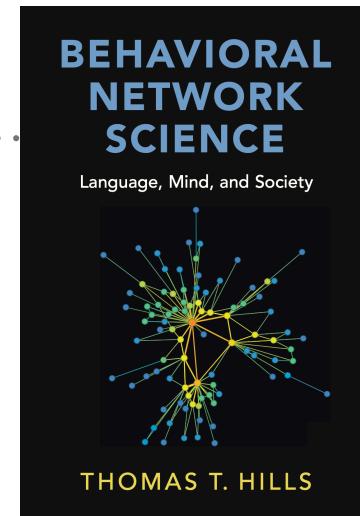


**“I always dream of a pen that would be a syringe.” — Jacques Derrida**

# BEHAVIORAL NETWORK SCIENCE USING SOCIAL NETWORK ANALYSIS

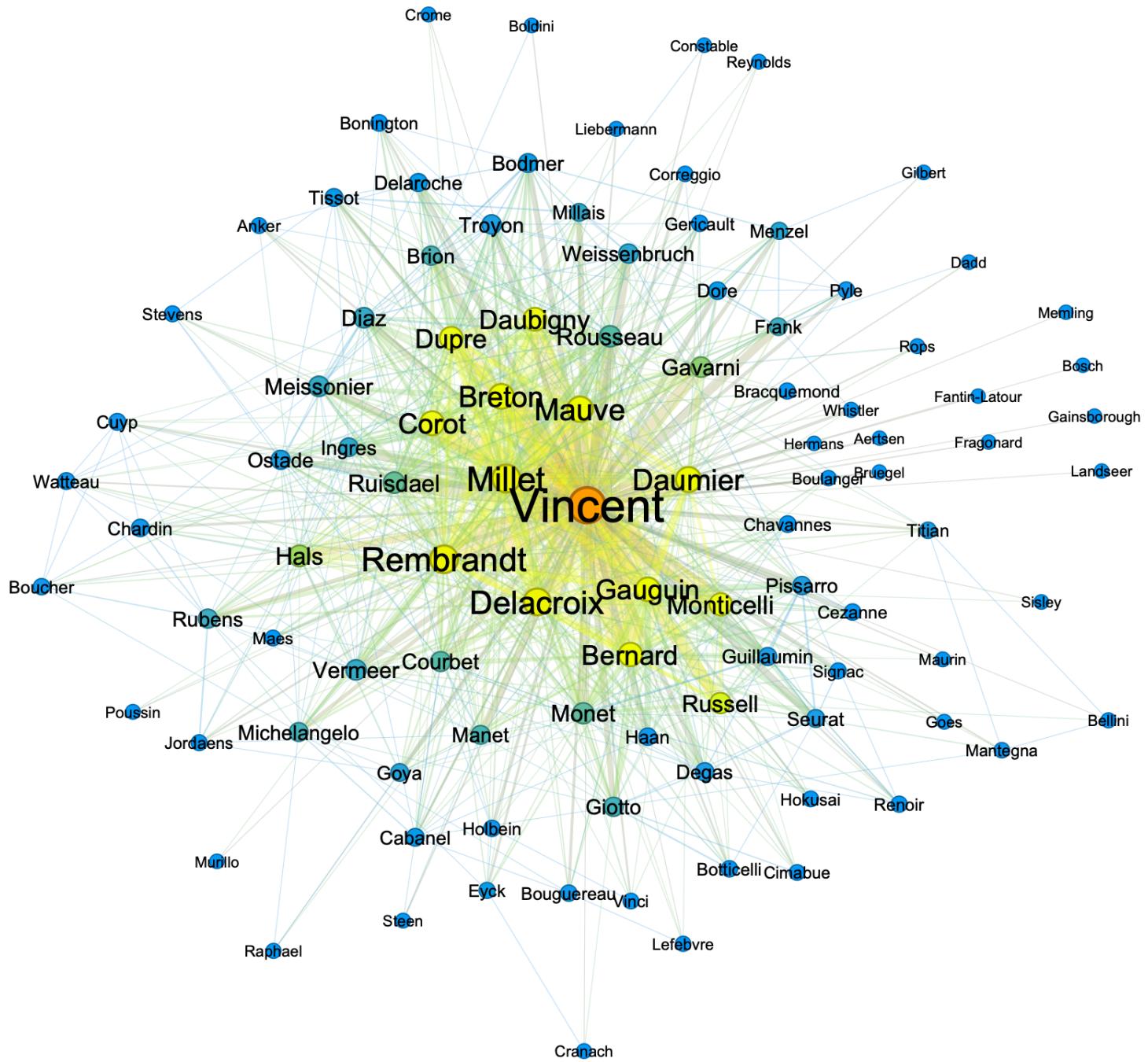
Thomas Hills  
University of Warwick

PS941



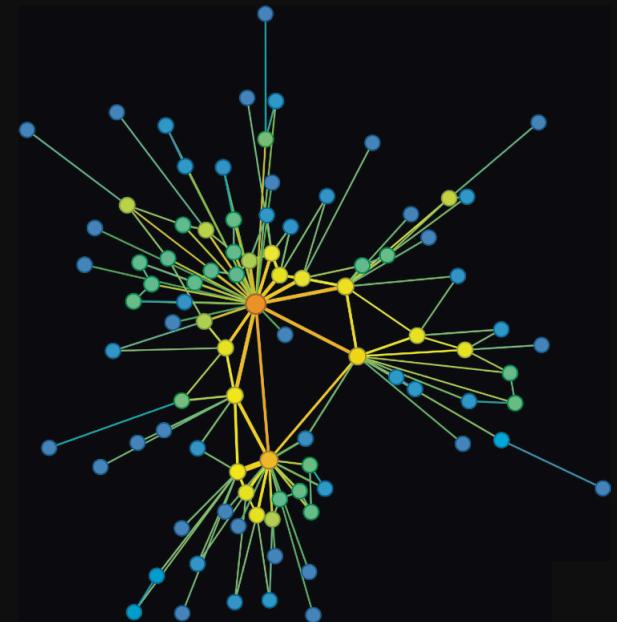
The  
Alan Turing  
Institute

 THE ROYAL  
SOCIETY

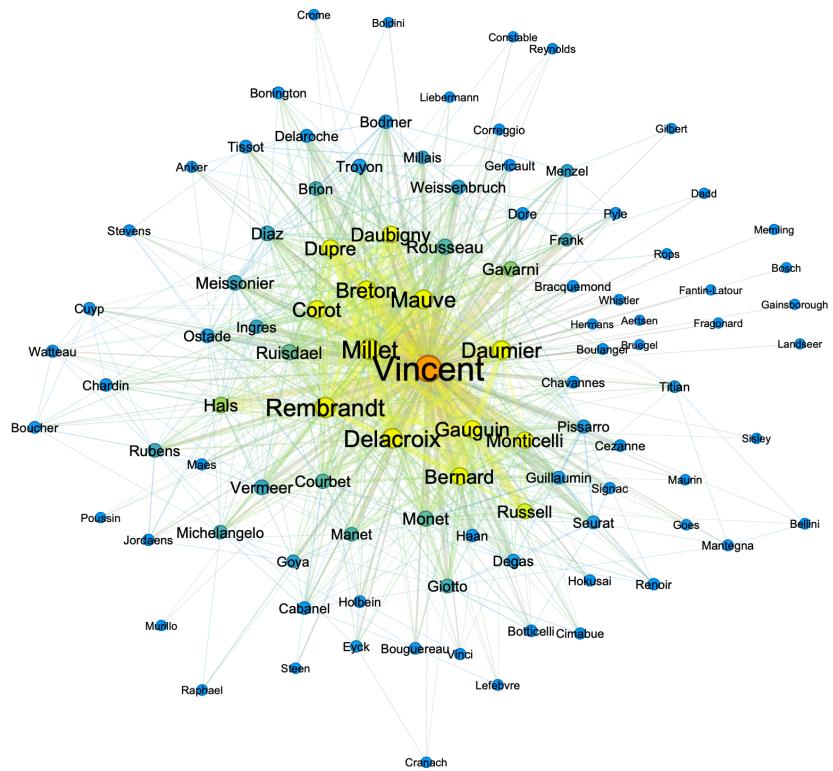


# BEHAVIORAL NETWORK SCIENCE

Language, Mind, and Society



THOMAS T. HILLS



# Outline for Day 1

- Why should we care about structure? Network insights
- Network basics

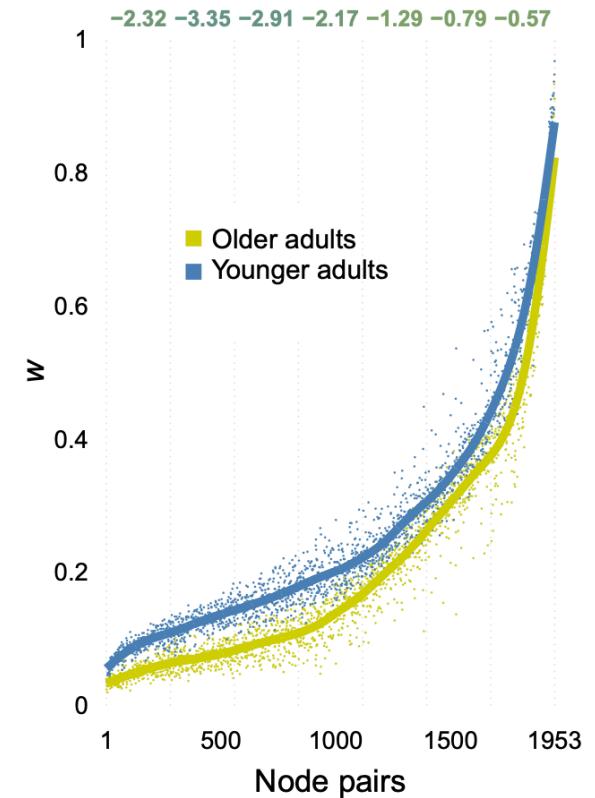
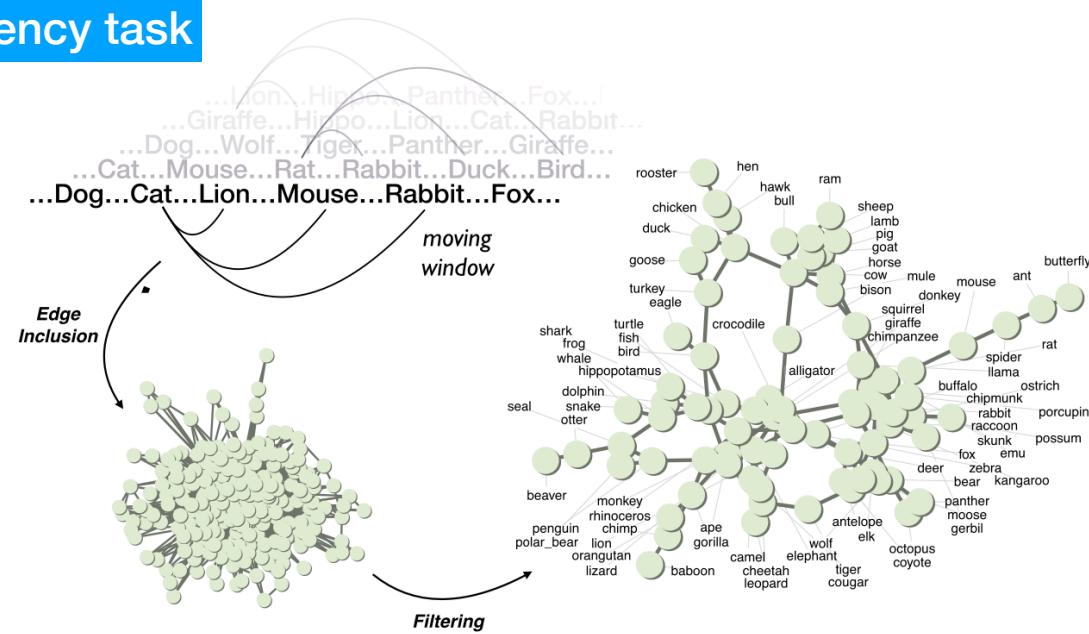
# Some of my latest work

## scientific reports

### OPEN Structural differences in the semantic networks of younger and older adults

Dirk U. Wulff<sup>ID 1,2</sup>, Thomas T. Hills<sup>ID 3</sup> & Rui Mata<sup>ID 1,2</sup>

#### Fluency task



Infer that older adult memory is less well connected. Specifically, relationships between words are weaker.

