

dotlink360

Understanding Interfirm Relationships in Business Ecosystems with Interactive Visualization



Rahul C. Basole | Trustin Clear | Mengdie Hu | Harshit Mehrotra | John Stasko











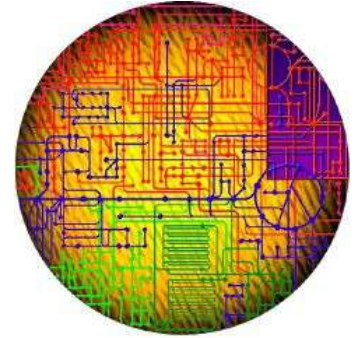




MICROSCOPE



TELESCOPE



MACROSCOPE

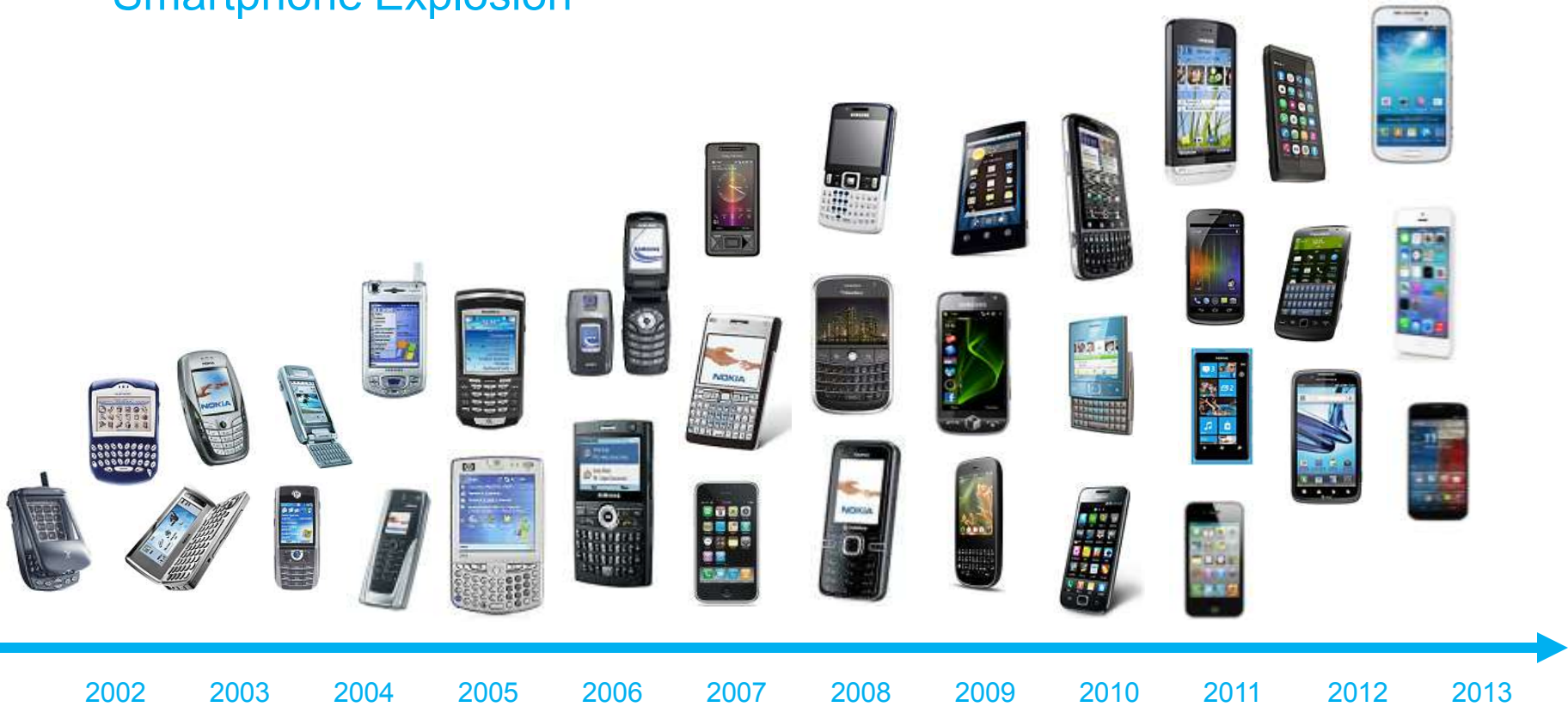
Research Objective

Macroscopic Insight into Business Ecosystems with
Interactive Visualization



Focus Domain: [Mobile Ecosystem](#)

