

A world map with a network overlay of red and green nodes connected by lines, set against a dark blue background.

Five Lectures on Networks

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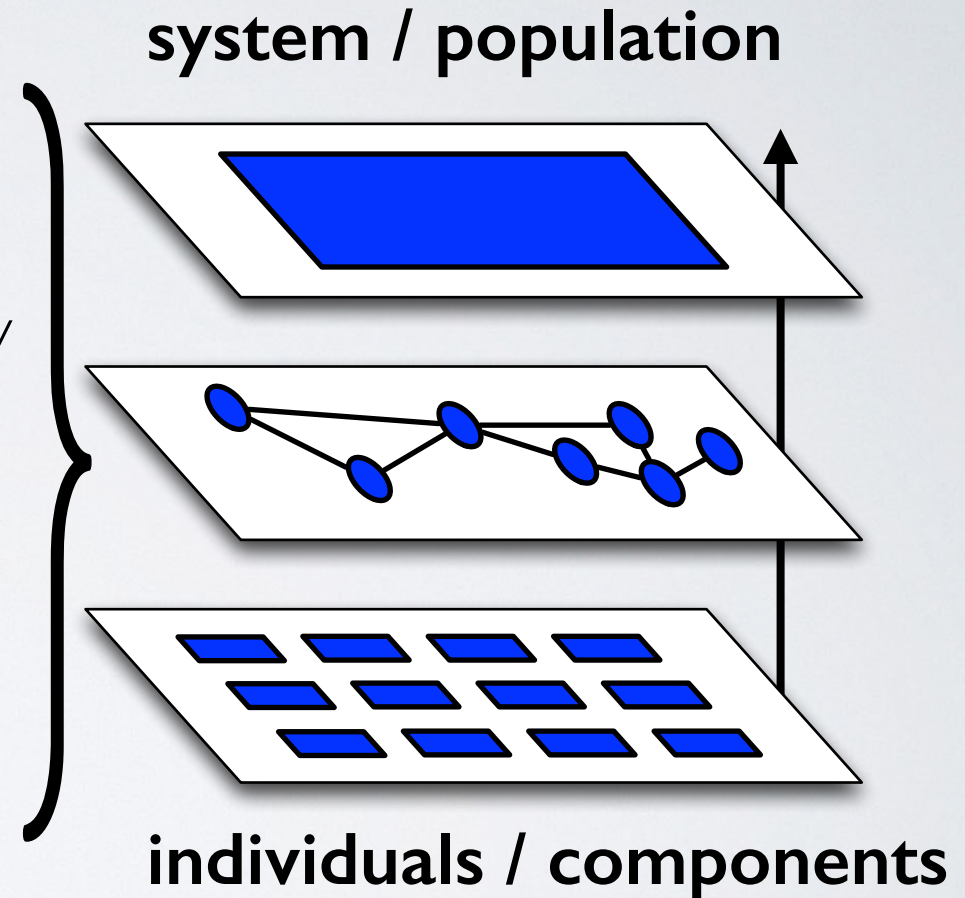
External Faculty, Santa Fe Institute

lecture I

what are networks?

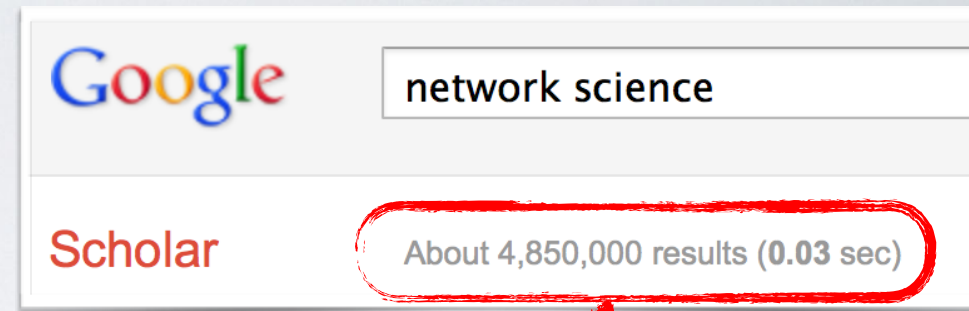
what are networks?

- an approach
- a mathematical representation
- provide structure to complexity
- *structure above*
individuals / components
- *structure below*
system / population



these lectures

- build intuition
- expose key concepts
- highlight some big questions
- teach a little math
- provide many examples
- give pointers to further study
- not a substitute for technical coursework



it's a big field now



University of Colorado **Boulder**

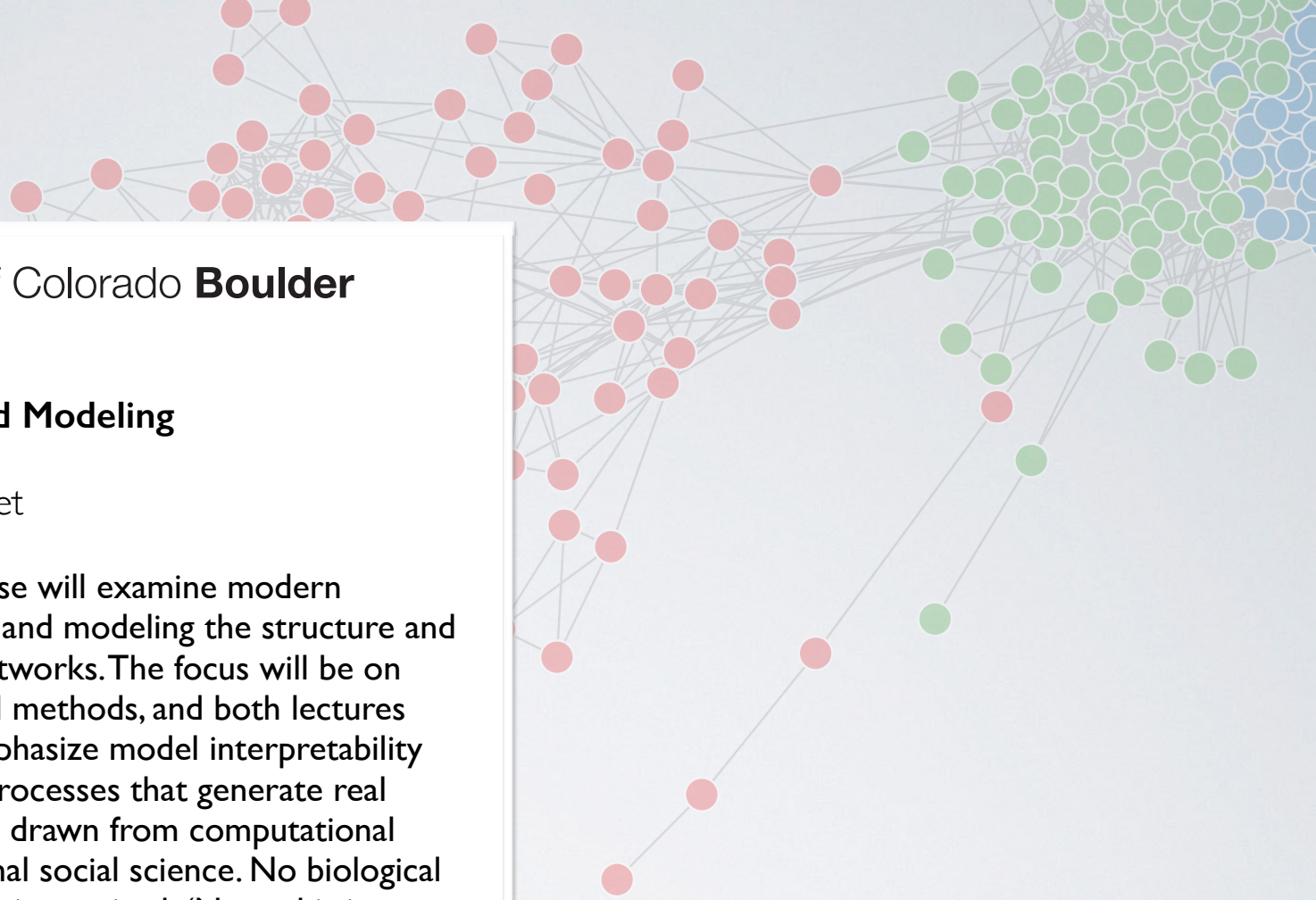
Network Analysis and Modeling

Instructor: Aaron Clauset

This graduate-level course will examine modern techniques for analyzing and modeling the structure and dynamics of complex networks. The focus will be on statistical algorithms and methods, and both lectures and assignments will emphasize model interpretability and understanding the processes that generate real data. Applications will be drawn from computational biology and computational social science. No biological or social science training is required. (Note: this is not a scientific computing course, but there will be plenty of computing for science.)

