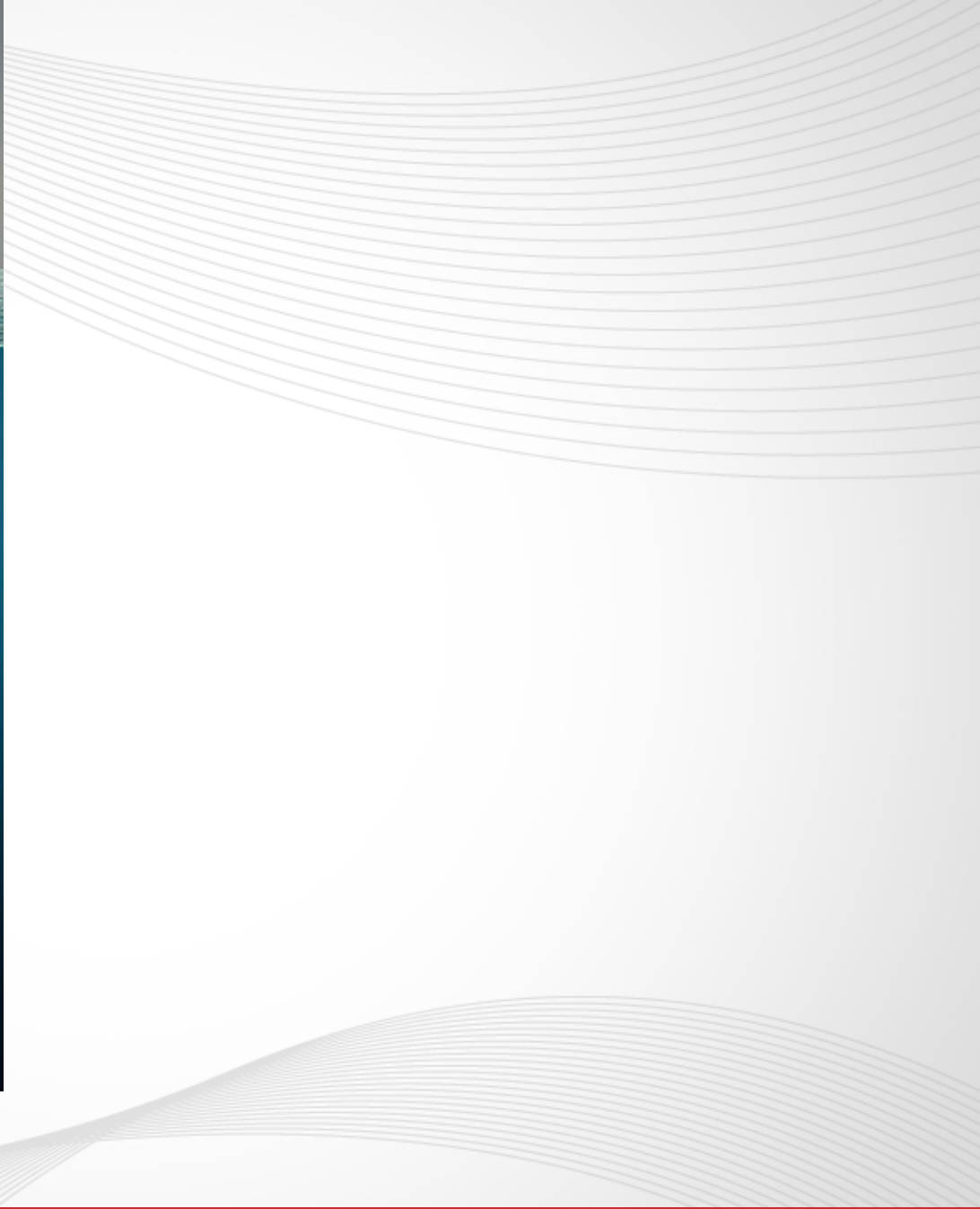




The Emerging Risk

A study of the patent landscape related to
blockchain technology



RIMÓN^{PC}
LAW FIRM EVOLVED

Why should we worry?

- \$20 Billion Per Year
- \$14 Billion Per Year
- \$5 Million in Legal Fees

But Blockchain is open source!

An Open Source license is:

- (a) from the contributors to the code
- (b) to use the code

An Open Source license is not:

- (a) valid against non contributors
- (b) a license to practice the functions of the code with alternative code

What is a patent?

