

# Network Analysis & Modeling

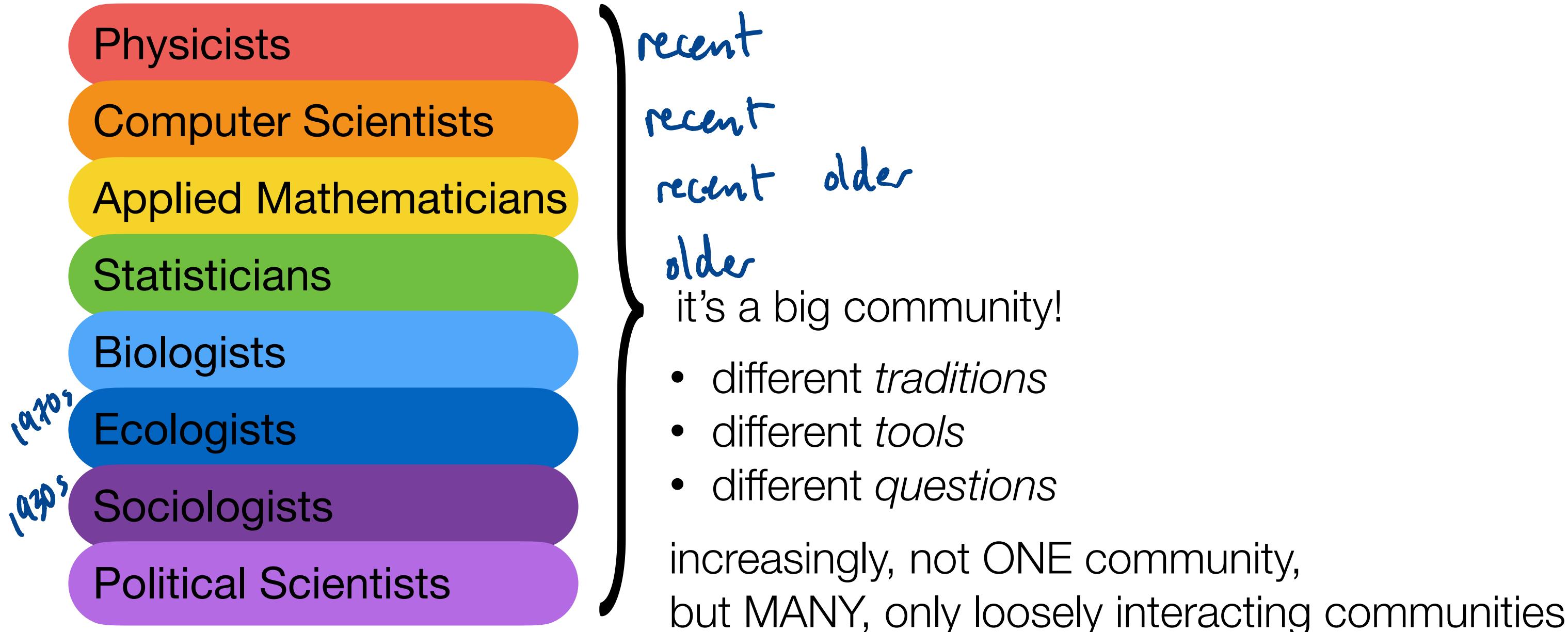
lecture 0: what are networks and how do we talk about them?

- ☒ slack vs. Piazza <sup>q</sup> <sup>6</sup>
- ☒ Canvas
- ☒ Hw #1 By end of week "free throw"
- ☒ no more waiting room ??

CU Computer Science  
& BioFrontiers Institute  
@danlarremore

daniel.larremore@colorado.edu

# who are network scientists?



# who are network scientists?

Physicists

Computer Scientists

Applied Mathematicians

Statisticians

Biologists

Ecologists

Sociologists

Political Scientists

} phase transitions, universality  
data / algorithm oriented, predictions  
dynamical systems, diff. eq.  
inference, consistency, covariates  
experiments, causality, molecules  
observation, experiments, species  
individuals, differences, causality  
rationality, influence, conflict

# what are networks?

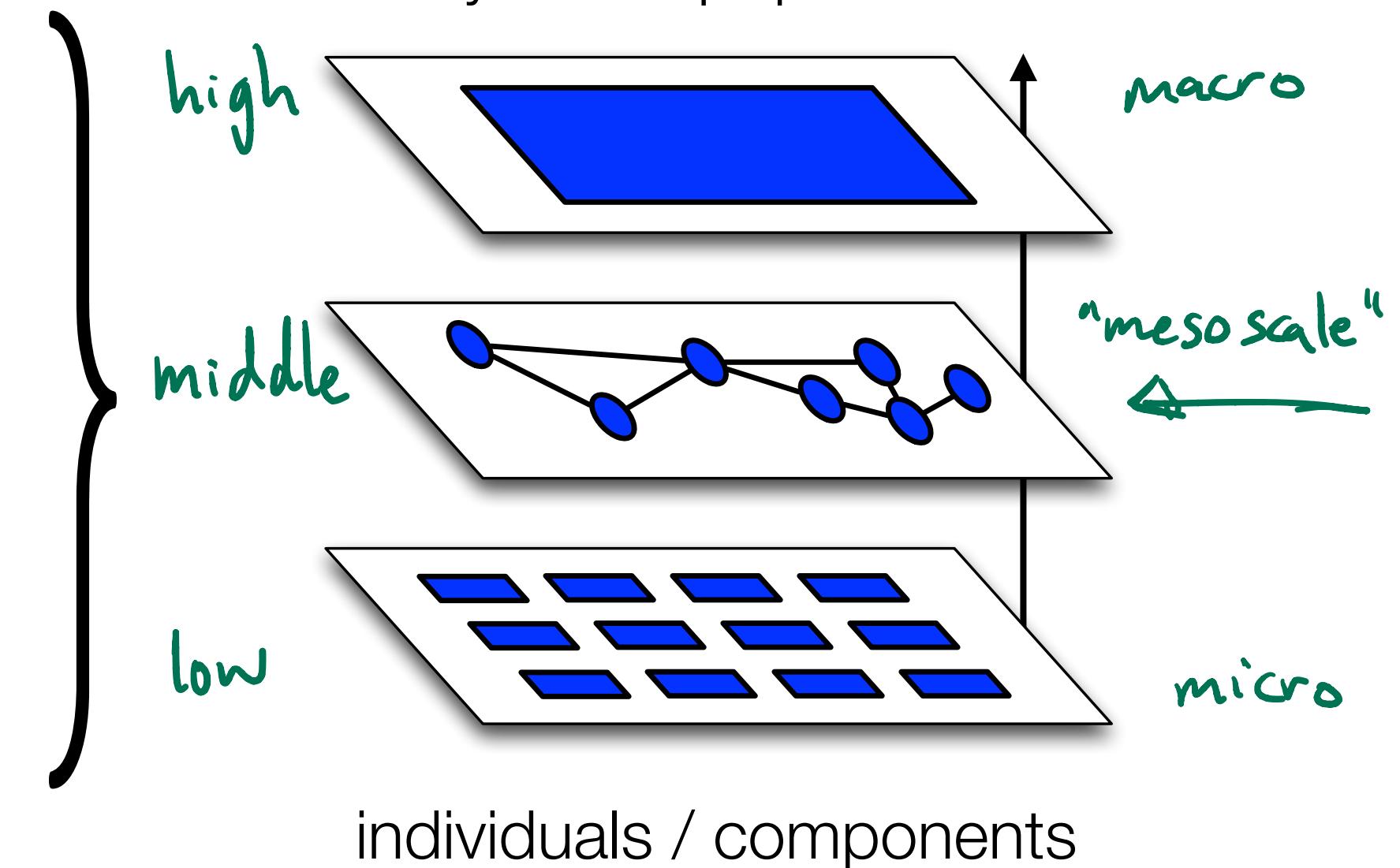
networks aren't real!

An approach.

A mathematical representation provide structure to complexity.

Structure that exists *above* individuals / components

Or: structure that exists *below* system / population



# csci 5352: learning goals

1. Develop a **network intuition** for reasoning about how structural patterns are related, and how they influence dynamics in / on networks.
2. Master **basic terminology** and **concepts**.
3. Master **practical tools** for analyzing / modeling structure of network data.
4. Build **familiarity** with key advanced techniques that will allow you to **explore and test hypotheses** about networks.
5. See how **the rubber meets the road for math**: calc, diff EQs, linear algebra, Lagrange multipliers, theoretical CS, Bayesian inference.

# course format

This course will meet via Zoom.

I would prefer to meet in the classroom! But that's not the world we live in.  
[We will study infectious disease dynamics in this class!]

I'll ask you for your feedback at multiple points in this semester. I **need** to know what is working and what isn't, for you.

I would love to know about effective online teaching tricks other profs have used.

Homework will come in 12 chunks this year instead of 6 megachunks. There will also be new “free throw” type mini-problems.

# course schedule (roughly)

## Course schedule (roughly) :

- ◆ ● 1. network basics
- ◆ ● ★ 2. centrality measures
- ◆ ● 3. random graphs ( $G_{nm}$ ,  $G_{np}$ )
- ◆ ★ 4. random graphs (configuration model)
- ◆ ● 5. large-scale structure (assortativity and modularity)
- ★ ■ 6. large-scale structure (stochastic block models)
- ◆ ● 7. spreading processes (social, biological, SI, SIR, SIS)
- ◆ ● ★ ■ 8. ranking, pairwise comparison, choice modeling
- ★ ■ 9. data wrangling + data sampling (artifacts)
- ◆ ● 10. data wrangling + stats and tests
- ◆ ■ 11. spatial networks
- ■ 12. growing networks
- ★ ■ 13. dynamic networks
- 14. student project presentations

- ◆ building intuition
- basic concepts, tools
- ★ practical tools
- advanced tools

# course webpage(s)

LarremoreLab.github.io/5352

Slides,  
Readings,  
Links,  
Notebooks

## Network Analysis & Modeling

### CSCI 5352 - Network Analysis & Modeling

Fall 2020

- Time: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 1:50pm - 2:40pm
- Place: **all streamed & recorded**; ECCS 1B28
- Lecturer: [Dan Larremore](#)
- Office: –Online–
- Office hours: –TBD–
- Email: daniel.larremore
- Teaching Assistant: None
- Syllabus: [PDF](#)

## Description

Network science is a thriving and increasingly important cross-disciplinary domain that focuses on the representation, analysis, and modeling of complex social, biological and technological systems as networks or graphs. Modern data sets often include some kind of network. Nodes can have locations, directions, memory, demographic characteristics, content, and preferences. Edges can have lengths, directions, capacities, costs, durations, and types. And, these variables and the network structure itself can vary, with edges and nodes appearing, disappearing and changing their characteristics over time. Capturing, modeling and understanding networks and rich data requires understanding both the mathematics of networks and the computational tools for identifying and explaining the patterns they contain.

This graduate-level course will examine modern techniques for analyzing and modeling the structure and dynamics of complex networks. The focus will be on statistical

On this page
<a href="#">CSCI 5352 - Network Analysis &amp; Modeling</a>
<a href="#">Description</a>
<a href="#">Prerequisites</a>
<a href="#">Textbook</a>
<a href="#">Coursework &amp; Grading</a>
<a href="#">Problem sets</a>
<a href="#">Course project</a>
<a href="#">Schedule</a>
<a href="#">Problem Sets</a>
<a href="#">Supplemental Readings</a>

# network data for assignments

icon.colorado.edu

Index of Complex Networks

NETWORKS

ABOUT

SUGGESTIONS

SIGN IN

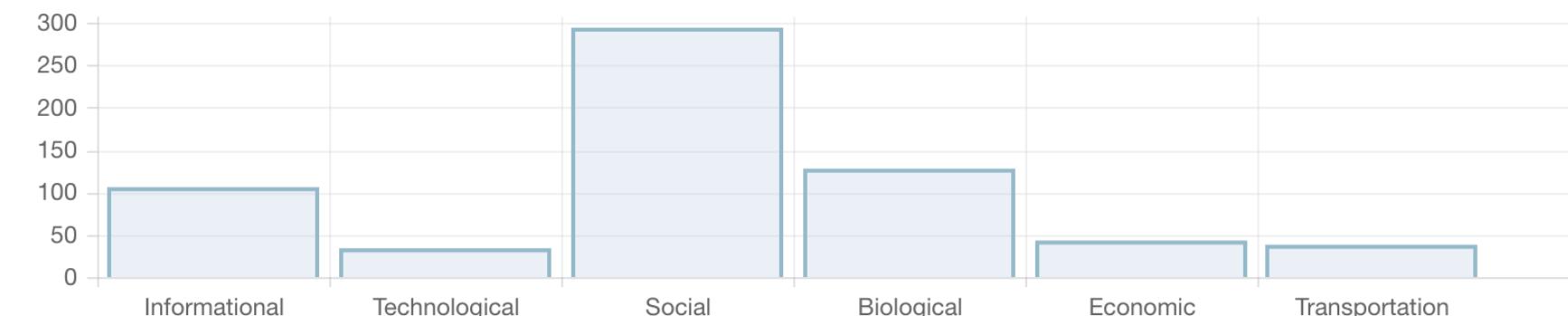
## The Colorado Index of Complex Networks (ICON)

ICON is a comprehensive index of research-quality network data sets from all domains of network science, including social, web, information, biological, ecological, connectome, transportation, and technological networks.

Each network record in the index is annotated with and searchable or browsable by its graph properties, description, size, etc., and many records include links to multiple networks. The contents of ICON are curated by volunteer experts from Prof. Aaron Clauset's research group at the University of Colorado Boulder.

Click on the [NETWORKS tab](#) above to get started.

Entries found: 643 Networks found: 5246



# lessons learned

## what's difficult:

1. students need to know many different things:

- some probability
- some mathematics
- some statistics
- some machine learning
- some programming

Erdos-Renyi, configuration, calculations  
physics-style calculations, phase transitions  
basic data analysis, correlations, distributions  
prediction, likelihoods, features, estimation algorithms  
data wrangling, coding up measures and algorithms

2. can't teach all of these things to all types of students!

- vast amounts of advanced material in each of these directions
- students have little experience / intuition of what makes good science

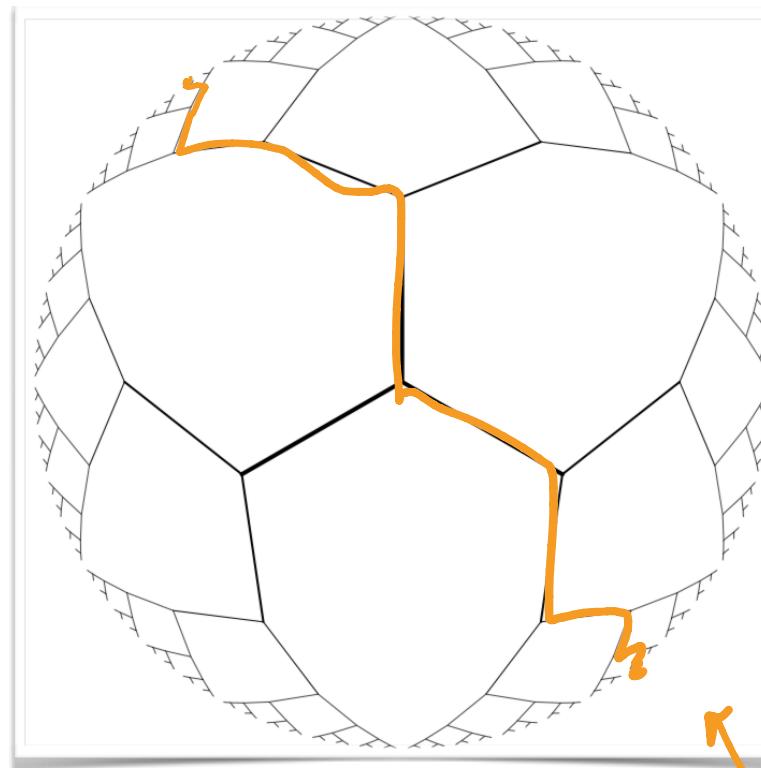
*projects*

*← muscle  
to build*

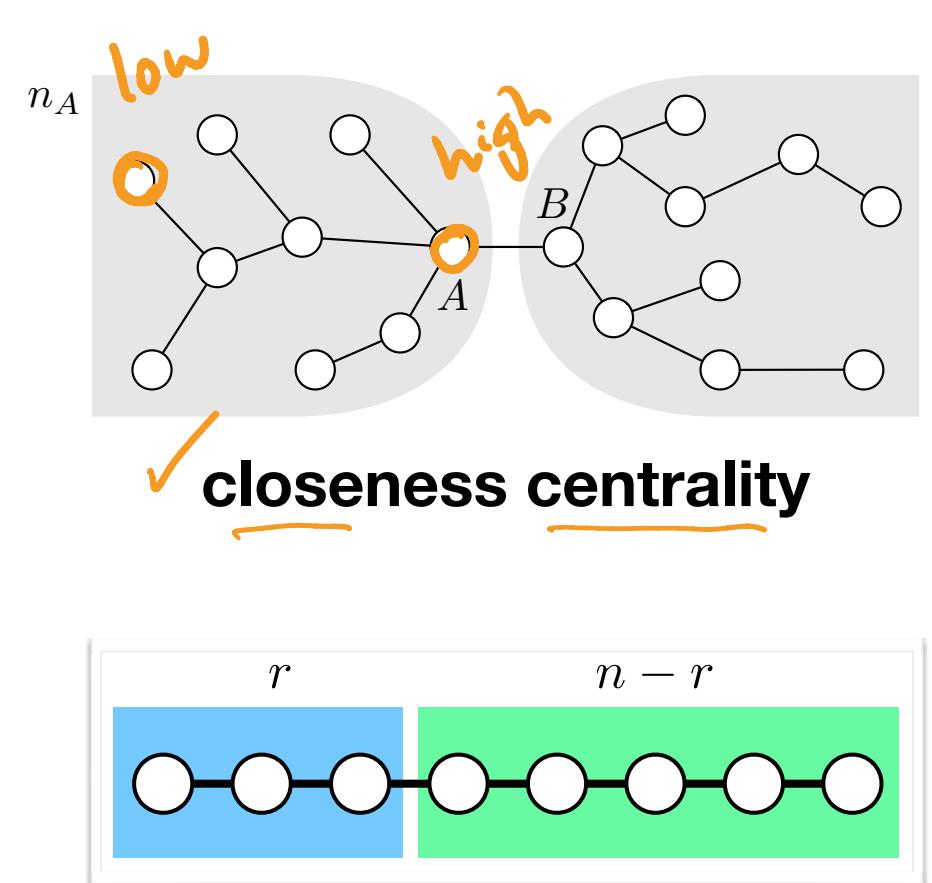
# lessons learned

## what works well

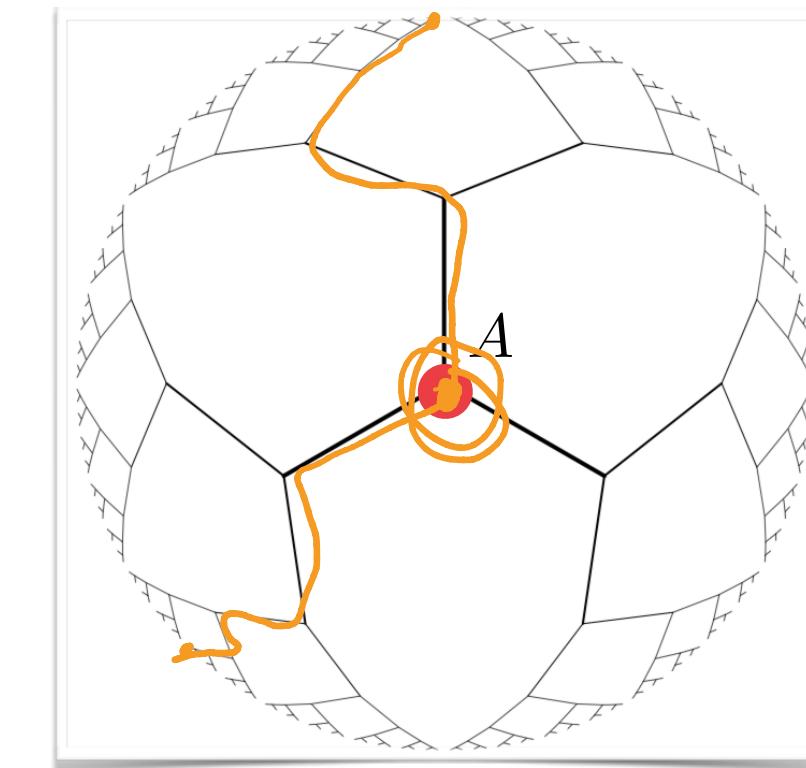
1. simple mathematical problems—build intuition & practice with concepts



