

Updated Gephi Quick Start Tutorial for 0.9

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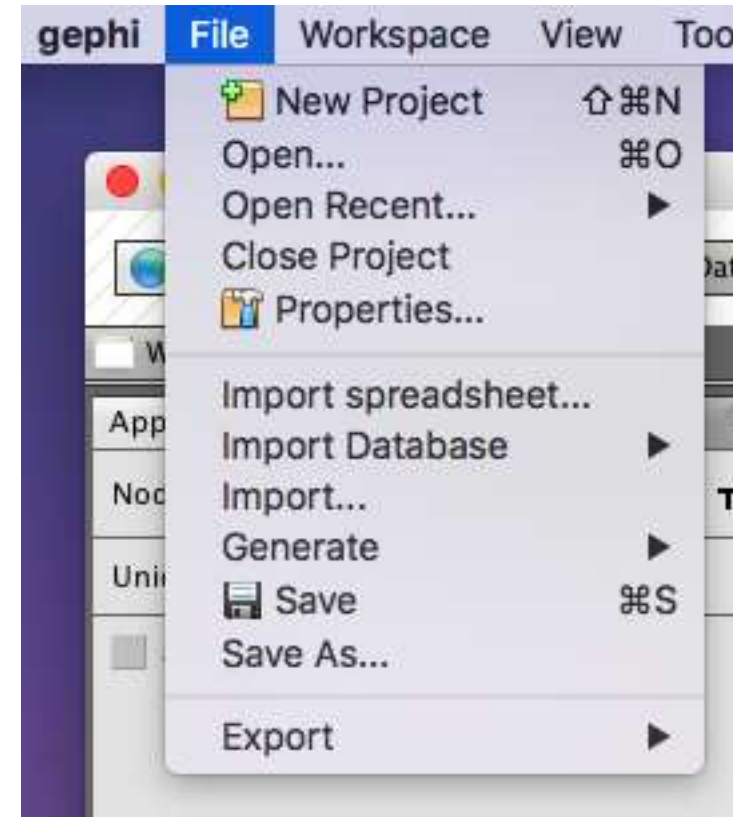
A quick note

- The original Gephi Quick Start Tutorial can be found at <https://gephi.org/users/quick-start/>
- Things have moved or changed since it was made, so this tutorial uses their examples and slides but adds updates so you can find these features in version 0.9
- I tried to use their originals as much as possible to preserve consistency. All credit for those slides goes to the Gephi creators.

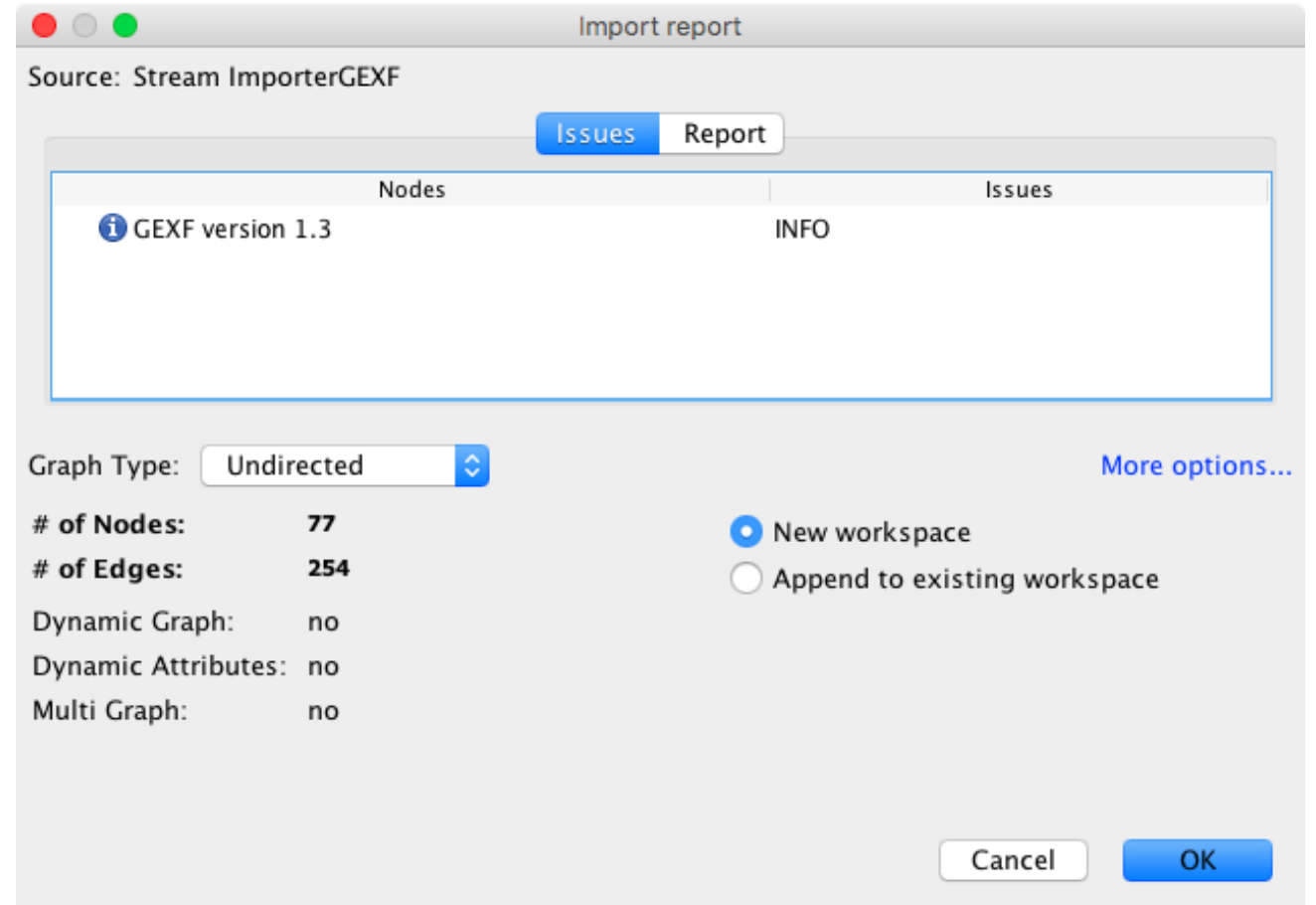
Download the Les Mis file from

<https://github.com/gephi/gephi/wiki/Datasets>

Then, in Gephi, go to File->open. Select the Les Mis file and click ok.



This report window shows up every time you open a new graph. You see the graph type and can see there are 77 nodes and 254 edges. You can change the Graph Type in this window by using the pull down menu. Click Ok to start working with the graph.



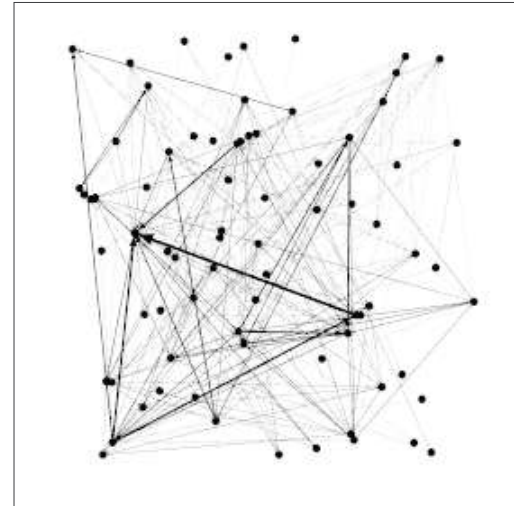


Tutorial Quick Start

- * Introduction
- * Import file
- * Visualization
- * Layout
- * Ranking (color)
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * Filter
- * Preview
- * Export
- * Save
- * Conclusion

You should now see a graph

We imported “Les Miserables” dataset¹. Coappearance weighted network of characters in the novel “Les Miserables” from Victor Hugo.



Nodes position is random at first, so you may see a slightly different representation.

¹ D. E. Knuth, The Stanford GraphBase: A Platform for Combinatorial Computing, Addison-Wesley, Reading, MA (1993).



Tutorial Quick Start

- * Introduction
- * Import fil
- * Visualization
- * Layout
- * Ranking (color)
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * Filter
- * Preview
- * Export
- * Save
- * Conclusion

Graph Visualization

- Use your mouse to move and scale the visualization
 - Zoom: Mouse Wheel
 - Pan: Right Mouse Drag



Zoom

- Locate the “Edge Thickness” slider on the bottom



Drag

- If you loose your graph, reset the position

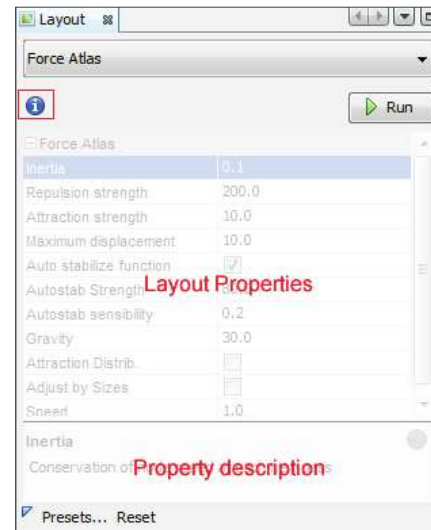


- * Introduction
- * Import file
- * Visualization
- * **Layout**
- * Ranking (color)
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * Filter
- * Preview
- * Export
- * Save
- * Conclusion

Layout the graph

Layout algorithms sets the graph shape, it is the most essential action.

