# Spectral graph partitioning & Community structure of networks

CS 322: (Social and Information) Network Analysis Jure Leskovec Stanford University



#### **Announcements**

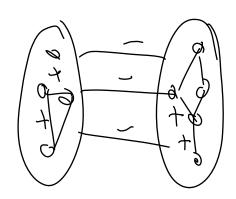
Task:

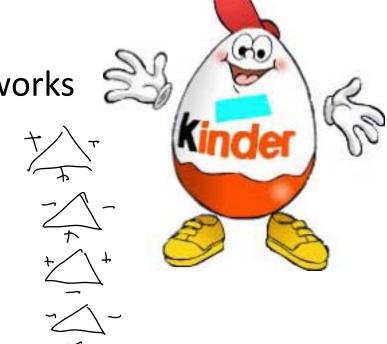
Find coalitions in signed networks

Awards:

Extra credit: 10%, 6%, 4%

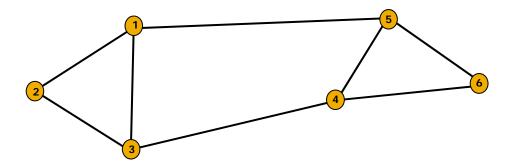
• European chocolates!



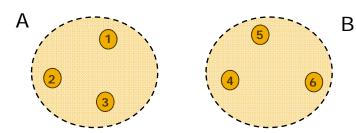


#### **Graph partitioning**

Graph G(V,E):



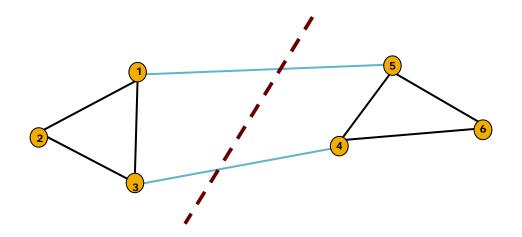
- Bi-partitioning task:
  - Divide vertices into two disjoint groups (A,B)



- Questions:
  - How can we define a "good" partition of the graph?
  - How can we efficiently identify such a partition?

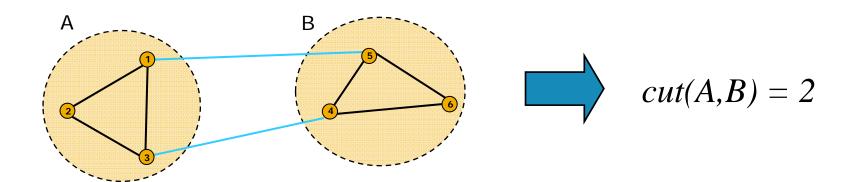
#### **Graph partitioning**

- Maximize the number of within-group connections
- Minimize the number of between-group connections



#### **Graph Cuts**

- Express partitioning objectives as a function of the "edge cut" of the partition.
- Cut: Set of edges with only one vertex in a group.  $cut(A,B) = \sum_{i \in A, j \in B} w_{ij}$



#### **Graph Cut Criteria**

- Criterion: Minimum-cut
  - Minimise weight of connections between groups  $min \ cut(A,B)$

Degenerate case:

Optimal cut

Minimum cut

- Problem:
  - Only considers external cluster connections
  - Does not consider internal cluster density

#### **Graph Cut Criteria**

- Criterion: Normalised-cut [Shi-Malik, '97]
  - Consider the connectivity between groups relative to the density of each group

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

- Normalize the association between groups by volume.
  - Vol(A): The total weight of the edges originating from group A.
- Why use this criterion?
  - Minimizing the normalized cut is equivalent to maximizing normalized association.
  - Produces more balanced partitions

#### Question

- How do we efficiently find a good partition?
- Problem:
  - Computing optimal cut is NP-hard

#### **Spectral Graph Partitioning**

- A = adjacency matrix of G
  - $A_{ij} = 1$  if (i,j) is an edge 0 else
- x is a vector in  $R^n = (x_1, ..., x_n)$ 
  - (just a labeling of the vertices of G)
- What is the meaning of Ax?

