

**NETFLIX**



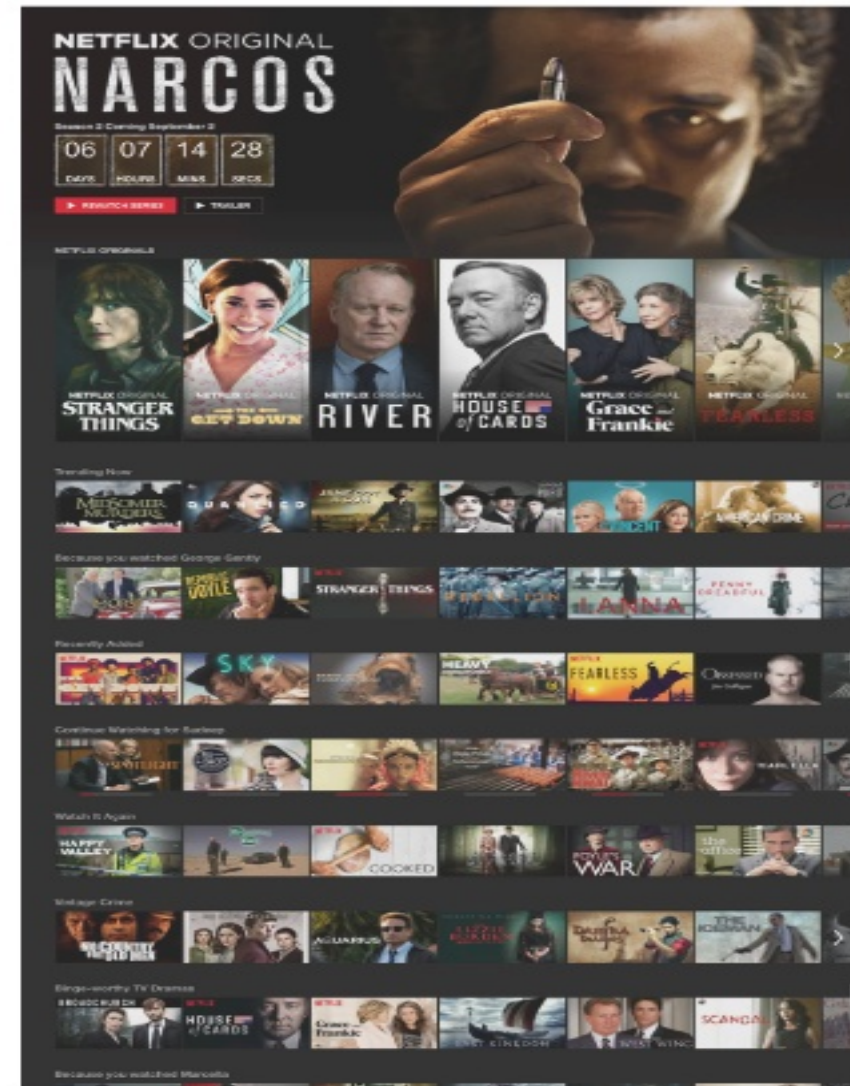
*The missing Matplotlib  
for Scala/Spark*

*@NetflixResearch  
@aishfenton @datamusing*

**NETFLIX**

NETFLIX

AT NETFLIX,  
WE USE ML  
EVERYWHERE



# NETFLIX





A person in a dark suit and light shirt stands on a stage, gesturing with both hands. Behind them is a large screen displaying the text '#netflixeverywhere' in a bold, sans-serif font. The word 'netflix' is red, and the rest is white. The background of the screen is a dark world map composed of small, light-colored squares. The stage is dimly lit, with some red lights visible in the background.

