

# Veracity of Big Data

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معهد قطر لبحوث الحوسبة  
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# Disclaimer

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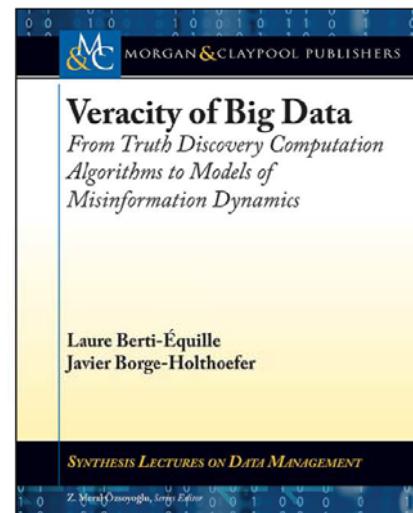
**Aim of the tutorial: Get the big picture**

The algorithms of the basic approaches will be sketched

**Please don't mind if your favorite algorithm is missing**

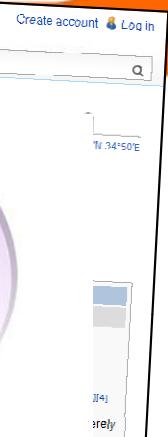
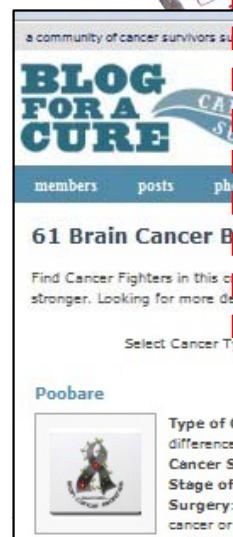
The revised version of the tutorial will be available at:

[http://daqcri.github.io/dafna/tutorial\\_cikm2015/index.html](http://daqcri.github.io/dafna/tutorial_cikm2015/index.html)



# Many sources of information available online

Are all these sources equally  
- accurate  
- up-to-date  
- and trustworthy?



# Accurate?

# Deep Web data quality is low

**FlightView**

American Airlines Flight Number 119 (AA119)

## FLIGHT TRACKER

Departure

Airport: Scheduled Time: 6:15 PM, Dec 08

Takeoff Time: 6:53 PM, Dec 08

Terminal - Gate: Terminal A - 32

ArrivalStatus: In Air

Airport: Scheduled Time: 9:40 PM, Dec 08

9:42 PM, Dec 08

Estimated Time: Track This Flight Live!

Time Remaining: 25 min

Terminal - Gate: Terminal 4 - 42B

Baggage Claim: 4

**FlightAware**

AAL119 (Track inbound flight)  
(web site) (all flights)  
American Airlines "American"

Aircraft: Boeing 737-800 (twin-jet) (B738/Q - [track or photos](#))

Origin: Terminal A / Gate 32 / Newark Liberty Intl (KEWR - [track](#))

Destination: Terminal 4 / Gate 42B / Los Angeles Intl (KLAX - [track](#))

*Other flights between these airports*

Route: ZIMMZ Q42 BTRIX Q480 AIR J80 VHP J80 MCI J24 SLN J102 ALS J44 RSK J  
[Decode](#)

Date: 2011年 12月 08日 (

Duration: 5 hours 43 minutes  
20 minutes left  
5 hours 23 minutes

Progress: Stock

Status: En Route (2,284 sm)  
Distance: Direct: 2,451 sm  
Fare: \$51.99 to \$3,561.11  
Cabin: First: Dinner / Econo  
Scheduled: 7-day  
Departure: 06:15PM EST 07:08P  
Arrival: 08:33PM PST 09:17P

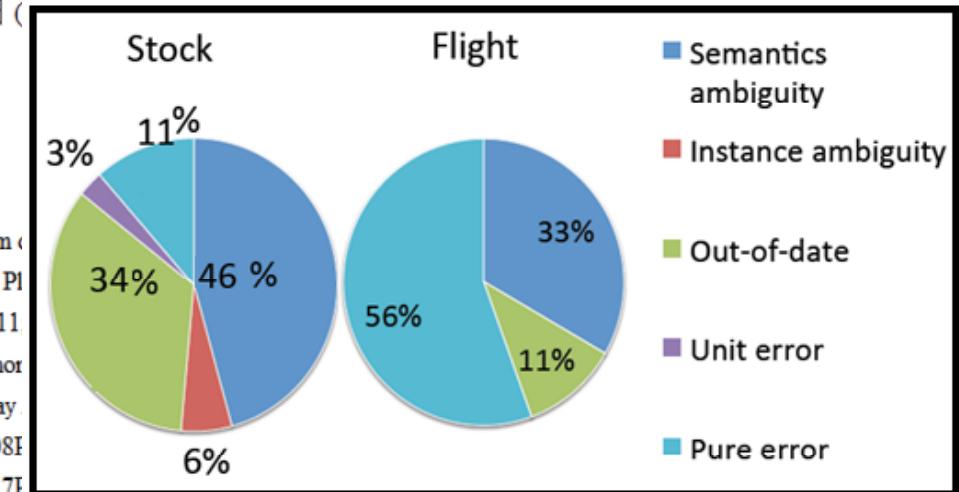
## Orbitz

American Airlines # 119

Leg 1: In Transit

Departs: Newark (EWR) [View real-time airpo](#)

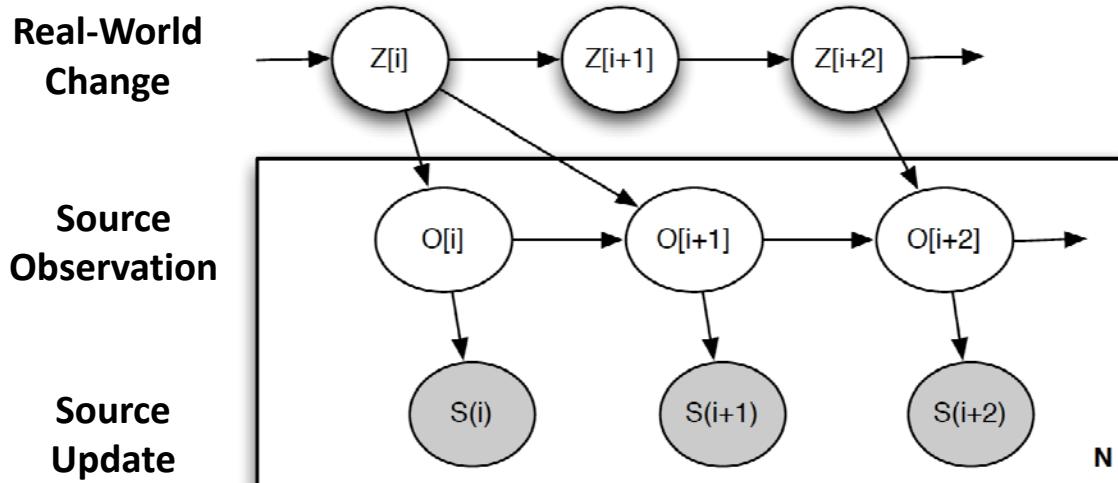
Gate: 32



X. Li, X. L. Dong, K. Lyons, W. Meng, and D. Srivastava. Truth Finding on the Deep Web: Is the Problem Solved?  
PVLDB, 6(2):97–108, 2012.

# Up-to-date?

Real-world entities evolve over time, but sources can delay, or even miss, reporting some of the real-world updates.



## Research: 80% fund giants publish out of date fund data

15 September 2015 | By [Valentina Romeo](#)

[Tweet](#) 9 [Share](#) 5 [Print](#) [Email](#) [Comments \(3\)](#)



Eight out of ten of the biggest fund groups are handing investors outdated performance information, a new survey finds.

According to fintech company Instinct Studios, 80 per cent of the largest asset managers have fund factsheets that are six weeks out of date.

A. Pal, V. Rastogi, A. Machanavajjhala, and P. Bohannon. *Information integration over time in unreliable and uncertain environments*. Proceedings of WWW '12, p. 789-798.

# Trustworthy? WikiTrust

Computed based on edit history of the page and reputation of the authors

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the "Italian cuisine" page from the UCSC Wikipedia Trust Project. The page has a standard Wikipedia layout with a sidebar on the left containing links like Main Page, Community portal, and Recent changes. The main content area features the title "Italian cuisine" and a revision message from January 2007. A yellow box highlights a controversial statement about Italian cuisine being better than French food. To the right, a sidebar notes the article's connection to a "Cuisine series" and lists related topics like Preparation techniques and cooking items.

Italian cuisine – The UCSC Wikipedia Trust Project

Log in / create account

article discussion view source history

## Italian cuisine

Revision as of 04:20, 30 January 2007 by 69.210.149.199 (Talk)  
(diff) ← Older revision | Current revision (diff) | Newer revision → (diff)

Italian cuisine is extremely varied: the country of Italy was only unified in 1861, and its cuisines reflect the cultural variety of its regions and its diverse history (with culinary influences from Greek, Roman, Norman and Arab civilizations). Italian cuisine is imitated all over the world. It also is way better then French food, the losers.

To a certain extent, there is really no such thing as

This article is part of the [Cuisine series](#)

[Preparation techniques and cooking items](#)

[Techniques - Utensils](#)

- *B.T. Adler, L. de Alfaro, A Content-Driven Reputation System for the Wikipedia, Proceedings of the 16th International World Wide Web Conference, 2007.*
- *L. de Alfaro, B. Adler. Content-Driven Reputation for Collaborative Systems. Proceedings of Trustworthy Global Computing 2013. Lecture Notes in Computer Science, Springer, 2013.*

# Information can still be trustworthy

**Sources may not be “reputable”, but information can still be trusted.**

**BLOG FOR A CURE**  
blogforacure.com

**PERSONNES**  
56 690 mentions

**Advocacy**

Childhood  
Colorectal  
Head and Neck  
Immuno Oncology  
Leukemia  
Lung  
Lymphoma  
Ovarian  
Prostate  
Skin  
View more

**Your Journey**

Diagnosis  
Before Treatment  
During Treatment  
End of Treatment

**BLOG FOR A CURE** cancer sucks.

Home Members Symptoms Treatment/Tips Company Search

NEWS > RESOURCES > VIDEOS > COMMUNITY > Log in > Type a Keyword

Tori Tomalia

Tori Tomalia is a two-time cancer survivor currently living with stage 4 non-small cell lung cancer since May of 2013. Her first cancer experience was childhood osteogenic sarcoma, for which she received chemotherapy and curative surgery, and had been cancer-free for over 20 years prior to the lung cancer diagnosis. Along with cancer, Tori juggles life as a mom of 3 small children, a wife, a theatre artist, writer and lung cancer awareness advocate.

**The Other Shoe**  
The stage 4 lung cancer life twists and turns down a bumpy road, but it is a road that I am lucky enough to still be traveling.  
6 days ago

**Small But Mighty: ROS1ers Unite**  
I have a rare mutation causing my cancer. Are there any others with ROS1 out there?  
3 weeks ago

**Seven Chemo Pro Tips**  
Chemo is a tough slog, but advice from others who have been there can help make it a bit easier.  
3 months ago

**cure Connections™**  
A video resource to help answer your questions regarding your cancer diagnosis.  
VIEW NOW >

**ADVERTISEMENT**  
**cure** & iCancerHealth  
iCancerHealth is a virtual-care platform that bridges the gap between the clinic and the patient's home.  
Click here for more information >

**Top Blog CANCER**  
delimmune.com

**THE BEST Lung Cancer Blogs of 2015**  
Healthline

# Authoritative sources can be wrong

YAHOO!  
NEWS

## AFP apologises to French industrialist after death reported



February 28, 2015 2:42 PM

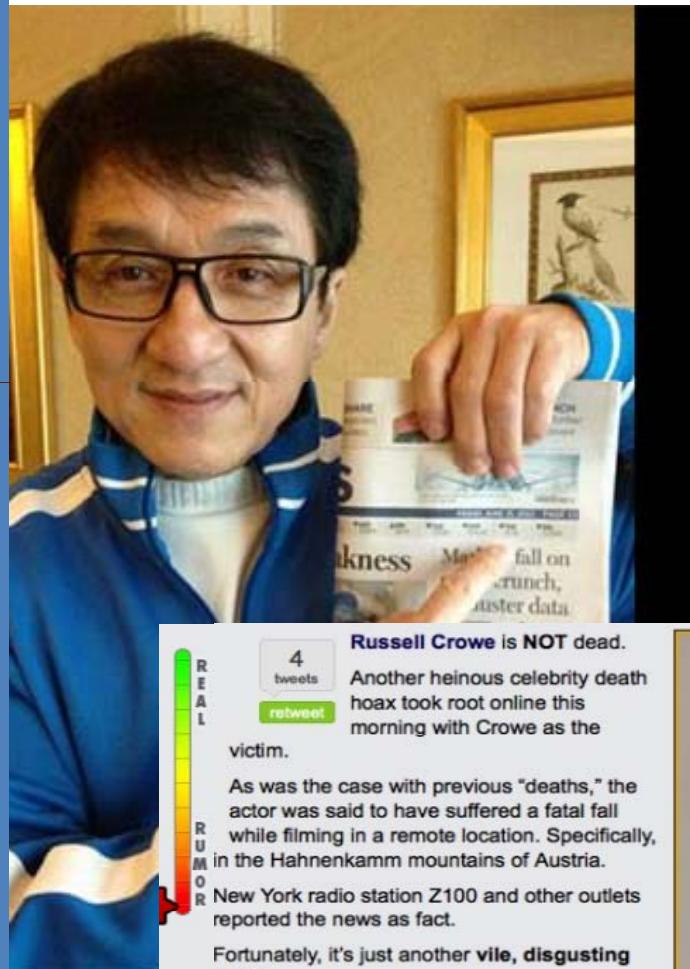


AFP issued an apology to French industrialist Martin Bouygues, chairman and CEO of the conglomerate Bouygues...



[French TV Denies Reports of Bouygues Conglomerate CEO's Death](#)

# Rumors: Celebrity Death Hoaxes

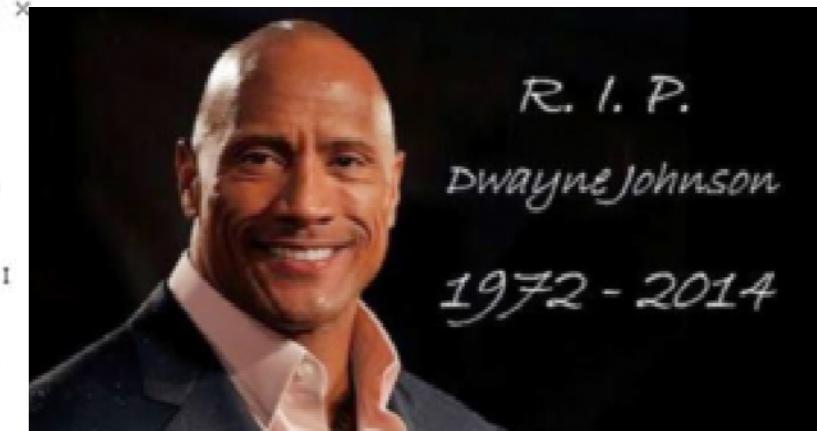


成龙 Jackie Chan  
June 21

Hi everybody! Yesterday, I got on a 3am flight from India to Beijing. I didn't get a chance to sleep and even had to clean my house when I got home. Today, everybody called to congratulate me on my rumored engagement. Afterward, everybody called me to see if I was alive.

If I died, I would probably tell the world! I took a photo with today's date, just in case you don't believe me! However, thank you all for your concern. Kiss kiss and love you all!

P.S. My dog is healthy, just like me! He doesn't need surgery! By the way, my dogs are golden retrievers, not Labradors.



DWAYNE JOHNSON died while filming a dangerous stunt for FAST & FURIOUS 7



R.I.P Morgan Freeman  
860,689 likes · 972,460 talking about this

[Like](#) [Message](#) \*



860K

# (Manual) Fact Verification Web Sites (I)

# (Manual) Fact Verification Web Sites (II)

<b><i>Global Summit of Fact-Checking in London, July 2015</i></b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Active fact-checking sites (tracking politicians' campaign promises)	64 (21)	44
Percentage of sites that use rating systems such as meters or labels	80	70
Sites that are affiliated with news organizations	63%	

<http://reporterslab.org/snapshot-of-fact-checking-around-the-world-july-2015/>



## 1.4 How WikiLeaks verifies its news stories

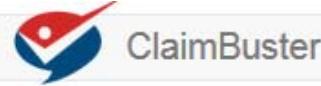
We assess all news stories and test their veracity. We send a submitted document through a very detailed examination a procedure. Is it real? What elements prove it is real? Who would have the motive to fake such a document and why? We use traditional investigative journalism techniques as well as more modern technology-based methods.

Typically we will do a forensic analysis of the document, determine the cost of forgery, means, motive, opportunity, the claims of the apparent authoring organisation, and answer a set of other detailed questions about the document. We may also seek external verification of the document. For example, for our release of the Collateral Murder video, we sent a team of journalists to Iraq to interview the victims and observers of the helicopter attack. The team obtained copies of hospital records, death certificates, eye witness statements and other corroborating evidence supporting the truth of the story. Our verification process does not mean we will never make a mistake, but so far our method has meant that WikiLeaks has correctly identified the veracity of every document it has published.

Publishing the original source material behind each of our stories is the way in which we show the public that our story is authentic. Readers don't have to take our word for it; they can see for themselves. In this way, we also support the work of other journalism organisations, for they can view and use the original documents freely as well. Other journalists may well see an angle or detail in the document that we were not aware of in the first instance. By making the documents freely available, we hope to expand analysis and comment by all the media. Most of all, we want readers know the truth so they can make up their own minds.

# Scaling Fact-Checking

## *Computational Journalism*



ClaimBuster

Press Acknowledgement

2016 Republican Party Presidential Debate. Aug. 6, 2015, 8 p.m.

Venue: Quicken Loans Arena, Cleveland, Ohio. Broadcasted by: FOX.

Speakers: Bret Baier, Jeb Bush, Ben Carson, Chris Christie, Ted Cruz, Carly Fiorina, Mike Huckabee, John Kasich, Megyn Kelly, Rand Paul, Rick Perry, Marco Rubio, Donald Trump, Scott Walker, Chris Wallace

Transcript Source: <http://time.com/3988276/republican-debate-prime-time-transcript-full-text/>

Chronological Order Order by Score

Most Check-worthy <=1.0 <=0.9 <=0.8 <=0.7 <=0.6 <=0.5 <=0.4 <=0.3 <=0.2 <=0.1 Least Check-worthy

0.86 Secondly, we would needs test Social Security for those who are making over \$200,000 dollars a year in retirement income, and have \$4 to \$5 million dollars in liquid assets saved.  
0.80 I took the state of Ohio from an \$8 billion hole and a 350,000 job loss to a \$2 billion surplus and a gain of 350,000 jobs.  
0.78 20 over 40 percent of small and mid-size banks that loan money to small businesses have been wiped out over the since Dodd-Frank has passed.  
0.77 We came in, we balanced an \$11 billion deficit on a \$29 billion budget by cutting over 800 programs in the state budget.  
0.77 Well, lets all be reminded, 60 million Americans are on Social Security, 60 million.  
0.76 Nearly 6 million of you, 6 million, viewed the debate videos on our site, and more than 40,000 of you submitted questions: some of which you will hear us asking the candidates tonight.  
0.76 We went from \$1 billion of reserves to \$9 billion of reserves.  
0.75 Governor Kasich, You chose to expand Medicaid in your state, unlike several other governors on this stage tonight, and it is already over budget by some estimates costing taxpayers an additional \$1.4 billion in just the first 18 months.  
0.75 We created 1.3 million jobs.  
0.73 And, finally, we went from \$8 billion in the hole to \$2 billion in the black.



## *Crowded Fact*

TRUTHSQUAD ON HEALTHCARE



Orrin Hatch, U.S. Senator

**"87 million Americans will be forced out of their coverage under new health care regulations from President Obama."**

Fact-check this quote:

Is this true or false?



**Truthsquad™**

S. Cohen, J. T. Hamilton, and F. Turner. Computational journalism. *CACM*, 54(10):66–71, Oct. 2011.

S. Cohen, C. Li, J. Yang, and C. Yu. Computational journalism: A call to arms to database researchers. In *CIDR*, 2011.

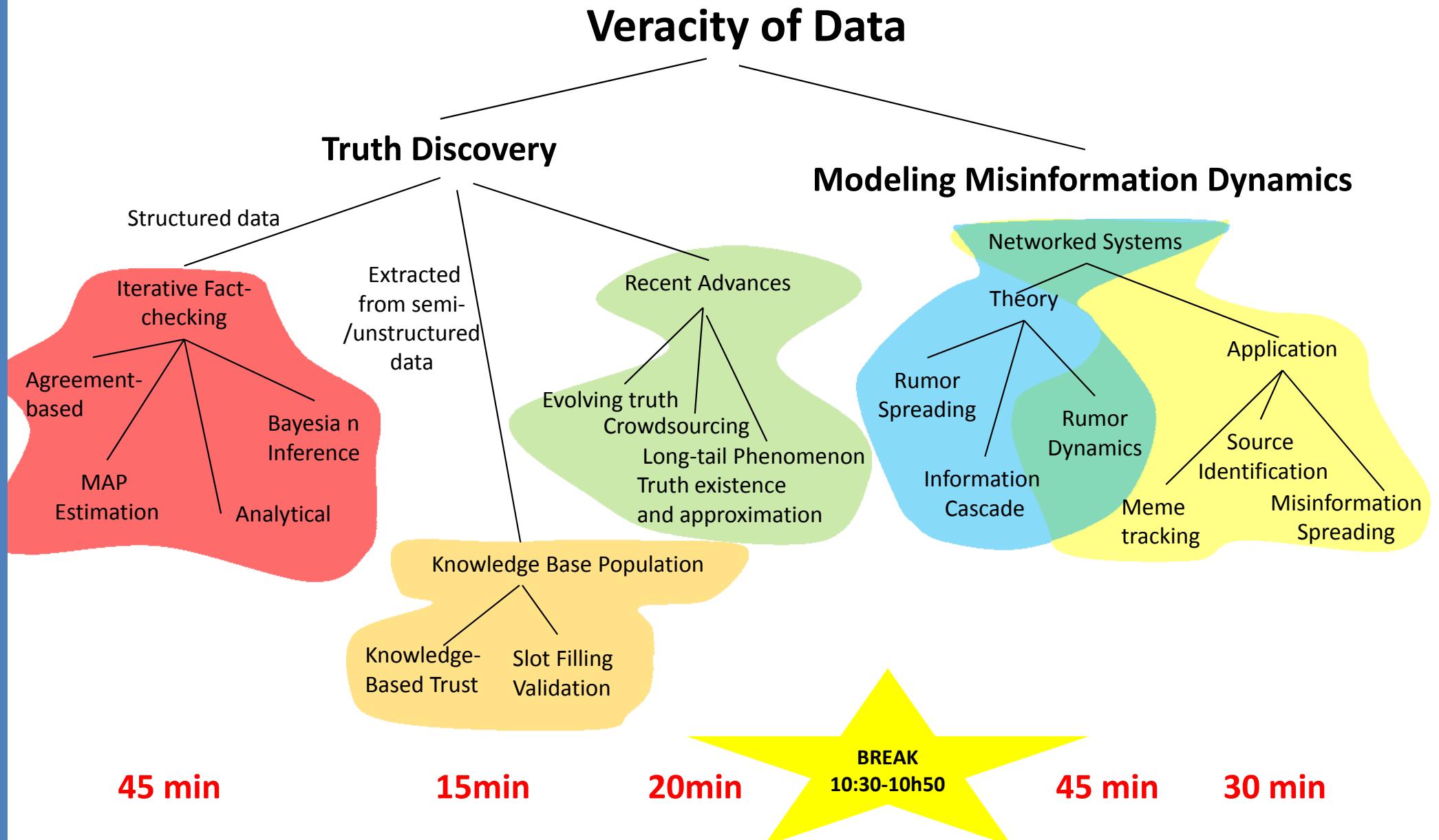
N. Hassan, C. Li, and M. Tremayne. Detecting check-worthy factual claims in presidential debates. In *CIKM*, 2015.

