# Reaction-diffusion spatial modeling of COVID-19 in Chicago

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• The COVID Problem

- Project Context and Objectives
- Current Work



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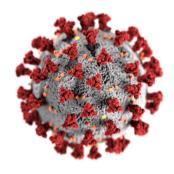
#### The COVID Problem



Identified in Wuhan, China in December 2019. Caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).

In the United States alone, we currently have

- **37,768,911** total cases
- **626,833** total deaths



#### The COVID Problem



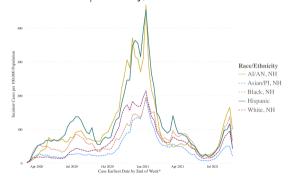
Transmission by exposure to infectious respiratory fluids:

- 1. Inhalation of virus
- 2. Deposition of virus on exposed mucus membranes
- 3. Touching mucous membranes with soiled hands contaminated with virus

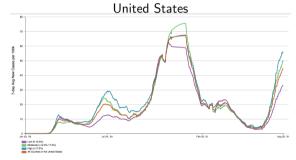
#### The COVID Problem



COVID-19 weekly cases per 100,000 population by race/ethnicity, United States



COVID-19 weekly case rate per 100,000 population by percentage of county population in poverty,





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## Project Context and Objectives



Models of infectious diseases are usually variations on the **Kermack-McKendrick model** (1927). Usual assumptions:

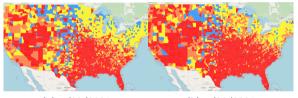
- Population is homogeneous
- Transmission is space-independent

# Project Context and Objectives



These assumptions don't match reality!

Level of community transmission by county





(b) 7/29/2021







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