

VOSviewer and CitNetExplorer Tutorial

Nees Jan van Eck and Ludo Waltman

Centre for Science and Technology Studies (CWTS), Leiden University

15th International Conference on Scientometrics & Informetrics

Istanbul, Turkey, June 29, 2015



**Universiteit
Leiden**

Centre for Science and Technology Studies (CWTS)

- Research center of Leiden University in quantitative studies of science (bibliometrics and scientometrics)
- Bibliometric contract research
 - Monitoring & evaluation
 - Advanced analytics
 - Training & education



Introduction

Bibliometric mapping of science

- **Bibliometrics** is the scientific field that quantitatively studies all kinds of bibliographic data
- **Bibliometric mapping of science** is about quantitative methods for visually representing scientific literature based on bibliographic data

Aim of bibliometric maps

- To provide an overview of the structure of the scientific literature in a certain domain or on a certain topic
- Applications:
 - To identify the main research areas within a scientific field
 - To get insight into the size of the different areas
 - To see how the areas relate to each other

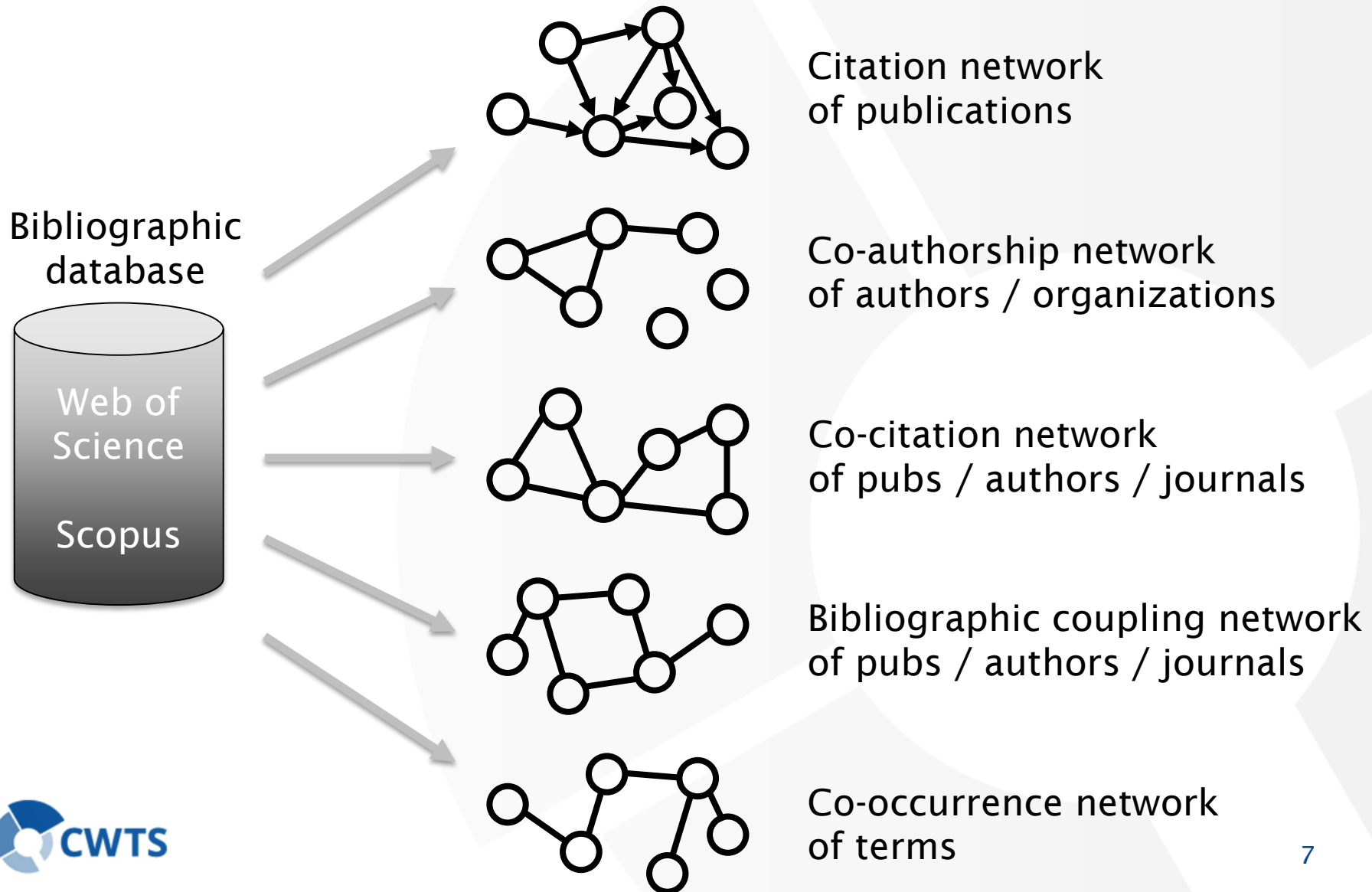
Types of bibliometric maps

- Co-authorship maps of
 - authors / organizations
- Co-citation maps of
 - publications / journals / authors
- Bibliographic coupling maps
 - publications / journals / authors / organizations
- Co-occurrence maps of
 - keywords / terms extracted from titles and abstracts of articles

