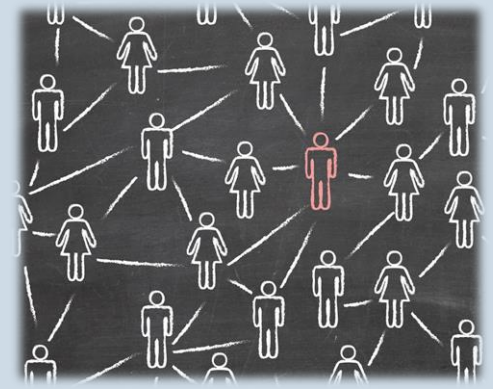


EFFICIENT ALGORITHMS FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF DIFFUSION PROCESSES ON NETWORKS

APPLICATION IN EPIDEMIOLOGY AND MARKETING



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Joint work with Kevin Scaman and Nicolas Vayatis



Big Data et politiques publiques dans les
transports : séminaire d'information et
d'acculturation

Paris, 15 October 2015

DIFFUSION PROCESSES ON NETWORKS

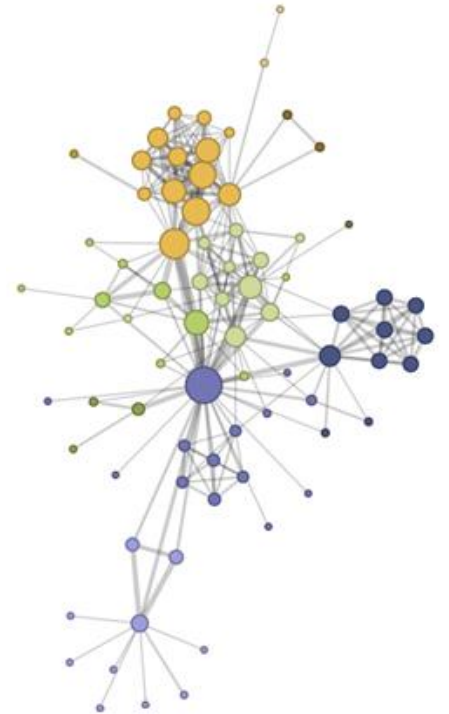
Basics

DPs arise in systems with interconnected agents (real or electronic network)

- each agent has a *variable state*
- agent behavior depends on, and propagates to, its close environment
- the propagation causes changes in agents' state according to some “*rules*”

Propagating entities: ***from disease epidemics to... digital and social epidemics***

- *Epidemiology*: diseases/viruses
- *Computer systems*: computer viruses, fault cascade, computational errors (e.g. sensor networks)
- *Social and information networks*: information, ideas, rumors, social behaviors...



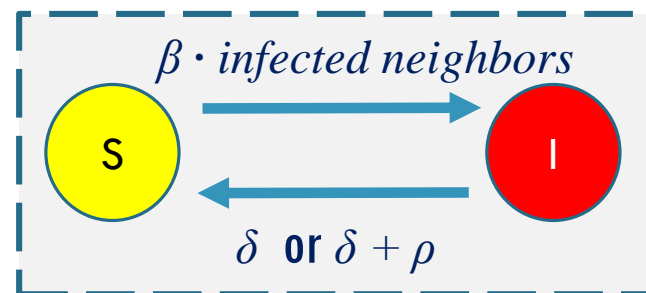
DIFFUSION PROCESSES ON NETWORKS

Diffusion Models – SIS demonstration

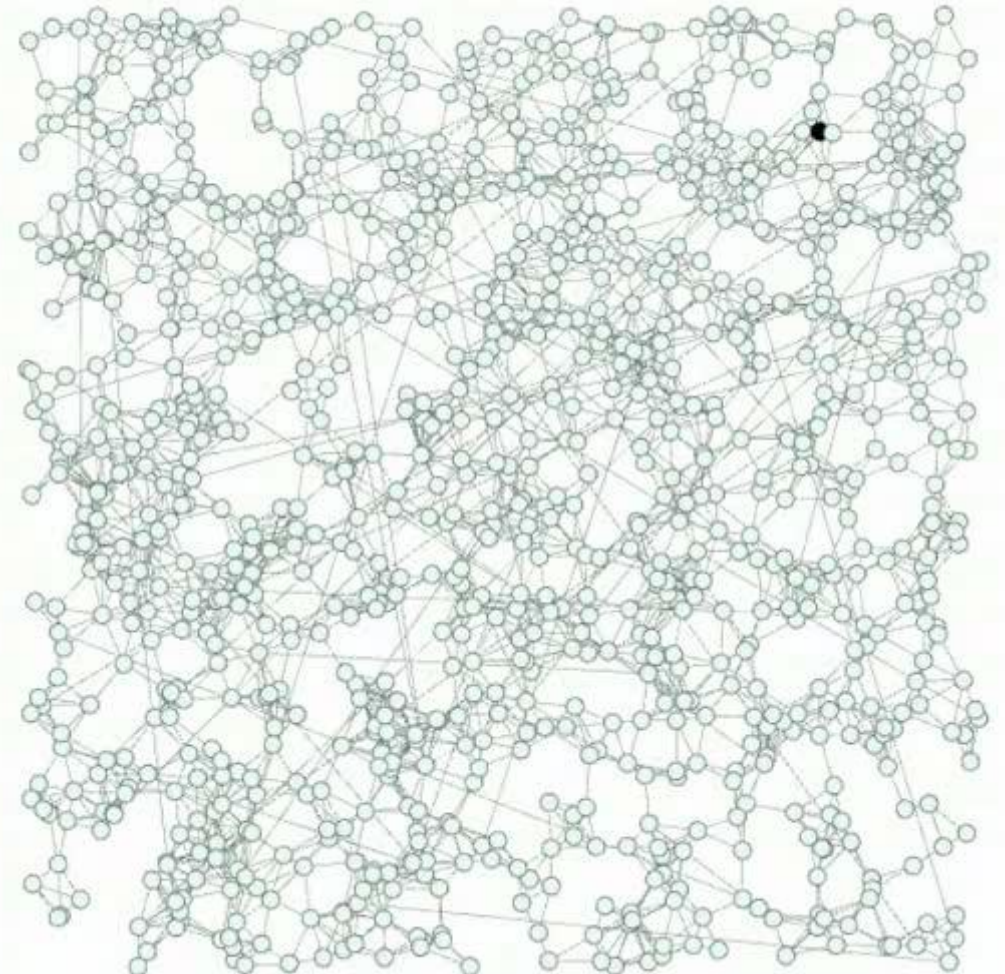
Diffusion model

- a mathematical model that encodes the “*propagation rules*”
- no single model able to describe all possible complex diffusion phenomena
- well-studied: **Compartmental Models** from epidemiology (SIS, SIR, SEIR, ...)