calculate the diameter



modularity of a line graph  $Q(r)$

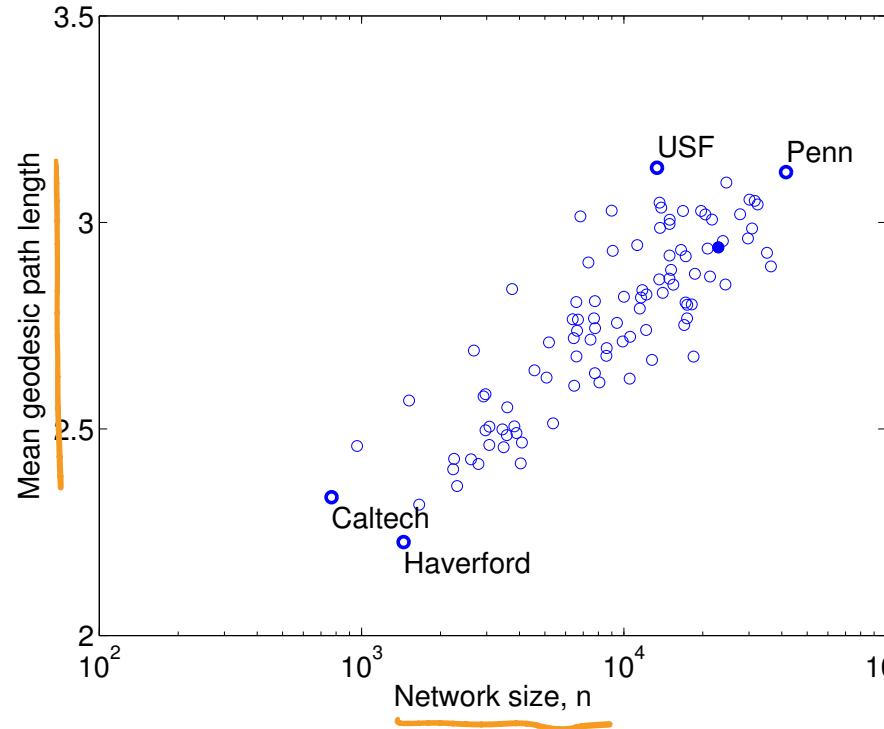


betweenness of  $A$   
centrality.

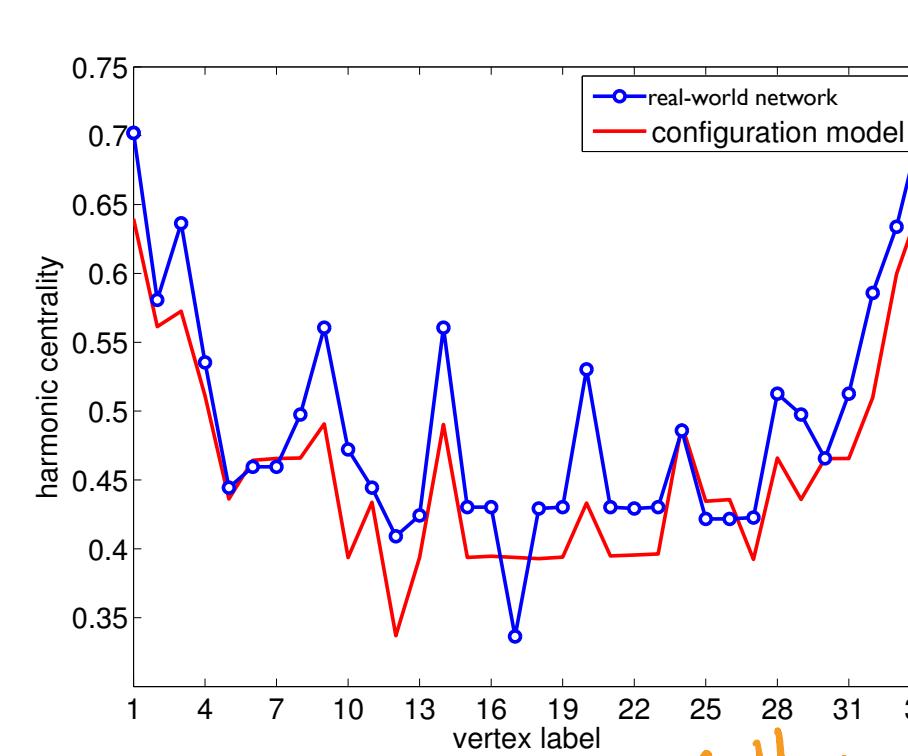
# lessons learned

## what works well

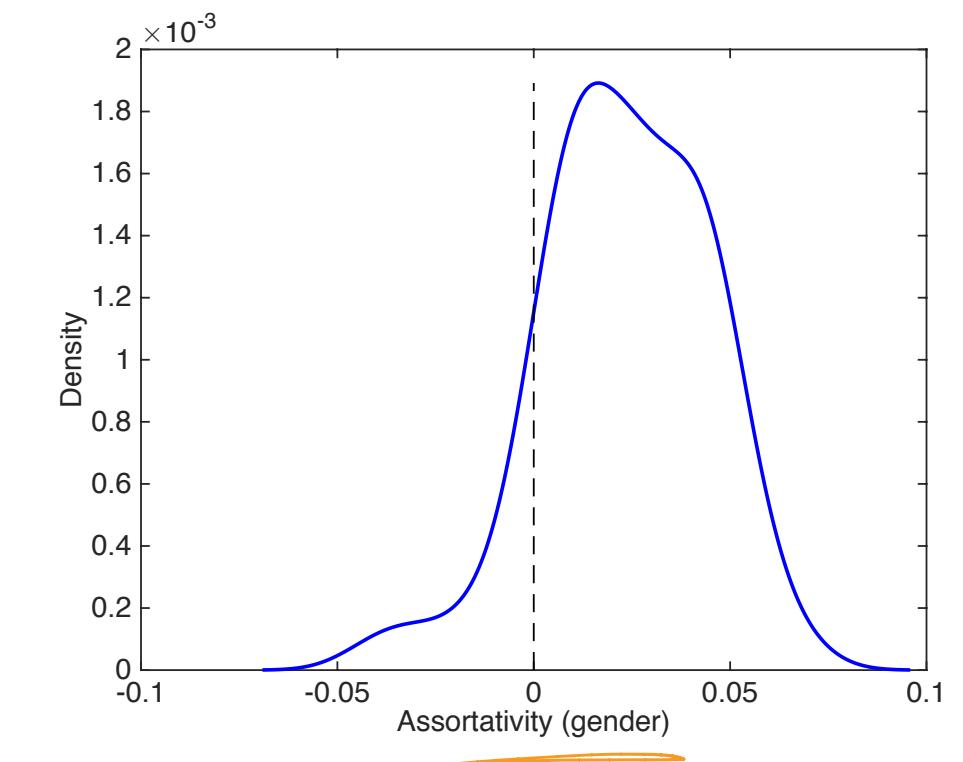
2. analyze *real* networks—test understanding & practice with *implementing* methods



mean geodesics and  $O(\log n)$



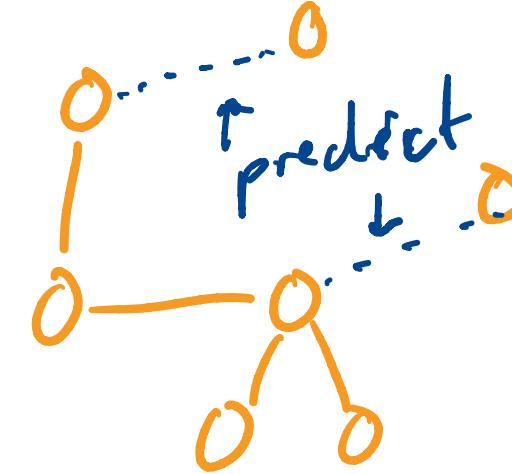
node centrality vs configuration model  
(when is a pattern *interesting*?)



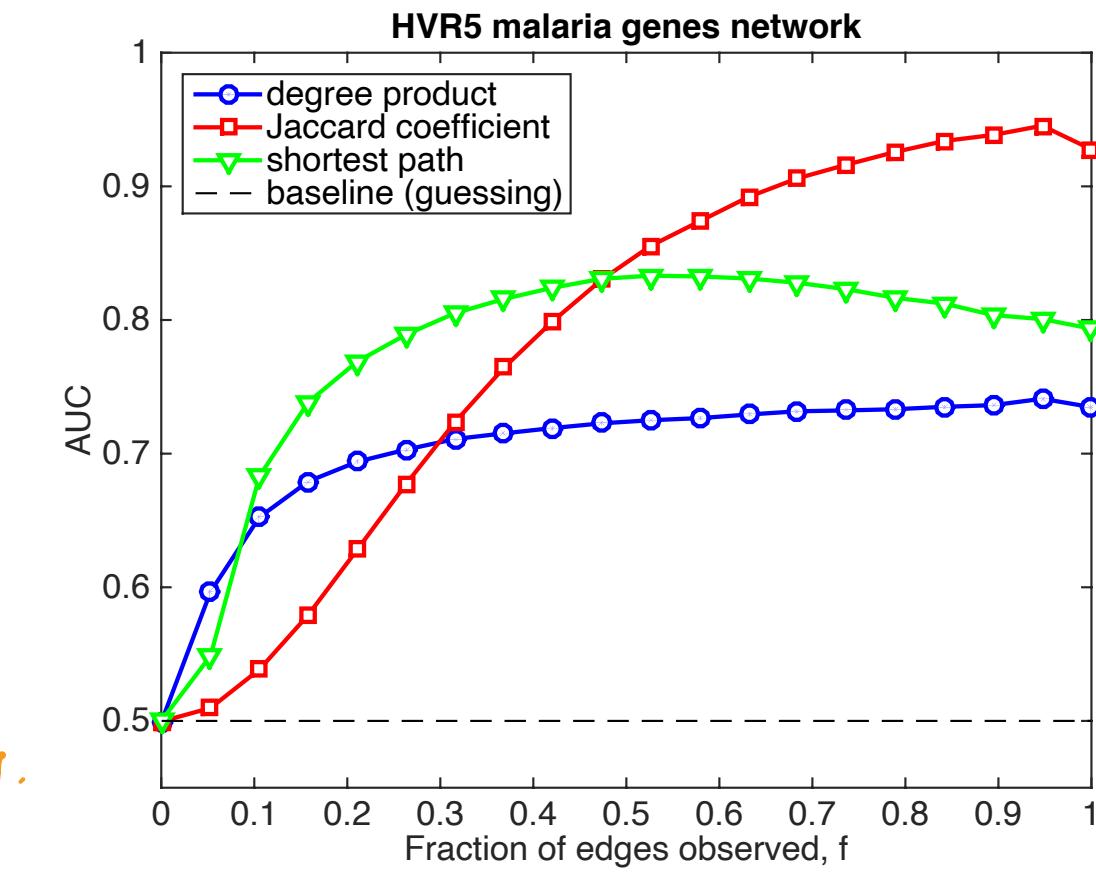
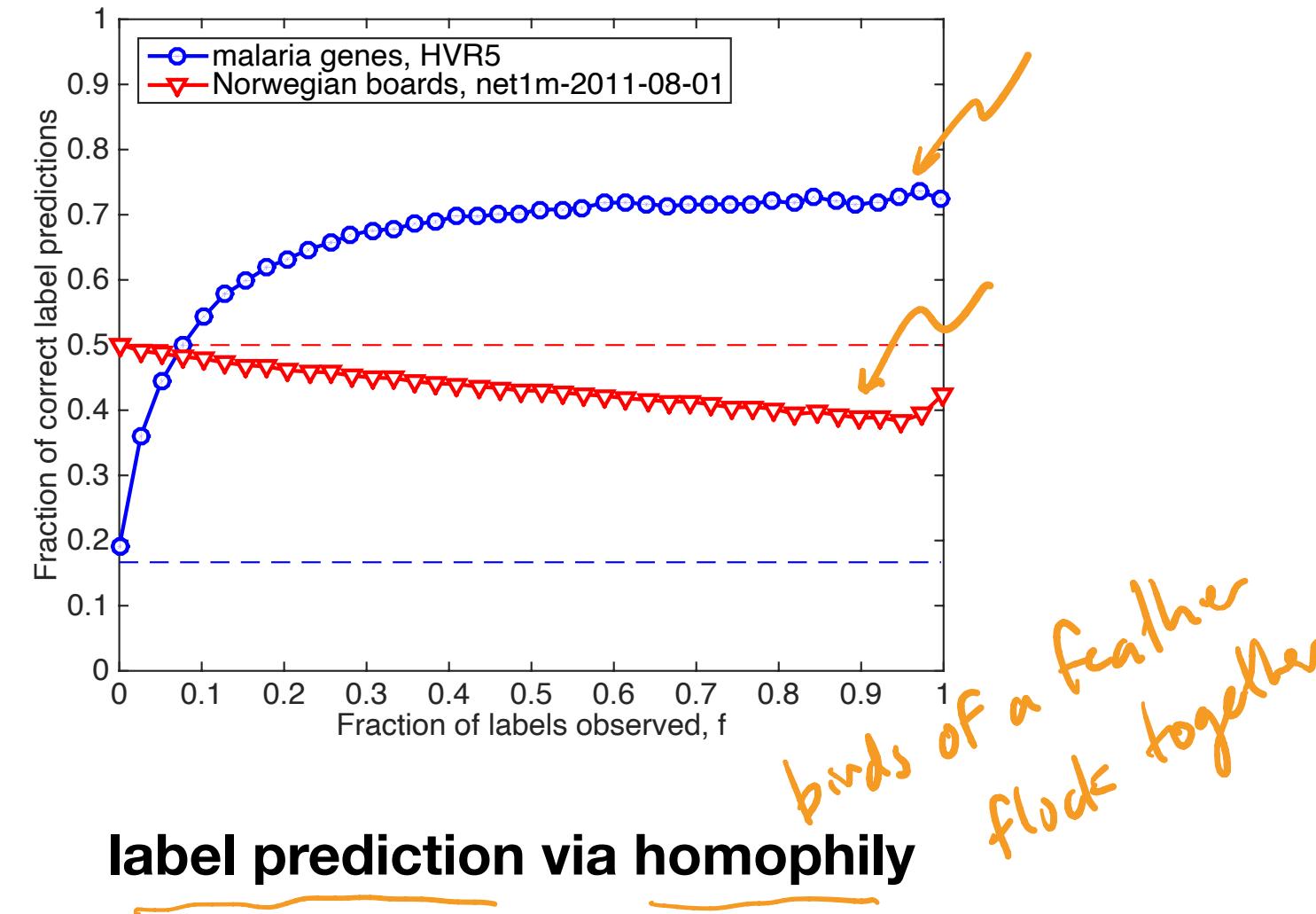
attribute assortativity

# lessons learned

## what works well



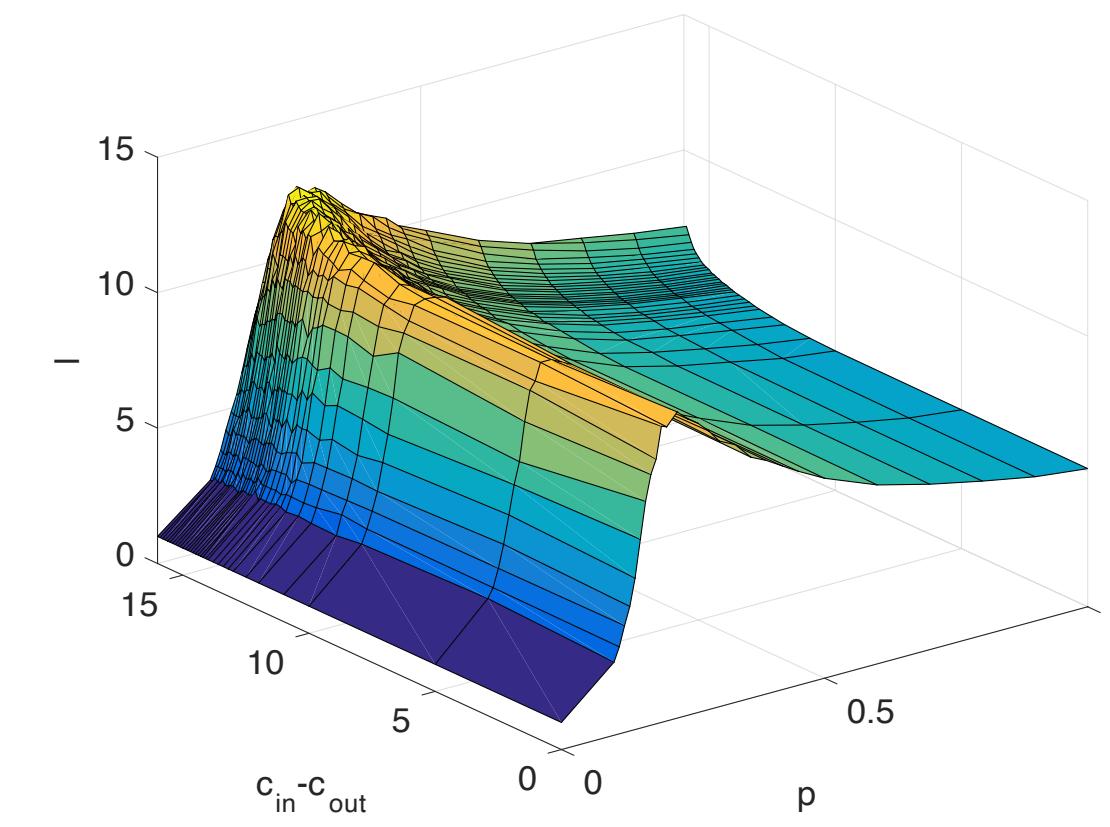
### 3. simple prediction tasks—test intuition & run numerical experiments



