



# Three Lectures on Networks

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 @aaronclauset

Professor of Computer Science  
University of Colorado Boulder  
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**lecture 2: degrees, positions, and communities**



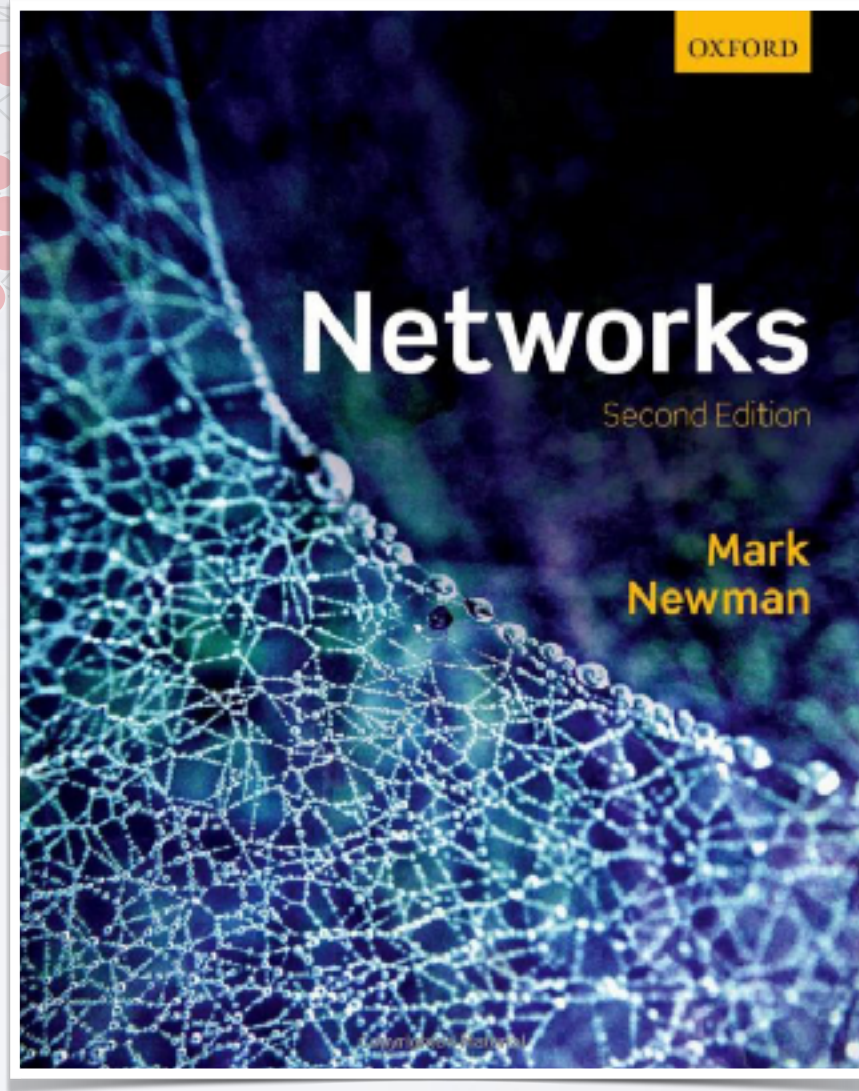


Mark Newman

Professor of Physics  
University of Michigan

External Faculty  
Santa Fe Institute

<http://www-personal.umich.edu/~mejn/>





University of Colorado **Boulder**

## **Network Analysis and Modeling**

Instructor: Aaron Clauset *or* Daniel B. Larremore

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 algorithms and methods, and both lectures and assignments will emphasize model interpretability and understanding the processes that generate real data. Applications will be drawn from computational biology and computational social science. No biological or social science training is required. (Note: this is not a scientific computing course, but there will be plenty of computing for science.)

*Full lectures notes online (~150 pages in PDF)*

<https://aaronclauset.github.io/courses/5352/>



University of Colorado **Boulder**

## **Biological Networks**

Instructor: Aaron Clauset

This undergraduate-level course examines the computational representation and analysis of biological phenomena through the structure and dynamics of networks, from molecules to species. Attention focuses on algorithms for clustering network structures, predicting missing information, modeling flows, regulation, and spreading-process dynamics, examining the evolution of network structure, and developing intuition for how network structure and dynamics relate to biological phenomena.

*Full lectures notes online (~150 pages in PDF)*

<https://aaronclauset.github.io/courses/3352/>

## Software

[R](#)

[Python](#)

[Matlab](#)

★ [NetworkX](#) [python]

★ [igraph](#) [python, R, c++]

[graph-tool](#) [python, c++]

[GraphLab](#) [python, c++]

## Standalone editors

[UCI-Net](#)

[NodeXL](#)

[Gephi](#)

[Pajek](#)

[Network Workbench](#)

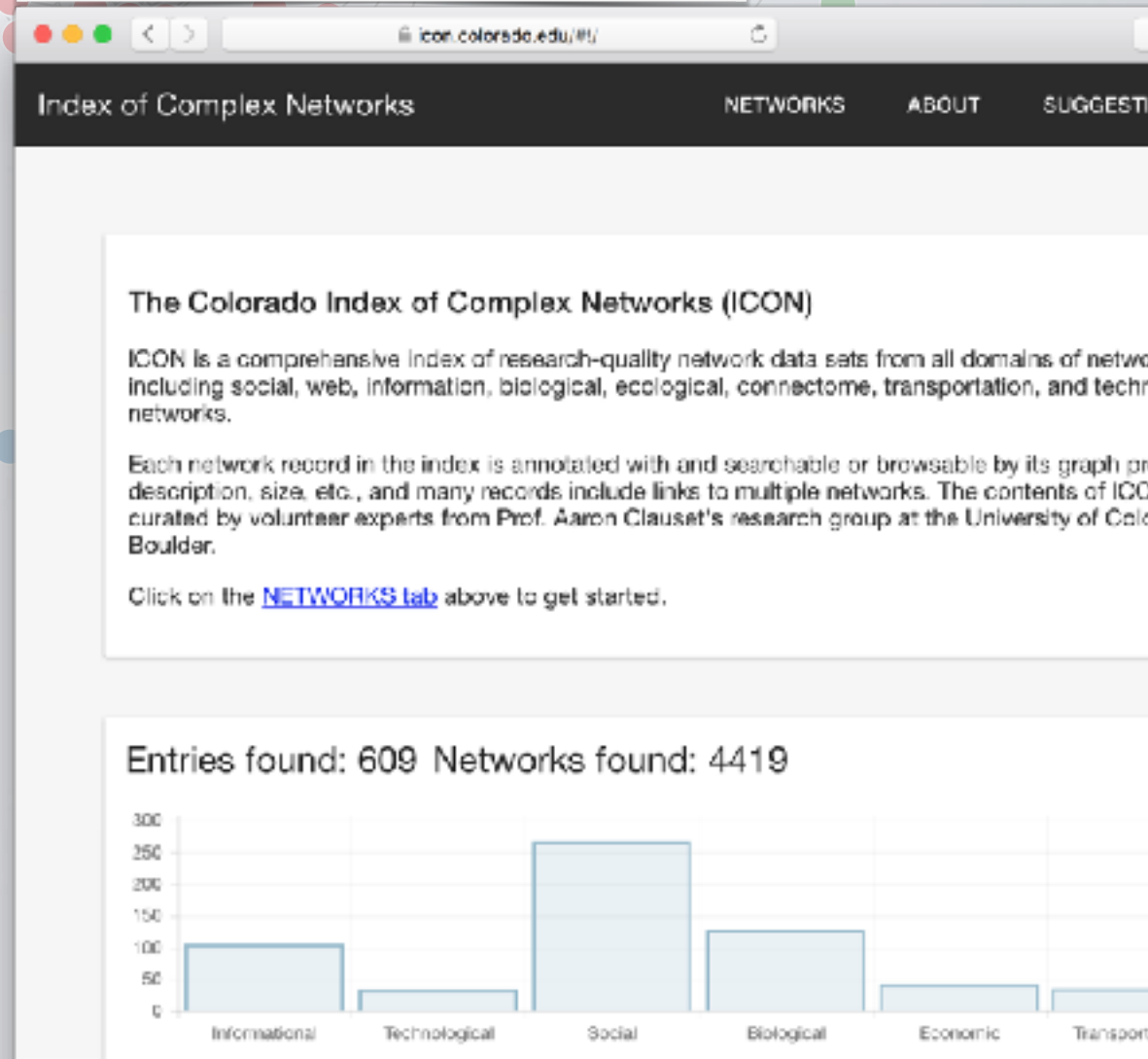
[Cytoscape](#)

[yEd graph editor](#)

[Graphviz](#)

## Network data sets

★ [Colorado Index of Complex Networks](http://icon.colorado.edu)  
[icon.colorado.edu](http://icon.colorado.edu)



Index of Complex Networks NETWORKS ABOUT SUGGEST

### The Colorado Index of Complex Networks (ICON)

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

Each network record in the index is annotated with and searchable or browsable by its graph or 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: 609 Networks found: 4419

Domain	Count
Informational	100
Technological	30
Social	270
Biological	120
Economic	40
Transportation	20



1. defining a network

- 2. describing a network**

3. null models and statistical inference for networks

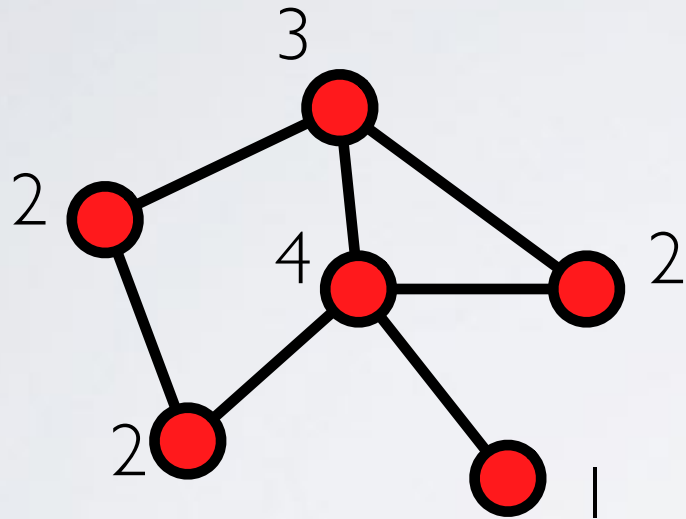
three main types of descriptive statistics:

1. connectivity (degree, etc.)

2. geometric (paths, distances, etc.)

3. motifs (small subgraphs, triangles, etc.)

# describing networks



**degree:**

number of connections  $k$

$$k_i = \sum_j A_{ij}$$

**when does node  
degree matter?**



# network degrees

## spreading processes on networks

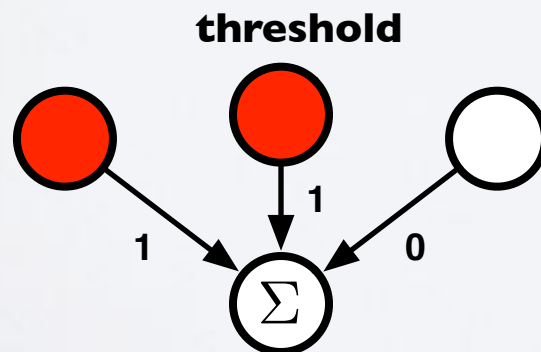
*network edges are the mechanism of transmission*

biological (diseases)

- SIS and SIR models

social (information)

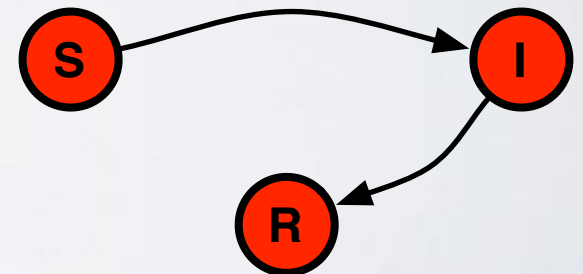
- SIS, SIR models
- threshold models



**susceptible-infected-susceptible**



**susceptible-infected-recovered**

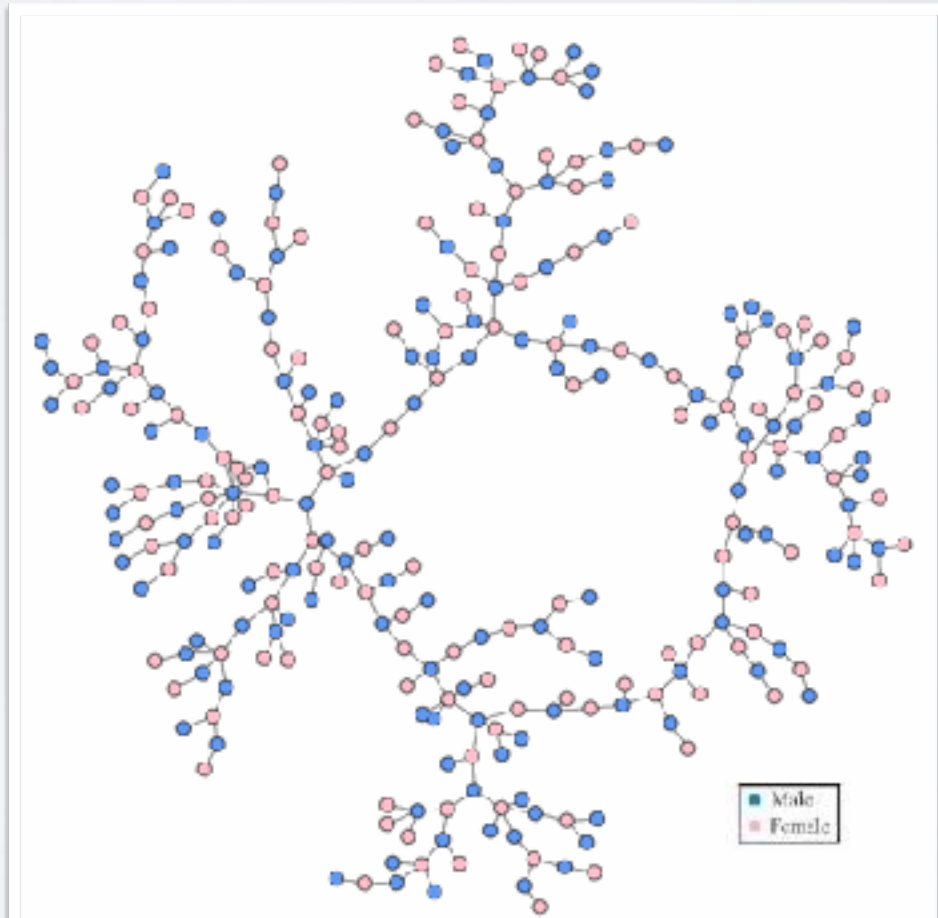


# network degrees

## Chains of Affection: The Structure of Adolescent Romantic and Sexual Networks 2004

Peter S. Bearman      James Moody      Katherine Stovel  
*Columbia University      Ohio State University      University of Washington*

- relationship network in “Jefferson High”
- this subgraph is 52% of school
- who are most important disease spreaders?





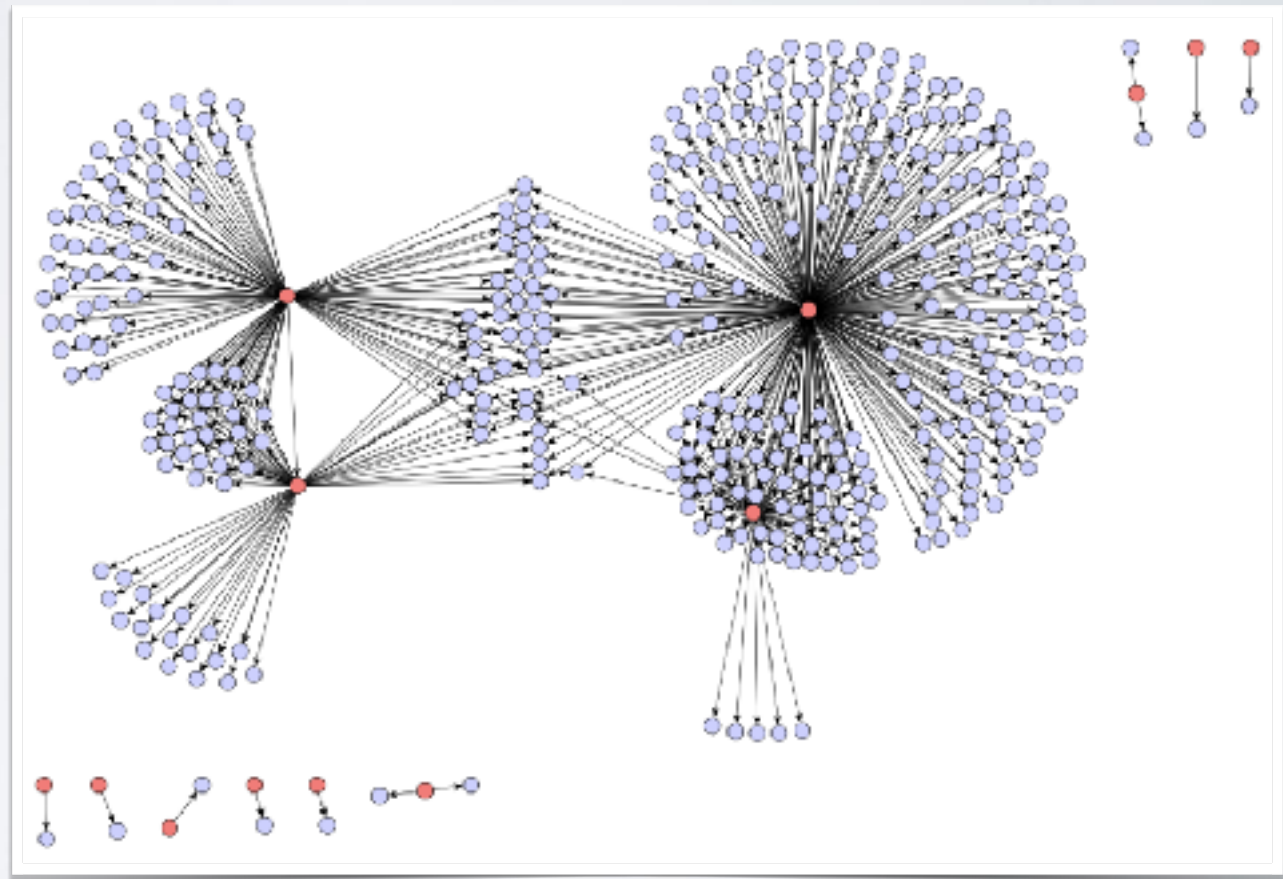
# network degrees

## The Dynamics of Viral Marketing

2007

JURE LESKOVEC LADA A. ADAMIC BERNARDO A. HUBERMAN

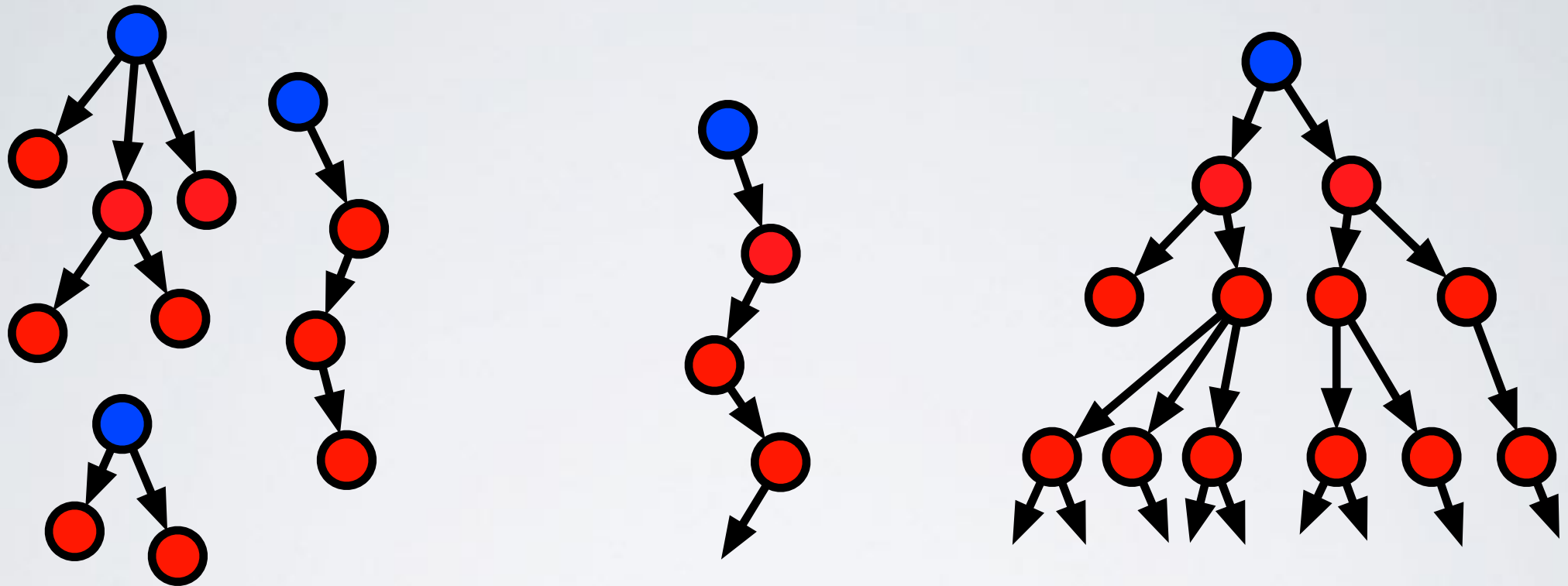
- amazon.com viral marketing
- viral trace for “*Oh my Goddess!*” community
- very high degrees!
- most attempts to “influence” fail







# network degrees



$$R_0 < 1$$

“sub-critical”  
small outbreaks

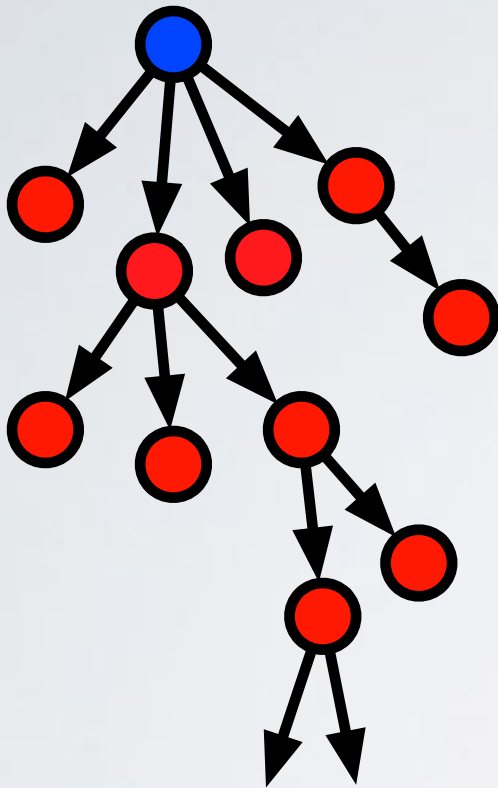
$$R_0 = 1$$

“critical”  
outbreaks of all sizes

$$R_0 > 1$$

“super-critical”  
global epidemics

# network degrees

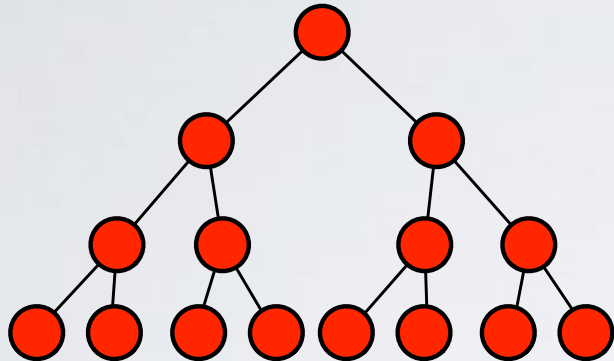


disease	$R_0$	transmission	vax.
measles	12 – 18	airborne	90 – 95%
chickenpox	7 – 12		85 – 90%
polio	5 – 7	fecal-oral route	82 – 87%
small pox	1.5 – 20+	airborne droplet	70 – 80%
H1N1 flu	1 – 3	airborne droplet	≈ 67%
ebola	1.5 – 2.5	bodily fluids	
zika	2		
covid-19 (wildtype)	≈ 2.4	aerosols	≈ 60%
covid-19 (alpha)	4 – 5	aerosols	75 – 80%
covid-19 (delta)	5 – 8	aerosols	80 – 88%
covid-19 (omicron)	10 – 14	aerosols	90 – 93%

↑  
all super-critical

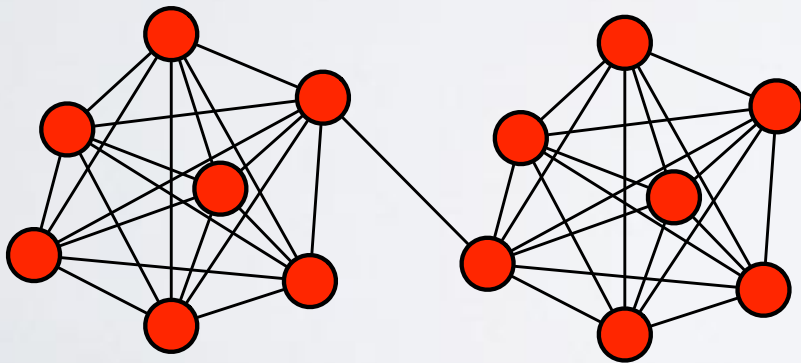


# network degrees



## bigger cascades

- smaller overlap among neighbors
- more *expander*-like  
[more like a random graph]
- higher transmission probability
- lower activation threshold



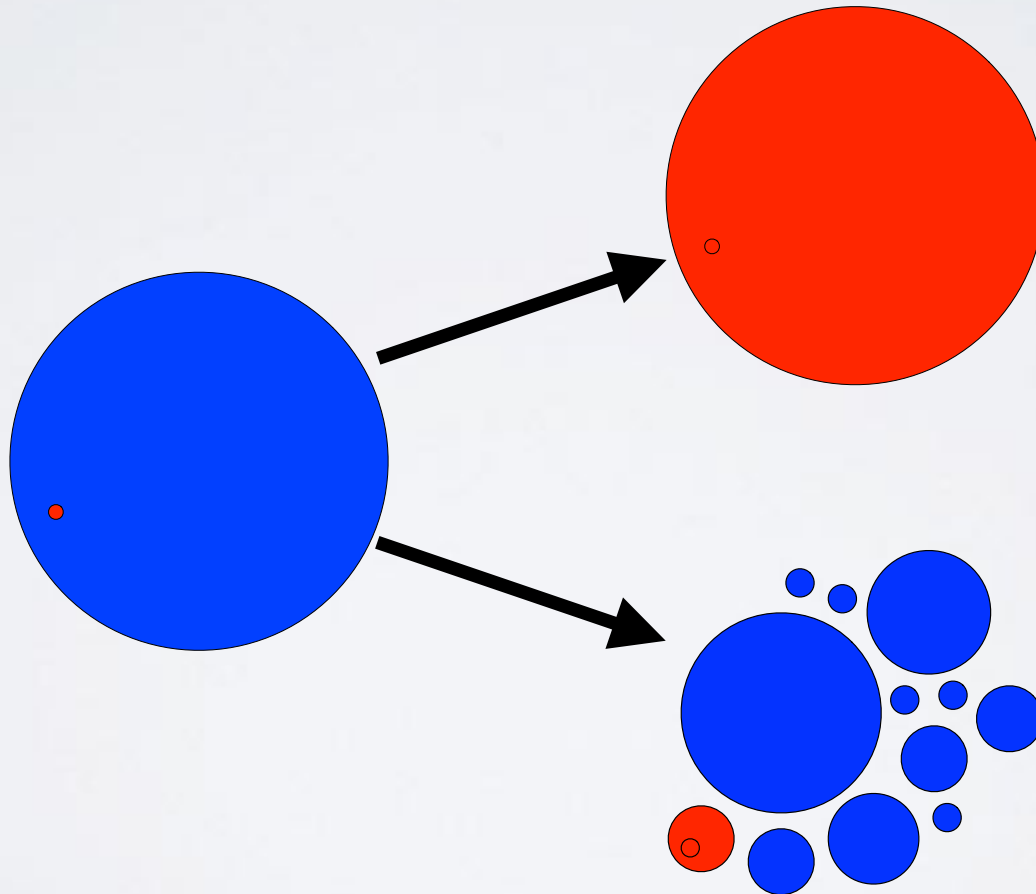
## smaller cascades

- larger overlap among neighbors
- more triangles
- smaller "communities"
- more spatial-like organization
- lower transmission probability
- higher activation threshold

