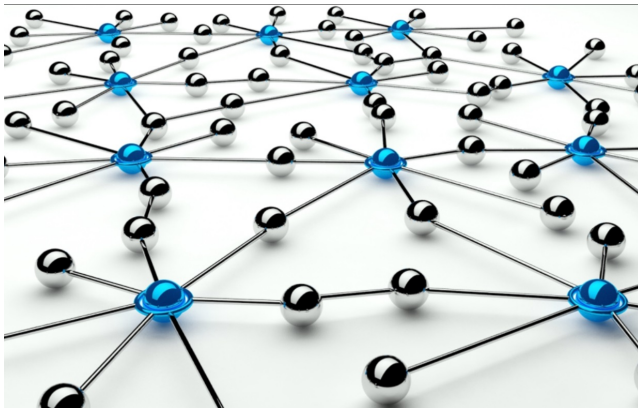


# Text-Based Representations of Market Structures

Gerard Hoberg  
University of Southern California  
Marshall School of Business

Swissquote Conference [Nov 2018]

# Concept of “industry” is undeniably important



- \* Which firms are industry rivals is most core to market structure.
- \* But world far more complex than “all or nothing” categorizations.
- \* What about close-rivals, partial-rivals, entry-threat rivals or complementary firms.

# “Market Structure” » industry

Market structure much deeper:

- Also: Product differentiation.
- Also: Innovation and Change.
- Also: Supply chains .
- Also: Economies of scope & entry.

All are seminal to how markets work and evolve. Goal is to design a unified empirical framework incorporating all of the above.

# Section I: Market Structure PAST

## Section I: Market Structure PAST

## Section II: Market Structure PRESENT

## Section III: Impact and Uses

## Section IV: Market Structure FUTURE

## Section V: Using Text to Model Innovation

# Old Way to Model Market Structure!



Govt employees gathering industry data for SIC codes.  
This is how things were 50 years ago!

# SIC code industries (a simple network!)

	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9	F10	F11	F12	F13	F14	F15
Firm1	1	← SIC code 201 (1 firm)				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm2	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm3	0	1	1	1	1	1	← SIC code 345 ( 5 firms)				0	0	0	0	0
Firm4	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm5	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm6	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	← SIC code 510 (1 firm)			0	0	0	0	0
Firm8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Firm9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	← SIC code 345 (3 firms)				0
Firm10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Firm11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Firm12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Firm13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Firm14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	SIC code 737 ( 4 firms)			0	1	1	1	1
Firm15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1

Researchers and practitioners typically identify industries using govt classifications such as SIC, NAICS.

These are constrained to be “transitive” & “binary”.

# Limitation 1: Difficult to model change

	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9	F10	F11	F12	F13	F14	F15
Firm1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm2	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm3	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm4	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm5	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm6	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm7	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Firm9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Firm10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Firm11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Firm12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Firm13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Firm14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Firm15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1

- \* How can a company model the aftermath of disruption?
- \* Can a firm detect a rival's gradual encroachment?
- \* Only a 100% transformation can justify reclassification (RARE).

# Limitation 2: Cannot model product heterogeneity

	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9	F10	F11	F12	F13	F14	F15
Firm1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm2	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm3	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm4	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm5	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm6	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm7	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Firm9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Firm10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Firm11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Firm12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Firm13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Firm14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Firm15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1

Binary property implies all firms make exactly the same products!!

- \*SIC models all products in an industry as 100% identical.
- \*iPhones and Androids are exactly the same, right?



# Limitation 3: Cannot model economies of scope

	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9	F10	F11	F12	F13	F14	F15
Firm1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm2	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm3	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm4	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm5	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm6	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm7	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Firm9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Firm10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Firm11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Firm12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Firm13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Firm14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Firm15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1

Binary property also precludes modeling econ-of-scope. Reason is if you are not "in" an industry, you are 100% unrelated (all the zeroes!)

\*Can firms identify markets with synergies or “low cost” entry.

