



Opportunities and limitations of big data in evidence-based policy making

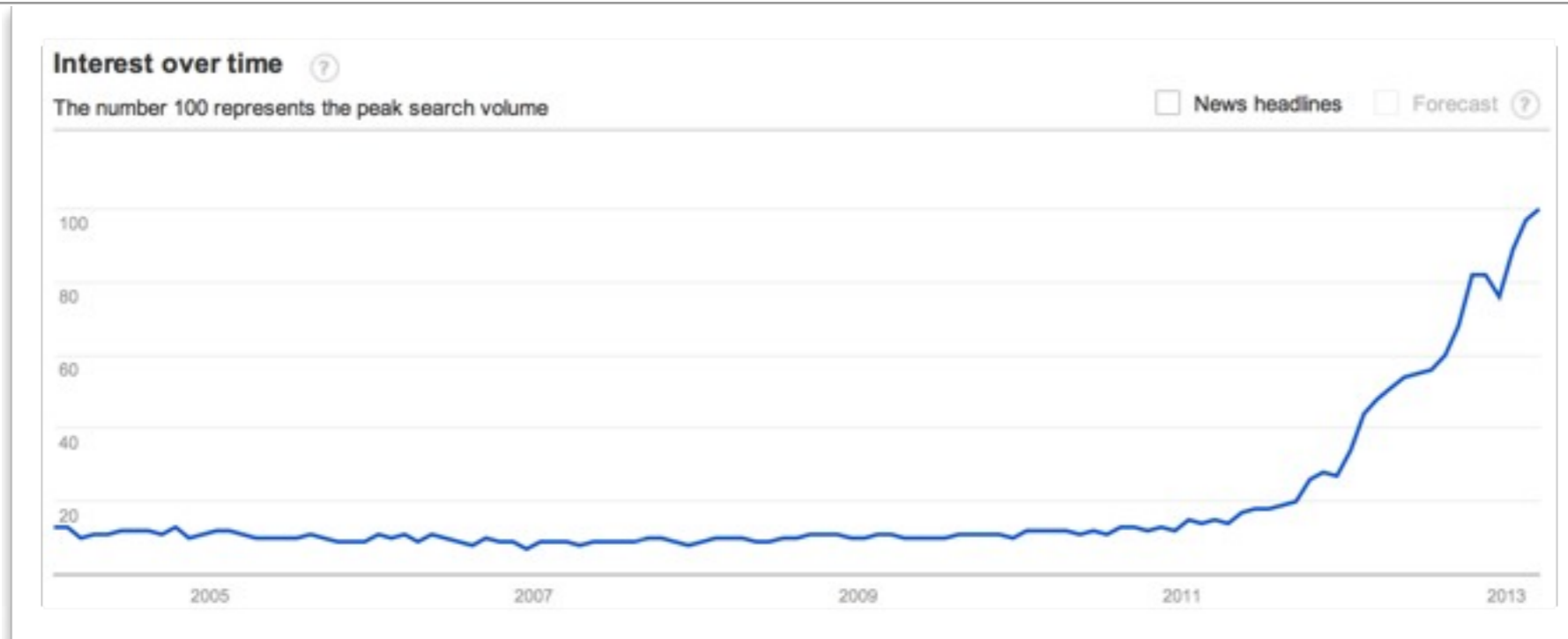
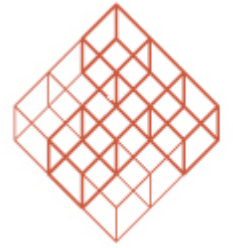
Dr. Robindra Prabhu
(robindra.prabhu@teknologiradet.no)

NORWEGIAN BOARD OF TECHNOLOGY

PACITA 2013
Prague, March 13 2013

“Data is the new oil!”

- or is it?

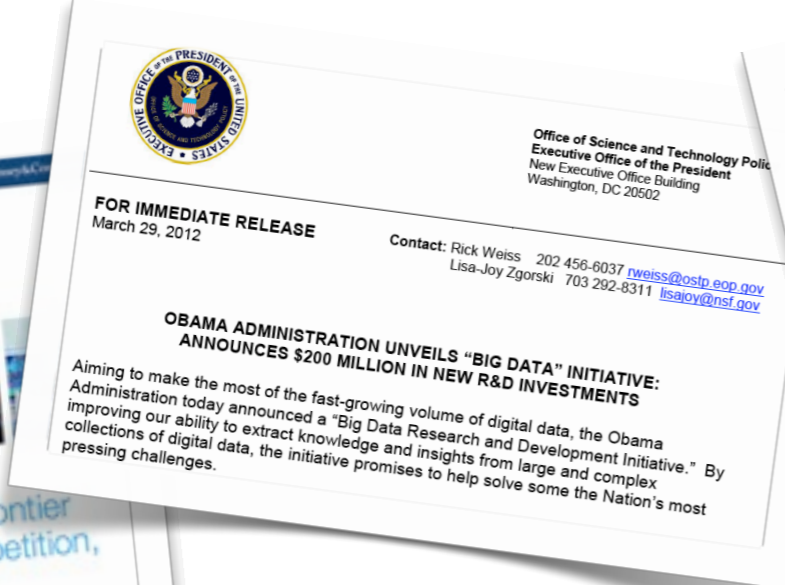


McKinsey (2011)

Obama adm. (2012)

United Nations (2012)

Policy Exchange (2012)



World Economic Forum (2012)