Smartphone Explosion



Battle of Platforms

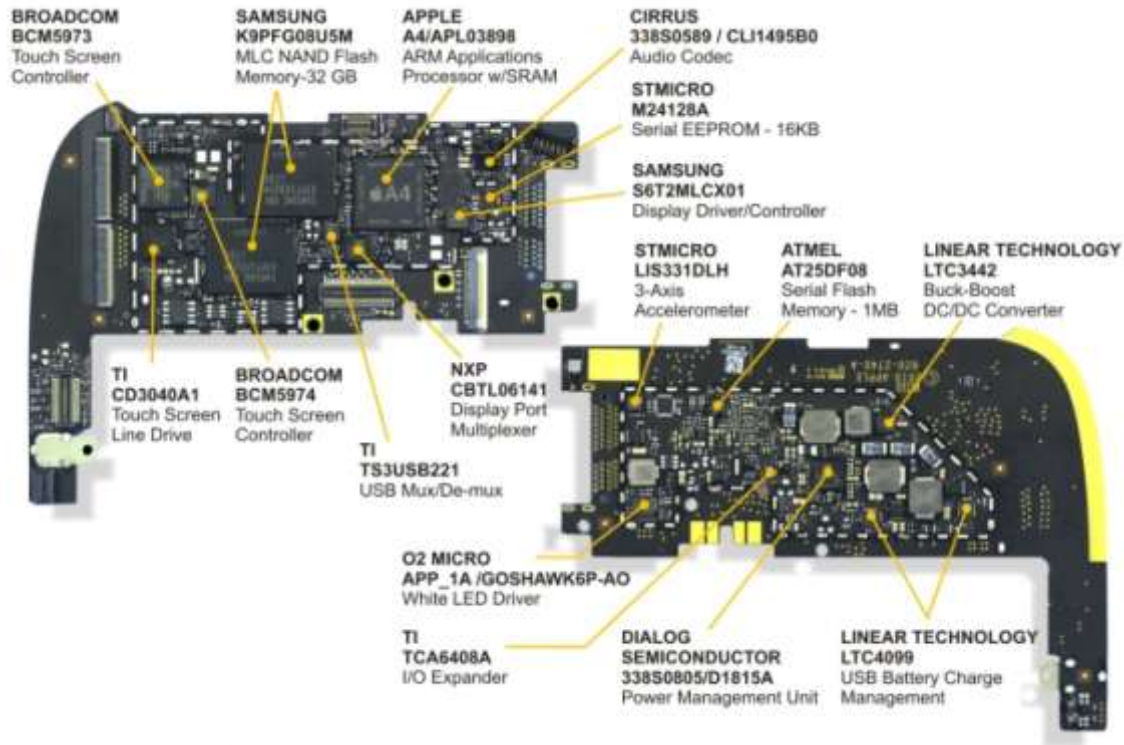
2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

