

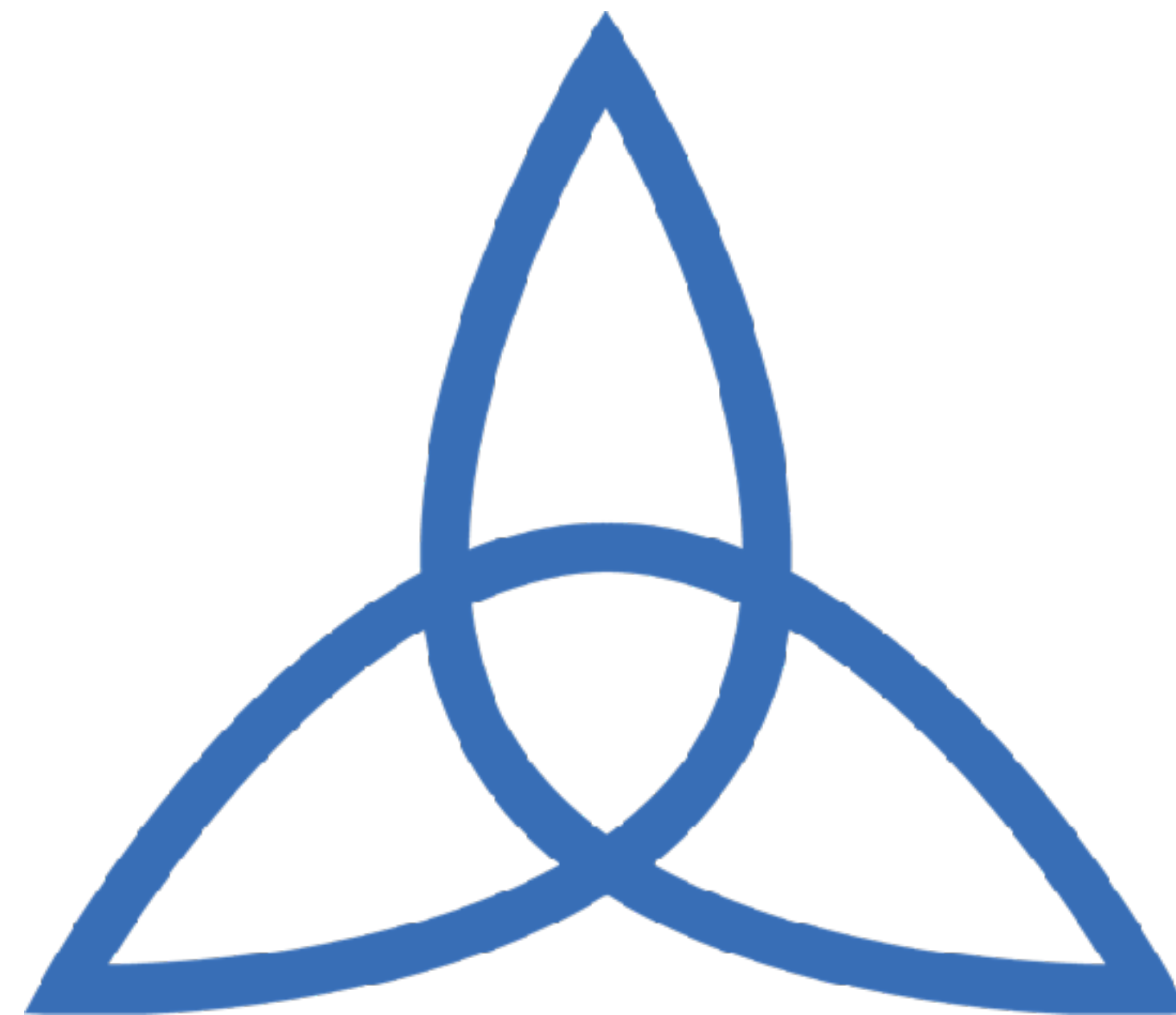
# Diffusion et propagation de l'information