Bibliographic databases

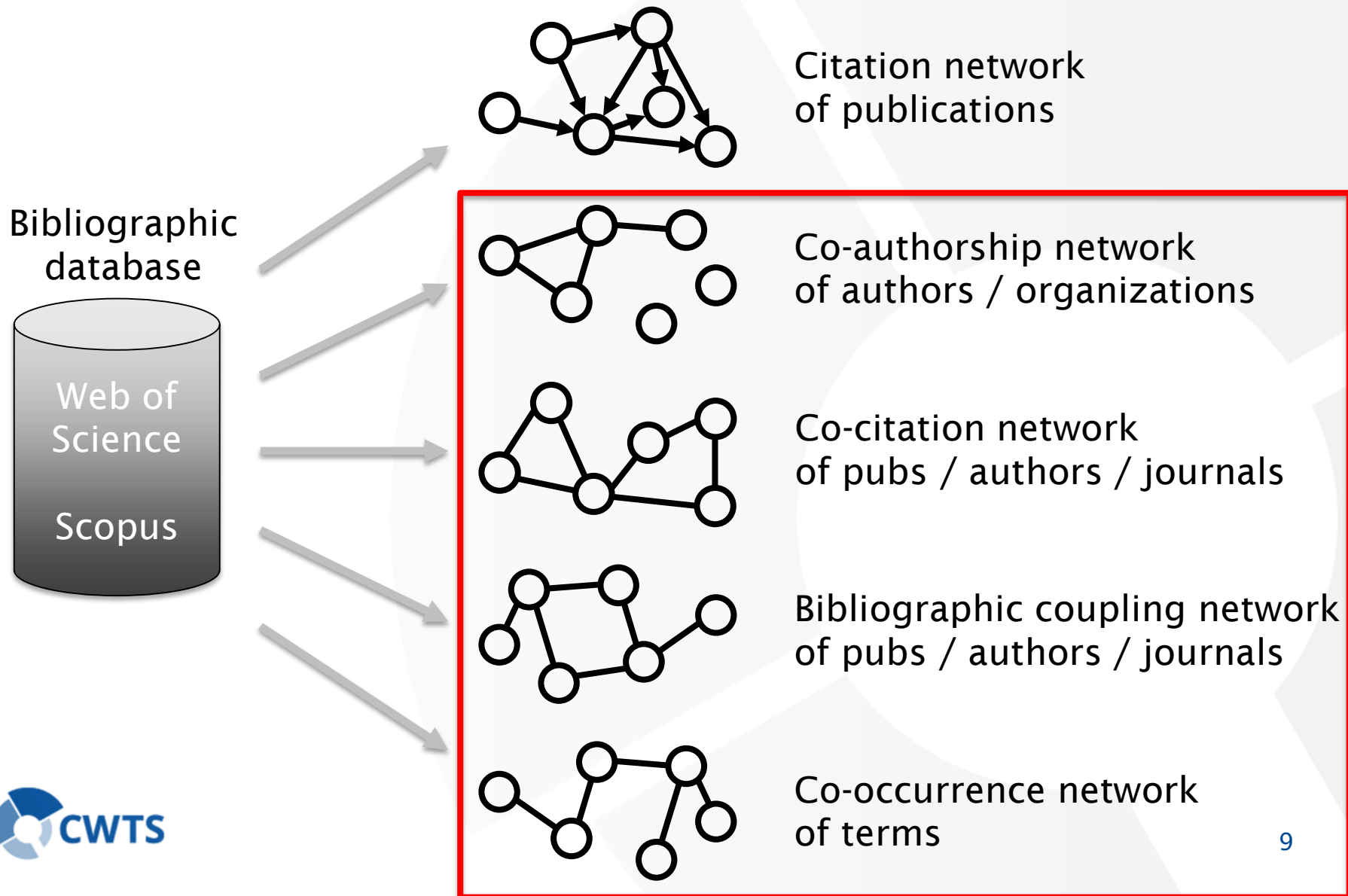
- Contain metadata about publications and their citing publications
 - Authors
 - Affiliations
 - Source
 - Volume
 - Issue
 - Pages
 - Publications year
 - DOI
 - Title
 - Abstract
 - Keywords
 - Document type
 - Cited references
- Examples:
 - Thomson Reuters' Web of Science
 - Elsevier's Scopus
 - MEDLINE

