termes sont séparés par des virgules et sont classés par ordre décroissant de fréquence.

Mot Clé	Fréquence
réalisation	100
construction	80
réaliseur	75
comédien	70
scénario	65
acteur	60
caméra	55
montage	50
inédit	45
réécriture	40
éditeur	35
réalisateur	30
réalisation	25
réalisation	20
réalisation	15
réalisation	10
réalisation	5
réalisation	3
réalisation	2
réalisation	1



## LABORATOIRES AVEC LES PUBLICATIONS PARTAGÉES





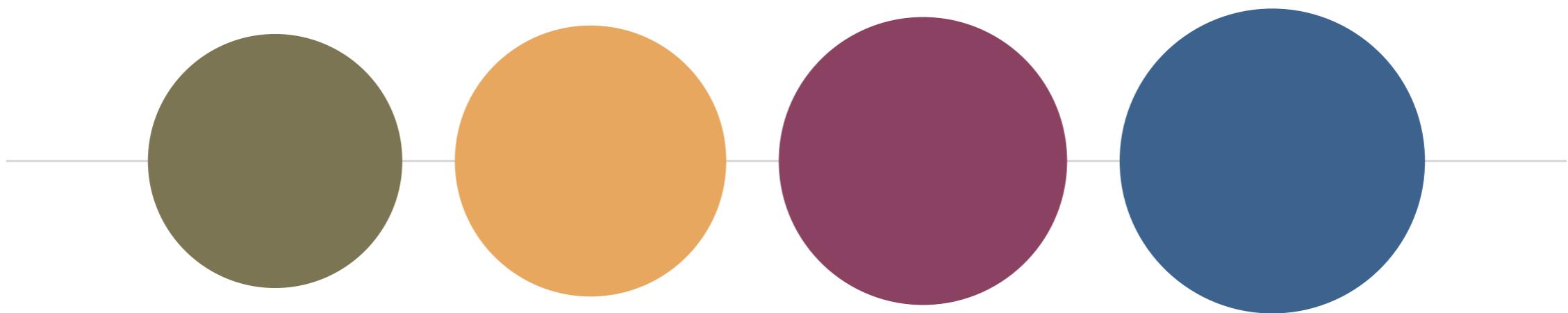
*Potential affinities* were generated as **keywords** through an algorithm of text mining working on the publication abstracts of the ENAC laboratories.

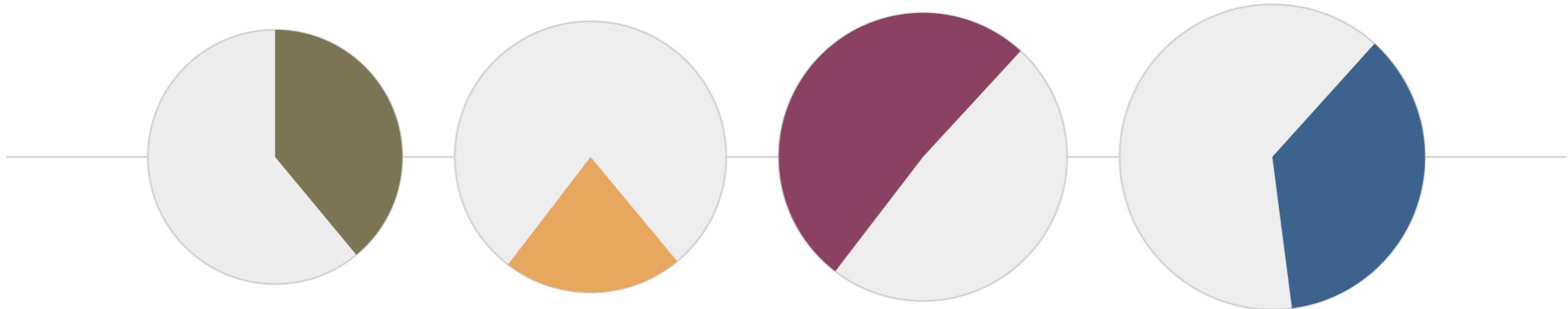
We identifies three types of *actual affinities*: the **publications** stored in the *Infoscience system*, the **courses** and the **supervision** recorded in *IS-Academia*.

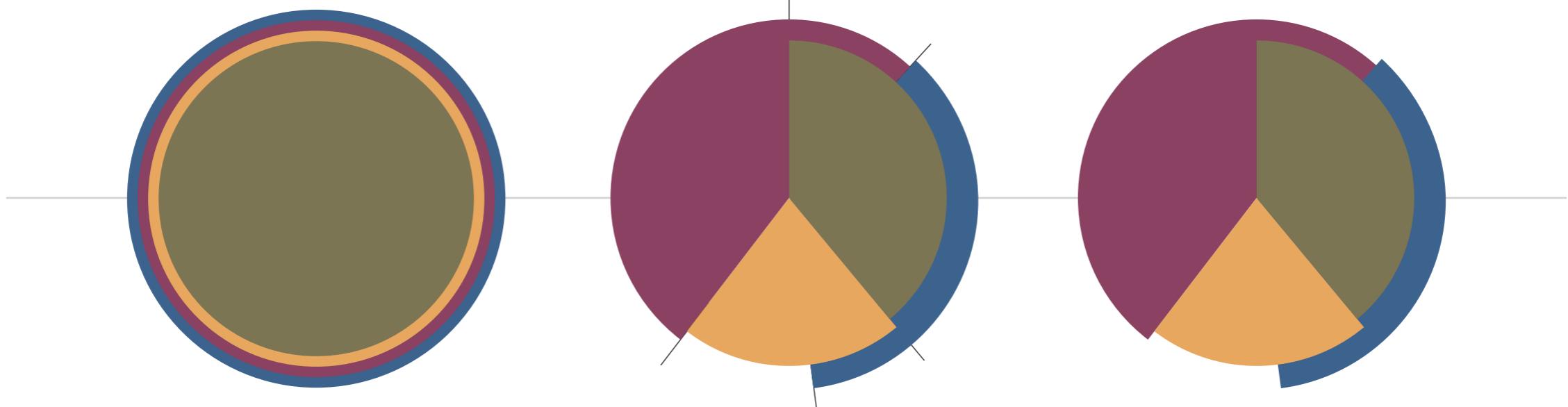
The *structure of the school* was used to reassemble laboratories and institutes. In particular, the **personal ID** (SCIPER), the **affiliations** of the staff and the **hierarchical structure** of the EPFL.

