

# VIRAL MARKETING OF INFORMATION

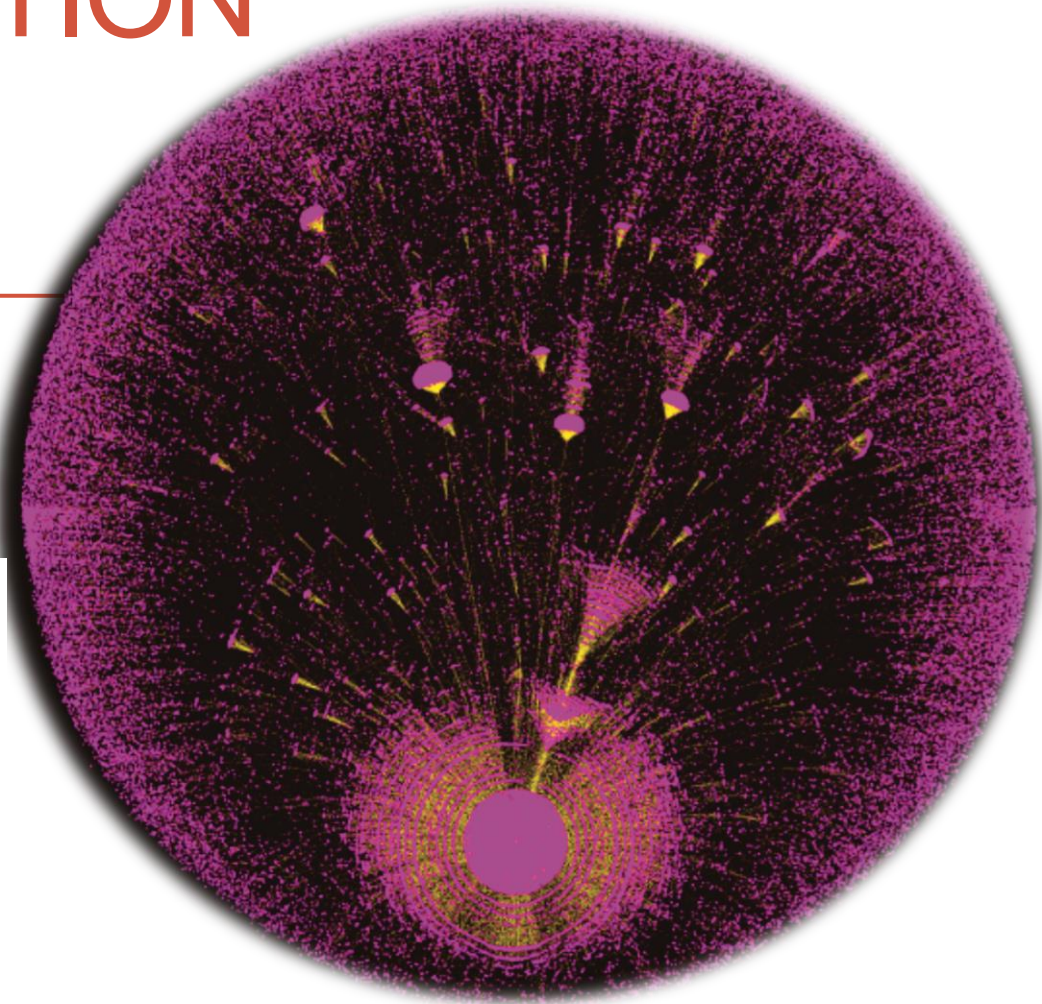
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Institute of  
High Performance  
Computing



# Online Social Media (OSN)



# Devastating Power of OSN

## - Social Unrest



- 2011 London Chaos
  - 3443 crimes within days
  - 3100 people arrested
  - \$300 million damage
  - Blackberry Messenger???



- Arab Spring
  - Organized through Social media
  - Facebook
  - Twitter





# Promoting power of OSN

## - Viral Video



# Influence of nodes $s_i$

- Influence of node  $i$ 
  - Expected **final** number of infected nodes  $s$

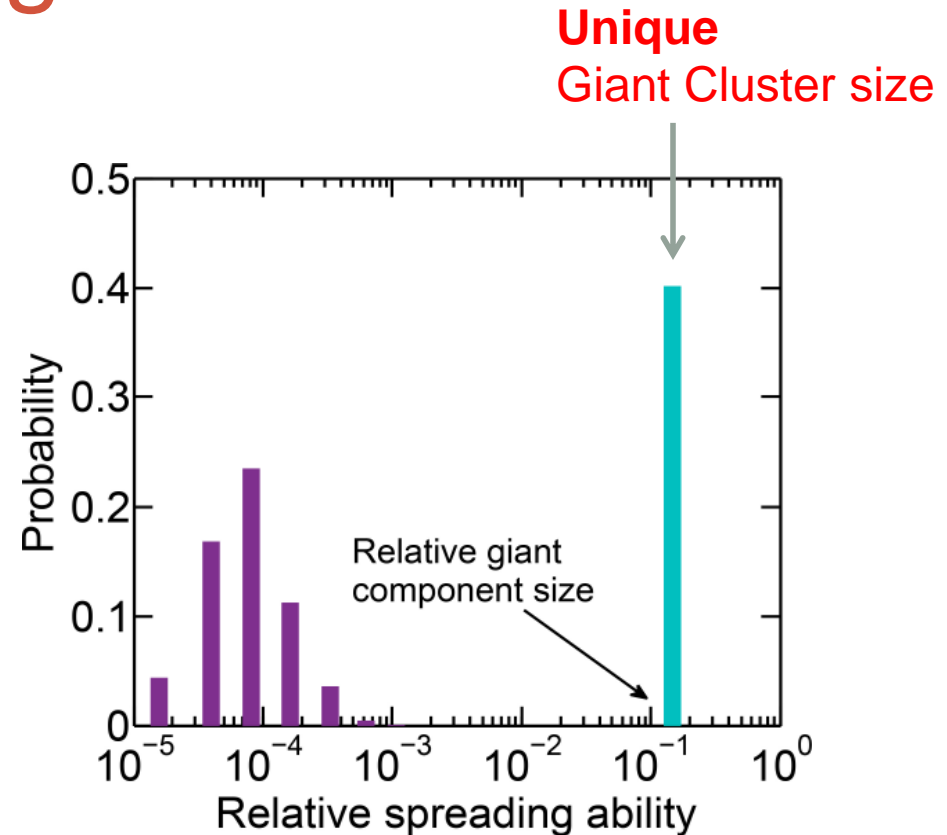
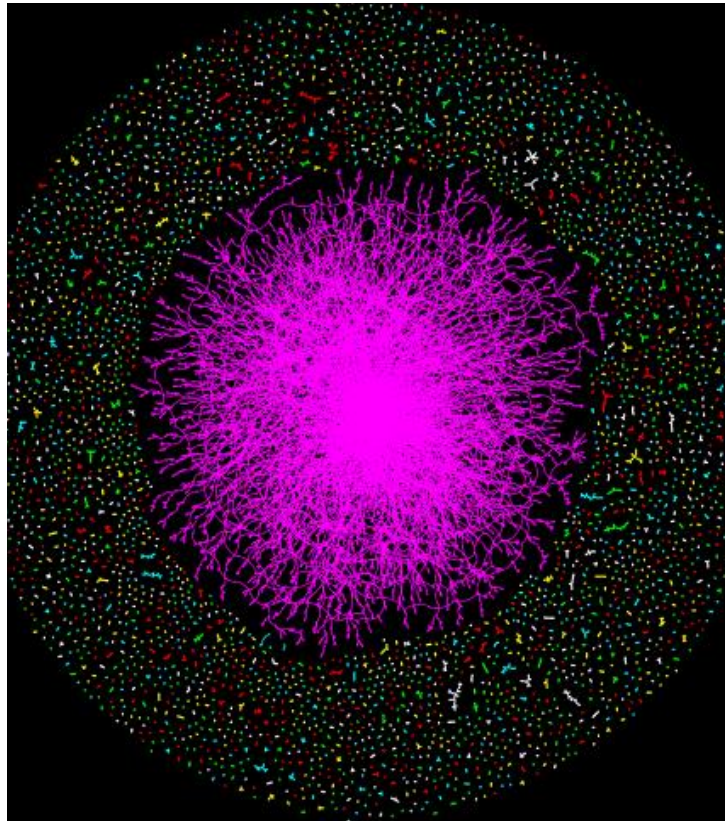
$$s_i = \sum_{s=1}^N s \cdot p_i(s)$$

