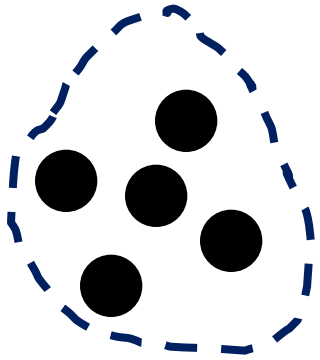


**Netplexity**  
*The Complexity of  
Interactions in the  
Real World*

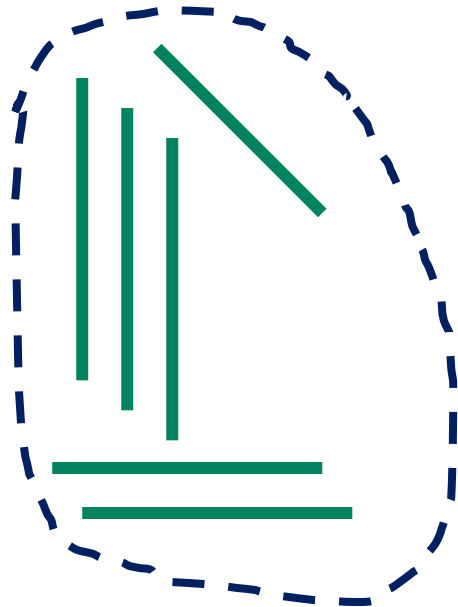
# What is a Network?

Mathematically, a **network** is a **graph**

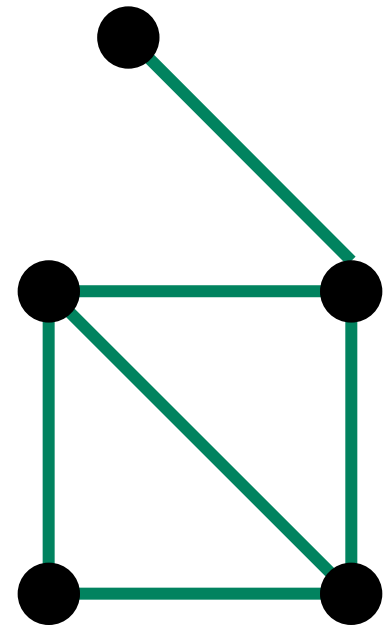
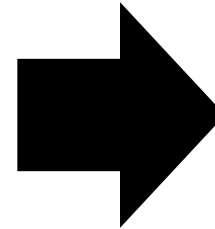


a set of **vertices**  
(or *nodes*)

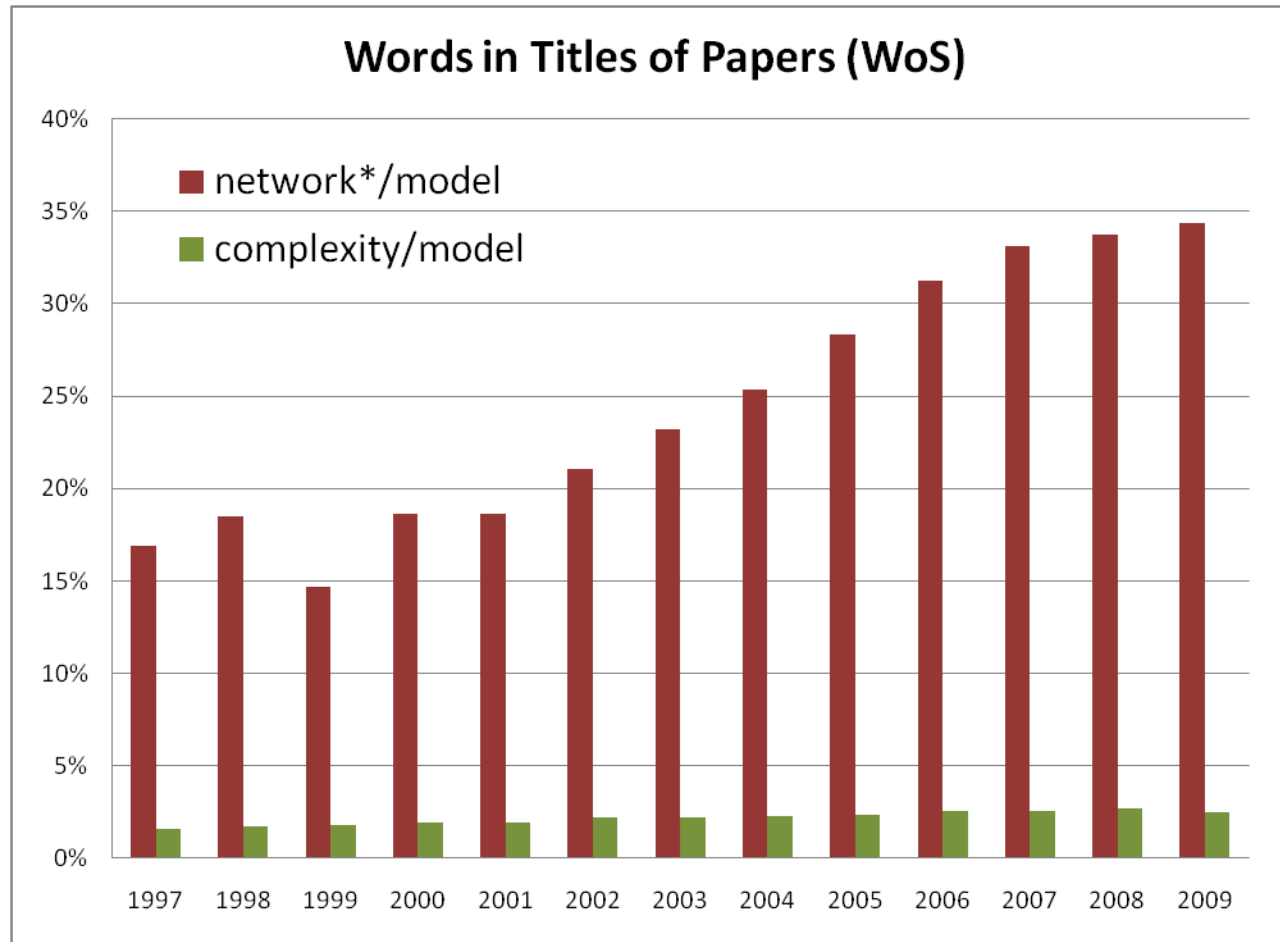
and



a set of **edges**  
(or *links*)



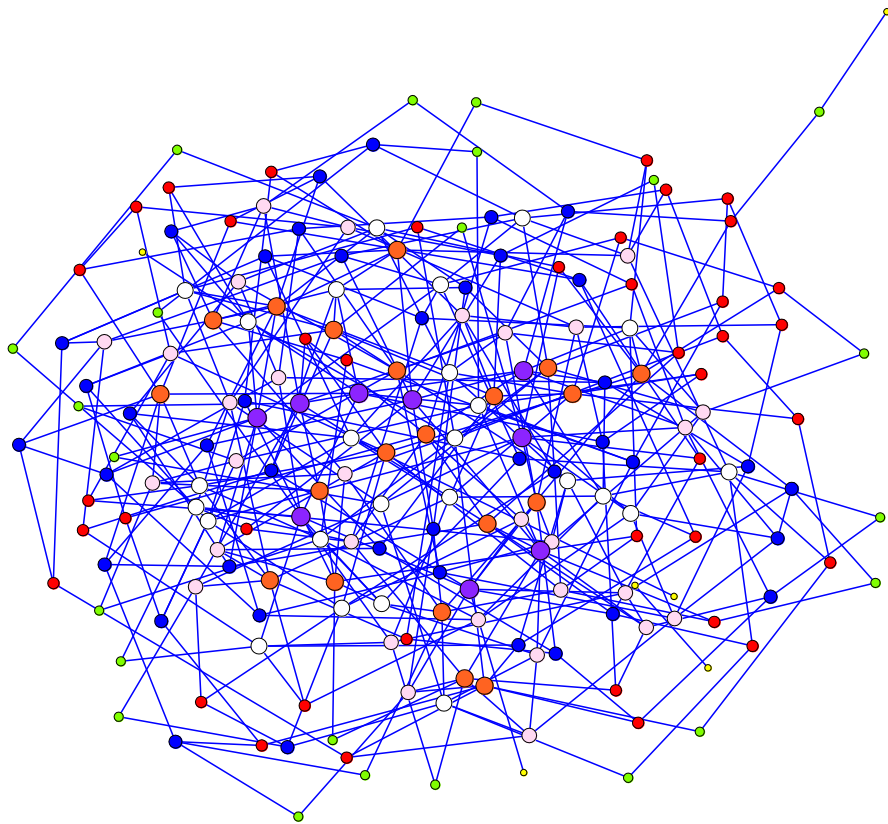
# Explosion of interest since 1998



Fraction of papers with word starting “NETWORK” in title compared to number of papers with word “MODEL”



WHY?



**EXAMPLES**

# Types of Network – by application

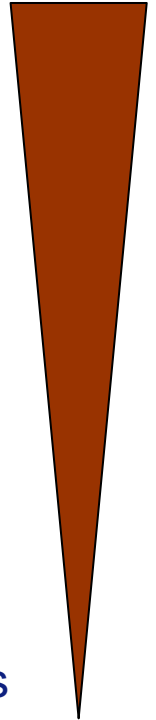
- **Physical links/Hardware based**
  - telephone links, internet hardware, power lines, transport
- **Biological Networks**
  - neural, biochemical, protein, ecological
- **Social Networks**
  - Questionnaires, observation, electronic social networks
- **Information Networks**
  - academic papers, patents, keywords, web pages, artefact networks

**Death of Distance?**

[Cairncross 1997]

Dimensions

2



High  
Dimension

# Type of Network – by features

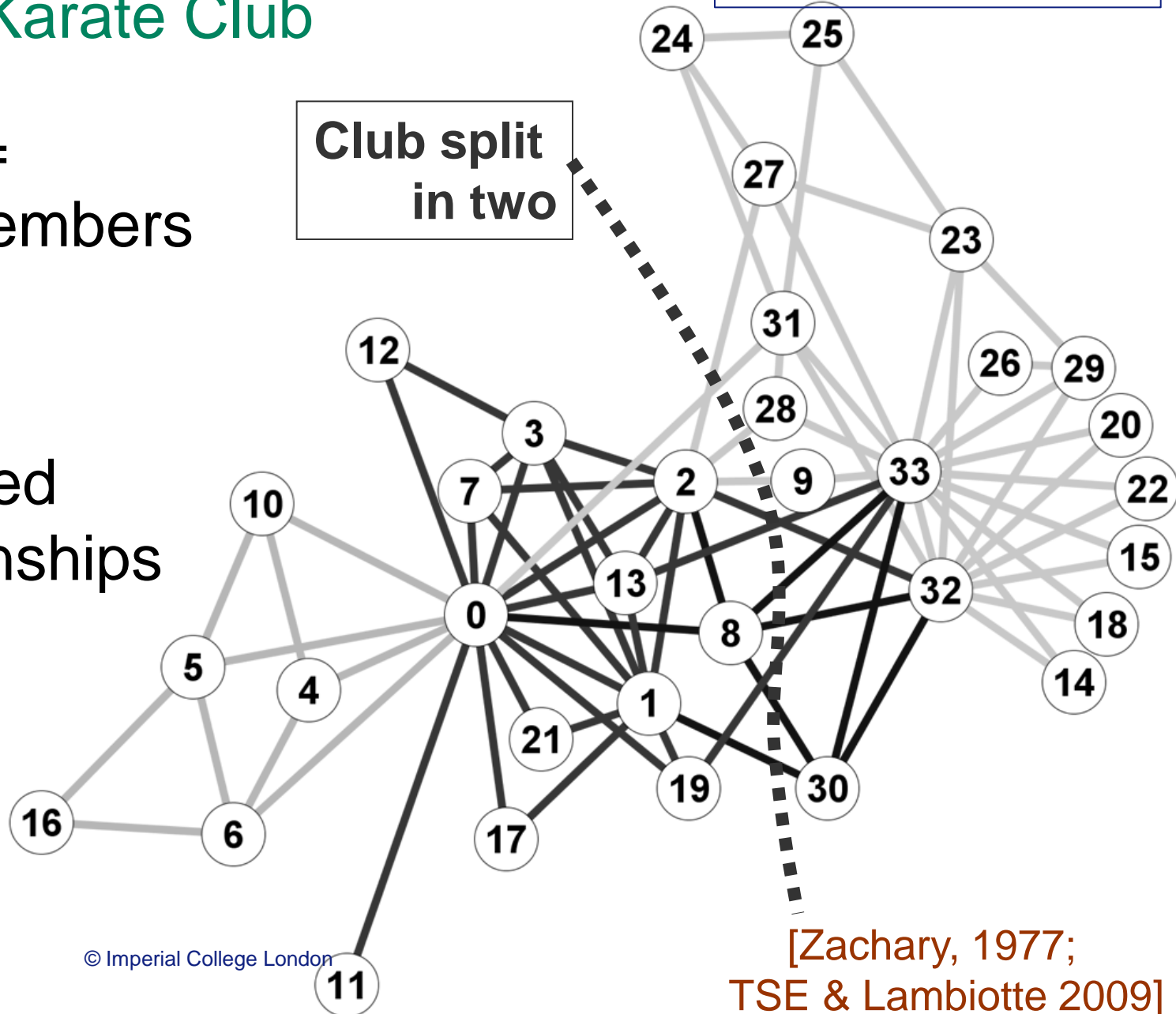
- Simple
- Weighted – edges carry numbers
- Directed – edges point in one direction
- Acyclic – no loops
- Bipartite – two types of vertex

