# l'informatique sociale au gymnase 

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## OR

## i was asked to talk about a topic i don't know much about

daniel gatica-perez

## two events <br> (organized by EPFL Service de Promotion des Etudes)

Why the Digital Humanities Need You


Semaine d'études DH @ EPFL Fondation Science et jeunesse Gymnasiens from all over Switzerland Students working for one week in a lab $\sim 60$ students

Summer School @ EPFL
Gymnase Lerbermatt, Köniz (BE)
OS: physique-math, biologie-chimie Students spent one week at EPFL
$\sim 30$ students

## Informatique

## Discipline obligatoire en $1^{\text {re }}$ et $2^{\circ}$ année

Pendant les deux années consacrées à ce domaine scientifique, l'élève développe des compétences dans le domaine de la pensée computationnelle avec de l'algorithmique et de la programmation.

Dans une perspective citoyenne, l'élève est amené à développer un regard informé face aux technologies numériques et à la façon dont elles reconfigurent de nombreuses dimensions de la société, telles que les relations sociales, la vie privée, les sphères politiques et économiques, la culture ou les médias.

La première année propose d'acquérir des connaissances et des notions générales sur le fonctionnement des ordinateurs et sur la représentation des données. L'élève développe des compétences liées à la programmation et à la pensée computationnelle.

En deuxième année, l'élève consolide ses connaissances en programmation avec de la mise en pratique dans des sujets comme les réseaux, la modélisation et la simulation. II réalise un projet en apprenant à organiser son travail et ses apprentissages de manière autonome.

digital humanities as a motivation for computing


LEDNARDG'G LAPTGP


HUMAN NEEDG AND THE NEW

CDMPUTING TEEHNELOEIEG

Ben Shneiderman

## 2002

## Google

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Settings Tools
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Collections
SafeSearch *


Leonardo DiCaprio - W
en wikipedia.org


Leonardo DiCaprio to reportedly play 24 cbsnews.com


Leonardo DiCaprio Called Out f. indiewire.com


Leonardo DiCaprio | Bi . britannica.com


Cole Sprouse mocks Brad Pitt and metro.co.uk


Leonardo DiCaprio to donate 5 million . indiatoday.in


Leonardo DiCaprio Films, Ranked manofmany.com


Leonardo DiCaprio's Evolution of Look. youtube.com


How TIME 100's Leonardo DiCap. time.com

# Music Culture or Technology? 

The world is complex. Think like a DH Engineer.

## EPFL

## Museums

## Culture or Technology?

The world is complex. Think like a DH Engineer.

# Artiicial Intelligence Culture or Technology? 

The world is complex. Think like a DH Engineer.

## EPFL

# Social Media Culture or Technology? 

The world is complex. Think like a DH Engineer.

## EPFL



## social media as an example of computing

## Computational Social Media

Enseignant: Gatica-Perez Daniel
Langue: Anglais
Withdrawal: It is not allowed to withdraw from this subject after the registration deadline.

## Summary

The course integrates concepts from media studies, machine learning, multimedia and network science to characterize social practices and analyze content in sites like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. Students will learn computational methods to infer individual and networked phenomena in social media.

## Dans les plans d'études

Humanités digitales
2022-2023 Master semestre 2

- Semestre: Printemps
- Forme de l'examen: Pendant le semestre (session d'été)
- Matière examinée: Computational Social Media
- Cours: 2 Heure(s) hebdo $\times 14$ semaines
- TP: 1 Heure(s) hebdo x 14 semaines

Humanités digitales
2022-2023 Master semestre 4

Humanités digitales
2022-2023 Ecole doctorale

## example of content

graphs as models of networks
the anatomy of the facebook graph
social grooming

## graphs as models of networks

D. Easley and J. Kleinberg. Networks, Crowds, and Markets: Reasoning about a Highly Connected World. Cambridge University Press, 2010. Chapter 2, http://www.cs.cornell.edu/home/kleinber/networks-book/

(a) A graph on 4 nodes.

(b) A directed graph on 4 nodes.

Figure 2.1: Two graphs: (a) an undirected graph, and (b) a directed graph.


Figure 2.2: A network depicting the sites on the Internet, then known as the Arpanet, in December 1970. (Image from F. Heart, A. McKenzie, J. McQuillian, and D. Walden [214]; on-line at http://som.csudh.edu/cis/lpress/history/arpamaps/.)


Figure 2.3: An alternate drawing of the 13-node Internet graph from December 1970.

## paths and cycles



Figure 2.3: An alternate drawing of the 13-node Internet graph from December 1970.

Path: sequence of nodes where each consecutive pair is connected by an edge Simple path: paths that contain no repeated nodes

Cycle: a path with at least three edges, in which the first and last nodes are the same, but otherwise all nodes are distinct

## connectivity



Connected component: a subset of the nodes such that:
(i) every node in the subset has a path to every other;
(ii) the subset is not part of some larger set with the property that every node can reach every other.