**17ème école d'été de Peyresq**  
en traitement du signal et des images

**Francesco Pinotti**

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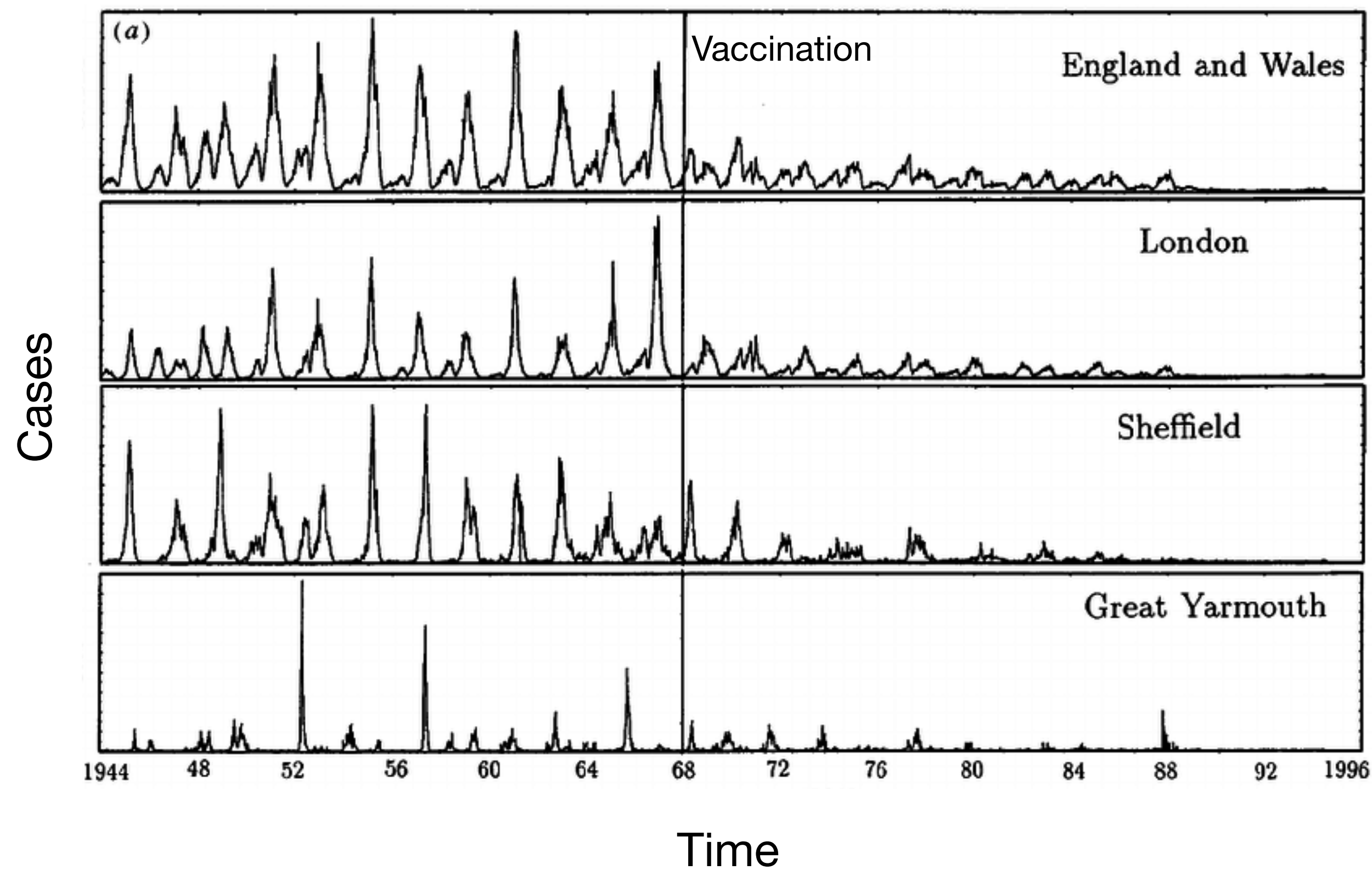


# Outline

- Modelling epidemics
- Epidemics on networks
- Spatial and metapopulation models
- Agent-based models

