

# Introduction to Network Science

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New York University

January 29, 2020



- ▶ Instructor: Yury Dvorkin
- ▶ Grader: Guanhong Liu
- ▶ Course length: 2 modules (Network Science and Network Optimization)

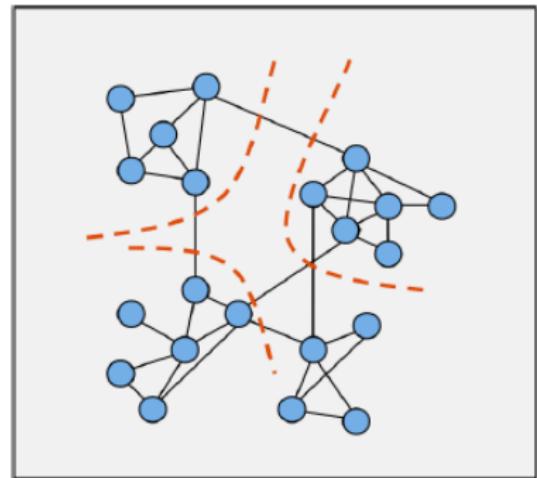
- ▶ Statistical mechanics of complex networks, R. Albert and A-L. Barabasi, Rev. Mod. Phys. 74, 47, 2002
- ▶ The Structure and Function of Complex Networks, M. E. J. Newman, SIAM Review, 45, pp 167-256, 2003
- ▶ Evolution of Networks, S. N. Dorogovtsev and J. F. F. Mendes, Adv.Phys., pp 1079-1187, 2002
- ▶ Complex networks: Structure and dynamics, S. Boccaletti et al., Physics Reports, Volume 424, Issue 4-5, p. 175-308, 2006

- ▶ 1. Statistical properties of networks
- ▶ 2. Network structure
- ▶ 3. Processes on networks
- ▶ 4. Predictions on networks (ML)

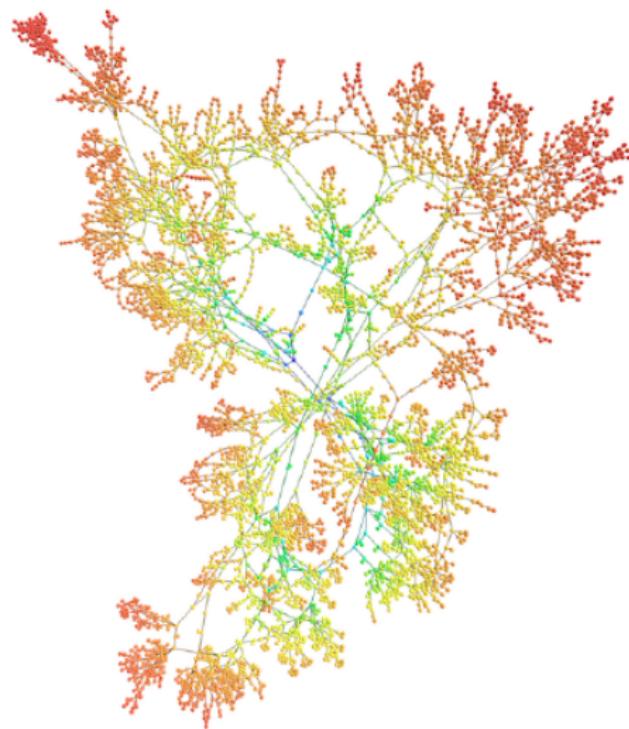
- ▶ Introduction to network science
- ▶ Power laws
- ▶ Random graphs
- ▶ Small world and dynamical growth models
- ▶ Centrality measures
- ▶ Link analysis
- ▶ Structural equivalence
- ▶ Network communities
- ▶ Graph partitioning algorithms
- ▶ Community detection

- ▶ Sociology (SNA)
- ▶ Mathematics (Graphs)
- ▶ Computer Science (Graphs)
- ▶ Statistical Physics (Complex networks)
- ▶ Economics (Networks)
- ▶ Bioinformatics (Networks)

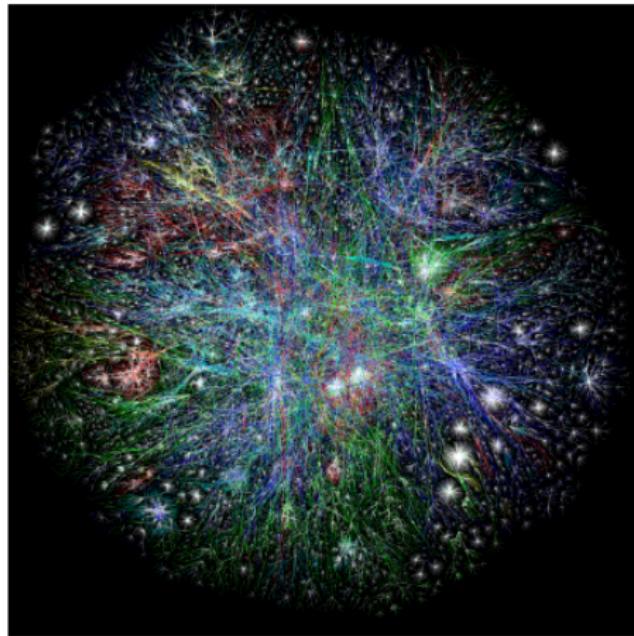
- ▶ network = graph
- ▶ nodes = vertices, actors
- ▶ links = edges, relations
- ▶ clusters = communities



- ▶ not regular, but not random
- ▶ non-trivial topology
- ▶ scale-free networks
- ▶ universal properties
- ▶ everywhere
- ▶ complex systems



- Internet traffic routing (BGP)



Barret Lyon, 2003

- ▶ red-conservative blogs, blue -liberal, orange links from liberal to conservative, purple from conservative to liberal

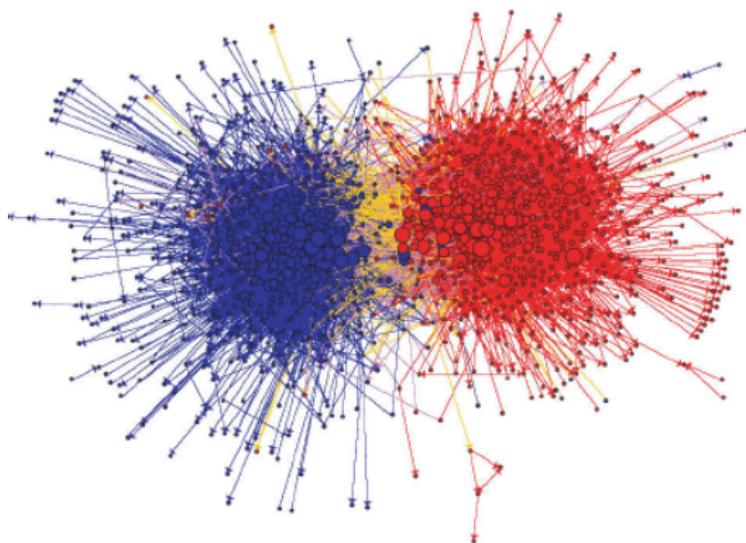


image from L. Adamic, N. Glance, 2005

## Examples: Twitter

11

- ▶ "#usa" hashtag diffusion, retweets - blue, mentions - orange

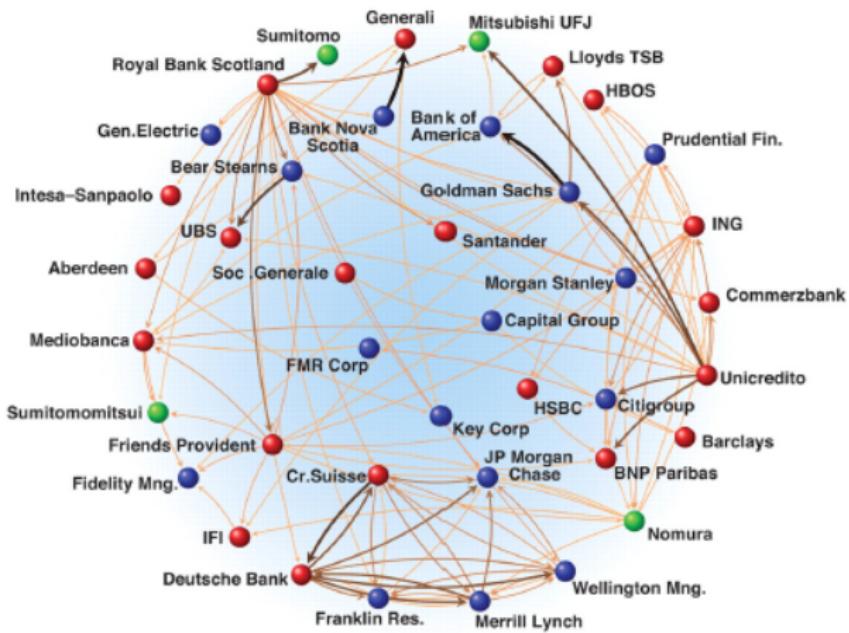


Copyright 2010 Indiana University

[truthy.indiana.edu](http://Truthy.indiana.edu)

image from K. McKelvey et.al., 2012

- existing relations between financial institutions



## Examples: Transportation

13

### ► Zurich public transportation map

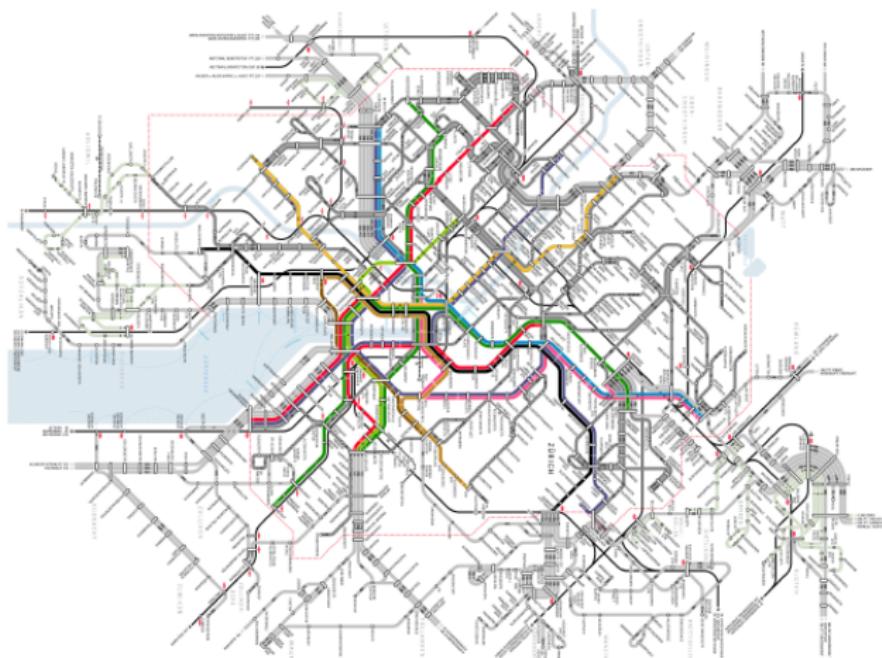
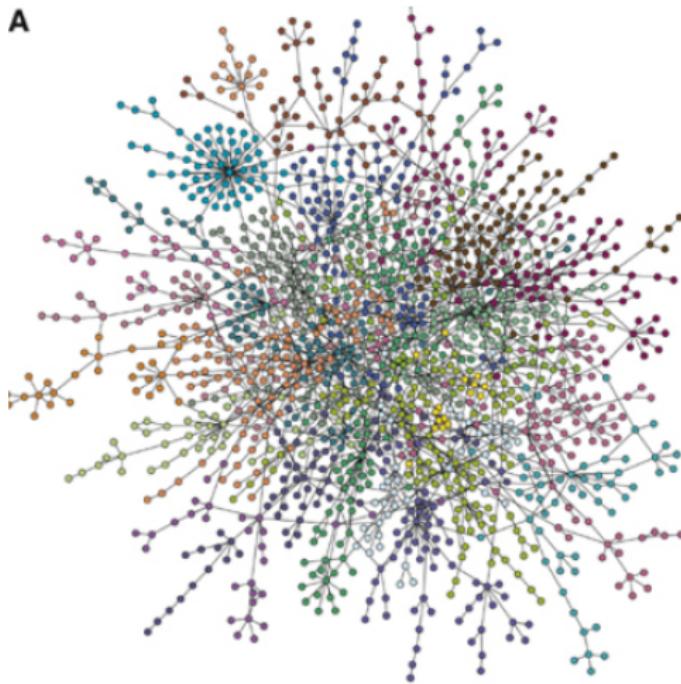


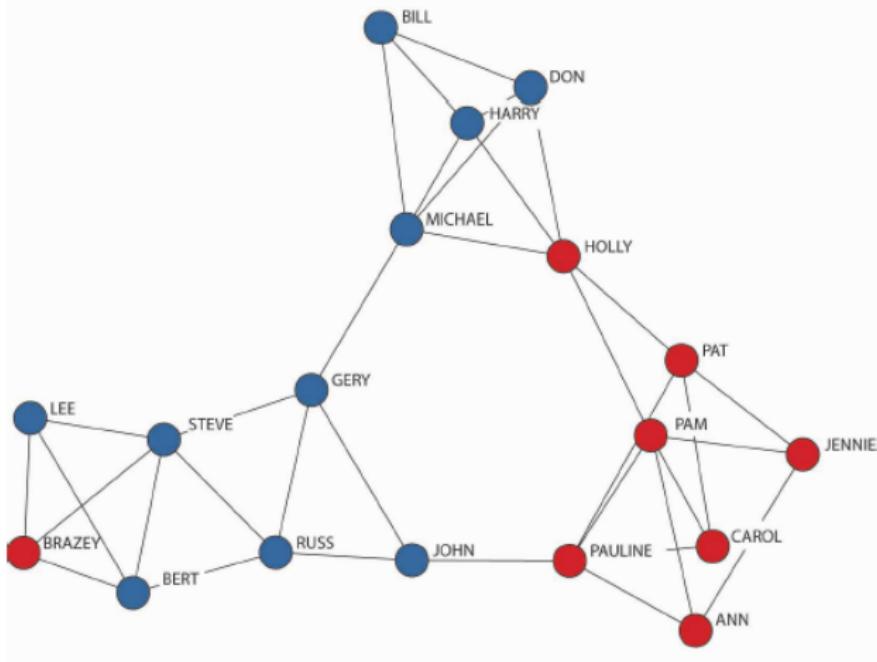
image from <http://www.visualcomplexity.com>

