



# UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI PADOVA

## **Network Science**

A.Y. 23/24

ICT for Internet & multimedia, Data science, Physics of data

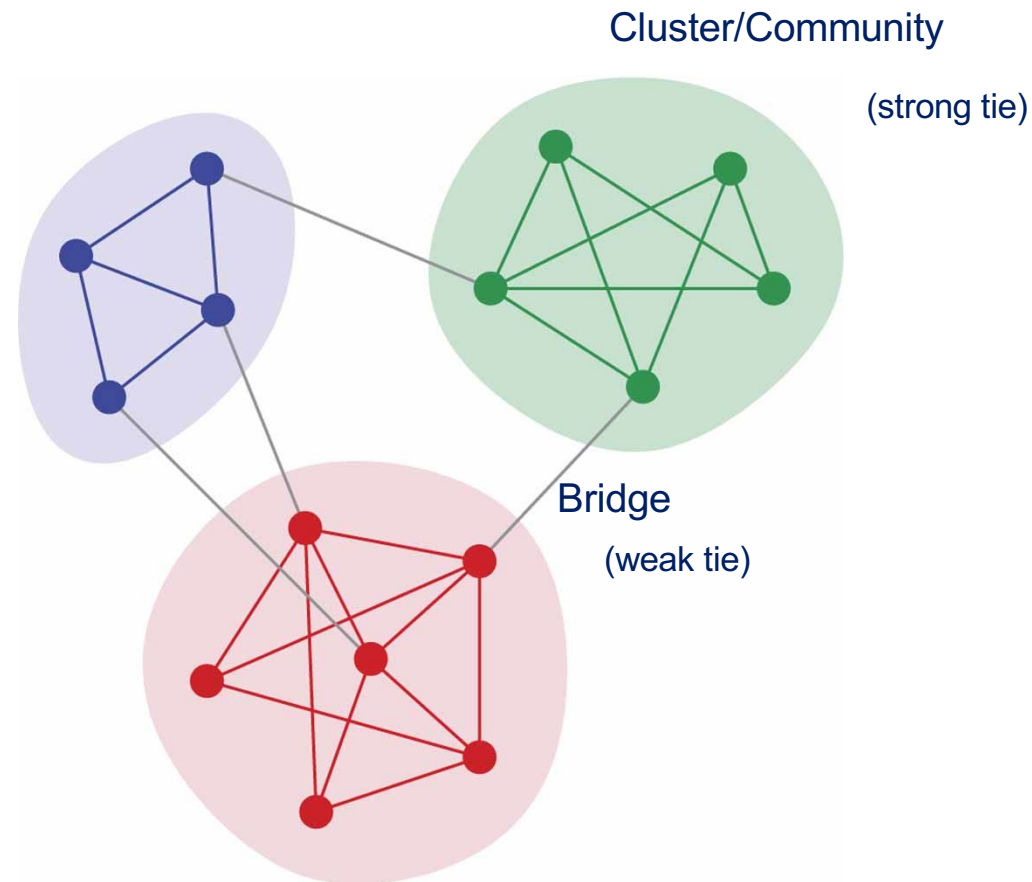
# Community detection

Identify communities in a network



# Conceptual picture of a network

explaining the role of community detection



- ❑ We often think of **networks** looking like this
- ❑ But, where does this idea come from?



Q: How do people discovered their **new jobs**?

A: Through personal contacts, and mainly through **acquaintances** rather than through close friends

Remark: Good jobs are a scarce resource

Conclusion:

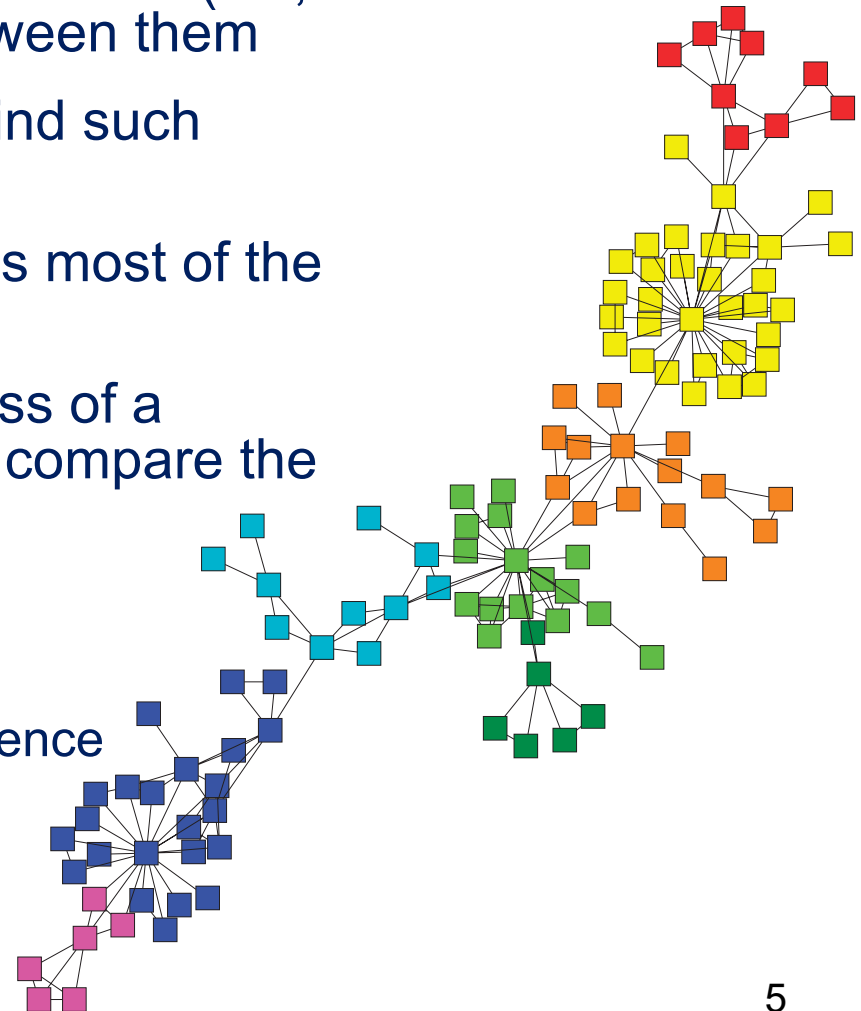
- ❑ Structurally embedded edges are also socially **strong**, but are heavily redundant in terms of information access
- ❑ Long-range edges spanning different parts of the network are **socially weak**, but **allow you to gather information** from different parts of the network (and get a job)

Local cluster/community  
Strong ties

Bridges  
Weak ties



- ❑ Granovetter's theory suggests that networks are composed of **tightly connected sets of nodes** (i.e., communities), loosely connected between them
- ❑ We want to be able to **automatically** find such densely connected group of nodes
- ❑ We look for **unsupervised** methods, as most of the times no ground truth is available
- ❑ We look for a **measure** of the goodness of a community assignment, to be able to compare the performance of different algorithms
- ❑ Applications in:
  - social networks
  - functional brain networks in neuroscience
  - scientific interactions



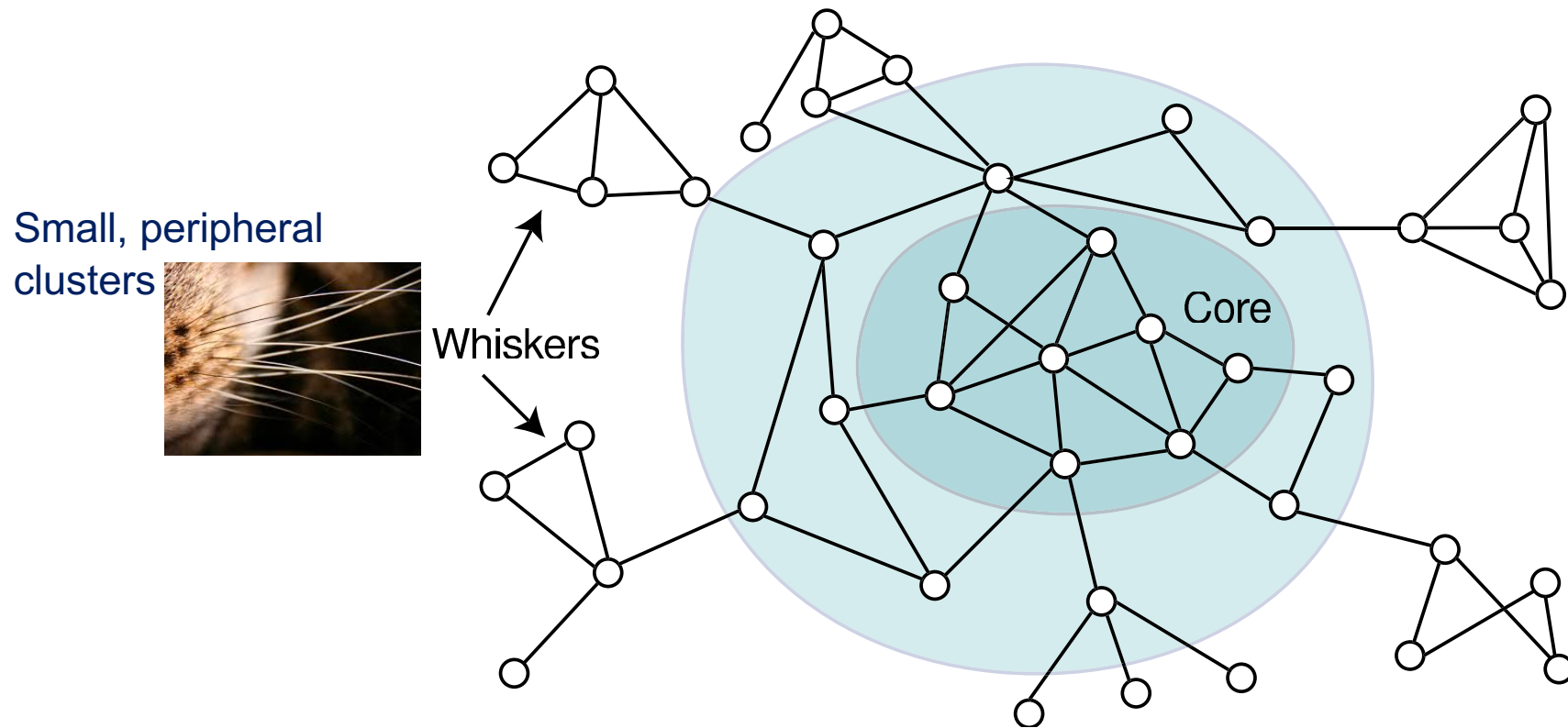


# The core periphery model

Lescovec, Lang, Dasgupta, Mahoney, Community Structure in Large Networks:  
Natural Cluster Sizes and the Absence of Large Well-Defined Clusters (2008)

<https://arxiv.org/abs/0810.1355>

Can we find a justification for this?

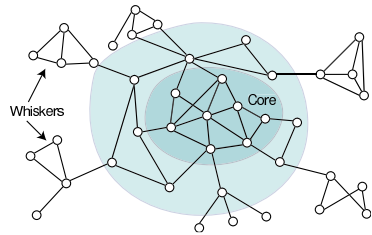


Caricature of network structure



# Overlapping communities

to explain the core periphery model

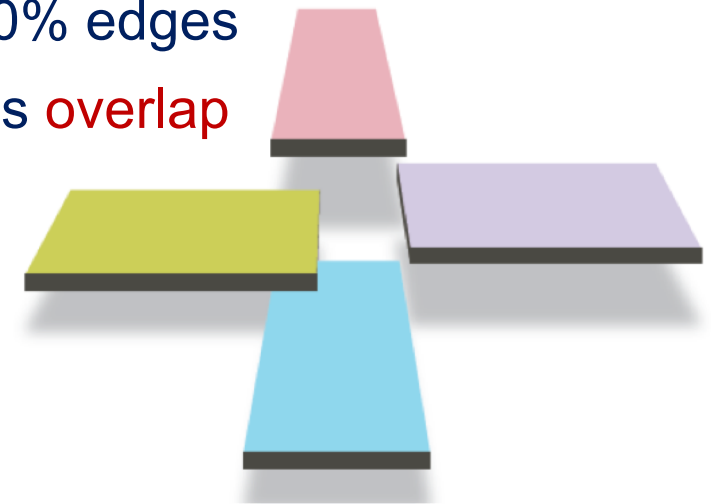
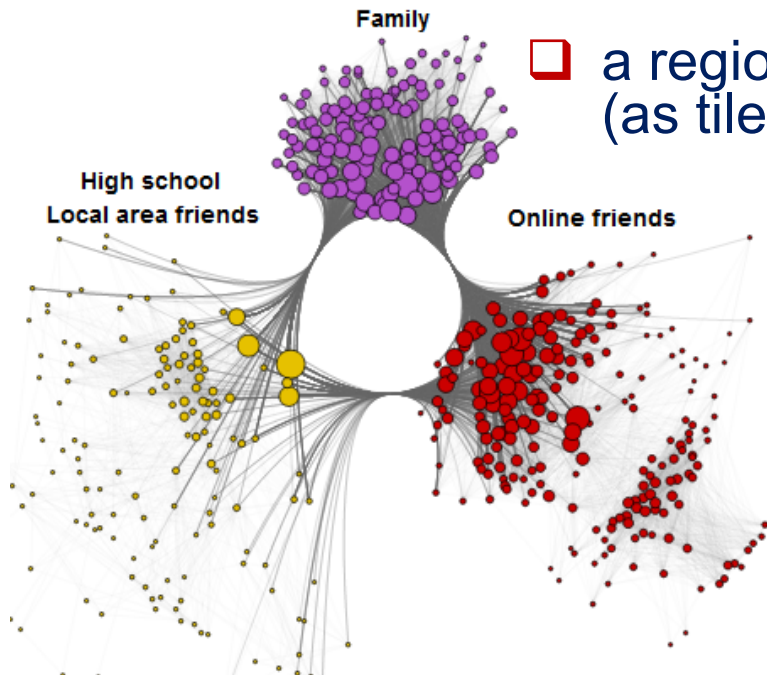


## Whiskers

- ❑ are typically of size 100
- ❑ are responsible of **good** communities

## Core

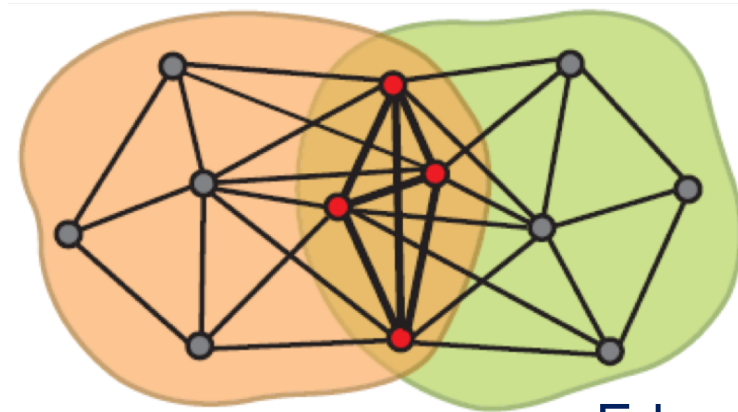
- ❑ denser and denser region
- ❑ contains 60% nodes and 80% edges
- ❑ a region where communities **overlap** (as tiles)



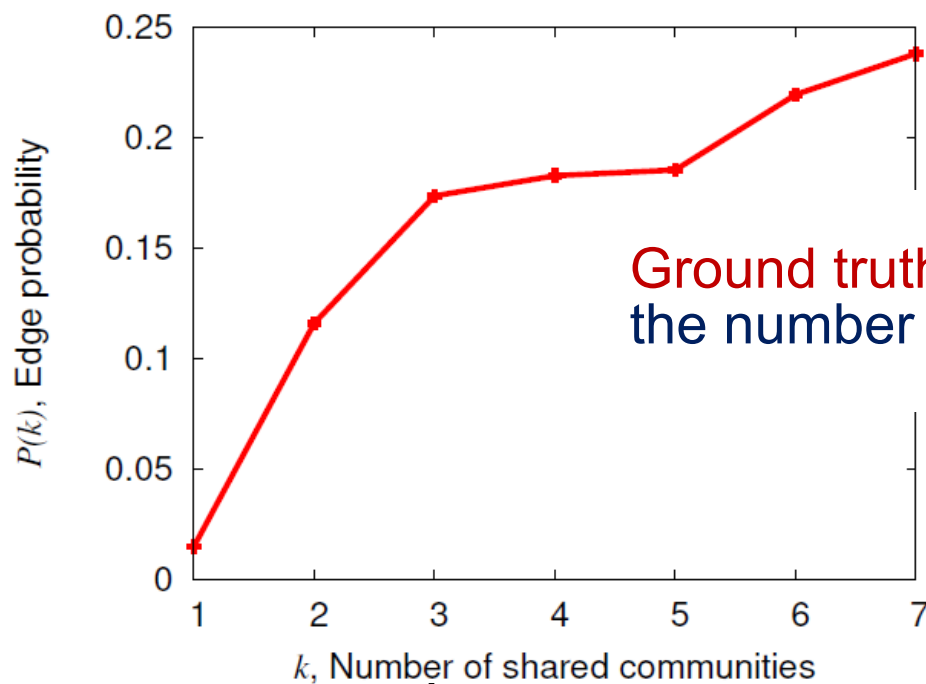


# Measuring overlapping

in social networks



Edge density is  
bigger in the  
overlap



**Ground truth** - Edge probability increases with  
the number of shared communities

Feld, The focused organization of social ties, [1981]  
The more different communities that two individuals  
share, the more likely is that they will be tied

Amazon



# Modularity

Measuring the goodness of a community assignment



Want to:

- ❑ measure of **how well** a network is **partitioned** into communities (i.e., sets of tightly connected nodes)

Idea:

- ❑ “If the number of edges between two groups is only what one would expect on the basis of random chance, then few thoughtful observers would claim this constitutes evidence of meaningful community structure”
- ❑ **Modularity** is “the number of edges falling within groups **minus** the expected number in an equivalent network with edges placed at random”

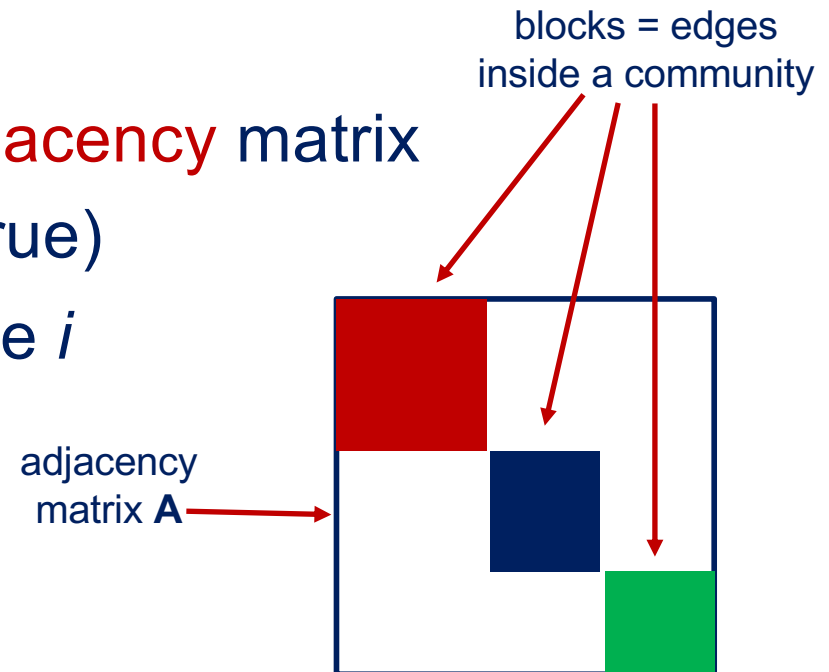


# Number of edges falling within groups

an adjacency matrix overview

$$Q_1 = \sum_{ij} a_{ij} \cdot \eta(c_i = c_j)$$

- ❑  $a_{ij}$  entries of the (binary) **adjacency** matrix
- ❑  $\eta$  **indicating** function (=1 if true)
- ❑  $c_i$  **community** (value) of node  $i$

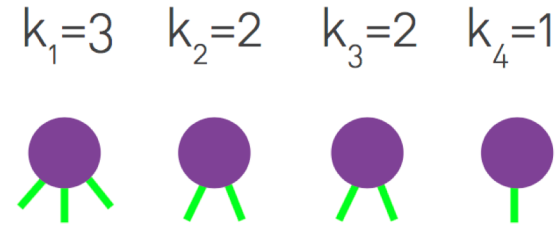




# Network with edges places at random

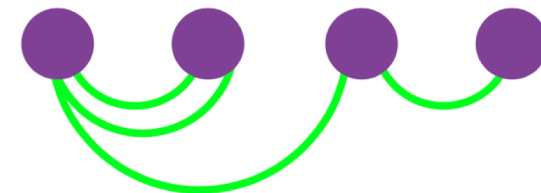
Molloy-Reed model (1995)

1. **unwire** nodes by breaking edges  
but keep **stubs** ( $2L$  in number)  
so that nodes keep their degree



2. **rewire** stubs at random

The resulting graph may contain cycles  
and multiple links (but are a few)



**Rewiring** probability is  $p_{ij} = k_i k_j / 2L$

number of trials  
from node  $i$

probability of  
linking to node  $j$



# Minus expected number of edges an adjacency matrix overview

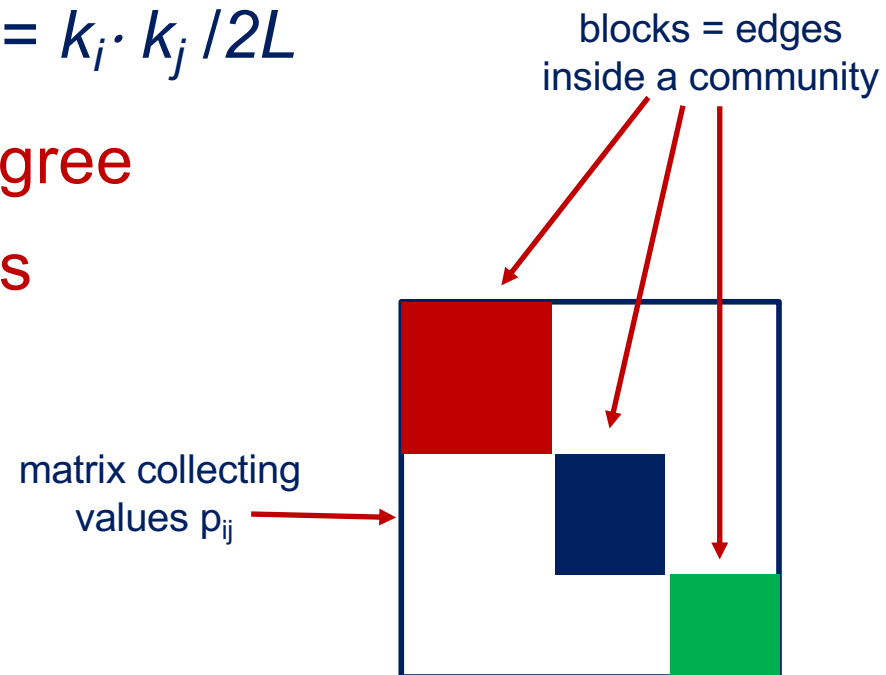
$$Q_2 = \sum_{ij} p_{ij} \cdot \eta(c_i = c_j)$$

The null model !

□ wiring probability  $p_{ij} = k_i \cdot k_j / 2L$

□  $k_i = \sum_j a_{ij} =$  node degree

□  $2L = \sum_i k_i =$  # of stubs





**Modularity** (normalized  $-1 \leq Q \leq 1$ )

$$Q = (Q_1 - Q_2)/2L$$
$$= \frac{1}{2L} \cdot \sum_{ij} (a_{ij} - k_i \cdot k_j / 2L) \cdot \eta(c_i = c_j)$$

- ❑  $Q > 0$  if the edges within groups exceed the (expected) random number
- ❑  $Q \in [0.3, 0.7]$  for a **significant** community structure
- ❑  $Q$  **grows** with size of the graph/number of (well-separated) clusters (Good et al, 2009) and cannot use  $Q$  to compare graphs **very different in size**



original adjacency matrix  
(symmetric, can be fractional)

$$\mathbf{A}_0$$

sum of the  
entries of  $\mathbf{A}_0$

$$D_0 = \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{A}_0 \mathbf{1}$$

corresponds to  $2L$

normalised adjacency matrix  
(entries sum up to 1)

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}_0 / D_0$$

← corresponds to  $a_{ij}/2L$

normalised degree vector  
(entries sum up to 1)

$$\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{1}$$

← corresponds to  $k_i/2L$

community assignment  
matrix (binary, one active  
entry per column)

$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

← community 1  
← community 2  
← community 3

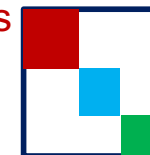
nodes 1 and 2 belong to community 1

nodes 4, 5 and 6 belong to community 3

modularity

$$Q = \text{trace}(\mathbf{C} (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{d} \mathbf{d}^T) \mathbf{C}^T)$$

corresponds to selecting blocks pertaining  
to communities





another useful matrix formalization for undirected networks

$$D_0 = \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{A}_0 \mathbf{1} \quad \mathbf{A}_0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}_0 / D_0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathbf{P}_{CC} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C}^T$$

can be interpreted as a probability matrix linking communities, its entries are the sum of the links of  $\mathbf{A}$  from community  $i$  to community  $j$

$P_{11}$	$P_{12}$	$P_{13}$
$P_{21}$	$P_{22}$	$P_{23}$
$P_{31}$	$P_{32}$	$P_{33}$

can be interpreted as the probability vector of communities

$$\mathbf{p}_C = \mathbf{P}_{CC} \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{d}$$

modularity

$$Q = \text{trace}(\mathbf{P}_{CC} - \mathbf{p}_C \mathbf{p}_C^T)$$



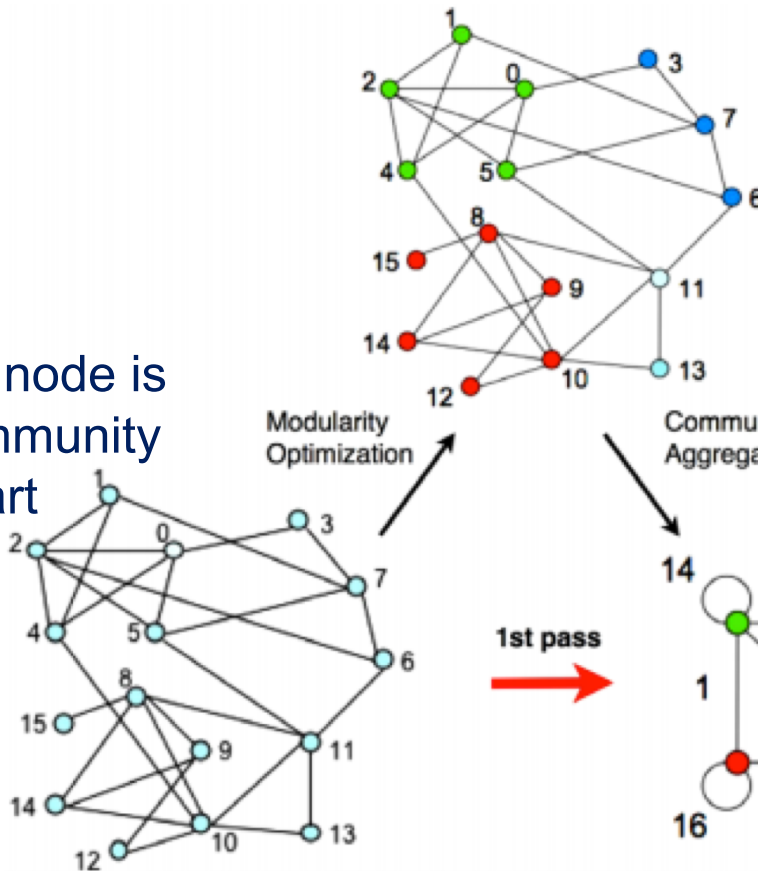


# The Louvain algorithm

Blondel, Guillaume, Lambiotte, Lefebvre, Fast unfolding of communities in large networks (2008)

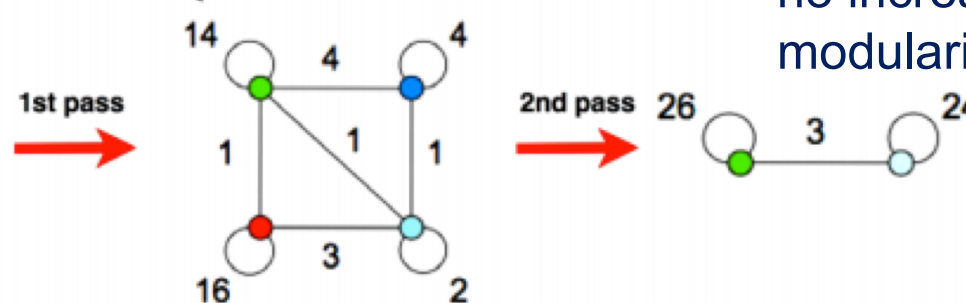
<https://arxiv.org/abs/0803.0476>

Each node is a community @ start



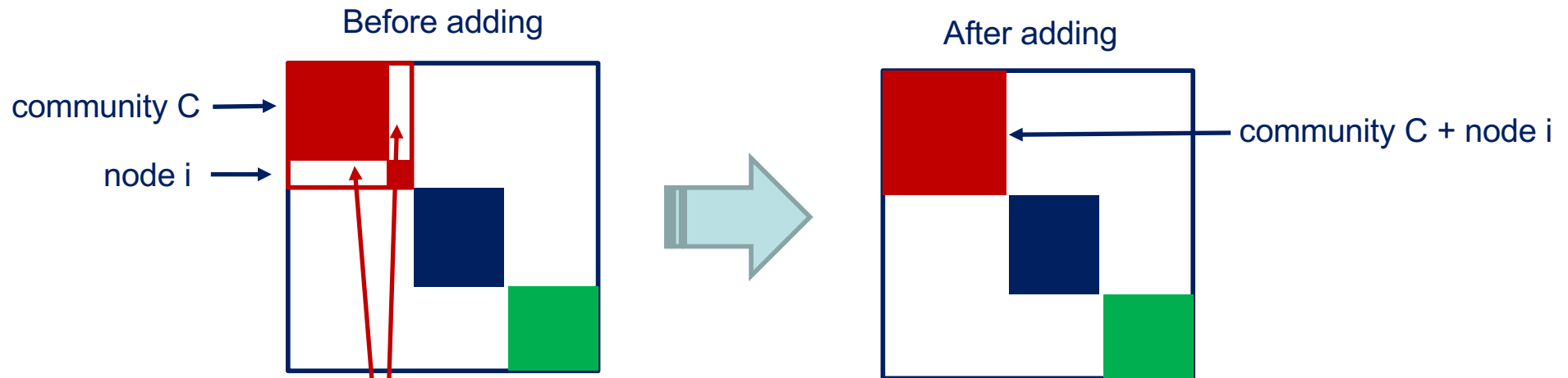
Phase 1: modularity is optimized on the normalized adjacency matrix  $A$  by allowing only **local changes** of communities

The passes are repeated iteratively until no increase of modularity is possible



Phase 2: the communities found are **aggregated** (sum of links) in order to build a new network of communities with normalized adjacency matrix  $P_{CC}$

Adding a separate node to a community: increment  $\Delta Q$  in modularity



what makes the difference

$$\Delta Q = 2 \mathbf{c}^T (\mathbf{a}_i - d_i \mathbf{d})$$

binary vector identifying  
community C

ith column of  $\mathbf{A}$

ith entry of  $\mathbf{d}$

- ❑ Can be used (with inverse sign) to **remove** node  $i$  from a community
- ❑ Node  $i$  is placed in the community ensuring the maximum gain (and positive)
- ❑ Easy to calculate, i.e., **scalable**



- ❑ Implements modularity optimization
- ❑ Scalable (low complexity)
- ❑ Effective
- ❑ Available as the **reference** implementation in any programming language
- ❑ A greedy technique (the order of nodes is selected at random)

can be mitigated by consensus clustering



# Consensus clustering the rationale

Applying Louvain  $P$  times to a network  $A$  yields different partitions, but we expect that these are somehow related

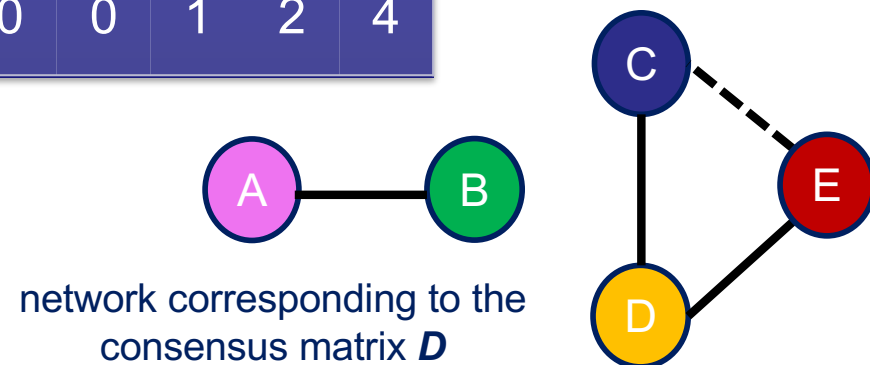
1	1	3	2
1	2	3	2
2	3	2	1
2	4	1	1
3	5	1	1

$P=4$  community assignments

We capture the recurrent patterns through a consensus matrix  $D$ , whose entries correspond to the fraction of times two nodes appear in the same community

4	3	0	0	0
3	4	0	0	0
0	0	4	2	1
0	0	2	4	2
0	0	1	2	4

5x5 consensus matrix  
(unnormalized)





Apply **Louvain** to **A** to yield  $P$  community detections  **$C_P$**  (partitions)

1. Compute the **consensus** matrix  **$D$** 
  - $D_{ij}$  is the fraction of partitions in which vertices  $i$  and  $j$  are assigned to the same cluster in  **$C_P$**
  - entries below a chosen **threshold** are set to zero
2. Apply **Louvain** to  **$D$**  to yield a new  **$C_P$** 
  - if the partitions are all equal, stop
  - otherwise go back to 1.