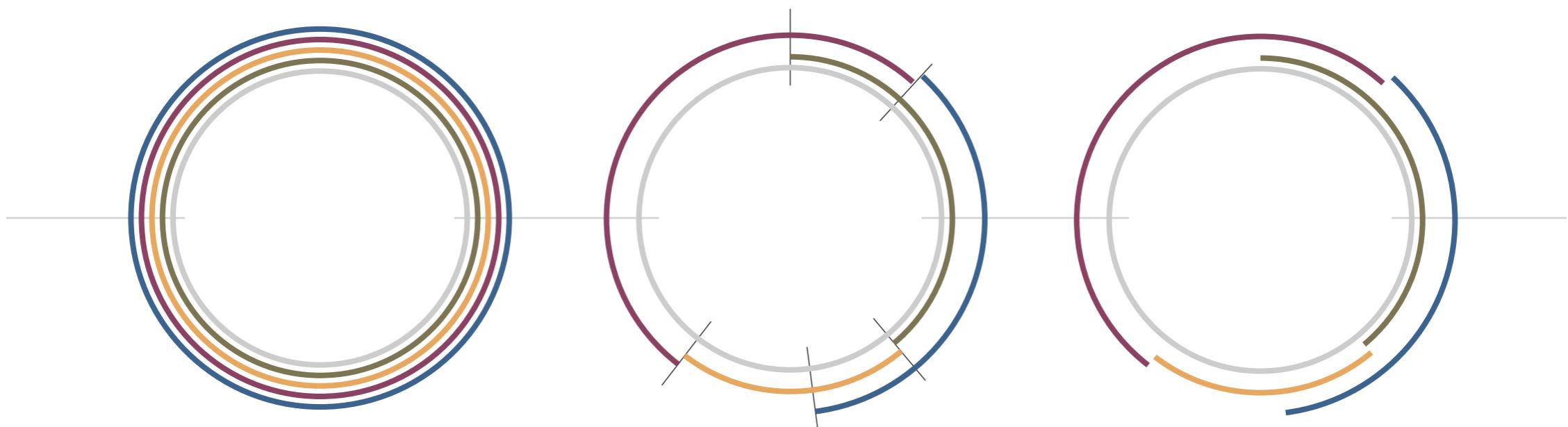
# Visual Investigation

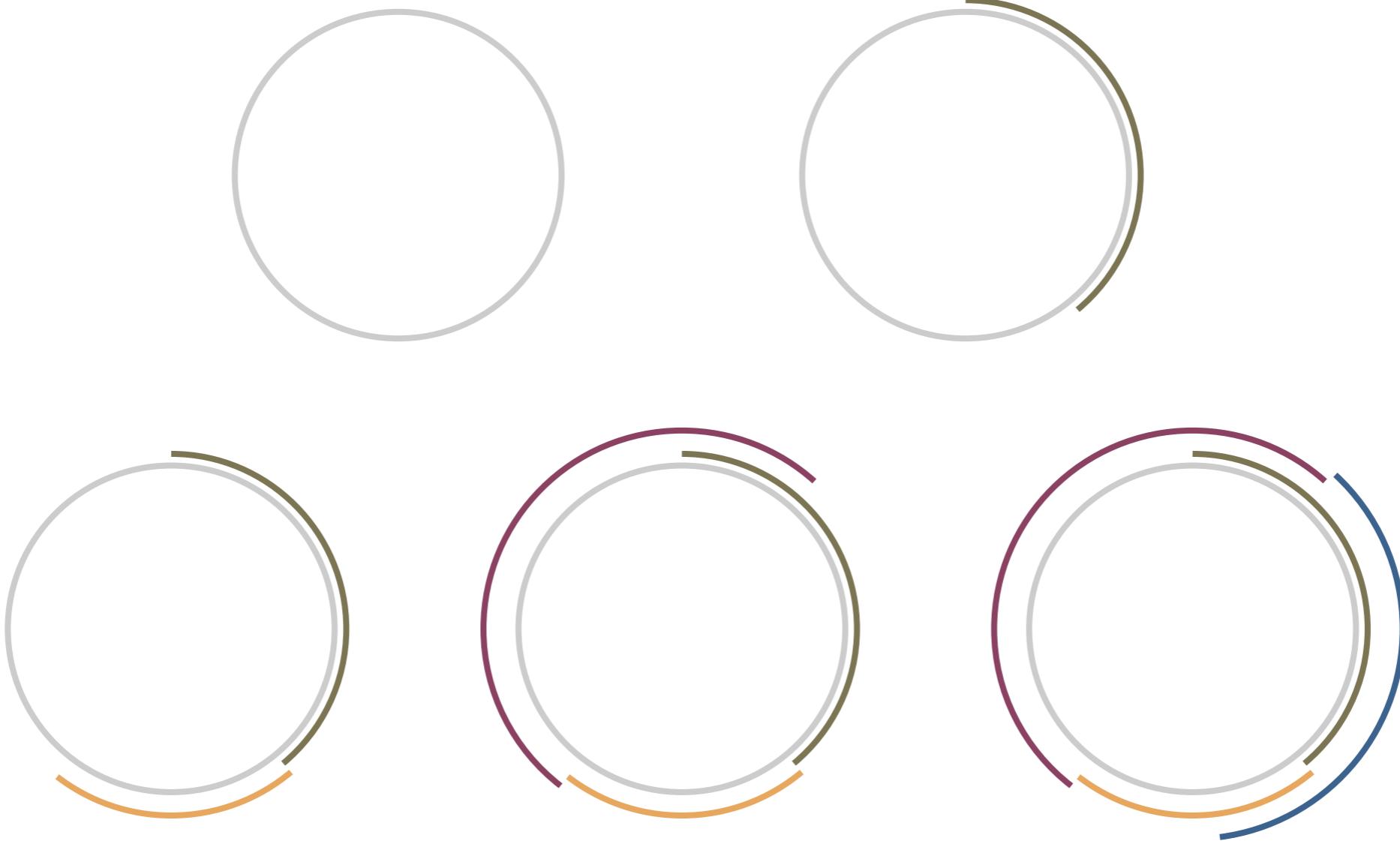
*drawing laboratories*

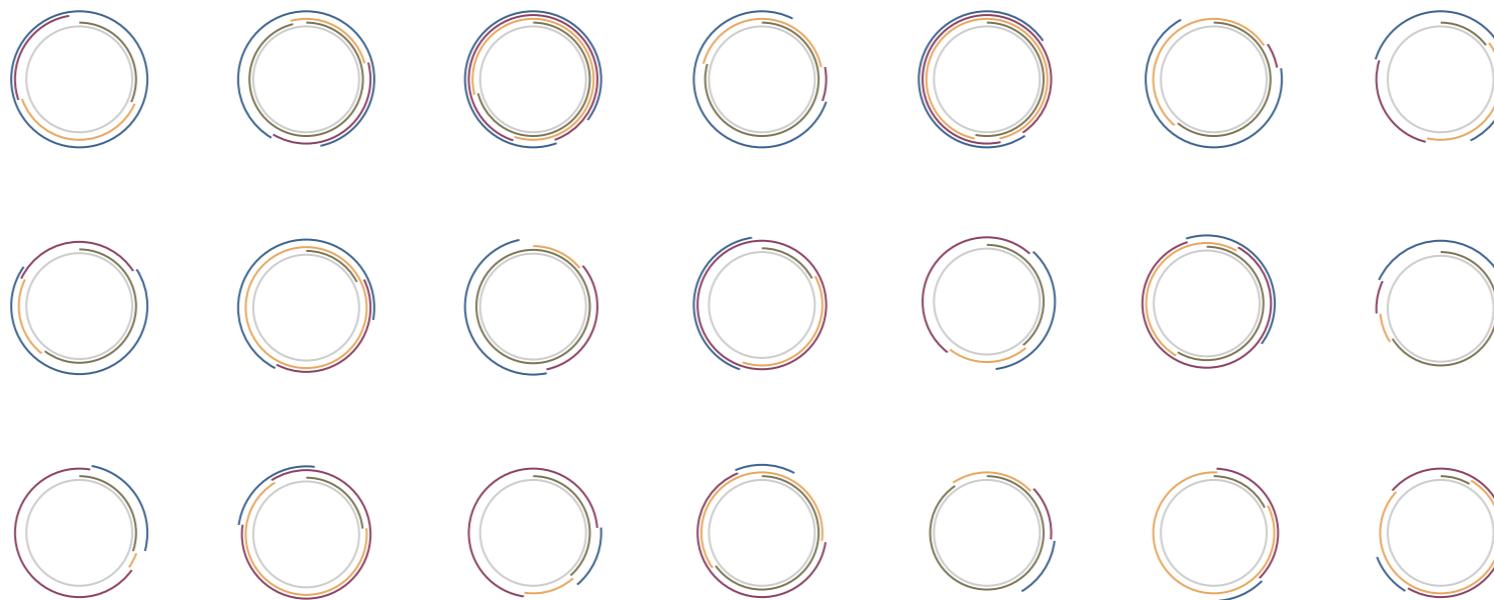


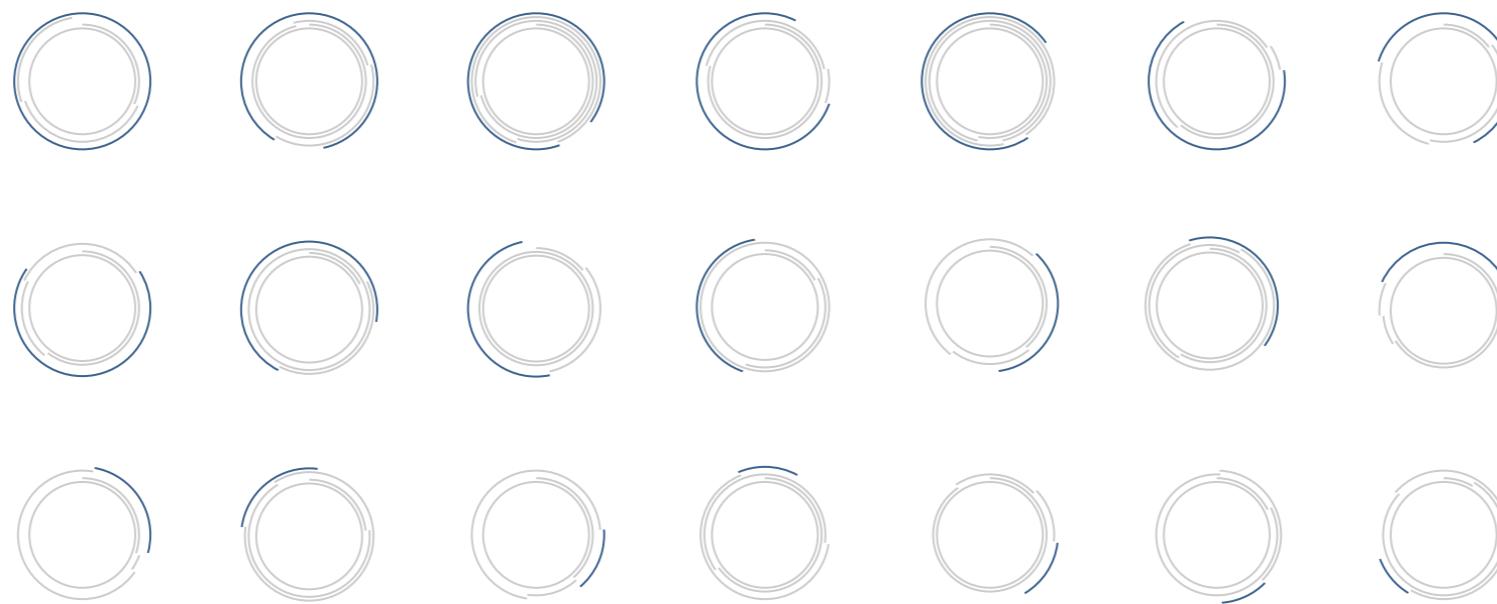


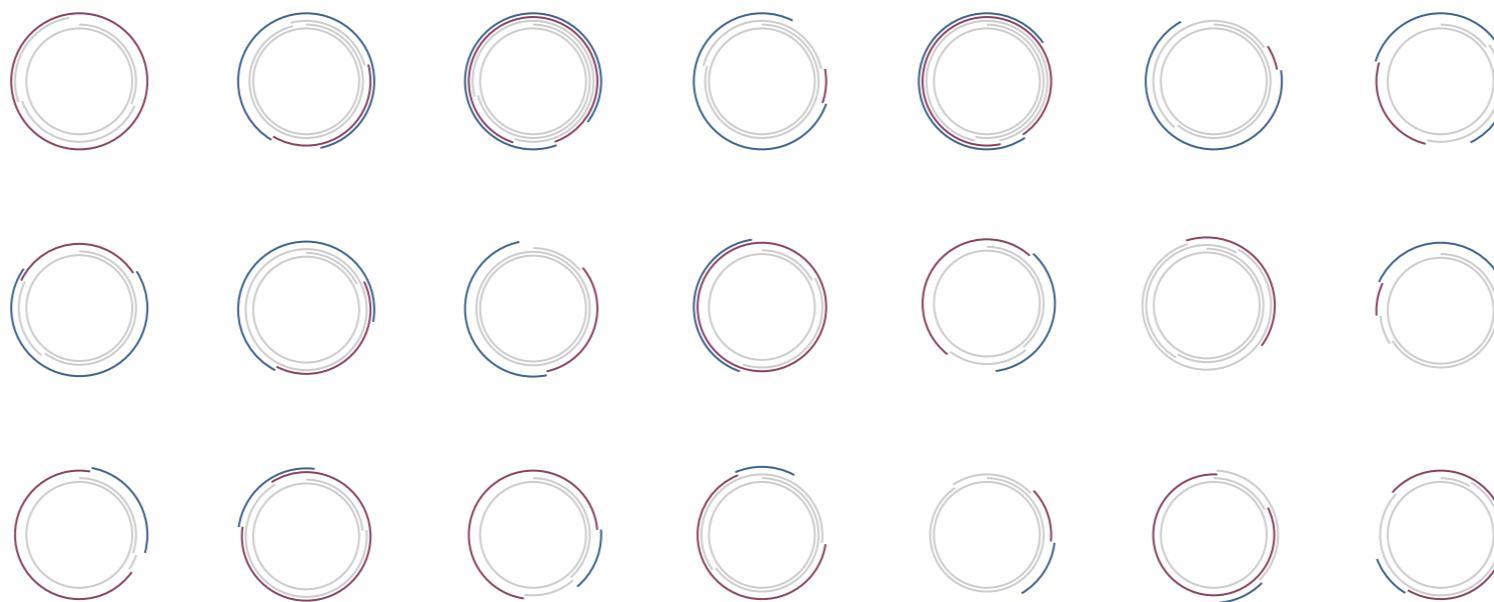


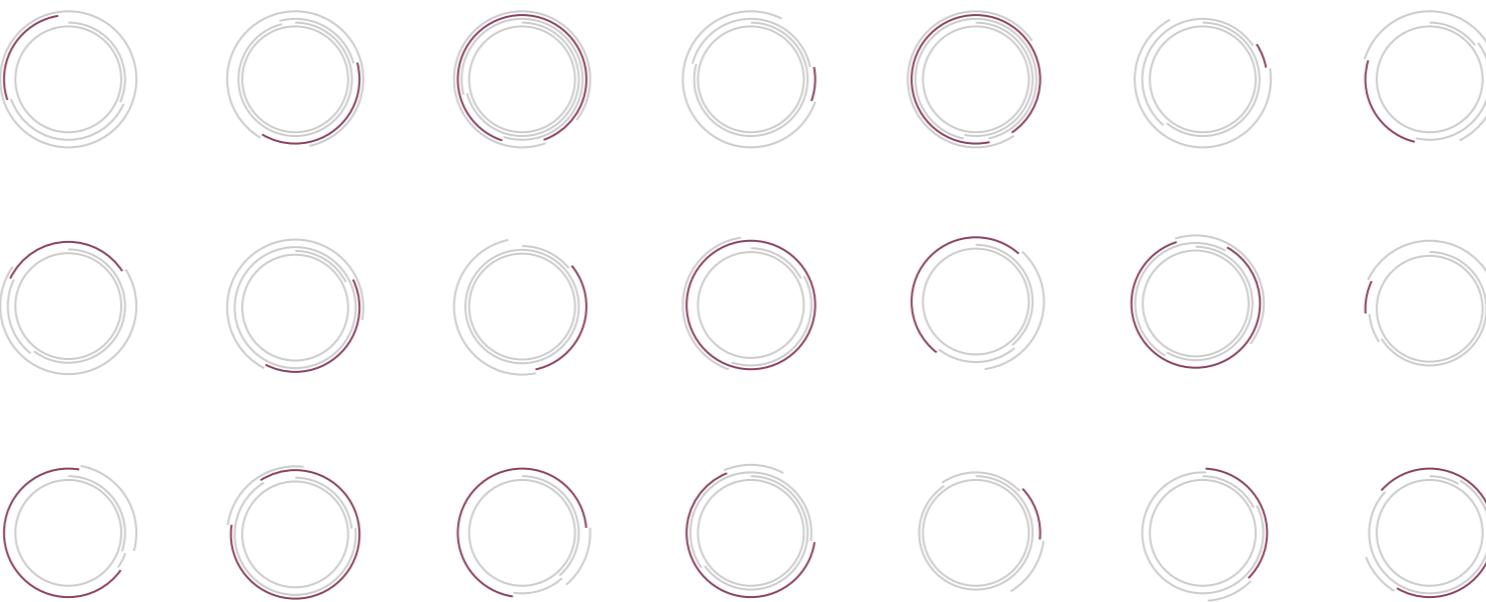


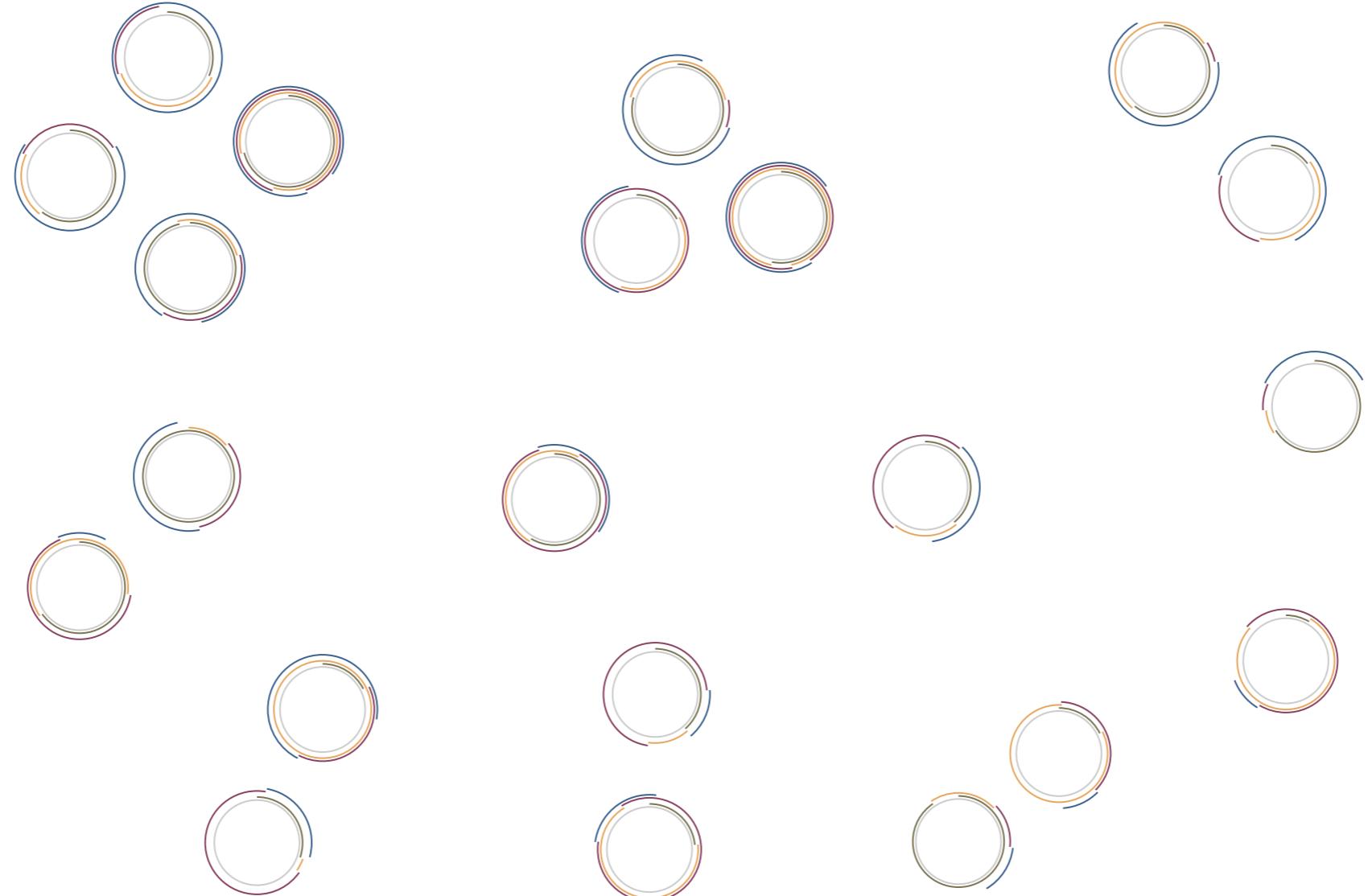


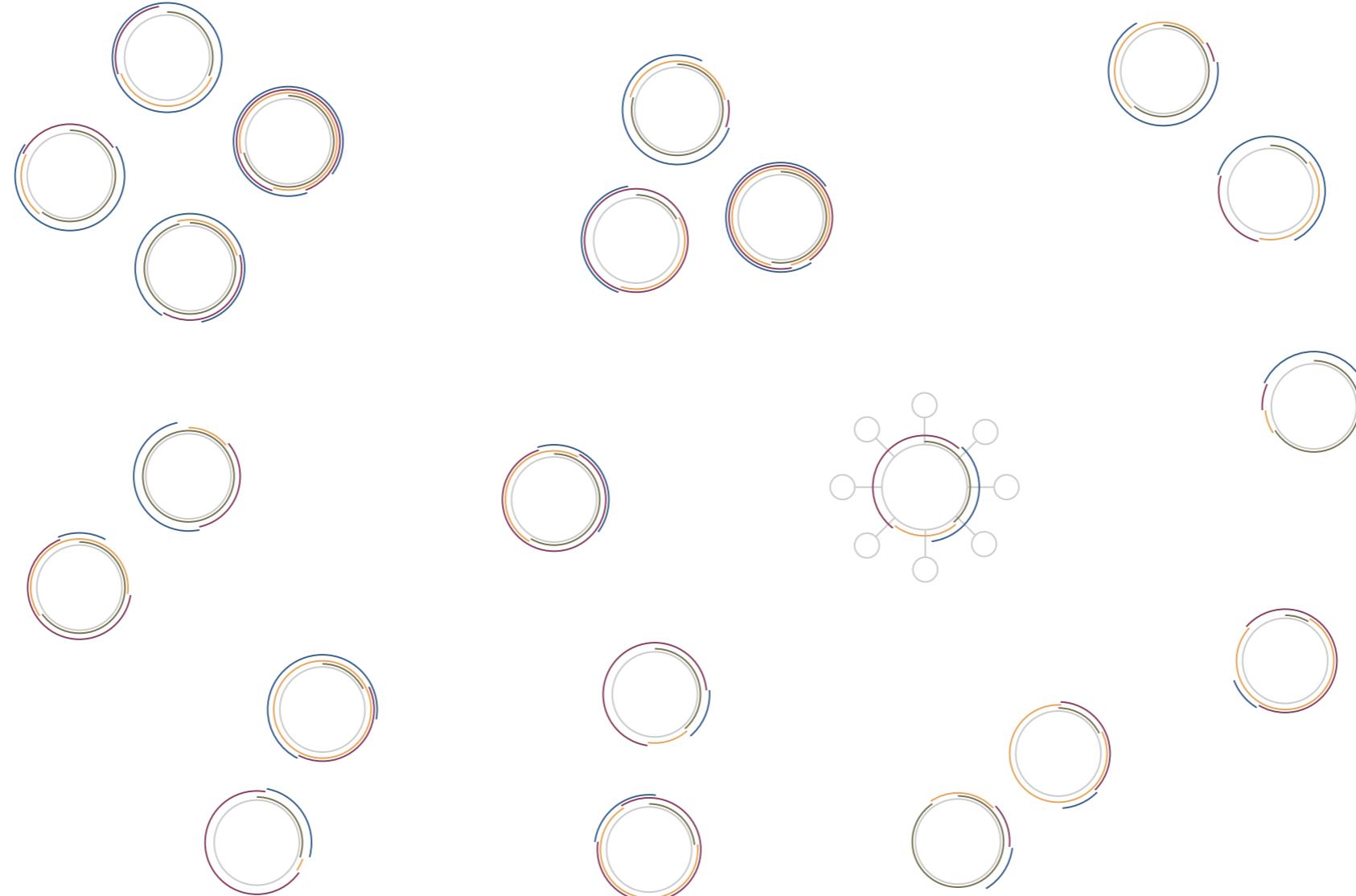


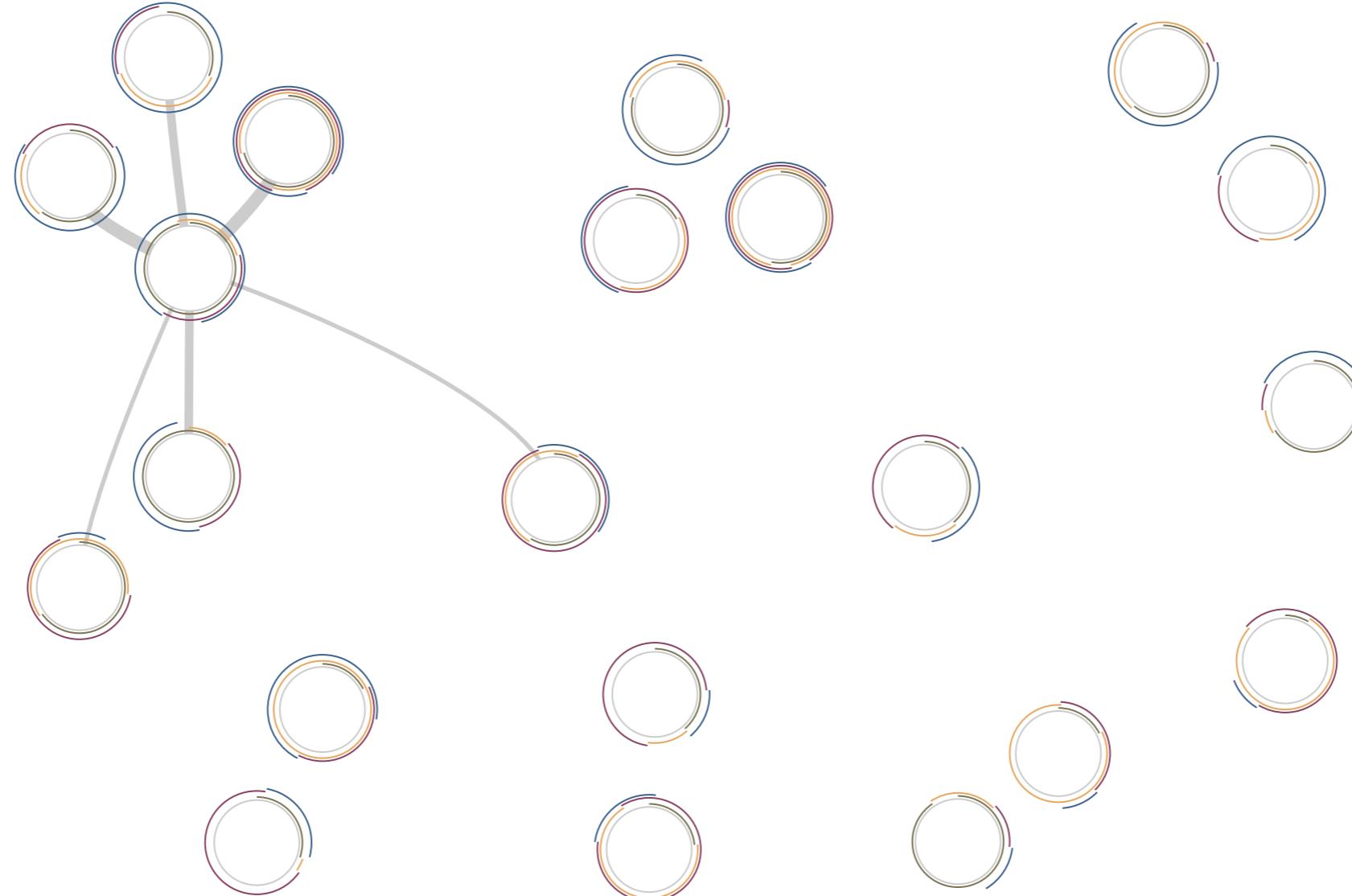


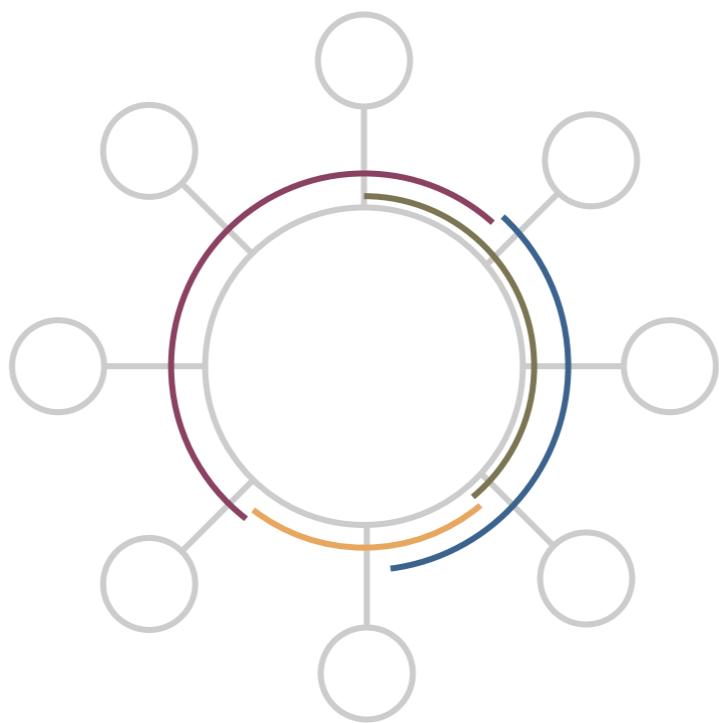