Continuous-time SIS
model
for one node



SIS diffusion process in a contact network



Watch on youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGSKHxSD-40>

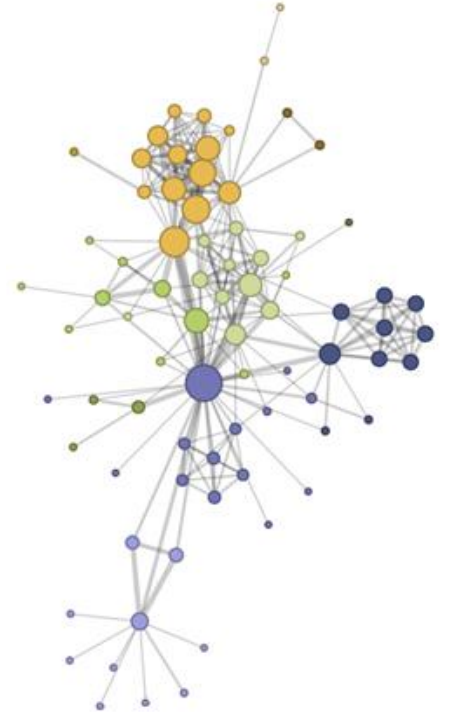
DIFFUSION PROCESSES ON NETWORKS

Directions of research

Depending on the situation, a DP can be desired or undesired

Roughly three directions of research

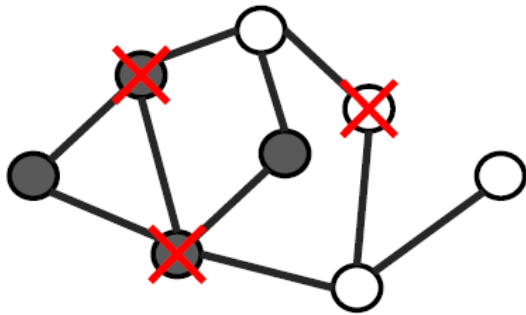
- **Network assessment:** worst case analysis, risk/vulnerability assessment
- **DP engineering:** influence maximization, (viral) marketing
- **DP suppression and control:** containment of viruses, rumors, social behaviors, etc., using *control actions*.



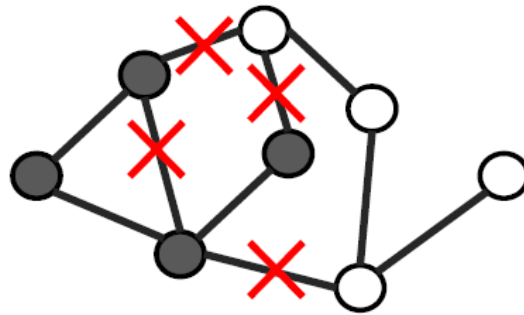
DIFFUSION SUPPRESSION AND CONTROL

Possible control actions

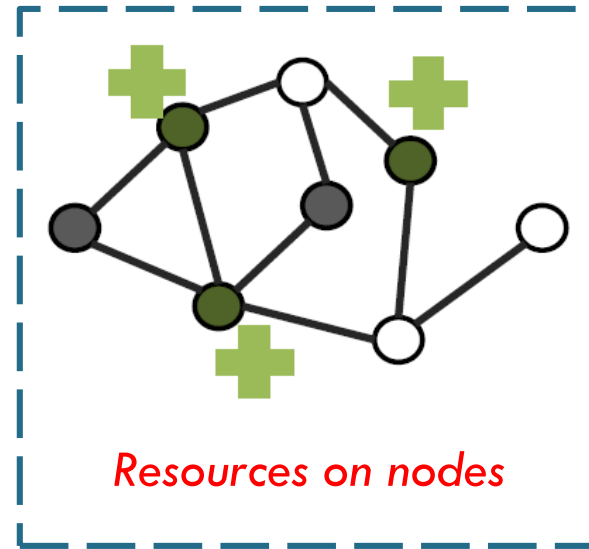
DP suppression and control using **control actions** on nodes or edges, such as:



Node deletion



Edge deletion

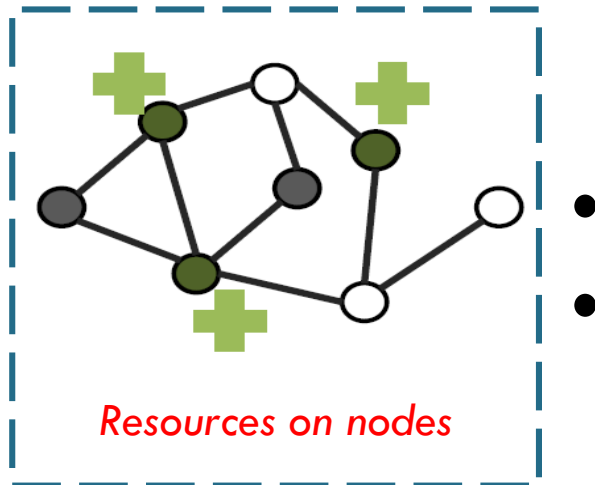


Resources on nodes

DIFFUSION SUPPRESSION AND CONTROL

Healing resources on nodes – more variations

DP suppression and control using **control actions** on nodes, such as:



preventive

vaccines

preparatory

antidotes

Dynamic Resource Allocation

corrective

treatments

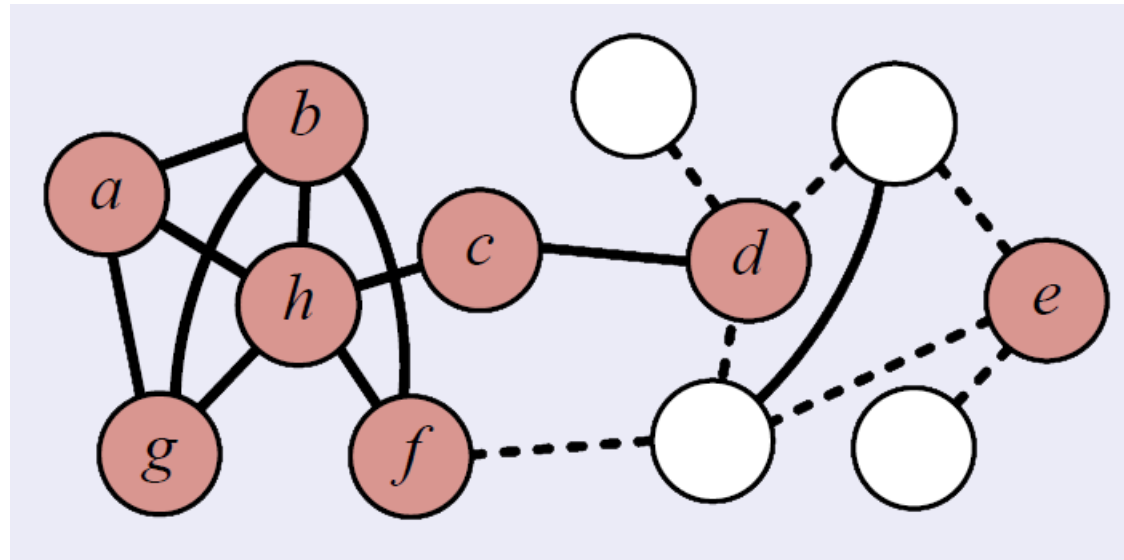
Our setup

- a budget of b_{tot} treatments is available at any moment
- offer additional recovery rate ρ to a receiver infected node

