

Five Lectures on Networks

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 @aaronclauset

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University of Colorado Boulder

External Faculty, Santa Fe Institute

lecture 2: describing network structure & its impact on network flows



University of Colorado **Boulder**

Network Analysis and Modeling

Instructor: Aaron Clauset

This graduate-level course will examine modern techniques for analyzing and modeling the structure and dynamics of complex networks. The focus will be on statistical algorithms and methods, and both lectures and assignments will emphasize model interpretability and understanding the processes that generate real data. Applications will be drawn from computational biology and computational social science. No biological or social science training is required. (Note: this is not a scientific computing course, but there will be plenty of computing for science.)

Full lectures notes online (~150 pages in PDF)

<http://santafe.edu/~aarond/courses/5352/>

Software

[R](#)
[Python](#)
[Matlab](#)
[NetworkX \[python\]](#)
[graph-tool \[python, c++\]](#)
[GraphLab \[python, c++\]](#)

Standalone editors

[UCI-Net](#)
[NodeXL](#)
[Gephi](#)
[Pajek](#)
[Network Workbench](#)
[Cytoscape](#)
[yEd graph editor](#)
[Graphviz](#)

Data sets

[Mark Newman's network data sets](#)
[Stanford Network Analysis Project](#)
[Carnegie Mellon CASOS data sets](#)
[NCEAS food web data sets](#)
[UCI NET data sets](#)
[Pajek data sets](#)
[Linkgroup's list of network data sets](#)
[Barabasi lab data sets](#)
[Jake Hofman's online network data sets](#)
[Alex Arenas's data sets](#)

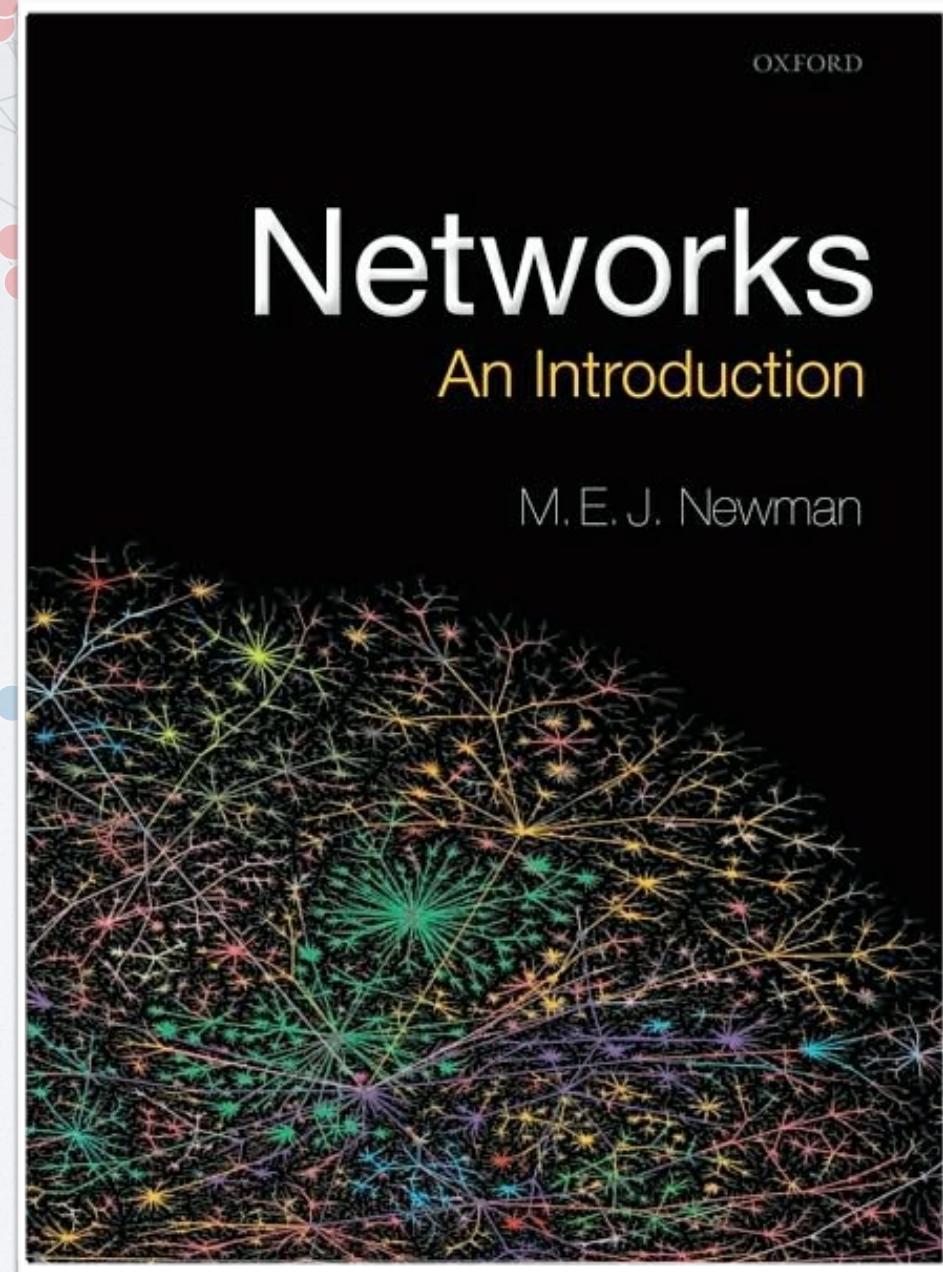


Mark Newman

Professor of Physics
University of Michigan

External Faculty
Santa Fe Institute

<http://www-personal.umich.edu/~mejn/>





Social Network Analysis

Lada Adamic

This course will use social network analysis, both its theory and computational tools, to make sense of the social and information networks that have been fueled and rendered accessible by the internet.

Workload: 5-7 hours/week (8-10 if completing additional programming exercises)



Lada Adamic
University of Michigan

<https://www.coursera.org/course/sna>



Stanford

Social and Economic Networks: Models and Analysis

Matthew O. Jackson

Learn how to model social and economic networks and their impact on human behavior. How do networks form, why do they exhibit certain patterns, and how does their structure impact diffusion, learning, and other behaviors? We will bring together models and techniques from economics, sociology, math, physics, statistics and computer science to answer these questions.

Workload: 3-6 hours/week



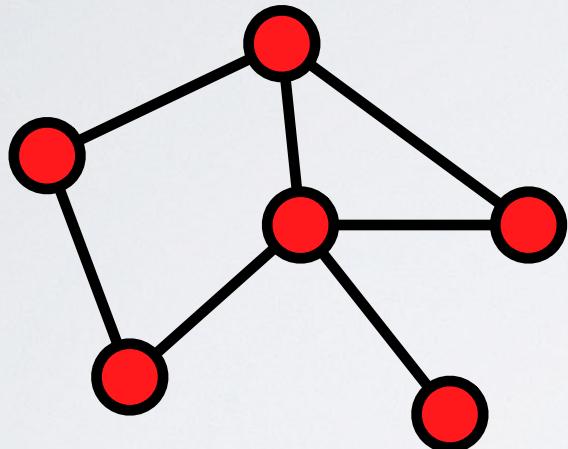
Matthew O. Jackson
Stanford University

<https://www.coursera.org/course/networksonline>

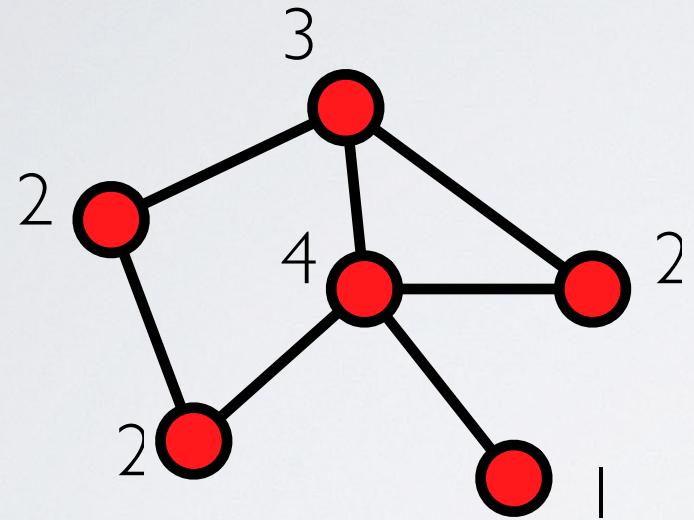
1. defining a network
- 2. describing a network**
3. null models for networks
4. statistical inference

describing networks

degree



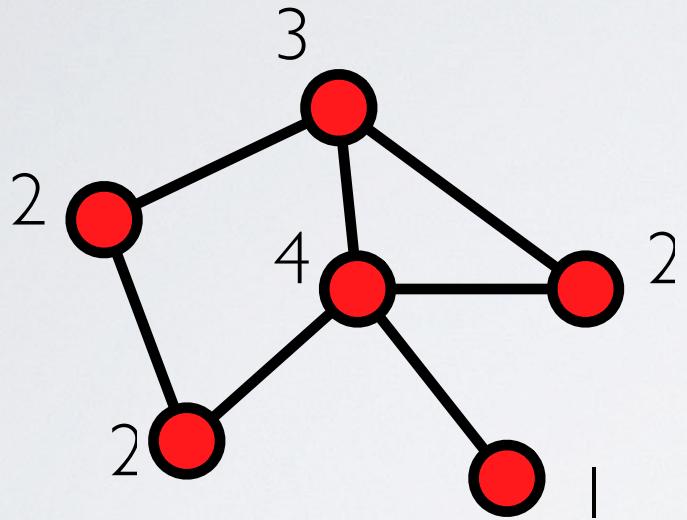
describing networks



degree:
number of connections k

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

describing networks



degree:

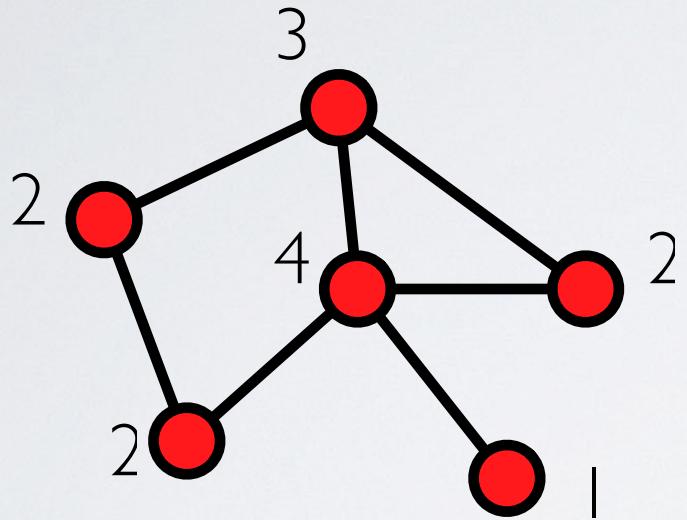
number of connections k

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

number of edges

$$m = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n k_i = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n A_{ji}$$

describing networks



degree:

number of connections k

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

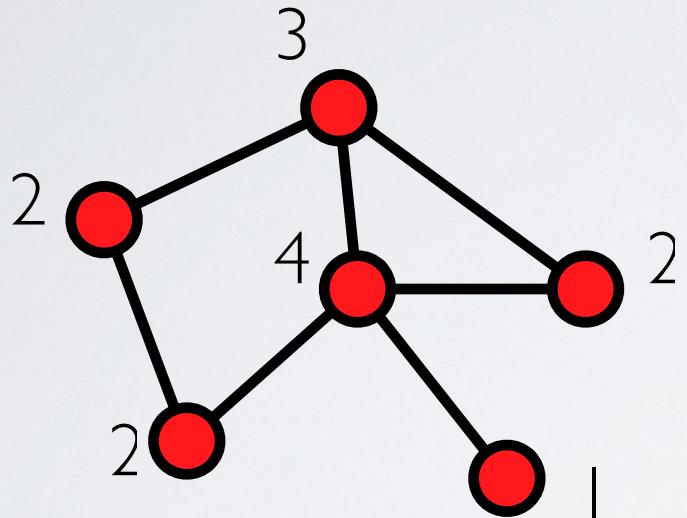
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mean degree

$$\langle k \rangle = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n k_i = \frac{2m}{n}$$

describing networks



degree:

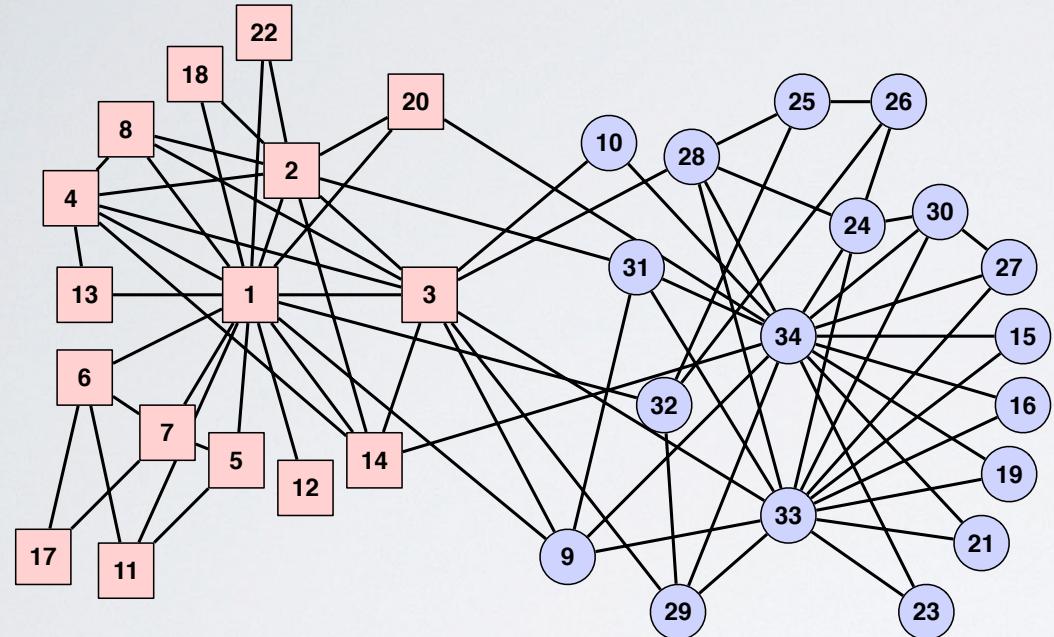
number of connections k

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

degree sequence $\{1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 4\}$

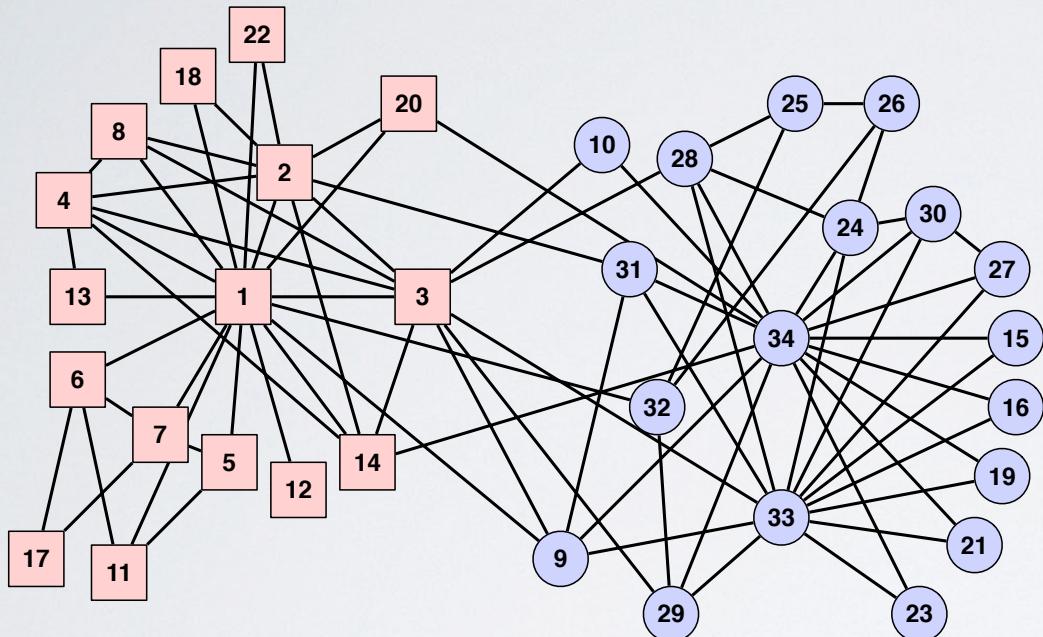
degree distribution $\Pr(k) = \left[\left(1, \frac{1}{6}\right), \left(2, \frac{3}{6}\right), \left(3, \frac{1}{6}\right), \left(4, \frac{1}{6}\right) \right]$

