

# A Partial Overview of Complex Networks

Last updated: 2023/08/22, 11:48:21 EDT

Principles of Complex Systems, Vols. 1, 2, & 3D  
 CSYS/MATH 6701, 6713, & a pretend number,  
 2023–2024 | @pocsvox

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Computational Story Lab | Vermont Complex Systems Center  
 Santa Fe Institute | University of Vermont



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## Outline

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## Leveling up—Scaffolded educational mission:

Data Science Undergrad.

Graduate Certificate in  
 Complex Systems and  
 Data Science

Fall, 2015–: MS in Complex  
 Systems and Data Science

Fall, 2018–: PhD in The  
 Study of Interesting Things  
 Complex Systems and  
 Data Science



All the words: <http://vermontcomplexsystems.org>

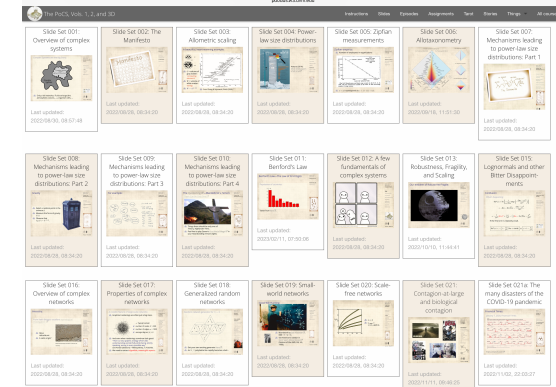
## Dipoloma-posters:



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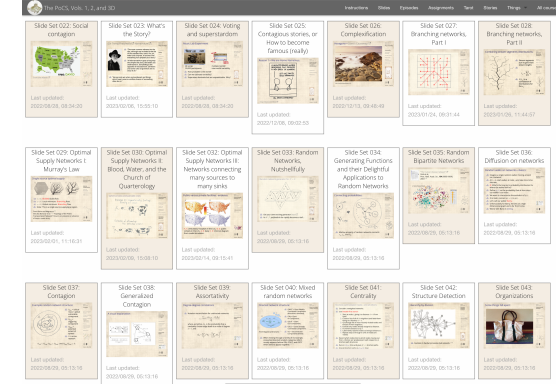
<https://pdodds.w3.uvm.edu/teaching/courses/pocsverse/slides/>



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Describe | Explain | Create | Share | Ethos: Play

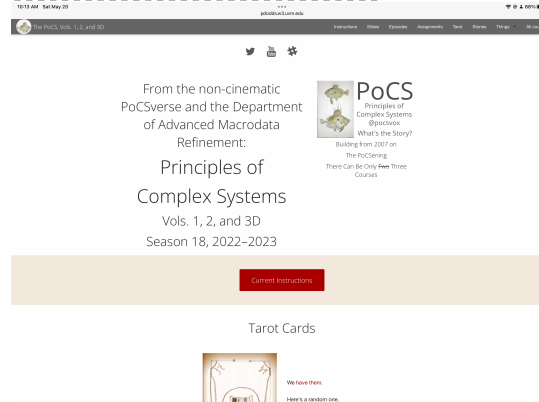


[vermontcomplexsystems.org](https://vermontcomplexsystems.org)

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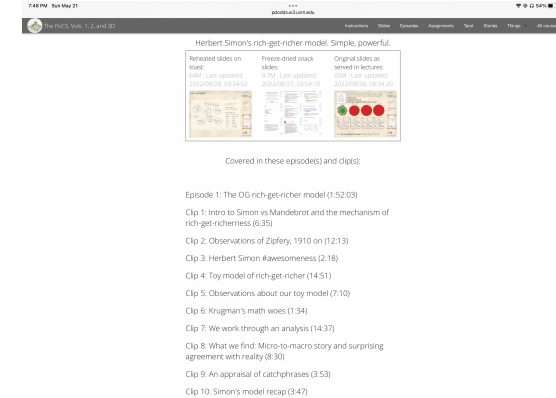


150,000 lines of  $\text{L}^{\text{A}}\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$  ...

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- Covered in these episodes() and clips:
- Episode 1: The OG rich-get-richer model! (5:20:3)
  - Clip 1: Intro to Simon vs Mandelbrot and the mechanism of rich-get-richer-ness (6:35)
  - Clip 2: Observations of Zipfery, 1910 on (12:13)
  - Clip 3: Herbert Simon awareness-ness (2:18)
  - Clip 4: Toy model of rich-get-richer (14:51)
  - Clip 5: Observations about our toy model (7:10)
  - Clip 6: Krugman's math woes (1:34)
  - Clip 7: We work through an analysis (14:37)
  - Clip 8: What we find: Micro-to-macro story and surprising agreement with reality (8:30)
  - Clip 9: An appraisal of catchphrases (3:53)
  - Clip 10: Simon's model recap (3:47)

## Exciting details regarding these slides:

- Three servings (all in pdf):
  1. Fresh: For in-class Delivery.
  2. On toast: Flattened for page-turning joy.
  3. Freeze-dried: Pack-and-go, 3x3 slides per page.
- Presentation versions are hyperly navigable:
  - ← back + search + forward.
- Web links look like this.
- References in slides link to full citation at end. [4]
- Citations contain links to pdfs for papers (if available).
- Some books will be linked to on Amazon.
- Brought to you by a frightening melange of X<sub>1</sub>TeX, Beamer, perl, PerlTeX, feared command-line madness, and an almost fanatical devotion to the indomitable emacs. #totallynormal

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## net•work |'netwɜ:k|

- noun
- 1 an arrangement of intersecting horizontal and vertical lines.
    - a complex system of roads, railroads, or other transportation routes : *a network of railroads.*
  - 2 a group or system of interconnected people or things : *a trade network.*
    - a group of people who exchange information, contacts, and experience for professional or social purposes : *a support network.*
    - a group of broadcasting stations that connect for the simultaneous broadcast of a program : *the introduction of a second TV network* | [as adj. ] *network television.*
    - a number of interconnected computers, machines, or operations : *specialized computers that manage multiple outside connections to a network* | *a local cellular phone network.*
    - a system of connected electrical conductors.

- verb [ trans. ]  
connect as or operate with a network : *the stock exchanges have proven to be resourceful in networking these deals.*
- link (machines, esp. computers) to operate interactively : [as adj. ] ( **networked** ) *networked workstations.*
  - [ intrans. ] [often as n. ] ( **networking** ) interact with other people to exchange information and develop contacts, esp. to further one's career : *the skills of networking, bargaining, and negotiation.*

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## Ancestry:

First known use: Geneva Bible, 1560

'And thou shalt make unto it a grate like networke of brass (Exodus xxvii 4).'

From the OED via Briggs:

- 1658--: reticulate structures in animals
- 1839--: rivers and canals
- 1869--: railways
- 1883--: distribution network of electrical cables
- 1914--: wireless broadcasting networks

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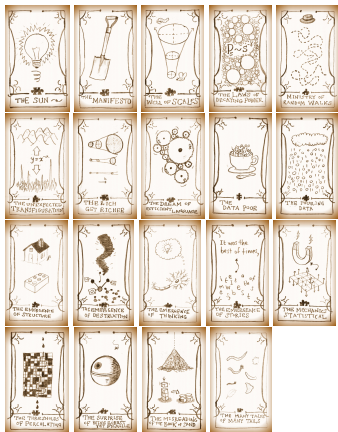
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## Thesaurus deliciousness:

### network

- noun
- 1 a network of arteries WEB, lattice, net, matrix, mesh, crisscross, grid, reticulum, reticulation; Anatomy plexus.
  - 2 a network of lanes MAZE, labyrinth, warren, tangle.
  - 3 a network of friends SYSTEM, complex, nexus, web, webwork.

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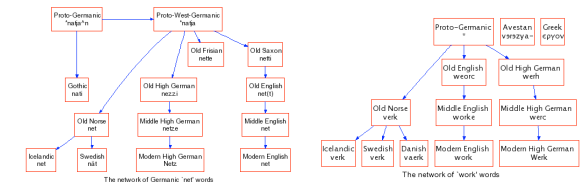
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## Ancestry:

Net and Work are venerable old words:

- 'Net' first used to mean spider web (King Ælfréd, 888).
- 'Work' appear to have long meant purposeful action.



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- 'Network' = something built based on the idea of natural, flexible lattice or web.
- c.f., ironwork, stonework, fretwork.

## The Science of Complex Systems Manifesto:

1. Systems are ubiquitous and systems matter.
2. Consequently, much of science is about understanding how pieces dynamically fit together.
3. 1700 to 2000 = Golden Age of Reductionism: Atoms!, sub-atomic particles, DNA, genes, people, ...
4. Understanding and creating systems (including new 'atoms') is the greater part of science and engineering.
5. Universality: systems with quantitatively different micro details exhibit qualitatively similar macro behavior (fate, but real and limited)
6. Computing advances make the Science of Complex Systems possible:
  - 6.1 We can measure and record enormous amounts of data, research areas continue to transition from data scarce to data rich.
  - 6.2 We can simulate, model, and create complex systems in extraordinary detail.

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## Ancestry:

From Keith Briggs's etymological investigation:

- Opus reticulatum:
- A Latin origin?



[http://serialconsign.com/2007/11/we-put-net-network]

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## Key Observation:

- Many complex systems can be viewed as complex networks of physical or abstract interactions.
- Opens door to mathematical and numerical analysis.
- Dominant approach of the first decade was of a theoretical-physics/stat-mechish flavor.
- Mindboggling amount of work published on complex networks since 1998 ...
- ... largely due to your typical theoretical physicist:



- Piranha physicus
- Hunt in packs.
- Feast on new and interesting ideas (see chaos, cellular automata, ...)
- See also: <http://uked.com/792/>

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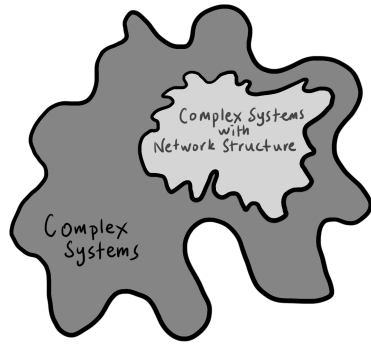
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## Complex Systems is the Big Story:



🔗 Only a bit networky: Fluids-at-large (the atmosphere, oceans, ...), organism cells, ...

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## Popularity according to textbooks:

### Textbooks:

- 🔗 Mark Newman (Physics, Michigan) "Networks: An Introduction" [↗](#)
- 🔗 David Easley and Jon Kleinberg (Economics and Computer Science, Cornell) "Networks, Crowds, and Markets: Reasoning About a Highly Connected World" [↗](#)

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## Numerous others ...

- 🔗 Complex Social Networks—F. Vega-Redondo <sup>[105]</sup>
- 🔗 Fractal River Basins: Chance and Self-Organization—I. Rodríguez-Iturbe and A. Rinaldo <sup>[84]</sup>
- 🔗 Random Graph Dynamics—R. Durrett
- 🔗 Scale-Free Networks—Guido Caldarelli
- 🔗 Evolution and Structure of the Internet: A Statistical Physics Approach—Romu Pastor-Satorras and Alessandro Vespignani
- 🔗 Complex Graphs and Networks—Fan Chung
- 🔗 Social Network Analysis—Stanley Wasserman and Kathleen Faust
- 🔗 Handbook of Graphs and Networks—Eds: Stefan Bornholdt and H. G. Schuster <sup>[19]</sup>
- 🔗 Evolution of Networks—S. N. Dorogovtsev and J. F. F. Mendes <sup>[34]</sup>

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## Popularity (according to Google Scholar)



"Collective dynamics of 'small-world' networks" [↗](#)  
Watts and Strogatz, Nature, **393**, 440–442, 1998. <sup>[112]</sup>

Times cited: ~ 51,622 [↗](#) (as of May 19, 2023)

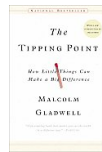


"Emergence of scaling in random networks" [↗](#)  
Barabási and Albert, Science, **286**, 509–511, 1999. <sup>[8]</sup>

Times cited: ~ 43,853 [↗](#) (as of May 19, 2023)

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## Popularity according to popular books:



The Tipping Point: How Little Things can make a Big Difference—Malcolm Gladwell <sup>[43]</sup>



Nexus: Small Worlds and the Groundbreaking Science of Networks—Mark Buchanan

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## More observations

- 🔗 But surely **networks aren't new** ...
  - 🔗 Graph theory was well established ...
  - 🔗 Study of social networks started in the 1930's ...
  - 🔗 So why all this 'new' research on networks?
  - 🔗 **Answer: Oodles of Easily Accessible Data.**
  - 🔗 We can now inform (alas) our theories with a much more measurable reality.\*
  - 🔗 Graph theory missed "becoming": Stories = Characters + Time
  - 🔗 A worthy goal: establish **mechanistic explanations**.
- \*If this is upsetting, maybe string theory is for you ...*

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## Review articles:



"Complex Networks: Structure and Dynamics" [↗](#)  
Boccaletti et al., Physics Reports, **424**, 175–308, 2006. <sup>[14]</sup>

Times cited: ~ 12,318 [↗](#) (as of May 9, 2023)



"The structure and function of complex networks" [↗](#)  
M. E. J. Newman, SIAM Rev., **45**, 167–256, 2003. <sup>[77]</sup>

Times cited: ~ 23,611 [↗](#) (as of May 9, 2023)

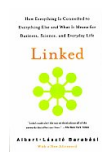


"Statistical mechanics of complex networks" [↗](#)  
Albert and Barabási, Rev. Mod. Phys., **74**, 47–97, 2002. <sup>[3]</sup>

Times cited: ~ 26,636 [↗](#) (as of May 9, 2023)

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## Popularity according to popular books:



Linked: How Everything Is Connected to Everything Else and What It Means—Albert-Laszlo Barabási



Six Degrees: The Science of a Connected Age—Duncan Watts <sup>[107]</sup>

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## More observations

- 🔗 Internet-scale data sets can be overly **exciting**.

### Witness:

- 🔗 The End of Theory: The Data Deluge Makes the Scientific Theory Obsolete (Anderson, Wired) [↗](#)
- 🔗 "The Unreasonable Effectiveness of Data," Halevy et al. <sup>[51]</sup>
- 🔗 c.f. Wigner's "The Unreasonable Effectiveness of Mathematics in the Natural Sciences" <sup>[114]</sup>

### But:

- 🔗 For scientists, description is only part of the battle.
- 🔗 We still need to **understand**.

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## Super Basic definitions

**Nodes** = A collection of entities which have properties that are somehow related to each other

- e.g., people, forks in rivers, proteins, webpages, organisms, ...

**Links** = Connections between nodes

- Links may be directed or undirected.
- Links may be binary or weighted.

Other spiffing words: vertices and edges.

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So what passes for a complex network?

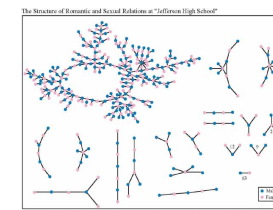
- Complex networks are **large** (in node number)
- Complex networks are **sparse** (low edge to node ratio)
- Complex networks are usually **dynamic** and **evolving**
- Complex networks can be social, economic, natural, informational, abstract, ...

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## Examples

Interaction networks:  
social networks

- Snogging
- Friendships
- Acquaintances
- Boards and directors
- Organizations
- facebook [twitter](#)



Each circle represents a student and lines connecting students represent romantic relations occurring within the 6 months preceding the interview. Numbers under the figure count the number of times that pattern was observed (i.e. we found 63 pairs unconnected to anyone else).

- 'Remotely sensed' by: email activity, instant messaging, phone logs (\*cough\*).

