



# Centrality Measures

*Network Science '21: Session 3*

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## Lecture Objectives

1. From a structural point of view, what makes nodes important?
2. The multiple notions of centrality
3. How to rank important nodes?



# Outlook

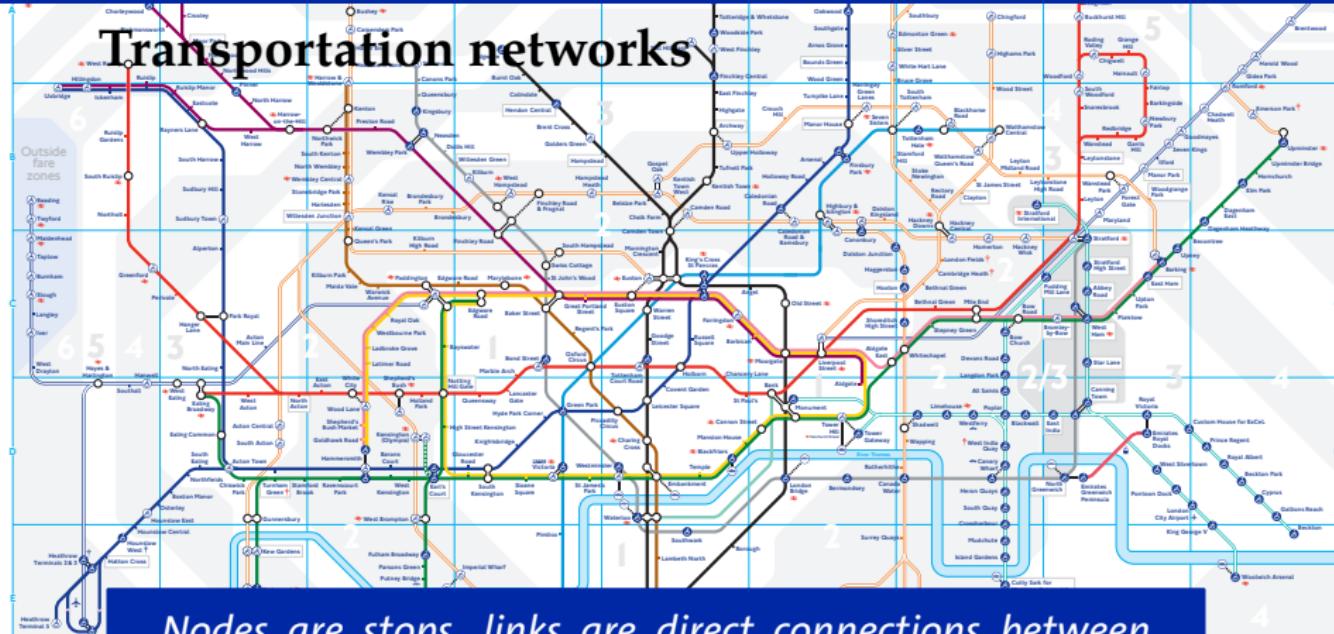


# Outlook

- 1 Outlook
- 2 Centrality
  - Degree centrality
  - Closeness centrality
  - Betweenness centrality
  - Eigenvector centrality
- 3 Directed networks
- 4 The bow tie structure
  - First approach: HITS algorithm
- 5 PageRank
- 6 Nestedness



# Transportation networks



Nodes are stops, links are direct connections between them

Which are the most important nodes?



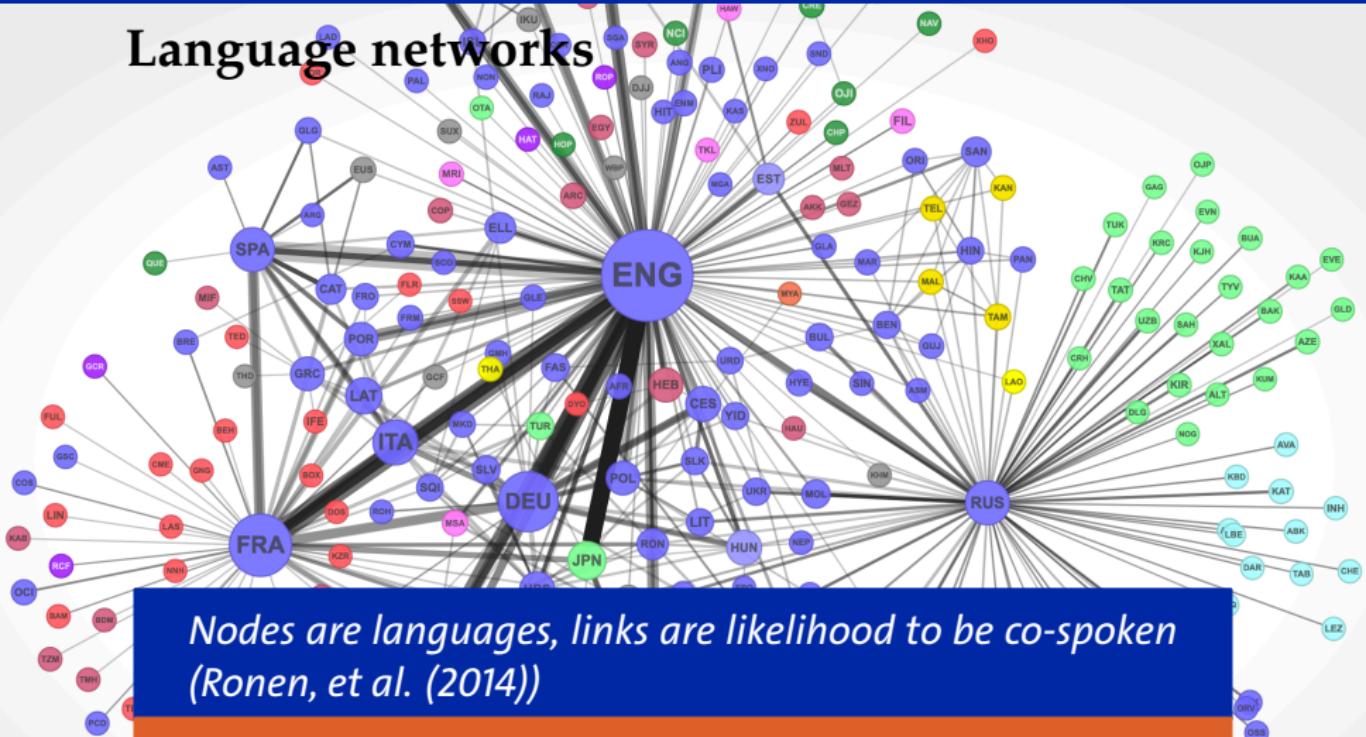
*What does most important  
mean?*



## Do we mean...

- + Most connected
- + Closest to others
- + Can perform meaningful commutes
- + ...

## Language networks



*Nodes are languages, links are likelihood to be co-spoken  
(Ronen, et al. (2014))*

*Which are the most important nodes?*



*What does most important  
mean?*



## Do we mean...

- + Most popular?
- + Best bridge to other languages?
- + Co-spoken by other important languages?
- + ...



## Foreword on notation

- +  $\mathcal{G}$ : a graph with sets of nodes  $\mathcal{V}$  and edges  $\mathcal{E}$
- +  $\mathbb{A}$ : Adjacency matrix with elements  $a_{i,j}$
- +  $N$ : Number of nodes
- +  $\mathcal{N}_i$ : Is the set of neighbours of  $i$
- +  $|\mathcal{X}|$ : represents the number of elements of  $\mathcal{X}$



*One of the primary uses of  
graph theory in network  
analysis is the identification of  
the “most important” actors in  
the network*

*adapted from Wasserman and Faust (1995)*



# Centrality



## How can we rank node's importance?

*Important actors (elements, nodes) are also located in strategic locations within the network*

- + J. Moreno (1934) already talked about *sociometric stars*
- + Bavelas (1948) was talking about centrality of nodes as an indicator of their prominence



## Degree centrality

### Intuition

The degree centrality is equivalent to say that the importance of a node is given by *how much it is connected to others in the network*