N. Hassan, B. Adair, J. T. Hamilton, C. Li, M. Tremayne, J. Yang, C. Yu, The Quest to Automate Fact-Checking, *C+J Symposium 2015*

<http://towknight.org/research/thinking/scaling-fact-checking/>

<http://blog.newstrust.net/2010/08/truthsquad-results.html>

# Tutorial Organization

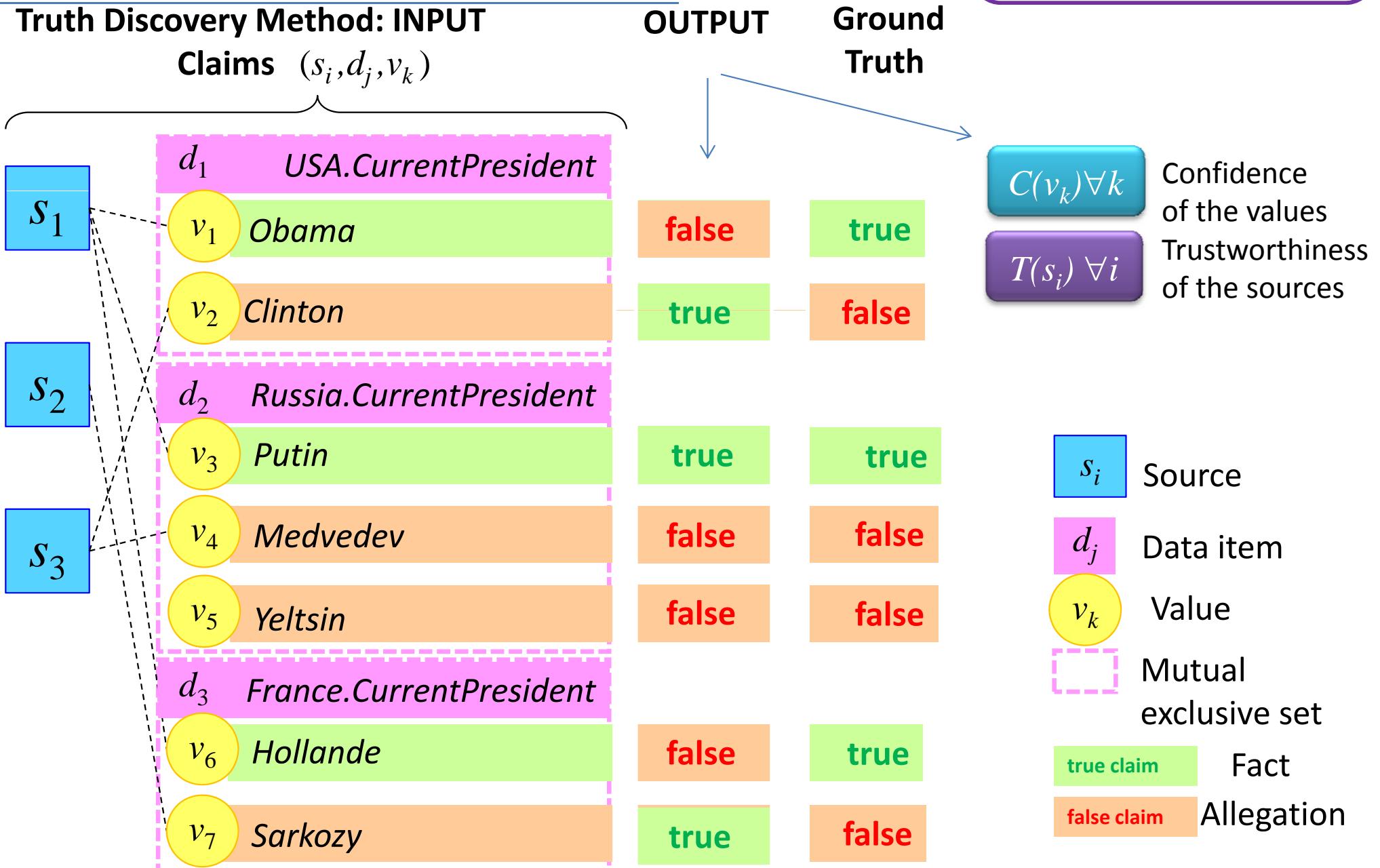
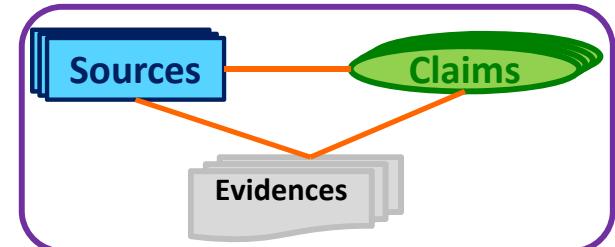


# Outline

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1. Motivation
2. Truth Discovery from Structured Data
3. Truth Discovery from Extracted Information
4. Modeling Information Dynamics
5. Challenges

# Terminology



# Outline

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1. Motivation

2. Truth Discovery from Structured Data

- Agreement-based Methods
- MAP Estimation-based Methods
- Analytical Methods
- Bayesian Methods

# Agreement-Based Methods

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Source Reputation Models

Source-Claim Iterative Models

# Agreement-Based Methods

## Source Reputation Models

### Based on Web link Analysis

*Compute the importance of a source in the Web graph based on the probability of landing on the source node by a random surfer*

Hubs and Authorities (HITS)

[Kleinberg, 1999]

PageRank

[Brin and Page, 1998]

SourceRank

[Balakrishnan, Kambhampati, 2009]

*Trust Metrics: See R. Levien, Attack resistant trust metrics, PhD Thesis UC Berkeley LA, 2004*

# Hubs and Authorities (HITS)

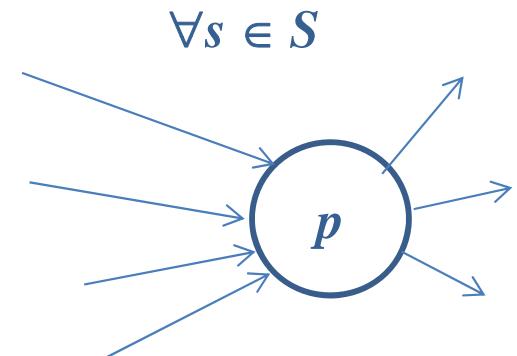
Agreement  
Source  
Reputation

- Identify Hub and Authority pages
- Each source  $p$  in  $S$  has two scores (at iteration  $i$ )
  - Hub score: Based on “outlinks”, links that point to other sources
  - Authority score: Based on “inlinks”, links from other sources

$$Hub^0(s) = 1$$

$$Hub^i(p) = \frac{1}{Z_h} \sum_{s \in S; p \rightarrow s} Auth^i(s)$$

$$Auth^i(p) = \frac{1}{Z_a} \sum_{s \in S; s \rightarrow p} Hub^{i-1}(s)$$

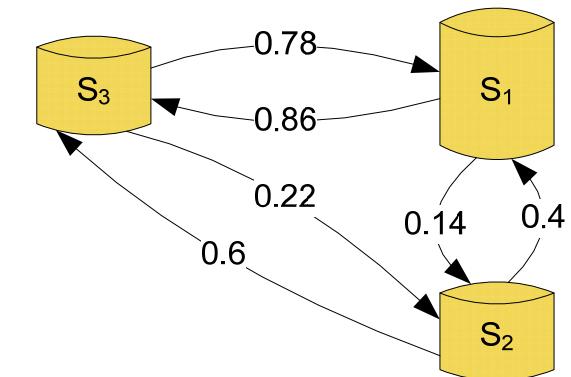


$Z_a$  and  $Z_h$  are normalizers ( $L_2$  norm of the score vectors)

J. M. Kleinberg. Authoritative sources in a hyperlinked environment. *Journal of the ACM*, 46(5):604–632, 1999.

# SourceRank

- Agreement graph: Markov chain with edges as the transition probabilities between the sources
- Source reputation is computed by a Markov random walk



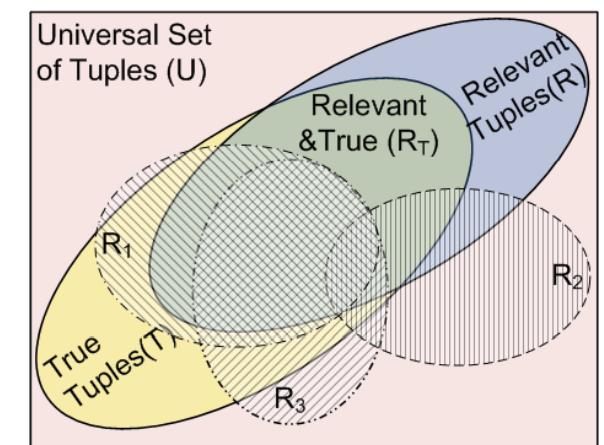
Probability of agreement of two independent false tuples

$$P_a(f_1, f_2) = \frac{1}{|U|}$$

Probability of agreement of two independent true tuples

$$P_a(r_1, r_2) = \frac{1}{|R_T|}$$

$$|U| \gg |R_T| \Rightarrow P_a(r_1, r_2) \gg P_a(f_1, f_2)$$



*R. Balakrishnan, S. Kambhampati, SourceRank: Relevance and Trust Assessment for DeepWeb Sources Based on InterSource Agreement, In Proc. WWW 2009.*

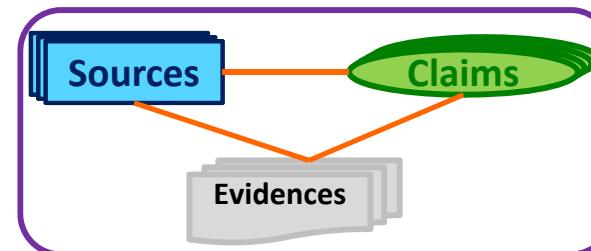
# Agreement-Based Methods

Source Reputation Models



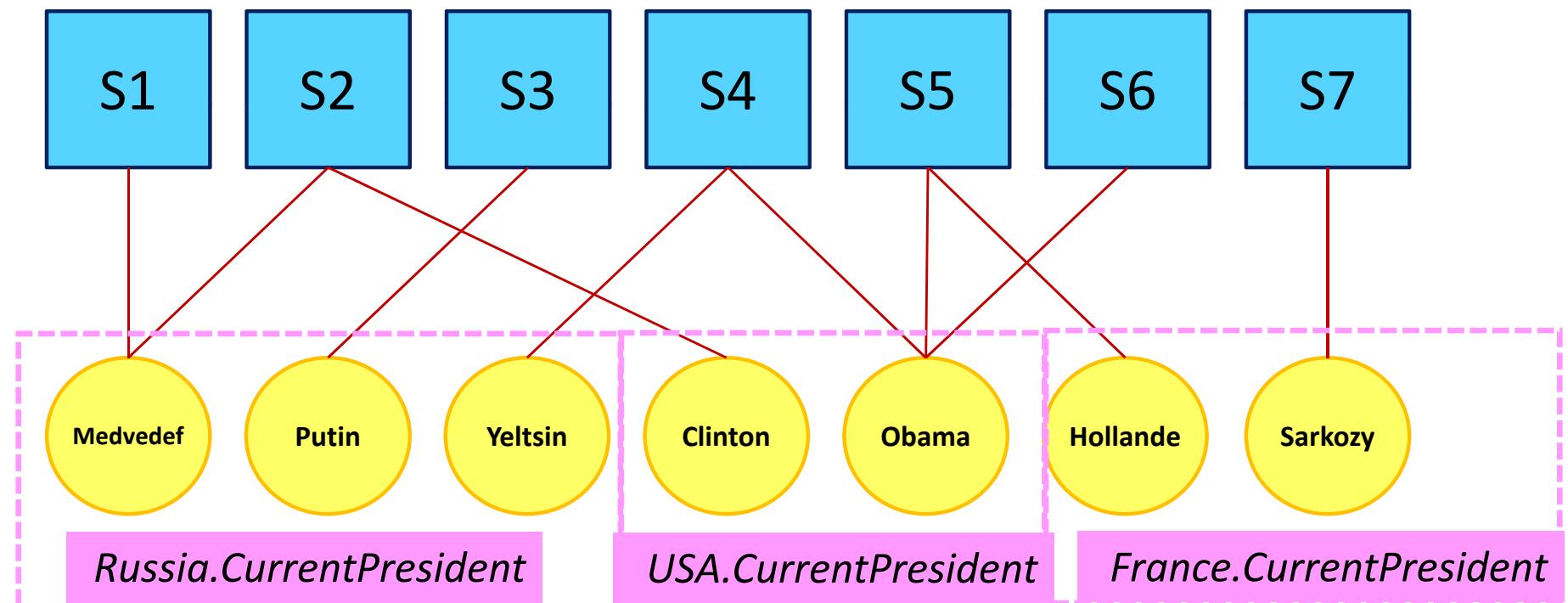
Only rely on source credibility is not enough

Source-Claim Iterative Models



# Example

Seven sources disagree on the current president of Russia, Usa, and France  
Can we discover the true values?

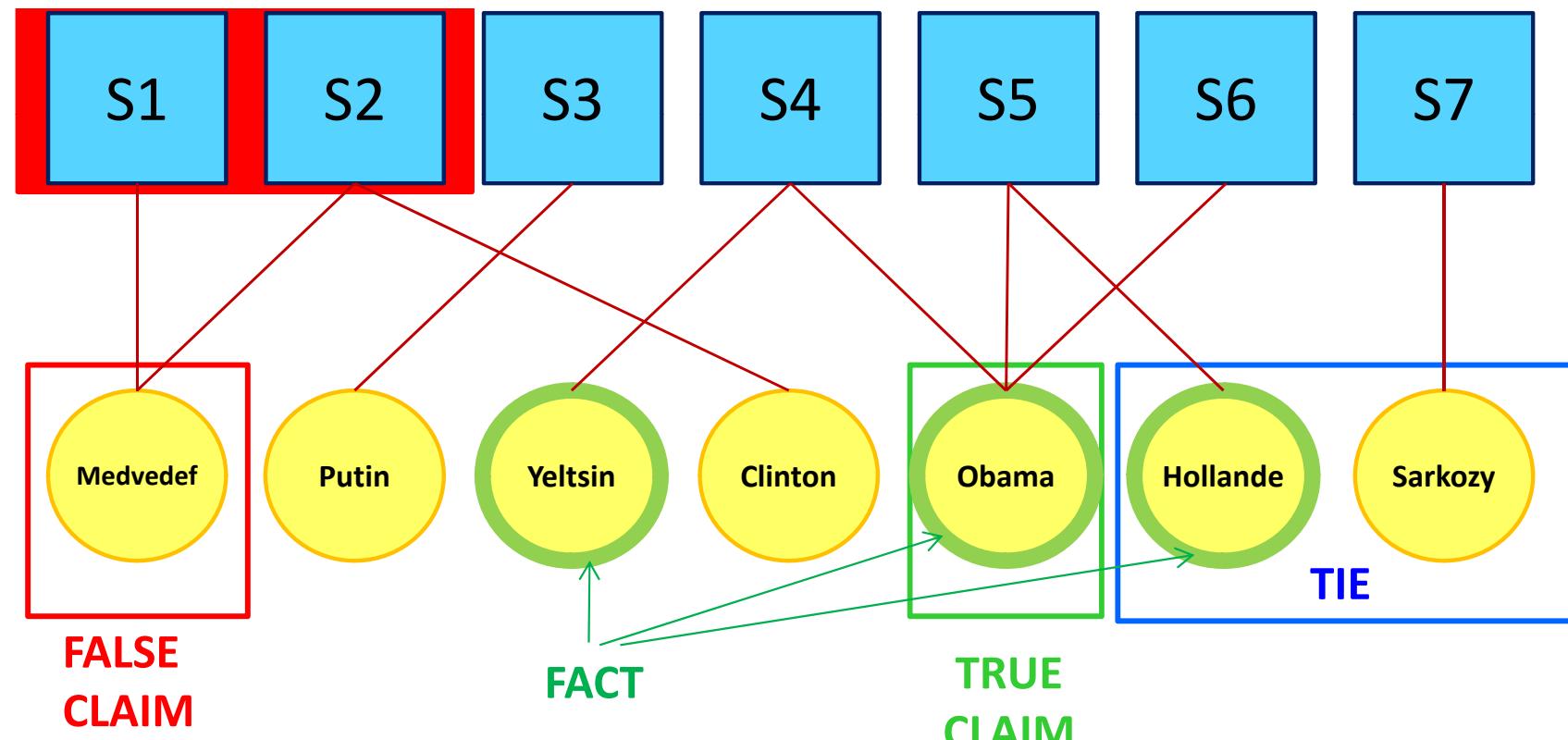


# Solution: Majority Voting

Seven sources disagree on the current president of Russia, USA, and France  
Can we discover the true values?

**Majority can be wrong!**

**What if these sources are not independent?**



Majority Voting Accuracy : 1.5 out of 3 correct

# Limit of Majority Voting Accuracy

## Condorcet Jury Theorem (1785)

*Originally written to provide theoretical basis of democracy*

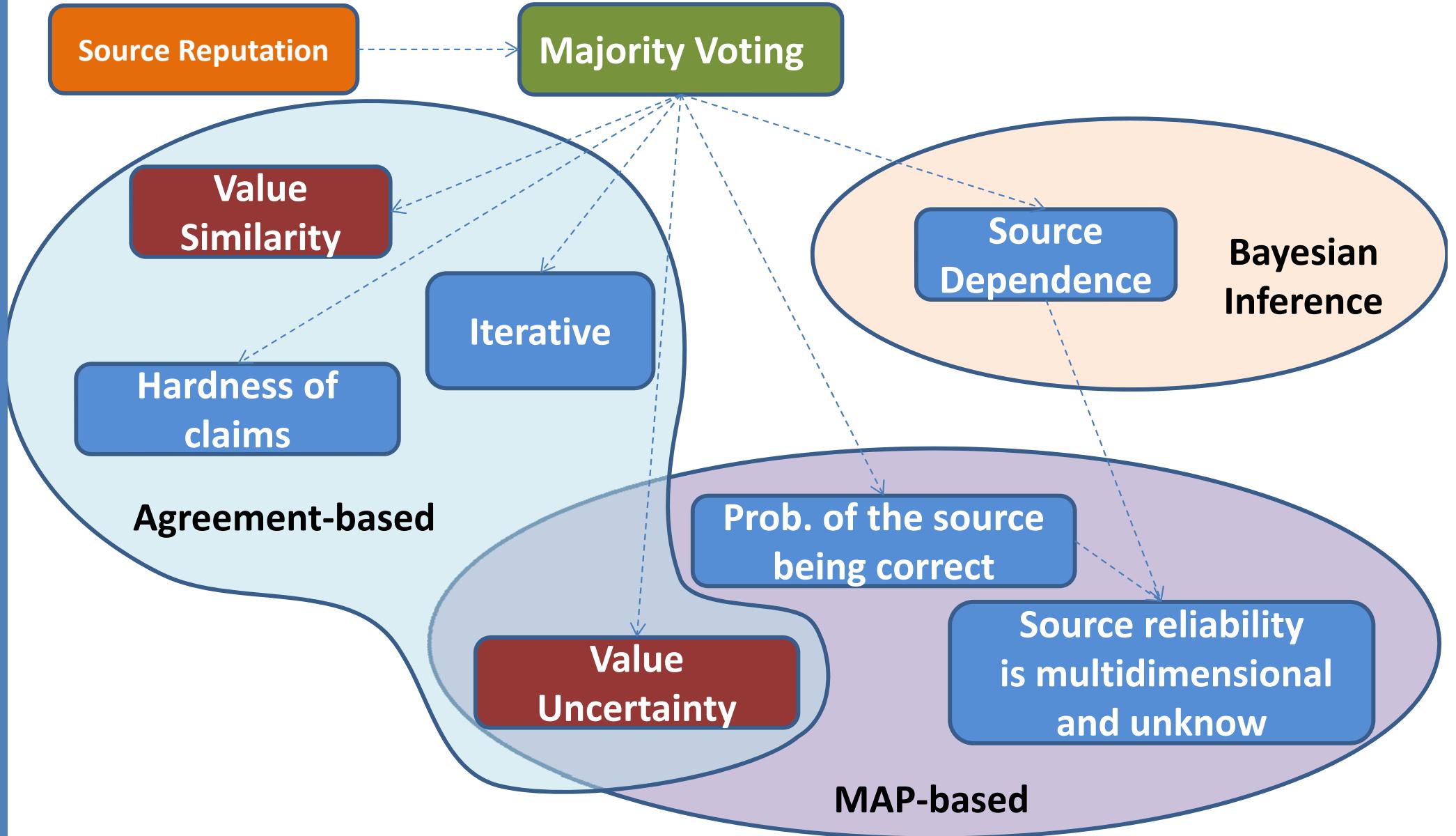
The majority vote will give an accurate value if at least  $\lfloor S/2 + 1 \rfloor$  independent sources give correct claims.