► Yeast protein interaction network



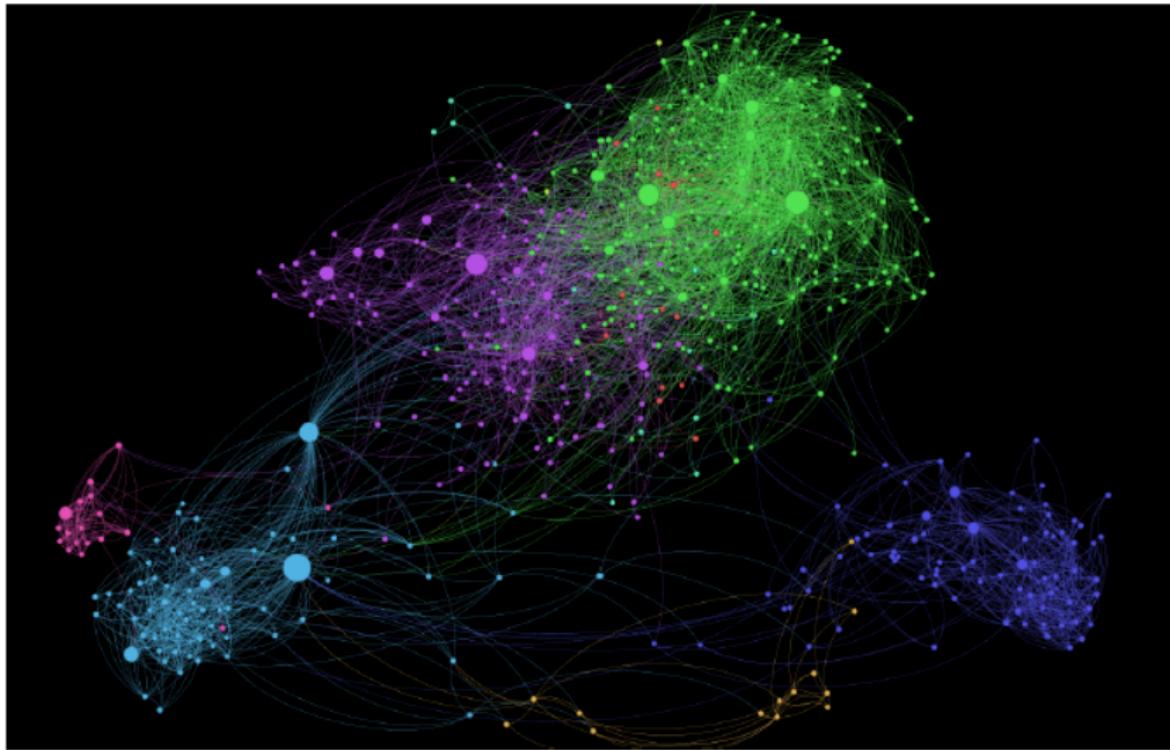
## Examples: Organization

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## Examples: Facebook communities structure

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## Examples: Facebook

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- ▶ Friendship graph 500 mln people  
image by Paul Butler, 2010

- ▶ Power law node degree distribution: "scale-free" networks
- ▶ Small diameter and average path length: "small world" networks
- ▶ High clustering coefficient: transitivity

## Power law

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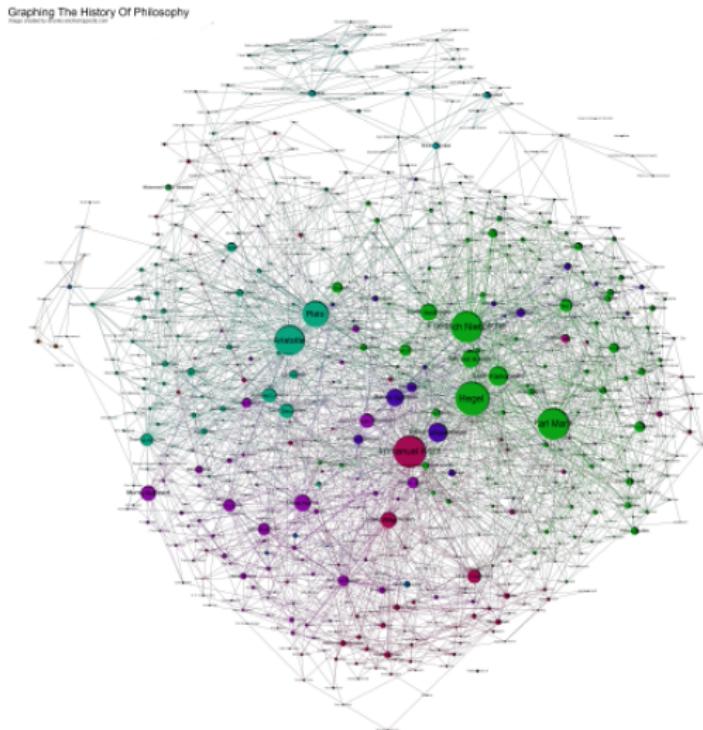


image from <http://www.coppelio.io>

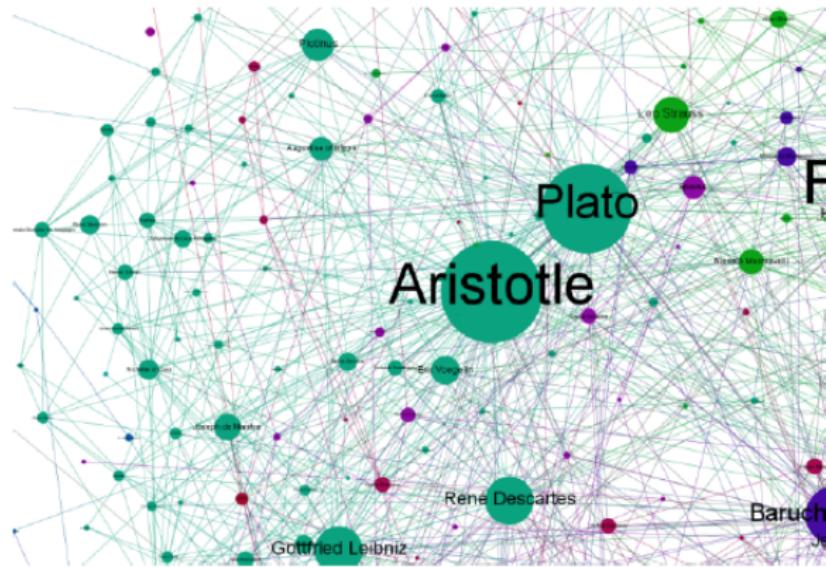


image from <http://www.coppelias.io>

- Node degree distribution in scale-free network:

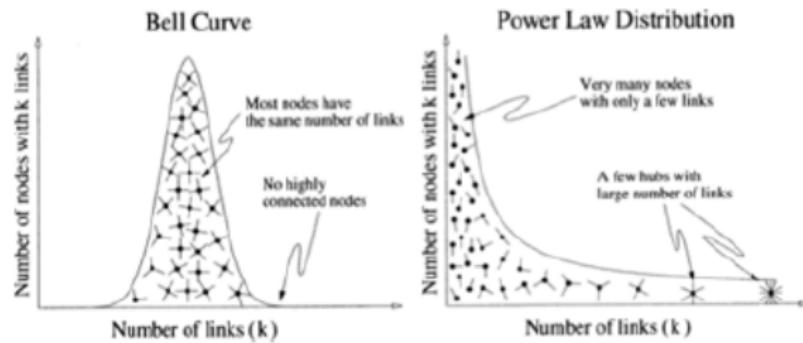
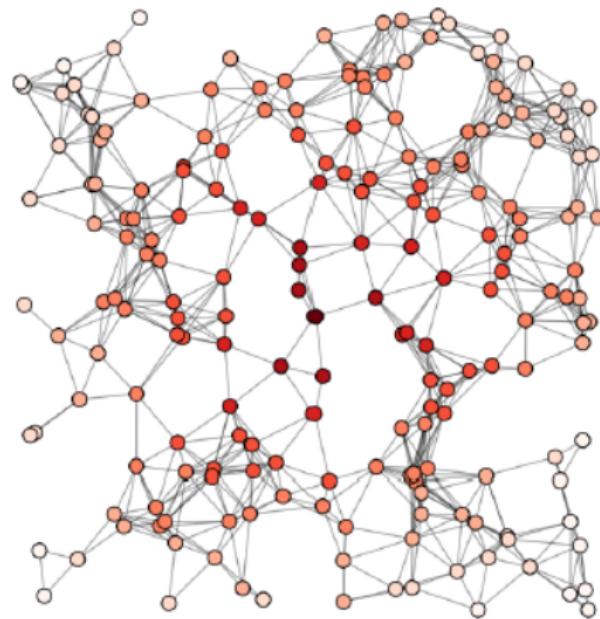
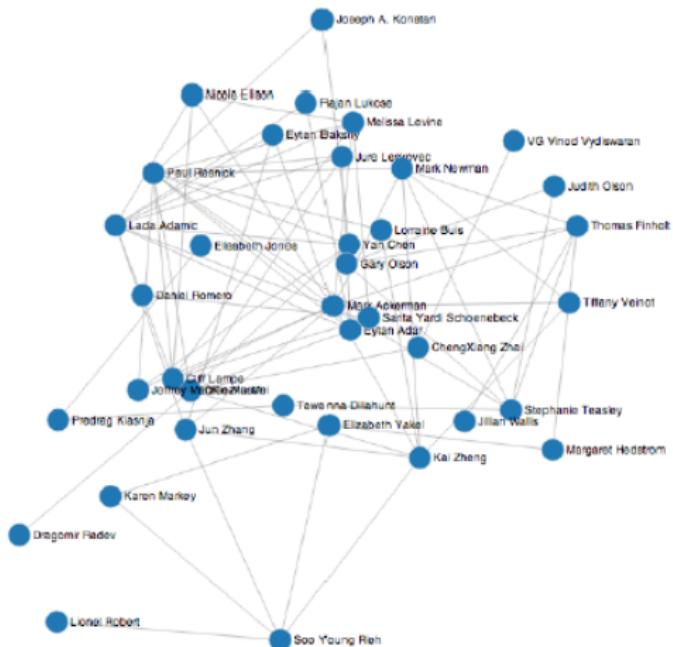


image from A.-L. Barabasi, 2002

► Random geometric graph

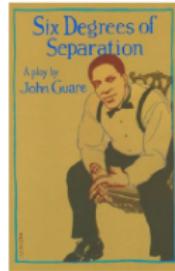


## ► Co-author network



"Any two people are on average separated no more than by six intermediate connections"

- ▶ Frigyes Karinthy, short story "Lancszemek" ("Chain-Links"), 1929.
- ▶ John Guare play (1991) and movie (1993), "Six Degrees of Separation"





© Al Satterwhite

## An Experimental Study of the Small World Problem\*

JEFFREY TRAVERS

Harvard University

AND

STANLEY MILGRAM

The City University of New York

*Arbitrarily selected individuals ( $N=296$ ) in Nebraska and Boston are asked to generate acquaintance chains to a target person in Massachusetts, employing "the small world method" (Milgram, 1967). Sixty-four chains reach the target person. Within this group the mean number of intermediaries between starters and targets is 5.2. Boston starting chains reach the target person with fewer intermediaries than those starting in Nebraska; subpopulations in the Nebraska group do not differ among themselves. The funneling of chains through sociometric "stars" is noted, with 48 per cent of the chains passing through three persons before reaching the target. Applications of the method to studies of large scale social structure are discussed.*

- ▶ "The small-world problem". Stanley Milgram, 1967
- ▶ "An experimental study of the small world problem", Jeffrey Travers, Stanley Milgram, 1969

## HOW TO TAKE PART IN THIS STUDY

1. ADD YOUR NAME TO THE ROSTER AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS SHEET, so that the next person who receives this letter will know who it came from.
2. DETACH ONE POSTCARD. FILL IT OUT AND RETURN IT TO HARVARD UNIVERSITY. No stamp is needed. The postcard is very important. It allows us to keep track of the progress of the folder as it moves toward the target person.
3. IF YOU KNOW THE TARGET PERSON ON A PERSONAL BASIS, MAIL THIS FOLDER DIRECTLY TO HIM (HER). Do this only if you have previously met the target person and know each other on a first name basis.
4. IF YOU DO NOT KNOW THE TARGET PERSON ON A PERSONAL BASIS, DO NOT TRY TO CONTACT HIM DIRECTLY. INSTEAD, MAIL THIS FOLDER (POSTCARDS AND ALL) TO A PERSONAL ACQUAINTANCE WHO IS MORE LIKELY THAN YOU TO KNOW THE TARGET PERSON. You may send the folder

