

LASNE: VISUALISING RETWEET NETWORKS THROUGH TIME

A CASE STUDY OF THE UKRAINIAN CRISIS

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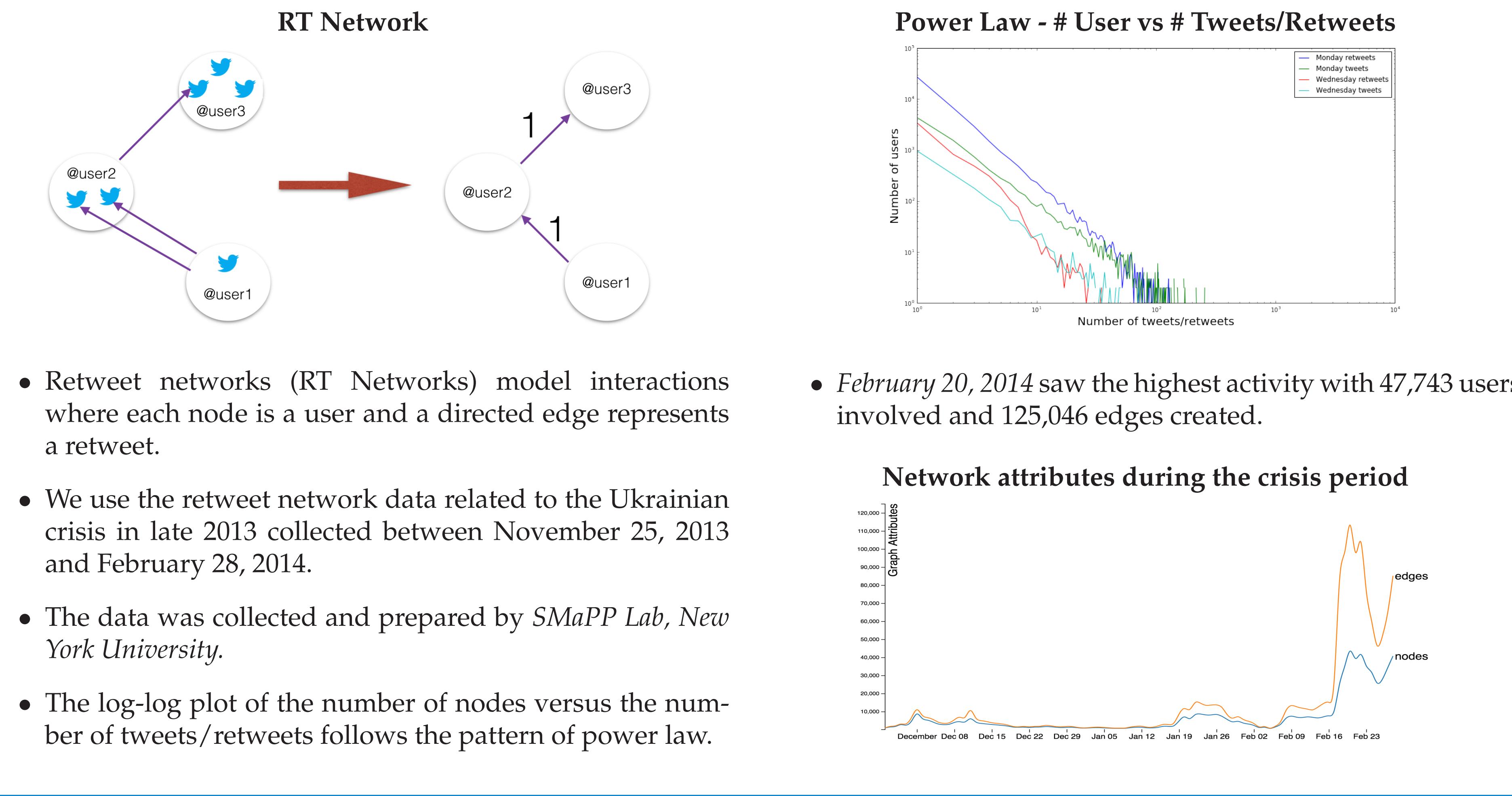
MOTIVATION

- Who are the Twitter leaders during the Ukrainian crisis?
- How do they interact and how does it change over time?
- What role does language play?
- How to consider for the scale of the network?