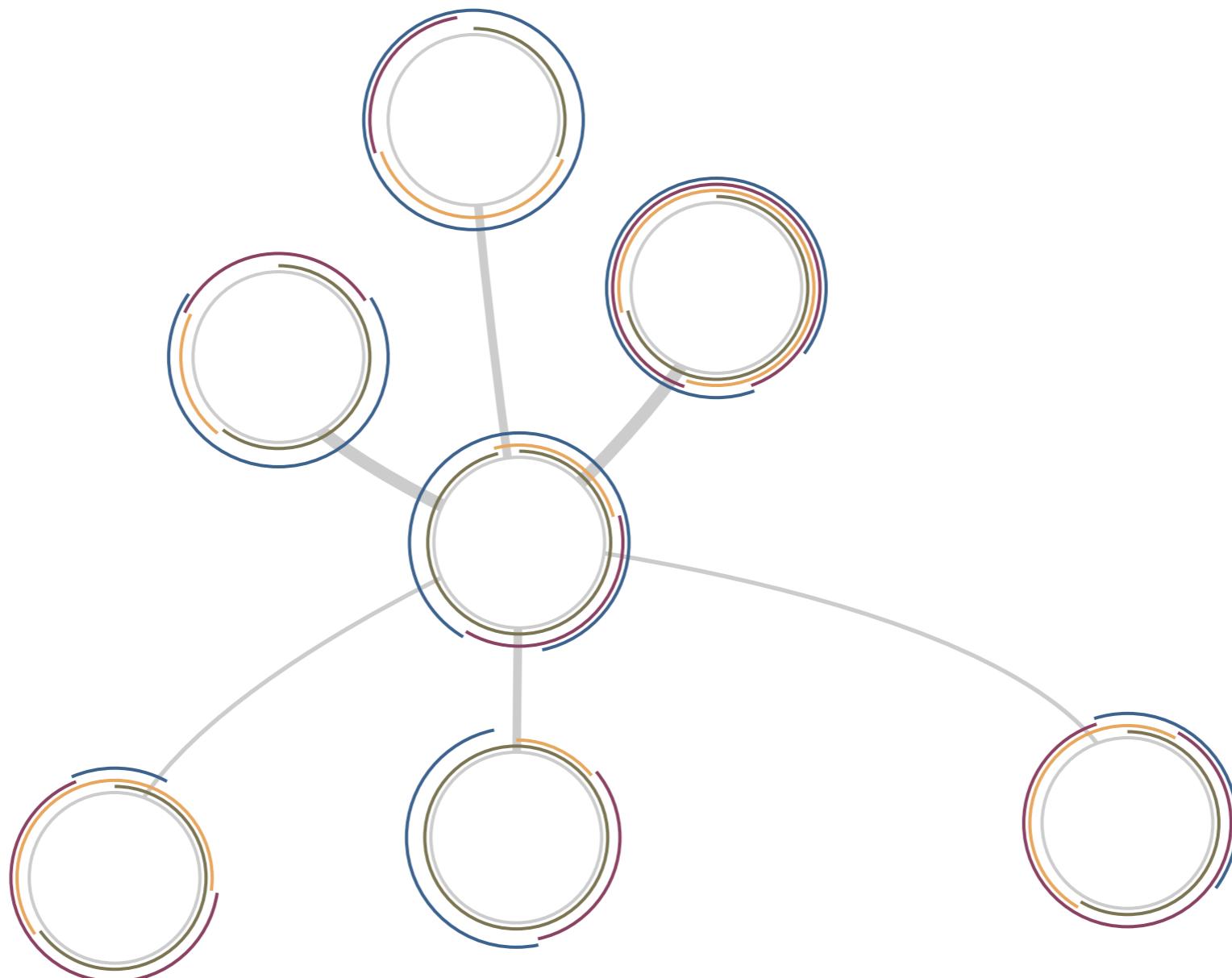










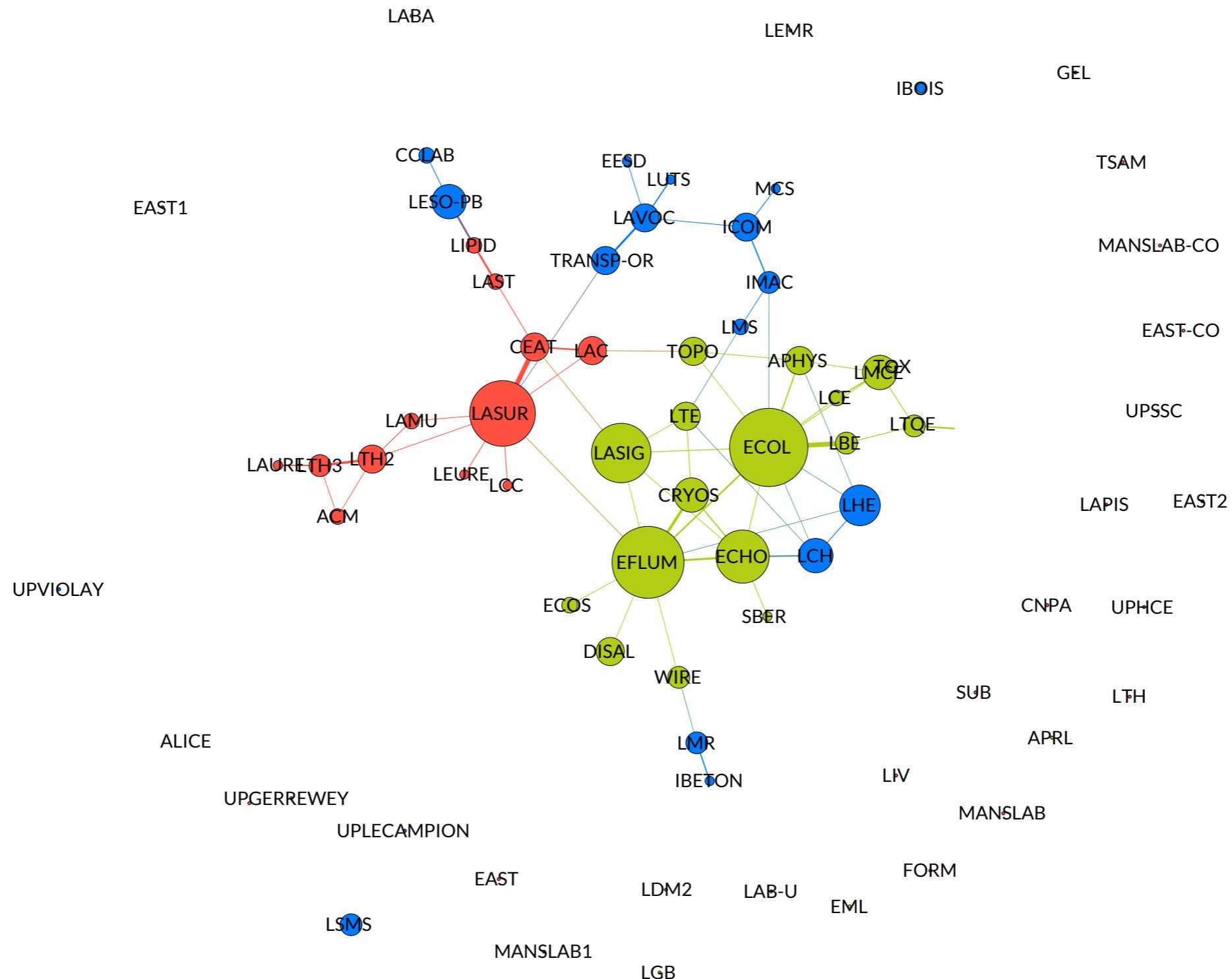


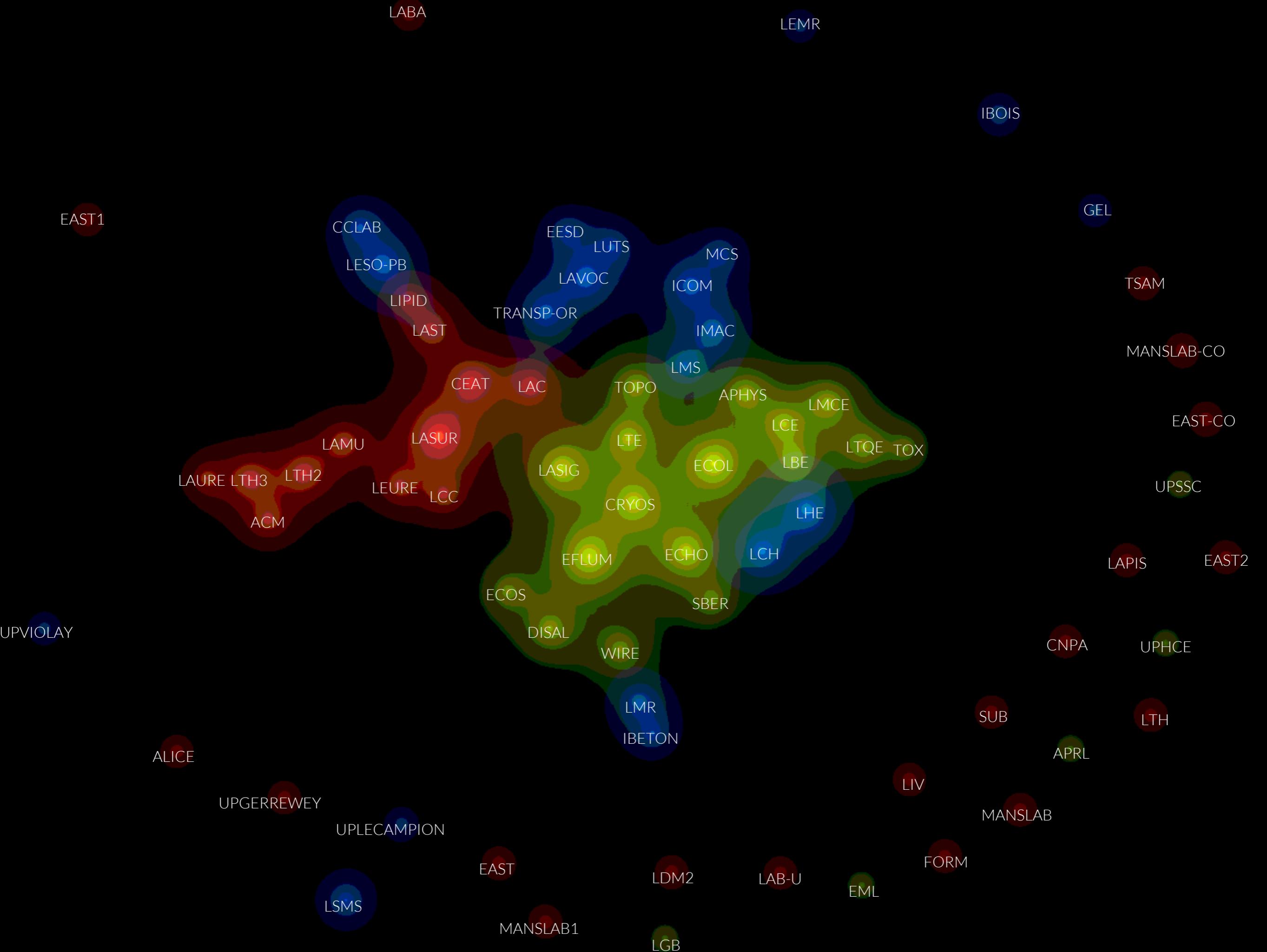


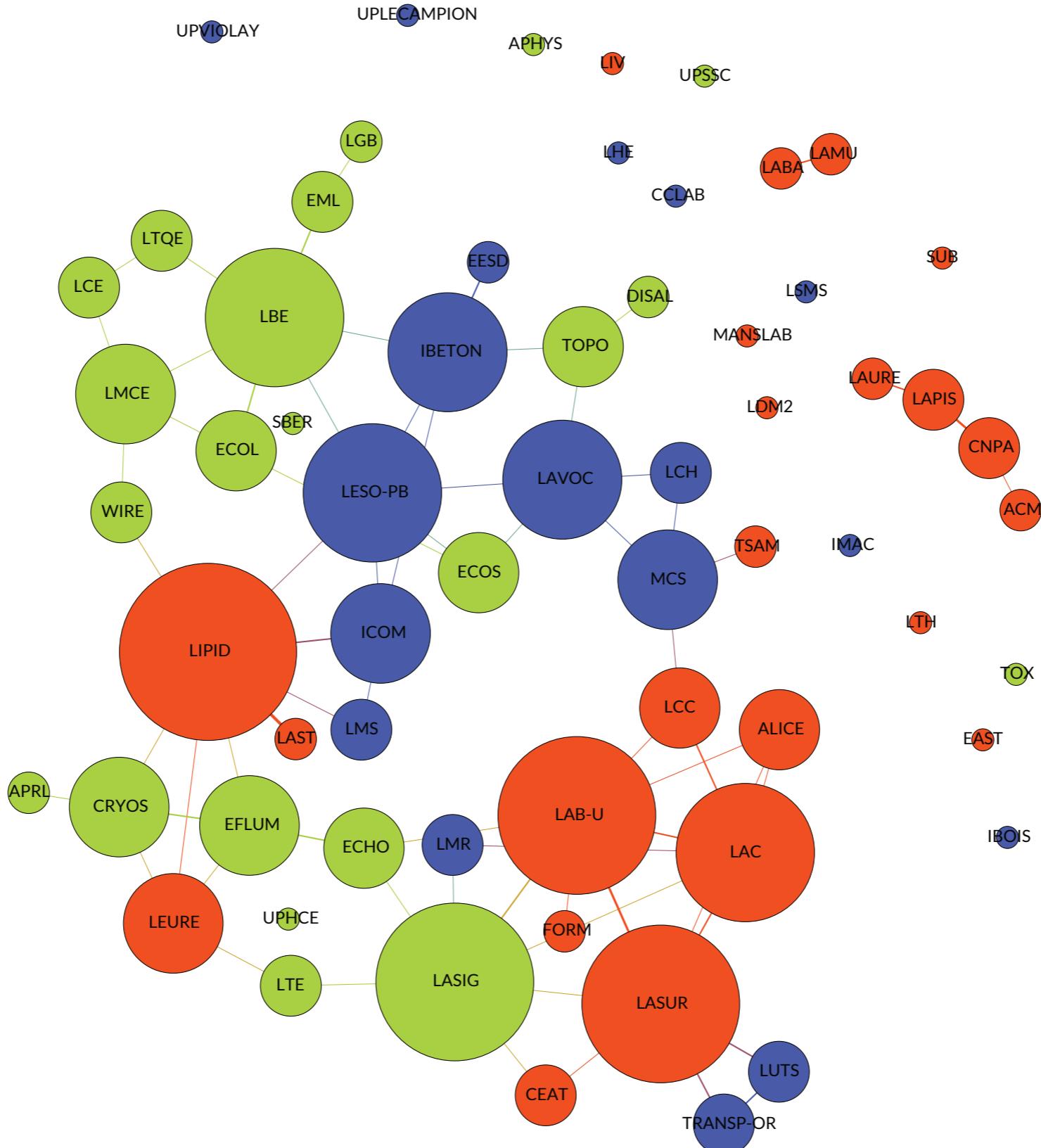


# Network Visualization

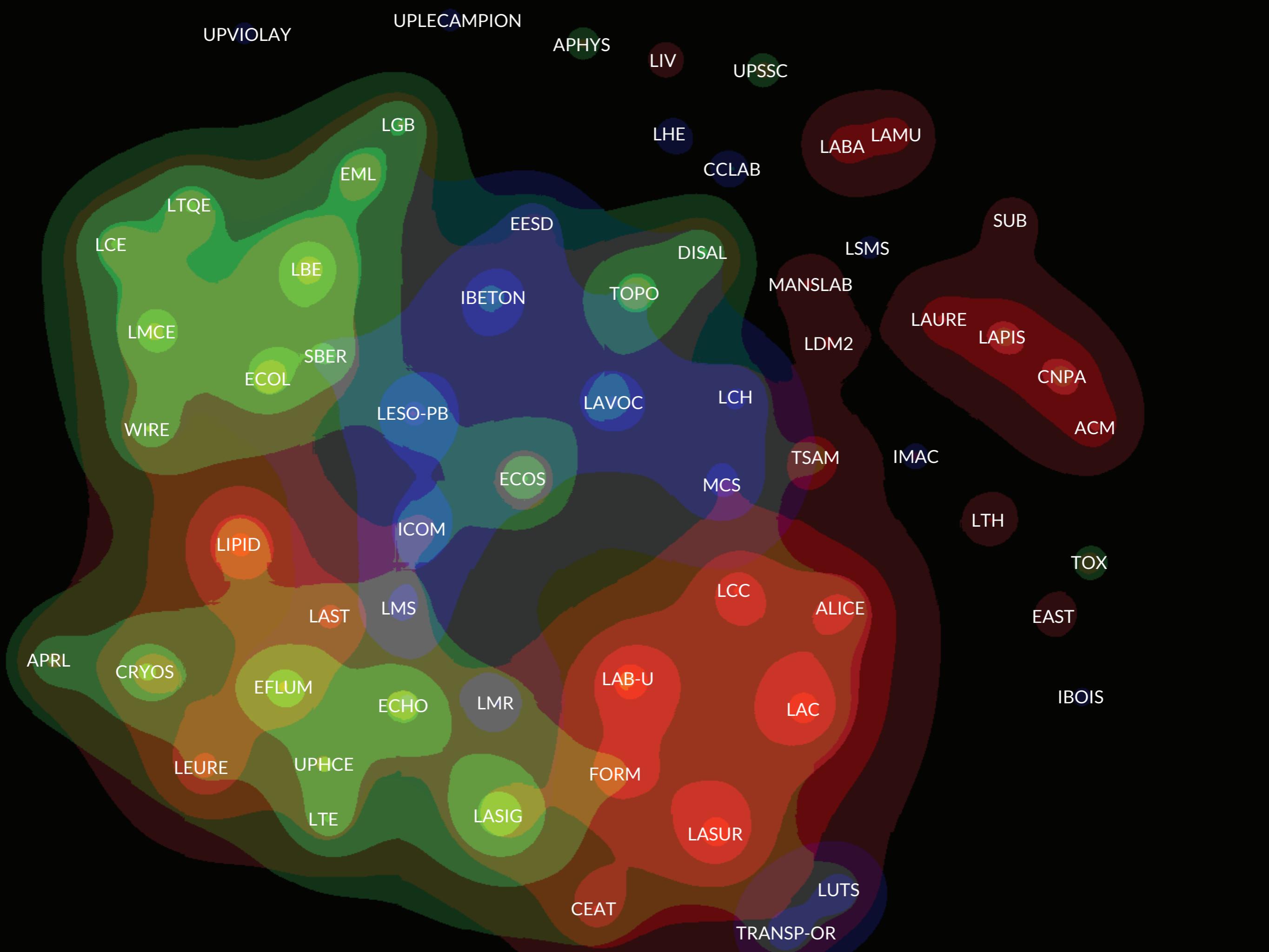
*size and isolement*

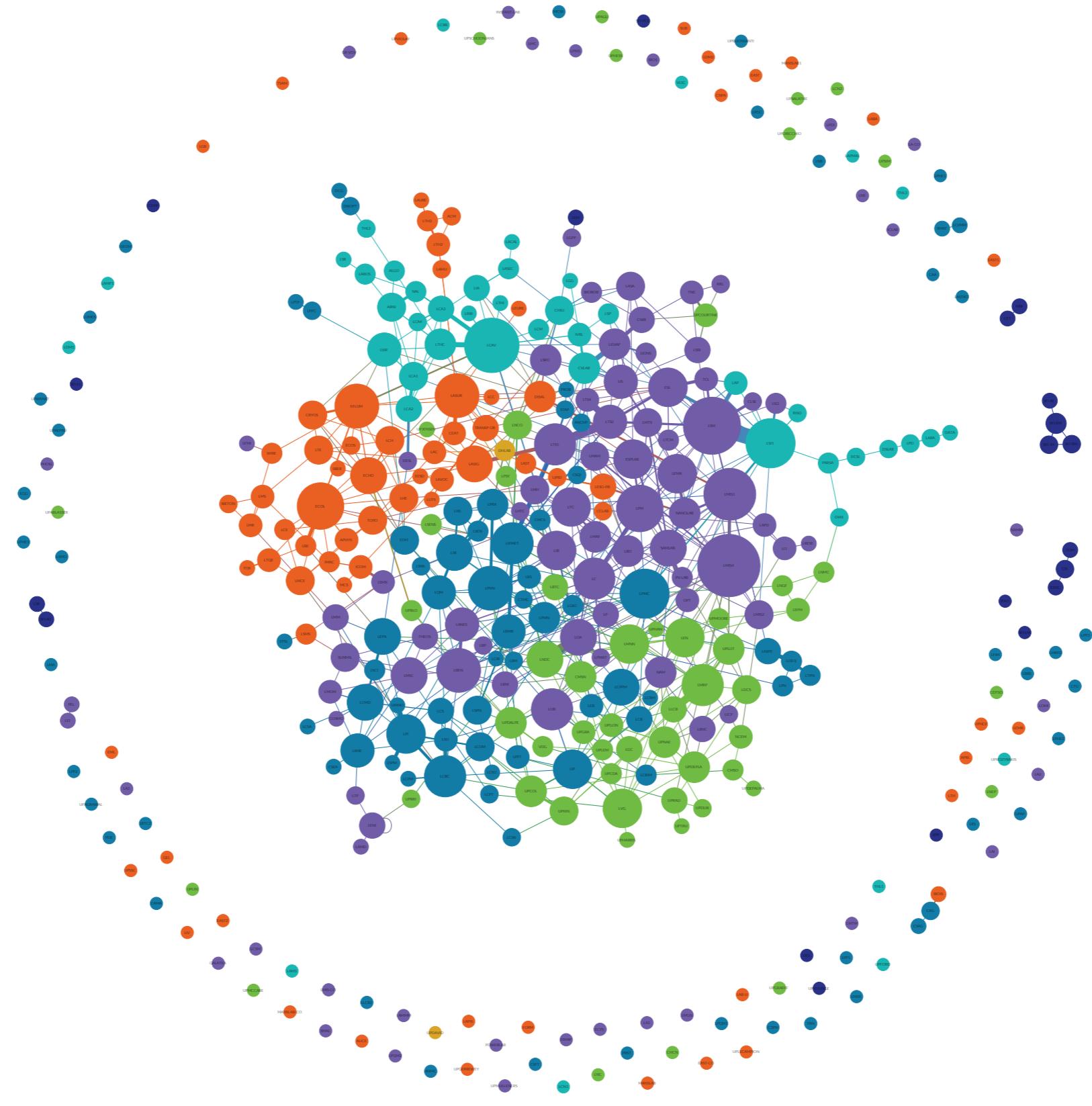


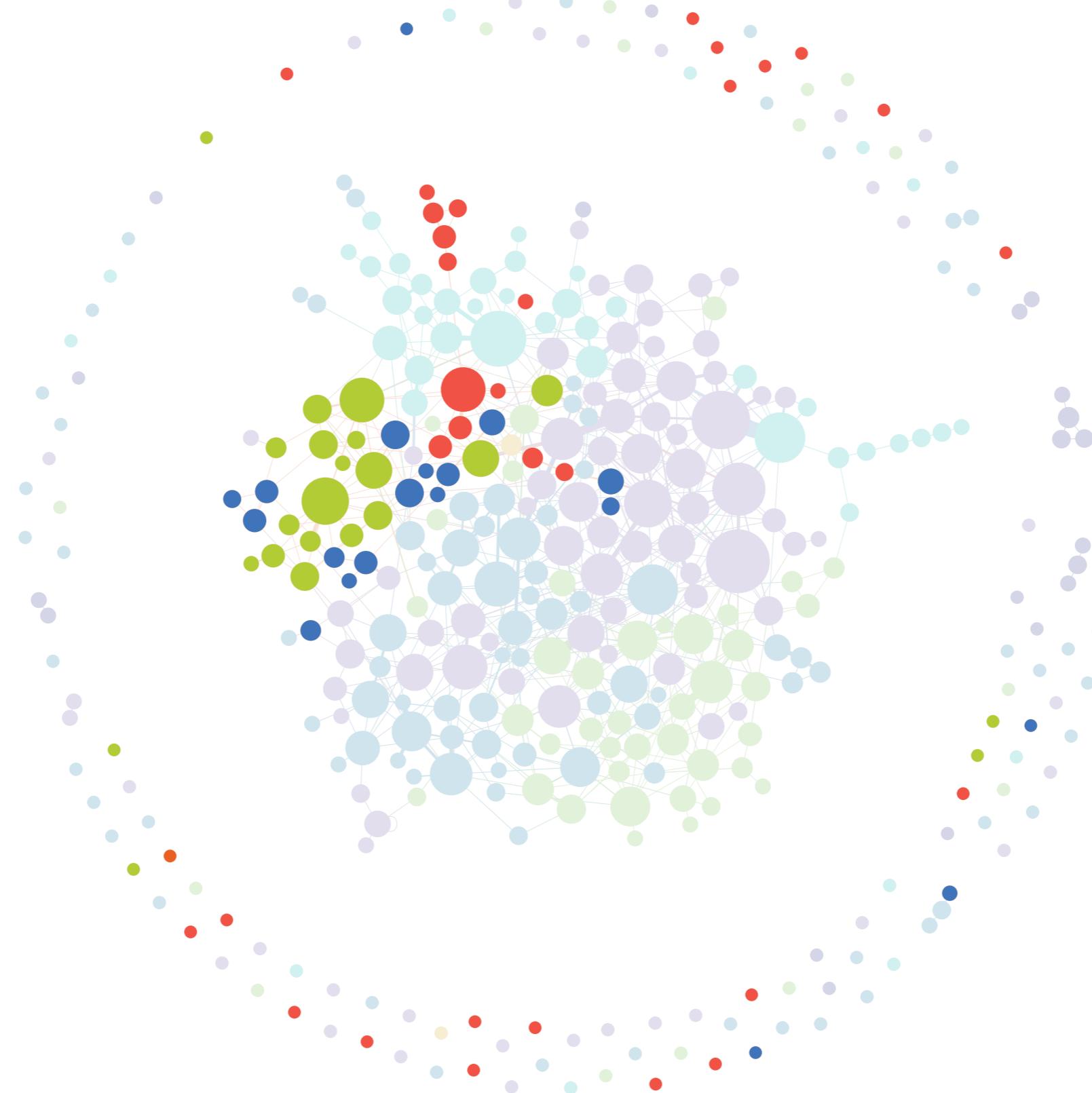




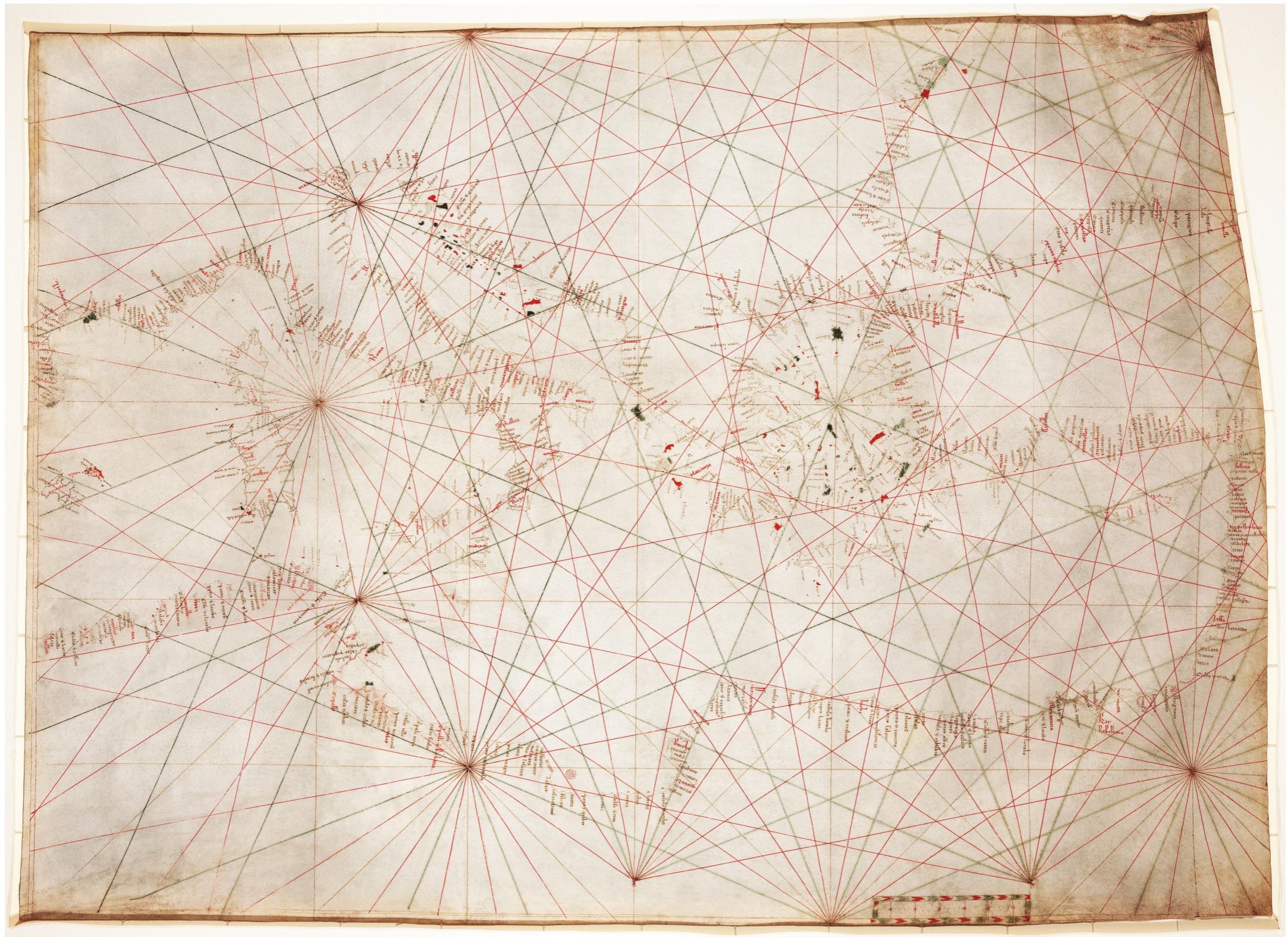
Education (Supervision and Courses)