The **degree centrality** of a node is just measured by the number of links it has to others in a network

$$k_i = \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij}$$

*It is a local property. It depends on node and its neighbours*



## Degree centrality

### Intuition

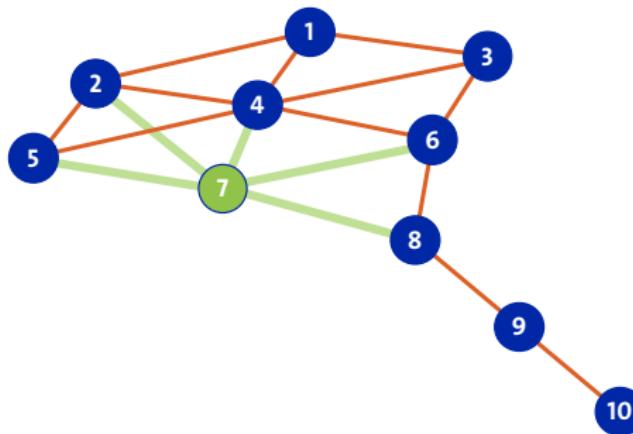
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## Degree centrality example



In this network, node 7 has a degree centrality  $k_7 = 5$



## Degree centrality normalisation

It is customary to normalise the importance of nodes between 0 and 1. This can be achieved in two ways:

- + **Normalise by the maximum observed degree:**

$$CK_i = \frac{k_i}{\max_j(k_j)}$$

- + **Normalise by the maximum possible degree:**

$$CK_i = \frac{k_i}{N - 1}$$



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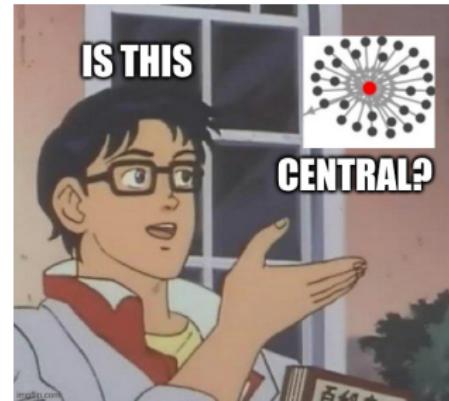
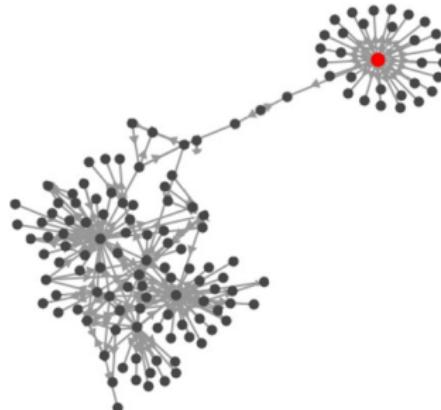
- + **Normalise by the maximum possible degree:**

$$CK_i = \frac{k_i}{N - 1}$$



## Degree centrality: pros and cons

- + **Pro:** a measure of popularity in a social network
- + **Pro:** simple and often correlated with more complex metrics
- + **Con:** does not tell anything about “where” is the node
- + **Con:** does not discriminate “quality” of connections





## Closeness centrality

- + If  $d_{i,j}$  is the distance (i.e. the shortest path length) between nodes  $i$  and  $j$
- + Then,

$$\sum_{j=1}^N d_{i,j}$$

is the sum of all distances from node  $i$  to all other nodes



## Closeness centrality

### Intuition

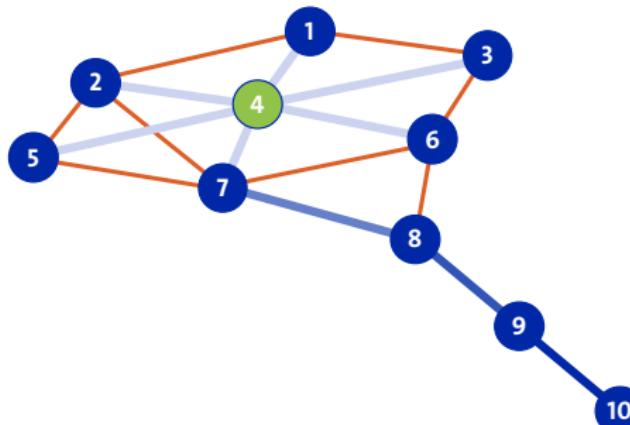
**Closeness centrality** is stating that the importance of a node is given by *how short are the distances from it to all others*

$$CC_i = \frac{N - 1}{\sum_{j=1}^N d_{i,j}}$$

- + It measures how fast the information from one node can reach the whole network

*It is a global property. It depends on the whole network*

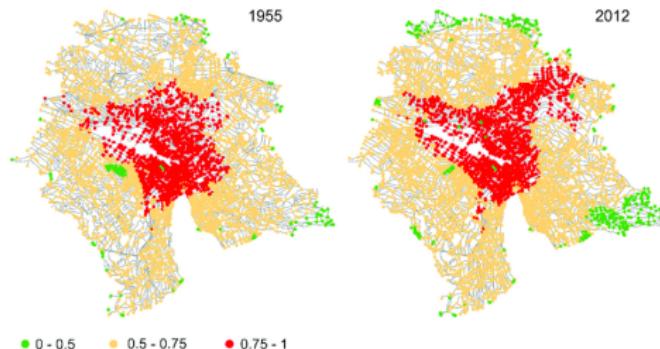
## Closeness centrality example



$$\begin{aligned} CC_4 &= \left( \frac{\sum_j d_{4,j}}{N-1} \right)^{-1} = \left( \frac{1+1+1+1+1+1+2+3+4}{9} \right)^{-1} \\ &= \frac{3}{5} \end{aligned}$$

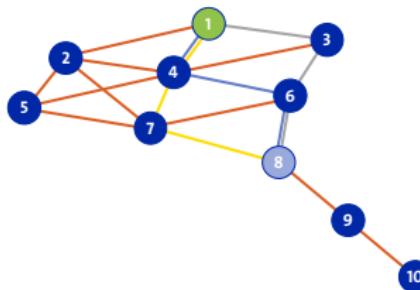
## Closeness centrality: pros and cons

- + **Pro:** identifies top sources of spreading - great for information, diseases, public transport, ...
- + **Pro:** “topologically” meaningful concept of centrality
- + **Con:** requires computing  $(\frac{N}{2})$  distances - very demanding for not small  $N$
- + **Con:** sources are central, not bottlenecks



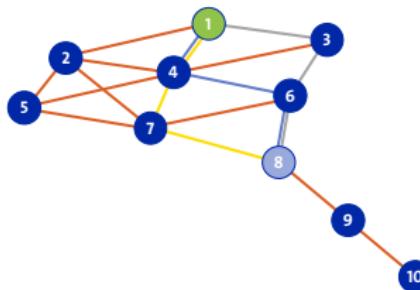
Casali, Y. & Heinimann, H., A topological analysis of growth in the Zurich road network, *Comput Environ Urban Syst*, 2019

## Betweenness centrality: Concepts



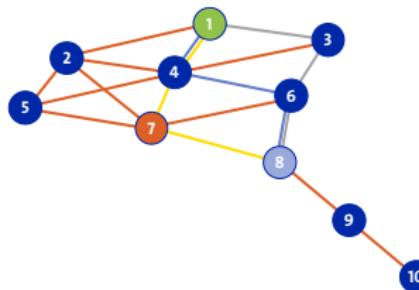
- +  $\mathcal{P}_{j,k}$  is the set of shortest paths between nodes  $j$  and  $k$ ... e.g. from nodes 1 and 8 there are three shortest paths
- +  $\mathcal{P}_{j,k}^i$  is the set of shortest paths between nodes  $j$  and  $k$  that pass through  $i$ ... e.g. from nodes 1 and 8 there is one shortest path that goes through 7
- +  $|\mathcal{P}_{j,k}|$  and  $|\mathcal{P}_{j,k}^i|$  are the number of these shortest paths

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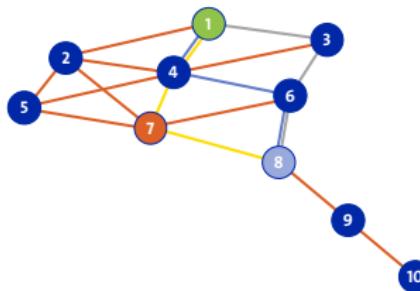
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## Betweenness centrality

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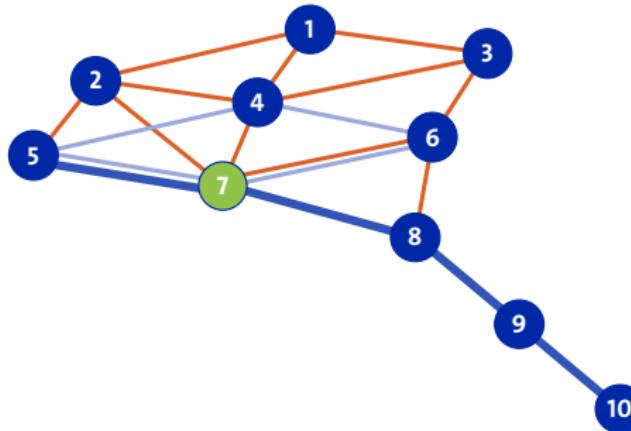
The importance of each node is given by how much they can route / channel information flow within the network

$$CB_i = \sum_{j,k \in \mathcal{V}} \frac{|\mathcal{P}_{j,k}^i|}{|\mathcal{P}_{j,k}|}$$

