## **Spreading Phenomena**

#### Social Networks Analysis and Graph Algorithms

Prof. Carlos Castillo — <a href="https://chato.cl/teach">https://chato.cl/teach</a>



#### Sources

- D. Easley and J. Kleinberg (2010). Networks, Crowds, and Markets Chapter 19
- C. Castillo, W. Chen, L. V. S. Lakshmanan (2012). Information and Influence Spread in Social Networks, KDD Tutorial.
- F.Menczer, S. Fortunato, and C. A. Davis. A First Course in Network Science. Cambridge University Press, 2020 Chapter 7.
- URLs cited in the footer of slides

## **Exercise**Spread of Disease

Go to netlogoweb.org/launch and select: "IABM Textbook / chapter 6 / Spread of Disease"

Execute the "Spread of Disease" program in Netlogo Web
Slow down model speed
Choose one variant
Select num-people 100
Click "set-up"
Click "go"
Play with "connections-per-node" in the "network" variant

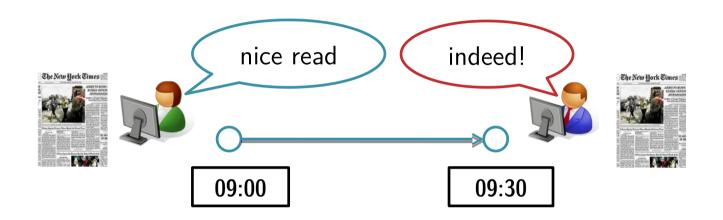
• Indicate what the three variants do (network, mobile, environmental)

Note that "disease-decay" only affects the "environmental" variant



Pin board: https://upfbarcelona.padlet.org/chato/k5zn9l4itg3axw3s

#### Social influence on a network



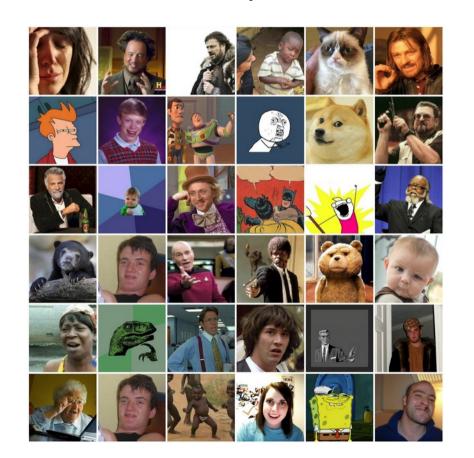
People are connected and perform actions

friends, fans, followers, ...

comment, link, like, share, stitch, duet, ...

#### "The Selfish Gene" by Richard Dawkins (1976)

Chapter 11: "Memes: the new replicators"





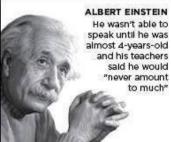
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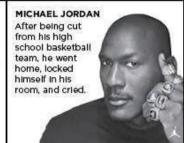
# Spread of a Meme ("Famous Failures")



https://vimeo.com/50730795

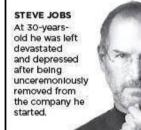
#### **FAMOUS FAILURES**





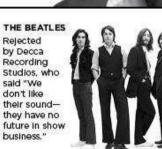


## WALT DISNEY Fired from a newspaper for "lacking imagination" and "having no original ideas."









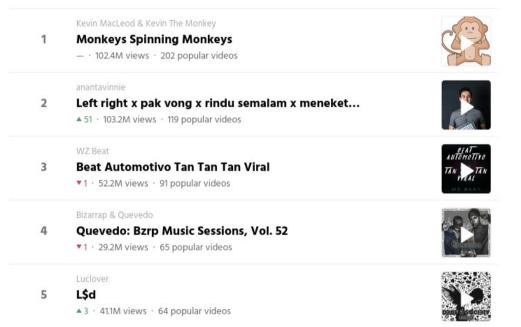
IF YOU'VE NEVER FAILED, YOU'VE NEVER TRIED ANYTHING NEW





#### **Top TikTok Songs This Week**

LAST UPDATED 7/31/2022, 8:00:25 AM





Various forms of "trend":

music/audio that is reused, stitches, side-byside "duets",
actions/challenges, etc.





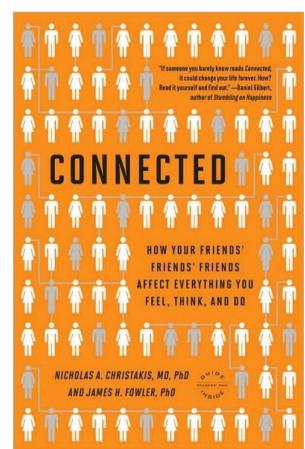




#### "Influencers" and their sponsored posts

#### Non-trivial examples

- Back pain: spread from West to East in Germany after fall of Berlin Wall
- Suicide: well known to spread throughout communities on occasion
- Sexual "scripts": expected sequences of behaviors during intimate situations
- Politics: the denser your connections, the more intense your convictions



#### **Exercise**

Find examples of spreading phenomena

What else propagates in a contagion-like manner?

