

Backscatter Scripts

Documentation

1.0

How to use the tool

Purpose

Upload a network and apply scripts

What the scripts do

It depends on the script. They can:

- Generate pictures
 - Extract information
 - Transform the network

The scripts are Backscatter-tuned.

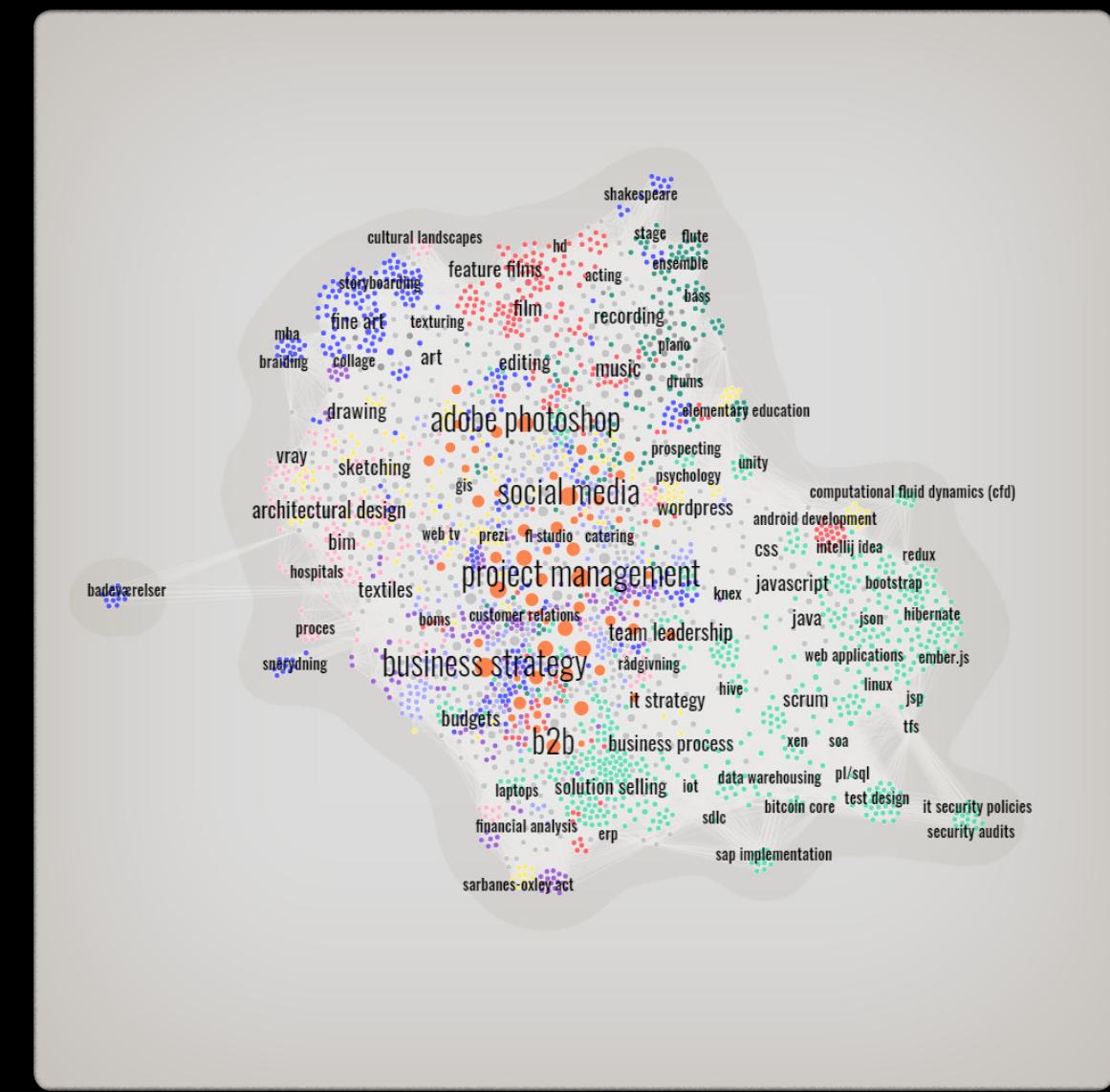
How to use

1. Upload a network (GEXF file)
 2. Edit script **settings**
 3. Apply the script

Why using it

Mostly to generate professional network maps, or sometimes to tinker.

Output example:



General remarks

Use FIREFOX for a more reliable experience (the tool is a web page).

Note: the tool will crash if asked too much. There is no risk, but due to technical constraints, memory errors are not handled gracefully.

Additional informations are displayed in the Javascript console.

When you work on a script for more than five minutes, use an external text editor and save often.

Upload screen

BACKSCATTER

This tool is developed by Copenhagen-based analysis studio Backscatter in collaboration with Mathieu Jacomy of TANTLab. Feel free to explore and use it to visualize your networks.

LOAD GRAPH
CLICK or DRAG A FILE

How to use
Load your network into the tool in the lower-left corner or try the reference network. Then pick and edit a script and enjoy the outcome: a processed network, image, or anything Javascript can produce.

Note: some scripts require editing their settings to work with your network. See documentation.

Reference network
[TRY ME] All the scripts work with this network.

How to edit scripts
You can edit them in the interface or directly in the code editor. The language is Javascript. The graph library used is Graphology.

TEST TRY:
Use the reference network. Scripts will work without editing settings

NORMAL USE:
Upload your network

↑

Recipes/scripts screen

The screenshot shows the 'SCRIPTS' tab selected in the top navigation bar. The main area displays a list of available scripts:

- [empty script]**: Copy-paste your own script here.
- Prepare**: Explore attributes, and get the JSON of clusters and colors
- Make a Map**: Simple rendering of nodes and edges (1 megapixel).
- Make a Map (settings: clusters)**: Rendering of nodes and clusters (1 megapixels)
- Make a Map (settings: high resolution)**: Produces a high quality, 64 megapixel rendering of nodes and edges.
- Legend**: Produces the legend for your map.
- Highlight Modality**: Highlights one or more modalities, and mutes or hides the rest.
- Orientation Mini-map**: A mini-map with highlighted modalities. For integration within maps.

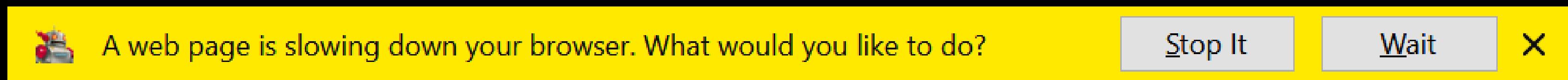
On the left side, there is a sidebar with the 'BACKSCATTER' logo and a circular icon. Below the logo, it says: "This tool is developed by Copenhagen-based analysis studio Backscatter in collaboration with Mathieu Jacomy of TANTLab. Feel free to explore and use it to visualize your networks." It lists a single graph entry: "backscatter-test" with "2,764 nodes - 107,726 edges" and "Simple undirected graph". It includes two buttons: "RELOAD ORIGINAL GRAPH" and "SAVE GEXF".

Two large black circles with white text annotations are overlaid on the interface:

- A circle on the left labeled "Pick a script" with a red arrow pointing from it towards the sidebar area.
- A circle on the right labeled "TABS: Navigate between the list of scripts, script edit, and output" with a red arrow pointing from it towards the top navigation bar.

“WAIT” message

When you run a script, your browser may prompt you like this:



You can **ignore it**, you **don't need to click** on “wait.”

Explanation: the Javascript is not “single-threaded” which means that when a heavy computation is running, the browser tab freezes.

Your browser believes that the web page has a bug, but it is actually normal since we run heavy algorithms. So you can ignore the alert, it does not block the algorithm. If you do not click on “wait,” the warning will disappear by itself when the computation ends, as the browser tab unfreezes.

I.

Overview of
the scripts

Prepare

Explore attributes, and get the JSON of clusters and colors

Make a Map

Simple rendering of nodes and edges (1 megapixel).

Make a Map (settings: clusters)

Rendering of nodes and clusters (1 megapixels)

Make a Map (settings: high resolution)

Produces a high quality, 64 megapixel rendering of nodes and edges.

Legend

Produces the legend for your map.

Highlight Modality

Highlights one or more modalities, and mutes or hides the rest.

Orientation Mini-map

A mini-map with highlighted modalities. For integration within maps.

Get Top Nodes

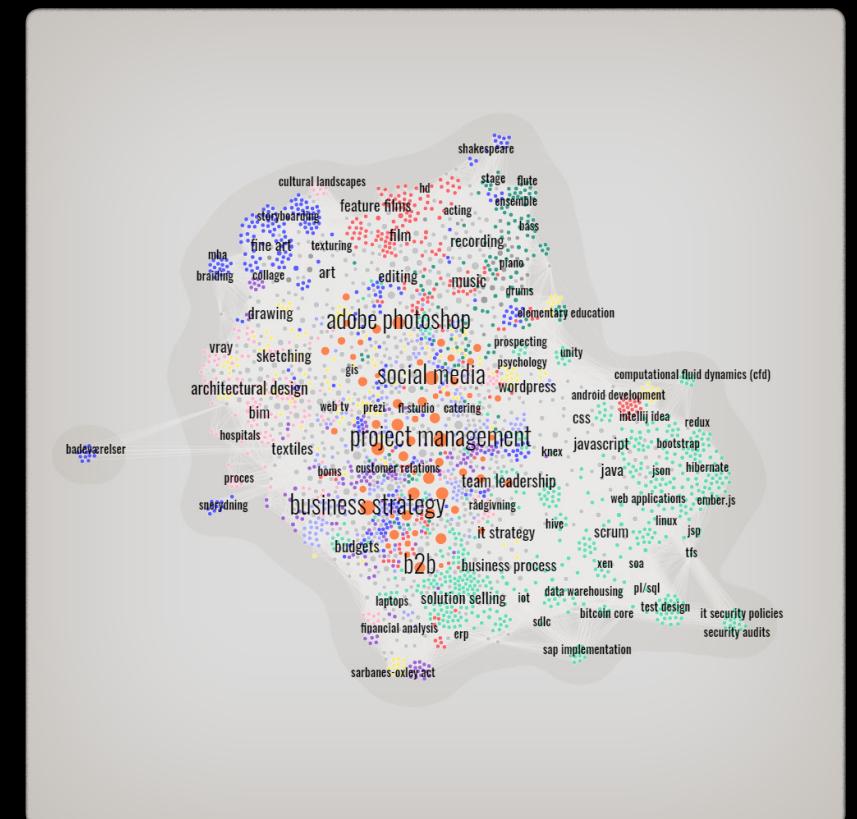
Generate a list of nodes to highlight. Edit this code to fit your needs.

Highlight Nodes

Highlights a list of nodes with thick black lines.

List of scripts

Make a map is the main script. It outputs a high quality map.



This script comes with 3 different settings, but out of that it is exactly the same.

Note: this script requires to run the Prepare script first.

Prepare

Explore attributes, and get the JSON of clusters and colors

Make a Map

Simple rendering of nodes and edges (1 megapixel).

Make a Map (settings: clusters)

Rendering of nodes and clusters (1 megapixels)

Make a Map (settings: high resolution)

Produces a high quality, 64 megapixel rendering of nodes and edges.

Legend

Produces the legend for your map.

Highlight Modality

Highlights one or more modalities, and mutes or hides the rest.

Orientation Mini-map

A mini-map with highlighted modalities. For integration within maps.

Get Top Nodes

Generate a list of nodes to highlight. Edit this code to fit your needs.

Highlight Nodes

Highlights a list of nodes with thick black lines.

List of scripts

Prepare is required before making a map. It does three things:

- Shows an overview of attributes
- Allows selecting the attribute to visualize
- Set the general color palette

Output example:

15 NODE ATTRIBUTES

modularity_class

Attribute ID: modularity_class
Type: integer (1, 2, 3...)

Values summary

Nodes take 7 different values for this attribute.
The biggest group with the same value has 895 nodes (32%).
The smallest group has 13 nodes.
0 nodes have a specific (non shared) value.

Values

- 3: 895 nodes
- 7: 574 nodes
- 1: 471 nodes
- 5: 400 nodes
- 4: 300 nodes
- 6: 111 nodes
- 2: 13 nodes

Color settings bundle (COPY-PASTABLE JSON)

Prepare

Explore attributes, and get the JSON of clusters and colors

Make a Map

Simple rendering of nodes and edges (1 megapixel).

Make a Map (settings: clusters)

Rendering of nodes and clusters (1 megapixels)

Make a Map (settings: high resolution)

Produces a high quality, 64 megapixel rendering of nodes and edges.

Legend

Produces the legend for your map.

Highlight Modality

Highlights one or more modalities, and mutes or hides the rest.

Orientation Mini-map

A mini-map with highlighted modalities. For integration within maps.

Get Top Nodes

Generate a list of nodes to highlight. Edit this code to fit your needs.

Highlight Nodes

Highlights a list of nodes with thick black lines.

List of scripts

Legend outputs a map legend as multiple images. It also requires to run Prepare.

Output example:

NETWORK DETAILS

nodes: 2,764

edges: 107,726

 **Digital industries** 595 nodes

 **Arts & Crafts** 298 nodes

 **Film & TV** 221 nodes

 **Advertising, marketing & public relati...** 192 nodes

 **Architecture** 182 nodes

 **Fashion & textiles** 160 nodes

 **Design** 159 nodes

 **Music** 145 nodes

 **Multiple** 58 nodes

 **Arts & Crafts + Music** 26 nodes

Prepare

Explore attributes, and get the JSON of clusters and colors

Make a Map

Simple rendering of nodes and edges (1 megapixel).

Make a Map (settings: clusters)

Rendering of nodes and clusters (1 megapixels)

Make a Map (settings: high resolution)

Produces a high quality, 64 megapixel rendering of nodes and edges.

Legend

Produces the legend for your map.

Highlight Modality

Highlights one or more modalities, and mutes or hides the rest.

Orientation Mini-map

A mini-map with highlighted modalities. For integration within maps.

Get Top Nodes

Generate a list of nodes to highlight. Edit this code to fit your needs.

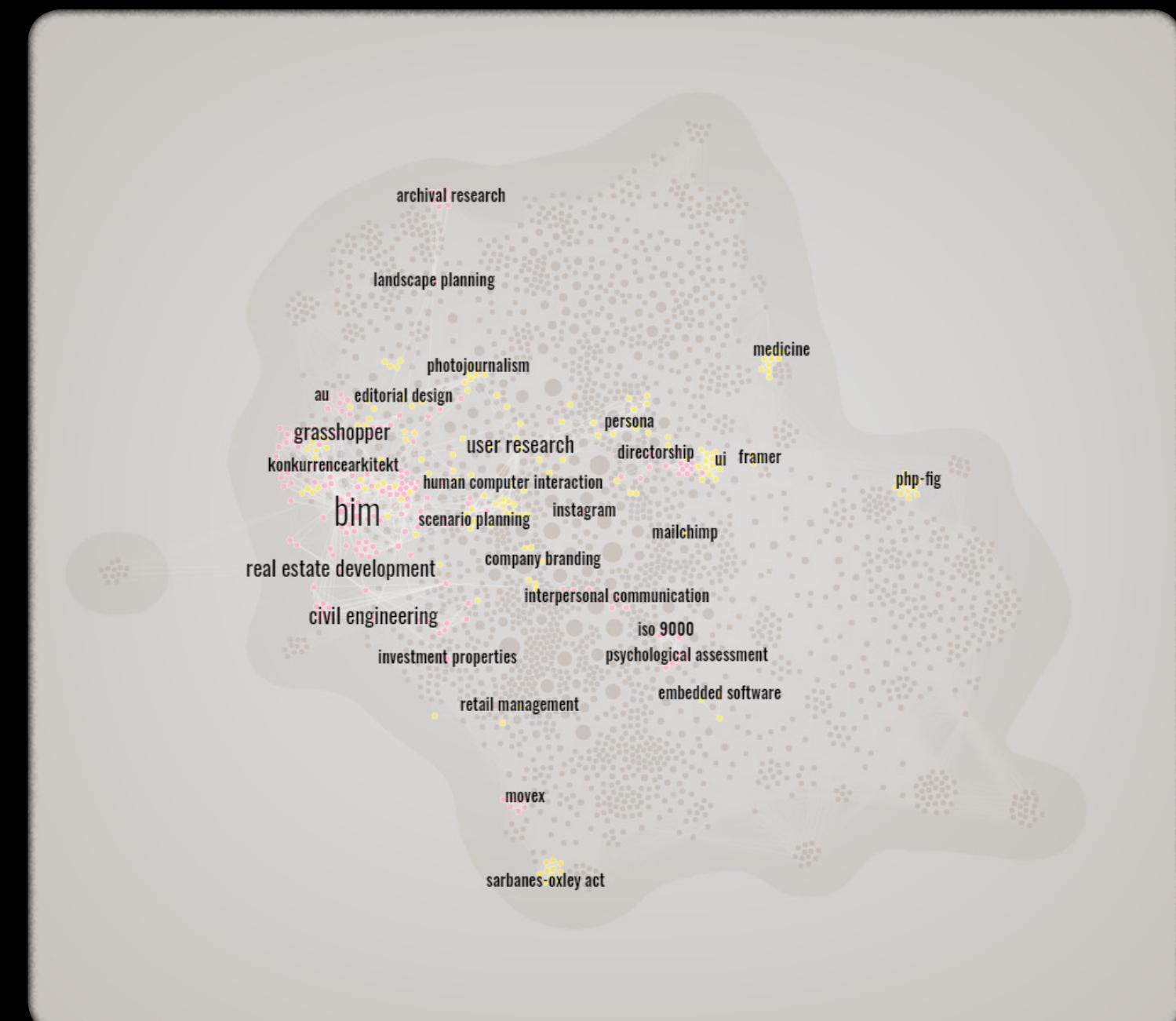
Highlight Nodes

Highlights a list of nodes with thick black lines.

List of scripts

Highlight modality outputs a map only featuring the selected modality(-ies).

Output example:



Prepare

Explore attributes, and get the JSON of clusters and colors

Make a Map

Simple rendering of nodes and edges (1 megapixel).

Make a Map (settings: clusters)

Rendering of nodes and clusters (1 megapixels)

Make a Map (settings: high resolution)

Produces a high quality, 64 megapixel rendering of nodes and edges.

Legend

Produces the legend for your map.

Highlight Modality

Highlights one or more modalities, and mutes or hides the rest.

Orientation Mini-map

A mini-map with highlighted modalities. For integration within maps.

Get Top Nodes

Generate a list of nodes to highlight. Edit this code to fit your needs.

Highlight Nodes

Highlights a list of nodes with thick black lines.

List of scripts

Orientation mini-map outputs a simplified mini-map that you can integrate to your graphical compositions.

Output example:



Prepare

Explore attributes, and get the JSON of clusters and colors

Make a Map

Simple rendering of nodes and edges (1 megapixel).

Make a Map (settings: clusters)

Rendering of nodes and clusters (1 megapixels)

Make a Map (settings: high resolution)

Produces a high quality, 64 megapixel rendering of nodes and edges.

Legend

Produces the legend for your map.

Highlight Modality

Highlights one or more modalities, and mutes or hides the rest.

Orientation Mini-map

A mini-map with highlighted modalities. For integration within maps.

Get Top Nodes

Generate a list of nodes to highlight. Edit this code to fit your needs.

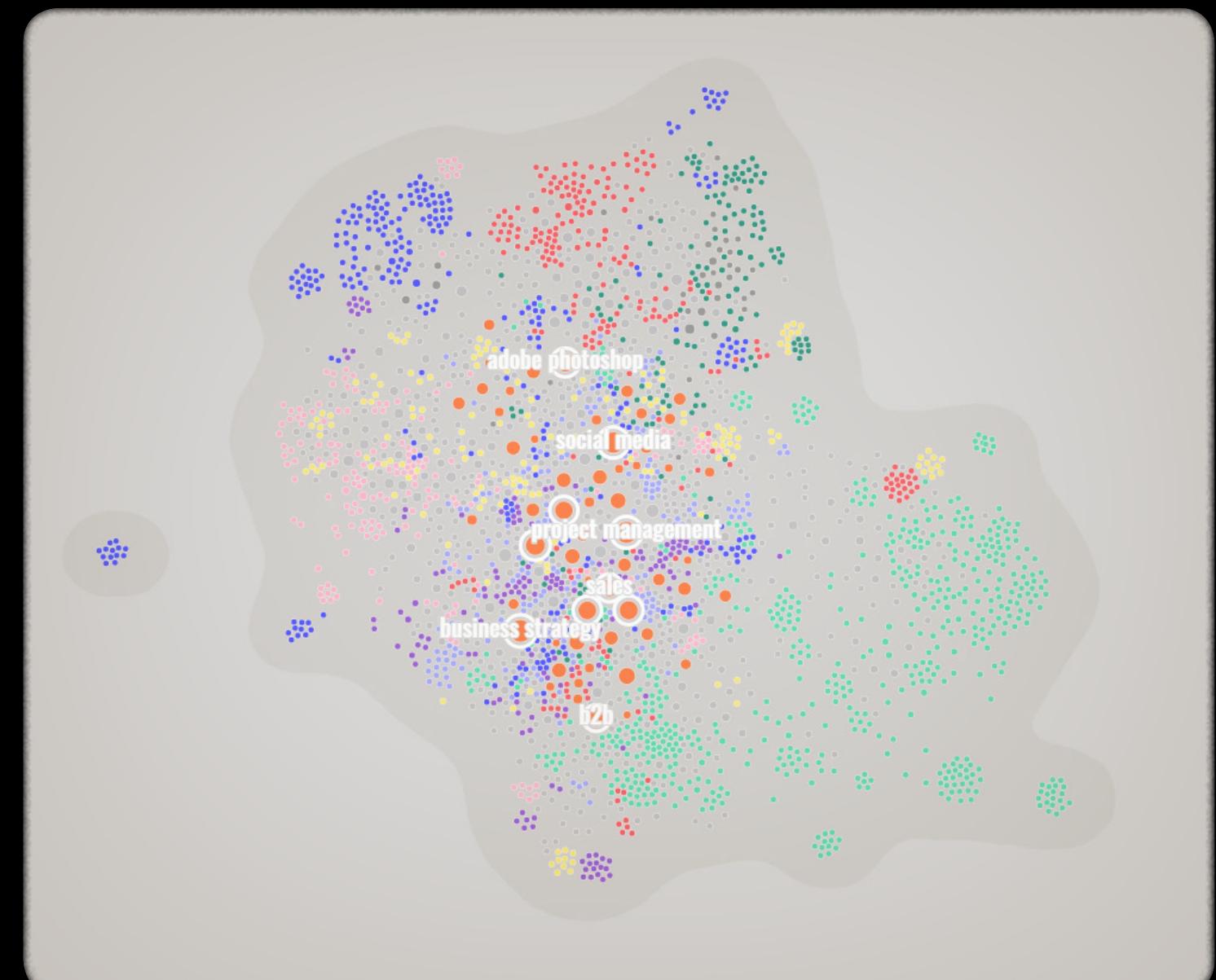
Highlight Nodes

Highlights a list of nodes with thick black lines.

List of scripts

Highlight nodes outputs a map where only certain nodes are highlighted.
It requires using first **Get Top Nodes**.

Output example:



Prepare

Explore attributes, and get the JSON of clusters and colors

Make a Map

Simple rendering of nodes and edges (1 megapixel).

Make a Map (settings: clusters)

Rendering of nodes and clusters (1 megapixels)

Make a Map (settings: high resolution)

Produces a high quality, 64 megapixel rendering of nodes and edges.

Legend

Produces the legend for your map.

Highlight Modality

Highlights one or more modalities, and mutes or hides the rest.

Orientation Mini-map

A mini-map with highlighted modalities. For integration within maps.

Get Top Nodes

Generate a list of nodes to highlight. Edit this code to fit your needs.

Highlight Nodes

Highlights a list of nodes with thick black lines.

List of scripts

Get Top Nodes outputs a list of nodes selected according to a query coded in Javascript.

Output example:

```
settings.highlighted_nodes = [  
    "skillsclen_b76fc4fc73f8aef0dd73508884996698",  
    "skillsclen_948d1f30a0fada44d35950f6c3882c1a",  
    "skillsclen_56b7bb6871857f290078cf83132bec40",  
    "skillsclen_af770060e56bfab1432aa5c4c2f7a5db",  
    "skillsclen_02cc8dc4d04d5ef6707cf76dbd9c43d3",  
    "skillsclen_d10af457daa1deed54e2c36b5f295e7e",  
    "skillsclen_c0089e6579593f104f5cce8f8ca3ed0a",  
    "skillsclen_c769c2bd15500dd906102d9be97fdceb",  
    "skillsclen_9ed083b1436e5f40ef984b28255eeef18",
```

II.

How to use
'Prepare' and
'Make a map'

How to use 'Prepare' and 'Make a map'

The script **Prepare** outputs informations on node attributes as a list.

For each attribute, you know the most important **modalities** (the values that nodes have for this attribute).

For each attribute, you also have a text field containing a JSON bundle. This bundle can be copy-pasted to other scripts like **Make a Map** to pass certain informations. You can also edit it.

attr_8

Attribute ID: attr_8
Type: string (text)

Values summary

Nodes take 184 different values for this attribute.
The biggest group with the same value has 595 nodes (22%).
The smallest group has 1 nodes.
61 nodes have a specific (non shared) value.

Values taken by the most nodes (top 10)

- Digital industries: 595 nodes
- Arts and Crafts: 298 nodes
- Film & TV: 221 nodes
- Advertising, marketing and public relations: 192 nodes
- Architecture;Andet: 182 nodes
- Fashion and textiles: 160 nodes
- Design: 159 nodes
- Music: 145 nodes
- Advertising, marketing and public relations | Architecture;Andet
- Arts and Crafts | Music: 36 nodes

Color settings bundle (COPY-PASTABLE JSON)

```
settings.node_clusters = {  
    "attribute_id": "attr_8",  
    "modalities": {  
        "Digital industries": {  
            "label": "Digital  
industries",  
            "count": 595,  
            "color": "#6BDEB6"  
        },  
        "Arts and Crafts": {  
            "label": "Arts  
and Crafts",  
            "count": 298,  
            "color": "#F0A0A0"  
        },  
        "Film & TV": {  
            "label": "Film &  
TV",  
            "count": 221,  
            "color": "#A0C0F0"  
        },  
        "Advertising, marketing and public relations": {  
            "label": "Advertising,  
marketing and public  
relations",  
            "count": 192,  
            "color": "#F0A0D0"  
        },  
        "Architecture;Andet": {  
            "label": "Architecture;  
Andet",  
            "count": 182,  
            "color": "#A0C0A0"  
        },  
        "Fashion and textiles": {  
            "label": "Fashion and  
textiles",  
            "count": 160,  
            "color": "#F0A0A0"  
        },  
        "Design": {  
            "label": "Design",  
            "count": 159,  
            "color": "#A0C0F0"  
        },  
        "Music": {  
            "label": "Music",  
            "count": 145,  
            "color": "#A0C0F0"  
        },  
        "Other": {  
            "label": "Other",  
            "count": 61,  
            "color": "#A0A0A0"  
        }  
    }  
}
```

How to use 'Prepare' and 'Make a map'

The **bundle** contains:

- The identifier (ID) of the **attribute**
- A list of the most important **modalities** containing for each:
 - A **label** that you can edit
 - A **color** that you can edit
 - A count of nodes (leave it as it is)
- A default color for the other modalities (you can edit it too)

You can also **remove** certain modalities, but pay attention to respect the JSON syntax.

```
settings.node_clusters = {
    "attribute_id": "attr_8",
    "modalities": [
        "Digital industries": {
            "label": "Digital industries",
            "count": 595,
            "color": "#6BDEB6"
        },
        "Arts and Crafts": {
            "label": "Arts and Crafts",
            "count": 298,
            "color": "#5B5FFF"
        },
        "Film & TV": {
            "label": "Film & TV",
            "count": 221,
            "color": "#F8686D"
        },
        "Advertising, marketing and public relations": {
            "label": "Advertising, marketing and public relations",
            "count": 192,
            "color": "#AAAEFB"
        },
        "Architecture;Andet": {
            "label": "Architecture;Andet",
            "count": 182,
            "color": "#FEBBCF"
        },
        "Fashion and textiles": {
            "label": "Fashion and textiles",
            "count": 160,
            "color": "#A067D4"
        }
    ],
    "default_color": "#C6C5C7"
}
```

How to use 'Prepare' and 'Make a map'

How does 'Prepare' make the bundle?

There can be many modalities (as many as nodes). It can be too many. So the script puts a **limit**. It only lists the modalities that have the most nodes. The other ones will use the default color.

You can **change the limit** in the settings.

You can also **change the color palette** in the settings.

'Prepare' settings:

```
21 // Modalities the less represented will be omitted
22 // Note: "Infinity" is a valid number here
23 i settings.maximum_modalities = 10
24
25
26 // Backscatter palette
27 // You will be able to modify colors afterwards
28 // Note: the order matters:
29 //       - from biggest to smallest cluster
30 //       - the last color is the default for small/other clusters
31
32 settings.default_palette = [
33   "#6BDEB6", // MINT GREEN
34   "#5B5FFF", // INDIGO BLUE
35   "#F8686D", // RED
36   "#AAAEFB", // VIOLET
37   "#FEBBCF", // PINK
38   "#A067D4", // PURPLE
39   "#FAEC7E", // YELLOW
40   "#3C9E8A", // GREEN
41   "#FC8550", // ORANGE
42   "#9F9F9F", // GREY
43   "#C6C5C7" // LIGHT GREY
44 ]
```

III.

'Make a Map'
settings

How settings are structured

```
i 19 var settings = {}  
i 20 // Auto-download the image once it is done  
i 21 settings.save_at_the_end = false  
i 22  
i 23 // Image size and resolution  
i 24 settings.width = 1000 // in pixels  
i 25 settings.height = 1000 // in pixels  
i 26  
i 27  
i 28 // Zoom:  
i 29 // You can zoom on a given point of the network  
i 30 // to focus on a specific detail. It's not very easy to use  
i 31 // because you must find the right point by trial and error.  
i 32 // By default, a slight unzoom gives a welcome space on the borders  
i 33 settings.zoom_enabled = true  
i 34 settings.zoom_window_size = 1.1 // range from 0 to 1 (dezooms if >1)  
i 35 settings.zoom_point = {x:0.5, y:0.5} // range from 0 to 1  
i 36  
i 37 // Layers:  
i 38 // Decide which layers are drawn.  
i 39 // The settings for each layer are below.  
i 40 settings.draw_background = true  
i 41 settings.draw_network_shape_fill = true  
i 42 settings.draw_network_shape_contour = false  
i 43 settings.draw_cluster_fills = false  
i 44 settings.draw_cluster_contours = false  
i 45 settings.draw_cluster_labels = false  
i 46 settings.draw_edges = true  
i 47 settings.draw_nodes = true  
i 48 settings.draw_node_labels = true  
i 49  
i 50 // Layer order variations:  
i 51 settings.cluster_fill_above_nodes = false  
i 52  
i 53 // Layer: Background  
i 54 settings.background_circle = true
```

The settings of each script are on top of it. They consist of a **list of values** that you can **edit**.