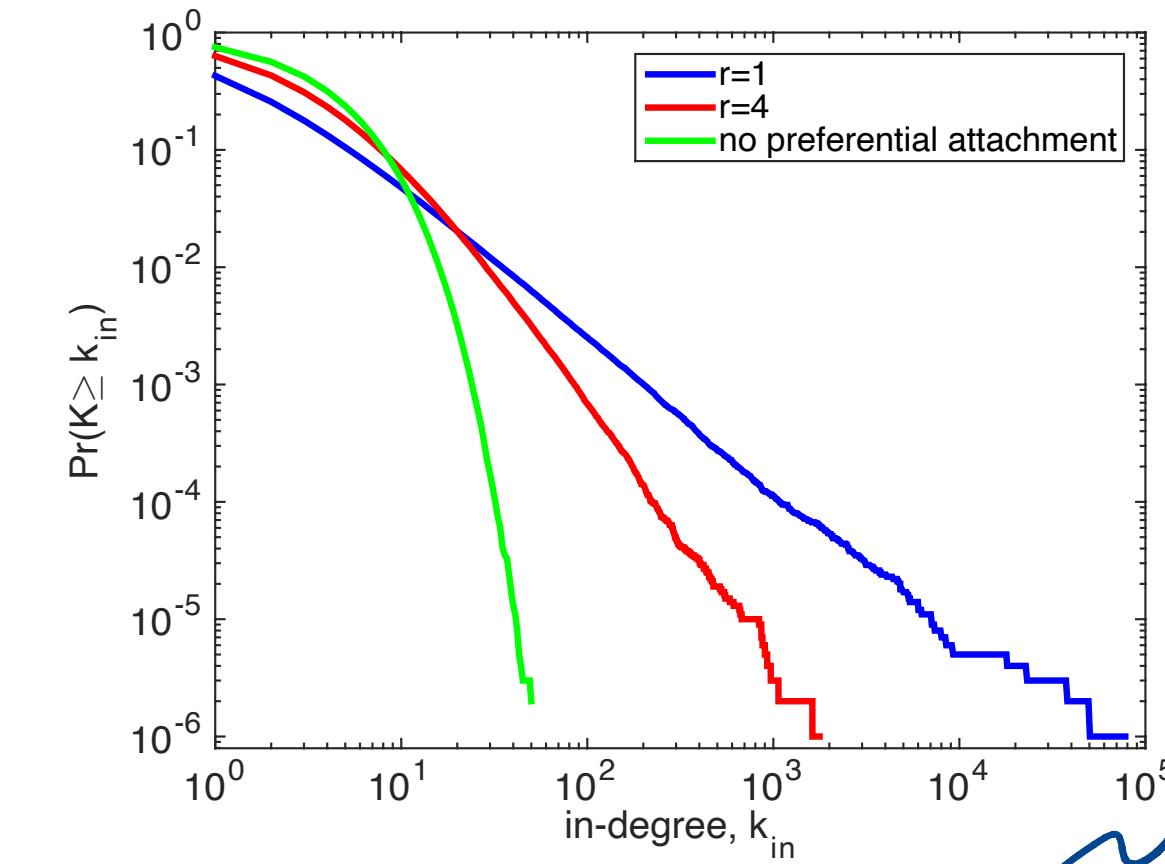
# lessons learned

## what works well

4. simple simulations—explore dynamics vs structure & numerical experiments



**simulate epidemics (SIR) on planted partitions**



**simulate Price's model**

*citations accumulate*

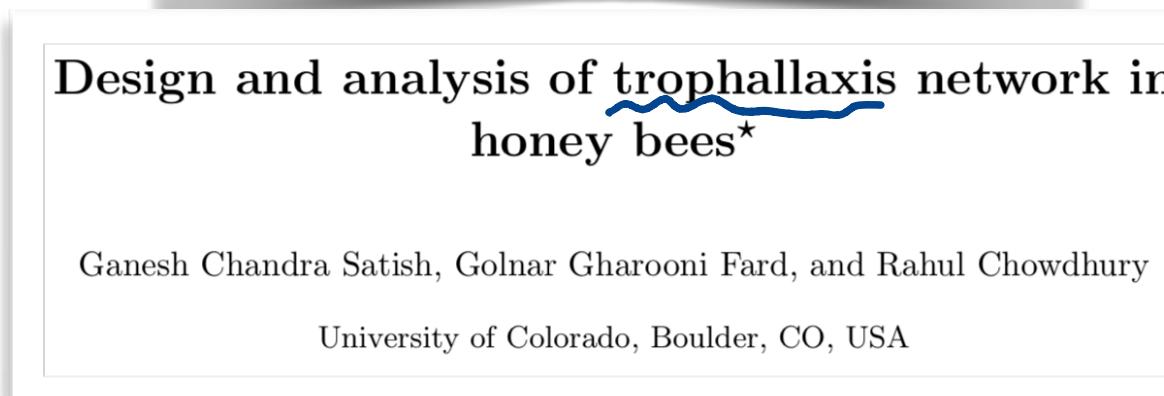
# lessons learned

## what works well

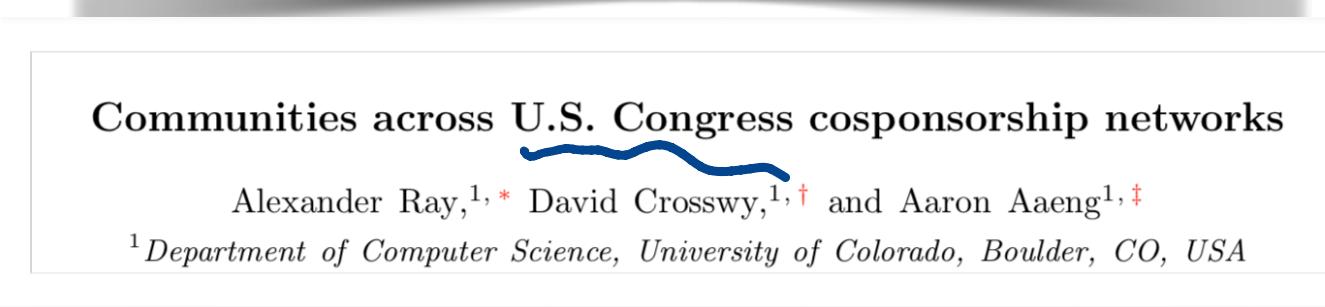
5. team projects—teamwork & exploring their (your!) own ideas



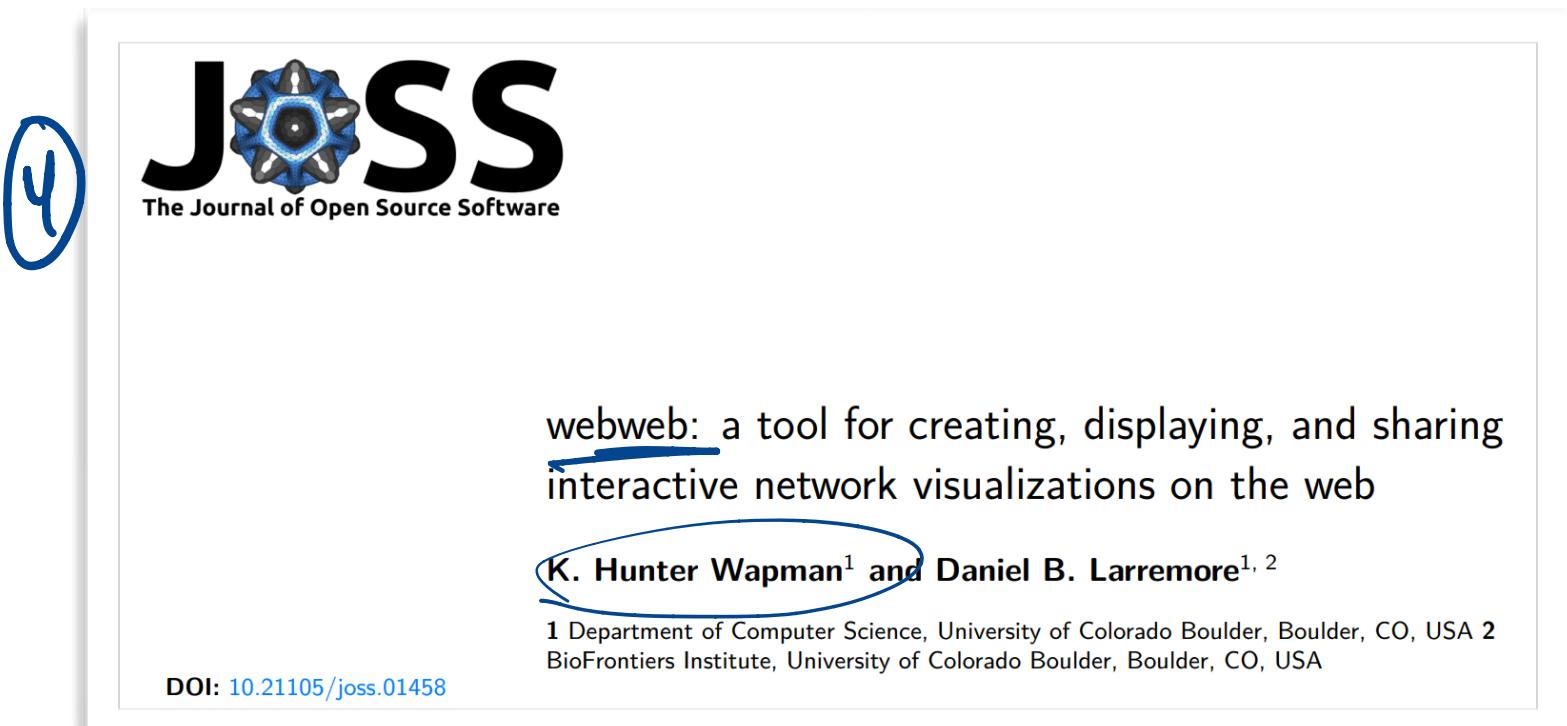
①



②

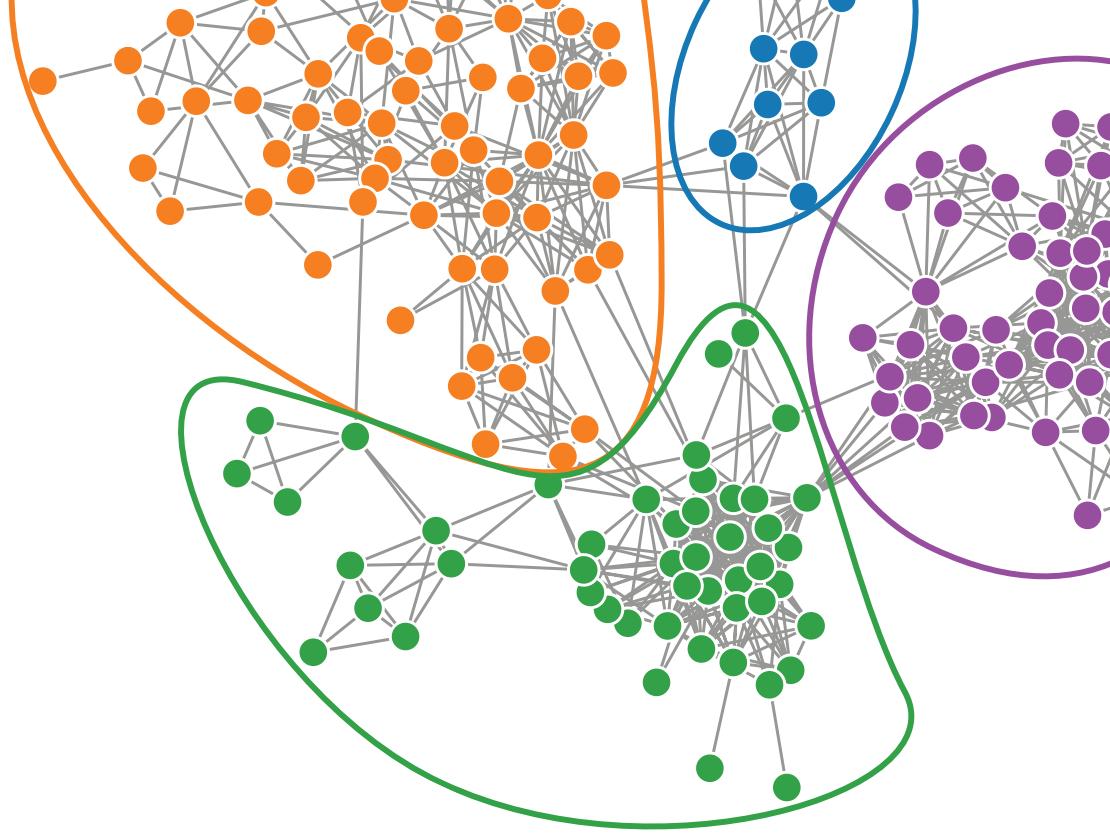


③



# key takeaways

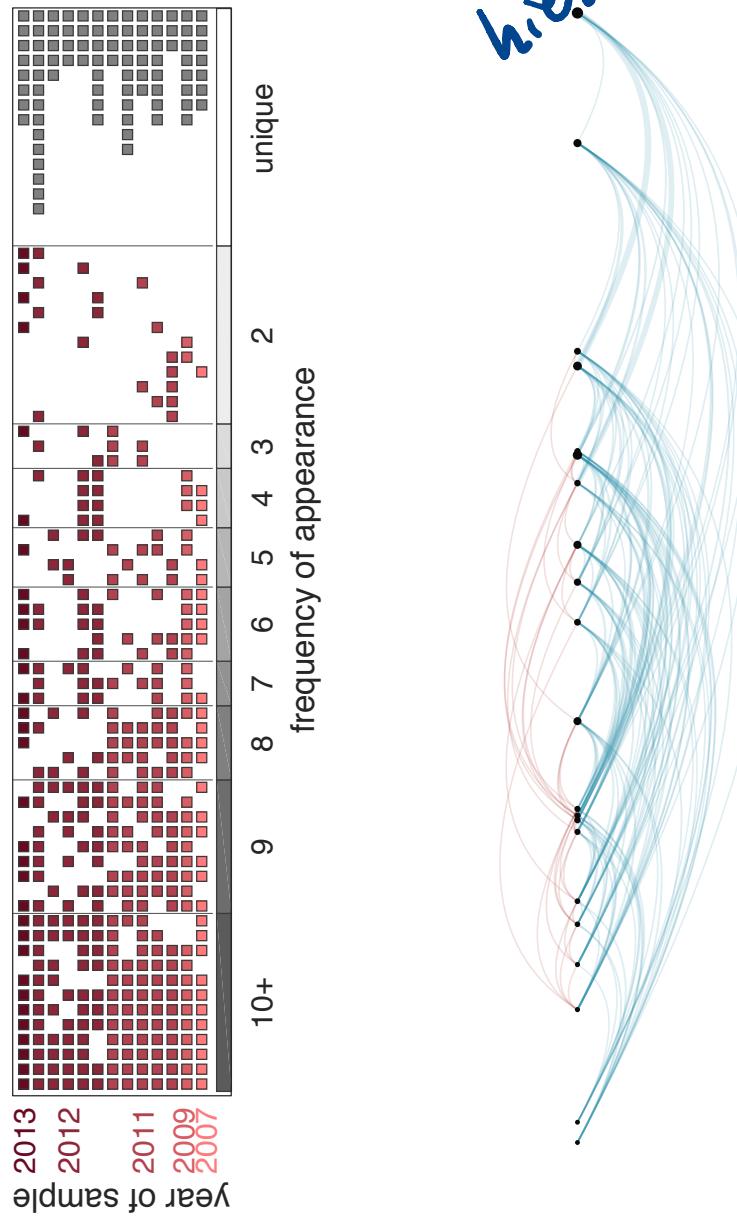
- **network intuition is hard to develop!**  
good intuition draws on many skills  
(probability, statistics, computation, causal dynamics, etc.)
- best results come from
  1. exercises to get practice with calculations
  2. practice analyzing diverse real-world networks
  3. conducting out numerical experiments & simulations
- practical tasks are a pedagogical tool (e.g., link and label prediction)
- interpreting the results requires a good intuition
- null models are key conceptual idea: is a pattern interesting?
- networks are fun!



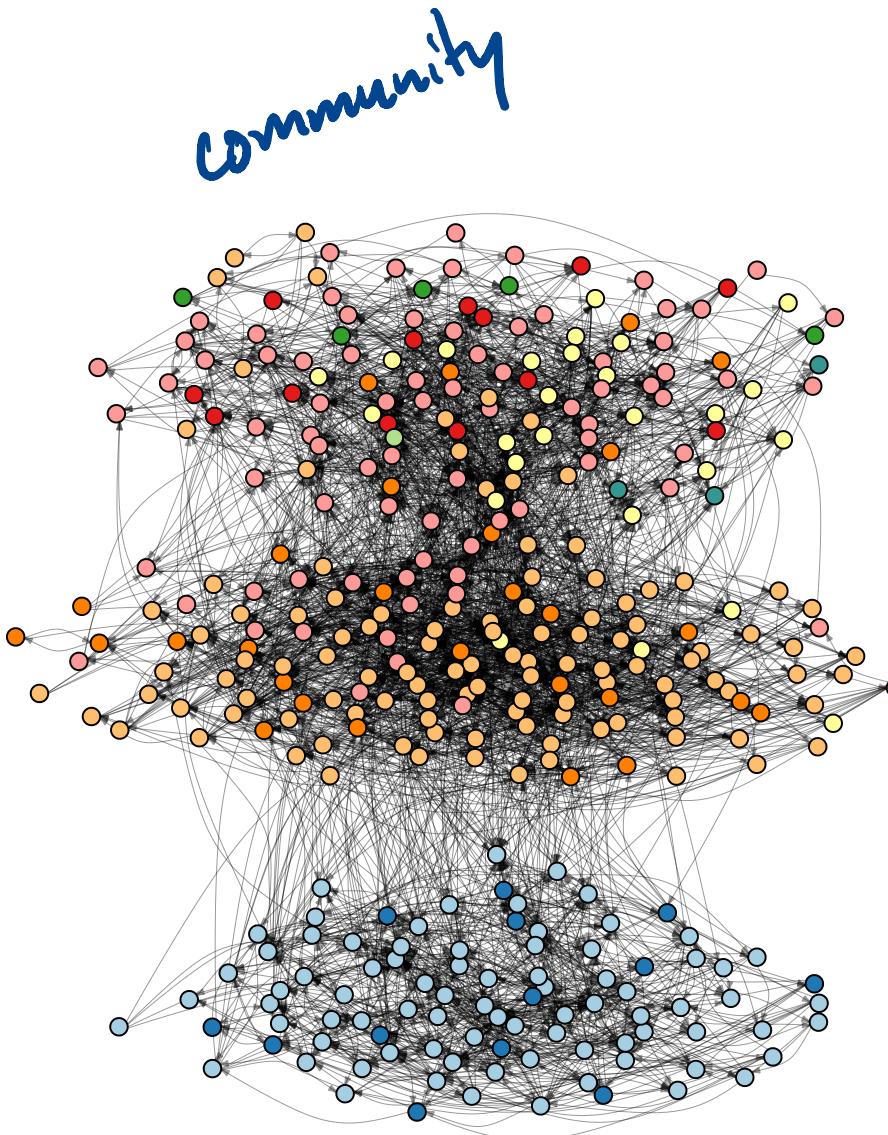
# about me

Assistant Professor, BioFrontiers Institute & Department of Computer Science  
Previously: fellowships at Harvard, Santa Fe Institute; PhD Applied Math