- + Nodes with high betweenness have a large influence on the flow of information through the network
- + Brokerage role

*It is a global property. It depends on the whole network*

## Betweenness centrality example

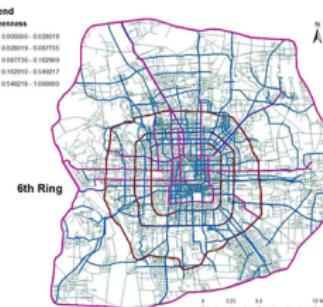
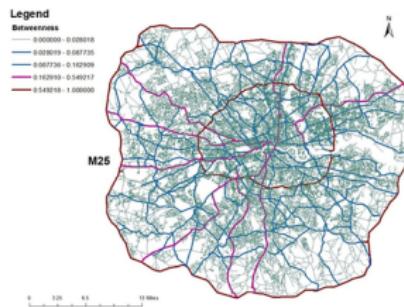


Consider all pairs of nodes;

- + Add 1 for every **unique** shortest path going through 7
- + Add  $\frac{1}{2}$  for every shortest path going through 7, if there is another one not going through 7

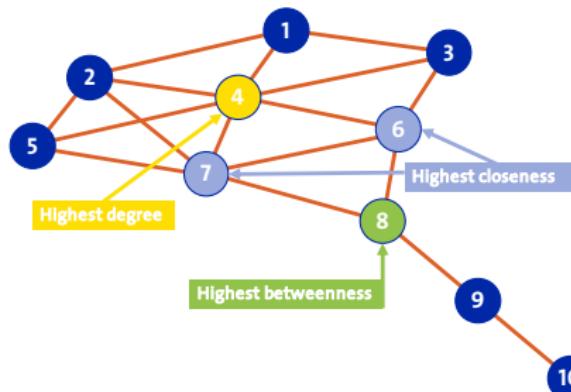
## Betweenness centrality: pros and cons

- + **Pro:** identifies high-throughput nodes - great for vulnerability analysis
- + **Pro:** “topologically” meaningful centrality
- + **Con:** again,  $(N^2)$  shortest paths to compute
- + **Con:** does not identify sources, only bottlenecks



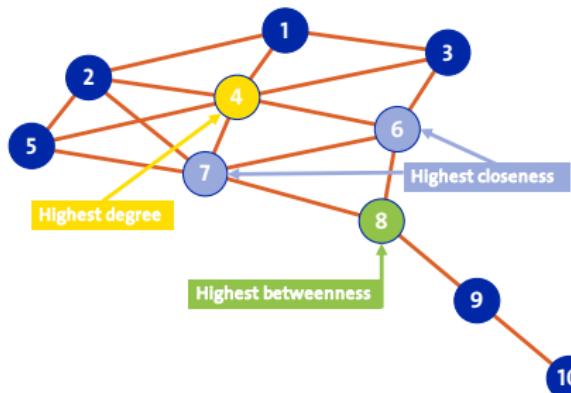
Wang, J., Resilience of  
Self-Organised and Top-Down  
Planned Cities - A Case Study on  
London and Beijing Street  
Networks, *PLoS ONE*, 2015

## Different centrality measures



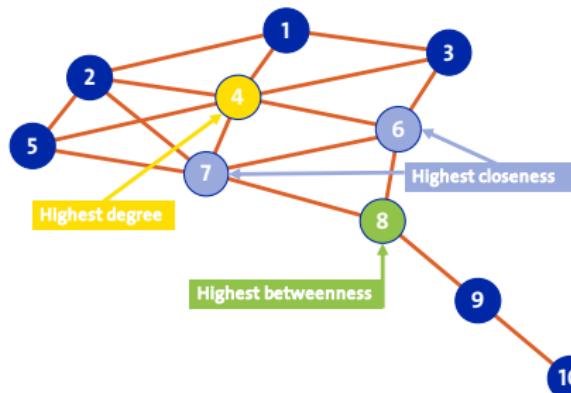
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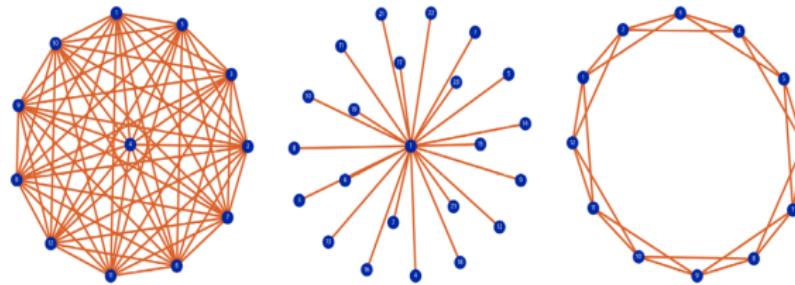


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- + The **closeness centrality** shows how easily a node can **reach all others**
- + The **betweenness centrality** measures **control of information flow**



*Depending on the measure,  
different nodes may be the  
most important ones. The  
ranking order depends on the  
network structure*

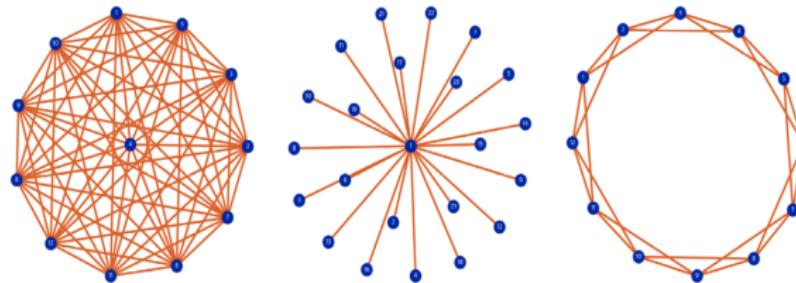
## Centralisation



Which one is the most *centralised*?

- + In the fully connected and regular networks, the nodes are homogeneous: All have the same number of opportunities to select resources from partners
- \* In the star network, one node has full power on all of the others

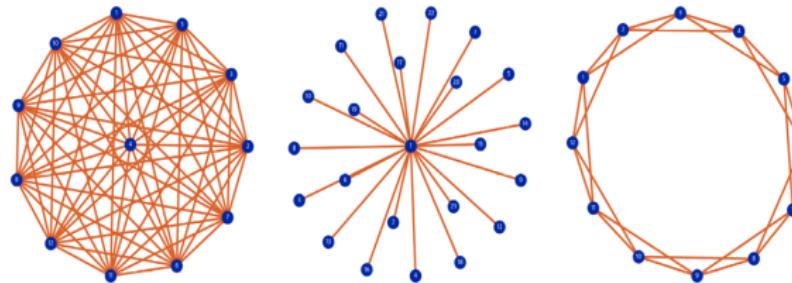
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## Centralisation

Freeman (1978) proposed a global measure to calculate the degree of centralisation of a particular network:

$$C = \frac{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} C(\star) - C(i)}{\max \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} C(\star) - C(i)}$$

Where

- +  $C(\star)$  is the maximum centrality in a node of the network
- +  $\max \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} C(\star) - C(i)$  represents the maximum level of centralisation that can be attained in a network of the same size



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## Eigenvector Centrality

### Intuition

A node that is more important if it is connected to important nodes

If  $\mathbb{A}$  is the adjacency matrix of the network  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\lambda$  is a constant, we define the centrality of node  $i$  by

$$v_i = \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{j \in N_i} v_j = \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} v_j$$

Or, in matrix notation

$$\mathbb{A} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \lambda \mathbf{v}$$



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## Refresher - Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

Given a  $N \times N$  matrix  $\mathbb{A}$ , **eigenvalues** are the zeros of its **characteristic polynomial**, i.e.  $\lambda$  s.t.  $\det(\lambda\mathbb{I} - \mathbb{A}) = 0$

If there are  $N$  distinct eigenvalues, then  $\mathbb{A}$  is **diagonalizable**, meaning there exists an invertible matrix  $\mathbb{V}$  s.t.

$$\mathbb{V}^{-1}\mathbb{A}\mathbb{V} = \Lambda$$

where  $\Lambda$  is a diagonal matrix with the eigenvalues on the diagonal. **Eigenvectors** are the columns of  $\mathbb{V}$ .