Bibliometric networks

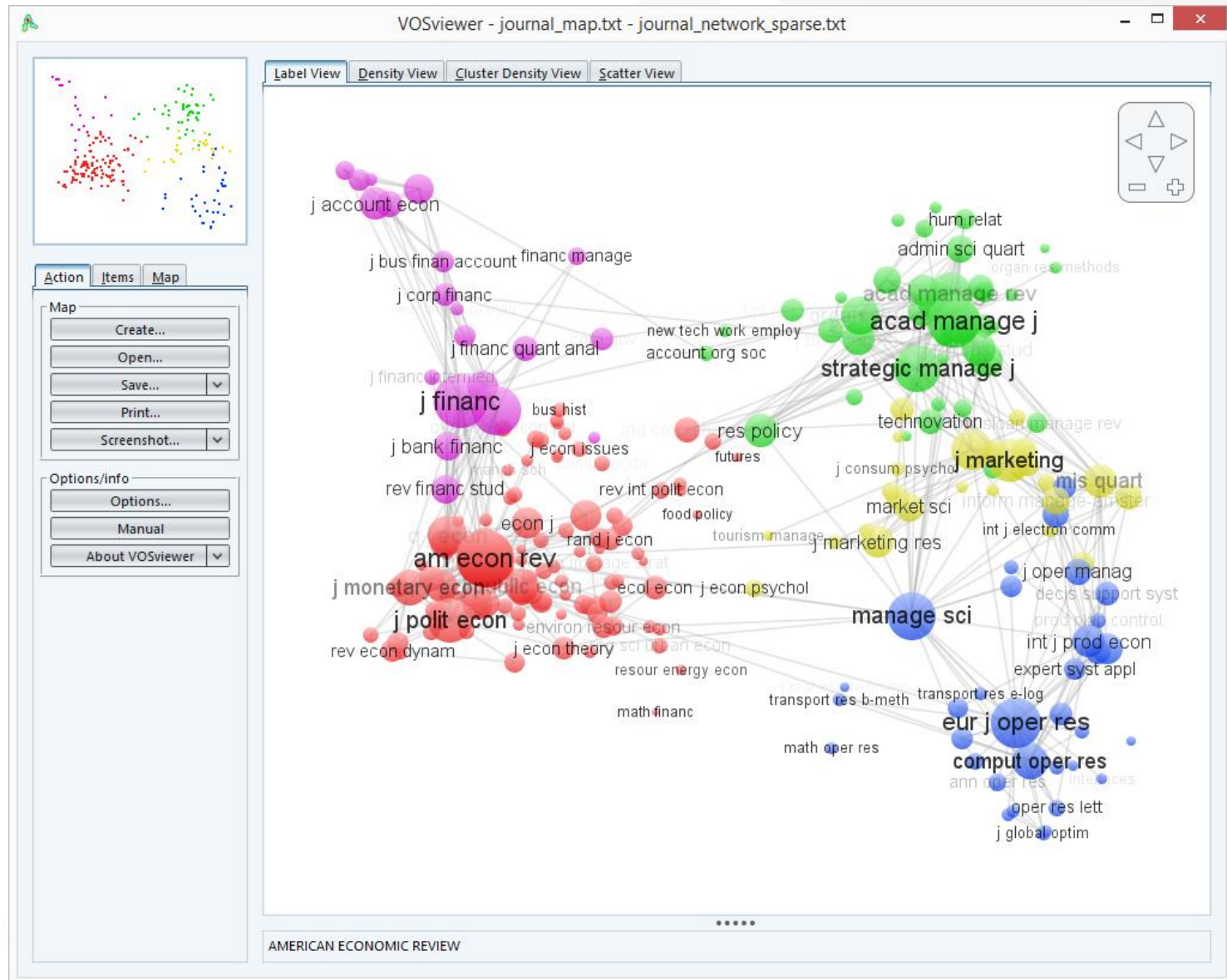


Software tools

Bibliometric networks in VOSviewer



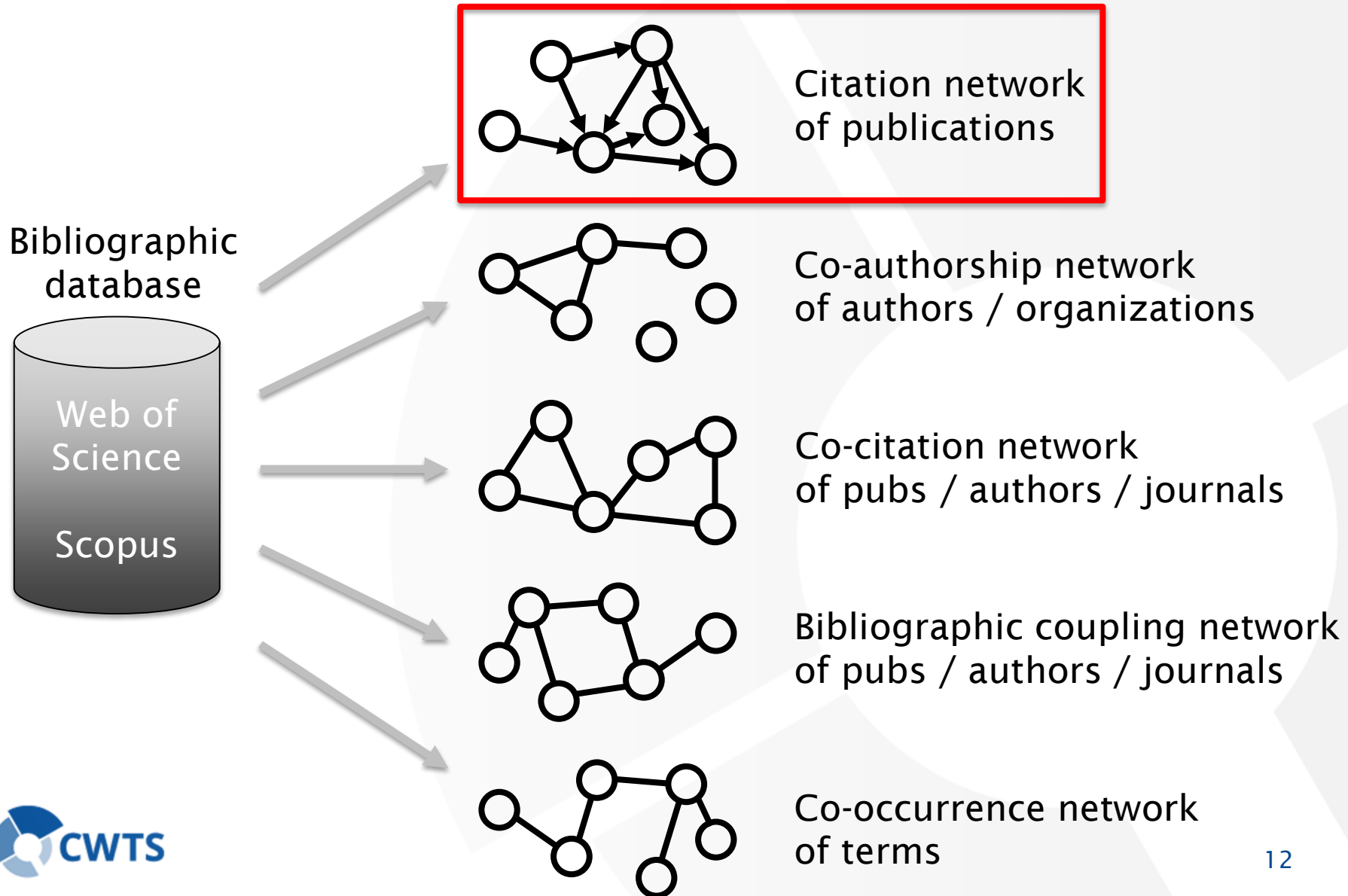
VOSviewer



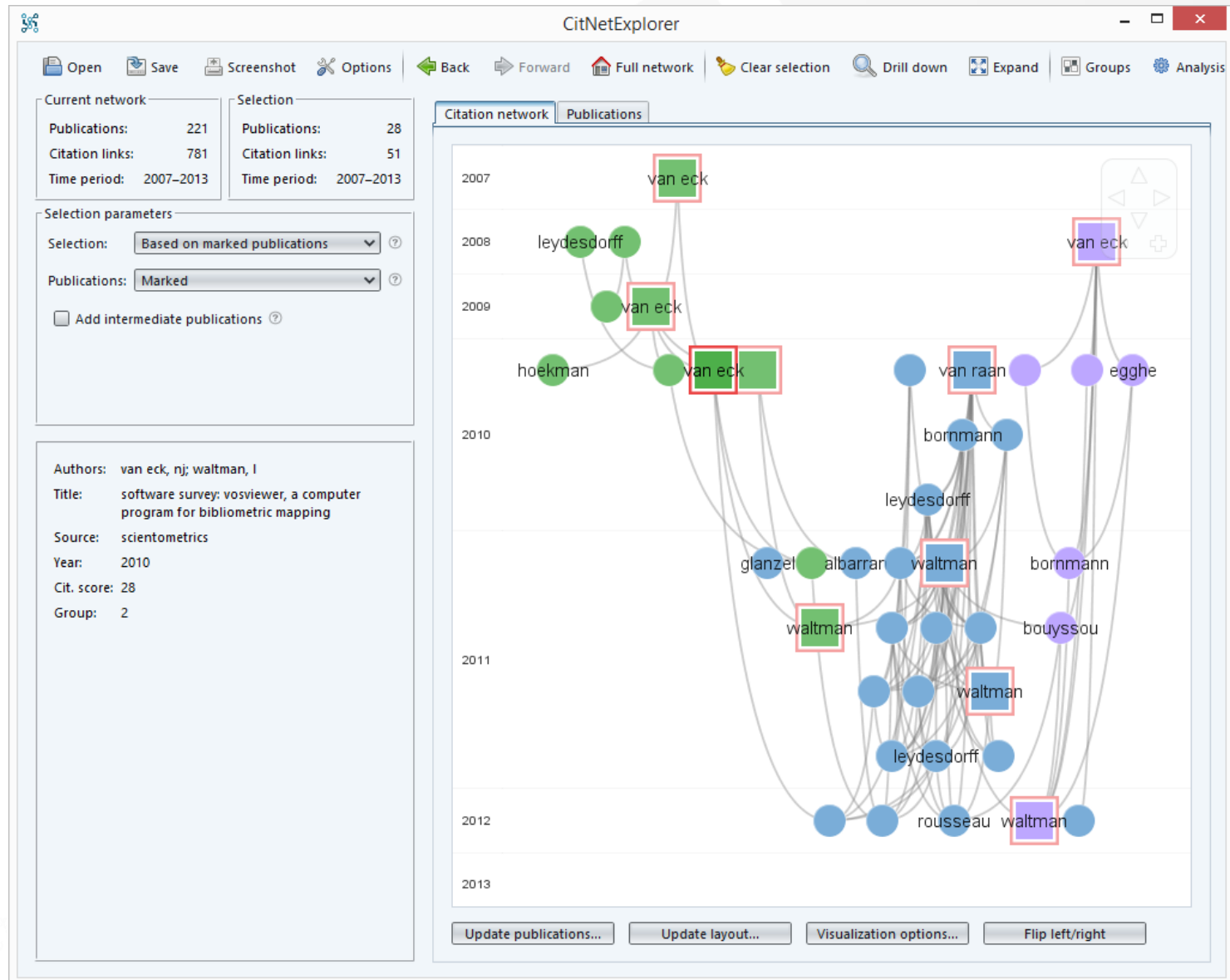
VOSviewer: Overview

- Web of Science, Scopus, and PubMed support
- Text mining techniques
- Advanced mapping and clustering techniques
- Advanced visualizations:
 - Smart labeling algorithm
 - Overlay visualizations
 - Density visualizations
- Over 100 scientific publications using VOSviewer have been published

Bibliometric networks in CitNetExplorer



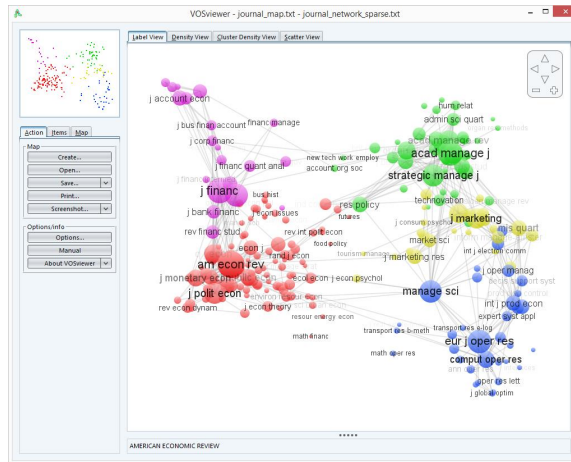
CitNetExplorer



CitNetExplorer: Overview

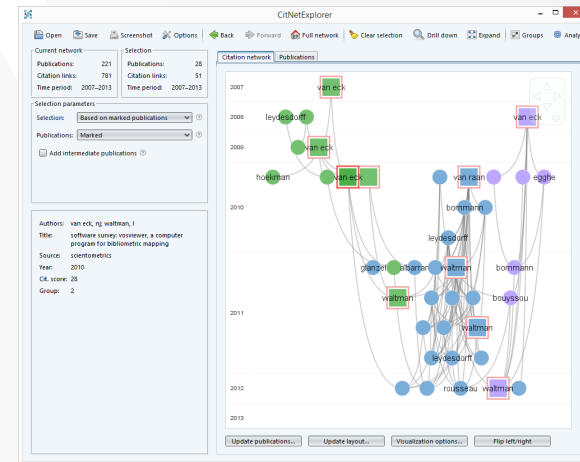
- Citation networks can be constructed directly based on data downloaded from Web of Science
- Very large citation networks can be handled, with millions of publications and tens of millions of citation relations
- Interactive functionality for drilling down into a citation network
- Various analysis techniques are available, including clustering of publications based on citation relations

VOSviewer



- Any type of bibliometric network
- Co-citation and bibliographic coupling of publications
- Time dimension is ignored
- At most about 10,000 publications are supported

CitNetExplorer



- Only citation networks of publications
- Direct citations between publications
- Time dimension is explicitly considered
- Millions of publications are supported

Assignments

An abstract graphic design featuring a large blue circle on the right side, with several blue lines radiating from its center towards the left edge of the frame. The background is a solid blue color on the left and a light gray color on the right, separated by a diagonal line.

Assignments

1. Downloading data from Web of Science
2. Creating term maps using VOSviewer
3. Creating co-citation, bibliographic coupling, and co-authorship maps using VOSviewer
4. Analyzing citation networks of publications using CitNetExplorer



