

# Biological Contagion

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Principles of Complex Systems, Vols. 1, 2, & 3D  
CSYS/MATH 300, 303, & 394, 2022-2023 | @pocsvox

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



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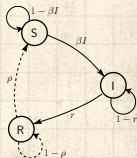
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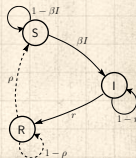
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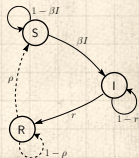
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 On Instagram at [pratchett\\_the\\_cat](https://www.instagram.com/pratchett_the_cat) 

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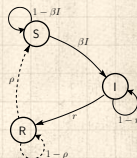
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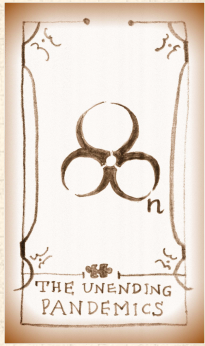
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# An awful recording: Wikipedia's list of epidemics from 430 BC on.

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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](#).

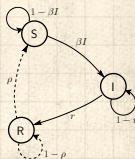
Death toll (estimate)	Location	Date	Comment	Disease	Reference
ca. 75,000 - 100,000	Greece	429–426 BC	Known as <b>Plague of Athens</b> , because it was primarily in Athens.	unknown, similar to typhoid	
ca. 30% of population	Europe, Western Asia, Northern Africa	165–180	Known as <b>Antonine Plague</b> , 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	[3][4]
2 - 2.5 million (50% of population)	Mexico	1576	Cocoliztli	viral hemorrhagic fever	[5][6]
	Seneca nation	1592–1596		measles	[9]

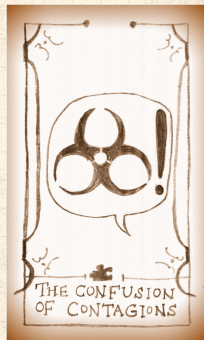


Plague panel with the triumph of death, 1657–58, Deutsches Historisches Museum Berlin



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







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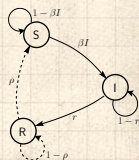
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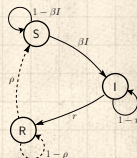
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 Did Harry Potter spread like a virus?



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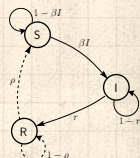
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## A confusion of contagions:

 Did Harry Potter spread like a virus?

 Can disinformation be “infectious”?



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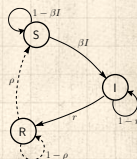
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- Can disinformation be “infectious”?
- Suicide, violence?



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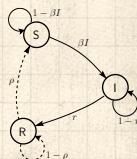
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- Morality? Evil? Laziness? Stupidity? Happiness?



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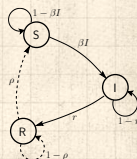
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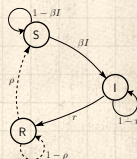
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- Did Harry Potter spread like a virus?
- Can disinformation be “infectious”?
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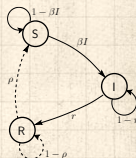
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- Did Harry Potter spread like a virus?
- Can disinformation be “infectious”?
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- Language? The alphabet? <sup>[10]</sup>





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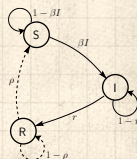
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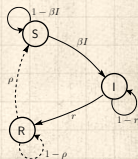
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 "The feeling was contagious."

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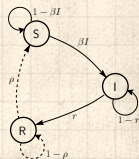
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 "The feeling was contagious."

 "The news spread like wildfire."

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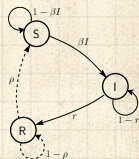
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"The feeling was contagious."



"The news spread like wildfire."



"Freedom is the most contagious virus known to man."

—Hubert H. Humphrey, Johnson's vice president

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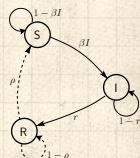
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- “Nothing is so contagious as enthusiasm.”  
—Samuel Taylor Coleridge

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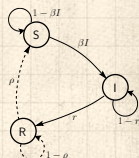
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## Optimism according to Ambrose Bierce:

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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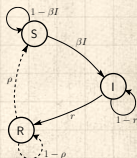
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- “The news spread like wildfire.”
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## Optimism according to Ambrose Bierce:

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

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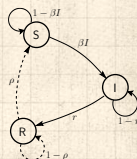
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Eric Hoffer, 1902–1983

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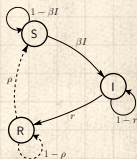
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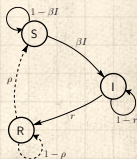
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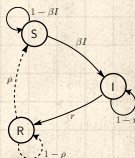
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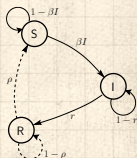
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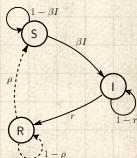
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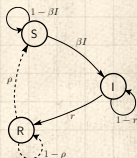
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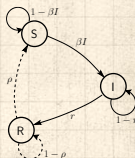
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 Hoffer  was an interesting fellow...

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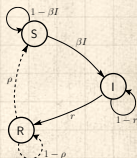
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# The spread of fanaticism

Hoffer's most famous work: "**The True Believer:**  
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(1951)<sup>[12]</sup>

Aphorisms-aplenty:

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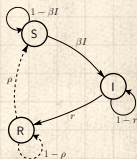
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Aphorisms-aplenty:

 "We can be absolutely certain only about things we do not understand."

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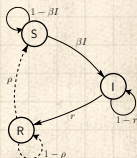
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(1951)<sup>[12]</sup>

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."

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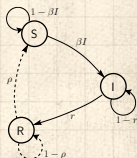
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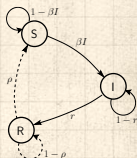
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## Aphorisms-aplenty:

- ☰ "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."

"



# The spread of fanaticism

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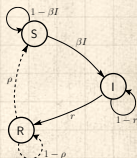
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- ☰ "We can be absolutely certain only about things we do not understand."
- ☰ "Mass movements can rise and spread without belief in a God, but never without belief in a devil."
- ☰ "Where freedom is real, equality is the passion of the masses. Where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



# Imitation

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## CONFORMITY

WHEN PEOPLE ARE FREE TO DO AS THEY PLEASE,  
THEY USUALLY IMITATE EACH OTHER.

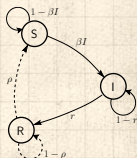
www.despair.com

despair.com

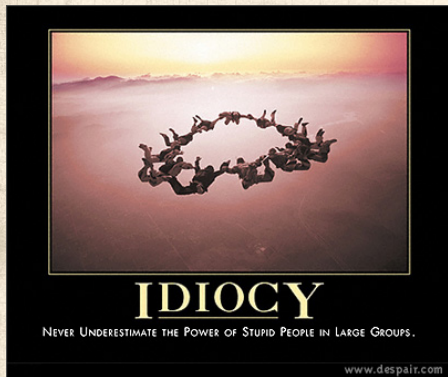
“When people are free to do as they please, they usually imitate each other.”

—Eric Hoffer

“The Passionate State of Mind” [13]



# The collective...



despair.com

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

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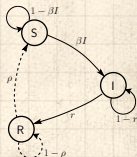
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# Examples of non-disease spreading:

## Interesting infections:

 Spreading of certain buildings in the US:

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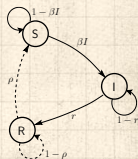
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<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EGzHBtoVvpc?rel=0>



## Marbleization of the US:

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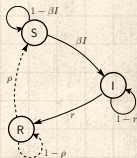
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<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ihSeStoXOw?rel=0>

# The most terrifying contagious outbreak?

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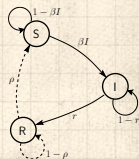
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Google books Ngram Viewer

Graph these comma-separated phrases:   case-insensitive

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



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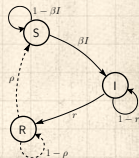
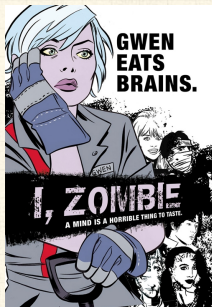
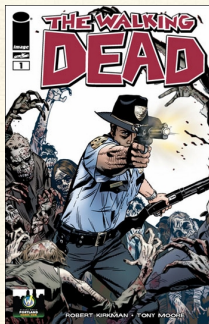
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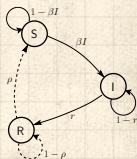
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## Definitions



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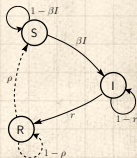
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(1) The spreading of a quality or quantity between individuals in a population.



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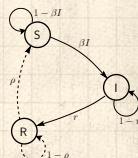
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## Definitions

-  (1) The spreading of a quality or quantity between individuals in a population.
-  (2) A disease itself: the plague, a blight, the dreaded lurgi, ...



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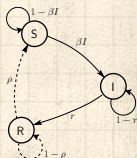
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## Definitions

-  (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* = 'with' + *tangere* 'to touch.'



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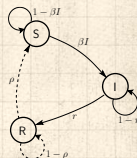
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## Definitions

-  (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* = 'with' + *tangere* 'to touch.'
-  Contagion has unpleasant overtones...





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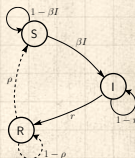
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## Definitions

-  (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* = 'with' + *tangere* 'to touch.'
-  Contagion has unpleasant overtones...
-  Just **Spreading** might be a more neutral word



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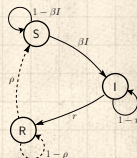
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## Definitions

-  (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* = '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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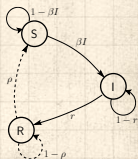
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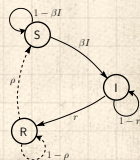
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## 1. Infectious diseases



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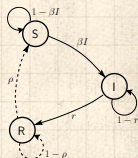
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2. Social contagion



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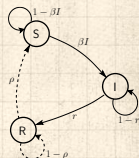
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## Two main classes of contagion

1. **Infectious diseases:**  
tuberculosis, HIV, ebola, SARS, influenza,  
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2. **Social contagion**



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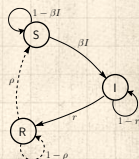
## Two main classes of contagion

### 1. Infectious diseases:

tuberculosis, HIV, ebola, SARS, influenza,  
zombification, ...