# network degrees

## how could we halt the spread?

- break network into disconnected pieces



# network degrees

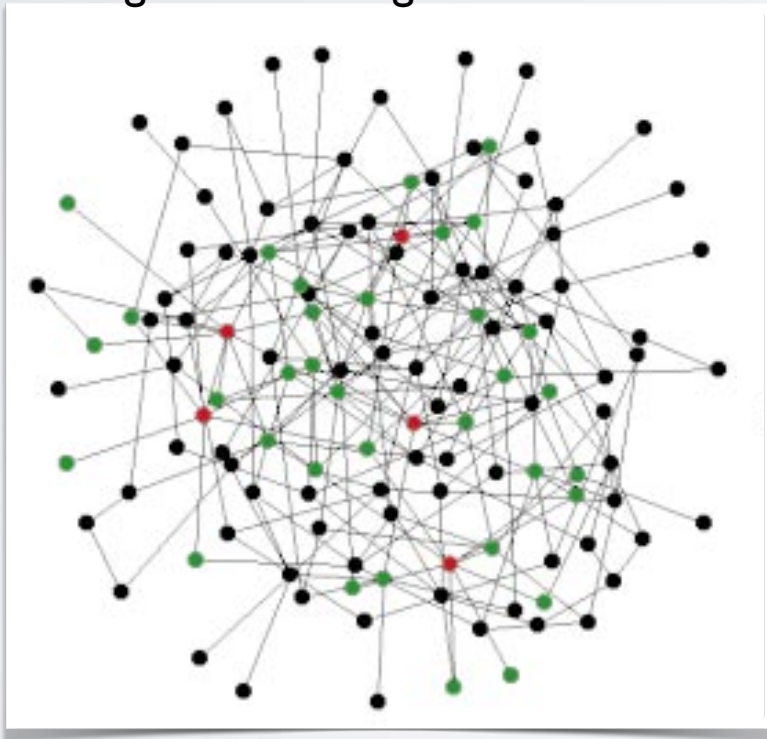
## two networks

### Error and attack tolerance of complex networks

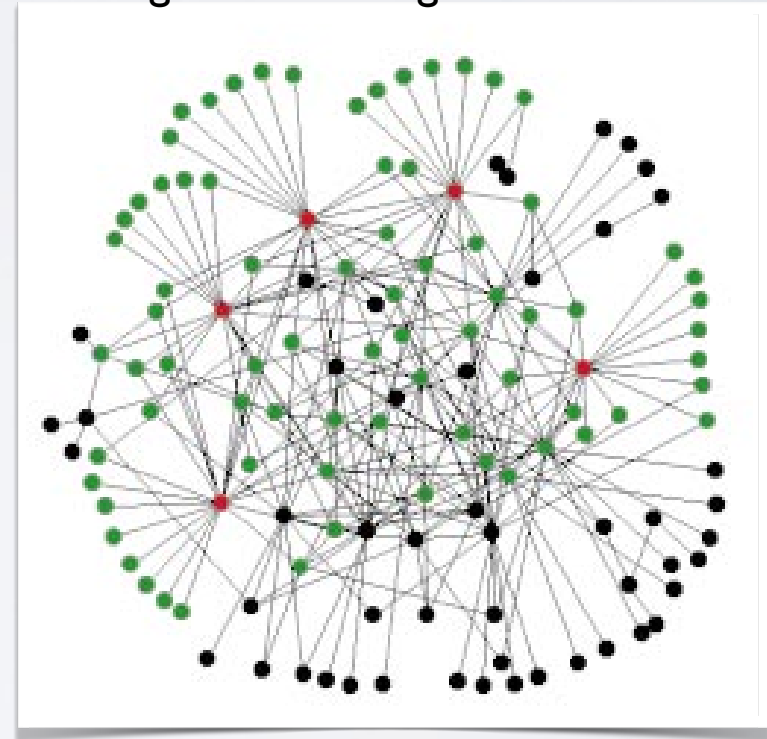
2000

Réka Albert, Hawoong Jeong & Albert-László Barabási

homogeneous in degree



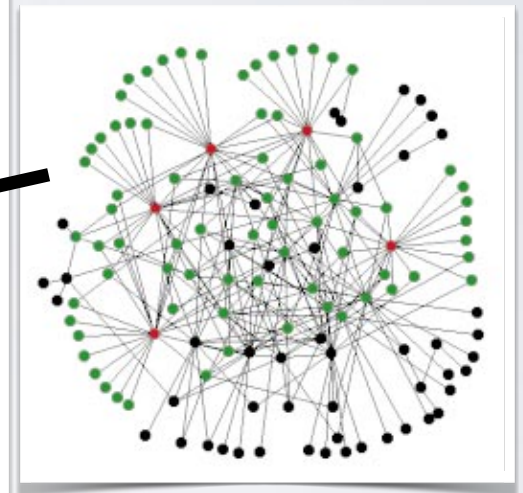
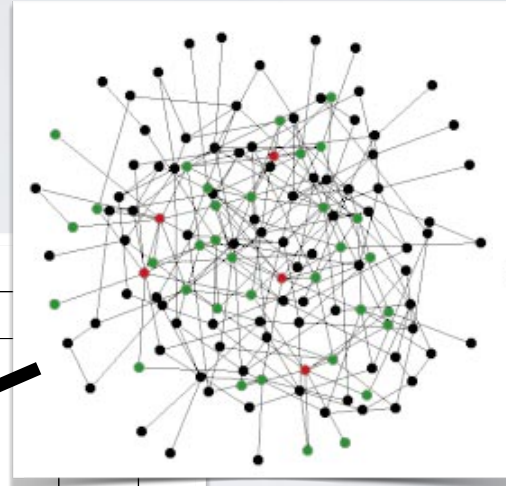
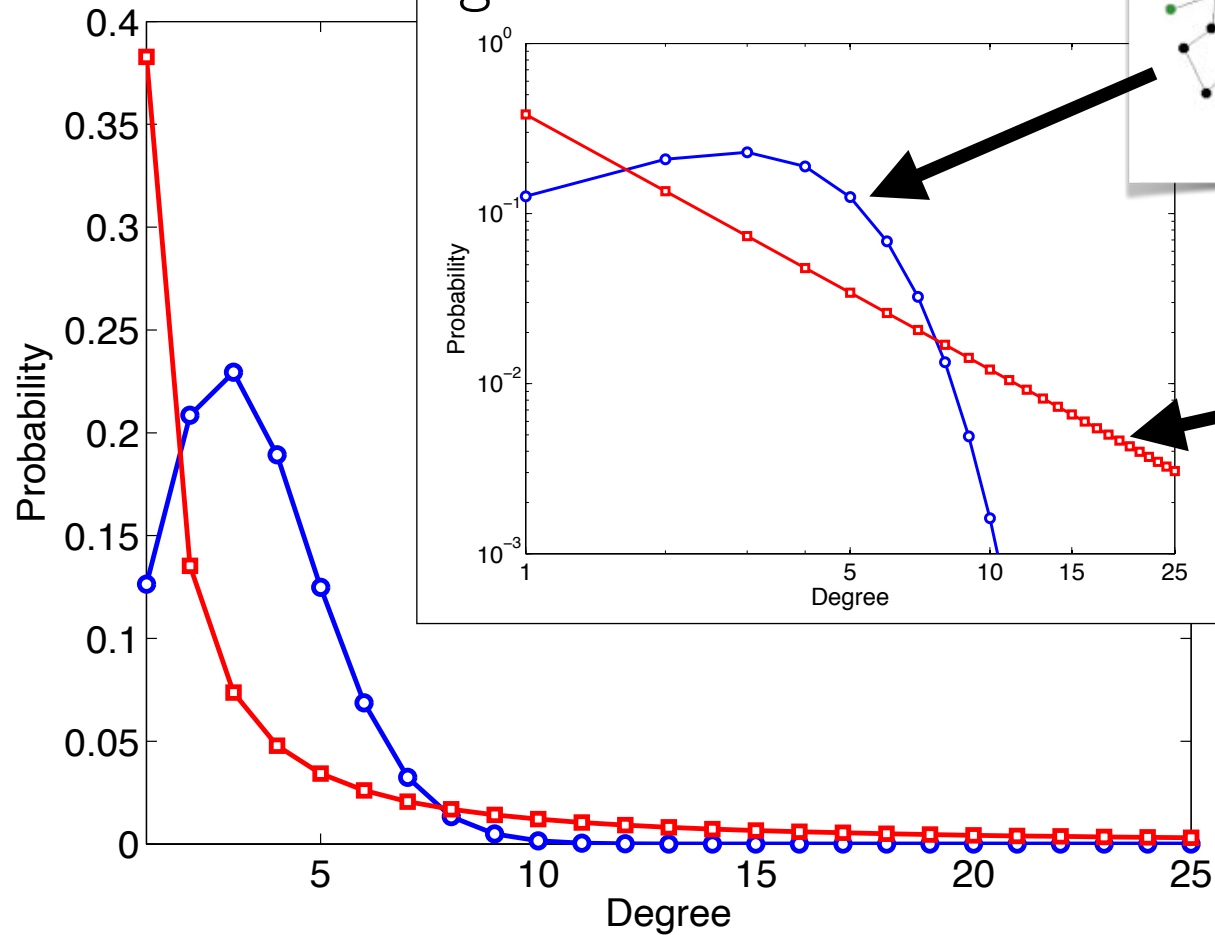
heterogeneous in degree



# network degrees

## two networks

degree distributions

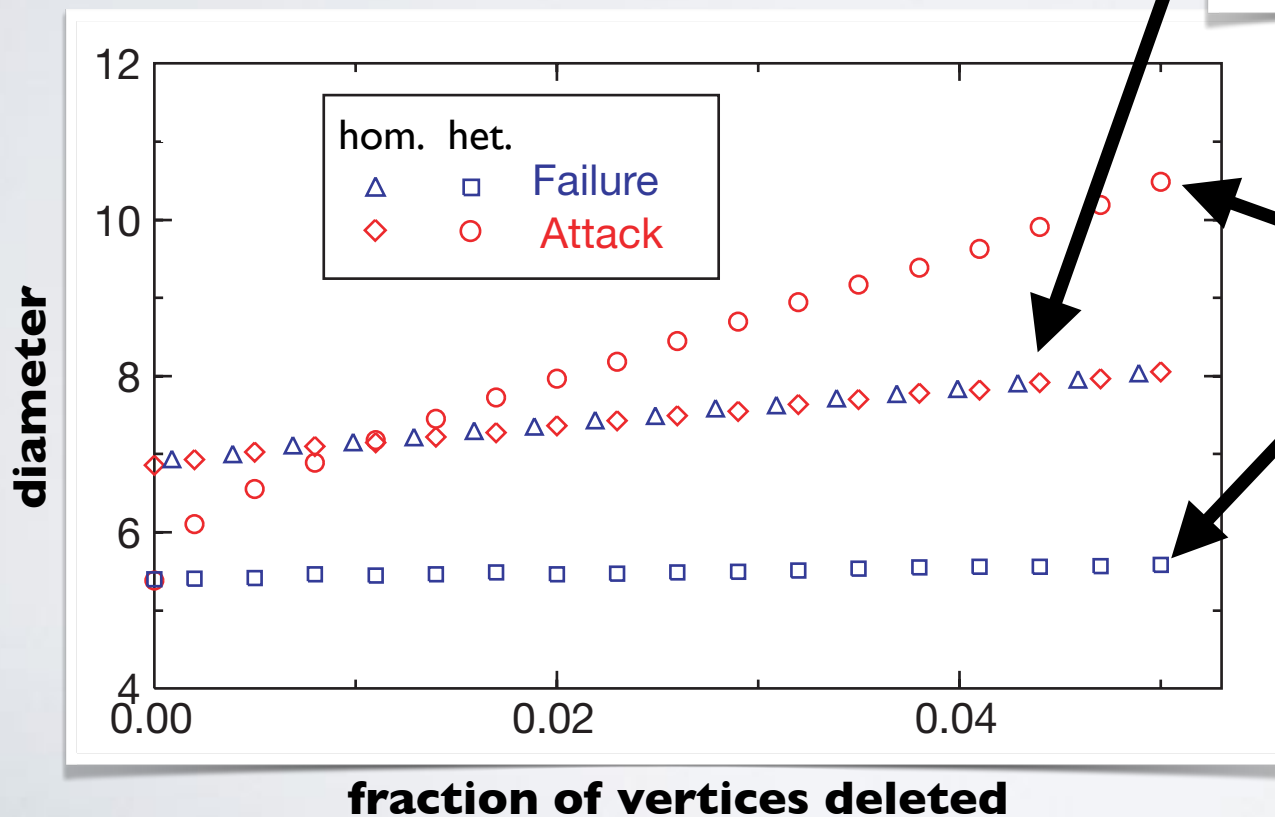
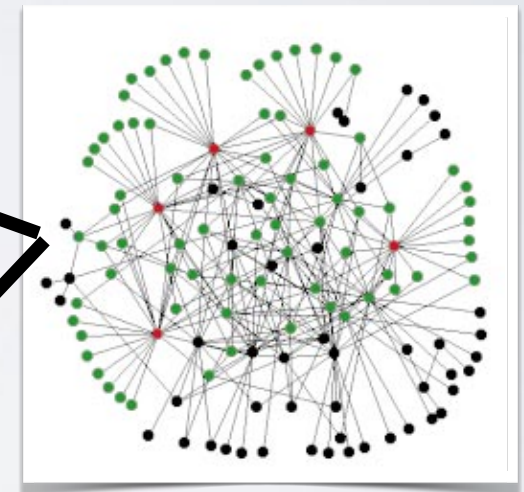
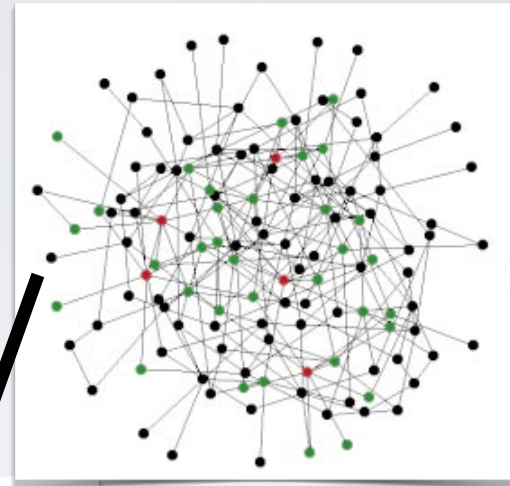




# network degrees

## strategy: delete vertices

1. uniformly at random (“failure”)
2. in order of degree (“attack”)

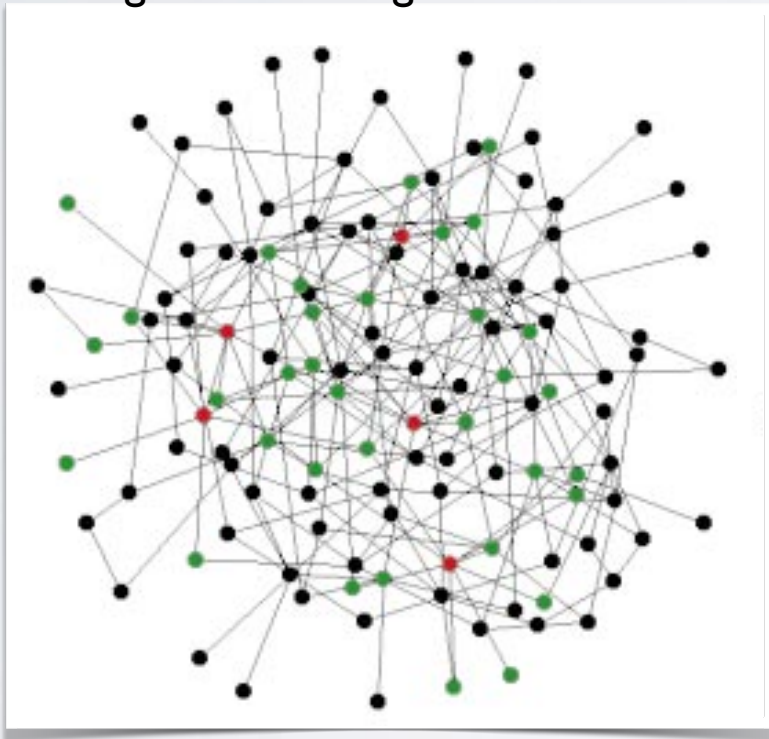


# network degrees

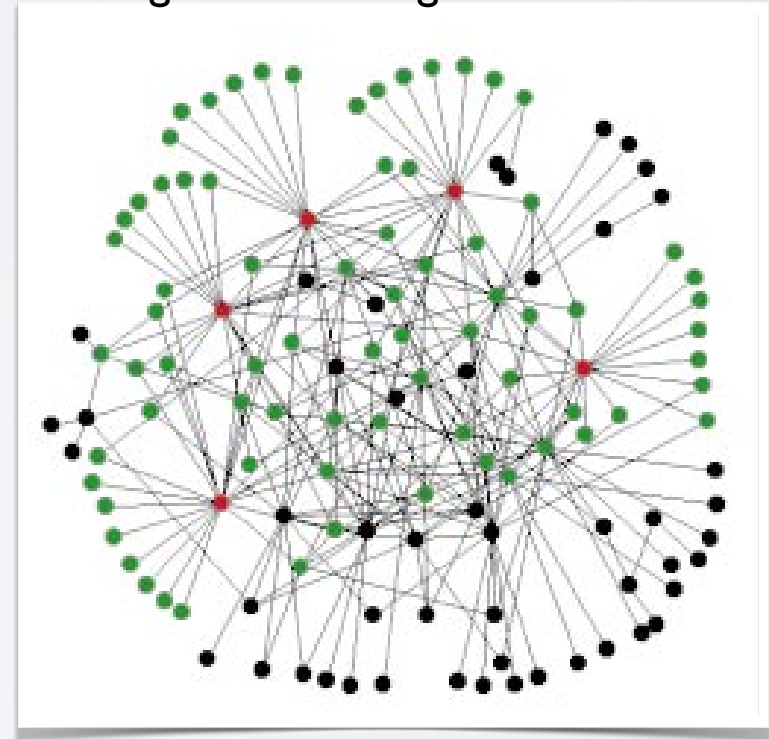
## what promotes spreading?

- high-degree vertices\*
- centrally-located vertices

homogeneous in degree



heterogeneous in degree

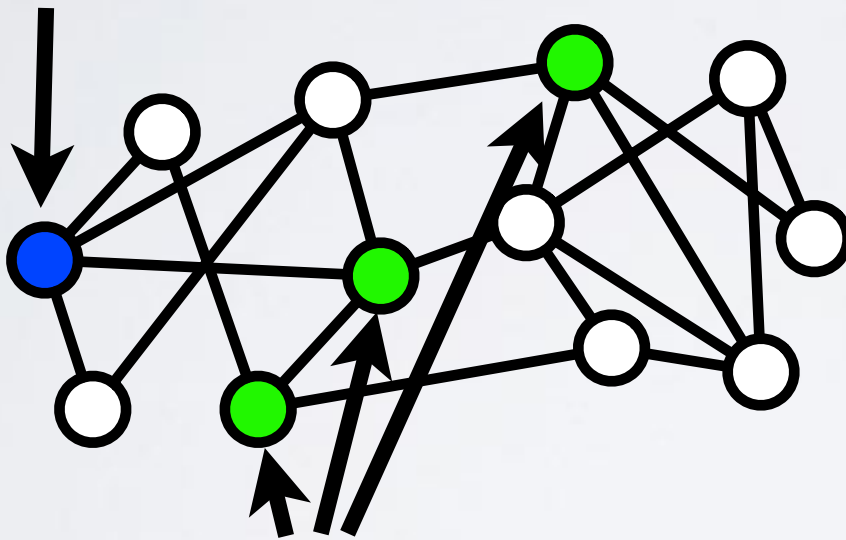


# network degrees

## strategy: delete vertices

3. build “fire breaks”

patient 0



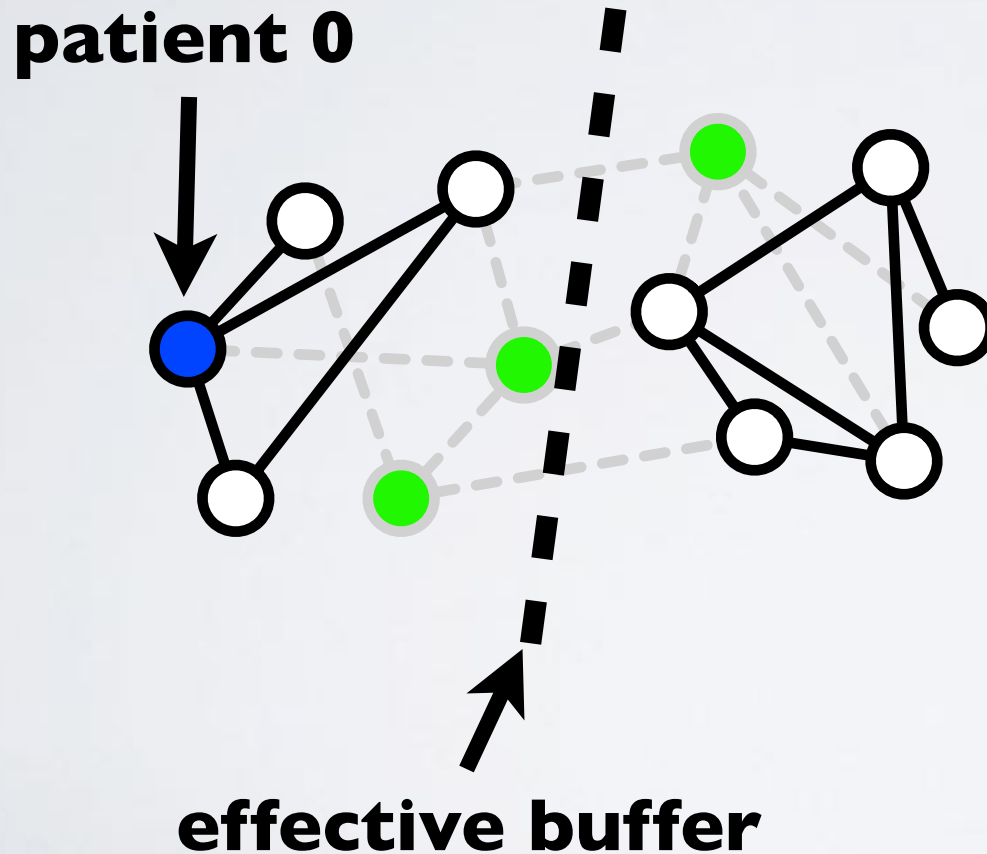
**vaccinated = deleted**  
 (“fire break”)

software packages for simulating epidemics on networks

1. Epidemics on Networks (EoN) <https://epidemicsonnetworks.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>

2. SEIR+ Model <https://github.com/ryansmcgee/seirplus>

# network degrees



- **vaccination strategies**

- the “front line” (hospitals)
- high degree nodes
- the vulnerable (old/young)



**network degrees**

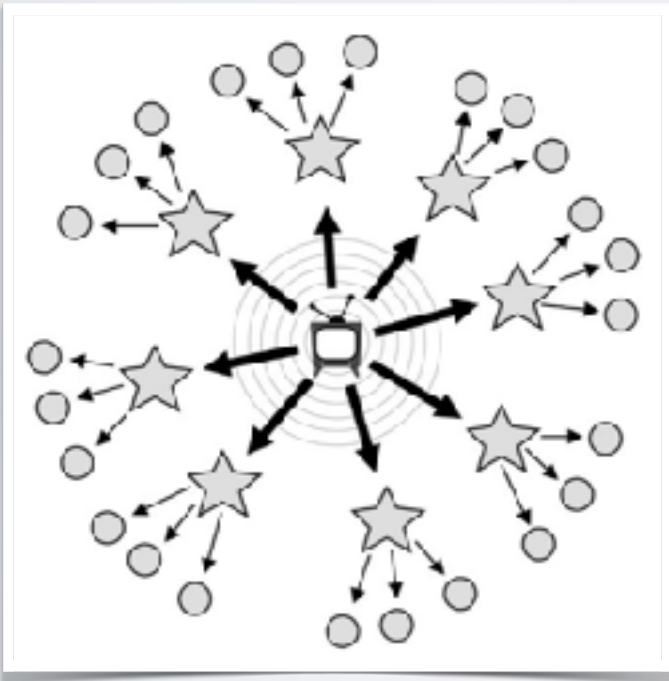
**but, in social networks...**

# network degrees

## Influentials, Networks, and Public Opinion Formation

DUNCAN J. WATTS  
PETER SHERIDAN DODDS\*

2007



broadcast influence

- classic information marketing
- message saturation
- **degree** is most important

# network degrees

## Influentials, Networks, and Public Opinion Formation

DUNCAN J. WATTS  
PETER SHERIDAN DODDS\*

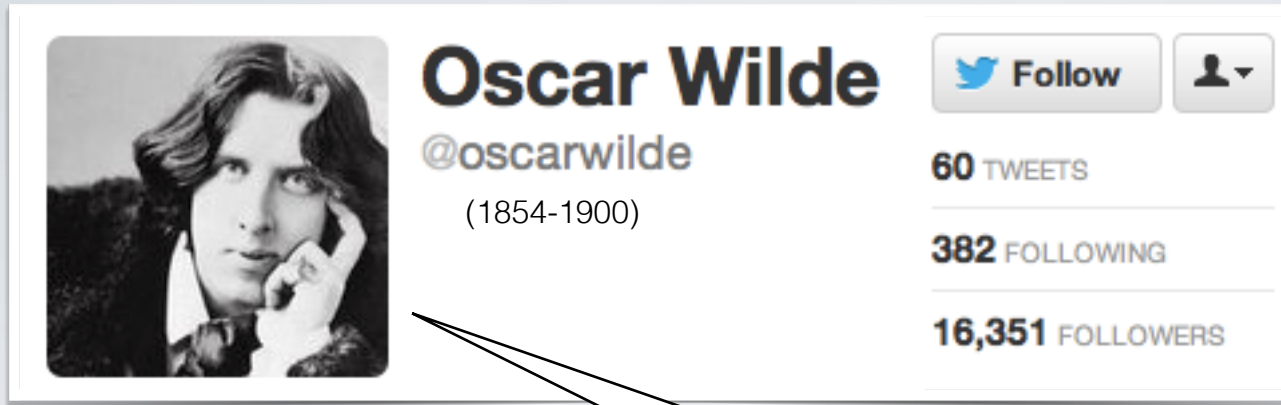
2007



network influence

- “network” (decentralized) marketing
- high-degree = “opinion leader”
- high-degree alone = **irrelevant**
- a cascade requires a legion of *susceptibles* (a system-level property)

# network degrees



“The only thing worse than being talked about is not being talked about.”

- "influence" not really about the influencer
- as much about the susceptibles



# network degrees

how to start a **social movement**?

# network degrees

how to start a **social movement**?



# network degrees

## The Structural Virality of Online Diffusion

Sharad Goel, Ashton Anderson

Stanford University, Stanford, California, 94305 {[scgoel@stanford.edu](mailto:scgoel@stanford.edu), [ashton@cs.stanford.edu](mailto:ashton@cs.stanford.edu)}

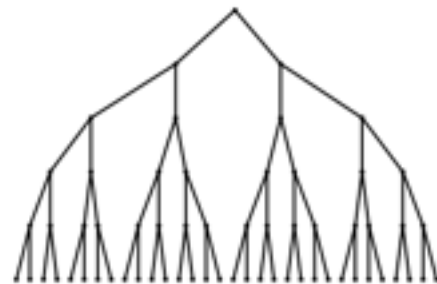
Jake Hofman, Duncan J. Watts

Microsoft Research, New York, New York 10016 {[jmh@microsoft.com](mailto:jmh@microsoft.com), [duncan@microsoft.com](mailto:duncan@microsoft.com)} 2015

broadcast



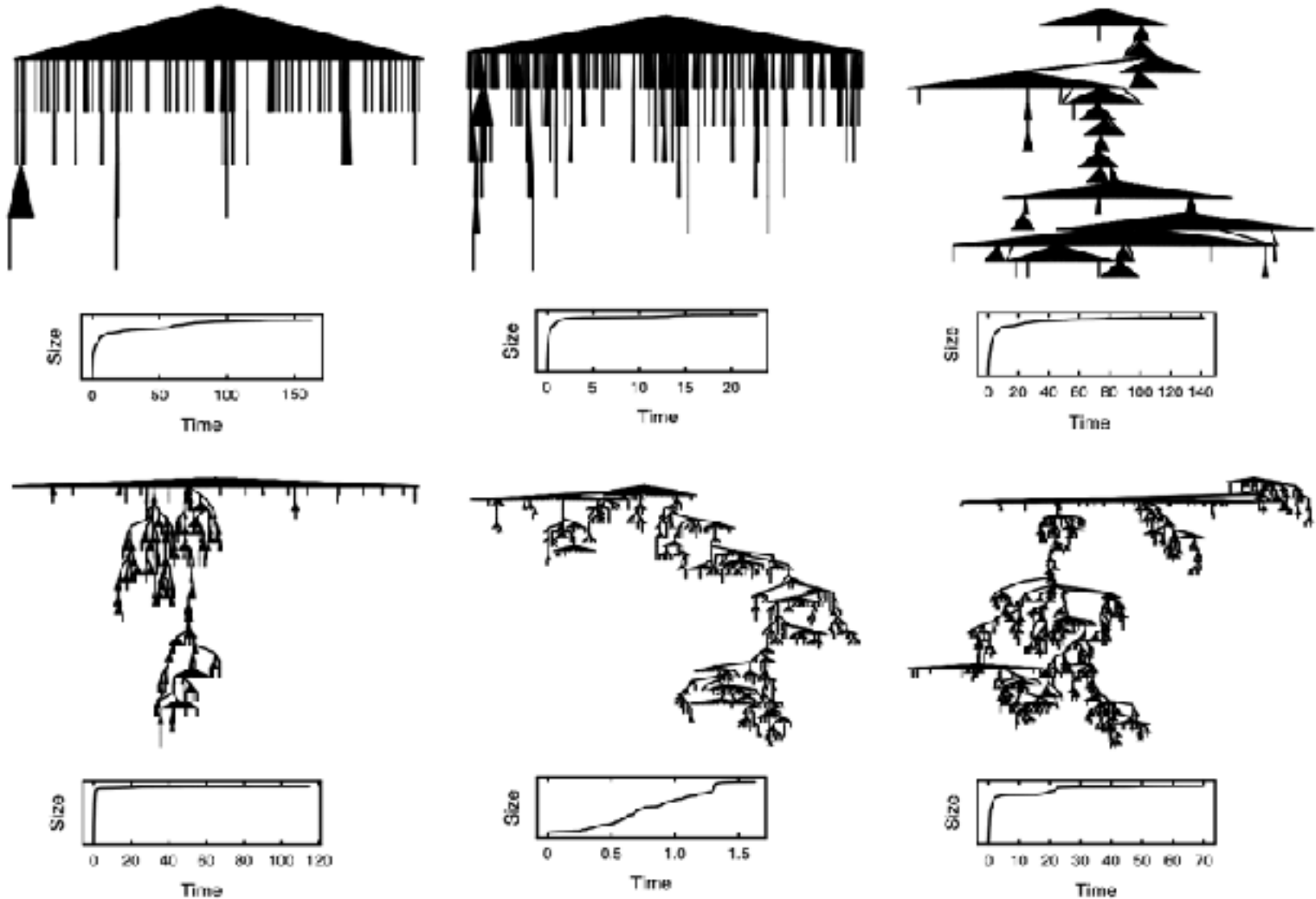
viral diffusion



- 1 billion diffusion events, on twitter
- virality measure for each cascade
- cascade sizes are extremely high variance (maybe power law...)