- Influence of set of nodes

$$s_V = \sum_{s=1}^N s \cdot p_V(s)$$



# Bimodal spreading outcome



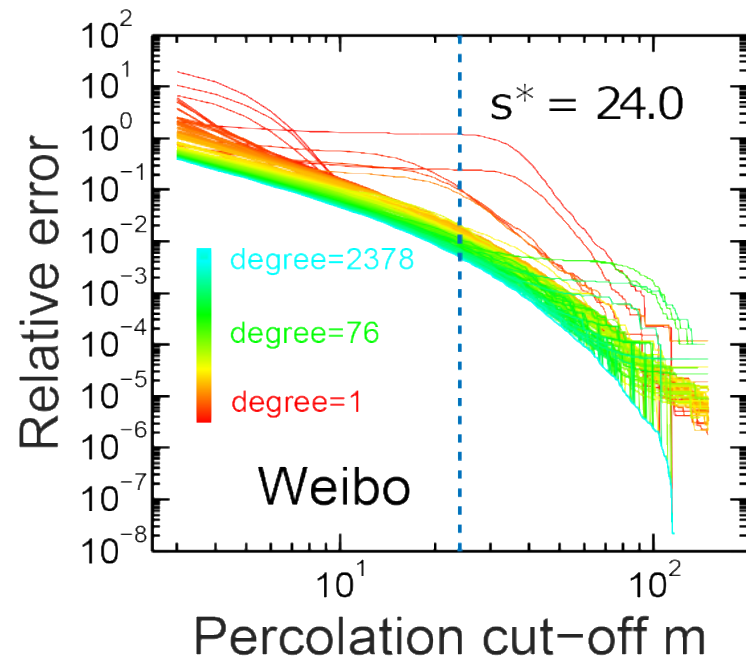
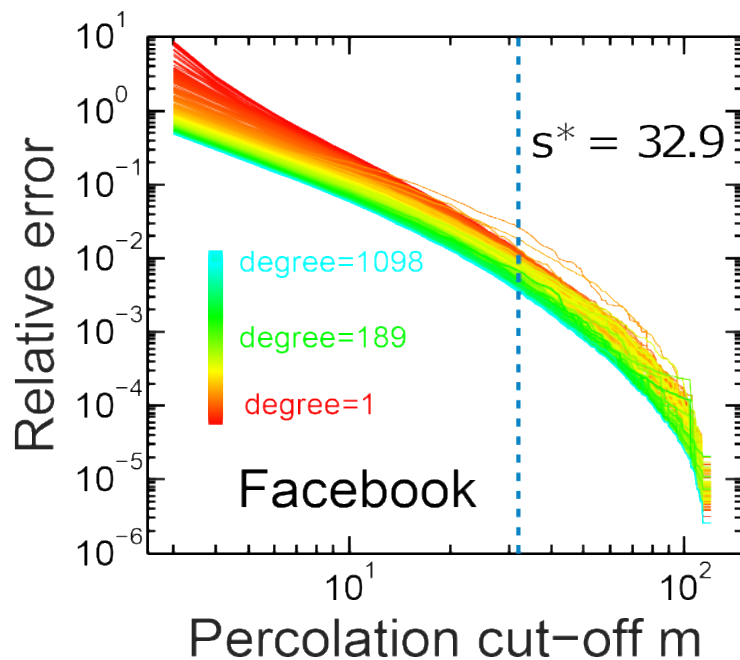
\* SIR simulation on New Orleans Facebook network, <http://socialnetworks.mpi-sws.org/data-wosn2009.html>. (Bimal Viswanath and Alan Mislove and Meeyoung Cha and Krishna P. Gummadi, 'On the Evolution of User Interaction in Facebook', Proceedings of the 2nd ACM SIGCOMM Workshop on Social Networks (WOSN'09)).

\* Hu Yanqing, Sheng Gong Ji, Ling Feng, Yuliang Jin, Shlomo Havlin, 'Quantify and Maximise Global Viral Influence Through Local Network Information' arXiv preprint arXiv:1509.03484, 2015 - arxiv.org