Full lectures notes online (~150 pages in PDF)

<http://santafe.edu/~aaronc/courses/5352/>



Software

[R](#)

[Python](#)

[Matlab](#)

[NetworkX](#) [python]

[graph-tool](#) [python, c++]

[GraphLab](#) [python, c++]

Standalone editors

[UCI-Net](#)

[NodeXL](#)

[Gephi](#)

[Pajek](#)

[Network Workbench](#)

[Cytoscape](#)

[yEd graph editor](#)

[Graphviz](#)

Data sets

[Mark Newman's network data sets](#)

[Stanford Network Analysis Project](#)

[Carnegie Mellon CASOS data sets](#)

[NCEAS food web data sets](#)

[UCI NET data sets](#)

[Pajek data sets](#)

[Linkgroup's list of network data sets](#)

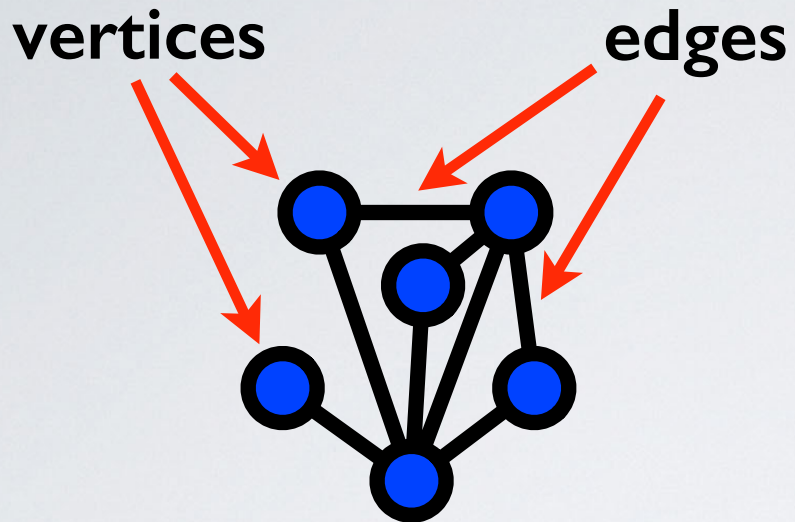
[Barabasi lab data sets](#)

[Jake Hofman's online network data sets](#)

[Alex Arenas's data sets](#)

1. defining a network
2. describing a network
3. null models for networks
4. statistical inference
5. network dynamics

1. **defining a network**
2. **describing a network**
3. null models for networks
4. statistical inference



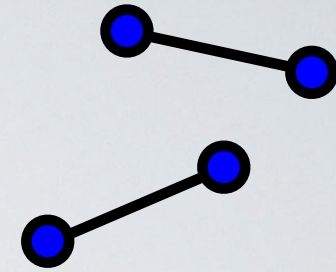
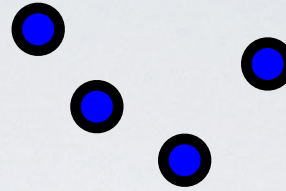
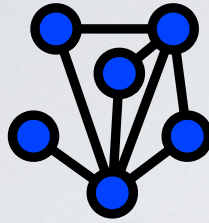
what is a vertex?

V distinct objects (vertices / nodes / actors)

when are two vertices connected?

$$E \subseteq V \times V$$

pairwise relations (edges / links / ties)



telecommunications

informational

transportation

social

biological

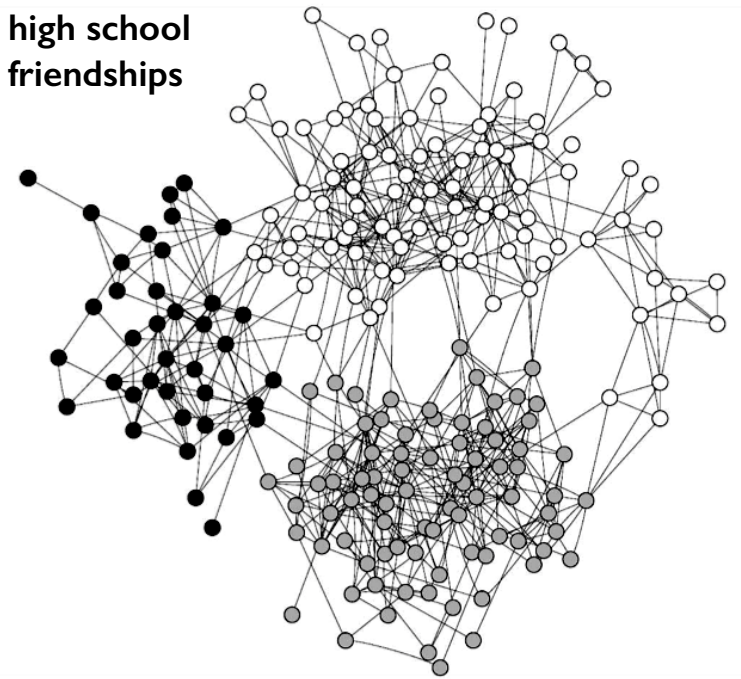
	network	vertex	edge
	Internet(1)	computer	IP network adjacency
	Internet(2)	autonomous system (ISP)	BGP connection
	software	function	function call
	World Wide Web	web page	hyperlink
	documents	article, patent, or legal case	citation
	power grid transmission	generating or relay station	transmission line
	rail system	rail station	railroad tracks
	road network(1)	intersection	pavement
	road network(2)	named road	intersection
	airport network	airport	non-stop flight
	friendship network	person	friendship
	sexual network	person	intercourse
	metabolic network	metabolite	metabolic reaction
	protein-interaction network	protein	bonding
	gene regulatory network	gene	regulatory effect
	neuronal network	neuron	synapse
	food web	species	predation or resource transfer

social networks

vertex: a person

edge: friendship, collaborations, sexual contacts, communication, authority, exchange, etc.

high school friendships

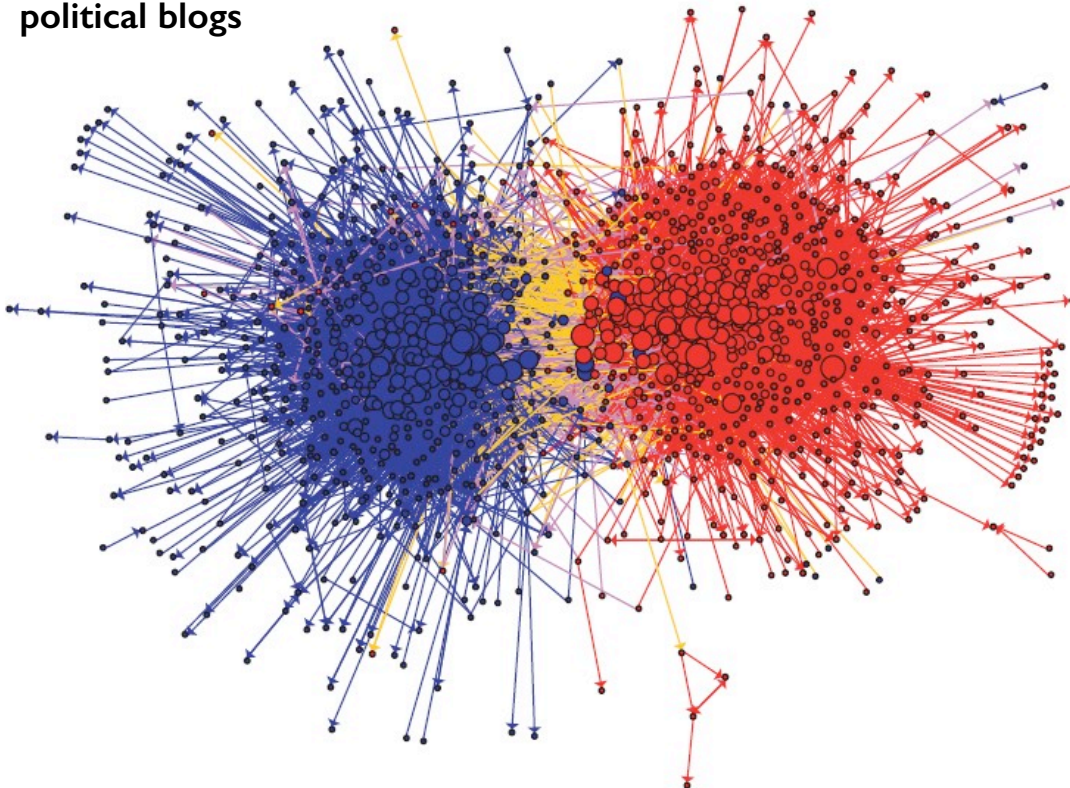


information networks

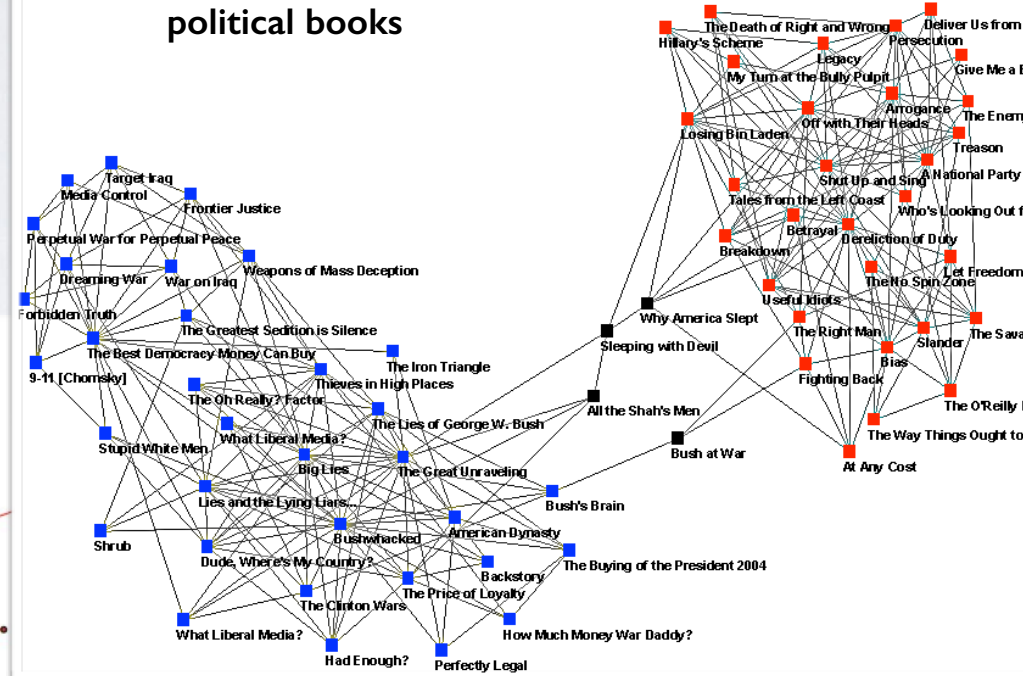
vertex: books, blogs, webpages, etc.

