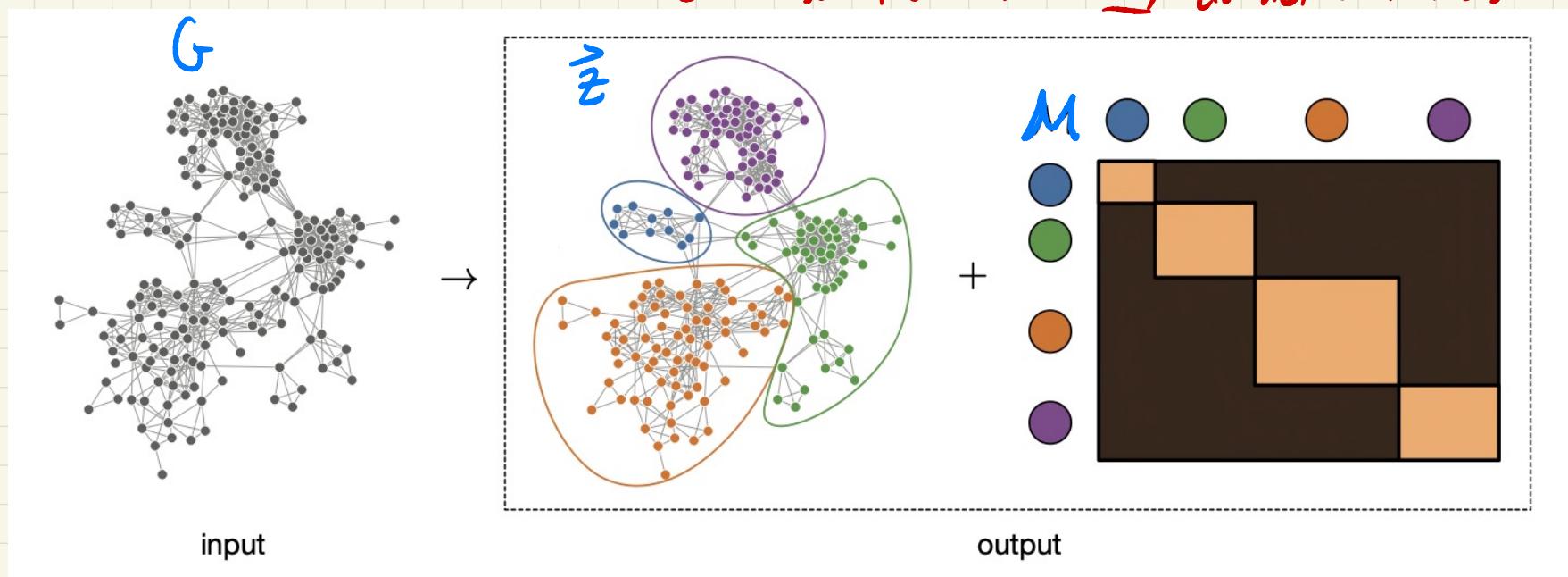


# Lecture 6: Modular networks, inference

decomposing a G into "clusters" of nodes and "bundles" of edges

2 "community detection"

Can use these for many downstream tasks

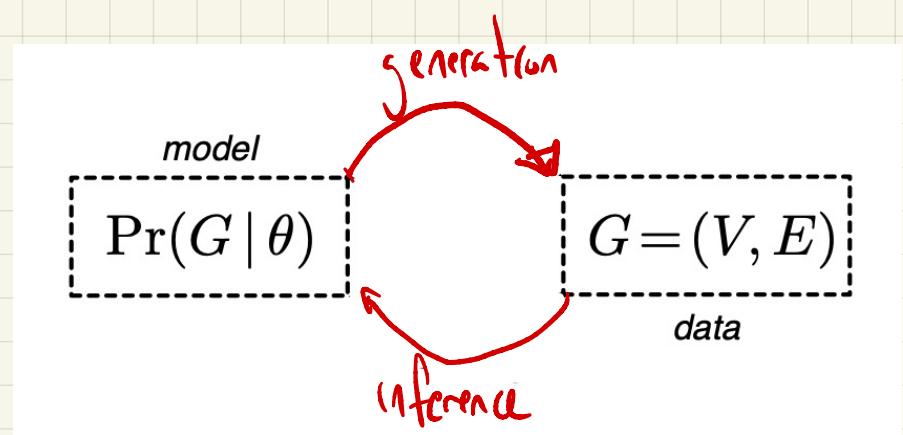


## Statistical inference

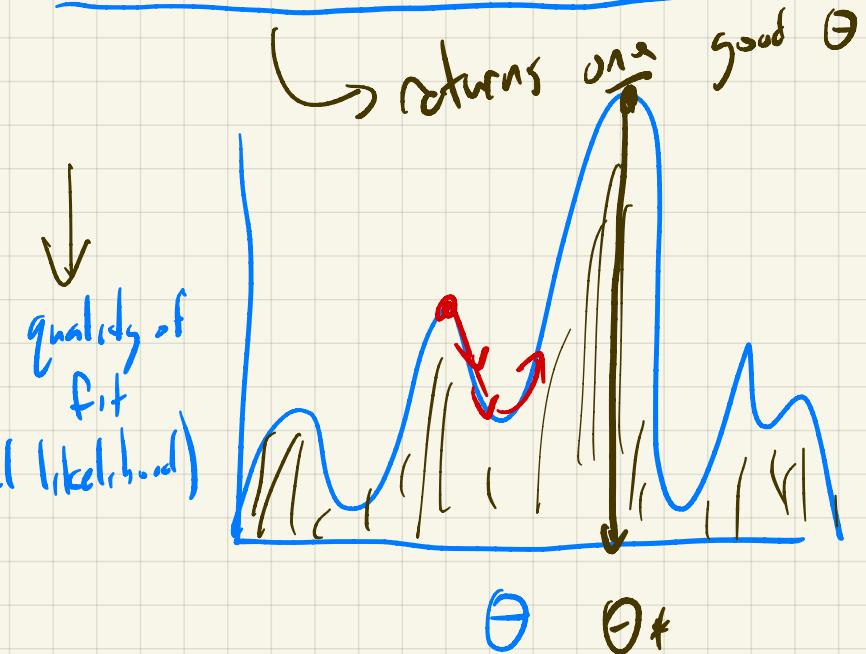
- there are 100s of algorithms for community detection now  
\* not all are useful \*
- our approach: probabilistic generative models to structured random graphs
  - 1) assumptions are clearly stated
  - 2) defines model separately from estimation
  - 3) power Bayesian tools
  - 4) good at prediction  $\Pr(i \rightarrow j | \hat{\theta})$
  - 5)  $\Pr(G | \hat{\theta}) \rightarrow$  generate synthetic nets,
  - 6) compare models easily
- Costs: models can be complicated