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## Super Basic definitions

**Node degree** = Number of links per node

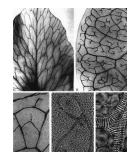
- Notation: Node  $i$ 's degree =  $k_i$ .
  - $k_i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$
  - Notation: the average degree of a network =  $\langle k \rangle$  (and sometimes  $z$ )
  - Connection between number of edges  $m$  and average degree:
- $$\langle k \rangle = \frac{2m}{N}$$
- Defn:  $\mathcal{N}_i$  = the set of  $i$ 's  $k_i$  neighbors

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## Examples

Physical networks

- River networks
- Neural networks
- Trees and leaves
- Blood networks
- The internet (pipes)
- Road networks
- Power grids

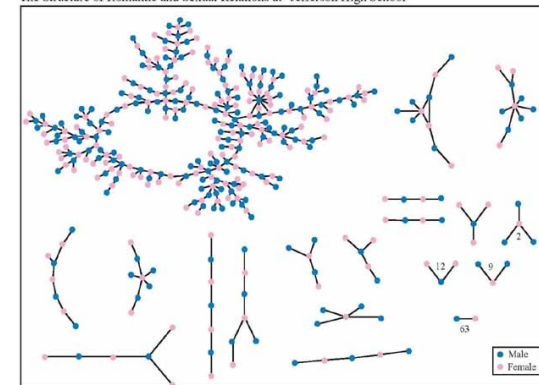


- Distribution (branching) versus redistribution (cyclical)

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## Examples

The Structure of Romantic and Sexual Relations at "Jefferson High School"



Each circle represents a student and lines connecting students represent romantic relations occurring within the 6 months preceding the interview. Numbers under the figure count the number of times that pattern was observed (i.e. we found 63 pairs unconnected to anyone else).

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## Super Basic definitions

Adjacency matrix:

- We can represent a network by a matrix  $A$  with link weight  $a_{ij}$  for nodes  $i$  and  $j$  in entry  $(i, j)$ .

- e.g.,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- For numerical work, we always use sparse matrices.
- For many real networks,  $A$  is a function of time.

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## Examples

Interaction networks

- The Blogosphere (RIP)
- Biochemical networks
- Gene-protein networks
- Food webs: who eats whom
- Airline networks
- Call networks (AT&T)
- The Media
- The internet (World Wide Web)



[datamining.typepad.com](http://datamining.typepad.com)

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## Examples

Relational networks

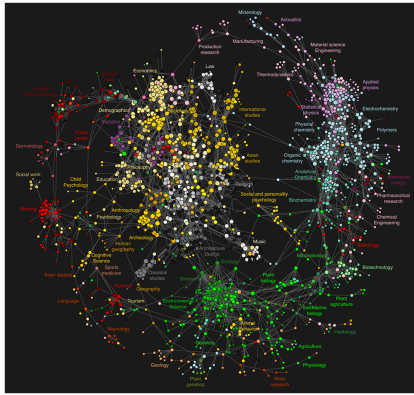
- Consumer purchases (Walmart, Target, Amazon, ...)
- Thesauri: Networks of words generated by meanings
- Knowledge/Databases/Ideas
- Metadata—Tagging, Keywords [bit.ly](http://bit.ly) [flickr](http://flickr)
- Large Language Models

common tags [cloud](#) | [list](#)

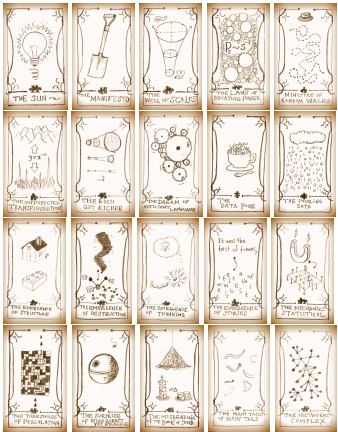
[community](#) [daily](#) [dictionary](#) [education](#) [encyclopedia](#)  
[english](#) [free](#) [imported](#) [info](#) [information](#) [internet](#) [knowledge](#)  
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[wikipedia](#)

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# Clickworthy Science:



“Clickstream Data Yields High-Resolution Maps of Science”, Bollen et al. [18], 2009.



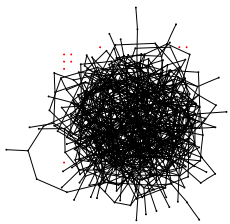
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## A notable feature of large-scale networks:

Graphical renderings are often just a big mess.



⇐ Typical hairball

- number of nodes  $N = 500$
- number of edges  $m = 1000$
- average degree  $\langle k \rangle = 4$

And even when renderings somehow look good: “That is a very graphic analogy which aids understanding wonderfully while being, strictly speaking, wrong in every possible way” said Ponder [Stibbons] —*Making Money*, T. Pratchett.

We need to extract **digestible, meaningful aspects**.

## Some key aspects of real complex networks:

- degree distribution\*
- assortativity
- homophily
- clustering
- motifs
- modularity
- concurrency
- hierarchical scaling
- network distances
- centrality
- efficiency
- interconnectedness
- robustness

Plus coevolution of network structure and processes on networks.

\* Degree distribution is the elephant in the room that we are now all very aware of ...

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## Properties

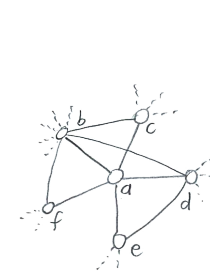
### 2. Assortativity/3. Homophily:

- Social networks: **Homophily** = birds of a feather
- e.g., degree is standard property for sorting: measure degree-degree correlations.
- Assortative** network: similar degree nodes connecting to each other. *Often social: company directors, coauthors, actors.*
- Disassortative** network: high degree nodes connecting to low degree nodes. *Often technological or biological: internet, WWW, protein interactions, neural networks, food webs.*

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## Local socialness:

### 4. Clustering:



- Your friends tend to know each other.
- Two measures (explained on following slides):

1. Watts & Strogatz [112]

$$C_1 = \left\langle \frac{\sum_{j_1, j_2 \in \mathcal{N}_i} a_{j_1 j_2}}{k_i(k_i - 1)/2} \right\rangle_i$$

2. Newman [77]

$$C_2 = \frac{3 \times \text{\#triangles}}{\text{\#triples}}$$

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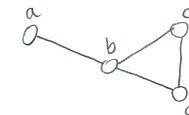
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### Note:

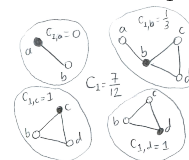
- Erdős-Rényi random networks are a **mathematical construct**.
- ‘Scale-free’ networks are **growing networks** that form according to a **plausible mechanism**.
- Randomness is out there, just not to the degree of a completely random network.
- “Becoming”: Stories = Characters + Time

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### Example network:



### Calculation of $C_1$ :



$C_1$  is the **average fraction of pairs of neighbors who are connected**.

Fraction of pairs of neighbors who are connected is

$$\frac{\sum_{j_1, j_2 \in \mathcal{N}_i} a_{j_1 j_2}}{k_i(k_i - 1)/2}$$

where  $k_i$  is node  $i$ 's degree, and  $\mathcal{N}_i$  is the set of  $i$ 's neighbors.

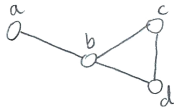
Averaging over all nodes, we have:

$$C_1 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\sum_{j_1, j_2 \in \mathcal{N}_i} a_{j_1 j_2}}{k_i(k_i - 1)/2} = \left\langle \frac{\sum_{j_1, j_2 \in \mathcal{N}_i} a_{j_1 j_2}}{k_i(k_i - 1)/2} \right\rangle_i$$

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## Triples and triangles

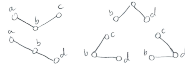
Example network:



Triangles:



Triples:

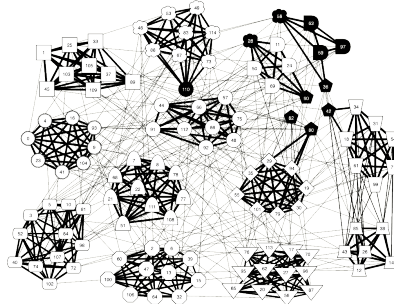


- ☞ Nodes  $i_1, i_2,$  and  $i_3$  form a **triple** around  $i_1$  if  $i_1$  is connected to  $i_2$  and  $i_3$ .
- ☞ Nodes  $i_1, i_2,$  and  $i_3$  form a **triangle** if each pair of nodes is connected
- ☞ The definition  $C_2 = \frac{3 \times \# \text{triangles}}{\# \text{triples}}$  measures the fraction of **closed triples**
- ☞ The '3' appears because for each triangle, we have 3 closed triples.
- ☞ Social Network Analysis (SNA): fraction of **transitive triples**.

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## Properties

6. modularity and structure/community detection:



Clauset *et al.*, 2006<sup>[24]</sup>: NCAA football

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## Properties

9. network distances:

(a) shortest path length  $d_{ij}$ :

- ☞ Fewest number of steps between nodes  $i$  and  $j$ .
- ☞ (Also called the chemical distance between  $i$  and  $j$ .)

(b) average path length  $\langle d_{ij} \rangle$ :

- ☞ Average shortest path length in whole network.
- ☞ Good algorithms exist for calculation.
- ☞ Weighted links can be accommodated.

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## Clustering:

Sneaky counting for undirected, unweighted networks:

- ☞ If the path  $i-j-l$  exists then  $a_{ij}a_{j\ell} = 1$ .
- ☞ Otherwise,  $a_{ij}a_{j\ell} = 0$ .
- ☞ We want  $i \neq \ell$  for good triples.
- ☞ In general, a path of  $n$  edges between nodes  $i_1$  and  $i_n$  travelling through nodes  $i_2, i_3, \dots, i_{n-1}$  exists  $\iff a_{i_1 i_2} a_{i_2 i_3} a_{i_3 i_4} \dots a_{i_{n-2} i_{n-1}} a_{i_{n-1} i_n} = 1$ .

$$\# \text{triples} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{\ell=1}^N [A^2]_{i\ell} - \text{Tr} A^2 \right)$$

$$\# \text{triangles} = \frac{1}{6} \text{Tr} A^3$$

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7. concurrency:

- ☞ transmission of a contagious element only occurs during contact
- ☞ rather obvious but easily missed in a simple model
- ☞ dynamic property—static networks are not enough
- ☞ knowledge of previous contacts crucial
- ☞ beware cumulated network data
- ☞ Kretzschmar and Morris, 1996<sup>[58]</sup>
- ☞ "Temporal networks" become a concrete area of study for Piranha Physicist in 2013.

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## Properties

9. network distances:

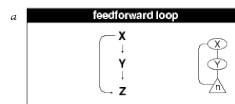
- ☞ **network diameter**  $d_{\max}$ :  
Maximum shortest path length between any two nodes.
- ☞ **closeness**  $d_{cl} = [\sum_{ij} d_{ij}^{-1} / \binom{n}{2}]^{-1}$ :  
Average 'distance' between any two nodes.
- ☞ Closeness handles disconnected networks ( $d_{ij} = \infty$ )
- ☞  $d_{cl} = \infty$  only when all nodes are isolated.
- ☞ Closeness perhaps compresses too much into one number

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## Properties

5. motifs:

- ☞ small, recurring functional subnetworks
- ☞ e.g., Feed Forward Loop:



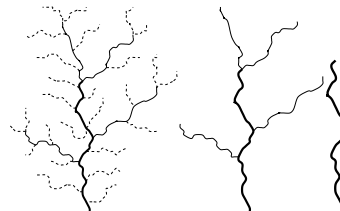
Shen-Orr, Uri Alon, *et al.* [89]

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8. Horton-Strahler ratios:

- ☞ Metrics for branching networks:
  - ☞ Method for ordering streams hierarchically
  - ☞ Number:  $R_n = N_\omega / N_{\omega+1}$
  - ☞ Segment length:  $R_l = \langle l_{\omega+1} \rangle / \langle l_\omega \rangle$
  - ☞ Area/Volume:  $R_a = \langle a_{\omega+1} \rangle / \langle a_\omega \rangle$



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10. centrality:

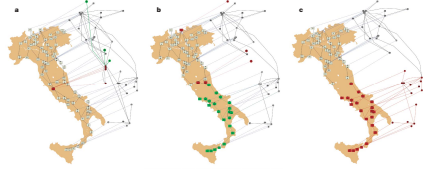
- ☞ Many such measures of a node's 'importance.'
- ☞ **ex 1:** Degree centrality:  $k_i$ .
- ☞ **ex 2:** Node  $i$ 's betweenness  
= fraction of shortest paths that pass through  $i$ .
- ☞ **ex 3:** Edge  $\ell$ 's betweenness  
= fraction of shortest paths that travel along  $\ell$ .
- ☞ **ex 4:** Recursive centrality: Hubs and Authorities (Jon Kleinberg<sup>[56]</sup>)

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# Properties

## Interconnected networks and robustness (two for one deal):

“Catastrophic cascade of failures in interdependent networks” [21]. Buldyrev et al., Nature 2010.



**Figure 1** Modelling a blackout in Italy. Illustration of an iterative process of a cascade of failures using real-world data from a power network located on the map of Italy and an Internet network (shaded above the map) that were simulated in an electrical blackout that occurred in Italy in September 2003. The networks are drawn using the real geographical locations and every Internet server is connected to the geographical nearest power station. **a**, One power station is removed (red node on map) from the power network and as a result the Internet nodes depending on it are removed from the Internet network (red nodes above the map). The nodes that will be disconnected from the giant cluster (a cluster that spans the entire network) at the next step are marked in green. **b**, Additional nodes that were disconnected from the Internet communication network giant component are removed (red nodes above map). As a result the power nodes depending on them are removed from the power network (red nodes on map). Again, the nodes that will be disconnected from the giant cluster at the next step are marked in green. **c**, Additional nodes that were disconnected from the giant component of the power network are removed (red nodes on map) as well as the nodes in the Internet network that depend on them (red nodes above map).

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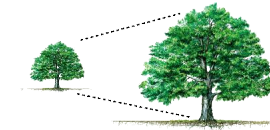
# Branching networks are everywhere ...



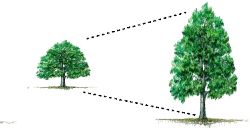
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Applebox.JPG>

# Allometry

**Isometry:** dimensions scale linearly with each other.



**Allometry:** dimensions scale nonlinearly.



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## Branching networks are useful things:

- Fundamental to material **supply and collection**
- Supply:** From one source to many sinks in 2- or 3-d.
- Collection:** From many sources to one sink in 2- or 3-d.
- Typically observe hierarchical, recursive self-similar structure

## Examples:

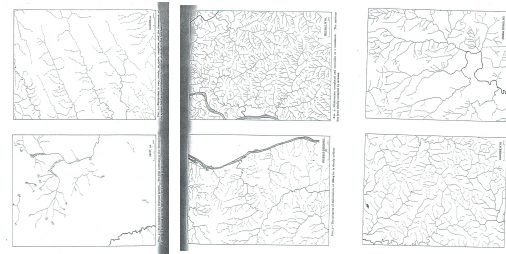
- River networks
- Cardiovascular networks
- Plants
- Evolutionary trees
- Organizations (only in theory ...)

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## An early thought piece: Extension and Integration



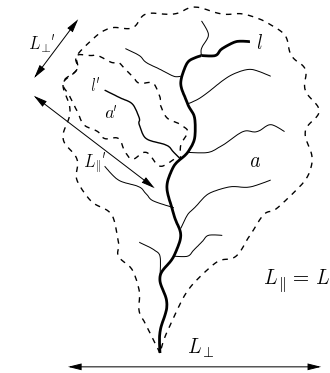
“The Development of Drainage Systems: A Synoptic View”  
Waldo S. Glock,  
The Geographical Review, **21**, 475–482, 1931. [45]



Initiation, Elaboration, Abstraction, Elongation, Piracy, Absorption.

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## Basin allometry

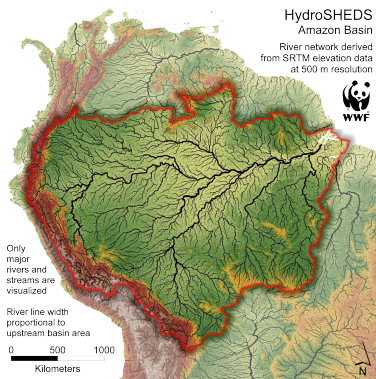


Allometric relationships:

- $l \propto a^h$
- $l \propto L^d$
- Combine above:  
 $a \propto L^{d/h} \equiv L^D$

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# Branching networks are everywhere ...



<http://hydrosheds.cr.usgs.gov/>

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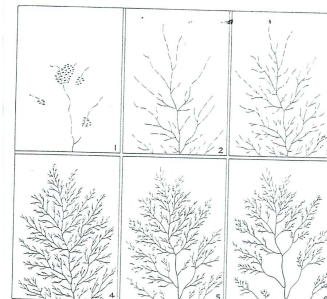


FIG. 8.—An ideal diagrammatic summary of the development of a drainage system (area for purposes of comparison only). The first four parts show extension, then 1, initiation; 2, elongation; 3, absorption and 4, maximum extension. Parts 5 and 6 represent a new stage during integration.

