

# DATA

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# Data abstraction

Data-viz are depend of the kind of data we have as input.

We need two ingredients to design a good viz:

**Data type** - its structural or mathematical interpretation

**Data semantics** - its real-world meaning

# Data semantics

## Metadata

1	Bob	M	Blue
2	Alice	S	Red

ID	Name	Shirt Size	Favorite color
1	Bob	M	Blue
2	Alice	S	Red



# Data types

Structural or mathematical interpretation of data

Different from data types in programming

→ **Data Types**

→ Items    → Attributes    → Links    → Positions    → Grids

# Items & attributes

Item: individual entity, collections of attributes.

# Attributes can be measured, observed and logged.

ID	Name	Shirt Size	Favorite color
1	Bob	M	Blue
2	Alice	S	Red

## Item: Person



# Attribute types

- What kind of measurements can we perform with attributes?
- Initiated by S.S Stevens in 1946

## ➔ Attribute Types

### ➔ Categorical

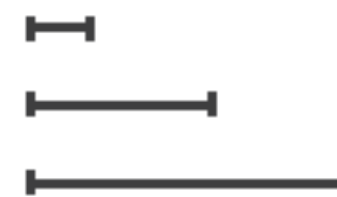


### ➔ Ordered

#### ➔ Ordinal



#### ➔ Quantitative



## SCIENCE

Vol. 103, No. 2684

Friday, June 7, 1946

### On the Theory of Scales of Measurement

S. S. Stevens

*Director, Psycho-Acoustic Laboratory, Harvard University*

FOR SEVEN YEARS A COMMITTEE of the British Association for the Advancement of Science debated the problem of measurement. Appointed in 1932 to represent Section A (Mathematical and Physical Sciences) and Section J (Psy-

by the formal (mathematical) properties of the scales. Furthermore—and this is of great concern to several of the sciences—the statistical manipulations that can legitimately be applied to empirical data depend upon the type of scale against which the data are ordered.

# Categorical (Nominal) type

- Could be simply called labels
- No quantitative value
- List of choices in survey
- Classes in machine learning

What is your favorite music genre?

- ☐ Alternative Music
- ☐ Blues
- ☐ Classical Music
- ☐ Country Music
- ☐ Dance Music
- ☐ Easy Listening
- ☐ Electronic Music
- ☐ European Music (Folk / Pop)
- ☐ Hip Hop / Rap
- ☐ Indie Pop
- ☐ Inspirational (incl. Gospel)
- ☐ Asian Pop (J-Pop, K-pop)
- ☐ Jazz
- ☐ Latin Music
- ☐ New Age
- ☐ Opera
- ☐ Pop (Popular music)
- ☐ R&B / Soul
- ☐ Reggae
- ☐ Rock
- ☐ Singer / Songwriter (inc. Folk)
- ☐ World Music / Beats



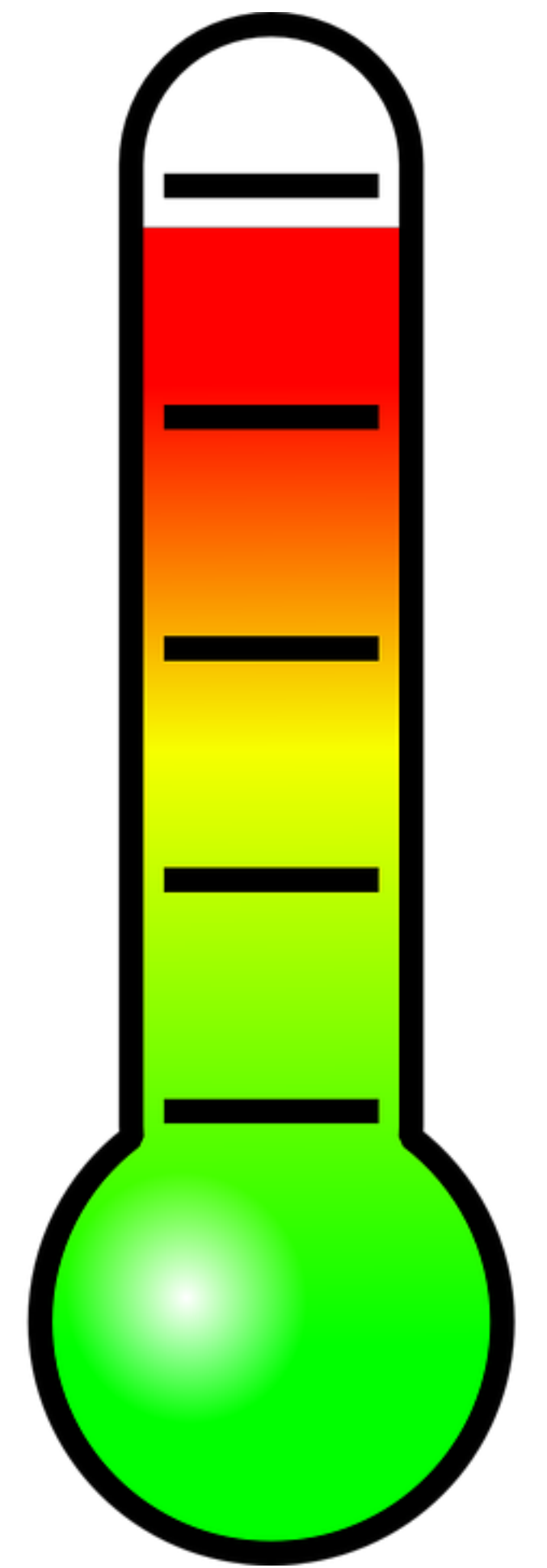
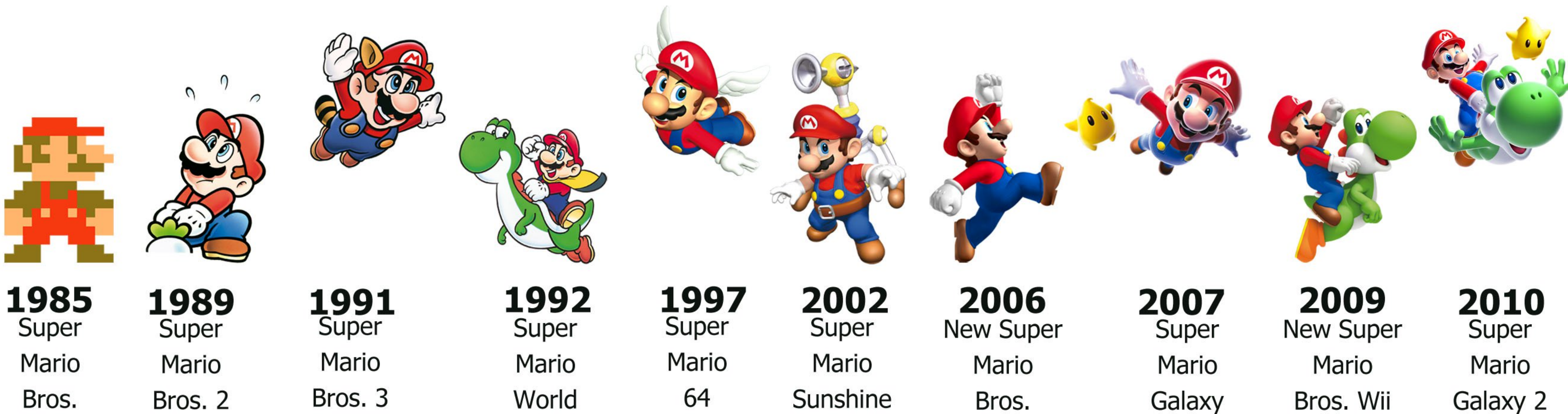
# Ordered: Ordinal type

- The order is important  $<$ ,  $>$
- Difference between elements is not really known but we can rank them
- Ordinal scales are typically measures of non-numeric concepts like satisfaction, happiness, discomfort, etc.

	Very comfortable	comfortable	no feeling	not comfortable
Level of comfortableness..	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

# Quantitative: Interval

- Variables are classified into ordered categories
- Direct measure of comparison between values
- Problem: no true zero



[IGN]



# Quantitative: Ratio

- All characteristics of nominal, ordinal and interval variables
- Meaningful zero point
- add, subtract, divide and multiply two ratios
- Most useful type of variable for statistics
- Example: Height or weight

Provides:	Nominal	Ordinal	Interval	Ratio
The “order” of values is known		✓	✓	✓
“Counts,” aka “Frequency of Distribution”	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mode	✓	✓	✓	✓
Median		✓	✓	✓
Mean			✓	✓
Can quantify the difference between each value			✓	✓
Can add or subtract values			✓	✓
Can multiple and divide values				✓
Has “true zero”				✓