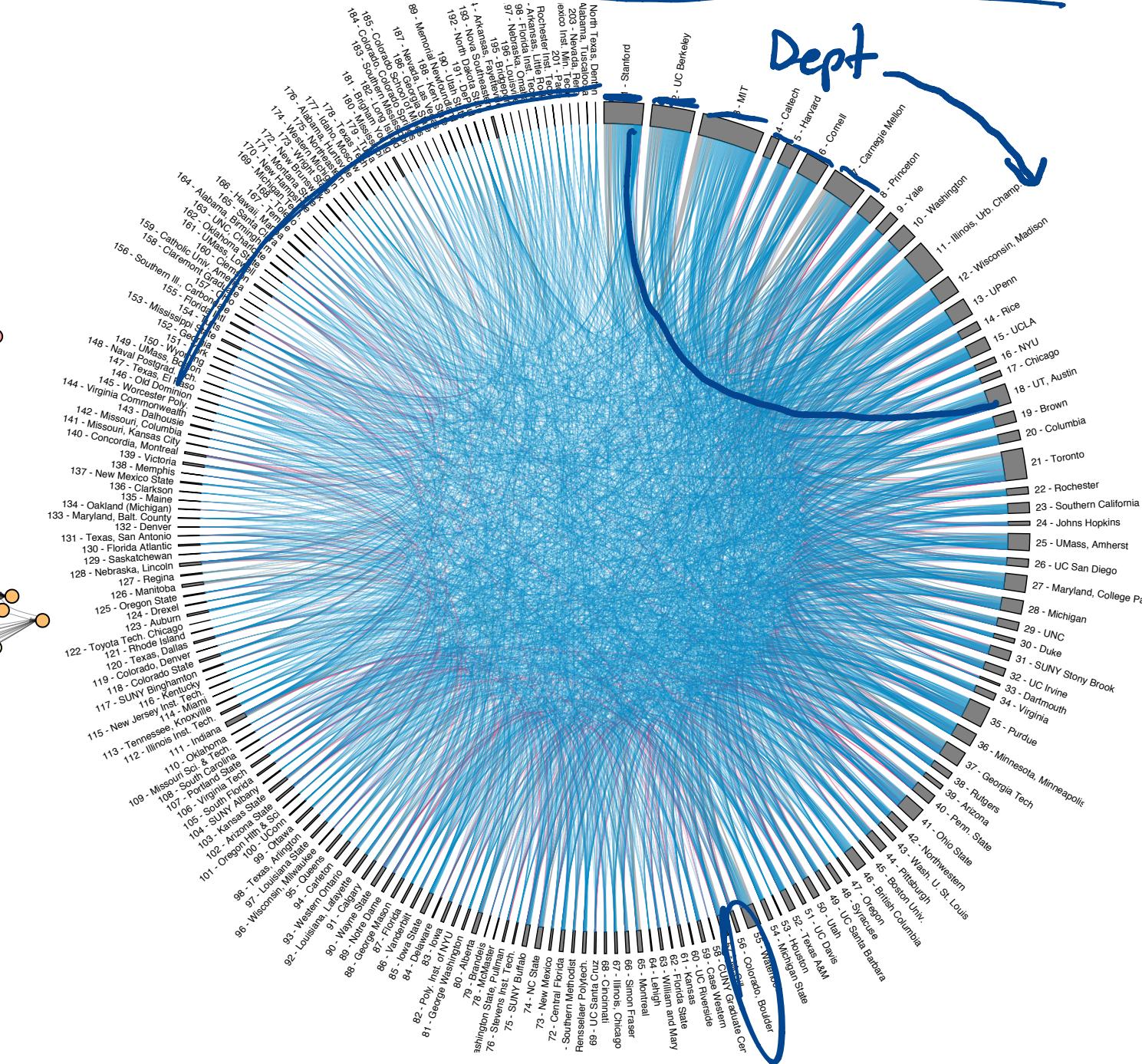
malaria parasite evolution  
and epidemiology



mathematical methods for  
statistical inference/analysis



inequality in networked labor markets



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malaria parasite evolution  
and epidemiology

mathematical methods for  
statistical inference/analysis

inequality in networked labor markets

structured hierarchy in  
online dating markets

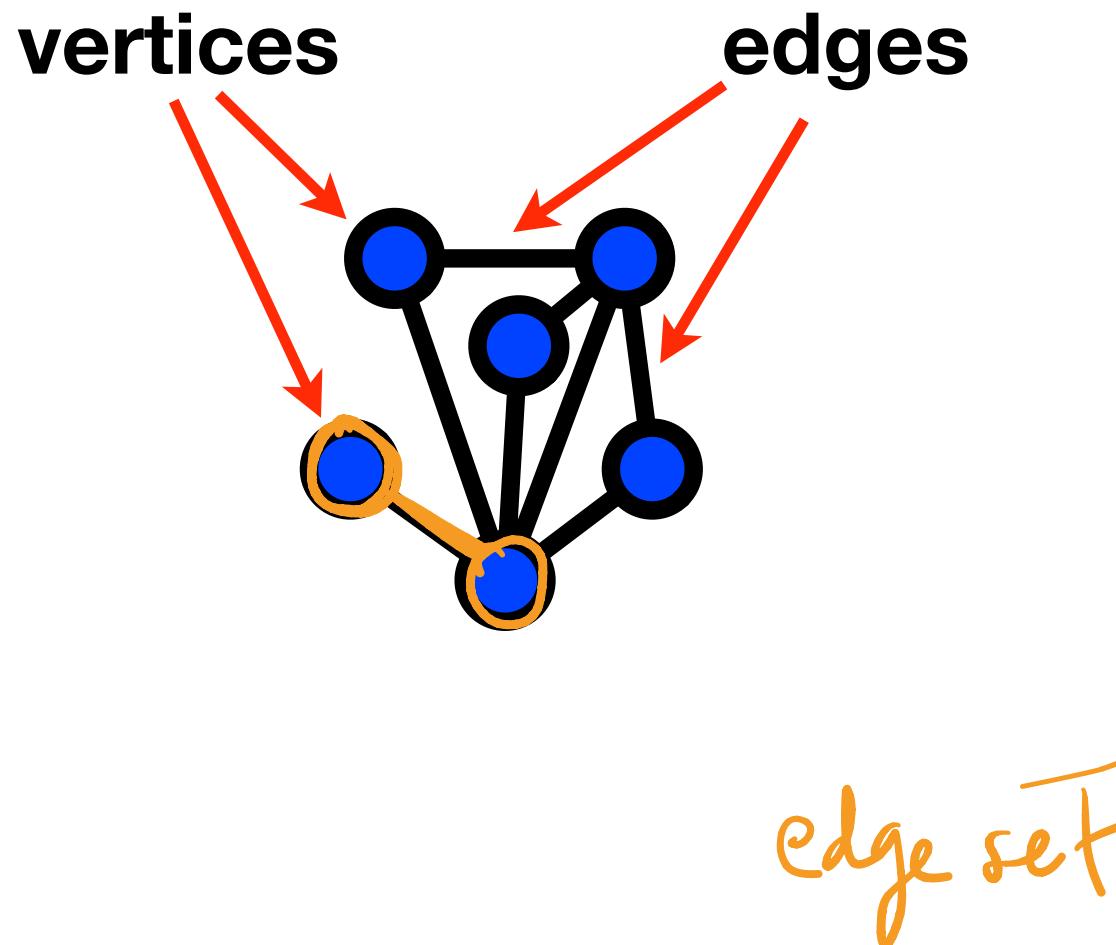
provably optimal play in  
generalized *misere* Connect 4

controllability of neuronal networks



1. defining a network
2. describing a network

# vertices & edges



**what is a vertex?**

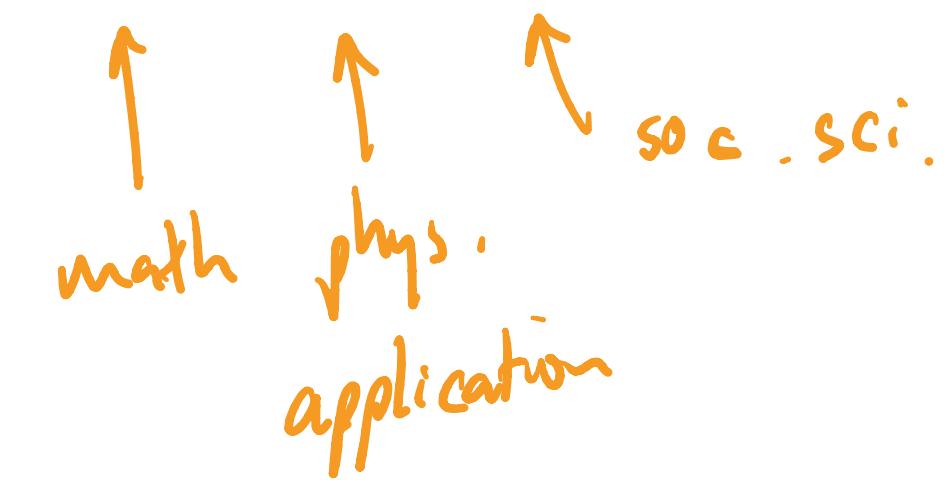
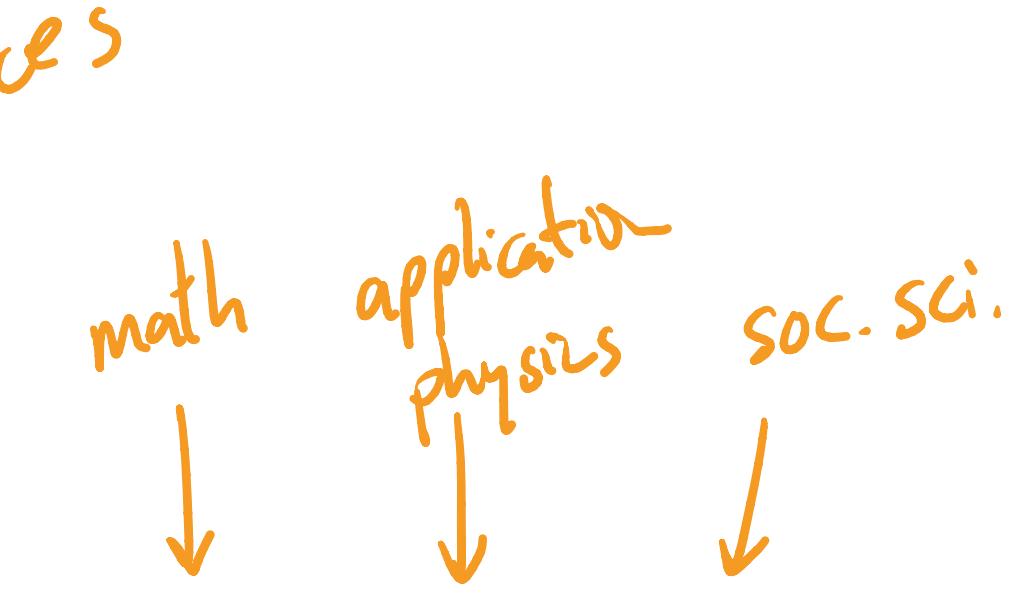
$V$

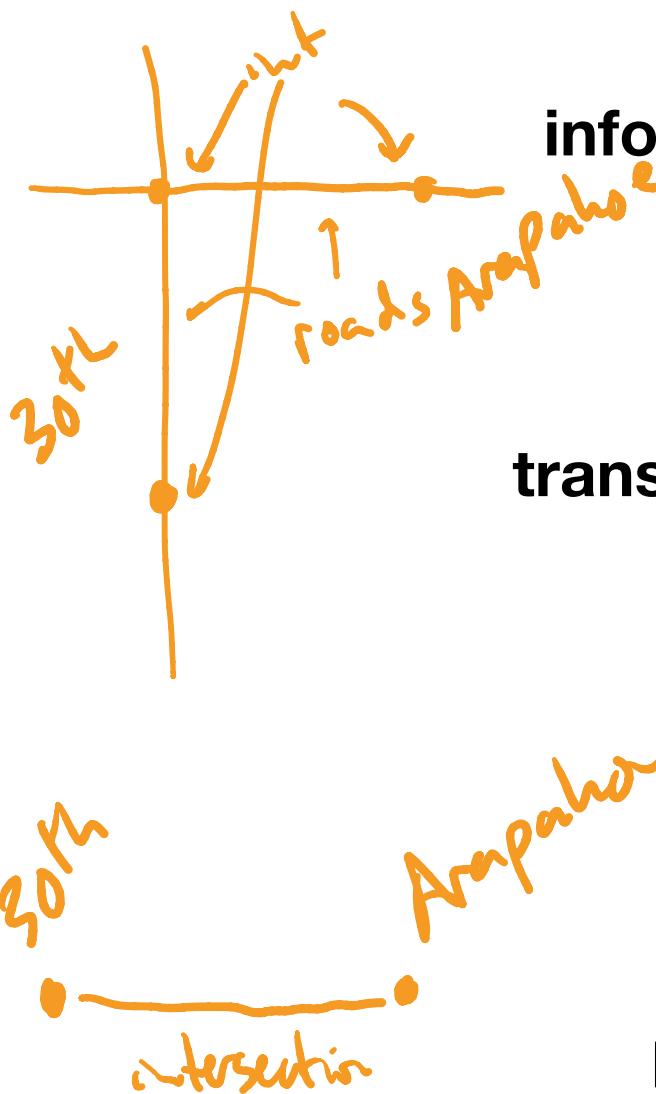
distinct objects (vertices / nodes / actors)

**when are two vertices connected?**

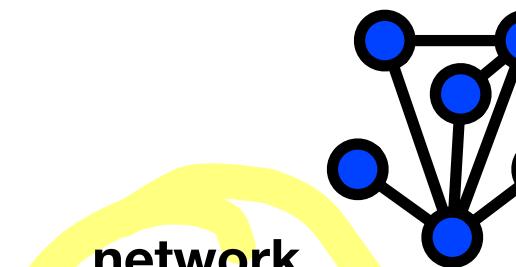
$E \subseteq V \times V$

Subset of





## telecommunications



**network**

Internet(1)

Internet(2)

software

World Wide Web

documents

power grid transmission

rail system

road network(1)

road network(2)

airport network

friendship network

sexual network

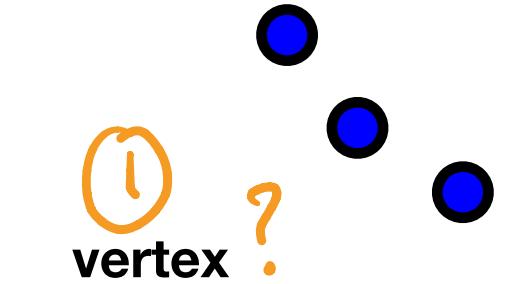
metabolic network

protein-interaction network

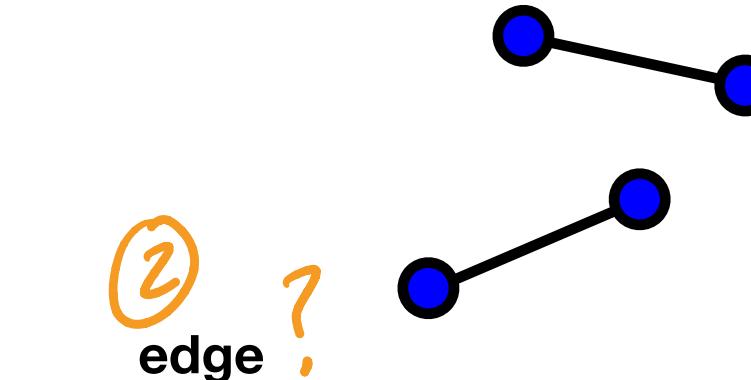
gene regulatory network

neuronal network

food web



(1) vertex?



(2) edge?

computer

autonomous system (ISP)