- Locate the  Layout module, on the left panel.



- Choose “Force Atlas”

You can see the layout properties below, leave default values.

- Click on  to launch the algorithm

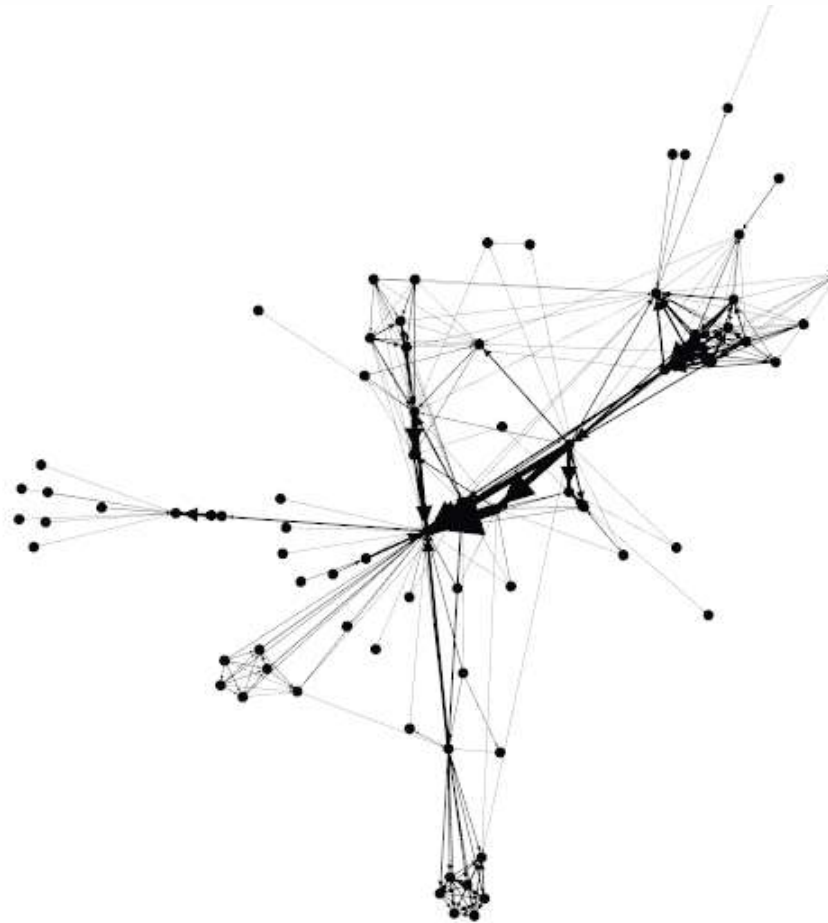


Layout algorithms

Graphs are usually layouted with “Force-based” algorithms. Their principle is easy, linked nodes attract each other and non-linked nodes are pushed apart.

- * Introduction
- * Import fil
- * Visualization
- * **Layout**
- * Ranking (color)
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * Filter
- * Preview
- * Export
- * Save
- * Conclusion

You should now see a layouted graph



Gephi 0.9.2 - Project 1

Overview Data Laboratory Preview

Workspace 1 Workspace 2

Appearance Graph

Nodes Edges

Unique Partition Ranking

Degree

Color: [Color bar]

Spline...

Layout

Force Atlas

Run

Repulsion strength 10000.0
Attraction strength 10.0
Maximum displacement 10.0
Auto stabilize function ☒
Autostab Strength 80.0
Autostab sensibility 0.2
Gravity 30.0
Attraction Distrib. ☐
Adjust by Sizes ☐

Force Atlas

Presets... Reset

Dragging (Configure)

Context

Nodes: 77
Edges: 254
Undirected Graph

Filters Statistics

Reset

Library

- Attributes
- Dynamic
- Edges
- Operator
- Topology
- Saved queries

Queries

Drag filter here

Select Filter

To change the color and size of Nodes, we use the appearance panel

At the top, pick if you want to adjust a node or edge.

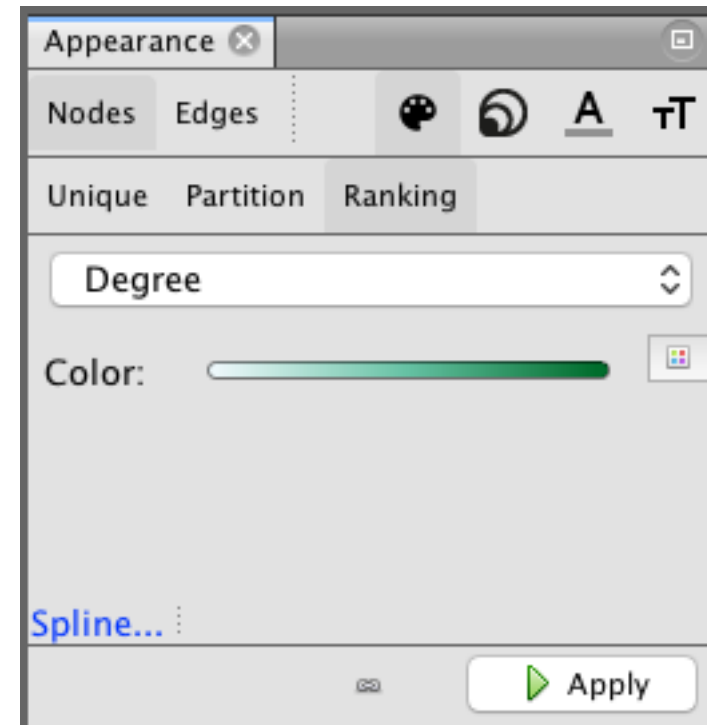
To the right, the first shape adjusts the color (it's supposed to look like an artist's palette). The circles next to that will change size.

Click on Nodes and then the color icon.

There are three options – Unique (pick a single color), Partition (something we'll look at in a bit), and Ranking. Ranking is used when you have a numeric scale.

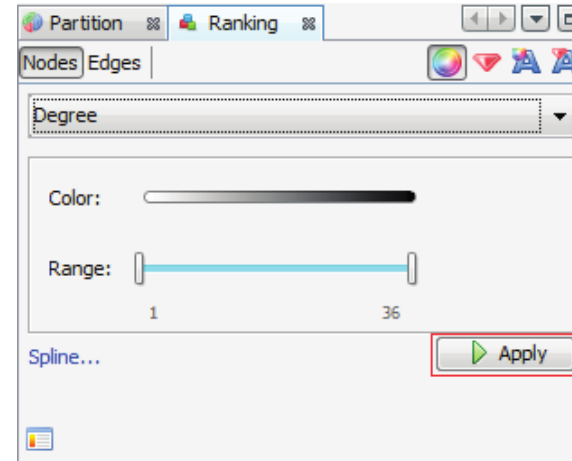
Click Ranking.

From the pulldown, choose Degree. This will let you choose a color range.



- * Introduction
- * Import file
- * Visualization
- * Layout
- * **Ranking (color)**
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * Filter
- * Preview
- * Export
- * Save
- * Conclusion

Let's configure colors



- Move your mouse over the gradient component.

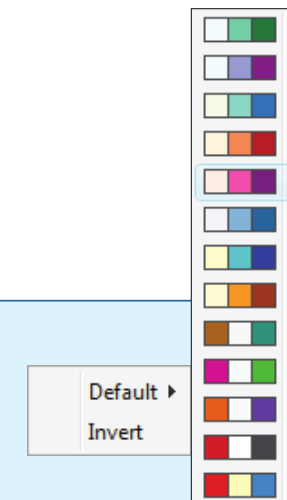


- Double-click on triangles to configure the color



Palette

Use palette by right-clicking on the panel.



Gephi 0.9.2 - Project 1

Overview Data Laboratory Preview

Workspace 1 x Workspace 2 x

Appearance x

Nodes Edges

Unique Partition Ranking

Degree

Color:

Spline...

Apply

Layout x

Force Atlas

Run

Repulsion strength 10000.0

Attraction strength 10.0

Maximum displacement 10.0

Auto stabilize function ☒

Autostab Strength 80.0

Autostab sensibility 0.2

Gravity 30.0

Attraction Distribution ☐

Adjust by Sizes ☐

Force Atlas

Presets... Reset

Graph x

Dragging (Configure)

Context x

Nodes: 77

Edges: 254

Undirected Graph

Filters Statistics

Reset

Library

- Attributes
- Dynamic
- Edges
- Operator
- Topology
- Saved queries

1. Click Apply to see the colors On the graph

2. Next, we want to compute some Other node statistics to use for the Graph. Click on the Statistics tab Over on the right.

