

Network Social Science

Network Science Bootcamp 2021
Hong Qu

10 Red Balloons places across the U.S.



DARPA Network Challenge

\$40,000 challenge award would be granted to the first team to submit the locations of 10 moored, 8-foot, red weather balloons at 10 previously undisclosed fixed locations in the continental United States. The balloons were to be placed in readily accessible locations visible from nearby roads.

[MIT Harnesses Online Crowds to Beat Darpa Balloon Challenge in Just 9 Hours](#)

Scale

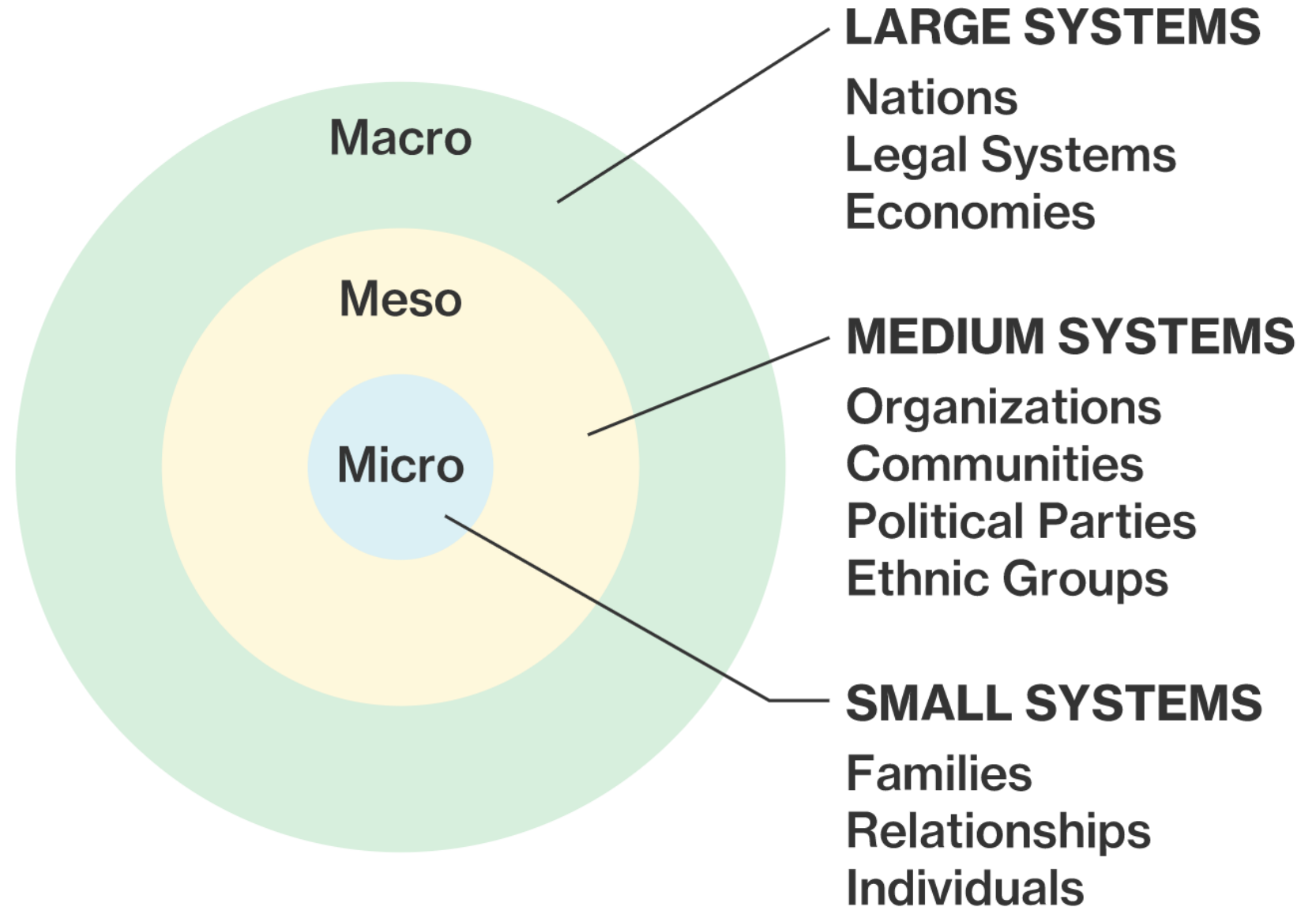
Ego network

Micro

Meso

Macro

Planetary



Networks Exhibit Complexity and Emergence

Models and their Properties

Network	N	L	$\langle k \rangle$	$\langle k_{in}^2 \rangle$	$\langle k_{out}^2 \rangle$	$\langle k^2 \rangle$	Y_{in}	Y_{out}	Y
Internet	192,244	609,066	6.34	-	-	240.1	-	-	3.42*
WWW	325,729	1,497,134	4.60	1546.0	482.4	-	2.00	2.31	-
Power Grid	4,941	6,594	2.67	-	-	10.3	-	-	Exp.
Mobile-Phone Calls	36,595	91,826	2.51	12.0	11.7	-	4.69*	5.01*	-
Email	57,194	103,731	1.81	94.7	1163.9	-	3.43*	2.03*	-
Science Collaboration	23,133	93,437	8.08	-	-	178.2	-	-	3.35*
Actor Network	702,388	29,397,908	83.71	-	-	47,353.7	-	-	2.12*
Citation Network	449,673	4,689,479	10.43	971.5	198.8	-	3.03*	4.00*	-
E. Coli Metabolism	1,039	5,802	5.58	535.7	396.7	-	2.43*	2.90*	-
Protein Interactions	2,018	2,930	2.90	-	-	32.3	-	-	2.89*-