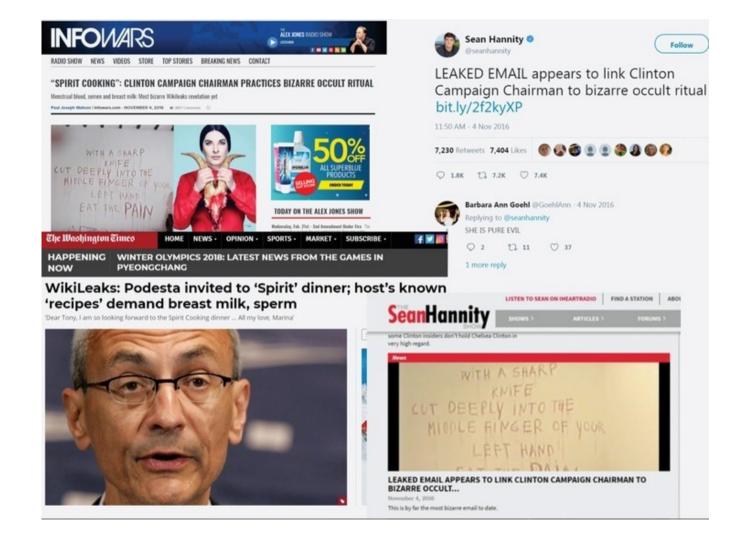


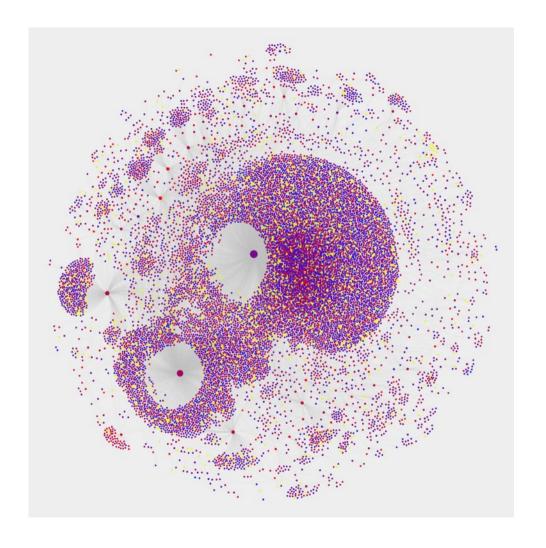
# News, misinformation, and collective action

#### Fake news

Fake news about an occult ritual to which the campaign chairman of US presidential candidate Hillary Clinton was invited.

This was posted four days before the 2016 election, which was won by her opponent, Donald Trump.



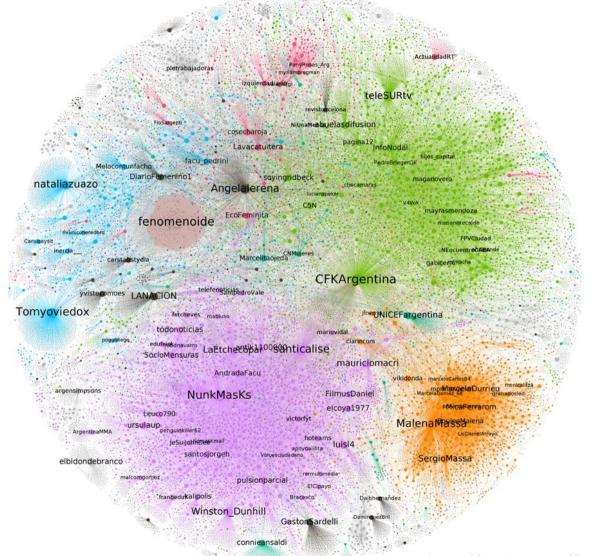


### Fake news spread

A combination of authentic (blue) and inauthentic (red) accounts, also known as bots. Yellow nodes were removed by Twitter and are probably also bots.

Interactive version:

https://iunetsci.github.io/HoaxyBots/



#### **Collective action**

Spread of the #NiUnaMenos hashtag: a movement against gender-based violence and femicide started in Argentina in 2015





Colors based on communities detected through modularization optimization

## Summary

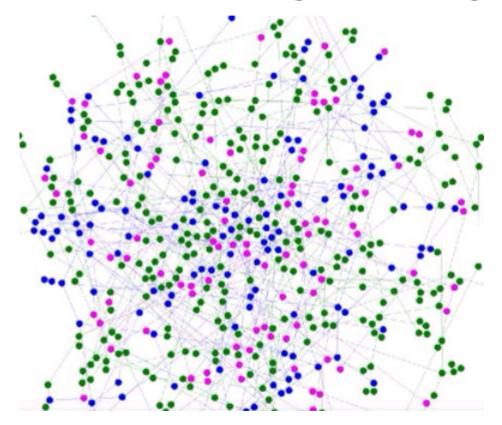
#### Things to remember

- Direct social influence is observed online when connected people perform an action in sequence
- A wide array of phenomena spread through networks, not only viruses and information

#### **Additional contents**



### Simulated contagion in graph



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WWTmRIDsydA