The sequential stages recognized in the evolution of a drainage system are “extension” and “integration”; the first, a stage of increasing complexity; the second, of simplification.

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## ‘Laws’

**Hack’s law (1957)** [50]:

$$l \propto a^h$$

reportedly  $0.5 < h < 0.7$

**Scaling of main stream length with basin size:**

$$l \propto L^d$$

reportedly  $1.0 < d < 1.1$

**Basin allometry:**

$$L_{\parallel} \propto a^{h/d} \equiv a^{1/D}$$

$D < 2 \rightarrow$  basins elongate.

There are a few more 'laws': [31]

Relation:	Name or description:
$T_k = T_1 (R_T)^{k-1}$	Tokunaga's law
$\ell \sim L^d$	self-affinity of single channels
$n_\omega / n_{\omega+1} = R_n$	Horton's law of stream numbers
$\ell_{\omega+1} / \ell_\omega = R_\ell$	Horton's law of main stream lengths
$\bar{a}_{\omega+1} / \bar{a}_\omega = R_a$	Horton's law of main stream areas
$\bar{s}_{\omega+1} / \bar{s}_\omega = R_s$	Horton's law of stream segment lengths
$L_\perp \sim L^H$	scaling of basin widths
$P(a) \sim a^{-\tau}$	probability of basin areas
$P(\ell) \sim \ell^{-\gamma}$	probability of stream lengths
$\ell \sim a^h$	Hack's law
$a \sim L^D$	scaling of basin areas
$\Lambda \sim a^\beta$	Langbein's law
$\lambda \sim L^\varphi$	variation of Langbein's law

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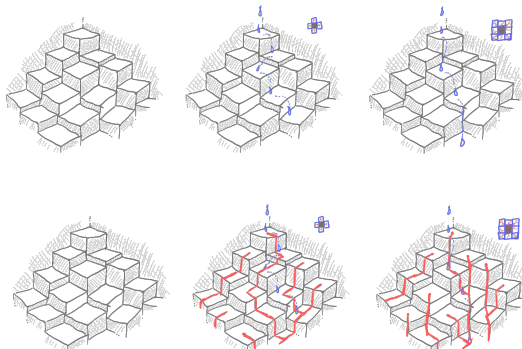
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## Digital Elevation Models (DEMs):



Also:  
/Users/dodds/work/rivers/1998dems/kevinlakewaster.c

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## Connecting exponents

Only 3 parameters are independent:  
e.g., take  $d$ ,  $R_n$ , and  $R_s$

relation:	scaling relation/parameter: [31]
$\ell \sim L^d$	$d$
$T_k = T_1 (R_T)^{k-1}$	$T_1 = R_n - R_s - 2 + 2R_s/R_n$
	$R_T = R_s$
$n_\omega / n_{\omega+1} = R_n$	$R_n = R_n$
$\bar{a}_{\omega+1} / \bar{a}_\omega = R_a$	$R_a = R_n$
$\ell_{\omega+1} / \ell_\omega = R_\ell$	$R_\ell = R_s$
$\ell \sim a^h$	$h = \ln R_s / \ln R_n$
$a \sim L^D$	$D = d/h$
$L_\perp \sim L^H$	$H = d/h - 1$
$P(a) \sim a^{-\tau}$	$\tau = 2 - h$
$P(\ell) \sim \ell^{-\gamma}$	$\gamma = 1/h$
$\Lambda \sim a^\beta$	$\beta = 1 + h$
$\lambda \sim L^\varphi$	$\varphi = d$

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## Reported parameter values: [31]

Parameter:	Real networks:
$R_n$	3.0–5.0
$R_a$	3.0–6.0
$R_\ell = R_T$	1.5–3.0
$T_1$	1.0–1.5
$d$	$1.1 \pm 0.01$
$D$	$1.8 \pm 0.1$
$h$	0.50–0.70
$\tau$	$1.43 \pm 0.05$
$\gamma$	$1.8 \pm 0.1$
$H$	0.75–0.80
$\beta$	0.50–0.70
$\varphi$	$1.05 \pm 0.05$

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## Horton's laws

### Self-similarity of river networks

First quantified by Horton (1945) [53], expanded by Schumm (1956) [88]

### Three laws:

Horton's law of stream numbers:

$$n_\omega / n_{\omega+1} = R_n > 1$$

Horton's law of stream lengths:

$$\bar{\ell}_{\omega+1} / \bar{\ell}_\omega = R_\ell > 1$$

Horton's law of basin areas:

$$\bar{a}_{\omega+1} / \bar{a}_\omega = R_a > 1$$

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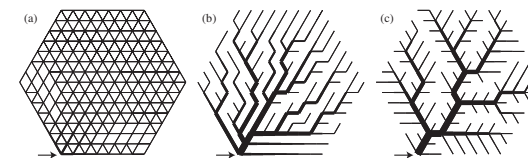
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## Single source optimal supply



(a)  $\gamma > 1$ : Braided (bulk) flow

(b)  $\gamma < 1$ : Local minimum: Branching flow

(c)  $\gamma < 1$ : Global minimum: Branching flow

Note: This is a single source supplying a region.

From Bohn and Magnasco [16]

See also Banavar *et al.* [6]: "Topology of the Fittest Transportation Network"; focus is on presence or absence of loops—same story

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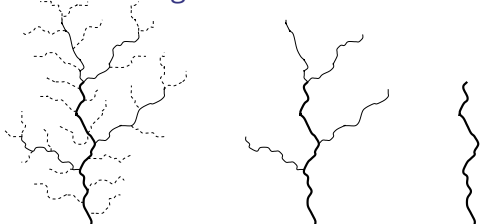
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## Stream Ordering:



1. Label all source streams as order  $\omega = 1$  and remove.
2. Label all new source streams as order  $\omega = 2$  and remove.
3. Repeat until one stream is left (order =  $\Omega$ )
4. Basin is said to be of the order of the last stream removed.
5. Example above is a basin of order  $\Omega = 3$ .

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## Network Architecture

### Tokunaga's law [101, 102, 103]

Property 1: Scale independence—depends only on difference between orders:

$$T_{\mu,\nu} = T_{\mu-\nu}$$

Property 2: Number of side streams grows exponentially with difference in orders:

$$T_{\mu,\nu} = T_1 (R_T)^{\mu-\nu-1}$$

We usually write Tokunaga's law as:

$$T_k = T_1 (R_T)^{k-1} \text{ where } R_T \approx 2$$

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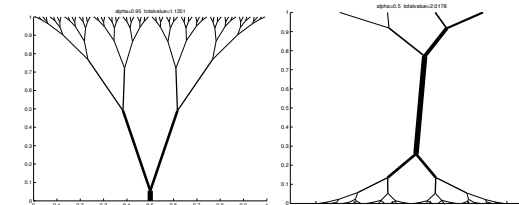
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## Single source optimal supply

Optimal paths related to transport (Monge) problems [7]:



"Optimal paths related to transport problems" [7]  
Qinglan Xia,  
Communications in Contemporary Mathematics, 5, 251–279, 2003. [116]

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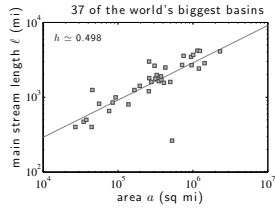
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# World's largest rivers only:



- Data from Leopold (1994) [60, 32]
- Estimate of Hack exponent:  $h = 0.50 \pm 0.06$

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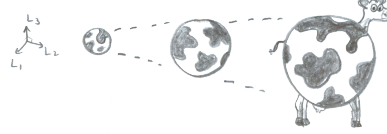
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# Spherical cows and pancake cows:

Assume an isometrically scaling family of cows:



Extremes of allometry:  
The pancake cows—



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# Blood networks

- Then  $P$ , the rate of overall energy use in  $\Omega$ , can at most scale with volume as

$$P \propto \rho V \propto \rho M \propto M^{(d-1)/d}$$

- For  $d = 3$  dimensional organisms, we have

$$P \propto M^{2/3}$$

- Including other constraints may raise scaling exponent to a higher, less efficient value.

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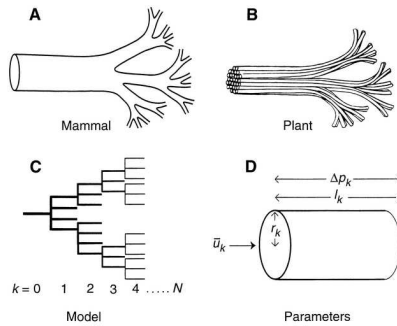
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# Nutrient delivering networks:

- 1960's: Rashevsky considers blood networks and finds a  $2/3$  scaling.
- 1997: West *et al.* [113] use a network story to find  $3/4$  scaling.



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# Minimal network volume:

Real supply networks are close to optimal:

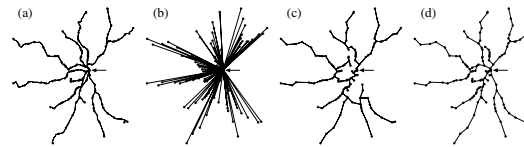


Figure 1. (a) Commuter rail network in the Boston area. The arrow marks the assumed root of the network. (b) Star graph. (c) Minimum spanning tree. (d) The model of equation (3) applied to the same set of stations.

Gastner and Newman (2006): "Shape and efficiency in spatial distribution networks" [41]

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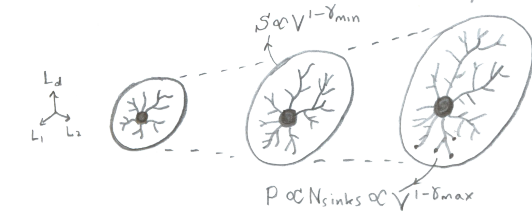
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- Exciting bonus: Scaling obtained by the supply network story and the surface-area law **only match** for isometrically growing shapes.

The surface area—supply network mismatch for allometrically growing shapes:



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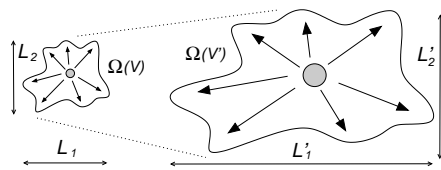
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# Geometric argument

- Allometrically growing regions:



- Have  $d$  length scales which scale as

$$L_i \propto V^{\gamma_i} \text{ where } \gamma_1 + \gamma_2 + \dots + \gamma_d = 1.$$

- For **isometric** growth,  $\gamma_i = 1/d$ .
- For **allometric** growth, we must have at least two of the  $\{\gamma_i\}$  being different

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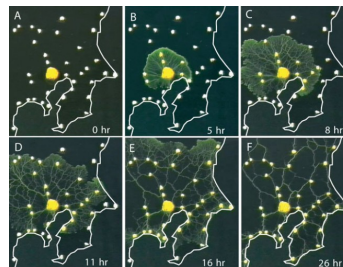
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"Rules for Biologically Inspired Adaptive Network Design" [48]  
Tero *et al.*,  
Science, **327**, 439-442, 2010. [98]



Urban deslime in action:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwKuFREOgmo>

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# Hack's law

- Volume of water in river network can be calculated by adding up basin areas
- Flows sum in such a way that

$$V_{net} = \sum_{\text{all pixels}} a_{\text{pixel } i}$$

- Hack's law again:

$$l \sim a^h$$

- Can argue

$$V_{net} \propto V_{\text{basin}}^{1+h} = a_{\text{basin}}^{1+h}$$

where  $h$  is Hack's exponent.

- ∴ minimal volume calculations gives

$$h = 1/2$$

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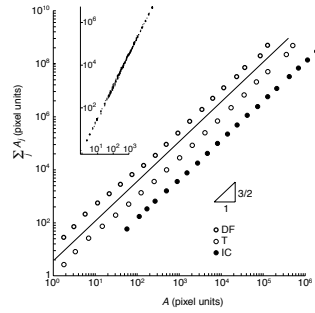
## Real data:

Banavar et al.'s approach [7] is okay because  $\rho$  really is constant.

The irony: shows optimal basins are isometric

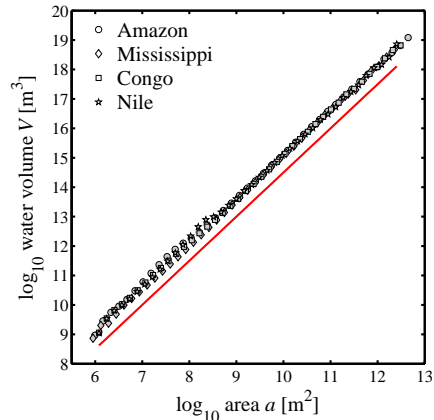
Optimal Hack's law:  $\ell \sim A^h$  with  $h = 1/2$

(Zzzzz)

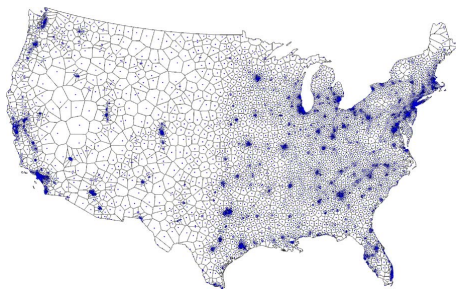


**Figure 2** Allometric scaling in river networks. Double logarithmic plot of  $C = \sum_i A_i$  versus  $A$  for three river networks characterized by different climates, geology and geographic locations (Dry Fork, West Virginia, 586 km<sup>2</sup>, digital terrain map (DTM) size 30 × 30 m<sup>2</sup>; Island Creek, Idaho, 260 km<sup>2</sup>, DTM size 30 × 30 m<sup>2</sup>; Tiroso, Italy, 2,024 km<sup>2</sup>, DTM size 237 × 237 m<sup>2</sup>). The experimental points are obtained by binning total contributing areas, and computing the ensemble average of the sum of the linear areas for each sub-basin within the binned interval. The figure uses pixel units in which the smallest area element is assigned a unit value. Also plotted is the predicted scaling relationship with slope 3/2. The inset shows the raw data from the Tiroso basin before any binning has been done.

## Even better—prefactors match up:



"Optimal design of spatial distribution networks"   
Gastner and Newman,  
Phys. Rev. E, **74**, 016117, 2006. [40]



- Approximately optimal location of 5000 facilities.
- Based on 2000 Census data.
- Simulated annealing + Voronoi tessellation.

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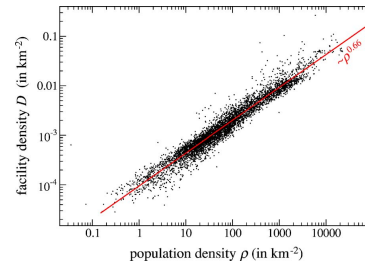
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## Optimal source allocation



- Optimal facility density  $\rho_{fac}$  vs. population density  $\rho_{pop}$ .
- Fit is  $\rho_{fac} \propto \rho_{pop}^{0.66}$  with  $r^2 = 0.94$ .
- Looking good for a 2/3 power ...

## Deriving the optimal source distribution:

- Basic idea:** Minimize the average distance from a random individual to the nearest facility. [40]
- Assume given a fixed population density  $\rho_{pop}$  defined on a spatial region  $\Omega$ .
- Formally, we want to find the locations of  $n$  sources  $\{\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n\}$  that minimizes the **cost function**

$$F(\{\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n\}) = \int_{\Omega} \rho_{pop}(\vec{x}) \min_i \|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_i\| d\vec{x}.$$

- Also known as the p-median problem, and connected to cluster analysis.
- Not easy ...in fact this one is an NP-hard problem. [40]
- Approximate solution originally due to Gusein-Zade [49].

## Global redistribution networks

### One more thing:

- How do we supply these facilities?
- How do we best redistribute mail? People?
- How do we get beer to the pubs?
- Gastner and Newman model: cost is a function of basic maintenance and travel time:

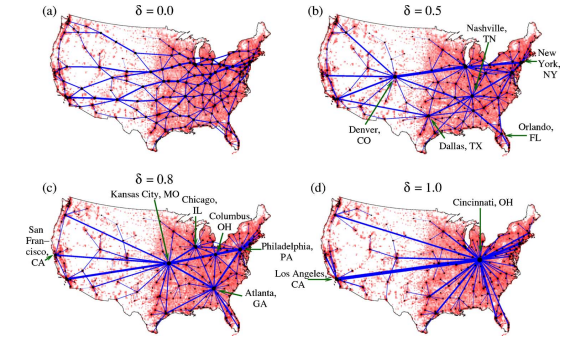
$$C_{maint} + \gamma C_{travel}$$

- Travel time is more complicated: Take 'distance' between nodes to be a composite of shortest path distance  $\ell_{ij}$  and number of legs to journey:

$$(1 - \delta)\ell_{ij} + \delta(\#\text{hops}).$$

- When  $\delta = 1$ , only number of hops matters.

