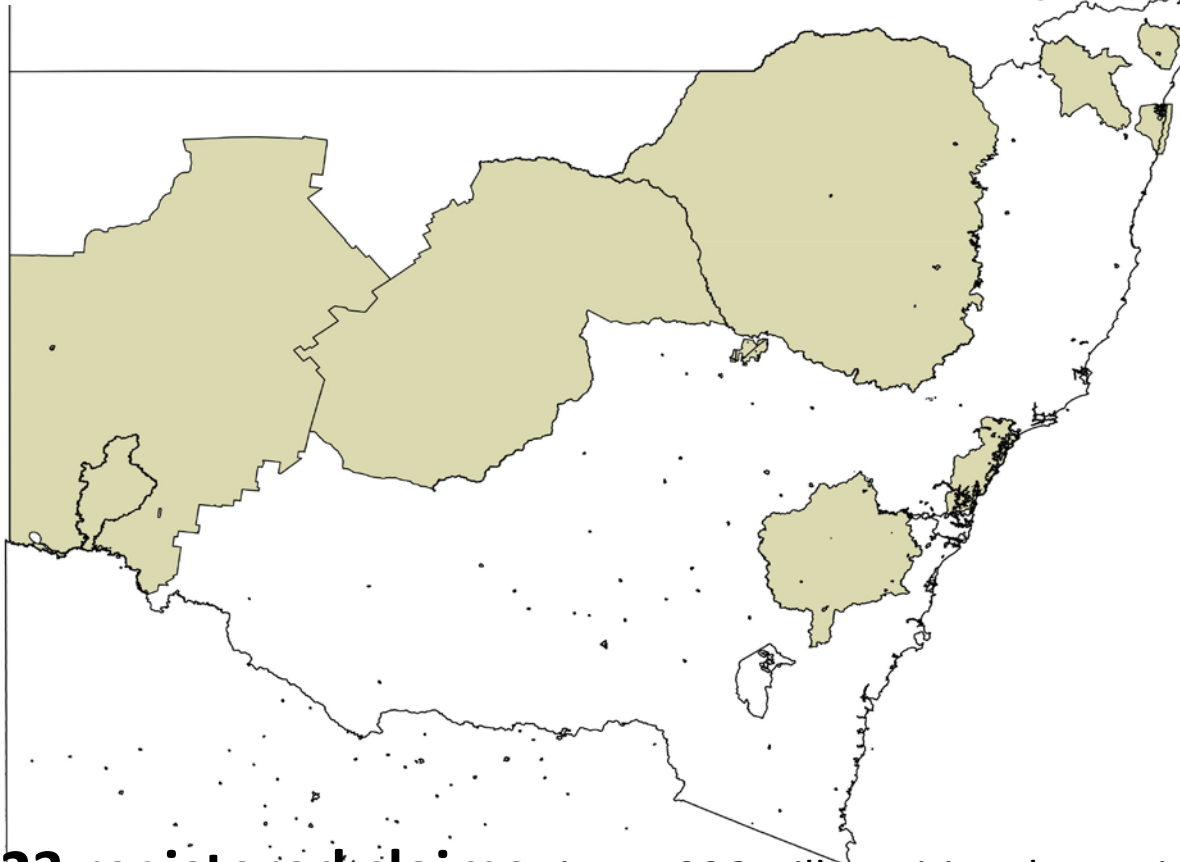


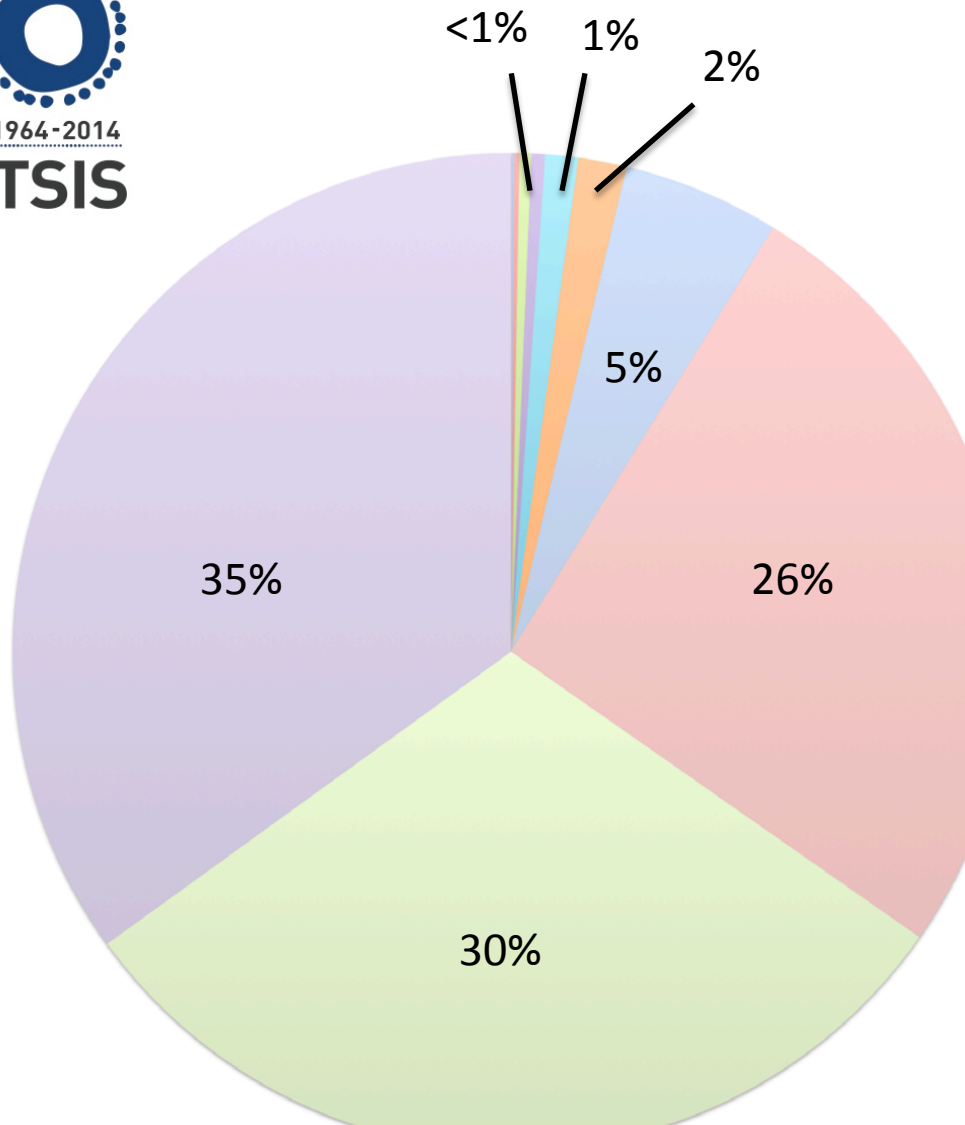


# Research Strategies for Large