GREEDY DYNAMIC RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Largest Reduction of Infectious Edges (LRIE) Strategy [1, 2]

Toy example



LRIE node ranking:

Priority 1: *e*

Priority 2: *d*

Priority 3: *f*

...

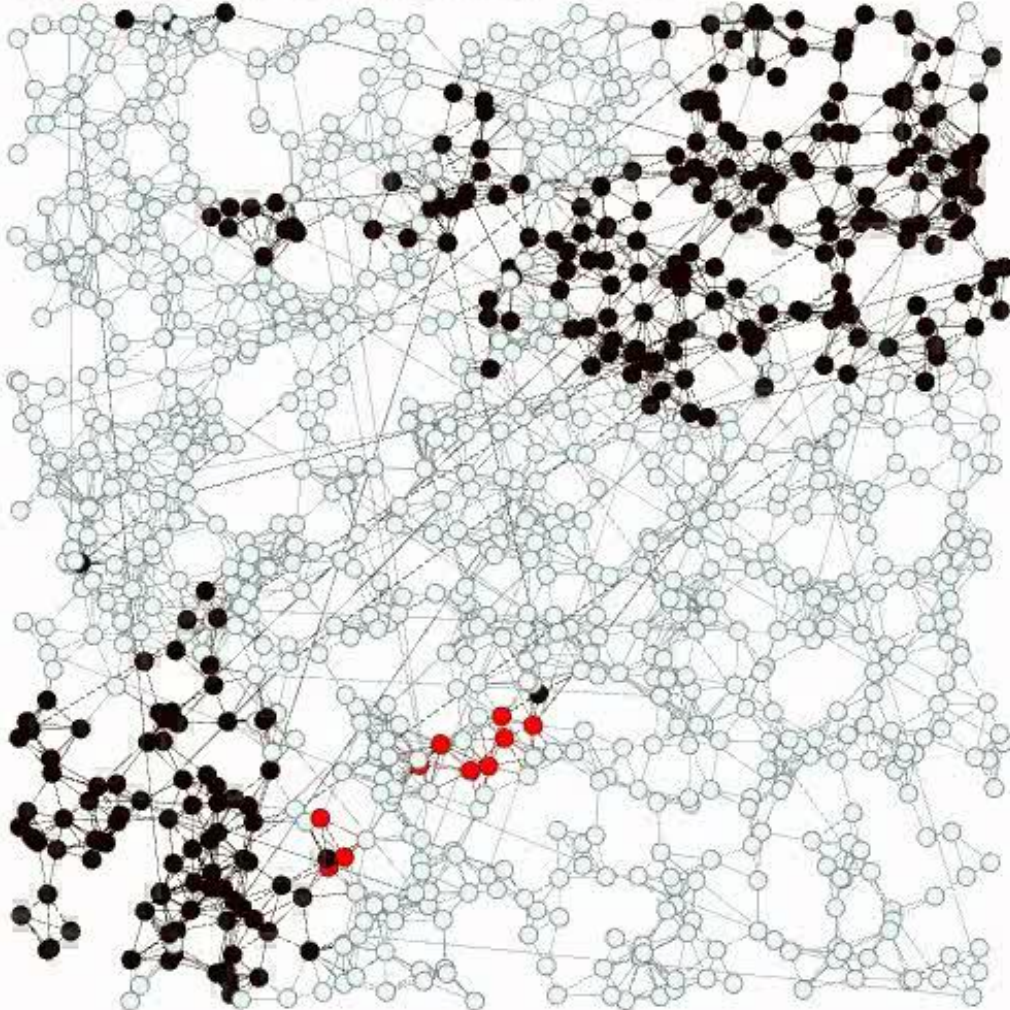
- The red nodes are infected, the dashed edges are ***infectious***
- Node ***h*** is the most central
- Node ***e*** and ***d*** are the most viral (can infect others)
- Node ***e*** is the safest

