

# Virus Spread in Networks

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## Outline

Introduction & Definitions

The N-intertwined model for virus spread

Extensions

Viral Conductance

Modifying the epidemic threshold

Summary

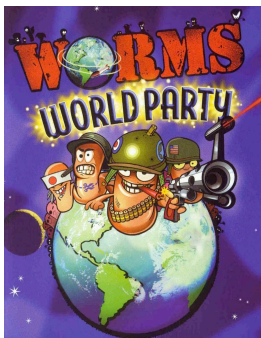


## Motivation for virus spread in networks

- Computer viruses
  - security threat to Internet
  - annoyance
  - very costly
    - Code Red worm: several billion \$\$ in damage
- Why do we care?
  - Understanding the spread of a virus is the first step in preventing it
  - How fast do we need to disinfect nodes so that the virus dies quickly? Which nodes?

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## Applications of virus spread models



- Computer virus and worms modelling
- Epidemic algorithms
- Error propagation in networks
- Any self-replicating object on a dynamic network
- Emotions as infectious diseases in social networks

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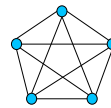
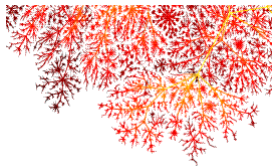
## History\*

First epidemic model by Bernoulli (1760)

Homogeneous mixing model (biology)

Epidemic on a graph (Kephart and White)

Power-law graphs (Pastor-Satorras and Vespignani)



\* "Epidemic modelling – an introduction" – D. J. Daley and J. Gani

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## State of the art of epidemic modeling

- **Timing parameters modelling.**
  - "Modelling the Effects of Timing Parameters on Virus Propagation" (Y. Wang and C. Wang)
- **Topology influence on epidemic.**
  - "The Effect on Network Topology on the Spread of Epidemic" (Ganesh, Massoulié, Towsley)
  - "Threshold for Virus Spread on Networks" (Draief, Ganesh, Massoulié)
- **Percolation and generating function approach.**
  - "The spread of epidemic disease on networks" (Newman)
- **Contact Processes (mathematical theory)**
  - Branch of continuous-time Markov theory (book by Liggett)

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## Spreading process

- *States in which a node can be:*
  - susceptible (S)
  - infected (I)
  - incubating
  - alert
  - removed (either cured or death)
- *Time description of the model:*
  - continuous-time
  - discrete-time
- *Focus here is a simple model:*
  - a SIS model in continuous time applicable to **any network**

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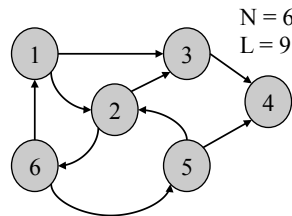
## A few graph metrics...

- Number of **nodes**  $N$  and **links**  $L$  in a graph  $G$
- **Degree**  $d_i$  of a node  $i$ : number of directly linked neighbors
  - degree distribution of all your first hop neighbors, all second hop neighbors, etc...
- **Hopcount** (number of links) of a shortest path between two nodes
  - **Diameter**: largest possible hopcount (distance)
  - **$k$ -th level set**: number of nodes at hop  $k$  in the shortest path tree rooted at a node (also called the **expansion** of  $G$ )
- **Connectivity** and number of **components (clusters)**
  - strongly connected components
  - number of **cliques** (= complete subgraphs  $K_m$  with  $m < N$ )
  - **edge/vertex connectivity**: minimum number of links/node whose removal disconnects  $G$
- **Betweenness** of a link/node: number of shortest paths between all pair of nodes in  $G$  that traverses the link/node
- ... and many more...

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## Algebraic graph theory

Any graph  $G$  can be represented by an adjacency matrix  $A$  and an incidence matrix  $B$ , and a Laplacian  $Q$



$N = 6$   
 $L = 9$

$$B_{N \times L} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 & \dots & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A_{N \times N} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = A^T$$

$$Q = BB^T = \Delta - A$$

$$\Delta = \text{diag}(d_1 \quad d_2 \quad \dots \quad d_N)$$

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## A wealth of relations...