Right to exclude others

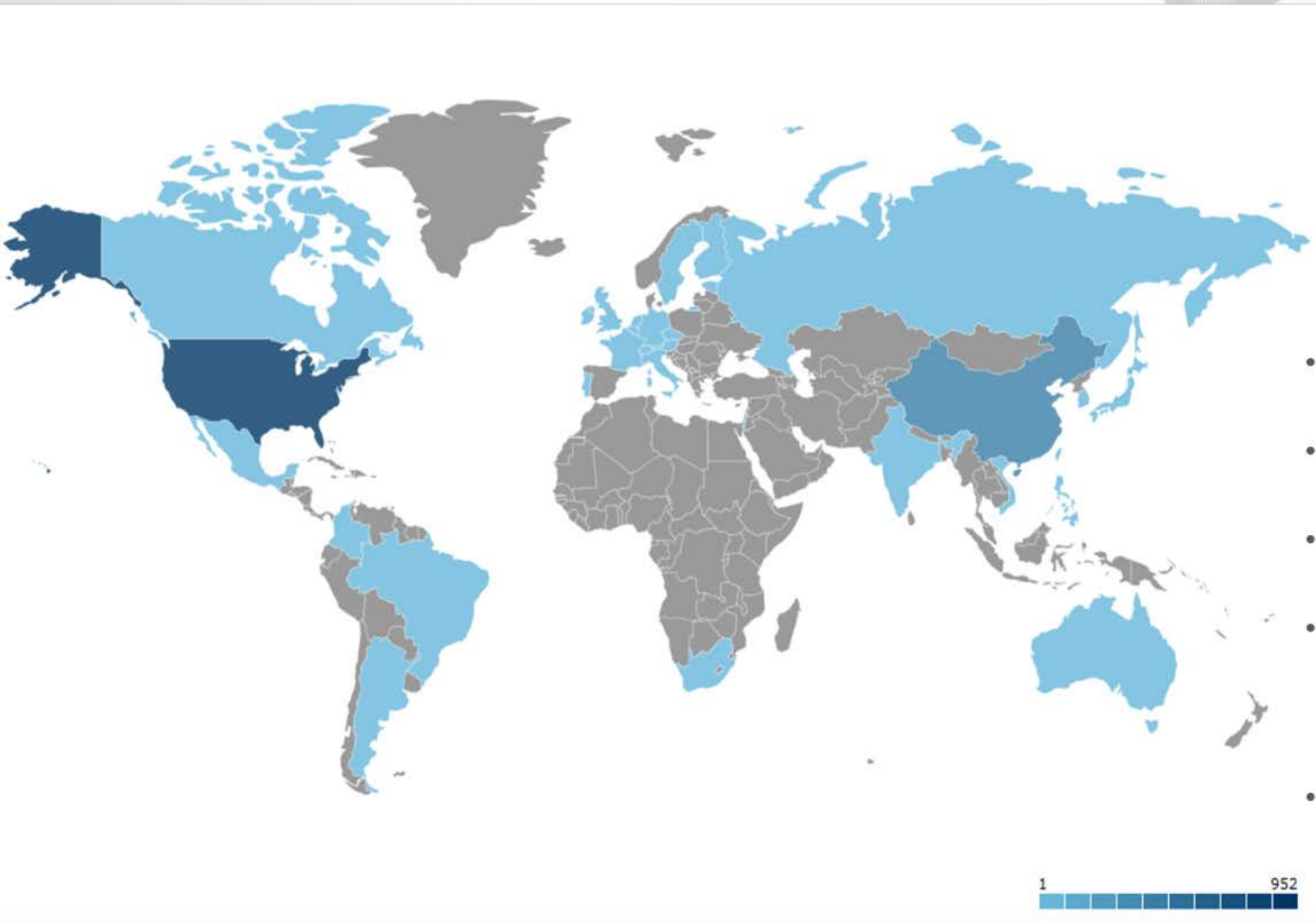
Limited in time

Country by country basis

Requires full disclosure

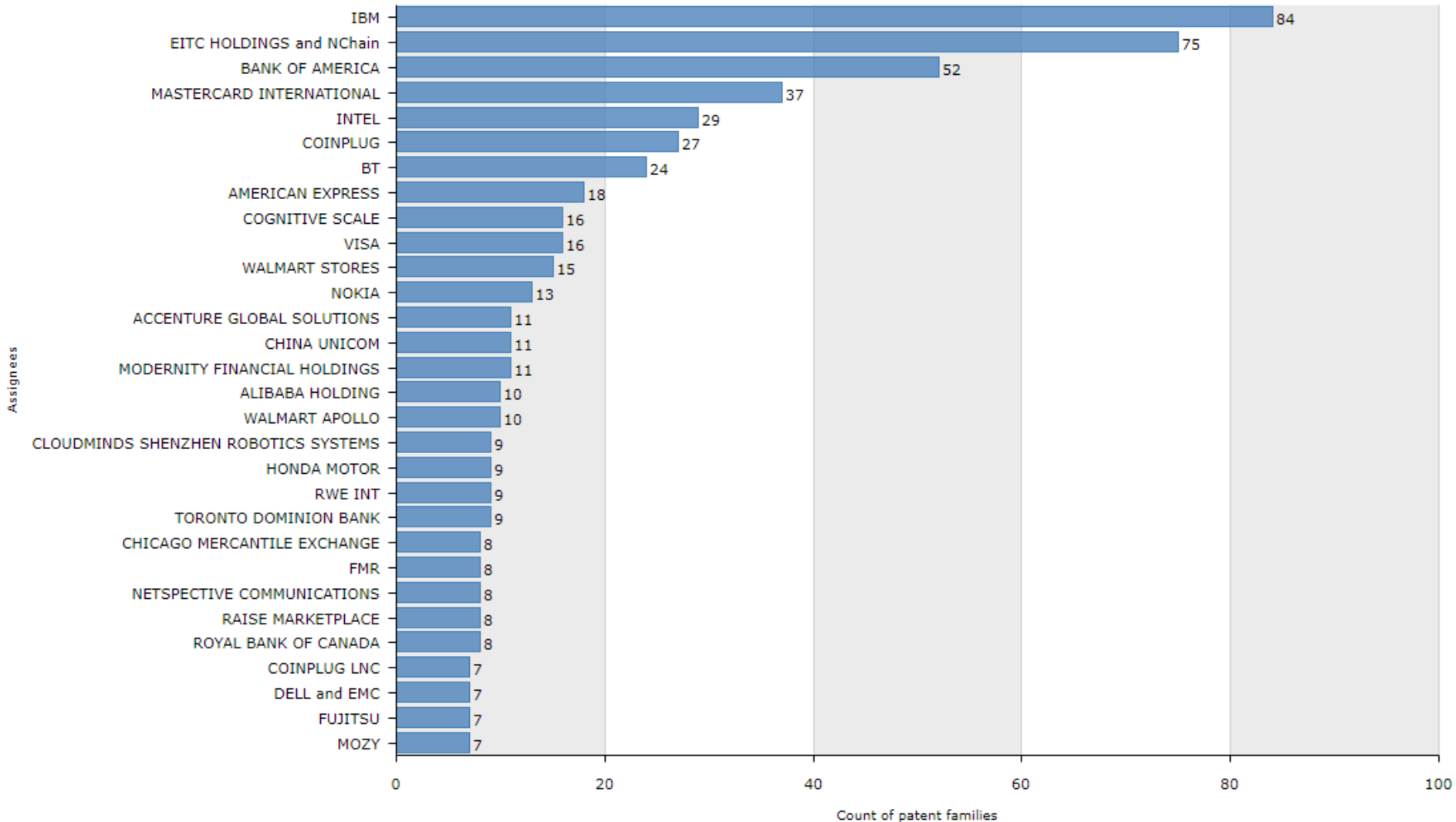


Summary of the Worldwide Patent Landscape