# Some recent work

SCIENCE ADVANCES | RESEARCH ARTICLE

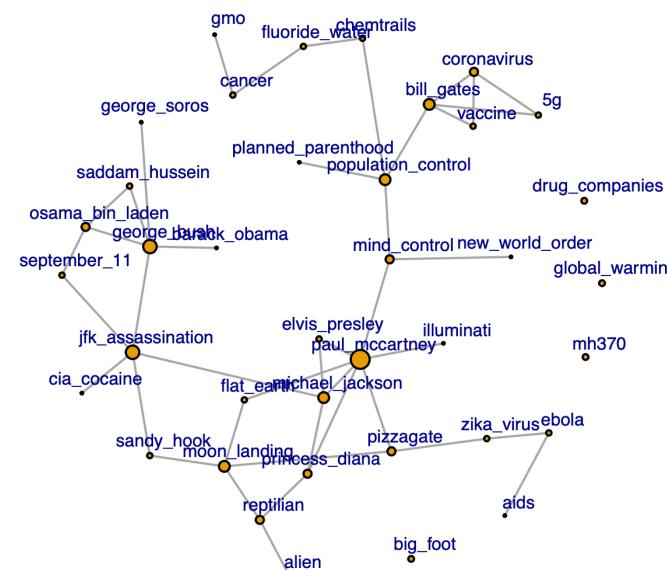
NEUROSCIENCE

## Interconnectedness and (in)coherence as a signature of conspiracy worldviews

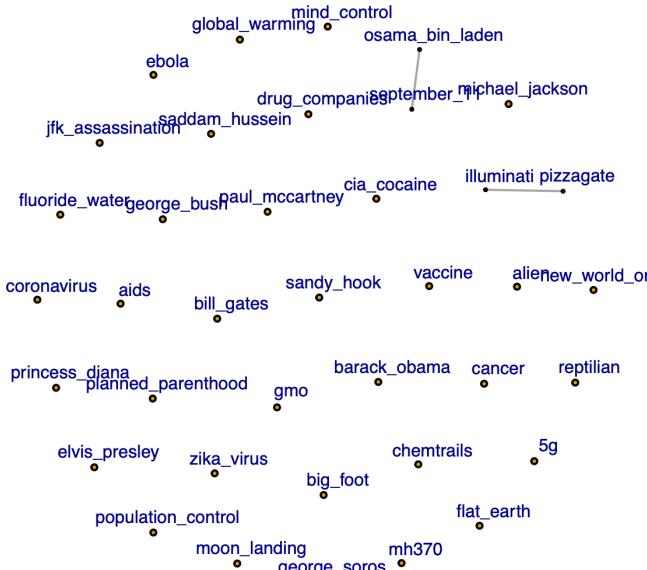
Alessandro Miani<sup>1\*</sup>, Thomas Hills<sup>2,3</sup>, Adrian Bangerter<sup>1</sup>

Conspiracy theories may arise out of an overarching conspiracy worldview that identifies common elements of subterfuge across unrelated or even contradictory explanations, leading to networks of self-reinforcing beliefs. We test this conjecture by analyzing a large natural language database of conspiracy and nonconspiracy texts for the same events, thus linking theory-driven psychological research with data-driven computational approaches. We find that, relative to nonconspiracy texts, conspiracy texts are more interconnected, more topically heterogeneous, and more similar to one another, revealing lower cohesion within texts but higher cohesion between texts and providing strong empirical support for an overarching conspiracy worldview. Our results provide inroads for classification algorithms and further exploration into individual differences in belief structures.

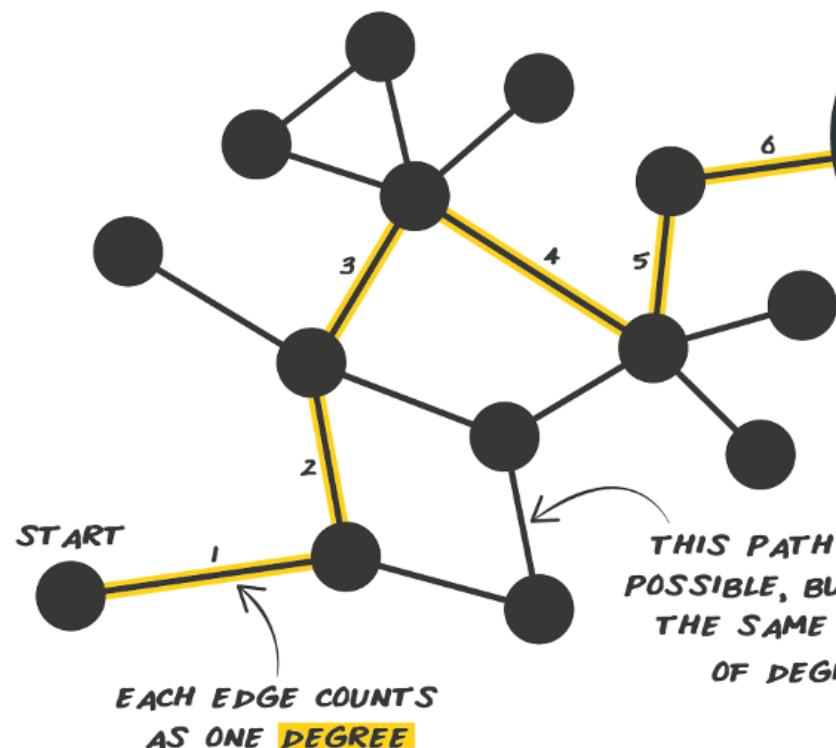
Conspiracy



Mainstream



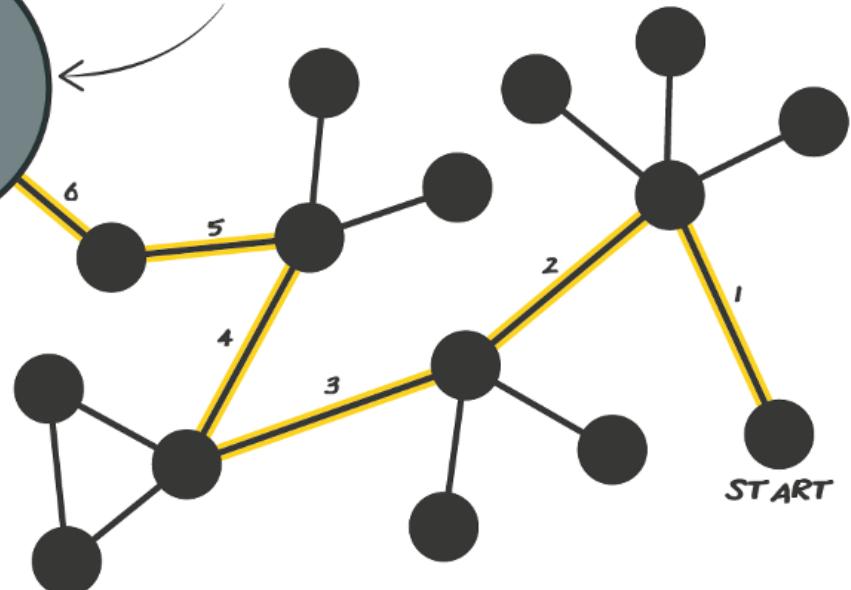
## SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION



THIS PATH IS ALSO POSSIBLE, BUT TAKES THE SAME NUMBER OF DEGREES



THIS CONCEPT WAS POPULARISED BY THE SIX DEGREES OF KEVIN BACON GAME



FACEBOOK CALCULATED THE AVERAGE DEGREES OF SEPARATION FOR THEIR USERS IN 2016.  
IT WAS 3.5.

Oracle of Bacon

# What's my Bacon number?

morgan freeman has a Bacon number of 2.



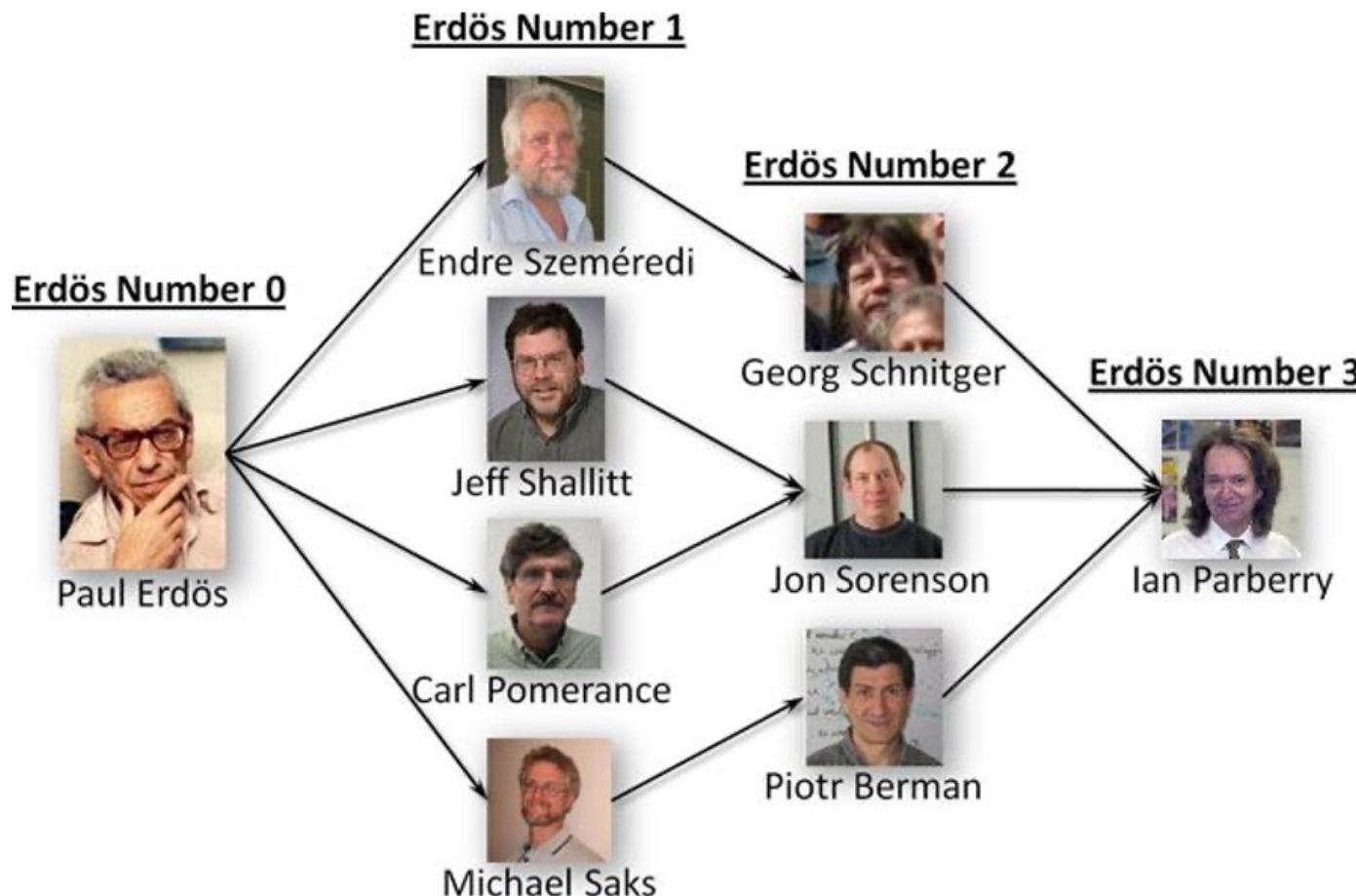
<https://oracleofbacon.org/movielinks.php>