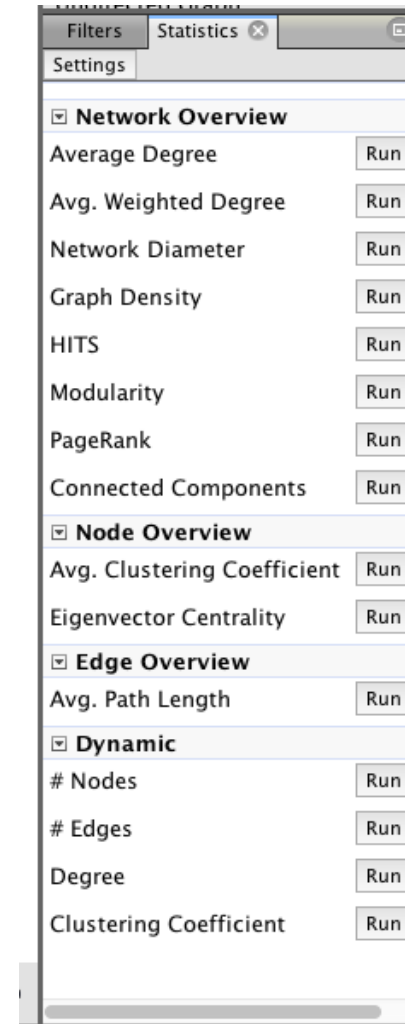
Select Filter

Statistics

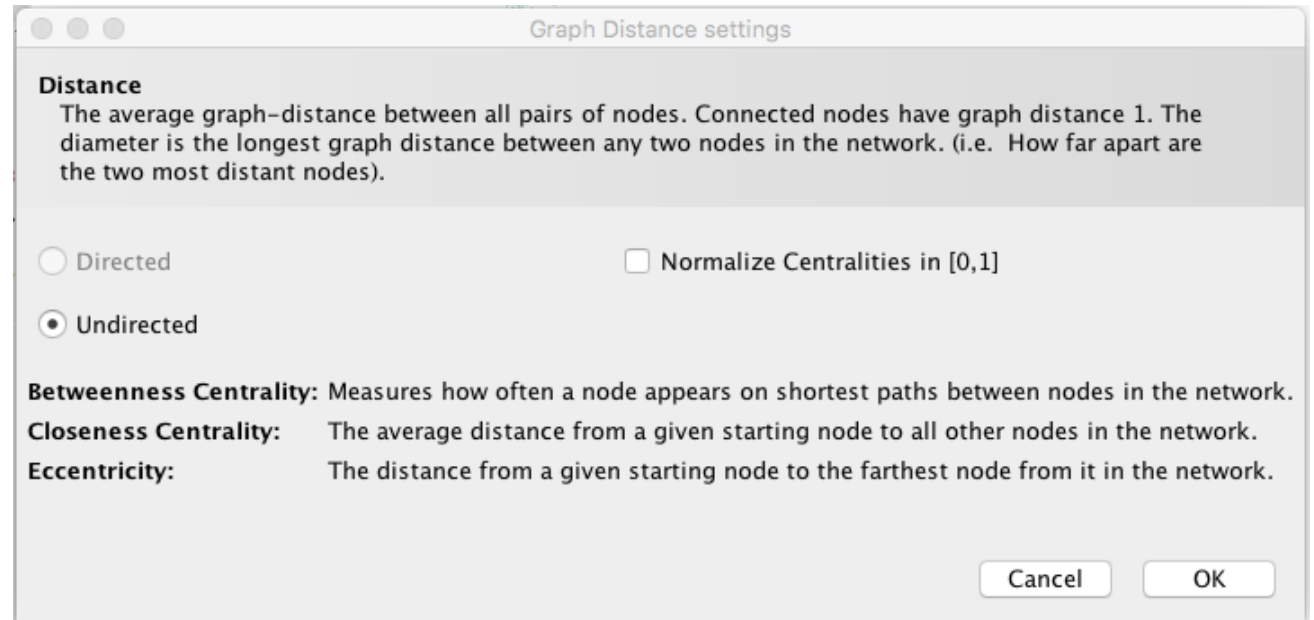
There are lots of statistics you can calculate and they are in this tab.

For this exercise, we want to calculate betweenness. You can do that by running the Network Diameter statistic.

Click Run by Network Diameter.



This will give you a window with some settings. Click OK here.

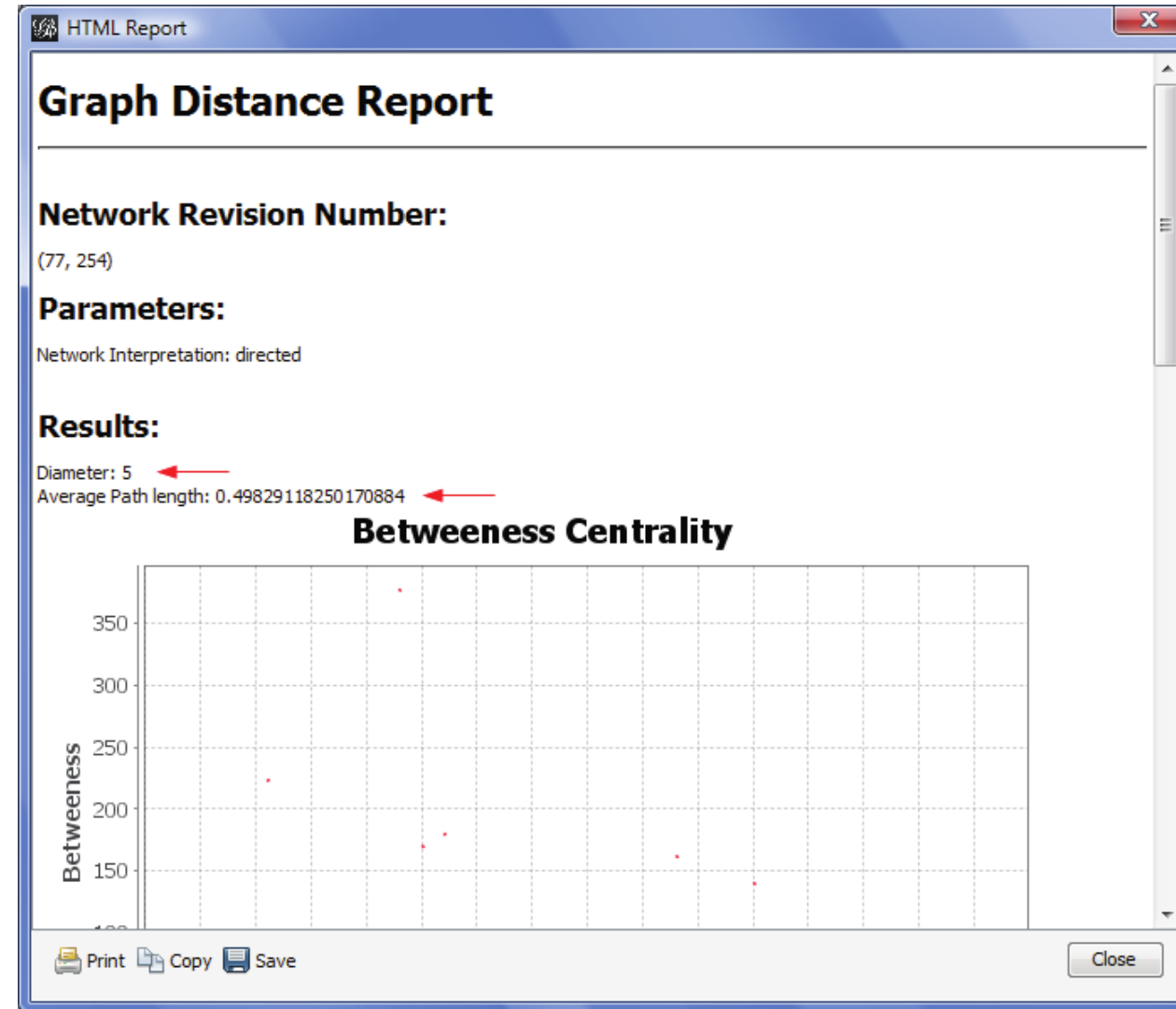




Tutorial Quick Start

- * Introduction
- * Import fil
- * Visualization
- * Layout
- * Ranking (color)
- * **Metrics**
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * Filter
- * Preview
- * Export
- * Save
- * Conclusion