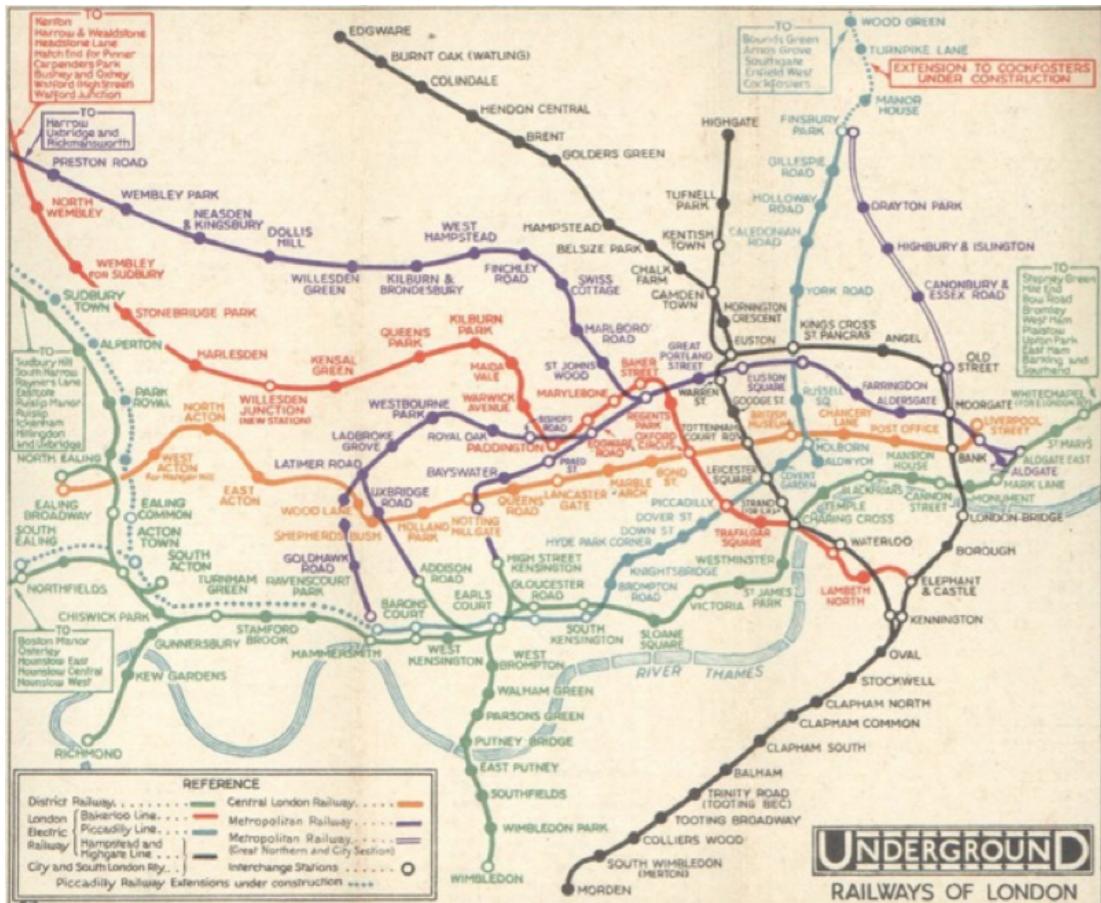




*“Design is the conscious and intuitive effort to impose **meaningful order**. [...] Our delight in the order we find in frost flowers on a window pane, in the hexagonal perfection of a honeycomb, in leaves, or in the architecture of a rose, reflects man’s preoccupation with pattern.”*

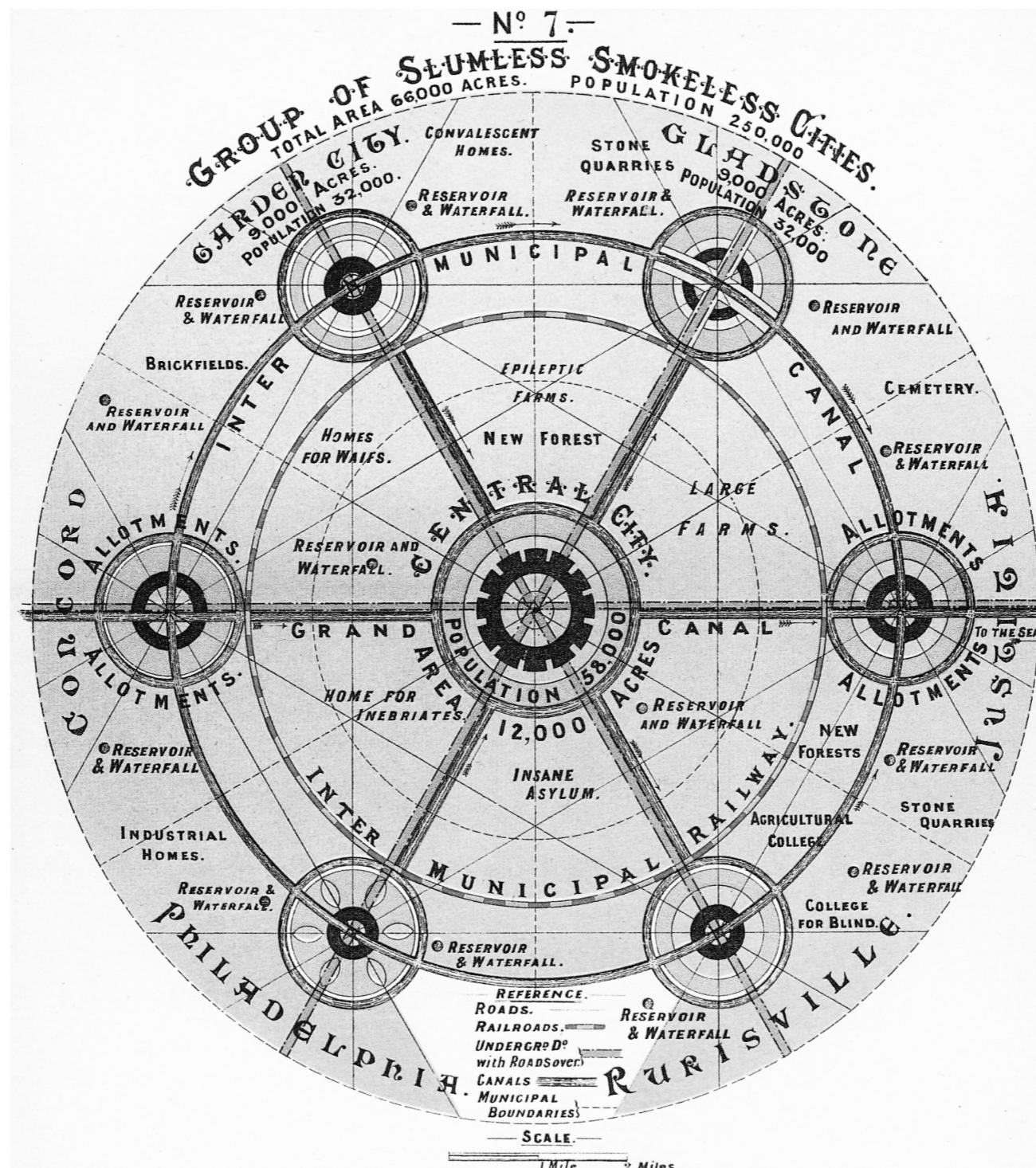


A Portolan chart that represents the Mediterranean Sea and its winds during the second quarter of the 14th century. © Library of Congress

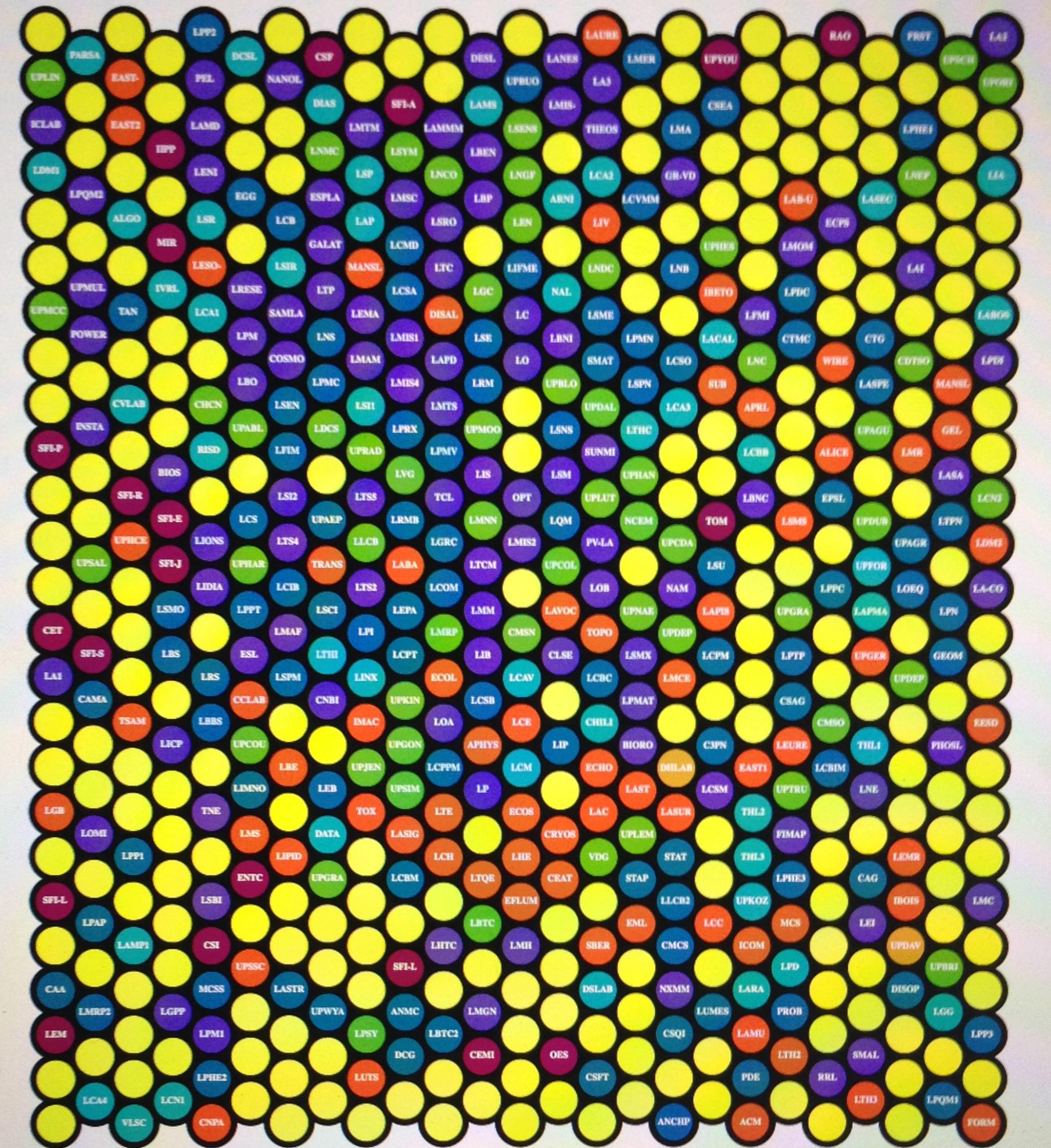


Pre and post Harry Beck's London underground map.

*“Regular graphs are unique in that each node has exactly the same number of links. Indeed, in a two-dimensional mesh of perpendicular lines forming a simple square lattice each node has exactly four links, or in a **hexagonal lattice of a beehive** each node is connected to exactly three others [links].”*



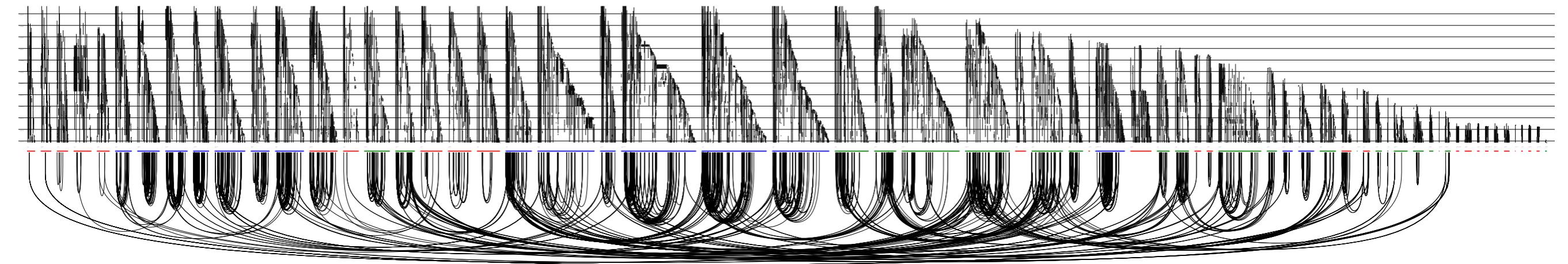
Beevers, Robert. 1988. The Garden City Utopia: a Critical Biography of Ebenezer Howard.