Data collection: Downloading Web of Science data

Downloading Web of Science data

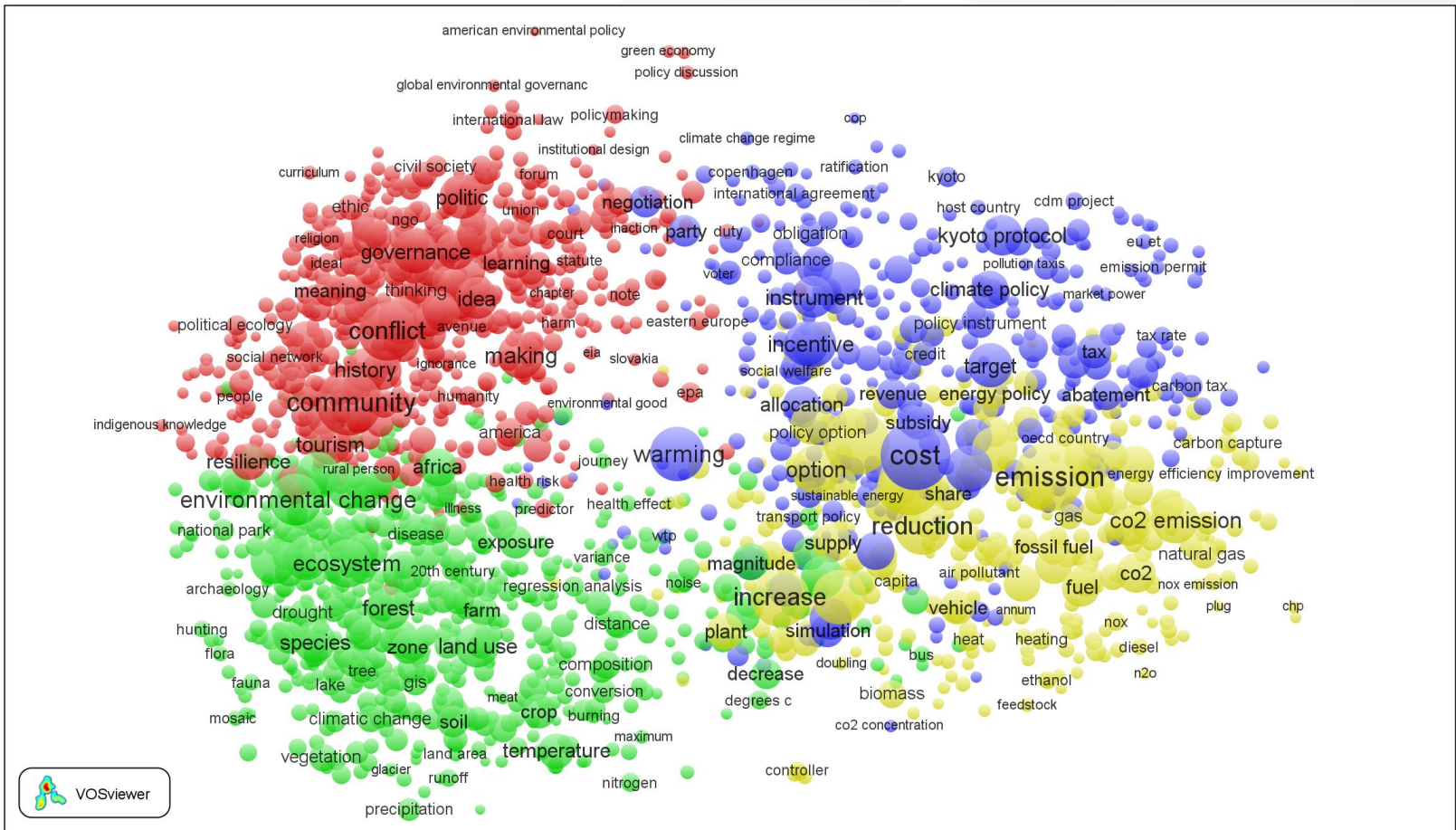
Pay attention to the following:

- Use the **Web of Science Core Collection** database
- Use the **Full Record and Cited References** option
- Use a suitable file format:
 - VOSviewer supports both the plain text and the tab-delimited format
 - Tab-delimited files can be easily processed using spreadsheet software
- We use the tab-delimited format

Demonstration + assignment 1

Term maps

Term map of social science research on global environmental change



Source: www.worldsocialscience.org/activities/world-social-science-report/the-2013-report/read-changing-global-environments/

Interpretation of a term map

- The larger a term, the higher the frequency of occurrence of the term
- In general, the smaller the distance between two terms, the higher the relatedness of the terms, as measured by co-occurrences
- The horizontal and vertical axes have no special meaning; maps can be freely rotated and flipped
- Colors indicate clusters of closely related terms

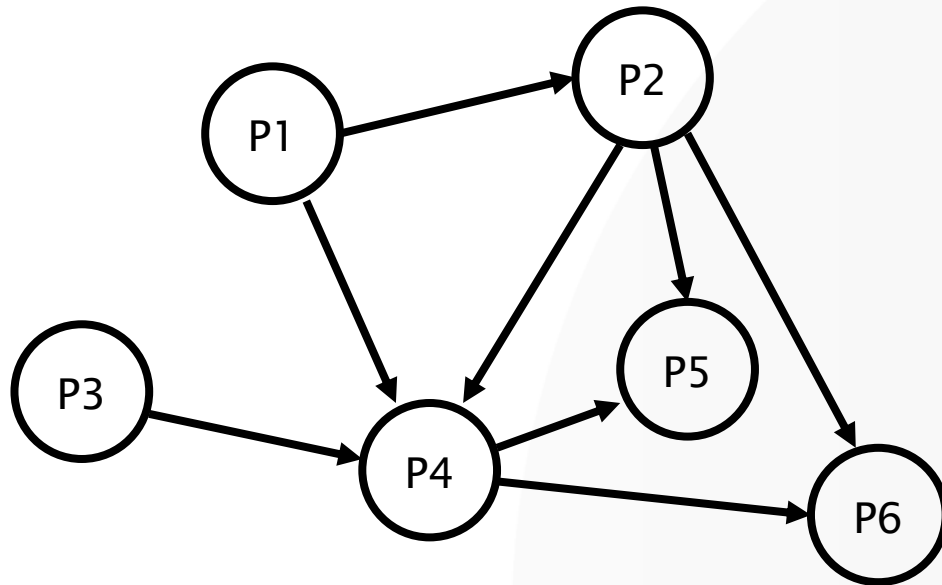
Demonstration + assignment 2

Co-citation and bibliographic coupling maps

Determining relatedness based on citation data

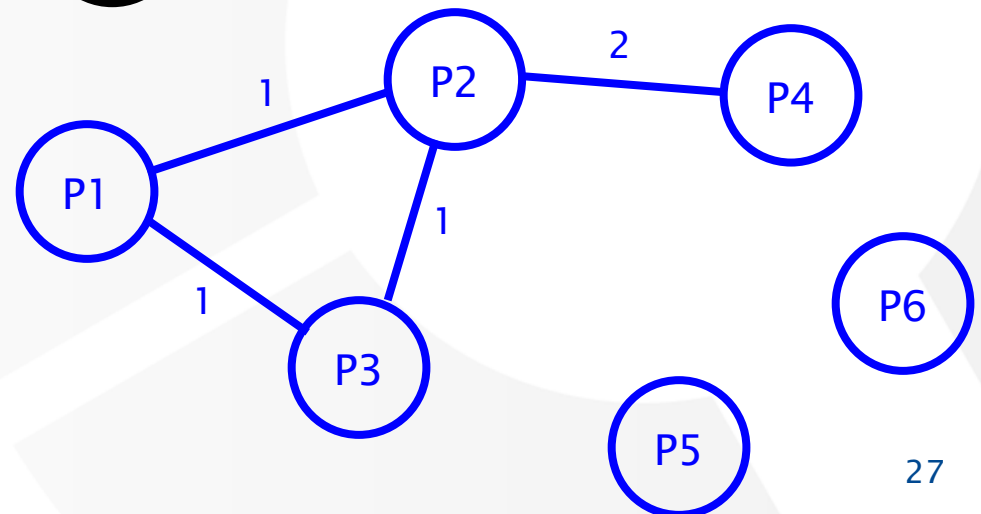
- How to determine the relatedness of publications, journals, authors, etc. based on citation data?
 - Co-citation relations
 - Bibliographic coupling relations
 - Direct citation relations (CitNetExplorer)