$$\Pr(G | \underline{\theta})$$

↑  
all structural  
assumptions

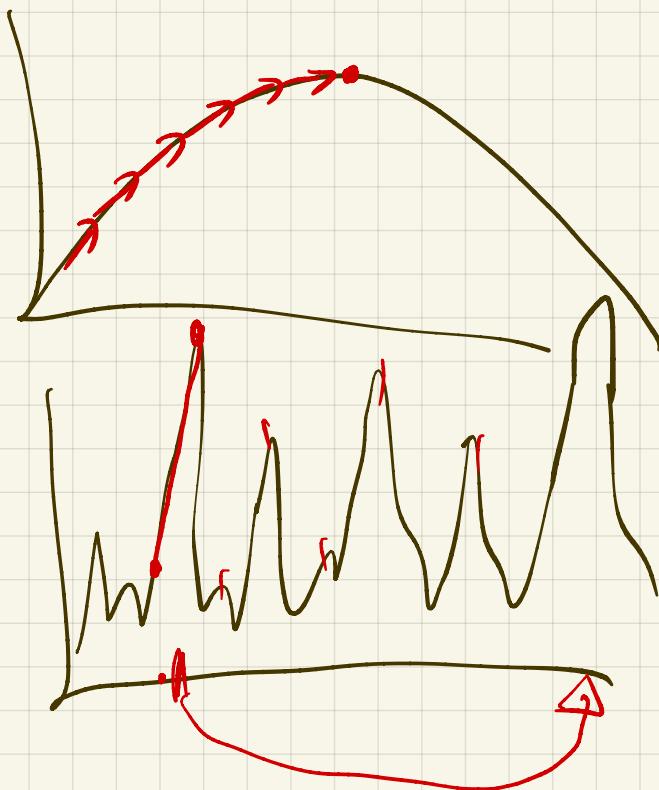


to optimize or to sample?



$p_r(\theta)$

Markov chain Monte Carlo



## the likelihood of the SBM

$$\Theta = (\zeta, \vec{z}, M)$$

# of groups  $\zeta$   
 partition of nodes  $\vec{z}$   
 mixing matrix  $M$

given a choice of  $\Theta$ , the probability of generating  $G$  is  $\Pr(G|\Theta)$

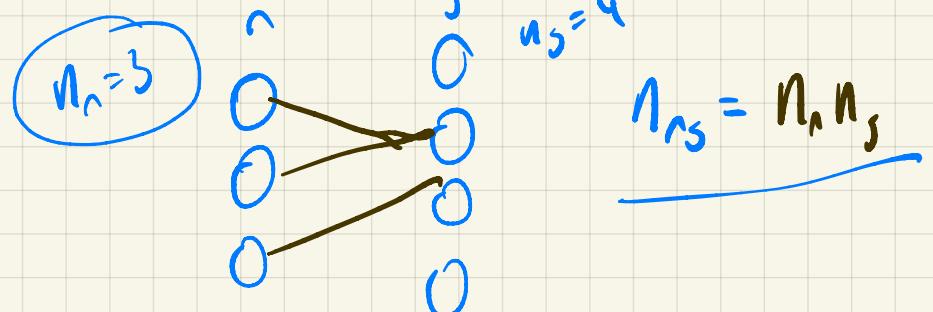
- call this the likelihood

$$\begin{aligned}
 \underline{L}(G | \vec{z}, M) &= \prod_{i,j} \Pr(i \rightarrow j | \vec{z}, M) \\
 &\stackrel{\text{data}}{=} \left( \prod_{\{(i,j) \in E\}} \Pr(i \rightarrow j | \vec{z}, M) \right) \left( \prod_{\{(i,j) \notin E\}} 1 - \Pr(i \rightarrow j | \vec{z}, M) \right) \\
 &\quad \text{edges } (A_{ij} = 1) \qquad \text{non-edges } (A_{ij} = 0) \\
 &= \left( \prod_{i,j} M_{\vec{z}_i \vec{z}_j} \right) \left( \prod_{i,j} 1 - M_{\vec{z}_i \vec{z}_j} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$



how many terms are there in this equation?

observation: lots of these terms are identical, and can be combined  
 → which terms?



auxiliary variables:

$$e_{rs} = \sum_{i=1}^n A_{rij} f_{r, z_i} f_{s, z_j}$$

count actual # edges  
 b/w groups r and s

$$N_{rs} = \sum_{i=1}^n f_{r, z_i} f_{s, z_i}$$

count # possible edges  
 b/w groups r and s

Now:

$$\mathcal{L}(G|z, M) = \prod_{r,s} \underbrace{(M_{rs})^{e_{rs}}}_{\text{edges}} \underbrace{(1 - M_{rs})^{N_{rs} - e_{rs}}}_{\text{non-edges}}$$

is every  $e_{ij}$  accounted for? how long does this take to compute?