A	B	C	S	T	U
Order ID	Order Date	Order Priority	Product Container	Product Base Margin	Ship Date
3	10/14/06	5-Low	Large Box	0.8	10/21/06
6	2/21/08	4-Not Specified	Small Pack	0.55	2/22/08
32	7/16/07	2-High	Small Pack	0.79	7/17/07
32	7/16/07	2-High	Jumbo Box	0.72	7/17/07
32	7/16/07	2-High	Medium Box	0.6	7/18/07
32	7/16/07	2-High	Medium Box	0.65	7/18/07
35	10/23/07	4-Not Specified	Wrap Bag	0.52	10/24/07
35	10/23/07	4-Not Specified	Small Box	0.58	10/25/07
36	11/3/07	1-Urgent	Small Box	0.55	11/3/07
65	3/18/07	1-Urgent	Small Pack	0.49	3/19/07
66	1/20/05	5-Low	Wrap Bag	0.56	1/20/05
69	6/4/05	4-Not Specified	Small Pack	0.44	6/6/05
69	6/4/05	4-Not Specified		0.6	6/6/05
70	12/18/06	5-Low		0.59	12/23/06
70	12/18/06	5-Low		0.82	12/23/06
96	4/17/05	2-High		0.55	4/19/05
97	1/29/06	3-Medium		0.38	1/30/06
129	11/19/08	5-Low		0.37	11/28/08
130	5/8/08	2-High	Small Box	0.37	5/9/08
130	5/8/08	2-High	Medium Box	0.38	5/10/08
130	5/8/08	2-High	Small Box	0.6	5/11/08
132	6/11/06	3-Medium	Medium Box	0.6	6/12/06
132	6/11/06	3-Medium	Jumbo Box	0.69	6/14/06
134	5/1/08	4-Not Specified	Large Box	0.82	5/3/08
135	10/21/07	4-Not Specified	Small Pack	0.64	10/23/07
166	9/12/07	2-High	Small Box	0.55	9/14/07
193	8/8/06	1-Urgent	Medium Box	0.57	8/10/06
194	4/5/08	3-Medium	Wrap Bag	0.42	4/7/08

quantitative  
ordinal  
categorical



# Other data types

## Links

Express relationship between two items: friendship on Facebook, followers on Twitter

## Positions

Location in 2D or 3D for spatial data: geolocalization of best restaurants

## Grids

Sampling strategy for continuous data: voxels in MRI scan, sensors in a city

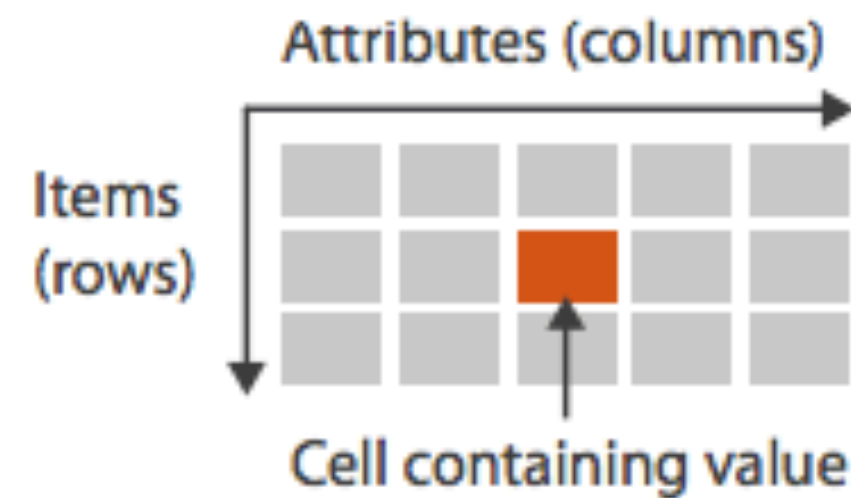
### ➔ Data Types

➔ Items   ➔ Attributes   ➔ Links   ➔ Positions   ➔ Grids

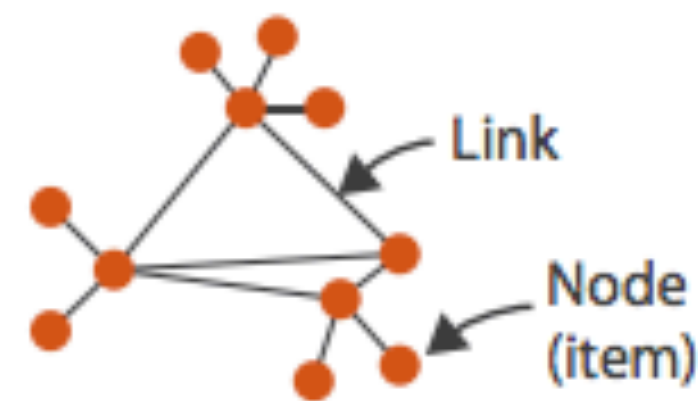
# Dataset types

## ➔ Dataset Types

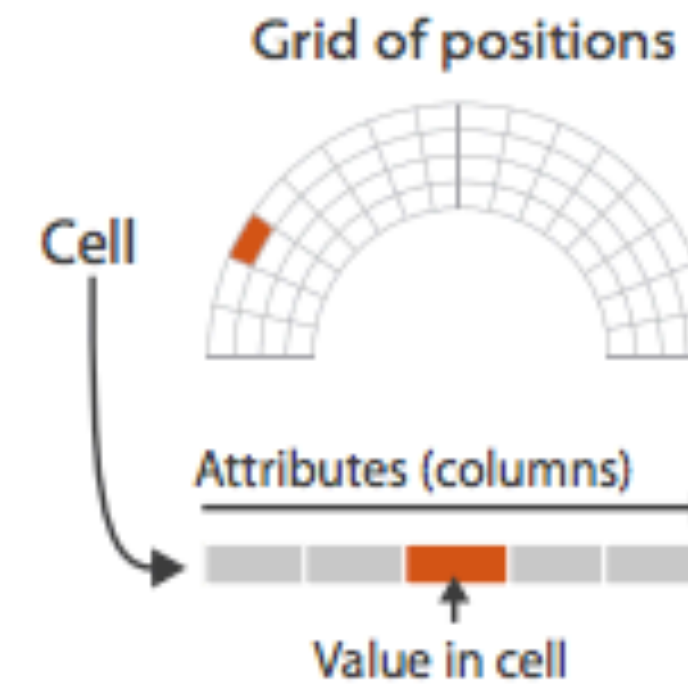
### ➔ Tables



### ➔ Networks



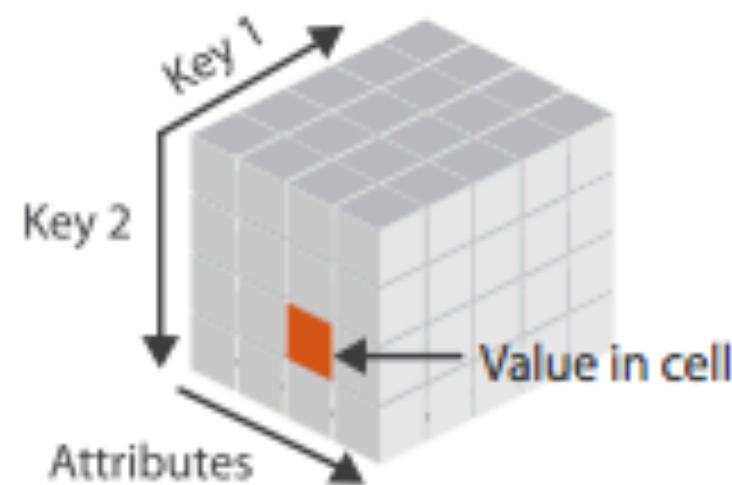
### ➔ Fields (Continuous)



### ➔ Geometry (Spatial)



### ➔ Multidimensional Table



### ➔ Trees



## ➔ Data and Dataset Types

Tables

Items

Attributes

Networks &  
Trees

Items (nodes)

Links

Attributes

Fields

Grids

Positions

Attributes

Geometry

Items

Positions

Clusters,  
Sets, Lists

Items

# Tables

## Flat Table

one item per row

attributes are stored in columns

Mental image of Relational database  
(e.g. MySQL)

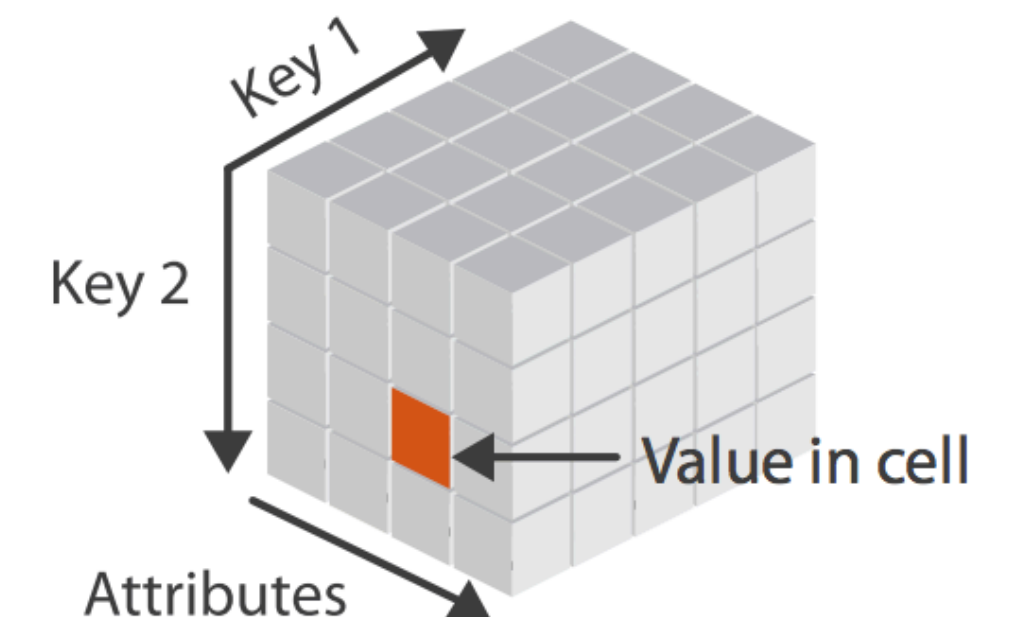
ID	Name	Shirt Size	Favorite color
1	Bob	M	Blue
2	Alice	S	Red

