Outage Clustering: From Leaves to Trees

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joint work with Yuri Pradkin, Aqib Nisar
USC/ISI

CAIDA Active Internet Measurments (AIMS) / 15 March 2018

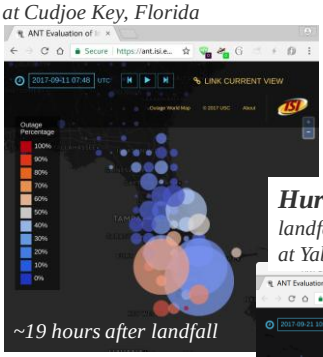
This research is sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate, HSARPA, Cyber Security Division, BAA 11-01-RIKA and Air Force Research Laboratory, Information Directorate under agreement number FA8750-12-2-0344, and contract number D08PC75599. The U.S. Gov't is authorized to reproduce and distribute reprints for Gov't purposes notwithstanding any copyright notation thereon. The views herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of DHS or the U.S. Gov't.

USC Viterbi School of Engineering — Information Sciences Institute

So Much Internet Outage Data…

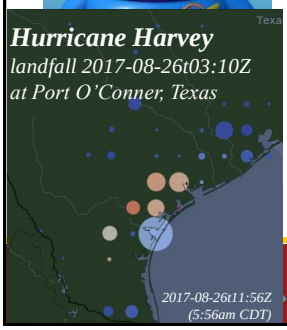
Trinocular
24x7 since Nov. 2013

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



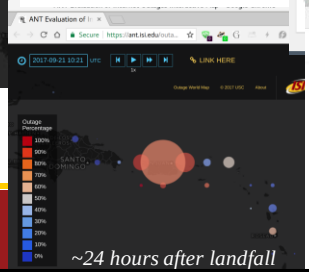
~19 hours after landfall

Hurricane Harvey
landfall 2017-08-26t03:10Z
at Port O'Conner, Texas



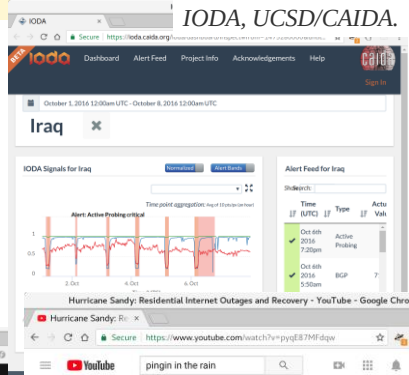
2017-08-26t11:56Z (5:56am CDT)

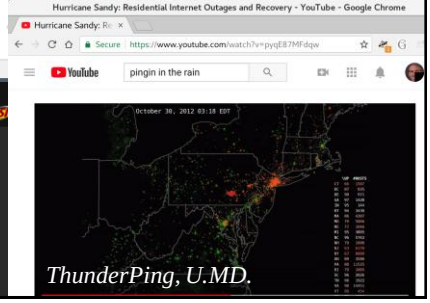
Hurricane Maria
landfall: 2017-09-20t10:15Z
at Yaboucoa, P.R.



~24 hours after landfall

IODA, UCSD/CAIDA.





ThunderPing, U.MD.

Too Much Long-Term Data?

- USC/ISI's Trinocular: outages, 24x7, since Nov. 2013
- about 40TB (!)
- about 20k observations x 4M blocks:
  80G datapoints (!!)

- how to make sense of it?
  - from leaves (edge networks)
  - to trees (events)
  - on the way to understanding the "forest" of Internet reliability

Making Sense of Too Much Data

- **geographic visualization**
  interactively explore the world

- **non-geographic visualization**
  begin to reveal patterns

with too much data
(40TB and
80G observations)

- **clustering by similarity**
  discover underlying dependencies

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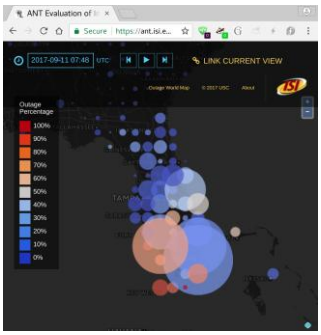
Geographic Visualization

