Observing the Global IPv4 Internet: What IP Addresses Show

John Heidemann[1]

[1]U. of Southern California / Information Sciences Institute and CS Dept.

and [2]Swathmore and [3]The College of New Jersey

joint work with Guillermo Baltra[1], Asma Enayet[1], Yuri Pradkin[1], Xiao Song[1], Erica Stutz[2,1]

prior contributors: Abdulla Alwabel[1], Ryan Bogutz[3,1], Aqib Nisar[1], Lin Quan[1]

2021-07-20

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The Internet is Important…

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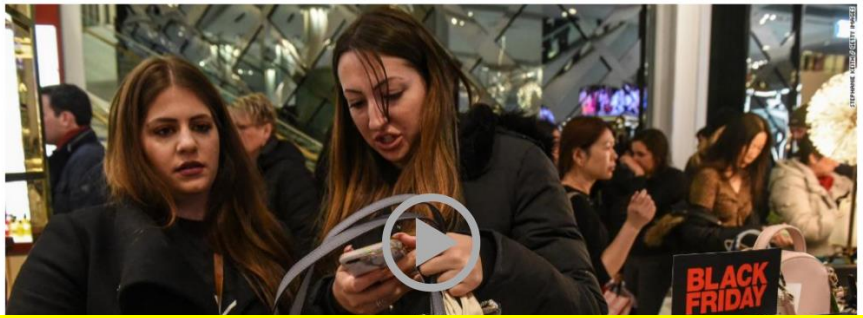
Holiday Shopping

Online sales boomed on Black Friday

by Jackie Wattles @jackiewattles

November 25, 2017: 5:47 PM ET



…record $5 billion [online sales] in 24 hours …

Black Friday 2017 was all about digital sales.

American shoppers spent a record $5 billion in 24 hours. That marks a 16.9% increase in dollars spent online compared with Black Friday 2016, according to data from Adobe Digital Insights, which tracks 80% of online spending at America's 100 largest retail websites.

Digital retail giant Amazon (AMZN, Tech30) said Friday that orders were rolling in "at record levels." More than 200,000 toys were sold in just the first five hours of the day, the company said. Amazon did not provide sales figures for Black Friday.

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This is How 10,000 Finding the Best Fir

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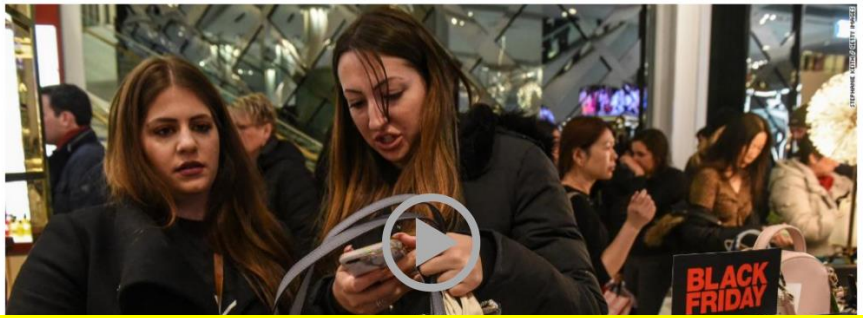

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Media flurry trends Mobile Apps

U.S. consumers now spend 5 hours per day on mobile de

Posted Mar 3, 2017 by Sarah Perez (@sarahintampa)

…5 hours/day on mobile, half on social media…

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Five hours per day is a 20 percent increase compared with the fourth quarter of 2015, and seems to come at the expense of mobile browser usage, which has dropped significantly over the years.

US Daily Mobile Time Spent

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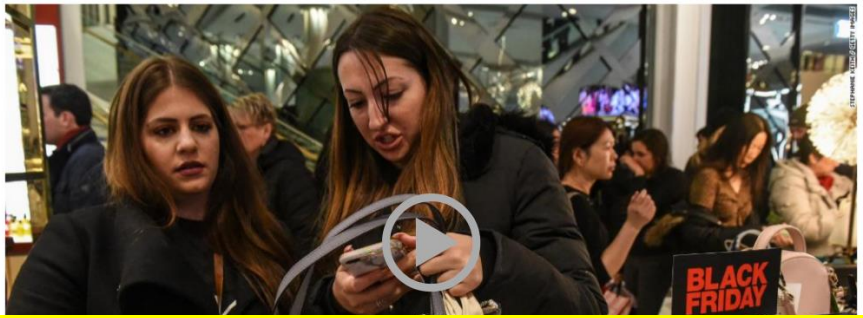

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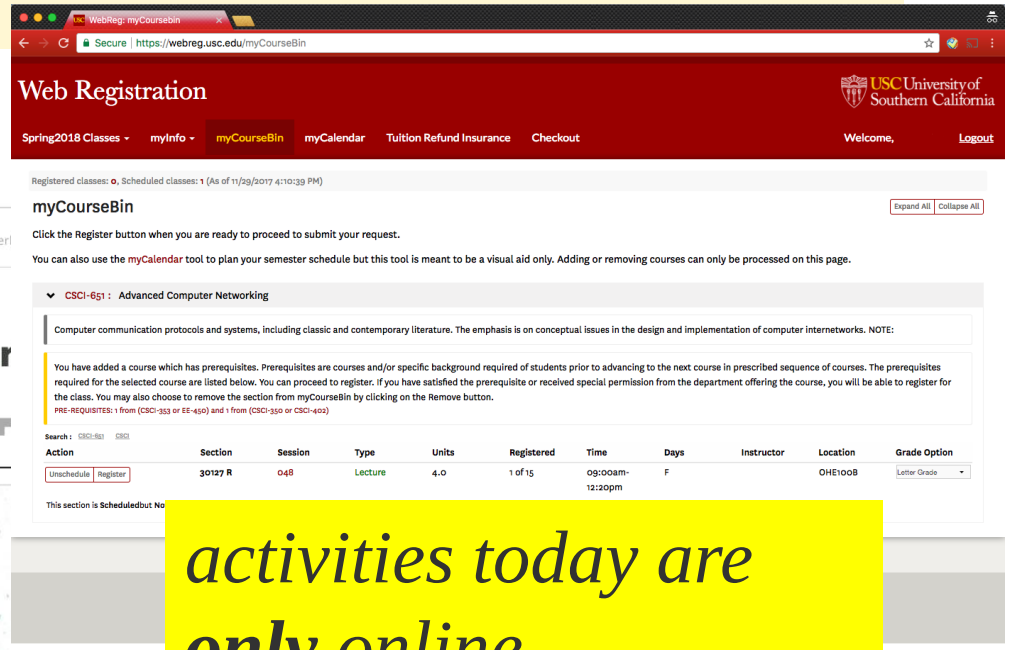


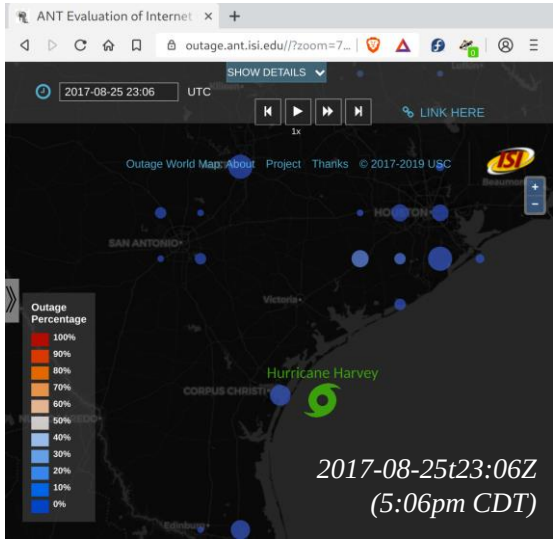
*activities today are **only** online*

The *World* Is Important

hurricanes, floods, fires, blizzards…

Hurricane Harvey,
August 2017

before landfall:
few outages



animation: (play)
https://ant.isi.edu/outage/ani/harvey/

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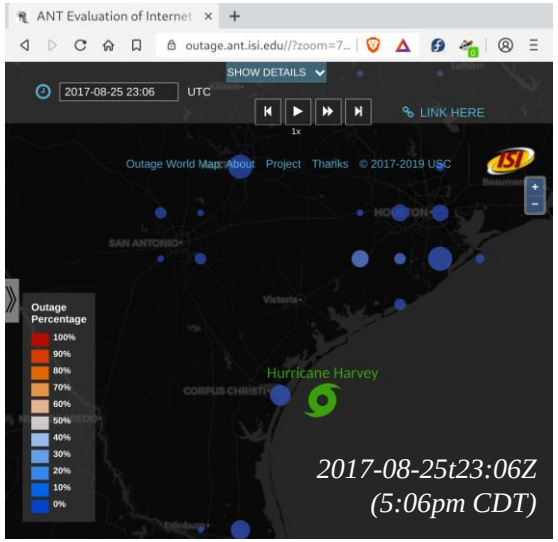
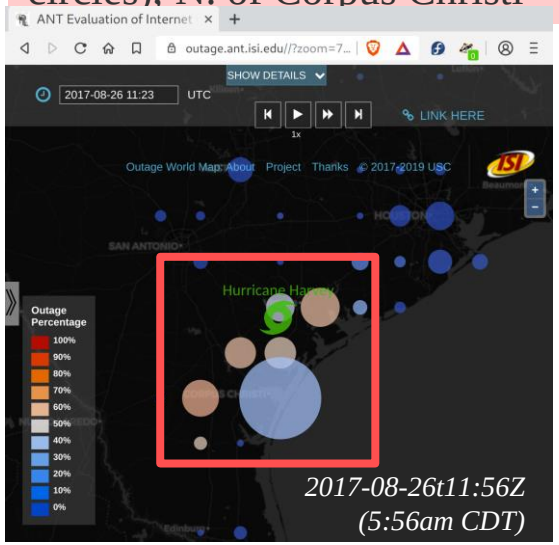


Harvey Landfall: 2017-08-26t03:00Z (10pm CDT)

serious outages (red circles), N. of Corpus Christi



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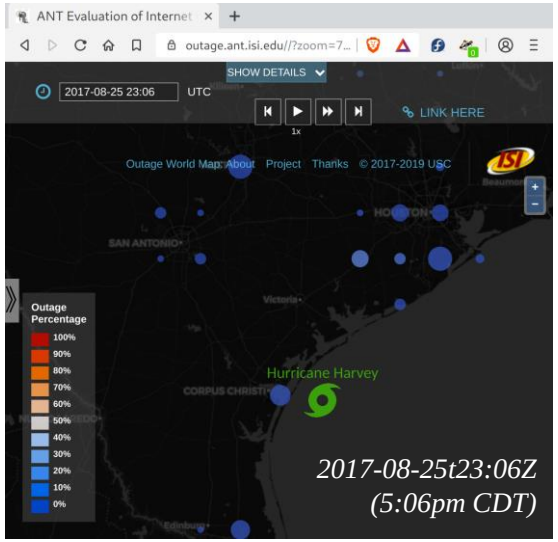

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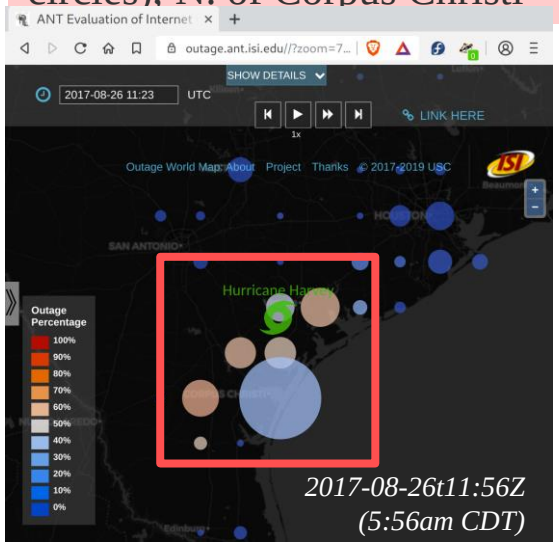
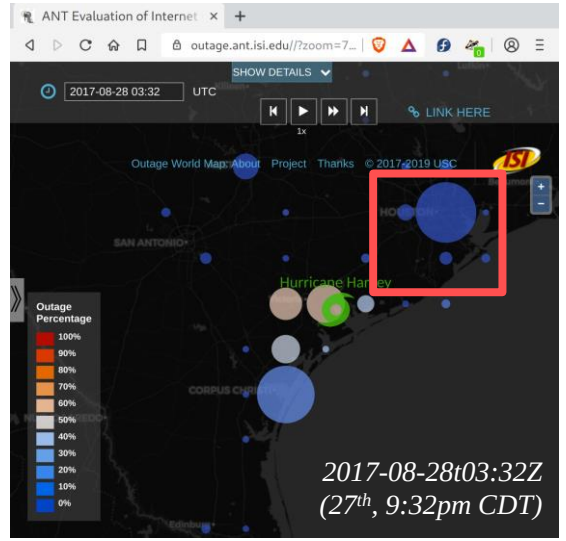
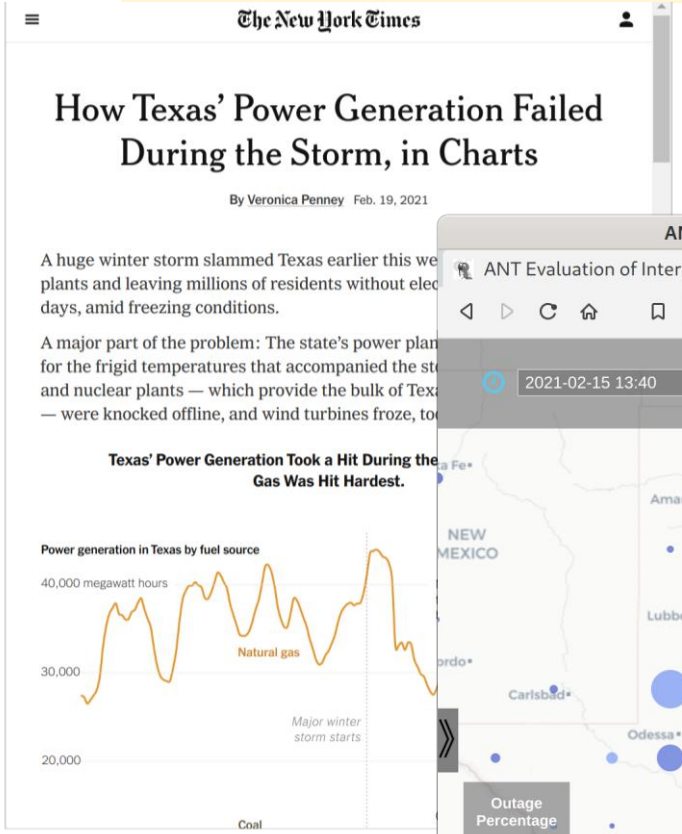
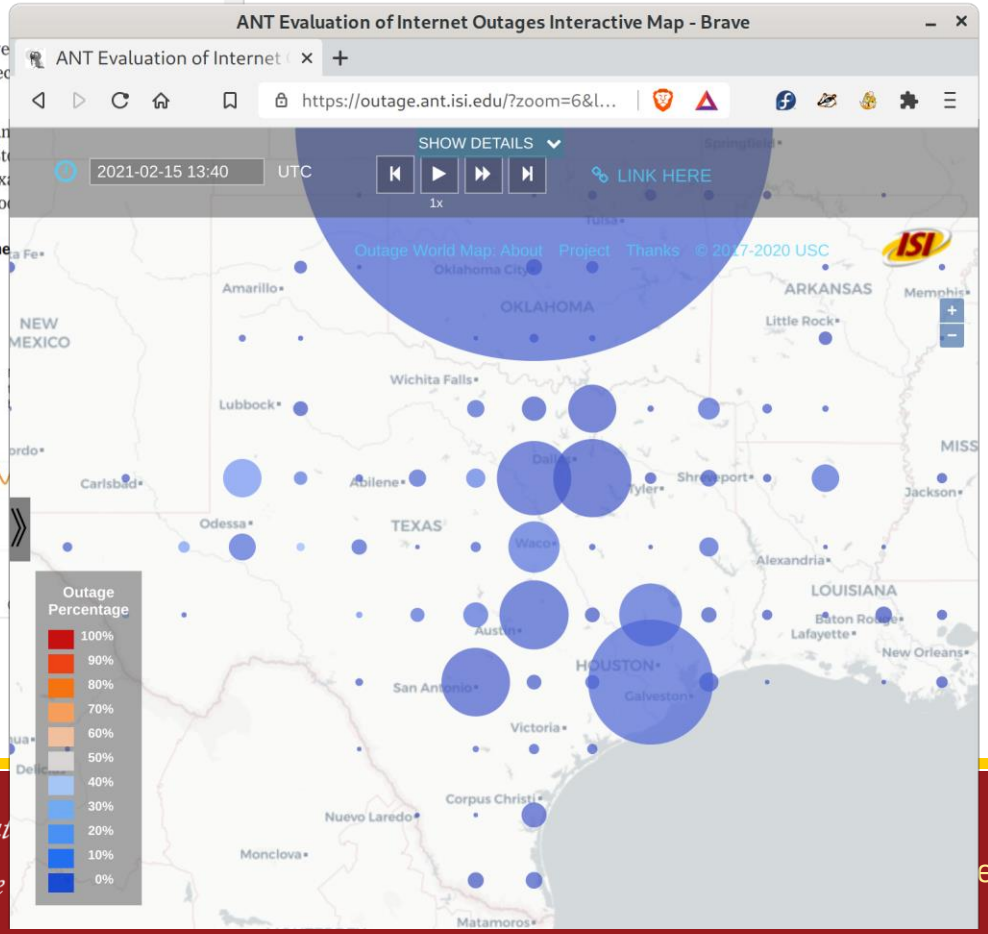


many outages (large circles), in Houston-flooding



Events are Changing the World





Events are Changing the World

The New York Times

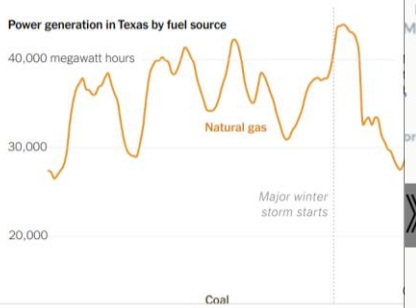
How Texas' Power Generation Failed During the Storm, in Charts

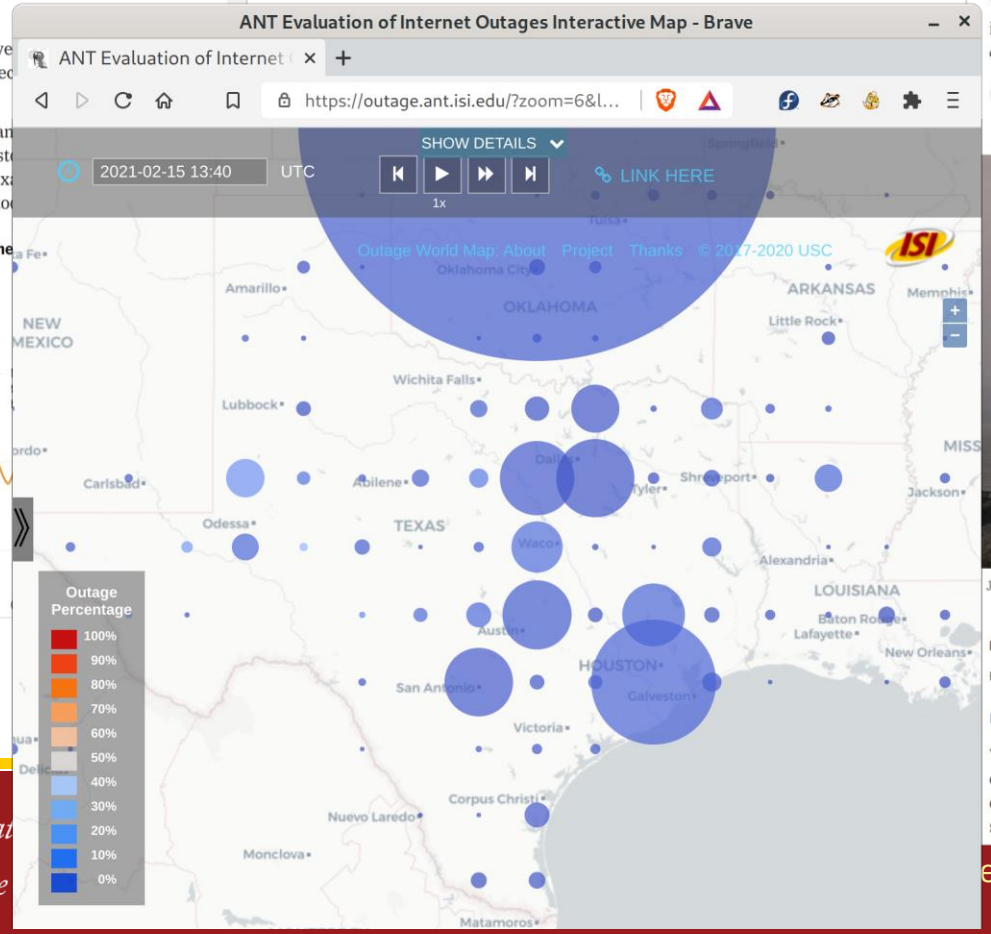
By Veronica Penney Feb. 19, 2021

A huge winter storm slammed Texas earlier this we
plants and leaving millions of residents without elec
days, amid freezing conditions.

A major part of the problem: The state's power plan
for the frigid temperatures that accompanied the st
and nuclear plants — which provide the bulk of Tex
— were knocked offline, and wind turbines froze, to

**Texas' Power Generation Took a Hit During the
Gas Was Hit Hardest.**



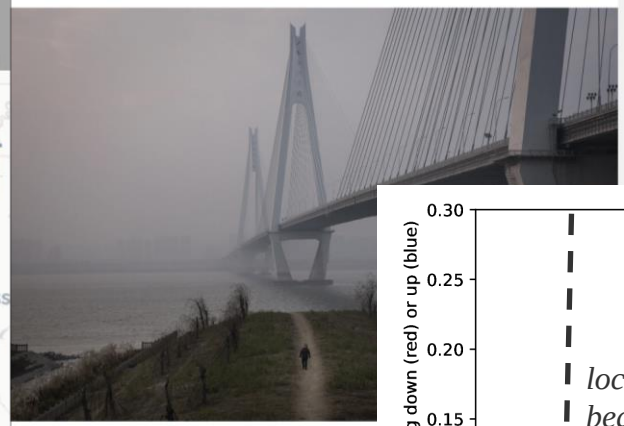


The New York Times

The Coronavirus Outbreak › LIVE Latest Updates Maps and Cases Risk in Los Angeles County

China Tightens Wuhan Lockdown in 'Wartime' Battle With Coronavirus

With infections doubling every four days and more than 600 deaths, China intensified its response in Wuhan, with house-to-house temperature checks and mass confinements at quarantine centers.



Jiangtan park in Wuhan, China, on Wednesday. Getty Images

By Amy Qin, Steven Lee Myers and Elaine Yu

Published Feb. 6, 2020 Updated Feb. 25, 2020

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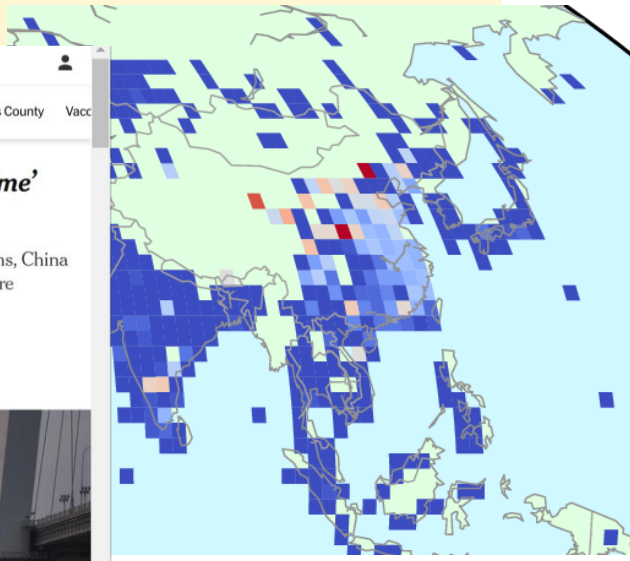
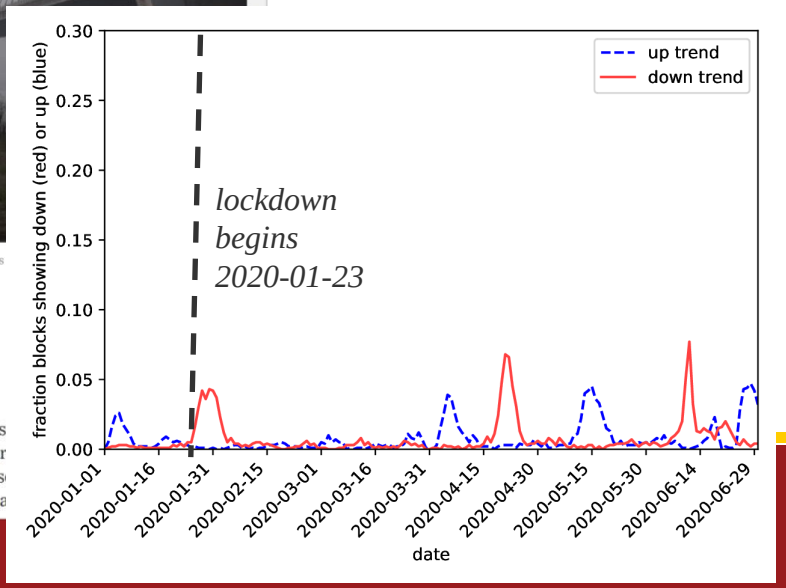
WUHAN, China — The Chinese authorities res
extreme measures in Wuhan on Thursday to tr
deadly coronavirus, ordering house-to-house s
sick and warehousing them in enormous quara





Countries Are Changing the World

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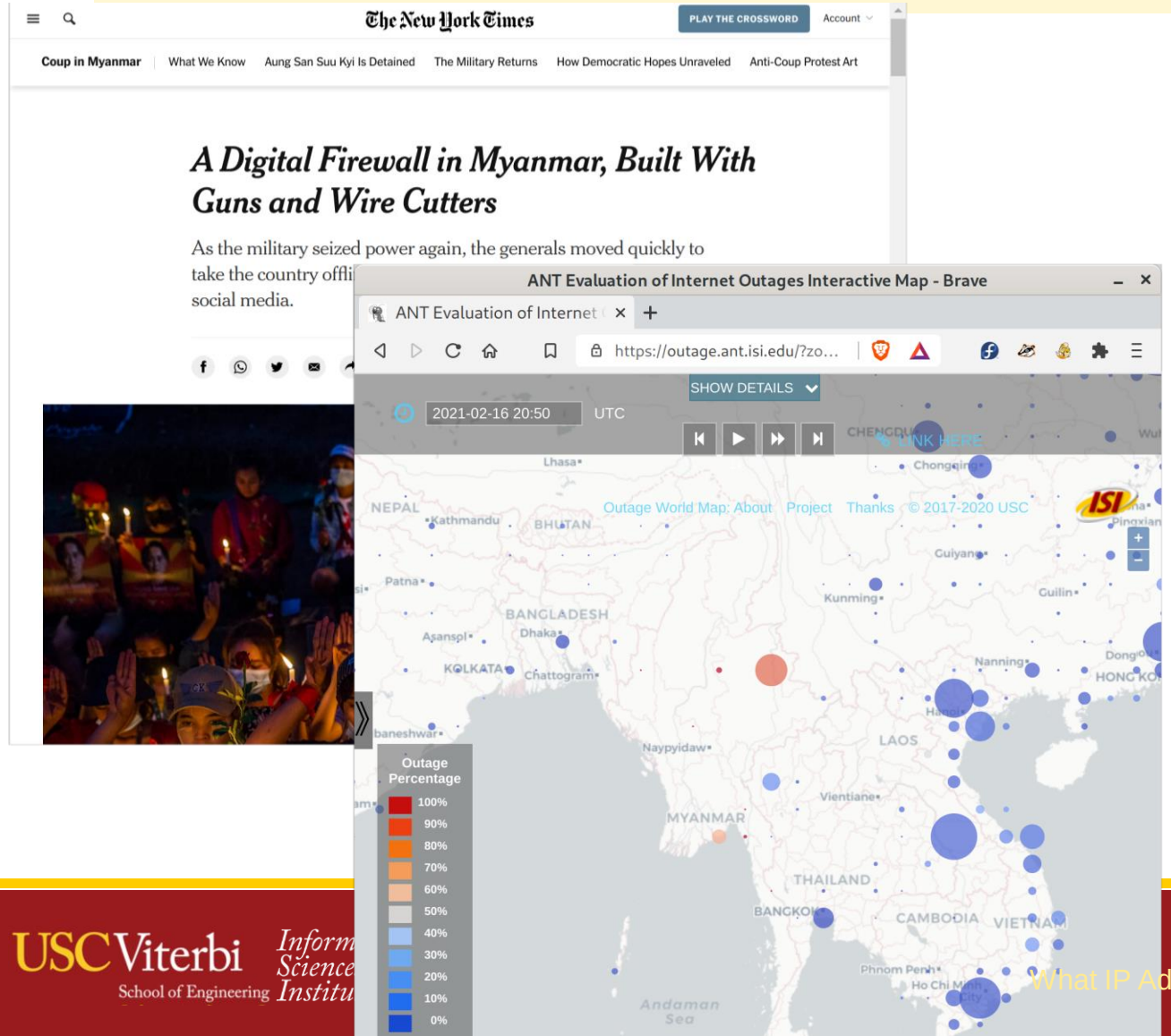

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A Digital Firewall in Myanmar, Built With Guns and Wire Cutters

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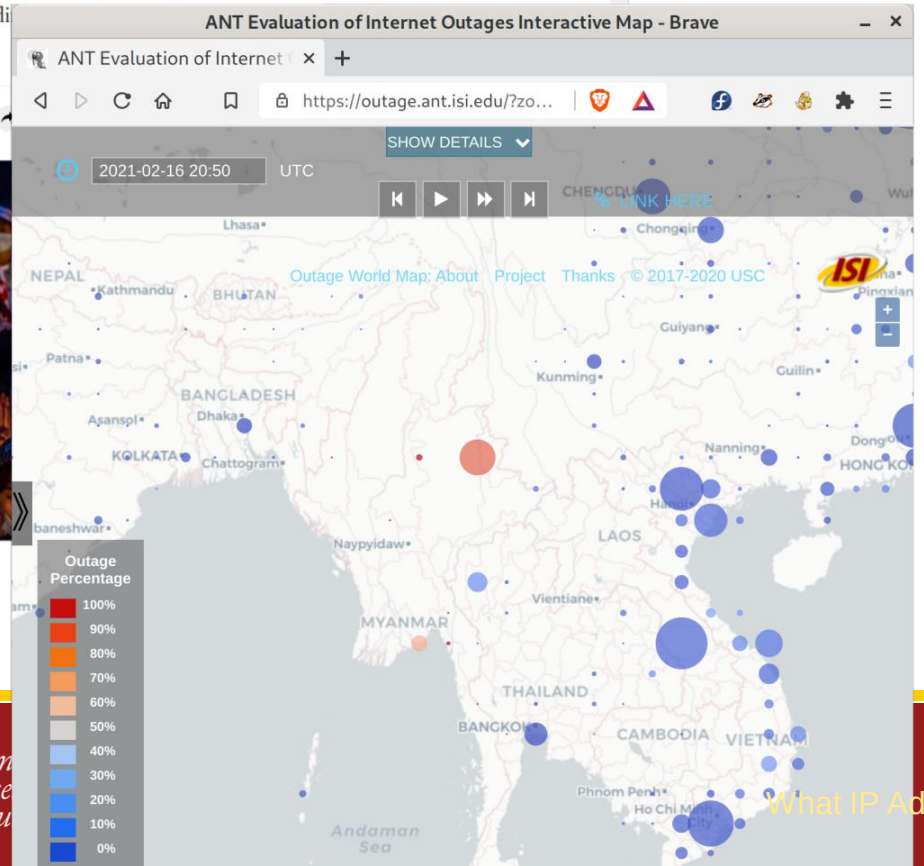
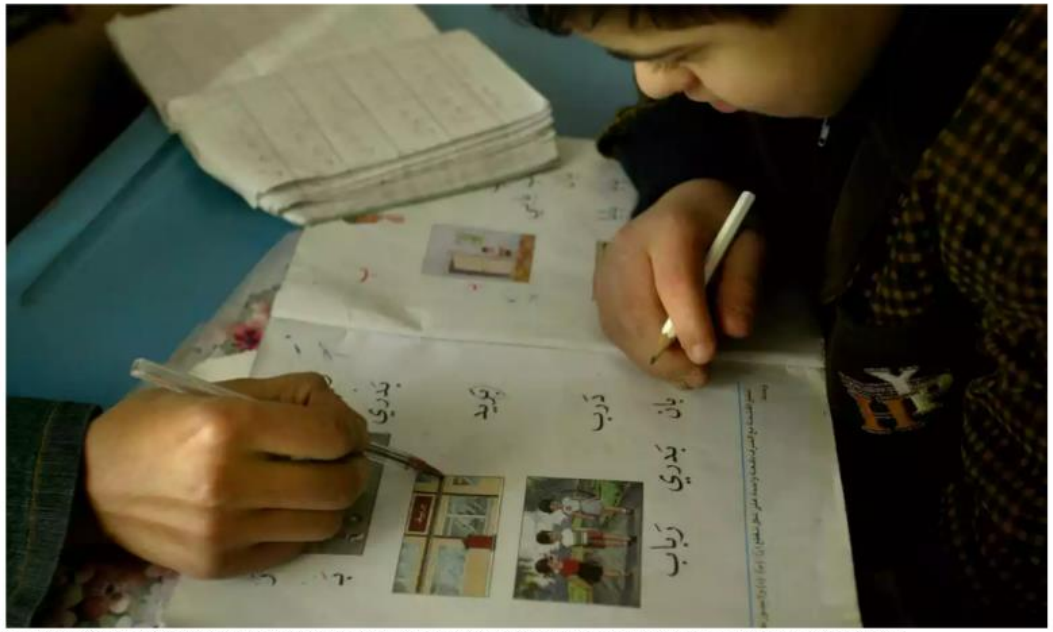


theguard

Iraq shuts down the internet to stop pupils cheating in exams

The Iraqi government cuts off fixed-line and mobile broadband services to discourage children from smuggling mobile phones into state tests



Shutting down the internet is an efficient way of discouraging internet-based cheating – but the move has been criticised by human rights campaigners. Photograph: Ghaith Abdul-Ahad/Getty Images

Samuel Gibbs

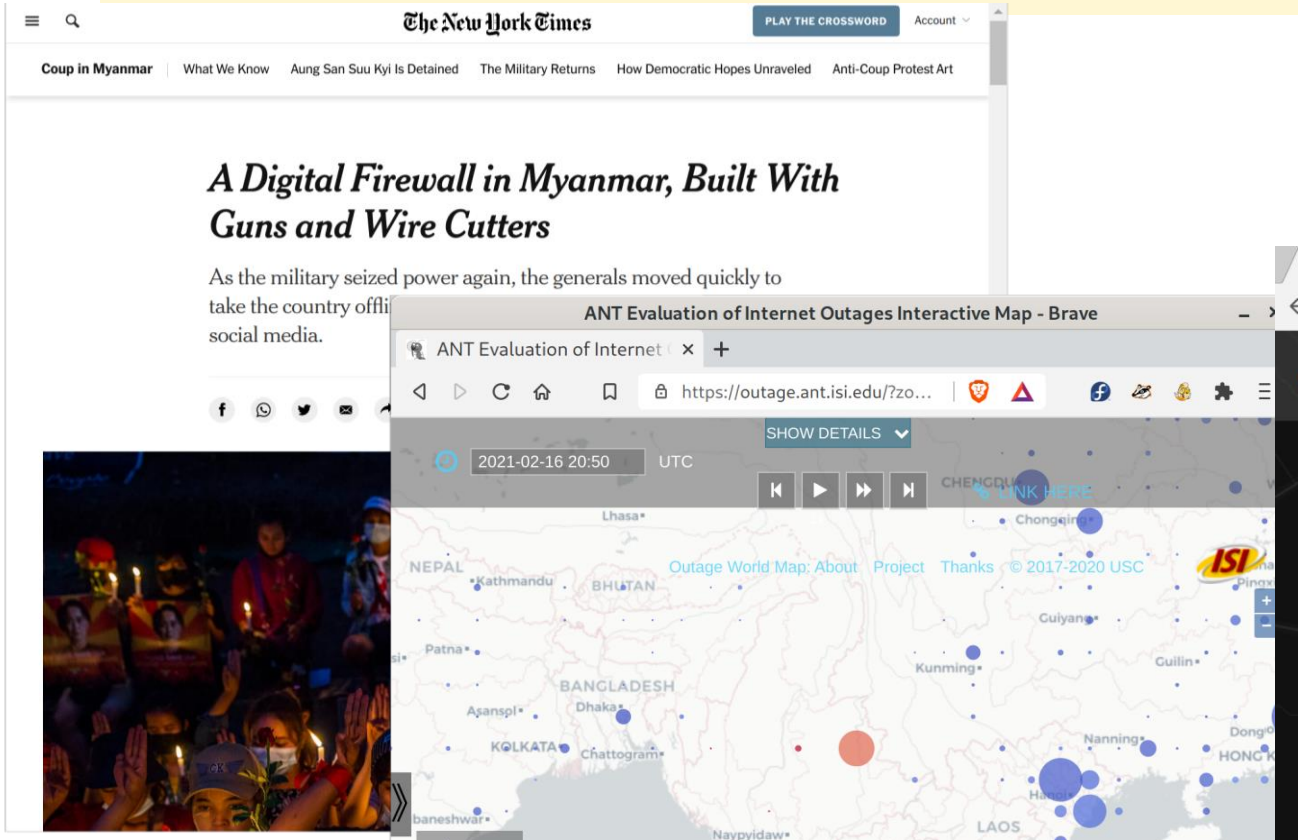
Wednesday 18 May 2016 06.43 EDT

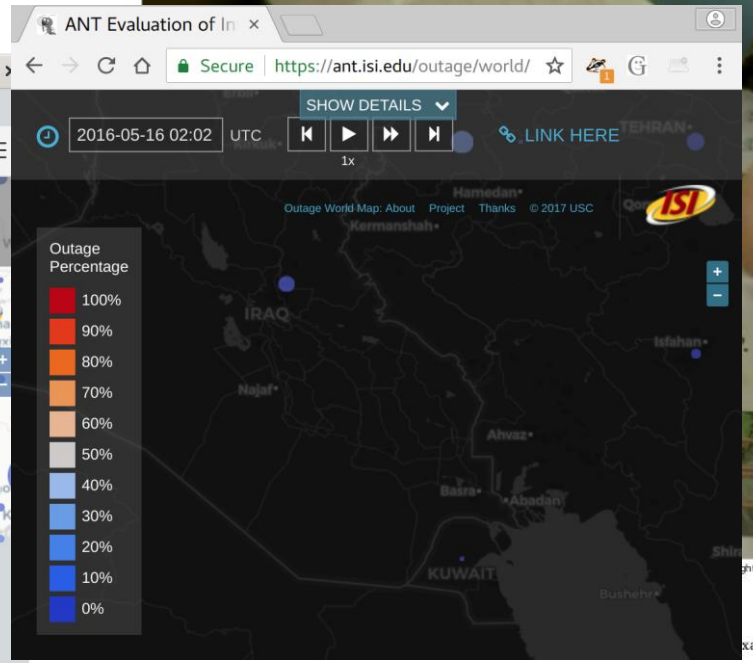
Iraq has been turning off the internet across the country to stop children cheating in exams.

Three separate three-hour disruptions to Iraqi internet services, were spotted by content delivery network Akamai and internet performance analysts Dyn Research, which coincided with the country's school exam periods. The blockade, which affected fixed-line and mobile broadband, was mandated by the Iraqi ministry of communication.

One Iraqi internet service provider (ISP), EarthLink, announced the 16 May blackout on its Facebook page. The company said: "As instructed by the Ministry of Communication, internet services will be cut off in all of Iraq during the time of exams from 5am until 8am for all companies across all provinces."

Countries Are Changing the World





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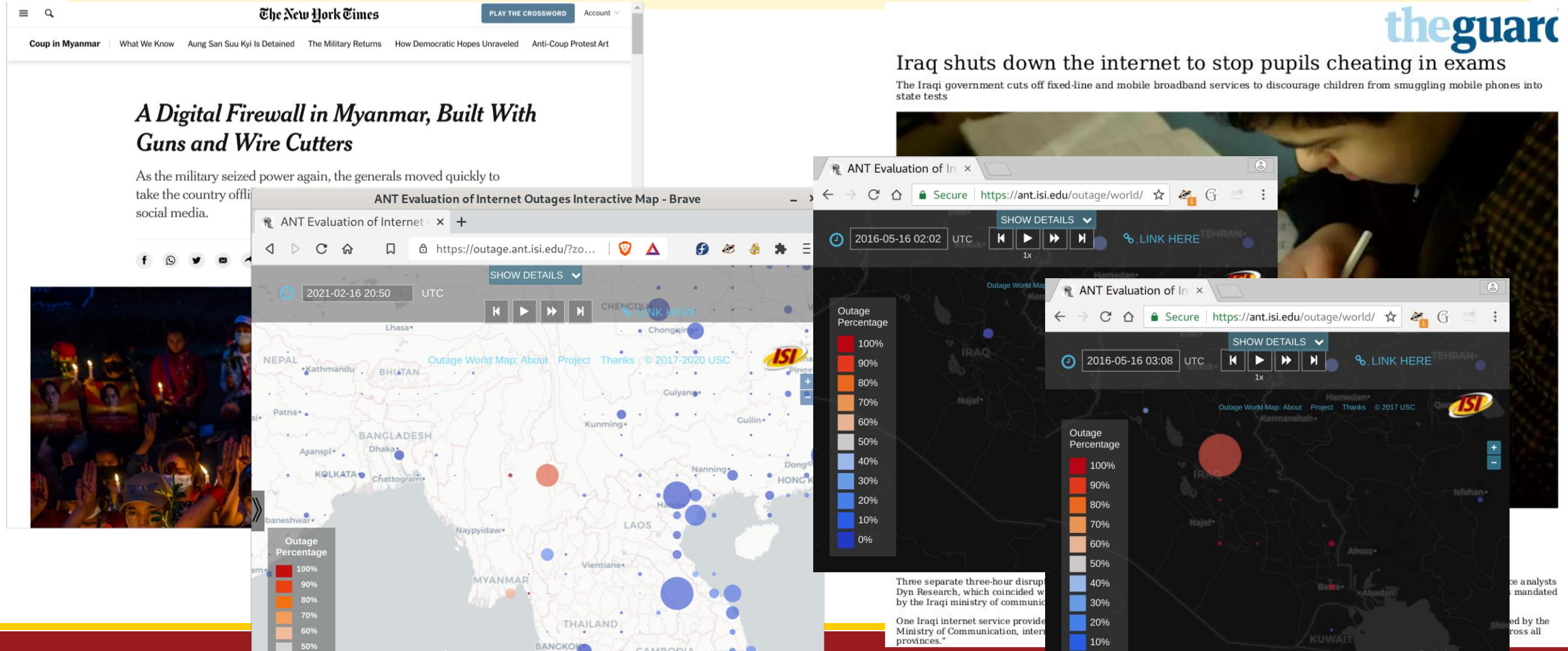

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ANT Evaluation of Internet Outages Interactive Map - Brave

ANT Evaluation of Internet

https://outage.ant.isi.edu/?zo...

