”Small world” dynamics in focused networks

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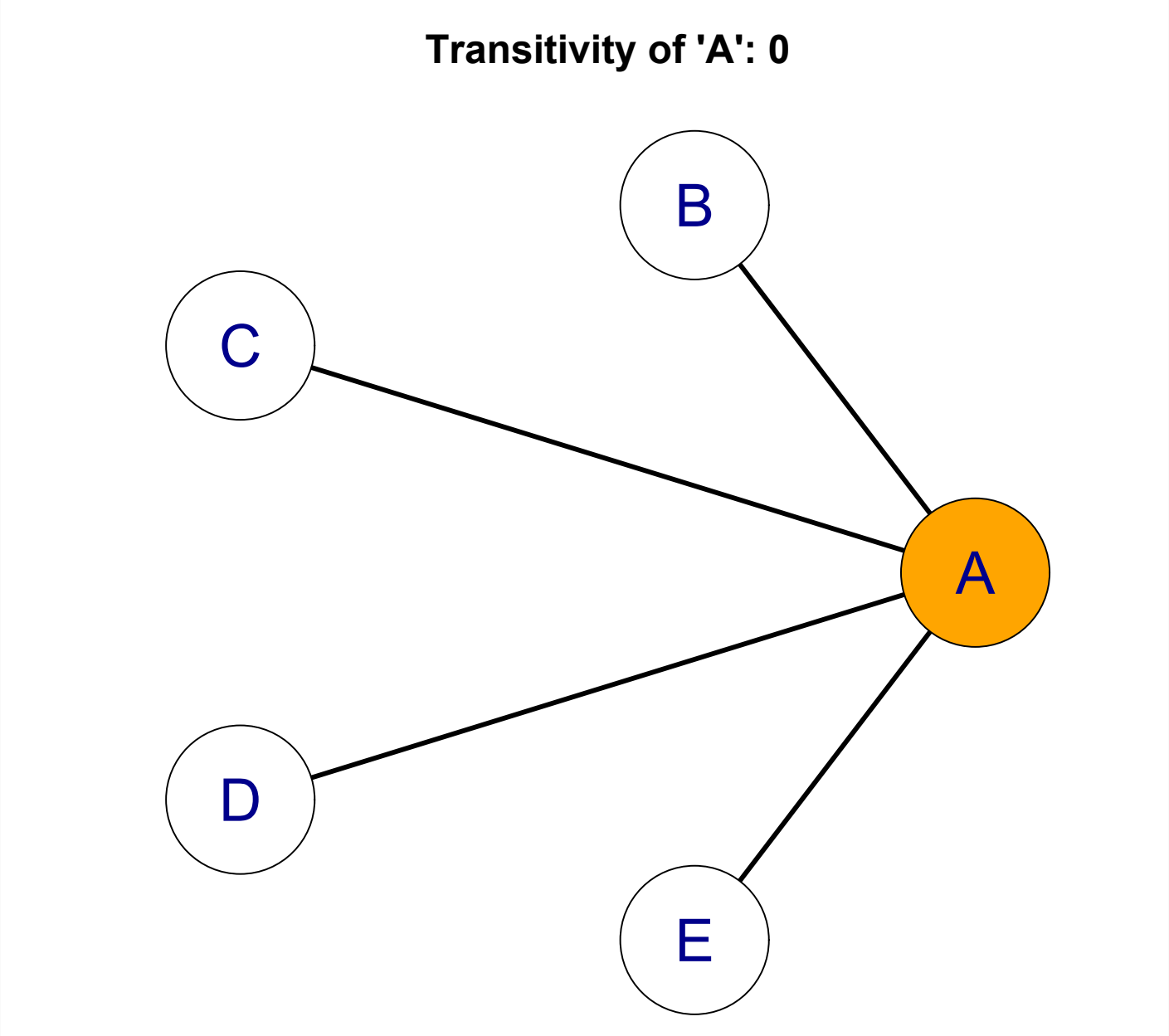
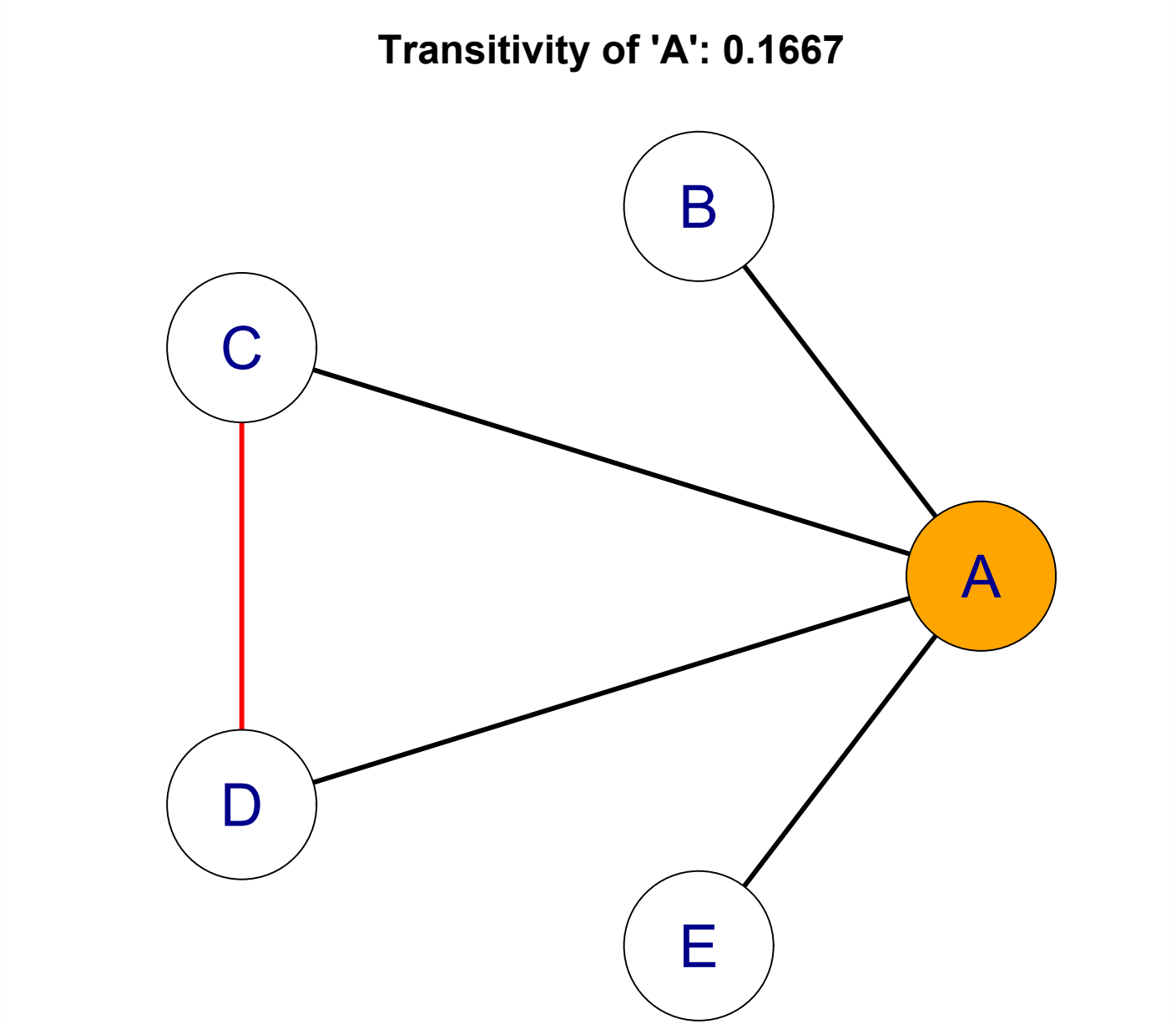
Small Worlds

- Travers and Milgram's "Small World" study, average of 5.2 intermediaries (popularized the notion of 6 degrees of separation) [Travers and Milgram, 1977]
- Replicated in 2003 using a global population and 18 targets in 13 different countries with median path lengths between 5 and 7 [Dodds et al., 2003]
- But how? One avenue: a few weak ties [Watts and Strogatz, 1998].