Claims: A NSW Perspective

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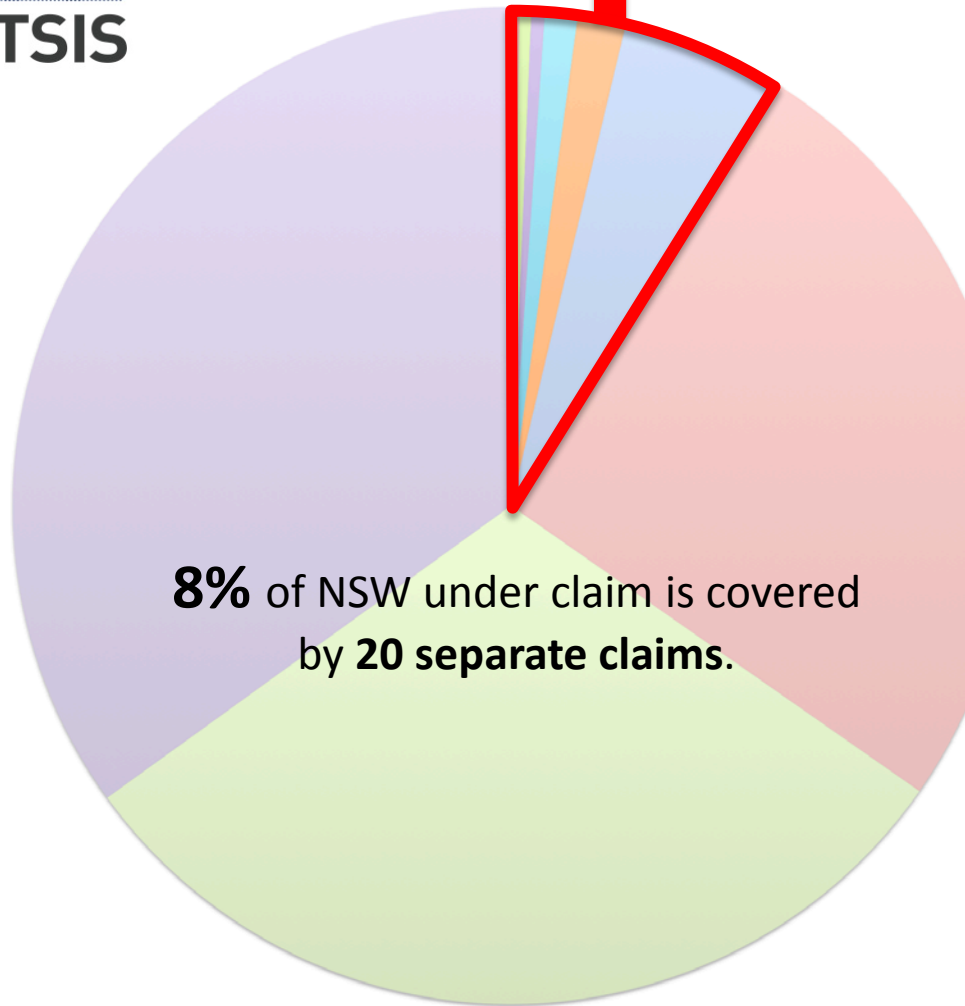