# Determination of cutoff $m = 2 s^*$

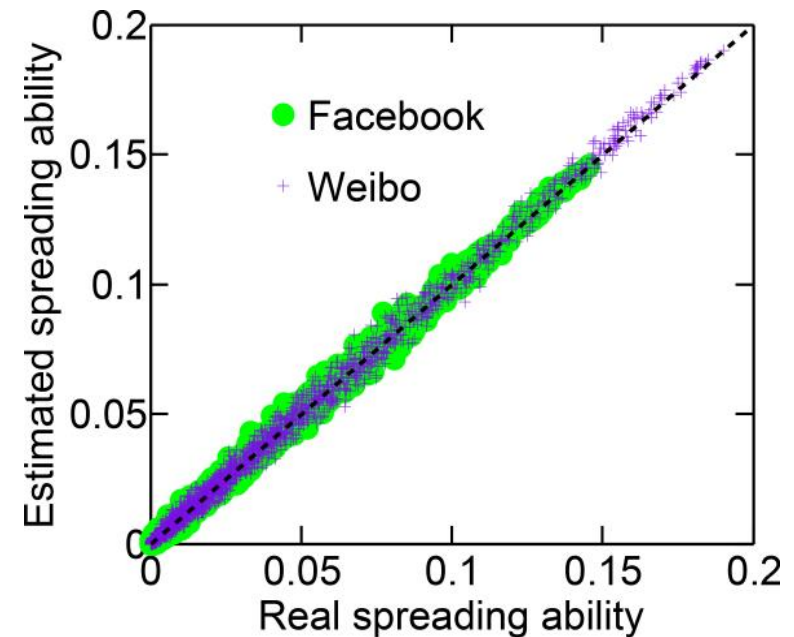
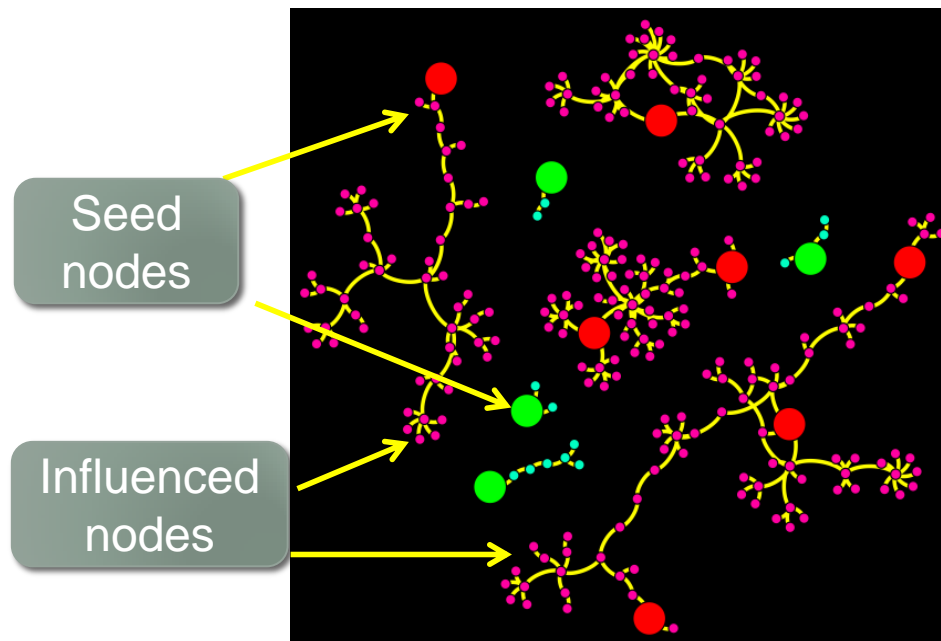
Exponential decay of cluster size with **characteristic size  $s^*$**  (excluding GC)

$$p_f(s) \sim s^{-\tau} e^{-s/s^*}$$



# Simple Spreadability estimation

- cluster size cutoff  $m = 50$



Spreading ability  $s_V = s^\infty \cdot p_V(s^\infty)$

GC Size

GC Probability

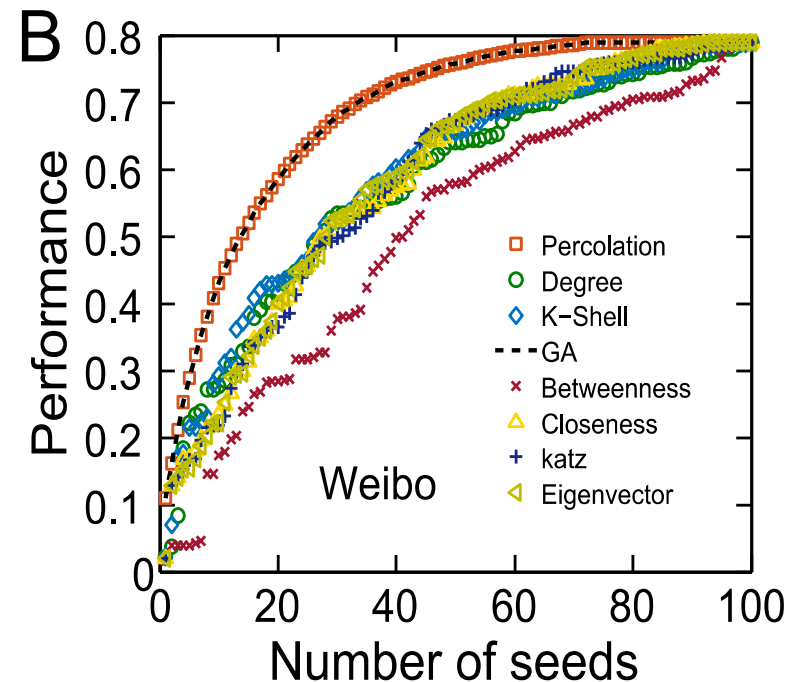
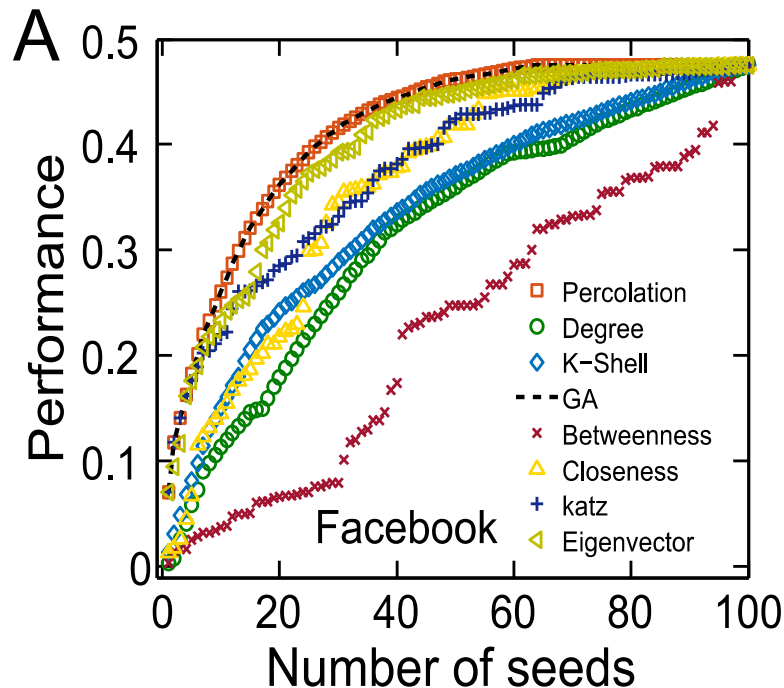
$$\left[1 - \sum_{s_i=1}^{m-1} p_i(s_i)\right]$$

$$\left[1 - \langle \sum_{s_j=1}^{m-1} p_j(s_j) \rangle\right]$$



# Find the best spreader set (most influential)

## - Natural greedy of percolation



Algorithm	Percolation	Greedy	Genetic	K-shell	Katz	Eigen	Closeness	Between
Complexity	$O(LM)$	$O(NLM)$	$O(NMPG)$	$O(N)$	$O(N^3)$	$O(N)$	$O(N^2 \log N)$	$O(N^2)$

