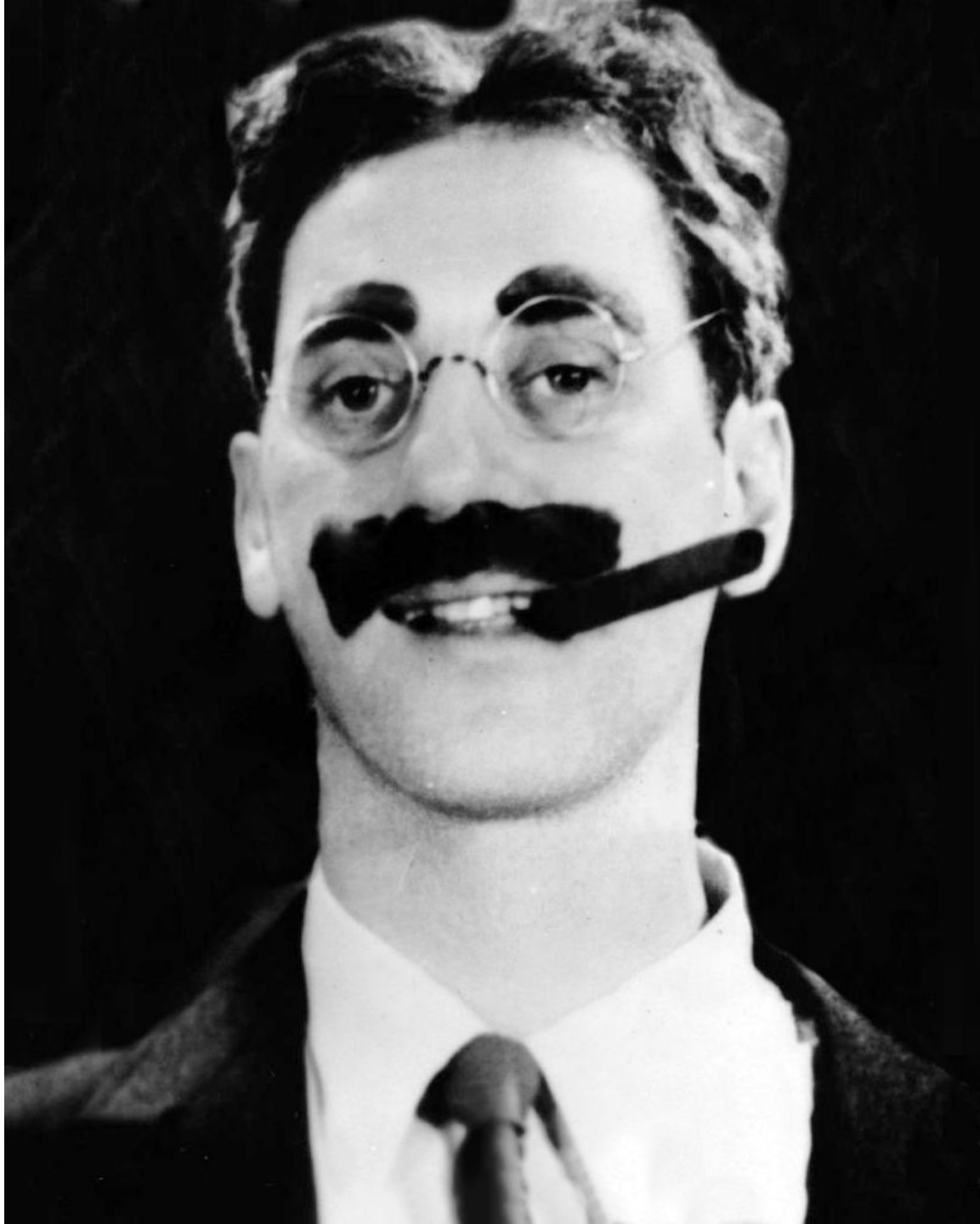
Building a Community:
The Story of Learn Teach Code

Liz Krane

@LearningNerd

“I wouldn't want to belong to any club that would have me as a member.”

— Groucho Marx



You're going to make some cats very happy one day.

INTROVERTS

UNITE
SEPARATELY
IN YOUR OWN HOMES

“I am a great believer in luck. The harder I work, the more of it I seem to have.”

— Coleman Cox, “Listen to This” (1922)

Just **start**.

Then learn by doing.

How do communities create value?

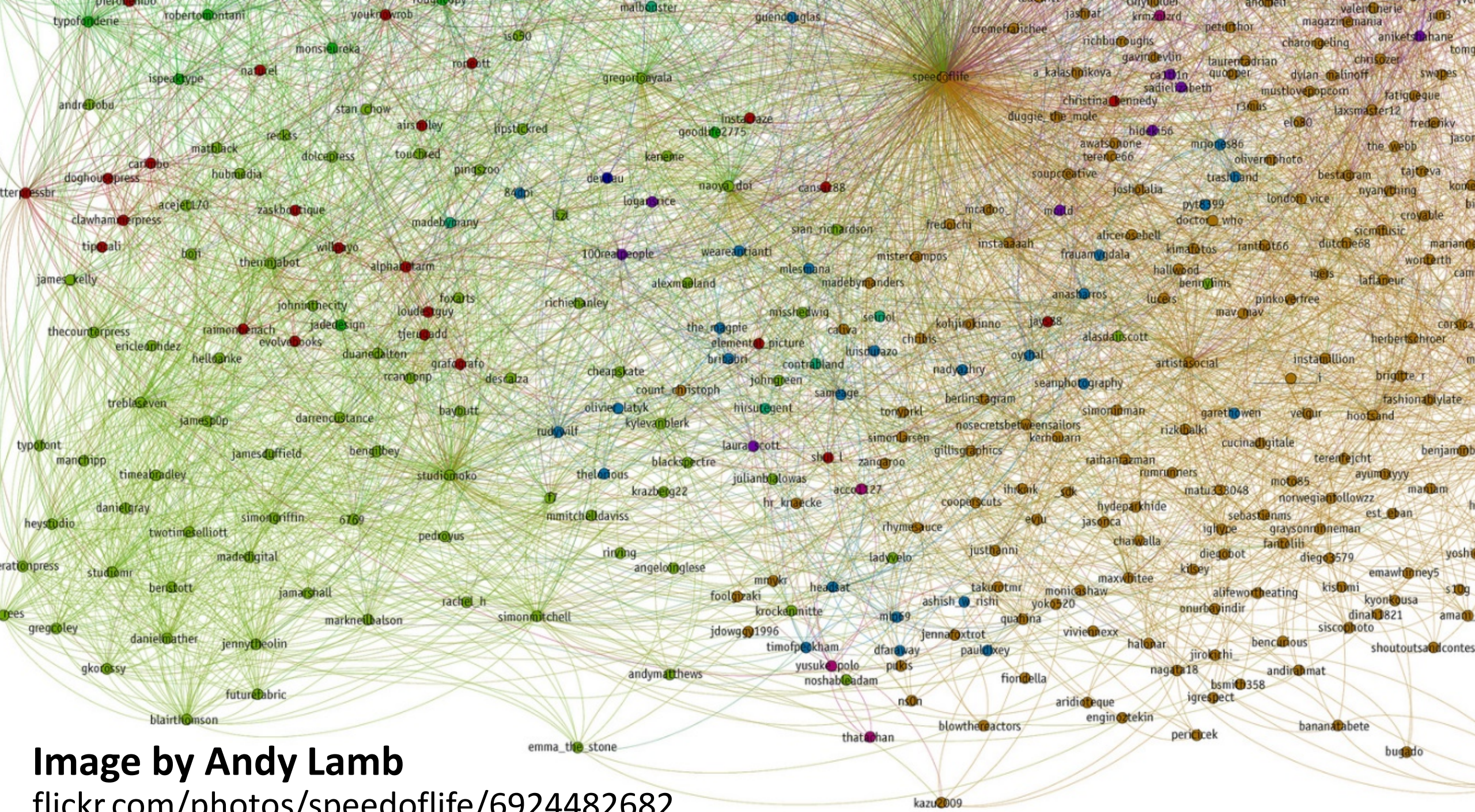


Image by Andy Lamb

flickr.com/photos/speedoflife/6924482682


CAN'T WE ALL JUST SIT AROUND THE FIRE
AND
KUMBAYA??
memecrunch.com

Social capital:

the value of connections among individuals

“The single most common finding from a half century’s research … is that **happiness** is best predicted by the breadth and depth of one’s social connections.”

— *Bowling Alone* by Robert Putnam, p.332

“…people who are socially disconnected are between **two and five times more likely to die** from all causes, compared with matched individuals who have close ties with family, friends, and the community.”