## the maximum likelihood choice

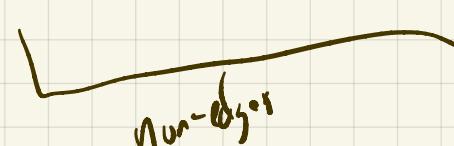
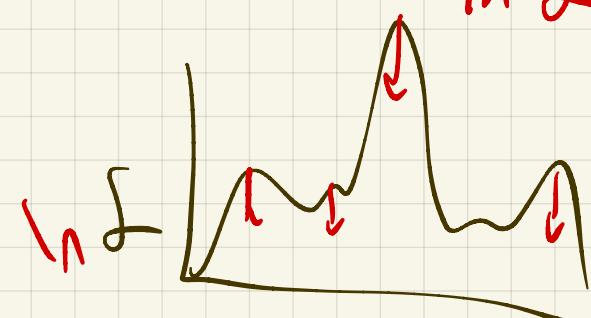
choose the  $\hat{\Theta}$  that maximizes  $\ln \mathcal{L}(G | \Theta)$

- note: the SBM likelihood is a bunch of Bernoulli trials (aka coin flips)

$$\text{So hence } \hat{M}_{rs} = \frac{c_{rs}}{n_{rs}}$$

- plug & chug & taking logs:

$$\ln \mathcal{L} = \sum_{r,s} c_{rs} \ln \left( \frac{c_{rs}}{n_{rs}} \right) + (n_{rs} - c_{rs}) \ln \left( \frac{n_{rs} - c_{rs}}{n_{rs}} \right)$$

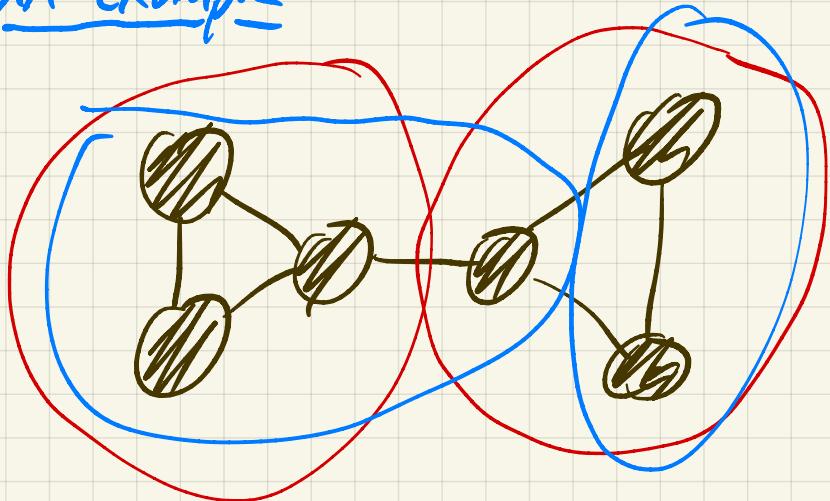


\* why is  
 $\arg\max_{\Theta} \ln \mathcal{L}$  ?  
 $= \arg\max_{\Theta} \underline{\mathcal{L}}$  ?

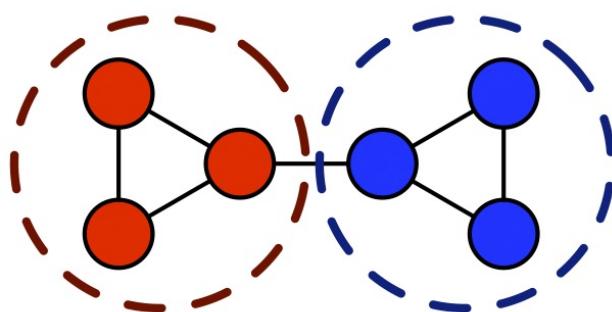
\* define  $\Theta^* = 1$

\* subject to mild "regularity" conditions,  
 the max. like. estimate  
 is asymptotically  
 consistent  
 $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \hat{\Theta} \rightarrow \Theta$   
 $\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \text{ yay!}$

an example



"good" Partition



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{good}} = 0.043304\dots$$

$$\ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{good}} = -3.1395\dots$$

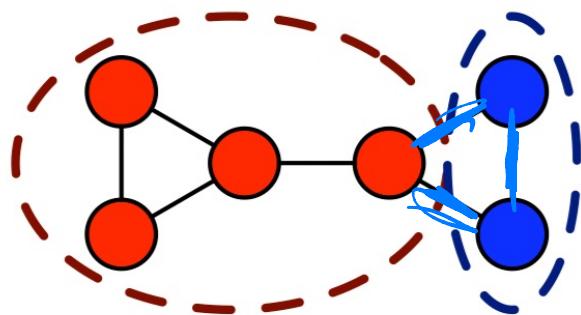
$e_{rs}/n_{rs}$	red	blue
red	3/3	1/9
blue	1/9	3/3

$$\ln \mathcal{L} = \sum_{r,s} e_{rs} \ln \frac{e_{rs}}{n_{rs}} + (n_{rs} - e_{rs}) \ln \left( \frac{n_{rs} - e_{rs}}{n_{rs}} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{good}} &= \underbrace{\left( 3 \ln \frac{3}{3} \right)}_{=0} + \underbrace{\left( 1 \ln \frac{1}{9} + 4 \ln \frac{8}{9} \right)}_{=-3.1395} + \left( 3 \ln \frac{3}{3} \right) \\ &= -3.1395 \end{aligned}$$

$$e^{\ln \mathcal{L}} = 0.043304\dots$$

"bad" partition



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{bad}} = 0.000244\dots$$

$$\ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{bad}} = -8.3178\dots$$

$e_{rs}/n_{rs}$	red	blue
red	4/6	2/8
blue	2/8	1/1

$$\ln \mathcal{L} = \sum_{r,s} e_{rs} \ln \frac{e_{rs}}{n_{rs}} + (n_{rs} - e_{rs}) \ln \left( \frac{n_{rs} - e_{rs}}{n_{rs}} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{bad}} &= \left( 4 \ln \frac{4}{6} + 2 \ln \frac{2}{8} \right) + \left( 2 \ln \frac{2}{8} + 6 \ln \frac{6}{8} \right) \\ &\quad + \left( 1 \ln \frac{1}{1} \right) = -8.3178\dots \end{aligned}$$

$$e^{\ln \mathcal{L}} = 0.000244\dots$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{L}_{\text{good}}}{\mathcal{L}_{\text{bad}}} = e^{(\ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{good}} - \ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{bad}})} = 177$$