### 2. Social contagion:

fashion, word usage, rumors, uprisings, religion,  
stories about zombies, ...



# Archival footage from the Black Plague

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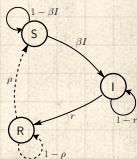
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<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GU0d8kpybVg?rel=0>





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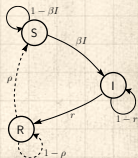
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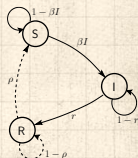
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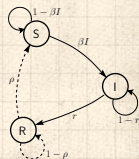
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The standard SIR model [18]



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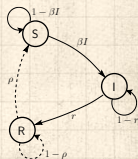
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The standard **SIR model** <sup>[18]</sup>

 = basic model of disease contagion



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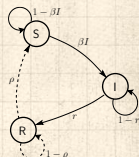
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The standard **SIR model** <sup>[18]</sup>


 = basic model of disease contagion


 Three states:



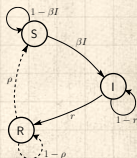
# Mathematical Epidemiology

The standard **SIR model** [18]

 = basic model of disease contagion

 Three states:

1.  $S$  = Susceptible



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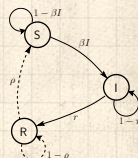
References

The standard **SIR model** <sup>[18]</sup>

 = basic model of disease contagion

 Three states:


1. S = Susceptible
2. I = Infective/Infectious






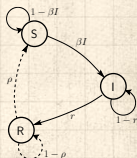
# Mathematical Epidemiology

## The standard SIR model <sup>[18]</sup>

 = basic model of disease contagion

 Three states:

1. S = Susceptible
2. I = Infective/Infectious
3. R = Recovered



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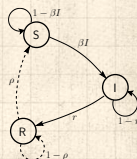
References

The standard **SIR model** <sup>[18]</sup>

 = basic model of disease contagion

 Three states:

1. S = Susceptible
2. I = Infective/Infectious
3. R = Recovered or Removed or Refractory



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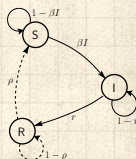
The standard **SIR model** <sup>[18]</sup>

 = basic model of disease contagion


 Three states:


1. S = Susceptible
2. I = Infective/Infectious
3. R = Recovered or Removed or Refractory

  $S(t) + I(t) + R(t) = 1$





## The standard SIR model <sup>[18]</sup>

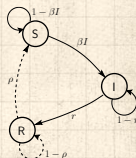
 = basic model of disease contagion

 Three states:

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3. R = Recovered or Removed or Refractory


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 Presumes random interactions (mass-action principle)




# Mathematical Epidemiology


## The standard SIR model <sup>[18]</sup>


 = basic model of disease contagion

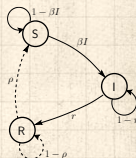
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 Interactions are independent (no memory)




# Mathematical Epidemiology


## The standard SIR model <sup>[18]</sup>


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 Three states:

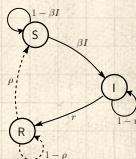
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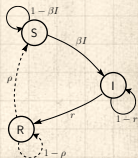
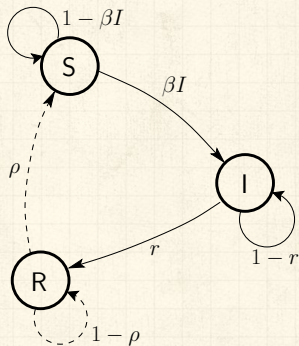
 Presumes random interactions (mass-action principle)

 Interactions are independent (no memory)

 Discrete and continuous time versions

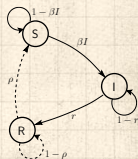
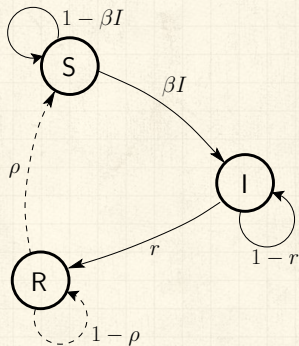


## Discrete time automata example:



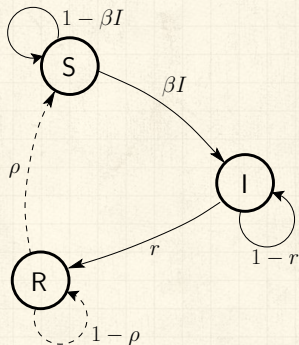
## Discrete time automata example:

Transition Probabilities:



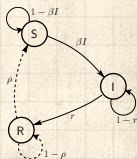


## Discrete time automata example:

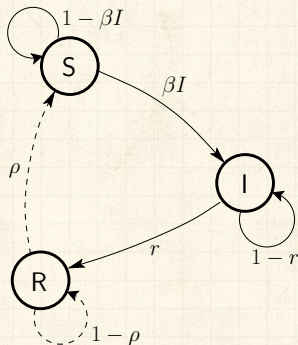


Transition Probabilities:

$\beta$  for being infected given contact with infected

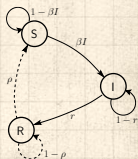


## Discrete time automata example:

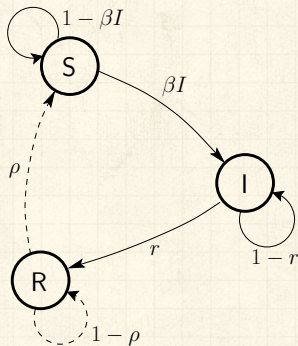


Transition Probabilities:

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



## Discrete time automata example:

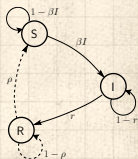


## Transition Probabilities:

$\beta$  for being infected given  
contact with infected

$r$  for recovery

$\rho$  for loss of immunity



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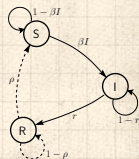
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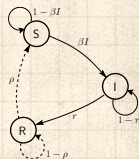
Original models attributed to



Original models attributed to



1920's: Reed and Frost



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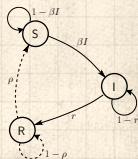
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References

Original models attributed to

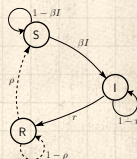
 1920's: Reed and Frost

 1920's/1930's: Kermack and McKendrick [14, 16, 15]



## Original models attributed to

- 1920's: Reed and Frost
- 1920's/1930's: Kermack and McKendrick [14, 16, 15]
- Coupled differential equations with a mass-action principle



# Independent Interaction models

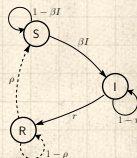
## Differential equations for continuous model

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

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

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

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





# Reproduction Number $R_0$

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Toy metapopulation  
models

Model output

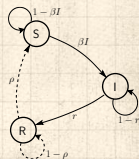
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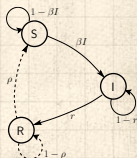
Reproduction Number  $R_0$  ↗



# Reproduction Number $R_0$


## Reproduction Number $R_0$


  $R_0$  = expected number of infected individuals resulting from a single initial infective

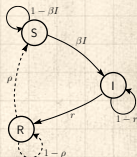


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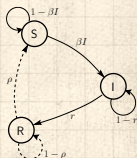
 Epidemic threshold: If  $R_0 > 1$ , 'epidemic' occurs.



# Reproduction Number $R_0$





## Reproduction Number $R_0$

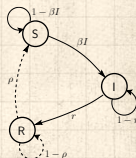
-   $R_0$  = expected number of infected individuals resulting from a single initial infective
-  Epidemic threshold: If  $R_0 > 1$ , 'epidemic' occurs.
-  Exponential take off:  $R_0^n$  where  $n$  is the number of generations.



# Reproduction Number $R_0$

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-   $R_0$  = 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  $SIR$ .

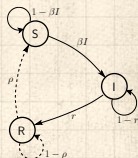


# Reproduction Number $R_0$

## Discrete version:



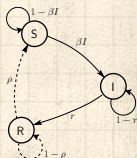
Set up: One Infective in a randomly mixing population of Susceptibles



# Reproduction Number $R_0$

## Discrete version:

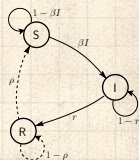
- Set up: One Infective in a randomly mixing population of Susceptibles
- At time  $t = 0$ , single infective random bumps into a Susceptible



# Reproduction Number $R_0$

## Discrete version:

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- Probability of transmission =  $\beta$

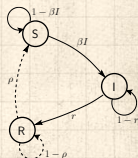




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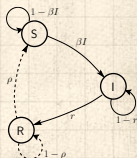
- Set up: One Infective in a randomly mixing population of Susceptibles
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- At time  $t = 1$ , single Infective remains infected with probability  $1 - r$



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## 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  $(1 - r)^k$

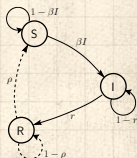


# Reproduction Number $R_0$

Discrete version:


 Expected number infected by original infective:

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



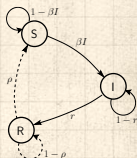
# Reproduction Number $R_0$

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

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



# Reproduction Number $R_0$

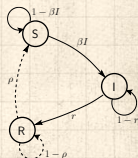
Discrete version:

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

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



# Reproduction Number $R_0$

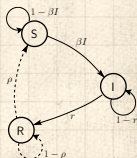
Discrete version:

 Expected number infected by original infective:

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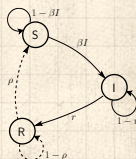
$$= \beta(1 + (1 - r) + (1 - r)^2 + (1 - r)^3 + \dots)$$

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

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

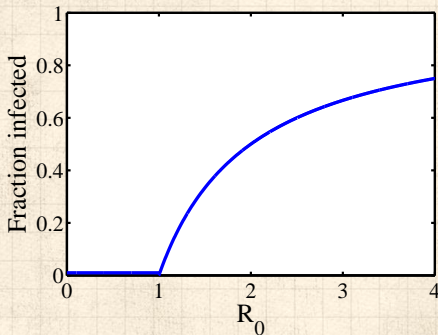
$(1 - S(0) = R(0) =$  fraction initially immune):


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




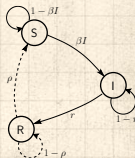
# Independent Interaction models

Example of epidemic threshold:



 Continuous phase transition.