If the matrix is diagonalizable and positive, the **Perron-Frobenius theorem** applies



## Eigenvector Centrality

### *Perron-Frobenius theorem*

The theorem states that if  $\mathbb{A}$  is a  $N \times N$  non-negative irreducible matrix, then

- + its maximum eigenvalue  $\lambda_{max}$  is positive and simple
- + the corresponding eigenvector  $v^{max}$  is positive
- +  $v^{max}$  is the only non-negative eigenvector



## Eigenvector Centrality

### Perron-Frobenius theorem

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Hence, **Eigenvector Centrality** of node  $i$  is the  $i$ -th element of  $v^{max}$ , possibly normalized as

$$EC_i = \frac{v_i^{max}}{\sum_j v_j^{max}}$$



## Directed networks



## Introduction

How is WWW different from any other document collection?

- + WWW is hypertext and provides information on top of the text (link structure, link text);
- + Web pages are free of control or publishing costs;
- + Huge number of pages can be created, artificially inflating citation counts;
- + We need global “importance” ranking of every webpage to assess the *quality* of a page.



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# The dawn of ranking web pages

- + Yet Another Hierarchical  
Officious Oracle (developed by Jerry)

Yang and David Filo from Stanford)

- + When the number of  
web-pages was limited...
- + Hierarchical organisation  
with man-made taxonomy
- + Yahoo! *was there not to  
search the web, but to  
explore the directory*

The screenshot shows the classic Yahoo! homepage with its signature red banner at the top. Below the banner, there's a navigation bar with links like "News", "Sports", "Finance", "Tech", "Entertainment", "Business", "Health", "Science", "Government", "Computers and Internet", "Books", "Reference", "Regional", "Sports", "Travel", "Autos", "Outdoors", "Weather", "Finance", "Stock Quotes", "Sports Scores", "Classifieds", "Maps", "People Search", and "Yellow Pages". A large search bar is prominently displayed. The main content area features several large, colorful buttons for "Free Trips!", "Getaway Giveaway!", "Click Here!", and "American Express". There are also sections for "NBA - NHL Finals", "French Open", "College World Series", and "Today's News". At the bottom, there's a "Get Local" section for "Minneapolis / St. Paul", "New York", "S.F. Bay", "Seattle", and "Washington D.C.", along with links for "How to Include Your Site", "Company Information", "Contributors", and "Yahoo! to Go".

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## When the number of pages is unbearable

[L. Page, S. Brin, R. Motwani and T. Winograd, *The PageRank Citation Ranking: Bringing Order to the Web* (1998)]

As of 1998: *The crawlable Web has roughly 150 million nodes (pages) and 1.7 billion edges (links).*

### Main Idea

Use topology of the network to assess page importance, do not question the page content.

## Topology of the network

- + The web is the result of a collective action
- + Every page has some number of forward links (out- edges) and backlinks (in- edges)
- + *A link is like a vote for a page*

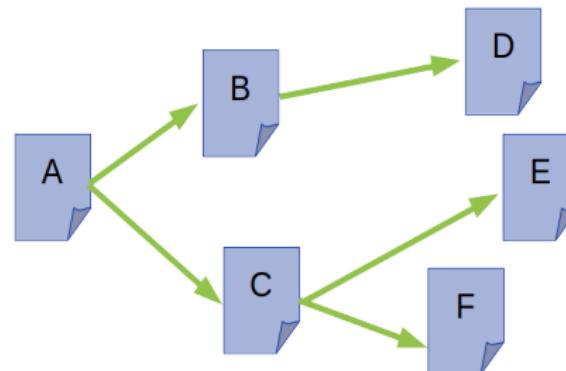


Figure: A is backlink of B and C

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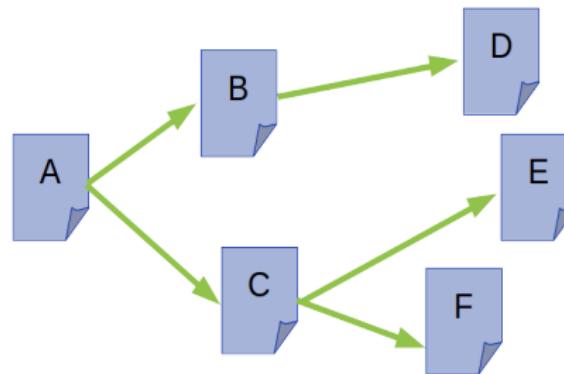
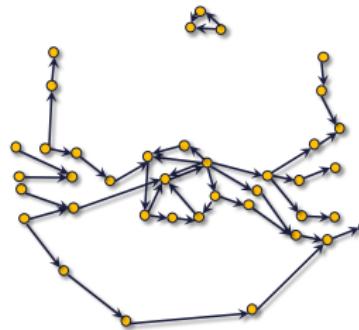


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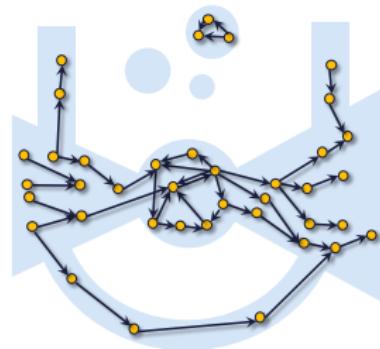
## The bow tie structure

## The silhouette of the WWW



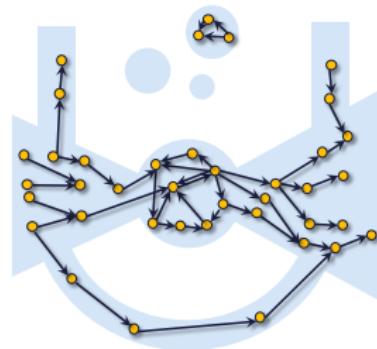
- + Nodes: web pages (or sites / domains) // Edges: hyperlinks
- + edge origin: **linking page**, edge end: **linked page**
- + It has a *bow-tie* structure
- + Heterogeneous cluster sizes
- + Size of the components non-trivial

## The silhouette of the WWW



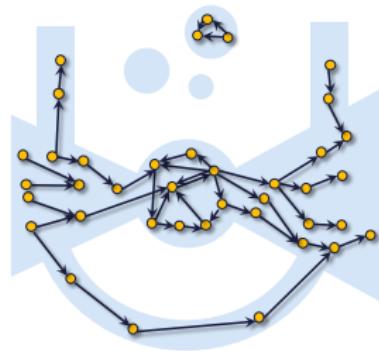
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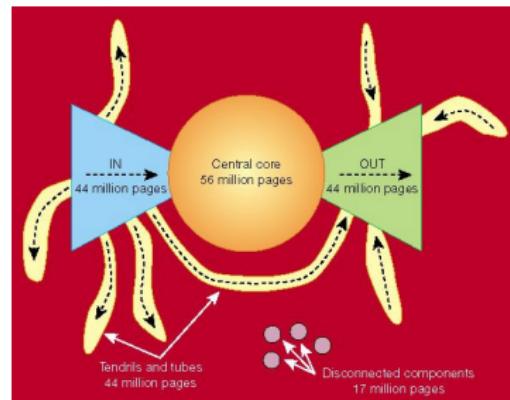
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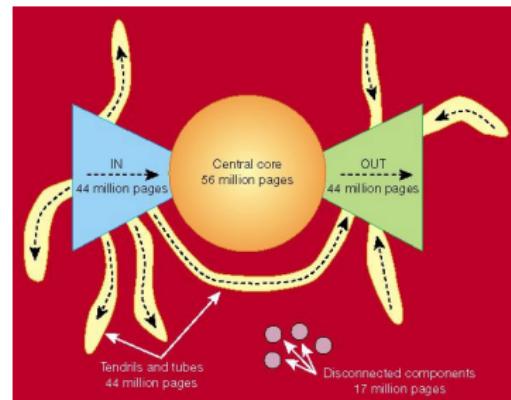
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## The bow-tie structure



- + Central Core – SCC
  - There is a path between every pair of pages

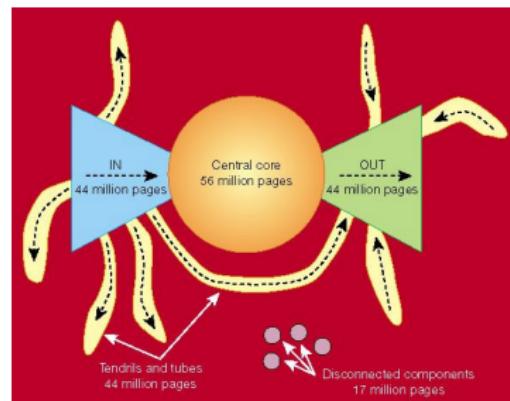
## The bow-tie structure



### + IN

- There is a path between these pages and the SCC
- They cannot be reached from the SCC