\*Cannot model entry threats either. No information in SIC codes!

# Section II: Market Structure PRESENT

**Section I:** Market Structure PAST

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# New Way to Model Market Structure!



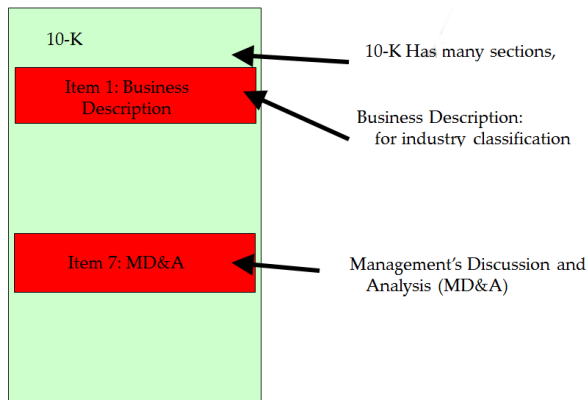
Computers are the most loyal work force ever. They only want electricity! Use scalable NLP to create generalized concept of industry.

# Coming slides relate to Textual Network Industry (TNIC) Research



- **Hoberg and Phillips (2016JPE):** TNIC industries, endogenous industry boundaries.
- **Hoberg and Phillips (2010RFS):** Mergers, new product synergies.
- **Hoberg, Phillips, and Prabhala (2014JF):** Product market fluidity and competitive threat.
- **Fresard, Hoberg and Phillips (2016WP):** Vertical relatedness in TNIC space and links to mergers and innovation.
- See website [www.marshall.usc.edu/industrydata](http://www.marshall.usc.edu/industrydata) (linked from my homepage at USC).

# Parse 10-K Filings from the SEC



Extract Item 1 (Business Description) from every 10-K in each year.

Doc 1: "We sell digital music products and computers."

Doc 2: "We sell smart phones that use digital data to consumers."

- $$P_1 = (1, 0, 1, 1, 0)$$

$$P_2 = (0, 1, 1, 0, 1)$$

$$V_i = \frac{\dot{P}_i}{\sqrt{P_i \cdot P_j}}$$

- ❑ Step 3) Normalize vector to have unit length of 1:

$$V_1 = (.577, 0, .577, .577, 0)$$

$$V_2 = (0, .577, .577, 0, .577)$$

- ❑ Step 4) Compute cosine similarity  $V_1 \cdot V_2 = .33333$

- This dot product has a natural interpretation:  $\cos(\theta) =$

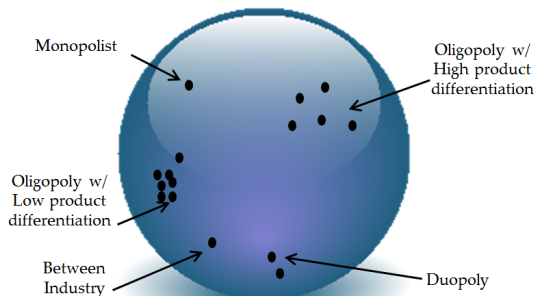
- ❑ Cosine similarity is bounded between  $(0,1)$



Key: map firm text to vectors of length one in Euclidean space! Firms have product market “locations” on a unit sphere.

# Product Market as a Sphere

## Product Market Space is a high dimensional Unit Sphere



Every firm has a location on this sphere. So it has 5000+ public firms and is 80,000 dimensional. Firms residing in dense areas face high levels of competition. Firms in isolated parts of the space are differentiated and effective monopolies.