function

web page

article, patent, or legal case

generating or relay station

rail station

intersection

named road

airport

person

person

metabolite

protein

gene

neuron

species

IP network adjacency

BGP connection

function call

hyperlink

citation

transmission line

railroad tracks

pavement

intersection

non-stop flight

friendship

intercourse

metabolic reaction

bonding

regulatory effect

synapse

predation or resource transfer

social

transportation

informational

telecommunications

biological

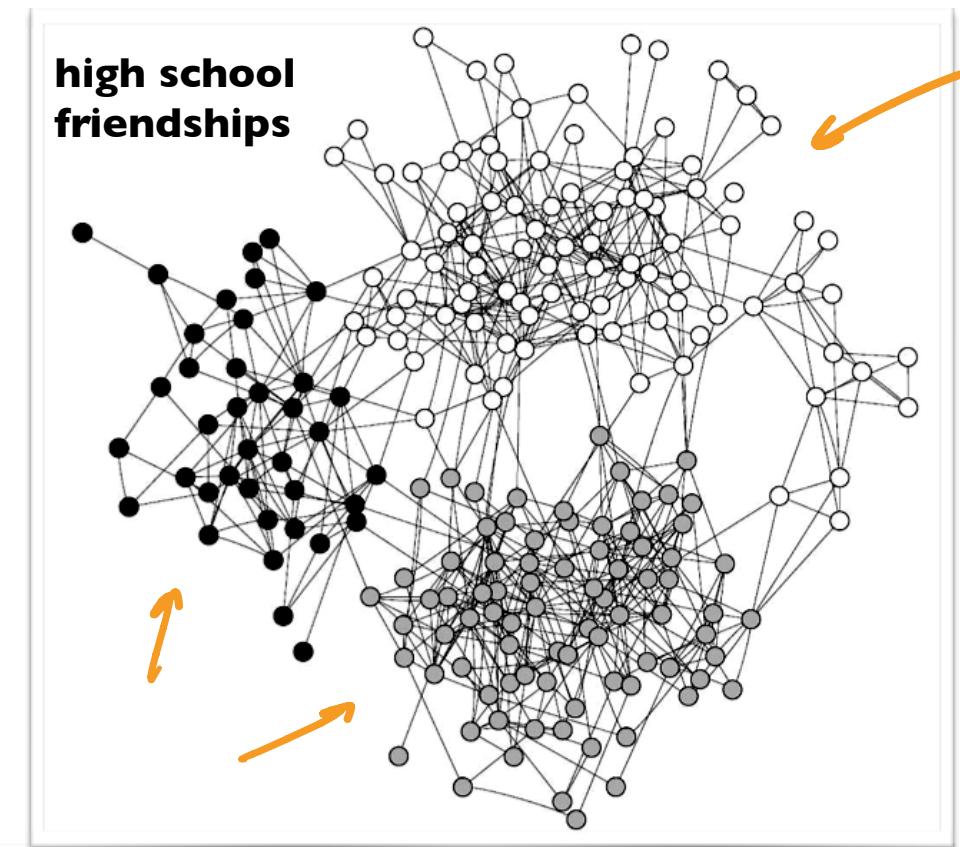


# social networks

IRL

**vertex:** a person

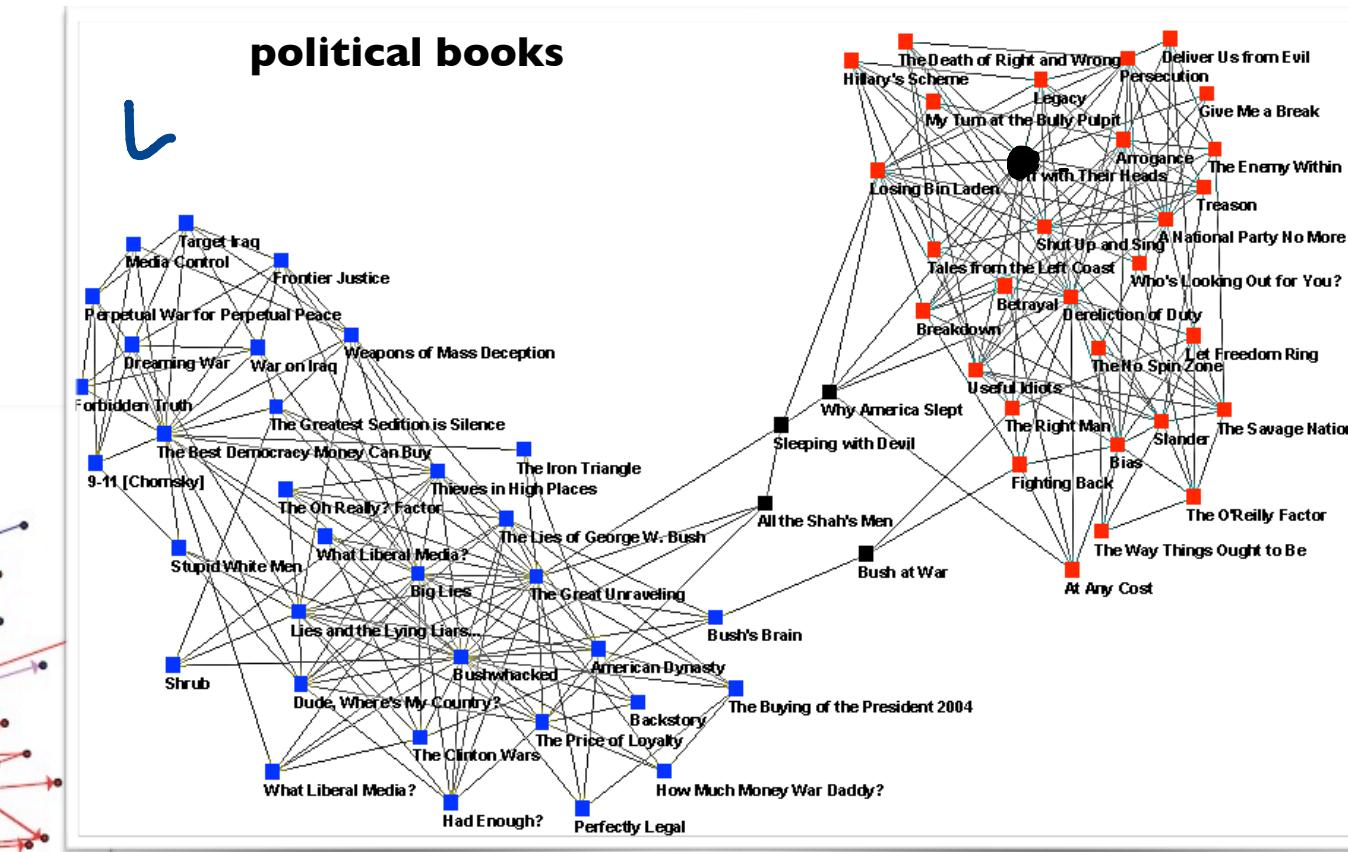
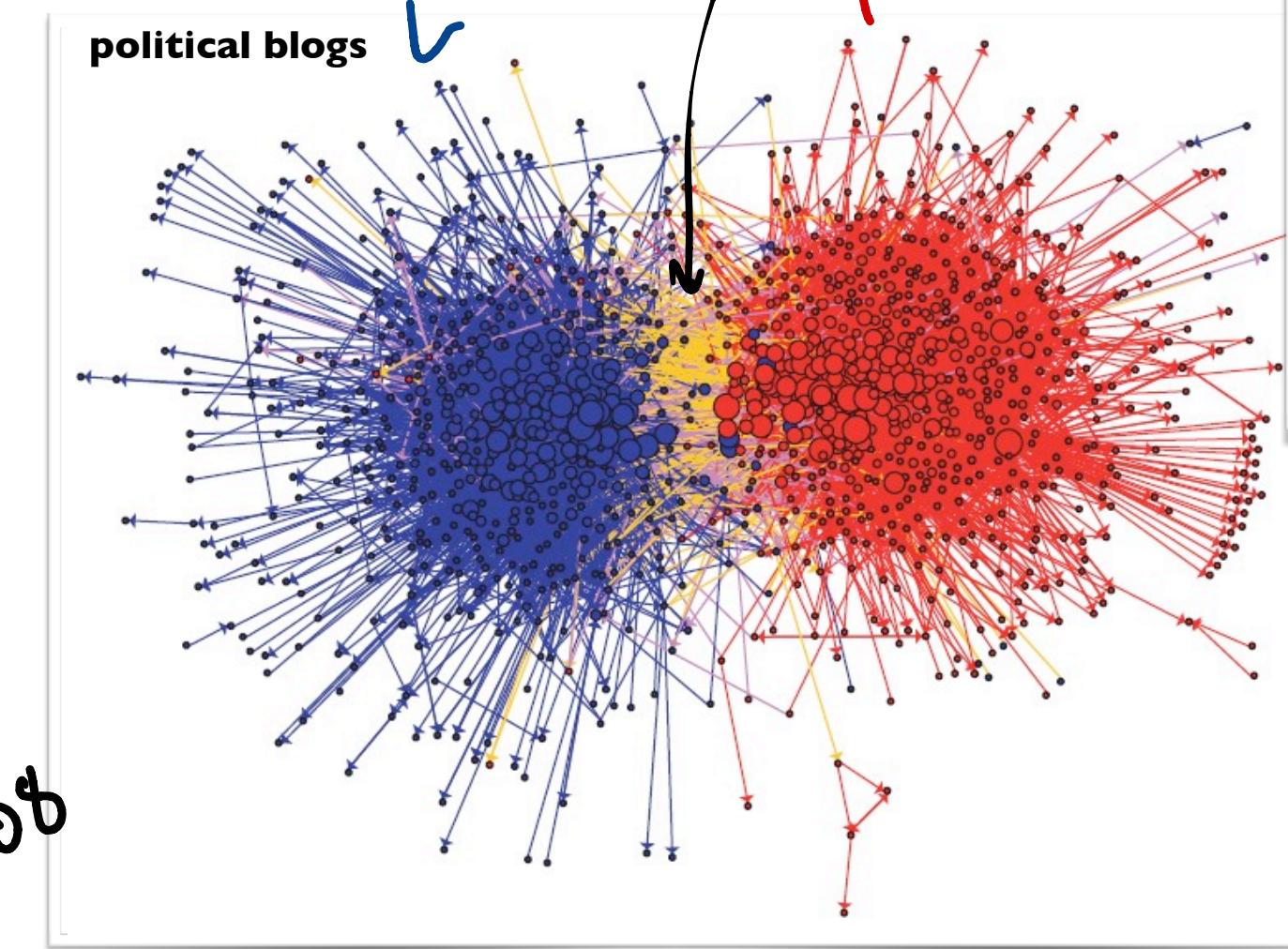
**edge:** friendship, collaborations, sexual contacts, communication, authority, exchange, etc.



# information networks

# **vertex:** books, blogs, webpages, etc

**edge:** citations, hyperlinks,  
recommendations, similarity



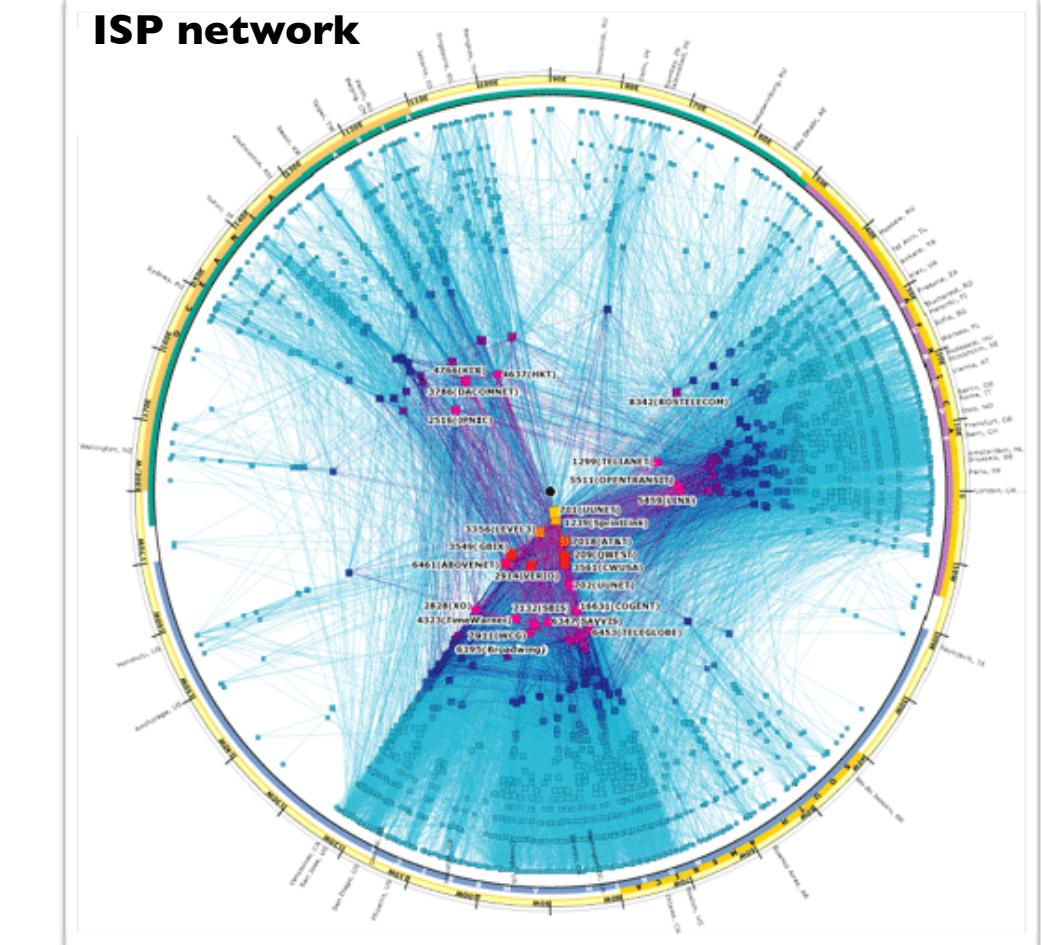
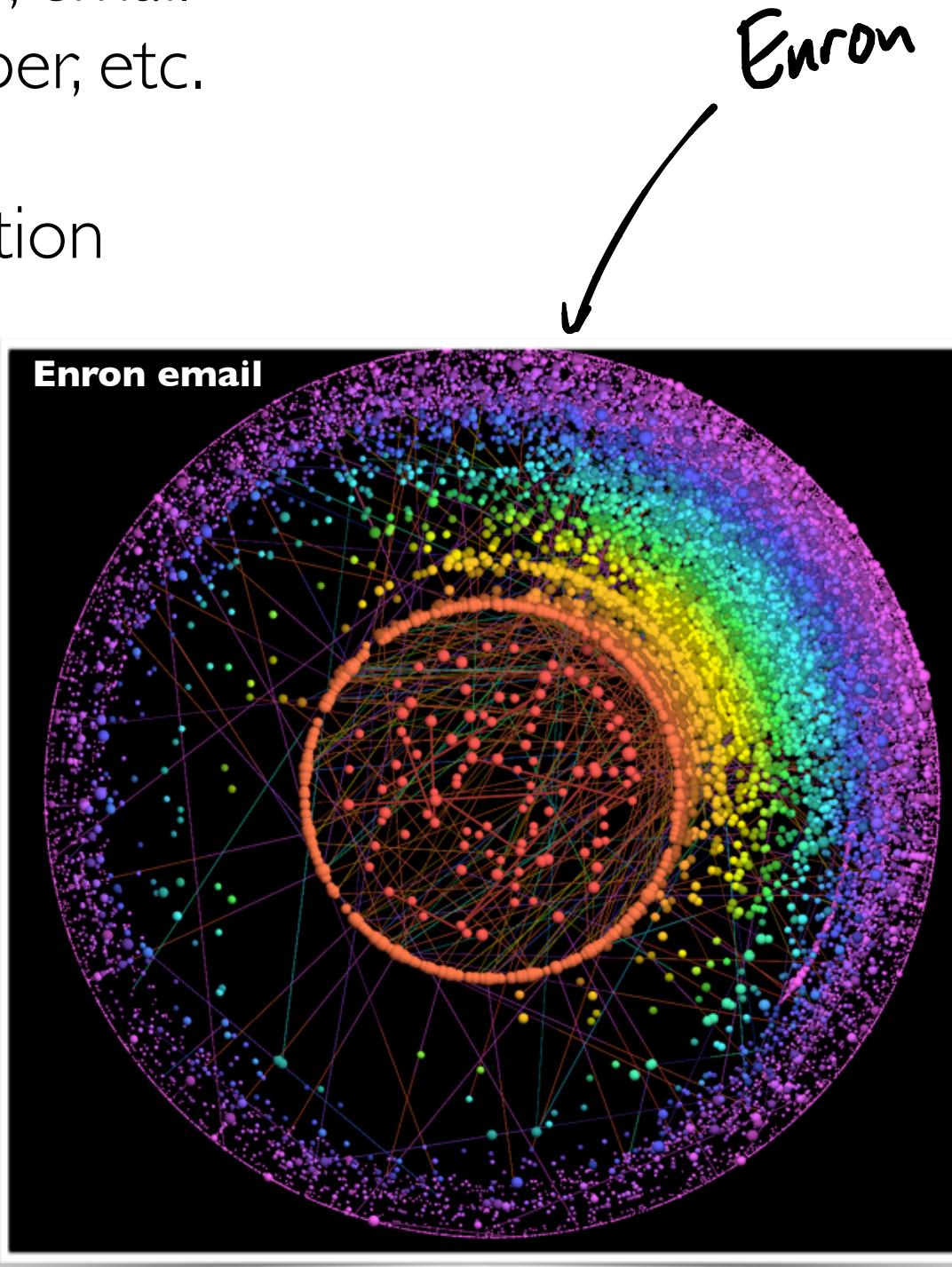
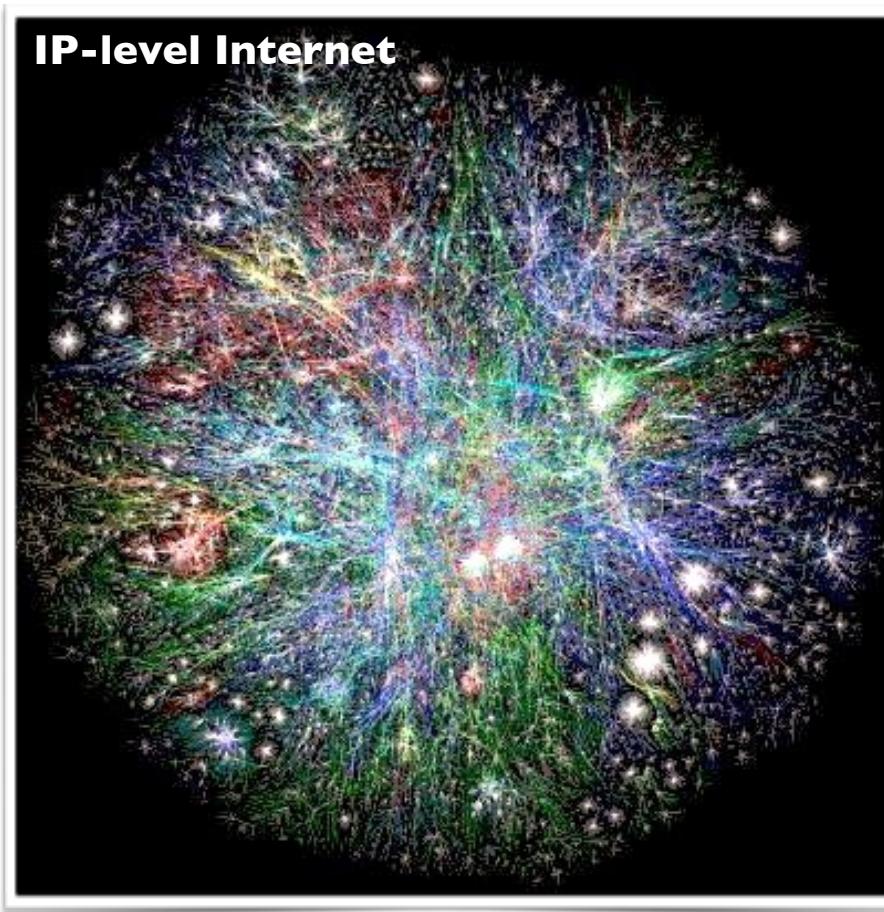
1

U.S.

