https://docs.rs/plotters/latest/plotters/

https://github.com/plotters-rs/plotters/blob/master/plotters/examples/normal-dist.rs

https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/shortest-path-unweighted-graph/

https://doc.rust-lang.org/std/iter/struct.Zip.html

https://github.com/plotters-rs/plotters/blob/master/plotters/examples/histogram.rs

https://users.rust-lang.org/t/understanding-the-trait-std-sum-t/89161

https://docs.rs/plotters/latest/plotters/chart/struct.ChartBuilder.html

2. Written Report

A. Project Overview

- Goal: My goal for this project is to analyze the distribution of the average node distance (through closeness centrality) for a large california roadmap graph. I got my project from SNAP. There are about 2 million nodes (slightly less) and about 5 million edges on the project. The graph is a directed graph, where it is stored in a text file with the left hand side being from ID and the right being to ID. I then also make a function to calculate the shortest path length between two nodes. I then visualize my data in the form of a histogram, whilst also finding some interesting outliers and addressing them in my writeup + try to understand them. I find both the closeness centrality, which I print out some metrics of and find the average closeness centrality. I then graph the inverse closeness centrality, which is the average path length, which I find to be an more interesting metric to graph, and clearly shows the outliers near 0, which I address later on.
- Dataset: https://snap.stanford.edu/data/roadNet-CA.html, it is within my project file titled roadNet-CA.txt. It is 87.8 Mb when I process it. I create another file during my analysis (to not have to rerun a multi-hour long program). That file is 50.8 Mb and included with my project on github, there is an explanation in the code and below of why I do this and why it's better as well!

B. Data Processing

- I used knowledge of past reader functions plus the help of chatgpt (which I have cited below) to read my dataset into rust. The dataset was organized with the left side being FROM iD nodes, and the right side being TO ID nodes. After chatting with Professor Leonidas about my graph, he helped me understand that there were a few gaps in my graph, so that it was not totally dense. This would have been problematic for actually doing what I wanted to do, which was closeness centrality, distance from one node to another, and maybe even try strongly connected components.
- One important manual data cleaning decision I made was to remove the first few identifying lines of data. This included the graph size and some instructions that were denoted out. I have pasted them above for important identifying information for the graph.

- He suggested that I implement a few lines of code that would remap my graph to a new IDs and then store that remapped data in a hashmap for later reference. I do the standard reader function methods, including cleaning the first few lines out, which were documentation about what the graph was (although I removed those just for a clean text file). I then matched the from nodes, and the to nodes to the first and second part of the split line, because they were separated by a space. I then check if my HashMap has the from node or the to node already. If it does not, I insert it with my counter, which is essentially remapping it, and increment my counter by 1. Then I resize my graph, which will become an adj list of Vec<Vec<u32>> and push the from and the to nodes onto that. I then return a graph struct that stores all of this output data.
- I have to process some more data that I create later on, but that will be in the section below this and is more so associated with a later part of the project, so I am putting it with the rest of the project description.

C. Code Structure

1. Modules

 I have a few modules that are for ease of use and reading for my code. My reader function is one module. My closeness centrality calculations + writer is another module. This is the bulk of my code and I found it best to split it into it's own module. I then made a closeness centrality translator which takes the output of my closeness writer, which is in the form of a txt file with two lines of data separated by a space, the first being the node id (remapped) and the second being the closeness centrality calculation (I find closeness centrality a little different after talking to professor leonidas, where my calculation is basically average distance length to all the other nodes, so therefore the smallest values are going to be the most connected, or the most central in reference to other nodes), I then also do the standard closeness centrality by inversing this calculation. This is a lot of text and as such I found it best for it's own module. My plotters function, which just does a histogram of the output of the closeness centrality translator is in another module, which I found best practice because it is doing something distinctly different, which is visualizing the output of the code. The last module that is related here is the visualization module, which uses mappers and creates a png histogram for me. The last module is a shortest path between two nodes implementation (which is just a modified BFS!)

