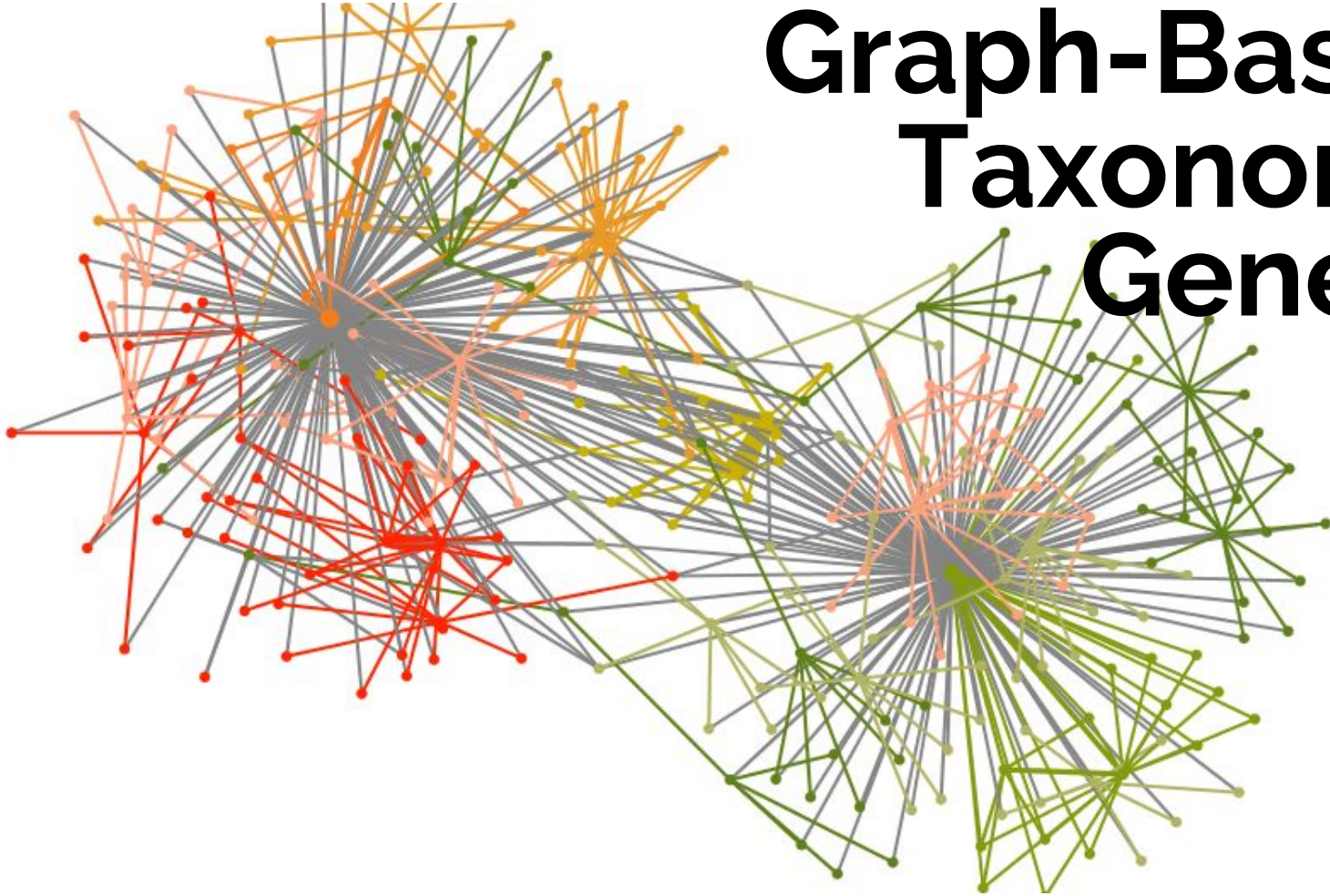


# Graph-Based Taxonomy Generation



# Sources

The bulk of the taxonomy generation algorithm itself, including the creation of the weighted graph, is owed to [Treeratpituk et al.2013] P Treeratpituk, M Khabsa, and CL Giles. 2013 Graph-based Approach to Automatic Taxonomy Generation (GraBTax) *arXiv:1307.1718v1 [cs.IR]*(<https://arxiv.org/abs/1307.1718v1>)

Graph partitioning is done via METIS, under the APL 2.0 [Karypis and Kumar1999] G Karypis and V Kumar. 1999 A fast and high quality multilevel scheme for partitioning irregular graphs. *SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing*, Vol. 20, No. 1, pp. 359—392, 1999.(<http://glaros.dtc.umn.edu/gkhome/fetch/papers/mlSIAMSC99.pdf>)

Python-Metis interop is thanks to <https://github.com/kw/metis-python>, under MIT License

And contributors.

# 1. Overview

Generating taxonomies from a corpus can be a large task:

→ **Expensive**

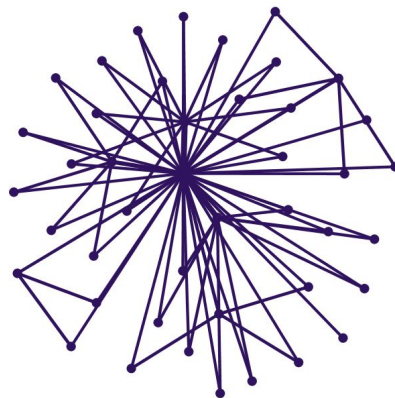
Human annotators cost time and money

→ **Scale issues**

The human cost makes it time consuming to update the catalog -- forget about real-time

→ **Fidelity**

It's anyone's guess if the taxonomy in an annotator's head matches the data you actually have.



—

How many **taxonomies** are there for a given corpus?

—

# Many! It depends on perspective.

Camera Equipment > Accessories > Batteries ?