degree distributions

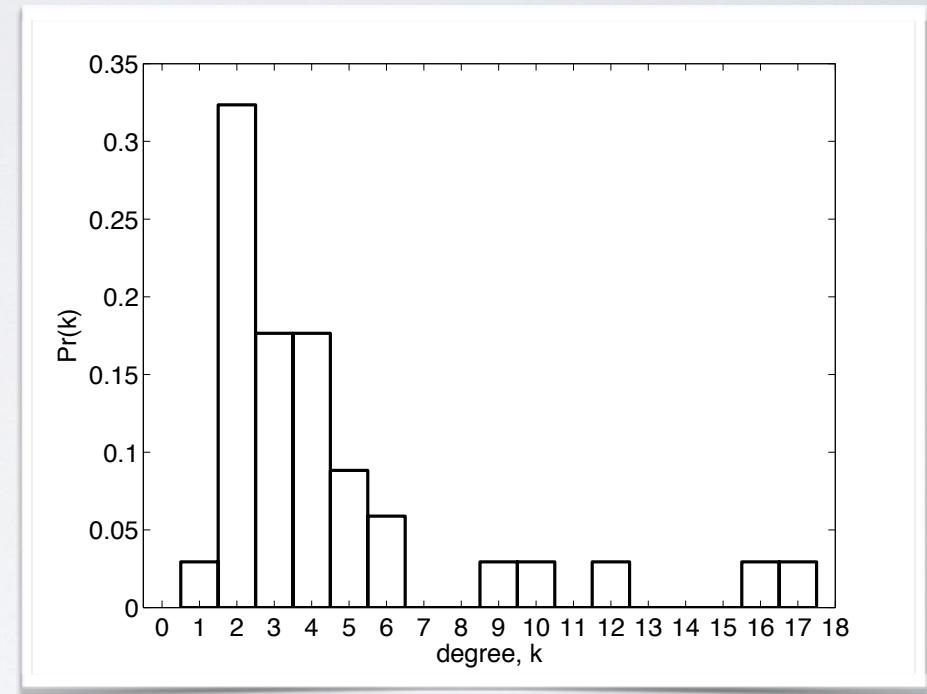


Zachary karate club*

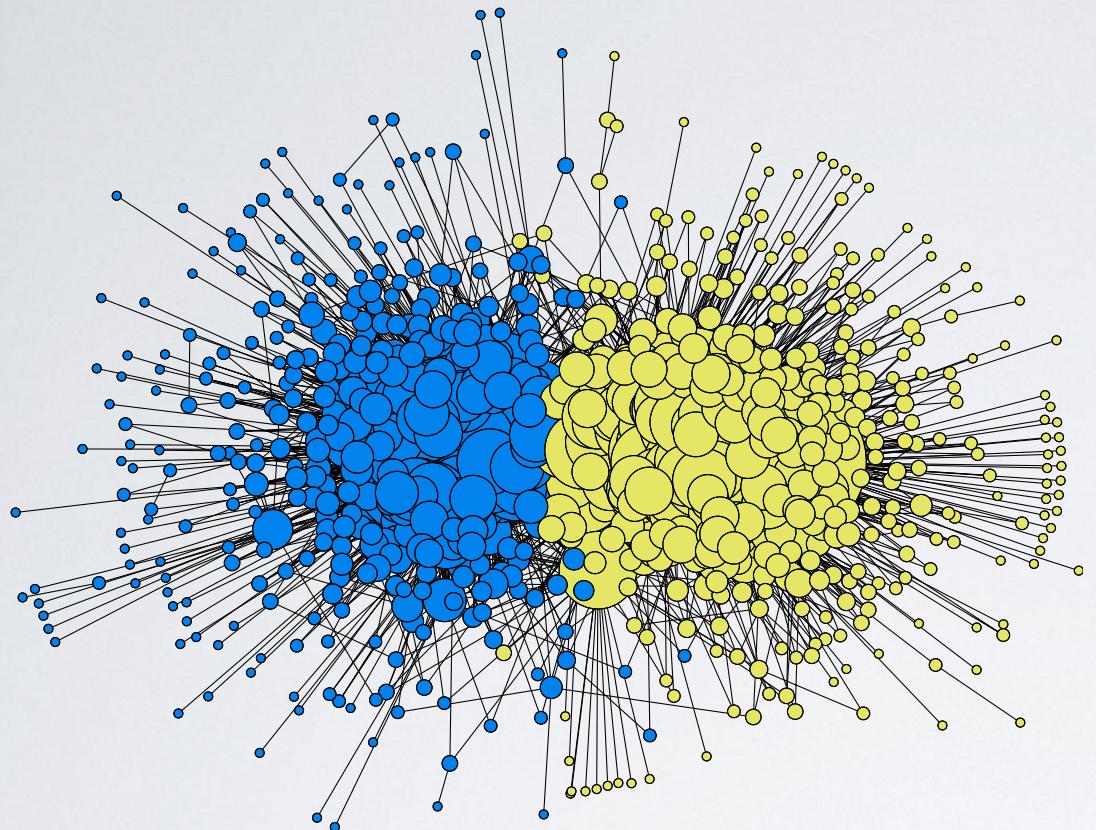
degree distributions



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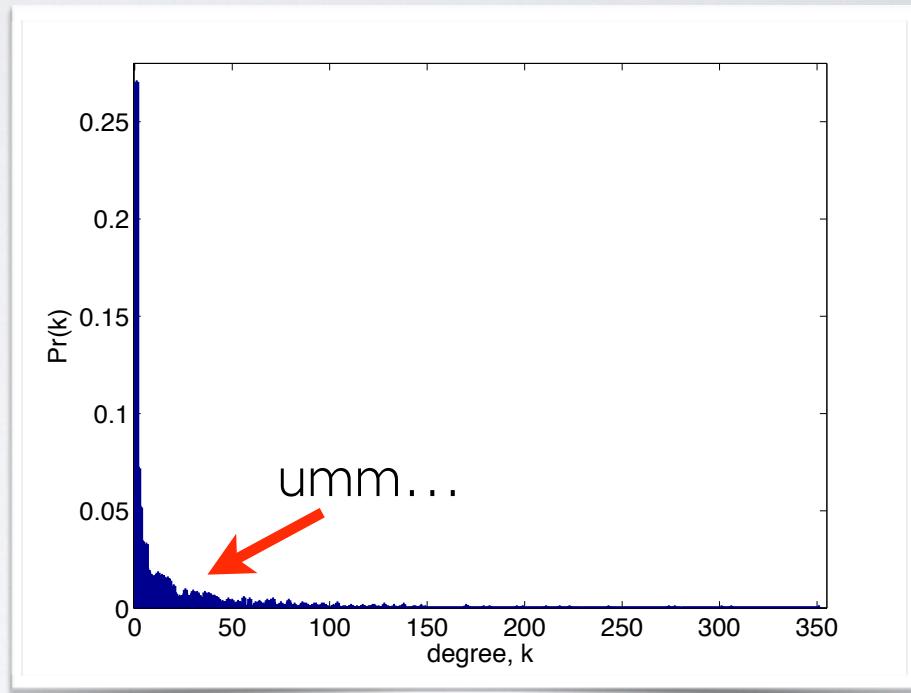
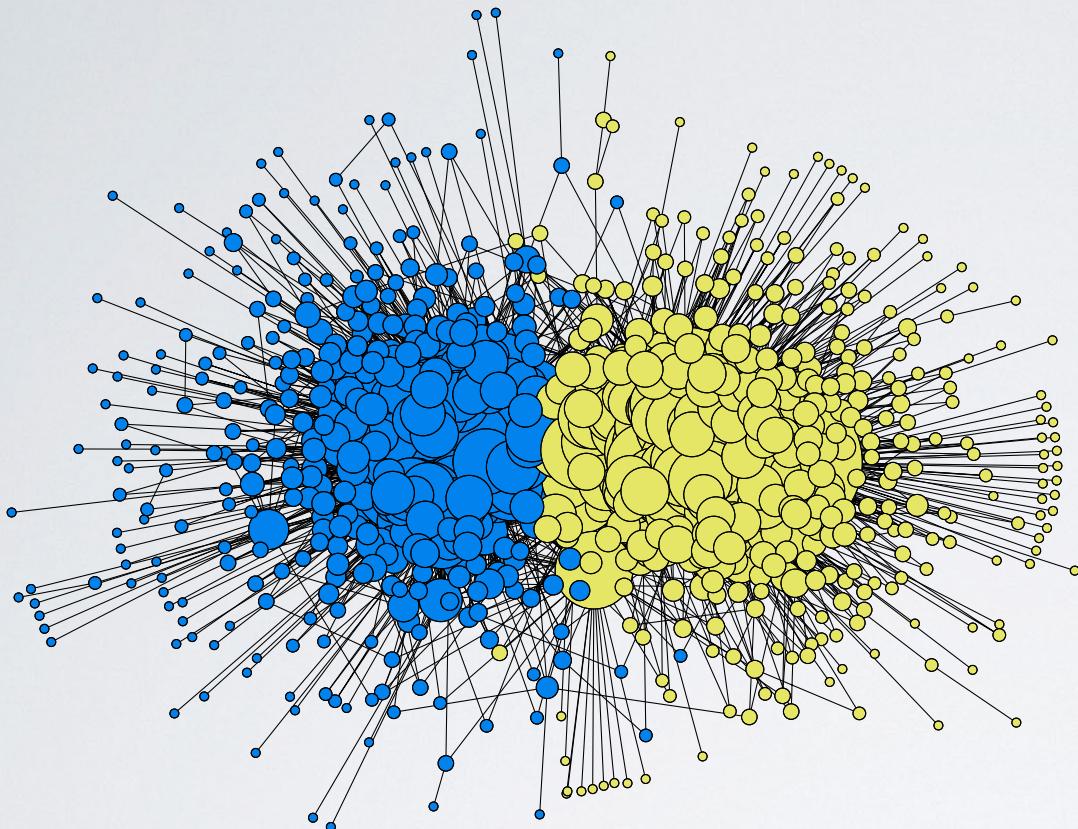