**#netflixeverywhere**

Jan 6th, 2016

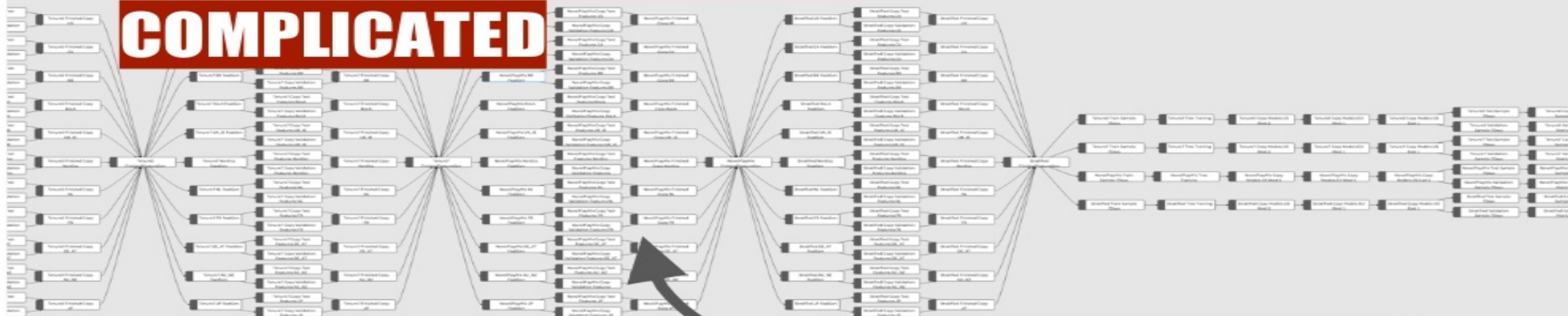
NETFLIX

CONSTANTLY  
INNOVATING

.....



# MACHINE LEARNING SYSTEMS CAN GET QUITE COMPLICATED



*Real life workflow*

**NETFLIX**

**VISUALIZATIONS CAN HELP WITH**  
**GUIDANCE**  
**INTROSPECTION**  
**EVALUATION**  
**DURING THE INNOVATION CYCLE**



# NETFLIX

## STATISTICAL VISUALIZATIONS CAN BE PAINFUL

Consider a researcher at Netflix who who has raw data in a spark dataframe with columns:

`show_id, num_of_views, country, timestamp, video_age`

The researcher wants to make the following plot:

Plot the *five most popular* titles,  
according to total number of views,  
in the *last 5 hours*,  
as bar charts *faceted by country*,  
where the bars are *color coded* by video\_age.

*Sorting*

*Aggregating after filtering  
by timestamp*

*Grouping data by a  
categorical value (Country)*

*Mapping a quantitative  
column to a color*

*One could perform all  
these operations on the  
DF first and then create  
one bar plot per country  
via a loop.*

Painful indeed!

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# DECLARATIVE STATISTICAL VISUALIZATION GRAMMAR

IN SCALA

## VEGAS

You tell it *WHAT* should be done with the data, and it knows *HOW* to do it!

Operations such as *filtering*, *aggregation*, *faceting* are built into the visualization, rather than putting the burden on the user to massage the data into shape.

Complex visualizations can be built with a few high level abstractions:

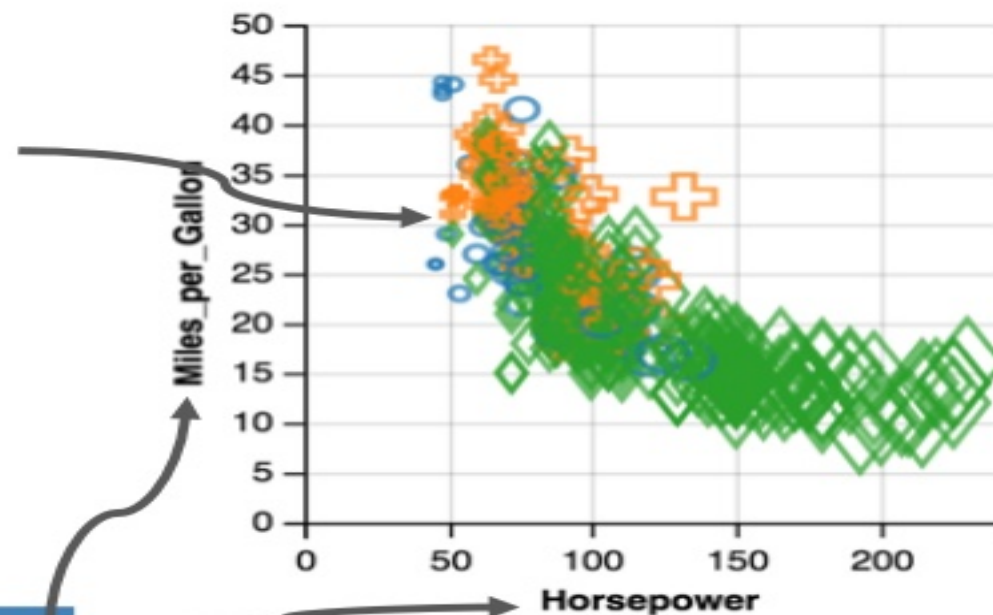


*cf: Altair Talk by Brian Granger in PyData 2016 <https://youtu.be/v5mrwq7yJc4>*

# Anatomy of a plot

Shape  
Channel

X/Y channel



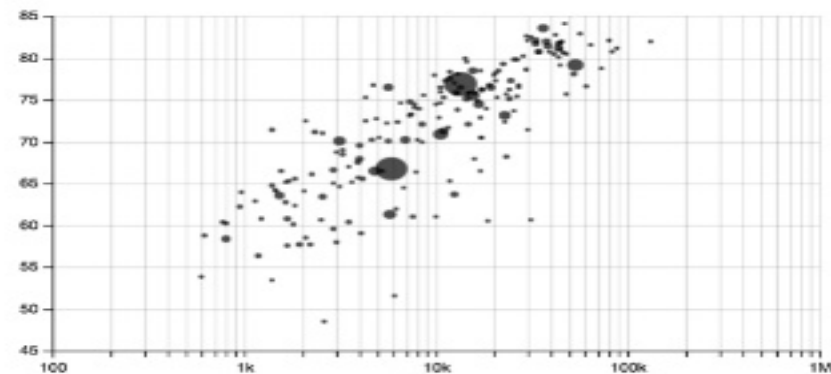
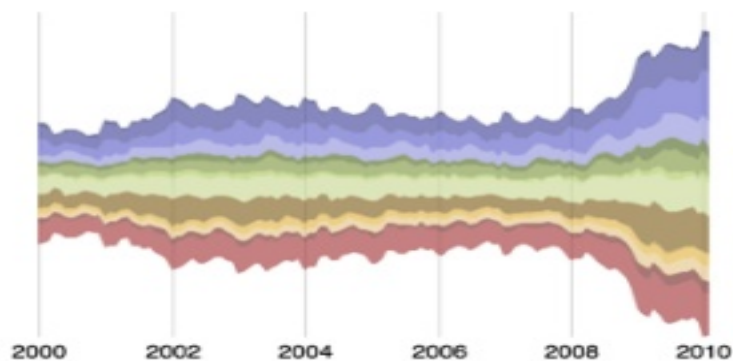
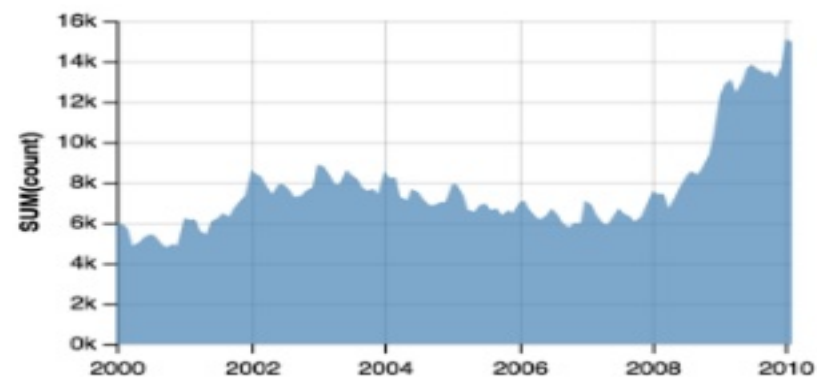
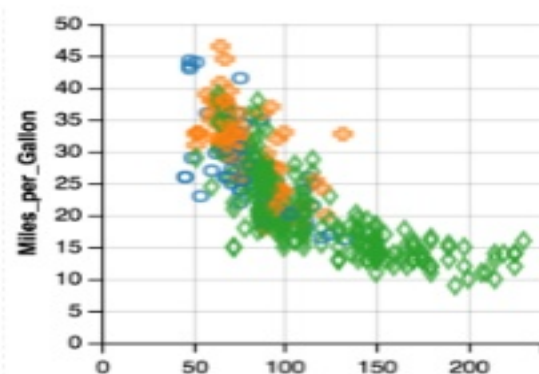
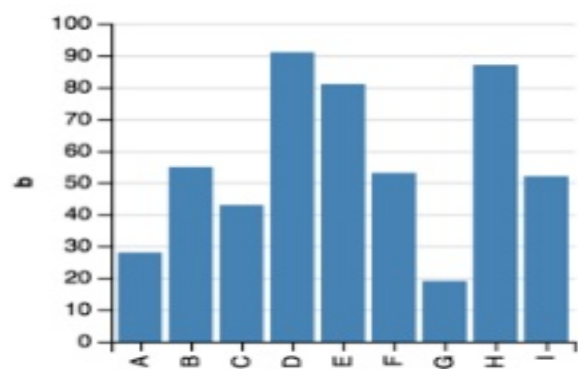
Color  
Channel