Transitivity of 'A': 0
B
C
A
D
E


Transitivity of 'A': 0.1667
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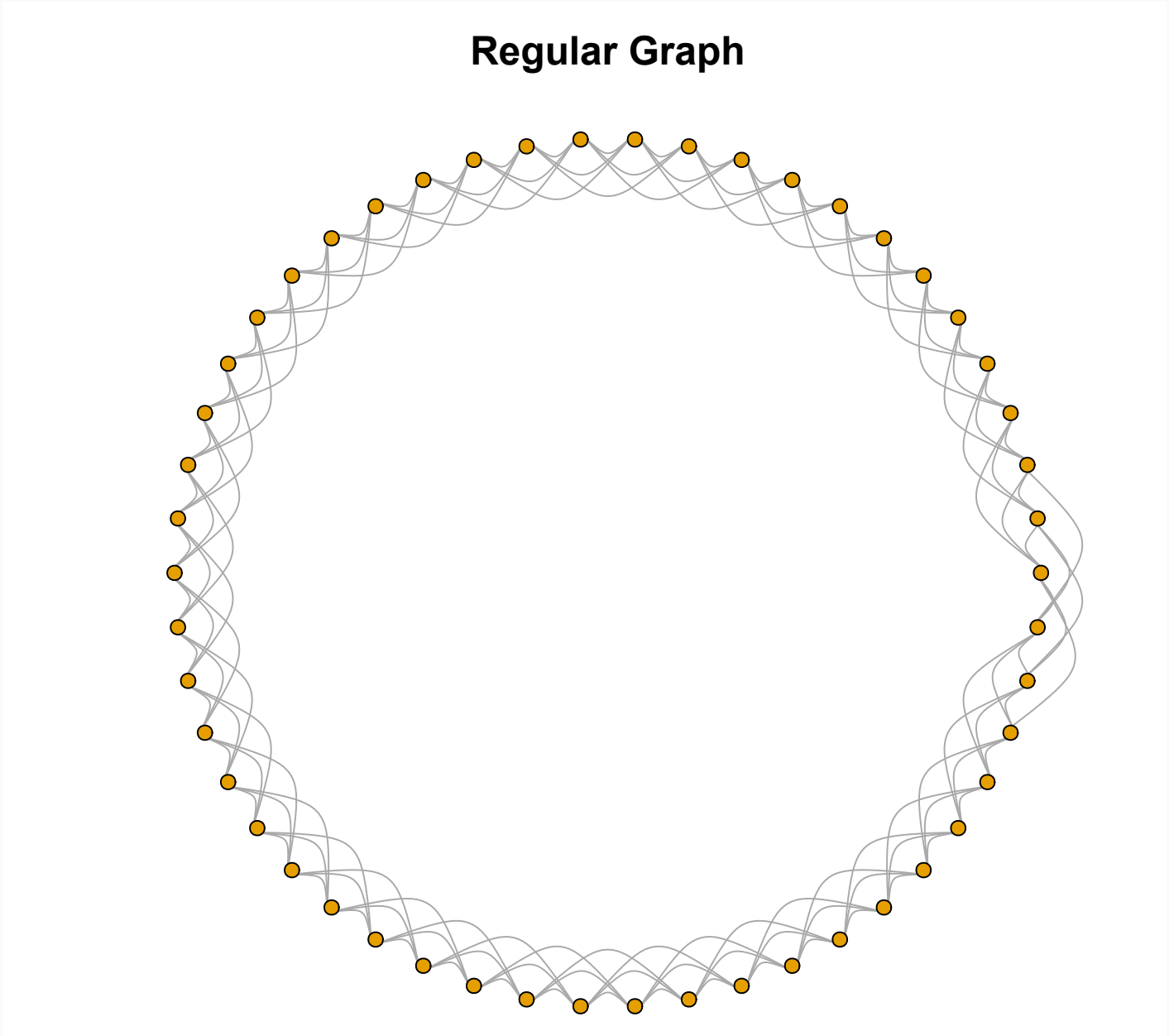

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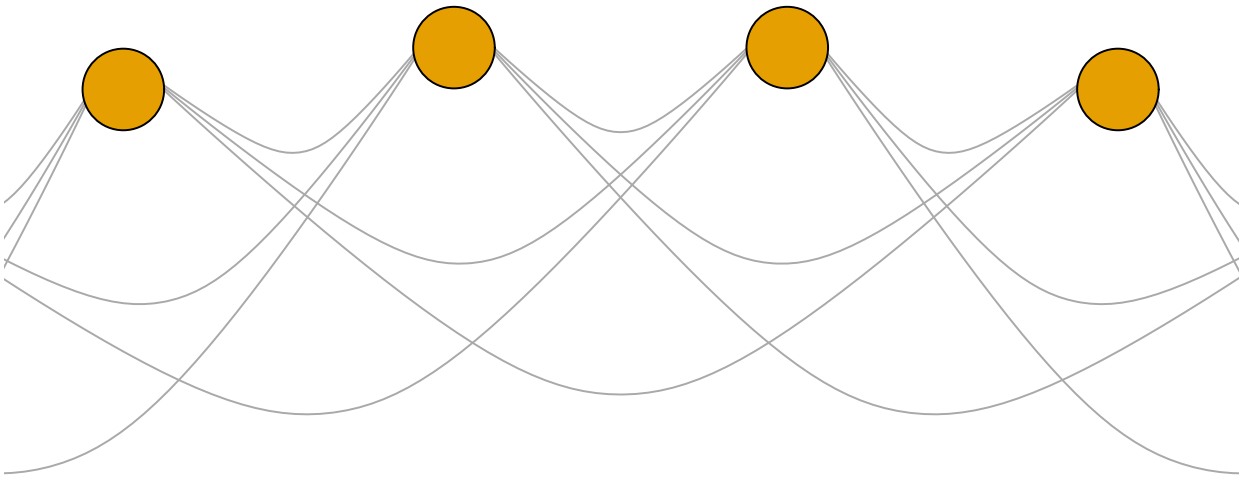