GREEDY DYNAMIC RESOURCE ALLOCATION

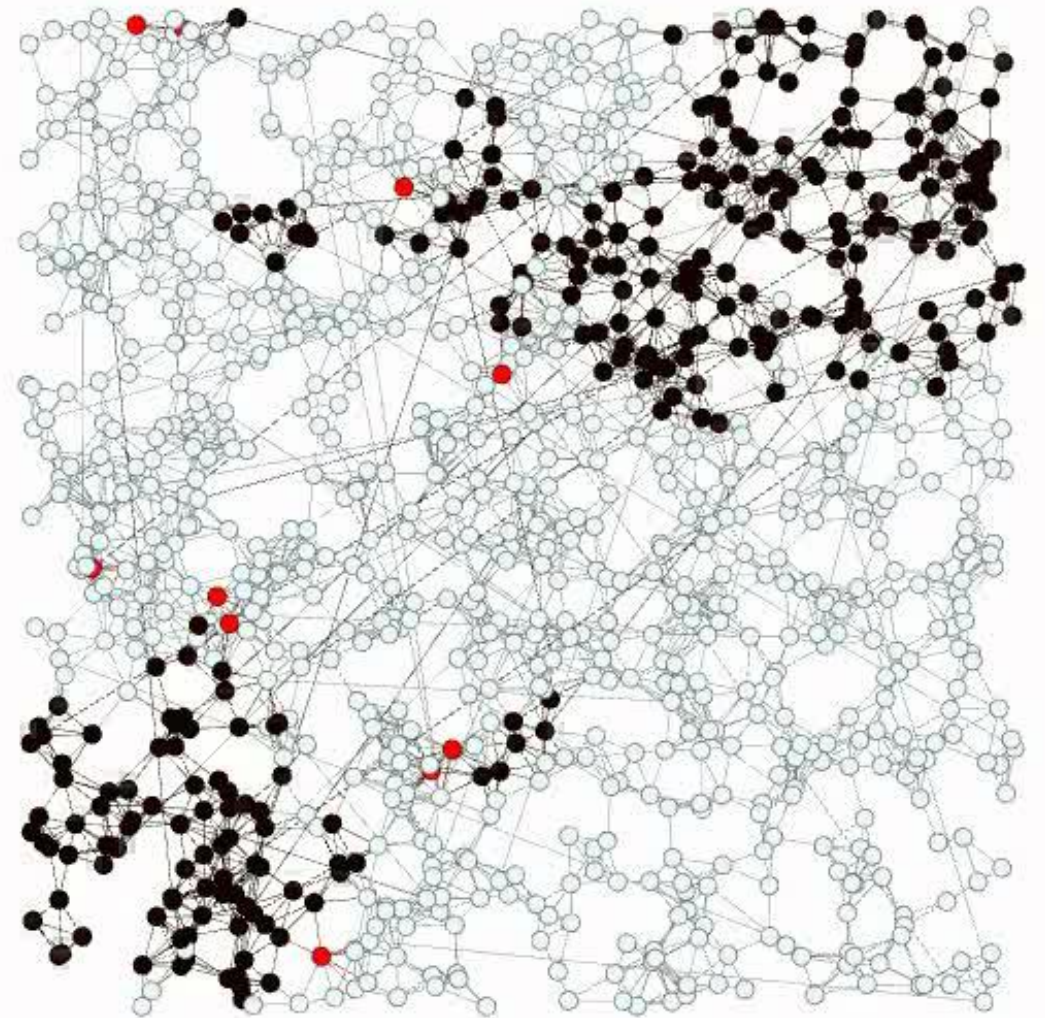
Demonstration

Comparison of Resource Allocation strategies for diffusion control

Largest Reduction of Spectral Radius - LRSR



Largest Reduction of Infectious Edges - LRIE



Watch on youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xS-0p7h1OeM>

PROBLEM SOLVED ?

Question

Is there a way to make an efficient plan by respecting the network properties and follow it persistently throughout the whole process ?

What kind of guarantee could be provided ?

GLOBAL PRIORITY PLANNING

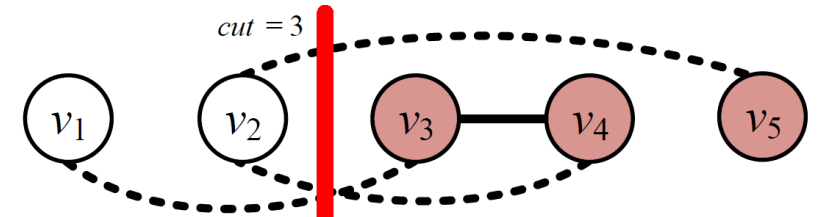
MaxCut Minimization (MCM) Strategy [3, 4]

MCM strategy

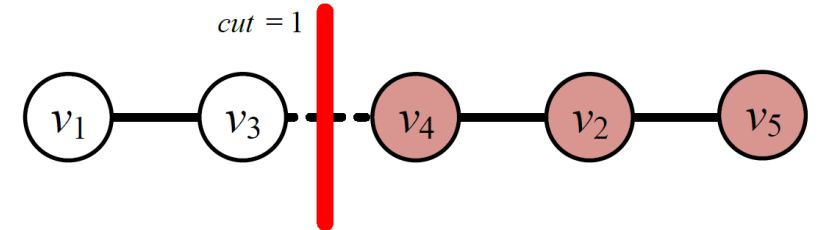
- seeks for the priority-order ℓ with the **minimum maxcut** $C^*(\ell)$ of edges
- heals the b_{tot} leftmost infected nodes in ℓ
- we proved a strong connection between the *expected extinction time* and the *most difficult step of the plan* which would need a suppression efficiency $\sim \beta C^*(\ell)$:

$$b_{tot}(\rho + \delta) > \beta C^*(\ell)$$

Toy example



(a) Priority-order $\ell: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$



(b) Priority-order $\ell': \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \{1, 3, 4, 2, 5\}$

- The red nodes are infected, the dashed edges are **infectious**
- The red vertical line denotes the **front** separating the healthy (left) from the infected part (right) of the network

GLOBAL PRIORITY PLANNING

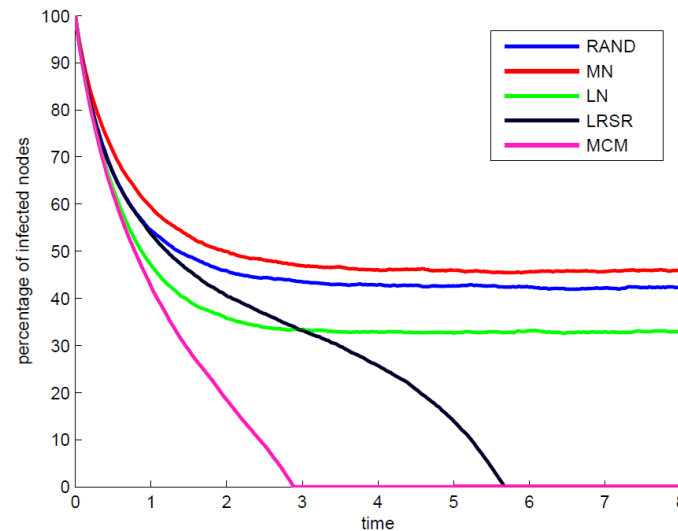
Experiments with simulated diffusions on real network

*Subset of Twitter network
with 81.306 nodes*

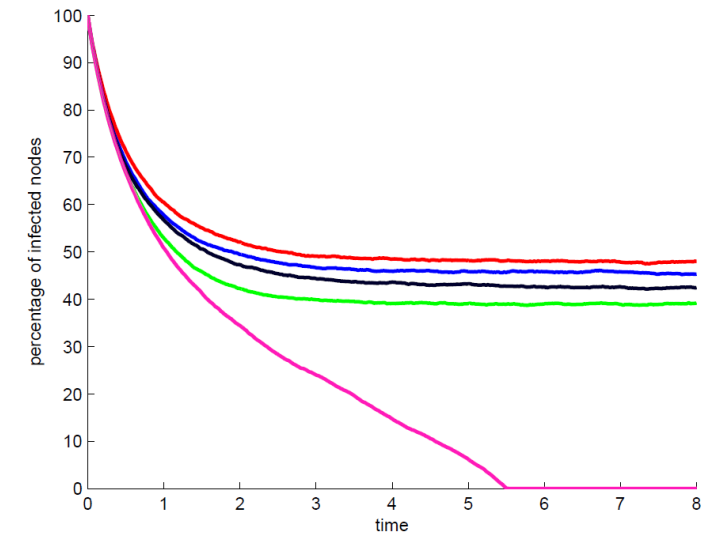


*MCM can remove the contagion
with ~5 times less resources
than its best competitor !!*