# network degrees

Figure 3 A Random Sample of Cascades Stratified and Ordered by Increasing Structural Virality, Ranging from 2 to 50



- enormous diversity of cascade shapes, depths

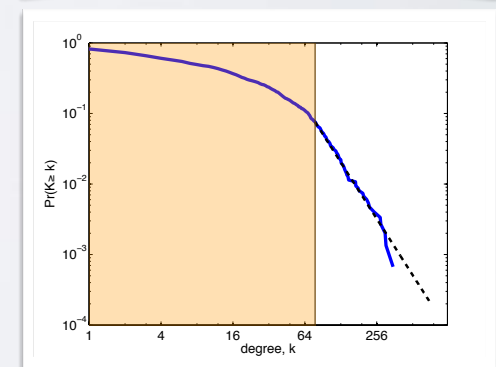
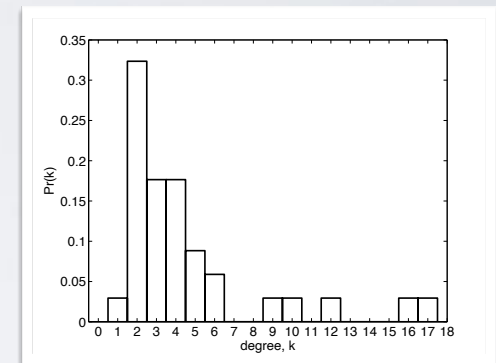
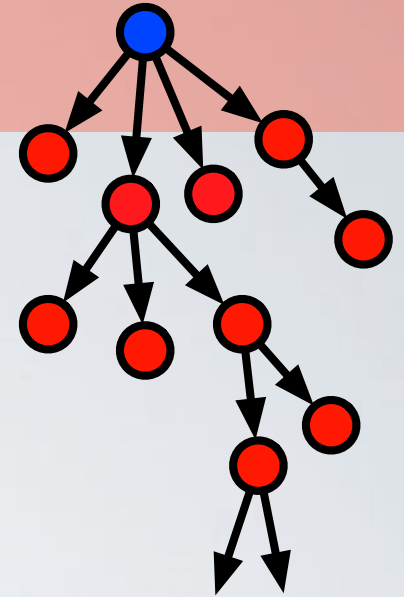
# network degrees

## degrees:

- *first-order* description of network structure
- direct implications for spreading processes
- cascades require both susceptible population *and* spreaders

## open questions:

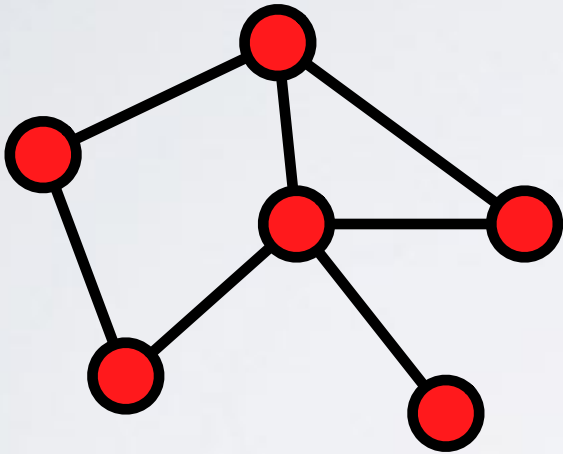
- impact of degrees on other dynamics
- feedback from dynamics to degree [adaptive behaviors like self-quarantine, evangelism]
- when does degree *not* matter?



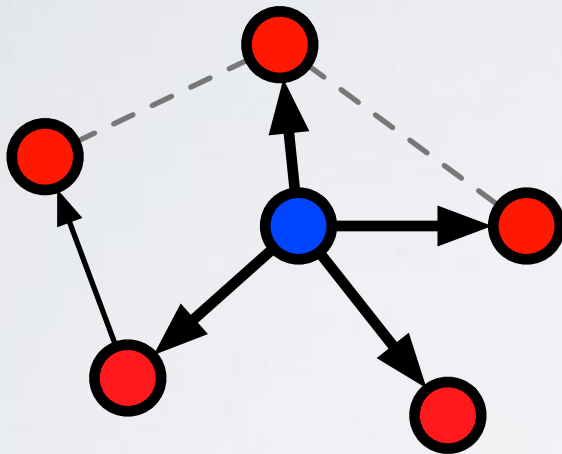


# describing networks

**position**



# describing networks



## position = centrality:

structural vs. dynamical  
importance

geometric

harmonic centrality

closeness centrality

betweenness centrality

connectivity

degree centrality

eigenvector centrality

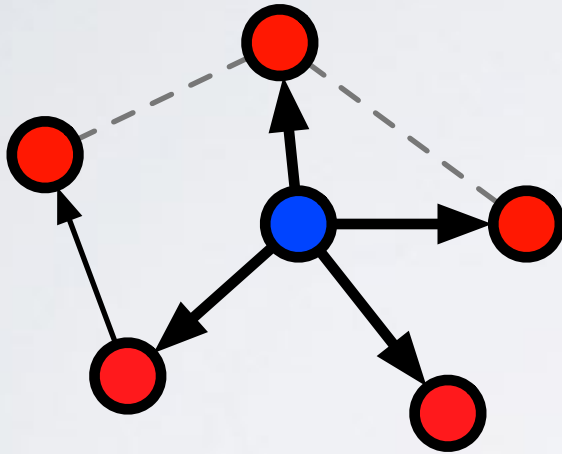
PageRank

Katz centrality

many many more...

structural importance = cheap  
estimate of dynamical importance  
(aka "influence")

# describing networks



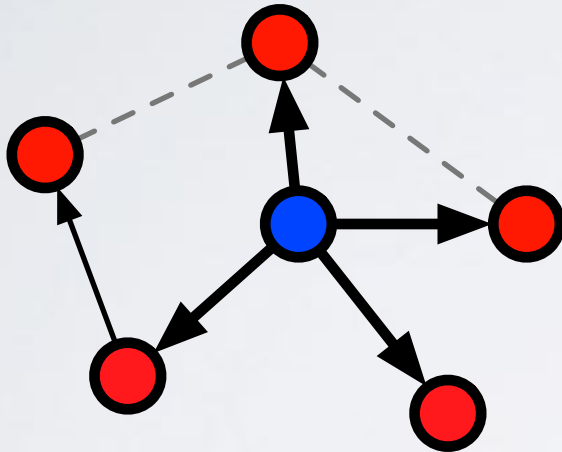
## **position = centrality:**

structural vs. dynamical  
importance

centrality = unsupervised  
node ranking

$$f : G \rightarrow \vec{v}$$

# describing networks



## position = centrality:

harmonic, closeness  
centrality

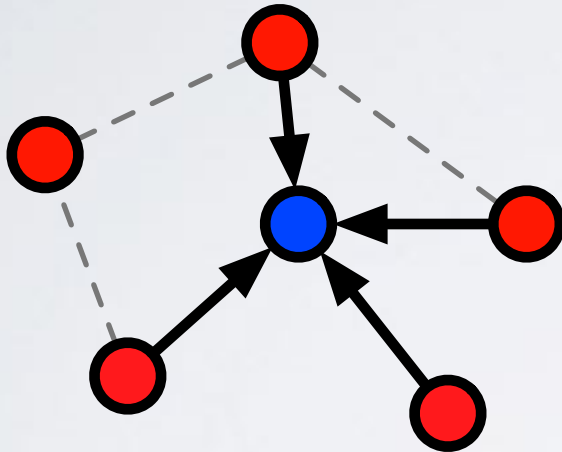
importance = being in  
“center” of the network

$$\text{harmonic } C_i = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{1}{d_{ij}}$$

length of shortest path

$$\text{distance: } d_{ij} = \begin{cases} l_{ij} & \text{if } j \text{ reachable from } i \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# describing networks



## position = centrality:

PageRank, Katz, eigenvector centrality

importance = sum of importances\* of nodes that point at you

$$I_i = \sum_{j \rightarrow i} \frac{I_j}{k_j}$$

or, the right eigenvector of

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \lambda \mathbf{x}$$

\*modulo several technical details



# network position

## an example



Giovanni de Medici

# network position

## Robust Action and the Rise of the Medici, 1400–1434<sup>1</sup>

John F. Padgett and Christopher K. Ansell

1993



Duomo

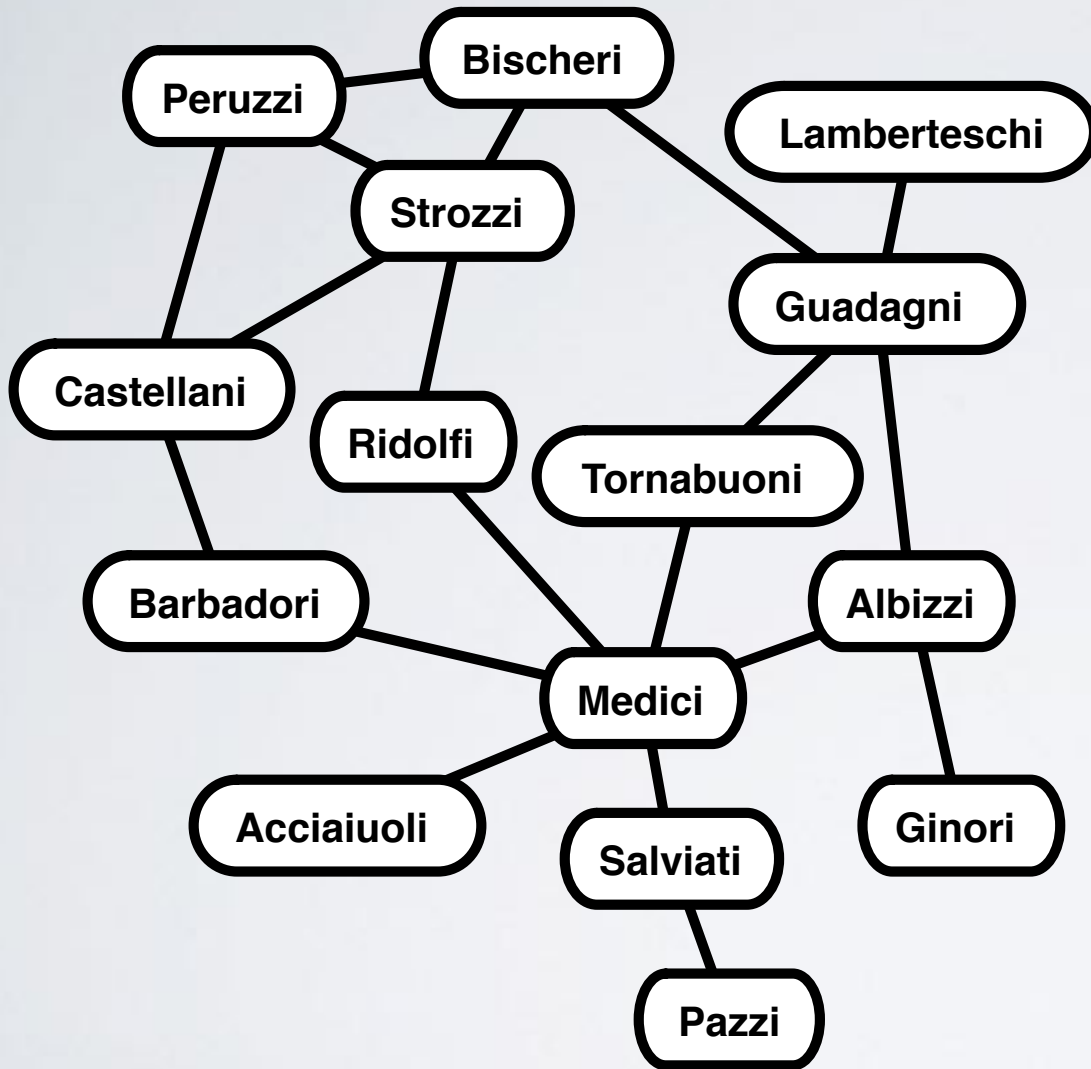


Palazzo Medici



Giovanni de Medici

# network position: harmonic

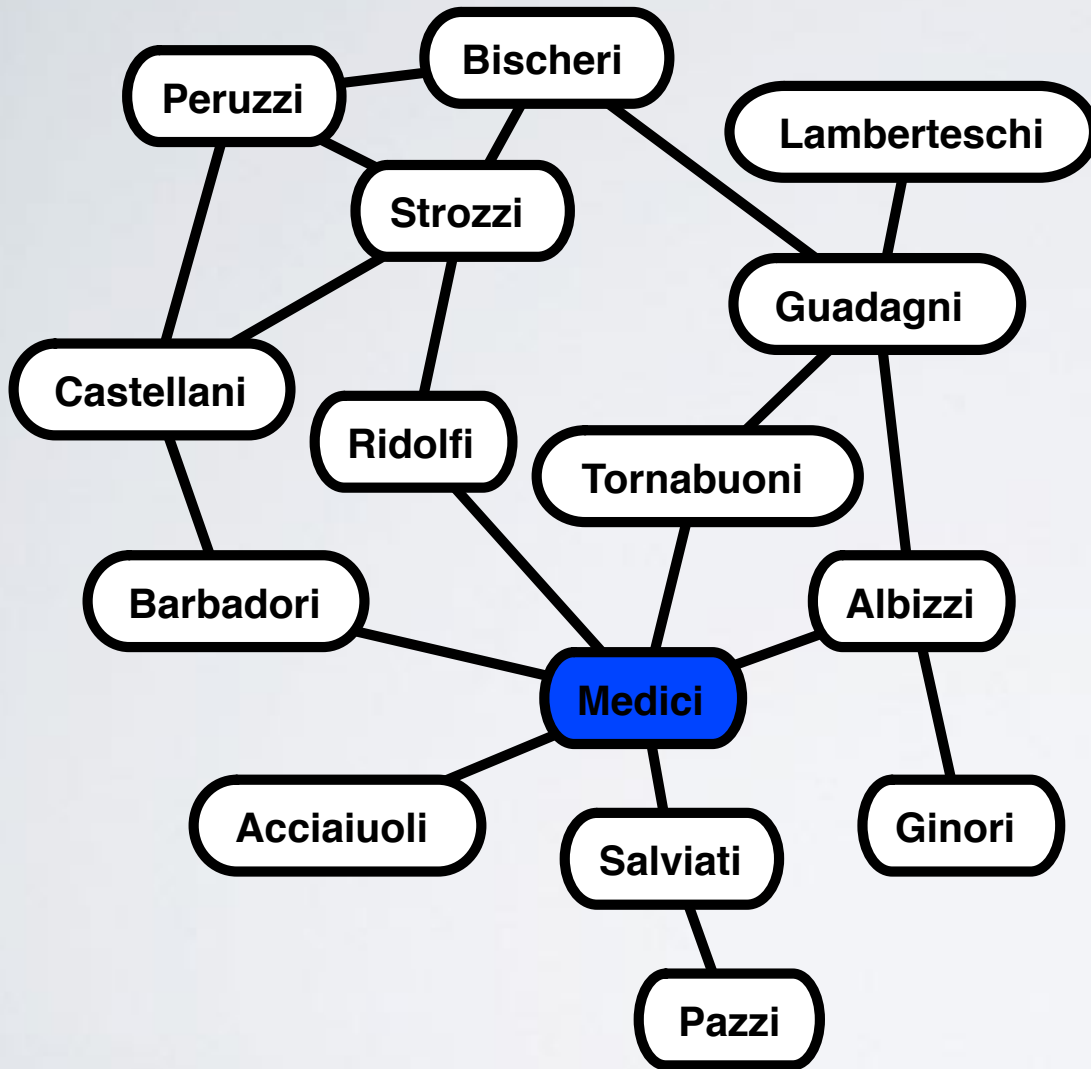


**nodes:** Florence families

**edges:** inter-family marriages

**which family is most central?**

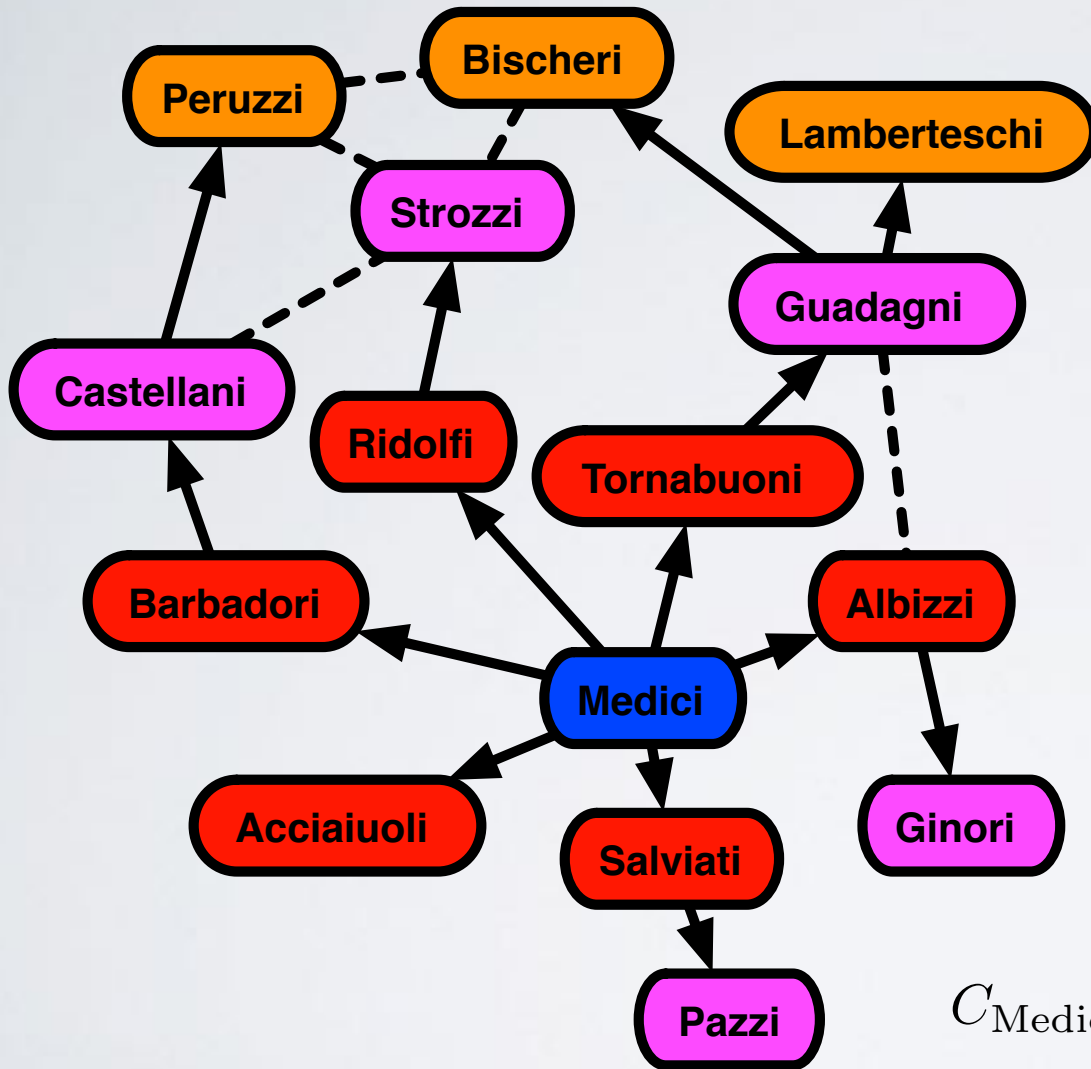
# network position: closeness



**nodes:** Florence families  
**edges:** inter-family marriages

**Medici?**

# network position: closeness

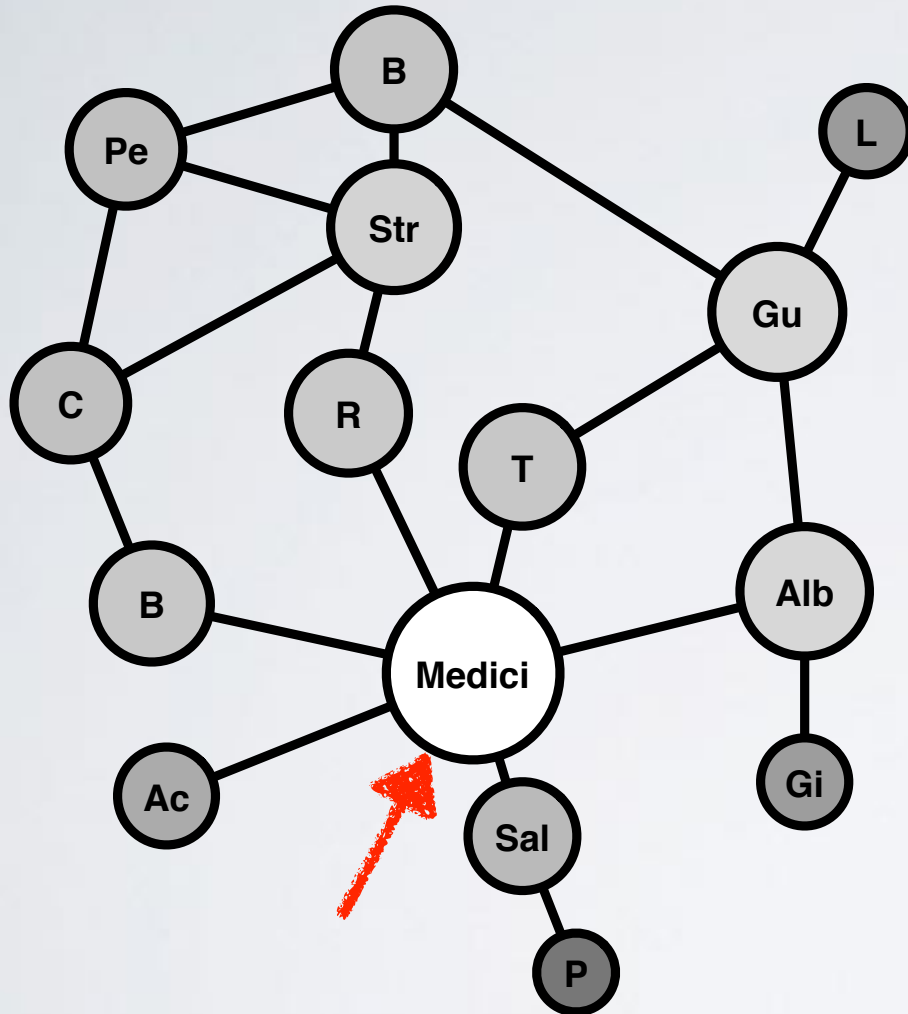


**nodes:** Florence families  
**edges:** inter-family marriages

**Medici.**

$$C_{\text{Medici}} = 6 \binom{\bullet}{1} + 5 \binom{\bullet}{2} + 3 \binom{\bullet}{3} = 9.5$$

# network position: harmonic

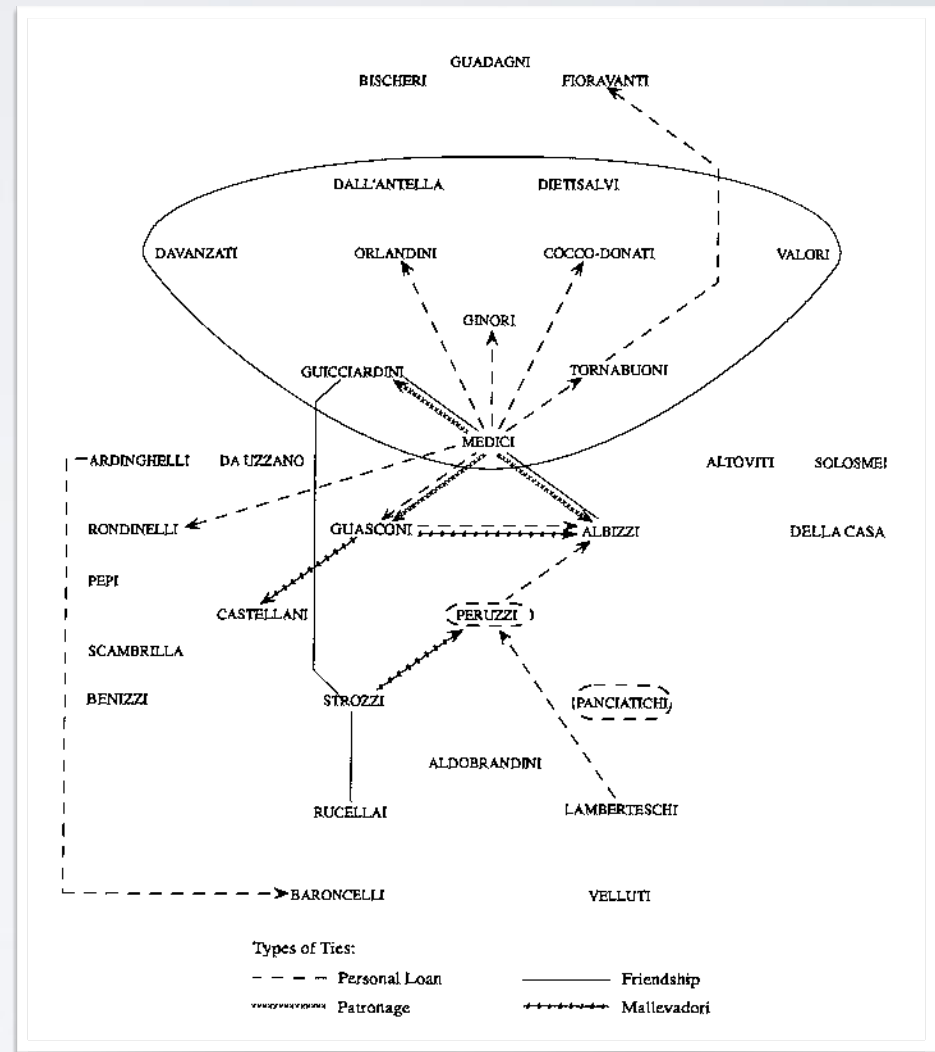
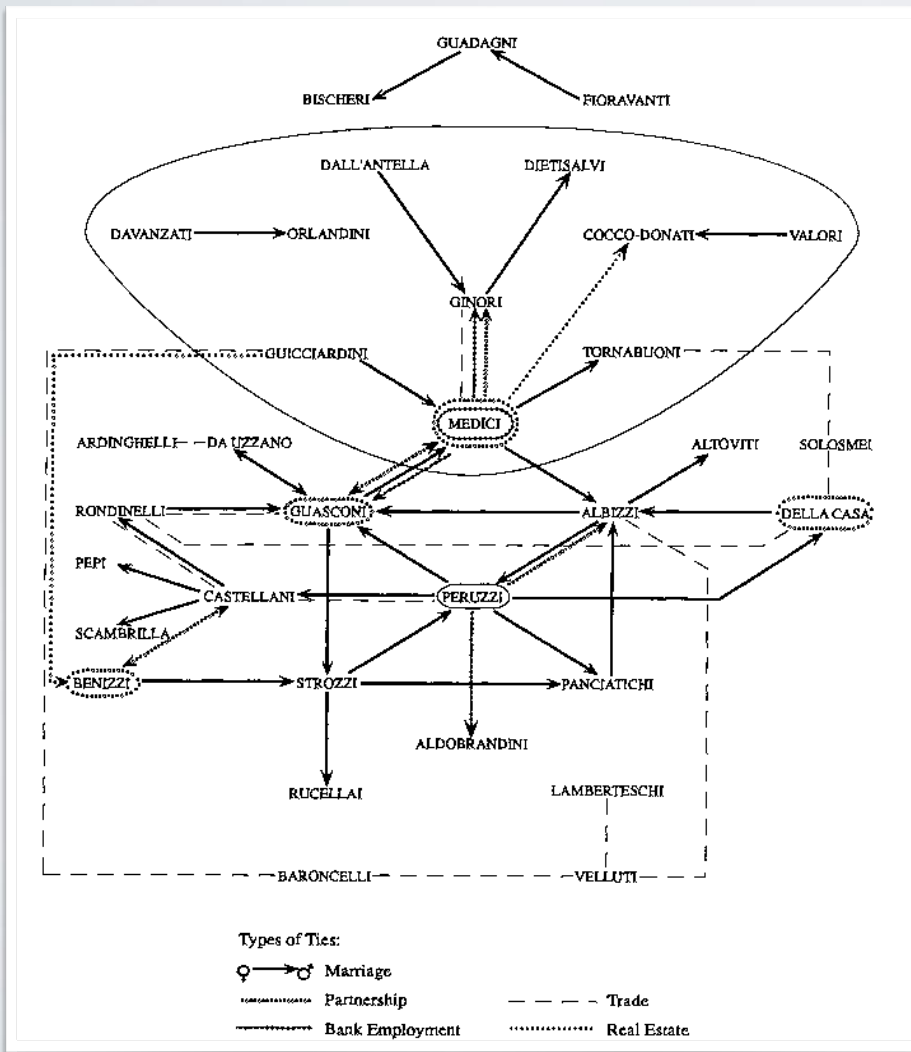


<b>Medici</b>	<b>9.5</b>
<b>Guadagni</b>	<b>7.92</b>
<b>Albizzi</b>	<b>7.83</b>
<b>Strozzi</b>	<b>7.67</b>
<b>Ridolfi</b>	<b>7.25</b>
<b>Bischeri</b>	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Tornabuoni</b>	<b>7.17</b>
<b>Barbadori</b>	<b>7.08</b>
<b>Peruzzi</b>	<b>6.87</b>
<b>Castellani</b>	<b>6.87</b>
<b>Salviati</b>	<b>6.58</b>
<b>Acciaiuoli</b>	<b>5.92</b>
<b>Ginori</b>	<b>5.33</b>
<b>Lamberteschi</b>	<b>5.28</b>
<b>Pazzi</b>	<b>4.77</b>

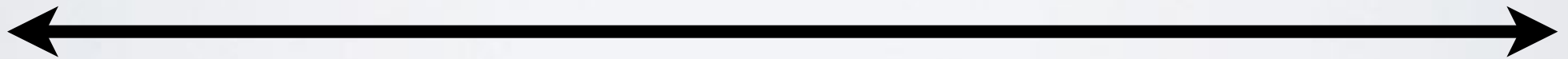


# network position

actually, it's complicated...