- on the web: https://ant.isi.edu/outage/world/
- key features
  - circle size: *number* of blocks out
  - color: *percent* of blocks out
  - time selection
  - geographic zoom and pan
  - **geography: easy to relate to (what operators ask for!)**

Florida, ~19 hours after landfall of Hurricane Irma



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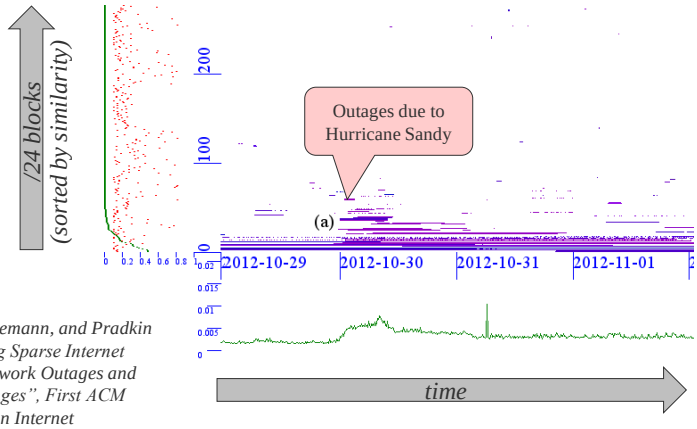
Non-Geographic Visualizations: the *Network* in Outages



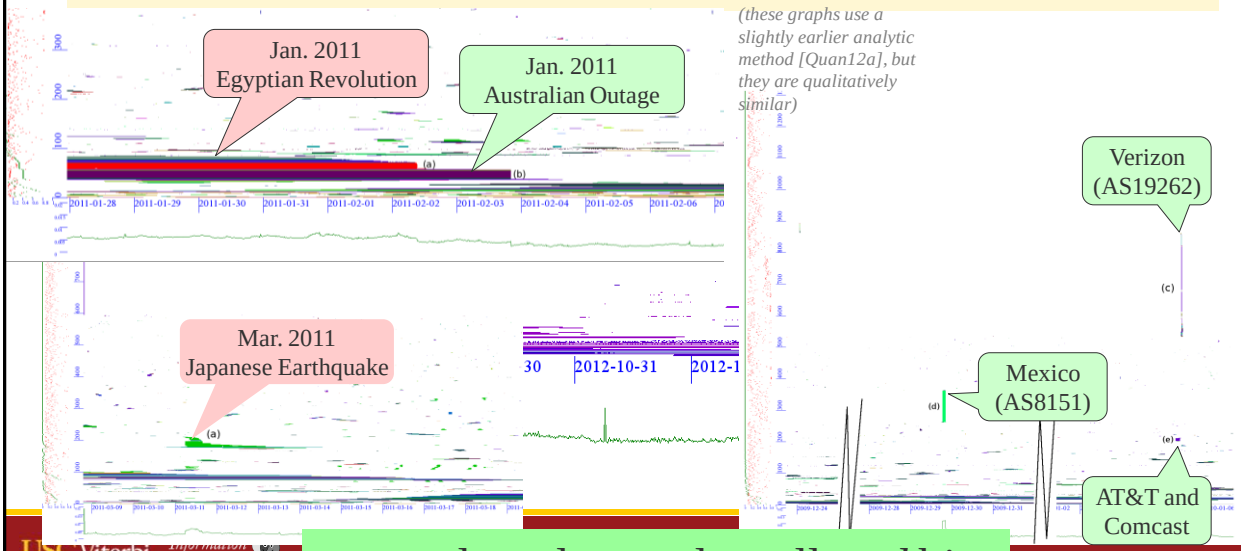
Quan, Heidemann, and Pradkin "Visualizing Sparse Internet Events: Network Outages and Route Changes", First ACM Workshop on Internet Visualization, Nov. 2012

