## Project Write Up

#### **Project Description:**

For this final project, I chose <u>GitHub MUSAE</u>, a social network of GitHub users with user-level attributes, connectivity data and a binary target variable, with 37700 Instances and 4006 Features. This dataset contains information about a network of developers, allowing for the exploration of mutual follower relationships and the impact of these connections on the professional trajectory of each developer.

#### **Project Execution:**

- 1. I first read the file and store edges into tuples for the convenience of later analysis.
- 2. Then I read through each line of the data, using "," as an indicator to signal where to split.
- 3. I created an adjacency list to find the shortest path by iterating over the vector of edges to populate the HashMap. For each edge, add each node to the map if it's not already there, appending its neighbor to the corresponding vector.
  - a. Since it's an undirected graph, I put in the key for node 1 if it's already there, add node 2 to its neighbors and do the inverse.
- 4. I use Brethfirst search to find the distance between nodes, starting with a distance of 0. For each neighbor of this node, if it hasn't been visited, add incremented distance and mark it as visited by adding it to the distance map
- 5. I then calculated the average distance function to find the average distance between the node and every other node, using the existing breadth\_first\_search function to get distances from the start node to all other nodes.
- 6. Calculate the average of the reachable nodes present in the distances map.
- 7. Then extending this method to the whole dataset by finding the average degree of separation for every single node.
- 8. Lastly, I used the data [(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 1)] as a test.

### **Project Conclusion:**

I investigated the average degree of separation is around 5.67. It means an average GitHub user is about 5 to 6 steps away from another use in the network.

This can be interpreted in the context of "Six Degrees of Separation" theory, which posits that all people are six or fewer social connections away from each other. This outcome aligns with the Six-Degree of Separation Theory, which according to Wikipedia: "... all people are six or fewer

social connections away from each other ... a chain of "friend of a friend" statements can be made to connect any two people in a maximum of six steps."

# **Code Snippet Appendix**

```
use std::fs::File;
use std::io::{self, BufRead, BufReader};
use std::collections::{HashMap, VecDeque};
fn read edges from file(path: &str) -> io::Result<Vec<(u32, u32)>> {
  let file = File::open(path)?;
  let mut edges = Vec::new();
  for line in reader.lines() {
      let parts: Vec<&str> = line.split(',').collect();
       if parts.len() == 2 {
          if let (Ok(id_1), Ok(id_2)) = (parts[0].parse::<u32>(),
parts[1].parse::<u32>()) {
              edges.push((id_1, id_2));
               eprintln!("Invalid data: {:?}", parts);
fn create adjacency list(edges: &[(u32, u32)]) -> HashMap<u32, Vec<u32>> {
```

```
for &(node1, node2) in edges {
       adjacency list.entry(node1).or insert with(Vec::new).push(node2);
      adjacency list.entry(node2).or insert with(Vec::new).push(node1);
fn breadth_first_search(start_node: u32, adjacency_list: &HashMap<u32, Vec<u32>>) ->
HashMap<u32, u32> {
  let mut distances = HashMap::new();
  let mut queue = VecDeque::new();
  queue.push back(start node);
  while let Some(node) = queue.pop front() {
      if let Some(neighbors) = adjacency list.get(&node) {
               if !distances.contains key(&neighbor) {
                  distances.insert(neighbor, distance + 1);
                  queue.push back(neighbor);
  distances
```

```
fn calculate average distance(start node: u32, adjacency list: &HashMap<u32,
  let sum: u32 = distances.values().sum();
  let count = distances.len() as f64;
  let average degree of separation = if count > 1.0 { sum as f64 / (count - 1.0) }
else { 0.0 };
   (average_distance, average_degree_of_separation)
fn get all nodes(edges: &[(u32, u32)]) -> Vec<u32> {
  let mut nodes = edges.iter()
      .flat map(|(a, b)| vec![*a, *b])
       .collect::<Vec<u32>>();
  nodes.sort unstable();
  nodes.dedup();
fn main() {
  let file_path = "musae_git_edges.csv";
  let edges = read edges from file(file path).expect("Failed to read the CSV file");
  let adjacency list = create adjacency list(&edges);
  let nodes = get all nodes(&edges);
  let mut total_average_degree = 0.0;
      let (_, average_degree_of_separation) = calculate average distance(node,
      if average degree of separation > 0.0 { // Ignore nodes with no connections
          total average degree += average degree of separation;
```

```
let overall_average_degree = if count > 0.0 { total_average_degree / count } else {
0.0 };
overall average degree);
#[cfg(test)]
mod tests {
  fn test_create_adjacency_list() {
      let test_edges = vec![(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 1)];
      let mut expected_adj_list = HashMap::new();
      expected_adj_list.insert(1, vec![2, 3]);
      expected_adj_list.insert(2, vec![1, 3]);
      expected adj list.insert(3, vec![2, 1]);
      let adj_list = create_adjacency_list(&test_edges);
      assert_eq!(adj_list, expected_adj_list);
```