58	4	"Can We All Become Geniuses?"	September 20, 2016	0.332 <sup>[65]</sup>
<p>Morgan Freeman says, "The <a href="#">Kodály method</a> teaches children to think of music as a three-dimensional space."</p> <p><a href="#">Philo Farnsworth</a> invented television.</p> <p><a href="#">Richard T. James</a> invented the Slinky.</p> <p>Stochastic resonance can boost weak signals. Freeman says that the <a href="#">dorsolateral prefrontal cortex</a> (DL-PFC) "plays a key role in problem solving."</p> <p>Freeman says that <a href="#">PDE4B</a> has a detrimental effect on memory formation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Interviewed experts: Jason Padgett (see <a href="#">Berit Brogaard#Cognitive neuroscience</a>), Martin F. Gardiner, John Kounios, <a href="#">Roi Cohen Kadosh</a>, John Georgiou in <a href="#">Toronto</a>, Thomas <a href="#">Hills</a> at the <a href="#">University of Warwick</a>, Theodore W. Berger at the <a href="#">University of Southern California</a>.</li></ul>				

# Erdös Number

Citation network path with Paul Erdös

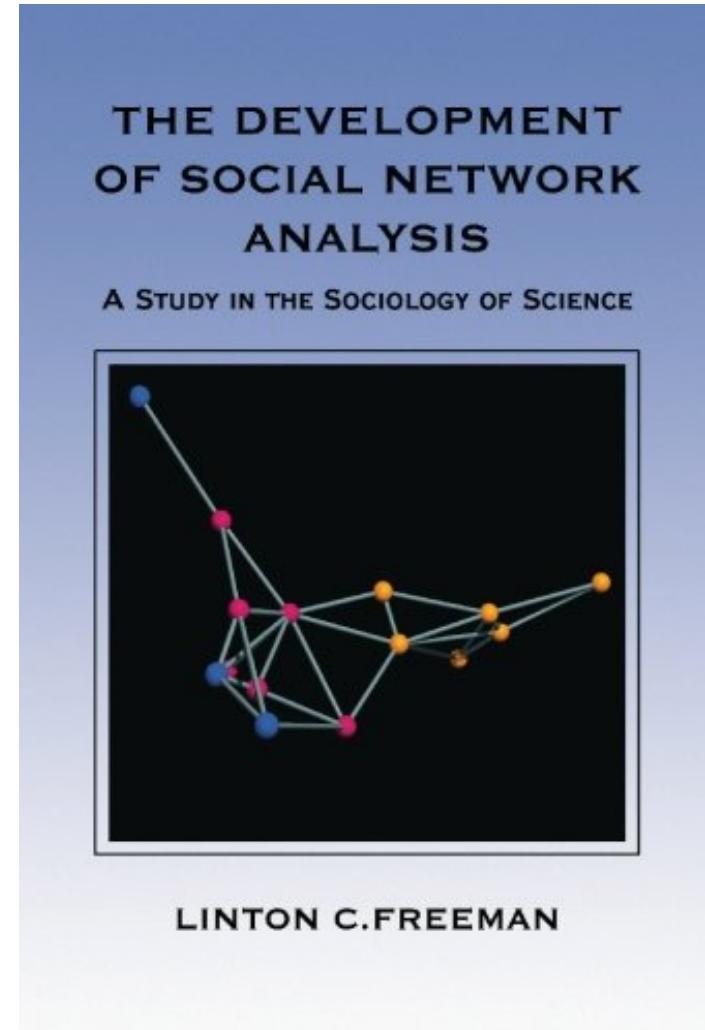
**Paul Erdös wrote 1500 math papers, one of which is about Erdös-Renyi random graphs, which we will discuss tomorrow. Mathematicians like to compute their Erdös number.**



We can apply network science  
to anything with structure  
(not just social networks)

## A HISTORY OF SOCIAL NETWORK ANALYSIS

- ▶ "Motivated on structural intuition based on ties linking social actors"
- ▶ "Grounded in systematic empirical data"
- ▶ "Draws heavily on graphic imagery"
- ▶ "Relies on use of mathematical and computational models"

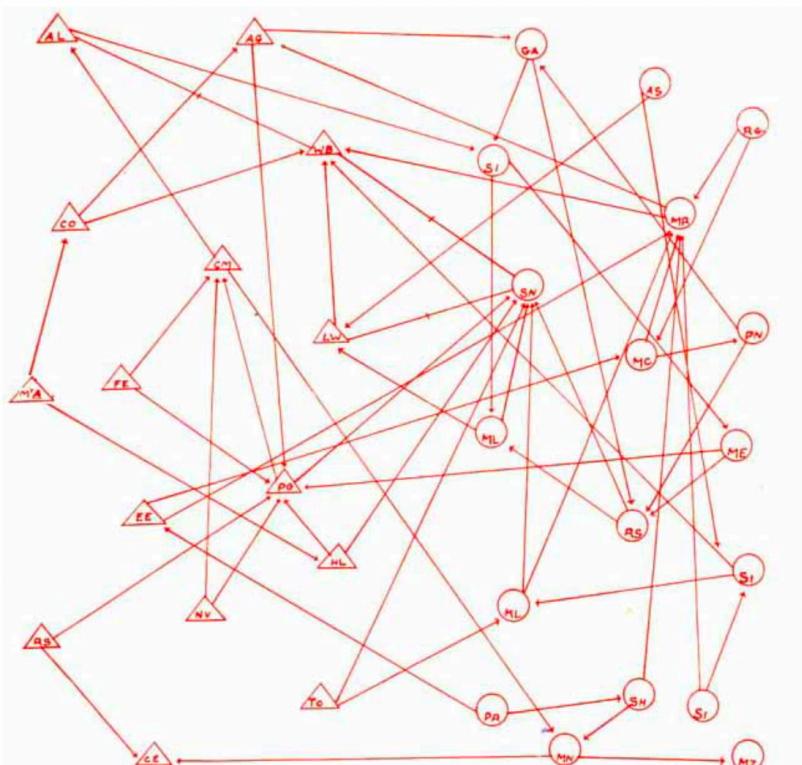


**Network science originated in sociology and mathematics independently — which often means we have multiple names for the same thing (nodes/vertices, edges/links)**

# JACOB LEVY MORENO'S SOCIOGRAMS (WITH HELEN HALL JENNINGS)

Moreno, J. L. (1934). *Who shall survive?: A new approach to the problem of human interrelations*. Nervous and Mental Disease Publishing Co.

Introduction to sociometry... introduced the term “network” in the sense used today... “effects beyond the two persons and the immediate group”...



STRUCTURE OF A KINDERGARTEN

15 boys and 18 girls. *Unchosen* 9, RS, NV, FE, MA, TO, AS, RG, SI, PR; Pairs 3, AL-WB, WB-SN, SN-LW; Stars, (Centers of Attractions), PG, SN, MR; Chains (of relationships), 0; Triangles, 0; Inter-sexual Attractions, 19.

