

1

### Lab: the final models

Add a gwesp term to the faux.mesa.high model

And conduct model assessments

# We will compare three models

Model	Network Statistics g(y)
Edges + nodal attributes + mixing by attributes + degree(0)	# of edges  # edges for each grade and race group  # edges that are within-race & within-grade (DH)  # Isolates
Edges + Attributes + GWESP(0.25)	# of edges  # edges for each grade and race group  # edges that are within-race & within-grade (DH)  weighted shared partners, with decay set to 0.25
Edges + Attributes + GWESP(0.5)	# of edges  # edges for each grade and race group  # edges that are within-race & within-grade (DH)  weighted shared partners, with decay set to 0.5

### These fits can take a while

- So we won't do this interactively now
  - We'll just show the results
- But you can implement these on your own when you have some time

# **Model Comparison**

Current Model Fit Report

**Current Model Summary** 

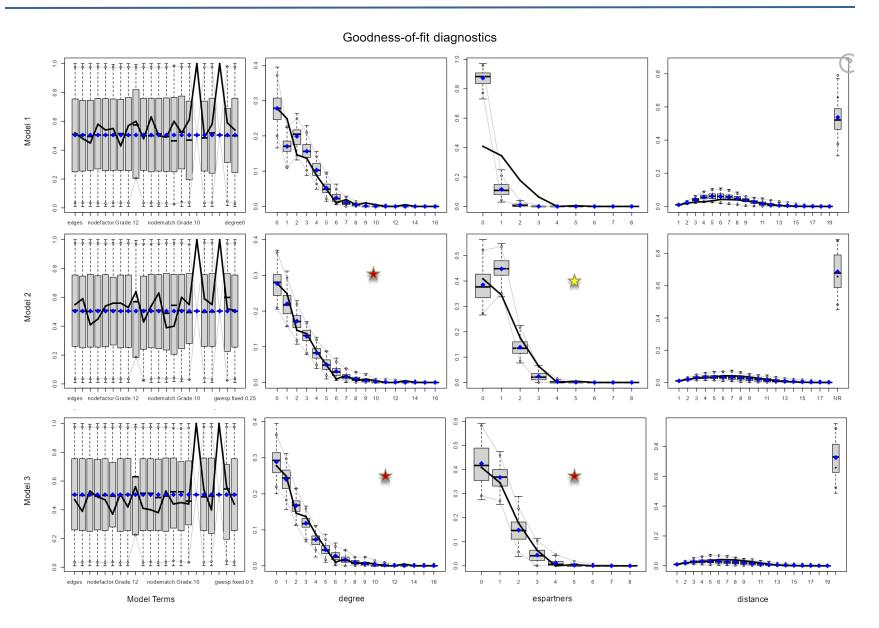
Model1 Model2 Model3 -8.186\*\*\* -8.522\*\*\* -8.551\*\*\* edges nodefactor.Grade.8 1.633\* 1.396\* 1.428\* nodefactor.Grade.9 2.670\*\*\* 2.178\*\*\* 2.213\*\*\* nodefactor.Grade.10 3.053\*\*\* 2.475\*\*\* 2.516\*\*\* nodefactor.Grade.11 2.247\*\*\* 2.285\*\*\* nodefactor.Grade.12 3.501\*\*\* 2.871\*\*\* 2.910\*\*\* nodefactor.Race.Hisp -1.396\*\*\* -1.114\*\*\* -1.092\*\*\* nodefactor.Race.NatAm -1.336\*\*\* -1.087\*\*\* -1.093\*\*\* nodefactor.Race.Other -2.165\* -2.074\* -2.134\* nodefactor.Race.White -0.725\* -0.588\* -0.604\* nodematch.Grade.7 7.469\*\*\* 5.975\*\*\* 6.006\*\*\* nodematch.Grade.8 4.292\*\*\* 3.237\*\*\* 3.215\*\*\* nodematch.Grade.9 2.060\*\*\* 1.613\*\*\* 1.626\*\*\* nodematch.Grade.10 1.281\* 1.052\* 1.059\* nodematch.Grade.11 2.495\*\*\* 1.831\*\*\* 1.789\*\*\* nodematch.Grade.12 1.361. 0.971 0.911 -Tnf\*\*\* -Tnf\*\*\* -Tnf\*\*\* nodematch.Race.Black nodematch.Race.Hisp 0.678. 0.569. 0.555. nodematch.Race.NatAm 1.272\*\*\* 1.053\*\*\* 1.058\*\*\* nodematch.Race.Other -Inf\*\*\* -Inf\*\*\* -Inf\*\*\* nodematch.Race.White 0.340 0.315 0.342 1.305\*\*\* NA degree0 NA gwesp.fixed.0.25 1.398\*\*\* NA gwesp.fixed.0.5 NΔ NA 1.257\*\*\* AIC 1806 1664 1659 BIC 1965 1823 1818

- The gwesp term is clearly significant.
- And note how the homophily coefs changes from model 1 after the gwesp is added to models 2 & 3
  - About 10-20% smaller
  - That's the impact of controlling for triadic closure effects
- Some weak evidence here that the 0.5 decay is a better fit for the gwesp term