- **23 registered claims** since 1996 still awaiting determination
- Totaling **367,449 square kilometers**
- Covering **46% of NSW**

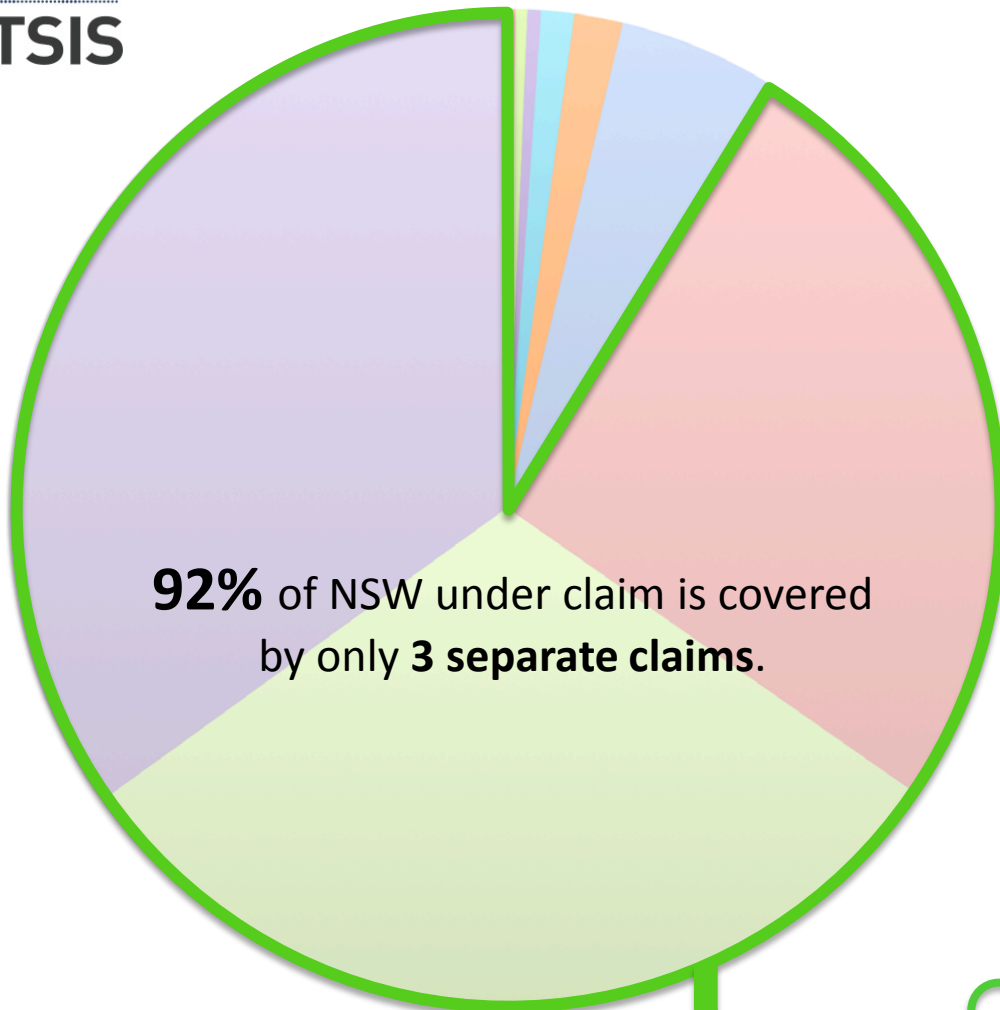


23 registered claims in NSW arranged by proportional geographic coverage

- NC1996/036 Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation #4
- NC2013/003 Wonnarua Traditional Custodians
- NC2013/004 Plains Clans of the Wonnarua People
- NC2013/001 Wendy Lewis, Mavis Agnew & Martin de Launey on behalf of Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #2
- NC2012/004 Plains Clans of the Wonnarua People #2
- NC2012/005 Wonnarua Traditional Custodians
- NC1998/015 Gumbaynggirr People
- NC1996/041 Gumbaynggirr People
- NC1996/027 Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation #2
- NC2012/003 Awabakal People
- NC1997/004 Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation #5
- NC1996/038 The Yaegl People
- NC2001/008 Byron Bay Bundjalung People #3
- NC2002/009 Tubba-Gah People
- NC2011/001 Yaegl People #2
- NC2013/005 Widjabul Wia-bal
- NC2013/002 Awabakal and Guringai People
- NC2011/005 Western Bundjalung People
- NC1997/007 Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation #6
- NC2012/001 Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan at Wayilwan native title determination application
- NC2011/006 Gomerioi People
- NC1997/032 Barkandji Traditional Owners #8



- NC1996/036 Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation #4
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- NC1996/038 The Yaegl People
- NC2001/008 Byron Bay Bundjalung People #3
- NC2002/009 Tubba-Gah People
- NC2011/001 Yaegl People #2