Metric result

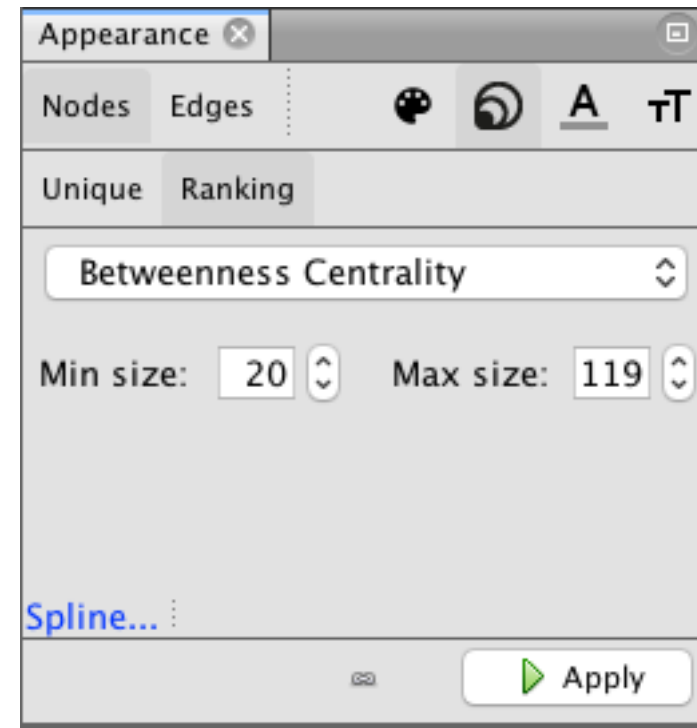


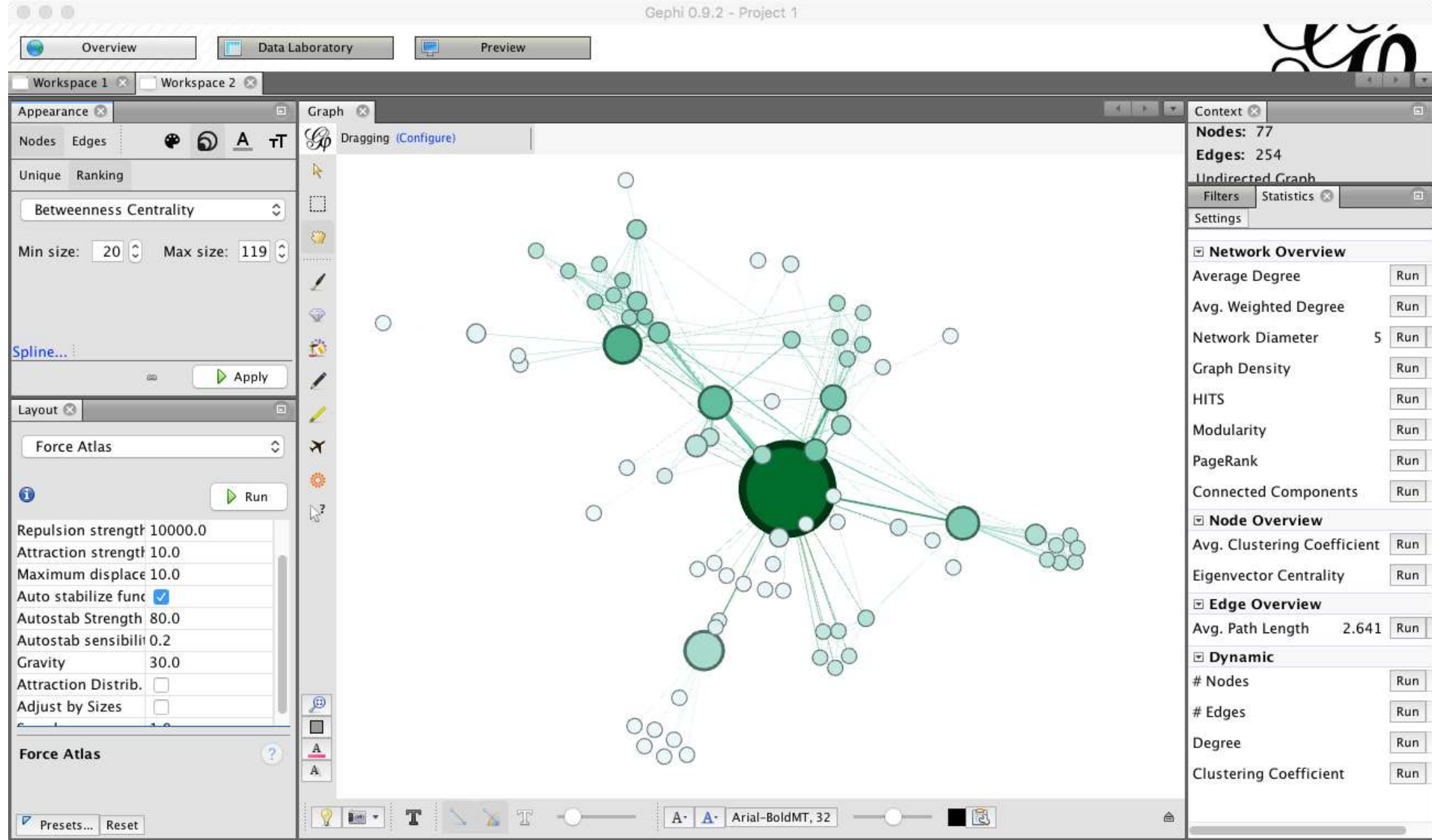
When finished,
the metric displays its result in
a report

Now, we will use the new stats in the visualization.

Go back to the appearance tab. Click Nodes and then the size icon. Then click Ranking.

From the pull down menu, select betweenness centrality. Nodes with lower betweenness will be set close to the Min Size you pick and high betweenness will be close to the Max size. These values often work well for me. Enter them and click Apply.





Your graph should look something like this!



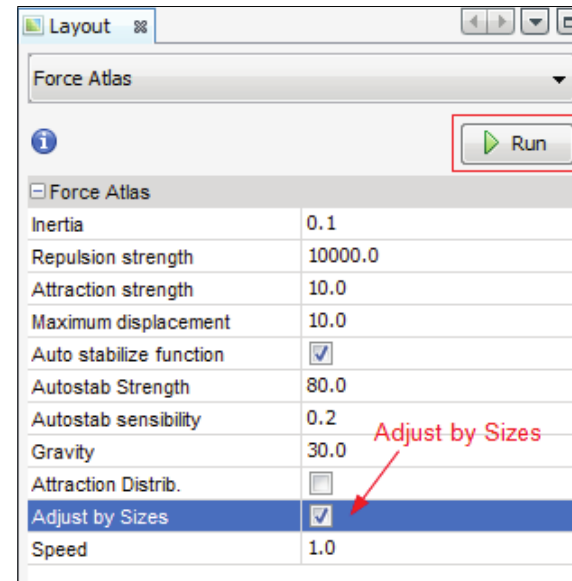
Tutorial Quick Start


- * Introduction
- * Import fil
- * Visualization
- * Layout
- * Ranking (color)
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * **Layout again**
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * Filter
- * Preview
- * Export
- * Save
- * Conclusion

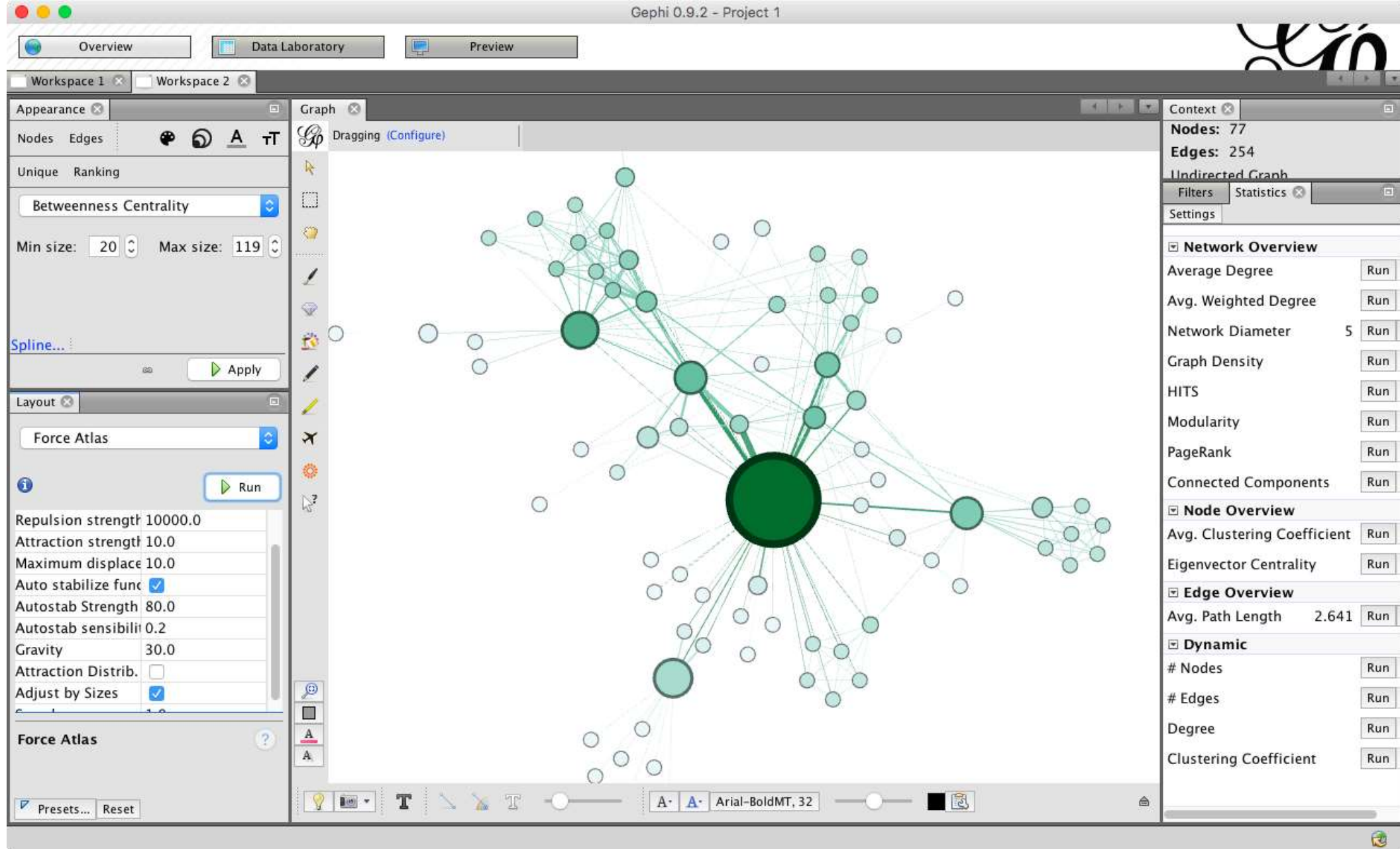
Layout again

The layout is not completely satisfying, as big nodes can overlap smaller.