# A PHYLOGENETIC TREE FROM CHARLES DARWIN'S "FIRST NOTEBOOK ON TRANSMUTATION OF SPECIES" (1837)

Biology/Relatedness

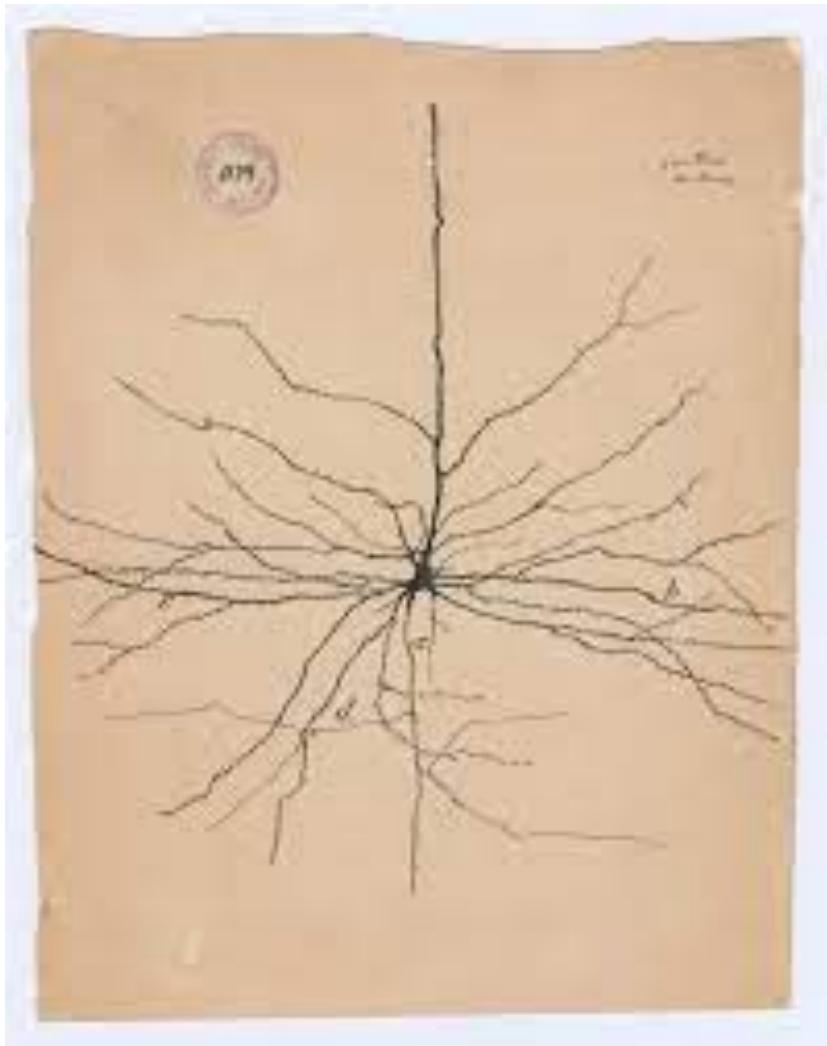
DARWIN

I think

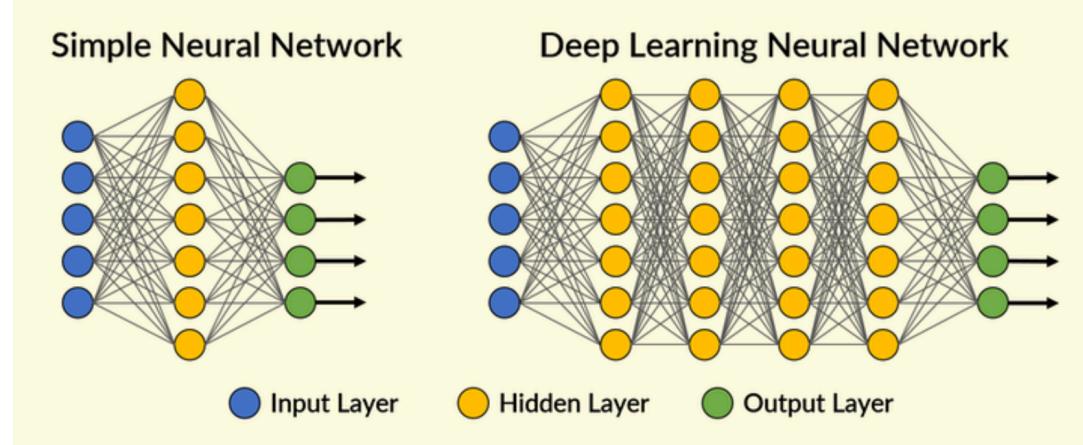


**Theodosius Dobzhansky:** "Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution."

# RAMON Y CAJAL

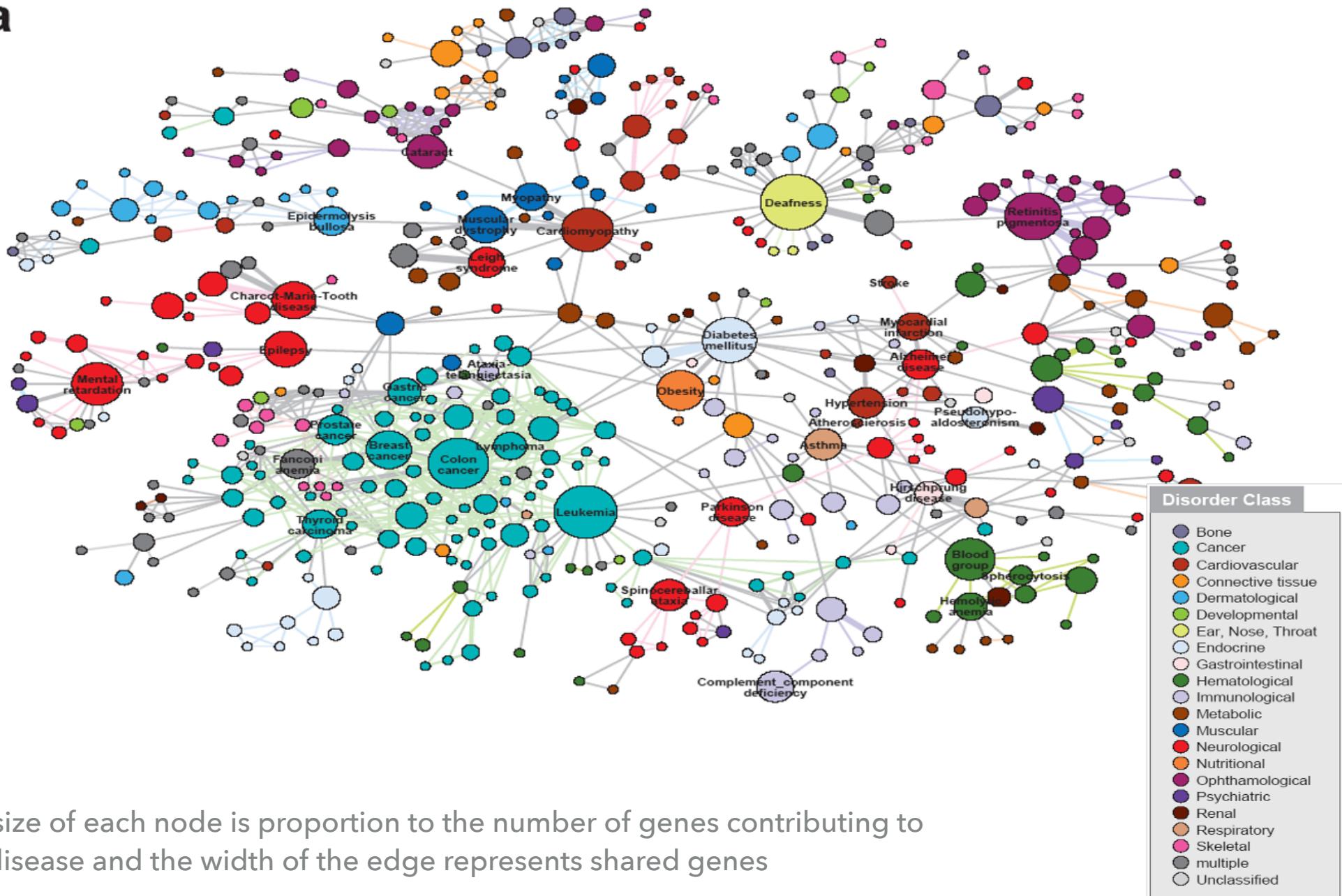


**With repeated learning, such networks encode information in their structure**



# HUMAN DISEASE NETWORKS BASED ON SHARED GENES

a

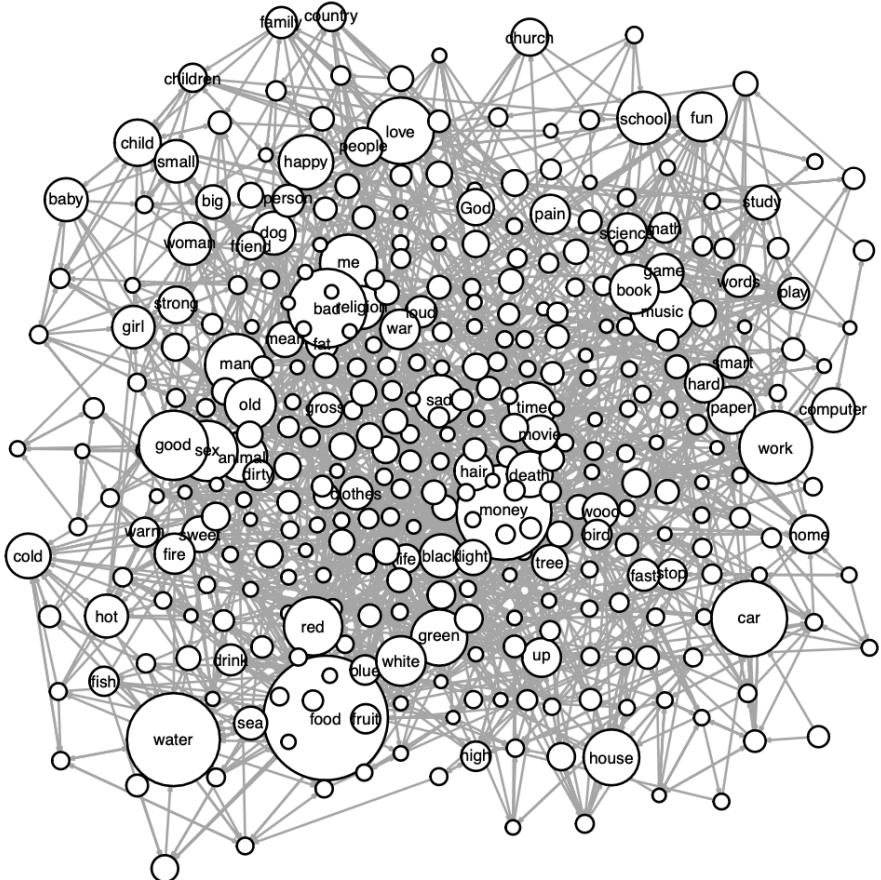


### FERDINAND DE SAUSSURE

- ▶ Relationality: signs just gain their meaning from their relations with other terms

**John Firth: “You shall know a word by the company it keeps.”**

Linguistics/language/associations/concepts/beliefs



**Some examples of why we  
should care about structure?**

**Structure can tell us what kinds  
of systems we're dealing with.**

# Why is this social network so disconnected?

- Krebs (2002) mapped the network structure of the 9/11 terrorist cells--- identifying each individual and the relationships among them.
- What he observed was peculiar for a social network. The 19 hijackers had sparsely interacted. This is rare among social networks. Our friends' friends tend to become our friends. Close-knit groups form from like-minded individuals. And coordinated groups need coordinated communication.
- On the face of it, the structure of the terrorist cells lacked these features. Why?