# Zachary Karate Club

## Simple Graph

Vertices =  
Club Members

Edges =  
Observed  
Relationships  
ON or  
OFF



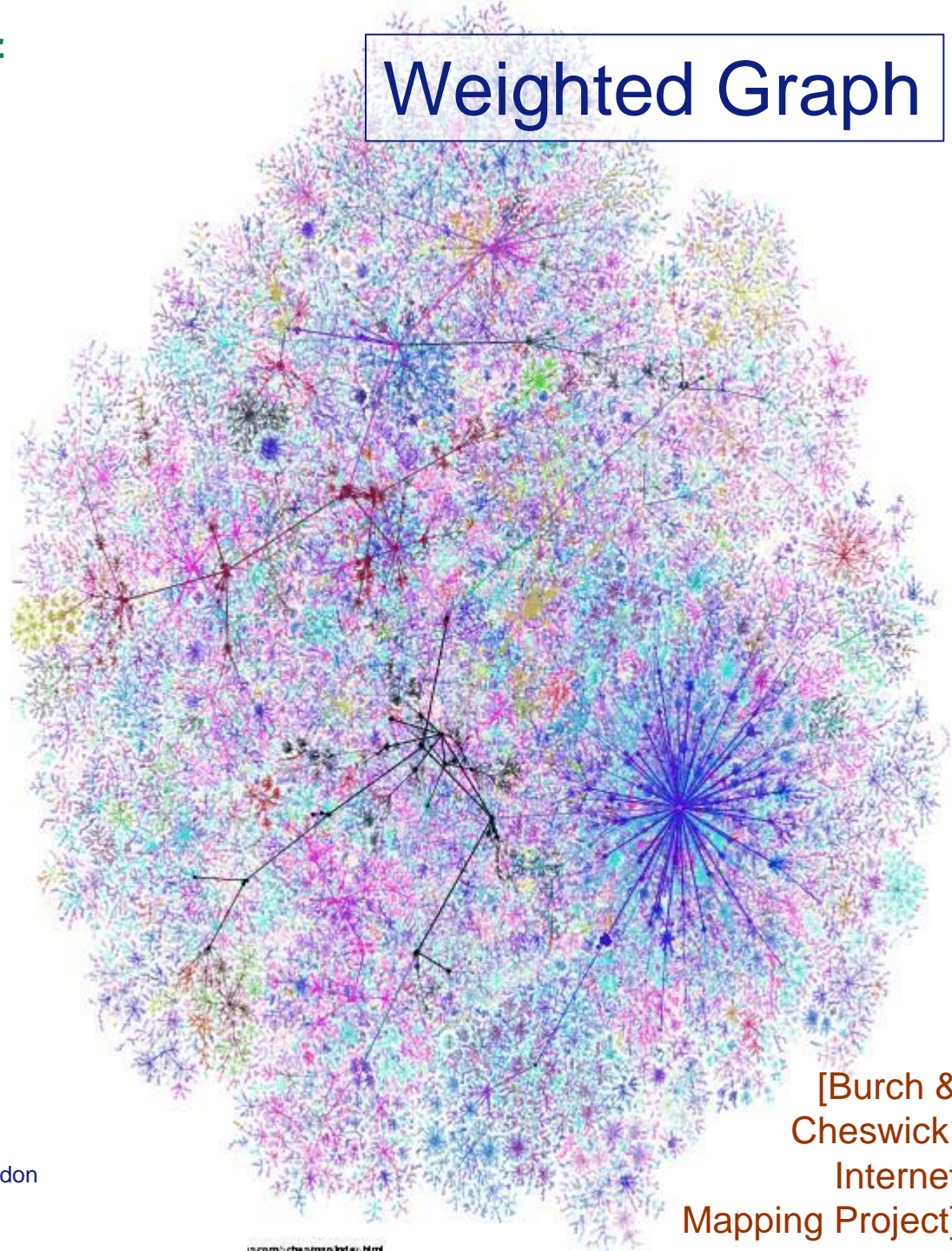
# Router Level Map of Internet

Weighted Graph

Vertices = routers

Edges =  
number of packets  
between router  
pairs

Understanding network  
properties important  
for design



[Burch &  
Cheswick,  
Internet  
Mapping Project]

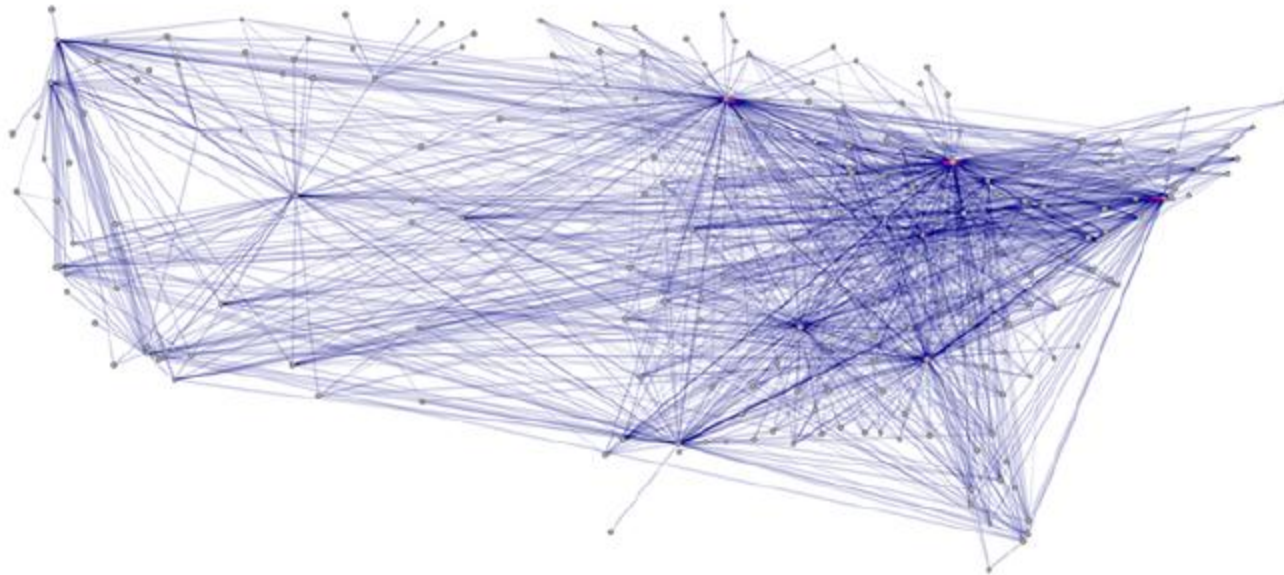


# Transport – Airline Map

## Weighted Graph

Vertices = airports, geographical location

Edges = flights from/to, thickness ~ passengers

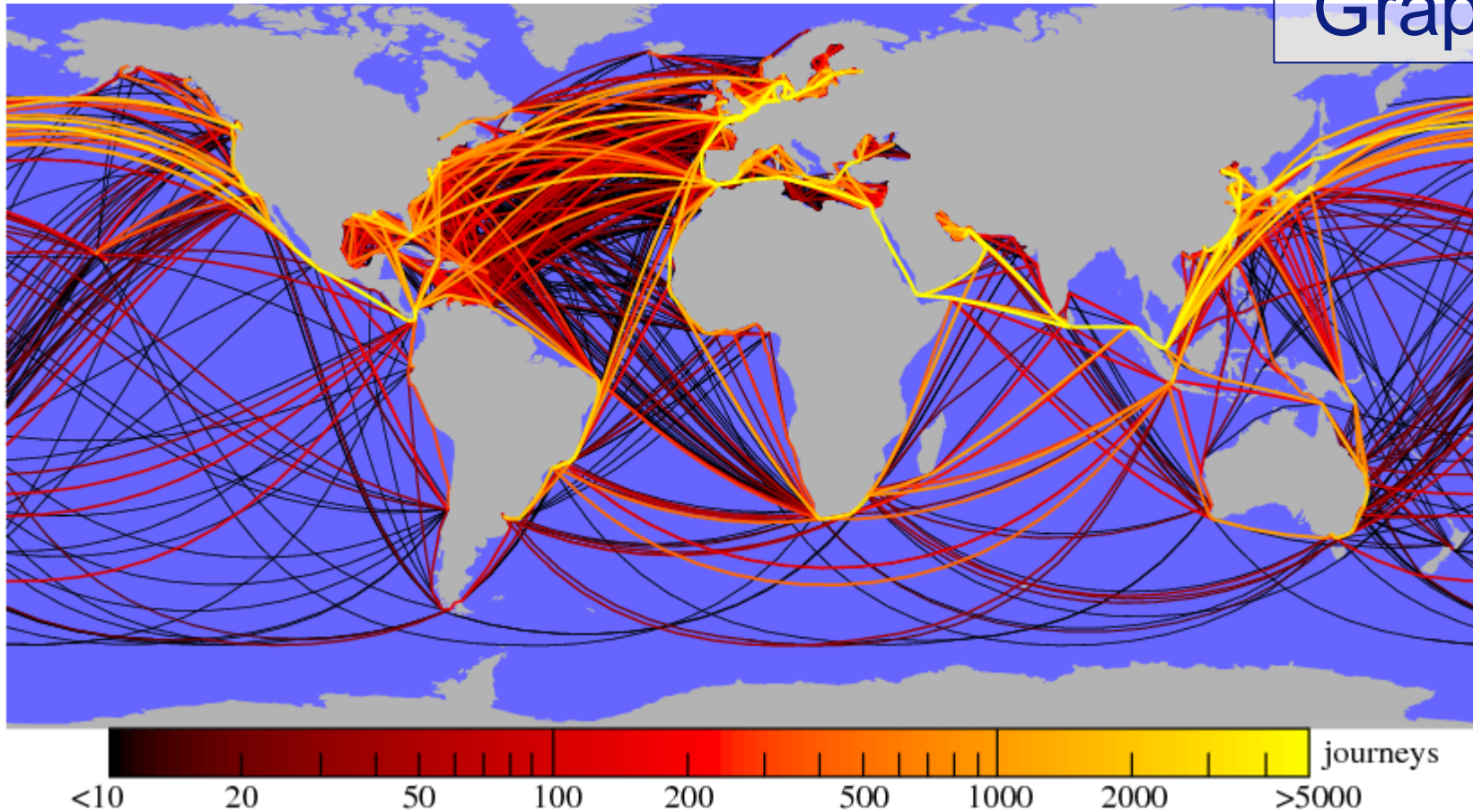


[Holten & van Wijk 2009]