Small World

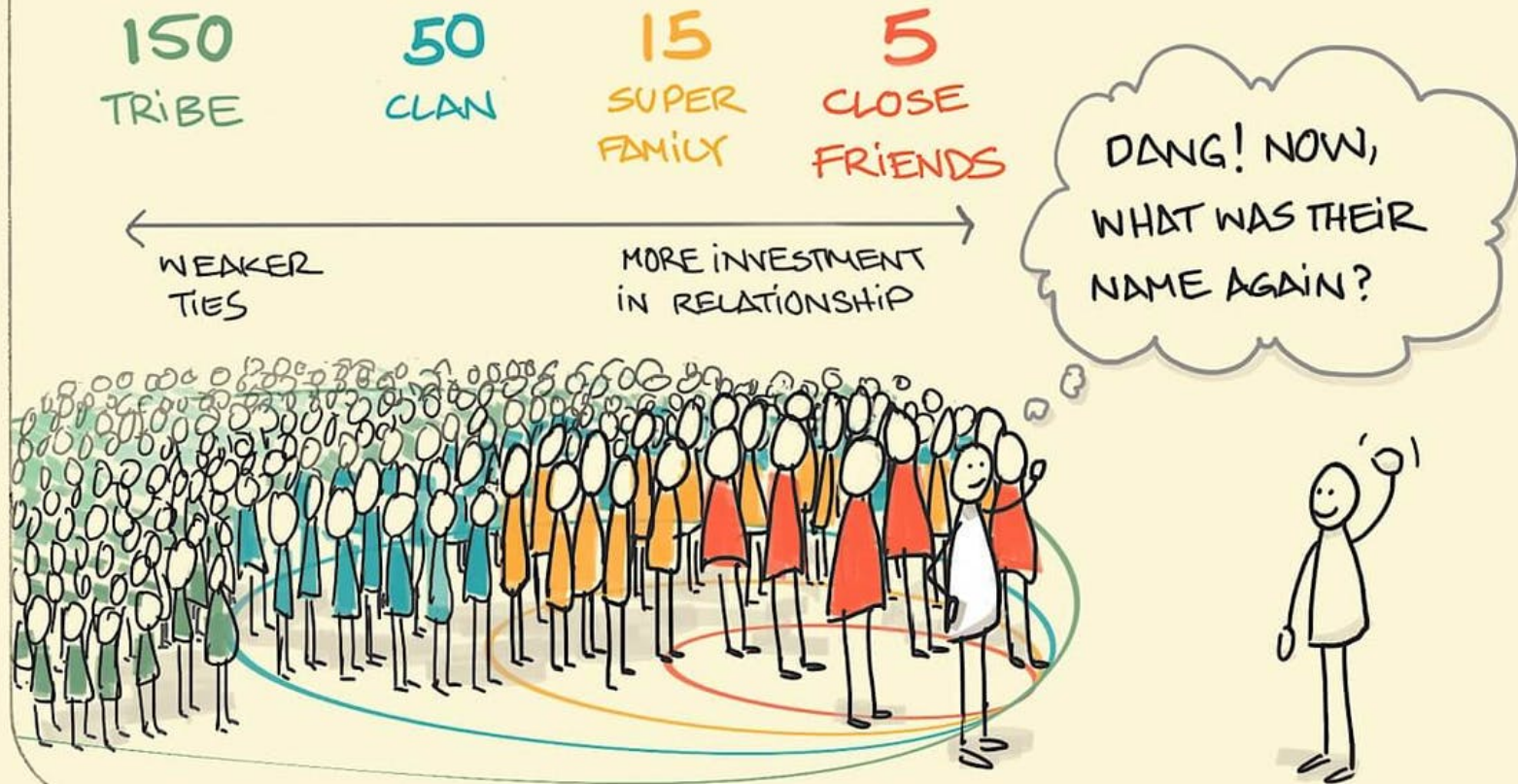
6-degrees of separation

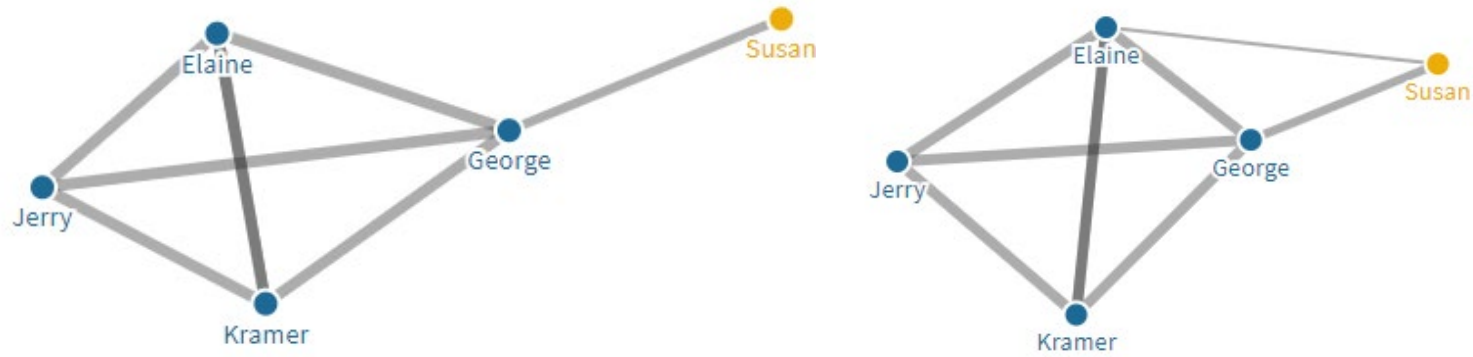
Clustering

Watts-Strogatz model

DUNBAR'S NUMBER : 150

TYPICAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE WE CAN KEEP TRACK OF AND
CONSIDER PART OF OUR ONGOING SOCIAL NETWORK





