



# Cytoscape

*Architecture for Extension*

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Cytoscape Chief  
Architect

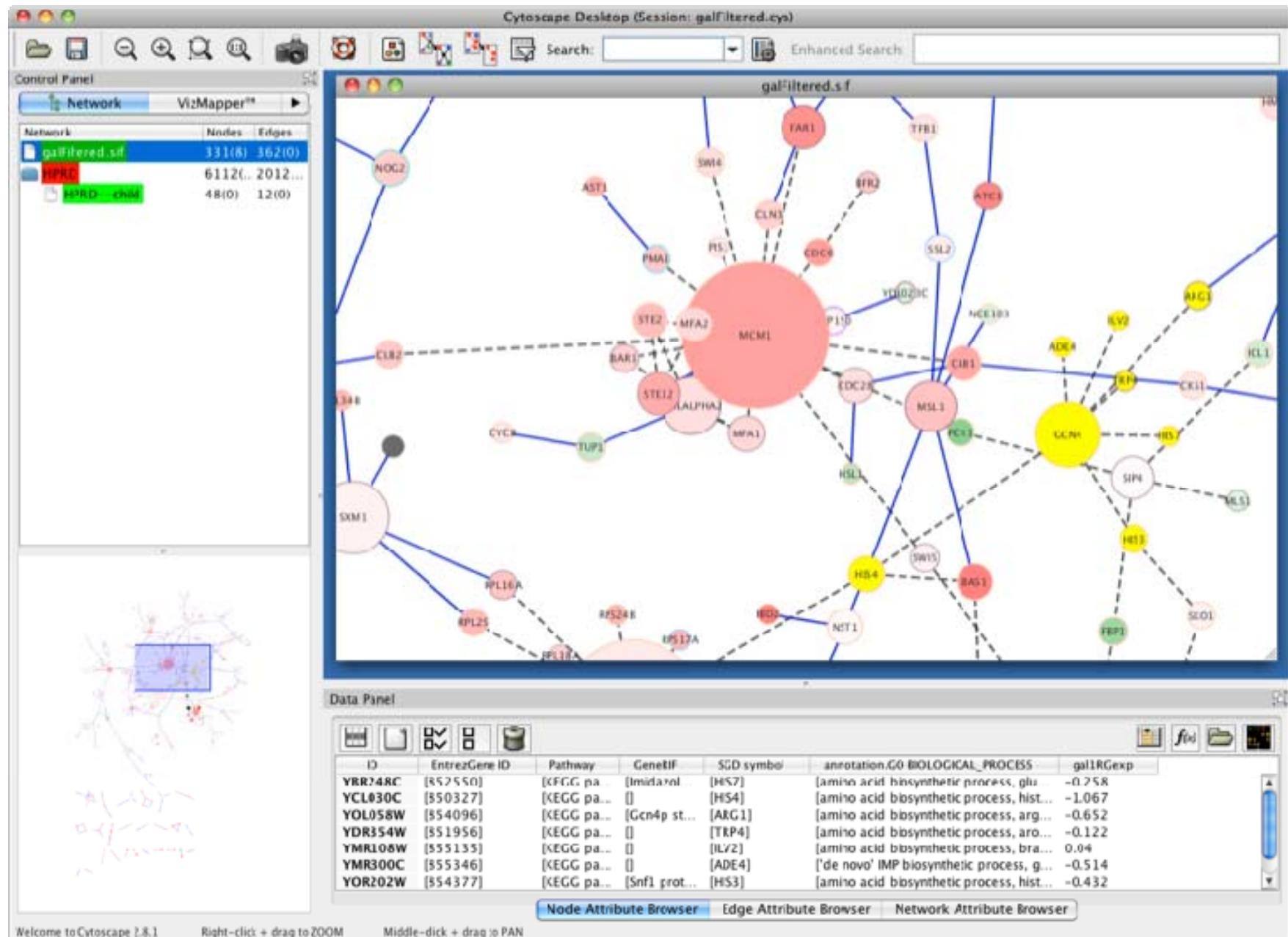
COMBINE 2012  
Toronto, Aug 17, 2012

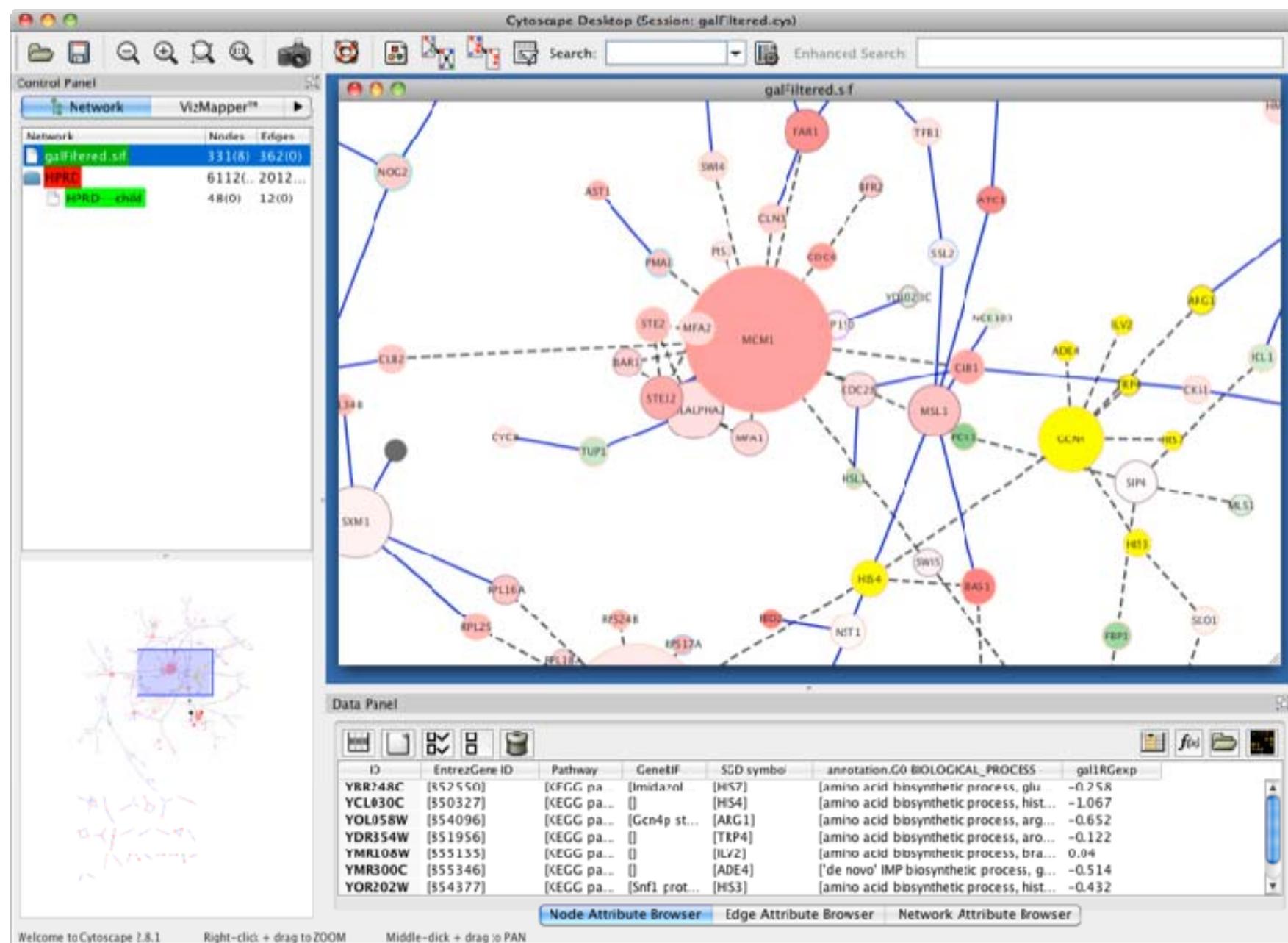


# Cytoscape 3

- Complete re-architecture: OSGi – everything is an app
  - Enables future features:
    - ↳ More stable and powerful APIs
    - ↳ Scripting, macros, recordable history, better undo/redo
    - ↳ Command line mode, good for use on compute clusters
    - ↳ Interactive control from other scripting languages e.g. R
  - Fixing bugs and porting plugins
  - 3.0 developer beta now available
    - ↳ Mirror functionality in 2.8