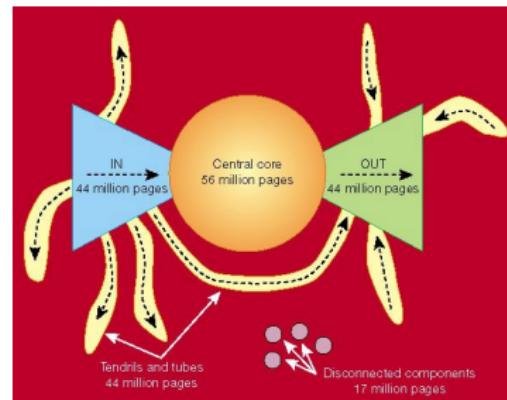
## The bow-tie structure



### + OUT

- There is a path between the SCC and these pages
- The SCC cannot be reached from it

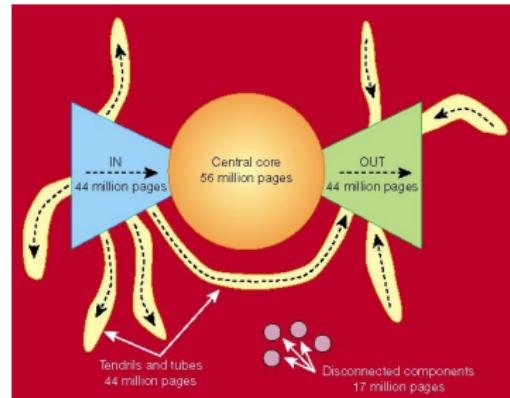
## The bow-tie structure



### + Tubes

- There is a path starting from the IN and finishing in the OUT that goes through the nodes in this region
- The SCC cannot be reached from it
- They cannot be reached from the SCC

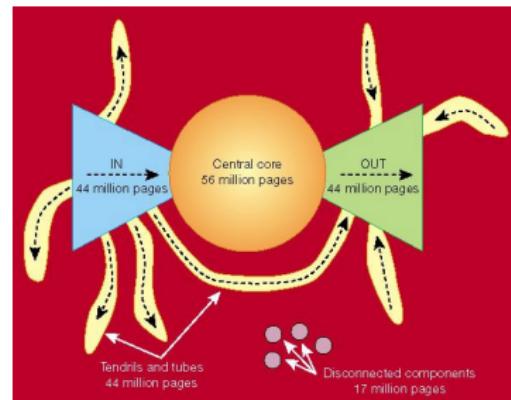
## The bow-tie structure



### + Tendrils IN

- There is a path starting from the IN and finishing in the **Tendrils IN**
- The SCC cannot be reached from it

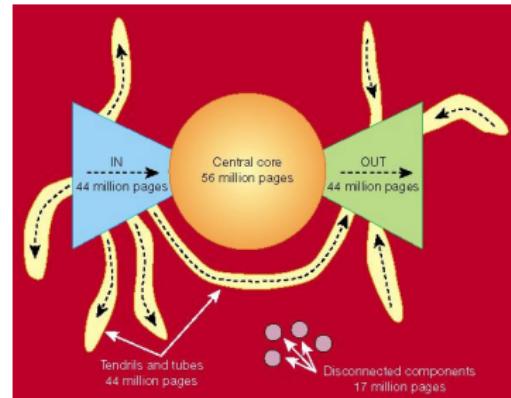
## The bow-tie structure



### + Tendrils OUT

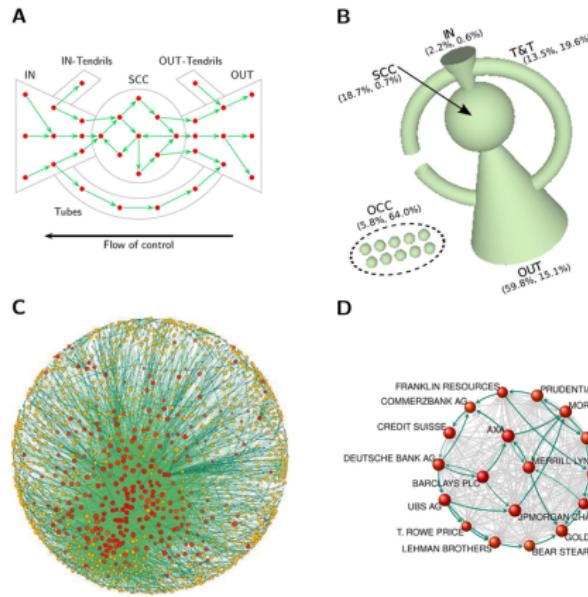
- There is a path starting from the **Tendrils OUT** and finishing in OUT
- They cannot be reached from the SCC

## The bow-tie structure



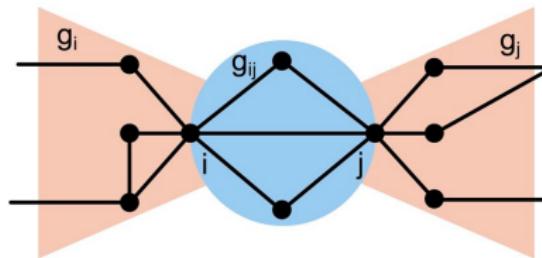
- + **Disconnected components**
  - There is no path connecting these to/from other components

## Where else? Corporate control



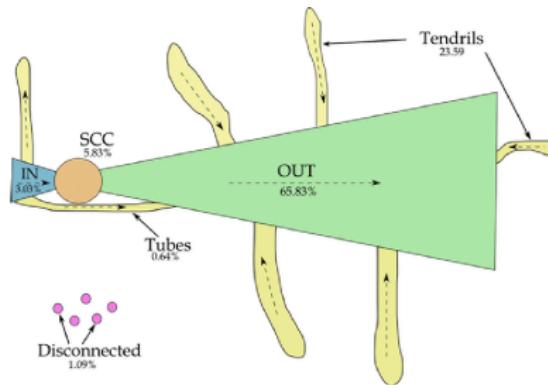
Nodes: public companies - Edges: share ownership

## Where else? Social networks



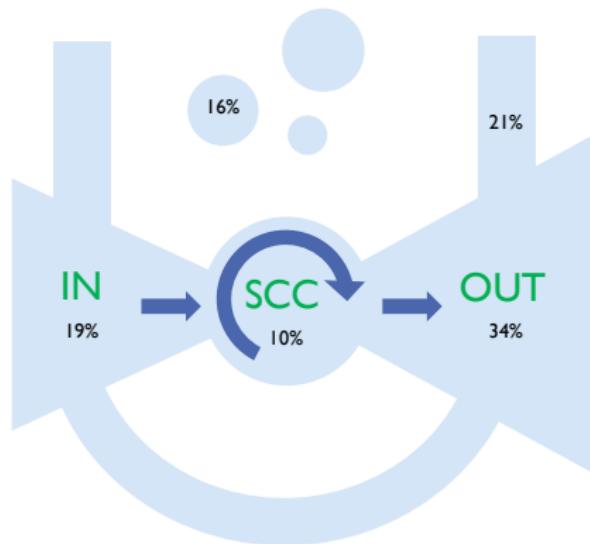
- + Local bow-tie: Built from pairs of social interactions
- + The larger the overlap in IN / OUT, the higher the friendship tie

## Where else? Commercial relations



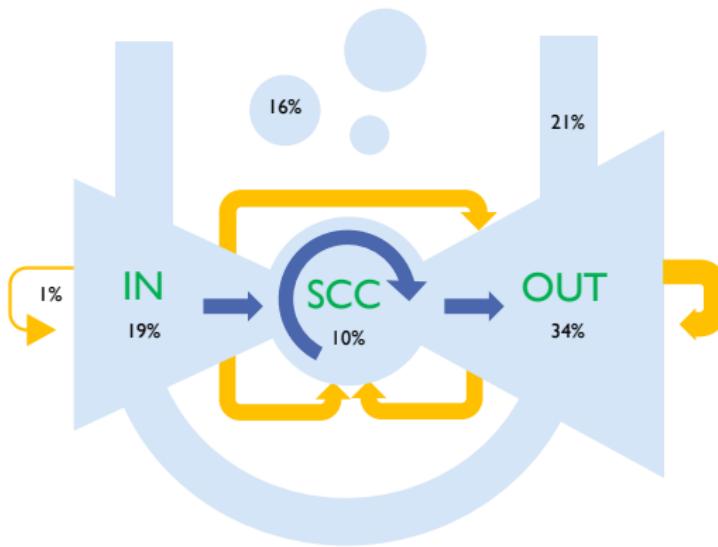
- + Asymmetric bow-tie

## Where else? Cryptocurrencies transaction



- + The structure evolves slowly
- + Very large WCC
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- + Small IN, very large OUT (hoard!), stable SCC