Cycle until convergence

# Generalizing modularity

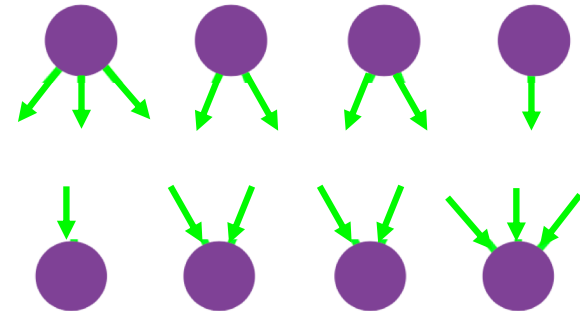
directed and signed networks



# The null model for a directed network

the role of in- and out-degree

1. **unwire** nodes by breaking edges  
but keep **stubs** and their direction  
so that nodes keep their in/out degree



2. **rewire** stubs at random, linking output stubs to input stubs

Rewiring probability  $j \rightarrow i$  is  $p_{ij} = k_j^{\text{out}} k_i^{\text{in}} / L$

number of trials from node  $j$  (points to  $k_j^{\text{out}}$ )

probability of linking to node  $i$  (points to  $k_i^{\text{in}}$ )

number of available links (points to  $L$ )



original adjacency matrix  
(**asymmetric**, can be fractional)

$$\mathbf{A}_0$$

sum of the  
entries of  $\mathbf{A}_0$

$$D_0 = \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{A}_0 \mathbf{1}$$

corresponds to L

normalised adjacency matrix  
(entries sum up to 1)

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}_0 / D_0 \leftarrow \text{corresponds to } a_{ij}/L$$

normalised **in-degree** vector  
(entries sum up to 1)

$$\mathbf{d}_{in} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{1} \leftarrow \text{corresponds to } k_i^{in}/L$$

normalised **out-degree** vector  
(entries sum up to 1)

$$\mathbf{d}_{out} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{1} \leftarrow \text{corresponds to } k_j^{out}/L$$

community assignment matrix  
(binary, one active entry per column)

$$\mathbf{C}$$

not equivalent to making  
 $\mathbf{A}$  symmetric via  $\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^T)$

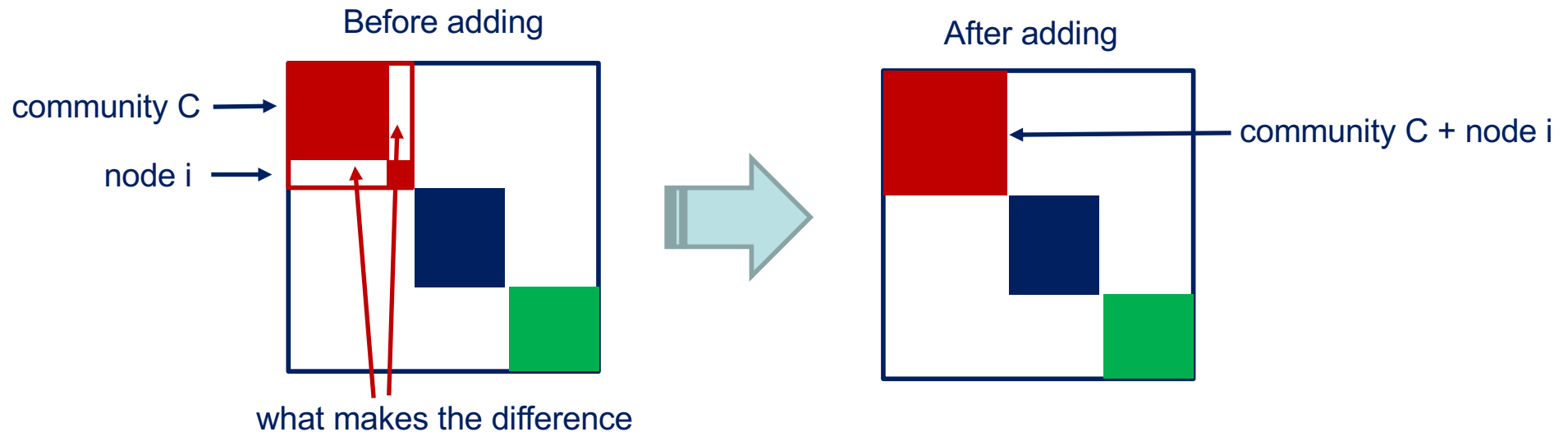
modularity

$$Q = \text{trace}(\mathbf{C} (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{d}_{in} \mathbf{d}_{out}^T) \mathbf{C}^T)$$

Leicht and Newman, "Community structure in directed networks." (2008)  
<https://link.aps.org/pdf/10.1103/PhysRevLett.100.118703>



Adding a separate node to a community: increment  $\Delta Q$  in modularity



what makes the difference

$$\Delta Q = \mathbf{c}^T (\mathbf{a}_i + \mathbf{r}_i - d_i^{out} \mathbf{d}_{in} - d_i^{in} \mathbf{d}_{out})$$

binary vector identifying  
community C

ith column of  $\mathbf{A}$     ith row of  $\mathbf{A}$

ith entry of  $\mathbf{d}_{in}$  and  $\mathbf{d}_{out}$

- ❑ Keeps its simplicity
- ❑ But be aware that it is **not always implemented** in standard packages

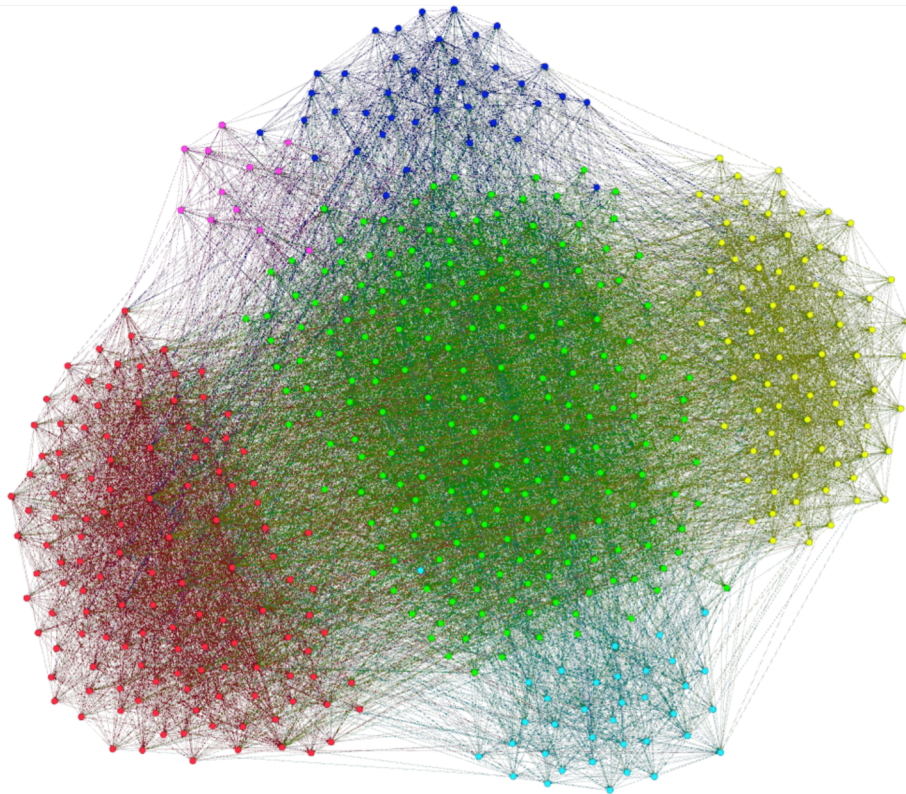


# Directed versus undirected Louvain

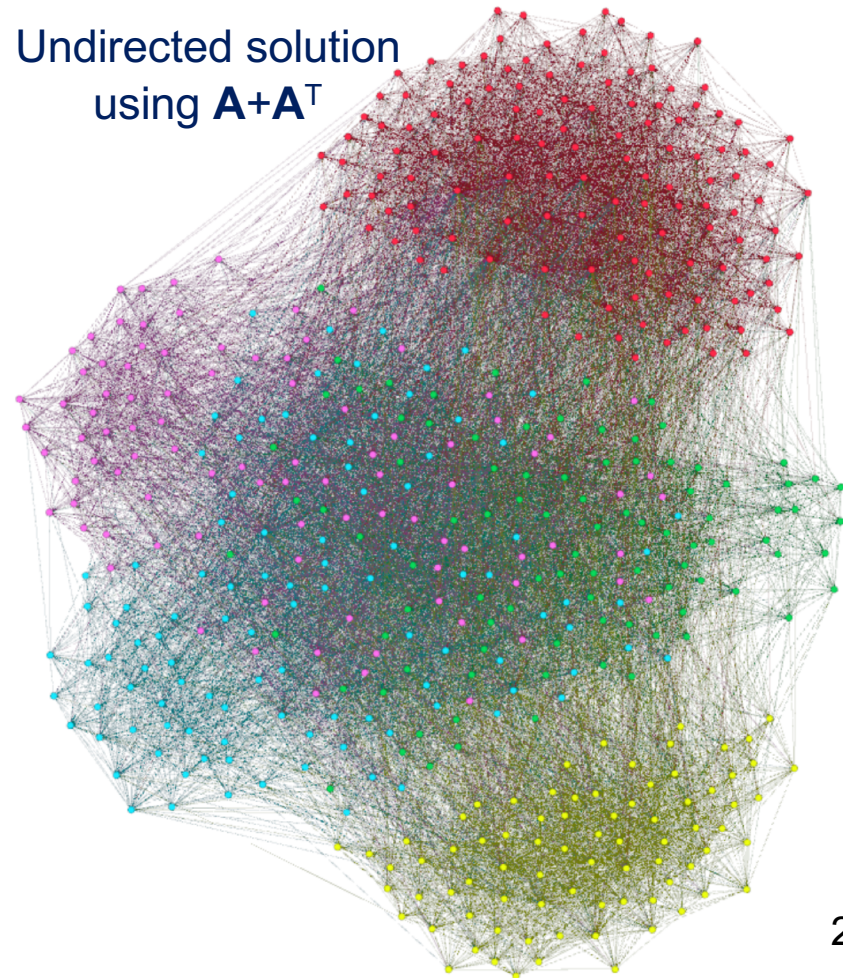
Dugué and Perez, *Directed Louvain: maximizing modularity in directed networks* (2015)

<https://hal.science/hal-01231784/document>

Directed solution using  $\mathbf{A}$  (colors correspond to ground truth)



Undirected solution using  $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^T$

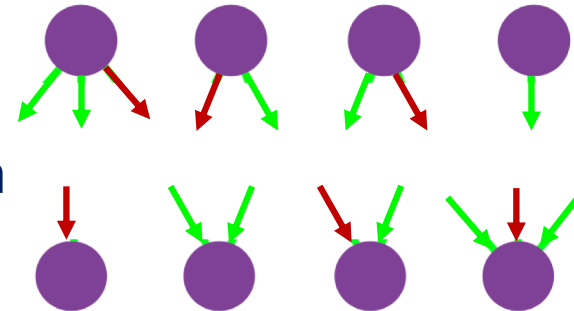




# The null model for a signed network

the role of positive and negative components

1. **unwire** nodes by breaking edges  
but keep **stubs**, their direction, and sign



2. **rewire** stubs at random, linking output stubs to input stubs, with same sign

**Rewiring** probability  $j \rightarrow i$  is  $p_{ij} = k_j^{\text{out}+} k_i^{\text{in}+} / L^+ - k_j^{\text{out}-} k_i^{\text{in}-} / L^-$

positive  
contributions with  
positive sign

negative  
contributions with  
negative sign



original adjacency matrix  
(**asymmetric**, signed)

$$\mathbf{A}_0 = \mathbf{A}_0^+ - \mathbf{A}_0^- \quad \mathbf{D}_0^\pm = \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{A}_0^\pm \mathbf{1}$$

normalised adjacency matrices  
(entries sum up to 1)

$$\mathbf{A}^\pm = \mathbf{A}_0^\pm / \mathbf{D}_0^\pm$$

normalised **in-degree** vectors  
(entries sum up to 1)

$$\mathbf{d}_{in}^\pm = \mathbf{A}^\pm \mathbf{1}$$

normalised **out-degree** vectors  
(entries sum up to 1)

$$\mathbf{d}_{out}^\pm = (\mathbf{A}^\pm)^\top \mathbf{1}$$

community assignment matrix  
(binary, one active entry per column)

$\mathbf{C}$

mixing constant

$$\alpha = D_0^+ / (D_0^+ + D_0^-)$$

modularity

$$Q = \alpha \text{trace}(\mathbf{C} (\mathbf{A}^+ - \mathbf{d}_{in}^+ \mathbf{d}_{out}^{+\top}) \mathbf{C}^\top) - (1 - \alpha) \text{trace}(\mathbf{C} (\mathbf{A}^- - \mathbf{d}_{in}^- \mathbf{d}_{out}^{-\top}) \mathbf{C}^\top)$$



The resolution limit:

- ❑ prevents the algorithms in detecting small communities
- ❑ arises because the null model assumes that each node has an equal probability of connecting to every other node

Can be mitigated by controlling the strength of the null model, i.e.:

$$Q = \text{trace}(\mathbf{P}_{CC} - \gamma \mathbf{p}_C \mathbf{p}_C^T)$$

it is implemented in  
standard packages

tunable value  $\gamma > 1$  increases the number of communities  
 $\gamma < 1$  decreases it

# An application example

interconnections in brain regions through fMRI data

## fMRI correlation matrix

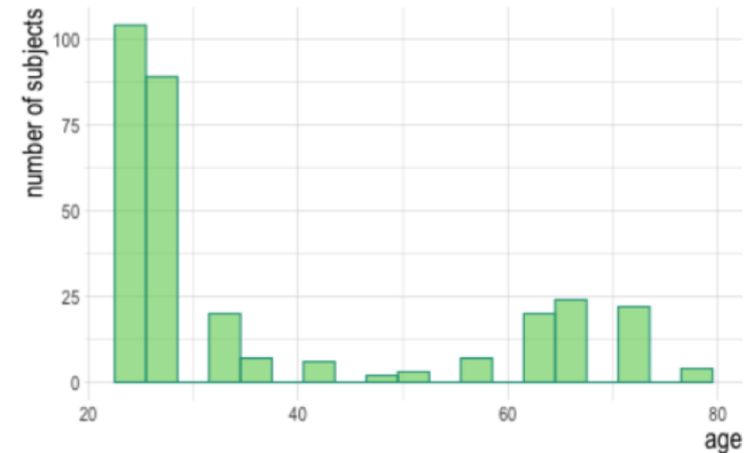
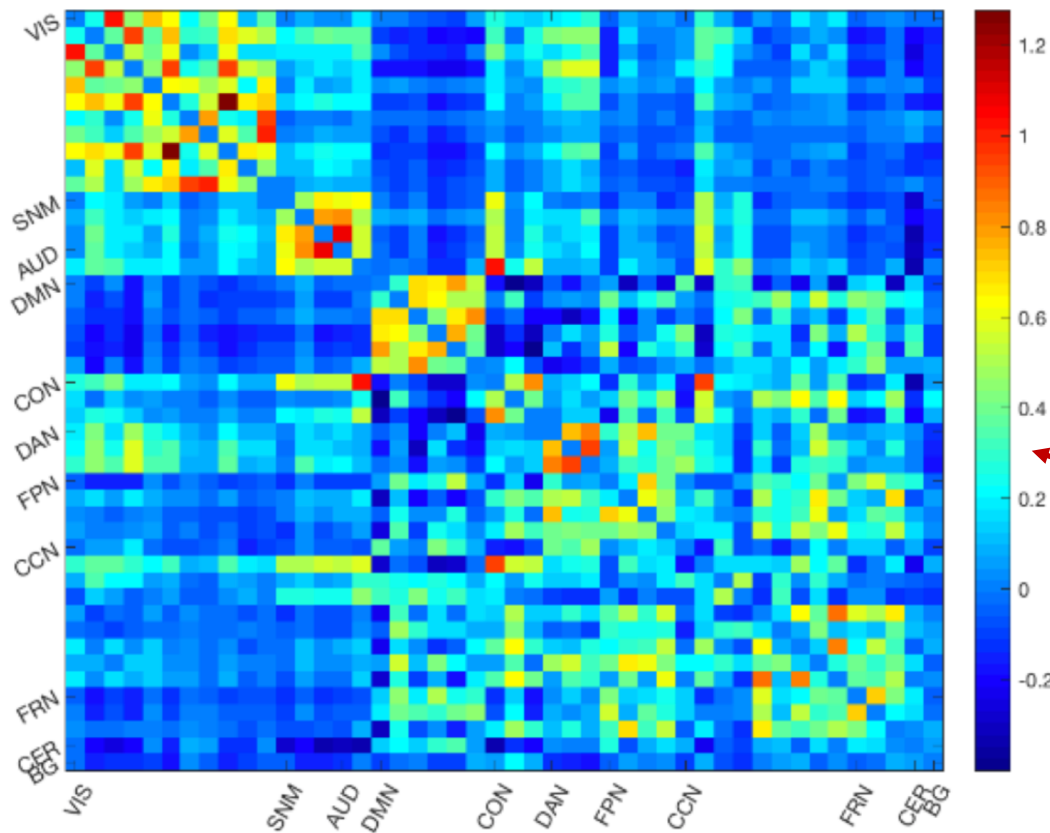


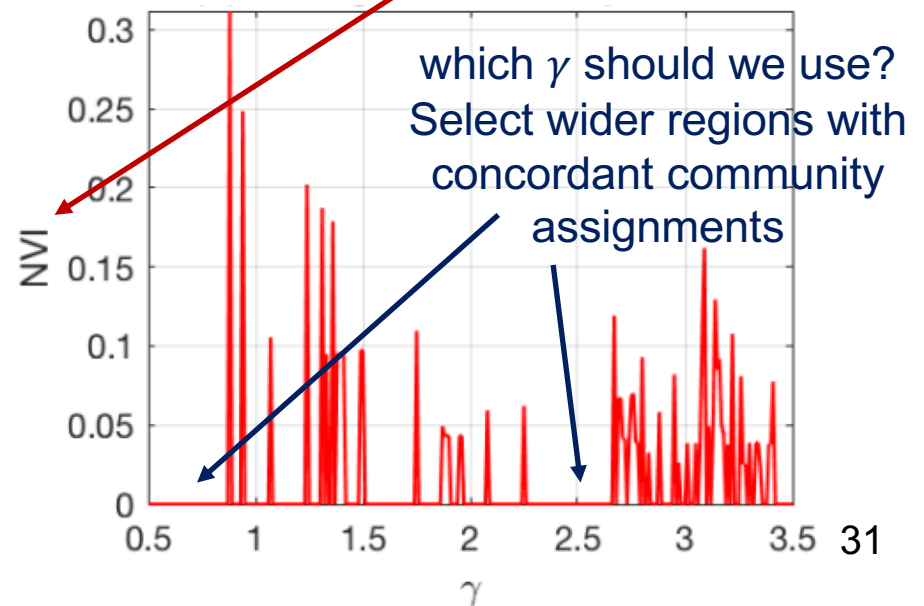
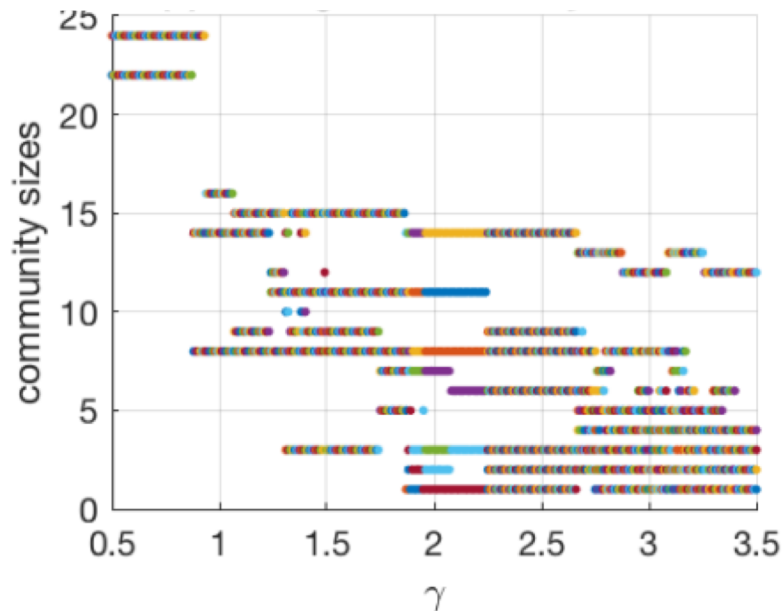
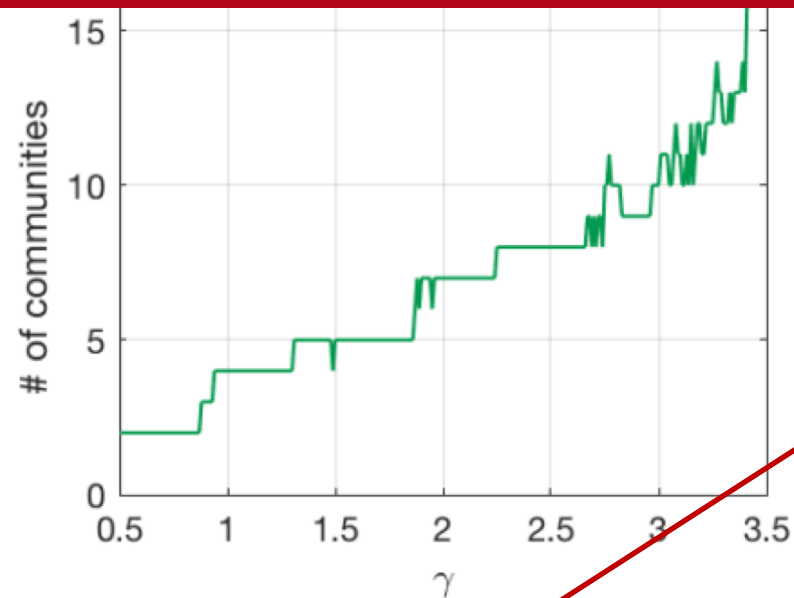
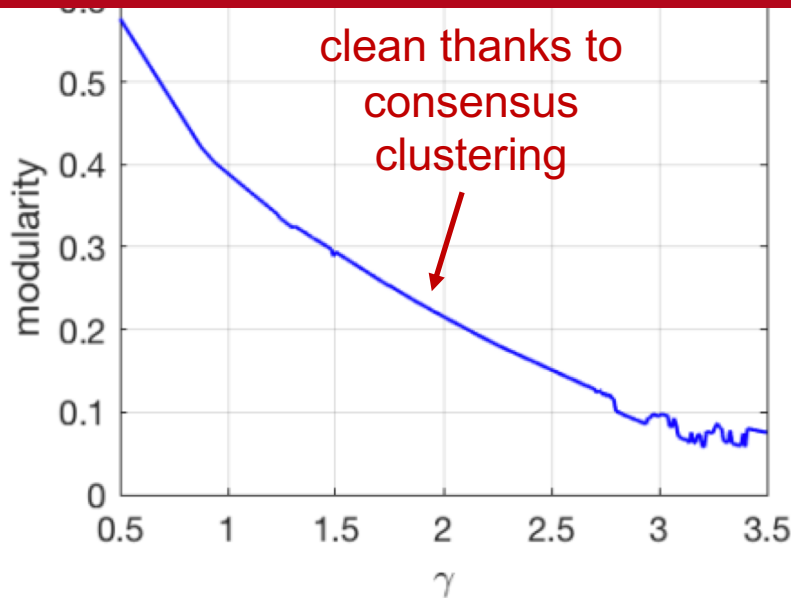
Figure 1: Age histogram of the 308 subjects under study

Can run Louvain on it to identify meaningful patterns (communities) for each subject



# On the dependency on $\gamma$

Nastaran Amini, community and hub detection in human functional brain networks, *master thesis*, (2020)





# Modularity in overlapping communities

relaxing the reference model

Target problem:

maximize  
wrt  $\mathbf{C}$

$$Q = \text{trace}(\mathbf{C} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}^T), \quad \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{d}_{in} \mathbf{d}_{out}^T$$

subject to  $\mathbf{C} \geq \mathbf{0}$

$$\mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1}$$

~~$\mathbf{C}$  binary~~

we drop the binary condition to  
allow for overlapping communities

- ❑ Can be implemented by **alternate search** on nodes (possibly in a random order) starting from the output of a standard Louvain approach
- ❑ It **improves** modularity
- ❑ It is not available in standard packages





# Alternate search basics

optimizing the community coefficients of node  $i$

Target problem:  
maximize  
wrt  $\mathbf{c}_i$

$$Q = \text{trace}(\mathbf{C} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}^T)$$
$$\text{subject to } \mathbf{c}_i \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{1} = 1$$

Here  $\mathbf{c}_i$   
is the  $i$ th  
column  
of  $\mathbf{C}$

Gets a reasonable form

by writing  $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{C}_{\sim i} + \mathbf{c}_i \delta_i^T$

$i$ th column of  $\mathbf{C}$  set to  $\mathbf{0}$

binary vector active  
only in position  $i$

$i$ th column of  $\mathbf{C}$  only

$$Q = \text{trace}(\mathbf{c}_i \delta_i^T \mathbf{B} \delta_i \mathbf{c}_i^T) + \text{trace}(\mathbf{C}_{\sim i} (\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B}^T) \delta_i \mathbf{c}_i^T) + \text{const}$$
$$= B_{ii} |\mathbf{c}_i|^2 + \mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{C}_{\sim i} (\mathbf{b}_i + \mathbf{r}_i^T) + \text{const}$$

$i$ th column of  $\mathbf{B}$     $i$ th row of  $\mathbf{B}$



Target problem:

maximize  
wrt  $\mathbf{c}_i$

$$\frac{1}{2} a |\mathbf{c}_i|^2 + \mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{v}$$

$$\text{subject to } \mathbf{c}_i \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{1} = 1$$

$$\text{with } a = B_{ii}, \mathbf{v} = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{C}_{-i} (\mathbf{b}_i + \mathbf{r}_i^T)$$

Case 1:  $a \geq 0$

$$\text{argmax } \frac{1}{2} a |\mathbf{c}_i|^2 + \mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{v}$$
$$\text{subject to } \mathbf{c}_i \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{1} = 1$$

concave

the value lies in the range of the  
values of  $\mathbf{v}$

Solution:

$$\mathbf{c}_i = \delta_j, \quad j = \text{argmax}_i \mathbf{v}_i$$

we force it to the maximum value of  $\mathbf{v}$



Case 2:  $a < 0$

convex  $u = -v/a$

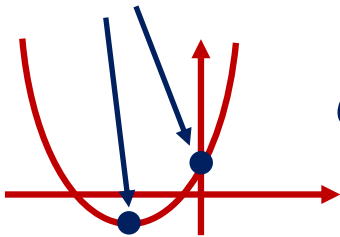
$$\operatorname{argmin} \frac{1}{2} |c_i|^2 - c_i^T u$$
$$\text{subject to } c_i \geq 0, c_i^T \mathbf{1} = 1$$

**Solution:** we exploit the Lagrangian

$$L = \frac{1}{2} |c_i|^2 - c_i^T u + \lambda (c_i^T \mathbf{1} - 1)$$

$$\nabla L = c_i - u + \lambda \mathbf{1} = 0$$

if the global minimum  
is below 0, then 0 is  
the best choice



$$c_i = [u - \lambda \mathbf{1}]^+ \text{ where } \lambda \text{ is such that } \mathbf{1}^T [u - \lambda \mathbf{1}]^+ = 1$$

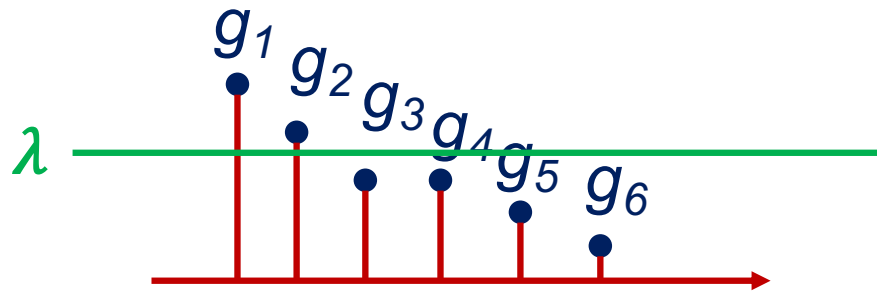
positive part operator:  $[x]^+$  is  $x$  for  $x > 0$  and 0 otherwise



Problem

$$\text{find } \lambda \text{ such that } \mathbf{1}^\top [\mathbf{u} - \lambda \mathbf{1}]^+ = 1$$

Solution: sort vector  $\mathbf{u}$  in decreasing order  $\rightarrow \mathbf{g}$



if  $\lambda$  is in between  $g_2$  and  $g_3$ ,  
then it must be that  
 $g_1 + g_2 - 2g_3 \geq 1$

- ❑  $\mathbf{z} = [ \text{cumsum}(\mathbf{g}_{1:N-1}) - (1:N-1) \cdot \mathbf{g}_{2:N}, \infty ]$
- ❑ let  $z_n$  be the first entry of  $\mathbf{z}$  satisfying  $z_n \geq 1$
- ❑ hence  $\lambda$  lies between  $\mathbf{g}_n$  and  $\mathbf{g}_{n+1}$  (use  $\mathbf{g}_{N+1} = -\infty$ )
- ❑ therefore  $\lambda = (\text{sum}(\mathbf{g}_{1:n}) - 1) / n \geq \mathbf{g}_{N+1}$



- ❑ It provides a **binary** outcome only for  $B_{ij} \geq 0$  (single community)
- ❑ In all other cases the result is **fractional** (multiple communities) but **not all** the communities are necessarily **active**
- ❑ Would be nice to see it implemented by someone in the class 😊

# The spectral approach

for modularity optimization



# The two communities case

a compact modularity expression

modularity

$$Q = \text{trace}(\mathbf{C} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}^T), \quad \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{d} \mathbf{d}^T$$

what if we have only two communities ?

$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{v} \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow \text{community 1} \\ \leftarrow \text{community 2} \end{matrix}$$

idea: signed vector  $\mathbf{s} = 2\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{1}$

$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{s})$$

$$\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{v} = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{s})$$

+1s identify community 1,  
and -1s identify community 2

$$Q = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{s} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{s}^T \quad \leftarrow \text{since } \mathbf{B} \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{0}$$



Target problem:

maximize

$$Q = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{s} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{s}^T$$

wrt the binary vector  $\mathbf{s}$



a non trivial NP problem

We exploit the eigendecomposition of  $\mathbf{B}$

□  $\mathbf{B} = \sum \mathbf{b}_i \mathbf{b}_i^T \lambda_i$

□  $\mathbf{b}_i$  normalized eigenvector  $|\mathbf{b}_i|=1$

□  $\lambda_i$  eigenvalue

What if we only keep the  
strongest component?