## Global redistribution networks



From Gastner and Newman (2006) [40]

## Public versus private facilities

### Beyond minimizing distances:

- "Scaling laws between population and facility densities" by Um *et al.*, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., 2009. [104]
- Um *et al.* find empirically and argue theoretically that the connection between facility and population density

$$\rho_{fac} \propto \rho_{pop}^{\alpha}$$

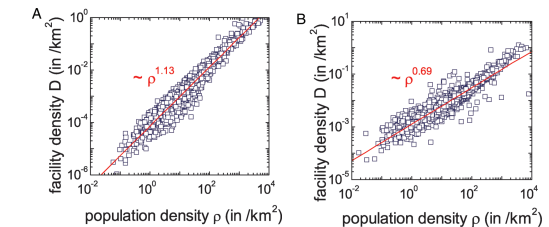
does not universally hold with  $\alpha = 2/3$ .

- Two idealized limiting classes:**

- For-profit, commercial facilities:  $\alpha = 1$ ;
- Pro-social, public facilities:  $\alpha = 2/3$ .

- Um *et al.* investigate facility locations in the United States and South Korea.

## Public versus private facilities: evidence



- Left plot:** ambulatory hospitals in the U.S.
- Right plot:** public schools in the U.S.
- Note: break in scaling for public schools. Transition from  $\alpha \approx 2/3$  to  $\alpha = 1$  around  $\rho_{pop} \approx 100$ .

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## Public versus private facilities: evidence

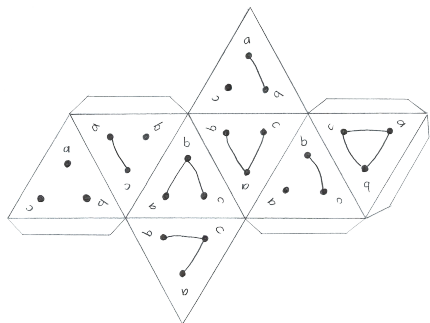
US facility	$\alpha$ (SE)	$R^2$
Ambulatory hospital	1.13(1)	0.93
Beauty care	1.08(1)	0.86
Laundry	1.05(1)	0.90
Automotive repair	0.99(1)	0.92
Private school	0.95(1)	0.82
Restaurant	0.93(1)	0.89
Accommodation	0.89(1)	0.70
Bank	0.88(1)	0.89
Gas station	0.86(1)	0.94
Death care	0.79(1)	0.80
* Fire station	0.78(3)	0.93
* Police station	0.71(6)	0.75
Public school	0.69(1)	0.87

Rough transition between public and private at  $\alpha \approx 0.8$ .

Note: \* indicates analysis is at state/province level; otherwise county level.

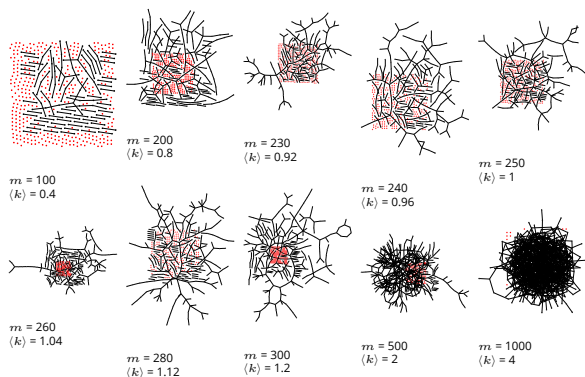
SK facility	$\alpha$ (SE)	$R^2$
Bank	1.18(2)	0.96
Parking place	1.13(2)	0.91
* Primary clinic	1.09(2)	1.00
* Hospital	0.96(5)	0.97
* University/college	0.93(9)	0.89
Market place	0.87(2)	0.90
* Secondary school	0.77(3)	0.98
* Primary school	0.77(3)	0.97
Social welfare org.	0.75(2)	0.84
* Police station	0.71(5)	0.94
Government office	0.70(1)	0.93
* Fire station	0.60(4)	0.93
* Public health center	0.09(5)	0.19

## Random network generator for $N = 3$ :



- Get your own exciting generator [here](#)
- As  $N \nearrow$ , polyhedral die rapidly becomes a ball ...

## Random networks: examples for $N=500$



## Random networks: largest components

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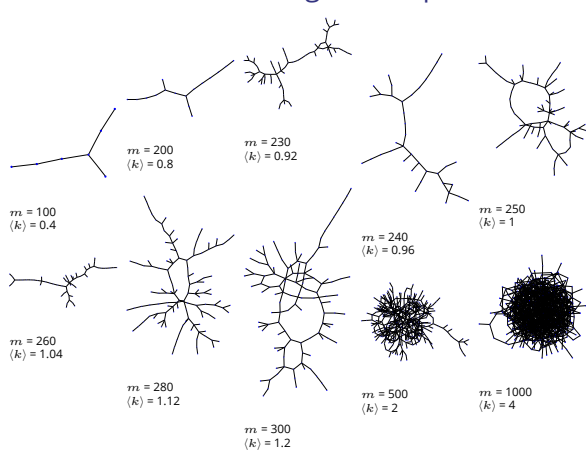
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## Degree distribution:

- Recall  $P_k$  = probability that a randomly selected node has degree  $k$ .
- Consider method 1 for constructing random networks: each possible link is realized with probability  $p$ .
- Now consider one node: there are ' $N - 1$  choose  $k$ ' ways the node can be connected to  $k$  of the other  $N - 1$  nodes.
- Each connection occurs with probability  $p$ , each non-connection with probability  $(1 - p)$ .
- Therefore have a binomial distribution

$$P(k; p, N) = \binom{N-1}{k} p^k (1-p)^{N-1-k}$$

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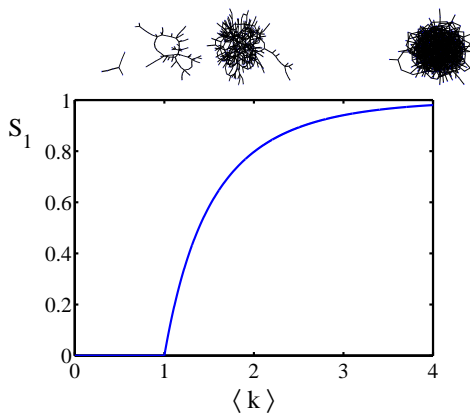
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## Limiting form of $P(k; p, N)$ :

- Our degree distribution:  $P(k; p, N) = \binom{N-1}{k} p^k (1-p)^{N-1-k}$
- What happens as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ ?
- We must end up with the normal distribution right?
- If  $p$  is fixed, then we would end up with a Gaussian with average degree  $\langle k \rangle \approx pN \rightarrow \infty$ .
- But we want to keep  $\langle k \rangle$  fixed ...
- So examine limit of  $P(k; p, N)$  when  $p \rightarrow 0$  and  $N \rightarrow \infty$  with  $\langle k \rangle = p(N - 1) = \text{constant}$ .

$$P(k; p, N) \approx \frac{\langle k \rangle^k}{k!} \left(1 - \frac{\langle k \rangle}{N-1}\right)^{N-1-k} \rightarrow \frac{\langle k \rangle^k}{k!} e^{-\langle k \rangle}$$

- This is a Poisson distribution with mean  $\langle k \rangle$ .

## Clustering in random networks:

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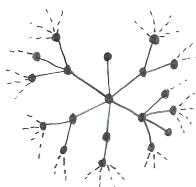
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- So for large random networks ( $N \rightarrow \infty$ ), clustering drops to zero.
- Key structural feature of random networks is that they locally look like pure branching networks
- No small loops.

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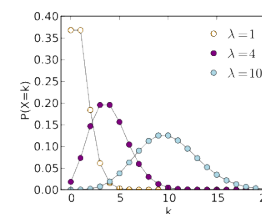
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## Poisson basics:

$$P(k; \lambda) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}$$



- $\lambda > 0$
- $k = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$
- Classic use: probability that an event occurs  $k$  times in a given time period, given an average rate of occurrence.
- e.g.: phone calls/minute, horse-kick deaths.
- 'Law of small numbers'

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# Models

## Generalized random networks:

- Arbitrary degree distribution  $P_k$ .
- Create (unconnected) nodes with degrees sampled from  $P_k$ .
- Wire nodes together randomly.
- Create ensemble to test deviations from randomness.

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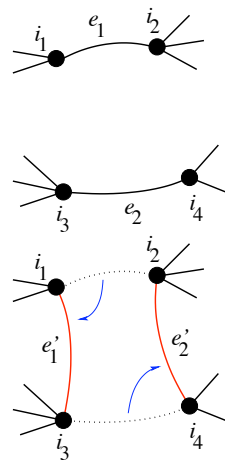
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## General random rewiring algorithm



- Randomly choose **two edges**. (Or choose problem edge and a random edge)
- Check to make sure edges are **disjoint**.
- Rewire one end of each edge.
- Node degrees **do not change**.
- Works if  $e_1$  is a self-loop or repeated edge.
- Same as finding on/off/on/off 4-cycles. and rotating them.

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## Network motifs

- Idea of **motifs**<sup>[89]</sup> introduced by Shen-Orr, Alon et al. in 2002.
- Looked at gene expression within full context of **transcriptional regulation networks**.
- Specific example of Escherichia coli.
- Directed network with 577 interactions (edges) and 424 operons (nodes).
- Used network randomization to produce ensemble of alternate networks with same degree frequency  $N_k$ .
- Looked for **certain subnetworks (motifs)** that appeared more or less often than expected

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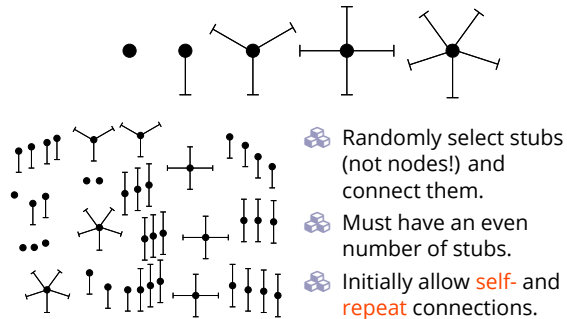
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## Building random networks: Stubs

### Phase 1:

- Idea:** start with a soup of unconnected nodes with **stubs** (half-edges):



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## Sampling random networks

### Phase 2:

- Use rewiring algorithm to remove all self and repeat loops.

### Phase 3:

- Randomize network** wiring by applying rewiring algorithm liberally.
- Rule of thumb: # Rewirings  $\approx 10 \times$  # edges<sup>[68]</sup>.

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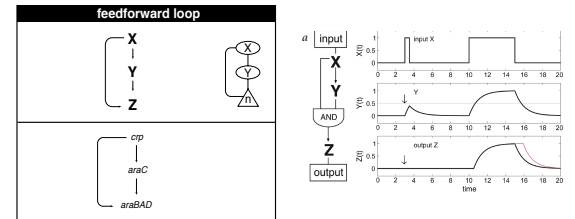
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## Network motifs



- Z only turns on in response to sustained activity in X.
- Turning off X rapidly turns off Z.
- Analogy to elevator doors.

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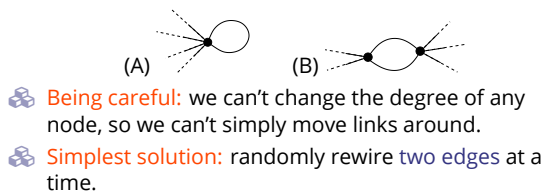
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## Building random networks: First rewiring

### Phase 2:

- Now find any (A) self-loops and (B) repeat edges and **randomly rewire** them.



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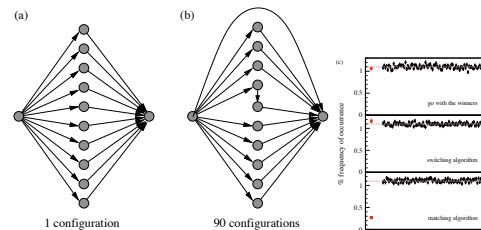
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## Random sampling

- Problem with only joining up stubs is **failure** to randomly sample from all possible networks.
- Example from Milo et al. (2003)<sup>[68]</sup>:



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## The edge-degree distribution:

- The degree distribution  $P_k$  is fundamental for our description of many complex networks
- Again:  $P_k$  is the degree of **randomly chosen node**.
- A second very important distribution arises from **choosing randomly on edges** rather than on nodes.
- Define  $Q_k$  to be the probability the node at a **random end of a randomly chosen edge** has degree  $k$ .
- Now choosing nodes based on their degree (i.e., size):

$$Q_k \propto k P_k$$

- Normalized form:

$$Q_k = \frac{k P_k}{\sum_{k'=0}^{\infty} k' P_{k'}} = \frac{k P_k}{\langle k \rangle}$$

- Big deal:** Rich-get-richer mechanism is built into this selection process.

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## The edge-degree distribution:

For networks,  $Q_k$  is also the probability that a friend (neighbor) of a random node has  $k$  friends.

Useful variant on  $Q_k$ :

$R_k$  = probability that a friend of a random node has  $k$  other friends.

$$R_k = \frac{(k+1)P_{k+1}}{\sum_{k'=0}^{\infty} (k'+1)P_{k'+1}} = \frac{(k+1)P_{k+1}}{\langle k \rangle}$$

Equivalent to friend having degree  $k+1$ .

Natural question: what's the expected number of other friends that one friend has?

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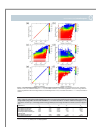
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"Generalized friendship paradox in complex networks: The case of scientific collaboration"  
Eom and Jo,  
Nature Scientific Reports, 4, 4603, 2014. [35]

### Your friends really are monsters #winners:<sup>1</sup>

Go on, hurt me: Friends have more coauthors, citations, and publications.

Other horrific studies: your connections on Twitter have more followers than you, are happier than you [17], more sexual partners than you, ...

The hope: Maybe they have more enemies and diseases too.

Research possibility: The Frenemy Paradox.

<sup>1</sup>Some press [here](#) [MIT Tech Review].

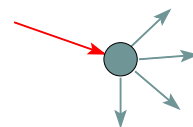
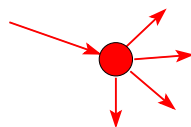
## Spreading on Random Networks

For random networks, we know local structure is pure branching.

Successful spreading is :: contingent on **single edges** infecting nodes.

Success

Failure:



Focus on **binary** case with edges and nodes either infected or not.

First big question: for a given network and contagion process, can global spreading from a single seed occur?

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Probability of randomly selecting a node of degree  $k$  by choosing from nodes:  
 $P_1 = 3/7, P_2 = 2/7, P_3 = 1/7, P_6 = 1/7$ .

Probability of landing on a node of degree  $k$  after randomly selecting an edge and then randomly choosing one direction to travel:  
 $Q_1 = 3/16, Q_2 = 4/16, Q_3 = 3/16, Q_6 = 6/16$ .

Probability of finding # outgoing edges =  $k$  after randomly selecting an edge and then randomly choosing one direction to travel:  
 $R_0 = 3/16, R_1 = 4/16, R_2 = 3/16, R_5 = 6/16$ .



## Two reasons why this matters

### Reason #1:

Average # friends of friends per node is

$$\langle k_2 \rangle = \langle k \rangle \times \langle k \rangle_R = \langle k \rangle \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle} (\langle k^2 \rangle - \langle k \rangle) = \langle k^2 \rangle - \langle k \rangle.$$

Key: Average depends on the **1st and 2nd moments** of  $P_k$  and **not just the 1st moment**.

Three peculiarities:

- We might guess  $\langle k_2 \rangle = \langle k \rangle \langle k \rangle - 1$  but it's actually  $\langle k(k-1) \rangle$ .
- If  $P_k$  has a **large second moment**, then  $\langle k_2 \rangle$  will be big. (e.g., in the case of a power-law distribution)
- Your friends really are different from you ... [37, 76]
- See also: class size paradoxes (nod to: Gelman)

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## Global spreading condition

We need to find: [30]

$R$  = the average # of infected edges that one random infected edge brings about.