Size Channel

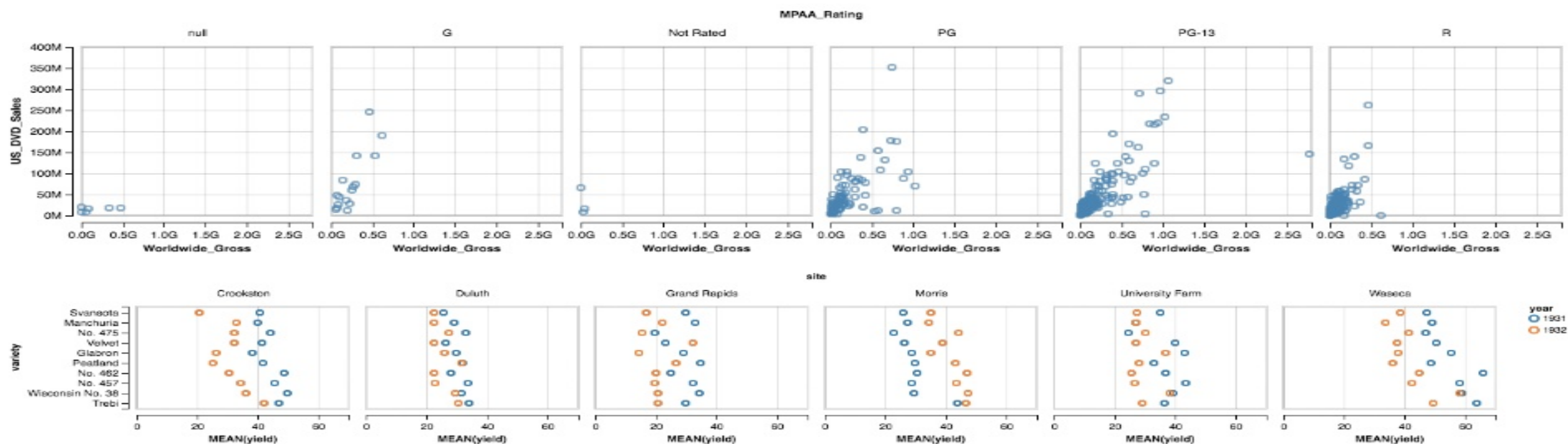
*Features...*



# *1. Supports most plot types*

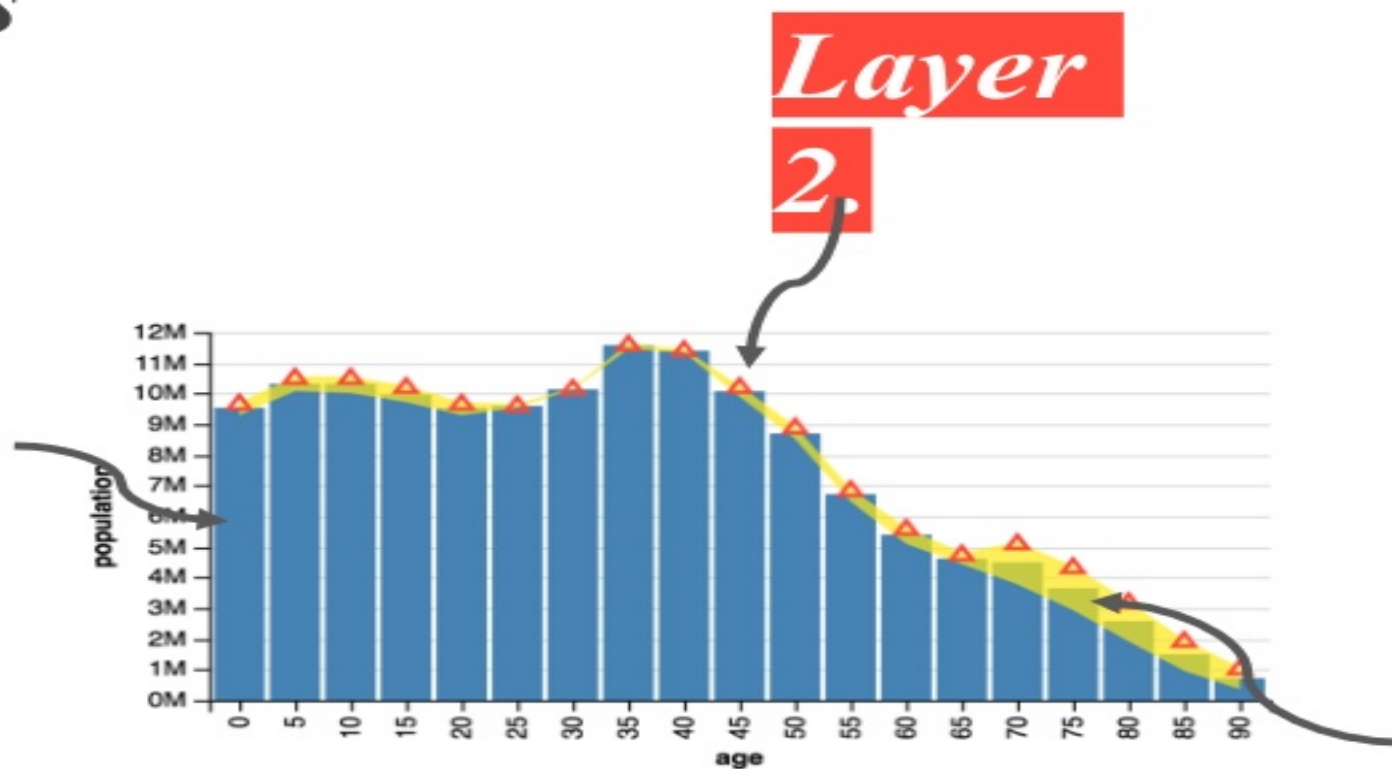


## 2. Trellis plots



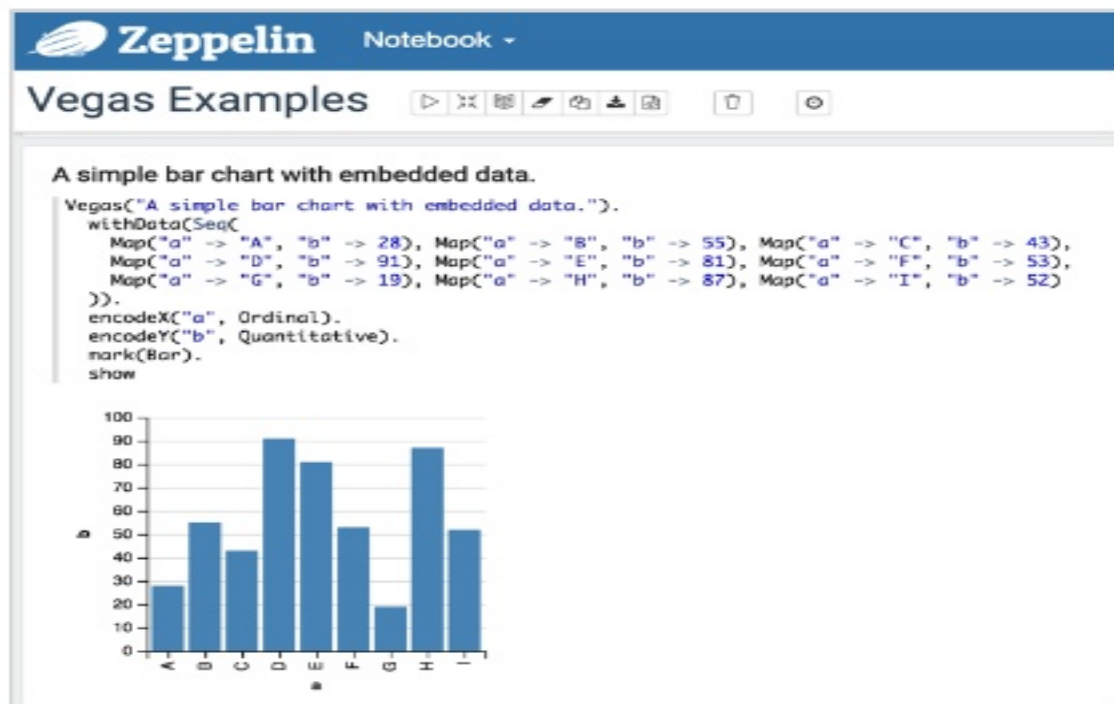
### 3. Layers

*Layer*  
**1.**



*Layer*  
**3.**

## 4. Notebook and Consoles





## 5. Built-in spark support

Vegas

```
.withDataFrame(myDataFrame)  
.encodeX("population")  
.encodeY("age")
```