# TNIC Industry Network Structure

	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9	F10	F11	F12	F13	F14	F15
Firm1	1	0.7	0.65	0.45	0.21	0.19	0.03	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm2	0.7	1	0.52	0.67	0.63	0.61	0.41	0.25	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm3	0.65	0.52	1	0.51	0.5	0.45	0.36	0.13	0.07	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm4	0.45	0.67	0.51	1	0.91	0.8	0.62	0.6	0.57	0.36	0.15	0	0	0	0
Firm5	0.21	0.63	0.5	0.91	1	0.83	0.74	0.65	0.45	0.38	0.22	0.12	0	0	0
Firm6	0.19	0.61	0.45	0.8	0.83	1	0.74	0.6	0.38	0.19	0.13	0.06	0	0	0
Firm7	0.03	0.41	0.36	0.62	0.74	0.74	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm8	0.02	0.25	0.13	0.6	0.65	0.6	0	1	0.34	0.22	0.02	0	0	0	0
Firm9	0	0.1	0.07	0.57	0.45	0.38	0	0.34	1	0.87	0.86	0.79	0.78	0.74	0.54
Firm10	0	0	0	0.36	0.38	0.19	0	0.22	0.87	1	0.68	0.57	0.36	0.27	0.08
Firm11	0	0	0	0.15	0.22	0.13	0	0.02	0.69	0.68	1	0.73	0.65	0.42	0.39
Firm12	0	0	0	0	0.12	0.06	0	0	0.79	0.57	0.73	1	0.55	0.38	0.33
Firm13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.78	0.36	0.65	0.55	1	0.49	0.25
Firm14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.74	0.27	0.42	0.38	0.49	1	0.86
Firm15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.54	0.08	0.39	0.33	0.25	0.86	1

Network nearly unconstrained: it is intransitive and non-binary.  
All values in  $[0, 1]$  (partial product overlaps) are possible.

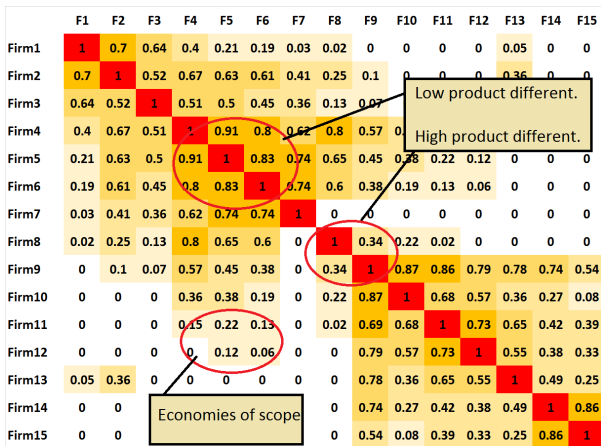


# Consequence 1: Can model changing industries!

	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9	F10	F11	F12	F13	F14	F15
Firm1	1	0.7	0.64	0.4	0.21	0.19	0.03	0.02	0	0	0	0	0.05	0	0
Firm2	0.7	1	0.52	0.67	0.63	0.61	0.41	0.25	0.1	0	0	0	0.36	0	0
Firm3	0.64	0.52	1	0.51	0.5	0.45	0.36	0.13	0.07	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm4	0.4	0.67	0.51	1	0.91	0.8	0.62	0.8	0.57	0.36					
Firm5	0.21	0.63	0.5	0.91	1	0.83	0.74	0.65	0.45	0.38					
Firm6	0.19	0.61	0.45	0.8	0.83	1	0.74	0.6	0.38	0.19	0.13	0.06	0	0	0
Firm7	0.0						1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Firm8	0.0						0	1	0.34	0.22	0.02	0	0	0	0
Firm9	0						0	0.34	1	0.87	0.86	0.79	0.78	0.74	0.54
Firm10	0	0	0	0.58	0.58	0.19	0	0.22	0.87	1	0.68	0.57	0.36	0.27	0.08
Firm11	0	0	0	0.15	0.22	0.13	0	0.02	0.69	0.68	1	0.73	0.65	0.42	0.39
Firm12	0	0	0	0	0.12	0.06	0	0	0.79	0.57	0.73	1	0.55	0.38	0.33
Firm13	0.05	0.36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.78	0.36	0.65	0.55	1	0.49	0.25
Firm14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.74	0.27	0.42	0.38	0.49	1	0.86
Firm15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.54	0.08	0.39	0.33	0.25	0.86	1

Network fully redrawn each year. Small and large changes observable. We find massive annual change. 30% of peers this year are not next year! SIC-code peers are nearly 100% persistent.