**Degree law:**  $\sum_{j=1}^N d_j = 2L$

**Number of  $k$ -hop walks** between node  $i$  and  $j$ :  $(A^k)_{ij}$

Any **real symmetric matrix**  $S$  can be written as  $S = X \Lambda X^T$ , where  $X$  is the orthog. matrix with real eigenvectors in the columns and  $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N)$ , where  $\lambda_j$  is the  $j$ -th real eigenvalue. Eigenvalues can be ordered as  $\lambda_N \leq \lambda_{N-1} \leq \dots \leq \lambda_2 \leq \lambda_1$

**Spectrum of  $A$ :** 1) all eigenvalues lie in the interval  $(-d_{\max}, d_{\max}]$

$$2) \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_j = 0 \quad \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_j^2 = 2L \quad \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_j^k = \text{Trace}(A^k) = \sum_{j=1}^N (A^k)_{jj}$$

**Spectrum of  $Q$ :** 1) any eigenvalue  $\mu_k$  is non-negative and smallest  $\mu_N = 0$ .

$$2) \text{ complexity (number of spanning trees) is } \xi(G) = \frac{1}{N} \prod_{k=1}^{N-1} \mu_k$$

3) the second smallest eigenvalue (**algebraic connectivity**  $\mu_{N-1}$ ) is related to how strongly a graph is connected

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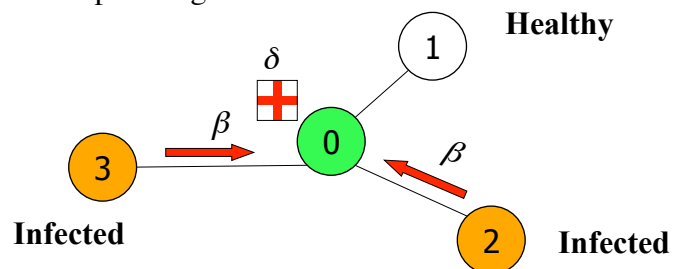
Summary



## Simple SIS model (1)

- Homogeneous birth (infection) rate  $\beta$  on all edges between infected and susceptible nodes
- Homogeneous death (curing) rate  $\delta$  for infected nodes

$\tau = \beta / \delta$  : effective spreading rate



## Simple SIS model (2)

- Each node  $j$  can be in either of the two states:

- “0”: healthy
- “1”: infected

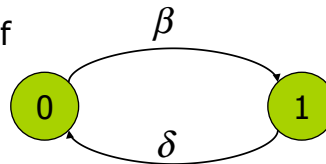
- Markov continuous time:

- infection rate  $\beta$
- curing rate  $\delta$

- Mathematically:

- $X_j$  is the state of node  $j$

- infinitesimal generator  $Q_j(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -q_{1j} & q_{1j} \\ q_{2j} & -q_{2j} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -q_{1j} & q_{1j} \\ \delta & -\delta \end{bmatrix}$

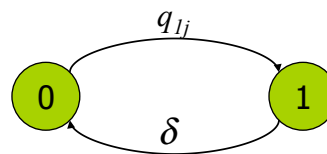


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## Simple SIS model (3)

- Nodes are interconnected in graph:

$$Q_j(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -q_{1j} & q_{1j} \\ \delta & -\delta \end{bmatrix}$$



where the infection rate is due all infected neighbors of node  $j$ :

$$q_{1j}(t) = \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{jk} 1_{\{X_k(t)=1\}}$$

and where the adjacency matrix of the graph is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1N} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{N1} & a_{N2} & \dots & a_{NN} \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Simple SIS model (4)