goal: reveal patterns

find dependencies among networks

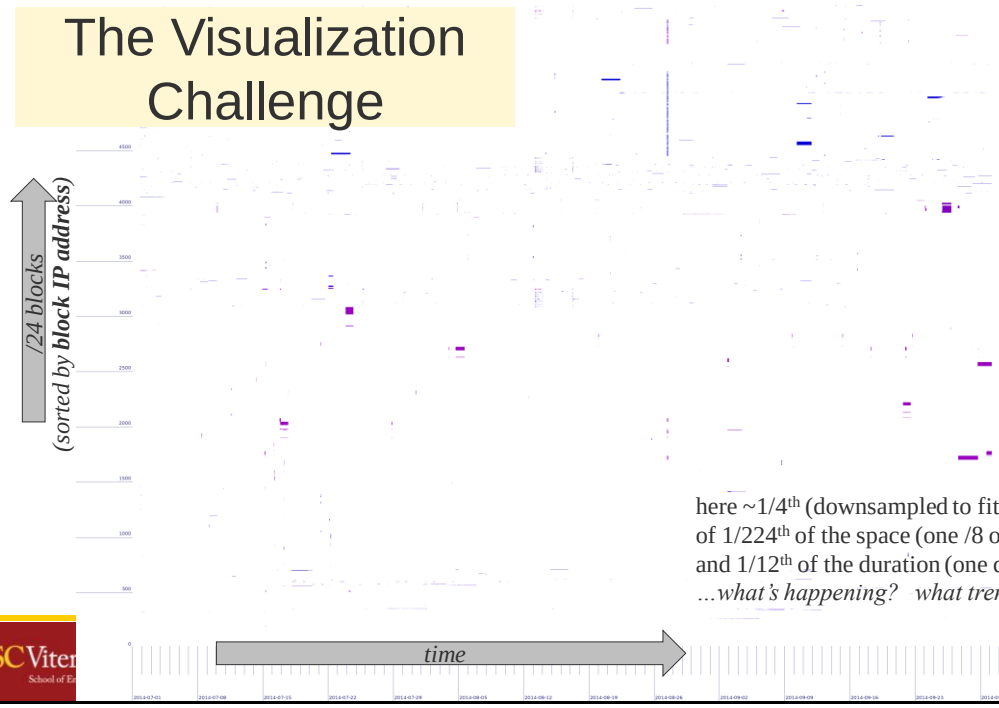
(colored areas are outages, color shows location)

Global Network Outages: Prominent and *Unknown*



our goal: understand small *and* big

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?

Efficient Visualization

- **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

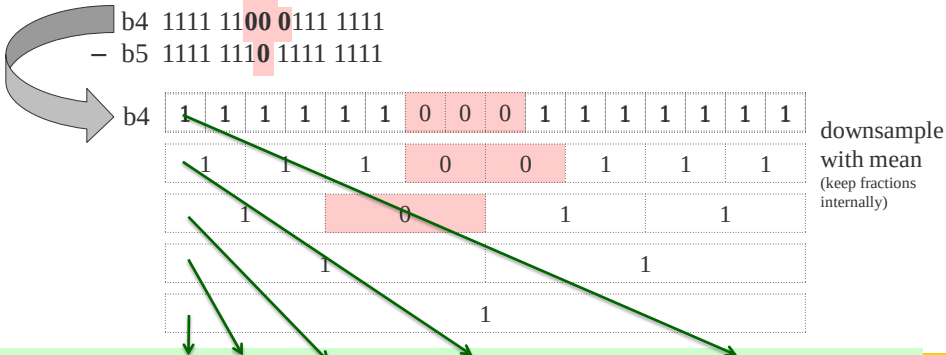
Presented at AIMS 2017 (last year!)

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

Multi-Timescale for Similarity

- input: outage timeseries from 5 /24 blocks
  - b1 1111 1110 1111 1111
  - b2 1111 1111 1111 1110
  - b3 1111 1100 1111 1111
  - b4 1111 1100 0111 1111
  - b5 1111 1110 1111 1111

goal: cluster by "similarity"



concatenate: 1 - 11 - 1011 - 1110 0111 - 1111 1100 0111 1111

Multi-Timescale Finds Similarity

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goal: cluster by "similarity"

- apply to all blocks…
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  - b2 1 - 11 - 1111 - 1111 1110 - 1111 1111 1111 1110
  - b3 1 - 11 - 1011 - 1110 1111 - 1111 1100 1111 1111
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goal: cluster by "similarity"

define similar as adjacent in multi-timescale vectors

result: better clusters
(Hamming distance from 8 to 4)