# **Modelling epidemics**

# Measles (1944-1996)



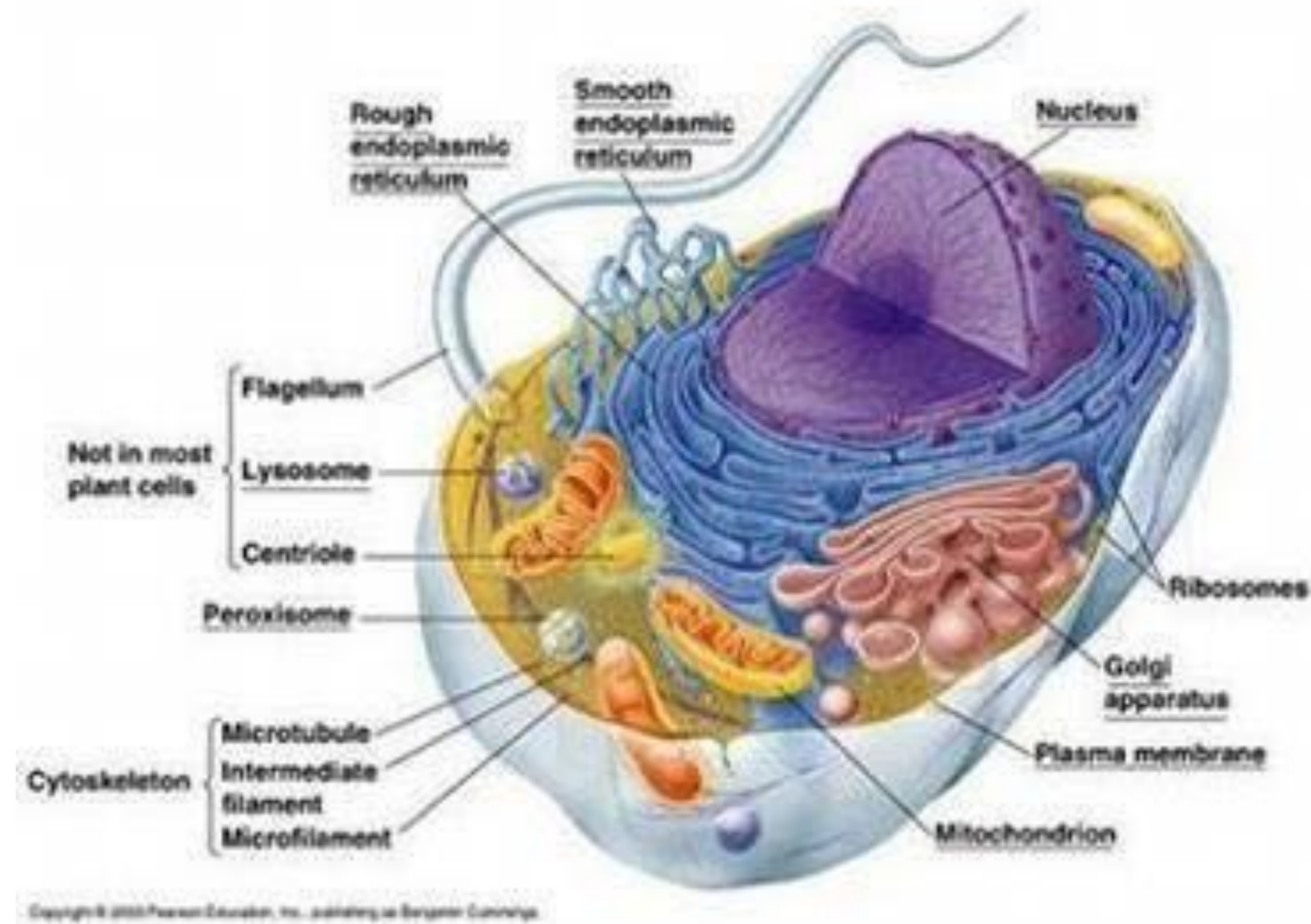
## Potential questions

- Why 2 year gaps before vaccination?
- National vs subnational epidemics?
- Impact of vaccination?