degree distributions

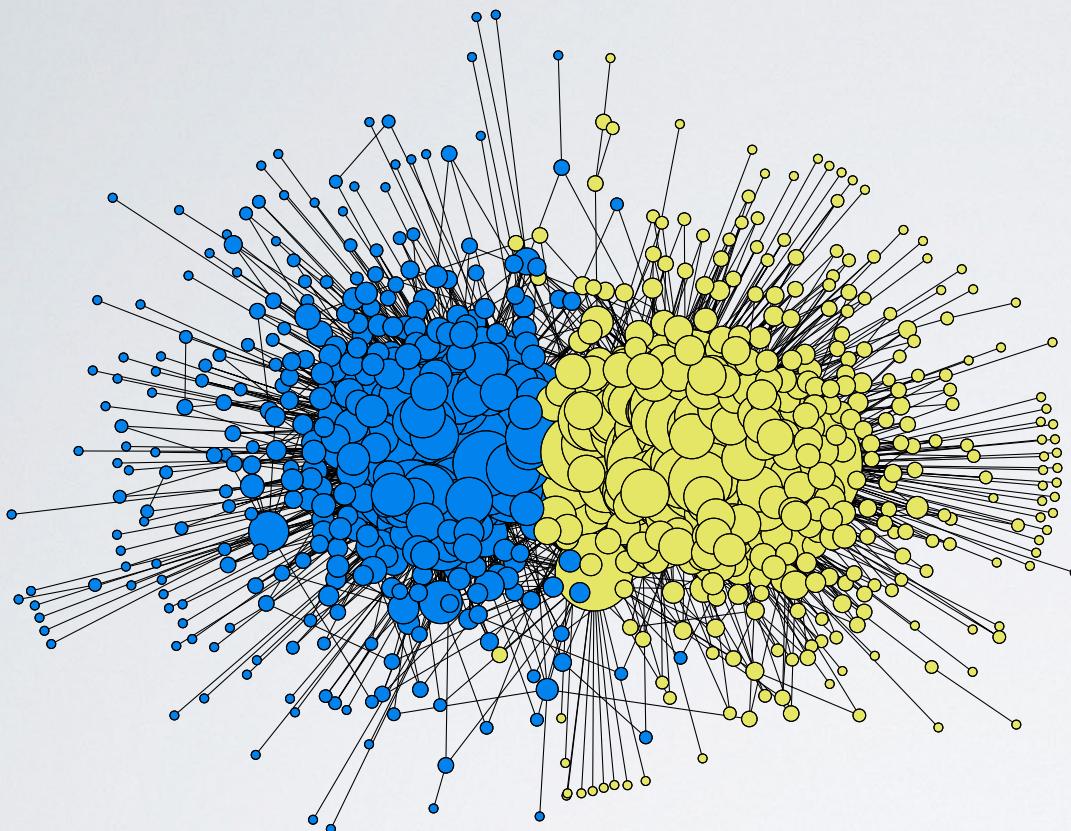


political blogs*

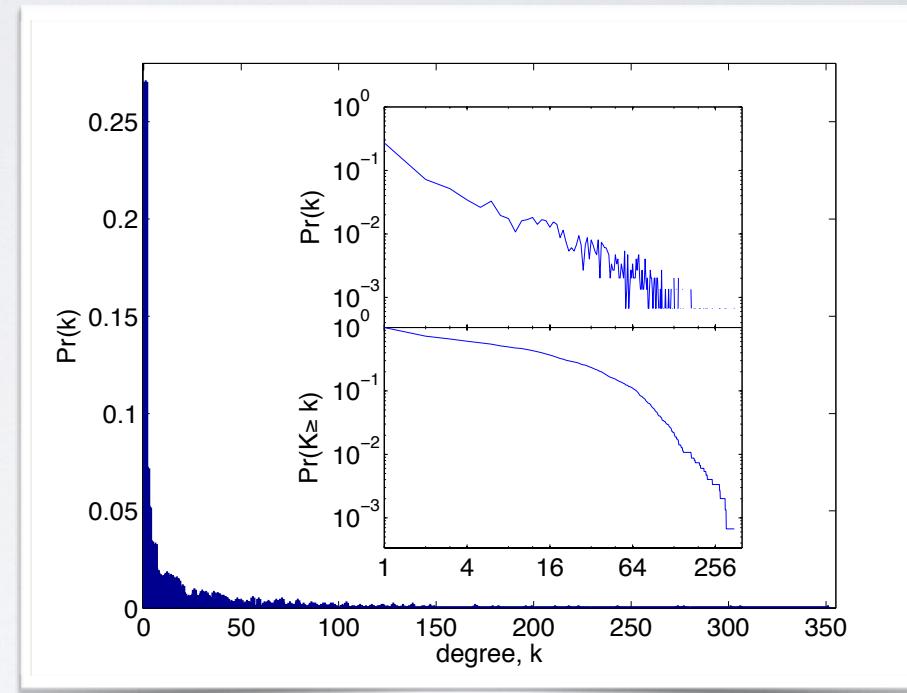
degree distributions



degree distributions



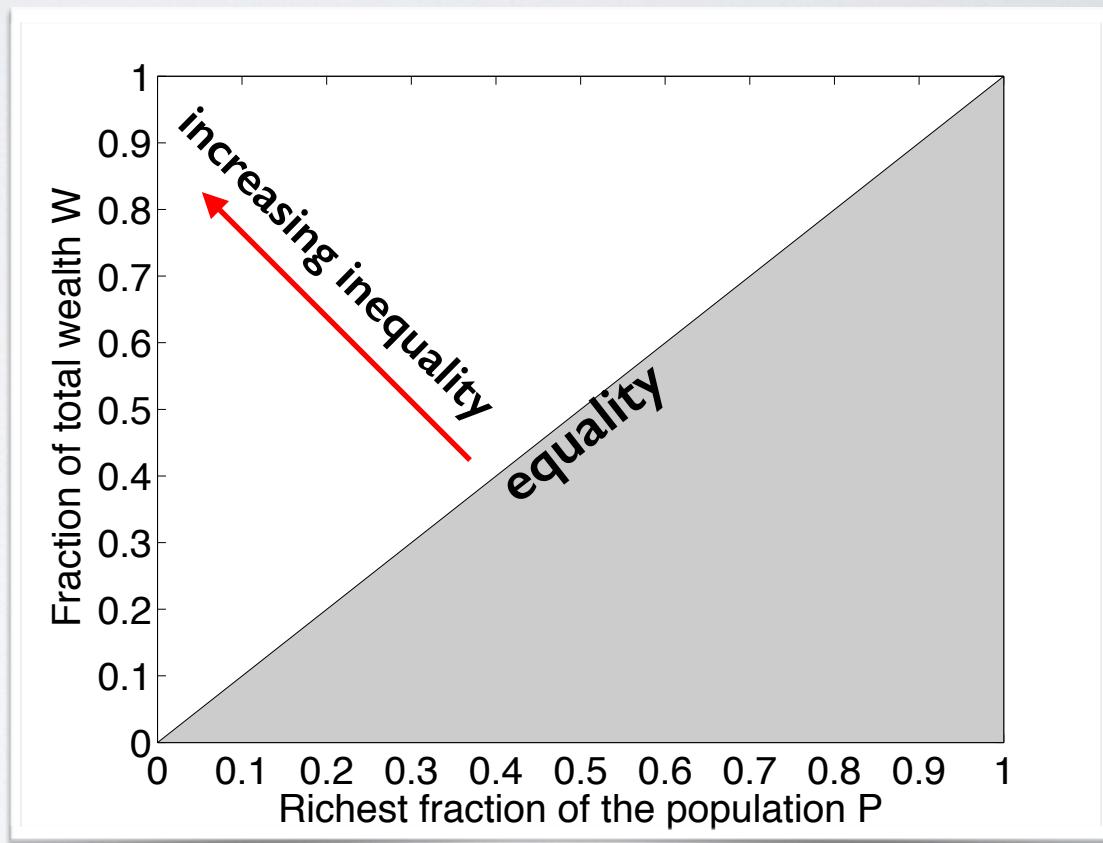
political blogs*



degree distributions

degree "wealth"

what fraction of total wealth W
is owned by richest fraction P



Lorenz curve

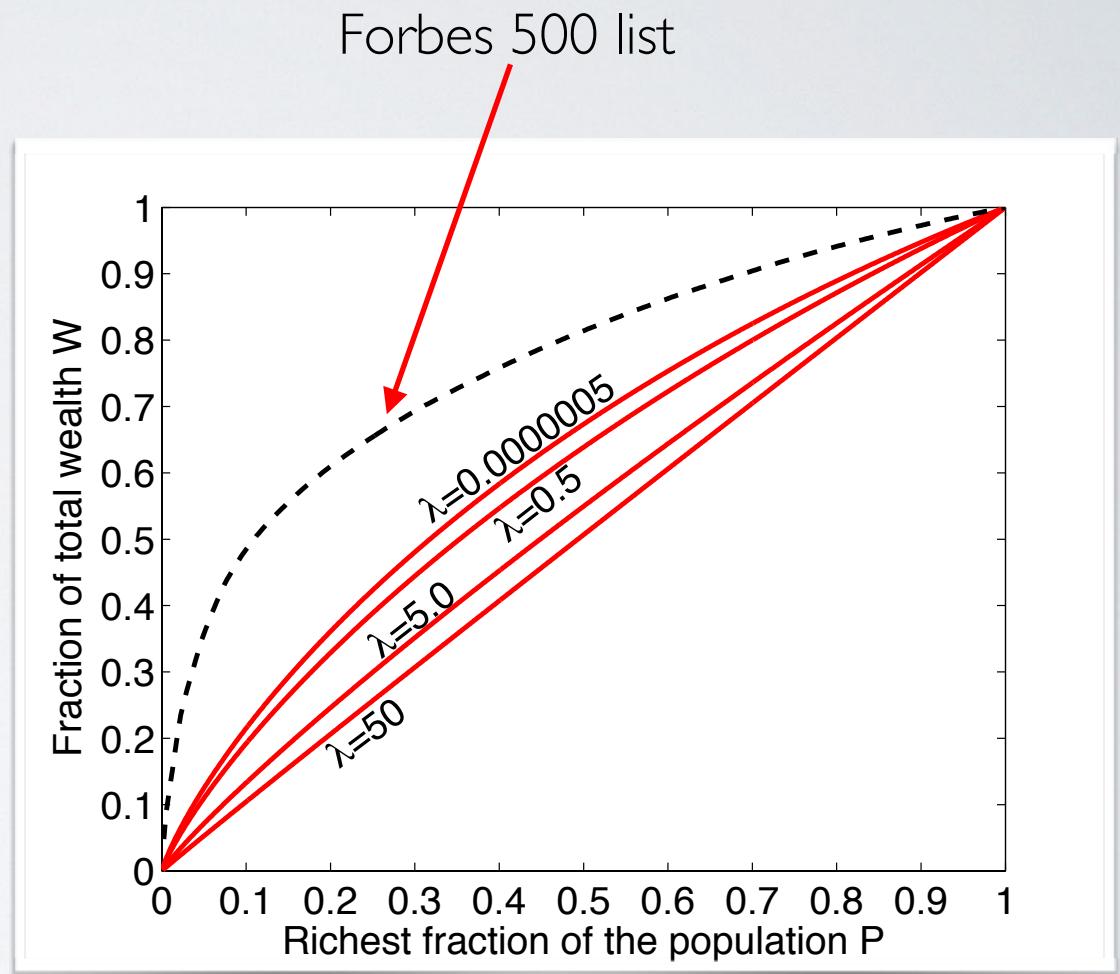
degree distributions

degree "wealth"

what fraction of total wealth W
is owned by richest fraction P

$$\Pr(k) \propto e^{-\lambda k}$$

exponential distribution



Lorenz curve

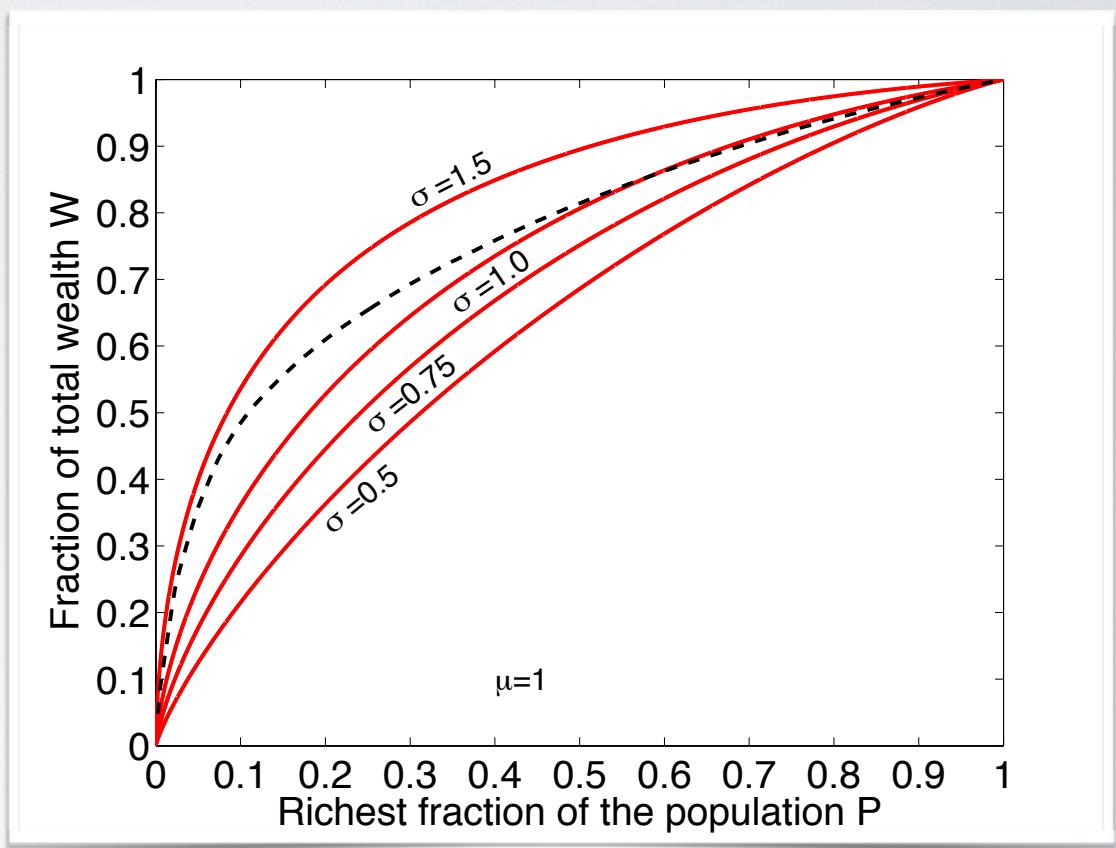
degree distributions

degree "wealth"

what fraction of total wealth W
is owned by richest fraction P

$$\Pr(k) \propto \frac{1}{k} e^{-\left(\frac{\ln k - \mu}{\sigma \sqrt{2}}\right)^2}$$

log-normal distribution



Lorenz curve

degree distributions

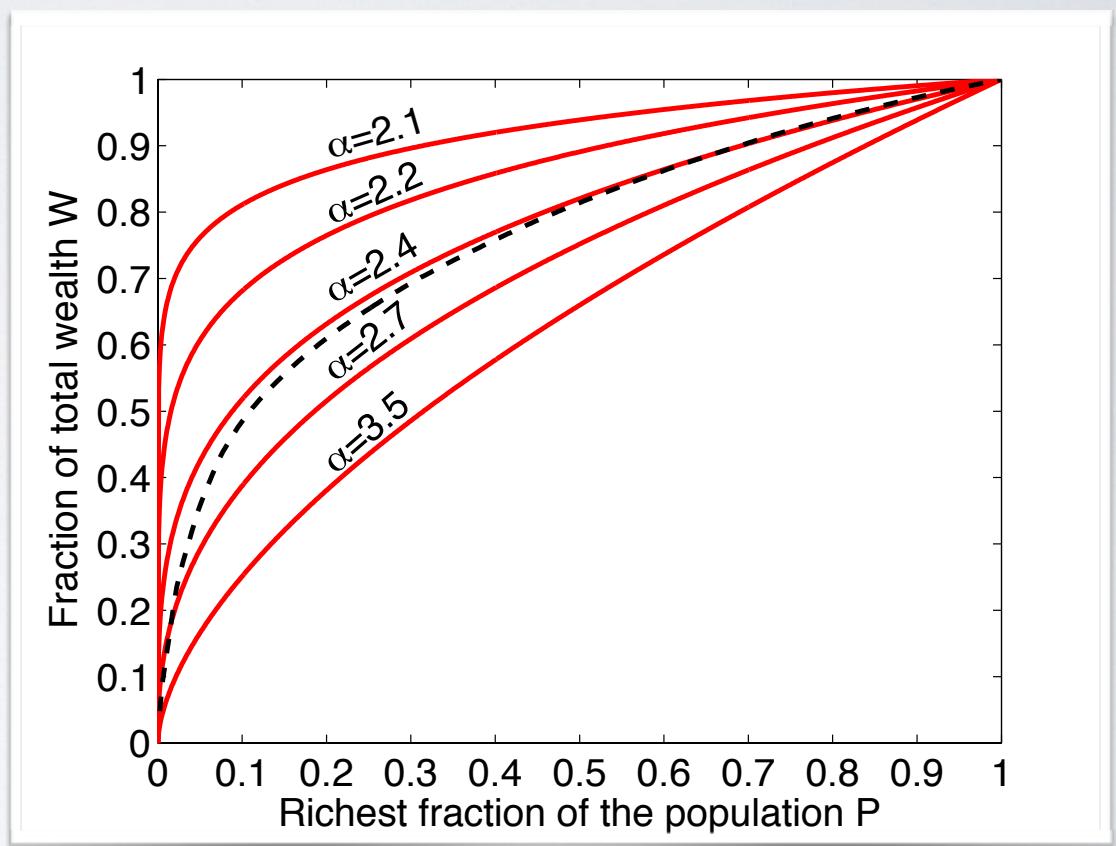
degree "wealth"