The language used is Javascript. It does not matter much, except for the syntax of **comments**, that start with a double slash:

// this is a comment

Comments often tell you which values are suitable (range etc.)

What settings do **save at the end**

```
21 // Auto-download the image once it is done  
i 22 settings.save_at_the_end = false
```

Possible values:
true or false

If set to true, **download the image** as
a file once the script is done.

Note: you can download the image
anyway with right click + save as.

If the script is demanding (high
resolution, many clusters...) it
is safer to enable this, because
some memory issues may happen
between the end of the script and
the manual saving.

What settings do width and height

```
24 // Image size and resolution  
25 settings.width = 1000 // in pixels  
26 settings.height = 1000 // in pixels
```

Sets the **pixel size** of the generated image.

Note: The other settings take this size into account.

Recommended practice: use a low resolution when you tweak the other settings, and use a high resolution at the end for the final export.

Example values:

Web image

1000 x 1000 (1 megapixel)

Zoomable web image

3000 x 3000 (9 megapixel)

High quality A4 print (300 dpi)

6300 x 8900 (56 megapixel)

Poster (100 x 100 cm, 200 dpi)

8000 x 8000 (64 megapixel)

What settings do zoom

```
28 // Zoom:  
29 // You can zoom on a given point of the network  
30 // to focus on a specific detail. It's not very easy to use  
31 // because you must find the right point by trial and error.  
32 // By default, a slight unzoom gives a welcome space on the borders  
33 settings.zoom_enabled = true  
34 settings.zoom_window_size = 1.1 // range from 0 to 1 (dezooms if >1)  
35 settings.zoom_point = {x:0.5, y:0.5} // range from 0 to 1
```

Zoom in or zoom out.

By default, the view is slightly
zoomed out for convenience.

The center point is expressed as a
ratio. x=0.5 means 50% from the left,
y=0.5 means 50% from the top.

No zoom:
`zoom_window_size = 1`

Zoom in: (less than 1)
`zoom_window_size = 0.5`

Zoom out: (more than 1)
`zoom_window_size = 2`

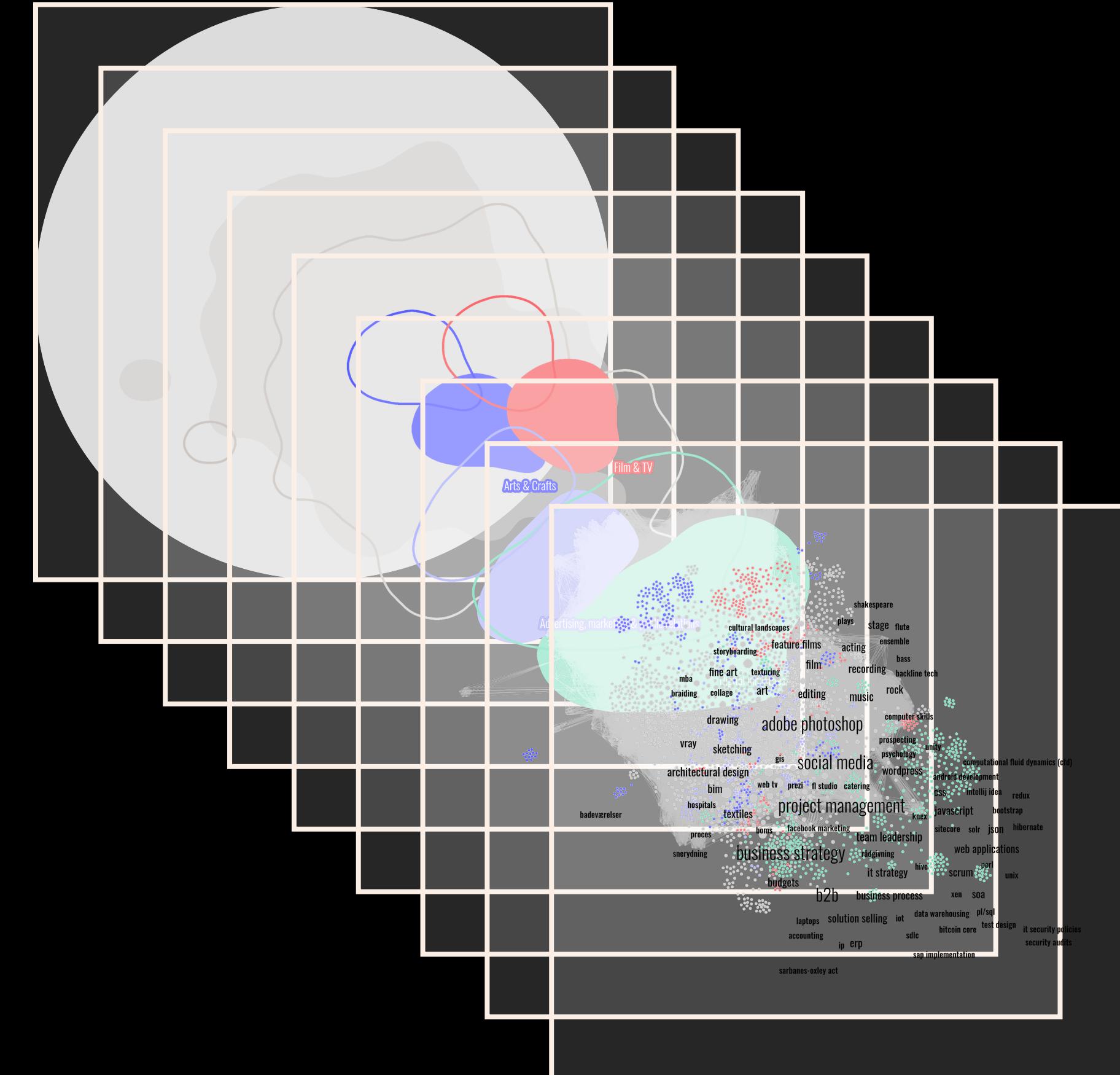
What settings do layers

```
37 // Layers:  
38 // Decide which layers are drawn.  
39 // The settings for each layer are below.  
40 settings.draw_background = true  
41 settings.draw_network_shape_fill = true  
42 settings.draw_network_shape_contour = false  
43 settings.draw_cluster_fills = false  
44 settings.draw_cluster_contours = false  
45 settings.draw_cluster_labels = false  
46 settings.draw_edges = true  
47 settings.draw_nodes = true  
48 settings.draw_node_labels = true
```

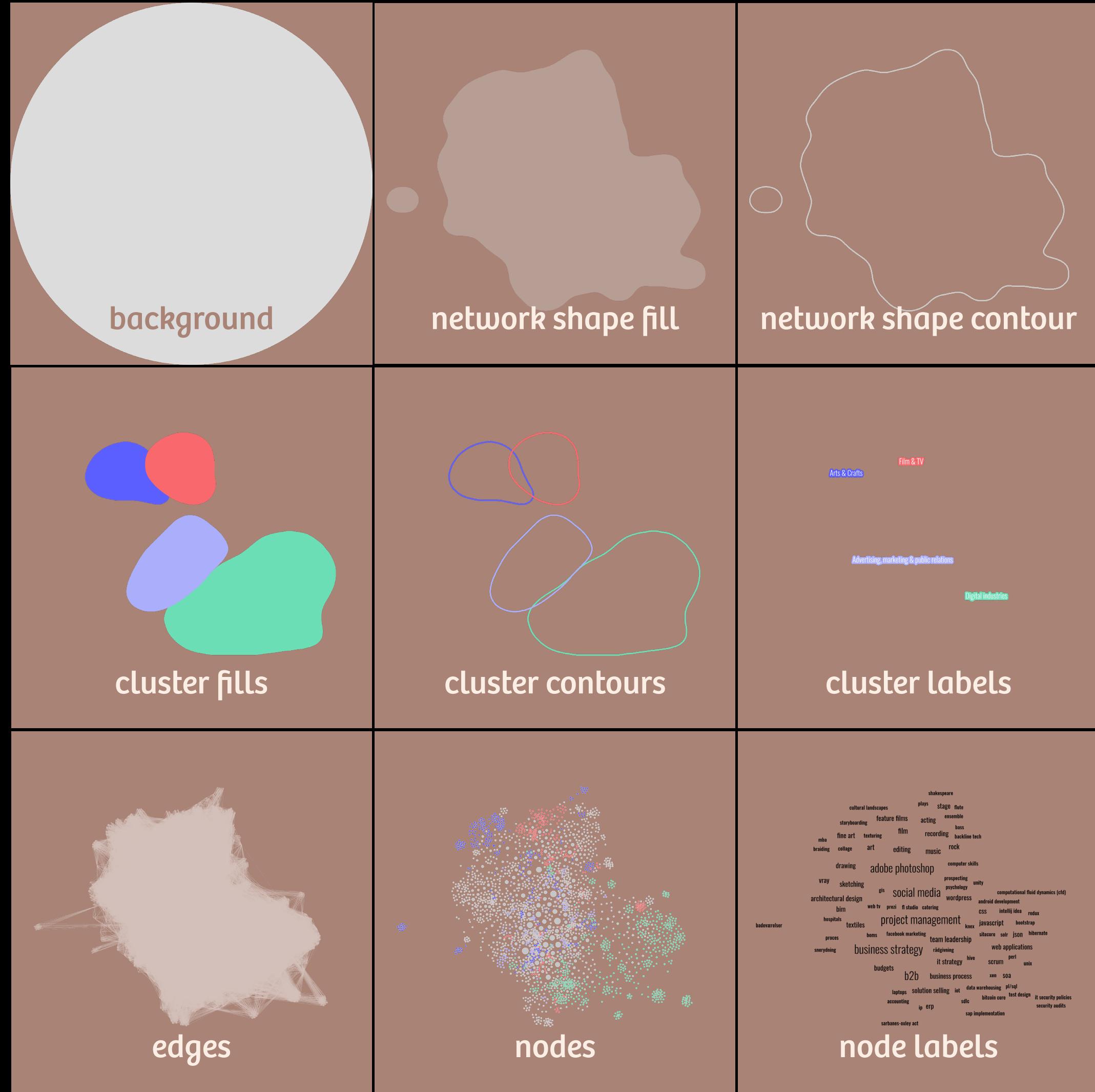
Decide which layers to display.

The final image is composed of layers like in Photoshop. They can be transparent.

Note: it is sometimes useful to export layers separately.

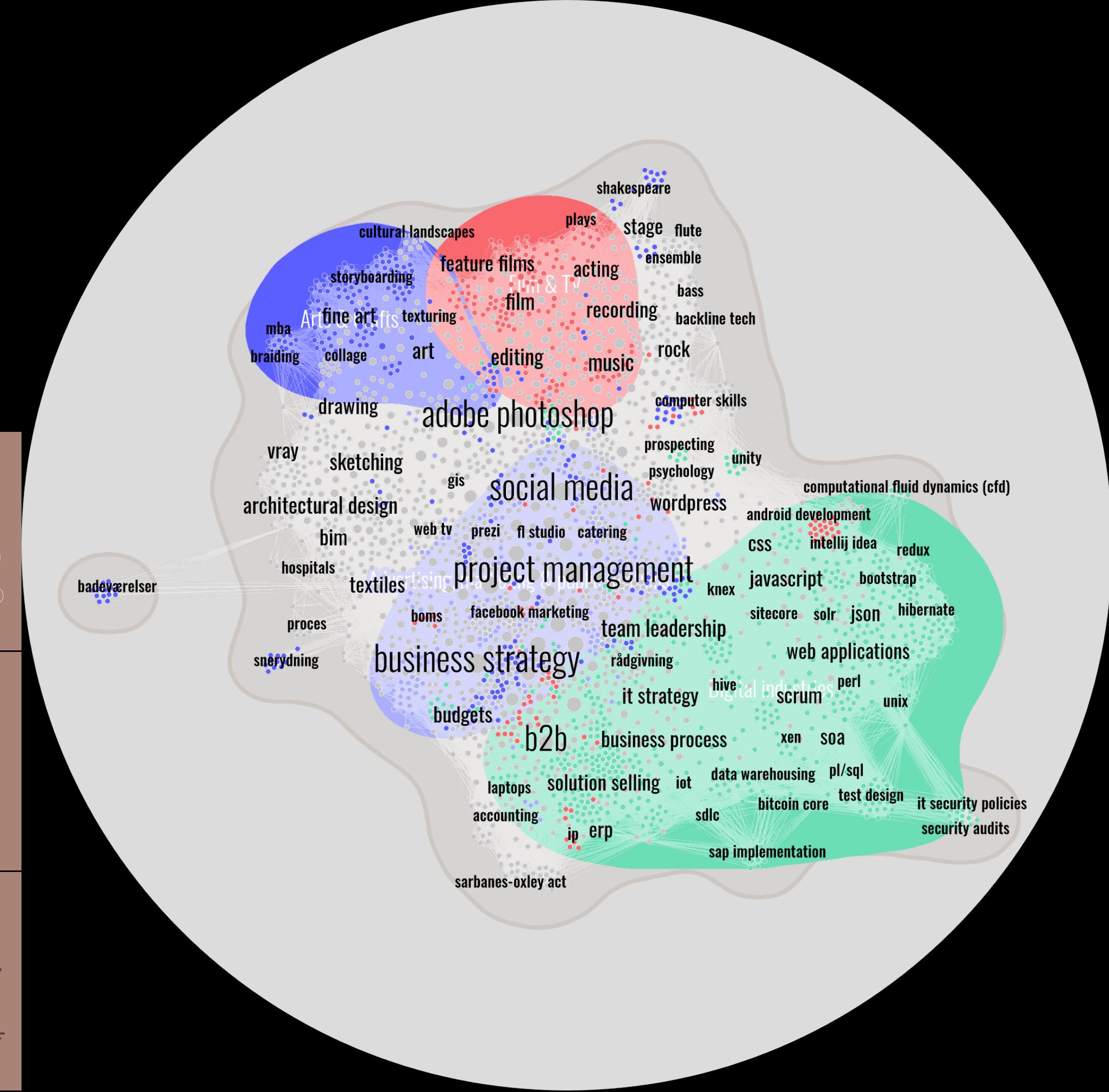
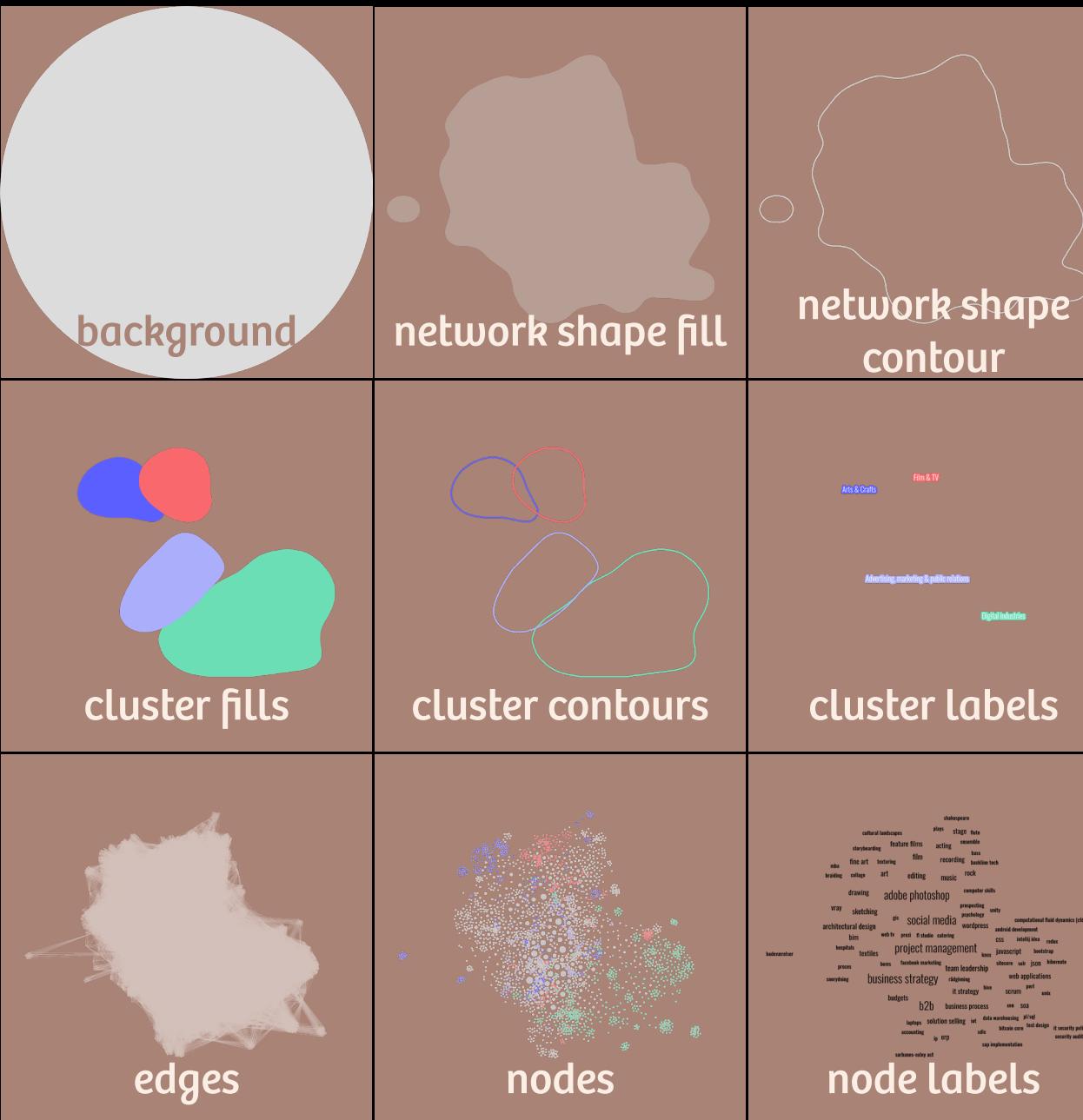


These are all
the layers



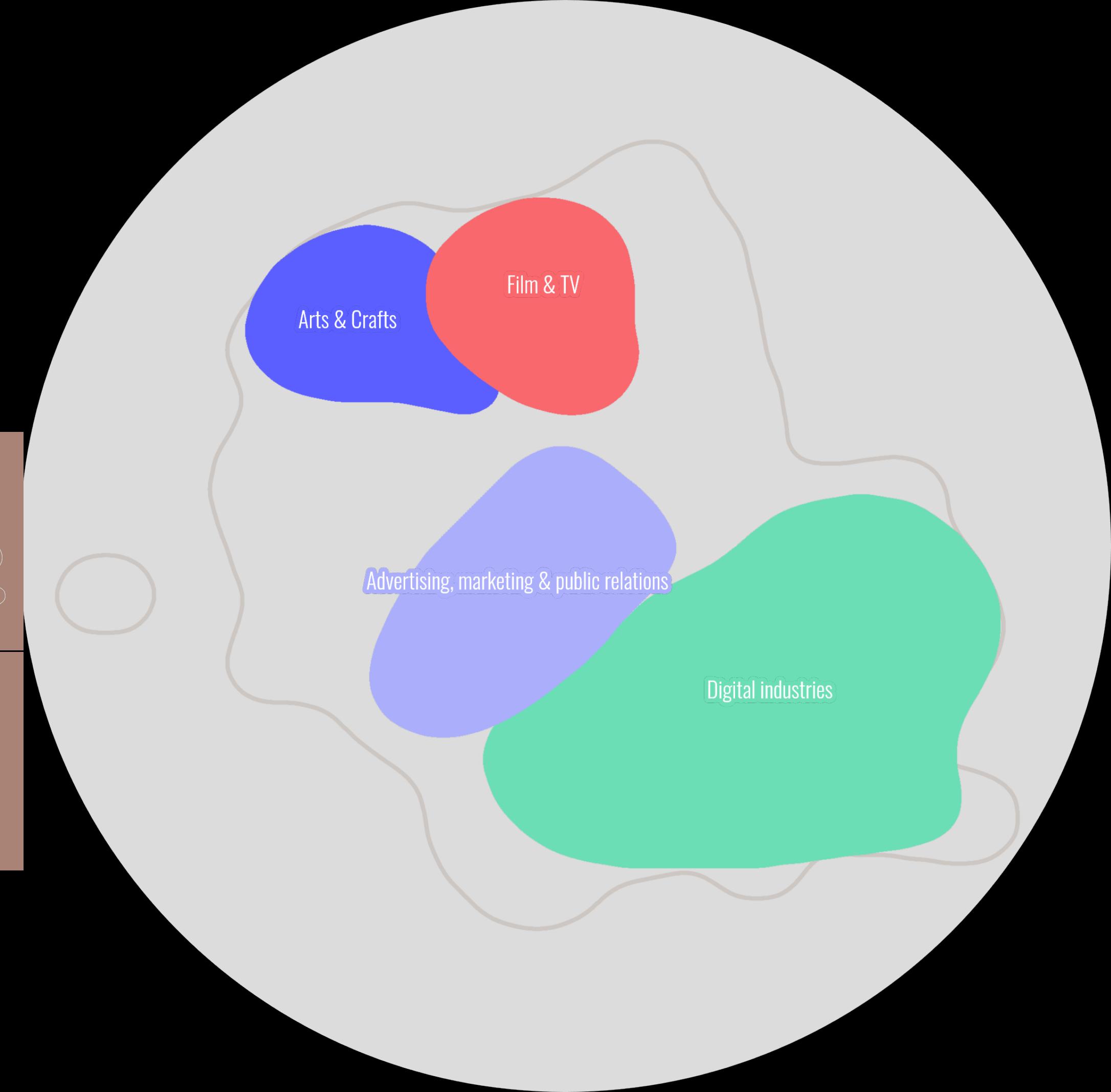
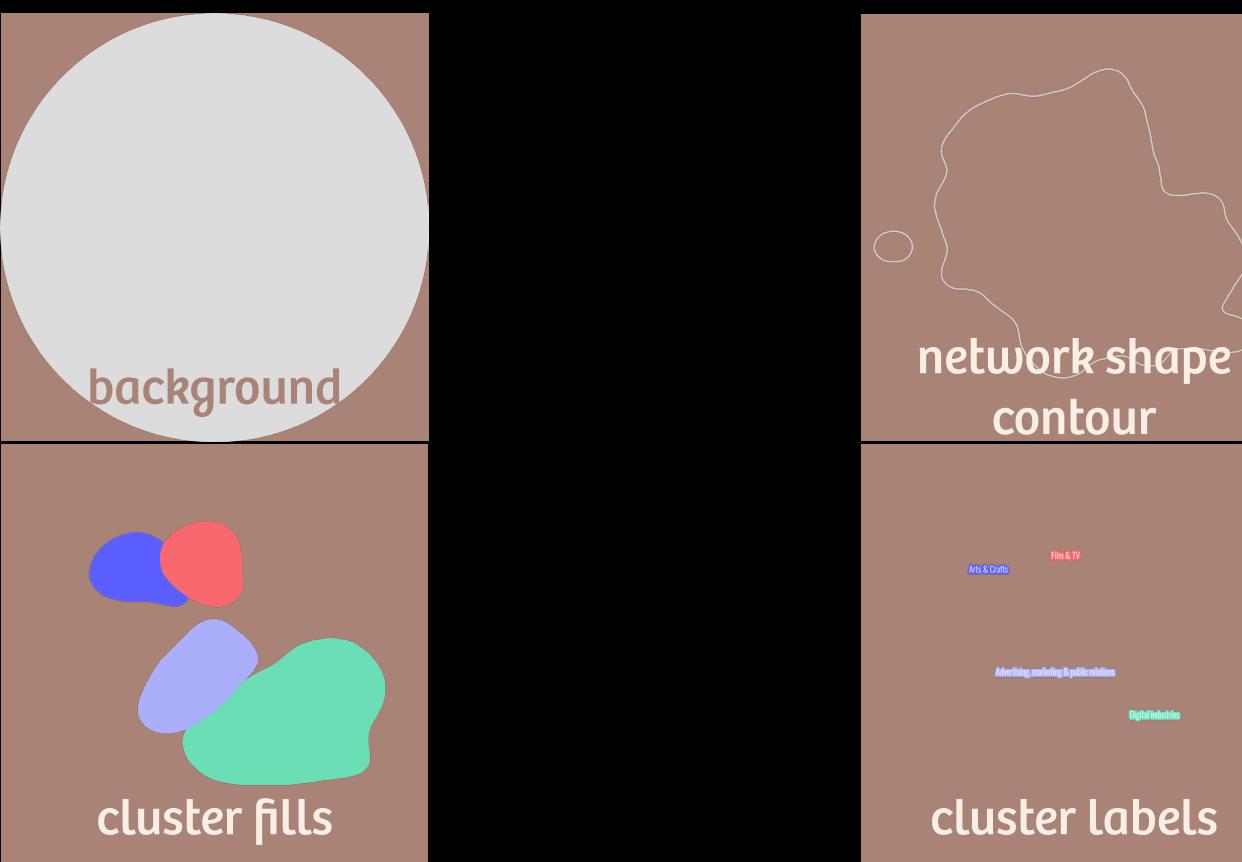
Layers Useful combinations

Displaying all layers at once
is not recommended...



Layers Useful combinations

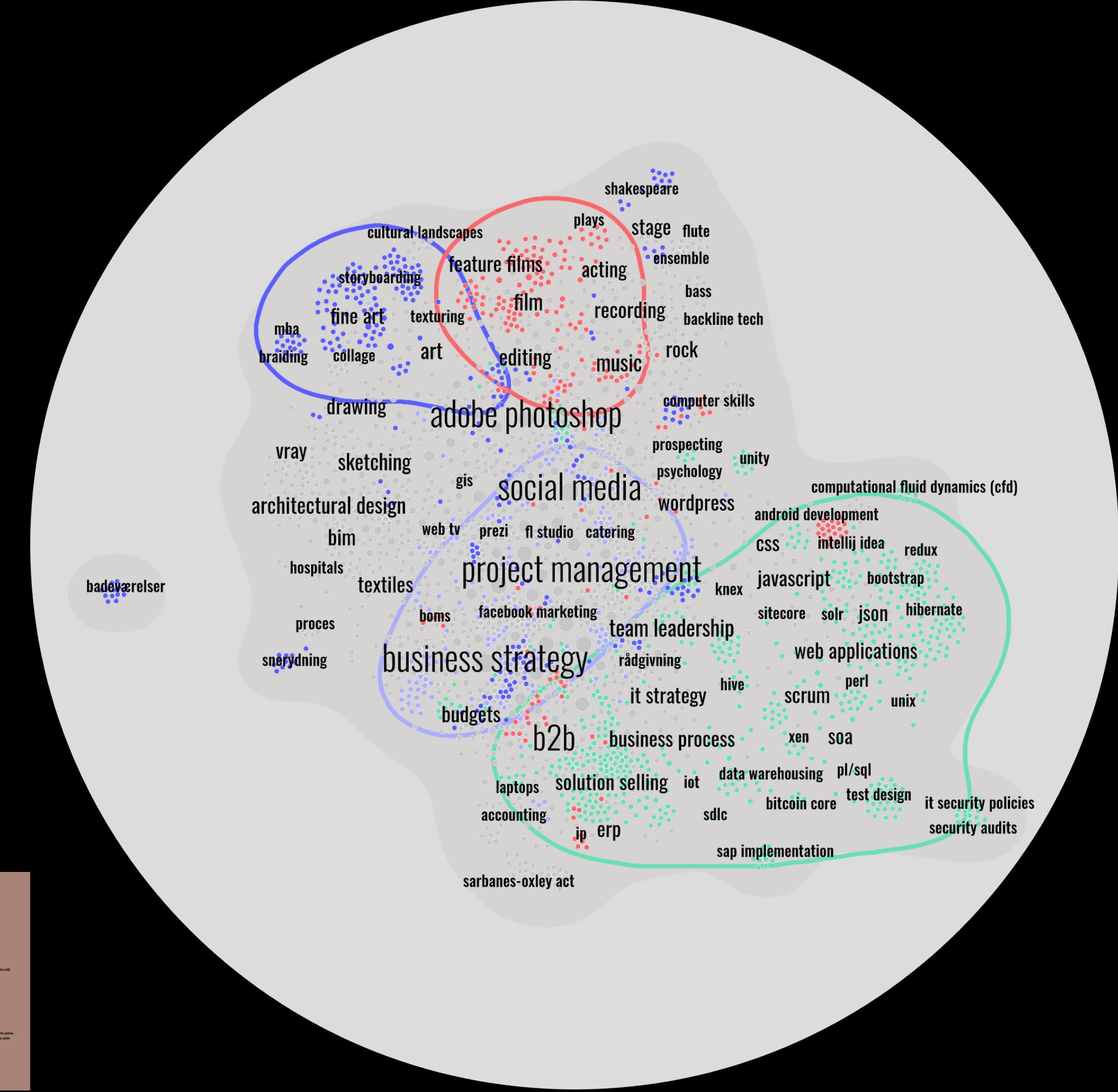
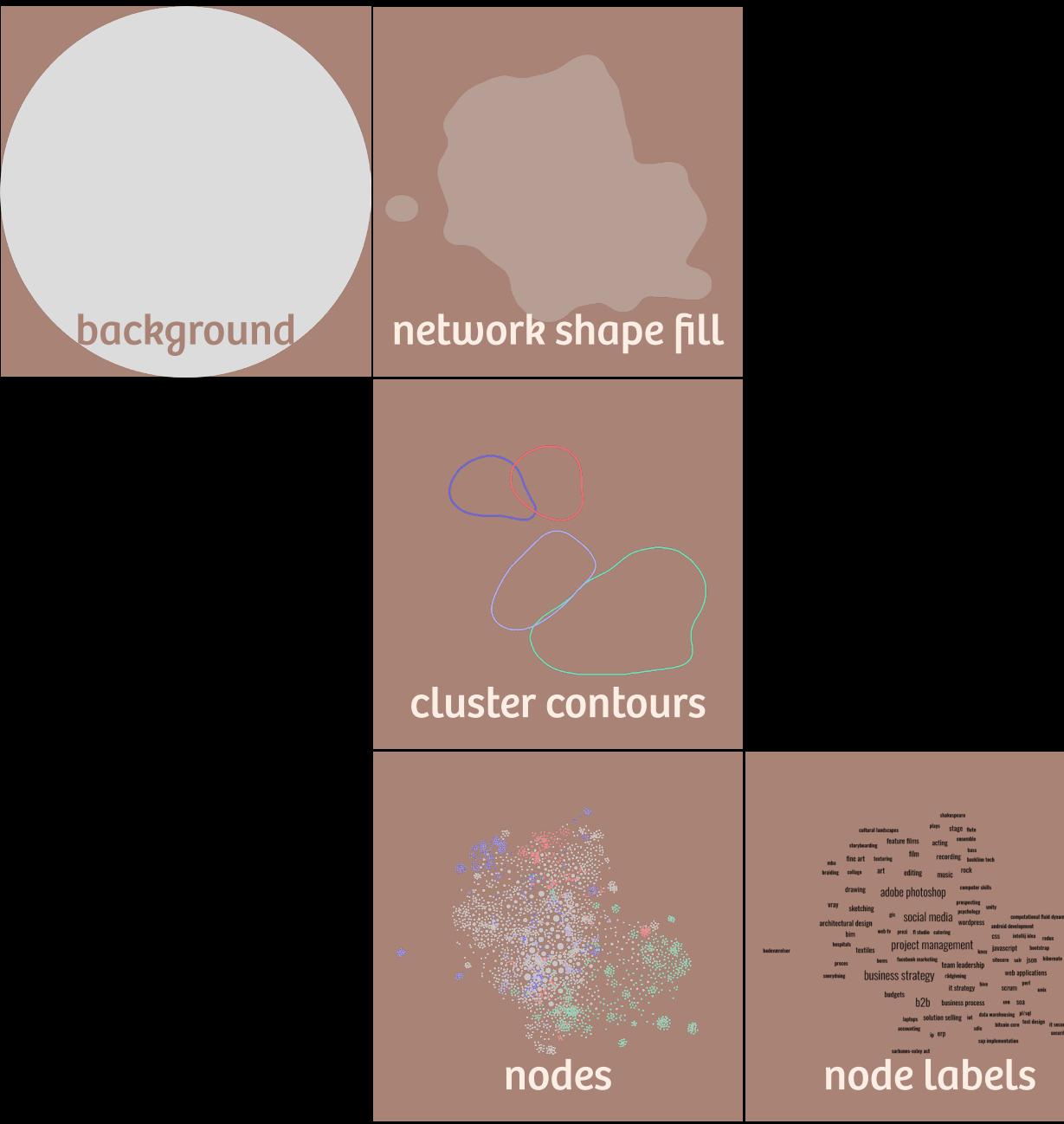
Example:
Cluster overview