Big data for Government



Monitoring physical
infrastructure

Energy

Public health

Smarter cities

Transportation and mobility

Education

Taxation and public finances

Democracy and governance

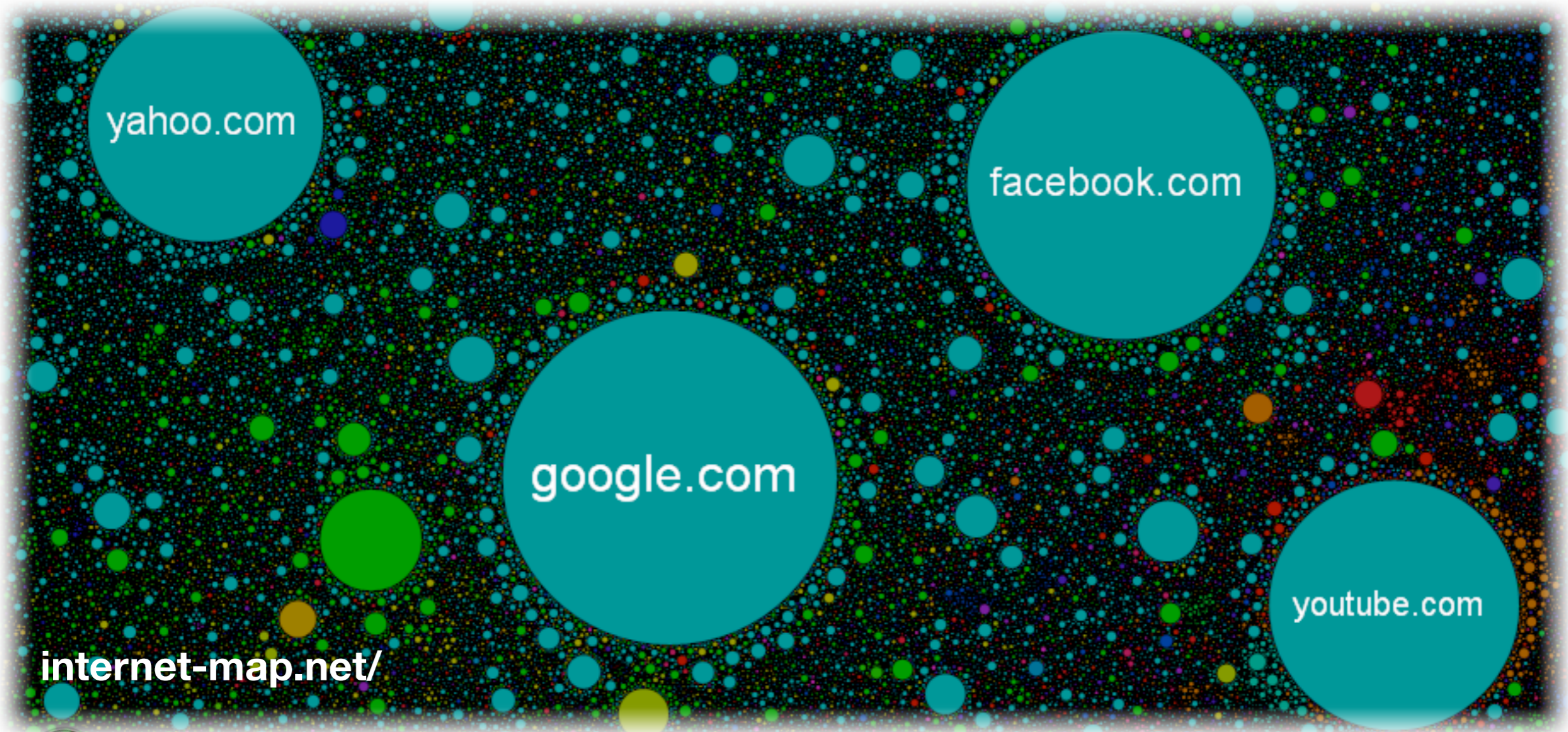
**Security, crisis management
and law enforcement**

Monitoring of
public services

Personalised services



The Web 2.0



internet-map.net/

Every minute:

204 M emails

47 K app downloads

6 M Facebook "views"

100 K tweets

2 M Google searches

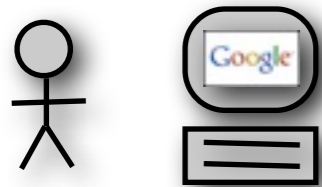
30 hrs of video uploaded



Digital traces...

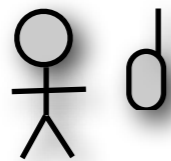


Surfing the web...



site tracking - clickstream - site analytics - email replication on devices via cloud infrastructure - social media trails

Using your smartphone...



location tracking (towers) - phone log files
data streams created/stored by apps

Driving your car...



location tracking at toll booths
instrumentation data (OnStar)

data streams initiated by ATM withdrawals
- transaction pattern logs
- audit/verification trails

Visiting your bank...



data streams from credit card transaction
product inventory changes
buying pattern logs (loyalty programs)

Out shopping...



Chillin' at home...

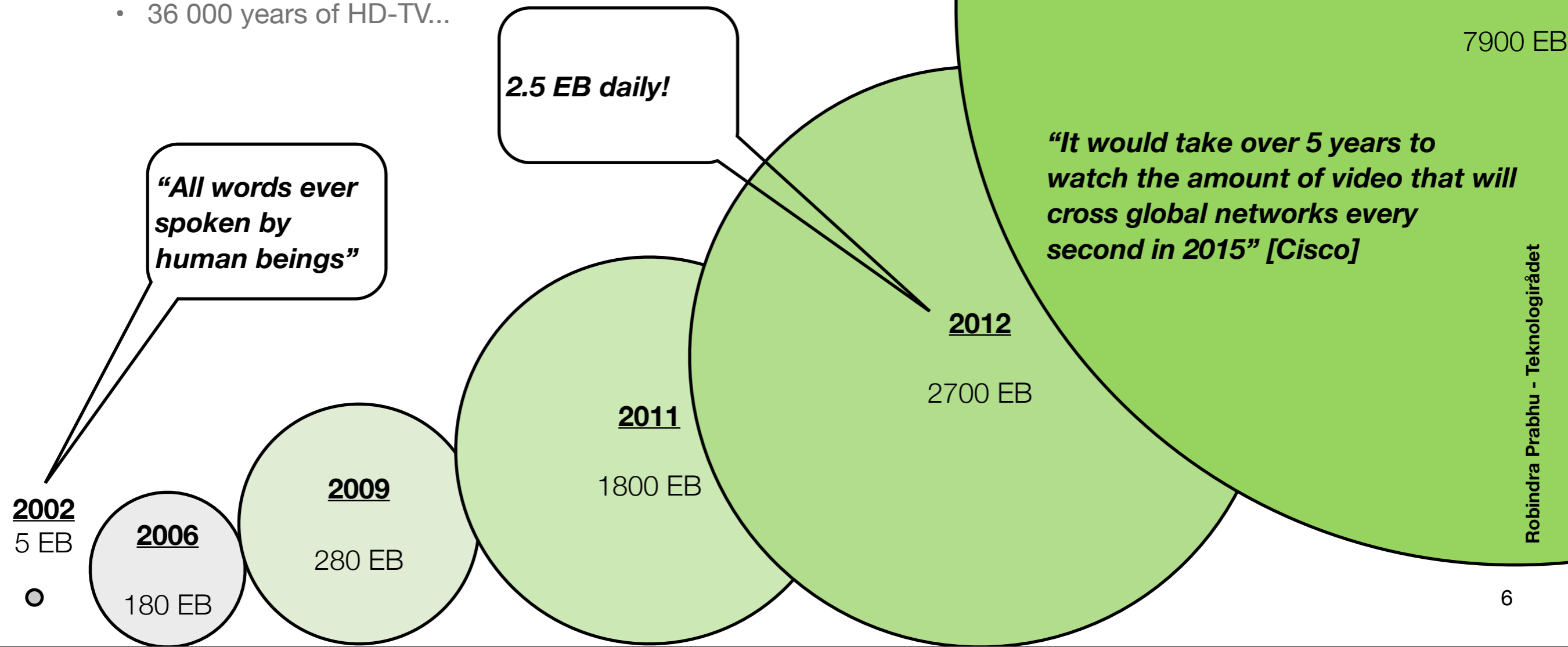


smart meter
(electricity usage)