## Stanley Milgram's 1967 experiment

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- ▶ Starting persons:
  - ▶ 296 volunteers, 217 sent
  - ▶ 196 in Nebraska
  - ▶ 100 in Boston
- ▶ Target person - Boston stockbroker
- ▶ Information given:  
target name, address,  
occupation, place of  
employment, college,  
hometown

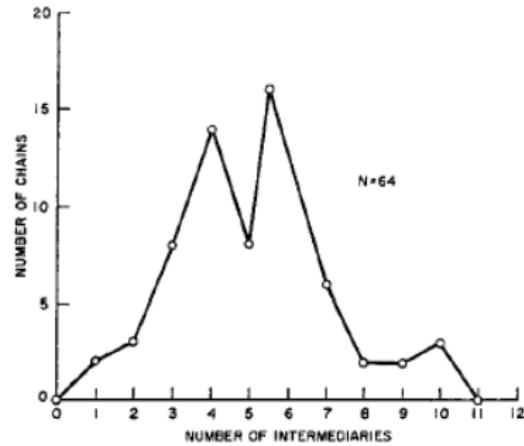


J. Travers, S. Milgram, 1969

## Stanley Milgram's 1967 experiment

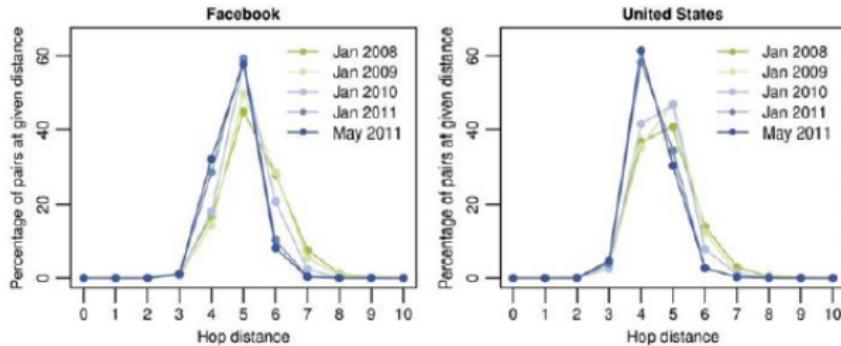
28

- Reached the target  $N = 64$  (29%)
- Average chain length  $\langle L \rangle = 5.2$
- Channels:
  - hometown  $\langle L \rangle = 6.1$
  - business contacts  $\langle L \rangle = 4.6$
  - from Boston  $\langle L \rangle = 4.4$
  - from Nebraska  $\langle L \rangle = 5.7$

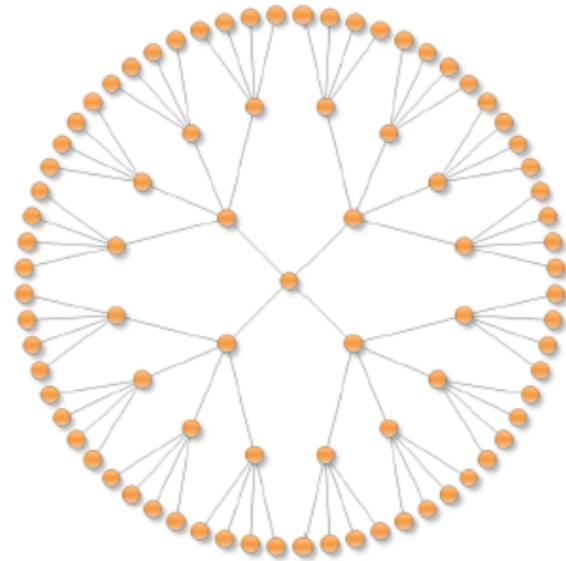


J. Travers, S. Milgram, 1969

- Email graph:  
D. Watts (2001), 48,000 senders,  $\langle L \rangle \approx 6$
- MSN Messenger graph:  
J. Leskovec et al (2007), 240mln users,  $\langle L \rangle \approx 6.6$
- Facebook graph:  
L. Backstrom et al (2012), 721 mln users,  $\langle L \rangle \approx 4.74$

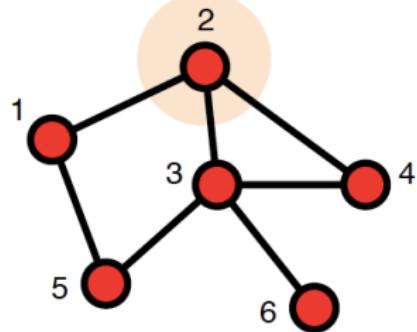


figures from L.Backstrom, 2012



An estimate:  $z^d = N$ ,  $d = \log N / \log z$   
 $N \approx 6.7 \ln b$ ,  $z = 50$  friends,  $d \approx 5.8$ .

- ▶ Scale free networks. A.-L. Barabasi, E. Bonabeau, Scientific American 288, 50-59 (2003)
- ▶ Scale-Free Networks: A Decade and Beyond. A.-L. Barabasi, Science 325, 412-413 (2009)
- ▶ The Physics of Networks. Mark Newman, Physics Today, November 2008, pp. 3338.



undirected

unweighted

no self-loops

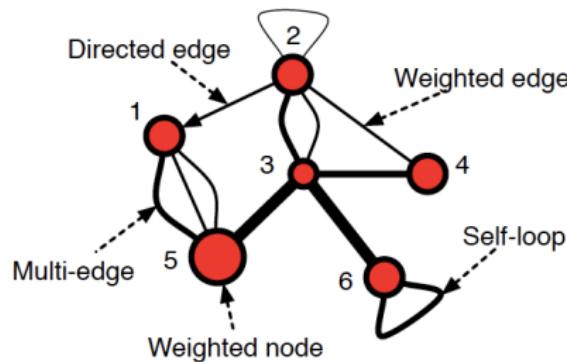
adjacency matrix

$A$	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	1	0	0	1	0
2	1	0	1	1	0	0
3	0	1	0	1	1	1
4	0	1	1	0	0	0
5	1	0	1	0	0	0
6	0	0	1	0	0	0

adjacency list

 $A$ 

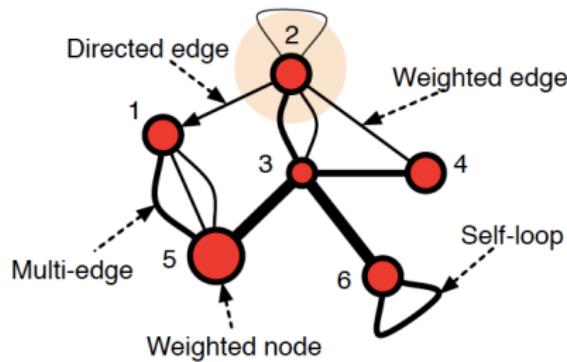
$1 \rightarrow \{2, 5\}$
$2 \rightarrow \{1, 3, 4\}$
$3 \rightarrow \{2, 4, 5, 6\}$
$4 \rightarrow \{2, 3\}$
$5 \rightarrow \{1, 3\}$
$6 \rightarrow \{3\}$



undirected —

unweighted —

no self-loops —



adjacency matrix

$A$	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	0	0	0	{1, 1, 2}	0
2	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	{2, 1}	1	0	0
3	0	{2, 1}	0	2	4	4
4	0	1	2	0	0	0
5	{1, 1, 2}	0	4	0	0	0
6	0	0	4	0	0	2

adjacency list

$A$

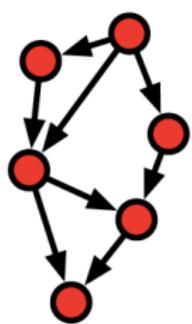
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1	$\rightarrow \{(5, 1), (5, 1), (5, 2)\}$
2	$\rightarrow \{(1, 1), (2, \frac{1}{2}), (3, 2), (3, 1), (4, 1)\}$
3	$\rightarrow \{(2, 2), (2, 1), (4, 2), (5, 4), (6, 4)\}$
4	$\rightarrow \{(2, 1), (3, 2)\}$
5	$\rightarrow \{(1, 1), (1, 1), (1, 2), (3, 4)\}$
6	$\rightarrow \{(3, 4), (6, 2)\}$

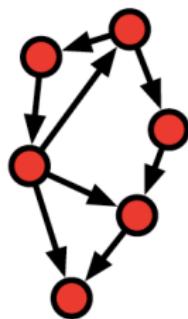
## Graph theory for network science: a directed graph

35

citation networks  
foodwebs\*  
epidemiological  
others?



directed acyclic graph

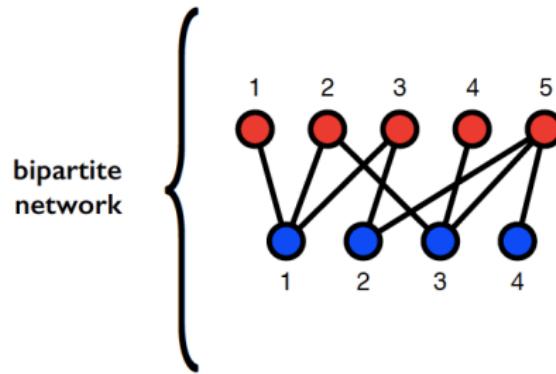


directed graph

WWW  
friendship?  
flows of goods,  
information  
economic exchange  
dominance  
neuronal  
transcription  
time travelers

## Graph theory for network science: a bipartite graph

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**no within-type edges**

authors & papers

actors & movies/scenes

musicians & albums

people & online groups

people & corporate boards

people & locations (checkins)

metabolites & reactions

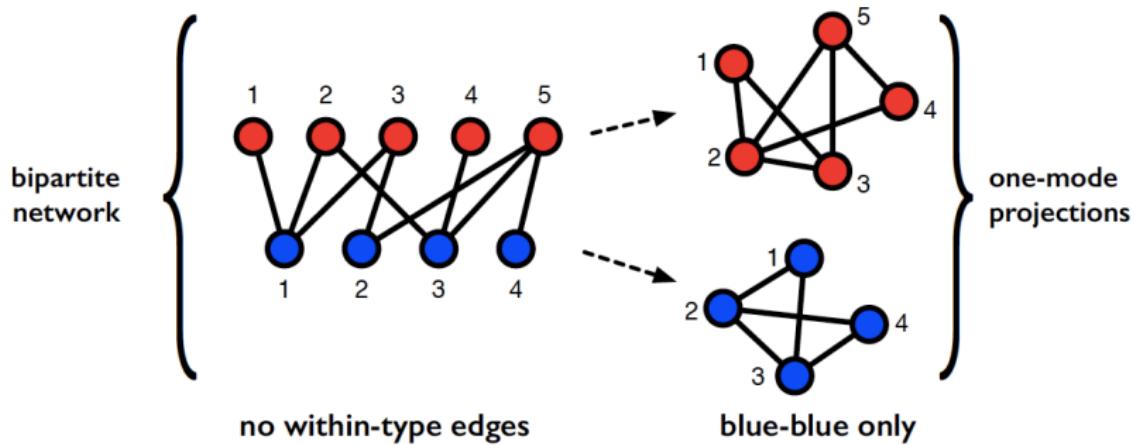
genes & substrings

words & documents

plants & pollinators

## Graph theory for network science: a bipartite graph

37



authors & papers

actors & movies/scenes

musicians & albums

people & online groups

people & corporate boards

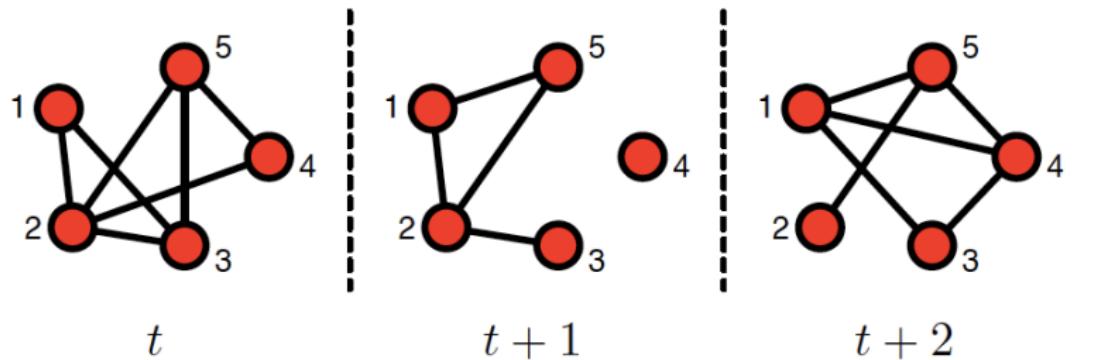
people & locations (checkins)

metabolites & reactions

genes & substrings

words & documents

plants & pollinators



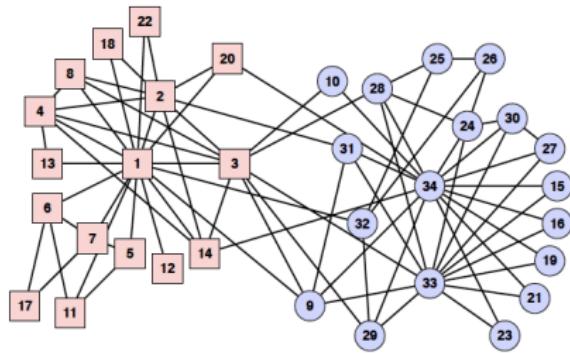
**any network over time**

discrete time (snapshots), edges  $(i, j, t)$

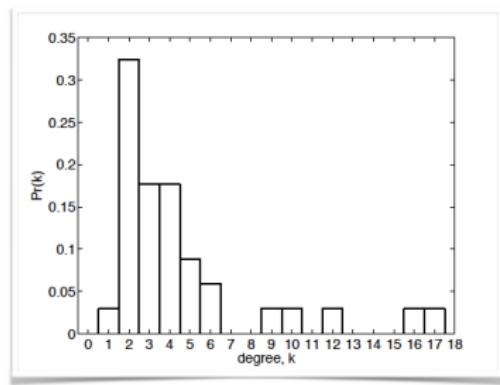
continuous time, edges  $(i, j, t_s, \Delta t)$