Electronics > Accessories > Batteries ?

Both?

But the trick is getting it  
right.

# Two approaches

## 1. Query-Independent

Pros: consistent view of the corpus

Cons: Global behavior -- assumes there actually is a single taxonomy

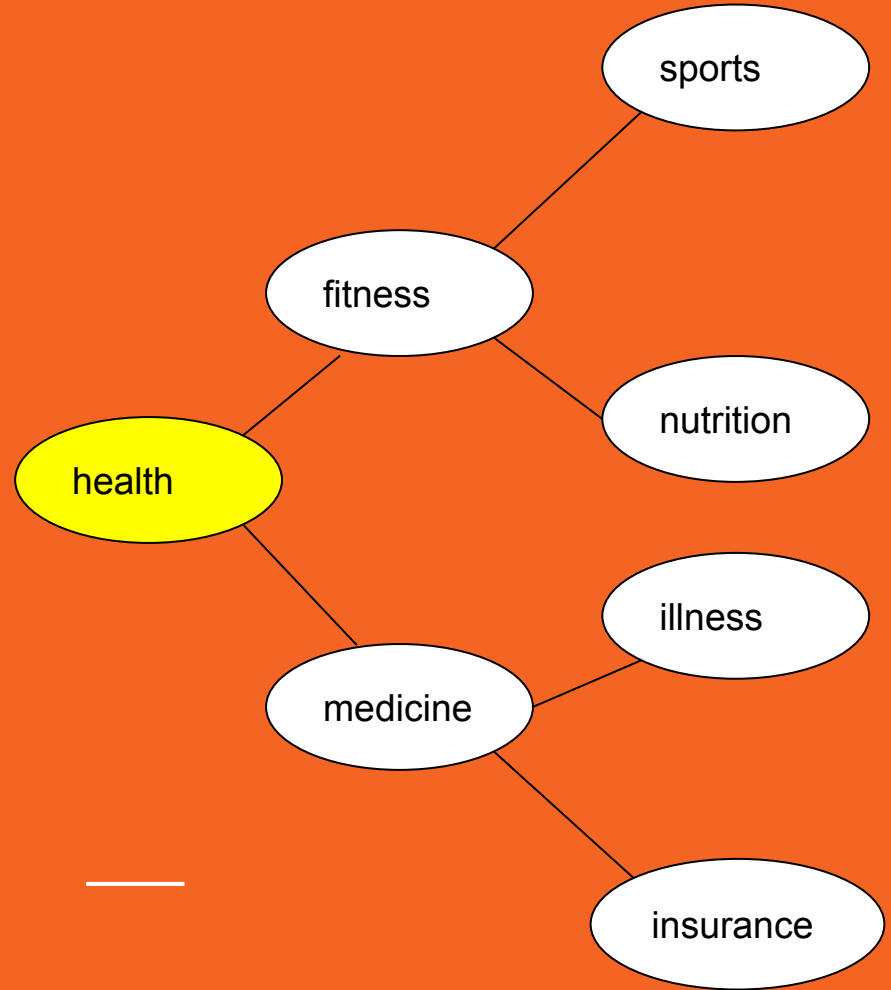
# Two approaches

## **2. Query-Dependent**

Pros: Local behavior -- relationships change depending on what you're looking for.

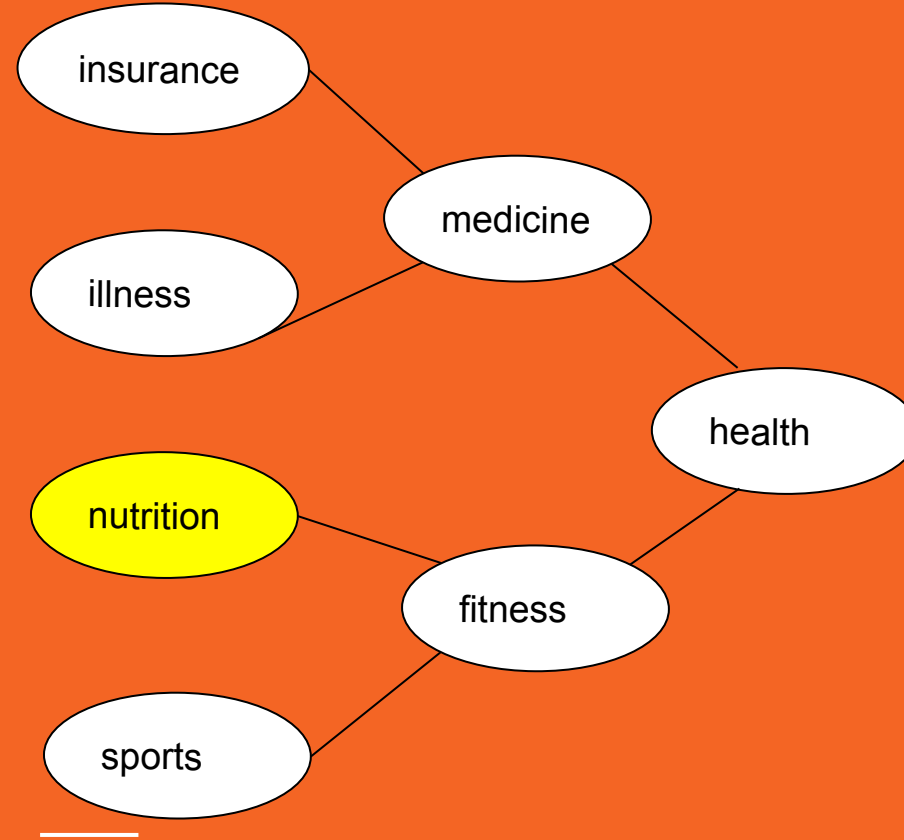
Cons: no consistent, static taxonomy. No global view.