 Fine idea from a simple model.






# Independent Interaction models

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For the continuous version

 Second equation:

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

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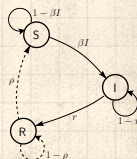
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$$\frac{d}{dt}I = \beta SI - rI$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}I = (\beta S - r)I$$

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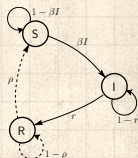
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 Number of infectives grows initially if

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

where  $S(0) \simeq 1$ .

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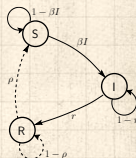
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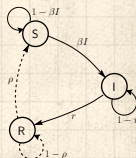
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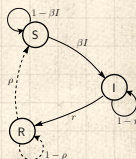
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$$\frac{d}{dt}I = (\beta S - r)I$$

 Number of infectives grows initially if

$$\beta S(0) - r > 0 \Rightarrow \beta S(0) > r \Rightarrow \beta S(0)/r > 1$$

where  $S(0) \simeq 1$ .

 Same story as for discrete model.

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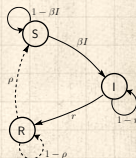
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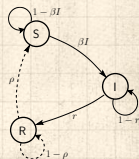
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Many variants of the SIR model:



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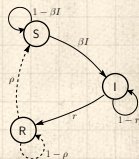
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Many variants of the SIR model:


 **SIS**: susceptible-infective-susceptible




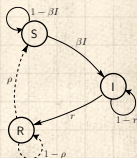


# Independent Interaction models

Many variants of the SIR model:

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 **SIRS**: susceptible-infective-recovered-susceptible



# Independent Interaction models

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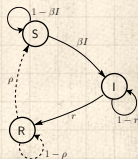
**SIS**: susceptible-infective-susceptible



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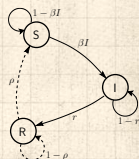
compartment models (age or gender partitions)



# Independent Interaction models






Many variants of the SIR model:

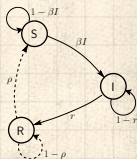
-  **SIS**: susceptible-infective-susceptible
-  **SIRS**: susceptible-infective-recovered-susceptible
-  compartment models (age or gender partitions)
-  more categories such as 'exposed' (**SEIRS**)



# Independent Interaction models

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)



Watch someone else pretend to save the world:

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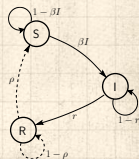
References




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

**NOTHING SPREADS LIKE FEAR**

**CONTAGION**



Save the world yourself: 



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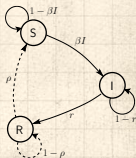
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 And you can be the virus. 

 Also contagious?: Cooperative games ...

# Neural reboot—Save another pretend world with

Vax: 

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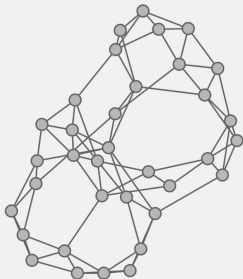
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## Lesson 4: Quarantine



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

Start >

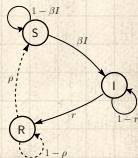
VAX!

Networks

Epidemics

Vaccines

Quarantine



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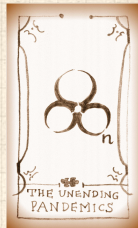
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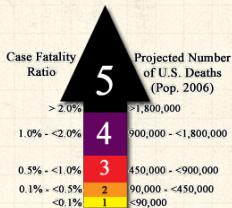




## Pandemic severity index (PSI)



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 



For novel diseases:

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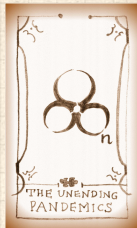
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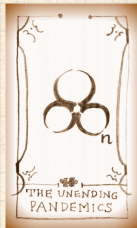
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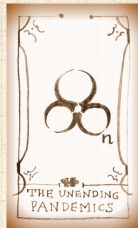
For novel diseases:

1. Can we predict the size of an epidemic?



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



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$R_0$  approximately same for all of the following:



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 1918-19 "Spanish Flu" ~ 75,000,000 world-wide,  
500,000 deaths in US.



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$R_0$  approximately same for all of the following:




-  1918-19 "Spanish Flu" ~ 75,000,000 world-wide, 500,000 deaths in US.
-  1957-58 "Asian Flu" ~ 2,000,000 world-wide, 70,000 deaths in US.



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-  1968-69 "Hong Kong Flu" ~ 1,000,000 world-wide, 34,000 deaths in US.
-  2003 "SARS Epidemic" ~ 800 deaths world-wide.



# Size distributions

As we know, heavy-tailed size distributions are somewhat prevalent in complex systems:

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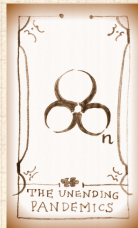
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# Size distributions

As we know, heavy-tailed size distributions are somewhat prevalent in complex systems:

 earthquakes (Gutenberg-Richter law)

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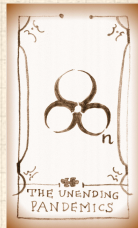
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# Size distributions

As we know, heavy-tailed size distributions are somewhat prevalent in complex systems:




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 city sizes, forest fires, war fatalities



# Size distributions





As we know, heavy-tailed size distributions are somewhat prevalent in complex systems:

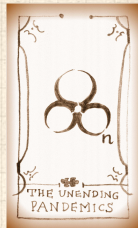
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-  wealth distributions



# Size distributions






As we know, heavy-tailed size distributions are somewhat prevalent in complex systems:

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



# Size distributions






As we know, heavy-tailed size distributions are somewhat prevalent in complex systems:

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

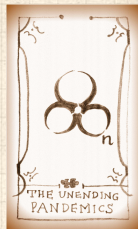


# Size distributions

As we know, heavy-tailed size distributions are somewhat prevalent in complex systems:

-  earthquakes (Gutenberg-Richter law)
-  city sizes, forest fires, war fatalities
-  wealth distributions
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Power law distributions are common but not obligatory...





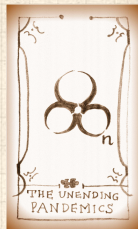
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Really, what about epidemics?




# Size distributions

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-  **Epidemics?**

Power law distributions are common but not obligatory...

Really, what about epidemics?

-  Simply hasn't attracted much attention.



# Size distributions

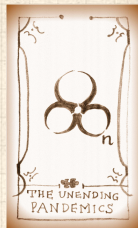
As we know, heavy-tailed size distributions are somewhat prevalent in complex systems:

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- wealth distributions
- 'popularity' (books, music, websites, ideas)
- Epidemics?**

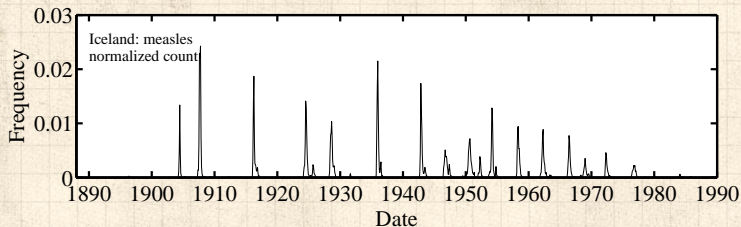
Power law distributions are common but not obligatory...

Really, what about epidemics?

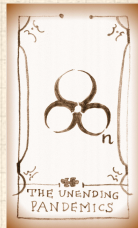
- Simply hasn't attracted much attention.
- Data not as clean as for other phenomena.



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



Treat outbreaks separated in time as 'novel' diseases.



# Really not so good at all in Iceland

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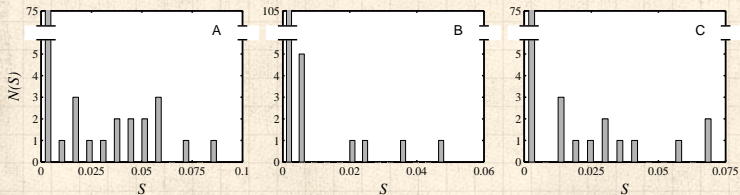
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Epidemic size distributions  $N(S)$  for  
Measles, Rubella, and Whooping Cough.



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



# Measles & Pertussis

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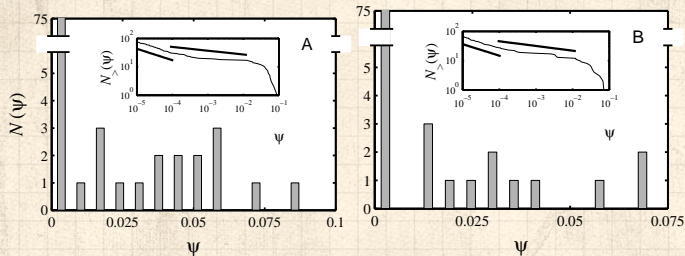
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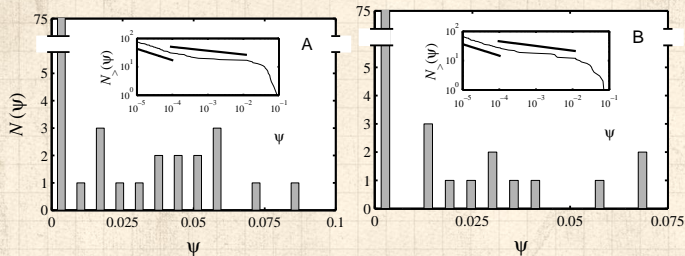
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# Measles & Pertussis

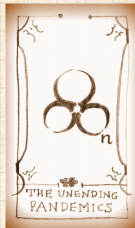


Insert plots:

Complementary cumulative frequency distributions:

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

Limited scaling with a possible break.