— *Bowling Alone* by Robert Putnam, p.327

Learn to Code LA

Home Members Sponsors Photos Pages Discussions More Group tools My profile

LEARN TO CODE

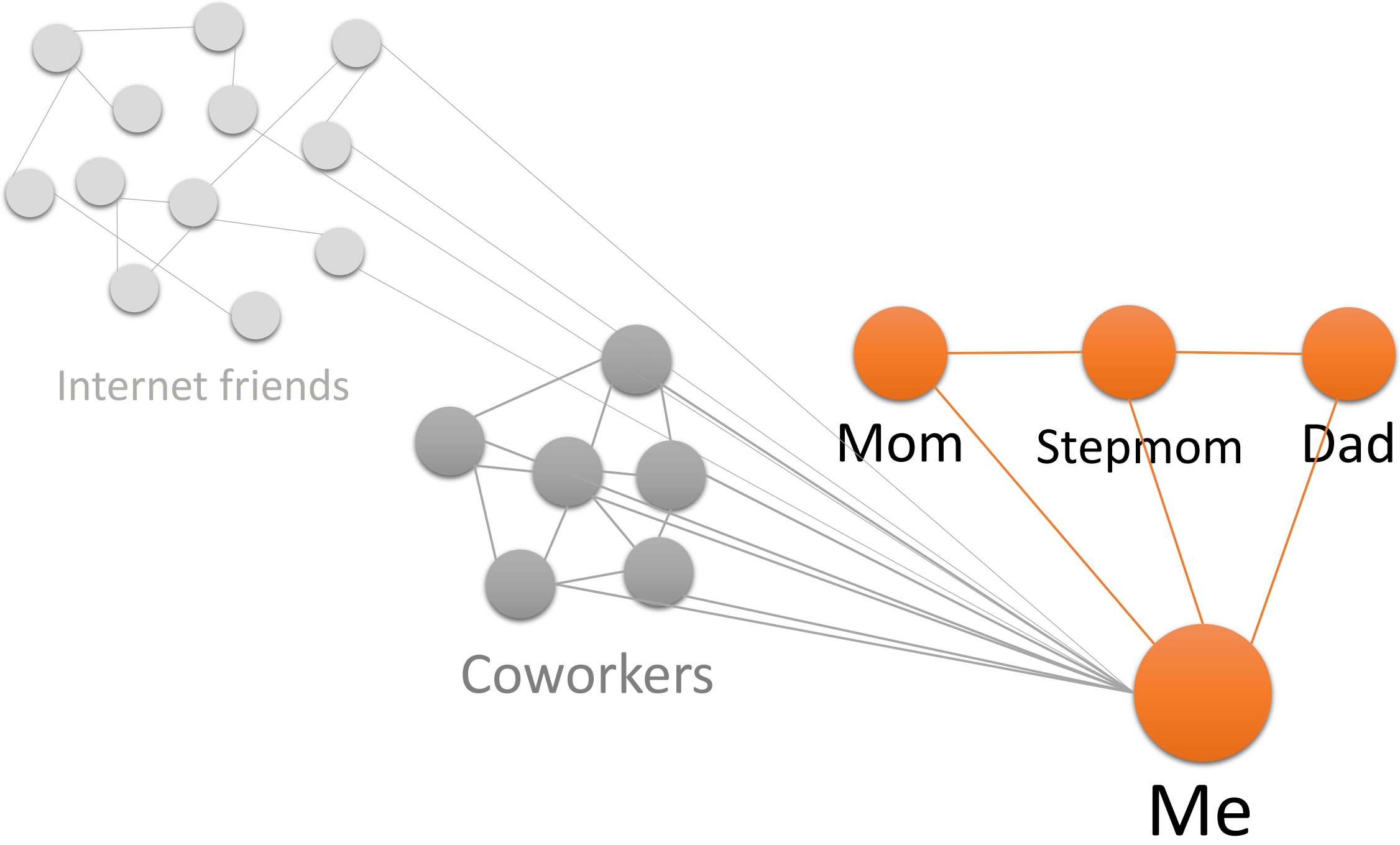
All Group Reviews

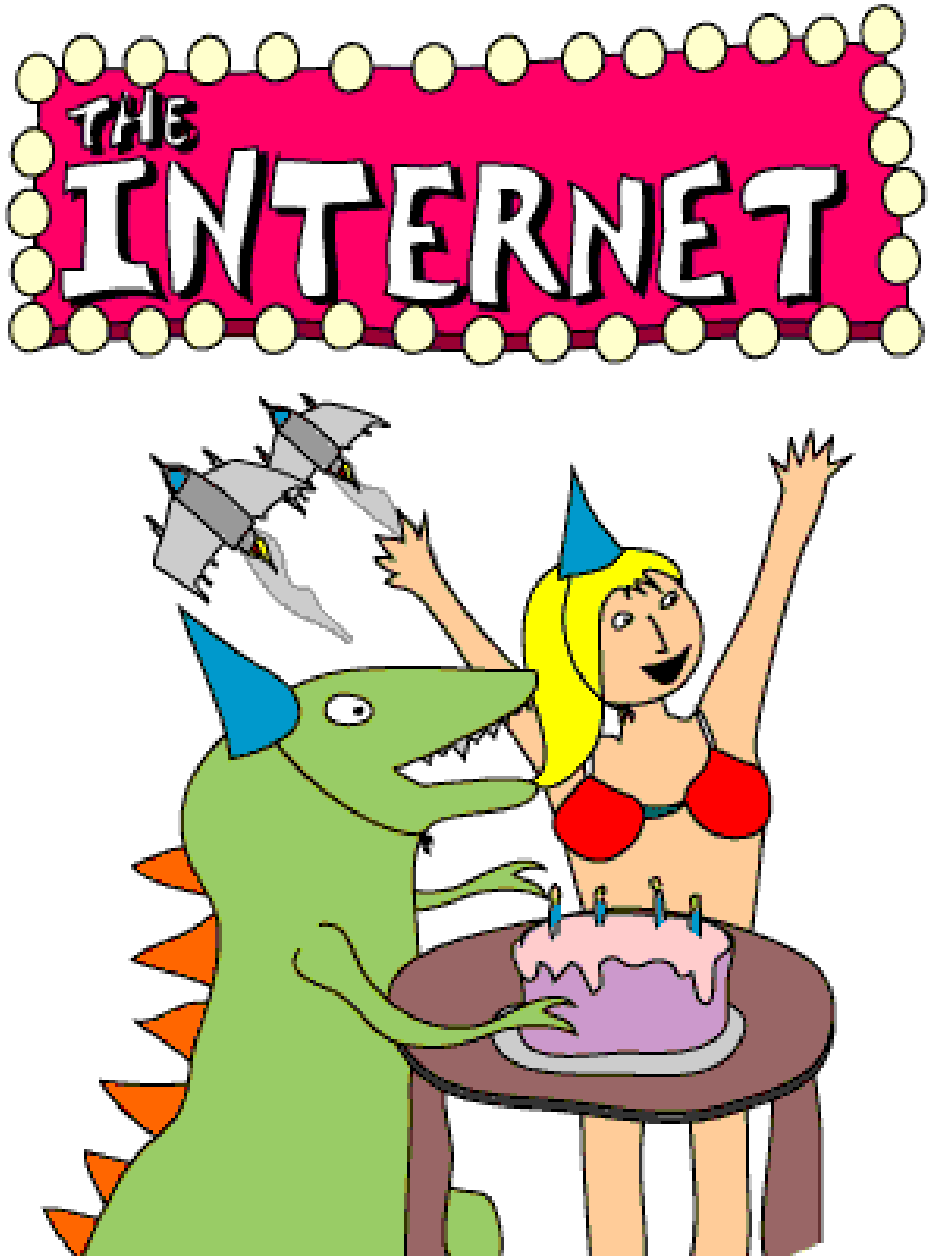
" I got my very first internship, and later my very first developer job, through this group when I met someone who needed an intern for his startup company. That was also the time I was dying to get real-world experience from the industry, so you could say this group is a godsend. Keep learning, collaborating, and coding with other people, and you never know who or what will come across your path to success. Rock on, Learn to Code LA! "

— Ronald on Nov 25, 2015.

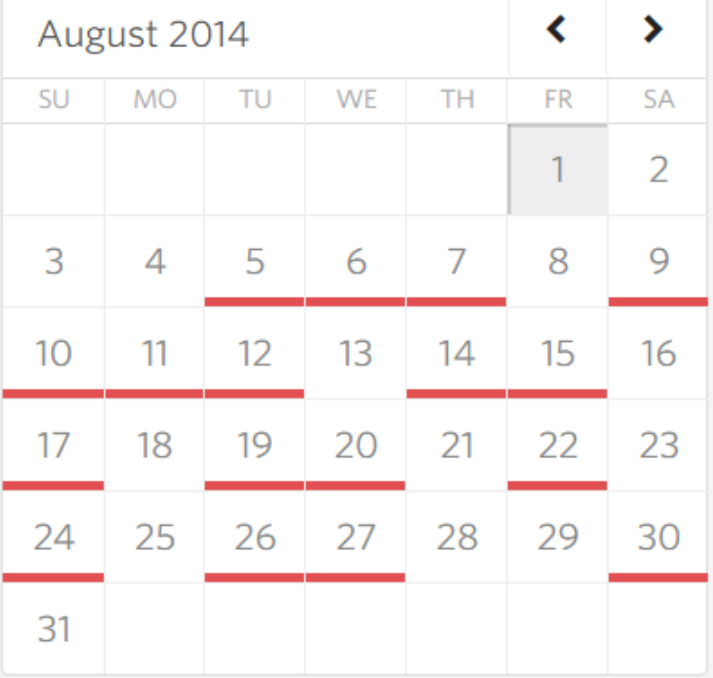
" I credit this meetup with really getting me on the path to Code "

— Pete on Jan 28, 2016.


Internet friends
Coworkers
Mom
Stepmom
Dad
Me



Comic by Asher Sarlin
ashersarlin.com



8:00 PM
Yes
Socia(LA)nxiety Managers
Guardians of the Galaxy @ LA Live

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

8:00 PM
Yes
Women Who Code LA
Learn to Code with Us: Culver City

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

8:00 PM
Yes
Heart Centered Toastmasters
Heart-Centered Toastmasters Meeting
11 Public Speakers went

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

5:30 PM
Yes
Westside Geeks & Nerds
Shakespeare in the Park: The Taming of the Shrew

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

2:00 PM
Yes
Socia(LA)nxiety Managers
New Members: Meet and Greet!

MONDAY, AUGUST 11

7:00 PM
Yes
Alhambra and Pasadena Spanish Conversation Group
Monday Spanish Conversation Night at Honey Badger Cafe in Alhambra
5 Spanish Speakers went

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

7:00 PM
Yes
Sierra Club Griffith Park Section: Evening Hikes and More!
Sierra Club Griffith Park Tuesday Evening Hike

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14

9:00 PM
Yes
Westside Geeks & Nerds
Drawing with Drinks in Silver Lake

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15

6:30 PM
Yes
Introverts in LA
Friday Meetup

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

5:00 PM
Yes
Westside Geeks & Nerds
WGN Pizza Social!

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19

7:00 PM
Yes
Sierra Club Griffith Park Section: Evening Hikes and More!
Sierra Club Griffith Park Tuesday

Evening Hike

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

7:00 PM
Waitlist
Draw Anything! LA
Art Night!