Target problem revisited:

maximize

$$Q = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i (\mathbf{b}_i^T \mathbf{s})^2 \lambda_i$$





Target problem relaxed:  
maximize

$$Q = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{b}_1^T \mathbf{s})^2 \lambda_1$$

$$\mathbf{s} = \text{sign}(\mathbf{b}_1)$$

strongest (positive)  
eigenvalue

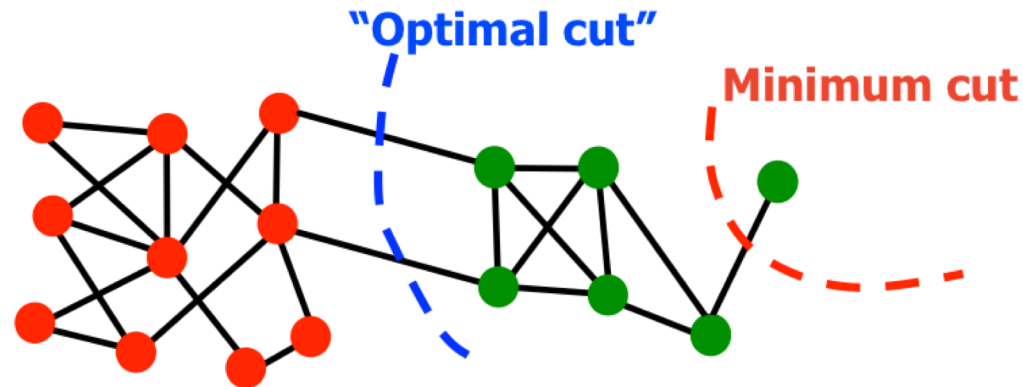
- ❑ it is a **simple** approach (e.g., related to PCA decomposition) that needs to be recursively applied
- ❑ Can be **refined** by switching community of nodes if modularity increases
- ❑ Can also be refined by exploiting more than one eigenvalue
- ❑ Still, its performance is rather poor, and for this reason it is **deprecated**



- ❑ Modularity is a key performance metric in community detection
- ❑ Optimizing modularity through the Louvain approach is the **bare minimum** required in any project
- ❑ Implementation of generalized modularity (directed, signed, overlapping) is **highly welcome** to get a top grade

# The normalized cut criterion

an old (worth citing) alternative to modularity



□ We want to **partition** an (undirected) graph in two **disjoint** groups

□ A **good** partition is one that

**maximizes** the # of within-group connections

**minimizes** the # of between-group connections

↑  
the minimum cut criterion

also this criterion is needed



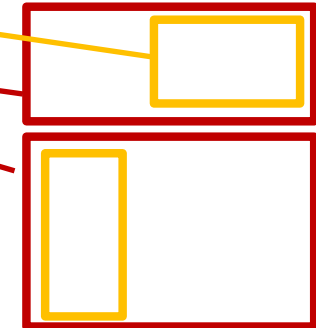


# The normalized cut criterion

two community case

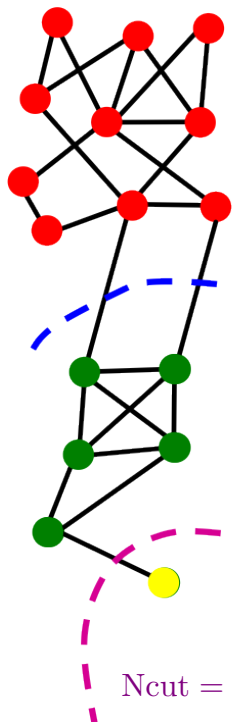
$$Ncut(A,B) = \frac{cut(A,B)}{assoc(A)} + \frac{cut(B,A)}{assoc(B)}$$

sum of the links that connect  
the two communities



- ❑ Produces more **balanced** partitions
- ❑ Avoids single nodes,  $Ncut = 1/1 + 1/(L-1) = L/(L-1) \simeq 1$

sum of the links departing  
from each community



$$Ncut = \frac{2}{30} + \frac{2}{20} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$Ncut = \frac{1}{49} + \frac{1}{1} = \frac{50}{49}$$

						28			16			1	
	1	1											
1	1	1			1								
	1	1	1										
1	1	1	1	1	1	1							
			1	1		1							
			1			1							
1				1	1								
			1										
						1	1	1					
						1	1	1					
						1	1	1	1				
								1	1				
										1			
											1		
												1	
													1

cut = 2



# The normalized cut criterion

general case versus modularity

$$D_0 = \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{A}_0 \mathbf{1} \quad \begin{matrix} \nearrow \\ \nearrow \end{matrix} \quad \mathbf{A}_0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}_0 / D_0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathbf{P}_{CC} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C}^T$$

can be interpreted as a probability matrix linking communities, its entries are the sum of the links of  $\mathbf{A}$  from community  $i$  to community  $j$

$P_{11}$	$P_{12}$	$P_{13}$
$P_{21}$	$P_{22}$	$P_{23}$
$P_{31}$	$P_{32}$	$P_{33}$

can be interpreted as the probability vector of communities

$$\mathbf{p}_C = \mathbf{P}_{CC} \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{d}$$

normalized cut

$$N_{\text{cut}} = \sum_i (p_i - P_{ii}) / p_i > 0$$

to be minimized

modularity

$$Q = \sum_i (P_{ii} - p_i^2) < 1$$

to be maximized



$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 \\ \mathbf{v}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \mathbf{s} \\ 1 - \mathbf{s} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{\phantom{0}} & \boxed{\phantom{0}} \\ \boxed{\phantom{0}} & \boxed{\phantom{0}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{1}$$

$$\text{cut} = \mathbf{v}_1 \mathbf{A} \mathbf{v}_2^T = \frac{1}{4} (1 - \mathbf{s} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{s}^T)$$

$$\text{assoc}_1 = \mathbf{v}_1 \mathbf{d} = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \mathbf{s} \mathbf{d})$$

$$\text{assoc}_2 = 1 - \text{assoc}_1 = \frac{1}{2} (1 - \mathbf{s} \mathbf{d})$$

$$\text{Ncut} = \frac{\text{cut}}{\text{assoc}_1} + \frac{\text{cut}}{\text{assoc}_2} = \frac{\text{cut}}{\text{assoc}_1 \text{assoc}_2} = \frac{1 - \mathbf{s} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{s}^T}{1 - (\mathbf{s} \mathbf{d})^2}$$

$$\text{Ncut} = \frac{\mathbf{s} \mathbf{L} \mathbf{s}^T}{1 - (\mathbf{s} \mathbf{d})^2}, \quad \mathbf{L} = \text{diag}(\mathbf{d}) - \mathbf{A} \quad \text{Laplacian matrix } \mathbf{L} \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{0}$$



# Solving the binary case

an NP complex problem

$$\text{minimize } \frac{\mathbf{s} L \mathbf{s}^T}{1 - (\mathbf{s} \mathbf{d})^2}$$

s. to  $\mathbf{s} \in \{\pm 1\}^N$

an NP complex  
problem

work on  $\mathbf{s}$

$$\mathbf{s} = a\mathbf{1} + b\mathbf{u}, \text{ with } \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{1} \rangle_{\mathbf{d}} = \mathbf{u} \mathbf{d} = 0$$
$$|\mathbf{u}|_{\mathbf{d}}^2 = 1$$

reference norm,  
weighted by  $\mathbf{d}$

$$\mathbf{s} L \mathbf{s}^T = b^2 \mathbf{u} L \mathbf{u}^T$$

$$\mathbf{s} \mathbf{d} = \langle \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{1} \rangle_{\mathbf{d}} = a \langle \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1} \rangle_{\mathbf{d}} + b \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{1} \rangle_{\mathbf{d}} = a$$

$$1 = |\mathbf{s}|_{\mathbf{d}}^2 = a^2 |\mathbf{1}|_{\mathbf{d}}^2 + b^2 |\mathbf{u}|_{\mathbf{d}}^2 - 2ab \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{1} \rangle_{\mathbf{d}} = a^2 + b^2$$

$$\text{minimize } \mathbf{u} L \mathbf{u}^T$$

s. to  $|\mathbf{u}|_{\mathbf{d}}^2 = 1$

$$\mathbf{u} \mathbf{d} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{s} = a\mathbf{1} + \sqrt{1-a^2} \mathbf{u} \in \{\pm 1\}^N$$

by construction  
 $\text{sign}(\mathbf{s}) = \text{sign}(\mathbf{u})$   
since  $|a| < 1$

still an NP complex problem  
(but we can relax the binary constraint)





# Spectral clustering

a suboptimum solution to the Ncut criterion in the binary case

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize } \mathbf{v} \mathbf{L}_1 \mathbf{v}^T \\ &\text{s. to } |\mathbf{v}|^2 = 1 \\ &\quad \mathbf{v} \sqrt{\mathbf{d}} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{sign}(\mathbf{s}) = \text{sign}(\mathbf{v})$$

$$\mathbf{v} = \text{diag}(\mathbf{d})^{1/2} \mathbf{u}$$

$$\text{sign}(\mathbf{v}) = \text{sign}(\mathbf{u})$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize } \mathbf{u} \mathbf{L} \mathbf{u}^T \\ &\text{s. to } |\mathbf{u}|_d^2 = 1 \\ &\quad \mathbf{u} \mathbf{d} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{sign}(\mathbf{s}) = \text{sign}(\mathbf{u})$$

normalized Laplacian

$$\mathbf{L}_1 = \mathbf{I} - \text{diag}(\mathbf{d})^{-1/2} \mathbf{A} \text{diag}(\mathbf{d})^{-1/2}$$

positive semidefinite matrix

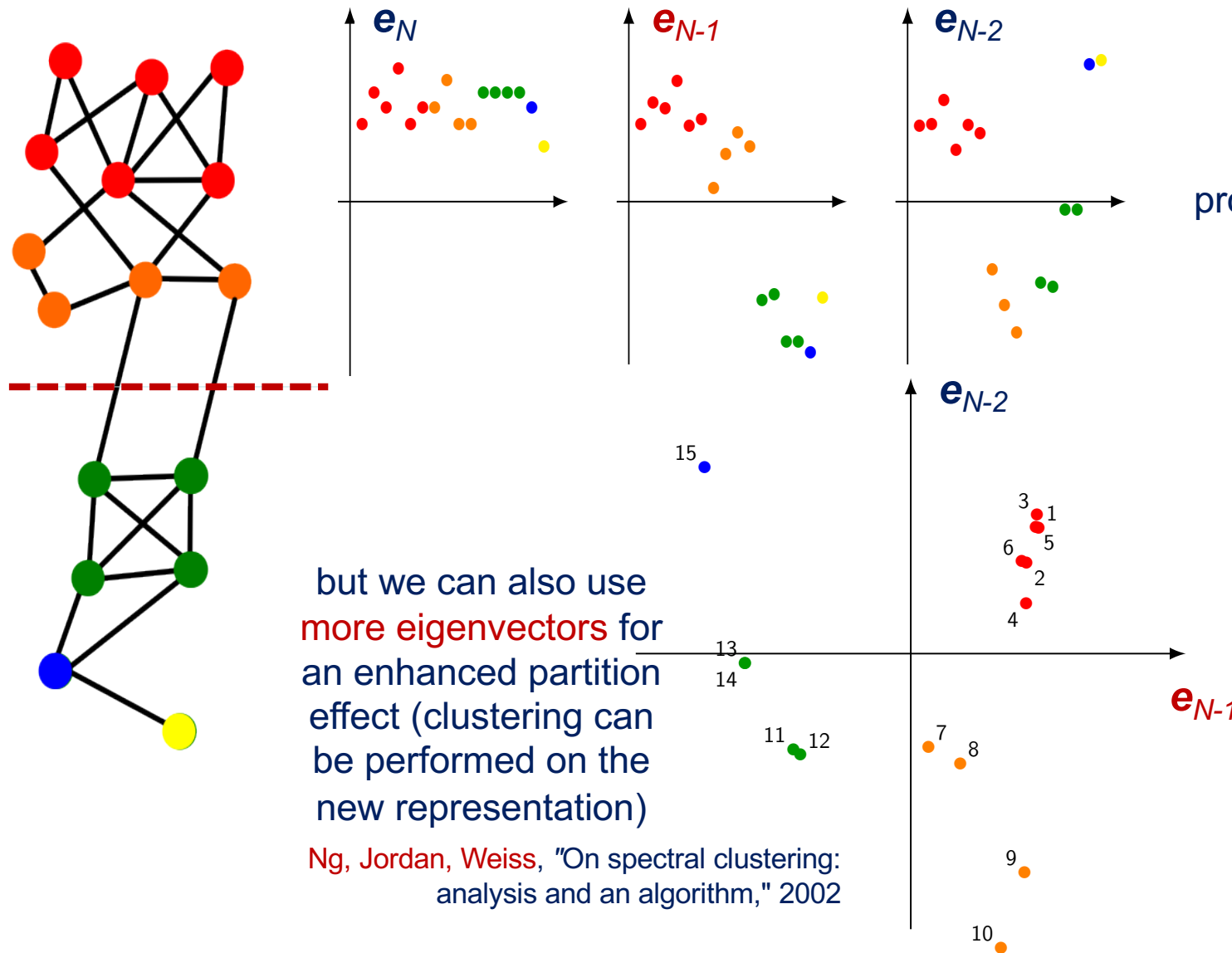
$$2 \geq \lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_{N-1} \geq \lambda_N = 0$$

$\mathbf{e}_{N-1}$  is Fiedler's eigenvector  
 $\lambda_{N-1}$  is the algebraic connectivity

$$\mathbf{e}_N = \sqrt{\mathbf{d}}$$

Shi and Malik, "Normalized cuts and image segmentation," 2000  
Ng, Jordan, Weiss, "On spectral clustering: analysis and an algorithm," 2002

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{e}_{N-1} \\ &\text{sign}(\mathbf{s}) = \text{sign}(\mathbf{e}_{N-1}) \end{aligned}$$



Fiedler's  
eigenvector  
provides the best  
partition

but we can also use  
more eigenvectors for  
an enhanced partition  
effect (clustering can  
be performed on the  
new representation)

Ng, Jordan, Weiss, "On spectral clustering:  
analysis and an algorithm," 2002



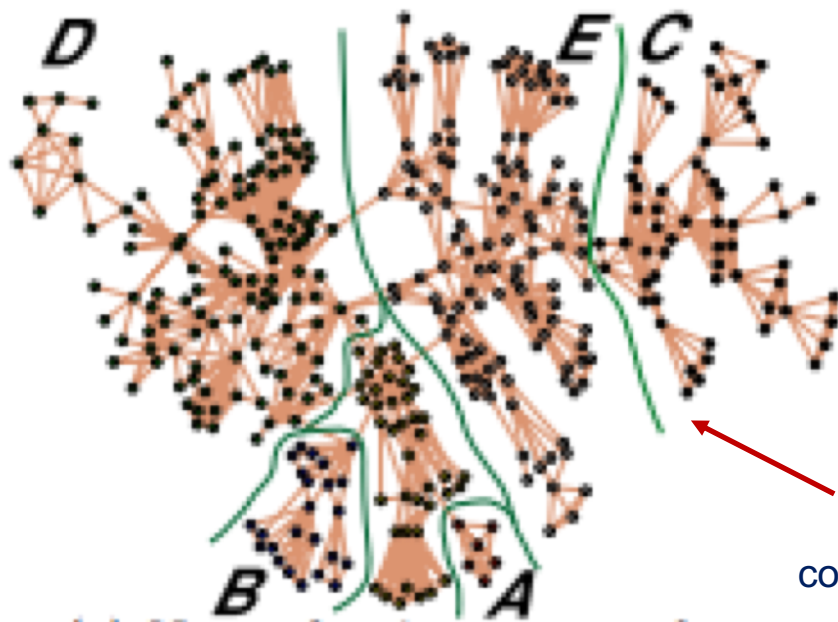
# The network community profile and the role of conductance in the binary community case

conductance  $\phi = \text{cut} / \min(\text{assoc}, 1-\text{assoc})$

run your **community detection**  
algorithm(s) many times, for  
communities of the same size keep  
the one giving the **lowest**  
**conductance value**

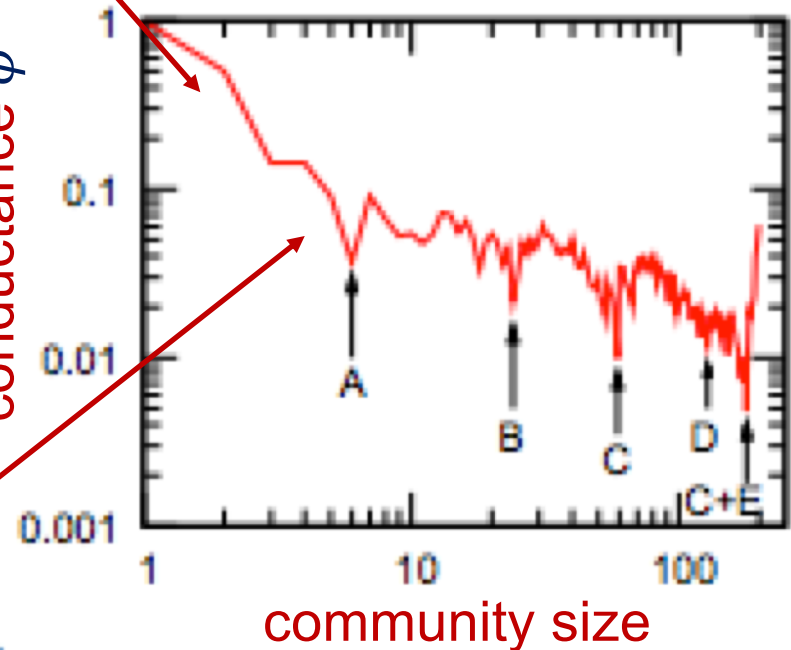
network

NCP = network  
community profile



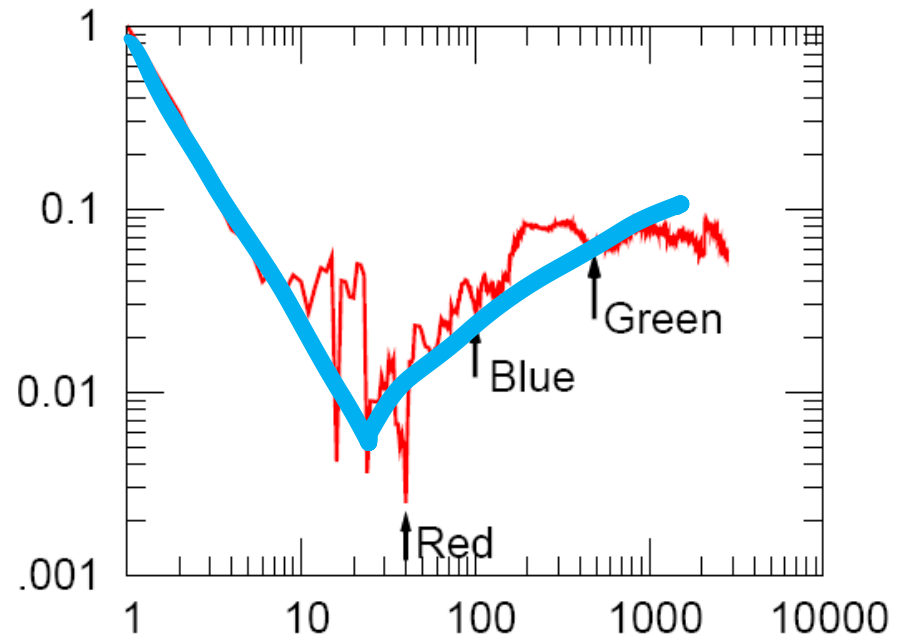
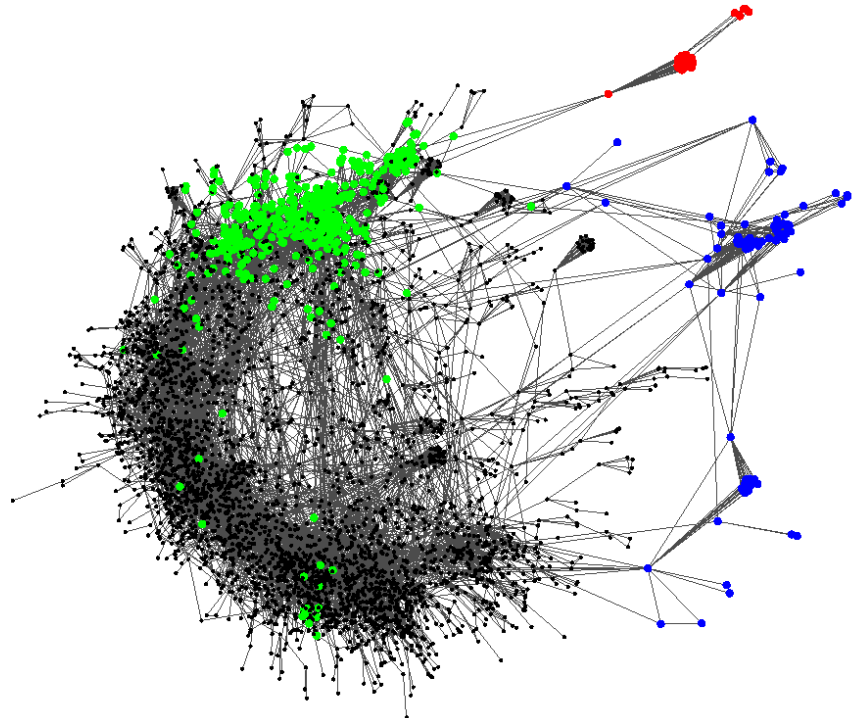
conductance  $\phi$

local minima  
identify good  
communities in our  
network



# The V shape of the NCP

explaining the core-periphery structure



- ❑ Dips in the graph correspond to the **good** communities
- ❑ **Slope** corresponds to the dimensionality of the network
- ❑ The **V shape** is common in large (social) networks
- ❑ Best communities have about **100 nodes** → **wiskers**
- ❑ Large communities get worse performance → **core**



- ❑ **Normalized cut** is an old quality measure that set the beginning of image segmentation (clustering) algorithms
- ❑ It only works for unsigned **undirected** graphs
- ❑ Its outcomes correlates in general with modularity, although the literature suggests it is a **weaker** measure
- ❑ It is an alternative to modularity, better suited as a **quality measure** rather than as an optimization approach
- ❑ Do not spend any time in implementing any normalised cut optimization
- ❑ The performance of the spectral approach is weak, and for this reason it is **deprecated** (but will turn out useful later on)
- ❑ The **network community profile** provides an interesting view on the network structure, would like to see it implemented in your projects

# Infomap

an approach based on PageRank and information theory



# The InfoMap principle

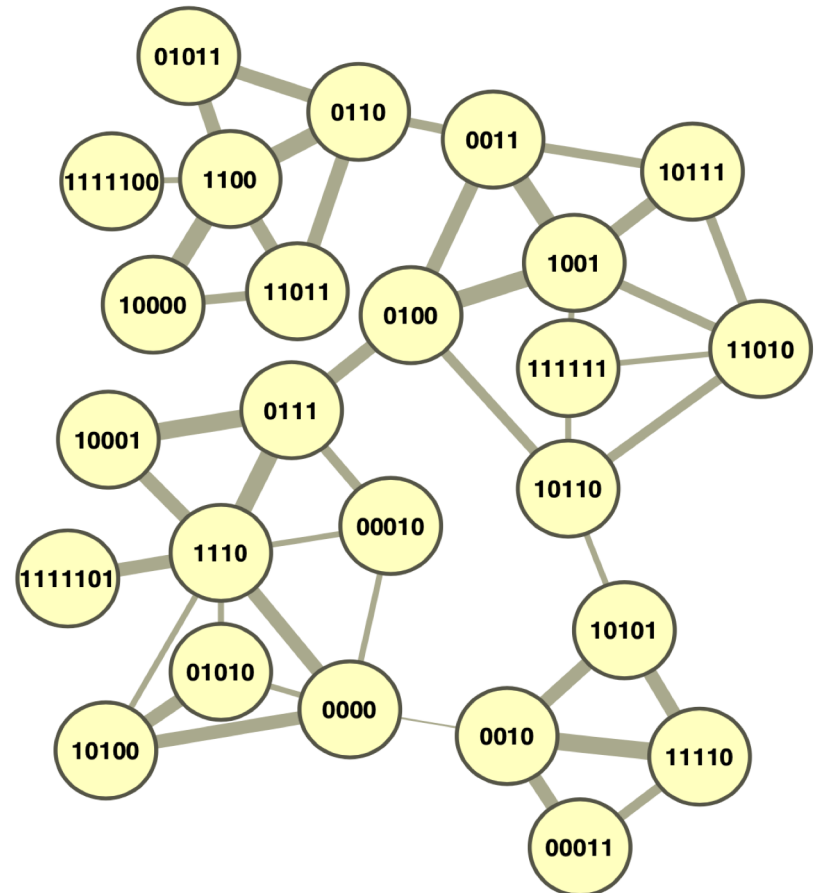
Rosvall, Bergstrom. "Maps of random walks on complex networks reveal community structure." (2008)

<https://www.pnas.org/doi/pdf/10.1073/pnas.0706851105?download=true>

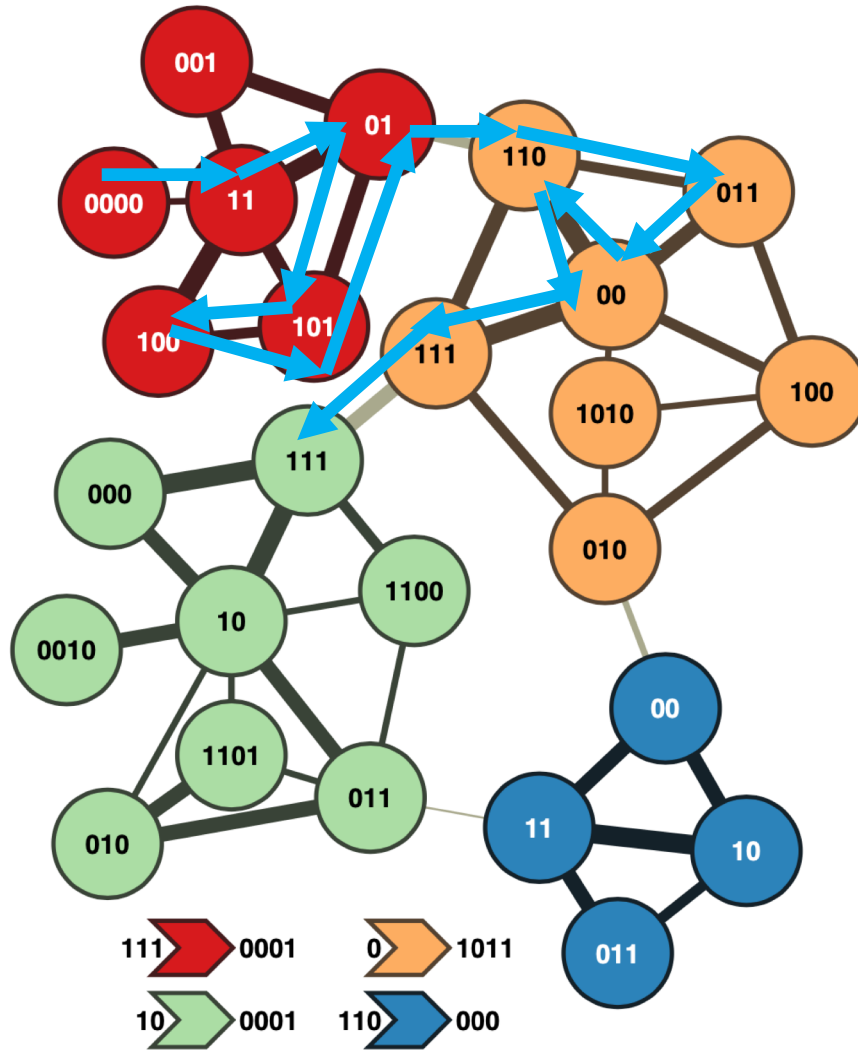
The most compact way of describing a **random walk** through a network is by encoding node entries according to their probability  $\mathbf{p}$  (e.g., PageRank) using the **Huffman** procedure that guarantees an **average encoding length**

$$L \gtrsim H(\mathbf{p}) = \sum p_i \log(1/p_i)$$

↑  
entropy based on the  
probability vector  $\mathbf{p}$



```
1111100 1100 0110 11011 10000 11011 0110 0011 10111 1001 0011  
1001 0100 0111 10001 1110 0111 10001 0111 1110 0000 1110 10001  
0111 1110 0111 1110 1111101 1110 0000 10100 0000 1110 10001 0111  
0100 10110 11010 10111 1001 0100 1001 10111 1001 0100 1001 0100  
0011 0100 0011 0110 11011 0110 0011 0100 1001 10111 0011 0100  
0111 10001 1110 10001 0111 0100 10110 111111 10110 10101 11110  
00011
```



Under a **community assignment** we can code the community we are in (each time we **switch** community) and, separately, the nodes visited inside each community (+ the exiting state)

switching probability

probability of being in community  $i$

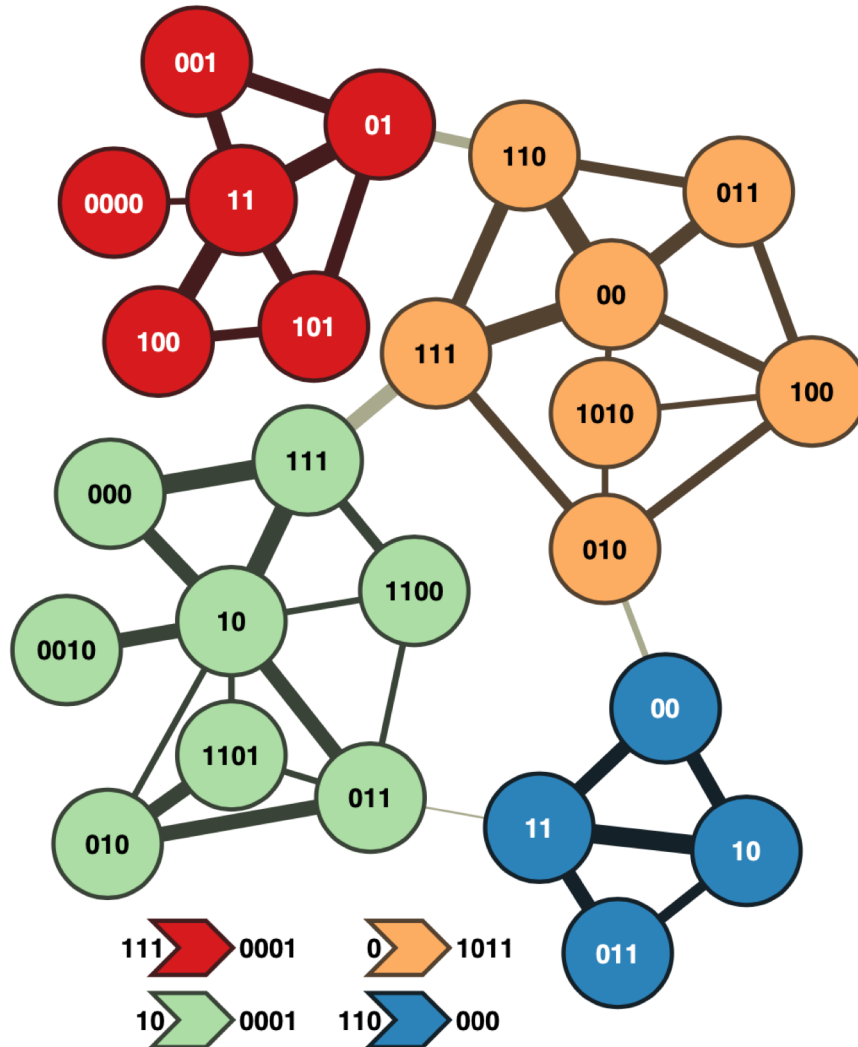
$$L \approx P_S H(\mathbf{s}_c) + \sum P_i H(\mathbf{u}_i)$$

community ranking (probability vector) under a switch

nodes ranking (probability vector) inside community  $i$  (nodes include exit to another community)

111 0000 11 01 101 100 101 01 0001 0 110 011 00 110 00 111 1011 10  
 111 000 10 111 000 111 10 011 10 000 111 10 111 10 0010 10 011 010  
 011 10 000 111 0001 0 111 010 100 011 00 111 00 011 00 111 00 111  
 110 111 110 1011 111 01 101 01 0001 0 110 111 00 011 110 111 1011  
 10 111 000 10 000 111 0001 0 111 010 1010 010 1011 110 00 10 011





- We want to **optimize  $L$**  wrt the **community assignment**
- More compact encoding = better community assignment
- We expect that this corresponds to keeping the random walk **inside** the communities
- A **flow-based** optimization
- Different (but related to) from modularity (**strength-based**)

111 0000 11 01 101 100 101 01 0001 0 110 011 00 110 00 111 1011 10  
 111 000 10 111 000 111 10 011 10 000 111 10 111 10 0010 10 011 010  
 011 10 000 111 0001 0 111 010 100 011 00 111 00 011 00 111 00 111  
 110 111 110 1011 111 01 101 01 0001 0 110 111 00 011 110 111 1011  
 10 111 000 10 000 111 0001 0 111 010 1010 010 1011 110 00 10 011



# PageRank for nodes

node probability in a random walk with restart

transition probability  
matrix

random walk with restart  
formalization

Markov chain

PageRank equation

adjacency matrix (can be fractional)

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{A} \text{diag}^{-1}(\mathbf{d}), \quad \mathbf{d} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{1}$$

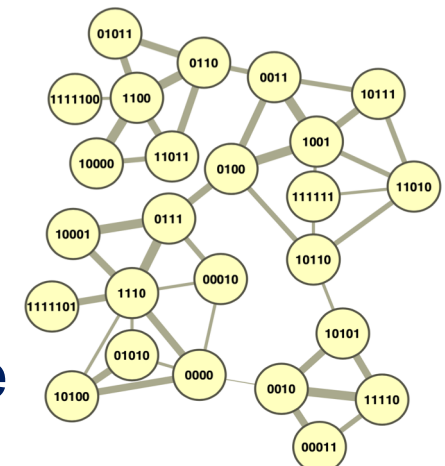
$$\mathbf{T} = c \mathbf{M} + (1-c) \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}^T / N \quad \leftarrow \text{equally likely teleport vector}$$

↑  
transition probability  
matrix  $\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{T} = \mathbf{1}^T$

$$\mathbf{p}_{t+1} = \mathbf{T} \mathbf{p}_t, \quad \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{p}_\infty \quad \leftarrow \text{PageRank centrality vector}$$

$$\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{T} \mathbf{p} \\ = c \mathbf{M} \mathbf{p} + (1-c) \mathbf{1}/N$$

$\mathbf{p}$  is a **stochastic vector** whose entry  $p_i$  is the probability of ending in node  $i \rightarrow$  **node view**





# PageRank for communities

extending the idea under a community assignment

node  
view

$$\mathbf{p}_n = \mathbf{T}_{n|n} \mathbf{p}_n$$

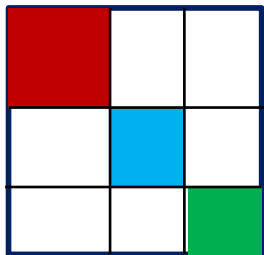
probability (PageRank) vector at steady state

transition probability matrix  $\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{T}_{n|n} = \mathbf{1}^T$

$$\mathbf{P}_{nn} = \mathbf{T}_{n|n} \text{diag}(\mathbf{p}_n)$$

joint probability matrix at steady state  $\mathbf{P}_{nn} \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{p}_n$ ,  $\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{P}_{nn} = \mathbf{p}_n^T$

community  
view



$$\mathbf{P}_{cc} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{P}_{nn} \mathbf{C}^T$$

joint probability matrix at steady state  $\mathbf{P}_{cc} \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{p}_c$ ,  $\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{P}_{cc} = \mathbf{p}_c^T$

$$\mathbf{p}_c = \mathbf{P}_{cc} \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{p}_n$$

probability vector at steady state  $\mathbf{p}_c = \mathbf{T}_{c|c} \mathbf{p}_c$

