

# Biological Contagion

Principles of Complex Systems | @pocsvox  
CSYS/MATH 300, Fall, 2017

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Vermont Advanced Computing Core | University of Vermont



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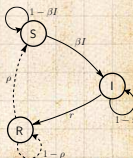
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## Sealie & Lambie Productions



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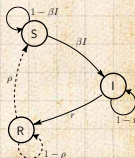
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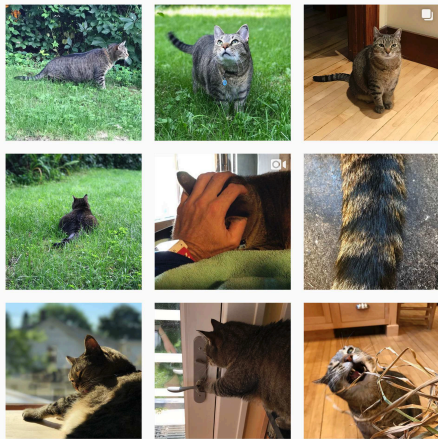


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Special Guest Executive Producer: Pratchett



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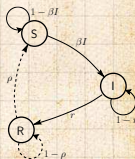
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 On Instagram at [pratchett\\_the\\_cat](https://www.instagram.com/pratchett_the_cat) 



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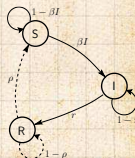
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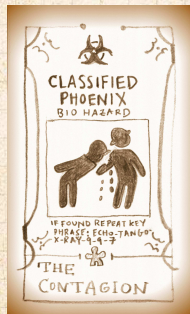
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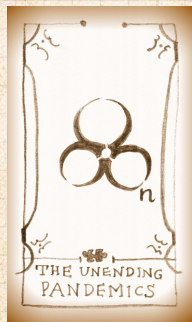
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# An awful recording: Wikipedia's list of epidemics from 430 BC on.



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## List of epidemics

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia


This article is a **list of epidemics** of **infectious disease**. Widespread and chronic complaints such as **heart disease** and **allergy** are not included if they are not thought to be infectious.

*This list is incomplete; you can help by expanding it.*

Death toll (estimate)	Location	Date	Comment	Disease	Reference
ca. 75,000 - 100,000	Greece	429–426 BC	Known as <b>Plague of Athens</b> , because it was primarily in Athens.	unknown, similar to typhoid	
ca. 30% of population	Europe, Western Asia, Northern Africa	165–180	Known as <b>Antonine Plague</b> , due to the name of the Roman emperor in power at the time.	unknown, symptoms similar to smallpox	
	Europe	250-266 AD	Known as the <b>Plague of Cyprian</b> named after St. Cyprian Bishop of Carthage.	unknown, possibly smallpox	
ca. 40% of population	Europe	541–542	Known as <b>Plague of Justinian</b> , due to the name of the Byzantine emperor in power at the time.	Bubonic plague	[1]
30% to 70% of population	Europe	1346–1350	Known as "Black Death" or <b>Second plague pandemic</b> , first return of the plague to Europe after the Justinianic plague of the 6th century.	plague	[2]
5-15 million (80% of population)	Mexico	1545-1548	Cocoliztli	viral hemorrhagic fever	[6][7][8]
2 - 2.5 million (50% of population)	Mexico	1576	Cocoliztli	viral hemorrhagic fever	[6][7][8]
	Seneca nation	1592–1596		measles	[9]



Plague panel with the triumph of death, 1697–95, Deutsches Historisches Museum Berlin



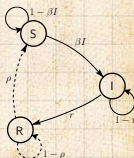
An artistic portrayal of cholera which was epidemic in the 19th century

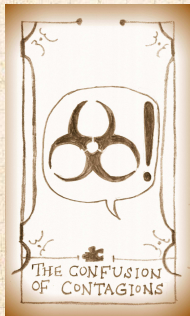
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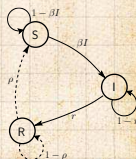
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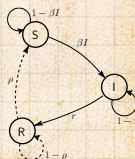
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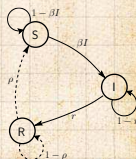
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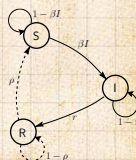
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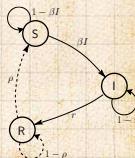
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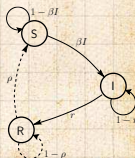
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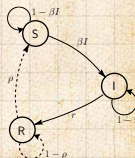
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## Naturomorphisms

- “The feeling was contagious.”
- “The news spread like wildfire.”
- “Freedom is the most contagious virus known to man.”  
—Hubert H. Humphrey, Johnson’s vice president
- “Nothing is so contagious as enthusiasm.”  
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## Optimism according to Ambrose Bierce

The doctrine that everything is beautiful, including what is ugly, everything good, especially the bad, and everything right that is wrong. ...

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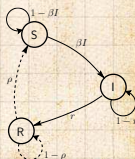
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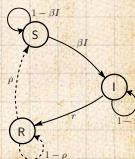
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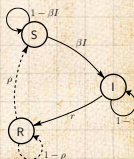
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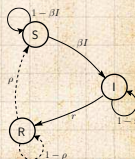
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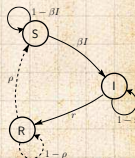
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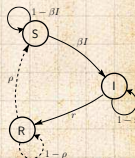
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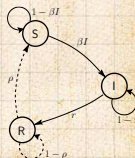
The doctrine that everything is beautiful, including what is ugly, everything good, especially the bad, and everything right that is wrong. ... **It is hereditary, but fortunately not contagious.**

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There is a grandeur in the uniformity of the mass.

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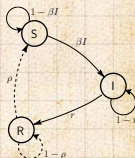
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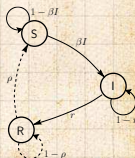
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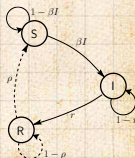
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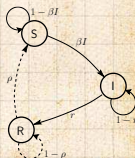
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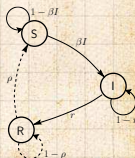
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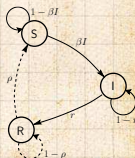
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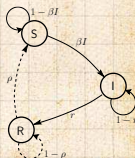
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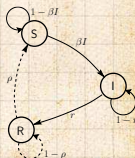
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# The spread of fanaticism

Hoffer's most famous work: "The True Believer:  
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(1951)<sup>[11]</sup>

## Aphorisms-aplenty:

- "We can be absolutely certain only about things we do not understand."
- "Mass movements can rise and spread without belief in a God, but never without belief in a devil."
- "Where freedom is real, equality is the passion of the masses. Where equality is real, freedom is the passion of a small minority."

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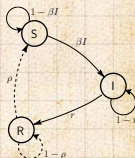
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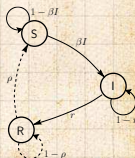
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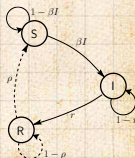
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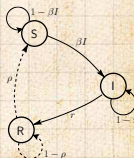
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# The spread of fanaticism

Hoffer's most famous work: "The True Believer: Thoughts On The Nature Of Mass Movements" (1951)<sup>[11]</sup>

## Aphorisms-aplenty:

- ☰ "We can be absolutely certain only about things we do not understand."
- ☰ "Mass movements can rise and spread without belief in a God, but never without belief in a devil."
- ☰ "Where freedom is real, equality is the passion of the masses. Where equality is real, freedom is the passion of a small minority."

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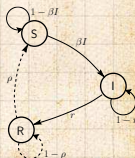
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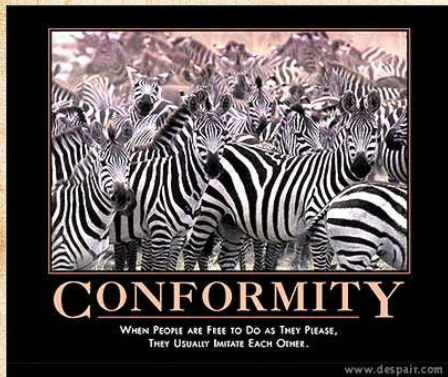
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despair.com

“When people are free to do as they please, they usually imitate each other.”

—Eric Hoffer  
“The Passionate State of Mind” [12]

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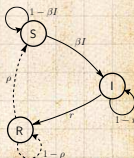
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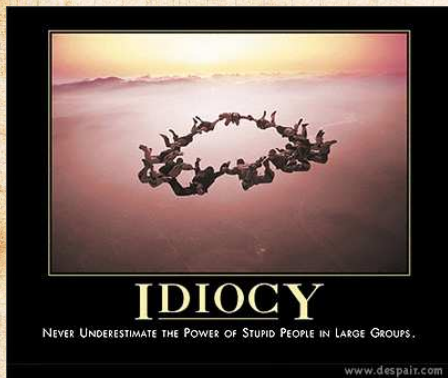
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# The collective...

PoCS | @pocsvox

Biological  
Contagion



despair.com

“Never Underestimate the Power of Stupid People in Large Groups.”