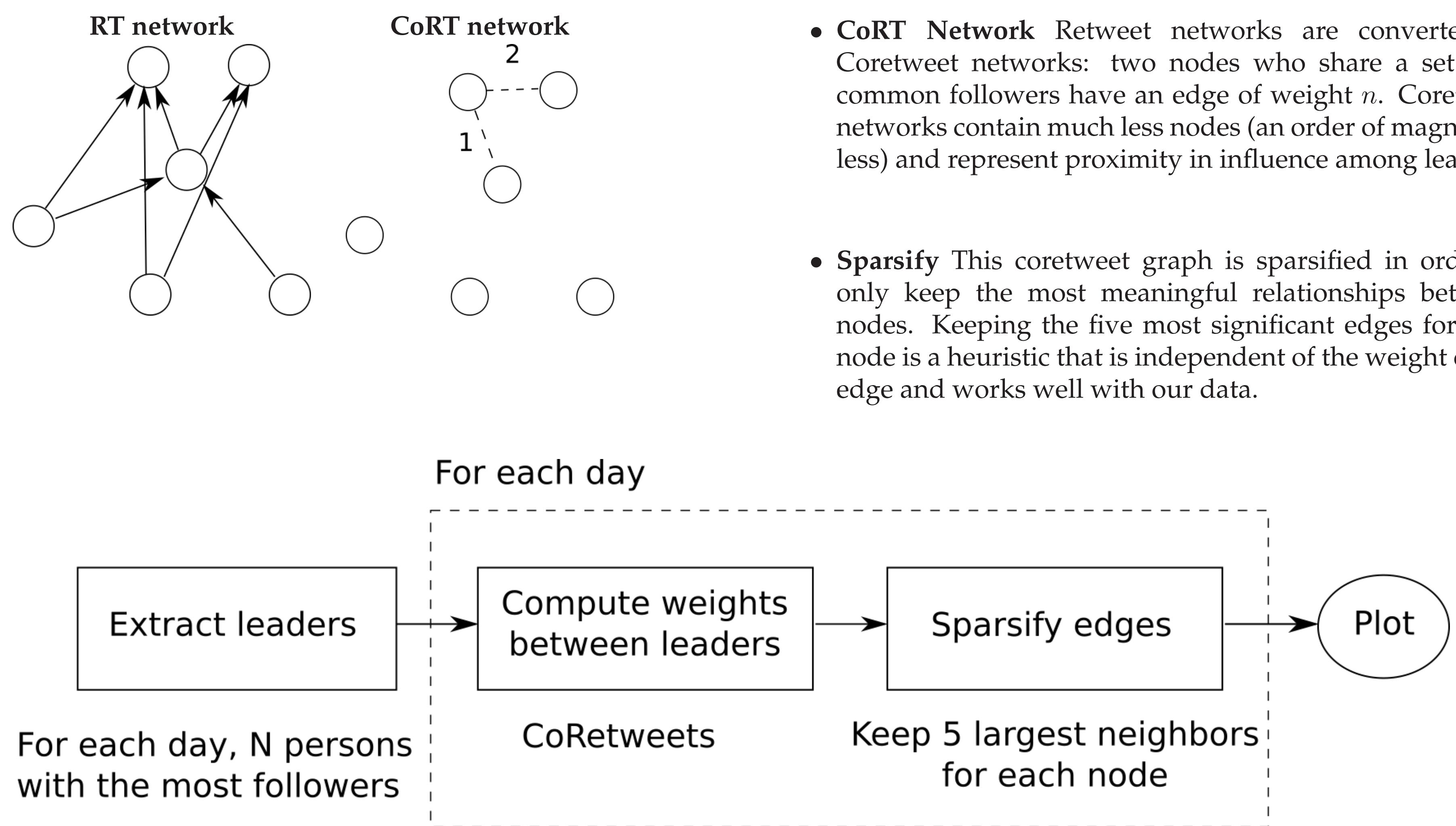
UKRAINIAN CRISIS

On November 21 2013, Ukraine's president Viktor Yanukovych suspended preparations for a trade deal with the European Union. This resulted in mass protests by its proponents, known as the *Euromaidan*. After months of such protests, Yanukovych was ousted by the protesters on 22 February 2014, when he fled the capital city of Ukraine, Kiev.