# Transport - Cargo Ship Movements

Vertices = Ports, Edges = Trips From/To

Weighted  
Directed  
Graph



⇒ Invasive Species [Kaluza et al, 2009]

Directed  
Acyclic  
Graph

# Citation Networks

Vertices =  
papers

Edges =  
citations  
from  
bibliography  
to paper

PHYSICAL REVIEW E 80, 016105 (2009)

Line graphs, link partitions, and overlapping communities

T. S. Evans<sup>1,2</sup> and R. Lambiotte<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute for Mathematical Sciences, Imperial College London, SW7 2PG London, United Kingdom  
<sup>2</sup>Theoretical Physics, Imperial College London, SW7 2AZ London, United Kingdom  
(Received 12 March 2009; published 9 July 2009)

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[Zachary, 1977]

*An Information Flow Model for Conflict and Fission in Small Groups*<sup>1</sup>

WAYNE W. ZACHARY

[Blondel et al, 2008]

*Journal of Statistical Mechanics: Theory and Experiment*  
An IOP and SISSA journal

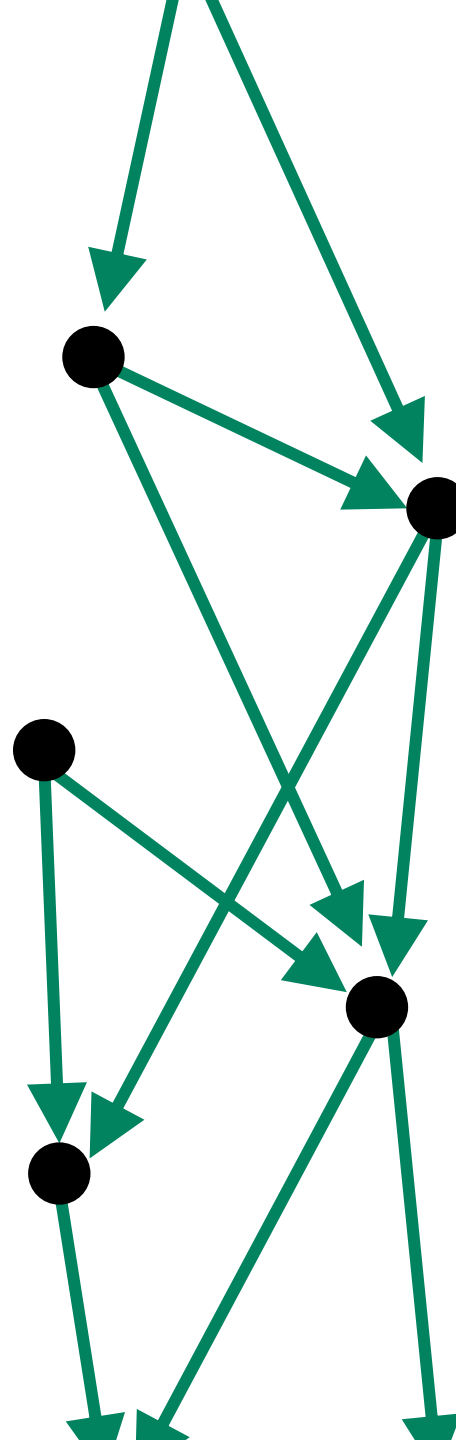
**Fast unfolding of communities in large networks**

Vincent D Blondel<sup>1</sup>, Jean-Loup Guillaume<sup>1,2</sup>,  
Renaud Lambiotte<sup>1,3</sup> and Etienne Lefebvre<sup>1</sup>

# Citation Networks

Vertices =  
papers

Edges =  
citations  
*from*  
bibliography  
*to* paper  
back in time



Directed  
Acyclic  
Graph



Also used in  
*Hasse Diagrams,*  
*Causal Sets*

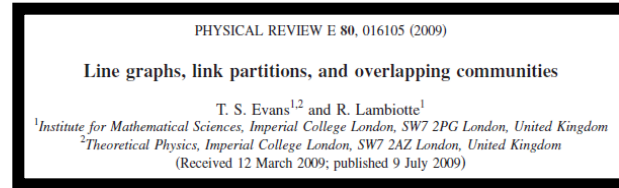
# Coauthorship networks

Vertices =  
papers *or*  
authors

Edges =  
link authors  
to papers

## Bipartite Graph

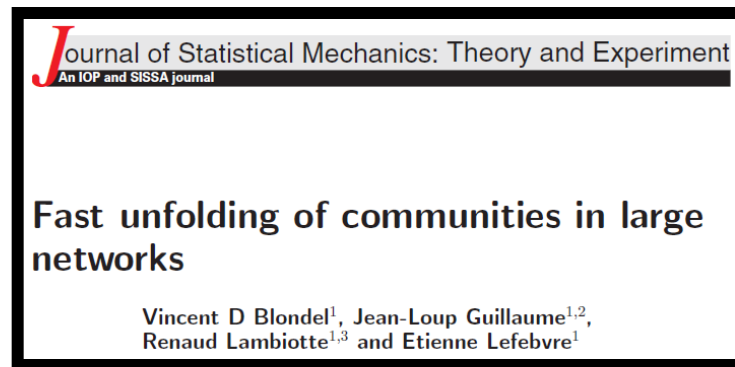
[TSE & Lambiotte, 2009]



TSE

Lambiotte

[Blondel et al, 2008]

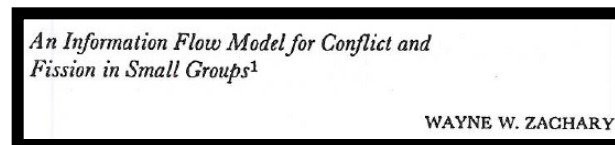


Blondel

Lefebvre

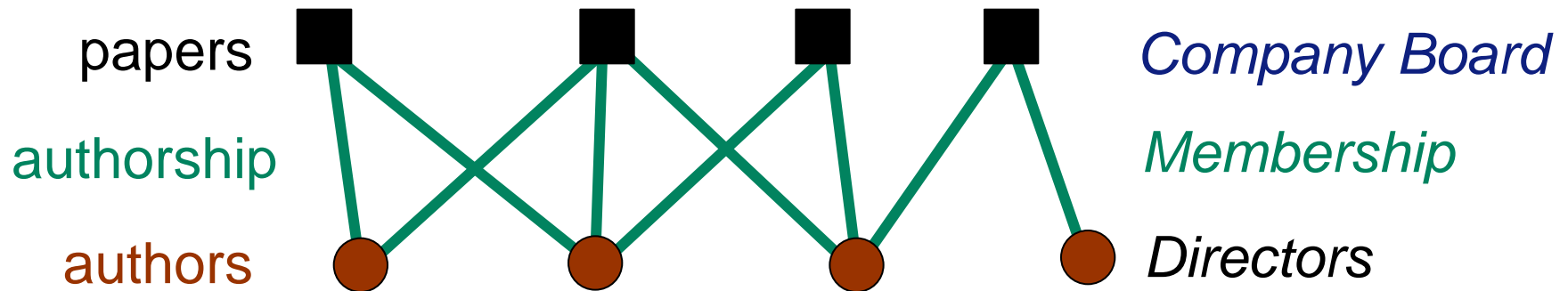
Guillaume

[Zachary, 1977]



Zachary

## Coauthorship networks

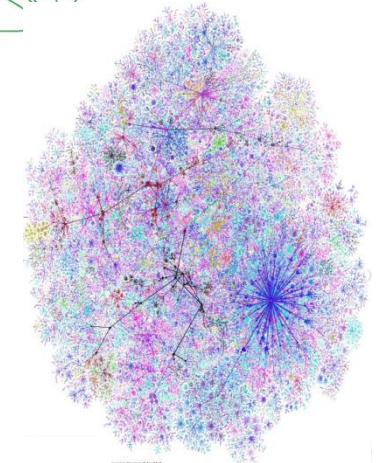
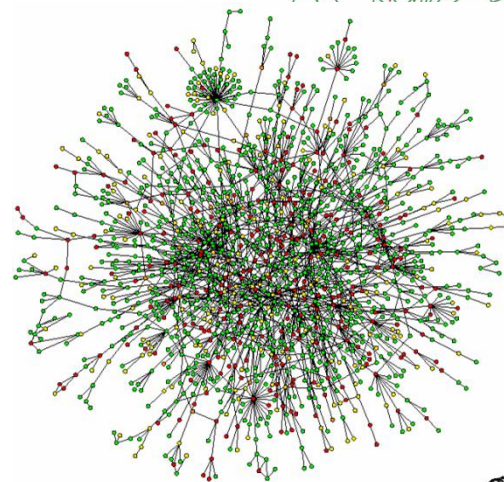
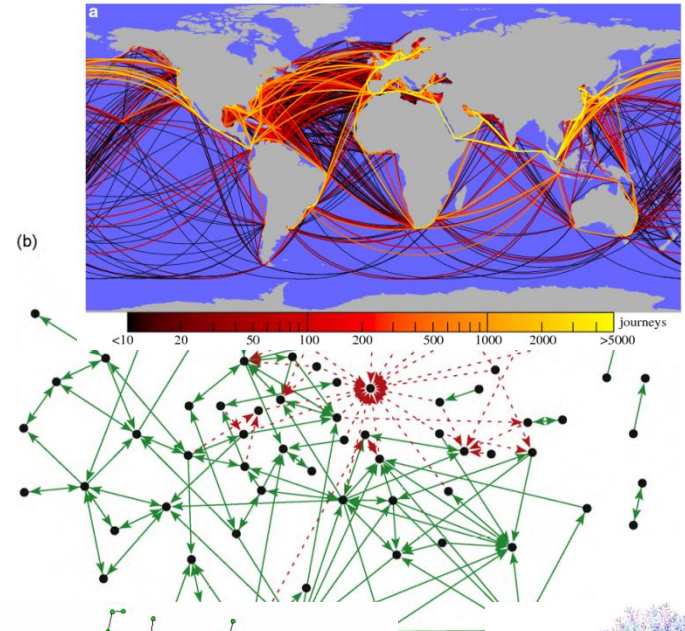
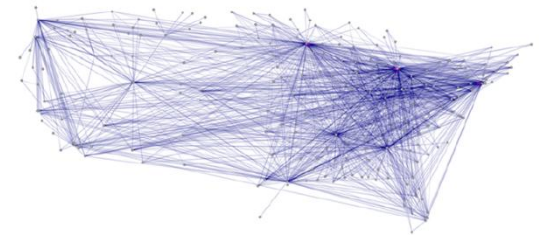