SHOW DETAILS

2021-02-16 20:50 UTC

LINK HERE

Outage World Map: About Project Thanks © 2017-2020 USC

Outage Percentage
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%

theguard

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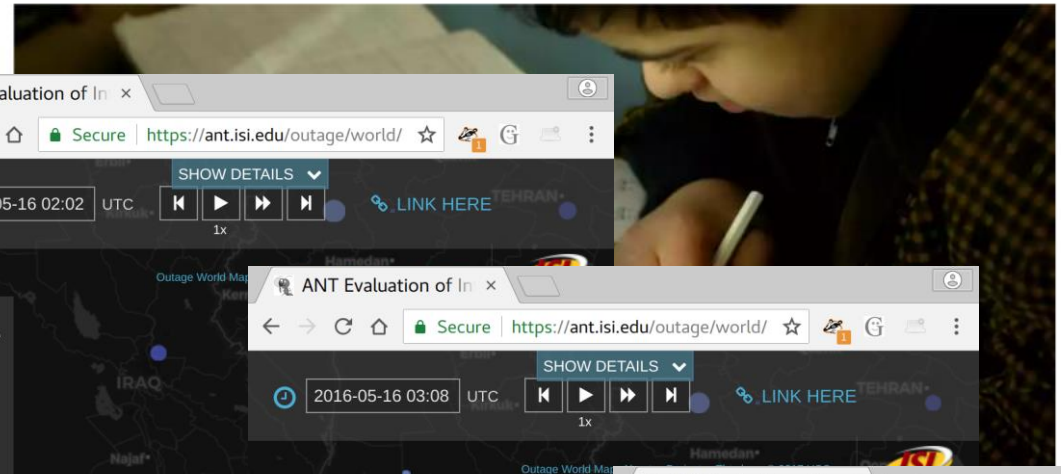

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by the Iraqi ministry of communic

One Iraqi internet service provide
Ministry of Communication, inter
provinces."

ANT Evaluation of In

Secure https://ant.isi.edu/outage/world/

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2016-05-16 02:02 UTC

LINK HERE

1x

Outage World Map: About Project Thanks

Outage Percentage
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%

ANT Evaluation of In

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2016-05-16 03:08 UTC

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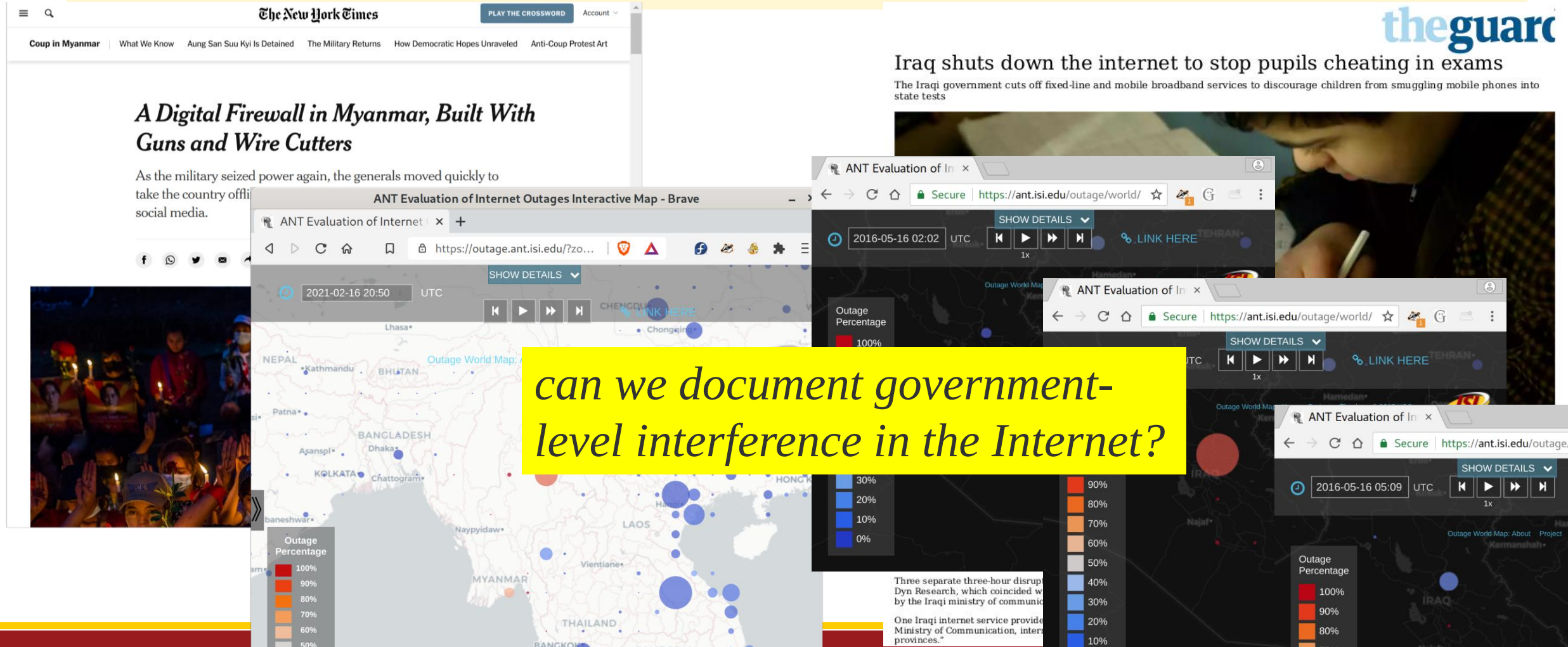

can we document government-level interference in the Internet?

Network Reliability Matters *Now*

in the Internet, in the world, and how they connect…

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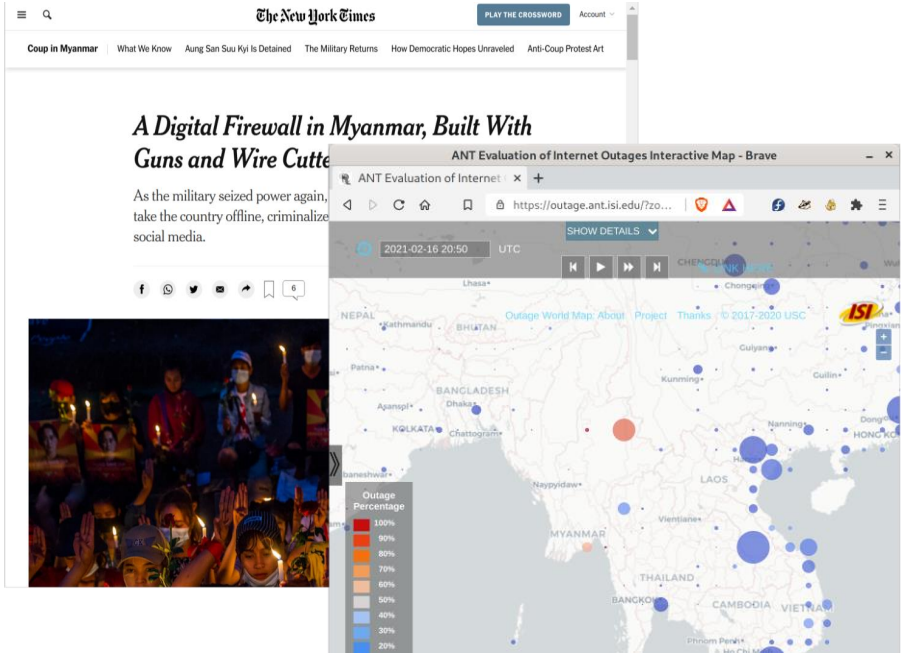

communication without
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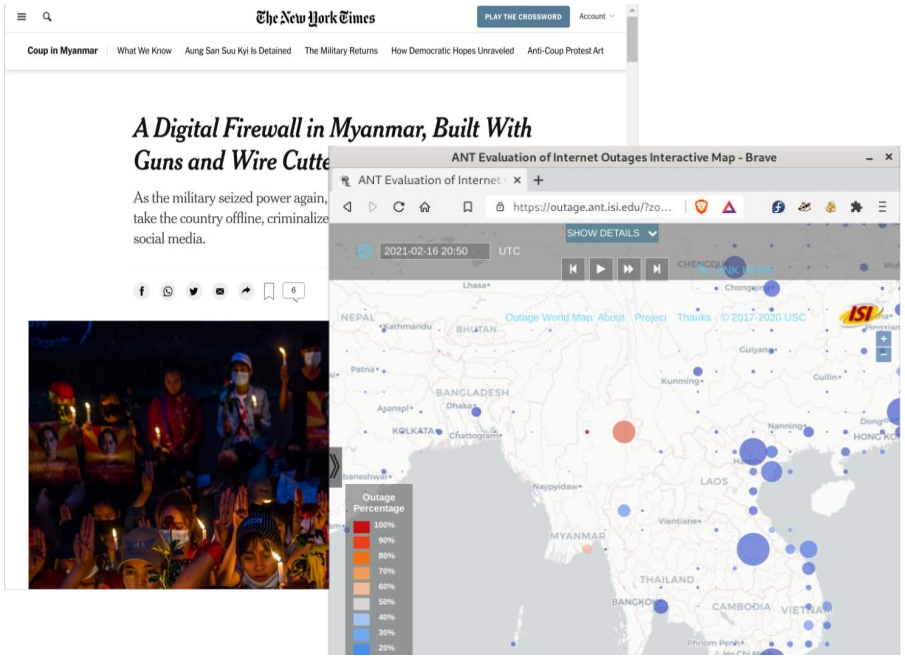

communication without
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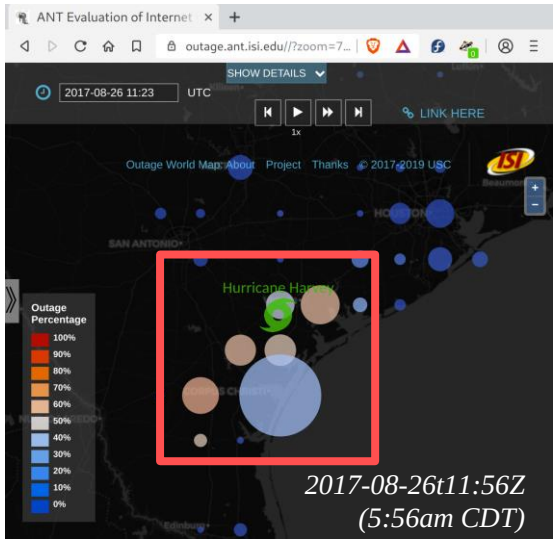
Harvey Landfall: 2017-08-26t03:00Z (10pm CDT)



speedy **physical recovery**
to natural disasters

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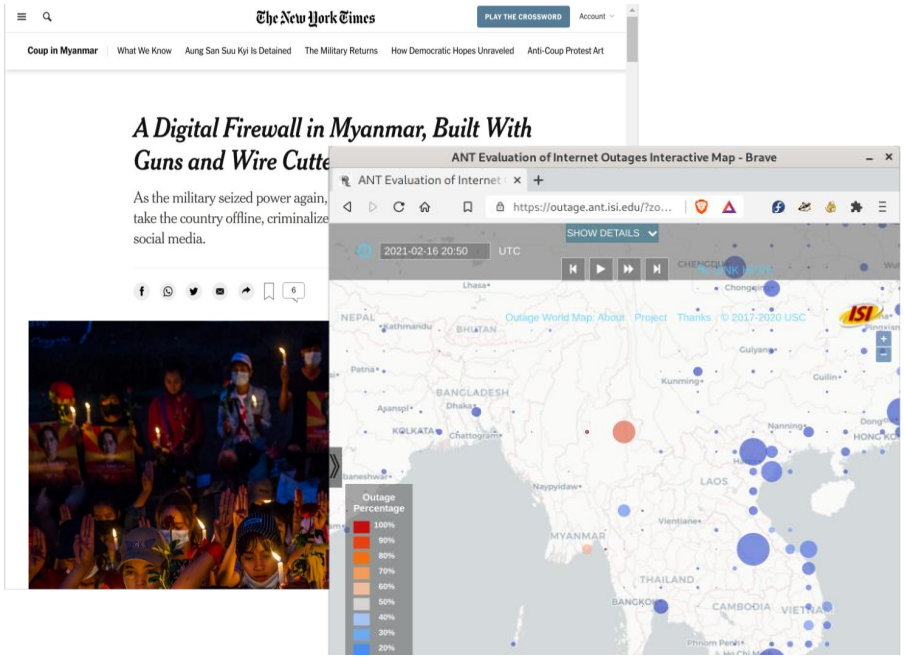

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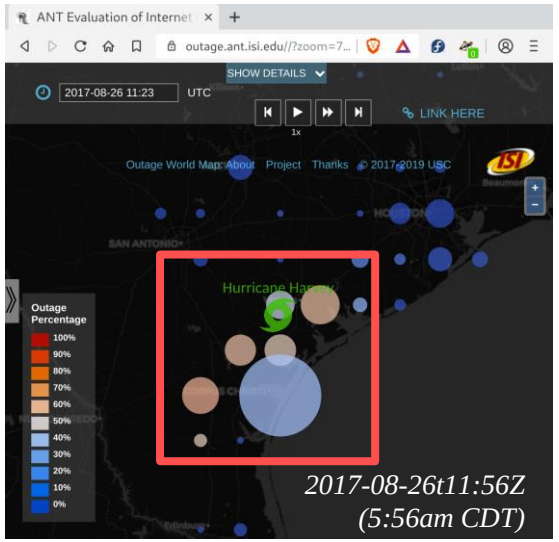

speedy **physical recovery to natural disasters**

CDNs with **choices where to serve customers**

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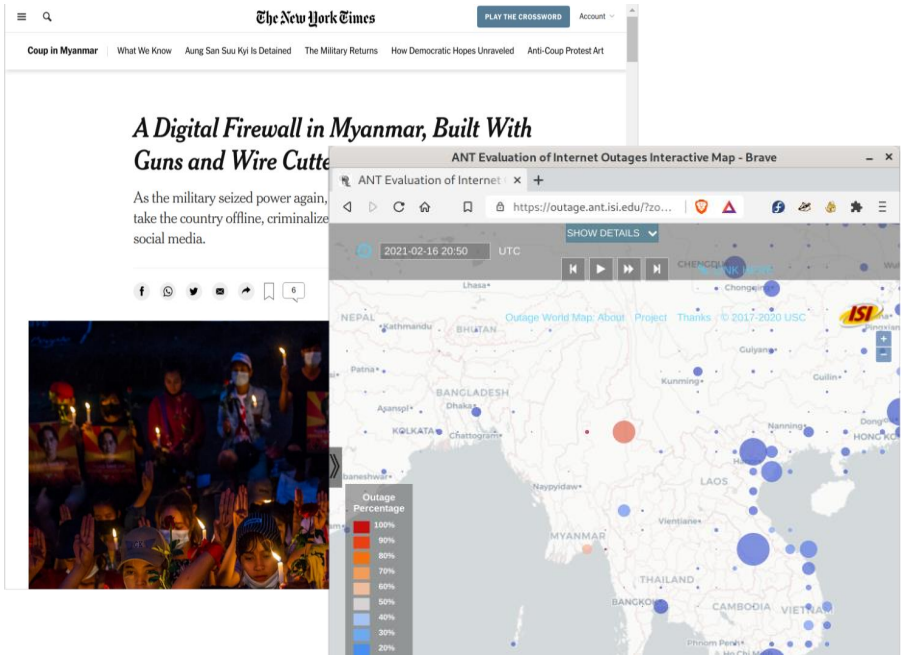

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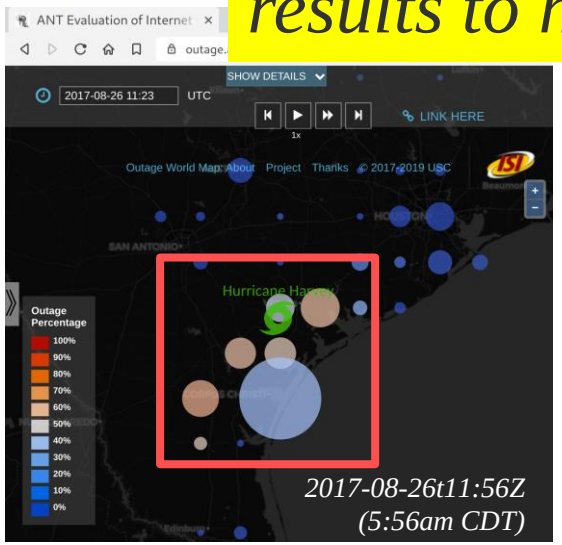
can we provide near-real-time results to help response?



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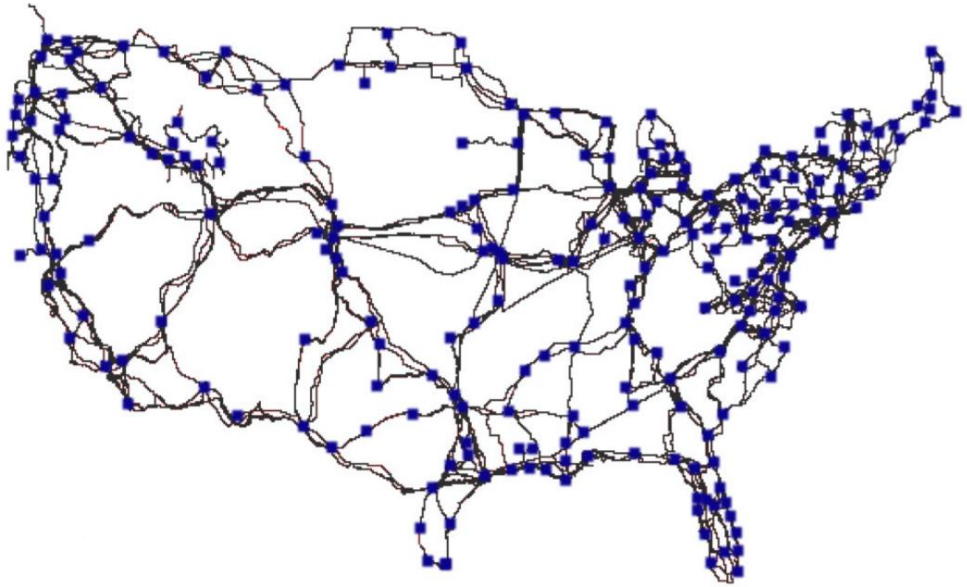
Network Reliability Can Improve *Tomorrow*



Physical conduits used by the U.S. Internet.

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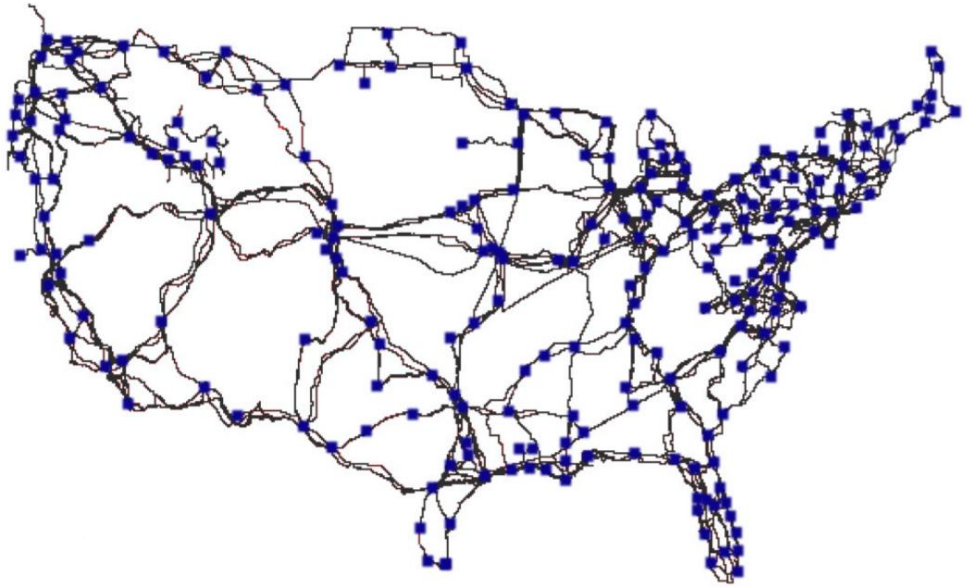

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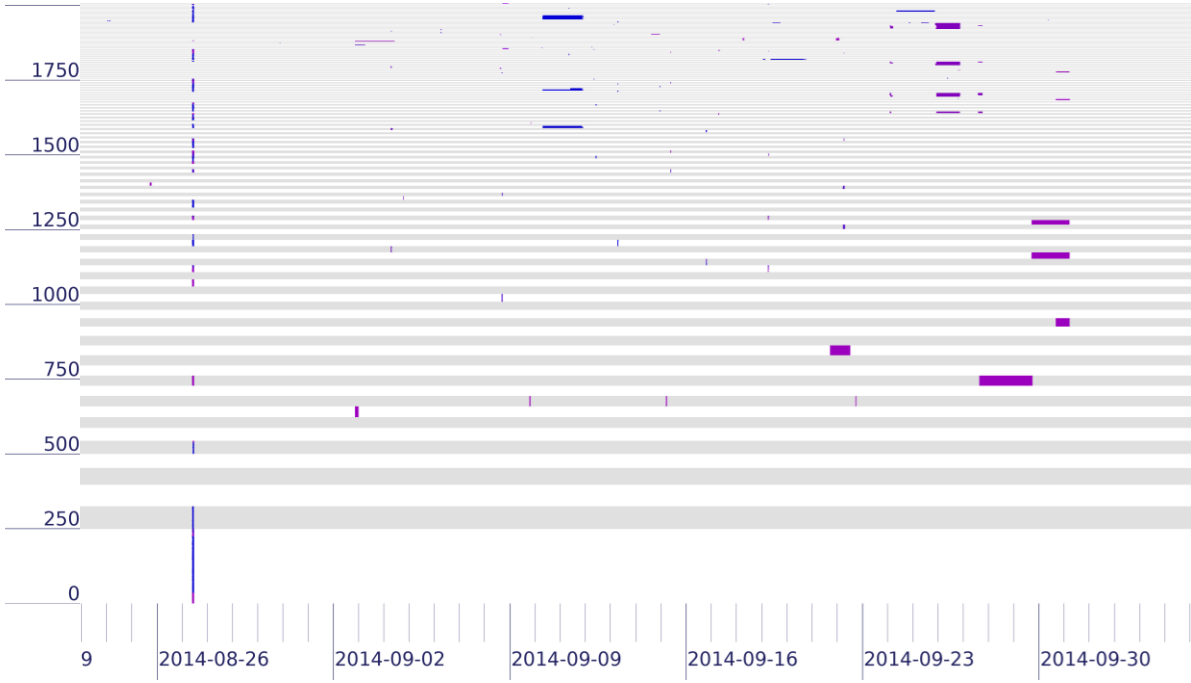
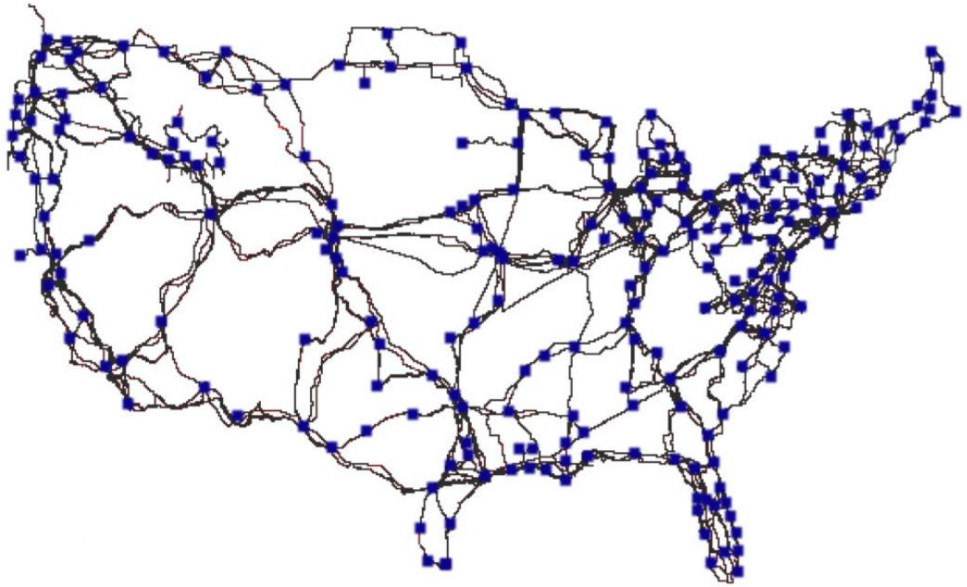


Clustering algorithms discovering Time Warner’s network from their Sept. 2014 outage.

Network Reliability Can Improve *Tomorrow*



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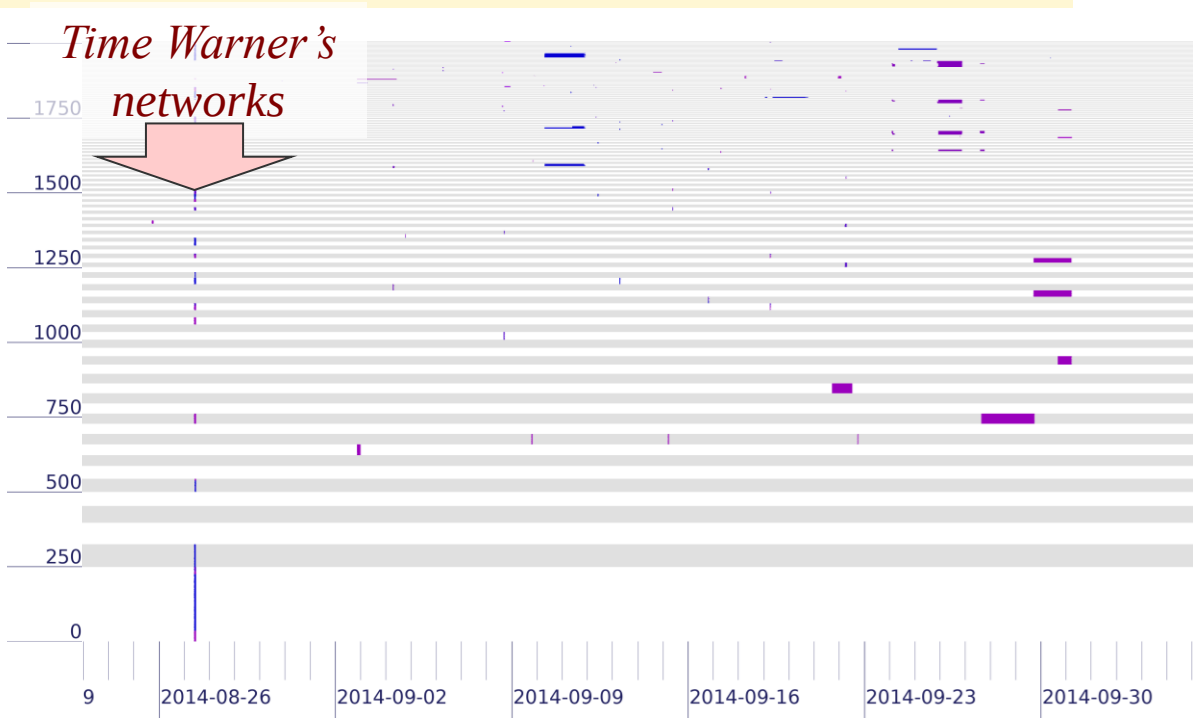

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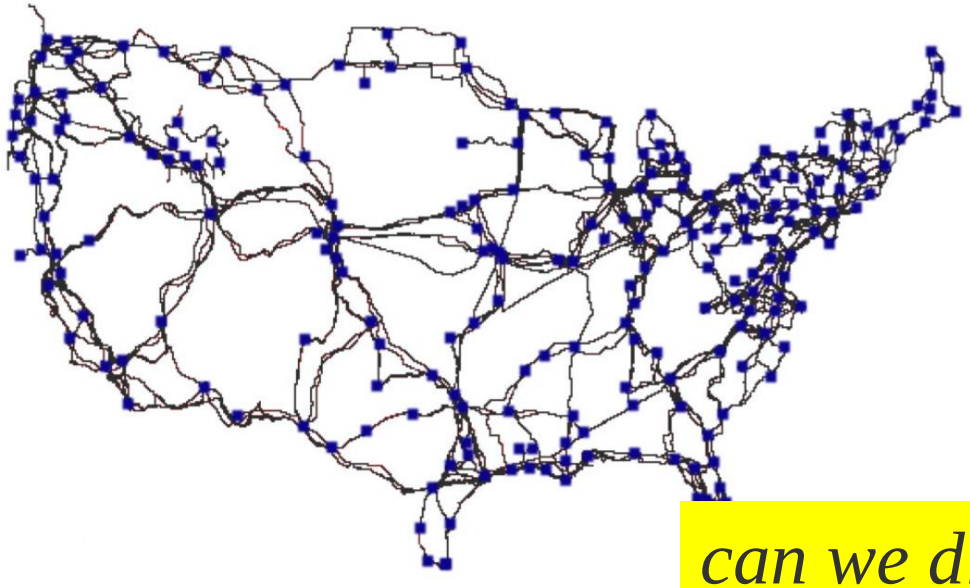

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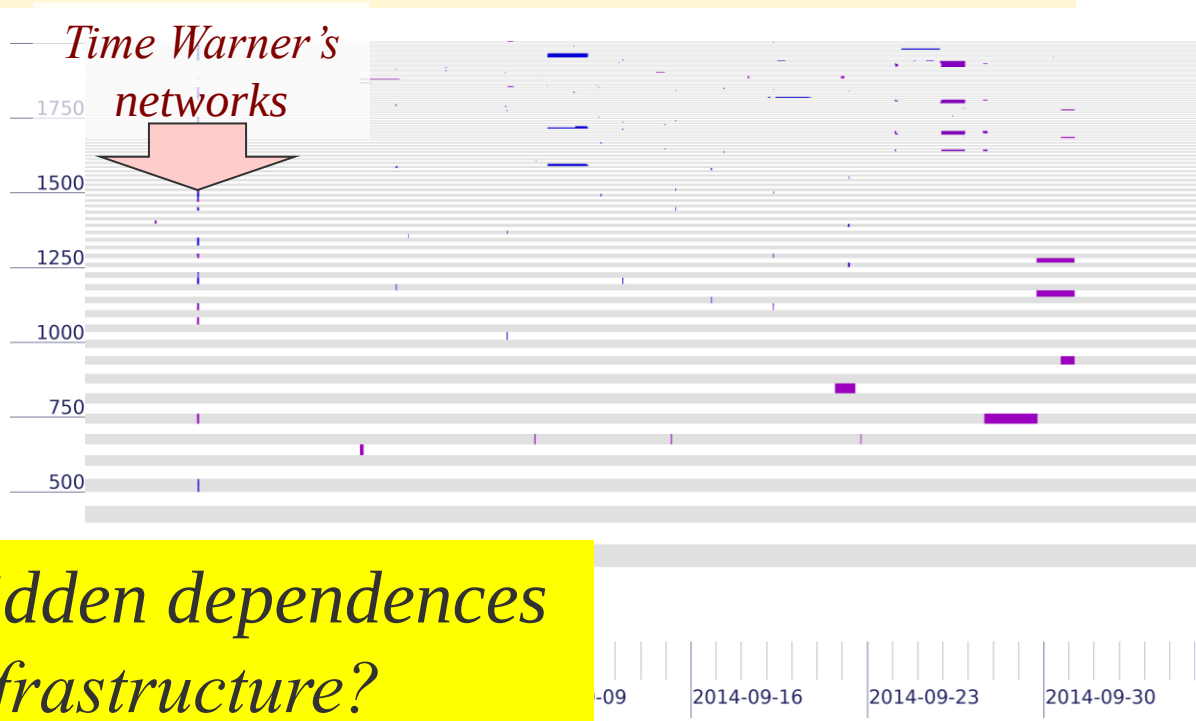


Clustering algorithms discovering Time Warner's network from their Sept. 2014 outage.

can we discover hidden dependences in the Internet's infrastructure?

Understanding Internet Reliability

- opportunities observing Internet reliability
- **from scanning to outages**
- from outages to clusters: hidden dependencies
- finding work-from-home

The IPv4 Internet

we scan the IPv4 Internet (since 2006!)

2^{32} addresses (~4 billion)

usually written: 4 parts, each 8-bits

192.0.2.1 (from 0.0.0.0 to 255.255.255.255)

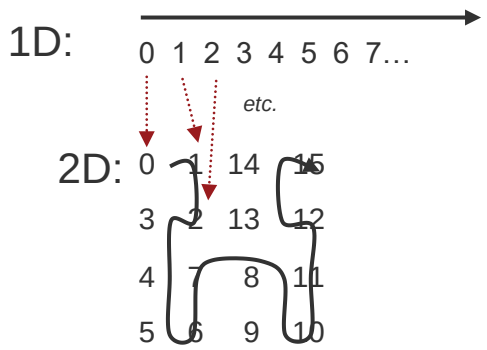
address **blocks:** adjacent addresses with same first *n* bits

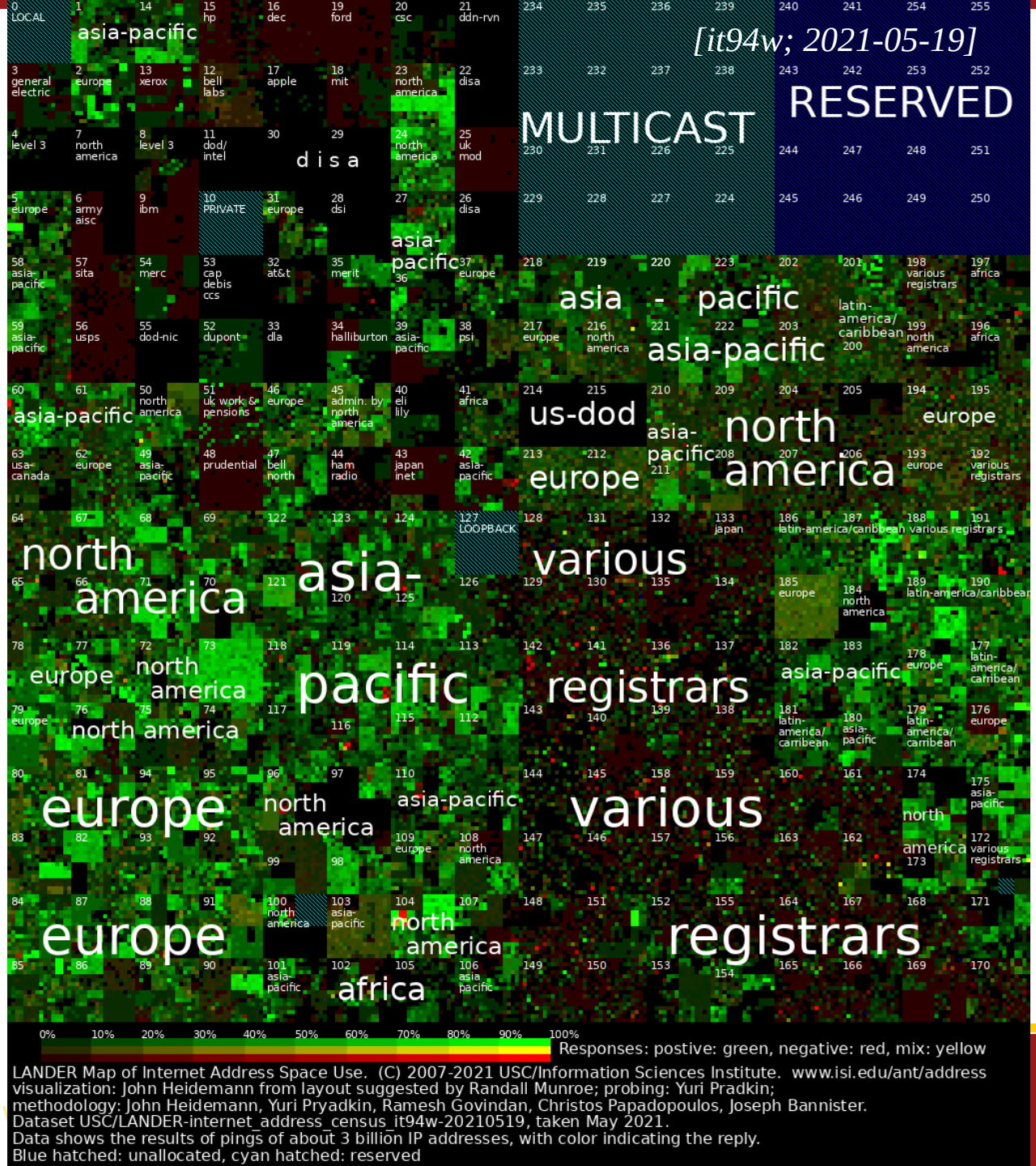
192.0.*.* /16

or just 192.0/16

(prefix=192.0, n=16)

squares on the map





The *Whole* Internet

- here, 1 pixel is 1 address
- 2.8x2.8m (9x9') at 600dpi
- green: positive, red: negative; white: no resp.
- this data is from 2011

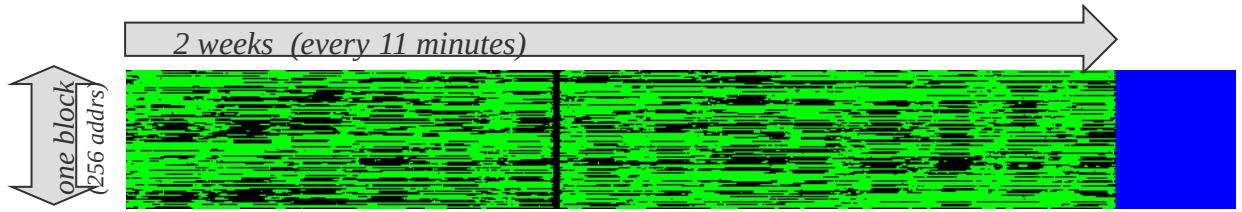
[data: it44w taken Nov. 2011]

From Pings to Network Outages

another view:

over **2 weeks**

one block
(256 addrs)



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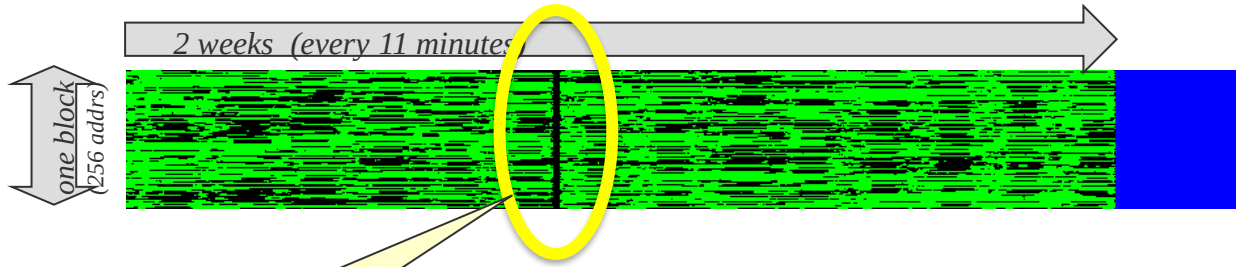

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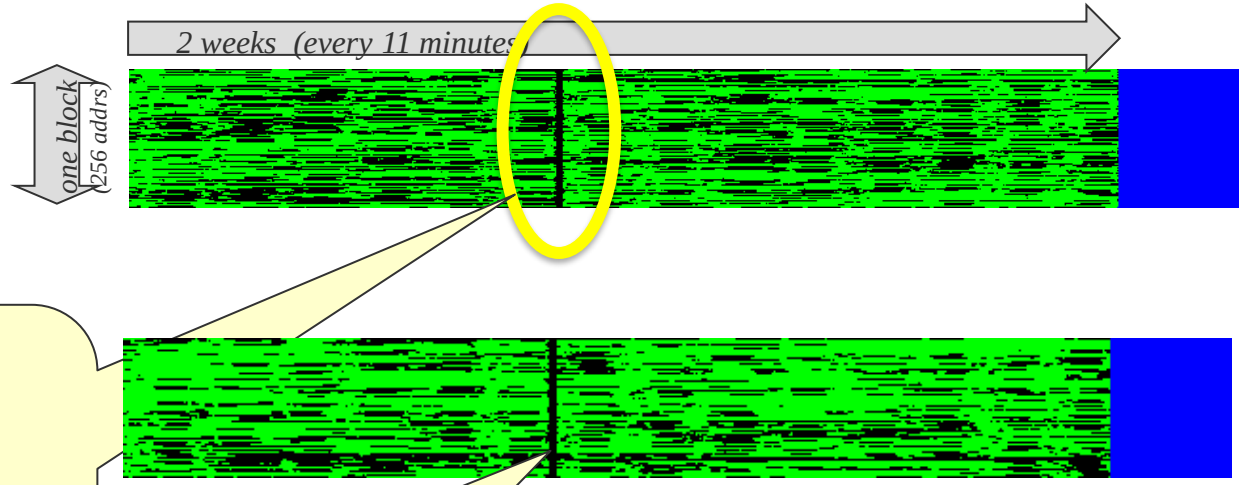

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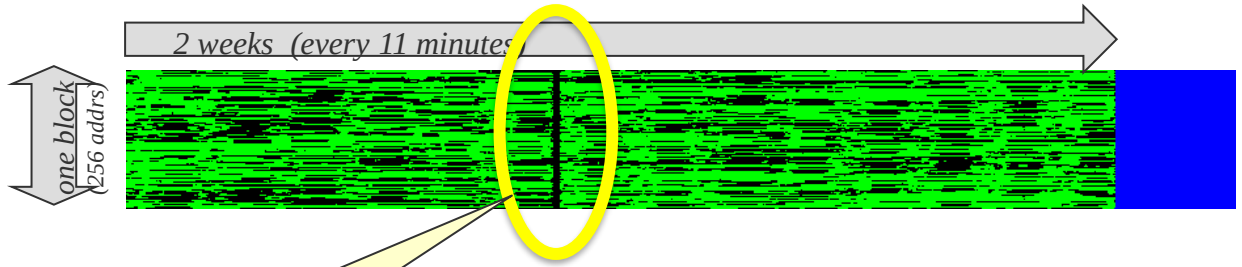

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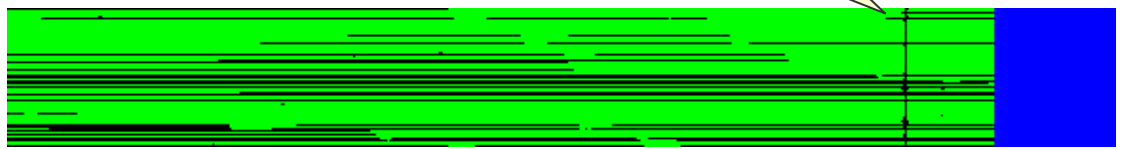