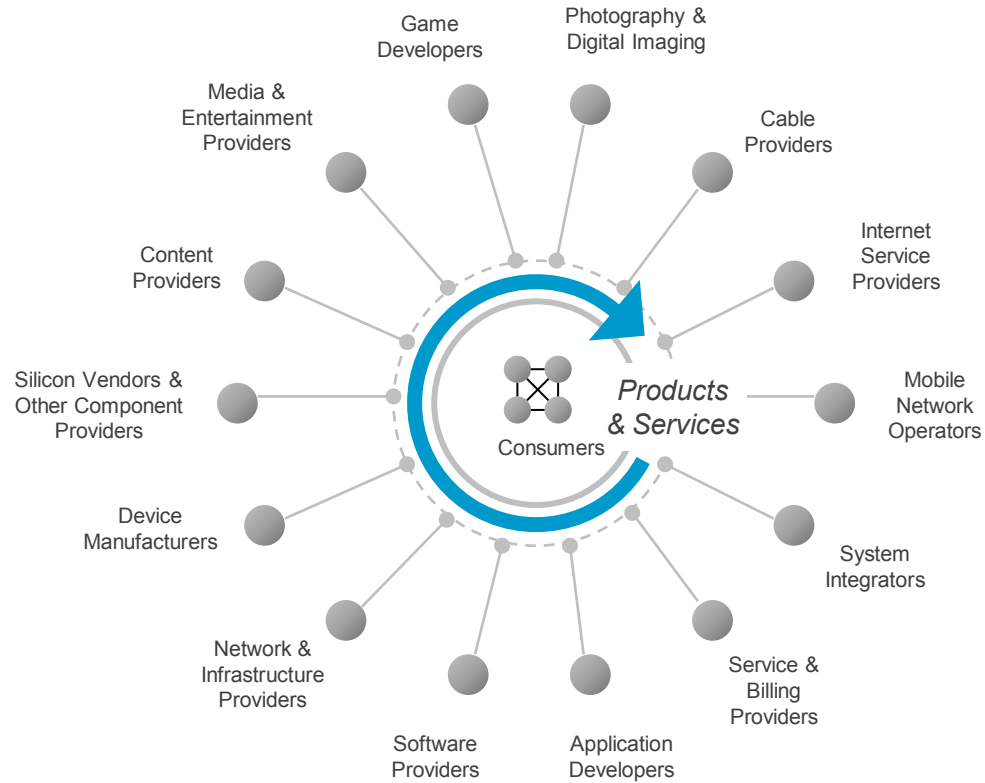


Emergence of Apps & App Stores



2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013





Data

SDC Platinum



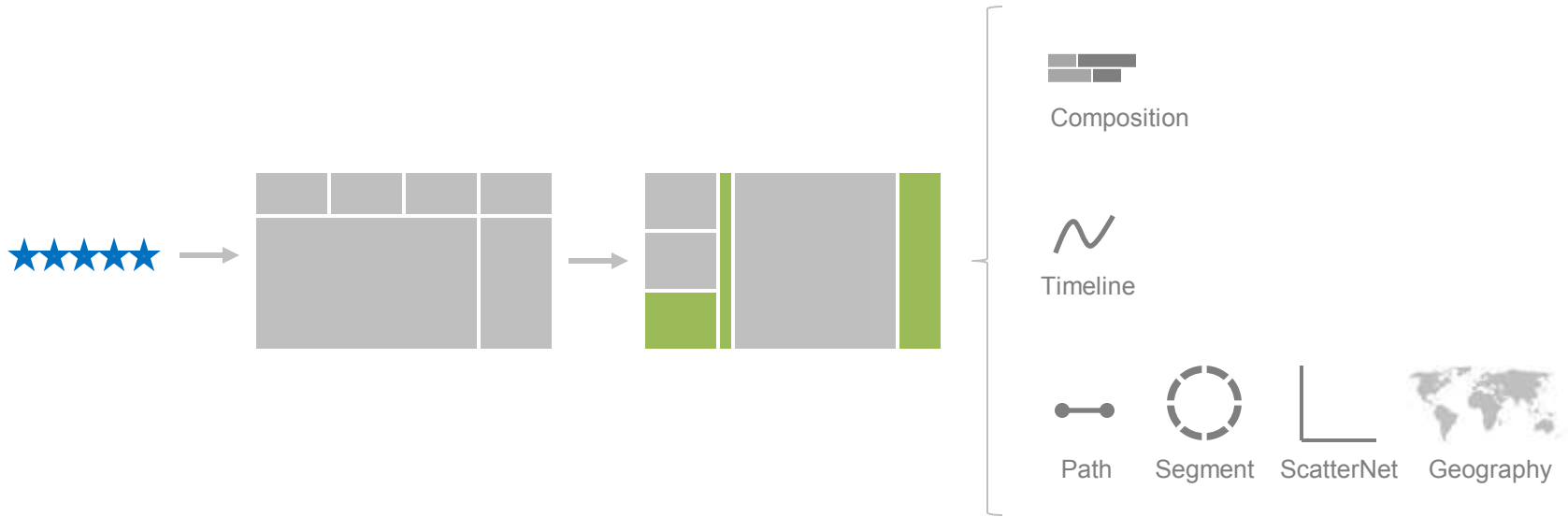
who. what. when. where. why.

Design Requirements

- Expert Interview
- Field Study
- Literature Review

- ★ Both top-down and bottom-up examination of an ecosystem are critical.
- ★ Understanding interfirm connectivity, composition, and temporality is vital.
- ★ Comparative perspectives drive insights.
- ★ Communicate agreement summaries first, then details as desired.
- ★ Provide a familiar metaphor while supporting direct and prompt interaction, not complex queries and commands.

System Design





dotlink360

Navigator

Ecosystem Segments

- Application & Software Providers
- Cable Providers
- Content Providers
- Contract Electronics Manufacturers
- Device Manufacturers
- Gaming Providers
- Internet Service Providers
- Media & Entertainment Providers
- Mobile Network Operators
- Network & Infrastructure Providers

Companies

- Purkinje Inc
- Q-Cells SE
- Q1 Labs Inc
- QAD Inc
- Qcept Technologies Inc
- Qihoo 360 Technology Co Ltd
- Qik Technologies Inc
- QLogic Corp
- QNX Software Systems Ltd
- QSC AG
- QSound Labs Inc
- QuadraMed Corp
- QUALCOMM Inc**
- Qualmark Corp