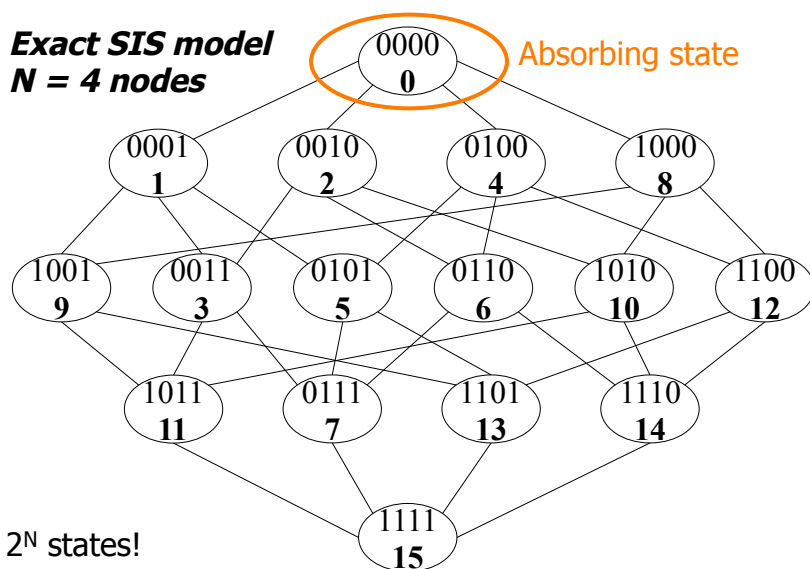
- Markov theory requires that the infinitesimal generator is a matrix whose elements are NOT random variables
- However, this is not the case in our simple model:

$$q_{1j}(t) = \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{jk} 1_{\{X_k(t)=1\}}$$

- By conditioning to each possible combination of infected states, we finally arrive to the exact Markov continuous SIS model
- *Drawback:* this exact model has  $2^N$  states, where  $N$  is the number of nodes in the network.

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**Exact SIS model**  
 **$N = 4$  nodes**





## Simple SIS model (5): mean field

- The infinitesimal generator

$$Q_j(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -q_{1j} & q_{1j} \\ \delta & -\delta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$q_{1j}(t) = \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{jk} 1_{\{X_k(t)=1\}}$$

is replaced by its mean (**the only approximation!**)

$$Q_j = \begin{bmatrix} -E[q_{1j}] & E[q_{1j}] \\ \delta & -\delta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$E[q_{1j}(t)] = \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{jk} \Pr[\{X_k(t)=1\}]$$

- Being able now to apply ordinary Markov theory, we arrive at our **N-intertwined model for virus spread**

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dv_1}{dt} = (1-v_1)\beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{1k}v_k - \delta v_1 \\ \frac{dv_2}{dt} = (1-v_2)\beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{2k}v_k - \delta v_2 \\ \vdots \\ \frac{dv_N}{dt} = (1-v_N)\beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{Nk}v_k - \delta v_N \end{cases}$$

where  $v_k(t) = \Pr[X_k(t)=1]$

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## N-intertwined virus spread model

- Non-linear matrix equation:

$$\frac{dV(t)}{dt} = \beta A \cdot V(t) - \text{diag}(v_i(t))(\beta A \cdot V(t) + \delta u)$$

where the vector  $u^T = [1 \ 1 \ \dots \ 1]$  and  $V^T = [v_1 \ v_2 \ \dots \ v_N]$

- Results:**

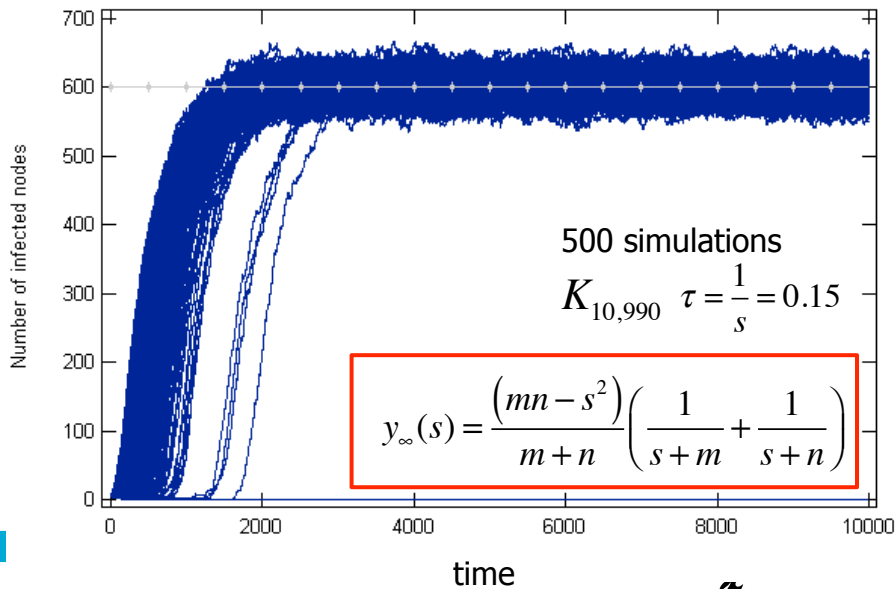
- Probability of infection  $v_k$  for each node  $k$  separately
- Number of infected nodes in the steady state
- Phase transition phenomena for any network (largest eigenvalue of the adjacency matrix  $A$ )
- Analytic computations feasible:
  - expansions of  $v_k$  as a function of the effective infection rate around the epidemic threshold and around infinity