If each voter has a probability  $p$  of being correct, then the probability of the majority of voters being correct  $P_{MV}$  is

$$P_{MV} = \sum_{m=\lfloor S/2+1 \rfloor}^S \binom{S}{m} p^m (1-p)^{S-m}$$

- If  $p > 0.5$ , then  $P_{MV}$  is monotonically increasing,  $P_{MV} \rightarrow 1$  as  $S \rightarrow \infty$
- If  $p < 0.5$ , then  $P_{MV}$  is decreasing and  $P_{MV} \rightarrow 0$  as  $S \rightarrow \infty$
- If  $p = 0.5$ , then  $P_{MV} = 0.5$  for any  $S$

# Roadmap of Modeling Assumptions



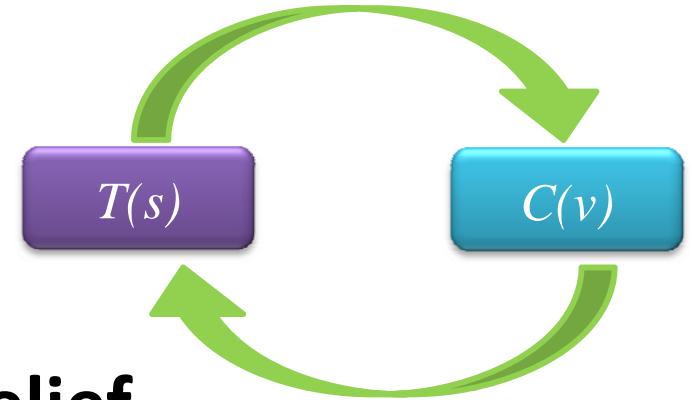
# Agreement-Based Methods

Agreement

Source-Claim

Source-Claim Iterative Models

Based on iterative computation of source trustworthiness and claim belief



- Sums (adapted from HITS) (1)
- Average.Log, Investment, Pooled Investment (1)
- TruthFinder (2)
- Cosine, 2-Estimates, 3-Estimates (3)

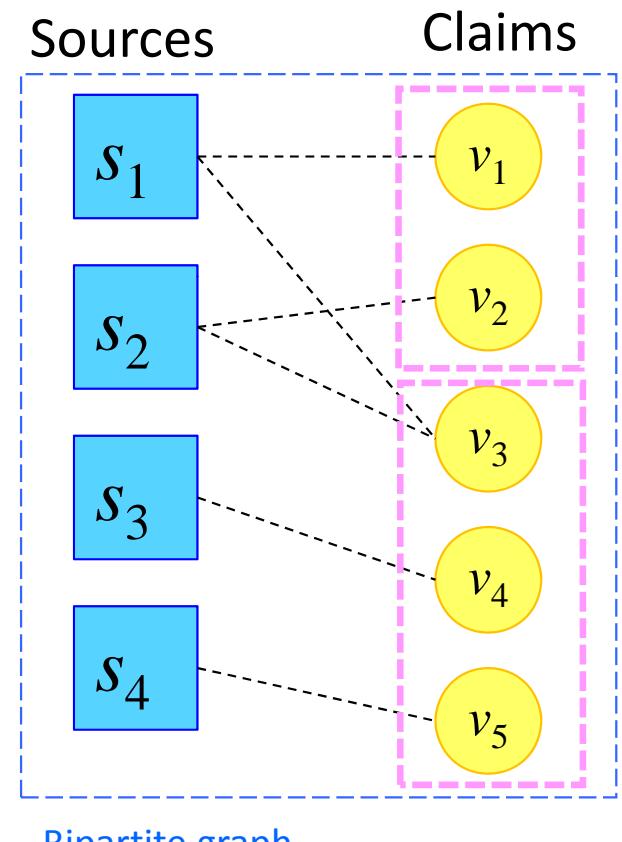
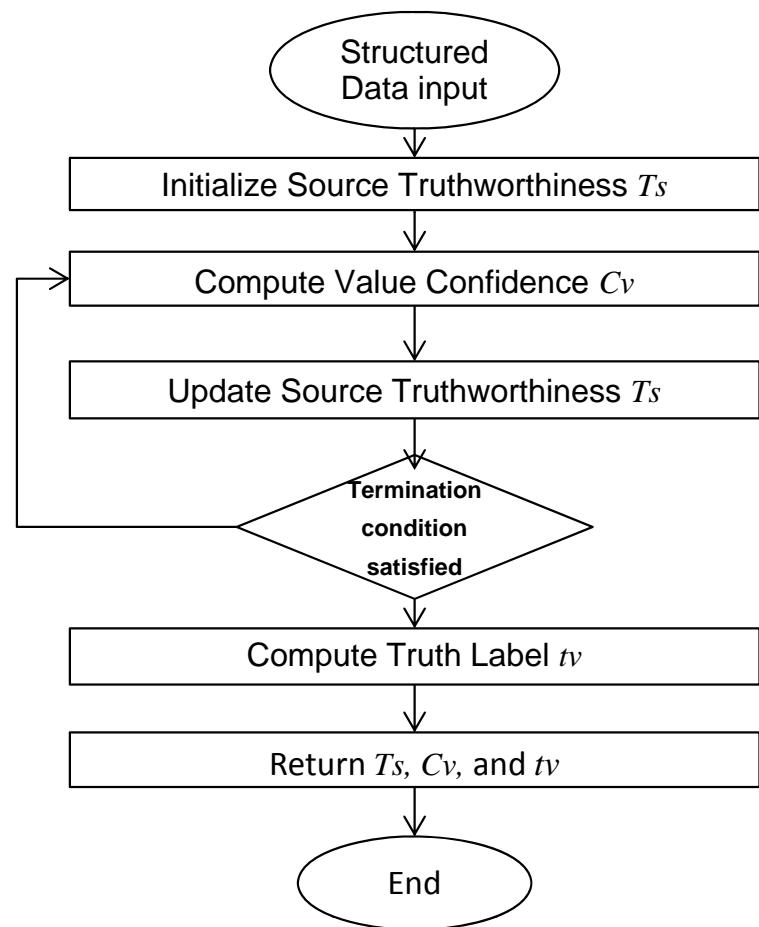
(1) J. Pasternack and D. Roth. Knowing what to believe (when you already know something). In COLING, pages 877–885. Association for Computational Linguistics, 2010.

(2) X. Yin, J. Han, and P. S. Yu. Truth Discovery with Multiple Conflicting Information Providers on the Web. TKDE, 20(6):796–808, 2008.

(3) A. Galland, S. Abiteboul, A. Marian, P. Senellart. Corroborating Information from Disagreeing Views. In Proc. of the ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM), pages 131–140, 2010.

# Basic Principle

## Iterative and transitive voting algorithm

 $T(s)$  $C(v)$

# Example (cont'd)

Agreement

Source-Claim

Sums Fact-Finder:

$$T^i(s) = \sum_{v \in V_s} C^{i-1}(v)$$

$$C^i(v) = \sum_{s \in S_v} T^i(s)$$

**Initialization:** We believe in each claim equally

**Iteration 1:**

1

2

1

2

2

1

1

**Iteration 2:**

3

5

1

7

7

5

1

**Iteration 3:**

8

13

1

26

26

19

1

S1

S2

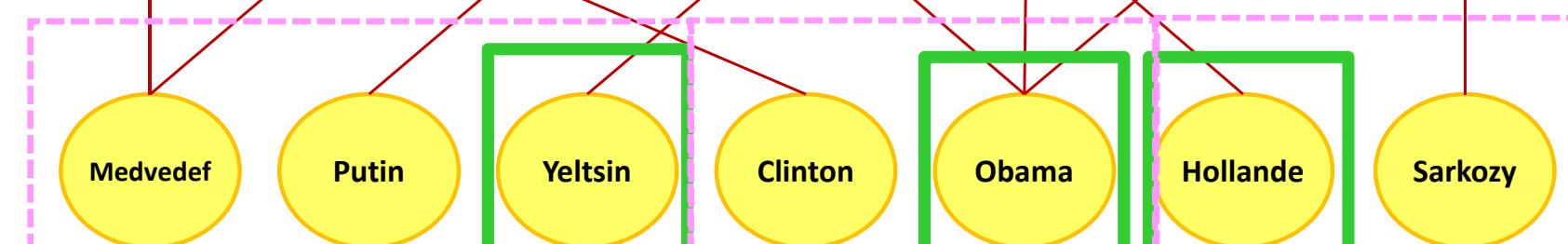
S3

S4

S5

S6

S7



**Iteration 1:**

1

1

1

1

1

1

1

**Iteration 2:**

3

1

2

2

5

2

1

**Iteration 3:**

21

1

26

13

71

26

1

Value Confidence  
 $C_v$

# Iterative Methods

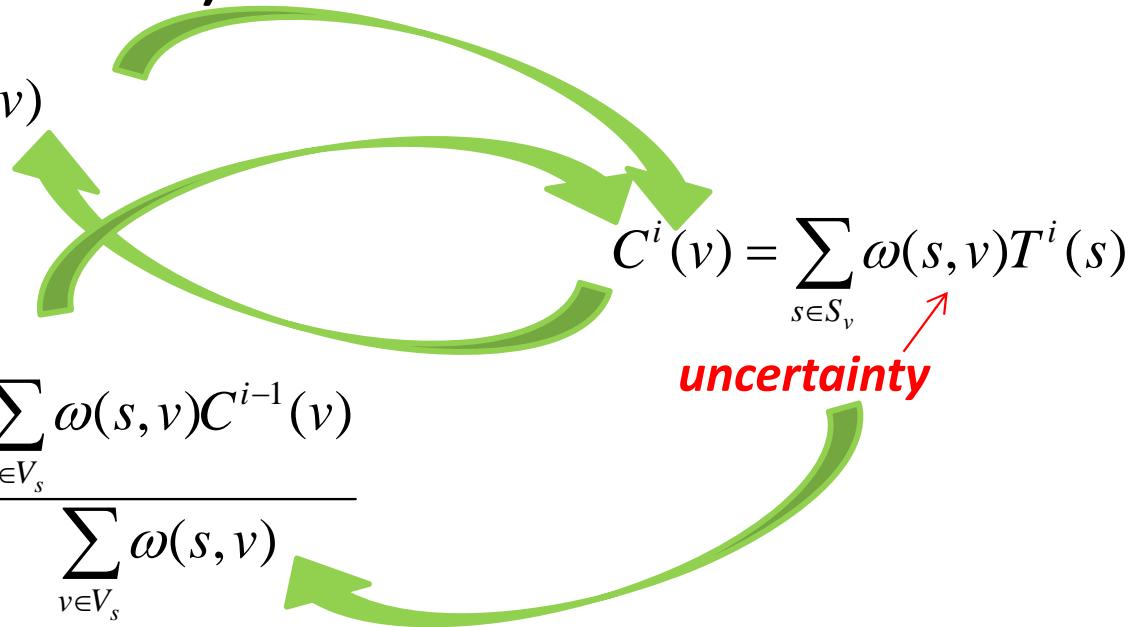
Value  
Uncertainty

Agreement

Source-Claim

- Sums (adapted from HITS)

$$T^i(s) = \sum_{v \in V_s} \omega(s, v) C^{i-1}(v)$$



- Average.Log

$$T^i(s) = \log \left( \sum_{v \in V_s} \omega(s, v) \right) \cdot \frac{\sum_{v \in V_s} \omega(s, v) C^{i-1}(v)}{\sum_{v \in V_s} \omega(s, v)}$$

- Generalized Investment

$$T^i(s) = \sum_{v \in V_s} \frac{\omega(s, v) C^{i-1}(v) T^{i-1}(s)}{\sum_{v \in V_s} \omega(s, v) \cdot \sum_{r \in S_v} \sum_{b \in V_r} \omega(r, v) T^{i-1}(r)}$$

$$C^i(v) = G \left( \sum_{s \in S_v} \frac{\omega(s, v) T(s)}{\sum_{v \in V_s} \omega(s, v)} \right)$$

with  $G(x) = x^{1.2}$

J. Pasternack and D. Roth. Knowing what to believe (when you already know something). In COLING, pages 877–885. Association for Computational Linguistics, 2010.

# TruthFinder

Value  
Similarity

Agreement

Source-Claim

*Initialization.*  $\forall s \in S : T_s \leftarrow 0.8$   $\leftarrow$  We believe in each source equally (optimistic)  
**repeat**

```

for each  $d \in D$ 
  do {
    for each  $v \in V_d :$ 
      do {
         $\sigma_v \leftarrow - \sum_{s \in S_v} \ln(1 - T_s)$   $\leftarrow$  Probability to be wrong
         $\sigma_v^* \leftarrow \sigma_v + \rho \sum_{v' \in V_d} \sigma_{v'} \cdot sim(v, v')$   $\leftarrow$  Mutually supportive, similar values
         $C_v \leftarrow \frac{1}{1+e^{-\gamma\sigma_v^*}}$   $\leftarrow$  Confidence of each value
      }
    for each  $s \in S$ 
      do  $T_s \leftarrow \frac{1}{|V_s|} \sum_{v \in V_s} C_v$   $\leftarrow$  Dampening factor  $\gamma$  to compensate dependent similar values
    until  $Convergence(T_s, \delta)$   $\leftarrow$  Trustworthiness of each source
    for each  $d \in D$ 
      do  $trueValue(d) \leftarrow \operatorname{argmax}_{v \in V_d} (C_v)$   $\leftarrow$  Thresholded cosine similarity of  $T_s$  between two successive iterations ( $\delta$ )
  }

```

X. Yin, J. Han, P. S. Yu. Truth Discovery with Multiple Conflicting Information Providers on the Web. TKDE, 20(6):796–808, 2008.

# A Fine-grained Classification

## 1. Method Characteristics

- Initialization and parameter settings
- Repeatability
- Convergence and stopping criteria
- Complexity
- Scalability

*Mono-valued: C1 (Source1,USA.CurrentPresident,Obama)  
Multi-valued: C2 (Source1,Australia.PrimeMinistersList,  
(Turnbull, Abott, Rudd, Gillard...))  
Boolean: C3 (Source1,USA.CurrentPresident.Obama,Yes)*

## 2. Input Data

- Type of data: categorical, string/text, continuous
- Mono- or multi-valued claims
- Similarity of claims
- Correlations between attributes or objects

## 3. Prior Knowledge and Assumptions

- Source Quality: Constant/evolving, non-/uniform across sources, homogeneous/heterogeneous over data items
- Dependence of sources
- Hardness of certain claims

## 4. Output

- Single versus multiple true values per data item
- At least one or none true claim
- Enrichment with explanations and evidences

# TruthFinder Signature

Agreement

Source-Claim

## 1. Method Characteristics

- Initialization and parameter settings
- Repeatability
- Convergence and stopping criteria
- Complexity
- Scalability

## 2. Input Data

- Type of value
- Mono-/multi-valued claims
- Similarity of claims
- Correlations between attributes or objects

## 3. Prior Knowledge

- Source Quality
- Dependence of sources
- Hardness of certain claims

## 4. Output

- Single/multiple truth per data item
- At least one or none true claim
- Enrichment (explanation/evidence)

$T_s, \delta, \gamma, \rho$

Yes

$\delta$  for Cosine similarity of  $T_s$

$O(Iter.SV)$

Yes

String, categorical, numeric

Mono- and Multi-valued claims

Yes

No

Constant, uniform, homogeneous

Yes (dampening factor)

No

Single true value per data item

At least one

No

# Outline

---

## 1. Motivation

## 2. Truth Discovery from Structured Data

- Agreement-based Methods
- MAP-Estimation-based Methods
- Analytical Methods
- Bayesian Methods

# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

## Social Sensing

- Reliability that Participant  $i$  reports measured variable  $j$  :

$$t_i = P(C_j^{true} | S_i C_j)$$

- Speak Rate of Participant  $i$

$$s_i = P(S_i C_j)$$

- Source reliability parameters

$$a_i = \frac{t_i \times s_i}{d}$$

$$b_i = \frac{(1-t_i) \times s_i}{1-d}$$

### Expectation Step (E-step)

$$Q(\theta | \theta^{(t)}) = E_{Z|SC, \theta^{(t)}} \left[ \log \sum_z P(SC, z | \theta) \right]$$

Source reliability

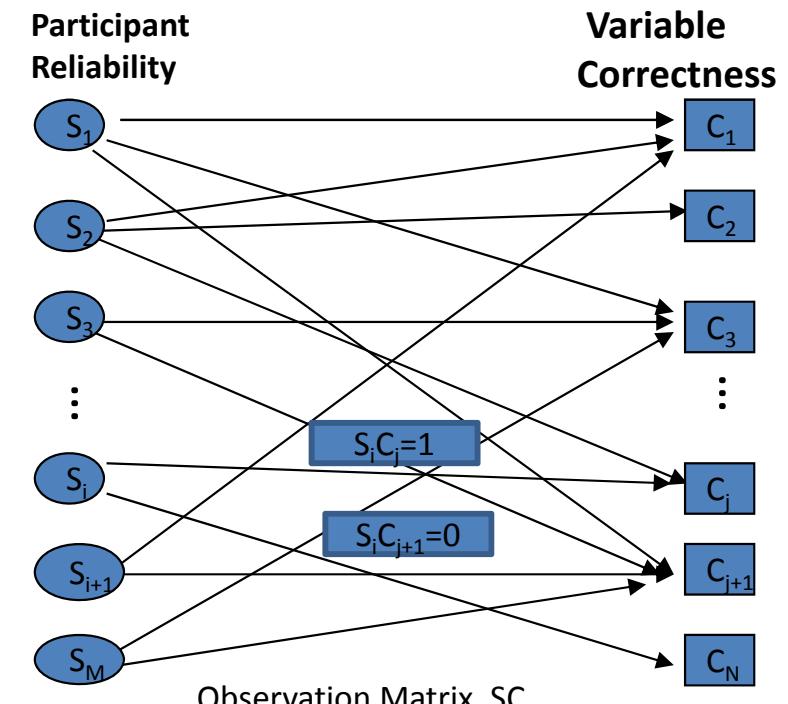
Variable  
Correctness  
(hidden)

### Maximization Step (M-step)

$$\theta^{(t+1)} = \arg \max_{\theta} Q(\theta | \theta^{(t)})$$

D. Wang, L.M. Kaplan, H. Khac Le, and T. F. Abdelzaher. On Truth Discovery in Social Sensing: a Maximum Likelihood Estimation Approach. In Proceedings of the International Conference on Information Processing in Sensor Networks (IPSN), p. 233–244, 2012.

$Z = \{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N\}$  where  $z_j = 1$  when assertion  $C_j$  is correct and 0 otherwise



$$\theta = (a_1, \dots, a_M; b_1, \dots, b_M)$$

# MLE Signature

## 1. Method Characteristics

- Initialization and parameter settings
- Repeatability
- Convergence and stopping criteria
- Complexity
- Scalability

## 2. Input Data

- Type of value
- Mono-/multi-valued claims
- Similarity of claims
- Correlations between attributes or objects

## 3. Prior Knowledge

- Source Quality
- Dependence of sources
- Hardness of certain claims

## 4. Output

- Single/multiple truth per data item
- At least one or none true claim
- Enrichment (explanation/evidence)

$T_s, s, d$  (prior truth prob.)

Yes

**K iterations**

$O(KSV)$

Yes

**Boolean**

**Mono-valued**

No

No

Constant, source-specific

No

No

Single true value per data item

At least one

No

# Latent Credibility Analysis

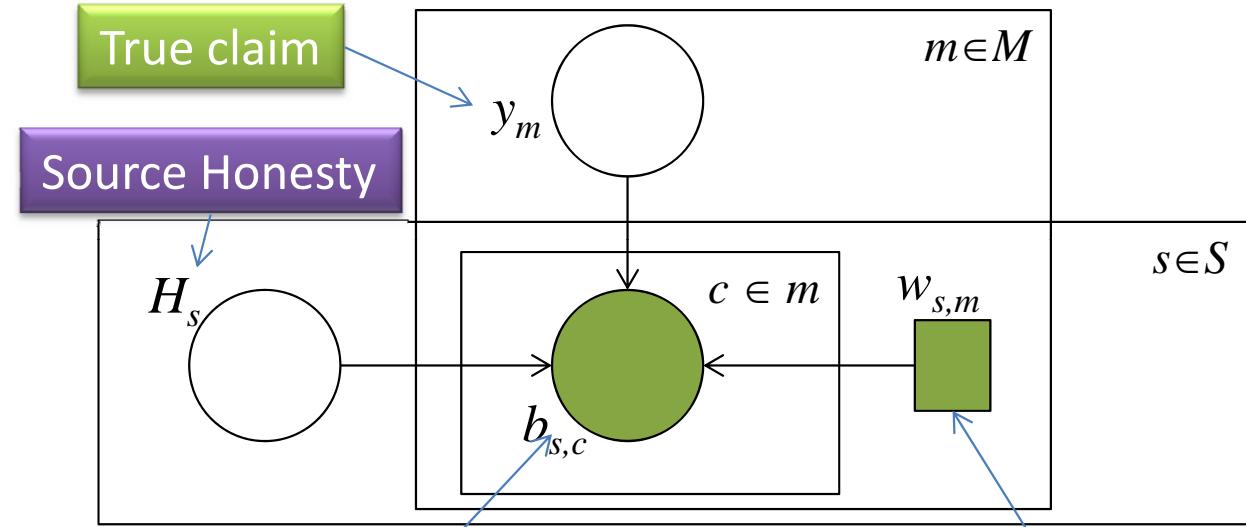
## SimpleLCA, GuessLCA, MistakeLCA, LieLCA

Expectation-Maximization to find the maximum a posteriori (MAP) point estimate of the parameters

$$\theta^* = \arg \max_{\theta} P(X|\theta)P(\theta)$$

Then compute:

$$P(Y_U|X, Y_L, \theta^*) = \frac{P(Y_U, X, Y_L | \theta^*)}{\sum_{Y_U} P(Y_U, X, Y_L | \theta^*)}$$



Observed probability of the claim asserted by source

Source confidence in its claim ( $W$ )

Latent variables  $\theta$

- $H_s$ : probability  $s$  makes honest, accurate claim
- $D_m$ : probability  $s$  knows the true claims in  $m$

J. Pasternack, D. Roth. Latent credibility analysis. In Proceedings of the 22nd international conference on World Wide Web (WWW '13), 2013.

# LCA Signature

## 1. Method Characteristics

- Initialization and parameter settings
- Repeatability
- Convergence and stopping criteria
- Complexity
- Scalability

## 2. Input Data

- Type of value
- Mono-/multi-valued claims
- Similarity of claims
- Correlations between attributes or objects

## 3. Prior Knowledge

- Source Quality
- Dependence of sources
- Hardness of certain claims

## 4. Output

- Single/multiple truth per data item
- At least one or none true claim
- Enrichment (explanation/evidence)

$W, K, \beta_1$  (prior truth prob./claim)

Yes

**K iterations**

$O(KSD)$

Yes

String, categorical

Multi-valued

Yes (as joint probability)

No

Constant, source- and entity-specific

No

Yes

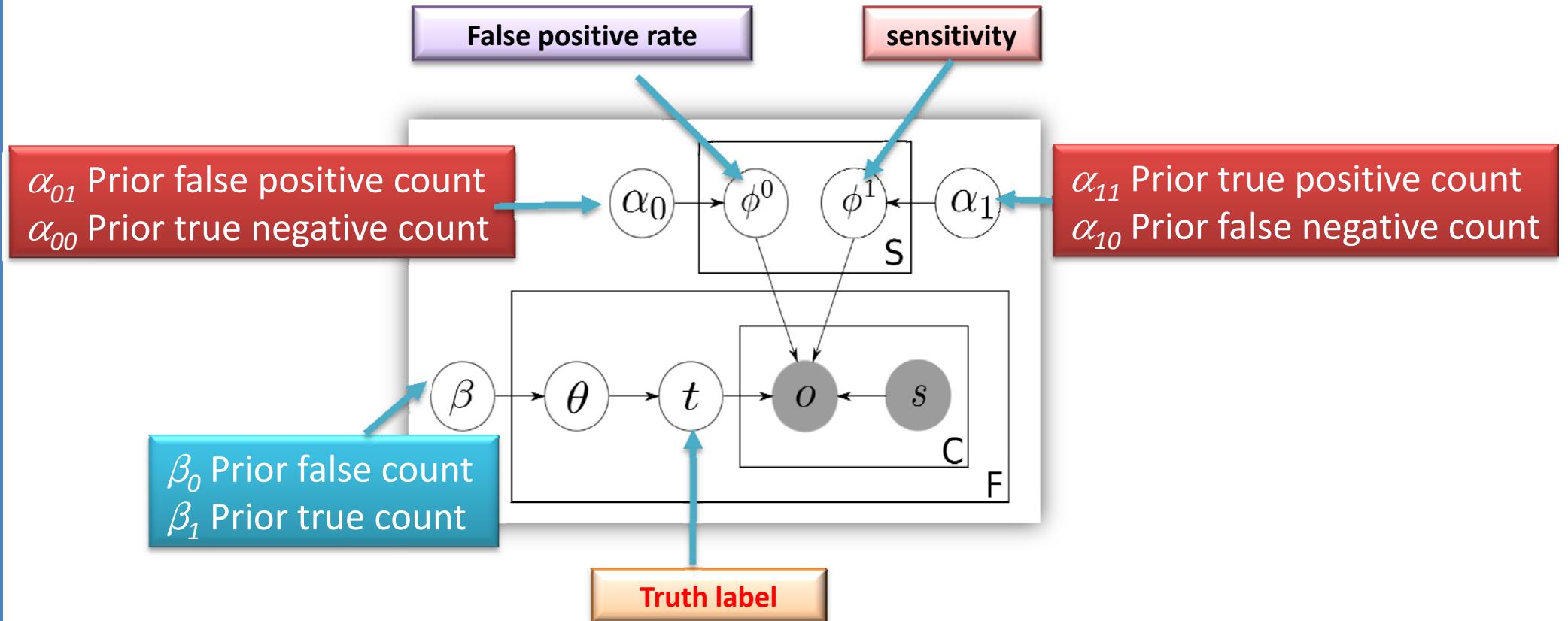
Single true value per data item

At least one

No

# Latent Truth Model (LTM)

Collapsed Gibbs sampling to get MAP estimate for  $t$



B. Zhao, B. I. P. Rubinstein, J. Gemmell, and J. Han. A Bayesian approach to discovering truth from conflicting sources for data integration. Proceedings of the VLDB Endowment, 5(6):550-561, 2012.