# Graph theory for network science: a bigger graph

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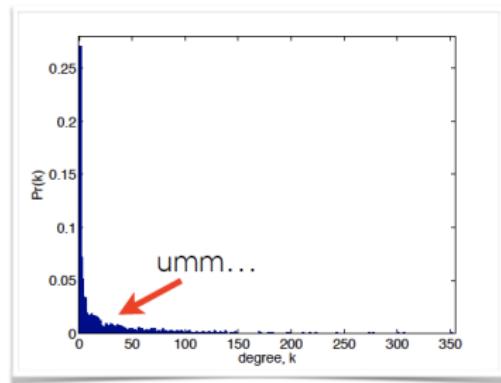
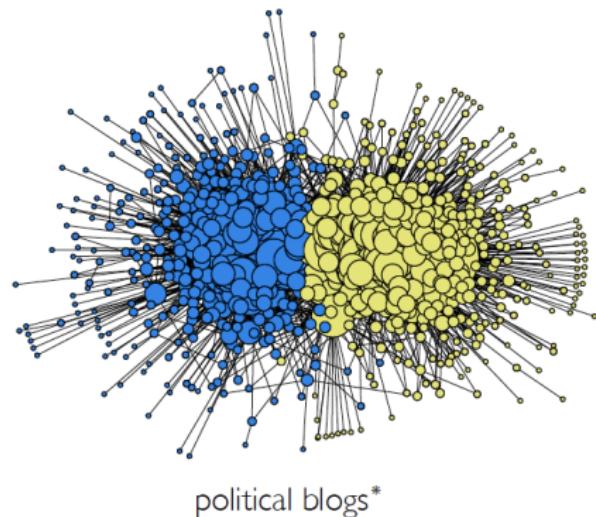
Zachary karate club



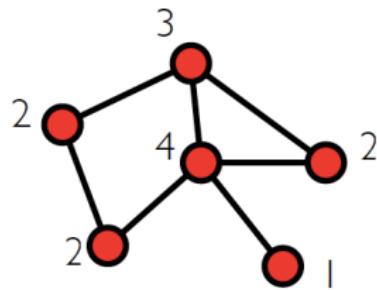
Zachary, J. Anthropological Research 33, 452–473 (1977).

# Graph theory for network science: a huge graph

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Adamic and Glance, WWW Workshop on the Weblogging Ecosystem (2005)  
Karer and Newman, Physical Review E 83, 016107 (2010)



**degree:**  
number of connections  $k$

$$k_i = \sum_j A_{ij}$$

**when does node  
degree matter?**

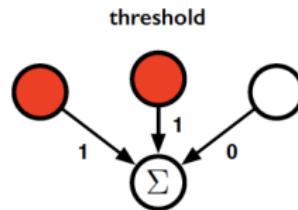
## spreading processes on networks

biological (diseases)

- SIS and SIR models

social (information)

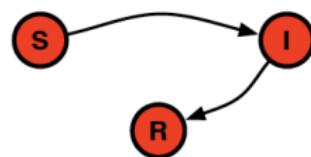
- SIS, SIR models
- threshold models



Susceptible-Infected-Susceptible



Susceptible-Infected-Recovered



## **Chains of Affection: The Structure of Adolescent Romantic and Sexual Networks**

2004

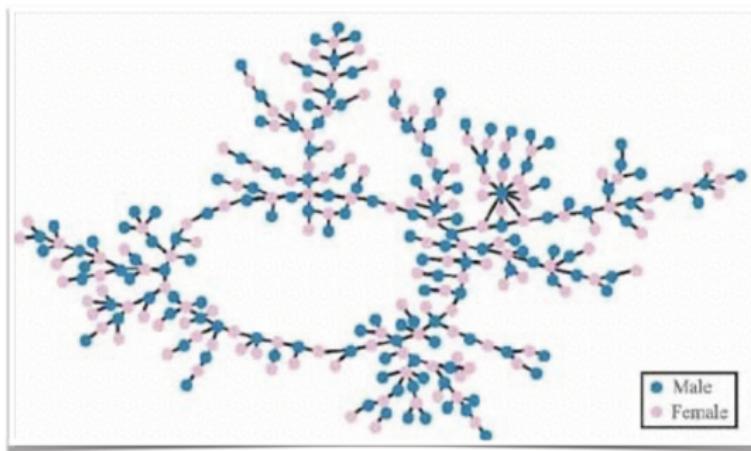
Peter S. Bearman

James Moody

Katherine Stovel

*Columbia University Ohio State University University of Washington*

- relationship network in "Jefferson High"
- this subgraph is 52% of school
- who are most important disease spreaders?



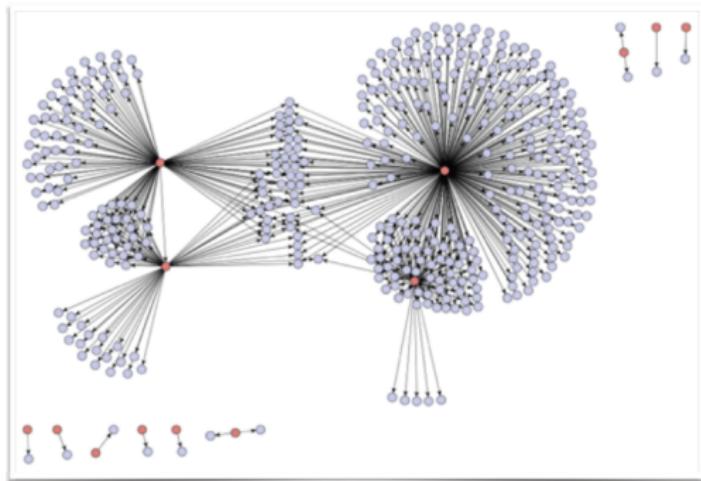
Bearman, et al., Amer. J. Sociology 110, 44–91 (2004)

## The Dynamics of Viral Marketing

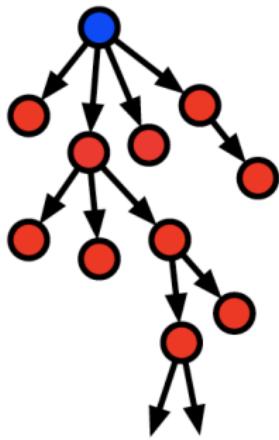
2007

JURE LESKOVEC LADA A. ADAMIC BERNARDO A. HUBERMAN

- amazon.com viral marketing
- viral trace for “Oh my Goddess!” community
- very high degrees!
- most attempts to “influence” fail



Leskovec et al., ACM Trans. on the Web 1, article 5 (2007)



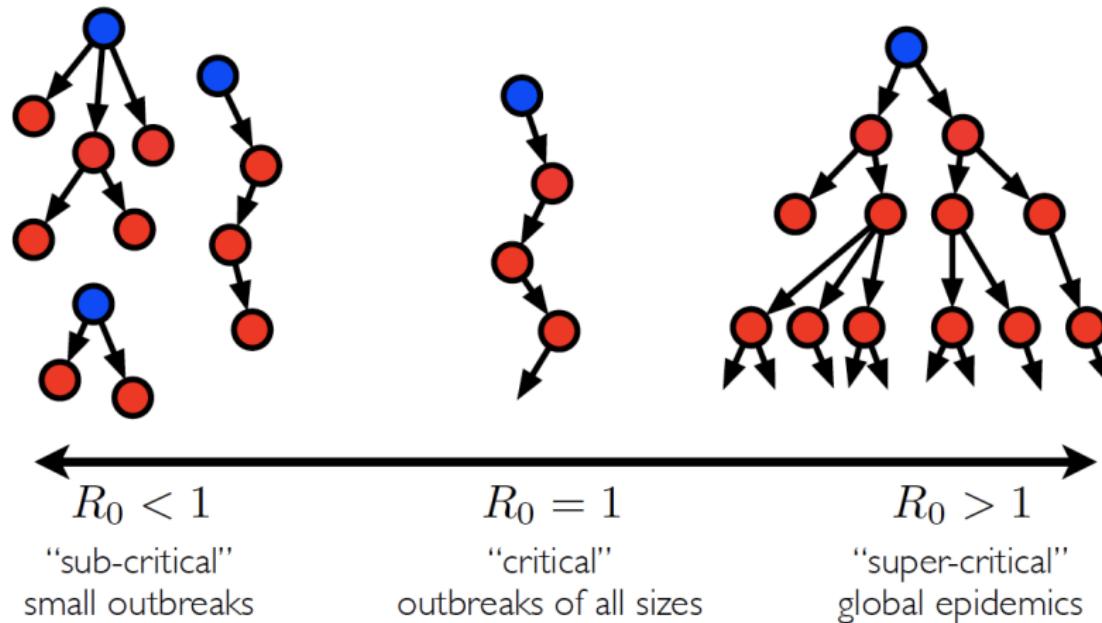
$$R_0 = 0.923 \dots$$

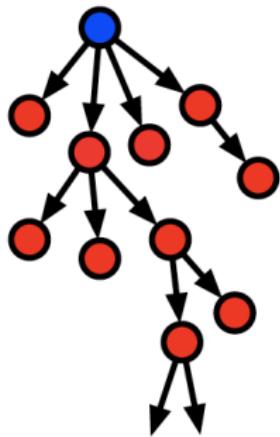
cascade  
epidemic  
branching process  
spreading process

$R_0$  = net reproductive rate  
= average degree  $\langle k \rangle$

**caveat:**

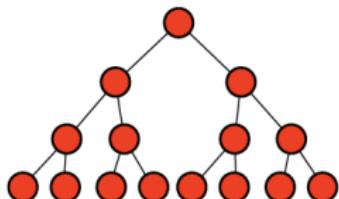
ignores network structure,  
dynamics, etc.





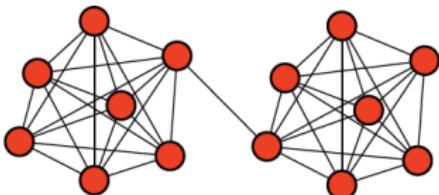
disease	R0	vaccination minimum
Measles	5-18	90-95%
Chicken pox	7-12	85-90%
Polio	5-7	82-87%
Smallpox	1.5-20+	70-80%
HINI influenza	1.0-3.0	

all super-critical



## bigger cascades

- low overlap among neighbors
- more expander-like
- higher transmission probability
- lower activation threshold



## smaller cascades

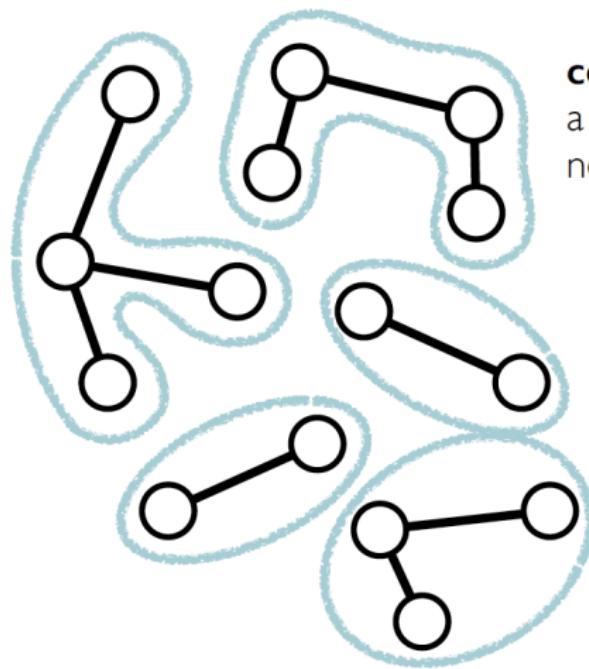
- larger overlap among neighbors
- more triangles
- smaller "communities"
- more spatial-like organization
- lower transmission probability
- higher activation threshold

Volz, J. Math. Bio. **56**, 293–310 (2008)

Bansal et al., J. Royal Soc. Interface **4**, 879–891 (2007)

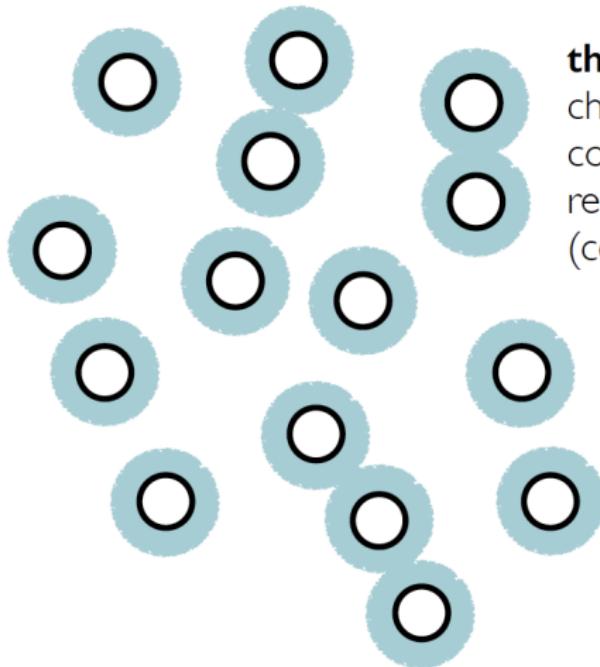
Karrer and Newman, Phys. Rev. E **82**, 016101 (2010)