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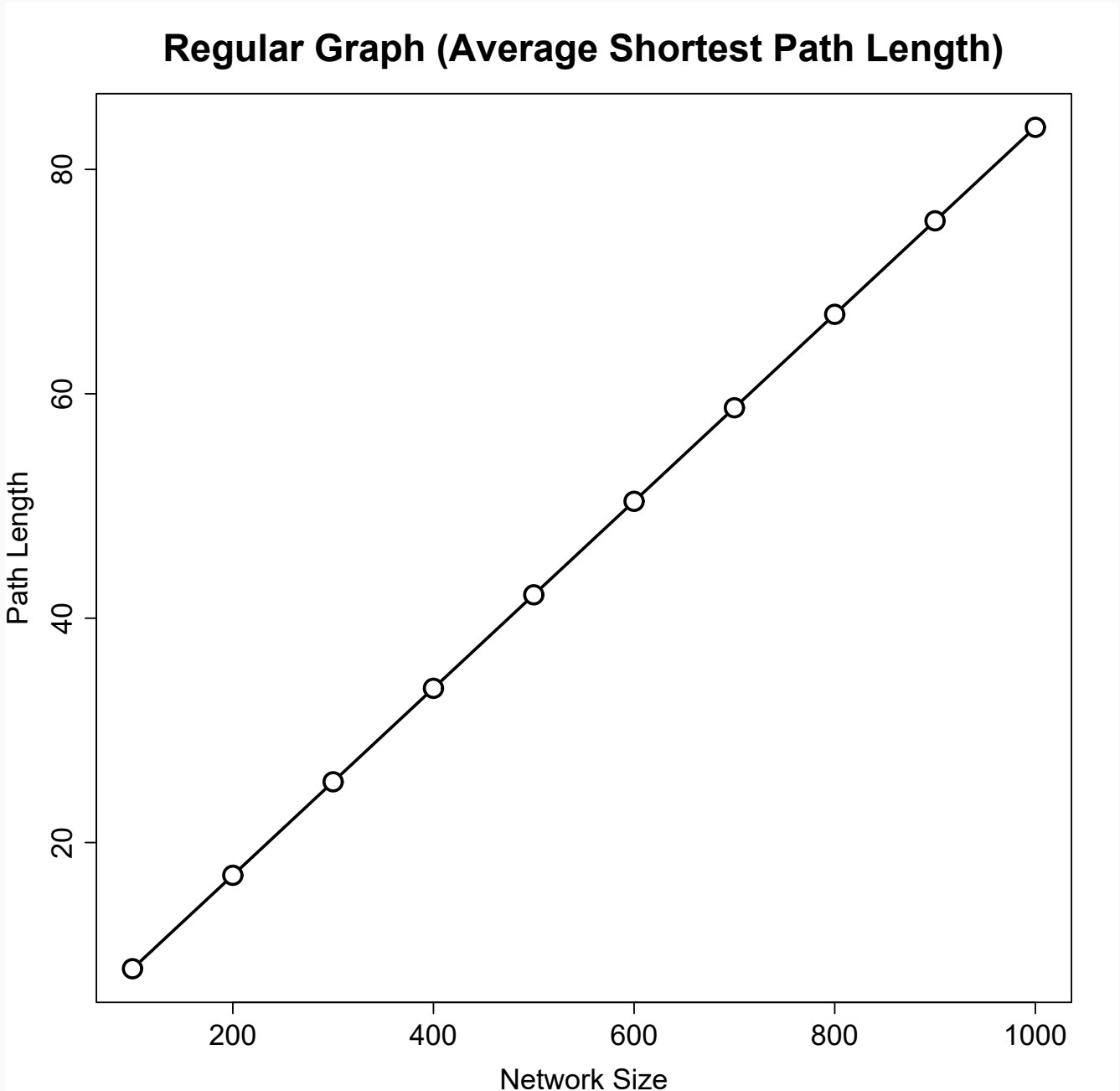

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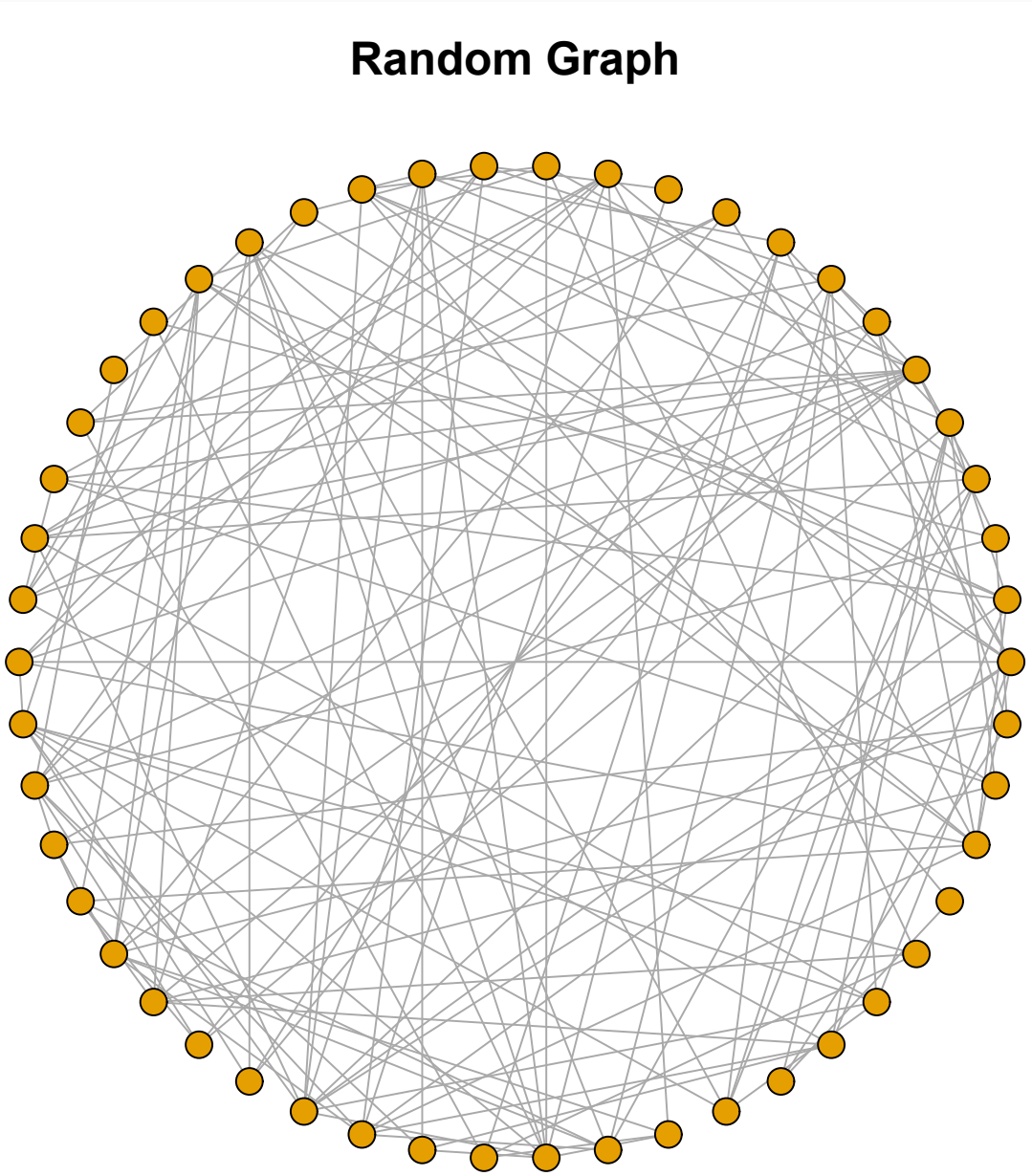