8:00 PM
Yes
Women Who Code LA
Learn to Code with Us: Culver City

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

8:00 PM
Yes
Writers With Drinks LA
Storytelling Essay Showcase

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

10:45 AM
Yes
L.A. Foodies
LA Weekly Pancake Breakfast 8/24 ~ unlimited brunch, beverage tastings

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

7:00 PM
Yes
Sierra Club Griffith Park Section: Evening Hikes and More!
Sierra Club Griffith Park Tuesday Evening Hike

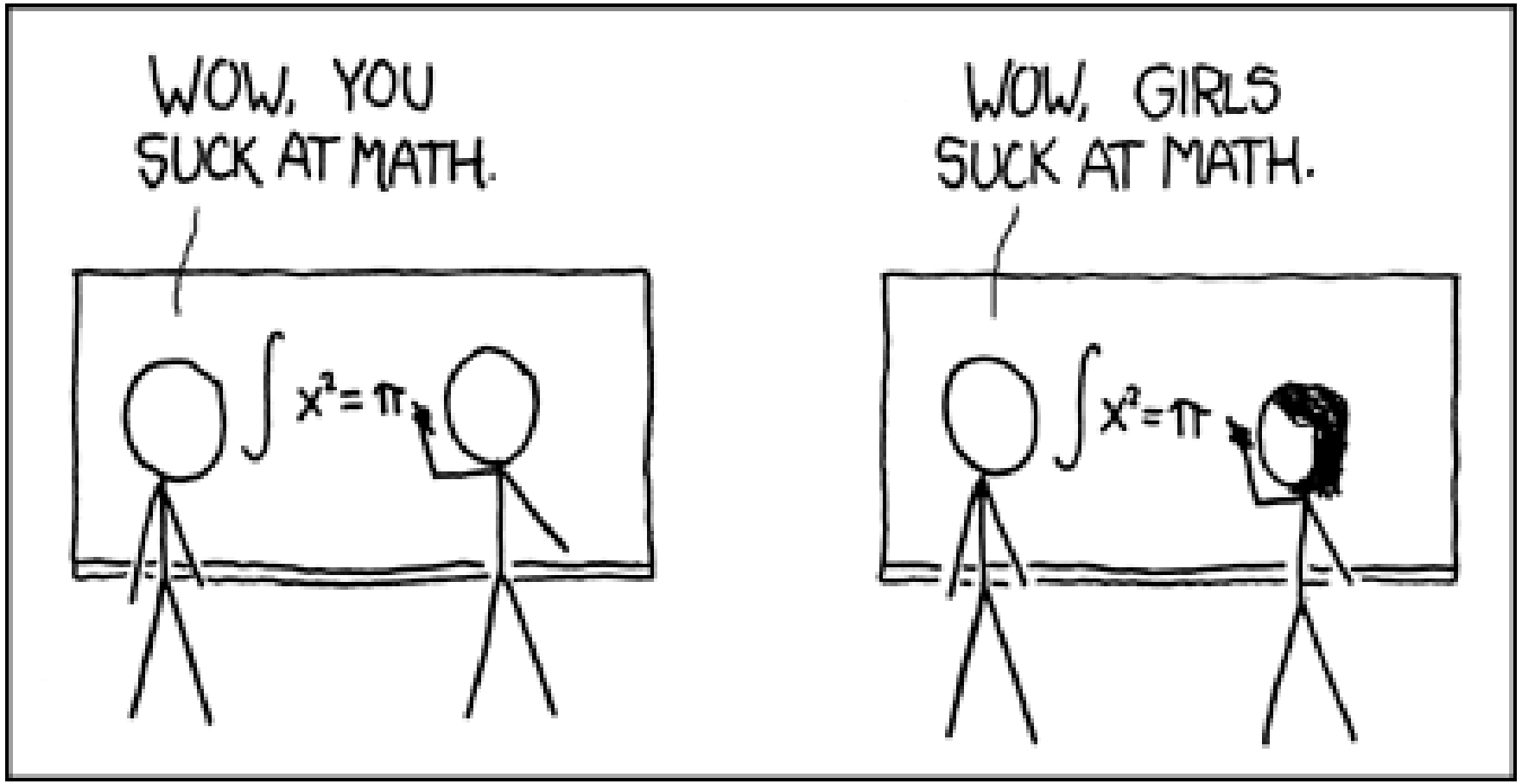
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

7:00 PM
Yes
Draw Anything! LA
Art Night!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

11:00 AM
Yes
Los Angeles Makerspace
Intro to 3d Printing @ LAPL Pio Pico

- Introverts in LA
- Westside Geeks & Nerds
- Socia(LA)nxiety Managers
- Quantified Self Los Angeles
- Los Angeles redditors
- Los Angeles Free Concerts
- The Greater L.A. Skeptics Meetup Group
- DTLA Rendezvous
- Draw Anything! LA
- Women Who Code LA
- Heart Centered Toastmasters
- Alhambra and Pasadena Spanish Conversation Group
- Sierra Club Griffith Park Section: Evening Hikes and More!
- Writers With Drinks LA
- L.A. Foodies
- Los Angeles Makerspace
- Down But Not Out LA "dbnoLA"
- Girl Develop It Los Angeles
- LAdynerds
- The Santa Monica Salsa Meetup Group - Salsa Familia!
- Los Angeles Bitcoin



Comic by Randall Munroe
xkcd.com/385/

Just **start**.

Then learn by doing.

Learn to Code LA

Home | Members | Sponsors | Photos | Pages | Discussions | More | Group tools | My profile

Change photo

Los Angeles, CA

Founded Jan 31, 2015

About us...

Invite friends

curious coders	2,401
Group reviews	32
Upcoming Meetups	5
Past Meetups	133

x

Whether you're a total beginner or a coding ninja/guru/Jedi Master, we're here to learn about programming and computer science in a fun, informal environment -- and also to provide moral support to fight the fears and frustrations that come with learning a new skill or transitioning to a new career. **Here's what we'll do at Learn to Code LA:**

• **Learn programming fundamentals** through a variety of languages and platforms together in **small groups** or **pair programming** -- everything from short tutorials to day-long **hackathons/learnathons!**

• **Co-working and casual learning** -- work on your own projects independently while enjoying the company of like-minded people.

• **Discussion groups**, especially for language-agnostic topics. (Maybe even a book club?)

• **Project show-and-tell** -- get feedback, generate ideas, or just show off your mad skillz!

• And other **random, fun activities** like geeky movie nights and joint events with other meetups!

Edit description

downtown programming community. Meet programmers, try out a new language and code with new friends. Schedule: • 6:30 - 7 - Stand Up: What was the last Exercism you

Liz Krane commented on Community Building - How Learn to Code LA came to be! [SGVTech, hosted at

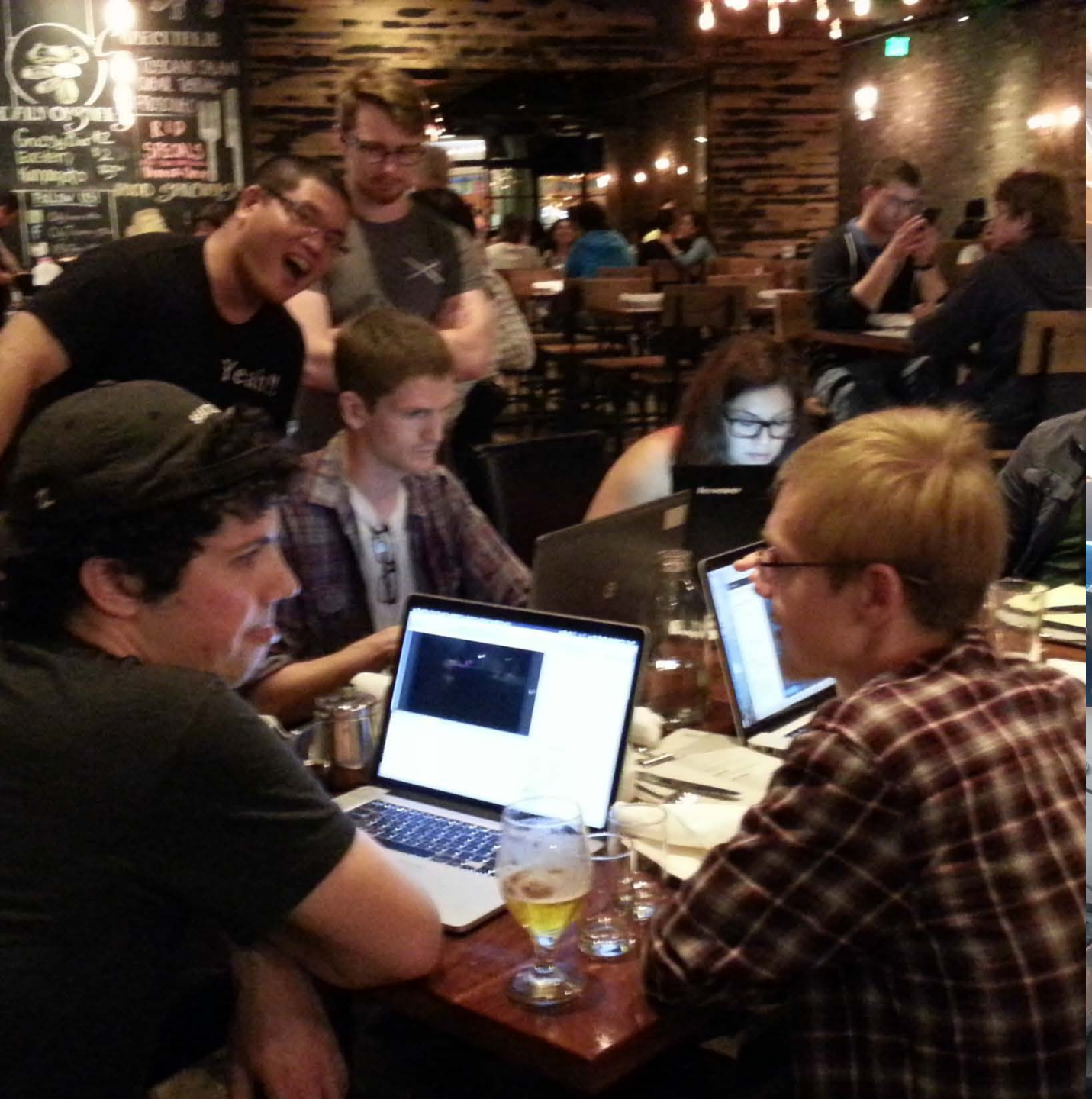
Community Building Stage 1:
Making friends