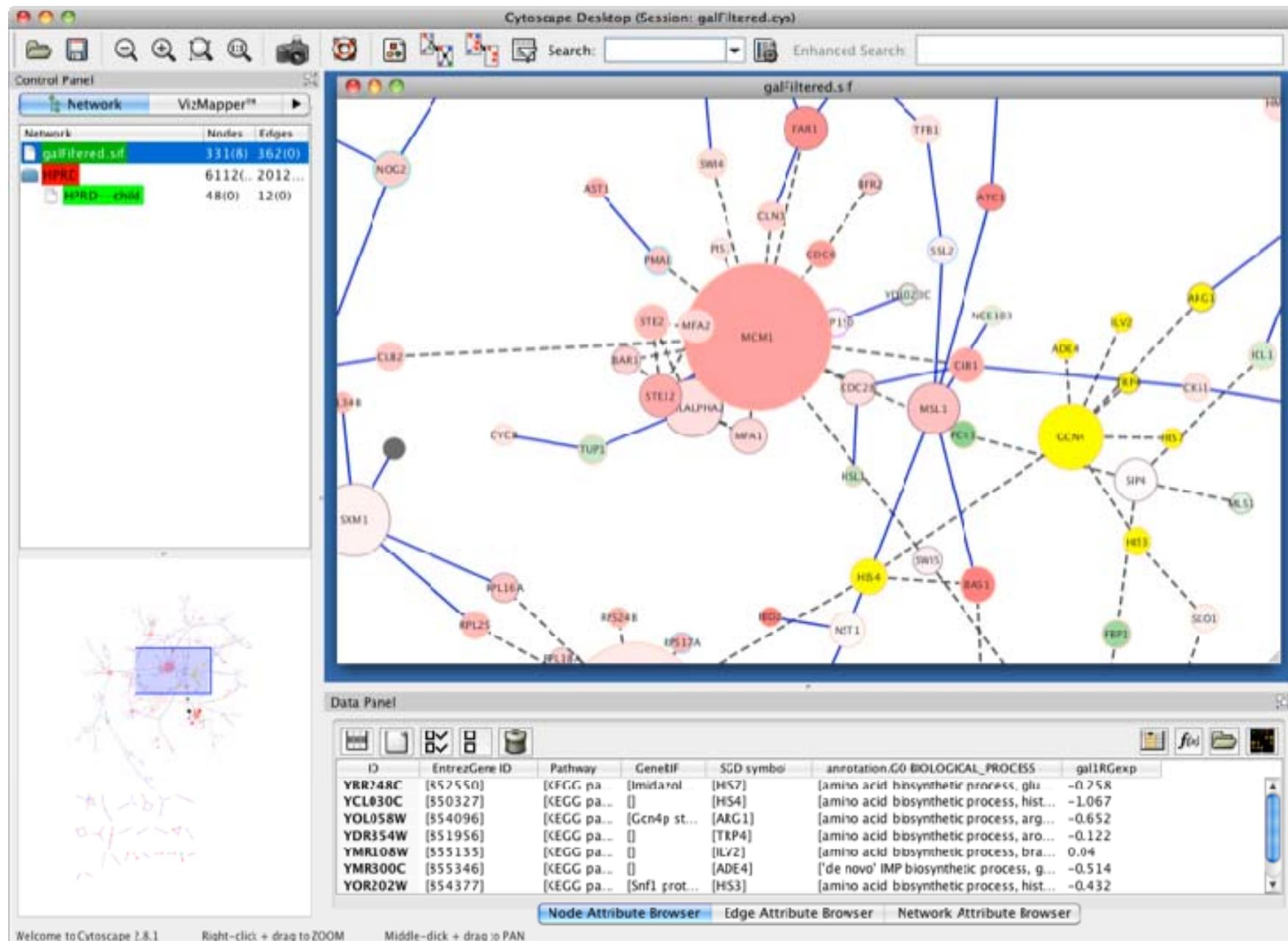
# Desktop Application written in Java

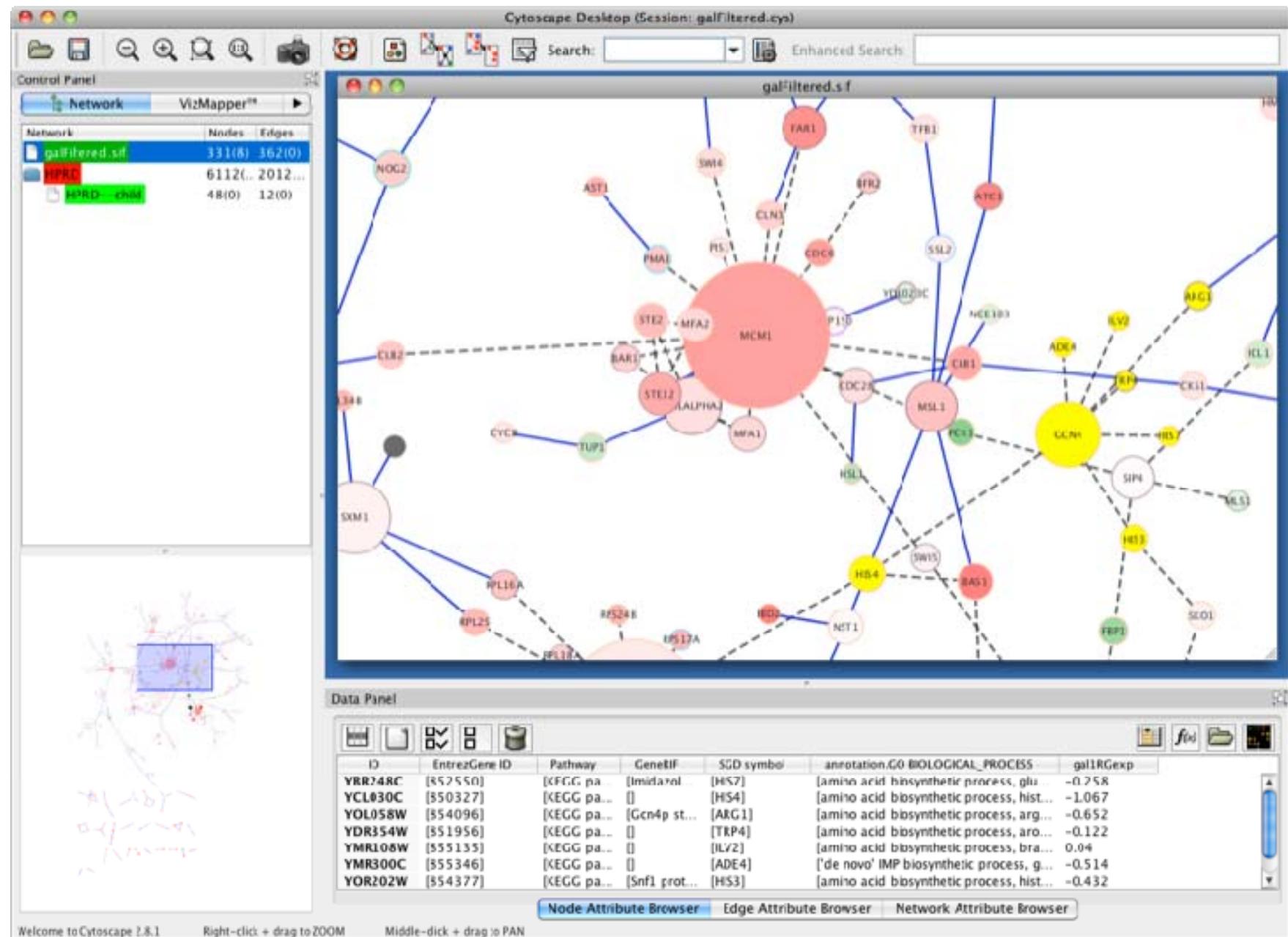




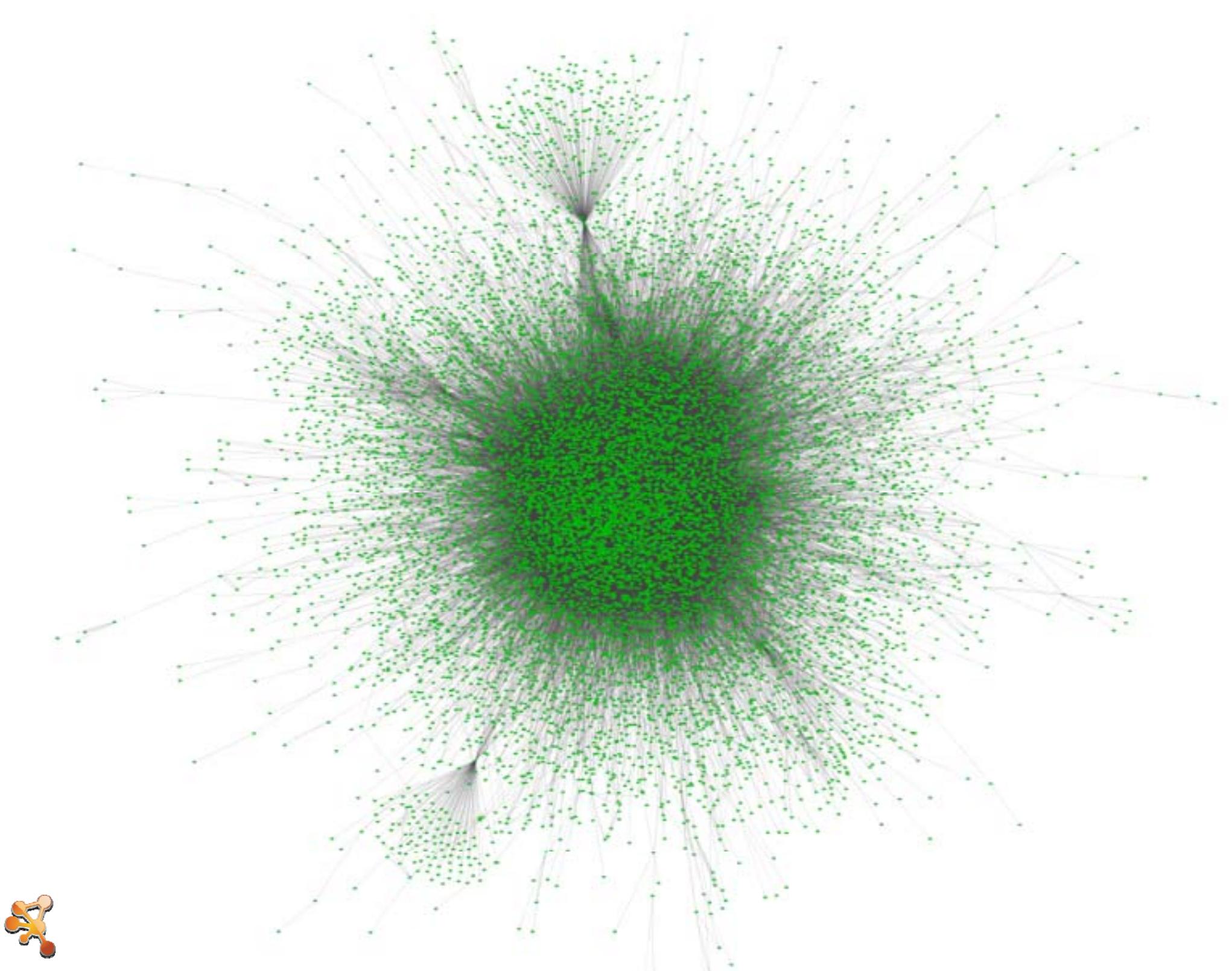
# Biological Network Visualization + Analysis