# communication networks

**vertex:** network router, ISP, email address, mobile phone number, etc.

**edge:** exchange of information



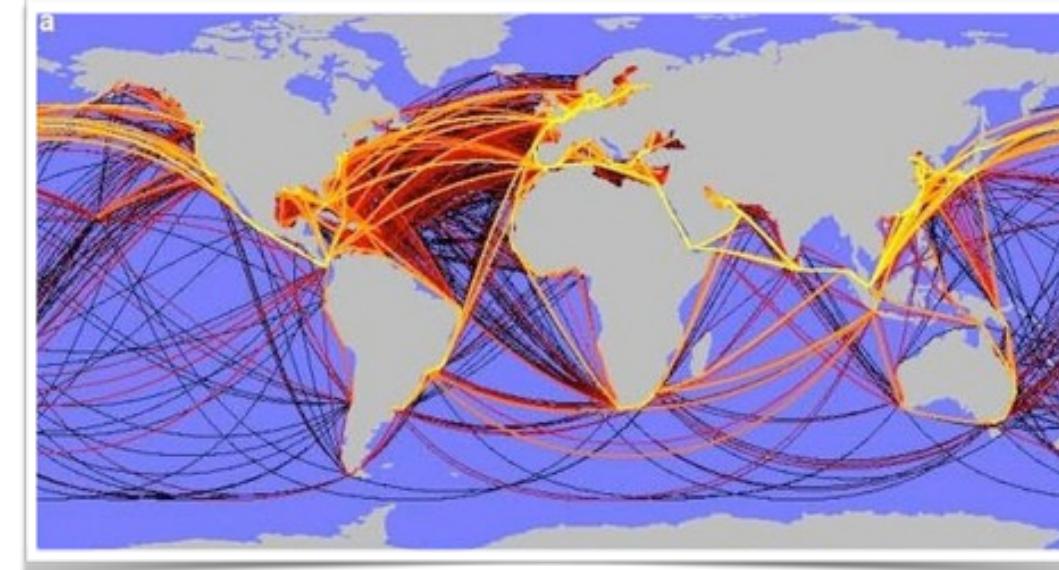
# transportation networks

**vertex:** city, airport, junction, railway station, river confluence, etc.

**edge:** physical transportation of material



**US Interstates**  
Spatial network.  
planar.



global shipping

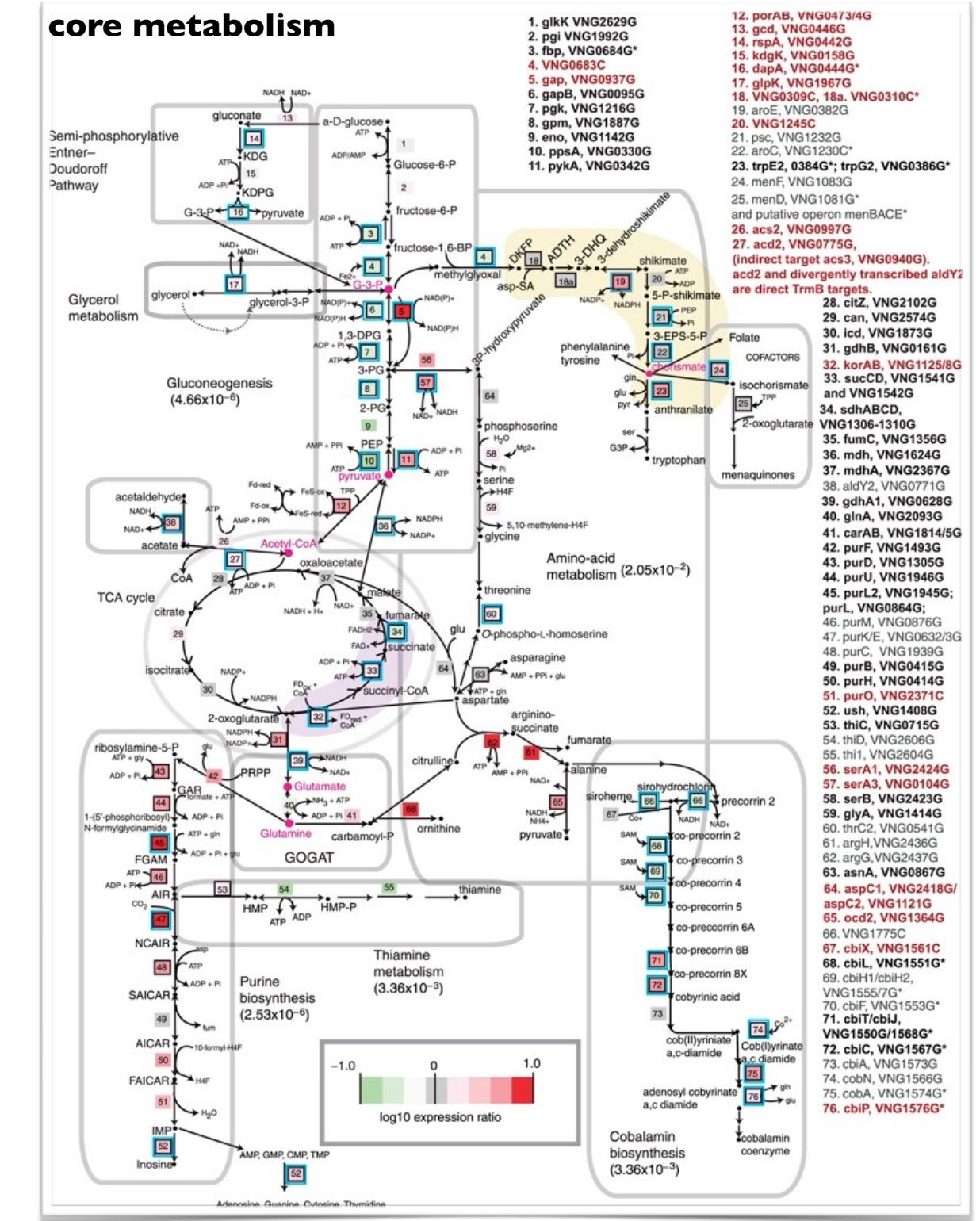
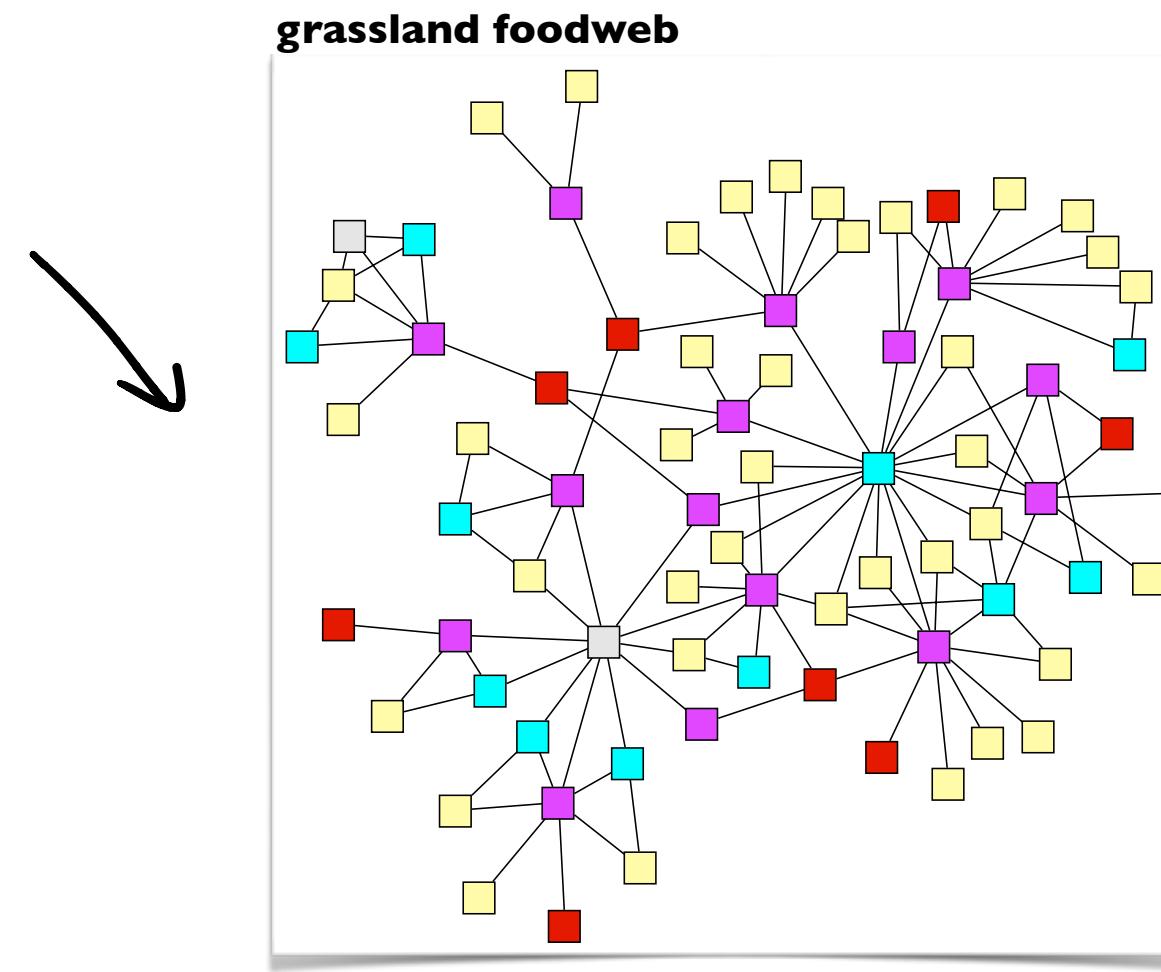


global air traffic

# biological networks

**vertex:** species, metabolic, protein, gene, neuron, etc.

**edge:** predation, chemical reaction, binding, regulation, activation, etc.



# what's a network?

pop quiz

# what's a network?

not a network:

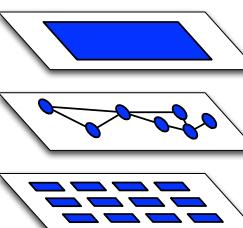
- Stars all belong to the same galaxy.
- What is an edge in this?
- What is a node?



Andromeda galaxy

yes, a network?

- nodes: celestial bodies
- edges: gravity connections, e.g.



# what's a network?

not a network!

What even is  
a spiral?

Are they distinct?



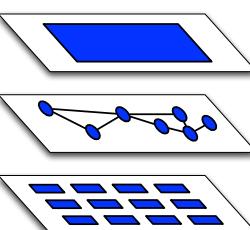
cauliflower fractal

yes, a network!

as it grows,  
each spiral has  
a parent spiral.

vertex: spiral

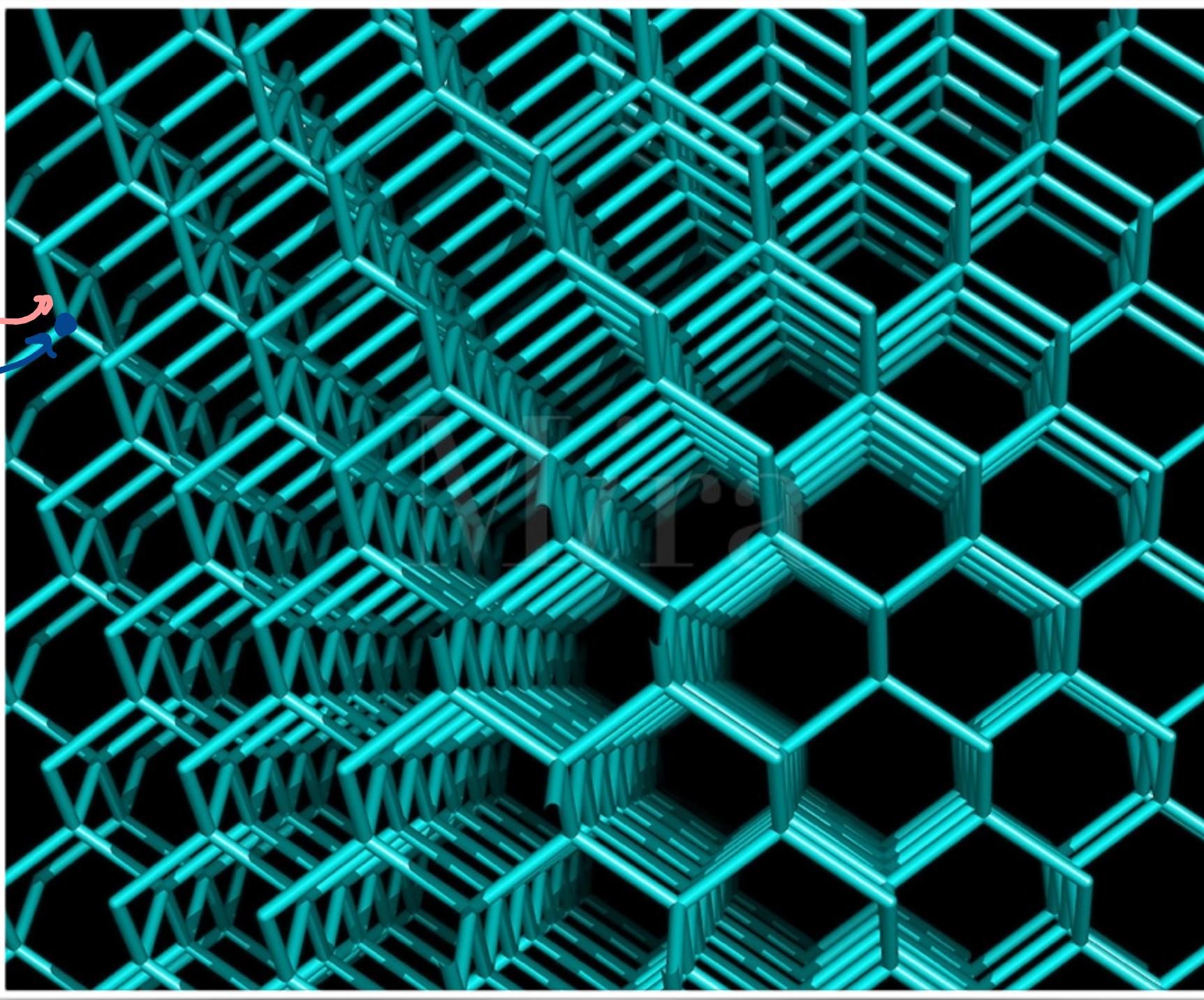
edge: spiral connects  
to its parent.



# what's a network?

yes, a network

edge  
vertex

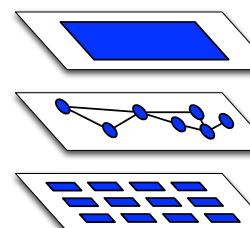
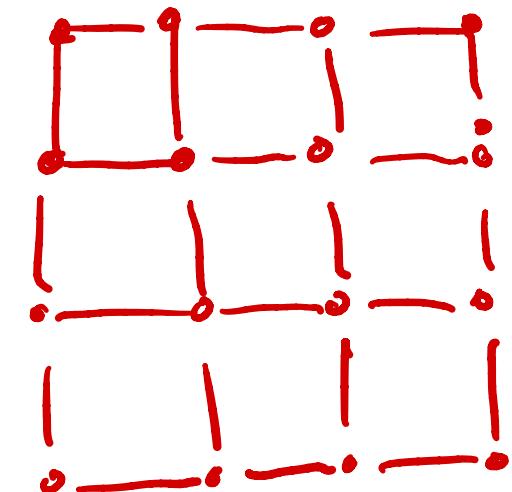


no retraces!

why?

do we need  
all the overhead?

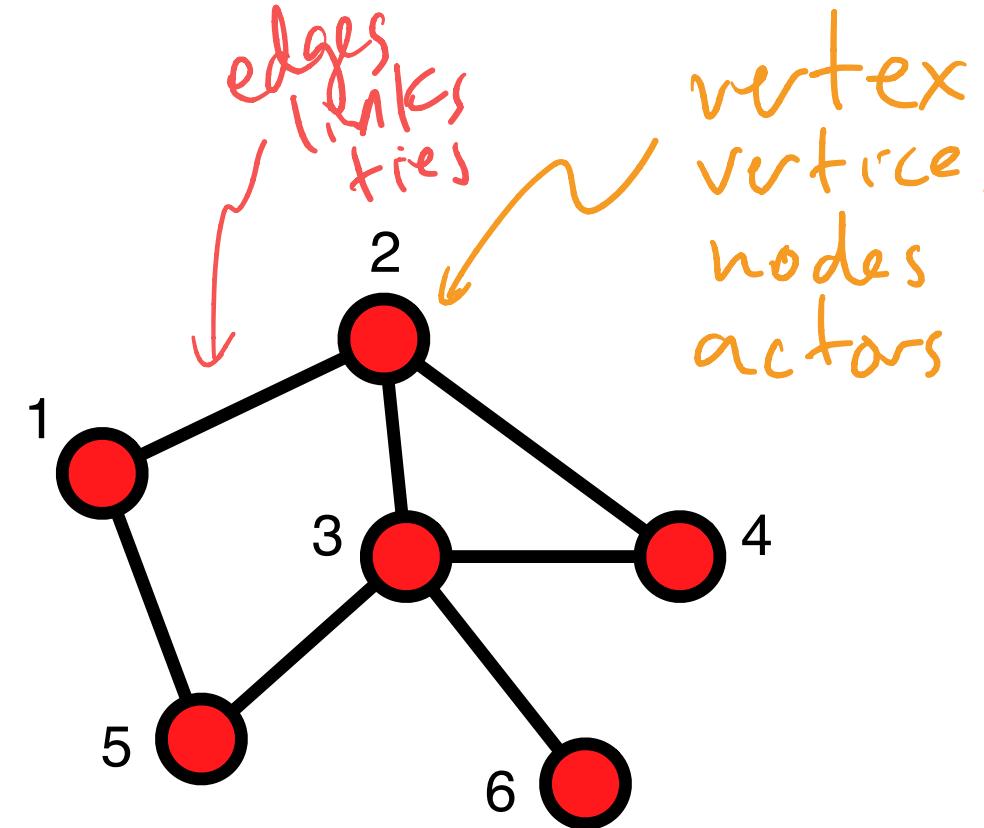
not complex



# representing networks

email  
↓      ↓  
slack? piazza?  
a      b

# a simple network



simple

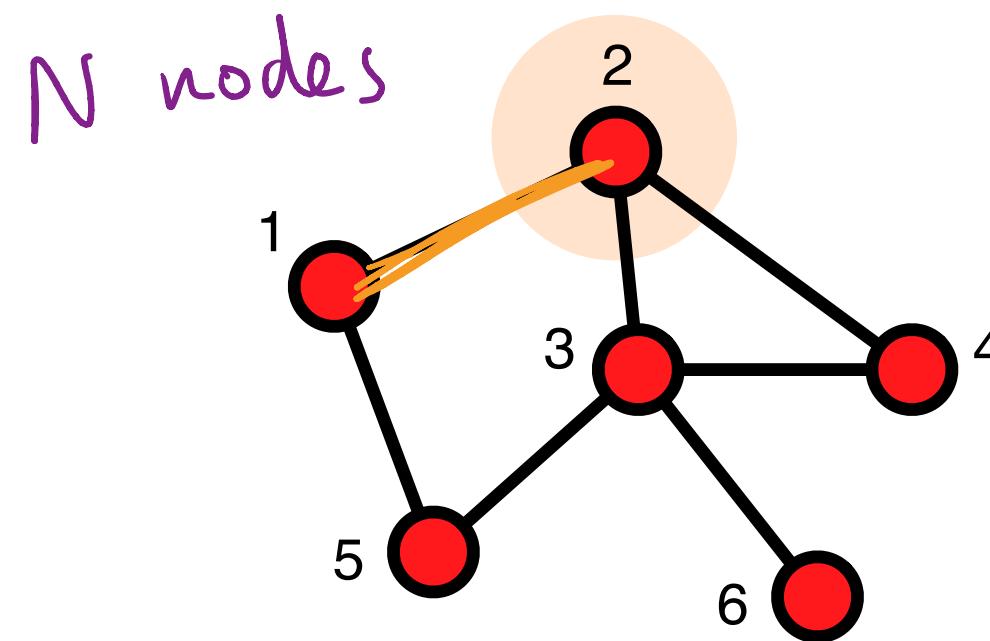
undirected  
unweighted  
no self-loops

e.g. Facebook.  
edge = presence/absence  
no self loops = no self connections

① Slack!  
(email)

② HW#1 posted.  
Due Friday 9/4.  
3 questions

# a simple network



undirected

unweighted

no self-loops

adjacency matrix

$A$	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	1	0	0	1	0
2	1	0	1	1	0	0
3	0	1	0	1	1	1
4	0	1	1	0	0	0
5	1	0	1	0	0	0
6	0	0	1	0	0	0

adjacency list

$A$
$1 \rightarrow \{2, 5\}$
$2 \rightarrow \{1, 3, 4\}$
$3 \rightarrow \{2, 4, 5, 6\}$
$4 \rightarrow \{2, 3\}$
$5 \rightarrow \{1, 3\}$
$6 \rightarrow \{3\}$

$A_{ij} = 1$  if  
 $i \leftarrow j$

$A_{ij} = 1 = A_{ji}$

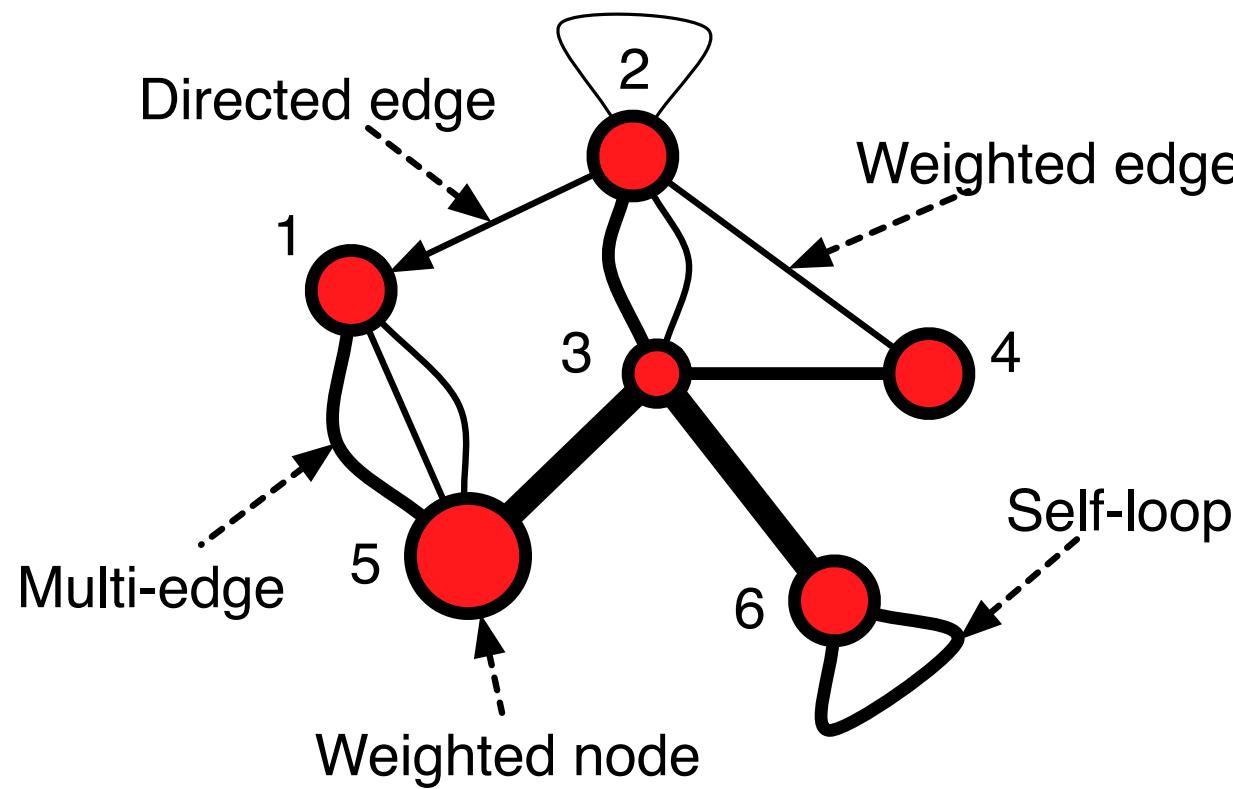
convenient  
zeros!  
space.  
 $N = 10^9$

compact.  
less manipulable.