what fraction of total wealth W
is owned by richest fraction P

$$\Pr(k) \propto k^{-\alpha}$$

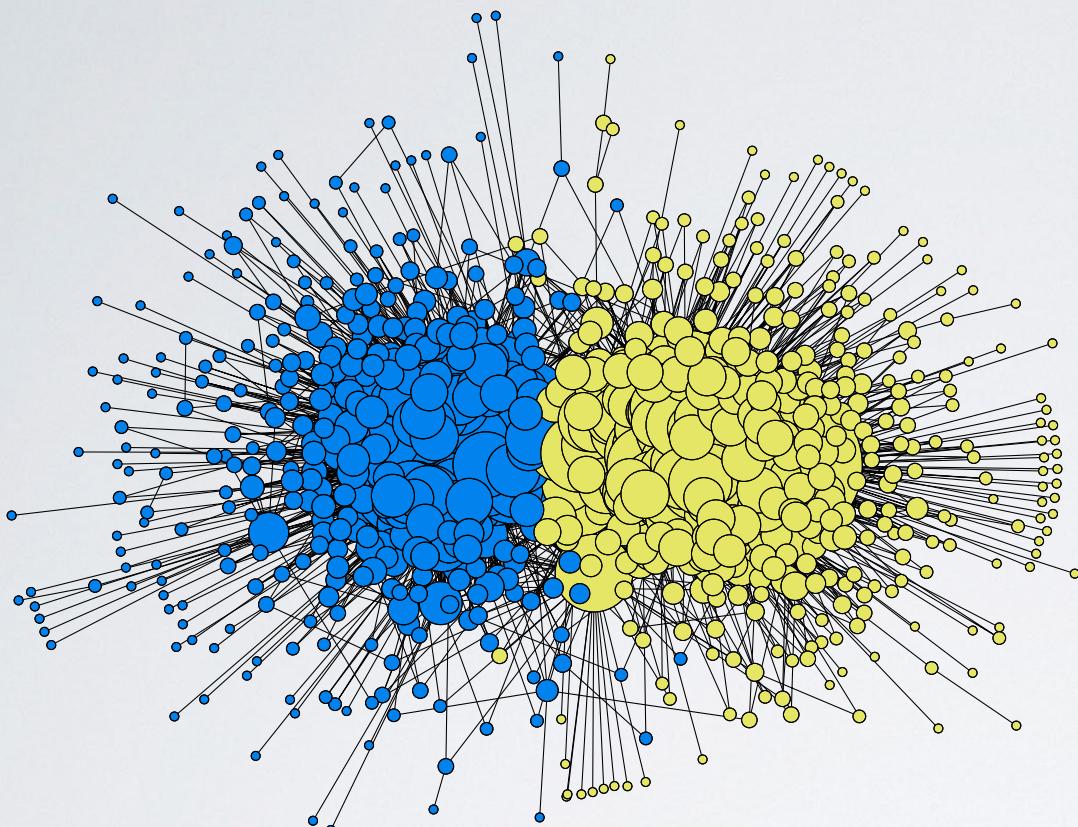
power-law distribution

80/20 rule

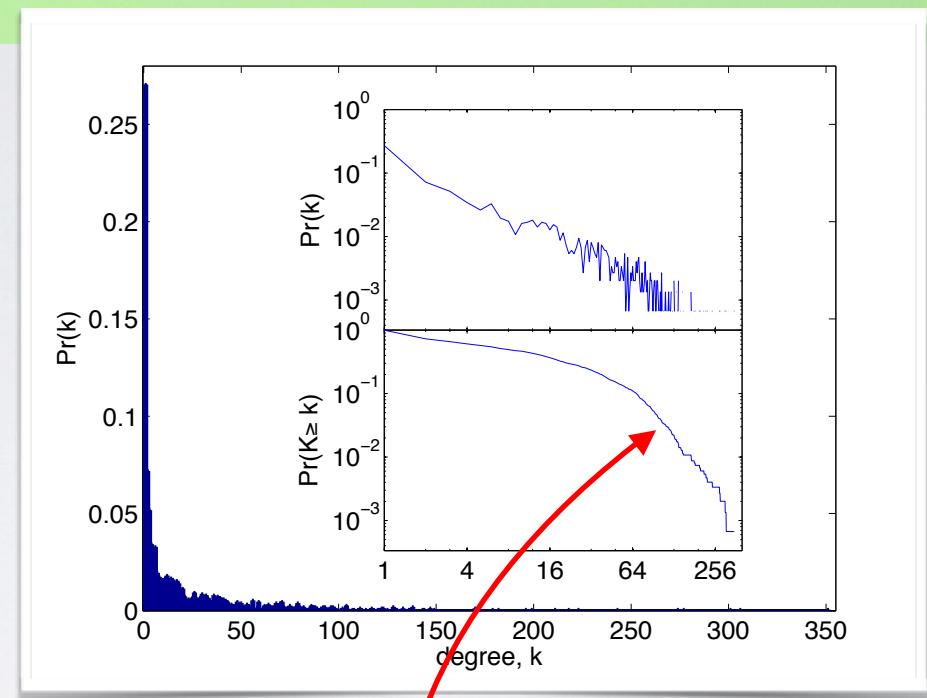


Lorenz curve

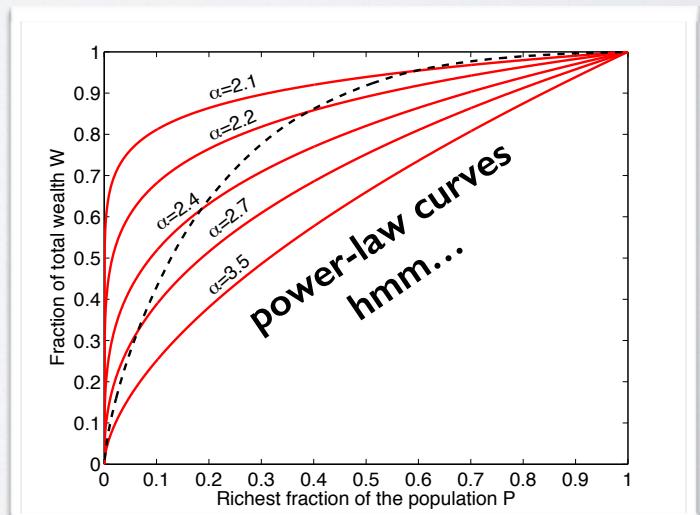
degree distributions



political blogs*



is this a power law?



power-law distributions

$$\Pr(k) = C k^{-\alpha} \quad \text{for } k \geq k_{\min}$$

- let's do some math
- (a nice warm up for other things, later)

power-law distributions

$$\Pr(k) = C k^{-\alpha} \quad \text{for } k \geq k_{\min}$$

- normalization (probability density function)

$$1 = \int_{k_{\min}}^{\infty} \Pr(k) dk \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{pdf}$$

- complementary cumulative distribution function

$$P(k) = \int_k^{\infty} \Pr(y) dy \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{ccdf}$$

power-law distributions

$$\Pr(k) = C k^{-\alpha} \quad \text{for } k \geq k_{\min}$$

- normalization (probability density function)*

$$1 = \int_{k_{\min}}^{\infty} \Pr(k) dk \quad \xrightarrow{\text{red arrow}} \quad \Pr(k) = \frac{\alpha - 1}{k_{\min}} \left(\frac{k}{k_{\min}} \right)^{-\alpha} \quad \text{pdf}$$

- complementary cumulative distribution function

$$P(k) = \int_k^{\infty} \Pr(y) dy \quad \xrightarrow{\text{red arrow}} \quad P(k) = \left(\frac{k}{k_{\min}} \right)^{-\alpha+1} \quad \text{ccdf}$$

- power laws have unusual properties,
imply unusual underlying mechanisms

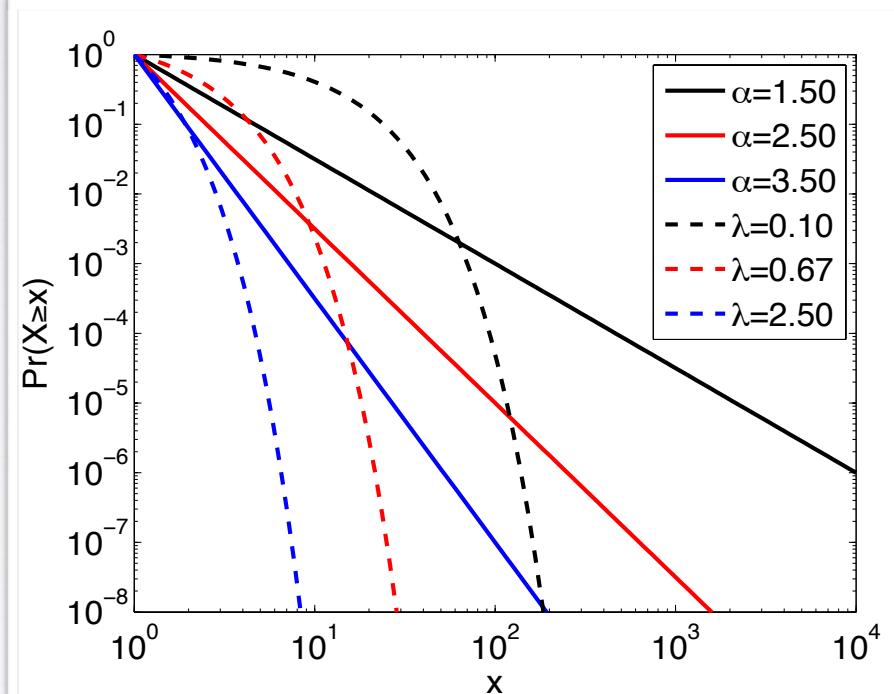
* the math here is easier for the continuous variables, but qualitatively similar results hold for discrete variables.
also, yes, vertex degree is discrete not continuous.

power-law distributions

$$\Pr(k) = C k^{-\alpha} \quad \text{for} \quad k \geq k_{\min}$$

- high-variance

$$\langle k^m \rangle = \int_{k_{\min}}^{\infty} k^m \Pr(k) dk$$



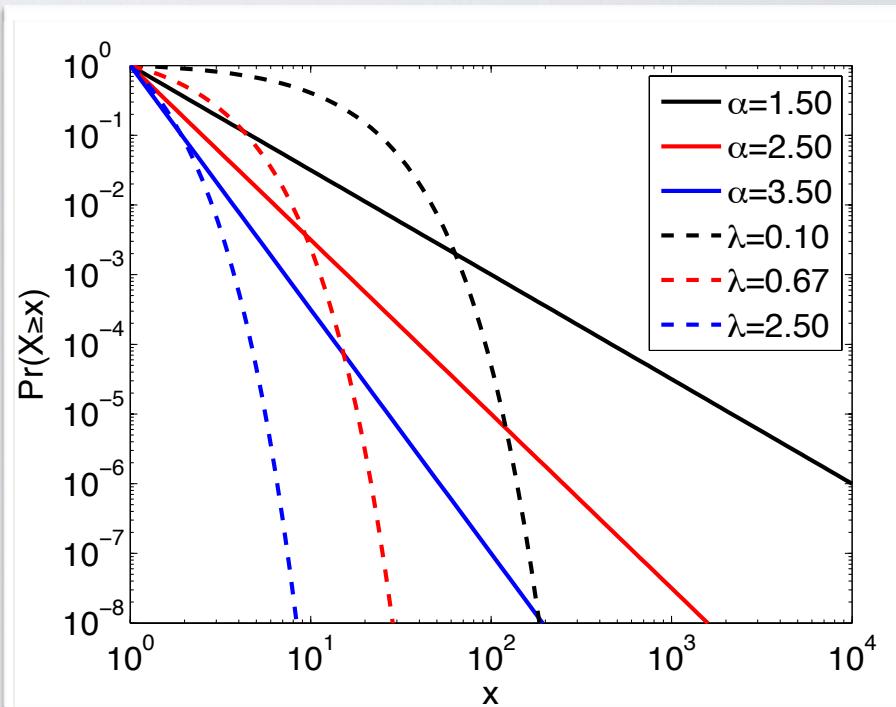
power-law distributions

$$\Pr(k) = C k^{-\alpha} \quad \text{for } k \geq k_{\min}$$

- high-variance

$$\begin{aligned}\langle k^m \rangle &= \int_{k_{\min}}^{\infty} k^m \Pr(k) dk \\ &= k_{\min}^m \left(\frac{\alpha - 1}{\alpha - 1 - m} \right)\end{aligned}$$

- **infinite mean** $1 < \alpha < 2$
- **infinite variance** $2 < \alpha < 3$
- much, much heavier tails than exponential, normal, etc.
- heavier than log-normal (asymptotically)



power-law distributions

$$\Pr(k) = C k^{-\alpha} \quad \text{for } k \geq k_{\min}$$

- "scale invariance" (aka "scale free")

$$\Pr(c k) = (\alpha - 1) k_{\min}^{\alpha-1} (c k)^{-\alpha}$$

power-law distributions

$$\Pr(k) = C k^{-\alpha} \quad \text{for } k \geq k_{\min}$$

- "scale invariance" (aka "scale free")

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(c k) &= (\alpha - 1) k_{\min}^{\alpha-1} (c k)^{-\alpha} \\ &= c^{-\alpha} [(\alpha - 1) k_{\min}^{\alpha-1} k^{-\alpha}] \\ &\propto \Pr(k)\end{aligned}$$

- power law is *only distribution* with this property
- implies no natural "scale" of distribution
- implies signature form: straight line on log-log plot

$$\ln \Pr(k) = \ln C - \alpha \ln k$$

power-law distributions

$$\Pr(k) = C k^{-\alpha} \quad \text{for } k \geq k_{\min}$$

- exotic mechanisms
 - preferential attachment [Yule 1925, Simon 1955, Price 1976, etc.]
 - combinations of exponentials [Miller 1957, Reed & Hughes 2002]
 - phase transitions [many]
 - self-organized criticality (SOC) [Bak et al. 1988]
 - highly optimized tolerance (HOT) [Carlson and Doyle, 1999]
 - fragmentation [many]
 - multiplicative random walks (with lower limit) [many]
 - many, many others

power-law distributions

$$\Pr(k) = C k^{-\alpha} \quad \text{for } k \geq k_{\min}$$

- how do you know? statistics.
- estimating α from data $\{k_i\}$ via maximum likelihood

$$\ln \mathcal{L}(\{k_i\} | \theta) = \ln \prod_{i=1}^n \Pr(k_i | \theta)$$

power-law distributions

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- for the power-law distribution (log-likelihood)

$$\ln \mathcal{L}(\{k_i\} | \alpha, k_{\min}) = n \ln \left(\frac{\alpha - 1}{k_{\min}} \right) - \alpha \sum_{i=1}^n \ln \left(\frac{k_i}{k_{\min}} \right)$$

- solving $\partial \mathcal{L} / \partial \alpha = 0$, yields MLE with standard error

$$\hat{\alpha} = 1 + n \sqrt[n]{\sum_{i=1}^n \ln \left(\frac{k_i}{k_{\min}} \right)}$$

$$\hat{\sigma} = \frac{\hat{\alpha} - 1}{\sqrt{n}} + O(1/n)$$

power-law distributions

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$$\hat{\sigma} = \frac{\hat{\alpha} - 1}{\sqrt{n}} + O(1/n)$$

umm... we don't know this value

power-law distributions

$$\Pr(k) = C k^{-\alpha} \quad \text{for } k \geq k_{\min}$$

- we can choose k_{\min} smartly [see SIAM Review **51**; code is here *]
- but how do we know if the model is good? fitting is easy

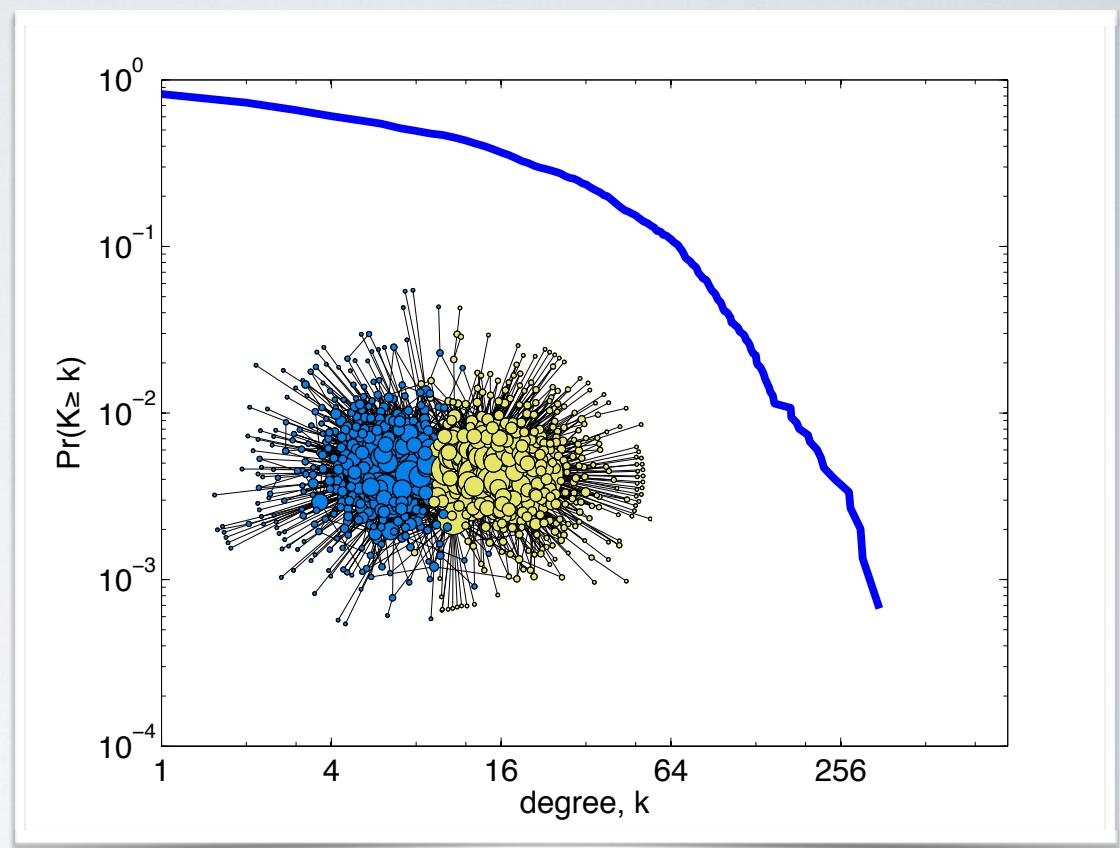
moral: always check your model's goodness-of-fit