*Pass In  
DF.*



*Mapped  
Columns*



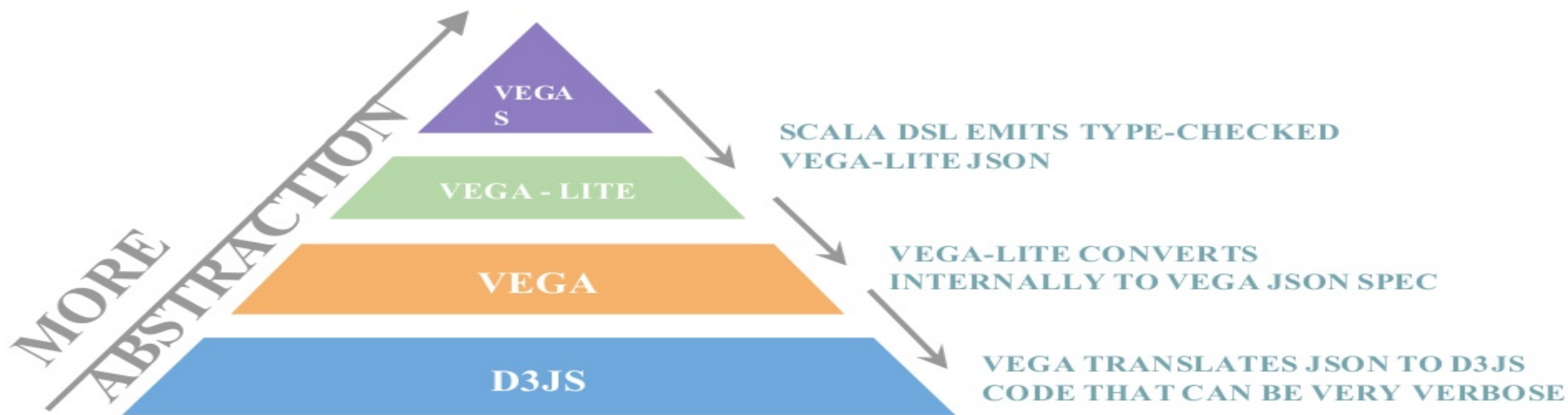
## *6. Visual statistics*

- Advanced Binning
- Sorting
- Scaling
- Custom Transforms
- Time Series
- Aggregation
- Filtering
- Math functions (log, etc)
- Missing data support
- Descriptive Statistics

***How It Works !***

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## *A SCALA DSL FOR VEGA-LITE*