A query-**independent**  
taxonomy means context  
never changes.

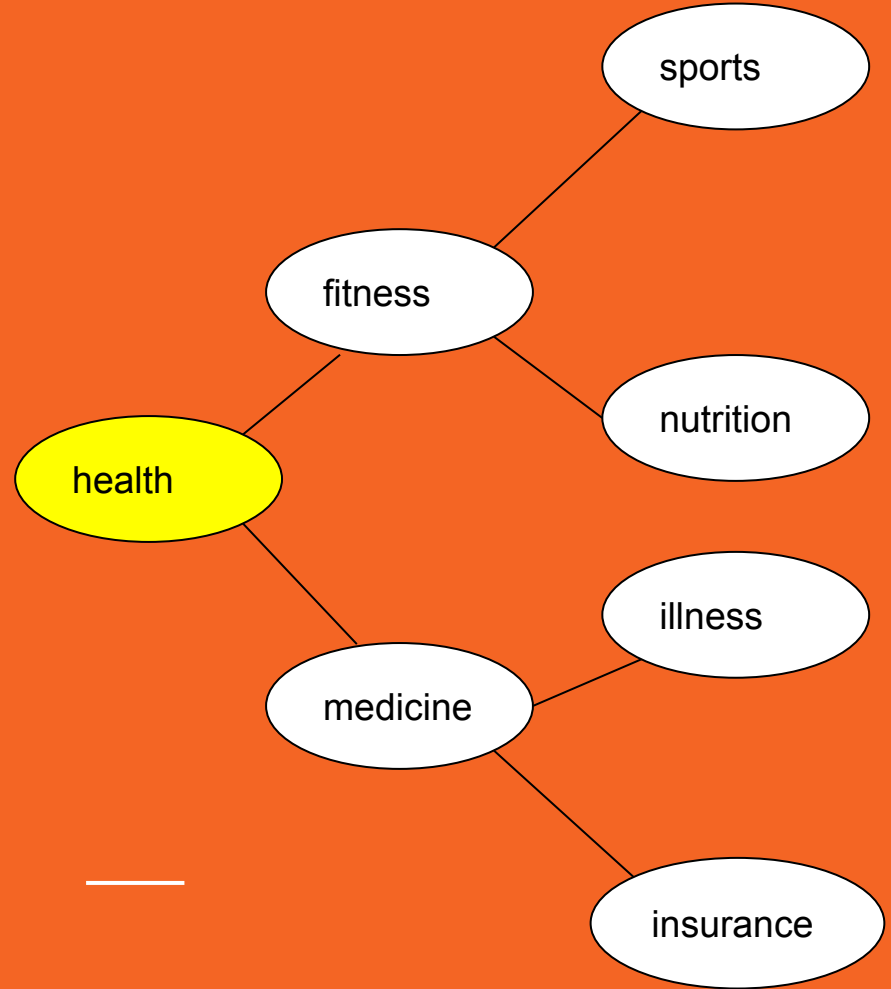




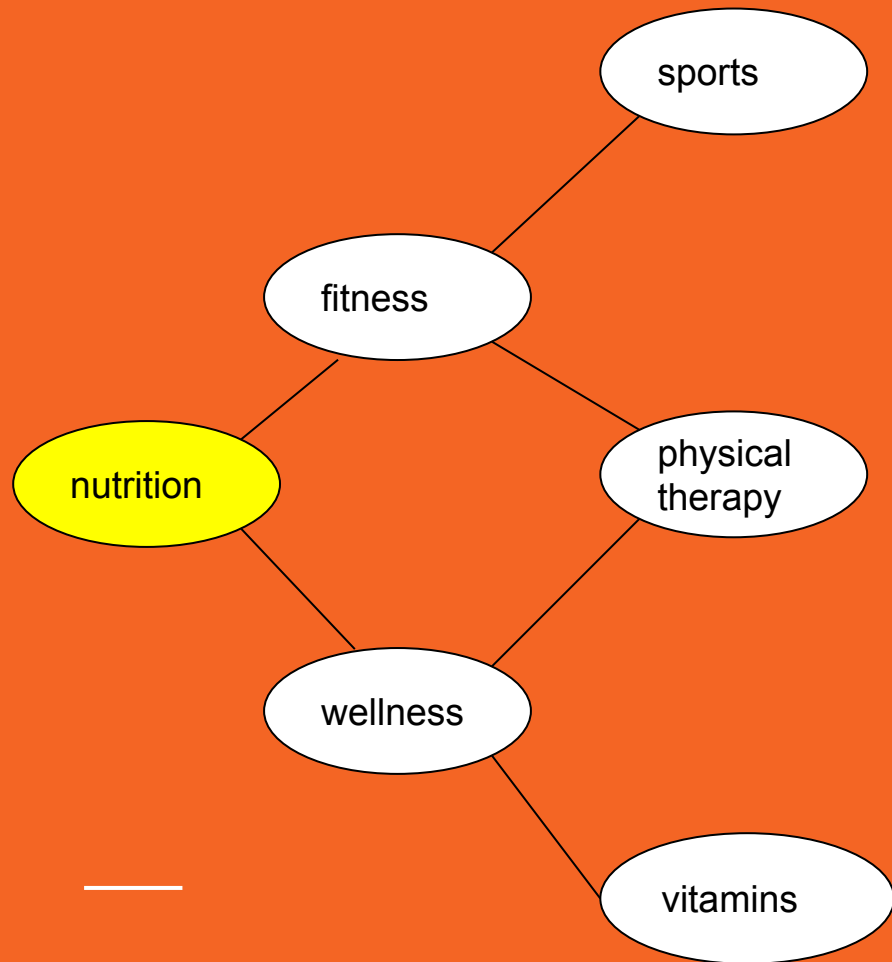
The view of the graph is the same from every vertex.