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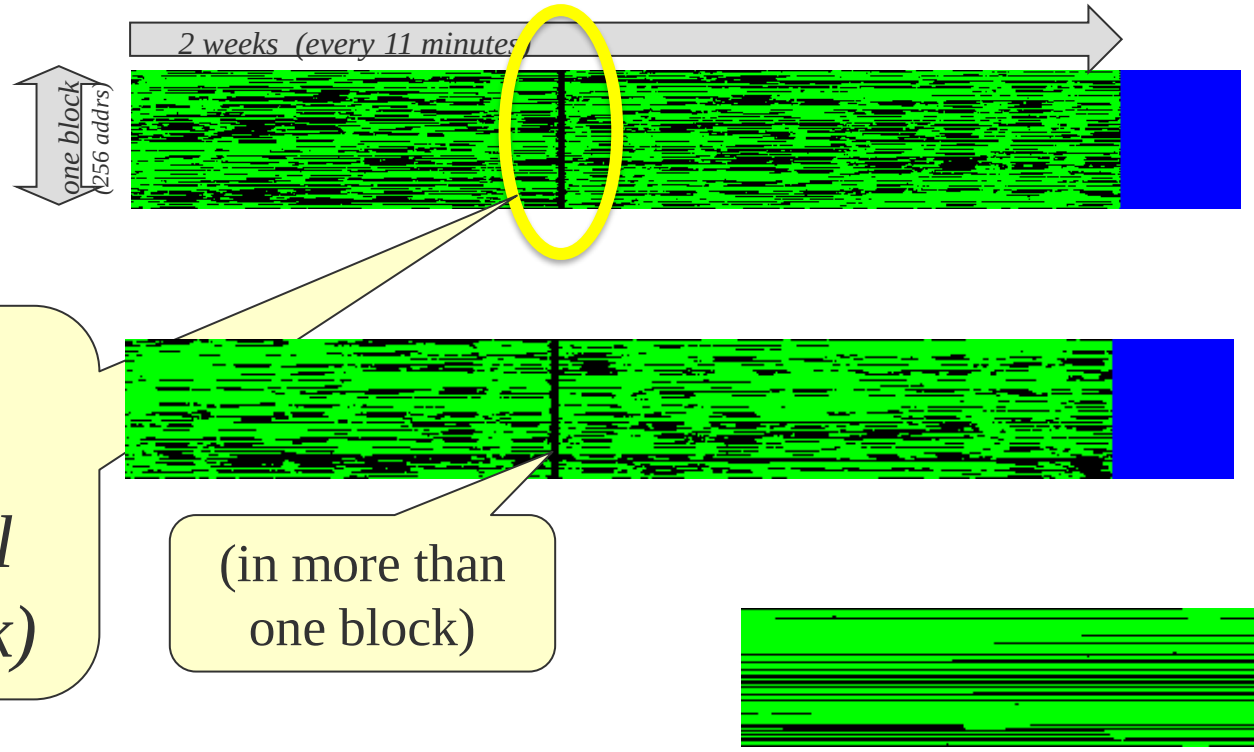

these bars are network outages

but what's this glitch? (the vertical bar of black)

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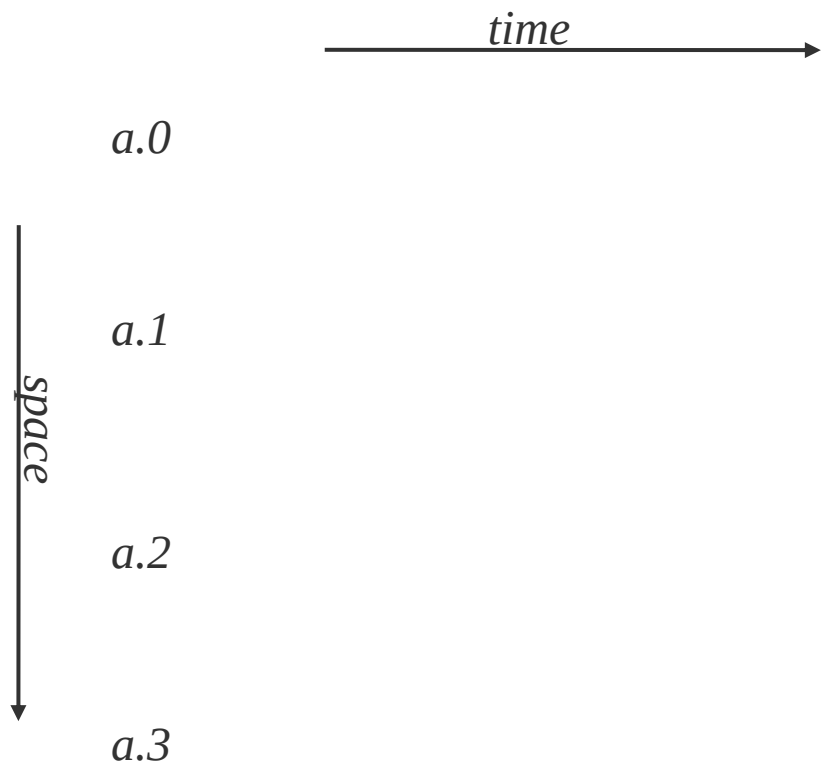
Outages from Ambiguous Signals

challenge: a ping is ambiguous



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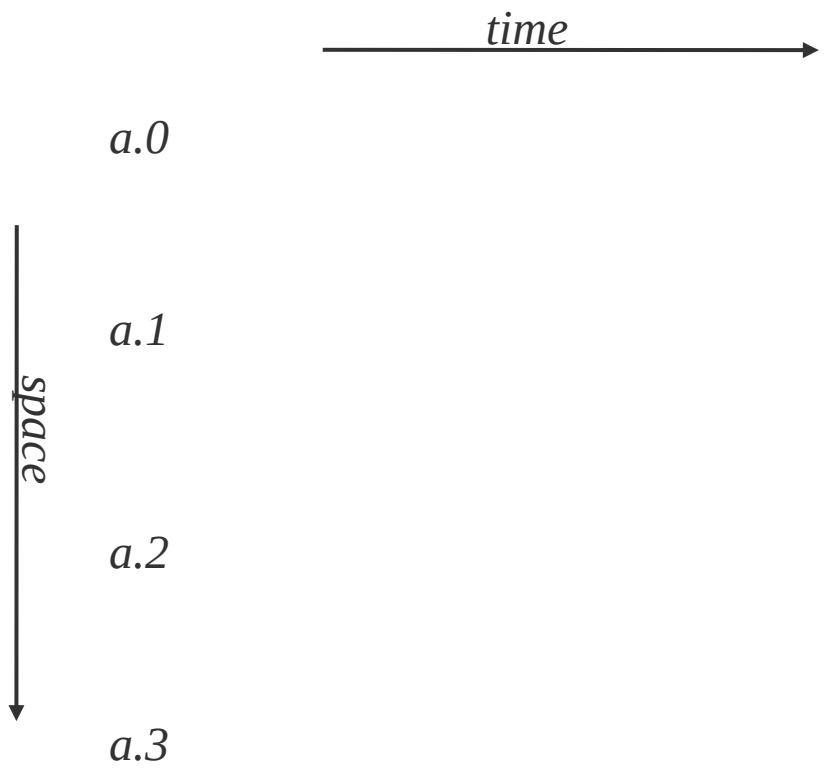

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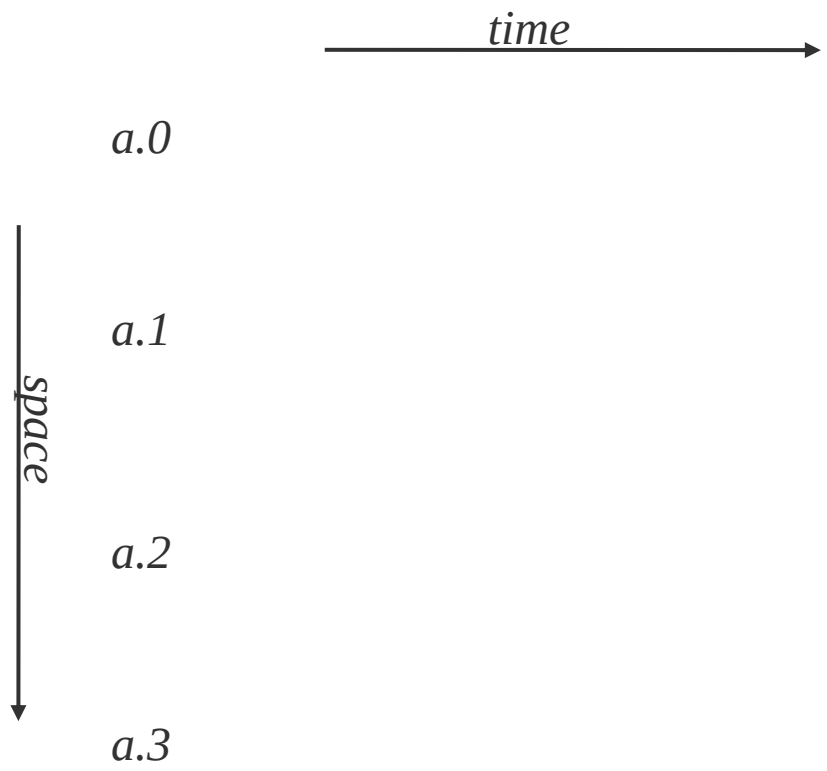

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computer address reassigned

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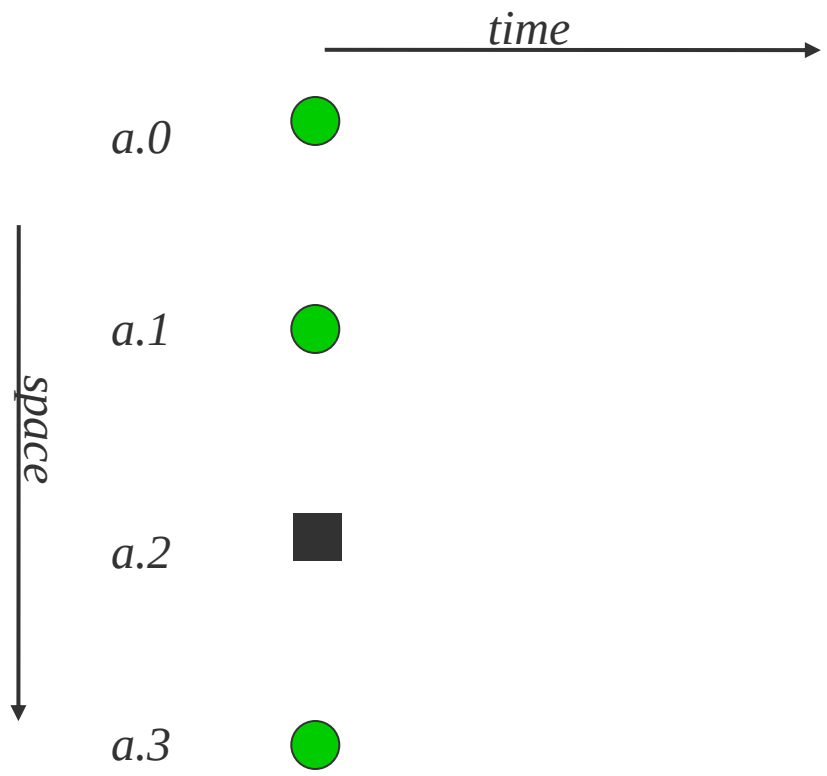

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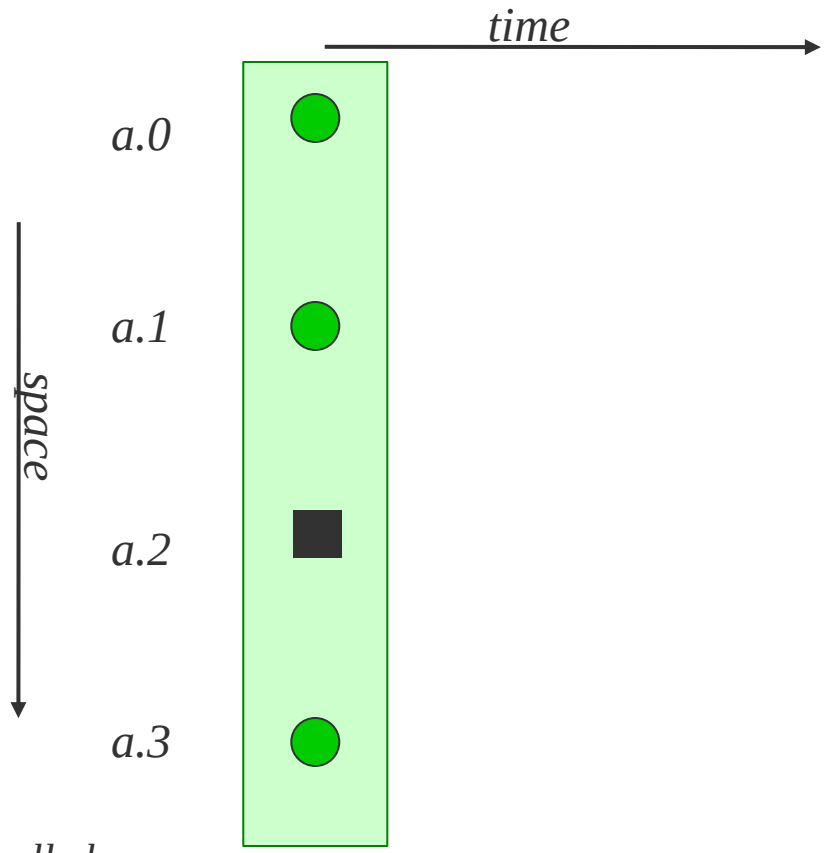

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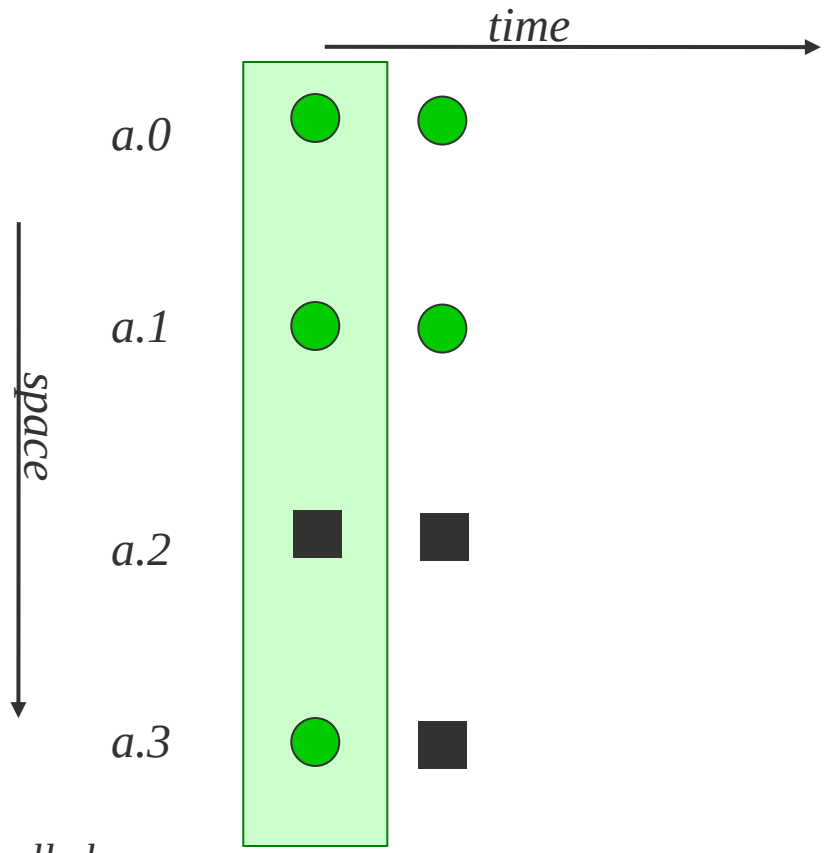

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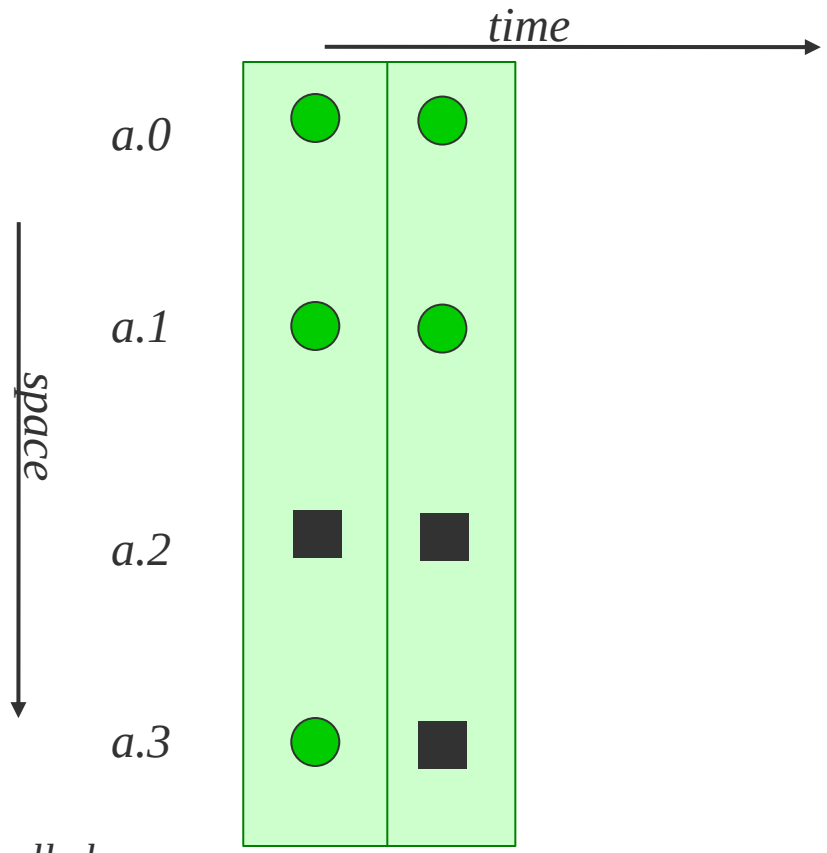

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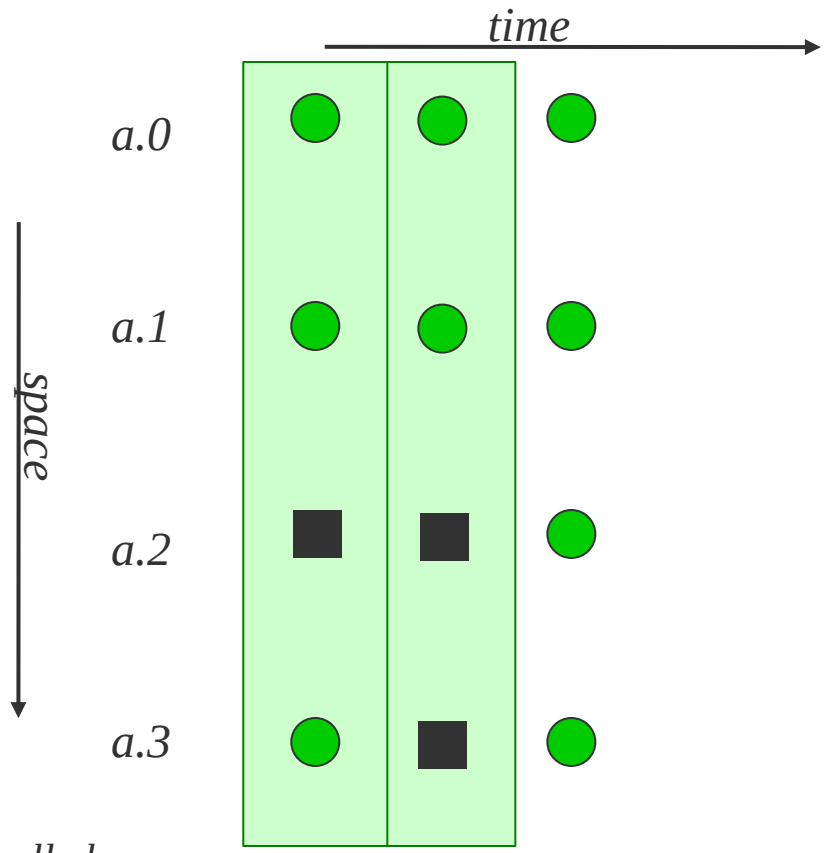

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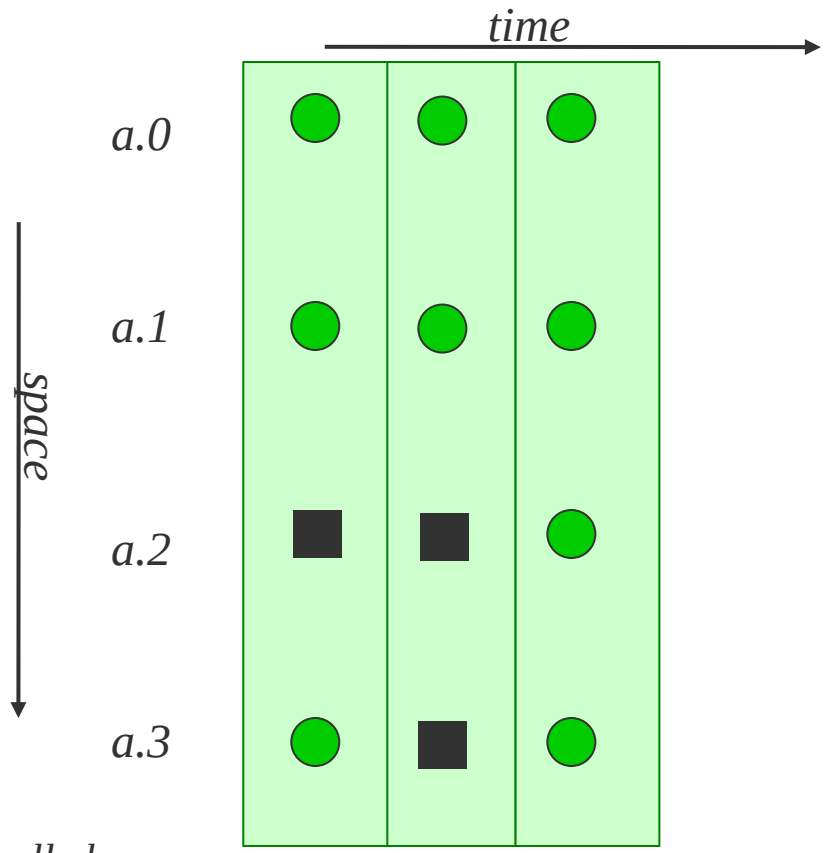

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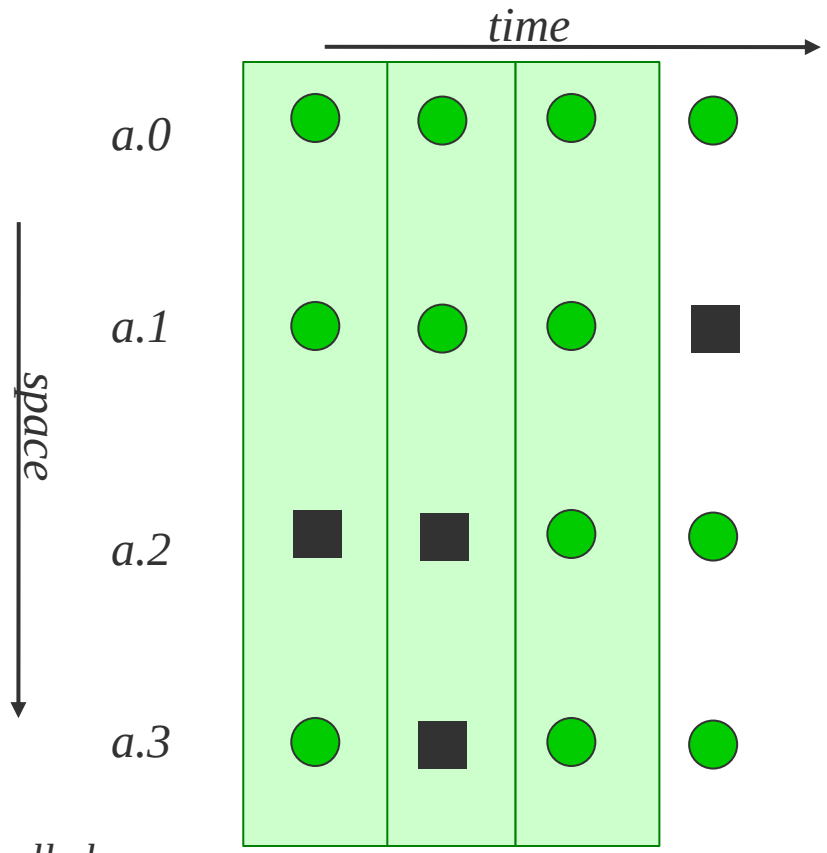

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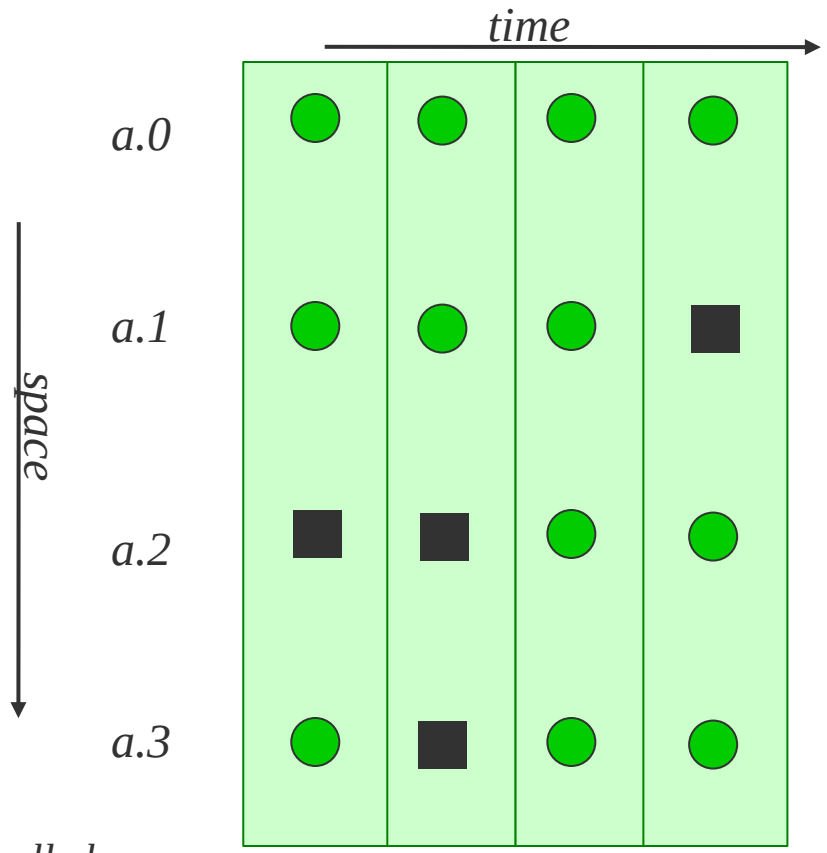

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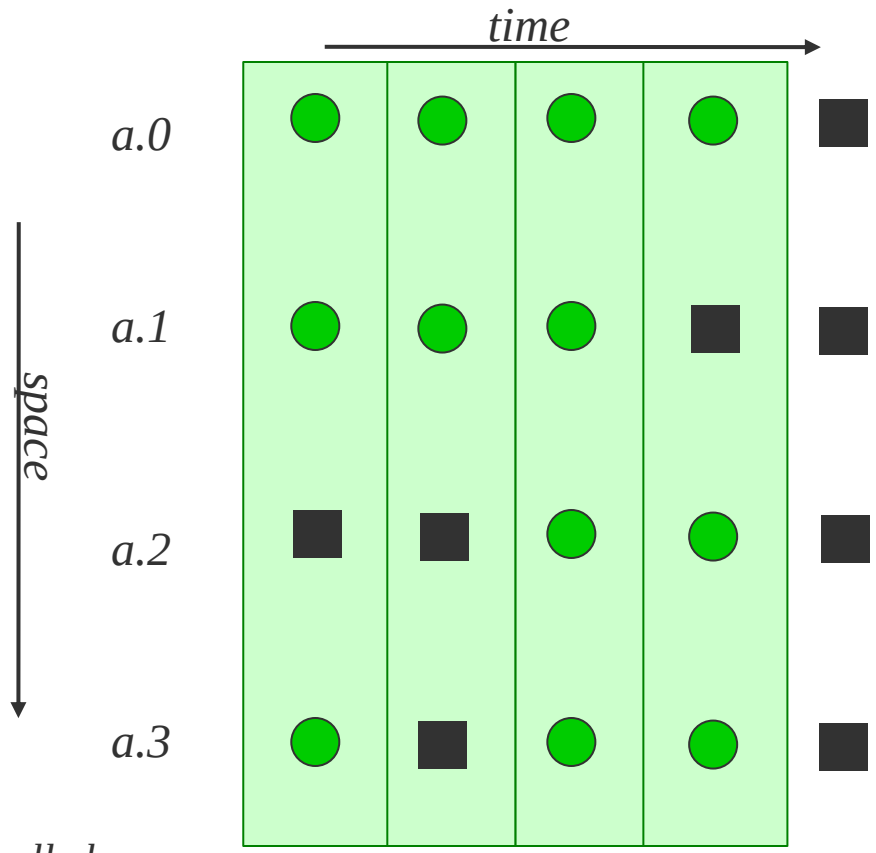

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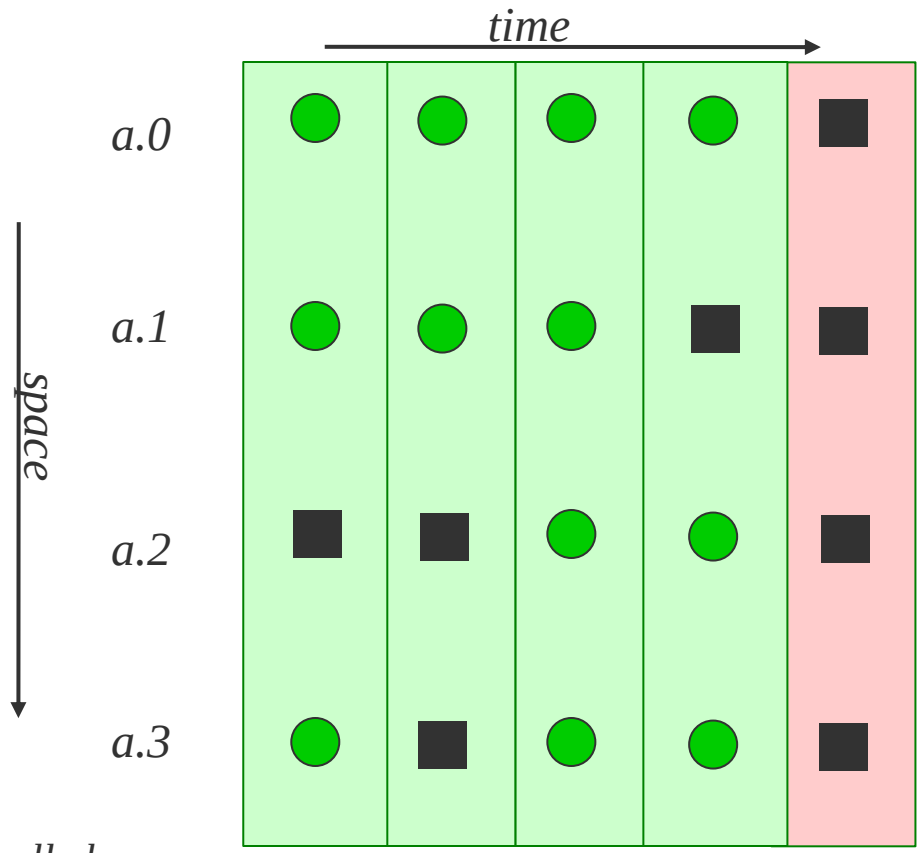

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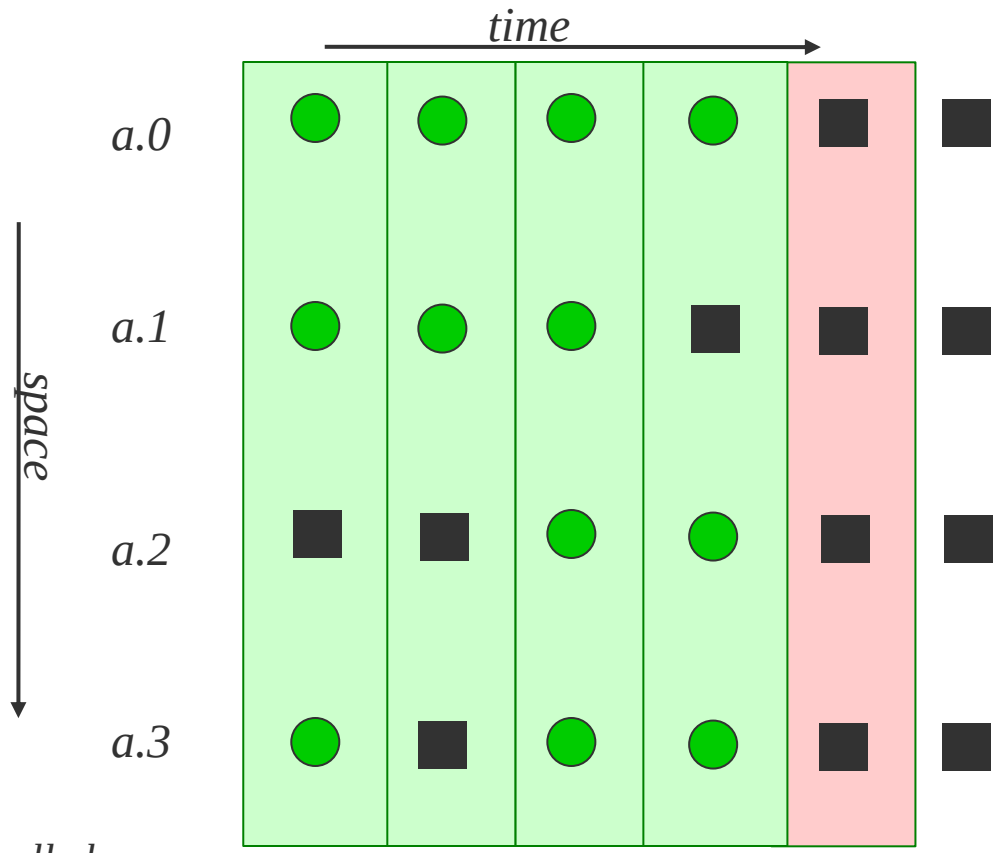

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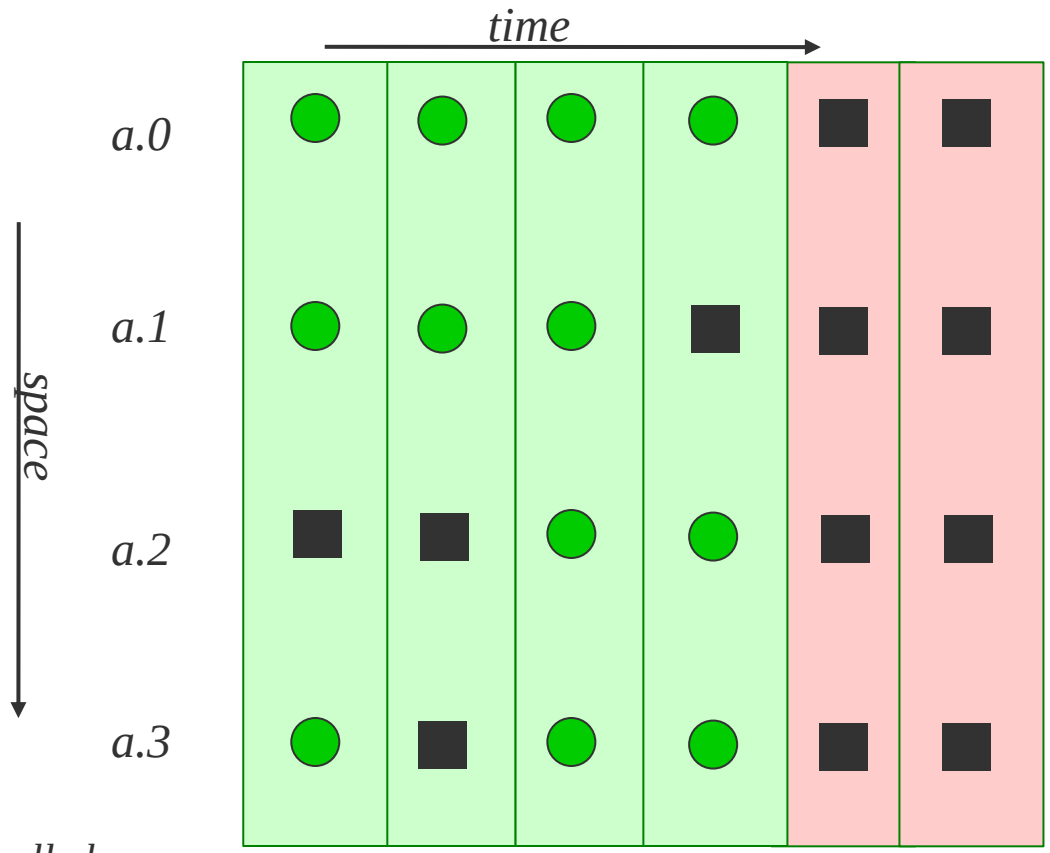

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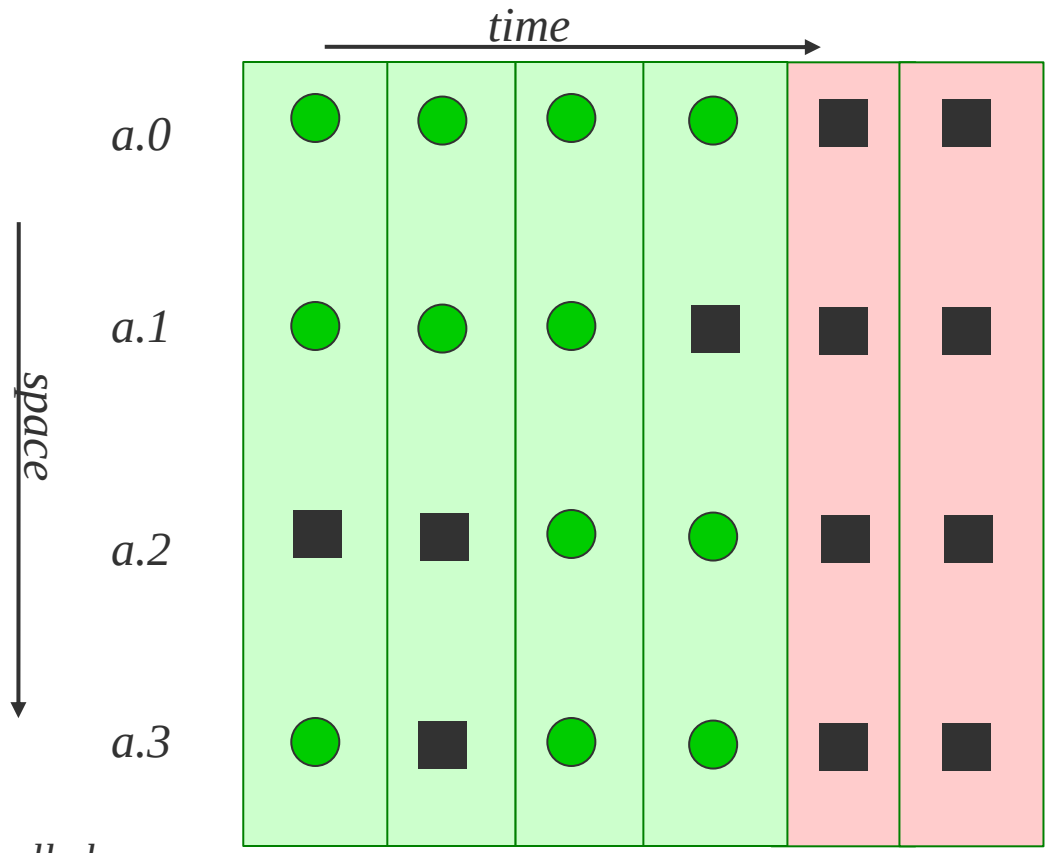

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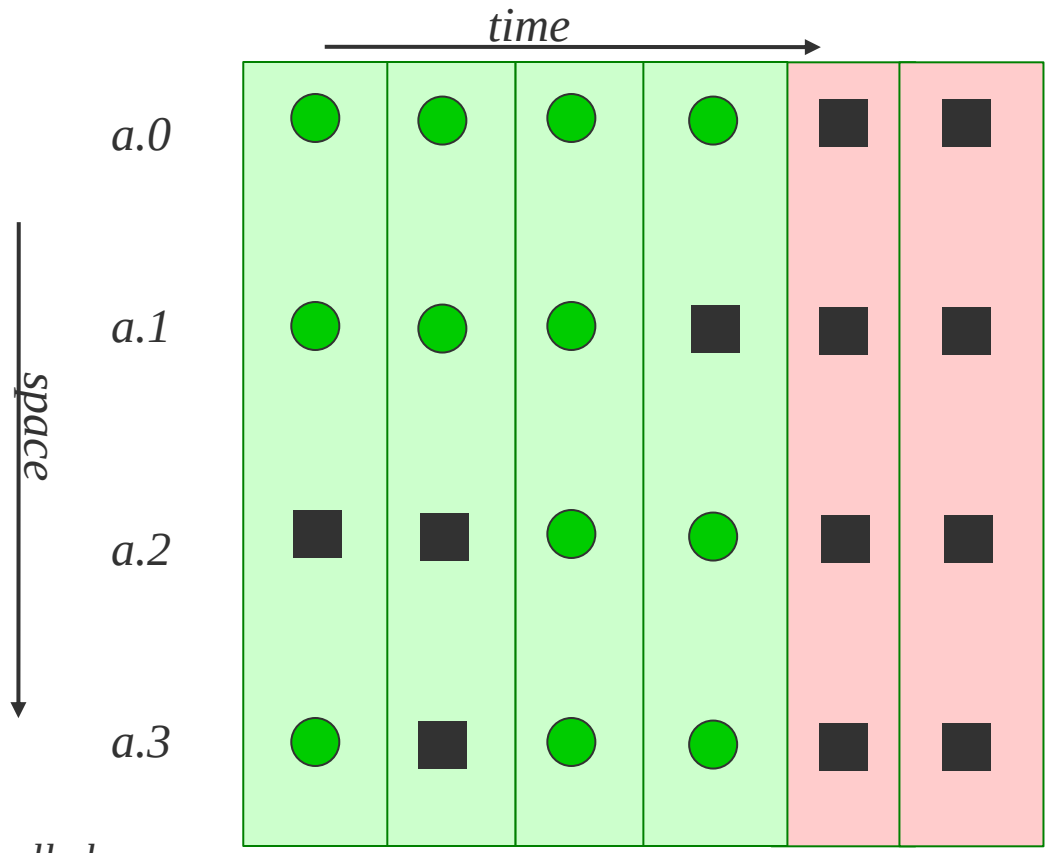

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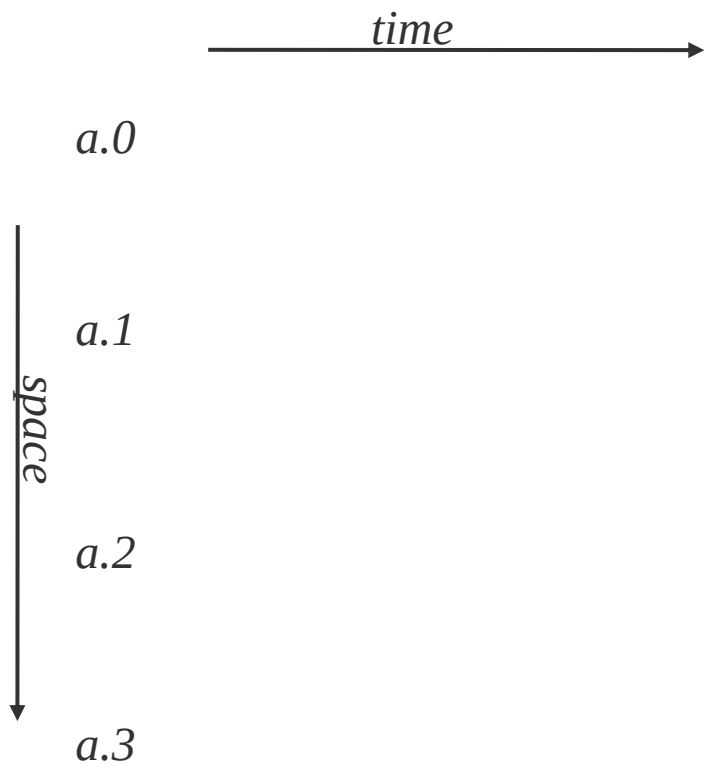
multiple probes for reliable block-level signal

***all** negative: block is down*

!!!