# LTM Signature

## 1. Method Characteristics

- Initialization and parameter settings
- Repeatability
- Convergence and stopping criteria
- Complexity
- Scalability

## 2. Input Data

- Type of value
- Mono-/multi-valued claims
- Similarity of claims
- Correlations between attributes or objects

## 3. Prior Knowledge

- Source Quality
- Dependence of sources
- Hardness of certain claims

## 4. Output

- Single/multiple truth per data item
- At least one or none true claim
- Enrichment (explanation/evidence)

## Gibbs Sampling

$(T_s, K, \text{Burn-in}, \text{Thin}, \alpha_{00}, \beta_{00}, \alpha_{01}, \beta_{01}, \alpha_{10}, \beta_{10}, \alpha_{11}, \beta_{11})$

No (Gibbs sampling)

K iterations

$O(KSV)$

Yes

String, categorical

Mono-valued (multiple claims/per source)

No

No

Incremental, source-specific,  
homogeneous/entity

No

No

Multiple true values per data item

At least one

No

# Outline

---

## 1. Motivation

## 2. Truth Discovery from Structured Data

- Agreement-based Methods
- MAP Estimation-based Methods
- Analytical Methods
- Bayesian Methods

# Analytical Solutions

## Semi-Supervised Truth Discovery (SSTF)

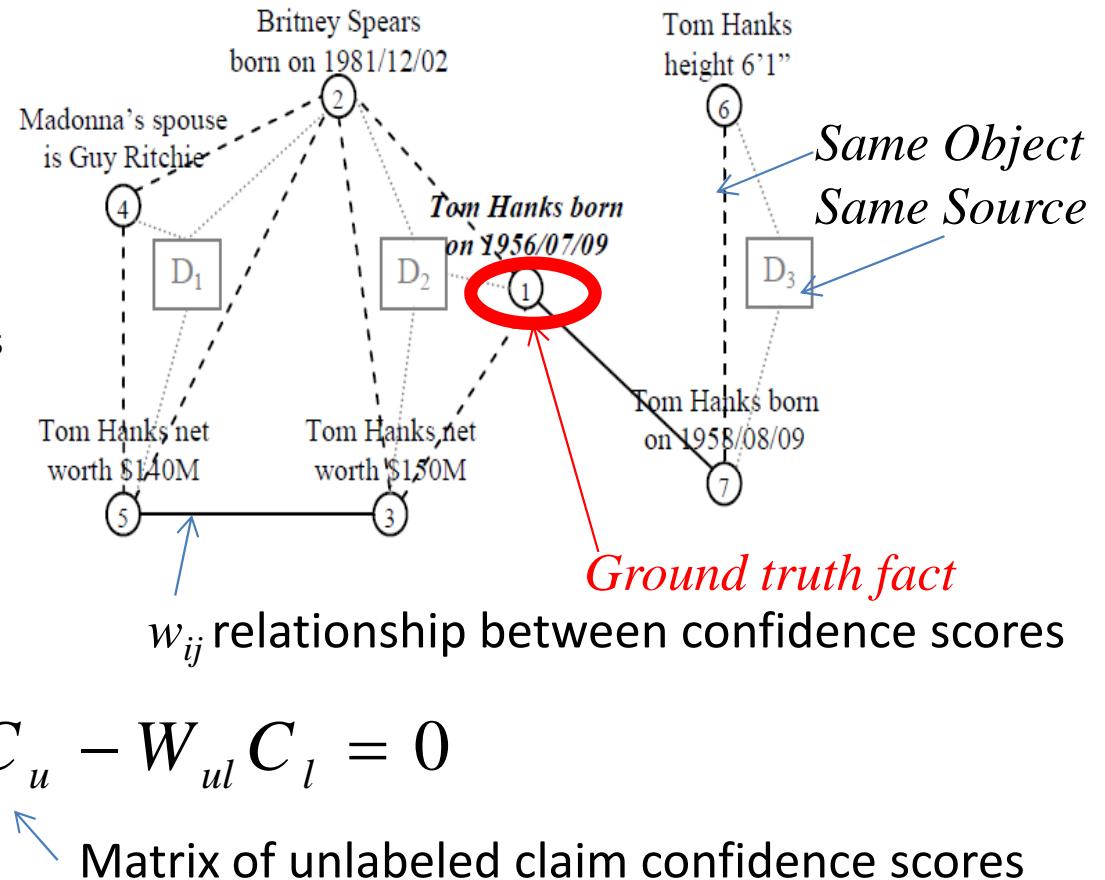
Minimize loss function

$$E(C) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} |w_{ij}| (c_i - s_{ij} c_j)^2$$

$$\text{where } s_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } w_{ij} \geq 0 \quad \text{Supportive claims} \\ -1 & \text{if } w_{ij} < 0 \quad \text{Claims in conflict} \end{cases}$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial E}{\partial c} \right|_{c=c^*} = 0 \Leftrightarrow (D_{uu} - W_{uu}) C_u - W_{ul} C_l = 0$$

Weight Matrices



X. Yin, W. Tan. Semi-supervised Truth Discovery. In Proceedings of the 20th international conference WWW '11, 2011.

Related Work: L. Ge, J. Gao, X. Yuy, W. Fanz and A. Zhang, Estimating Local Information Trustworthiness via Multi-Source Joint Matrix Factorization, Proc. of ICDM 2012

# Outline

---

## 1. Motivation

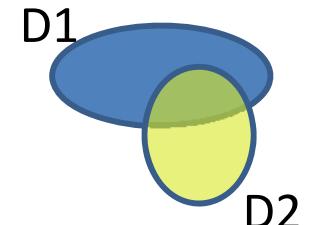
## 2. Truth Discovery from Structured Data

- Agreement-based Methods
- MAP Estimation-based Methods
- Analytical Methods
- Bayesian Methods

# Source Dependence

- Sharing the same errors is unlikely if sources are independent
- Accuracy differences give the copying direction

$$|Acc(D1 \cap D2) - Acc(D1 - D2)| > |Acc(D1 \cap D2) - Acc(D2 - D1)| \Rightarrow S1 \rightarrow S2$$



**Source Accuracy**

$$Acc(S) = \text{Avg}_{v \in V_S} (P(V_s))$$

**Value Probability**

$$\Pr(v \text{ true } | \Phi) = \frac{e^{C(v)}}{\sum_{v_0 \in V_d} e^{C(v_0)}}$$

**Source Vote Count**

$$A'(S) = \ln\left(\frac{n_f Acc(S)}{1 - Acc(S)}\right)$$

Consider value similarity

$$C''(v) = C(v) + \rho \sum_{v' \neq v} C(v') \cdot sim(v, v')$$

**ValueVote Count**

$$C(v) = \sum_{S \in S_v} A'(S).I(S)$$

Consider dependence  
 $I(S)$  Prob. of independently providing value  $v$

X. L. Dong, L. Berti-Equille, D. Srivastava. Integrating conflicting data: the role of source dependence. In VLDB, 2009

X. L. Dong, L. Berti-Equille, Y. Hu, D. Srivastava. Global detection of complex copying relationships between sources. In VLDB, 2010

# Depen Signature

## 1. Method Characteristics

- Initialization and parameter settings
- Repeatability
- Convergence and stopping criteria
- Complexity
- Scalability

## 2. Input Data

- Type of value
- Mono-/multi-valued claims
- Similarity of claims
- Correlations between attributes or objects

## 3. Prior Knowledge

- Source Quality
- Dependence of sources
- Hardness of certain claims

## 4. Output

- Single/multiple truth per data item
- At least one or none true claim
- Enrichment (explanation/evidence)

$T_s$ ,  $n_f$  (nb false value),  $\varepsilon$  (error rate),  $\alpha$  (a priori prob.),  $c$  (copying prob.),  $\delta$

Yes

$\delta$

$O(Iter.S^2V^2)$

No<sup>(1)</sup>

String, categorical, numerical

Multi-valued

Yes

No<sup>(2)</sup>

Contant, uniform across sources ,  
homogeneous across objects

Yes

No

Single true values per data item

At least one

No

(1) X. Li, Xin Luna Dong, Kenneth Lyons, Weiyi Meng, and Divesh Srivastava. Scaling up Copy Detection. In ICDE, 2015.

(2) R. Pochampally, A. Das Sarma, X. L. Dong, A. Meliou, D. Srivastava. Fusing data with correlations. In SIGMOD, 2014.

# Modeling Assumptions

## Source

- Sources are **self-consistent**: a source does not claim conflicting claims
- The probability a source asserts a claim is independent of the truth of the claim
- Sources make their claims **independently**<sup>(1)</sup>
- A source has **uniform confidence** to all the claims it expresses<sup>(2)</sup>
- **Trust the majority**
- **Optimistic scenario** :  $S_{True} >> S_{False}$

(\*)*Relaxed in*

(1)[Dong et al, VLDB'09]

(2)[Pasternack Roth, WWW'13]

## Claims

- Only claims with a **direct source attribution** are considered  
e.g., “S1 claims that S2 claims A” is not considered
- Claims are assumed to be **positive** and usually certain:  
e.g., “S claims that A is false”, “S does not claim A is true” are not considered  
or “S claims that A is true with 15% uncertainty”<sup>(2)</sup>
- Claims claimed by only one source are true
- Correlations between claims/entity are not considered<sup>(3)</sup>
- One single true value exists<sup>(4)</sup>

(3)[Pochampally et al. SIGMOD'14]

(4)[Zhi et al., KDD'15]

# Recap

	Truthfinder	MLE	LCA	LTM	Depen+	SSTF
<b>Data Type</b>	String, Categorical Numerical	<b>Boolean</b>	String, Categorical	String, Categorical	String, Categorical Numerical	String, Categorical Numerical
<b>Mono/multi-valued claim</b>	<b>Mono &amp; Multi</b>	Mono	<b>Multi</b>	Mono	<b>Mono &amp; Multi</b>	Mono
<b>Similarity</b>	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Correlations</b>	No	No	No	No	Yes+	Yes
<b>Source Quality</b>	Constant, uniform	Constant, Source-specific	Constant, <b>Source- and data item specific</b>	<b>Incremental, source-specific</b>	Constant, uniform	Constant, uniform
<b>Source Dependence</b>	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
<b>Claim hardness</b>	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
<b>Single/multi-truth</b>	Single	Single	Single	<b>Multi-truth</b>	Single	Single
<b>Trainable</b>	No	No	No	No	No	Yes

D. A. Waguih and L. Berti-Equille. Truth discovery algorithms: An experimental evaluation. arXiv preprint arXiv:1409.6428, 2014.

# Further Testing

API

<http://daqcri.github.io/dafna/>

**AllegatorTrack** 

Truth Discovery from Multi-Source Data  
Signed in as user@example.com, Change password - Sign out

Discover Explain Allege

Upload Datasets  
Upload Ground Truth Datasets (optional)  
Select and configure algorithm(s)

**Cosine**  
Initial Value Confidence: 1  
Prediction constant: 0.2

**2-Estimates**  
Normalization Factor: 0.5

**3-Estimates**  
Initial Error Factor: 0.4  
Normalization Factor: 0.5

Depen  
Accu  
AccuSim  
AccuNoDep  
TruthFinder  
SimpleLCA

Inputs Results 1 Results 2 Results 30 Results 31

Source view Normalized view Detail view Export Visualize Search Show / hide columns

claim_id	object_id	property_id	property_value	source_id	[74] Combiner
54647	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	allen,david; aiken,peter	atbooks	True
54648	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	allen,david; aiken,peter	blackwell online	True
54649	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	allen,david; aiken,peter	bobs books	True
54650	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	allen,david; aiken,peter	books down under	True
54651	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	allen,david; aiken,peter	books2anywhere....	True
54652	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	aiken,peter	browns books	False
54653	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	allen,david	calman	False
54654	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	aiken,peter	free postage ! @th...	False
54655	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	aiken,peter	gunars store	False
54656	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	aiken,peter	gunter koppon	False
54657	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	allen,david; aiken,peter	lakeside books	True
54658	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	aiken,peter	limelight bookshop	False
54659	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	allen,david; aiken,peter	papamedia.com	True
54660	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	allen,david; aiken,peter	paperbackshop-us	True
54661	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	allen,david; aiken,peter	paperbackworld.de	True
54662	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	allen,david; aiken,peter	quartermelon	True
54663	0120455994	AuthorsNamesList	allen,david; aiken,peter	revaluation books	True

Claim confidence results for 1 dataset(s) and 1 ground truth dataset(s)

Showing 1 to 17 of 2,005 unique rows

D. Attia Waguih, N. Goel, H. M. Hammady, L. Berti-Equille. AllegatorTrack: Combining and Reporting Results of Truth Discovery from Multi-source Data. In ICDE 2015.

# Further Testing

API

<http://daqcri.github.io/dafna/>



- Datasets and Synthetic Data Generator

```
java -jar DAFNA-DataSetGenerator.jar  
    -src 10 -obj 10 -prop 5 -cov 1.00  
    -ctrlC Exp -ctrlT Exp -v 3  
    -ctrlV Exp -s dissSim -f "./Test"
```

Control Parameter	Value
Number of sources (S)	50; 1,000; 2,000; 5,000; 10,000
Number of data items (D)	100; 1,000; 10,000
Source Coverage (Cov)	U .25; U .75 (Uniform) L (Linear) E (Exponential)
Ground Truth (GT)	R (Random) U .25; U .75 (Uniform) FP (Fully Pessimistic) FO (Fully Optimistic) 80-P (80-Pessimistic) 80-O (80-Optimistic) E (Exponential)
Conflict Distribution (Conf)	U (Uniform) E (Exponential)
Number of Distinct Values	2...20

# Outline

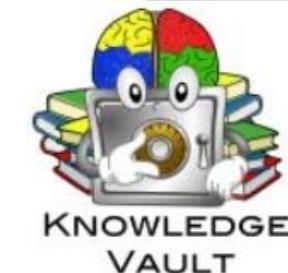
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1. Motivation
2. Truth Discovery from Structured Data
3. Truth Discovery from Extracted Information
  - Knowledge-Based Trust
  - Slot Filling Validation

# Knowledge-Based Trust

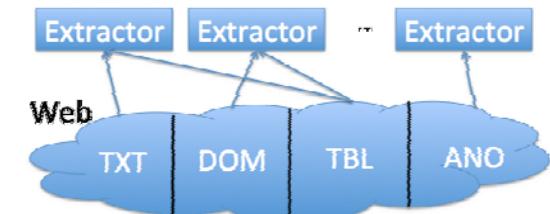
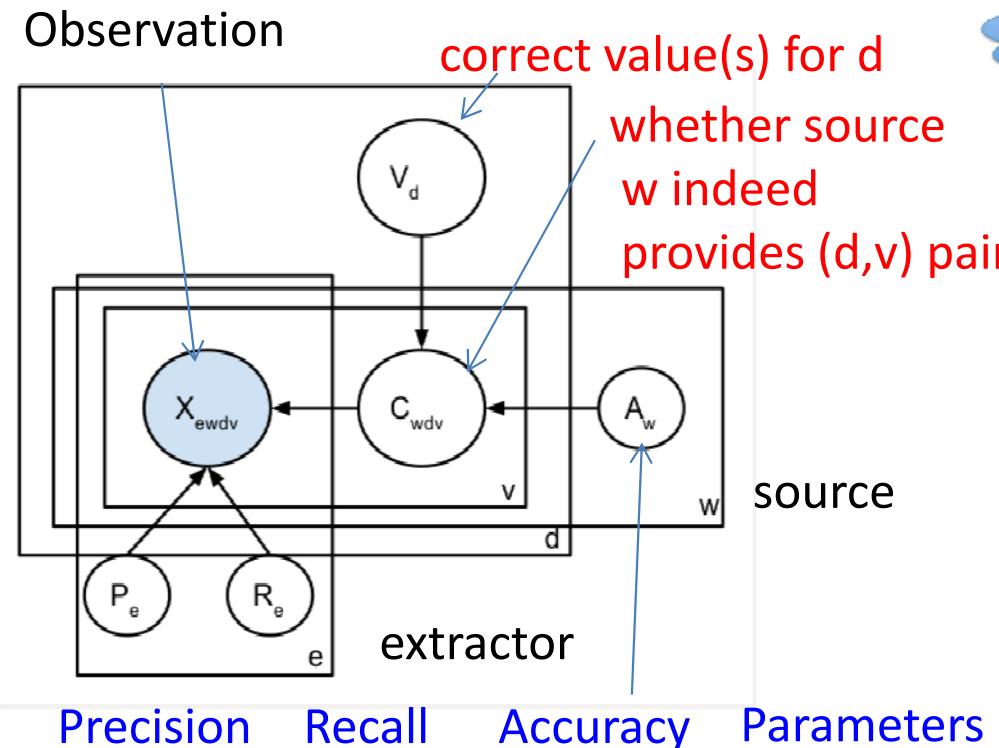
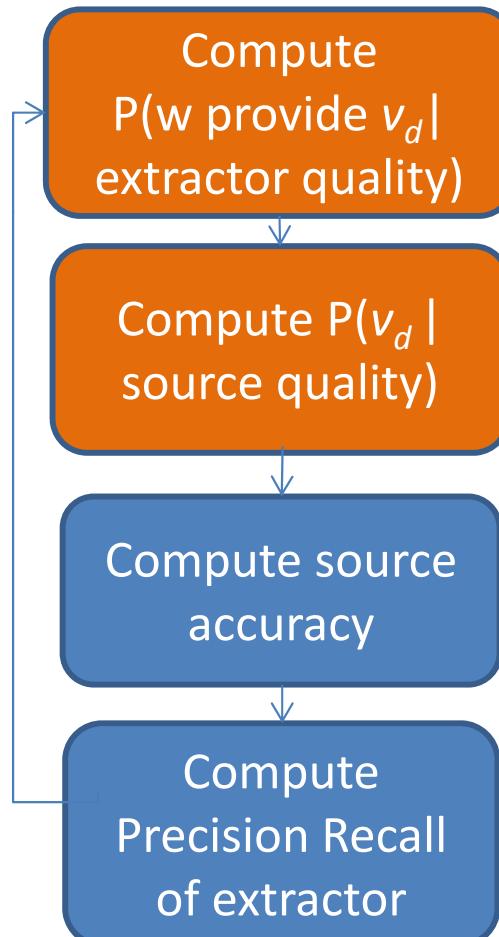
Bayesian

EM



Distinguish extractor errors from source errors

Multi-Layer Model based on EM



#Triples	3.0B (0.3B w. pr>=0.7)
#URLs	2.5B (28M Websites)
#Extractors	16

As of 2014

X. L. Dong, K. Murphy, E. Gabrilovich, G. Heitz, W. Horn, N. Lao, W. Zhang. Knowledge Vault: A Web-scale approach to probabilistic knowledge fusion, In VLDB 2015

# Slot Filling Validation

Method extending Co-HITS [Deng *et al.* 2009] over heterogeneous networks

## Credibility Propagation

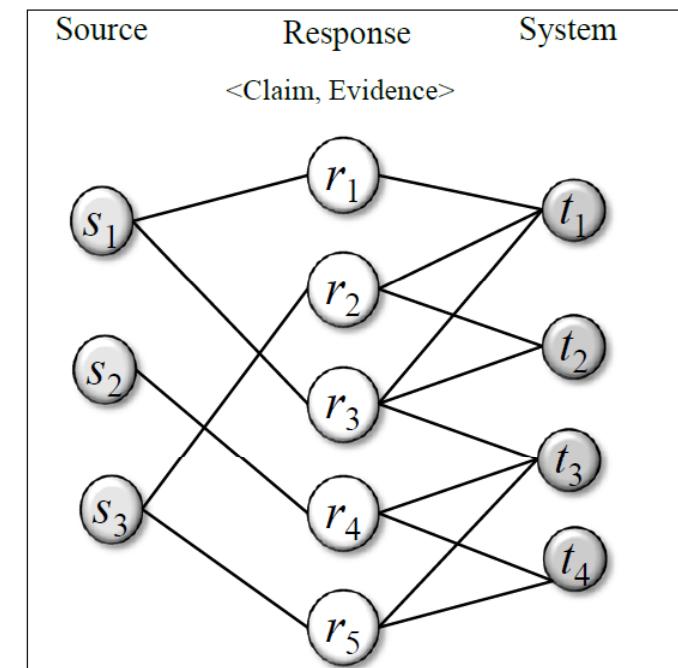
1. Initialize credibility scores  $c^0$  for  $S$  to 1, for  $T$  with TextRank [Mihalcea 2004] and for  $R$  using linguistic indicators

2. Construct heterogeneous networks across  $R$ ,  $S$  and  $T$   
with transition prob.

$$p_{ij}^{rs} = \frac{w_{ij}^{rs}}{\sum_k w_{ik}^{rs}}$$

3. Compute:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} c(s_i) = (1 - \lambda_{rs})c^0(s_i) + \lambda_{rs} \sum_{r_j \in R} p_{ji}^{rs} c(r_j) \\ c(t_k) = (1 - \lambda_{rt})c^0(t_k) + \lambda_{rt} \sum_{r_j \in R} p_{jk}^{rt} c(r_j) \\ c(r_j) = (1 - \lambda_{sr} - \lambda_{tr})c^0(r_j) \\ \quad + \lambda_{sr} \sum_{s_i \in S} p_{ij}^{sr} c(s_i) + \lambda_{tr} \sum_{t_k \in T} p_{kj}^{tr} c(t_k) \end{array} \right.$$



$W_{sr}$        $W_{rt}$   
Weight matrices

D. Yu, H. Huang, T. Cassidy, H. Ji, C. Wang, S. Zhi, J. Han, C. R. Voss, M. Magdon-Ismail. The wisdom of minority:  
Unsupervised slot filling validation based on multi-dimensional truth-finding. In COLING 2014, p. 1567–1578, 2014

# Outline

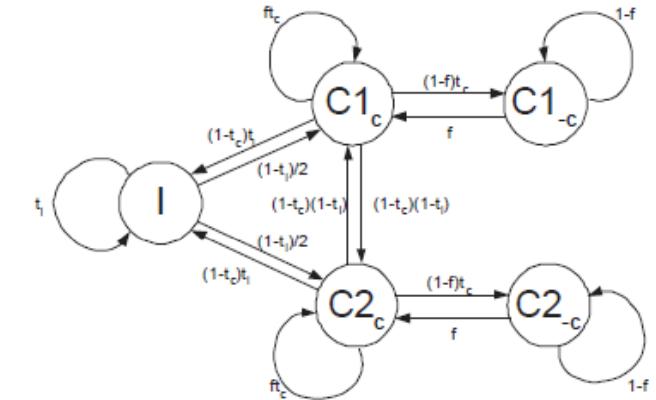
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1. Motivation
2. Truth Discovery from Structured Data
3. Truth Discovery from Extracted Information
4. Recent Advances for Structured Data
  - Evolving Truth
  - Truth Finding from Crowdsourced Data
  - Long-Tail Phenomenon
  - Truth Existence, and Approximation