edge: citations, hyperlinks, recommendations, similarity, etc.

political blogs



political books

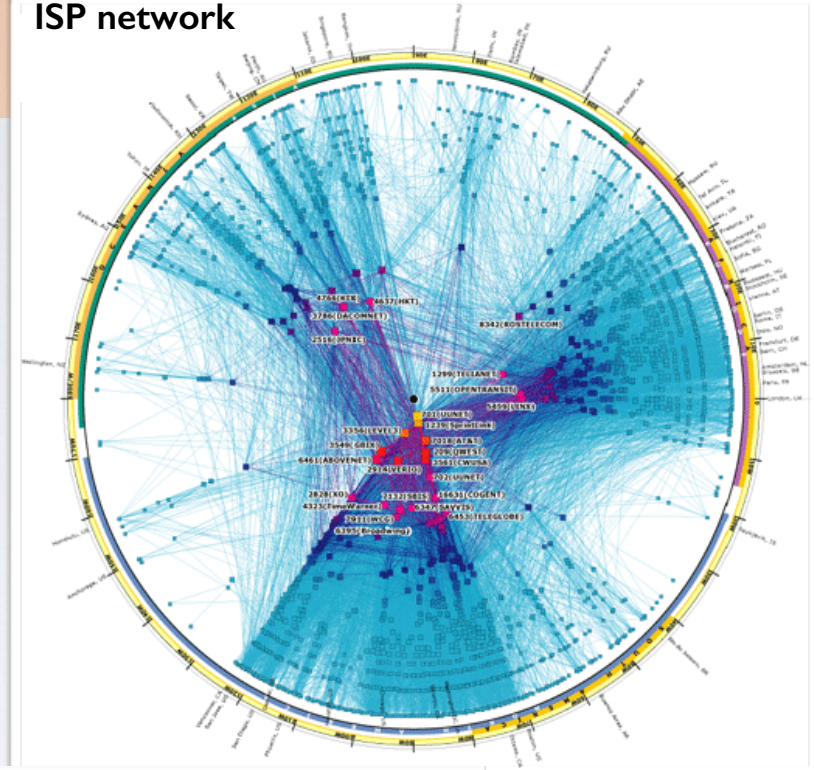


communication networks

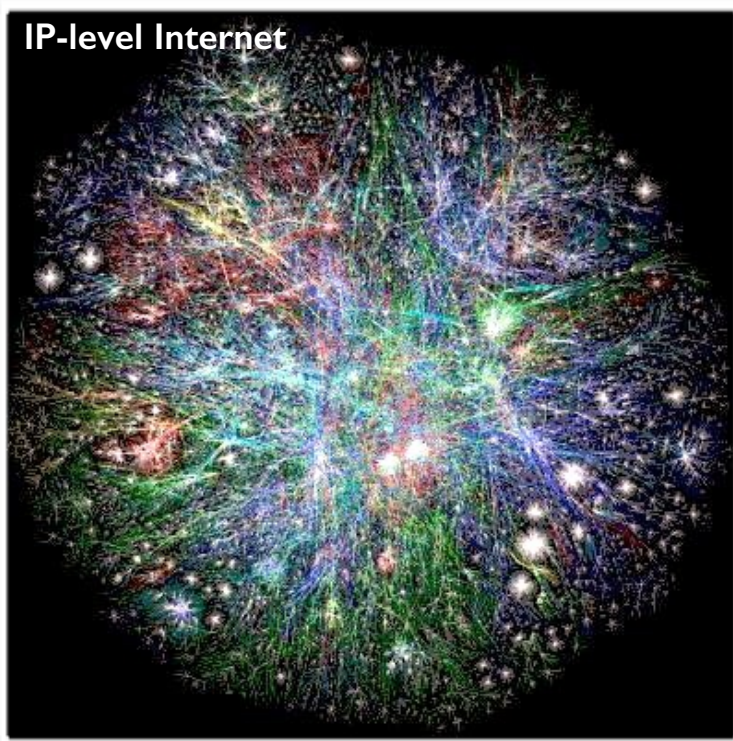
vertex: network router, ISP, email address, mobile phone number, etc.

edge: exchange of information

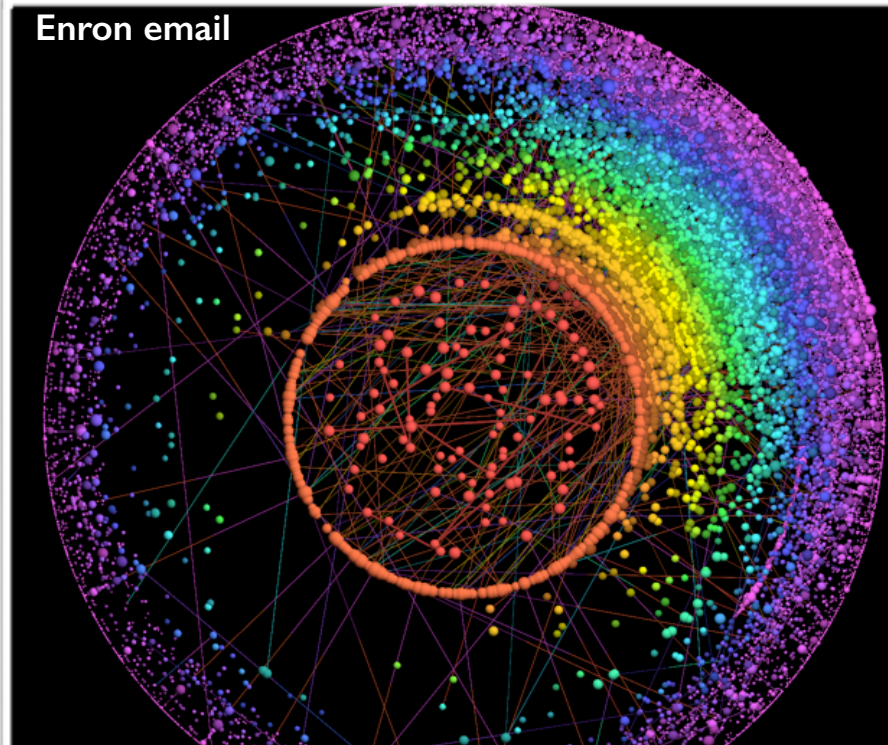
ISP network



IP-level Internet



Enron email

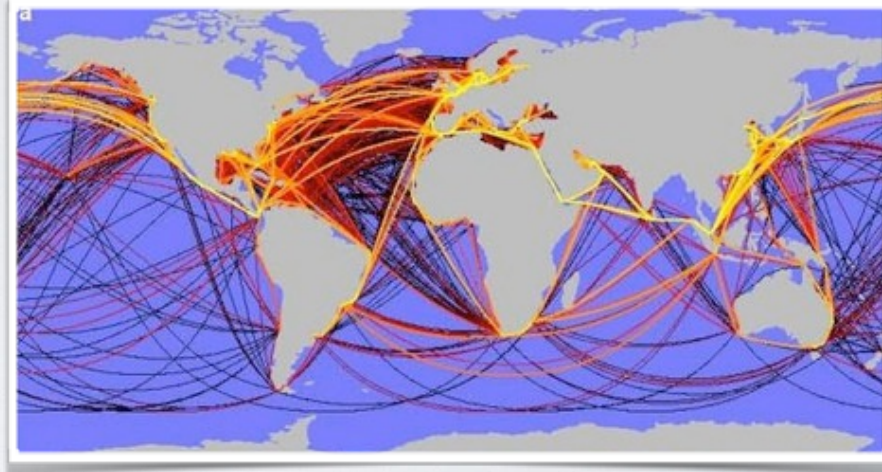


transportation networks

vertex: city, airport, junction, railway station, river confluence, etc.