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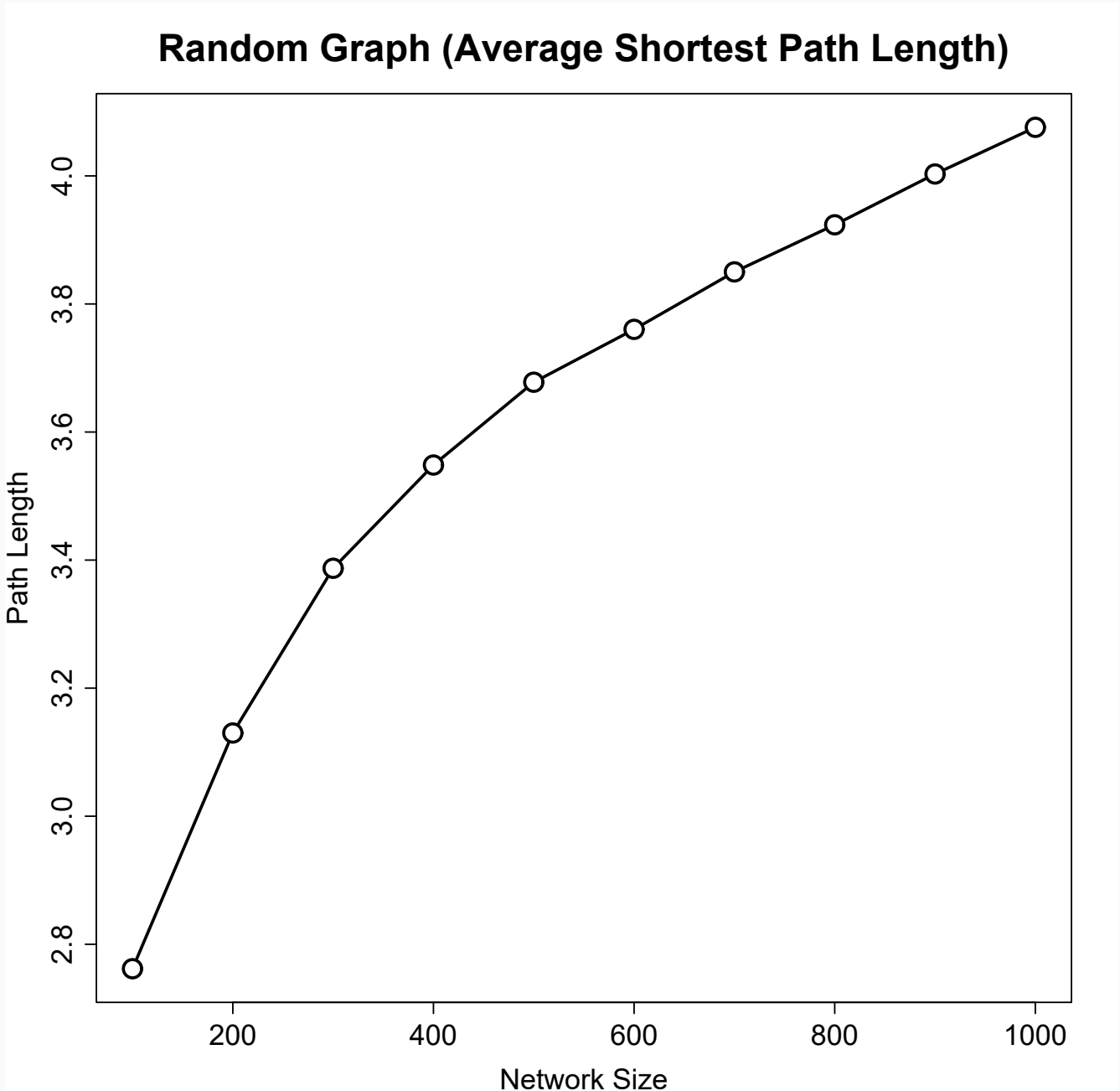

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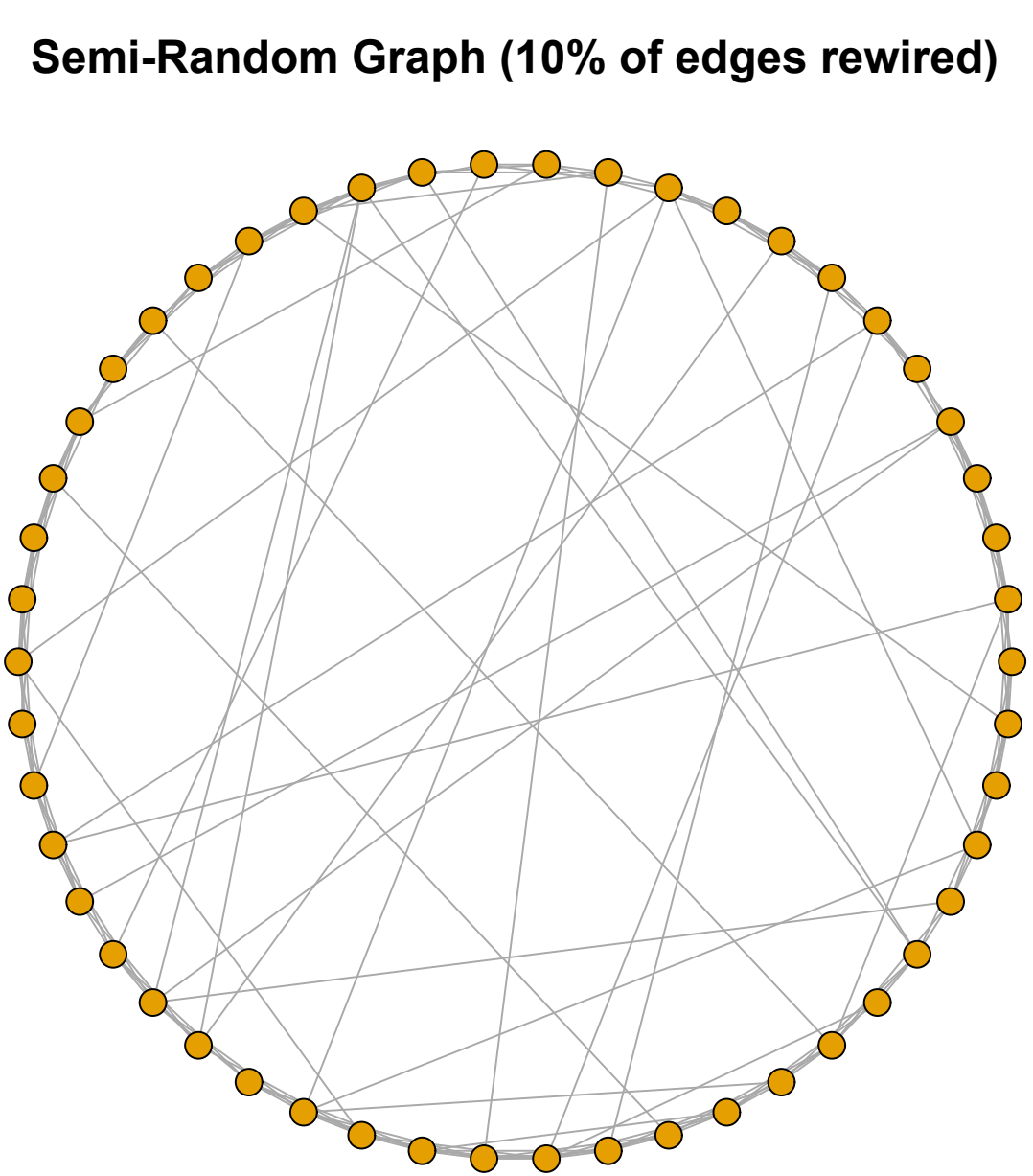