Clustering as explained in Seinfeld

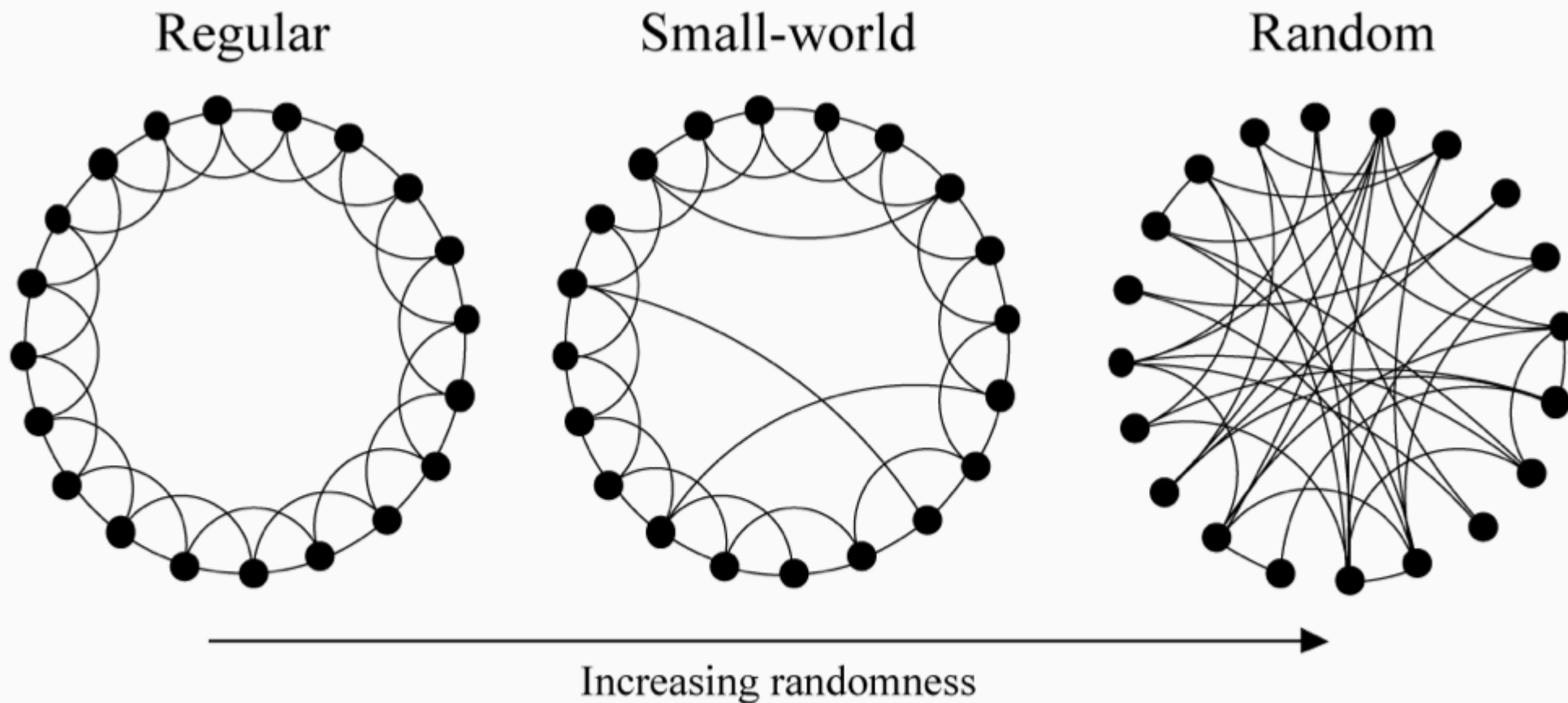
- George has different circles of friends
- Elaine wants to become friends with George's girlfriend Susan
 - killing "independent George"

Unit Name	Alternative Names	Components	Commander's Rank
Fireteam		4 Soldiers	Staff Sgt
Squad	Section (Cavalry)	4-10 Soldiers	Sgt or Staff Sgt
Platoon		16-40 Soldiers in 2 or more Squads	Lieutenant
Company	Troop (Cavalry), Battery (Artillery)	100-200 Soldiers in 3-5 Platoons	Captain
Battalion	Squadron (Cavalry)	4-6 Companies	Lt. Colonel
Brigade	Group (Logistics or Special Forces)	2-5 Battalions	Colonel
Division		3 or more Brigades	Major General
Corps		2 or more Divisions	Lt. General
Field Army		2 or more Corps	General (or Lt. General)
Army Group		2 or more Field Armies	General

Watts-Strogatz model

Interpolating between a randomized structure close to ER graphs and a regular ring [lattice](#).