# Example 3

Other Channels + Transforms



ANY  
QUESTIONS

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FEATURE IMPORTANCE

TIME



20160115

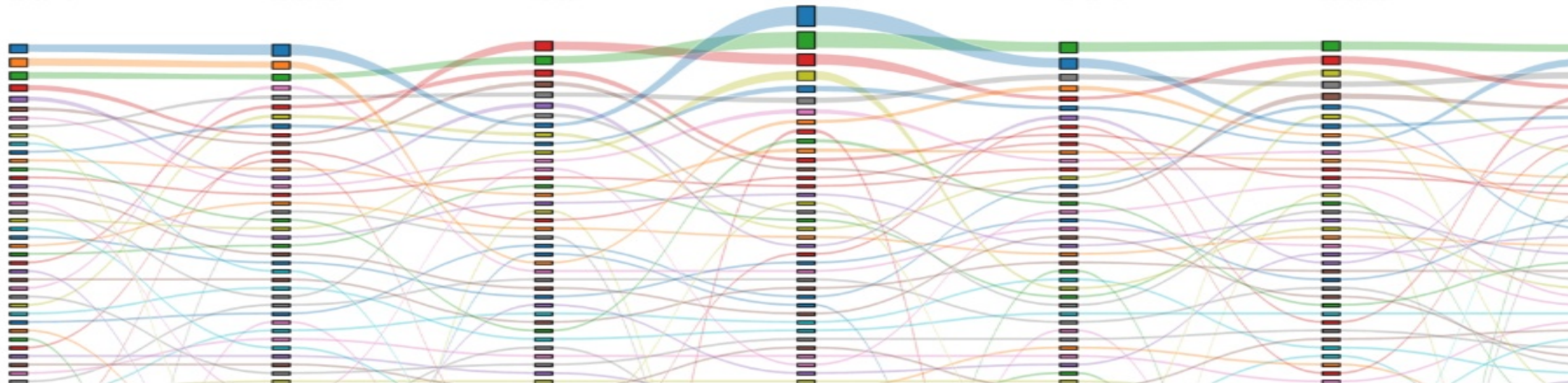
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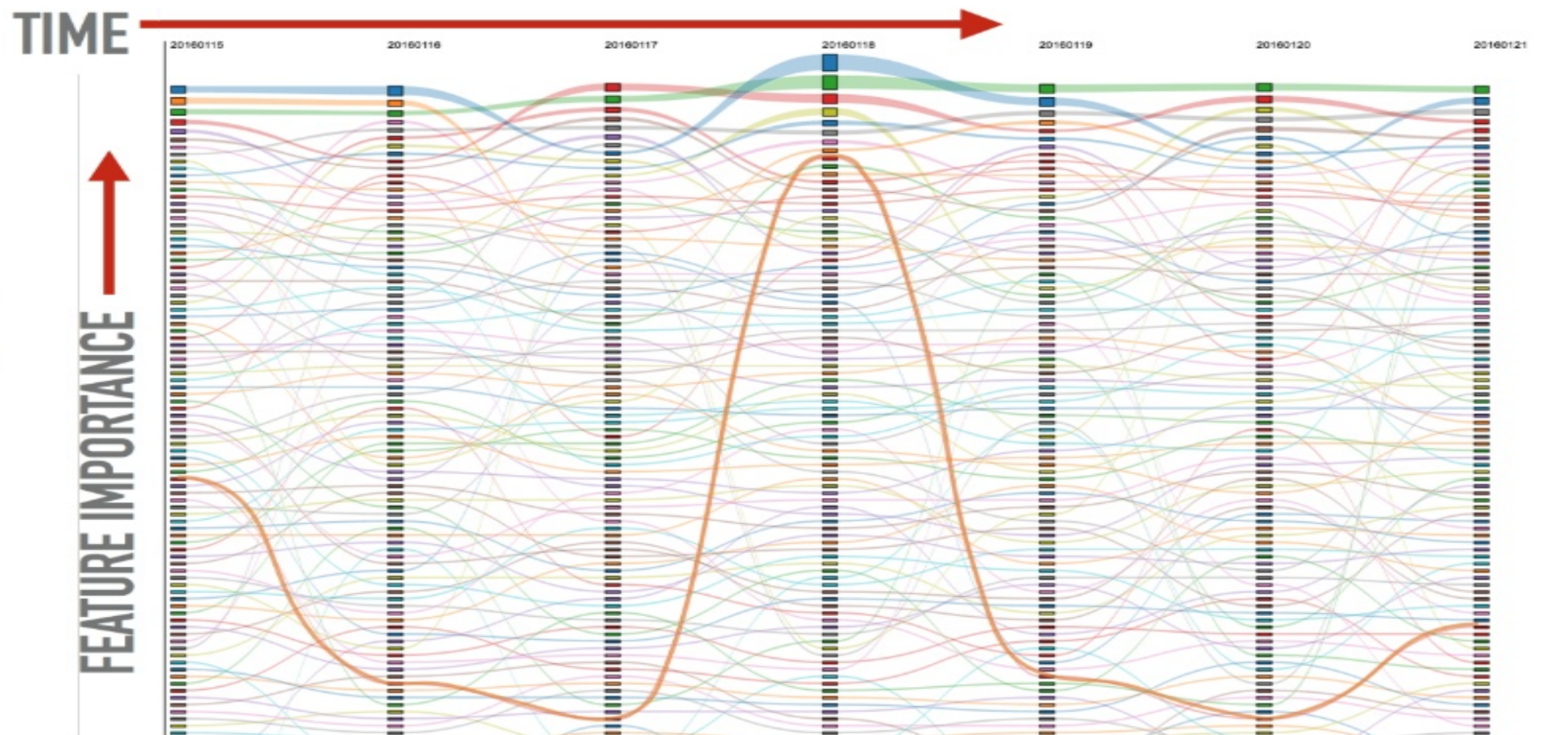
20160120





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WHAT  
HAPPENED  
WITH THAT  
FEATURE?





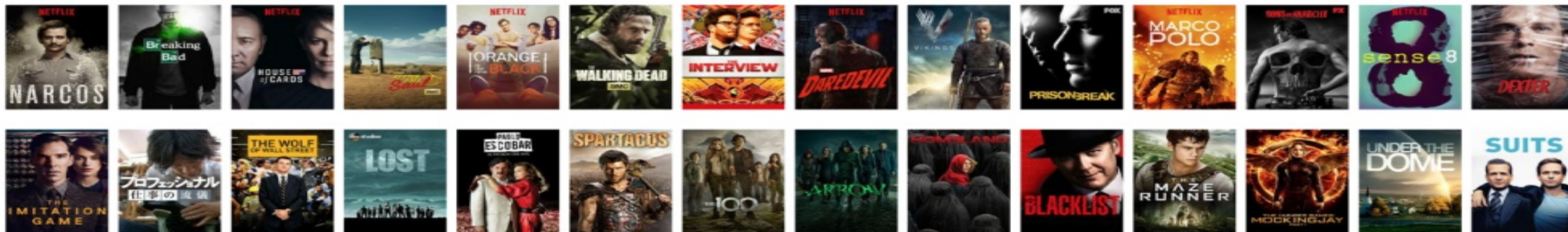
# NETFLIX

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75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99