edge: physical transportation of material

global shipping



global air traffic



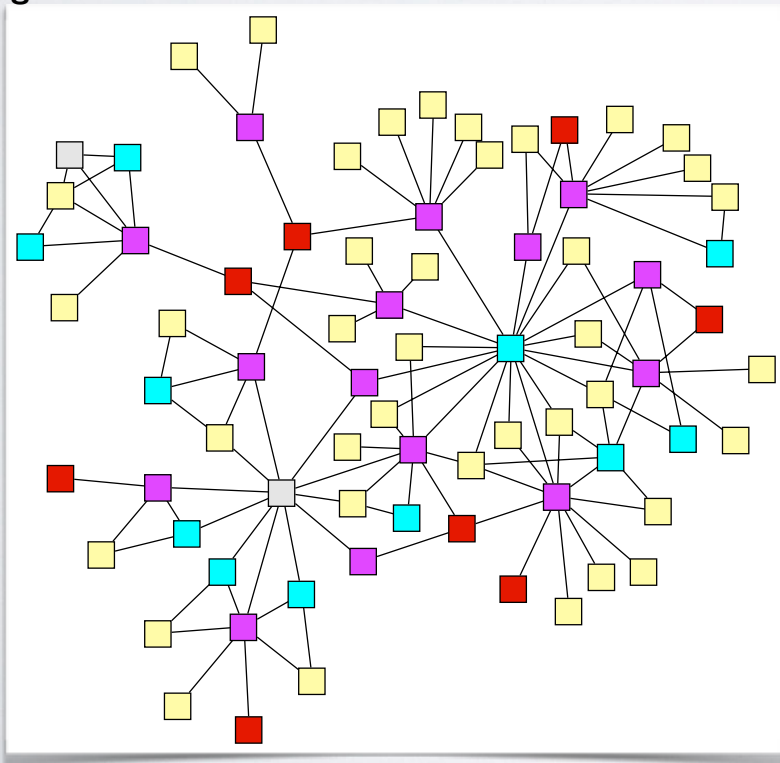
US Interstates

biological networks

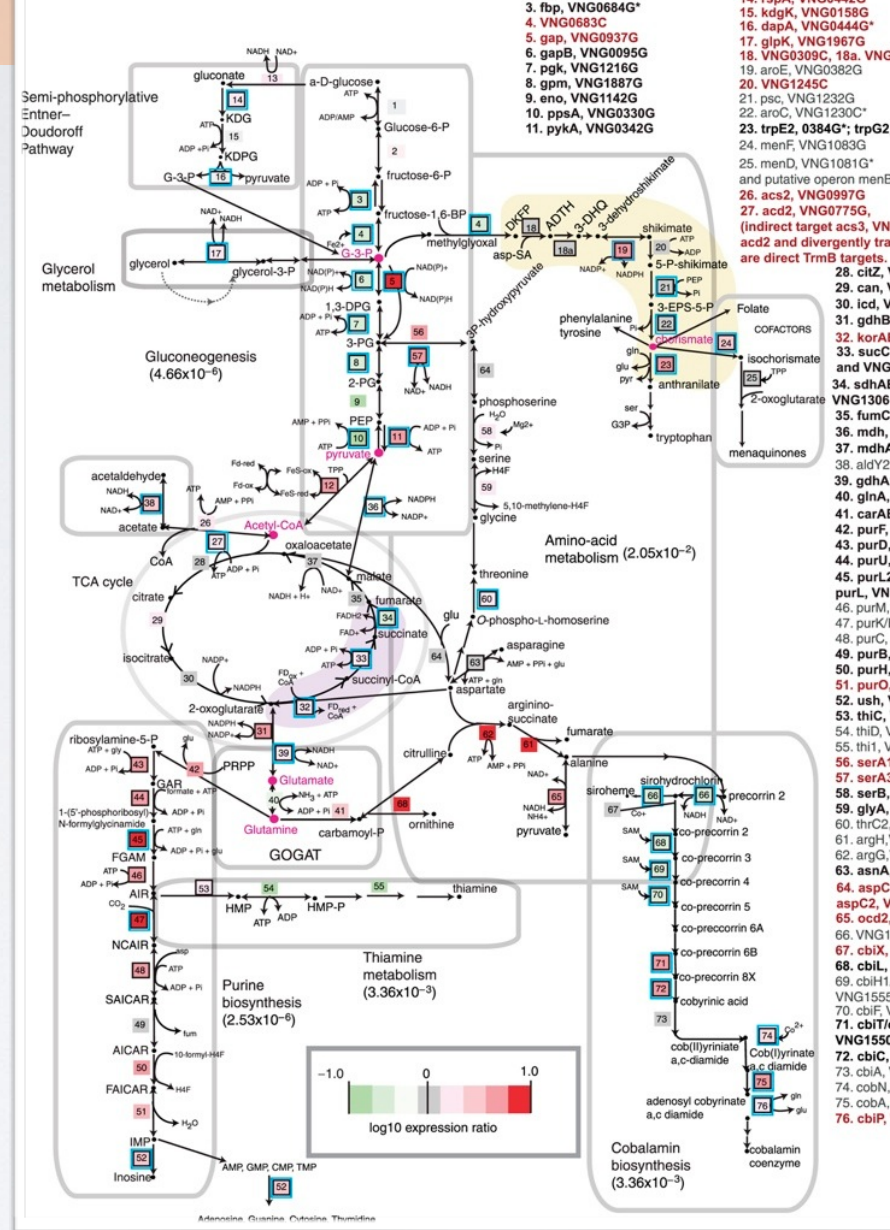
vertex: species, metabolic, protein, gene, neuron, etc.

edge: predation, chemical reaction, binding, regulation, activation, etc.

grassland foodweb



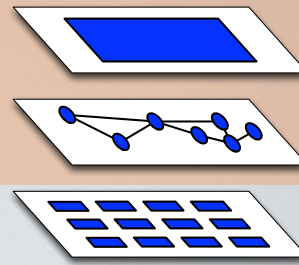
core metabolism



what's a network?

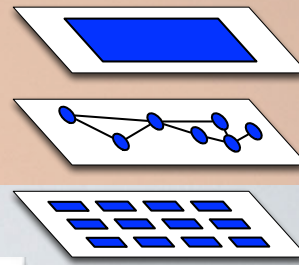
pop quiz

what's a network?



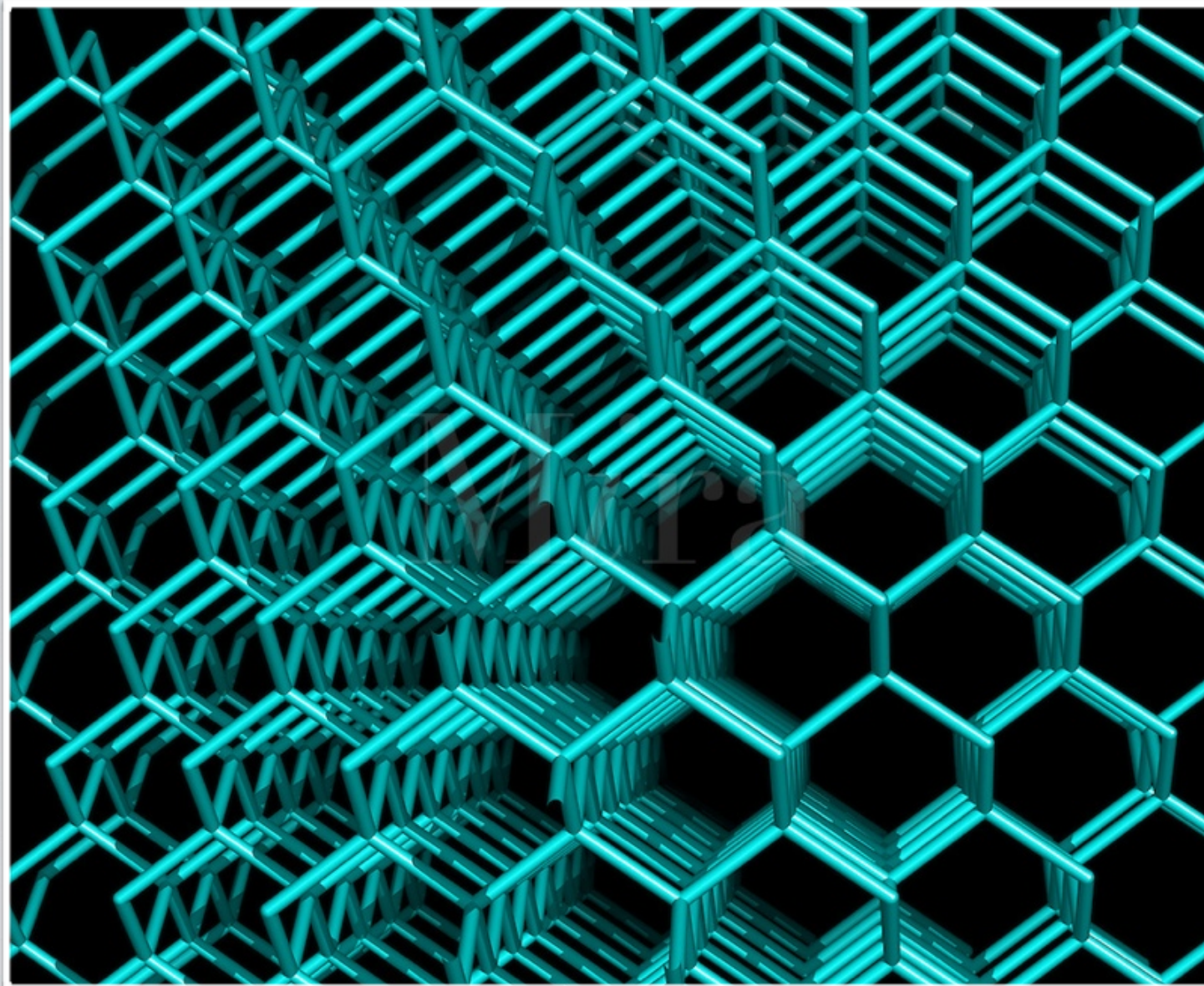
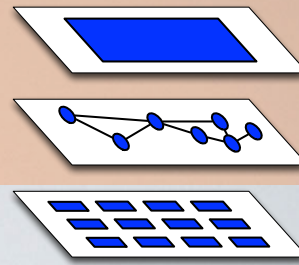
Andromeda galaxy

what's a network?



cauliflower fractal

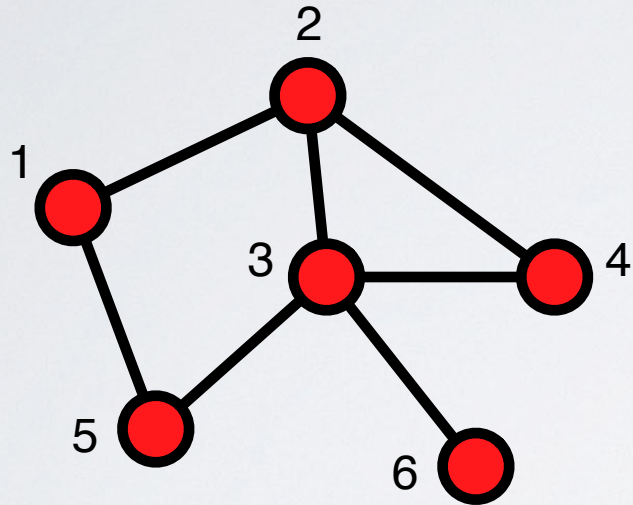
what's a network?