**unique key**

→ *Multidimensional Table*

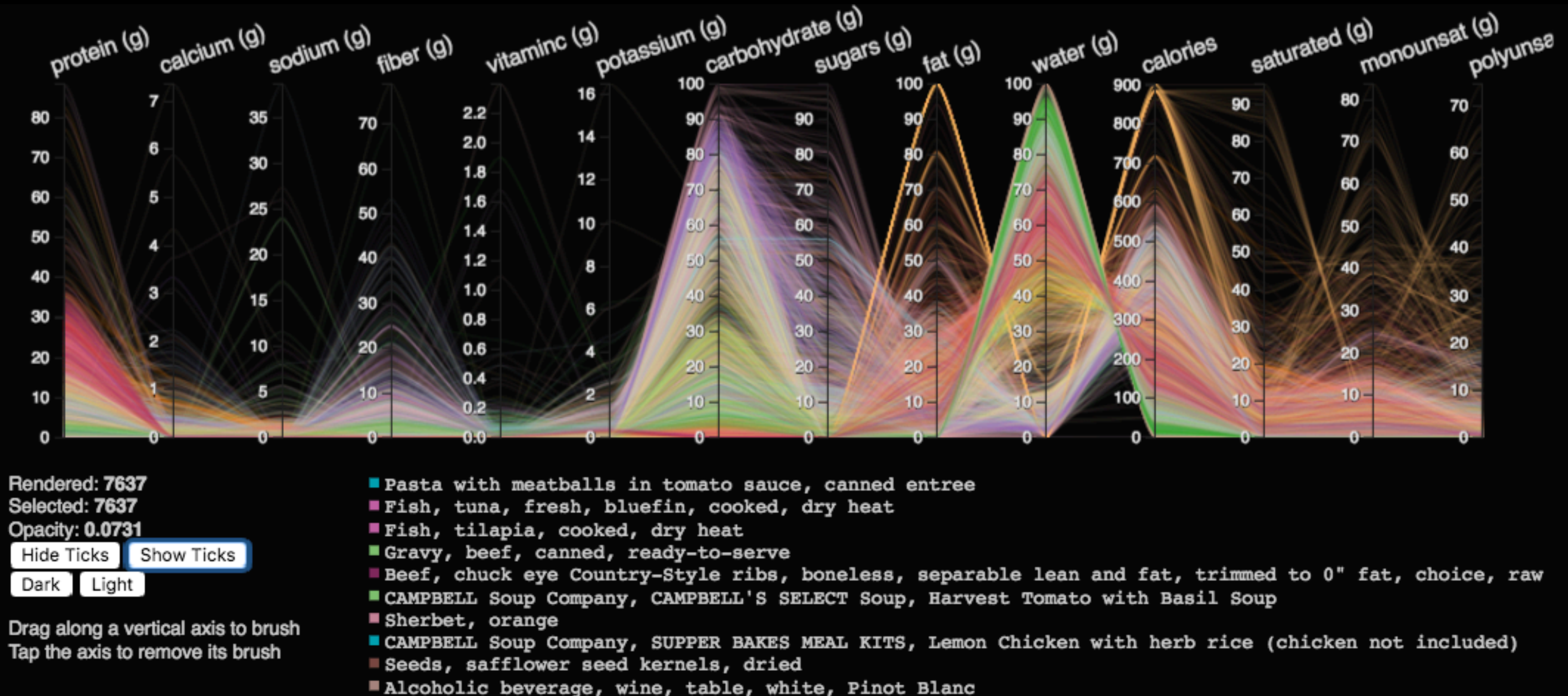
## Multidimensional table

indexing on multiple keys





# Example: Parallel Coordinates





# Networks / Trees

A graph  $G(V,E,W)$  consists of:

a set of **vertices**  $V$  (nodes)

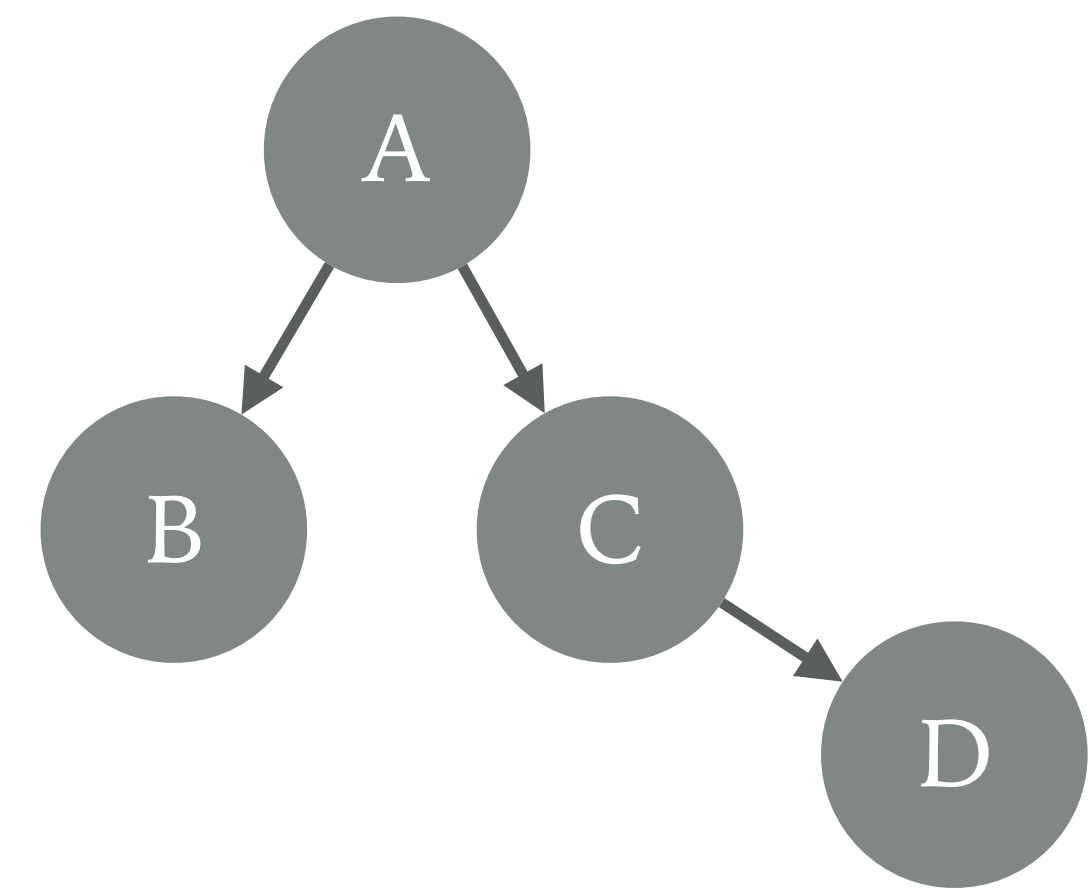
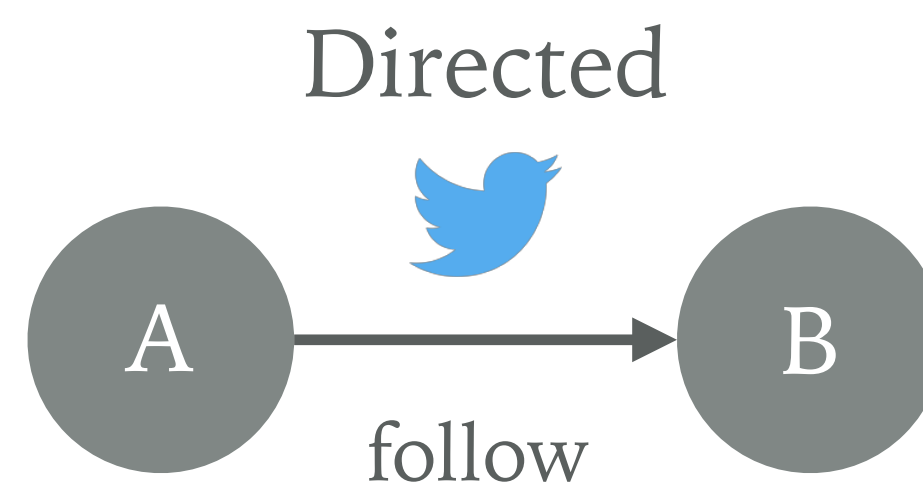
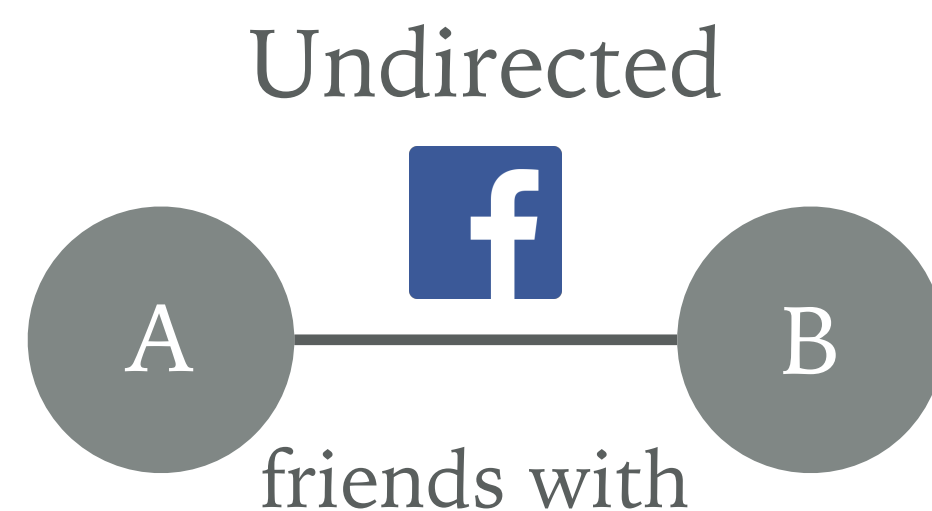
a set of **edges**  $E$  (links)