- apply to all blocks and **sort**
  - b2 1 - 11 - 1111 - 1111 1110 - 1111 1111 1111 1110
  - b1 1 - 11 - 1111 - 1110 1111 - 1111 1110 1111 1111
  - b5 1 - 11 - 1111 - 1110 1111 - 1111 1110 1111 1111
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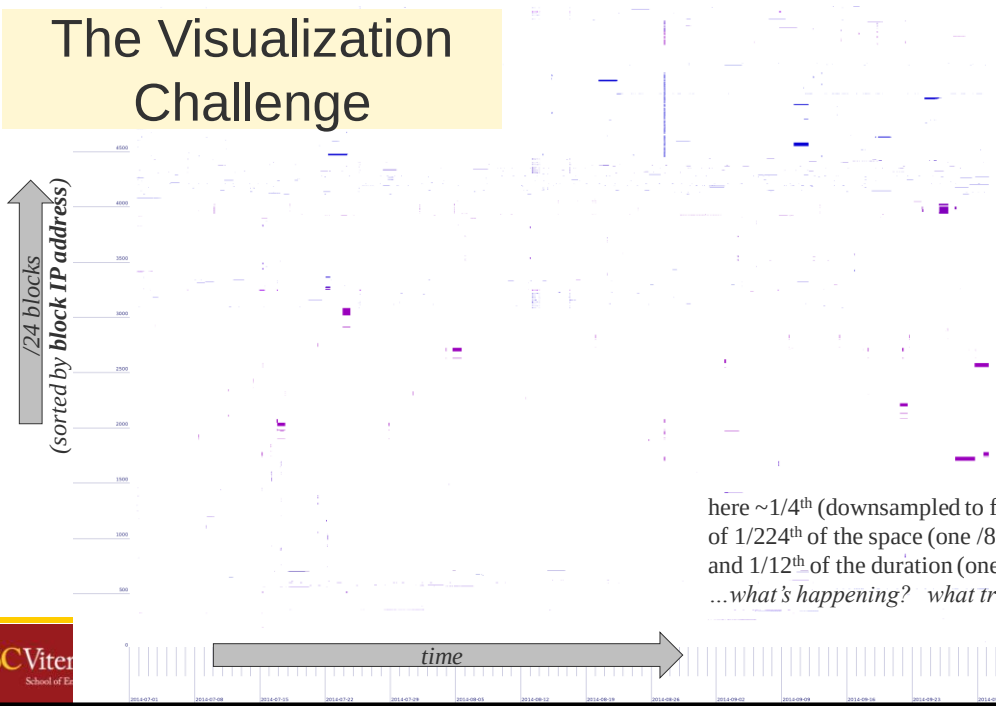
The Visualization Challenge



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One Visualization Result

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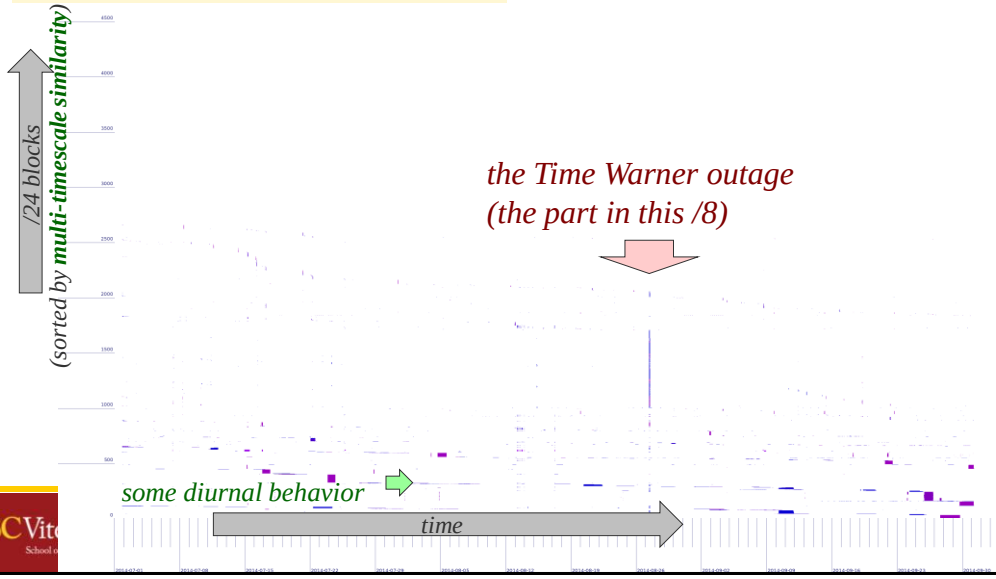