# Consequence 2: Can model product diff. & entry threats



Complete information about product differentiation.  
 Positive but lower similarities indicate scope for entry & synergies.

# Validation is Strong. Superior signal on profitability and stock returns

## TNIC Industry Classifications

Adjusted RSQ: various characteristics

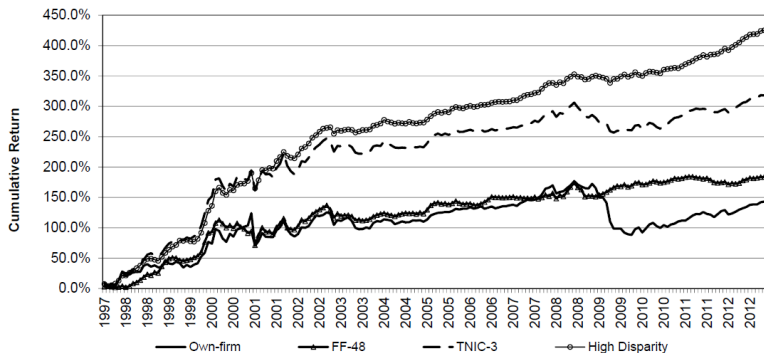
Dependent Variable	SIC3 Fixed Eff.	SIC3 Ind.-Yr Avg	NAICS 4 Fixed Eff.	10-K based Fixed Eff.	10-K FIC Ind.-Yr Avg	10-K based TNIC
Operating Income/Sales	28.4%	31.2%	28.7%	32.7%	37.2%	45.8%
Adver./Sales	4.1%	8.4%	6.1%	7.1%	16.9%	27.2%
Market Beta	9.6%	15.3%	9.7%	10.4%	15.7%	24.5%

Conclude: Reduces error in variables problem with industry controls

1) Benefits most substantial when complete intransitive network is used

Not only is TNIC more general in modeling of market structure. It is 50% more informative than SIC! Validation is critical.

# Much Stronger Momentum Stock Returns



\*SIC-code momentum weak out after Moskowitz and Grinblatt (1999).

\*Even basic TNIC momentum strategies reliably profitable.

\*See Hoberg and Phillips JFQA (forthcoming).

# Section III: Market Structure Research Impact and Uses

**Section I:** Market Structure PAST

**Section II:** Market Structure PRESENT

**Section III: Impact and Uses**

**Section IV:** Market Structure FUTURE

**Section V:** Using Text to Model Innovation

# TNIC data available on the web since 2010



The Hoberg and Phillips Text Based Industry Classifications have a spatial representation. All firms have a location in a product market space shaped as a unit sphere. Competitive product markets are areas of the sphere where many firms are located. Concentrated areas are sparsely populated.

Some regions of the product space have no firms residing there, as some text descriptions of products would describe products with no demand, such as the word combination: "eggs", "paint" and "gardening".

The best way to tap the full research power of this product market grid is to use the Text-based Network Industry Classifications (TNIC), which is

## Welcome to the Hoberg-Phillips Data Library

<< NEW: All TNIC and Fluidity data now extended through 2015! >>

<< Also, more granular TNIC data is also available >>

Data provided by [Gerard Hoberg \(USC\)](#)  
and [Gordon Phillips \(Dartmouth\)](#)

[Text-based Network Industry Classifications \(TNIC\) data](#) [\[click here\]](#)

\* These new industry classifications are based on firm pairwise similarity scores from text analysis of firm 10K product descriptions. Competitors are firm centric with having its own distinct set of competitors - analogous to networks or a "Facebook" circle of friends. These new industry classifications are updated annually and offer research flexibility, and are also more informative, than FIC (fixed industry) classifications such as SIC, NAICS, and the 10-K based FIC classifications below. Our research shows they sharply improve upon SIC and NAICS codes in explaining many different firm specific decisions, including firm profitability, Tobins Q and dividends. These are outlined in Hoberg and Phillips (2010, 2016), with references available by clicking on above link.