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P. Van Mieghem, J. Omic, R. E. Kooij, "Virus Spread in Networks", IEEE/ACM Transaction on Networking, Vol. 17, No. 1, pp. 1-14, (2009).



## Simulations



## Kephart-White model

Assume perfect homogeneity & symmetry: a graph of degree  $r$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dv_1}{dt} = (1 - v_1)\beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{1k}v_k - \delta v_1 \\ \frac{dv_2}{dt} = (1 - v_2)\beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{2k}v_k - \delta v_2 \\ \vdots \\ \frac{dv_N}{dt} = (1 - v_N)\beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{Nk}v_k - \delta v_N \end{cases}$$



$$\frac{dv}{dt} = (1 - v)\beta r v - \delta v$$

steady-state

$$v = 1 - \frac{1}{r\tau} \quad \text{where} \quad \tau = \frac{\beta}{\delta}$$

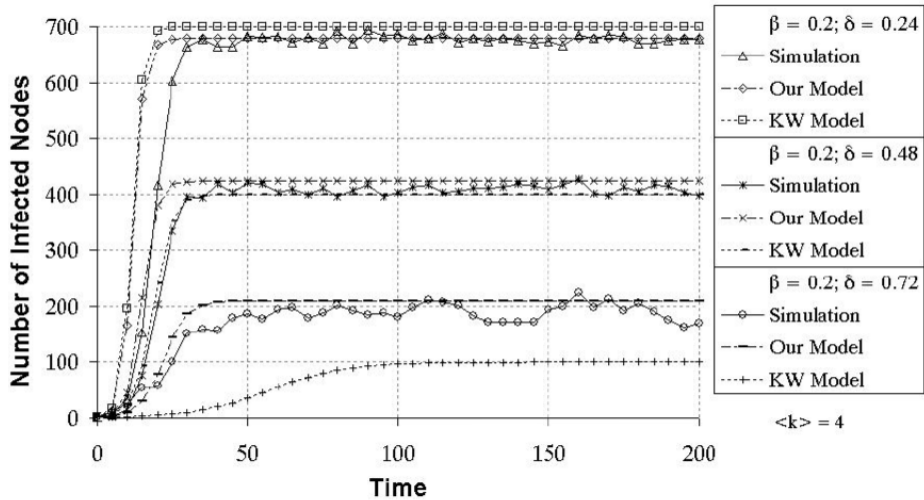
threshold

$$\tau \geq \tau_c = \frac{1}{r} \quad \text{then} \quad v \geq 0$$

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J. O. Kephart and S. R. White, "Directed-graph epidemiological models of computer viruses," *Proc. IEEE Comput. Soc. Symp. Research in Security and Privacy*, May 1991, pp. 343–359.

## Comparison with simulation



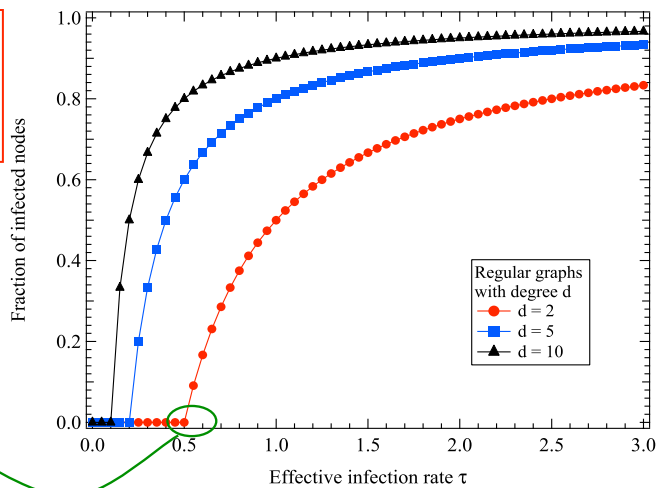
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## What is so interesting about epidemics?