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

#### What is the meaning of Ax?

- Each entry x<sub>j</sub> is a sum of labels x<sub>i</sub> of all neighbors
- j<sup>th</sup> coordinate of Ax:

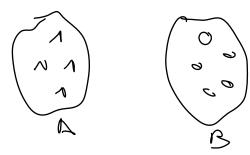
- $\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$
- Sum of the x-values at all neighbors of node j.
   Make this a new value at node j
- Spectral Graph Theory:
  - Analyse the "spectrum" of matrix representing a graph.
  - Spectrum : The eigenvectors of a graph, ordered by the magnitude(strength) of their corresponding eigenvalues.  $\Lambda = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, ..., \lambda_n\}$

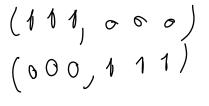
#### Example

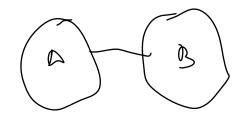
- Suppose all nodes in G have degree d (G is dregular) and G is connected
- What are some eigenvalues/vectors of G?
- $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \lambda \mathbf{x}$

#### Example

- What if G is not connected?
  - Say G has 2 components
- What are some eigenvectors?
  - All 1 on A and 0 on B or vice versa

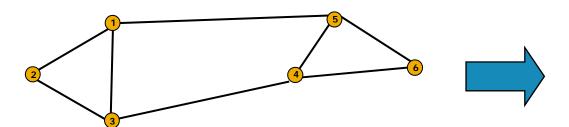






#### **Matrix Representations**

- Adjacency matrix (A):
  - n x n matrix
  - A=[a<sub>ij</sub>], a<sub>ij</sub>=1 if edge between node i and j

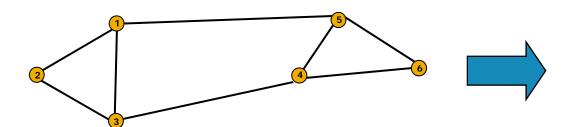


	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	1	1	0	1	0
2	1	0	1	0	0	0
3	1	1	0	1	0	0
4	0	0	1	0	1	1
5	1	0	0	1	0	1
6	0	0	0	1	1	0

- Important properties:
  - Symmetric matrix
  - Eigenvectors are real and orthogonal

#### Matrix Representations (continued)

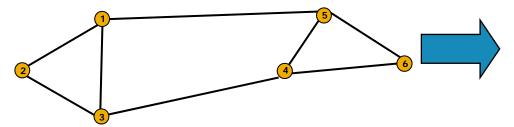
- Degree matrix (D)
  - n x n diagonal matrix
  - $D=[d_{ii}]$ ,  $d_{ii}$  = degree of node i



	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	თ	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	2	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	3	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	3	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	3	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	2

#### **Matrix Representations**

- Laplacian matrix (L):
  - n x n symmetric matrix



What is trivial eigenvector?

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	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	3	-1	-1	0	-1	0
2	-1	2	-1	0	0	0
3	-1	-1	3	-1	0	0
4	0	0	-1	3	-1	-1
5	-1	0	0	-1	3	-1
6	0	0	0	-1	-1	2

- Important properties:
  - Eigenvalues are non-negative real numbers
  - Eigenvectors are real and orthogonal

#### λ<sub>2</sub> as optimization problem

For symmetric matrix M:

$$\lambda_2 = \min \frac{x^T M x}{x^T x} = x^T M x$$

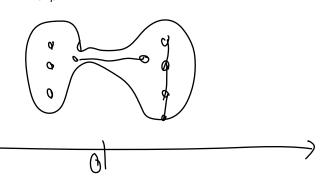
What is the meaning of min x<sup>T</sup>Lx on G?

$$x^T L x = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} (x_i - x_j)^2$$

## λ<sub>2</sub> as optimization problem

- What else do we know about x?
  - x is unit vector  $\leq \chi_i^2 = 1$
  - x is orthogonal to first eigenvector (1,...,1)

All labelings of nodes so that  $sum(x_i)=0$ 



#### Find Optimal Cut (Hall'70, Fiedler'73)

Express partition (A,B) as a vector

$$x_i = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } i \in A \\ -1 & \text{if } j \in B \end{cases}$$