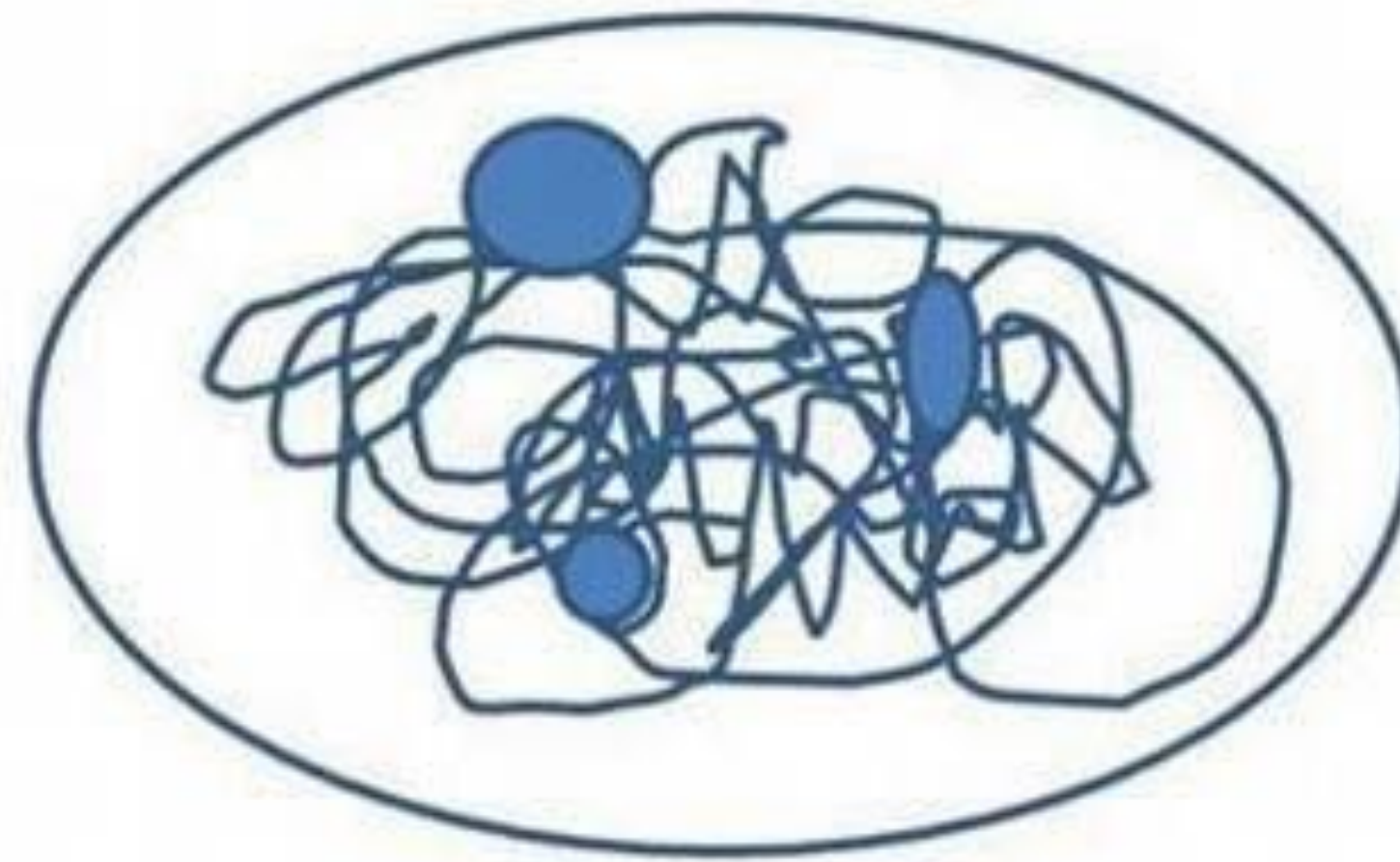


## Mathematical modelling

# The view of a cell by:



**a biologist**



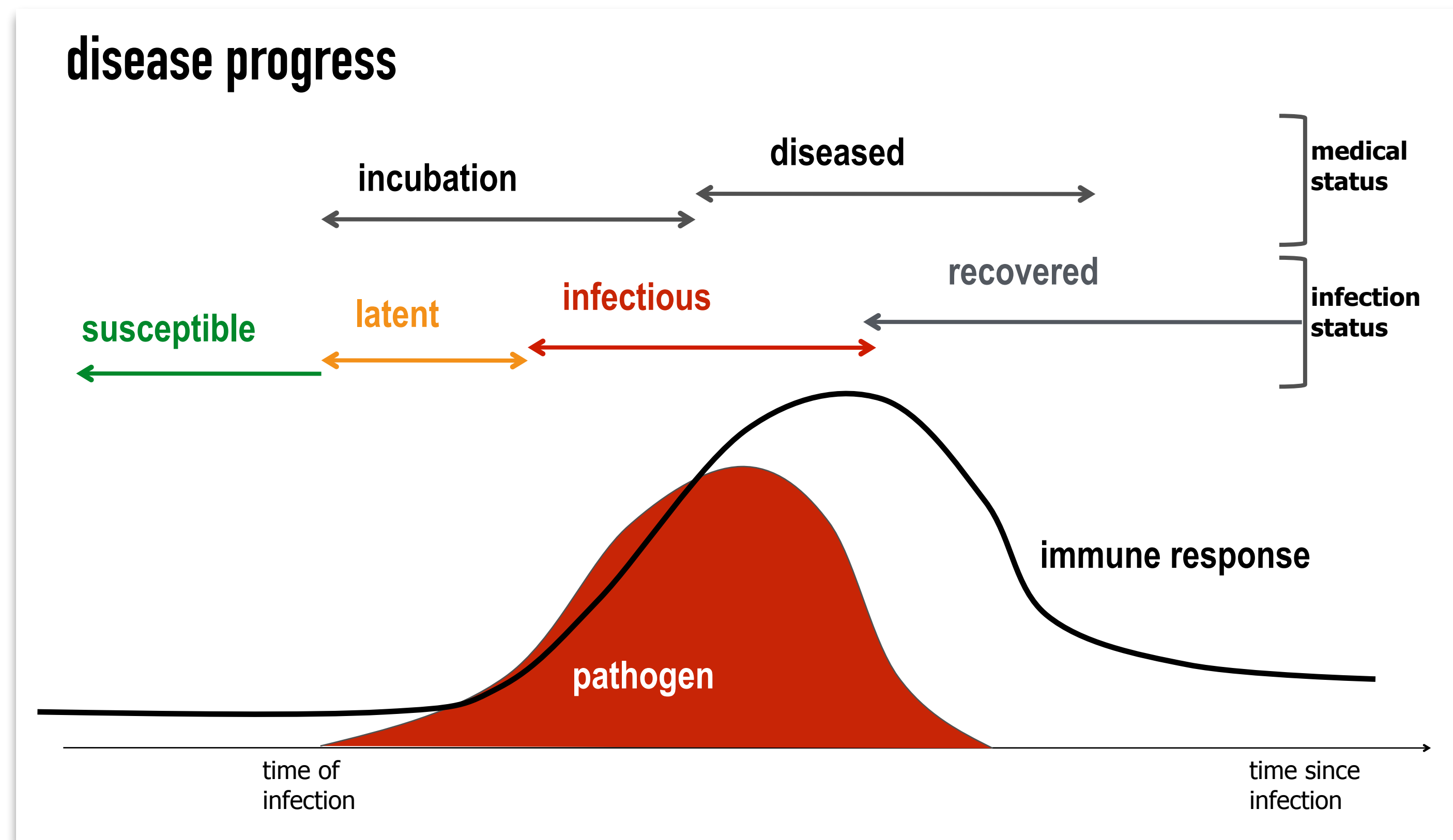