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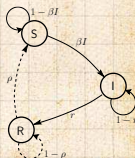
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# Examples of non-disease spreading:

PoCS | @pocsvox

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## Interesting infections:

 Spreading of certain buildings in the US:

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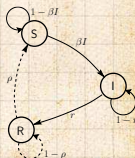
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 [2008 Viral get-out-the-vote video.](#) 



# Marbleization of the US:

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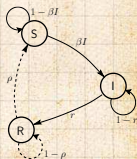
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# The most terrifying contagious outbreak?

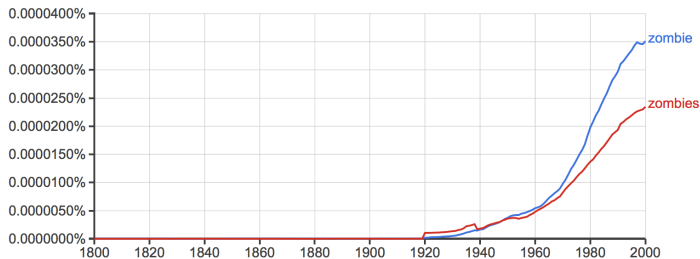
PoCS | @pocsvox

Biological  
Contagion

## Google books Ngram Viewer

Graph these comma-separated phrases:   case-insensitive

between  and  from the corpus  with smoothing of  [Search lots of books](#)



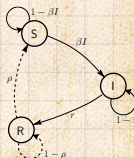
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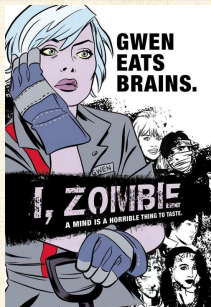
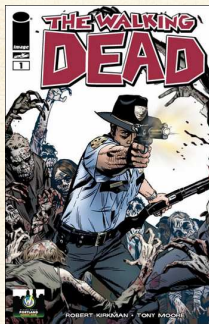
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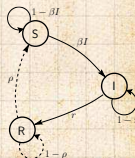
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## Definitions

- ☞ (1) The spreading of a quality or quantity between individuals in a population.
- ☞ (2) A disease itself: the plague, a blight, the dreaded lurgi, ...
- ☞ from Latin: *con* = 'together with' + *tangere* 'to touch.'
- ☞ Contagion has unpleasant overtones...
- ☞ Just **Spreading** might be a more neutral word
- ☞ But contagion is kind of exciting...

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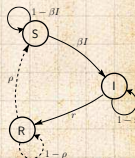
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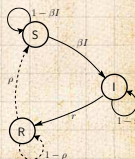
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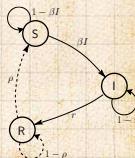
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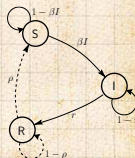
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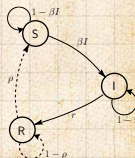
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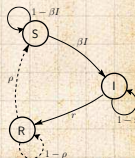
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## Two main classes of contagion

1. Infectious diseases

2. Social contagion

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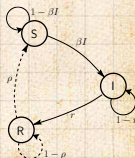
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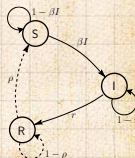
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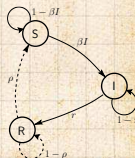
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## Two main classes of contagion

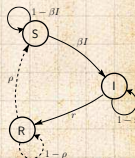
1. **Infectious diseases:**  
tuberculosis, HIV, ebola, SARS, influenza, zombification, ...
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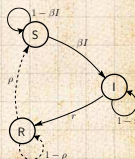
1. **Infectious diseases:**  
tuberculosis, HIV, ebola, SARS, influenza, zombification, ...
2. **Social contagion:**  
fashion, word usage, rumors, uprisings, religion, stories about zombies, ...

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# Archival footage from the Black Plague

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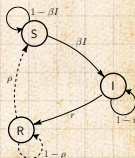
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# Community—S2E6: Epidemiology

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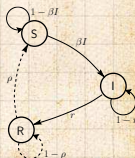
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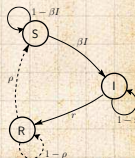
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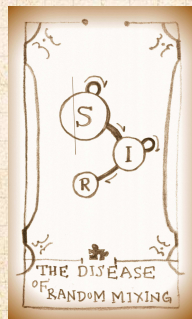
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## The standard SIR model <sup>[17]</sup>

🔗 = basic model of disease contagion

🔗 Three states:

1. S = Susceptible

2. I = Infective/Infectious

3. R = Recovered, or Removed, or Refractory

🔗  $S(t) + I(t) + R(t) = 1$

🔗 Presumes random interactions (mass-action principle)

🔗 Interactions are independent (no memory)

🔗 Discrete and continuous time versions

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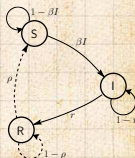
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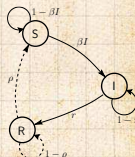
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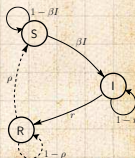
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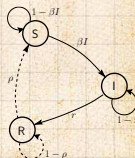
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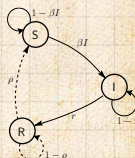
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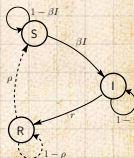
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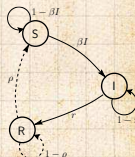
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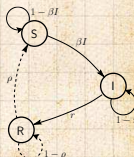
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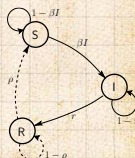
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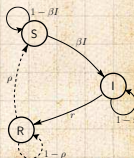
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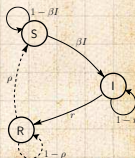
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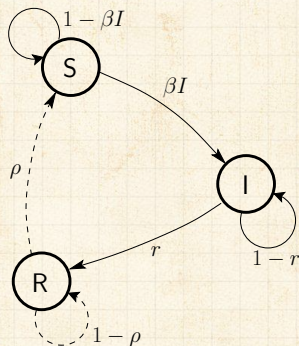
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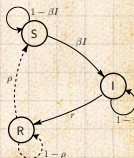
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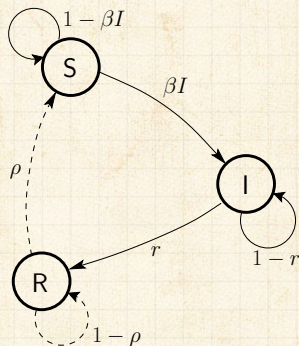
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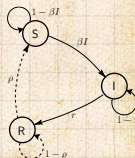
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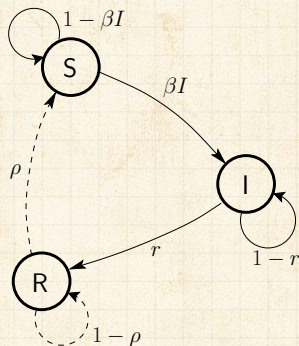
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## Discrete time automata example:



Transition Probabilities:

$\beta$  for being infected given contact with infected

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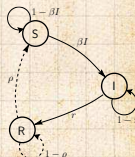
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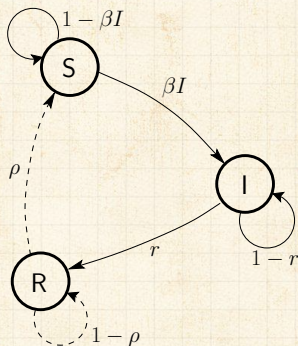
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## Discrete time automata example:



Transition Probabilities:

$\beta$  for being infected given contact with infected  
 $r$  for recovery

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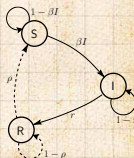
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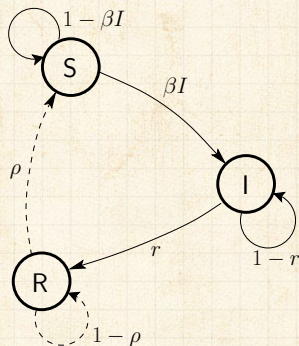
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## Discrete time automata example:



### Transition Probabilities:

$\beta$  for being infected given contact with infected

$r$  for recovery

$\rho$  for loss of immunity

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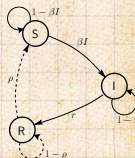
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## Original models attributed to

- 1920's: Reed and Frost
- 1920's/1930's: Kermack and McKendrick [10, 15, 14]
- Coupled differential equations with a mass-action principle

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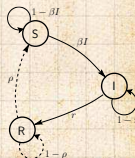
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Coupled differential equations with a mass-action principle

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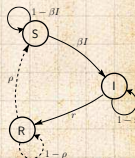
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Coupled differential equations with a mass-action principle

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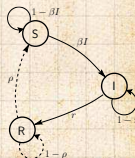
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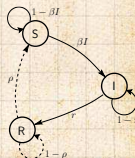
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## Differential equations for continuous model

$$\frac{d}{dt}S = -\beta IS + \rho R$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}I = \beta IS - rI$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}R = rI - \rho R$$

$\beta$ ,  $r$ , and  $\rho$  are now **rates**.