Bibliographic coupling network of publications

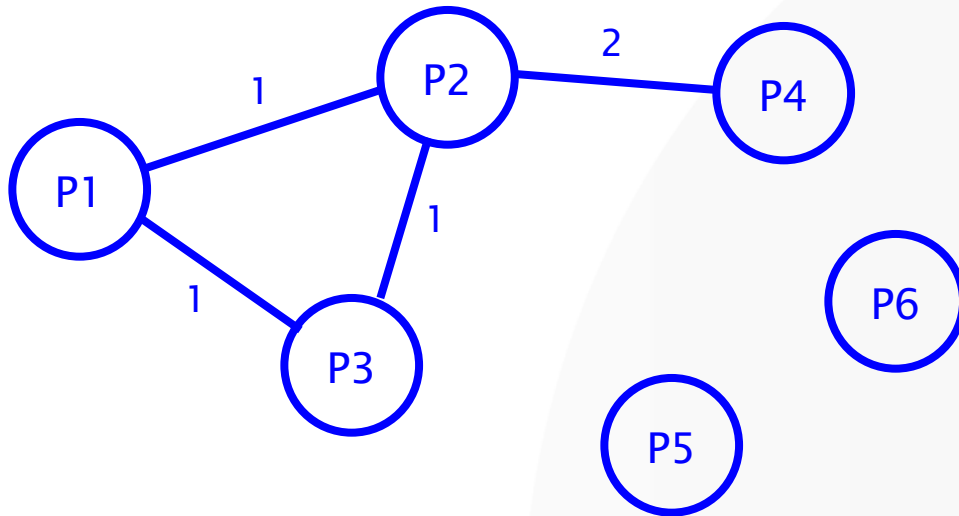


Citation network

Bibliographic coupling network

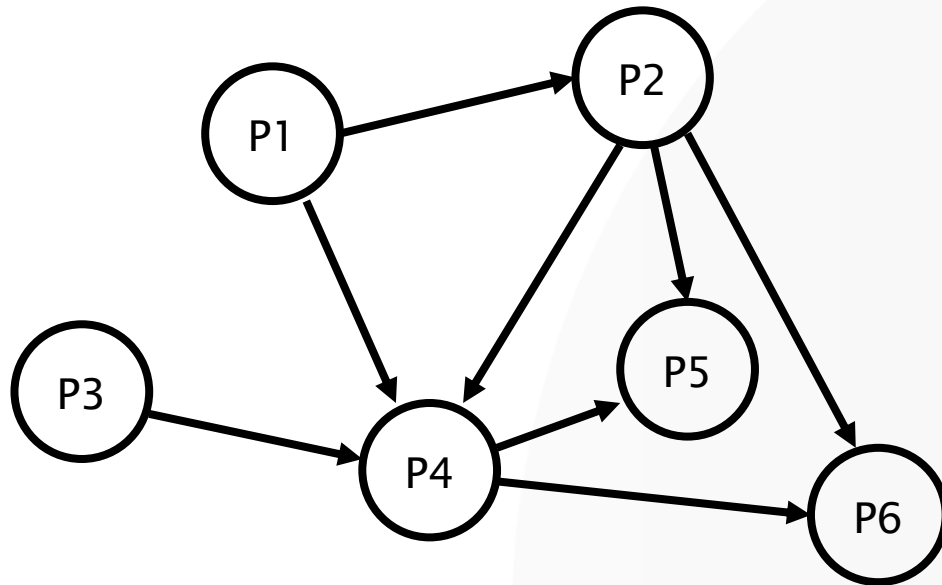


Matrix representation of bibliographic coupling network



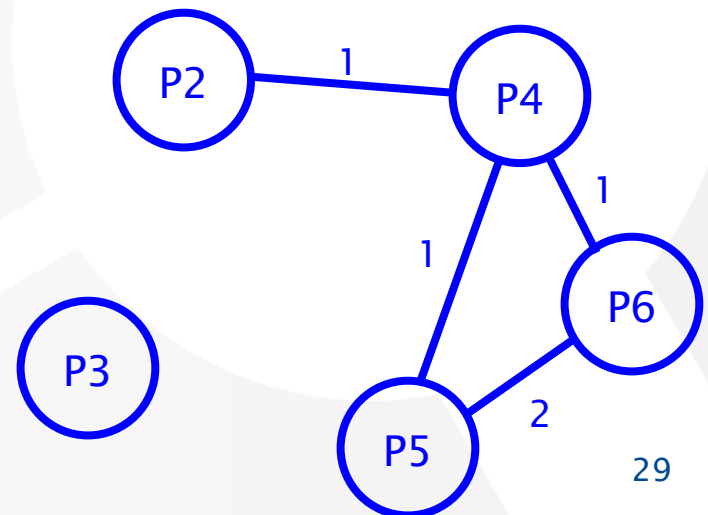
	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
P1		1	1	0	0	0
P2	1		1	2	0	0
P3	1	1		0	0	0
P4	0	2	0		0	0
P5	0	0	0	0		0
P6	0	0	0	0	0	