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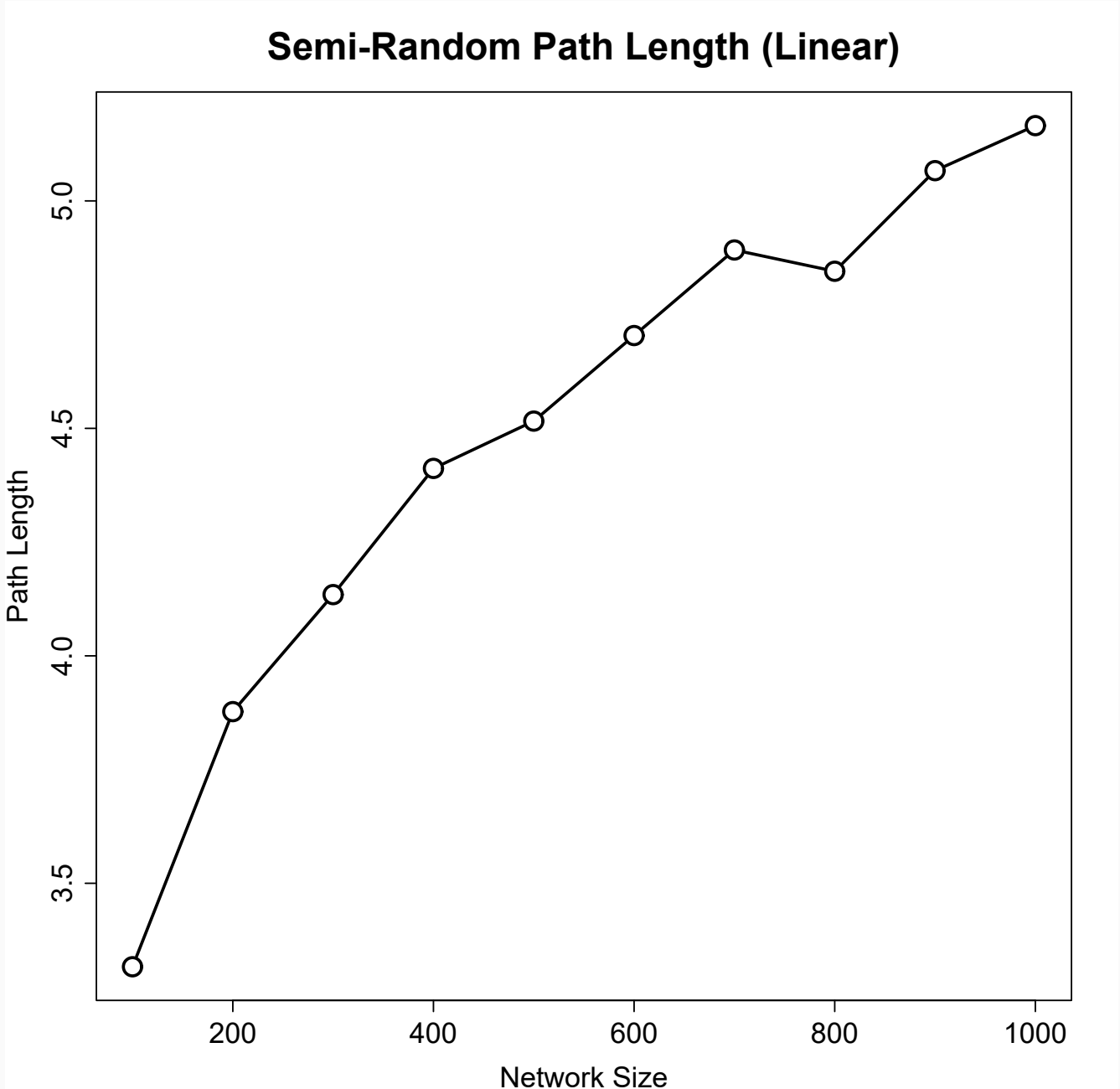

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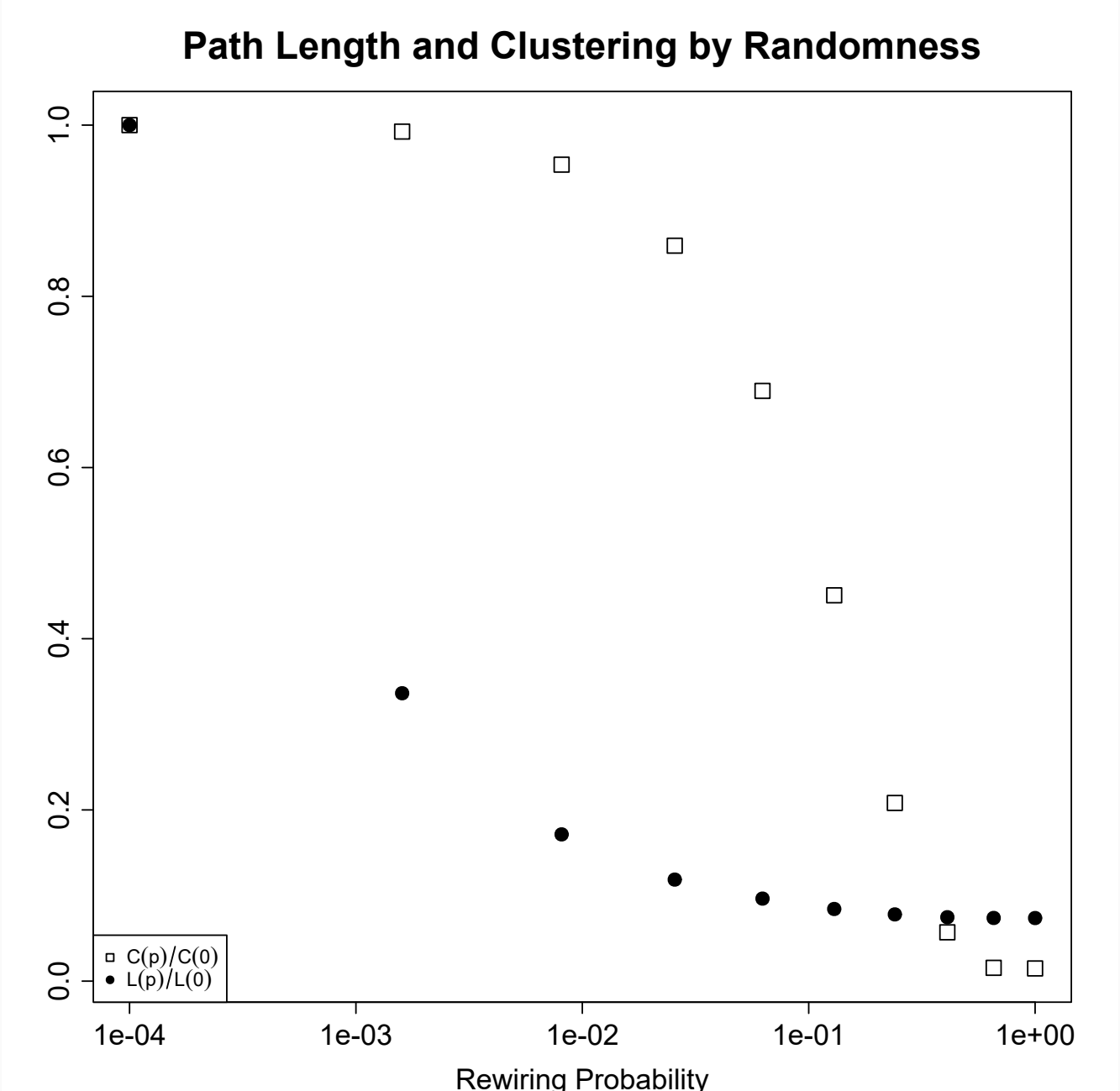
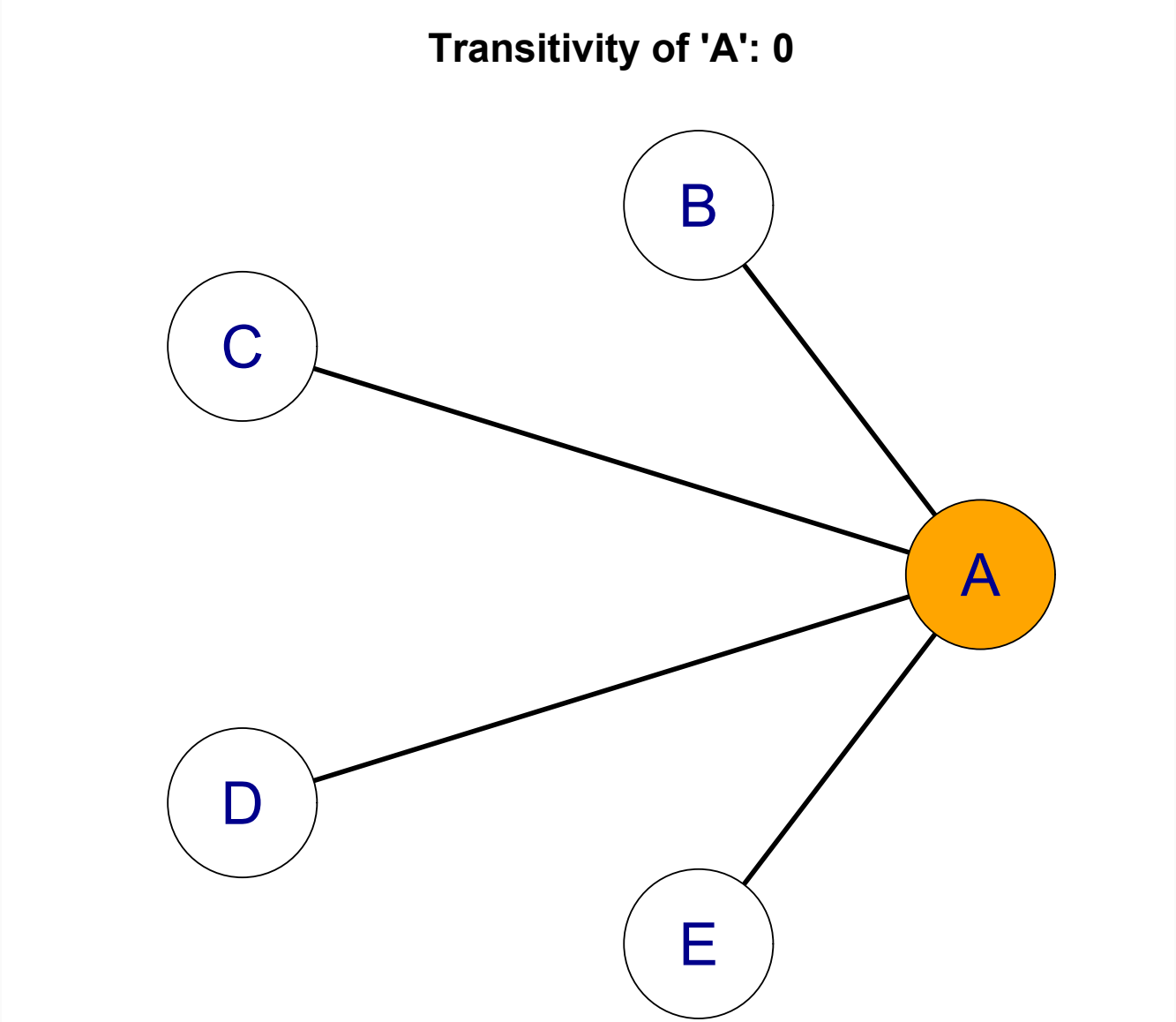