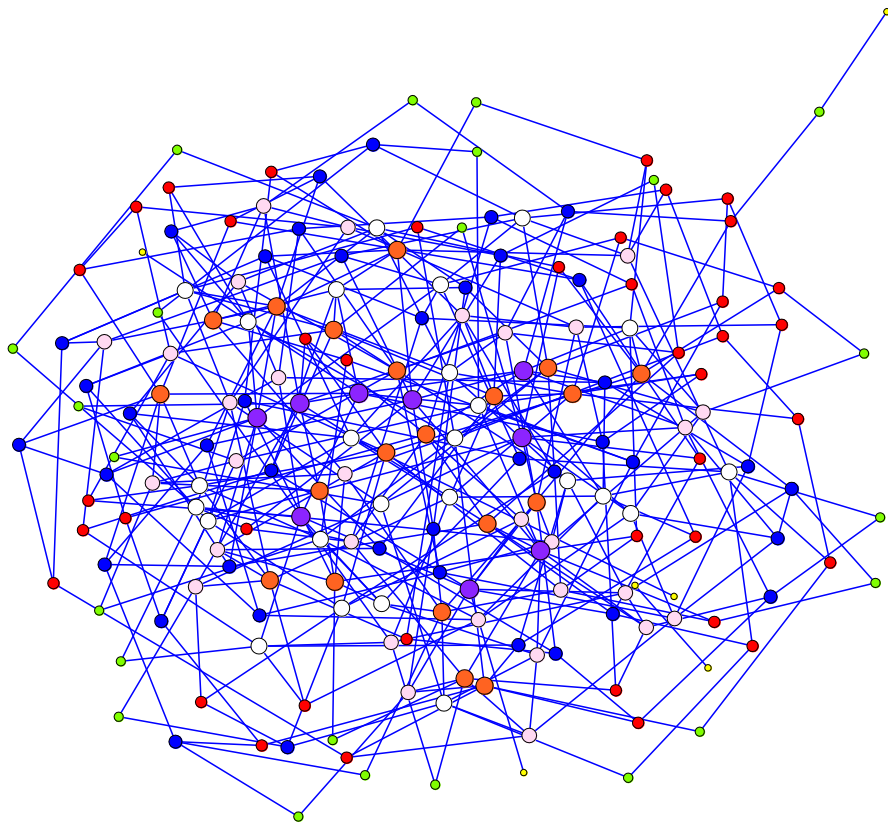
⇒ Reveal relationships between people

# So many networks

Networks are a useful way to describe many different data sets

- Physical links/Hardware based
- Biological Networks
- Social Networks
- Information Networks





# REPRESENTATIONS



# Representations

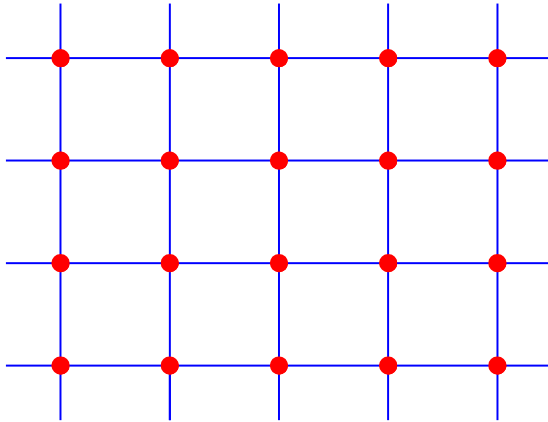
- Data often has a `natural' network
- There is no one way to view this natural network  $\Rightarrow$  ***visualisation***
- There are always many different networks representing the data

# Visualisation

[Evans, 2004]

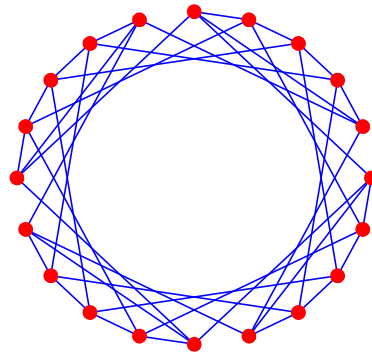
In a network the location of a vertex is defined only by its neighbours

➔ Many Networks are not embedded in a space

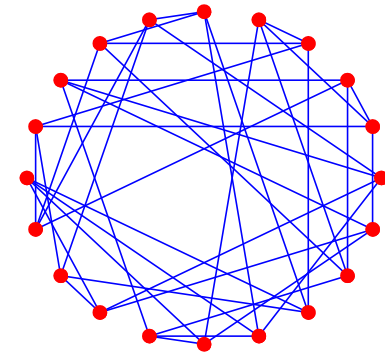


Periodic Lattice

$N=20, E=40$



Same network with vertices arranged in regular order.

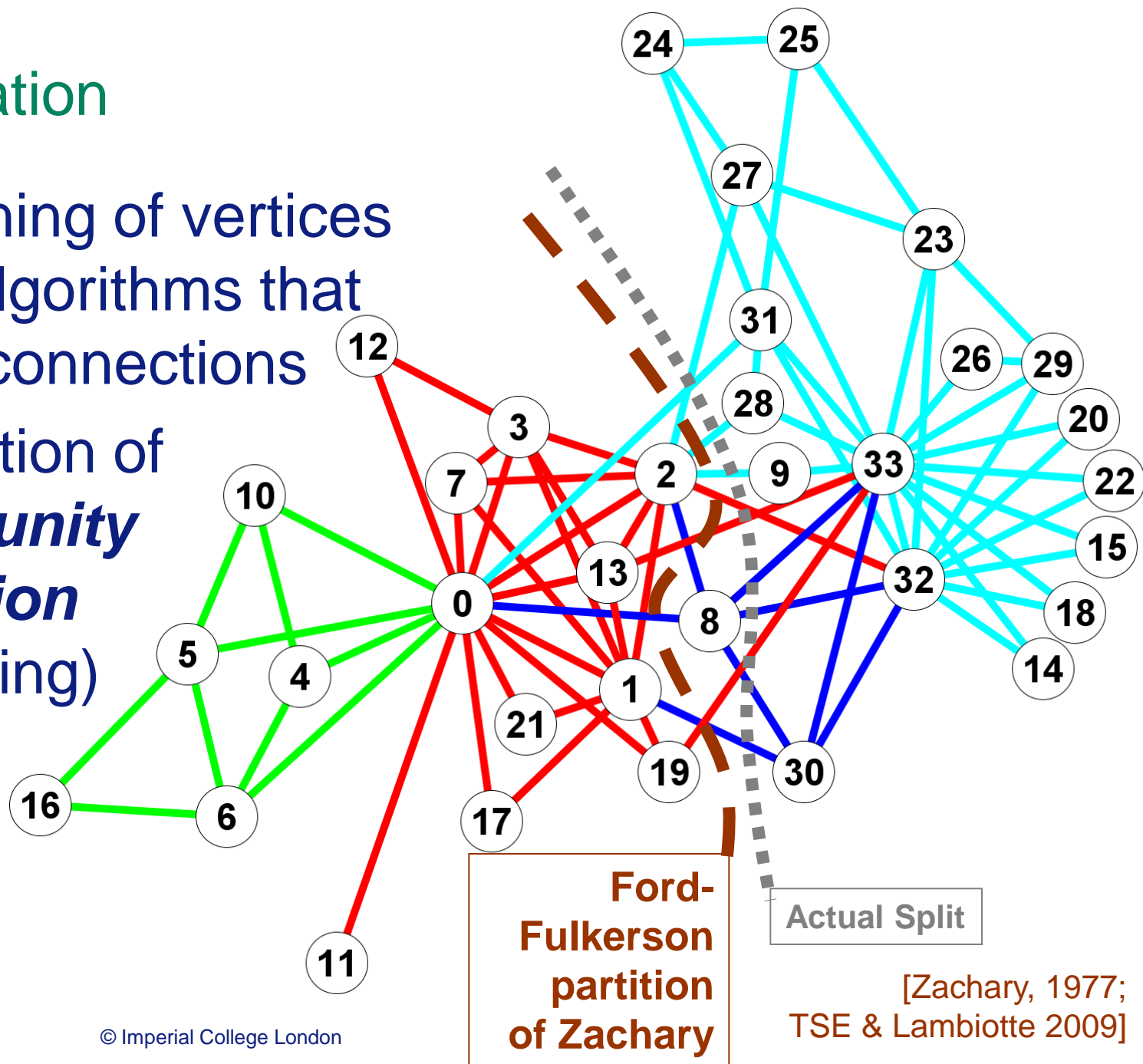


Same network with vertices arranged in random order

Identical Networks

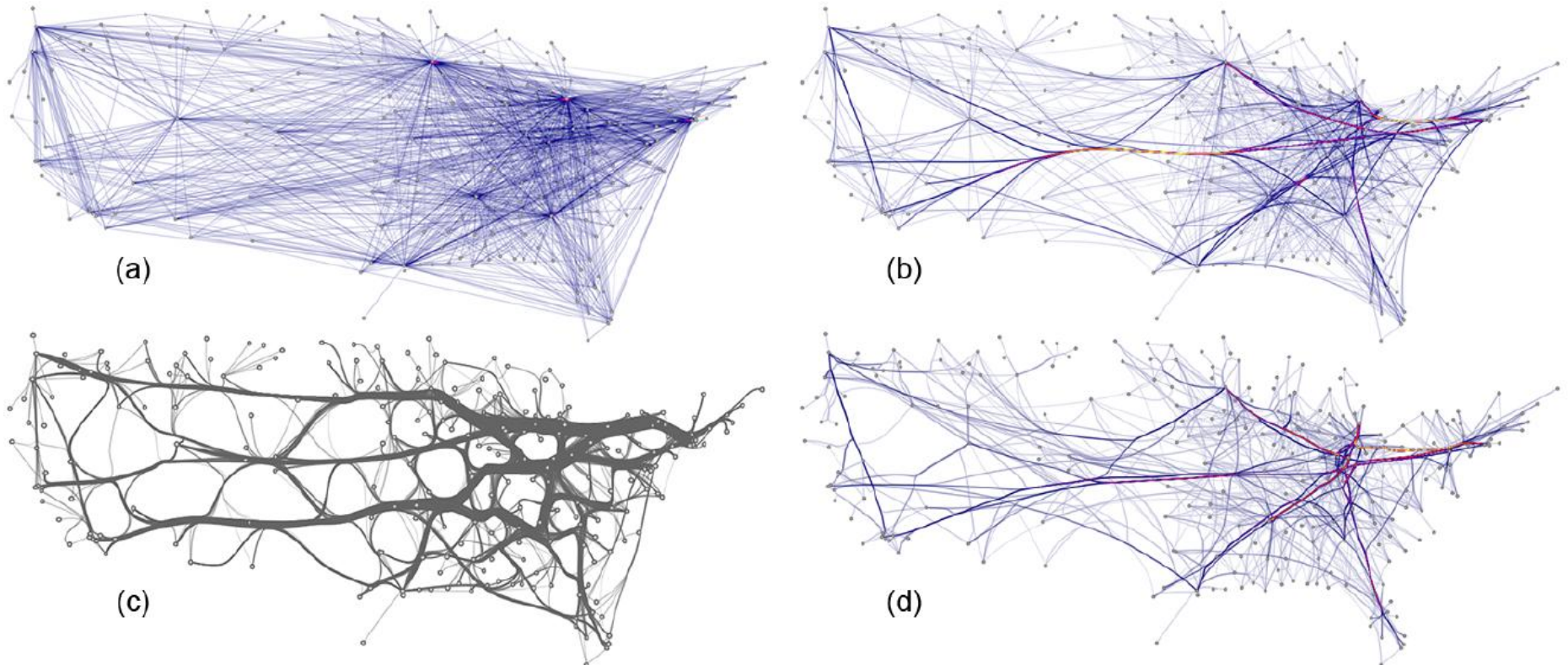
# Visualisation

- Positioning of vertices using algorithms that reflect connections
- Application of **Community Detection** (clustering)
- Edge colour also



# Visualisation

Choosing the right visualisation is a powerful practical tool, and its not just the vertices ...



e.g. Edge bundling for air network [Holten & van Wijk, 2009]