Probing Politely: *Just Enough*



polite: minimal traffic to your net

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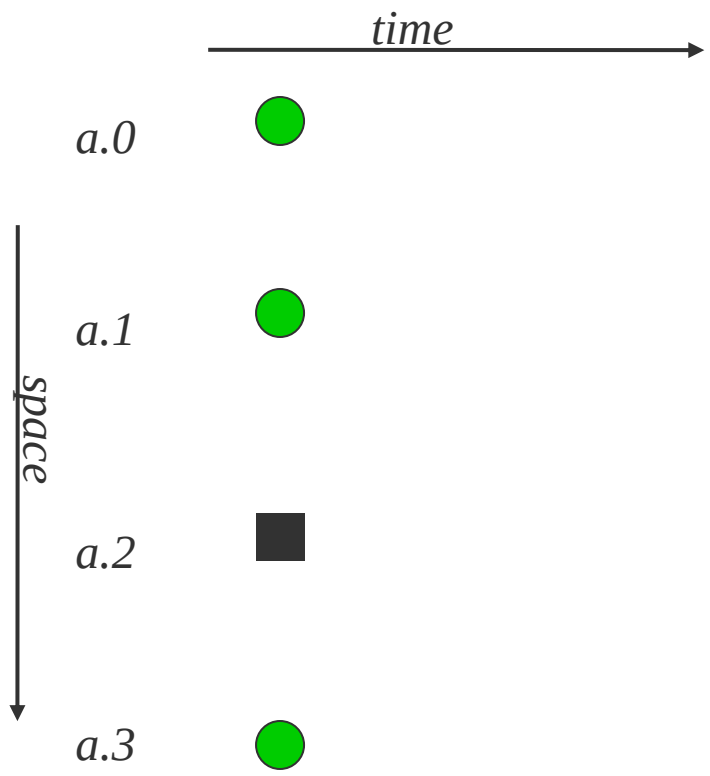

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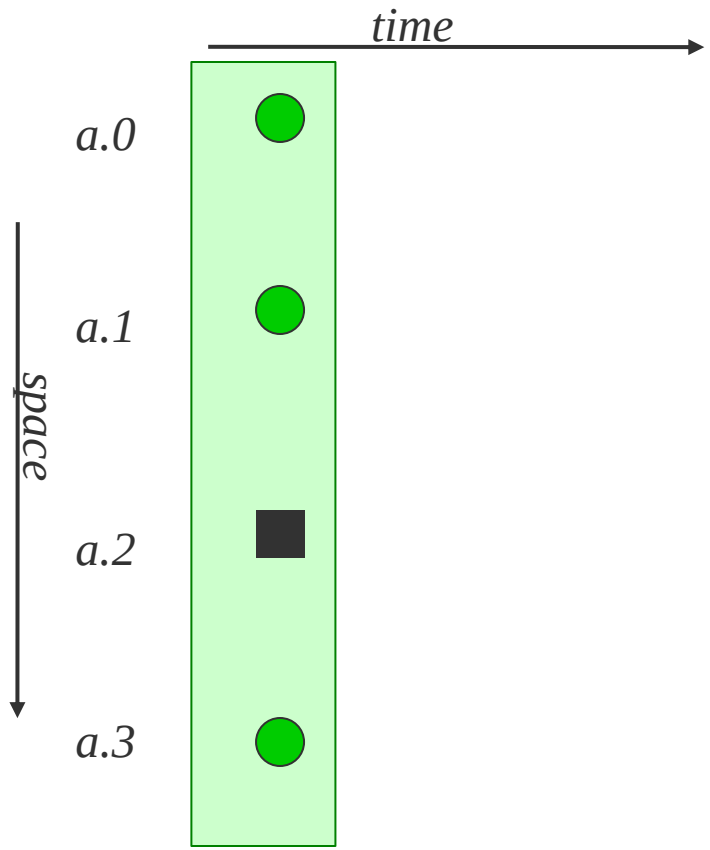

polite: minimal traffic to your net

positive responses => block is up

but don't need all 4 to learn

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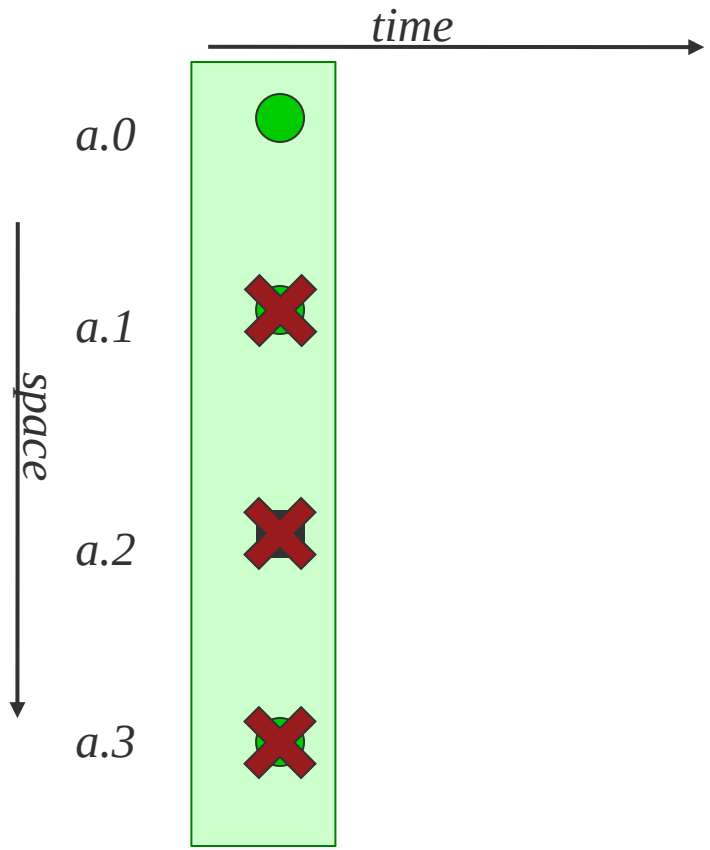

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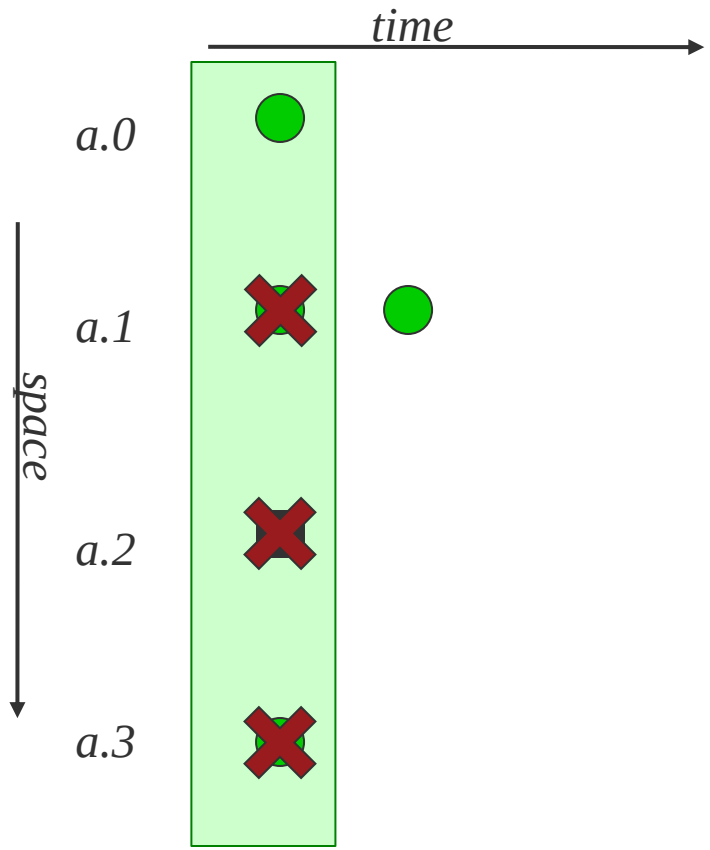

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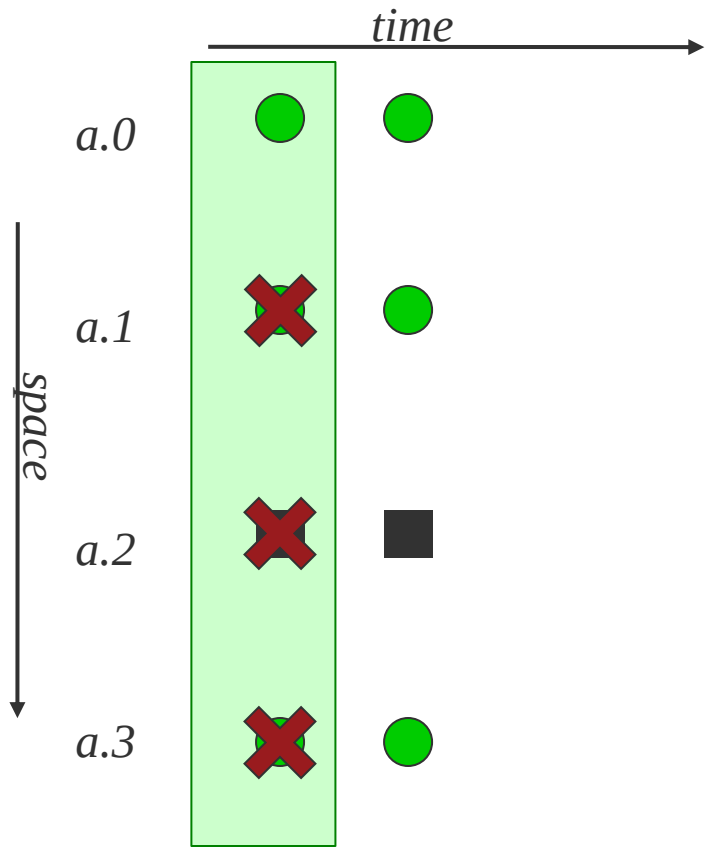
1. instead: probe one by one
2. find **one is up**

Probing Politely: *Just Enough*



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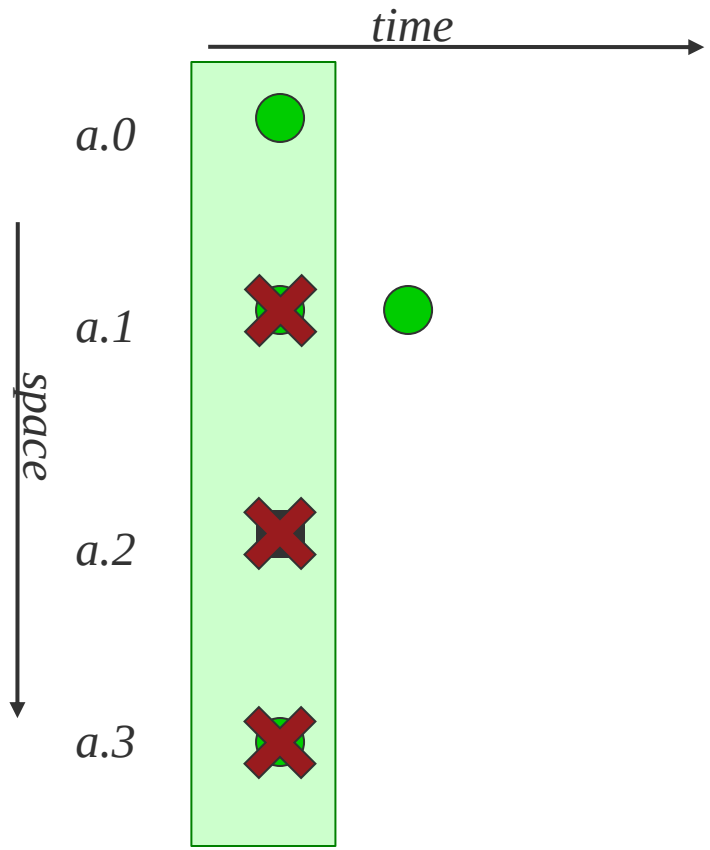

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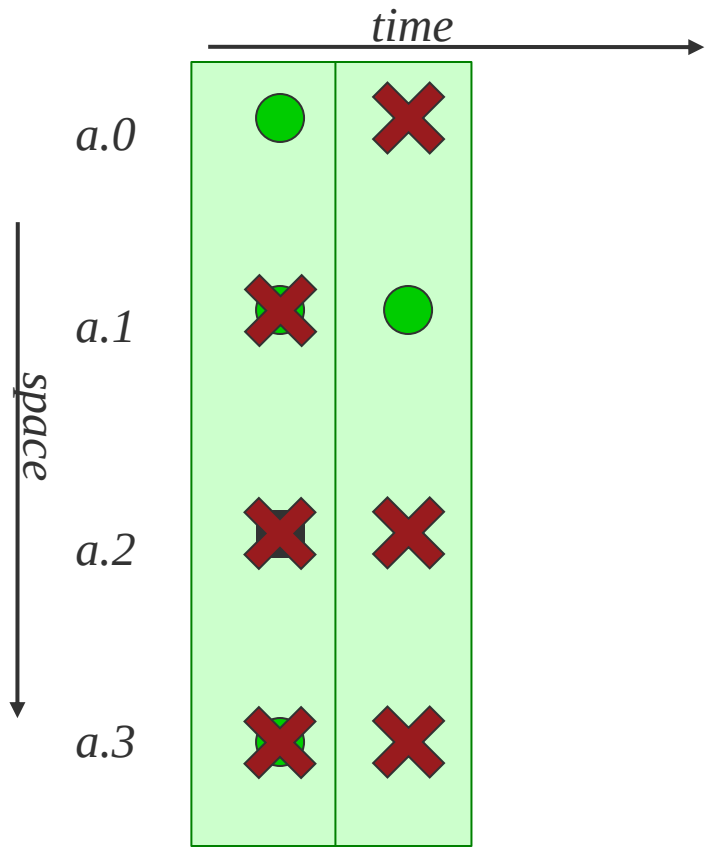

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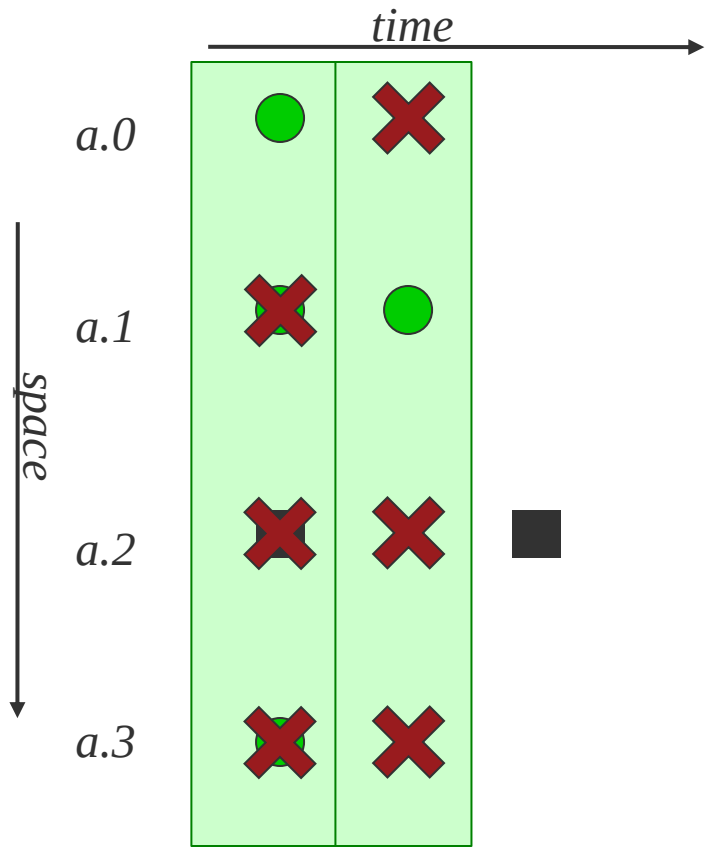

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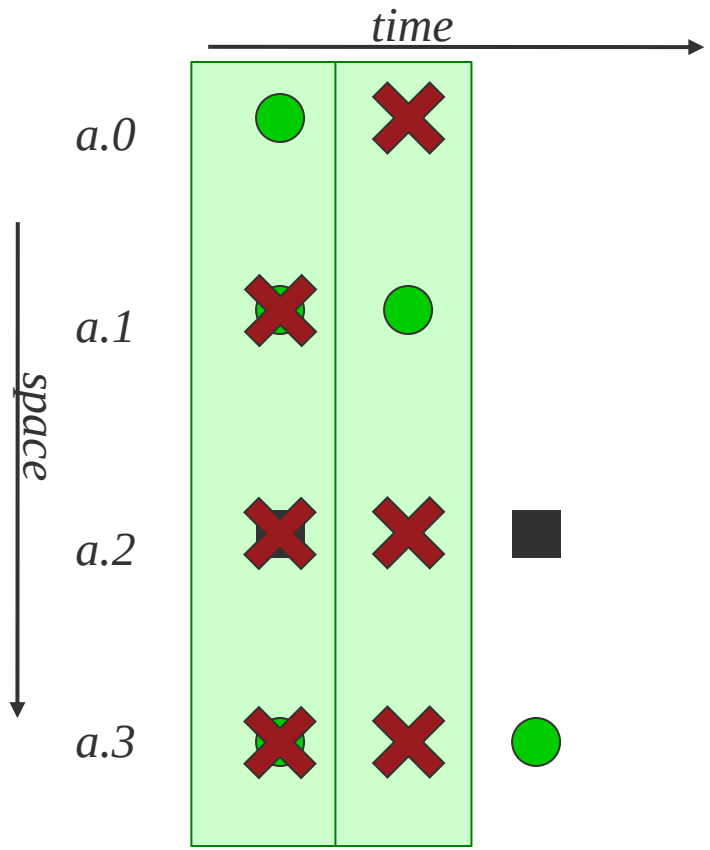

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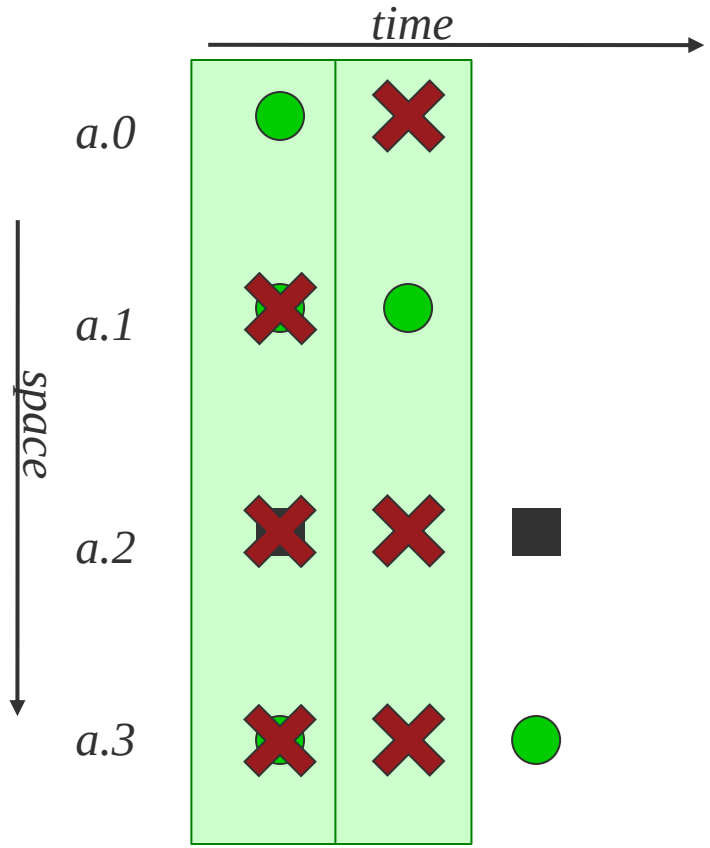

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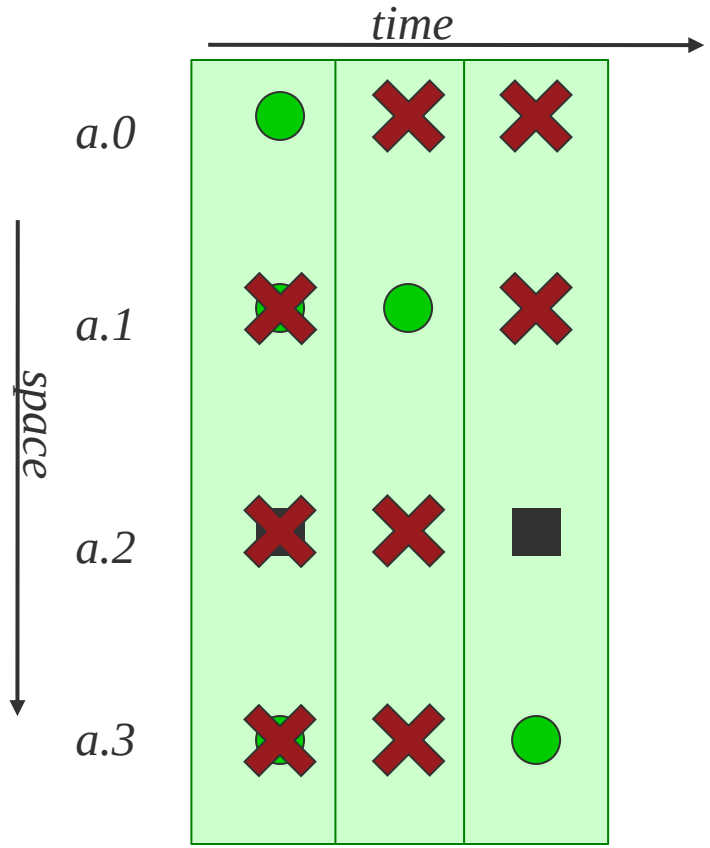

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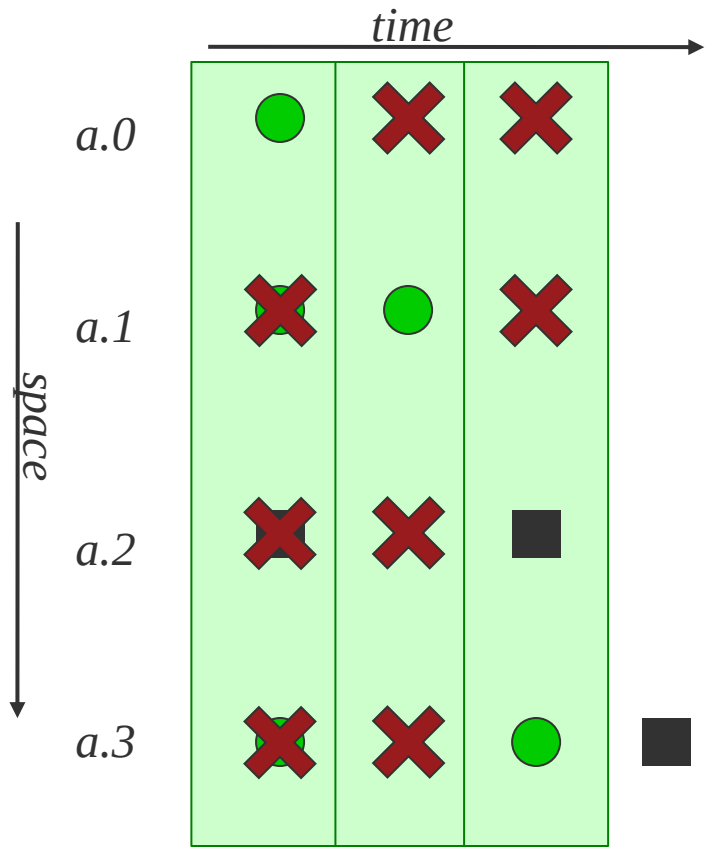

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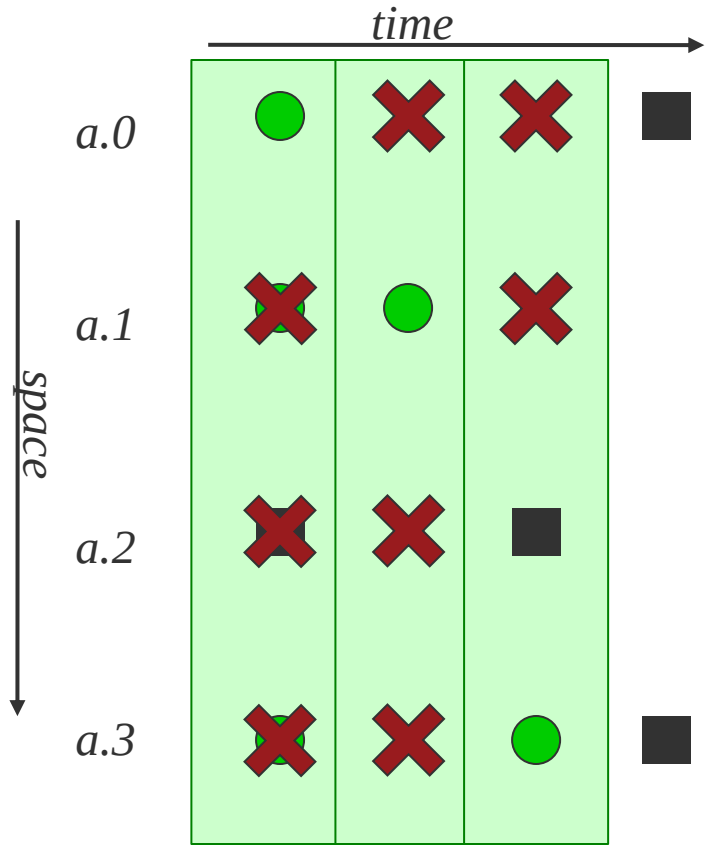

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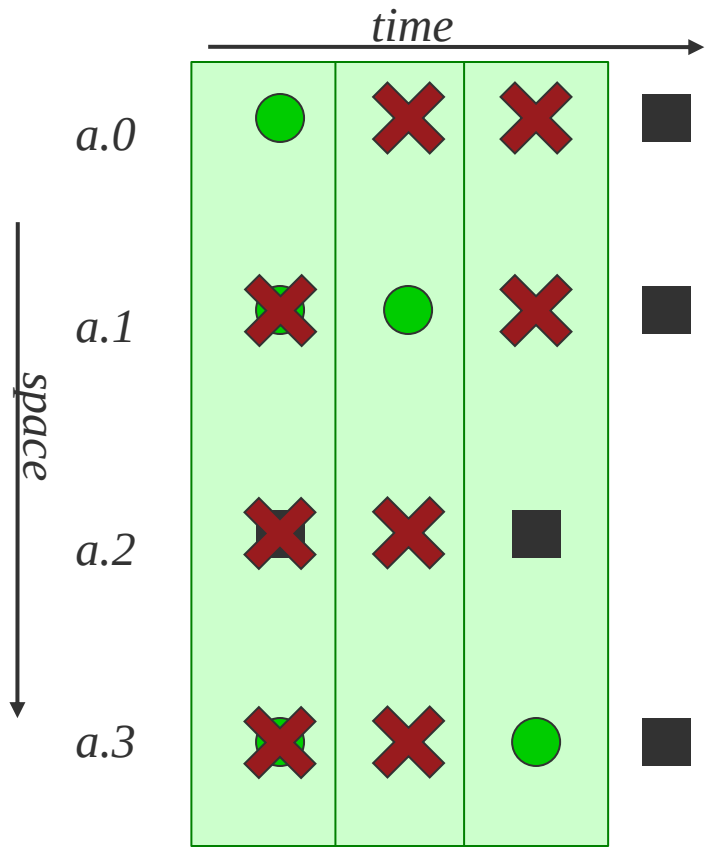

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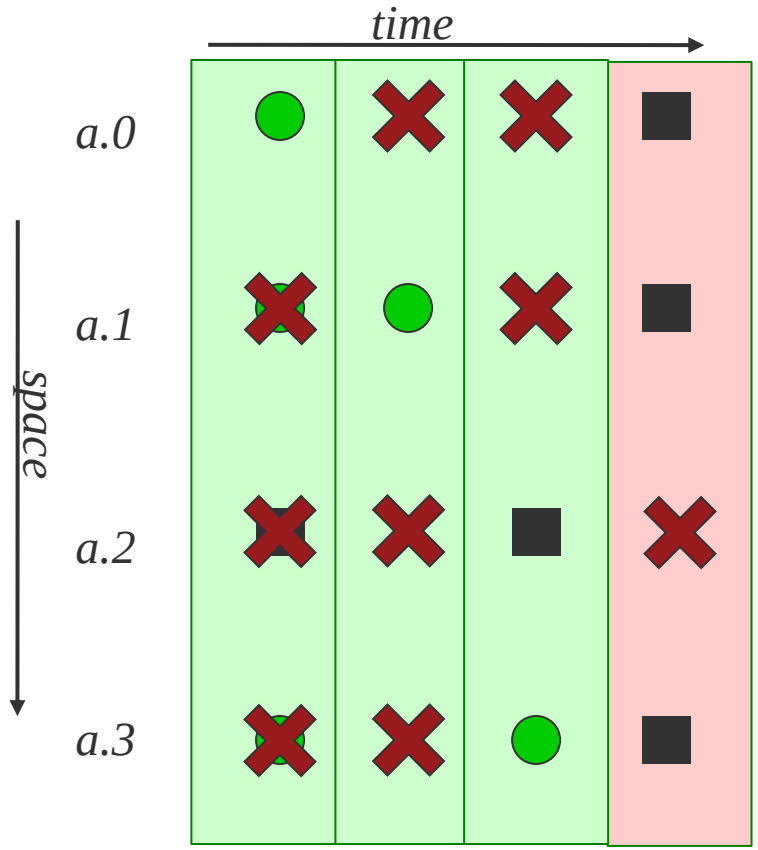

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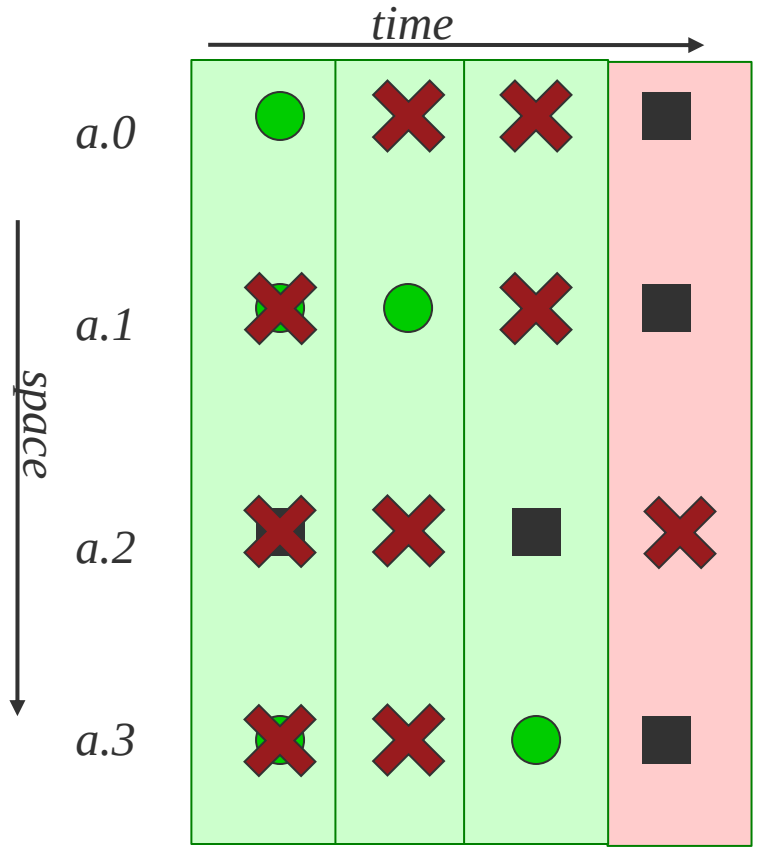

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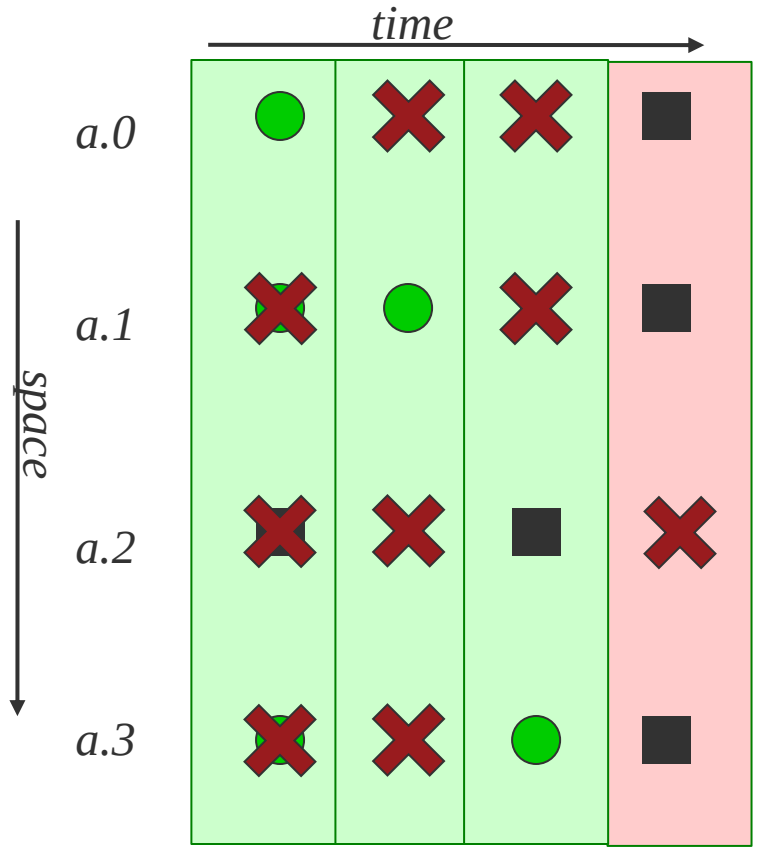

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probing politely => observing without harm

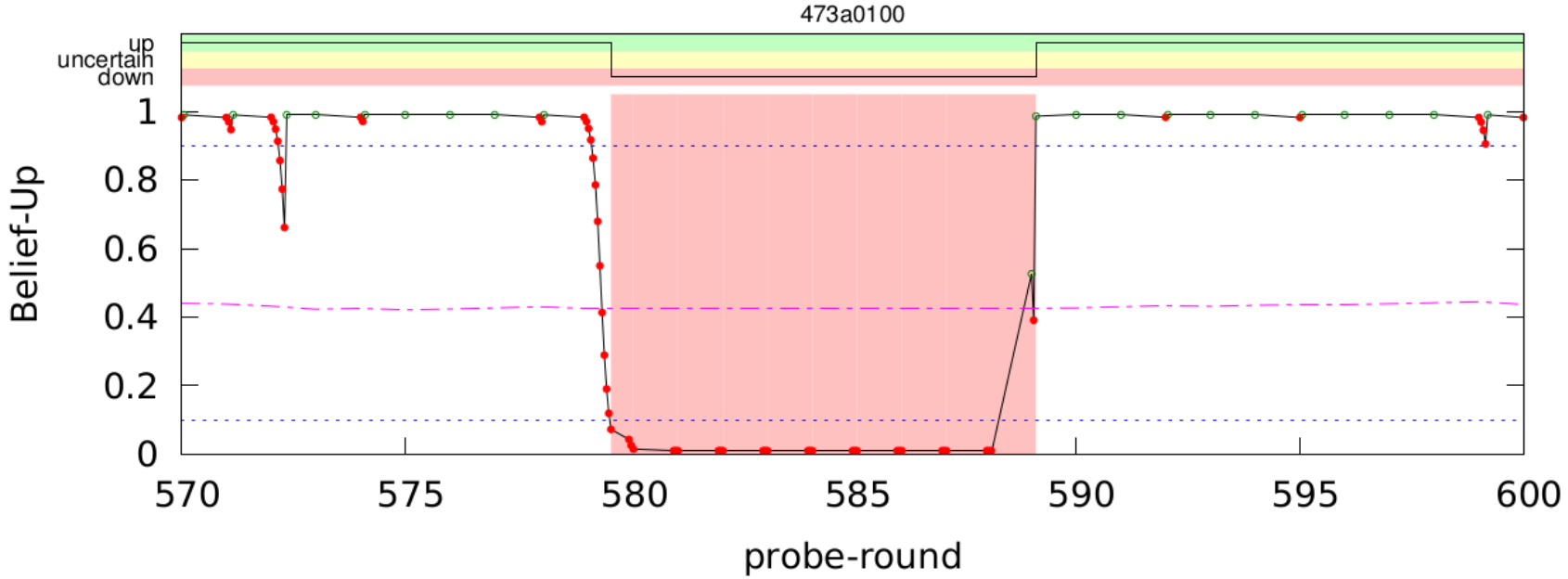
Trinocular Outage Detection: Key Properties

- Trinocular: active probing to detect Internet edge outages
  - **principled**: probe only when needed (informed by Bayesian inference)
  - **precise**: outage duration ±330s (half of probing interval)
  - **parsimonious**: only +0.7% background radiation (at target /24, per Trinocular instance)

(details: "Trinocular: Understanding Internet Reliability Through Adaptive Probing", Quan, Heidemann, Pradkin, SIGCOMM Aug. 2013)

Principled: Bayesian Inference Interprets Probes

model: every responding |E(b)|=111, active A(E(b))=0.515
this block is sparse but consistent, so *only a few probes needed*



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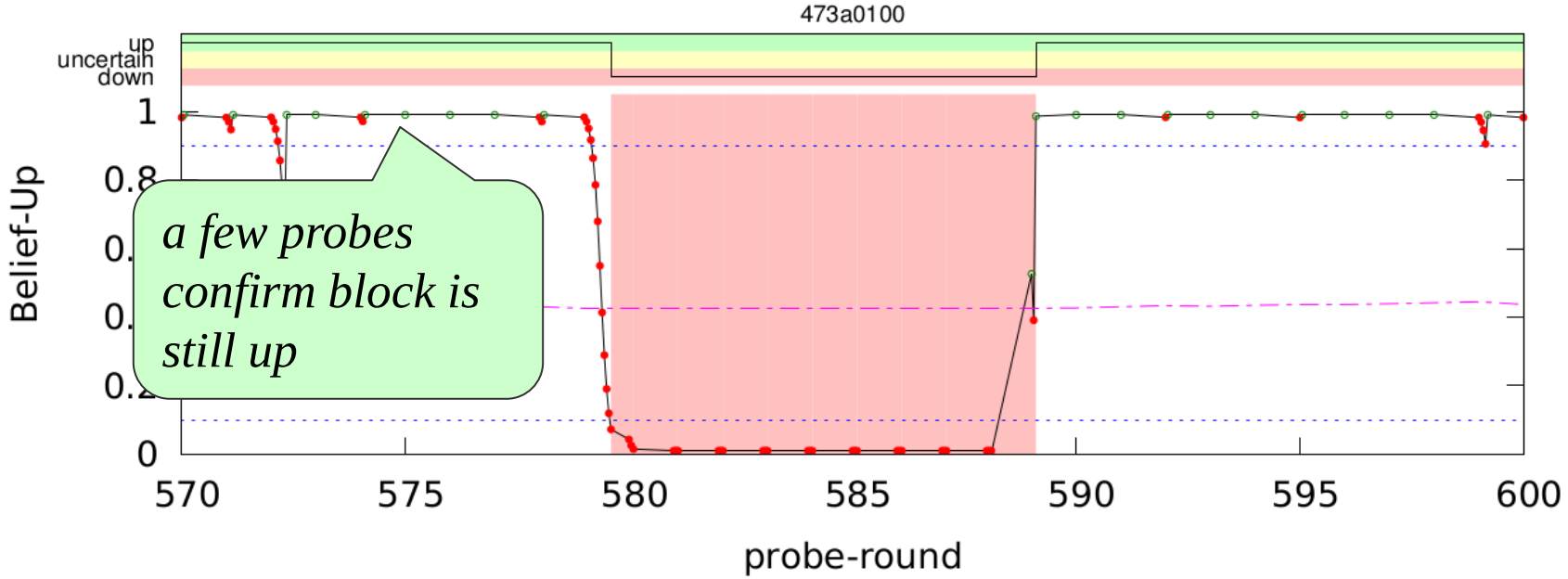

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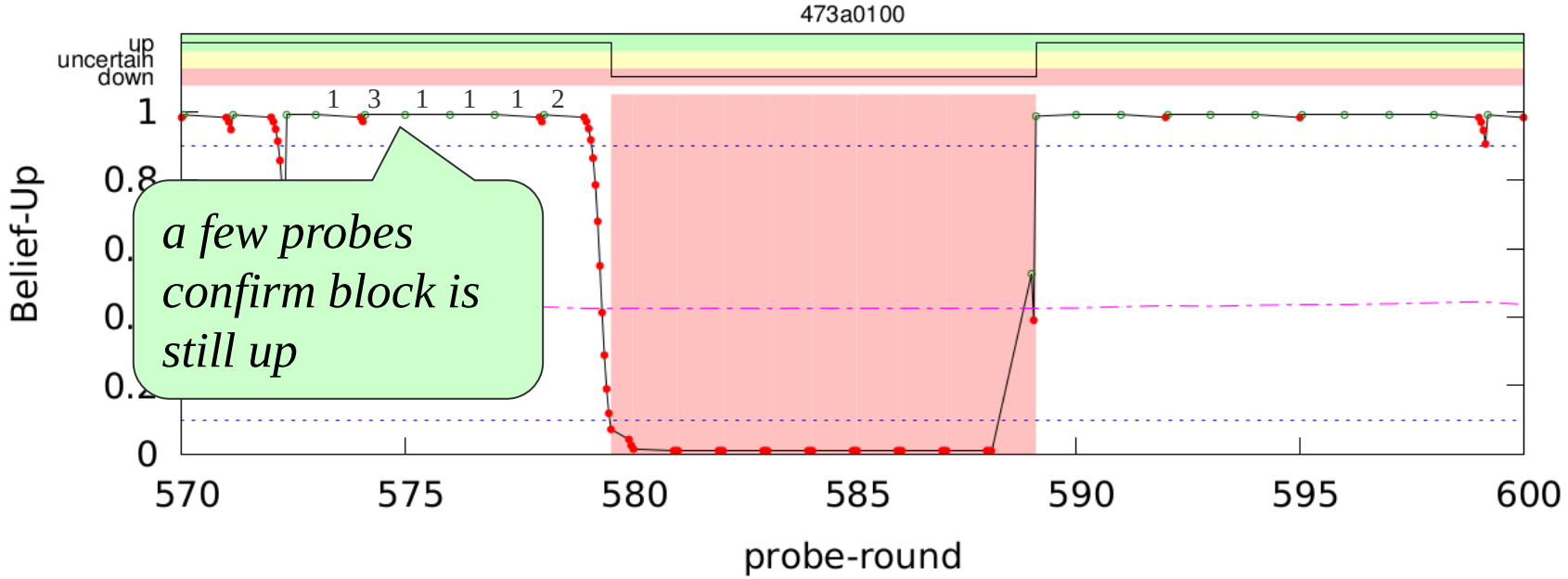