Layers

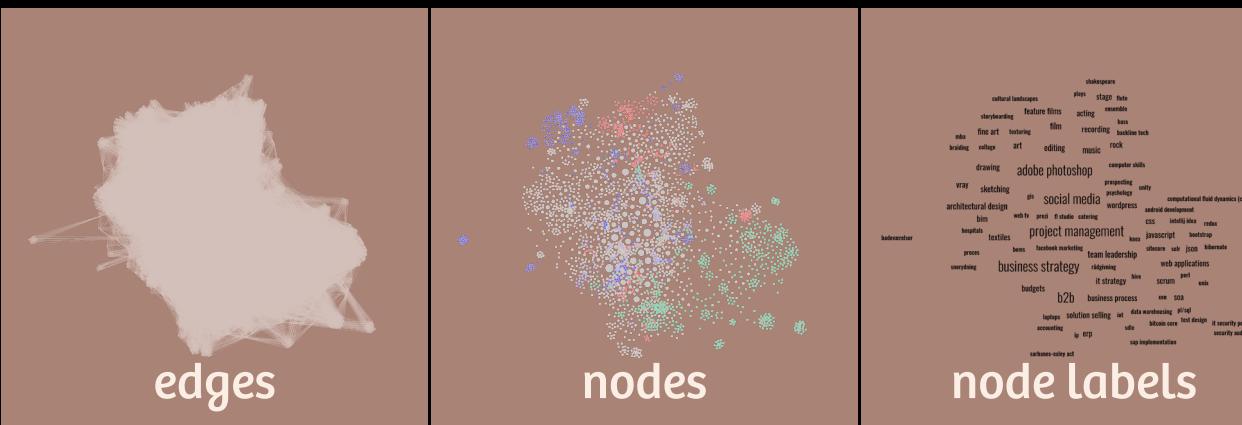
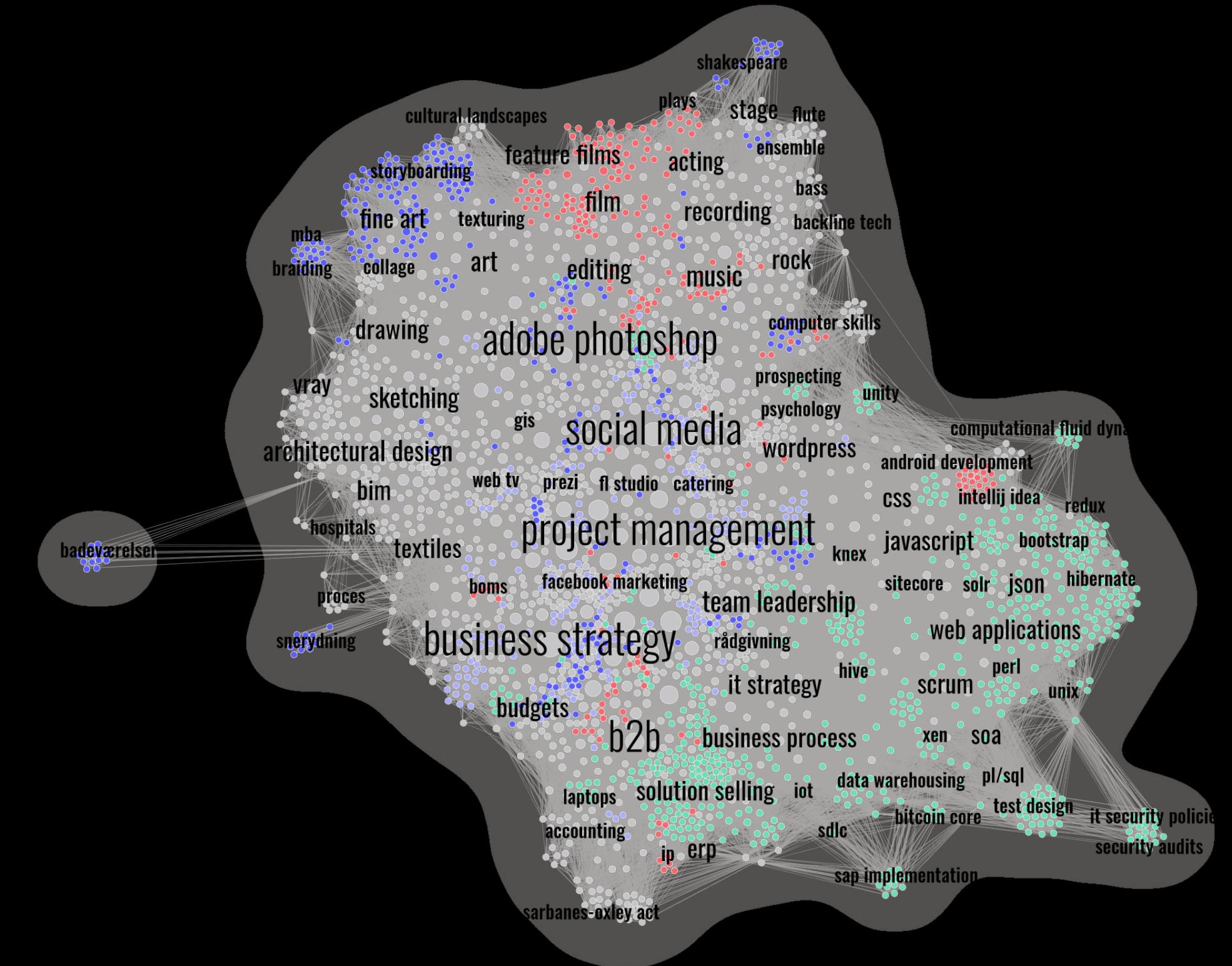
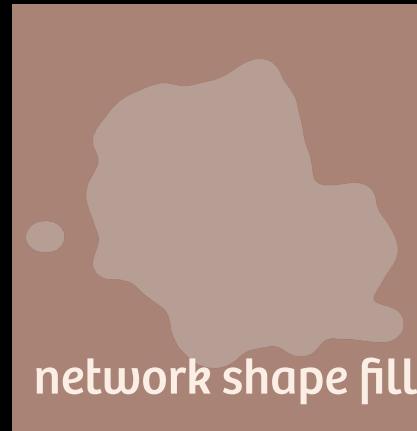
Useful combinations

Example:
Nodes with cluster highlight



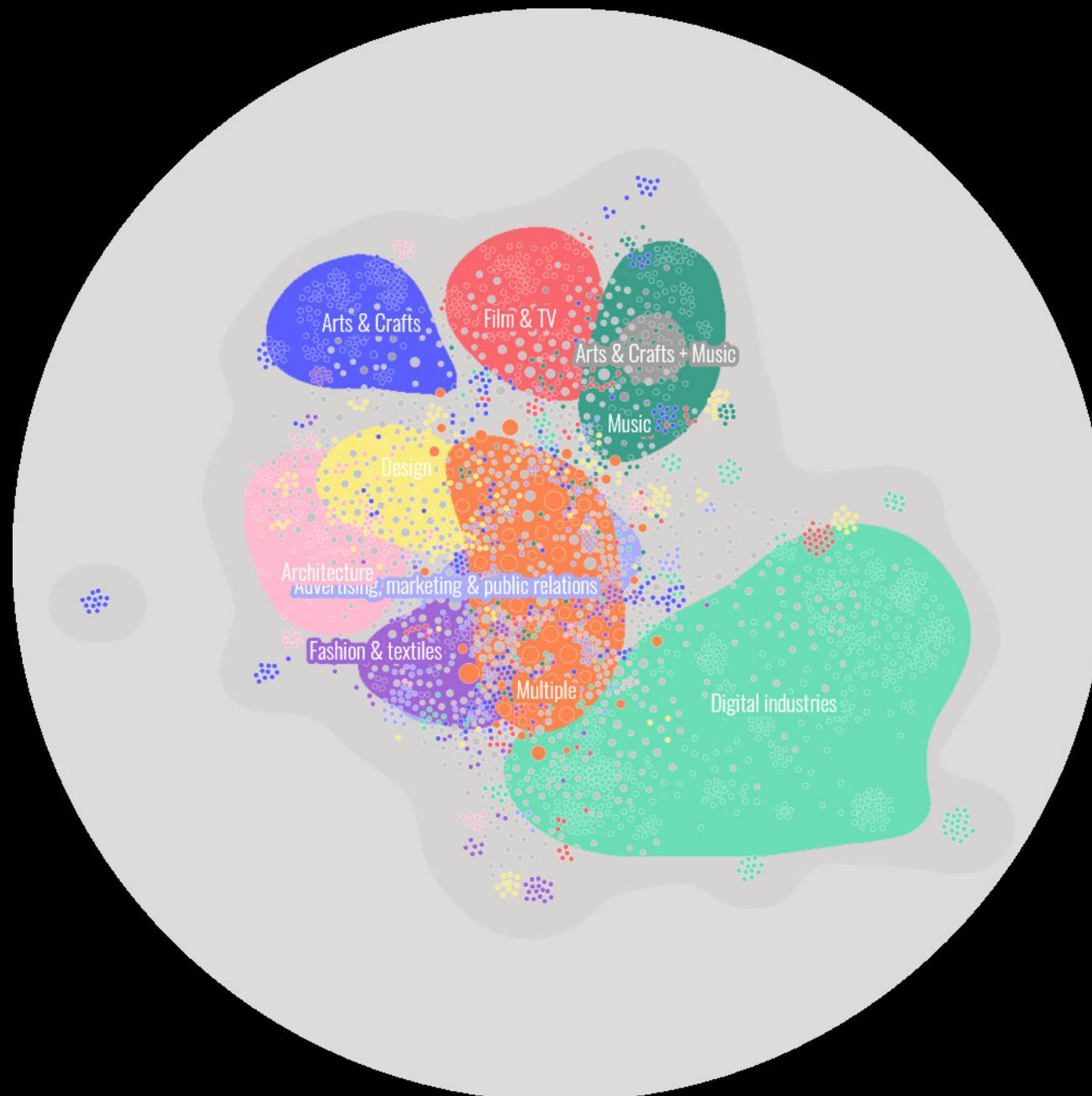
Layers Useful combinations

Example:
Simple network



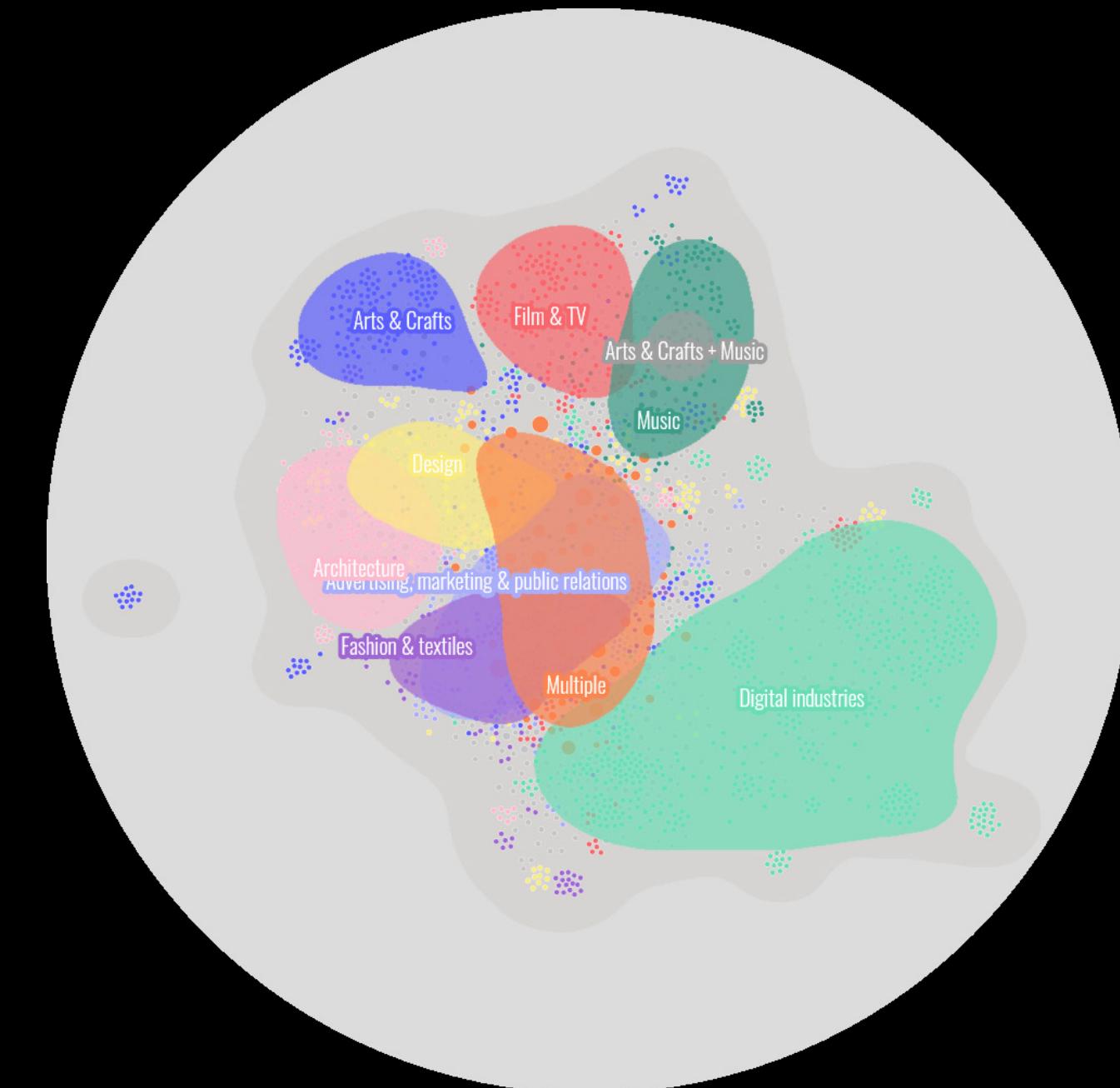
What settings do **cluster_fill_above_nodes**

```
50 // Layer order variations:  
51 settings.cluster_fill_above_nodes = false
```



`cluster_fill_above_nodes = false`
`cluster_fill_opacity = 1`

Alternate order for the layers.
Useful with cluster fill opacity.



`cluster_fill_above_nodes = true`
`cluster_fill_opacity = 0.7`

III.1.

'Make a Map' settings:
Background layer

background layer settings

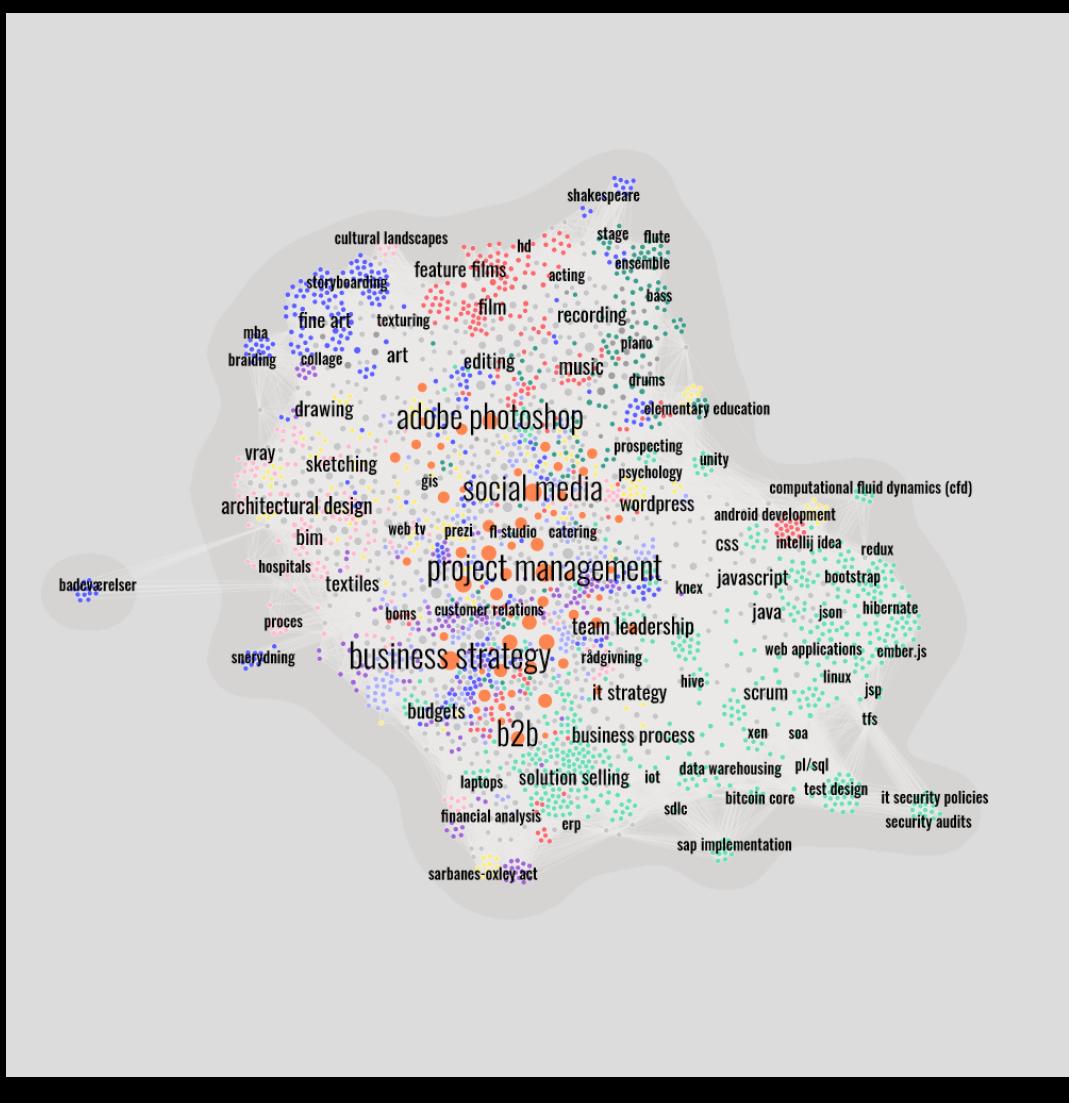
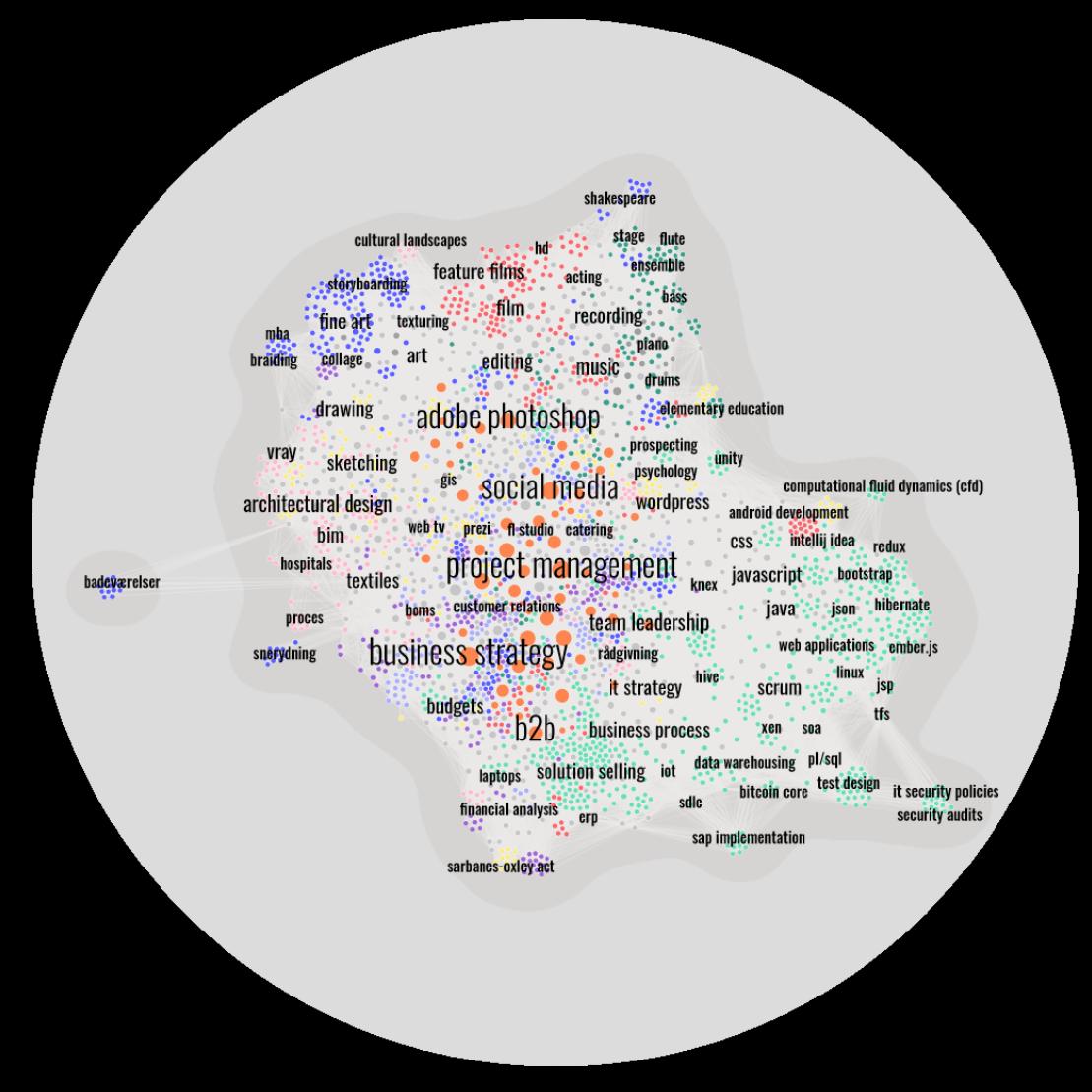
```
53 // Layer: Background  
54 settings.background_circle = true  
55 settings.background_color = "#DCDCDC"
```

Color and shape of the background

```
settings.background_circle = true  
settings.background_color = "#DCDCDC"
```

```
settings.background_circle = false  
settings.background_color = "#DCDCDC"
```

```
settings.background_circle = false  
settings.background_color = "#FF0000"
```



III.2.

'Make a Map' settings:
Network shape layers

network shape layer settings

```
57 // Layer: Network shape
58 //      (a potato for the whole network)
59 // ...generic structure
60 settings.network_shape_spreading = 0.9 // Range: 0.01 to 1.0
61 settings.network_shape_smoothness = 0 // Range: 0 to 10
62 // ...shape fill
63 settings.network_shape_fill_opacity = 0.4 // Opacity: 0 to 1.0
64 settings.network_shape_fill_color = "#cdc7c3"
65 // ...shape contour
66 settings.network_shape_contour_thickness = 3 // Min: 1
67 settings.network_shape_contour_opacity = 1 // Opacity: 0 to 1.0
68 settings.network_shape_contour_color = "#cdc7c3"
69
```