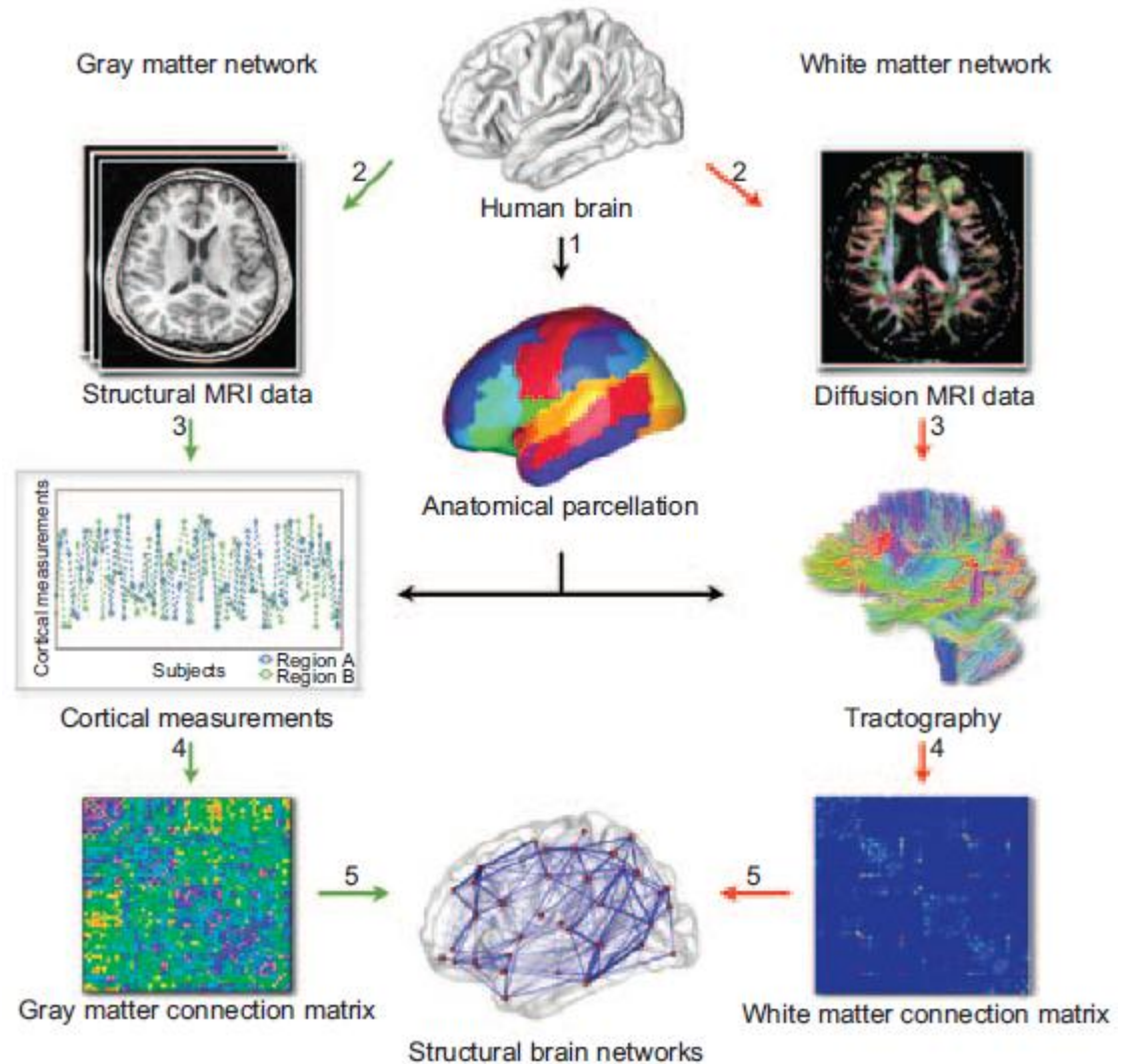
# Correlation Matrices

e.g. Neuroscience Networks

Vertices =  
brain regions

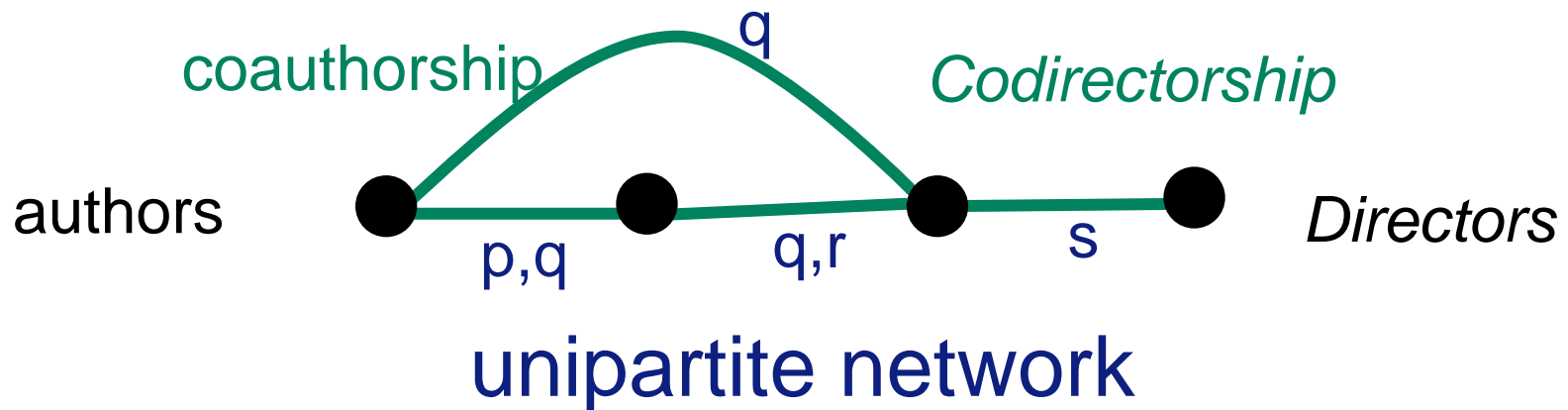
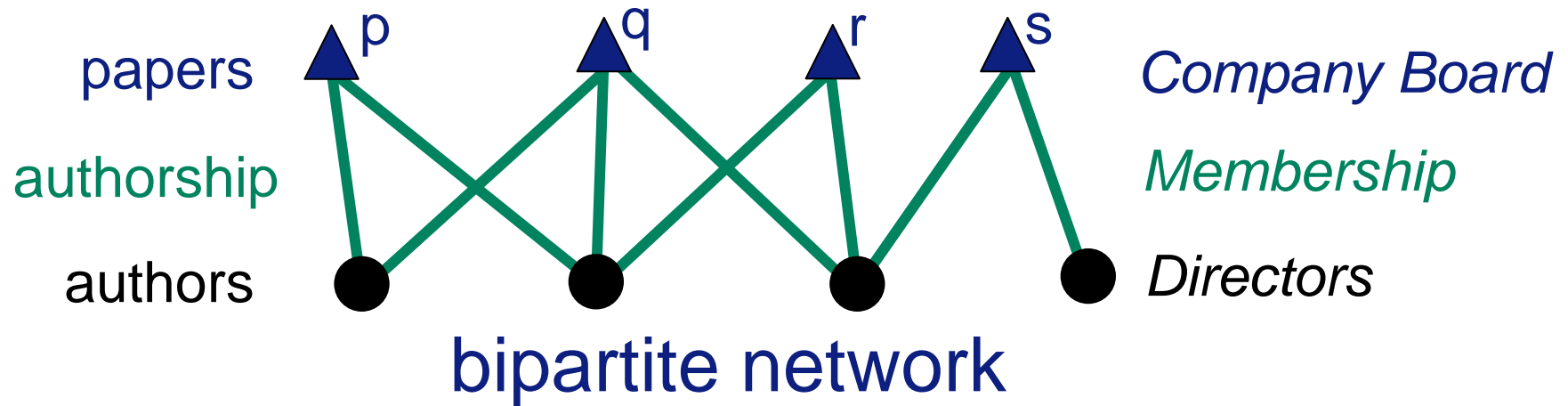
Matrix =  
Correlated  
Activity