# Free Software - LGPL

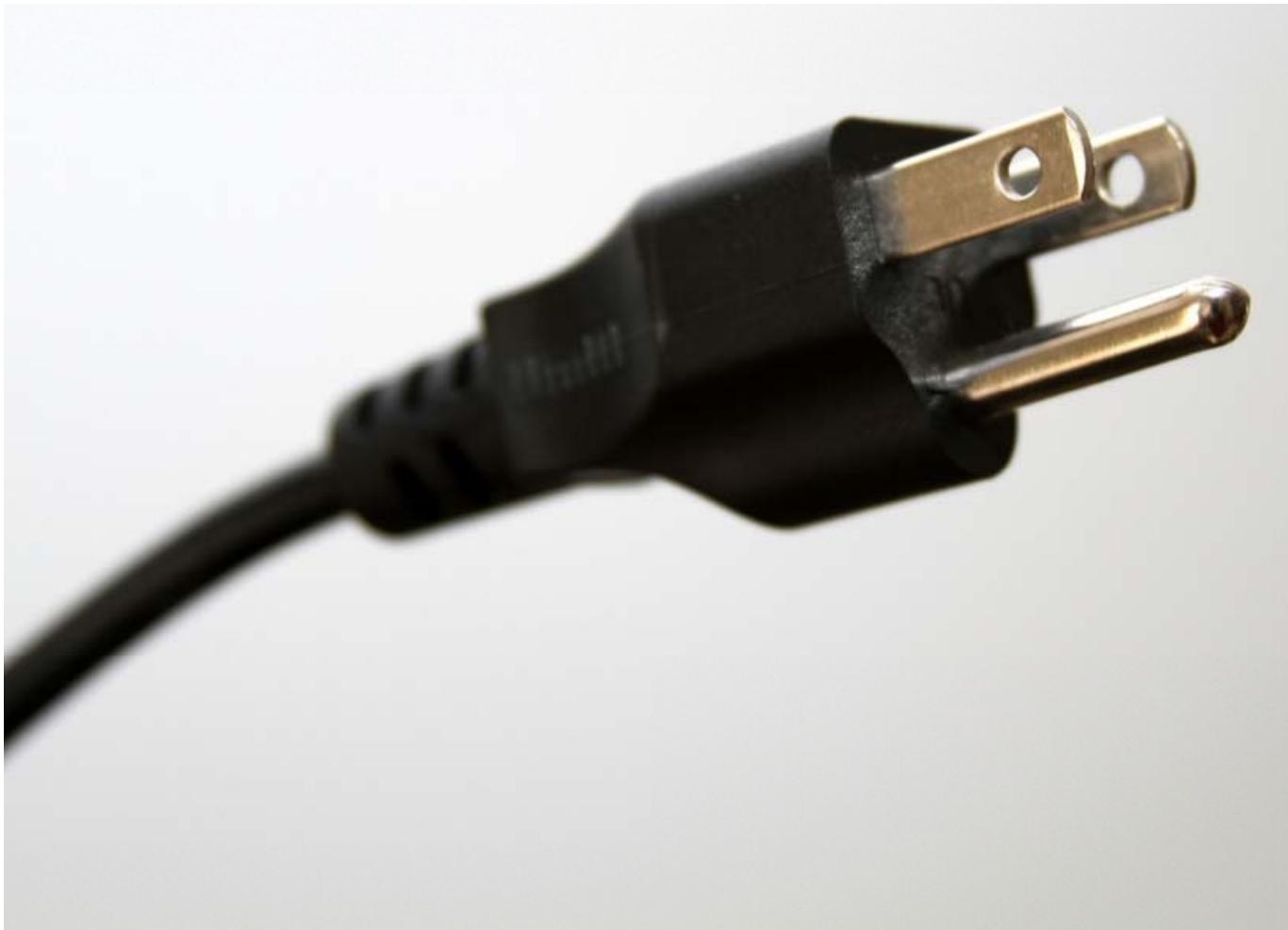




~5000 downloads per month



# Cytoscape's most important feature?



Our ~~Plugin~~ App Architecture



Photo credit: Samuel L. Livingston

Apps allow for customization

Primary analysis mechanism

Builds a community of stakeholders



AllegroMCODE APCluster APID2NET BioQualiPlugin BLAST2SimilarityGraph BNMatch  
CABIN CalculateNodeDegree CentiScaPe ChemViz clusterExplorerPlugin clusterMaker  
ClusterONE ClusterViz COMA CommFinder CyClus3D CyOog cytoHubba Cytomcl  
DualLayout dynamicXpr EnhancedSearch EnrichmentMap ExprEssence GraMoFoNe  
GraphletCounter HiderSlider jActiveModules mcl-new MCODE MINE NeMo NetAtlas  
NetCirChro netMatch NetworkAnalyzer NetworkEvolution OmicsAnalyzer OmicsViz  
OrthoNets PanGIA PerturbationAnalyzer PinnacleZ RandomNetworks RDFScscape  
Reactome FIs RemainingDegreeDistribution ReOrientPlugin ShortestPath Plugin  
SimTrek structureViz TransClust VennDiagramGenerator VistaClaraPlugin WordCloud  
BiNoM bioCycPlugin BiogridPlugin BiomartClient BioNetBuilder BisoGenet  
ConsensusPathDBplugin CoryneRegNetLoader CyThesaurus-ID-Mapping CytoSQL  
Droid Genoscape GPML-Plugin GraphMLReader IntActWSClient iRefScape  
KGMLReader MetScape MiMIplugin NCBIclient NCBIEntrezGeneUserInterface  
Pathintegrator PhosphositePlus Web Service Client Module PICRCClient  
PSICQUICUniversalClient ReConn SessionForWeb SFLDLoader StringWSClient  
Superpathways-Plugin 3DScape AgilentLiteratureSearch Cytoprophet DisGeNET  
DomainGraph ExpressionCorrelation GeneMANIA MetaNetter MONET BiNGO  
BubbleRouter ClueGO CommonAttributes DisplayNetworkFromFlatFile FluxViz  
FunNetViz HyperEdgeEditor PiNGO CyGoose CytoscapeRPC GroovyScriptingEngine  
JavaScriptEngine MiSink PythonScriptingEngine RubyScriptingEngine  
ScriptEngineManager addParentNeighbors AdvancedNetworkMerge batchTool BiLayout  
commandTool coreCommands CyAnimator edgeLengthPlugin edgeLister EpiTrace  
FERN FM3 GoogleChartFunctions GroupTool MetaNodePlugin2 MultilevelLayoutPlugin  
NamedSelection NatureProtocolsWorkflow NeighborHighlight NetLink nodeCharts  
PhyloTree VennDiagrams



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Droid GPML-Plugin GraphMLReader IntActWSClient iRefScape  
KGMLReader MetScape MiMIplugin NCBIclient NCBIEntrezGeneUserInterface  
Pathintegrator PhosphositePlus Web Service Client Module PICRCClient  
PSICQUICUniversalClient ReConn SessionForWeb SFLDLoader StringWSClient  
Superpathways-Plugin 3DScape AgilentLiteratureSearch Cytoprophet DisGeNET  
DomainGraph ExpressionCorrelation GeneMANIA MetaNetter BiNGO  
ClueGO CommonAttributes DisplayNetworkFromFlatFile FluxViz  
FunNetViz HyperEdgeEditor PiNGO CyGoose CytoscapeRPC  
JavaScriptEngine MiSink PythonScriptingEngine  
ScriptEngineManager addParentNeighbors batchTool BiLayout  
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# So what's the problem?