# Power law distributions

Measured values of  $\gamma$ :

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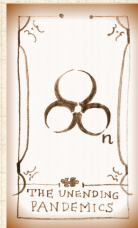
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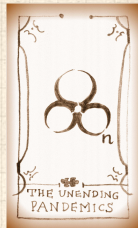
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Measured values of  $\gamma$ :

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



# Power law distributions

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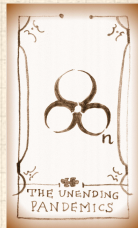
# Power law distributions

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





# Power law distributions

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

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# Power law distributions


## Measured values of $\gamma$ :

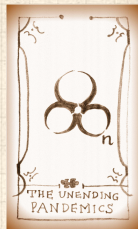
 measles: 1.40 (low  $\Psi$ ) and 1.13 (high  $\Psi$ )

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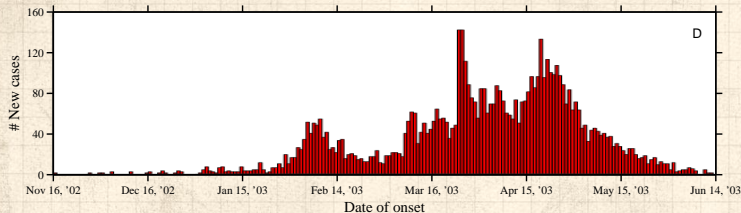
 Expect  $2 \leq \gamma < 3$  (finite mean, infinite variance)

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

 Distribution is quite flat.



# Resurgence—example of SARS



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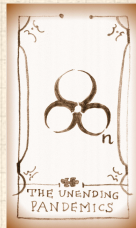
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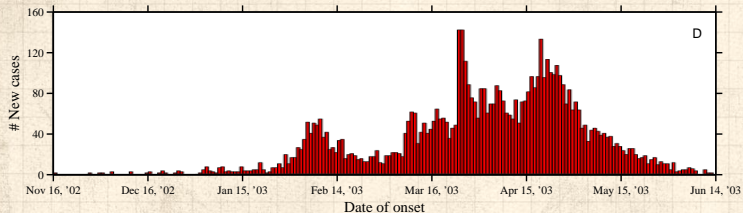
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# Resurgence—example of SARS



Epidemic slows...

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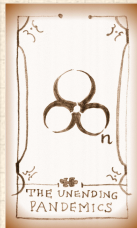
Model output

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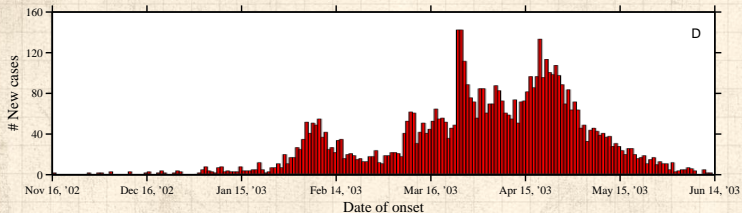
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# Resurgence—example of SARS



Epidemic slows...  
then an infective moves to a new context.

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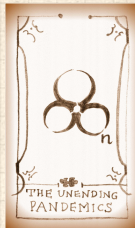
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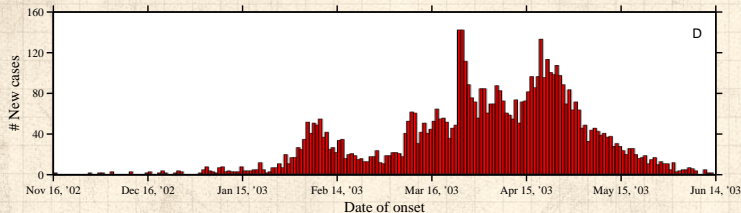
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# Resurgence—example of SARS



Epidemic slows...  
then an infective moves to a new context.



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

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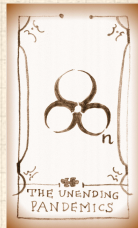
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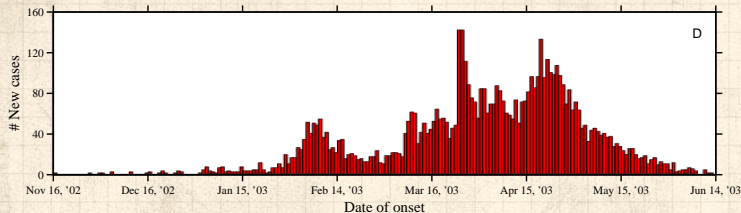
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# Resurgence—example of SARS



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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# Community—S2E6: Epidemiology

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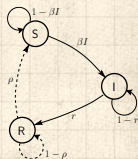
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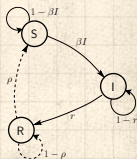
References



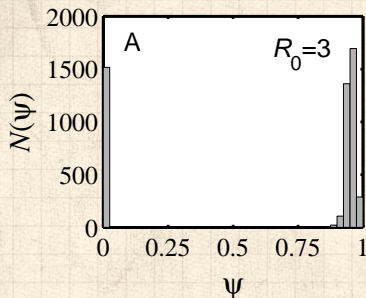
# The challenge

So... can a simple model produce

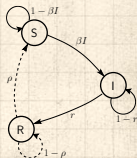
1. **broad epidemic distributions**  
and
2. **resurgence ?**



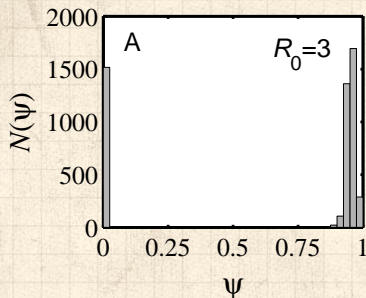
# Size distributions



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



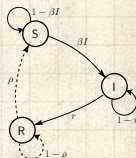
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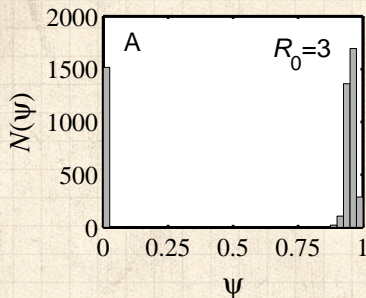
Simple models typically produce **bimodal** or **unimodal** size distributions.





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

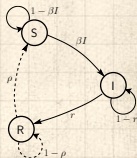


# Size distributions



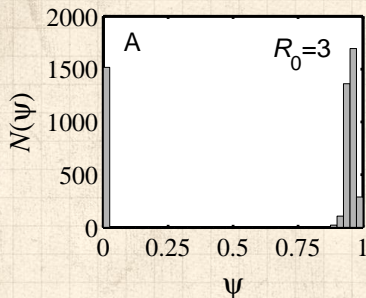
Simple models typically produce **bimodal** or **unimodal** size distributions.

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-  Exceptions:







# Size distributions

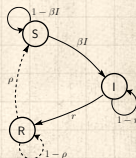


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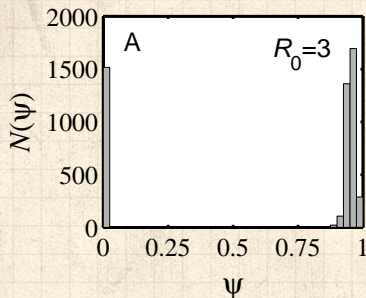
 This **includes** network models:  
random, small-world, scale-free, ...

 Exceptions:


1. Forest fire models




# Size distributions

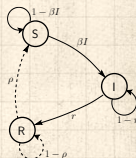


Simple models  
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size distributions.

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

 Exceptions:

1. Forest fire models
2. Sophisticated metapopulation models



# Burning through the population

Forest fire models: <sup>[19]</sup>

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# Burning through the population

Forest fire models: <sup>[19]</sup>

 Rhodes & Anderson, 1996

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# Burning through the population

## Forest fire models: <sup>[19]</sup>

 Rhodes & Anderson, 1996


 The physicist's approach:


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



# Burning through the population

## Forest fire models: <sup>[19]</sup>

 Rhodes & Anderson, 1996

 The physicist's approach:


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


A bit of a stretch:



# Burning through the population

## Forest fire models: <sup>[19]</sup>

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 The physicist's approach:

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## A bit of a stretch:


1. Epidemics  $\equiv$  forest fires spreading on 3-d and 5-d lattices.



# Burning through the population

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1. Epidemics  $\equiv$  forest fires spreading on 3-d and 5-d lattices.
2. Claim Iceland and Faroe Islands exhibit power law distributions for outbreaks.






# Burning through the population

## Forest fire models: <sup>[19]</sup>

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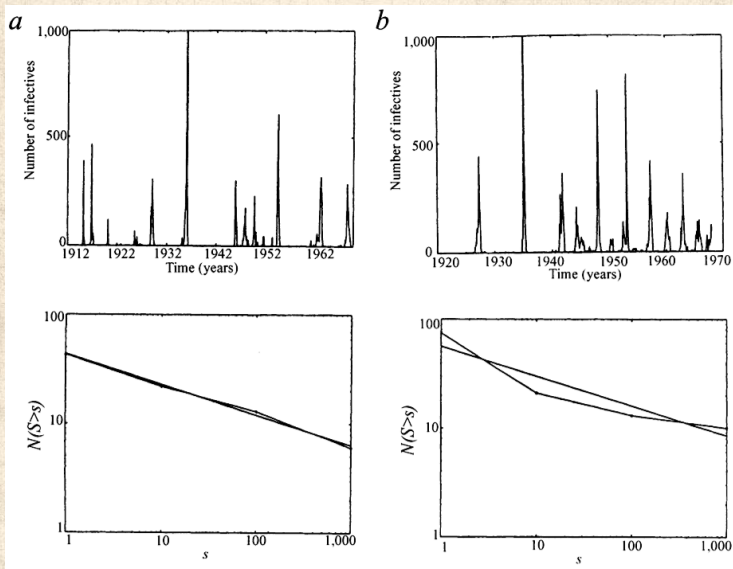
**"if it works for magnets, it'll work for people..."**

## A bit of a stretch:

1. Epidemics  $\equiv$  forest fires spreading on 3-d and 5-d lattices.
2. Claim Iceland and Faroe Islands exhibit power law distributions for outbreaks.
3. Original forest fire model not completely understood.




# Size distributions

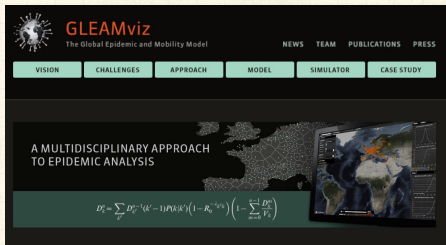


From Rhodes and Anderson, 1996.