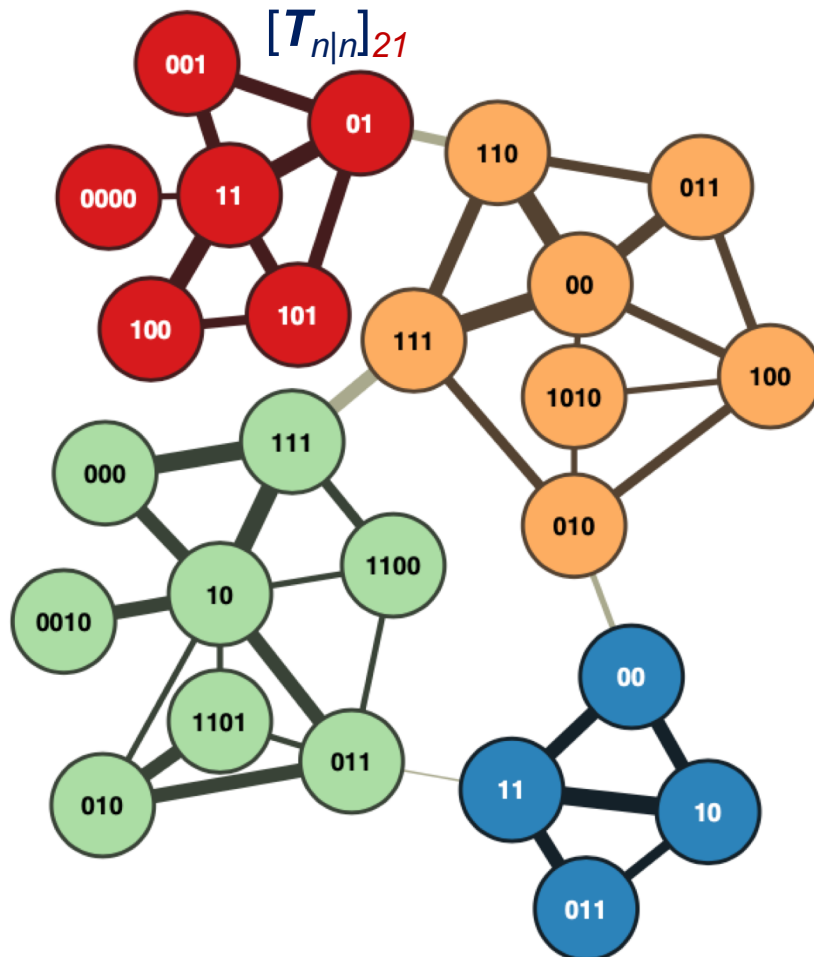
$$\mathbf{T}_{c|c} = \mathbf{P}_{cc} \text{diag}(\mathbf{p}_c)^{-1}$$

transition probability matrix  $\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{T}_{c|c} = \mathbf{1}^T$

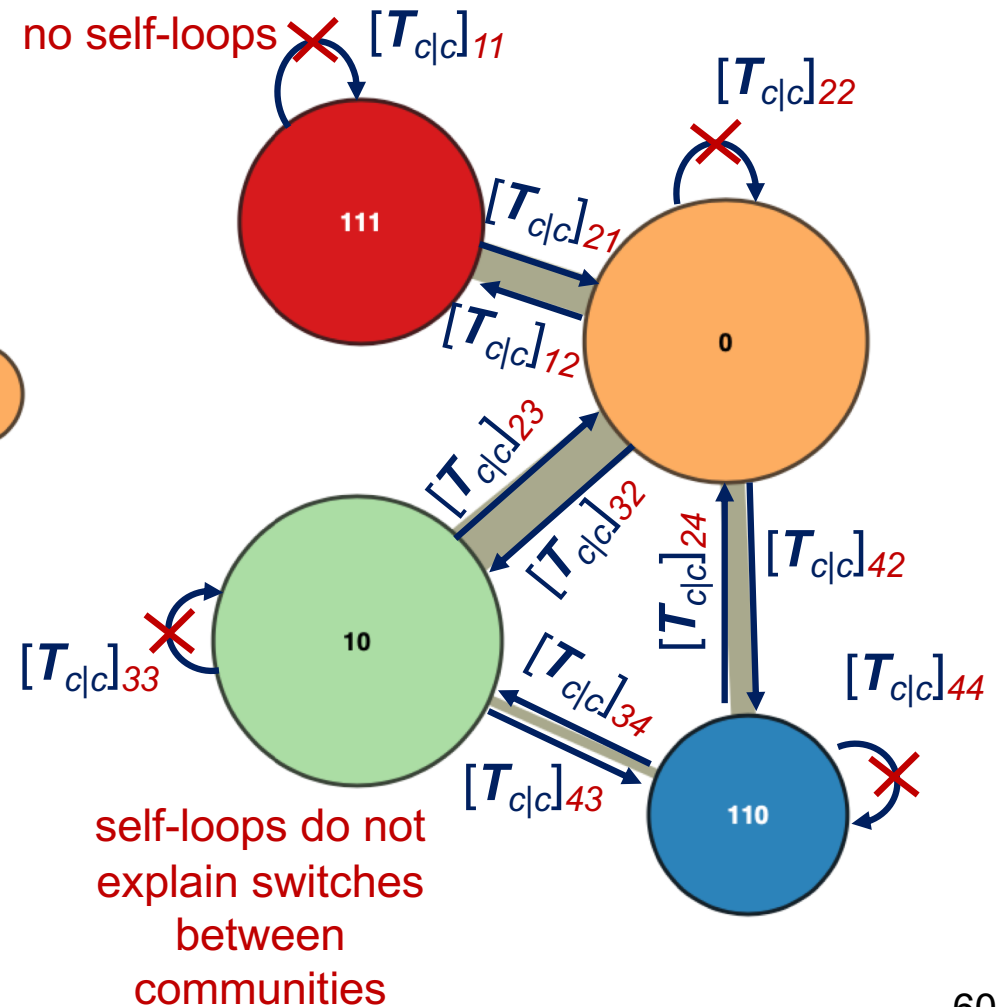


# The community view generating the entry codes

node view



community view

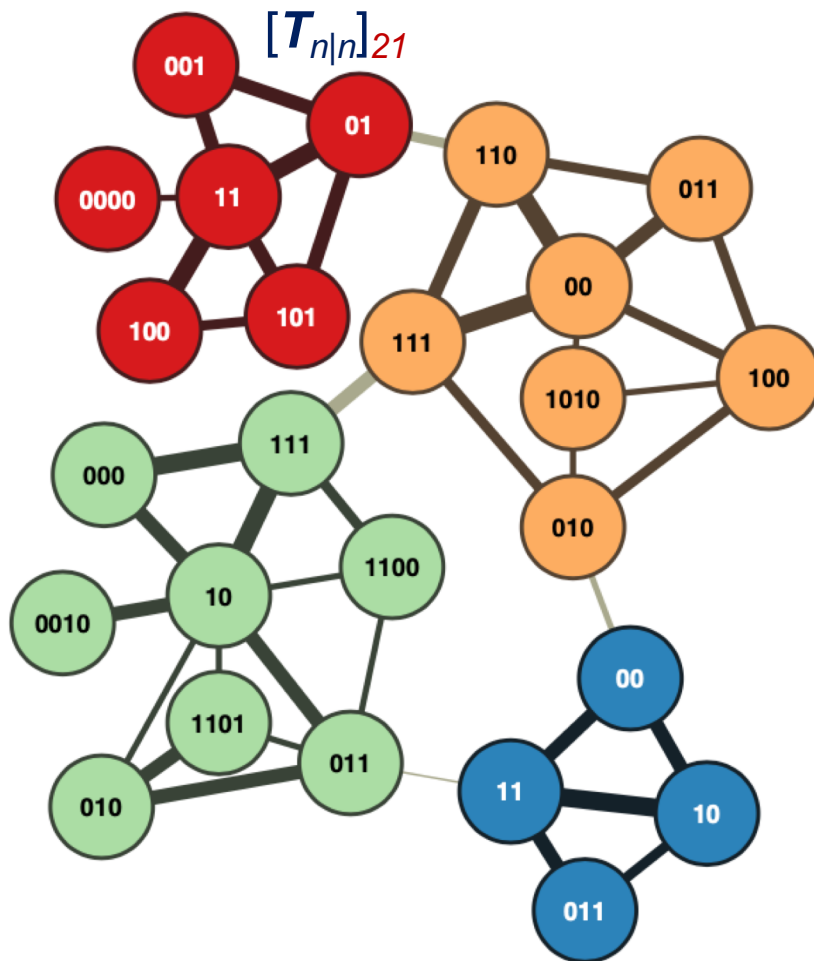




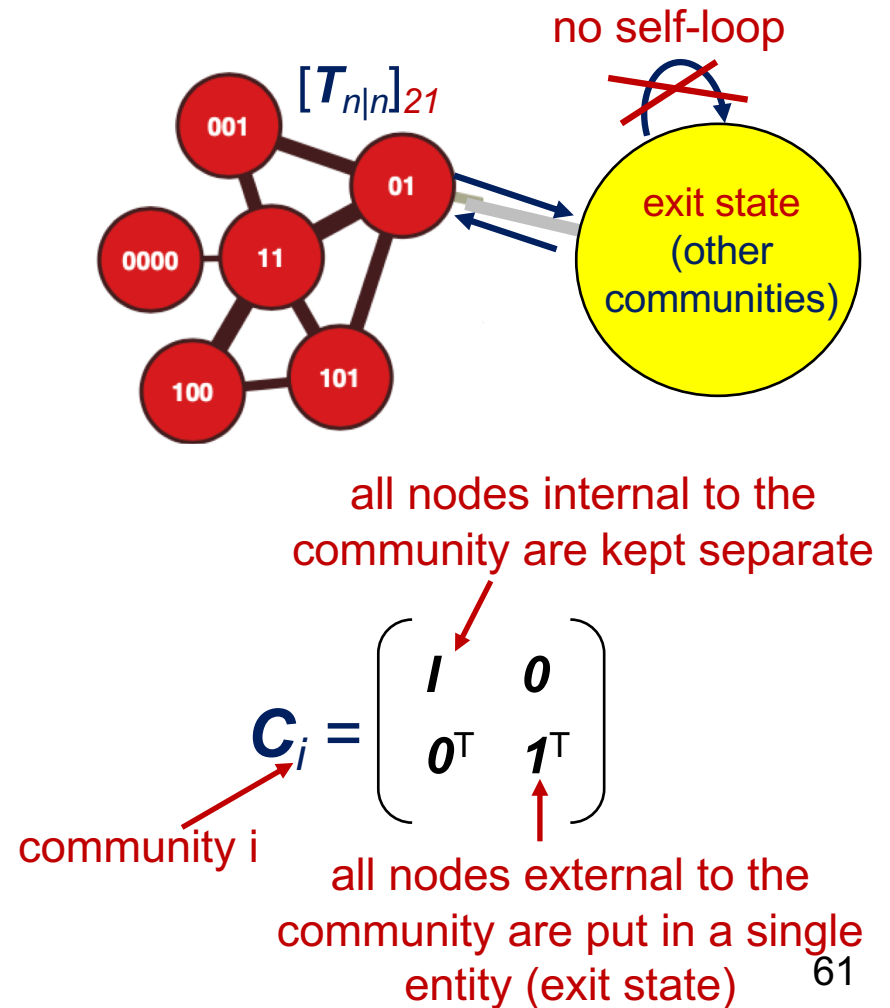
# View inside a community

generating nodes codes and exit codes

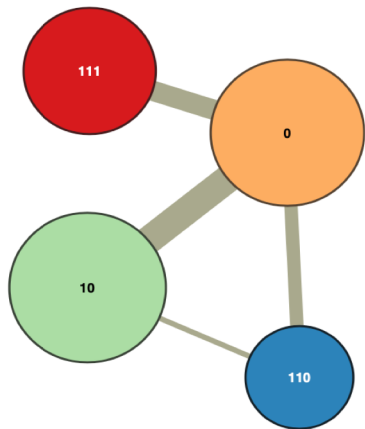
node view



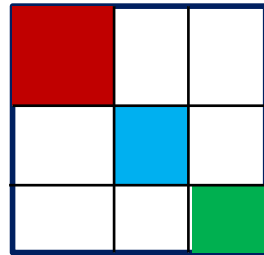
inside-the-community view



# Steady state probabilities for community switch and inside communities



community switch



$$P = C P_{nn} C^T \quad p = P \mathbf{1}$$

$$T = P \text{diag}(p)^{-1}$$

switching probability matrix  $\mathbf{1}^T S = \mathbf{1}^T$

$$S = [T - \text{diag}(T)] [I - \text{diag}(T)]^{-1}$$

eigenvector

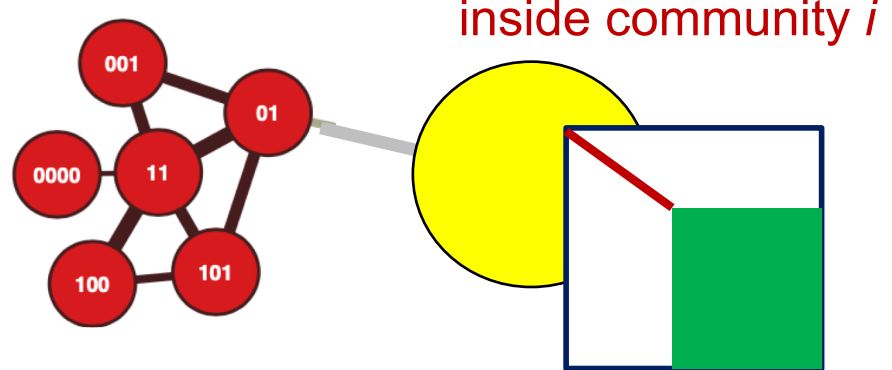
$$q = [I - \text{diag}(T)] p$$

$$= p - v \text{diag}(P)$$

normalized

$$s_c = q / P_s$$

$$P_s = \mathbf{1}^T q$$



inside community  $i$

$$P_i = C_i P_{nn} C_i^T \quad p_i = P_i \mathbf{1}$$

$$T_i = P_i \text{diag}(p_i)^{-1}$$

keeps only the bottom right element

$$S_i = [T_i - \text{lowel}(T_i)] [I - \text{lowel}(T_i)]^{-1}$$

$$z_i = [I - \text{lowel}(T_i)] p_i$$

$$\uparrow = p_i - v \text{lowel}(P_i)$$

$$u_i = z_i / P_i$$

$$P_i = \mathbf{1}^T z_i$$

last element is  $q_i$



transition probability  
matrix

adjacency matrix (can be fractional)

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{A} \text{diag}^{-1}(\mathbf{d}), \quad \mathbf{d} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{1}$$

PageRank vector

$$\mathbf{r} = c \mathbf{M} \mathbf{r} + (1-c) \mathbf{1}/N$$

node domain

communities domain

q vector entries

$$\mathbf{z}_i = \mathbf{c}_i \text{diag}(\mathbf{r})$$

Here  $\mathbf{c}_i$   
is the  $i$ th  
row of  $\mathbf{C}$

$$q_i = \left( 1 - (1 - c) \frac{\mathbf{c}_i \mathbf{1}}{N} \right) \mathbf{z}_i \mathbf{1} - c \mathbf{c}_i \mathbf{M} \mathbf{z}_i^T$$

InfoMap

$$f(\mathbf{q}) + \sum_i f([q_i, \mathbf{z}_i])$$

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = - \sum_j x_j \log \left( \frac{x_j}{\sum_j x_j} \right)$$

entropy function



- ❑ Assign every node to a community
- ❑ **Merge** the two communities that provide the best improvement in the InfoMap measure, **until convergence**
- ❑ Refine of the result by **simulated annealing**, moving **one node** per time

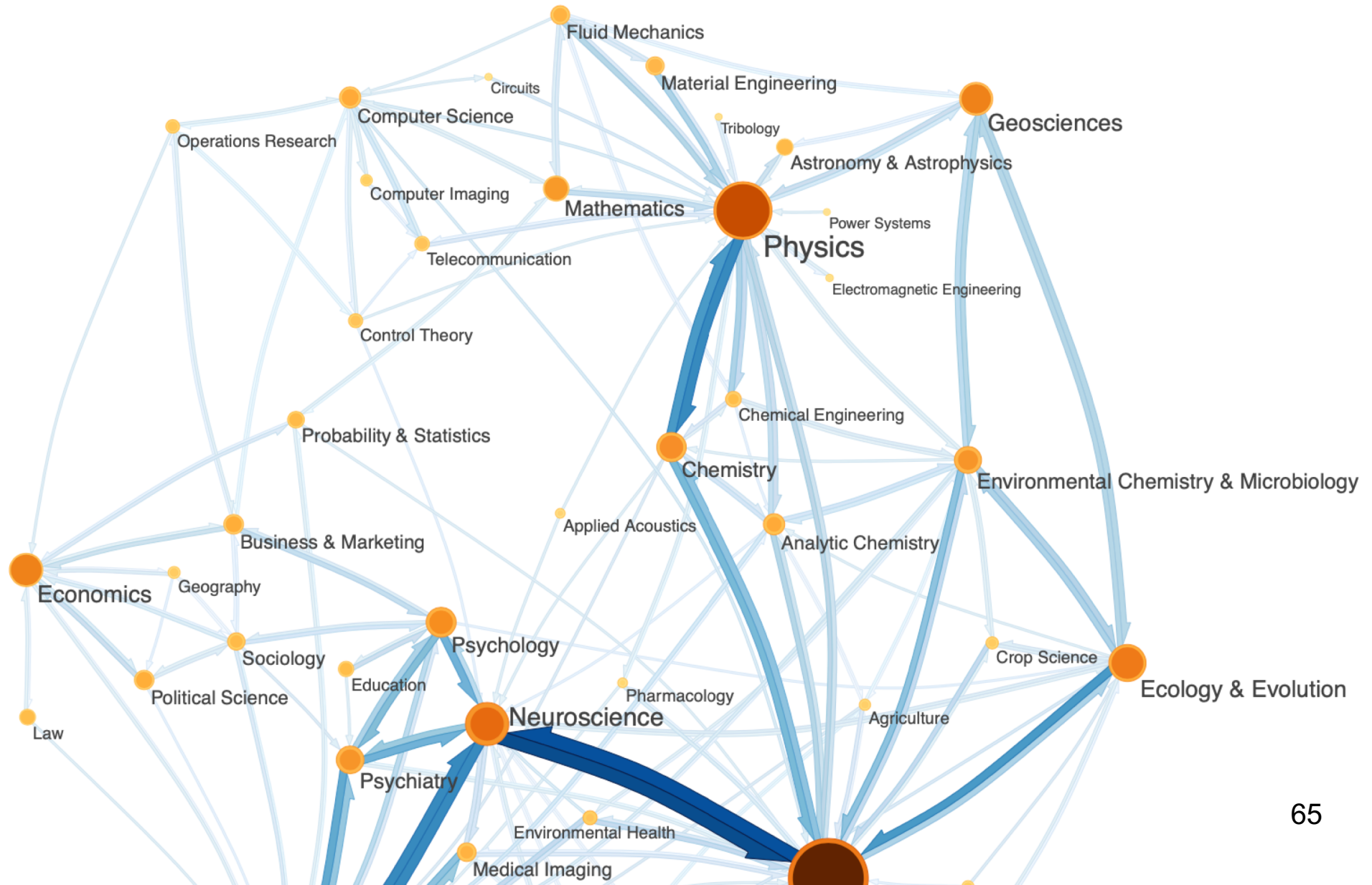
Not strikingly different from Louvain





# Application example

map of science based on citation patterns as in 2008





- ❑ InfoMap is an **alternative** quality metric to modularity
- ❑ It is especially useful when the information available explains **flows in the network**
- ❑ Its fairly easy to calculate, which makes it a **scalable** approach
- ❑ Code for the standard approach is available on the web but only for **non-overlapping communities**

# Normalized mutual information

a measure based on statistics



# Venn diagram

on the statistical dependence among two discrete random variables

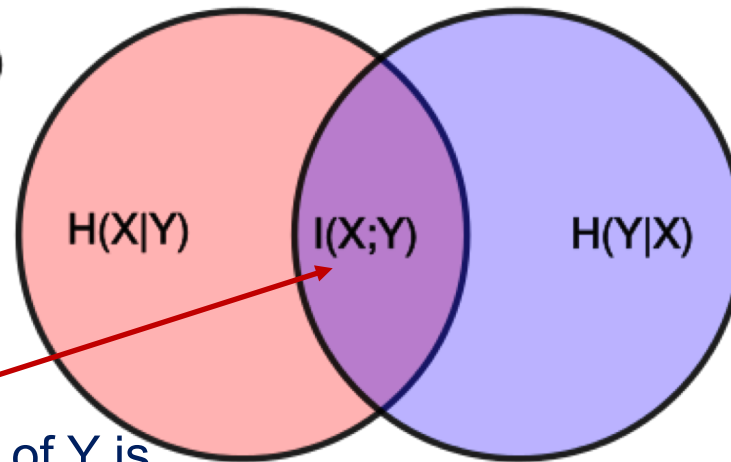
joint probability matrix  $\mathbf{P}_{XY}$   $\rightarrow$   $\mathbf{p}_X = \mathbf{P}_{XY} \mathbf{1}$  projection on  $X$   
 $\rightarrow$   $\mathbf{p}_Y = \mathbf{P}_{XY}^T \mathbf{1}$  projection on  $Y$

$$H(X) = \sum_x p_x \log(1/p_x)$$

entropy of  $X$   $H(X)$   
information  
carried by  $X$

$$H(Y) = \sum_y p_y \log(1/p_y)$$

$H(Y)$  entropy of  $Y$   
information  
carried by  $Y$



mutual information  
how much information of  $Y$  is  
explained by  $X$  (or viceversa)

$$I(X;Y) = \sum_{x,y} P_{xy} \log(P_{xy}/p_x p_y)$$

$H(X,Y)$

joint entropy  $H(X,Y) = \sum_{x,y} P_{xy} \log(1/P_{xy})$



## **C** community assignment to be assessed for quality

statistical dependencies about  
being in a community and  
ending in another

$$P_{C,C} = C A C^T$$

probability of  
ending in a  
community

$$p_C = P_{C,C} \mathbf{1}$$

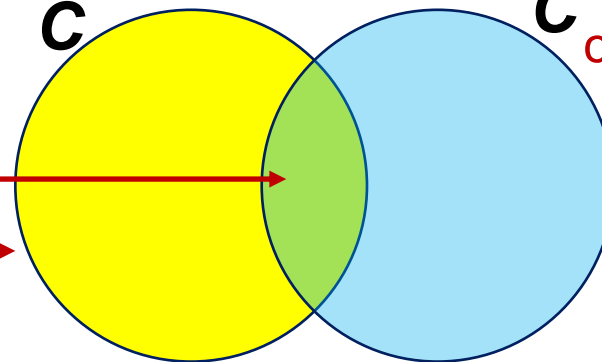
We assume a true  
joint probability  
description  $P_{nn}$  is  
available, e.g., a  
normalized  
adjacency  $A$

fraction of knowledge related to the  
community we will end up in (between  
0 and 1, equal to 1 for statistically  
independent communities)

$$\text{NMI}(C) = \frac{I(C;C)}{H(C)}$$

can also use  $H(C,C)$ , but its  
interpretation is weaker

ending community



starting  
community

# Wrap-up

on metrics for community detection



quality measure	approach	undirected	directed	overlapping	signed
Modularity	number of links inside communities, compares to a random model	YES	YES	YES	YES
Conductance, Ncut	number of links outside communities divided by total links of the community	YES	NO	YES	NO
Normalized mutual information	fraction based on entropies and mutual information	YES	YES	YES	NO
InfoMap	average encoding length under a PageRank information flow	YES	YES	YES	NO

would be nice to see these in your projects

# BigCLAM

a simple statistical inference model for community detection





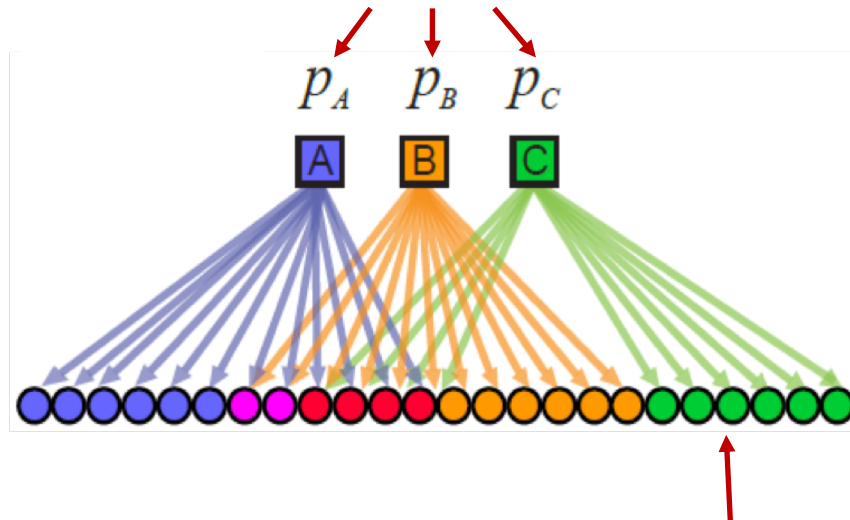
- ❑ Let  $p(\mathbf{A}|\gamma)$  be a **probabilistic model** describing a network (i.e., its adjacency matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ ) through some parameters  $\gamma$
- ❑ The **parameters**  $\gamma$  are assumed to capture relevant information about the network, e.g., its community structure
- ❑ An **a priori** statistical description  $p(\gamma)$  of the parameters can also be available, in case it is not simply set  $p(\gamma)=1$  (i.e., consider equally likely parameters)
- ❑ Since, for a given network,  $\mathbf{A}$  is known, the **optimal** parameters fit is found by the maximum a posteriori (MAP) principle

$$\hat{\gamma} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\gamma} p(\mathbf{A}|\gamma) p(\gamma)$$

# The BigCLAM statistical model

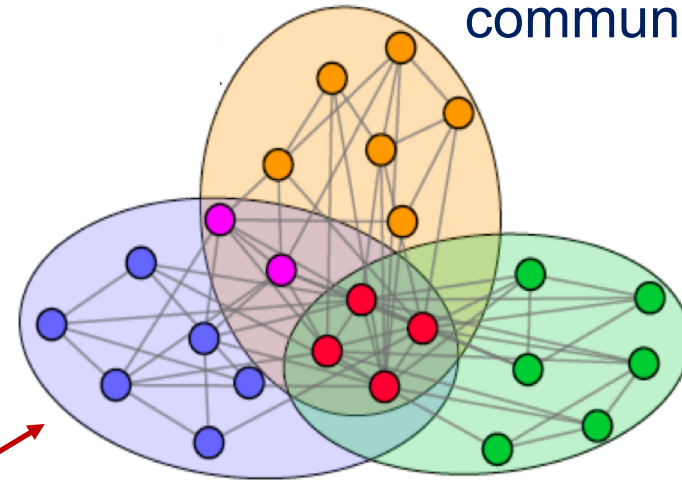
for binary adjacency matrices  $A$

communities are described through **probabilities**  $p_c$  that express the probability that a link between two nodes (inside the community) is active, these are collected in **vector  $p$**



the map from nodes to communities is collected in a  $C \times N$  **membership matrix  $C$**  whose  $i$ th column  $c_i$  is a binary vector identifying the communities to which node  $i$  belongs

we assume **overlapping** communities

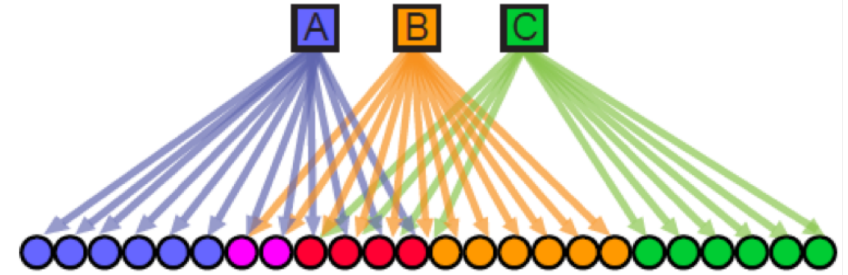


$c_i = [0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1]$  tells that node  $i$  belongs to communities **2, 3, and 5**



# The BigCLAM statistical model

probability of not activating an edge



Probability  $Q_{ij}$  that edge  $(i,j)$  is **not active** is the probability that it is not active in any of the communities linking  $i$  and  $j$ , that is

communities in  
common  
between  $i$  and  $j$

$$Q_{ij} = \prod_{c \in M_i \cap M_j} (1 - p_c)$$

$$\log(Q_{ij}) = \sum_{c \in M_i \cap M_j} \log(1 - p_c) = \mathbf{c}_i^T \text{diag} \log(\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{p}) \mathbf{c}_j$$

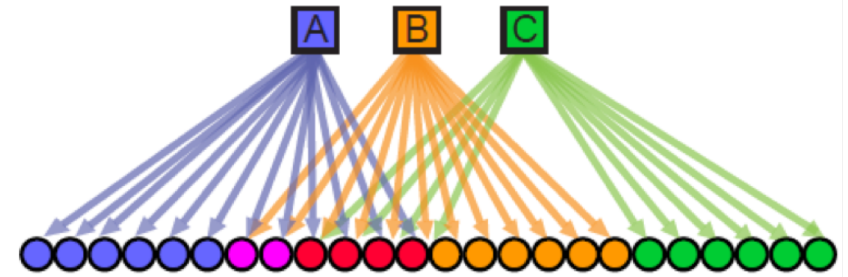
$$\mathbf{Q} = \exp(-\mathbf{C}^T \text{diag}(\mathbf{q}) \mathbf{C}), \quad \mathbf{q} = -\log(\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{p}) > \mathbf{0}$$

Here  $\mathbf{c}_i$   
is the  $i$ th  
column  
of  $\mathbf{C}$



# The BigCLAM statistical model

Yang & Leskovec, Overlapping community detection at scale:  
a nonnegative matrix factorization approach, (2013)



The graph probability description  $p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{C},\mathbf{q})$  therefore is

$$p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{Q}) = \prod_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} (1 - Q_{ij}) \prod_{(i,j) \notin \mathcal{E}} Q_{ij}$$

edge set  $\mathcal{E} = \{(i,j) \mid a_{ij} = 1\}$

maximize  $p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{Q})$

wrt  $\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{q}$

s.to  $\mathbf{Q} = \exp(-\mathbf{C}^T \text{diag}(\mathbf{q}) \mathbf{C})$

$\mathbf{C}$  binary,  $\mathbf{q} > \mathbf{0}$

NP complex

reference

optimization problem

need to set the number  $C$  of  
communities,  $\mathbf{A}$  is binary



# Model relaxation

a relaxed counterpart to the optimization problem

maximize  $p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{C},\mathbf{q})$   
wrt  $\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{q}$   
s.to  $\mathbf{Q} = \exp(-\mathbf{C}^T \text{diag}(\mathbf{q}) \mathbf{C})$   
 ~~$\mathbf{C}$  binary,  $\mathbf{q} > 0$~~

we relax the binary constraint  
(and include  $\mathbf{q}$  into  $\mathbf{C}$ )

maximize  $\log p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{M})$   
wrt  $\mathbf{M}$   
s.to  $\mathbf{Q} = \exp(-\mathbf{M}^T \mathbf{M})$   
 $\mathbf{M} > 0$

we obtain an overlapping community  
assignment by normalizing  
 $\mathbf{M} = \text{sqrt}(\text{diag}(\mathbf{q})) \mathbf{C}$  by column

$$\log p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{M}) = \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} \log(1-Q_{ij}) + \sum_{(i,j) \notin \mathcal{E}} \log(Q_{ij})$$

$$= \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} \log\left(\frac{1-Q_{ij}}{Q_{ij}}\right) + \sum_{i,j} \log(Q_{ij})$$

$$= -\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} g(\mathbf{m}_i^T \mathbf{m}_j) - \sum_{i,j} \mathbf{m}_i^T \mathbf{m}_j$$

$$\log(Q_{ij}) = -\mathbf{m}_i^T \mathbf{m}_j$$

we add some  
 $\log(Q_{ij})$  here

Here  $\mathbf{m}_i$   
is the  $i$ th  
column  
of  $\mathbf{M}$

$$g(x) = -\log(e^x - 1)$$



# The BigCLAM algorithm

a gradient descent search for the optimum

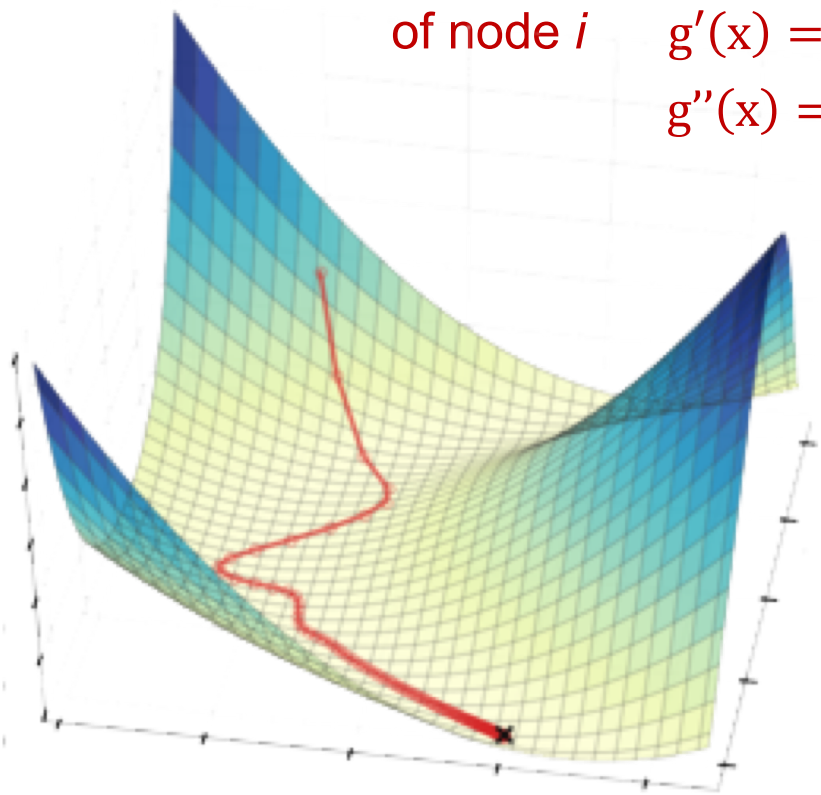
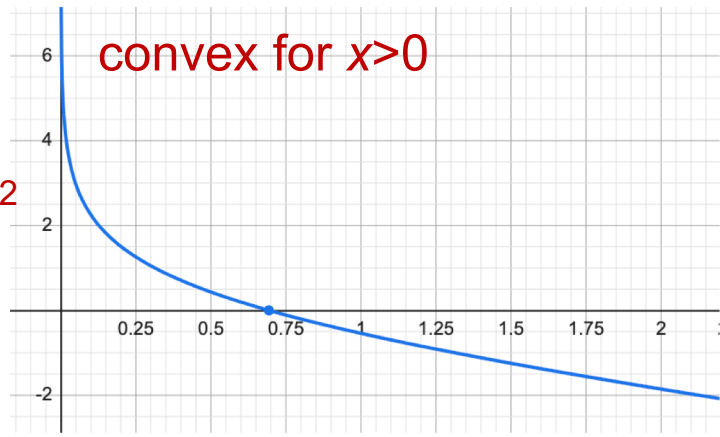
$$\min \sum_{i,j \in N_i} g(\mathbf{m}_i^T \mathbf{m}_j) + \sum_{i,j} \mathbf{m}_i^T \mathbf{m}_j$$

wrt  $\mathbf{m}_i > \mathbf{0}$

convex problem with linear constraints

neighbours of node  $i$

$$g(x) = -\log(e^x - 1)$$
$$g'(x) = -1/(1 - e^{-x})$$
$$g''(x) = e^{-x}/(1 - e^{-x})^2$$