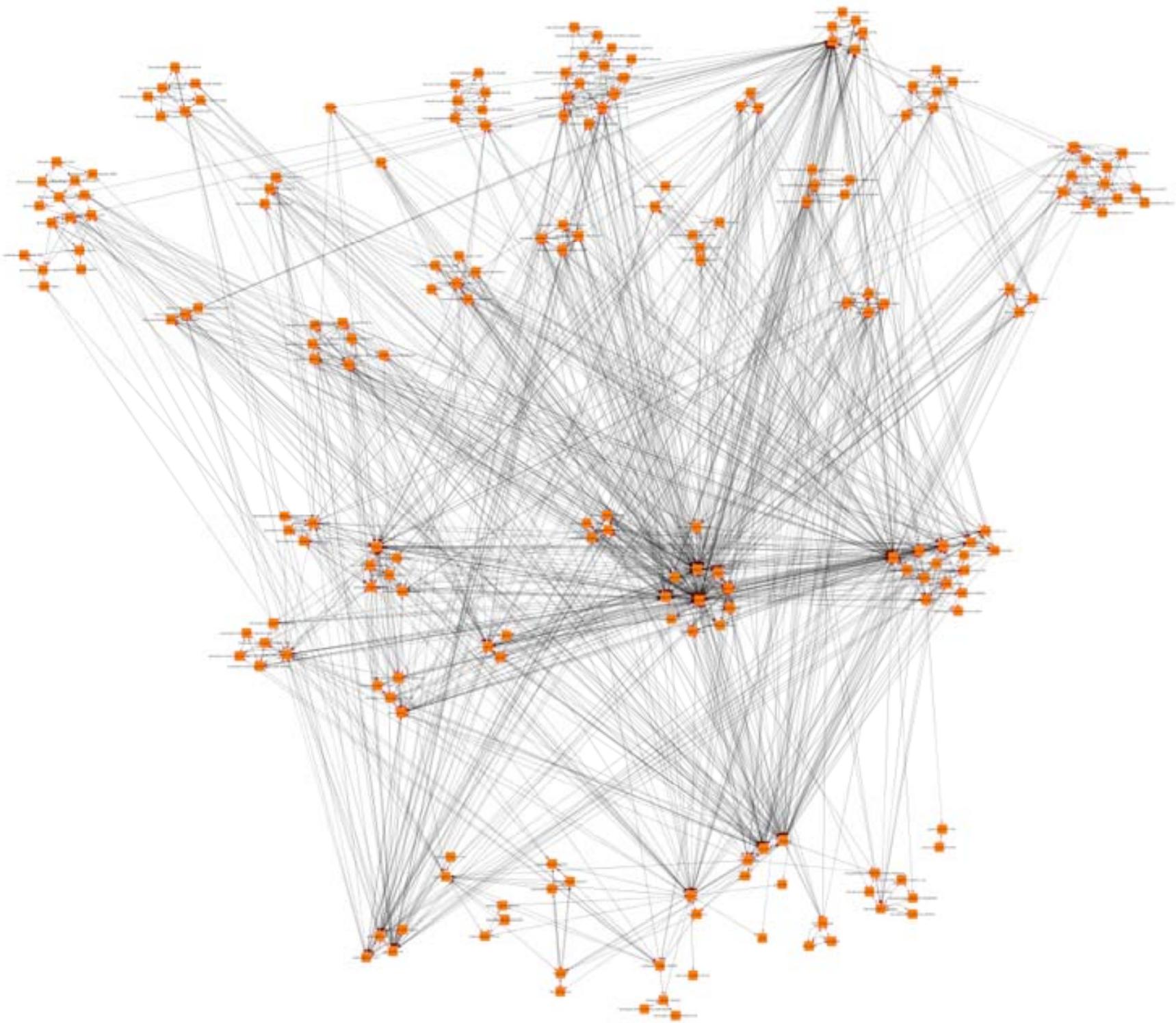




Photo credit: Taekwonweirdo  
Photo credit: Dean247



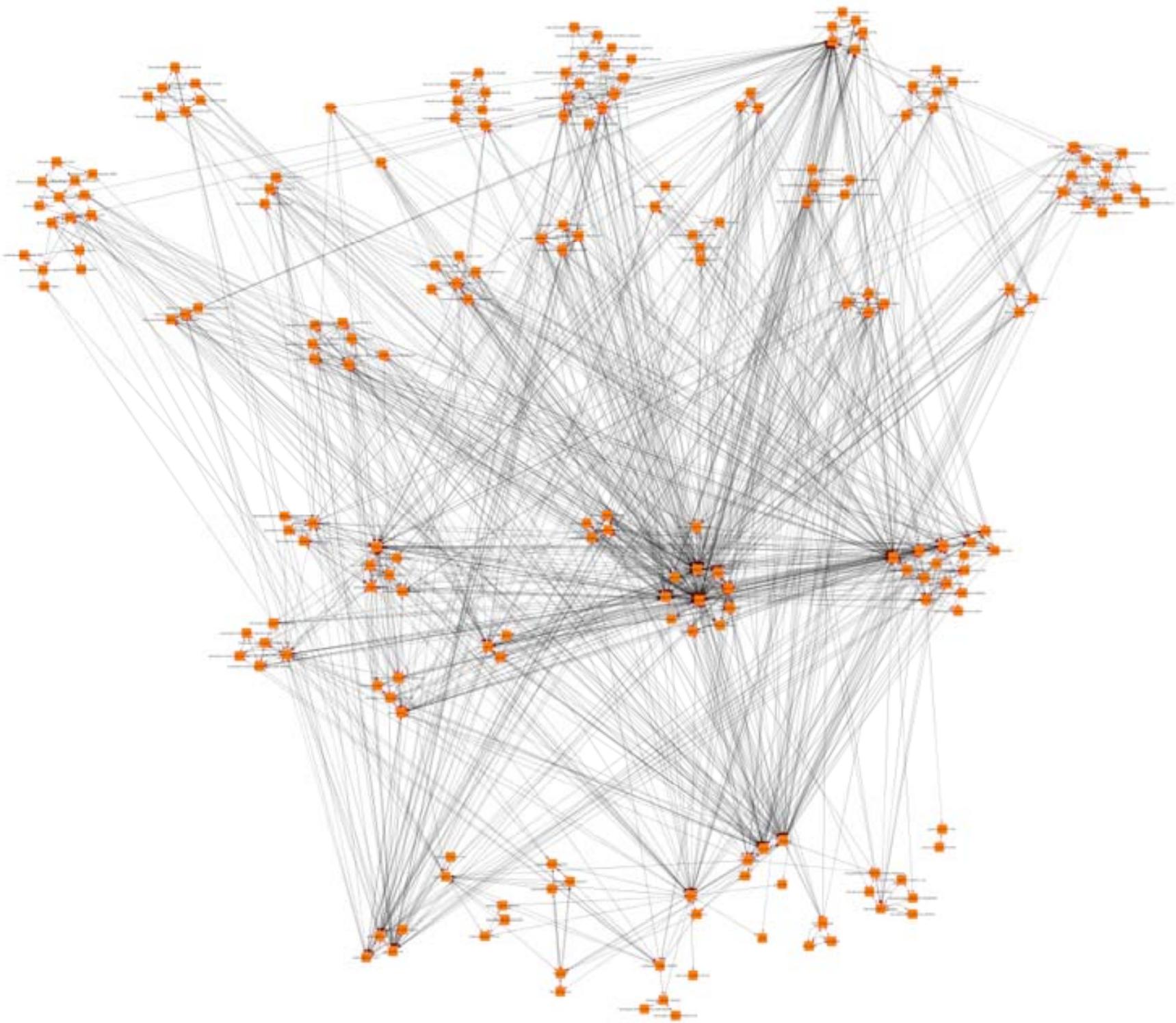
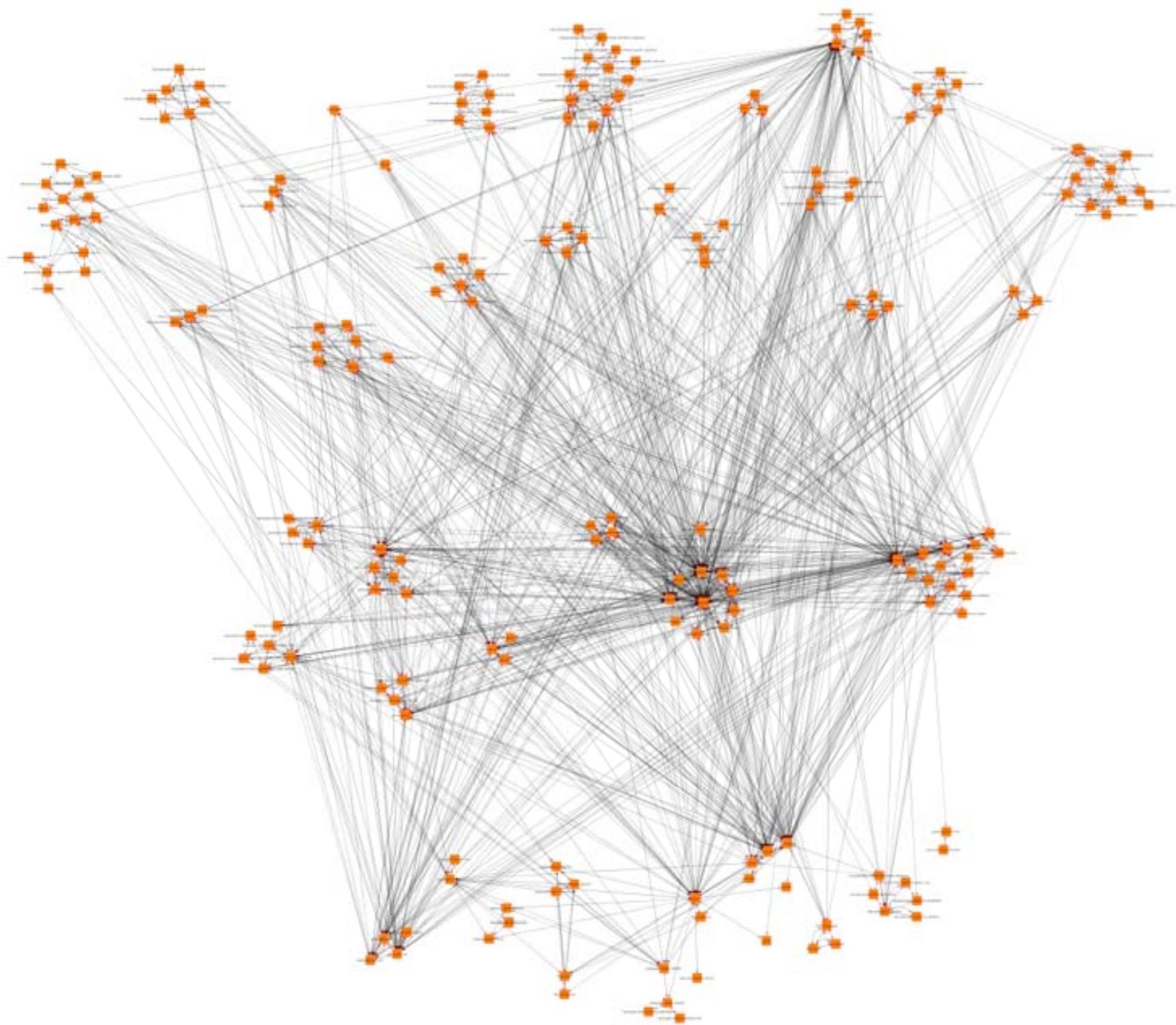




Photo credit: Taekwonweirdo





- !!! A tangled mess of inter-dependencies
- !!! Every public class is part of the API
- !!! Backwards compatibility is impossible
- !!! Poor deprecation and versioning strategy



Is that all?