A query-**dependent** taxonomy has a different perspective from other vertices.



The perspective of the graph changes with context. Local behavior affects the perspective.



It is possible to generate a taxonomy from various semantic models (such as topic models), with **no external taxonomy or knowledge base**

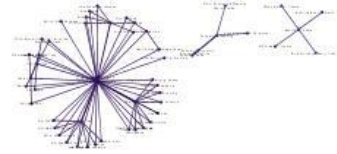
**Statistical co-occurrence**

**Semantic similarity**

**Flexibility**

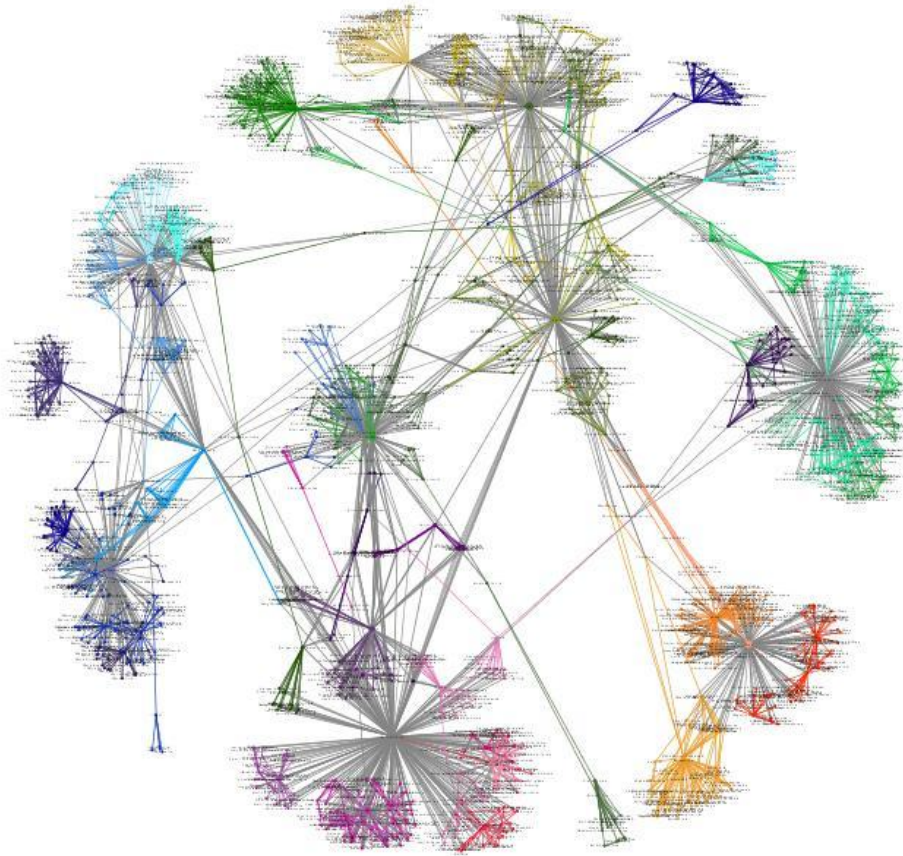
---

(Treeratpituk, Khabsa and Giles, 2013)



# Graph Partitioning

The crux of the generation is the utilization of multistage graph partitioning, as published by (Karpis and Kumar, 1999).



# Multistage Graph Partitioning

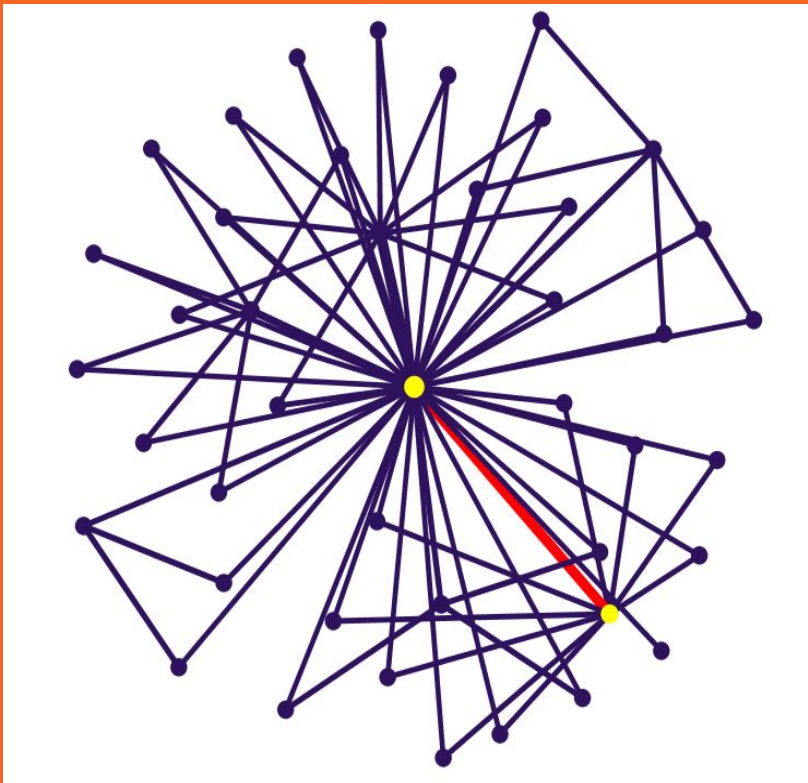
Edge and vertex weighted  
graph

## Recursive Partition

1. Coarsen. Match vertices and collapse.
2. Bisect
3. Uncoarsen

(Karpis and Kumar, 1999)

---



# Heavy-Edge Matching

→ **Visit vertex**

Randomly visit vertices

→ **Match**

If the vertex is unmatched, select the unmatched neighbor with the highest edge weight.