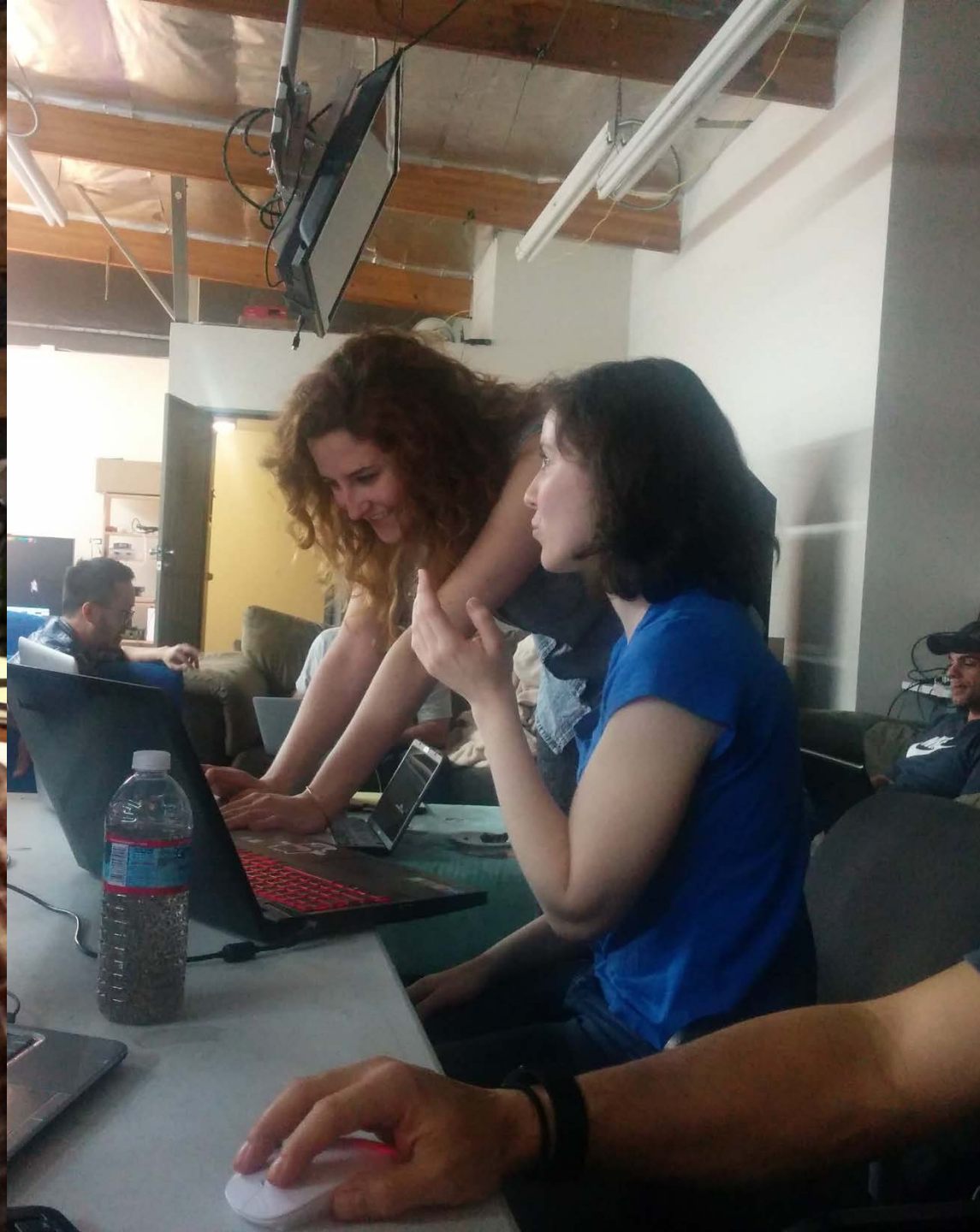
Recipe for success:

1) Desperation

Recipe for success:

1) Desperation
2) Consistency





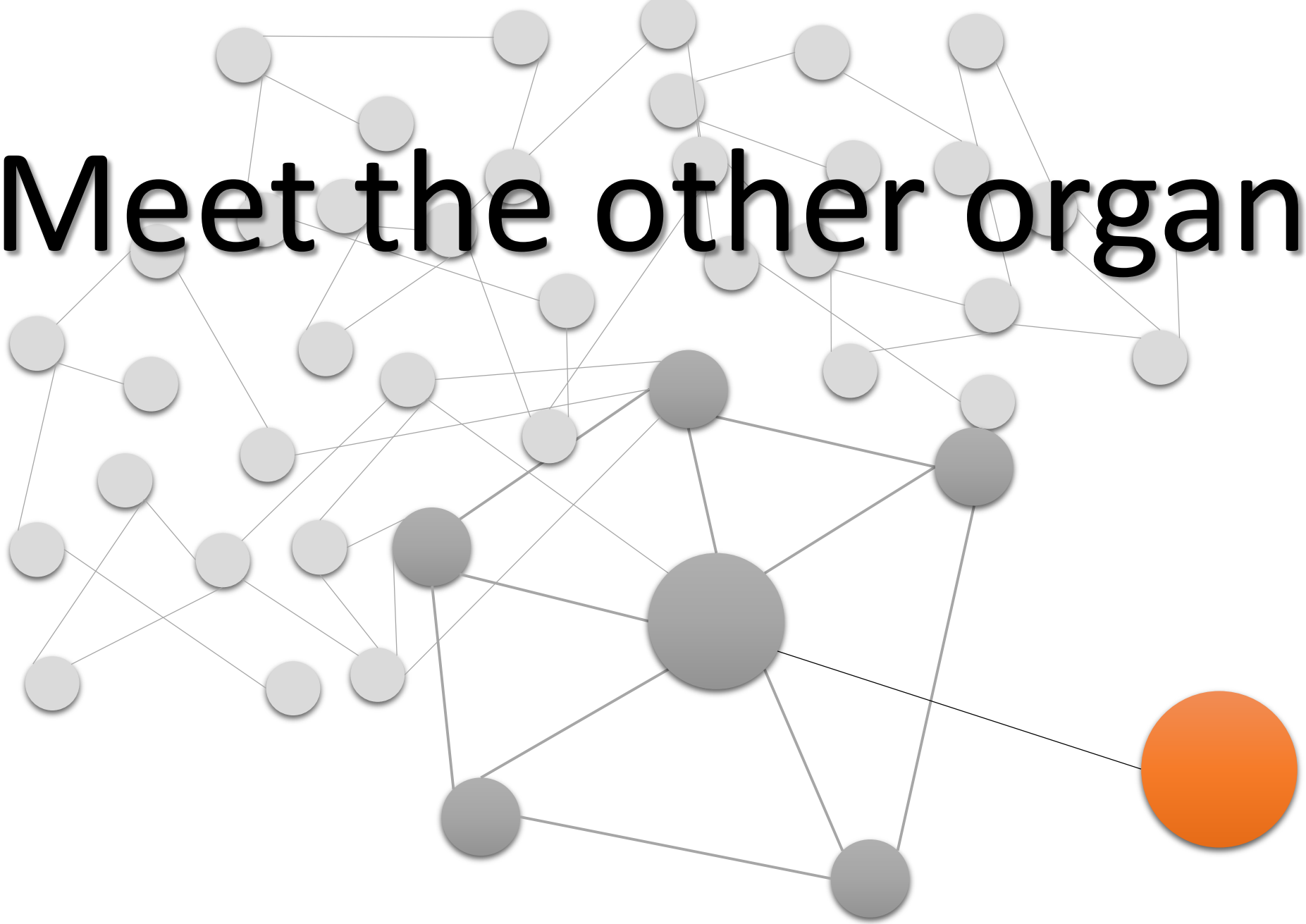

Why is Version Control Software (VCS) Important?
1. Lifesaver if your code stops working
2. Good version control history is a story of your software
3. Github is "street cred" for programmers


Wifi: TechbowGuest
EXIT
EXIT
TECHBOW
Welcome to
slack

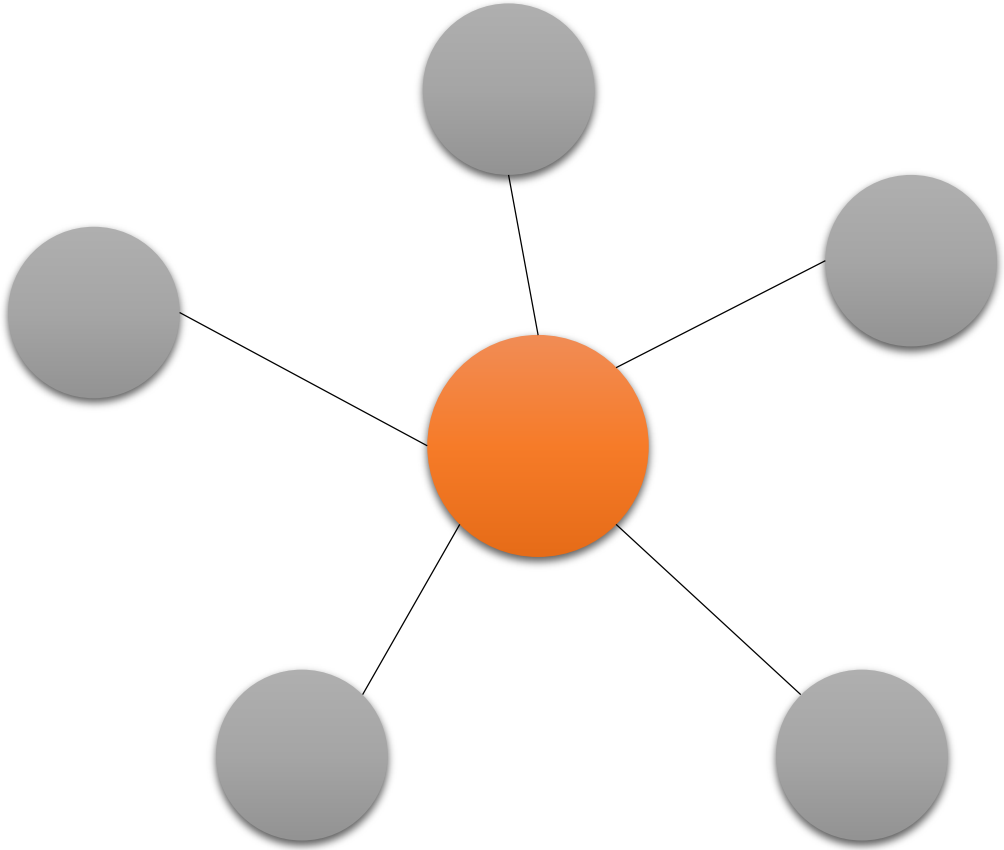
Ask for help.
Offer to help.

Meet the other organizers!