We constantly emit digital
"exhaust" in daily interactions

An ocean of data

- Volume of digital data increases more than ten-fold every 5 years!
- 1 Exabyte (EB) = 10^9 GB
- 36 000 years of HD-TV...



Digital traces



- Traces left in the digital world can be used to tackle **real-life problems**:

Physical World



[bigbelly.com]

Embedded sensors



Social World



Human sensors



Real-time transactional data!

- Exciting time for policy makers! New ways to ***sense your surroundings, forecast future, collaborate with citizens, assess impact and evaluate risk...***

Using Big Data in to inform and guide public policy




- e-government initiatives focus on bringing out the right forms...
- current focus: Open Data initiatives
- Next step - use the data and engage the public!
 - *link, collate, analyse and visualise* - **reveal unanticipated insights!**
 - *listen to the crowds* - **social computing** and **sentiment mining**
 - *engage the crowds* - **collaborate** with citizen experts
 - *communicate* - develop policy models that can be **visualised and monitored**

Digital “exhaust” in Genève



Teknologirådet

A project by the City of Geneva
In collaboration with Lift
Realized by Interactive Things



lift

INTERACTIVE THINGS

DATA PROCESSING AND ANALYSIS BY NEAR FUTURE LAB

ANONYMIZED MOBILE DATA BY SWISSECOM

VILLE DE GENEVE

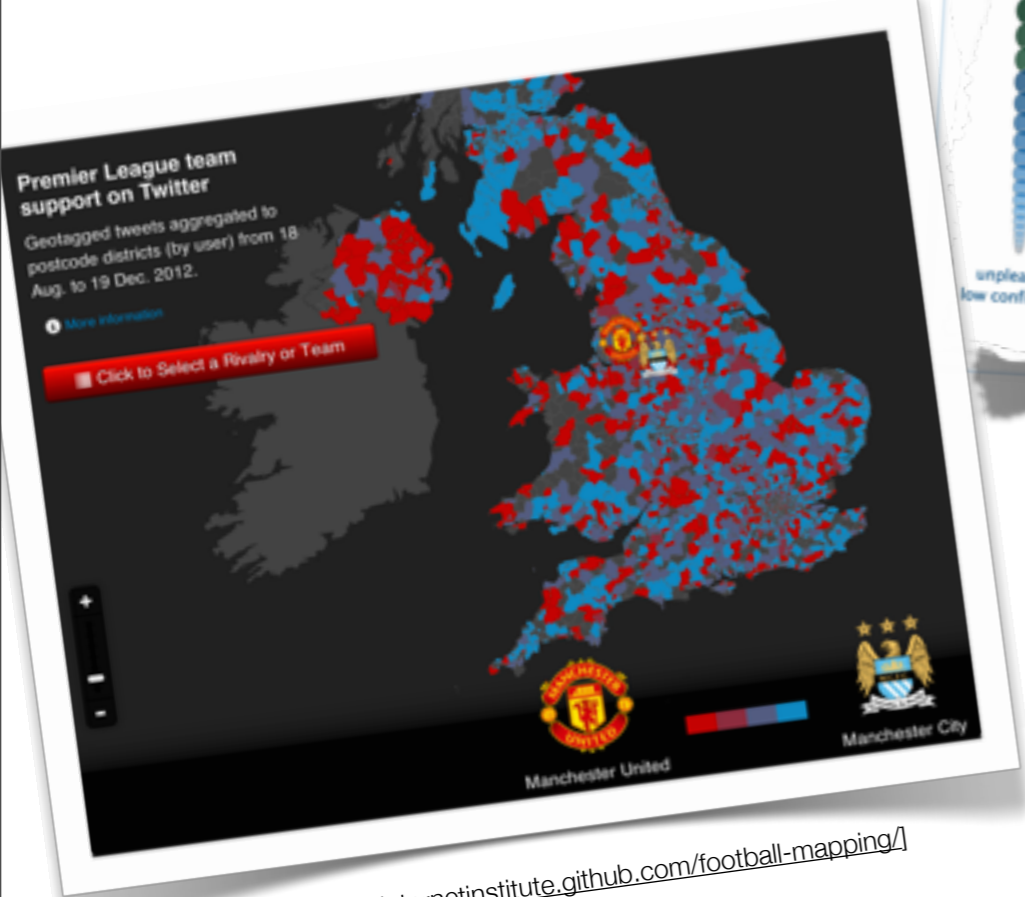


Robindra Prabhu - Teknologirådet

Sensing the world in new ways



“When a 5.9 earthquake hit near Richmond, Virginia on August 23rd, 2011, residents in New York City read about the quake on Twitter feeds 30 seconds before they experienced the quake themselves.”
[<http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/egov/digital-government/digital-government.html>]



[<http://oxfordinternetinstitute.github.com/football-mapping/>]