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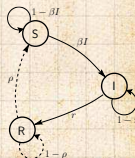
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# Reproduction Number $R_0$

## Reproduction Number $R_0$

- $R_0$  = expected number of infected individuals resulting from a single initial infective
- Epidemic threshold: If  $R_0 > 1$ , 'epidemic' occurs.
- Exponential take off:  $R_0^n$  where  $n$  is the number of generations.
- Fantastically awful notation convention:  $R_0$  and the  $R$  in  $SIR$ .

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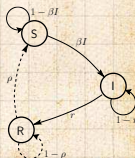
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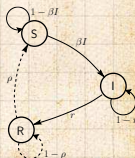
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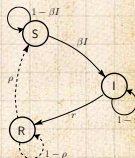
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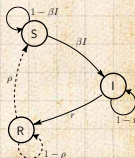
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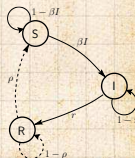
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# Reproduction Number $R_0$

## Discrete version:

- Set up: One Infective in a randomly mixing population of Susceptibles
- At time  $t = 0$ , single infective random bumps into a Susceptible
- Probability of transmission =  $\beta$
- At time  $t = 1$ , single Infective remains infected with probability  $1 - r$
- At time  $t = k$ , single Infective remains infected with probability  $(1 - r)^k$

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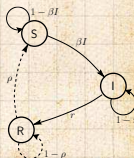
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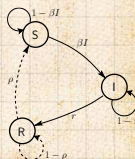
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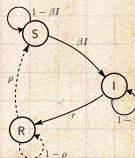
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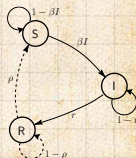
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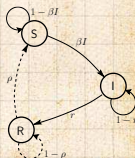
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# Reproduction Number $R_0$

Discrete version:

 Expected number infected by original infective:

$$R_0 = \beta + (1 - r)\beta + (1 - r)^2\beta + (1 - r)^3\beta + \dots$$

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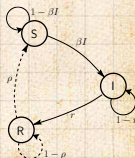
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# Reproduction Number $R_0$

Discrete version:

 Expected number infected by original infective:

$$R_0 = \beta + (1 - r)\beta + (1 - r)^2\beta + (1 - r)^3\beta + \dots$$

$$= \beta(1 + (1 - r) + (1 - r)^2 + (1 - r)^3 + \dots)$$

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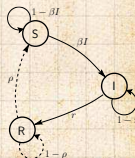
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Discrete version:

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$$R_0 = \beta + (1 - r)\beta + (1 - r)^2\beta + (1 - r)^3\beta + \dots$$

$$= \beta(1 + (1 - r) + (1 - r)^2 + (1 - r)^3 + \dots)$$

$$= \beta \frac{1}{1 - (1 - r)}$$

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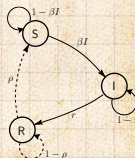
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Discrete version:

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$$= \beta(1 + (1 - r) + (1 - r)^2 + (1 - r)^3 + \dots)$$

$$= \beta \frac{1}{1 - (1 - r)} = \beta/r$$

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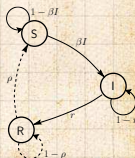
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Discrete version:

 Expected number infected by original infective:

$$R_0 = \beta + (1 - r)\beta + (1 - r)^2\beta + (1 - r)^3\beta + \dots$$

$$= \beta(1 + (1 - r) + (1 - r)^2 + (1 - r)^3 + \dots)$$

$$= \beta \frac{1}{1 - (1 - r)} = \beta/r$$

For  $S(0) \approx 1$  initial susceptibles

$(1 - S(0) = R(0) =$  fraction initially immune):

$$R_0 = S(0)\beta/r$$

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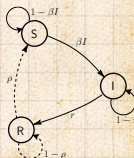
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# Independent Interaction models

For the continuous version

 Second equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}I = \beta SI - rI$$

 Number of infectives grows initially if

$$\beta S(0) - r > 0$$

where  $S(0) \simeq 1$ .

 Same story as for discrete model.

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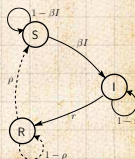
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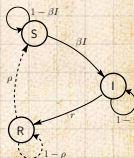
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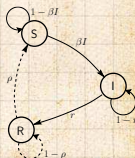
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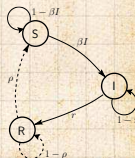
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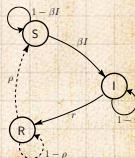
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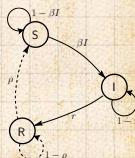
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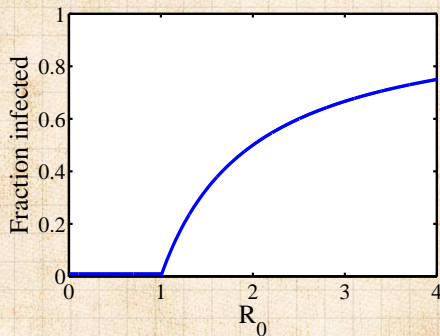
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Example of epidemic threshold:



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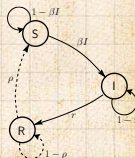
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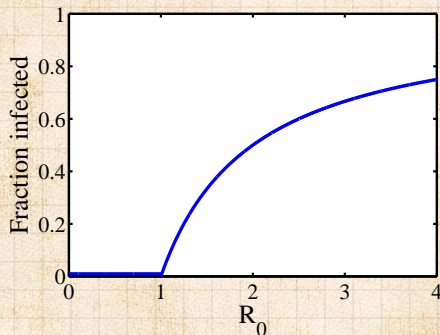
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Example of epidemic threshold:



Continuous phase transition.

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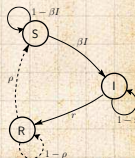
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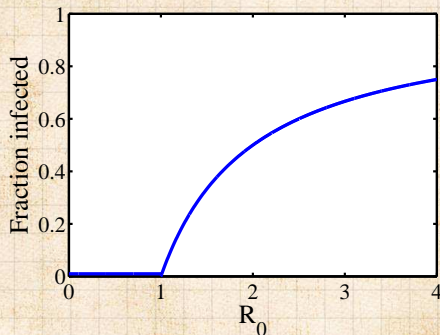
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Example of epidemic threshold:



 Continuous phase transition.

 Fine idea from a simple model.

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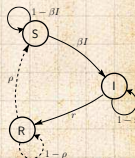
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## Many variants of the SIR model:

- **SIS**: susceptible-infective-susceptible
- **SIRS**: susceptible-infective-recovered-susceptible
- compartment models (age or gender partitions)
- more categories such as 'exposed' (**SEIRS**)
- recruitment (migration, birth)

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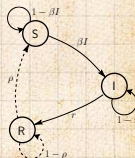
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Many variants of the SIR model:

-  **SIS**: susceptible-infective-susceptible
-  **SIRS**: susceptible-infective-recovered-susceptible
-  compartment models (age or gender partitions)
-  more categories such as 'exposed' (**SEIRS**)
-  recruitment (migration, birth)

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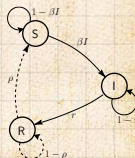
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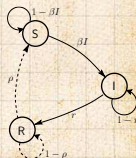
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# Independent Interaction models

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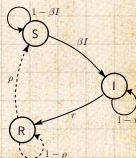
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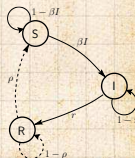
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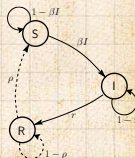
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Watch someone else pretend to save the world:

PoCS | @pocsvox

Biological Contagion



MARION COTILLARD MATT DAMON LAURENCE FISHBURNE JUDE LAW GWYNETH PALTROW KATE WINSLET

# NOTHING SPREADS LIKE FEAR

# CONTAGION



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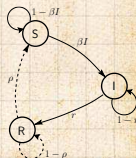
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Save the world yourself: 



PoCS | @pocsvox

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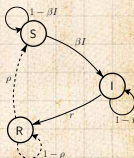
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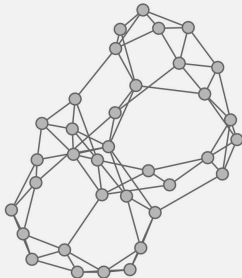


 And you can be the virus. 

 Also contagious?: Cooperative games ...



## Lesson 4: Quarantine



Vaccines take time to 'kick in' so they're ineffective if an infection has already begun to spread.

Start >

VAX!

Networks

Epidemics

Vaccines

Quarantine

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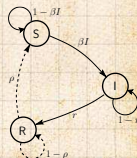
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PoCS | @pocsvox

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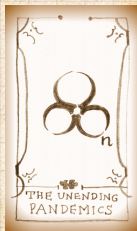
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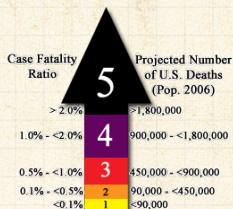
## References





# Pandemic severity index (PSI)

 Classification during/post pandemic:



Assumes 30% illness rate  
and unmitigated pandemic  
without interventions

CDC

U.S. Gov.



Category based.



1-5 scale.



Modeled on the

Saffir-Simpson hurricane  
scale 

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2. How important is the reproduction number  $R_0$ ?