**a chemist**



**a physicist**



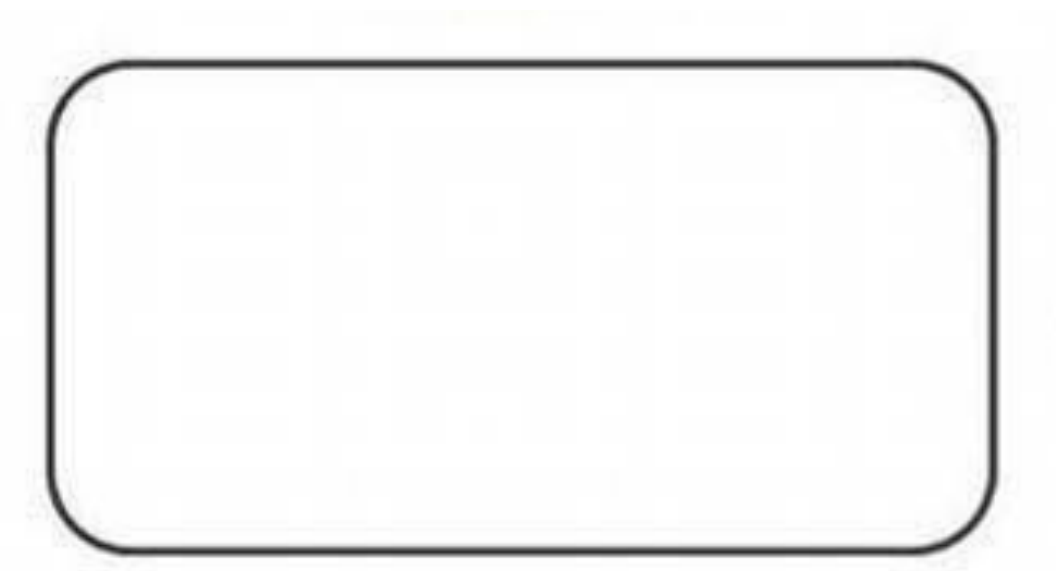
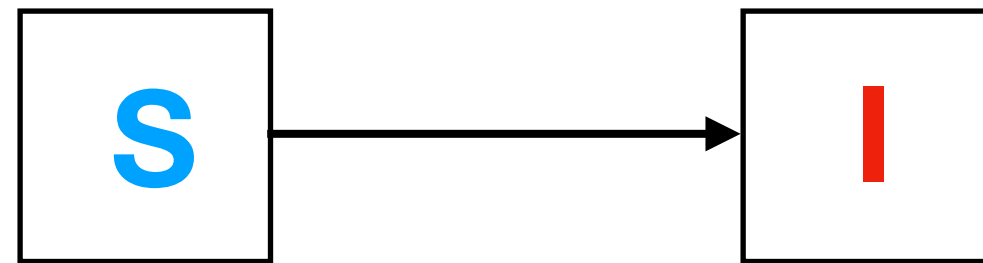
# How infection works