Settings of the shape itself

Appearance of its fill

Appearance of its contour

network shape layer settings

spreading

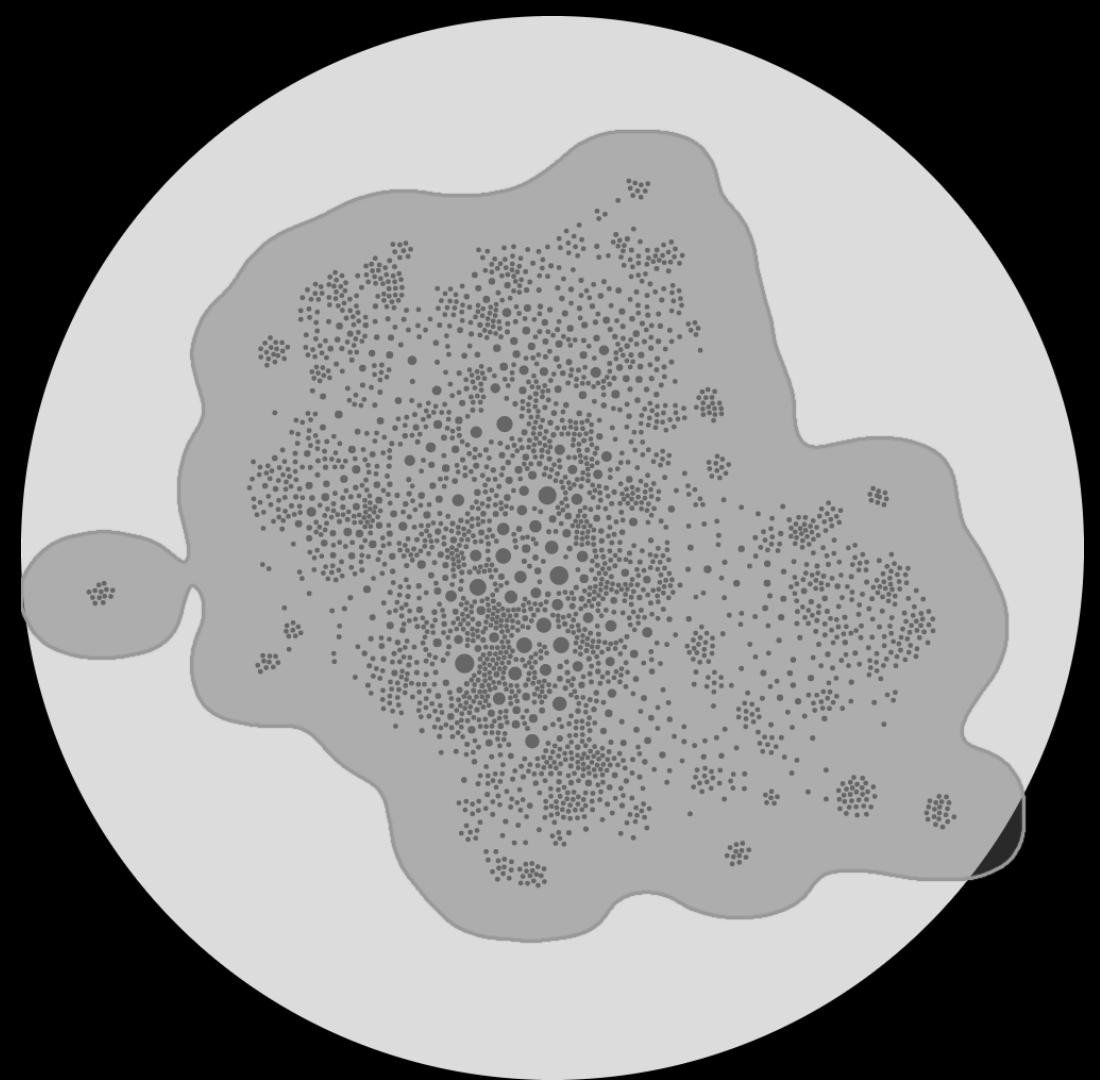
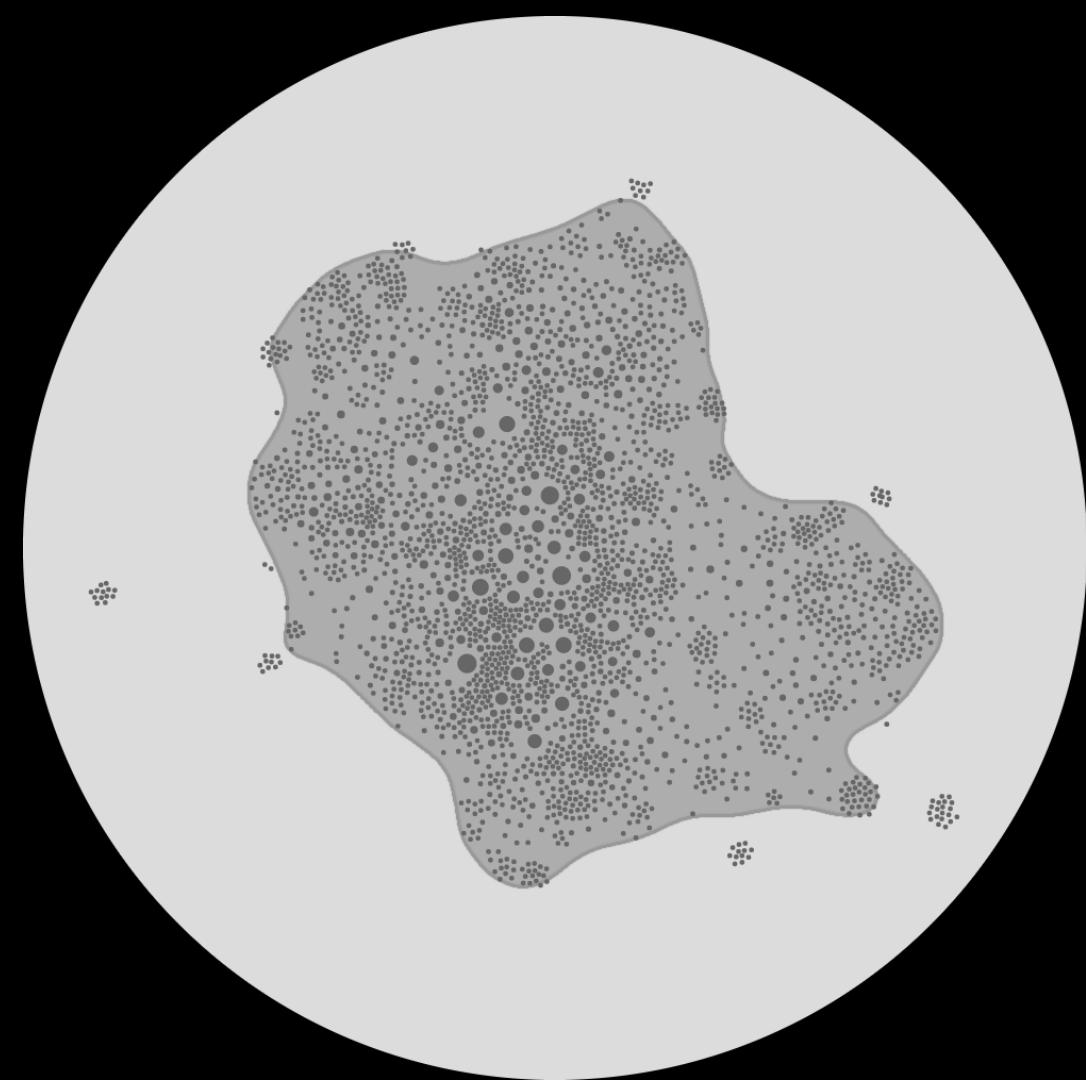
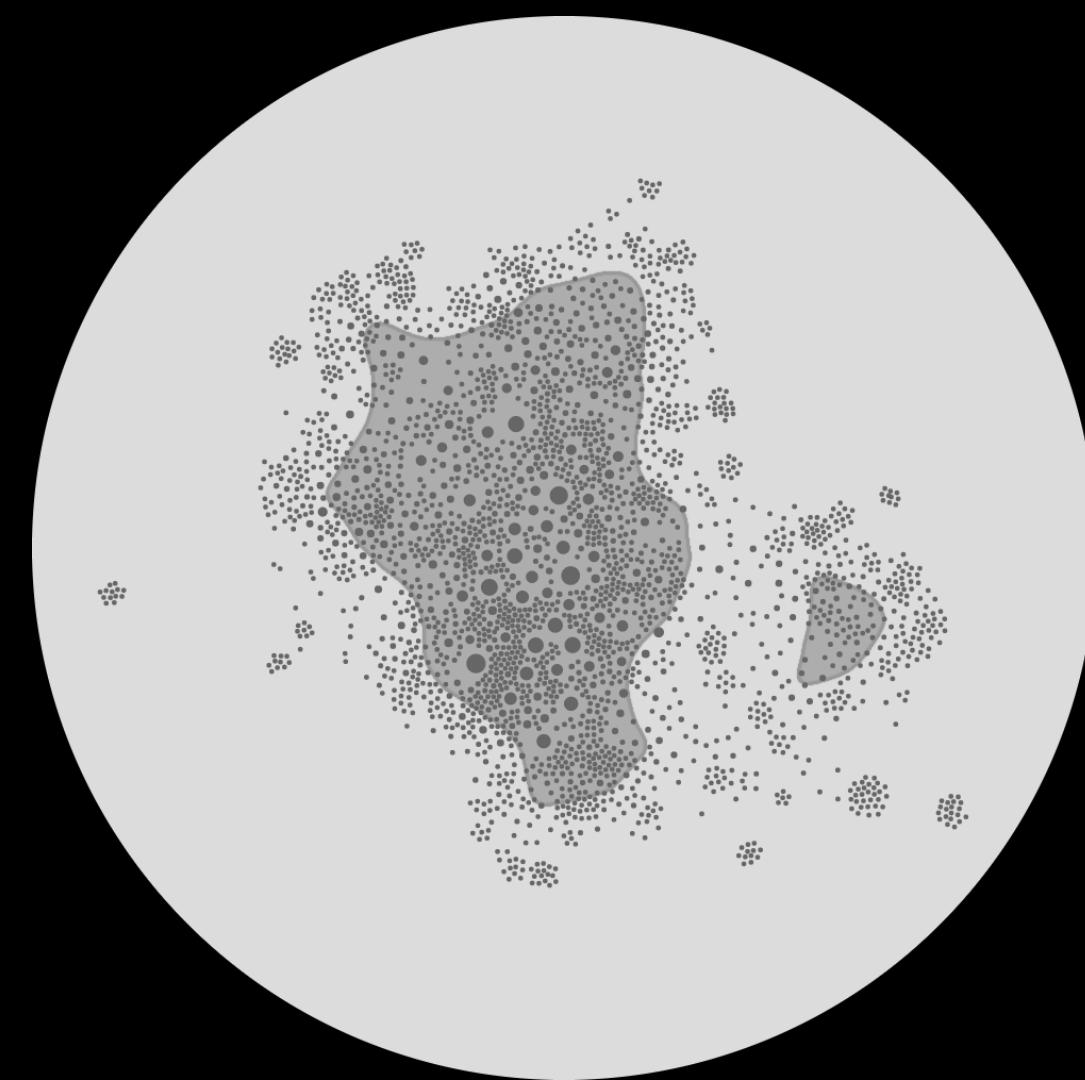
Makes the shape smaller or larger. At 0.5 it approximately follows the nodes.

settings.network_shape_spreading =

0.01

0.5

0.99



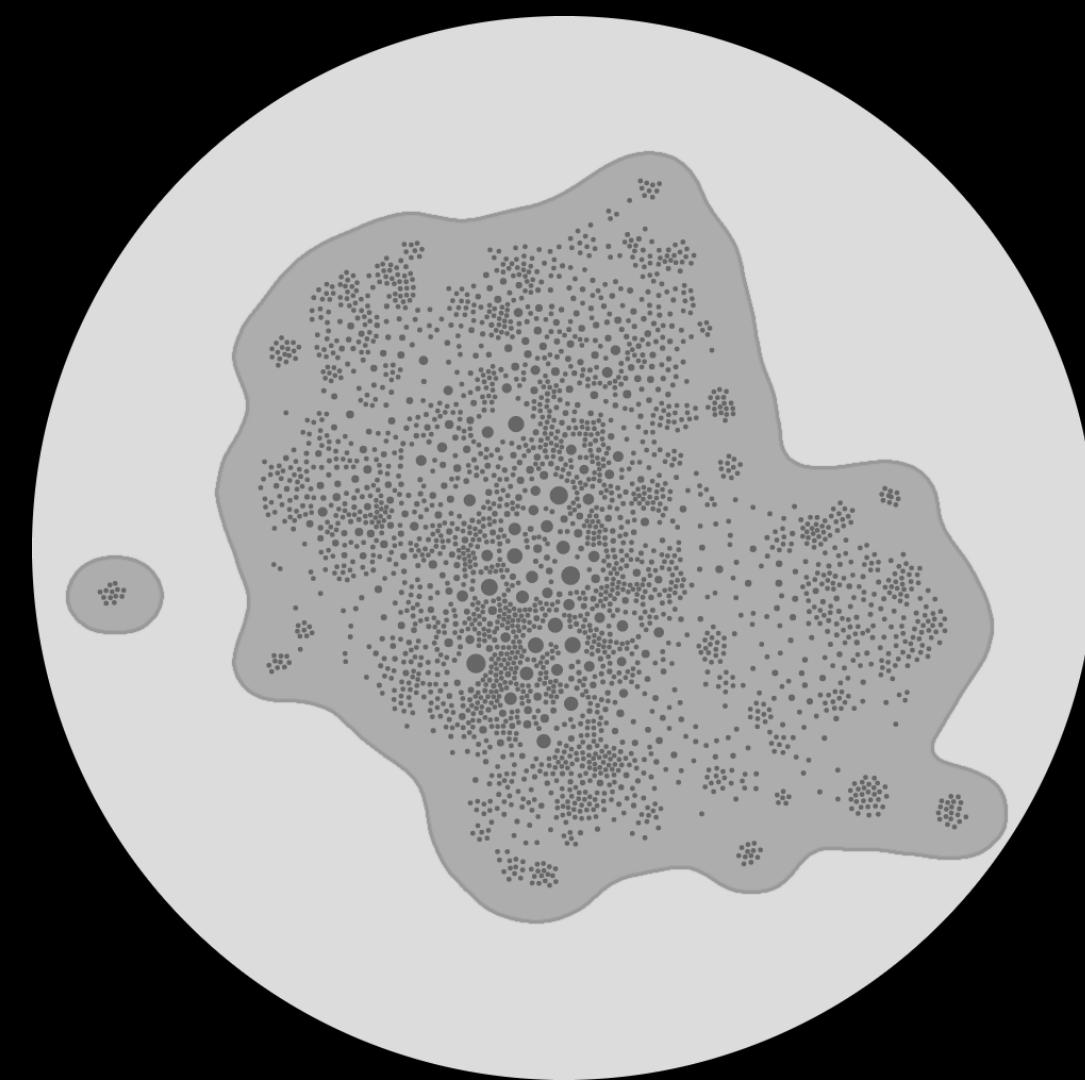
network shape layer settings

smoothness

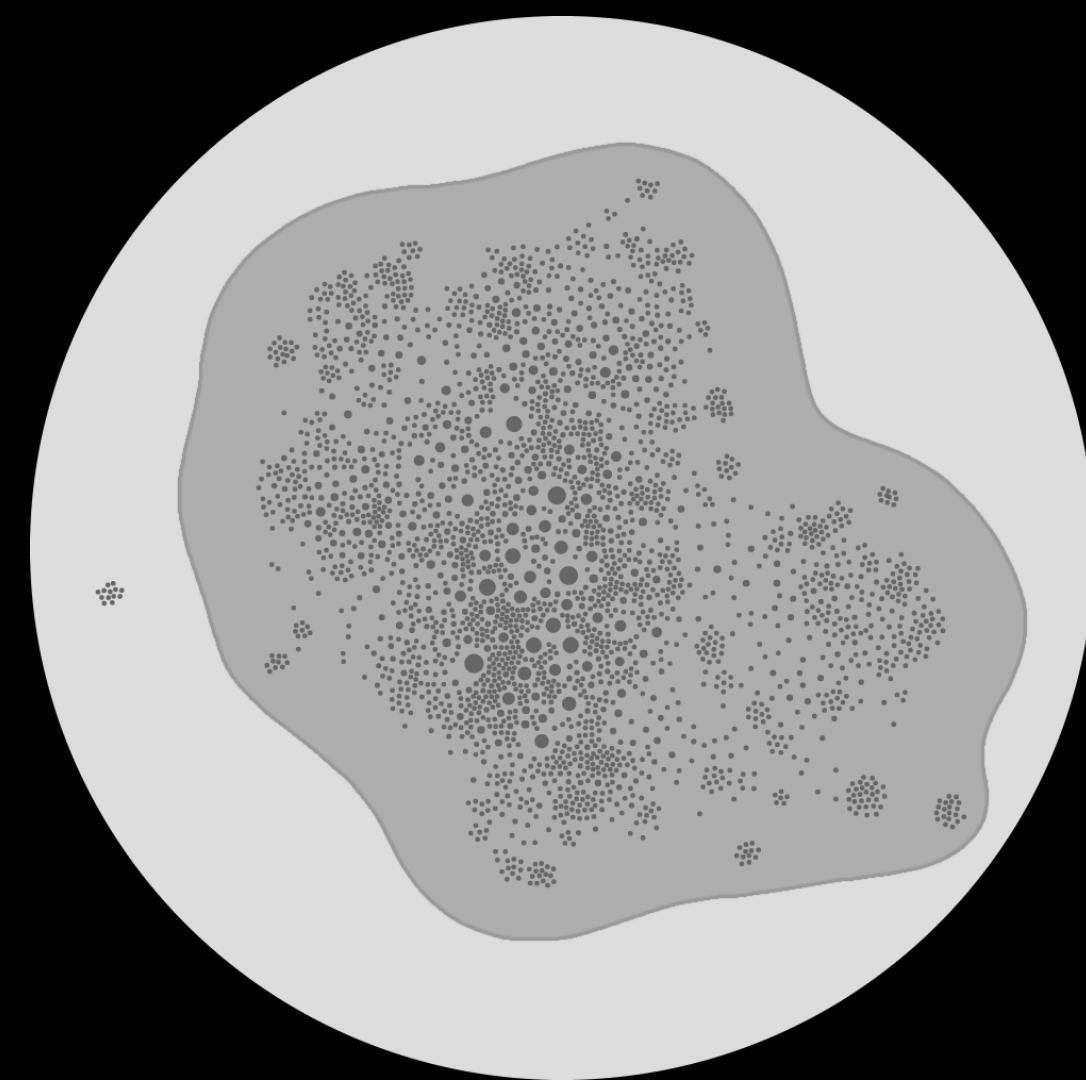
The higher, the more the shape is rounded.

settings.network_shape_smoothness =

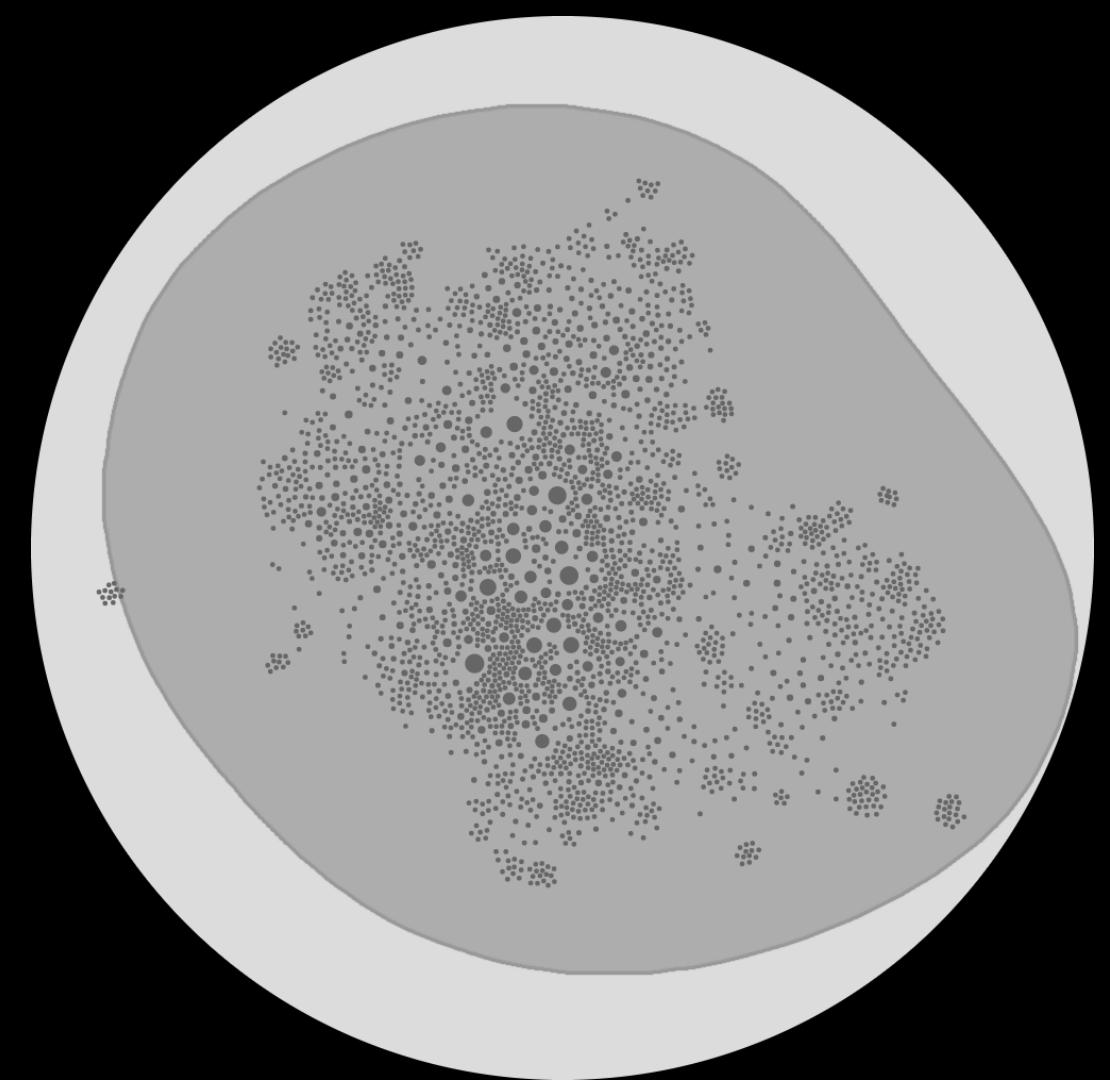
0



5



15



III.3.

'Make a Map' settings:
Clusters layers

clusters layer settings

The settings of the clusters are almost the same as the network shape, except there are also labels.

```
70 // Layer: Clusters
71 //      (a potato per modality of target attribute)
72 // ...generic structure
73 settings.cluster_all_modalities = false // By default, we do
74 settings.cluster_spreading = 0.5 // Range: 0 to 10 or more
75 settings.cluster_smoothness = 5 // Range: 0 to 10 or more
76 // ...cluster fills
77 settings.cluster_fill_opacity = 1.0 // Opacity // Range from
78 settings.cluster_fill_color_by_modality = true // if false, then
79 settings.cluster_fill_color_default = "#8B8B8B"
80 // ...cluster contours
81 settings.cluster_contour_thickness = 3 // Range: 0 to 10 or more
82 settings.cluster_contour_opacity = 1 // Opacity
83 settings.cluster_contour_color_by_modality = true // if false, then
84 settings.cluster_contour_color_default = "#8B8B8B"
85 // ...cluster labels
86 settings.cluster_label_font_size = 20 // in px based on font size
87 settings.cluster_label_font_weight = 300
88 settings.cluster_label_outline_thickness = 4 // in px based on font size
```

Settings of the shapes

Appearance of their fill

Appearance of their contour

Appearance of the labels

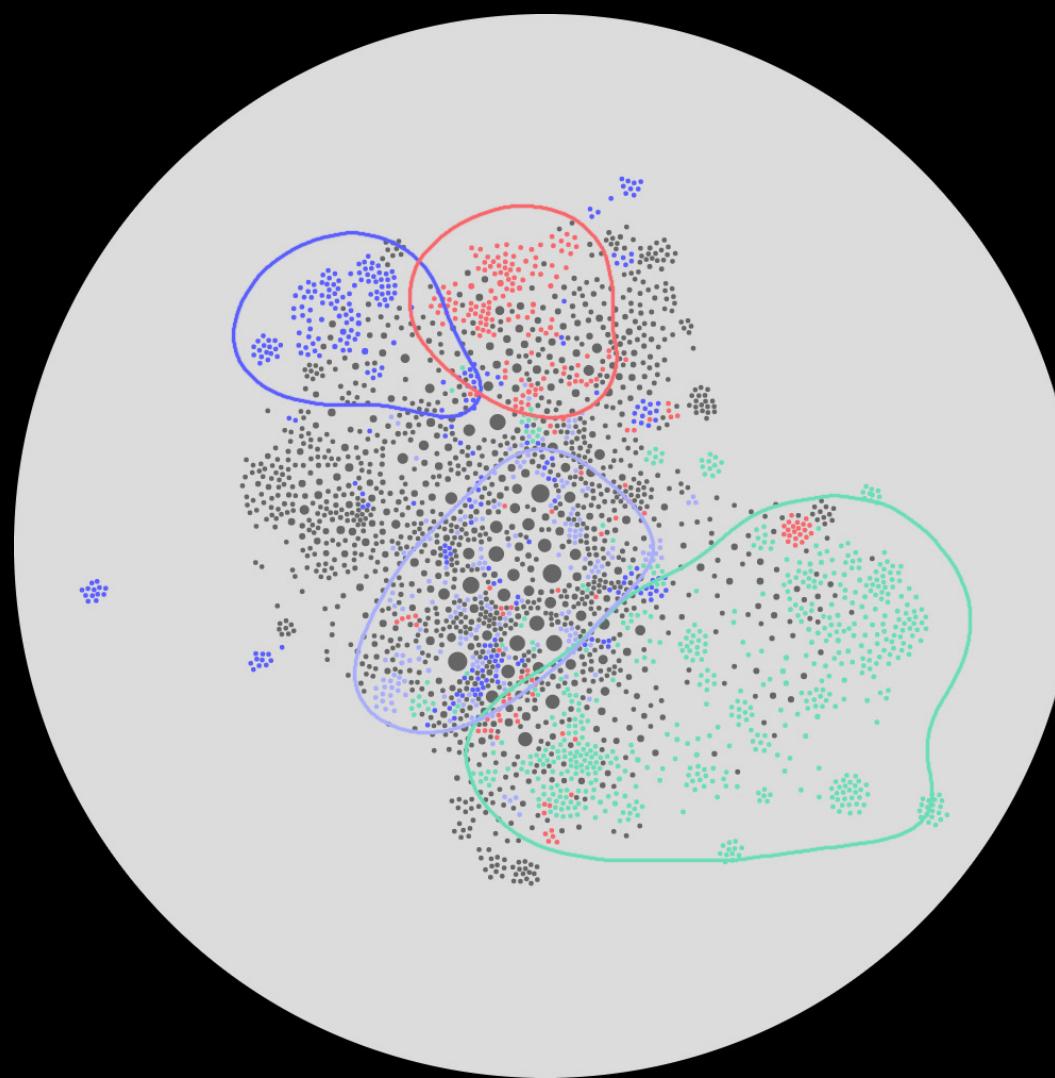
clusters layer settings

all modalities

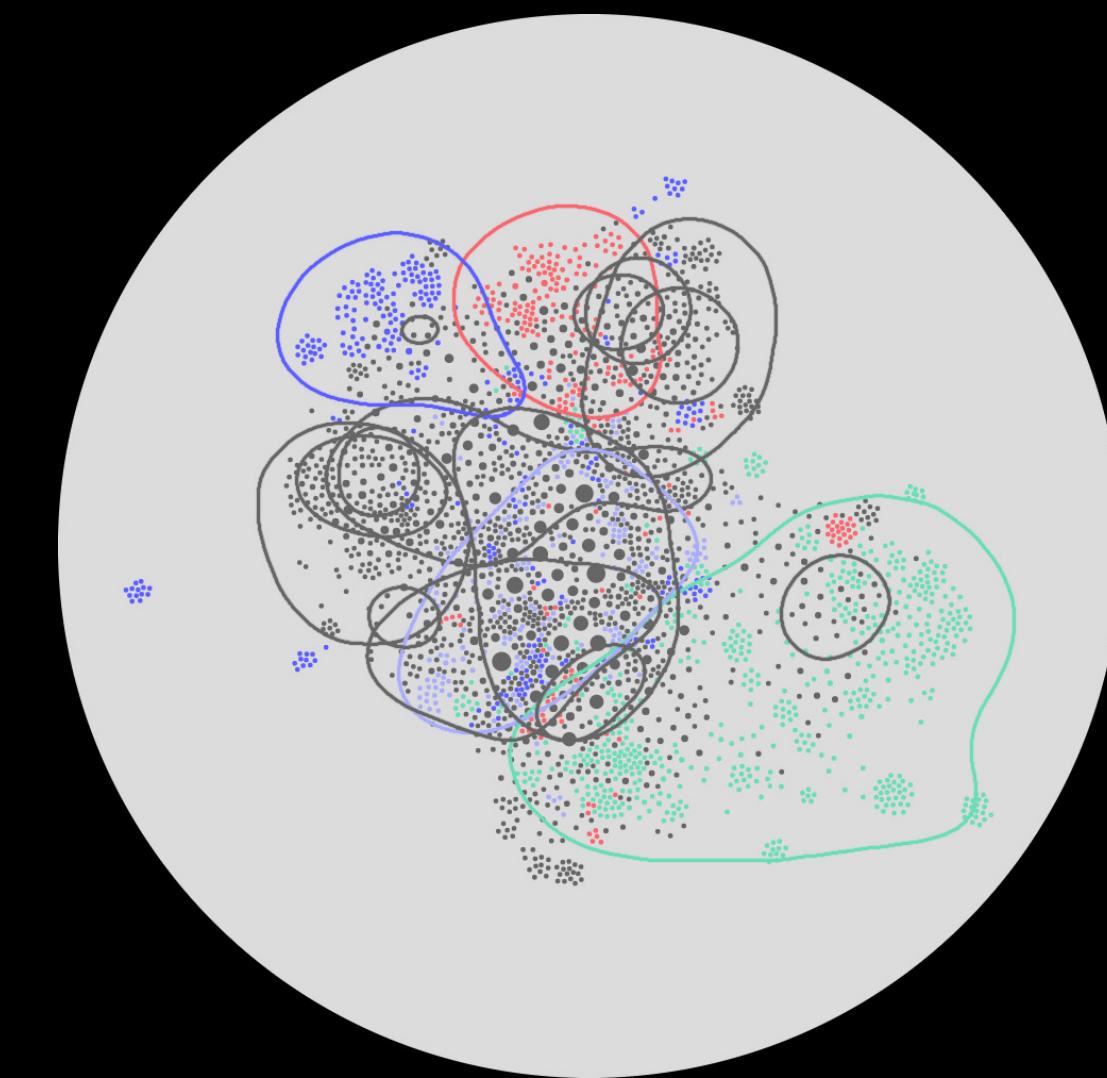
Limits the clusters to the modalities mentioned in the JSON bundle from “Prepare”.
Setting it to “true” could generate countless little clusters (time consuming).