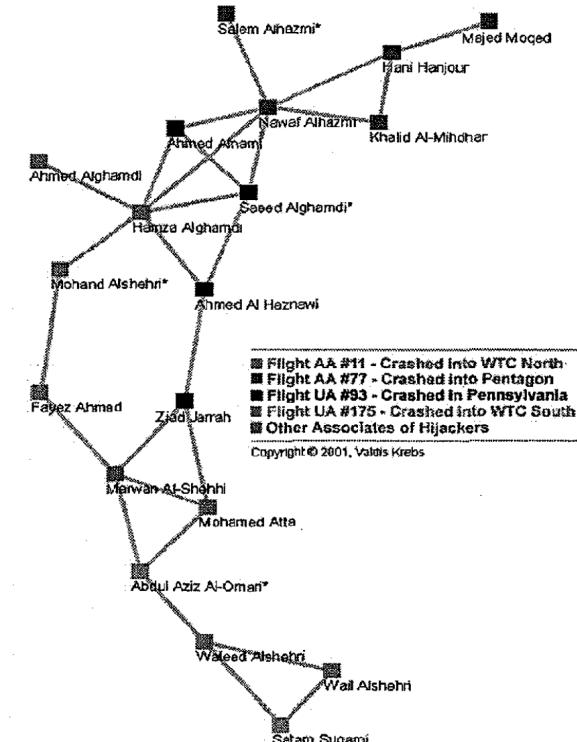


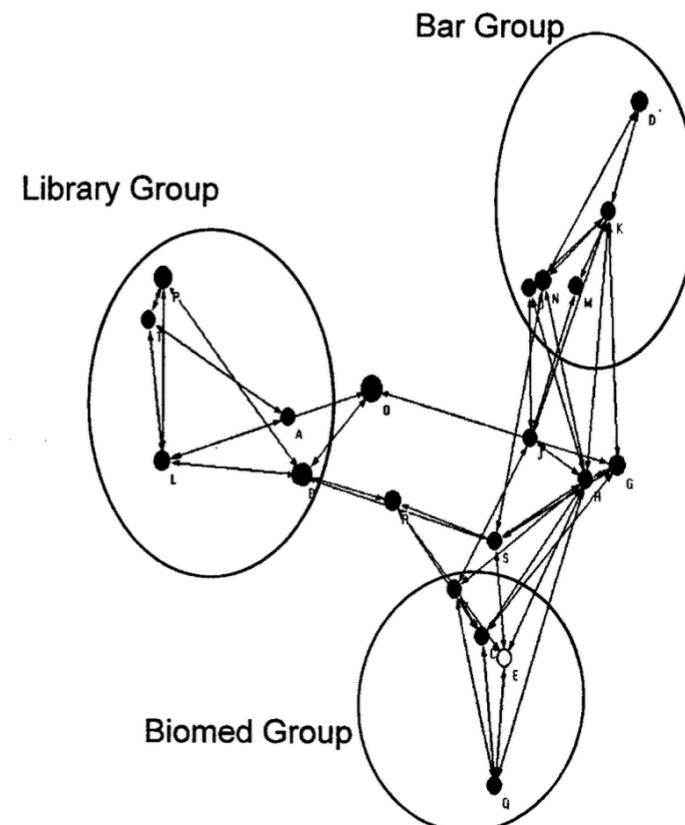
Figure 2 Trusted Prior Contacts

**Social networks have a Behavioral Immune System**

**Structure can help us understand  
how to make systems better**

# How to successfully overwinter at the South Pole

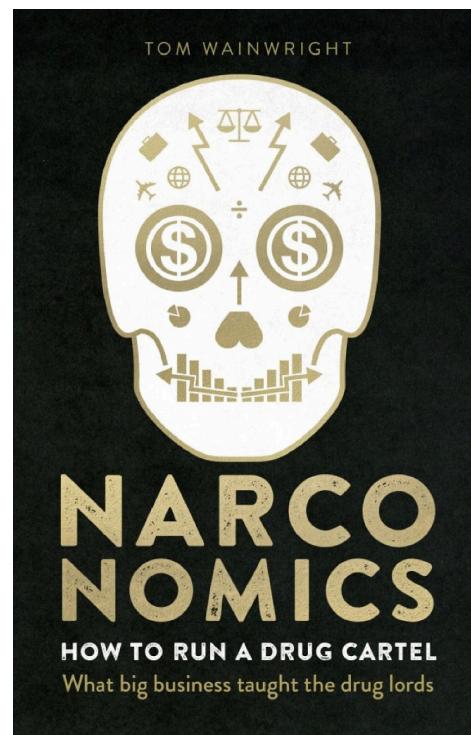
- Johnson et al. (2003)'s pioneering research on overwintering teams in the South Pole.
- These teams stayed 9 months inside small spaces with one another under harsh conditions.
- What holds communities together?
- Expressive leaders—coordinated social interactions to help keep the communities connected.
- Positive deviant—i.e., the clown — violated social boundaries and therefore kept the communities connected.



Unhappy Group C: The lowest coherence and lowest agreed expressive leadership and positive deviants.

**Structure can help us predict  
what's important and why**

# What made Juarez the murder capital of the world from 2008-2011?

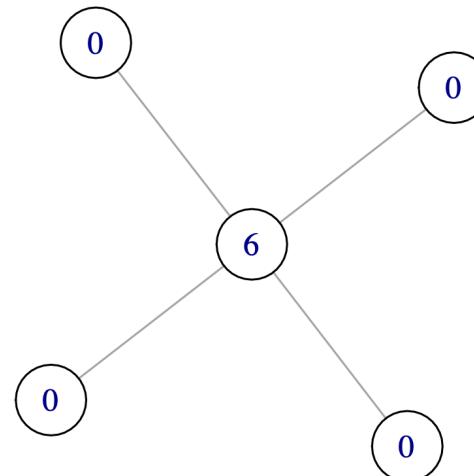


Why is this location important?

Betweenness

Drugs pass through Juarez. The Juarez and Sinaloa cartels began fighting over control of this border because President Calderon led a crackdown on cartels that destabilized the Juarez cartel, which in turn led El Chapo and the Sinaloa to try and take control.

# What made Juarez the murder capital of the world from 2008-2011?



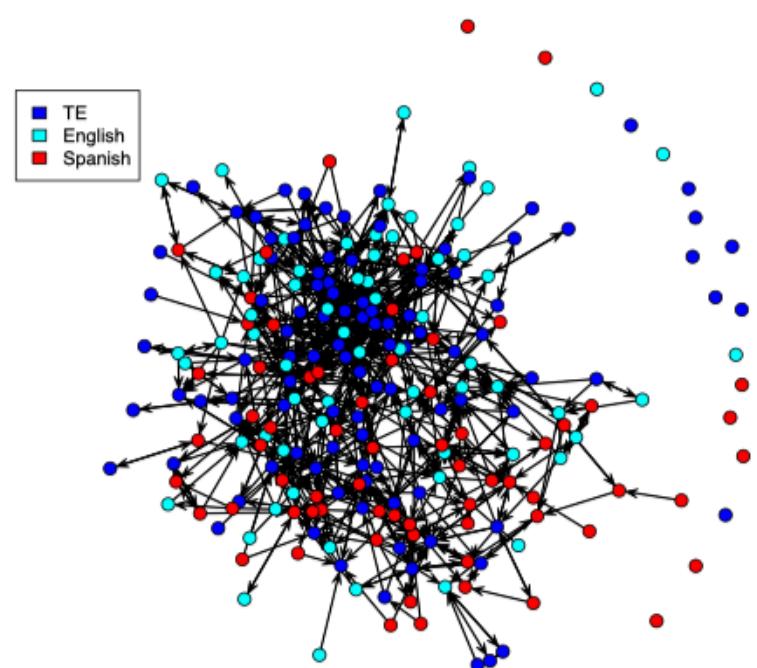
**Why is this location important?**

**Betweenness**

**Drugs pass through Juarez. The Juarez and Sinaloa cartels began fighting over control of this border because President Calderon led a crackdown on cartels that destabilized the Juarez cartel, which in turn led El Chapo and the Sinaloa to try and take control.**

**Structure can help us  
understand process**

# How do bilingual first language learners learn languages?



**Bilingual first language learners**

TE: translational equivalent

Study of 181 bilingual first language learners learning two languages at once.

We developed a model to understand how monolingual language learners learned languages.

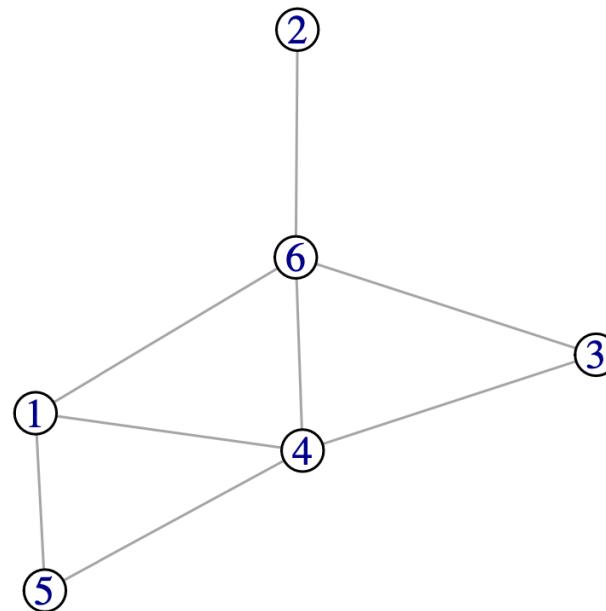
Then we asked how bilinguals were different from a monolingual learning two independent languages at once.

**Result: Semantic facilitation**

Bilson et al., 2015

**Every structure has a  
process story**

# Network Basics



A basic network

# Nodes and Edges

- What are nodes/vertices?
- What are edges/links?
- Think about this for a system that's important to you.

## Some examples of nodes and edges

TABLE 1: Examples of cognitive networks and their cognitive application.

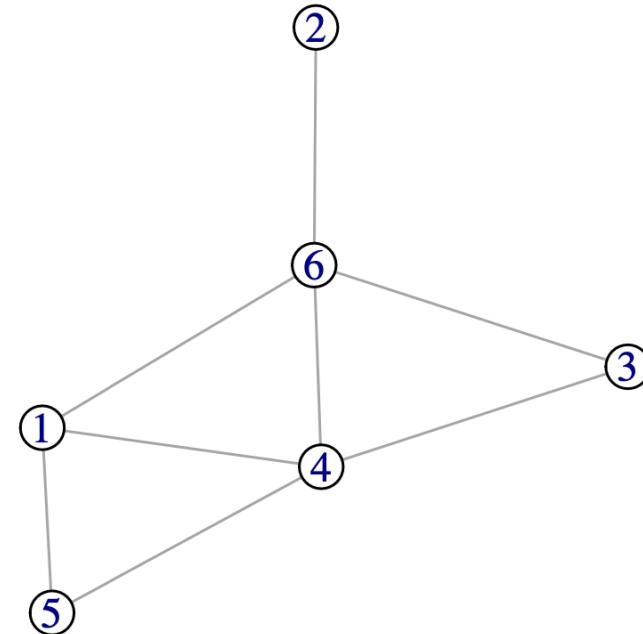
Cognitive Network	Nodes	Edges	Relevant research areas
Semantic network	Words	Semantic relationships, including free associations, shared features, taxonomic, cooccurrence, semantic roles	Language acquisition; cognitive aging; semantic priming; creativity/insight; cognitive search and navigation; semantic memory
Form similarity network	Words	Phonological or orthographic similarity	Lexical retrieval; production; speech errors; memory recall; word learning
Syntactic network	Words; phrases; sentences	Cooccurrence; parse trees; syntactic dependencies	Language acquisition; language evolution; syntactic learning
Concept network	Concepts; ideas	Cooccurrence; causal; feature similarity	Learning; memory; concept formation
Informational network	Shapes; pictures; any unit of information	Temporal cooccurrence; communication; transmission	Statistical learning of external structure; information transmission
Clinical, personality networks	Symptoms; personality traits; items on a questionnaire	Statistical relationship such as partial correlations; comorbidity	Clinical psychopathology; personality disorders
Social network	People	Friendship; followers on social media; face to face interactions	Collective problem solving; decision making; echo chambers; polarization

There are many more.

# Representing a simple network

Edge list

V1	V2
1	4
3	4
1	5
4	5
1	6
2	6
3	6
4	6



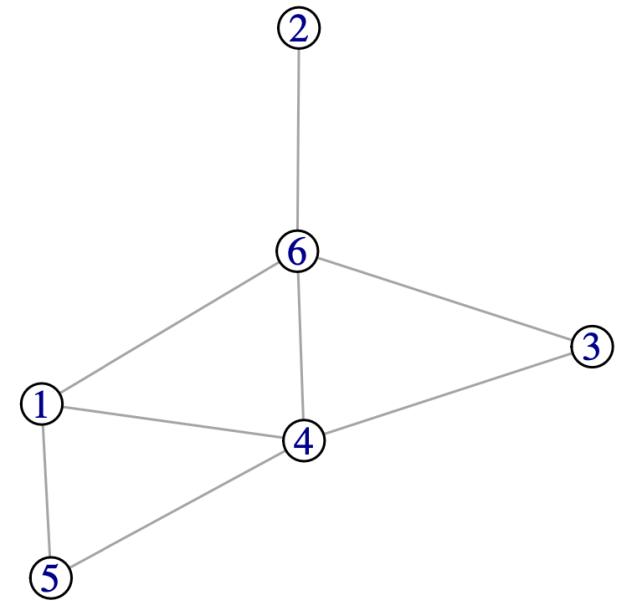
# Representing a simple network

Edge list

V1	V2
1	4
3	4
1	5
4	5
1	6
2	6
3	6
4	6

Adjacency Matrix

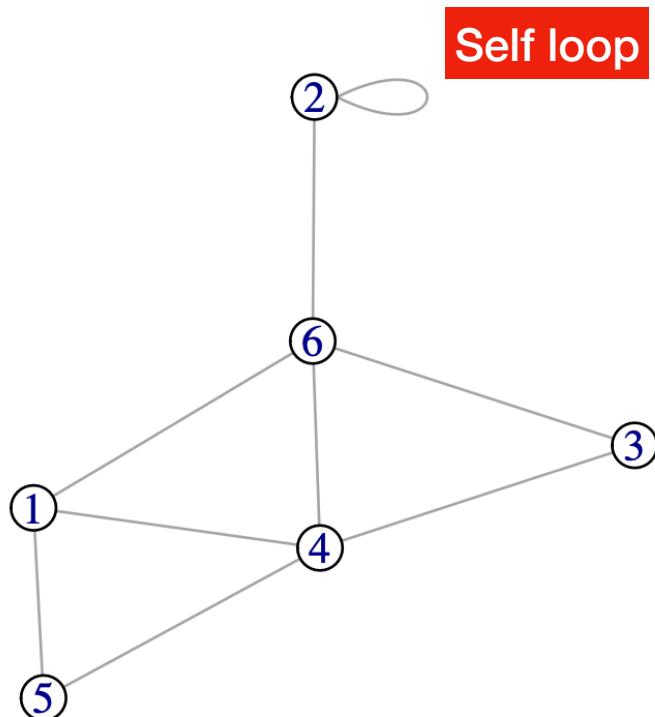
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	0	0	1	1	1
2	0	0	0	0	0	1
3	0	0	0	1	0	1
4	1	0	1	0	1	1
5	1	0	0	1	0	0
6	1	1	1	1	0	0



These both contain all the information we need to construct this network.