Credits: Chiara Poletto

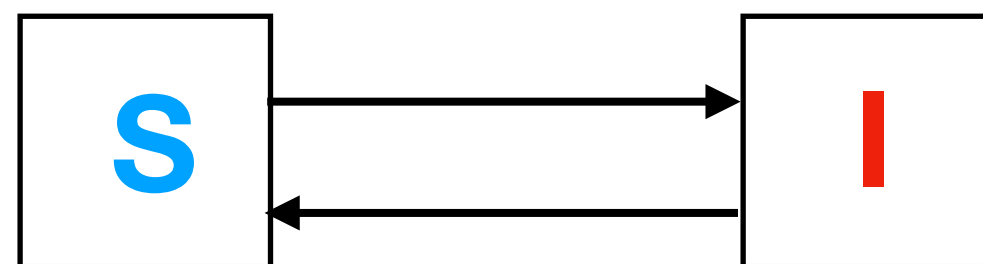
# Compartmental models

## Susceptible-Infected model (SI)



A cell as seen by a physicist

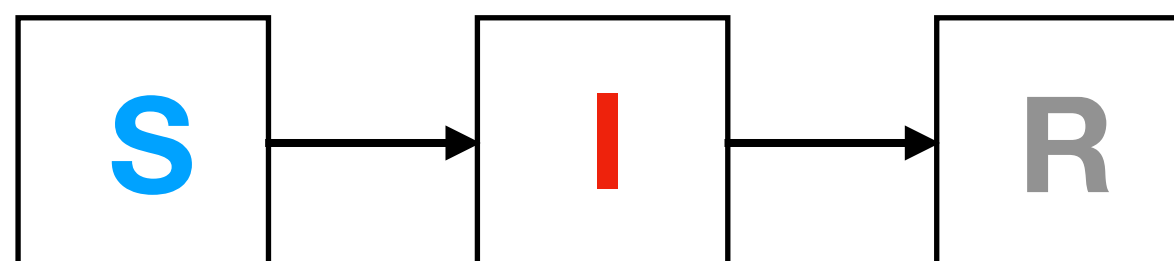
## Susceptible-Infected-Susceptible model (SIS)



Infected can recover

Individuals are sorted into different compartments  
according to infection status