DATA



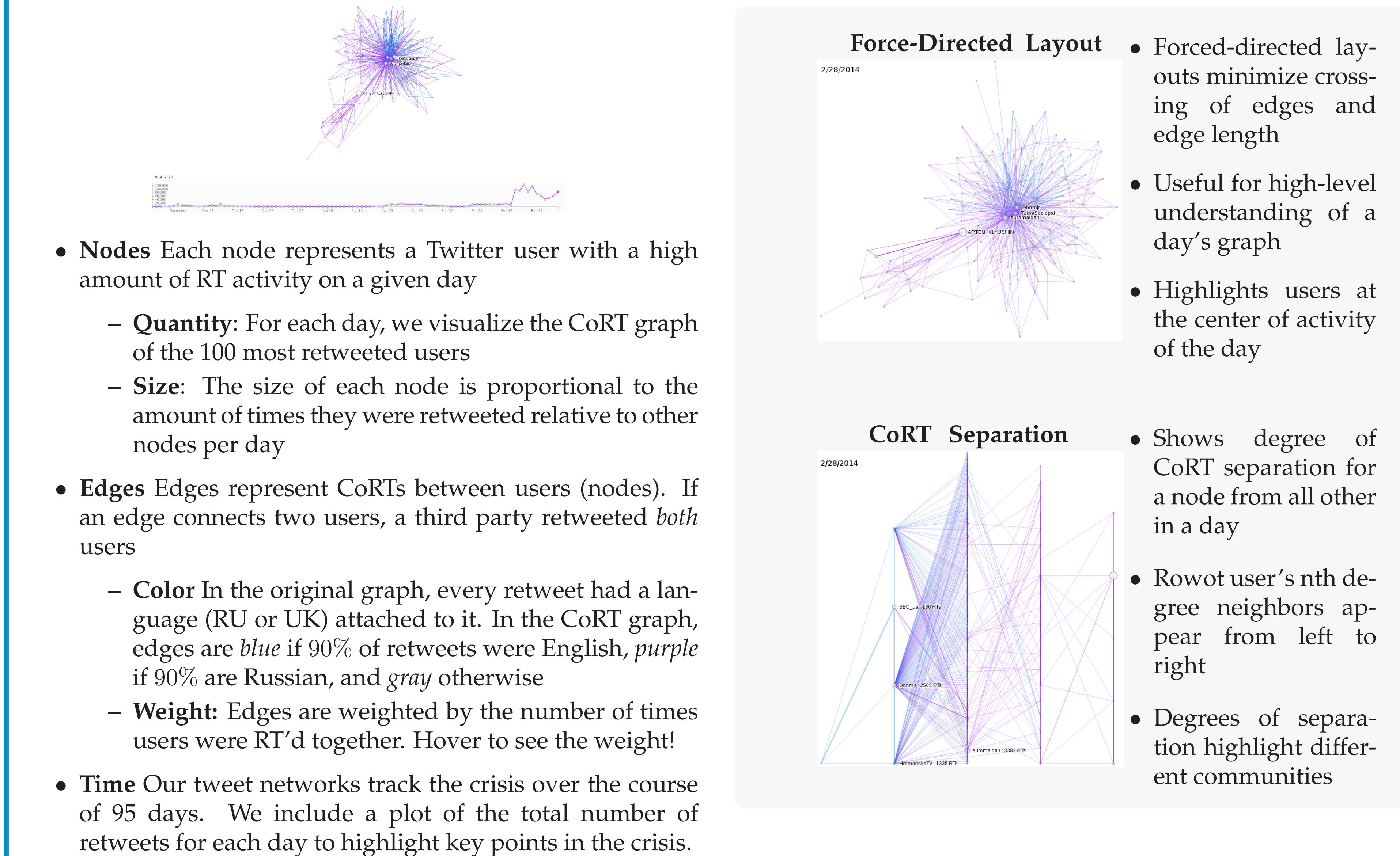
PROCESSING PIPELINE



- **Language** Properties of the graph need to be kept in the CoRT graph as well. For the Ukraine data, edges have a *language* attribute. This attribute is conveyed into the CoRT by counting the number of retweeters for which both edges had the same language.
- **Tweet Count** Another property is kept in the CoRT graph: the raw tweet count. This surfaces different behaviors in the graph: some nodes have a big retweet count but are not connected to the rest, whereas other are very central on the contrary.