a set of weights  $W$  associated to the links

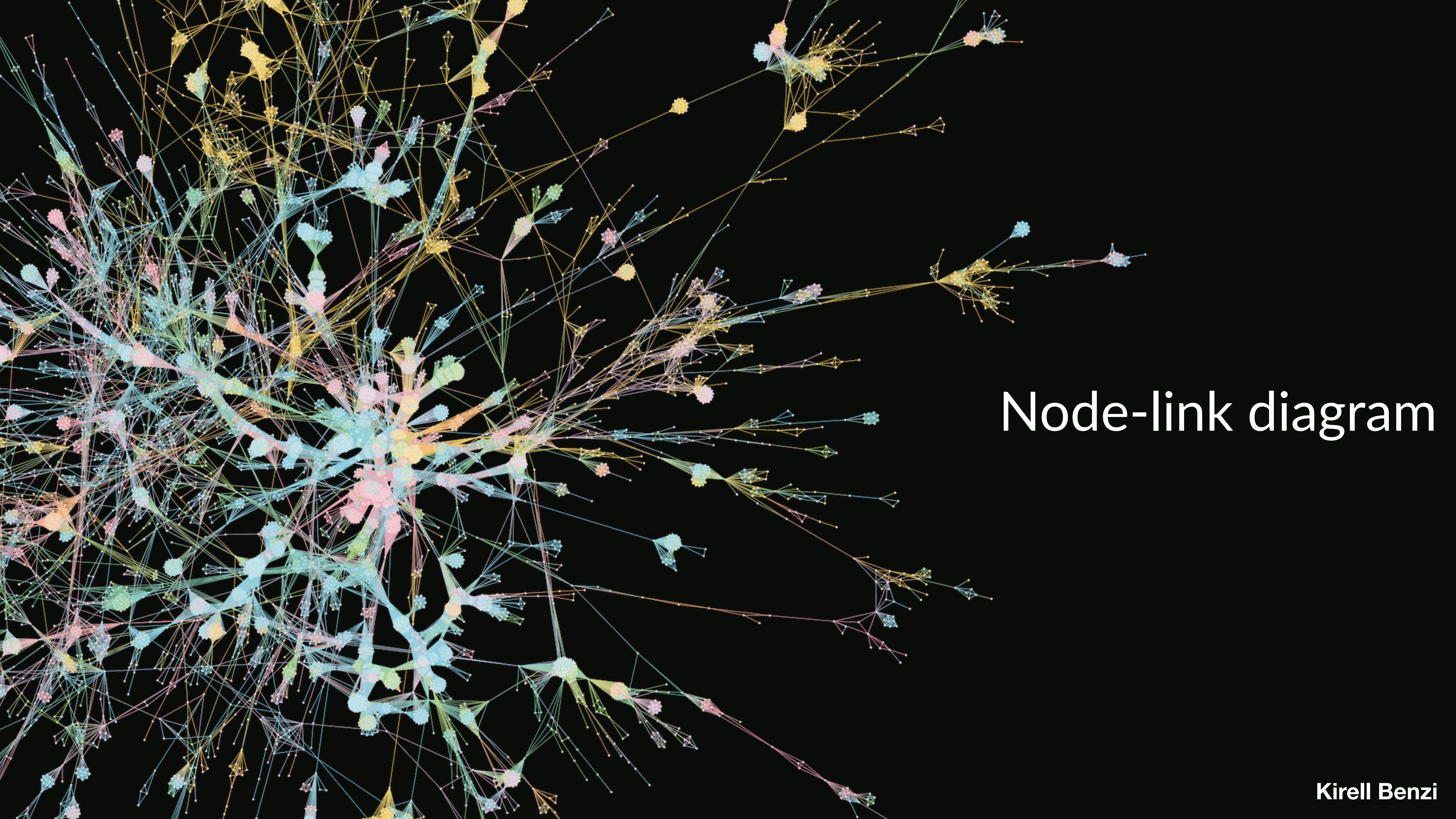
Networks with hierarchical structure are called trees

Each child node has only one parent node.