• We can minimize the cut of the partition by finding a non-trivial vector x that minimizes:

$$f(x) = \sum_{(i,j)\in E} (x_i - x_j)^2$$

#### Rayleigh Theorem

$$f(x) = \sum_{(i,j)\in E} (x_i - x_j)^2 = x^T L x$$

- The minimum value is given by the 2<sup>nd</sup> smallest eigenvalue λ<sub>2</sub> of the Laplacian matrix L
- The optimal solution for x is given by the corresponding eigenvector λ<sub>2</sub>, referred as the Fiedler Vector

#### So far...

- How can we define a "good" partition of a graph?
  - Minimise a given graph cut criterion.
  - How can we efficiently identify such a partition?
    - Approximate using information provided by the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of a graph.
  - Spectral Clustering (Simon et. al,'90)

#### **Spectral Clustering Algorithms**

#### Three basic stages:

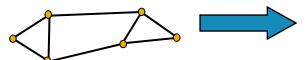
- 1. Pre-processing
  - Construct a matrix representation of the graph
- Decomposition:
  - Compute eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the matrix
  - Map each point to a lower-dimensional representation based on one or more eigenvectors

#### 3. Grouping:

 Assign points to two or more clusters, based on the new representation

## **Spectral Partitioning Algorithm**

- Pre-processing
  - Build Laplacian matrix L of the graph



	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	3	-1	-1	0	-1	0
2	-1	2	-1	0	0	0
3	-1	-1	3	-1	0	0
4	0	0	-1	3	-1	-1
5	-1	0	0	-1	3	-1
6	0	0	0	-1	-1	2

- Decomposition
  - Find eigenvalues λ
     and eigenvectors x
     of the matrix L





X =

1	0.3
2	0.6
3	0.3
4	-0.3
5	-0.3
6	-0.6

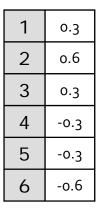
0.4	0.3	-0.5	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5
0.4	0.6	0.4	-0.4	0.4	0.0
0.4	0.3	0.1	0.6	-0.4	0.5
0.4	-0.3	0.1	0.6	0.4	-0.5
0.4	-0.3	-0.5	-0.2	0.4	-0.5
0.4	0.6	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	0.0

How do we find the clusters?

#### Spectral Partitioning (continued)

- Grouping
  - Sort components of reduced 1-dimensional vector.
  - Identify clusters by splitting the sorted vector in two.
- How to choose a splitting point?
  - Naïve approaches:
    - Split at 0, mean or median value
  - More expensive approaches
    - Attempt to minimise normalized cut criterion in 1-dimension