- ways to do this:
 1. compute a p -value relative to a *reasonable* null model
 2. compare your model against *reasonable* alternatives
 3. compare synthetic data drawn from your model with your empirical data
 4. use your model to predict something *reasonable*

degree distributions

fun facts:

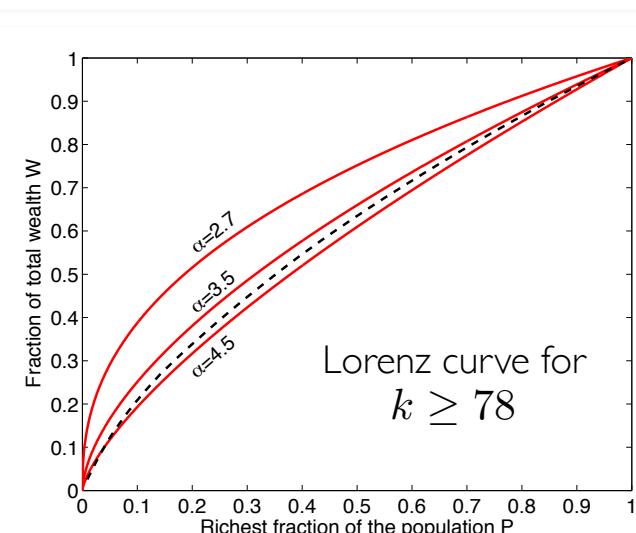
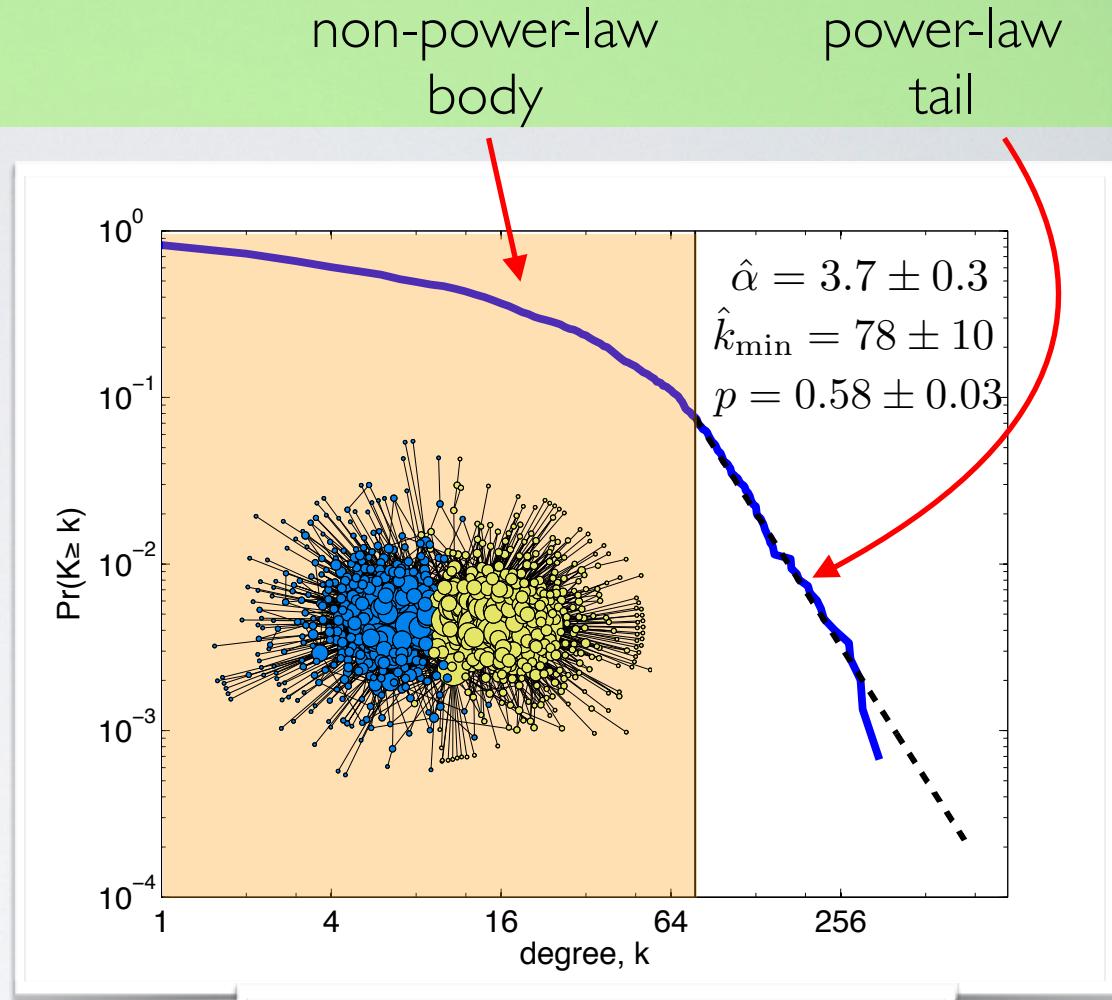
- nearly all real networks exhibit a ***heavy-tailed degree distribution***
- **very few** networks exhibit perfect power-law degree distributions
- **some** distributions exhibit power-law tails
- power laws are cool!
but knowing one from garbage
requires statistics*



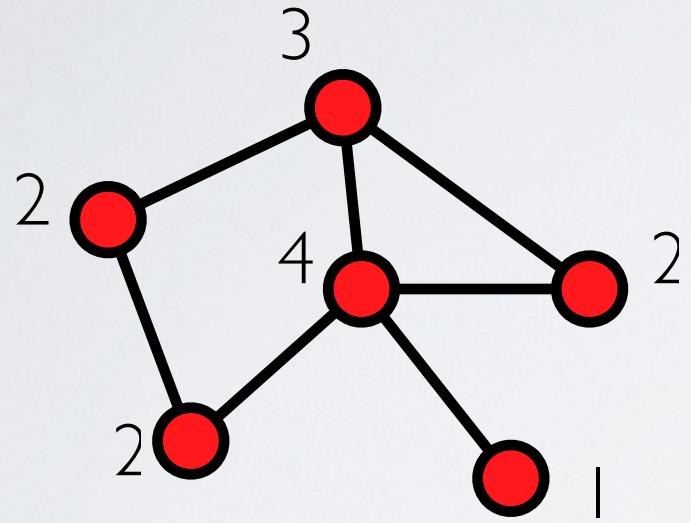
degree distributions

fun facts:

- nearly all real networks exhibit a ***heavy-tailed degree distribution***
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describing networks



degree:

number of connections k

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

**when does node
degree matter?**

network degrees

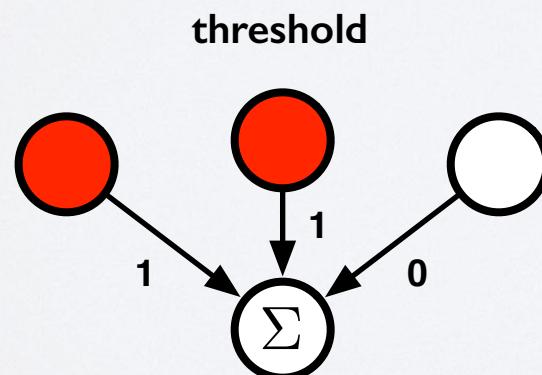
spreading processes on networks

biological (diseases)

- SIS and SIR models

social (information)

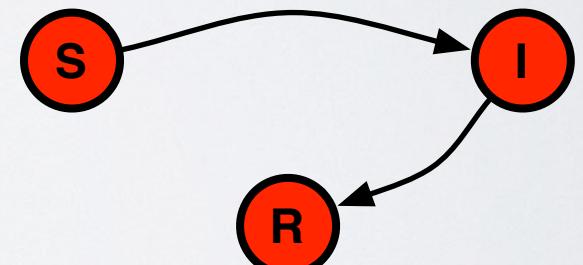
- SIS, SIR models
- threshold models



susceptible-infected-susceptible



susceptible-infected-recovered



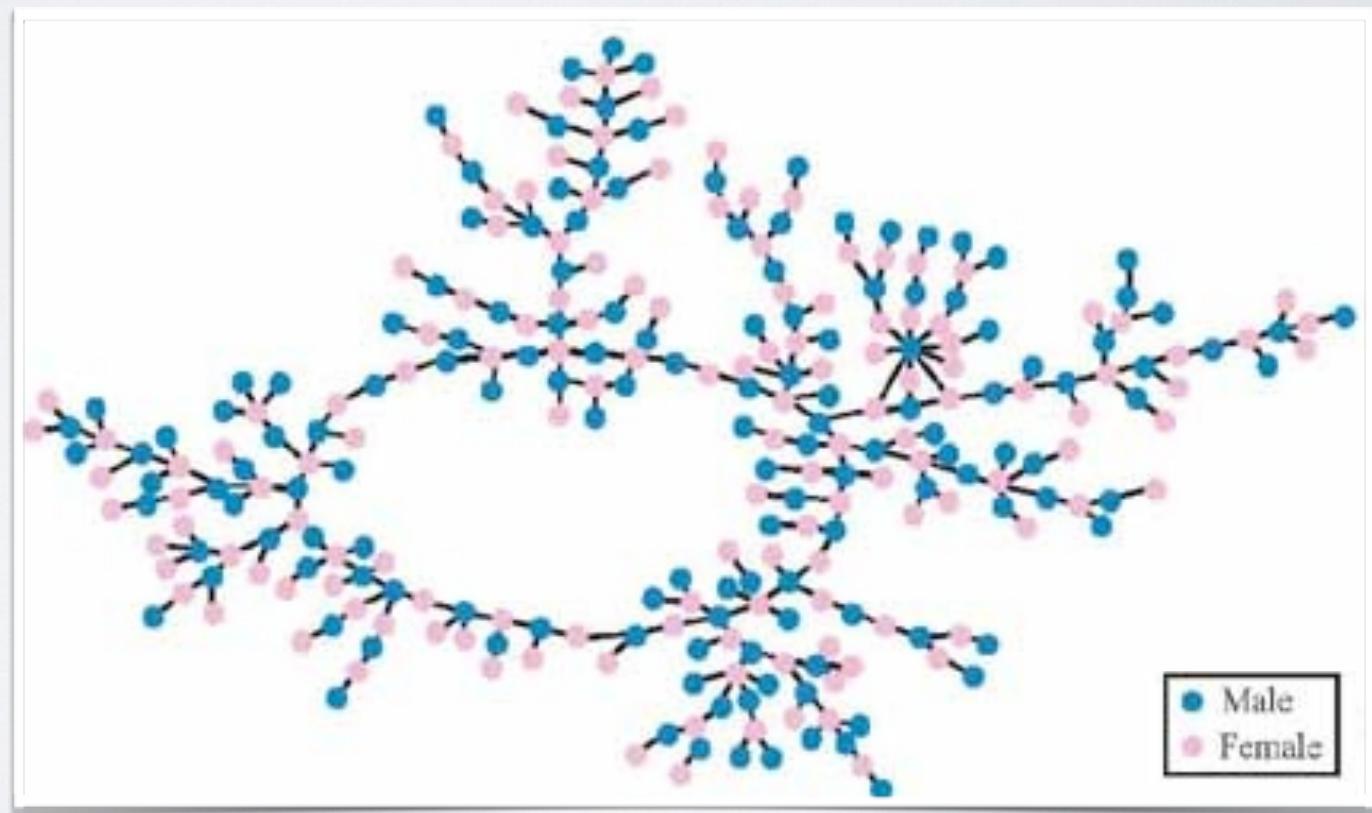
network degrees

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?