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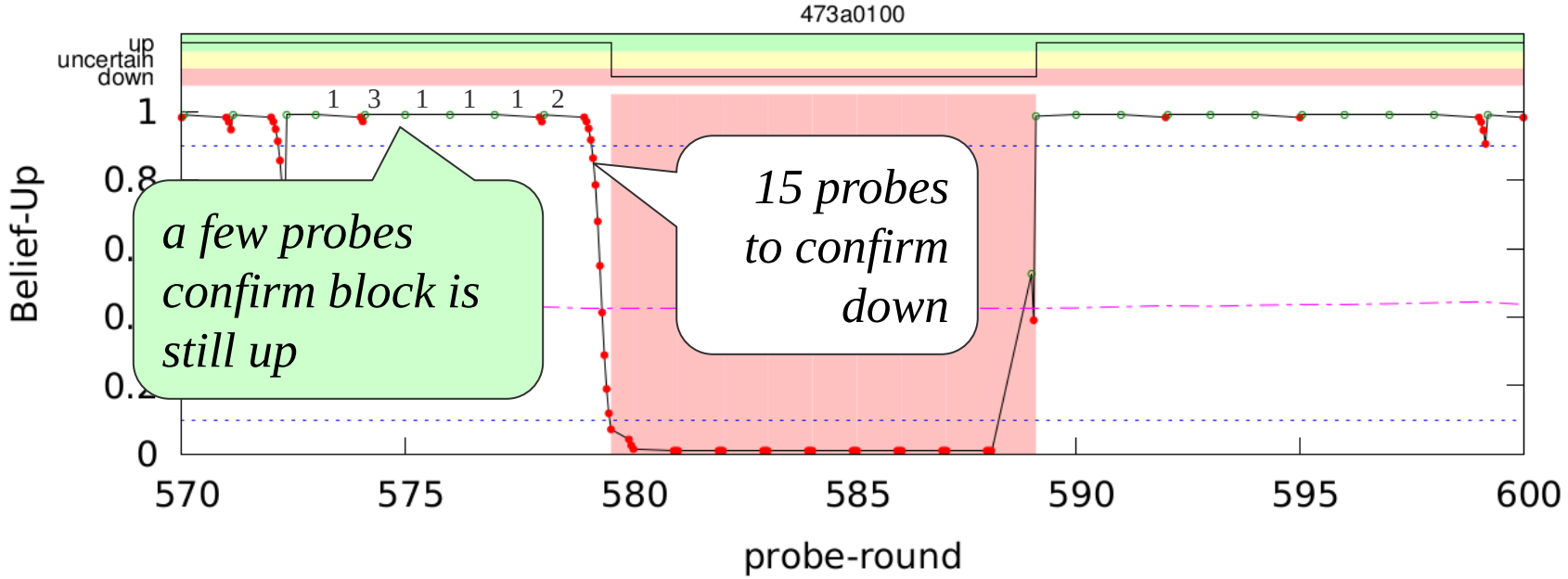

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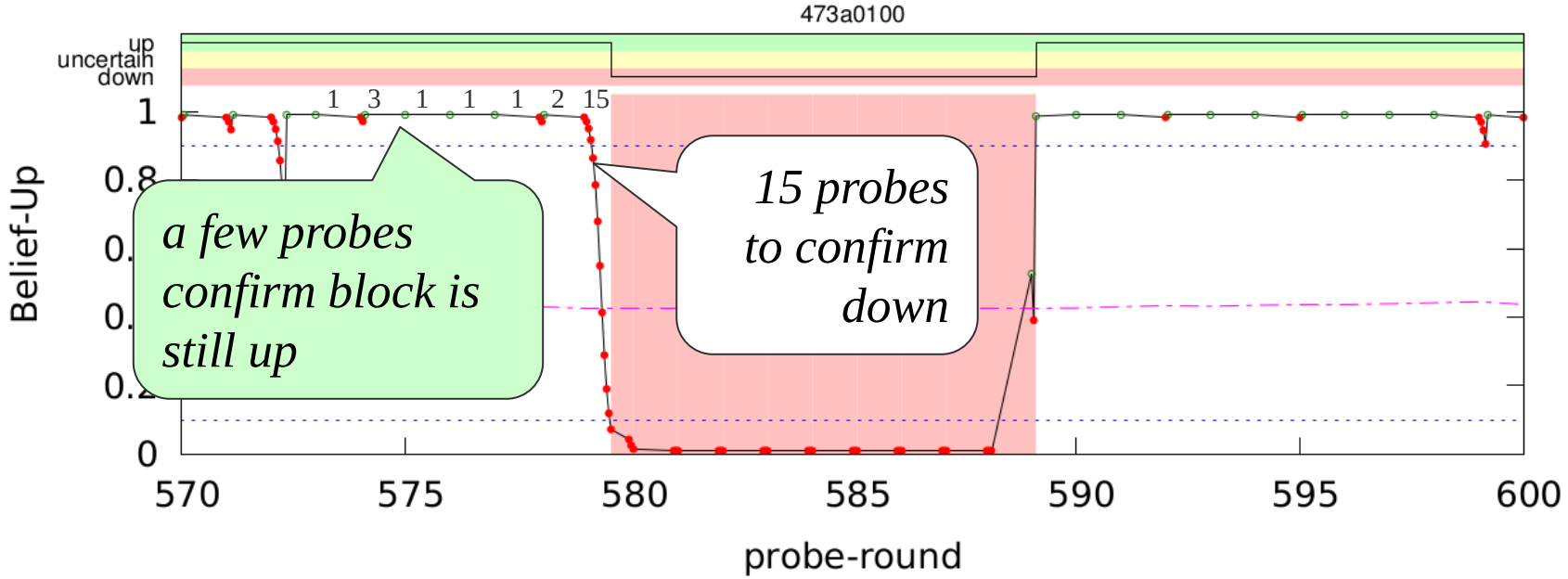

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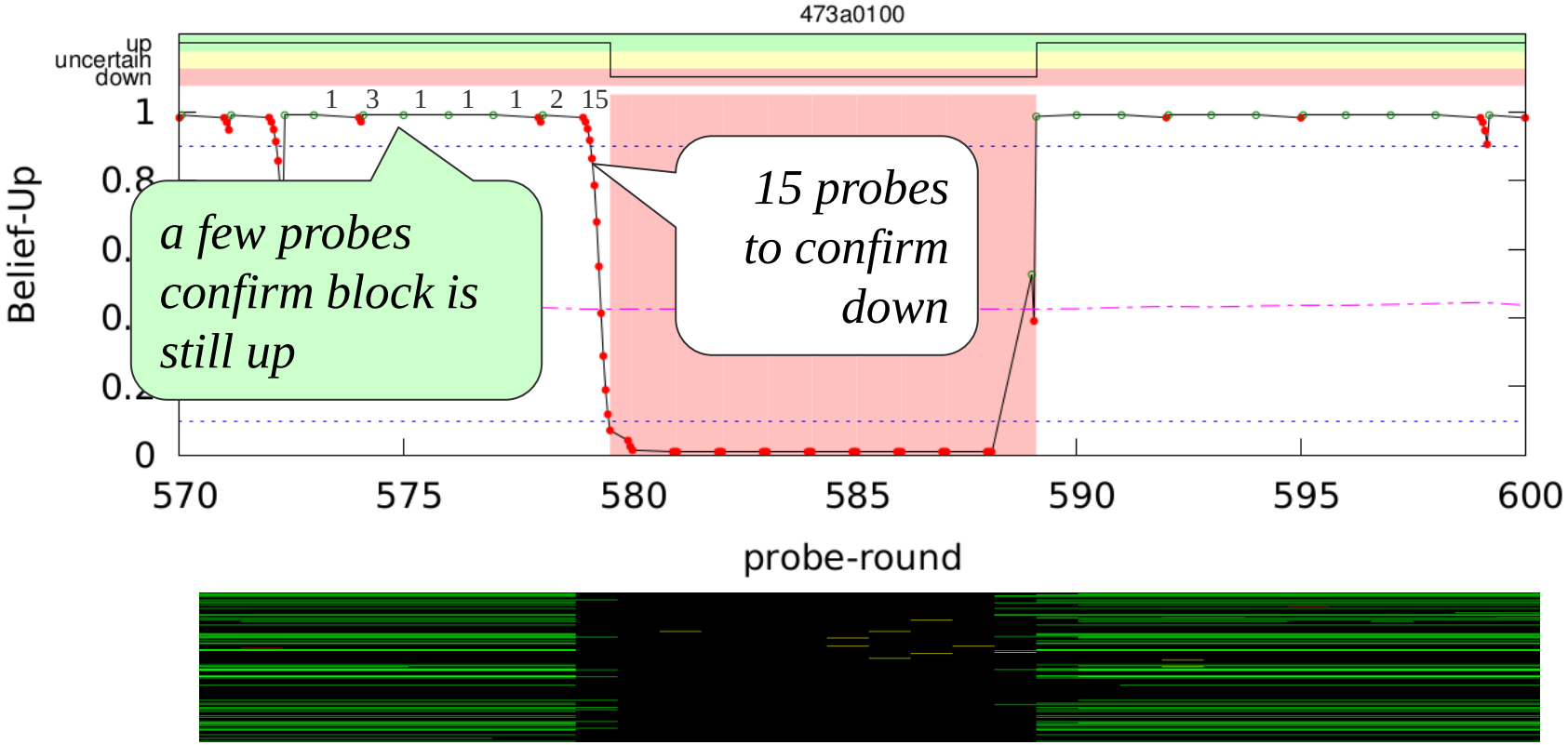

ground truth
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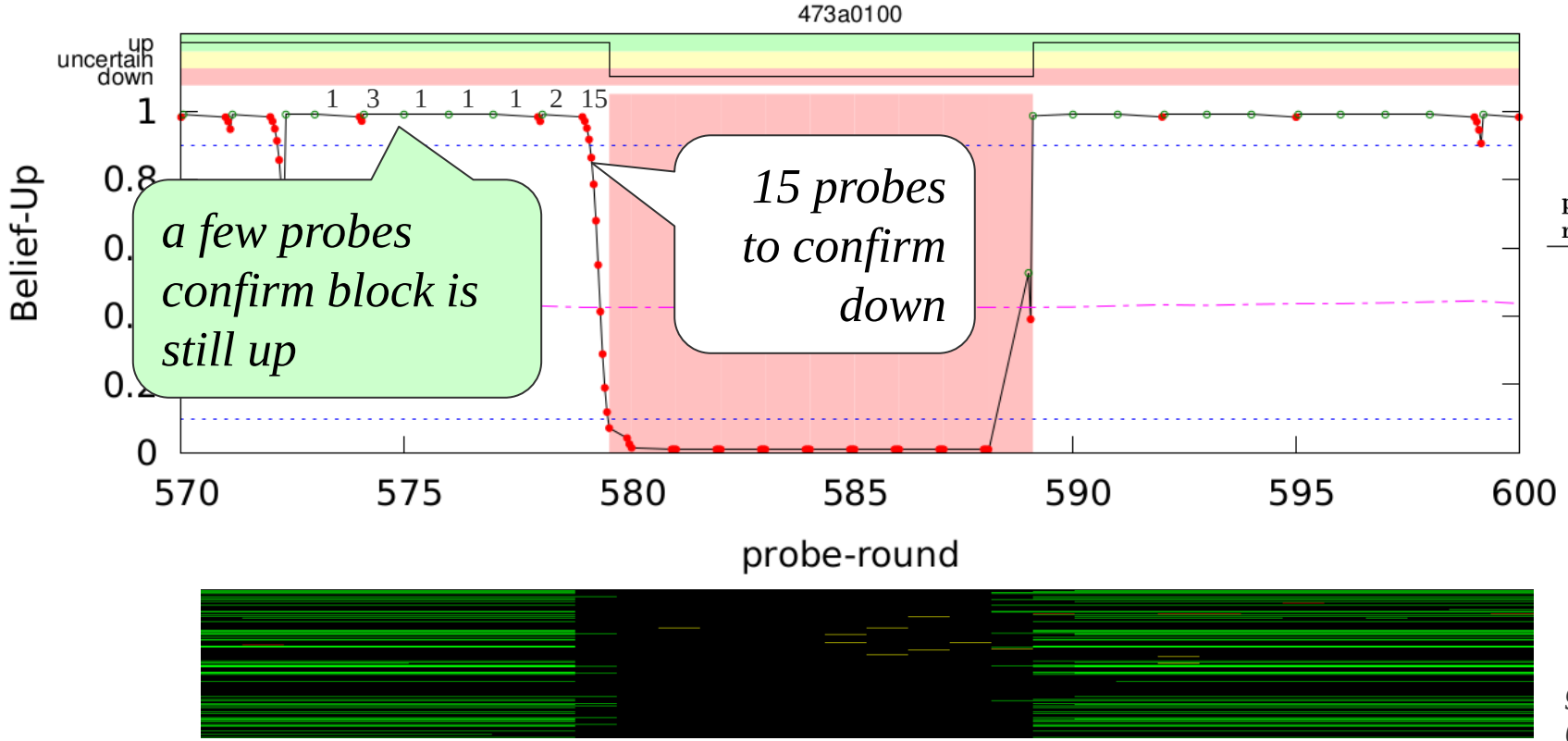

Modeling + Bayesian Inference says how many probes

probe result	prior U^*	$P(probe\|U^*)$	reason
n	U	$1 - A(E(b))$	inactive addr.
p	U	$A(E(b))$	active addr.
n	$\bar{U}$	$1 - (1-\ell)/\|b\|$	non-response to block
p	$\bar{U}$	$(1-\ell)/\|b\|$	lone router?

$$B'(\bar{U}) = \frac{P(p|\bar{U})B(\bar{U})}{P(p|\bar{U})B(\bar{U}) + P(p|U)B(U)}$$

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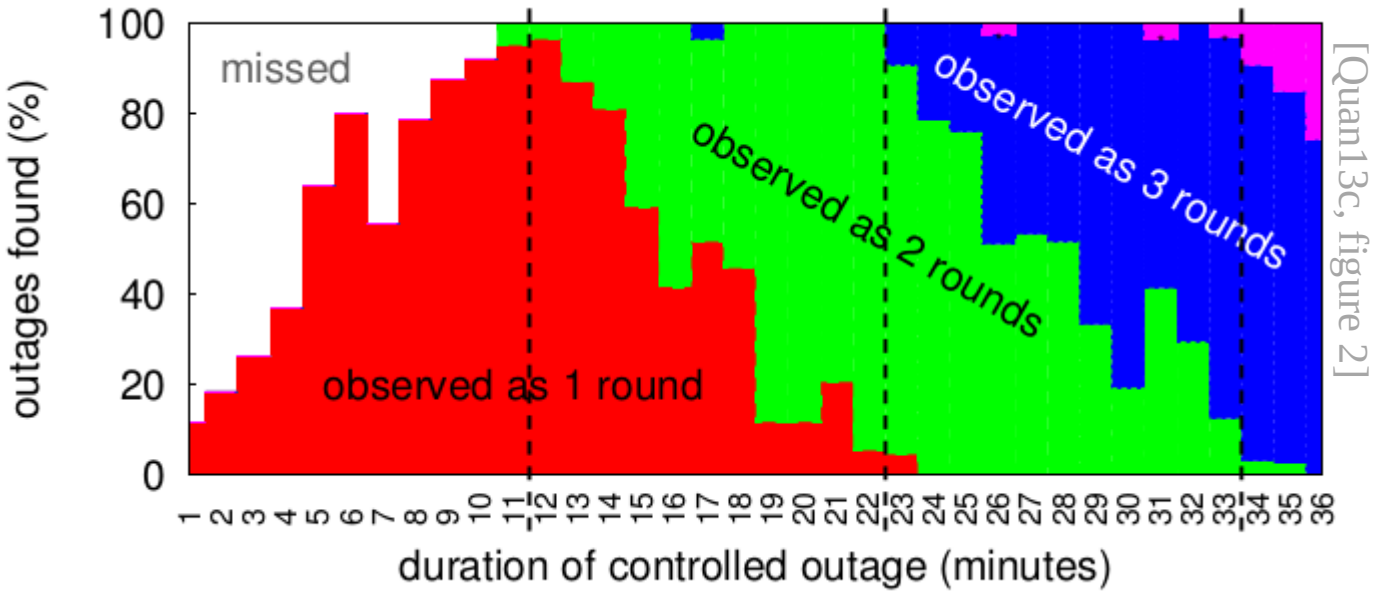
Precise: Detect All Outages?



[Quan13c, figure 2]

Experiment:

Controlled outages (random duration, 1 to 36 minutes) in test block, measured from 3 different sites (2 in US, 1 in Japan).

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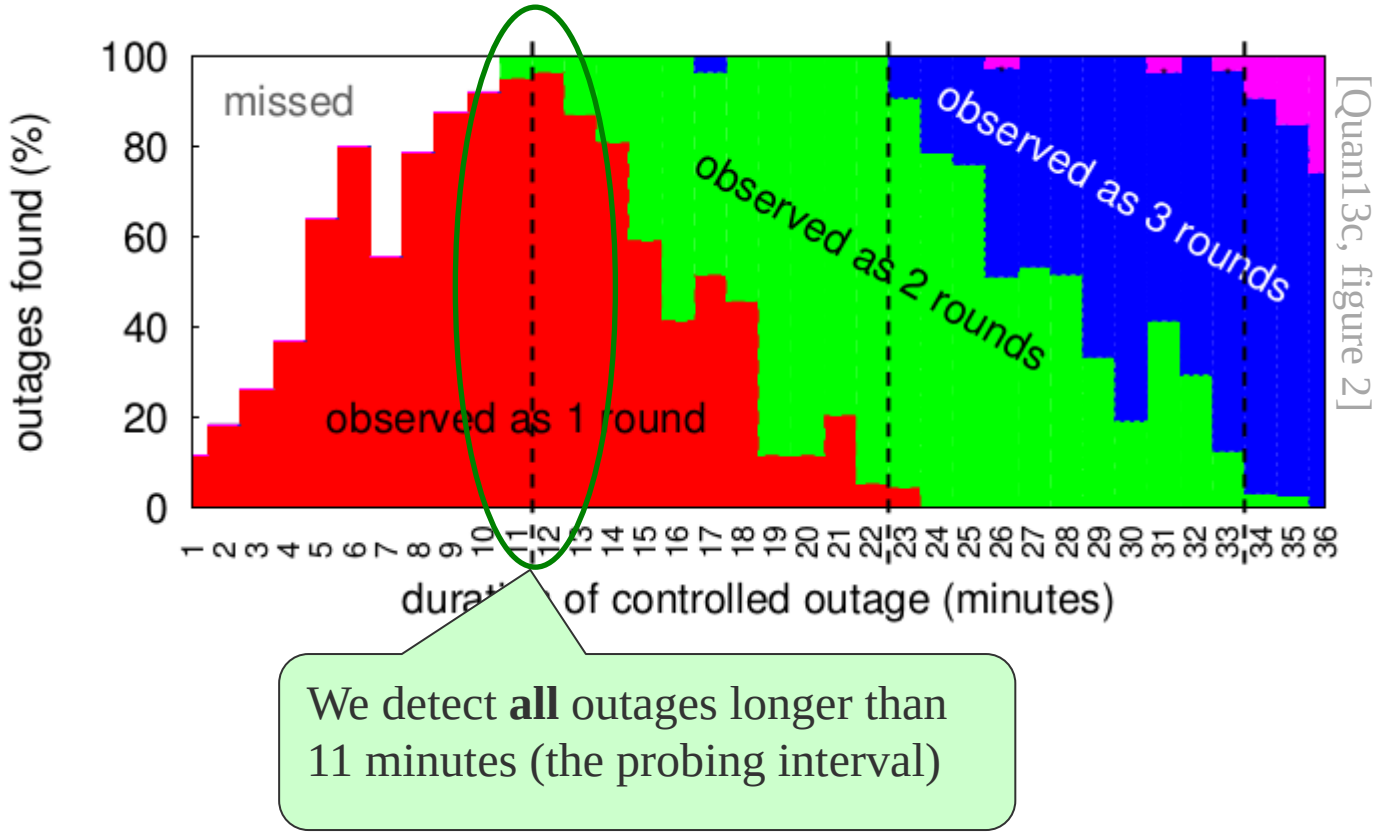

We detect **all** outages longer than 11 minutes (the probing interval)

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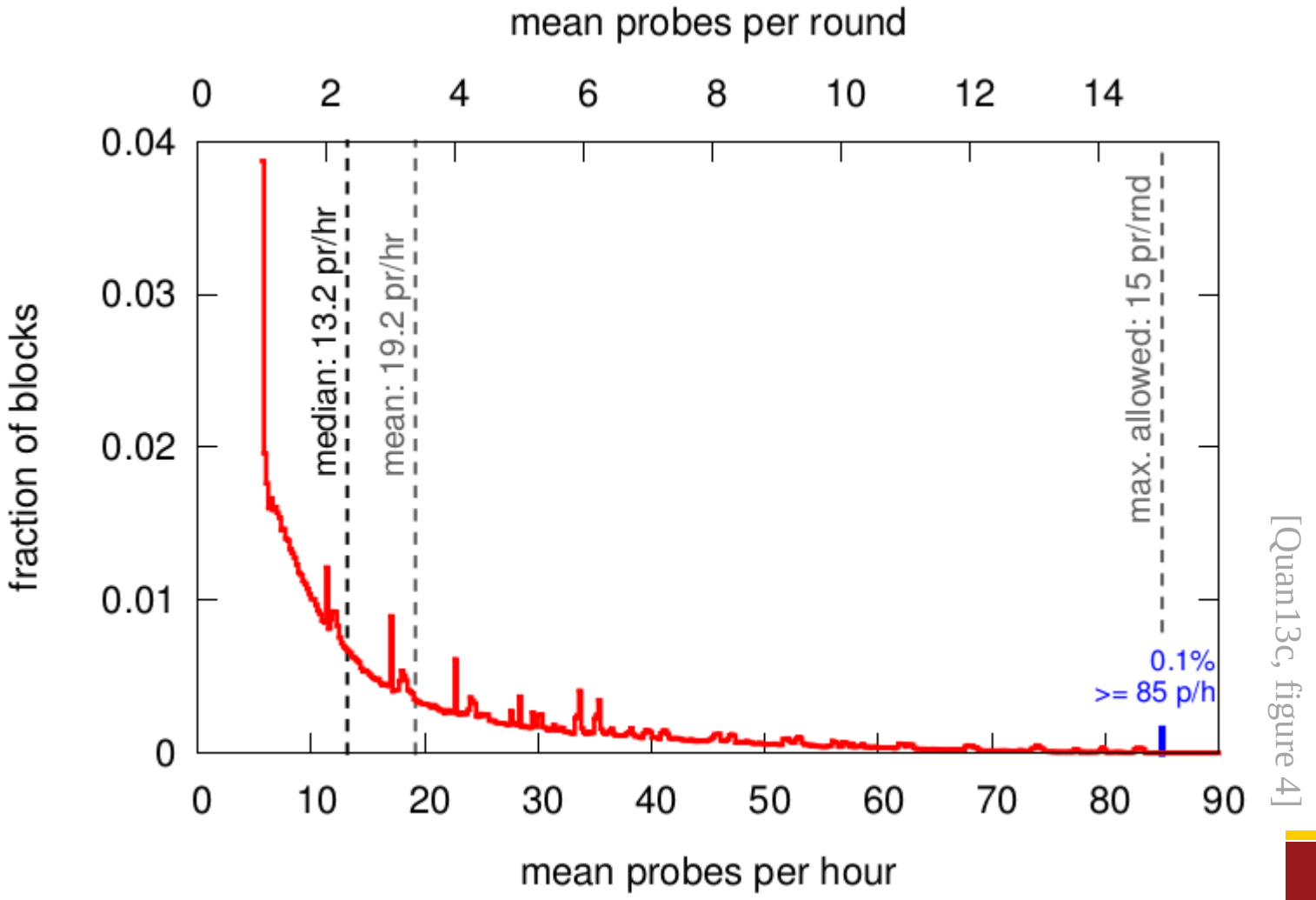

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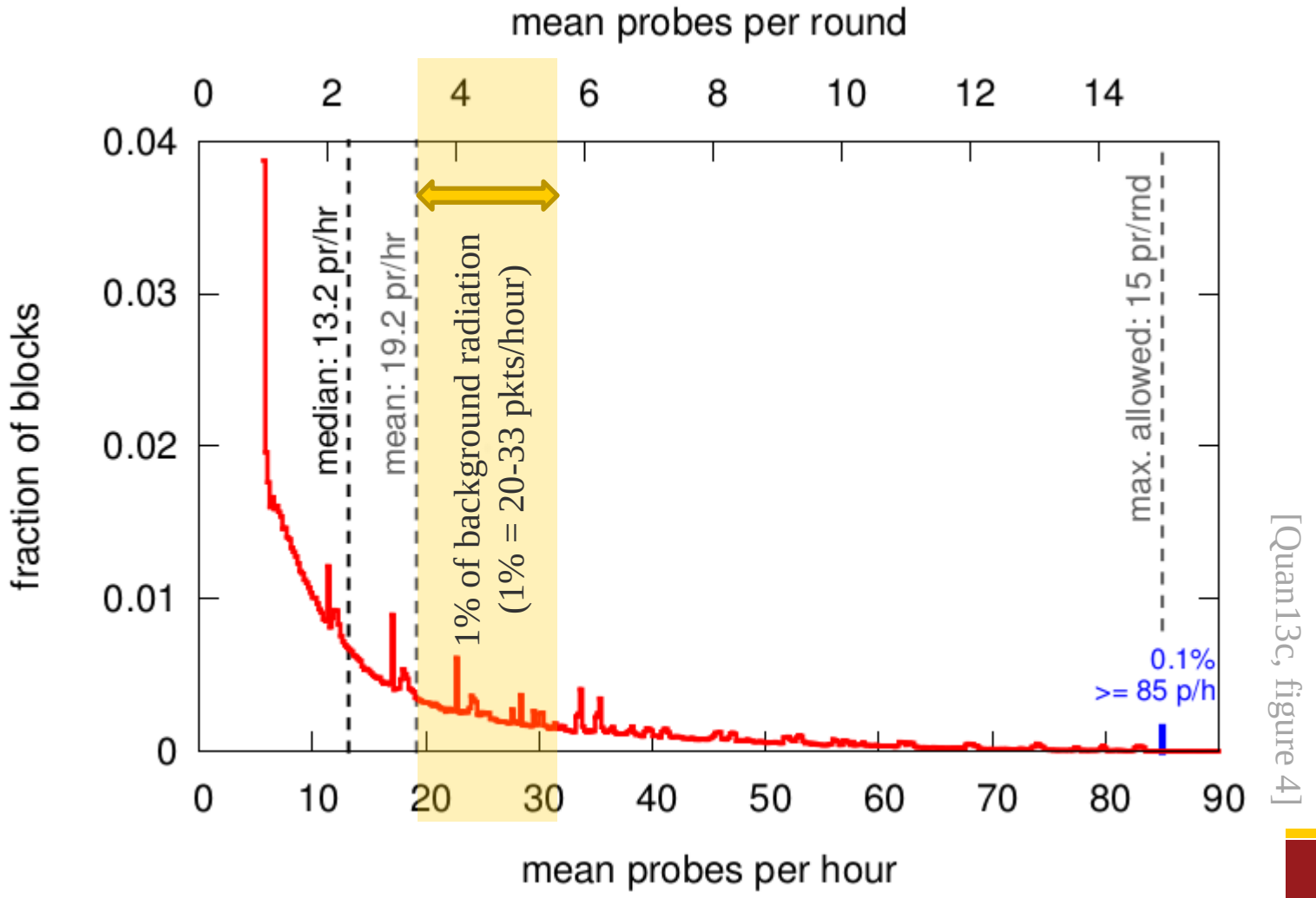

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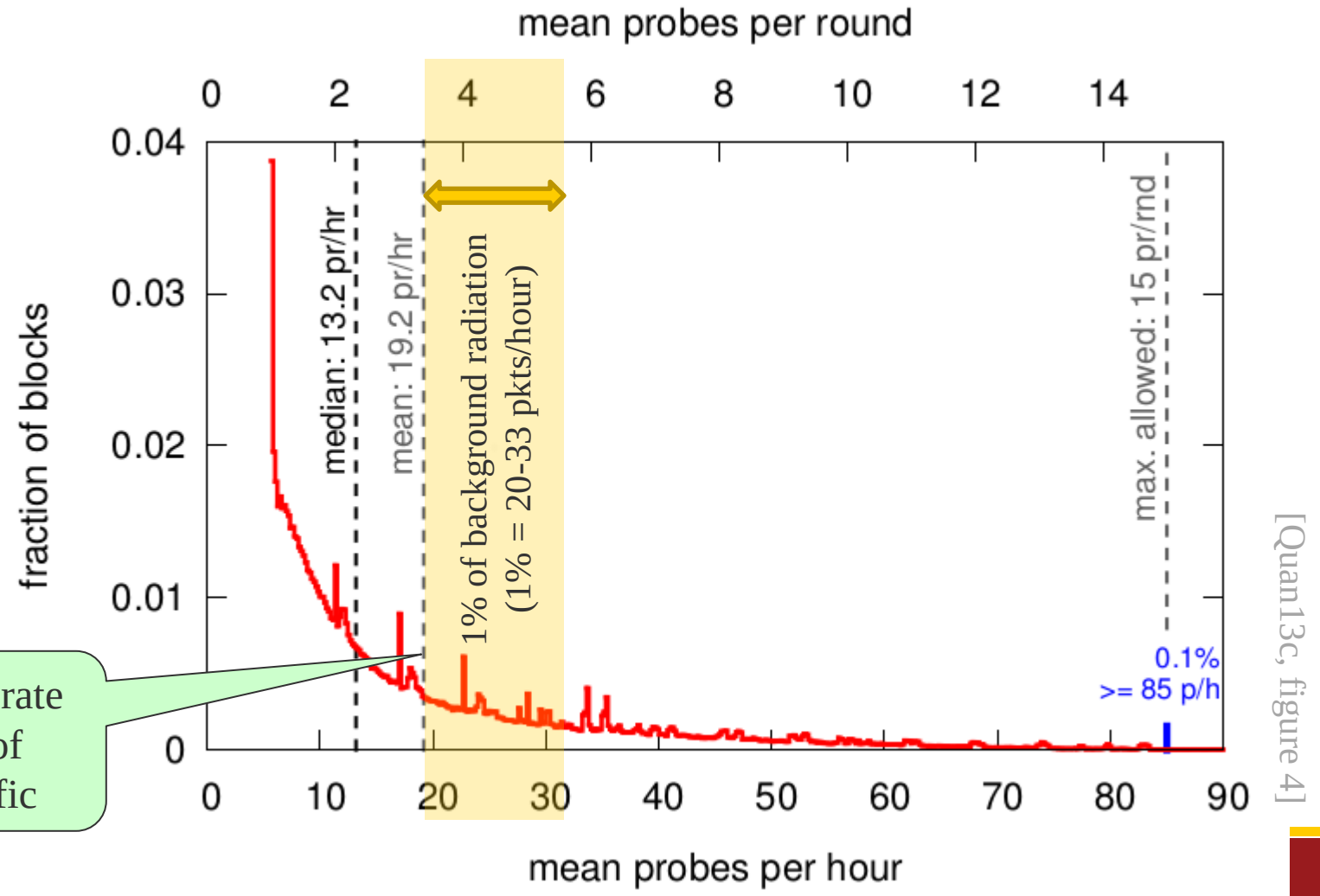

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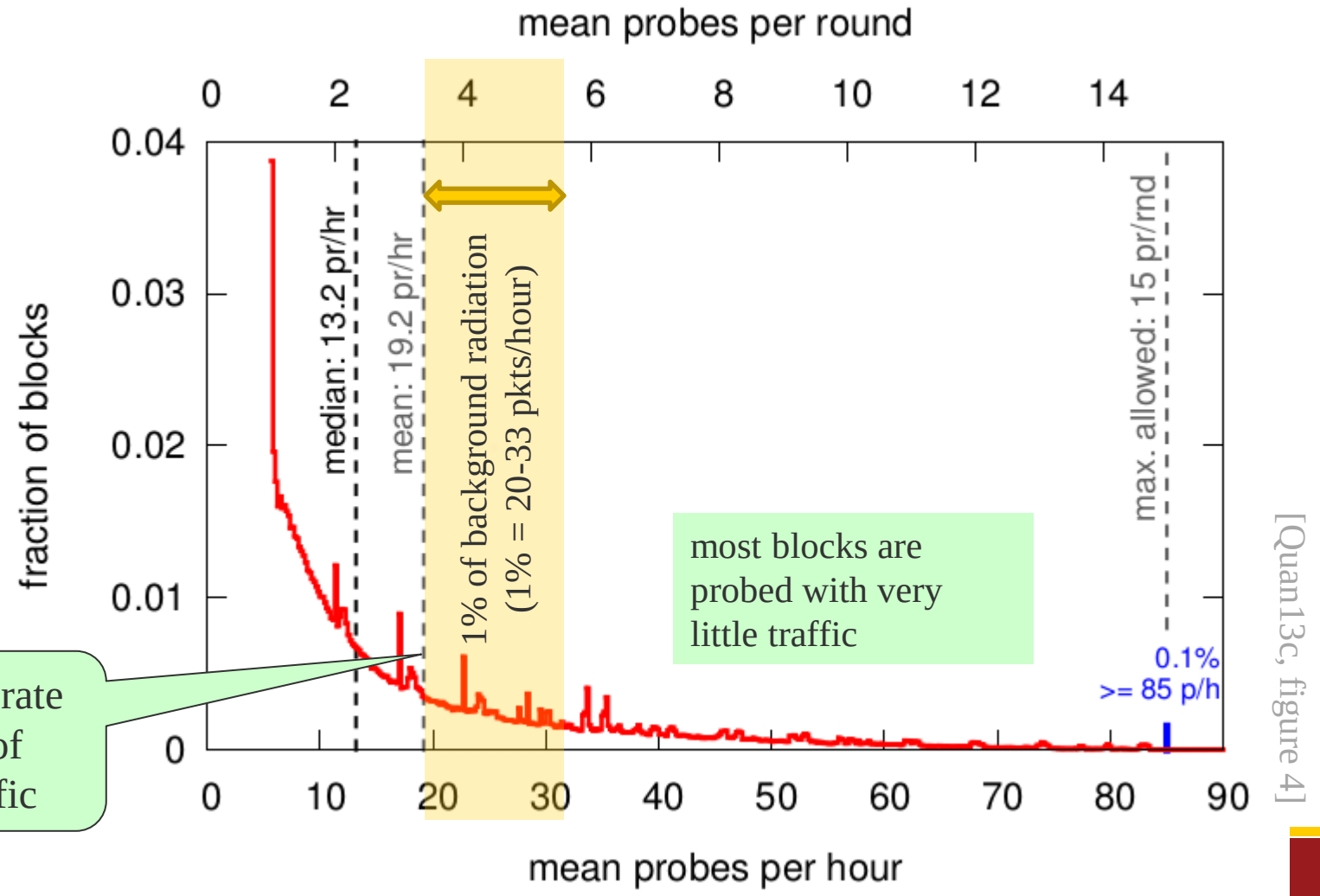

most blocks are probed with very little traffic

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Improving Outages in the Toughest Blocks

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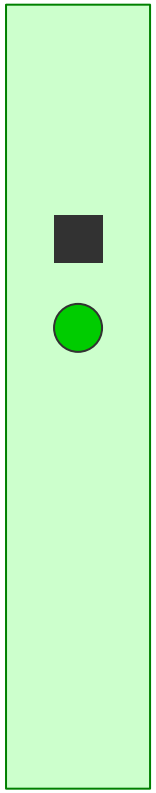

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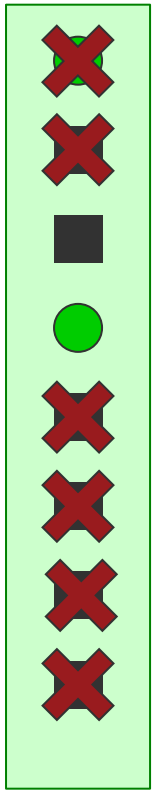

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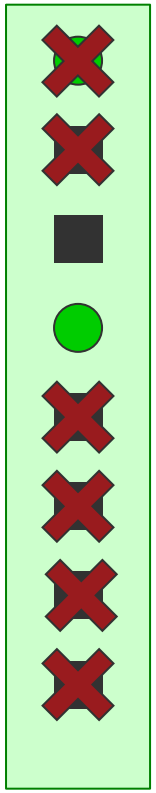

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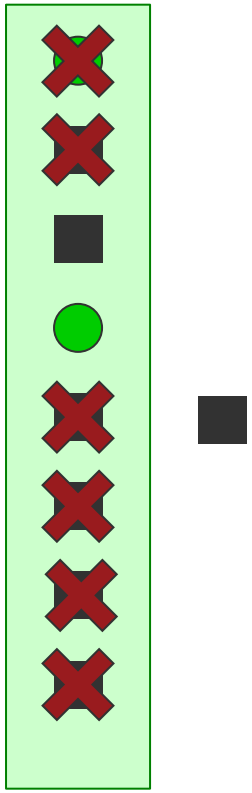

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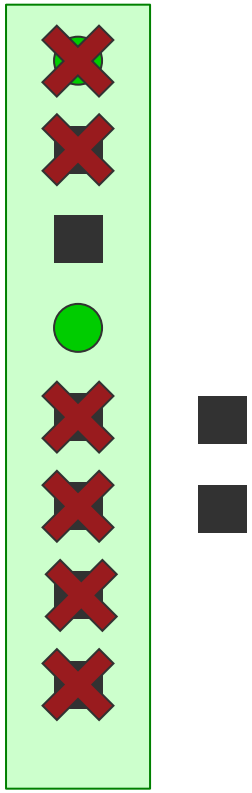

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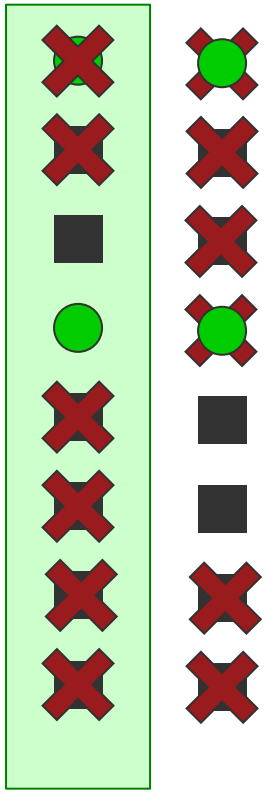

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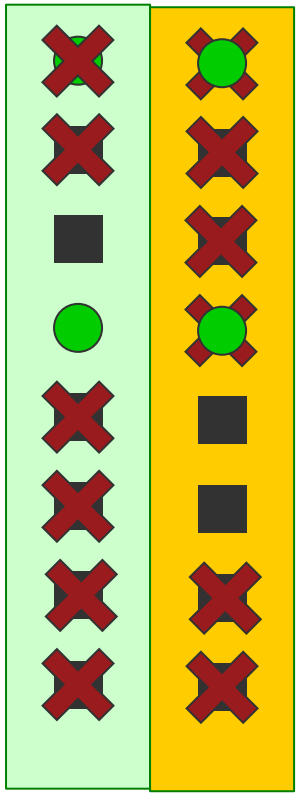

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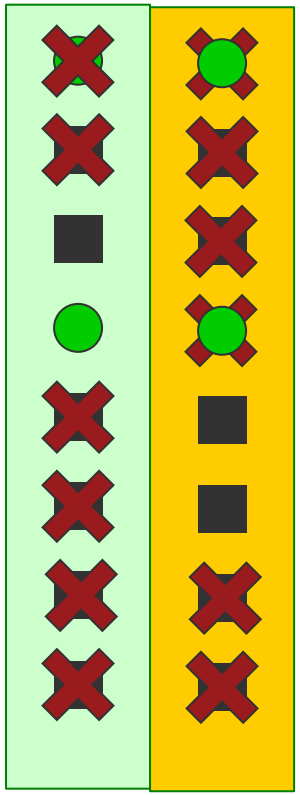

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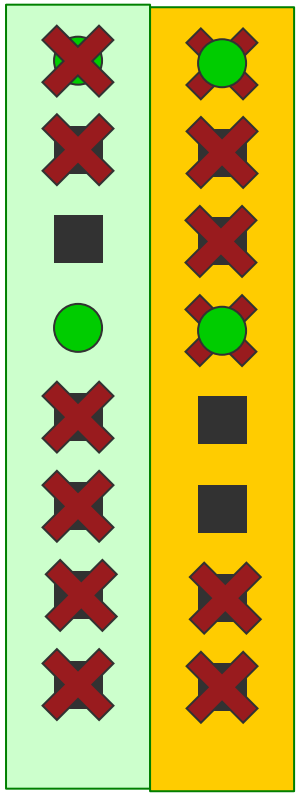

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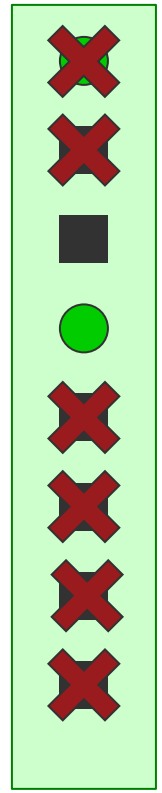

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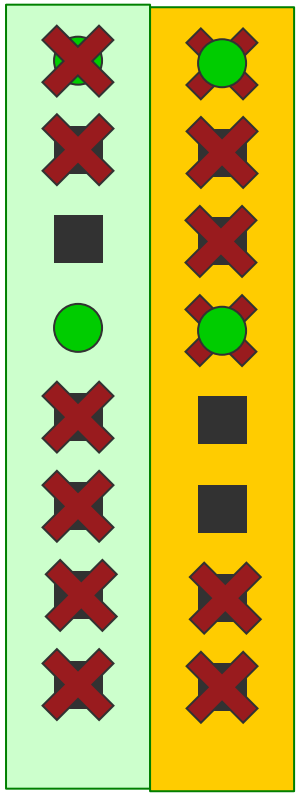