$\beta$  : infection rate per link  
 $\delta$  : curing rate per node  
 $\tau = \beta / \delta$  : effective spreading rate

- Final epidemic state
- Rate of propagation
- Epidemic threshold

$$\tau_c = \frac{1}{\lambda_1(A)}$$



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$$E[D] = \frac{2L}{N} \leq \lambda_1(A) \leq d_{\max}$$

## Application example: distributed storage

- each network node reserves memory space for other nodes
- each node spreads own files with rate  $\beta$
- each node deletes files from neighbors with rate  $\delta$

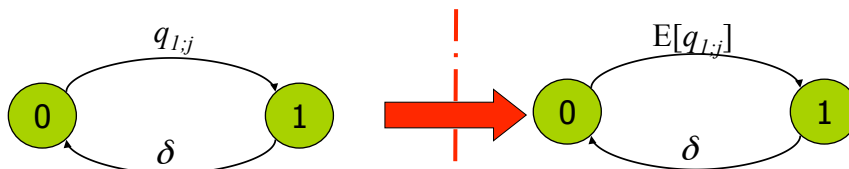


$$\tau = \frac{\beta}{\delta} > \tau_c = \frac{1}{\lambda_1(A)}$$

Then your file is stored at node  $j$  in the network with probability  $v_j > 0$

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## Mean-field approximation



- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <math>2^N</math> linear equations</li> <li>• Steady-state             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• absorbing (healthy) state</li> <li>• reached after unrealistically long time</li> </ul> </li> <li>• difficult to analyze</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <math>N</math> non-linear equations</li> <li>• Meta-stable state:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• phase-transition</li> <li>• epidemic threshold</li> <li>• realistic</li> </ul> </li> <li>• analytically tractable</li> </ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Open question

- What is the accuracy of the  $N$ -intertwined model?
  - due to single approximation of a mean-field type
- Why is this a difficult to determine:
  - exact Markov chain cannot be compute for  $N > 20$
  - simulations have own "accuracy limits"
  - mathematical derivation (contact networks)
    - assume asymptotic analyses ( $N \rightarrow \text{infinity}$ )
    - absorbing state is reached with almost zero probability
    - only very few results exist (for specific graphs)

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## Heterogeneous virus spread

- The  $N$ -intertwined model is extended to a heterogeneous setting:

$$\frac{dV(t)}{dt} = A \text{diag}(\beta_i) V(t) - \text{diag}(v_i(t)) (A \text{diag}(\beta_i) V(t) + C)$$

where the curing rate vector  $C^T = [\delta_1 \delta_2 \dots \delta_N]$

- Results:**

- Extended multi-dim. threshold for virus spread
- Generalized Laplacian that extends the classical Laplacian of a graph:

$$Q(q_k) = \text{diag}(q_k) - A$$

- Strong convexity  $v_k$  with respect to  $\delta_k$ , concave with respect to others  $\delta_j$  ( $j$  different from  $k$ ).
- Choose  $C$  vector in network protection via game theory

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- J. Omic, P. Van Mieghem, and A. Orda, "Game Theory and Computer Viruses", *IEEE Infocom09*.  
 - P. Van Mieghem and J. Omic, "In-homogeneous Virus Spread in Networks",  
 TUDelft report (see my website)



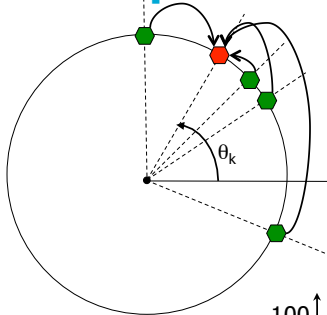
## Extension of the N-intertwined model

- SAIS instead of SIS:
  - From 2 states (Infected and Susceptible) to a 3-states (Infected, Susceptible, Alert)
  - "Epidemic Spread in Human Networks", F. Darabi Sahneh and C. Scoglio, 50<sup>th</sup> IEEE Conf. Decision and Control, Orlando, Florida (2011)
- SIR instead of SIS:
  - "R" state for "removed"
  - "An individual-based approach to SIR epidemics in contact networks", M. Youssef and C. Scoglio, *Journal of Theoretical Biology* 283, pp. 136-144, (2011).

