CS 6140 – Project Proposal 1/31/2018

Our group consists of Nick Stephenson, Yulong Liang, and Zhimeng Pan. The data we plan to use will be provided by Melodie Weller, a virologist here at the University of Utah. Her current research involves studying data for the hepatitis delta virus (HDV) and its associated disease. The exact structure to be mined from this data is still to be determined. However, some overall goals of the project include:

* Finding more data from the United States as well as other countries to determine where the disease is most prevalent.
* Using import/export data to possibly determine the transfer of the disease from country to country.
* Potentially discovering some causes for why the disease is increasing so rapidly since around 2011.

We find this project interesting because the discovery of additional data on HDV could help researchers to further understand the disease. There is currently very limited information available to track changes in the global incidence and/or dispersed outbreaks of HDV. The data obtained from the project will ultimately be made publicly available and provided as a tool for other scientists in the epidemiology research community.