$R_0$  approximately same for all of the following:

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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,  
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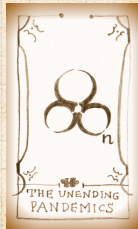
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## Size distributions are important elsewhere:

- ☼ earthquakes (Gutenberg-Richter law)
- ☼ city sizes, forest fires, war fatalities
- ☼ wealth distributions
- ☼ 'popularity' (books, music, websites, ideas)
- ☼ Epidemics?

## Really, what about epidemics?

- ☼ Simply hasn't attracted much attention.
- ☼ Data not as clean as for other phenomena.

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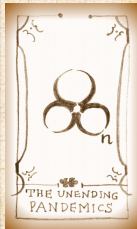
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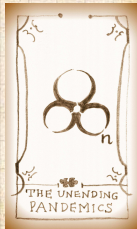
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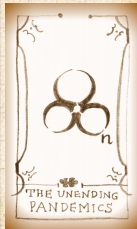
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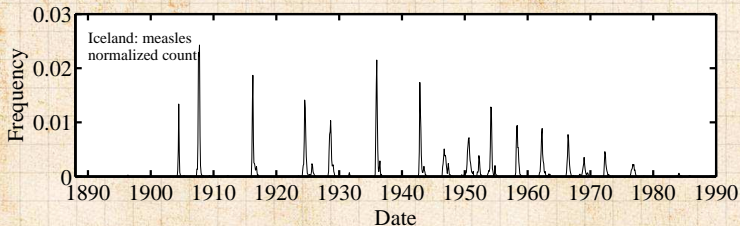
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## Caseload recorded monthly for range of diseases in Iceland, 1888-1990



Treat outbreaks separated in time as 'novel' diseases.

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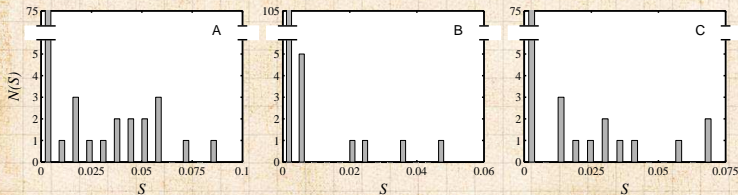
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### References



# Really not so good at all in Iceland

Epidemic size distributions  $N(S)$  for  
Measles, Rubella, and Whooping Cough.



Spike near  $S = 0$ , relatively flat otherwise.

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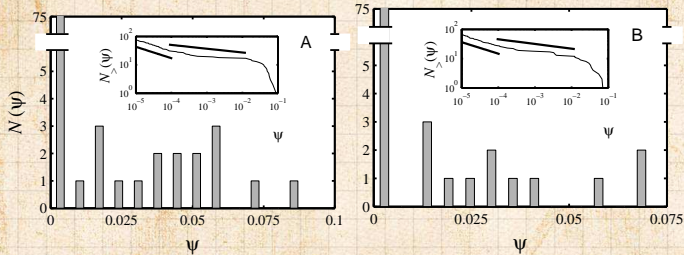
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# Measles & Pertussis

PoCS | @pocsvox

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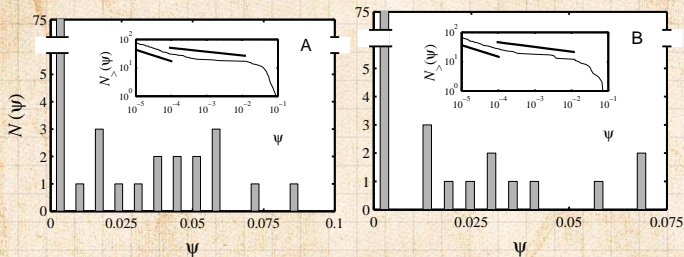
References



# Measles & Pertussis

PoCS | @pocsvox

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Insert plots:

Complementary cumulative frequency distributions:

$$N(\Psi' > \Psi) \propto \Psi^{-\gamma+1}$$

Limited scaling with a possible break.

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## Measured values of $\gamma$ :

🦠 measles: 1.40 (low  $\Psi$ ) and 1.13 (high  $\Psi$ )

🦠 pertussis: 1.39 (low  $\Psi$ ) and 1.16 (high  $\Psi$ )

🦠 Expect  $2 \leq \gamma < 3$  (finite mean, infinite variance)

🦠 When  $\gamma < 1$ , can't normalize

🦠 Distribution is quite fat.

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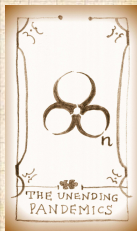
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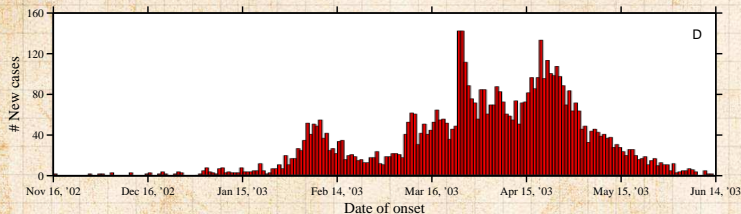
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# Resurgence—example of SARS

PoCS | @pocsvox

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 Epidemic slows...

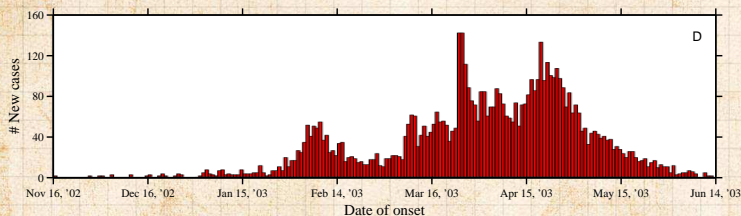
 Epidemic discovers new 'pools' of susceptibles:  
Resurgence

 Importance of rare, stochastic events

# Resurgence—example of SARS

PoCS | @pocsvox

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Epidemic slows...



Epidemic discovers new 'pools' of susceptibles:

Resurgence



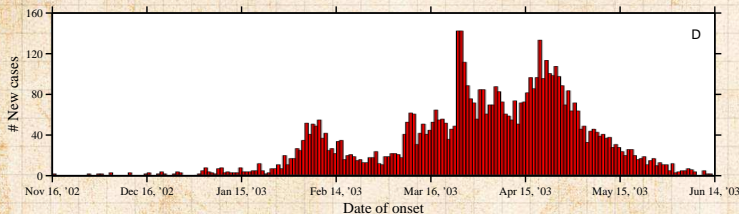
importance of rare, stochastic events



# Resurgence—example of SARS

PoCS | @pocsvox

Biological  
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Epidemic slows...

then an infective moves to a new context.



Epidemic discovers new 'pools' of susceptibles:

Resurgence



importance of rare, stochastic events

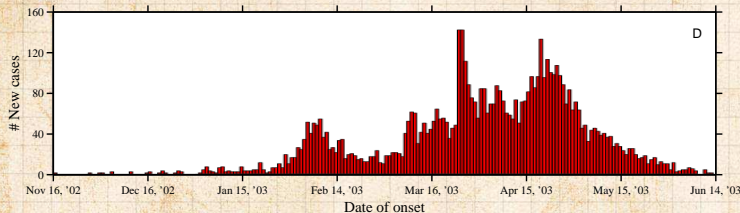




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Epidemic discovers new 'pools' of susceptibles:  
**Resurgence.**



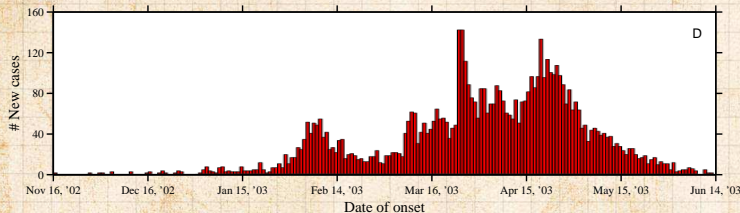
Resurgence of rare, stochastic events.



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**Importance of rare, stochastic events.**

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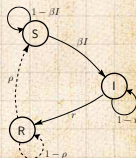
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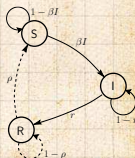
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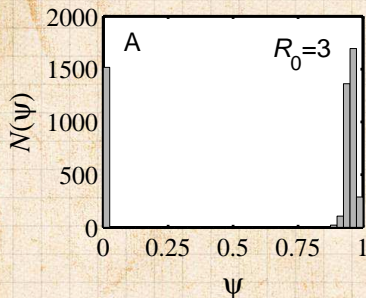
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So... can a simple model produce

1. **broad epidemic distributions**  
and
2. **resurgence ?**



# Size distributions



Simple models  
typically produce  
**bimodal** or **unimodal**  
size distributions.

 This **includes** network models:  
random, small-world, scale-free, ...