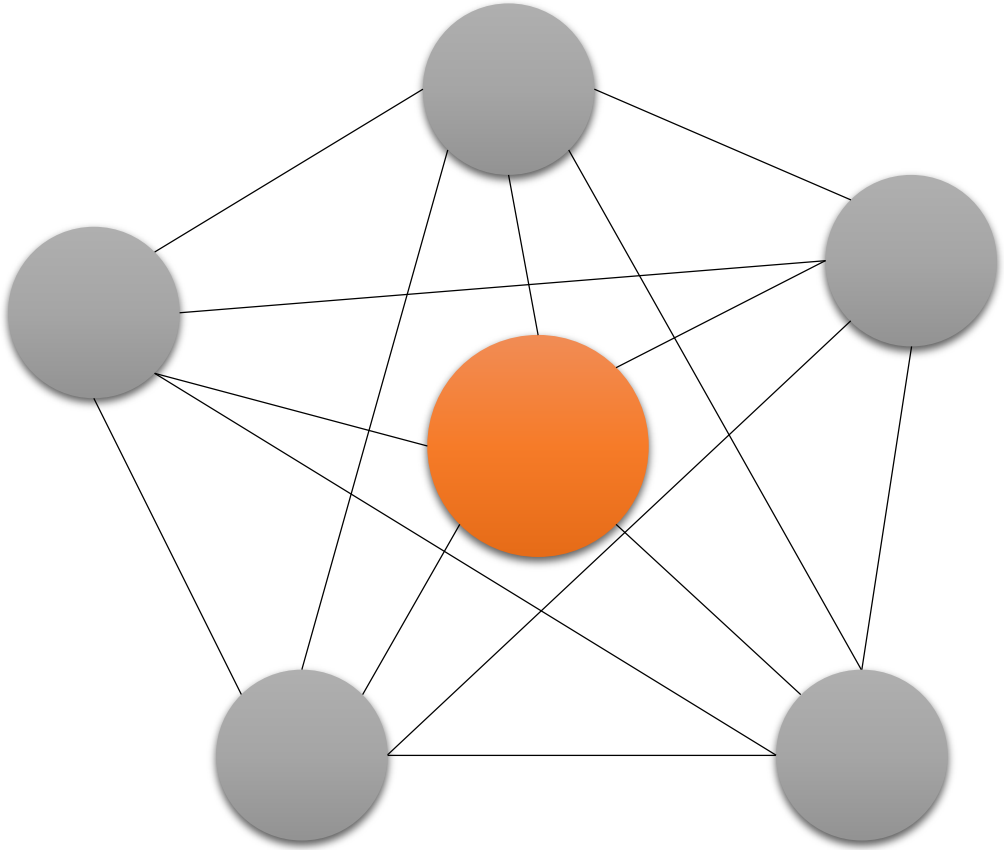
Meet the other organizers!



Community Building Stage 2:
Connect your connections



Community Building Stage 2:
Connect your connections

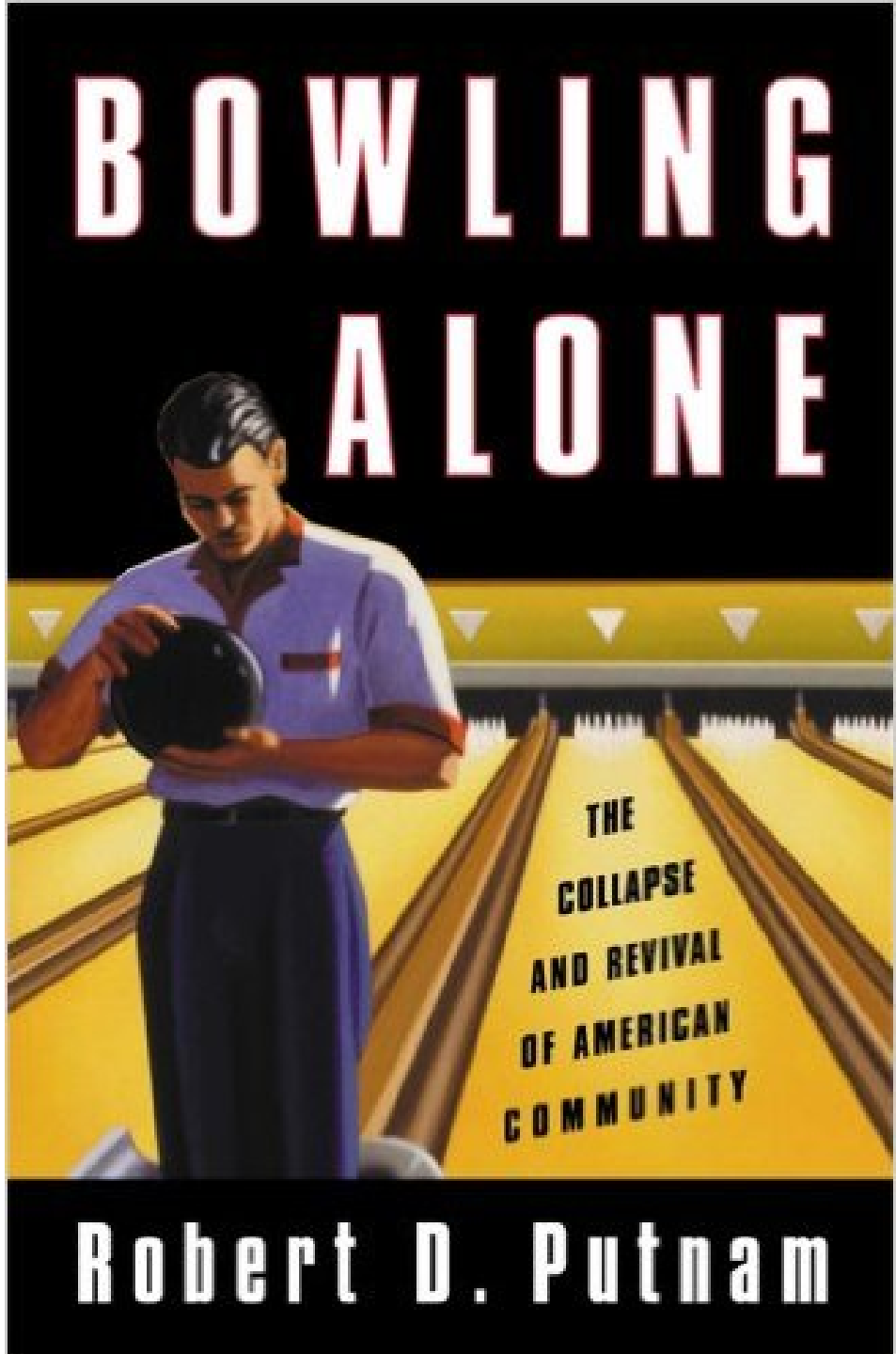


Generalized reciprocity:

"I'll do this for you without expecting anything specific back from you, in the confident expectation that someone else will do something for me down the road."

— *Bowling Alone* by Robert Putnam, p. 21

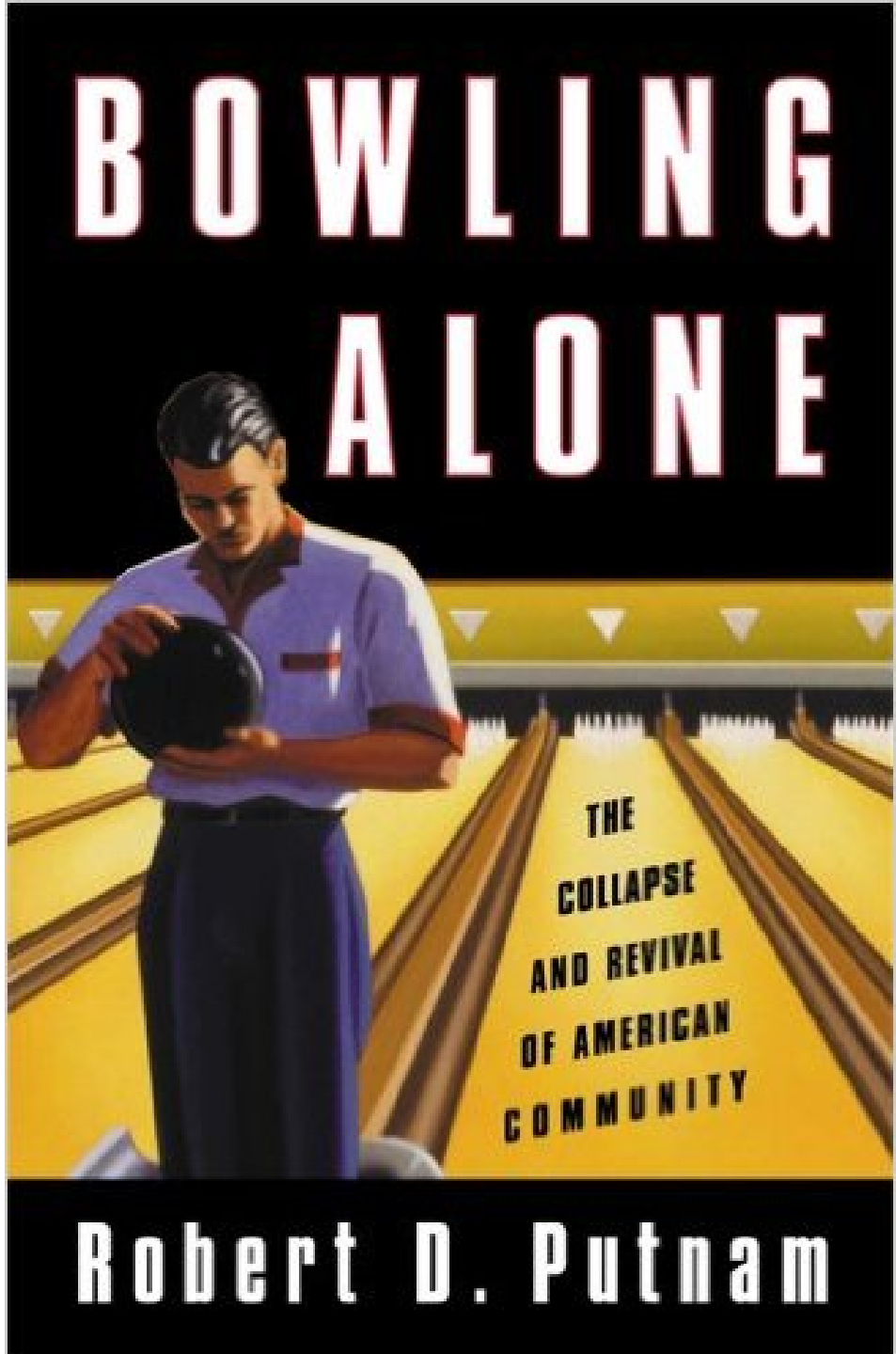
“A society characterized by generalized reciprocity is more efficient than a distrustful society, for the same reason that money is more efficient than barter.”



“If we don’t have to balance every exchange instantly, we can get a lot more accomplished.