# Self-loops

Self-loops are connections from a node to itself



Self loop

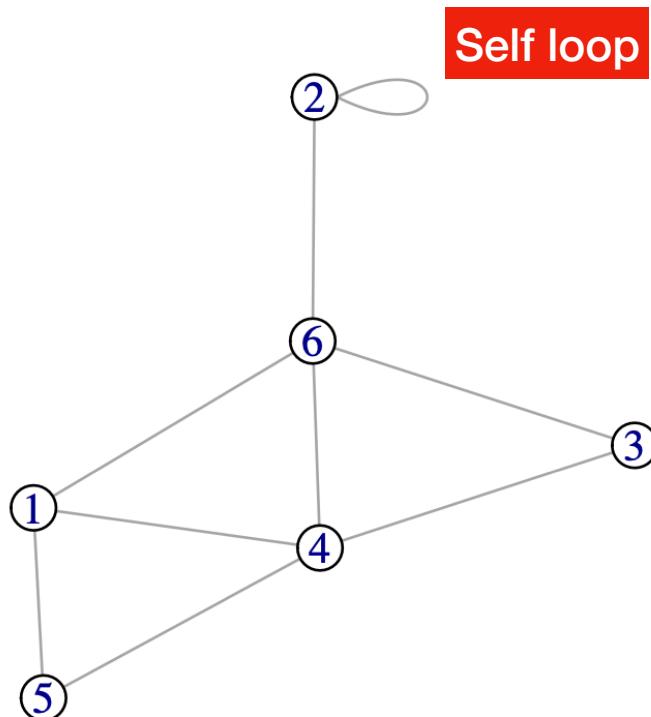
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	0	0	1	1	1
2	0	1	0	0	0	1
3	0	0	0	1	0	1
4	1	0	1	0	1	1
5	1	0	0	1	0	0
6	1	1	1	1	0	0

Diagonal

What might self-loops be good for?

# Self-loops

Self-loops are connections from a node to itself



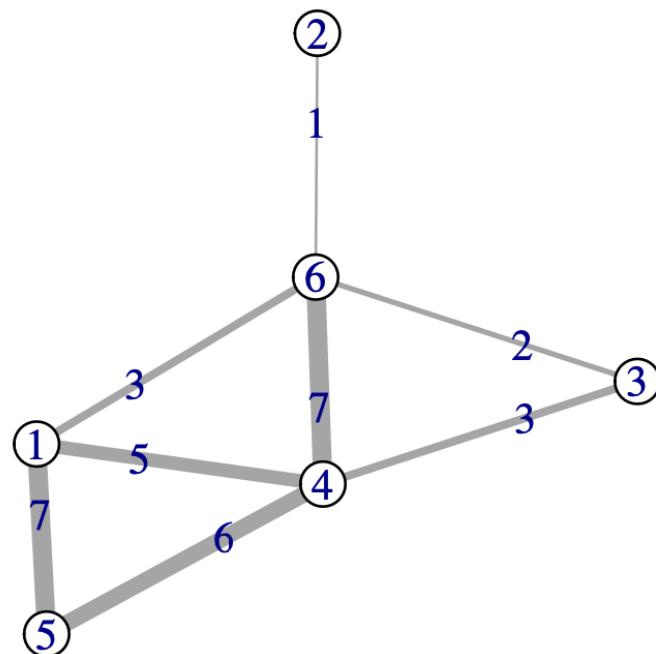
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	0	0	1	1	1
2	0	1	0	0	0	1
3	0	0	0	1	0	1
4	1	0	1	0	1	1
5	1	0	0	1	0	0
6	1	1	1	1	0	0

Diagonal

What might self-loops be good for?

Imagine we all bring cake to share, but some people eat their own cake.

# Weighted Networks



Adjacency Matrix

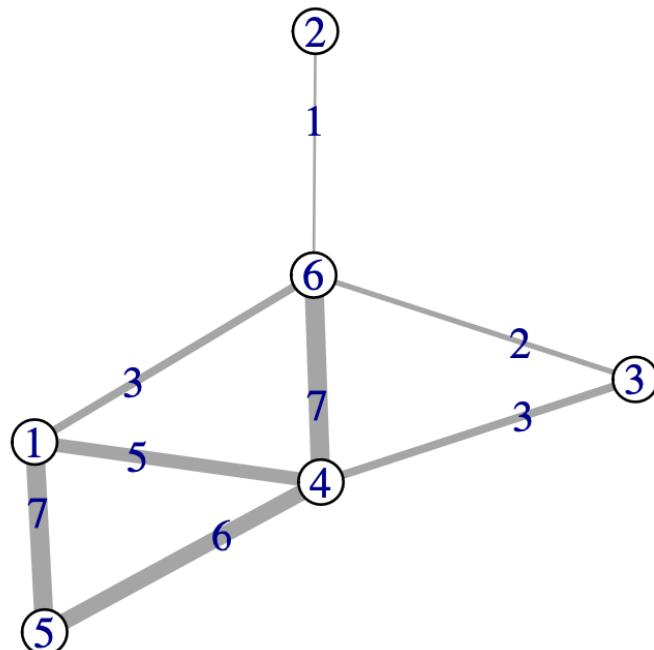
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	0	0	5	7	3
2	0	0	0	0	0	1
3	0	0	0	3	0	2
4	5	0	3	0	6	7
5	7	0	0	6	0	0
6	3	1	2	7	0	0

Edge list

V1	V2	weight
1	4	5
3	4	3
1	5	7
4	5	6
1	6	3
2	6	1
3	6	2
4	6	7

What can weights represent?

# Weighted Networks



Adjacency Matrix

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	0	0	5	7	3
2	0	0	0	0	0	1
3	0	0	0	3	0	2
4	5	0	3	0	6	7
5	7	0	0	6	0	0
6	3	1	2	7	0	0

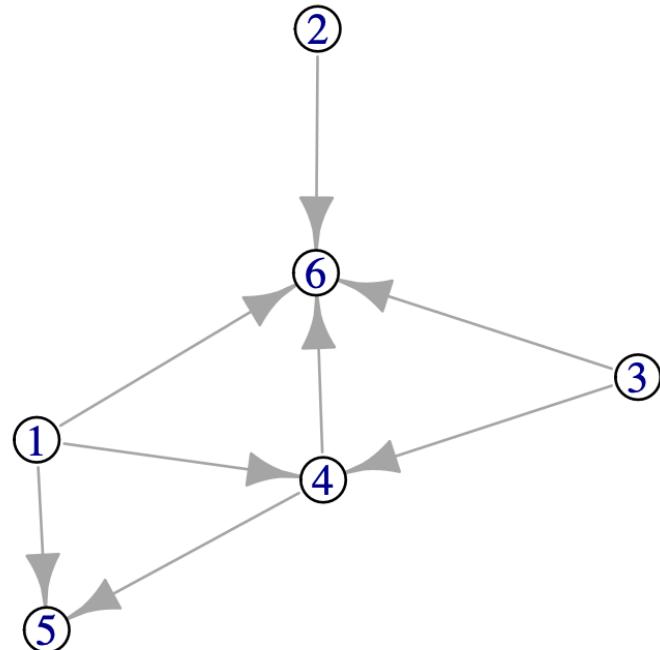
Edge list

V1	V2	weight
1	4	5
3	4	3
1	5	7
4	5	6
1	6	3
2	6	1
3	6	2
4	6	7

What can weights represent?

How similar are two nodes. How old is the relationship. What is the relationship strength.

# Directed Networks



Adjacency Matrix

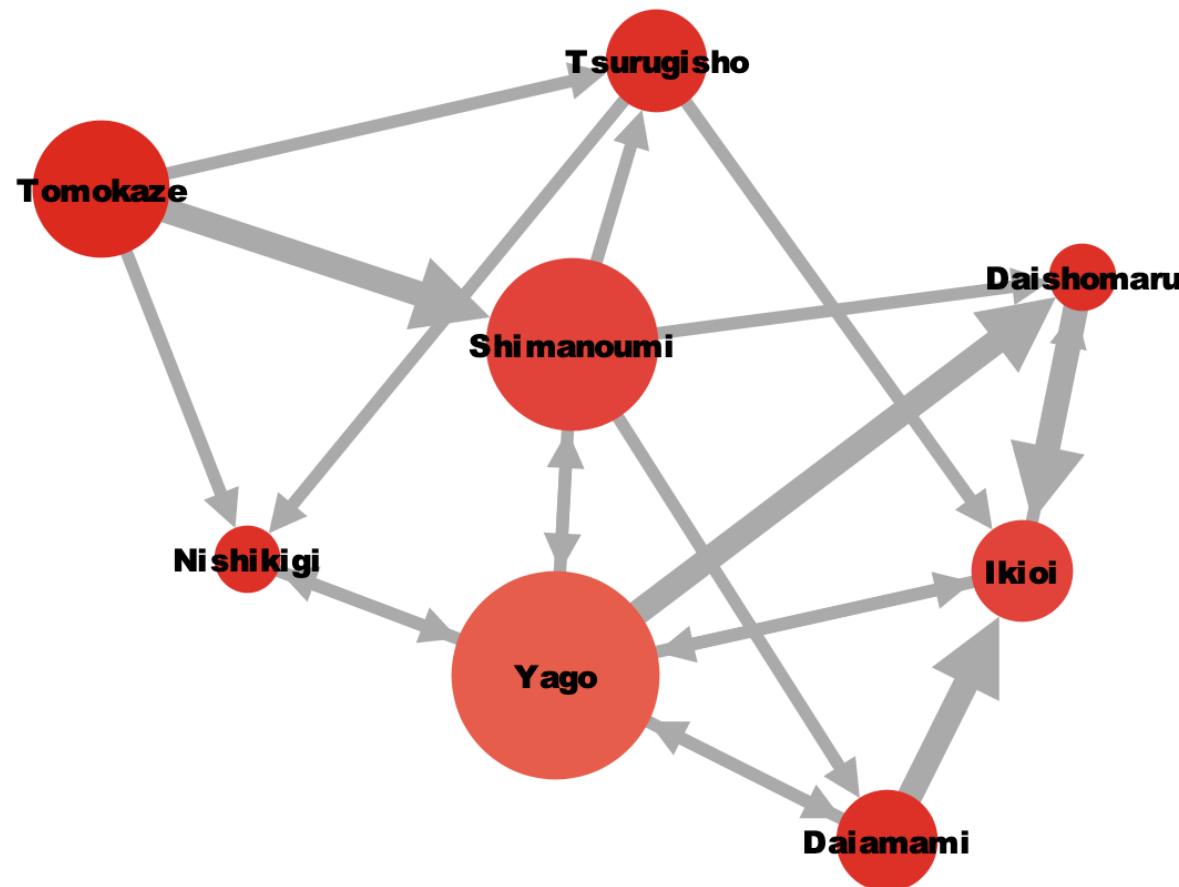
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	0	0	1	1	1
2	0	0	0	0	0	1
3	0	0	0	1	0	1
4	0	0	0	0	1	1
5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0

Edge list

V1	V2
1	4
3	4
1	5
4	5
1	6
2	6
3	6
4	6

Why does the directed edge mean?