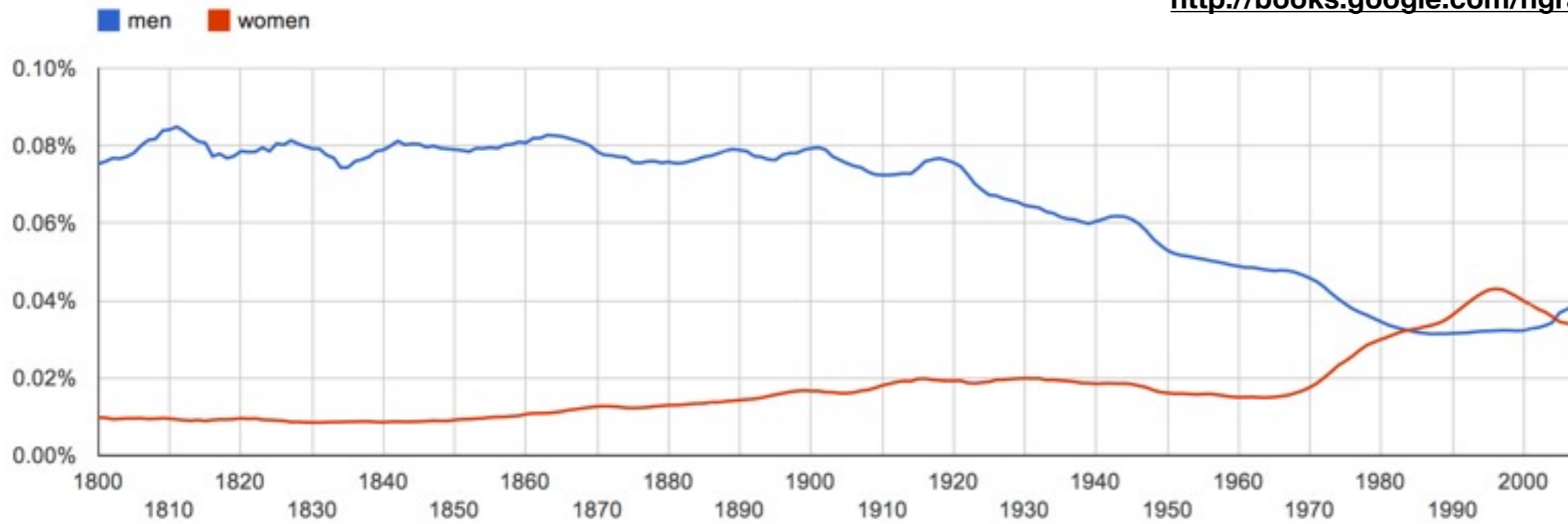


[http://www.csc.ncsu.edu/faculty/healey/tweet_viz/tweet_app/]

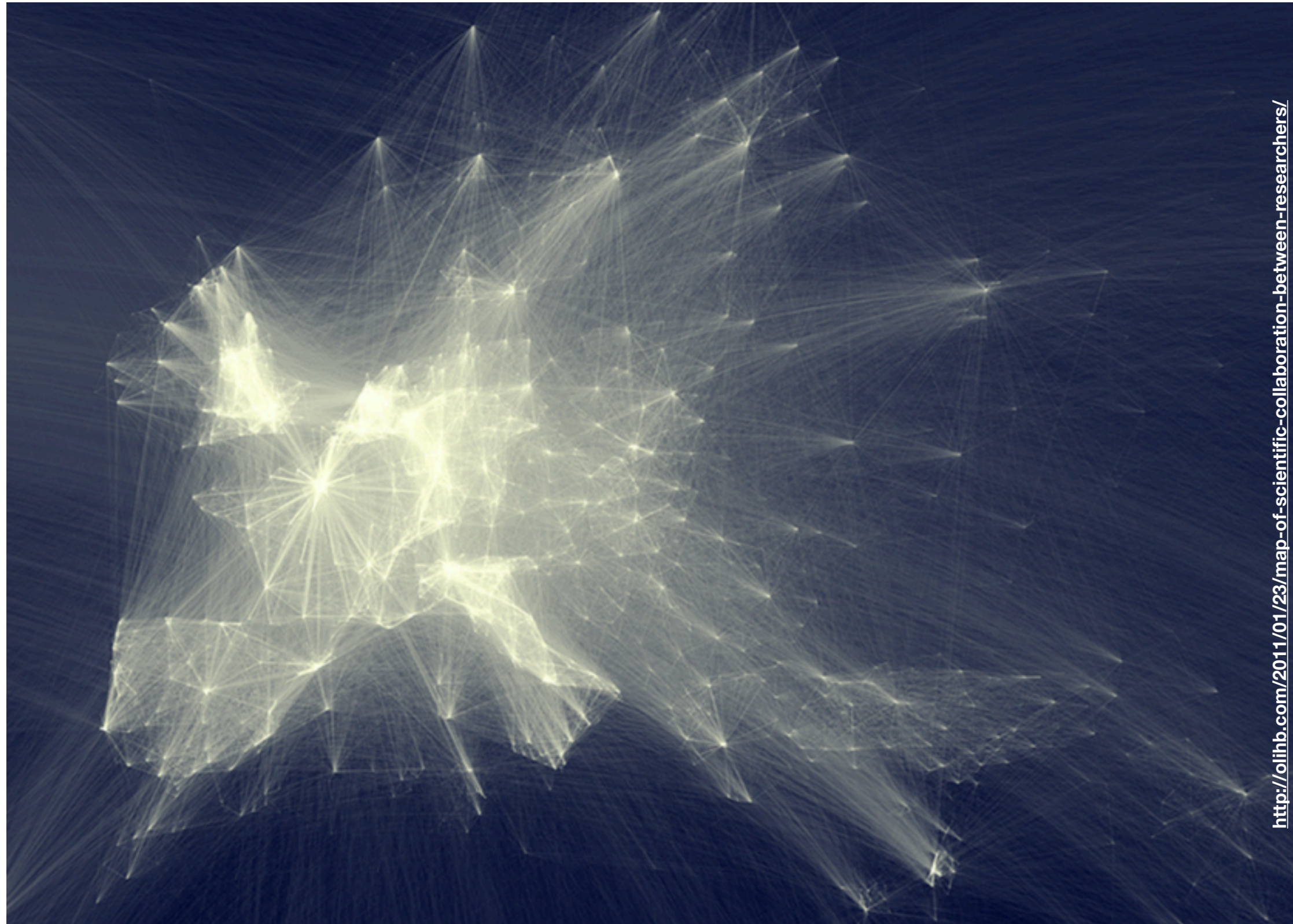
Mining swatches of text...