Independent of  $N$  – network size

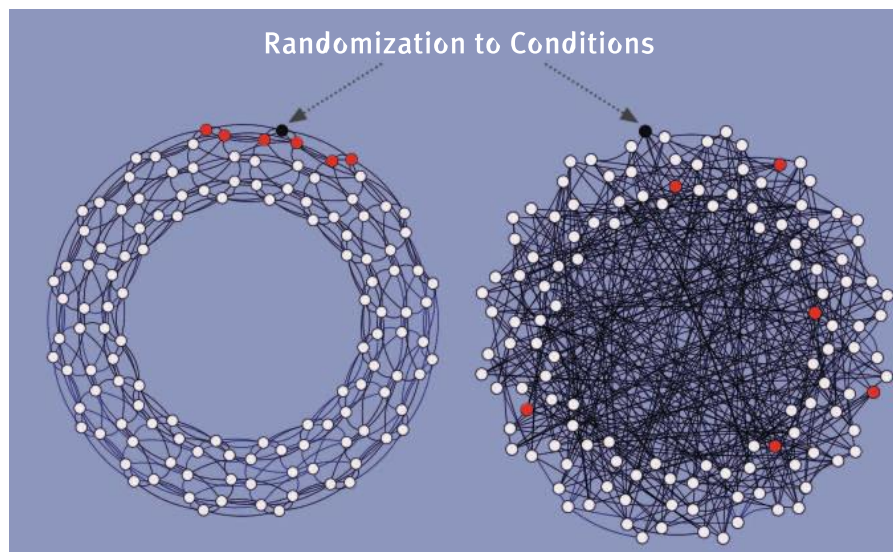
# Conclusion

- Local structure hints on global influence
- Low computational complexity – independent of  $N$
- Rich physics
  - Percolation – Spreading equivalence
  - Existence of Giant Cluster
  - Unique size of Giant Cluster
  - Exponential decay of non giant cluster sizes
  - Estimated characteristic cluster size – deciding factor of cutoff  $m$
  - Larger  $N$ , more defined GC size, better estimation accuracy.

Is SIR model realistic??

# Experiment on OSN

## - Social Reinforcement



Clustered

Links shuffled

Clustered network  
diffusion  
opinions/behaviors  
faster  
In spite of large  $L$

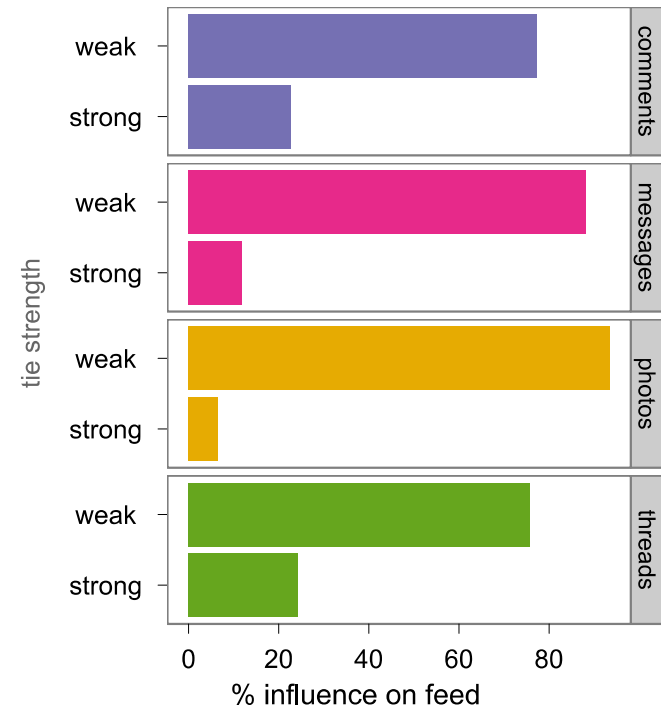
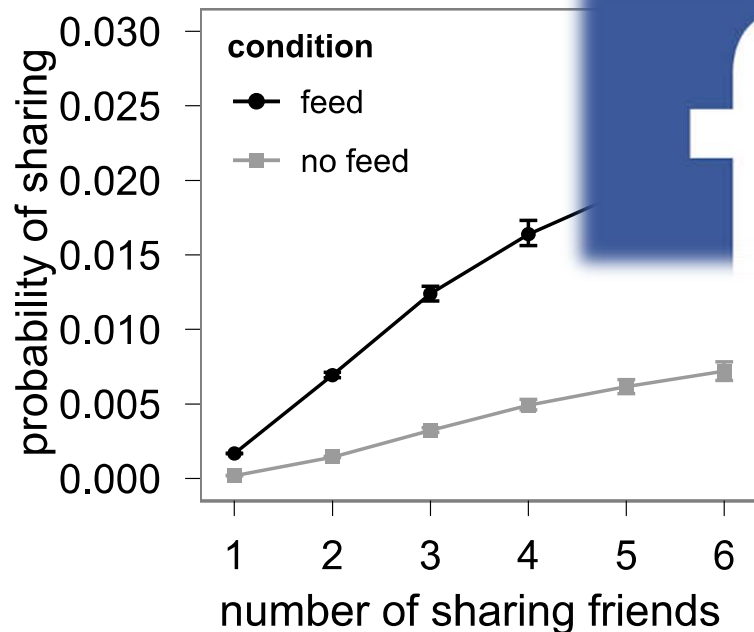


Multiple signal  
enhances diffusion



# Empirical Study

## - Sharing Behaviors



Multiple signal enhances  
Spreading/sharing

Weak links contributes  
dominantly to diffusion

# Empirical study on viral spreading

## - Most popular messages on SINA Weibo



小时榜 | 24小时榜 | 周榜 | 月榜 | 往日回顾

### TOP 1



刘恺威

歡迎劉家新成員！媽媽辛苦了！ 母女平安！感恩！祝全天下的小朋友和我家小糯米兒童節快樂

6月1日 14:15 来自iPhone 5s

👍(557944) | 转发(155417) | 收藏 | 评论(131276)

354438°C

### TOP 2



TFBOYS-王俊凯

明天高考就结束了，希望哥哥、姐姐们都能取得好成绩，我也进入中考最后的冲刺阶段啦！今天还收到一份特别的礼物，四叶草们送的家教机，竟然找到了我们二模

Duration	No. MSG	Popularity	No. Users	Ave. Followers	Max Popularity
Dec 2012	1000	>10,000	40M	>100	250,000