Salathe and Jones, PLoS Comp. Bio. **6**, e1000736 (2010)

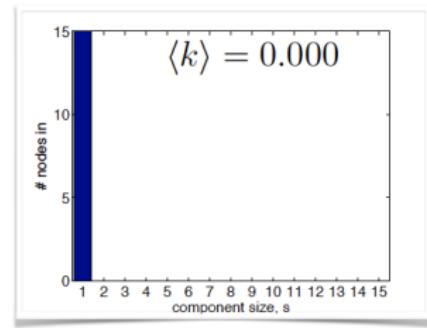


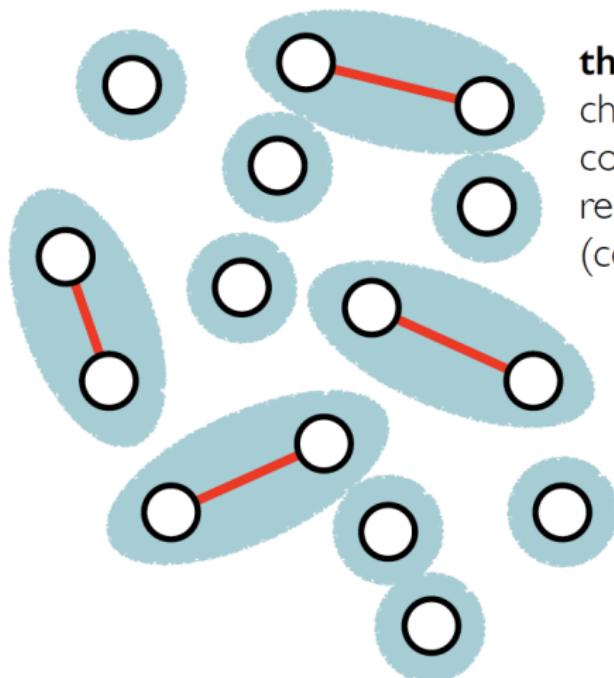
**component:**

a group of connected  
nodes

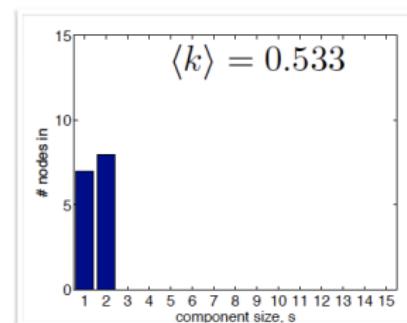


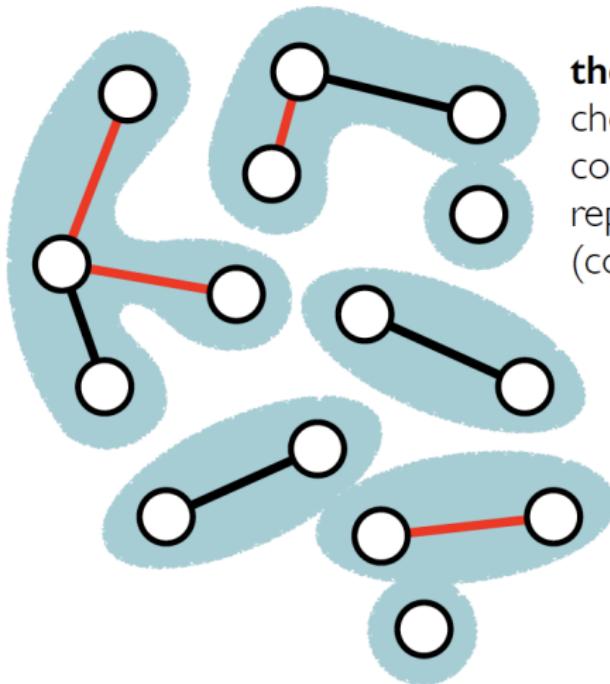
**the percolation game:**  
choose X random pairs  
connect them  
repeat  
(count components)



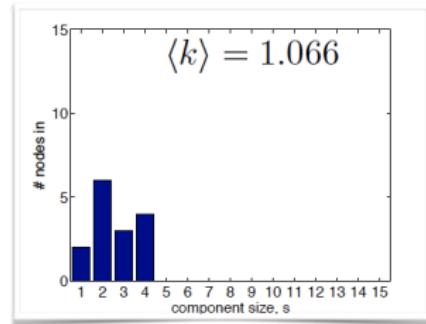


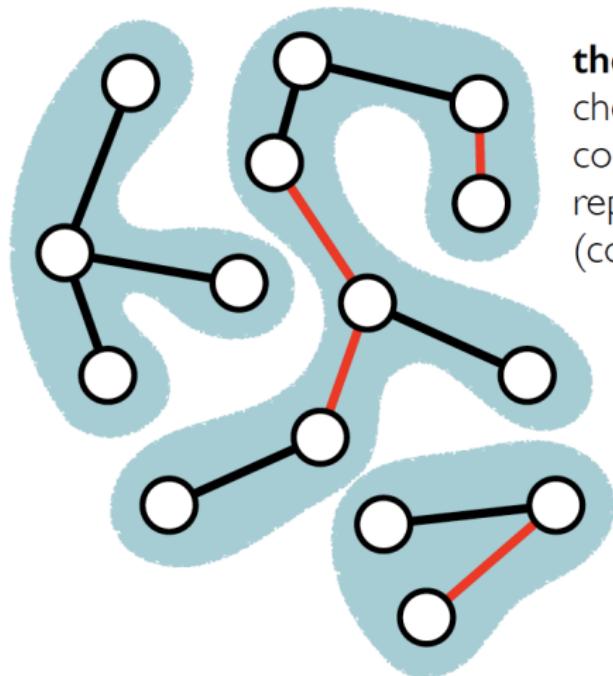
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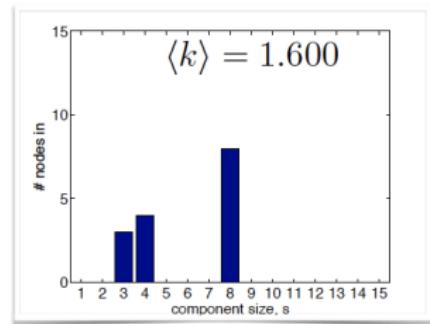


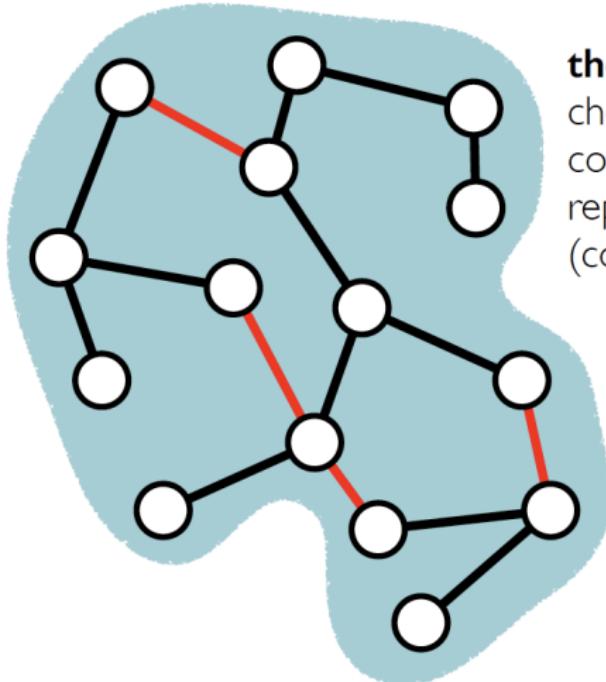
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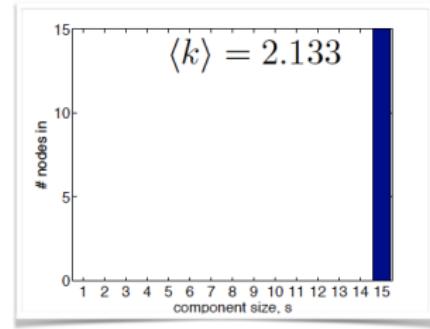


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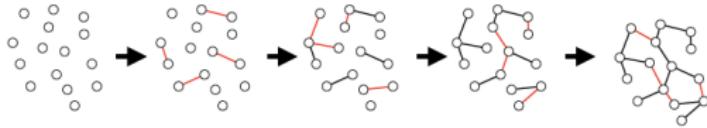
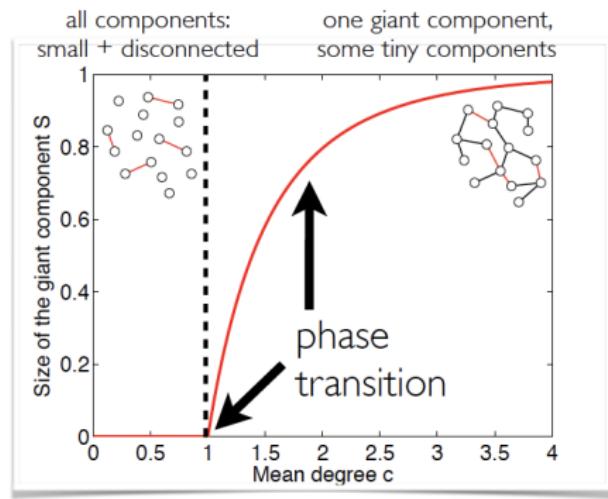




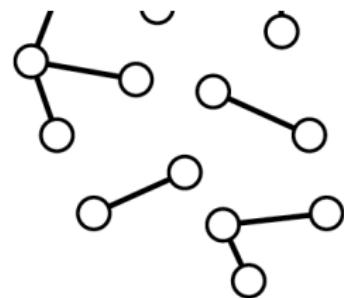
**the percolation game:**  
choose X random pairs  
connect them  
repeat  
(count components)



- add edges randomly
- at first, components are small and disconnected
- at critical value, these components begin linking
- beyond, all nodes in single “giant” component



- component = connected group
- component dynamics are independent (no information flow)
- *phase transition in global connectivity:* from smoothly increasing **mean degree**

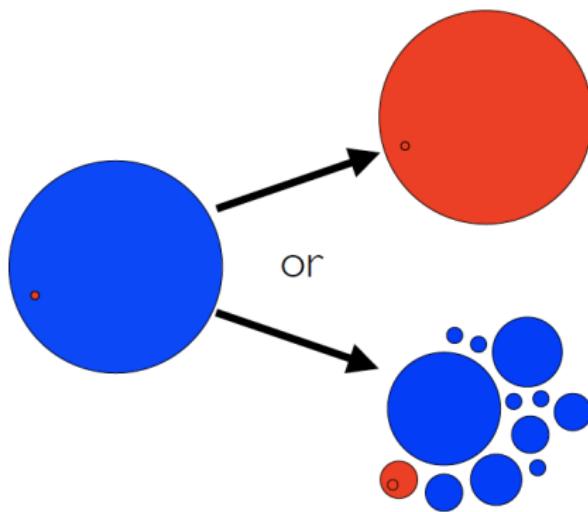


### open questions:

- other network properties + phase transitions
- adaptive wiring
- local vs. global connectivity rules

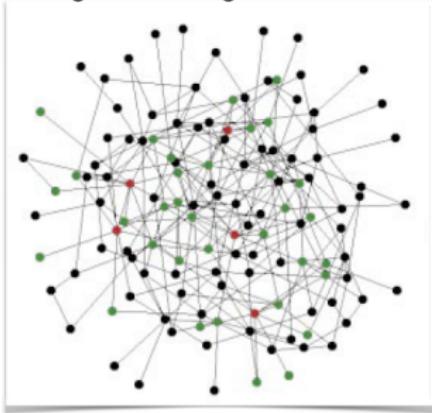
## how could we halt the spread?