[Industry Concentration and Total Similarity Data](#) [\[click here\]](#)

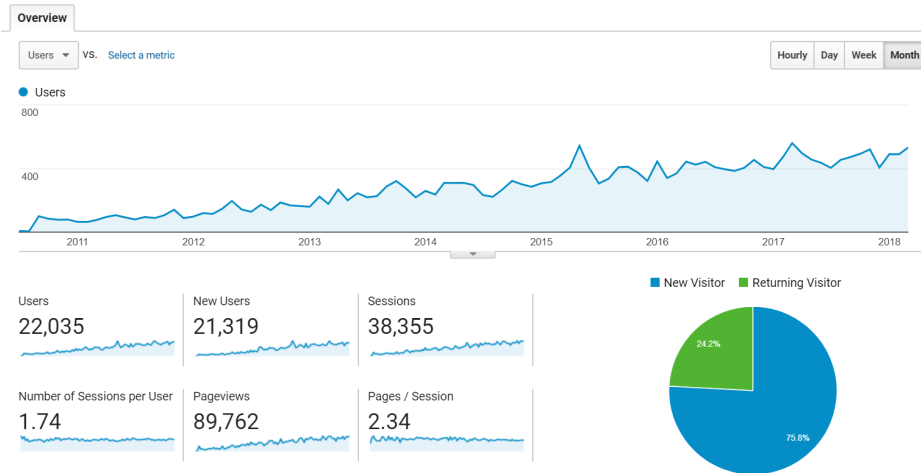
\* HHI Concentration metrics and Total Similarity data is available based on TNIC Industries.

[Product Market Fluidity Data](#) [\[click here\]](#)

\* Product Market Fluidity data assesses the degree of competitive threat and product market change surrounding a firm, and is based on Hoberg, Phillips and Prabhakar (2014).

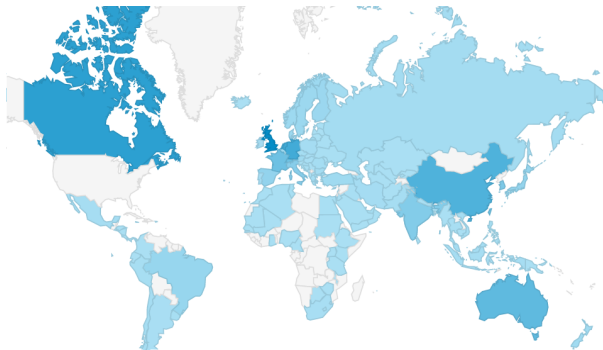
Now at: [www.marshall.usc.edu/industrydata](http://www.marshall.usc.edu/industrydata)

# Monthly volume steadily increasing



Now roughly 500 visitors per month. 22,000 total since inception.

# Users are global!

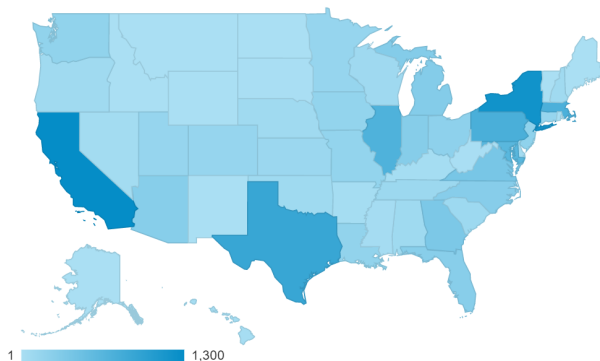


Country ?	Users ? ↓
1.  United States	<b>11,863</b> (52.80%)
2.  United Kingdom	<b>1,170</b> (5.21%)
3.  Hong Kong	<b>1,037</b> (4.62%)
4.  Canada	<b>897</b> (3.99%)
5.  Netherlands	<b>748</b> (3.33%)
6.  Germany	<b>737</b> (3.28%)
7.  China	<b>646</b> (2.88%)
8.  Australia	<b>534</b> (2.38%)
9.  France	<b>424</b> (1.89%)
10.  Switzerland	<b>420</b> (1.87%)

\*Switzerland is ranked 99th in population but ranks 10th on TNIC website visits! That beats Japan, Italy, and India!