## the likelihood of a DC-SBM

$$\Theta = (\zeta, \vec{z}, \vec{k}, M)$$

in SBM:  $\Pr(i \rightarrow j) \rightarrow \text{Bernoulli}(M_{z_i z_j})$

in DC-SBM:  $\Pr(i \rightarrow j) \rightarrow \text{Poisson}(\gamma_i \gamma_j M_{z_i z_j})$

hence

$$\mathcal{L}(G | z, \gamma, M) = \prod_{i,j} \text{Poisson}(\gamma_i \gamma_j M_{z_i z_j})$$

$$= \prod_{i \in z_i} \frac{(\gamma_i \gamma_j M_{z_i z_j})^{A_{ij}}}{A_{ij}!} \exp(-\gamma_i \gamma_j M_{z_i z_j}) \times \prod_i \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2} \gamma_i^2 M_{z_i z_i}\right)^{A_{iiz_i}}}{(A_{iiz_i})!} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \gamma_i^2 M_{z_i z_i}\right)$$

just like SBM, likelihood has 2 parts: between group & within group edges

just like SBM, we can simplify  $\mathcal{L}(G|z, \gamma, \mu)$

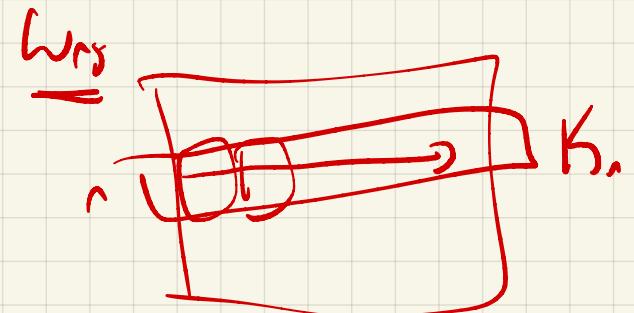
- Collect various constants
- substitute MLEs

$$\hat{\gamma}_i = \frac{k_i}{\sum k_{2i}}$$

where

$$k_n = \sum_s w_{rs} = \sum_i k_i \delta_{2ir}$$

"group degrees"



$$\hat{m}_{rs} = w_{rs}$$

$$w_{rs} = \sum_{i,j=1}^n A_{ij} \delta_{2ir} \delta_{2js}$$

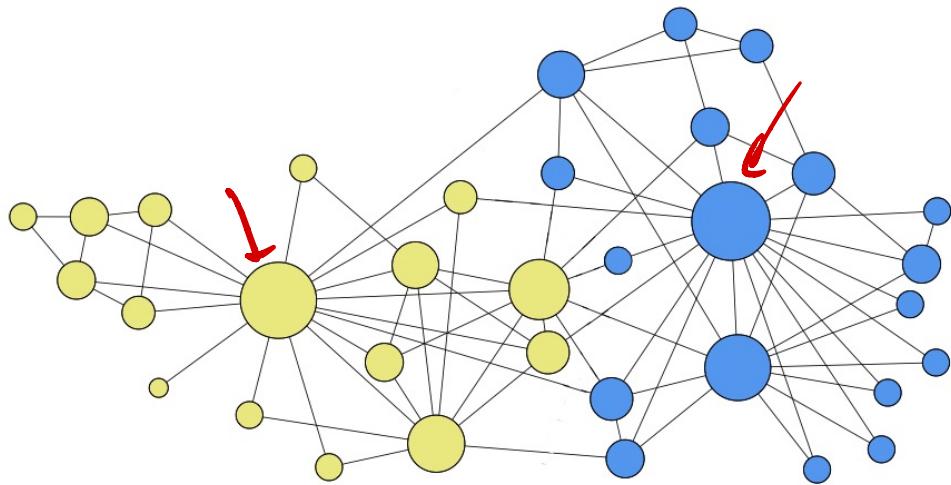
Mixing matrix counts (or stats)

then

$$\ln d = \sum_{r,s} w_{rs} \ln \frac{w_{rs}}{k_n K_n}$$

Key point: SBM  $\frac{w_{rs}}{K_n K_n}$   
DCSBM  $\frac{w_{rs}}{K_n K_n}$

## An example: the Zachary Karate Club

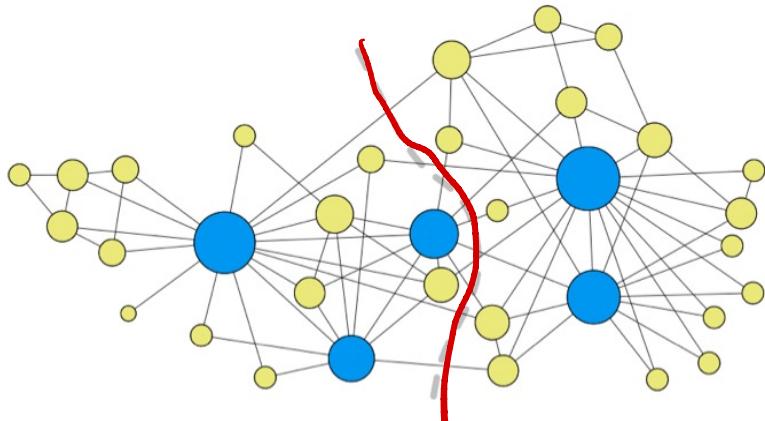


C the "social partition"

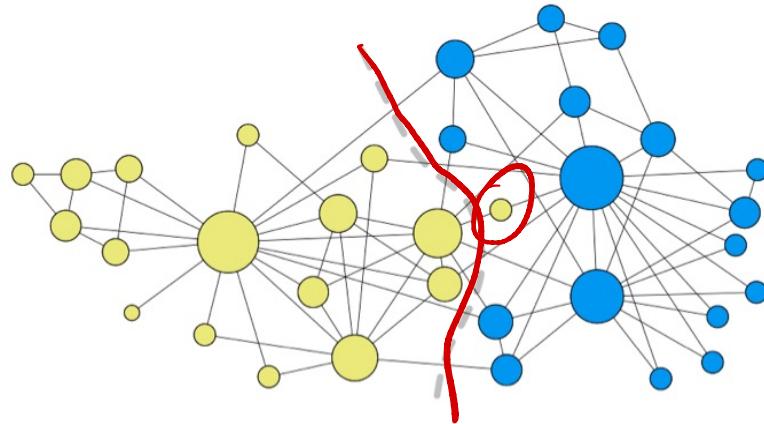
$$n = 34$$

$$m = 78$$

What happens if we SBM or  
DC-SBM this network?



best  $\hat{z}$ , SBM ( $c = 2$ )



best  $\hat{z}$ , DC-SBM ( $c = 2$ )

"leader-follower" partition

why?