<http://books.google.com/ngrams/info>



Visualising relationships



Prediction and forecasting



Predictive retailing



Predictive policing / Preemptive government

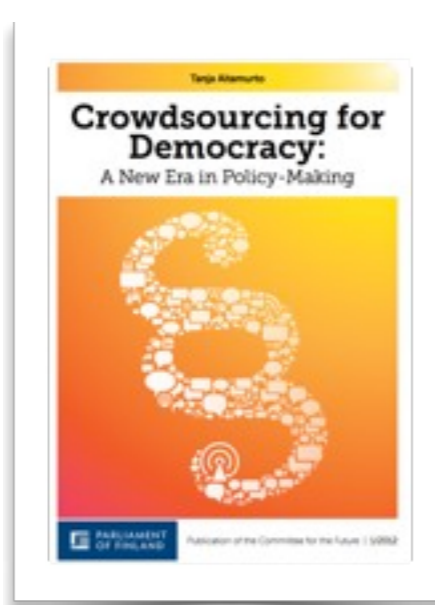
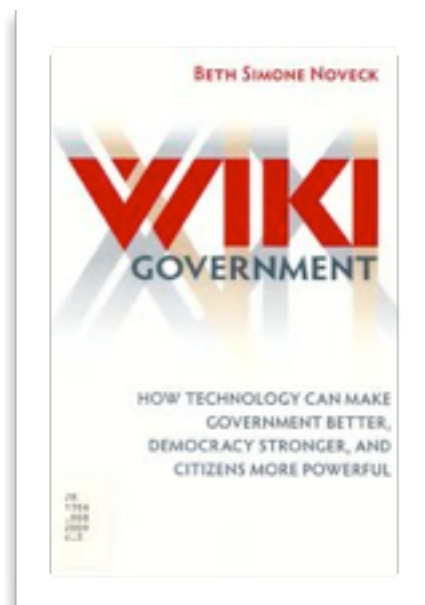
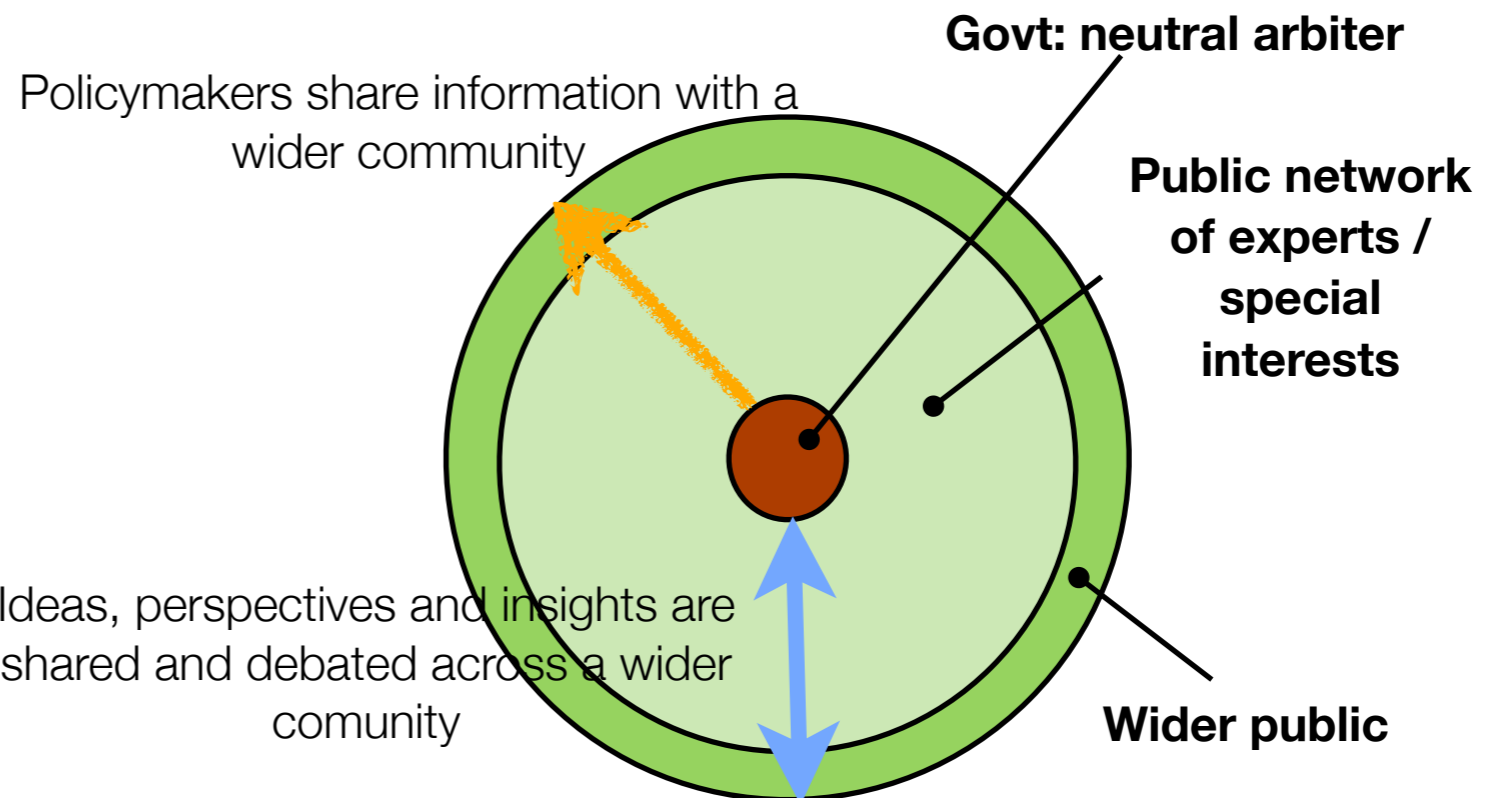


Building platforms and tools for decision-making



- need robust platforms and tools for:

- public deliberation
- agenda setting
- public decision-making



Visualise impact of policy measures

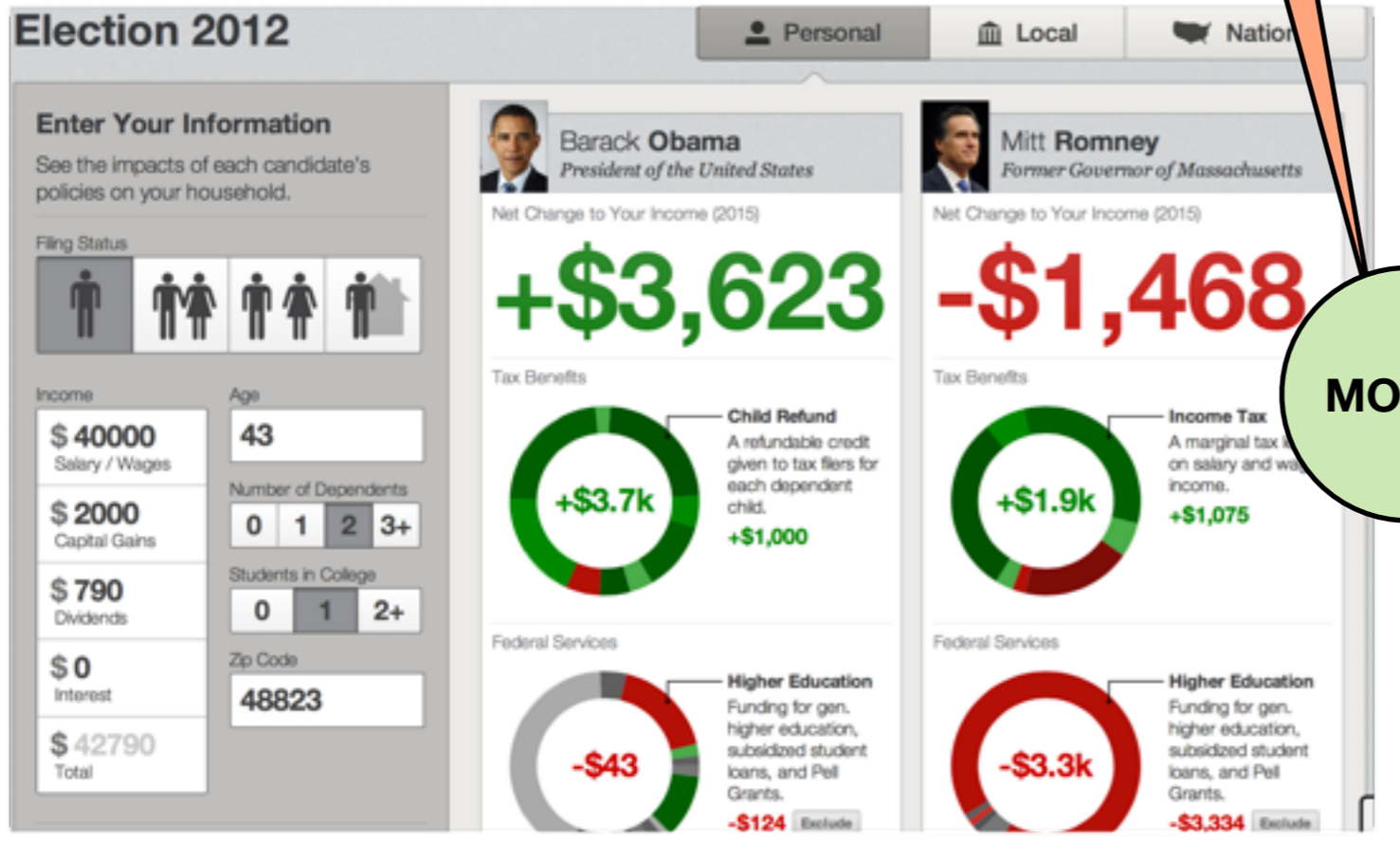


Fiscal policies from candidates' websites

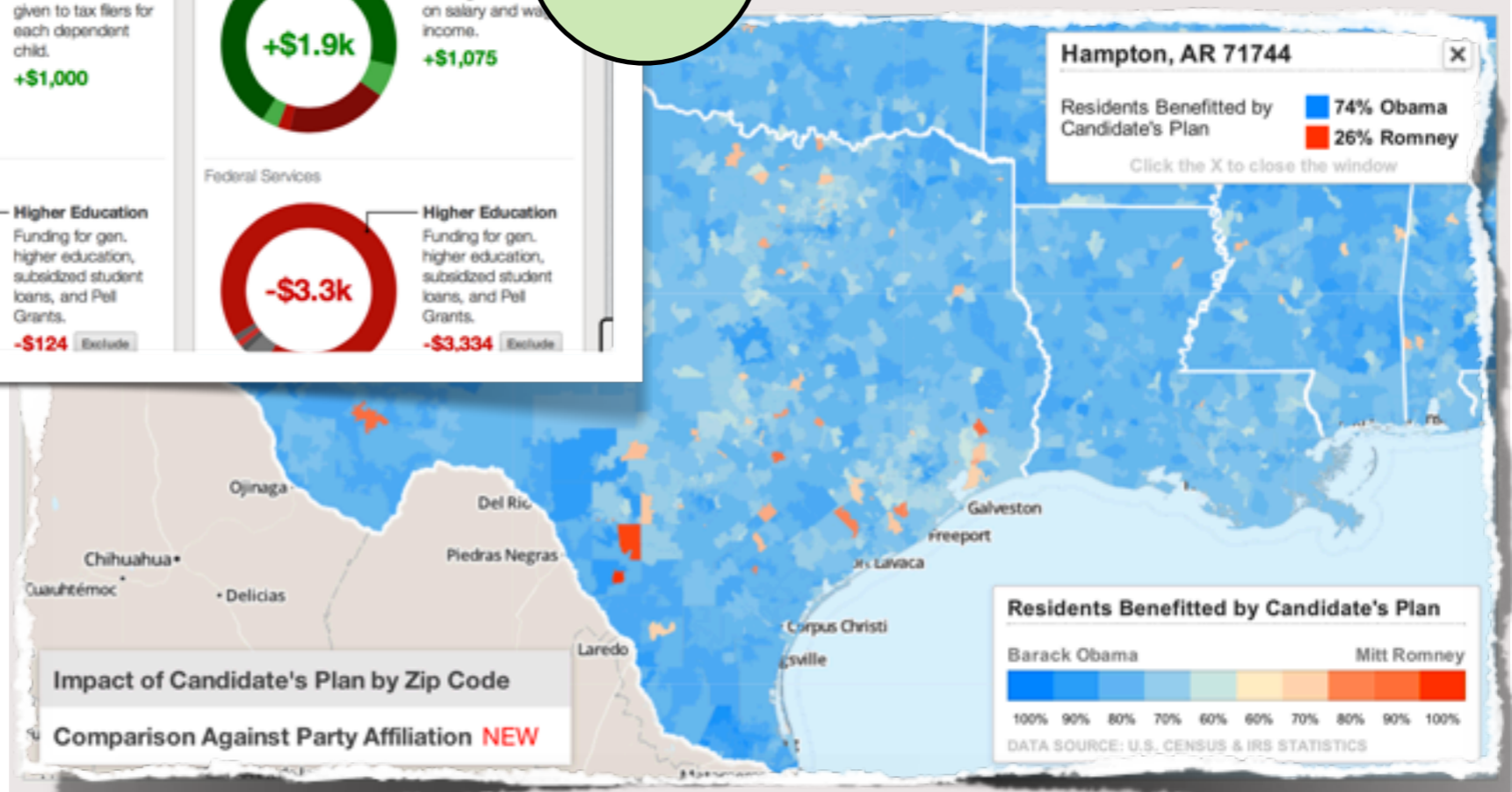
Federal survey data (federal service usage and household family structure)

