Before and After the Financial Crash: The Corporate Network Evolution and Sustainability Implications

Maria Angela Ferrario¹, Periklis Andritsos², Niel Chah², Thais Bittencourt²
Lancaster University, UK¹; University of Toronto, CA²

Phase 1: Data-Driven
Pre-2008
- Giant bow-tie
- Controlled by a small number of big corporations

Phase 1: How have the “Exemplars” evolved?
Post-2008

1st approach
1) Apply a clustering algorithm (Affinity Propagation) to find which are the best corporate representatives that hold control.
2) Rank the subordinate companies that exist within each cluster of influence.

2nd approach
3) Find the strong connected components at each moment in time.
4) Applying a clustering algorithm that incorporates time, find if and how each strong component has changed over time (especially after 2008)

Phase 2: Participatory

Reflect on Phase 1 findings via workshops with a diversity of research communities i.e. from law, economics, natural sciences, and the arts

Implications on sustainable use of resources, and a sustained commitment to human welfare.