**!!! Apps can't use conflicting libraries**

**!!! Apps can't publish their own APIs**



*Hurts core developers,  
app writers,  
and users!*



# How do we fix this?



1. OSGi
2. Semantic Versioning
3. Maven



# Cytoscape 3.0



Cytoscape 3.0 Milestone 5  
is available here:

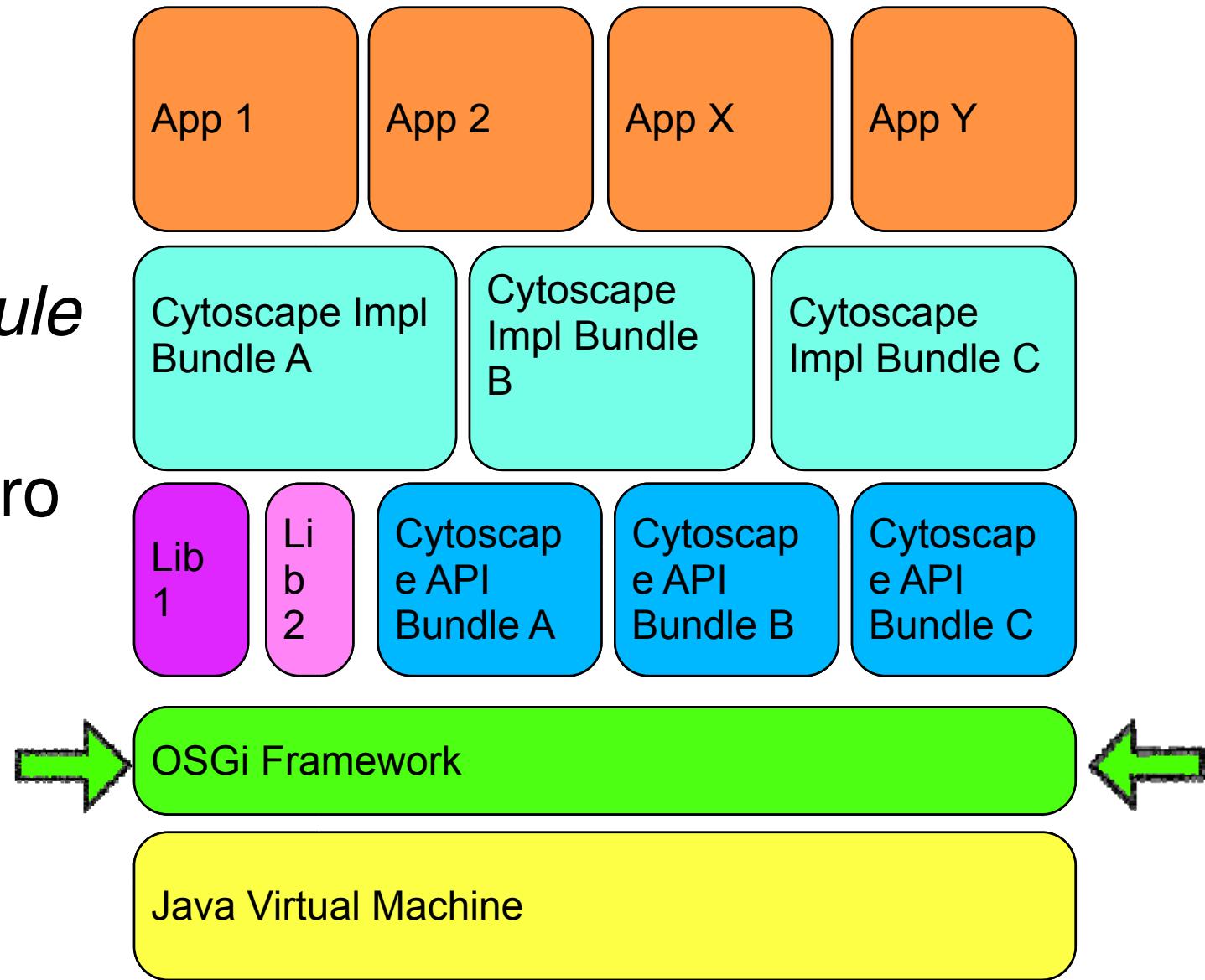
<http://cytoscape.org>



# Cytoscape Application Stack

- OSGi

- ↔ provides runtime container
- ↔ *defines module boundaries*
- ↔ provides micro service architecture



# How does OSGi accomplish this?



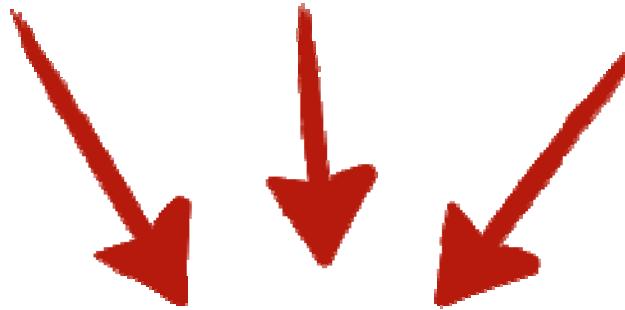
**Module = Jar + Metadata**



**Module X**

**Module Y**

**Module Z**

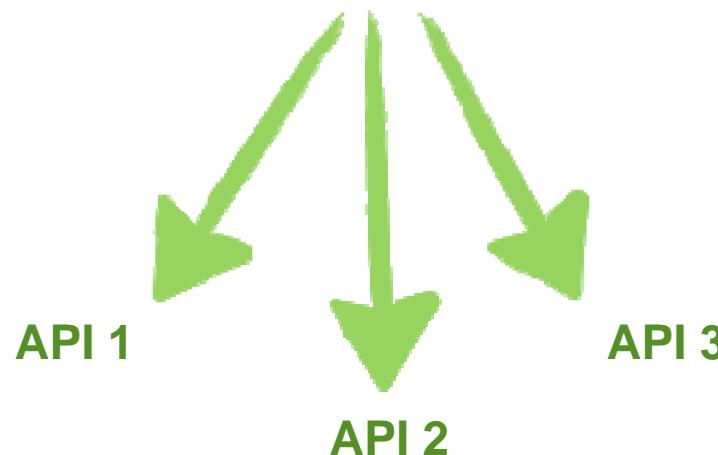


Defines what can depend on the module.