The “Force Atlas” algorithm has an option to take node size in account when layouting.



- Go Back to the  Layout panel.
- Check the “Adjust by Sizes” option and run again the algorithm for short moment.
- You can see nodes are not overlapping anymore.



Now it looks a bit more like this

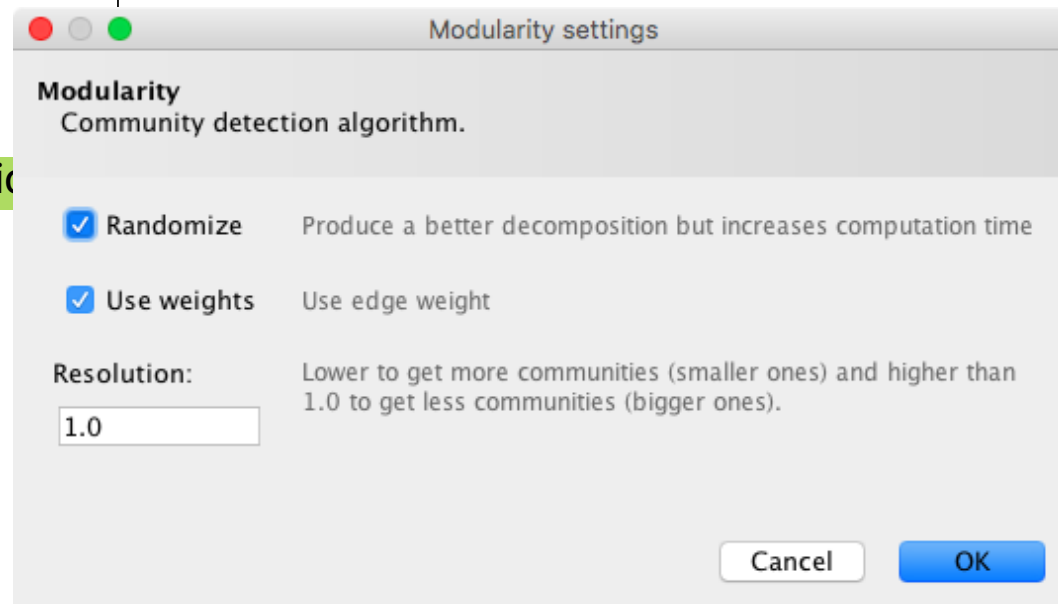
- * Introduction
- * Import fil
- * Visualization
- * Layout
- * Ranking (color)
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * Filter
- * Preview
- * Export
- * Save
- * Conclusion

Community detection

The ability to detect and study communities is central in network analysis. We would like to colorize clusters in our example.

Gephi implements the Louvain method¹, available from the Σ Statistics panel.

Click on  near the “Modularity” line

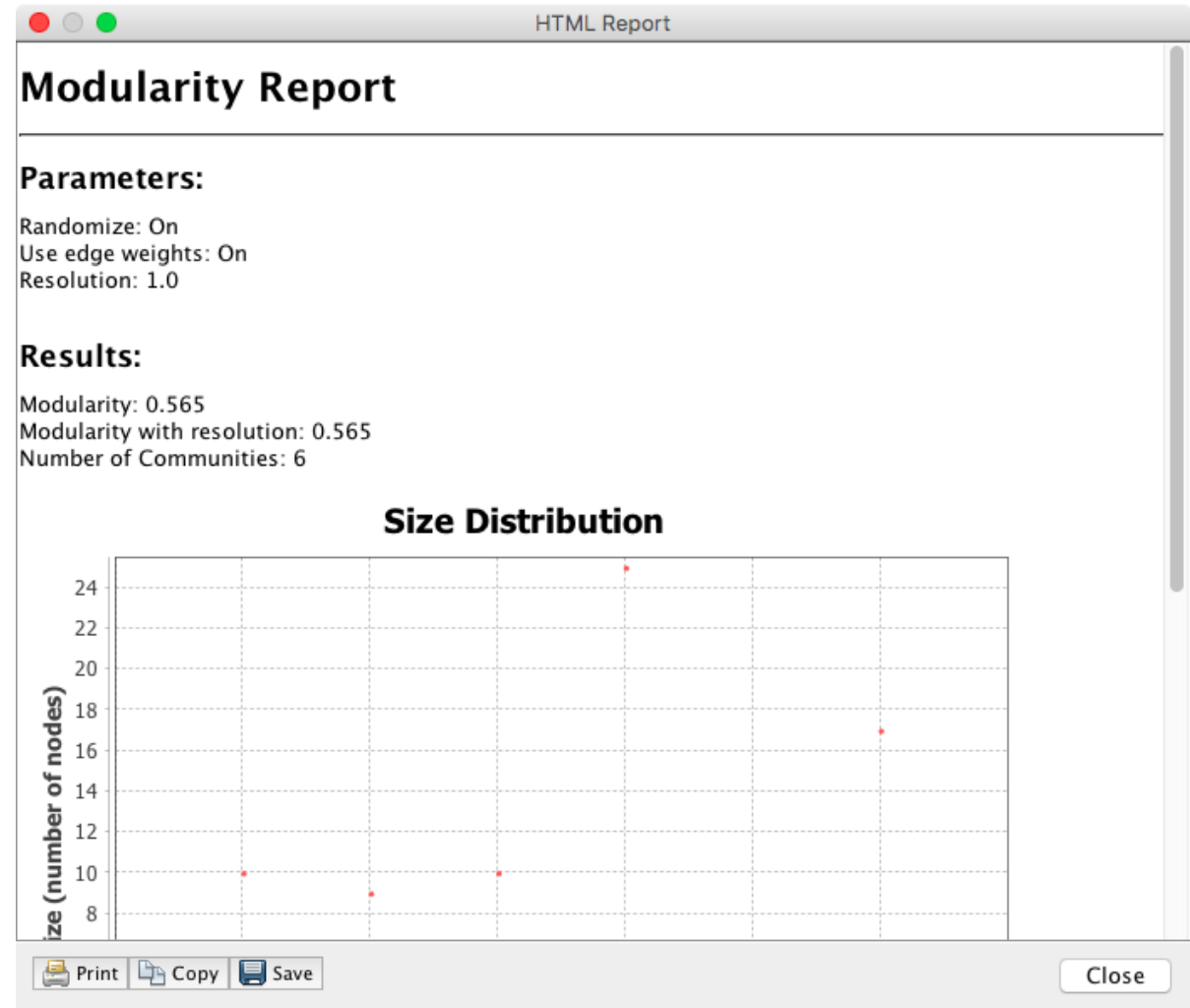


- Select “Randomize” on the panel.

- Click on OK to launch the detection.

¹ Blondel V, Guillaume J, Lambiotte R, Mech E (2008) Fast unfolding of communities in large networks. J Stat Mech: Theory Exp 2008:P10008. (<http://fincommunities.googlepages.com>)

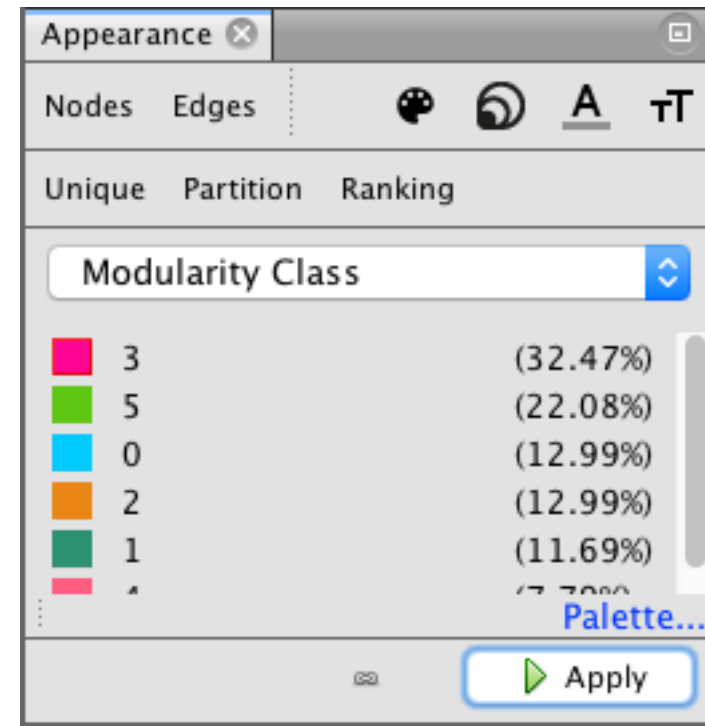
This will generate a report. Click Close to dismiss that. Now, our community information is available for changing the graph appearance.