Feng Ling\*, Hu Yanqing, Li Baowen, Stanley H Eugene, Havlin Shlomo, Braunstein Lidia A (2015) Competing for Attention in Social Media under Information Overload Conditions. PLoS ONE 10(7): e0126090. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0126090

# User data

- detailed spreading path for each message

One Message	One URL
Seed node	$n_0$
1 <sup>ST</sup> Infected	$n_1$
No. Nei	$k_1 = 4$
Prior Infect nei	$k_1^- = 1$
Ave. $k_-$	$\langle k_i^- \rangle$
Total Users	$N = 16$
Spams/fake	removed
Final Popularity	$R = N_i / N$ $= 8 / 16$



# Example of a popular Message

埋有玄奘大师灵骨的西安兴教寺正面临大规模拆迁，当地政府给出的拆迁原因是丝绸之路联合申遗的需要，据说是投资建设“兴教寺佛教文化旅游景区建设项目”，我的佛友宽池法师作为寺院住持阻止无效，网民们都在呼吁我给予关注，事关重大，我作为一个演员真诚地希望国家宗教局等有关机构及领导出面协调。

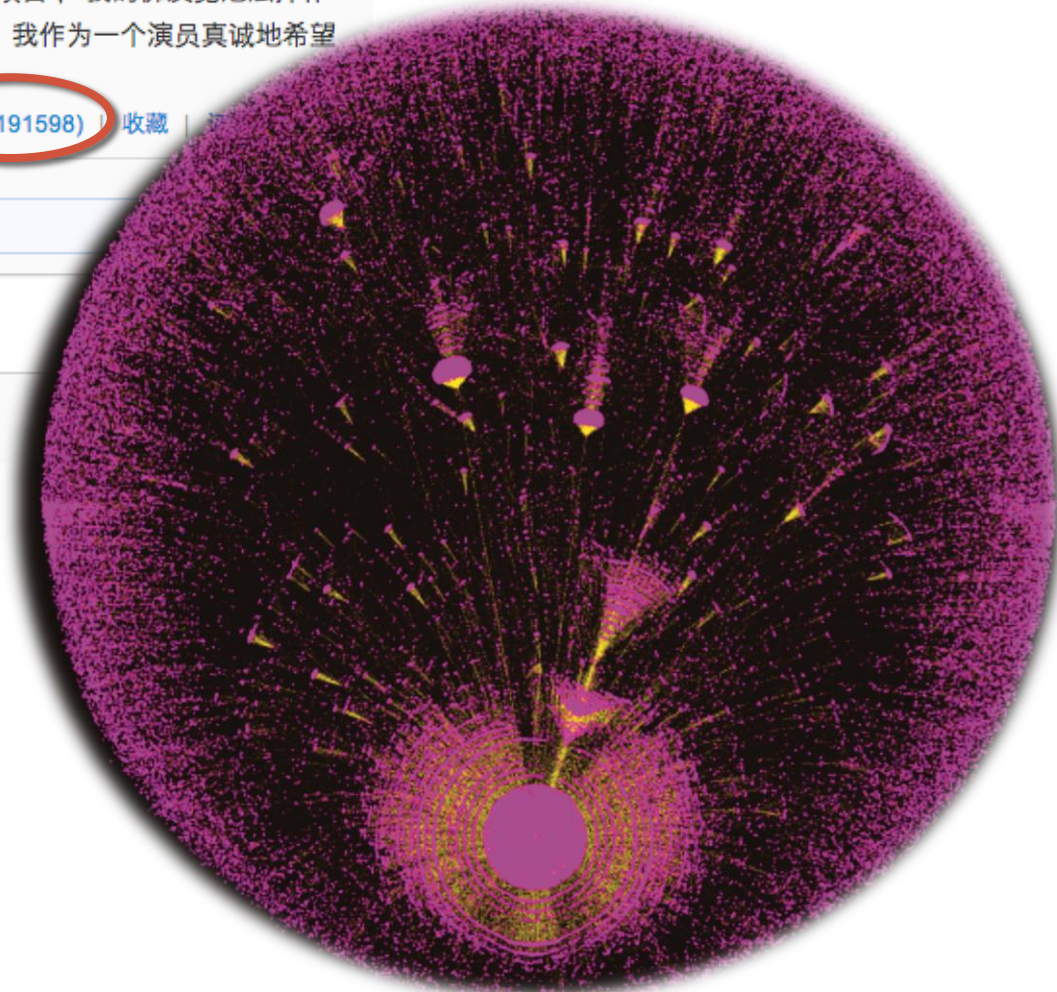
2013-4-10 20:25 来自短信 | 举报

👍(25580) 转发(191598) 收藏

🔔 微博社区管理中心举报处理大厅，欢迎查阅！

😊 ☐ 同时转发到我的微博

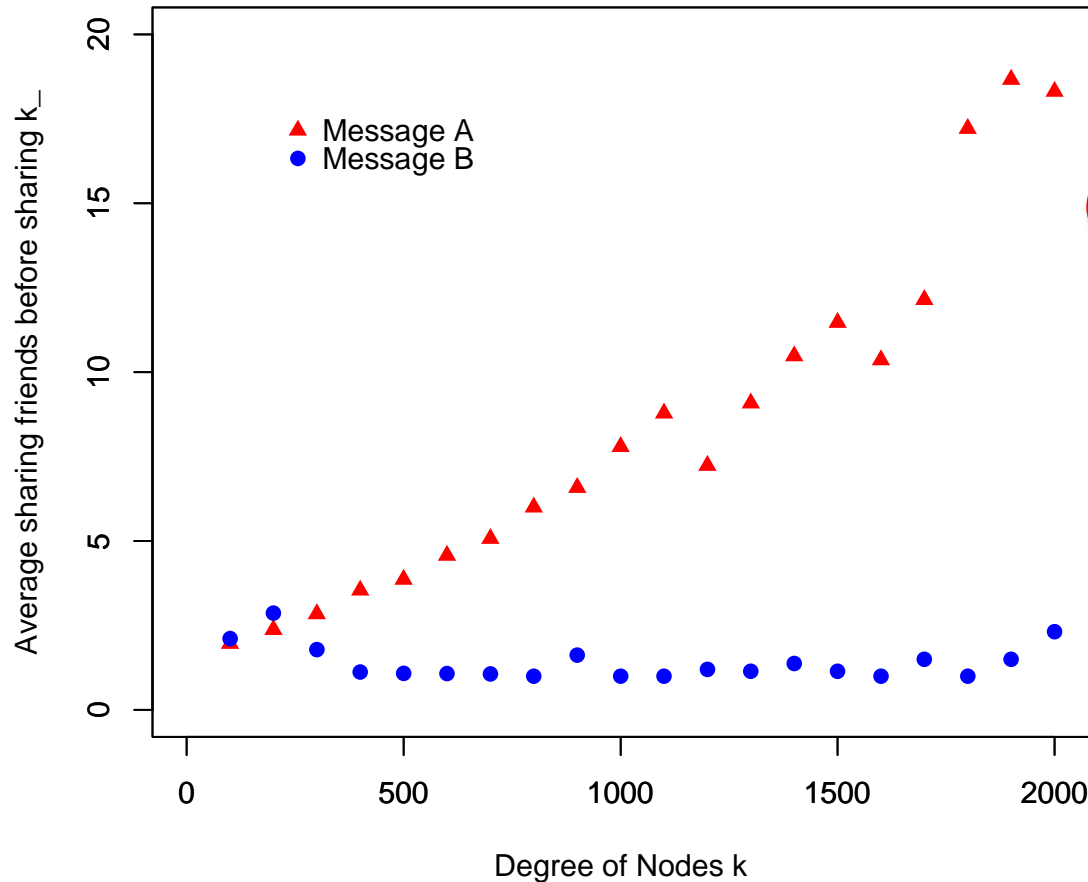
- Popularity = 191598
- Purple dot : user
- Yellow line: sharing path