Watts-Strogatz model



✍ Liao, Vasilakos & He (2017)

Randomness	Type of Graph	Clustering	Path Length
$p = 0$	Regular	Highly clustered: $\tilde{C} \approx \frac{3}{4}$	High diameter (Long paths): $L \approx \frac{n}{2k}$
$p = 1$	Random (~Erdos-Renyi)	Low clustering: $\tilde{C} \approx \frac{\bar{k}}{n}$	Low diameter (Short path lengths): $L \approx \log_{\bar{k}}(n)$

Community Detection

Karate Club

"The network captures 34 members of a karate club, documenting links between pairs of members who interacted outside the club. During the study a conflict arose between the administrator "John A" and instructor "Mr. Hi" (pseudonyms), which led to the split of the club into two. Half of the members formed a new club around Mr. Hi; members from the other part found a new instructor or gave up karate."

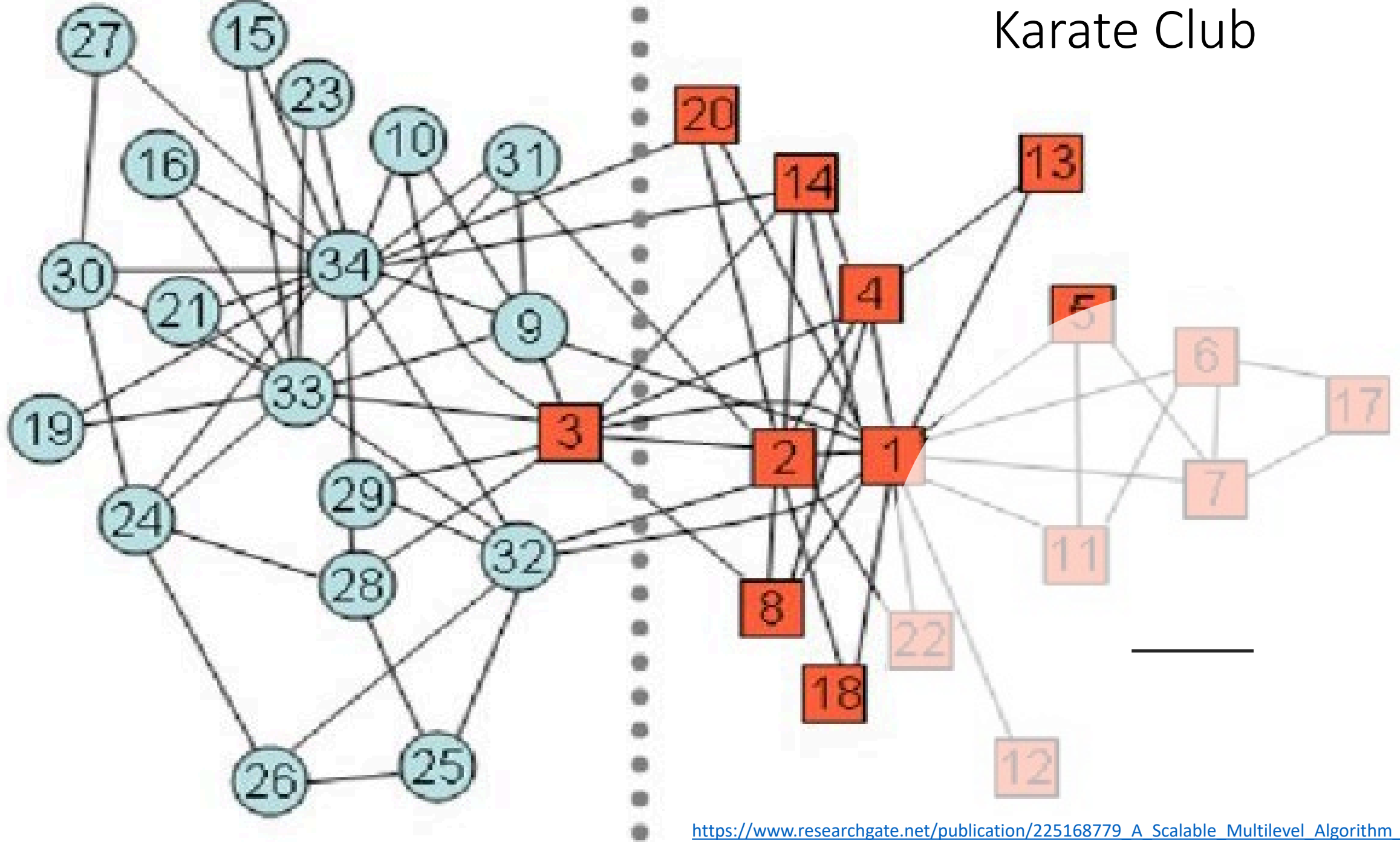
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zachary%27s_karate_club