# NETFLIX

 Data-Driven Documents

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# NETFLIX

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# NETFLIX

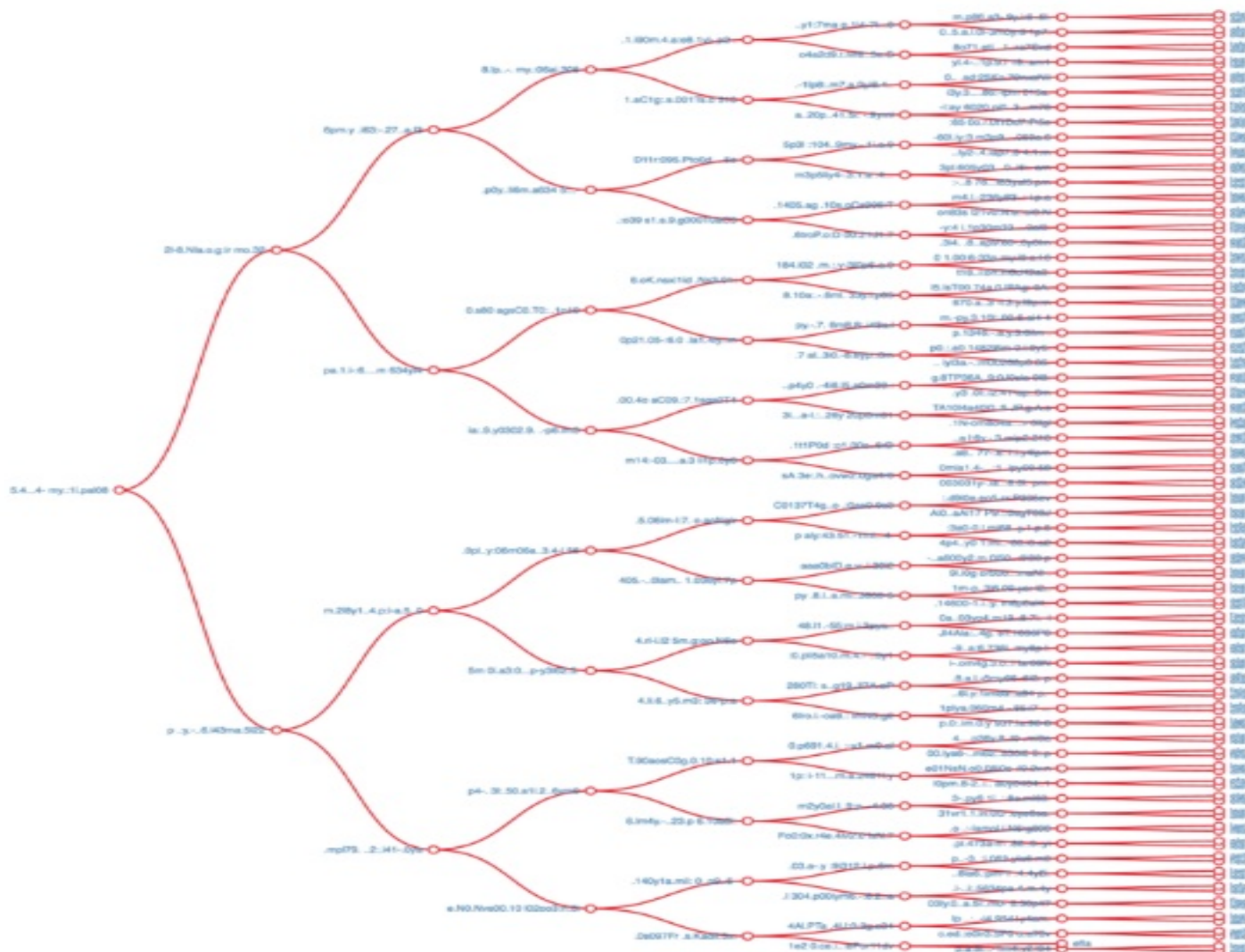
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# SPLITTING HAIRS!



## NETFLIX