# network position

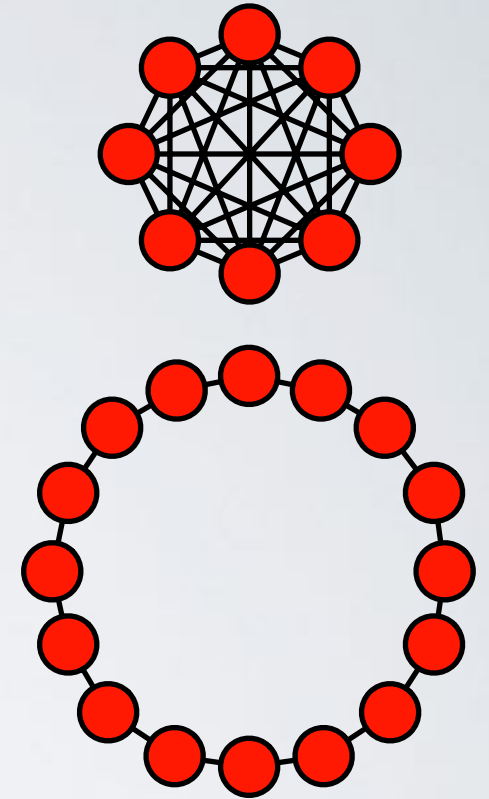
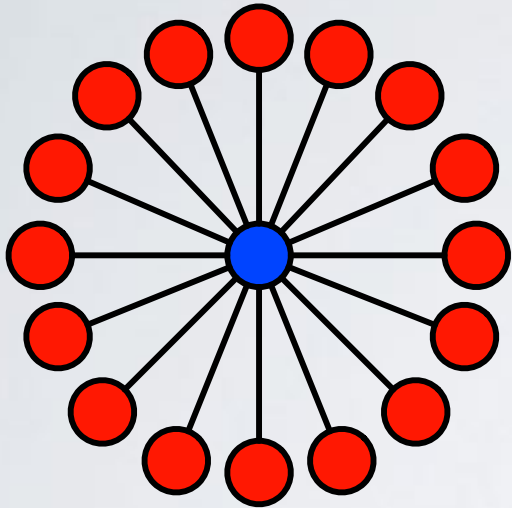


most  
centralized

vast wilderness  
of in-between

most  
decentralized

# network position

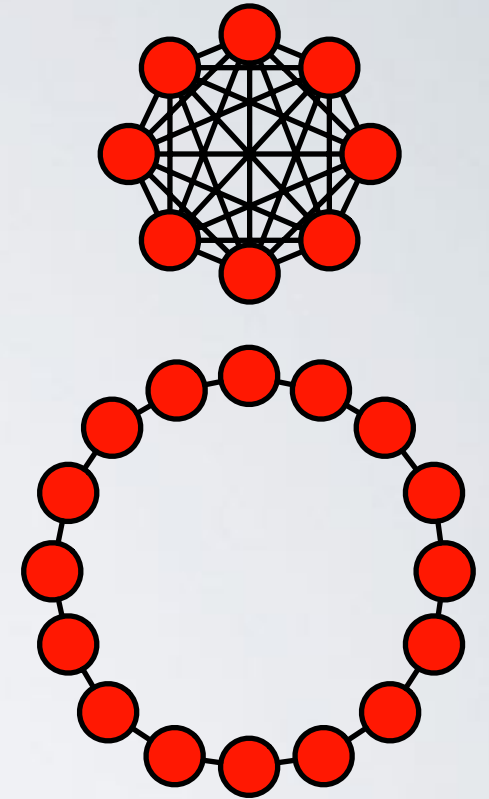
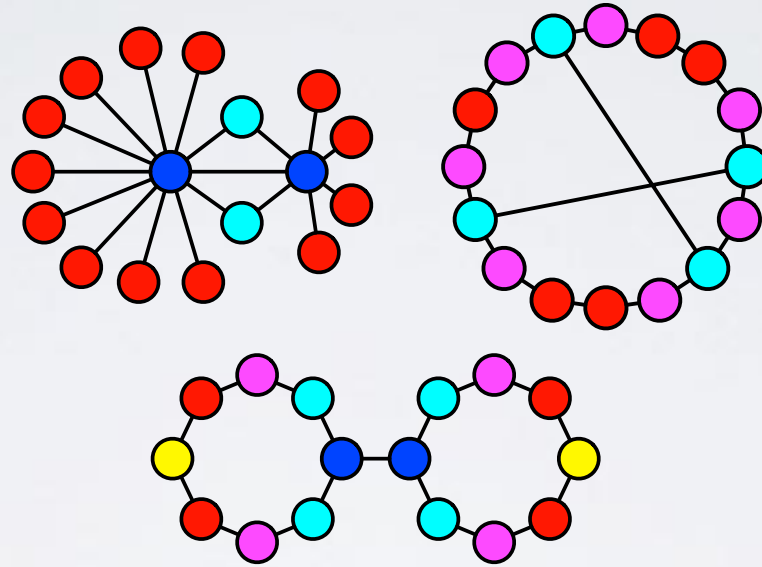
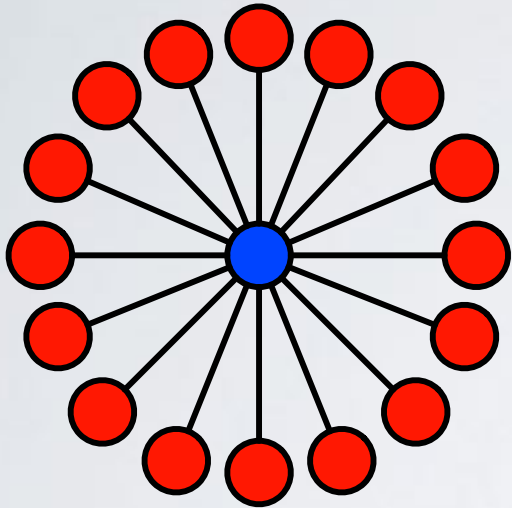


most  
centralized

vast wilderness  
of in-between

most  
decentralized

# network position

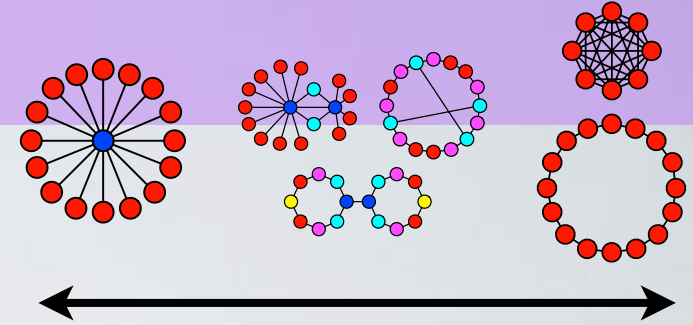


most  
centralized

vast wilderness  
of in-between

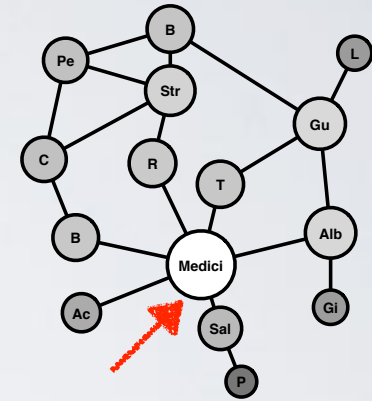
most  
decentralized

# network position



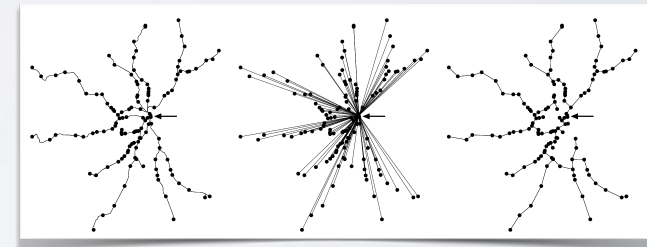
## positions:

- *geometric* description of network structure
- core vs. periphery
- centrality = importance, influence
- *nearly all centrality scores highly correlated*



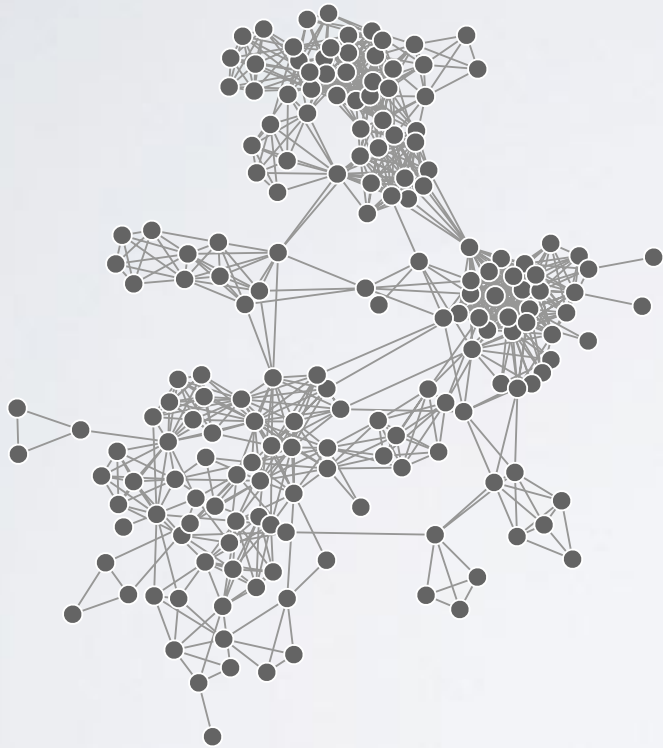
## open questions:

- position and dynamics
- what does position predict?
- when does position *not* matter?



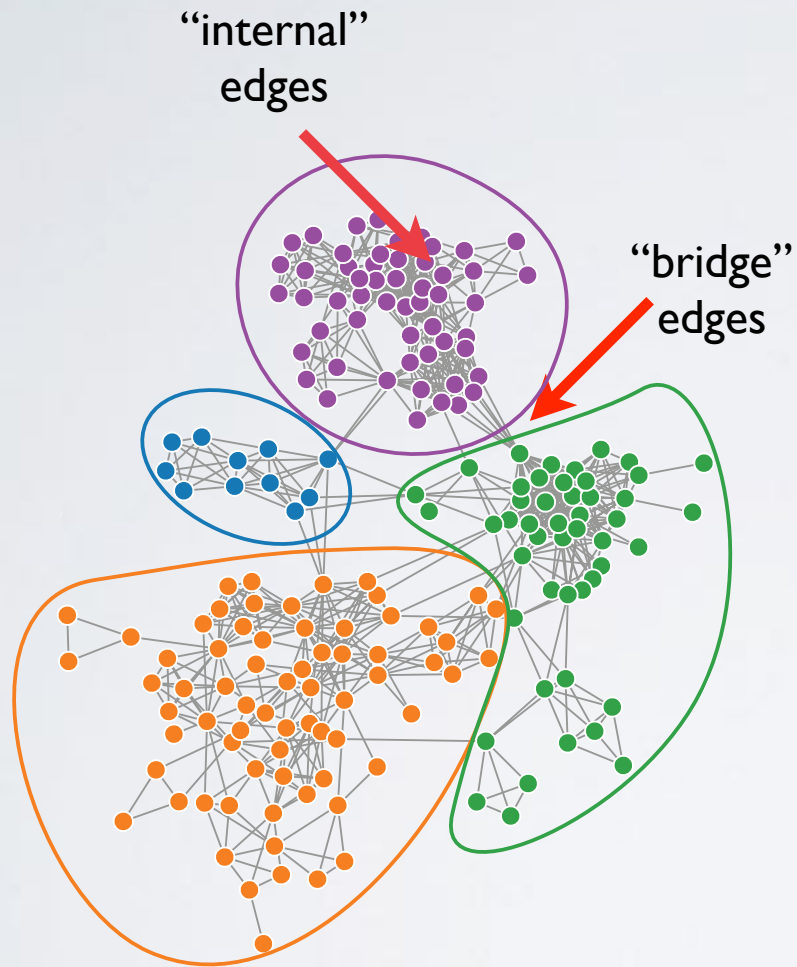
# describing networks

## community structure





# community structure



## **community structure:**

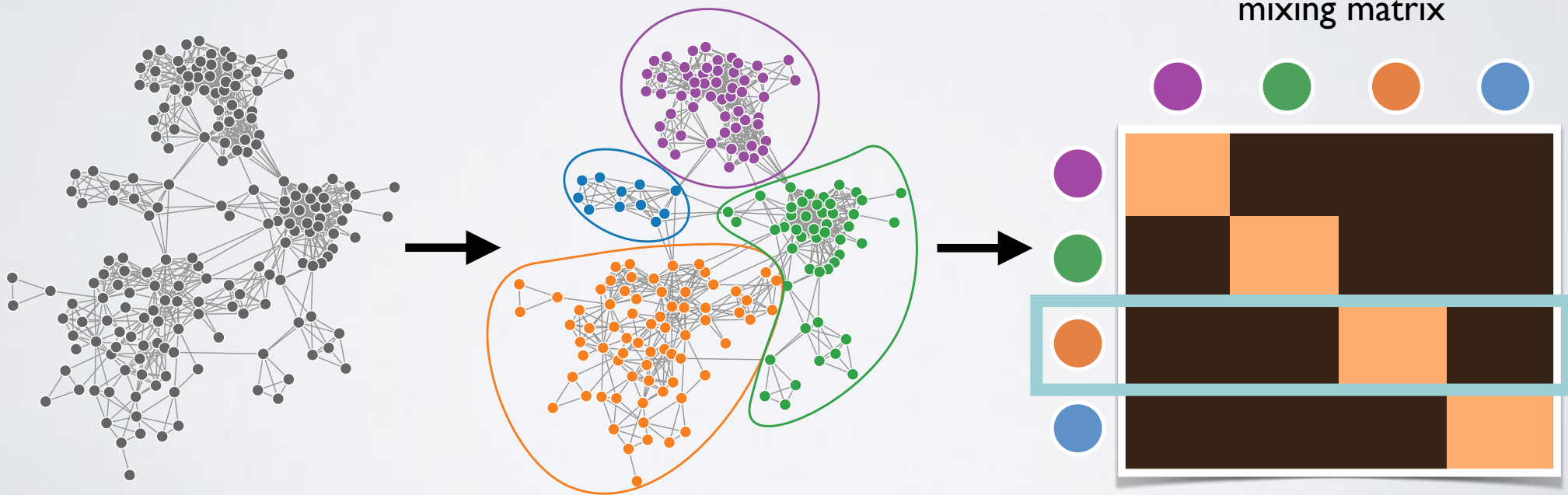
*a group of vertices that connect to other groups in similar ways*

assortative community structure  
(edges inside the groups)

# community structure

## community structure:

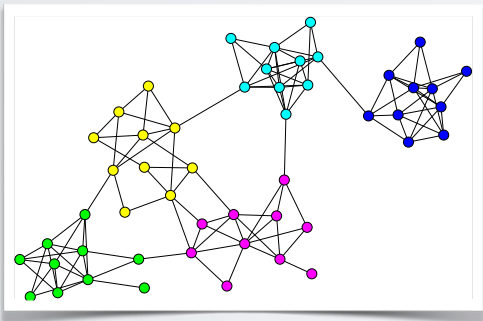
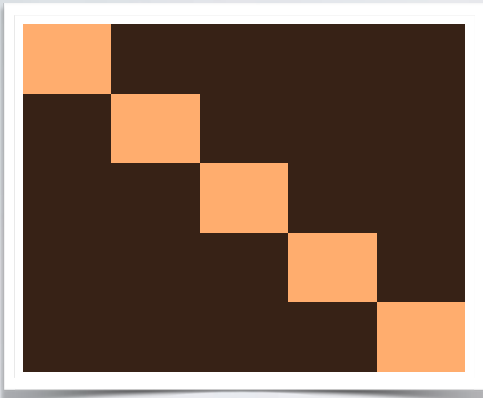
a group of vertices that connect to other groups in similar ways



# community structure

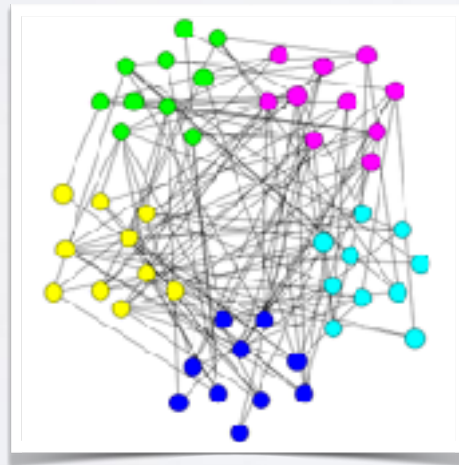
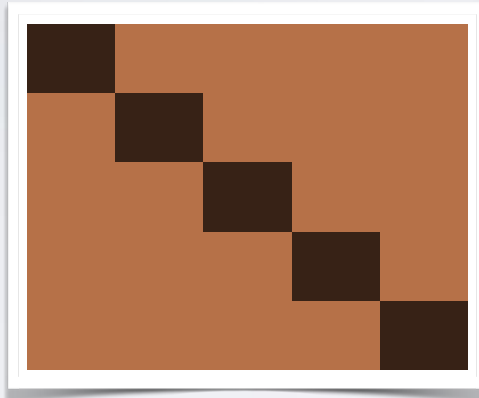
**assortative**

edges within groups



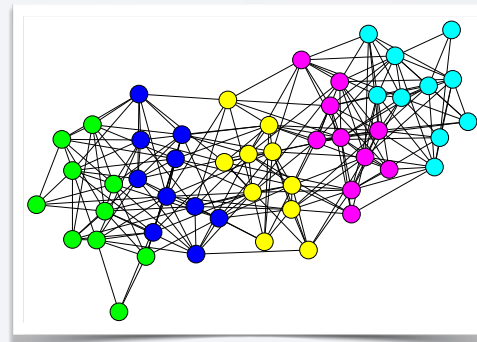
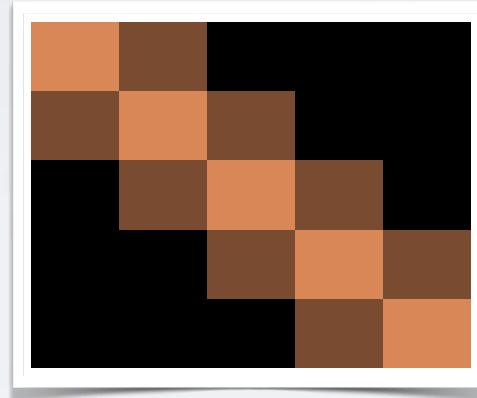
**disassortative**

edges between groups



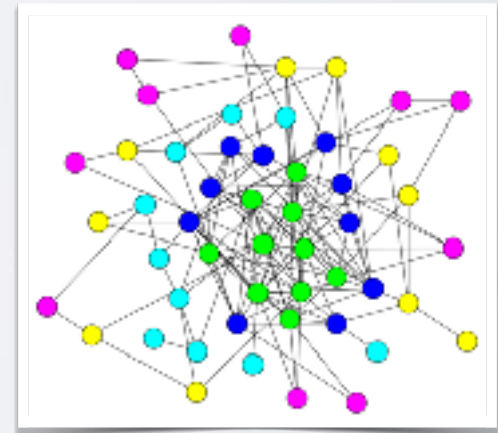
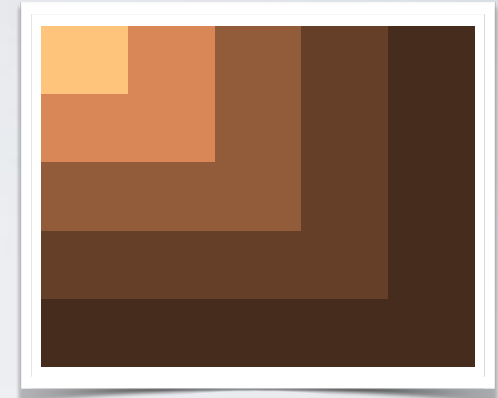
**ordered**

linear group hierarchy



**core-periphery**

dense core, sparse periphery



# community structure

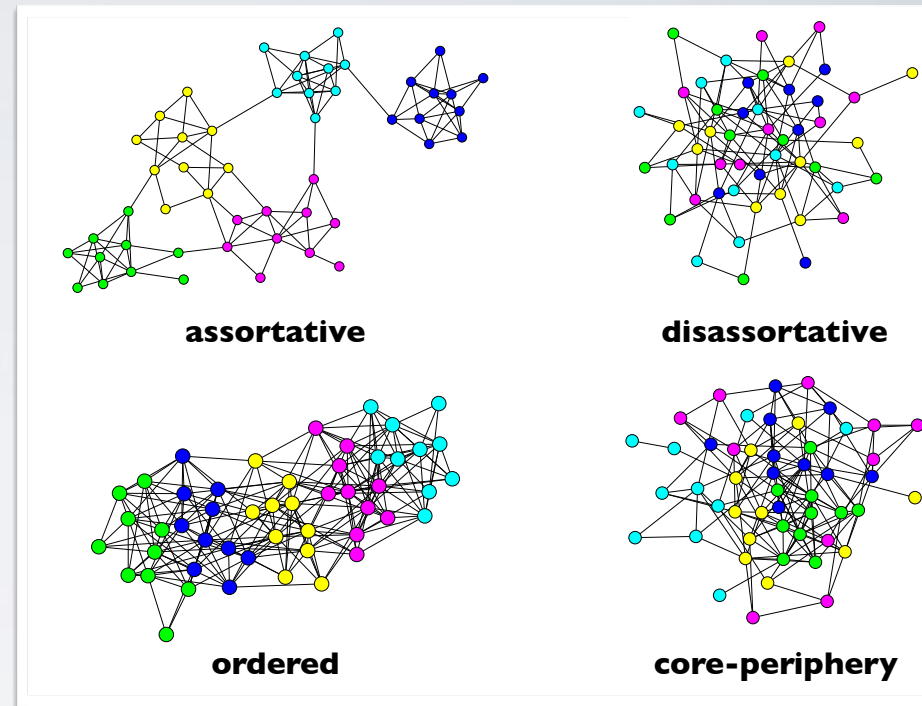
- enormous interest, especially since 2000
- dozens of algorithms for extracting various large-scale patterns
- hundreds of papers published
- spanning Physics, Computer Science, Statistics, Biology, Sociology, and more
- this was one of the first:

## Community structure in social and biological networks

M. Girvan<sup>\*†‡</sup> and M. E. J. Newman<sup>\*§</sup>

PNAS 2002

12,421+ citations on Google Scholar

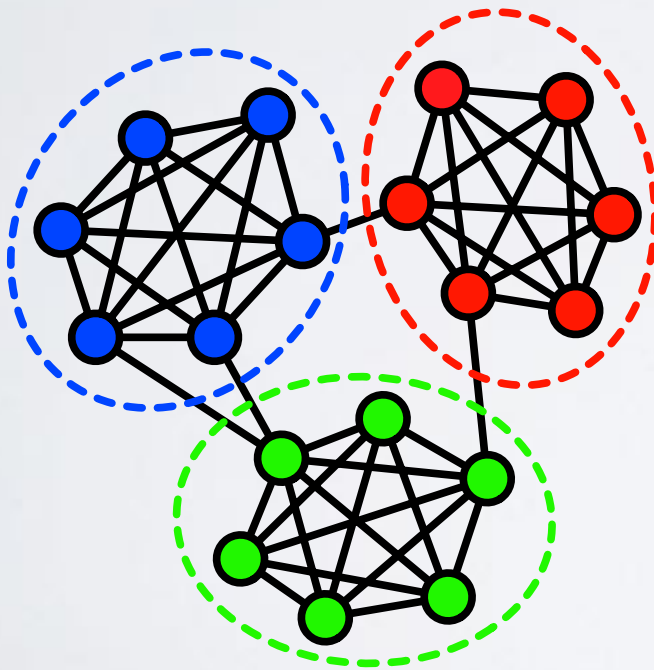


# network communities

## THE STRENGTH OF WEAK TIES: A NETWORK THEORY REVISITED

1983

*Mark Granovetter*



most new job opportunities from  
“weak ties”

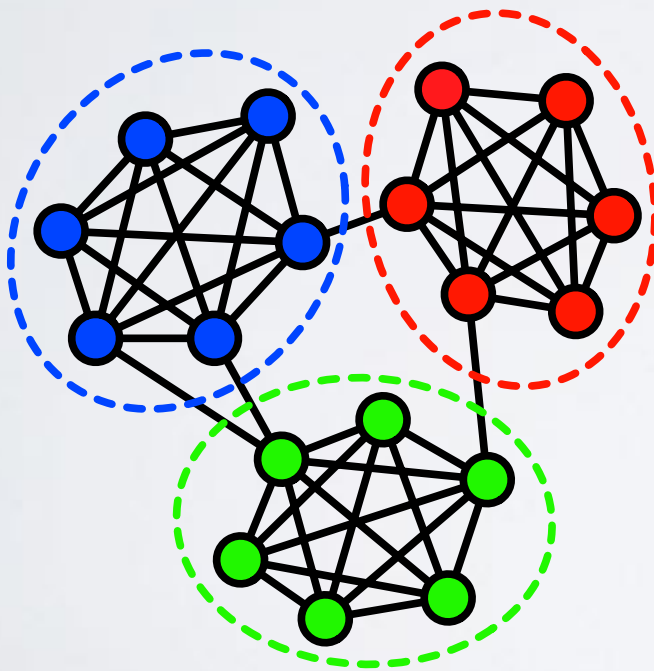
- within-community links = strong
- bridge links = weak

# network communities

## THE STRENGTH OF WEAK TIES: A NETWORK THEORY REVISITED

1983

*Mark Granovetter*



most new job opportunities from  
“weak ties”

- within-community links = strong
- bridge links = weak

**why?**

information propagates *quickly*  
*within* a community,  
but *slowly* *between* communities