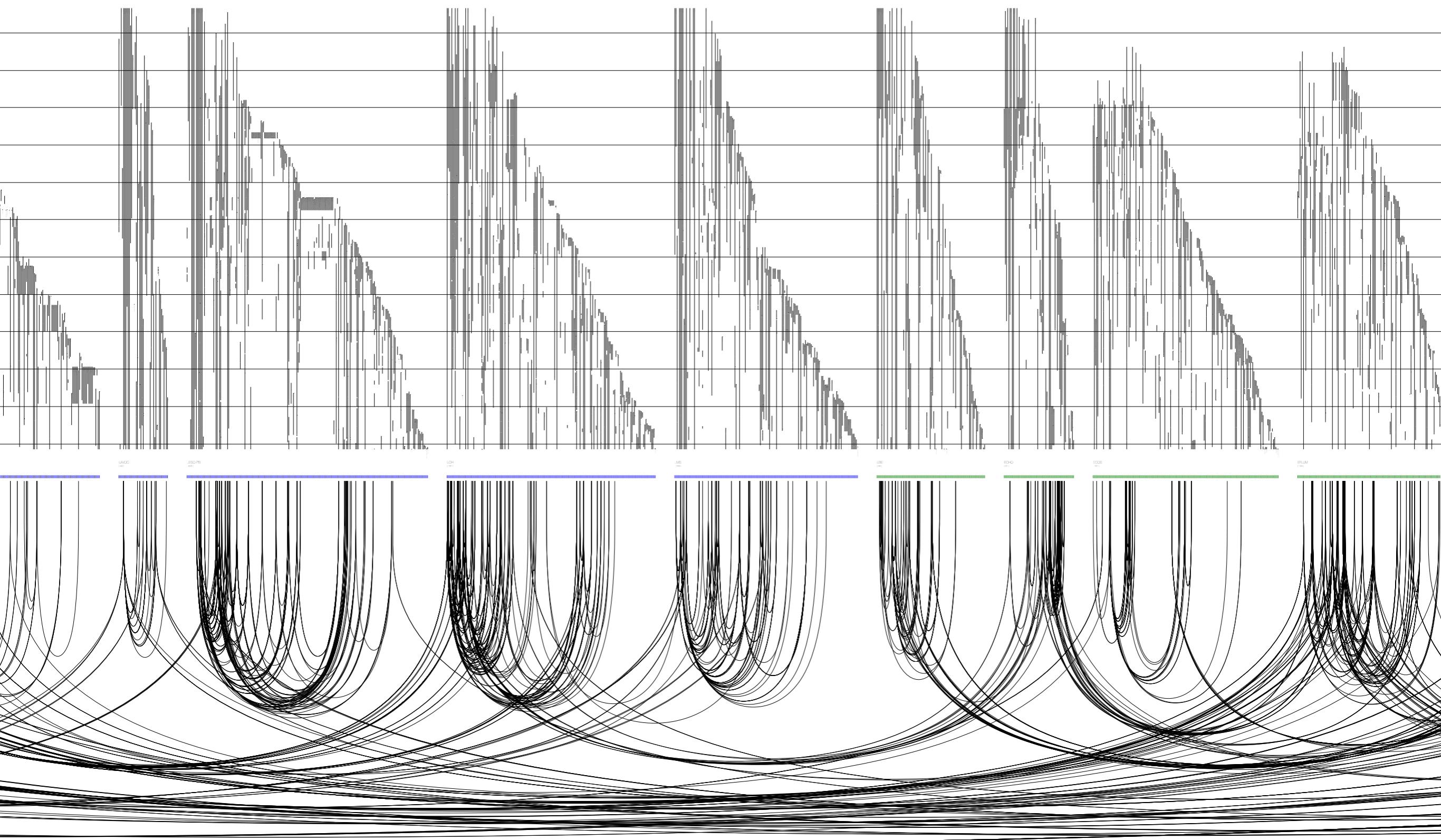


## Back to Individual

*the whole is different than the sum of its parts*

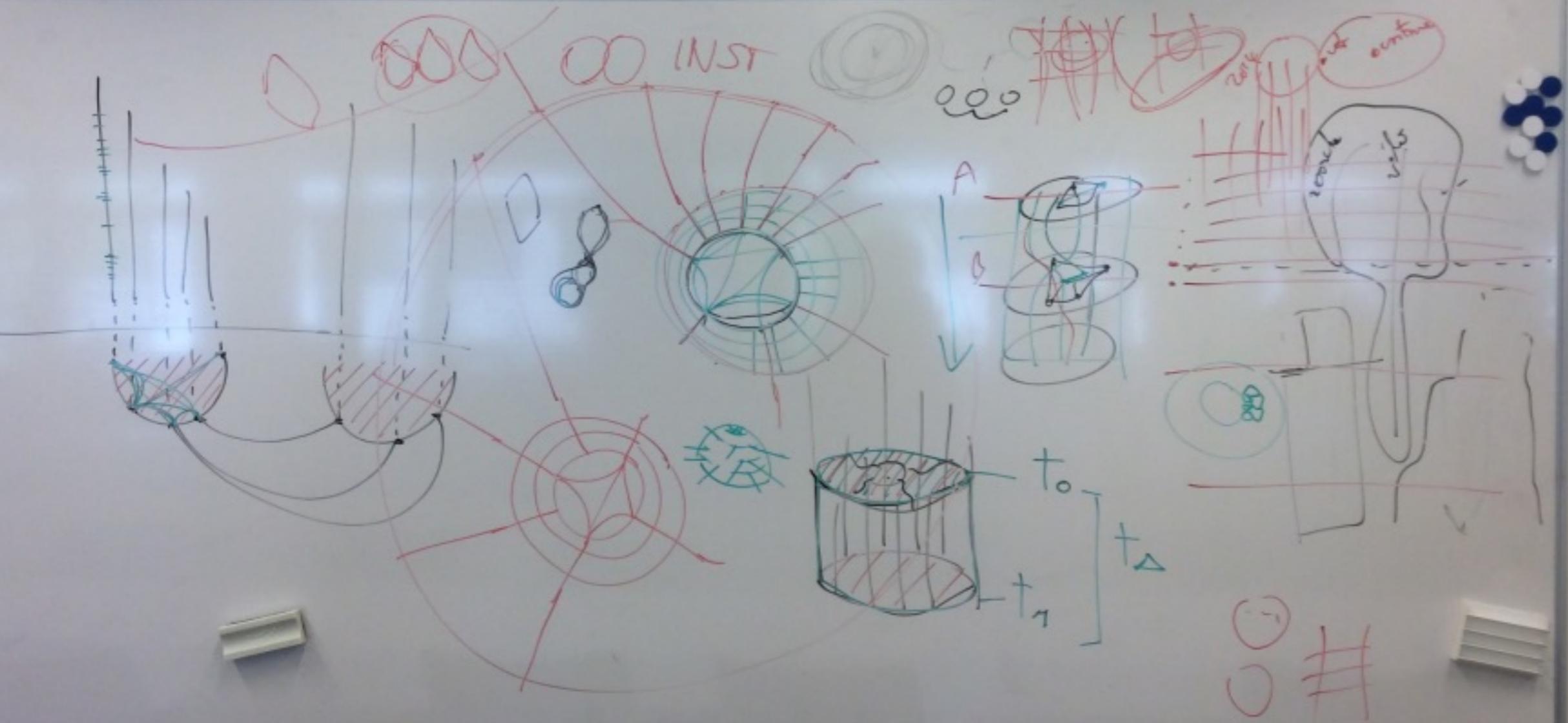


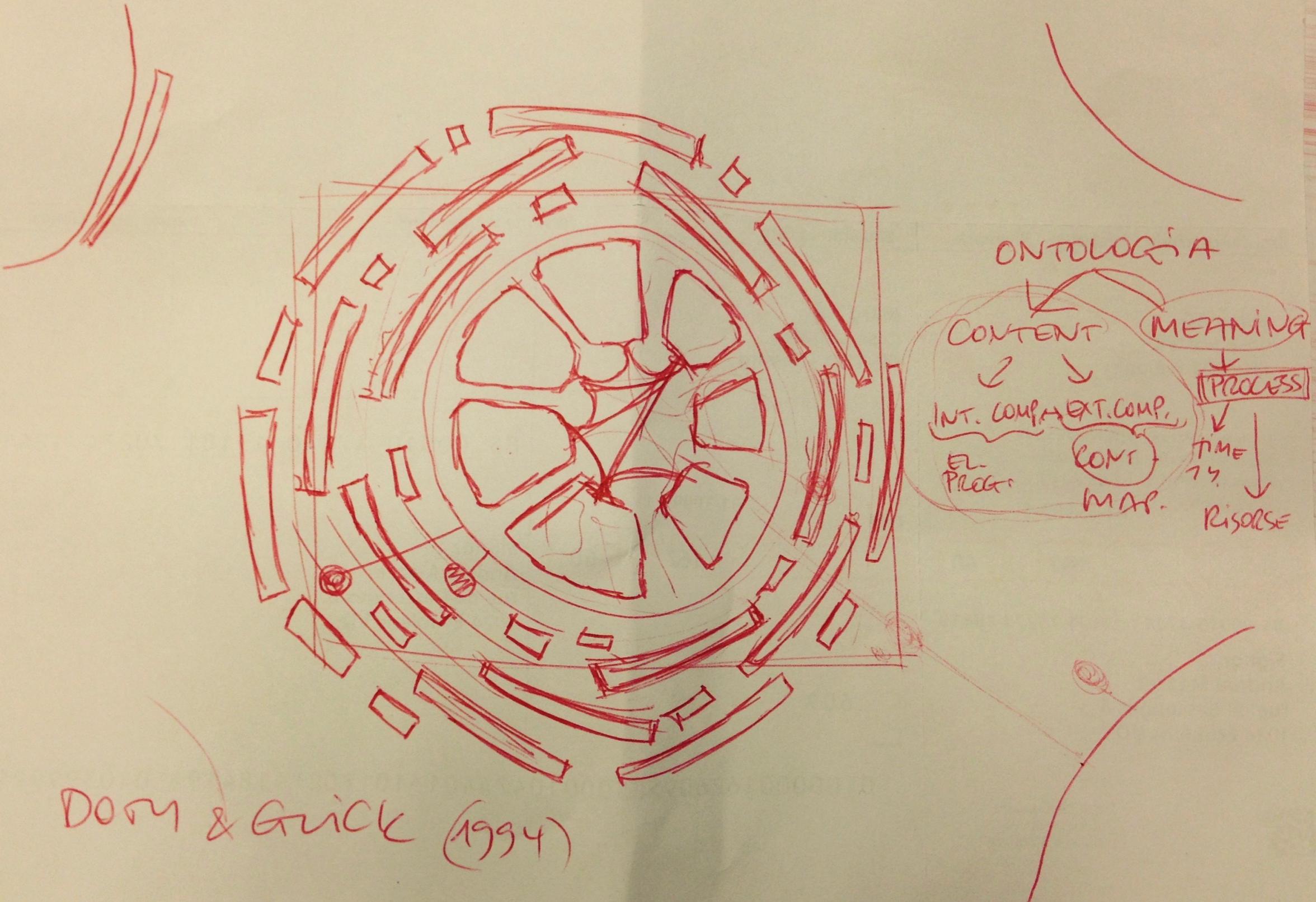
Making individuals and affinities visible together.

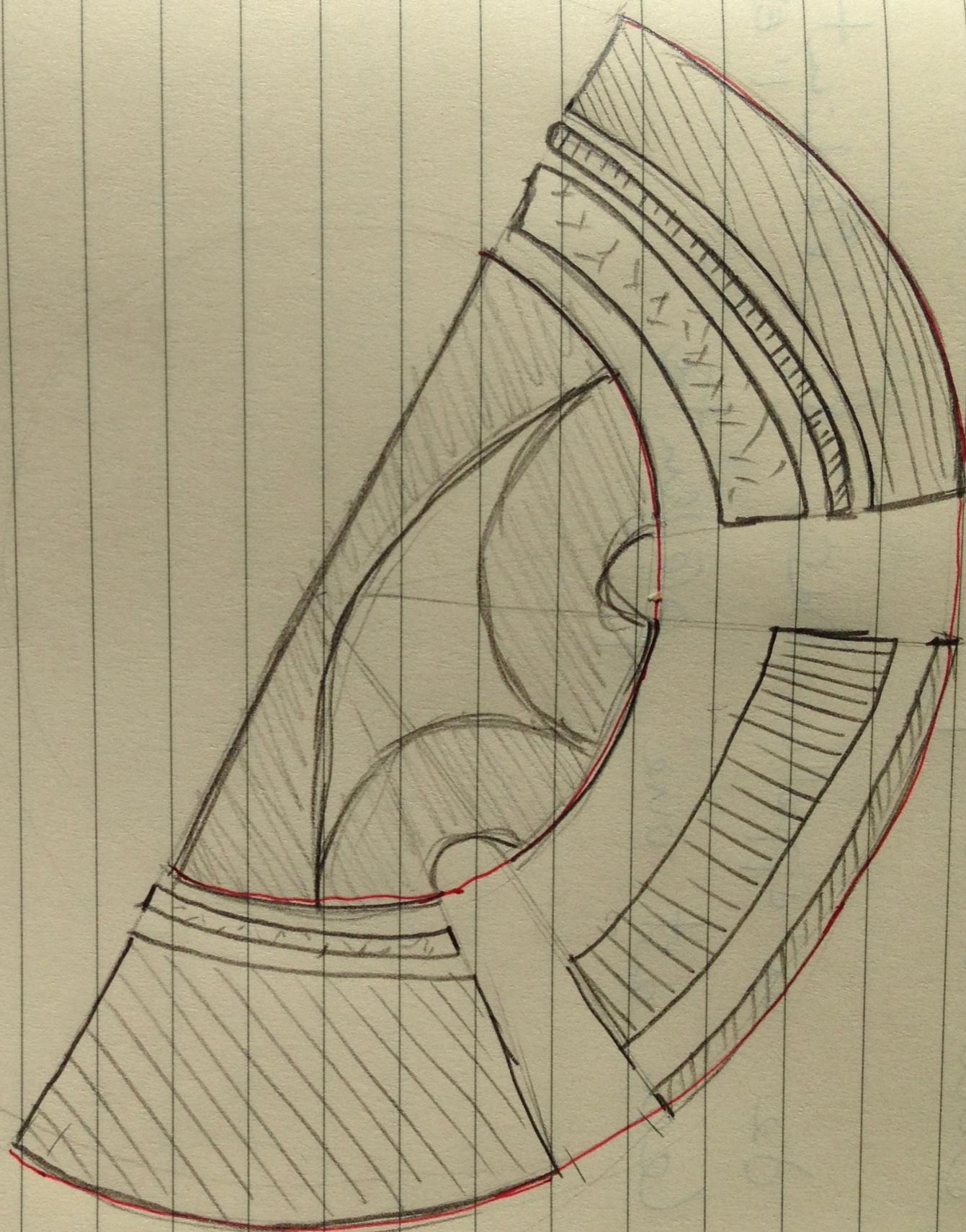
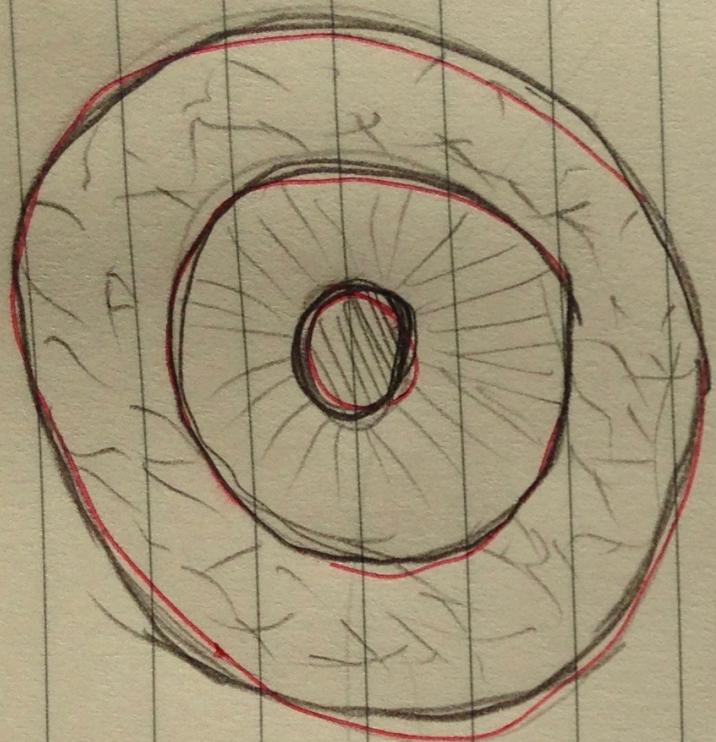
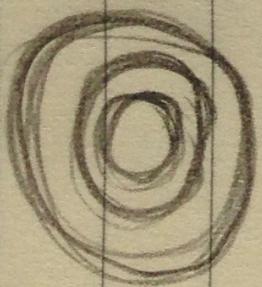


Making individuals and affinities visible together.