- break network into disconnected pieces



## two networks

homogeneous in degree



## Error and attack tolerance of complex networks

Réka Albert, Hawoong Jeong & Albert-László Barabási

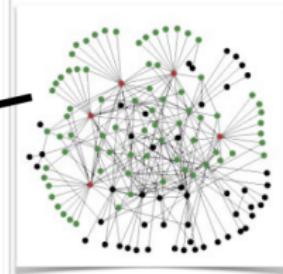
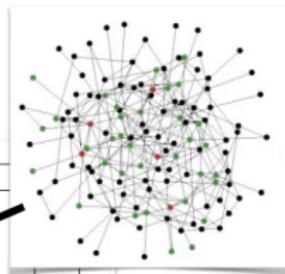
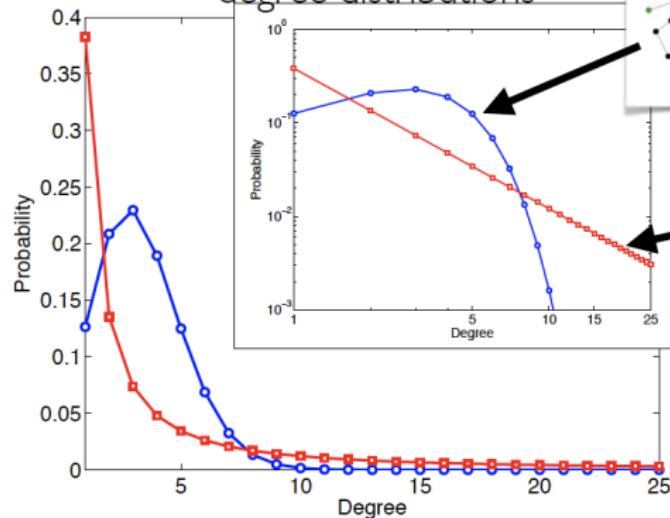
2000

heterogeneous in degree



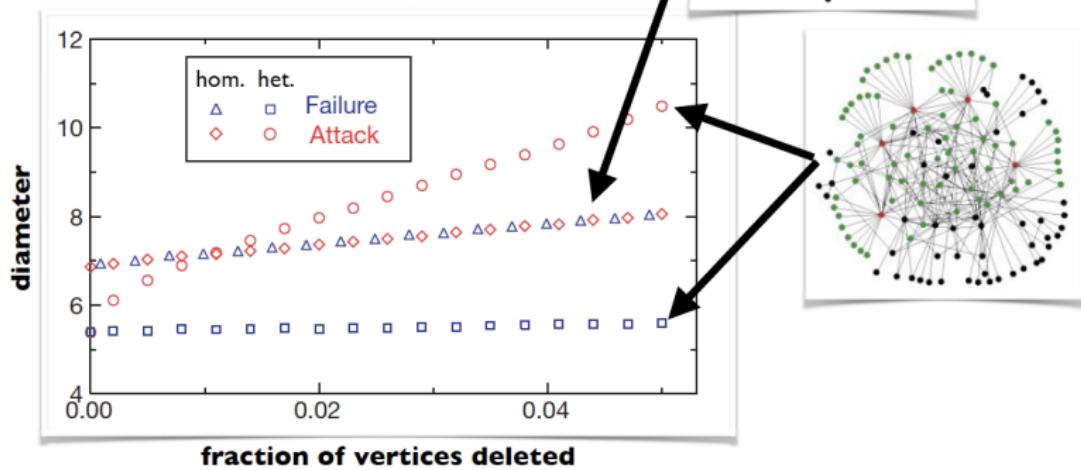
two networks

degree distributions



## strategy: delete vertices

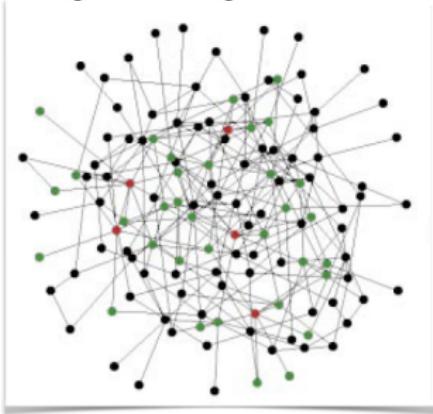
1. uniformly at random ("failure")
2. in order of degree ("attack")



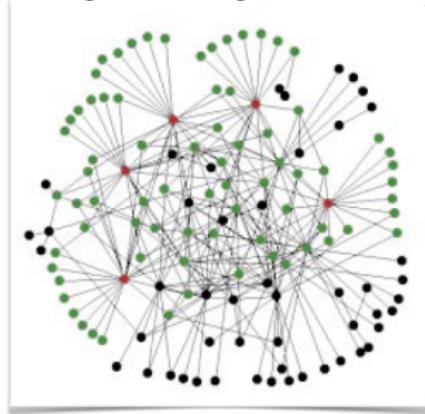
## what promotes spreading?

- high-degree vertices\*
- centrally-located vertices

homogeneous in degree



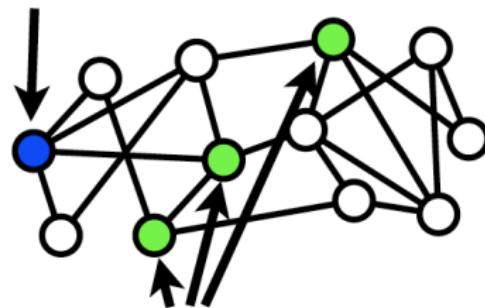
heterogeneous in degree



### strategy: delete vertices

3. build “fire breaks”

patient 0



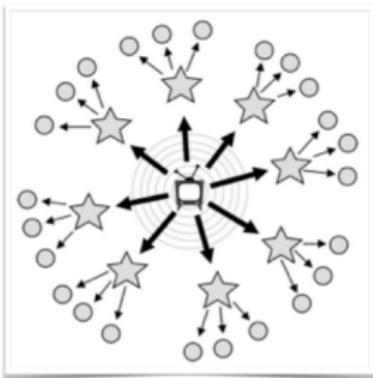
**vaccinated = deleted**  
("fire break")

**but, in social networks...**

## Influentials, Networks, and Public Opinion Formation

DUNCAN J. WATTS  
PETER SHERIDAN DODDS\*

2007



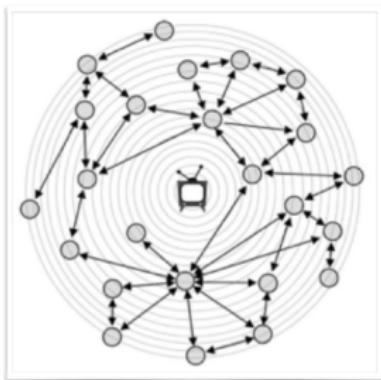
broadcast influence

- classic information marketing
- message saturation
- **degree** is most important

## Influentials, Networks, and Public Opinion Formation

DUNCAN J. WATTS  
PETER SHERIDAN DODDS\*

2007

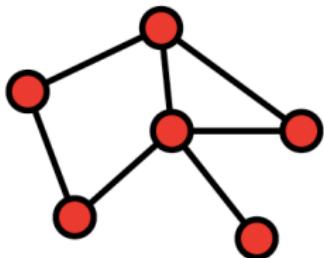


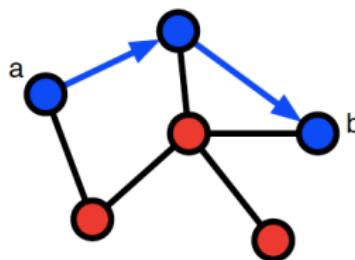
network influence

- “network” (decentralized) marketing
- high-degree = “opinion leader”
- high-degree alone = **irrelevant**
- a cascade requires a legion of **susceptibles** (a system-level property)

how to start a **social movement?**

path

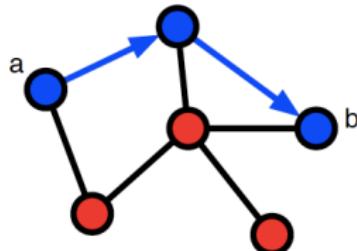




**path:**

number of “hops”  
between two nodes

$$\ell_{a \rightarrow b} = 2$$

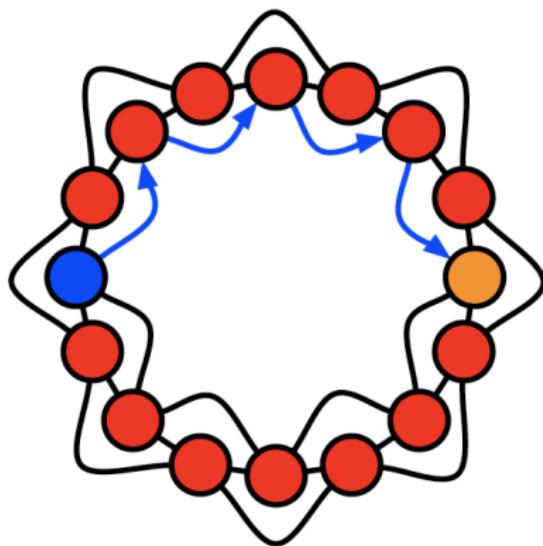


**path:**

number of "hops"  
between two nodes

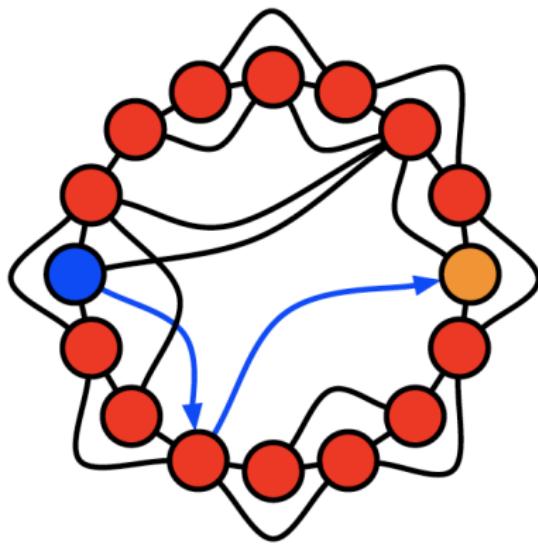
$$\ell_{a \rightarrow b} = 2$$

**the longer the path,  
the weaker the coupling**



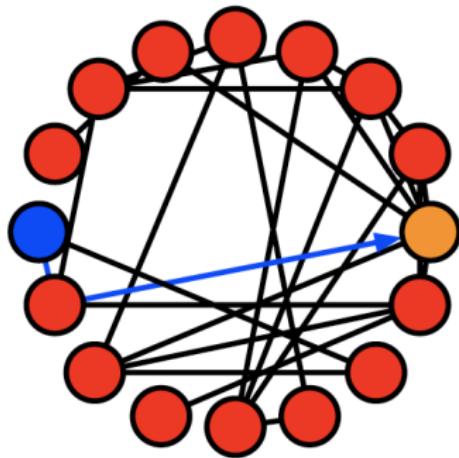
**all links “local”**

- most nodes far away
- high “clustering”



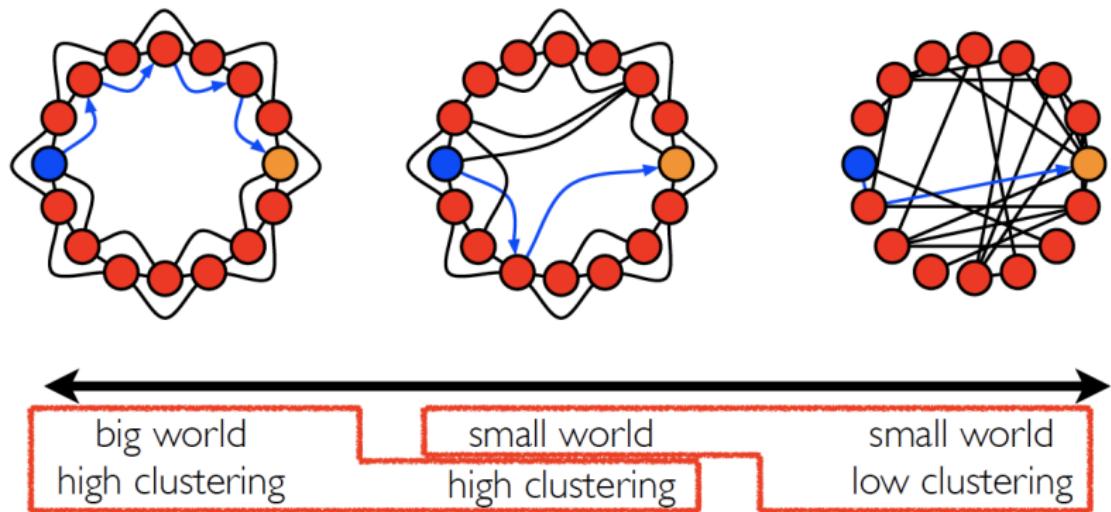
**most links “local”  
some links random**

- most nodes near
- high “clustering”
- short paths can be found



### all links random

- Erdos-Renyi graph
- most nodes near
- short paths hard to find
- no “clustering”



## Geographic routing in social networks

2005

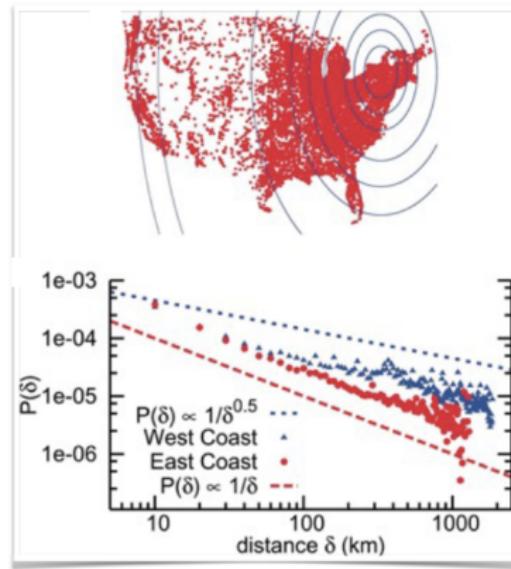
David Liben-Nowell<sup>\*†‡§</sup>, Jasmine Novak<sup>†</sup>, Ravi Kumar<sup>†¶</sup>, Prabhakar Raghavan<sup>†||</sup>, and Andrew Tomkins<sup>†¶</sup>



**LIVEJOURNAL™**

495,836 geo-located users

- most links “local”
- remaining links span all scales
- high clustering
- small “diameter”

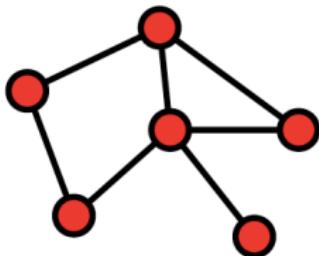


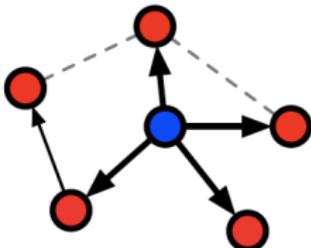
- path = sequence of edges  $a \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow b$
- path length related to coupling strength
- many short paths = global coupling
- social networks have short paths and many loops
- *nearly all* networks are "small world"

### **open questions:**

- what processes shrink big / grow small worlds?
- social information filtering

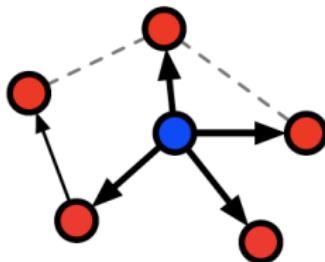
**position**





**position = centrality:**  
measure of positional  
“importance”

geometric connectivity	harmonic centrality
	closeness centrality
	betweenness centrality
	degree centrality
	eigenvector centrality
	PageRank
	Katz centrality
	many many more...