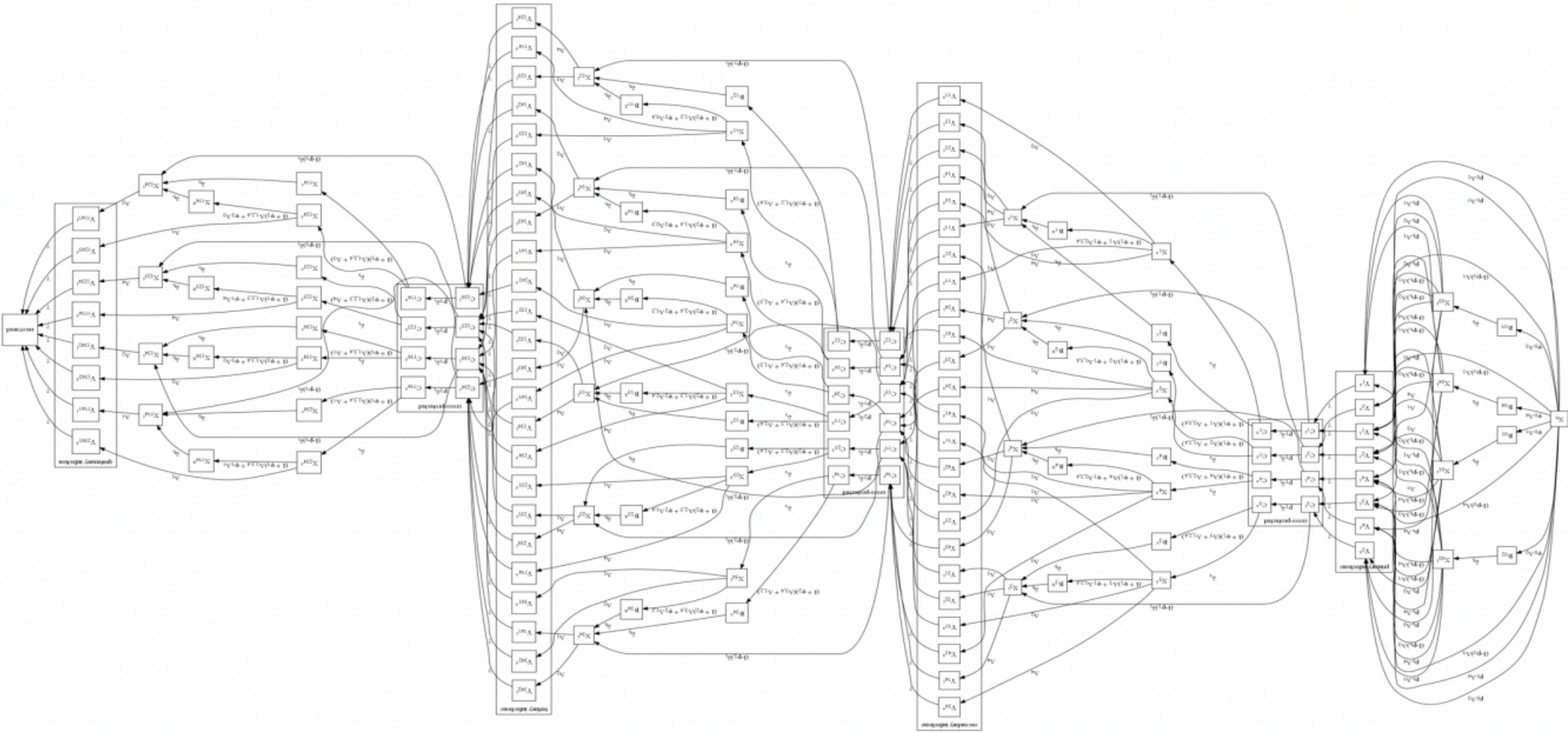
## Susceptible-Infected-Recovered model (SIR)



Infected recover and become immune



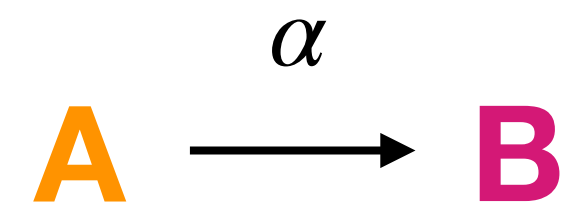
Things can escalate quickly: a model for Dengue virus





# One-body reactions

Require a single entity



*“An entity of type **A** spontaneously morphs into **B** at rate  $\alpha$ ”*

Examples: disease progression

The number of **A**’s evolves according to:

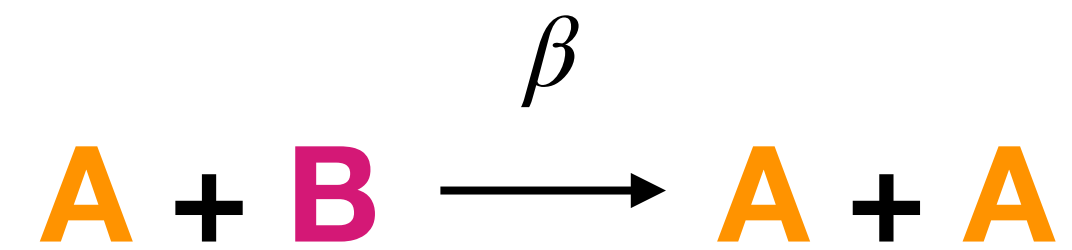
$$\frac{d}{dt}n_A = -\alpha \cdot n_A$$

Reaction rate  $\propto n_A$

Note: time to reaction is exponentially distributed:  $Pr(\text{no reaction up to } t) = e^{-\alpha t}$