No cycles



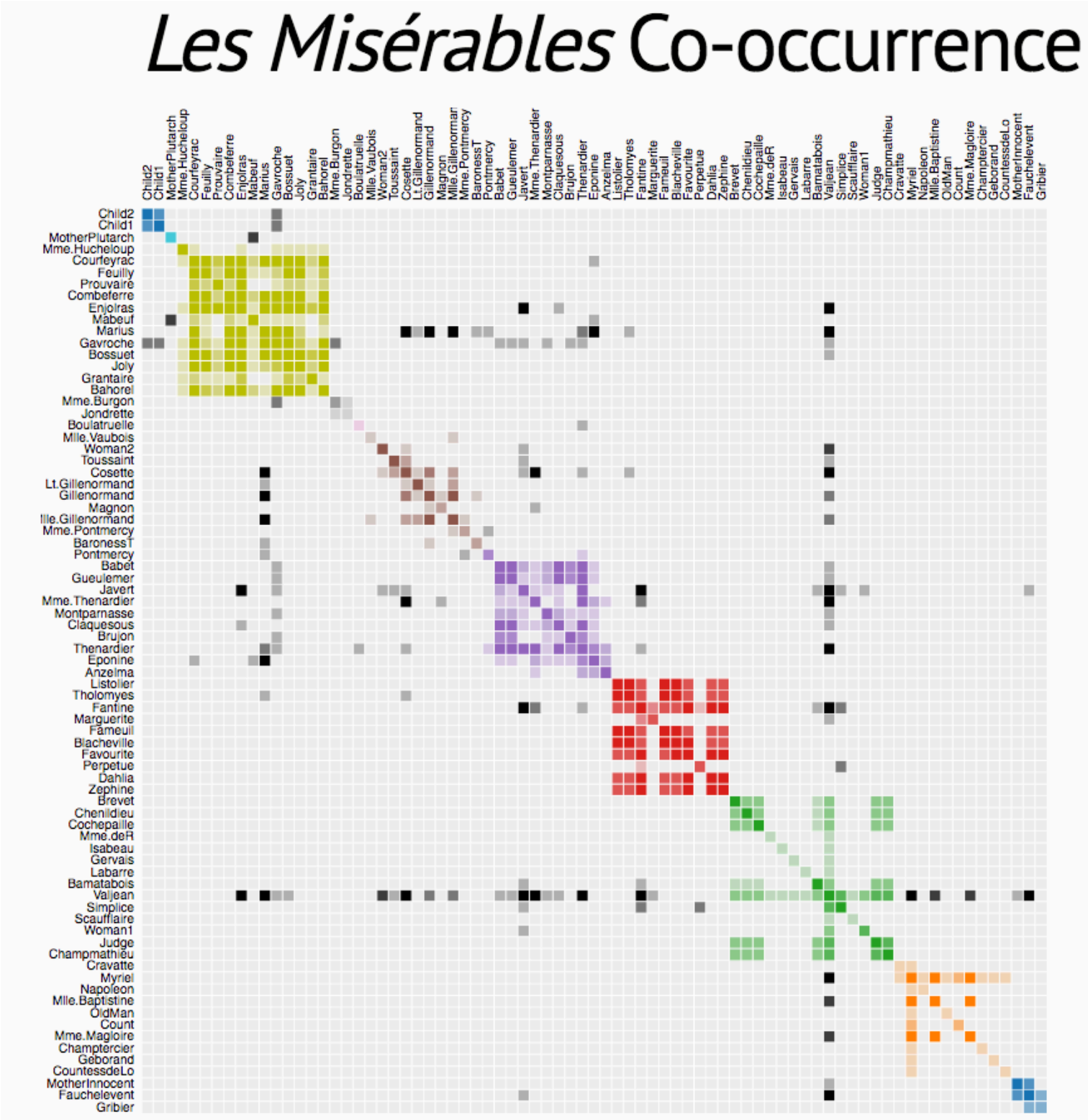




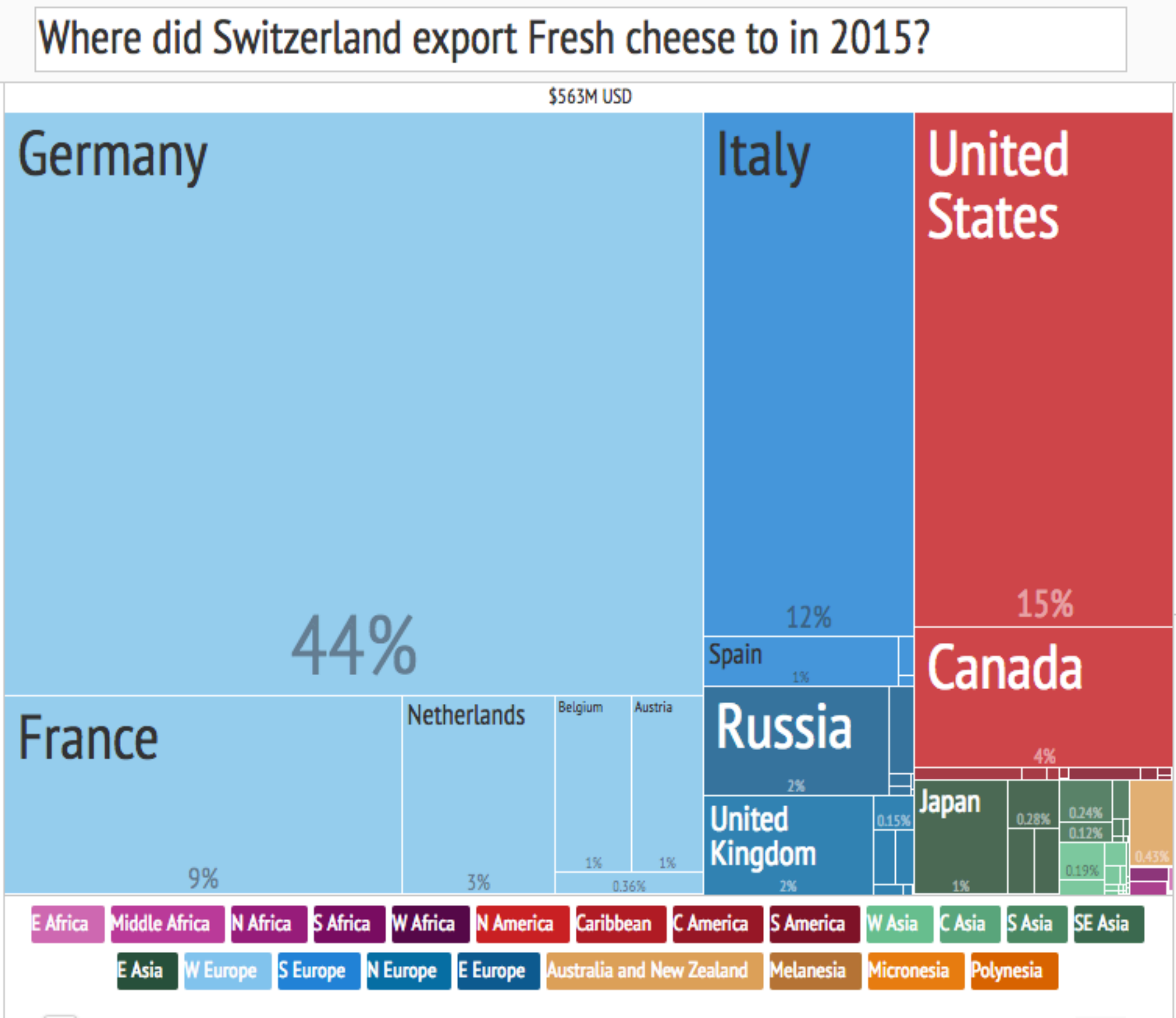
Node-link diagram



# Other graph viz



Adjacency matrix



Treemap

# Discrete vs continuous

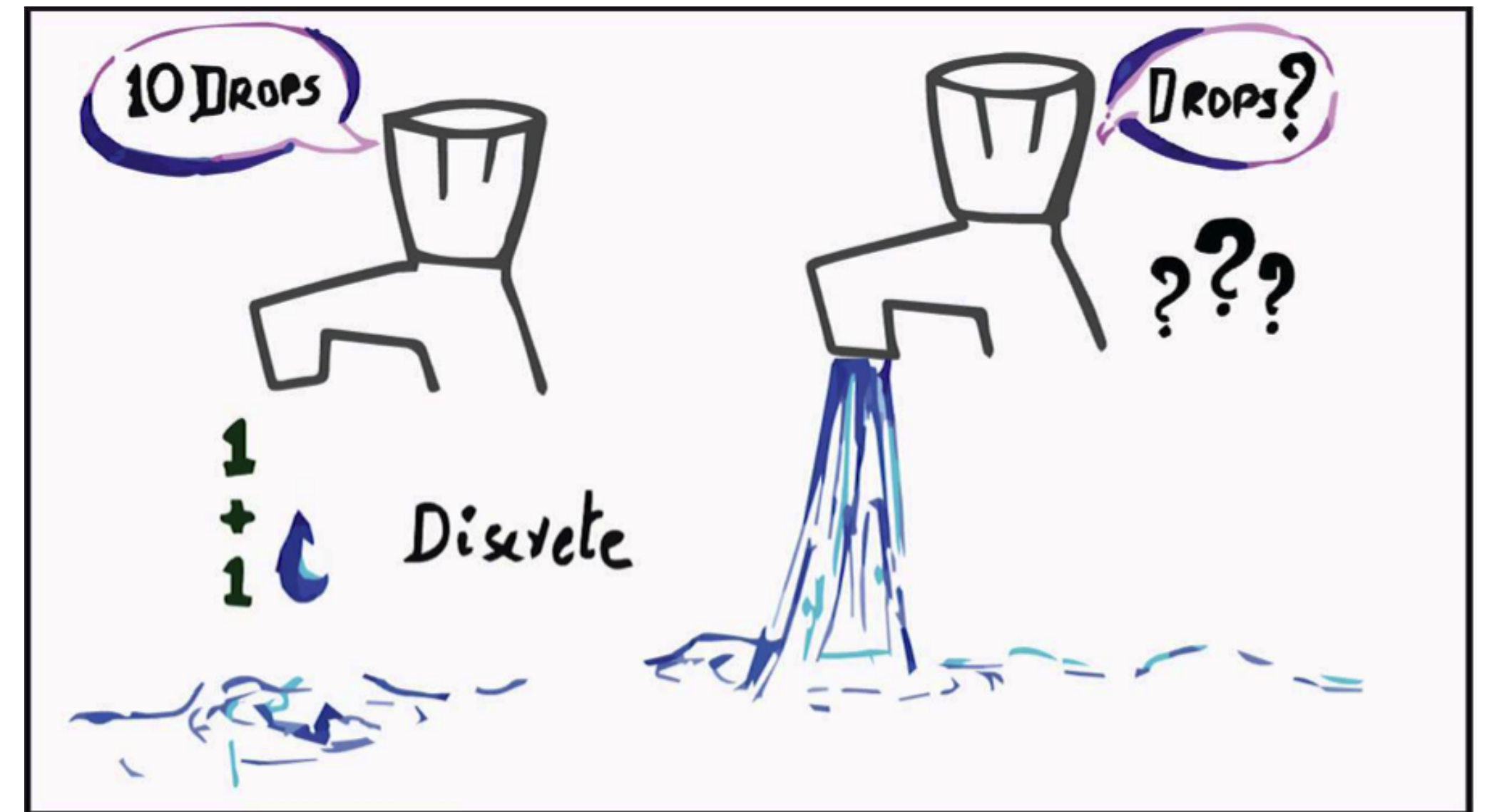
In mathematics, a variable may be **continuous** or **discrete**.