$e_{rs}/n_{rs}$	A (16)	B (18)
A (16)	33/120	10/288
B (18)	—	35/153

$$\ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{SBM}} = -196.29 \text{ (social)}$$

$e_{rs}/n_{rs}$	A (5)	B (29)
A (5)	5/10	54/145
B (29)	—	19/406

$$\ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{SBM}} = -179.39 \text{ (leader-follower)}$$

almost the social partition

why?

$\omega_{rs}$	A (16)	B (18)	$\kappa_r$
A (16)	66	10	76
B (18)	10	70	80

$$\ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{DC-SBM}} = -739.43 \text{ (social)}$$

$\omega_{rs}$	A (5)	B (29)	$\kappa_r$
A (5)	10	54	64
B (29)	54	38	92

$$\ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{DC-SBM}} = -772.28 \text{ (leader-follower)}$$

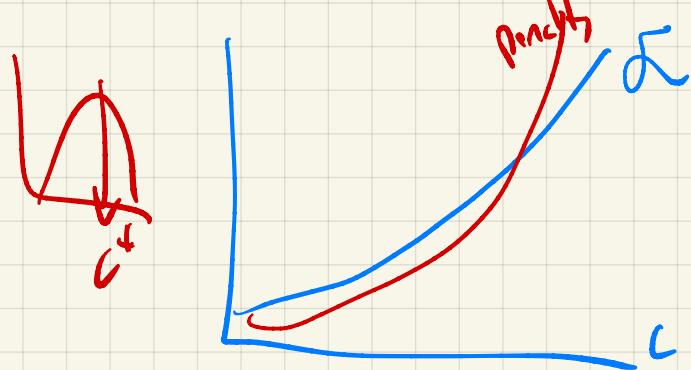
Note: how do we choose  $c$ , the # of groups?

SBM & DC-SBM both have fixed  $c$  inside of

$$\Theta = (c, \pi, \vec{k}, \mu)$$

DC-SBM

→ can also learn the best  $c$ , but... → regularization



$c=2 \rightarrow c=3$

AIC  
BIC  
MDL  
LRT

$\mu: O(c^2)$   
Bayesian marginalization

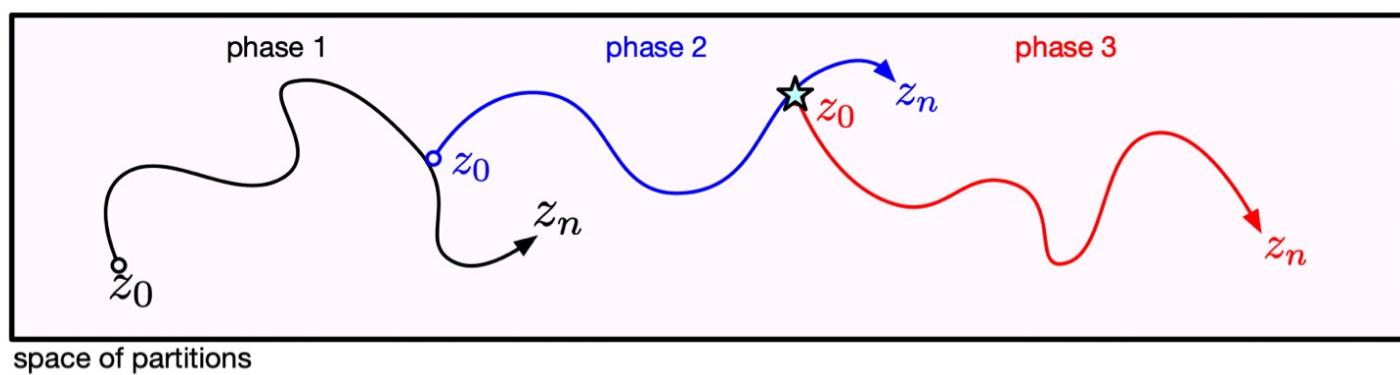
### Finding good partitions

- search over the  $n^c$  possible partitions to find a good  $\hat{\pi}$
- many, many ways
  - Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)
  - expectation-maximization
  - Belief-Pmp
  - Simulated annealing (tempering)

## locally greedy heuristic

a generalization of the Kernighan-Lin heuristic (developed in 1970s for graph partitioning)

- constructs a sequence of partitions  $\{z_i, z_{i+1}, z_{i+2}, \dots\}$  in a series of phases
- Continue phases until every partition in phase  $l$  is no better than the best  $\underline{z_*}$  (with the best  $\underline{f_*}$ ) in phase  $l-1$
- if a new best  $\underline{z_*}$  is found, start a new phase at that partition



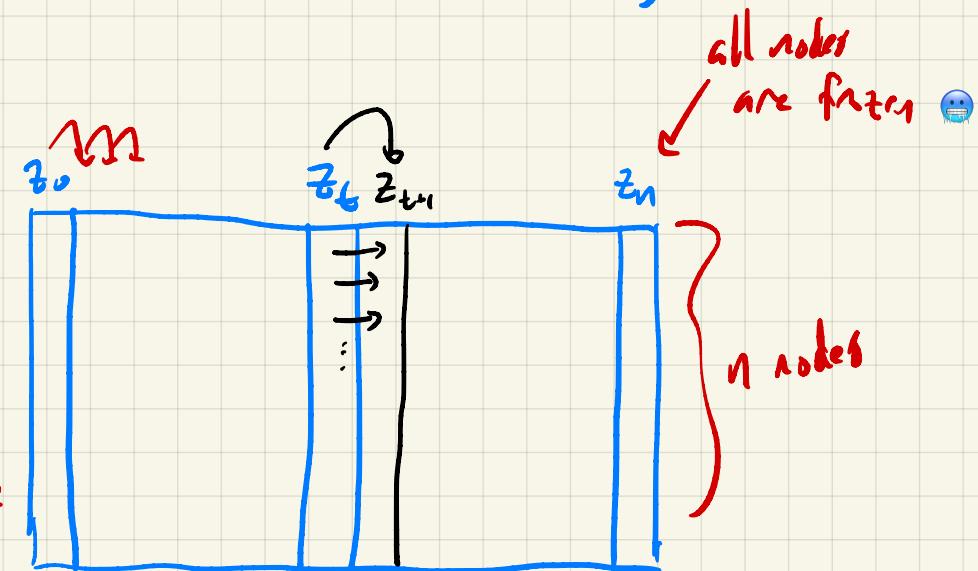
high level: take greedy choice, for changing label of 1 node at a time