Call  $R$  the **gain ratio**.

Define  $B_{k1}$  as the probability that a node of degree  $k$  is infected by a single infected edge.

$$R = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{kP_k}{\langle k \rangle} \cdot \underbrace{(k-1)}_{\substack{\text{\# outgoing} \\ \text{infected} \\ \text{edges}}} \cdot \underbrace{B_{k1}}_{\substack{\text{Prob. of} \\ \text{infection}}}$$

$$+ \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\widehat{kP_k}}{\langle k \rangle} \cdot \underbrace{0}_{\substack{\text{\# outgoing} \\ \text{infected} \\ \text{edges}}} \cdot \underbrace{(1 - B_{k1})}_{\substack{\text{Prob. of} \\ \text{no infection}}}$$

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## Global spreading condition

Our global spreading condition is then:

$$R = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{kP_k}{\langle k \rangle} \cdot (k-1) \cdot B_{k1} > 1.$$

Case 1—Rampant spreading: If  $B_{k1} = 1$  then

$$R = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{kP_k}{\langle k \rangle} \cdot (k-1) = \frac{\langle k(k-1) \rangle}{\langle k \rangle} > 1.$$

Good: This is just our giant component condition again.

## Global spreading condition

Case 2—Simple disease-like: If  $B_{k1} = \beta < 1$  then

$$R = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{kP_k}{\langle k \rangle} \cdot (k-1) \cdot \beta > 1.$$

A fraction  $(1-\beta)$  of edges do not transmit infection.

Analogous phase transition to giant component case but **critical value of  $\langle k \rangle$  is increased**.

Aka **bond percolation**.

Resulting degree distribution  $\tilde{P}_k$ :

$$\tilde{P}_k = \beta^k \sum_{i=k}^{\infty} \binom{i}{k} (1-\beta)^{i-k} P_i.$$

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## Random directed networks:



So far, we've largely studied networks with undirected, unweighted edges.



Now consider directed, unweighted edges.

Nodes have  $k_i$  and  $k_o$  incoming and outgoing edges, otherwise random.

Network defined by joint in- and out-degree distribution:  $P_{k_i, k_o}$

Normalization:  $\sum_{k_i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k_o=0}^{\infty} P_{k_i, k_o} = 1$

Marginal in-degree and out-degree distributions:

$$P_{k_i} = \sum_{k_o=0}^{\infty} P_{k_i, k_o} \text{ and } P_{k_o} = \sum_{k_i=0}^{\infty} P_{k_i, k_o}$$

Required balance:

$$\langle k_i \rangle = \sum_{k_i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k_o=0}^{\infty} k_i P_{k_i, k_o} = \sum_{k_i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k_o=0}^{\infty} k_o P_{k_i, k_o} = \langle k_o \rangle$$

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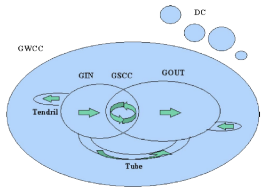
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## Directed network structure:



From Boguñá and Serano. [15]

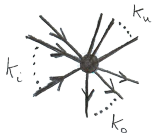
- GWCC = Giant Weakly Connected Component (directions removed);
- GIN = Giant In-Component;
- GOUT = Giant Out-Component;
- GSCC = Giant Strongly Connected Component;
- DC = Disconnected Components (finite).

When moving through a family of increasingly connected directed random networks, GWCC usually appears before GIN, GOUT, and GSCC which tend to appear together. [80, 15]

## Observation:

- Directed and undirected random networks are separate families ...
- ...and analyses are also disjoint.
- Need to examine a larger family of random networks with mixed directed and undirected edges.

- Consider nodes with three types of edges:
  1.  $k_u$  undirected edges,
  2.  $k_i$  incoming directed edges,
  3.  $k_o$  outgoing directed edges.



- Define a node by generalized degree:
 
$$\vec{k} = [k_u \ k_i \ k_o]^T.$$

## Correlations:

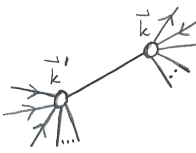
Now add correlations (two point or Markovian) □:

1.  $P^{(u)}(\vec{k} | \vec{k}')$  = probability that an undirected edge leaving a degree  $\vec{k}'$  nodes arrives at a degree  $\vec{k}$  node.
2.  $P^{(i)}(\vec{k} | \vec{k}')$  = probability that an edge leaving a degree  $\vec{k}'$  nodes arrives at a degree  $\vec{k}$  node is an in-directed edge relative to the destination node.
3.  $P^{(o)}(\vec{k} | \vec{k}')$  = probability that an edge leaving a degree  $\vec{k}'$  nodes arrives at a degree  $\vec{k}$  node is an out-directed edge relative to the destination node.

- Now require more refined (detailed) balance.
- Conditional probabilities cannot be arbitrary.
  1.  $P^{(u)}(\vec{k} | \vec{k}')$  must be related to  $P^{(u)}(\vec{k}', | \vec{k})$ .
  2.  $P^{(o)}(\vec{k} | \vec{k}')$  and  $P^{(i)}(\vec{k} | \vec{k}')$  must be connected.

## Correlations—Undirected edge balance:

- Randomly choose an edge, and randomly choose one end.
- Say we find a degree  $\vec{k}$  node at this end, and a degree  $\vec{k}'$  node at the other end.
- Define probability this happens as  $P^{(u)}(\vec{k}, \vec{k}')$ .
- Observe we must have  $P^{(u)}(\vec{k}, \vec{k}') = P^{(u)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k})$ .



Conditional probability connection:

$$P^{(u)}(\vec{k}, \vec{k}') = P^{(u)}(\vec{k} | \vec{k}') \frac{k'_u P(\vec{k}')}{\langle k'_u \rangle}$$

$$P^{(u)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = P^{(u)}(\vec{k}' | \vec{k}) \frac{k_u P(\vec{k})}{\langle k_u \rangle}$$

## Correlations—Directed edge balance:

The quantities

$$\frac{k_o P(\vec{k})}{\langle k_o \rangle} \text{ and } \frac{k_i P(\vec{k})}{\langle k_i \rangle}$$

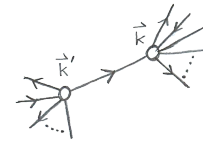
give the probabilities that in starting at a random end of a randomly selected edge, we begin at a degree  $\vec{k}$  node and then find ourselves travelling:

1. along an outgoing edge, or
2. against the direction of an incoming edge.

We therefore have

$$P^{(dir)}(\vec{k}, \vec{k}') = P^{(i)}(\vec{k} | \vec{k}') \frac{k'_o P(\vec{k}')}{\langle k'_o \rangle} = P^{(o)}(\vec{k}' | \vec{k}) \frac{k_i P(\vec{k})}{\langle k_i \rangle}$$

Note that  $P^{(dir)}(\vec{k}, \vec{k}')$  and  $P^{(dir)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k})$  are in general not related if  $\vec{k} \neq \vec{k}'$ .



## Summary of contagion conditions for uncorrelated networks:

I. Undirected, Uncorrelated— $f(d+1) = \mathbf{f}(d)$ :

$$\mathbf{R} = \sum_{k_u} P^{(u)}(k_u | *) \bullet (k_u - 1) \bullet B_{k_u, *}$$

II. Directed, Uncorrelated— $f(d+1) = \mathbf{f}(d)$ :

$$\mathbf{R} = \sum_{k_i, k_o} P^{(i)}(k_i, k_o | *) \bullet k_o \bullet B_{k_i, *}$$

III. Mixed Directed and Undirected, Uncorrelated—

$$\begin{bmatrix} f^{(u)}(d+1) \\ f^{(o)}(d+1) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{R} \begin{bmatrix} f^{(u)}(d) \\ f^{(o)}(d) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{R} = \sum_{\vec{k}} \begin{bmatrix} P^{(u)}(\vec{k} | *) \bullet (k_u - 1) & P^{(i)}(\vec{k} | *) \bullet k_u \\ P^{(u)}(\vec{k} | *) \bullet k_o & P^{(i)}(\vec{k} | *) \bullet k_o \end{bmatrix} \bullet B_{k_u k_i, *}$$

## Summary of contagion conditions for correlated networks:

IV. Undirected, Correlated— $f_{k_u}(d+1) = \sum_{k'_u} R_{k_u k'_u} f_{k'_u}(d)$

$$R_{k_u k'_u} = P^{(u)}(k_u | k'_u) \bullet (k_u - 1) \bullet B_{k_u k'_u}$$

V. Directed, Correlated— $f_{k_i k_o}(d+1) = \sum_{k'_i, k'_o} R_{k_i k_o k'_i k'_o} f_{k'_i k'_o}(d)$

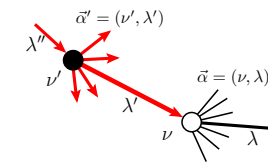
$$R_{k_i k_o k'_i k'_o} = P^{(i)}(k_i, k_o | k'_i, k'_o) \bullet k_o \bullet B_{k_i k_o k'_i k'_o}$$

VI. Mixed Directed and Undirected, Correlated—

$$\begin{bmatrix} f_{\vec{k}}^{(u)}(d+1) \\ f_{\vec{k}}^{(o)}(d+1) \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{\vec{k}'} \mathbf{R}_{\vec{k} \vec{k}'} \begin{bmatrix} f_{\vec{k}'}^{(u)}(d) \\ f_{\vec{k}'}^{(o)}(d) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{R}_{\vec{k} \vec{k}'} = \begin{bmatrix} P^{(u)}(\vec{k} | \vec{k}') \bullet (k_u - 1) & P^{(i)}(\vec{k} | \vec{k}') \bullet k_u \\ P^{(u)}(\vec{k} | \vec{k}') \bullet k_o & P^{(i)}(\vec{k} | \vec{k}') \bullet k_o \end{bmatrix} \bullet B_{\vec{k} \vec{k}'}$$

## Full generalization:



$$f_{\vec{\alpha}}(d+1) = \sum_{\vec{\alpha}'} R_{\vec{\alpha} \vec{\alpha}'} f_{\vec{\alpha}'}(d)$$

$R_{\vec{\alpha} \vec{\alpha}'}$  is the gain ratio matrix and has the form:

$$R_{\vec{\alpha} \vec{\alpha}'} = P_{\vec{\alpha} \vec{\alpha}'} \bullet k_{\vec{\alpha} \vec{\alpha}'} \bullet B_{\vec{\alpha} \vec{\alpha}'}$$

- $P_{\vec{\alpha} \vec{\alpha}'}$  = conditional probability that a type  $\lambda'$  edge emanating from a type  $\nu'$  node leads to a type  $\nu$  node.
- $k_{\vec{\alpha} \vec{\alpha}'}$  = potential number of newly infected edges of type  $\lambda$  emanating from nodes of type  $\nu$ .
- $B_{\vec{\alpha} \vec{\alpha}'}$  = probability that a type  $\nu$  node is eventually infected by a single infected type  $\lambda'$  link arriving from a neighboring node of type  $\nu'$ .
- Generalized contagion condition:

$$\max |\mu| : \mu \in \sigma(\mathbf{R}) > 1$$

## Some claims for social networks:

- Social networks yes, but groups, groups, groups
- Sufficiently large social groups are:
  1. Fandoms.
  2. Pyramid Schemes,
  3. Or both.
- Homo narrativus: Storytellers, believers, spreaders.
- Stories ~ Characters + Time.
- Characters are shortcuts to stories.

## For novel diseases:

1. Can we predict the size of an epidemic?
2. How important is the reproduction number  $R_0$ ?

## $R_0$ approximately same for all of the following:

- 1918-19 "Spanish Flu" ~ 75,000,000 world-wide, 500,000 deaths in US.
- 1957-58 "Asian Flu" ~ 2,000,000 world-wide, 70,000 deaths in US.
- 1968-69 "Hong Kong Flu" ~ 1,000,000 world-wide, 34,000 deaths in US.
- 2003 "SARS Epidemic" ~ 800 deaths world-wide.

## Improving simple models

### Idea for social networks: incorporate identity

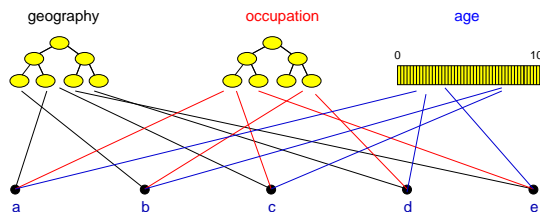
### Identity is formed from attributes such as:

- Geographic location
- Type of employment
- Age
- Recreational activities

### Groups are crucial ...

- formed by people with at least one similar attribute
- Attributes  $\leftrightarrow$  Contexts  $\leftrightarrow$  Interactions  $\leftrightarrow$  Networks. <sup>[110]</sup>

## Generalized context space



(Blau & Schwartz <sup>[12]</sup>, Simmel <sup>[91]</sup>, Breiger <sup>[20]</sup>)

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## A toy agent-based model:



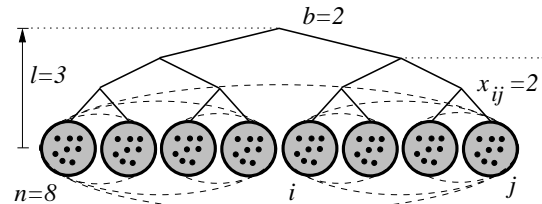
"Multiscale, resurgent epidemics in a hierarchical metapopulation model" <sup>[111]</sup>  
Watts et al.,  
Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., **102**, 11157-11162, 2005. <sup>[111]</sup>

### Geography: allow people to move between contexts

- Locally: standard SIR model with random mixing
- discrete time simulation
- $\beta$  = infection probability
- $\gamma$  = recovery probability
- $P$  = probability of travel
- Movement distance:**  $\Pr(d) \propto \exp(-d/\xi)$
- $\xi$  = typical travel distance

## A toy agent-based model

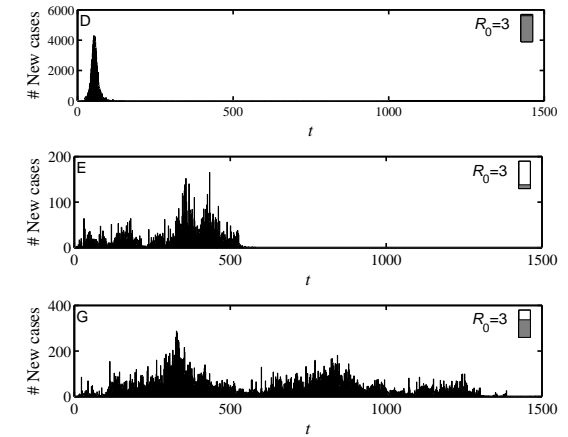
### Schematic:



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## Model output—resurgence



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## Journal entry, 2020/02/21:

### Twitter DMs to Sam Scarpino:

- Okay: The scientists studying pandemics need to be able to present some kind set of numbers that show how bad things are. The whole  $R_0$  disaster has been waiting to happen because people have been ... lazily having fun with math models? Unconcerned about how to communicate vital scientific information? Stupid? I don't know. Maybe a radar plot visualization. I don't know.
- "When these three boundaries are crossed, we are in trouble"
- Measles has an  $R_0$  of 20. We should all have it. Of course, there's no f\*\*king time scale for  $R_0$  so we don't know when that happens.

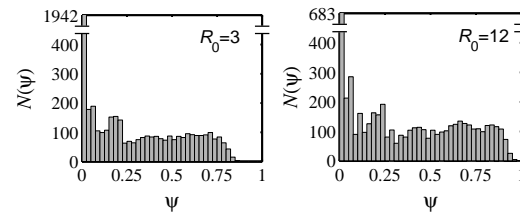
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## Example model output: size distributions



- Flat distributions are possible for certain  $\xi$  and  $P$ .
- Different  $R_0$ 's may produce similar distributions
- Same epidemic sizes may arise from different  $R_0$ 's

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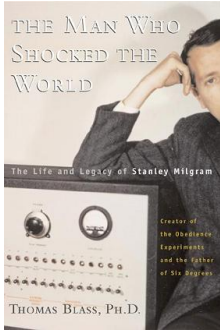
## The Last of Us: Groups.