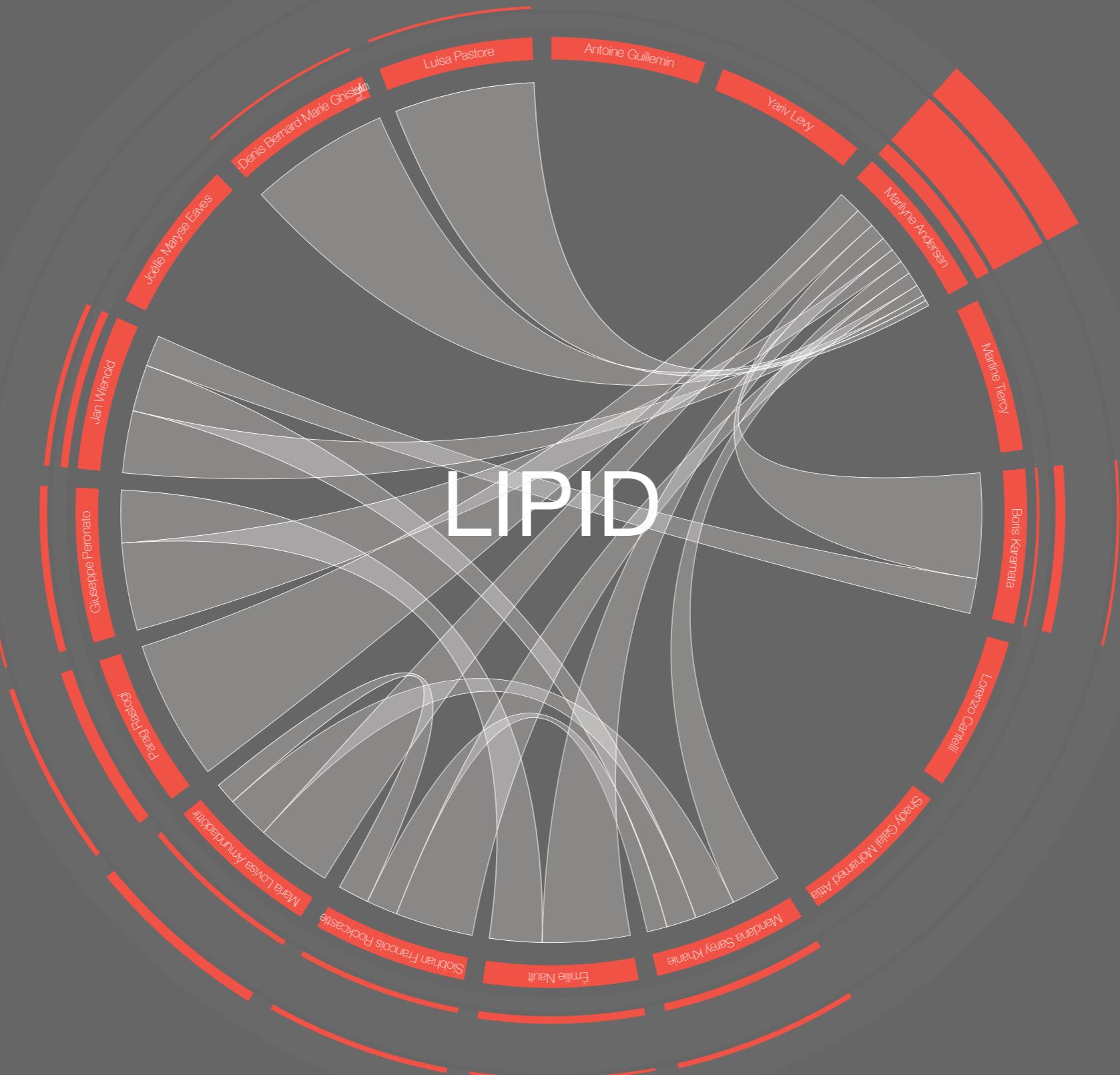




# LIPID



# LIPID



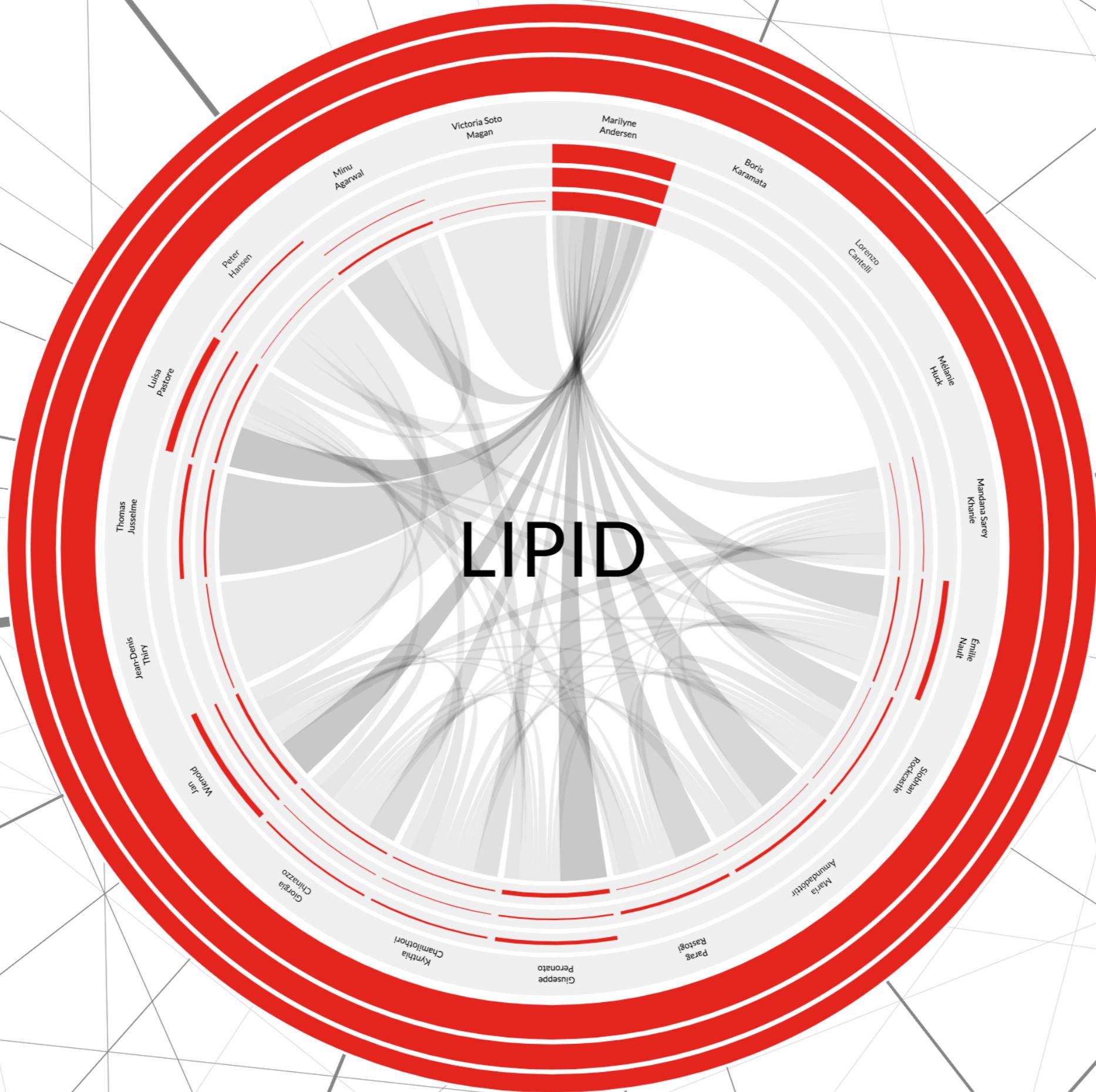
# LASIG



# LASUR

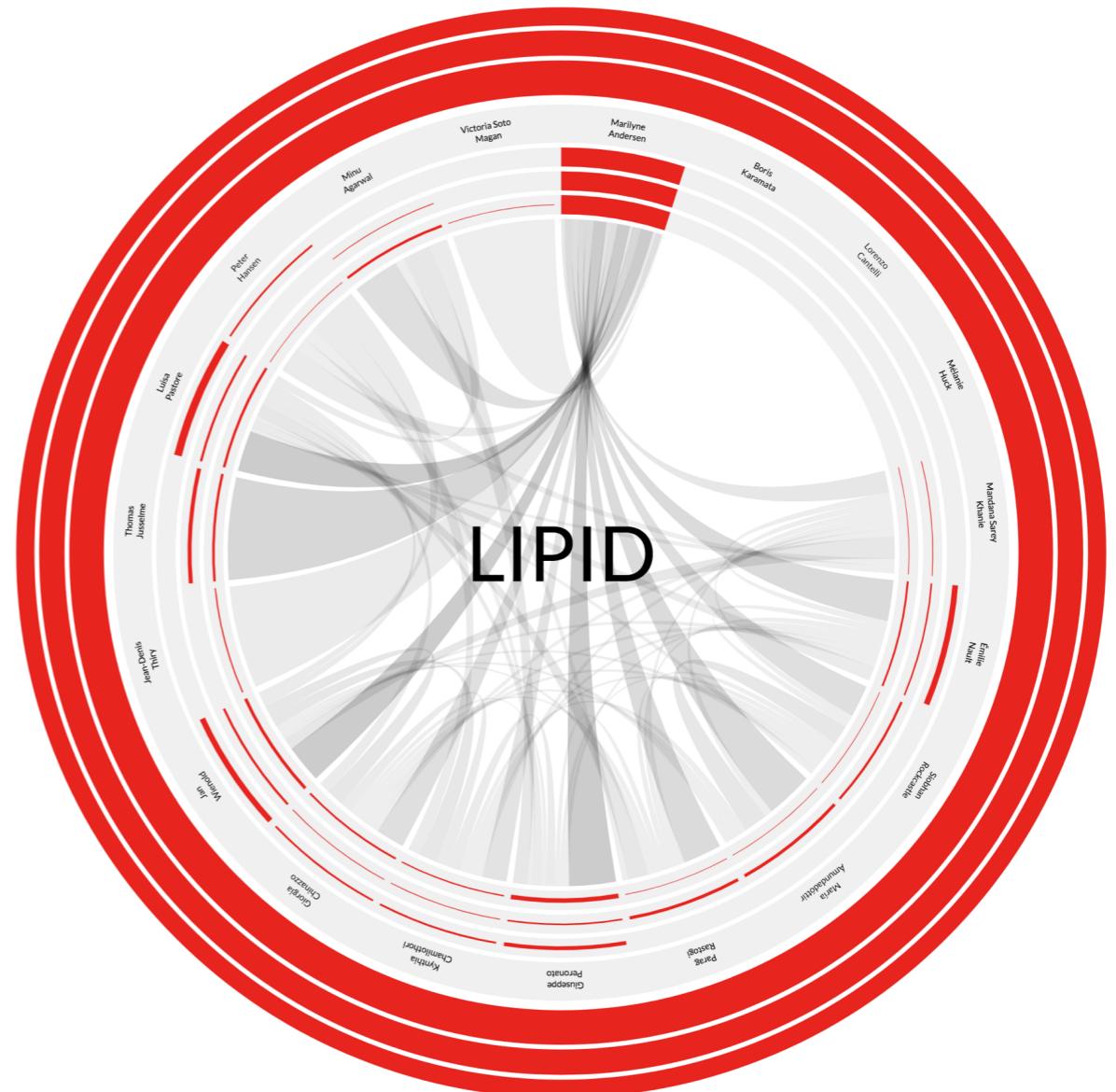
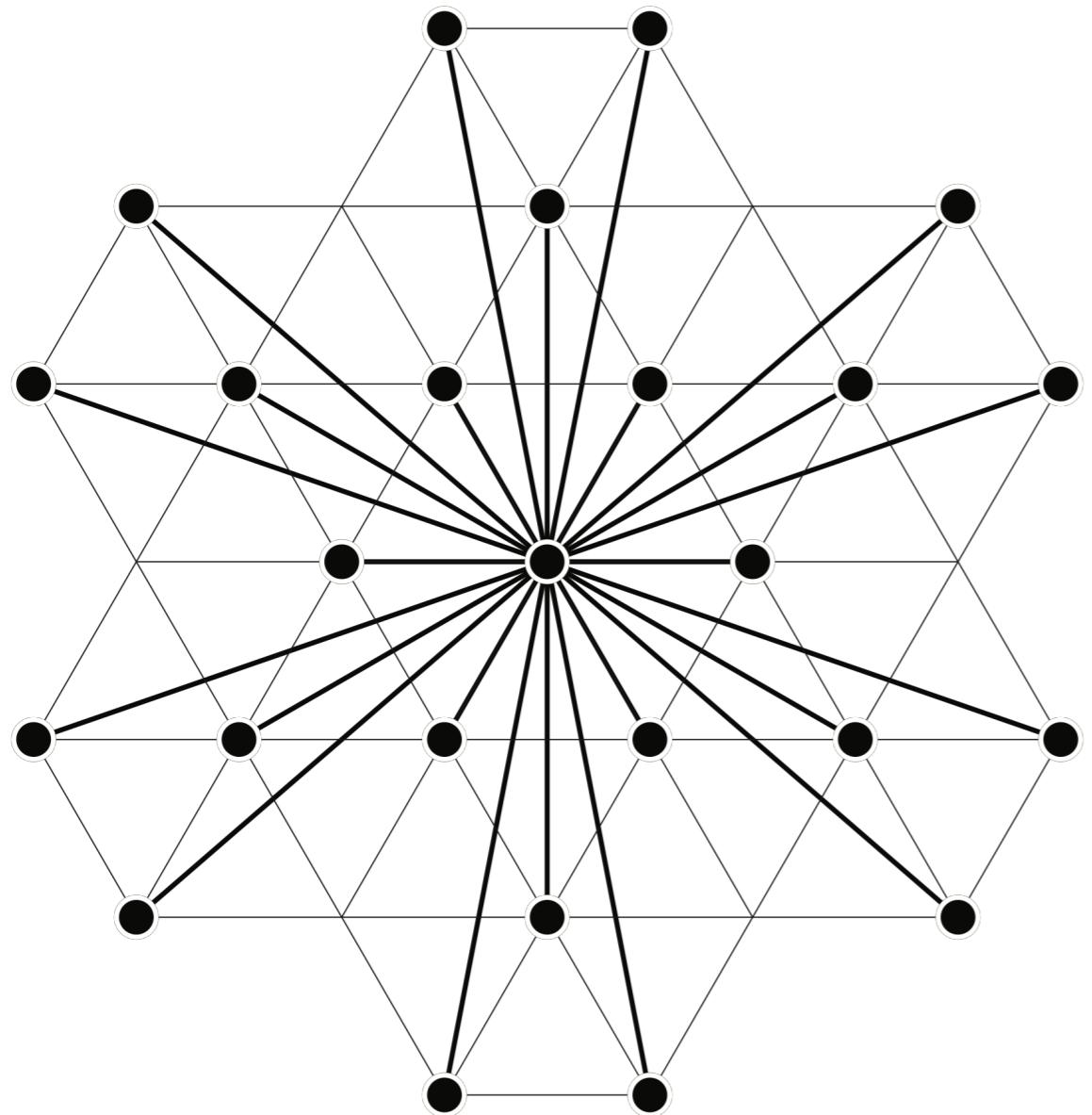


# LIPID



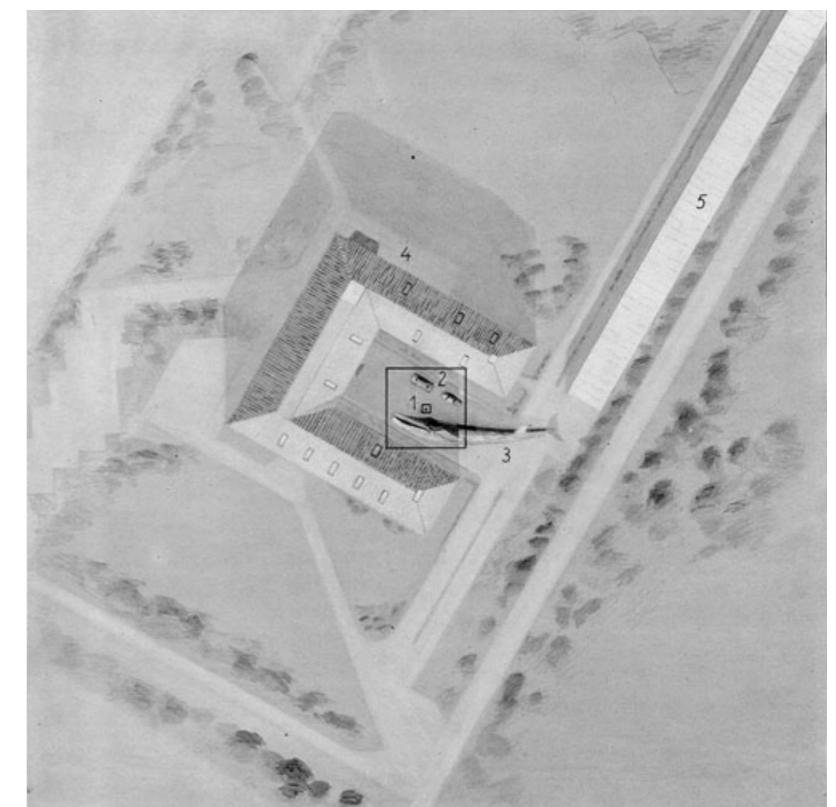
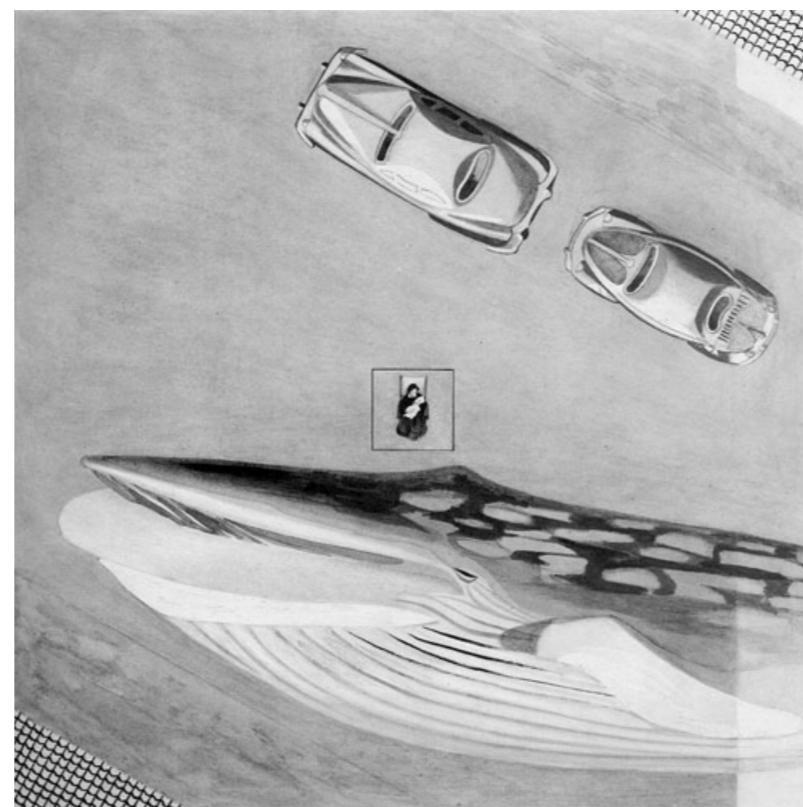
# Satellites

*intermediary connectivity level*



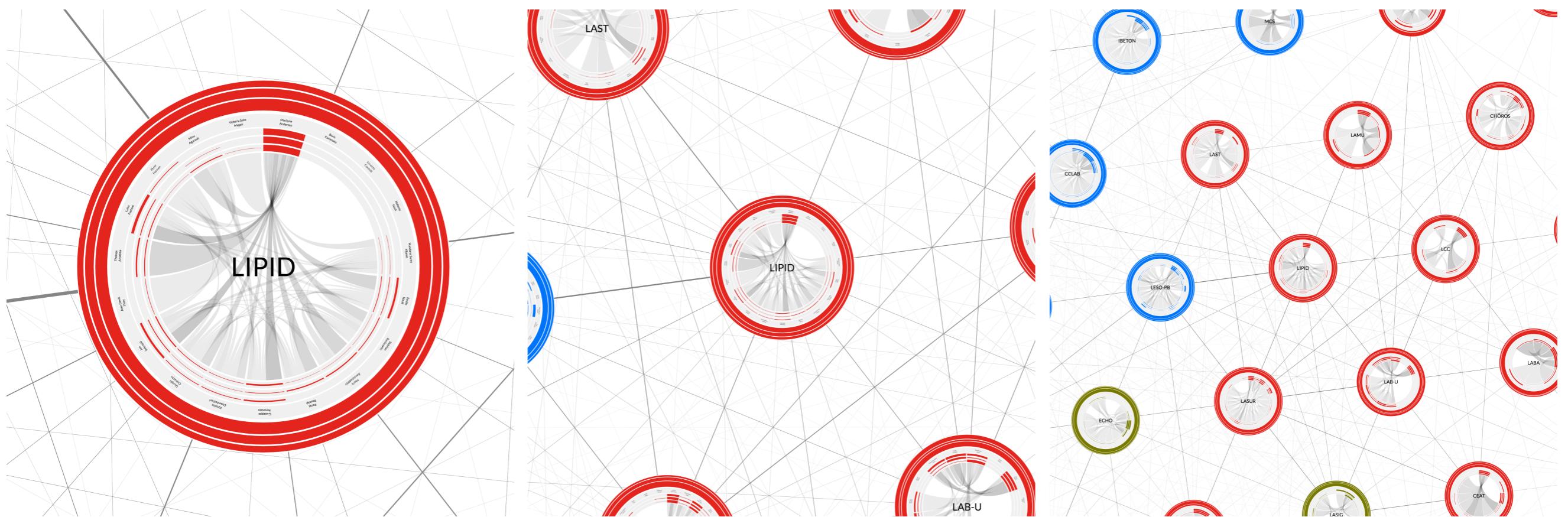
Intermediary level: Meso

*“Visual Information-Seeking Mantra: overview first, zoom and filter, then details on demand.”*



Boeke, Kees. 1957. Cosmic View.

*“In this awesome journey to the ends of the universe, you have learned an immense amount **about its structure and the beings and things** that occupy it, and above all **about the relationships of things** to each other, in their various scales of dimension, with a vividness that words cannot express.”*



Hexagonal network is unified with the visualizations of the nodes.

*It is incorrect [...] to think that maps [...] prove the reality of the zoom effect: when one shifts from a map on a scale of 1 cm to 1 km to one on 1 cm to 10 km, **the latter does not contain the same information as the former: it contains other information that might (or might not) coincide with what appears in the former.***

Normalisierung  
ENAC

"LASIG"  
co public  
adv / exs proposals

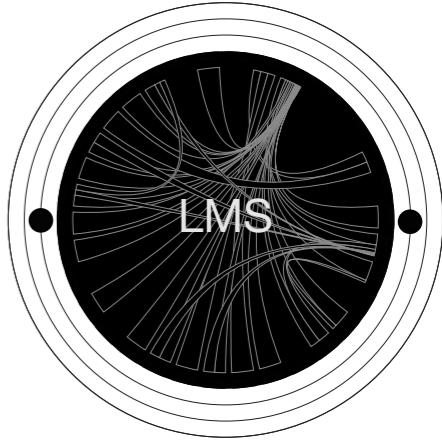
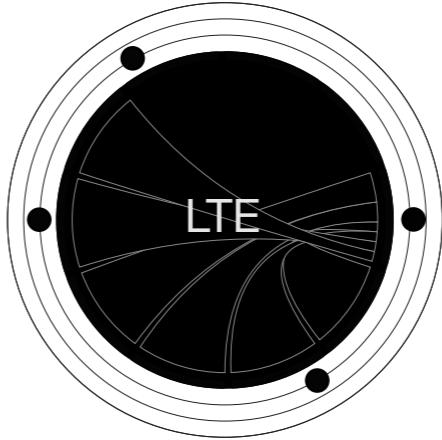
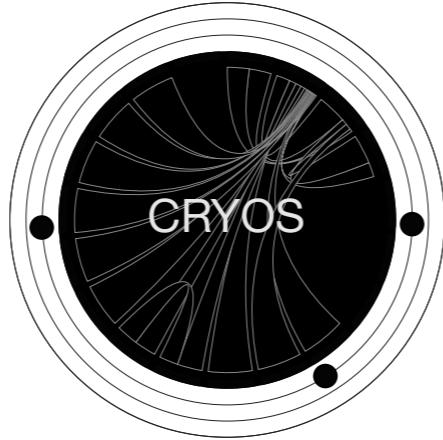
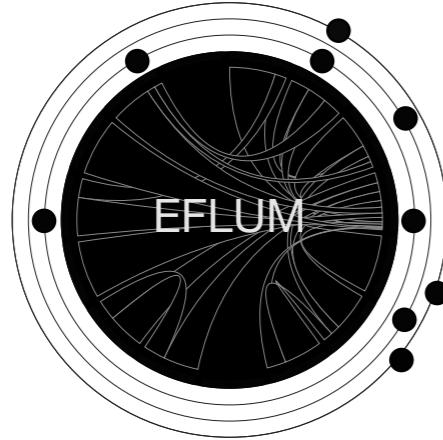
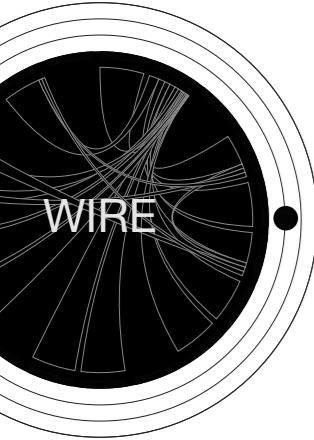
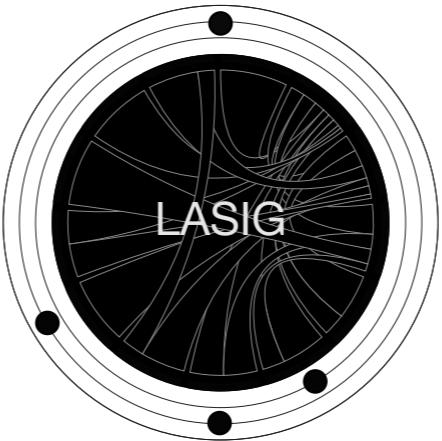
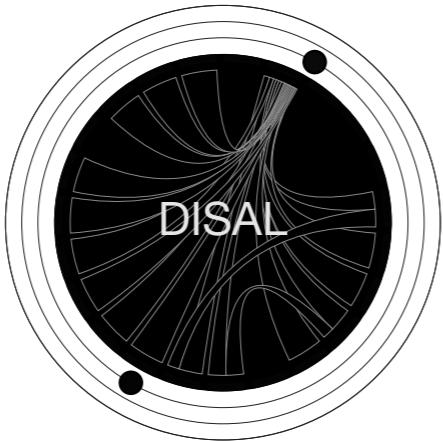
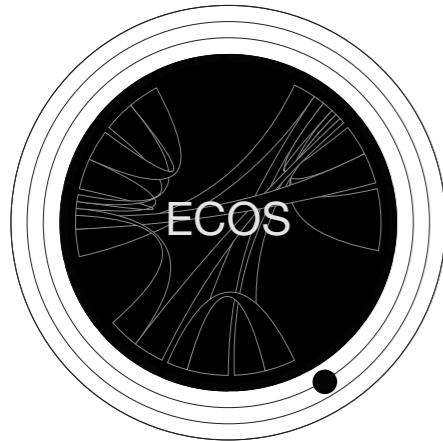
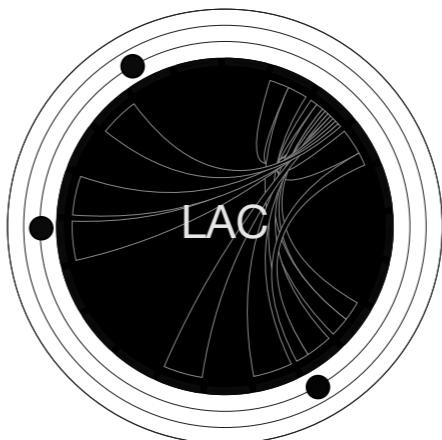
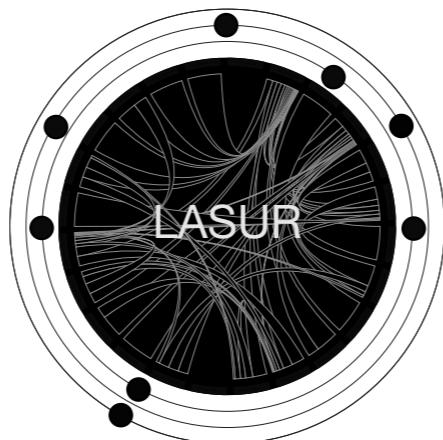
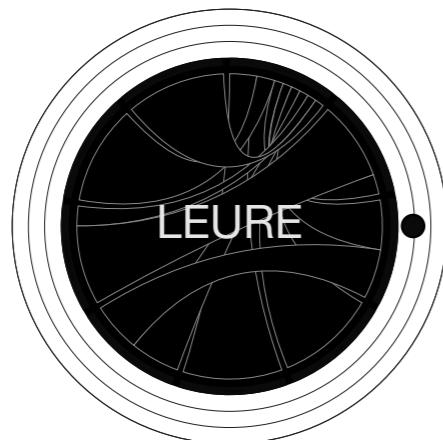
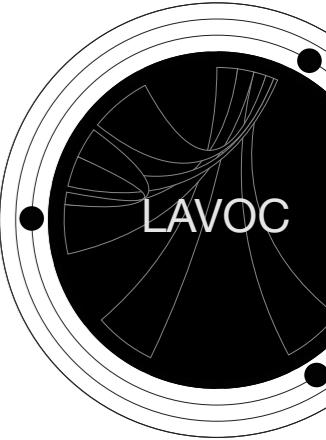
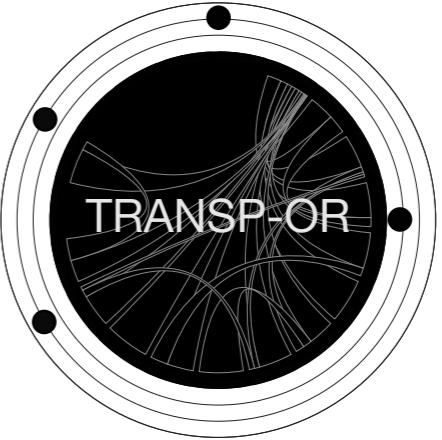
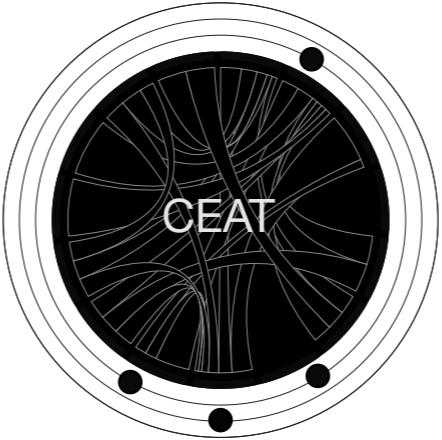
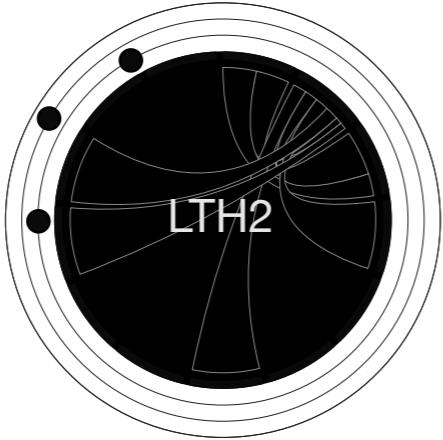
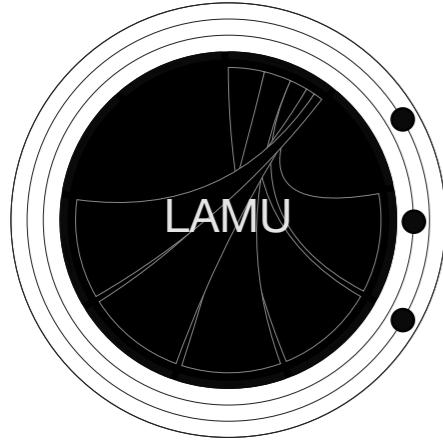
"LAST"  
"HIT"  
outside  
ENAC