https://networkx.org/documentation/stable/auto_examples/graph/plot_karate_club.html

RESULTS OF INITIAL *NETFLOW* RUN

INDIVIDUAL NUMBER	SIDE OF CUT	FACTION	CLUB AFTER FISSION
1	Source	Mr. Hi - Strong	Mr. Hi's
2	Source	Mr. Hi - Strong	Mr. Hi's
3	Source	Mr. Hi - Strong	Mr. Hi's
4	Source	Mr. Hi - Strong	Mr. Hi's
5	Source	Mr. Hi - Strong	Mr. Hi's
6	Source	Mr. Hi - Strong	Mr. Hi's
7	Source	Mr. Hi - Strong	Mr. Hi 's
8	Source	Mr. Hi - Strong	Mr. Hi's
9	Sink	John - Weak	Mr. Hi's
10	Sink	None	Officers'
11	Source	Mr. Hi - Strong	Mr. Hi's
12	Source	Mr. Hi - Strong	Mr. Hi's
13	Source	Mr. Hi - Weak	Mr. Hi's
14	Source	Mr. Hi - Weak	Mr. Hi's
15	Sink	John - Strong	Officers'
16	Sink	John - Weak	Officers'
17	Source	None	Mr. Hi's
18	Source	Mr. Hi - Weak	Mr. Hi's
19	Sink	None	Officers'
20	Source	Mr. Hi - Weak	Mr. Hi's
21	Sink	John - Strong	Officers'
22	Source	Mr. Hi - Weak	Mr. Hi's
23	Sink	John - Strong	Officers'
24	Sink	John - Weak	Officers'
25	Sink	John - Weak	Officers'
26	Sink	John - Strong	Officers'
27	Sink	John - Strong	Officers'
28	Sink	John - Strong	Officers'
29	Sink	John - Strong	Officers'
30	Sink	John - Strong	Officers'
31	Sink	John - Strong	Officers'
32	Sink	John - Strong	Officers'
33	Sink	John - Strong	Officers'
34	Sink	John - Strong	Officers'