Small Worlds with Focuses



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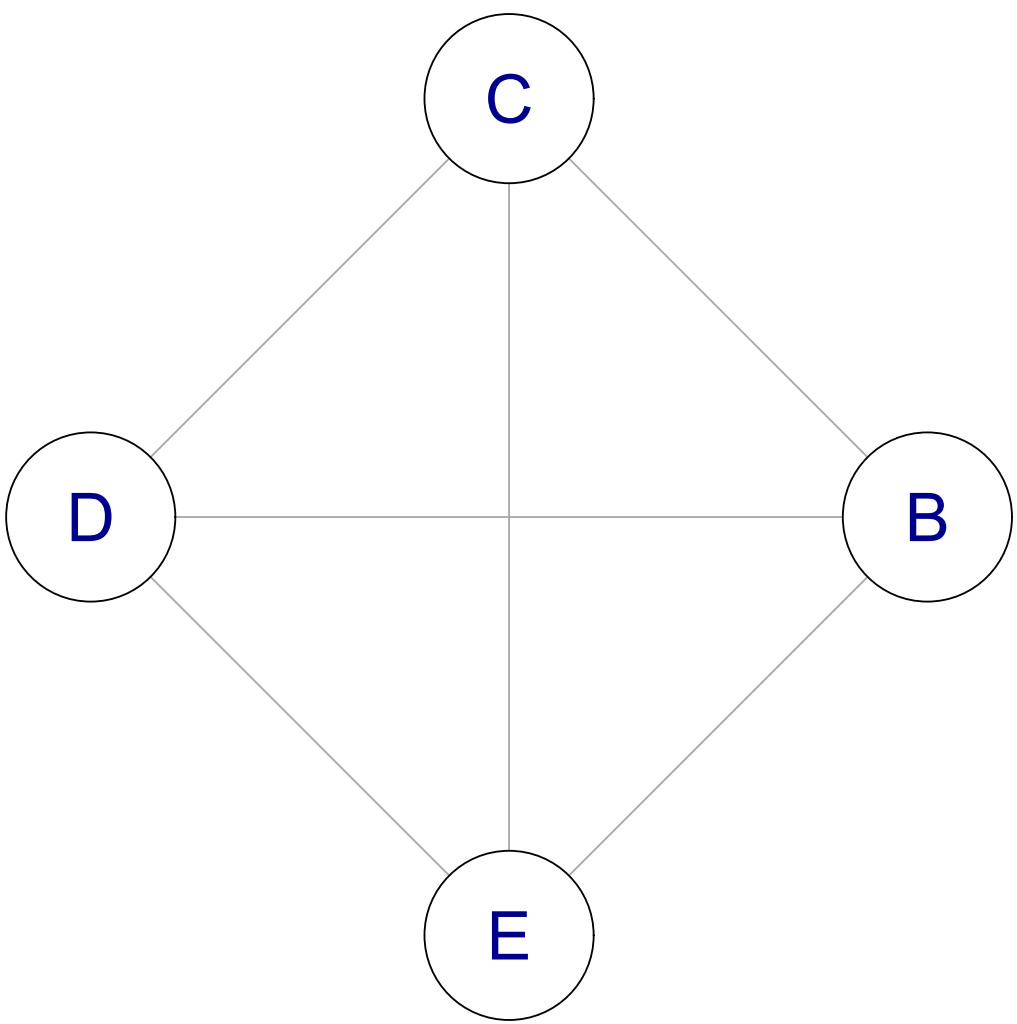