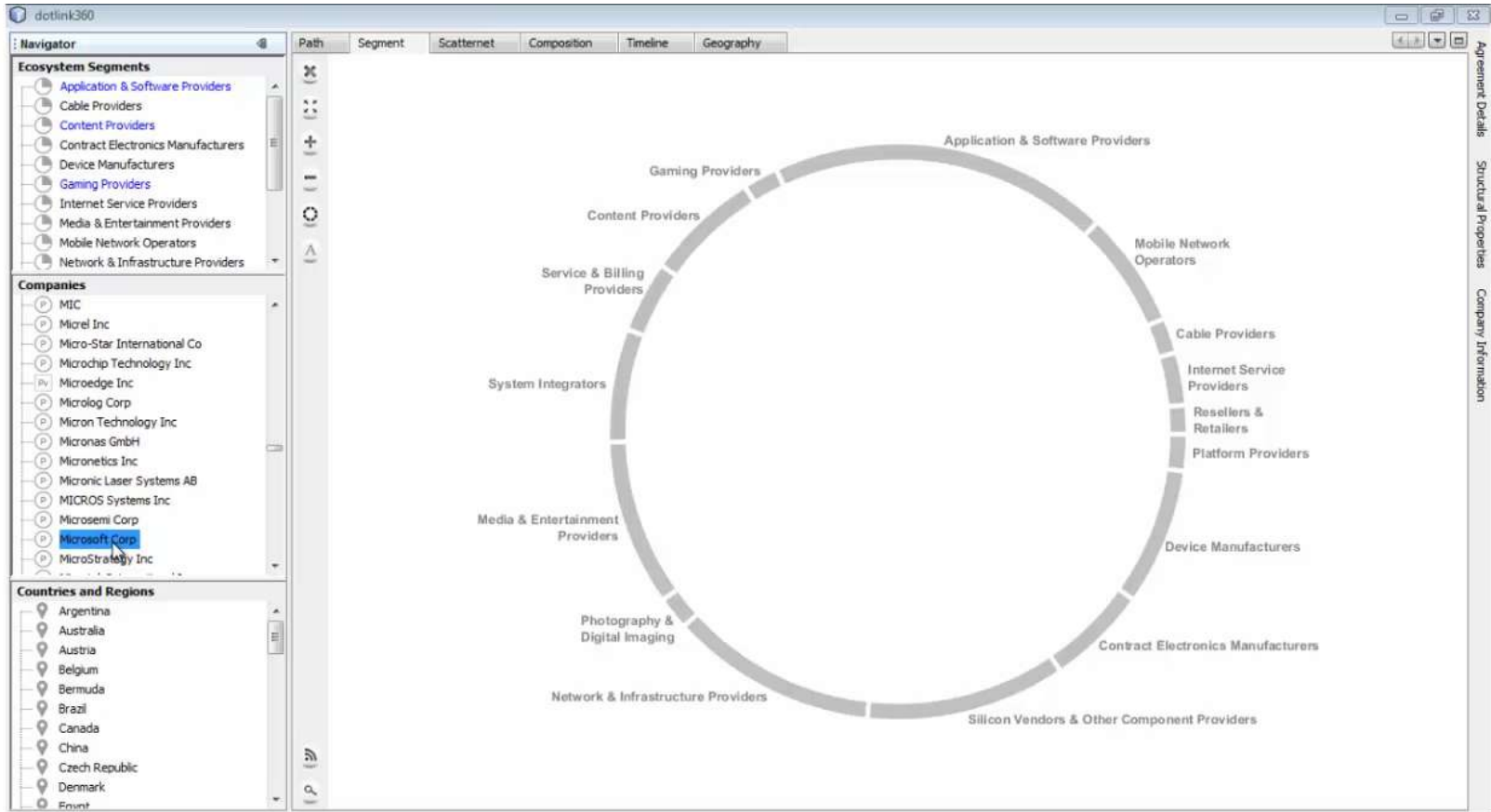
Countries and Regions

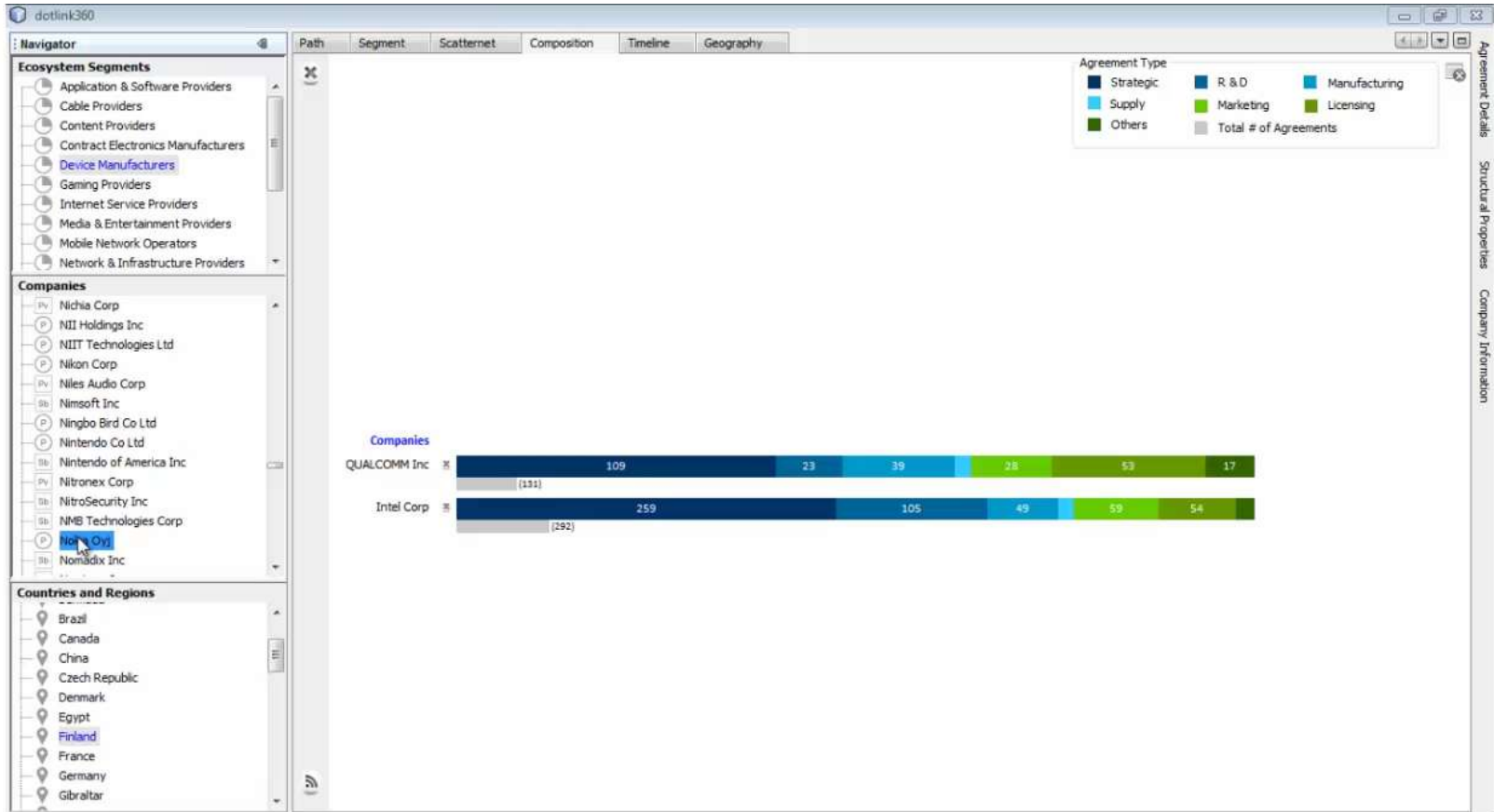
- Argentina
- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bermuda
- Brazil
- Canada
- China
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- France