# Sophisticated metapopulation models:

- ☰ Multiscale models suggested earlier by others but not formalized (Bailey <sup>[1]</sup>, Cliff and Haggett <sup>[6]</sup>, Ferguson et al.)
- ☰ Community based mixing (two scales)—Longini. <sup>[17]</sup>
- ☰ Eubank et al.'s EpiSims/TRANSIMS —city simulations. <sup>[9]</sup>
- ☰ Spreading through countries—Airlines: Germann et al., Colizza et al. <sup>[7]</sup>




**GLEAMviz**  
The Global Epidemic and Mobility Model

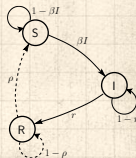
NEWS TEAM PUBLICATIONS PRESS

VISION CHALLENGES APPROACH MODEL SIMULATOR CASE STUDY

A MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO EPIDEMIC ANALYSIS

$$D_t^c = \sum_{k=1}^{K-1} D_t^{c(k)} (1 - R_0^{-k/\alpha}) \left( 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \frac{D_t^c}{V_i} \right)$$

☰ GLEAM :  
Global pandemic simulations by Vespignani et al.



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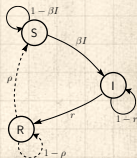
Other kinds of prediction

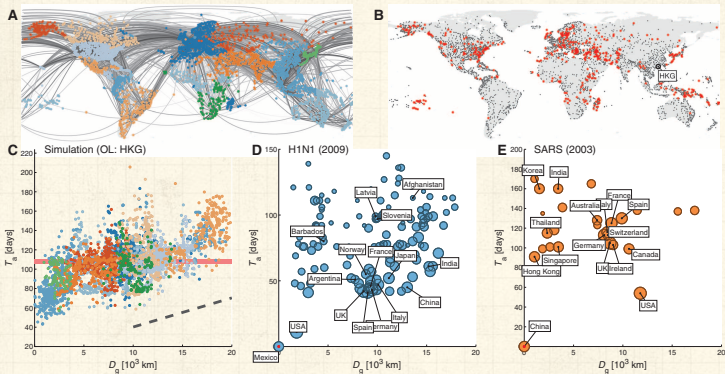
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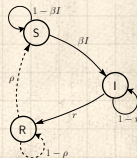
“The hidden geometry of complex,  
network-driven contagion phenomena”   
Brockmann and Helbing,  
Science, **342**, 1337–1342, 2013. [5]

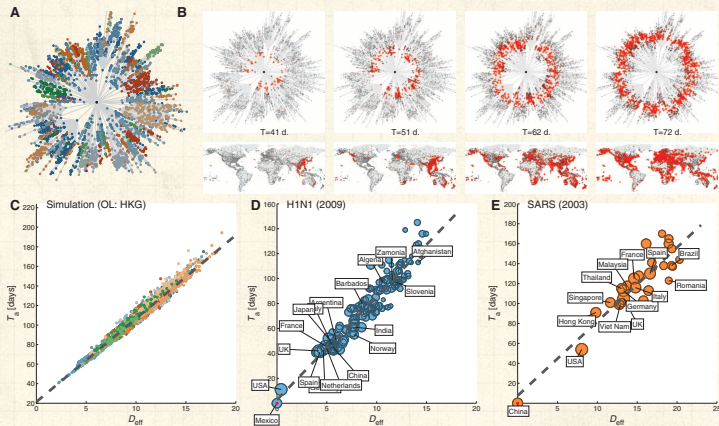




**Fig. 1. Complexity in global, network-driven contagion phenomena.** (A) The global mobility network (GMN). Gray lines represent passenger flows along direct connections between 4069 airports worldwide. Geographic regions are distinguished by color [classified according to network modularity maximization (39)]. (B) Temporal snapshot of a simulated global pandemic with initial outbreak location (OL) in Hong Kong (HKG). The simulation is based on the metapopulation model defined by Eq. 3 with parameters  $R_0 = 1.5$ ,  $\beta = 0.285 \text{ day}^{-1}$ ,  $\gamma = 2.8 \times 10^{-3} \text{ day}^{-1}$ ,  $\epsilon = 10^{-8}$ . Red symbols depict locations with epidemic arrival times in the time window 105 days  $\leq T_a \leq 110$  days. Because of the multiscale structure of the underlying network, the spatial distribution of disease prevalence (i.e., the fraction of infected individuals) lacks geometric coherence. No clear wave-front is visible, and based on this dynamic state, the OL cannot be easily deduced. (C) For the same simulation as in (B), the panel depicts arrival times  $T_a$  as a function of geographic distance  $D_g$  from the OL [nodes are colored according to geographic region as in (A)] for each of the 4069 nodes in the network. On a

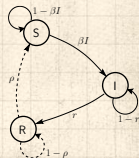
global scale,  $T_a$  weakly correlates with geographic distance  $D_g$  ( $R^2 = 0.34$ ). A linear fit yields an average global spreading speed of  $v_g = 331 \text{ km/day}$  (see also fig. S7). Using  $D_g$  and  $v_g$  to estimate arrival times for specific locations, however, does not work well owing to the strong variability of the arrival times for a given geographic distance. The red horizontal bar corresponds to the arrival time window shown in (B). (D) Arrival times versus geographic distance from the source (Mexico) for the 2009 H1N1 pandemic. Symbols represent 140 affected countries, and symbol size quantifies total traffic per country. Arrival times are defined as the date of the first confirmed case in a given country after the initial outbreak on 17 March 2009. As in the simulated scenario, arrival time and geographic distance are only weakly correlated ( $R^2 = 0.0394$ ). (E) In analogy to (D), the panel depicts the arrival times versus geographic distance from the source (China) of the 2003 SARS epidemic for 29 affected countries worldwide. Arrival times are taken from WHO published data (2). As in (C) and (D), arrival time correlates weakly with geographic distance.

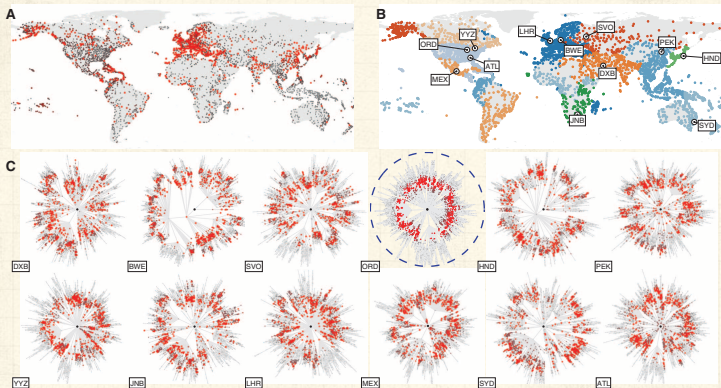




**Fig. 2. Understanding global contagion phenomena using effective distance.** (A) The structure of the shortest path tree (in gray) from Hong Kong (central node). Radial distance represents effective distance  $D_{\text{eff}}$  as defined by Eqs. 4 and 5. Nodes are colored according to the same scheme as in Fig. 1A. (B) The sequence (from left to right) of panels depicts the time course of a simulated model disease with initial outbreak in Hong Kong (HKG), for the same parameter set as used in Fig. 1B. Prevalence is reflected by the redness of the symbols. Each panel compares the state of the system in the conventional geographic representation (bottom) with the effective distance representation (top). The complex spatial pattern in the conventional view is equivalent to a homoge-

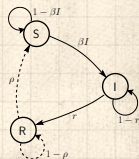
neous wave that propagates outwards at constant effective speed in the effective distance representation. (C) Epidemic arrival time  $T_a$  versus effective distance  $D_{\text{eff}}$  for the same simulated epidemic as in (B). In contrast to geographic distance (Fig. 1C), effective distance correlates strongly with arrival time ( $R^2 = 0.973$ ), i.e., effective distance is an excellent predictor of arrival times. (D and E) Linear relationship between effective distance and arrival time for the 2009 H1N1 pandemic (D) and the 2003 SARS epidemic (E). The arrival time data are the same as in Fig. 1, D and E. The effective distance was computed from the projected global mobility network between countries. As in the model system, we observe a strong correlation between arrival time and effective distance.





**Fig. 3. Qualitative outbreak reconstruction based on effective distance.** (A) Spatial distribution of prevalence  $j_n(t)$  at time  $T = 81$  days for OL Chicago (parameters  $\beta = 0.28 \text{ day}^{-1}$ ,  $R_0 = 1.9$ ,  $\gamma = 2.8 \times 10^{-3} \text{ day}^{-1}$ , and  $\epsilon = 10^{-4}$ ). After this time, it is difficult, if not impossible, to determine the correct OL from snapshots of the dynamics. (B) Candidate OLs chosen from different geographic regions. (C) Panels depict the state of the system shown in (A) from the

perspective of each candidate OL, using each OL's shortest path tree representation. Only the actual OL (ORD, circled in blue) produces a circular wavefront. Even for comparable North American airports [Atlanta (ATL), Toronto (YYZ), and Mexico City (MEX)], the wavefronts are not nearly as concentric. Effective distances thus permit the extraction of the correct OL, based on information on the mobility network and a single snapshot of the dynamics.



## Community—S2E6: Epidemiology

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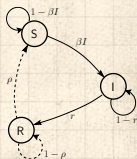
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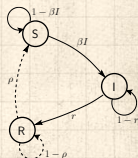





# Size distributions




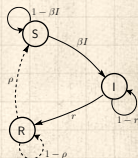
Vital work but perhaps hard to generalize from...




# Size distributions


 Vital work but perhaps hard to generalize from...


  $\Rightarrow$  Create a simple model involving multiscale travel

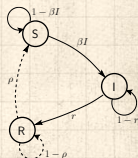


# Size distributions

 Vital work but perhaps hard to generalize from...

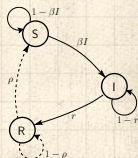
  $\Rightarrow$  Create a simple model involving multiscale travel

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



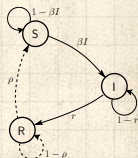
# Size distributions

- 🧱 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?