Trustworthiness lubricates social life.”

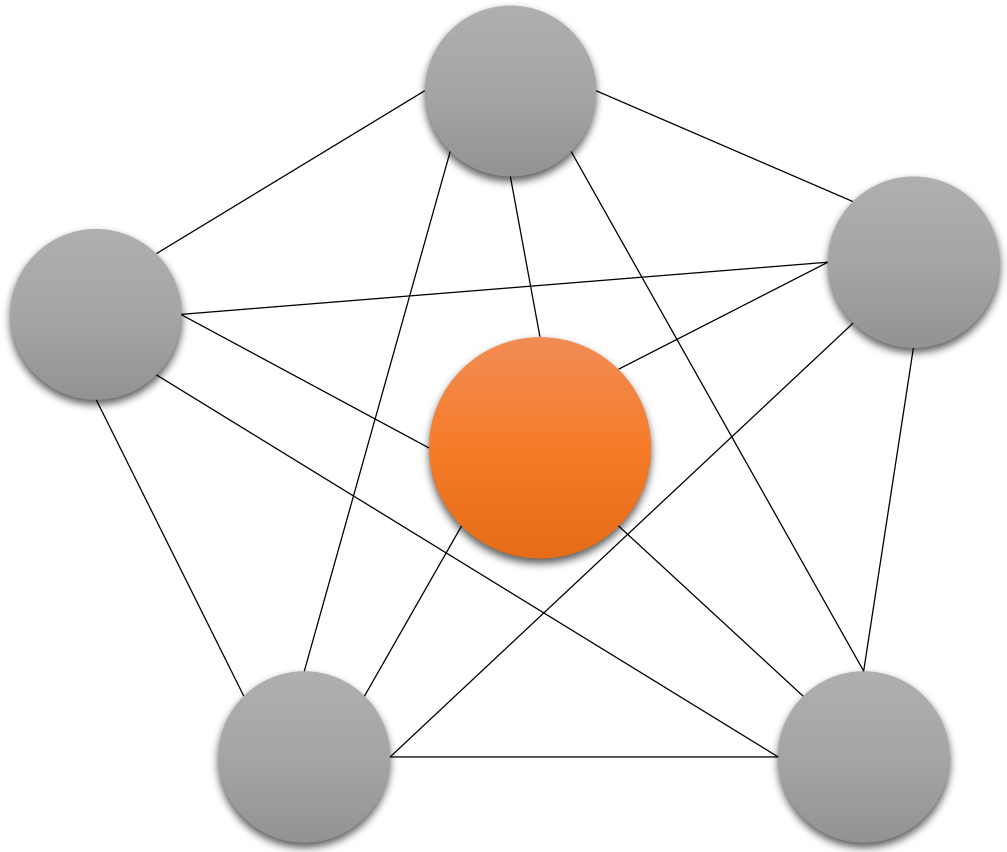
— *Bowling Alone* by Robert Putnam




Step 7: Review Instance Launch

Community Building Stage 3: Managing Scale

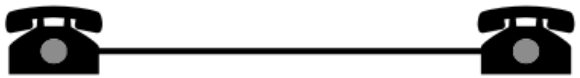

TOM N TOMS
COFFEE



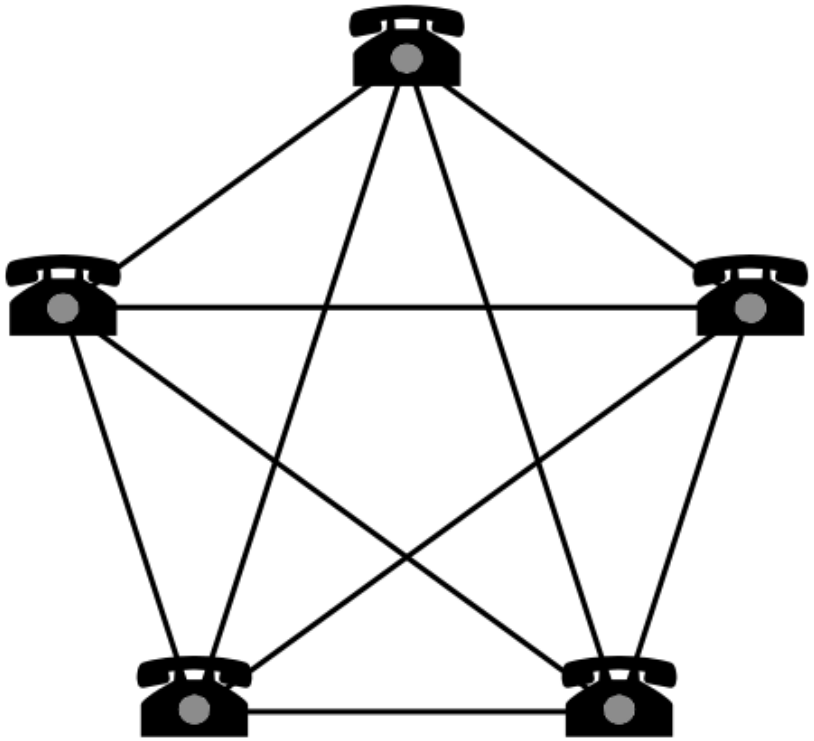
Intimacy doesn’t scale.

— *Clay Shirky*

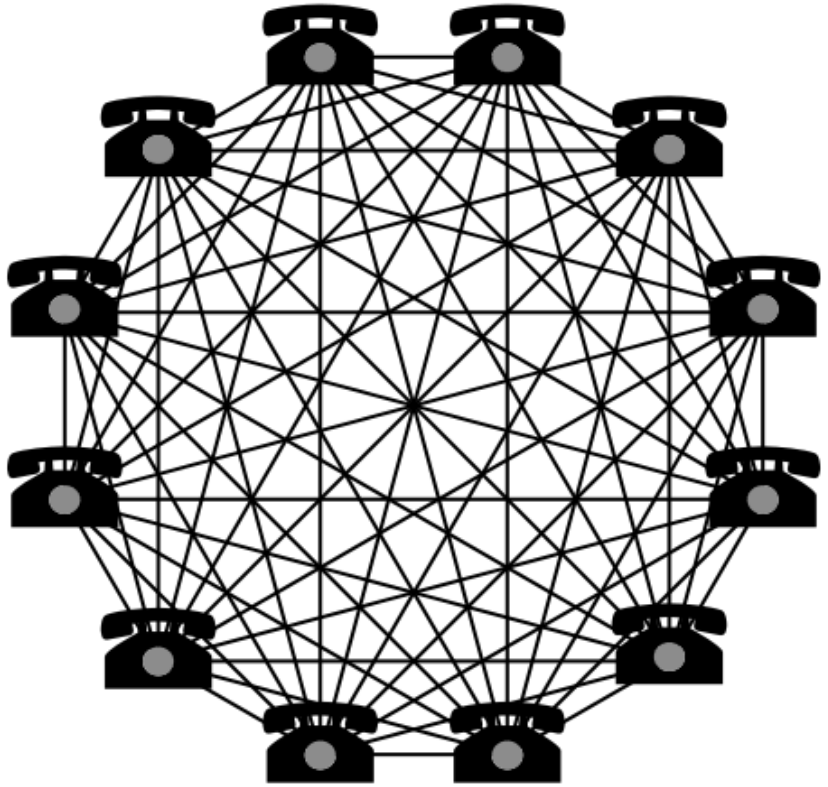
Metcalfe’s Law



1 connection



10 connections



66 connections

nature International weekly journal of science

Letters to Nature

Nature **393**, 440-442 (4 June 1998) | doi:10.1038/30918; Received 27 November 1997; Accepted 6 April 1998

Collective dynamics of 'small-world' networks

Duncan J. Watts[2] & Steven H. Strogatz[1]

1. Department of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, KimballHall, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853, USA
2. Present address: Paul F. Lazarsfeld Center for the Social Sciences, Columbia University, 812 SIPA Building, 420 W118 St, New York, New York 10027, USA.

Correspondence to: Duncan J. Watts[2] Correspondence and requests for materials should be addressed to D.J.W. (e-mail: Email: djw24@columbia.edu).

Top

Networks of coupled dynamical systems have been used to model biological oscillators[1, 2, 3, 4], Josephson junction arrays[5,6], excitable media[7], neural networks[8, 9, 10], spatial games[11], genetic control networks[12] and many other self-

ARTICLE LINKS

- Figures and tables

SEE ALSO

- News and Views by Collins & Chow

ARTICLE TOOLS

- Send to a friend
- Export citation
- Export references
- Rights and permissions
- Order commercial reprints