# network communities

## **Finding community structure in very large networks**

Aaron Clauset, M. E. J. Newman, and Cristopher Moore | 2004

amazon.com

*co-purchasing* network



# network communities

## Finding community structure in very large networks

Aaron Clauset, M. E. J. Newman, and Christopher Moore | 2004

amazon.com  
co-purchasing network  
find partition that maximizes  
modularity  $Q$  on those groups

$n = 409,687$  items  
 $m = 2,464,630$  edges

amazon.com Hello, Aaron J. Clauset. We have recommendations for you (Not Aaron?)  
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Mark Newman (Author)  
★★★★★ (Last reviewed on 1/2/11) (14)

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Only 10 left in stock—order soon (more on the way).  
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\$9.99 new from \$69.00 | Used from \$61.03

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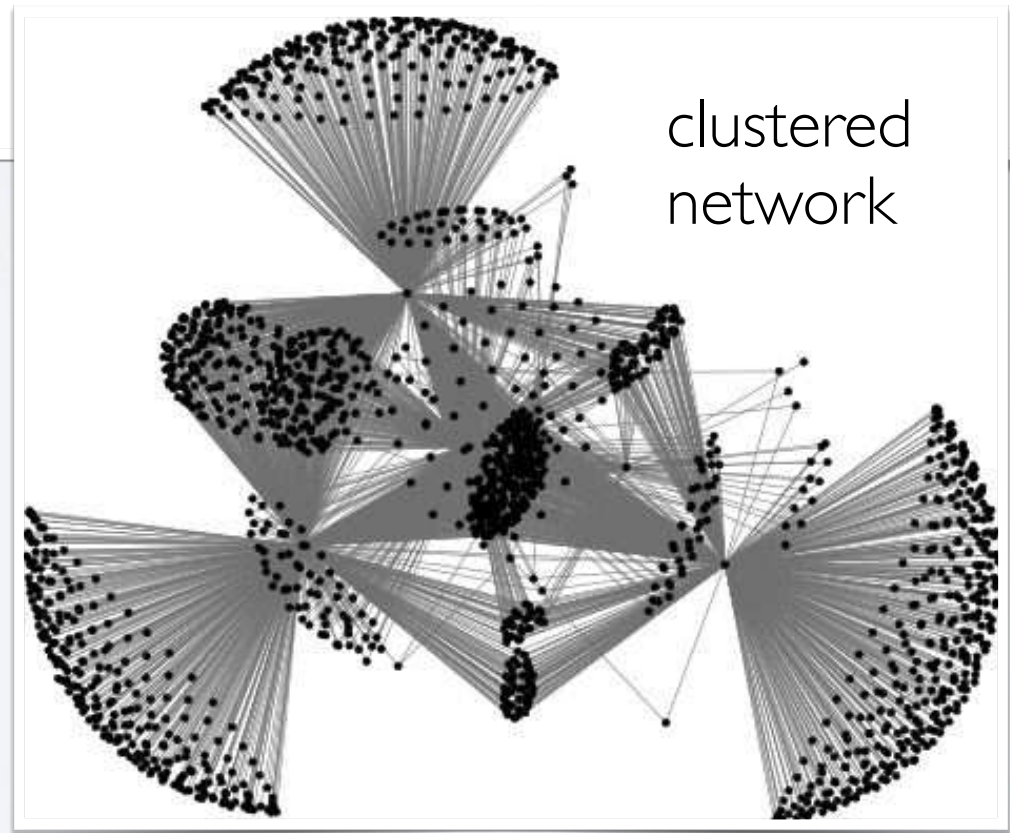
Page 1 of 20

<p>Networks, Crowds, and Markets: Reasoning About a... by David Foray ★★★★★ (3) \$41.47</p>	<p>Dynamical Processes on Complex Networks by Alain Barrat ★★★★★ (1) \$71.51</p>	<p>Social Network Analysis: Methods and Applications by Stanley Wasserman ★★★★★ (9) \$44.98</p>	<p>Simply Complexity: A Clear Guide to Complexity Theory by Neil Johnson ★★★★★ (6) \$9.81</p>	<p>Social and Economic Networks by Matthew O. Jackson ★★★★★ (2) \$33.64</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

# network communities

Rank	Size	Description
1	114538	General interest: politics; art/literature; general fiction; human nature; technical books; how things, people, computers, societies work, etc.
2	92276	The arts: videos, books, DVDs about the creative and performing arts
3	78661	Hobbies and interests I: self-help; self-education; popular science fiction, popular fantasy; leisure; etc.
4	54582	Hobbies and interests II: adventure books; video games/comics; some sports; some humor; some classic fiction; some western religious material; etc.
5	9872	classical music and related items
6	1904	children's videos, movies, music and books
7	1493	church/religious music; African-descent cultural books; homoerotic imagery
8	1101	pop horror; mystery/adventure fiction
9	1083	jazz; orchestral music; easy listening
10	947	engineering; practical fashion

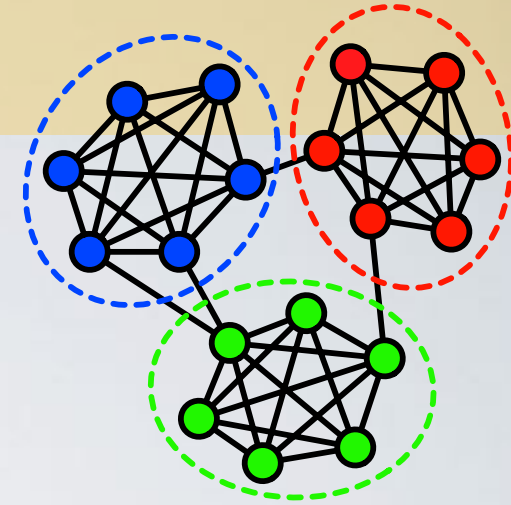
purchases = interests  
interests = clustered





# network communities

- *community = vertices with same pattern of inter-community connections*
- network macro-structure
- finding them like “network clustering”  
[there is *no best algorithm*, and there is No Free Lunch]
- allow us to *coarse grain* system structure  
[decompose heterogeneous structure into homogeneous blocks]
- constrains network synchronization, information flows, diffusion, influence

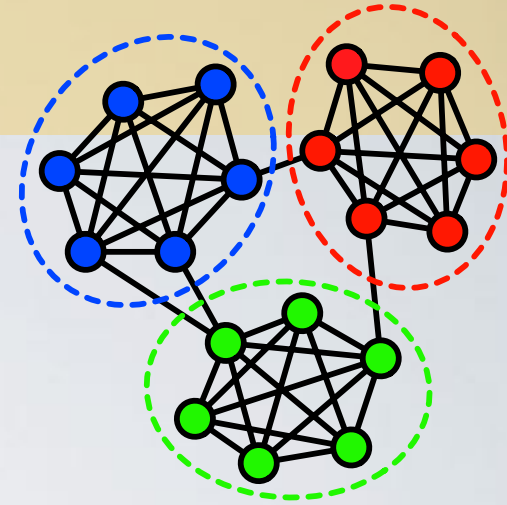


# network communities

- *community = vertices with same pattern of inter-community connections*
- network macro-structure
- finding them like “network clustering”  
[there is *no best algorithm*, and there is No Free Lunch]
- allow us to *coarse grain* system structure  
[decompose heterogeneous structure into homogeneous blocks]
- constrains network synchronization, information flows, diffusion, influence

## open questions:

- what processes generate communities?
- what impact on dynamics? network function?



# describing networks

aka, summarizing a network's structure

$$f : G \rightarrow \underbrace{\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}}_{\text{summary statistics}}$$



# describing networks

aka, summarizing a network's structure

at the level of

nodes	meso	whole network
degree	group degree	size (num. nodes)
centrality (various)	group size	mean degree
reciprocity (local)	modularity	mean geodesic dist.
clustering coeff. (local)	mixing matrix	diameter
eccentricity	hierarchy	assortativity (degree)
...	motif counts	modularity
	...	reciprocity (global)
		clustering coeff. (global)
		...



# describing networks

aka, summarizing a network's structure

- just counting things :  $f : G \rightarrow \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$
- an infinite number of things you could count — which ones are meaningful to count?
- **warning** : *nearly all summary statistics correlate with degree*
- **things to ponder** : what is a node? what is an edge?
  - how do nodes **interact**?
  - what **causes** connections to change over time?
  - where is the **structure** : nodes? communities? network?
  - what is the role of node **degree** on dynamics?
  - what is role of node **position** on dynamics?



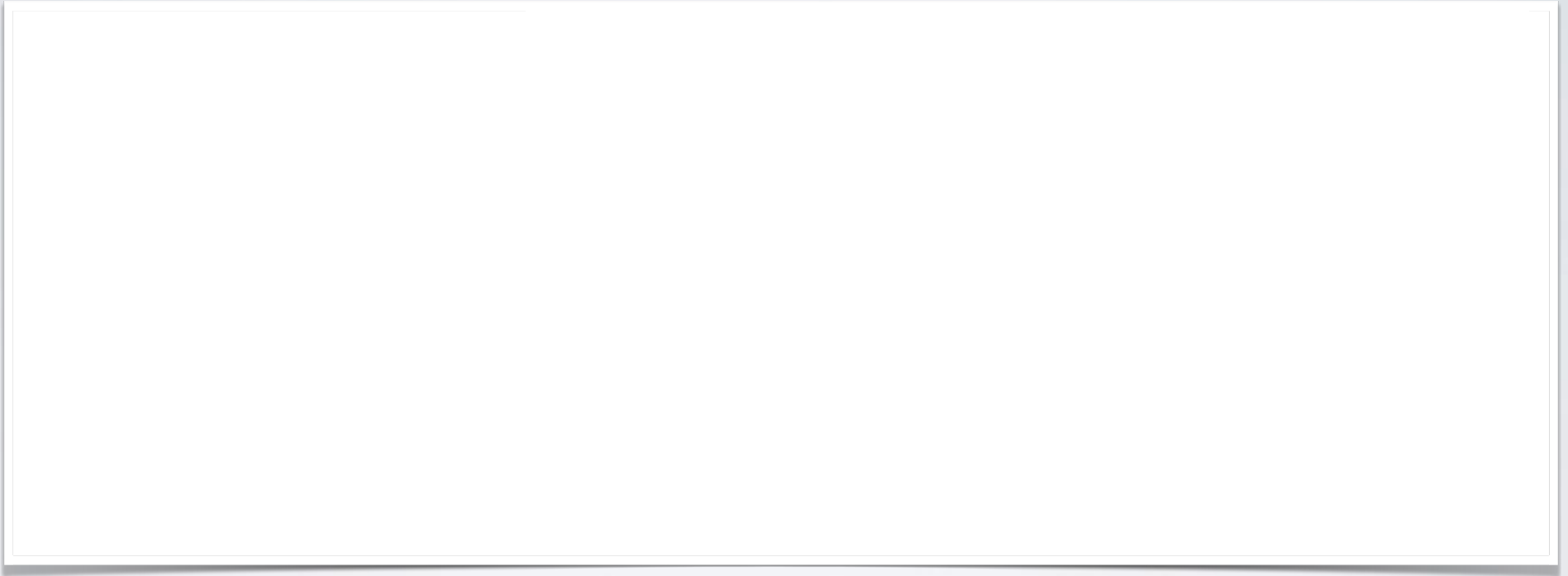
**end of lecture 2**

**lecture 3 : null models & inference for networks**

# network position

## an example

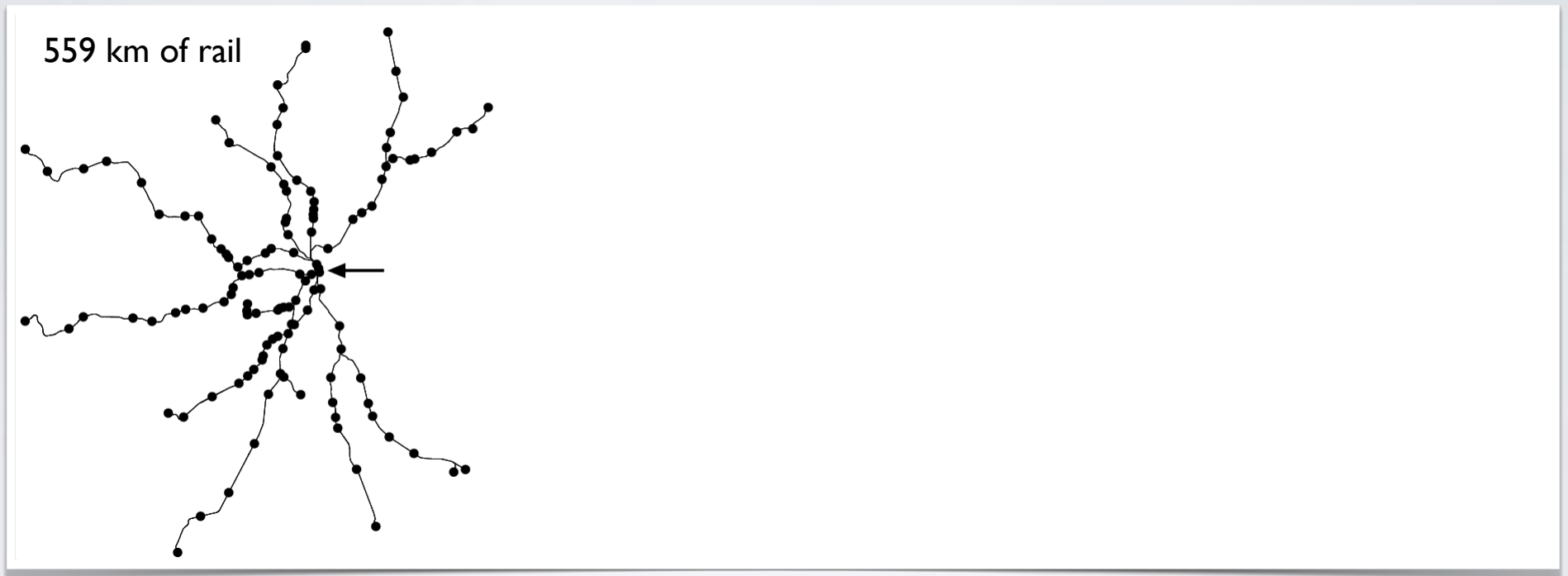
how does a network become centralized?



# network position

## an example

optimizing paths for Boston commuter rail

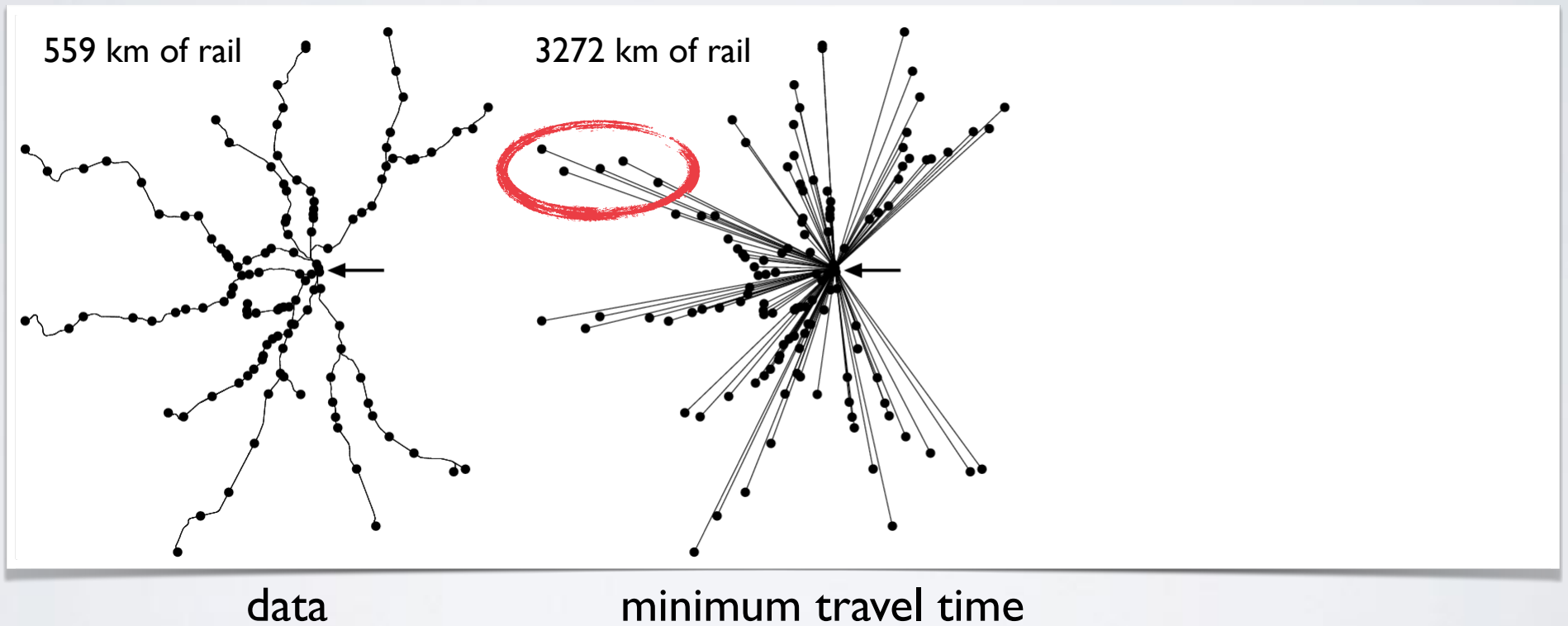


data

# network position

## an example

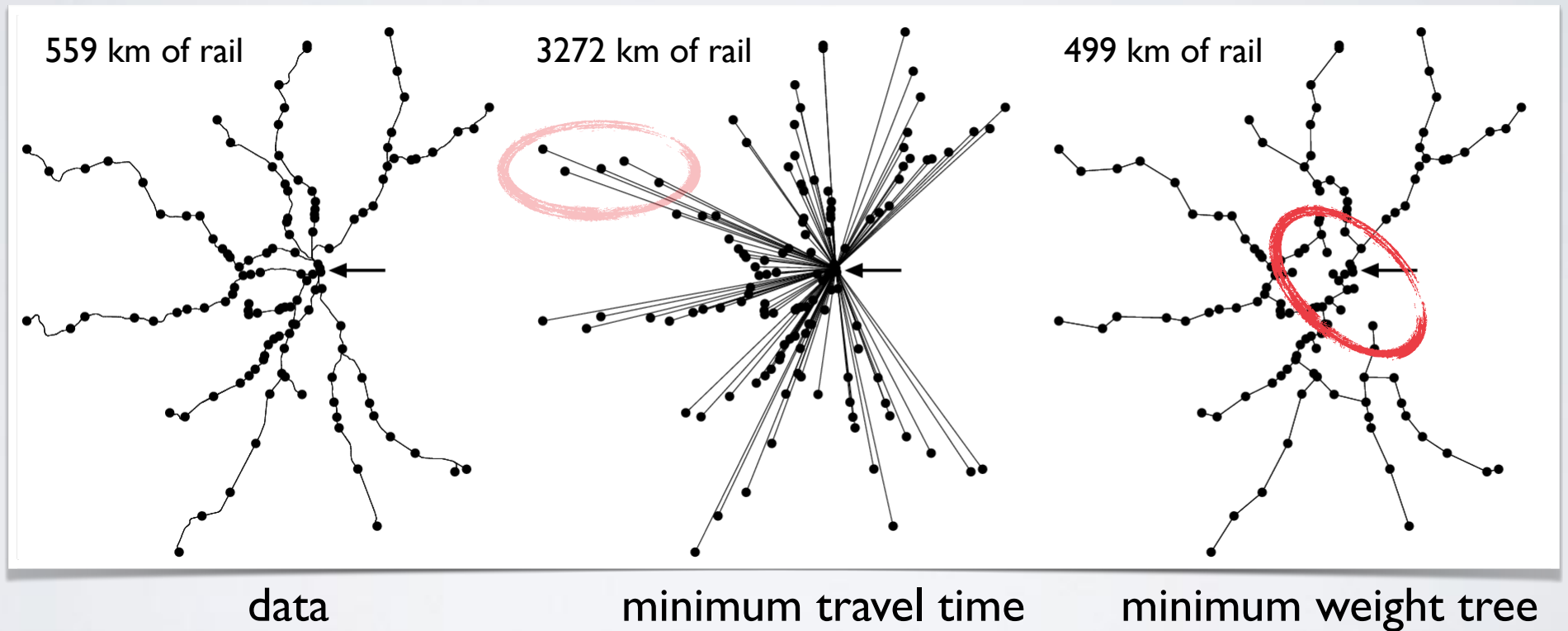
optimizing paths for Boston commuter rail



# network position

## an example

optimizing paths for Boston commuter rail

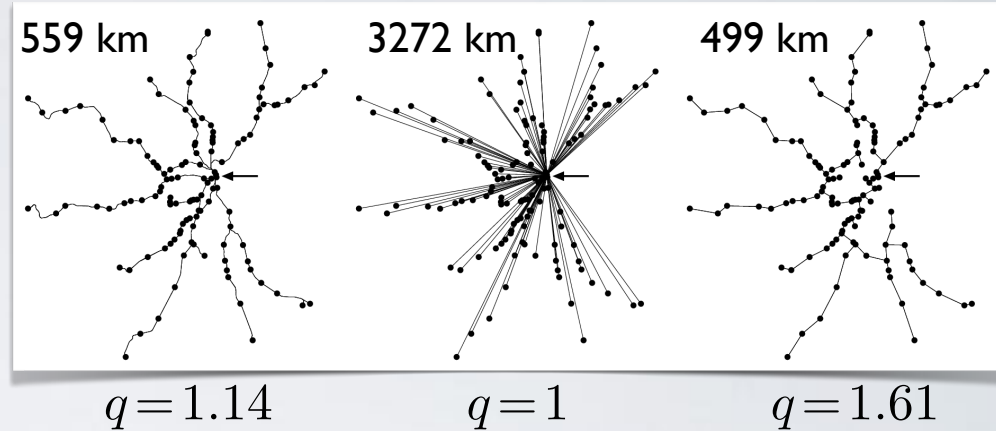


# network position

## route factor

$$q = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\ell_{i0}}{d_{i0}}$$

mean ratio of distance along edges  $\ell_{i0}$  to direct Euclidean distance  $d_{i0}$  to root 0



# network position

## a simple model

embed  $n$  vertices in a plane  
until all vertices connected

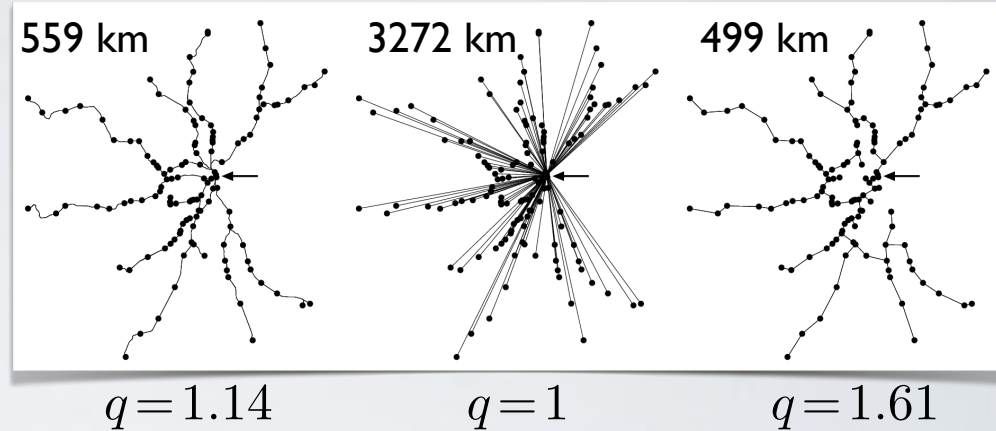
add edge  $(i, j)$  with  
minimum value for

$$w_{ij} = d_{ij} + \beta l_{j0}$$

distance from  $i$  to  $j$       parameter      route length to root

$\beta = 0$   $\longrightarrow$  minimum spanning tree\*

$\beta > 0$   $\longrightarrow$  prefer shorter paths to root





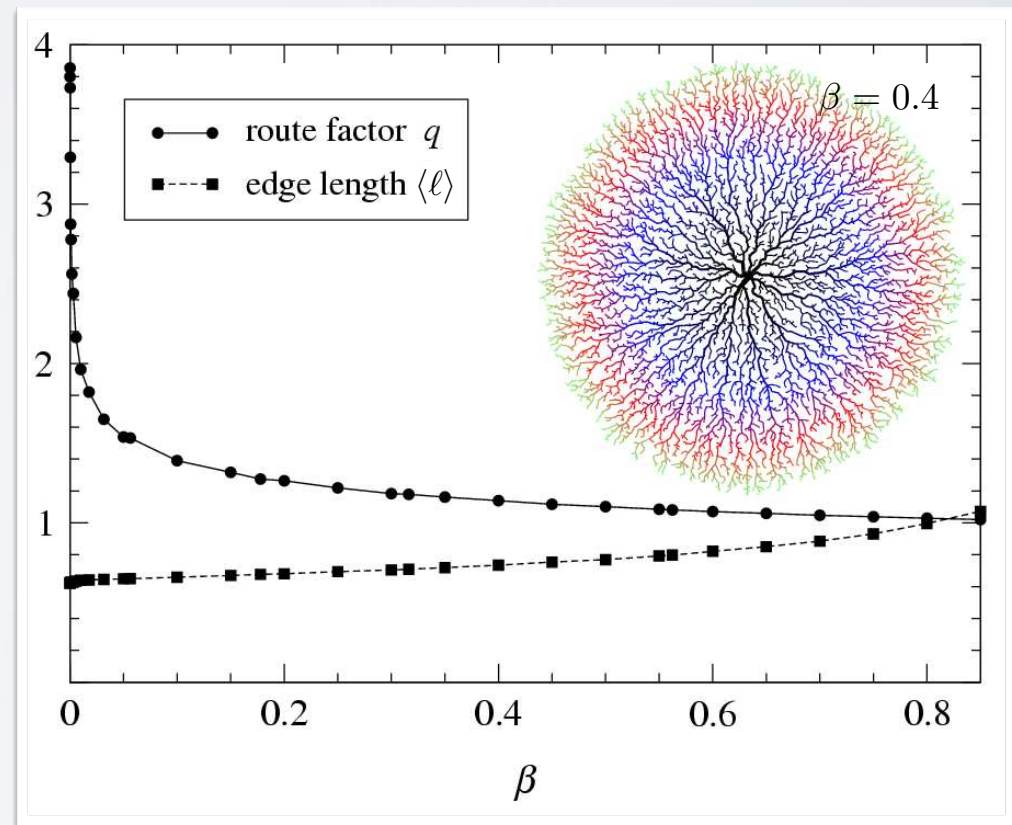
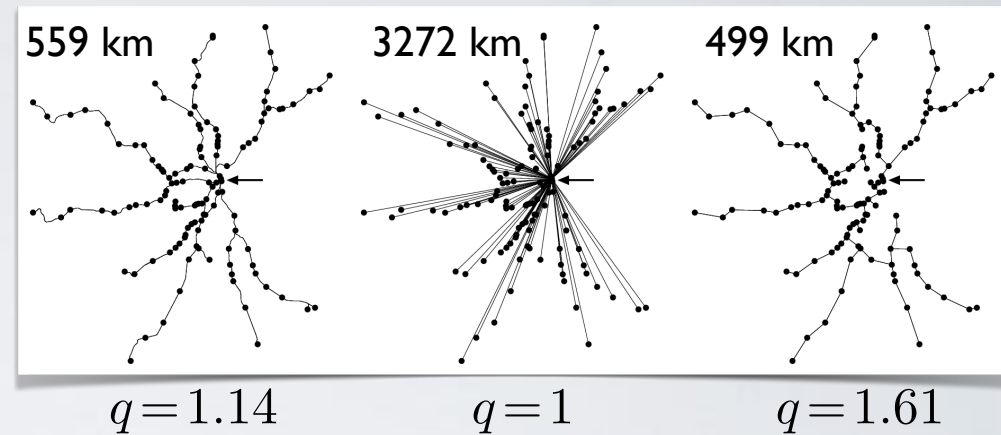
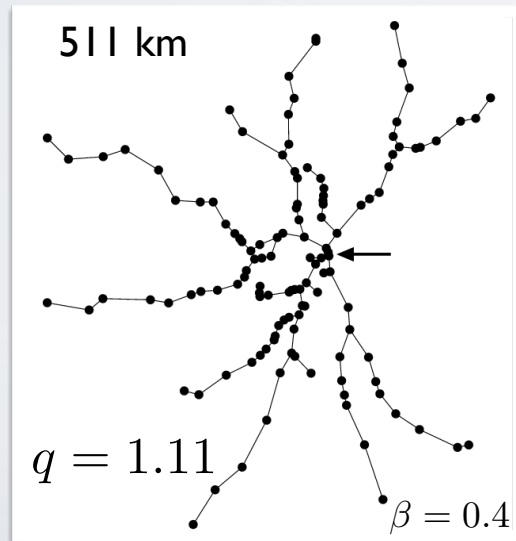
# network position