`settings.cluster_all_modalities =`

false



true



clusters layer settings **spreading**

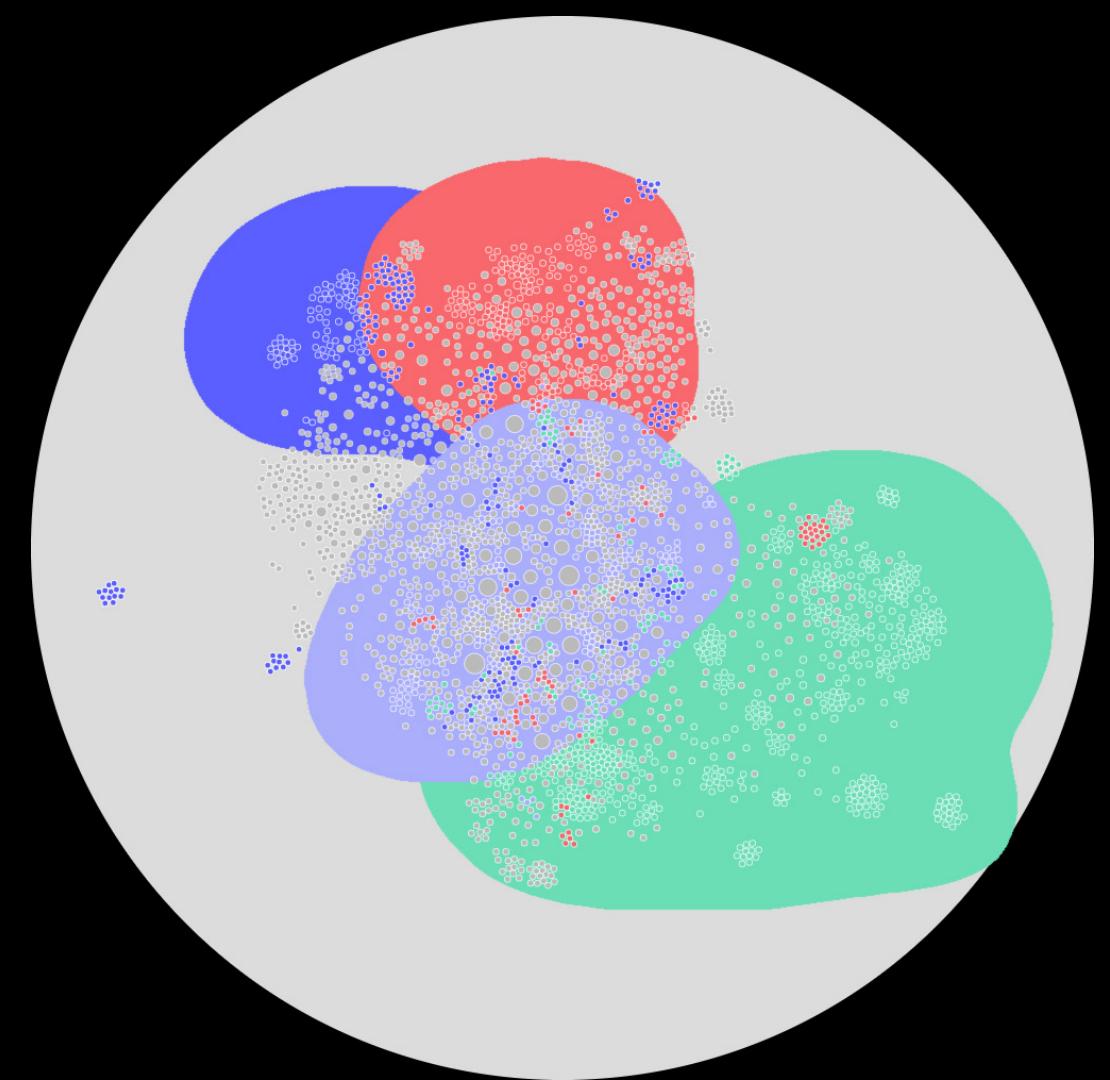
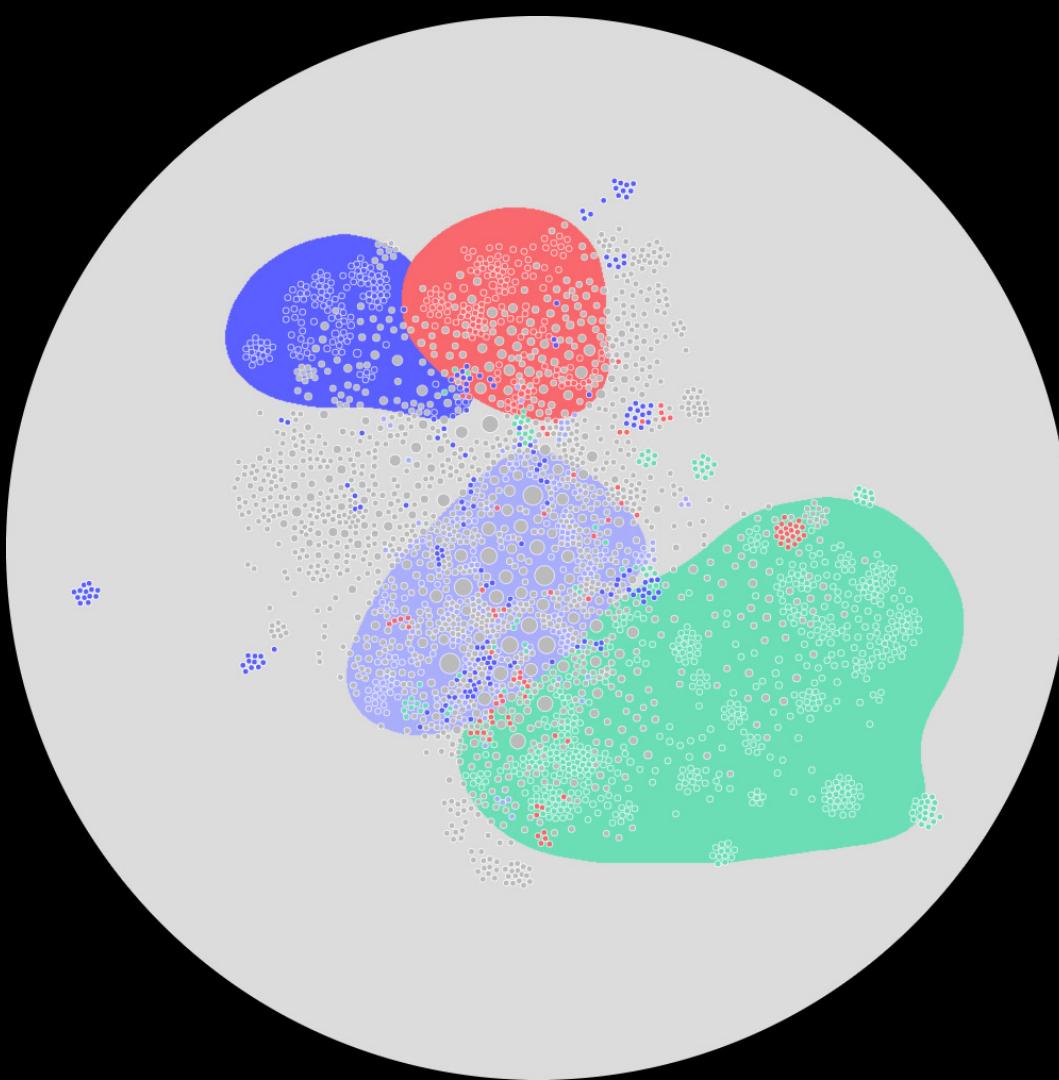
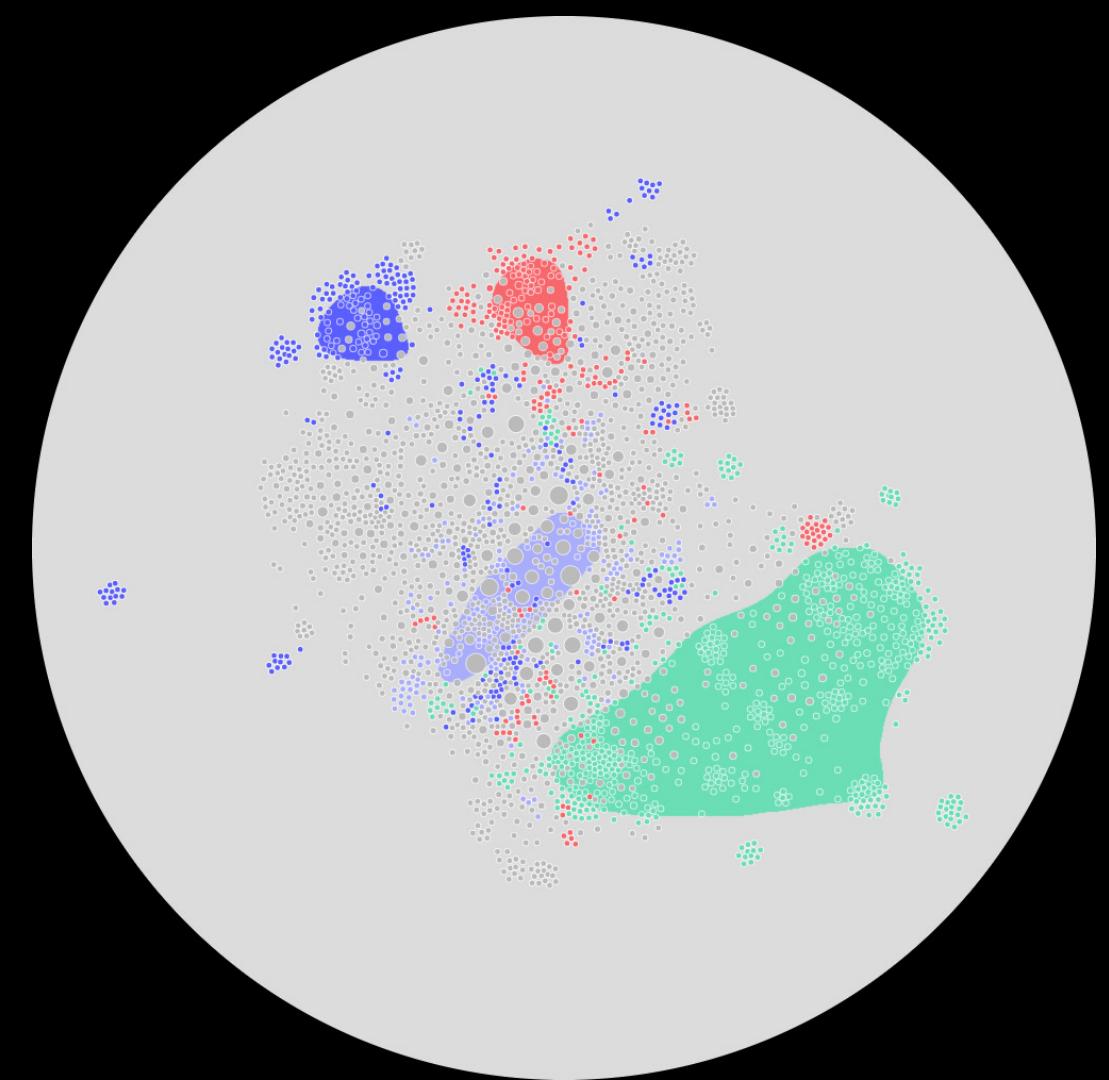
Makes the shapes smaller or larger. At 0.5 it approximately follows the nodes.

`settings.cluster_spreading =`

0.01

0.5

0.99



clusters layer settings

smoothness

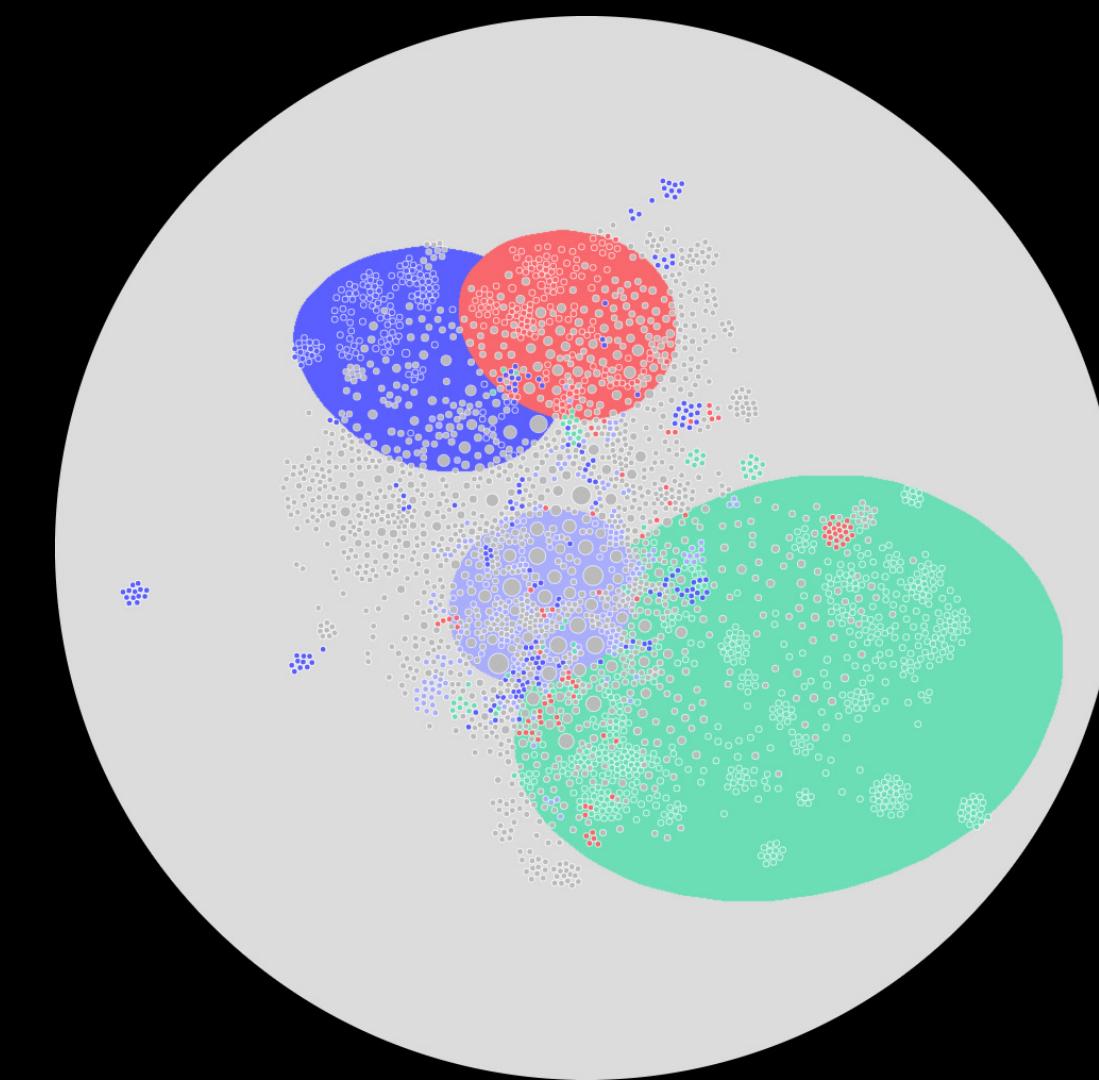
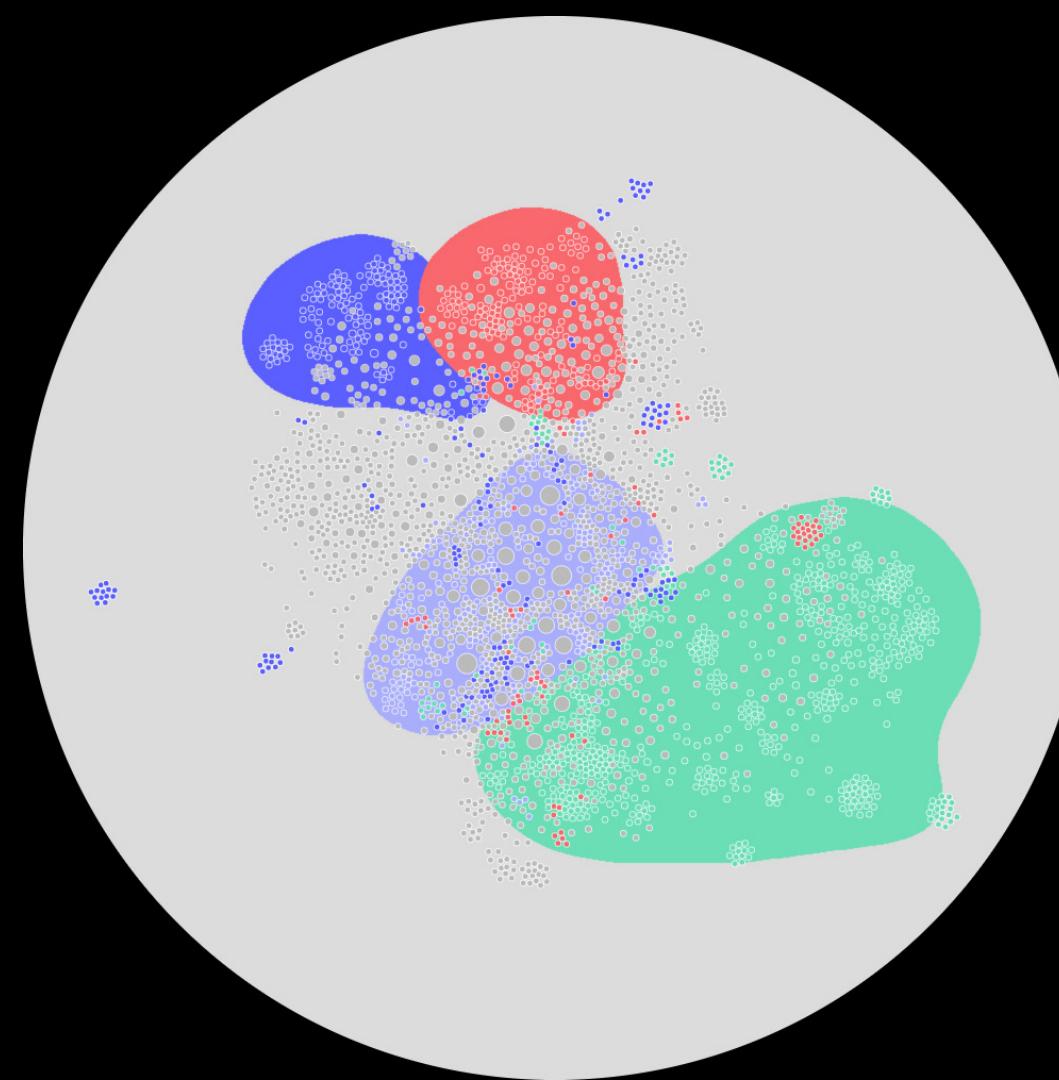
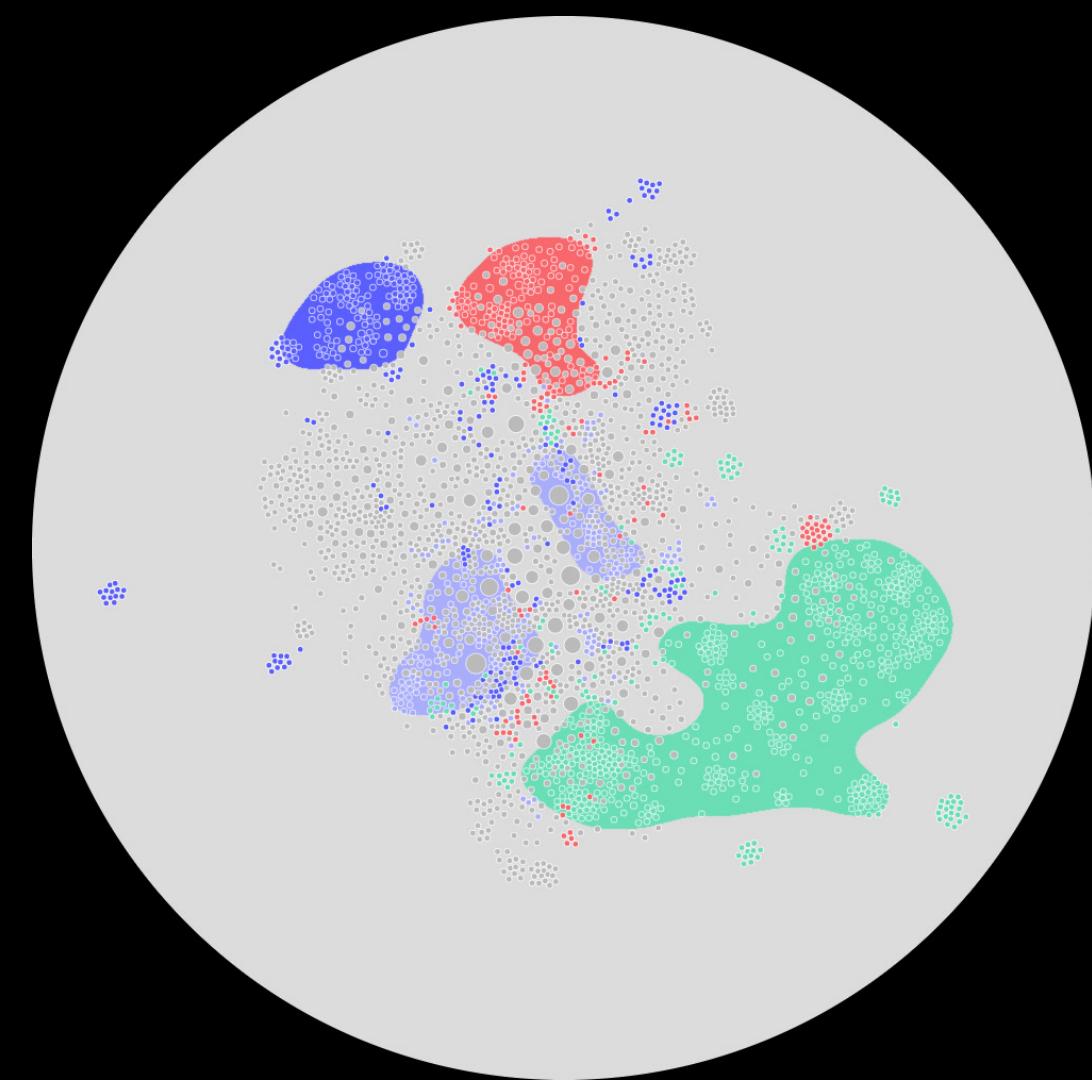
The higher, the more the clusters are rounded.

settings.cluster_smoothness =

0

5

15

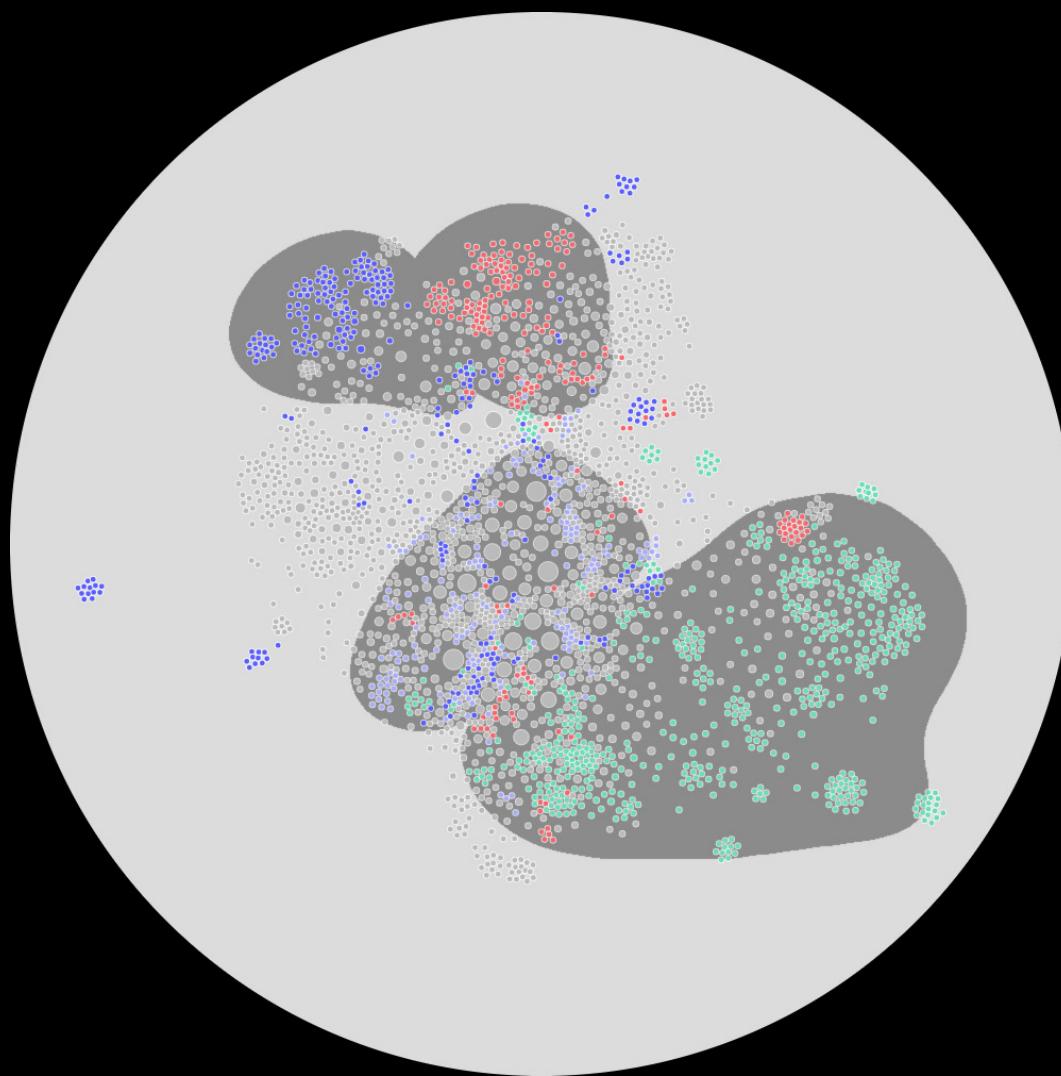


clusters layer settings
fill color by modality

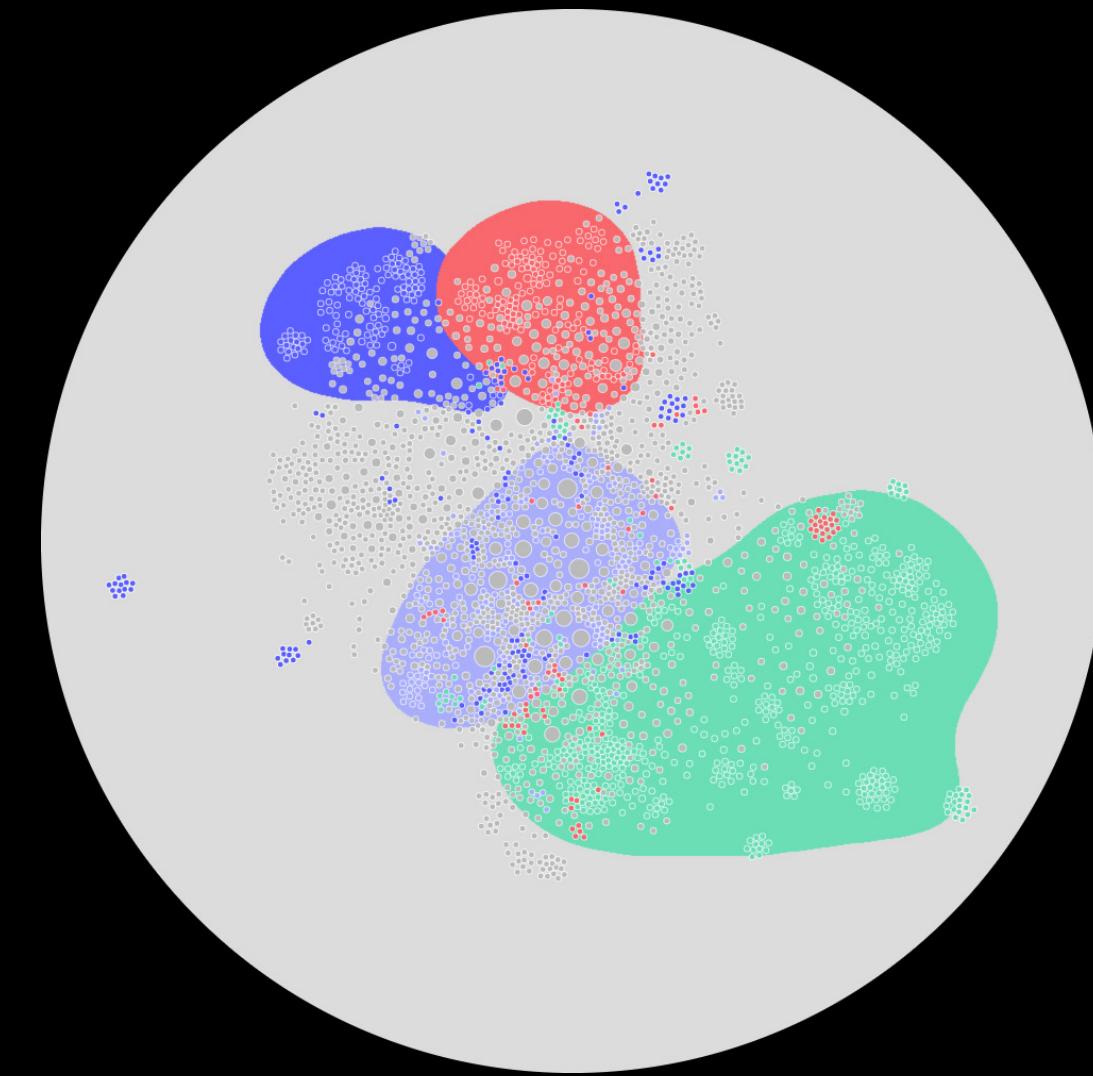
You can use a default color for the cluster fills.

settings.cluster_fill_color_by_modality =

false



true



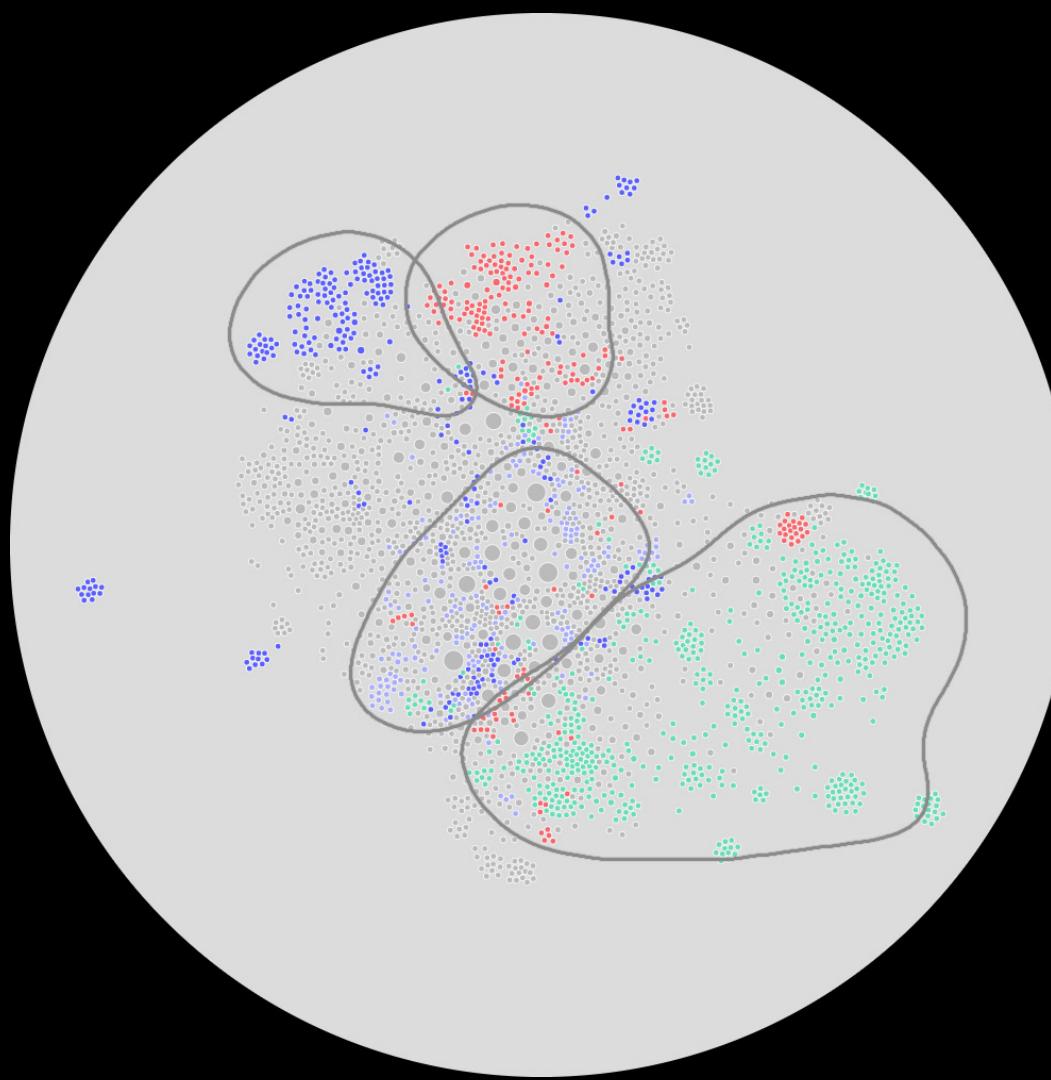
clusters layer settings

contour color by modality

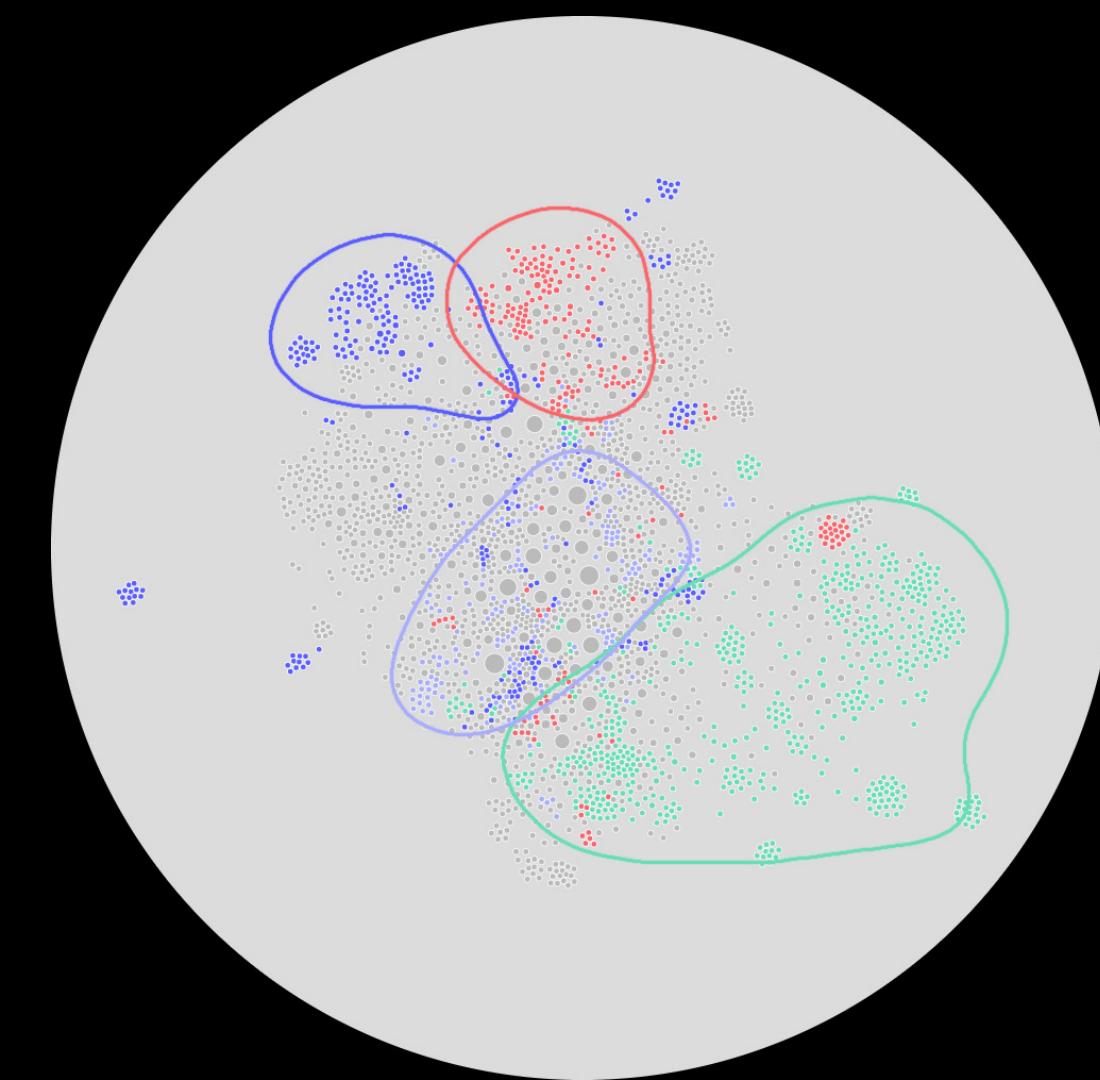
You can use a default color for the cluster contours.

```
settings.cluster_contour_color_by_modality =
```

false



true



III.4.