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- NC2011/006 Gomerai People
- NC1997/032 Barkandji Traditional Owners #8



**92% of NSW under claim is covered by only 3 separate claims.**

- NC2012/001 Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan at Wayilwan native title determination application
- NC2011/006 Gomerai People
- NC1997/032 Barkandji Traditional Owners #8

- NC1996/036 Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation #4
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- NC2013/002 Awabakal and Guringai People
- NC2011/005 Western Bundjalung People
- NC1997/007 Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation #6



Q: Why do **87%** of registered claims account for only **8%** of the total area under claim?

A: Since the mid 1990s NSW claims have tended to follow a pattern:

- a) Assistance requests tend to be submitted by individuals, single families or small alliances of 2-3 families.
  
- a) Claims filed in response to s29 notices cover only isolated geographic sites.
  
- b) Expert advice tends to be biased in favour of existing conditions, and shuns new data that expands upon those conditions.



Q: Why do **only 3** claims account for only **92%** of the total area under claim?

A: Since the mid 2006 NTSCORP has implemented a strategy the involves:

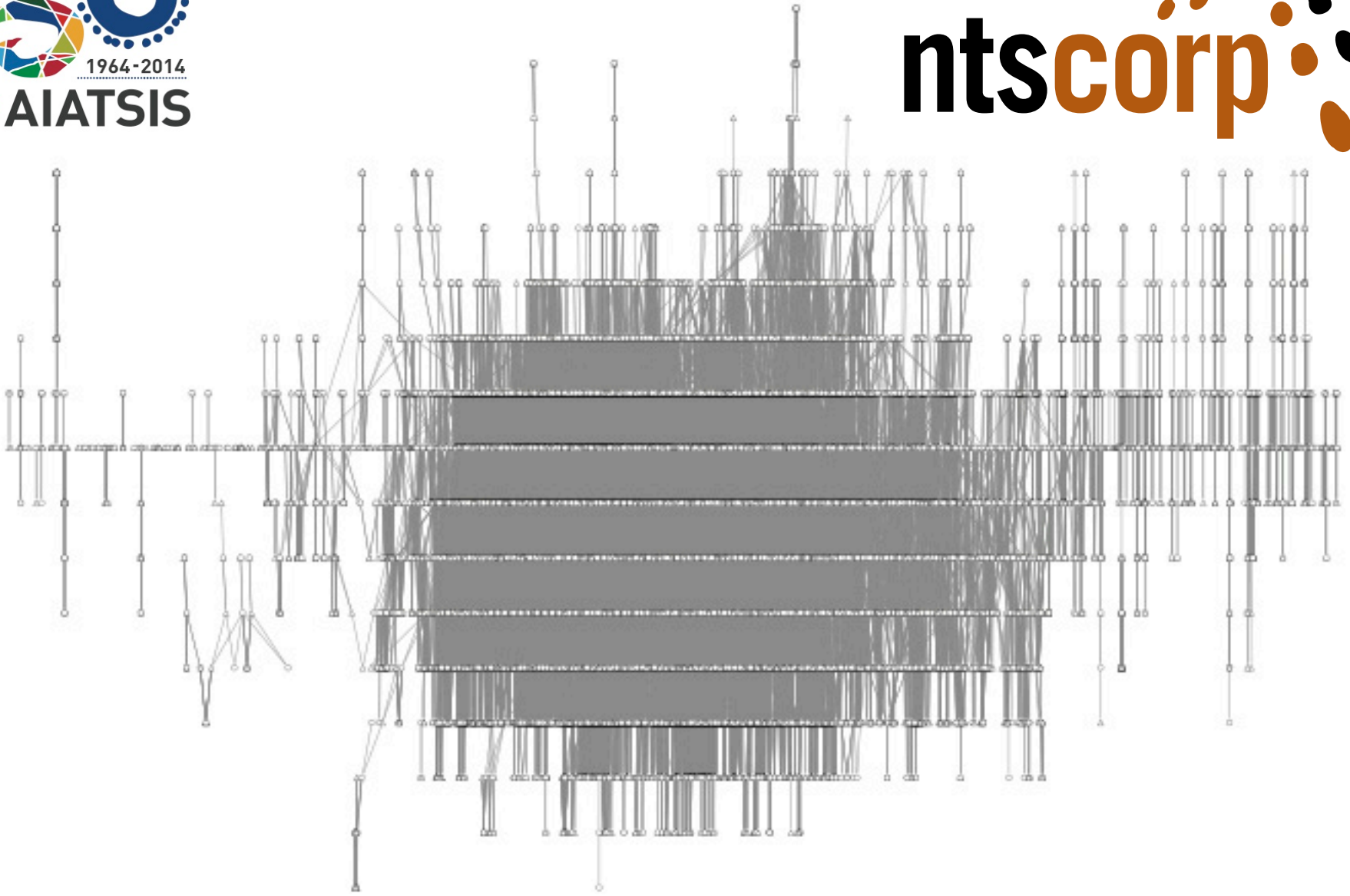
- a) Encouraging the withdrawal of exclusive and vexatious claims.
- a) Focusing support on claims in which claimants are unified.
- b) Removing artificial administrative barriers between research staff working on different claims, integrating all research into a coherent state-wide strategy.