1) initially : choose a random  $z_0$ , set  $z_* = z_0$ ,  $L_* = \ln \mathcal{L}(z_0)$

2) within a phase:

a unfreeze all nodes

① loop: choose node label-change  
that is BEST \*  
move that node & "freeze" it  
 $(C-1) \times (n-t)$  greedy choice



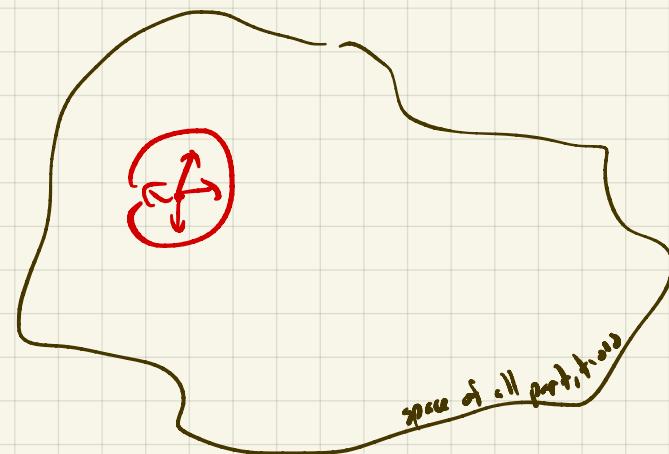
3) at end of phase:

if  $\exists z_t > z_*$ , then  
update  $z_*$ ,  $L_*$   
set  $z_0 = z_*$   
start new phase

else: return  $z_*$ ,  $L_*$

initial t for  
this phase

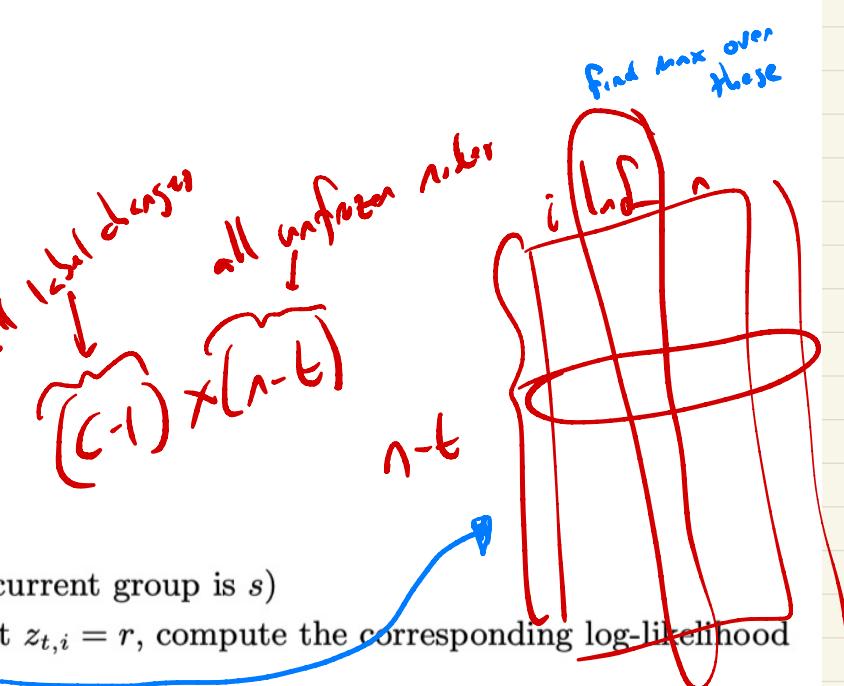
- $t$  nodes are "frozen"
- how many entries change from  $z_t \rightarrow z_{t+1}$ ?
- how can we efficiently store this info?



function local-greedy( $G$ ):

1. initialization

- create  $z_0$  by assigning  $z_{0,i} = \text{Uniform}(\{1, \dots, c\})$ ,
- record its log-likelihood  $L_0 = \ln \mathcal{L}(z_0)$
- set  $t = 1$  and set all nodes to be “unfrozen”



2. run a phase

while  $t < n$  (some node is unfrozen):

- $z_t = z_{t-1}$  (copy the last partition)

(b) try all the moves

for each of the  $(n - t)$  unfrozen nodes:

- let  $i$  be an unfrozen node, and let  $s = z_{t,i}$  ( $i$ 's current group is  $s$ )

- for each choice of a group  $r \in \{1, \dots, c\} - s$ , set  $z_{t,i} = r$ , compute the corresponding log-likelihood value, and store it as a tuple  $(i, \ln \mathcal{L}, r)$

- of these tuples, keep the one with the most positive log-likelihood  $\ln \mathcal{L}$

- reset  $z_{t,i} = s$  *\*very important! put node i back in its original group*

(c) a greedy choice

of the  $(n - t)$  tuples  $(i, \ln \mathcal{L}, r)$ , one for each unfrozen node, select the one with the most positive  $\ln \mathcal{L}$