2. Key Functions & Types (Structs, Enums, Traits, etc)

Functions:

reader::prep

■ The purpose is to read in the data from a text file, where there are two columns of data split by a space, and output a struct with an adjacny list

- and more. The left column is the FromID and the right is ToID. It is a direct graph. I want to get the reader into a Vec<Vec<u32>> and then output that in the form of a struct.
- We take in a path that is a str of the actual title of the file, and we output a struct where we have the graph, the nodes count, and the two hashmaps, one with old to new, and one with new to old.
- The core logic is that we read in each line, then split the line by the space in the middle, then we make the left part the from, and the right side too. We then process them and check if they're in our hashmaps, if they're not we add them, with a counter. The counter is so important because it is the new remapping of the hashmaps. We remap because the graph had a few gaps that would have been bad, so after chatting with professor leonidas we changed it. We then return this in the form of a struct for ease of use and reference
- The struct: graph, nodes, new_to_old, old_to_new

Closeness - BFS implementation

- The BFS implementation is very similar to that in class and the in notes do much of it justice, but the purpose of the bfs is to calculate the Breath and return the vector for a single value, this is then scaled up with later functions, but for right now that is all that it does.
- In / out: it takes in a graph reference which is a &Vec<Vec<u32>>, and a start value which is a u32. The output is a Vec<Option<u32>> which stores the distance to the other paths in the graph.
- Basically for BFS we make a dist tracker which is what we're appending the nodes to, and a deque, which tracks our progress. We make the start value our start, and push it onto our queue. We then while match and make our current distance, and iterate through the neighbors of our current node. We then update and pushback, and then eventually return a vec that stores the path length to each node in the graph.

Closeness - closeness

- The purpose of this is to take our BFS output from a specific point, and then unwrap and sum those distances. Then we divide by the graph length minus 1 to get an inverse closeness centrality, or average path length for that specific node.
- Takes a graph and a node and returns a result that stores the average path length for a specific node.
- This is one of the most important functions, along with the one below it. We first make our calc, which is just a bfs run on our input node. Then we make a total distance tracker. Then we iterate through the BFS output variable and match it to unwrap it, making sure that we don't add it to itself. Then we basically add it to the total tracker. We then just return the total distance divided by the graph length 1 to get average path length.

Closeness - parallel

- had to use the help of chatgpt to transform my non-parallezied function into a paralleized function and that is cited and explained below. The purpose of parallel is to run the closeness function on each node in the graph, and then store it and output it. That means that it is calculating the average path length to other nodes the amount of times the graph is long. This means that it did BFS + closeness ~ 2 million times. I ran this overnight and it took more than four hours, and probably closer to six ish hours.
- Parallel takes in a graph and outputs a result type of a vector of tuples pairs, where the u32 is the node, and the f64 is the calculated average path length.
- I used rayon for this parallelization and specifically into_par_iter, which takes a range of values. We can just give it the values of the graph, because thanks to our remapping of the graph, we don't have to worry about (totally) disconnected nodes. We assign that to a closure where we map the node to the specific index that we're at. We then call closeness centrality, unwrap it, and just assign that node as the u32 node and the value as the value, then collect it. After talking with Prof Leonidas, my computer has 8 performance cores (+4 other ones that he said wouldn't help with this) so my paralleization helped speed my code to about 8x. We then sort using a sort function that I've used in the past and partial compare.

Closeness - writer

- Purpose: to take the output of parallel and write it to a file so that parallel never has to be run again.
- In and out: takes a string path and the output of parallel in the form of a vec<(u32, ft4). Returns a io result that is empty because all we want to do is write to a file.
- Core logic and key components: we create a file path, make a buf reader, then iterate through our content, and write a newline each time, using buf reader to help the write, with a ? to handle exceptions.
- The file that it wrote to is called closeness centrality storage

Closeness_centrality_translator - reader

- Purpose: to read the written file of the closeness writer. It is very similar to our last reader but differs in output and some logic, so I made it a separate function. Will be brief because it's a similar reader.
- In / out: takes file name and outputs an io result with two vectors, one closeness_centrality and the other the inverse, average path length. Both metrics are interesting and I did different things with them.
- Core logic and key components: init two vecs of u32, f64, do a similar split, just make a parse::<f64>. I then inverse the value when adding it to closeness centrality.