# Size distributions

- 🧱 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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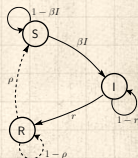
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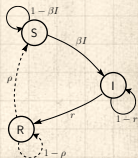
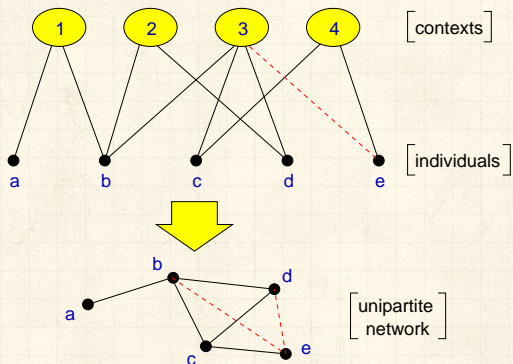
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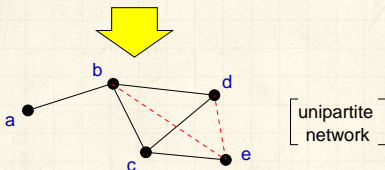
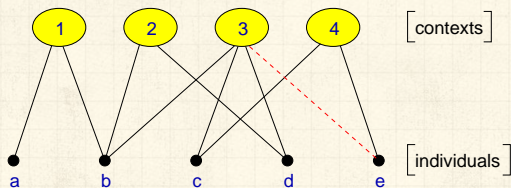
# Improving simple models

## Contexts and Identities—Bipartite networks

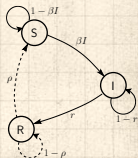


# Improving simple models

## Contexts and Identities—Bipartite networks



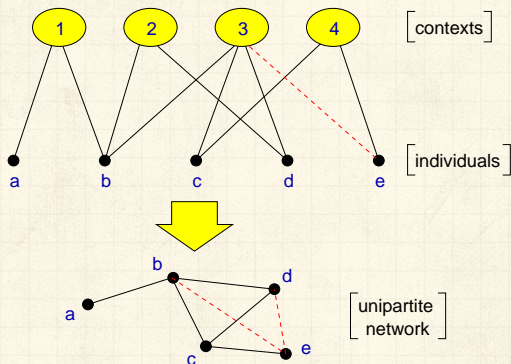
boards of directors





# Improving simple models

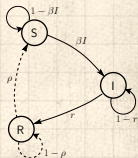
## Contexts and Identities—Bipartite networks



boards of directors

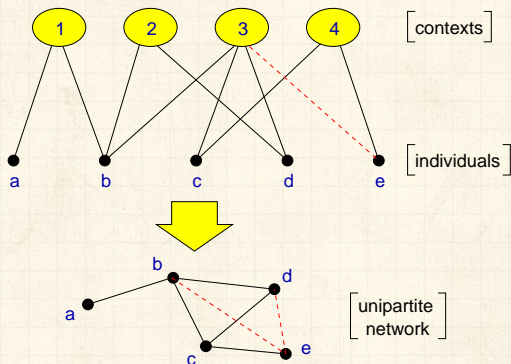





movies

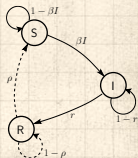


# Improving simple models

## Contexts and Identities—Bipartite networks



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



# Improving simple models

Idea for social networks: incorporate identity

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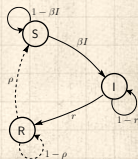
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Identity is formed from attributes such as:

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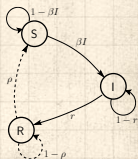
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Identity is formed from attributes such as:

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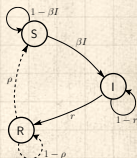
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# Improving simple models

Idea for social networks: incorporate identity

Identity is formed from attributes such as:

-  Geographic location
-  Type of employment

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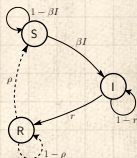
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# Improving simple models

Idea for social networks: incorporate identity

Identity is formed from attributes such as:

-  Geographic location
-  Type of employment
-  Age

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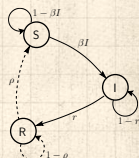
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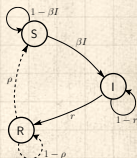


# Improving simple models

Idea for social networks: incorporate identity

Identity is formed from attributes such as:

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









# Improving simple models

Idea for social networks: incorporate identity

Identity is formed from attributes such as:

-  Geographic location
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-  Age
-  Recreational activities

Groups are crucial...

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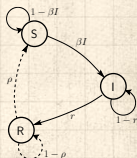
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-  Age
-  Recreational activities

Groups are crucial...

-  formed by people with at least one similar attribute

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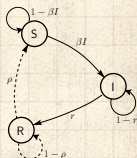
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# Improving simple models

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. [23]

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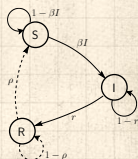
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# Infer interactions/network from identities

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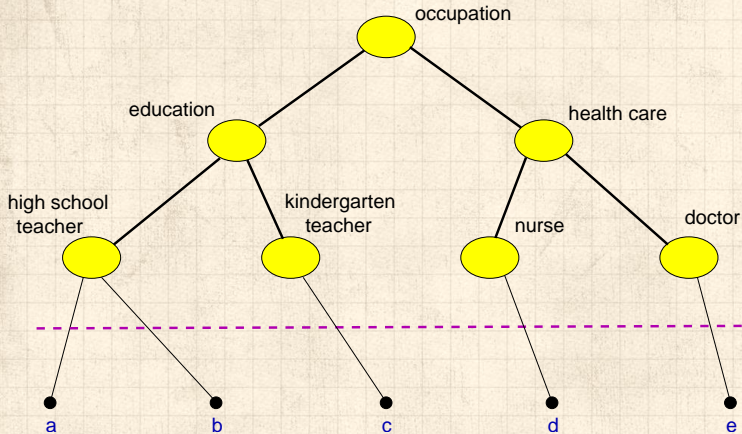
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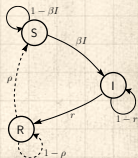
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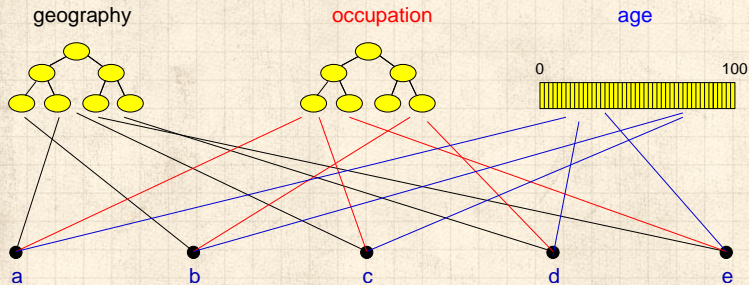
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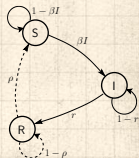
Distance makes sense in identity/context space.



# Generalized context space




(Blau & Schwartz <sup>[3]</sup>, Simmel <sup>[20]</sup>, Breiger <sup>[4]</sup>)



# A toy agent-based model:



"Multiscale, resurgent epidemics in a hierarchical metapopulation model" 

Watts et al.,

Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., **102**, 11157–11162, 2005. [24]

Geography: allow people to move between contexts

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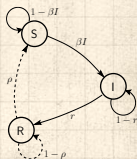
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2005. [24]

Geography: allow people to move between contexts

 Locally: standard SIR model with random mixing

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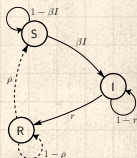
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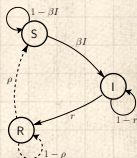
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  $\beta$  = infection probability

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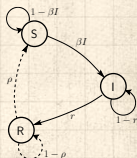
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  $\beta$  = infection probability

  $\gamma$  = recovery probability

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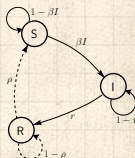
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“Multiscale, resurgent epidemics in a hierarchical metapopulation model” 

Watts et al.,

Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., **102**, 11157–11162, 2005. [24]

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

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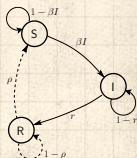
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Geography: allow people to move between contexts


 Locally: standard SIR model with random mixing

 discrete time simulation

  $\beta$  = infection probability

  $\gamma$  = recovery probability

  $P$  = probability of travel

 **Movement distance:**  $\Pr(d) \propto \exp(-d/\xi)$

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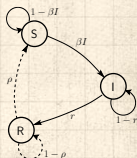
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Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., **102**, 11157–11162,  
2005. [24]


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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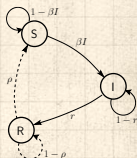
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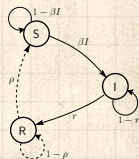
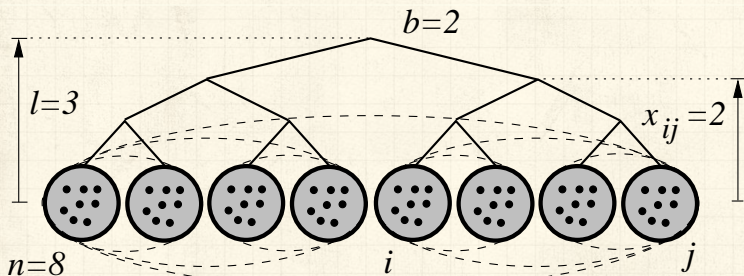
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Schematic:



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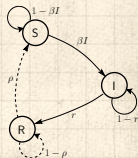
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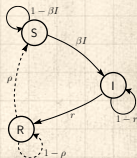
References



# Model output



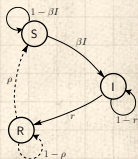
Define  $P_0$  = Expected number of infected individuals **leaving** initially infected context.





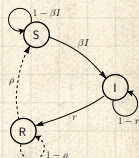
# Model output

- Define  $P_0$  = Expected number of infected individuals **leaving** initially infected context.
- Need  $P_0 > 1$  for disease to spread (independent of  $R_0$ ).



