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HEADLINE: Scientists try to map world's information

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About 20 U.S. computer scientists are attempting to create maps of science from the ever-growing and constantly evolving ocean of digital data.

College students might use such maps to see how well a syllabus covers a field's major topics, while companies could map out plans for targeting their investments, said the scientists, who are working under grants from the **National Science Foundation**.

Several efforts are trying to analyze article collections and map out landscapes that humans can view. Some methods "read" scientific articles and use understanding the content as the basis for a map. Other methods use relationship networks between the articles, such as citation of other papers.

Such scientific landscapes might have hundreds of possible dimensions, their designers said, presenting a challenge in creating two- or three dimensional maps.

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