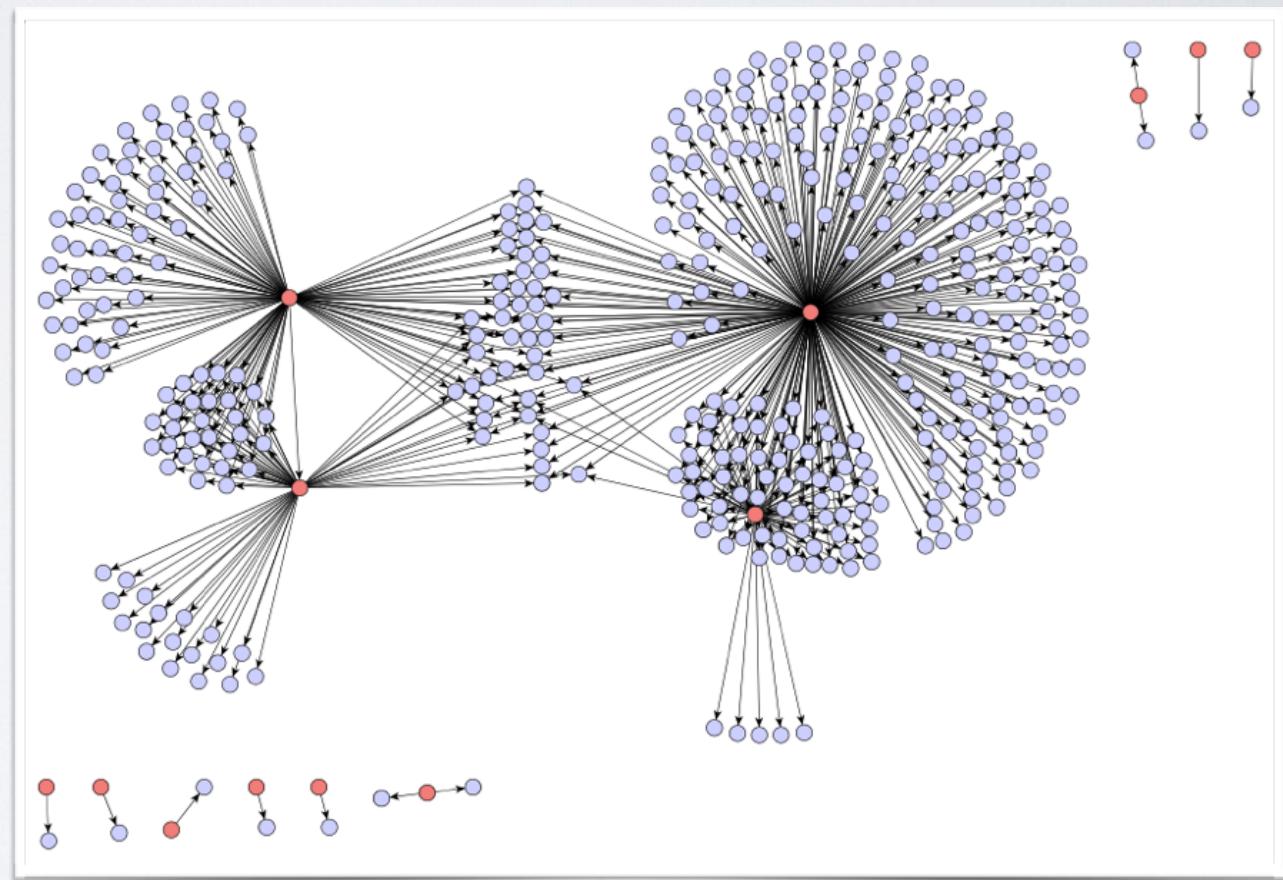


The Dynamics of Viral Marketing

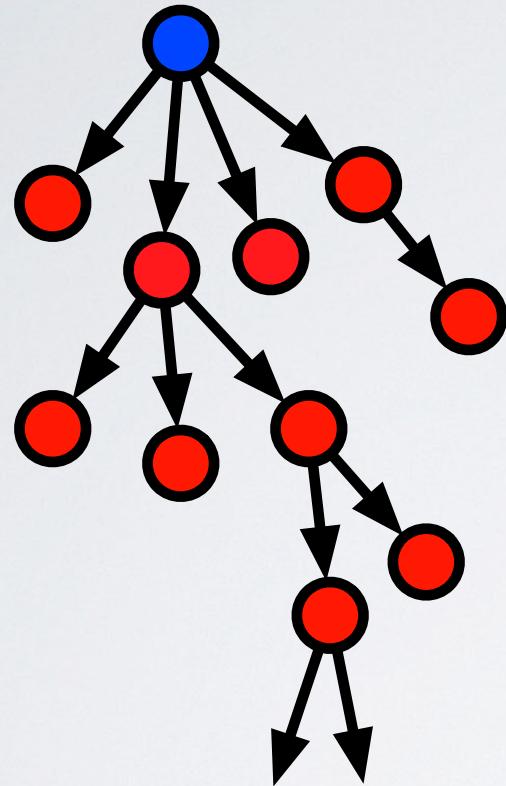
2007

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



network degrees



$$R_0 = 0.923 \dots$$

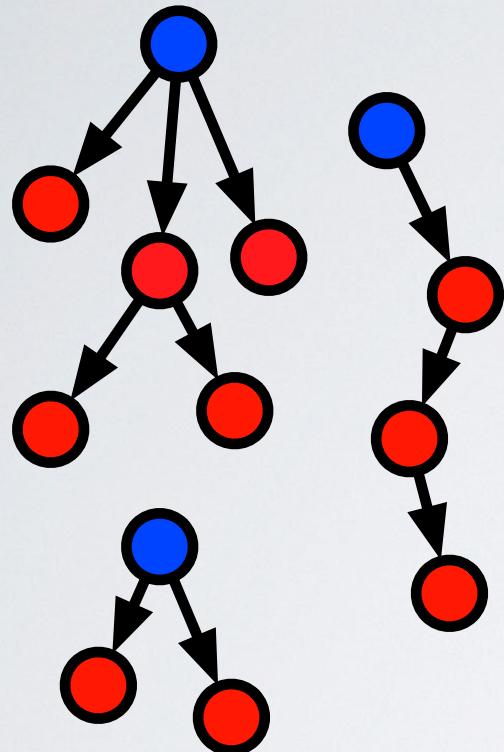
cascade
epidemic
branching process
spreading process

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

caveat:

ignores network structure,
dynamics, etc.

network degrees

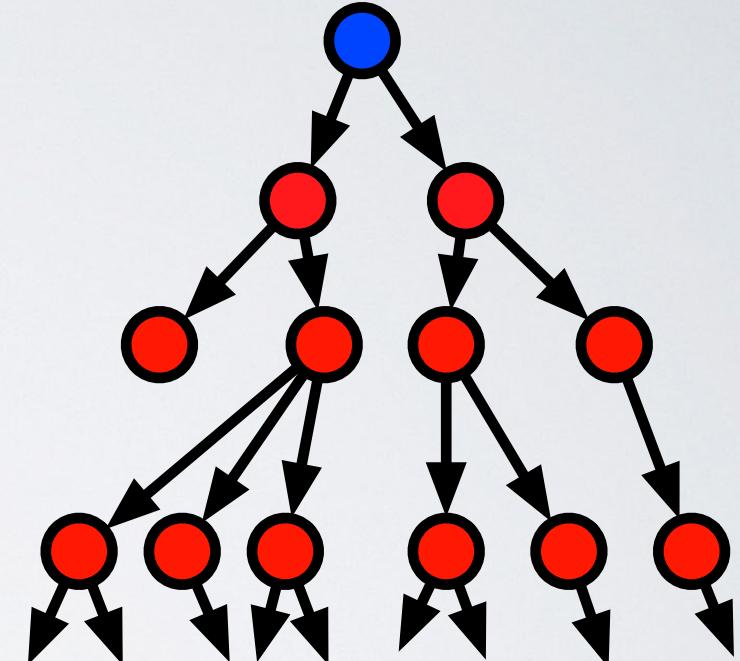
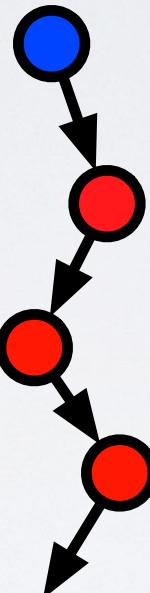


$$R_0 < 1$$

“sub-critical”
small outbreaks

$$R_0 = 1$$

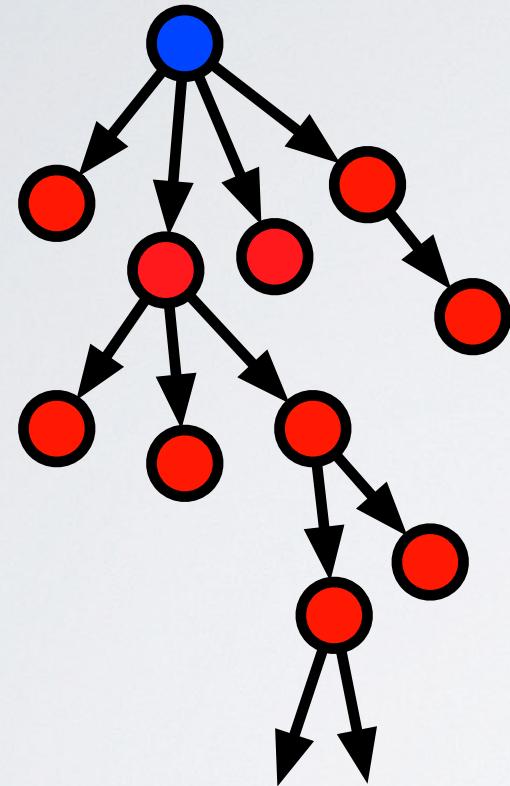
“critical”
outbreaks of all sizes



$$R_0 > 1$$

“super-critical”
global epidemics

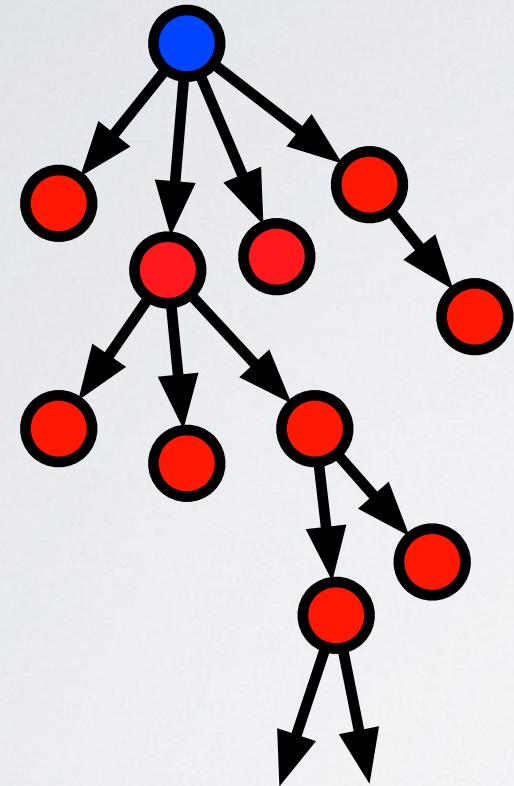
network degrees



disease	R ₀	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	

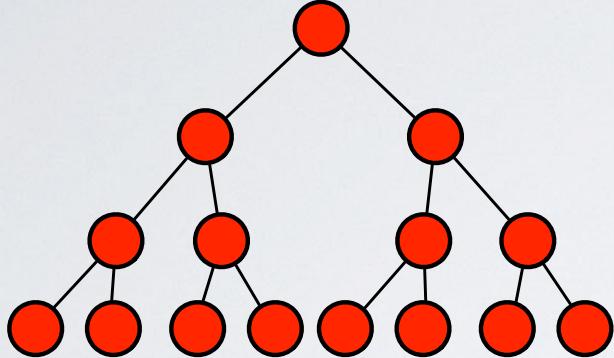
all super-critical

network degrees



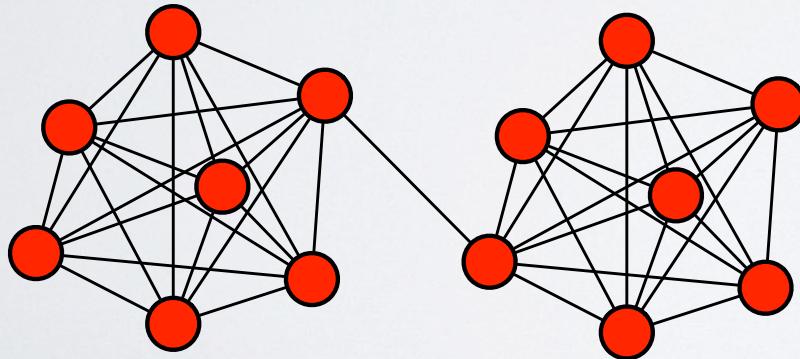
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network degrees



bigger cascades

- smaller overlap among neighbors
- more expander-like
[more like a random graph]
- 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)

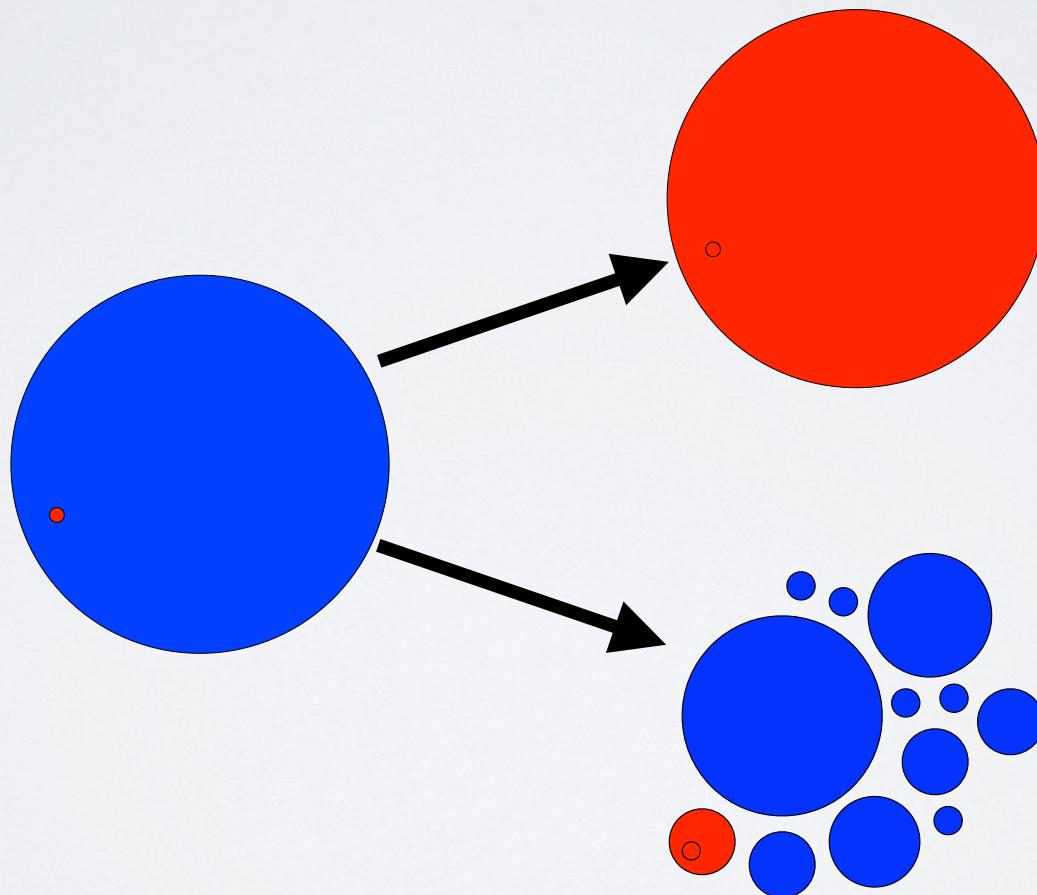
Karrer and Newman, Phys. Rev. E **82**, 016101 (2010)

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

network degrees

how could we halt the spread?

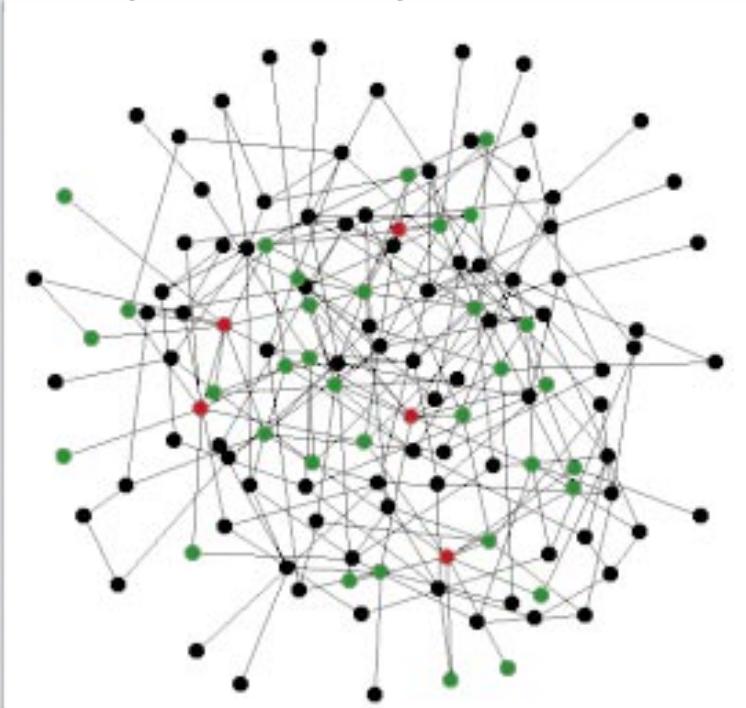
- break network into disconnected pieces