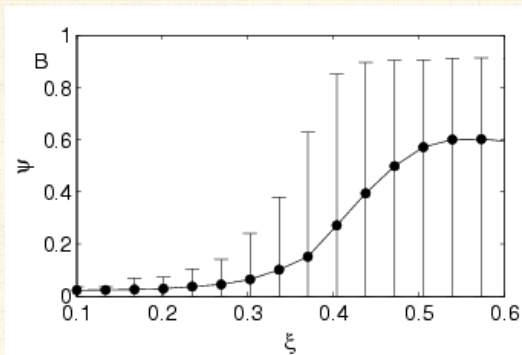
# Model output

- 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**

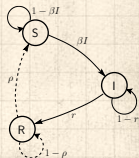


# Model output

Varying  $\xi$ :

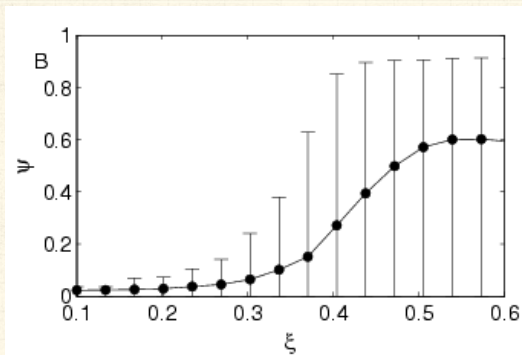


Transition in expected final size based on typical movement distance



# Model output

Varying  $\xi$ :



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

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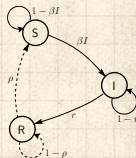
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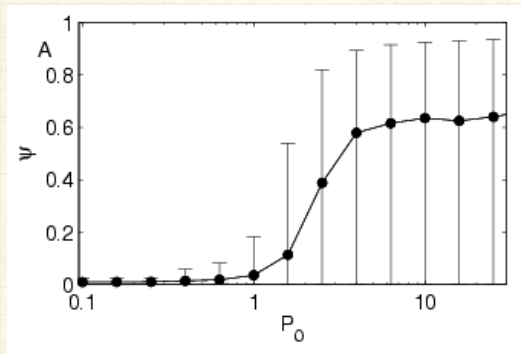
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# Model output

Varying  $P_0$ :



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

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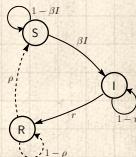
Model output

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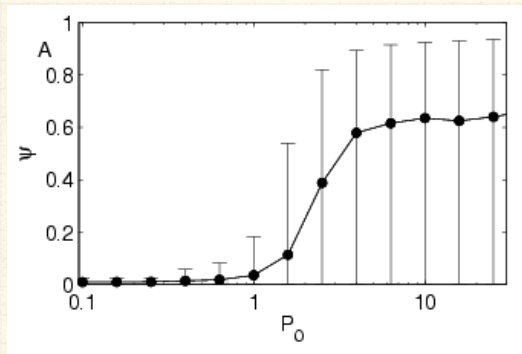
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# Model output

Varying  $P_0$ :



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

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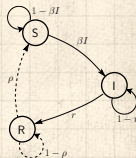
Model output

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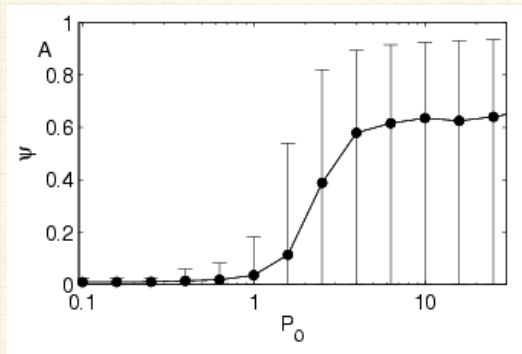
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# Model output

Varying  $P_0$ :



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

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

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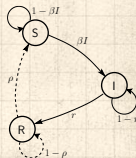
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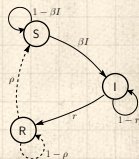
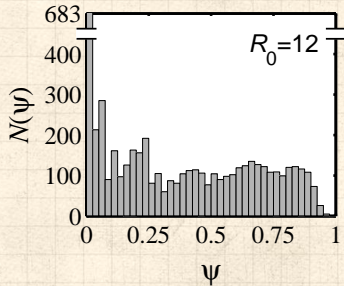
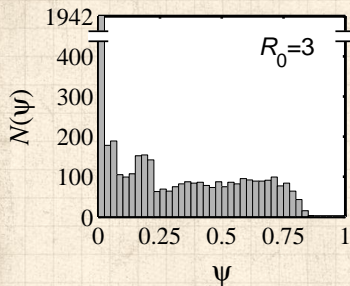
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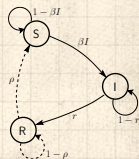
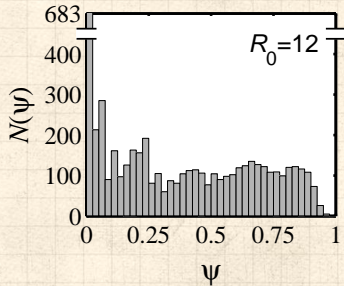
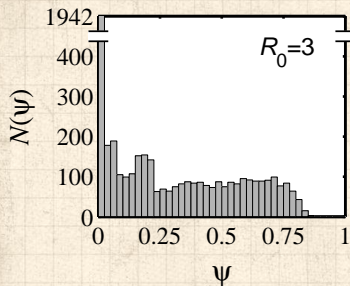


# Example model output: size distributions

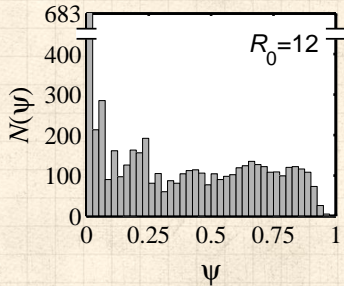
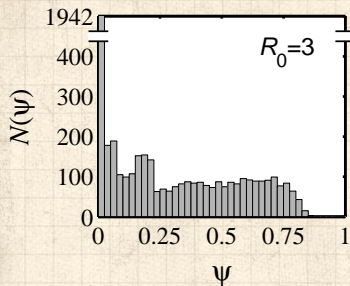





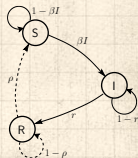
# Example model output: size distributions



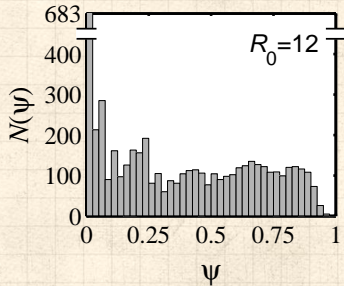
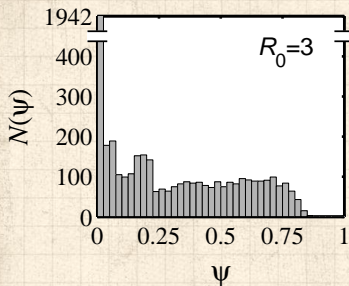
# Example model output: size distributions





 Flat distributions are possible for certain  $\xi$  and  $P$ .

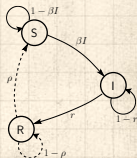


# Example model output: size distributions

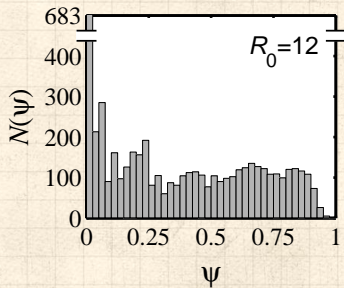
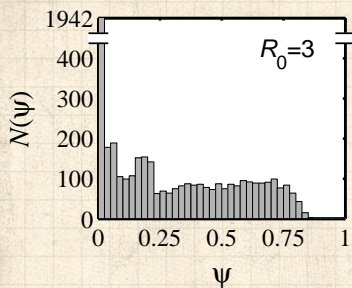


 Flat distributions are possible for certain  $\xi$  and  $P$ .

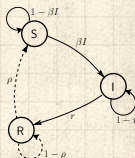
 Different  $R_0$ 's may produce similar distributions



# 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



# Model output—resurgence

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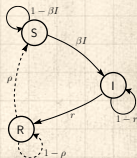
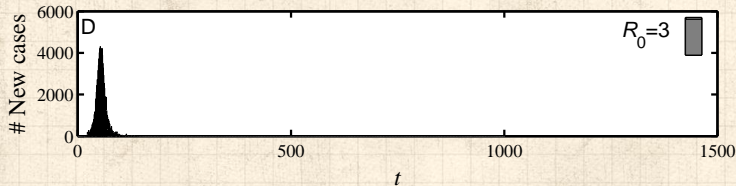
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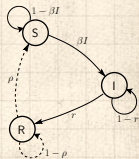
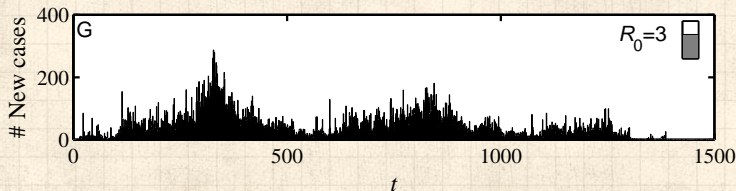
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Standard model:



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## Standard model with transport:



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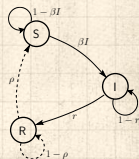
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## Simple multiscale population structure



# The upshot

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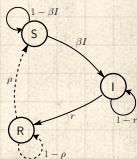
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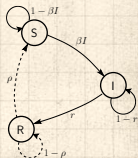
# The upshot

Simple multiscale population structure  
+  
stochasticity

leads to

resurgence

+  
broad epidemic size distributions



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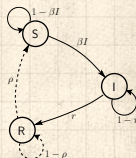
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For the hierarchical movement model, epidemic size is highly unpredictable

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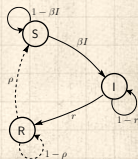
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# Nutshelling

- For the hierarchical movement model, epidemic size is highly unpredictable
- Model is more complicated than SIR but still simple.

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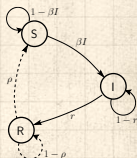
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# Nutshelling

- 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.

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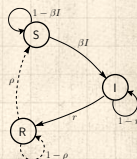
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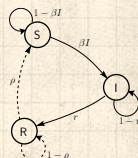
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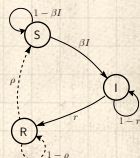
# Nutshelling

- 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.