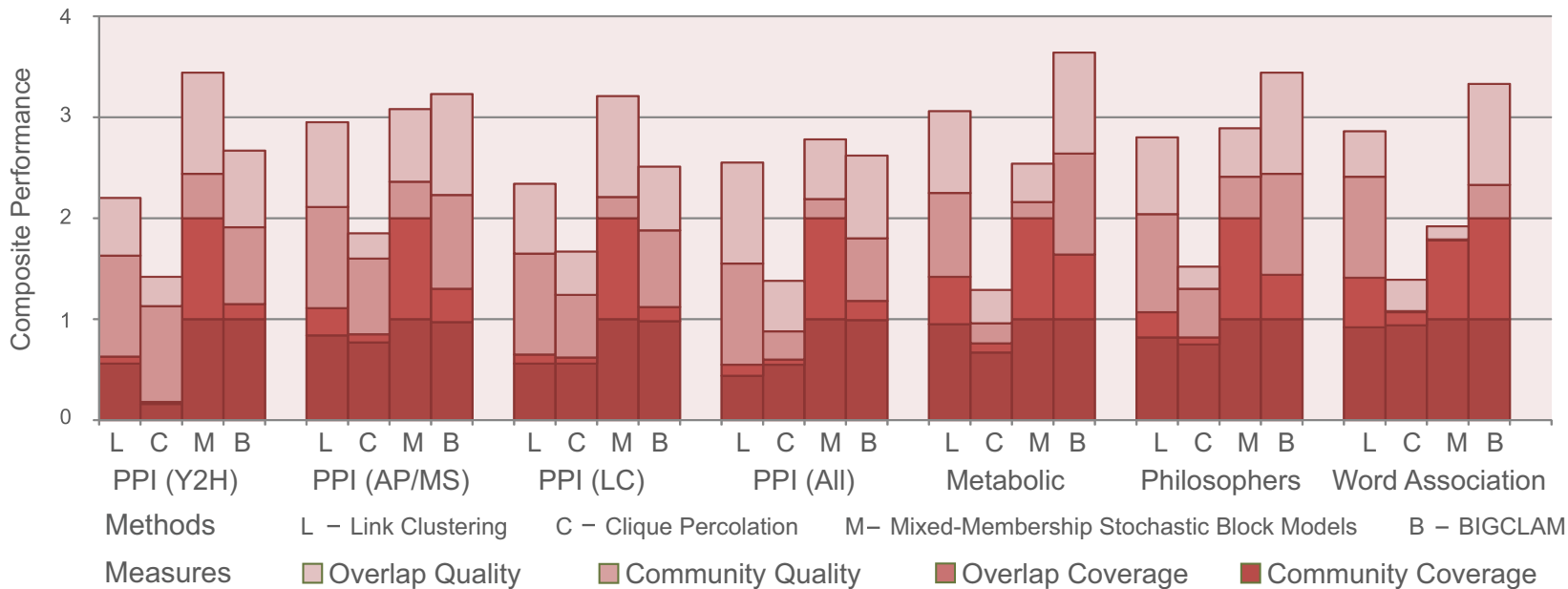
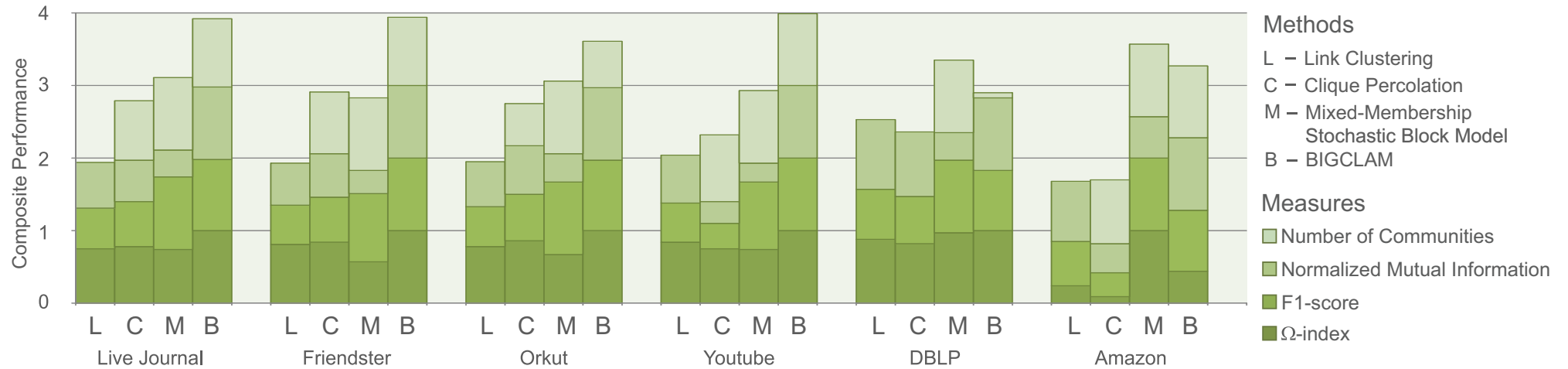
can be solved using gradient descent methods and standard algorithms

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{m}_i} = \sum_{j \in N_i} 2 g'(\mathbf{m}_i^T \mathbf{m}_j) \mathbf{m}_j + \sum_j 2 \mathbf{m}_j$$



# BigCLAM quality performance

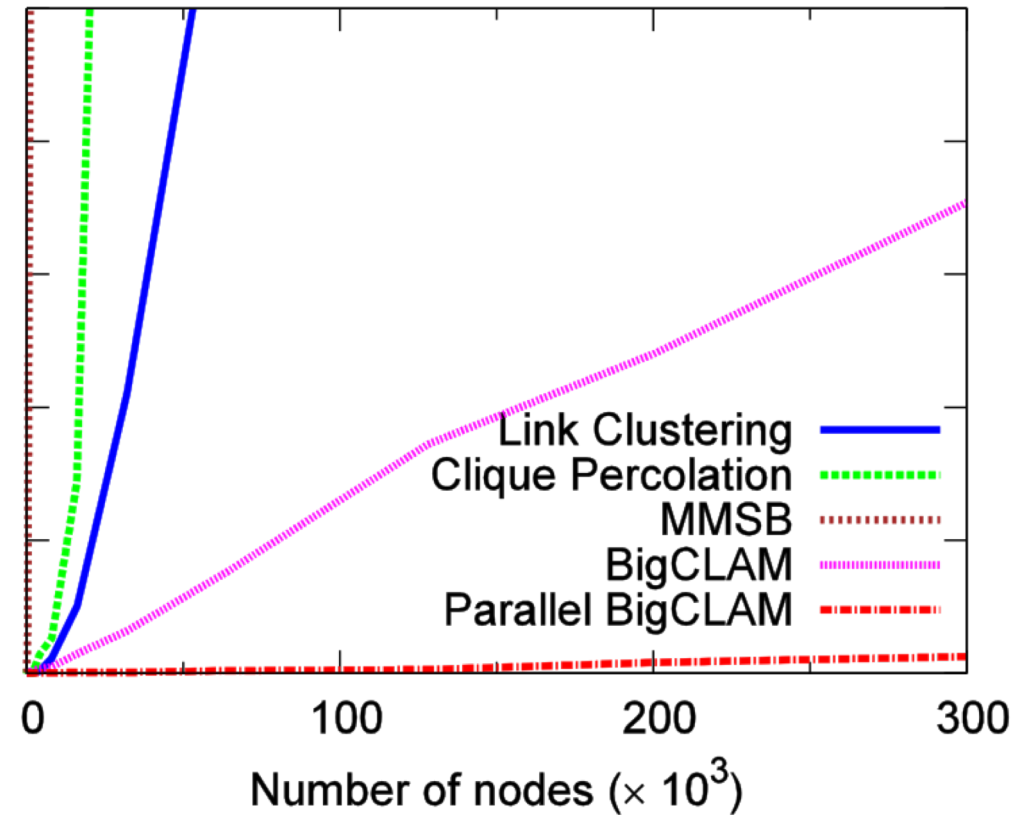
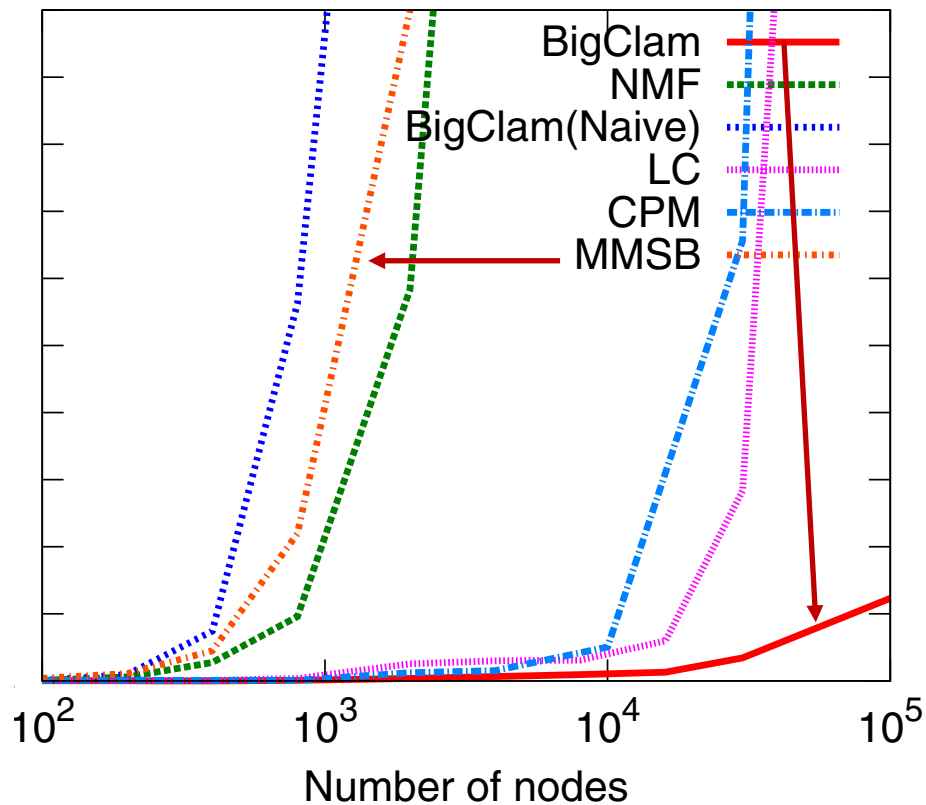
compared to state-of-the-art algorithms at the time





# BigCLAM complexity

compared to state-of-the-art algorithms at the time







- ❑ A simple statistical inference model to explain the concept
- ❑ A proof of concept
- ❑ Highly **scalable**
- ❑ Applicable to **binary symmetric** adjacency matrices only
- ❑ Literature shows its performance may be not striking with synthetic networks
- ❑ Would be interesting to see it implemented in your projects 😊

# Stochastic Block Models

SBM for community detection



# Stochastic block model - SBM

for a binary adjacency matrix

- probability block matrix  $\mathbf{B}$
- $\mathbf{B}$  is not stochastic, simply  $0 \leq \mathbf{B} \leq 1$
- $B_{ab}$  expresses the probability that a node in community  $a$  links to a node in community  $b$
- community indicator vector  $\mathbf{c}$
- $c_i$  expresses the community of node  $i$
- edges are Bernoulli distributed (conditioned on their group memberships) with probability  $B_{c_i c_j}$

*Stochastic model:*  $p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{c}) = \prod_{i,j} (B_{c_i c_j})^{a_{ij}} (1 - B_{c_i c_j})^{1-a_{ij}}$

*$i < j$  for undirected networks*

binary adjacency matrix

can also be expressed in terms of the community assignment matrix  $\mathbf{C}$

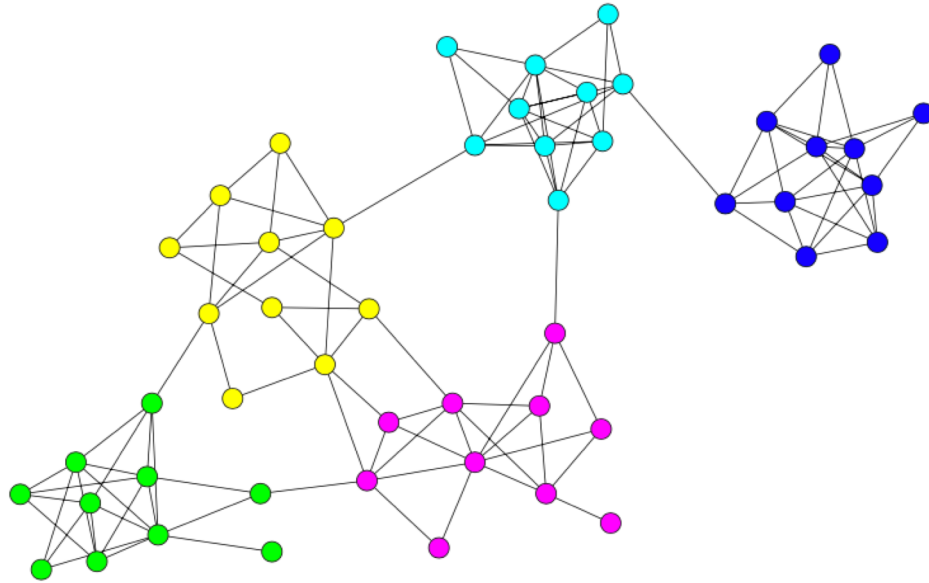
$$B_{c_i c_j} = [\mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}]_{ij} = \mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{c}_j$$

Here  $\mathbf{c}_i$  is the  $i$ th column of  $\mathbf{C}$



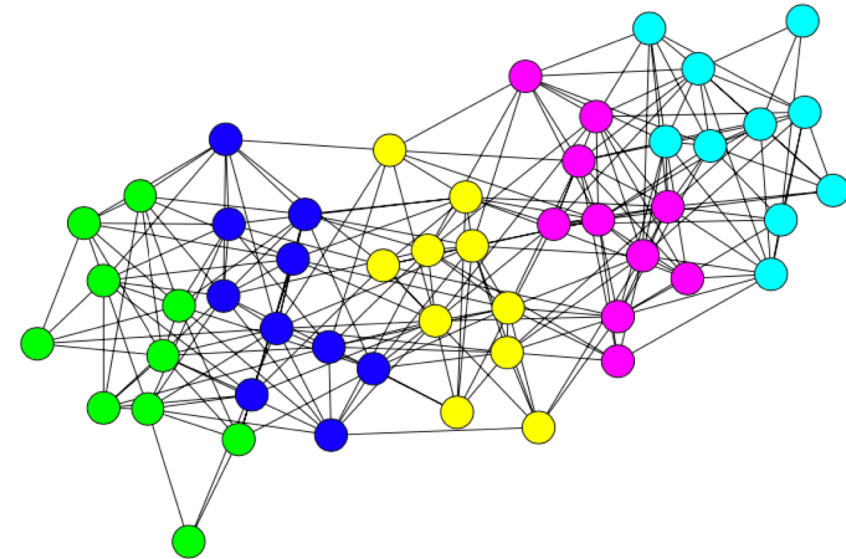
# SBM examples

assortative and ordered communities case



assortative communities

$$B = \begin{matrix} & \mathbf{.5} & .1 & .1 & .1 & .1 \\ & .1 & \mathbf{.5} & .1 & .1 & .1 \\ \mathbf{B} = & .1 & .1 & \mathbf{.5} & .1 & .1 \\ & .1 & .1 & .1 & \mathbf{.5} & .1 \\ & .1 & .1 & .1 & .1 & \mathbf{.5} \end{matrix}$$



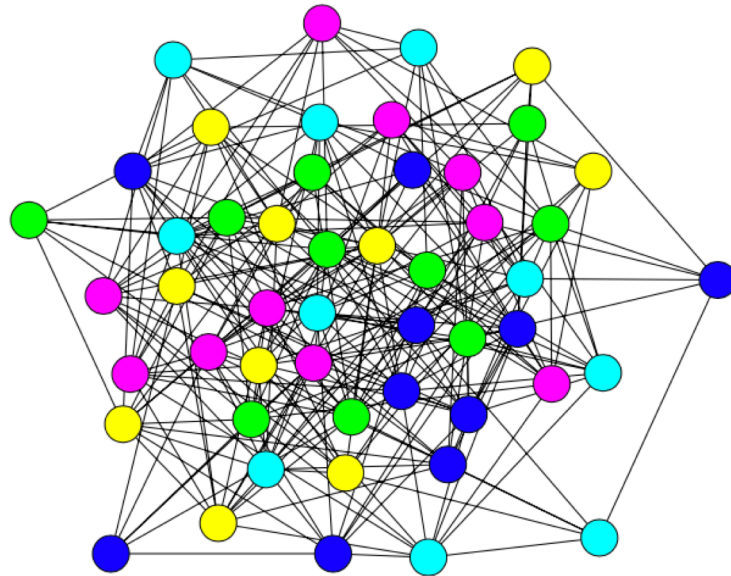
ordered communities

$$\begin{matrix} \mathbf{.5} & .3 & & & & \\ .3 & \mathbf{.5} & .3 & & & \\ & .3 & \mathbf{.5} & .3 & & \\ & & .3 & \mathbf{.5} & .3 & \\ & & & .3 & \mathbf{.5} \end{matrix}$$



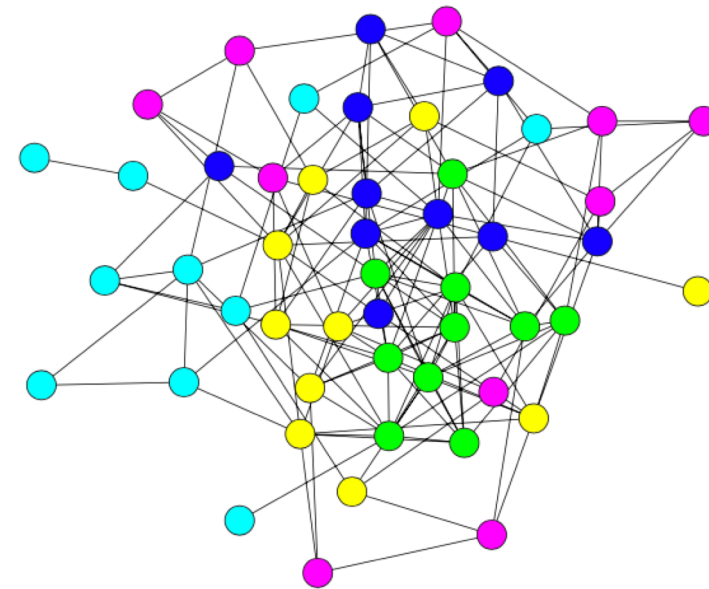
# SBM examples

random and core-periphery communities case



random graph

$$B = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} .2 & .2 & .2 & .2 & .2 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} .2 \\ .2 \\ .2 \\ .2 \\ .2 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} .2 & .2 & .2 & .2 & .2 \\ .2 & .2 & .2 & .2 & .2 \\ .2 & .2 & .2 & .2 & .2 \\ .2 & .2 & .2 & .2 & .2 \\ .2 & .2 & .2 & .2 & .2 \end{matrix} \end{matrix}$$



core-periphery structure

$$B = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} .7 & .24 & .14 & .09 & .05 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} .24 \\ .14 \\ .09 \\ .05 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} .42 & .14 & .09 & .05 \\ .14 & .25 & .09 & .05 \\ .09 & .09 & .15 & .05 \\ .05 & .05 & .05 & .09 \end{matrix} \end{matrix}$$



- ❑ SBM can naturally handle **directed** and **undirected** networks
- ❑ for undirected networks we force  $\mathbf{B}$  to be symmetric
- ❑ we relax this assumption for directed networks: in this way the probability of a link running in one direction is different of the probability that a link runs in the opposite direction
- ❑ SBM can also naturally handle **overlapping** communities, as  $\mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}$  makes sense also in this case
- ❑ closely related to BigCLAM

$$\log p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{c}) = \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \log(1 - Q_{ij}) + (1 - a_{ij}) \log(Q_{ij})$$

$$Q_{ij} = 1 - \mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{c}_j \cong \exp(-\mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{c}_j)$$

SBM assumption

BigCLAM assumption, with diagonal  $\mathbf{B}$



$$\log p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}) = \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \log(B_{c_i c_j}) + (1 - a_{ij}) \log(1 - B_{c_i c_j})$$

$$\max \sum_{u,v} m_{uv} \log(B_{uv}) + (n_{uv} - m_{uv}) \log(1 - B_{uv})$$

$$\text{s. to } \mathbf{B} \geq 0, \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C}^T, \mathbf{N} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{C}^T$$

number of active links  
between communities

max number of links  
between communities



$$\hat{B}_{uv} = m_{uv}/n_{uv}$$

$$\max \sum_{u,v} m_{uv} \log(m_{uv}) + (n_{uv} - m_{uv}) \log(n_{uv} - m_{uv})$$

$$-n_{uv} \log(n_{uv})$$

$$\text{s. to } \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C}^T, \mathbf{N} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{C}^T$$



# Degree-corrected SBMs

Karrer, Newman. "Stochastic blockmodels and community structure in networks." (2011)

[https://www.asc.ohio-state.edu/statistics/dmsl/Karrer\\_Newman\\_2010.pdf](https://www.asc.ohio-state.edu/statistics/dmsl/Karrer_Newman_2010.pdf)

node-dependent parameters added

$$\log p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}) = \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \log(\theta_i \vartheta_j B_{c_i c_j}) - \theta_i \vartheta_j B_{c_i c_j}$$

binary  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  
non-overlapping  
communities

Poisson  
approximation

$$f(k; \lambda) = \begin{cases} e^{-\lambda}, & k = 0 \\ \lambda e^{-\lambda}, & k = 1 \\ \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



$$\max \sum_{u,v} m_{uv} \log(m_{uv}/n_{uv})$$

← this is mutual information  $I(\mathbf{C}; \mathbf{C})$

$$\text{s. to } \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C}^T, \mathbf{N} = \mathbf{M} \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{M}^T$$

↑ this is  $\mathbf{P}_{CC}$       ↑ this is  $\mathbf{p}_C \mathbf{p}_C^T$





- ❑ approximations make the problem simple
- ❑ can naturally handle **undirected** and **weighted** networks, and **overlapping** communities, but we are forcing its interpretation
- ❑ the degree-corrected model identifies mutual information  $I(C;C)$  as the cost measure: strongly related to **NMI**: strengthens that result
- ❑ can be optimized by  
Gibbs sampling/**Simulated annealing**, **Gradient descent**,  
Expectation Maximization, Variational inference



# Mixed membership SBM

Airoldi, et al. "Mixed membership stochastic blockmodels." (2008)  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3119541/pdf/nihms54993.pdf>

$$\log p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{B}) = \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \log(\mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{c}_j) + (1 - a_{ij}) \log(1 - \mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{c}_j)$$

Here  $\mathbf{c}_i$  is  
the  $i$ 'th  
column of  $\mathbf{C}$



we use a variational approach

$$\log(\mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{c}_j) = \log\left(\sum_{m,n} \rho_{ijmn} \frac{c_{im} B_{mn} c_{jn}}{\rho_{ijmn}}\right) \geq \sum_{m,n} \rho_{ijmn} \log\left(\frac{c_{im} B_{mn} c_{jn}}{\rho_{ijmn}}\right)$$

distribution function,  
sums up to 1

equality for

$$\rho_{ijmn} = \frac{c_{im} B_{mn} c_{jn}}{\mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{c}_j}$$



$$f(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}, \boldsymbol{\rho}, \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \sum_{i,j,m,n} a_{ij} \rho_{ijmn} \log\left(\frac{c_{im} B_{mn} c_{jn}}{\rho_{ijmn}}\right) + (1 - a_{ij}) \mu_{ijmn} \log\left(\frac{c_{im} (1 - B_{mn}) c_{jn}}{\mu_{ijmn}}\right)$$

$$\max_{\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}} \log p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}) = \max_{\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}, \boldsymbol{\rho}, \boldsymbol{\mu}} f(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}, \boldsymbol{\rho}, \boldsymbol{\mu})$$

can use an alternating minimization approach



# Equations update

alternating search for the maximum

dummy distributions update

$$\rho_{ijmn} = \frac{c_{im} B_{mn} c_{jn}}{\mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{c}_j}$$
$$\mu_{ijmn} = \frac{c_{im} c_{jn} - c_{im} B_{mn} c_{jn}}{1 - \mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{c}_j}$$

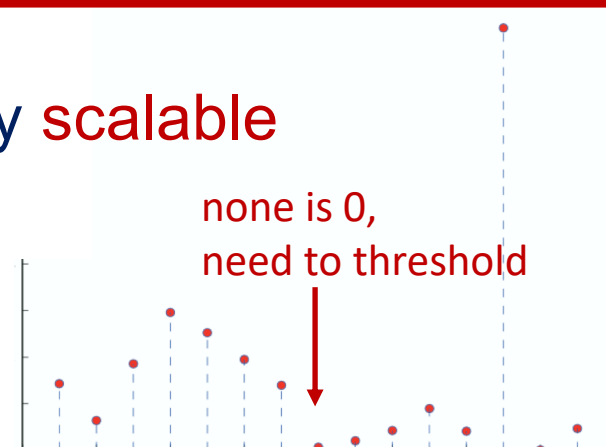
mixing matrix update

$$B_{mn} = \frac{\sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \rho_{ijmn}}{\sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \rho_{ijmn} + (1 - a_{ij}) \mu_{ijmn}} < 1$$

community assignment update (normalized)

$$c_{im} = \frac{\sum_{j,n} a_{ij} \rho_{ijmn} + (1 - a_{ij}) \mu_{ijmn} + a_{ji} \rho_{jinm} + (1 - a_{ji}) \mu_{jinm}}{\sum_j 2}$$

- ❑ simple algorithm, but **not** really **scalable**
- ❑ **soft** community assignments
- ❑ binary matrix **A**





# Weighted SBM

Christopher, Jacobs, Clauset. "Learning latent block structure in weighted networks." (2015)

$$\log p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{B}, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{C}) = \lambda \sum_{i,j} \log p_{\text{binomial}}(a_{ij} | m_{ij} = \mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{c}_j) + (1 - \lambda) \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \log p_{\text{?}}(w_{ij} | \theta_{ij} = \mathbf{c}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta} \mathbf{c}_j)$$

standard SBM contribution, e.g., based on binomial

binary form of the adjacency matrix (active/inactive link)

true weights of the adjacency matrix

mixing parameter

additional SBM contribution, to model edge strength

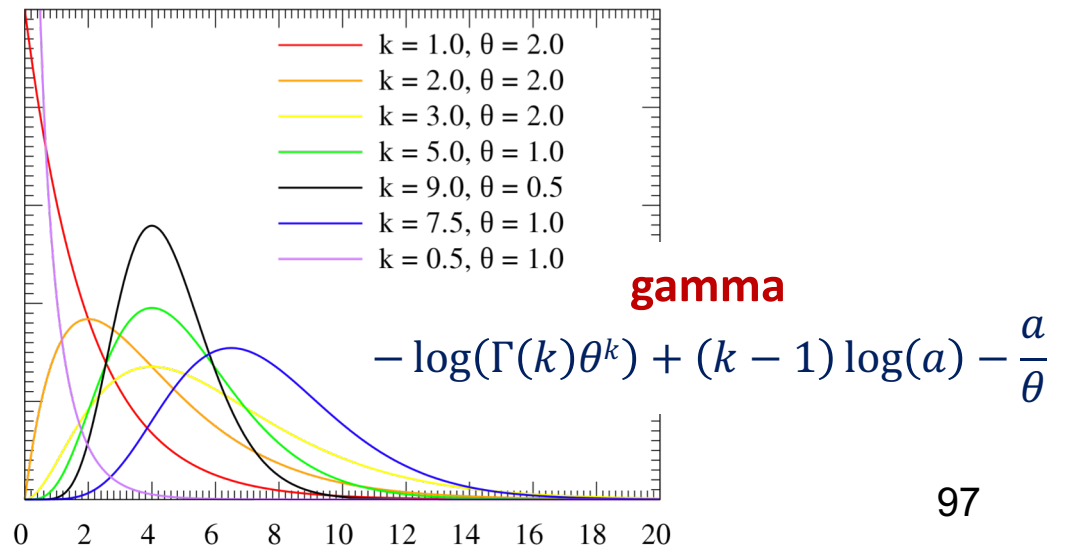
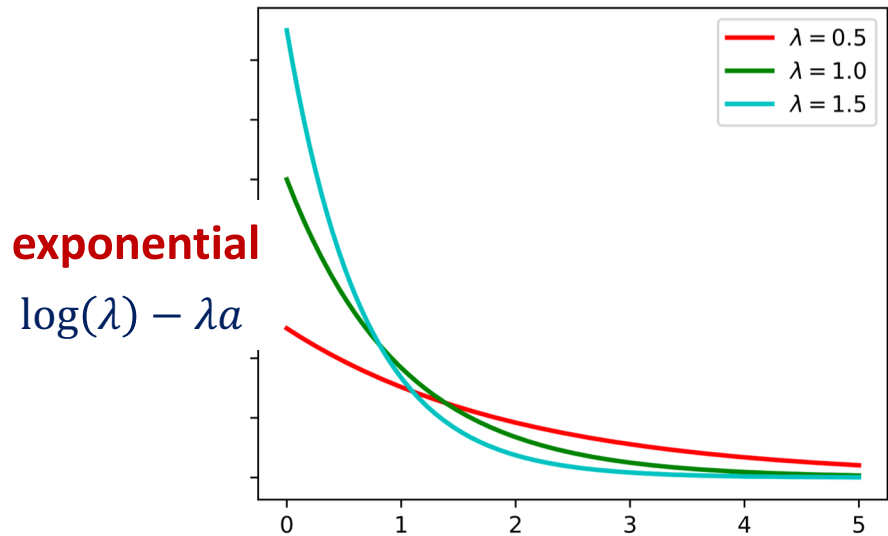
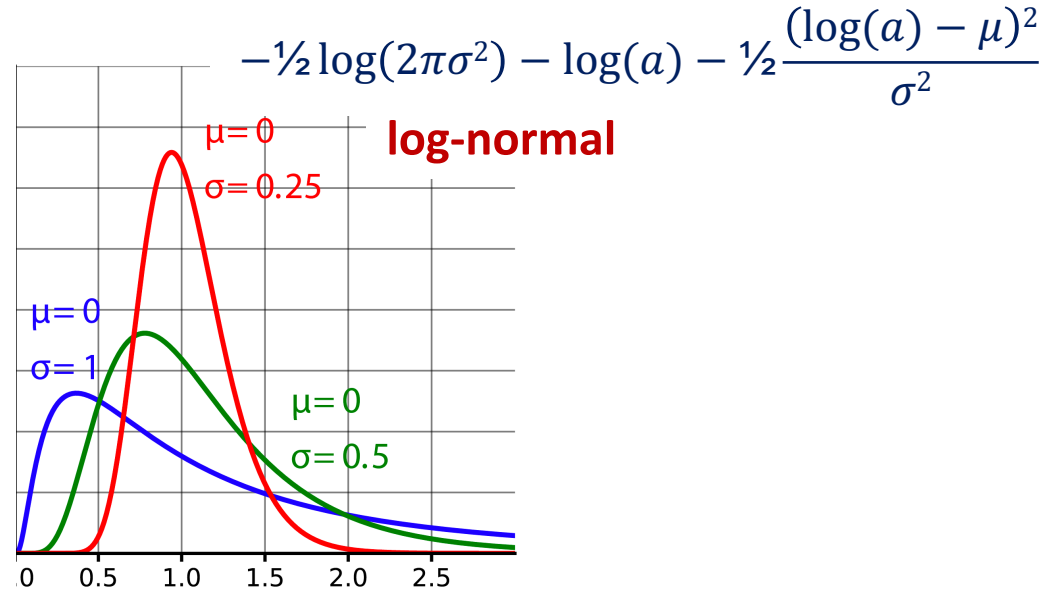
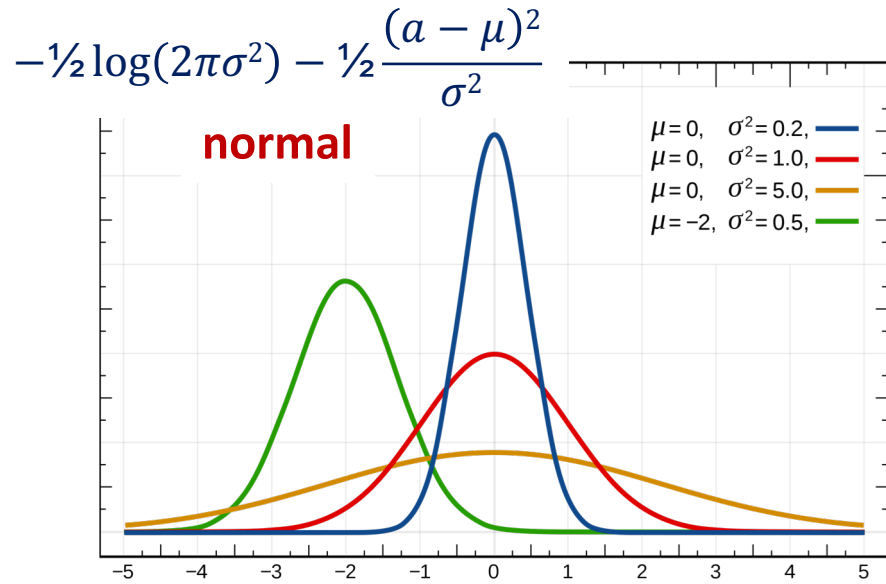
chosen distribution for weights, e.g., Gaussian

parameters for weights, community based



# Weighted SBM

a few plausible distributions





$$\log p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{C}) = \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \log(\mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{c}_j) - w_{ij} \mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{c}_j$$

can be converted in useful form by variational inequality (it exploits the concavity of  $\log(x)$ )

same here, thanks to concavity of both functions  $-x^2$  and  $-1/x$

$$\log p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{M}, \mathbf{\Sigma}, \mathbf{C}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} -a_{ij} \log(\mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{c}_j) - a_{ij} \frac{(w_{ij} - \mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{M} \mathbf{c}_j)^2}{\mathbf{c}_i^T \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{c}_j}$$

$-\log(x)$  is convex, so in this case the approach does not work

variational Bayes solutions are needed for overlapping communities!