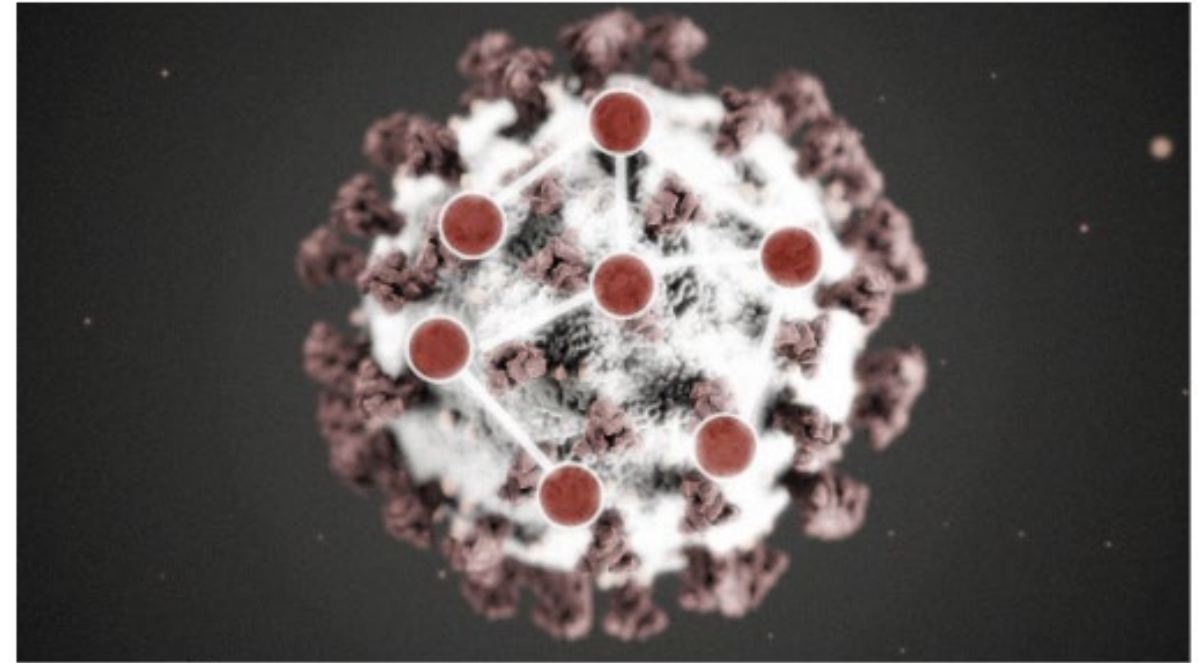
Karate Club



Pinterest

“Thus, we can think of Pinterest as a giant human curated bipartite graph of 7 billion pins and boards, and over 100 billion edges ¹. We use this bipartite graph of pins and boards to generate recommendations.”

Misinformation



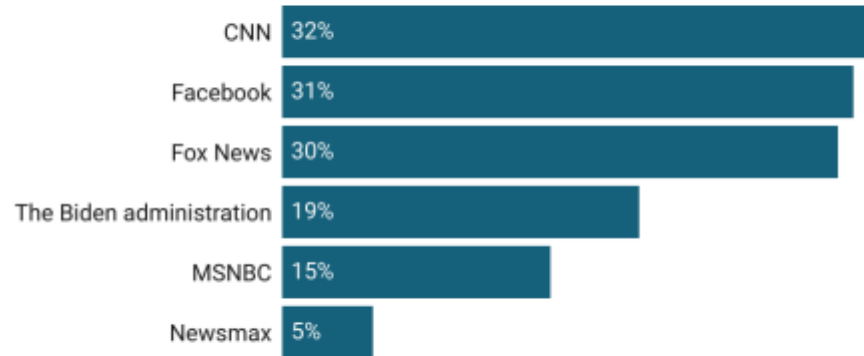
www.covidstates.org

THE COVID STATES PROJECT:
A 50-STATE COVID-19 SURVEY
REPORT #57: SOCIAL MEDIA NEWS CONSUMPTION
AND COVID-19 VACCINATION RATES

Social Media News Consumption and Vaccination Rates

Consumption of news about COVID-19

In the last 24 hours, did you get any news or information about COVID-19 from the following sources?