'Make a Map' settings:
Edges layer

What settings do **edges** layer settings

```
90 // Layer: Edges
91 settings.edge_thickness = 0.3 // in px based on 1MP
92 settings.edge_opacity = 0.5 // Opacity // Range from 0 to 1
93 settings.edge_high_quality = false // Halo around nodes // Time-consuming
94 settings.edge_show_part = 1 // Range from 0 to 1 // 0 hides all edges, 1 shows all
```

Note: Edge opacity applies to the whole layer (there are often so many edges that otherwise, even a low opacity would stack up to a completely opaque layer)

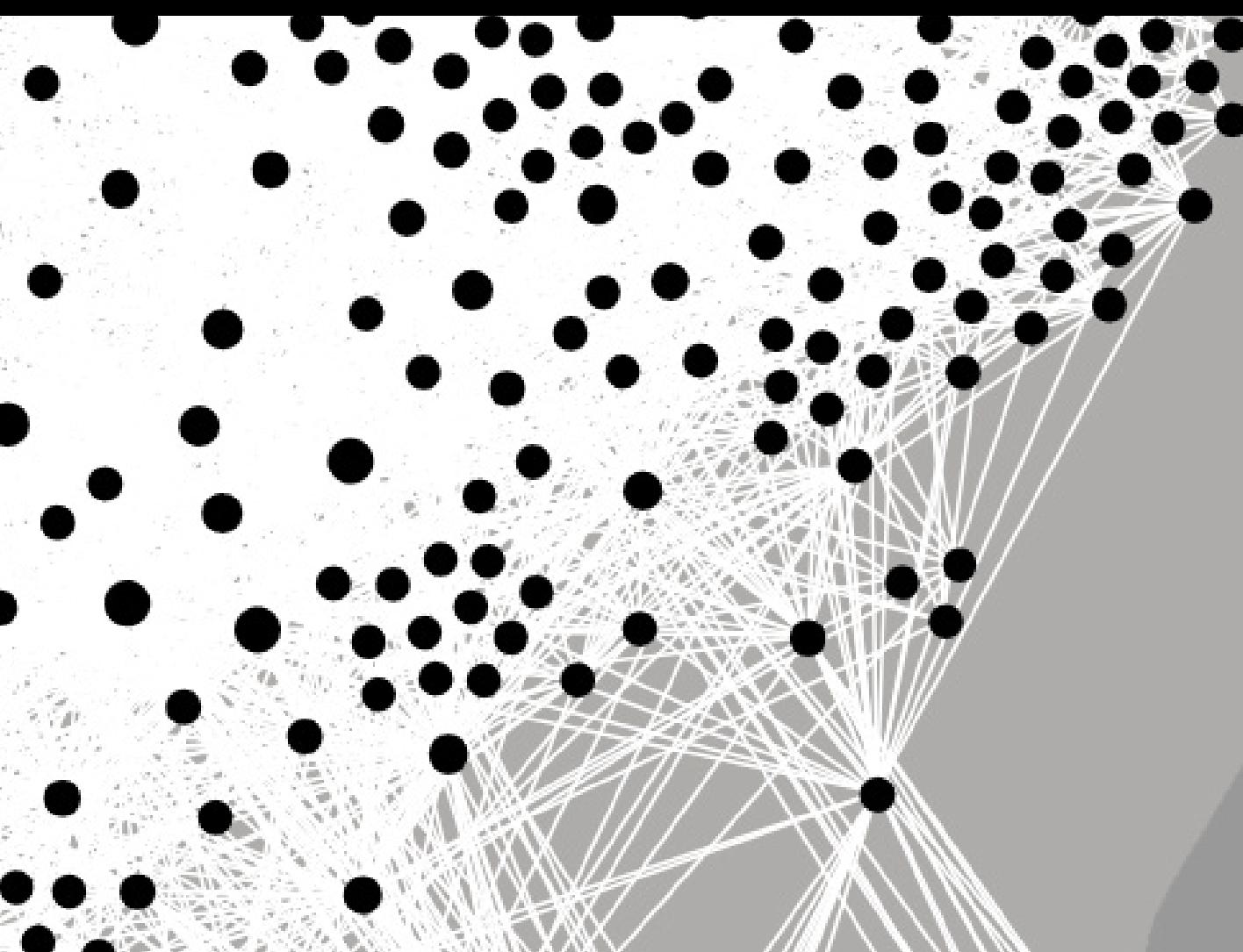
edges layer settings

high quality

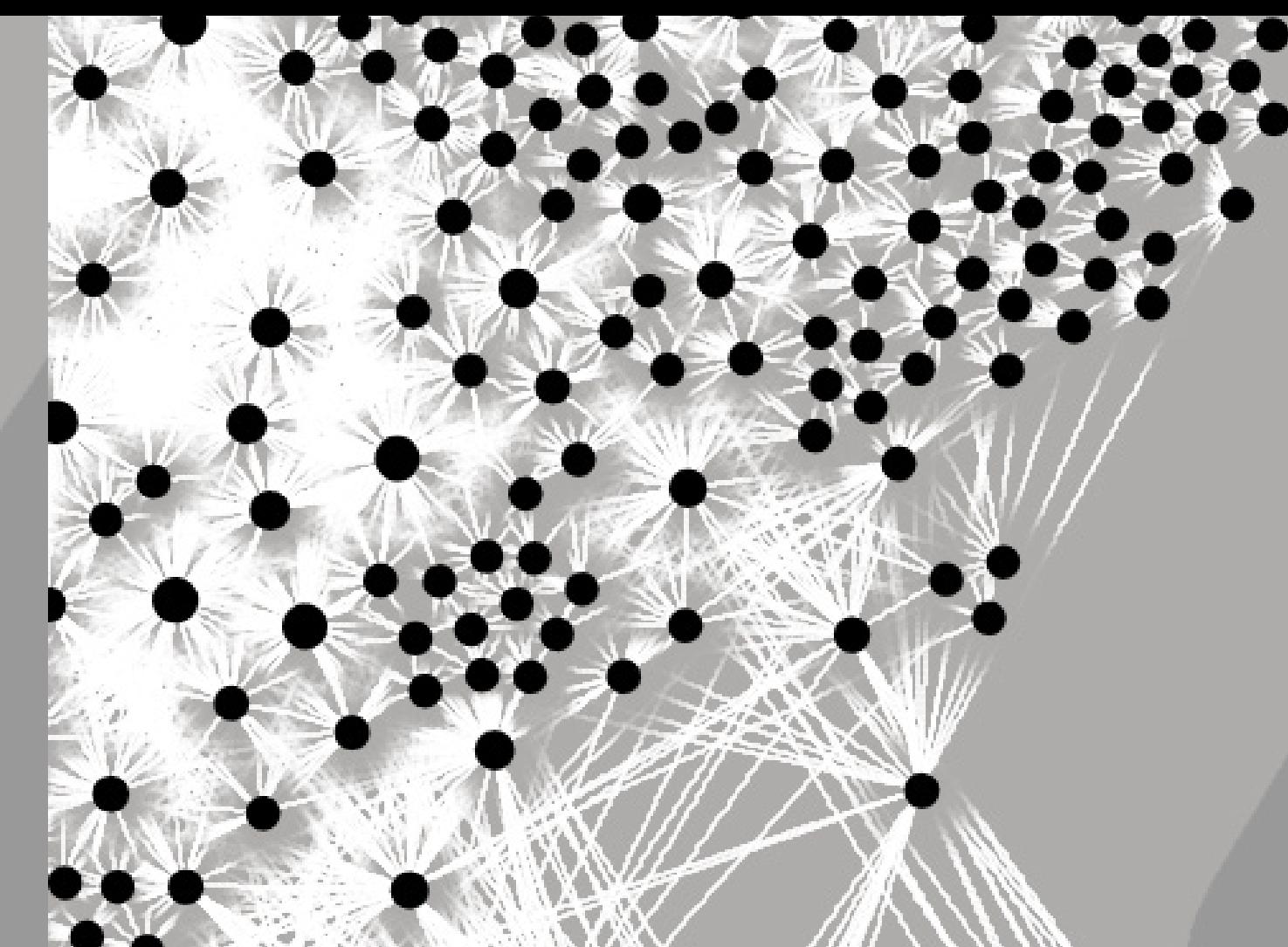
Creates a halo around each node where **only connected edges are visible**. In other words, edges that pass through are invisible in the halo. **Time consuming**.

```
settings.edge_high_quality =
```

false



true



edges layer settings **show part**

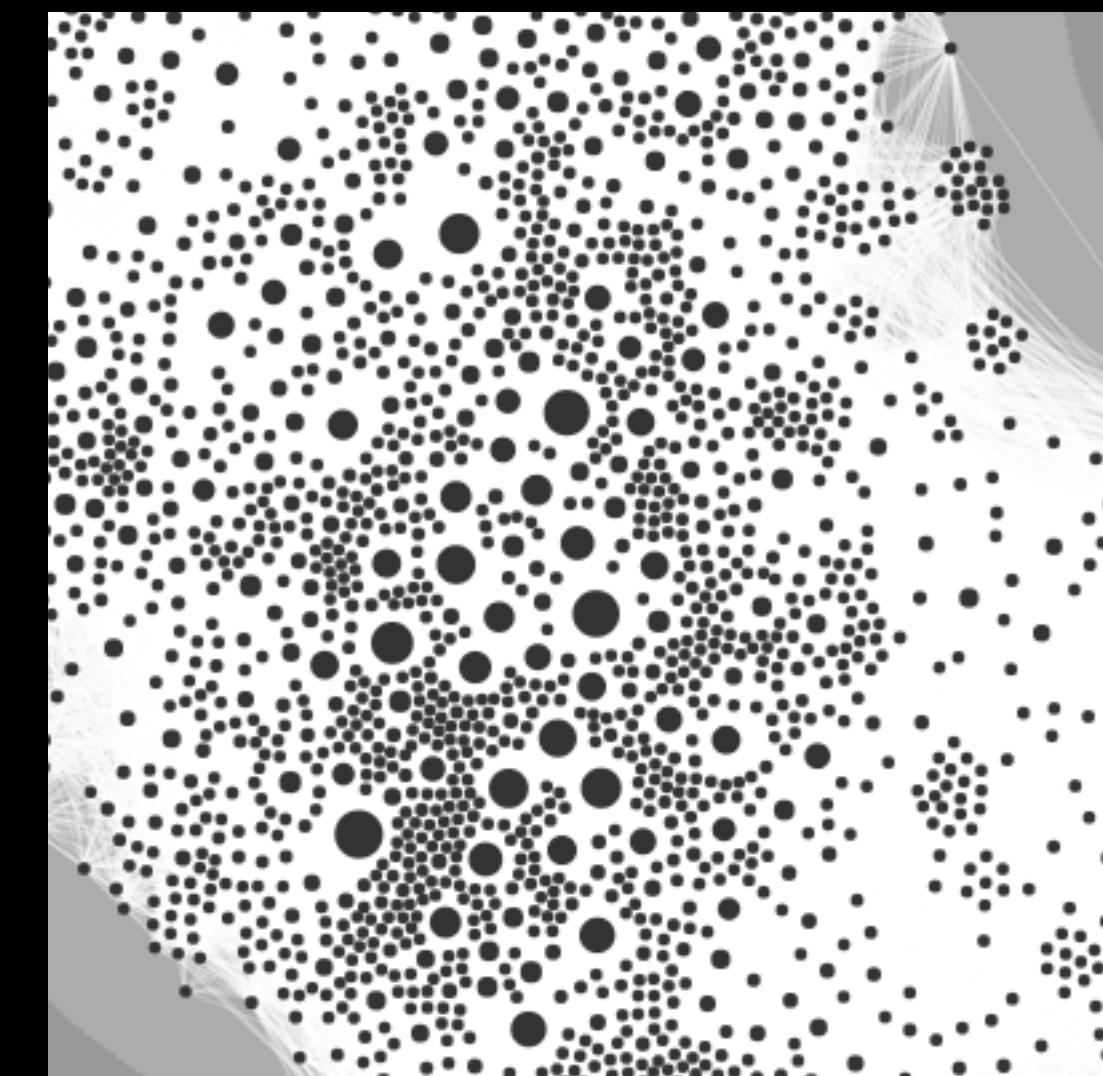
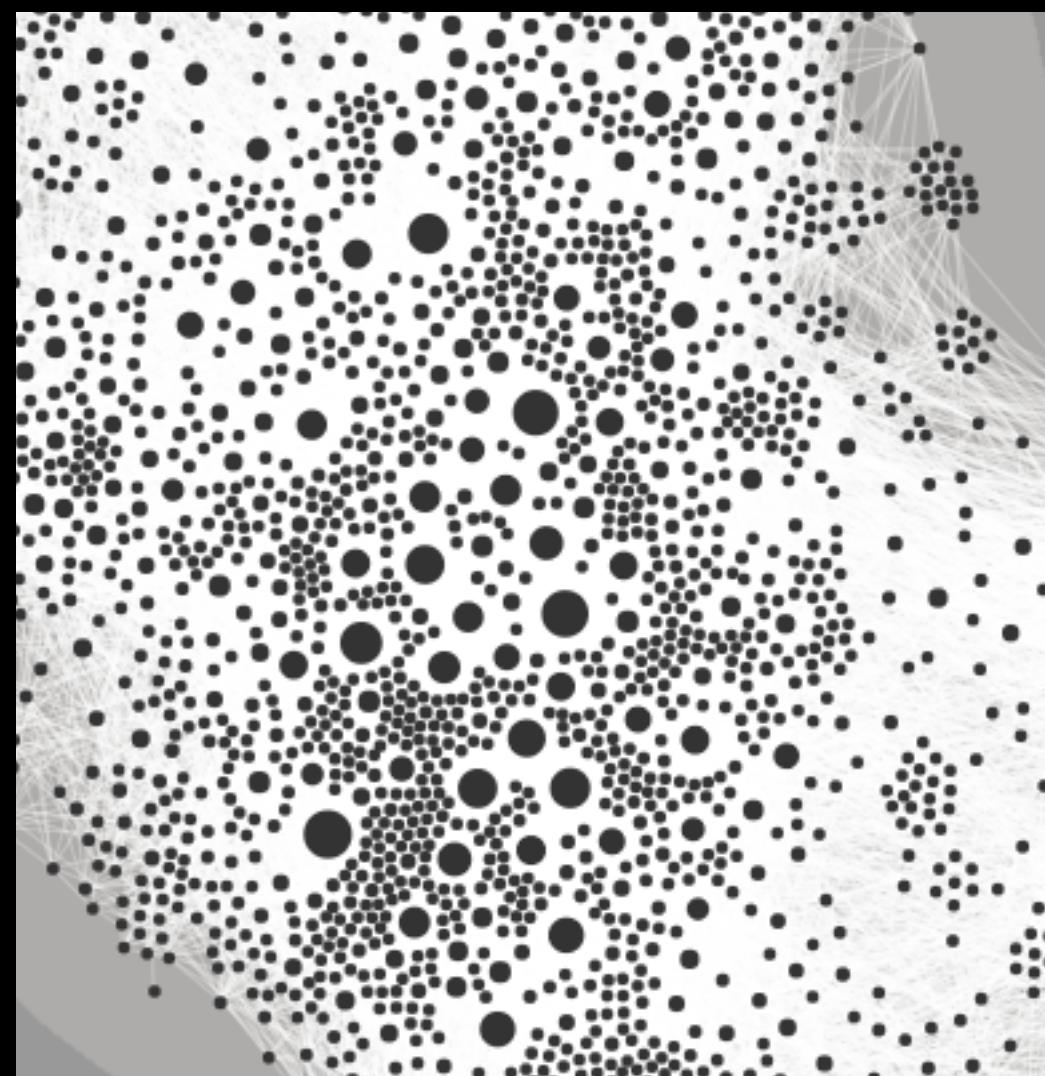
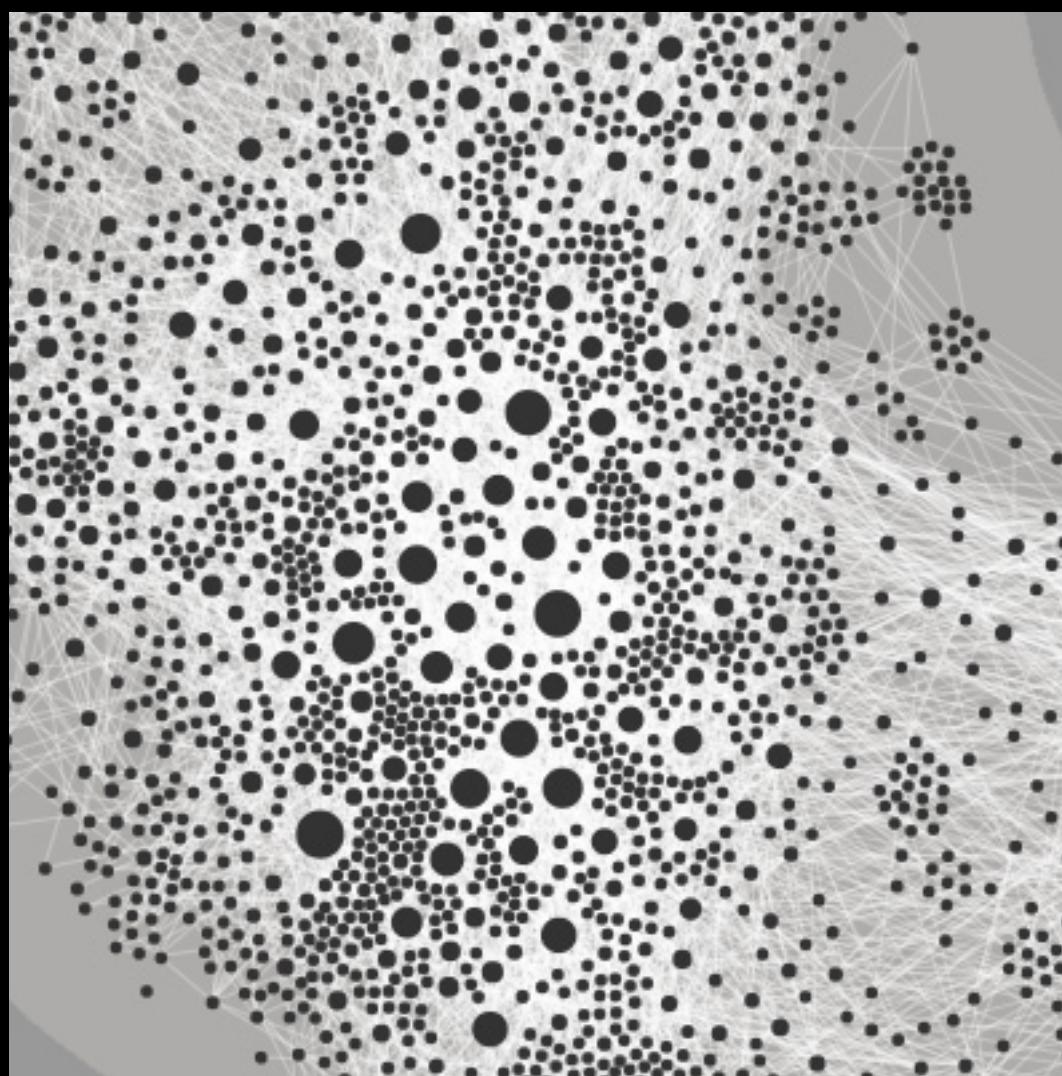
Only show a certain percentage of edges (expressed as a number between 0 and 1).
Note: edges are picked by “seeded” randomness (i.e. consistently)

`settings.edge_show_part =`

0.05

0.25

1



III.5.

'Make a Map' settings:
Nodes layers

nodes layer settings

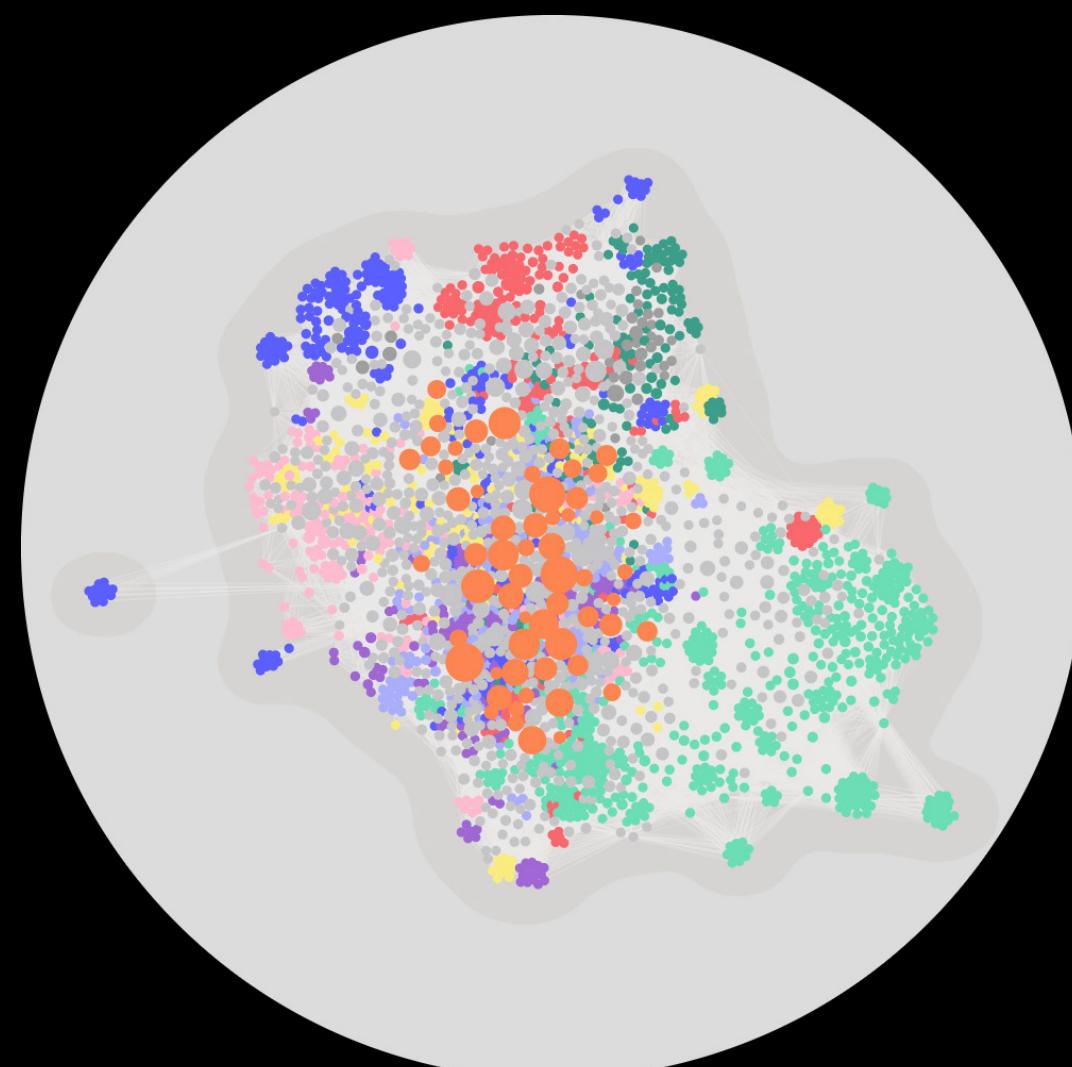
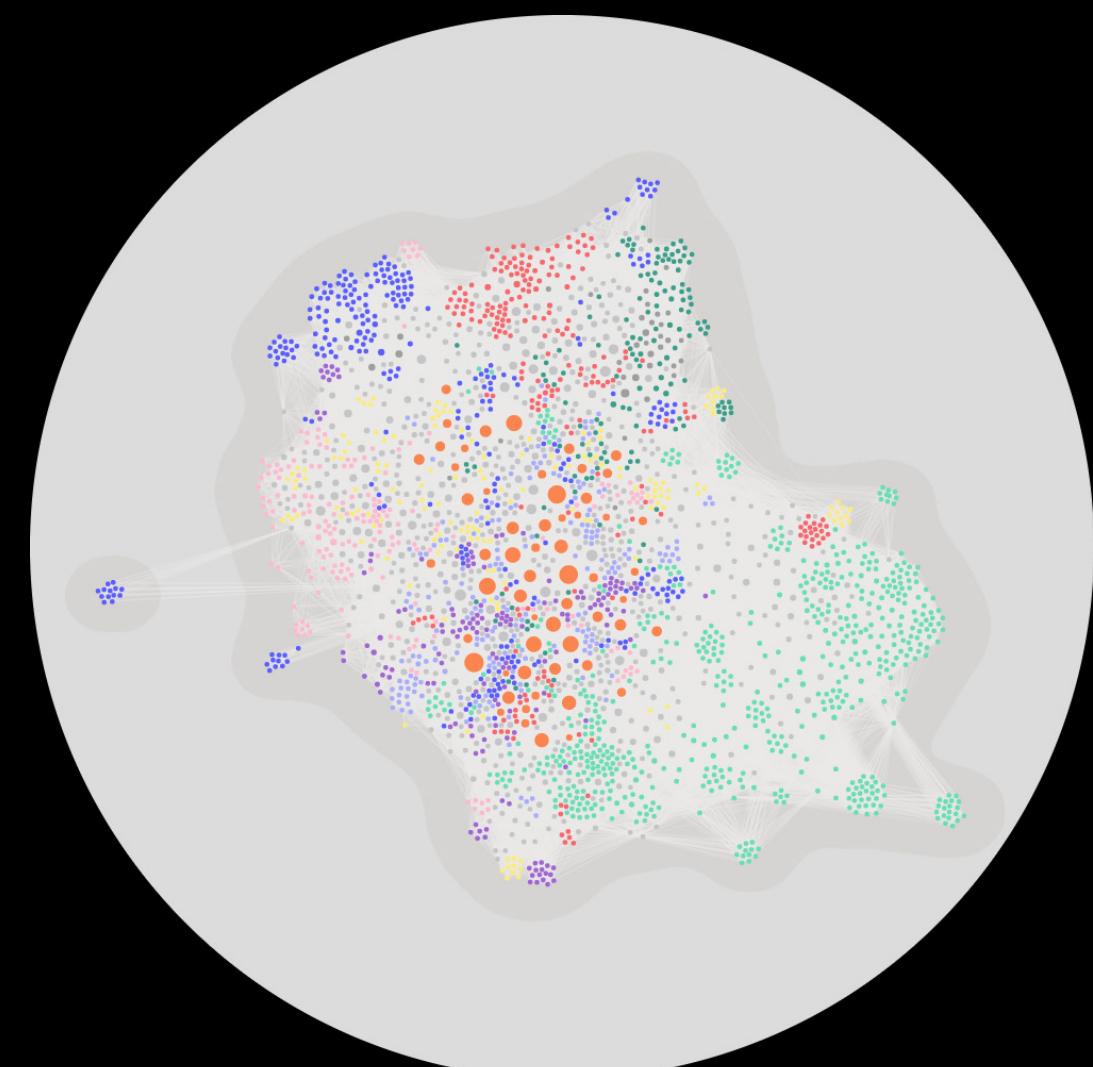
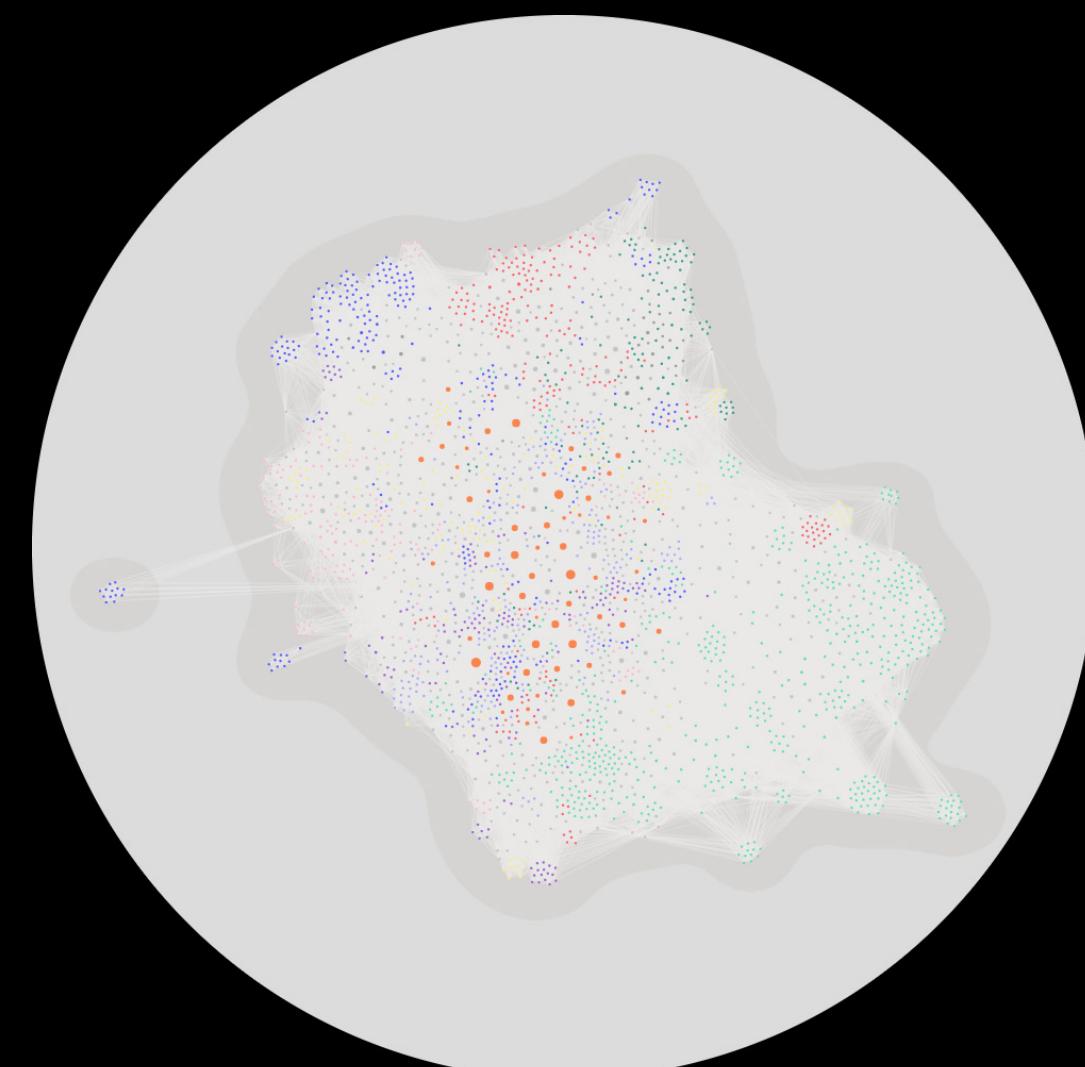
```
// Layer: Nodes  
settings.node_size = 1 // Factor to adjust the size  
settings.node_border_thickness = 0
```

Note: border thickness is useful when nodes are on top of cluster fills (same color)

settings.node_size = 0.5

settings.node_size = 1

settings.node_size = 2



node labels layer settings

```
100 // Layer: Node labels
101 settings.label_limit = Infinity // Limit the count of labels.
102 settings.label_font_min_size = 16 // in pt based on 1MP 72dpi
103 settings.label_font_max_size = 32 // in pt based on 1MP 72dpi
104 settings.label_border_thickness = 0
105 settings.label_color = "#000"
```

The **settings** for node labels determine both the **size** and the **number** of labels displayed.