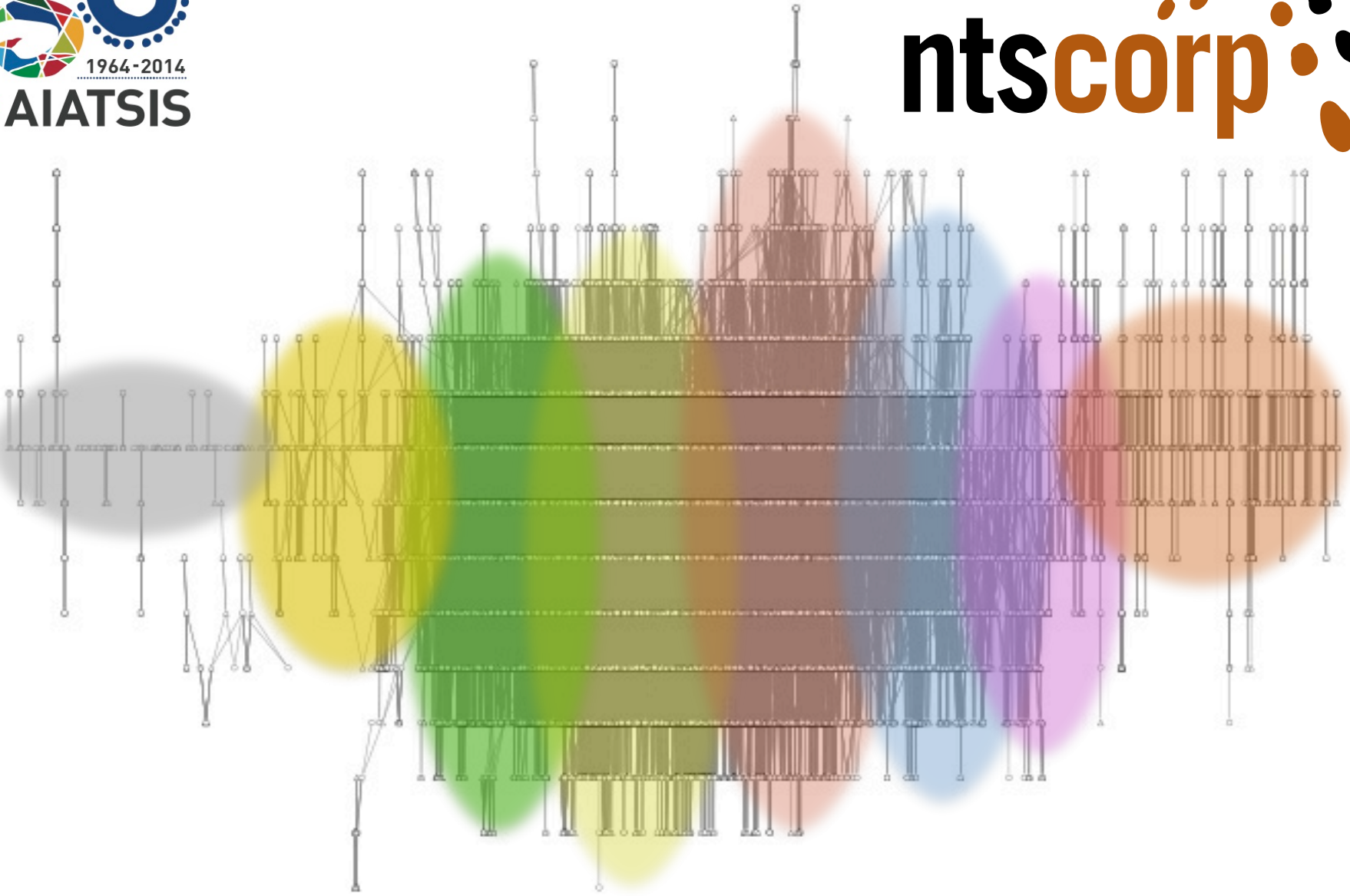


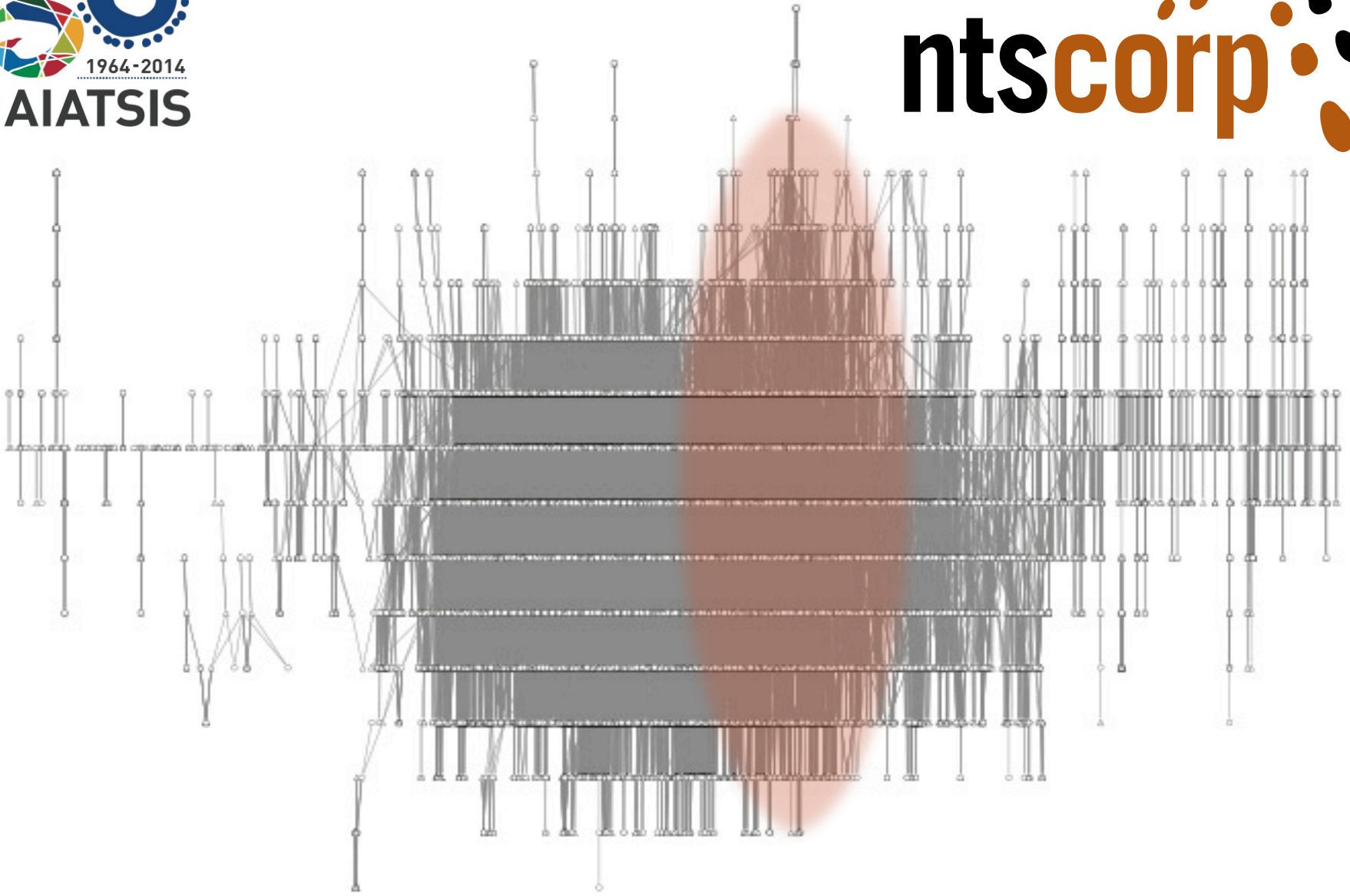
Since 2006, as part of a strategic overhaul, the NTSCORP Research Unit has developed :