 Exceptions:

1. Forest fire models
2. Sophisticated metapopulation models

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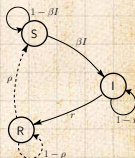
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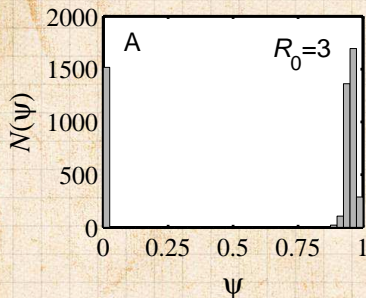
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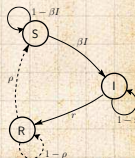
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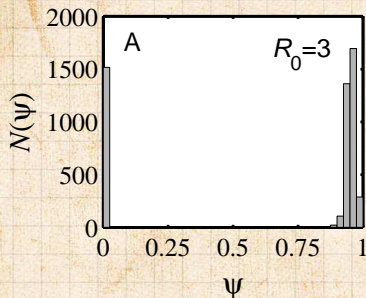
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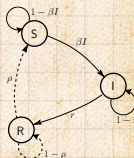
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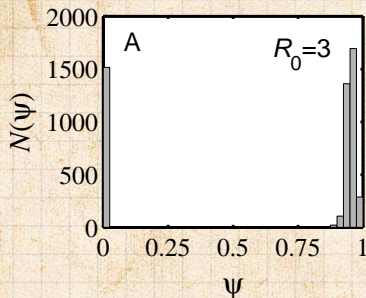
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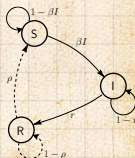
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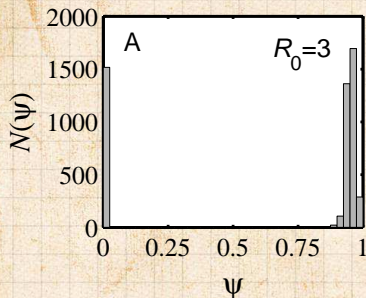
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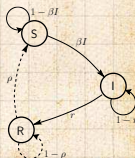
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# Burning through the population

PoCS | @pocsvox

Biological  
Contagion

## Forest fire models: [18]

1. Rhodes & Anderson, 1996

2. The physicist's approach:

"if it works for magnets, it'll work for people..."

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IT AS A SIMPLE OBJECT, AND THEN ADD  
SOME SECONDARY TERMS TO ACCOUNT FOR  
COMPLICATIONS & BUILT-IN VARIATION.

OH, RIGHT?  
SO WHY DOES YOUR FIELD NEED  
A WHOLE JOURNAL, ANYWAY?



LIBERAL-ARTS PHYSICS MAY BE ANNOYING SOMETIMES,  
BUT THERE'S NOTHING MORE DANGEROUS THAN  
A PHYSICIST FIRST ENGINEERING A NEW SUBJECT.




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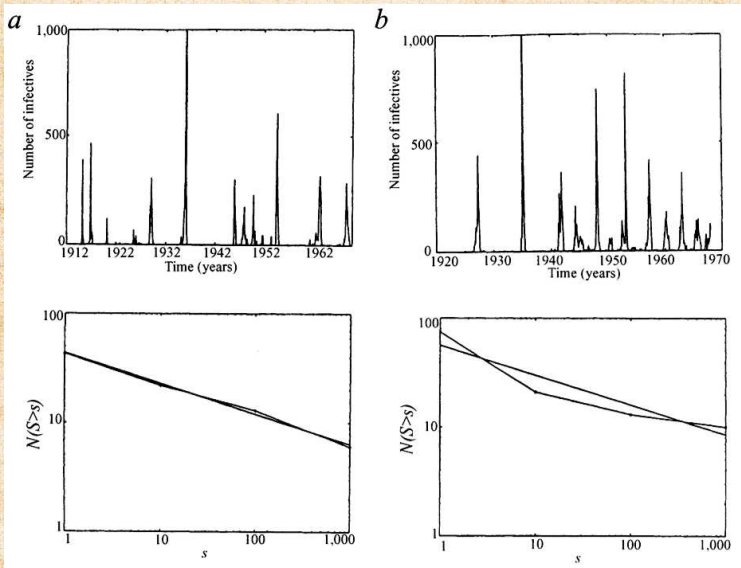
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# Size distributions



From Rhodes and Anderson, 1996.

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# Sophisticated metapopulation models:

- ☰ Multiscale models suggested earlier by others but not formalized (Bailey <sup>[1]</sup>, Cliff and Haggett <sup>[5]</sup>, Ferguson et al.)
- ☰ Community based mixing (two scales)—Longini. <sup>[16]</sup>
- ☰ Eubank et al.'s EpiSims/TRANSIMS —city simulations. <sup>[8]</sup>
- ☰ Spreading through countries—Airlines: Germann et al., Colizza et al. <sup>[6]</sup>

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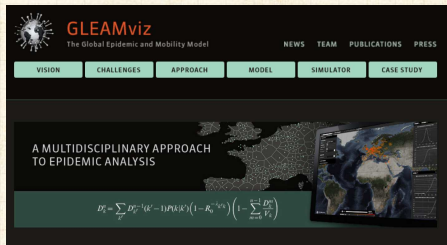
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**GLEAMviz**  
The Global Epidemic and Mobility Model

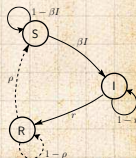
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VISION CHALLENGES APPROACH MODEL SIMULATOR CASE STUDY

A MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH  
TO EPIDEMIC ANALYSIS

$$D_t^c = \sum_{k=1}^K D_{t-1}^{c,k} (k-1) P(k|k^c) (1 - R_{t-1}^{c,k}) \left( 1 - \sum_{l=1}^L \frac{D_{t-1}^{c,l}}{P_l} \right)$$

☰ GLEAM :  
Global  
pandemic  
simulations by  
Vespignani et  
al.



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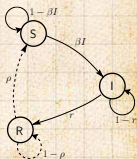
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 Vital work but perhaps hard to generalize from...

  $\Rightarrow$  Create a simple model involving multiscale travel

 Very big question: *What is  $N$ ?*

 Should we model SARS in Hong Kong as spreading in a neighborhood, in Hong Kong, Asia, or the world?

 For simple models, we need to know the final size beforehand...

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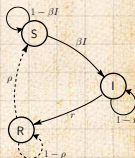
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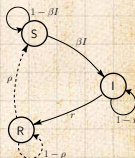
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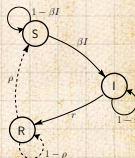
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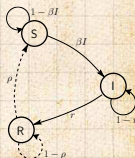
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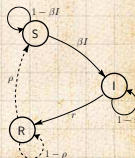
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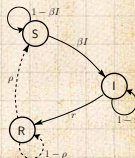
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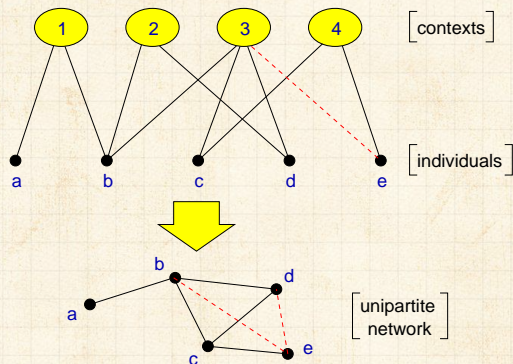
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## Contexts and Identities—Bipartite networks



- boards of directors
- movies
- transportation modes (subway)

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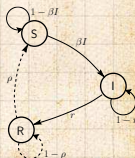
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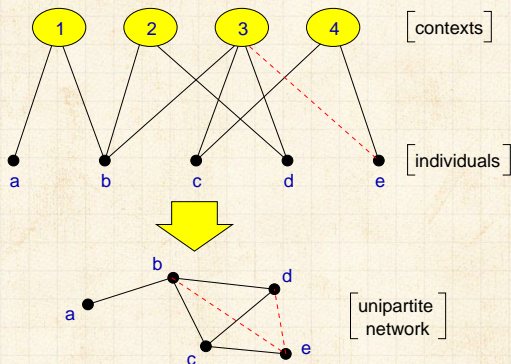
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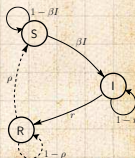
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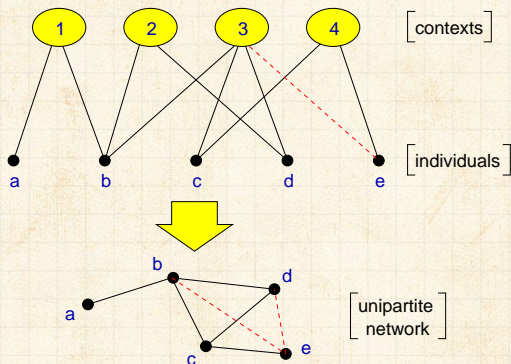
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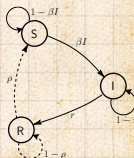
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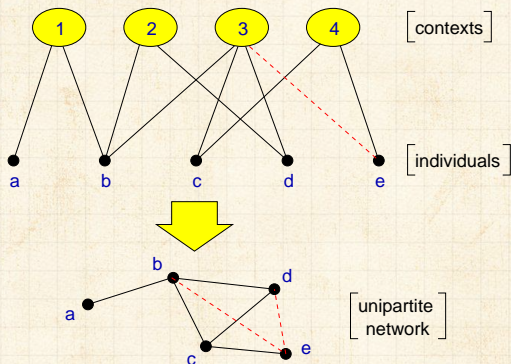
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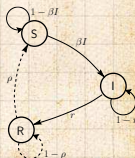
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# Improving simple models