publ. adv  
Norm

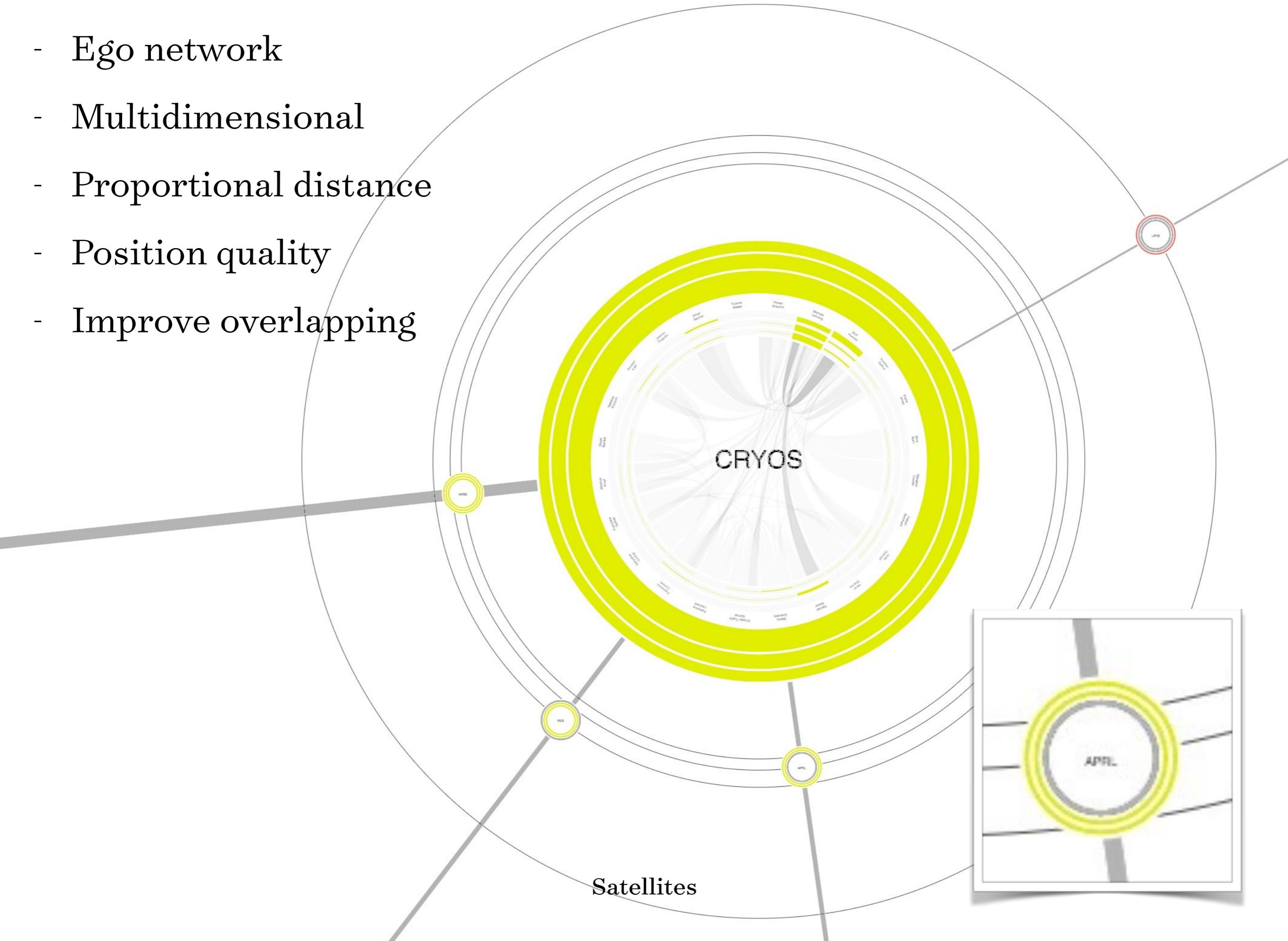
publ.  
adv.  
subs

Normalis.  
Tats.  
("Total  
individual")

ENAC  
(= TOTAL  
Labo)



- Ego network
- Multidimensional
- Proportional distance
- Position quality
- Improve overlapping



*“Micro and macro [...]  
are really two faces of the same thing”*

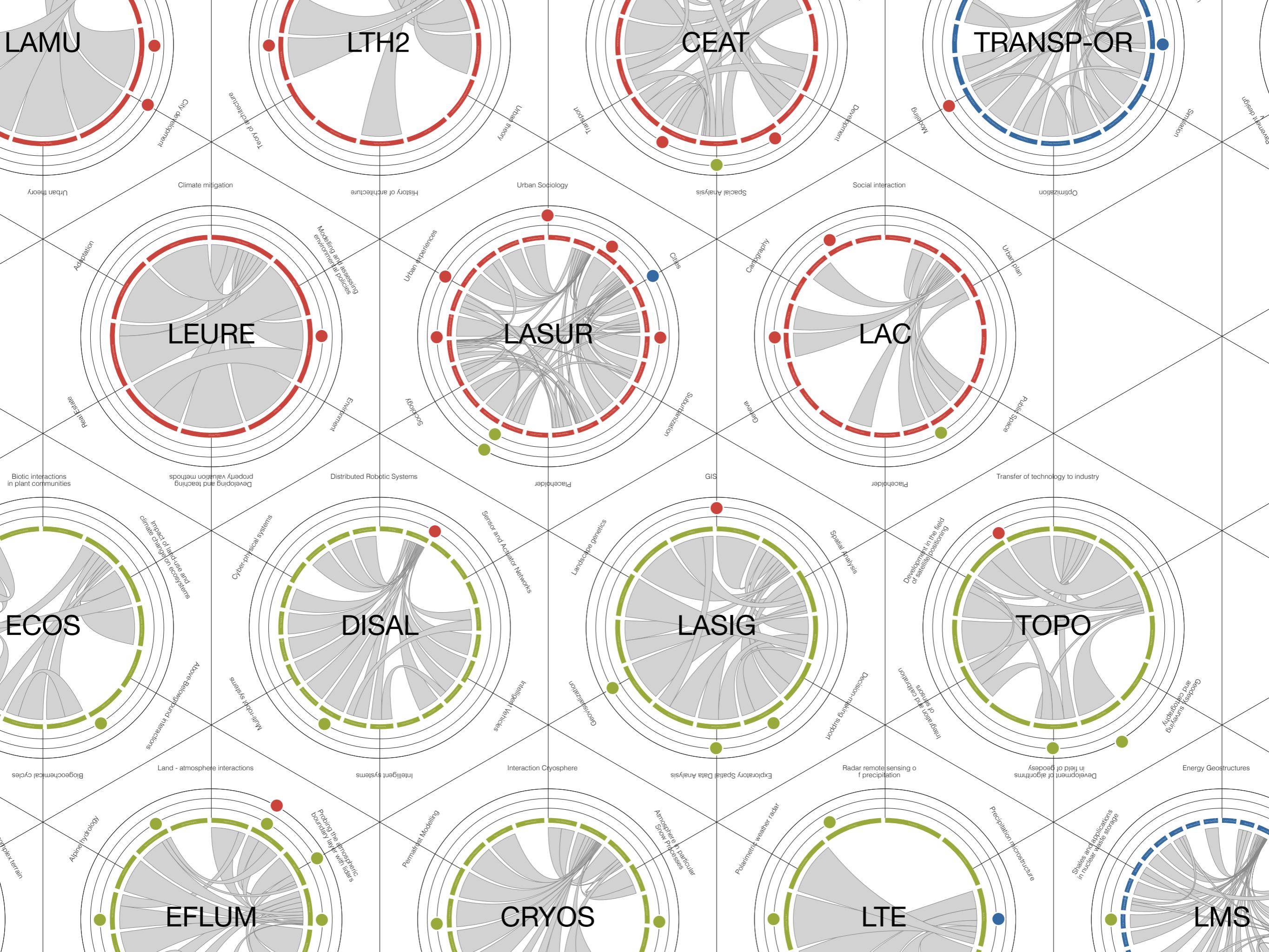
# Semantic Background

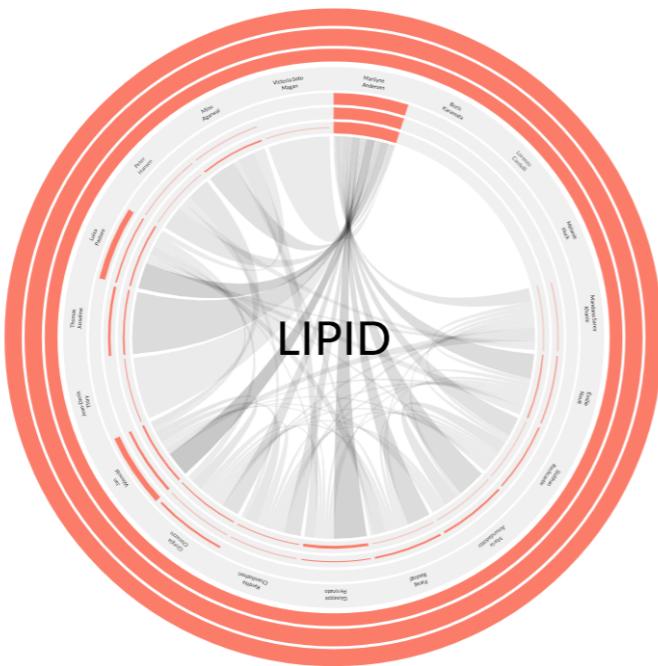
*defining potential affinities*

*“In information retrieval,  $tf\text{-}idf$  or  $TFIDF$ , short for term frequency-inverse document frequency, is a numerical statistic that is intended to reflect how important a word is to a document in a collection or corpus.”*

— Wikipedia 2018

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2      "id": 53310,  
3      "authors": ["Bradley, Joseph", "Loucks, Jeff", "Macaulay, James", "Noronha, Andy", "Wade, Mi  
4      "title": "Digital vortex: How digital disruption is redefining industries",  
5      "description": "Digital business transformation is a journey to adopt and deploy digital tec  
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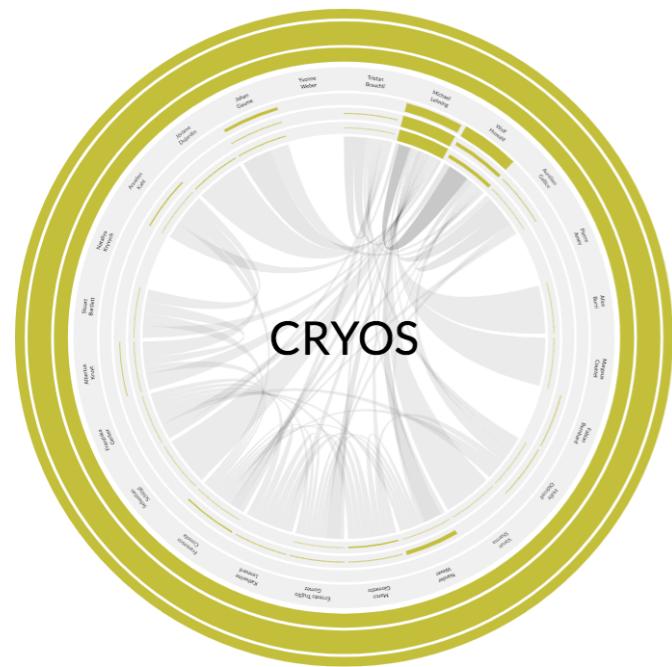


solar  
thermal  
climate  
energy

bipv  
solar  
energy  
buildings  
assessment  
neighborhood  
architectural  
irradiation  
prototype  
workflow  
design  
urban

## Characteristics

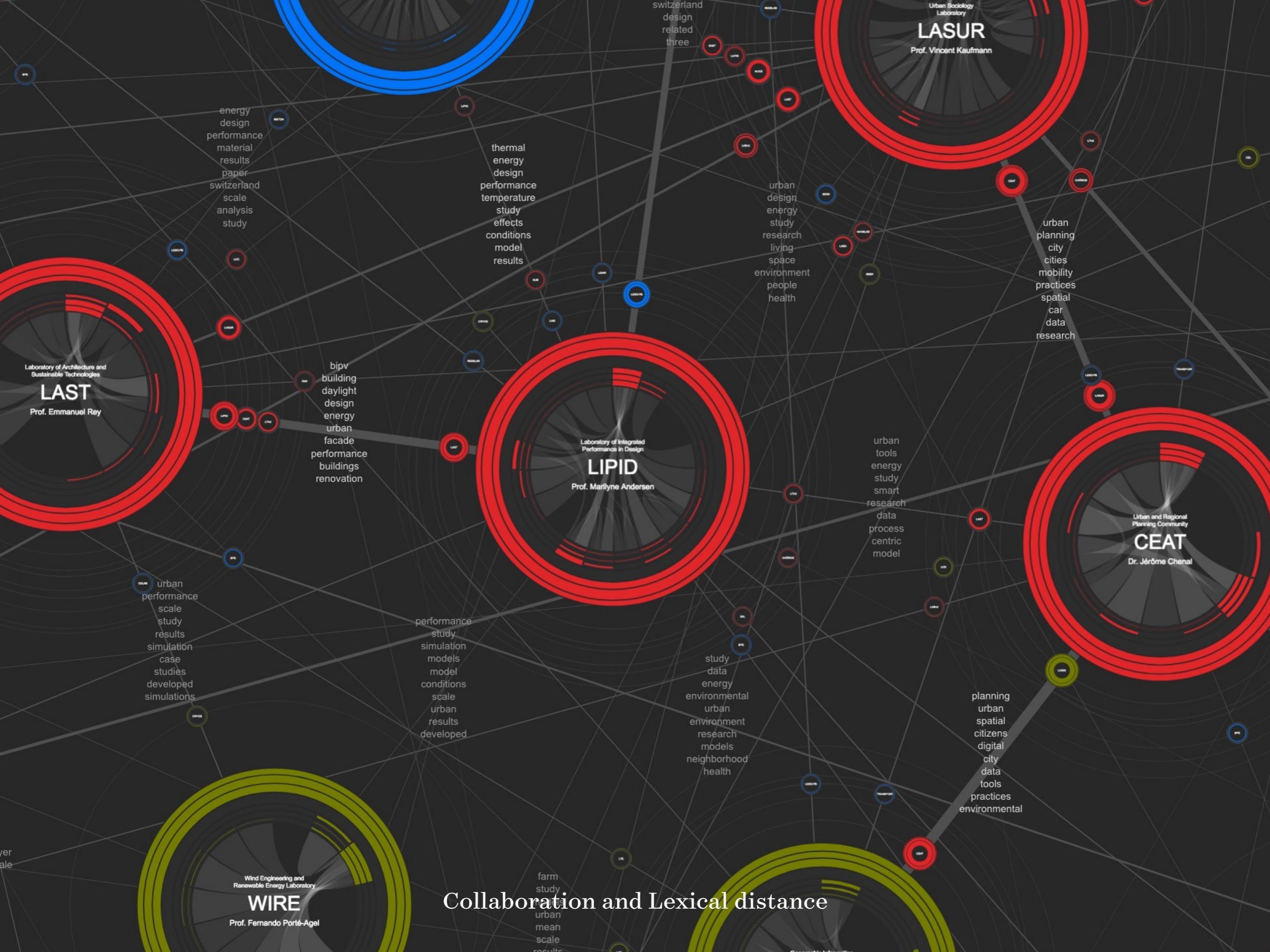
- Use of hexagonal grid
- Justification of closeness
- Semantic layer on links
- Color meaning



solar  
energy



Keywords as potential affinities.



# Walkable Visualization











# Conclusions

Translation is a process of design

It is reduction and amplification at the same time

It is a collage (remix)

Graphical grammar has to be developed

Readers are curious to see their representation

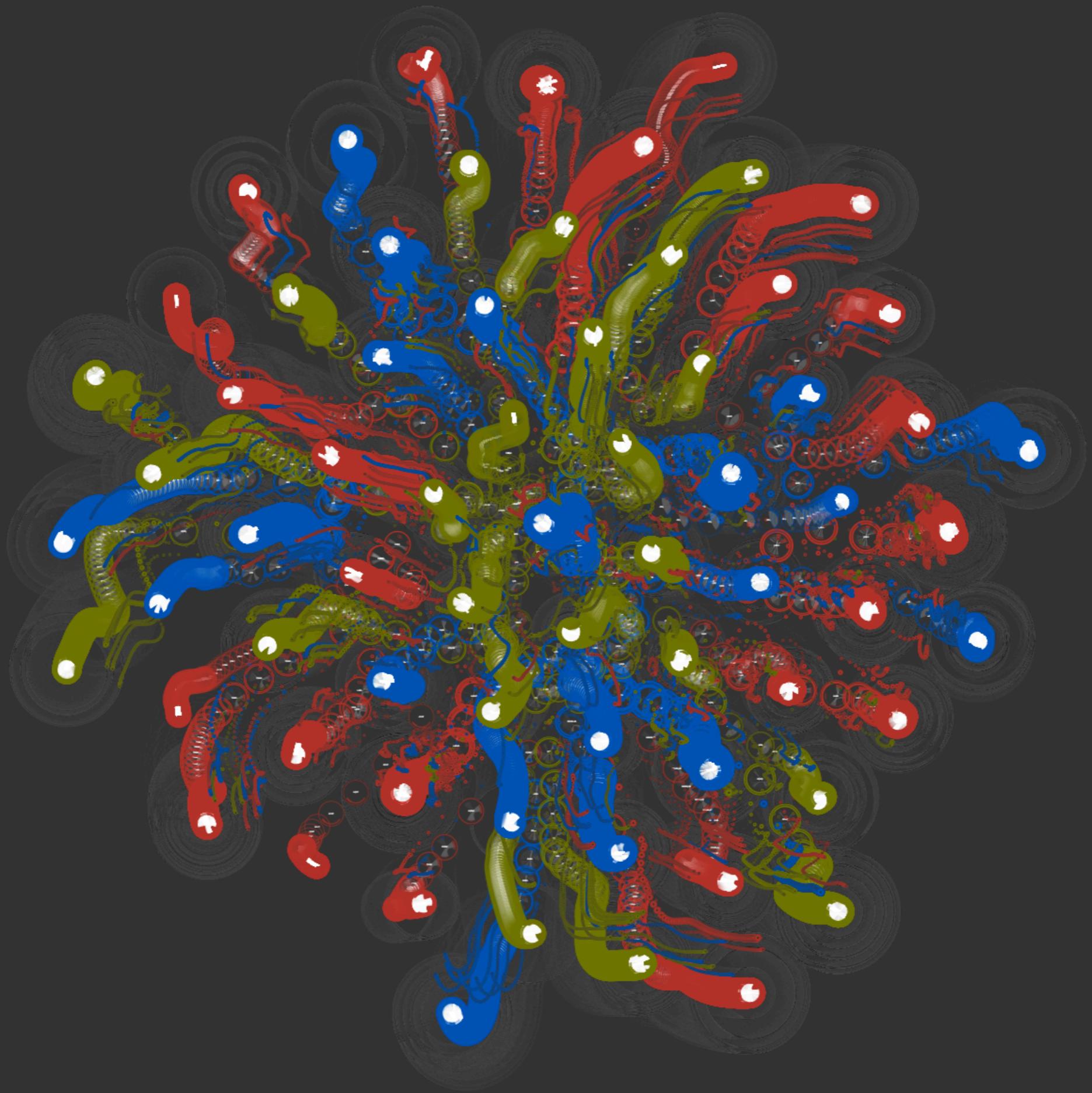
Visualize someone is a delicate task

It exists a threshold of privacy

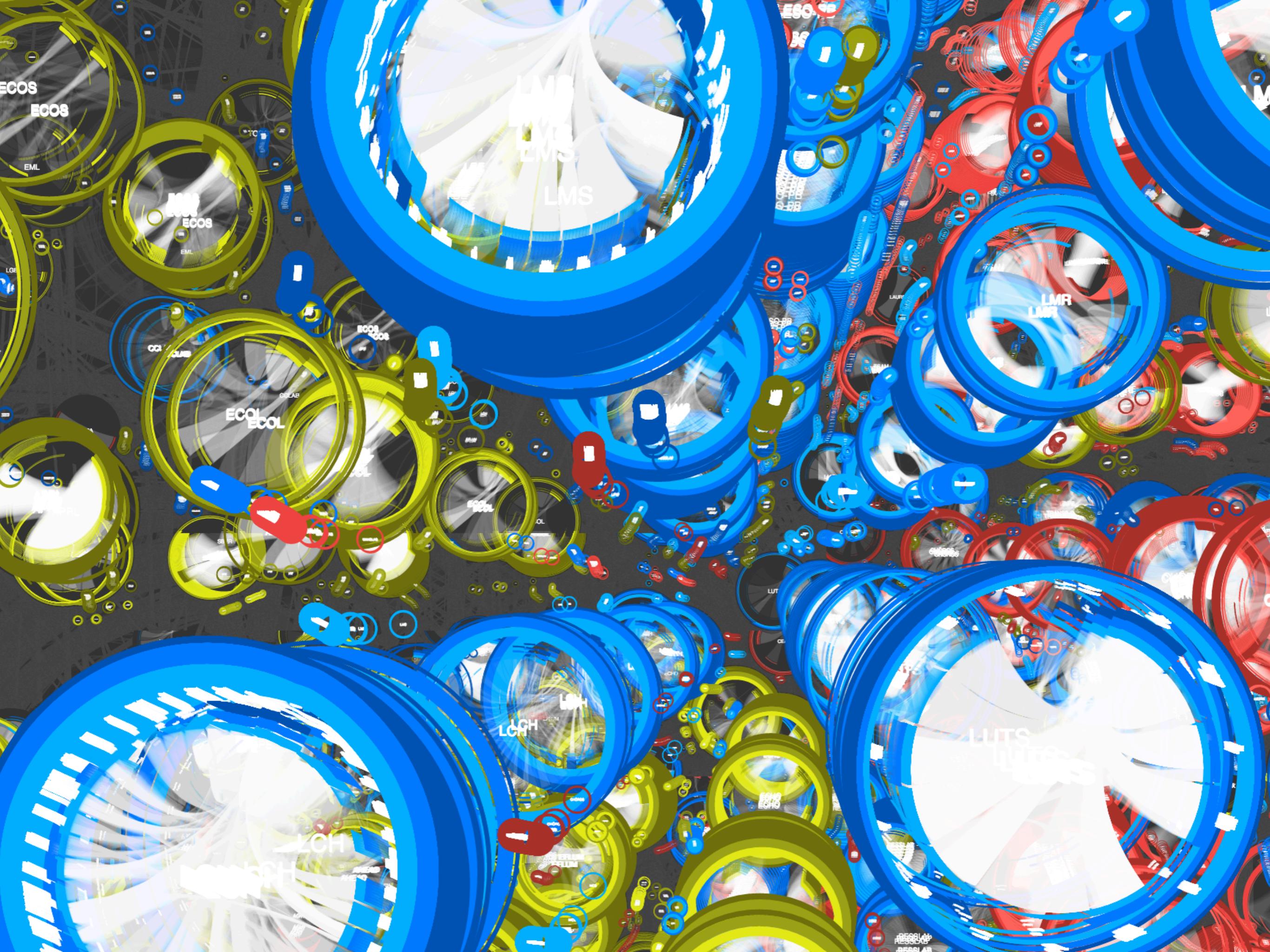
Assembling individuals changes such a threshold