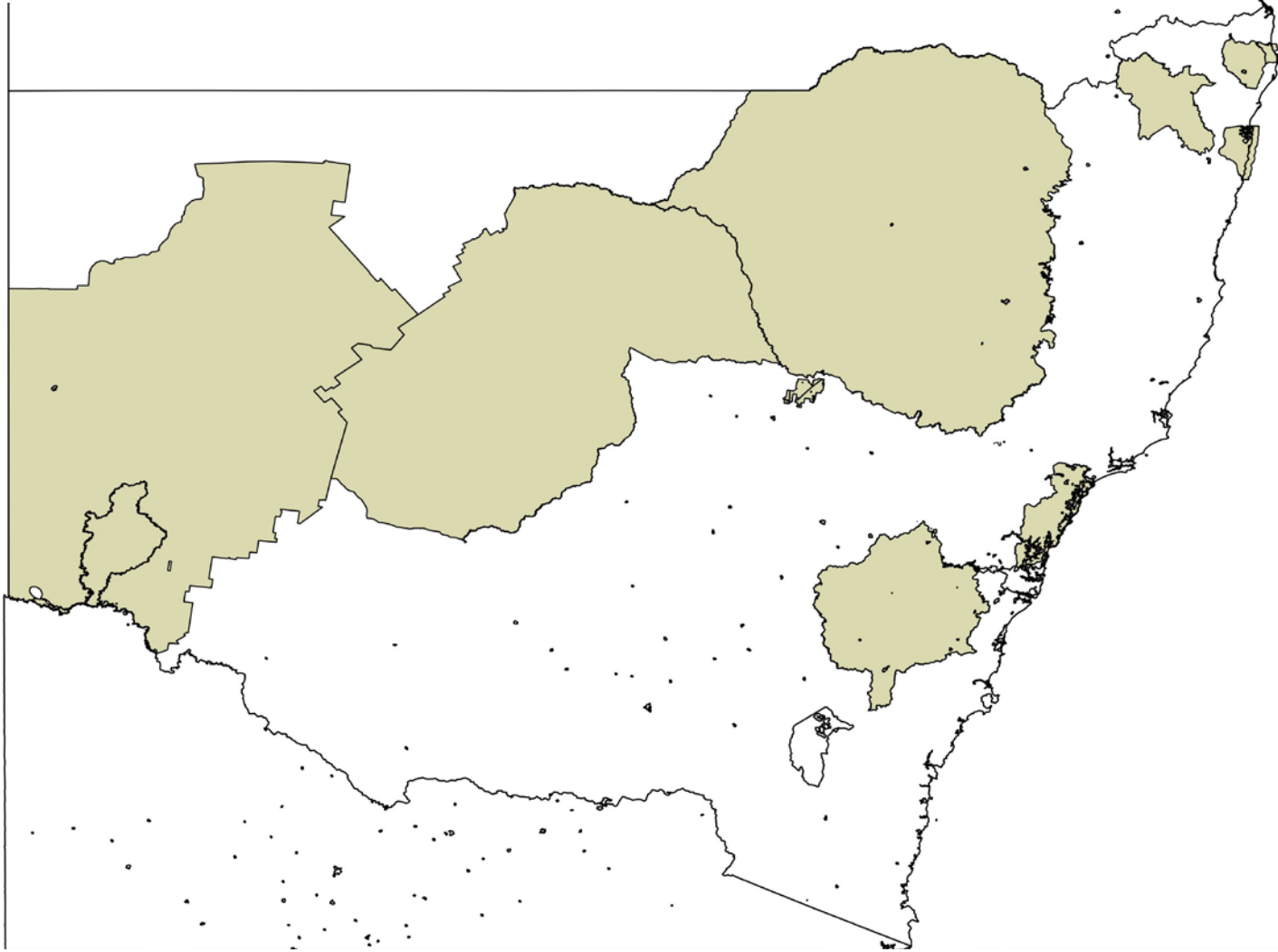
- A data management system that hosts searchable digital copies of all anthropological, linguistic, and historical records discovered, including consultations, academic texts, government documents, archival material, and photographs.
- A single, integrated genealogical model for the Indigenous population of South East Australia, documenting over 70,000 individuals, currently growing at a rate of >7500 individuals per year.
- A single, integrated geospatial model of all data that allows us to map the movements of any person, group of people, or cultural attributes (languages, totemic groups, etc) in space and time.