SISMID 2025: NME

Model Comparison

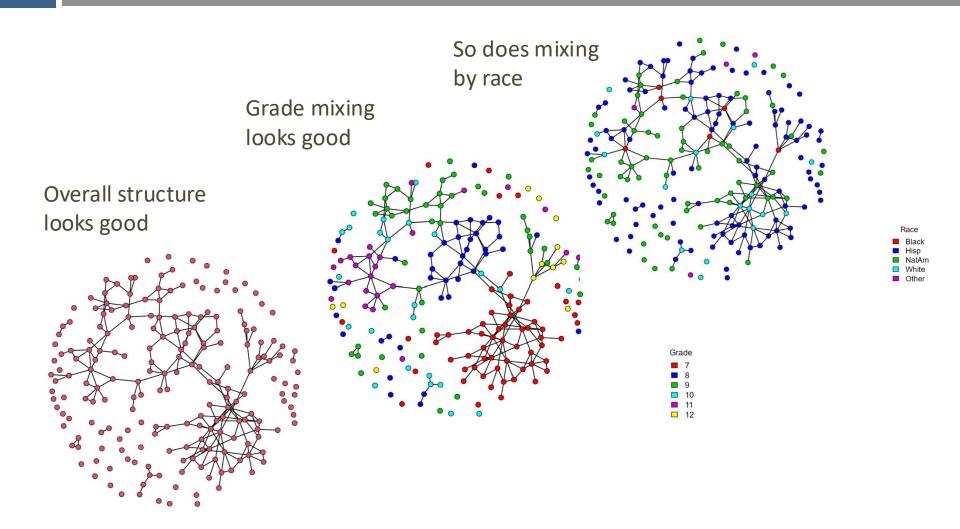
#### **GOF** comparison for all 3 models:



# Simulating networks from the model

- A fitted model describes a probability distribution across all networks of this size
  - The model assigns a probability to every possible network
  - The model terms and the estimated coefficients make some networks more likely than others
- You can simulate networks from this distribution
  - Using the same MCMC algorithm that was used for estimation and GOF
- And the simulated networks will be centered on the network statistics in the original observed network
  - This is why these models are really useful for network epidemiology

# Simulation (finally!) from Model 3



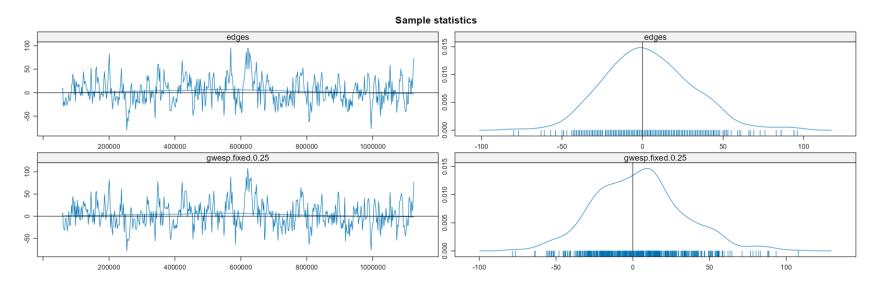
7

### Now I'm curious

What happens if we fit just edges + gwesp?

- So I tried it
  - gwesp(0.5) triggered a degeneracy stop
  - so did gwesp(0)
  - gwesp(0.25) did return a fit ...

# MCMC dx for edges + gwesp(0.25)

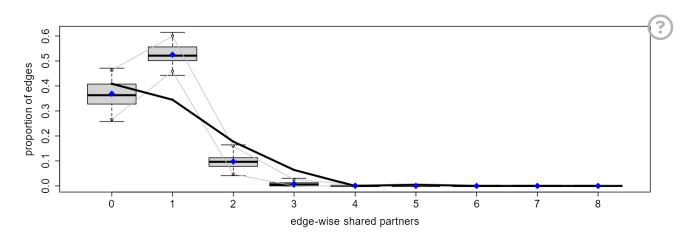


The traceplots show moderate autocorrelation

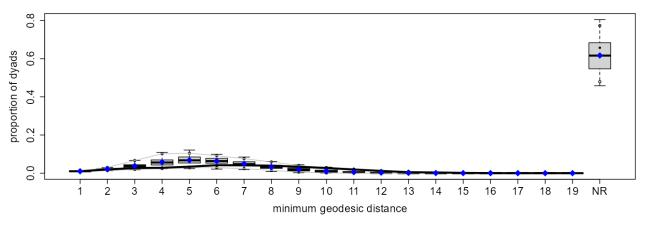
The distributions look ok tho

Could try upping the MCMC.interval control parameter

# GOF for edges + gwesp(0.25)



Better than Model 1, about the same as Model 2



But the fit to the geodesics is poor, especially near the mode

10

## Summary

- Now we can say something about this network
- Both transitivity and homophily clearly play a role in clustering these friendships
  - Homophily
    - Also reproduces the geodesic distribution
    - But not the degree distribution of the local shared partner clustering
  - Transitivity (Triadic closure)
    - Reproduces the degree distribution and captures the local clustering (ESP) well
    - But not the geodesic distribution
- The model with both does best
  - And simulations from this model look remarkably similar to the observed network

### This is what makes EpiModel so powerful

#### Believable network simulations, based on:

- Robust, principled statistical methodology for estimation and inference with a fully general modeling framework (ergms/tergms)
- Simulations deeply rooted in empirical network data that reproduce observed network statistics (in and out of the model)
- And simple data collection requirements (egocentric samples)

All of this is also embedded in a fully general stochastic epidemic modeling package