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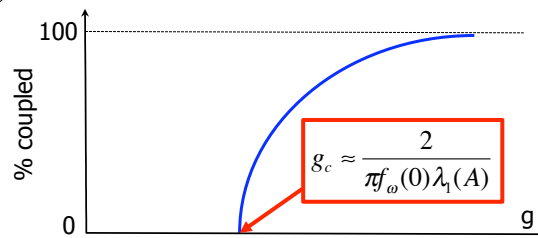
## Coupled oscillators (Kuramoto model)



Interaction equals sums of sinus of phase difference of each neighbor:

$$\dot{\theta}_k = \omega_k + g \sum_{j=1}^N a_{kj} \sin(\theta_j - \theta_k)$$

$\uparrow$  natural frequency       $\uparrow$  coupling strength



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J. G. Restrepo, E. Ott, and B. R. Hunt. Onset of synchronization in large networks of coupled oscillators, *Phys. Rev. E*, vol. 71, 036151, 2005



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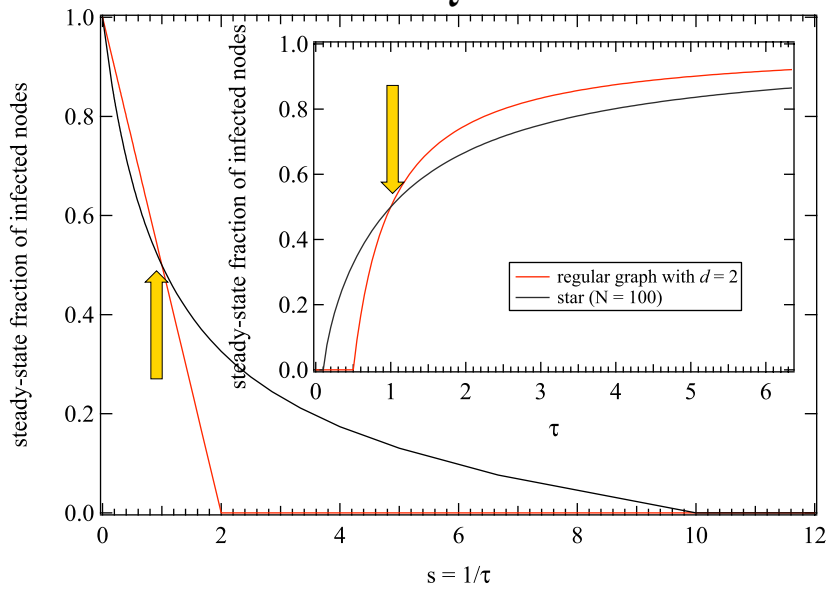
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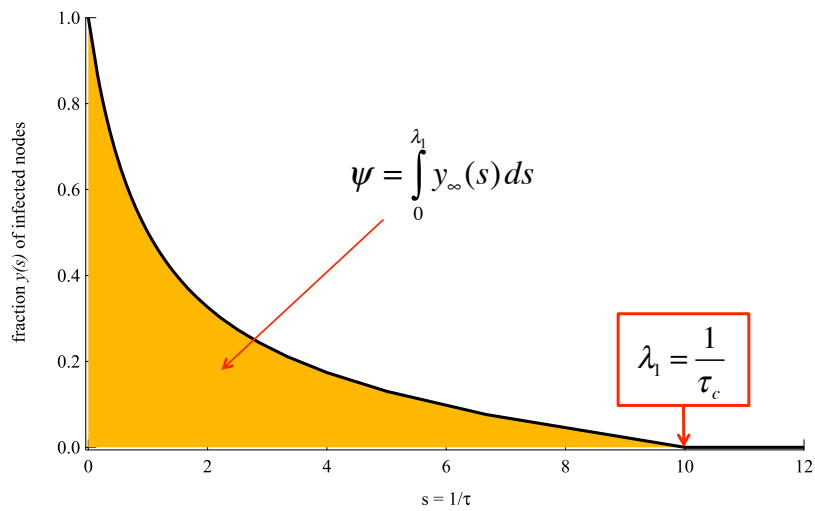