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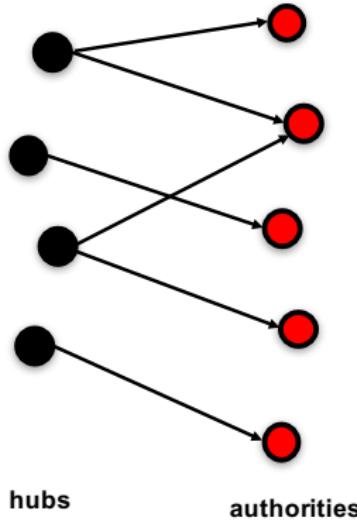
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## Idea of Hypertext Induced Topic Search

HITS: Hypertext Induced Topic Search

[Jon M. Kleinberg, *Authoritative Sources in a Hyperlinked Environment* (1997)]

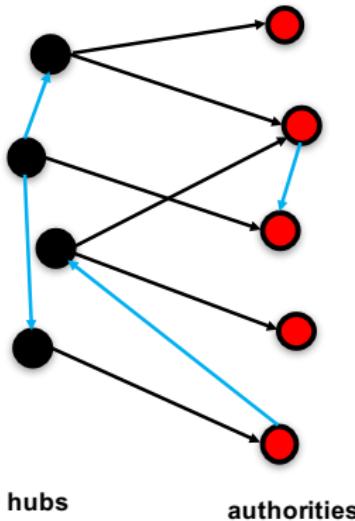




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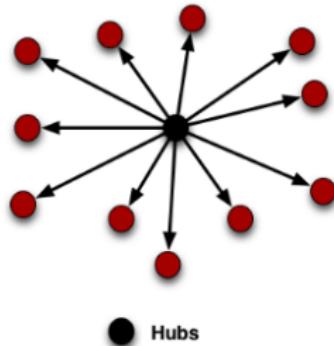




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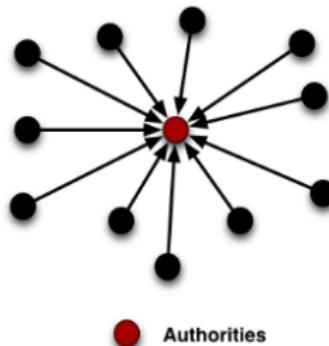
- + Divide all pages into: **Hubs** and **Authorities**
- + **Hubs:** no particular information; a series of addresses to find detailed description of various topics (e.g.: Yahoo! web page)
- + **Authorities:** pages with few links but large information content on specific topics (e.g.: train timetable, series of paintings, recipes, etc.)



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## Hubness and authoritativeness

### Assumption of HITS

For every page we can assign the *authoritativeness*  $x_i$  and *hubness*  $y_i$  of every vertex  $i$  in a given graph

$$x_i = \sum_{j \rightarrow i} y_j \quad y_i = \sum_{i \rightarrow j} x_j$$

$j \rightarrow i$  corresponds to all *ingoing* edges of  $i$ ,  
 $i \rightarrow j$  corresponds to all *outgoing* edges of  $i$



## Matrix notation

Previous equations can be written in matrix notation:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x} &= \mathbb{A}^T \cdot \mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{y} &= \mathbb{A} \cdot \mathbf{x}\end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbb{A}$  is the **directed** adjacency matrix of the webpages graph

Further developing the equations:

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**Ways of finding the solution:** exact or recursive methods

Possible iterative algorithm:

$\forall i : x_i^{(0)}, y_i^{(0)} \leftarrow$  initial values

while  $\delta > \epsilon$ :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \mathbb{A}^T \mathbb{A} \mathbf{x}^{(k)}$$

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normalise

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} / \|\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)}\|$$

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## Mathematical properties

- + Matrices  $\mathbb{A}^T \mathbb{A}$ ,  $\mathbb{A} \mathbb{A}^T$  are symmetric, PSD (positive semi-definite)
- + Therefore, their eigenvalues are real and non-negative; they can be sorted as  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n \geq 0$
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- + Speed of convergence depends on how much  $\lambda_1 > \lambda_2$
- + One requirement for convergence: normalisation of the vectors



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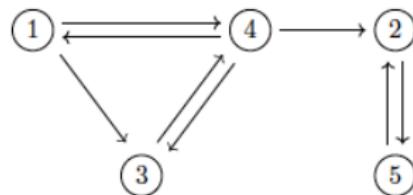
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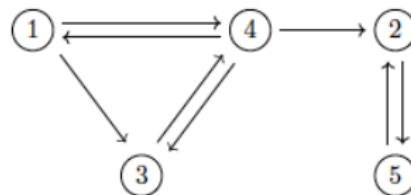


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Matrix  $A$  is irreducible  $\iff$  the corresponding graph is strongly connected, i.e. *it is possible to reach every vertex from every other*

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## Problems of the HITS Algorithm

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# PageRank



## PageRank: first approximation

PageRank of a page is weighted sum over PageRanks of its backlinks:

$$pr(i) = \sum_{j \rightarrow i} \frac{pr(j)}{k_j^O}$$

- + Any webmaster of a page can vote by pointing to another page
- + In this way the page authority is passed to pointed pages
- + The rank of a page is divided among its forward links evenly



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- + The more pages the webmaster links, the lower is the voting power of each link
- + The equation is recursive but it may be computed by starting with any set of ranks and iterating the computation



*A webpage has high rank if  
the sum of the ranks of the  
pages that link to it is high*



## Matrix notation

### PageRank Spectrum

The PageRank equation is an eigenvalue problem

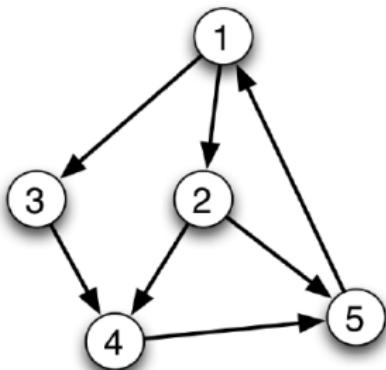
The equation can be rewritten as:

$$pr = \mathbb{N} \cdot pr$$

where  $\mathbb{N}$  is a square matrix with the entries:

$$N_{ij} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{k_i^O} & , \text{if there is an edge from } i \text{ to } j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

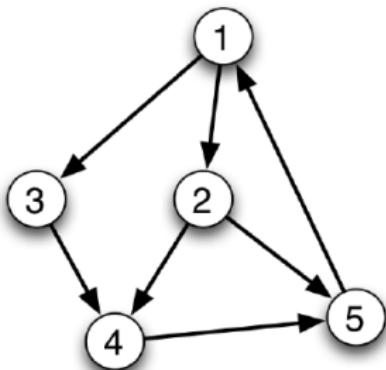
## Simple example



$$\begin{cases} pr(1) = pr(5) \\ pr(2) = \frac{1}{2}pr(1) \\ pr(3) = \frac{1}{2}pr(1) \\ pr(4) = pr(3) + \frac{1}{2}pr(2) \\ pr(5) = pr(4) + \frac{1}{2}pr(2) \end{cases}$$



## Simple example: matrix notation



$$\begin{pmatrix} pr(1) \\ pr(2) \\ pr(3) \\ pr(4) \\ pr(5) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} pr(1) \\ pr(2) \\ pr(3) \\ pr(4) \\ pr(5) \end{pmatrix}$$



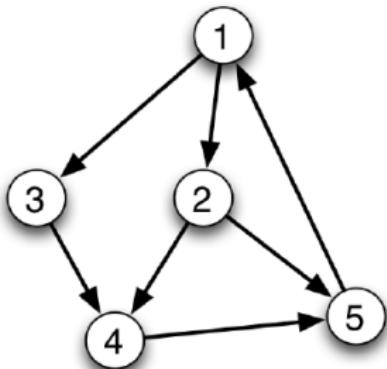
## Three matrices

The same graph is associated to three different matrices:

$\mathbb{A}$	$\mathbb{N}$	$\mathbb{P}$
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

- +  $\mathbb{A}$  - adjacency matrix,
- +  $\mathbb{N} = \left( \frac{1}{k_i} \mathbb{A} \right)^T$
- +  $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{N}^T$ , Markov process

## Random surfer interpretation



$$\begin{pmatrix} pr(1) \\ pr(2) \\ pr(3) \\ pr(4) \\ pr(5) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} pr(1) \\ pr(2) \\ pr(3) \\ pr(4) \\ pr(5) \end{pmatrix}$$

*The process is equivalent to a “random surfer” who simply keeps clicking on successive links at random*



## Random surfer interpretation

- + Suppose she starts on vertex 2. Then initial state is  $X_0 = [0, 1, 0, 0, 0]$ ;
- + The surfer moves along the edges of the graph randomly;
- + Markov process:  $X_{t+1} = X_t \mathbb{P}$
- + **GOAL:** find a **steady state**  $X^* = X^* \mathbb{P}$

*Looks familiar?*



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*Of course! It's **Eigenvector Centrality** again!*



## Perron-Frobenius, again

### *Perron-Frobenius theorem*

Every primitive and irreducible stochastic matrix  $\mathbb{P}$  has a steady state, and the largest eigenvalue is always 1.