diamond lattice

representing networks

a simple network

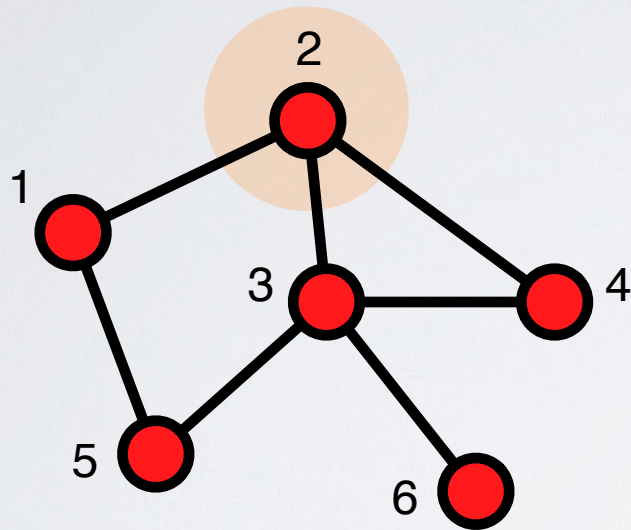


undirected

unweighted

no self-loops

a simple network



undirected

unweighted

no self-loops

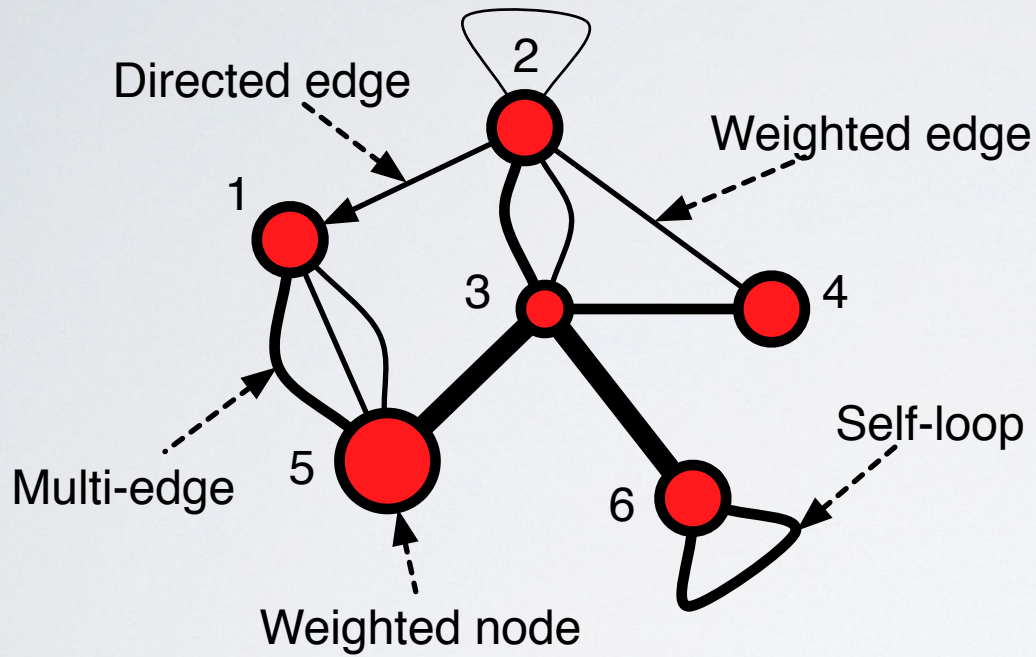
adjacency matrix

A	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	1	0	0	1	0
2	1	0	1	1	0	0
3	0	1	0	1	1	1
4	0	1	1	0	0	0
5	1	0	1	0	0	0
6	0	0	1	0	0	0

adjacency list

A
1 \rightarrow {2, 5}
2 \rightarrow {1, 3, 4}
3 \rightarrow {2, 4, 5, 6}
4 \rightarrow {2, 3}
5 \rightarrow {1, 3}
6 \rightarrow {3}

a less simple network

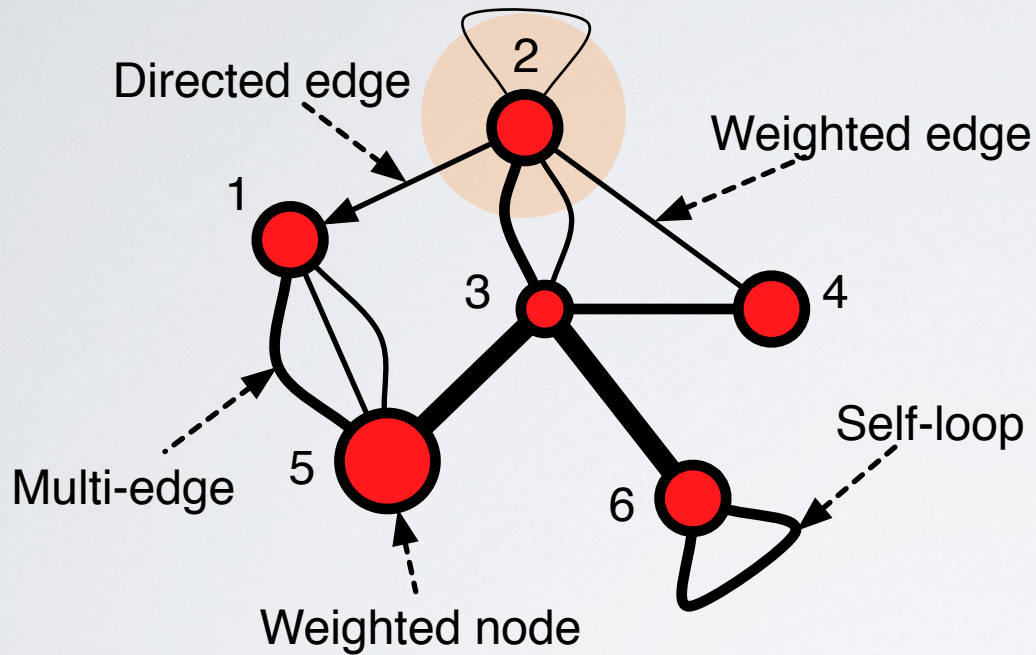


~~undirected~~ —

~~unweighted~~ —

~~no self-loops~~ —

a less simple network



adjacency matrix

A	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	0	0	0	{1, 1, 2}	0
2	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	{2, 1}	1	0	0
3	0	{2, 1}	0	2	4	4
4	0	1	2	0	0	0
5	{1, 1, 2}	0	4	0	0	0
6	0	0	4	0	0	2

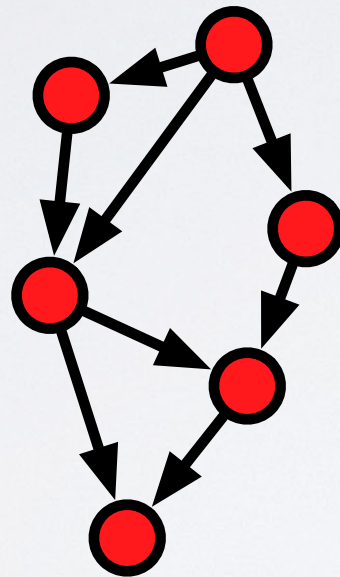
adjacency list

A	
1	$\rightarrow \{(5, 1), (5, 1), (5, 2)\}$
2	$\rightarrow \{(1, 1), (2, \frac{1}{2}), (3, 2), (3, 1), (4, 1)\}$
3	$\rightarrow \{(2, 2), (2, 1), (4, 2), (5, 4), (6, 4)\}$
4	$\rightarrow \{(2, 1), (3, 2)\}$
5	$\rightarrow \{(1, 1), (1, 1), (1, 2), (3, 4)\}$
6	$\rightarrow \{(3, 4), (6, 2)\}$

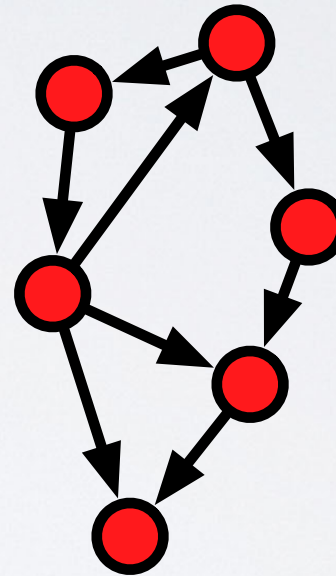
directed networks

$$A_{ij} \neq A_{ji}$$

citation networks
foodwebs*
epidemiological
others?



directed acyclic graph

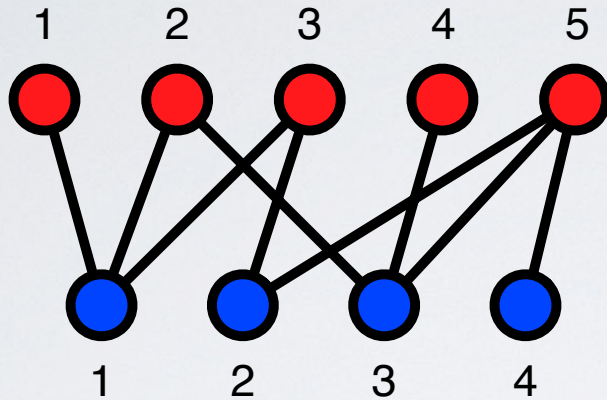


directed graph

WWW
friendship?
flows of goods,
information
economic exchange
dominance
neuronal
transcription
time travelers

bipartite networks

bipartite
network



no within-type edges

authors & papers

actors & movies/scenes

musicians & albums

people & online groups

people & corporate boards

people & locations (checkins)