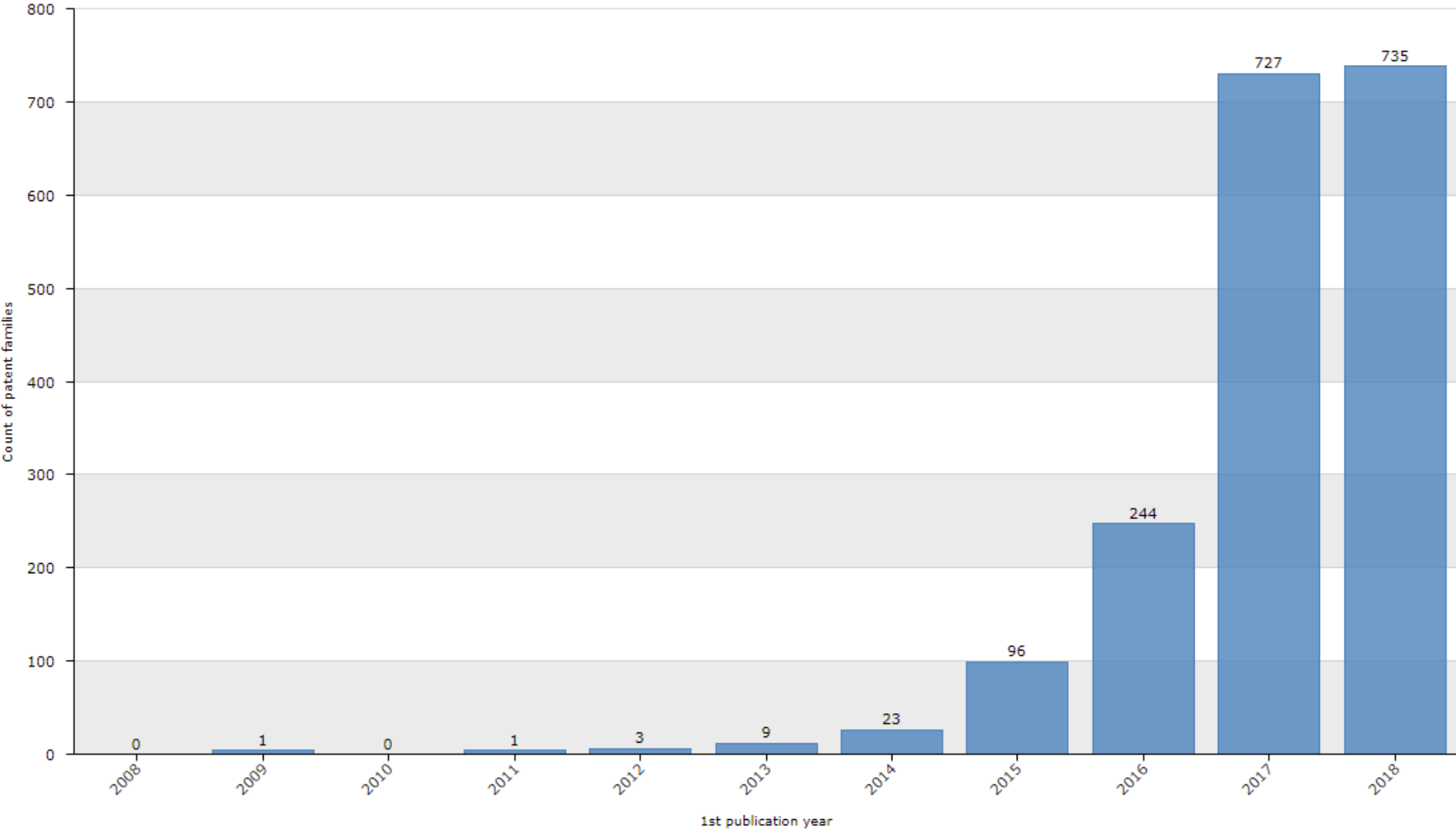


- 1843 patent families worldwide
- 310 families with patents
- Filed in most major markets
- Owners include legacy fin. serv. and tech companies as well as new players
- Filings are increasing rapidly