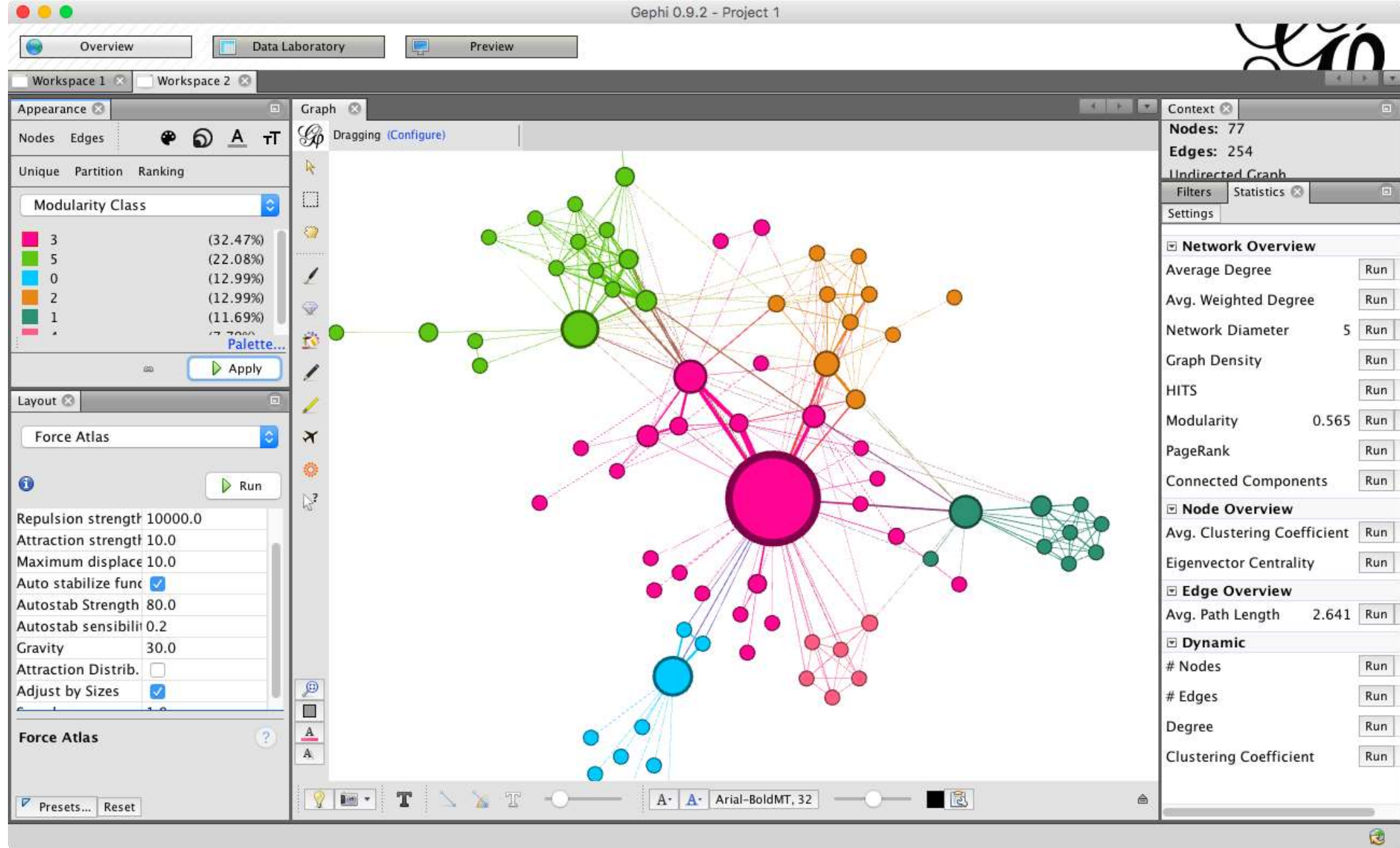


Go back to the appearance window. Click Nodes and the color icon. Then, click Partition. You use this when setting color based on a category.

In the pull down, select Modularity class. It will show you the numbered groups. The color next to that is the color that group will appear in the graph. To change the color, click and hold on the color swatch. A palette will appear. Drag to the color you want and then un-click to select it.

To color the graph, click Apply.







Tutorial Quick Start

- * Introduction
- * Import fil
- * Visualization
- * Layout
- * Ranking (color)
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * **Show labels**
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * Filter
- * Preview
- * Export
- * Save
- * Conclusion

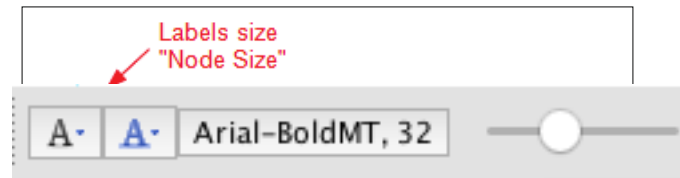
Show labels

Let's explore the network more in details now that colors and size indicates central nodes.

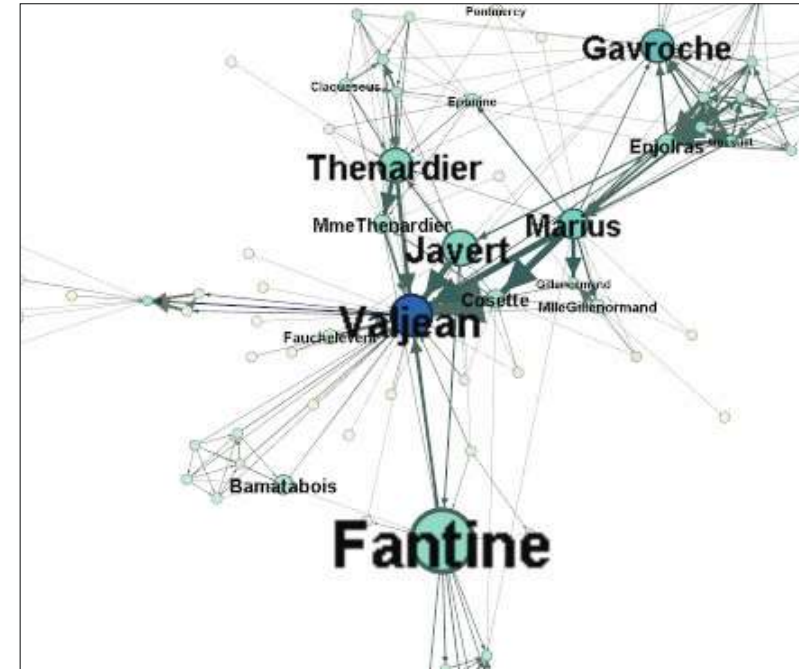
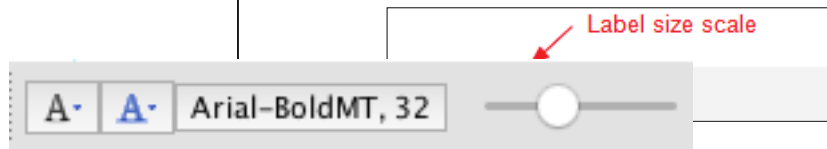
- Display node labels



- Set label size proportional to node size



- Set label size with the scale slider



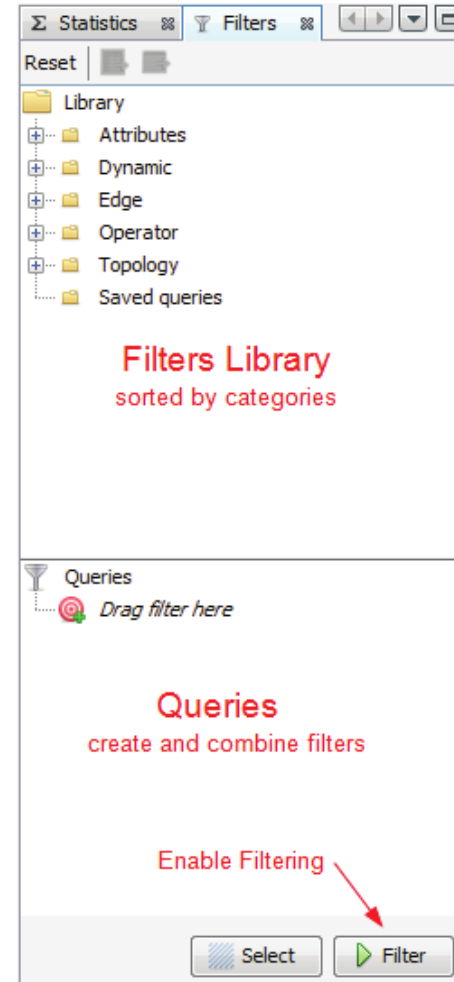



Tutorial Quick Start

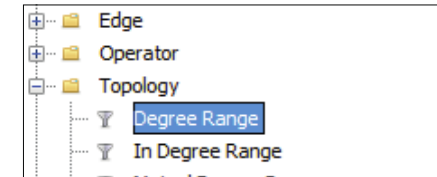
- * Introduction
- * Import file
- * Visualization
- * Layout
- * Ranking (color)
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * **Filter**
- * Preview
- * Export
- * Save
- * Conclusion