Co-citation network of publications

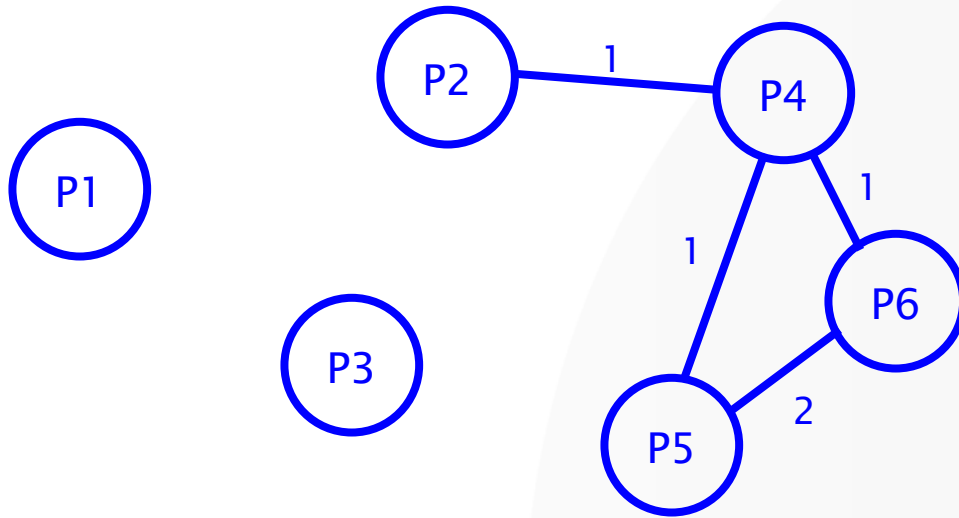


Citation network

Co-citation
network

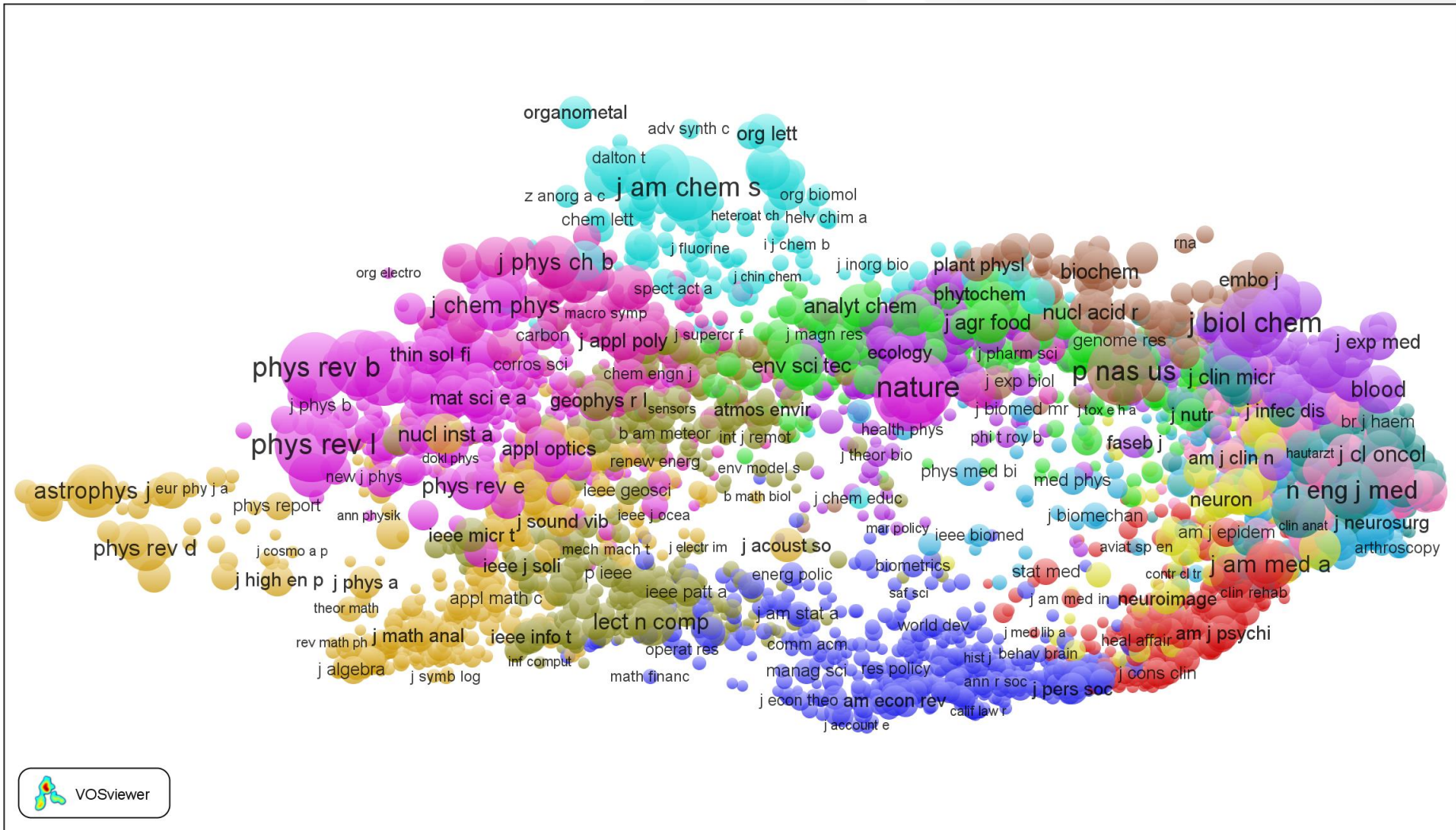


Matrix representation of co-citation network



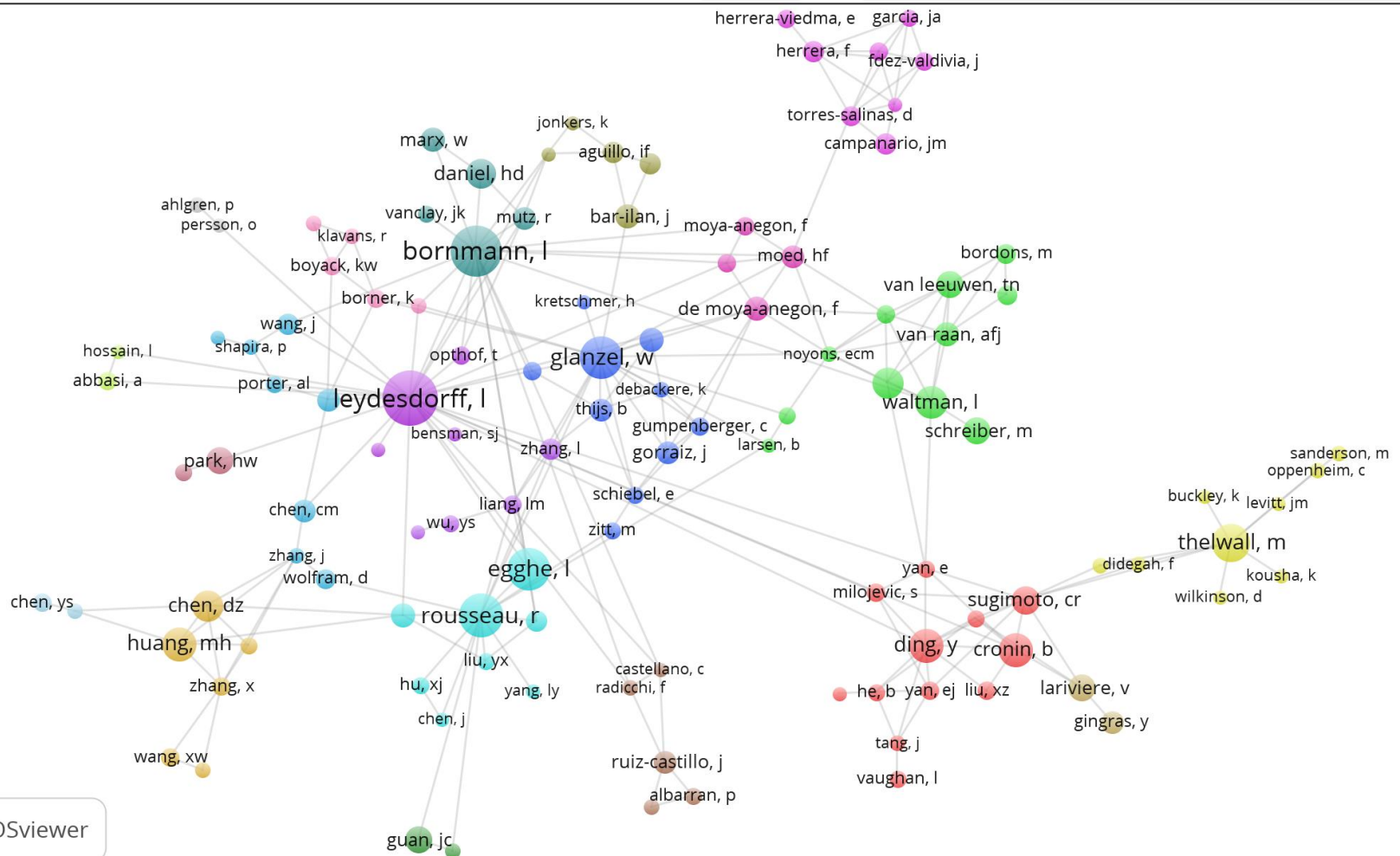
	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
P1		0	0	0	0	0
P2	0		0	1	0	0
P3	0	0		0	0	0
P4	0	1	0		1	1
P5	0	0	0	1		2
P6	0	0	0	1	2	