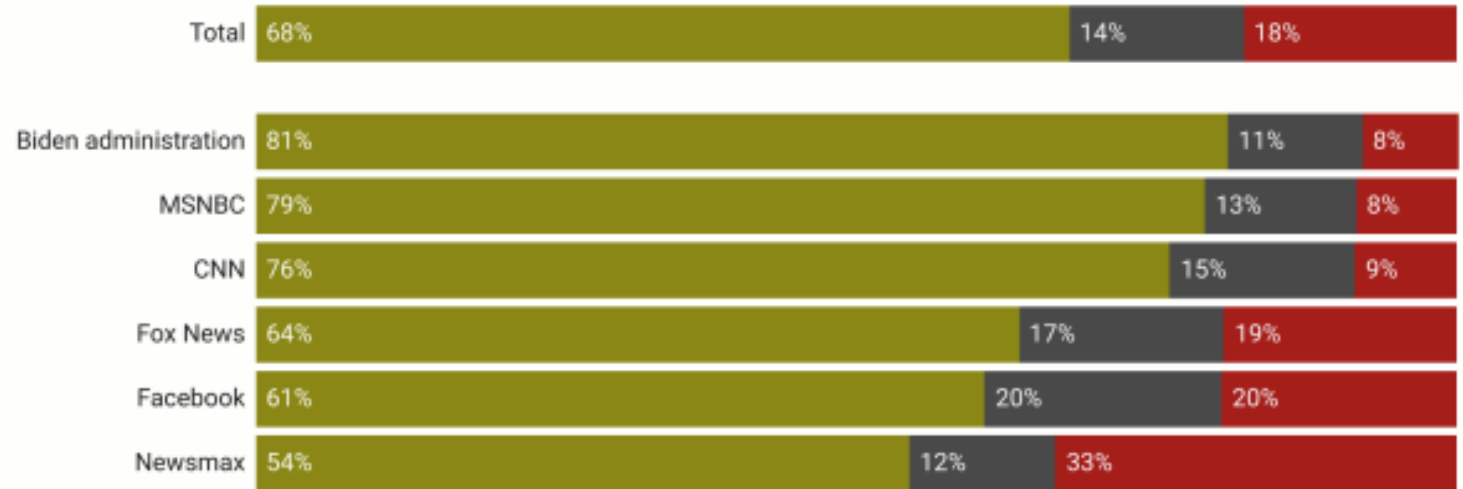
National sample, N = 20,669, Time period: 06/09/2021-07/07/2021

Source: The COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States (A joint project of: Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University, and Northwestern University) www.covidstates.org • Created with Datawrapper

COVID-19 vaccinations among news media consumers

[Percent among respondents who say they got COVID-related news from each source in the past 24 hours]

■ Vaccinated ■ Might get vaccinated ■ Would not get vaccinated



National sample, N = 20,669, Time period: 06/09/2021-07/07/2021

Source: The COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States (A joint project of: Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University, and Northwestern University) www.covidstates.org • Created with Datawrapper

Why no one really knows how bad Facebook's vaccine misinformation problem is

The Covid States Project [put out a report in late July](#) showing that Facebook news consumers were less likely to get vaccinated than Fox News viewers. Facebook promptly attacked the study's methodology. A company [spokesperson told Gizmodo](#) that the results were “sensationalized” and “overstated,” in part because they relied on self-reported survey data over a short time window. Instead, Facebook argued, researchers should have used better data, like people's actual reliance on the social network for news over self-reported survey data — data that only Facebook can access.

<https://www.vox.com/22622070/facebook-data-covid-19-vaccine-misinformation-researchers-access-nyu-academics>

<https://www.axios.com/vaccine-hesitancy-misinformation-cba20e80-6871-4ddb-9405-feaa21be77d3.html>

Computational Thinking for Social Sc...

1 Hello World

- 1.1 Part I Fundamentals
- 1.2 Part II Applications
- 1.3 Special thanks
- 1.4 Suggestions, questions, or co...
- 1.5 License

2 Computational thinking

- 2.1 Why computational thinking
- 2.2 Computational way of thinking...
- 2.3 Computational way of thinking...
- 2.4 References

3 Managing data and code

- 3.1 Using Bash (command-line int...
- 3.2 Git and GitHub
- 3.3 Getting started in R
- 3.4 Project-oriented research
- 3.5 Writing code: How to code lik...
- 3.6 Run tests

Computational Thinking for Social Scientists

Jae Yeon Kim

2021-04-19

Chapter 1 Hello World

```
print("Hello, World!")
```

```
## [1] "Hello, World!"
```

Make simple things simple, and complex things possible. - [Alan Kay](#)

This is the website for *Computational Thinking for Social Scientists*. This book intends to help social scientists think computationally and develop proficiency with computational tools and techniques to research computational social science. Mastering these tools and techniques