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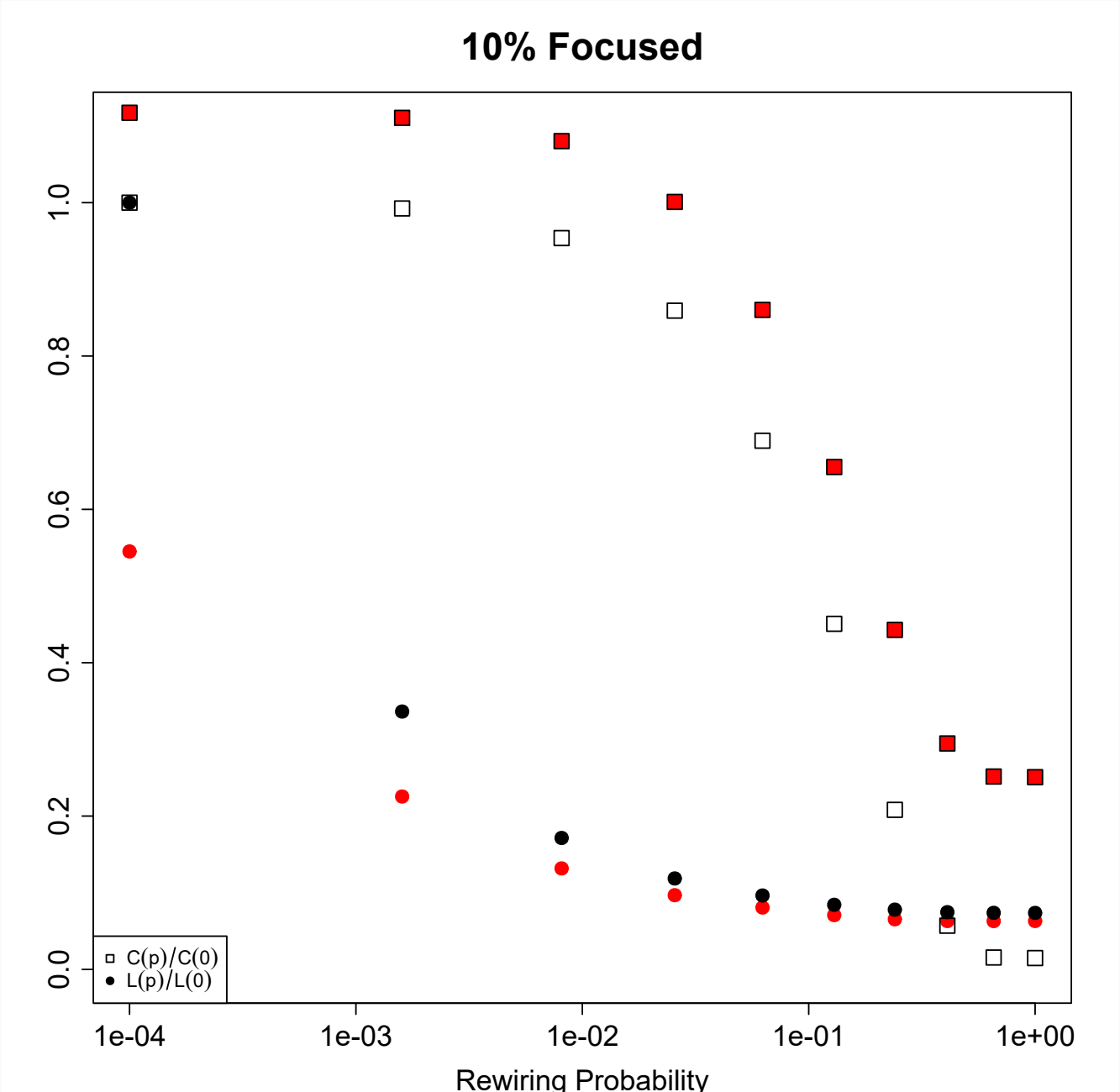

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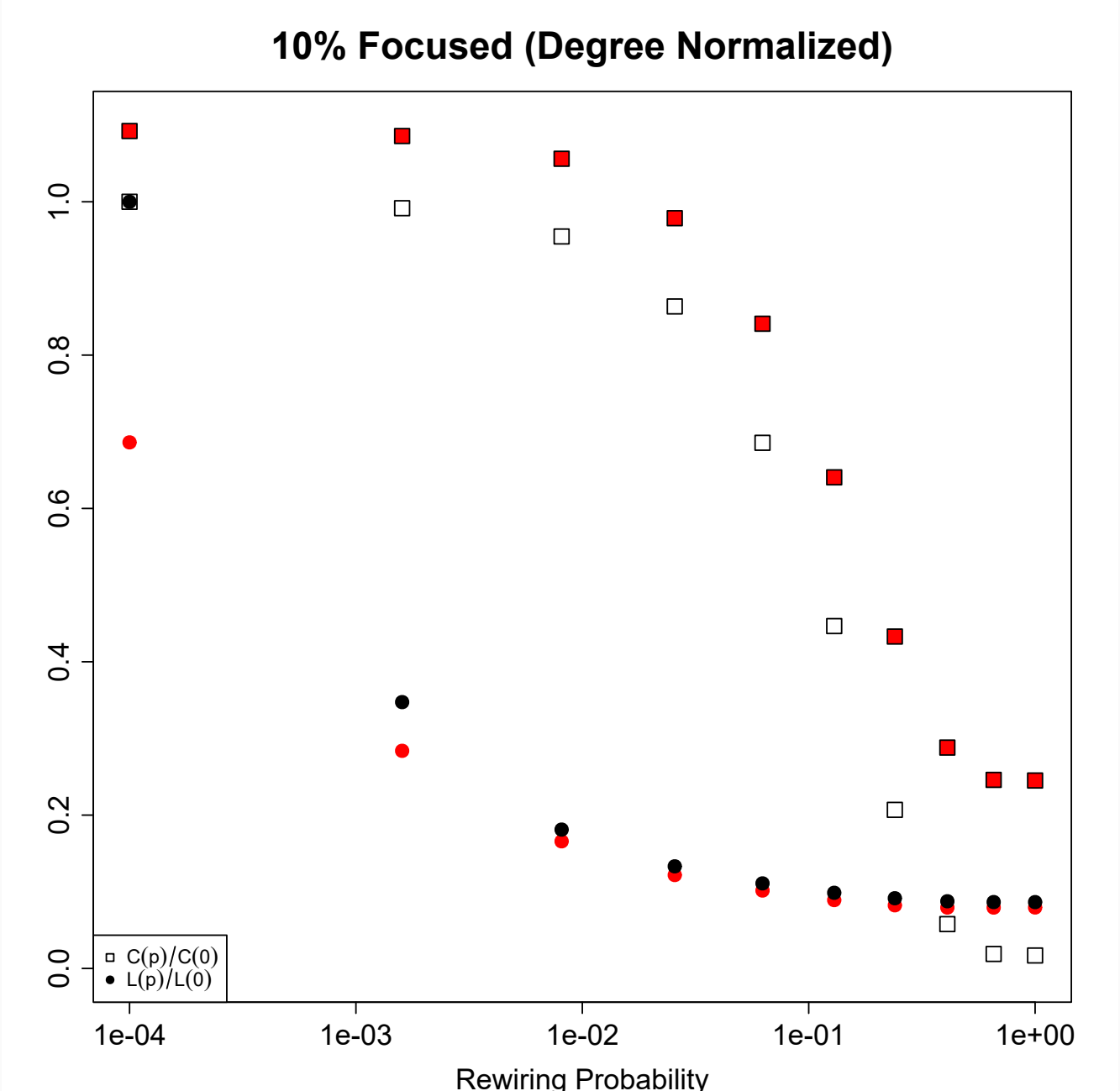