Figure 2.5: A graph with three connected components.
(i) says that the component is internally connected
(ii) says that the component is a free-standing piece of the graph

## giant components



Giant component: connected component that contains a significant fraction of all the nodes in large networks

When a network contains a giant component, it almost always contains only one

Figure 2.7: A network in which the nodes are students in a large American high school, and an edge joins two who had a romantic relationship at some point during the 18 -month period in which the study was conducted [49].

## path length and distance between nodes

Path length (I): number of edges in the sequence of nodes that comprises it

Distance between two nodes (d):
length of the shortest path between the nodes

$I(M I T, B B N, R A N D, ~ U C L A)=3$
$\mathrm{d}(\mathrm{LINC}, \mathrm{SRI})=3$

## sharing research results with students: the anatomy of the facebook social graph

## how is the facebook social graph structured?

(Backstrom et al. 2011)

721 million facebook users 69 billion friendships largest social network ever studied


Facebook Data Science ${ }^{\circ}$

281,578 likes $\cdot 1,529$ talking about this $\cdot 1,881$ were here
Research Service
You can have data without information, but you cannot have information without data.

https://www.facebook.com/data

## research questions:

1. how many friends do people have?
2. how many intermediaries are there between any two users?
L. Backstrom, Anatomy of Facebook, 21.11.2011
http://www.facebook.com/notes/facebook-data-team/anatomy-of-facebook/10150388519243859
L. Backstrom, P. Boldi, M. Rosa, J. Ugander, S. Vigna, Four Degrees of Separation, in Proc. ACM Int'l Conf. on Web Science (WebSci), Jun. 2012, http://arxiv.org/abs/1111.4570
J. Ugander, B. Karrer, L. Backstrom, C. Marlow, The Anatomy of the Facebook Social Graph, Nov. 2011, http://arxiv.org/abs/1111.4503

## the small-world phenomenon


six degrees of separation

+ any two people are separated by no more than six intermediate connections
+ the world looks "small" given these short paths
+ proposed by Frigyes Karinthy in short story (1929)
+ popularized by John Guare's Six Degrees of
Separation play (1990)


## Stanley Milgram's small-world experiment (1960s)



+ 296 volunteers living in US midwest + they sent a message to a target (a specific person living in Boston suburbs) + volunteers could not send message directly to the target (unless they were a personal contact) + they sent message to a personal contact who was likely to know the target
+ 64 chains reached the target
+ mean number of intermediate persons $=5.2$ (distance $=6.2$ )
Figure 2.10: A histogram from Travers and Milgram's paper on their small-world experiment [391].
people navigate short paths with success, even if entire network is not visible


## how many friends do people have on facebook?

(Backstrom et al. 2011)

cumulative degree distribution: \% of people with less than $X$ friends
$10 \%$ of people: less than 10 friends
$20 \%$ of people: less than 25 friends
50\% (the median): less than 100 friends
average friend count $=190$

## 4 degrees of separation

(Backstrom et al. 2011) (degrees of separation = intermediaries = distance-1)

average distance (2008) $=5.28$ average distance (2011) $=4.74$

within same country, connectivity is even higher
$84 \%$ of all connections are between users in the same country

## social grooming

## social grooming

## Robin Dunbar (1998)

gossip, small talk, people-curiosity human equivalent of social grooming in primates language allowed people to live in larger groups (~150)
"essential to forging bonds, affirming relationships, displaying bonds, learning about hierarchies and alliances"

## how many people can anyone be friends with?

## Dunbar's number: 150

"The figure of 150 represents the maximum number of individuals with whom we can have a genuinely social relationship, the kind of relationship that goes with knowing who they are and how they relate to us"

credit: Robin Dunbar

Intimates -> close personal friends -> friends -> acquaintances || -> || strangers
Cumulatively: 5 -> 15 -> 50 -> 150 (intimates+close friends+friends+acquaintances)
R. Dunbar, "Neocortex size as a constraint on group size in primates". Journal of Human Evolution, 22 (6), 1992 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dunbar\'s_number
D. Bennett, The Dunbar number, from the guru of social networks, Jan. 2013
http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2013-01-10/the-dunbar-number-from-the-guru-of-social-networks

## exercise in class

Use your whatsapp contact list.
Manually code the first 150 people, appearing in your contact list, in the order in which they appear, according to this system:
(a) intimate (e.g. partner, parents, best friend)
(b) close personal friend
(c) friend
(d) acquaintance
(e) stranger (people-you-don't-really-know-but-somehow-got-in)

Respond to these questions via the online form:

* How many "friends" do you have in total?
* How many of your manually coded 150 friends belong to
(a) Intimate;
(b) Close personal friend;
(c) Friend;
(d) Acquaintance;
(e) Stranger
* How easy was it to categorize your friends? (a) Easy; (b) Medium; (c) Hard
* Is your Dunbar's number higher than 150? (a) Higher; (b) About 150; (c) Lower


## lessons learned

## digital humanities as a motivation for computing

way to approach gymnase students with diverse interests connect the past and their present
links to other classes (history, geography, art, languages)
social media as an example of computing many connections to students' daily life
...and to data and algorithms
good to share research results with gymnase students natural links between computing, individual experiences, and societal implications

## thanks