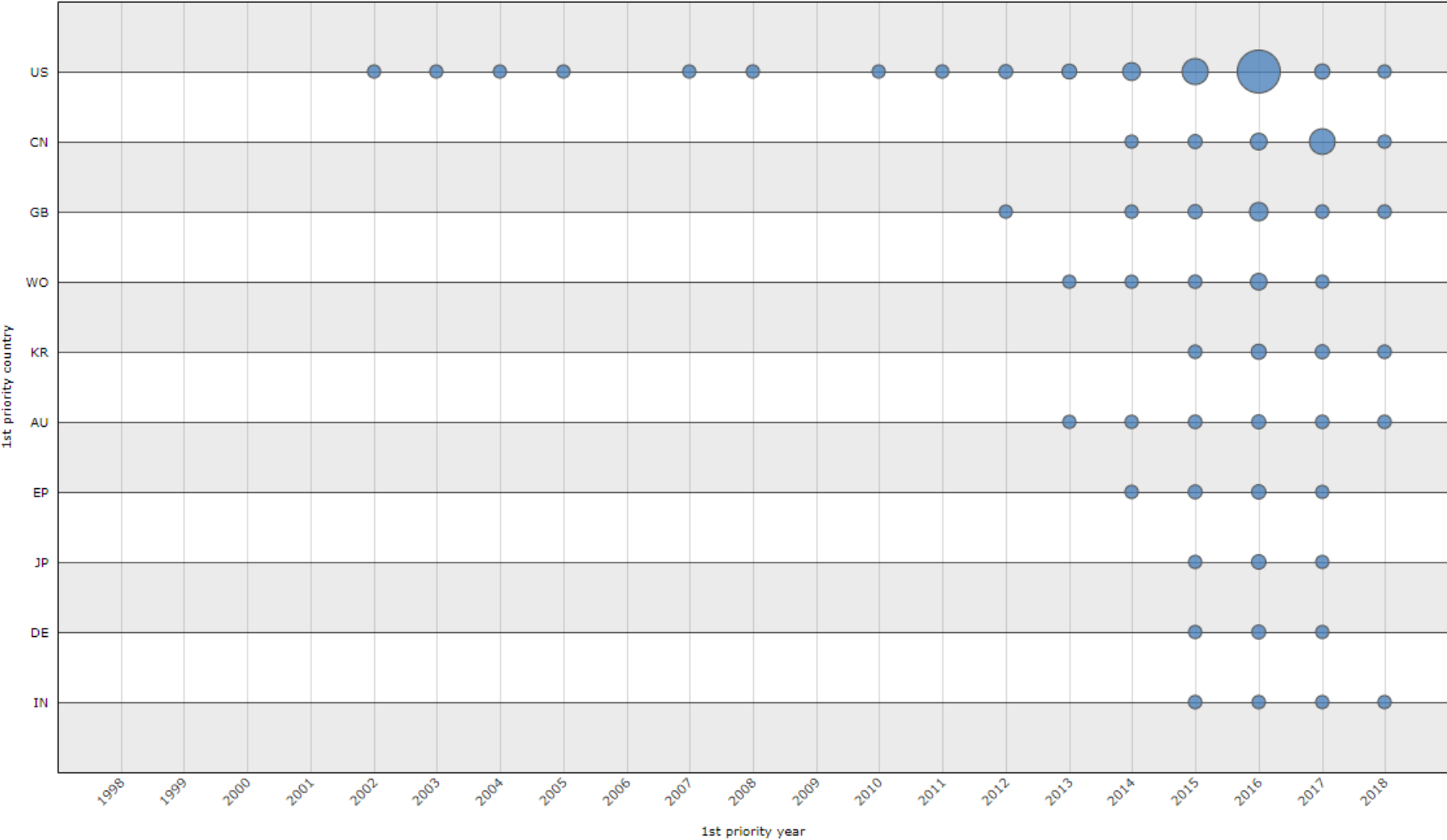
Top 30 Patent Owners



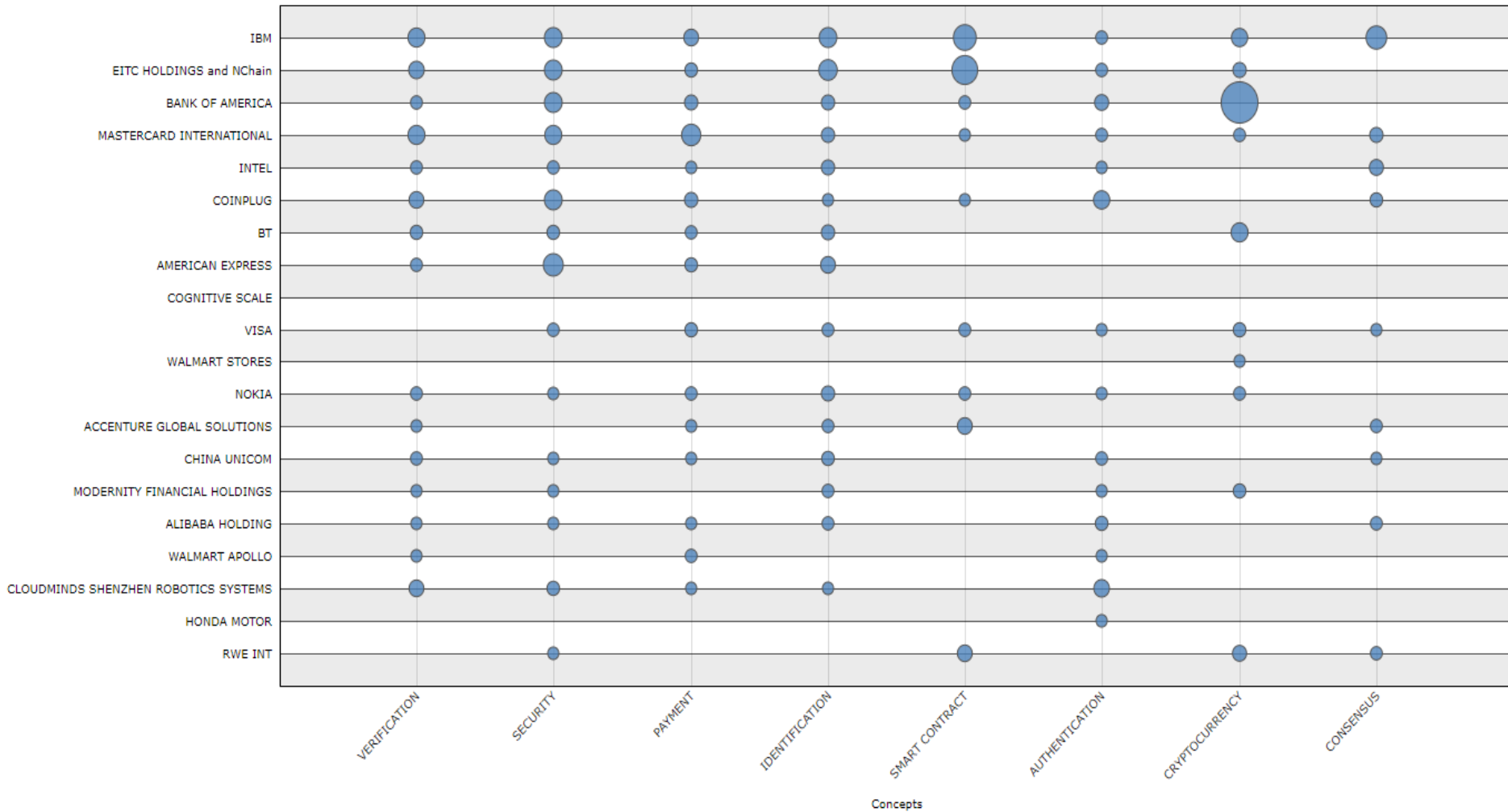
First Publication Trend



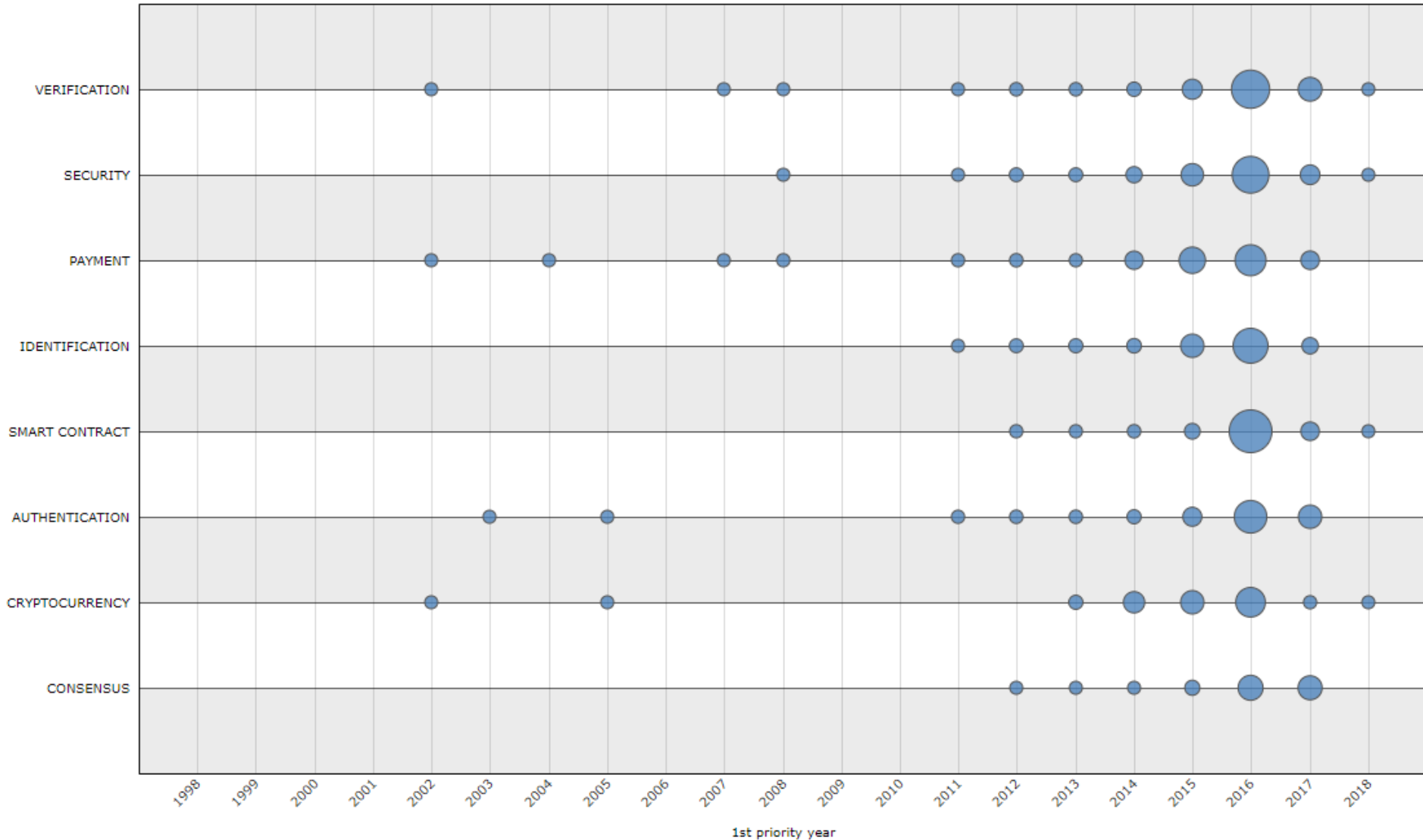
Origination Trend