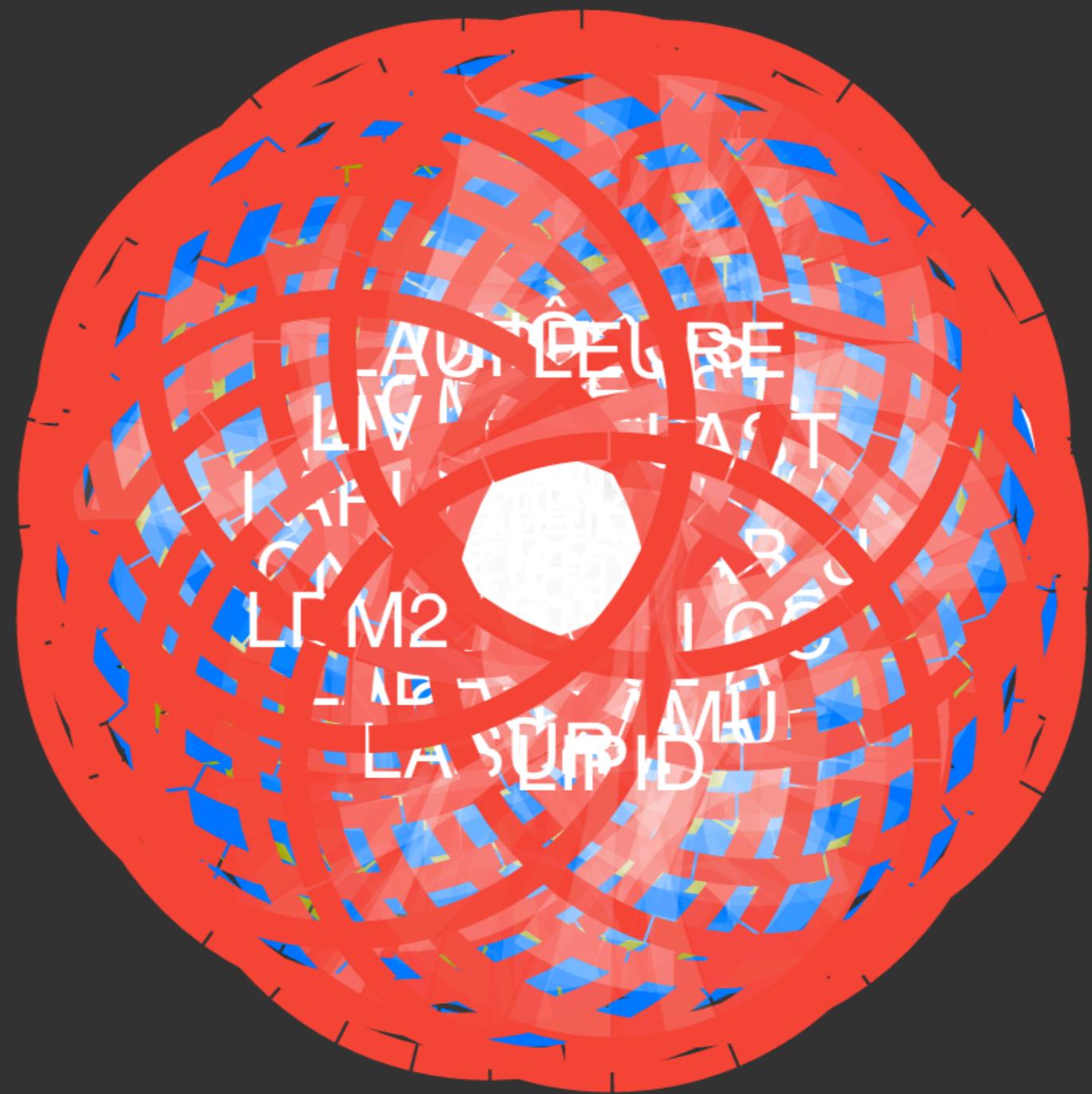
# Glitches

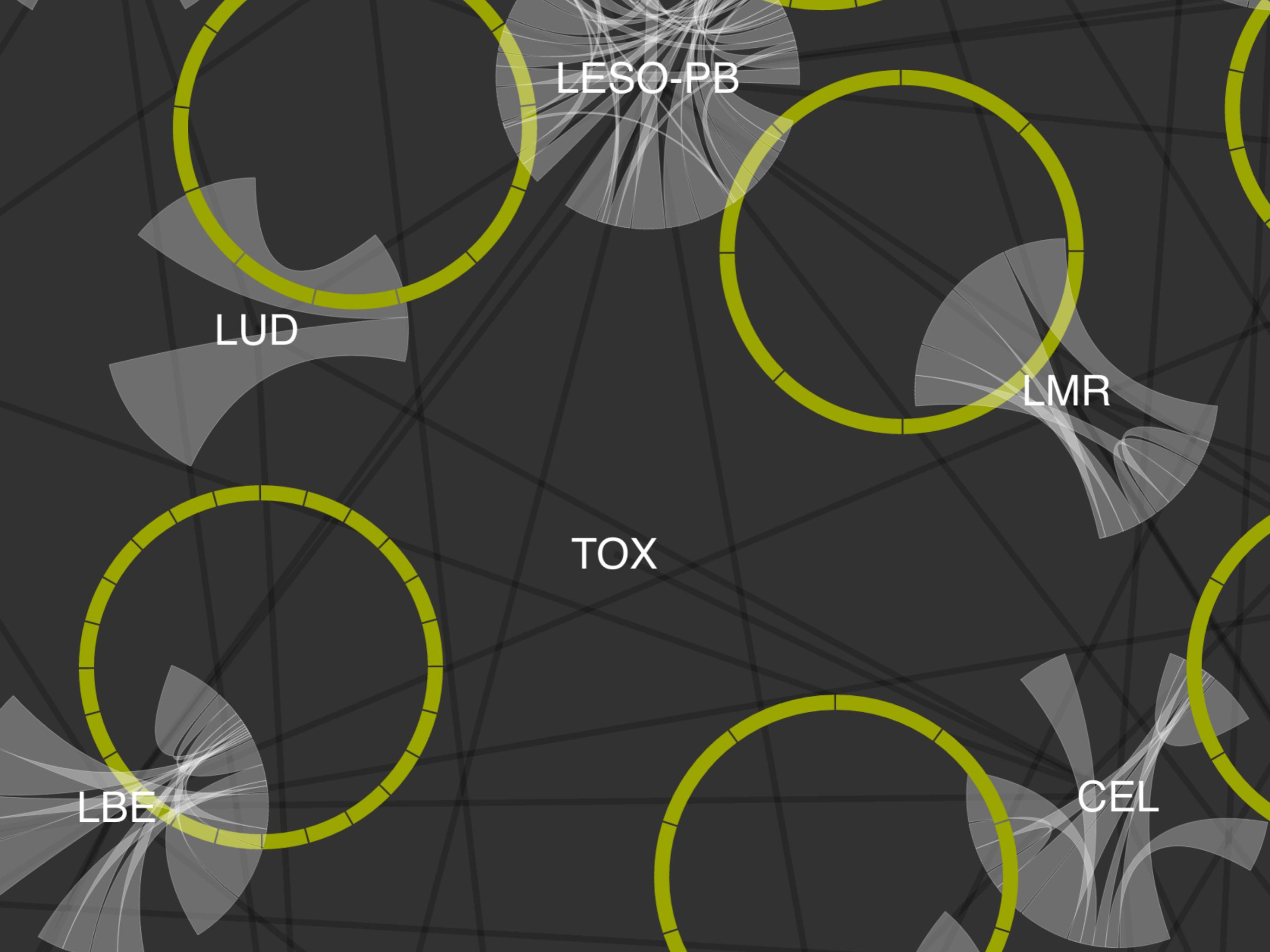
*inconveniences during programming*











LESO-PB

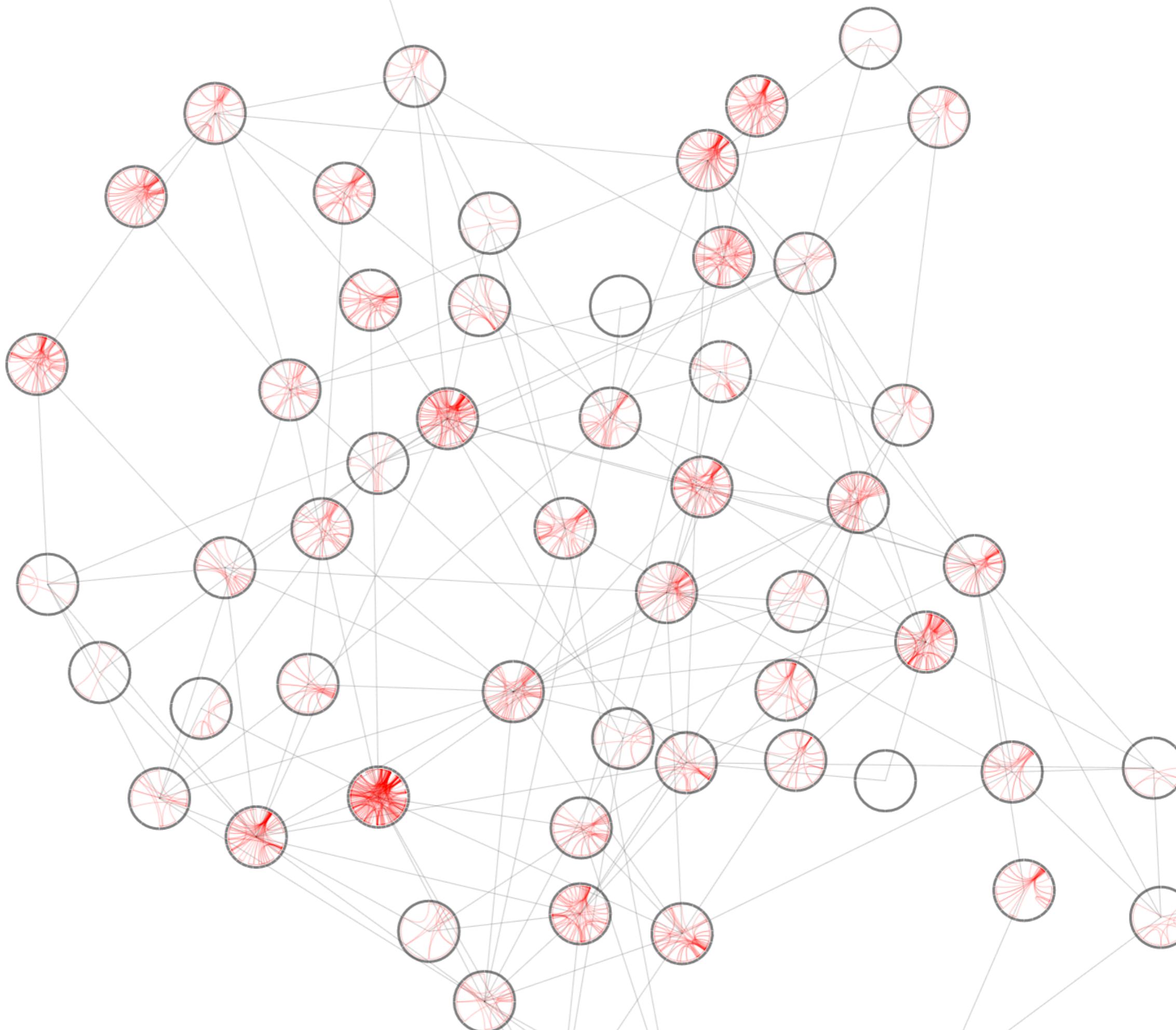
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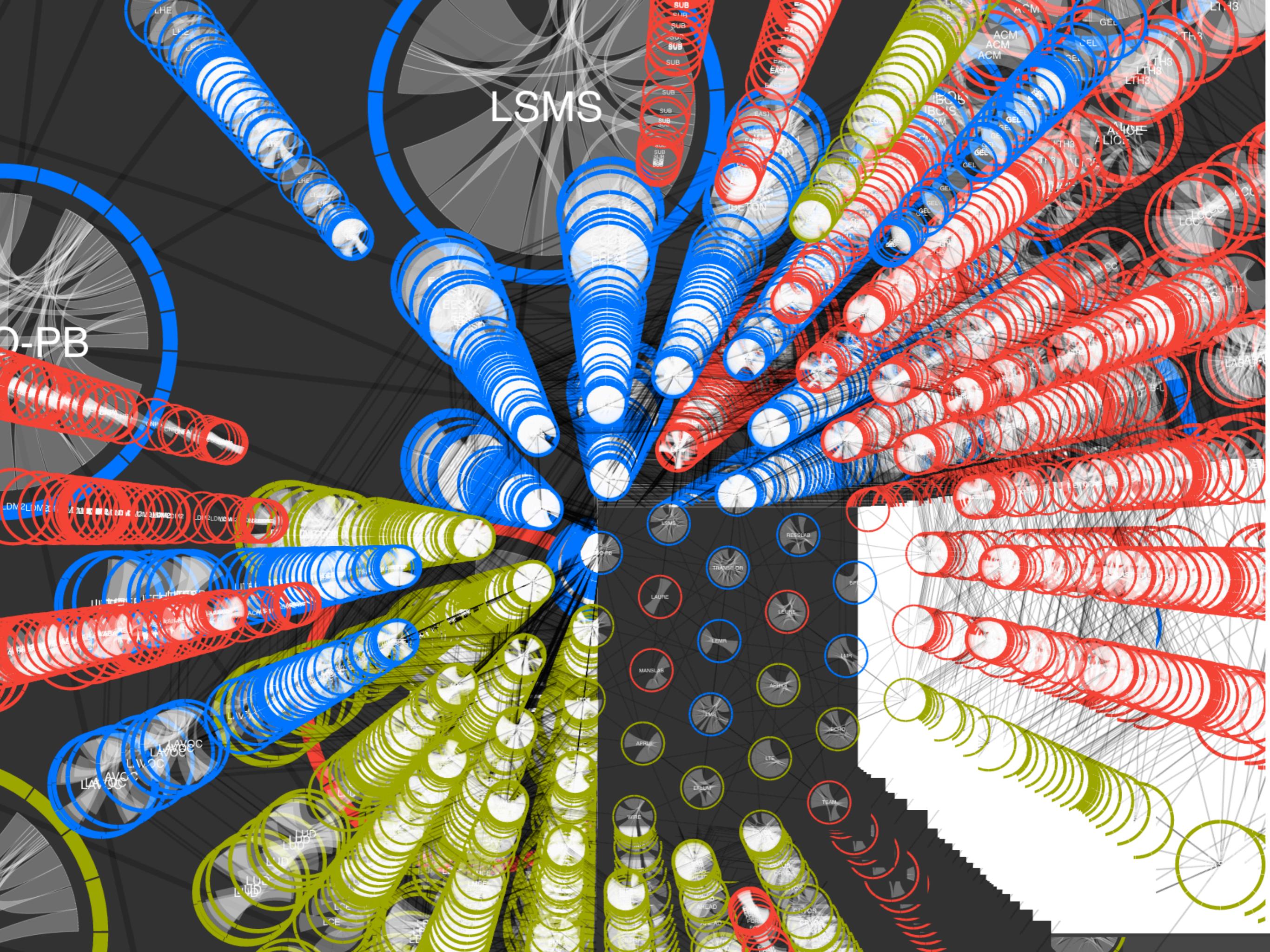
LMR

TOX

LBE

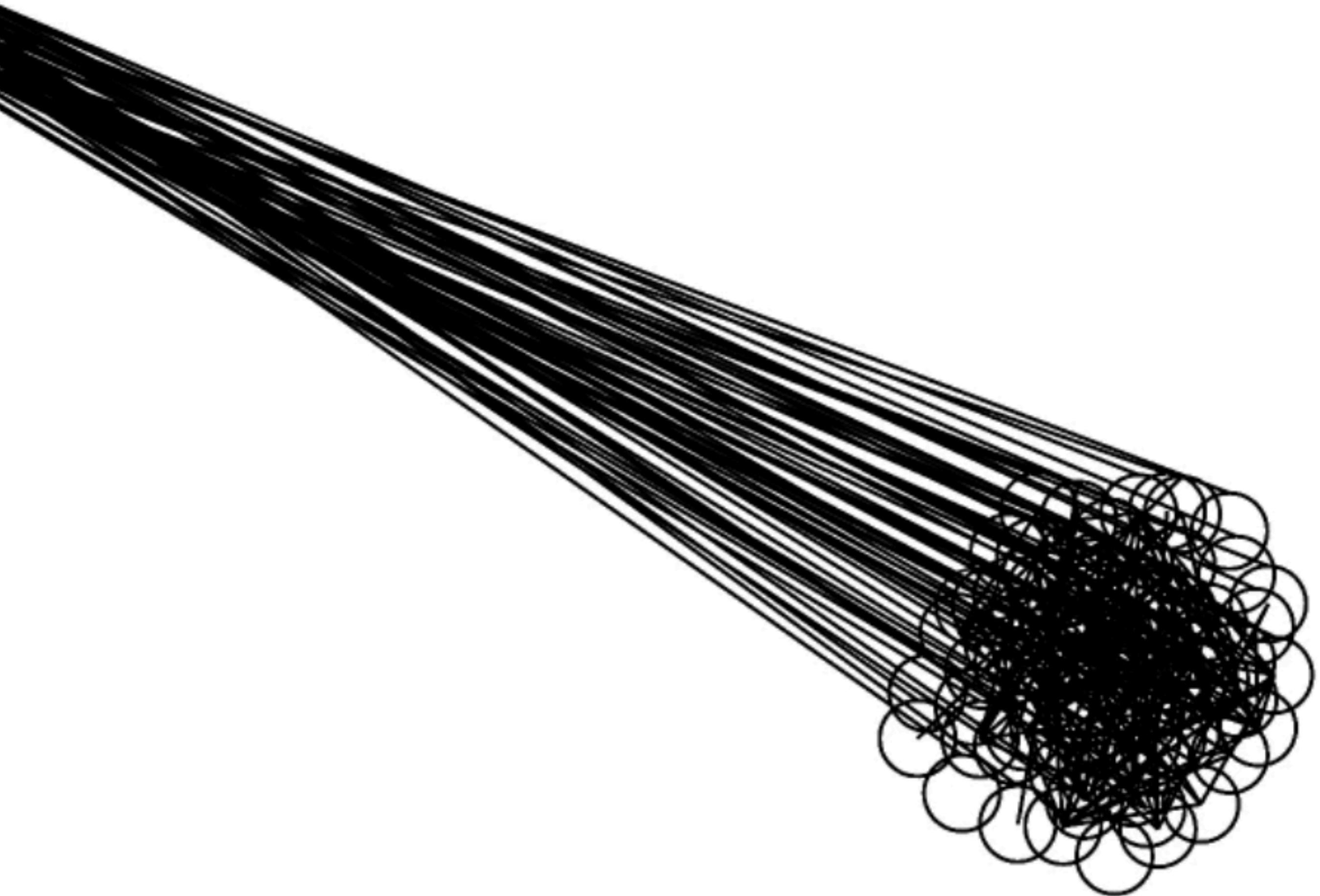
CEL





LSMS

D-PB





Thanks

*<https://dariorodighiero.com>*