Visualizations - plotter

- Purpose: to plot and create a histogram of our average path length, and adjust for the small outliers, because I find them interesting and they should be on the graph as such. It creates a png histogram.
- In / out: takes a vec of tups with node and average path length values, a minimum, a bin count, and a title for the filename. Outputs an empty result.
- Core logic and key components: I used the scaffolding from the rust website linked above and chatgpt help to debug and understand what I should be doing. That is cited below as well. We make a drawing area, fill it with whitespace, and assign our max, mins, and bin count, we then make our bin_width equal to our max min / bin count which is realy just max / bin count because our min is so small. We make nodes and values and push onto them. Then we iterate through our values and scale our bin index, and increment our bins [bin index]. Creating a chart, and confiruging that chart too.
- build_cartesian _2d is the important part and how to get it to work. It basically turns input into drawable figures, which is where I feed it a range of the bin, then pull the max from the bin iter.
- Then we draw the chart, with .data and iterating over our bins and i and count.
- Then present

Shortest path - shortest path

- Purpose: find the shortest path between two nodes
- In / out: takes a graph and a start node and an end node
- Core logic and key components: runs BFS on the start node, then returns the dist[end] where dist is the output of BFS and end is the end node.

3. Main Workflow

My reader module has a reader which reads the input graph file, then my closeness module takes that output, which is in the form of a graph struct adj list, and runs a BFS on each node, and then does the closeness centrality calculation, which is then given to my writer function in closeness, to write a new file with the nodes and avg path length (I will calculate the inverse which is the standard closeness centrality later). Importantly this is not currently running in my main, but above main there is a function that can be called to run it, along with a commented out piece of code that will run it, but it takes approx. 4-6 hours. This is why I have the writer. I then made a module called closeness_centrality_translator, which reads the newly created file each time, which saves us having to run the total calculation of 4-6 hours each time, which is ~ 2 million BFS. It creates two files, the closeness centrality, and the avg_distance length (one is the inverse of the other). This is given to main, and then to my visualization function which creates a histogram.

- Alongside this, my shortest_path module just calculates the shortest path, which
 is a modified BFS but returns the dist[index] of the end value, after running BFS
 on the start.
- Reader -> closeness (creates closeness_centrality storage) -> closeness centrality translator -> visualization
 - Plus some calculations of mean, median and running shortest path in main.

D. Tests

cargo test output (paste logs or provide screenshots).

```
running 3 tests
test shortest_path::tests::tester ... ok
test closeness::tests::tester ... ok
test closeness_centrality_translator::tests::tester ... ok
test result: ok. 3 passed; 0 failed; 0 ignored; 0 measured; 0 filtered out; finished in 2.64s
```

- Shortest_path test
 - I create a small graph by hand, calculate myself what the shortest path length between the nodes that I choose are, and then use the assert_eq macro to check that the output of my path length function gets the correct answer. This ensures that for a graph that I know what the answer is, it is correct.
- Closeness test
 - I make another small graph and run my parallel function on it to ensure it gives me the output that I am expecting. I used chatgpt to help me calculate the avg path length. I check that the output length is five, and check the actual output too.
- Closeness centrality translator test
 - I basically make sure that my calculations of closeness centrality are right. I
 inverse my average path length (apl) for each iteration and check that it is within
 the margin of error that I would assume is inherent in float point addition /
 subtraction within computers. This is significant because if this didn't work, my
 calculations would be totally messed up.

E. Results

All program outputs (screenshots or pasted).