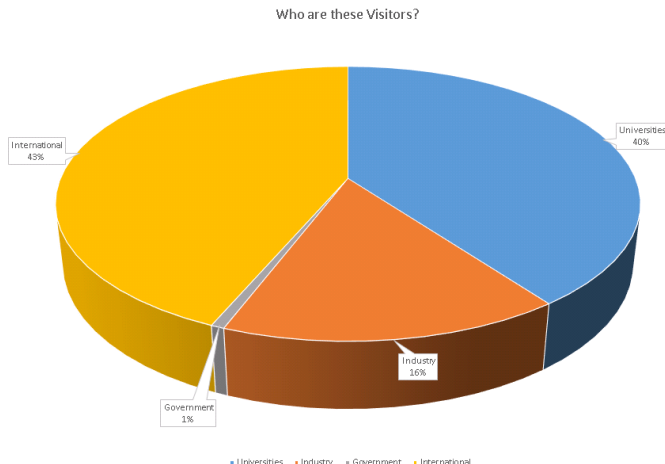


# Visitors hail from all 50 states



Yes, even North Dakota!

# Who are these users?



- \* Not just for academic research!
- \* Industry users mostly I-banks, hedge funds, & tech firms.

# Section IV: Market Structure FUTURE

**Section I:** Market Structure PAST

**Section II:** Market Structure PRESENT

**Section III:** Impact and Uses

**Section IV: Market Structure FUTURE**

**Section V:** Using Text to Model Innovation

# Maximizing TNIC's Signal w/ Recent NLP Advances

- Semantic relatedness can improve power beyond cosine similarities.
- Embedding technologies showing strong promise in pilot study.
- Latent Dirichlet Allocation not recommended for economic reasons.

\* New improved TNIC models coming soon. Stay tuned!

# Major Expansion to Private Firms

## Current Researchers



Craig Knoblock  
Director & Research



Pedro Stocker  
Project Leader & Re.



Gerard Hoberg  
Professor of Finance



Gordon Phillips  
C.V. Starr Foundation



Jay Pajara  
Computer Scientist



Bharat Pulevarli  
MS Student



Rahul Gupta  
MS Student



Shashyam Madiga  
MS Student



Gourang Riaz  
MS Student



Sunil Muralidhara  
MS Student

2 PI's from B-School  
2 PI's from Comp Sci (Viterbi)  
1 Newly added Viterbi PhD


5 Masters Students in Comp Sci  
1 Undergraduate RA

**WTNIC**

Web Text-based Network Industry Classifications

*Center on Knowledge Graphs*

*Information Sciences Institute*

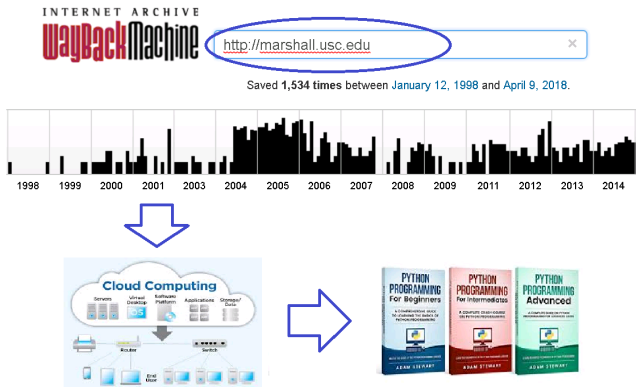
 **USC** University of Southern California