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Clustering to Discovery Dependencies

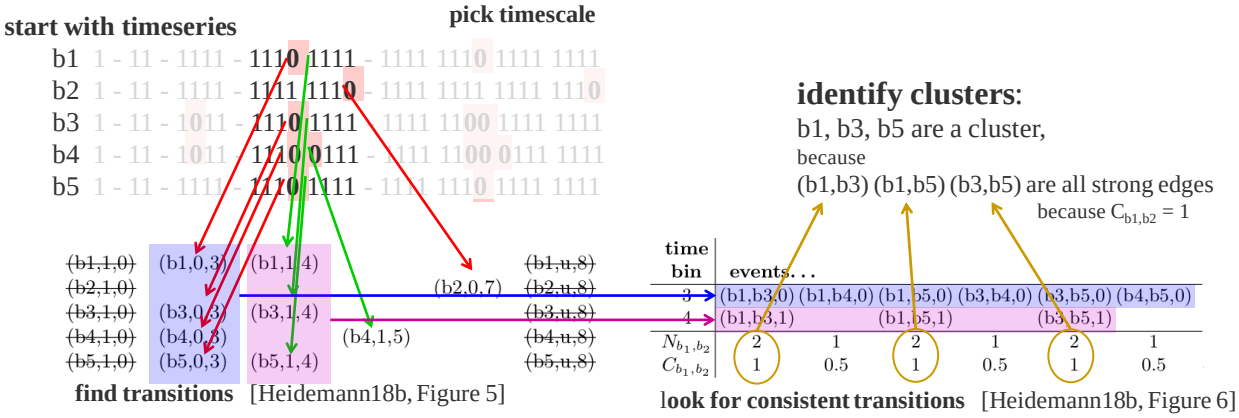
- visualization is nice, but humans can't look at everything
- new clustering algorithms can *discovery dependencies*
  - common failure patterns
  - implying common root causes
  - (unconstrained by 2-D visualization)

Clustering Insight

- things fail and recover together => possible dependency
- when *consistently, multiple times* => *probable* dependency

(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 .)

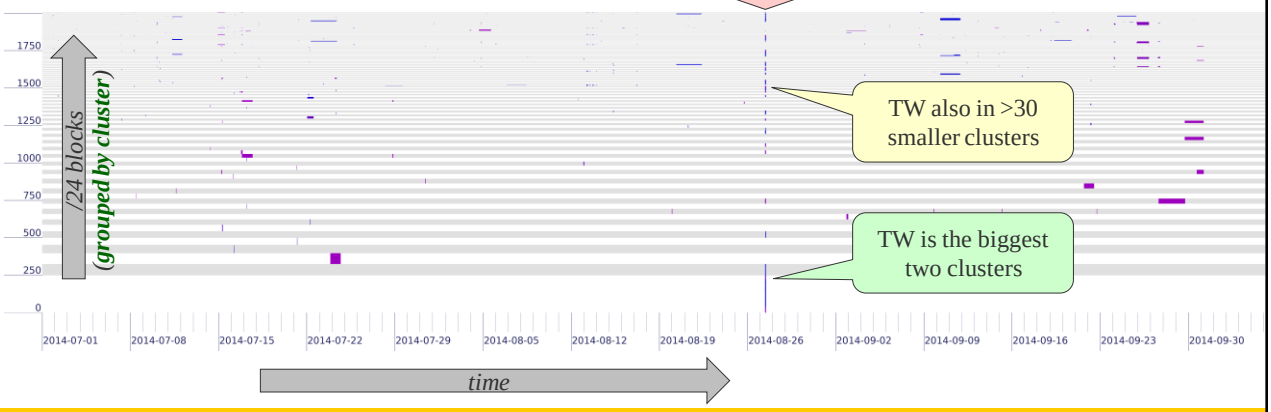
Clustering Approach



One Clustering Result

1/224th of the space (one /8 of IPv4)
and 1/12th of the duration (one quarter of ~3 years)