Wrote to visualization_apl.png

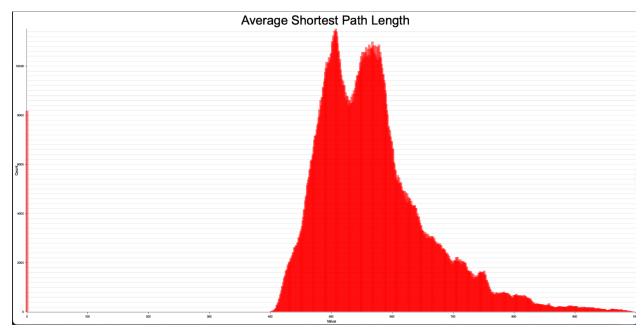
The node count of this graph is 1965206

This is the shortest path between 0 and 1965205, is 224

mean closeness centrality: 4810.31933454

filter mean closeness centrality, where nodes are greater than zero: 0.00329546

This is the amount of outliers that we have in our dataset! 8179



- I calculate two things, avg path length, and the inverse of that, which is the standard closenessc centrality formula where n-1 / sum of distance is closeness centrality.
- I calculate it by dividing the sum of the path lengths that are output by the BFS and dividing by the total number of nodes. While this is an interesting metric and after discussing with a professor who said it was a decent approach, I found that it let some of the data become outliers. When we remapped the data when processing it, it ensured that there were no gaps, but there are still pieces of data that have only one connection. This would be prevalent in closeness centrality or average path length, but I found it interesting in average path length.
- After I ran some calculations, the outliers represent about .4% of my graph. They are
 outliers because a lower average path length would seem to indicate a higher conectivity
 but as I explain earlier they do not. There are about 8000 outliers that only connected to
 a few, if not 1, other nodes. In the graph, they are visible by the one spike on zero that
 reaches slightly over 8179.

F. Usage Instructions

• I have left out the actual calculations of closeness centrality from main. It took about 4-6 hours to run with the rayon parallelization (I have 8 performance cores, so 8x faster than what it would have been). I used cargo run - - release (google docs combines - - when put together so I left them one space apart). The rest of my calculations are on the file

that I generate from running closeness centrality, and as such that is what I will be working with, as I only wanted to run my code once. I still found it useful to run a whole closeness centrality instead of randomly sampling a portion of my dataset to run it on, but I decided to just write the output to a file, and only run it once. I am running my code from outside the src folder, and as such I have stored my files there. I have also duplicated my files from inside the src folder so they can be run from there, but that would require changing my path in the main, which I have kept as such.

- There is nothing to do except run cargo run -- release, which will output some metrics, including outliers to my calculation, and create a PNG file.
- Cargo test runs 3 tests.
- If you want to run the closeness centrality, it will take about 4-6 hours. My code with release (without closeness calculator) runs in about ten seconds.

G. Al-Assistance Disclosure and Other Citations

- Cite any **substantive** ChatGPT/GenAl you used (e.g. screenshot or description).
 - You can skip this for common knowledge/debugging use cases
- For each cited snippet, include your own explanation to show understanding.
- You can also provide links to other sources you found useful that are not "common knowledge"

With regard for AI use in this project, it was massively helpful and made the project overall much easier. The parts where I substantively used AI were one line in my reader function (although it was already in decent shape I was just struggling on syntax to get it working, because I had past reader functions that had a similar use case from previous homeworks), the closeness centrality calculations, and modifying some code that I was struggling with in respect to the histogram graph. This modification was based off the lecture notes and rust's histogram helper website as well. I struggled mostly to create the bins and understand why my code wasn't working. I would say AI was most helpful in suggesting using other things for my histogram because I was really struggling to get it working.

```
use std::fs::File;
use std::io::{self, BufRead, Write};
// type Vertex = usize;
  pub fn prep(path: &str) -> Result<Vec<Vec<usize>>, io::Error> {
  let file = File::open(path)?;
  let reader = io::BufReader::new(file);
  let mut lines = reader.lines();
  let size: usize = lines.next().unwrap()?.trim().parse().unwrap();
  let mut graph: Vec<Vec<usize>> = vec![Vec::new(); size];
  for line in lines {
     let line = line?;
     let mut parts = line.split_whitespace();
     let from: usize = parts.next().unwrap().parse().unwrap();
     let to: usize = parts.next().unwrap().parse().unwrap();
     graph[from].push(to);
  Ok(graph)
// these are the first four lines of the file that I have removed
// # Directed graph (each unordered pair of nodes is saved once):
roadNet-CA.txt
// # California road network
// # Nodes: 1965206 Edges: 5533214
// # FromNodeld ToNodeld
// strongly connected components
I have removed the top line files
```