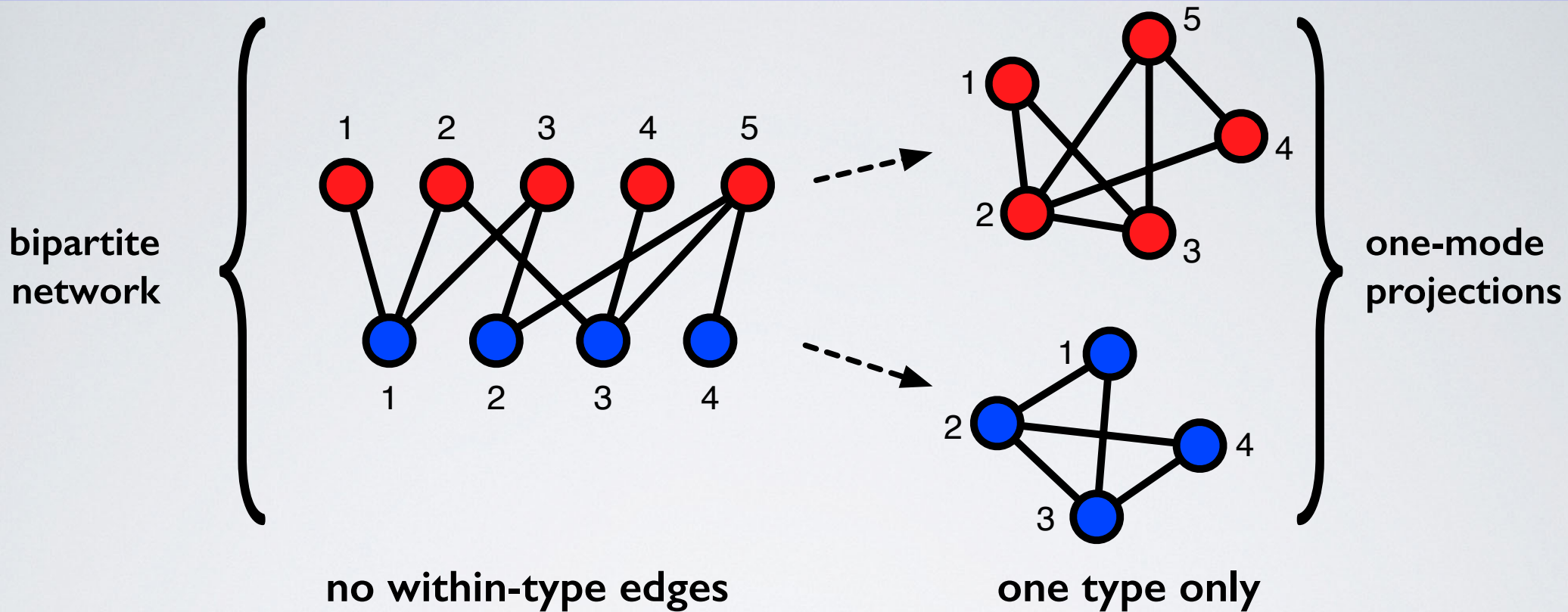
metabolites & reactions

genes & substrings

words & documents

plants & pollinators

bipartite networks



authors & papers

actors & movies/scenes

musicians & albums

people & online groups

people & corporate boards

people & locations (checkins)

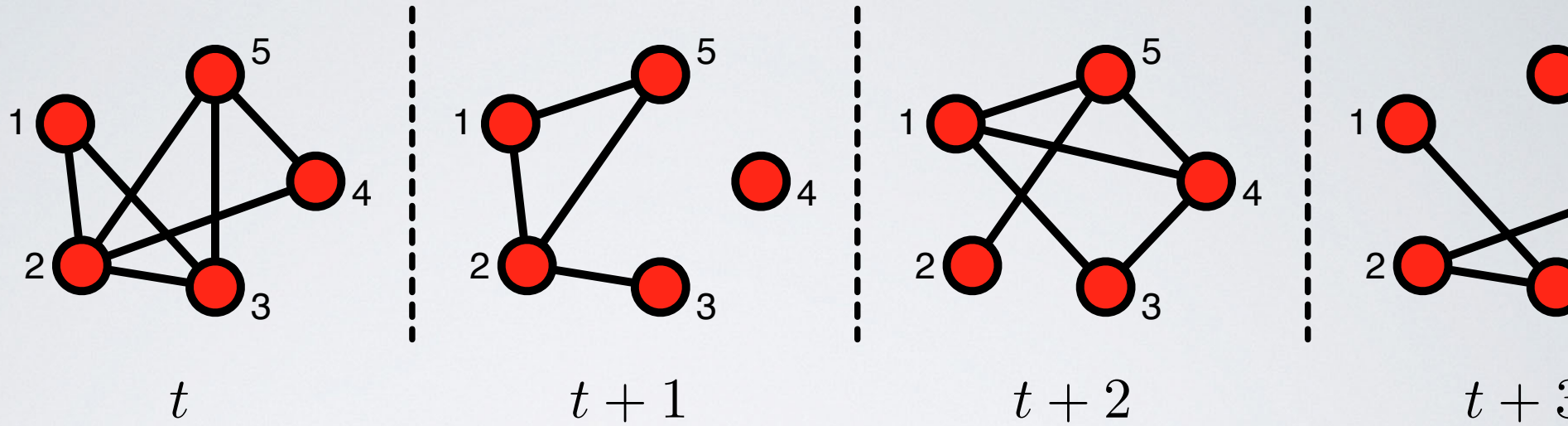
metabolites & reactions

genes & substrings

words & documents

plants & pollinators

temporal networks



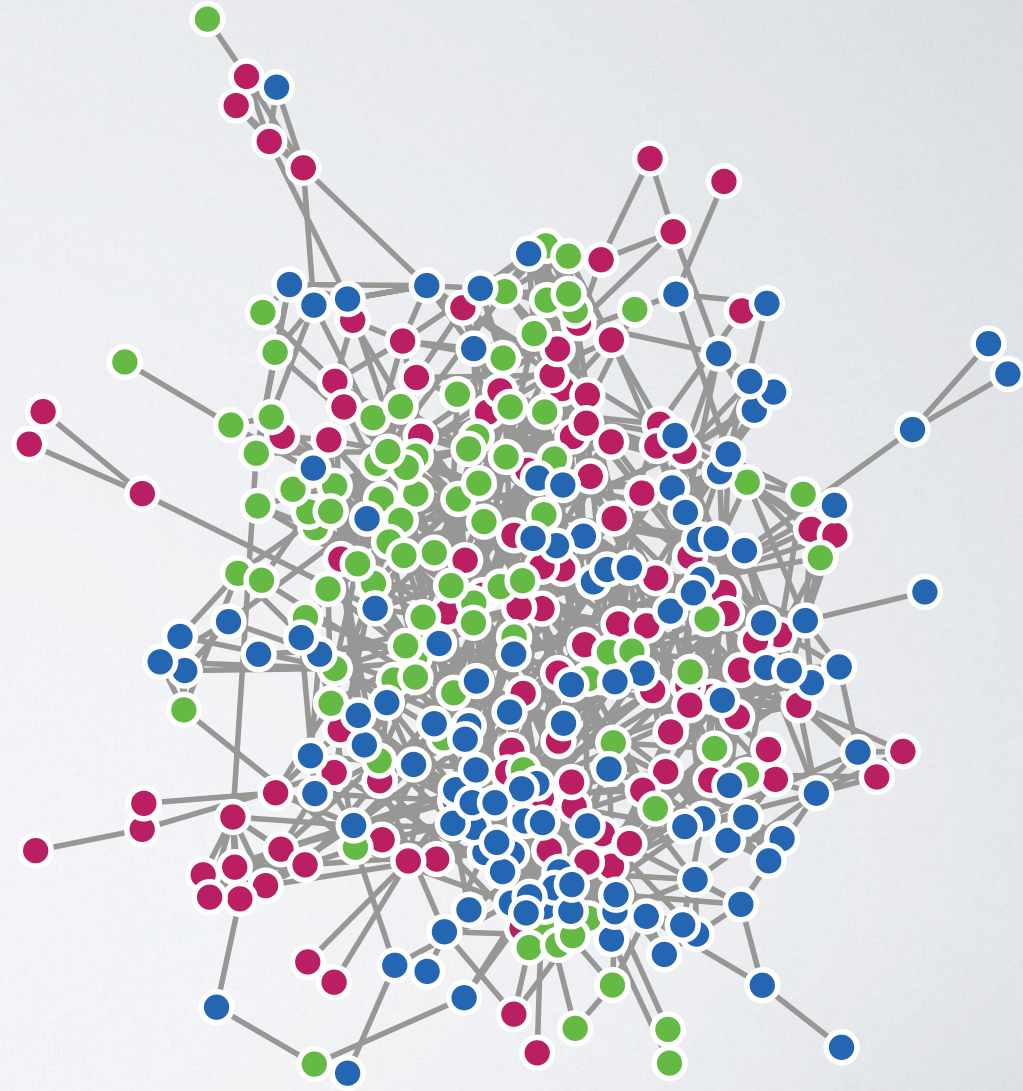
any network over time

discrete time (snapshots), edges (i, j, t)