## 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. [22]

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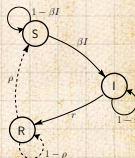
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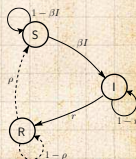
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- formed by people with at least one similar attribute
- Attributes  $\leftrightarrow$  Contexts  $\leftrightarrow$  Interactions  $\leftrightarrow$  Networks. [22]

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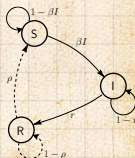
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# Improving simple models

Idea for social networks: incorporate identity

Identity is formed from attributes such as:

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

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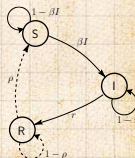
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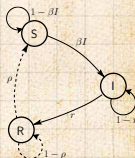
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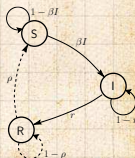
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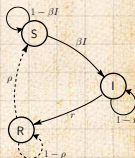
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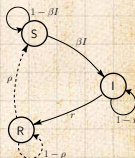
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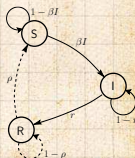
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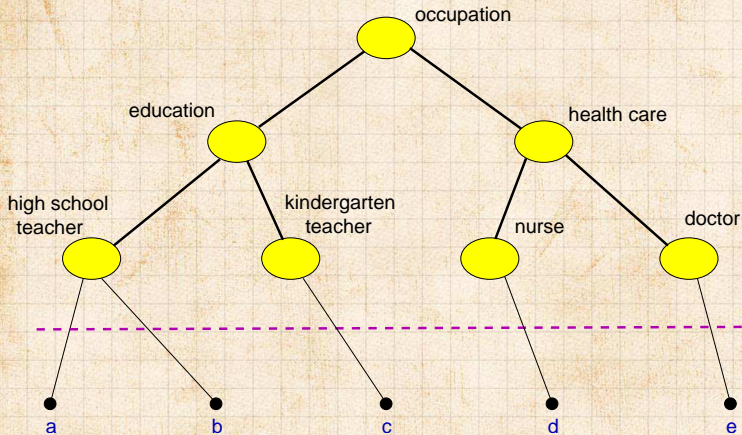
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# Infer interactions/network from identities

PoCS | @pocsvox

Biological  
Contagion



Distance makes sense in identity/context space.

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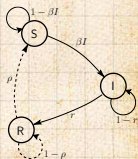
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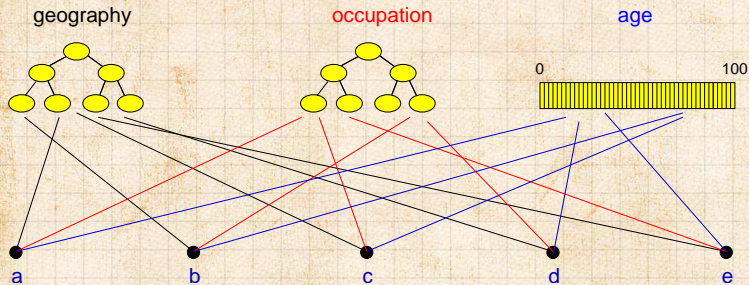
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# Generalized context space



(Blau & Schwartz <sup>[3]</sup>, Simmel <sup>[19]</sup>, Breiger <sup>[4]</sup>)

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# A toy agent-based model:



“Multiscale, resurgent epidemics in a hierarchical metapopulation model” ↗

Watts et al.,  
Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., **102**, 11157–11162,  
2005. [23]

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

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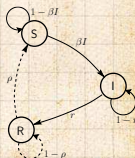
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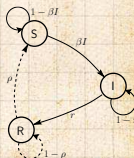
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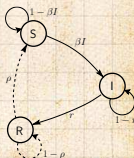
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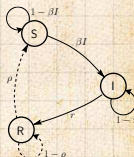
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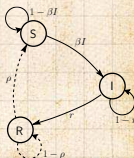
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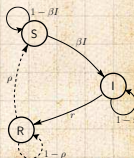
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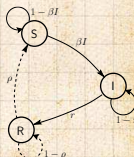
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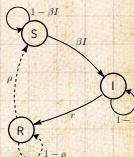
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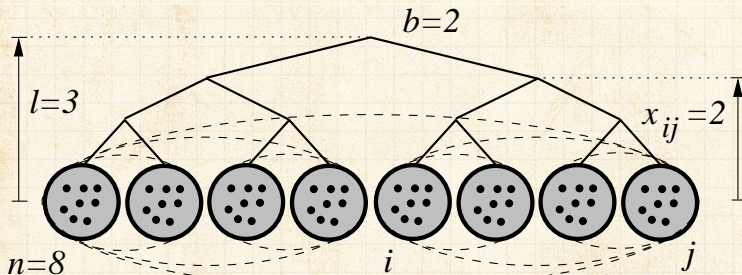
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# A toy agent-based model

## Schematic:



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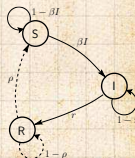
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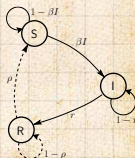
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Define  $P_0$  = Expected number of infected individuals **leaving** initially infected context.



Need  $P_0 > 1$  for disease to spread (independent of  $R_0$ ).



Limit epidemic size by restricting frequency of travel and/or range

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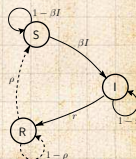
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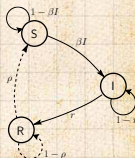
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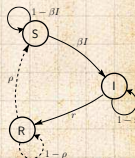
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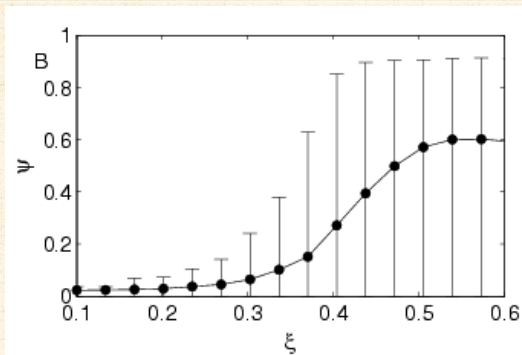
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Varying  $\xi$ :



Transition in expected final size based on typical movement distance

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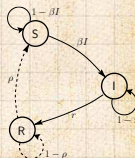
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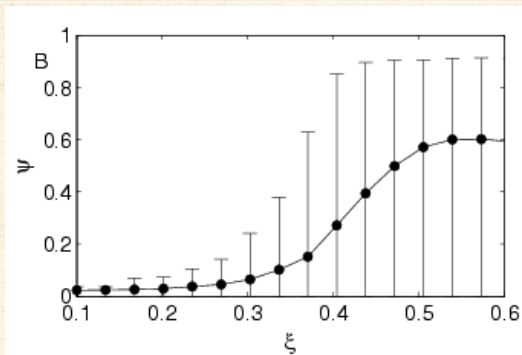
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Varying  $\xi$ :



Transition in expected final size based on typical movement distance (**sensible**)

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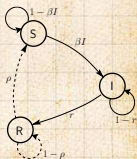
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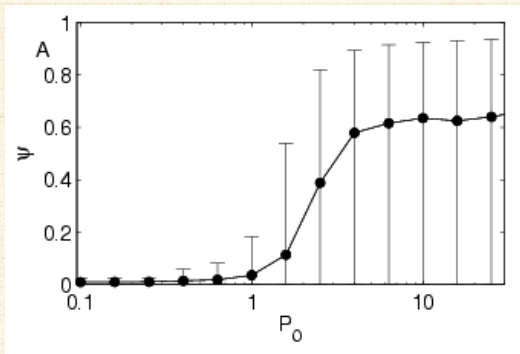
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# Model output

Varying  $P_0$ :



Transition in expected final size based on typical number of infectives leaving first group



Travel advisories:  $\epsilon$  has larger effect than  $P_0$ .

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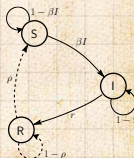
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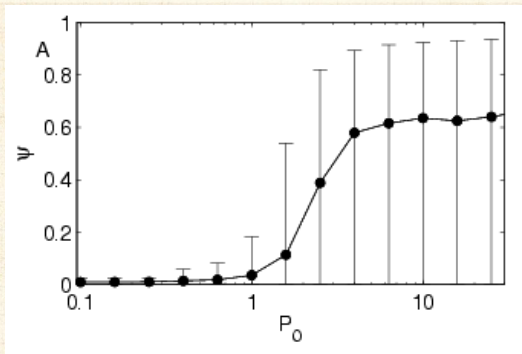
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# Model output

Varying  $P_0$ :



Transition in expected final size based on typical number of infectives leaving first group (also sensible)



Travel advisories:  $\epsilon$  has larger effect than  $P_0$ .