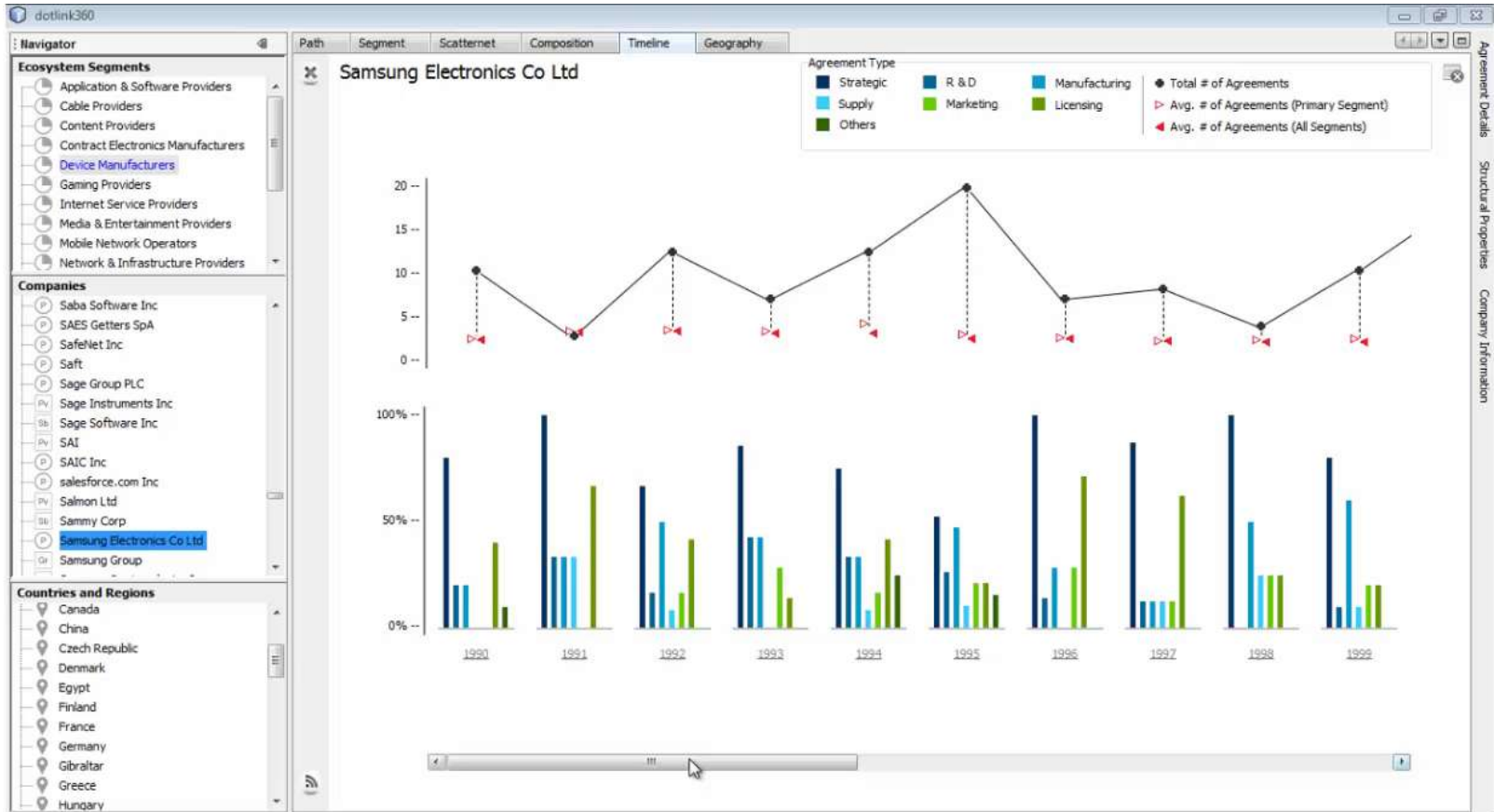
Path Segment Scatternet Composition Timeline Geography