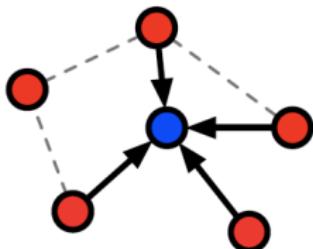
**position = centrality:**  
harmonic, closeness  
centrality

importance = being in  
“center” of the network

$$\text{harmonic } c_i = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{1}{d_{ij}}$$

length of shortest path

distance:  $d_{ij} = \begin{cases} \ell_{ij} & \text{if } j \text{ reachable from } i \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$



### position = centrality:

PageRank, Katz, eigenvector  
centrality

importance = sum of  
importances\* of nodes that  
point at you

$$I_i = \sum_{j \rightarrow i} \frac{I_j}{k_j}$$

or; the left eigenvector of  
 $\mathbf{Ax} = \lambda \mathbf{x}$

## an example



Giovanni de Medici

## Robust Action and the Rise of the Medici, 1400–1434<sup>1</sup>

John F. Padgett and Christopher K. Ansell

1993



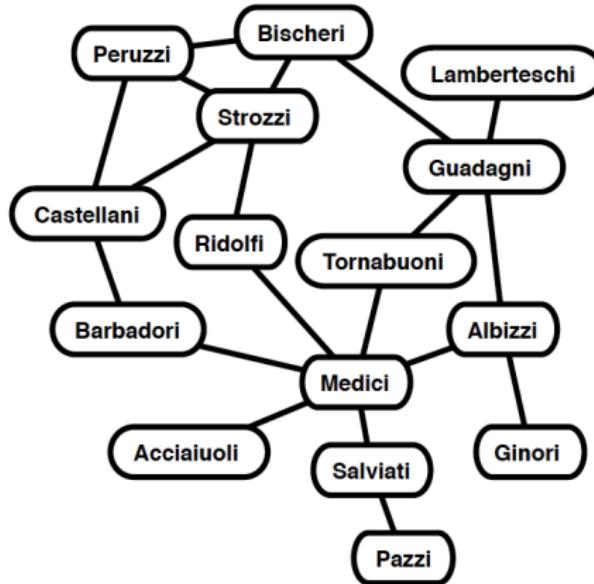
Duomo



Palazzo Medici



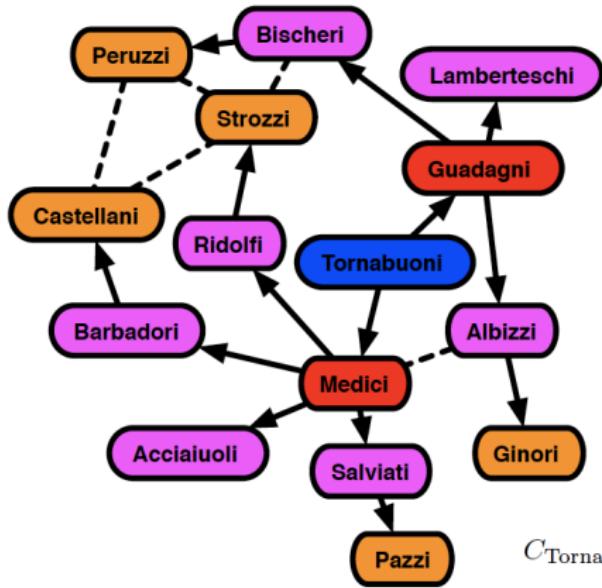
Giovanni de Medici



**nodes:** Florence families

**edges:** inter-family marriages

**which family is  
most central?**

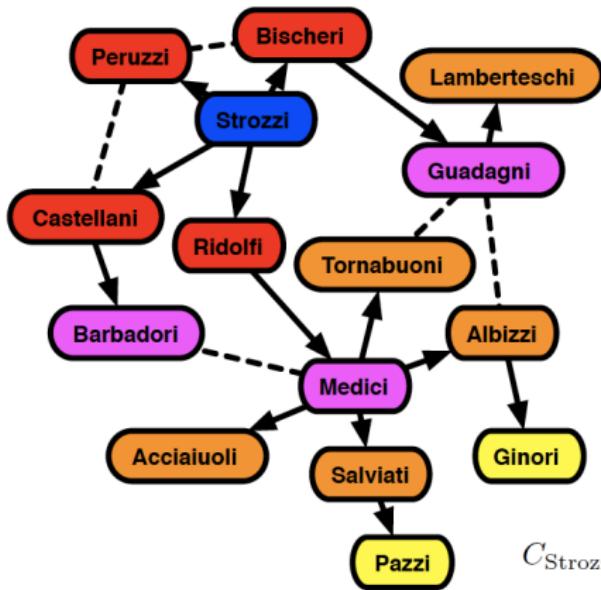


**nodes:** Florence families

**edges:** inter-family marriages

Tornabuoni?

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\text{Tornabuoni}} &= 2 \left( \frac{1}{1} \right) + 7 \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) + 5 \left( \frac{1}{3} \right) \\ &= 7.16\dots \end{aligned}$$

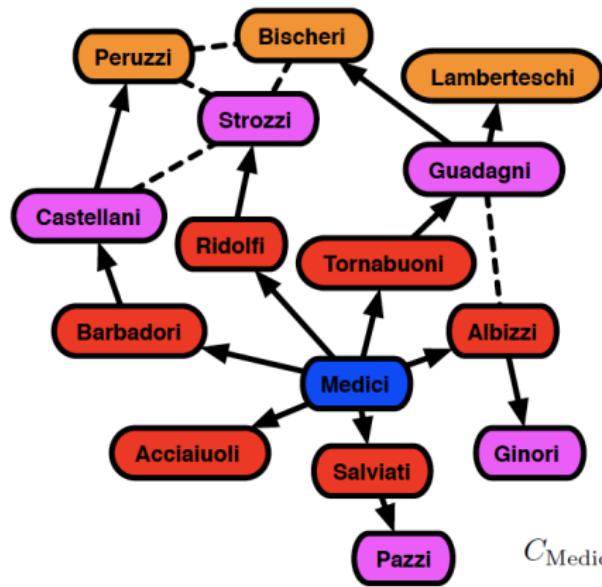


**nodes:** Florence families

**edges:** inter-family marriages

## Strozzi?

$$C_{\text{Strozzi}} = 4 \left( \frac{1}{1} \right) + 3 \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) + 5 \left( \frac{1}{3} \right) + 2 \left( \frac{1}{4} \right) \\ \equiv 7.6\dots$$

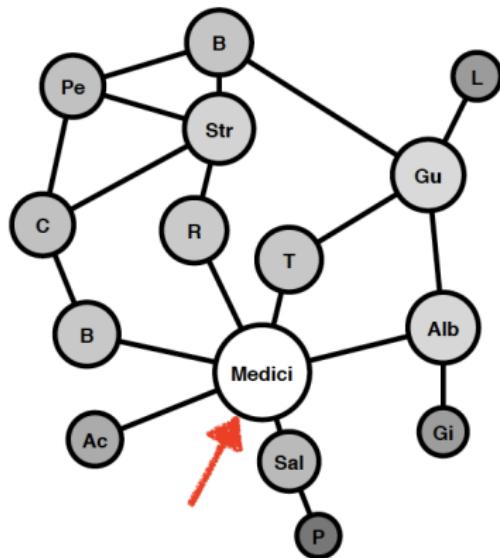


**nodes:** Florence families

**edges:** inter-family marriages

**Medici.**

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\text{Medici}} &= 6 \left( \frac{1}{1} \right) + 5 \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) + 3 \left( \frac{1}{3} \right) \\ &= 9.5 \end{aligned}$$



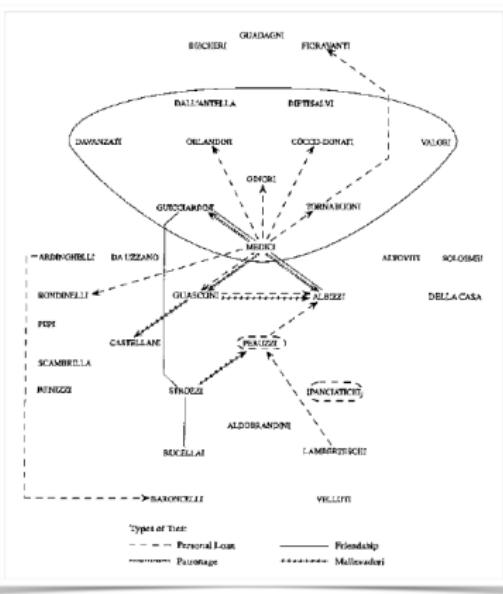
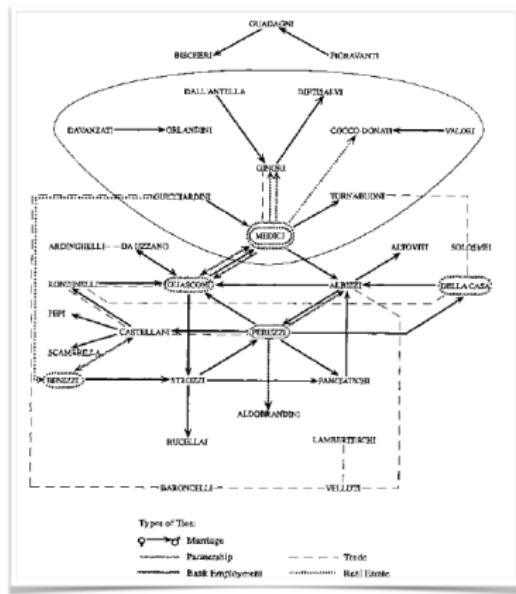
Medici	9.5
Guadagni	7.92
Albizzi	7.83
Strozzi	7.67
Ridolfi	7.25
Bischeri	7.2
Tornabuoni	7.17
Barbadori	7.08
Peruzzi	6.87
Castellani	6.87
Salviati	6.58
Acciaiuoli	5.92
Ginori	5.33
Lamberteschi	5.28
Pazzi	4.77

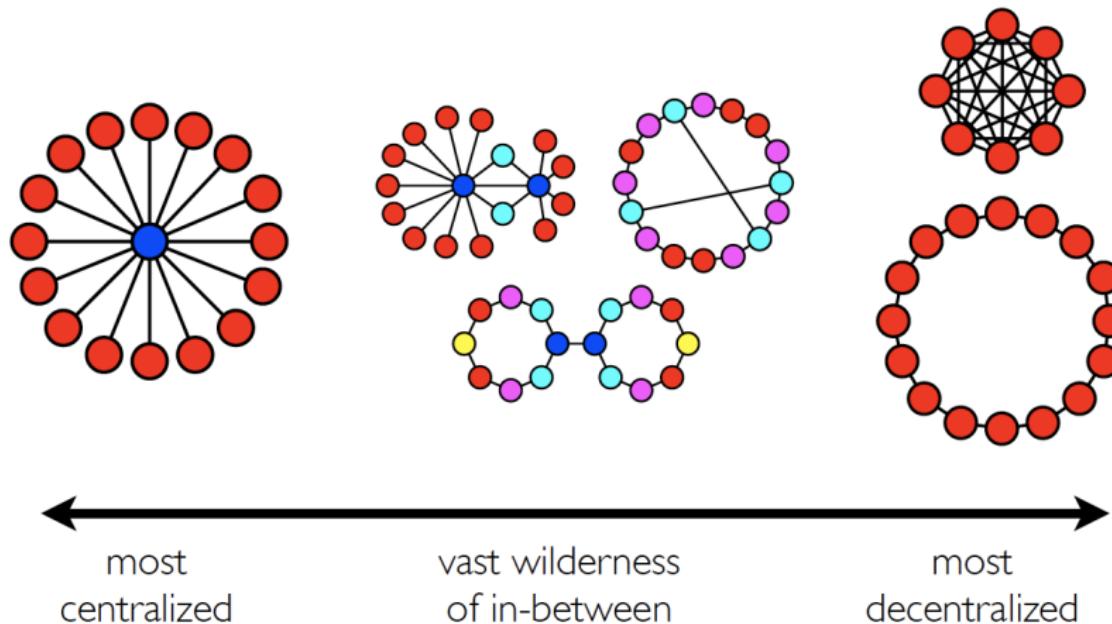


# Graph theory for network science: an importance & position example

87

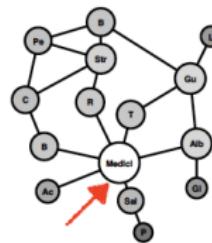
actually, it's complicated...