We thank the National Science Foundation!  
\$500,000 Grant  
Joint B-School & USC's Viterbi School (ISI)

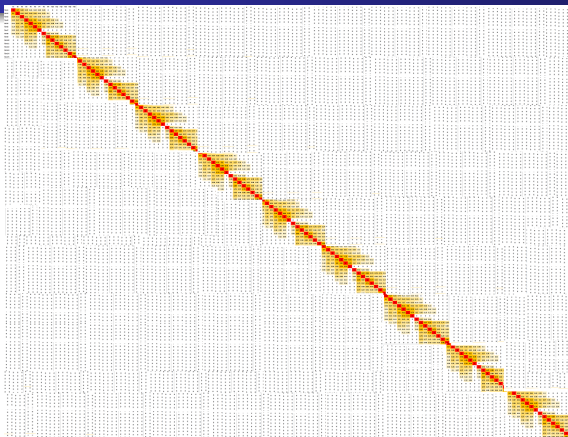
Joint NSF-funded research b/t B-School and Comp Sci Researchers.

# Get Annual Snapshots of 800,000 Private Firm Websites



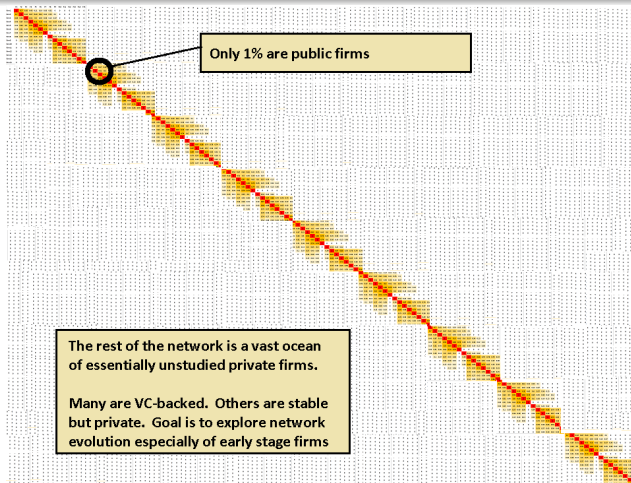
(1) Gather and process web pages, (2) extract product market text, (3) store on cloud, and (4) code up scalable NLP to compute network.

# Very large network



- \* 18 years and 800,000 firms. Time varying and intransitive non-binary network.
- \* Use of standard similarity methods not feasible.
- \* Use scalable sparse technologies and dimensionality reductions (embeddings).

# Private firms are just very numerous

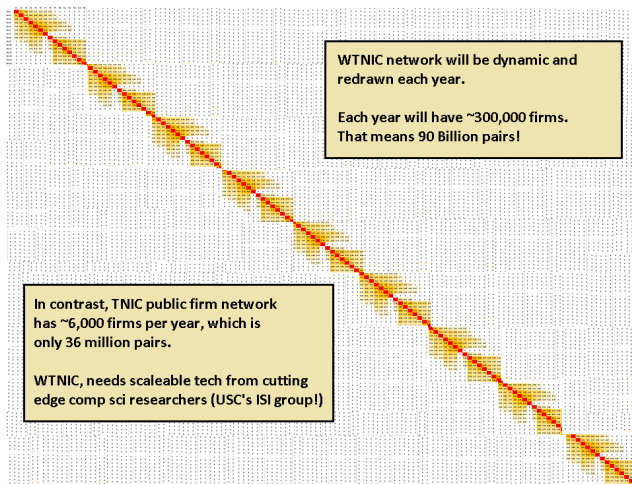


Standard TNIC will be dwarfed by WTNIC.

Understanding private firm entry and evolution invaluable to corporate managers, investors, and researchers.



# Excellent Progress on WTNIC Execution



Alpha version of network only 3-6 months away!