network degrees

two networks

homogeneous in degree

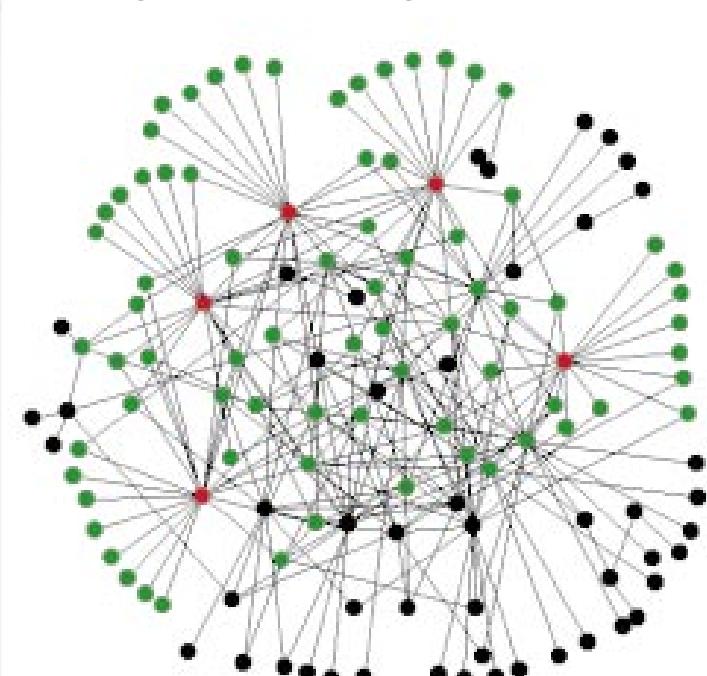


Error and attack tolerance of complex networks

2000

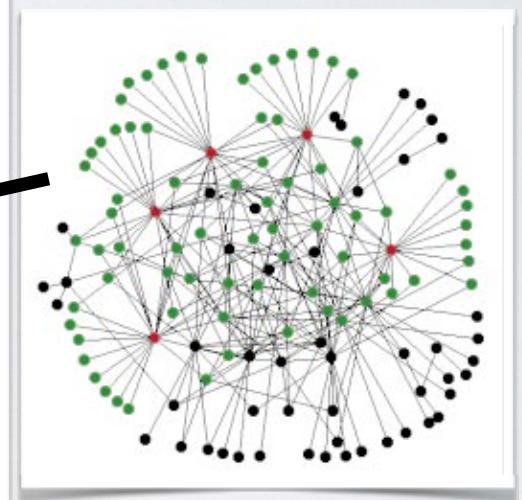
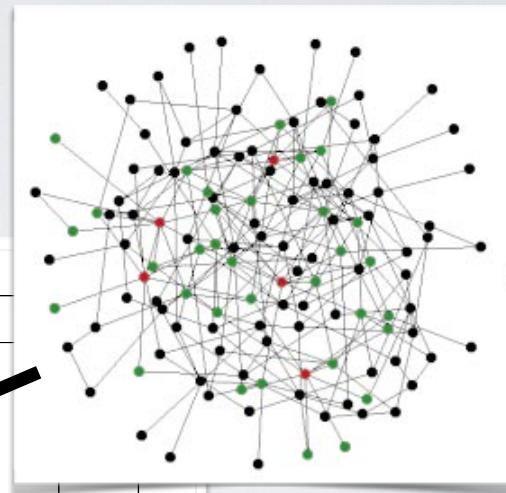
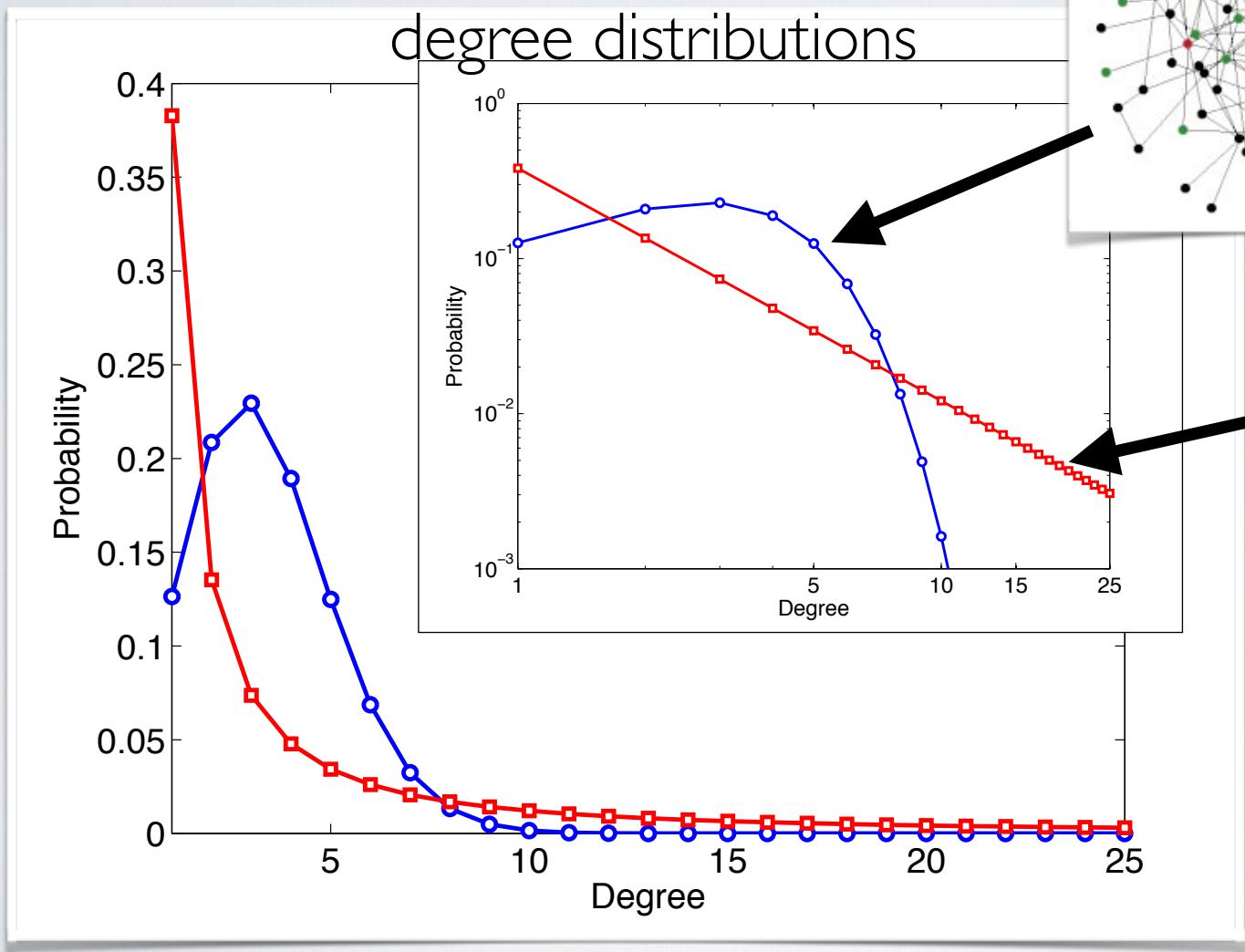
Réka Albert, Hawoong Jeong & Albert-László Barabási

heterogeneous in degree



network degrees

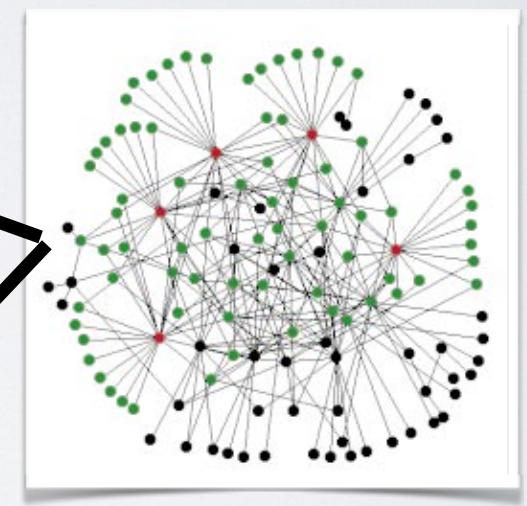
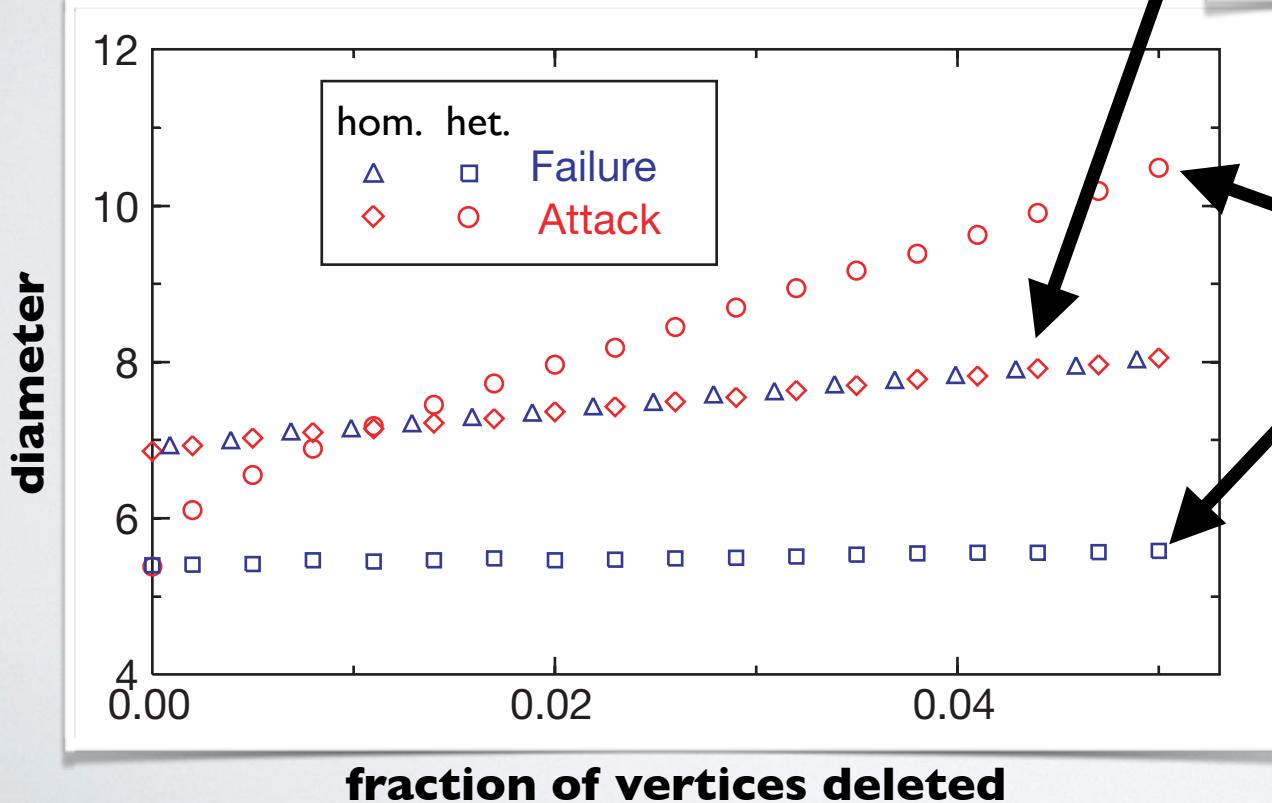
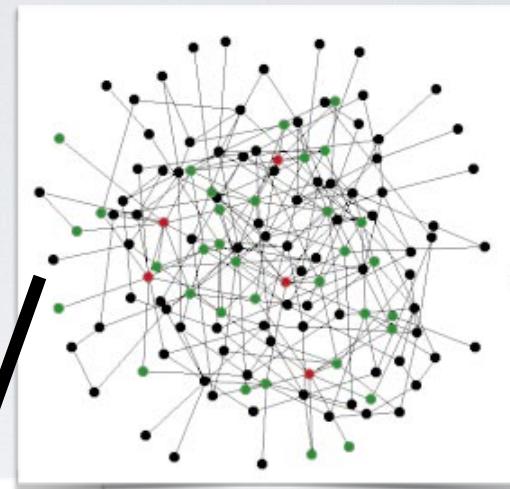
two networks



network degrees

strategy: delete vertices

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

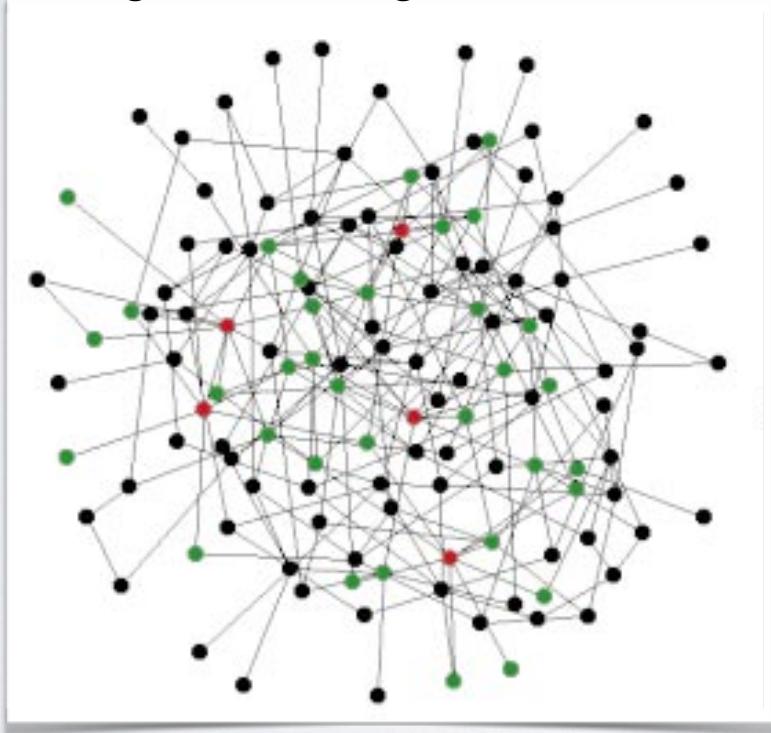


network degrees

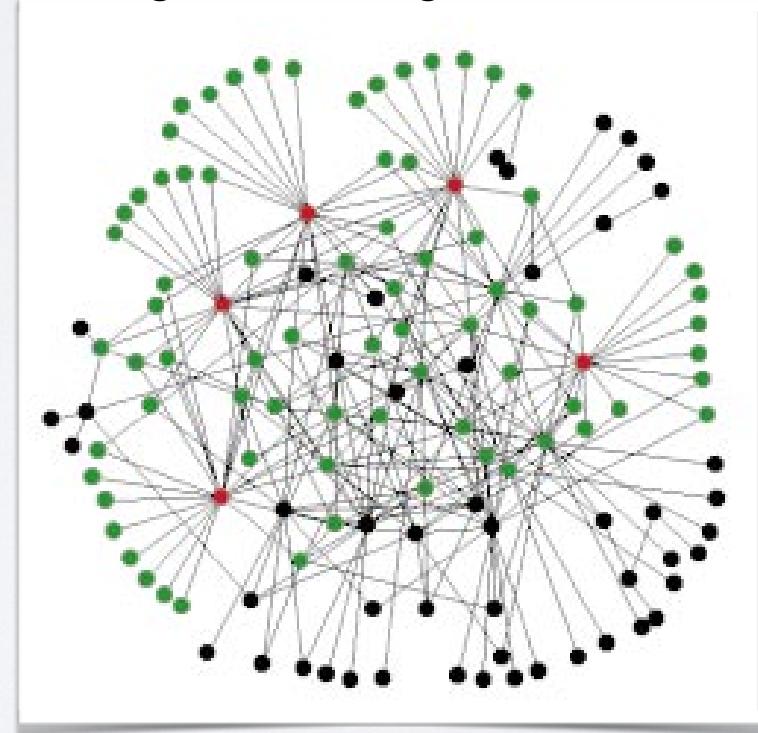
what promotes spreading?