Continuous variable can take on infinitely uncountable values

Discrete variable has a finite set of possible values

**Sampling** - how frequently do you take the measurements?

**Interpolation** - how to show values in between sampled points?



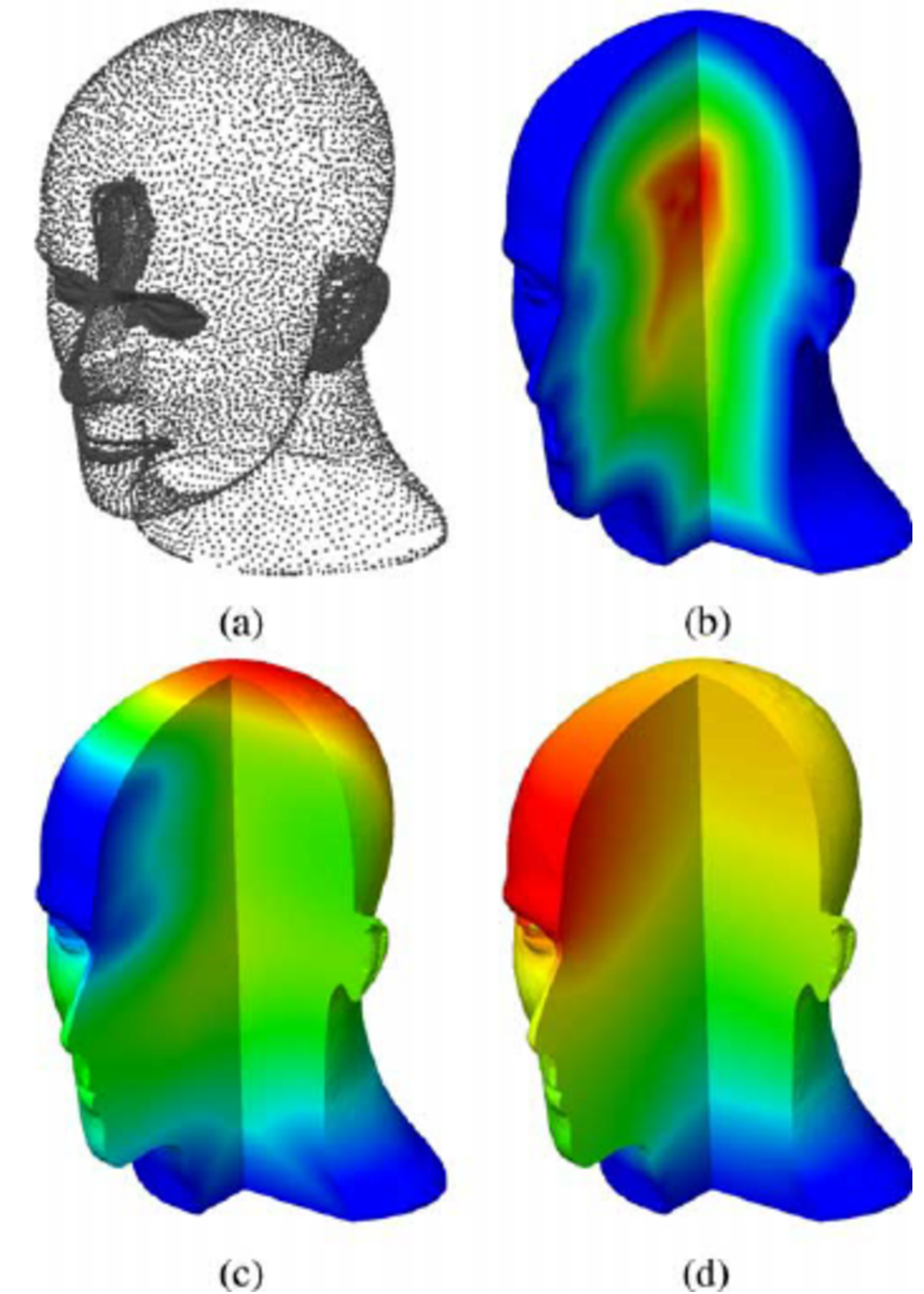
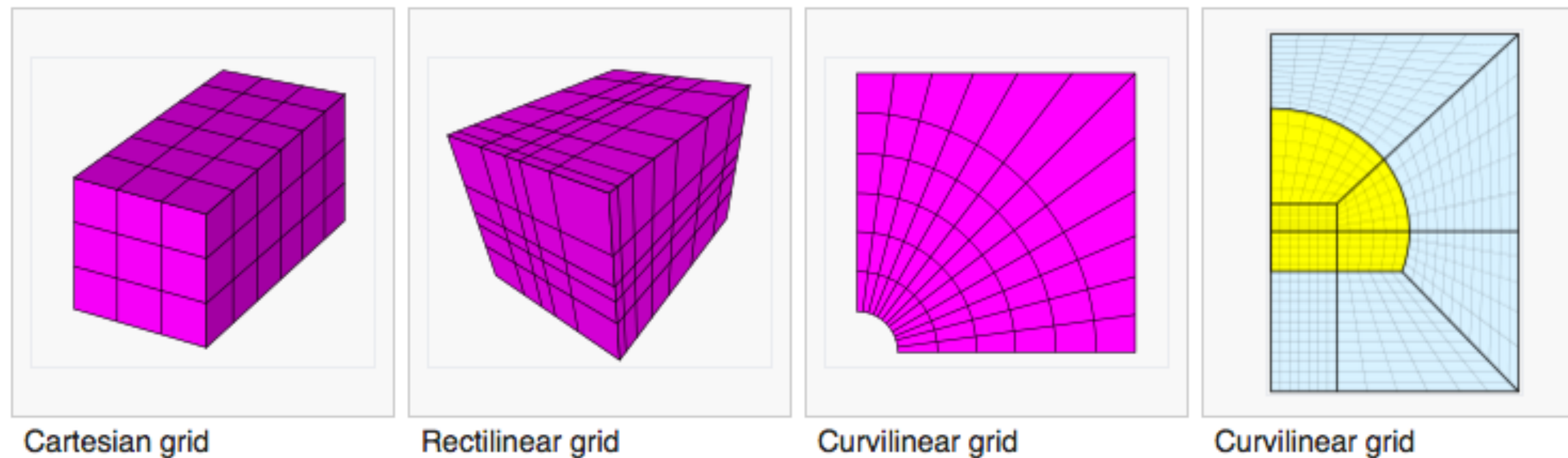


# Fields and grid types

Data is sampled and interpolated from continuous domain into cells (tessellation)

Examples: temperature, pressure, voxels (3D pixels)

Measured or simulated



[Freytag 2006]

[Wikipedia]

# Spatial datasets

Explicit spatial positions

Fixed shapes

Cannot choose to where to draw  
points, lines, curves, regions, etc.

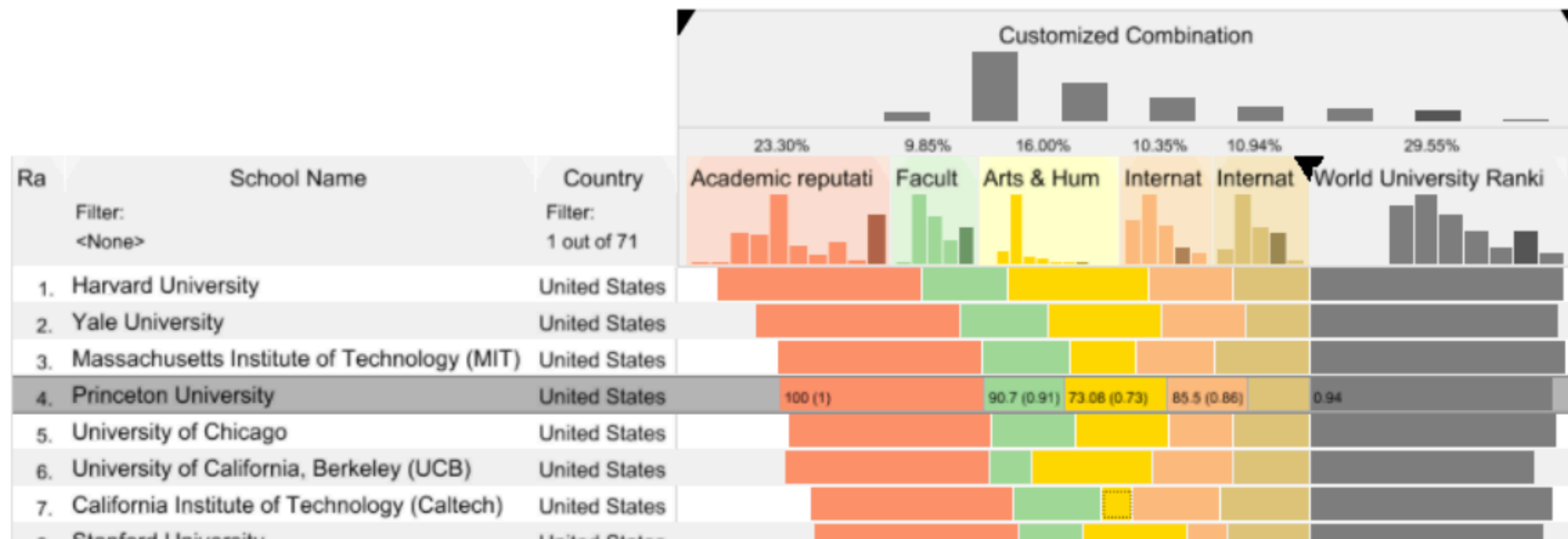
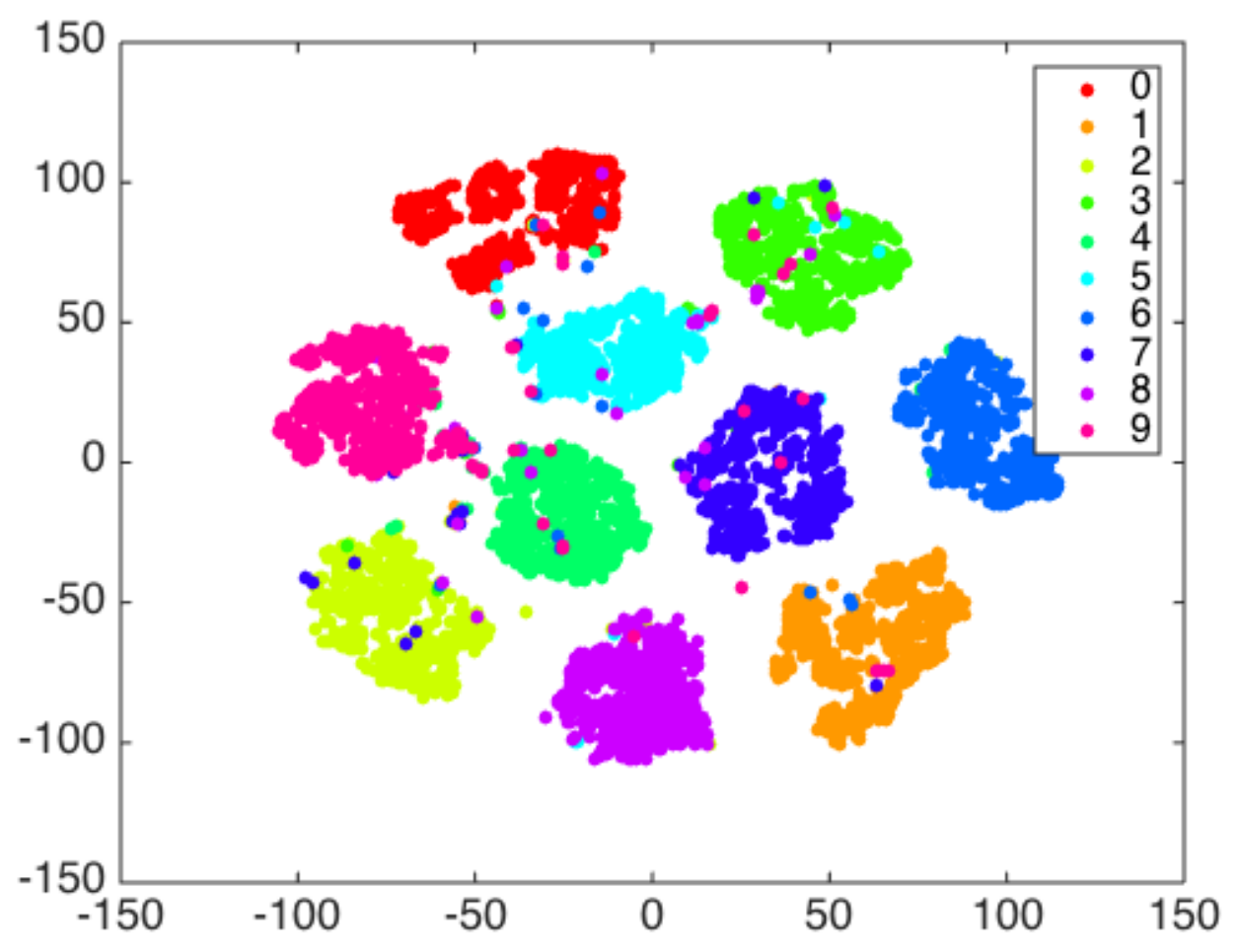
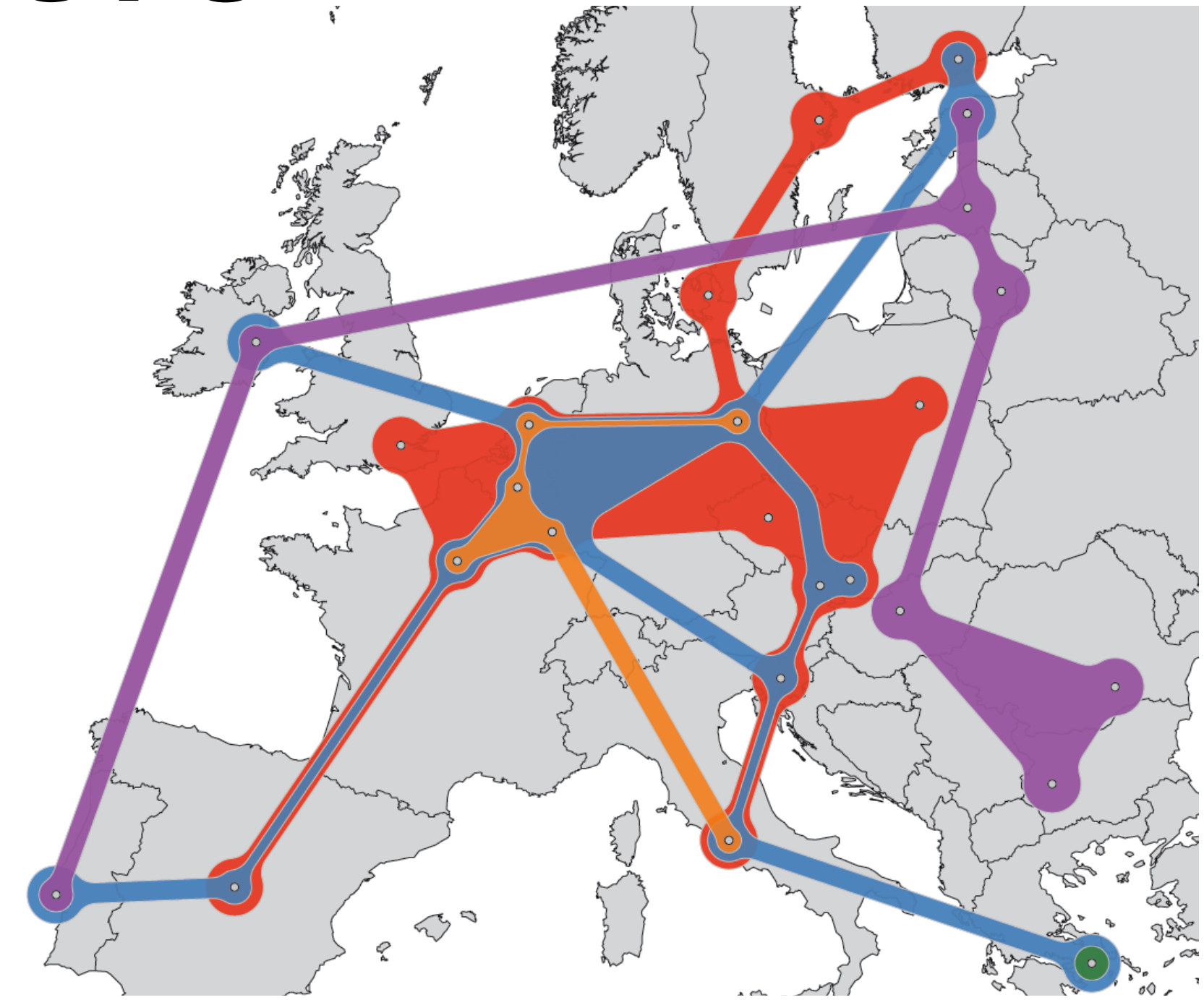
Not a data viz topic