SEARCH PUBMED FOR

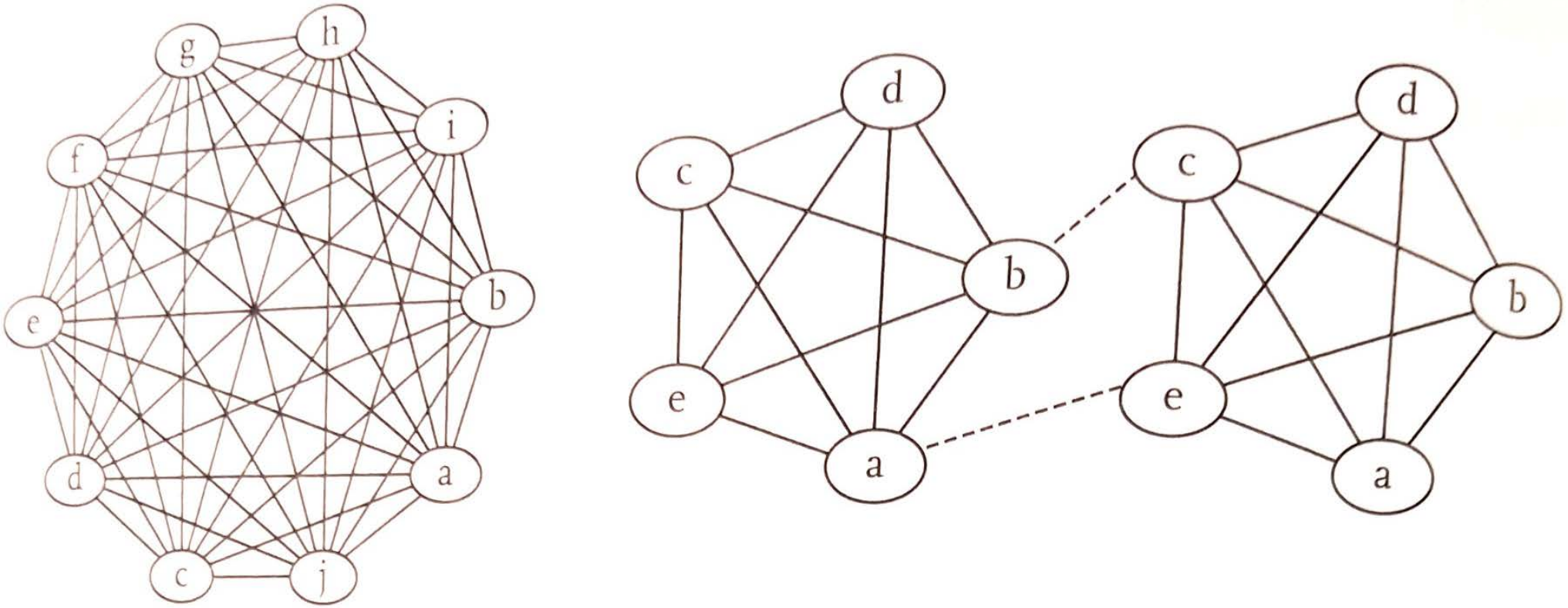
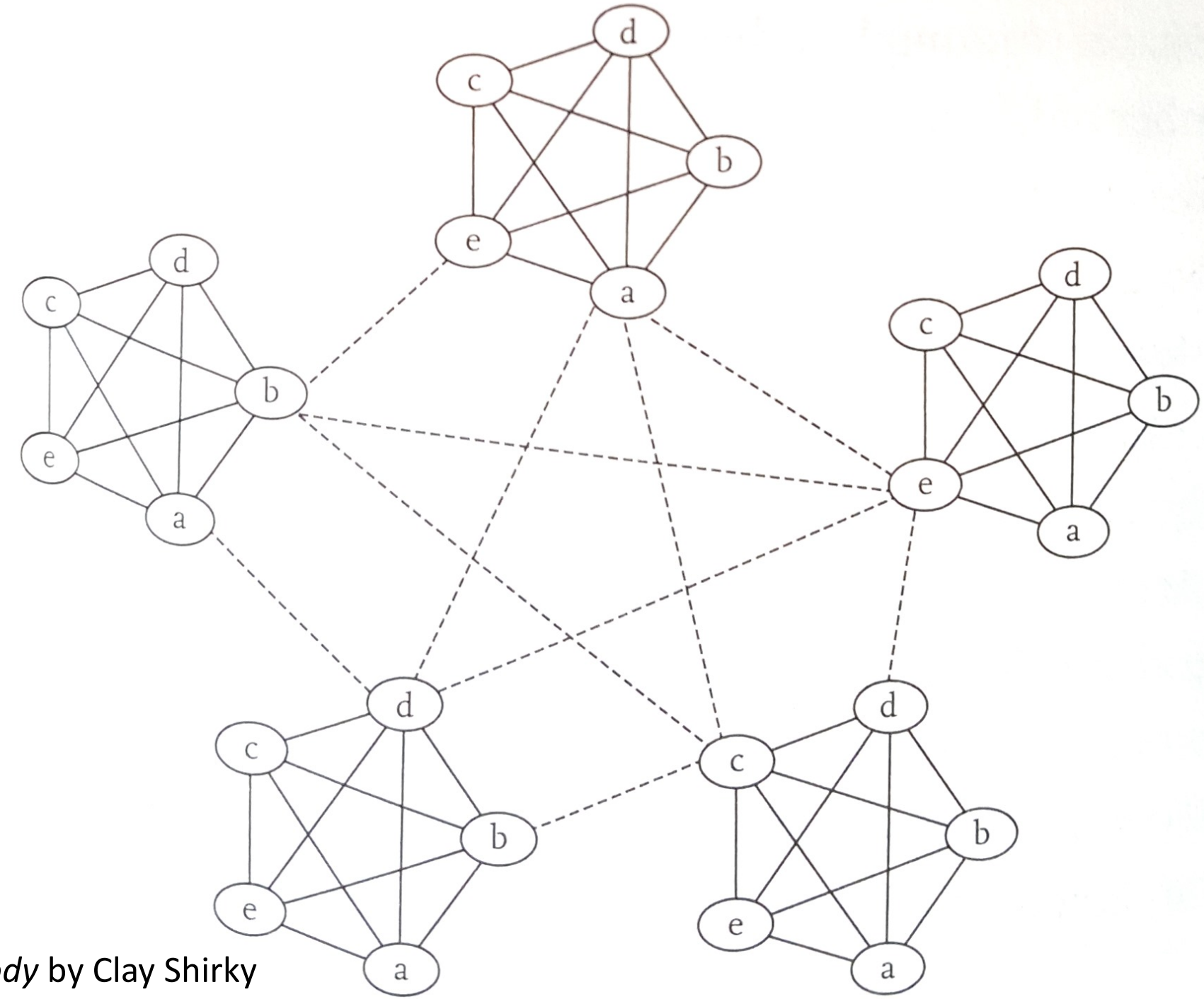


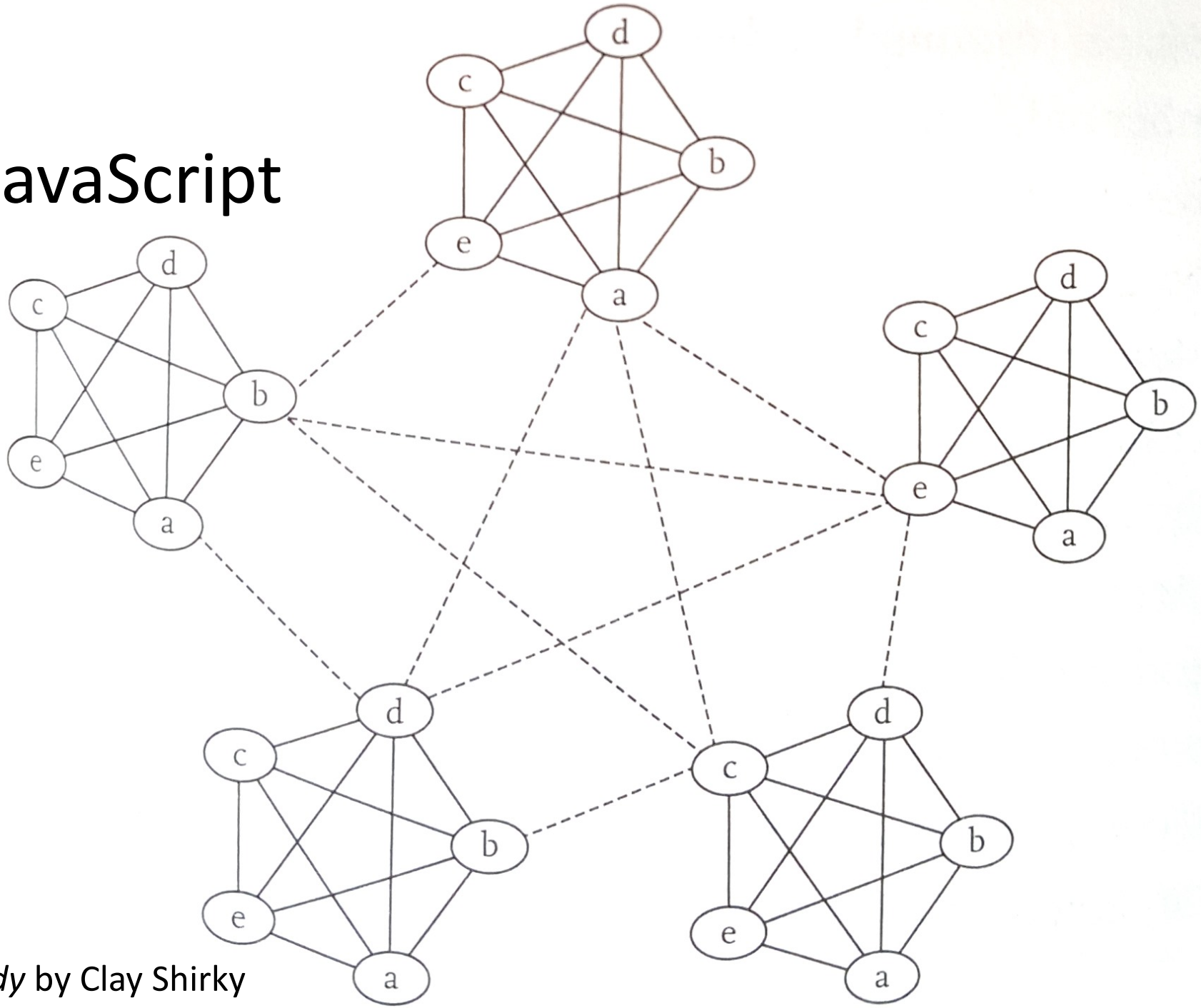
Figure 9-1: Two ways of connecting ten people. The left-hand network shows everyone connected to everyone else, which quickly becomes too dense to scale to even moderate numbers of people. The right-hand network keeps people connected but maintains a sparser network.