# Collapse

## → Collapse the matched vertices

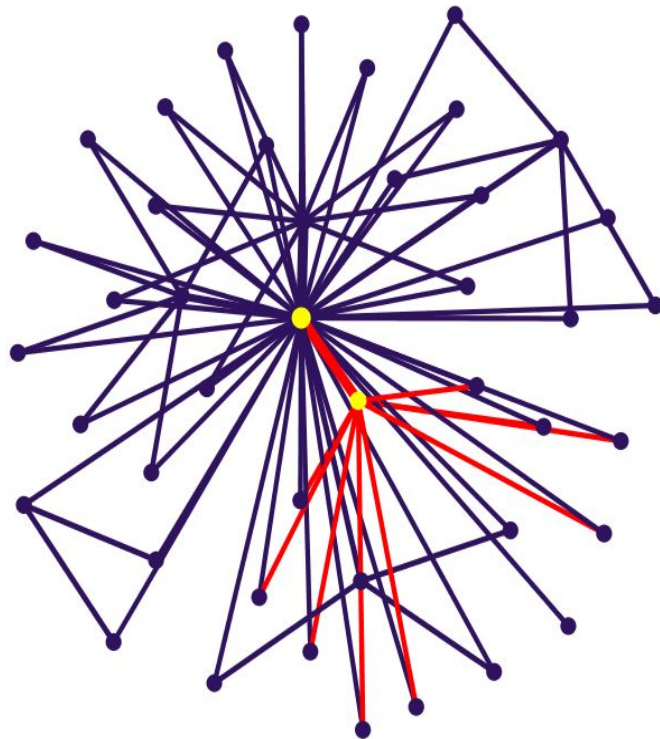
Creation of the multi-node -- weight equals sum of the matching

## → Maximize edge weight

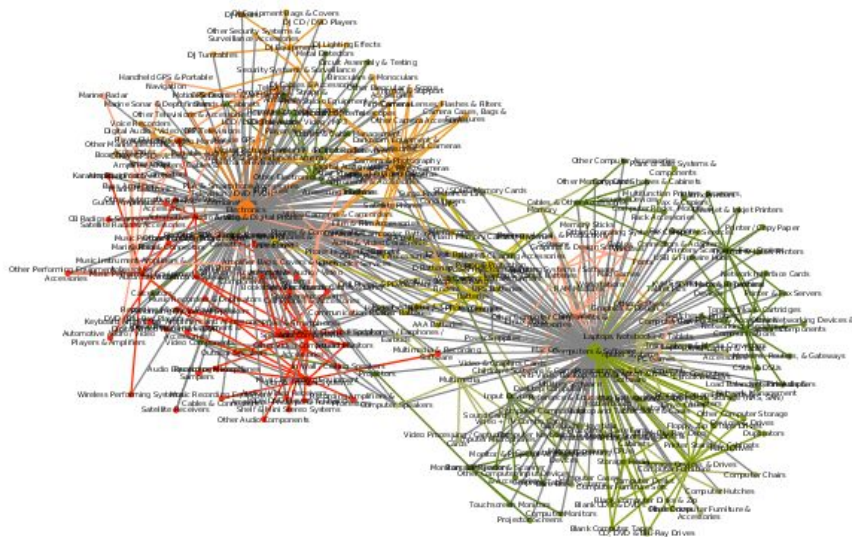
Any collapsed edges are reweighted -- weight equals sum of the matching

## → Minimize edge-cut

By maximizing edge-weight, coarser graph is lighter







# Minimize edge cut

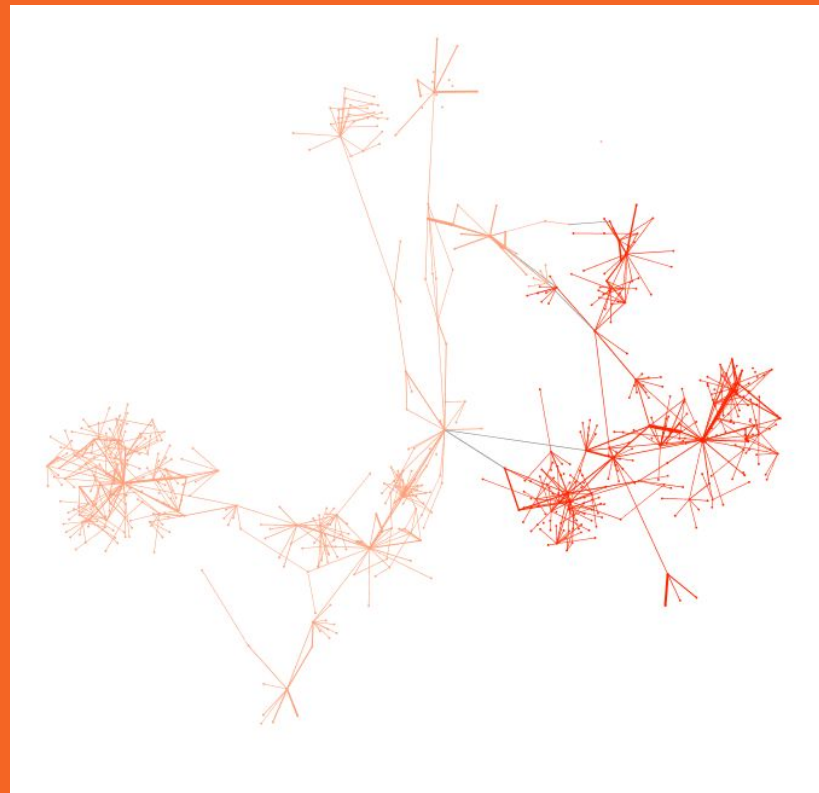
Edge cut: the number of incident edges which belong to different partitions

Maximal matching: stop collapsing  
when any edge not in the matching  
has at least one of its endpoints  
matched

# Graph Bisection

Bisect coarsened graph, minimizing edge-cut.