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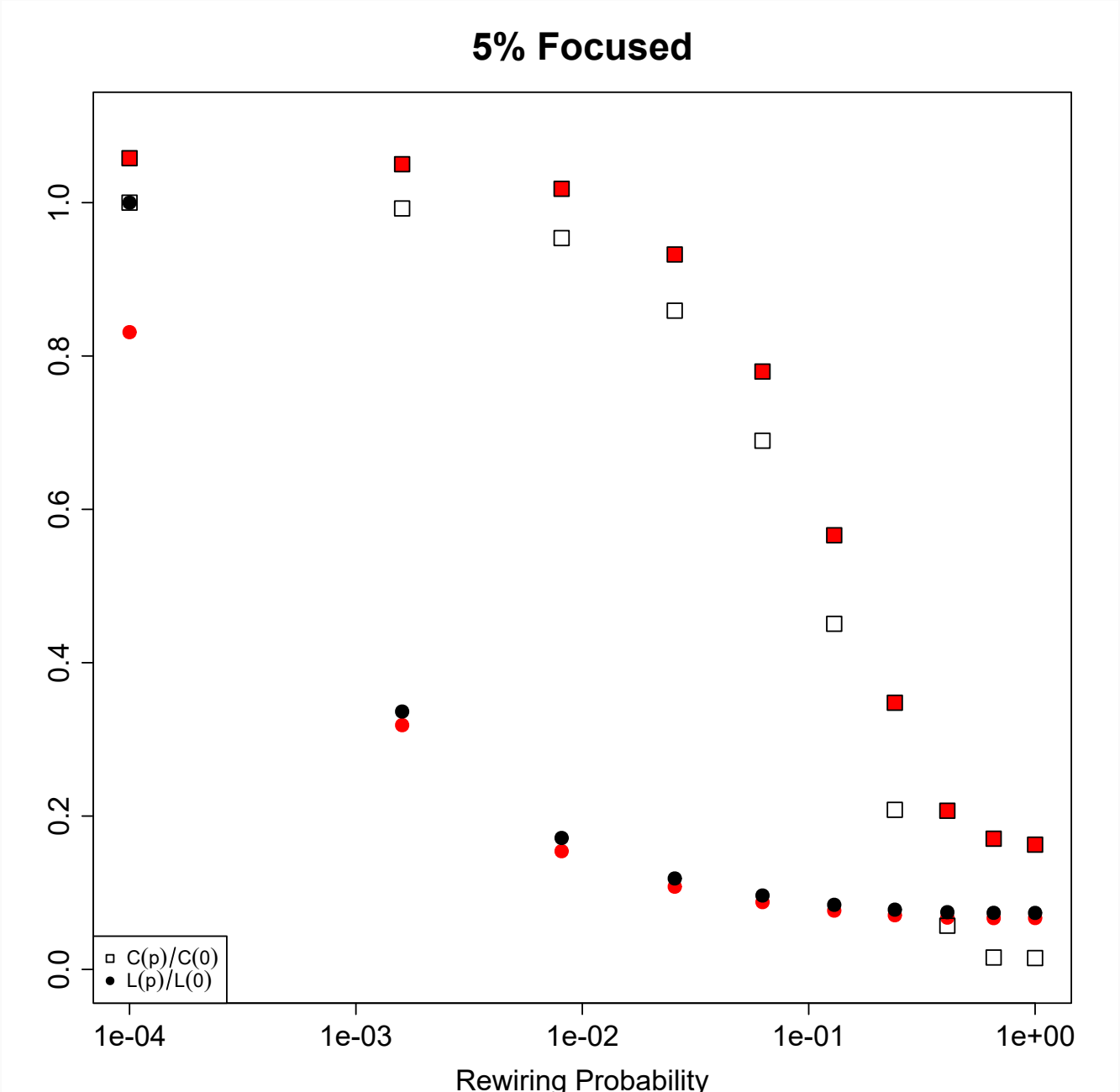

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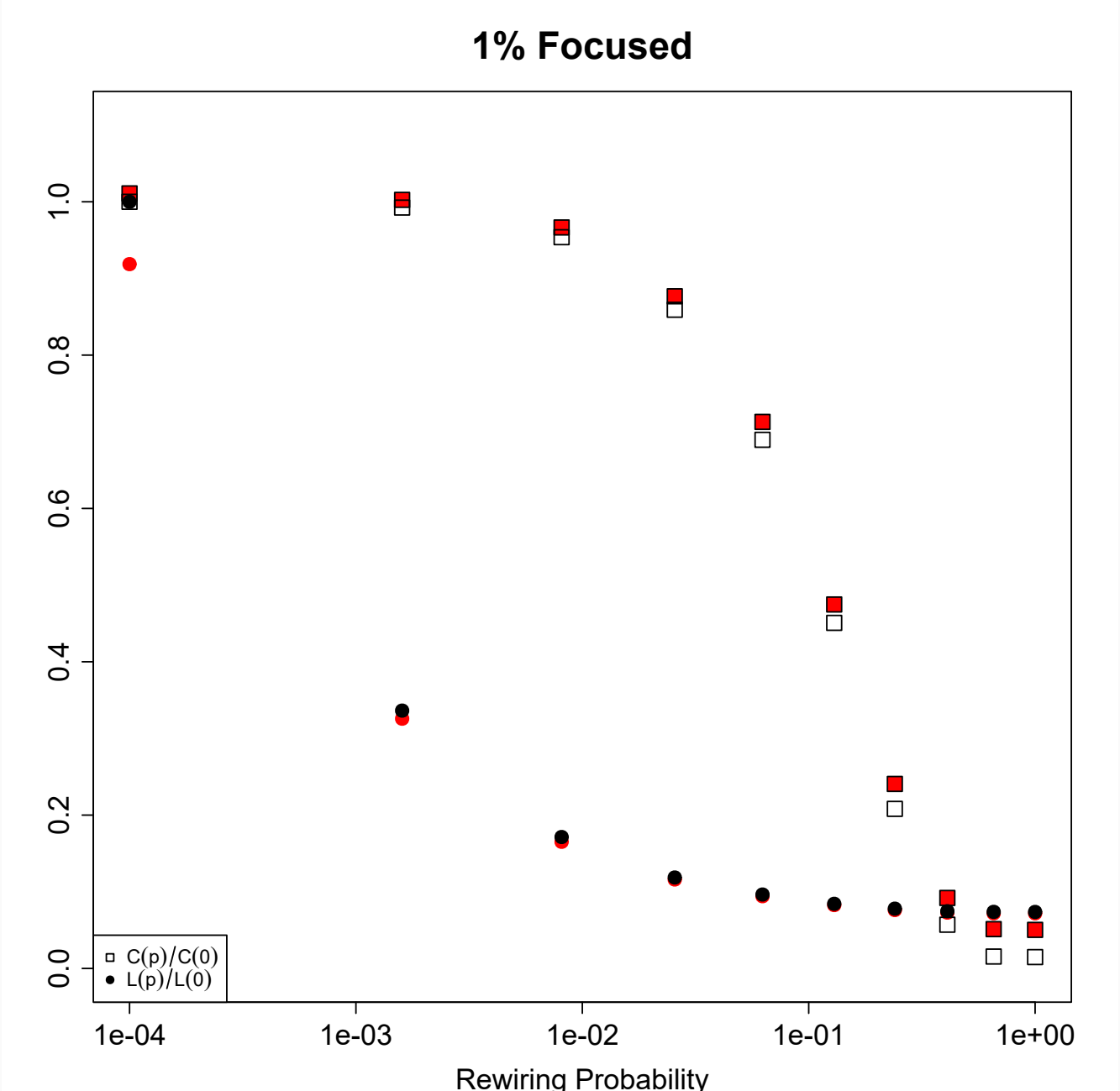

References i

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