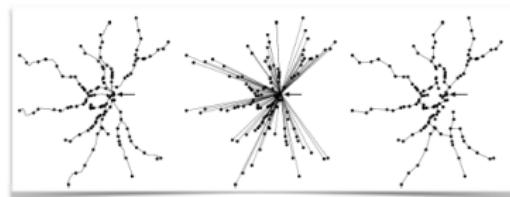
## positions:

- geometric description of network structure
- core vs. periphery
- centrality = importance, influence

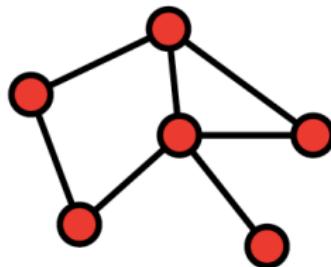


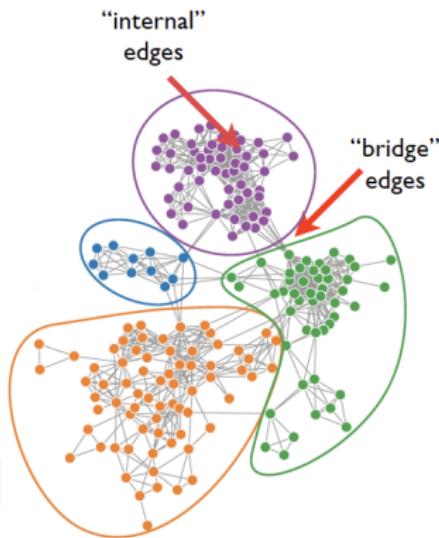
## open questions:

- position and dynamics
- what does position predict?
- when does position *not* matter?



## community structure

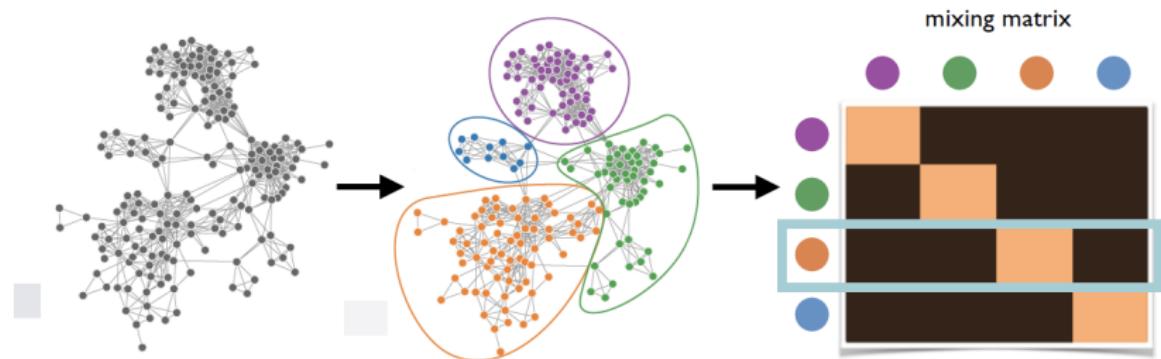




**community structure:**  
a group of vertices that  
connect to other groups  
in similar ways

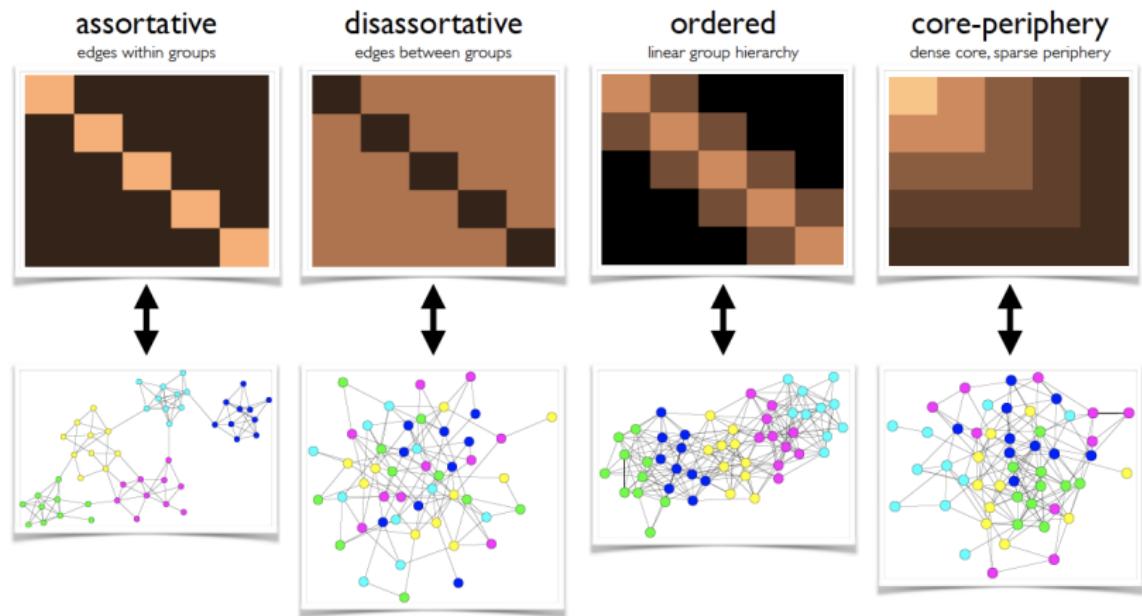
assortative community structure  
(edges inside the groups)

**community structure:**  
a group of vertices that  
connect to other groups  
in similar ways



## Graph theory for network science: community types

93



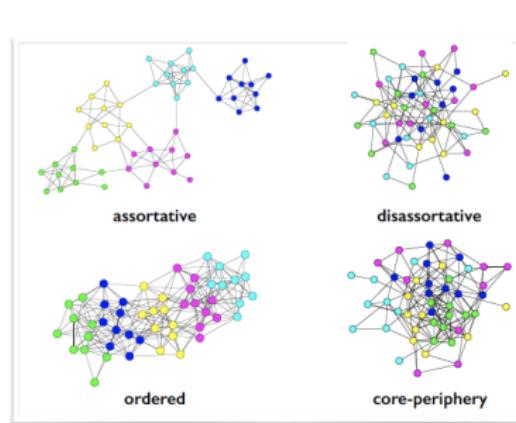
- enormous interest, especially since 2000
- dozens of algorithms for extracting various large-scale patterns
- hundreds of papers published
- spanning Physics, Computer Science, Statistics, Biology, Sociology, and more
- this was one of the first:

## Community structure in social and biological networks

M. Girvan<sup>\*†‡</sup> and M. E. J. Newman<sup>\*</sup>

PNAS 2002

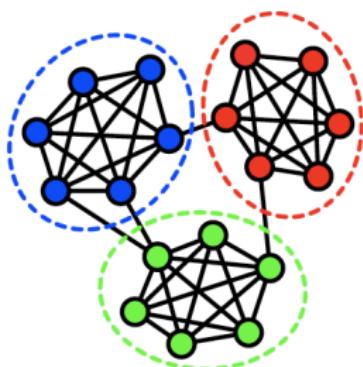
7200+ citations on Google Scholar



## THE STRENGTH OF WEAK TIES: A NETWORK THEORY REVISITED

1983

*Mark Granovetter*



most new job opportunities from  
“weak ties”

- within-community links = strong
- bridge links = weak

**why?**

information propagates  
quickly *within* a community, but  
slowly *between* communities

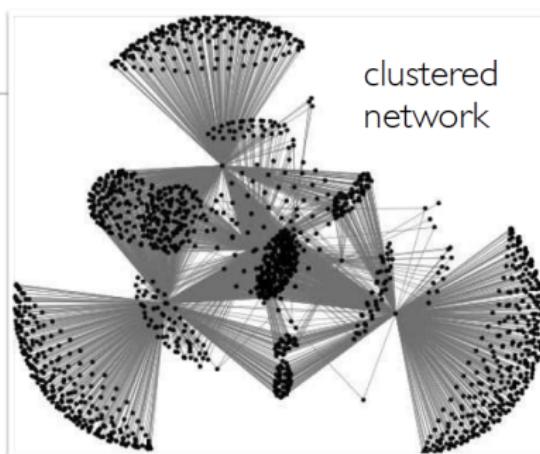
Granovetter, Amer. J. Sociology 78, 1360-1380 (1973)  
Granovetter, Sociological Theory 1, 201-233 (1983)

# Graph theory for network science: communities carry information

96

Rank	Size	Description
1	114538	General interest: politics; art/literature; general fiction; human nature; technical books; how things, people, computers, societies work, etc.
2	92276	The arts: videos, books, DVDs about the creative and performing arts
3	78661	Hobbies and interests I: self-help; self-education; popular science fiction, popular fantasy; leisure; etc.
4	54582	Hobbies and interests II: adventure books; video games/comics; some sports; some humor; some classic fiction; some western religious material; etc.
5	9872	classical music and related items
6	1904	children's videos, movies, music and books
7	1493	church/religious music; African-descent cultural books; homoerotic imagery
8	1101	pop horror; mystery/adventure fiction
9	1083	jazz; orchestral music; easy listening
10	947	engineering; practical fashion

purchases = interests  
interests = clustered

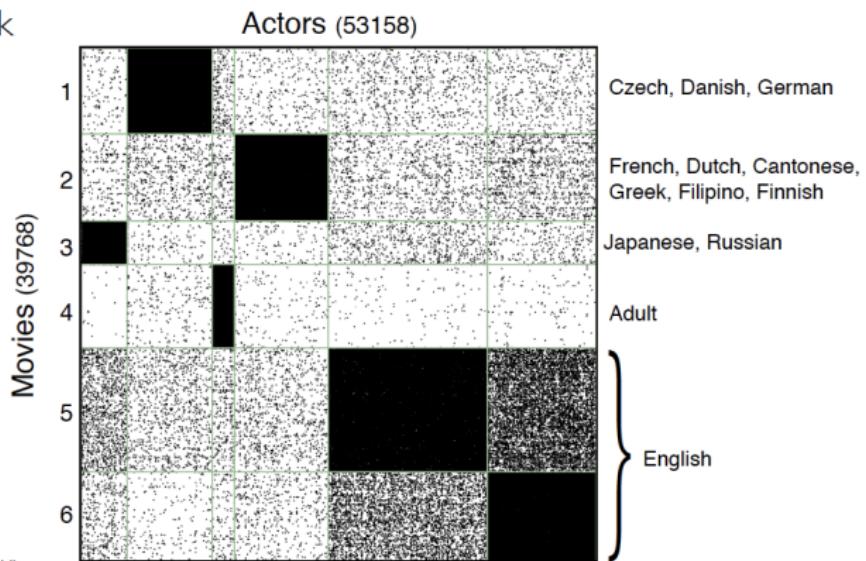


Clauset et al., Physical Review E 70, 066111 (2004)

## Efficiently inferring community structure in bipartite networks

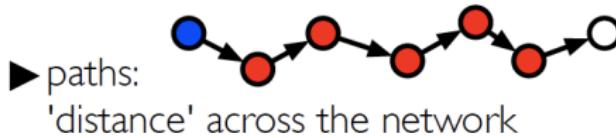
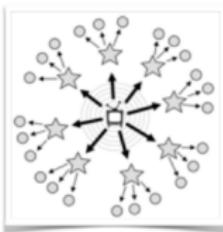
Daniel B. Larremore,<sup>1,2</sup> Aaron Clauset,<sup>3,4,5</sup> and Abigail Z. Jacobs<sup>3</sup> 2014

IMDB actor-movie  
bipartite network

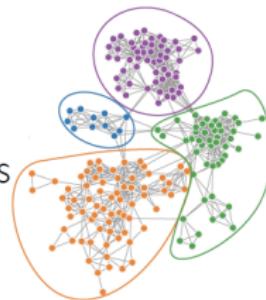


Larremore et al., *Physical Review E* **90**, 102805 (2014)

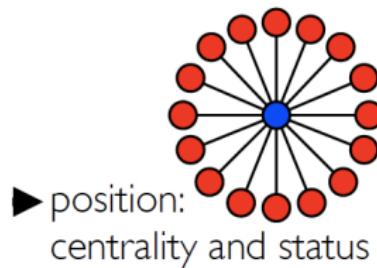
- *community = vertices with same pattern of inter-community connections*
- network macro-structure
- finding them like “network clustering”
- allow us to *coarse grain* system structure  
[decompose heterogeneous structure into homogeneous blocks]
- constrains network synchronization,  
information flows, diffusion, influence



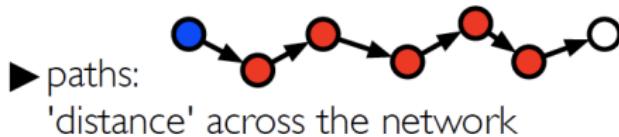
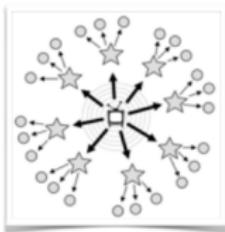
► node degree:  
individual connectivity



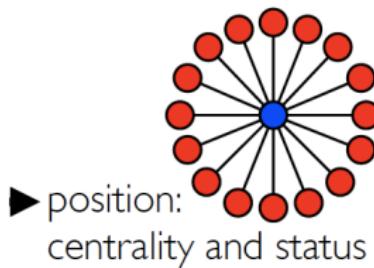
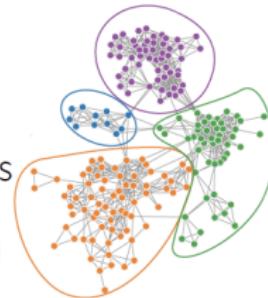
► communities  
and groups



► many others...



► node degree:  
individual connectivity



► communities  
and groups

► many others...

### Books:

- ▶ Newman: Sections 2-5

### Other references:

- ▶ The Small-World Problem. Stanley Milgram. Psychology Today, Vol 1, No 1, pp 61-67, 1967
- ▶ An Experimental Study of the Small World Problem. J. Travers and S. Milgram. . Sociometry, vol 32, No 4, pp 425-433, 1969
- ▶ Planetary-Scale Views on a Large Instant-Messaging Network. J. Leskovec and E. Horvitz. , Procs WWW 2008
- ▶ Four Degrees of Separation. L. Backstrom, P. Boldi, M. Rosa, J. Ugander, S. Vigna, WebSci '12 Procs. 4th ACM Web Science Conference, 2012 pp 33-42