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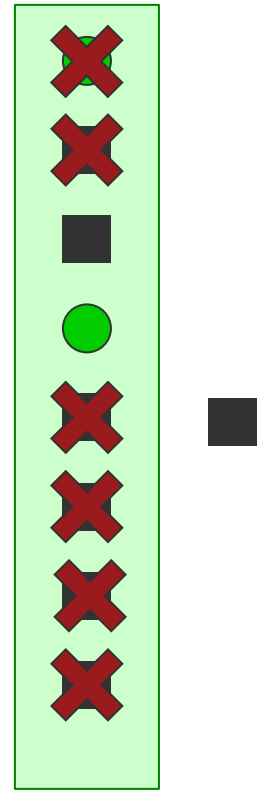

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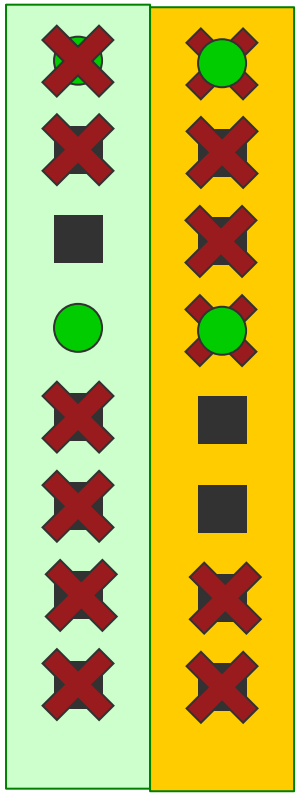

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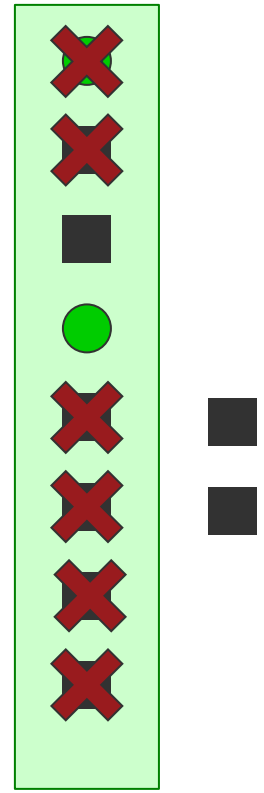

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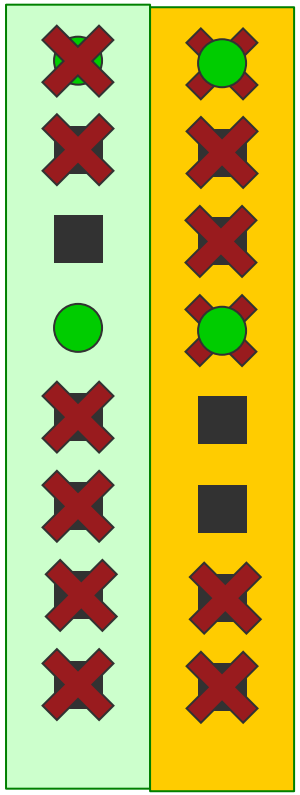

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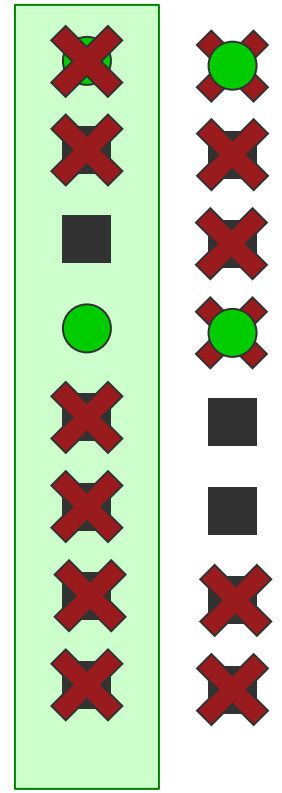

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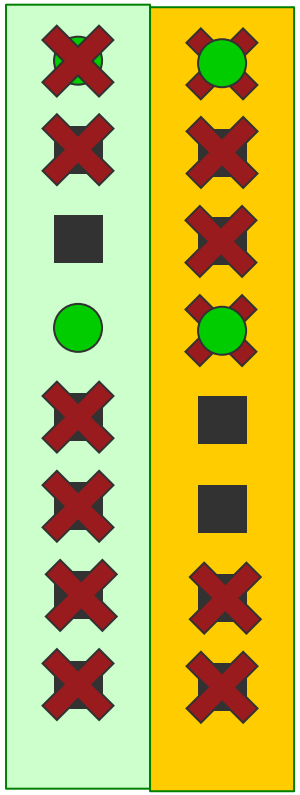

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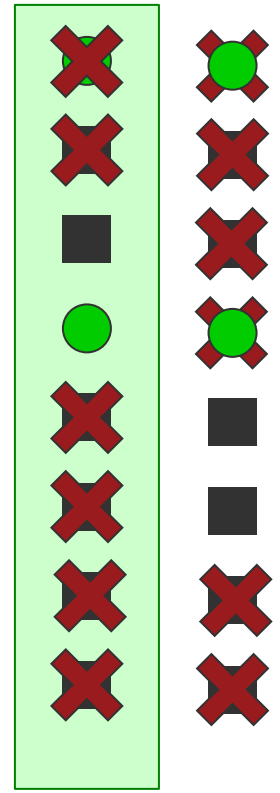

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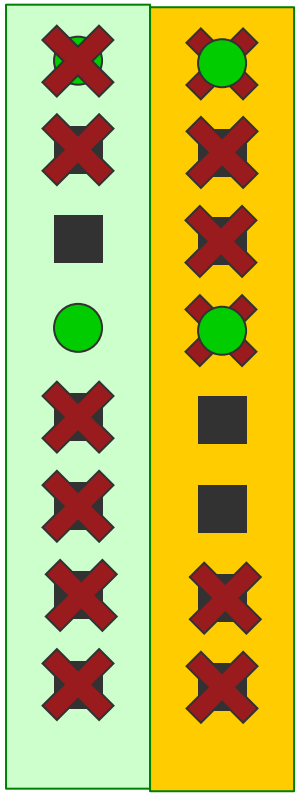

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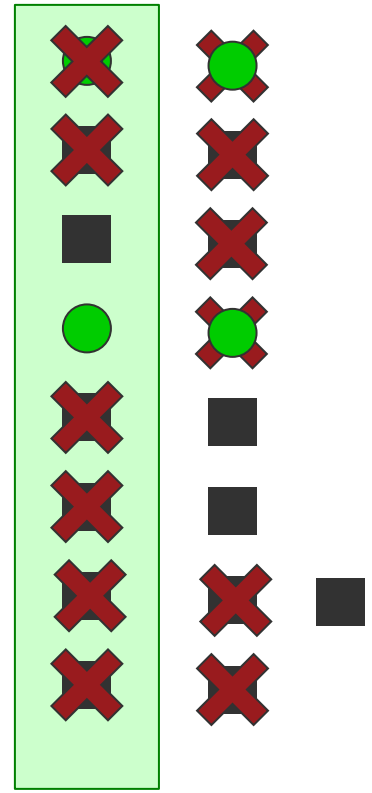

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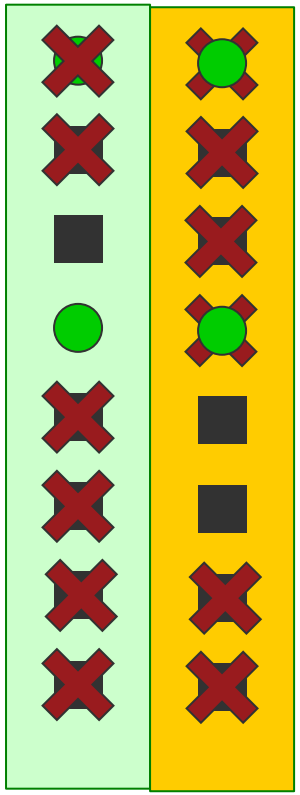

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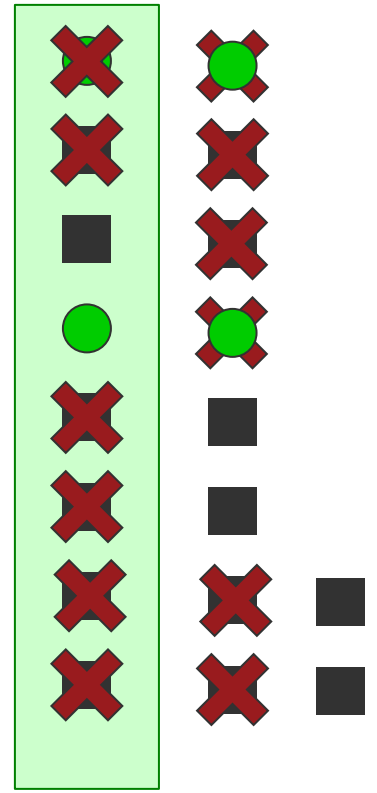

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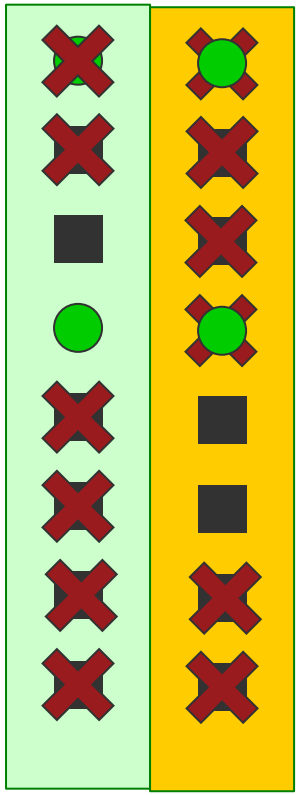

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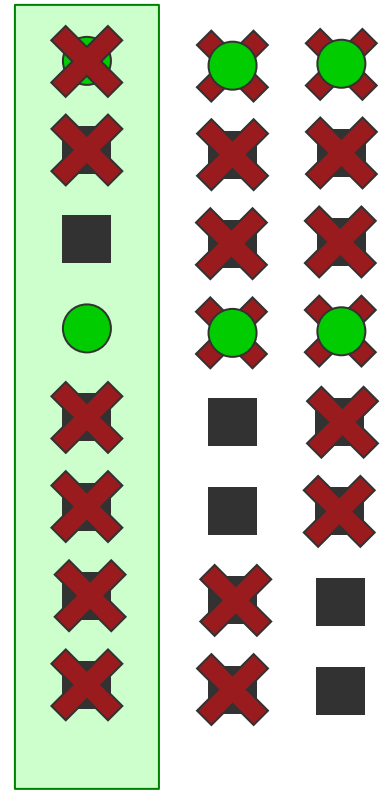

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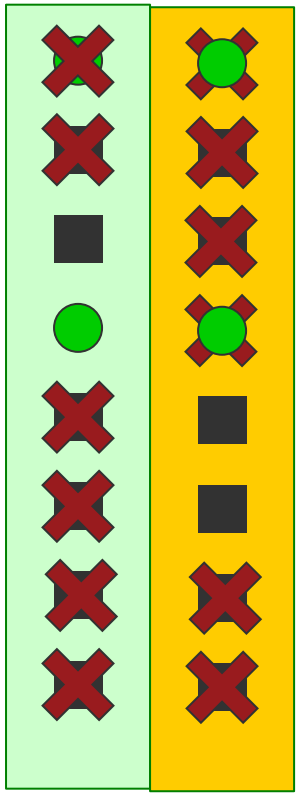

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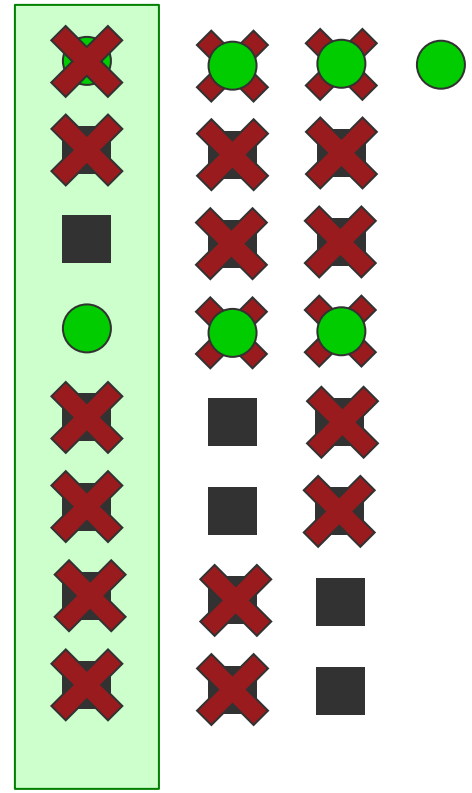

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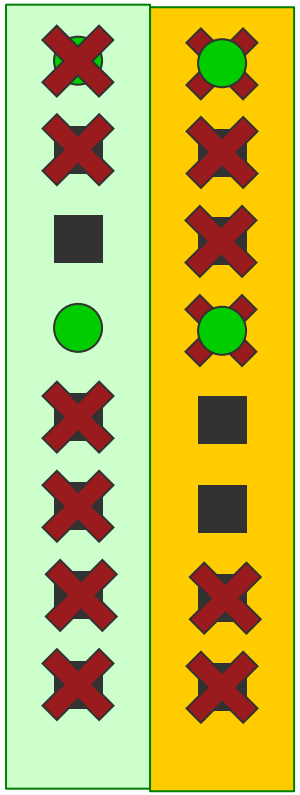

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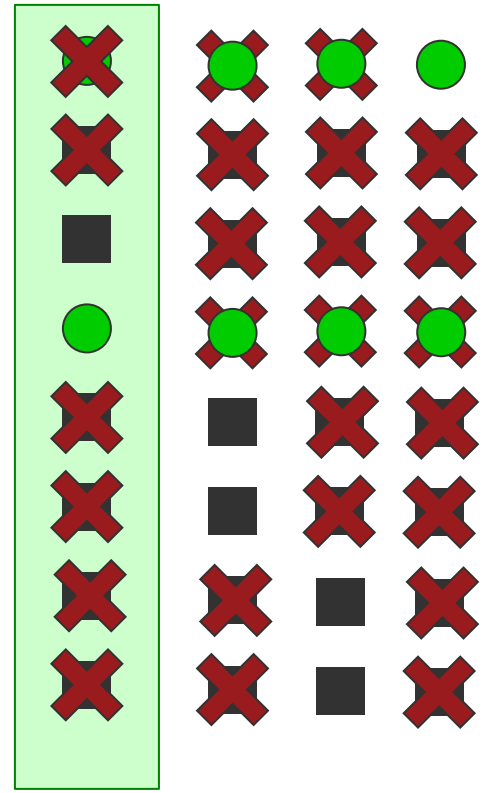

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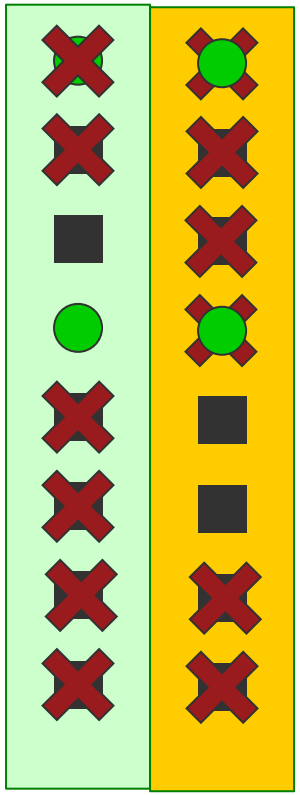

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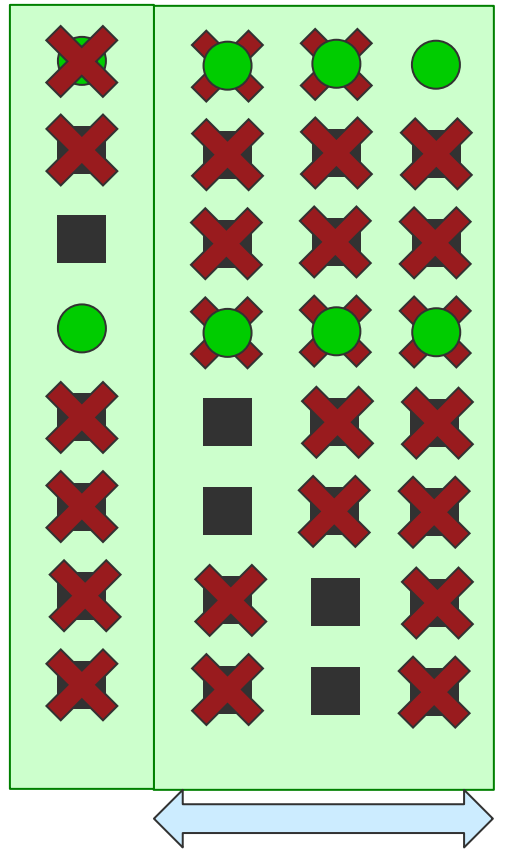

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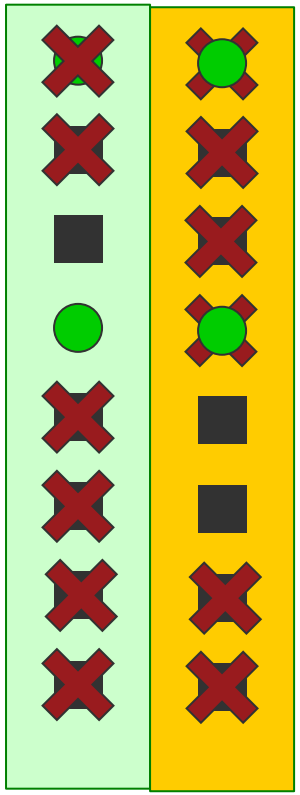

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improves correctness and retains politeness
but lower temporal precision (for sparse blks only)

when sparse,
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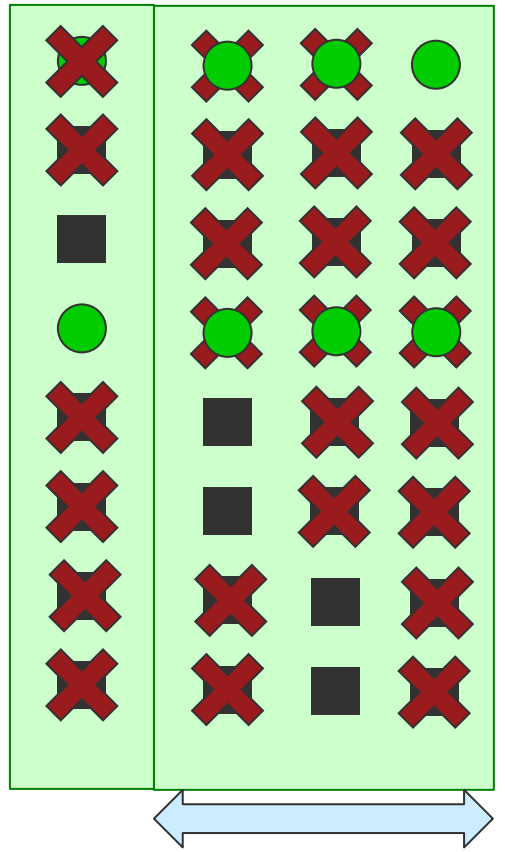

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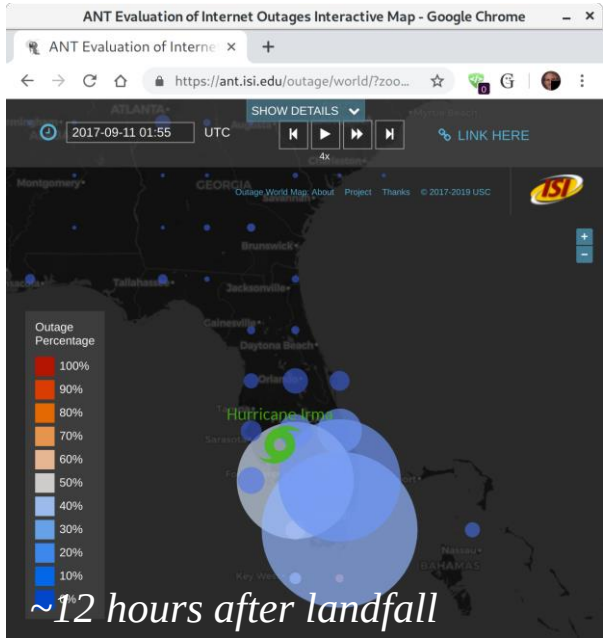
Impact of Outage Detection

- quantified impact of hurricanes
  - previously: Harvey (2017)
  - next: Irma (2017)
- outages in operational networks
- near-real time reporting

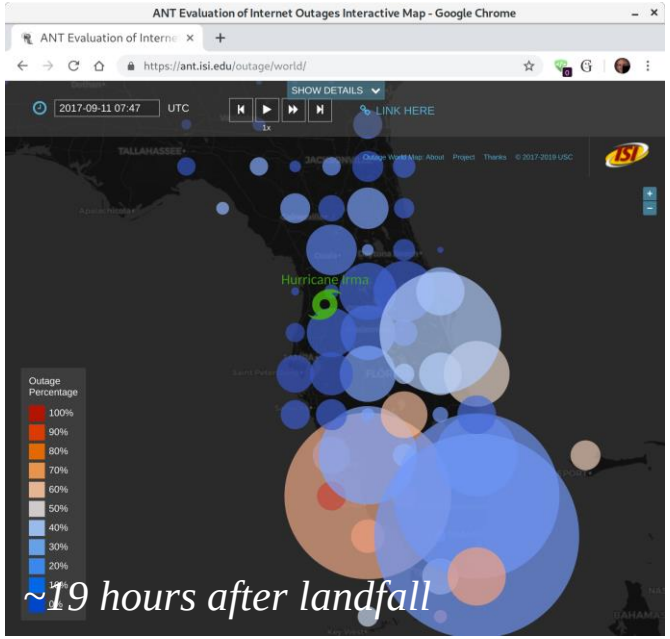
Hurricane Irma: Watching Recovery

before, during and after disasters: Irma, Sept. 2017 in Florida…
good recovery underway 24 hours after landfall



~12 hours after landfall

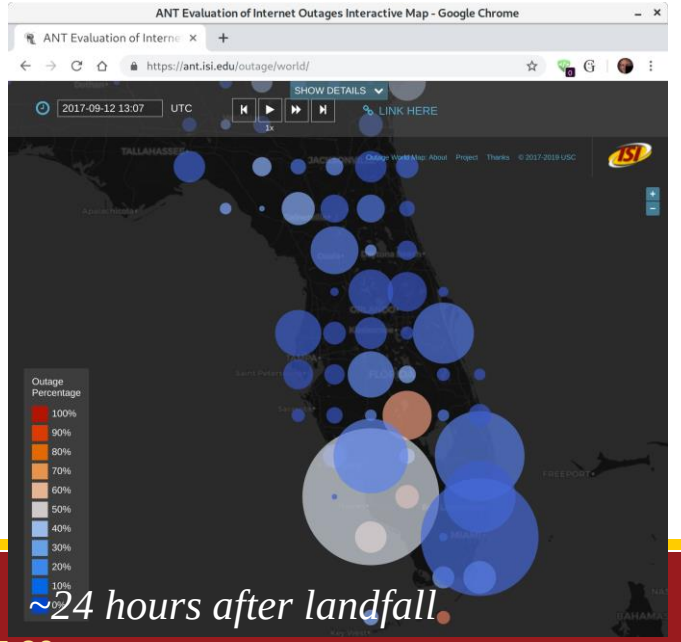
Irma landfall: 2017-09-10t13:10Z at Cudjoe Key, Florida



~19 hours after landfall

(play)

https://ant.isi.edu/url/irma2017/



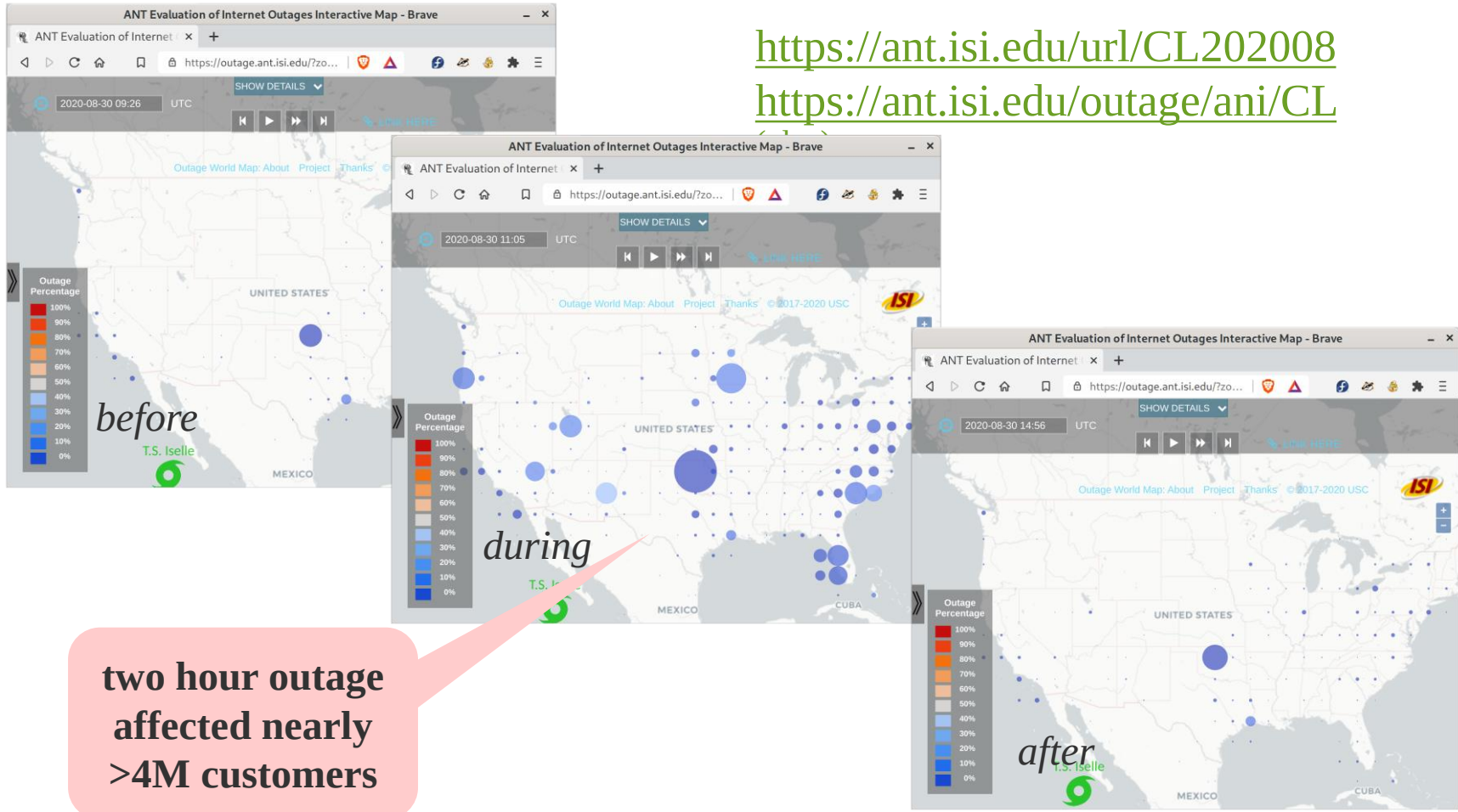
~24 hours after landfall

Outages in Operational Networks: CenturyLink, August 2020

we also see problems due to network ops

- this dataset:
  - 5M blocks
  - all of 2020q3
- events:
  - CenturyLink outage on 2020-08-30 starting 9:55Z
  - >4 million customers

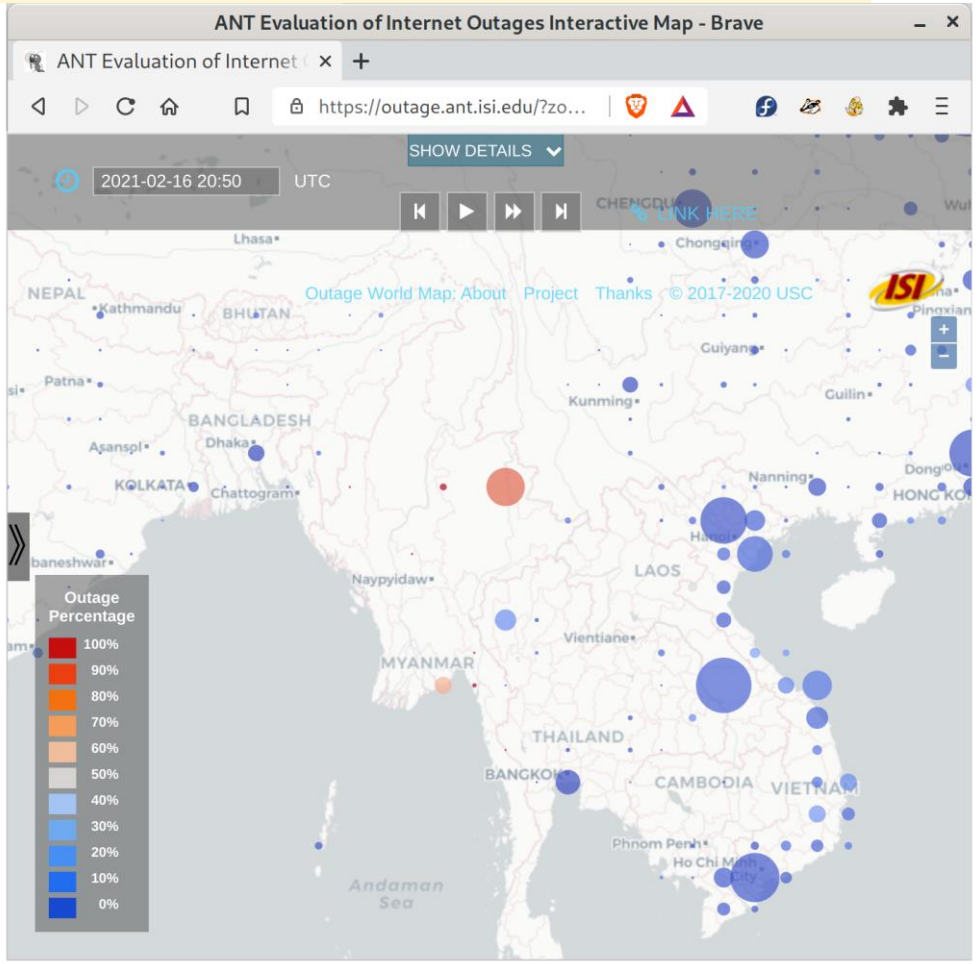
https://ant.isi.edu/url/CL202008
https://ant.isi.edu/outage/ani/CL



two hour outage affected nearly >4M customers

Near-Real Time Reporting (Now!)

- https://outage.ant.isi.edu/
- outages 24x7, within ~2h of observation
- visualized in your browser
  - circle size: *number* of blocks out
  - color: *percent* of blocks out
  - pan in geography and time
- goals:
  - support first responders
  - support the general public
  - global coverage



Myanmar, Internet shutdown 2021-02-16, 2 weeks after a military coup
https://ant.isi.edu/url/mm210206

Understanding Internet Reliability

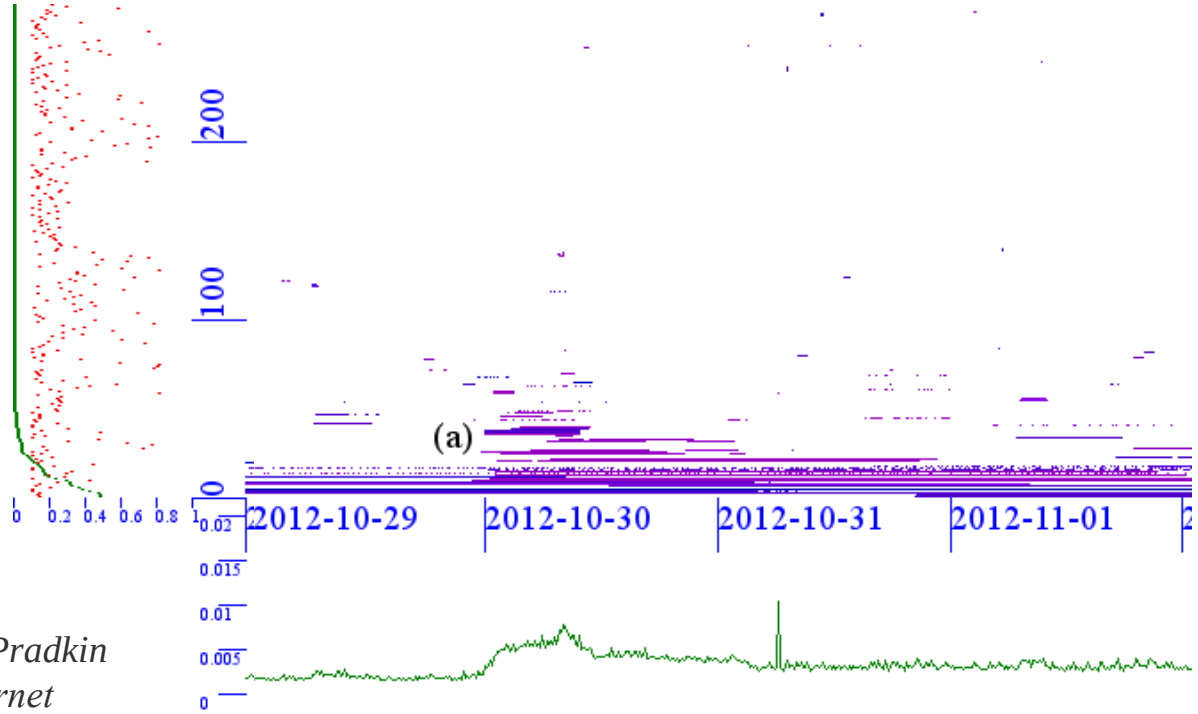
- opportunities observing Internet reliability
- from scanning to outages
- **from outages to clusters: hidden dependencies**
- finding work-from-home

Analyzing Long-Term Data

- outage data, 24x7, since Nov. 2013
- more than 45TB (!)
- about 20k observations x 5M blocks:
  100G datapoints (!!)

- how to make sense of it?
  - interactive visualization
  - automated clustering

Non-Geographic Visualizations: the *Network* in Outages



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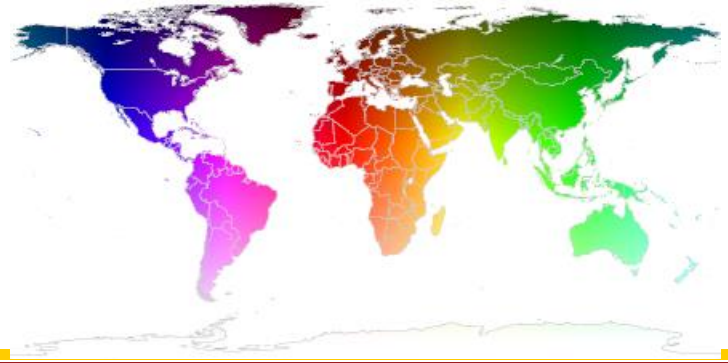
goal: reveal patterns

find dependencies among networks



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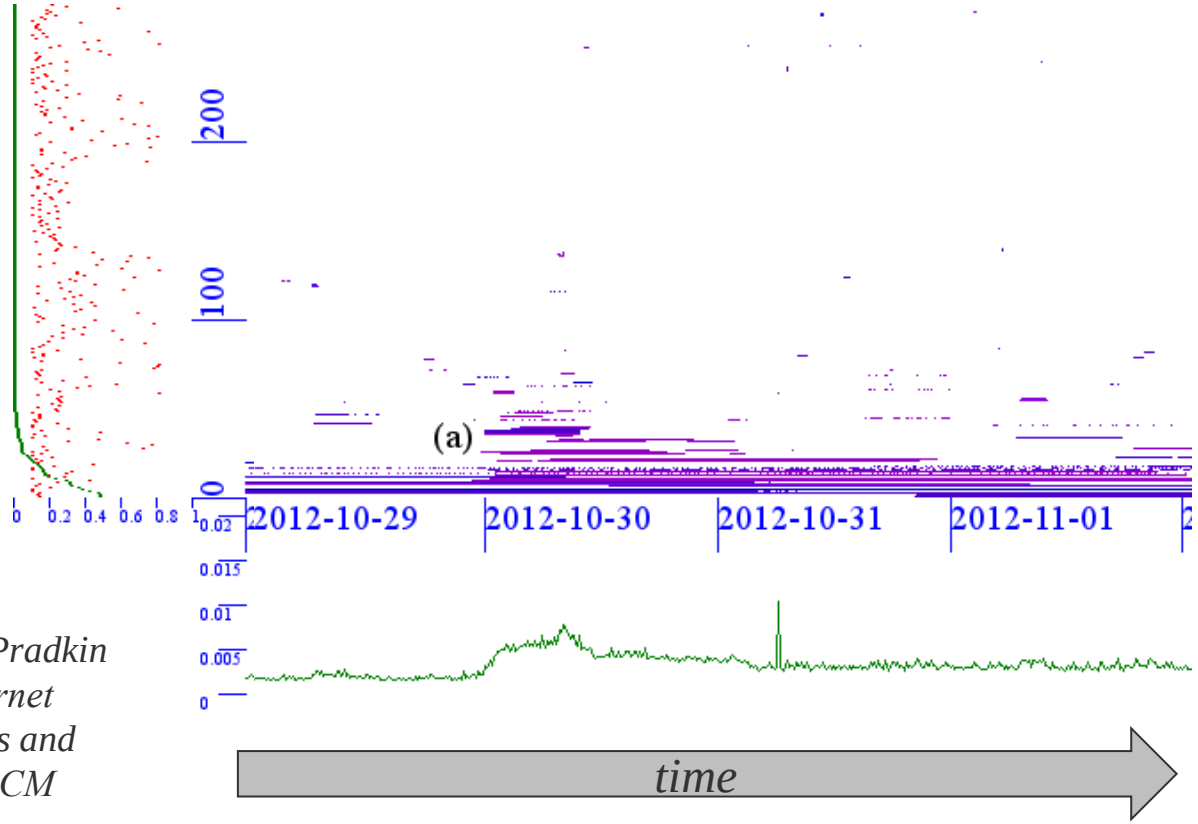

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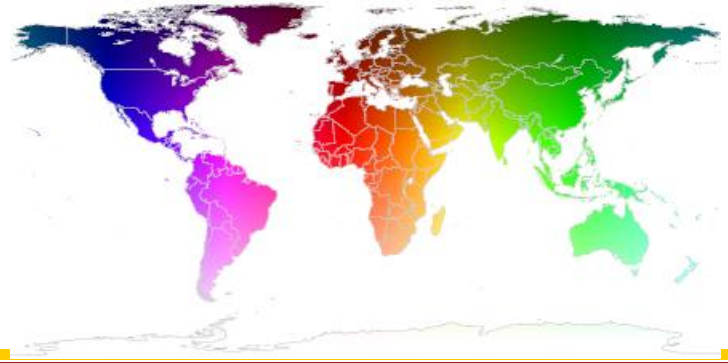

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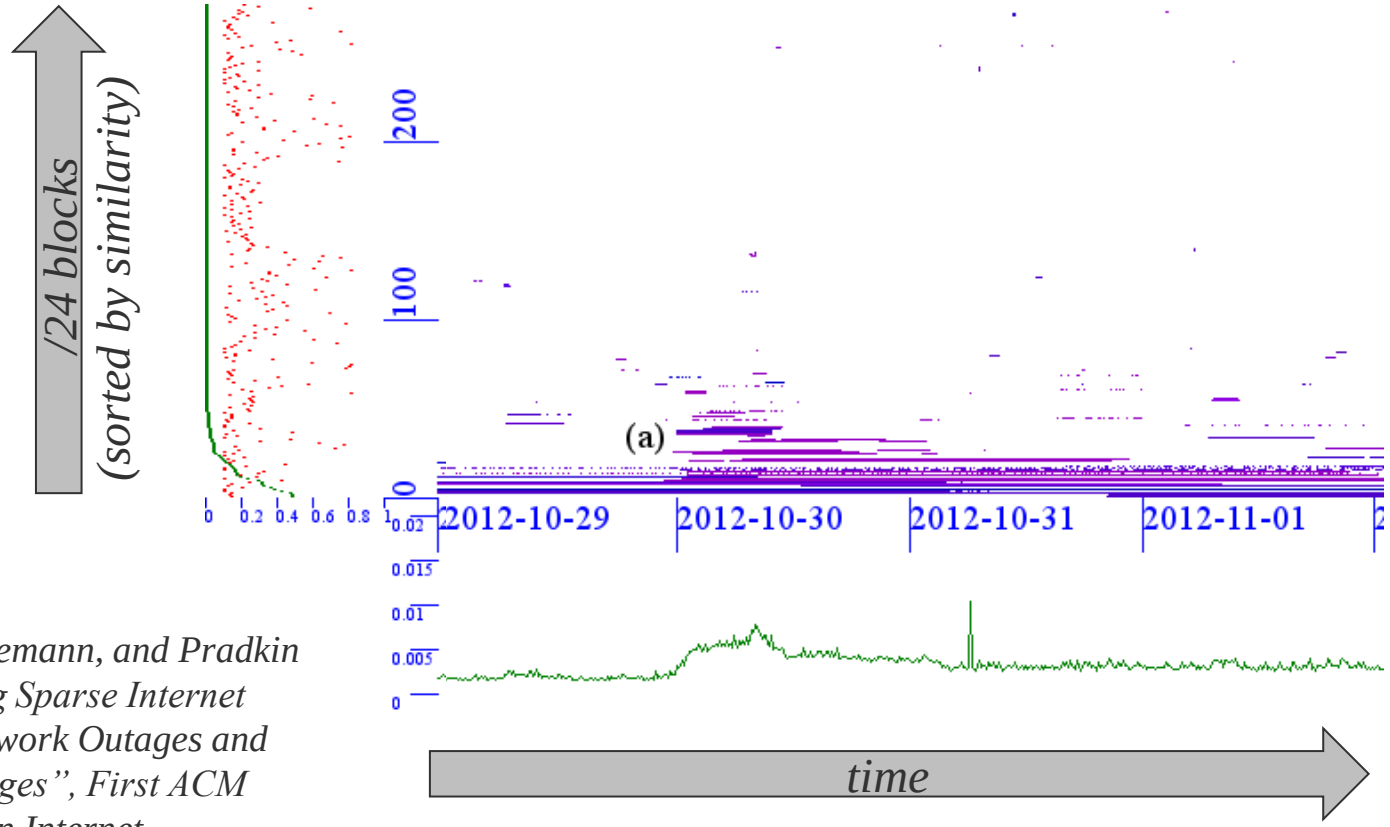

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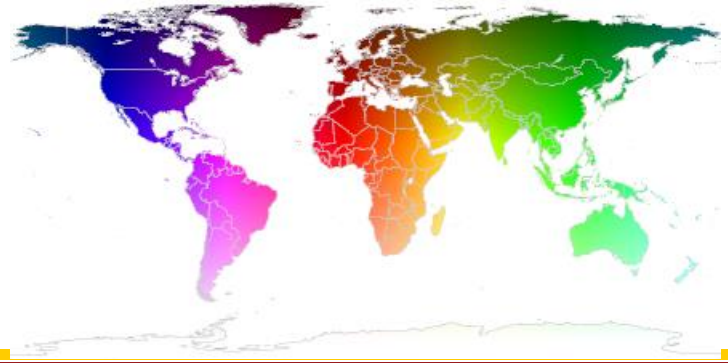