An algorithm prevents label overlap. Labels are displayed from biggest to smallest node, and overlapping labels are ignored.

node labels layer settings

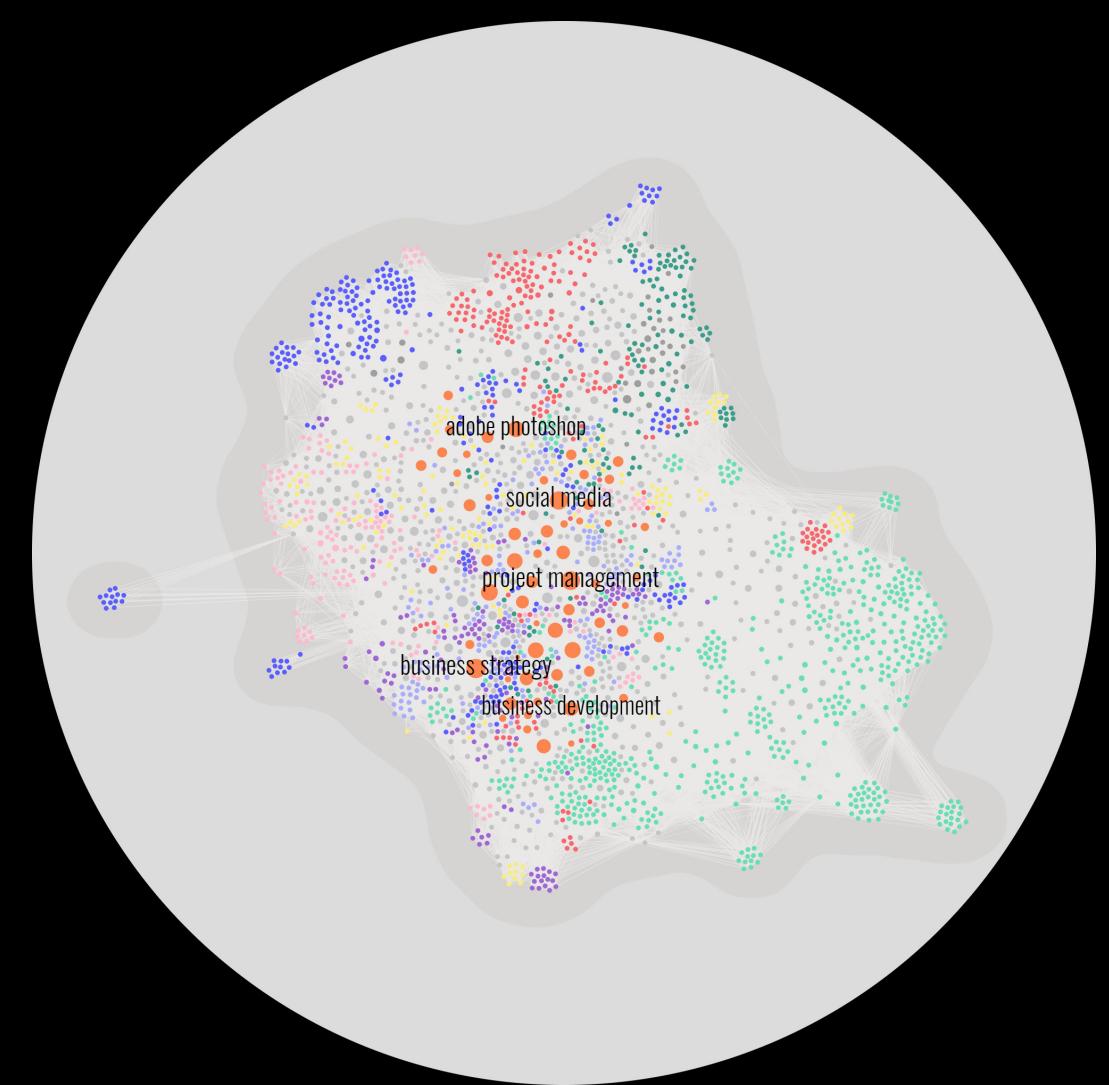
label limit

Limits the number of labels to display. Infinity is a valid value.

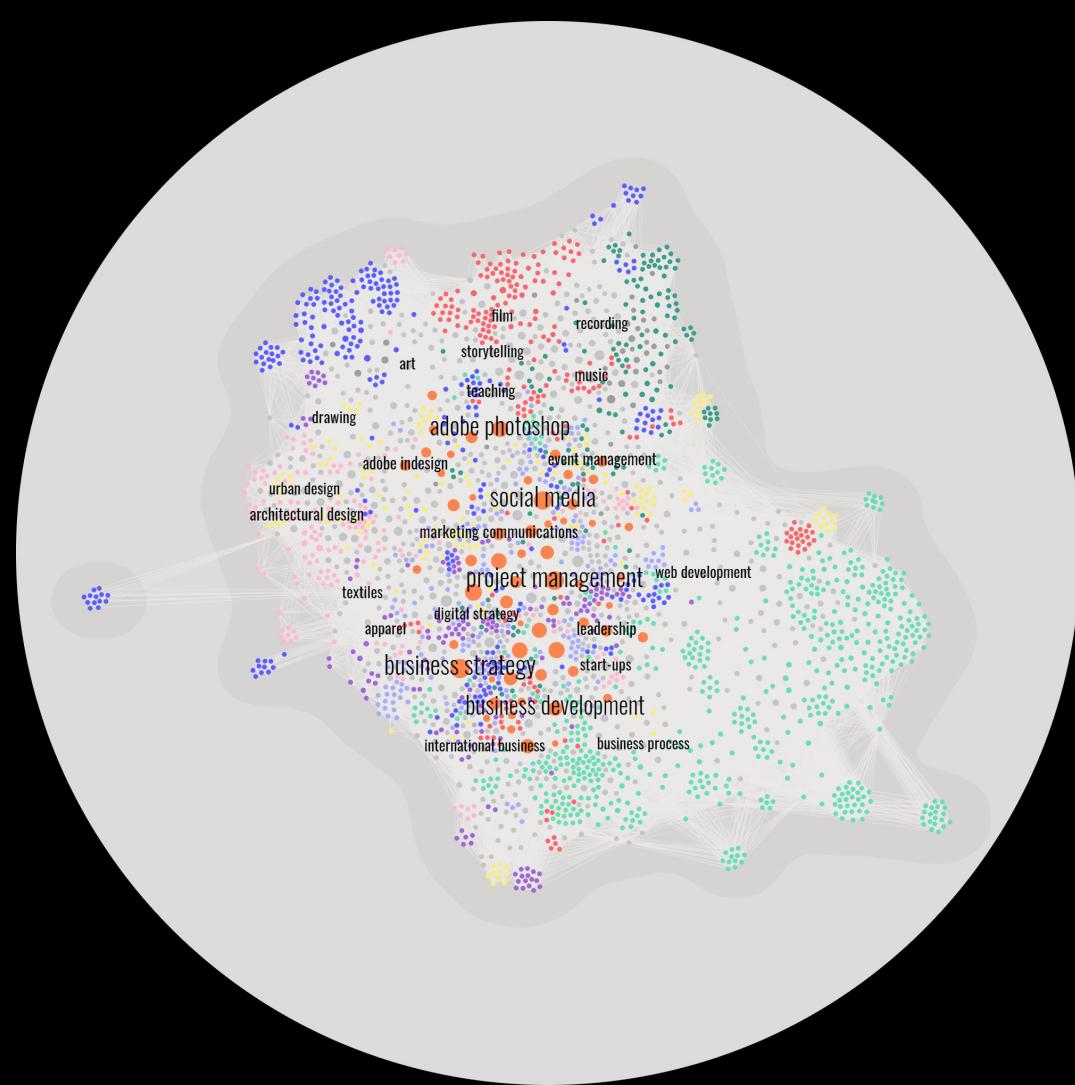
Note: because an algorithm prevents occlusion, not all labels are displayed.

```
settings.label_limit =
```

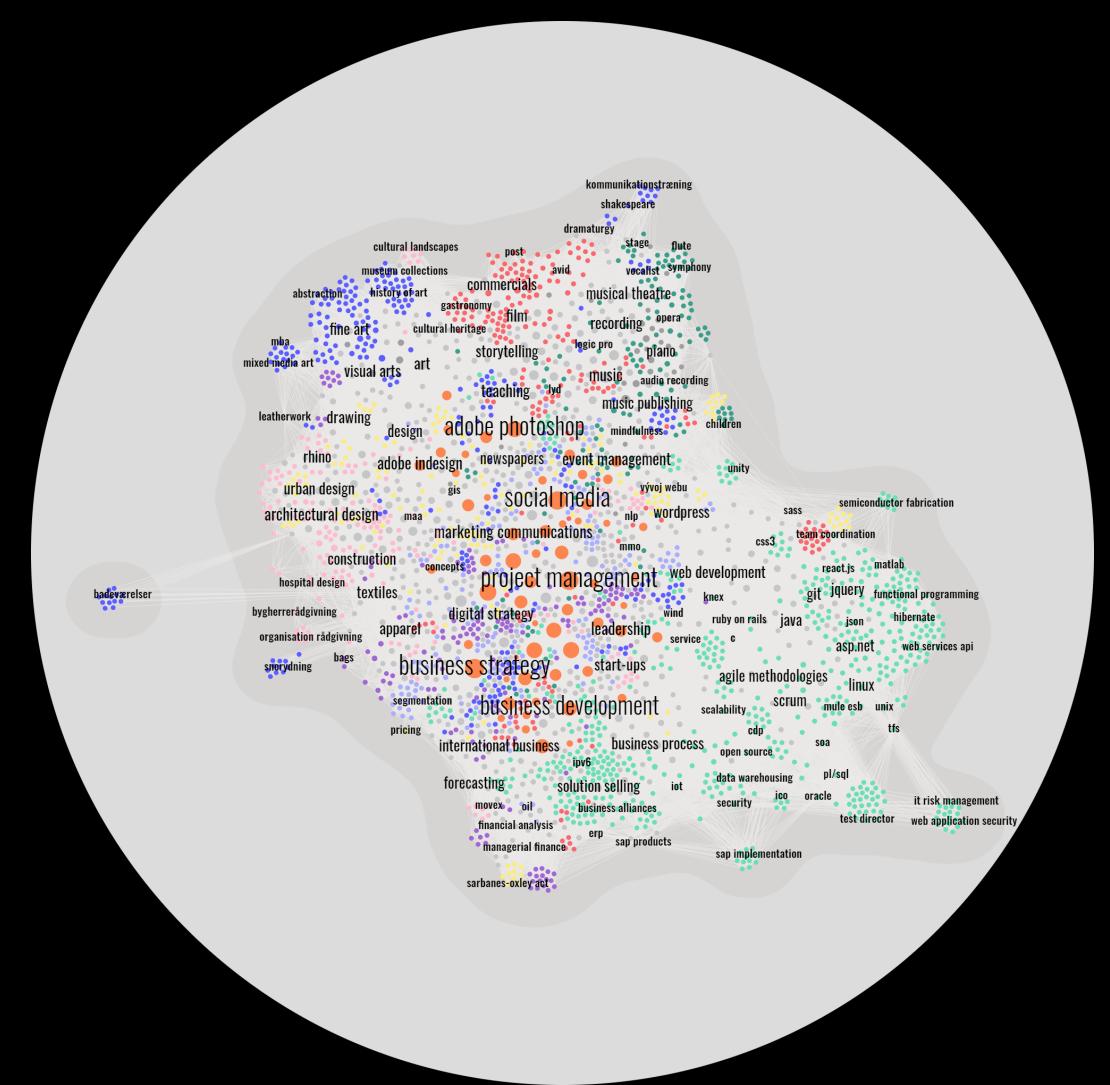
5



25



Infinity



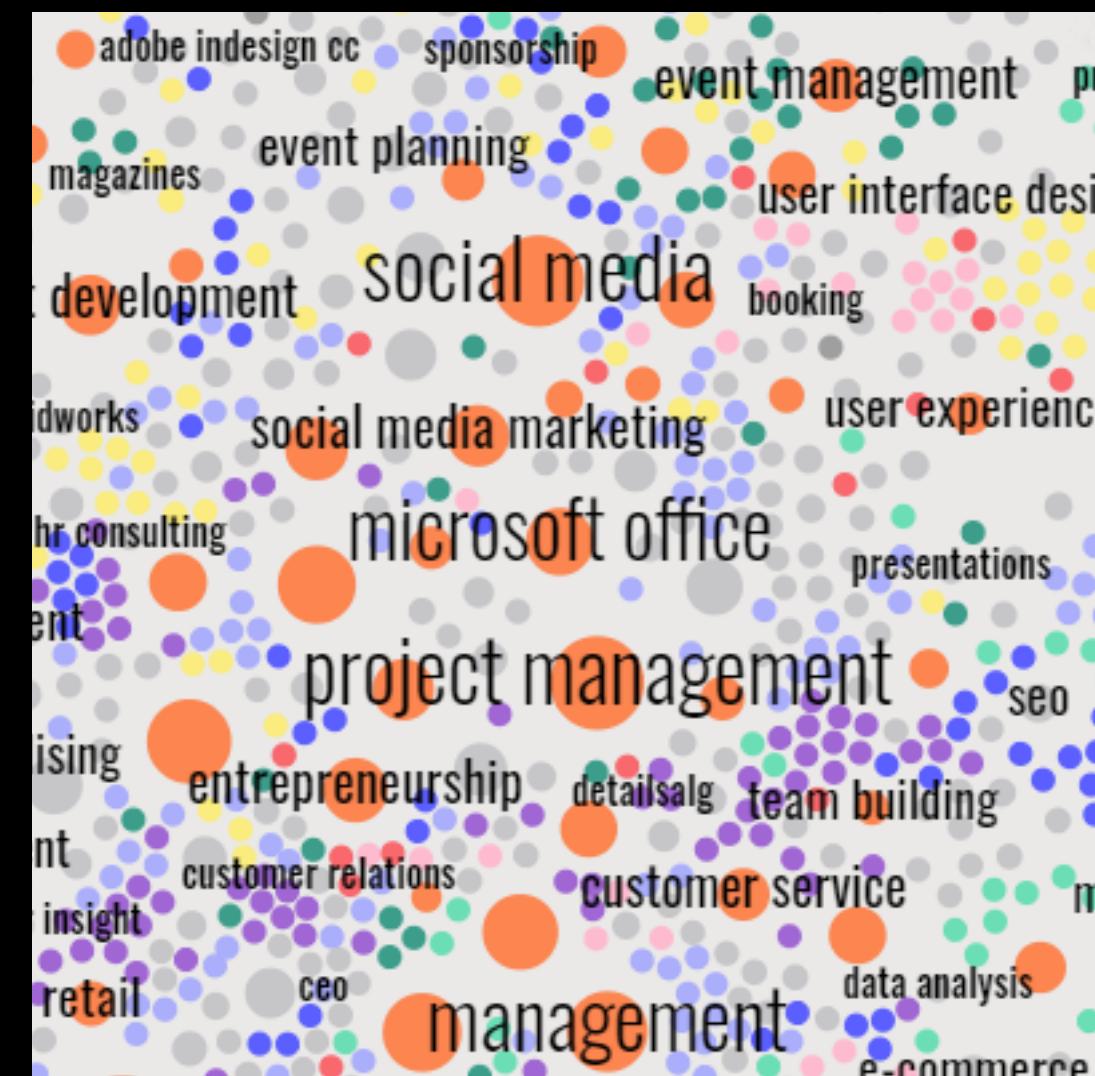
node labels layer settings

font size

Font size should be tweaked depending on the size of the support (web, poster...)

```
settings.label_font_min_size =  
settings.label_font_max_size =
```

8
16



12
24



16
32



node labels layer settings

label border thickness

Can improve readability, but occludes the node behind.
(disabled by default in the Backscatter style)

```
settings.label_border_thickness =
```

0



5



III.6. ‘Make a Map’ settings: Advanced settings

What settings do **advanced settings**

```
// Advanced settings
settings.adjust_voronoi_range = 25 // Factor // Larger node halo + slightly bigger clusters
settings.max_voronoi_size = 250 // Above that size, we approximate the voronoi
```

These settings play a role in the underlying algorithms.
They act both on the quality and performance.

The voronoi range can be adjusted depending on the network. The size depends on the resolution.

Recommended setting for normal use:

settings.max_voronoi_size = 250

Recommended setting for high resolution use:

settings.max_voronoi_size = 1000

advanced settings

adjust voronoi range

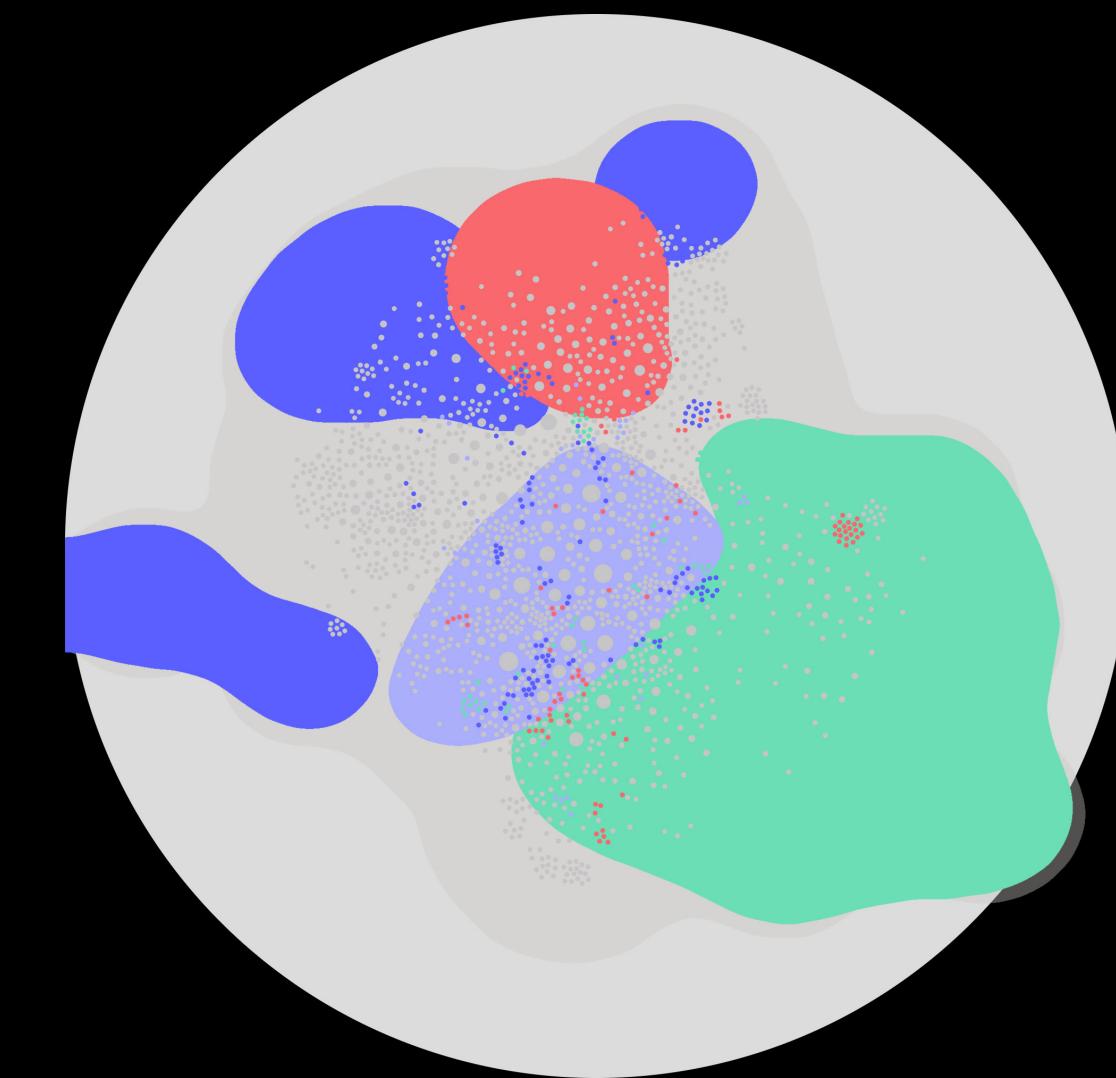
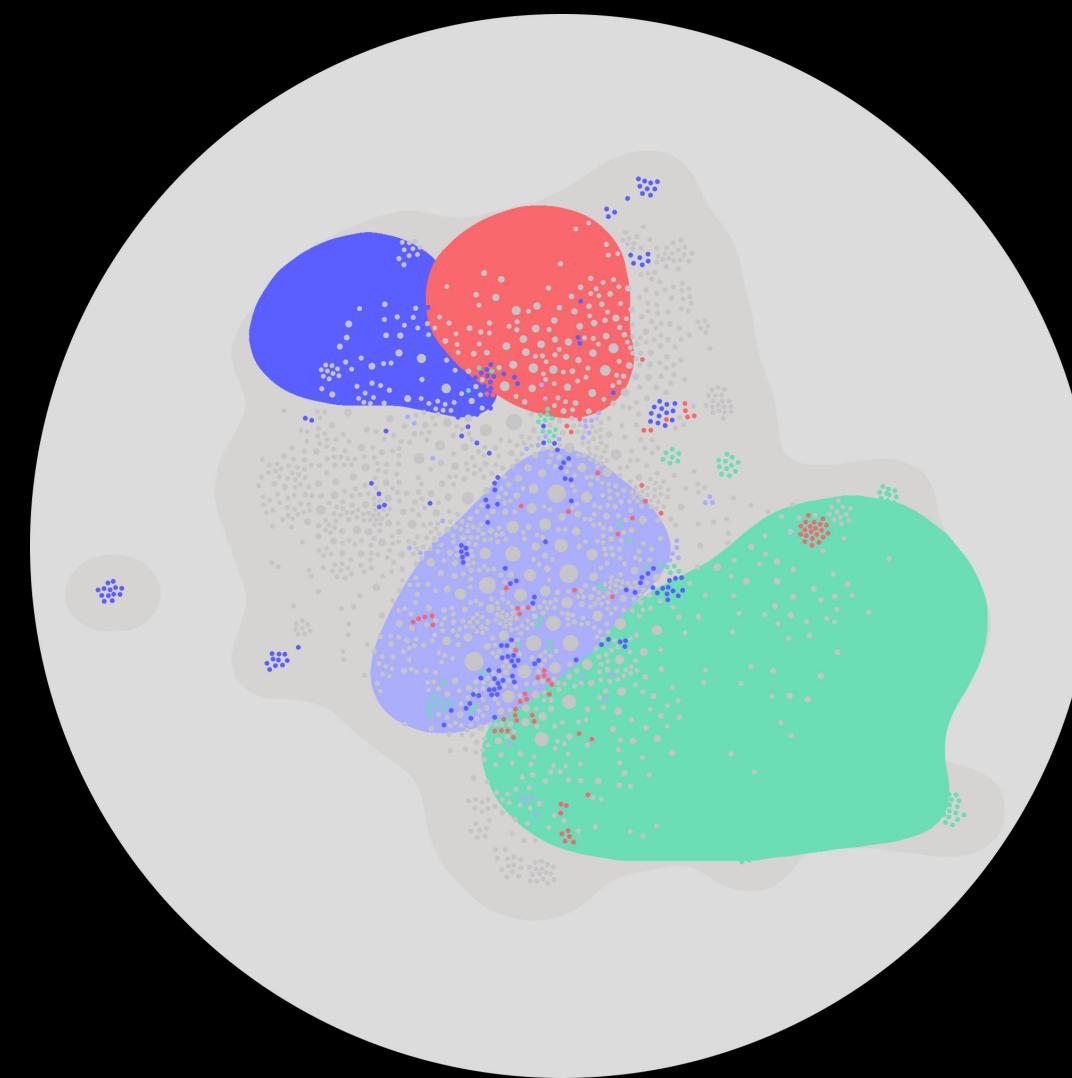
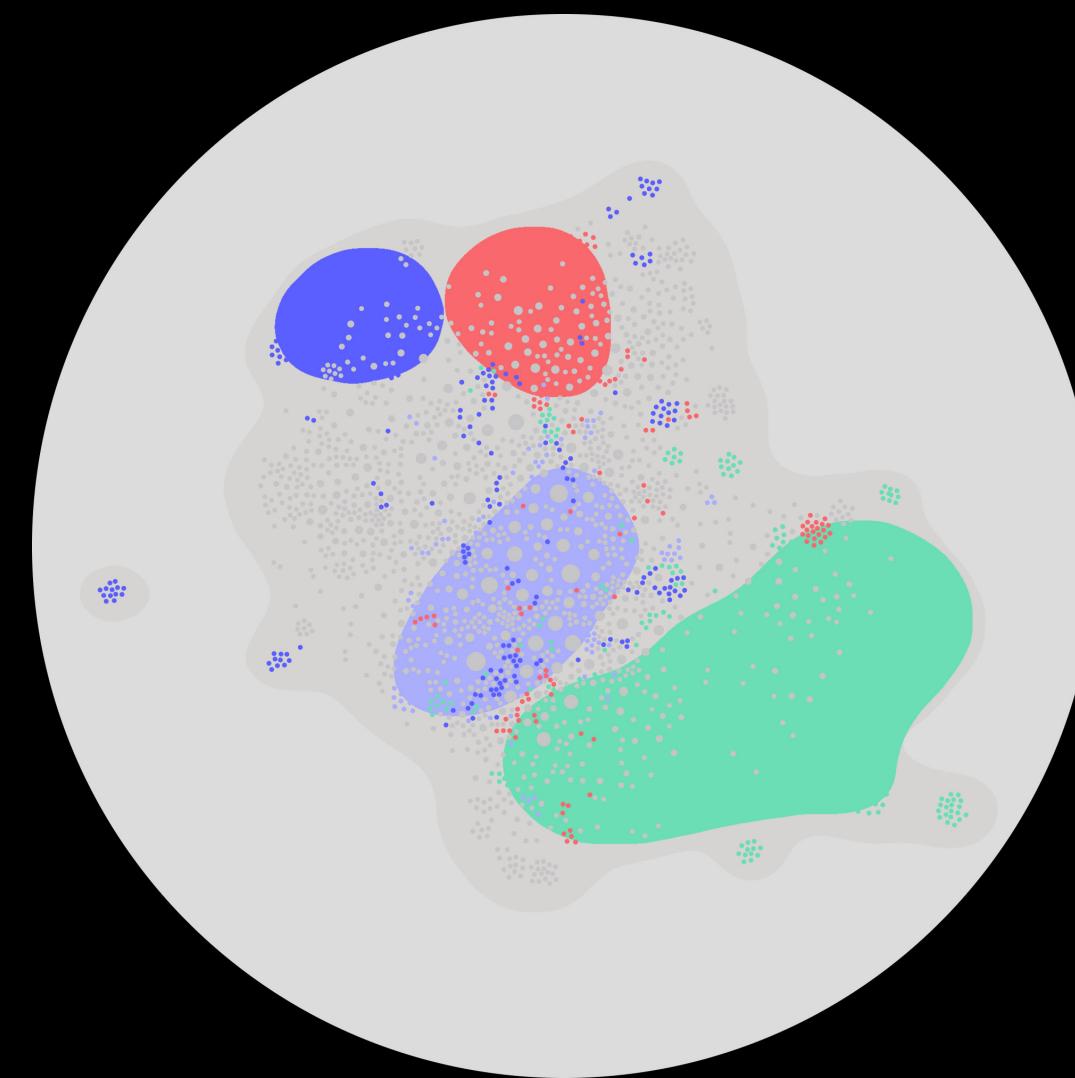
Plays a role both for the clusters and for the high quality edges. It tends to extend the clusters towards the outside of the graph, and not change much in the middle.