- ❑ an advanced **generative model** to capture the underlying network structure
- ❑ easily **extendable** to a many different scenarios
- ❑ optimization problem is difficult to solve (but efficient methods exist)
- ❑ **not fully scalable**
- ❑ some models (e.g., degree-corrected SBM) provide results related to NMI, and modularity
- ❑ performance not always striking with synthetic networks
- ❑ would be interesting to see it implemented in your projects 😊

# Dendrograms

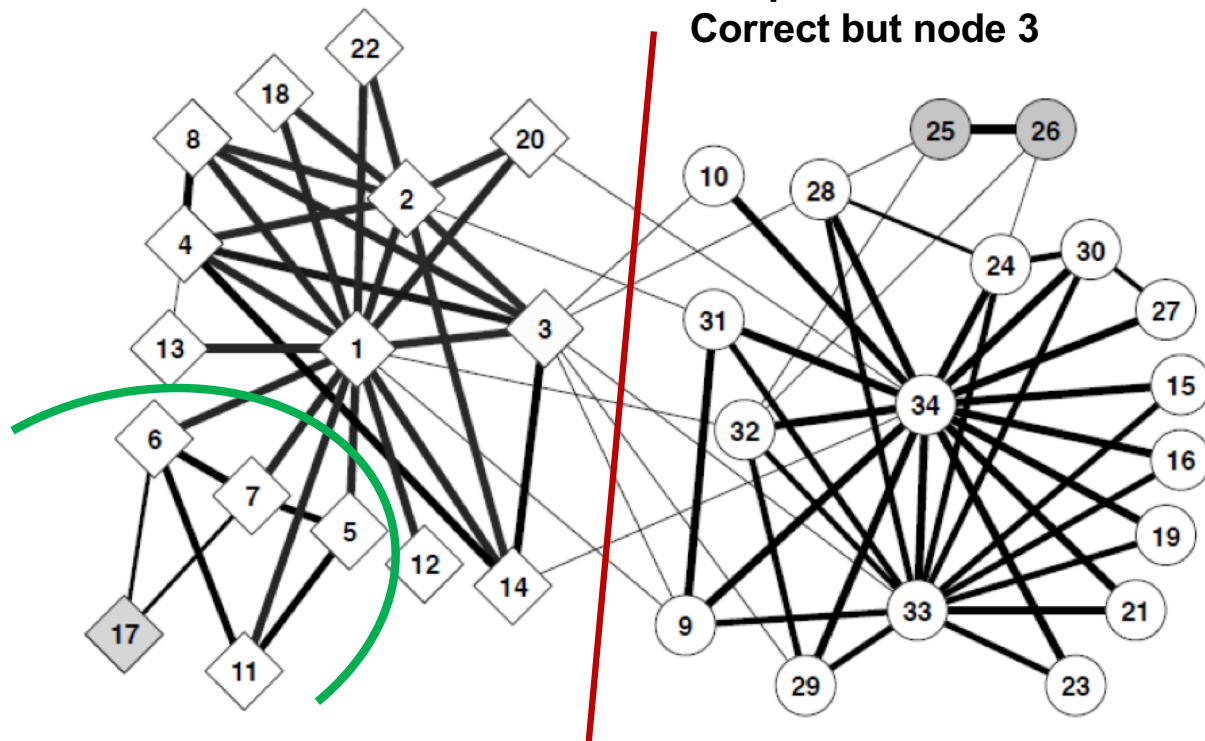
an older (but still in use) approach to community detection



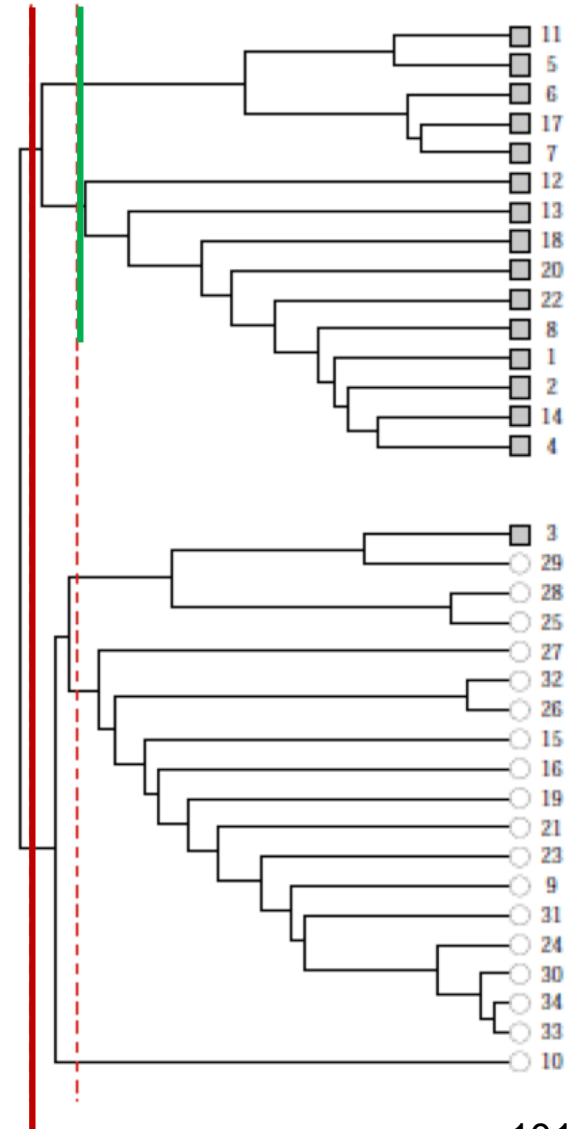


## Zachary's karate club network

1 - instructor  
34 - president  
Correct but node 3



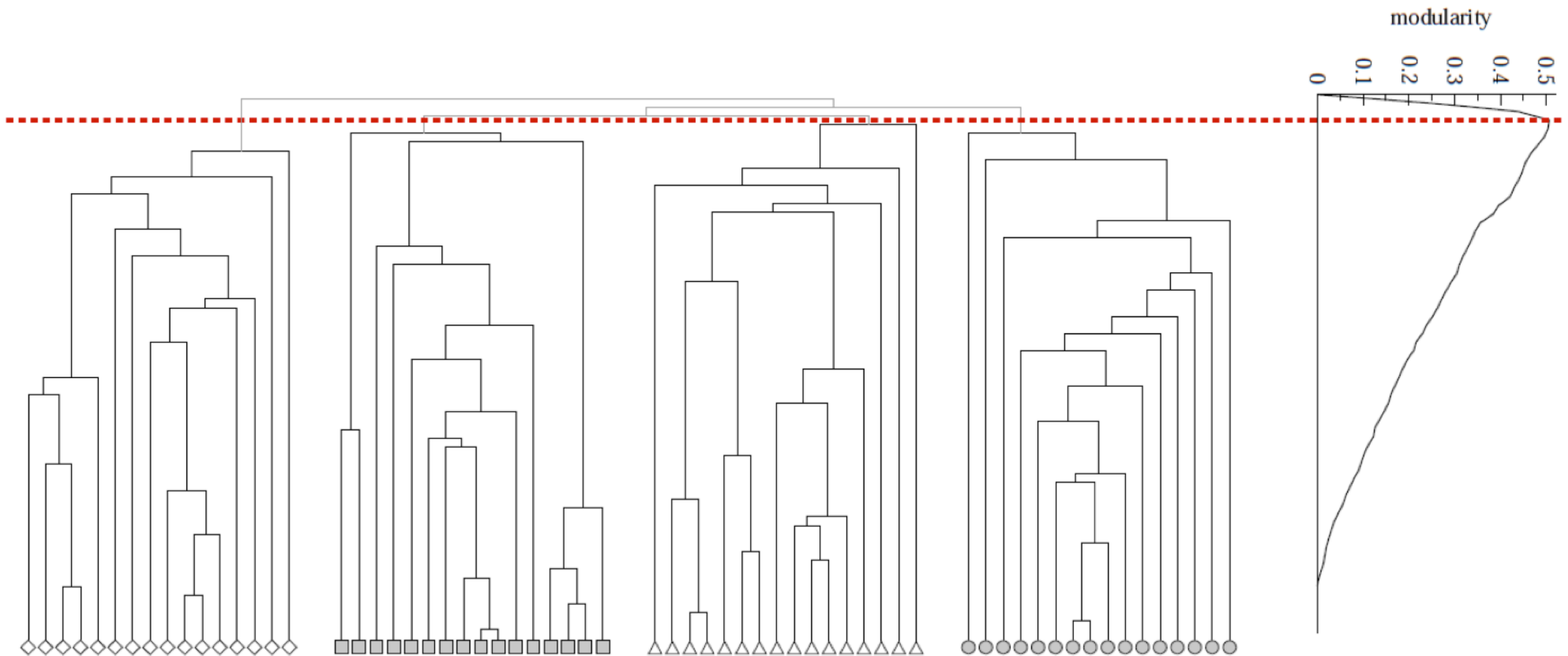
social ties and rivalries in a university club; during observation conflict led the group to split





# Modularity in dendrograms

for selecting the number of clusters



... but **NMI**, **normalized cut** or **InfoMap** measures would also work



Dendrograms is an **hierarchical clustering algorithm** that can be approached in two ways:

- ❑ **Agglomerative**: progressively add edges, from the strongest and ending with the weakest ones; new **connected** components that arise identify a new (upper) dendrogram level
- ❑ **Divisive**: progressively delete edges, from the strongest and ending with the weakest ones; new **disconnected** components that arise identify a new (lower) dendrogram level

Performance strongly depends on the chosen weight (local weight definitions typically provide weak solutions)



Girvan, Newman. "Community structure in social and biological networks." (2002)  
<https://www.pnas.org/doi/full/10.1073/pnas.122653799>

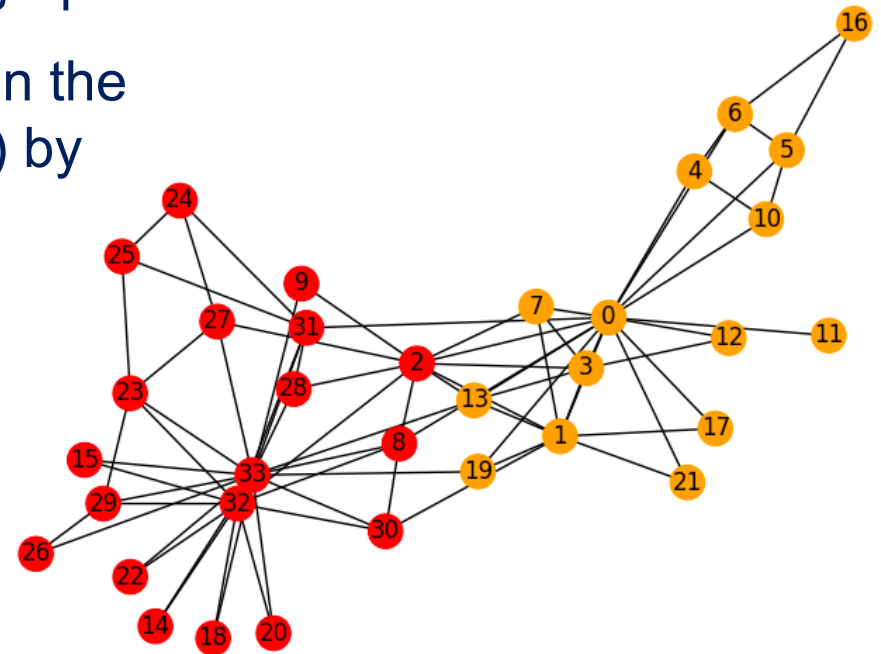
Repeat until no edges are left in the graph:

- ❑ (re)calculate **edge betweenness** in the current graph – complexity  $O(LN)$  by using a smart algorithm
- ❑ **remove** edges with **highest** betweenness

Complexity  $O(L^2N)$  → pretty scalable

Recalculation step is **essential** to detect meaningful communities

May provide poor results: useful method, far from perfect

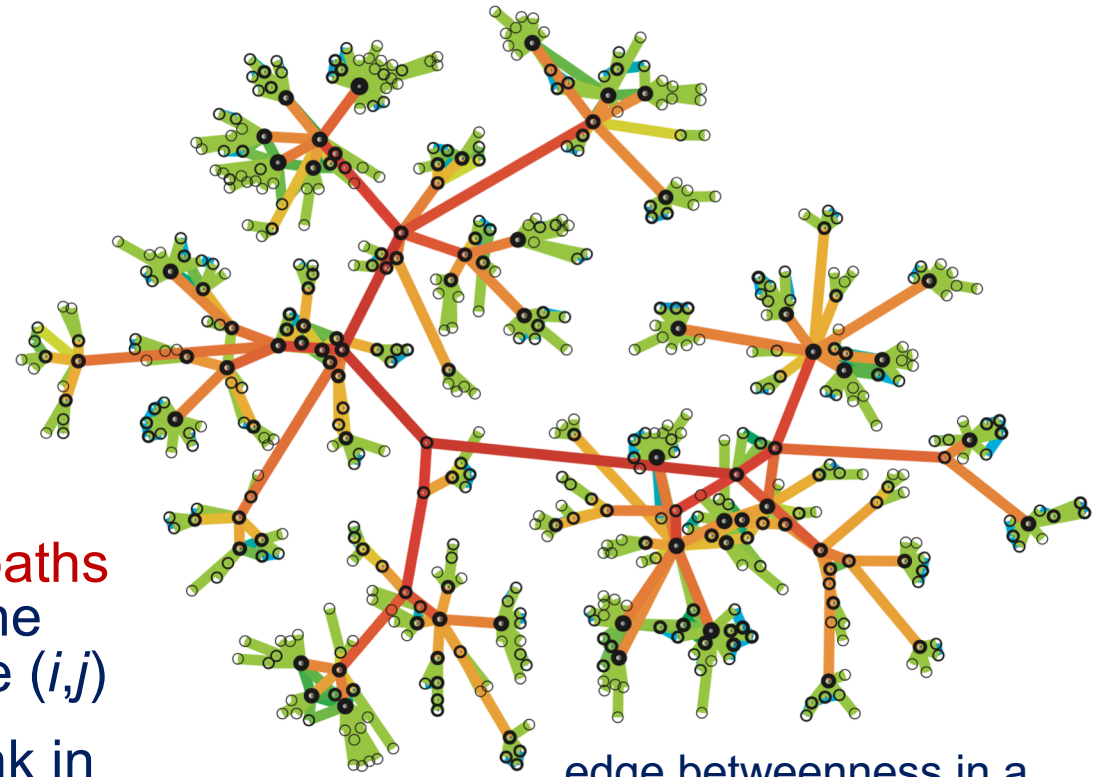


$$b_{ij} = \sum_{(k,l) \in \mathcal{N}^2} \frac{\sigma_{k,l}(i,j)}{\sigma_{k,l}}$$

where  $\sigma_{kl}$  is the # of **shortest paths** connecting  $k$  to  $l$ , and  $\sigma_{kl}(i,j)$  the subset of these including edge  $(i,j)$

- ❑ expresses **centrality** of a link in the network
- ❑ can be **normalized** to range  $[0,1]$

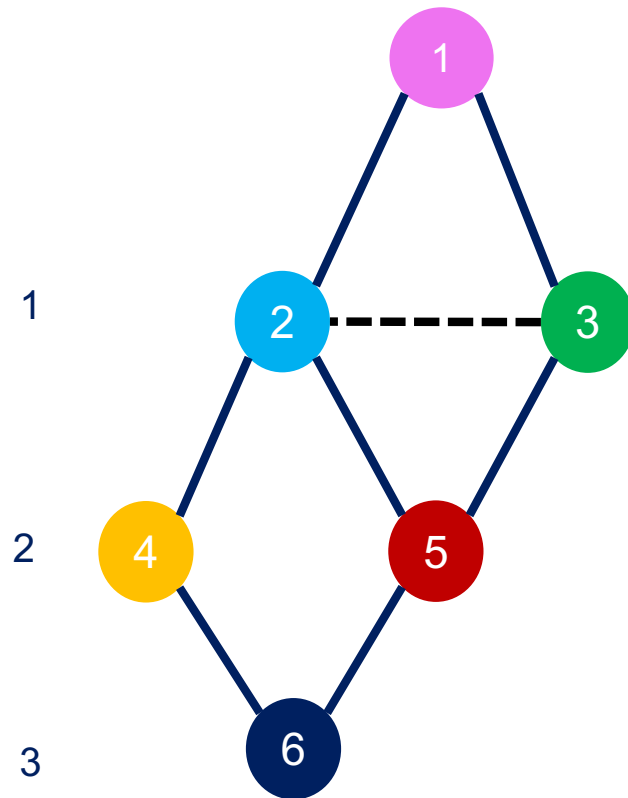
$$(b_{ij} - b_{\min}) / (b_{\max} - b_{\min})$$



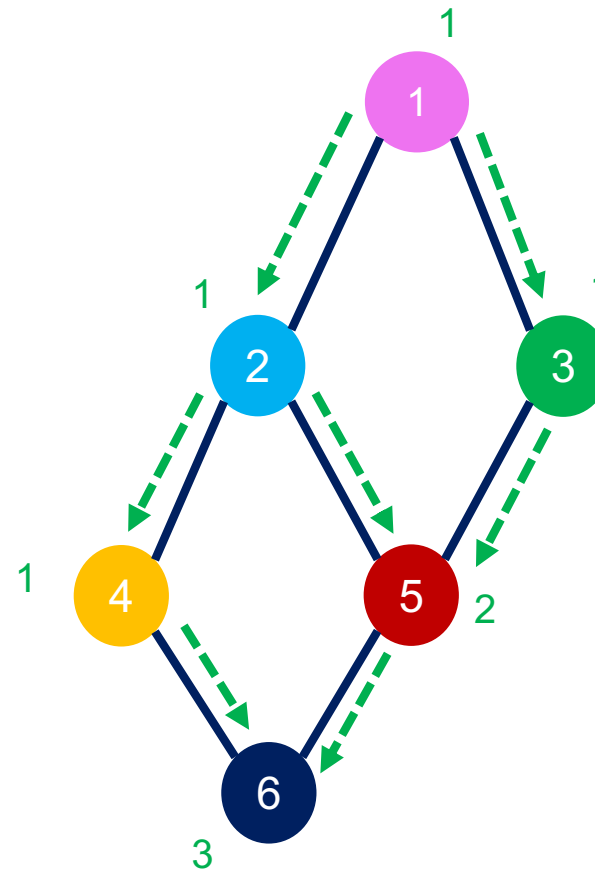
edge betweenness in a cellular call network



Breadth first search  
(from node 1)



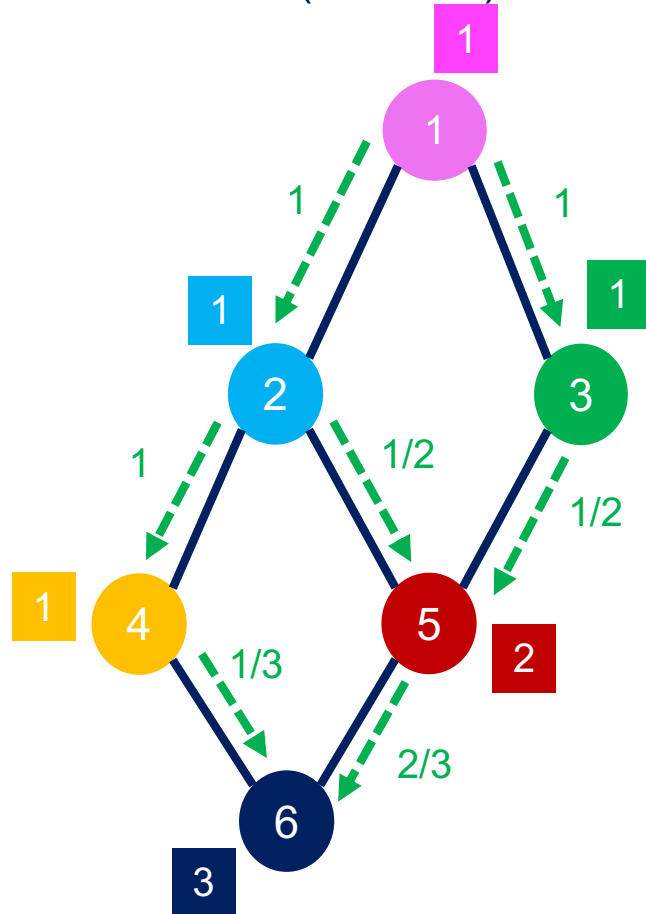
Count # of shortest paths  
(from node 1)



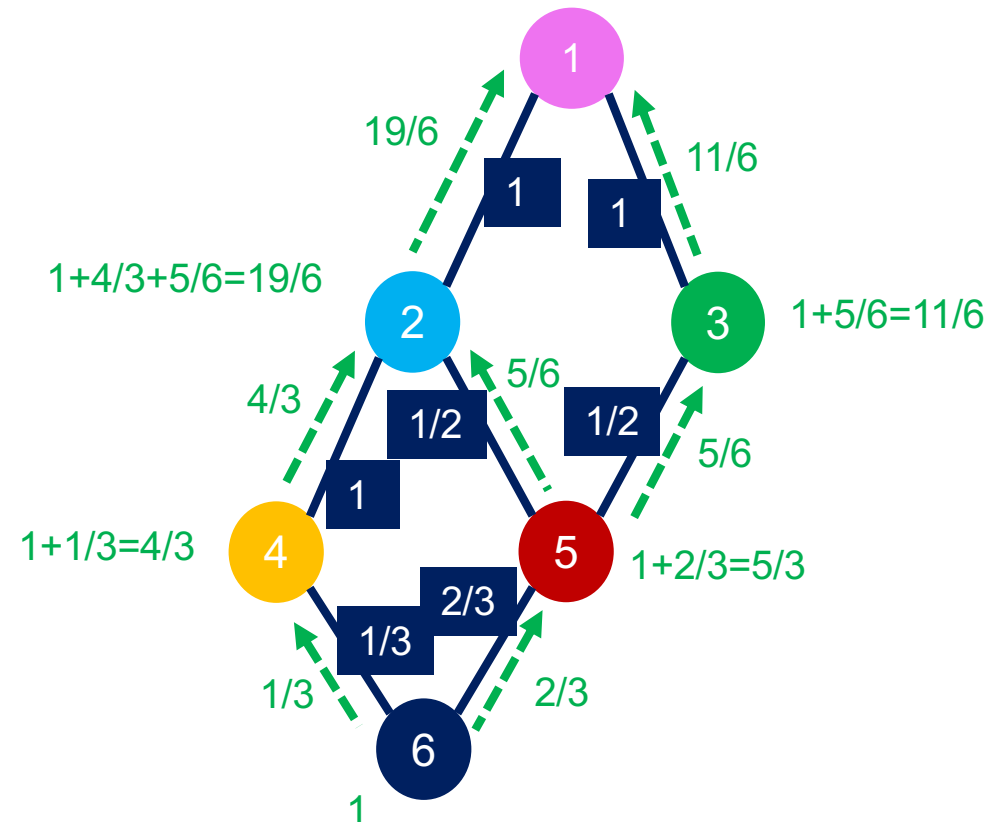


# Calculating betweenness

Measure edge flow  
(fractions)



Measure edge betweenness  
(from node 1)

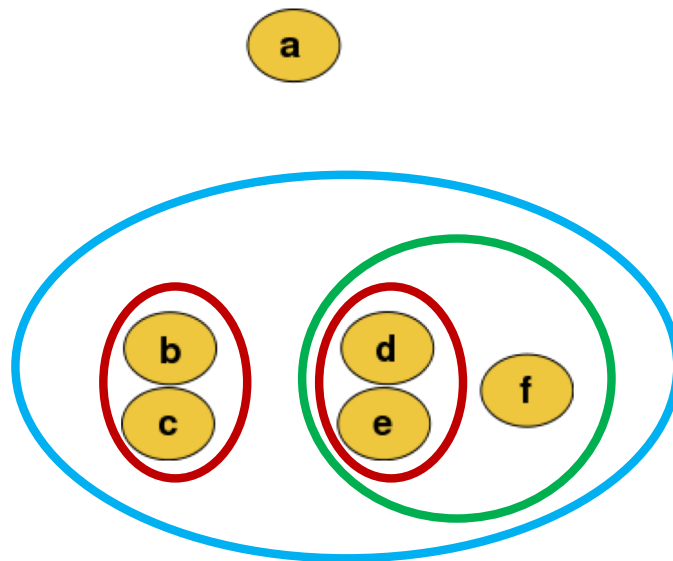


... then repeat for all other nodes!!!  $O(LN)$

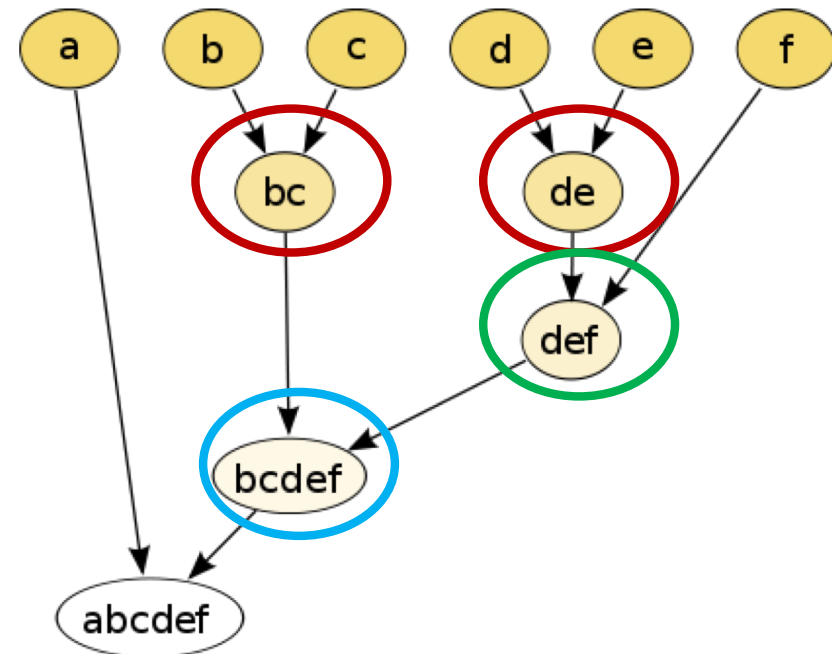
# Agglomerative clustering

a toy example based on Euclidean distance

Network



Dendrogram



## Algorithm

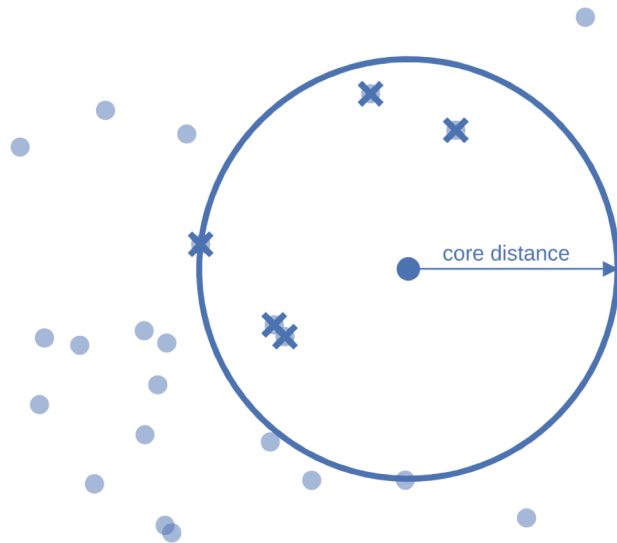
- ❑ Start with each node being a separate community
- ❑ Progressively add a community to the one that is closer



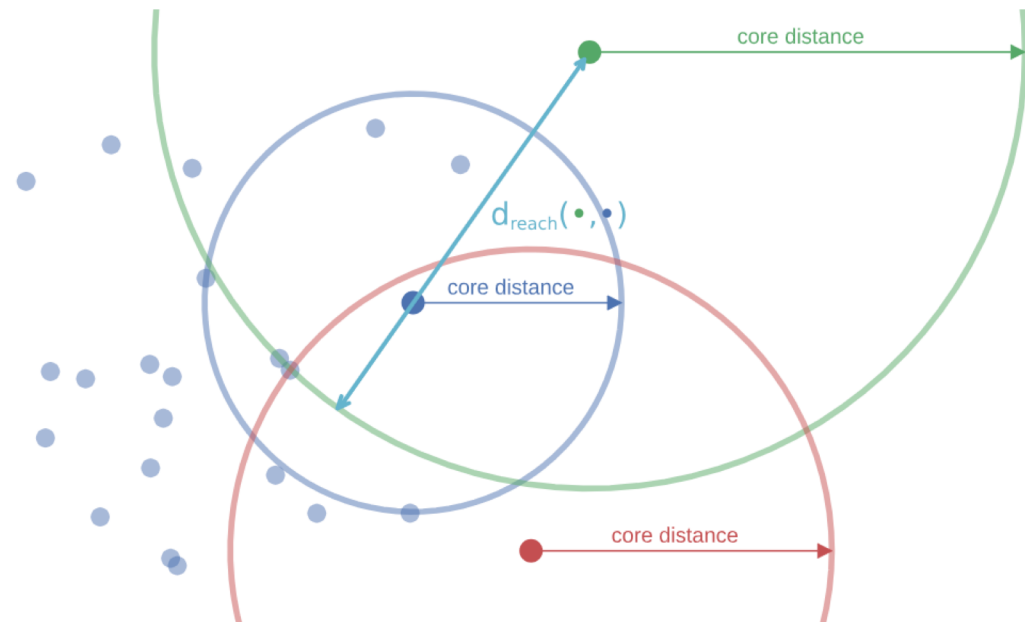


$K$  = number of nearest neighbours  
to be considered

this sets the core distance of a  
node



the mutual reachability distance  
between two nodes is the  
maximum between their effective  
distance and their core distances

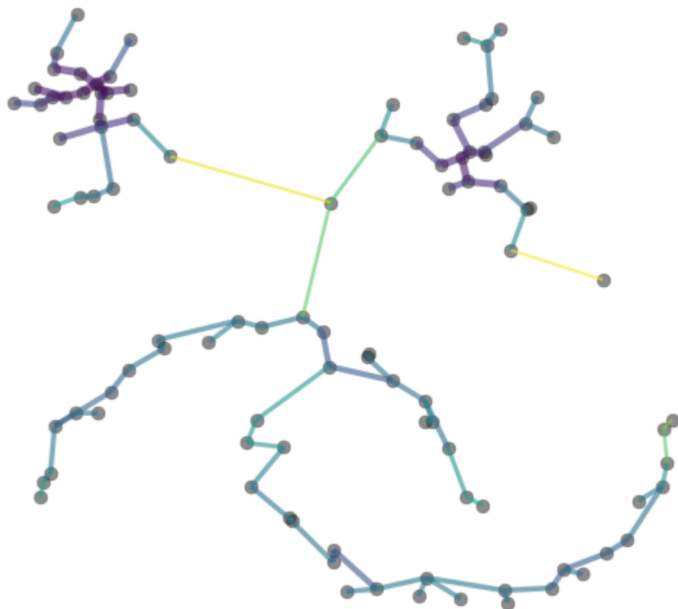


under this metric dense points (with low core distance)  
remain the same distance from each other but sparser  
points are pushed away to be at least their core distance  
away from any other point