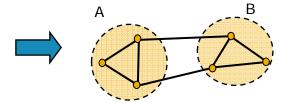
#### Split at o

Cluster A: Positive points

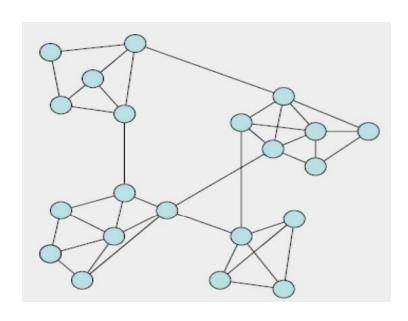
Cluster B: Negative points

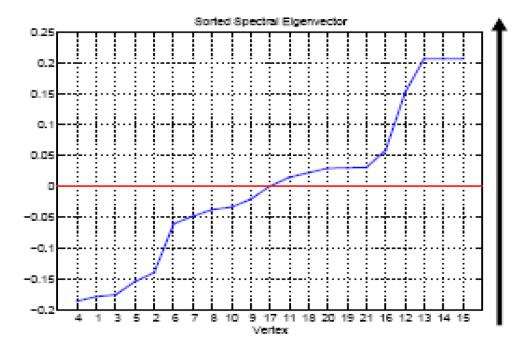
1	0.3
2	0.6
3	0.3





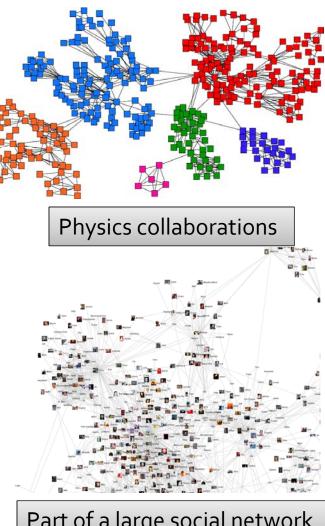
## Example





#### Community structure in networks

- What is the cluster structure of networks?
- How does it scale from small to very large networks?
- How to think about clusters in large networks?



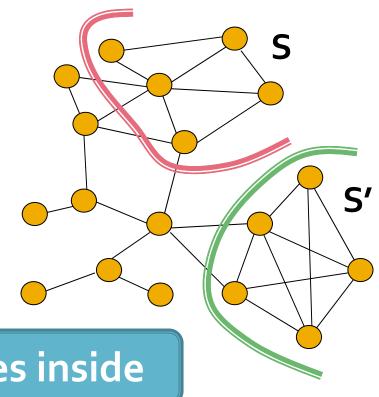
Part of a large social network

#### Objective function

#### What is a good cluster?

- Many edges internally
- Few pointing outside

Formally, conductance/ normalized cut:

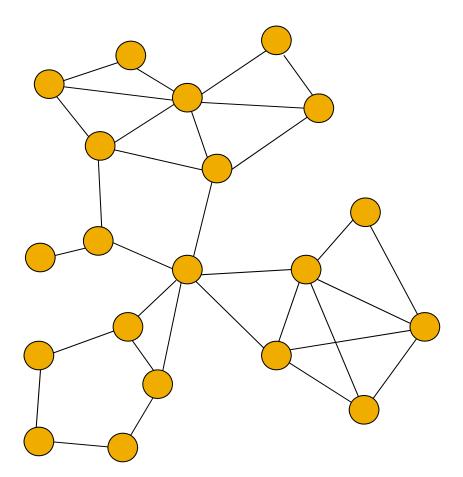


 $\Phi(S) = \# \text{ edges cut } / \# \text{ edges inside}$ 

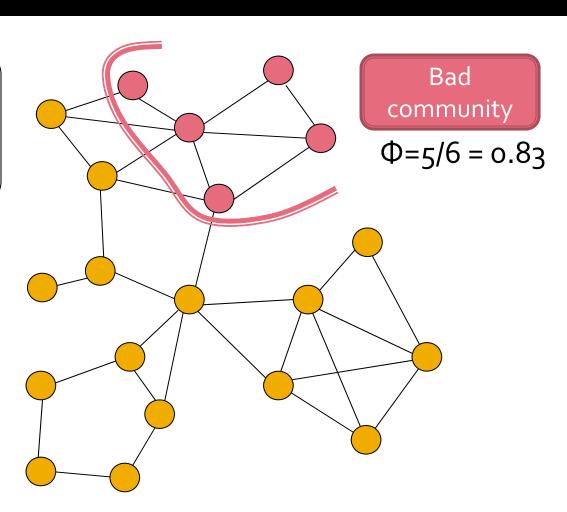
**Small**  $\Phi(S)$  corresponds to good clusters