`settings.adjust_voronoi_range =`

5

25

150



advanced settings

max voronoi size

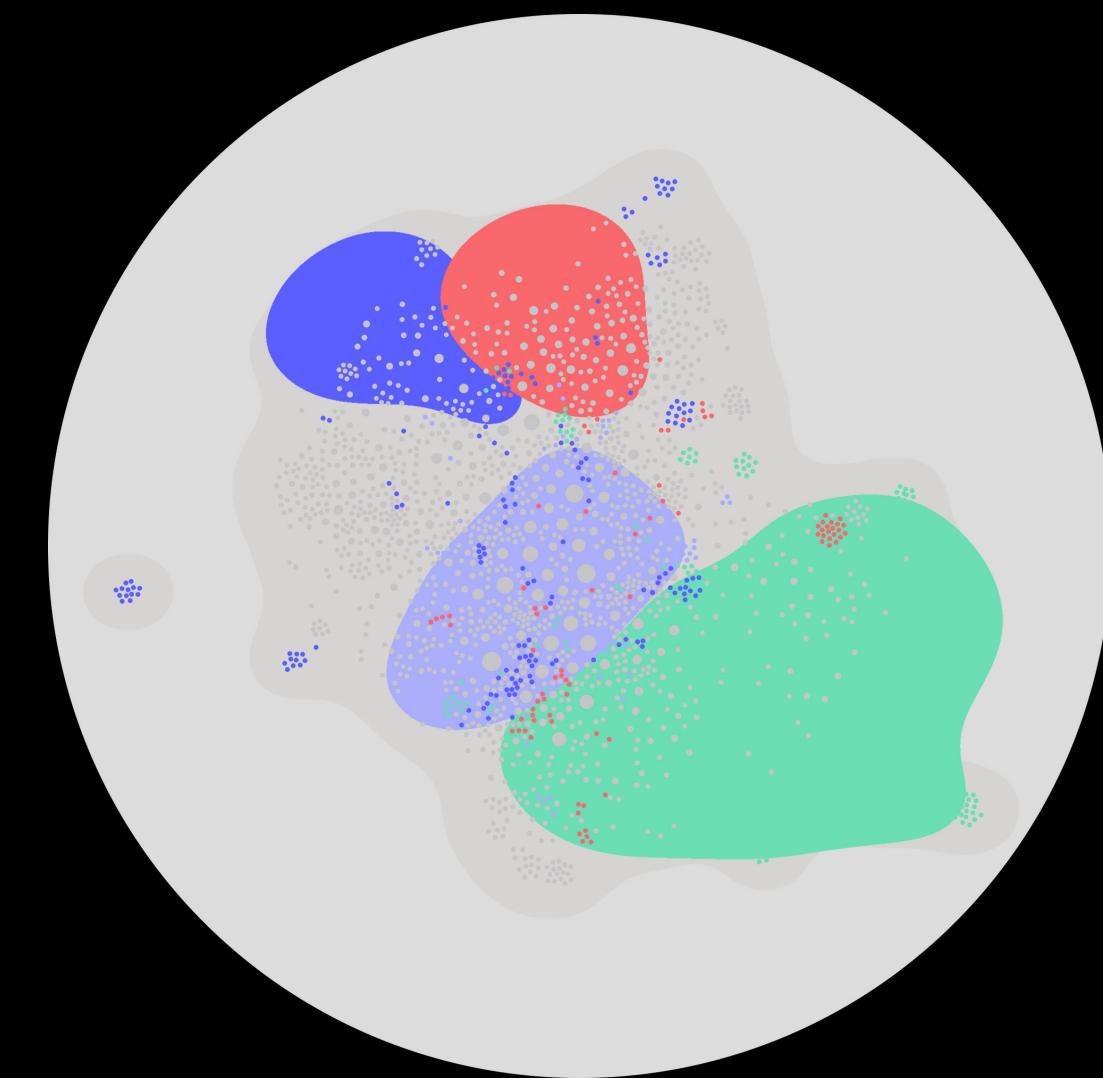
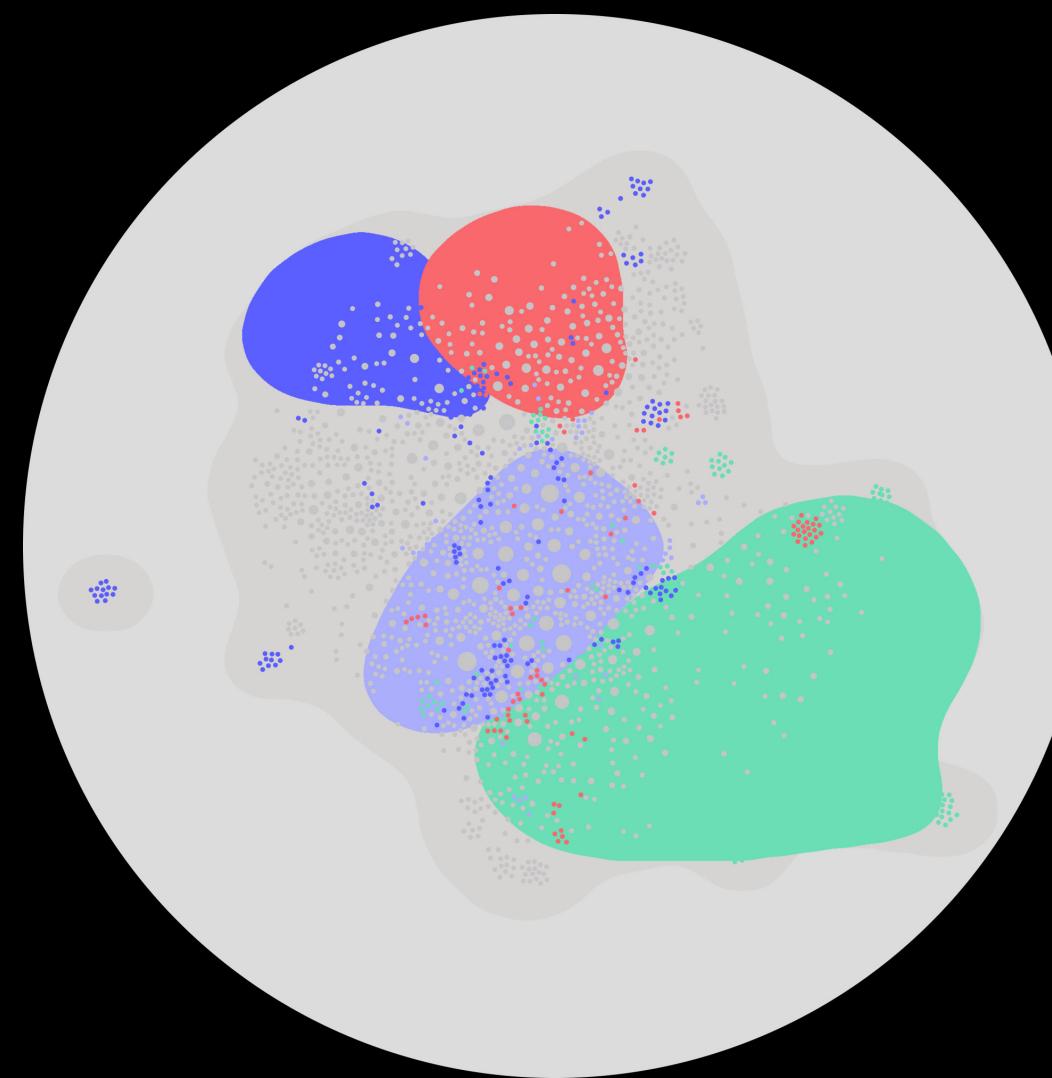
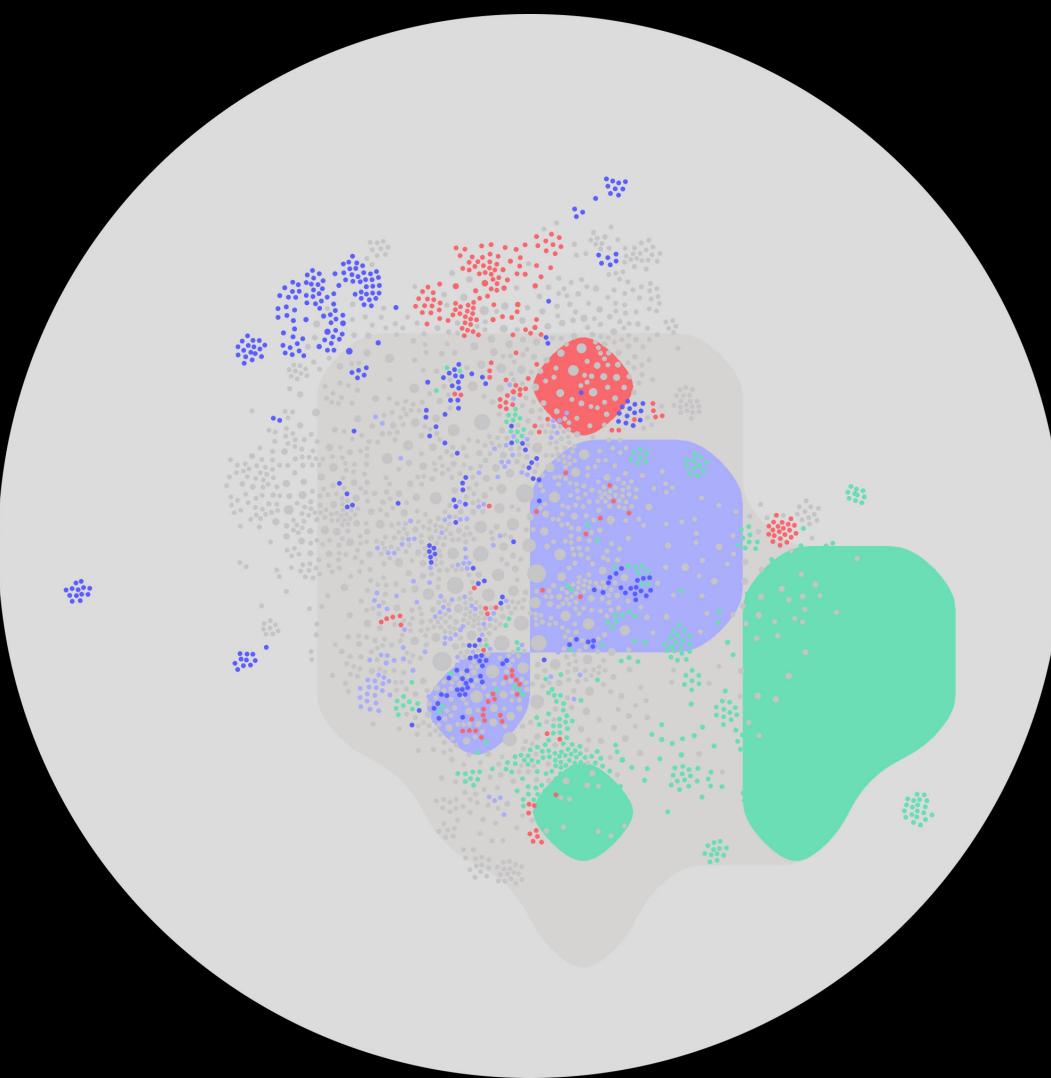
Resolution of the grid used to approximate the voronoi. The higher the more precise, but also the more computation- and memory-costly. Too low, it glitches.

settings.max_voronoi_size =

10

250

1000



III.7.

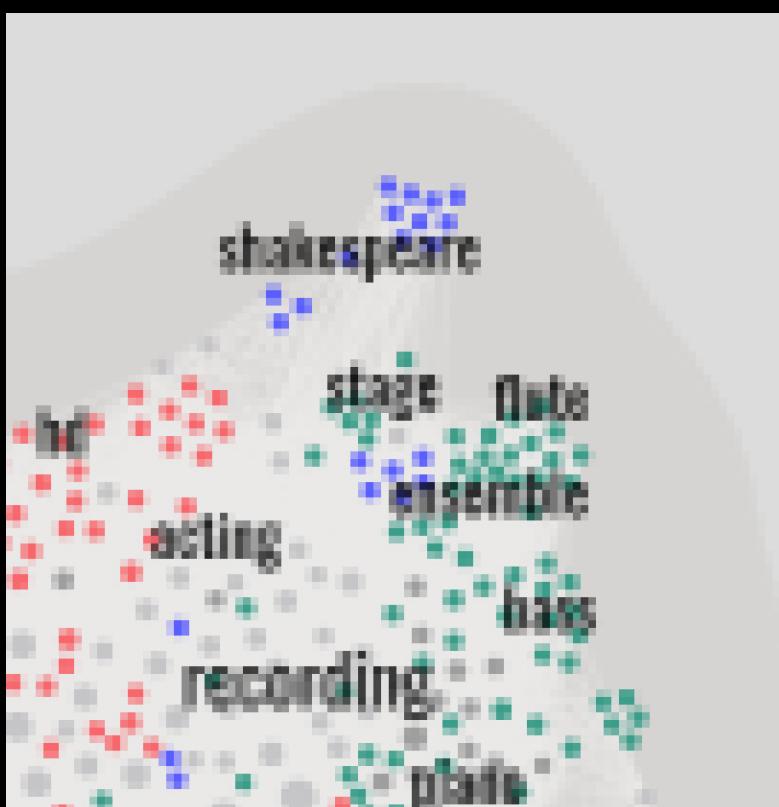
'Make a Map' settings:
Thinking in terms of
optical size

Optical size

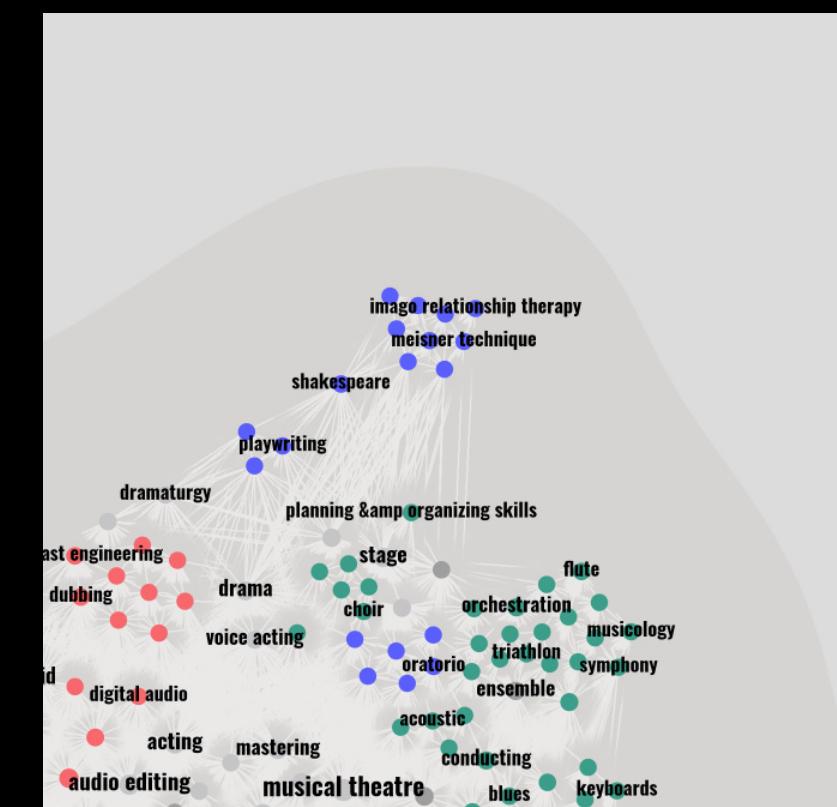
When tweaking settings, take both the **size** and **resolution** into account. The optical size matters: what your eyes see in the final product, not just the size in pixels.

There are two different readability issues:

Pixelation
(too small for resolution)

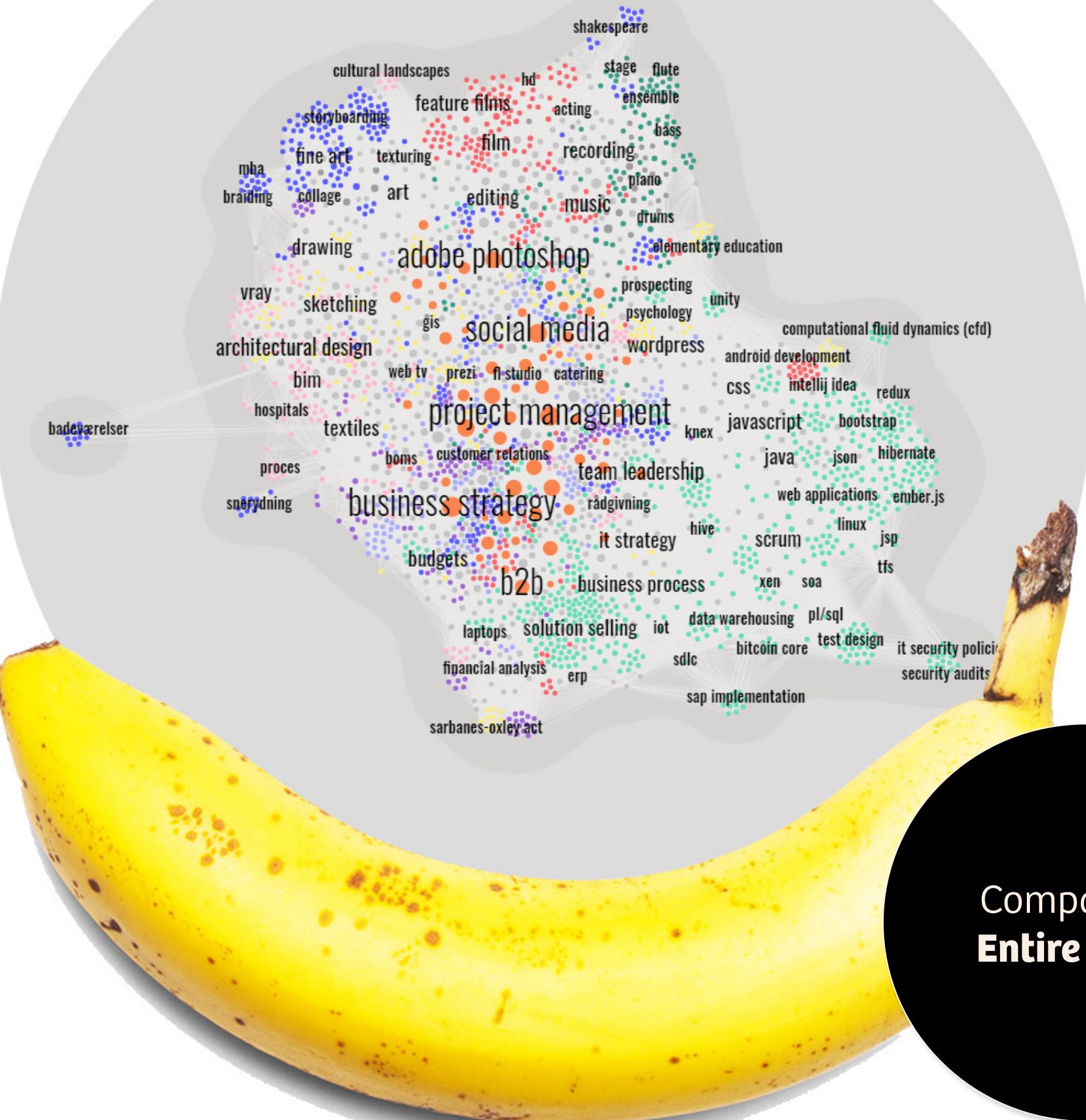


Optical size too small
(for the eyes)

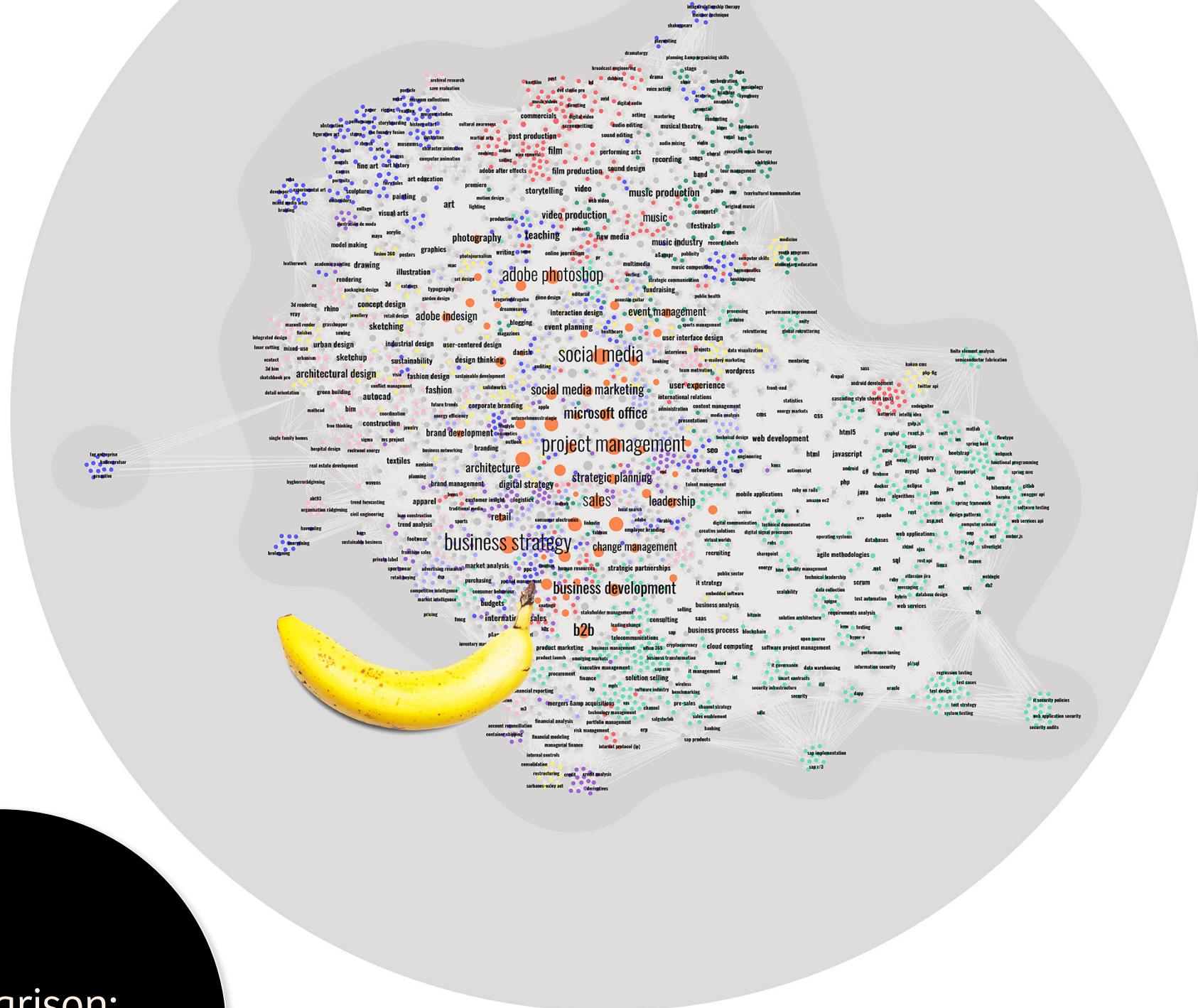


Normal export
1000 x 1000
for a web page

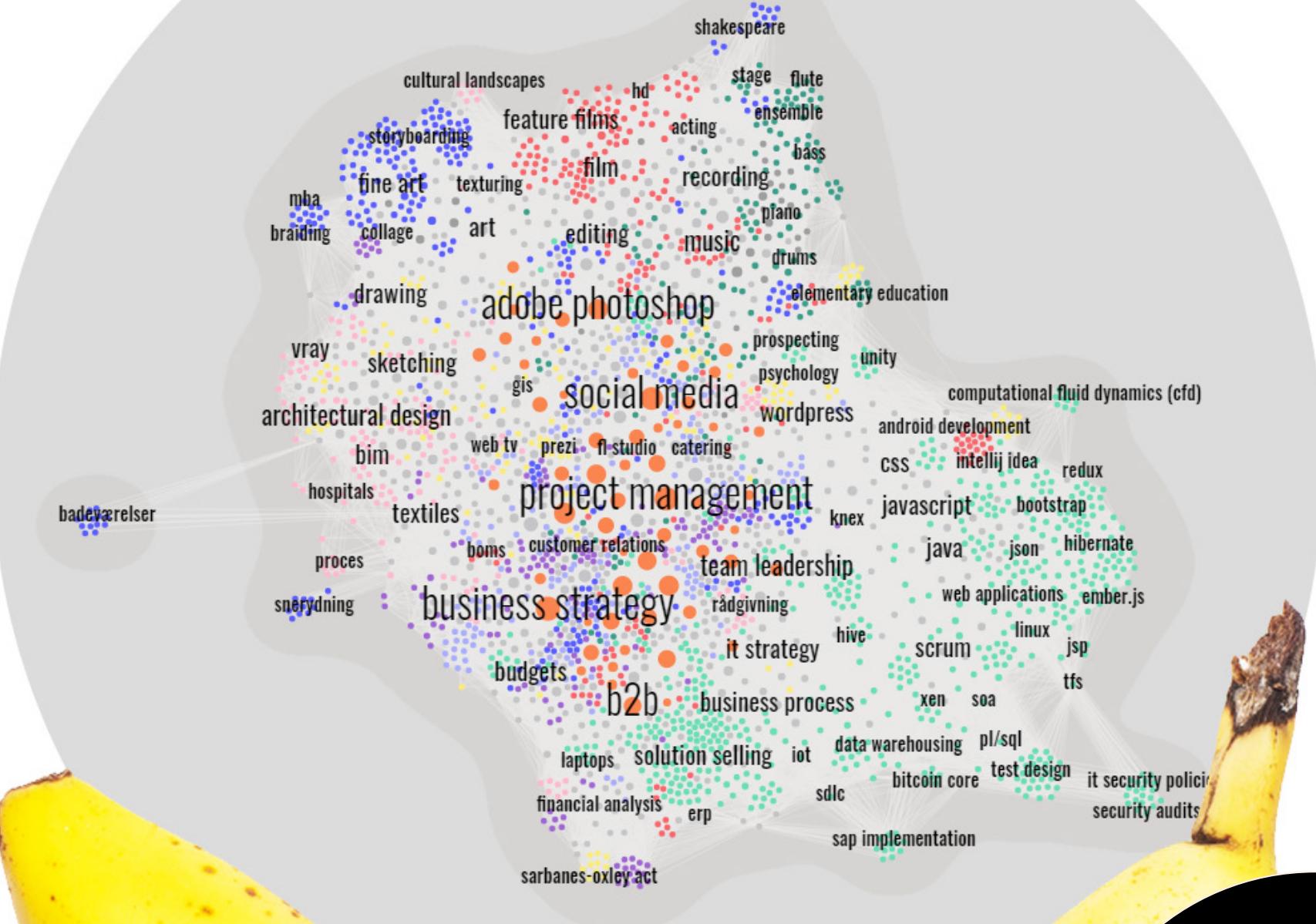
High res. export
8000 x 8000
A3 @300dpi



Comparison:
Entire image



Normal export
1000 x 1000
for a web page

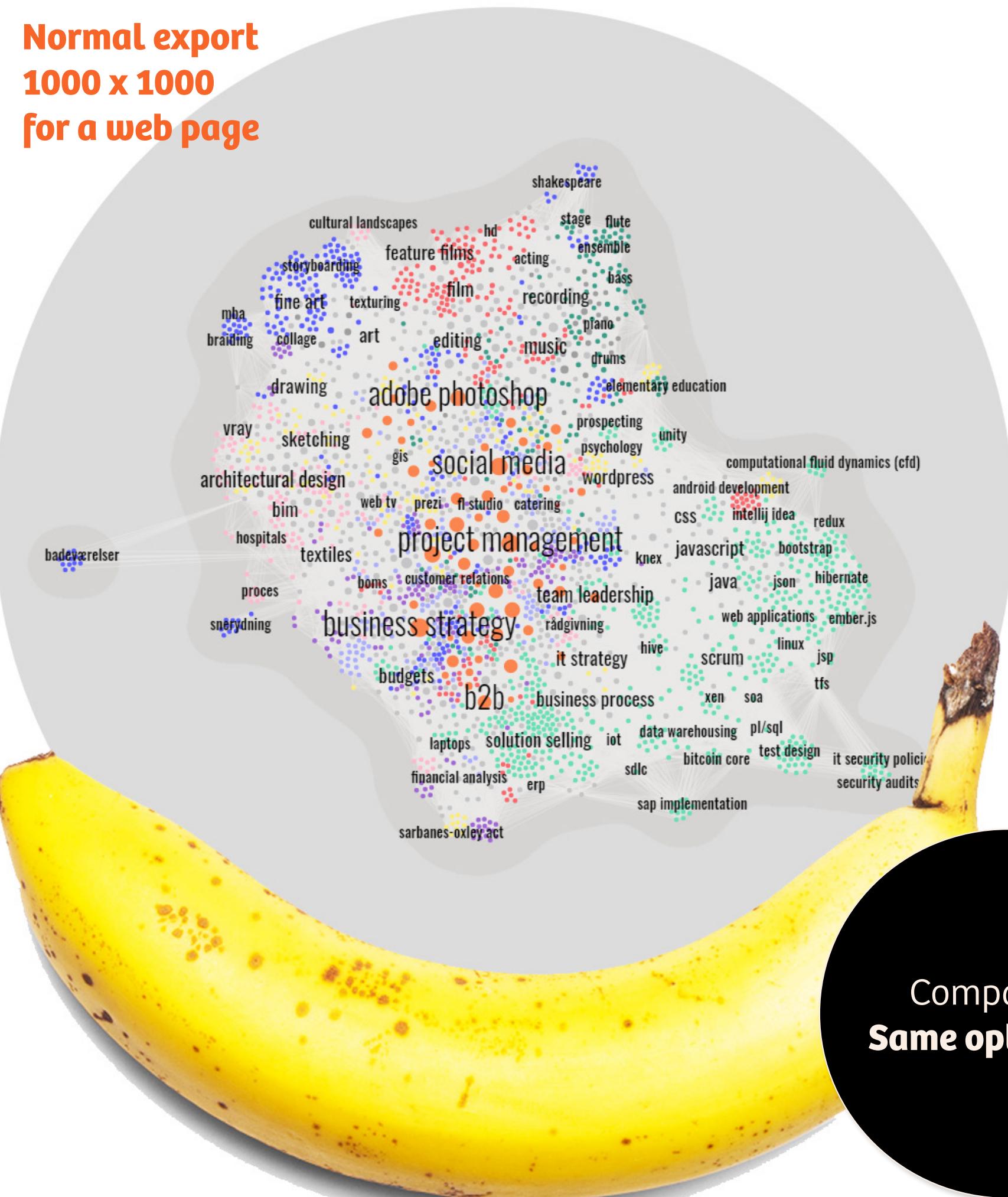


Comparison:
Same pixel size

High res. export
8000 x 8000
A3 @300dpi



Normal export
1000 x 1000
for a web page



Comparison:
Same optical size