Co-citation map of journals



Co-authorship maps

Co-authorship map of authors



Demonstration + assignment 3

CitNetExplorer

Why use CitNetExplorer?

- To analyze the structure and development of a research field
 - Example: Identifying the main topics in the field of scientometrics and tracing the developments within each topic
- To delineate a research area
 - Example: Delineating the literature on science mapping
- To study publication oeuvres
 - Example: Identifying the publications of a researcher and analyzing the influence of cited and citing publications
- To support literature reviewing
 - Example: Reviewing the literature on the *h*-index

Demonstration + assignment 4

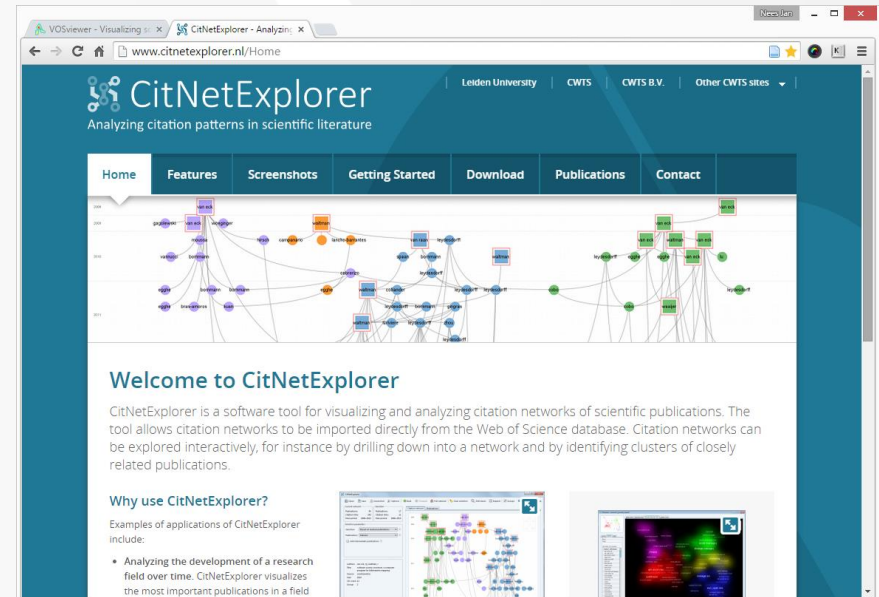
**More
information**

Websites

www.vosviewer.com



www.citnetexplorer.nl



Publications on VOSviewer

- Van Eck, N.J., & Waltman, L. (2014). Visualizing bibliometric networks. In Y. Ding, R. Rousseau, & D. Wolfram (Eds.), *Measuring scholarly impact: Methods and practice* (pp. 285-320). Springer. [10.1007/978-3-319-10377-8_13](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-10377-8_13)
- Van Eck, N.J., & Waltman, L. (2010). Software survey: VOSviewer, a computer program for bibliometric mapping. *Scientometrics*, 84(2), 523-538. [10.1007/s11192-009-0146-3](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11192-009-0146-3)
- Waltman, L., Van Eck, N.J., & Noyons, E.C.M. (2010). A unified approach to mapping and clustering of bibliometric networks. *Journal of Informetrics*, 4(4), 629-635. [10.1016/j.joi.2010.07.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.joi.2010.07.002)
- Van Eck, N.J., Waltman, L., Dekker, R., & Van den Berg, J. (2010). A comparison of two techniques for bibliometric mapping: Multidimensional scaling and VOS. *JASIST*, 61(12), 2405-2416. [10.1002/asi.21421](https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.21421)
- Waltman, L., & Van Eck, N.J. (2013). A smart local moving algorithm for large-scale modularity-based community detection. *European Physical Journal B*, 86(11), 471. [10.1140/epjb/e2013-40829-0](https://doi.org/10.1140/epjb/e2013-40829-0)

Publications on CitNetExplorer

- Van Eck, N.J., & Waltman, L. (2014). CitNetExplorer: A new software tool for analyzing and visualizing citation networks. *Journal of Informetrics*, 8(4), 802-823. [10.1016/j.joi.2014.07.006](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.joi.2014.07.006)
- Van Eck, N.J., & Waltman, L. (2014). Systematic retrieval of scientific literature based on citation relations: Introducing the CitNetExplorer tool. In *Proceedings of the First Workshop on Bibliometric-enhanced Information Retrieval (BIR 2014)*, pages 13-20. ceur-ws.org/Vol-1143/paper2.pdf

Course: Bibliometric Network Analysis and Science Mapping

- April 12-13, 2016
- Leiden University, The Netherlands
- Participants are introduced into the main techniques for bibliometric network analysis and science mapping
- Special attention is paid to applications in a research evaluation and science policy context
- www.cwts.nl