Strategy	Maxcut	Maxcut % w.r.t. RAND	Expected resource threshold ($\delta = 1, \beta = 0.1, q = 100$)
RAND	670,000 \pm 1000	100.0 %	67,000
MN	628,571	93.8 %	62,957
LN	628,571	93.8 %	62,957
LRSR	349,440	52.2 %	34,944
MCM	71,956	10.7 %	7,196



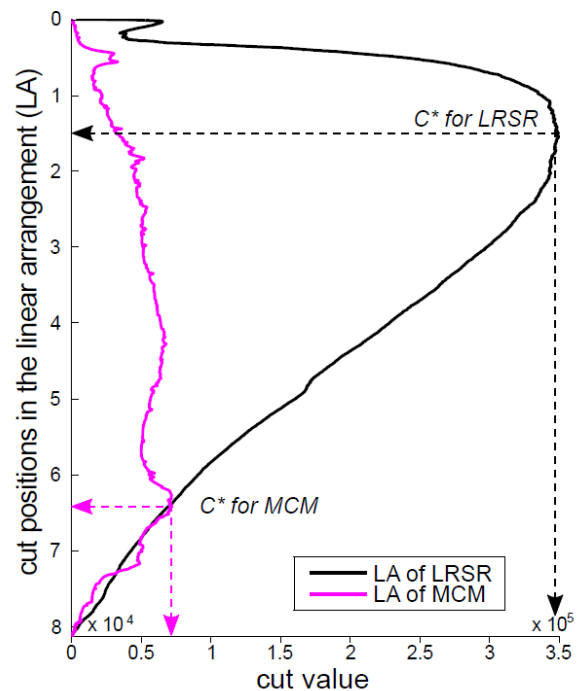
(a) high resource budget: $r = 20,000$



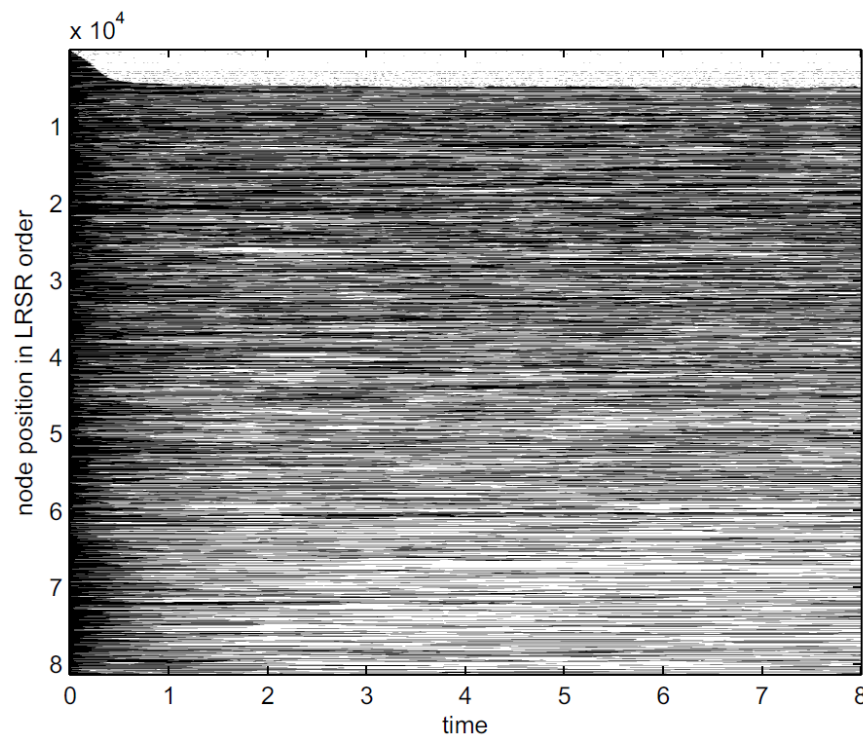
(b) low resource budget: $r = 12,000$

GLOBAL PRIORITY PLANNING

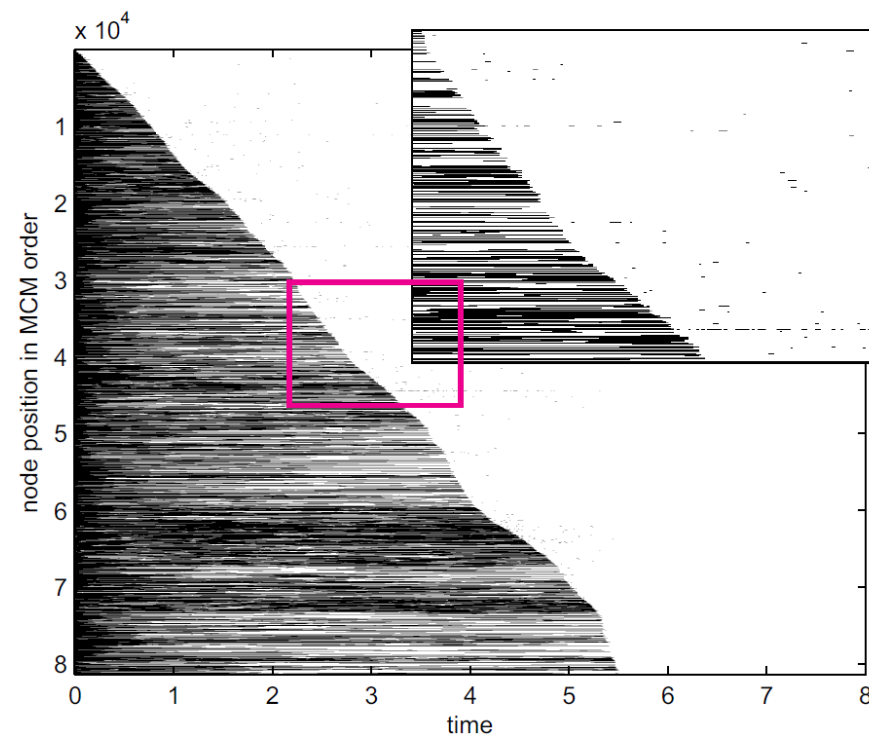
Experiments on a subset of Twitter graph



(c) cuts and maxcuts



(d) network state under LRSR



(e) network state under MCM

APPLICATIONS

Potential playground for diffusion control

- **Google Flu Trends**
- **Monitoring Ebola Outbreak**
- **Foursquare check-ins**
- **Social behaviors: the case of *obesity***