## a simple model

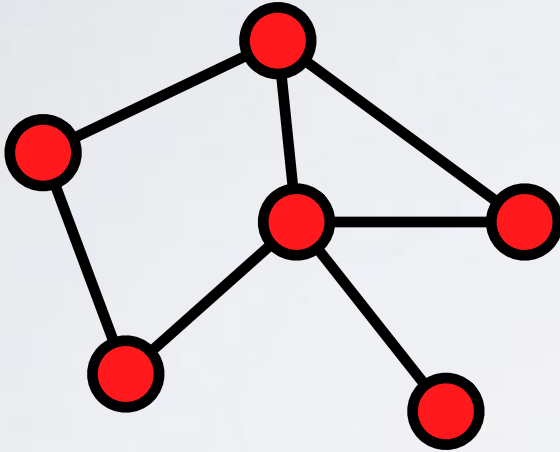
embed  $n$  vertices in a plane  
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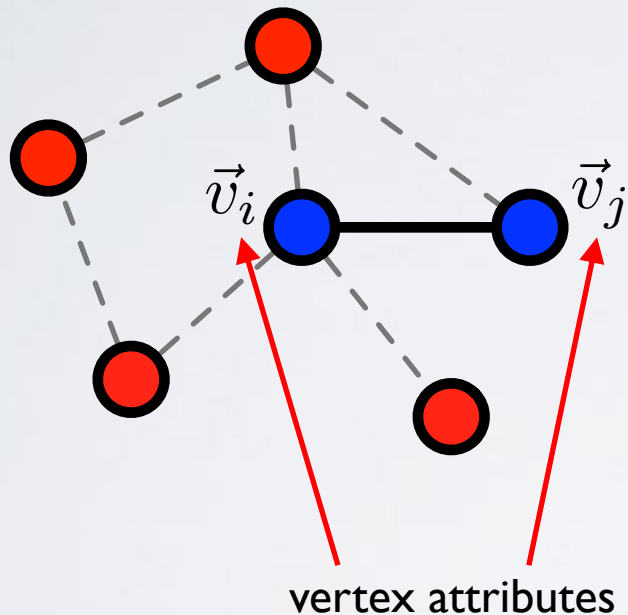
# describing networks



## homophily and assortative mixing

*like links with like*

# assortative mixing



## homophily and assortative mixing

*like links with like*

assortativity coefficient  $r$   
quantifies homophily

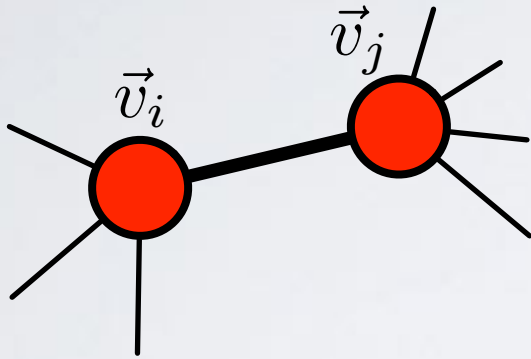
three types:

scalar attributes

vertex degrees

categorical variables

# assortative mixing



## homophily and assortative mixing

*like links with like*

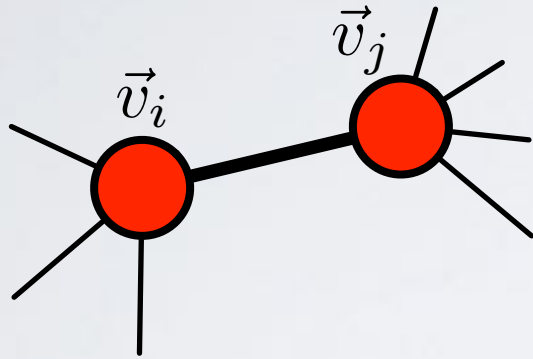
scalar attributes:

mean value across ties

$$\mu = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_i \sum_j A_{ij} v_i$$

$$= \frac{1}{2m} \sum_i k_i v_i$$

# assortative mixing



## homophily and assortative mixing

*like links with like*

scalar attributes:

covariance across ties

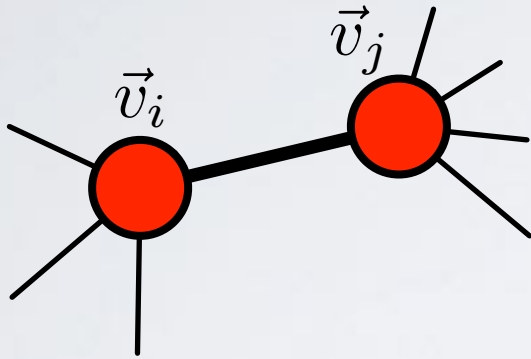
$$\text{cov}(v_i, v_j) = \frac{\sum_{ij} A_{ij} (v_i - \mu)(v_j - \mu)}{\sum_{ij} A_{ij}}$$

$$\left( \mu = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_i k_i v_i \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{ij} A_{ij} v_i v_j - \mu^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{ij} \left( A_{ij} - \frac{k_i k_j}{2m} \right) v_i v_j$$

# assortative mixing



## homophily and assortative mixing

*like links with like*

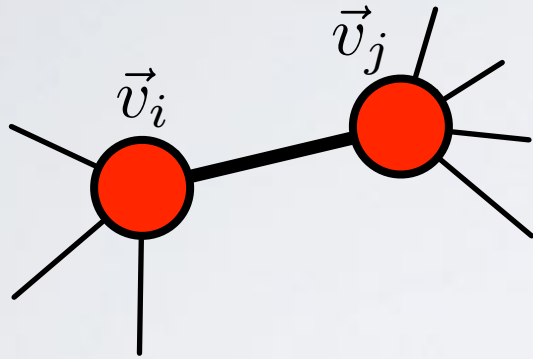
assortativity coefficient (scalar)

$$r = \frac{\text{cov}(v_i, v_j)}{\text{var}(v_i, v_j)}$$
$$= \frac{\sum_{ij} (A_{ij} - k_i k_j / 2m) v_i v_j}{\sum_{ij} k_i \delta_{ij} - k_i k_j / 2m}$$

[this is just a Pearson correlation across edges]

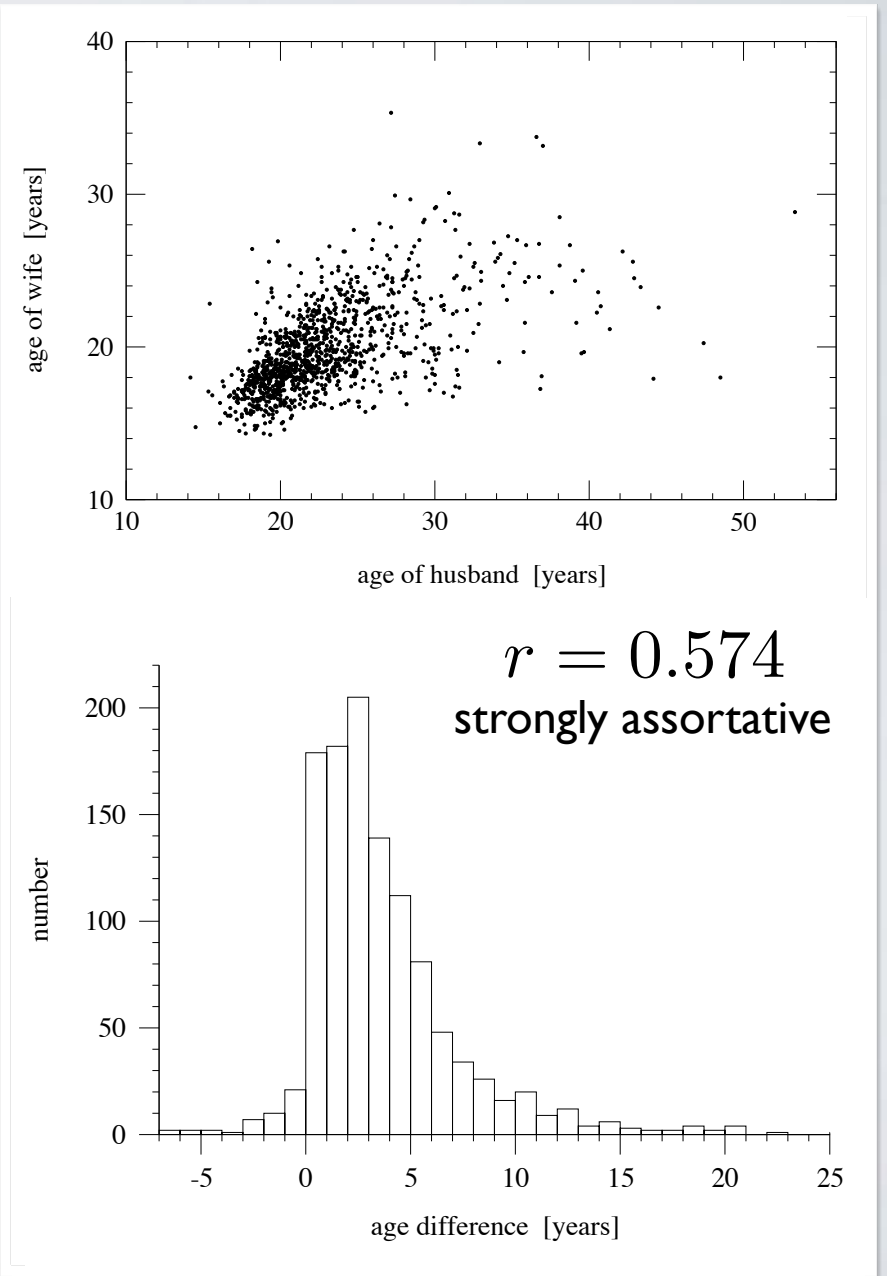
$$-1 \leq r \leq 1$$

# assortative mixing



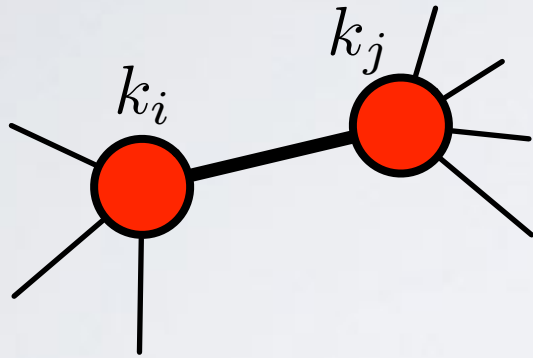
(top) scatter plot of ages of 1141 married couples at time of marriage [1995 US National Survey of Family Growth]

(bottom) histogram of age differences (M-F) for same data





# assortative mixing

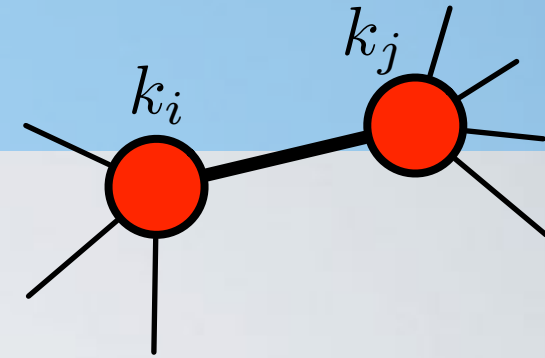


## homophily and assortative mixing

*like links with like*

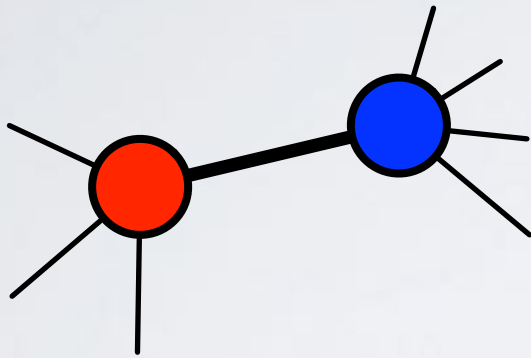
degree:  
just another scalar\*

# assortative mixing



	network	type	size $n$	degree assortativity $r$	error $\sigma_r$
social	physics coauthorship	undirected	52 909	0.363	0.002
	biology coauthorship	undirected	1 520 251	0.127	0.0004
	mathematics coauthorship	undirected	253 339	0.120	0.002
	film actor collaborations	undirected	449 913	0.208	0.0002
	company directors	undirected	7 673	0.276	0.004
	student relationships	undirected	573	-0.029	0.037
	email address books	directed	16 881	0.092	0.004
technological	power grid	undirected	4 941	-0.003	0.013
	Internet	undirected	10 697	-0.189	0.002
	World-Wide Web	directed	269 504	-0.067	0.0002
	software dependencies	directed	3 162	-0.016	0.020
biological	protein interactions	undirected	2 115	-0.156	0.010
	metabolic network	undirected	765	-0.240	0.007
	neural network	directed	307	-0.226	0.016
	marine food web	directed	134	-0.263	0.037
	freshwater food web	directed	92	-0.326	0.031

# assortative mixing



## homophily and assortative mixing

*like links with like*

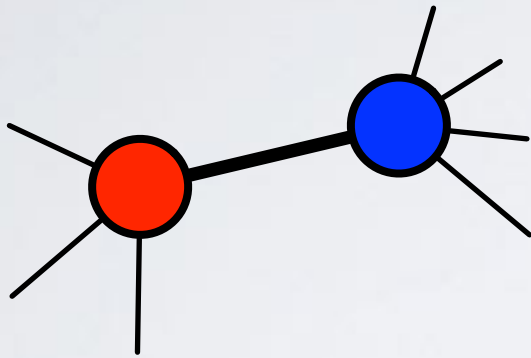
categorical variables:

let  $e_{ij}$  be fraction of edges connecting vertices of type  $i$  to vertices of type  $j$

matrix sum 
$$\sum_{ij} e_{ij} = 1$$

marginals 
$$\sum_j e_{ij} = a_i \qquad \sum_i e_{ij} = b_j$$

# assortative mixing



## homophily and assortative mixing

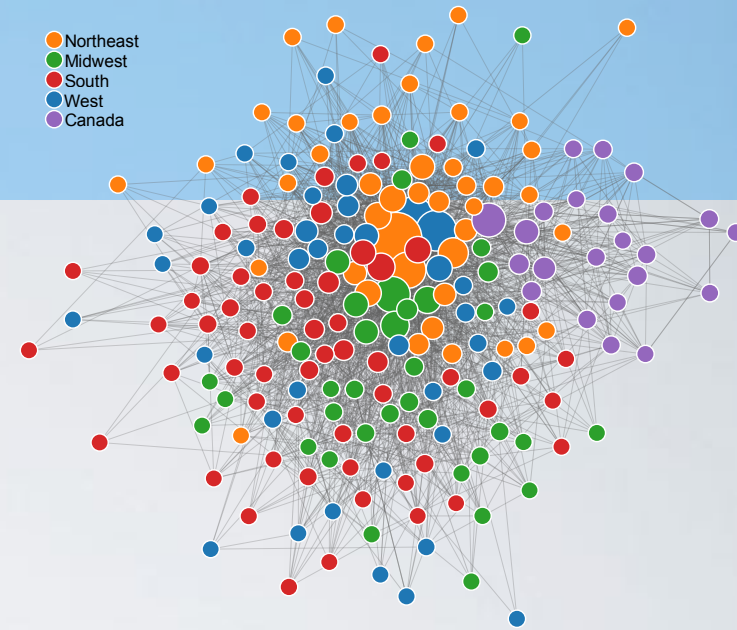
*like links with like*

categorical variables:  
assortativity coefficient\*

$$r = \frac{\sum_i e_{ii} - \sum_i a_i b_i}{1 - \sum_i a_i b_i}$$
$$= \frac{\text{Tr } \mathbf{e} - \|\mathbf{e}^2\|}{1 - \|\mathbf{e}^2\|}$$

# assortative mixing

4388 Computer Science faculty  
vertices are PhD granting institutions in North America  
edge  $(u, v)$  means PhD at  $u$  and now faculty at  $v$   
labels are US census regions + Canada

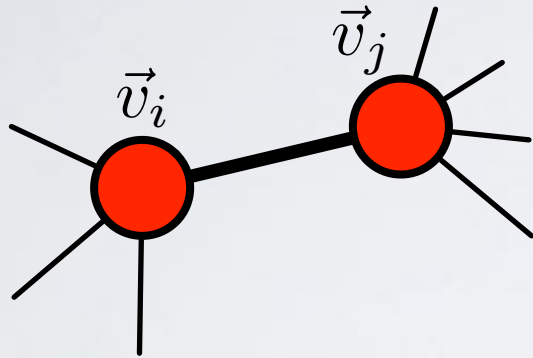


	Northeast	Midwest	South	West	Canada	$a_u$
Northeast	<b>0.237</b>	0.084	0.098	0.104	0.028	0.552
Midwest	0.084	<b>0.134</b>	0.088	0.059	0.016	0.381
South	0.098	0.088	<b>0.166</b>	0.068	0.012	0.432
West	0.104	0.059	0.068	<b>0.145</b>	0.017	0.393
Canada	0.028	0.016	0.012	0.017	<b>0.170</b>	0.242
$a_u$	0.552	0.381	0.432	0.393	0.242	

$$r = 0.215$$

moderately assortative

# assortative mixing



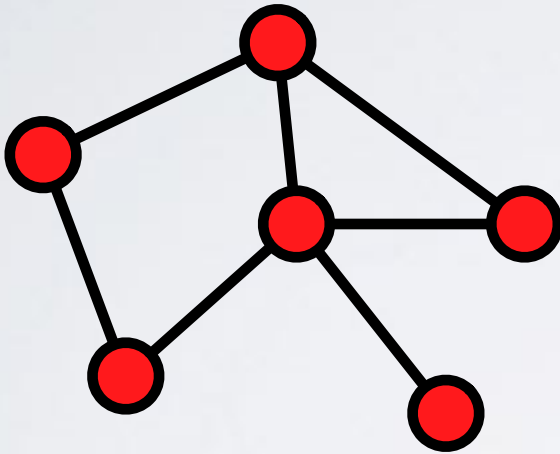
## homophily and assortative mixing

*like links with like*

- random graphs tend to be disassortative  $r \leq 0$  because the mixing is uniform
- social networks (apparently) highly assortative, in every way (attribute, degree, category)
- extremal values  $r \approx \{-1, 1\}$  suggest underlying mechanism on that variable

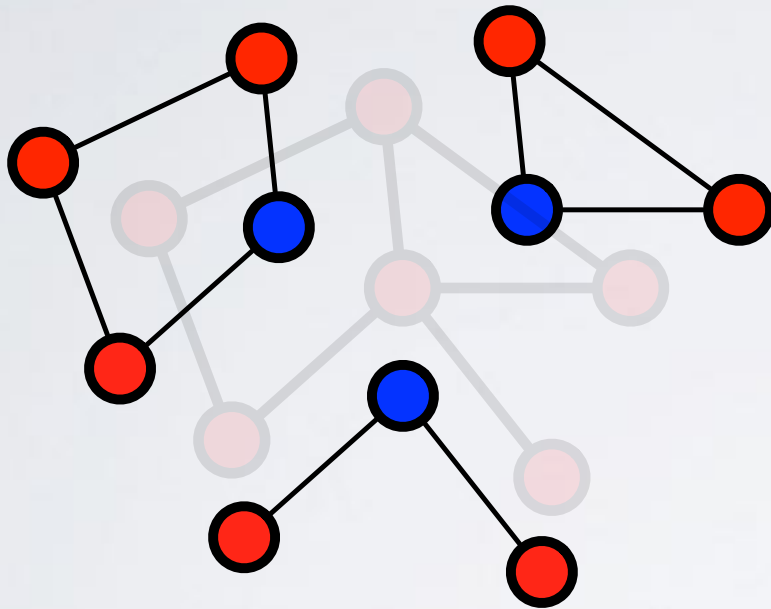
# describing networks

**motifs**





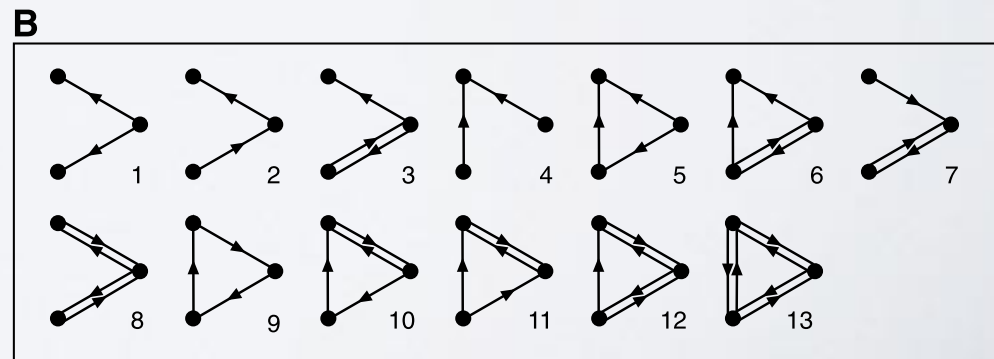
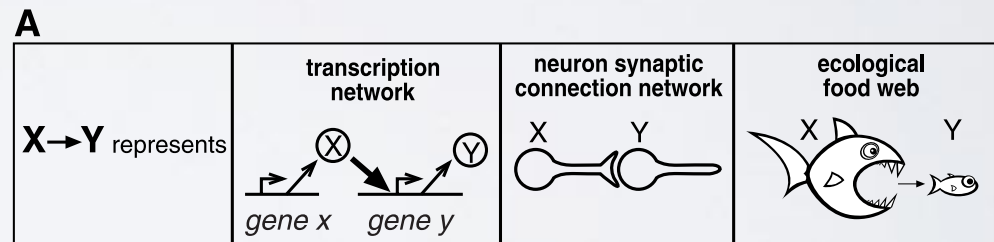
# describing networks



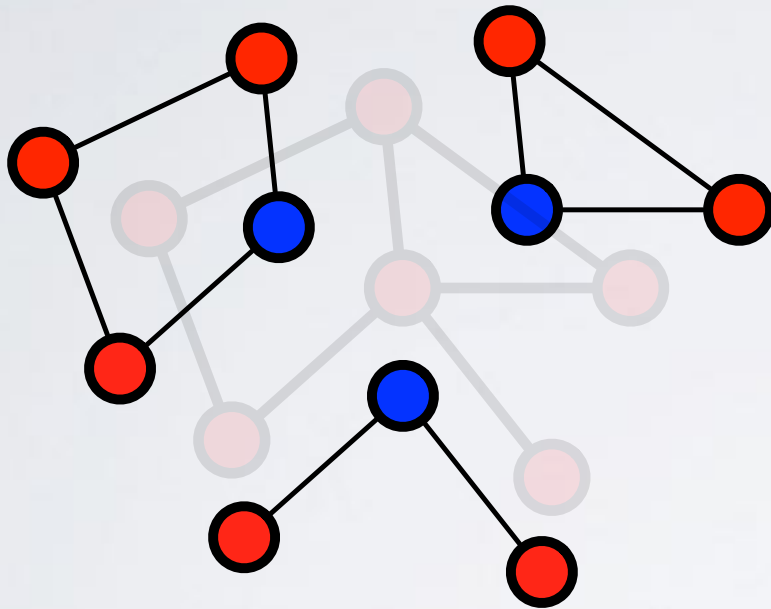
## motifs:

*small* subgraphs (of interest),  
which we then count

compare counts against null  
model (random graph model)



# describing networks



## motifs:

*small* subgraphs (of interest),  
which we then count

compare counts against null  
model (random graph model)

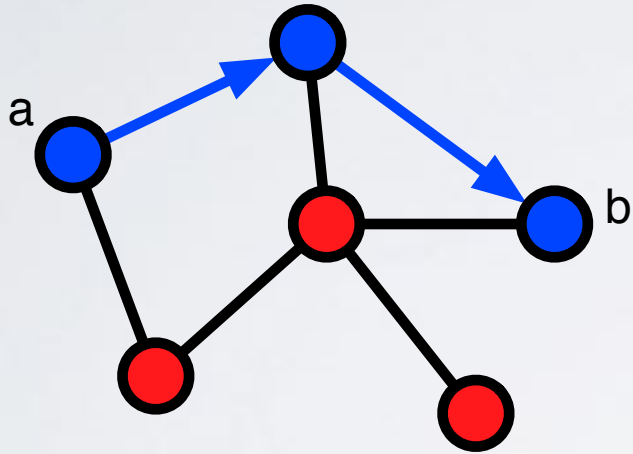
- efficient counting is tricky  
(combinatorics + graph isomorphism)
- choice of null model key
- lots of work in this area, mainly in  
molecular biology and neuroscience
- see

Sporns and Kotter, *PLoS Biol.* **2**, e369 (2004)

Matias et al., *REVSTAT* **4**, 31-51 (2006)

Wong et al., *Brief. in Bioinfo.* **13**, 202-215 (2011)

# describing networks




## path:

number of “hops”  
between two nodes

$$\ell_{a \rightarrow b} = 2$$

# network paths

# THE ORACLE OF BACON



Tina Fey has a Bacon number of 2.

[Find a different link](#)

```
graph TD;
    A[Tina Fey] -- was in --> B[Man of the Year (2006)];
    B -- with --> C[Audrey Dwyer];
    C -- was in --> D[Where the Truth Lies (2005)];
    D -- with --> E[Kevin Bacon];
```

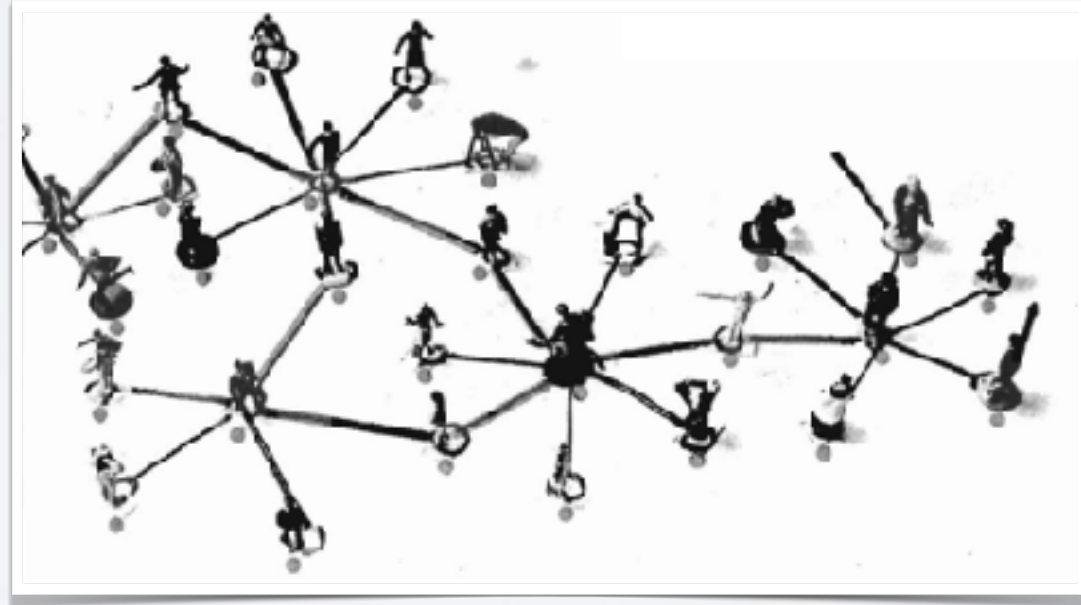
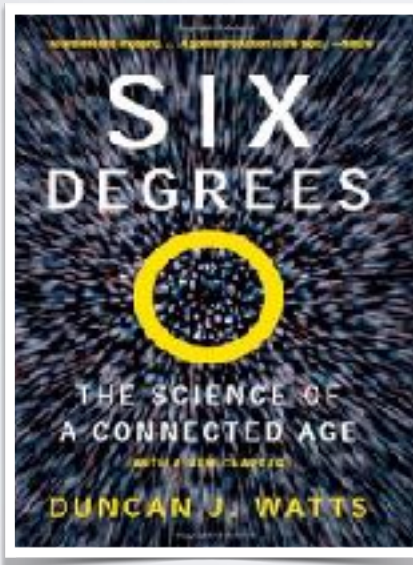
Kevin Bacon to Tina Fey [Find link](#) [More options >>](#)