# Evolving Truth

- **True values can evolve over time**
  - Lifespan of objects
  - Coverage, Exactness, Freshness of source
  - HMM model to detect lifespan and copying relationships

X. L. Dong, L. Berti-Equille, D. Srivastava. *Truth discovery and copying detection in a dynamic world*. In VLDB 2009.



- **Source quality changes over time**
  - MAP estimation of the source weights

Y. Li, Q. Li, J. Gao, L. Su, B. Zhao, W. Fan, J. Han. *On the discovery of evolving truth*. In KDD 2015.

- **New sources can be added**
  - Incremental voting over multiple trained classifiers
  - Concept drift

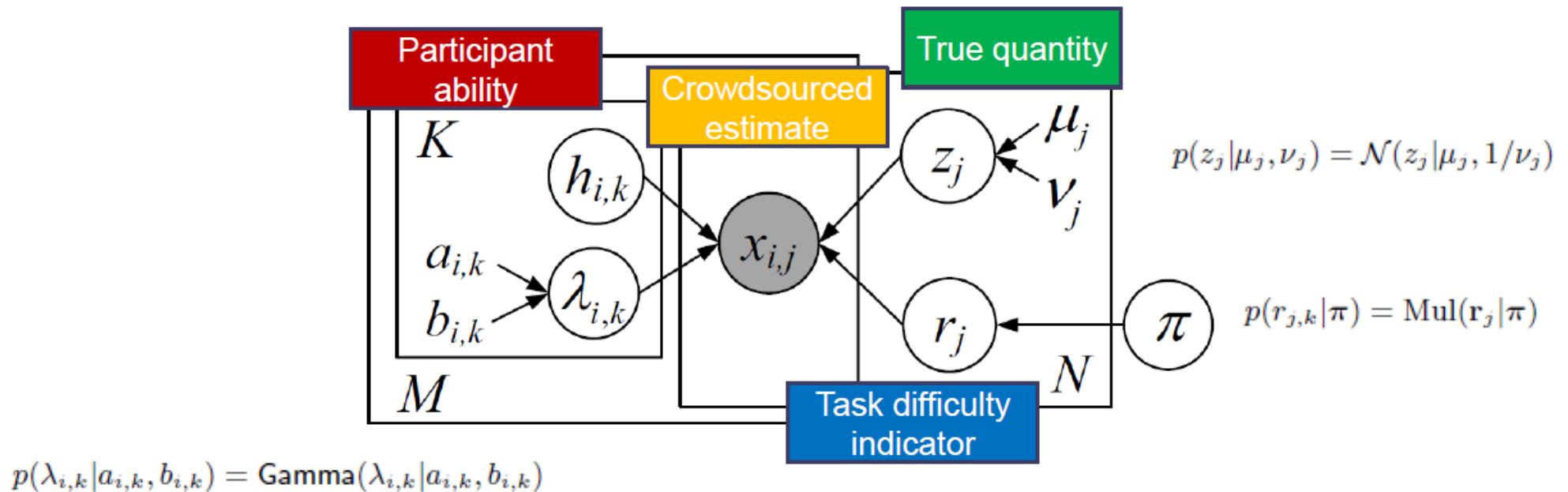
L. Jia, H. Wang, J. Li, H. Gao, *Incremental Truth Discovery for Information from Multiple Sources*. In WAIM 2013 workshop, LNCS 7901, p. 56-66, 2013

# Truth discovery from crowdsourced data

## TBP (Truth Bias and Precision)

Likelihood of observing a crowdsourced estimate (given model parameters only) follows a mixture distribution

$$p(x_{i,j}|\pi, z_j, h_{i,k}, \lambda_{i,k}) = \sum \pi_k \mathcal{N}(x_{i,j}|z_j + h_{i,k}, 1/\lambda_{i,k})$$



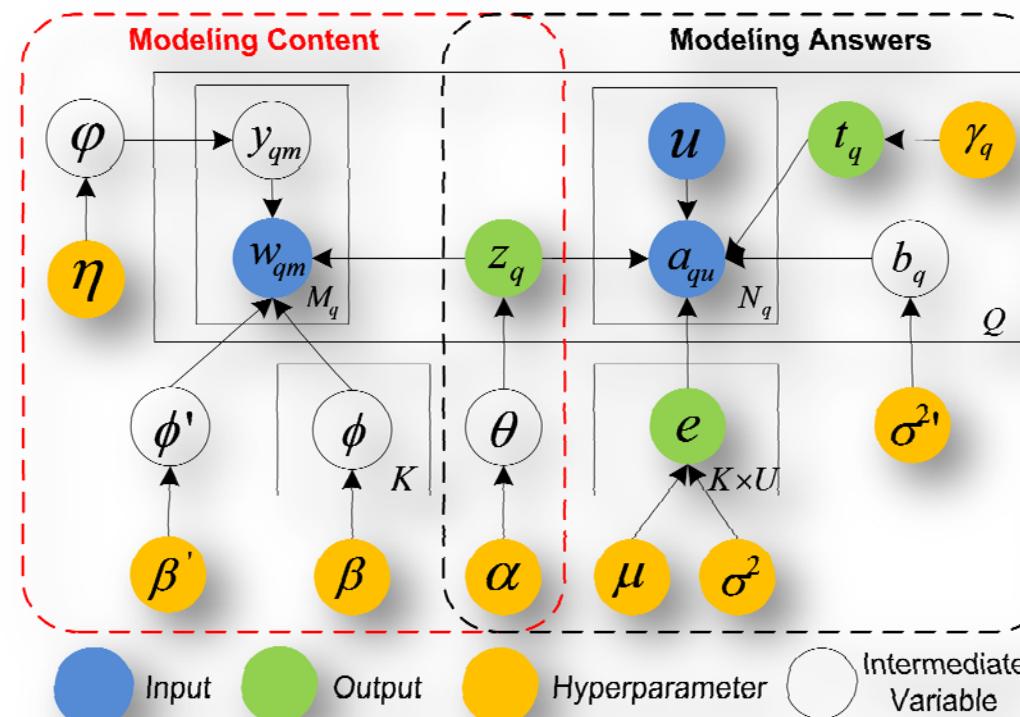
R. W. Ouyang, L. Kaplan, P. Martin, A. Toniolo, M. Srivastava, and T. J. Norman. Debiasing crowdsourced quantitative characteristics in local businesses and services. Proc. of IPSN ACM/IEEE, pp. 190-201, 2015.

# Truth discovery from crowdsourced data

Optimization

## Faitcrowd

- **Input:**  $Q$  questions,  $K$  topics,  $M_q$  words and  $N_q$  answers per question provided by  $U$  users, hyperparameters
- **Output:** User expertise  $e$ , true answers  $t_q$ , question topic labels  $z_q$



$$t_q \sim U(\gamma_q)$$

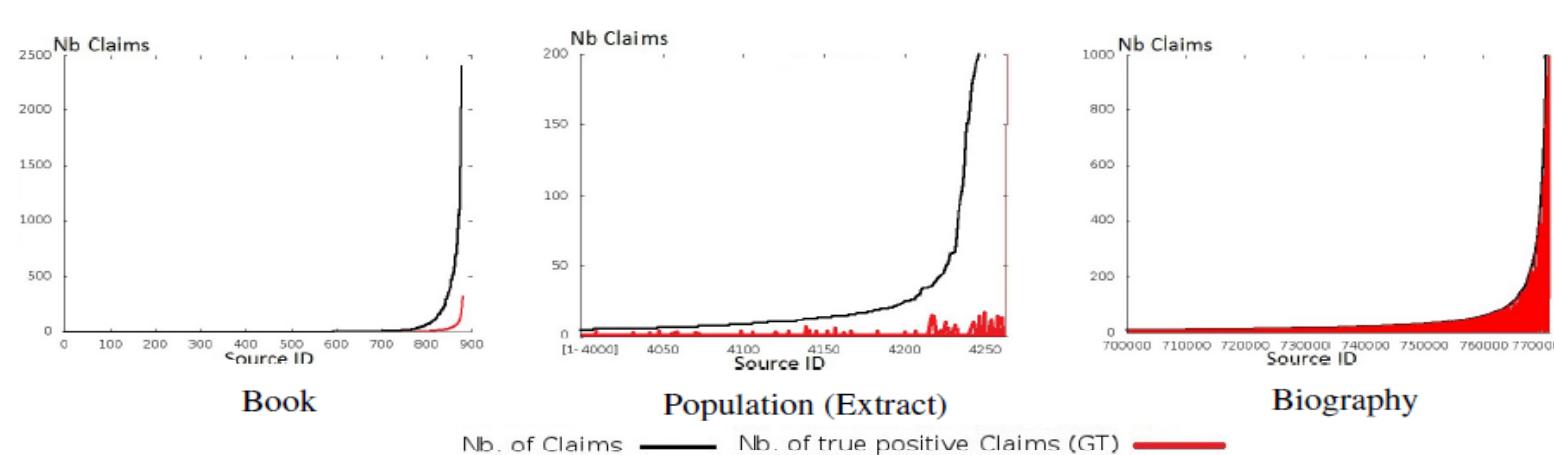
$$b_q \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

$$a_{qu}|t_q \sim \text{logistic}(e_{z_q u}, b_q)$$

$$e_{z_q u} \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

F. Ma, Y. Li, Q. Li, M. Qui, J. Gao, S. Zhi, L. Su, B. Zhao, H. Ji, and J. Han. Faitcrowd: Fine grained truth discovery for crowdsourced data aggregation. In Proc. of KDD 2015.

# Long-Tail Phenomenon



## CADT Method for Independent and Benevolent Sources

**Goal : Minimize the Variance of Source Reliability**

$$\min_{w_s} \sum_{s \in S} w_s^2 \sigma_s^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{s \in S} w_s = 1, w_s \geq 0, \forall s \in S$$

$$\varepsilon_s \propto N(0, \sigma_s^2)$$

$$\varepsilon_{\text{combined}} = \frac{\sum_{s \in S} w_s \varepsilon_s}{\sum_{s \in S} w_s}$$

$$w_s \propto \frac{\chi_{(\alpha/2, N_s)}^2}{\sum_{n \in N_s} (x_n^s - x_n^{*(0)})^2}$$

Reliability of source  $s$

Number of claims by source  $s$

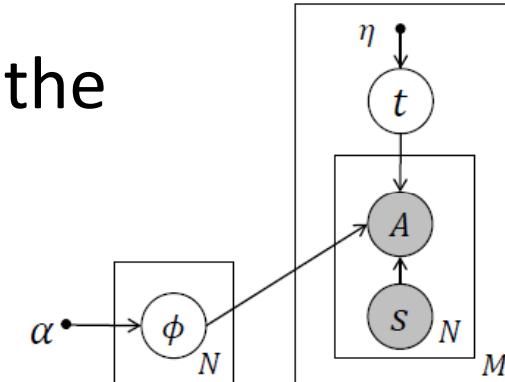
Chi-squared probability at  $(1-\alpha)$  confidence interval

Initial value confidence for entity  $n$

Q. Li, Y. Li, J. Gao, L. Su, B. Zhao, M. Demirbas, W. Fan, and J. Han. 2014. A confidence-aware approach for truth discovery on long-tail data. Proc. VLDB Endow. 8, 4 (December 2014), 425-436.

# Recent contributions

- **Modeling Truth Existence**
  - Problem of *No-truth* questions: none of the answers is true
  - EM-based algorithm similar to MLE
  - Silent rate, false and true spoken rates



S. Zhi, B. Zhao, W. Tong, J. Gao, D. Yu, H. Ji, J. Han. *Modeling Truth Existence in Truth Discovery*. In Proc. of KDD 2015

- **Multi-Truth Discovery**

Tuesday, 3:55pm–5:10pm, Session 3A: Veracity

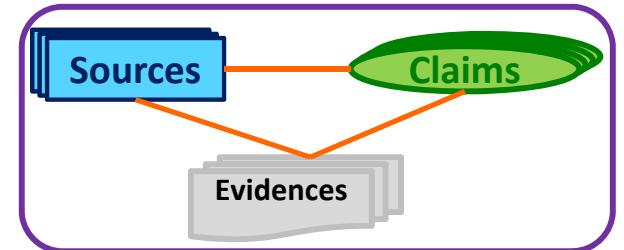
X. Wang, X. Xu, X. Li. *An Integrated Bayesian Approach for Effective Multi-Truth Discovery*.  
In CIKM 2015

- **Approximate Truth Discovery**

Tuesday, 3:55pm–5:10pm, Session 3A: Veracity

X. Wang, Q. Z. Sheng, X. S. Fang, X. Xu, X. Li, L. Yao. *Approximate Truth Discovery Via Problem Scale Reduction*. In CIKM 2015

# Truth Discovery Challenges



- **Multidimensional Metrics**
  - Source: Coverage, Accuracy, Exacteness, Freshness, Reputation, Dependence...
  - Claims: Popularity (i.e., supported by many or few sources) (long-tail phenomena)
  - Truth: Trivial truths (hardness), sensitive truths, uncertain, rapidly evolving
  - Data items: Information entropy (many (or few) conflicting information)
- **Truth Discovery Modeling**
  - Voting only works with benevolent sources. What about adversarial/pessimistic scenarios?
  - Need to incorporate evidences and contextual metadata (hidden agenda of sources)
  - Need to address truth discovery in the context of source/content networks
- **Algorithmic Framework**
  - Beware complex parameter setting
  - Quality performance: Ground truth data set size should be statistically significant
  - No “one-size fits all” solution
  - Need for benchmarks
- **Build a complete Truth Discovery pipeline/system**

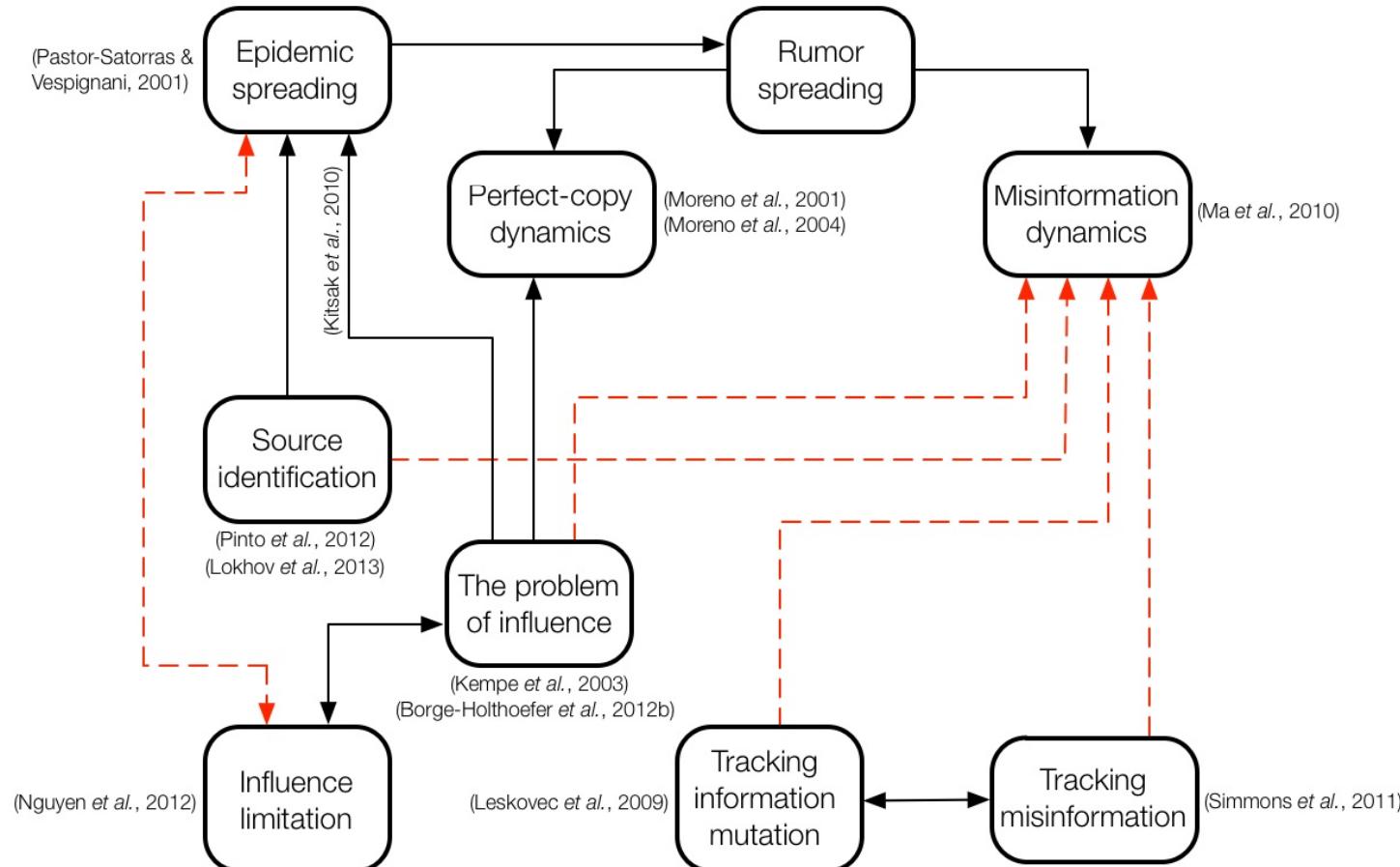
# Outline

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1. Motivation
2. Truth Discovery from Structured Data
3. Truth Discovery from Extracted Information
4. Modeling Information Dynamics
5. Challenges

# Misinformation in Networked Systems

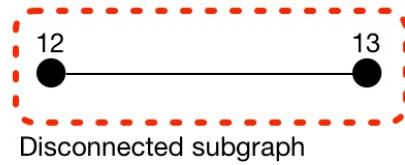
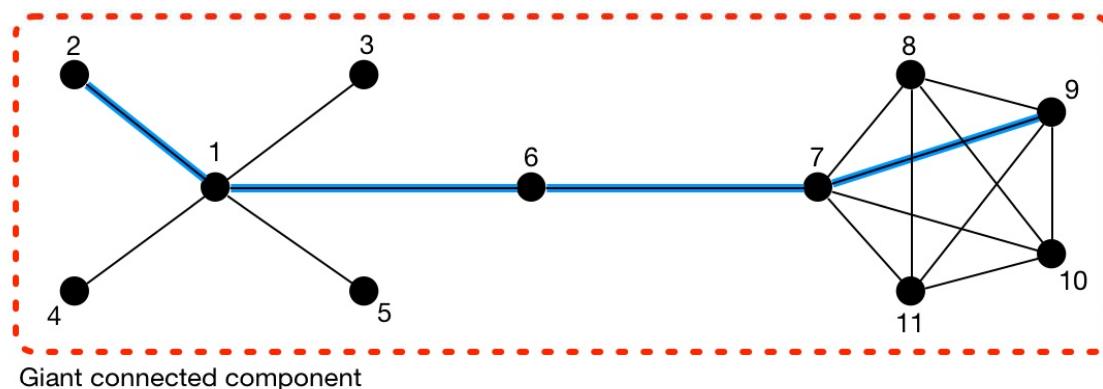
## Theory



## Applications

$a \rightarrow b$   $a$  has enriched our understanding of  $b$   
 $a \dashrightarrow b$   $a$  could/should enrich our understanding of  $b$

# Networked Systems: Topology (I)



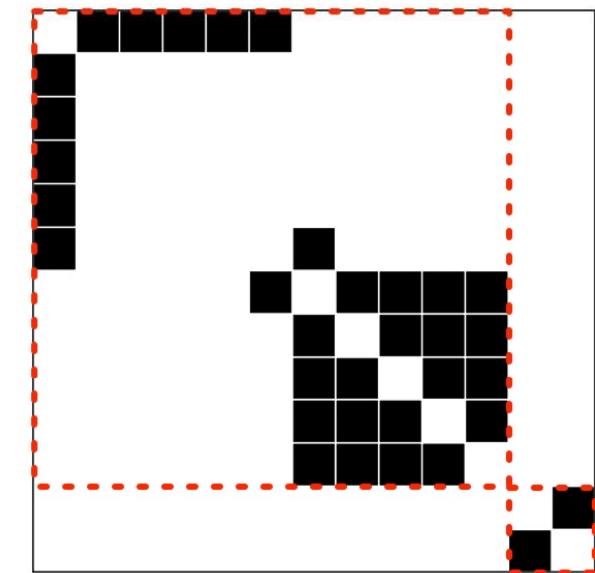
$N = 13$

$L = 17$

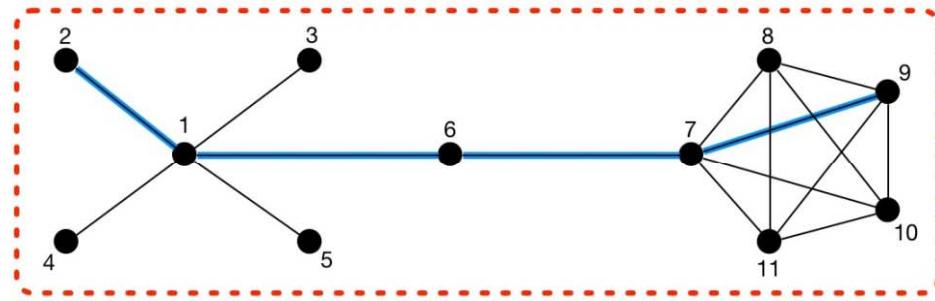
$\langle k \rangle = 1.3$

$APL = 2.4$

$D = 4$



# Networked Systems: Topology (II)



$N = 13$

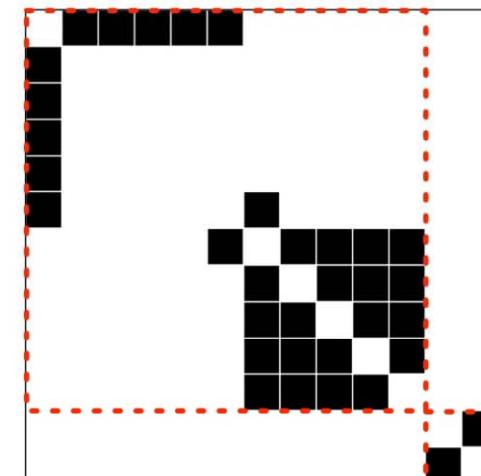
$L = 17$

$\langle k \rangle = 1.3$

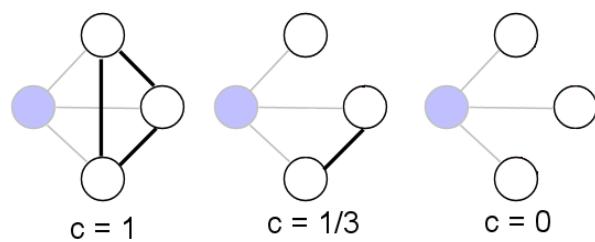
APL = 2.4

$D = 4$

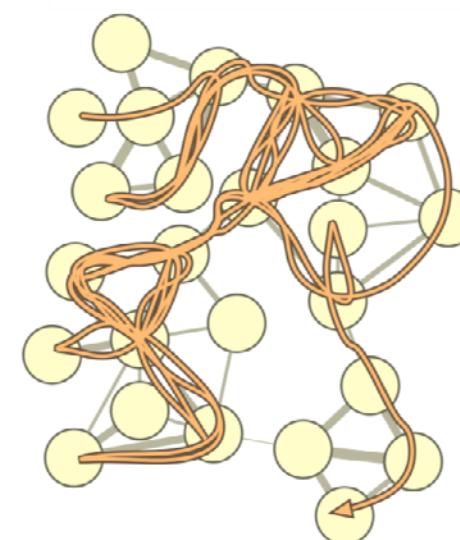
Node	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Clustering	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0
D <sub>c</sub>	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
B <sub>c</sub>	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
E <sub>c</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
Core	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1