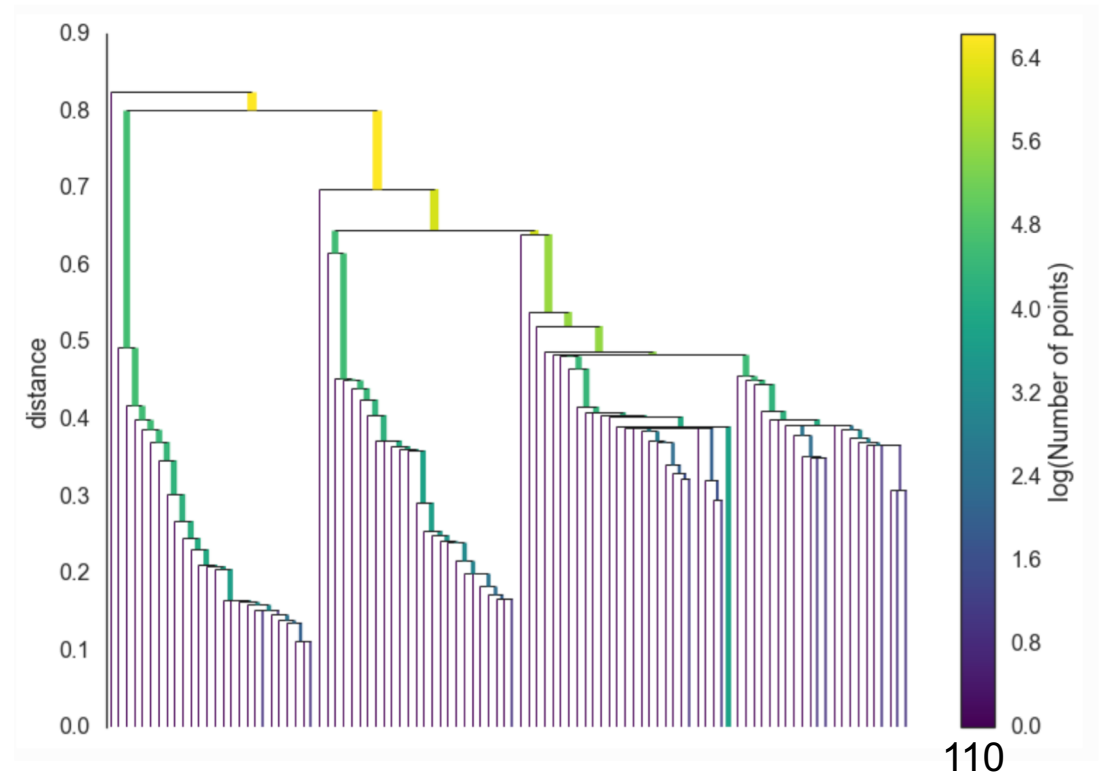
## Step 1

by using the mutual reachability distance, build a **minimum spanning tree** (a spanning tree whose sum of the edge weights is as small as possible)



## Step 2

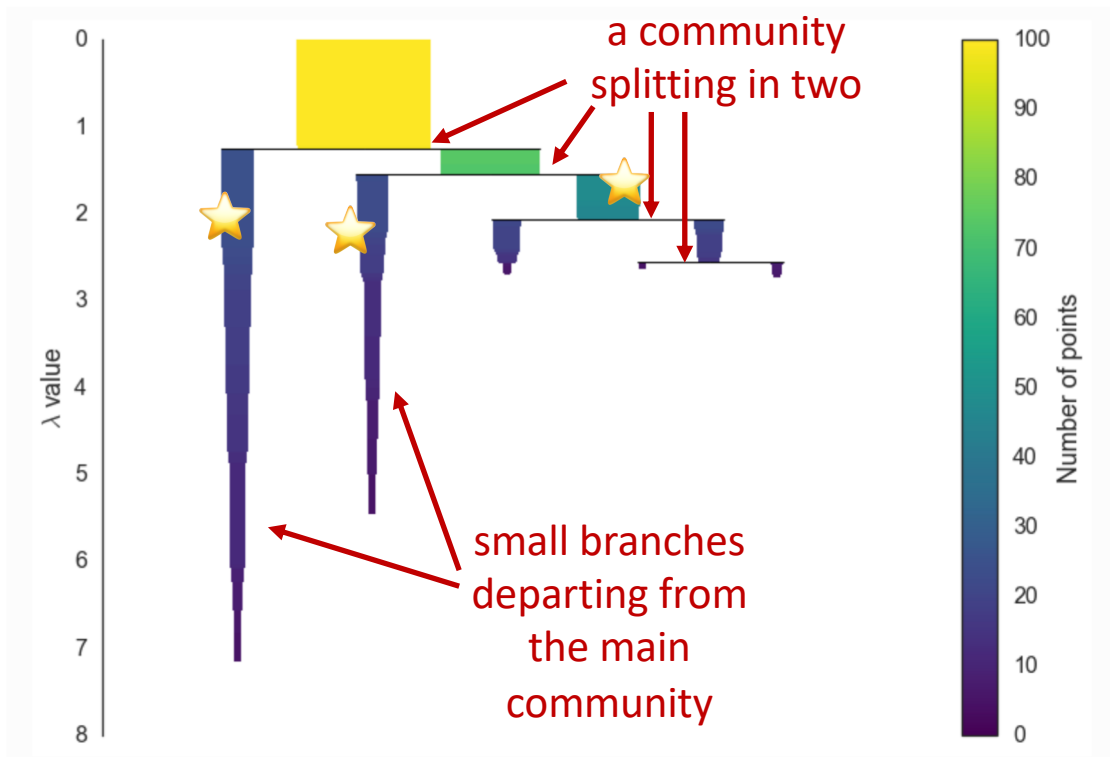
build a **cluster hierarchy** by adding links in the spanning tree in order of distance, starting from the links with smaller distance (**agglomerative** approach)





## Step 3

simplify the hierarchy by removing (from top to bottom) those branches that have size less than the **minimum cluster size** parameter, to avoid outliers



## Step 4

identify a **stability value** for each cluster as

$$\sum_n \frac{1}{d_n} - \frac{1}{d_{birth}}$$

distance at which  
node  $n$  fell out of  
the cluster

distance at  
which the  
cluster is born

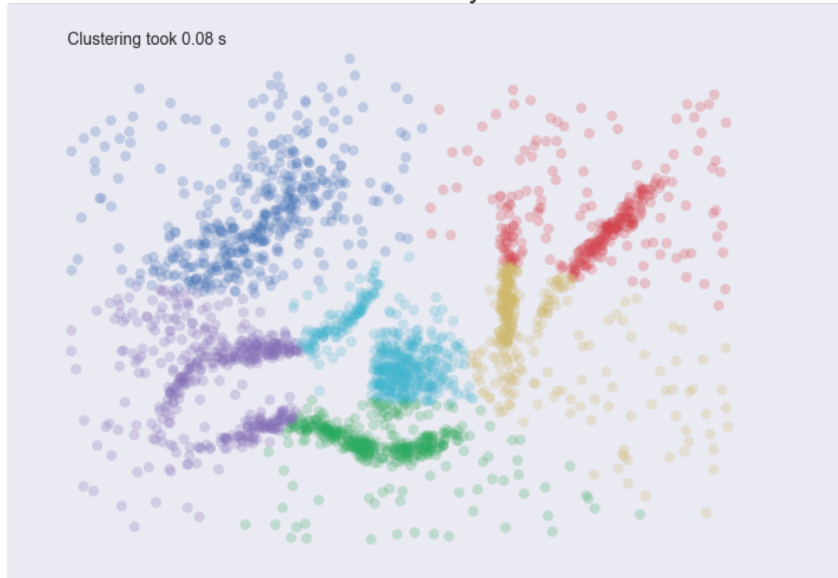
keep the **parent** cluster (★) if its stability is bigger than the sum of the stabilities of its two **child** clusters, otherwise iterate (keep the communities that last longer)



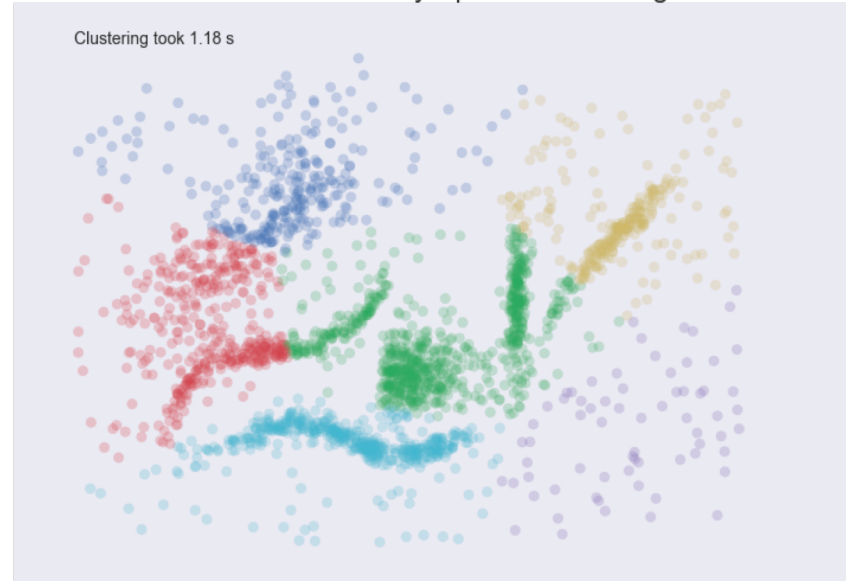
# A comparison example

<https://hdbscan.readthedocs.io/en/latest/index.html>

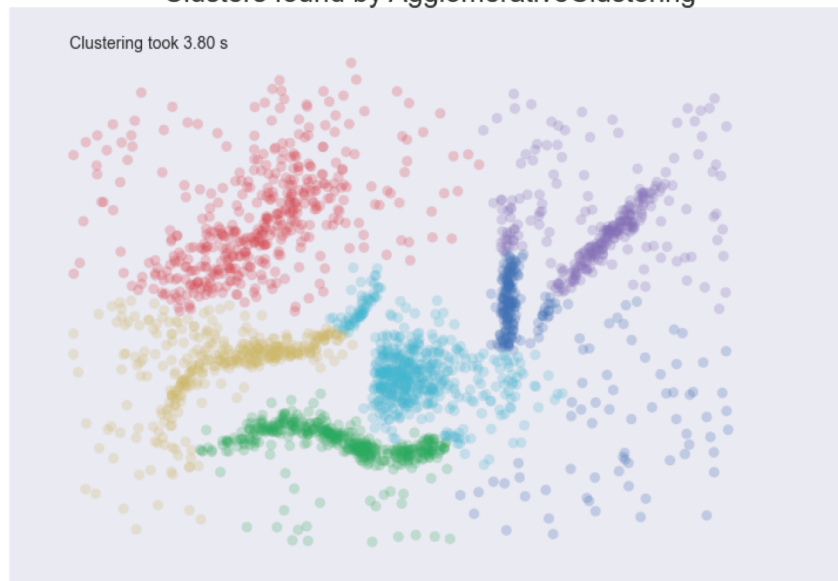
Clusters found by KMeans



Clusters found by SpectralClustering



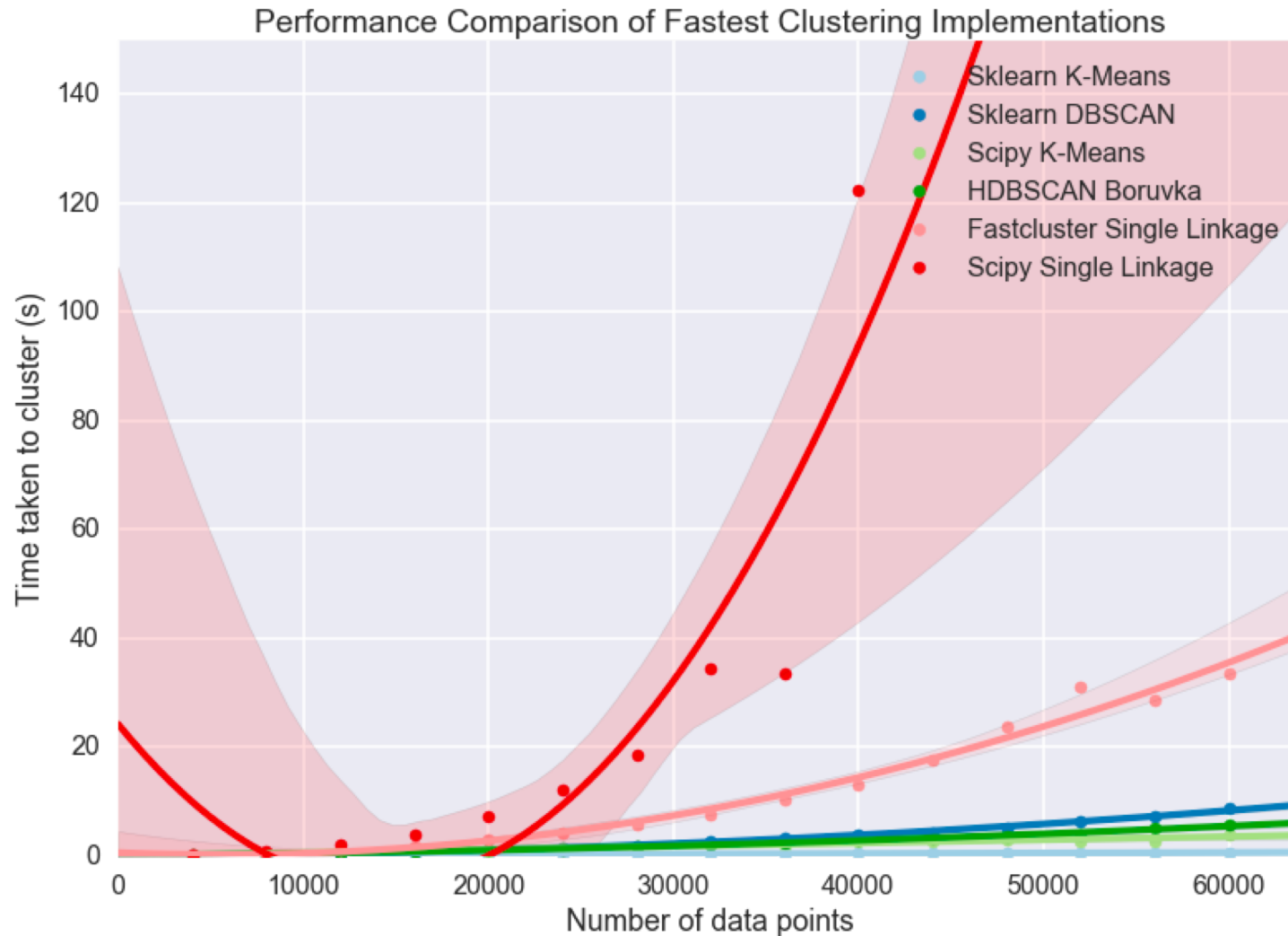
Clusters found by AgglomerativeClustering



Clusters found by HDBSCAN



outliers due  
to minimum  
cluster size





```
class hdbscan.hdbscan_.HDBSCAN(  
    min_cluster_size = 5,  
    min_samples = None, ←  
    metric = 'euclidean', ←  
    algorithm = 'best',  
    approx_min_span_tree = True, ←  
    cluster_selection_method = 'eom', ←  
    allow_single_cluster = False)
```

parameter **K** identifying the **core distance**,  
set by default to `min_cluster_size`  
(small **K** → true distances and few outliers,  
larger **K** → many outliers)

how to calculate distances from data  
vectors, e.g., 'cosine', 'dice', 'euclidean' –  
can also be 'precomputed' from a  
similarity matrix **A** in which case  $d_{ij}=1/a_{ij}$  or  
if correlation values **A** are available  $d_{ij}=1-a_{ij}$

options for the spanning tree algorithm

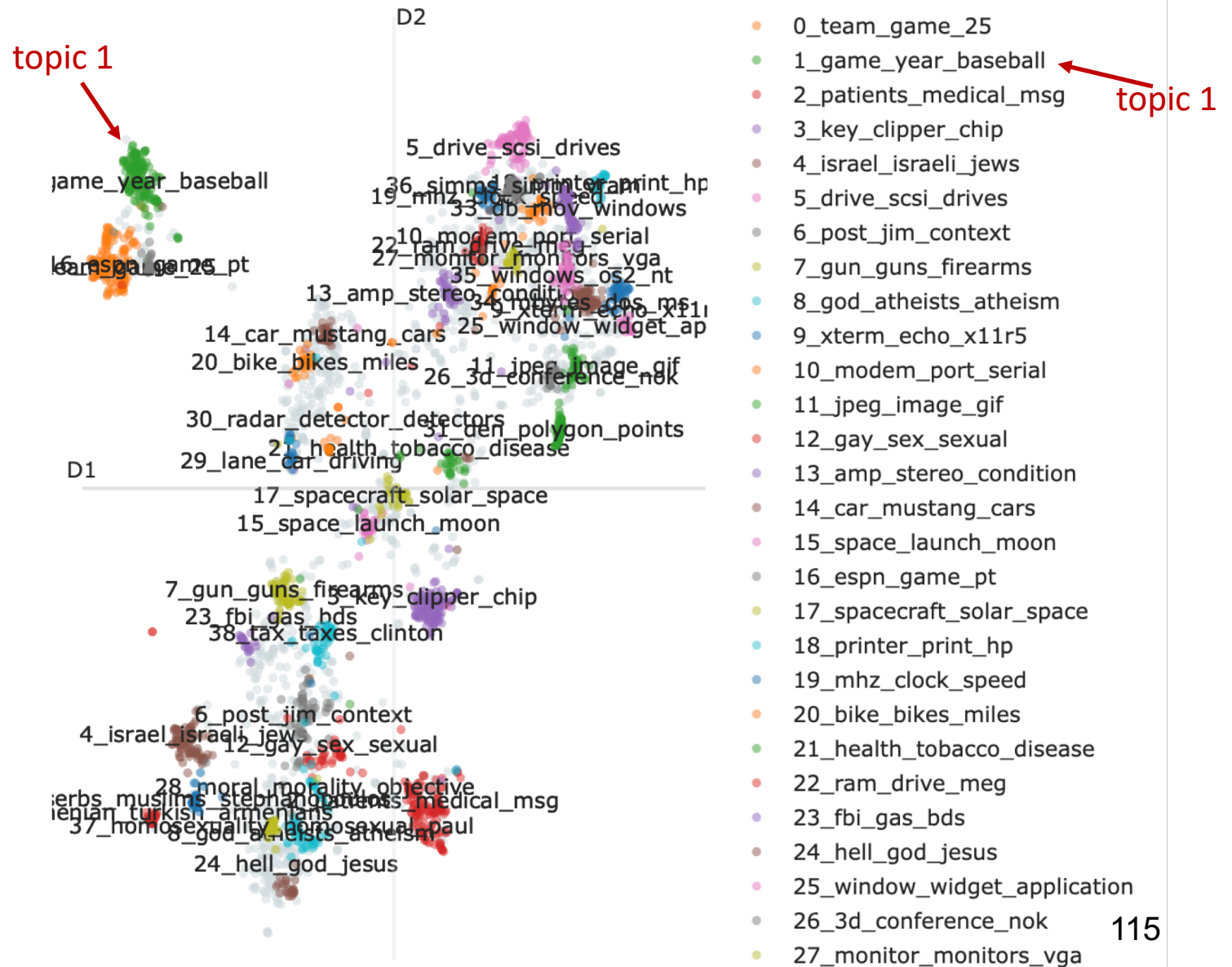
the more elaborate **excess of mass**  
approach ('eom'), or simply select  
leaves ('leaf') for a finer partition



# HDBSCAN in BERTopic

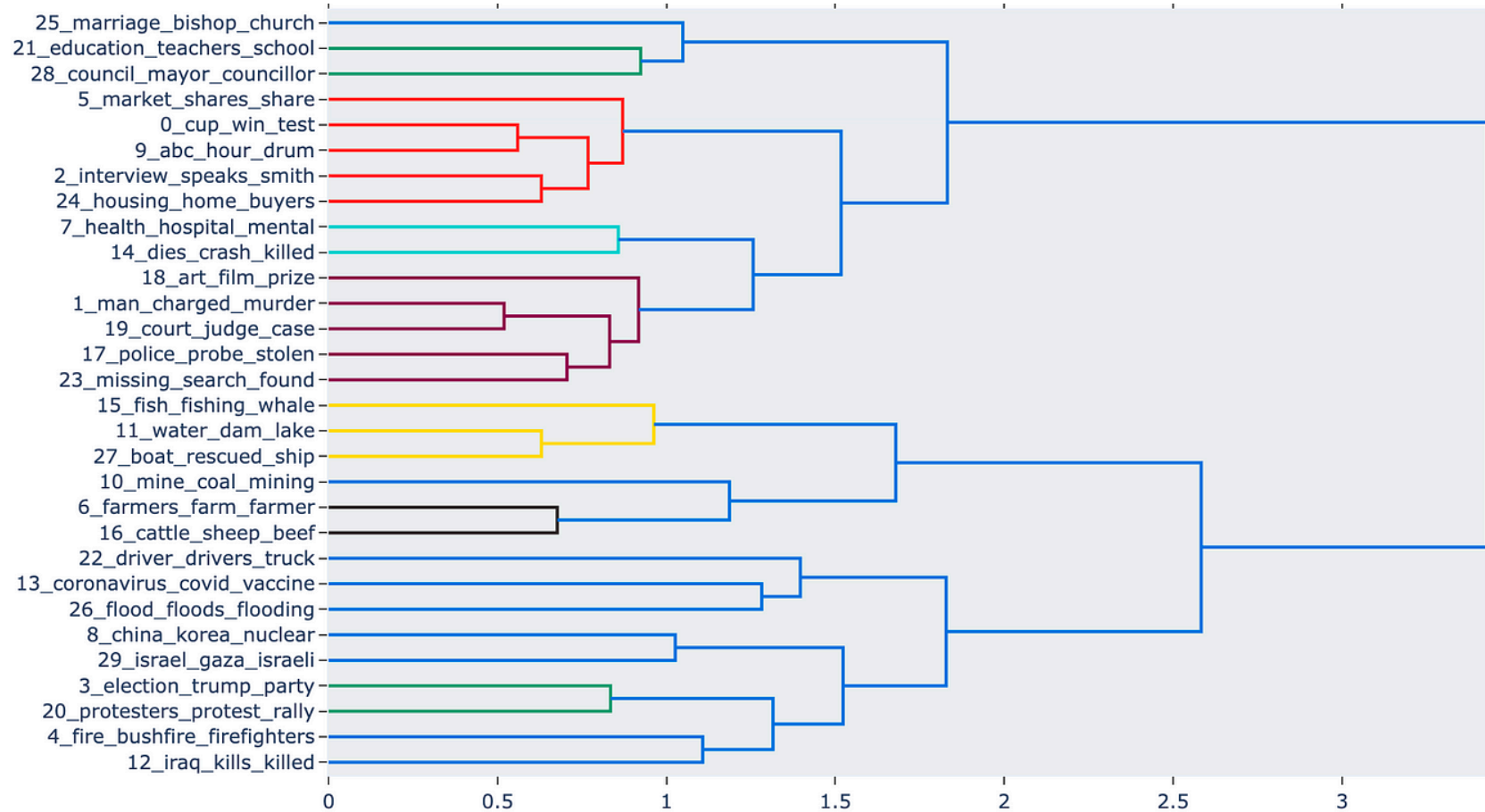
clustering documents into different topics

1. each document is mapped into an **embedding** (vector) by BERT
2. **cosine** metric is used to identify distances among documents
3. HDBSCAN is run to identify **topics**





HDBSCAN hierarchy of topics, with those selected







- ❑ an advanced **agglomerative** method to identify communities (clusters)
- ❑ works on **distance** (or **similarity**) data
- ❑ fully **scalable**
- ❑ it implements **overlapping** communities (soft clustering)
- ❑ striking performance with communities that are not exaggeratedly overlapping in space
- ❑ it naturally generates **outliers**, since small clusters are dropped
- ❑ mostly dependent on the **min\_cluster\_size** parameter

# Clique percolation

what should never be used for overlapping community detection



## Idea

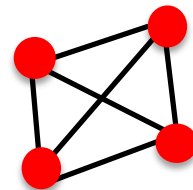
- Two nodes belong to the same community if they can be connected through **adjacent  $k$  cliques**

## $k$ clique

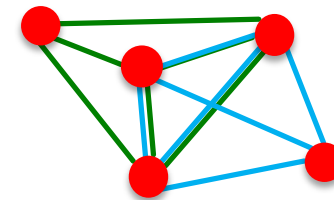
- Fully connected graph of  $k$  nodes

## Adjacent $k$ cliques

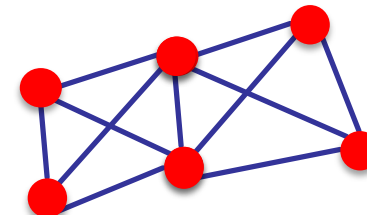
- Overlap in  $k-1$  nodes



4-clique

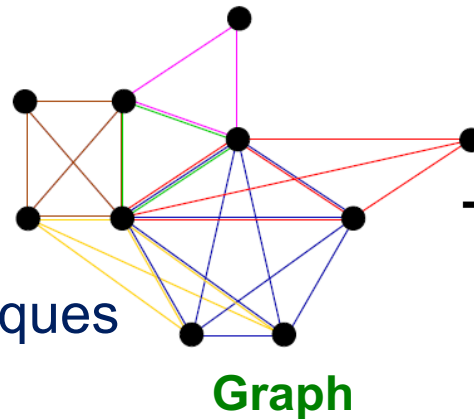


Adjacent 4-cliques



Non-adjacent 4-cliques

(1) identify cliques



Cliques

	Blue	Red	Green	Pink	Yellow	Brown
Blue	5	3	2	1	3	1
Red	3	4	2	1	1	1
Green	2	2	3	2	1	2
Pink	1	1	2	3	0	1
Yellow	3	1	1	0	4	2
Brown	1	1	2	1	2	4

**Clique overlap matrix**

Overlap size

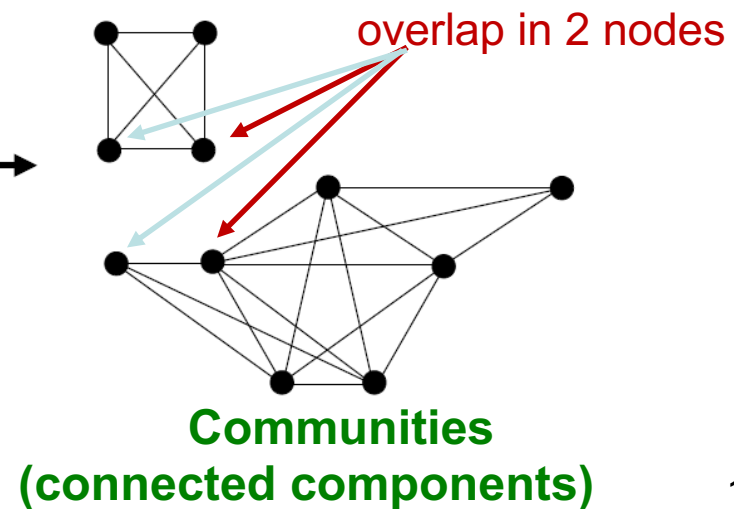
(2) Build a clique overlap matrix

$k=4$

(3) Set a threshold  
(the one providing the **richest** community structure = most widely distributed cluster sizes)

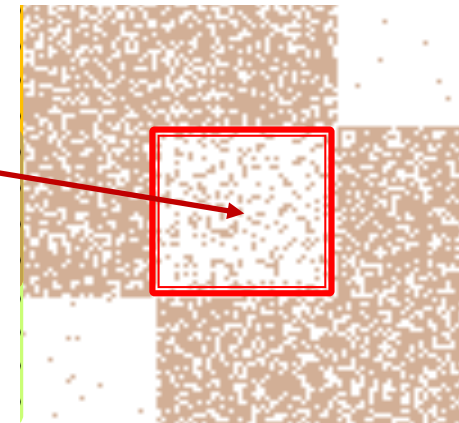
	Blue	Red	Green	Pink	Yellow	Brown
Blue	1	1	0	0	1	0
Red	1	1	0	0	0	0
Green	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pink	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yellow	1	0	0	0	1	0
Brown	0	0	0	0	0	1

**Thresholded matrix at 3**



- ❑ simple approach (too simple?)
- ❑ reasonably scalable
- ❑ it implements overlapping communities
- ❑ very **poor** performance
- ❑ it is based on a **wrong** overlapping model

fewer  
connections in  
the overlap



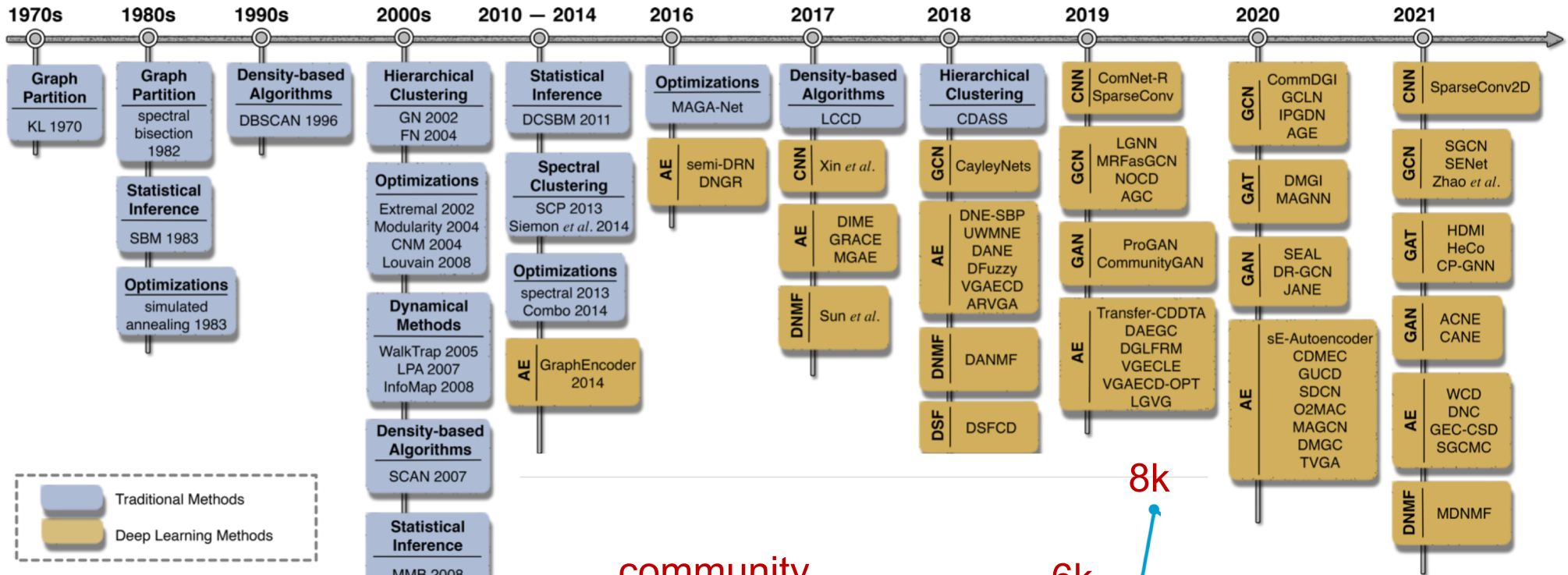
- ❑ do not use it!