# network paths

## The Small-World Problem

By Stanley Milgram

1967

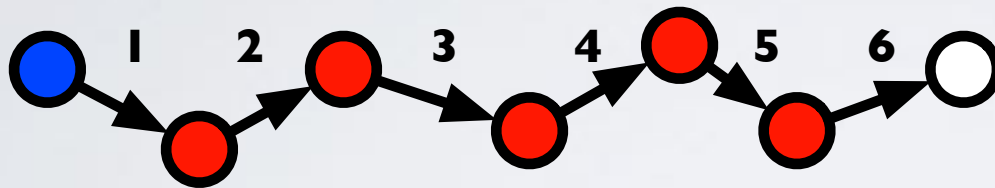


# network paths

## The Small-World Problem

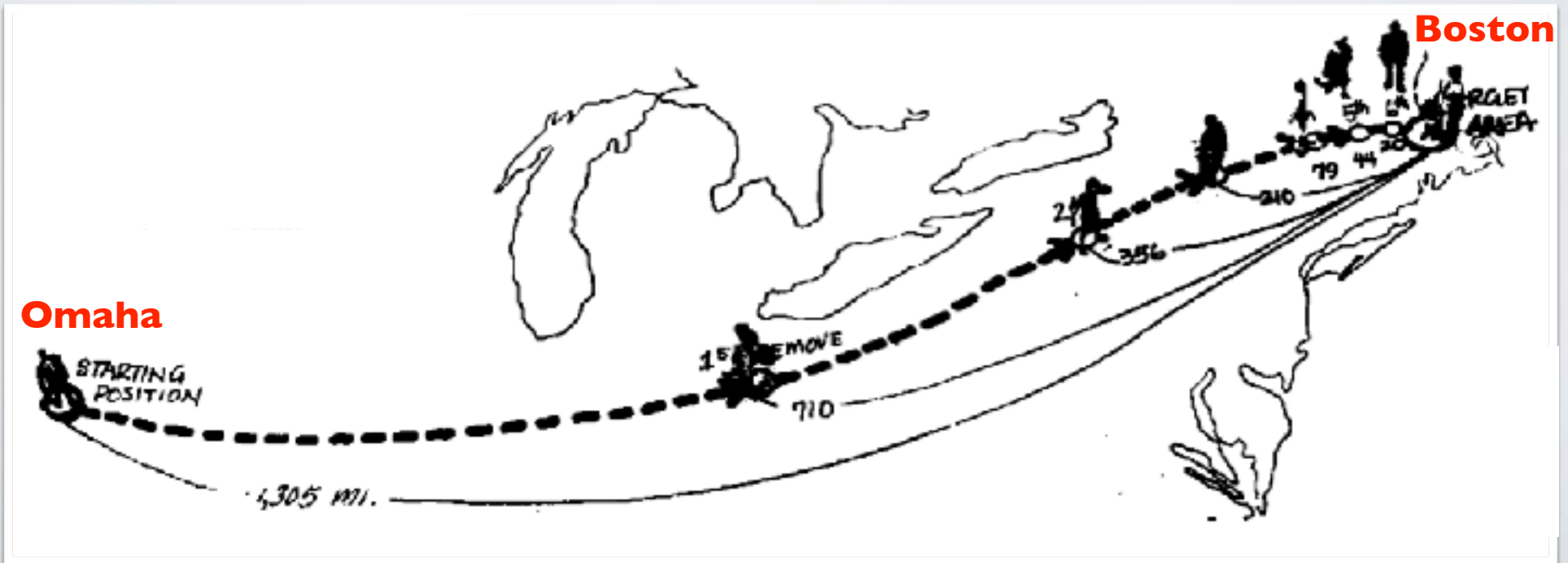
By Stanley Milgram

1967



$$\langle l \rangle = 6$$

6-degrees of separation



# network paths

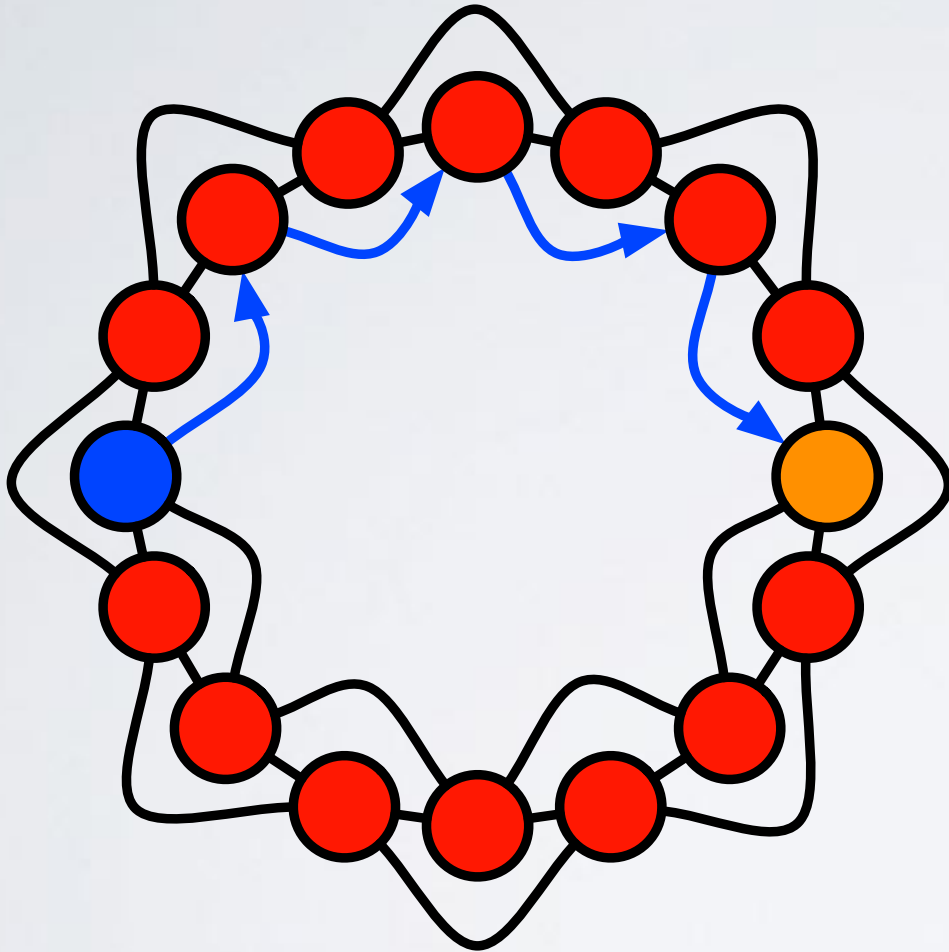
## **Collective dynamics of 'small-world' networks**

Duncan J. Watts\* & Steven H. Strogatz

1998



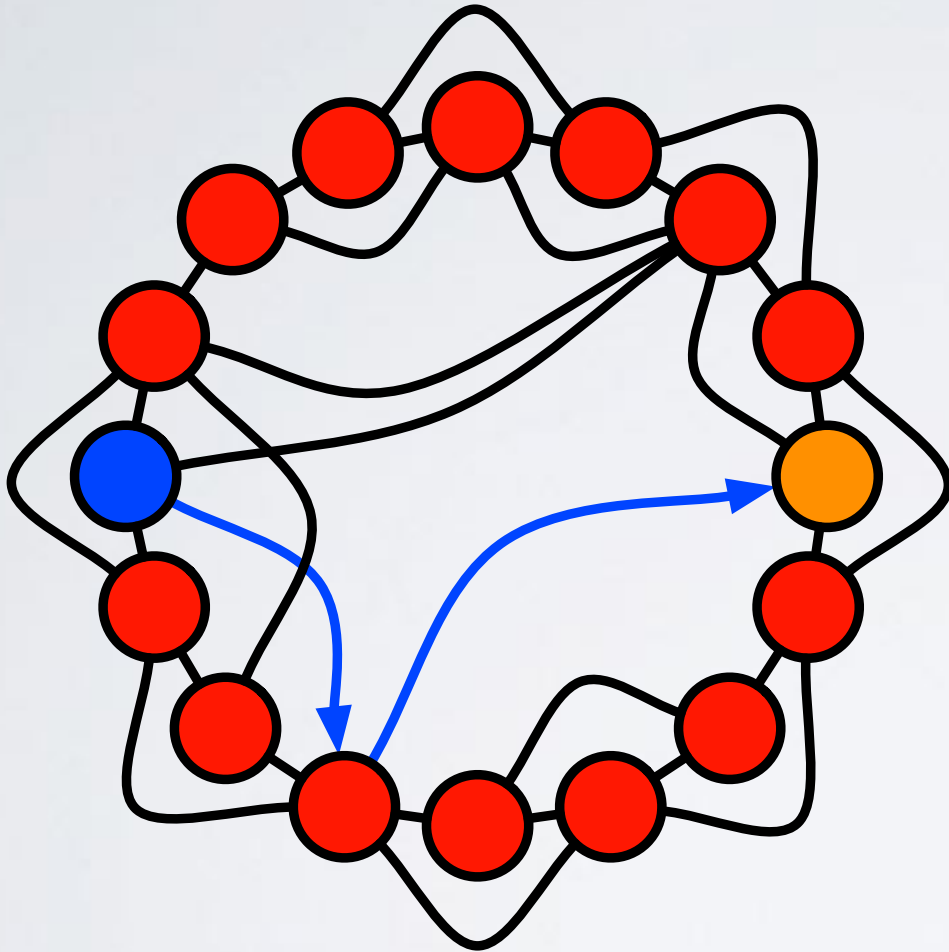
# network paths



## all links “local”

- most nodes far away
- high “clustering”

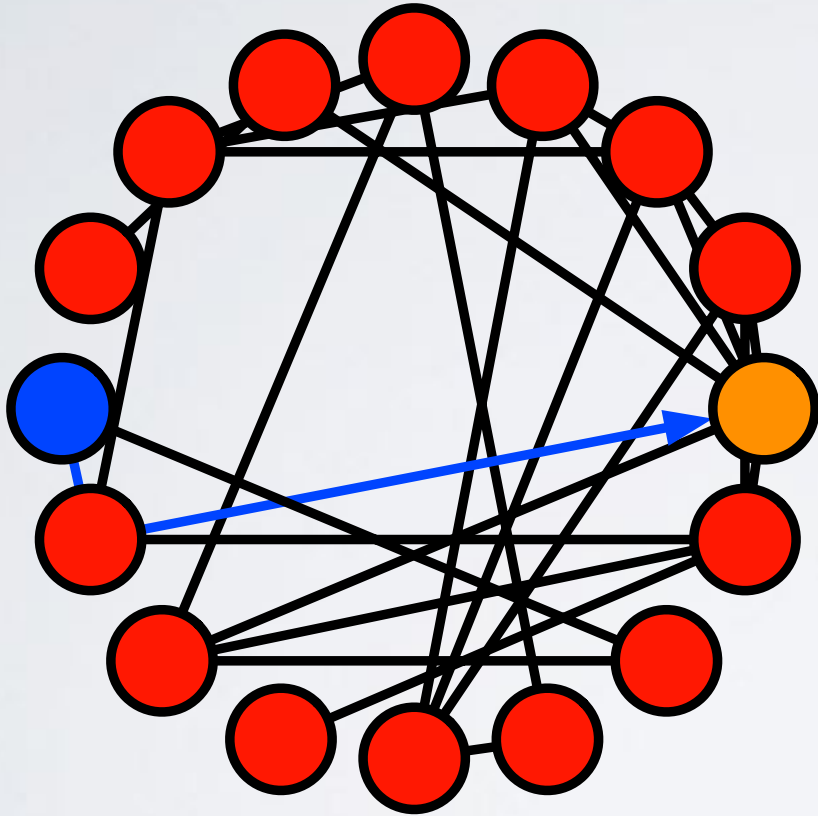
# network paths



**most links “local”**  
**some links random**

- most nodes near
- high “clustering”
- short paths can be found

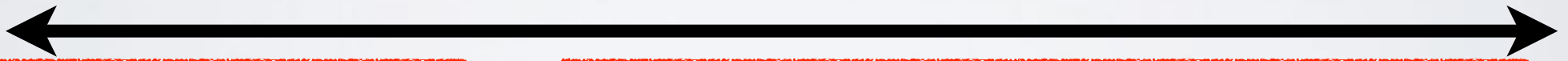
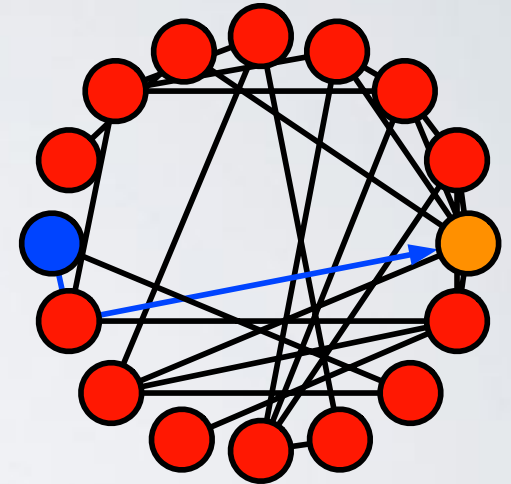
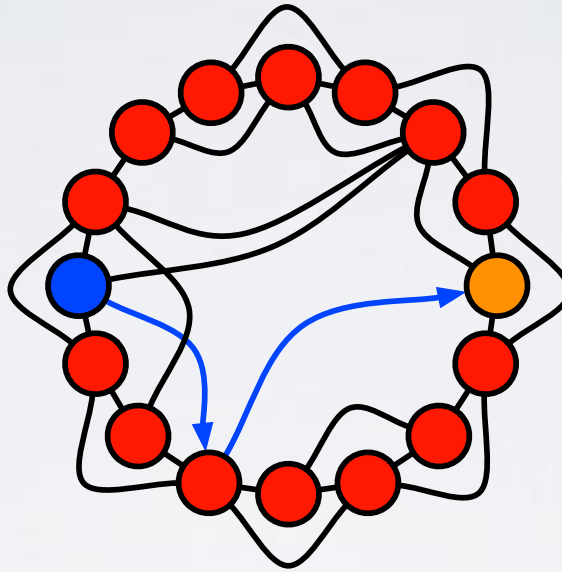
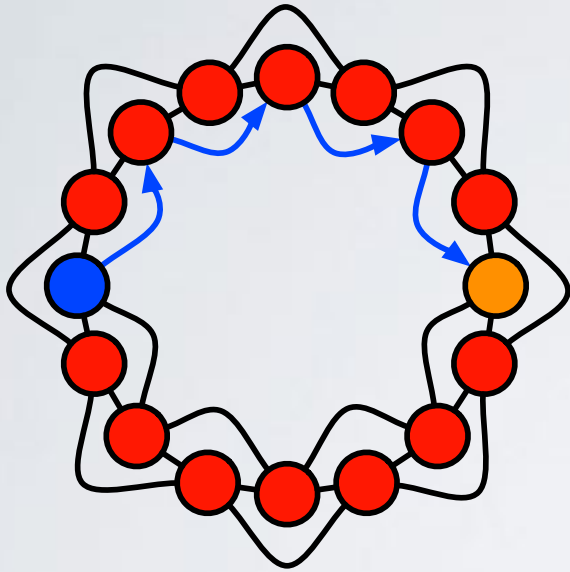
# network paths



## all links random

- Erdos-Renyi graph
- most nodes near
- short paths hard to find
- no “clustering”

# it's a small world after all



big world  
high clustering

small world  
high clustering

small world  
low clustering

it's a small world after all

# Geographic routing in social networks

2005

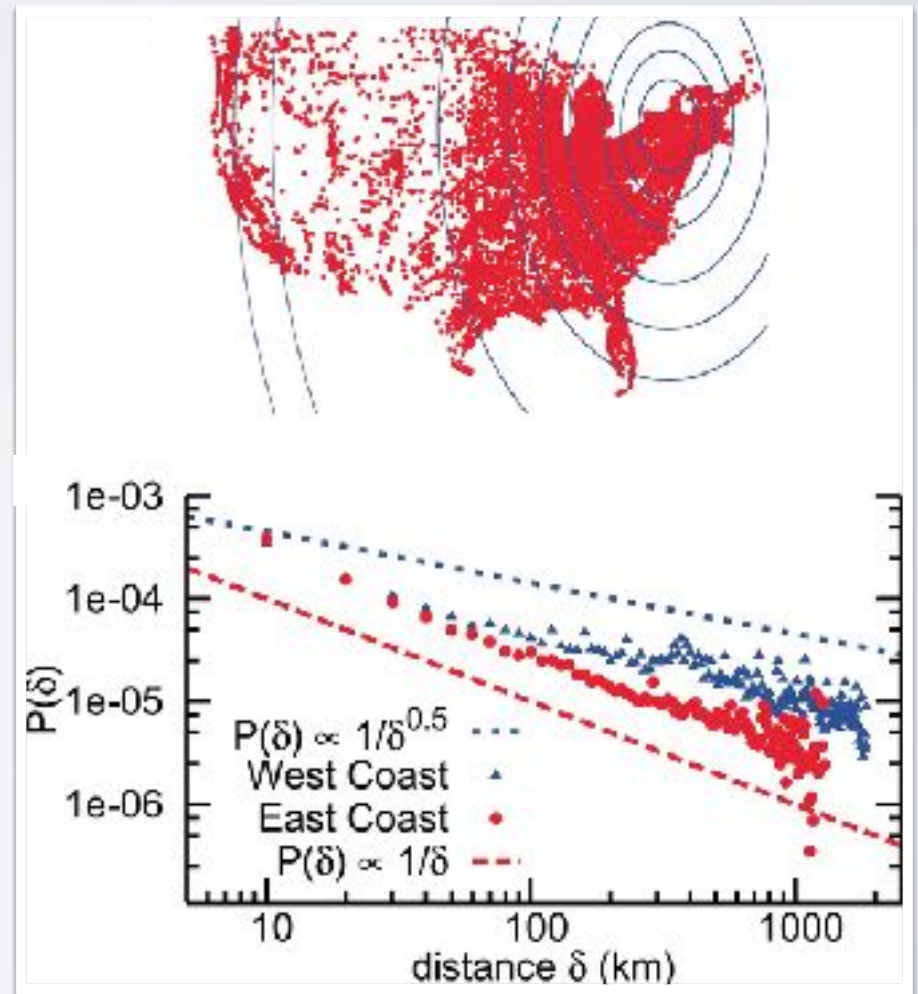
David Liben-Nowell<sup>\*†‡§</sup>, Jasmine Novak<sup>†</sup>, Ravi Kumar<sup>†¶</sup>, Prabhakar Raghavan<sup>¶||</sup>, and Andrew Tomkins<sup>†¶</sup>



LIVEJOURNAL™

495,836 geo-located users

- most links “local”
- remaining links span all scales
- high clustering
- small “diameter”



# network paths



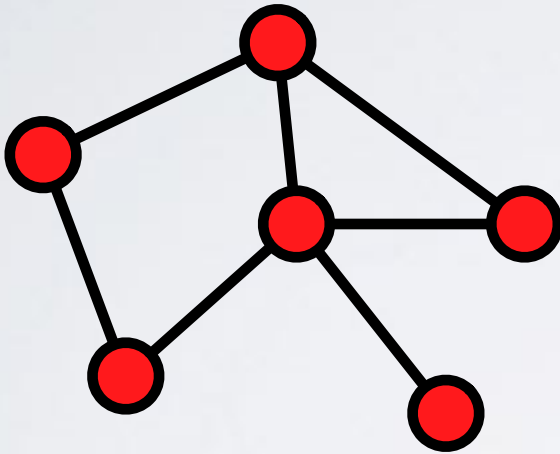
- path = sequence of edges  $a \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow b$
- many short paths = “small world”
- social world is surprisingly small, yet highly “clustered”  
(many locally dense groups)

## open questions:

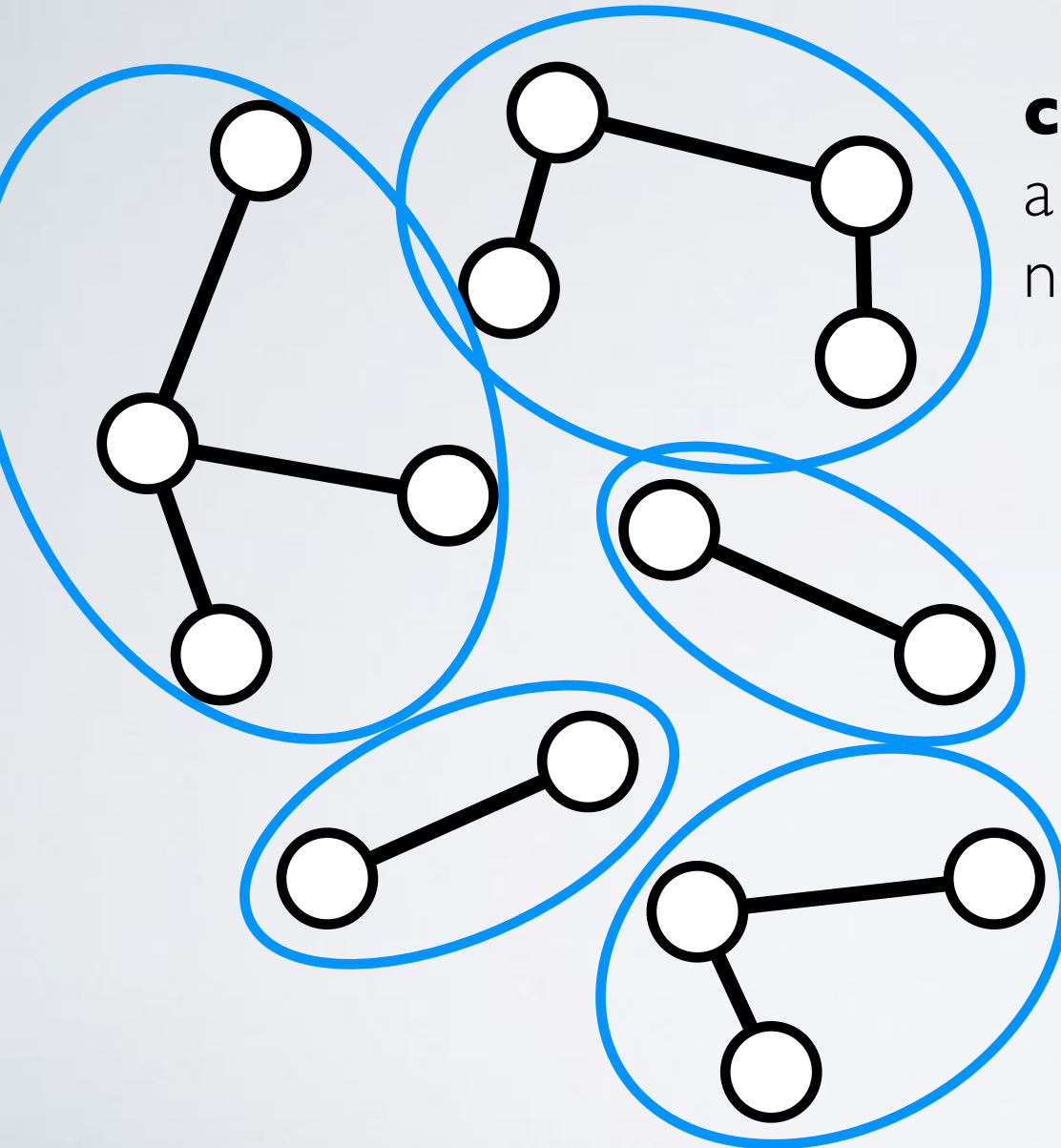
- how do big social networks self-organize?
- what processes shrink big worlds?
- social information filtering

# describing networks

## components



# network terminology

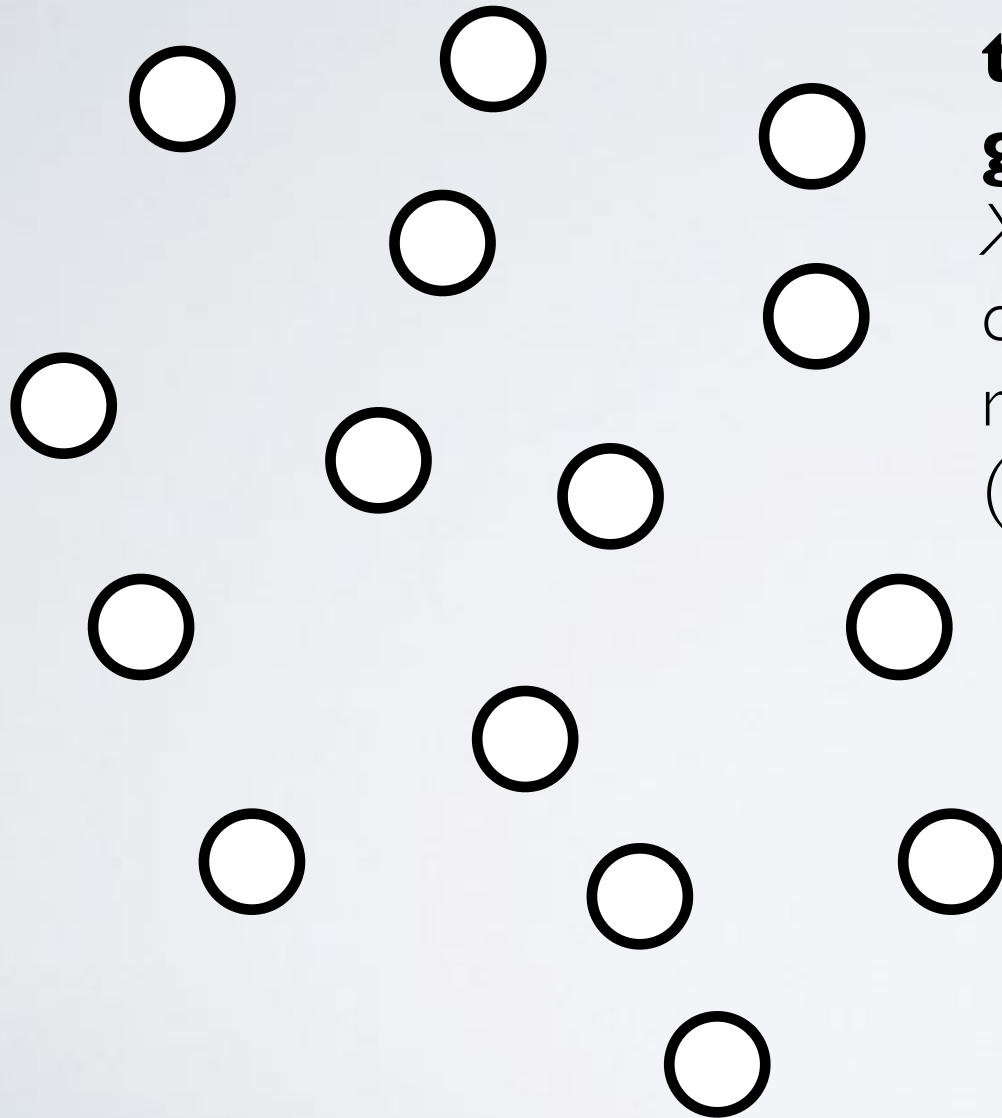


## **component:**

a group of connected nodes



# network components



## the percolation

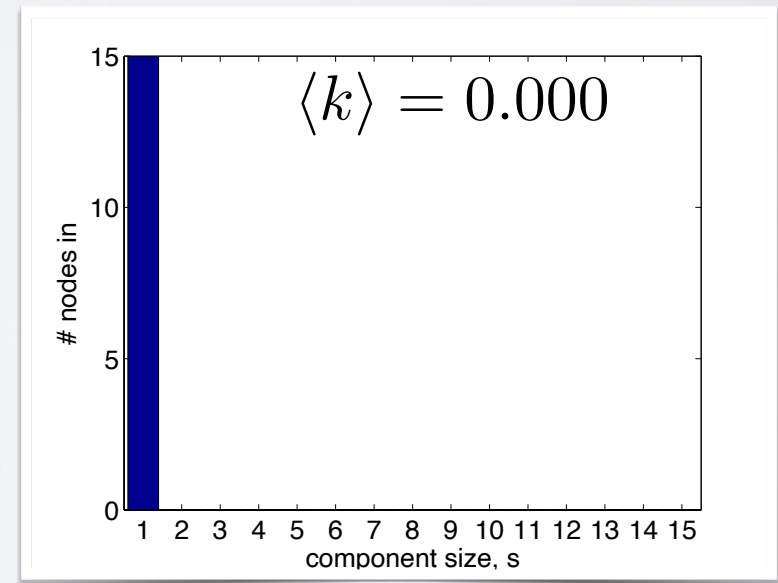
**game:** choose

$X$  random pairs

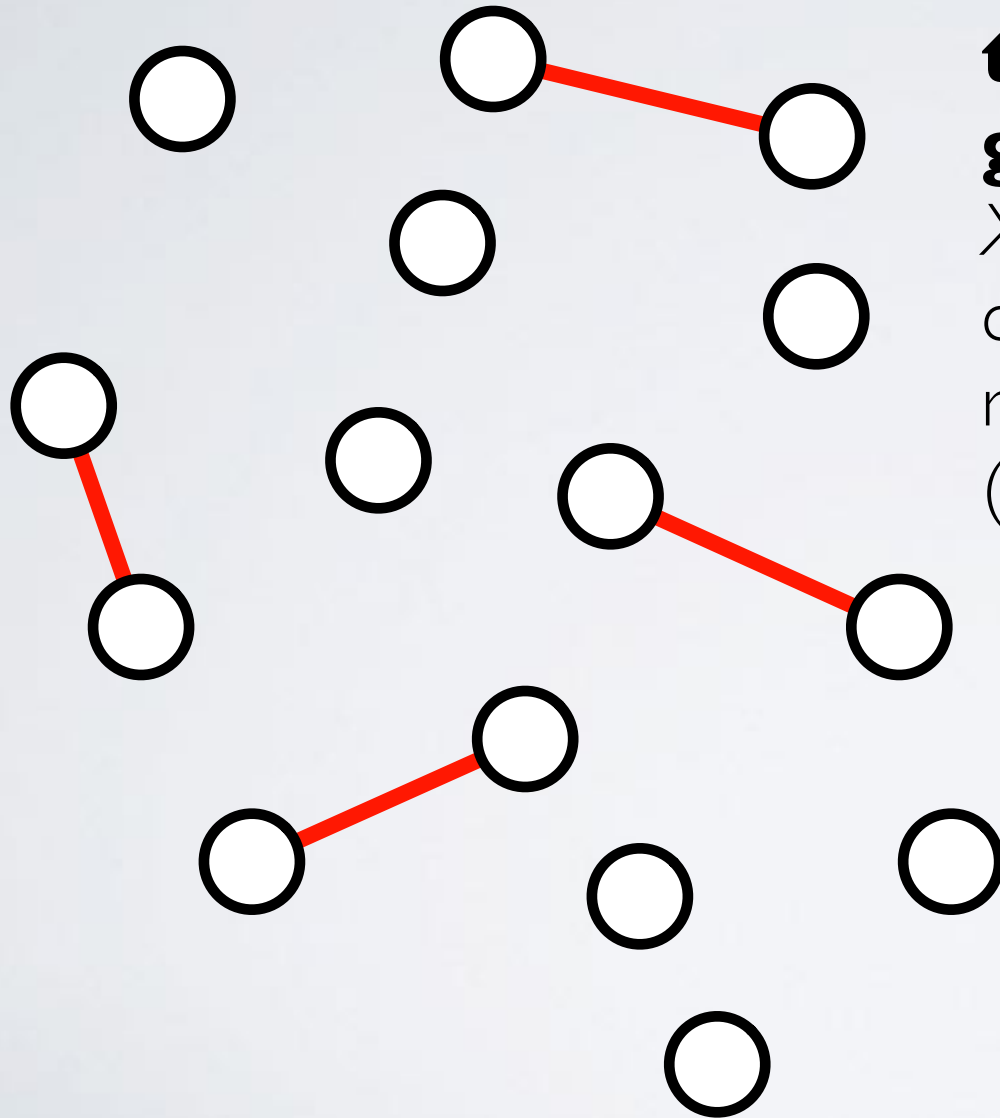
connect them

repeat

(count components)