↑  
nodes

their connections

# a less simple network

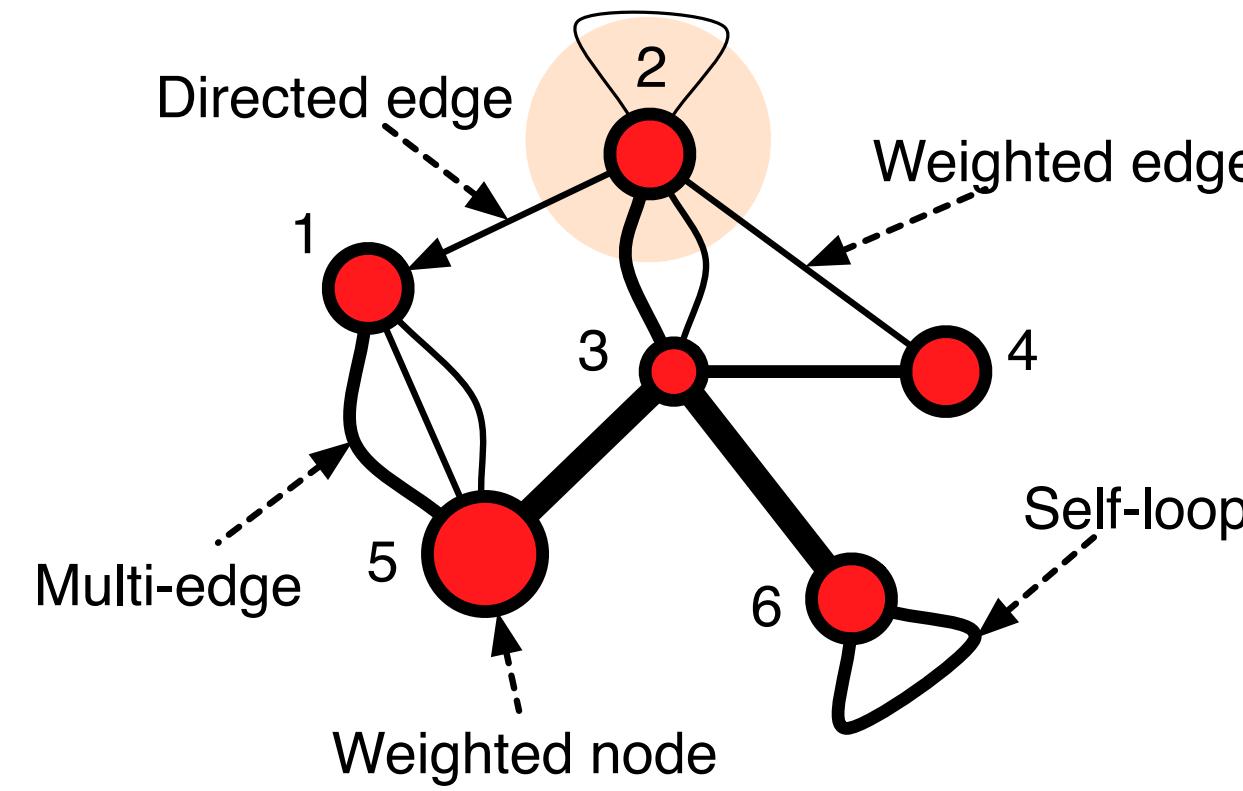


undirected

unweighted

no self-loops

# a less simple network



adjacency matrix

$A$	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	0	0	0	{1, 1, 2}	0
2	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	{2, 1}	1	0	0
3	0	{2, 1}	0	2	4	4
4	0	1	2	0	0	0
5	{1, 1, 2}	0	4	0	0	0
6	0	0	4	0	0	2

most of  
the time

adjacency list

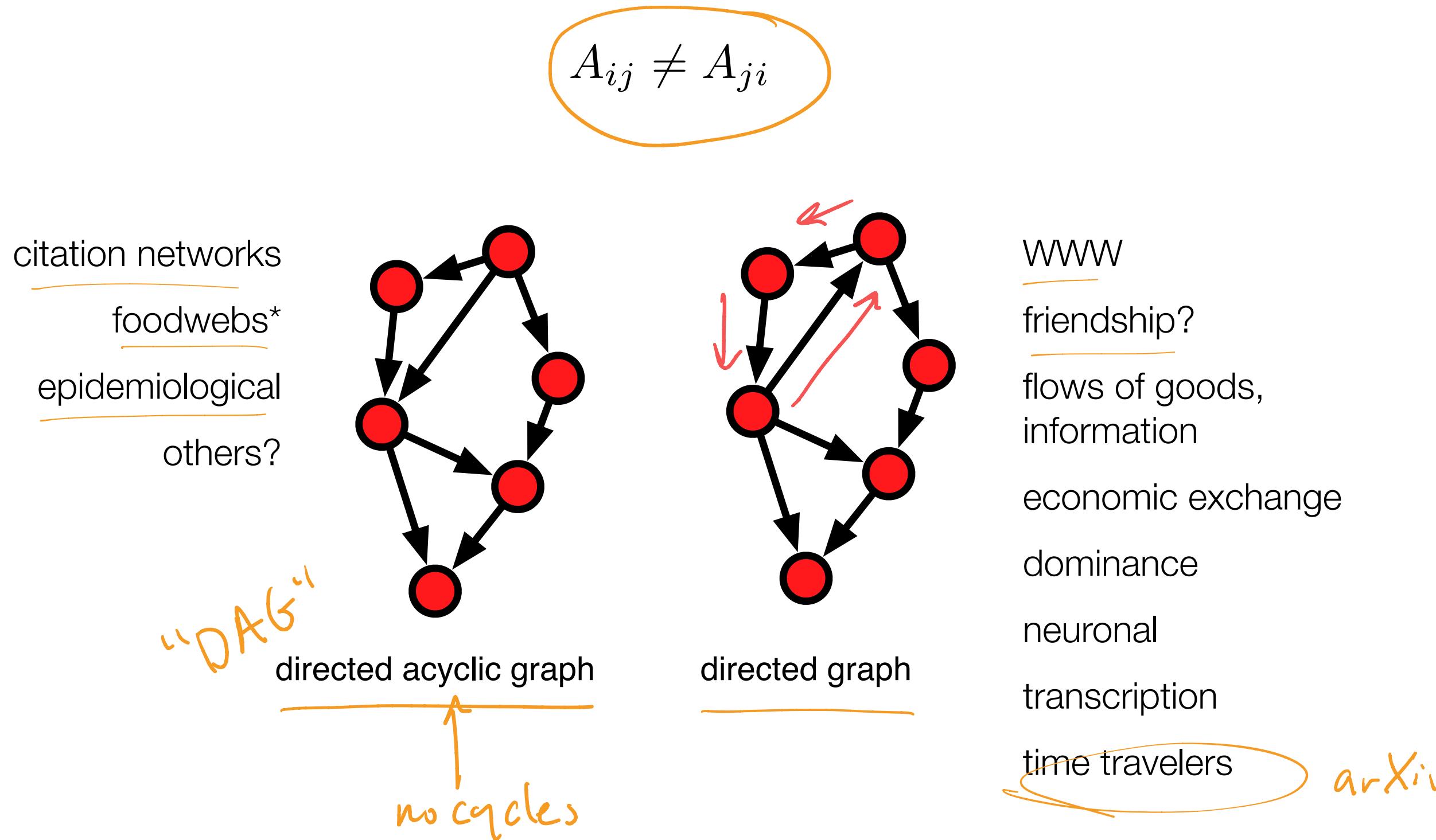
$A$
1 → {(5, 1), (5, 1), (5, 2)}
2 → {(1, 1), (2, $\frac{1}{2}$ ), (3, 2), (3, 1), (4, 1)}
3 → {(2, 2), (2, 1), (4, 2), (5, 4), (6, 4)}
4 → {(2, 1), (3, 2)}
5 → {(1, 1), (1, 1), (1, 2), (3, 4)}
6 → {(3, 4), (6, 2)}

no 100% universal standard.

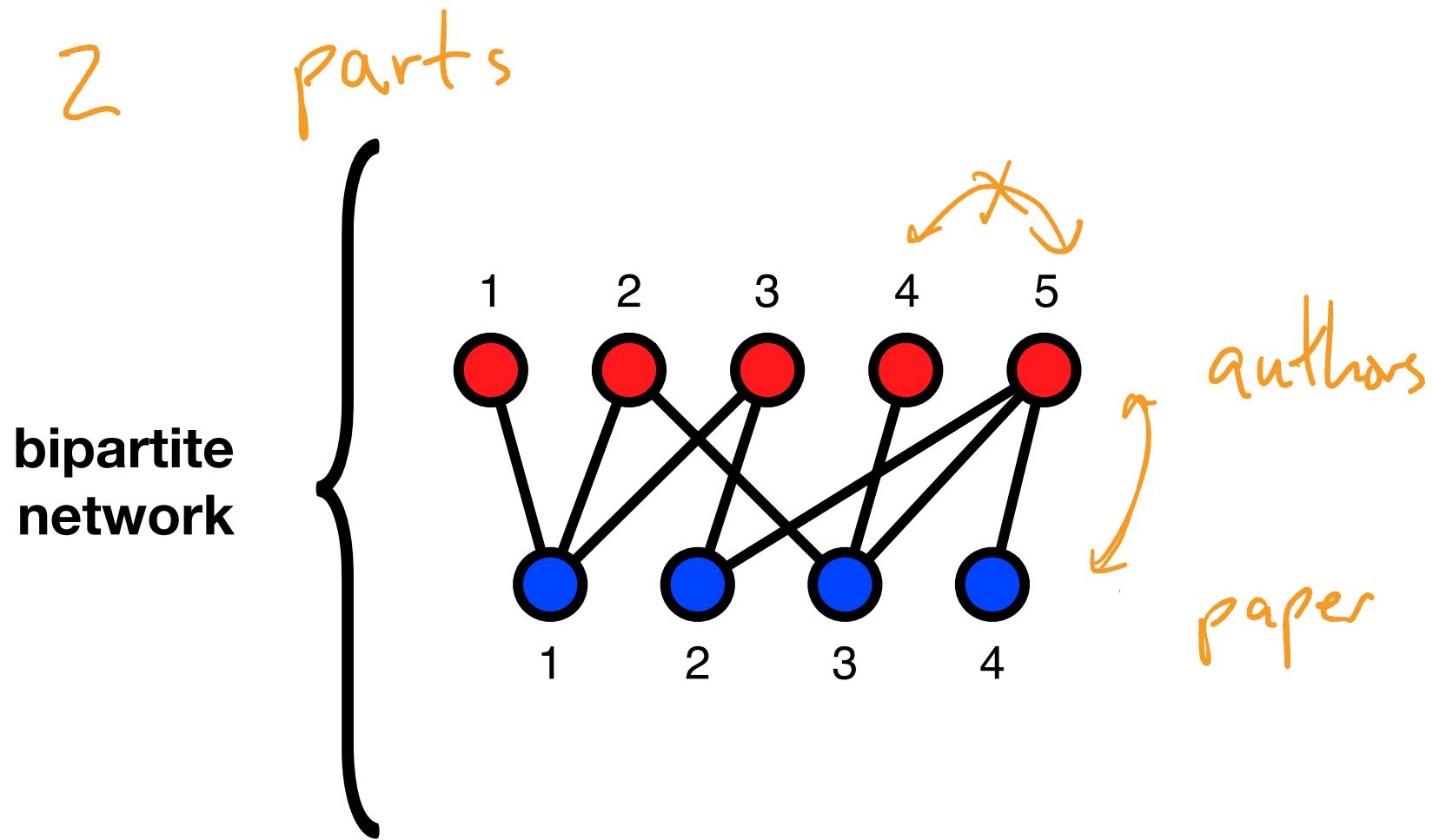
BUT

Adj Mtx + Edge list common.

# directed networks



# bipartite networks



multi-partite networks

- authors & papers
- actors & movies/scenes
- musicians & albums
- people & online groups
- people & corporate boards
- people & locations (checkins)
- metabolites & reactions
- genes & substrings
- words & documents
- plants & pollinators

bi : rule: Connect to other class of node, not your own.

tr : can't connect to your own type...

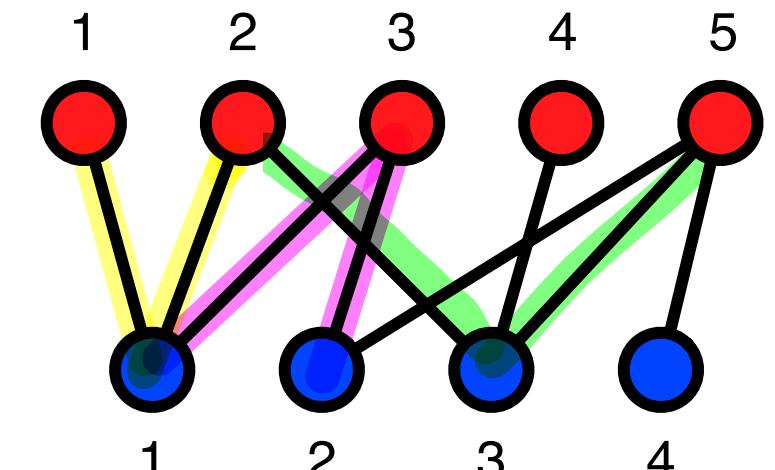
A  $\leftarrow$  B  $\leftarrow$  C



# bipartite networks

two-mode networks.

bipartite network



no within-type edges

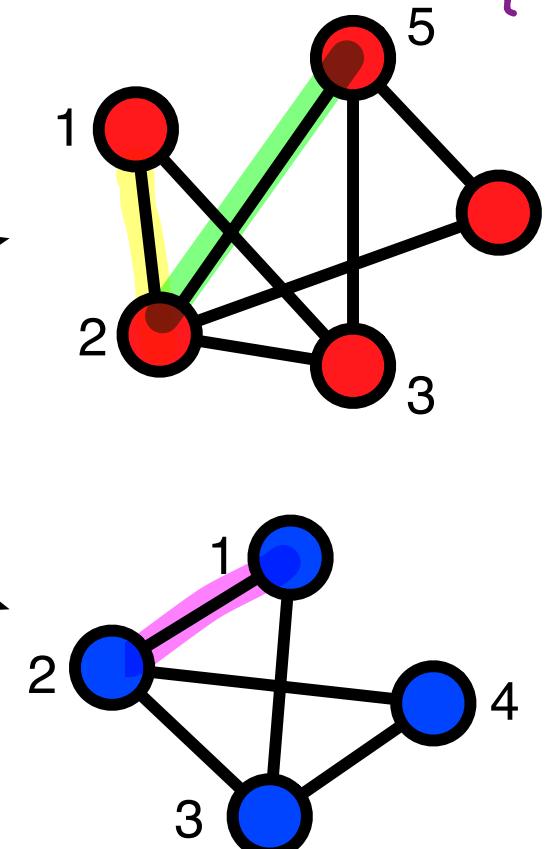
co-starring network.

cast-overlap network

two nodes connected if they share a common neighbor

in  
bip.  
net.

one-mode  
projections



one type only

monestars -> monestars.

movies -> movies

- authors & papers
- actors & movies/scenes
- musicians & albums
- people & online groups
- people & corporate boards
- people & locations (checkins)
- metabolites & reactions
- genes & substrings
- words & documents
- plants & pollinators

# temporal networks

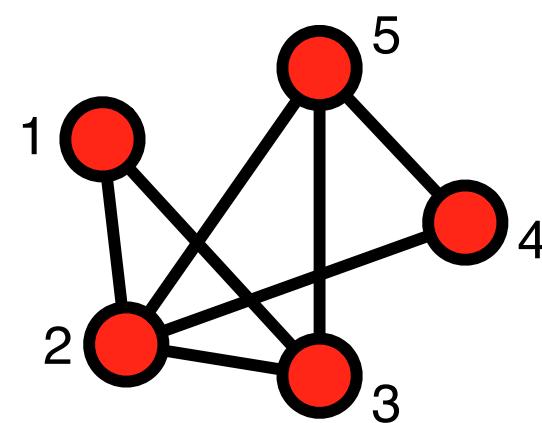
**any network over time**

discrete time (snapshots), edges

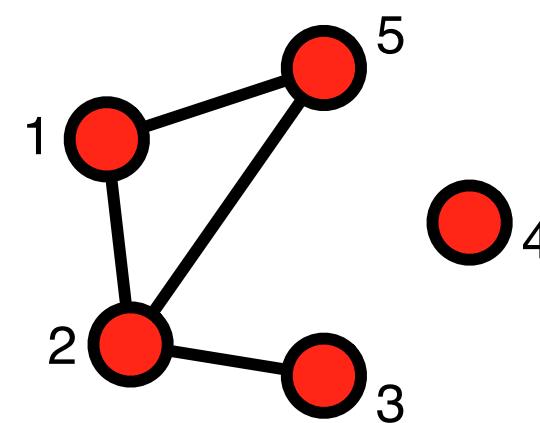
continuous time, edges

$(i, j, t)$   
 $(i, j, t_s, \Delta t)$   
start time duration

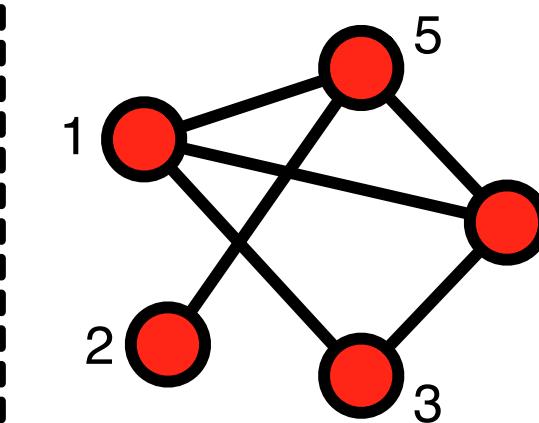
$(i, j)$  typical  
 $(i, j, t)$  time-varying  
time slot edge exists in.