Filter

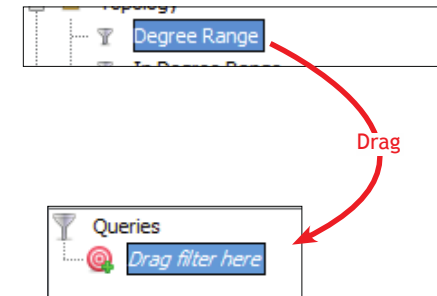
The last manipulation step is **filtering**. You create filters that can hide nodes and edges on the network. We will create a filter to remove leaves, i.e. nodes with a single edge.



- Locate the  Filters module on the right panel.
- Select “Degree Range” in the “Topology” category.



- Drag it to the Queries, drop it to “Drag filter here”.



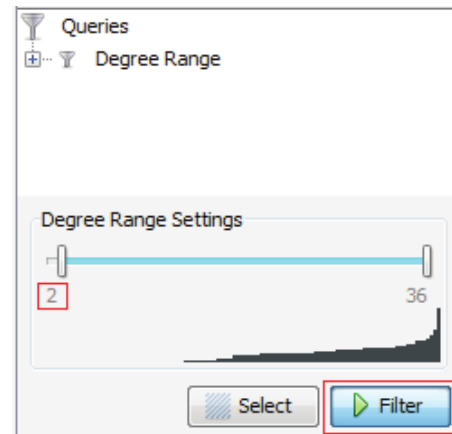
- * Introduction
- * Import file
- * Visualization
- * Layout
- * Ranking (color)
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * **Filter**
- * Preview
- * Export
- * Save
- * Conclusion


Filter

- Click on “Degree Range” to activate the filter . The parameters panel appears.



It shows a range slider and the chart that represents the data, the degree distribution here.



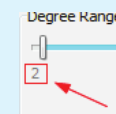
- Move the slider to sets its lower bound to 2.
- Enable filtering by pushing the  button.

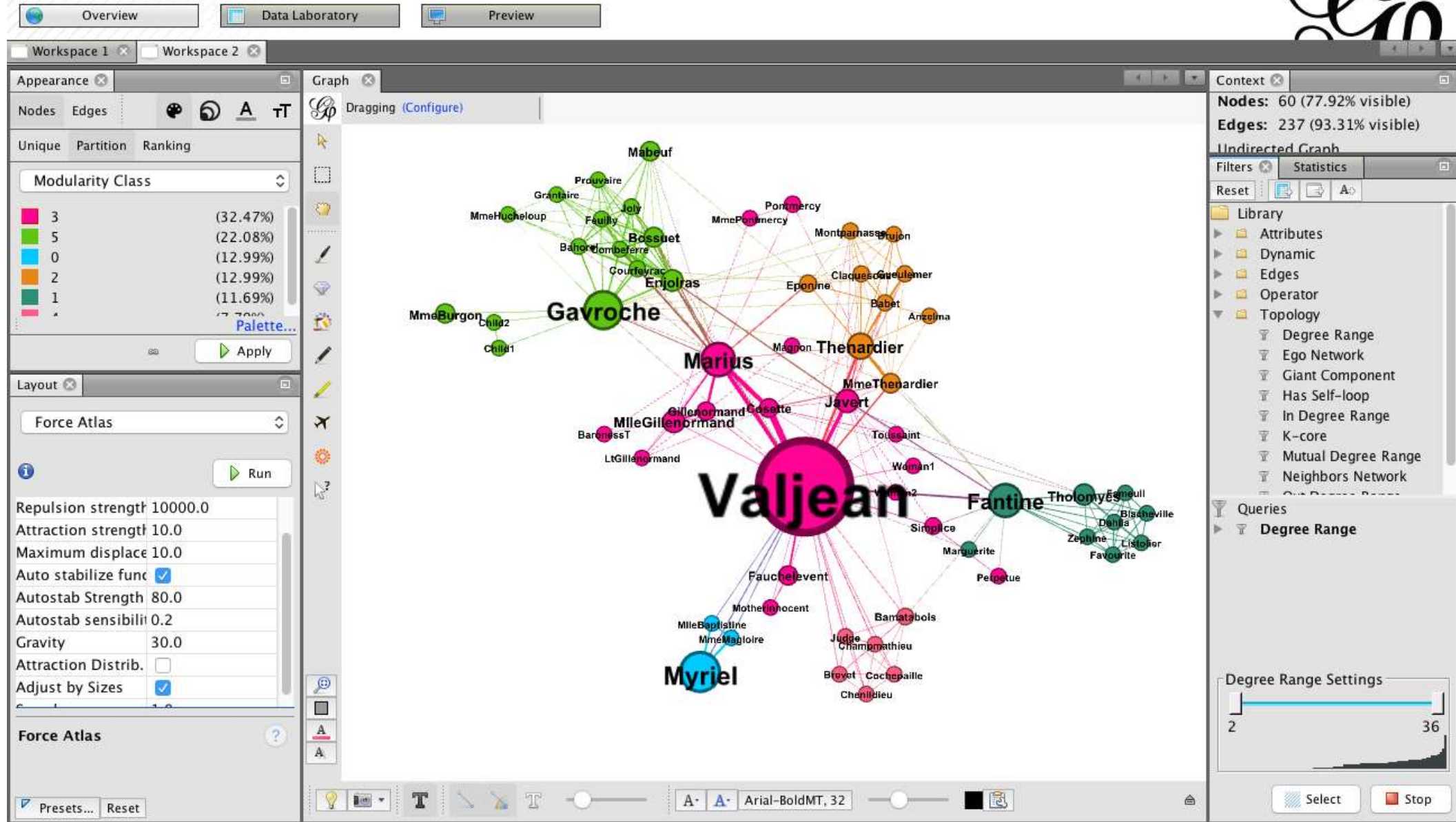
Nodes with a degree inferior to 2 are now hidden.



Tip

You can edit bounds manually by double-clicking on values.



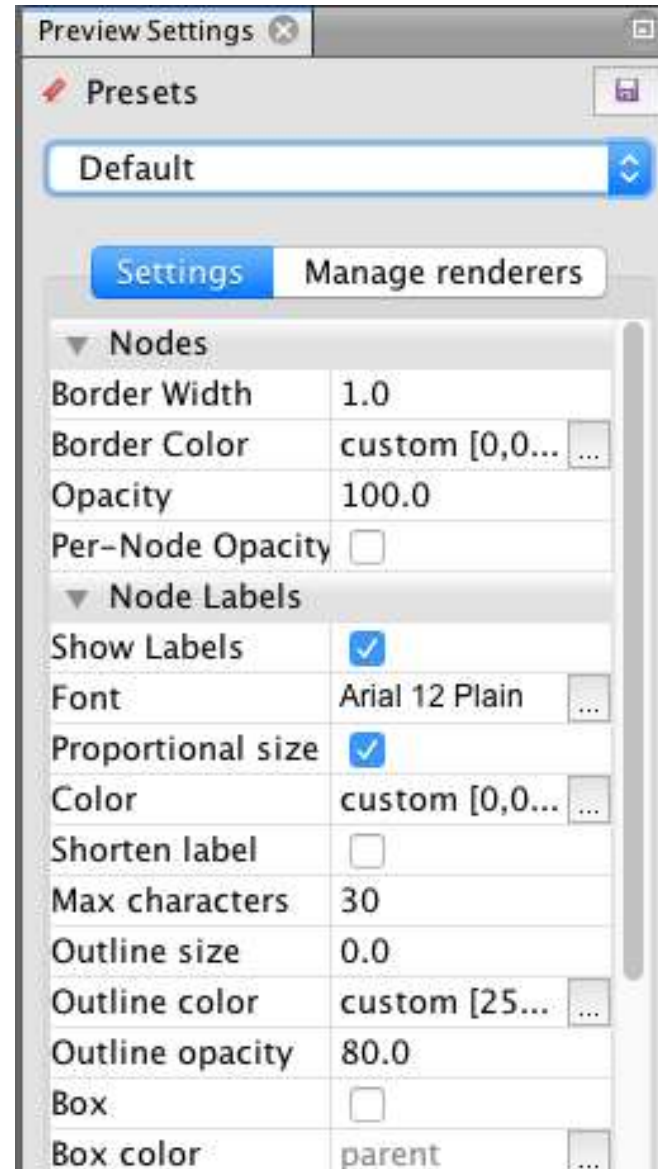





Tutorial Quick Start

- * Introduction
- * Import fil
- * Visualization
- * Layout
- * Ranking (color)
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * Filter
- * **Preview**
- * Export
- * Save
- * Conclusion