# network components



## the percolation

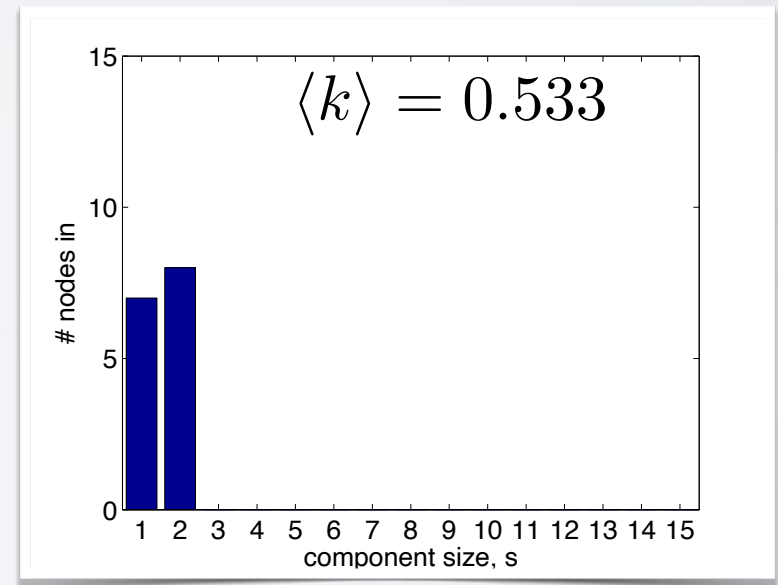
**game:** choose

$X$  random pairs

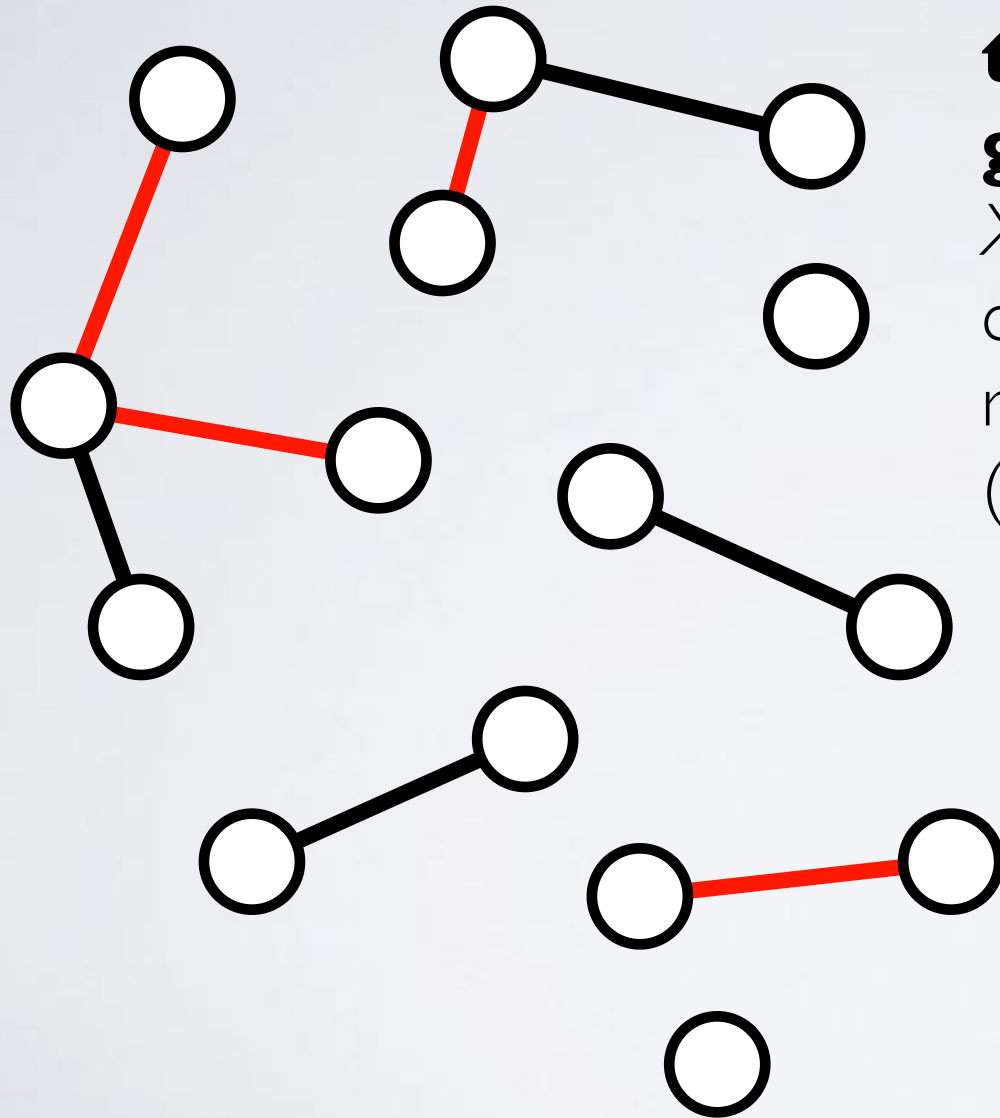
connect them

repeat

(count components)



# network components



## the percolation

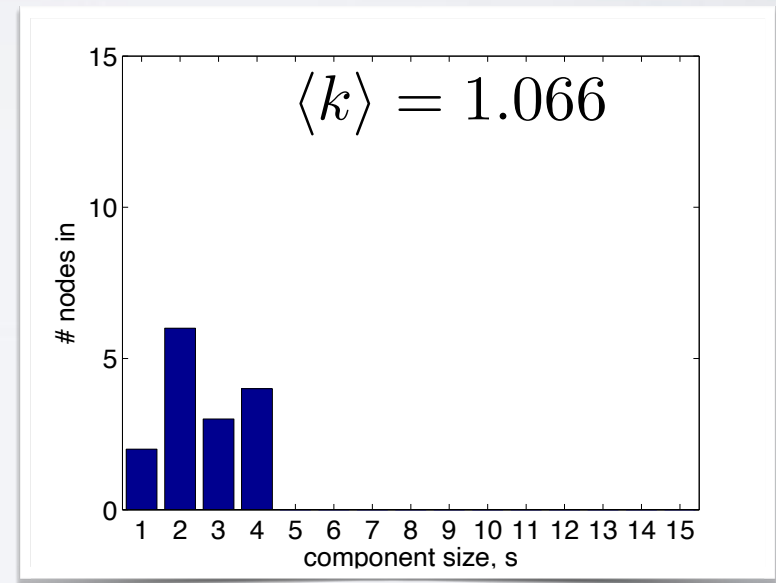
**game:** choose

$X$  random pairs

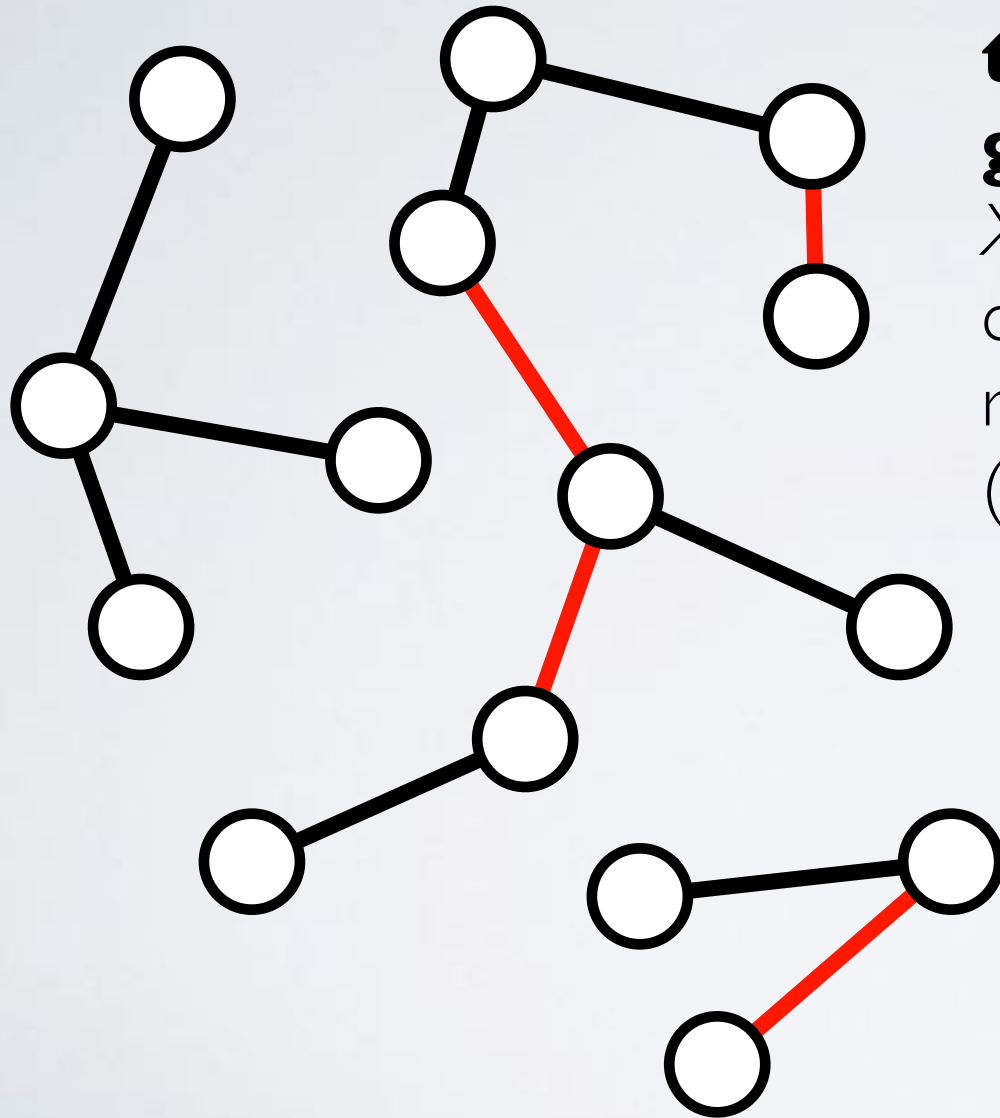
connect them

repeat

(count components)



# network components



## the percolation

**game:**

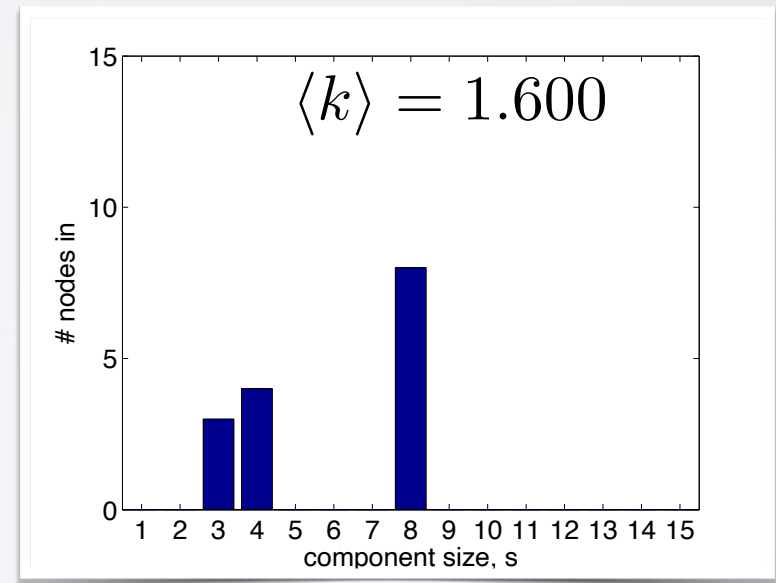
choose

$X$  random pairs

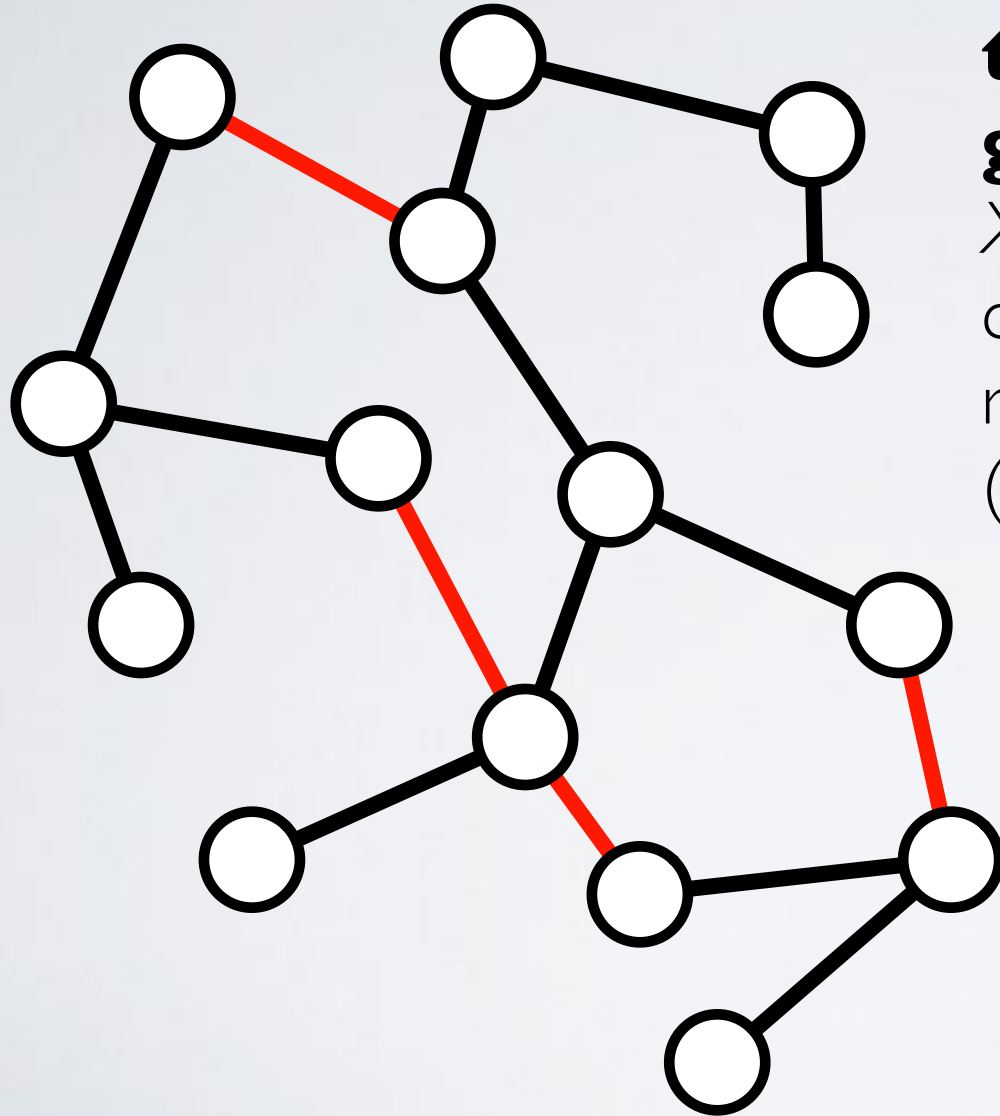
connect them

repeat

(count components)



# network components



## the percolation

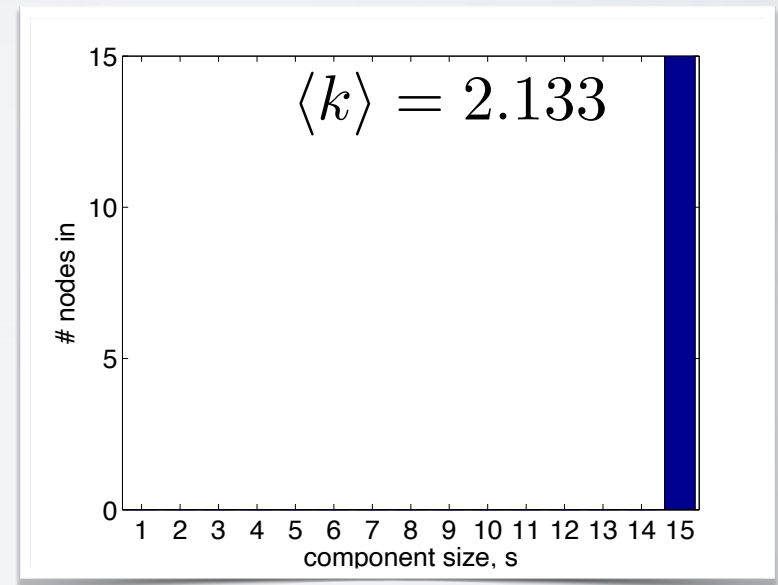
**game:** choose

$X$  random pairs

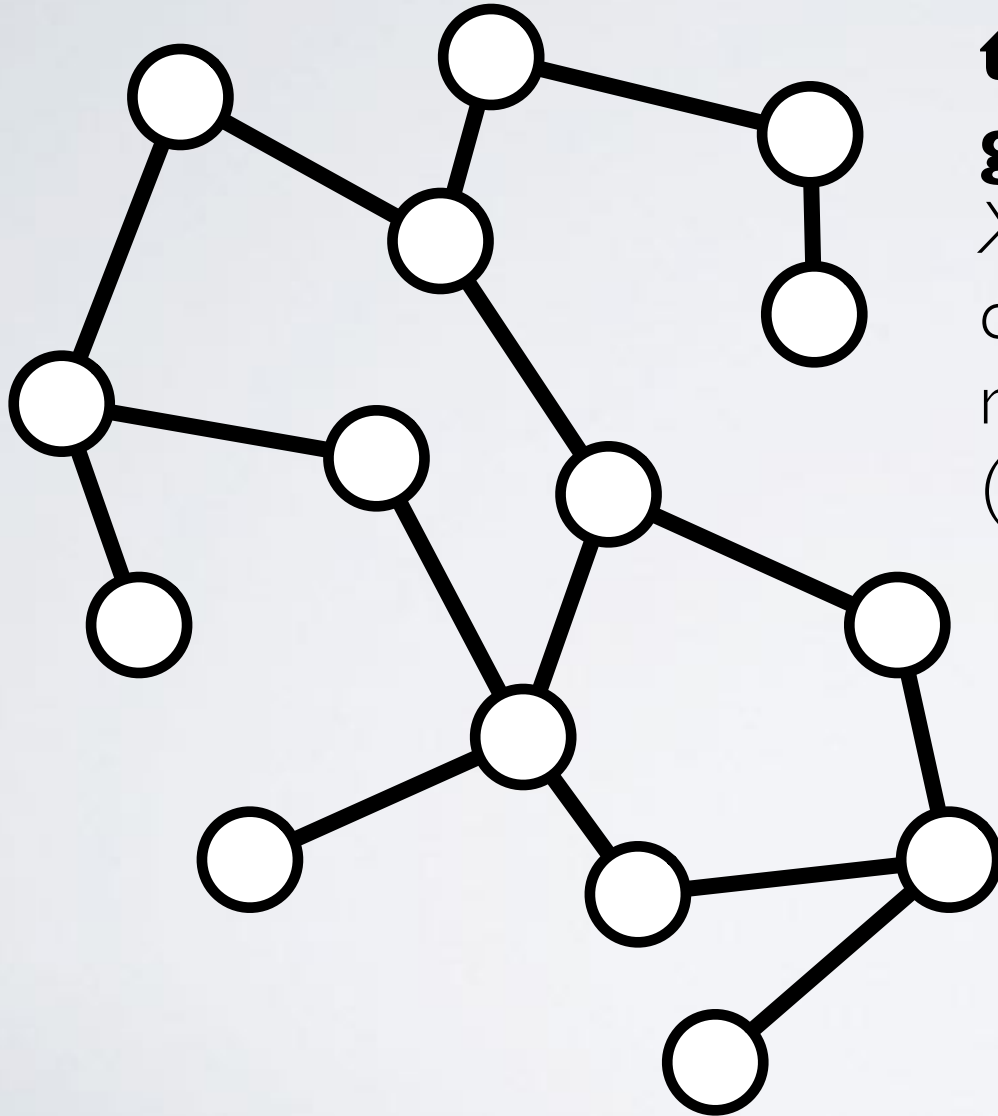
connect them

repeat

(count components)



# network components



## the percolation

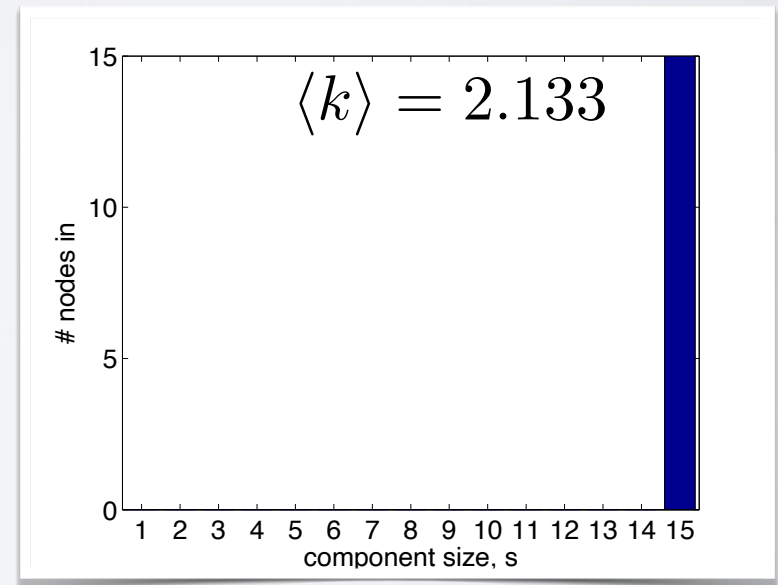
**game:** choose

$X$  random pairs

connect them

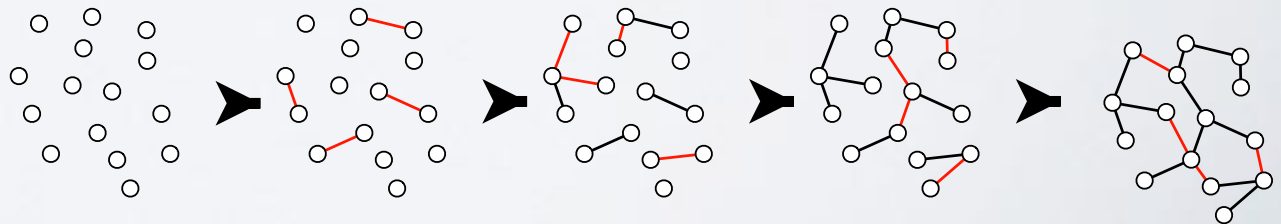
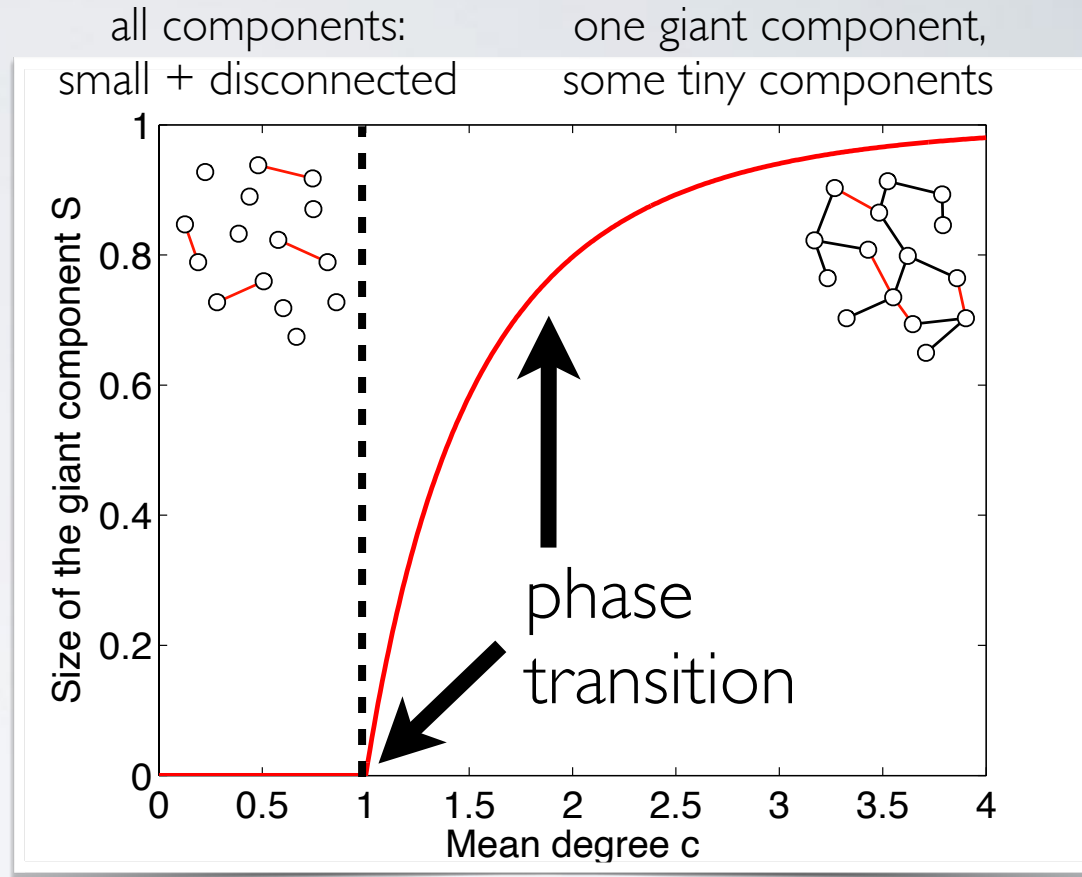
repeat

(count components)



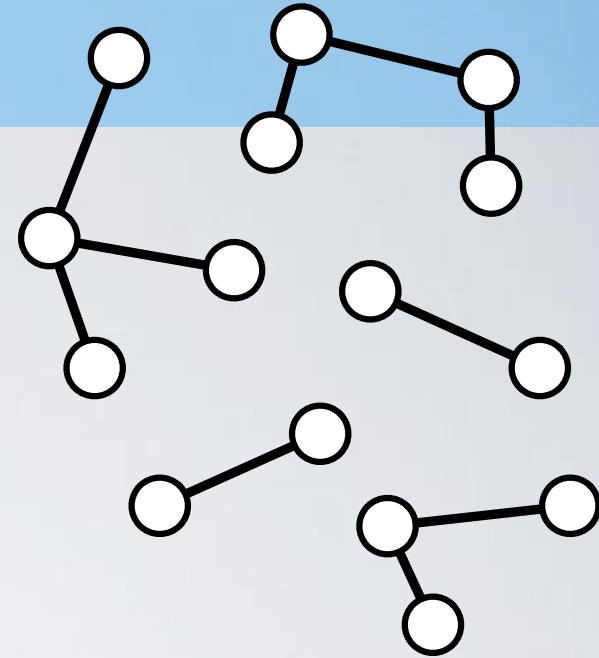
# the “giant” component

- add edges randomly
- at first, components are small and disconnected
- at critical value, these components begin linking
- beyond, all nodes in single “giant” component



# network components

- component = connected group
- component dynamics are independent (no information flow)
- *phase transition*: sudden emergence of new behavior (giant component)



## open questions:

- other network properties + phase transitions
- adaptive wiring
- local vs. global connectivity rules