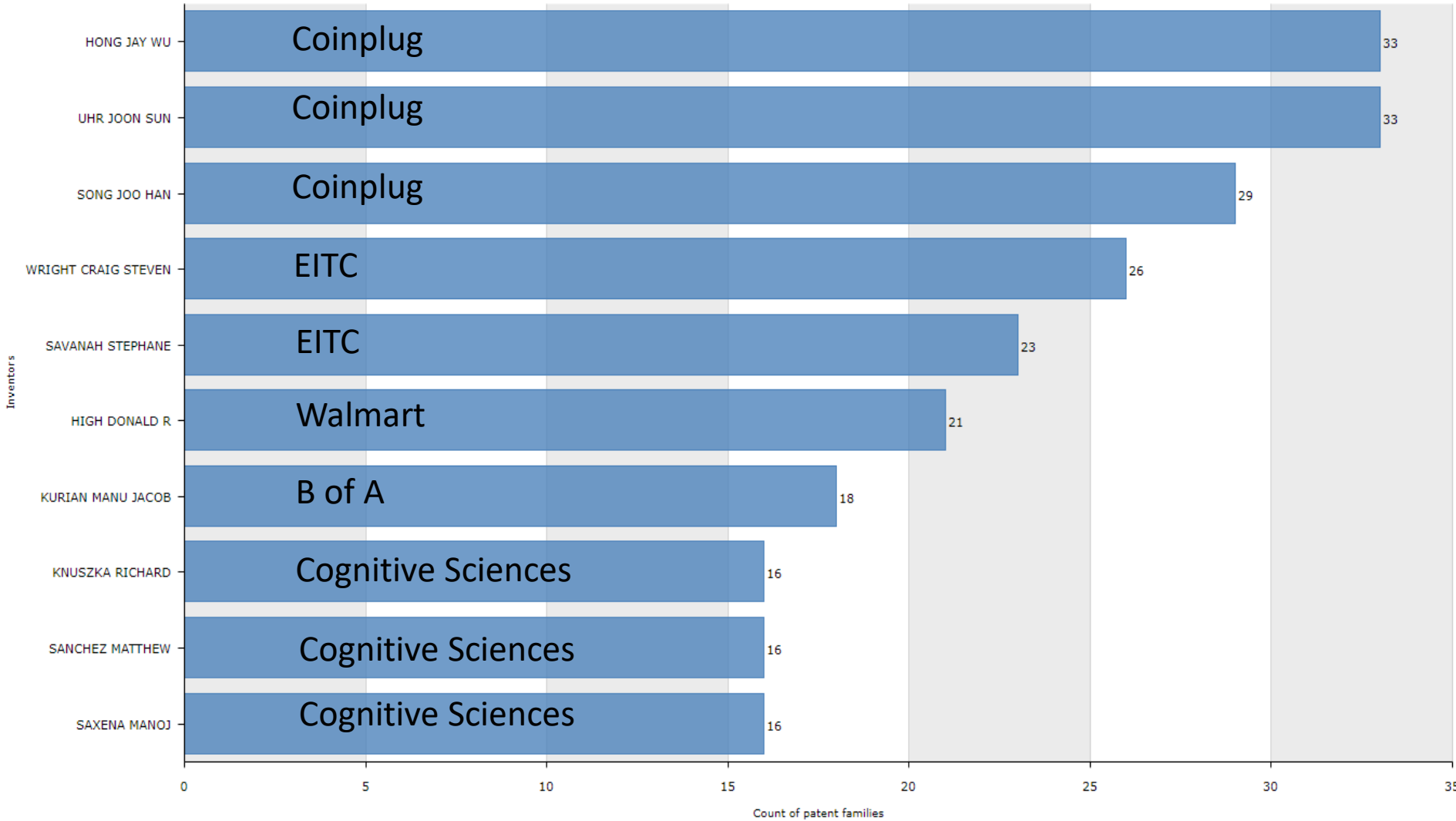
Top 20: Technology Scope



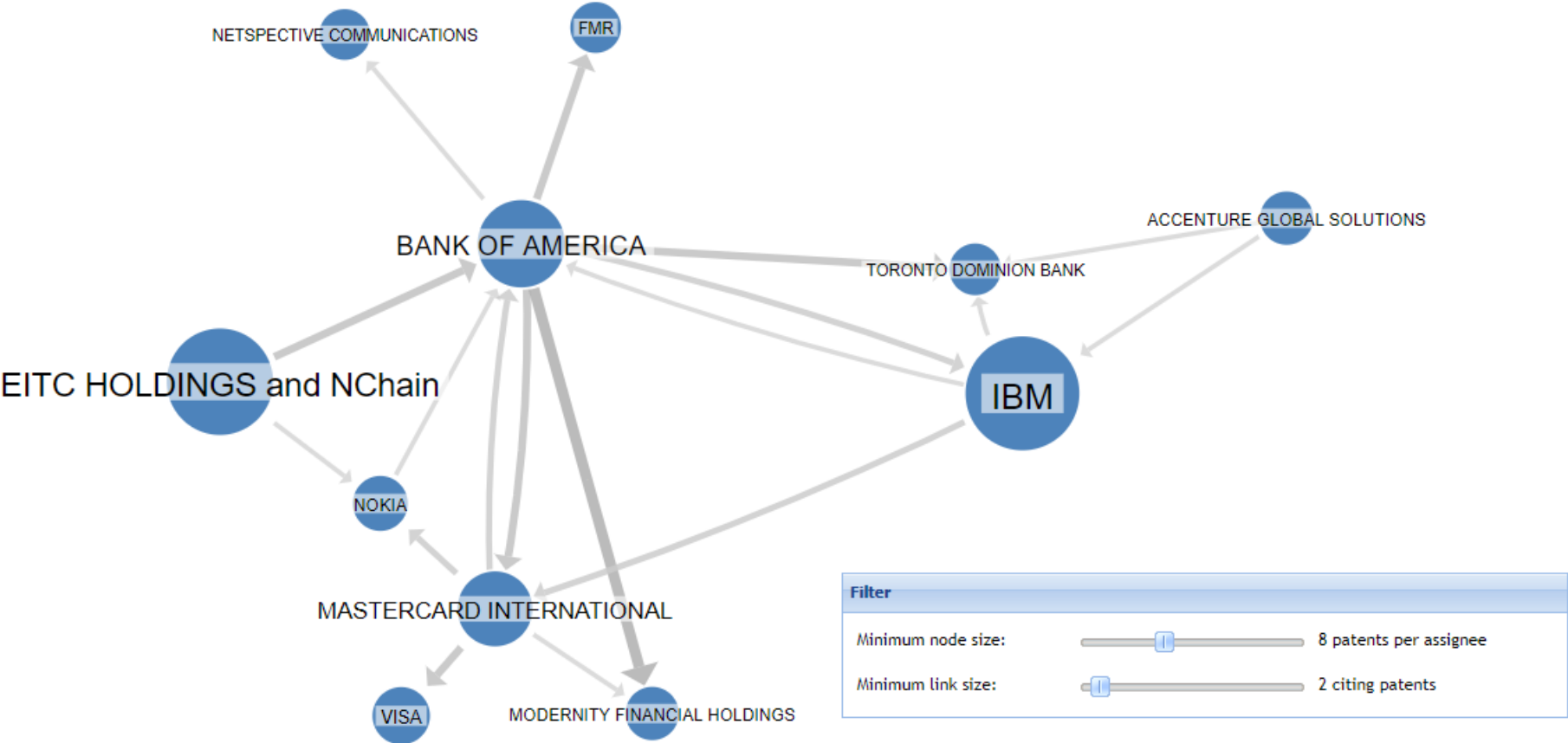
Tech Concepts Over Time



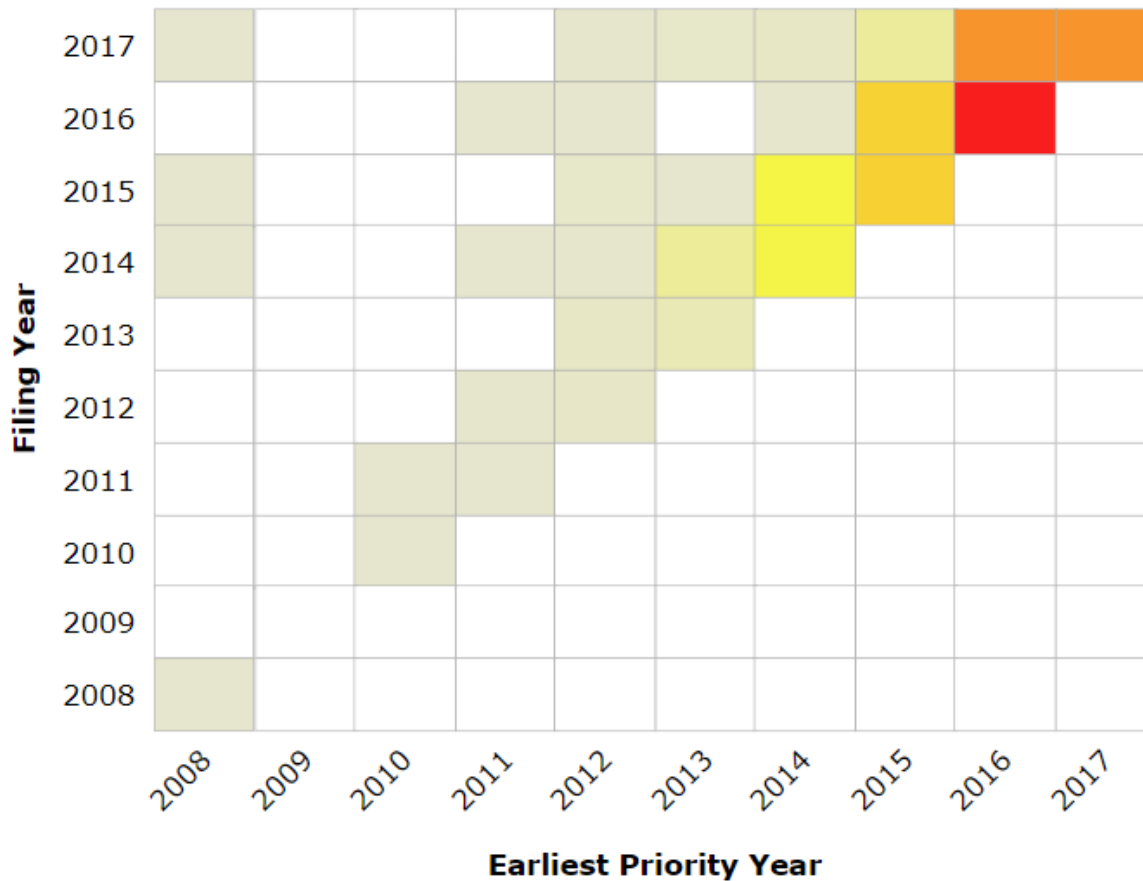
Top Inventors



Citation Analysis



Continuing Patent Strategy: The Patent Time Machine



“Placing a toll booth in the paths worn in the grass”

What can we do?

- Innovator Agreements
- Coalition Patent Challenges
- “Open Source” Strategies
- Royalty-Based Patent Pools

But what about PAEs?

- PAEs usually purchase patents from failed operating companies
- “License on Transfer Model” can reduce the supply side and inoculate members
- LOT Network has hundreds of members and is adding blockchain assets





Marc Kaufman

marc.kaufman@rimonlaw.com

202-459-9882