# Understanding distributed social search

## Milgram's social search experiment



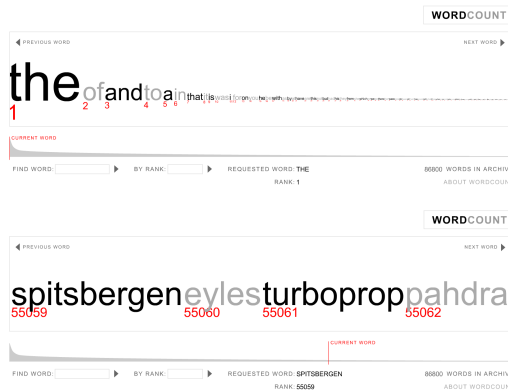
<http://www.stanleymilgram.com>

- Target person = Boston stockbroker.
  - 296 senders from Boston and Omaha.
  - 20% of senders reached target.
  - chain length  $\approx 6.5$ .
- Popular terms:
- The Small World Phenomenon;
  - “Six Degrees of Separation.”

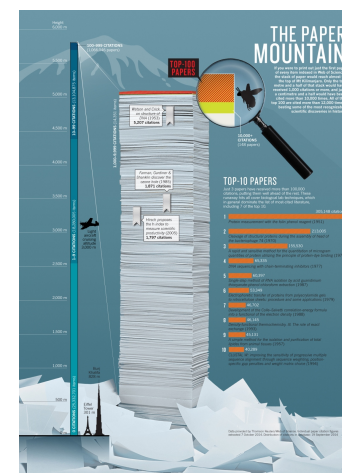
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# Jonathan Harris's Wordcount

## A word frequency distribution explorer:



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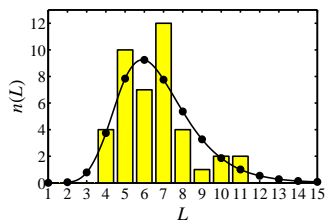


Nature (2014):  
Most cited papers of all time

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# The model—results

## Milgram's Nebraska-Boston data:

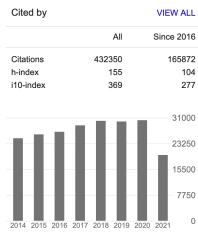


## Model parameters:

- $N = 10^8$ ,
- $z = 300, g = 100$ ,
- $b = 10$ ,
- $\alpha = 1, H = 2$ ;
- $\langle L_{\text{model}} \rangle \approx 6.7$
- $L_{\text{data}} \approx 6.5$

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# The long tail of knowledge:

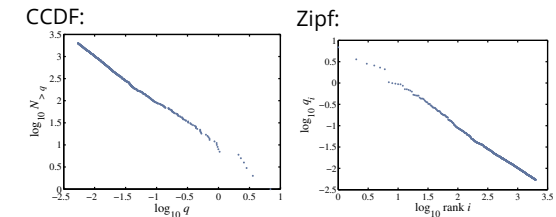


Take a scrolling voyage to the citational abyss, starting at the surface with the lonely, giant citaceans, moving down to the legion of strange, sometimes misplaced, unloved creatures, that dwell in Kahneman's Google Scholar page

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# Size distributions:

## Brown Corpus (1,015,945 words):



- The, of, and, to, a, ...= 'objects'
- 'Size' = word frequency
- Beep: (Important) CCDF and Zipf plots are related
- ...

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# Social search—the Columbia experiment

- 60,000+ participants in 166 countries
- 18 targets in 13 countries including
  - a professor at an Ivy League university,
  - an archival inspector in Estonia,
  - a technology consultant in India,
  - a policeman in Australia, and
  - a veterinarian in the Norwegian army.
- 24,000+ chains

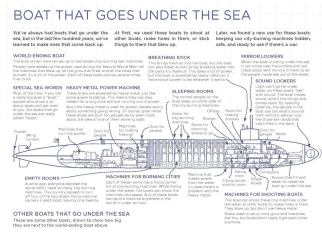
## We were lucky and contagious:

“Using E-Mail to Count Connections”, Sarah Milstein, New York Times, Circuits Section (December, 2001)

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“Thing Explainer: Complicated Stuff in Simple Words” by Randall Munroe (2015).



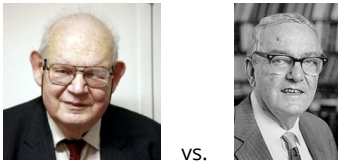
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# Pre-Zipf's law observations of Zipf's law

- 1910s: Word frequency examined re Stenography (or shorthand or brachygraphy or tachygraphy), Jean-Baptiste Estoup
- 1910s: Felix Auerbach pointed out the Zipfitude of city sizes in “Das Gesetz der Bevölkerungskonzentration” (“The Law of Population Concentration”)
- 1924: G. Udny Yule # Species per Genus (offers first theoretical mechanism)
- 1926: Lotka # Scientific papers per author (Lotka's law)

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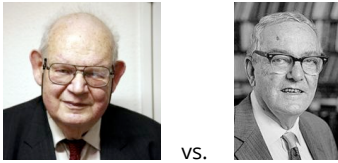




### Mandelbrot vs. Simon:

- 🔗 Mandelbrot (1953): "An Informational Theory of the Statistical Structure of Languages" [62]
- 🔗 Simon (1955): "On a class of skew distribution functions" [92]
- 🔗 Mandelbrot (1959): "A note on a class of skew distribution functions: analysis and critique of a paper by H.A. Simon" [63]
- 🔗 Simon (1960): "Some further notes on a class of skew distribution functions" [93]

I have no rival, No man can be my equal



### Mandelbrot vs. Simon:

- 🔗 Mandelbrot (1961): "Final note on a class of skew distribution functions: analysis and critique of a model due to H.A. Simon" [64]
- 🔗 Simon (1961): "Reply to 'final note' by Benoit Mandelbrot" [95]
- 🔗 Mandelbrot (1961): "Post scriptum to 'final note'" [65]
- 🔗 Simon (1961): "Reply to Dr. Mandelbrot's post scriptum" [94]

### Scale-free networks

- 🔗 Real networks with power-law degree distributions became known as **scale-free** networks.
- 🔗 Scale-free refers specifically to the **degree distribution** having a **power-law decay** in its tail:

$$P_k \sim k^{-\gamma} \text{ for 'large' } k$$

- 🔗 One of the seminal works in complex networks:



"Emergence of scaling in random networks" [8]  
Barabási and Albert,  
Science, **286**, 509–511, 1999. [8]

Times cited: ~ 43,853 [8] (as of May 19, 2023)

- 🔗 Somewhat misleading nomenclature ...

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"Organization of Growing Random Networks" [57]  
Krapivsky and Redner,  
Phys. Rev. E, **63**, 066123, 2001. [57]

### Fooling with the mechanism:

- 🔗 Krapivsky & Redner [57] explored the **general attachment kernel**:

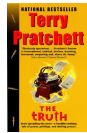
$$\Pr(\text{attach to node } i) \propto A_k = k_i^\nu$$

where  $A_k$  is the attachment kernel and  $\nu > 0$ .

- 🔗 KR also looked at changing the details of the attachment kernel.

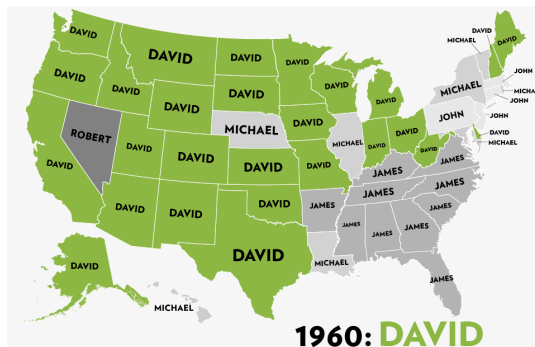
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'The rumor spread through the city like wildfire which had quite often spread through Ankh-Morpork since its citizens had learned the words "fire insurance").'



"The Truth" [82]  
by Terry Pratchett (2000). [82]

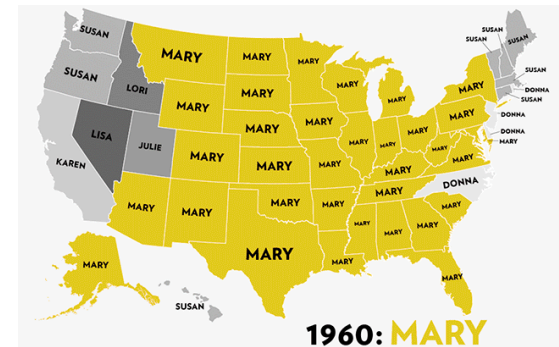
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1960: DAVID

From the Atlantic [8]

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1960: MARY

From the Atlantic [8]

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### Social Contagion

#### Some important models:

- 🔗 Tipping models—Schelling (1971) [85, 86, 87]
  - 🔗 Simulation on checker boards
  - 🔗 Idea of thresholds
  - 🔗 Polygon-themed online visualization. (Includes optional diversity-seeking proclivity.) [8]
- 🔗 Threshold models—Granovetter (1978) [47]
- 🔗 Herding models—Bikhchandani, Hirschleifer, Welch (1992) [10, 11]
  - 🔗 Social learning theory, Informational cascades,...

### Social contagion models

#### Thresholds

- 🔗 Basic idea: individuals adopt a behavior when a **certain fraction of others** have adopted
- 🔗 'Others' may be everyone in a population, an individual's close friends, any reference group.
- 🔗 Response can be probabilistic or deterministic.
- 🔗 Individual thresholds can vary
- 🔗 Assumption: order of others' adoption does not matter... (**unrealistic**).
- 🔗 Assumption: level of influence per person is uniform (**unrealistic**).

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## Social Contagion

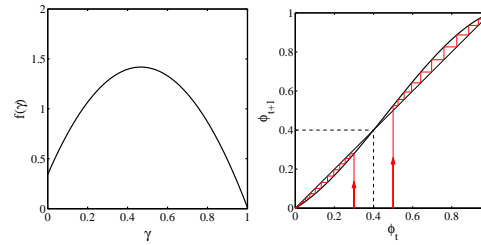
### Some possible origins of thresholds:

- Inherent, evolution-devised inclination to coordinate, to conform, to imitate. [9]
- Lack of information:** impute the worth of a good or behavior based on degree of adoption (social proof)
- Economics: Network effects or network externalities**
  - Externalities = Effects on others not directly involved in a transaction
  - Examples: telephones, fax machine, TikTok, operating systems
  - An individual's utility increases with the adoption level among peers and the population in general

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## Threshold models

### Another example of critical mass model:



- Fragility of fixed point at  $\phi = 0$ .
- Critical slope = 1.

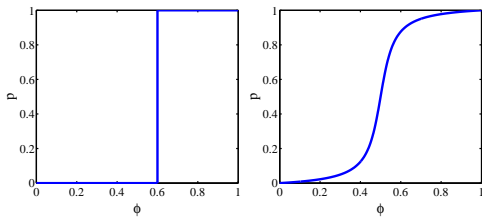
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## Many years after Granovetter and Soong's work:

- "A simple model of global cascades on random networks"  
D. J. Watts. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., 2002 [106]
  - Mean field model → network model
  - Individuals now have a limited view of the world
- Also consider:
- "Seed size strongly affects cascades on random networks" [44]  
Gleeson and Cahalane, Phys. Rev. E, 2007.
  - "Direct, physically motivated derivation of the contagion condition for spreading processes on generalized random networks" [30]  
Dodds, Harris, and Payne, Phys. Rev. E, 2011
  - "Influentials, Networks, and Public Opinion Formation" [108]  
Watts and Dodds, J. Cons. Res., 2007.

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## Threshold models—response functions

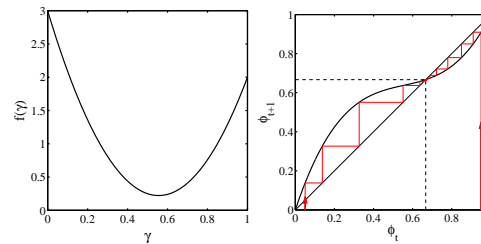


- Example threshold influence response functions: **deterministic** and **stochastic**
- $\phi$  = fraction of contacts 'on' (e.g., rioting)
- Two states: S and I.

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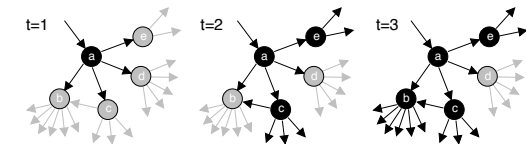
## Threshold models

### Example of single stable state model:



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## Threshold model on a network

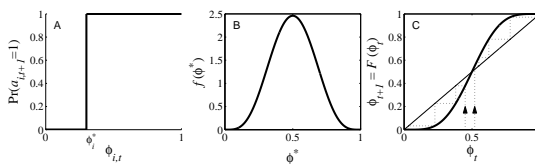


- All nodes have threshold  $\phi = 0.2$ .

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## Threshold models

### Action based on perceived behavior of others:



- Two states: S and I.
- $\phi$  = fraction of contacts 'on' (e.g., rioting)
- Discrete time update (strong assumption!)
- This is a **Critical mass model**

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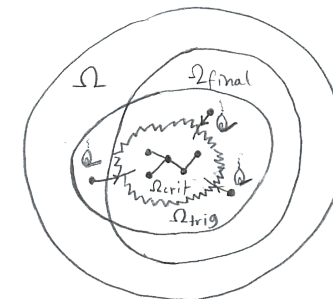
## Threshold models—Nutshell

### Implications for collective action theory:

- Collective uniformity  $\nRightarrow$  individual uniformity
- Small individual changes  $\Rightarrow$  large global changes
- The stories/dynamics of complex systems are conceptually inaccessible for individual-centric narratives.
- System stories live in left null space of our stories—we can't even see them.
- But we happily impose simplistic, individual-centric stories—we can't help ourselves ↗.

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## Example random network structure:



- $\Omega_{crit} = \Omega_{vuln} =$  critical mass = global vulnerable component
- $\Omega_{trig} =$  triggering component
- $\Omega_{final} =$  potential extent of spread
- $\Omega =$  entire network

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$$\Omega_{crit} \subset \Omega_{trig}; \Omega_{crit} \subset \Omega_{final}; \text{ and } \Omega_{trig}, \Omega_{final} \subset \Omega.$$

## Cascade condition

Back to following a link:

- A randomly chosen link, traversed in a random direction, leads to a degree  $k$  node with probability  $\propto kP_k$ .
- Follows from there being  $k$  ways to connect to a node with degree  $k$ .
- Normalization:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} kP_k = \langle k \rangle$$

So

$$P(\text{linked node has degree } k) = \frac{kP_k}{\langle k \rangle}$$

## Cascade condition

So... for random networks with fixed degree distributions, cascades take off when:

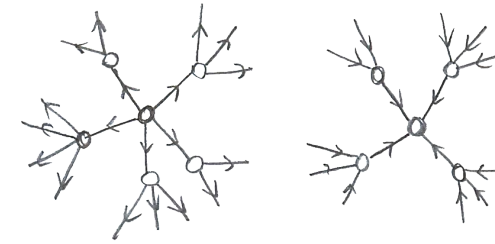
$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k-1) \cdot \beta_k \cdot \frac{kP_k}{\langle k \rangle} > 1.$$

- $\beta_k$  = probability a degree  $k$  node is vulnerable.
- $P_k$  = probability a node has degree  $k$ .

## Expected size of spread

Pleasantness:

- Taking off from a single seed story is about **expansion** away from a node.
- Extent of spreading story is about **contraction** at a node.



## Cascade condition

Next: Vulnerability of linked node

- Linked node is **vulnerable** with probability

$$\beta_k = \int_{\phi'_* = 0}^{1/k} f(\phi'_*) d\phi'_*$$

- If linked node is **vulnerable**, it produces  $k-1$  new outgoing active links
- If linked node is **not vulnerable**, it produces **no** active links.