Edges =  
Minimum  
Correlation



# Network Projections

e.g. Coauthorship networks



# Line Graphs

Us



Vertices =  
Intersections

Edges =  
Streets

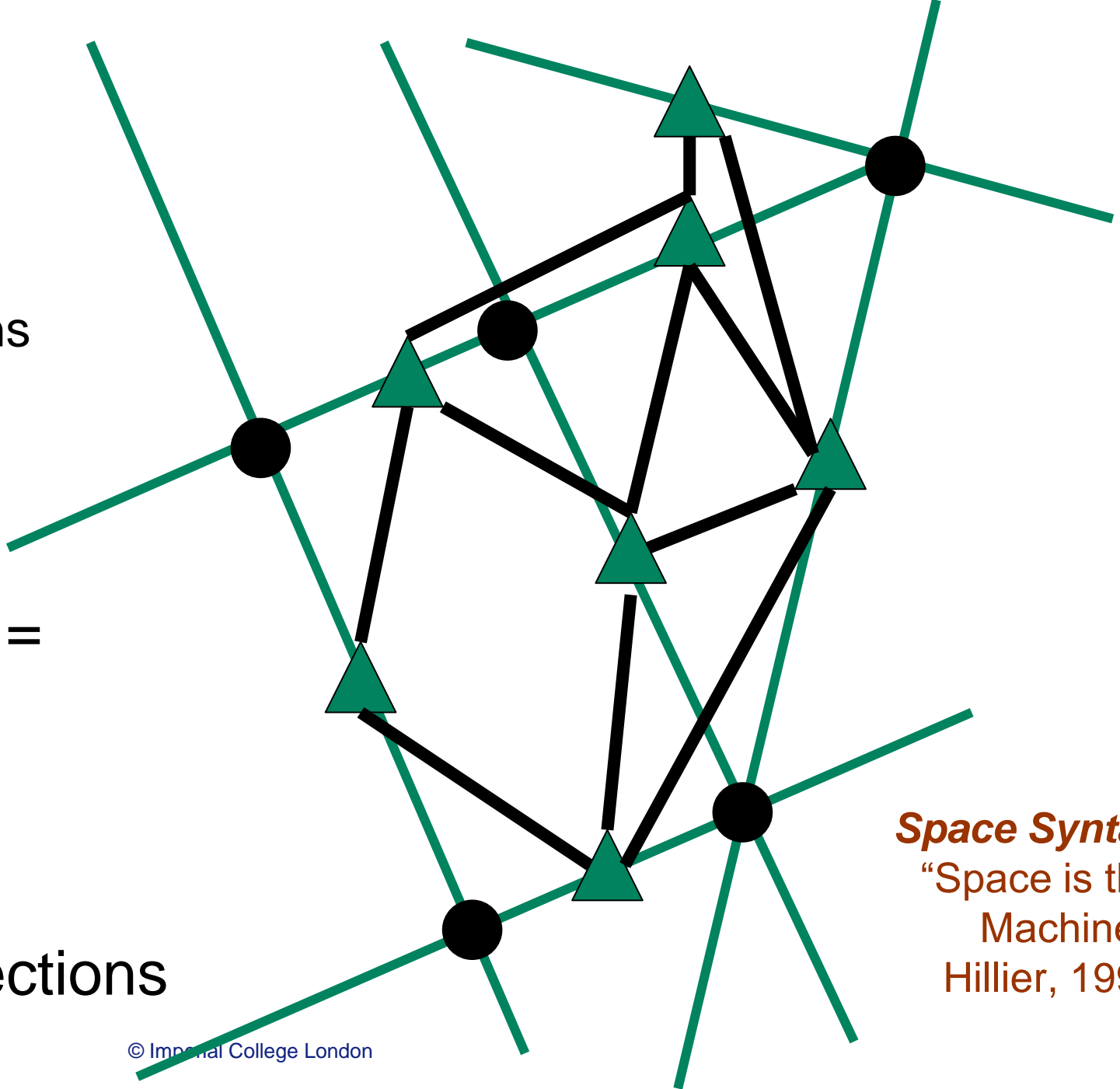
# Line Graphs

Vertices =  
Intersections

Edges =  
Streets

Vertices =  
Streets

Edges =  
Intersections

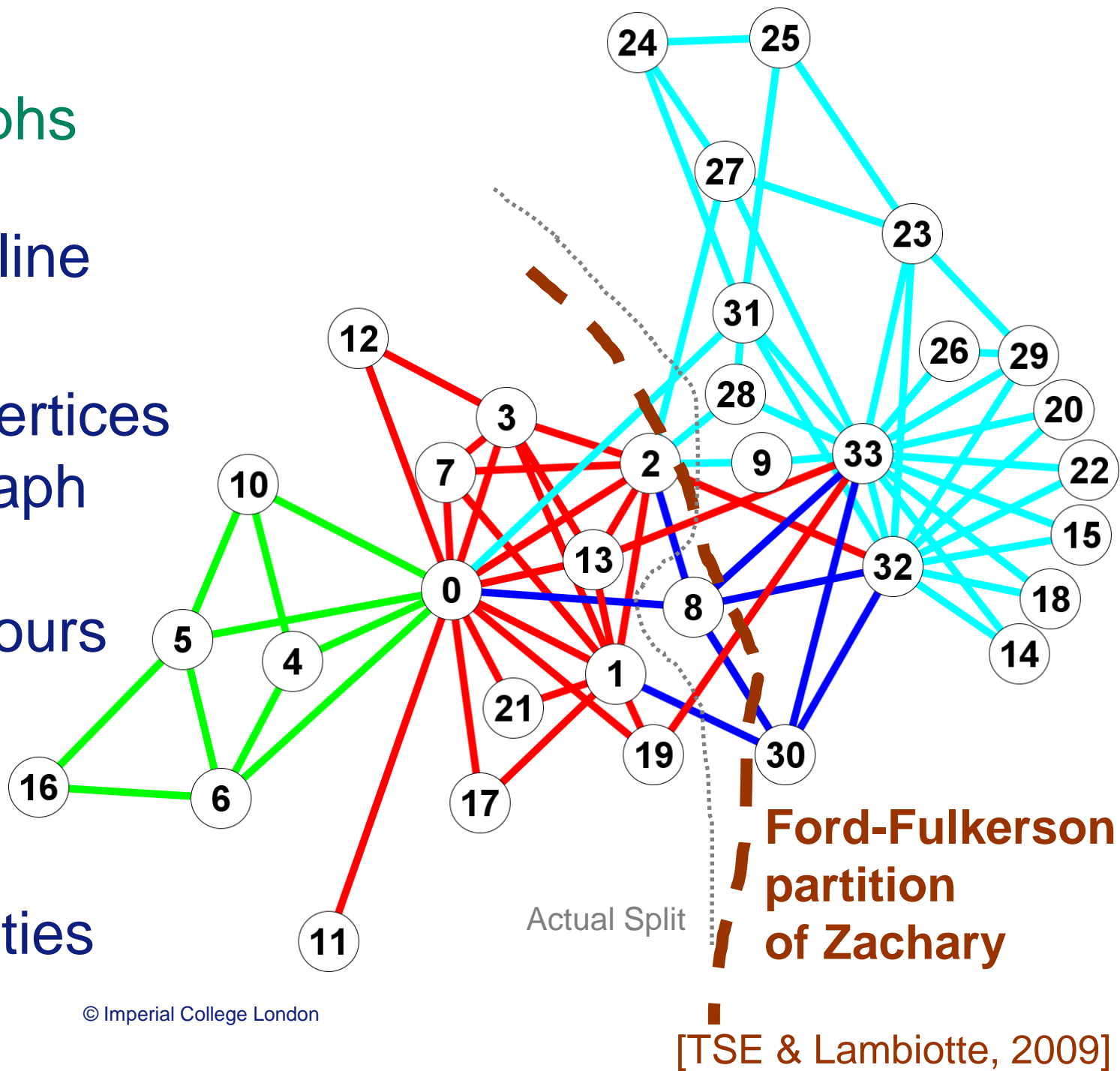


**Space Syntax**  
“Space is the  
Machine”,  
Hillier, 1996



# Line Graphs

- Produce line graph
- Cluster vertices of line graph = Edge colours
- Vertices in several communities

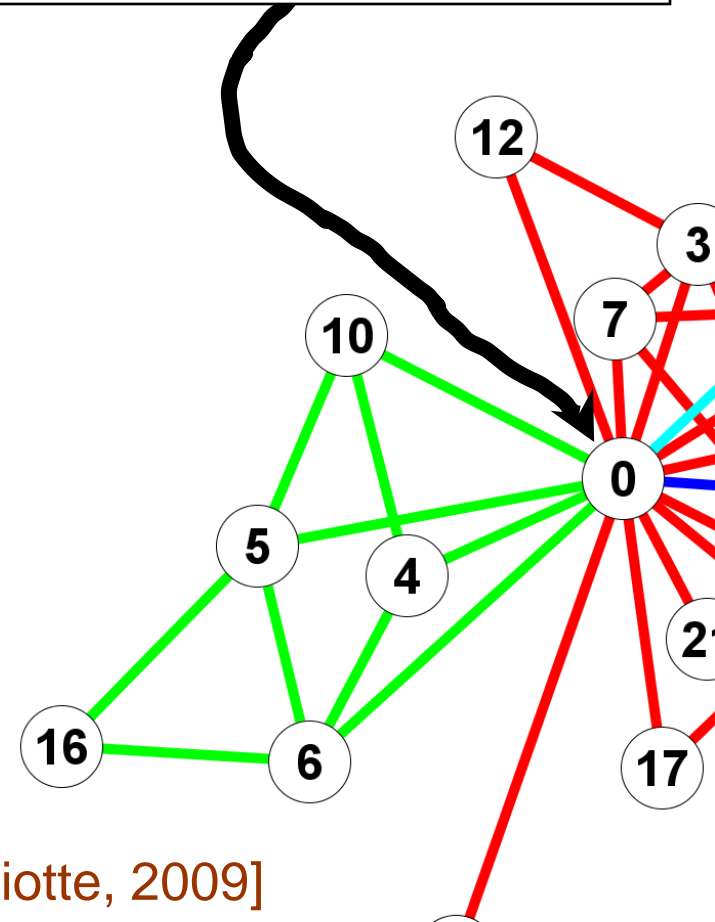


# Karate Club Analysis

## Vertices in One Edge Community

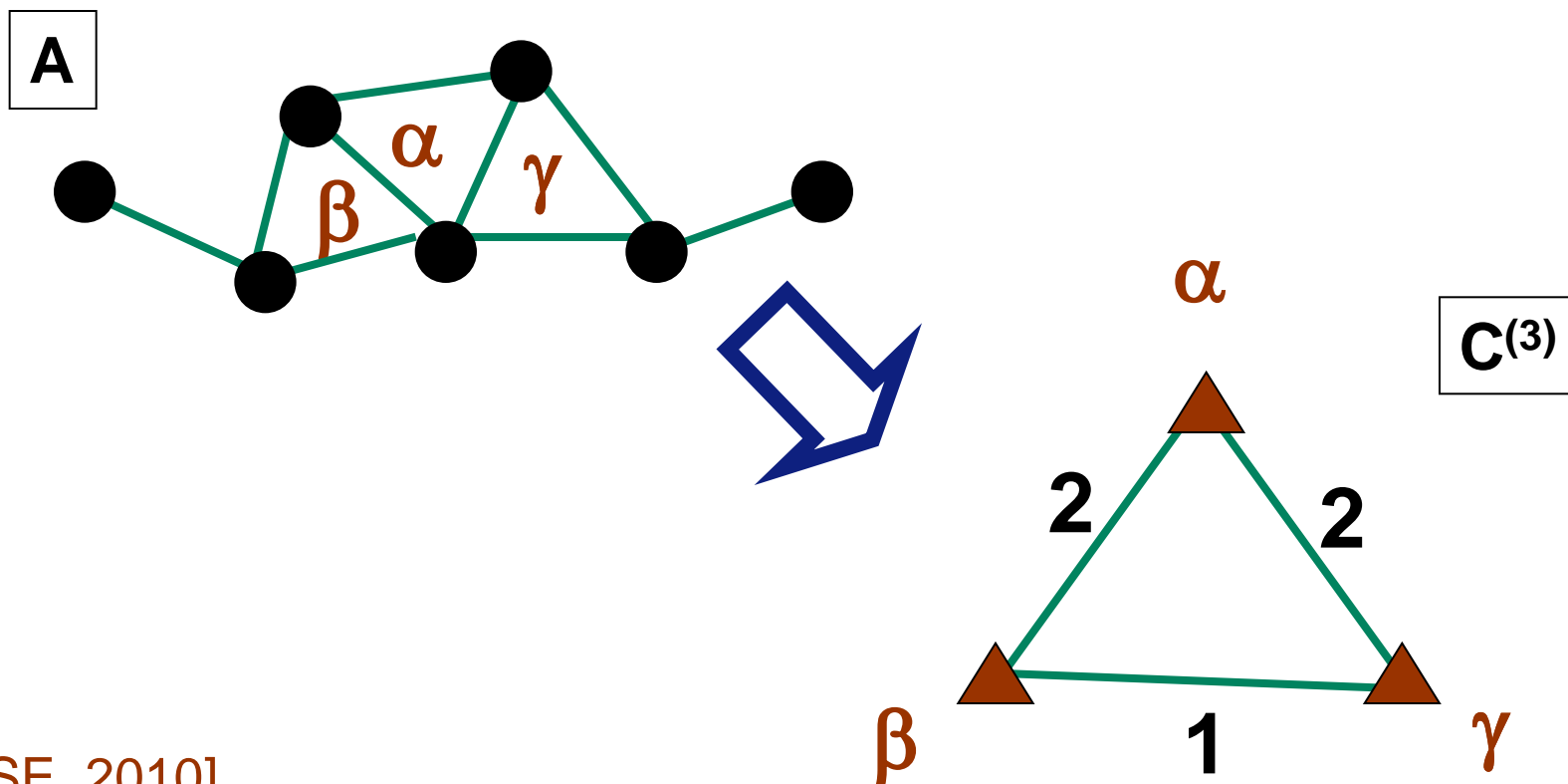
#	k	Fraction k In Green C
5	4	100%
6	4	100%
10	3	100%
4	3	100%
16	2	100%
0 (Mr_Hi)	16	25%