## Transformation $s = \frac{1}{\tau}$



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## Viral Conductance: definition



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R. E. Koopij, P. Schumm, C. Scoglio and M. Youssef, "A new metric for robustness of networks with respect to virus spread", IFIP Networking 2009

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## Viral Conductance: properties

$$\psi = \int_0^{\lambda_1} y_\infty(s) ds$$

Bounds:  $\frac{1}{2}d_{\min} \leq \psi \leq \frac{1}{2}\lambda_1$

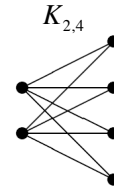
Viral Robustness metrics:  $(\tau_c, \psi)$

What are the graphs with maximum and minimum  $\psi$  ?

Some analytic evaluations:

$$\psi_{\text{regular}} = \frac{d}{2}$$

$$\psi_{K_{m,n}} = \sqrt{mn} - \frac{mn}{m+n} + \frac{(n-m)}{m+n} \log \frac{(1 + \sqrt{n/m})^m}{(1 + \sqrt{m/n})^n}$$

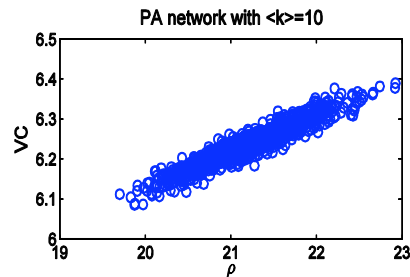
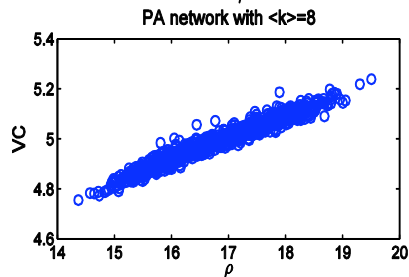
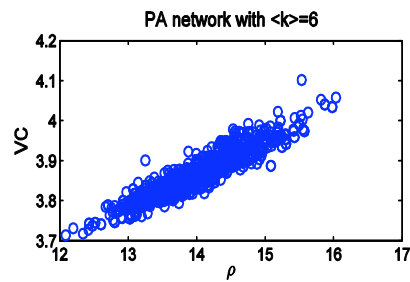
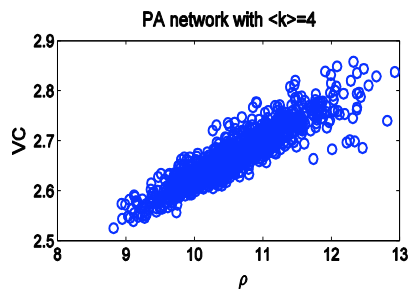


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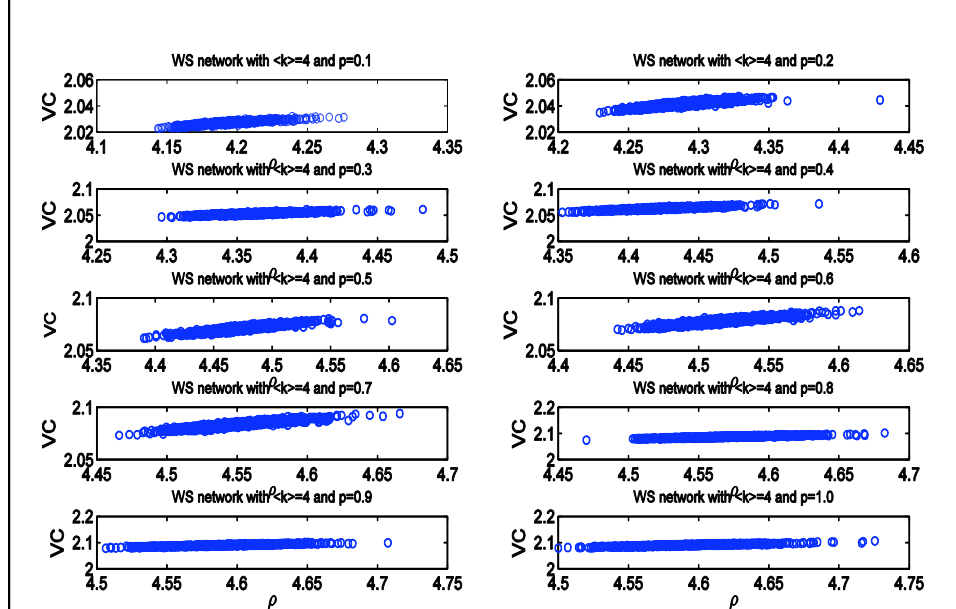
M. Youssef, R. E. Kooij and C. Scoglio, "Viral conductance: Quantifying the robustness of networks with respect to spread of epidemics", Journal of computational science, to appear 2011