# Application of directed network

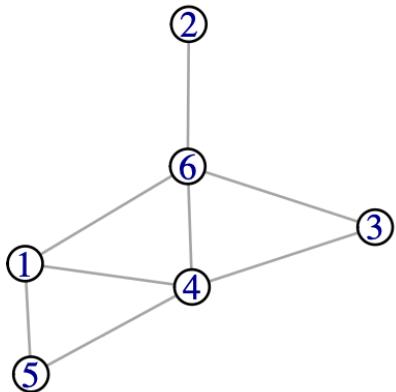


Arrows go from losers to winners

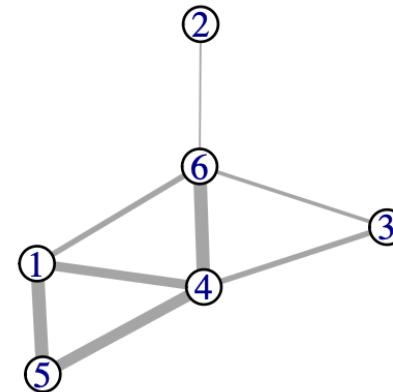
Data from Data.World Sumo Matches 2019

# 4 kinds of Networks

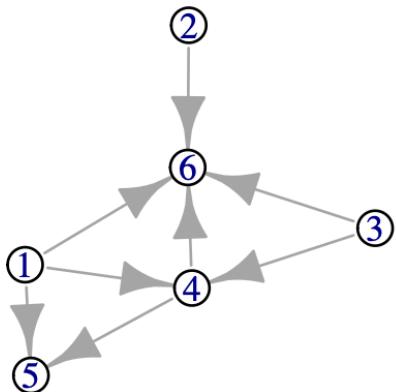
**Simple: Unweighted, Undirected**



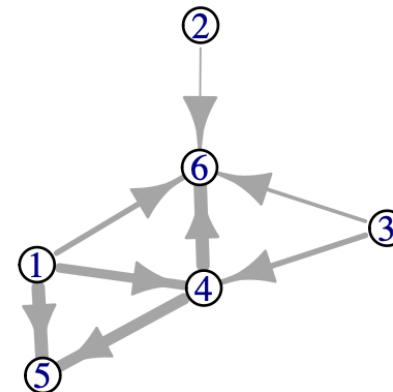
**Weighted, Undirected**



**Directed, Unweighted**



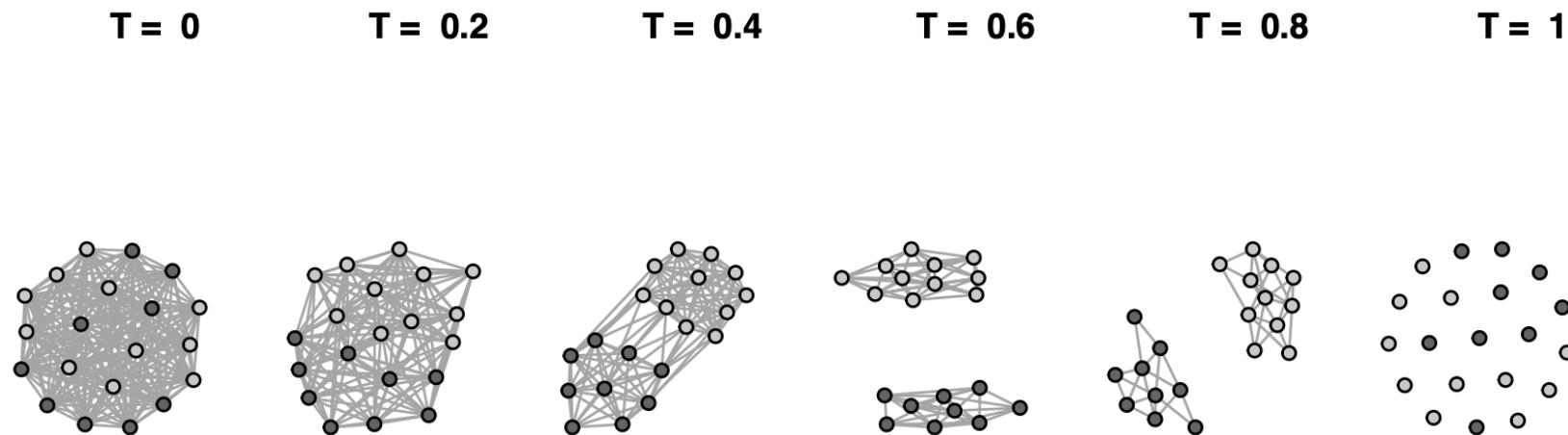
**Weighted, Directed**



- Often basic (undirected and unweighted) networks are easier to deal with.
- How can we transform a weighted and/or directed network into an unweighted and undirected network?

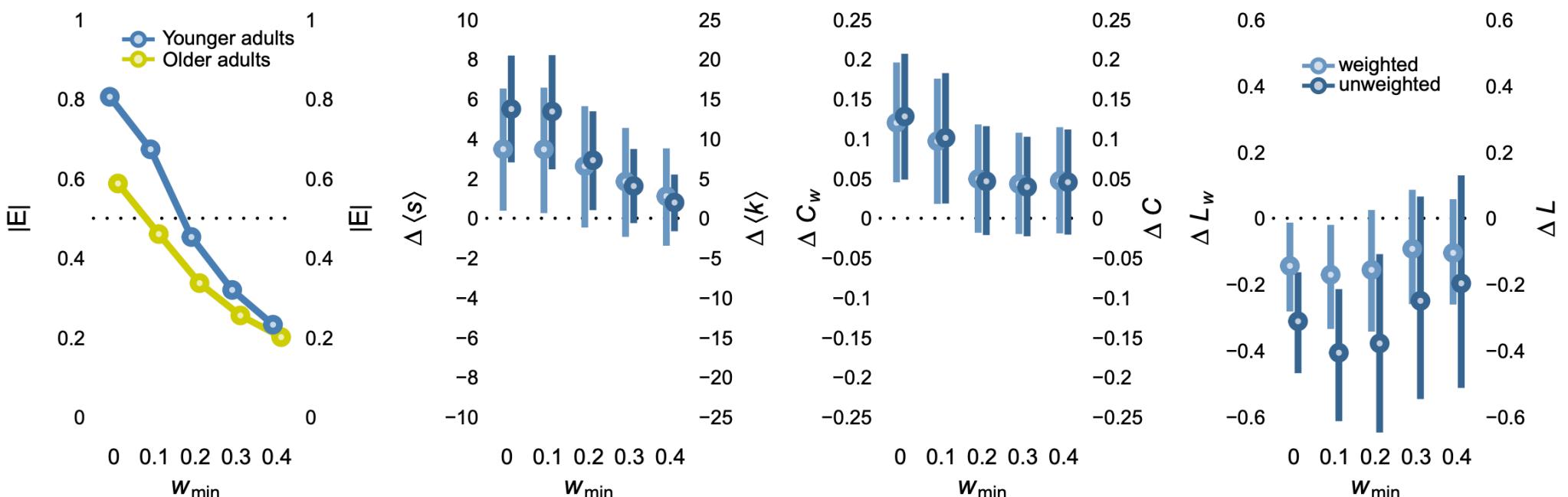
# How to get a basic network from weighted data

- Apply a moving threshold. Keep edges above threshold.



# Application of moving threshold to aging networks

- Apply a moving threshold. Keep edges above threshold.



**Figure 5.** Differences in the macroscopic structure of younger and older adults' similarity rating networks. Blue and yellow circles, in panel 1, correspond to younger and older adults, respectively. In panels 2 to 4, light blue circles and dark blue circles correspond to differences between the younger and older adults' networks derived from weighted and unweighted networks, respectively. Error bars show 95% bootstrapped confidence intervals. Note:  $|E|$  - Proportion of edges relative to fully-connected graph;  $\Delta\langle s \rangle$ ,  $\Delta\langle k \rangle$  - Differences in average strengths/degrees (unweighted);  $\Delta C_w$ ,  $\Delta C$  - Difference in average clustering coefficients of weighted/unweighted networks;  $\Delta L_w$ ,  $\Delta L$  - Difference in average shortest path lengths of weighted/unweighted networks.

# How to get a simple network from a directed network

- Keep all edges or only reciprocal edges

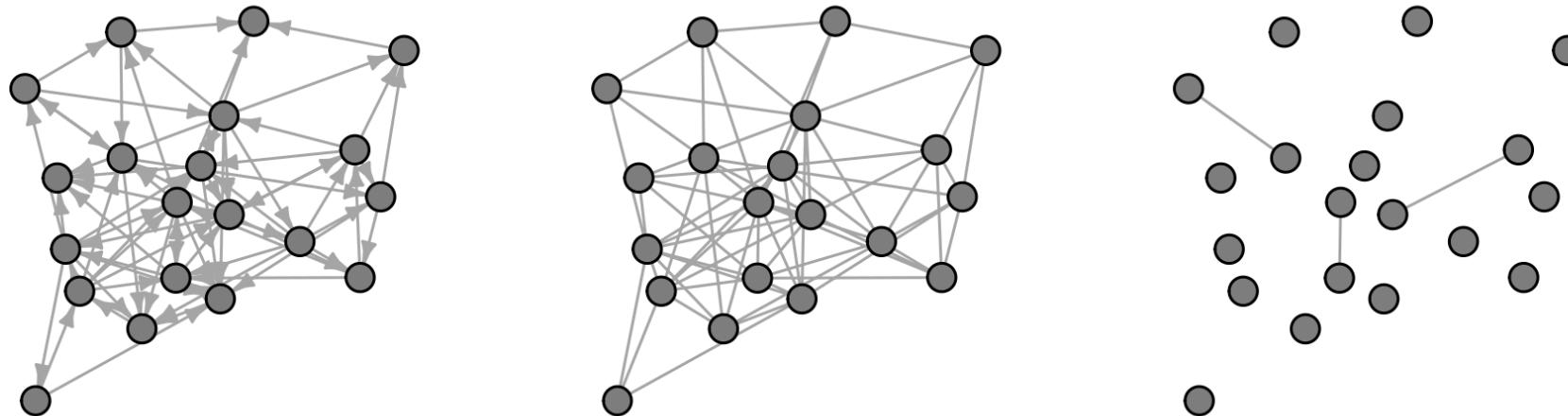
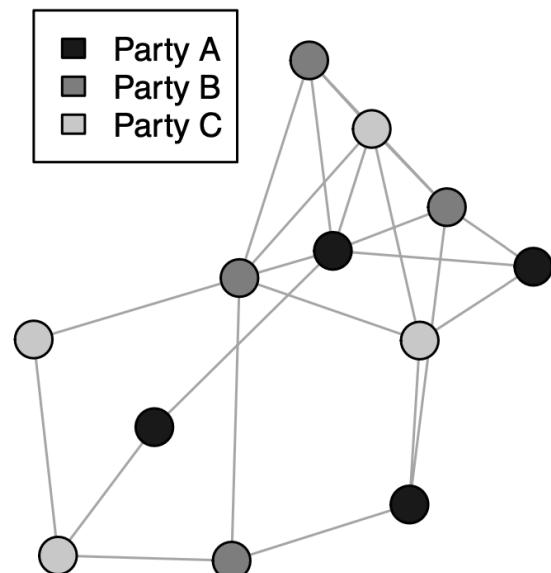


Figure 6: Thresholding directed networks. The network on the left shows the full directed network. The middle network transforms this into a simple, undirected network, making an edge wherever at least one node has a directed edge to the other. The network on the right only keeps reciprocal edges.