Each part should contain roughly half the vertex-weight.



# Kernighan-Lin

Iterative process

Initial bipartition is optimized by swapping vertices between them that minimize edge-cut

Terminates when no such subset can be located -- local minimum found

Repeat with other, random initial bipartitions and choose the one with lowest edge-cut. Stop when derivative is zero for X iterations (modified KL).

# Uncoarsening

Un-collapse the multinodes and edges

Project partitions back onto original graph



# Refinement

Each partition represents a local minimum of the coarser graph

May no longer be a local minimum after refinement -- more information now exists

- **Refinement algorithm**

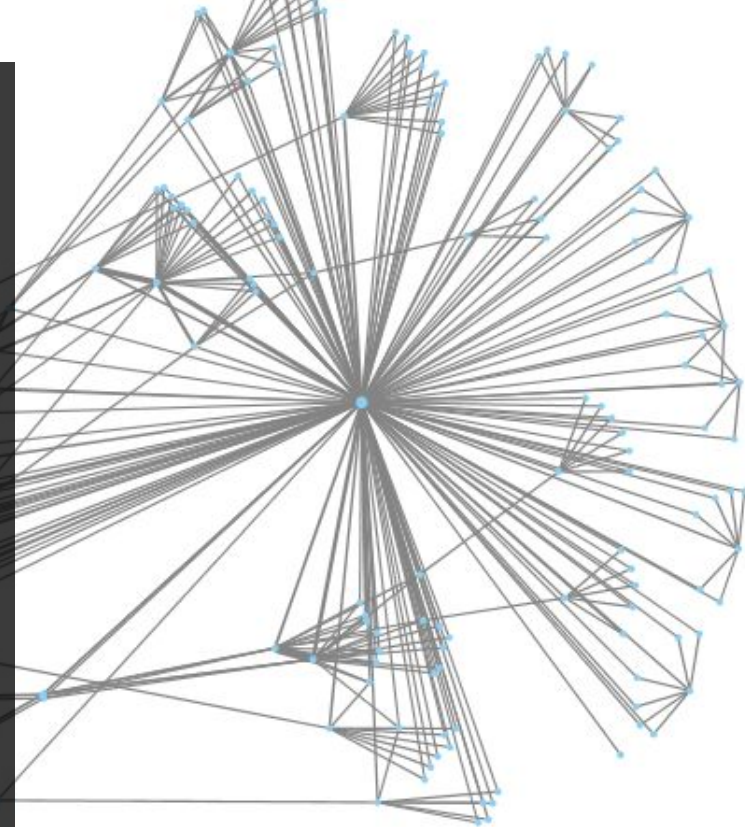
Karypis and Kumar use a refinement algorithm based on KL bisection

- **Project and compare**

After projecting the partition back onto the uncoarsened graph, re-run KL partition on the projected partition until convergence.

# Building the initial graph

(Treeratpituk et al., 2013) devised a novel way to convert co-occurrence and similarity (across topics, etc.) into an edge and vertex weighted graph



---

# GraBTax Process

**Construct  
Association  
Graph**

From LDA, etc.

**Subgraph**

**Partition**







# Topic Association Graph

Edge-weight is a function of the co-occurrence between  $t_i$  and  $t_j$  as well as their similarity.

$$w_{ij} = [1 + \lambda_1^{1(rank(t_i|t_j)=1 \text{ OR } rank(t_j|t_i)=1)} + \lambda_2 jac(t_i, t_j)] \times count(t_i, t_j)$$

where  $1_{cond} = 1$  if *cond* is true, and 0 otherwise

$$rank(t_i | t_j) = |\{ t_h \mid s_j < s_h \text{ and } P(t_h | t_j) > P(t_i | t_j) \}| + 1$$

$jac(t_i, t_j)$  = Jaccard similarity between  $t_i$  and  $t_j$

(Treeratpituk, et al., 2013)

—  
It's no surprise Marcos uses Google Translate in his shop regularly.

**There are 23  
officially recognized  
languages in the EU.**

# Subgraph Selection

Select the vertices from which we will generate our final taxonomy

Lots of dials to turn

Begin with a query vertex  $t_0$

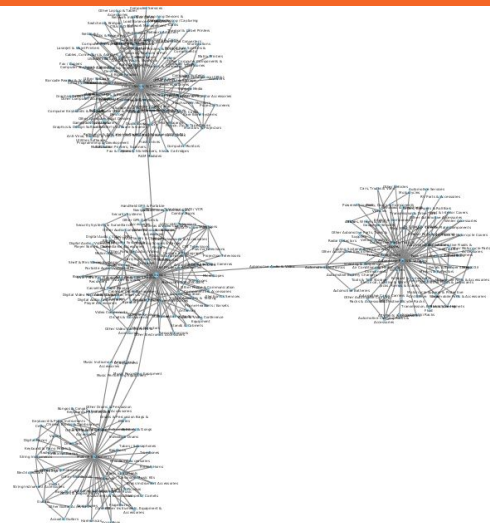
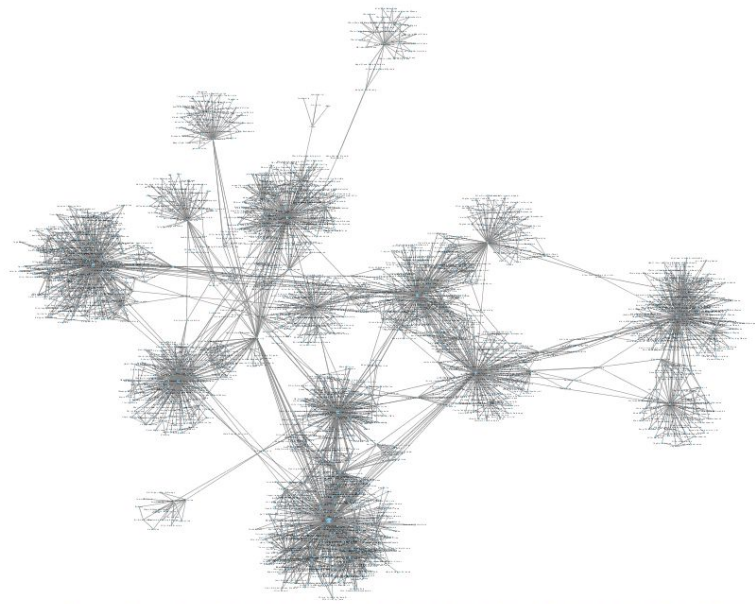
From the query vertex, calculate a subgraph