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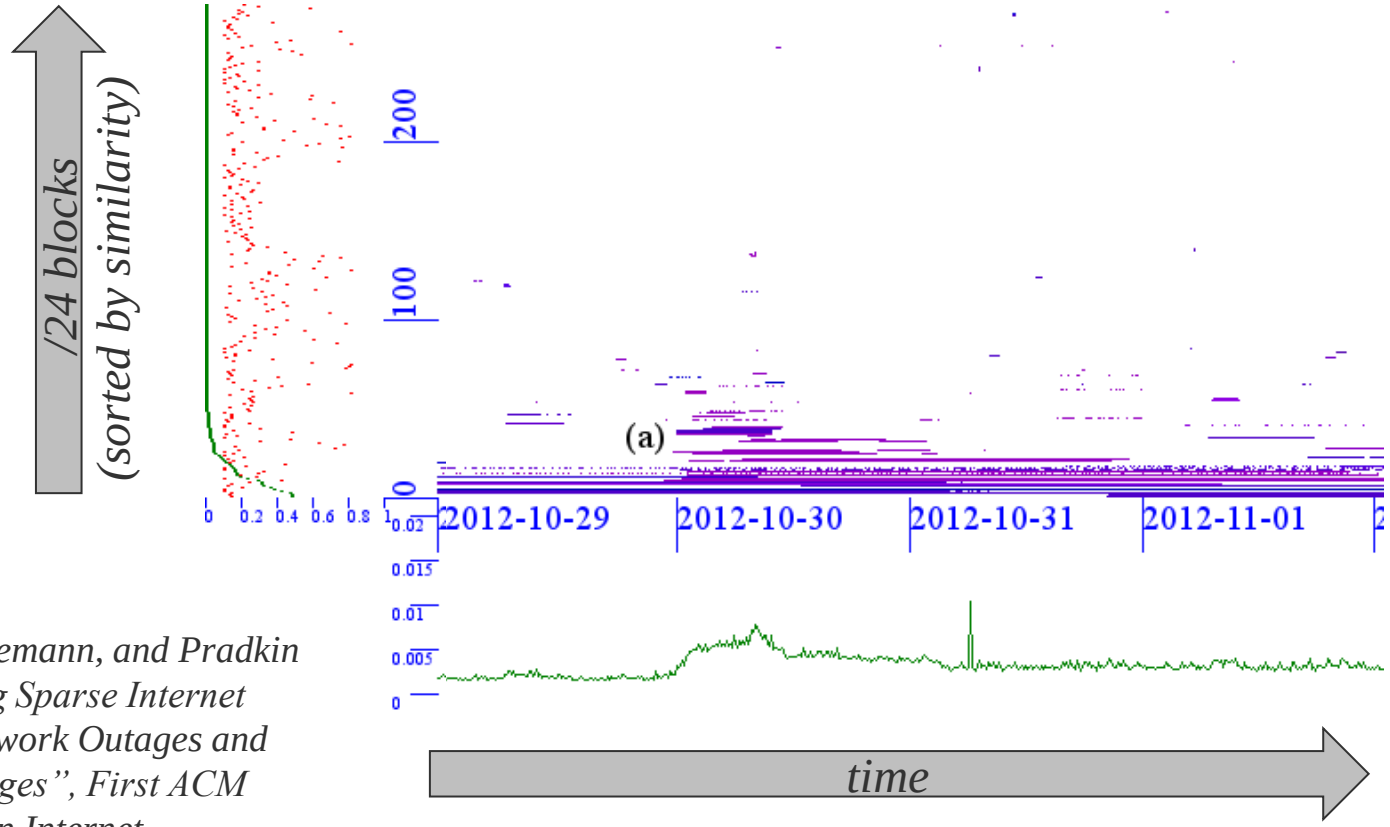

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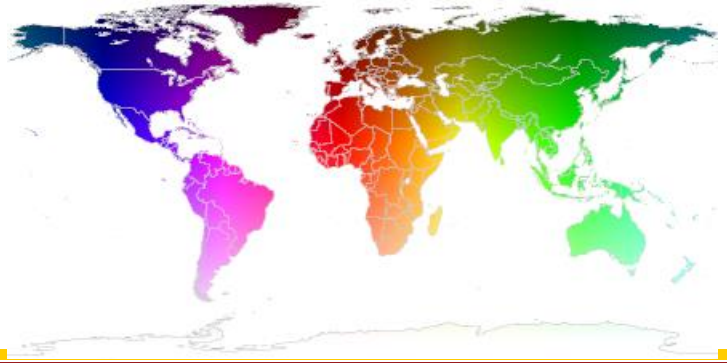

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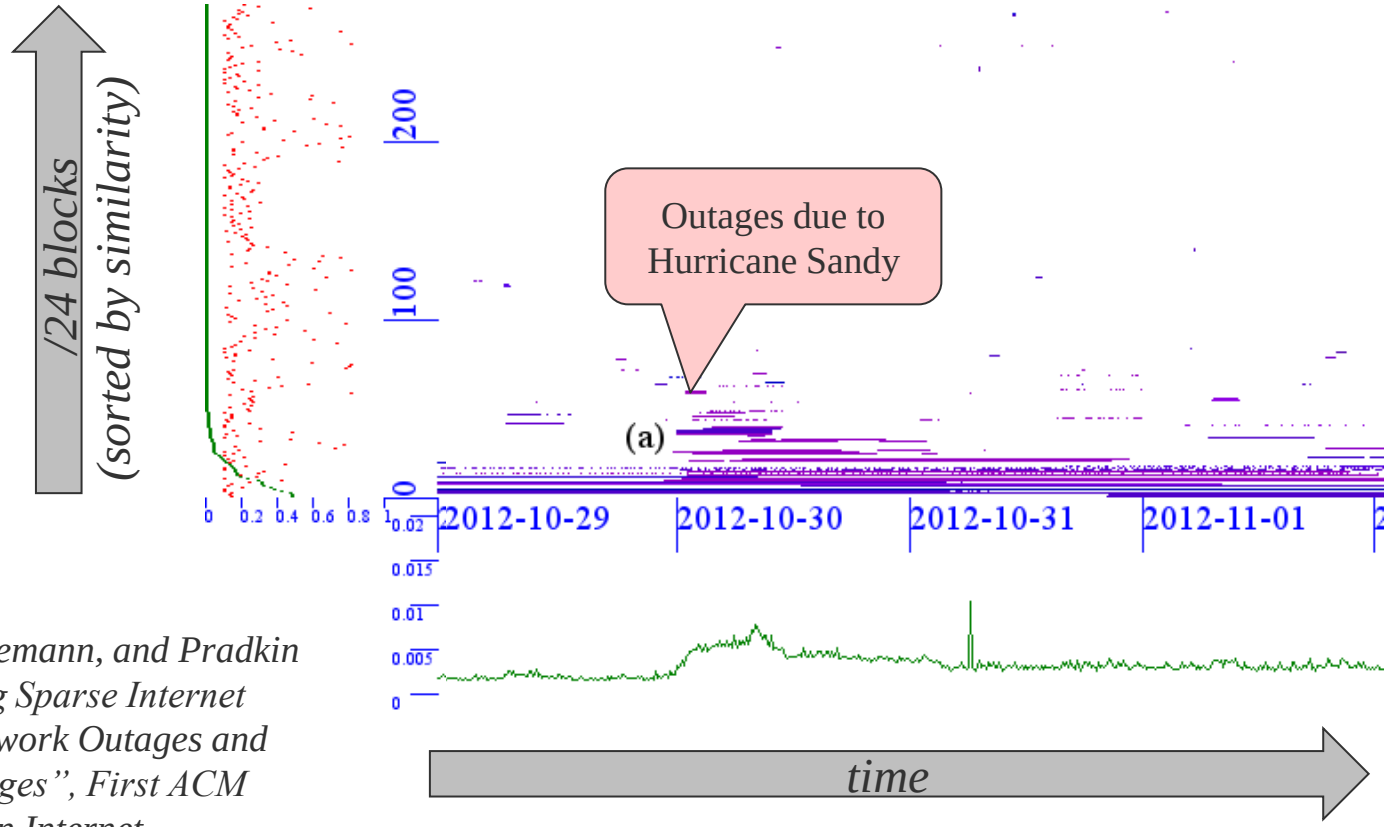

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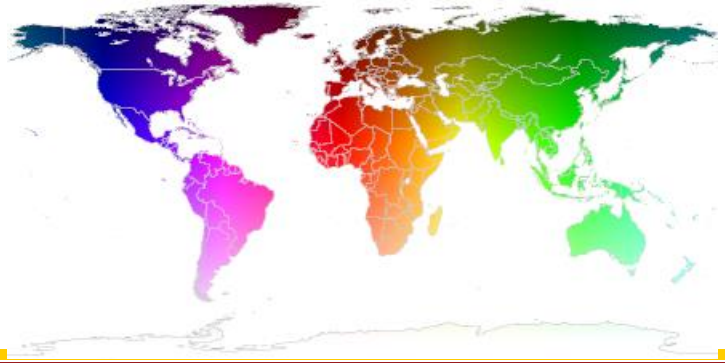

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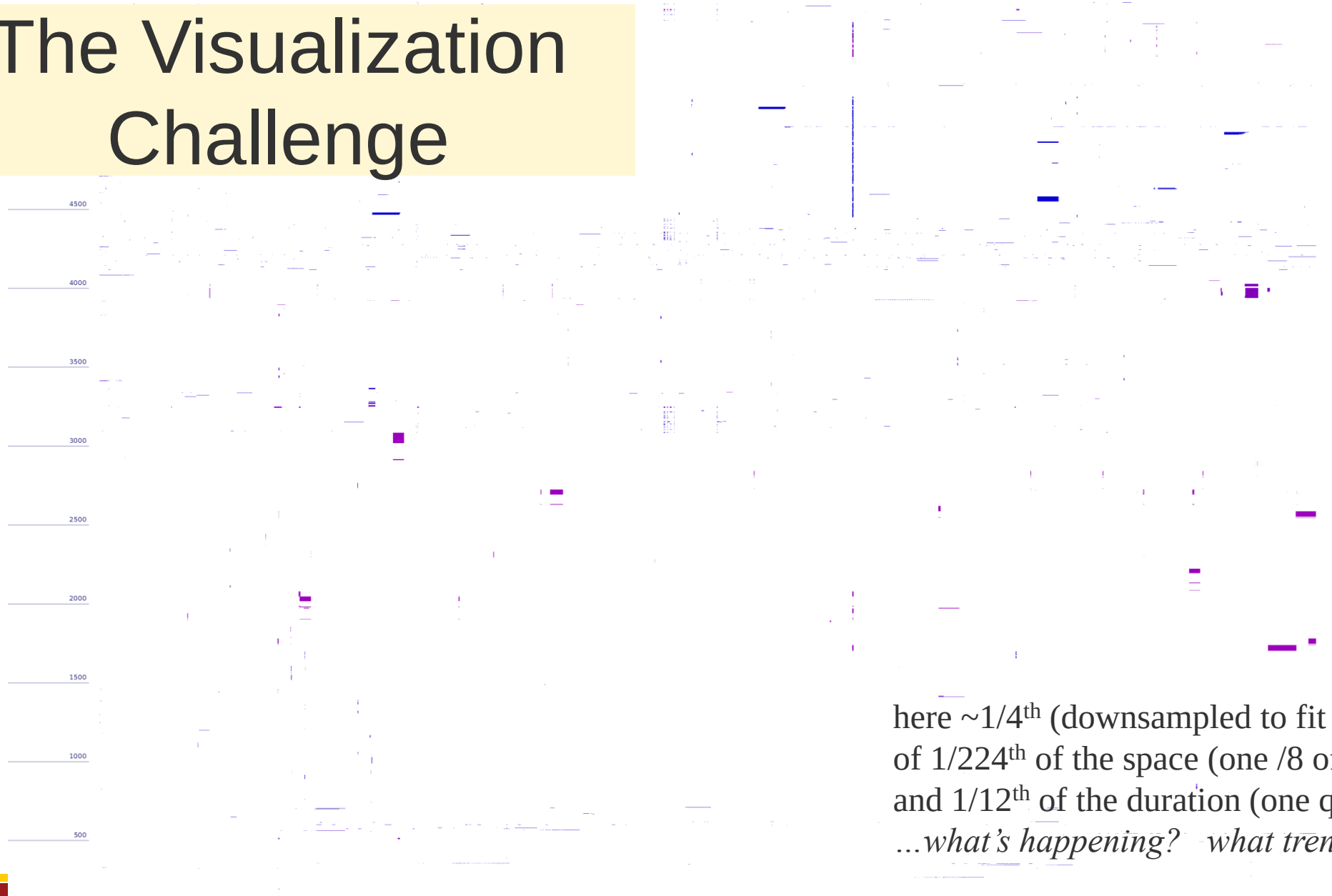

here ~1/4th (downsampled to fit the screen)
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and 1/12th of the duration (one quarter of ~3 years)
…what's happening? what trends? what's new?

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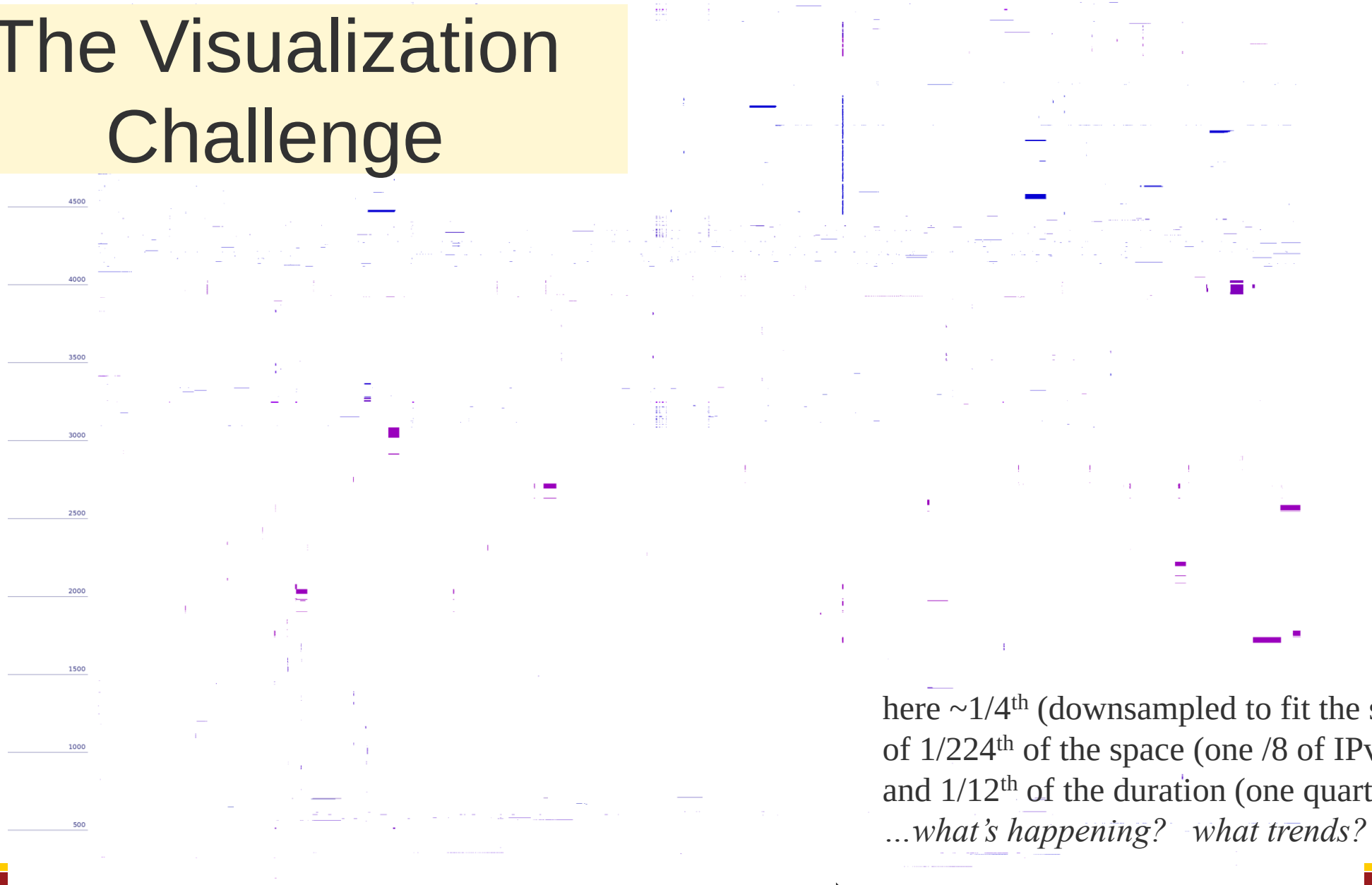

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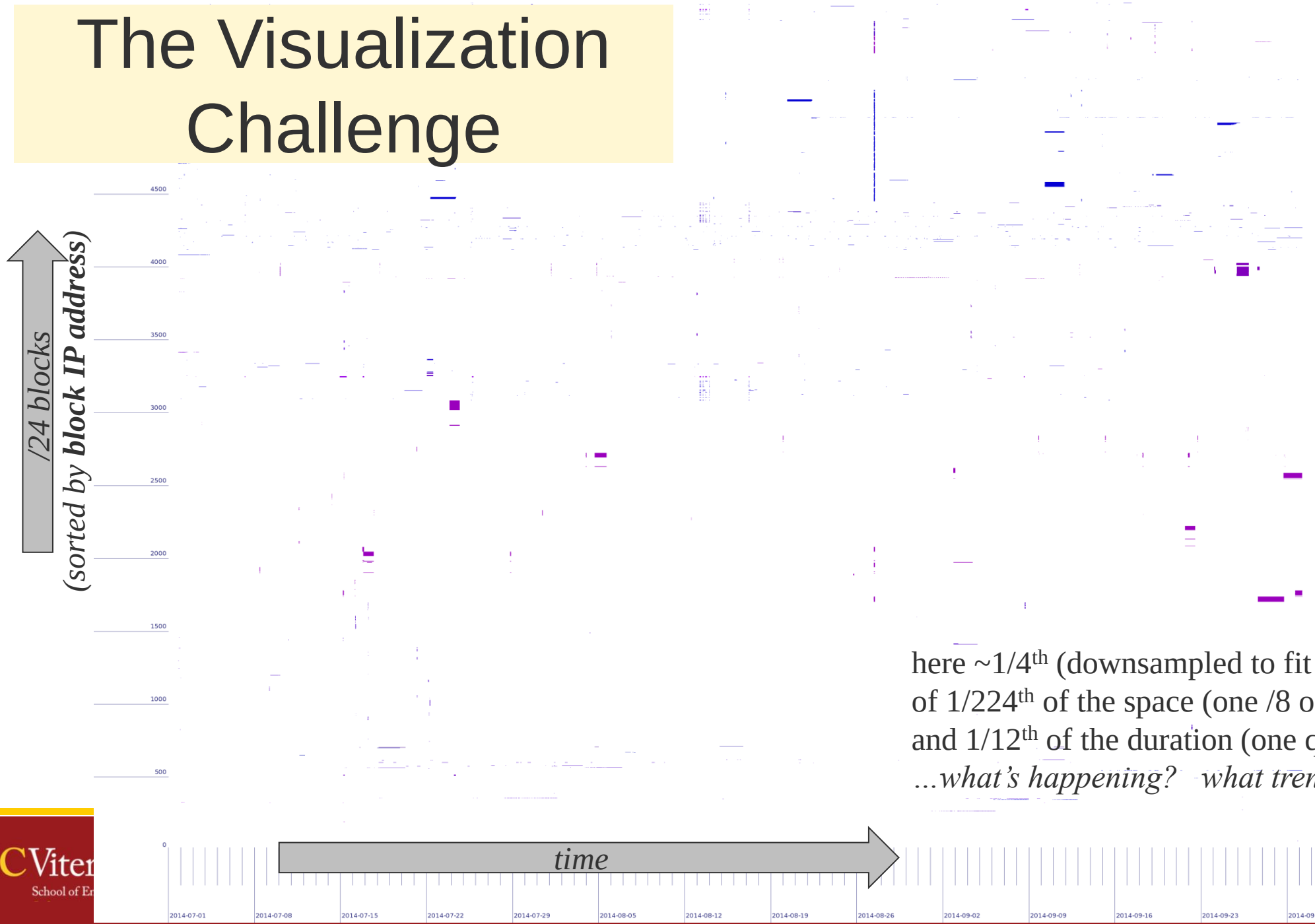

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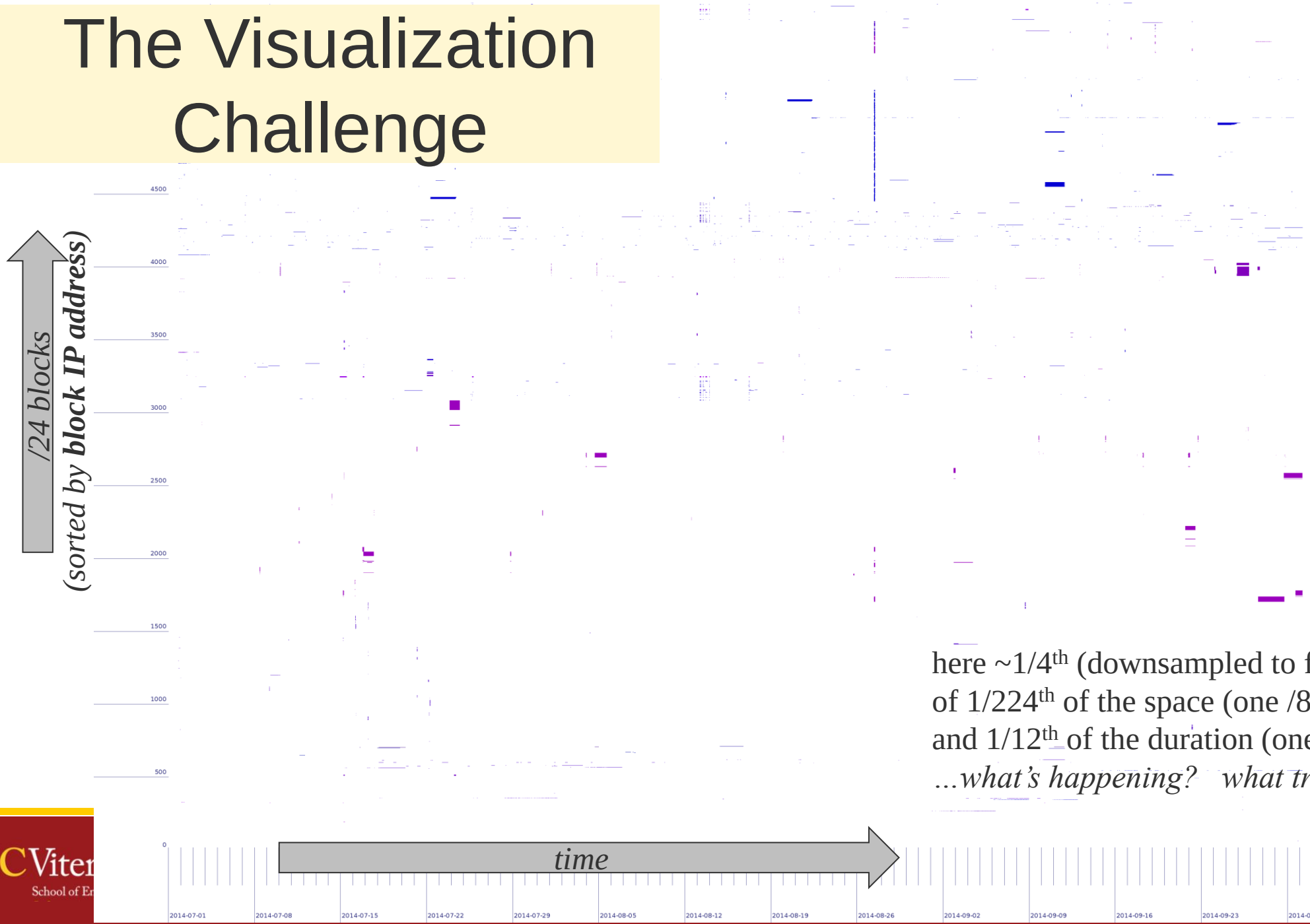
Efficient Visualization and Clustering

- **visualization with linear ordering algorithm**
  - runtime: O(*n* log *n* log *m)*
  - for *n* blocks and *m* duration timesteps
- approach:
  - map clustering to sorting: O(*n* log *n*) in time
  - sort on *multi-timescale bitmap:* O(log *m*) in space

- **event clustering**
  - runtime $O(n^2)$
  - parallelizes with Map/Reduce
- approach
  - find blocks that transition at the same time

Details in "Back Out: End-to-end Inference of Common Points-of-Failure in the Internet (extended)". ISI-TR-724, Feb., 2018.
www.isi.edu/~johnh/PAPERS/Heidemann18b.pdf

The Visualization Challenge



here ~1/4th (downsampled to fit the screen)
of 1/224th of the space (one /8 of IPv4)
and 1/12th of the duration (one quarter of ~3 years)
…what's happening? what trends? what's new?

One Visualization Result

here ~1/4th (downsampled to fit the screen)
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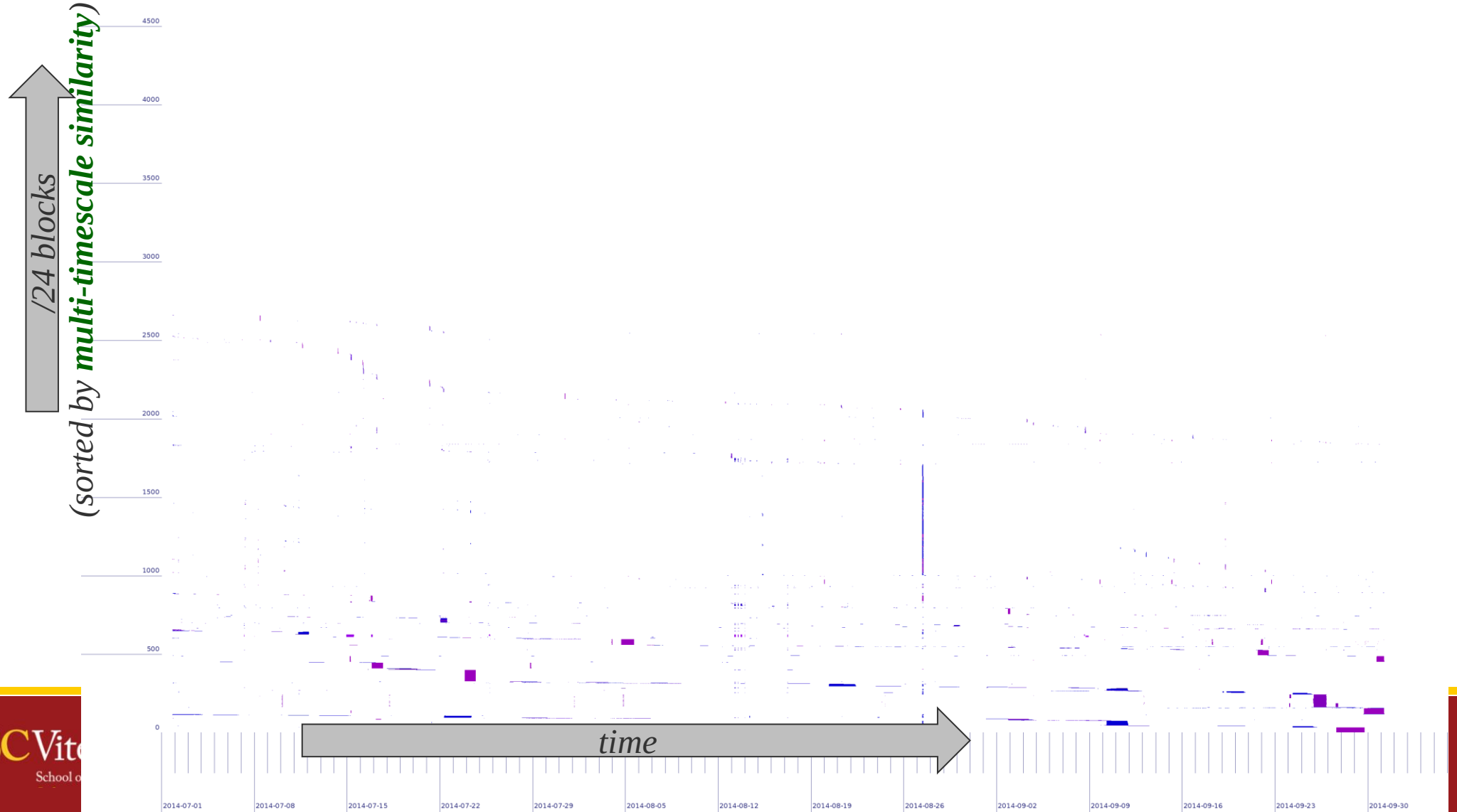

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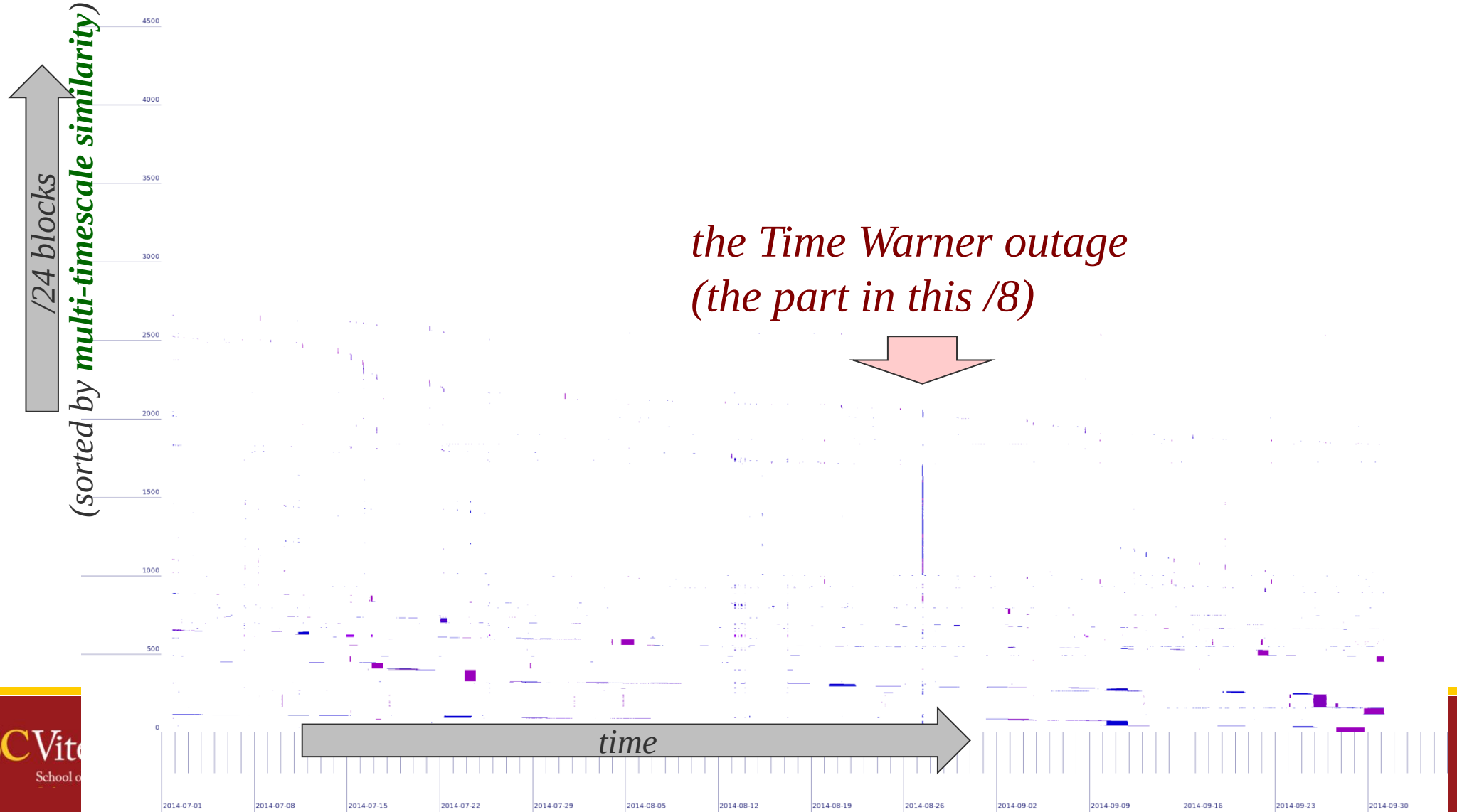

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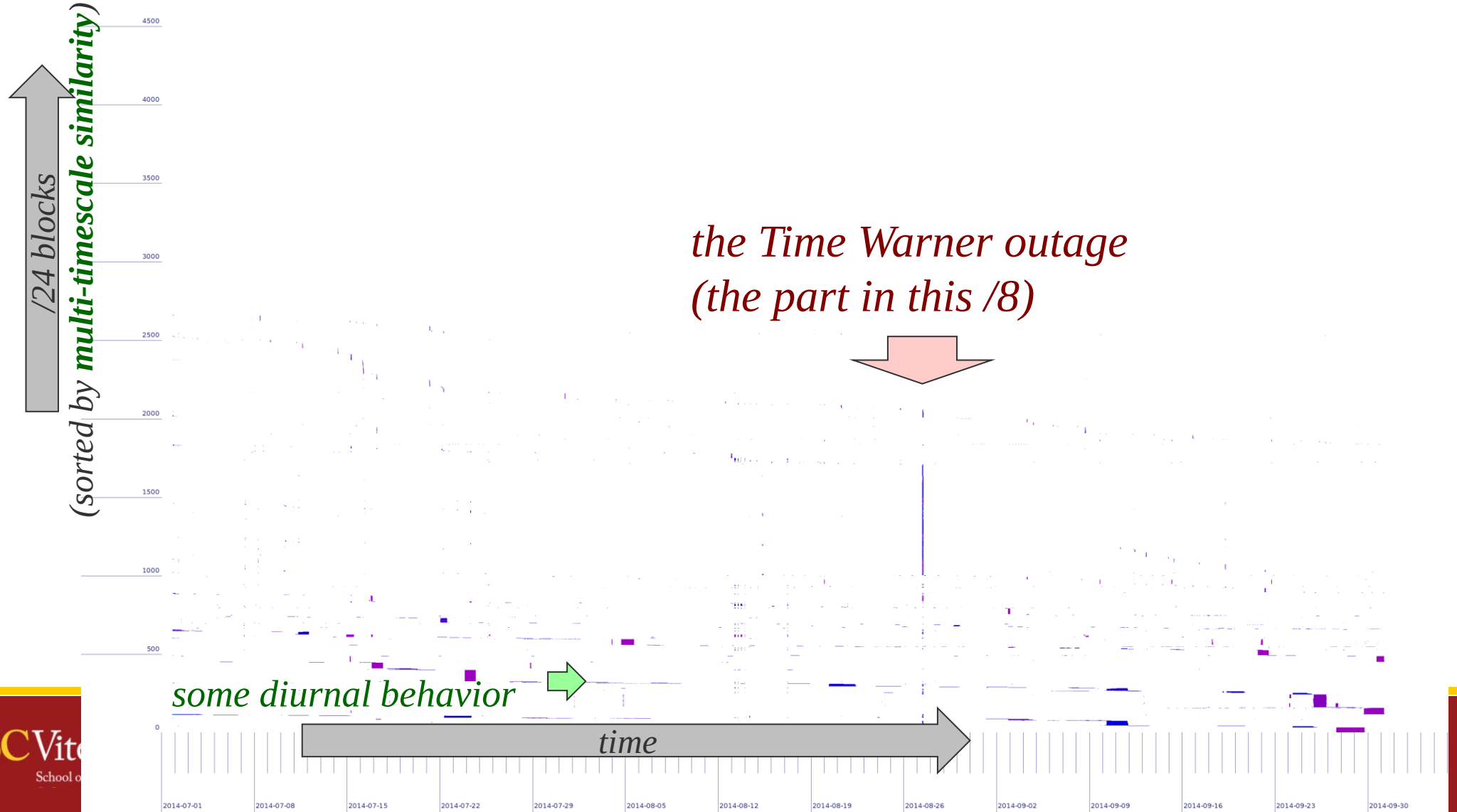


Clustering to Discovery Dependencies

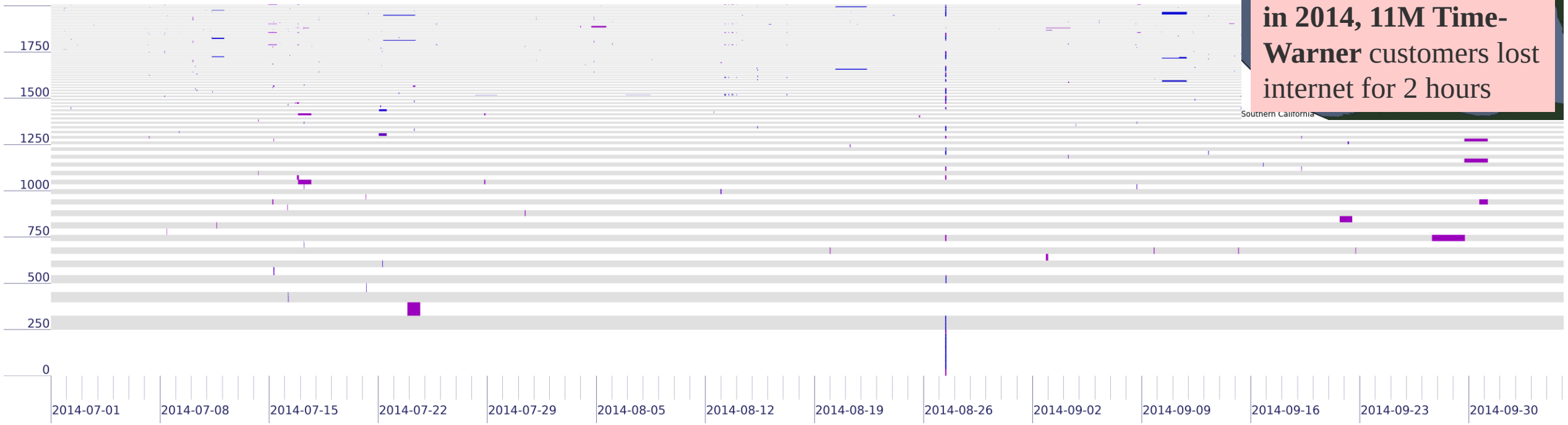
- visualization is nice, but humans can't look at everything

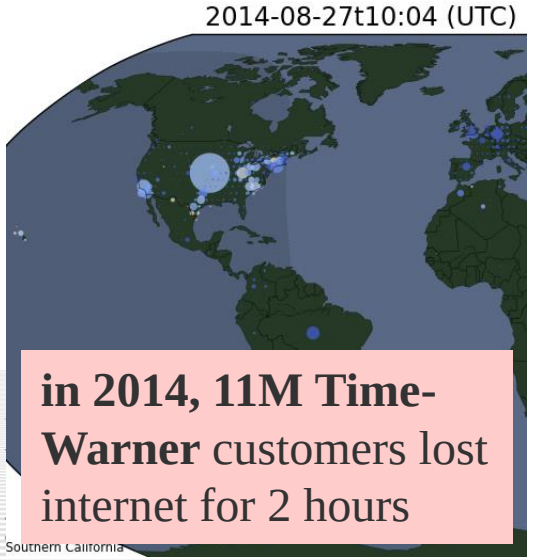
- new clustering algorithms can *discovery dependencies*
  - insight: failure at the same time, multiple times => dependency
  - cluster on similarity of fail/recovery events

(Details: John Heidemann, Yuri Pradkin, and Aqib Nisar. Back Out: End-to-end Inference of Common Points-of-Failure in the Internet (extended). ISI-TR-724, February, 2018. https://www.isi.edu/%7ejohnh/PAPERS/Heidemann18b.html .)