# Empirical result I

- two types of mechanisms



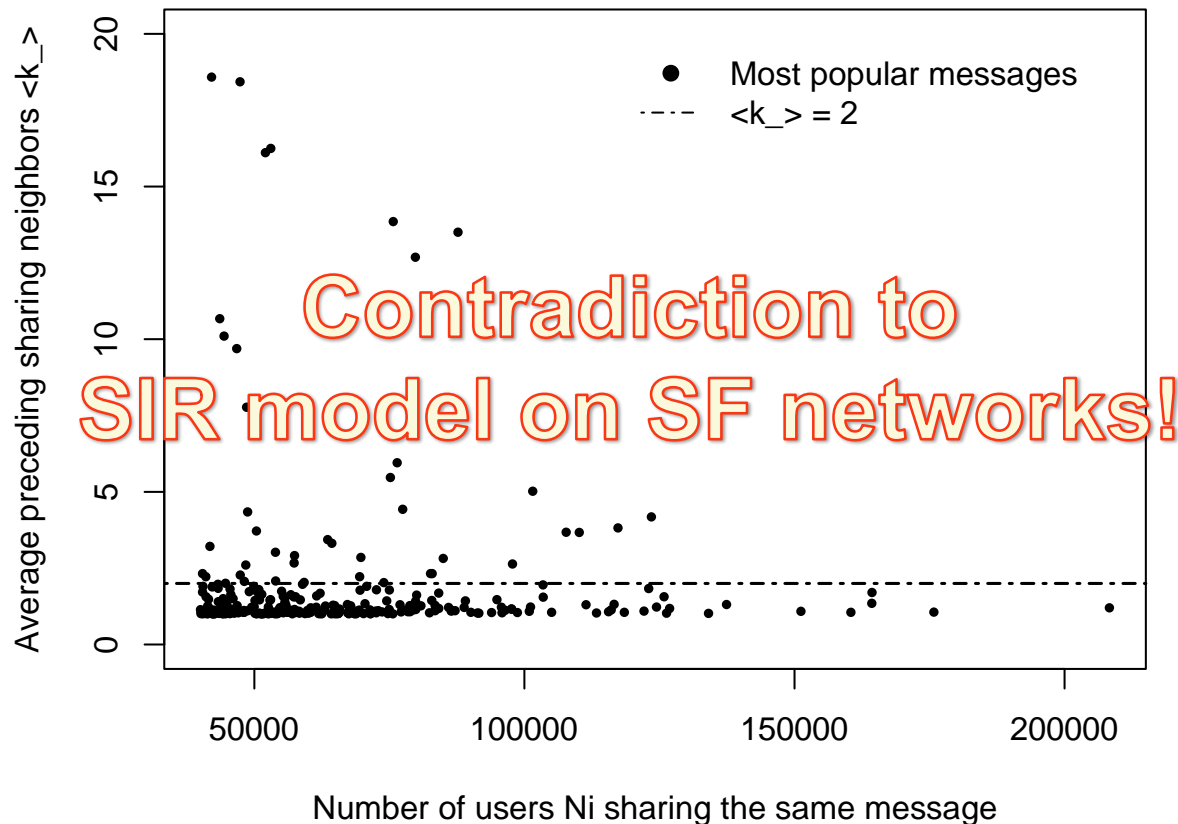
Type A:  
Social reinforcement

Type B:  
Immediate decision

Simple percolation

# Empirical result II

-  $\langle k \rangle$  smaller than 2



1) Pastor-Satorras, Romualdo, and Alessandro Vespignani. "Epidemic spreading in scale-free networks." Physical review letters 86.14 (2001): 3200.

2) Meloni, Sandro, Alex Arenas, Sergio Gmez, Javier Borge-Holthoefer and Yamir Moreno. "Modeling epidemic spreading in complex networks: concurrency and traffic." Handbook of Optimization in Complex Networks. Springer US, 2012.

# SIR model on Scale-Free networks

- Three states for nodes in epidemic (**information**) spreading:
  - **S** - Susceptible
    - User who have not retweet the message
  - **I** - Infected
    - Having retweet the message from a friend recently
    - Remain visible to followers
  - **R** - Recovered
    - Have retweet the message
    - No longer visible to friends
    - Not going to retweet the same message again.