- high-degree vertices*
- centrally-located vertices

homogeneous in degree



heterogeneous in degree

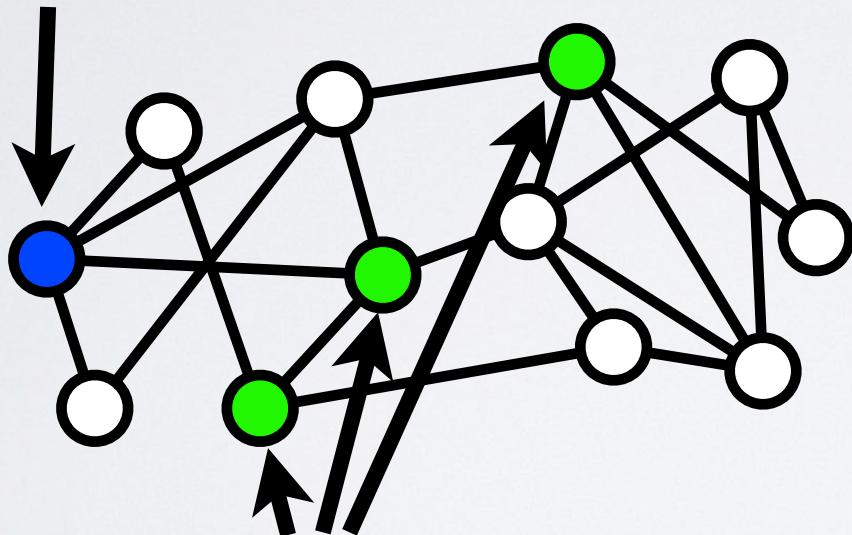


network degrees

strategy: delete vertices

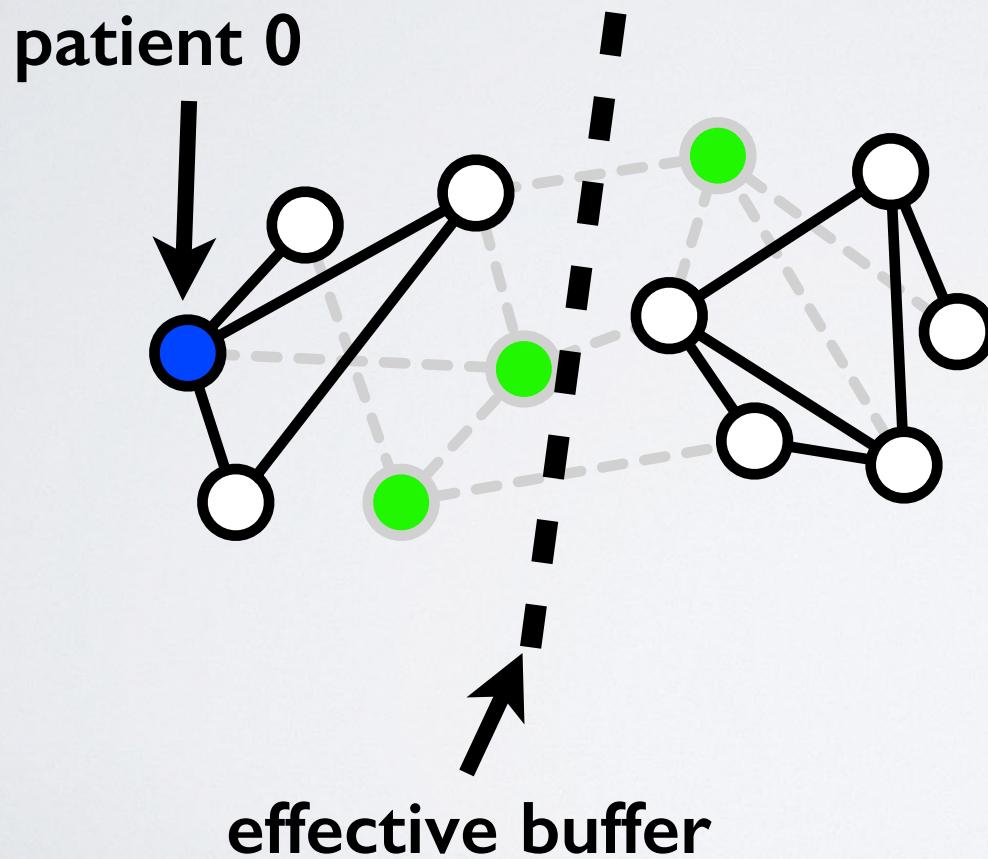
3. build “fire breaks”

patient 0



vaccinated = deleted
("fire break")

network degrees



- **vaccination strategies**
 - the “front line” (hospitals)
 - high degree nodes
 - the vulnerable (old/young)

network degrees

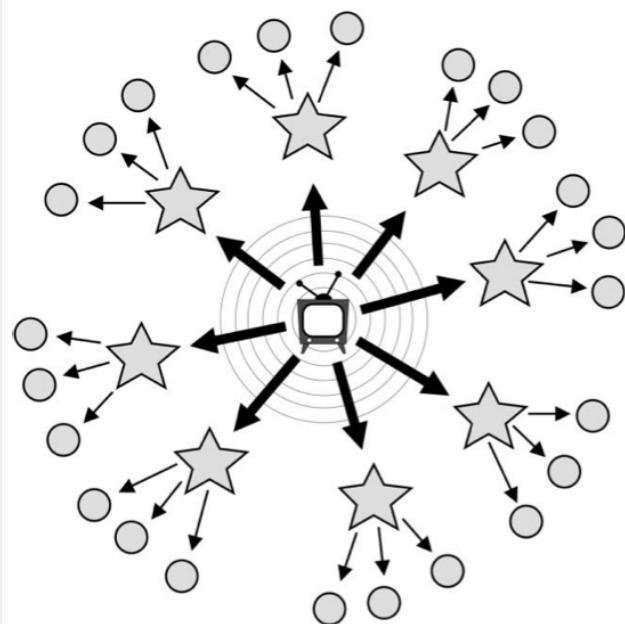
but, in social networks...

network degrees

Influentials, Networks, and Public Opinion Formation

DUNCAN J. WATTS
PETER SHERIDAN DODDS*

2007



broadcast influence

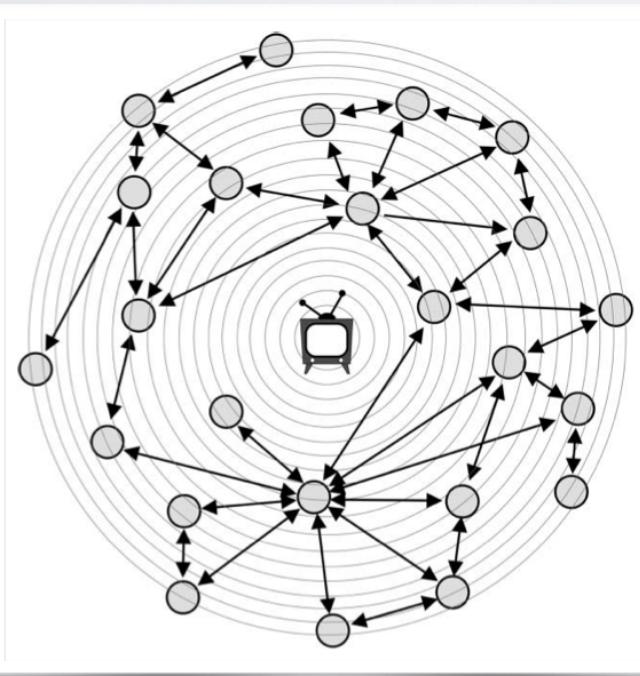
- classic information marketing
- message saturation
- **degree** is most important

network degrees

Influentials, Networks, and Public Opinion Formation

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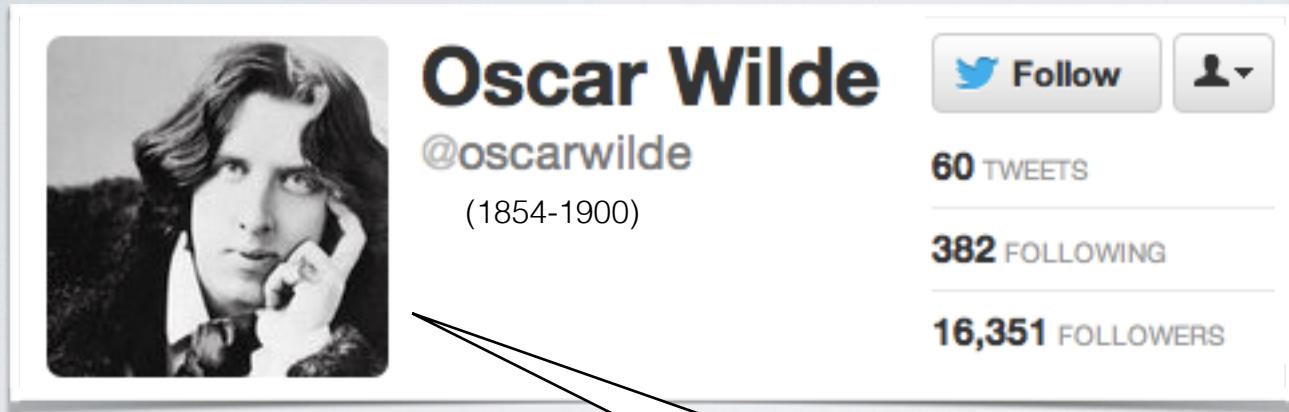
2007



network influence

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

network degrees



The image shows a Twitter profile card for Oscar Wilde (@oscarwilde). The card features a portrait of Oscar Wilde on the left. To the right of the portrait, the name "Oscar Wilde" is displayed in large, bold, black letters. Below the name is the handle "@oscarwilde" and the lifespan "(1854-1900)". To the right of the handle are two buttons: a blue "Follow" button with a white bird icon and a user icon with a dropdown arrow. Below these buttons, the text "60 TWEETS" is shown in blue. Further down, "382 FOLLOWING" is shown in grey, and at the bottom, "16,351 FOLLOWERS" is shown in orange. A black curved line originates from the bottom right of the profile card and points towards a speech bubble containing a quote.

“The only thing worse than being talked about is not being talked about.”

- "influence" not really about the influencer
- as much about the susceptibles

network degrees

how to start a **social movement?**

network degrees

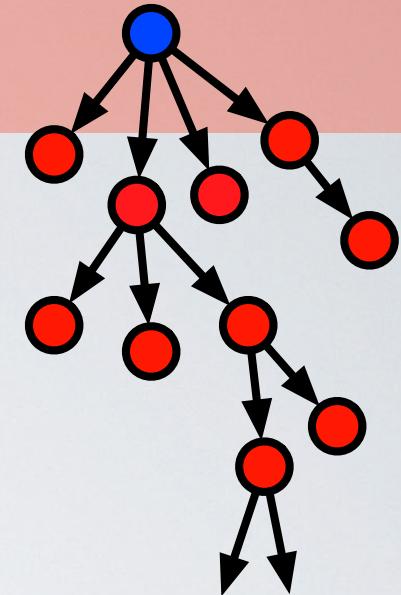
how to start a **social movement?**



network degrees

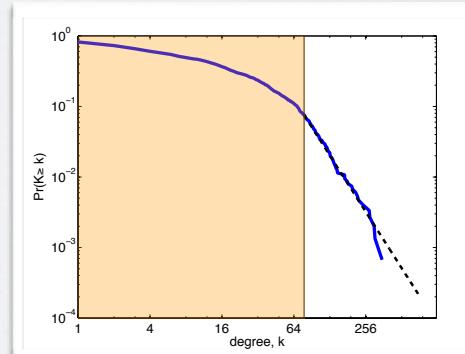
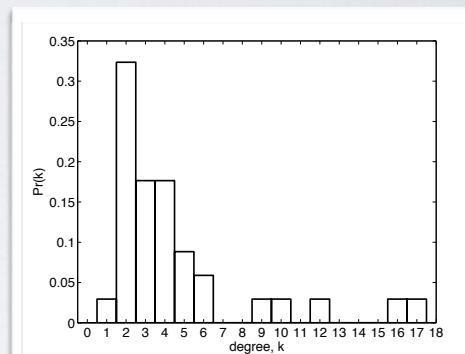
degrees:

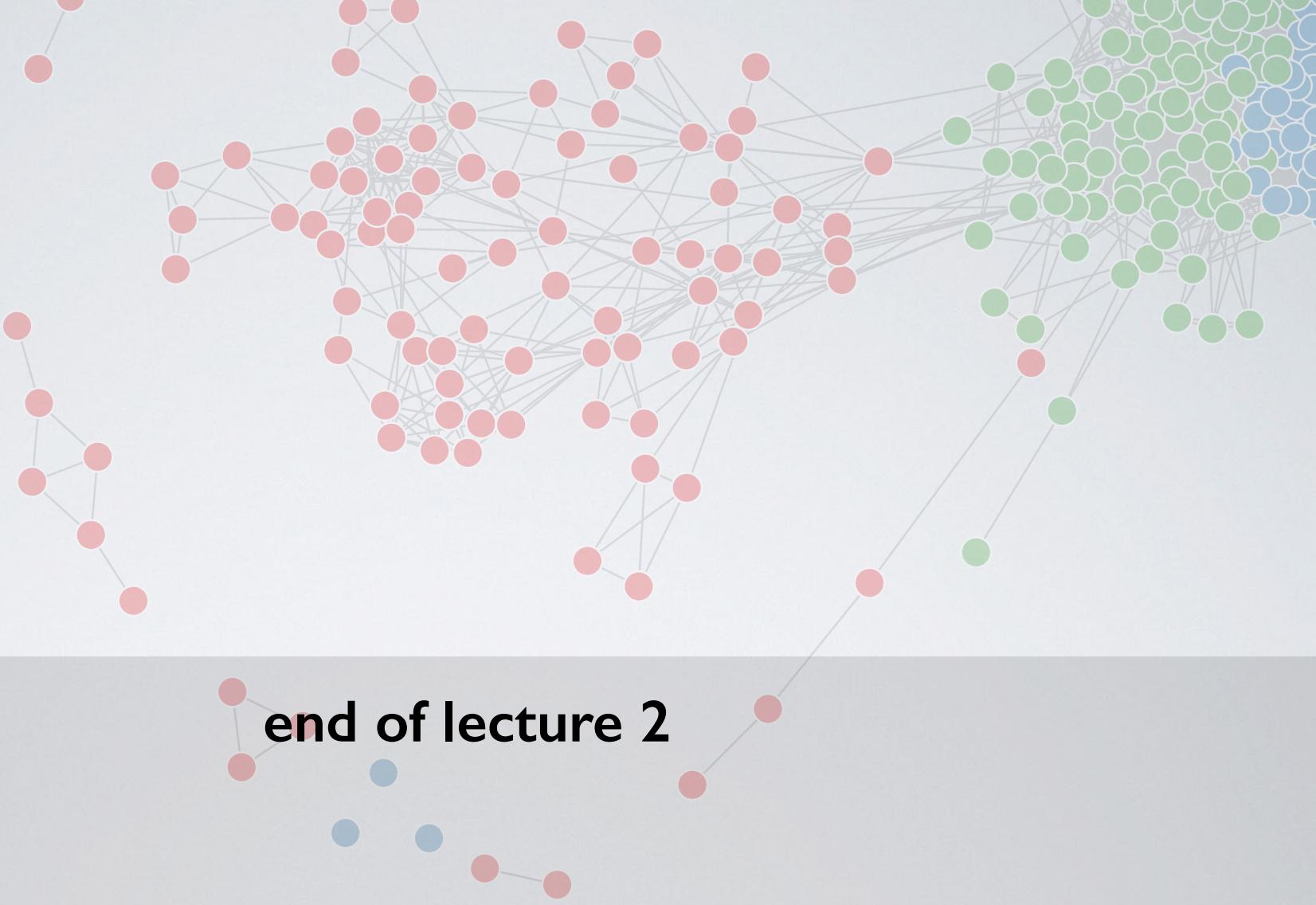
- first-order description of network structure
- direct implications for spreading processes
- cascades require both susceptible population *and* spreaders



open questions:

- impact of degrees on other dynamics
- feedback from dynamics to degree [adaptive behaviors like self-quarantine, evangelism]
- when does degree not matter





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