Subgraph vertices must be:

$$\text{rank}(t_0, t_i) \leq r_{\max}$$
$$k_i \geq k_{\min} \text{ and } s_i \geq s_{\min}$$

---

## Subgraph Example



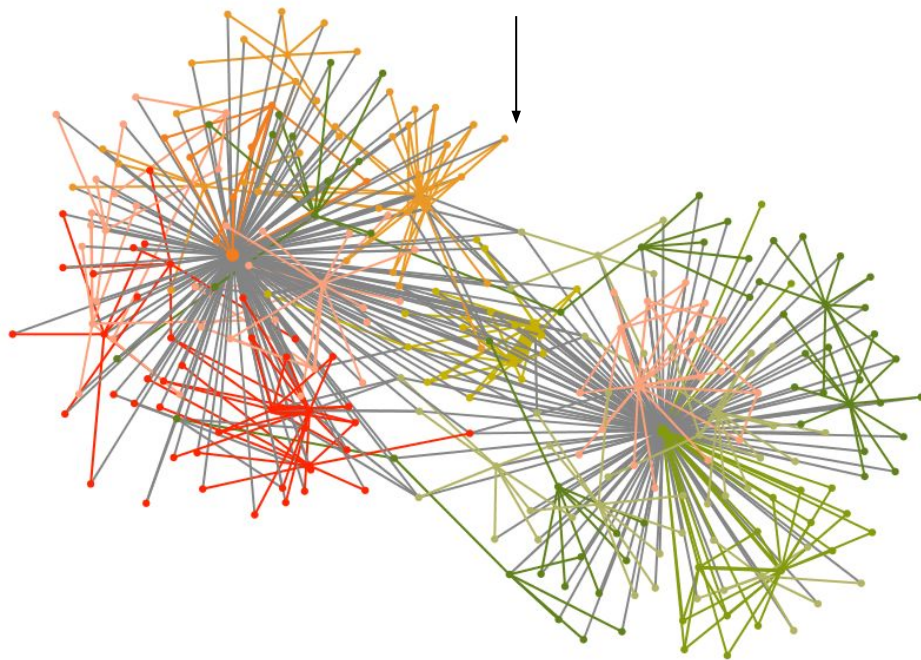
# Partition and Select Labels

**K-way partition of subgraph**

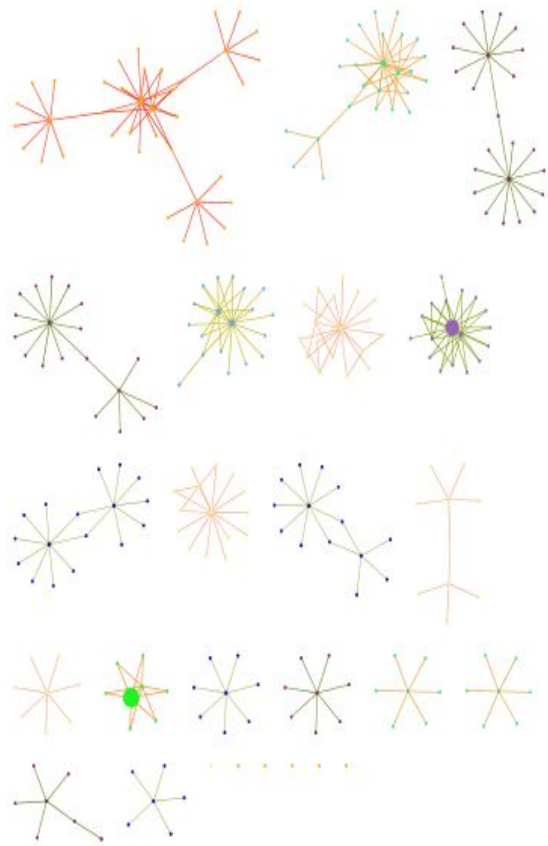
**Within each partition, select the node with the highest degree of connectedness**