$\mathbb{P}$  must be:

- + non-negative:  $\mathbb{P}_{ij} \geq 0, \forall i, j$
- + primitive:  $\exists m : \mathbb{P}^m$  is positive definite
- + irreducible:  $Pr(X_{n_{ij}} = j | X_0 = i) = p_{ij}^{n_{ij}} > 0$

*For the WWW*

In this prescription, the “random surfer” **does not satisfy the irreducibility condition**



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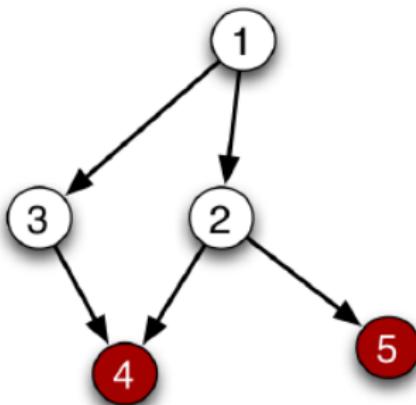
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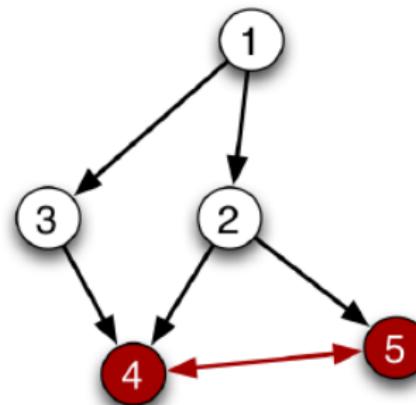
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## Issues with irreducibility



Dangling ends



Trapping states



## The solution to the problem

### *Teleportation rule*

To force the matrix to be irreducible we allow to jump out from a page to any other chosen at random, uniformly

**Random surfer interpretation:** the surfer periodically “gets bored” and jumps to a random page chosen based on a certain distribution (here - uniform over all possible pages).



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## Final definition

*PageRank*

$$pr(i) = \alpha \sum_{j \rightarrow i} \frac{pr(j)}{k_j^O} + (1 - \alpha) \frac{1}{N}$$

where  $N$  - number of vertices.

Typically  $\alpha \simeq 0.85$ .



## Matrix notation

Define matrix  $\mathbb{E}$ :  $e_{ij} = \frac{1}{N}$ . Then:

$$pr = \left[ \alpha \left( (K^O)^{-1} \mathbb{A} \right)^T + (1 - \alpha) \mathbb{E} \right] pr$$

that is,

$$\mathbb{N} = \alpha \left( (K^O)^{-1} \mathbb{A} \right)^T + (1 - \alpha) \mathbb{E}$$



## Iterative solution

### *PageRank Spectrum*

The PageRank equation is an eigenvalue problem and can be solved exactly or iteratively.

Iterative algorithm:

$$pr_0 \leftarrow S$$

**while**  $\delta > \epsilon$ :

$$pr_{i+1} \leftarrow N \cdot pr_i$$

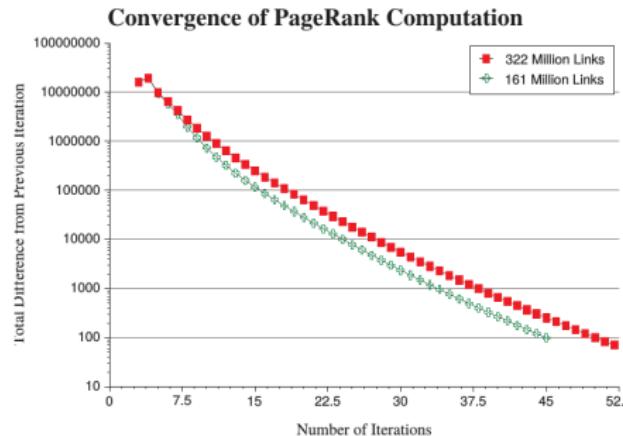
$$d \leftarrow \|pr_i\|_1 - \|pr_{i+1}\|_1$$

$$pr_{i+1} \leftarrow pr_{i+1} + dE$$

$$\delta \leftarrow \|pr_i - pr_{i+1}\|_1$$

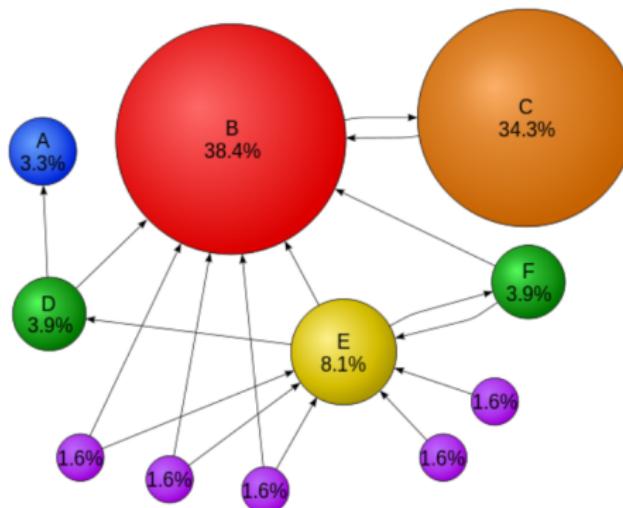
# Convergence of the algorithm

[L. Page, S. Brin, R. Motwani and T. Winograd, *The PageRank Citation Ranking: Bringing Order to the Web* (1998)]



**Figure:** Rates of Convergence for Full size and Half Size Link Databases

## Visualisation





## PageRank top '96

Web Page	PageRank (average is 1.0)
Download Netscape Software	11589.00
<a href="http://www.w3.org/">http://www.w3.org/</a>	10717.70
Welcome to Netscape	8673.51
Point: It's What You're Searching For	7930.92
Web-Counter Home Page	7254.97
The Blue Ribbon Campaign for Online Free Speech	7010.39
CERN Welcome	6562.49
Yahoo!	6561.80
Welcome to Netscape	6203.47
Wusage 4.1: A Usage Statistics System For Web Servers	5963.27
The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)	5672.21
Lycos, Inc. Home Page	4683.31
Starting Point	4501.98
Welcome to Magellan!	3866.82
Oracle Corporation	3587.63



## Advantages of PageRank

- + Can be used for personalised search by manipulating the  $\mathbb{E}$  matrix
- + *More immune to manipulations*, such as bought advertisements, fake websites, etc.
- + Captures the concept of **collaborative trust**:  
if a page was mentioned by a trustworthy or authoritative source, it is more likely to be trustworthy or authoritative
- + Uses information that is external to the Web-pages (their backlinks), providing kind of peer review
- + A good way to find representative pages to display for a cluster centre



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## Web applications of PR

- + PageRank is **one of the tools** used for Google searching engine (together with standard IR measures, proximity, anchor text);
- + Great for underspecified queries;
- + Estimation of web-traffic;
- + Backlink prediction;
- + User navigation;



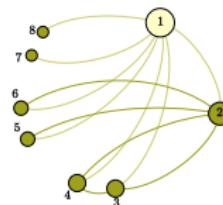
# Nestedness

## What is network nestedness?

### *Definition of nestedness*

A network is **nested** if for any pair of nodes  $i, j$

If  $|\mathcal{N}_i| \geq |\mathcal{N}_j|$  then  $\mathcal{N}_i \supseteq \mathcal{N}_j$