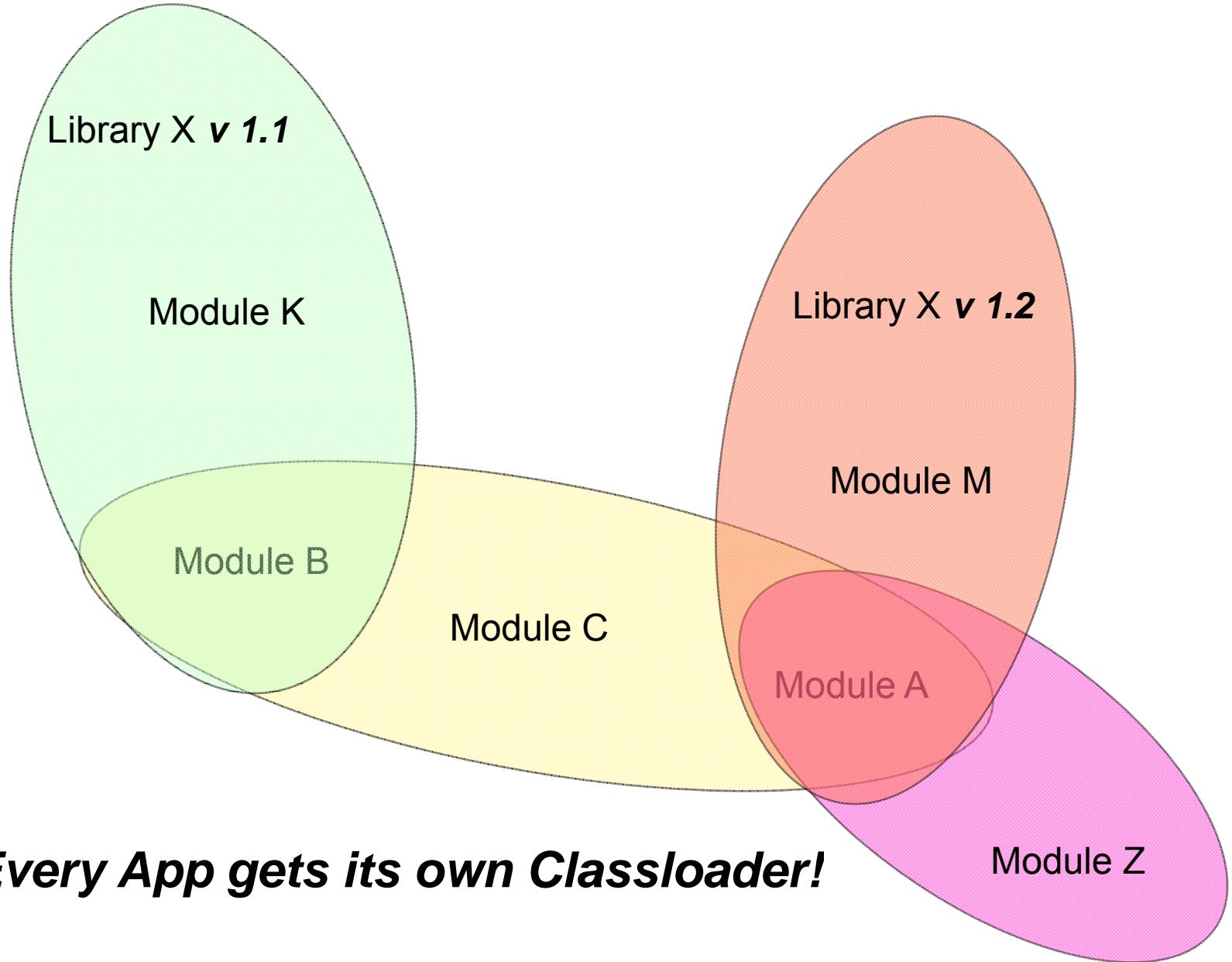
Export-Packages: org.cytoape.model

Defines what the module can depend on.