# Section V: Using Text to Model Innovation

**Section I:** Market Structure PAST

**Section II:** Market Structure PRESENT

**Section III:** Impact and Uses

**Section IV:** Market Structure FUTURE

**Section V: Using Text to Model Innovation**

# Innovation: Patent Markets

## Bowen, Fresard and Hoberg (2018)

- > 8 million patents since 1900. Text structure: abstract – description – claim

Google Patents

Method for node ranking in a linked database

**Abstract**

A method assigns importance ranks to nodes in a linked database, such as any database of documents containing citations, the world wide web or any other hypermedia database. The rank assigned to a document is calculated from the ranks of documents citing it. In addition, the rank of a document is calculated from a constant representing the probability that a browser through the database will randomly jump to the document. The method is particularly useful in enhancing the performance of search engine results for hypermedia databases, such as the world wide web, whose documents have a large variation in quality.

**Images (4)**

**Classifications**

G06F17/30884 Retrieval from the internet, e.g. browsers by querying, e.g. search engines or meta-search engines, crawling techniques, push systems

**US6285999B1**  
US Grant

Download PDF Find Prior Art

**Inventor:** Lawrence Page  
**Current Assignee:** Leland Stanford Junior University, Google LLC  
**Original Assignee:** Leland Stanford Junior University  
**Priority date:** 1997-01-10

**Family: US (10)**

Date	App/Pub Number	Status
1998-01-09	US99004827	Expired-Lifetime
2001-09-04	US6285999B1	Grant
Show 8 more applications		
2012	US73616965	Expired-Lifetime

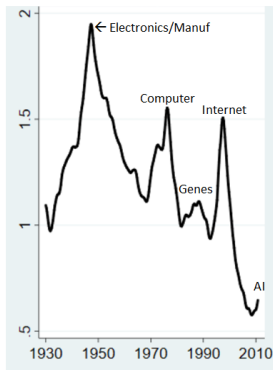
\*Firms compete to develop technology. Rich textual form indicates a spherical mapping similar to TNIC.

\*Highly volatile data structure, but crucial to our economic future.

# Technological Disruption Declining since WW II?

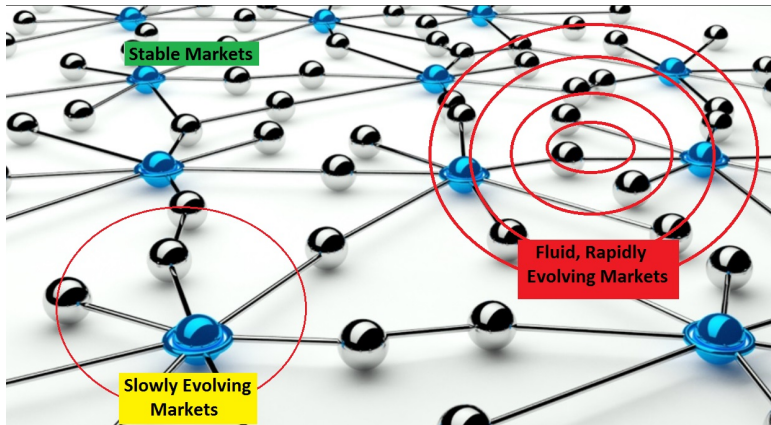
Breakthrough innovations Declining?

Technological Disruptiveness (rapidly growing vocab) vs Time



- Many temporary spikes
- They don't persist!
- Pervasive low frequency decline since WW II
- BFH (2018): this explains part of decline in IPOs

# Technology Development vs Product Development



\*HPP (2014JF) examines rate of change of vocabulary in firm 10-Ks (product market fluidity).

\*Increased fluidity indicates more agile rivals and direct threats.

\*Firms respond by saving liquidity (more cash, fewer dividends).

# Conclusions

- Textual Network Industries (TNIC) was born on a PC in 2006.
- Stage 1 model of U.S. public firms completed in late 2008.
- Much completed research done following stage 1.
- Stage 2 expansion to U.S. private firms in 3-6 months.
- Work under way using same technologies on innovation data.
- Implications for optimizing corporate strategy, investors, researchers, regulators and more.