(d) freeze that node

set  $z_{t,i} = r$  (move one node)

set  $L_t = \ln \mathcal{L}$  (record its log-likelihood)

freeze node  $i$

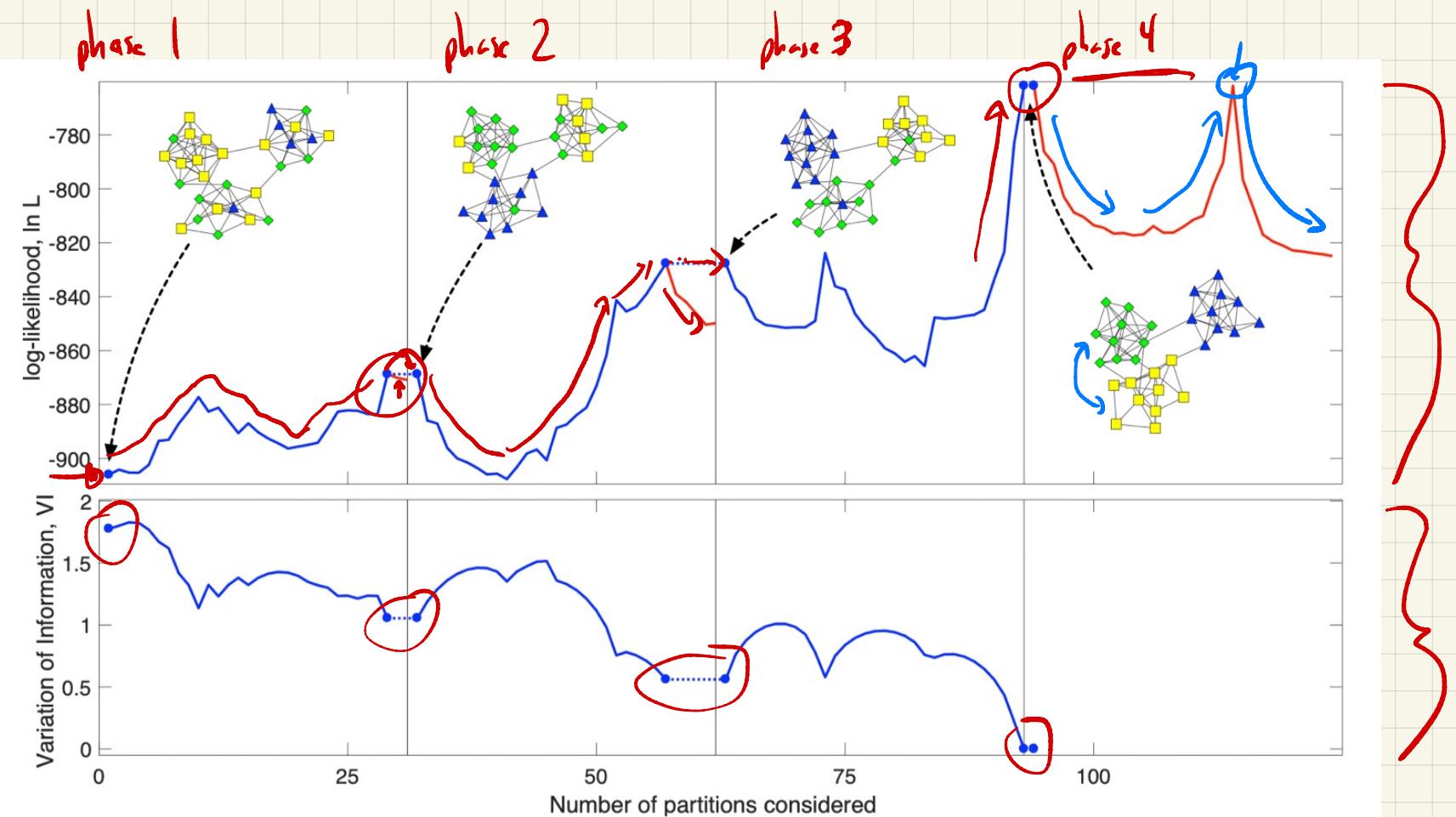
$t = t + 1$  (next partition in the sequence)

3. evaluate the phase

- among the  $(n + 1)$  log-likelihoods  $L_0, \dots, L_n$ , identify the largest  $L_*$  and corresponding partition  $z_*$
- (halt) if  $L_* \leq L_0$ , then halt and return  $z_0$
- (new phase) else, set  $z_0 = z_*$ ,  $L_0 = L_*$ ,  $t = 1$ , unfreeze all nodes, and run a new phase

## An example

$n=30$      $c=3$     assortative  $M$   
(equal sized)  
↑



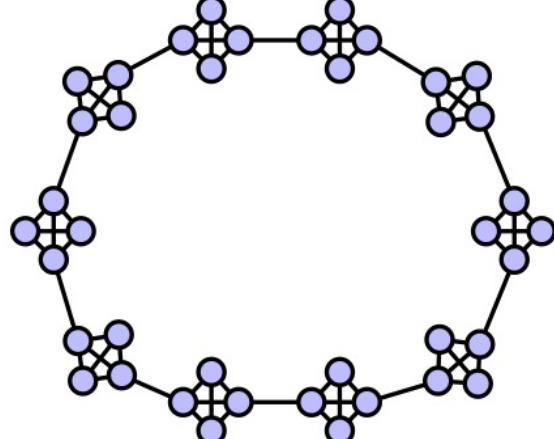
distance measure for partitions  $VI(A, B)$   
 $\xrightarrow{?}$  ground truth