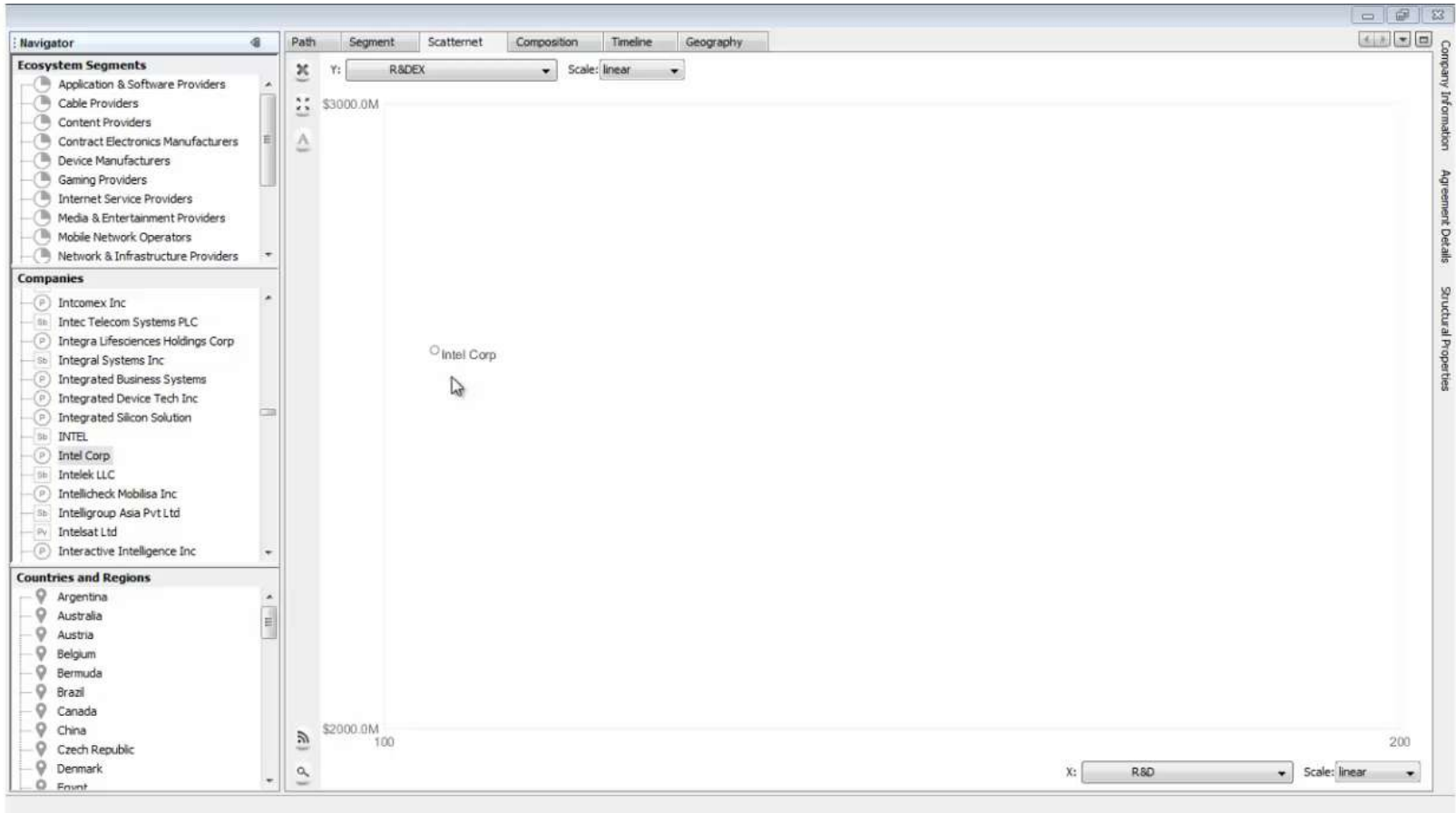
Agreement Details Structural Properties Company Information

Path









dotlink360

Navigator

Path Segment Scatternet Composition Timeline Geography

Ecosystem Segments

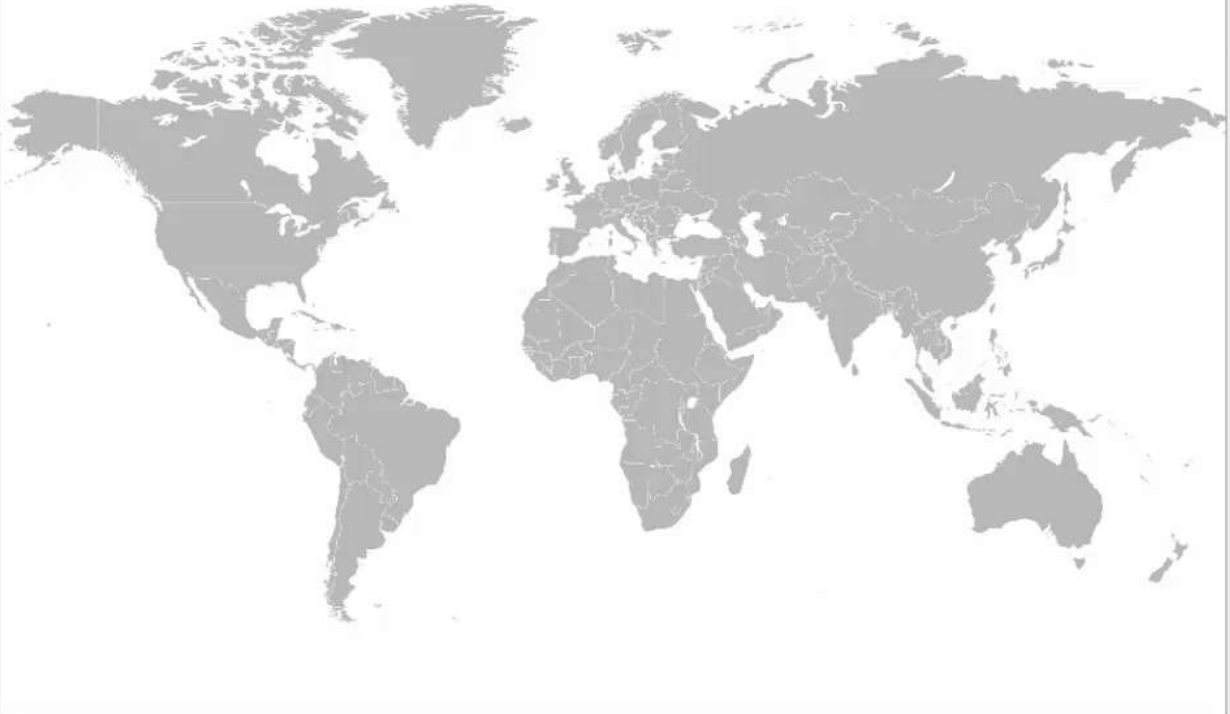
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- Network & Infrastructure Providers