# Sets, Lists, Clusters

- Set: unique items unordered
- List: ordered with possible duplicates
- Cluster: group of similar items





# What about unstructured data?

No predefined data model

Mixed media: rich-text with images, videos

We have to transform into structured data:

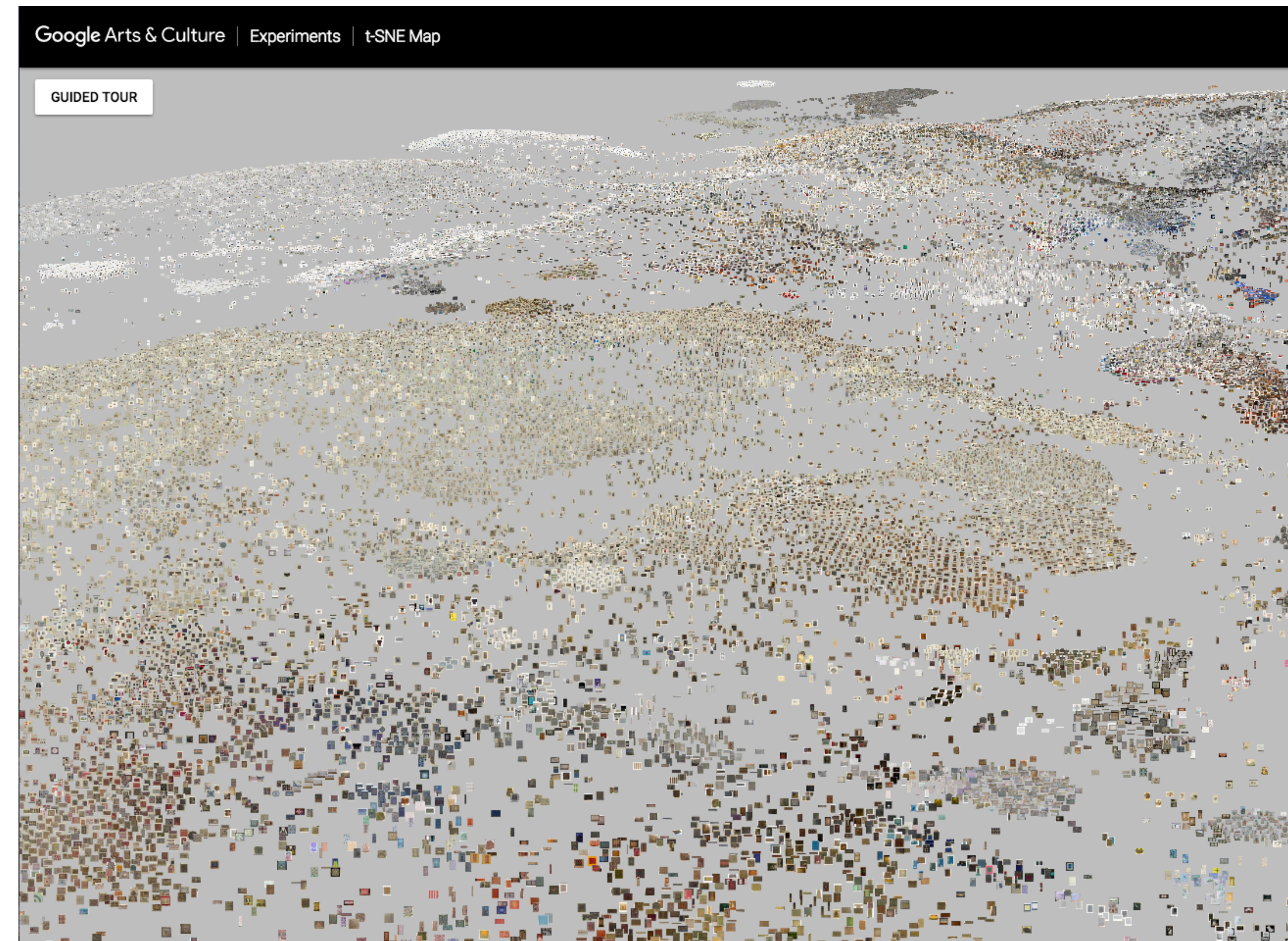
Natural Language Processing

Text mining (keywords, ontologies, categories)

Features extraction

**LUKE**  
How did my father die?

**BEN**  
A young Jedi named Darth Vader, who was a pupil of mine until he turned to evil, helped the Empire hunt down and destroy the Jedi Knights. He betrayed and murdered your father. Now the Jedi are all but extinct. Vader was seduced by the dark side of the Force.