continuous time, edges $(i, j, t_s, \Delta t)$

describing networks

what networks look like



describing networks

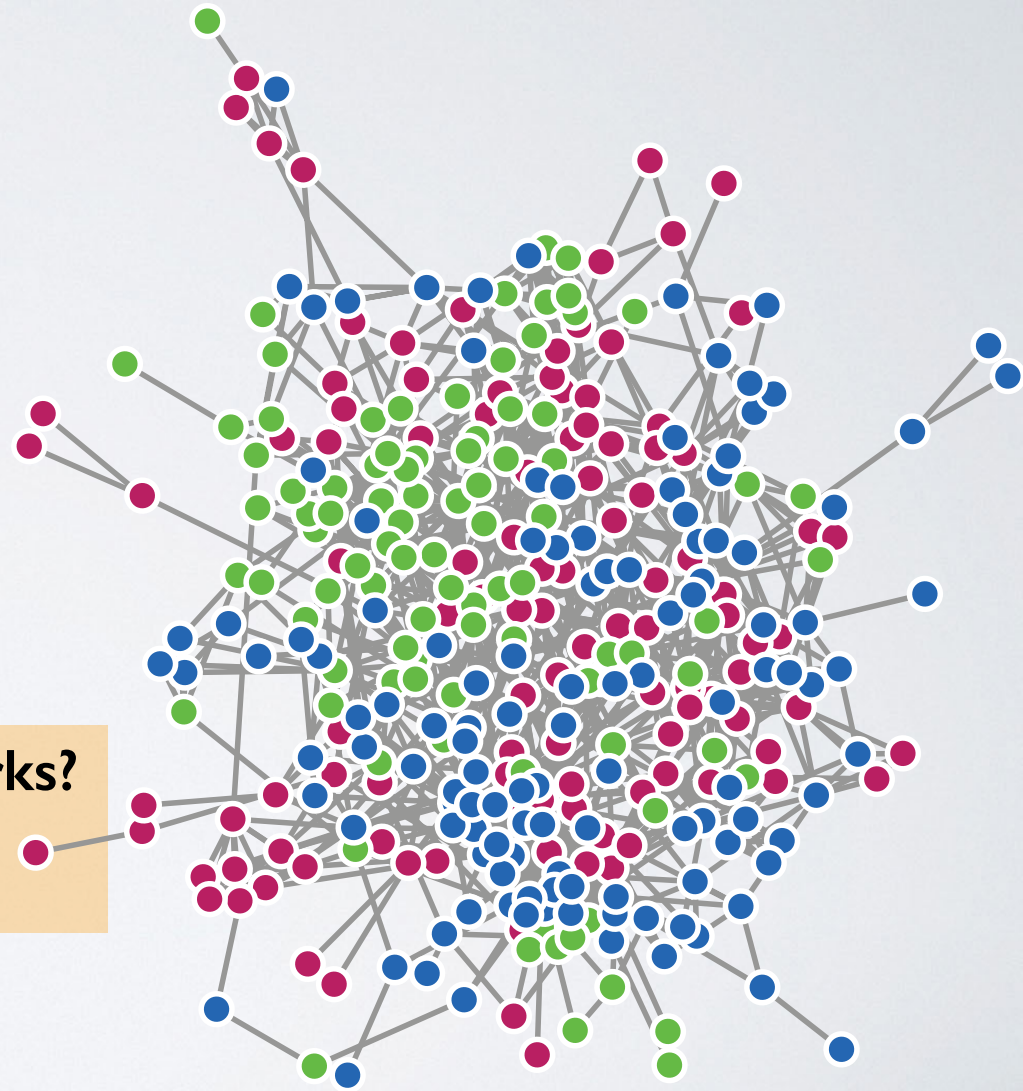
what networks look like

questions:

- **how are the edges organized?**
- **how do vertices differ?**
- **does network location matter?**
- **are there underlying patterns?**