Thanks — super helpful context. So you've already removed the first four comment lines from the file, but you're still getting this:

That means some remaining line still has a non-numeric value, probably due to:

- · a stray header ("FromNodeId ToNodeId") that wasn't removed
- · blank or malformed lines
- · or maybe the file wasn't fully cleaned

Minimal fix to prevent panics:

You can make your parser robust without assuming the file is perfect. Replace your core loop with this version:

```
rust

use std::fs::File;
use std::io::{self, BufRead};

pub fn prep(path: &str) -> Result<Vec<Vec<usize>>, io::Error> {
    let file = File::open(path)?;
    let reader = io::BufReader::new(file);
    let mut lines = reader.lines();
}
```

```
use std::fs::File;
use std::io::{self, BufRead};
pub fn prep(path: &str) -> Resultpub fn prep(path: &str) -> ResultVec<usize>>>, io::Error> {
    let file = File::open(path)?;
    let reader = io::BufReader::new(file);
    let mut lines = reader.lines();
    // Safer unwrap: return an error instead of panicking
    let size_line = lines.next().ok_or_else(|| io::Error::new(io::ErrorKind::InvalidData,
    let size: usize = size_line.trim().parse().map_err(|_| io::Error::new(io::ErrorKind::
    let mut graph: Vec<Vec<usize>> = vec![Vec::new(); size];
    for line in lines {
        let line = line?;
        if line.trim().is_empty() || line.starts_with('#') {
        let parts: Vec<&str> = line.split_whitespace().collect();
        if parts.len() < 2 {
            continue; // Skip malformed lines
        let from = match parts[0].parse::<usize>() {
            Ok(val) => val,
            Err(_) => continue,
        let to = match parts[1].parse::<usize>() {
            Ok(val) => val,
            Err(_) => continue,
        }:
        if from < size && to < size {
            graph[from].push(to);
    Ok(graph)
```

The strong majority of the reader function that I use for both readers that I implement comes from HMWRK7 reader function, which basically does the exact same thing as this one. I was struggling to get my reader to work and took some small suggestions from chatgpt. I found it easier to remove the # marks in front of each file though. A walkthrough of the functions that I use are above, but I would say the most important thing that I added is the parse part, where I actually assign what the types are going to be, along with a check to make sure that the size of the collected graph is only 2. That was very helpful. The other part that was helpful was the

parse::<usize> which I modified to be parse::<u32> which indicates to rust that whatever you are parsing is a u32.

https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/shortest-path-unweighted-graph/

I used this link to understand how to do shortest path with BFS, and although it didn't have rust, the implementation was very similar so when it said that you basically just use dist. It was helpful in understand that all we really need to do it use the dist file and just return the end target so it was just dist[end] after we were finished running BFS on the start node.

https://github.com/plotters-rs/plotters/blob/master/plotters/examples/histogram.rs

I used the rust docs code for a histogram as the base for my understanding. I felt it was best to start off it that and the lecture as an understanding as the base for my code. I then tried to implement what I could but I had to ask chatgpt for some help in the preprocessing of my data within the plotters function.

```
pub fn many(graph: Vec<Vec<u32>>) -> Result<Vec<(u32, f64)>, Box<dyn</pre>
std::error::Error>> {
  let mut storage: Vec<(u32, f64)> = Vec::new();
  let length = graph.len();
         println!("Working on node {}", iter);
       storage.push((iter as u32, current closeness.unwrap()));
   storage
   .sort by(|x,y| x.1.partial_cmp(&y.1).unwrap());
```

```
Ok(<u>storage</u>)
```

Wrote this closeness centrality function but this wasn't paralleized. I struggled to get it working to parallelize it, so I asked for chatgpt with some help with this current understanding. I knew that I wanted to paralleize it but I couldn't figure out how to implement it.