Associated adjacency matrix

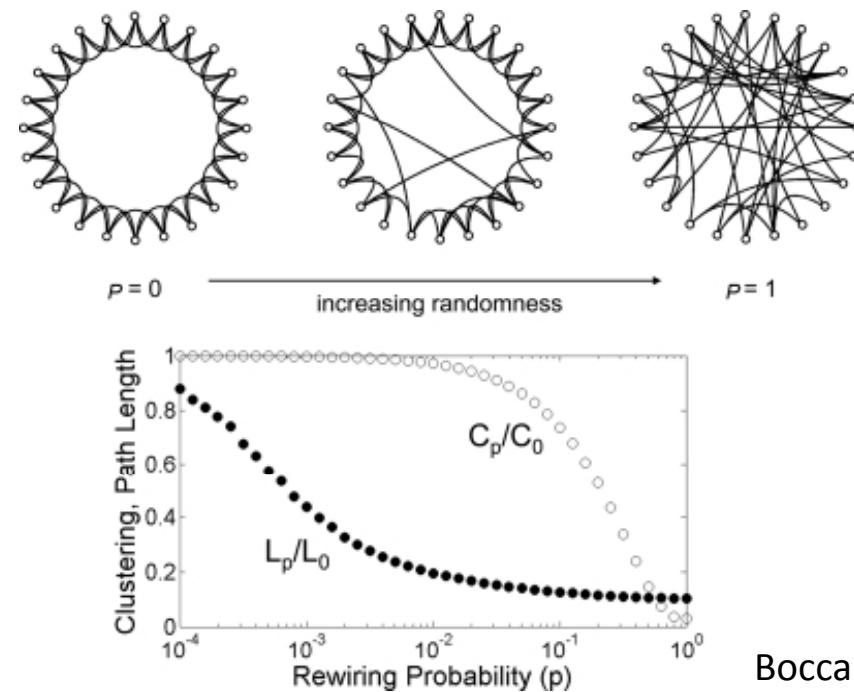


*Clustering*



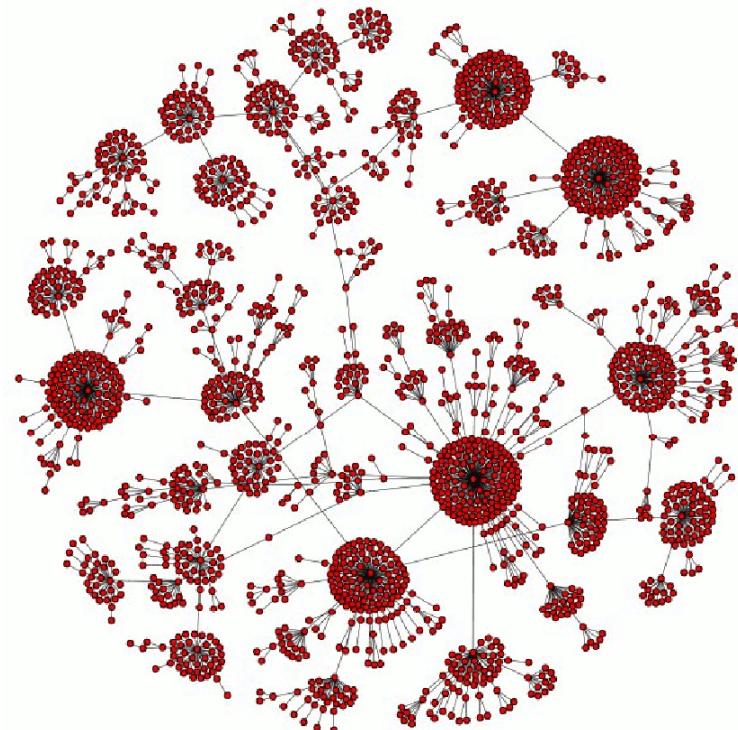
*Centrality*

# Networks: Why Topology Matters



*Take a spreading process...*

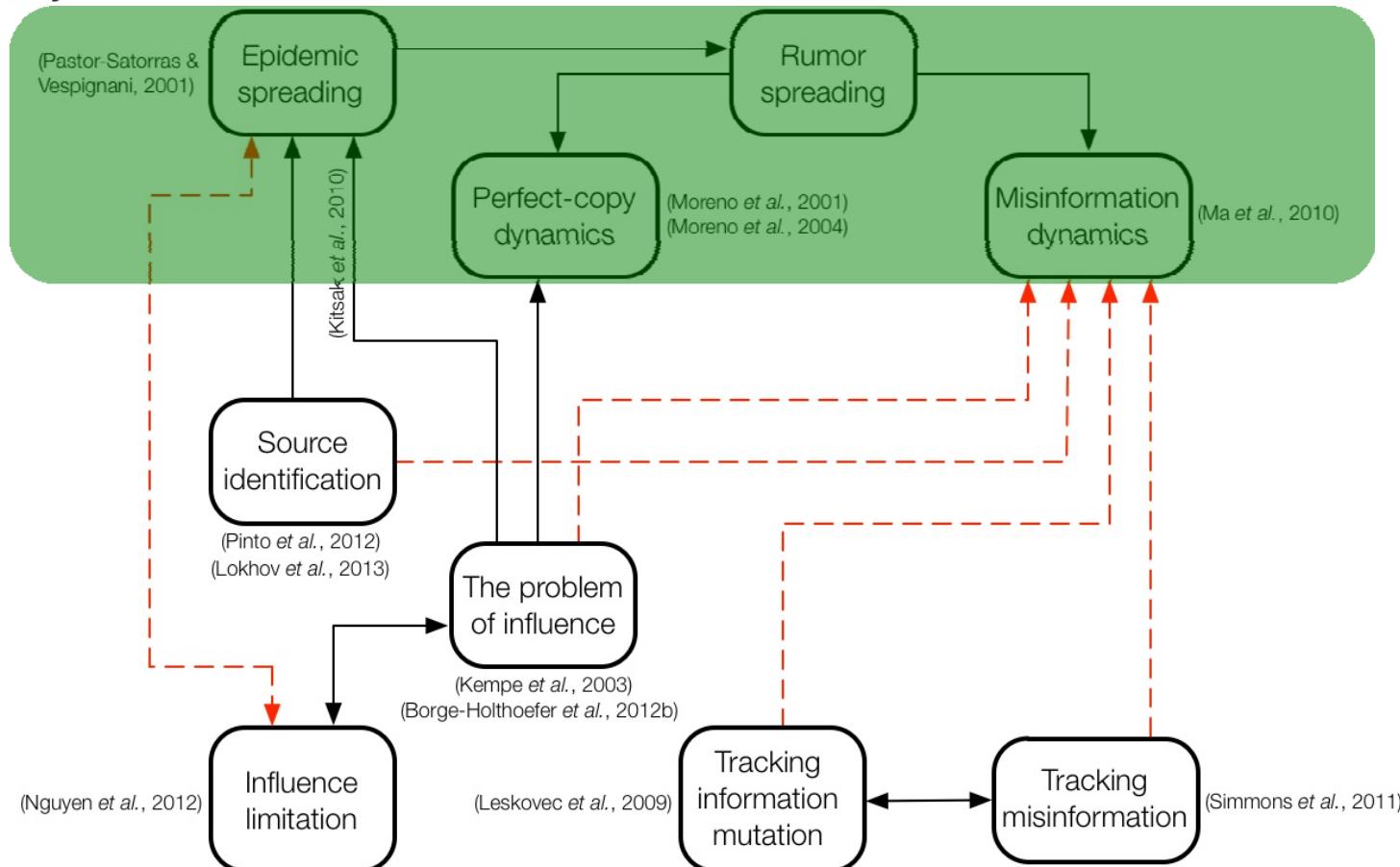
On which topology is it more efficient?  
(faster spread, further reach)



Boccaletti S. et al. (2006) *Complex networks: structure and dynamics*. Physics Reports, 424(4-5), 175–308

# Misinformation in Networked Systems

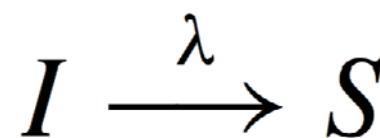
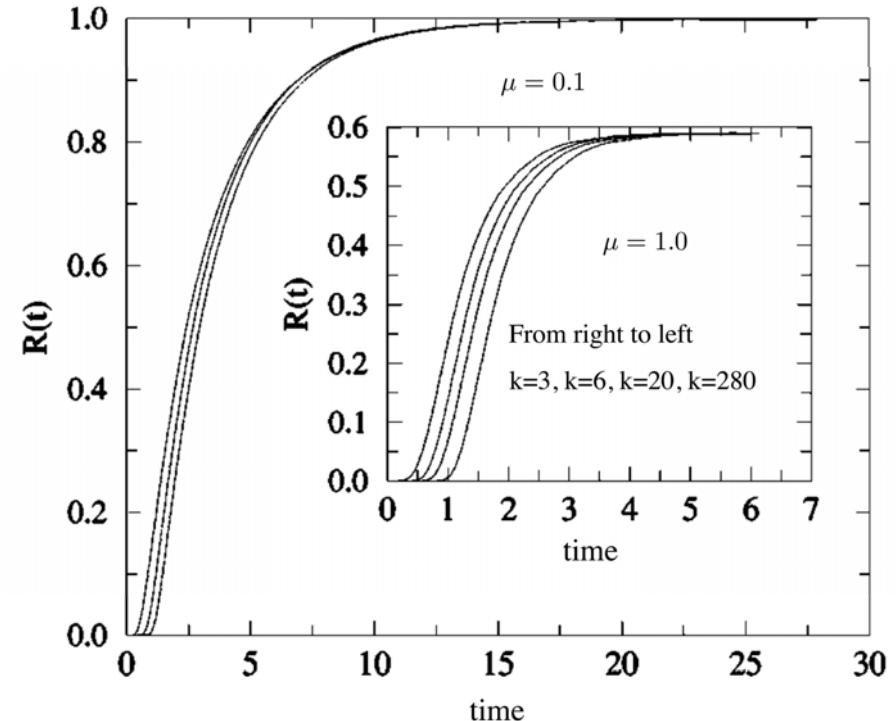
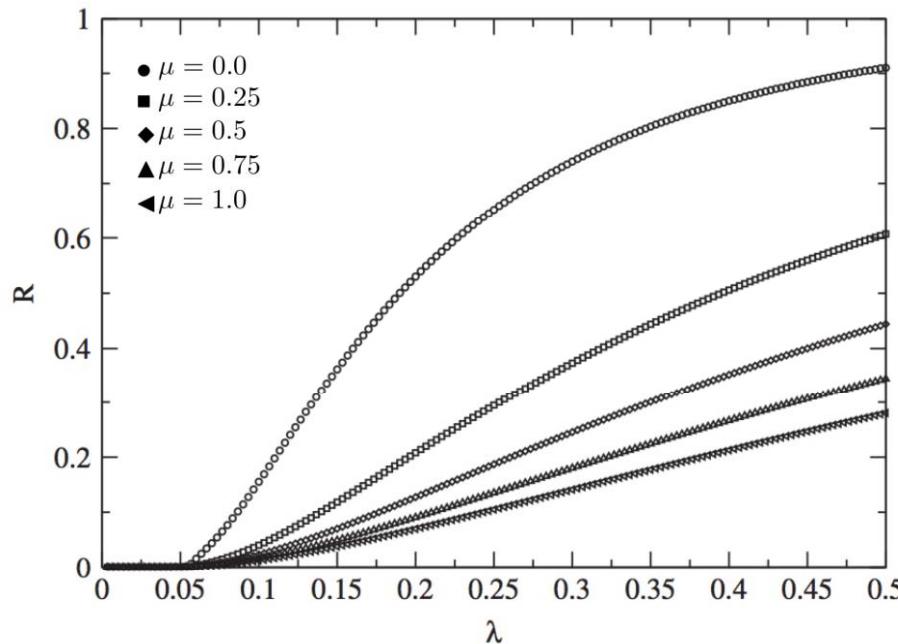
## Theory



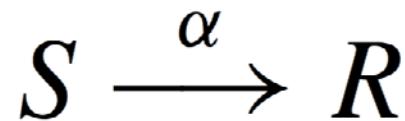
$a \rightarrow b$   $a$  has enriched our understanding of  $b$

$a \dashrightarrow b$   $a$  could/should enrich our understanding of  $b$

# Rumor spreading (I)



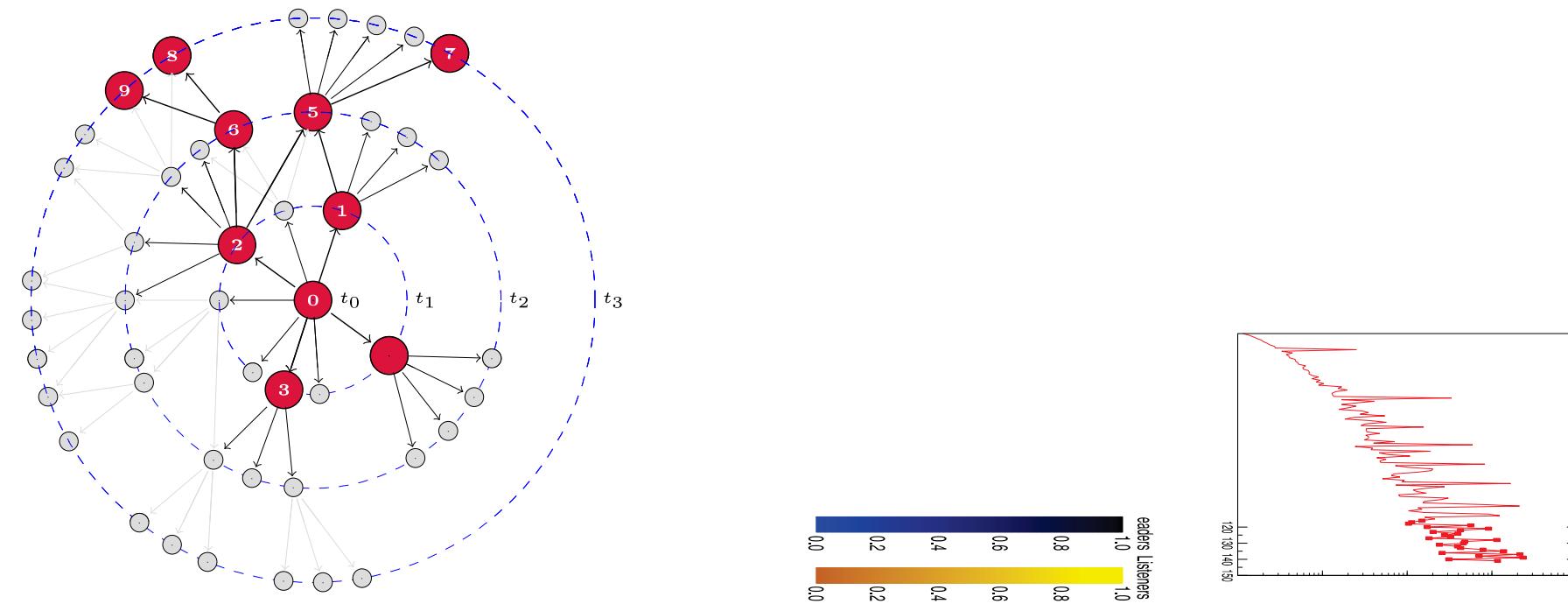
Ignorant to Spreader, with transition probability  $\lambda$



Spreader to Stifler, with transition probability  $\alpha$

Moreno Y., Nekovee M. & Pacheco A. (2004) *Dynamics of rumor spreading in complex networks*.  
Physical Review E, 69(6), 066130

# Information Cascades in the Real World

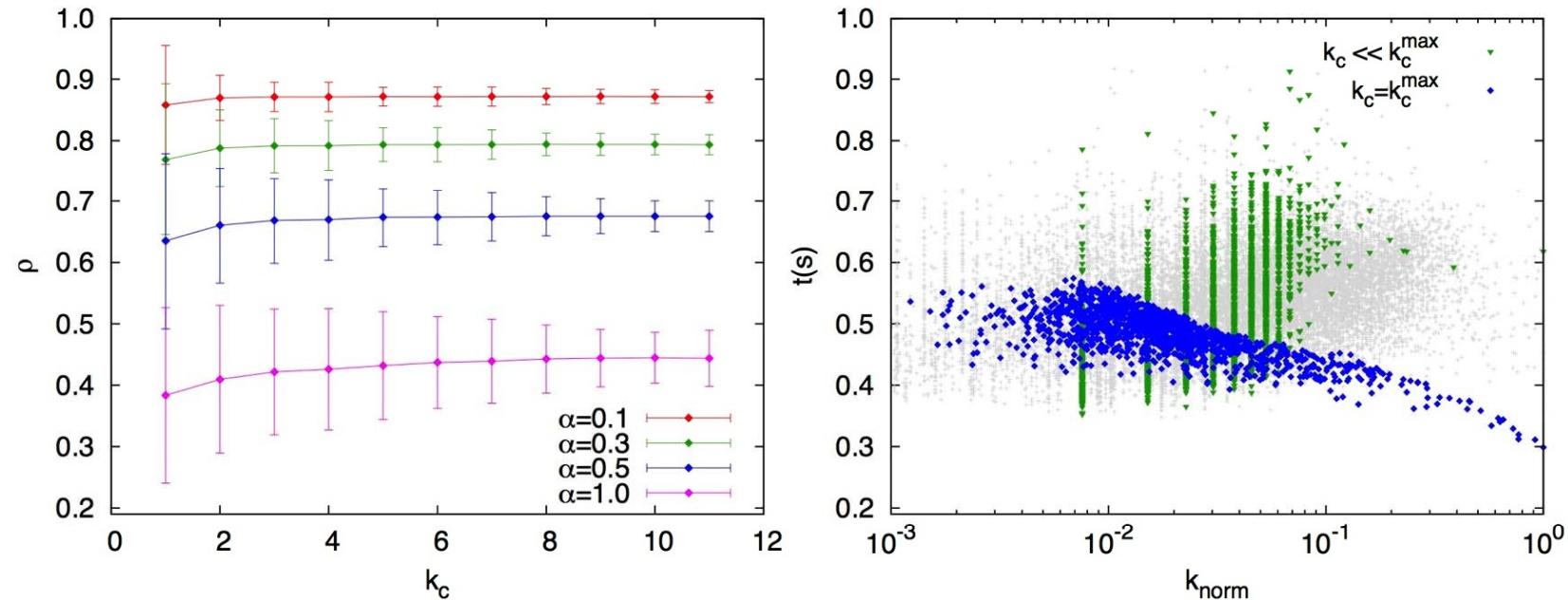


- (+) It is possible to observe global cascades like models predict
- (?) In real world cases global cascades are mostly achieved from central positions

Gonzalez-Bailon S., Borge-Holthoefer J., Rivero A. & Moreno Y. (2011) *The Dynamics of Protest Recruitment through an Online Network*. *Scientific Reports*, 1, 197

Borge-Holthoefer J., Rivero A. & Moreno Y. (2012) *Locating privileged spreaders on an online social network*. *Physical Review E*, 85, 066123

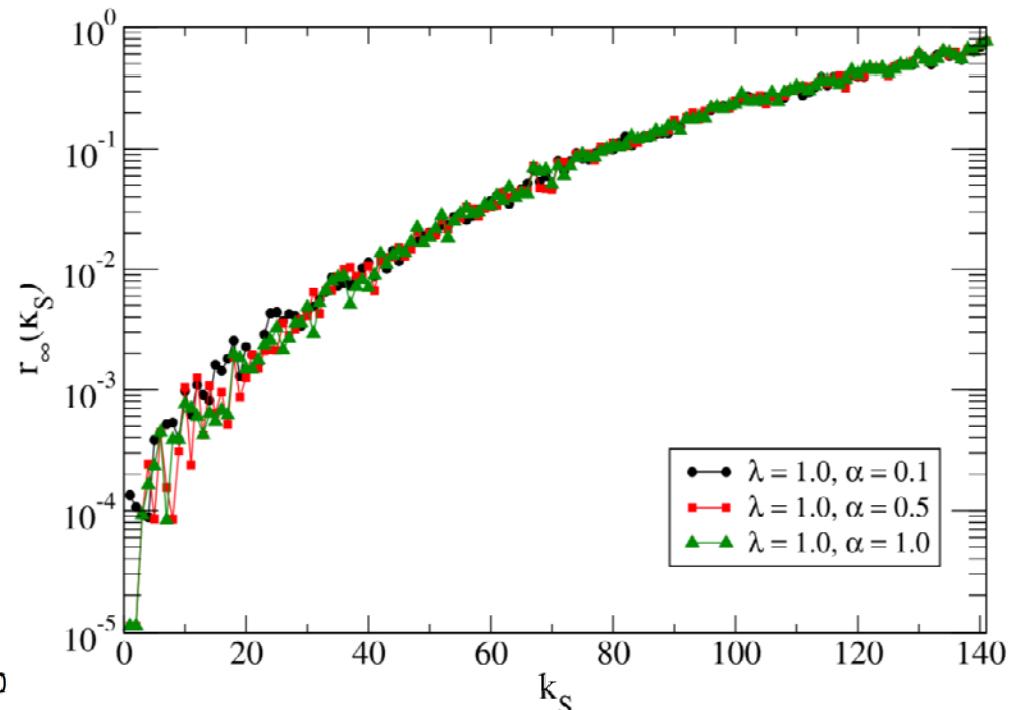
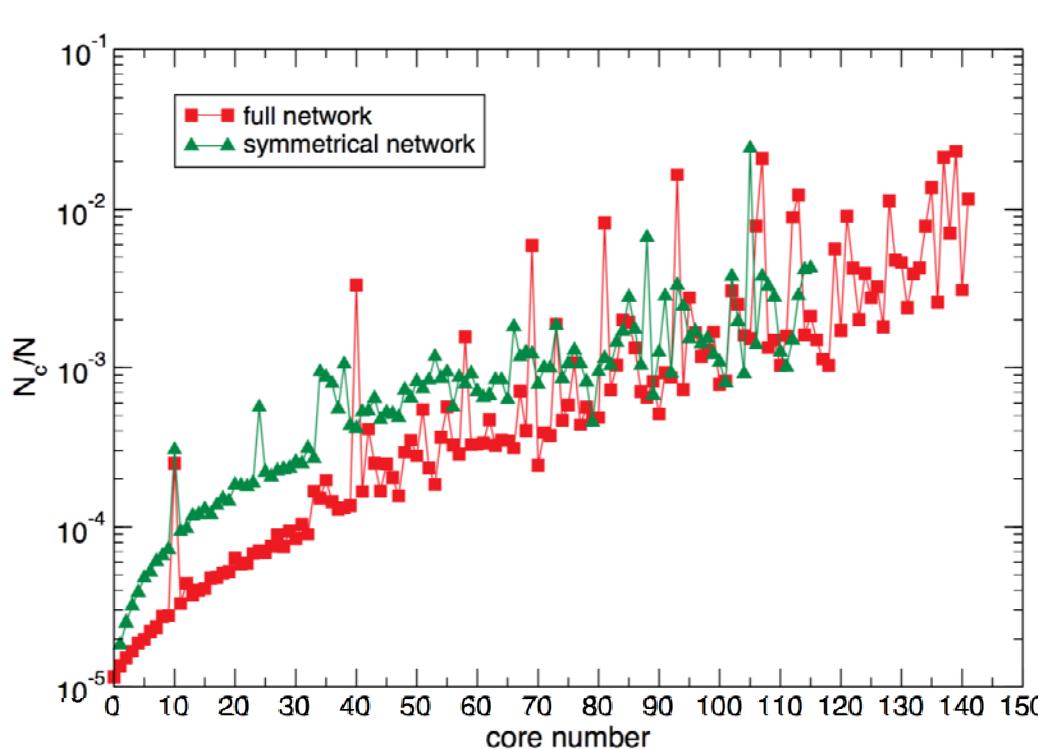
# Rumor spreading (II)