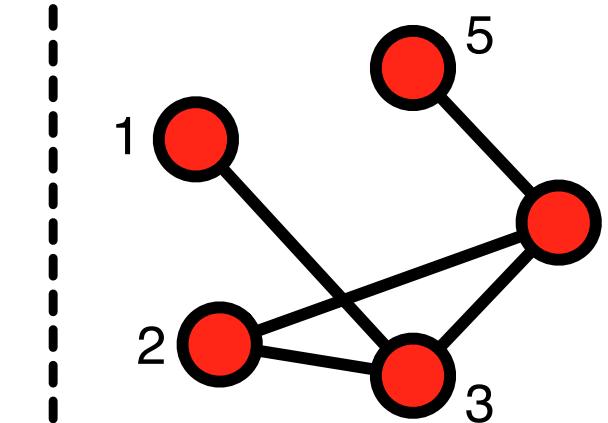
$t$



$t + 1$



$t + 2$



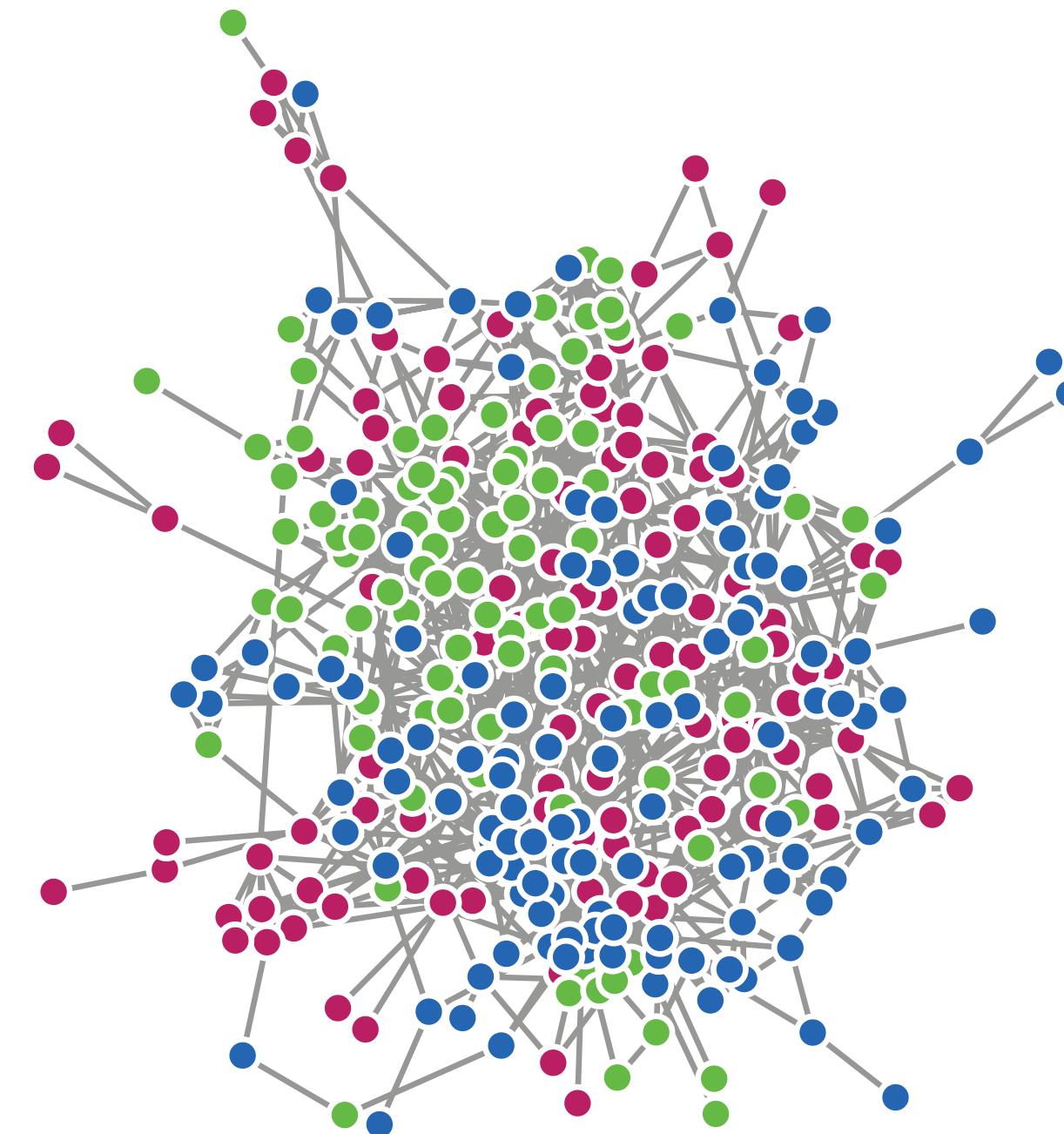
$t + 3$

ex: trophic Maxis network



# describing networks

what networks look like



# describing networks

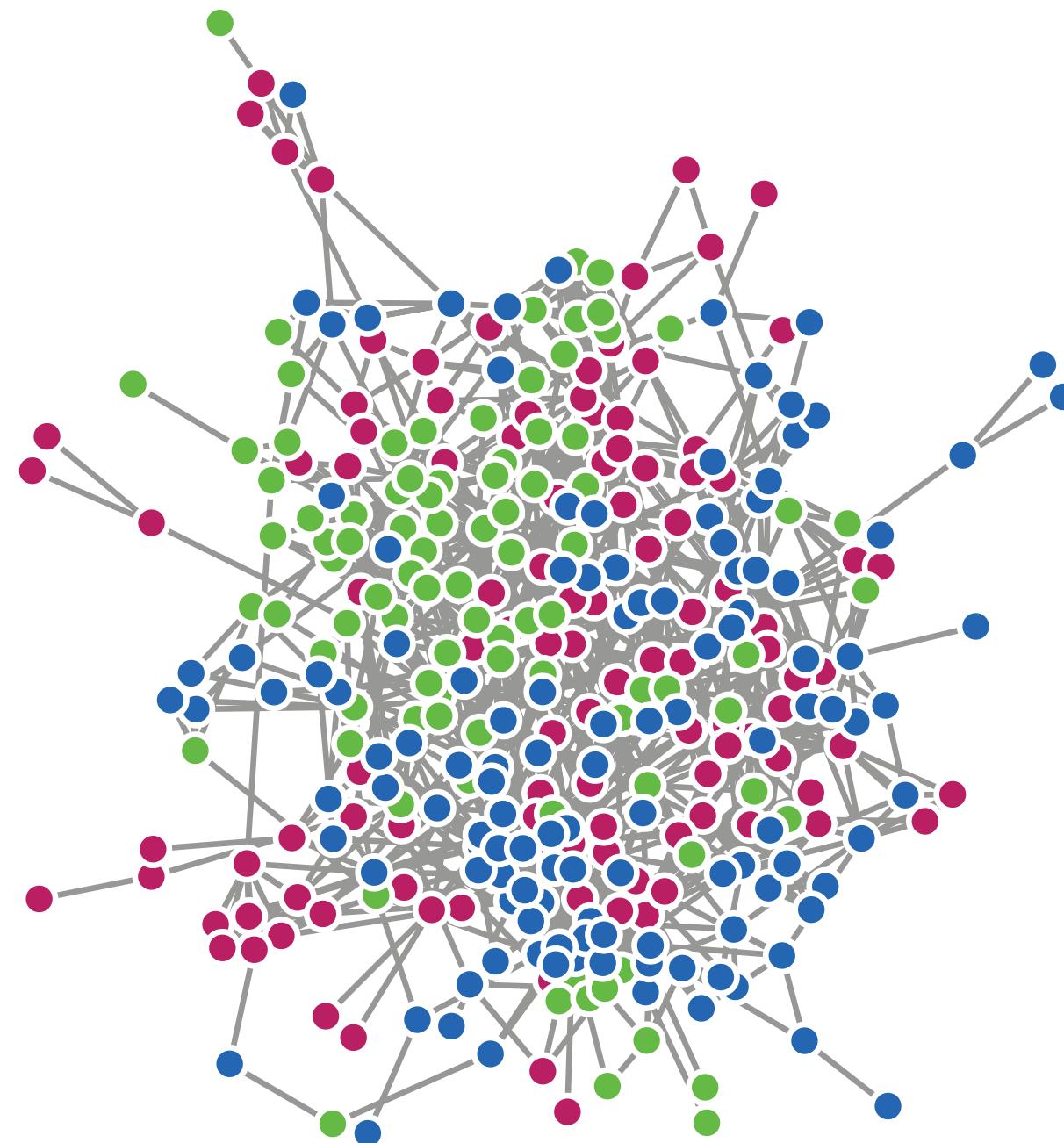
what networks look like

questions:

- how are the edges organized?
- how do vertices differ?
- does network location matter?
- are there underlying patterns?

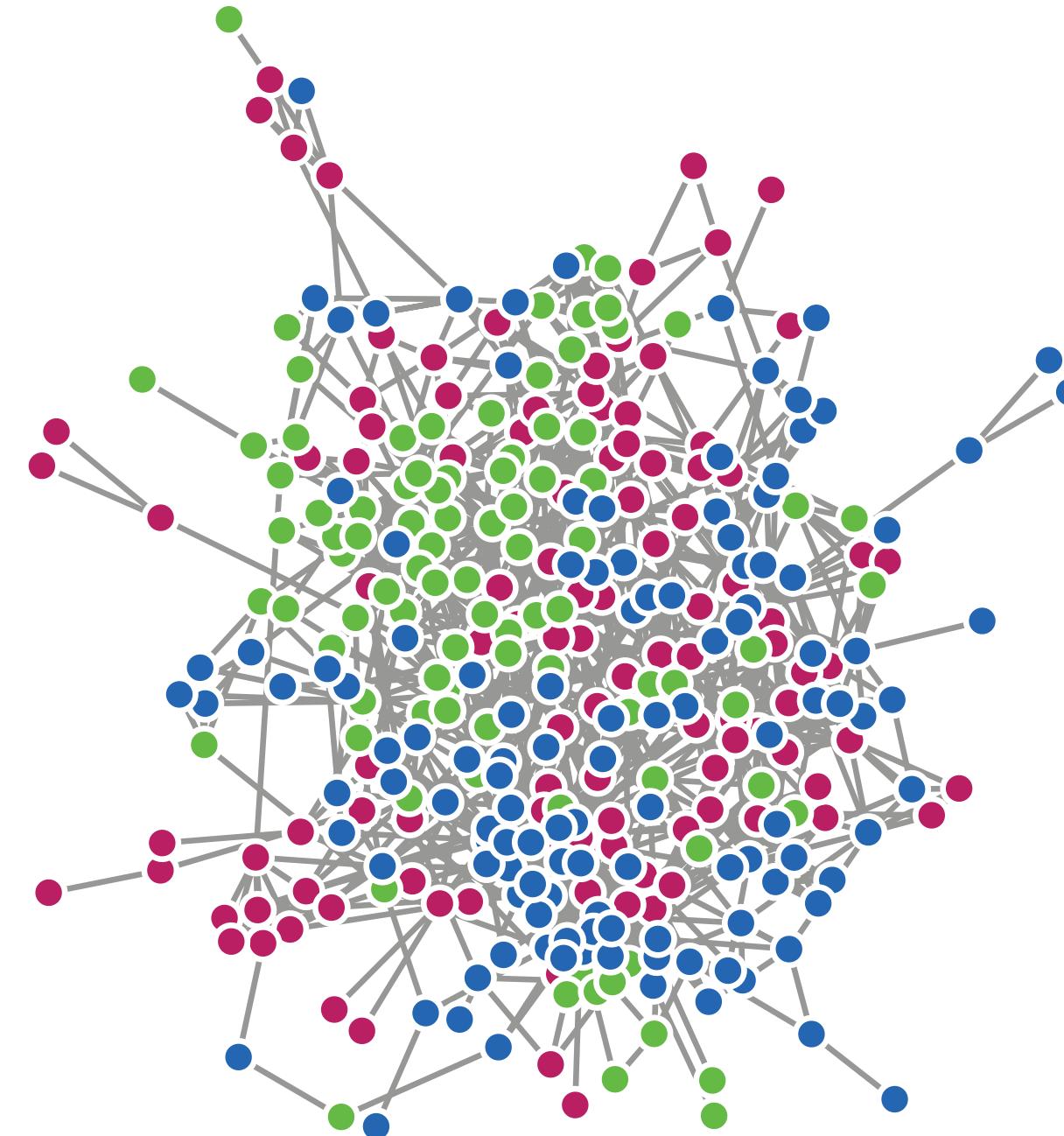
what we want to know

- what processes shape these networks?
- how can we tell?



# describing networks

a first step : **describe its features**

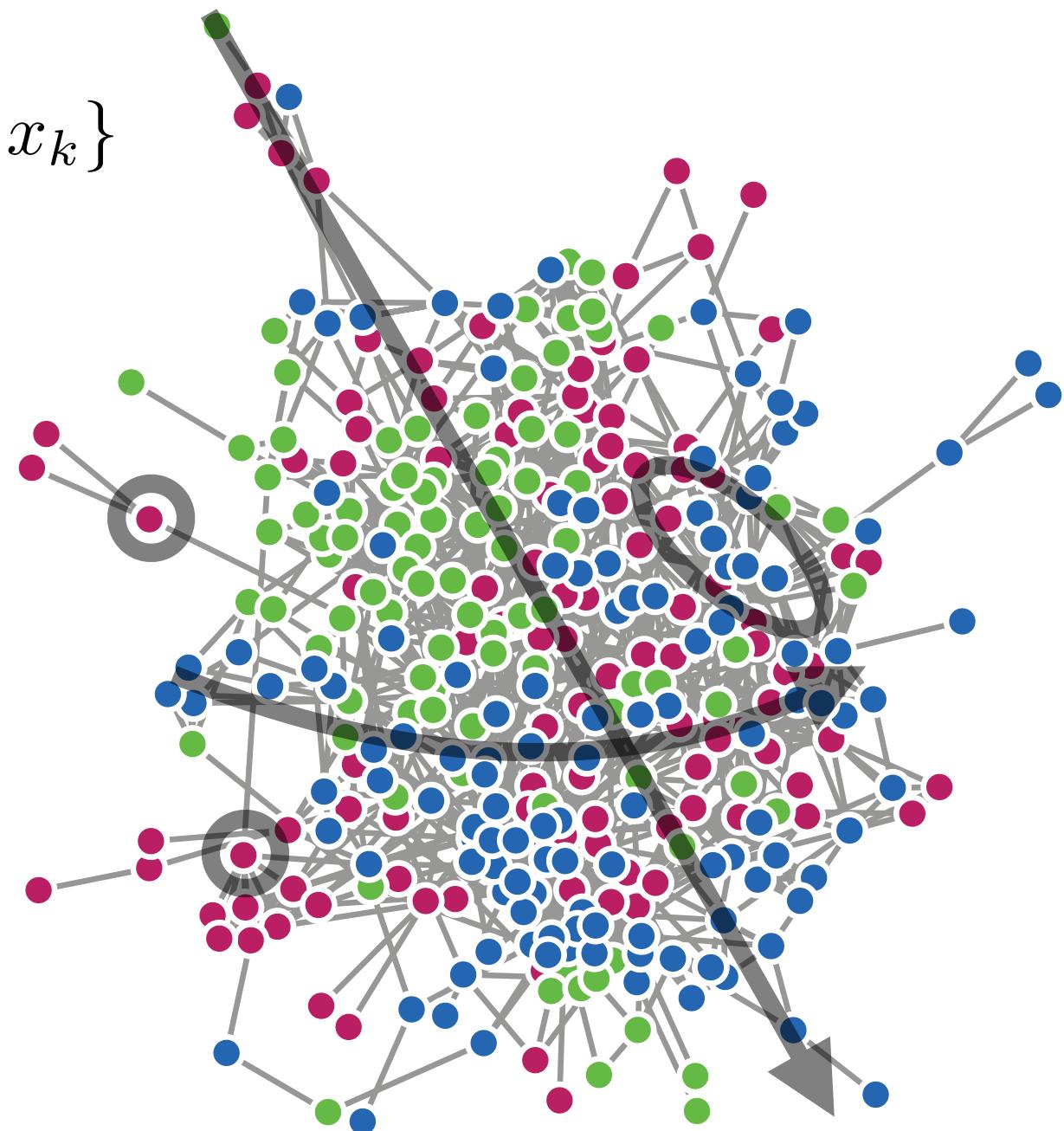


# describing networks

a first step : **describe its features**

$$f : G \rightarrow \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$$

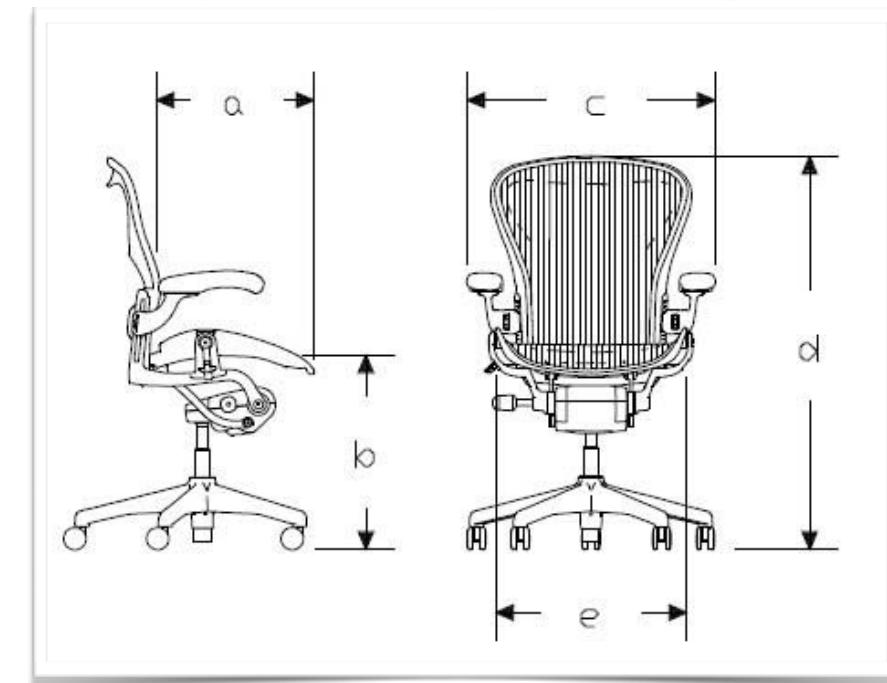
- degree distributions
- short-loop density (triangles, etc.)
- shortest paths (diameter, etc.)
- vertex positions
- correlations between these



# describing networks

a first step : **describe its features**

$$f : \text{object} \rightarrow \{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k\}$$



# describing networks

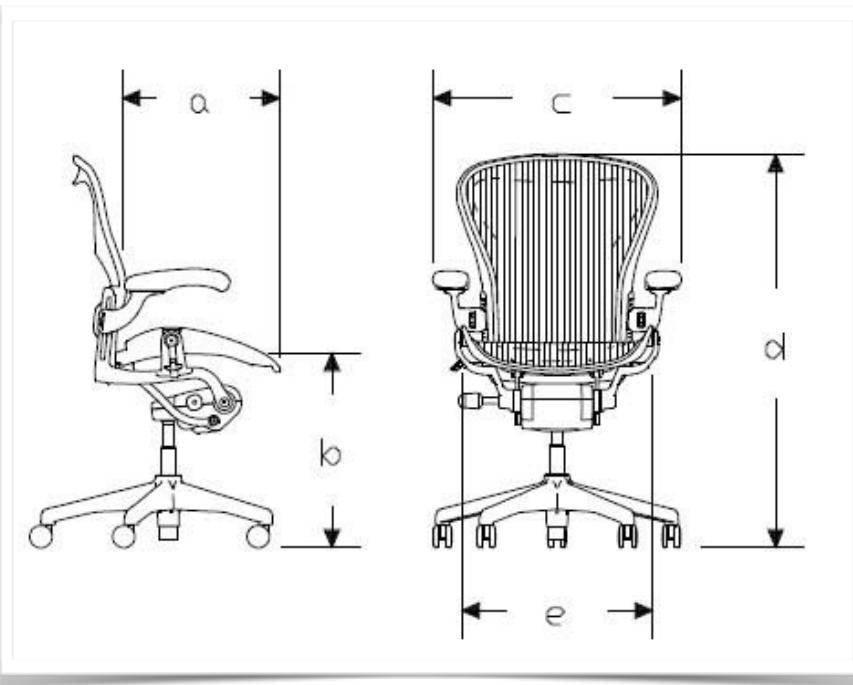
a first step : **describe its features**

$$f : \text{object} \rightarrow \{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k\}$$

- physical dimensions
- material density, composition
- radius of gyration
- correlations between these



helpful for exploration, but not what we want...



# describing networks

what we want : **understand its structure**

$$f : \text{object} \rightarrow \{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k\}$$

- what are the fundamental parts?
- how are these parts organized?
- where are the degrees of freedom  $\vec{\theta}$  ?
- how can we define an abstract class?
- structure — dynamics — function?

what does **local-level structure** look like?

what does **large-scale structure** look like?

how does **structure constrain** function?