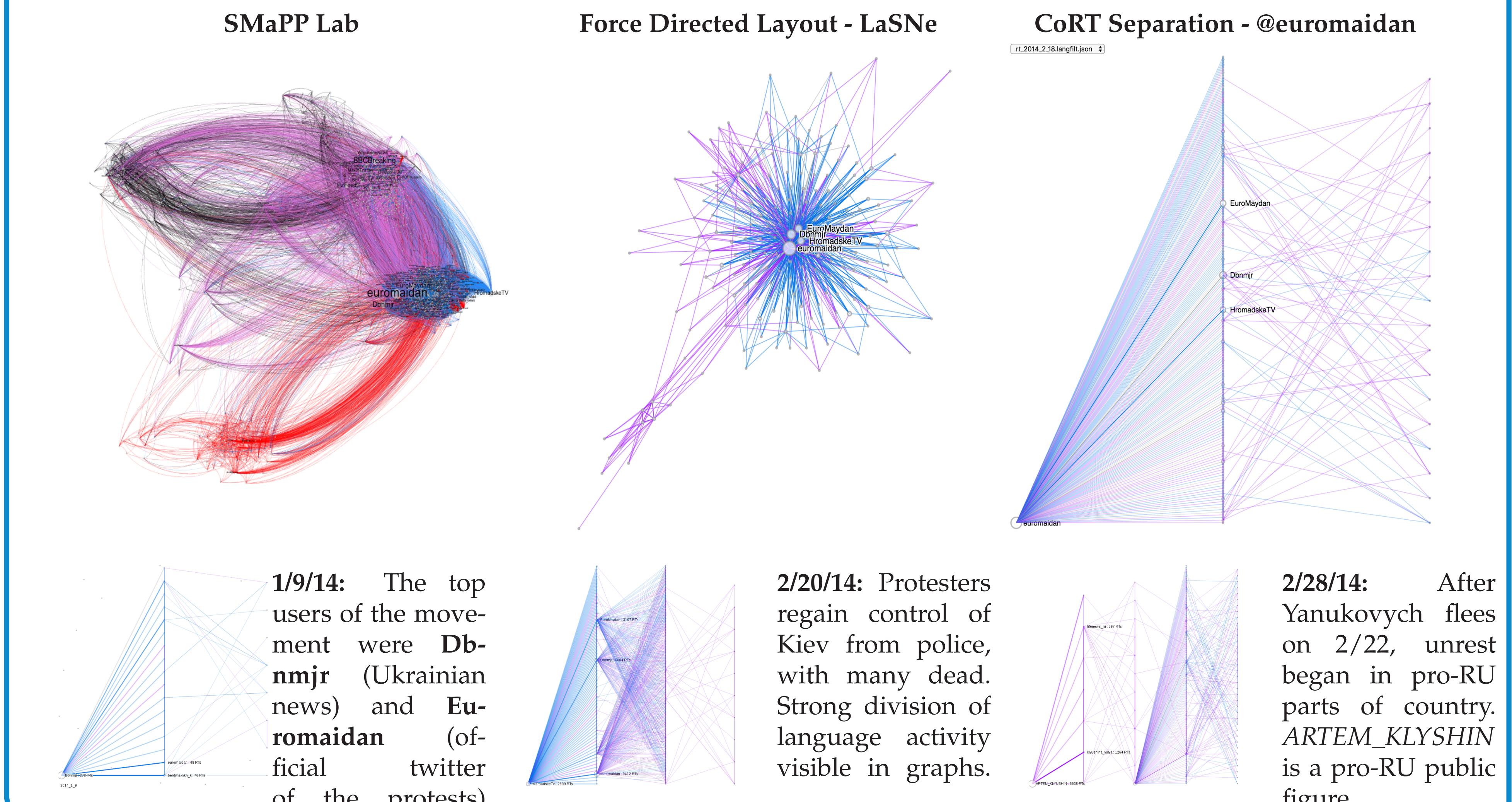
INTERFACE DESIGN

We wanted all of the visual aspects of our network representation to have meaning. The result is an interactive d3 visualization that can switch between two views of the CoRT graph - a force directed layout and a user degree of separation layout.



KEY OBSERVATIONS

- **February 18 2014**: LaSNe preserves important users in the network and allows exploration of the interactions of any leader.



FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Apply LaSNe to other RT networks
- Incorporate analysis of tweet contents in LaSNe

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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