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



Iterative Clustering

1/224th of the space (one /8 of IPv4)
and 1/12th of the duration (one quarter of ~3 years)
now just **3 days** of time

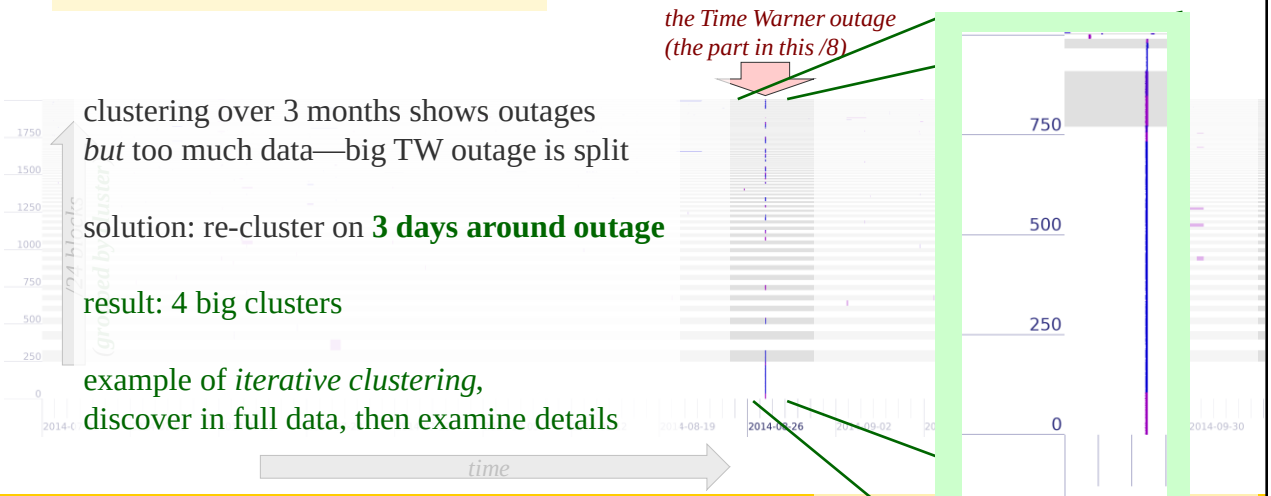
the Time Warner outage
(the part in this /8)

clustering over 3 months shows outages
but too much data—big TW outage is split

solution: re-cluster on **3 days around outage**

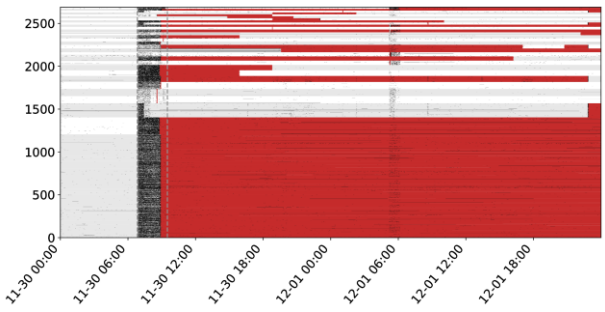
result: 4 big clusters

example of *iterative clustering*,
discover in full data, then examine details



Clustering Beyond Outages

- cluster generalizes:
  detects *temporal correlations*
  in *big timeseries*
- we've applied it to
  - outages
  - anycast catchments
  - routing updates
- for anycast:
  - map initial vs. new cluster to binary value
  - skip outages (from DDoS)

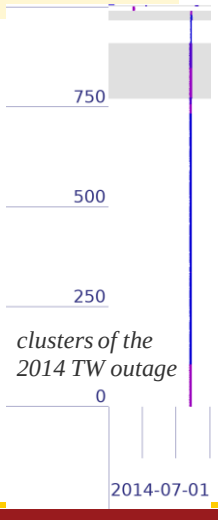


[Heidemann18b, Figure 9]

anycast catchments for J-Root around the 2015-11-30 DDoS attack

Outage Clustering from Here

- just released clustering technical report
- opens many new questions…
  - relating to other information? (like power outages)
  - what is "normal"?
  - can we evaluate policy <=> reliablity?
- datasets at https://ant.isi.edu/datasets/outage and https://imactcybertrust.org
- code available on request



clusters of the 2014 TW outage