Here Comes Everybody by Clay Shirky

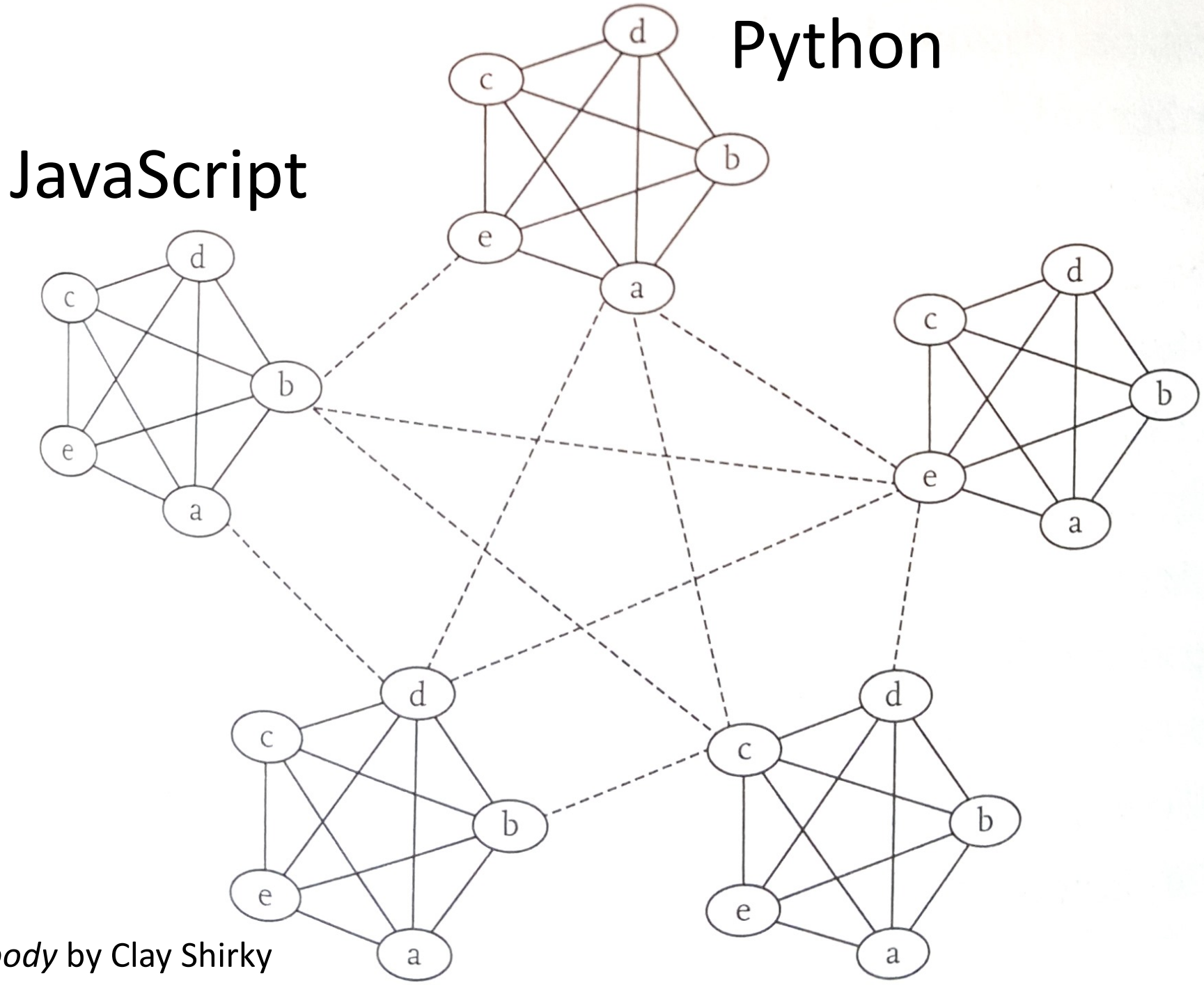


Here Comes Everybody by Clay Shirky

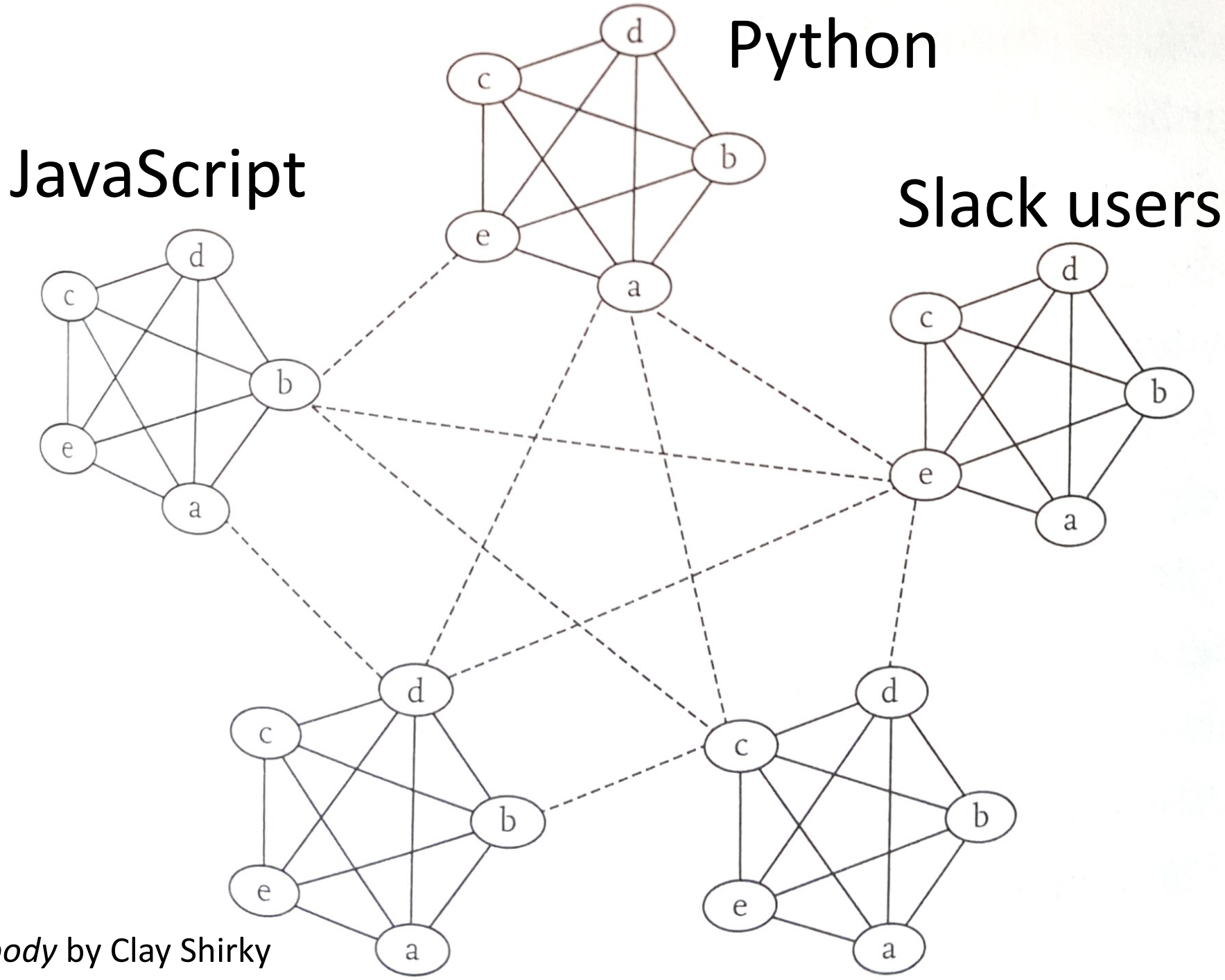
JavaScript



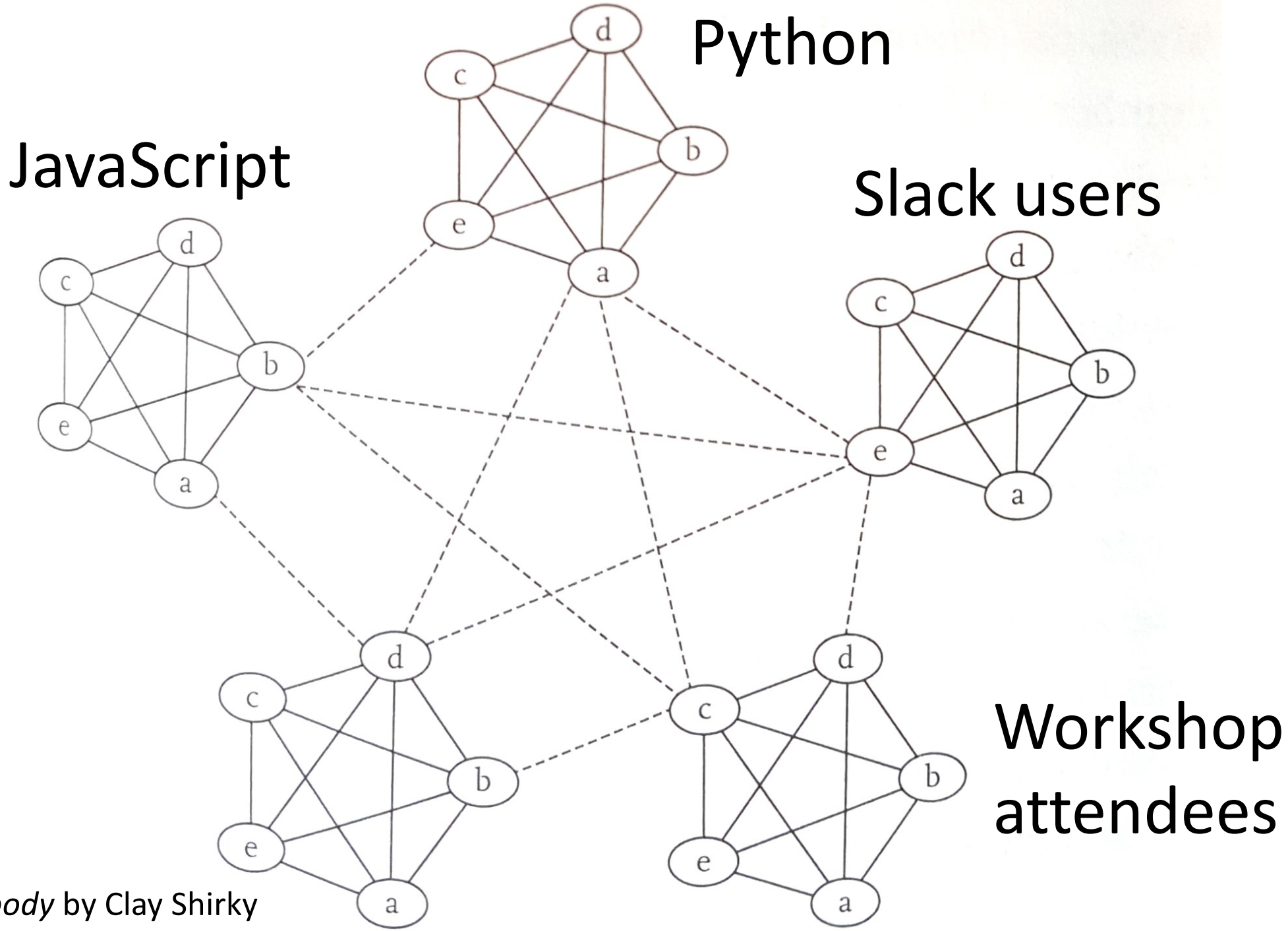
Here Comes Everybody by Clay Shirky



Here Comes Everybody by Clay Shirky



Here Comes Everybody by Clay Shirky



Here Comes Everybody by Clay Shirky

What's next?

What's next?

I have no clue.

Questions? Stories?

@LearningNerd - Liz Krane
Meetup.com/LearnTeachCode