APPLICATIONS

Epidemics

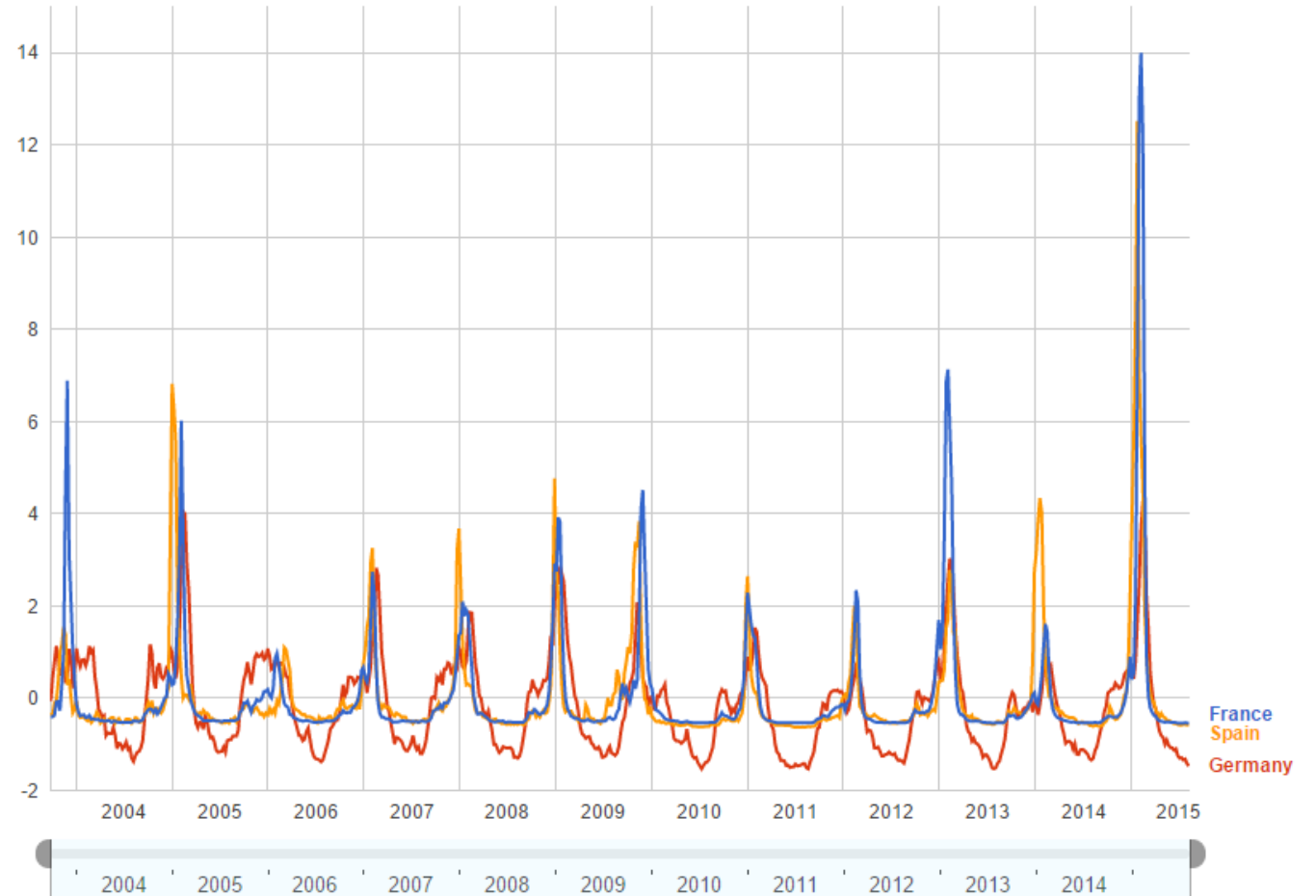
Google Flu Trends (2008-2015)

- claiming to predict the flu trend with 97% accuracy

The figure shows:

- google search activity about flu
- comparison between France, Spain, and Germany
- period: 12/2004 – 08/2015

Flu search activity (standard deviation from baseline)



Data from Google Inc. Last updated: Aug 19, 2015

Source: <http://www.google.com/publicdata/>

APPLICATIONS

Epidemics

Google Flu Trends (2008-2015)

- claiming to predict the flu trend with 97% accuracy

The video shows:

- worldwide google search activity about flu
- period: 12/2002 – 08/2015



Data from Google Inc. Last updated: Aug 19, 2015

Source: <http://www.google.com/publicdata/>

APPLICATIONS

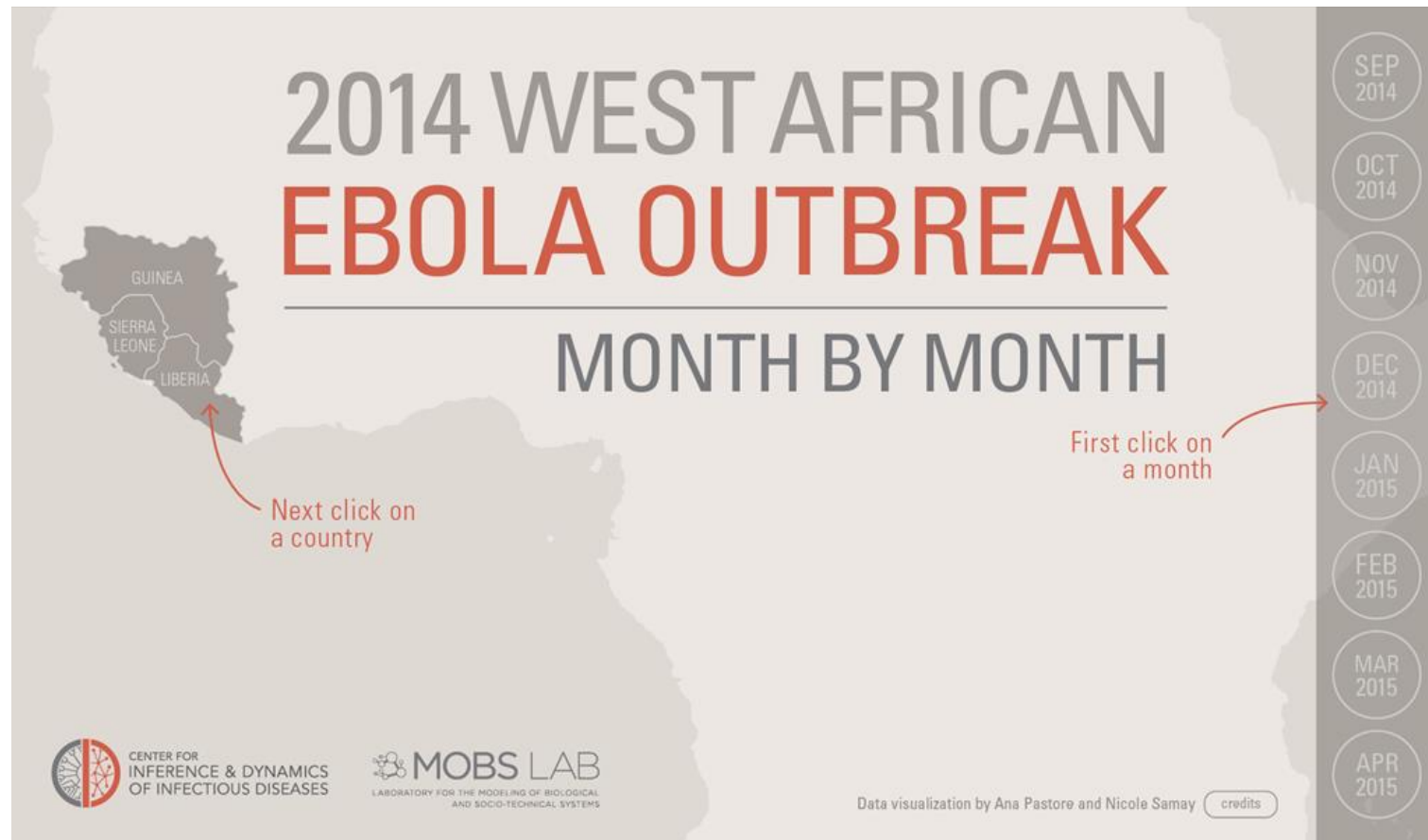
Epidemics - transportation

Monitoring Ebola Outbreak (2014-2015)

- using medical records and Ebola news mentions for predicting the spread
- developed by **MOBS Lab**, Northeastern University, Boston

The figure shows:

- monthly reports for the Ebola outbreak
- period: 09/014 – 04/2015



Source: <http://www.mobs-lab.org/ebola.html>

APPLICATIONS

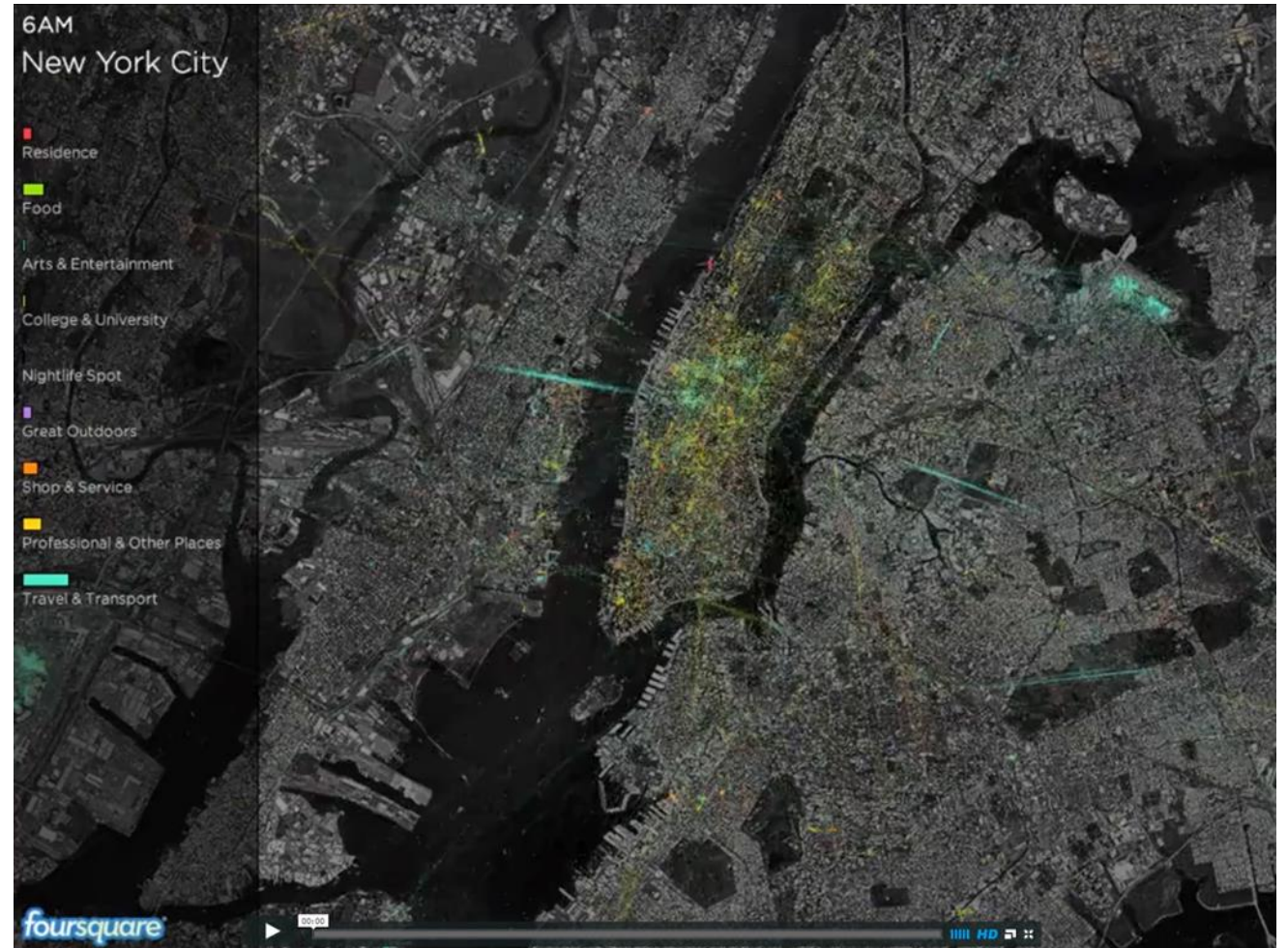
Transportation - urban mobility

Foursquare check-ins

- check-in of users to places, e.g. restaurants, cafes, museums, etc.