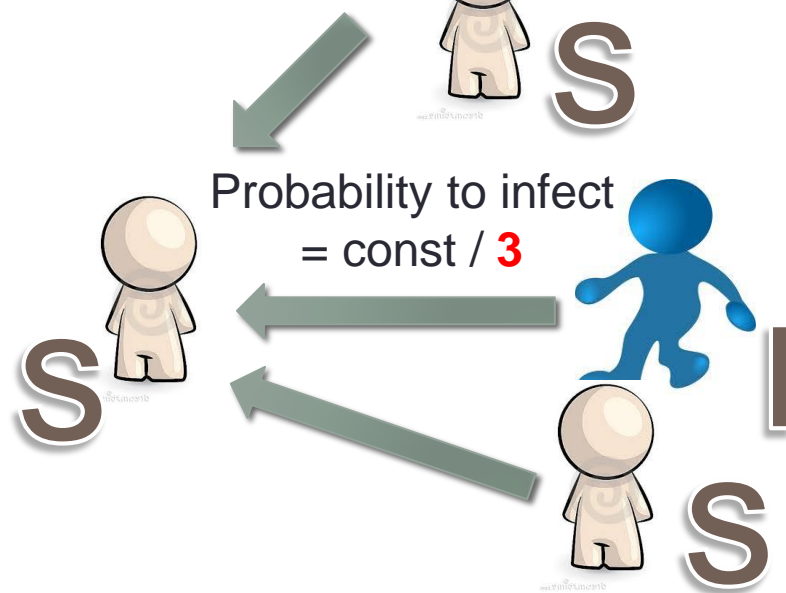
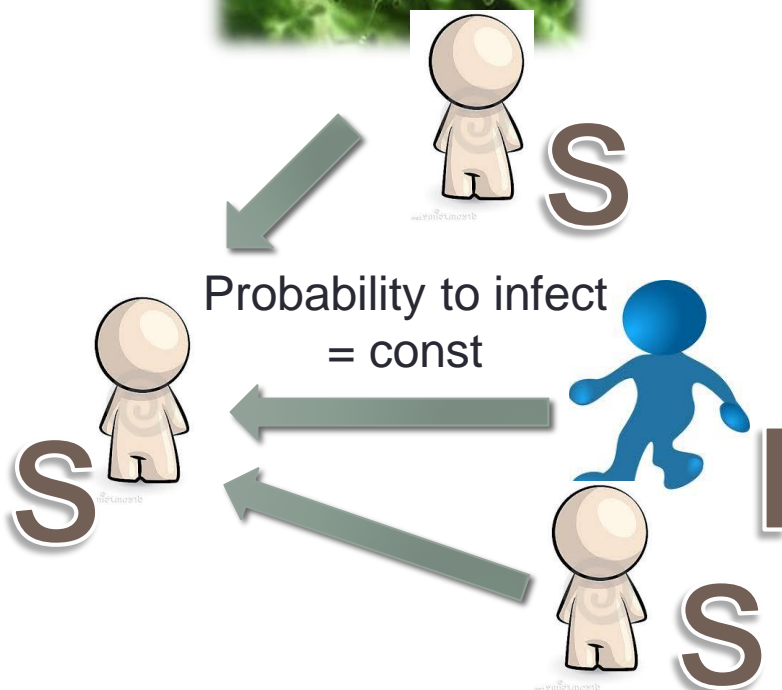
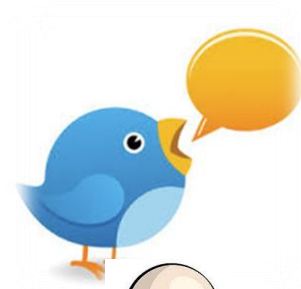
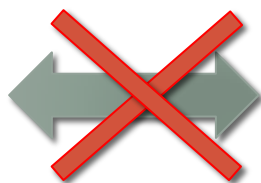
1) Pastor-Satorras, Romualdo, and Alessandro Vespignani. "Epidemic spreading in scale-free networks." Physical review letters 86.14 (2001): 3200.

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# Difference between disease and tweet

$\langle k \rangle$  larger than 2

$\langle k \rangle$  smaller than 2





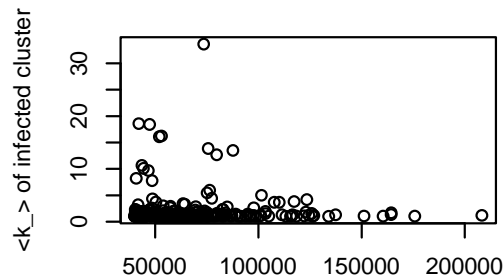
# FSIR Model

- Network structure:
  - Total No. Nodes  **$N = 100,000$** .
  - Scale-free Network (numerically resembles OSN) with
    - **$P(k) \sim k^{-2.5}$**
  - Average degree  **$\langle k \rangle = 50$**  (not sparse network)
- Simulation model:
  - Seed node 0 initiate a message at time 0
  - At time  $t$ , a S node  $i$  retweets the message from each of its already retweeting followees with **probability  $\gamma/k_i$** .
  - After  $\tau$  time steps, node  $i$  is no longer visible, and turns into R. Thus the total probability of sharing the tweet from a infected neighbor is
    - $T_i = 1 - (1 - \gamma/k_i)^\tau$ .
  - Spreading stops when there is no existing infected node.

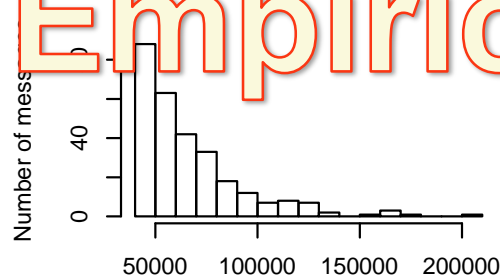
**The only parameter  $\gamma$  is chosen to give matching infection fraction with empirical data**