**Mr Hi (the Instructor)  
bridges several  
groups**



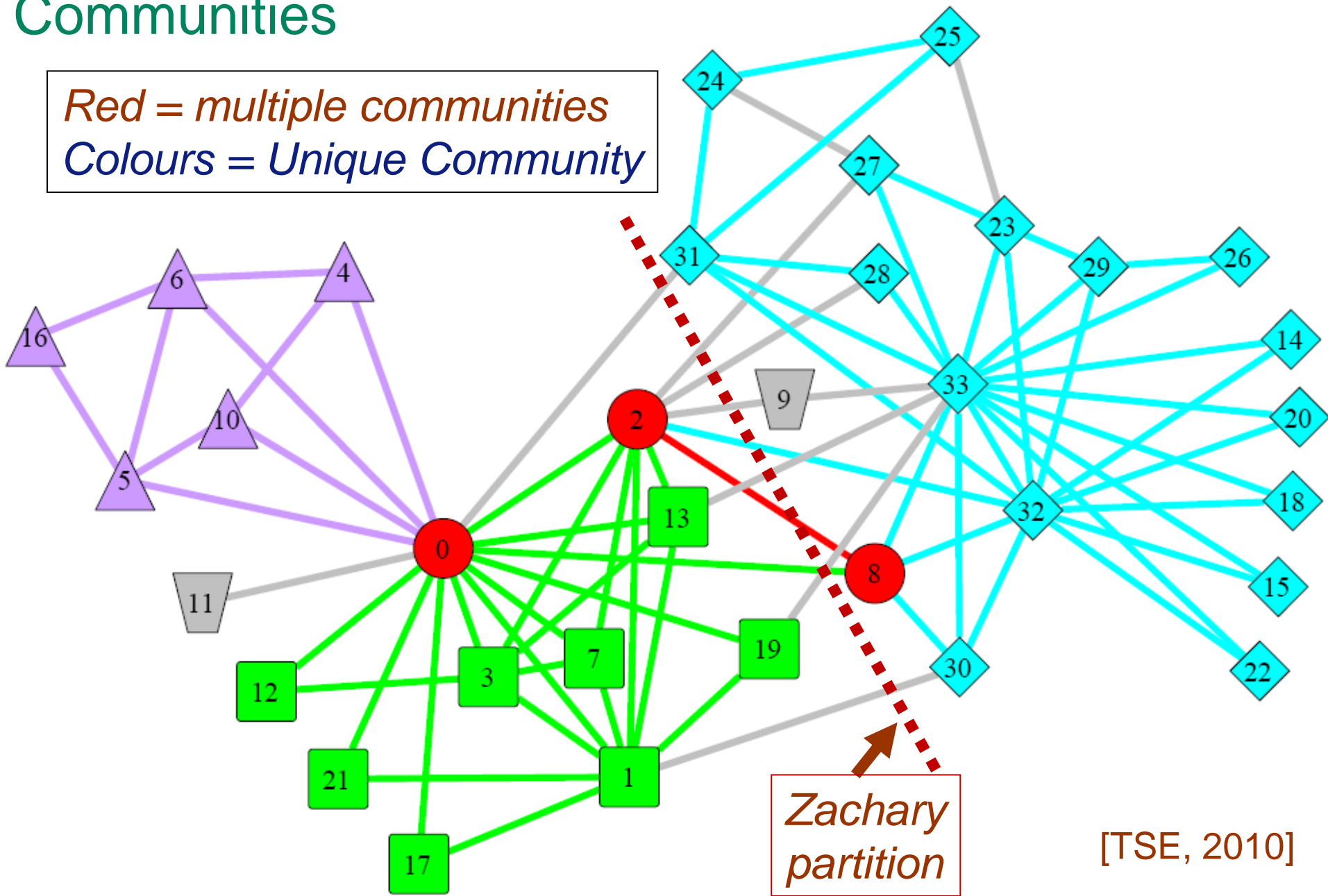
# Clique Graphs

Clique Graphs record the number of vertices common to two cliques in the original graph **A**.



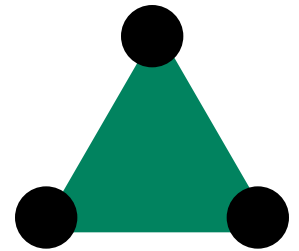
# Karate Club Clique Graph Communities

*Red = multiple communities*  
*Colours = Unique Community*

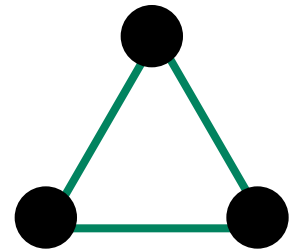


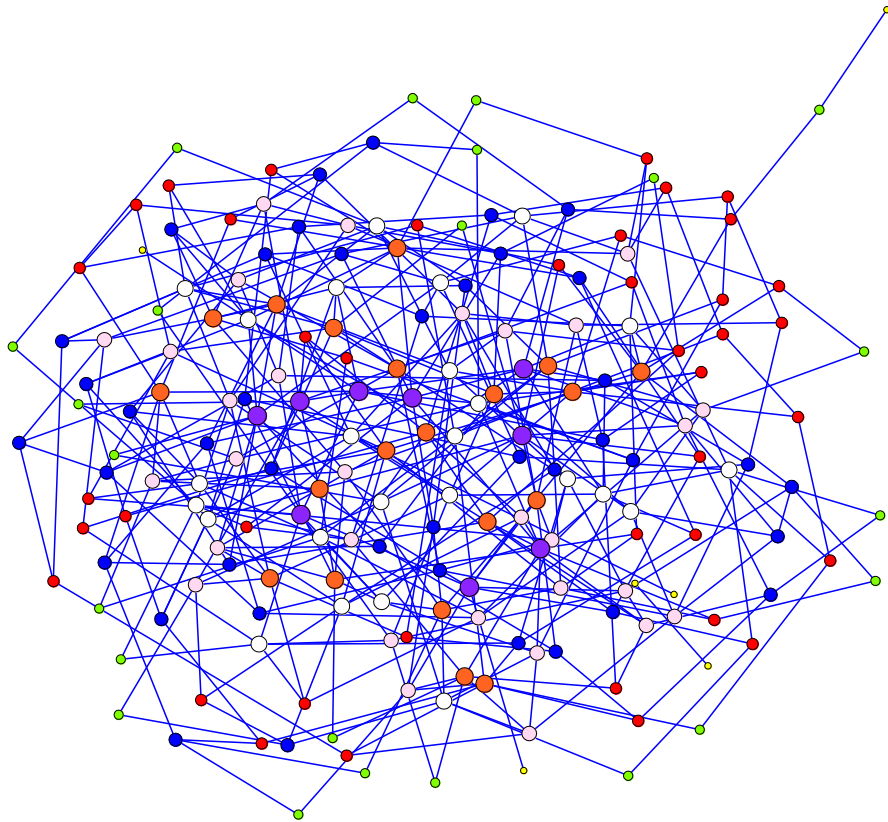
# Hypergraphs

- A collection of vertices
- A collection of **hyperedges** subsets of vertices of any size
  - Subsets of different sizes  $n$
  - These indicate  $n$ -times relationships between people
  - No longer just bilateral relationships
- A graph is just a 2-regular hypergraph i.e.  $n=2$  for all hyperedges.



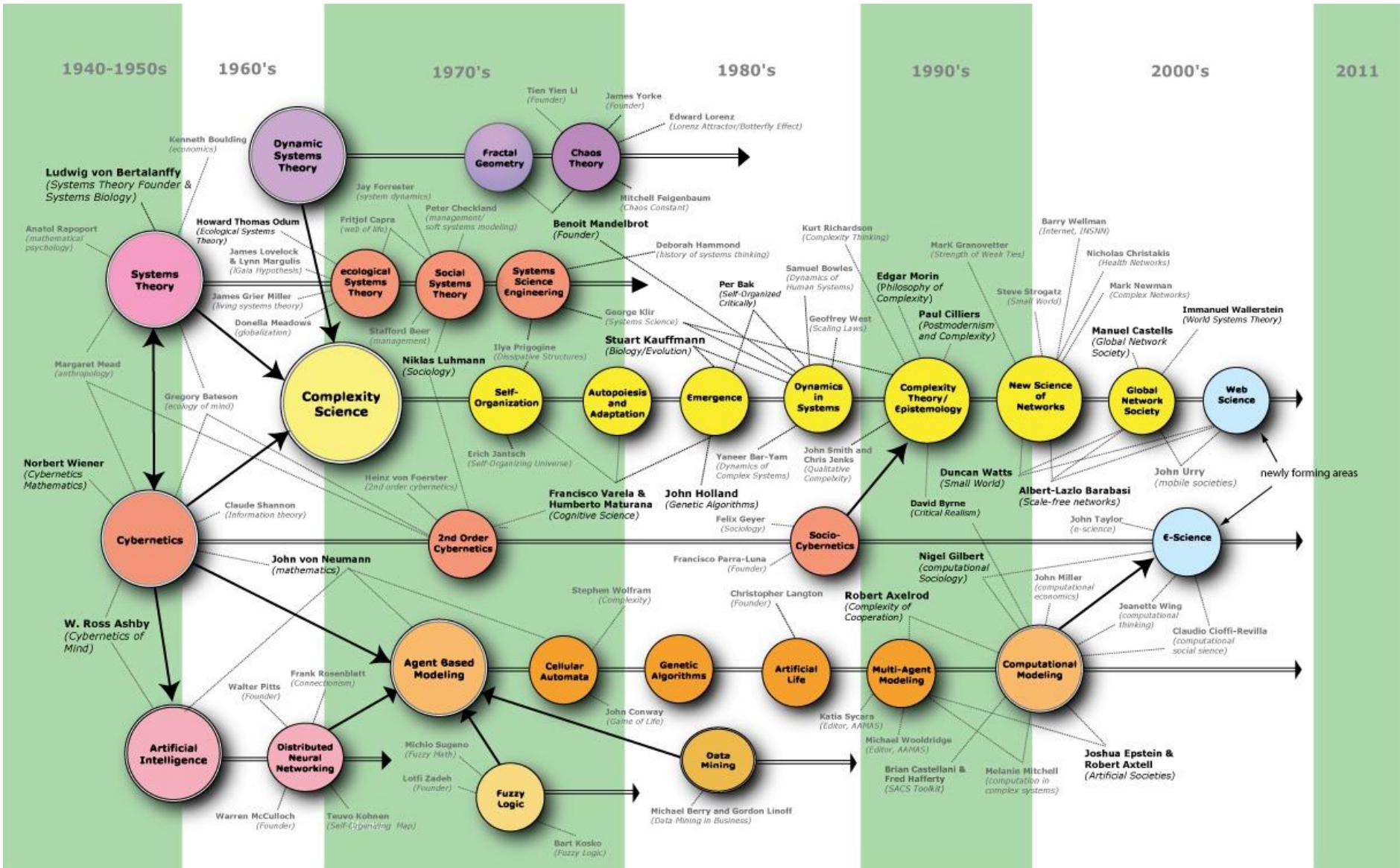
≠





**COMPLEXITY**

# Map of Complexity



# Complexity is

- Difficult
- Interactions occur defined at small, local scales
- Emergence of large scale phenomena

“Life? Don't talk to me about life!”  
Just statistical mechanics applied to new

problems?  
[Marvin in “The Hitch Hikers Guide to the Galaxy”, Douglas Adams]



# Complexity and Networks

## Networks are a natural part of Complexity

- Real networks are difficult
  - Mathematical proofs only for random graphs
  - Computational algorithms often NP-complete
- Edges represent local interactions
- Emergent Phenomena
  - Communities/Clusters
  - Small Worlds “Six degrees of separation”