# Data acquisition

Datasets curated by others

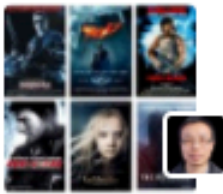




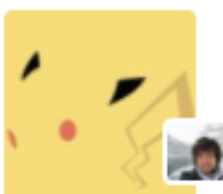
Third-party services: APIs

Web scraping





# Public datasets

809 featured datasets		Sort by	Most Votes
Featured	All	<input type="text" value="Search"/>	
651		<b>IMDB 5000 Movie Dataset</b> 5000+ movie data scraped from IMDB website chuansun76 · updated a year ago · film, film	41,289 downloads 78 comments
584		<b>European Soccer Database</b> 25k+ matches, players & teams attributes for European Professional Football Hugo Mathien · updated 10 months ago · association football, europe	30,592 downloads 94 comments
574		<b>Credit Card Fraud Detection</b> Anonymized credit card transactions labeled as fraudulent or genuine Andrea · updated 9 months ago · crime, finance	29,665 downloads 63 comments
495		<b>Human Resources Analytics</b> Why are our best and most experienced employees leaving prematurely? ludoben · updated 8 months ago · employment	27,970 downloads 88 comments
367		<b>Iris Species</b> Classify iris plants into three species in this classic dataset UCI Machine Learning · updated 10 months ago · botany	15,367 downloads 89 comments
265		<b>Pokemon with stats</b> 721 Pokemon with stats and types Alberto Barradas · updated a year ago · popular culture, games and toys, video games	10,841 downloads 37 comments

## Awesome Public Datasets



This list of [public data sources](#) are collected and tidied from blogs, answers, and user responses. Most of the data sets listed below are free, however, some are not. Other amazingly awesome lists can be found in the [awesome-awesomeness](#) and [sindresorhus's awesome](#) list.

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# Third-party services: APIs

Search for a developer section or API on the service you want

Register for free or paid to access the service with an API key

Look for a client library in your favorite programming language

Download data

**Read the legal terms on what you can and cannot do with the data**

## Get an Artist's Top Tracks

Get Spotify catalog information about an artist's top tracks by country.

### Endpoint

```
GET https://api.spotify.com/v1/artists/{id}/top-tracks
```

### Request Parameters

HEADER FIELD	VALUE
Authorization	<i>Required.</i> A valid access token from the Spotify Accounts service: see the <a href="#">Web API Authorization Guide</a> for details.
PATH ELEMENT	VALUE
id	The <a href="#">Spotify ID</a> for the artist.
QUERY PARAMETER	VALUE
country	<i>Required.</i> The country: an <a href="#">ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 country code</a> .

# Web scraping

If an information is visible on a browser, it can be downloaded

Extracting information from the DOM is painful and should be considered only on last resort

Depend on the layout, change can happen without notice

Use a library: Scrapy (Python)



**Don't be evil!**



# Data formats

One of the most common data format that we encounter on the web is **JSON**: JavaScript Object Notation (.json)

The other common format for datasets is **CSV**: Comma separated value (.csv)

# CSV example

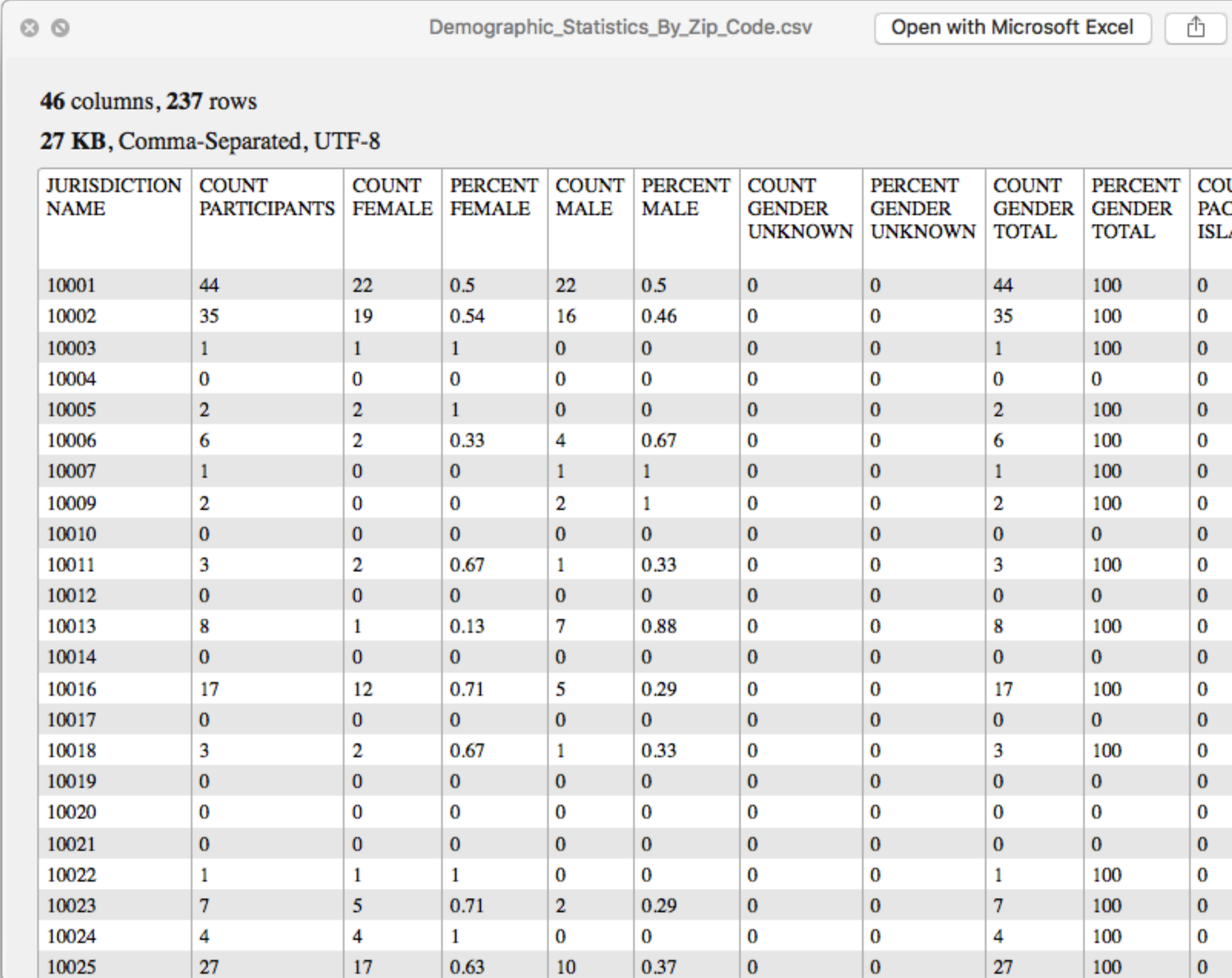
Flat table view with column names

Easy to append data

CSV has no standard encoding

No standard column separator and multiple character escaping standards.

String is the only type supported for cell values



The screenshot shows a window titled "Demographic\_Statistics\_By\_Zip\_Code.csv" with a button to "Open with Microsoft Excel". Below the title bar, it states "46 columns, 237 rows" and "27 KB, Comma-Separated, UTF-8". The table displays demographic data for various jurisdictions, with columns for jurisdiction name, counts, and percentages for participants, females, males, and unknown genders.

JURISDICTION NAME	COUNT PARTICIPANTS	COUNT FEMALE	PERCENT FEMALE	COUNT MALE	PERCENT MALE	COUNT GENDER UNKNOWN	PERCENT GENDER UNKNOWN	COUNT GENDER TOTAL	PERCENT GENDER TOTAL	COU PAC ISLA
10001	44	22	0.5	22	0.5	0	0	44	100	0
10002	35	19	0.54	16	0.46	0	0	35	100	0
10003	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	100	0
10004	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10005	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	100	0
10006	6	2	0.33	4	0.67	0	0	6	100	0
10007	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	100	0
10009	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	100	0
10010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10011	3	2	0.67	1	0.33	0	0	3	100	0
10012	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10013	8	1	0.13	7	0.88	0	0	8	100	0
10014	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10016	17	12	0.71	5	0.29	0	0	17	100	0
10017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10018	3	2	0.67	1	0.33	0	0	3	100	0
10019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10022	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	100	0
10023	7	5	0.71	2	0.29	0	0	7	100	0
10024	4	4	1	0	0	0	0	4	100	0
10025	27	17	0.63	10	0.37	0	0	27	100	0



# JSON example

```
{
  "firstName": "John",
  "lastName": "Smith",
  "isAlive": true,
  "age": 25,
  "address": {
    "streetAddress": "21 2nd Street",
    "city": "New York",
    "state": "NY",
  },
  "phoneNumbers": [
    {
      "type": "home",
      "number": "212 555-1234"
    },
    {
      "type": "office",
      "number": "646 555-4567"
    }
  ],
  "children": [],
  "spouse": null
}
```

Can hold complex data structure with nested fields

Parsing is difficult and should never be done by hand

Cannot append data easily

# JSON Lines

```
{"name": "Gilbert", "wins": [["straight", "7♣"], ["one pair", "10♥"]]}  
{"name": "Alexa", "wins": [["two pair", "4♠"], ["two pair", "9♠"]]}  
{"name": "May", "wins": []}  
{"name": "DeLoise", "wins": [["three of a kind", "5♣"]]}
```

Valid JSON per line

Can hold complex data structure with nested fields

Append data easily

Support streaming



# Tips

Don't aim for the perfect dataset: complete, accurate, up to date. It doesn't exist.

Collecting and cleaning data can take up to 80% of your time.

Backup and version the data you have.

Clean the data, take your time to learn the dataset.

If you don't know about some aspects of the data: ask, don't assume.