## Cascade condition

Two special cases:

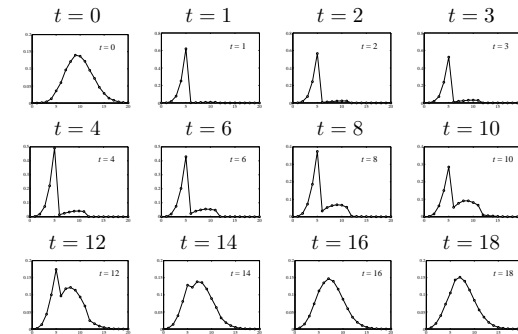
- (1) Simple disease-like spreading succeeds:  $\beta_k = \beta$

$$\beta \cdot \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k-1) \cdot \frac{kP_k}{\langle k \rangle} > 1.$$

- (2) Giant component exists:  $\beta = 1$

$$1 \cdot \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k-1) \cdot \frac{kP_k}{\langle k \rangle} > 1.$$

## Early adopters—degree distributions



$P_{k,t}$  versus  $k$

## Cascade condition

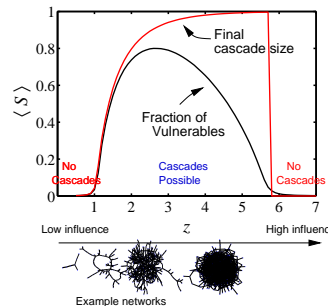
Putting things together:

- Expected number of active edges produced by an active edge:

$$R = \left[ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \underbrace{(k-1) \cdot \beta_k \cdot \frac{kP_k}{\langle k \rangle}}_{\text{success}} + \underbrace{0 \cdot (1-\beta_k) \cdot \frac{kP_k}{\langle k \rangle}}_{\text{failure}} \right]$$

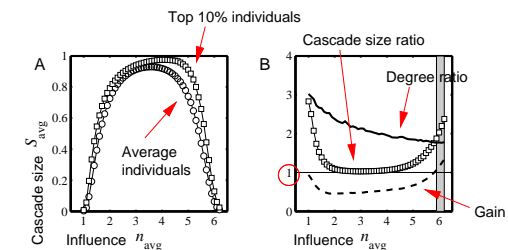
$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k-1) \cdot \beta_k \cdot \frac{kP_k}{\langle k \rangle}$$

## Cascades on random networks



- Cascades occur only if size of max vulnerable cluster  $> 0$ .
- System may be 'robust-yet-fragile'.
- 'Ignorance' facilitates spreading.

## The multiplier effect:



- Fairly uniform levels of individual influence.
- Multiplier effect is mostly below 1.

## Extensions

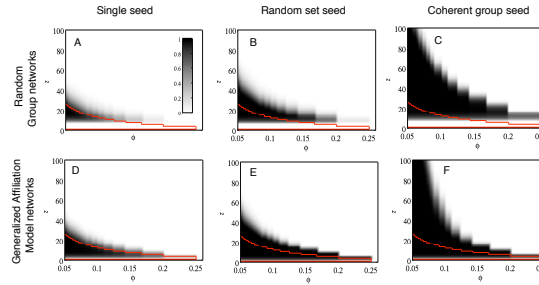


“Threshold Models of Social Influence”  
Watts and Dodds,  
The Oxford Handbook of Analytical  
Sociology, **63**, 475–497, 2009. [109]

- Assumption of sparse interactions is good
- Degree distribution is (generally) key to a network's function
- Still, random networks don't represent all networks
- Major element missing: **group structure**

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## Cascade windows for group-based networks



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## Social contagion

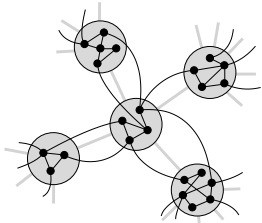
“Without followers, evil cannot spread.” –Leonard Nimoy

### Summary

- 'Influential vulnerables' are key to spread.
- Early adopters are mostly vulnerables.
- Vulnerable nodes important but not necessary.
- Groups may greatly facilitate spread.
- Seems that cascade condition is a global one.
- Most extreme/unexpected cascades occur in highly connected networks
- 'Influentials' are posterior constructs.
- Many potential influentials exist.

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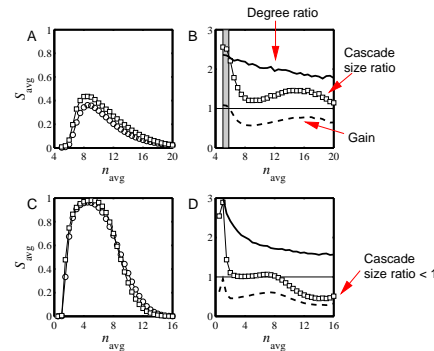
## Group structure—Ramified random networks



$p$  = intergroup connection probability  
 $q$  = intragroup connection probability.

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## Multiplier effect for group-based networks:



Multiplier almost always below 1.

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## Social contagion

### Implications

- Focus on the influential vulnerables.
- Create entities that can be transmitted successfully through many individuals rather than broadcast from one 'influential.'
- Only simple ideas can spread by word-of-mouth. (Idea of opinion leaders spreads well...)
- Want enough individuals who will adopt and display.
- Displaying can be **passive** = free (yo-yo's, fashion), or **active** = harder to achieve (political messages; even so: buttons and hats).
- Entities can be novel or designed to combine with others, e.g. block another one.

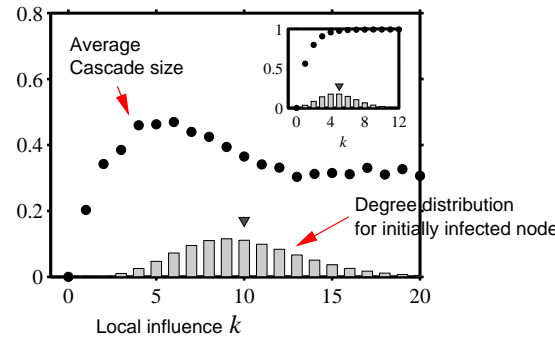
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## Generalized affiliation model networks with triadic closure

- Connect nodes with probability  $\propto e^{-\alpha d}$  where  $\alpha$  = homophily parameter and  $d$  = distance between nodes (height of lowest common ancestor)
- $\tau_1$  = intergroup probability of friend-of-friend connection
- $\tau_2$  = intragroup probability of friend-of-friend connection

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## Assortativity in group-based networks



- The most connected nodes aren't always the most 'influential.'
- Degree assortativity** is the reason.

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“Flavor network and the principles of food pairing”  
Ahn et al.,  
Nature Scientific Reports, **1**, 196, 2011. [1]

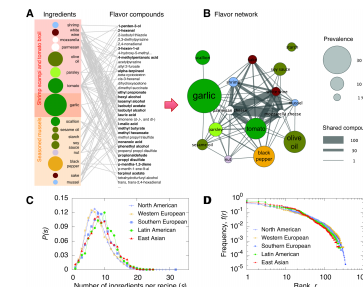


Figure 1 | Flavor network. (A) The ingredients contained in two recipes (left column), together with the flavor compounds that are known to be present in the ingredients (right column). Each flavor compound is linked to the ingredients that contain it, forming a bipartite network. Some compounds (shown in boldface) are shared by multiple ingredients. (B) How project the bipartite compound-ingredient network into the ingredient space, so entities in the flavor network whose nodes are ingredients, linked if they share at least one flavor compound. The thickness of links represents the number of flavor compounds two ingredients share and the size of each circle corresponds to the prevalence of the ingredients in recipes. (C) The distribution of recipe use, comparing the number of ingredients per recipe across the cuisine (empirical) to one recipe. (D) The frequency rank of ingredients across the cuisine (shown as an approximately) invulnerable distribution across cuisine.

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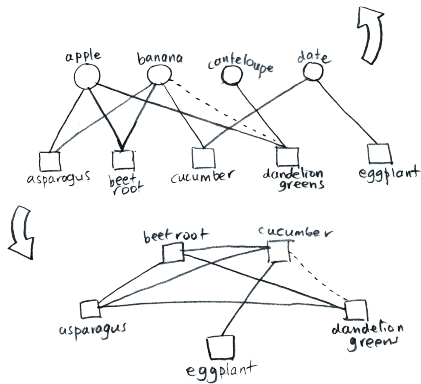
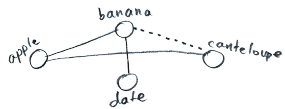
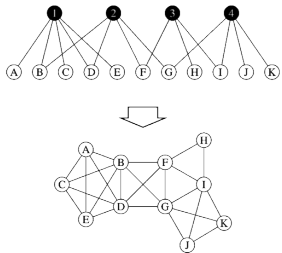


# Random bipartite networks:

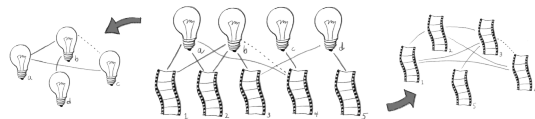
We'll follow this rather well cited paper:



"Random graphs with arbitrary degree distributions and their applications"  
Newman, Strogatz, and Watts,  
Phys. Rev. E, **64**, 026118, 2001. [80]



## Example of a bipartite affiliation network and the induced networks:



- Center: A small story-trope bipartite graph. [28]
- Induced trope network and the induced story network are on the left and right.
- The dashed edge in the bipartite affiliation network indicates an edge added to the system, resulting in the dashed edges being added to the two induced networks.

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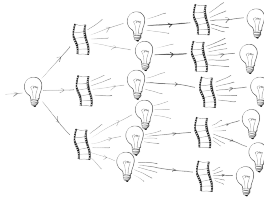
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## Basic story:

- An example of two inter-affiliated types:
  - ☛ = stories,
  - ☞ = tropes.
- Stories contain tropes, tropes are in stories.
- Consider a story-trope system with  $N_{\square}$  = # stories and  $N_{\circ}$  = # tropes.
- $m_{\square, \circ}$  = number of edges between  $\square$  and  $\circ$ .
- Let's have some underlying distributions for numbers of affiliations:  $P_k^{(\square)}$  (a story has  $k$  tropes) and  $P_k^{(\circ)}$  (a trope is in  $k$  stories).
- Average number of affiliations:  $\langle k \rangle_{\square}$  and  $\langle k \rangle_{\circ}$ .
  - ☛  $\langle k \rangle_{\square}$  = average number of tropes per story.
  - ☞  $\langle k \rangle_{\circ}$  = average number of stories containing a given trope.
- Must have balance:  $N_{\square} \cdot \langle k \rangle_{\square} = m_{\square, \circ} = N_{\circ} \cdot \langle k \rangle_{\circ}$ .

## Spreading through bipartite networks:



- View as bouncing back and forth between the two connected populations. [28]
- Actual spread may be within only one population (ideas between people) or through both (failures in physical and communication networks).
- The gain ratio for simple contagion on a bipartite random network = product of two gain ratios.

## Usual helpers for understanding network's structure:

- Randomly select an edge connecting a  $\square$  to a  $\circ$ .
- Probability the  $\square$  contains  $k$  other tropes:
 
$$R_k^{(\square)} = \frac{(k+1)P_{k+1}^{(\square)}}{\sum_{j=0}^{N_{\square}} (j+1)P_{j+1}^{(\square)}} = \frac{(k+1)P_{k+1}^{(\square)}}{\langle k \rangle_{\square}}$$
- Probability the  $\circ$  is in  $k$  other stories:
 
$$R_k^{(\circ)} = \frac{(k+1)P_{k+1}^{(\circ)}}{\sum_{j=0}^{N_{\circ}} (j+1)P_{j+1}^{(\circ)}} = \frac{(k+1)P_{k+1}^{(\circ)}}{\langle k \rangle_{\circ}}$$

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## Networks of $\square$ and $\circ$ within bipartite structure:

- $P_{ind, k}^{(\square)}$  = probability a random  $\square$  is connected to  $k$  stories by sharing at least one  $\circ$ .
- $P_{ind, k}^{(\circ)}$  = probability a random  $\circ$  is connected to  $k$  tropes by co-occurring in at least one  $\square$ .
- $R_{ind, k}^{(\square-\circ)}$  = probability a random edge leads to a  $\square$  which is connected to  $k$  other stories by sharing at least one  $\circ$ .
- $R_{ind, k}^{(\circ-\square)}$  = probability a random edge leads to a  $\circ$  which is connected to  $k$  other tropes by co-occurring in at least one  $\square$ .
- Goal: find these distributions  $\square$ .
- Another goal: find the induced distribution of component sizes and a test for the presence or absence of a giant component.
- Unrelated goal: be 10% happier/weep less.

## Unstoppable spreading: Is this thing connected?

- Always about the edges: when following a random edge toward a  $\square$ , what's the expected number of new edges leading to other stories via tropes?
- We want to determine  $\langle k \rangle_{R, \square, ind}$  =  $F'_{R, ind}(\square-\circ)(1)$  (and  $F'_{R, ind}(\circ-\square)(1)$  for the trope side of things).
- We compute with joy:

$$\langle k \rangle_{R, \square, ind} = \left. \frac{d}{dx} F_{R, ind, k}^{(\square-\circ)}(x) \right|_{x=1} = \left. \frac{d}{dx} F_{R, \square} (F_{R, \circ}^{(\square-\circ)}(x)) \right|_{x=1}$$

$$= F'_{R, \circ}(1) F'_{R, \square} (F_{R, \circ}(1)) = F'_{R, \circ}(1) F'_{R, \square}(1) = \frac{F''_{P, \circ}(1) F''_{P, \square}(1)}{F'_{P, \circ}(1) F'_{P, \square}(1)}$$

- Note symmetry.
- \$happiness++;

- In terms of the underlying distributions:

$$\langle k \rangle_{R, \square, ind} = \frac{\langle k(k-1) \rangle_{\square} \langle k(k-1) \rangle_{\circ}}{\langle k \rangle_{\square} \langle k \rangle_{\circ}}$$

- We have a giant component in both induced networks when

$$\langle k \rangle_{R, \square, ind} \equiv \langle k \rangle_{R, \circ, ind} > 1$$

- See this as the product of two gain ratios. #excellent #physics

- We can mess with this condition to make it mathematically pleasant and pleasantly inscrutable:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k'=0}^{\infty} k k' (k k' - k - k') P_k^{(\square)} P_{k'}^{(\circ)} = 0.$$

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# Nutshell

- Generating functions allow us to strangely calculate features of random networks.
- They're a bit scary and magical.
- Generating functions can be used to study contagion.
- But: For essential results like possibility and probability of global spread, more direct, physics-bearing calculations are possible.
- Good real thing: Bipartite affiliation structures.
- Groups, groups, groups, ...

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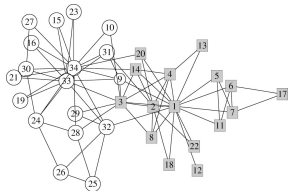
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# Structure detection



**The issue:**  
how do we elucidate the internal structure of large networks across many scales?

▲ Zachary's karate club [119, 79]

- Possible substructures: hierarchies, cliques, rings, ...
- Plus: All combinations of substructures.
- Much focus on hierarchies (pyramids) .....

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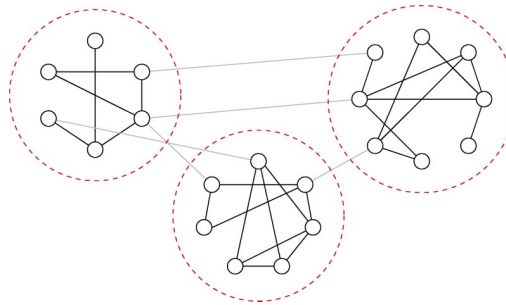
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# Hierarchy by division

Top down:

- Idea: Identify global structure first and recursively uncover more detailed structure.
- Basic objective: find dominant components that have significantly more links within than without, as compared to randomized version.
- We'll first work through "Finding and evaluating community structure in networks" by Newman and Girvan (PRE, 2004). [79]
- See also
  - "Scientific collaboration networks. II. Shortest paths, weighted networks, and centrality" by Newman (PRE, 2001). [75, 78]
  - "Community structure in social and biological networks" by Girvan and Newman (PNAS, 2002). [42]

# Hierarchy by division

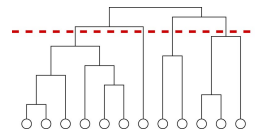


Idea: Edges that connect communities have higher betweenness than edges within communities.

# Hierarchy by division

One class of structure-detection algorithms:

- Compute edge betweenness for whole network.
- Remove edge with highest betweenness.
- Recompute edge betweenness
- Repeat steps 2 and 3 until all edges are removed.
- Record when components appear as a function of # edges removed.
- Generate dendrogram revealing hierarchical structure.



Red line indicates appearance of four (4) components at a certain level.