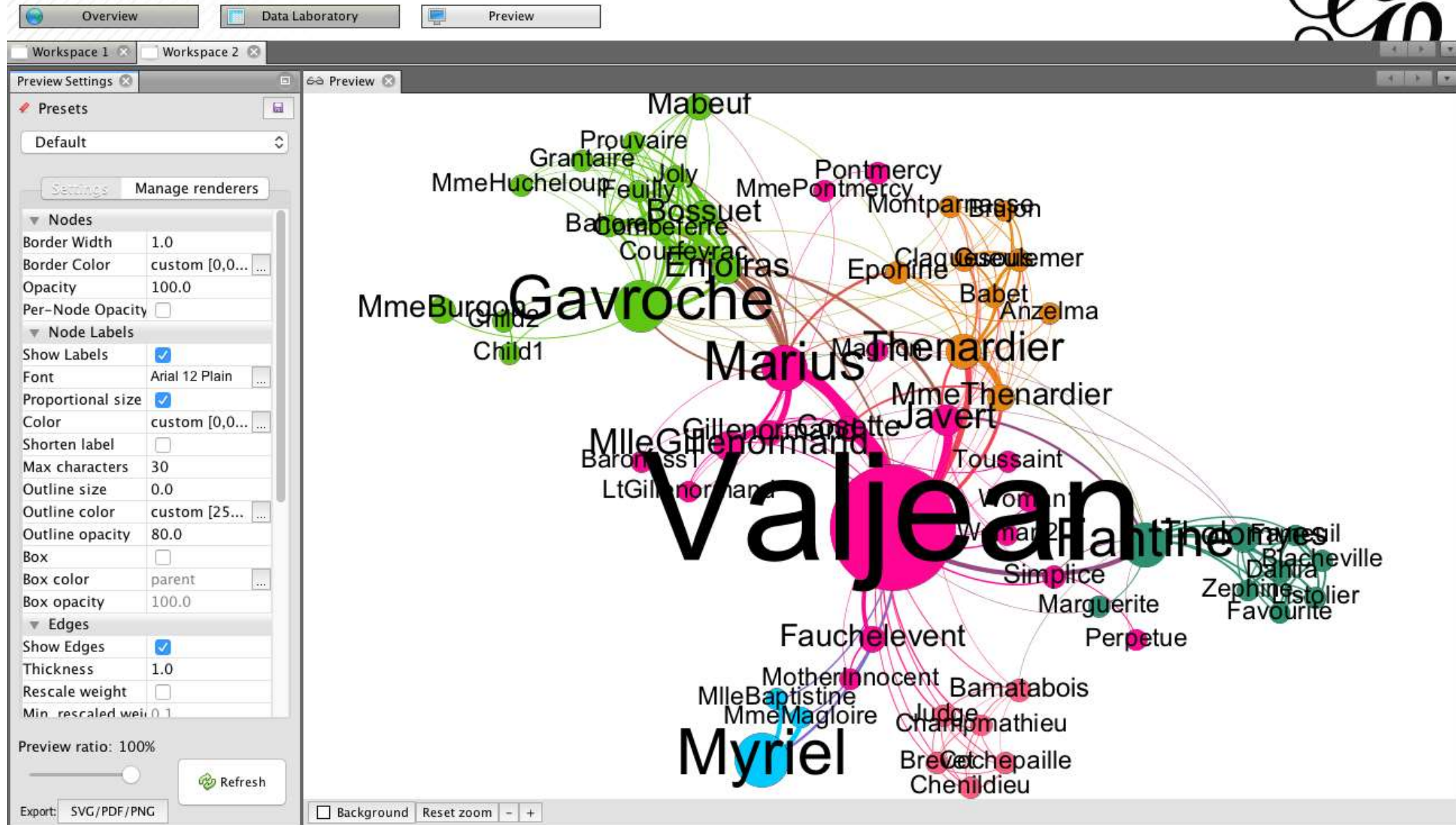
Preview



- In the Node properties, find “Show Labels” and enable the option.

- Click on  Refresh

Preview Settings supports Presets, click on the presets list and try different configurations.



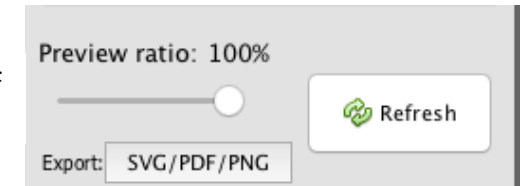
Gephi used to only support SVG but now can do PNG and PDF exports as well

Tutorial Quick Start

- * Introduction
- * Import file
- * Visualization
- * Layout
- * Ranking (color)
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * Filter
- * Preview
- * **Export**
- * Save
- * Conclusion

Export as SVG/PNG/PDF

From Preview, click on SVG/PNG/PDF
Near export



💡 SVG Files are vectorial graphics, like PDF. Images scale smoothly to different sizes and can therefore be printed or integrated in high-res presentation.

Transform and manipulate SVG files in Inkscape or Adobe Illustrator.



High-resolution screenshots

If you prefer hi-resolution PNG screenshots only, look at the 🖨️ icon in the visualization properties bar, located at the bottom of the visualization.

- * Introduction
- * Import fil
- * Visualization
- * Layout
- * Ranking (color)
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * Filter
- * Preview
- * Export
- * **Save**
- * Conclusion

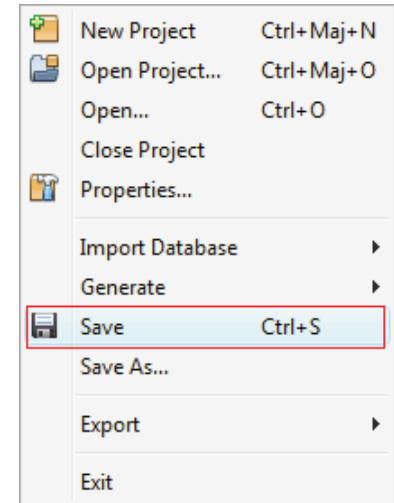
Save your project

Saving your project encapsulates all data and results in a single session fil.



If you missed some steps, you can download the session:

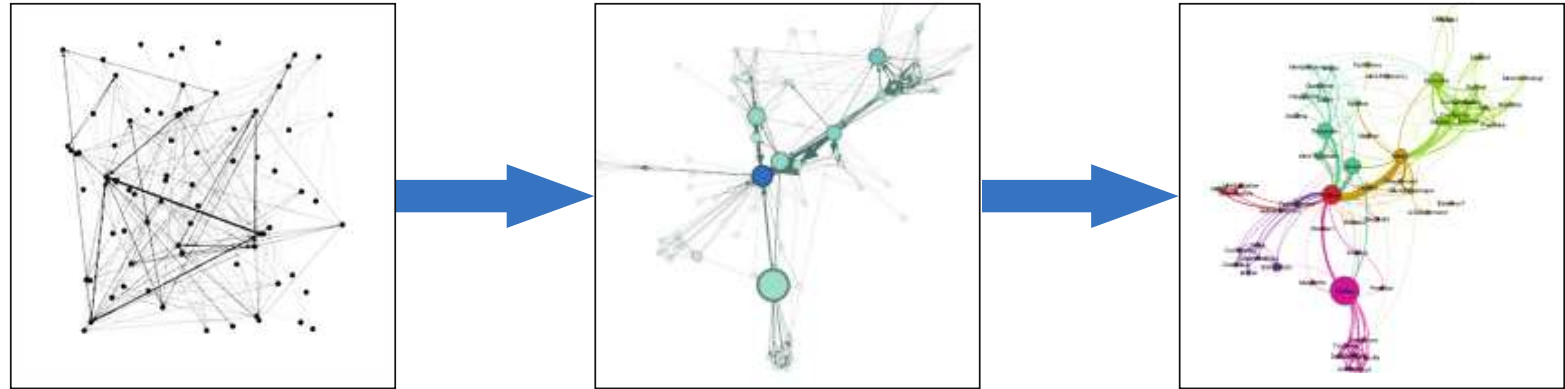
 LesMiserables.gephi






- * Introduction
- * Import file
- * Visualization
- * Layout
- * Ranking (color)
- * Metrics
- * Ranking (size)
- * Layout again
- * Show labels
- * Community-detection
- * Partition
- * Filter
- * Preview
- * Export
- * Save
- * Conclusion

Conclusion

In this tutorial you learned the basic process to open, visualize, manipulate and render a network file with Gephi.



Go further:

-  [Gephi Website](#)
-  [Gephi Wiki](#)
-  [Gephi forum](#)