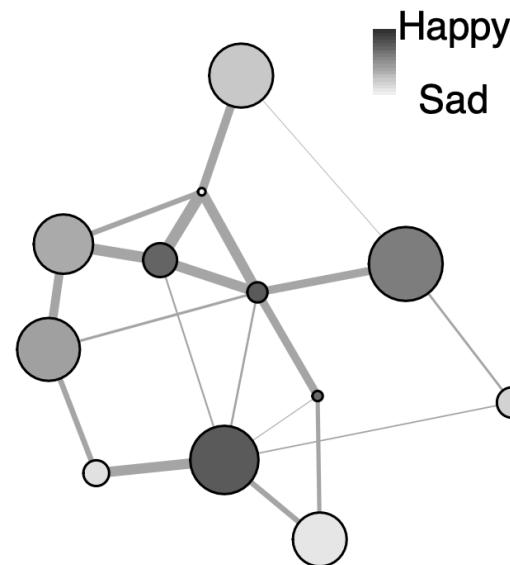
# Node and edge attributes

Nodes and edges can have properties of their own

**Political Party**

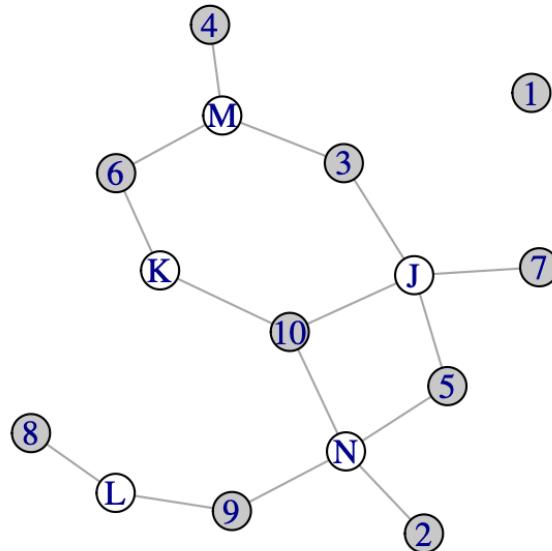


**Age**

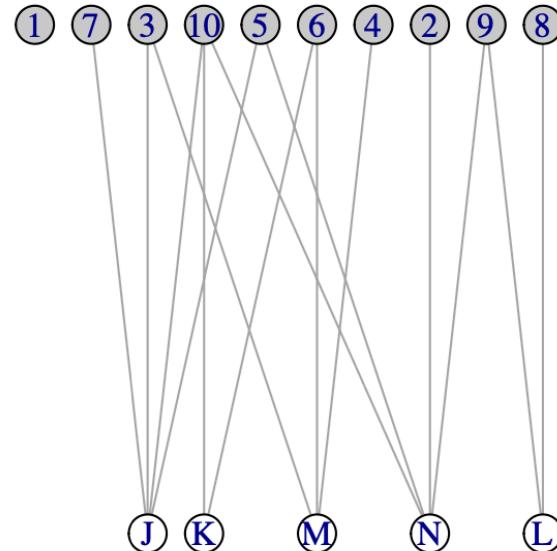


# Bipartite Networks

Bipartite networks have two kinds of nodes and nodes are only connected to nodes of other types.



Bipartite network



These two networks are the same (just visualized differently), and represented by the rectangular 'incidence' matrix on the right.

	J	K	L	M	N
1	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	1
3	1	0	0	1	0
4	0	0	0	1	0
5	1	0	0	0	1
6	0	1	0	1	0
7	1	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	1	0	0
9	0	0	1	0	1
10	1	1	0	0	1

# Bipartite Projections

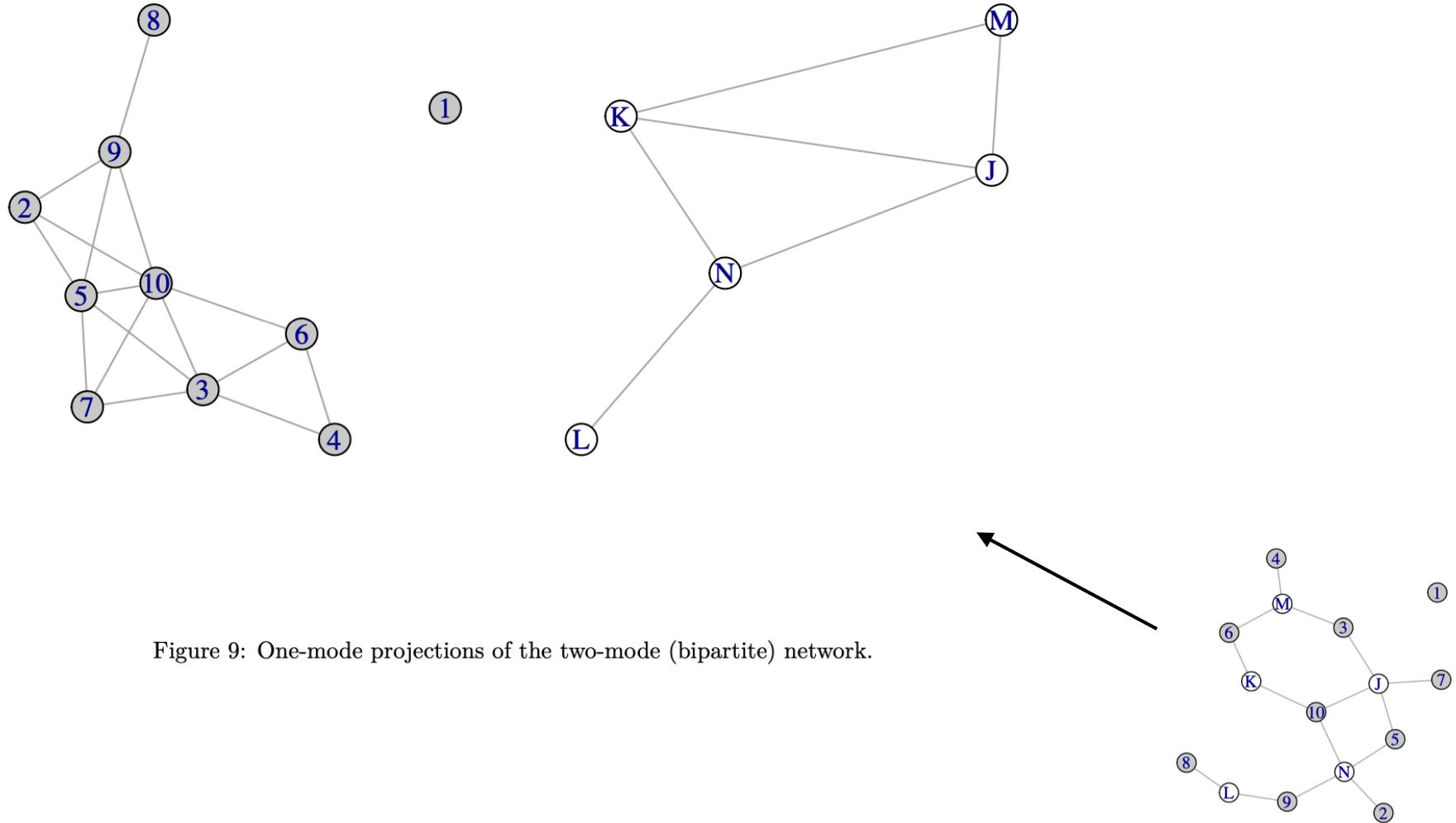


Figure 9: One-mode projections of the two-mode (bipartite) network.

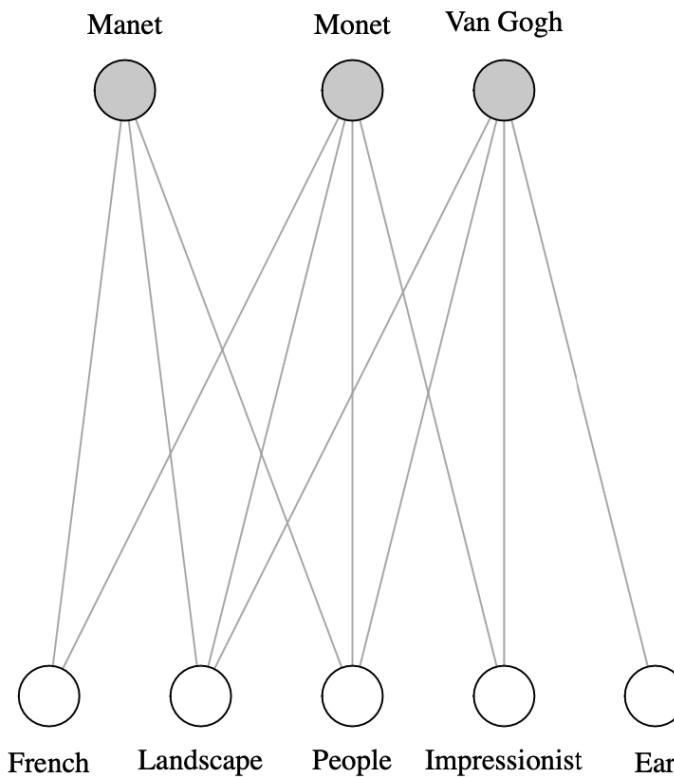
# Application of bipartite networks



Figure 1: Paintings from Manet (left), Monet (centre), Van Gogh (right)

Table 1: A bipartite adjacency matrix with two node types: painters and features.

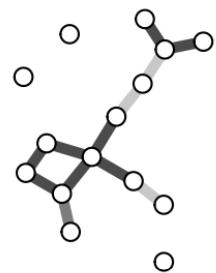
	French	Landscape	People	Ear	Impressionist
Manet	1	0.1	1.0	0	0
Monet	1	1.0	0.1	0	1
Van Gogh	0	1.0	0.1	1	1



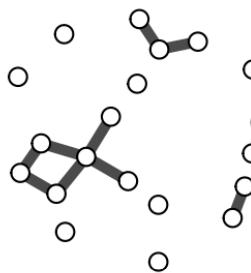
# Multiplex Networks

## Contain edges of different kinds

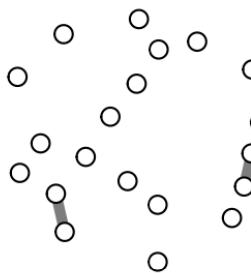
All Edges



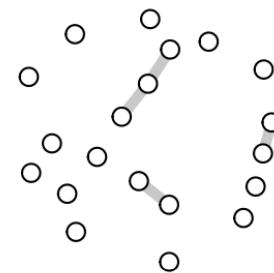
Edge A



Edge B



Edge C



Also called multilayer networks

# Summary

- Structure matters in the behavioral sciences: Examples
- Network basics: How to turn data into networks, how to represent networks, different kinds of networks, how to simplify networks.