Interactive, web-based visualization of scientific collaboration networks

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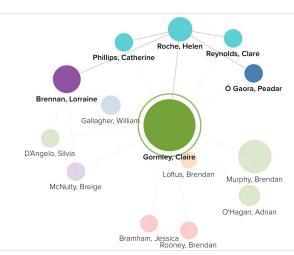
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- Arezoo Sadeghi (SAIL)
- Margot Menestrot from Red Hat UX team
- Joe Farmer (BU Office of Research, Program Manager & Data Analyst)
- Jonathan Chamberlin



Demo 1 Feedback and Improvements

- What is the MVP for this project?
 - A clean and intuitive visualization of the collaboration network between affiliates within the Hariri Institute
 - The size of the network will be ~250 affiliates
 - Admin accessibility to the database
- What cloud technologies will you be exploiting?
 - Cloud storage for hosting database (possibly SCC)
 - Docker for CI/CD and building database
- What database is this information coming from?
 - SciVal
 - Table on faculty affiliates page is hardcoded and manually updated by Institute staff
- What database will we use to store this information?
 - PostgreSQL





SciVal

- Provides access to the research performance of over 14,000 institutions
- Perform a static pull of publications from SciVal yearly
 - Why didn't we choose to use a SciVal api to make requests?
 - Not amenable to hook up api
 - Project is a competitor
- What kind of metrics are we using?
 - Citations
 - Field weighted citation impacts
 - Possibly Scopus ID



Docker

- Efficient Deployment with CI/CD
- Easier to manage in the future
- Scalability







Mapping Science

- Mapping Science
- Use authors of articles as units
 - o Mapping the patterns of co-authorship among individuals in a given scientific discipline
- Measures based on citations
 - o The citation of one paper by the authors of another is an explicit and universally accepted manner of acknowledging a connection between the two
- · To measure the strength of the citation between the two journals, we will use inter-citation frequencies
 - o That is, for each journal pair (i,j), the strength of their relationship will be quantified by the number of times C_{ij}that journal I in a given time period (one year) cites journal j in any time period
- · Partial sampling: Databases may not include all journals published in all disciplines
 - o Computer science publishing is done in the form of refereed conference proceedings papers, which are excluded from many of the main citation databases
- · Network Graph Construction



Sprint 2 User Stories, Objectives and Progress

User

- See (sample) data that is from the current affiliates list in a web page served from the database
- Work towards using that in a visualization

Developer

- Understand more clearly how we can integrate what we're creating into BU's WordPress environment
- Create a simple "drag-and-drop" flow so that admins of the page can simply upload a CSV to the site and the rest will be handled by the application

Demo



Taiga Burndown Chart



Explanation:

- Uncertainty with how/where points were allocated and were burnt down
- Work was completed on several parts before current sprint



Going Forward/Next Steps and Obstacles

Sprint 3:

- Create a visualization from our API into our front-end and eventually into WordPress
- Implement analysis from SciVal into the network to show meaningful connections between nodes (researchers)
- Find hosting solution for the data and a way for Institute admins to access it
- Update project management with more concise user stories and specific tasks



Going Forward/Next Steps and Obstacles

Obstacles:

- Integrating our front-end into WordPress without using native plug-ins
- Connecting our API with a remotely hosted Postgres database that is low-cost/free
- Creating a streamlined workflow for submitting the SciVal data to our database



Thank you! Questions?