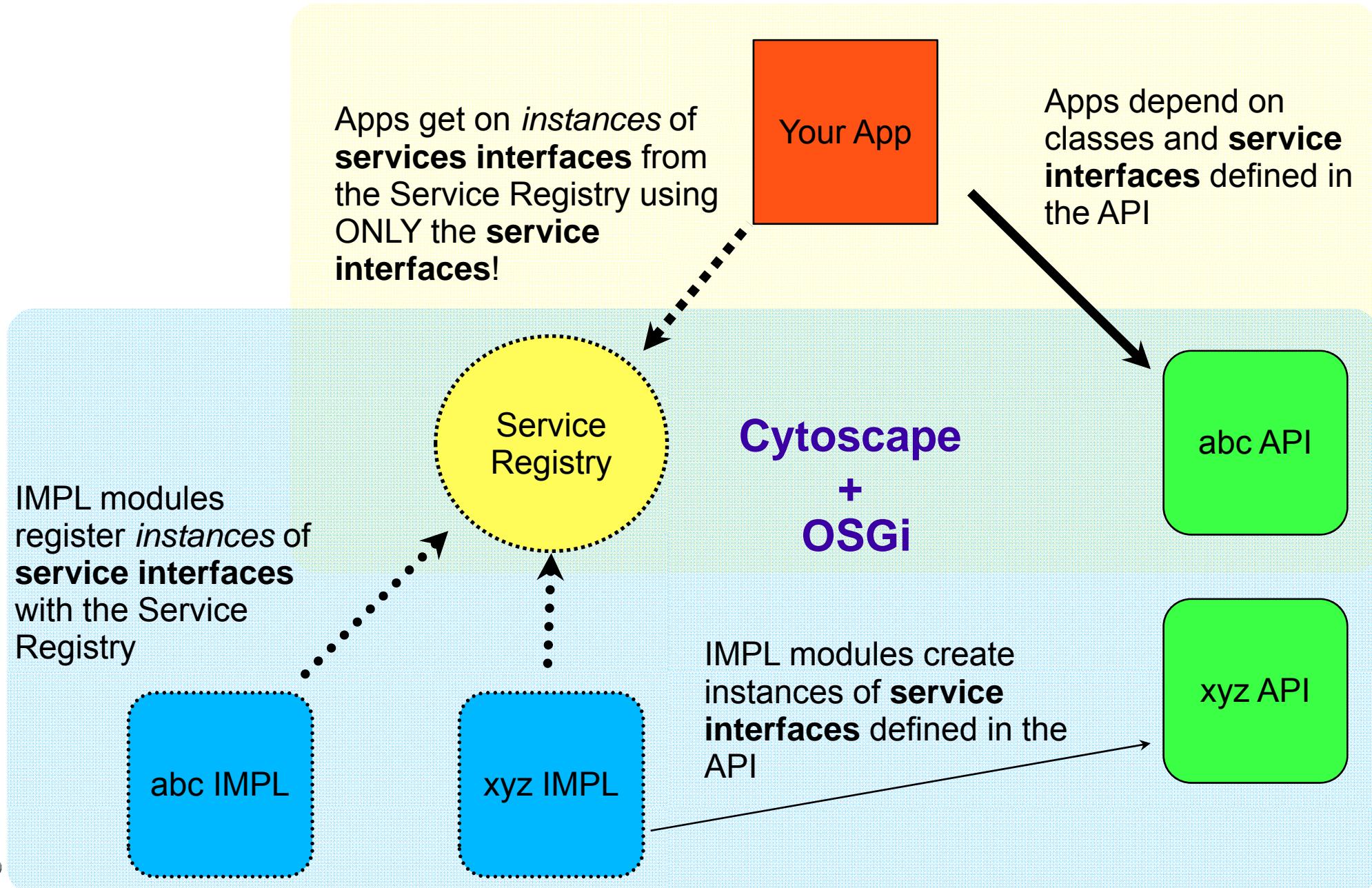
Import-Packages: org.cytoscape.events



# Independence



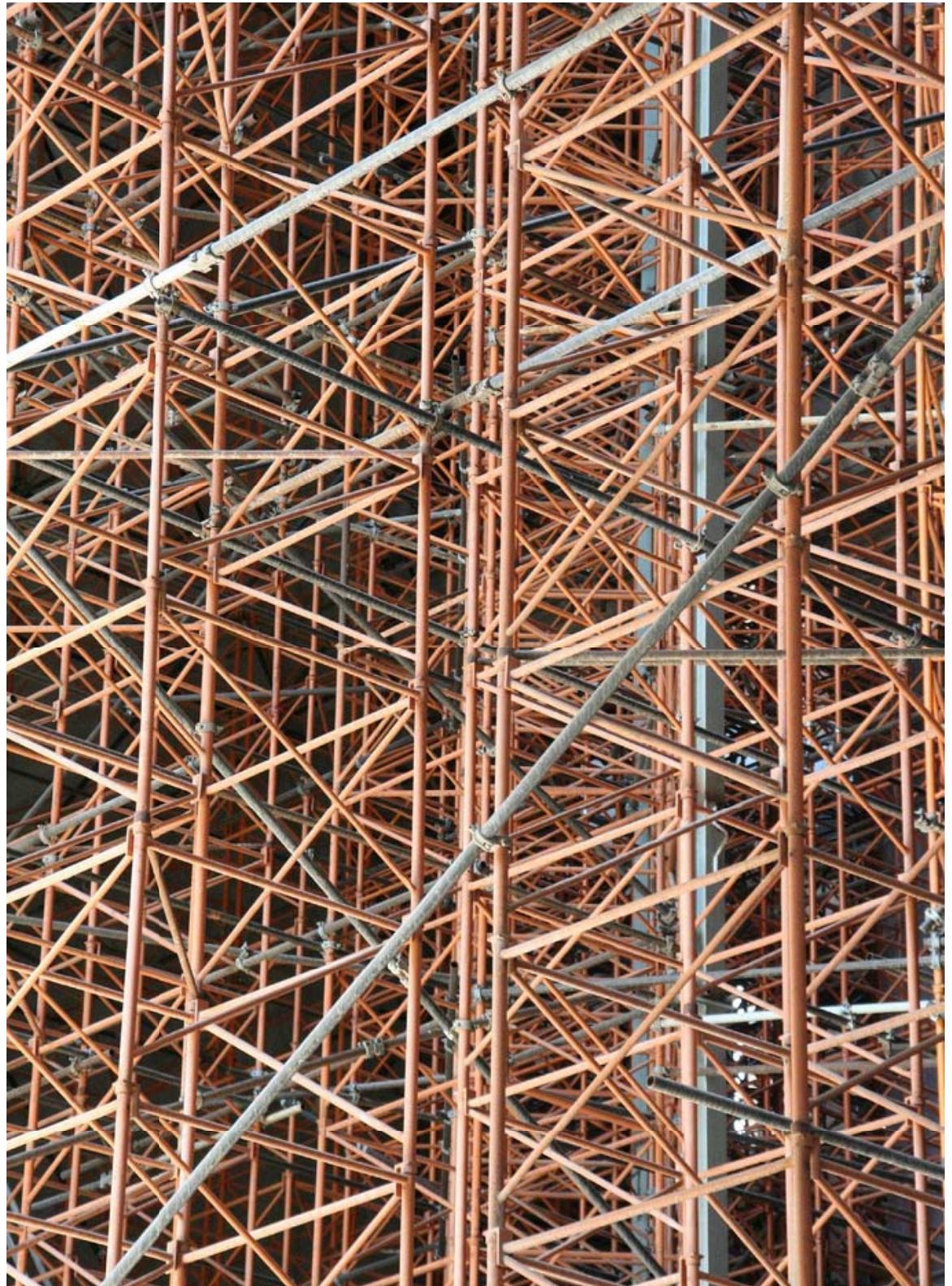
# $\mu$ Services



# OSGi *enables* Modularity



Photo credit: Maurice Koop



# OSGi *enforces* Modularity



# Semantic Versioning:

***Version numbers have meaning!***



VERSION : *major.minor.patch*

*patch* - backwards compatible bug fixes

*minor* - backwards compatible new features

*major* - backwards ***INcompatible*** changes



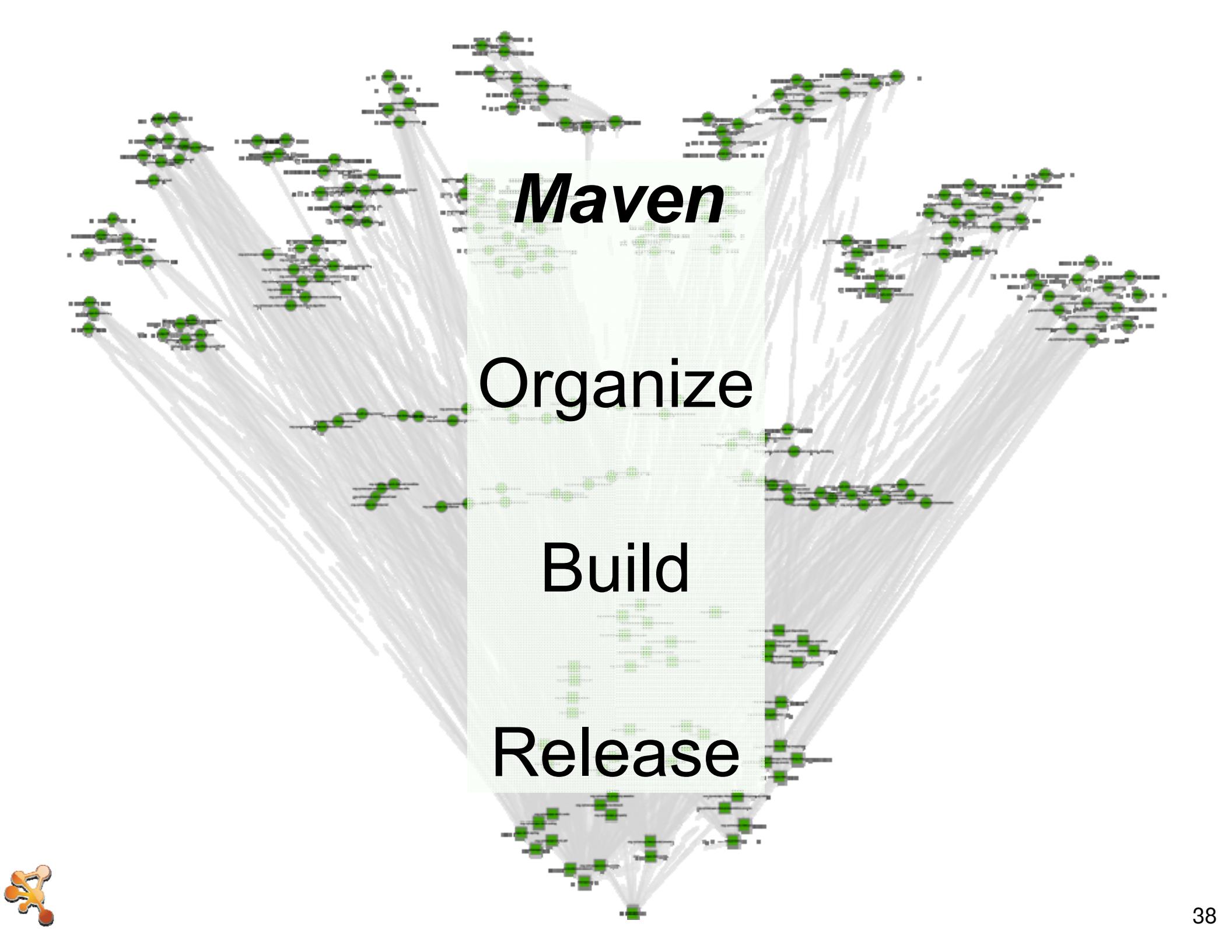
Because versions have a functional meaning, we can reason about ranges

[3.1,4)

***As long as we version honestly,  
your app will always work!***

(At least until the next major version update)





**Maven**

**Organize**

**Build**

**Release**



# 1. OSGi

- To enable/enforce modularity

# 2. Semantic Versioning

- To define how and when changes happen

# 3. Maven

- To organize, build, and release



-  1. Clearly define API
-  2. Enforce separation of API and implementation
-  3. Clearly define what can change and when
-  4. Sensible dependencies
-  5. Make writing and maintaining plugins easy



For more information visit:

<http://cytoscape.org>



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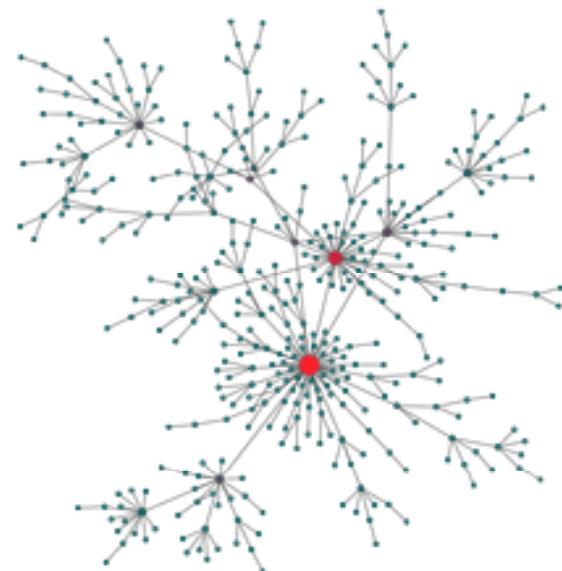


# NATIONAL RESOURCE FOR NETWORK BIOLOGY

## Mission Statement

The aim of the National Resource for Network Biology (NRNB) is to provide a freely available, open-source suite of software technology that broadly enables network-based visualization, analysis, and biomedical discovery for NIH-funded researchers. This software is enabling researchers to assemble large-scale biological data into models of networks and pathways and to use these networks to better understand how biological systems operate under normal conditions and how they fail in disease.

The National Resource for Network Biology is an NIH National Center for Research Resources (**NCRR**) Biomedical Technology Research Center (**BTRC**), organized around the following key components: Technology Research and Development, Driving Biomedical Projects, Outreach, Training and Dissemination of Tools. NRNB is funded by RR031228.



[What is Network Biology?](#)

## Collaborate with NRNB

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## Annual Report