- (?) In real world cases, global cascades are mostly achieved from central positions
- (-) Classic rumor spreading dynamics do **not** capture the relationship between centrality and cascade success (**rather the opposite**)

Borge-Holthoefer J. & Moreno Y. (2012) *Absence of influential spreaders in rumor dynamics*. Physical Review E, 85, 026116

# Evolved Rumor Dynamics: Rates



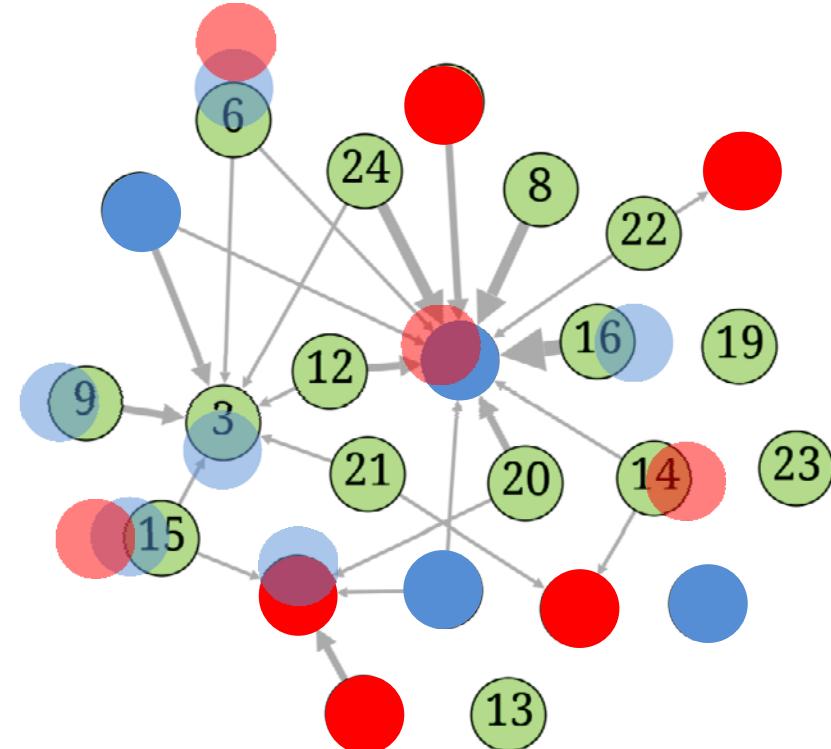
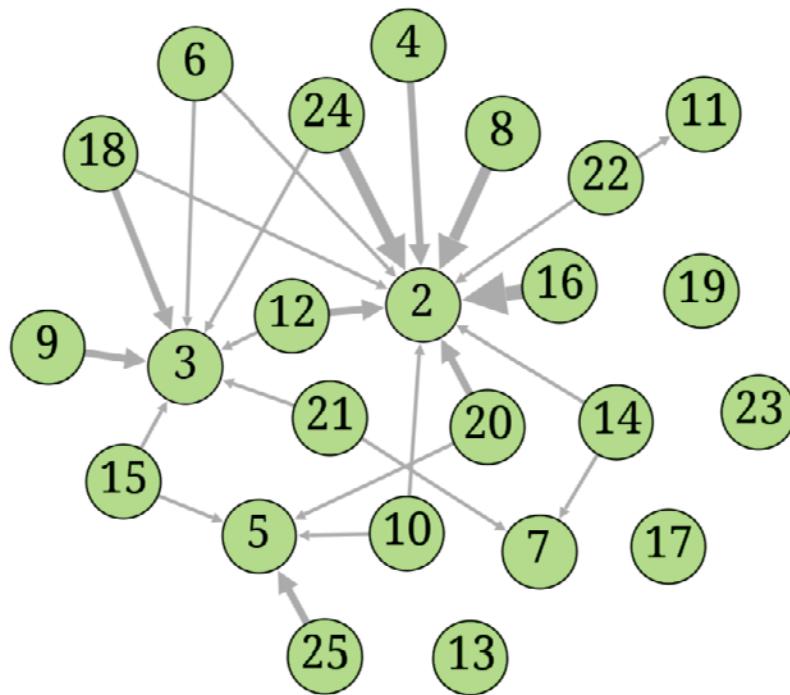
Let each node attempt to spread the rumor at a certain (individual) rate, which depends on its degree  $k$

$$a_i = k_i / k_{max}$$

(-) No matter which refining features we add, information diffusion in the real world is usually **not** exact-copy dynamics

Borge-Holthoefer J., Meloni, S. Goncalves B. & Moreno Y. (2012) *Emergence of influential spreaders in modified rumor models*. Journal of Statistical Physics, 148(6), 1–11

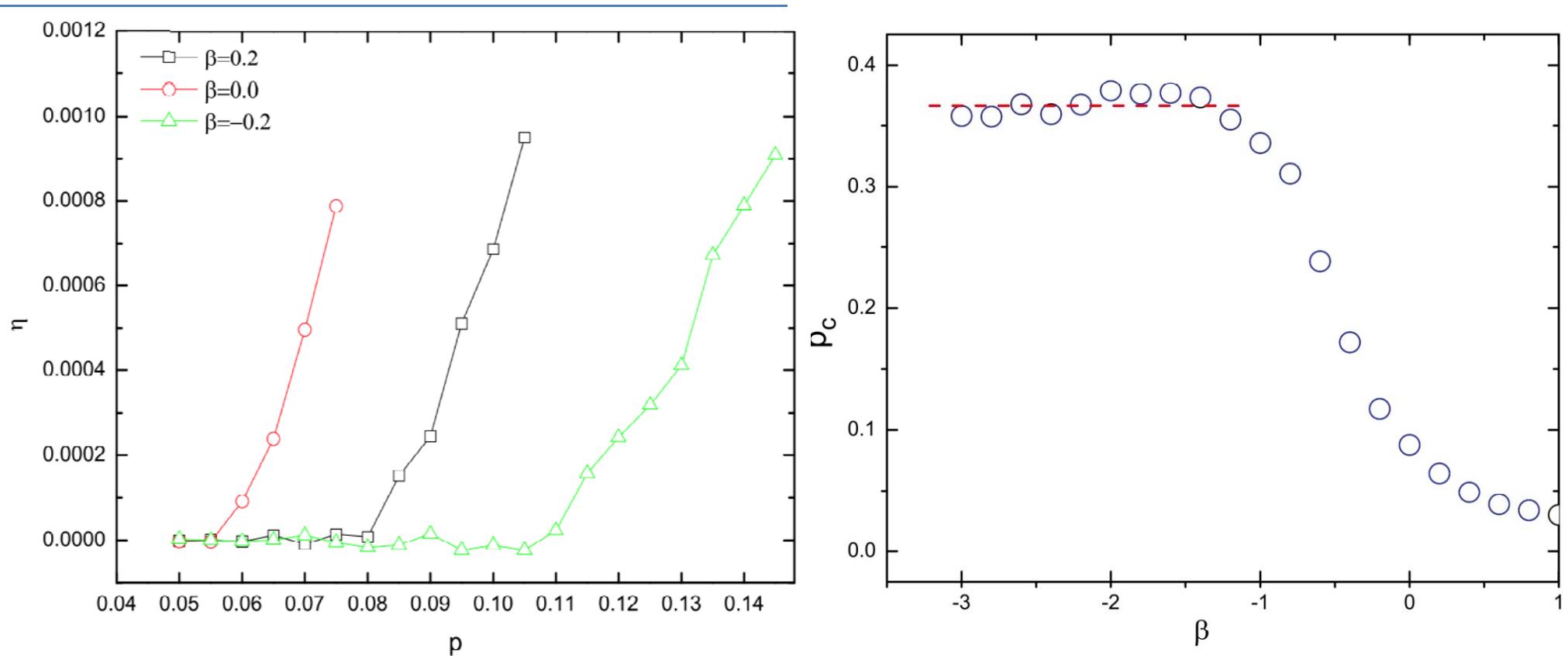
# Evolved Rumor dynamics: Mutation (I)



Add to the classical transition probabilities an extra one: the one determining whether information undergoes a **mutation**

Question: at which probability does information **explode**?

# Evolved Rumor Dynamics: Mutation (II)



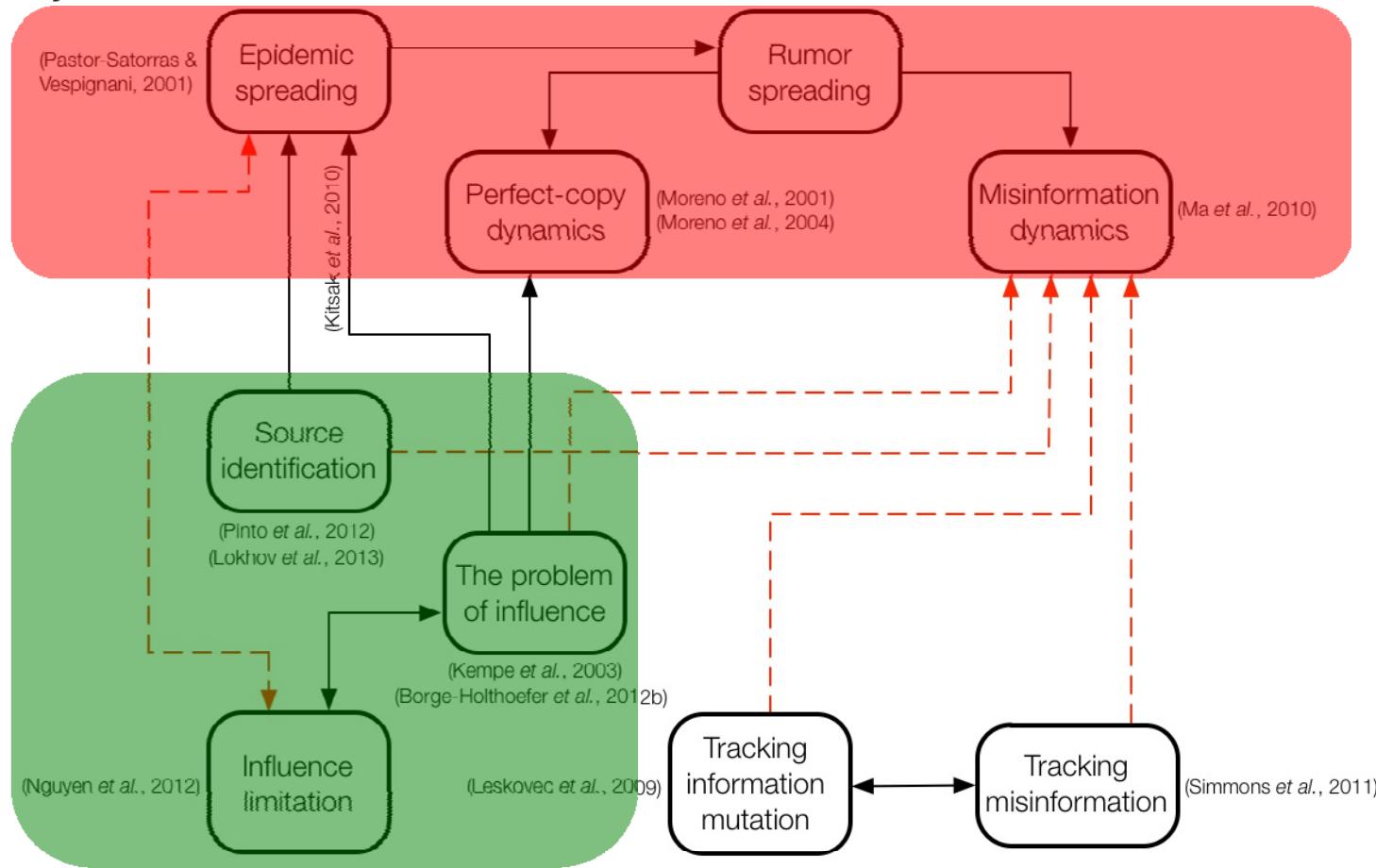
Question: at which probability does information **explode**?

(-) Lack of connection with real world phenomena: no validation.  
Anyone?

Ma X.J., Wang W.-X., La Y.-C. & Zheng Z. (2010) *Information explosion on complex networks and control*. EPJB 76, 179–183

# Misinformation in Networked Systems

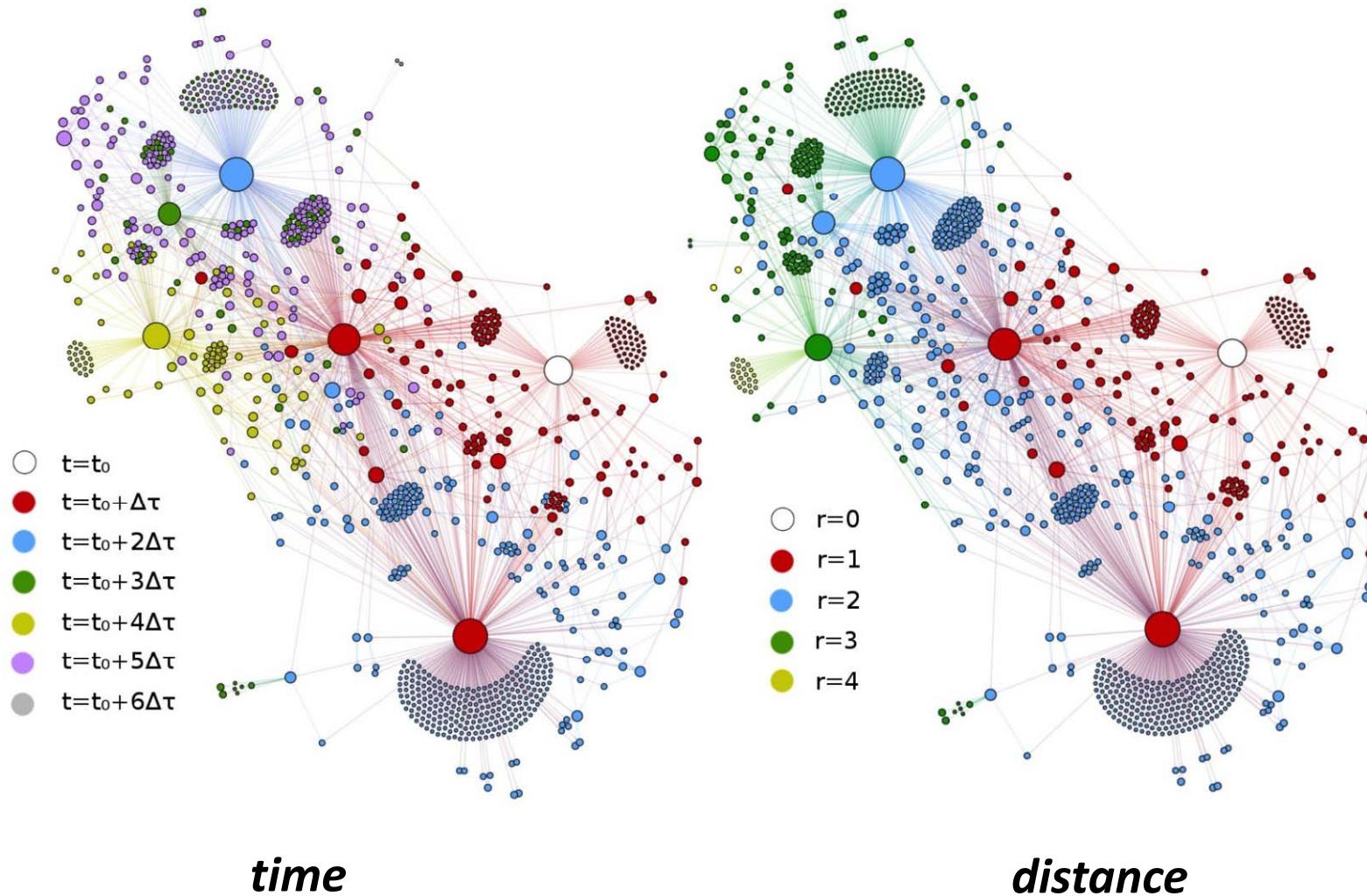
## Theory



$a \rightarrow b$   $a$  has enriched our understanding of  $b$

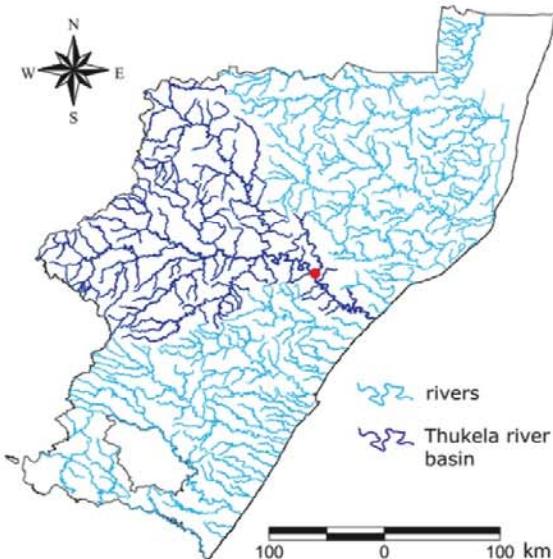
$a \dashrightarrow b$   $a$  could/should enrich our understanding of  $b$

# Source identification (I)

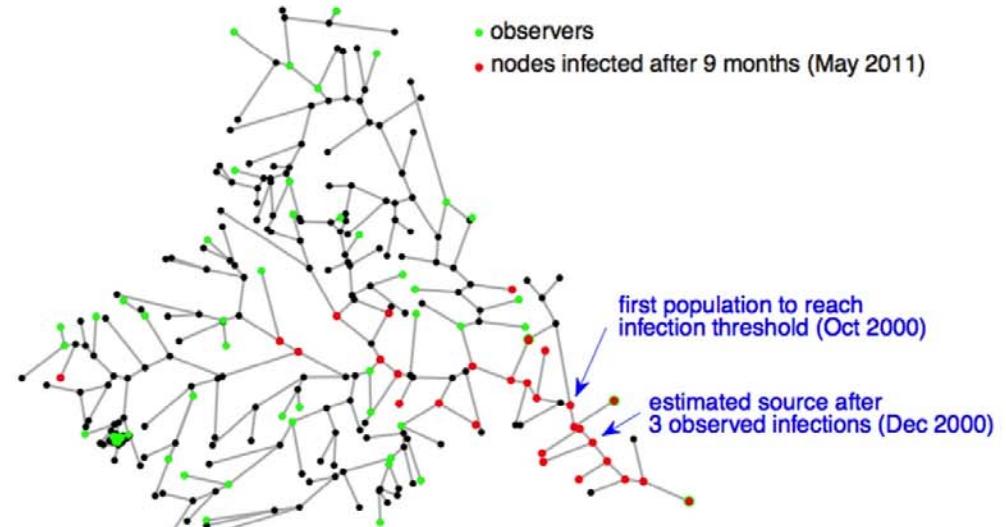


Baños R.A., Borge-Holthoefer J. & Moreno Y. (2013) *The Role of Hidden Influentials in the Diffusion of Online Information Cascades*. EPJ Data Science, 2:6 doi:10.1140/epjds18

# Source identification (II)



(a)



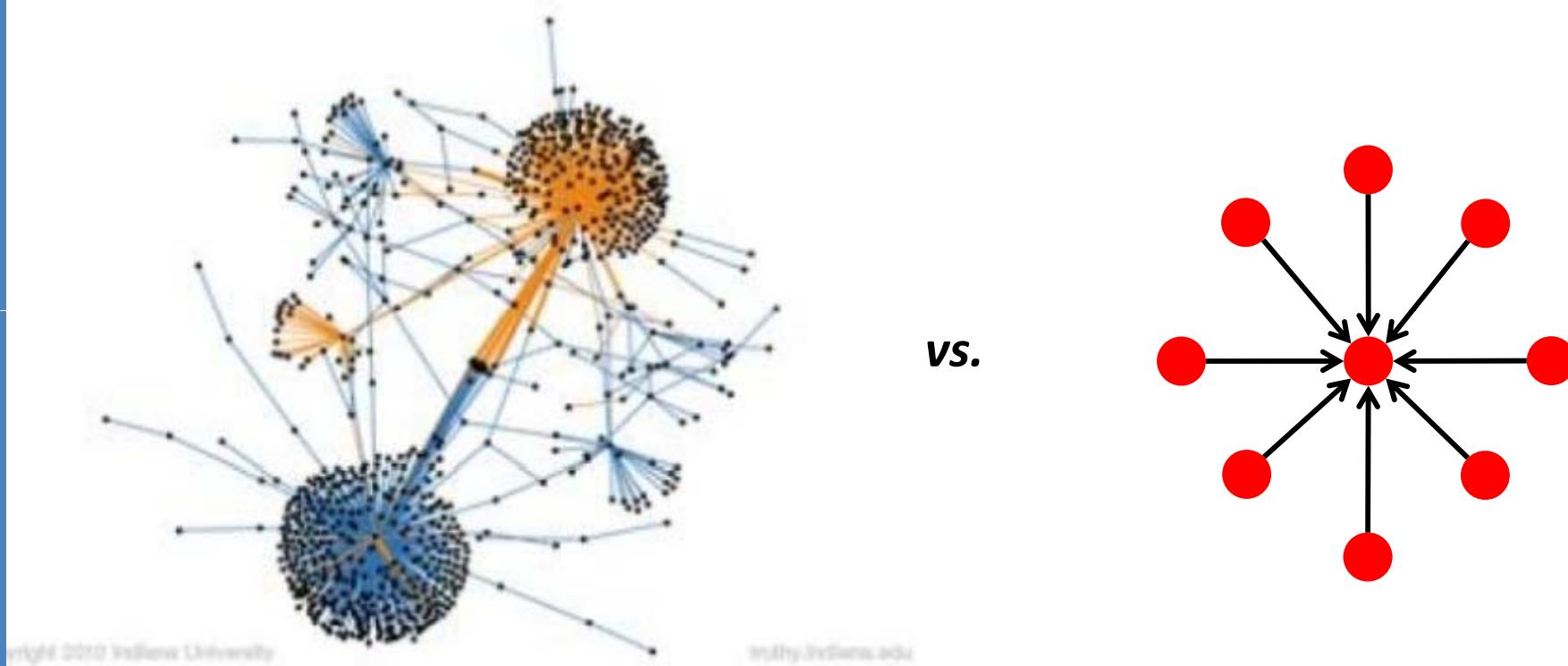
(b)

Observer density K/N (%)	20	40	60	80	100
Mean error (hops)	3.3	3.1	1.7	1.2	1.0
Std. dev. error (hops)	3.2	2.8	2.1	1.4	0.0
Mean error (km.)	23.7	22.2	13.5	9.1	7.9

(c)

Pinto P., Thiran P. & Vetterli, M. (2012) *Locating the source of diffusion in large-scale networks*.  
Physical Review Letters, 6(109) 068702