IRS income data

MODEL



politify.com



Summary



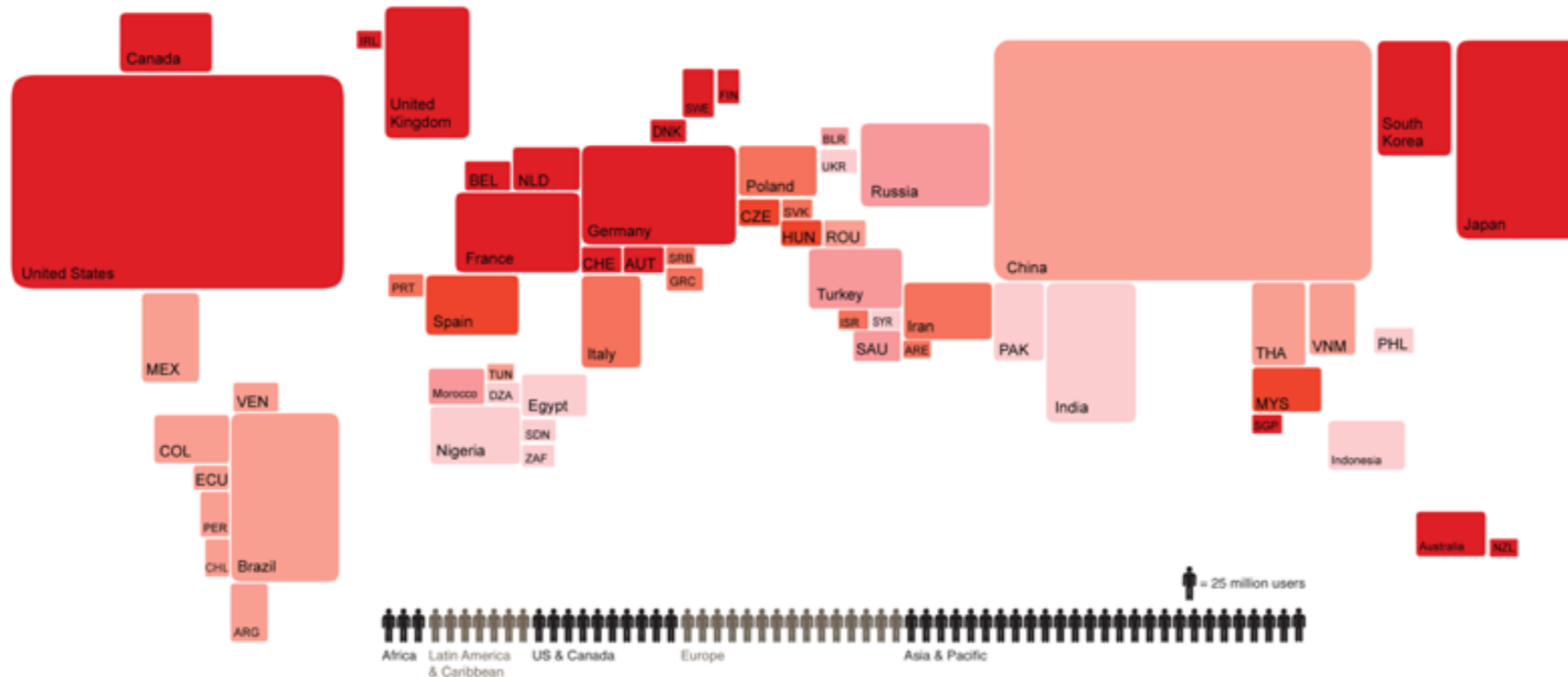
We have profound new ways of sensing the world...

...with a potential to challenge what “passes for wisdom”

- ...beyond improving efficiency, quality of service, transparency, accountability, etc...
- re-think the decision-making process:

create spaces for deliberation and collaboration

Internet penetration anno 2008



Total number of Internet users (in millions), 2008



Internet penetration (% population)



Internet Penetration

Visualization and analysis by Dr Mark Graham, Scott A. Hale and Monica Stephens in collaboration with Dr Corinne M. Flick and the Convoco Foundation.

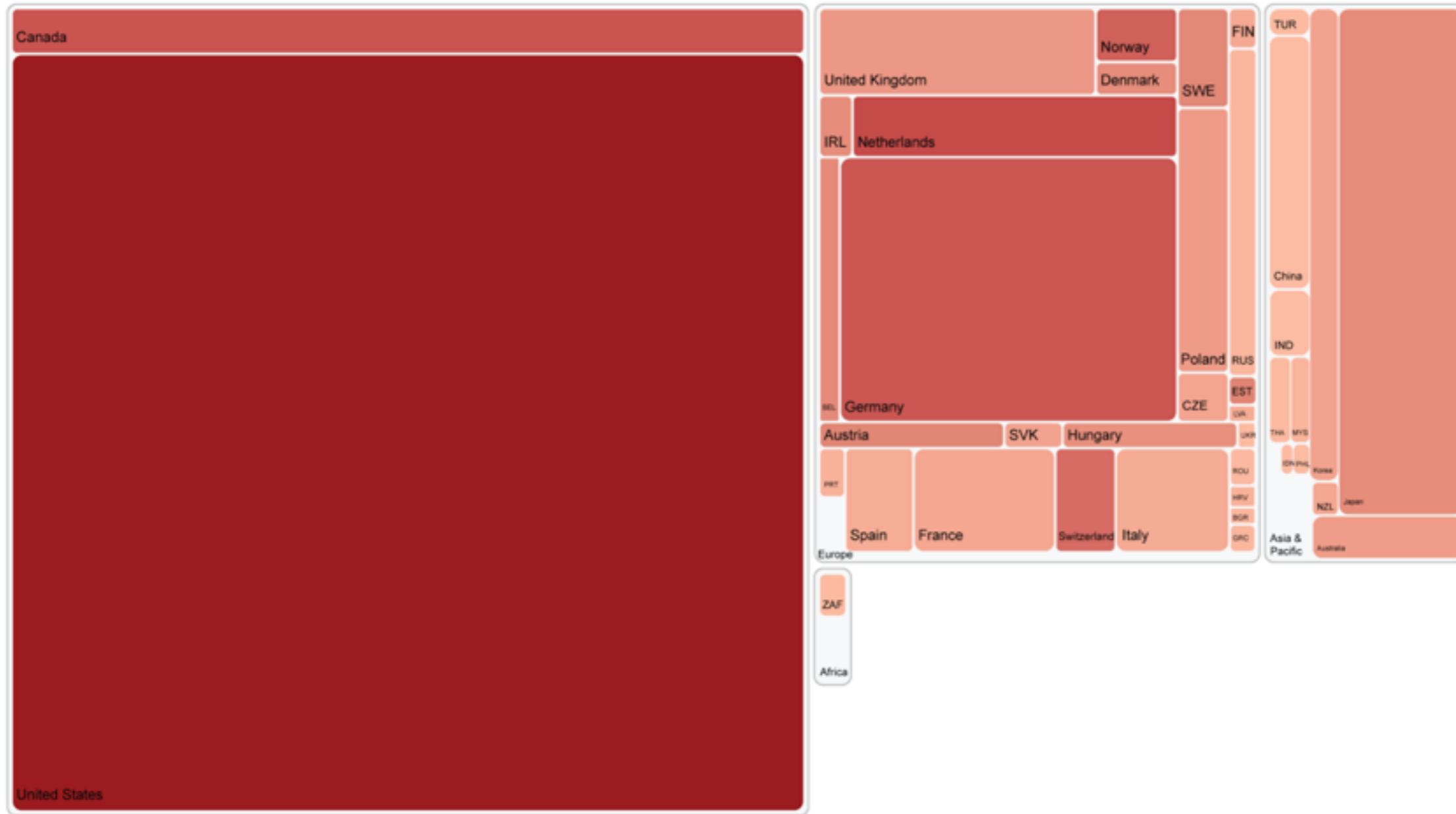
This map and other visualizations can be found on the OII visualization website at <http://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/viz/>