# Wrap-up

on community detection

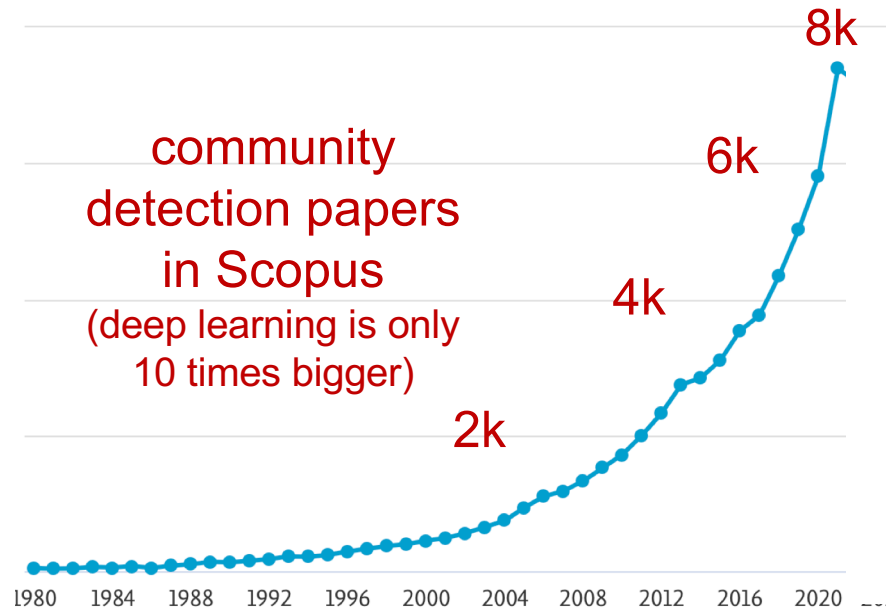


algorithm	rationale	weighted	directed	overlapping	signed	scalable
Louvain	optimizes modularity	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Spectral clustering ✗	optimizes Ncut based on the normalized Laplacian	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Infomap	optimizes the InfoMap measure	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
BigCLAM	model based approach	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
SBM ✗	model based approach	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO
MM-SBM	model based approach	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
Girvan-Newman ✗	divisive dendrogram based on betweenness	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
HDBSCAN	agglomerative approach based on distances	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES
Clique percolation ✗	approach based on cliques overlapping	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO



Traditional Methods  
Deep Learning Methods

community  
detection papers  
in Scopus  
(deep learning is only  
10 times bigger)







**Fortunato**, "Community detection in graphs." (2010)  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.physrep.2009.11.002>

**Fortunato, Newman**. "20 years of network community detection." (2022)  
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41567-022-01716-7>

**Clement, Wilkinson**. "A review of stochastic block models and extensions for graph clustering." (2019)  
<https://appliednetsci.springeropen.com/articles/10.1007/s41109-019-0232-2>

**Di, et al.** "A survey of community detection approaches: From statistical modeling to deep learning." (2021)  
<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/abstract/document/9511798>

**Xing, et al.** "A comprehensive survey on community detection with deep learning." (2022).  
<https://doi.org/10.1109/TNNLS.2021.3137396>



- ❑ De Bacco, Power, Larremore, Moore, "Community detection, link prediction, and layer interdependence in **multilayer networks**." (2017)

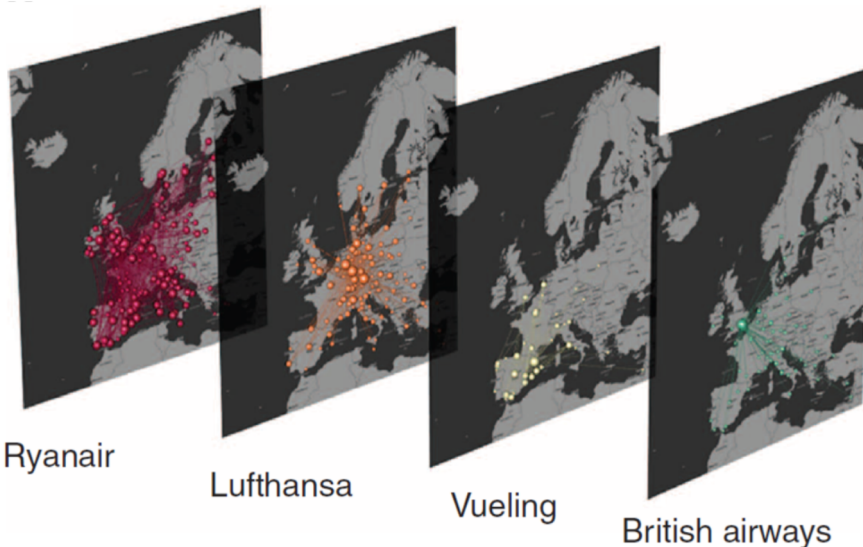
[core.ac.uk/download/pdf/146486854.pdf](https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/146486854.pdf)

- ❑ Contisciani, Power, De Bacco. "Community detection with node attributes in **multilayer networks**." (2020)

[www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-72626-y](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-72626-y)

- ❑ Contisciani, Battiston, De Bacco. "Inference of hyperedges and overlapping communities in **hypergraphs**." (2022)

[www.nature.com/articles/s41467-022-34714-7](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-022-34714-7)





# Python software tools

a few of the many available

- ❑ **NetworkX** [networkx.org/documentation/stable/index.html](http://networkx.org/documentation/stable/index.html)
    - louvain\_communities ☹️
    - girvan\_newman
  - ❑ **iGraph** [python.igraph.org/en/stable/](http://python.igraph.org/en/stable/)
    - community\_infomap
    - community\_edge\_betweenness
    - community\_optimal\_modularity
    - louvain.find\_partition 😊
  - ❑ **SciKit Learn** [scikit-learn.org/stable/modules/classes.html#](http://scikit-learn.org/stable/modules/classes.html#)
    - sklearn.cluster.SpectralClustering
  - ❑ **GitHub**
    - BigCLAM [github.com/RobRomijnders/bigclam](https://github.com/RobRomijnders/bigclam)
    - Mixed membership SBM [github.com/aburnap/Mixed-Membership-Stochastic-Blockmodel](https://github.com/aburnap/Mixed-Membership-Stochastic-Blockmodel)
    - Multilayer SBM [github.com/MPI-IS/multitensor](https://github.com/MPI-IS/multitensor) + [github.com/mcontisc/MTCOV](https://github.com/mcontisc/MTCOV)
- weighted, directed, non-overlapping**
- weighted, undirected, non-overlapping**
- unweighted, directed, overlapping**



REPOSITORY ▾



ANALYTICS ▾



ABOUT ▾



Graph search



## Network Data Collections. Find and interactively VISUALIZE graph data and EXPLORE hundreds of network datasets

ANIMAL SOCIAL NETWORKS	816	INTERACTION NETWORKS	29	SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING	11
BIOLOGICAL NETWORKS	37	INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORKS	8	SOCIAL NETWORKS	77
BRAIN NETWORKS	116	LABELED NETWORKS	105	FACEBOOK NETWORKS	114
COLLABORATION NETWORKS	20	MASSIVE NETWORK DATA	21	TECHNOLOGICAL NETWORKS	12
CHEMINFORMATICS	646	MISCELLANEOUS NETWORKS	2669	WEB GRAPHS	36
CITATION NETWORKS	4	POWER NETWORKS	8	DYNAMIC NETWORKS	115
ECOLOGY NETWORKS	6	PROXIMITY NETWORKS	13	TEMPORAL REACHABILITY	38
ECONOMIC NETWORKS	16	GENERATED GRAPHS	221	BHOSLIB	36
EMAIL NETWORKS	6	RECOMMENDATION NETWORKS	36	DIMACS	78
GRAPH 500	8	ROAD NETWORKS	15	DIMACS10	84
HETEROGENEOUS NETWORKS	15	RETWEET NETWORKS	34	NON-RELATIONAL ML DATA	211

with users at





- ❑ **Louvain** community detection is the bare minimum for any project
- ❑ want to see different **metrics** on it (modularity, Ncut, NMI, InfoMap) though
- ❑ **comparing** the performance of Louvain with algorithms available in the literature is a plus
- ❑ a **very good project** would implement an algorithm, e.g., overlapping Louvain/InfoMap/NMI or BigCLAM/MM-SBM

# Correlation networks

a few insights



# How can you correlate data? an overview

Cosine similarity

$$\cos(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y}}{|\mathbf{x}|_2 |\mathbf{y}|_2}$$

← norm 2

positive for positive  
valued data  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$

Pearson correlation coefficient

$$r(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{(\mathbf{x} - m\mathbf{x})^T (\mathbf{y} - m\mathbf{y})}{\sigma_x \sigma_y}$$

always with a sign

Sørensen-Dice coefficient

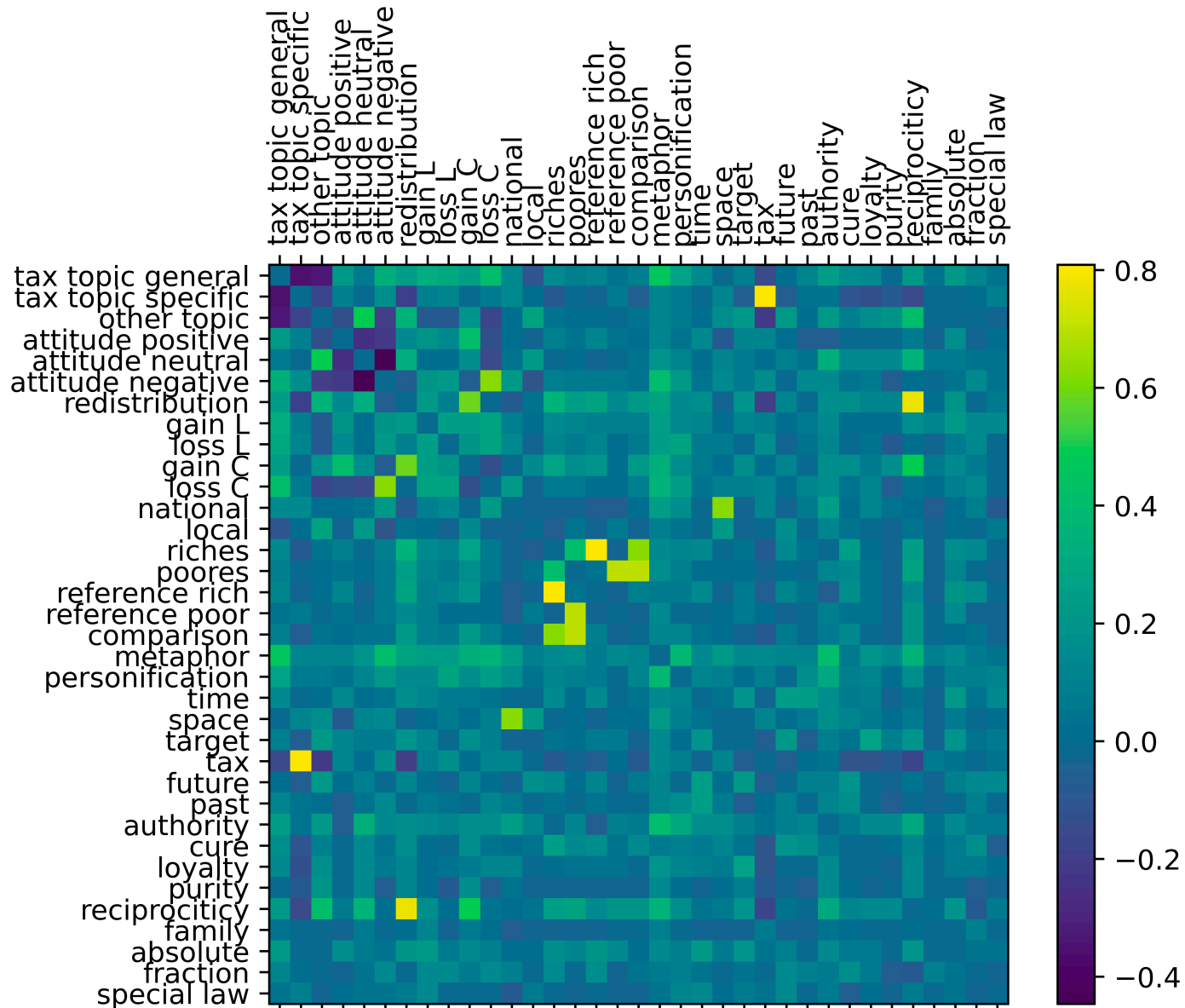
$$\text{dice}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y}}{\frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{x}|_1 + \frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{y}|_1}$$

for binary data  
(it is an F1 score)  
always positive



# Tax questionnaire example

Pearson correlation used



**x** and **y** data are values (binary or not) for **different categories** among a wide set of **people** interviewed

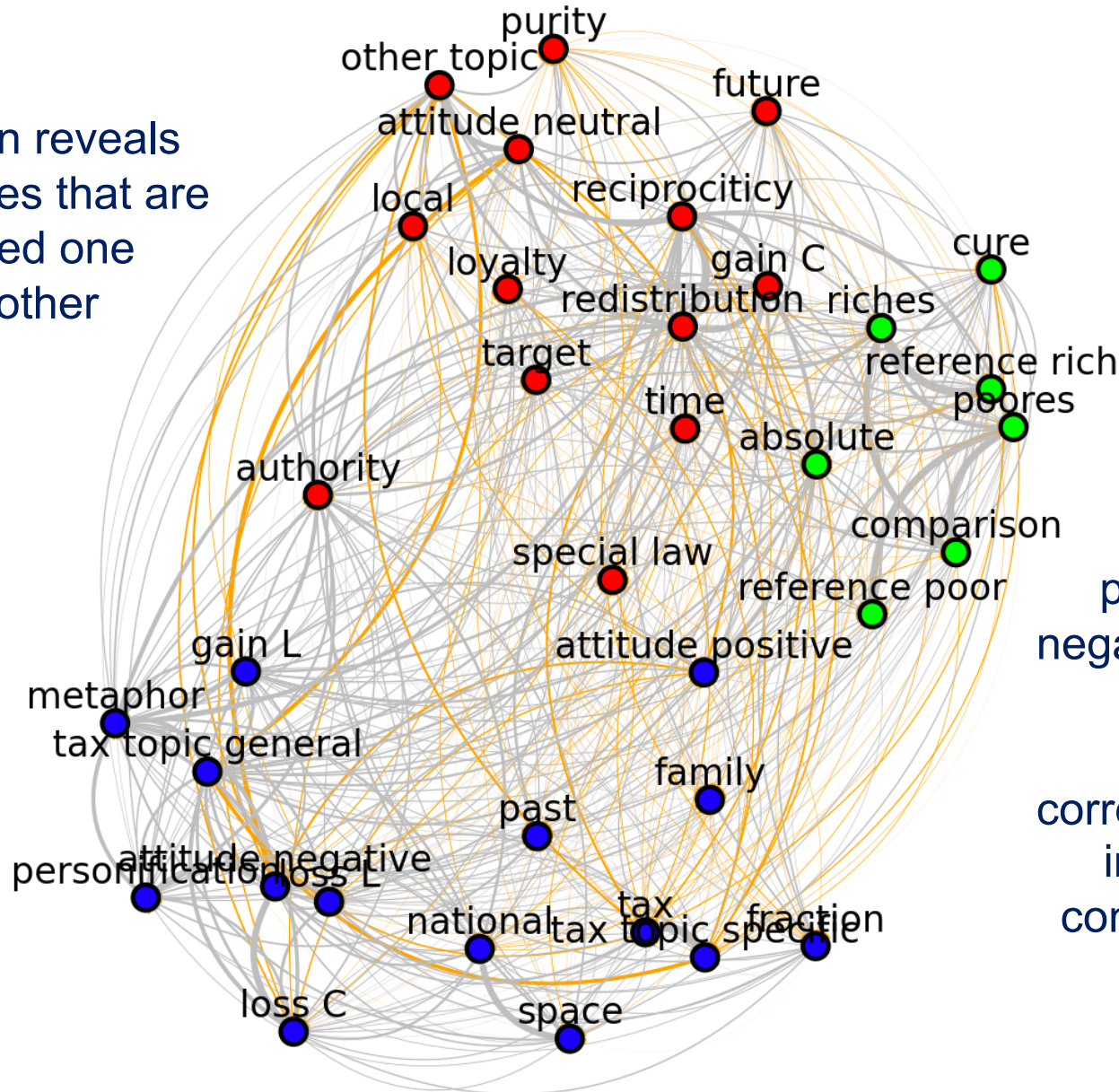
(can do the same with posts and **sentiment** analysis over the **posts**)





# Tax questionnaire example signed (and soft) Louvain community detection

Louvain reveals  
categories that are  
related one  
another



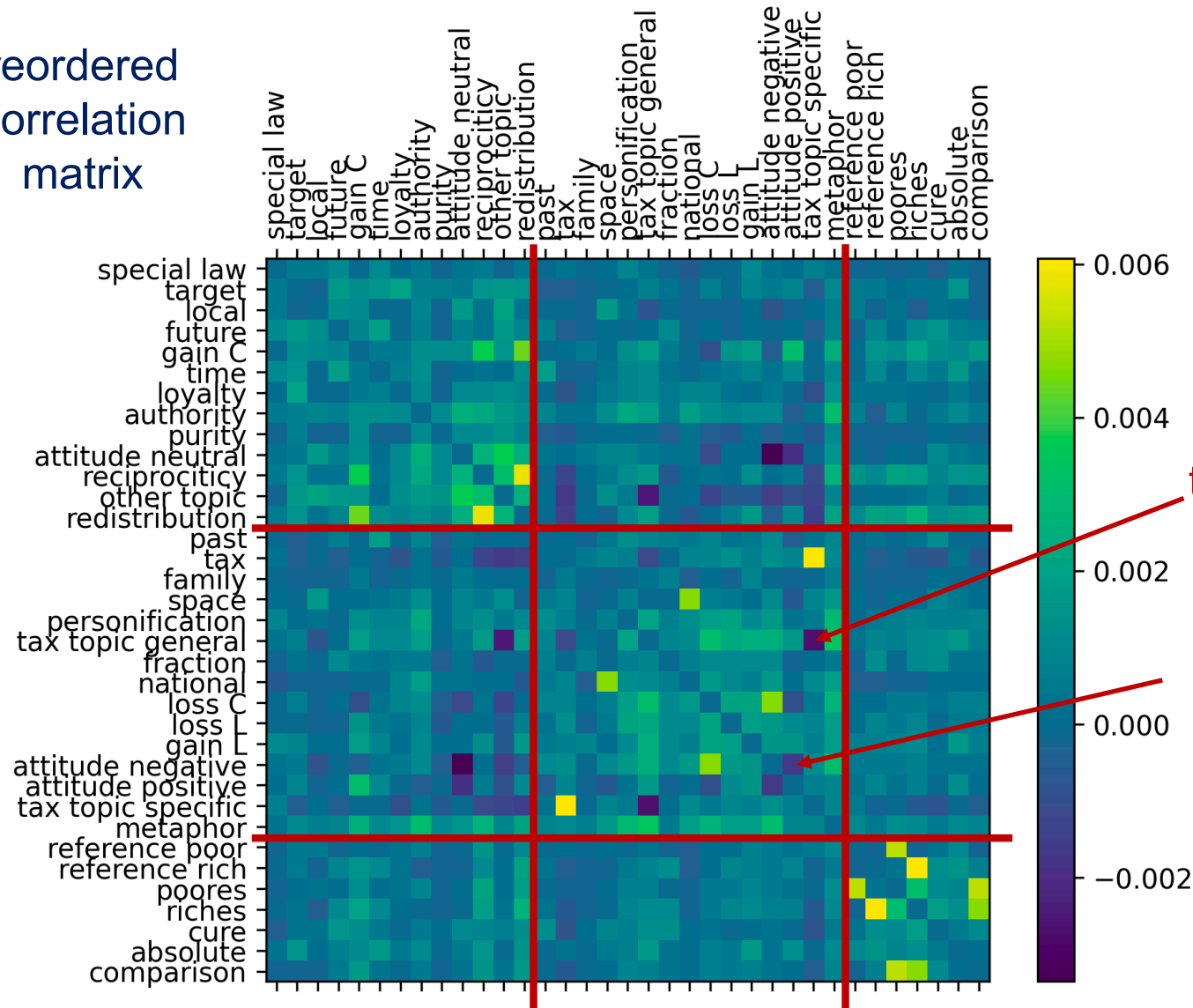
positive and  
negative attitudes,  
although  
negatively  
correlated, appear  
in the same  
community !?!?



# Tax questionnaire example

how Louvain solves correlation inconsistencies

reordered  
correlation  
matrix



the two tax  
topics do not  
correlate!!!

positive and  
negative attitudes  
do not correlate!!!  
but both correlate  
with the rest of the  
community



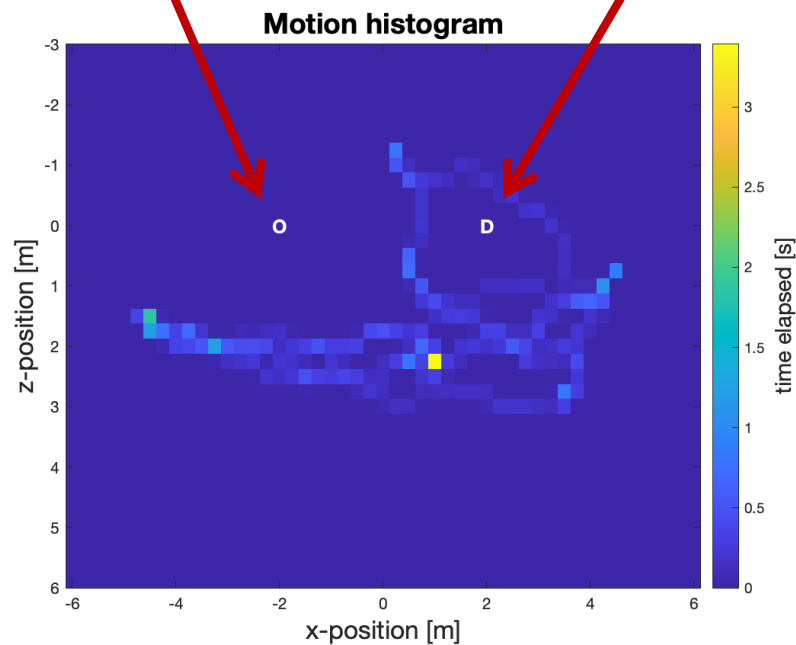
# Motion patterns in VR example

studying immersive environments

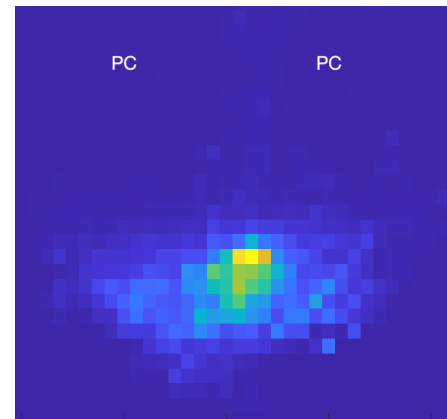


original  
pointcloud

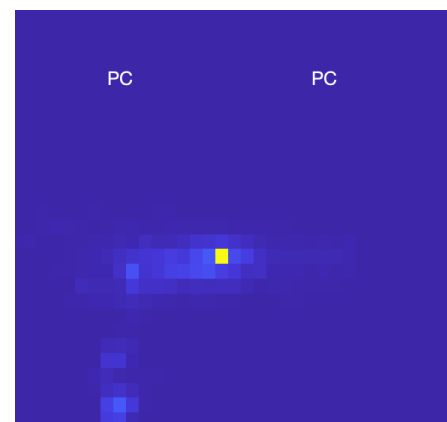
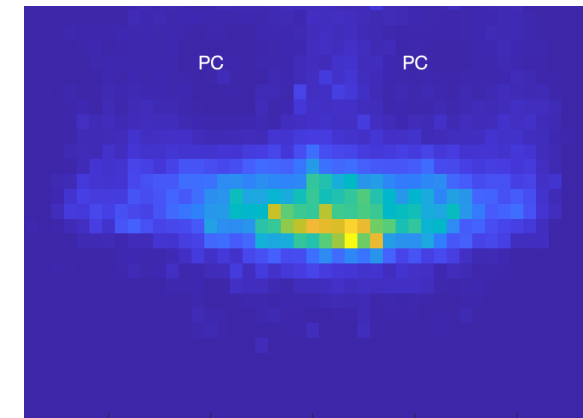
distorted  
pointcloud



Cluster 1: walking  
from a distance



Cluster 2: walking  
closely



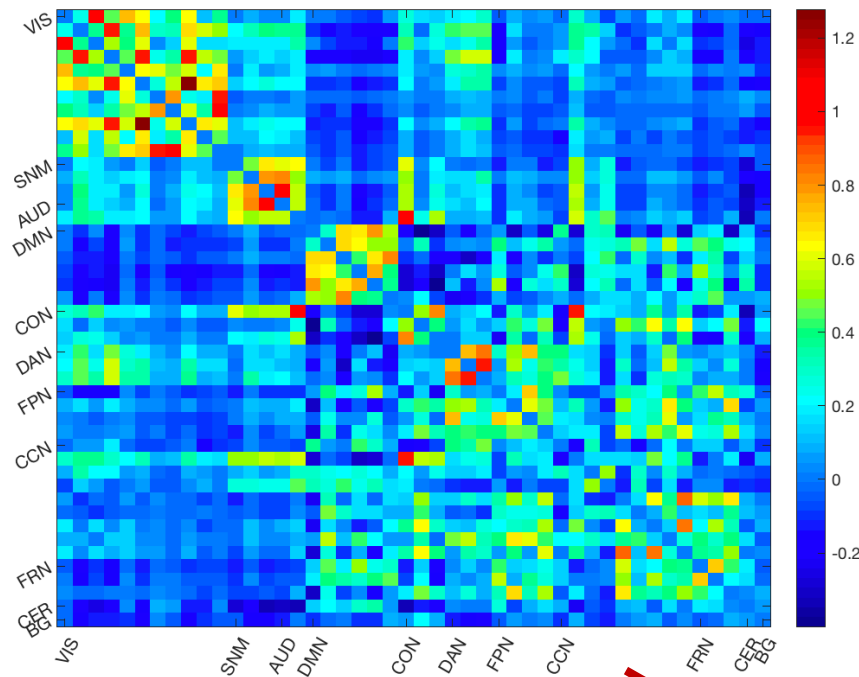
Cluster 3:  
standing still

motion behaviours  
detected by Louvain  
on **Pearson**  
correlations over  
(filtered) motion  
patterns



# fMRI data example

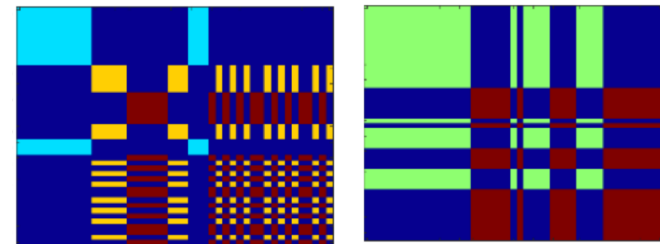
fMRI = functional magnetic resonance imaging

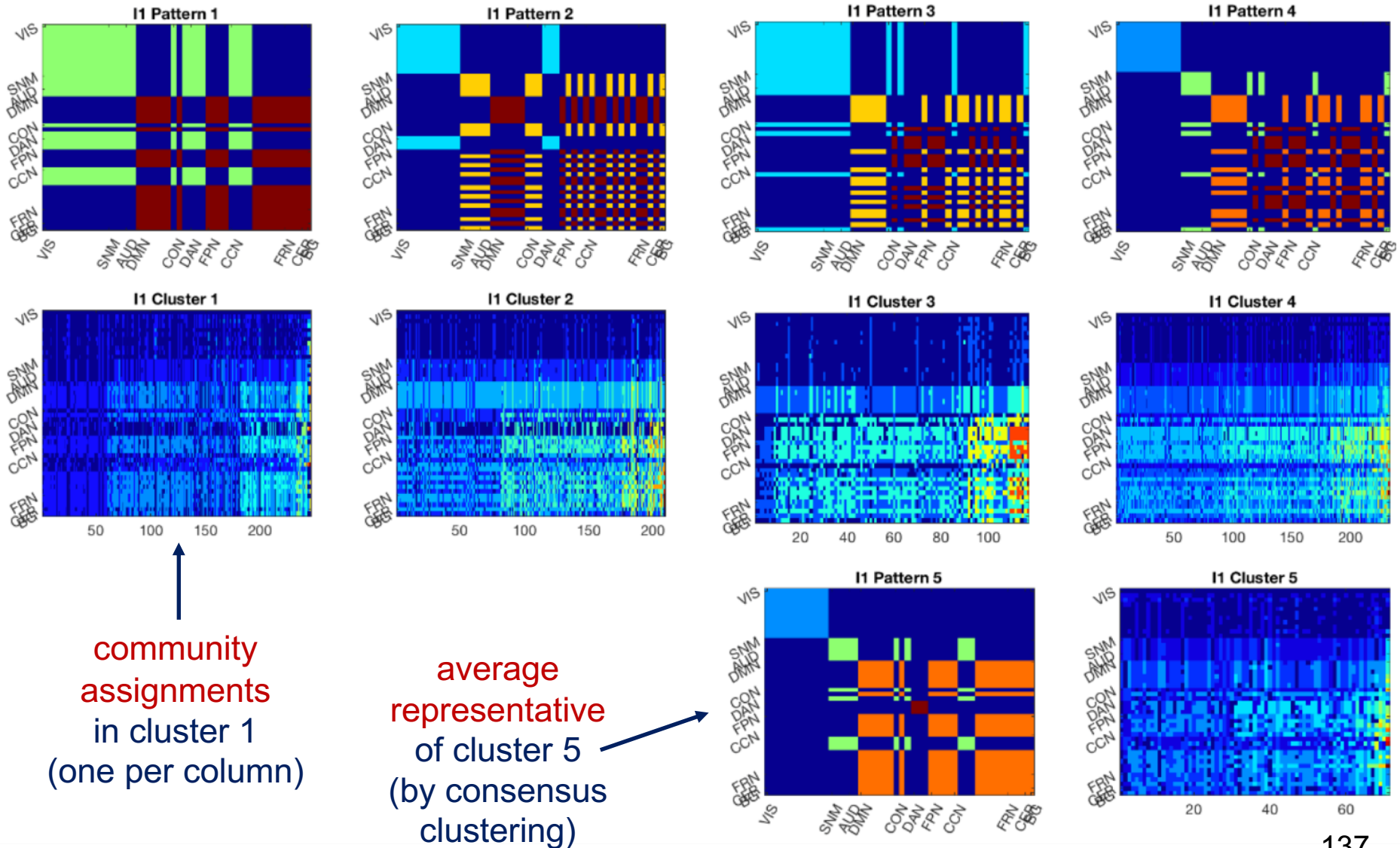


Pearson's correlation coefficient

but be aware that the data waveforms, prior to correlation, are highly **polished** (e.g., from motion-related artifacts and physiological noise fluctuations, multiple-echoes, etc.)

with Louvain we can identify community patterns  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{C}$  whose similarity can be captured by the Dice coefficient







**partial correlation** measures the degree of association between two random variables, with the effect of a set of controlling random variables removed

when determining the numerical relationship between two variables of interest, using their correlation coefficient will give misleading results if there is another confounding variable that is numerically related to both variables of interest

$$\text{partial}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{\mathbf{e}_x^T \mathbf{e}_y}{|\mathbf{e}_x|_2 |\mathbf{e}_y|_2}$$

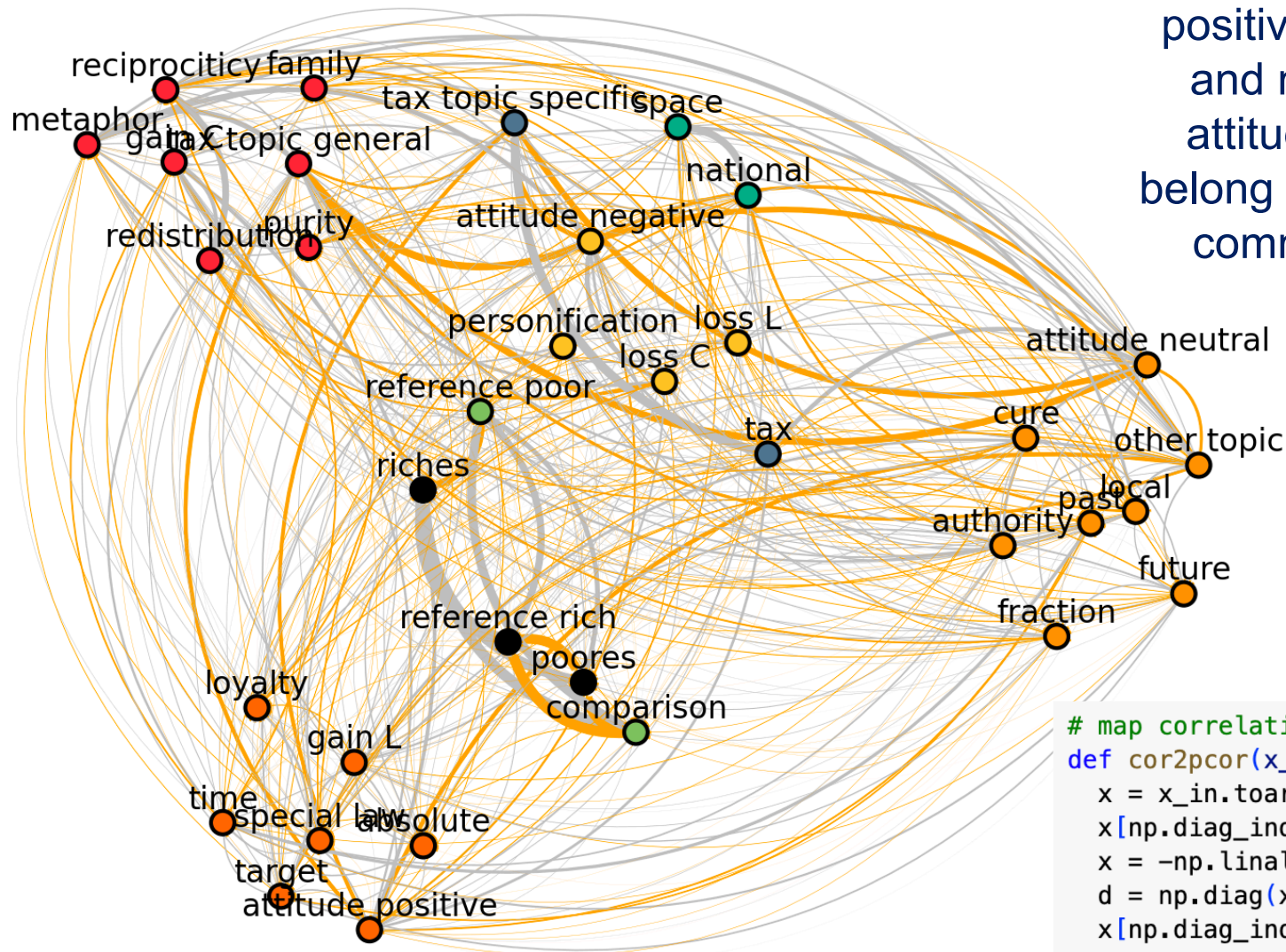
collection of data vectors, other than  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ , plus the constant vector  $\mathbf{1}$

$$\mathbf{e}_x = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{Z}(\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z})^{-1} \mathbf{Z}^T) \mathbf{x}$$

projection on the space orthogonal to  $\text{span}(\mathbf{Z})$



# Tax questionnaire example with partial correlation



positive, neutral  
and negative  
attitudes now  
belong to different  
communities

```
# map correlation into partial correlation
def cor2pcor(x_in):
    x = x_in.toarray()
    x[np.diag_indices_from(x)] = 1
    x = -np.linalg.pinv(x)
    d = np.diag(x)
    x[np.diag_indices_from(x)] = -d
    x = x/np.sqrt(d)
    x = x.T/np.sqrt(d)
    return x
```



# A personality network example

Costantini et al. (2015)