This is the help that chatgpt gave me, as I explain earlier to, what we do is create a range that we iterate through using the into_par_iter, and then map associates that node with the current index in range, then we call closeness that I had already written, and assign the values. The sorting functionality is still based off my earlier code, which was based off earlier completed homeworks.

find why my code doesn't run and make those changes to it to make sure that it does in fact run

Your code has two critical issues that prevent it from running correctly:

1. Too many bins: num_bins = 1_000_000

You are allocating a Vec<u32> with one million entries:

This causes:

- · Huge memory usage (especially inside draw_series)
- · Excessive plotting time
- · A completely unreadable chart

Even if it doesn't crash, it will either hang or produce an empty/invisible plot.

X 2. Incorrect min computation

```
rust

② Copy ▷ Edit

let min = cc_output.clone()[0].1;
```

This assumes the first value is the smallest — not safe unless you're 100% sure the data is sorted.

▼ ▼ FIXED CODE

Here is a corrected and runnable version:

```
ூCopy ஜ Edit
rust
use plotters::prelude::*;
use std::collections::HashMap;
pub fn histo(cc_output: Vec<(u32, f64)>, cc_max: Vec<(u32, f64)>) -> Result<(), Box<dyn s</pre>
    let root = BitMapBackend::new("closeness_histogram.png", (1280, 720)).into_drawing_ar
    root.fill(&WHITE)?;
    // Step 1: Extract values
    let values: Vec<f64> = cc_output.iter().map(|(_, v)| *v).collect();
    let min = values.iter().cloned().fold(f64::INFINITY, f64::min);
    let max = cc_max[0].1;
    println!("max: {}, min: {}", max, min);
    let num_bins = 200; // @ REASONABLE NUMBER!
    let bin_width = (max - min) / num_bins as f64;
    if bin_width <= 0.0 {
        return Err("Invalid bin width: closeness values are all the same.".into());
    // Step 2: Count values in each bin
```

Thanks for sharing the updated version. If your code compiles but **no image appears or it's blank**, let's pinpoint exactly why it's not writing the histogram. This situation is likely due to one of the following key issues:

Critical Things to Check

1. The BitMapBackend doesn't create folders

You're writing to:

```
rust ⊕ Copy ⊅ Edit
BitMapBackend::new("closeness_histogram.png", (1280, 720))
```

Make 100% sure this is a writable path. Try replacing it with an absolute path for debugging:

```
rust

O Copy % Edit

let root = BitMapBackend::new("/tmp/closeness_histogram.png", (1280, 720)).into_drawing_c
```

Or ensure you're writing in the same folder as your cargo run path.

2. Add a manual flush after root.present()

Plotters sometimes buffers drawing operations — so ensure it flushes to disk:

```
rust

root.present().expect("Failed to present drawing");

drop(root); // Force file to close
```

3. Add a basic test element to ensure rendering

Try adding a test rectangle. This will help confirm whether rendering is happening at all:

```
rust

use plotters::style::ShapeStyle;

chart.draw_series(std::iter::once(Rectangle::new(
    [(10, 0), (15, 10)],
    ShapeStyle {
        color: BLUE.to_rgba(),
        filled: true,
        stroke_width: 1,
     },
})))?;
```

If this shows up and your real bars don't, then you know the issue is with the bin counts being too low (possibly all zeros).

4. Are all bins zero?

Print out the highest count



I used chatGPT to help me understand why the basis of the rust plotters histogram, (https://github.com/plotters-rs/plotters/blob/master/plotters/examples/histogram.rs) was not working. It guided me towards this specific line, which was very helpful.

```
.data(bins.iter().enumerate().map(|(i, &count)| (i, count))));
```

Basically, when we want to actually feed our data to plotters, we iterate over our bin number, and then map the index and the count, which is not what I was trying to do. I was trying to actually do something totally different, where I just fed my data straight in.

```
build_cartesian_2d(0..bin_count, 0u32..*bins.iter().max().unwrap_or(&1))?;
```

The other tip it gave when I was trying to understand what I did wrong was the creation of my build_cartesian_2d. I was trying to give it just the bin count, and the bins themselves. But it suggested giving it a range of bin_count, which is what build_cartesian needed, plus iterating through the bins, pulling the max and then unwrapping it. Which is what can be seen above.