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Google: user generated content anno 2009



User-generated Content in Google

Visualization and analysis by Dr Mark Graham, Scott A. Hale and Monica Stephens in collaboration with Dr Corinne M. Flick and the Convoco Foundation. Data provided by Matthew Zeck.

This map and other visualizations can be found on the OII visualization website at <http://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/viz/>

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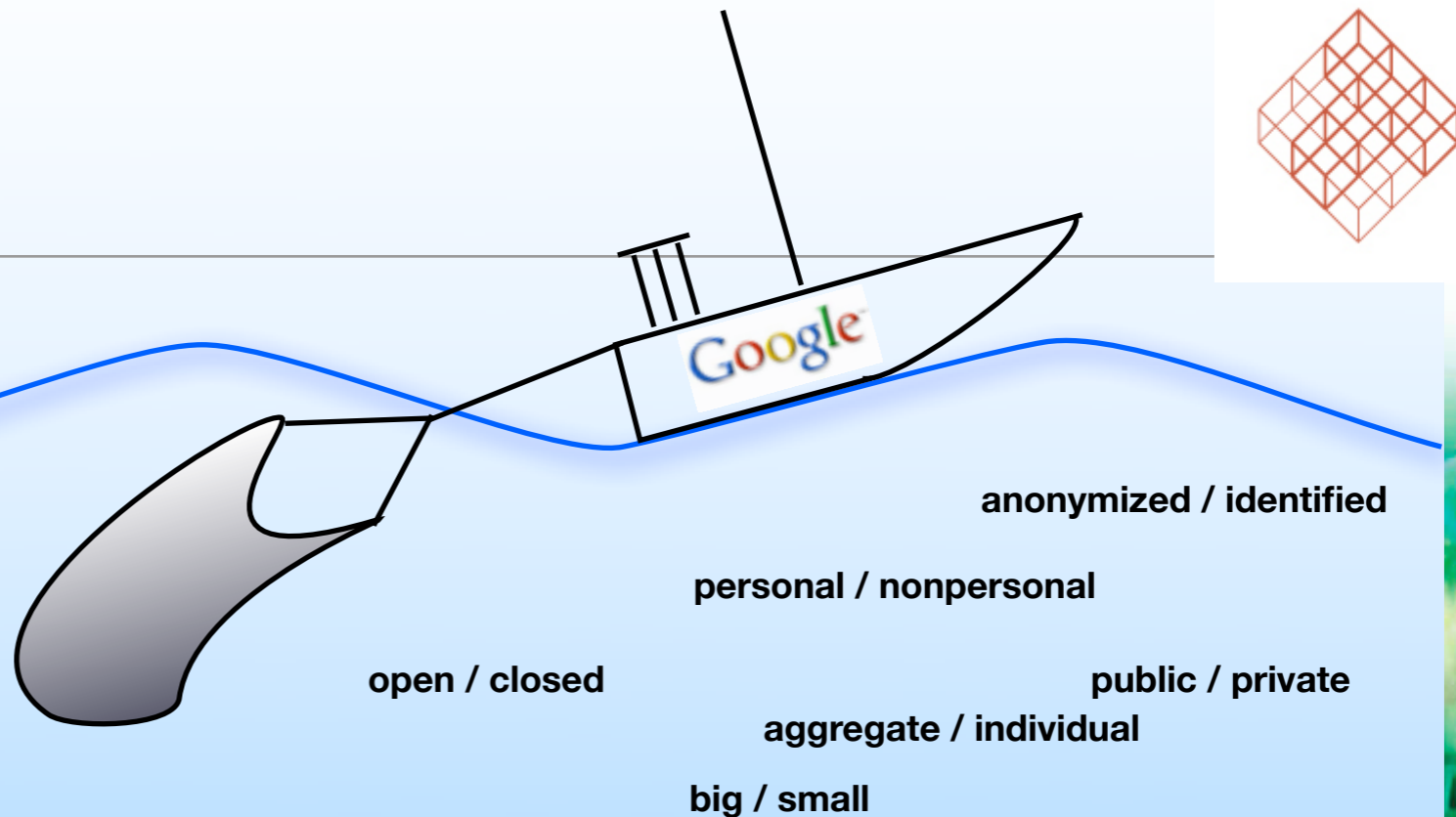
A rich ecosystem



Surface Web

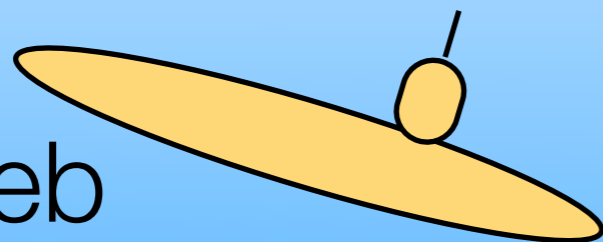
(visible web)

20 %



Deep Web

(invisible web)



“Young” data:

90% of the world's data was created in the last 2 years...

Structured

Unstructured



Dark Web