Companies

- Nintendo Co Ltd
- Nintendo of America Inc
- Nitronex Corp
- NitroSecurity Inc
- NMB Technologies Corp
- Nokia Corp
- Nomadic Inc
- Nominum Inc
- Nonlinear Dynamics Ltd
- Norlight Telecom Inc
- Norsat International Inc
- Northern Telecom Ltd
- Northstar Sys Intl Inc
- Notify Technology Corp

Countries and Regions

- Canada
- China
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Egypt
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Gibraltar
- Greece
- Hungary



Agreement Details
Structural Properties
Company Information

The screenshot displays three detail panels for Hewlett-Packard Co.:

- Company Information:**
 - Hewlett-Packard Co**
 - HPQ:** NYSE | United States
 - ECOSYSTEM SEGMENTS:** Device Manufacturers (Primary), Platform Providers, System Integrators
 - COMPETITORS:** IBM, SAP AG, Samsung Electronics Co Ltd, Dole NV, Canon Inc, Infocaps EPD Ltd, Toshiba Corp, Wipro Technologies, Konica Minolta Photo Imaging, Tandata Corp, CGI Corp, Cap Gemini SA, Cisco Systems Inc, Lexmark International Inc, Brother Industries Ltd, TMS Consultancy Services Ltd, Lenovo Group Ltd, Acer Inc, Computer Sciences Corp
 - CONTACT INFORMATION:** 3000 Hanover St. Palo Alto, CA 94304-1185, Phone: 650-857-1301, Fax: 650-857-5538, <http://www.hp.com>
- Agreement Details:**
 - Table of agreements with columns for date, status, and type.
 - Legend for Agreement Type: Strategic (R & D, Manufacturing, Supply, Marketing, Licensing, Other)
- Structural Properties:**
 - Hewlett-Packard Co**
 - Alliances:** Total: 515, Strategic: 462, R&D: 153, Marketing: 177, Manufacturing: 61, Supply: 28
 - Alliance Status:** Letter of Intent: 5, Completed/Signed: 431, Terminated: 6, Pending: 52
 - Alliance Composition:** Exploitation Index (EXPLO Index): 0.600, Exploration Index (EXPLOR Index): 0.205, Portfolio Diversity Index (PDI): 0.655
 - Alliance Activity Index (AAI):** 29.0
 - Structural Properties:** Size: 124.0, Centrality: Degree: 360, Betweenness: 0.0547, Closeness: 0.05, Eccentricity: 0.21, Cluster Coefficient: 0.07, Complexity Index: Vertical Cohesivity (VC): 0.010, Horizontal Cohesivity (HC): 0.000, Geographic Cohesivity (GC): 0.002, Total Cohesivity: 0.012

Three **Detail Panels** can be shown in the right UI region, including information on company, relationships, and structural characteristics.

User Study

6

users

Prototypical Users
20+ years experience
Mobile ecosystem experience

3

phases

Tutorial/Practice/Evaluation

7

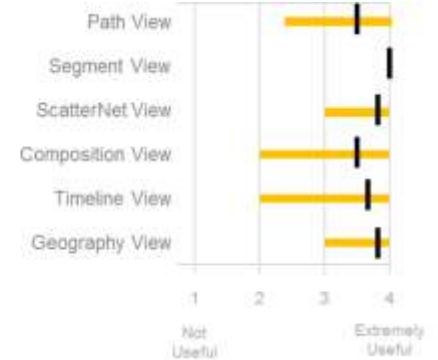
tasks

Search/Browse/Path/Compound

2

performance

Accuracy/Time



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Accuracy/Time

LESSONS LEARNED

- Users were receptive to the ability to quickly browse through long lists of segments, companies, and countries using a familiar explorer-like navigator panel
- Users commented that given the range of functionalities, additional time was necessary for mastery
- Users commented that the tool accelerates their time to insight and helps to improve decision quality.

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DESIRED FEATURES

- Ability to save and output information and visualizations
- “Undo” function to return visualizations to a previous state.
- More flexible ways to select sub-networks and individual nodes via an operation such as rubber-banding.
- Present a subset of the visualization in a traditional list form,

Conclusions

Described the development process, design, instantiation, and evaluation of a system, dotlink360, for helping corporate analysts gain insight into business ecosystems.

System enables analysts, investors, and executives to make sense of the complex interfirm landscape and conduct competitive intelligence analysis.

Presented a requirements-driven analysis of the domain, with insight gained from an initial field study and from the design process and evaluation of the system.

Contributes to the relatively unexplored, but promising area of exploratory information visualization in market research and business strategy

Future Work

Other data sources.

Dynamically-driven and custom data.

Enhance filter.

Longitudinal user study.

Web-based platform.

Acknowledgements

This work was supported in part by the National Science Foundation under awards IIS-0915788 and CCF-0808863 and funding by the Tennenbaum Institute, the Institute for People & Technology, and the GVU Center at Georgia Tech.