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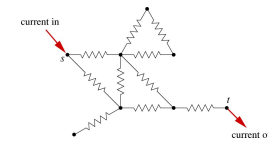
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# Betweenness for electrons:



- Unit resistors on each edge.
- For every pair of nodes  $s$  (source) and  $t$  (sink), set up unit currents in at  $s$  and out at  $t$ .
- Measure absolute current along each edge  $\ell$ ,  $|I_{\ell, st}|$ .

- Sum  $|I_{\ell, st}|$  over all pairs of nodes to obtain electronic betweenness for edge  $\ell$ . (Equivalent to random walk betweenness.)
- Contributing electronic betweenness for edge between nodes  $i$  and  $j$ :

$$B_{ij, st}^{elec} = a_{ij} |V_{i, st} - V_{j, st}|.$$

# Electronic betweenness

- Define some arbitrary voltage reference.
- Kirchhoff's laws: current flowing out of node  $i$  must balance:

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{R_{ij}} (V_j - V_i) = \delta_{is} - \delta_{it}.$$

- Between connected nodes,  $R_{ij} = 1 = a_{ij} = 1/a_{ij}$ .
- Between unconnected nodes,  $R_{ij} = \infty = 1/a_{ij}$ .
- We can therefore write:

$$\sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} (V_i - V_j) = \delta_{is} - \delta_{it}.$$

- Some gentle jiggery-pokery on the left hand side:  $\sum_j a_{ij} (V_i - V_j) = V_i \sum_j a_{ij} - \sum_j a_{ij} V_j = V_i k_i - \sum_j a_{ij} V_j = \sum_j [k_i \delta_{ij} V_j - a_{ij} V_j] = [(\mathbf{K} - \mathbf{A})\vec{V}]_i$

# Electronic betweenness

- Write right hand side as  $[I^{ext}]_{i, st} = \delta_{is} - \delta_{it}$ , where  $I_{st}^{ext}$  holds external source and sink currents.
- Matrixingly then:

$$(\mathbf{K} - \mathbf{A})\vec{V} = I_{st}^{ext}.$$

- $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{K} - \mathbf{A}$  is a beast of some utility—known as the Laplacian.
- Solve for voltage vector  $\vec{V}$  by LU decomposition (Gaussian elimination).
- Do not compute an inverse!
- Note: voltage offset is arbitrary so no unique solution.
- Presuming network has one component, null space of  $\mathbf{K} - \mathbf{A}$  is one dimensional.
- In fact,  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{K} - \mathbf{A}) = \{c\vec{1}, c \in \mathbb{R}\}$  since  $(\mathbf{K} - \mathbf{A})\vec{1} = \vec{0}$ .

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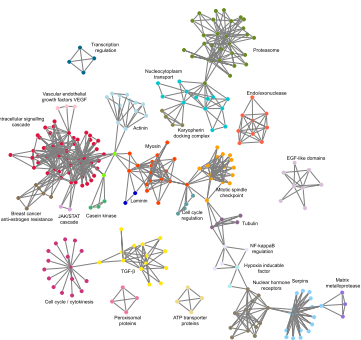
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"Community detection in graphs" Santo Fortunato, Physics Reports, 486, 75–174, 2010. [38]



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## Alternate betweenness measures:

### Random walk betweenness:

- Asking too much: Need full knowledge of network to travel along shortest paths.
- One of many alternatives: consider all **random walks** between pairs of nodes  $i$  and  $j$ .
- Walks starts at node  $i$ , traverses the network randomly, ending as soon as it reaches  $j$ .
- Record the number of times an edge is followed by a walk.
- Consider all pairs of nodes.
- Random walk betweenness of an edge = absolute difference in probability a random walk travels one way versus the other along the edge.
- Equivalent to electronic betweenness (see also diffusion).

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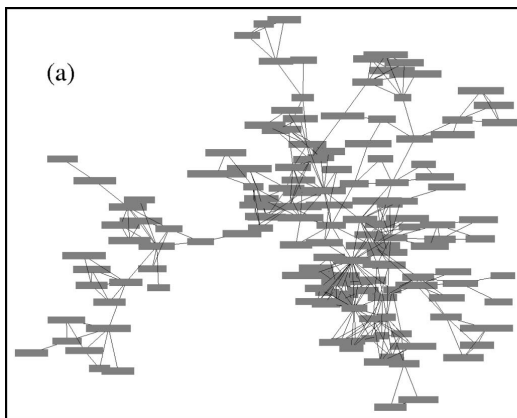
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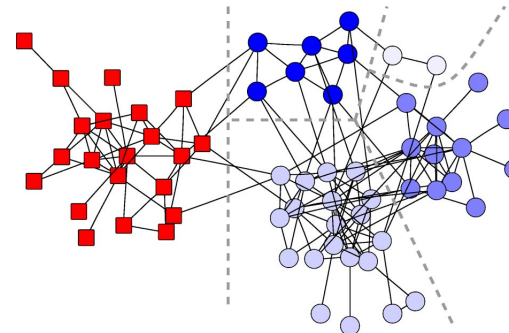
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## Dolphins!



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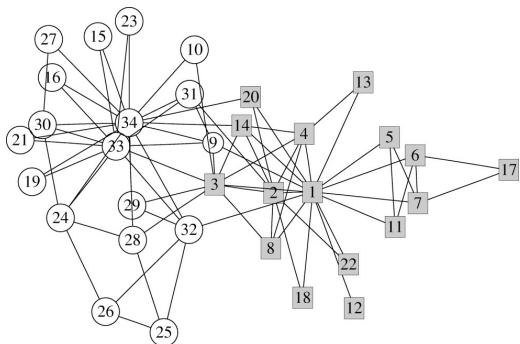
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## Hierarchy by division



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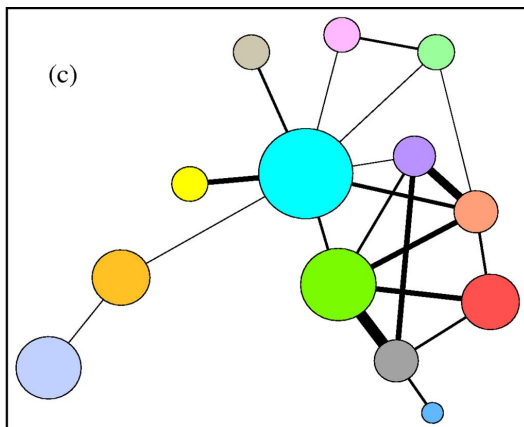
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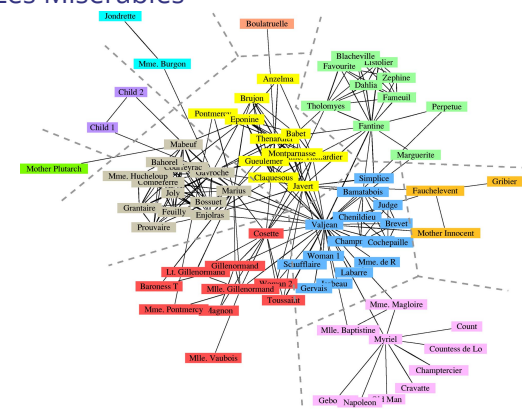
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## Les Miserables



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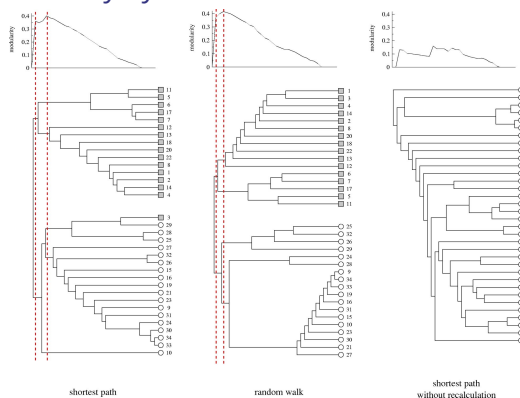
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- Factions in Zachary's karate club network. [119]

- More network analyses for Les Miserables [here](#) and [here](#).

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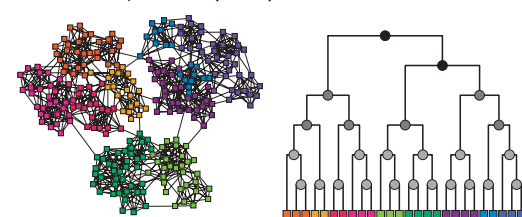
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## Hierarchies and missing links

Clauset *et al.*, Nature (2008) [25]



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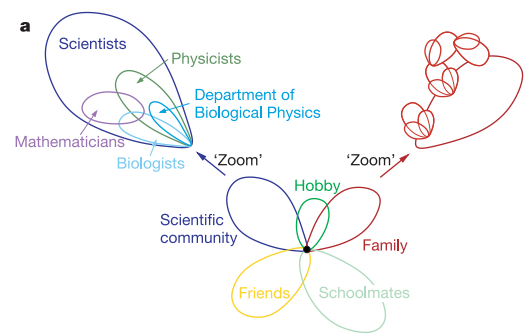
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- Third column shows what happens if we don't recompute betweenness after each edge removal.

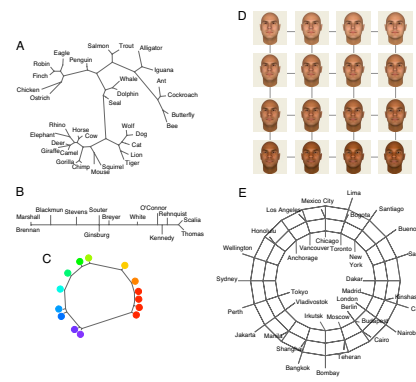
- Idea: Shades indicate probability that nodes in left and right subtrees of dendrogram are connected.
- Handle: **Hierarchical random graph models.**
- Plan: Infer consensus dendrogram for a given real network.
- Obtain probability that links are missing (big problem...).

“Uncovering the overlapping community structure of complex networks in nature and society”  
 Palla et al., Nature, 435, 814–818, 2005. [81]



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### Example learned structures:



Biological features; Supreme Court votes; perceived color differences; face differences; & distances between cities.

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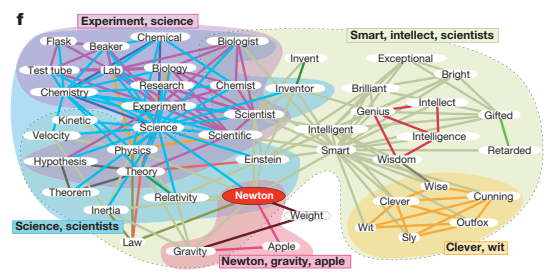
### Rather silly but great example of real science:

“How Cats Lap: Water Uptake by *Felis catus*”  
 Reis et al., Science, 2010.



Source: Science THE NEW YORK TIMES. IMAGES FROM VIDEO BY ROMAN STOCKER, SUNGWAN JUNG, JEFFREY M. ARISTOFF AND FEDRO M. REIS  
 Amusing interview here

“Link communities reveal multiscale complexity in networks”  
 Ahn, Bagrow, and Lehmann, Nature, 466, 761–764, 2010. [2]



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### Nutshell:

#### Overview Key Points:

- The field of complex networks came into existence in the late 1990s.
- Explosion of papers and interest since 1998/99.
- Hardened up much thinking about complex systems.
- Specific focus on networks that are **large-scale, sparse, natural or people-made, evolving and dynamic, and (crucially) measurable.**
- Three main (blurred) categories:
  - Physical** (e.g., river networks),
  - Interactional** (e.g., social networks),
  - Abstract** (e.g., thesauri).
- To solve network problems: “Follow the edges.”

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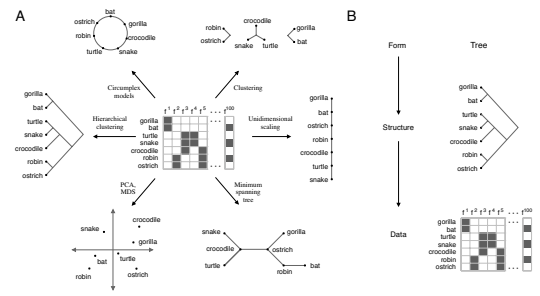
### Warnings:

- Networks aren't everything.
- Famous models of networks aren't everything in networks.
- Mathematical tractability ≠ meaningfulness or viable existence in reality
- Even when networks are core to a system, the best level of analysis may involve some scale of grouping/averaging.
- Groups, groups, groups.
- And pyramids (~ hierarchies)

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### General structure detection

“The discovery of structural form”  
 Kemp and Tenenbaum, PNAS (2008) [54]

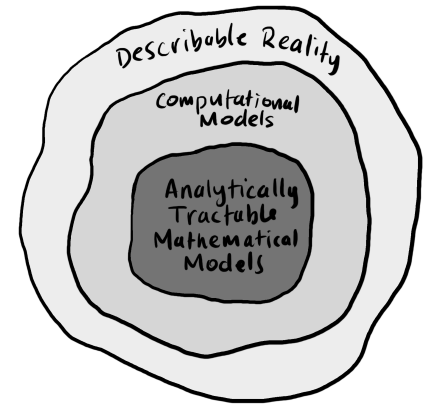


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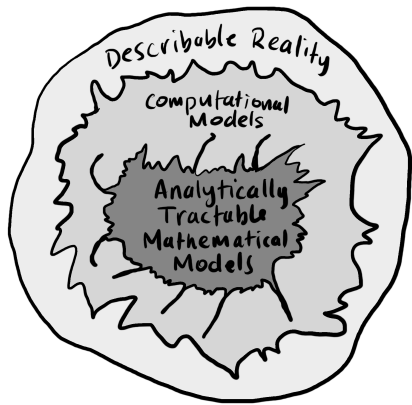
### More Allegations:

- The map is not the territory.
- Sometimes the map is not the territory because the territory does not exist.
- “But it might one day!” yelled Captain Survivor Bias IV while holding up two pineapples to gauge the distance between waves.
- And the mapper is never the map.
- (Scientific truths shouldn't be named after individuals.)

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## Basic Science $\approx$ Describe + Explain:

Lord Kelvin (possibly):

- ☞ "To measure is to know."
- ☞ "If you cannot measure it, you cannot improve it."



Bonus:

- ☞ "X-rays will prove to be a hoax."
- ☞ "There is nothing new to be discovered in physics now, All that remains is more and more precise measurement."
- ☞ "Beards will always be cool."

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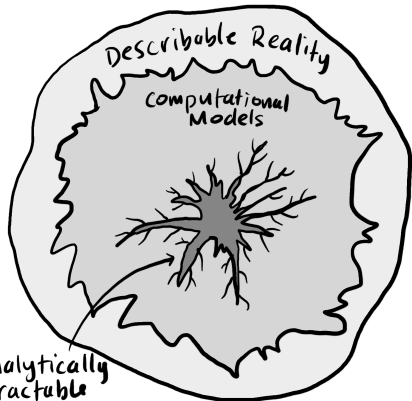
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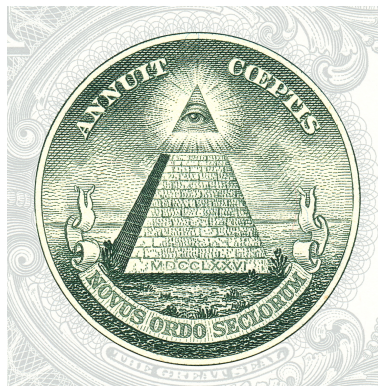
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## The Pyramid [knows](#) what you did.



Mass surveillance by story.

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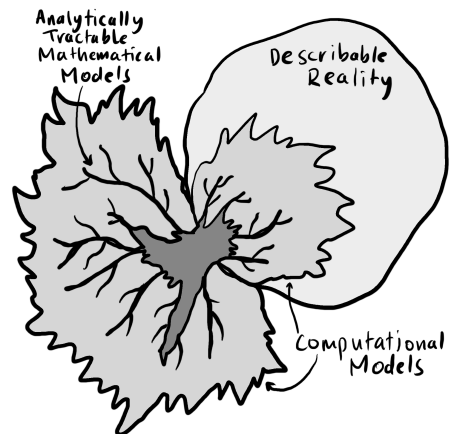
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## The absolute basics:

Modern basic science in three steps:

1. Find interesting/meaningful/important phenomena, optionally involving spectacular amounts of data.
2. Describe what you see.
3. Explain it.

If you succeed at 1–3:

4. Create.
5. Share.

Always:

6. Be good people.

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