# Empirical v.s. Model

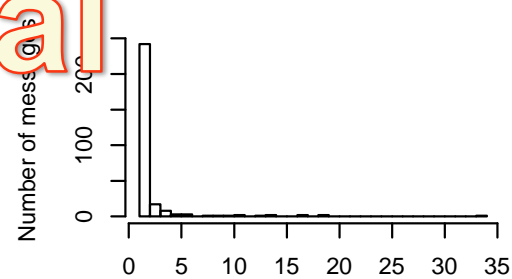
A. Empirical data with  $N_i > 40000$



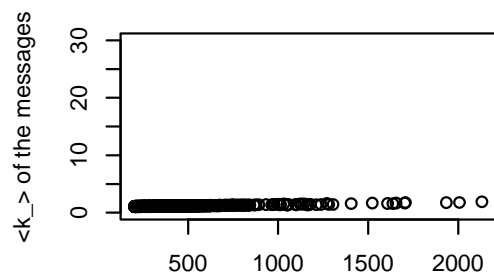
B. Empirical data with  $N_i > 40000$



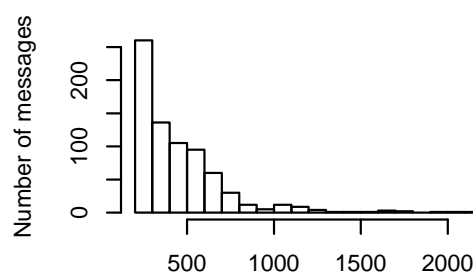
C. Empirical data with  $N_i > 40000$



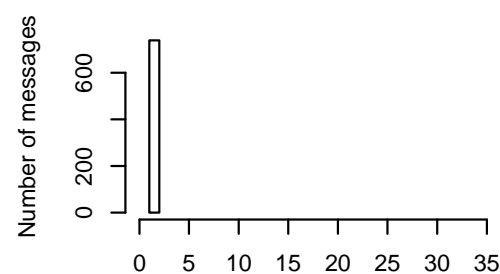
D. FSIR simulation



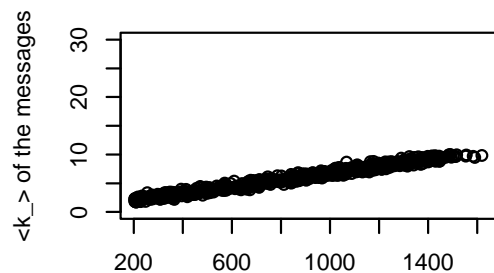
E. FSIR simulation



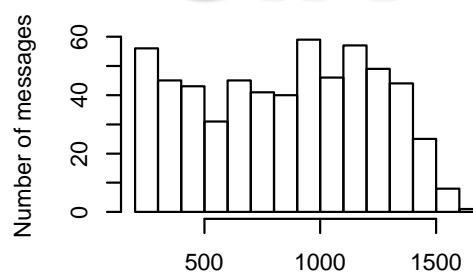
F. FSIR simulation



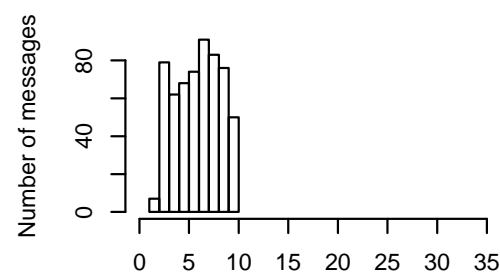
G. SIR simulation



H. SIR simulation



I. SIR simulation



Empirical

FSIR

SIR

# Theoretical understanding of phase transition

## - Generating function

- Degree distribution  $p_k$

$$G_0(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_k x^k$$

- Expected infected population is

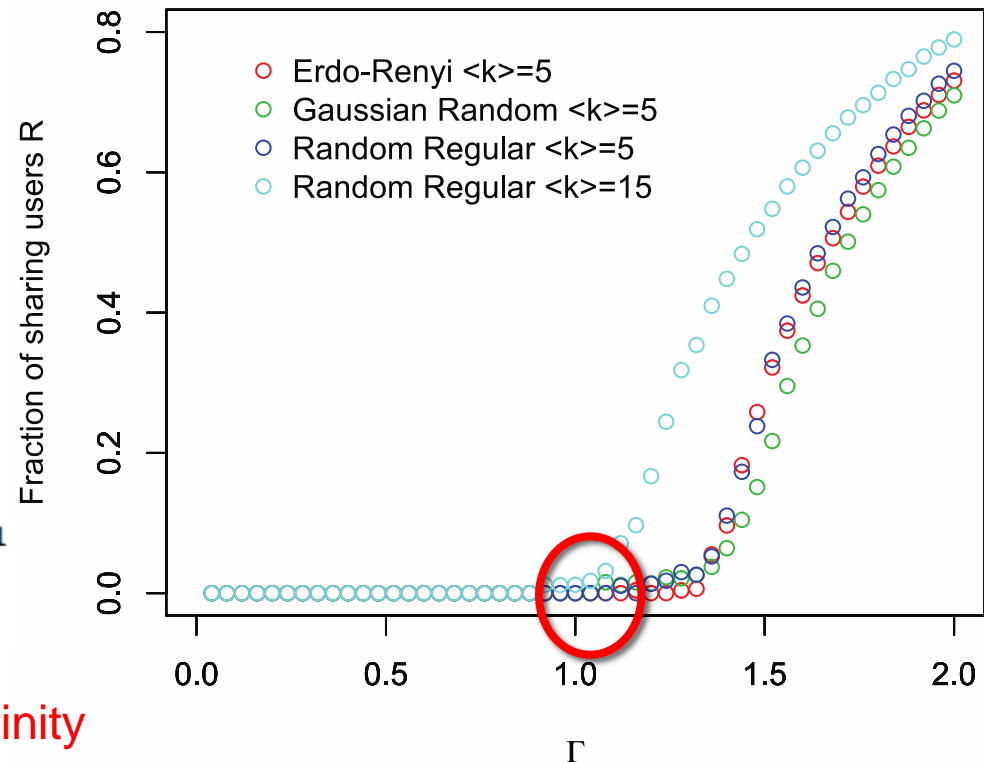
$$\langle s \rangle = 1 + \frac{G'_0(\Gamma, x=1)}{1 - G'_1(\Gamma, x=1)}$$

$$G_1(\Gamma, x) = \sum \frac{k p_k}{\langle k \rangle} \left( 1 + \frac{\Gamma}{k} - \frac{\Gamma}{k} x \right)^{k-1}$$

- Epidemics happens when  $\langle s \rangle$  is infinity

$$\Gamma_c \approx \frac{\langle k \rangle}{\langle k \rangle - 1}$$

**$\Gamma_c > 1$  for any network structure  $P_k$**



# Percolation of FSIR and spreading quantification

Unique Giant Component



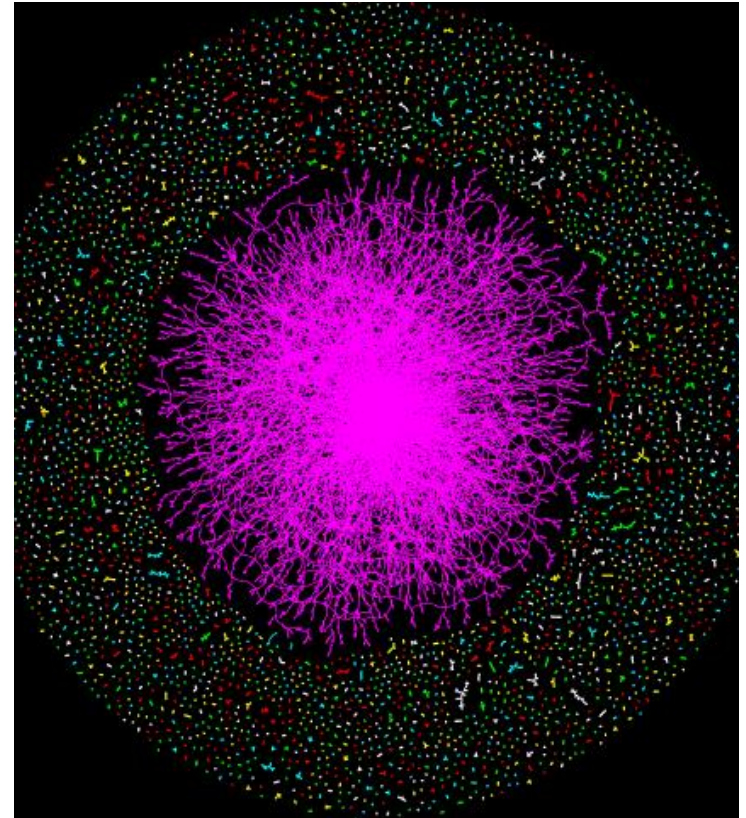
Definite GC



Small size scale of non-GC



Larger N, better result





# Thank You

Feng Ling, [fengl@ihpc.a-star.edu.sg](mailto:fengl@ihpc.a-star.edu.sg)

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