Outages Reveal Network Topology

to find patterns, group 2014q3 outages into clusters by similarity (fail and recovery)





in 2014, 11M Time-Warner customers lost internet for 2 hours

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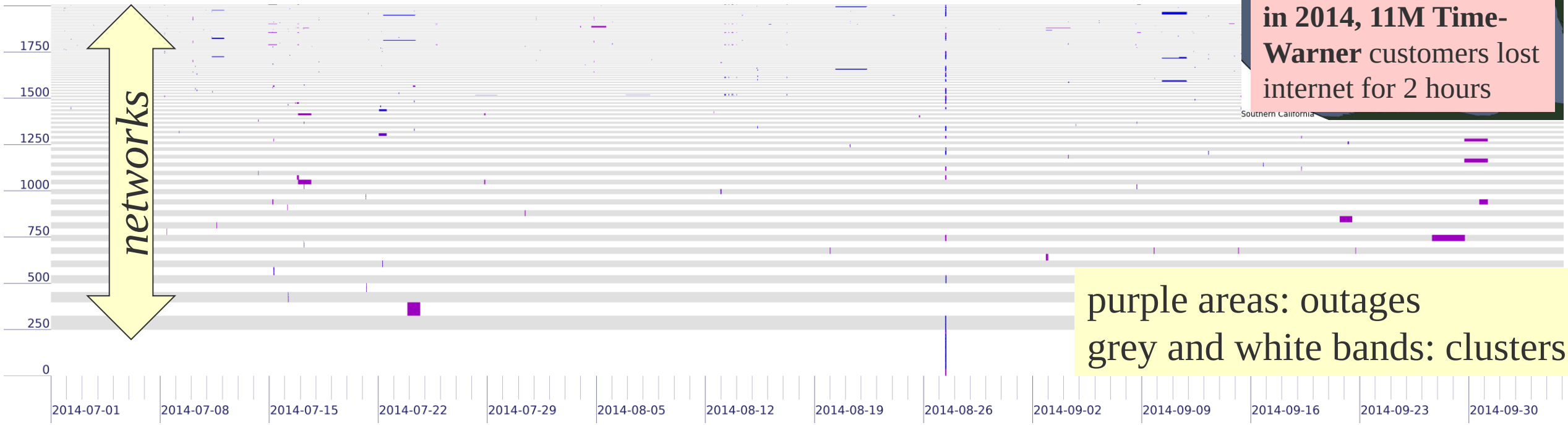
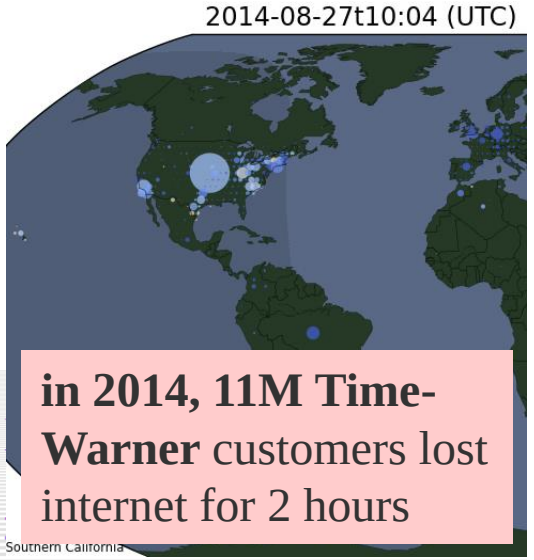


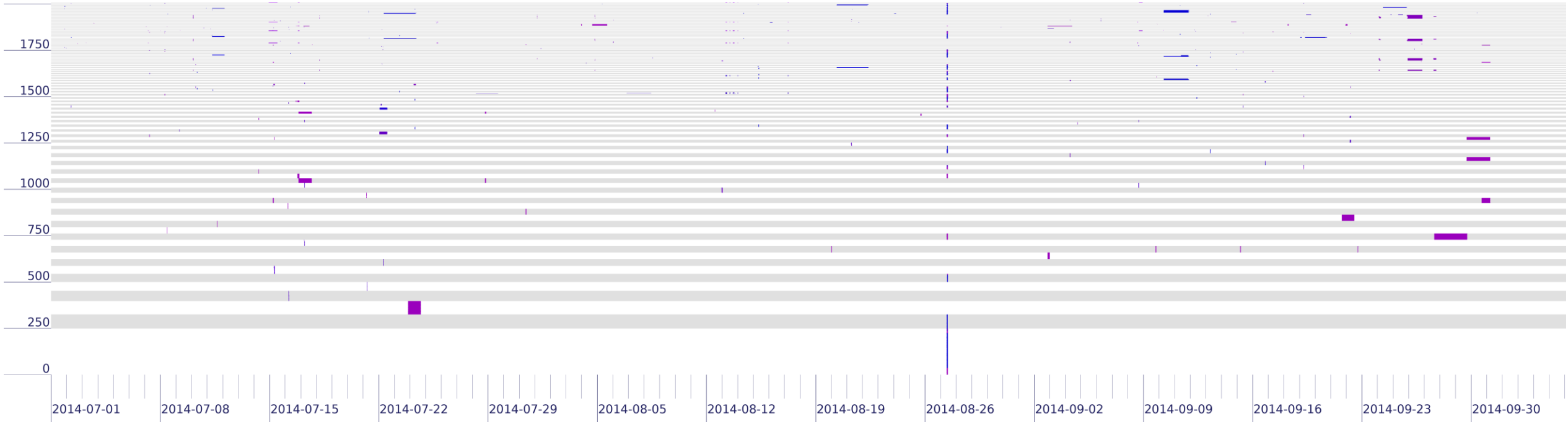


in 2014, 11M Time-Warner customers lost internet for 2 hours

purple areas: outages
grey and white bands: clusters

Clustering To Drill-Down on Network Structure

the Time Warner outage
(the part in this /8)



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- in 2017, Time Warner's backbone went down for 2 hours
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- ML-based *clustering* can identify TW's infrastructure
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- outages + clustering reveals the Internet's topology

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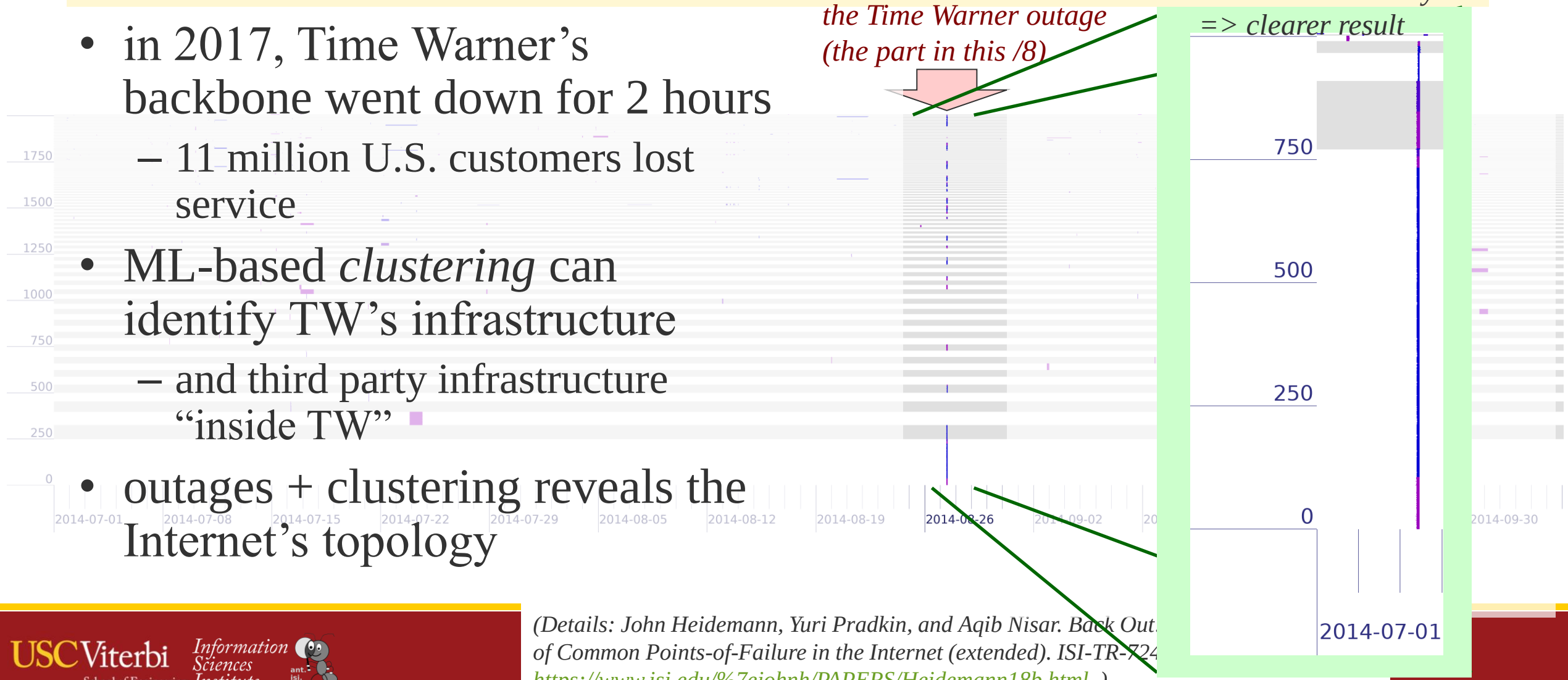

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Understanding Internet Reliability

- opportunities observing Internet reliability
- from scanning to outages
- from outages to clusters: hidden dependencies
- **finding work-from-home**

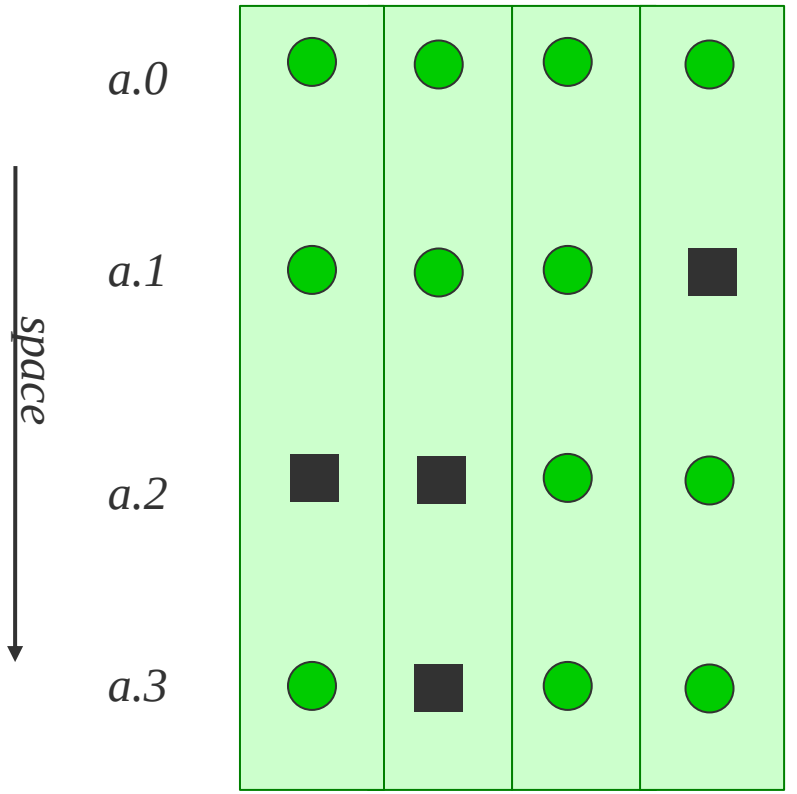
Q: Can We find Work-from-Home from Changes in IPv4 Address Usage?

Goal:

- do people *really* work-from home?
- can we confirm compliance?
- globally

Insight:

- when we probe all these addresses…
- we learn how the Internet "moves"
  - as computers are turned on and off
- so we learn how *people* move
  - as laptops come and go



(blocks really have 256 addresses, we show 4 here)

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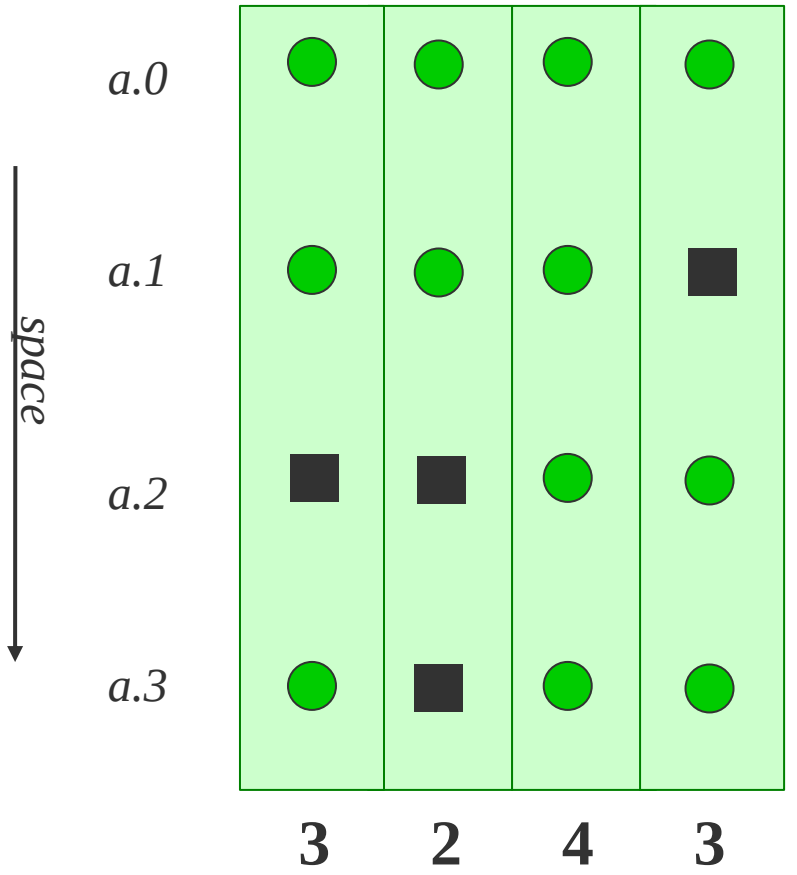


(blocks really have 256 addresses, we show 4 here)

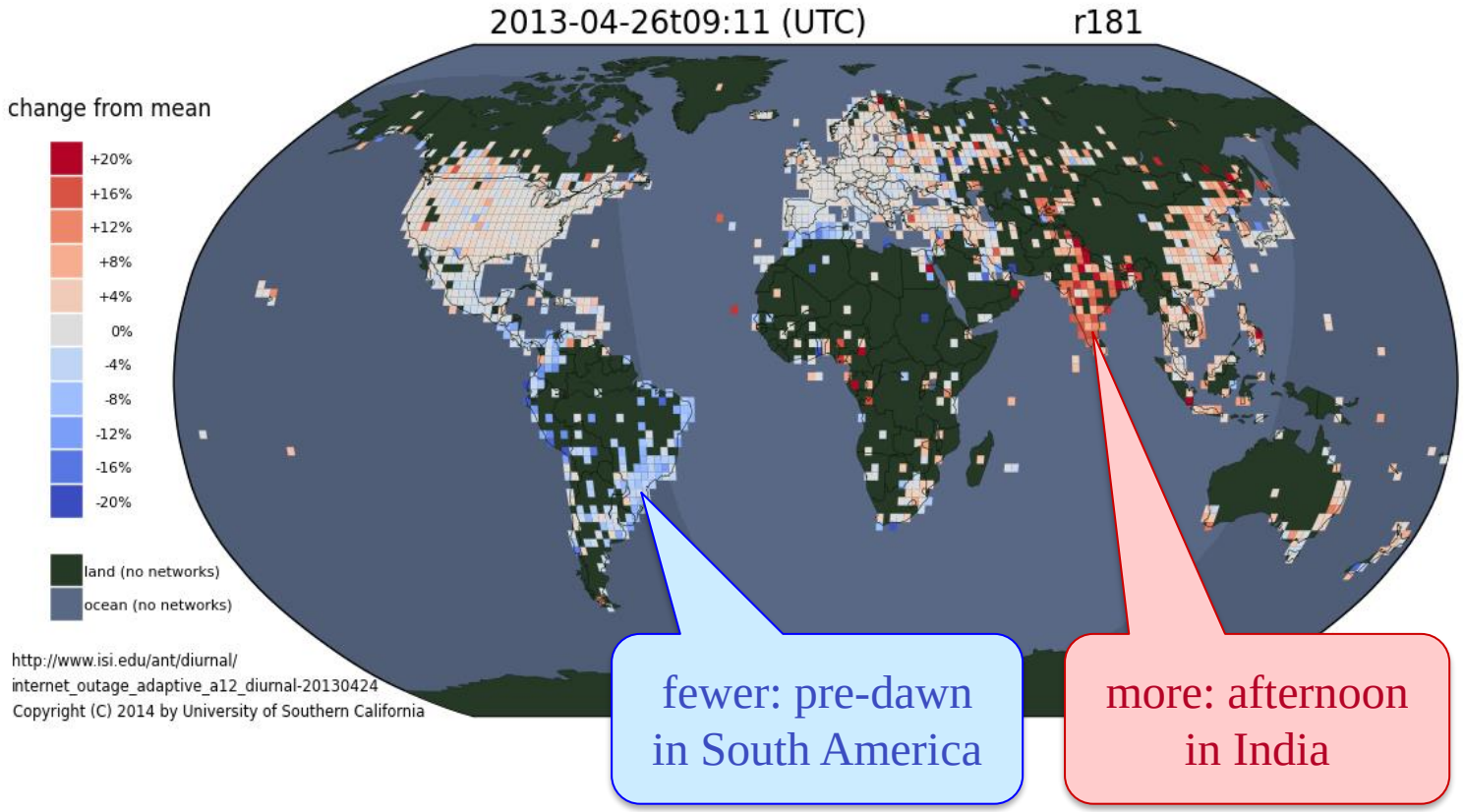
Our Prior Work: The Internet Sleeps

we know we see diurnal trends across the Internet:

parts of the Internet sleep:
more activity during the day

red: more than typical
white: typical
blue: fewer

https://ant.isi.edu/diurnal/ani/
(play)



Details in "When the Internet Sleeps: Correlating Diurnal Newtorks with External Factors", by Quan, Heidemann, Pradkin in ACM IMC 2014. https://doi.org/10.1145/2663716.2663721

Finding Work-from-Home due to Covid

Insight:

- when we probe all these addresses…
- we learn how the Internet "moves"
  - as computers are turned on and off
- so we learn how *people* move
  - as laptops come and go

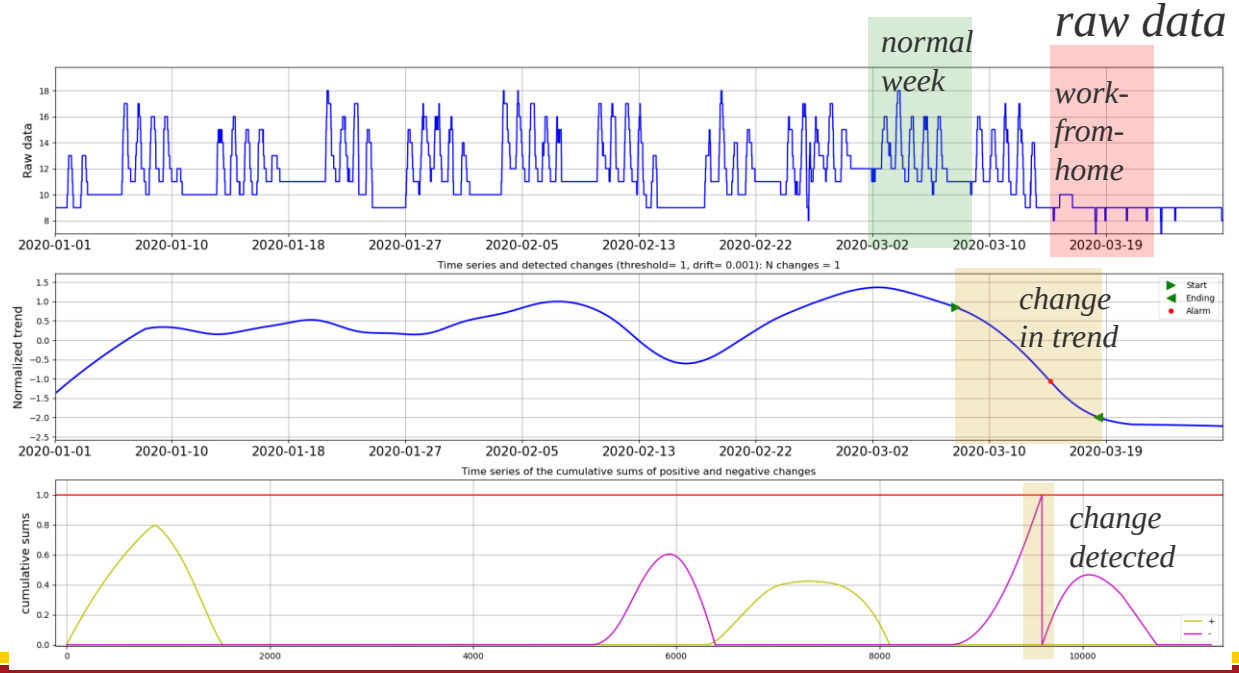
Method:

- reuse data from Trinocular scanning
- find **change-sensitive blocks**
  - blocks that show people moving every day
  - about 150k to 280k blocks, globally
  - (many blocks do not)
- look for **changes in usage**
  - (details on next slide)

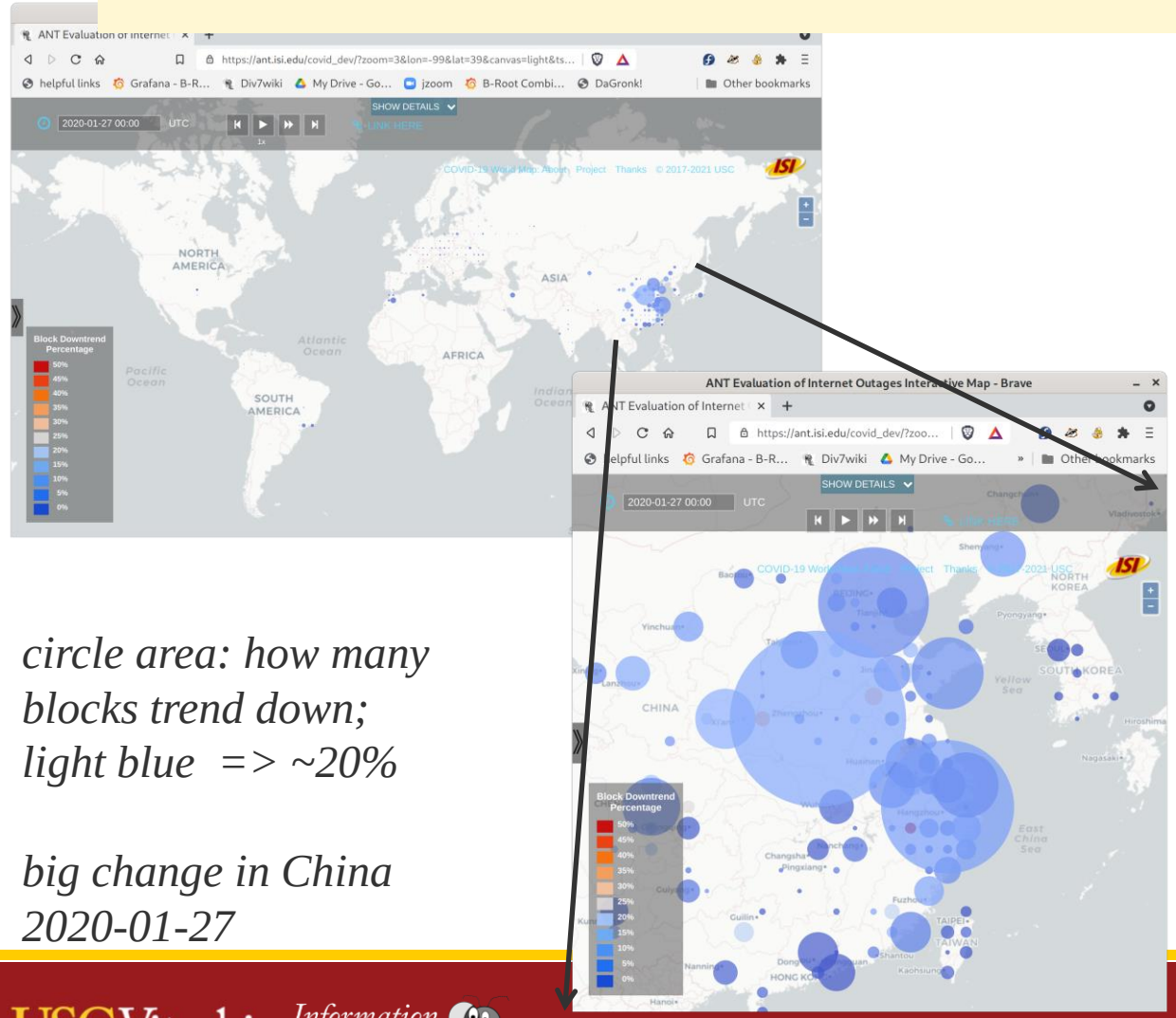
Algorithm: Detect Changes in Daily Usage

1. extract active addresses
   - Trinocular cycles through all responsive addresses
   - track which respond over a day (cumulative)
2. identify change-sensitive blocks
   - blocks are diurnal
   - and change "enough" (5 addrs, 4 in 7 days)
3. de-trend: extract "seasonality"
4. change detect: CUSUM
5. confirm results

3 months of change-sensitive block raw data

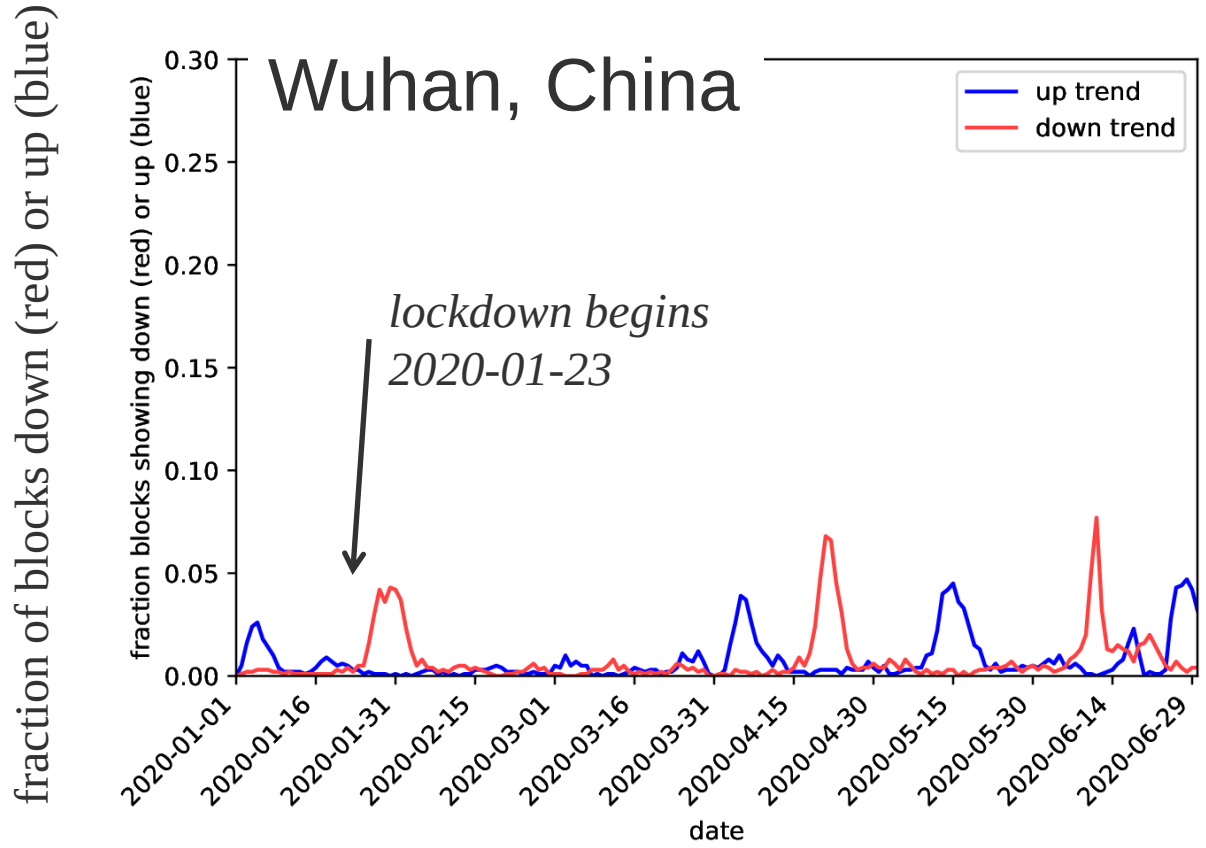


Results: World Map with Details (Wuhan)



circle area: how many blocks trend down; light blue => ~20%

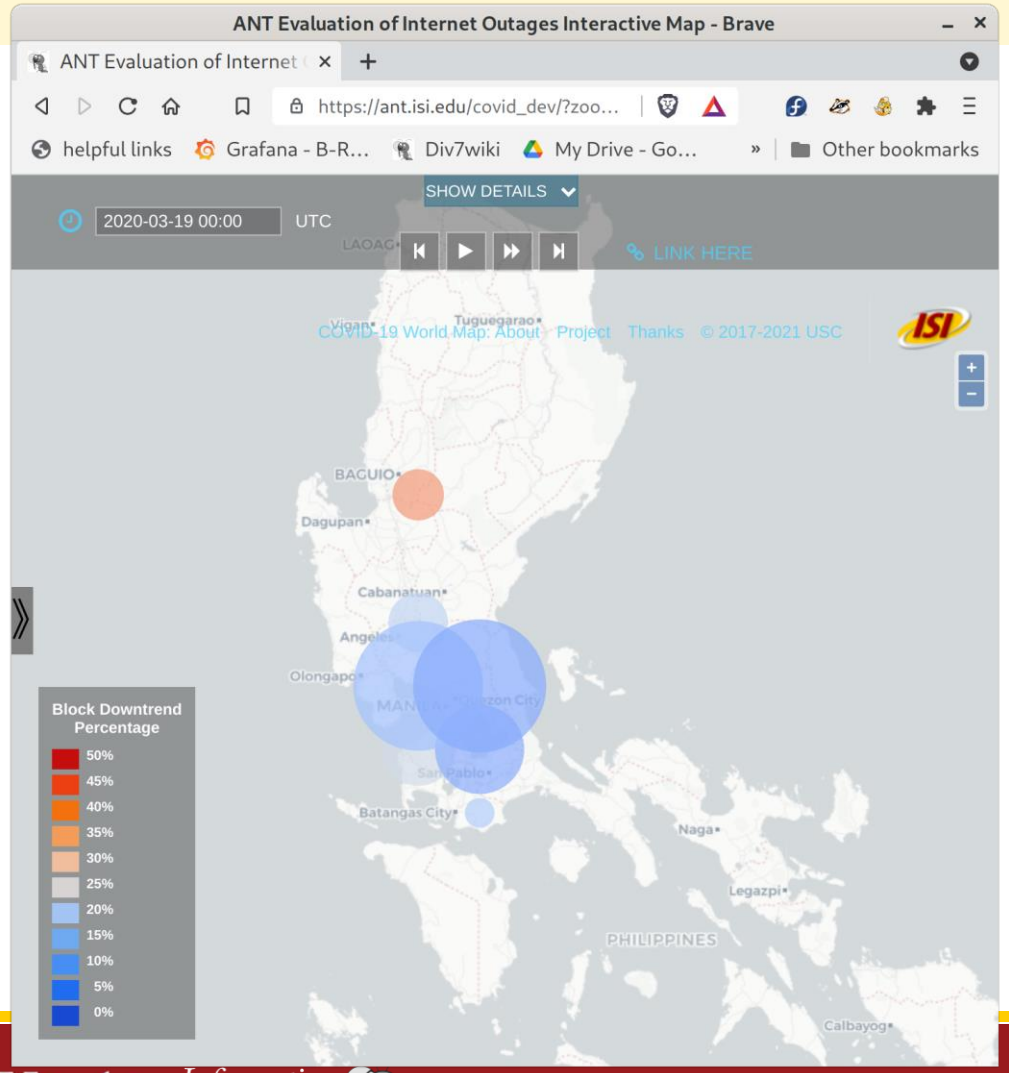
big change in China 2020-01-27

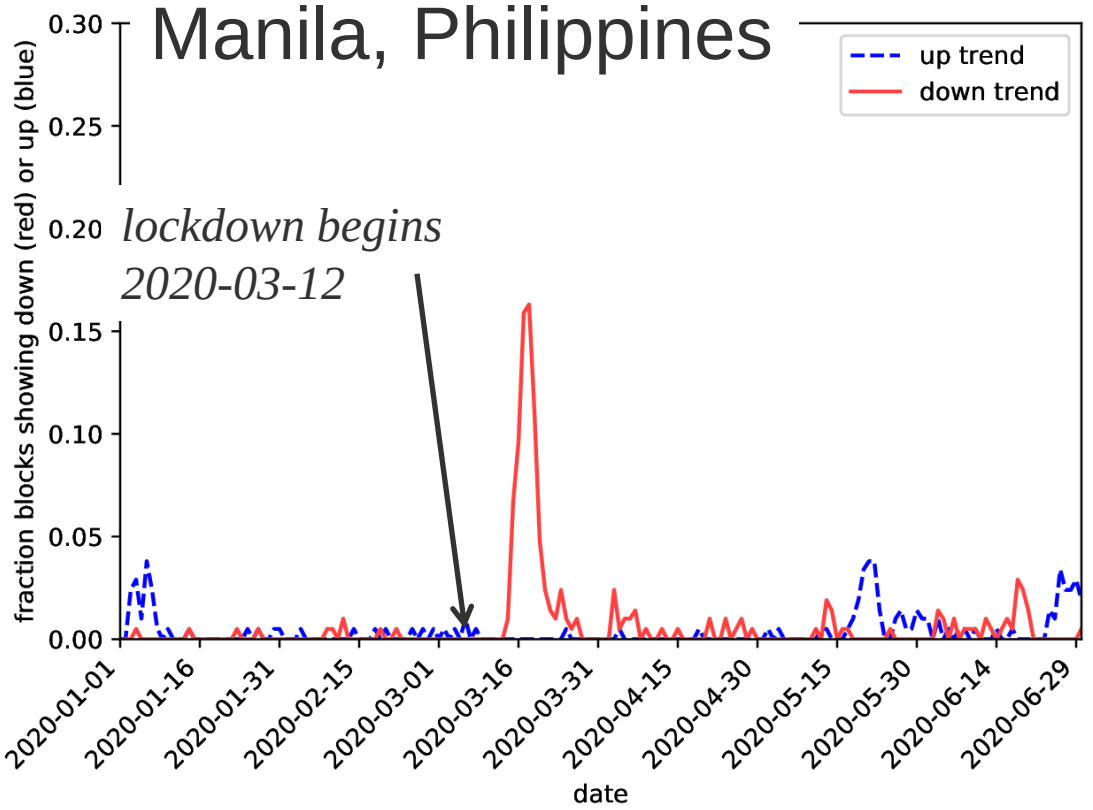


fraction of blocks down (red) or up (blue)

⇒ example Covid-19 related event we knew about

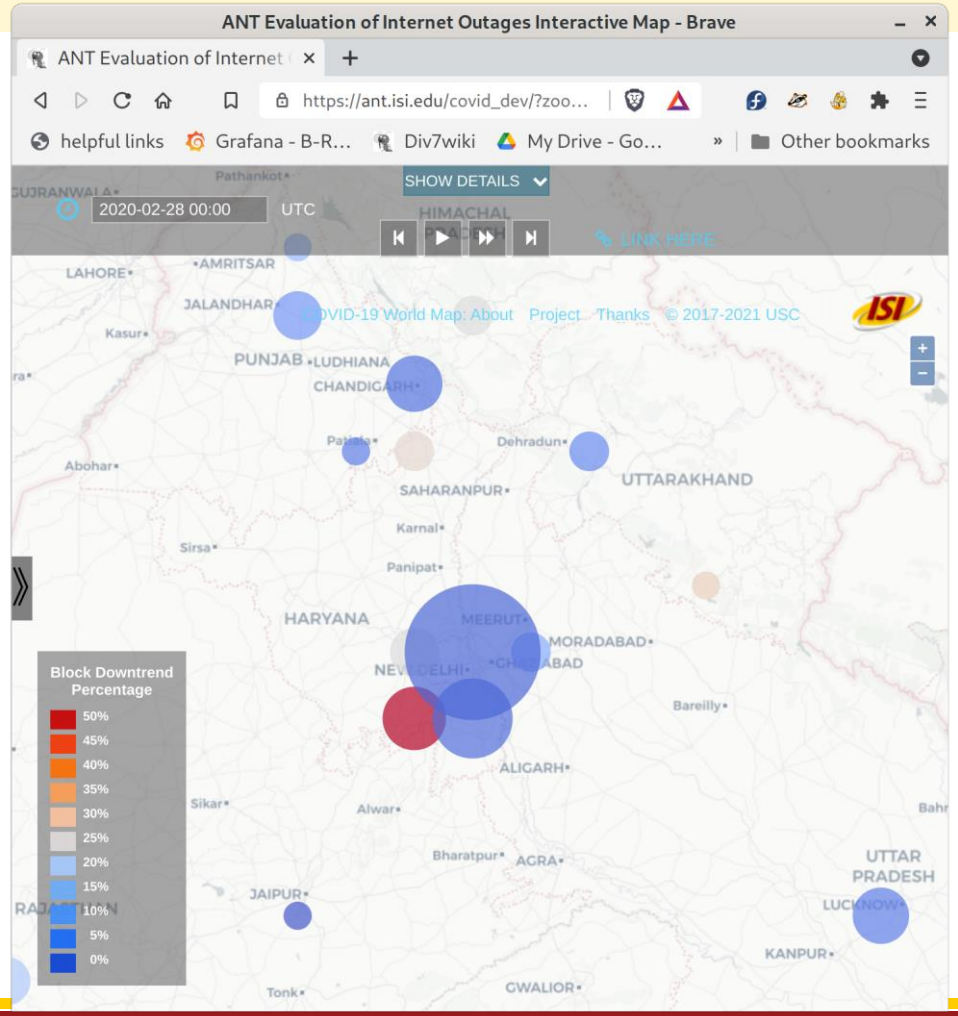
Results: World Map and Details (Manila)

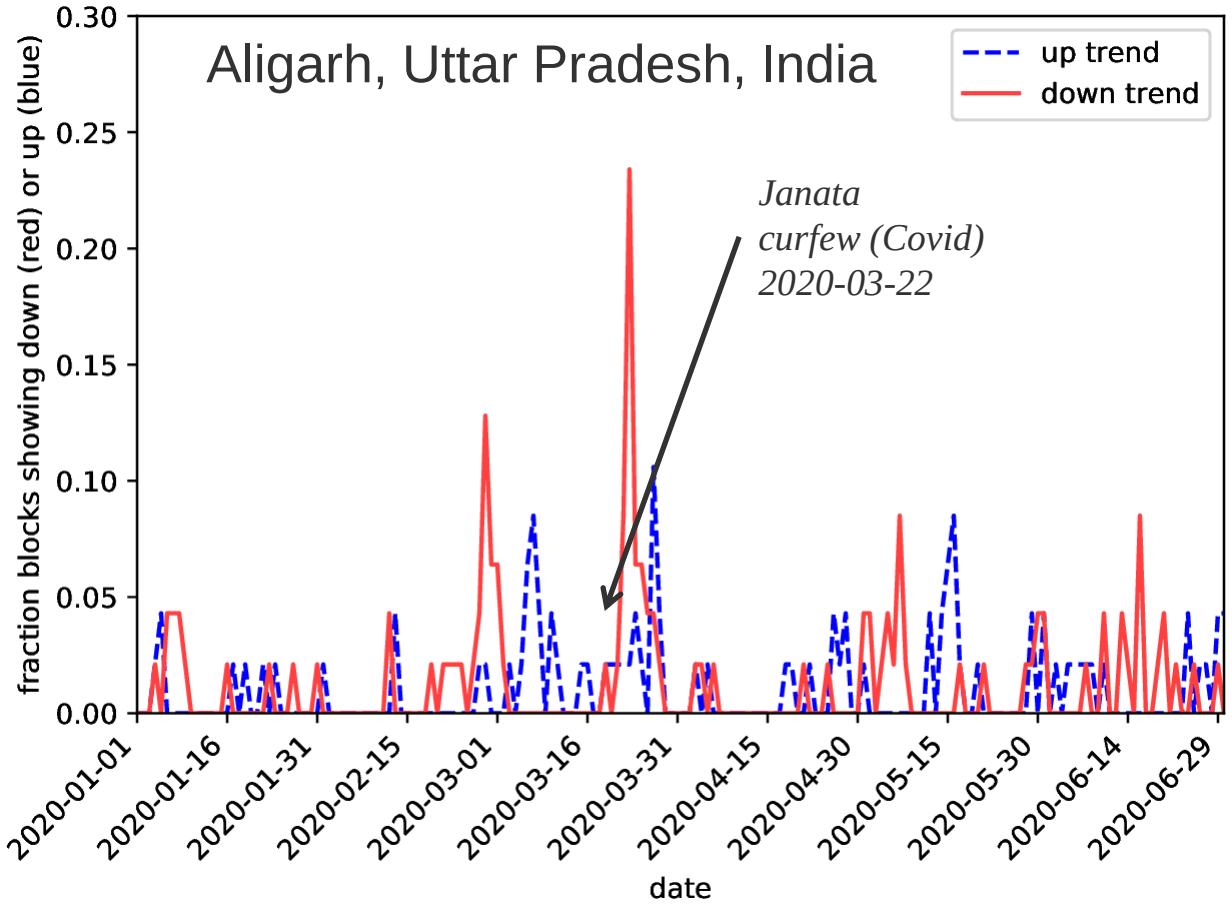




⇒ example Covid-19 related event we **discovered**

Results: Covid and Non-Covid Events (India)





⇒ example Covid-19 related event
and **non-Covid event, both discovered**

Work-from-Home Status

- algorithm and initial results are promising
- work-in-progress: web-based visualization

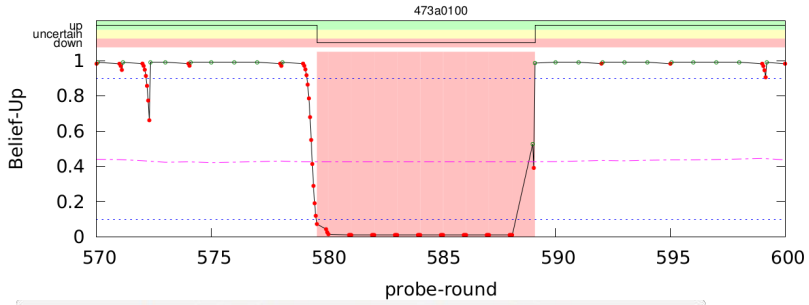
- early technical report
  - "Measuring the Internet During Covid-19 to Evaluate Work-from-Home" by Song and Heidemann
  - https://ant.isi.edu/minceq/arxiv2021.pdf or arxiv:2102.07433v2
  - more complete paper currently under review

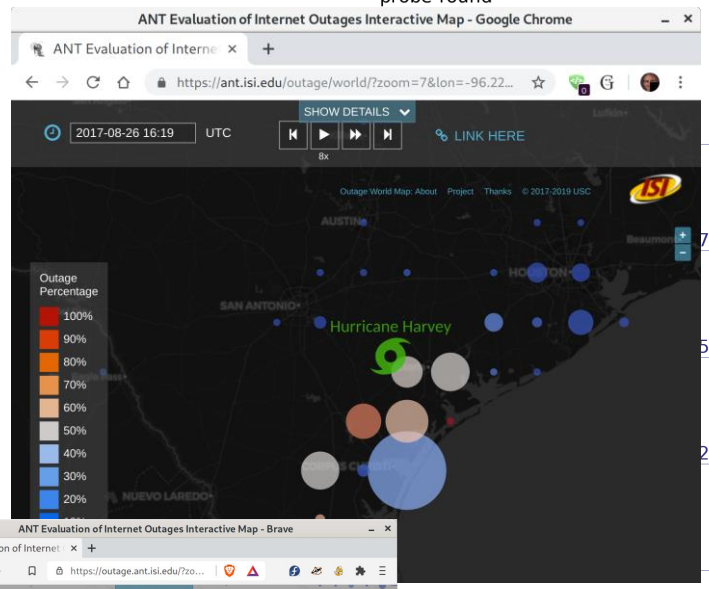
Directions from Here

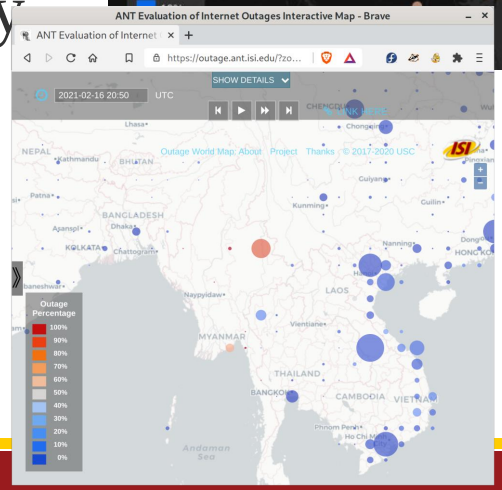
- extending the algorithms
  - what *else* can the data teach us? outages, sleep, work-from-home, …
- from IPv4 to IPv6
  - 2^{128} is *much* bigger than 2^{32}, requiring new approaches
- helping others use the data
  - joint evaluation with the FCC
  - can export data via near-real-time API
  - what other applications can use outages?

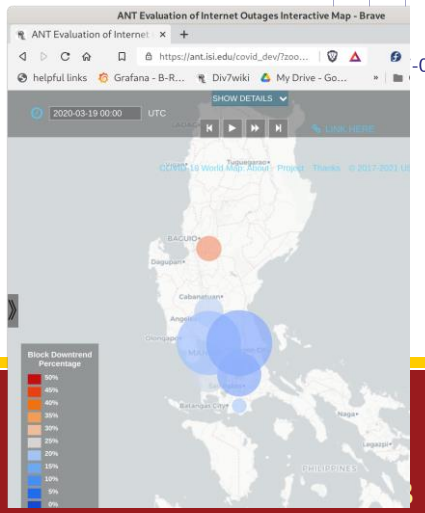
Conclusions

- we *can* measure Internet outages
  - precisely: for millions of nets; ~11-minute accuracy
  - in near-real time
- outages have many applications:
  - short-term: helping first responders, ISPs, citizens
  - long-term: understanding and improving reliability
- looking for partners and data consumers
- more info? papers and data https://ant.isi.edu/
  - maps: https://outage.ant.isi.edu/









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