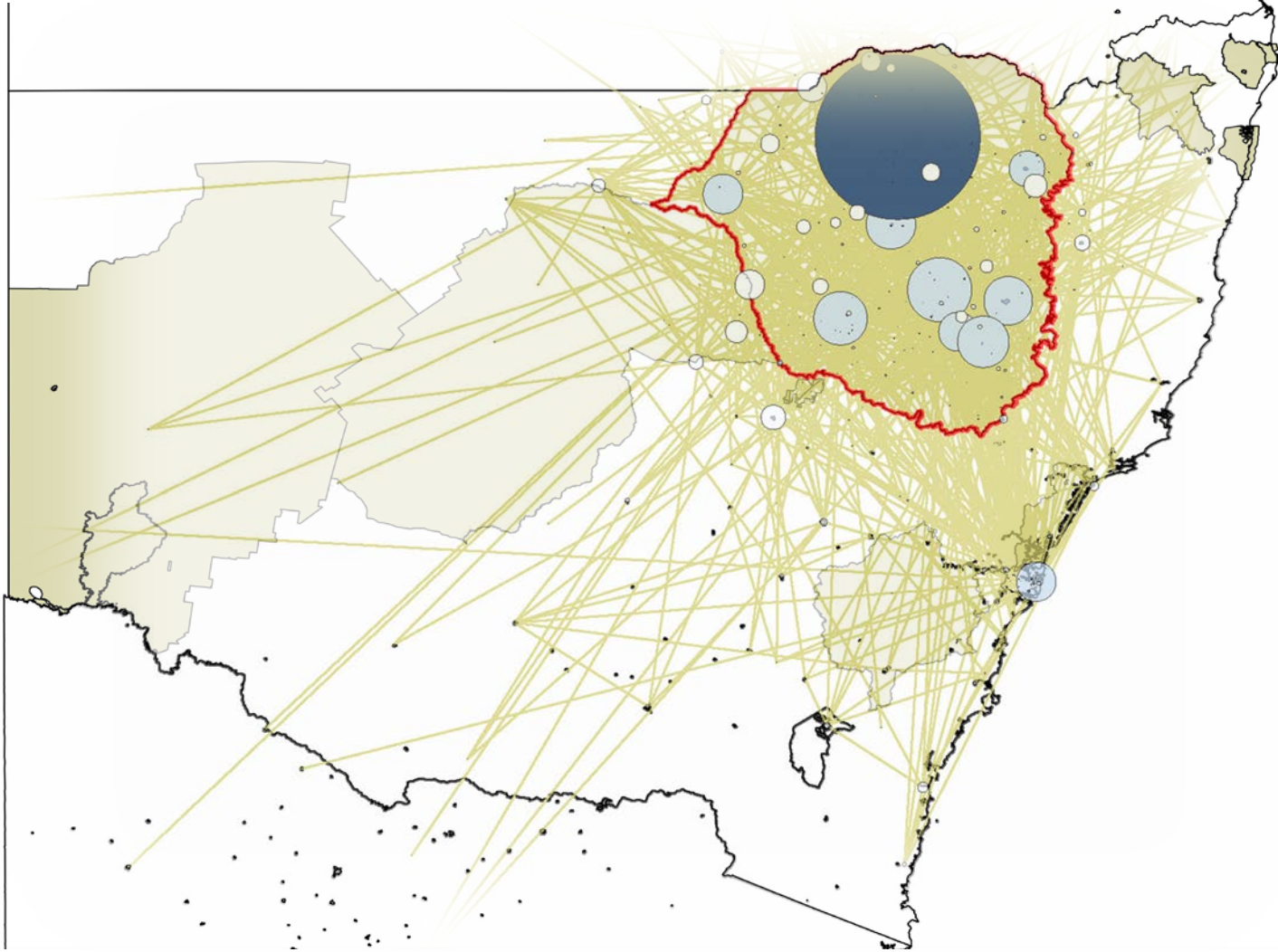








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## Concluding Notes:

- NTSCORP **uses research** as a primary tool in developing assistance strategies for for new claims.
- Research is **not treated as a rubber stamp** for existing claim group descriptions or claim area boundaries.
- Comprehensive consultations, genealogical and GIS modelling, and archival surveys, are conducted **before** education workshops or authorisation meetings are convened.
- Theoretical anthropological models of society are jettisoned in favour of **real data**.





To make large claims viable, Rep Body Research Units must have:

- **Independence** to conduct research freely, without administrative restrictions.
- **Capacity to communicate and share data** with other Researchers in the organisation, without barriers imposed by poor technology.
- **No theoretical preconceptions** about the populations they are modelling.
- Total respect for **ALL** clients, not just those with whom they work.