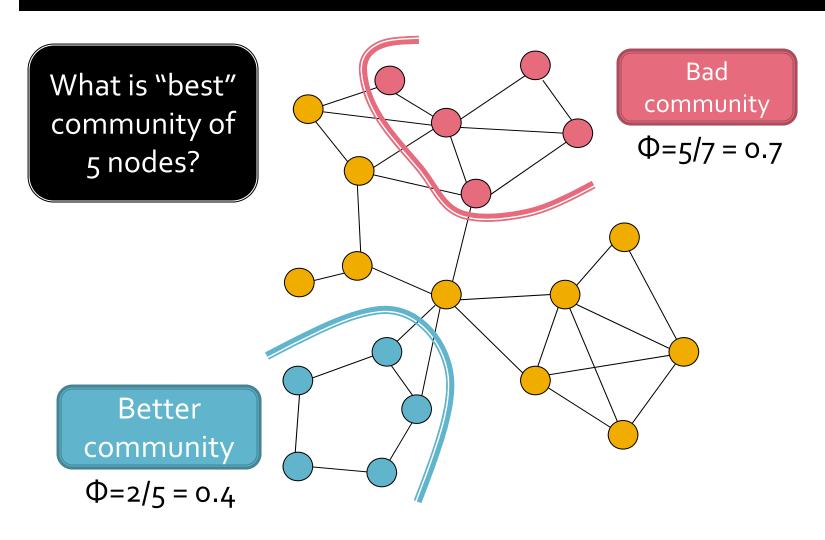
What method to use to optimize the objective function?

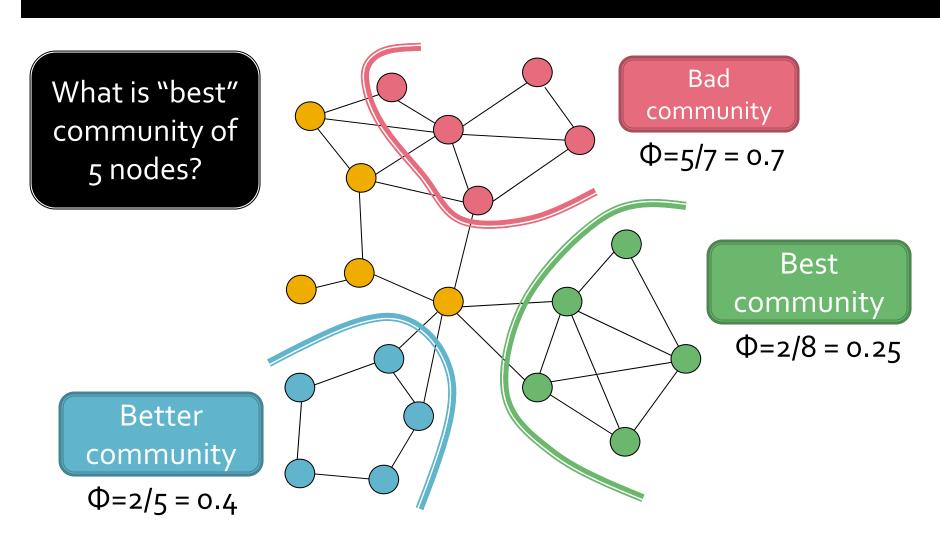
What is "best" community of 5 nodes?



What is "best" community of 5 nodes?







## Quantifying community structure

 So far we defined the measure that quantifies how cluster-like is a set of nodes

 Now, we want to define a measure of how expressed are the clusters in the network overall

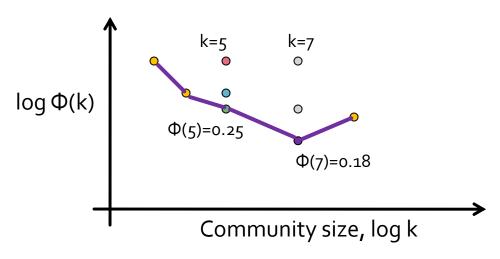
## **Network Community Profile Plot**

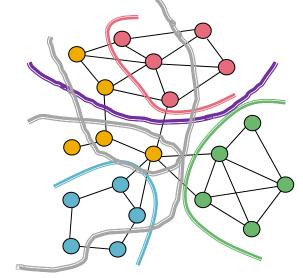
#### Define:

Network community profile (NCP) plot

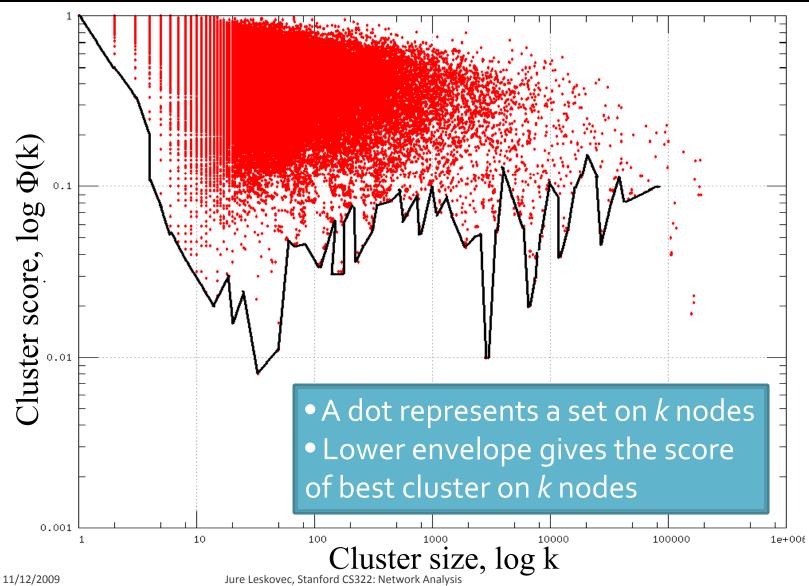
Plot the score of best community of size *k* 

$$\Phi(k) = \min_{S \subset V, |S| = k} \phi(S)$$





## **Network Community Profile Plot**

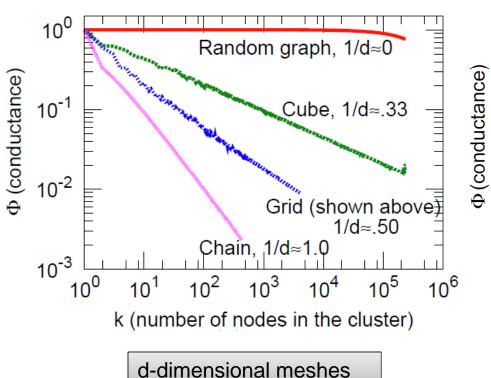


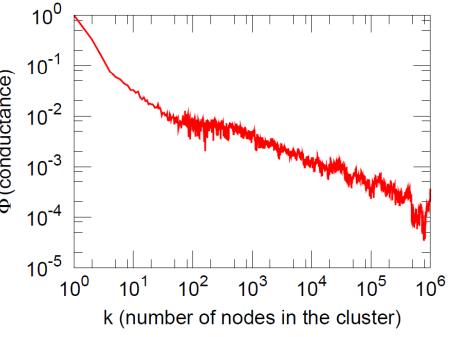
## **Probing networks**

- Computing NCP is NP-hard
- Use algorithms to extract clusters:
  - Spectral clustering
  - Girvan-Newman/Modularity optimization: popular heuristics
  - Metis (multi-resolution heuristic): common in practice [Karypis
  - Local Spectral connected and tighter sets
     [Andersen-Chung 07]