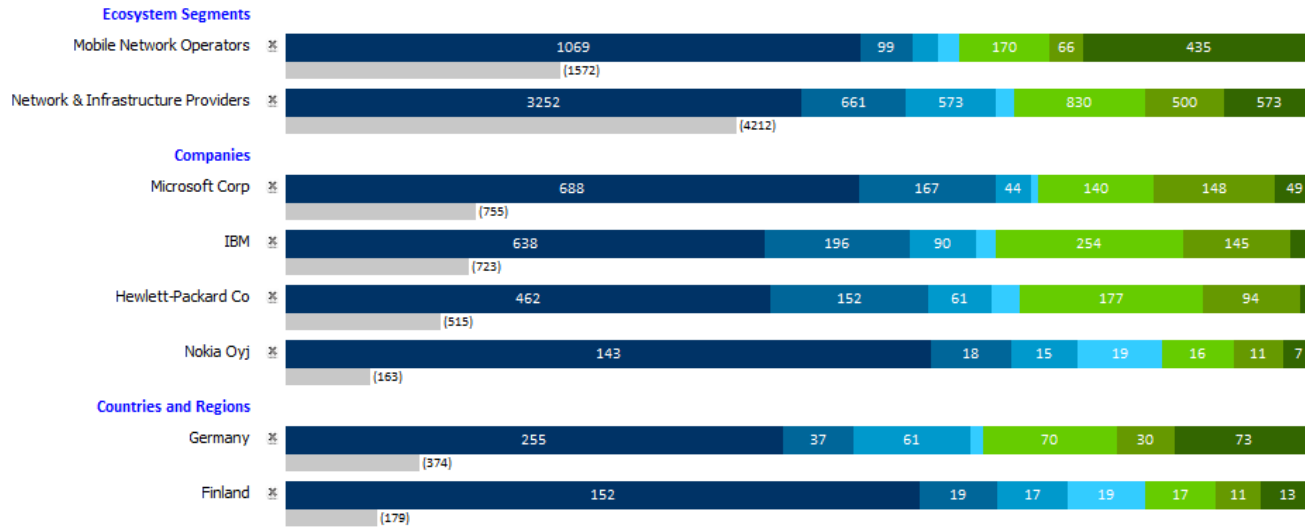


Thank you! Questions?

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e: basole@gatech.edu t: [@basole](https://twitter.com/basole)

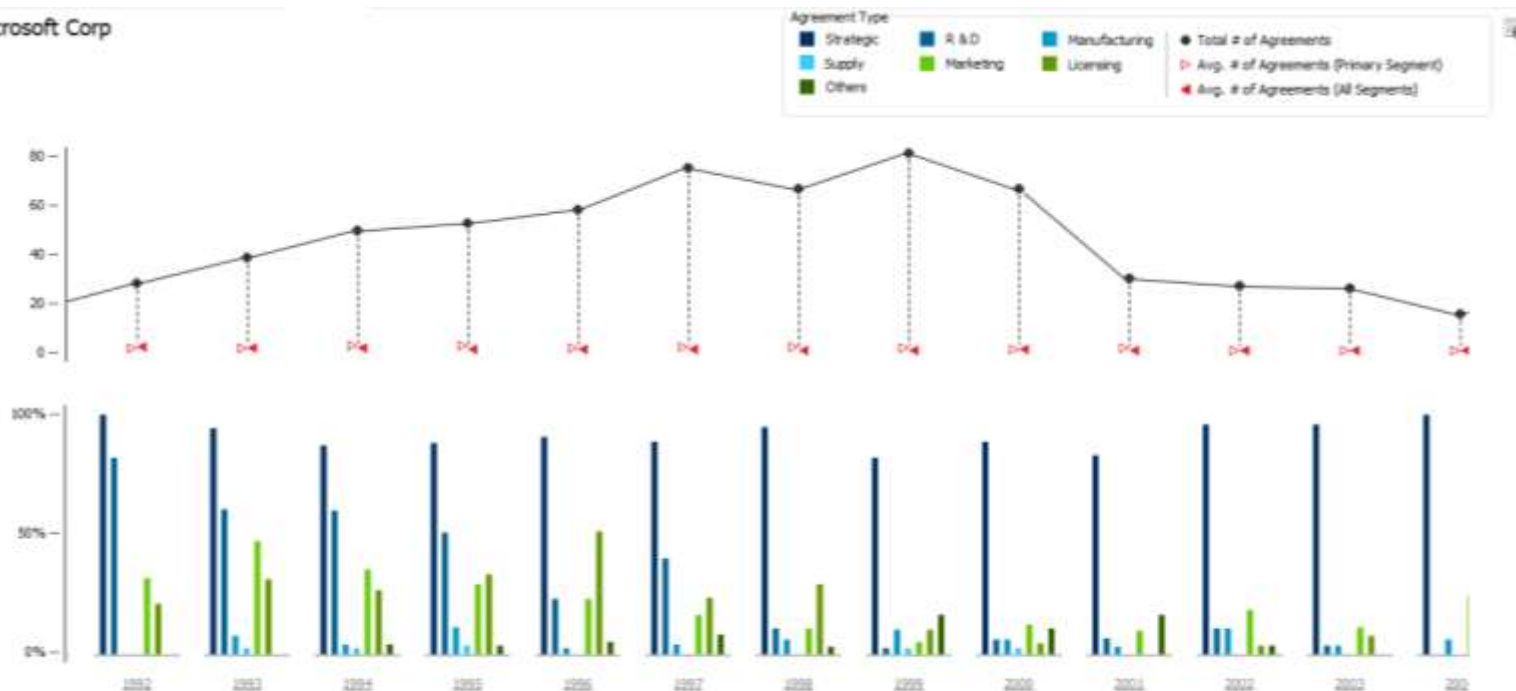




The **Composition View** shows the agreement portfolios of companies, market segments, and countries.

The top bar for each encodes proportion of agreement types, while the bottom depicts total count.

Microsoft Corp



The [Timeline View](#) shows total agreement count relative to primary segment and overall ecosystem (top) and a yearly/monthly breakdown by agreement type (bottom).