## Preferential Attachment nets with $E[D]=\langle k \rangle = 4, 6, 8, \text{ and } 10$



## Watts-Strogatz nets with $\langle k \rangle = 4$ and $0 \leq p \leq 1$



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## Affecting the epidemic threshold

- Degree-preserving rewiring
  - Changing the assortativity of the graph
  - Van Mieghem, P., H. Wang, X. Ge, S. Tang and F. A. Kuipers, 2010, "[Influence of Assortativity and Degree-preserving Rewiring on the Spectra of Networks](#)", The European Physical Journal B, vol. 76, No. 4, pp. 643-652.
- Removing links/nodes (optimal way is NP-complete)
  - Van Mieghem, P., D. Stevanovic, F. A. Kuipers, C. Li, R. van de Bovenkamp, D. Liu and H. Wang, 2011, "[Decreasing the spectral radius of a graph by link removals](#)", Physical Review E, Vol. 84, No. 1, July, p. 016101.
- Quarantining: Removing inter-module links
  - Omic, J., J. Martin Hernandez and P. Van Mieghem, 2010, "[Network protection against worms and cascading failures using modularity partitioning](#)", 22nd International Teletraffic Congress (ITC 22), September 7-9, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

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## Summary (1)

- Epidemic theory can model many processes: information spread, real viruses, storage, emotions in social nets, ...
- Real epidemics: phase transition at  $\tau_c = 1/\lambda_1$
- The topology plays an important role in spreading
- Networks can be designed to protect individual nodes via its curing strength  $\delta$  (virus software, fire-wall, etc...). Protection, however, does cost money...
- Epidemic threshold engineering:
  - Degree-preserving *assortative* rewiring increases  $\lambda_1$ , while degree-preserving *disassortative* rewiring decreases  $\lambda_1$ .
  - Removing links/nodes to maximally decrease  $\lambda_1$  is NP-hard.

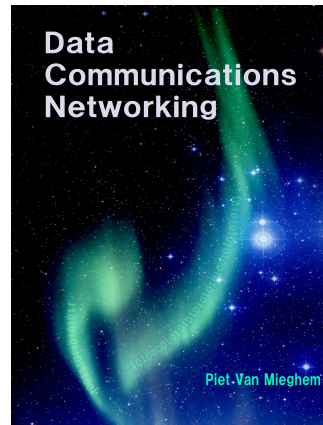
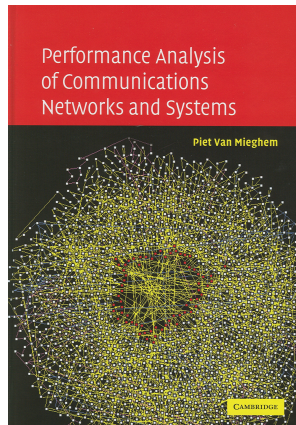
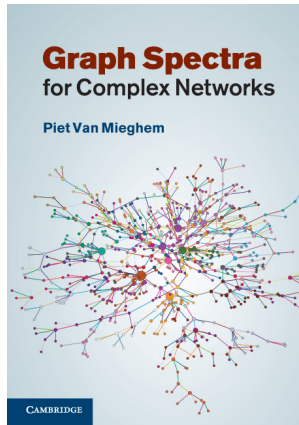
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## Summary (2)

- *Agenda for future research:*
  - accuracy of  $N$ -intertwined model, i.e. of the mean-field approximation
  - coupling of the virus spread process and the underlying topology
  - most general extensions of the  $N$ -intertwined model (to  $m > 2$  states per node)
  - Multiple, simultaneous viruses on a network

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## Books



Articles: <http://www.nas.ewi.tudelft.nl>

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Thank You

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