$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

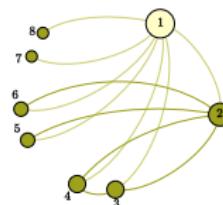
Nested network

## What is network nestedness?

### *Definition of nestedness*

A network is **nested** if for any pair of nodes  $i, j$

If  $k_i \geq k_j$  then  $\mathcal{N}_i \supseteq \mathcal{N}_j$



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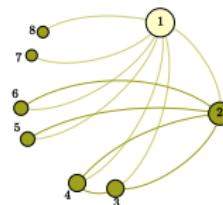
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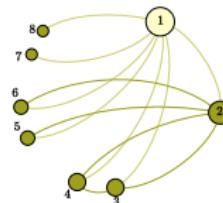
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Nested network

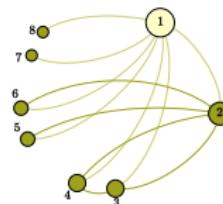
- + Core-periphery structure, dissorative, *step-wise* adjacency matrix

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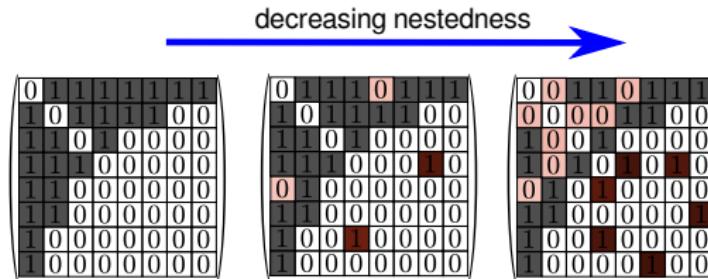
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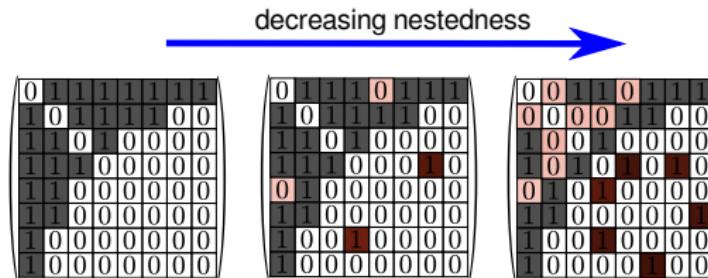
- + Decreasing nestedness is given by increasing number of violations

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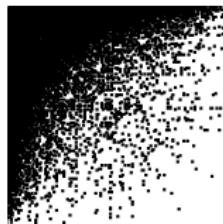
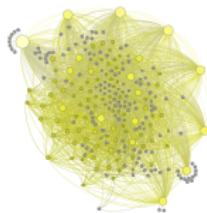


- Decreasing nestedness is given by increasing number of violations



## Socio-economic systems

World-trade network

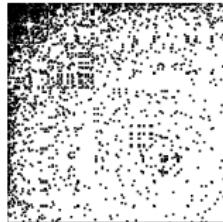


import-export trade relations (2000)

$n = 196, m = 4138$

$C = 0.73, \ell = 2.25, \gamma = -0.40$

R&D alliance network



SIC: 737 Computer Software (1994-1997)

$n = 325, m = 2632$



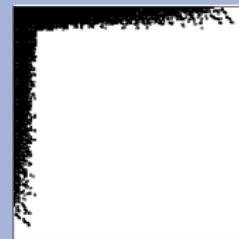
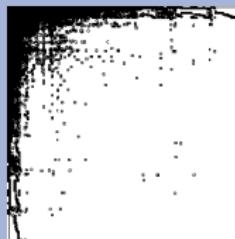
## Socio-economic systems

### World-trade network



import-export trade relations (2000)

### *Interbank networks*



7)

Bank for international settlements (Fedwire) and Austrian interbank network



## Organisation communication networks

International consulting company (Zürich branch)

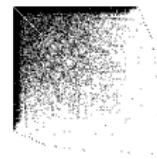


inter-employee communication (30d, 2013)

$$n = 33, m = 229$$

$$C = 0.74, \ell = 1.57, \gamma = -0.39$$

Mid-size manufacturing company



e-mail communication (2010)

$$n = 67, m = 3251$$

$$C = 0.59, \ell = 1.96, \gamma = -0.29$$



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International consulting company (Zürich branch)

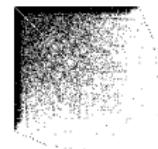


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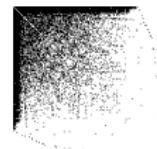


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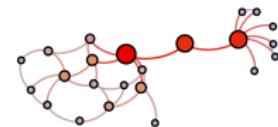
## Centrality: one term, several concepts



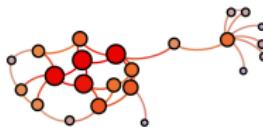
degree centrality



closeness centrality



betweenness centrality



eigenvector centrality



pagerank

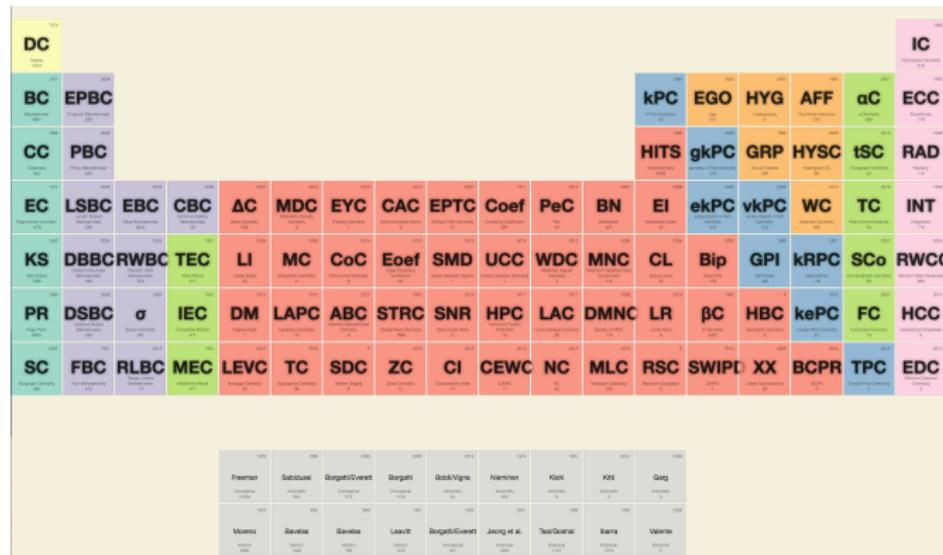


clustering coefficient

- + Different measures for centrality, depending on the context



## But which one to use?



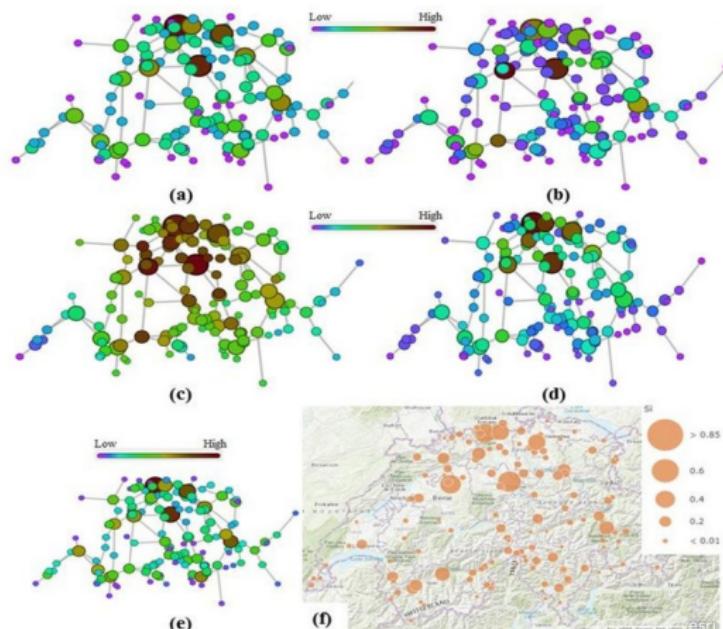


*The importance of nodes (and therefore, the centrality measure to be used) depends on the context of the application*



*In nested networks, all centrality measures are ranked in the same way*

## Quick recap: centrality metrics



- (a) Degree
- (b) Betweenness
- (c) Closeness
- (d) Eigenvector
- (e) PageRank
- (f) Combined

Abedi, A. & Romero, F., Systemic

Vulnerability of Swiss Power

Grid to Natural Events, MATEC

Web of Conferences, 2019



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↗ <https://www.ifi.uzh.ch/en/bdlt.html>