# Detect misinformation spreading

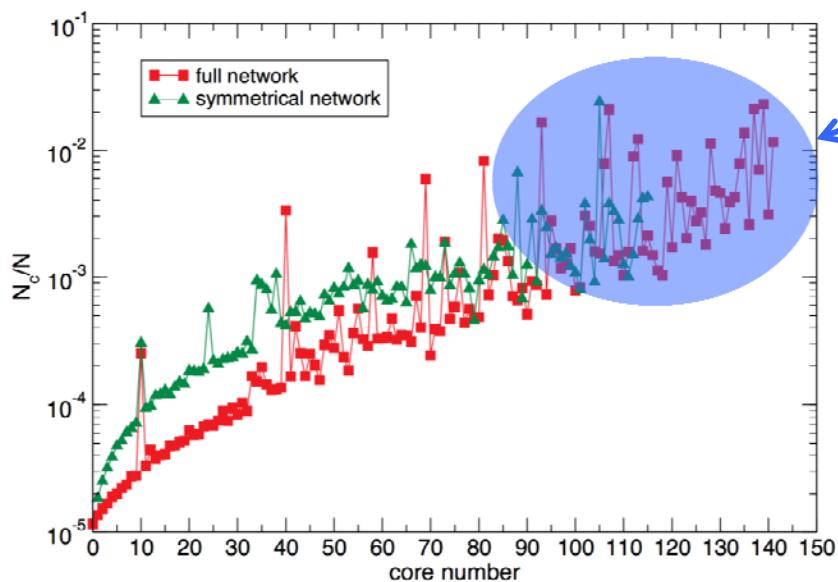


the “organic” look

<http://www.truthy.indiana.edu/>

Ratkiewicz J. at al. (2011) *Truthy: Mapping the spread of astroturf in microblog streams*.  
Proceedings of the 20th international conference companion on World Wide Web, 249–252

# Stop misinformation spreading



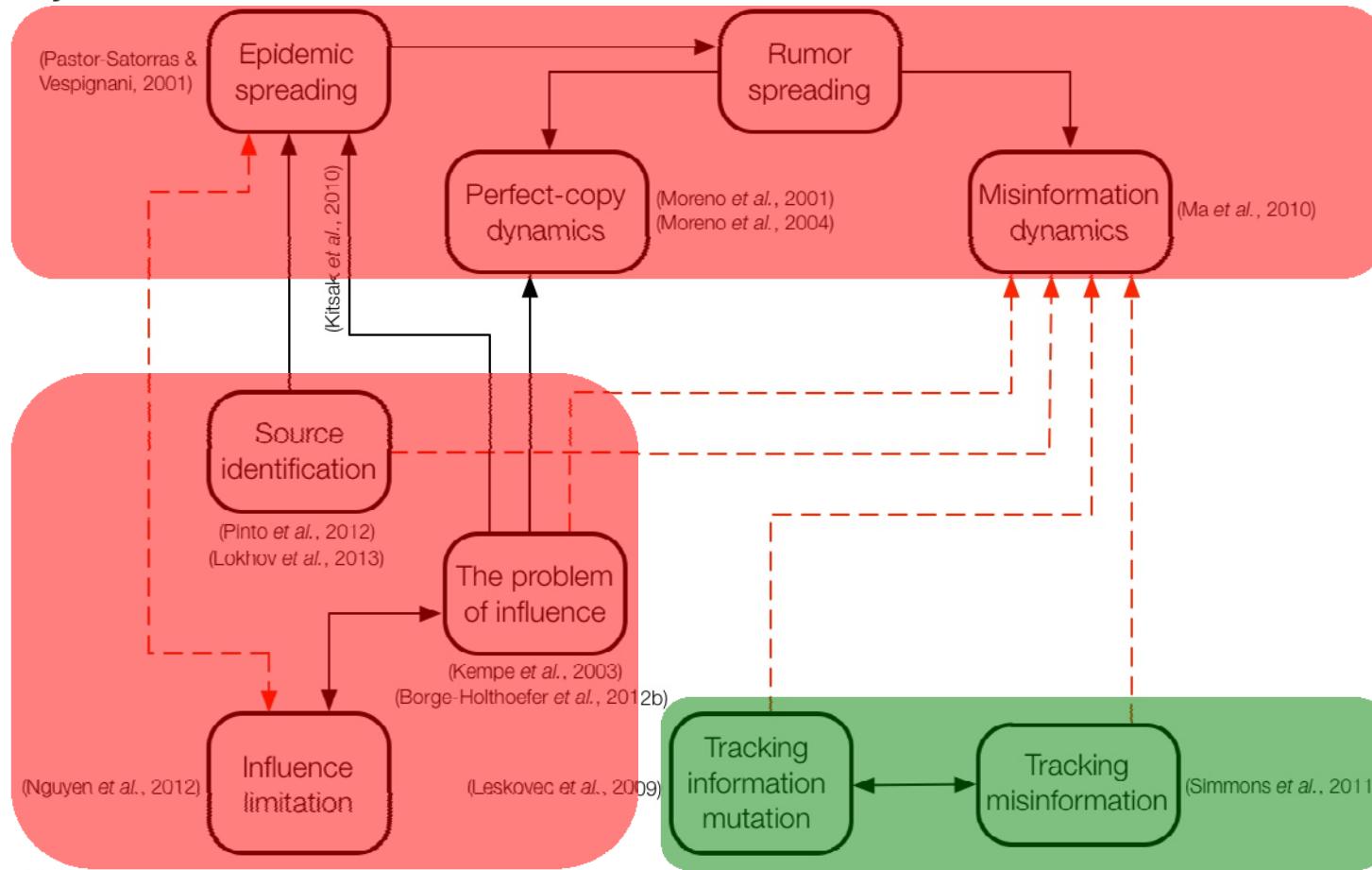
Remember: central nodes (influentials) make a better job controlling cascades

It makes sense to look for those influentials to contain misinformation spreading

Nguyen N.P., Yan G., Thai M.T. & Eidenbenz S. (2012) *Containment of misinformation spread in online social networks*. Proceedings of the 3rd Annual ACM Web Science Conference 213--222

# Misinformation in Networked Systems

## Theory



$a \longrightarrow b$   $\rightarrow$   $a$  has enriched our understanding of  $b$

$a \dashrightarrow b$   $\rightarrow$   $a$  could/should enrich our understanding of  $b$

# Meme tracking

*it's my belief that this is exactly the time when the american people need to hear from the person who will be the next president*



*this is exactly the time the american people need to hear from the person who in approx 40 days will be responsible for dealing with this mess*



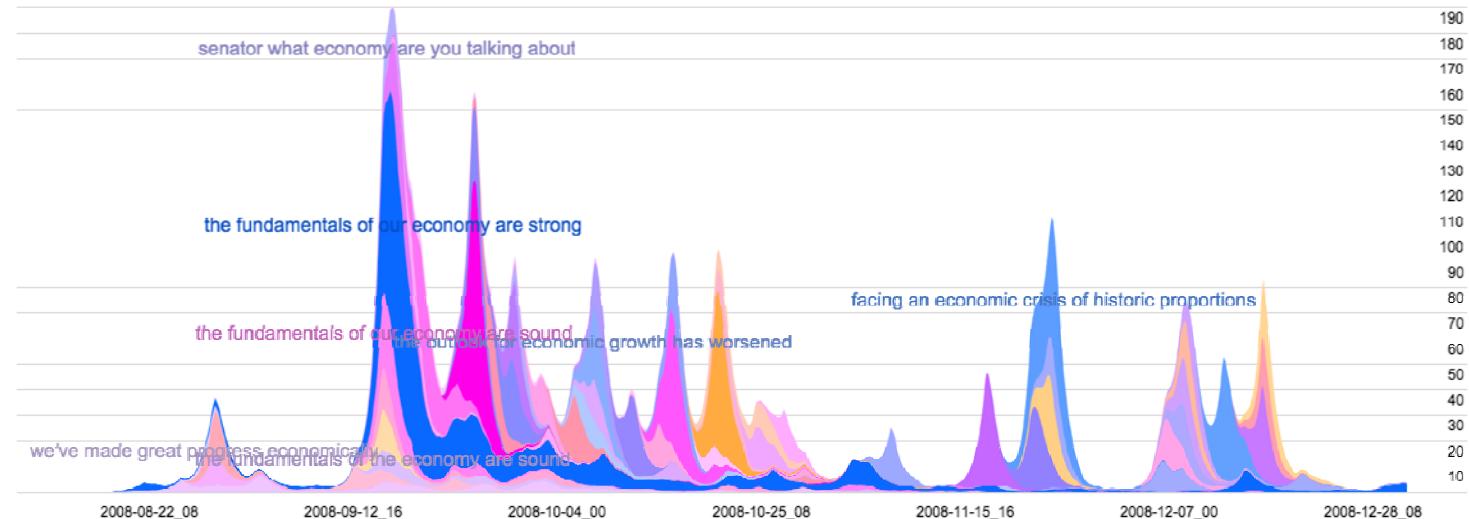
*this is exactly the time when the american people need to hear from the person who in approx 40 days will be responsible for dealing with this mess*



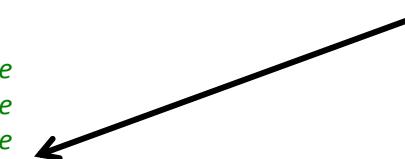
*it's my belief that this is exactly the time the american people need to hear from the person who in approx 40 days will be responsible with dealing with this mess*



*it's my belief that this is exactly the time the american people need to hear from the person who in approx 40 days will be responsible with dealing with this mess it's going to be part of the president's job to deal with more than thing at once*

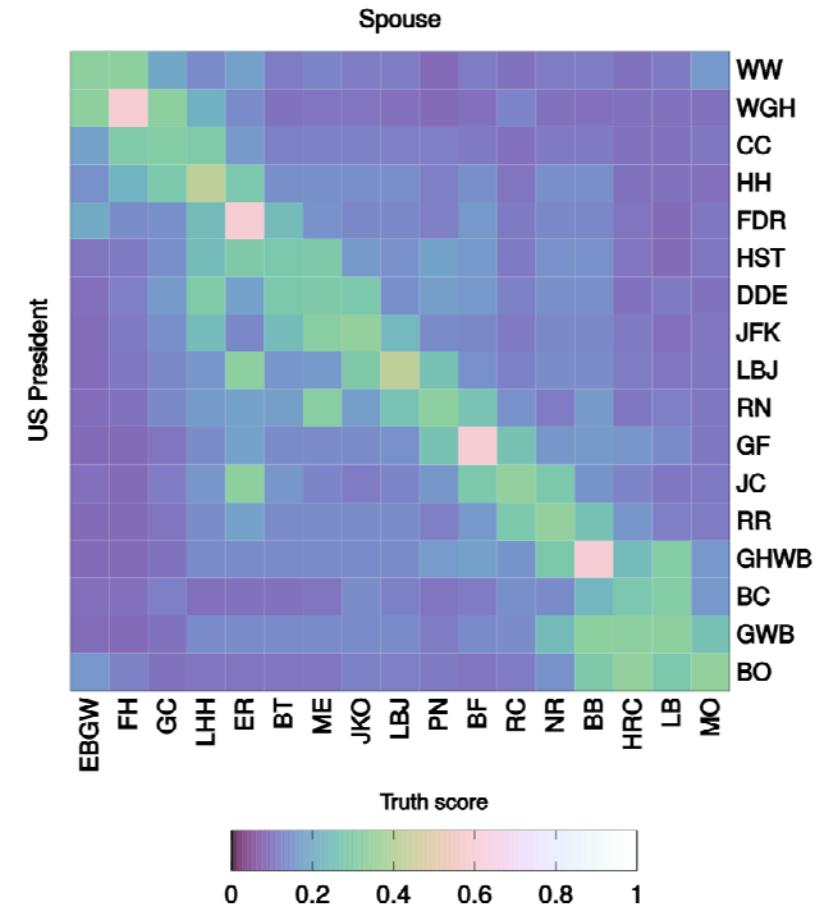
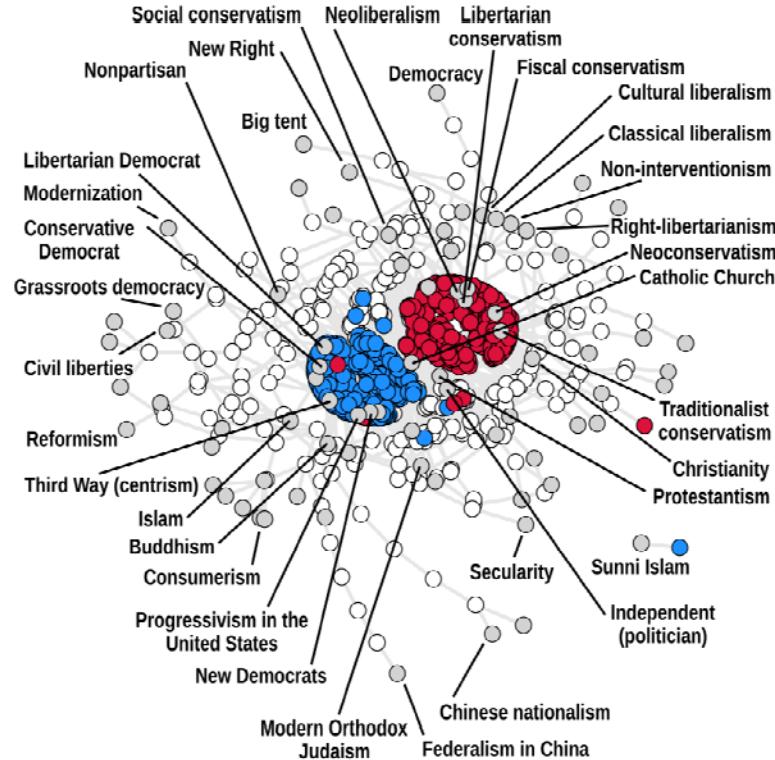


*part of the president's job is to deal with more than thing at once in my mind that's more important than ever*



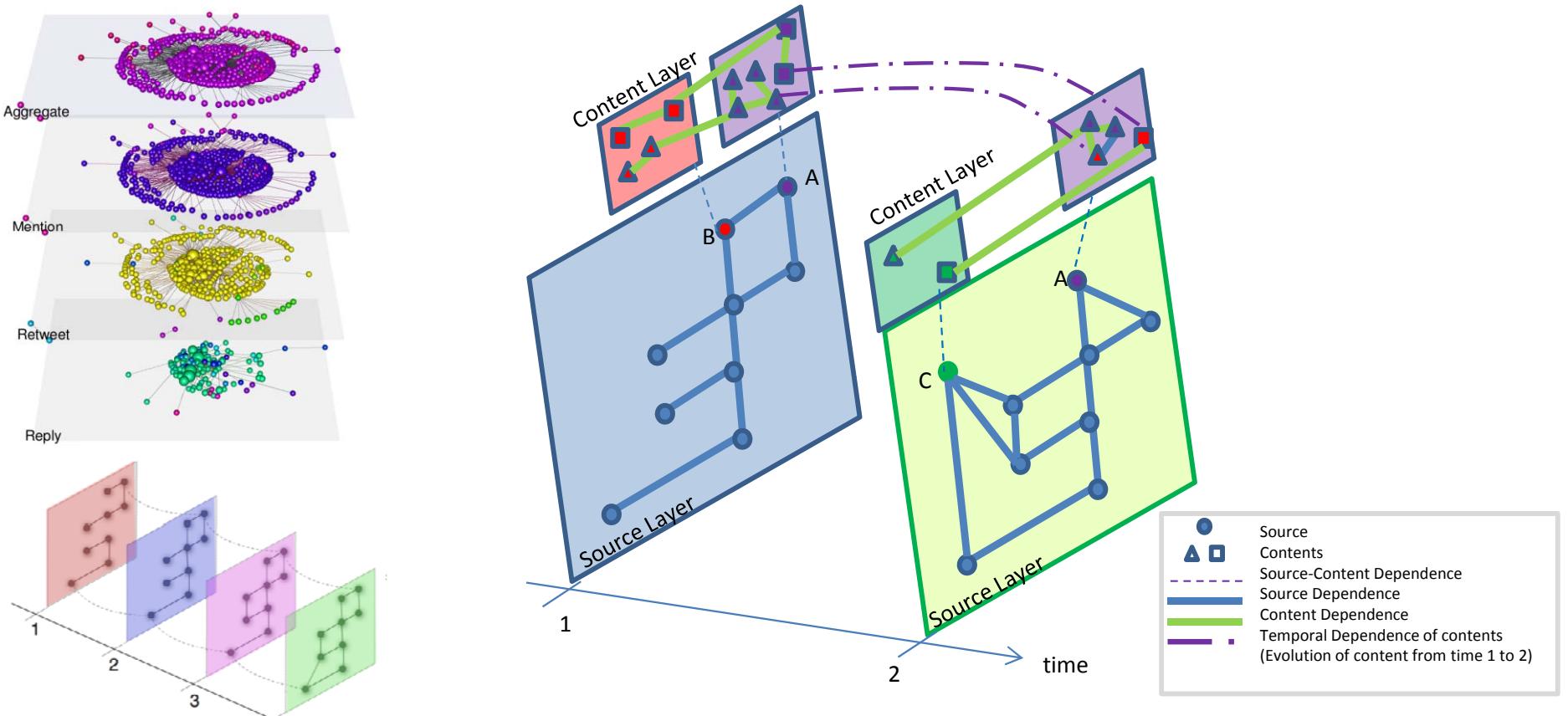
Leskovec J., Backstrom, Kleinberg J. (2009) *Meme-tracking and the Dynamics of News cycle*. Proc. 15th SIGKDD, 497-506

# Fact-checking in Knowledge Networks



Ciampaglia G.L. et al. (2015) Computational Fact Checking from Knowledge Networks. PLoS ONE 10(6): e0128193. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0128193

# Future: Multi-layer Networks



Holme P. & Saramaki J. (2012) *Temporal networks*. Physics reports 519(3) 97–125

Kivela M. et al. (2014) *Multilayer networks*. Journal of Complex Networks, Vol. 2, No. 3: 203-271

De Domenico M. et al. (2013) *Mathematical formulation of multi-layer networks*. Physical Review X, 3, 041022

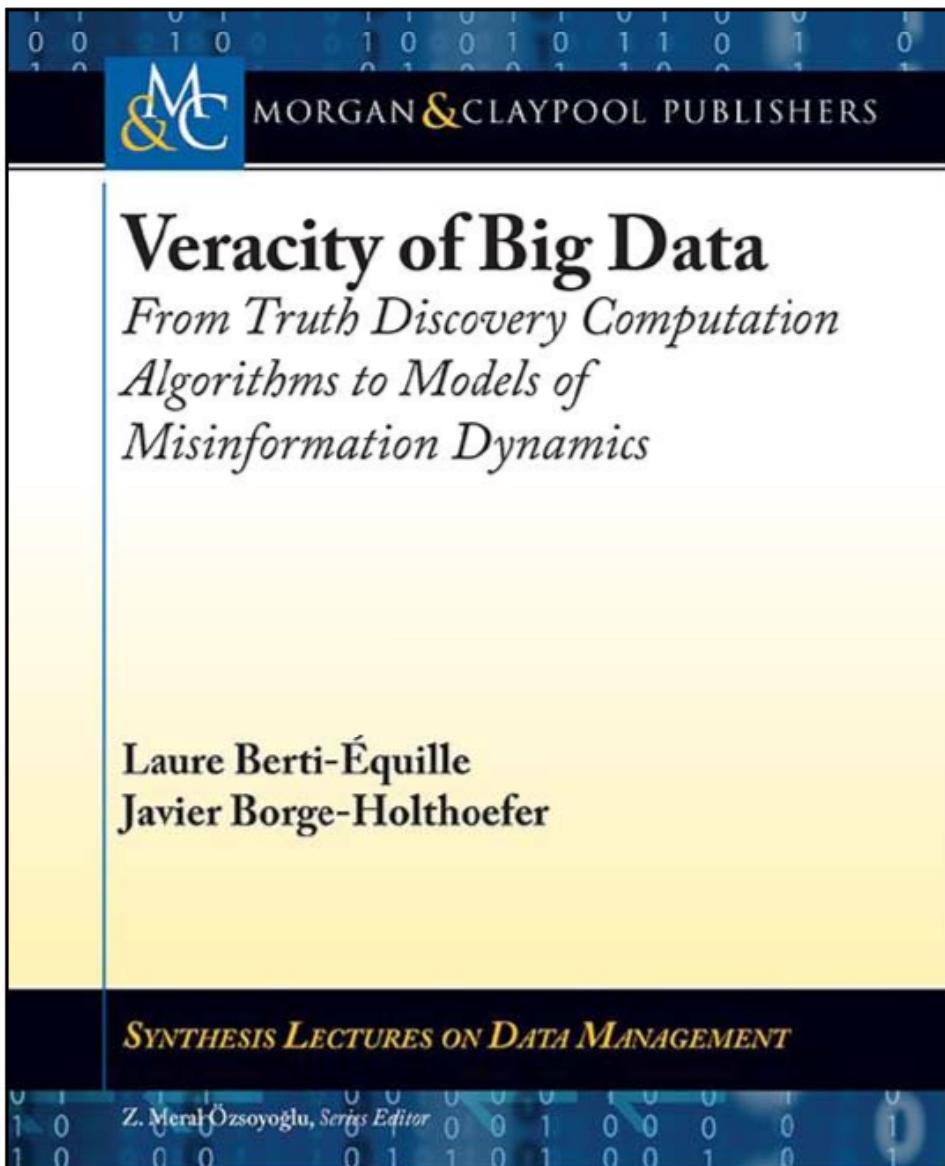
De Domenico M., Porter M.A. & Arenas A. (2014) *MuxViz: a tool for multilayer analysis and visualization of networks*. Journal of Complex Networks doi: 10.1093/comnet/cnu038

# Summary

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- We presented an organized overview of the techniques proposed for truth discovery with recent advances from data/knowledge extraction and complex networks
- Many scientific and technological obstacles:
  - Relax modeling assumptions
  - Solve algorithmic issues related to scalability and complex parameter settings, e.g., Web-scale fact extraction/checking
  - Integrate theoretical and applied work from complex networked systems to better capture the multi-layered dynamics of misinformation
- Still a lot needs to be done for automating truth discovery for realistic and actionable scenarios

# Further Reading



## Veracity of Big Data (Morgan & Claypool)

### Surveys

- M. Gupta and J. Han. Heterogeneous network-based trust analysis: A survey. *ACM SIGKDD Explorations Newsletter*, 13(1):54–71, 2011.
- K. Thirunarayan, P. Anantharam, C. A. Henson, and A. P. Sheth. Comparative trust management with applications: Bayesian approaches emphasis. *Future Generation Comp. Syst.*, 31:182–199, 2014.

### Tutorials

- Jing Gao, Qi Li, Bo Zhao, Wei Fan, Jiawei Han Truth Discovery and Crowdsourcing Aggregation: A Unified Perspective. In VLDB 2015
- Xin Luna Dong and Divesh Srivastava. Big Data Integration. In VLDB 2013
- Barna Saha and Divesh Srivastava. Data Quality: the Other Face of Big Data. In VLDB 2014
- Jeffrey Pasternack, Dan Roth, V.G. Vinod Vydiswaran. Information Trustworthiness. In AAAI 2013
- Carlos Castillo, Wei Chen, Laks V. S. Lakshmanan. Information and Influence Spread in Social Networks. In KDD 2012
- Jure Leskovec. Social Media Analytics. In KDD 2011

### Experimental Study

- D. A. Waguih and L. Berti-Equille. Truth discovery algorithms: An experimental evaluation. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1409.6428*, 2014.

**Thanks!**