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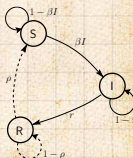
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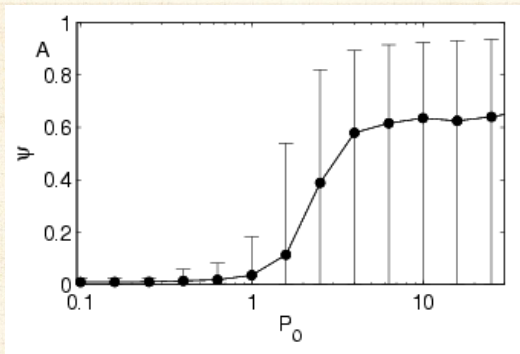
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# Model output

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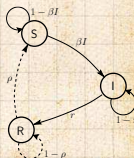
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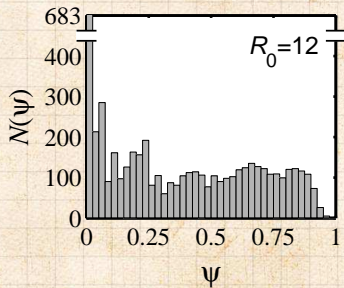
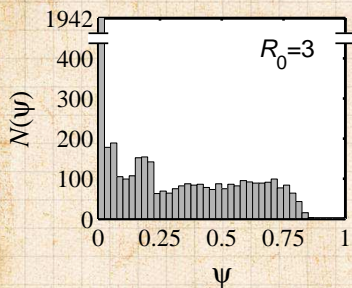
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# Example model output: size distributions



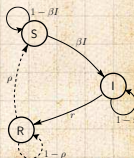
- Flat distributions are possible for certain  $\xi$  and  $P$ .
- Different  $R_0$ 's may produce similar distributions
- Same epidemic sizes may arise from different  $R_0$ 's

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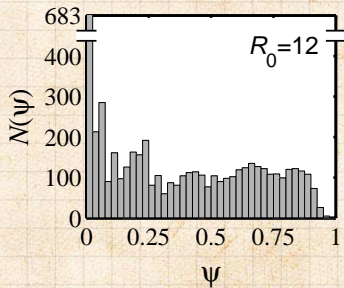
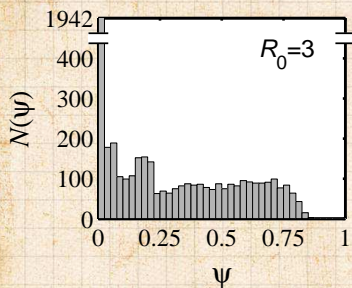
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# Example model output: size distributions



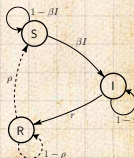
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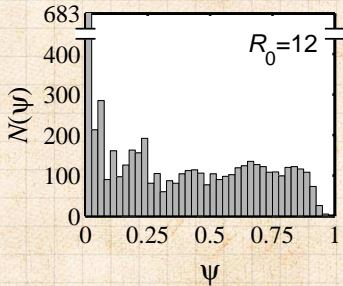
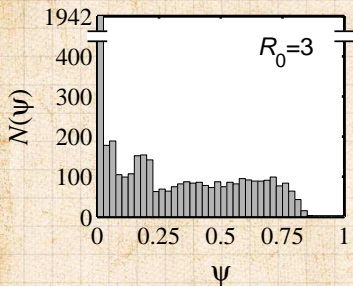
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# Example model output: size distributions



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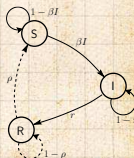
**Model output**

Nutshell

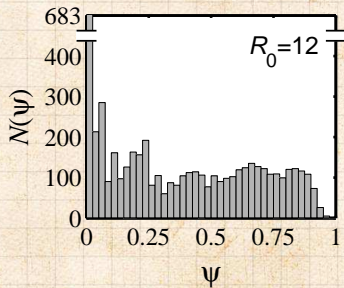
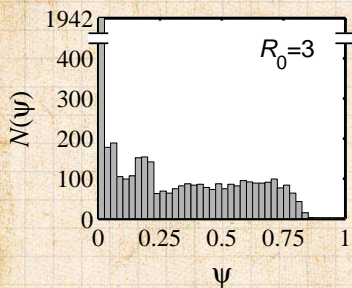
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# Example model output: size distributions



- 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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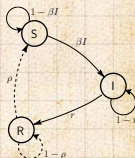
**Model output**

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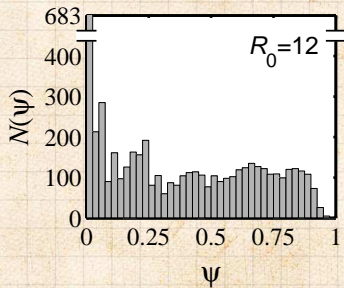
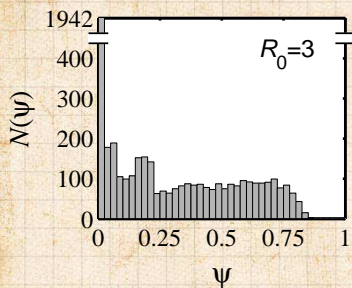
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# Example model output: size distributions



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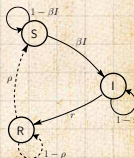
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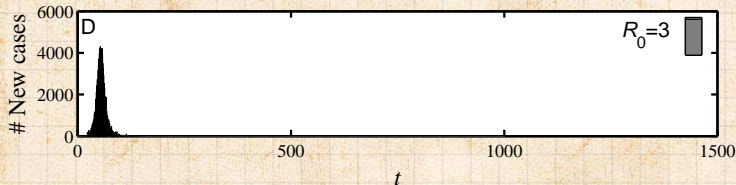


# Model output—resurgence

PoCS | @pocsvox

Biological  
Contagion

Standard model:



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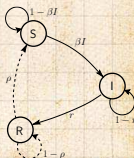
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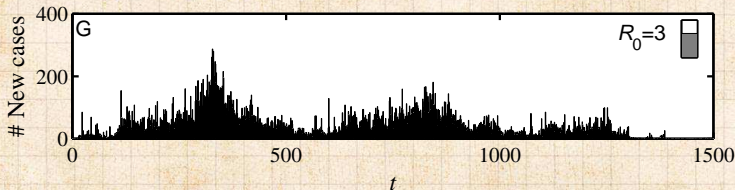
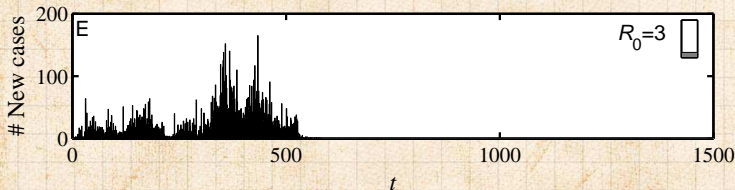
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# Model output—resurgence

## Standard model with transport:



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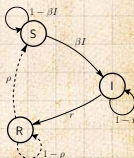
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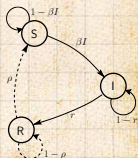
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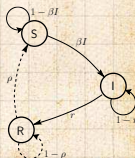
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# The upshot

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+

broad epidemic size distributions

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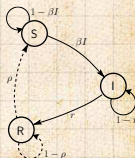
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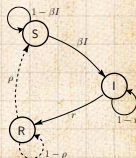
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## References



- For the hierarchical movement model, epidemic size is highly unpredictable
- Model is more complicated than SIR but still simple.
- We haven't even included normal social responses such as travel bans and self-quarantine.
- The reproduction number  $R_0$  is not terribly useful.
- $R_0$ , however measured, is not informative about how likely the observed outbreak was, or how likely future outbreaks will be.
- Problem:  $R_0$  summarises one epidemic after the fact and enfolds movement, the price of bananas, everything.

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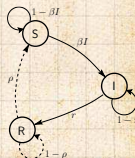
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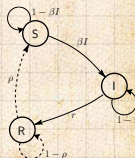
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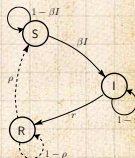
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how long the outbreak will last or how many people will be

infected or how likely future outbreaks will be.

- Problem:  $R_0$  summarises one epidemic after the fact and enfolds movement, the price of bananas, everything.

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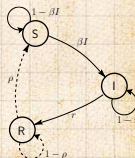
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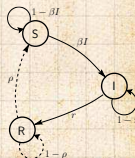
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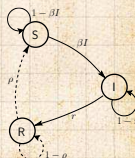
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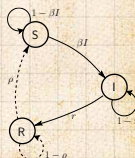
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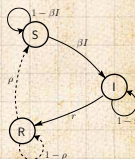
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 Disease's spread is highly sensitive to population structure.

 Rare events may matter enormously.

 More support for controlling population movement:

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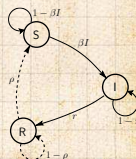
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🧱 Disease's spread is highly sensitive to population structure.