The video shows:

- the underlying flow of people indicated by their check-ins
- period: 1 day in 2014



Source: <http://foursquare.com/infographics/pulse>

APPLICATIONS

Social behaviors - obesity

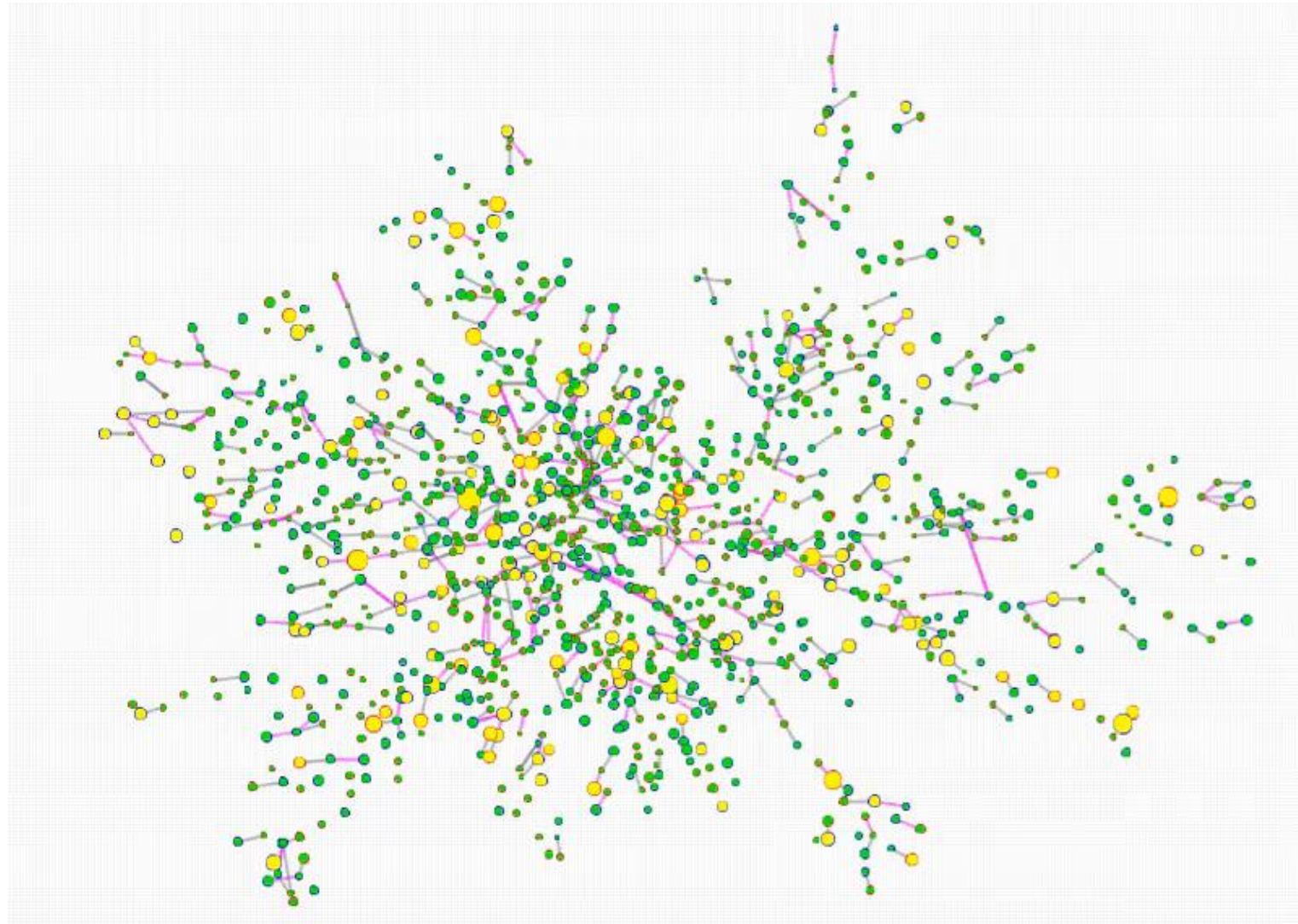
Social behaviors are diffusive

The case of *obesity*:

- Records for 2.200 people of a community for over 32 years

The video shows:

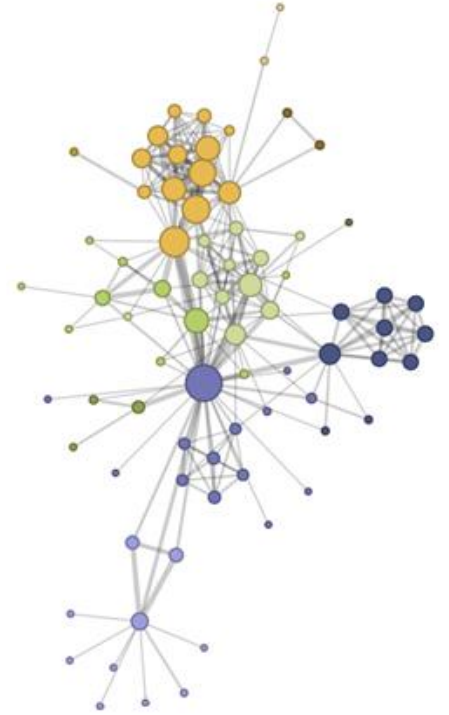
- the evolution of BMI index of the population and how obesity (larger yellow circles) diffuses and creates clusters
- study: 2007, data: 1971-2003



Source: *The Spread of Obesity in a Large Social Network over 32 Years*, 2007 [5].

CONCLUSION

- Diffusion processes and control
- We presented two efficient methods for dynamic resource allocation
 - Computational approaches that can be applied in multiple network resolutions
 - They can be used for epidemic control, MCM also as an assessment tool
 - a. The **MaxCut** assesses the quality of a plan
 - b. The **Minimum MaxCut** assess the resource needs of a network
- DPs are super-significant in the new socio-economic context
 - the potential playground for large-scale DP control was illustrated
 - some applications interesting for the public affairs and private sector were highlighted



REFERENCES

- [1] ***A Greedy Approach for Dynamic Control of Diffusion Processes in Networks***, K. Scaman, A. Kalogeratos, and N. Vayatis, to appear in the IEEE International Conference on Tools with Artificial Intelligence (ICTAI), November 9-12, 2015 -- [[pdf](#)][[suppl. material](#)] ::||:: [[software](#)].
- [2] ***Dynamic Treatment Allocation for Epidemic Control in Arbitrary Networks***, K. Scaman, A. Kalogeratos, N. Vayatis, to appear in WSDM 2014 Diffusion in Networks and Cascade Analytics (DiffNet) Workshop, February 2014 -- [[workshop link](#)][[pdf](#)][[slides](#)][[poster](#)].
- [3] ***What Makes a Good Plan? An Efficient Planning Approach to Control Diffusion Processes in Networks***, K. Scaman, A. Kalogeratos, and N. Vayatis, CORR arXiv:1407.4760, 18 pages, July 17, 2014 -- [[arXiv link](#)][[pdf](#)].
- [4] ***Suppressing epidemics on Networks with Treatments of Limited Efficiency***, K. Scaman, A. Kalogeratos, and N. Vayatis, *paper under journal review*, 2015.
- [5] ***The Spread of Obesity in a Large Social Network over 32 Years***, N. A. Christakis, J. H. Fowler, N. Engl. J. Med. 357;4, 2007.

RESOURCES

[1] Google Flu Trends, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Flu_Trends.

[2] Foursquare, <http://www.fastcodesign.com/3018574>.

[3] MOBS Lab, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, US, <http://www.mobs-lab.org>.

QUESTIONS

Thank you!