## 3 caveats for community detection

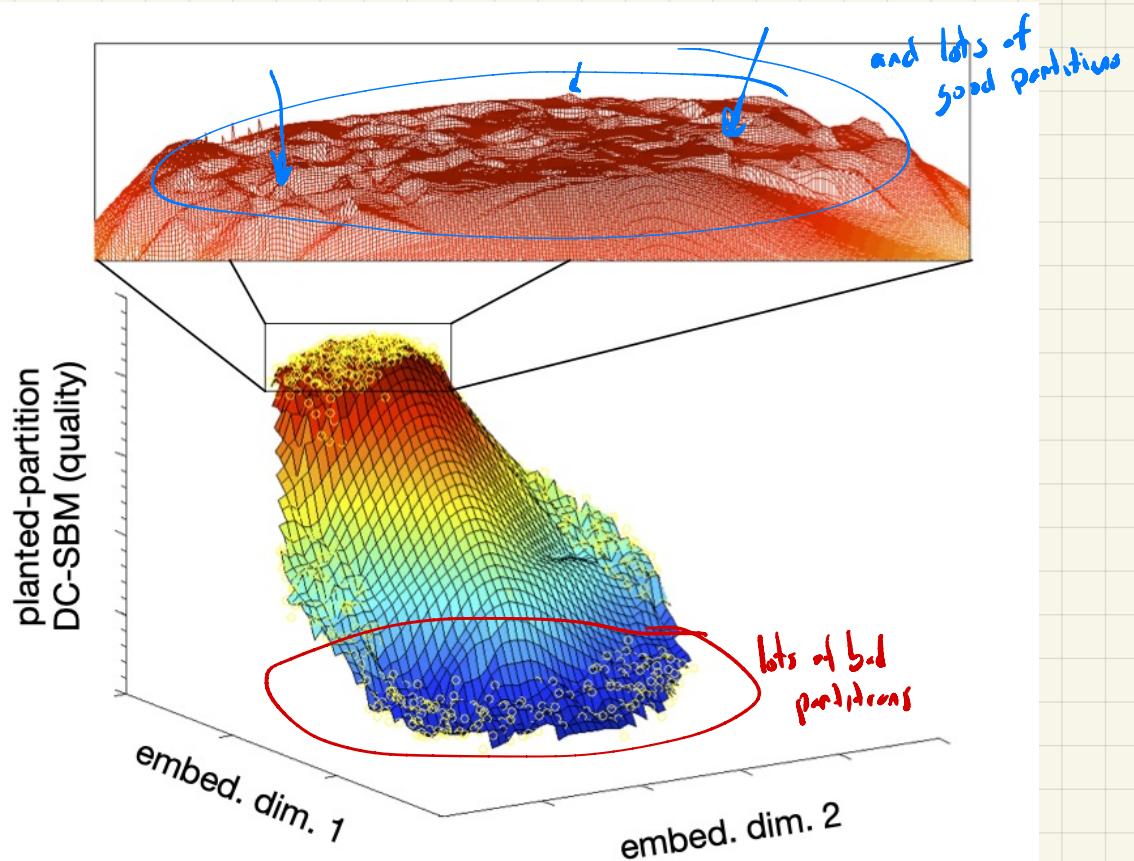
①

competitive local optima

- it's unsupervised  $\Rightarrow$  community detection just compresses the data
- Many "good" compressions

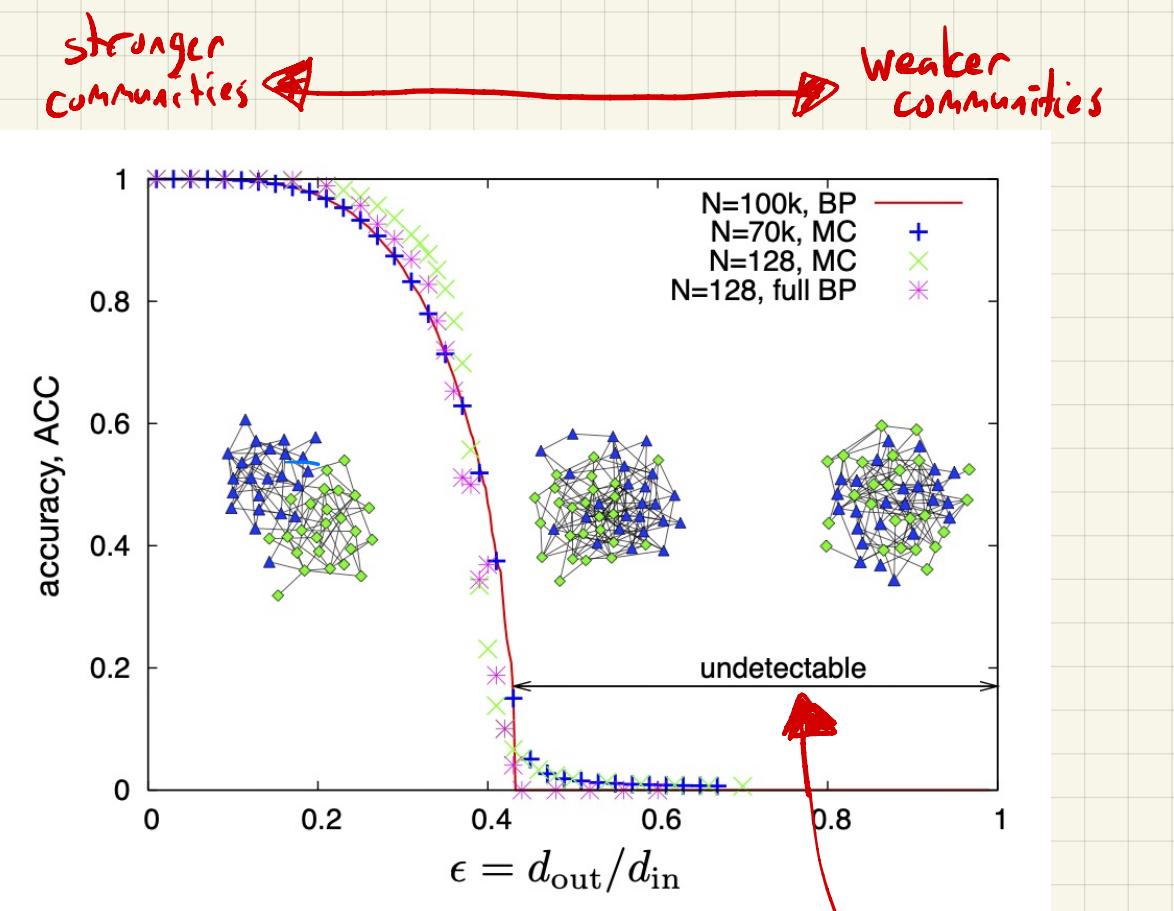


the "ring" network



② not all modules are detectable

SBM  
planted partition  $v=2$



no algorithm can work!

### ③ no ground truth and No Free Lunch

- No guarantee output is scientifically meaningful (no ground truth)
- no "best" algorithm for all data sets (No Free Lunch)

$$g(T) \rightarrow G_{ZFC} = g'(T')$$

↑  
 SBM      leader-filter  
 ↓  
 DCSBM      social partition