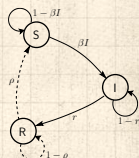
# Nutshelling

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- Model is more complicated than SIR but still simple.
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- $R_0$ , however measured, is not informative about



# Nutshelling

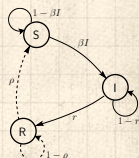
- For the hierarchical movement model, epidemic size is highly unpredictable
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- We haven't even included normal social responses such as travel bans and self-quarantine.
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- $R_0$ , however measured, is not informative about
  - how likely the observed epidemic size was,





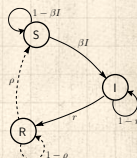
# Nutshelling

- For the hierarchical movement model, epidemic size is highly unpredictable
- Model is more complicated than SIR but still simple.
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- The reproduction number  $R_0$  is not terribly useful.
- $R_0$ , however measured, is not informative about
  - how likely the observed epidemic size was,
  - and how likely future epidemics will be.



# Nutshelling

- 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 epidemic size was,
  - and how likely future epidemics will be.
- Problem:  $R_0$  summarises **one** epidemic after the fact and enfolds movement, the price of bananas, everything.



# Conclusions



Disease's spread is highly sensitive to population structure.

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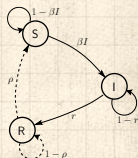
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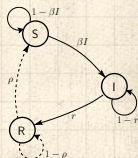
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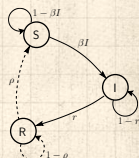
# Conclusions

- 🧱 Disease's spread is highly sensitive to population structure.
- 🧱 Rare events may matter enormously:



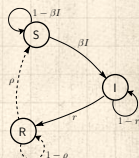
# Conclusions

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



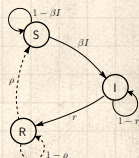
# Conclusions

- 🧱 Disease's spread is highly sensitive to population structure.
- 🧱 Rare events may matter enormously: e.g., an infected individual taking an international flight.
- 🧱 More support for controlling population movement:



# Conclusions

- 🧱 Disease's spread is highly sensitive to population structure.
- 🧱 Rare events may matter enormously: e.g., an infected individual taking an international flight.
- 🧱 More support for controlling population movement:  
e.g., travel advisories, quarantine



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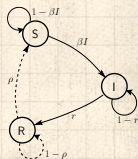
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 Need to separate movement from disease

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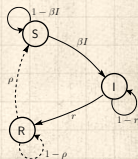
Model output

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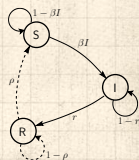


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What to do:

🧱 Need to separate movement from disease

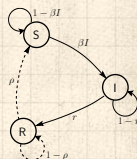
🧱  $R_0$  needs a friend or two.



# Nutshelling

## What to do:

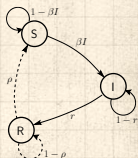
- Need to separate movement from disease
- $R_0$  needs a friend or two.
- Need  $R_0 > 1$  and  $P_0 > 1$  and  $\xi$  sufficiently large for disease to have a chance of spreading



# Nutshelling

## 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.

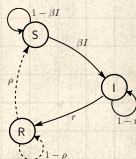


# Nutshelling

## What to do:

- Need to separate movement from disease
- $R_0$  needs a friend or two.
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- And in general: keep building up the kitchen sink models.

## More wondering:



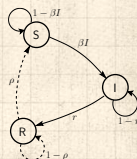
# Nutshelling

## 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?



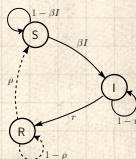
# Nutshelling

## 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  $N$ ?







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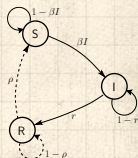
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Krugman, 1998: "Why most economists' predictions are wrong."



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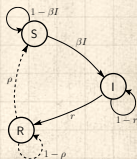
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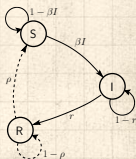
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Krugman, 1998: "Why most economists' predictions are wrong."

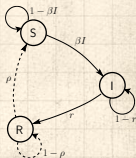
"The growth of the Internet will slow drastically, as the flaw in "Metcalfe's law"—



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



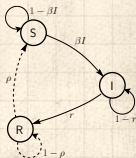
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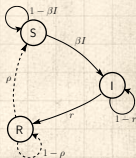
"The growth of the Internet will slow drastically, as the flaw in "Metcalfe's law"—which states that the number of potential connections in a network is proportional to the square of the number of participants—becomes apparent:



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



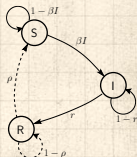
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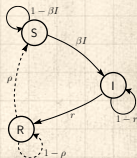
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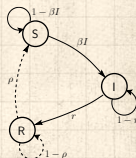
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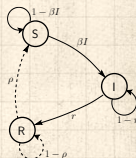
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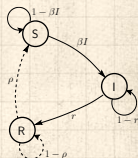
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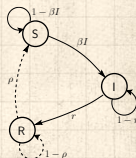
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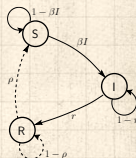
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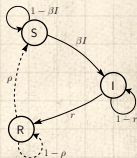
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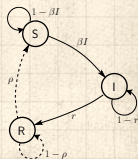
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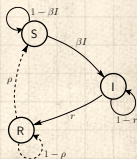
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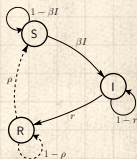




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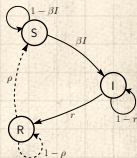
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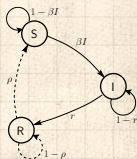
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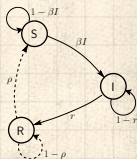
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Jon Stewart:

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



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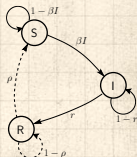
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From the Daily Show  (September 18, 2007)



The full episode is here:

<http://www.cc.com/video-clips/cenrt5/the-daily-show-with-jon-st>

# Predicting social catastrophe isn't easy...

"Greenspan Concedes Error on Regulation"

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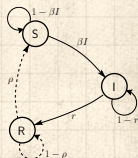
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New York Times, October 23, 2008 

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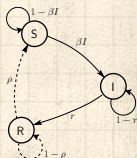
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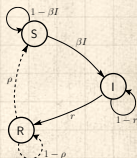
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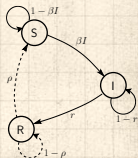
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Rep. Henry A. Waxman: "Do you feel that your ideology pushed you to make decisions that you wish you had not made?"

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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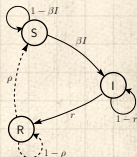
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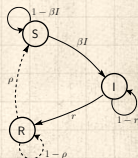
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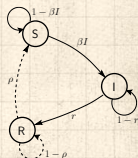
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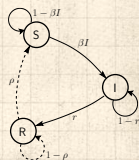
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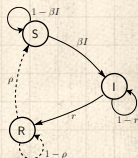
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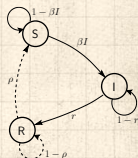
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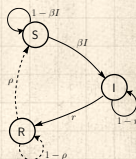
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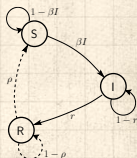
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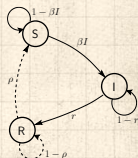
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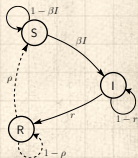
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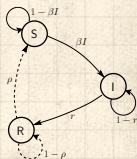
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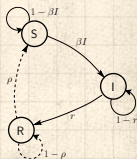
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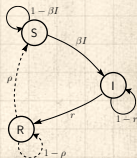


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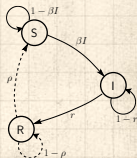
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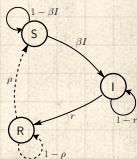
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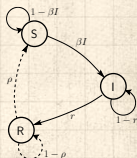




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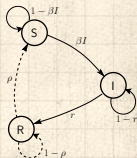


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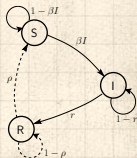


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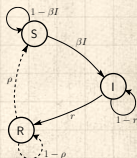


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- But we need new fundamental models.
- Next up: Thresholds.

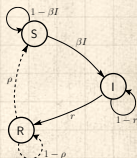


# We really should know social contagion is different but ...




"It's contagious: Rethinking a metaphor dialogically" 

Warren and Power,  
Culture & Psychology, **21**, 359–379,  
2015. [22]




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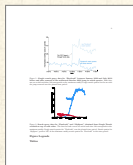



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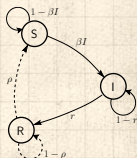


"Facebook will lose 80% of users by 2017, say Princeton researchers"  (Guardian, 2014)

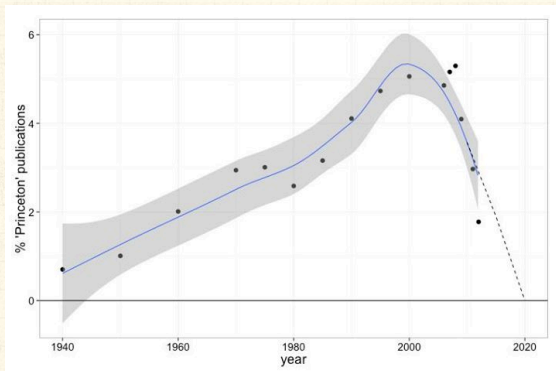


"Epidemiological modeling of online social network dynamics" 

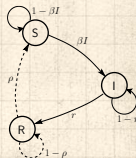
Spechler and Cannarella,  
Available online at  
<http://arxiv.org/abs/1401.4208>, 2014. [21]



## The Facebook Data Science team's response

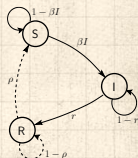


Mike Develin, Lada Adamic, and Sean Taylor.



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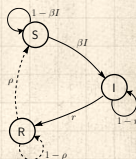
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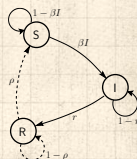
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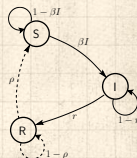
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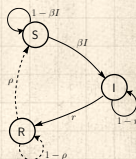
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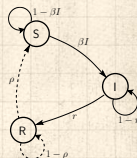
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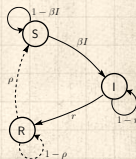
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