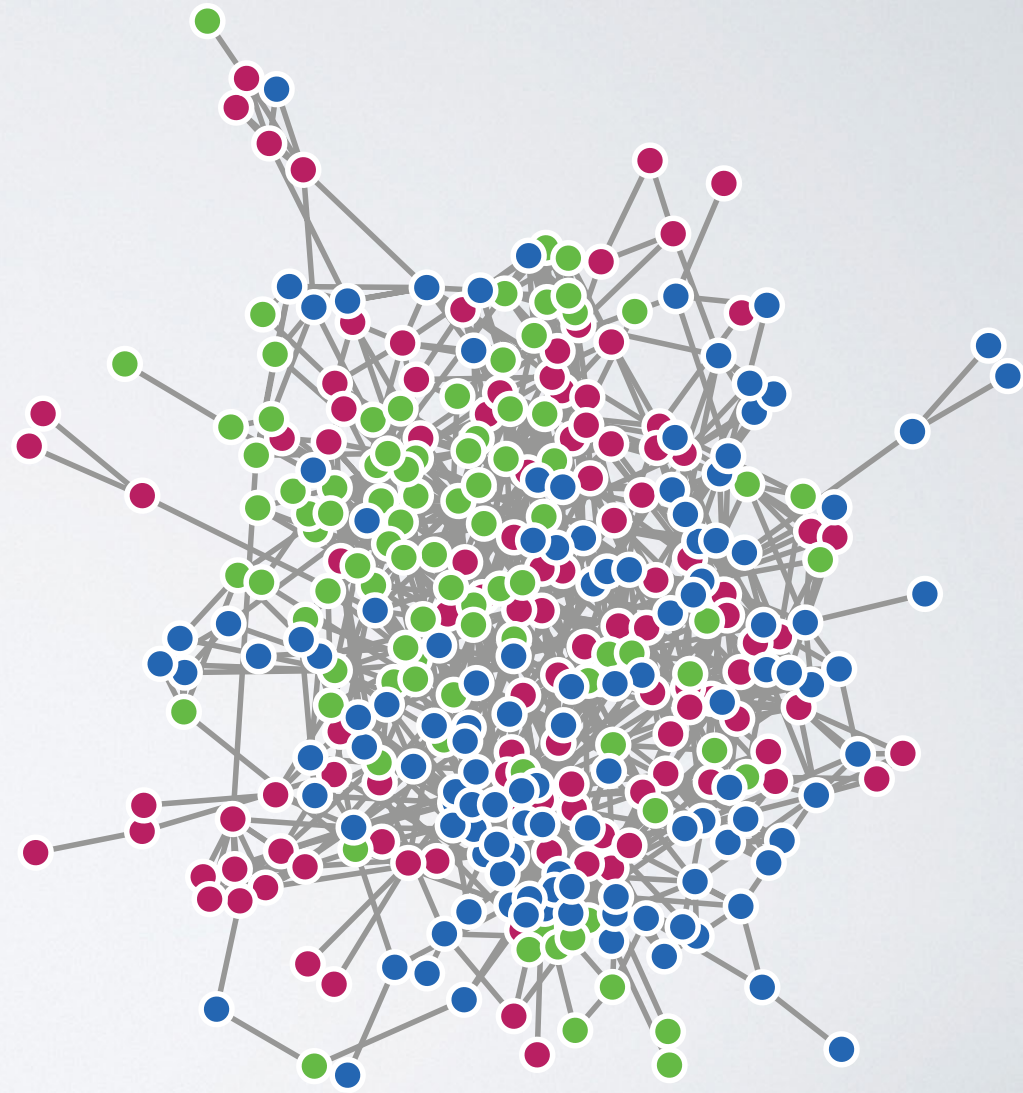
what we want to know

- **what processes shape these networks?**
- **how can we tell?**



describing networks

a first step : describe its features

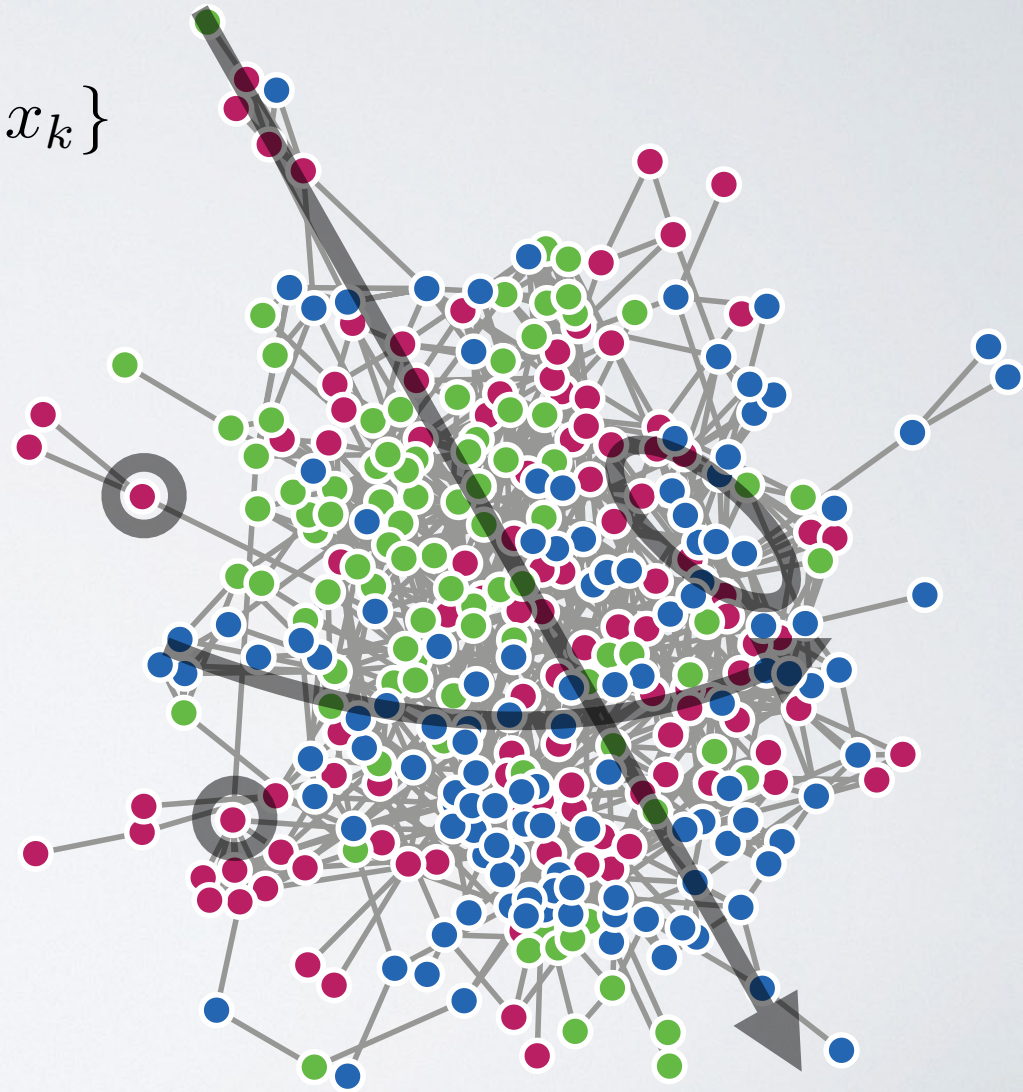


describing networks

a first step : describe its features

$$f : G \rightarrow \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$$

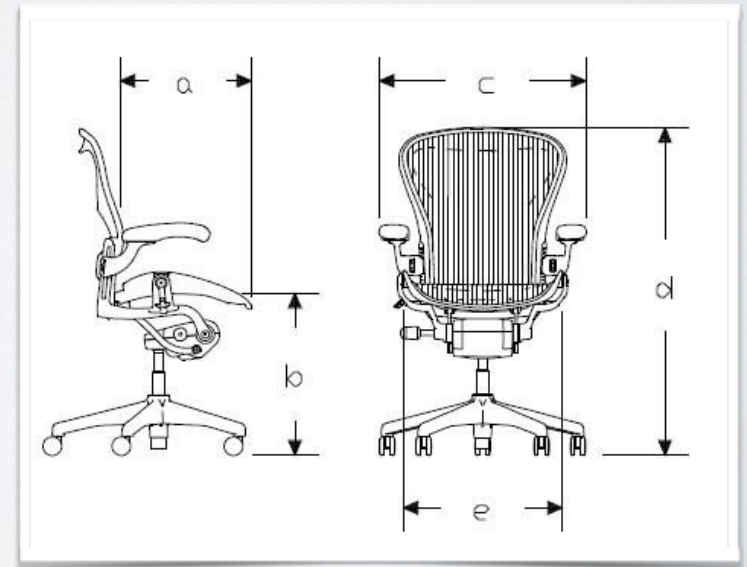
- degree distributions
- short-loop density (triangles, etc.)
- shortest paths (diameter, etc.)
- vertex positions
- correlations between these



describing networks

a first step : describe its features

$$f : \text{object} \rightarrow \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$$



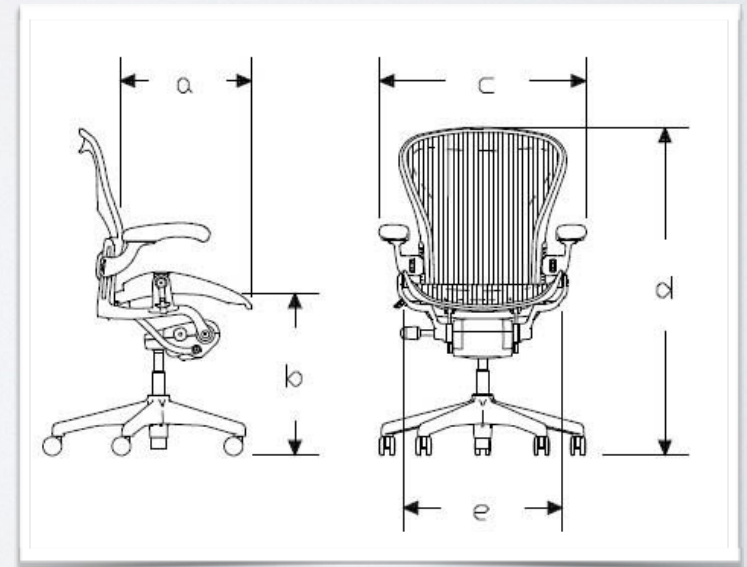
describing networks

a first step : describe its features

$$f : \text{object} \rightarrow \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$$

- physical dimensions
- material density, composition
- radius of gyration
- correlations between these

helpful for exploration, but not what we want...



describing networks

what we want : understand its structure

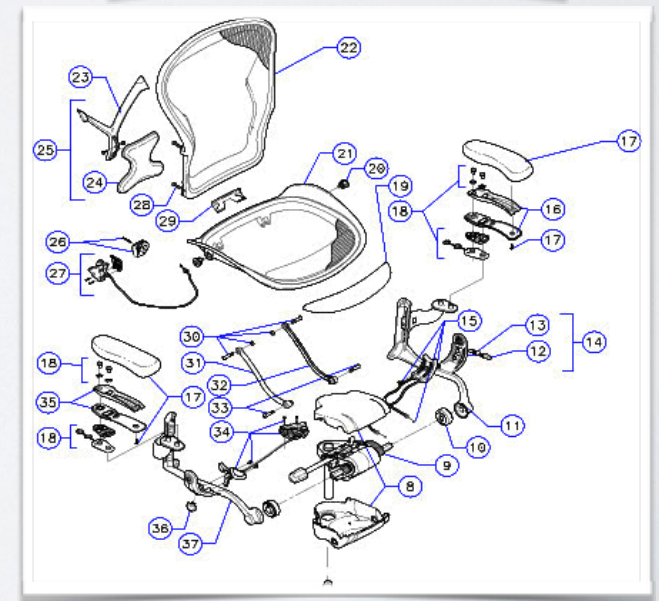
$$f : \text{object} \rightarrow \{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k\}$$

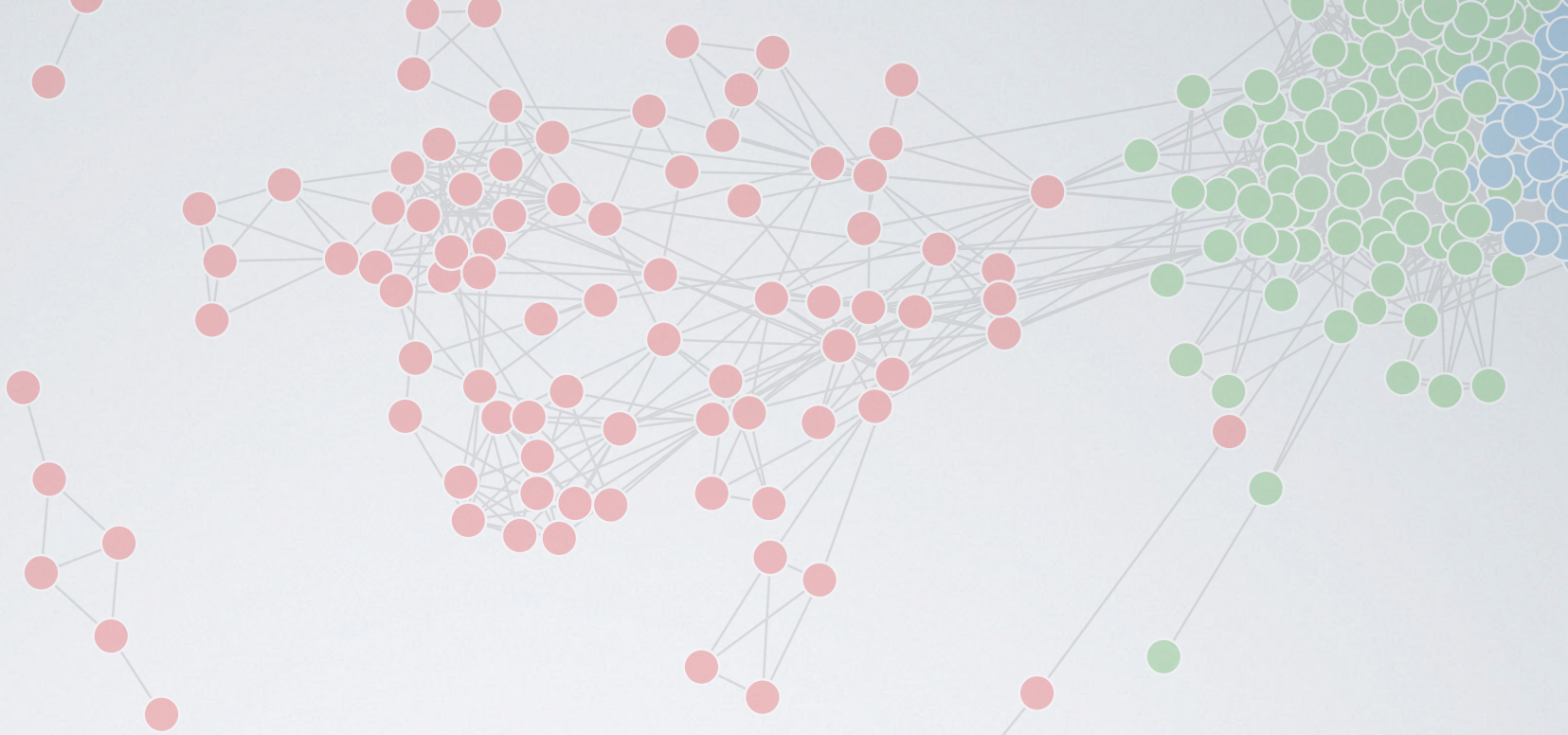
- what are the fundamental parts?
- how are these parts organized?
- where are the degrees of freedom $\vec{\theta}$?
- how can we define an abstract class?
- structure — dynamics — function?

what does **local-level structure** look like?

what does **large-scale structure** look like?

how does **structure constrain** function?





end of lecture I

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