



## INFECTIOUS SOCIO PATTERNS

### SIXTY-NINE DAYS OF CLOSE ENCOUNTERS AT THE SCIENCE GALLERY

In the spring of 2009, the Science Gallery in Dublin, Ireland, held the artscience exhibition INFECTIOUS: STAY AWAY, which explored mechanisms of contagion and strategies of containment. The visitors of this exhibition were invited to participate in INFECTIOUS SOCIO PATTERNS, a simulated epidemic of an electronic infectious agent that spreads through close-range proximity of individuals. The simulation system was built on top of the SocioPatterns sensing platform. This platform uses wearable electronic badges to sense sustained face-to-face proximity –a proxy observable for social contact– among the participants.

More than 30,000 visitors participated in INFECTIOUS SOCIO PATTERNS over the three-month course of the exhibition. All sensory data generated by the system during this period was gathered and stored for use in the scientific research of the SocioPatterns project.

The collected data also served as input for SIXTY-NINE DAYS OF CLOSE ENCOUNTERS AT THE SCIENCE GALLERY. This visualization is structured in a six by twelve grid of daily diagrams. The columns span Tuesdays to Sundays –Monday is the closing day of the venue– while the rows span twelve weeks of INFECTIOUS: STAY AWAY



For each day, a cumulative contact graph is shown in which nodes represent visitors and edges connect individuals who spent time in face-to-face proximity. Nodes are color-coded according to their time of arrival at the venue, as shown in panel S1. The diameter of the contact graph, i.e., the maximal shortest path between node pairs, is highlighted as shown in panel S2.

The contact graph is wrapped by a circular bar chart that displays the recorded number of social encounters over two-minute intervals, as shown in panel S3. The position and angle of the bars are those of the hour hand of a 12-hour clock at the corresponding time. The colors of the bars match those used for the arrival time of nodes in the graph, so that the bar chart also serves as the legend for the color-coding of time.

More details on the data collection process and the properties of the contact graphs shown here can be found in the Journal of Theoretical Biology [ “What’s in a crowd? Analysis of face-to-face behavioral networks”, by Lorenzo Isella, Juliette Stehlé, Alain Barrat, Ciro Cattuto, Jean-François Pinton, and Wouter Van den Broeck, Journal of Theoretical Biology 271, 166-180 (2011) ]

This visualization was created by Wouter Van den Broeck and Marco Quaggiotto, in collaboration with Lorenzo Isella, Ciro Cattuto and Alain Barrat. This work is part of the SocioPatterns project ([www.sociopatterns.org](http://www.sociopatterns.org)), with support from the ISI Foundation in Turin, Italy ([www.isi.it](http://www.isi.it)), and the Science Gallery in Dublin, Ireland ([www.sciencegallery.com](http://www.sciencegallery.com)). © 2011, [sociopatterns.org](http://www.sociopatterns.org)