**These becomes the labels for the root level of the taxonomy.**

**“finance”**



**First partitioning**



**“finance”**



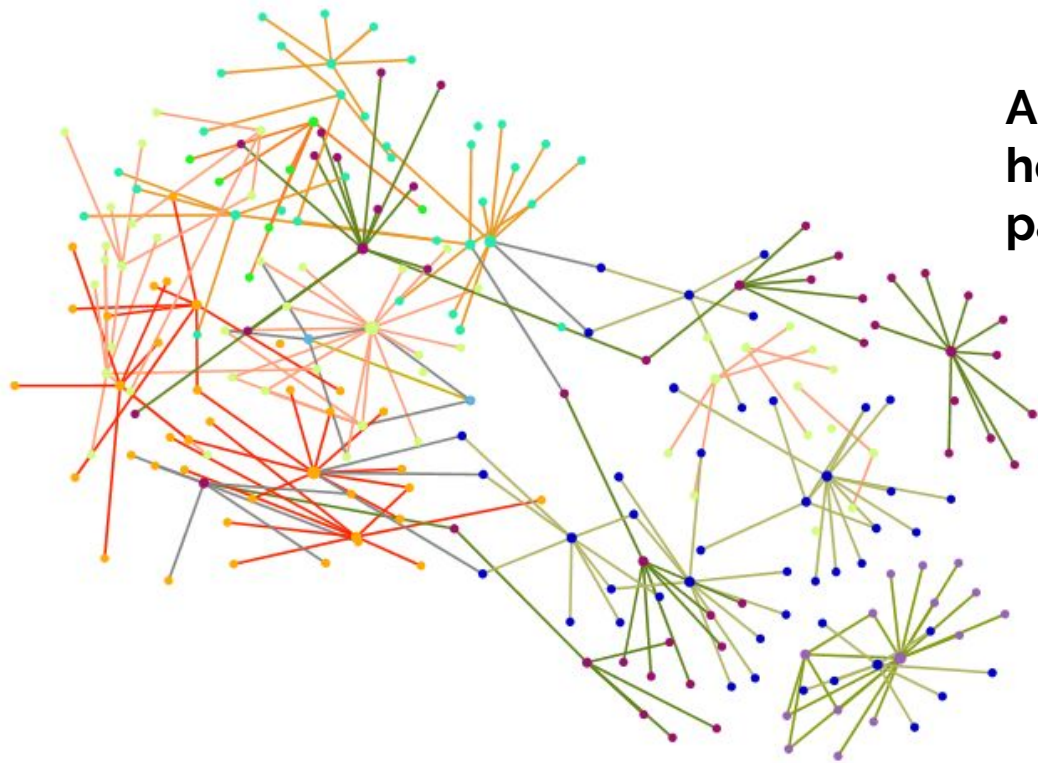
Investments

Economics Components

Banking

Software

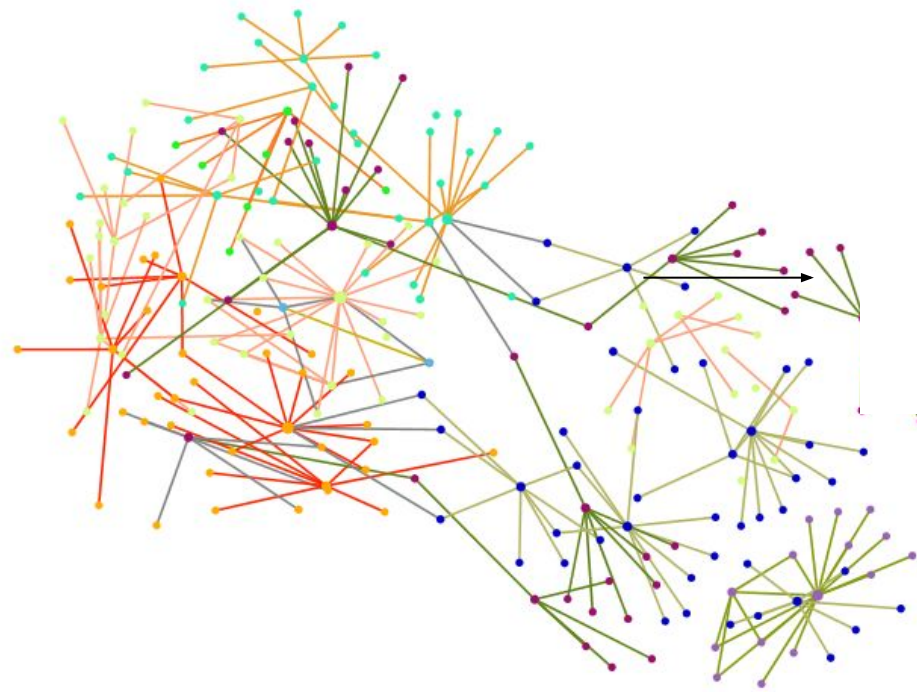
**Select heaviest vertices  
from each partition**



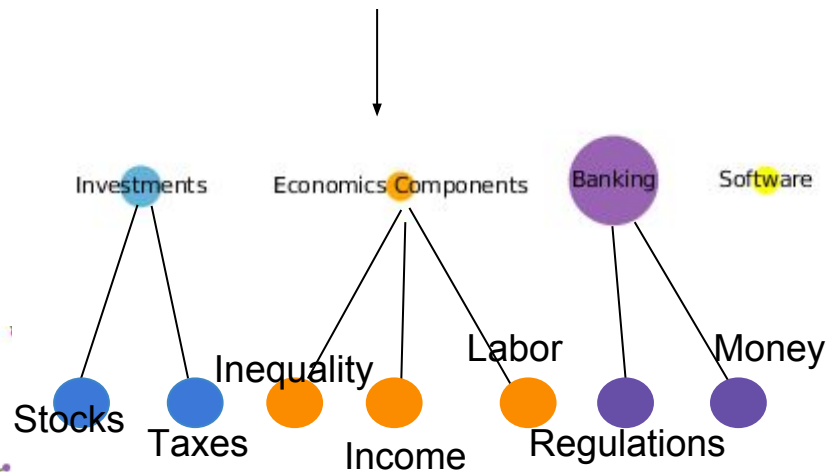
**After removing the  
heaviest from each  
partition**

**second partitioning**





**“finance”**



**Again, select heaviest  
vertices from each  
partition -- this forms the  
second level**

# Source Code

<https://github.com/Lingistic/GraBTax>

Source code for the  
GrabTax algorithm,  
including the recursive  
partition and selection  
code is up on github --  
along with some examples.

This is still a work in  
progress, so give it a follow  
and check back later!

# Contact

[rob@lingistic.com](mailto:rob@lingistic.com)

[robmcdan@gmail.com](mailto:robmcdan@gmail.com)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/robmcdan/>