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🧱 More support for controlling population movement:

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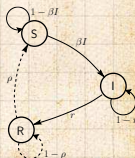
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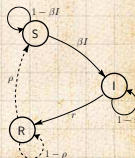
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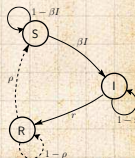
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## References



- ❏ Disease's spread is highly sensitive to population structure.
- ❏ Rare events may matter enormously: e.g., an infected individual taking an international flight.
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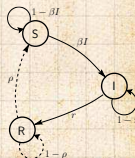
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## What to do:

- Need to separate movement from disease
- $R_0$  needs a friend or two.
- Need  $R_0 > 1$  and  $P_0 > 1$  and  $\xi$  sufficiently large for disease to have a chance of spreading
- And in general: keep building up the kitchen sink models.

## More wondering:

- Exactly how important are rare events in disease spreading?
- Again, what is  $\lambda$ ?

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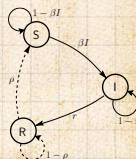
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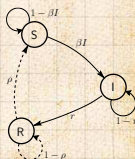
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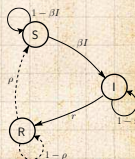
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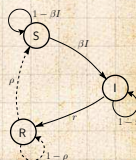
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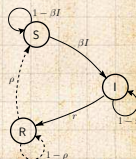
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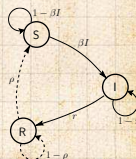
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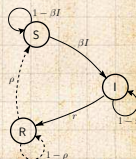
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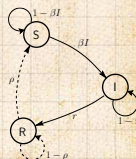
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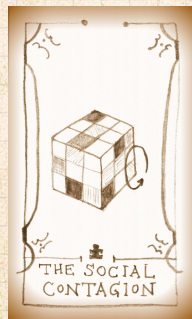
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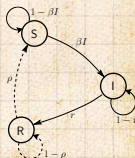
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Krugman, 1998: "Why most economists' predictions are wrong."



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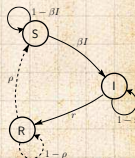
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Krugman, 1998: "Why most economists' predictions are wrong."

"The growth of the Internet will slow drastically, as the flaw in "Metcalfe's law"—



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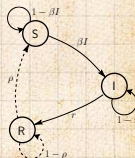
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## Krugman, 1998: "Why most economists' predictions are wrong."

"The growth of the Internet will slow drastically, as the flaw in "Metcalfe's law"—which states that the number of potential connections in a network is proportional to the square of the number of participants—



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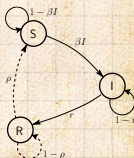
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## Krugman, 1998: "Why most economists' predictions are wrong."



"The growth of the Internet will slow drastically, as the flaw in "Metcalfe's law"—which states that the number of potential connections in a network is proportional to the square of the number of participants—becomes apparent:

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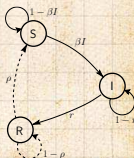
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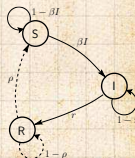
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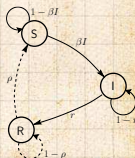
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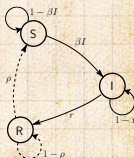
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<sup>1</sup><http://www.redherring.com/mag/issue55/economics.html>

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"I've been dealing with these big mathematical models of forecasting the economy ...

If I could figure out a way to determine whether or not people are more fearful or changing to more euphoric, I don't need any of this other stuff.

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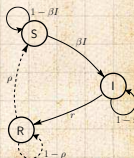
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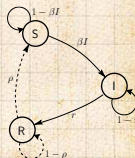
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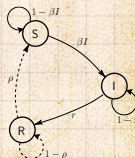
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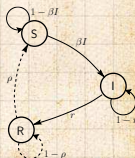
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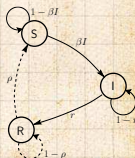
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## Greenspan continues:

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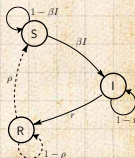
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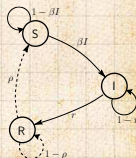
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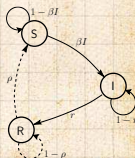
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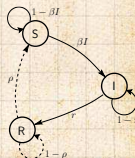
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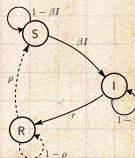
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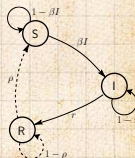
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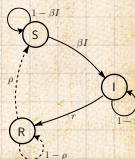
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Jon Stewart:

"You just bummed the @\*!# out of me."



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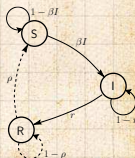
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From the Daily Show [↗](#) (September 18, 2007)



The full interview is here [↗](#).



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...humbled Mr. Greenspan admitted that he had put too much faith in the self-correcting power of free markets ...

"Those of us who have looked to the self-interest of lending institutions to protect shareholders' equity, myself included, are in a state of shocked disbelief"

Rep. Henry A. Waxman: "Do you feel that your ideology pushed you to make decisions that you wish you had not made?"

Mr. Greenspan conceded: "Yes, I've found a flaw. I don't know how significant or permanent it is. But I've been very distressed by that fact."

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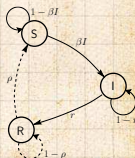
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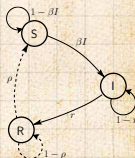
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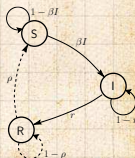
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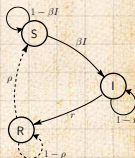
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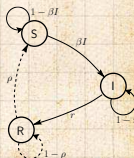
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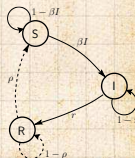
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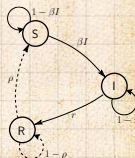
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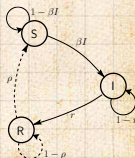
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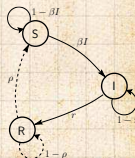
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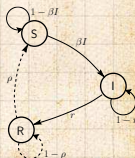
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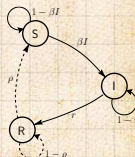
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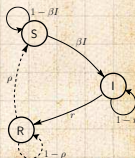
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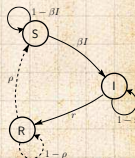
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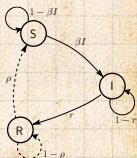
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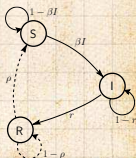
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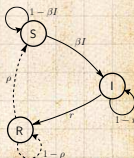
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-  Next up: Thresholds.

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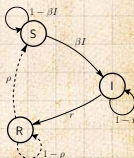
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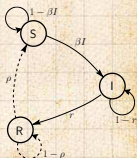
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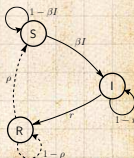
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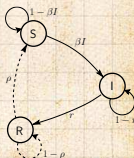
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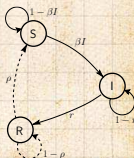
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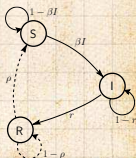
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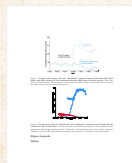
# We really should know social contagion is different but ...



"It's contagious: Rethinking a metaphor dialogically" ↗

Warren and Power,  
Culture & Psychology, **21**, 359–379,  
2015. [21]

📰 "Facebook will lose 80% of users by 2017, say Princeton researchers" ↗ (Guardian, 2014)



"Epidemiological modeling of online social network dynamics" ↗

Spechler and Cannarella,  
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<http://arxiv.org/abs/1401.4208>, 2014. [20]

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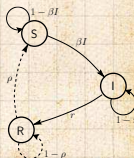
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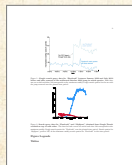



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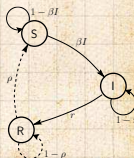
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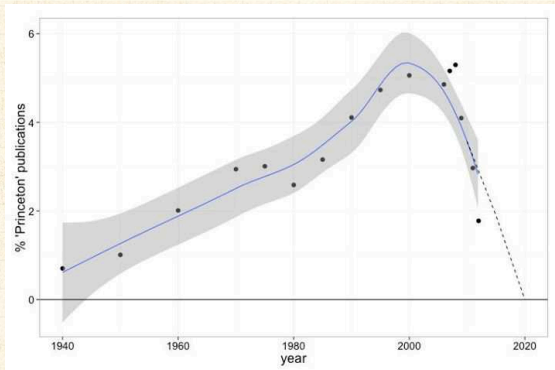
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# The Facebook Data Science team's response



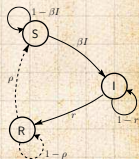
Mike Develin, Lada Adamic, and Sean Taylor.



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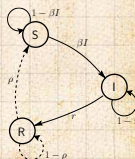
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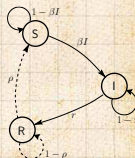
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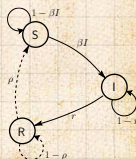
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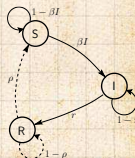
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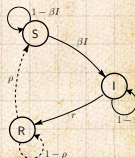
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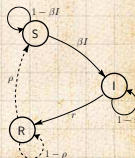
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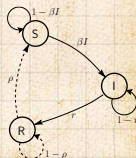
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