#### NCP plot: Meshes

#### Meshes, grids, dense random graphs:

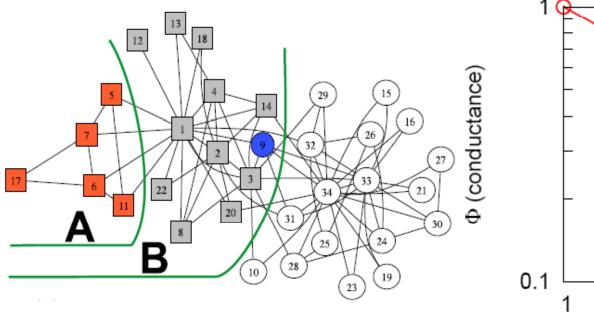


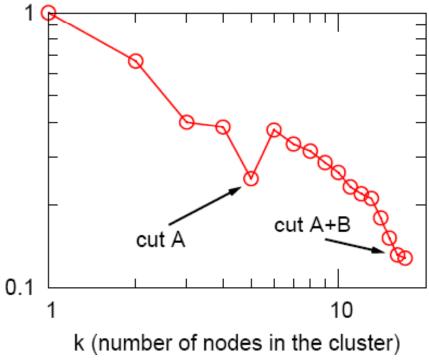


California road network

#### NCP plot: Small social networks

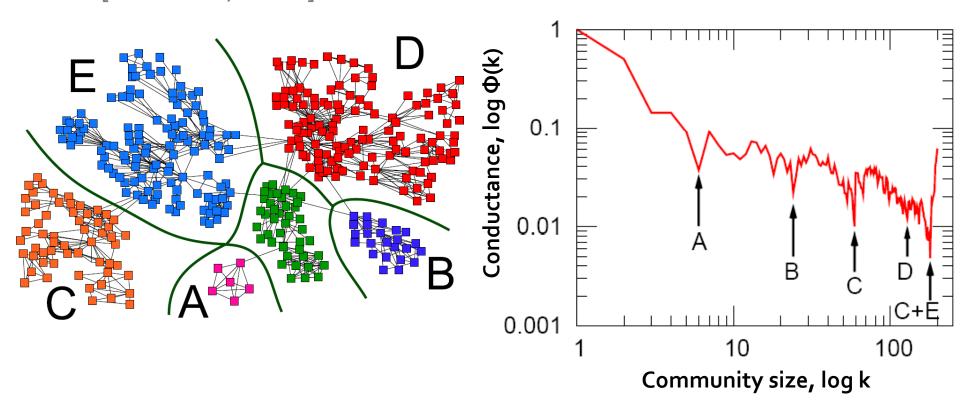
Zachary's university karate club social network



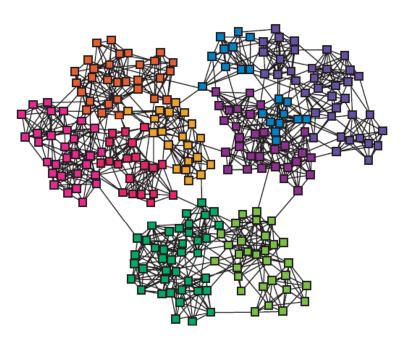


#### NCP plot: Network Science

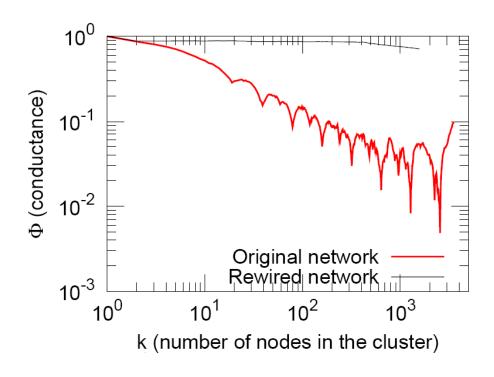
 Collaborations between scientists in networks [Newman, 2005]



#### NCP plot: Hierarchical networks



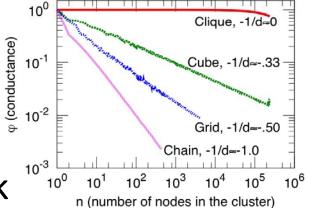
[Clauset-Moore-Newman o8]



#### Natural hypothesis

#### Natural hypothesis about NCP:

- NCP of real networks slopes downward
- Slope of the NCP corresponds to the dimensionality of the network



What about large networks?

• Social nets	Nodes	Edges	Description			
LIVEJOURNAL EPINIONS CA-DBLP	4,843,953 75,877 317,080	42,845,684 405,739 1,049,866	Blog friendships [5] Trust network [28] Co-authorship [5]			
• Information (	citation) net	works				
Cit-hep-th AmazonProd	27,400 524,371	352,021 1,491,793	Arxiv hep-th [14] Amazon products [8]			
• Web graphs						
Web-google Web-wt10g	855,802 1,458,316	4,291,352 6,225,033	Google web graph TREC WT10G			
<ul> <li>Bipartite affil</li> </ul>	iation (auth	ors-to-papers)	networks			
ATP-DBLP ATM-IMDB	615,678 2,076,9	944,456	DBLP [21]			
• Internet networks We examined more than						
AsSkitter Gnutella	1,719,0 62,5 100 large networks					

## Large networks: Very different

## Typical example: General Relativity collaborations (n=4,158, m=13,422)