⇒ **Netplexity = Complex Networks**

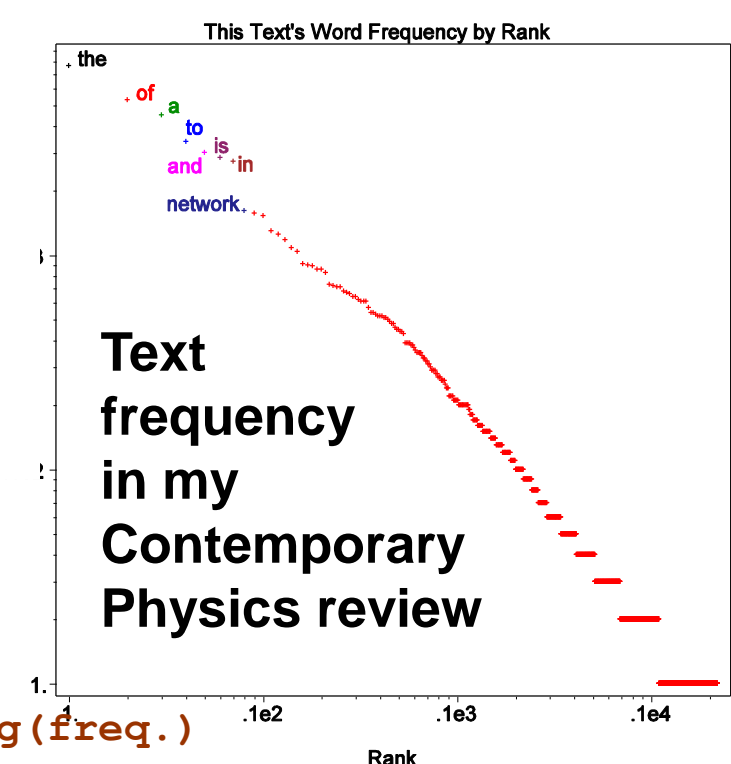
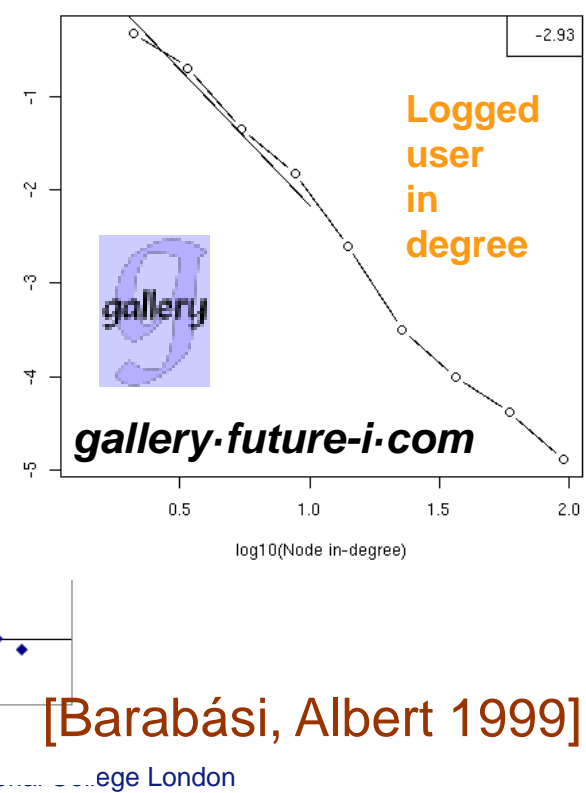
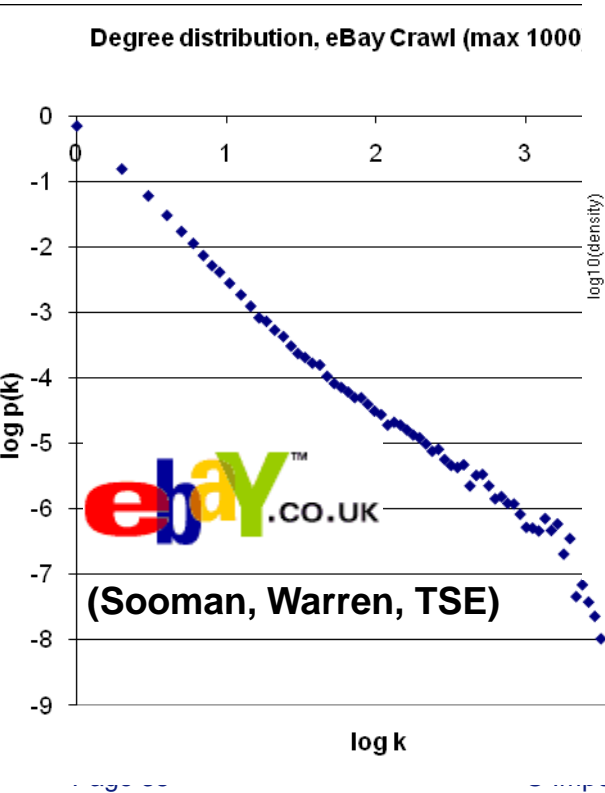
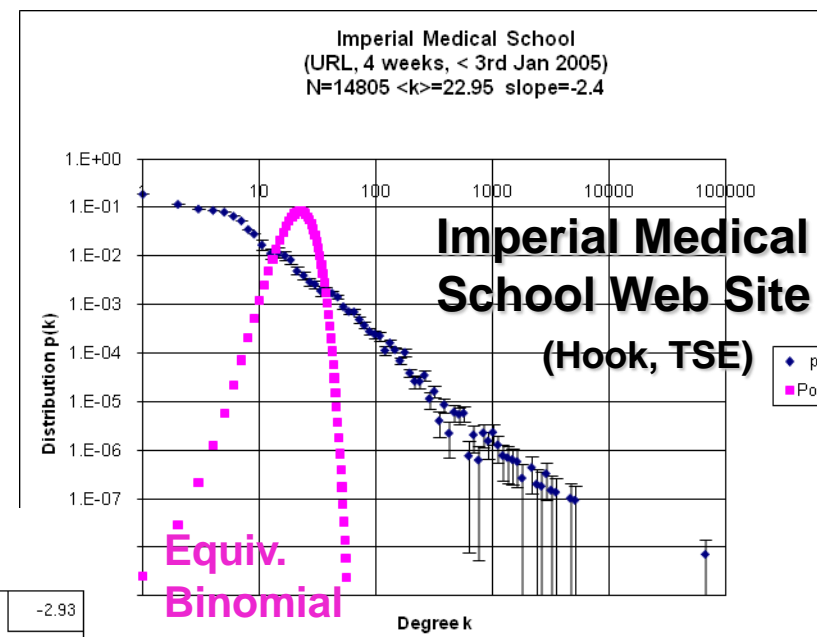
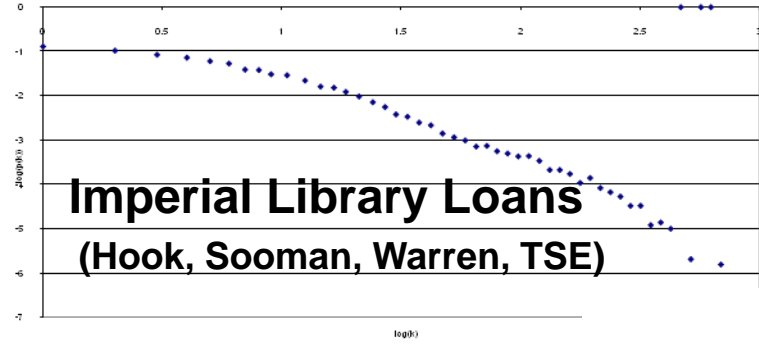
# Critical Phenomena and Networks

- Large fluctuations
- Detailed microscopic rules irrelevant
- Universality classes

Models of self-organised criticality often mix ideas from complexity with critical phenomena concepts e.g. Sand pile model

? Are critical phenomena relevant to networks?

# Large Fluctuations in Networks



[Barabási, Albert 1999]

All  $\log(k)$  vs.  $\log(p(k))$  except text  $\log(\text{rank})$  vs.  $\log(\text{freq.})$

# Networks are not Critical Systems

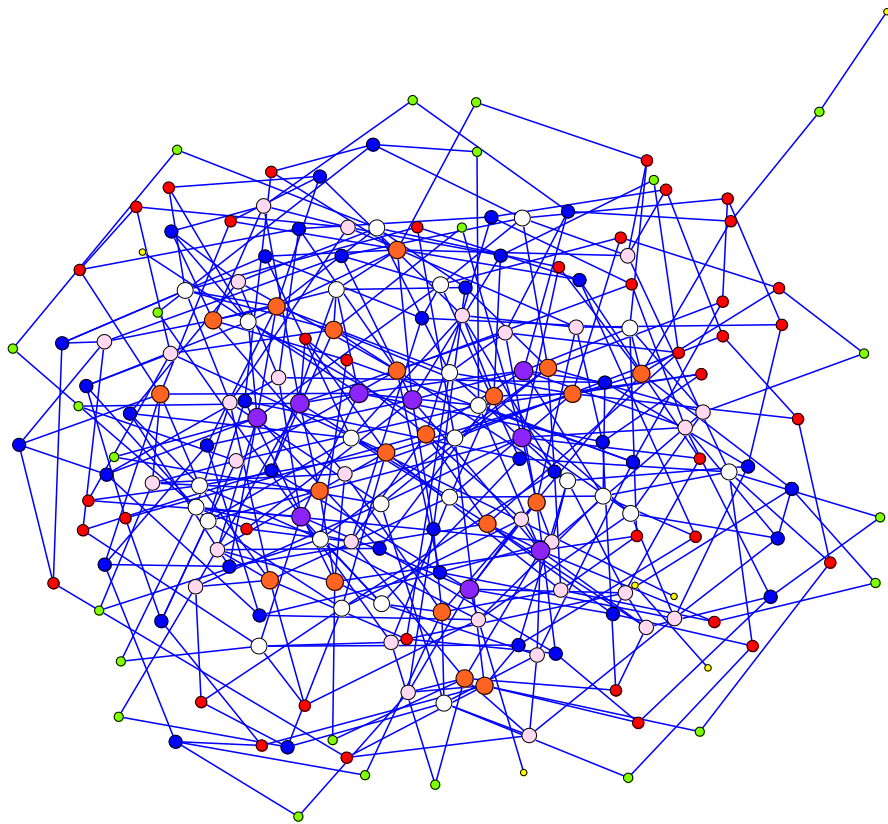
## No universal behaviour

- Power law or other long tails?  
Finite size effects cause uncertainty  
Networks are **mesoscopic systems**
- Value of power in power laws ***not*** universal even if power law behaviour is.

# Criticality, Complexity and Networks

- Networks are usually Complex
- Networks are not usually critical systems

⇒ Netplexity = Complex Networks



# NETWORK SCIENCE

# What is “Network Science”?

- Based on analysis through networks
  - Graphs, hypergraphs
- Part of wider studies in complexity
  - Local interactions produce emergent phenomena
- Not new
  - Social Network Analysis since 50's
  - Mathematical graph theory since Euler in 1735
- New aspect is Information Age
  - Large data sets and their analysis now possible
- Multidisciplinary
  - Communication difficult between fields

# Does “Network Science” really exist?

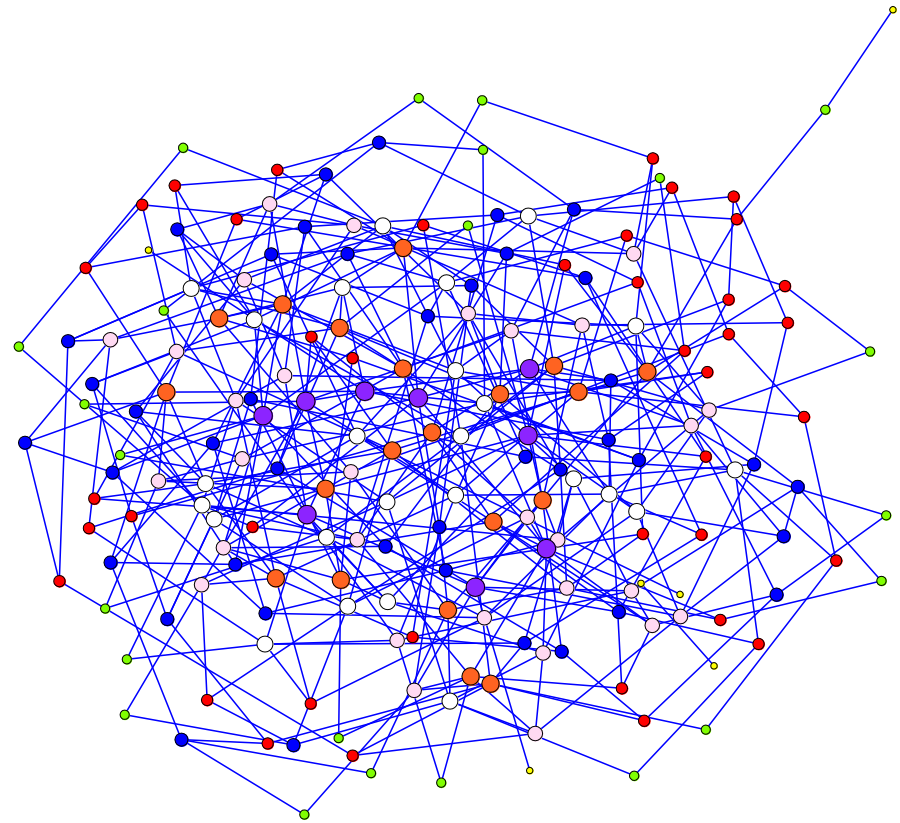
- No coherent definition
- Too broad to be a single area
- New name for old work = ***Hype***
- Too early to say
- No need to define a new field

[“Network Science”, nap.edu, 2005]



# Are networks providing new insights?

- Just another approach to statistical analysis and data mining
- Sometimes this is a better way to analyse
  - Gives new questions e.g. Small world definition
  - Gives new answers e.g. Small world models
- Brings the tools of Complexity
  - Scaling



**THANKS**

See <http://www.imperial.ac.uk/people/T.Evans>  
or  
search for *Tim Evans Networks*

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