# Two-body reactions

Require two entities



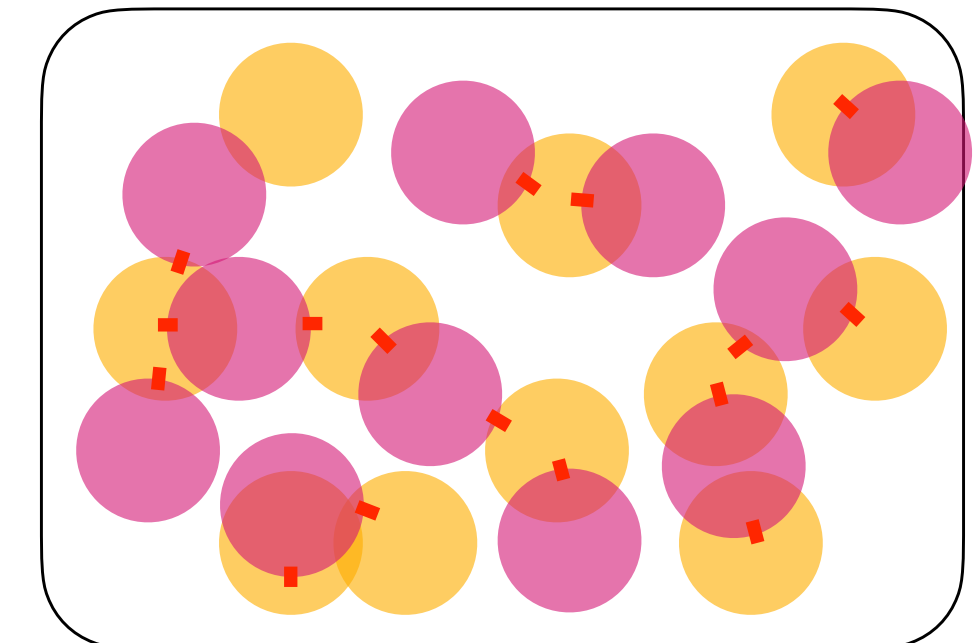
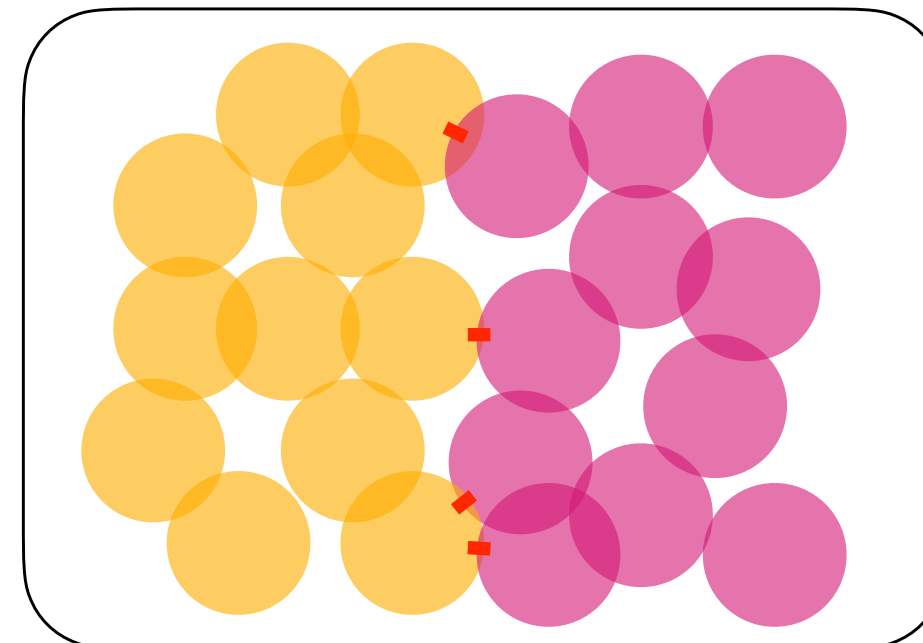
*"An entity of type **B** meets an entity of type **A** and morphs into **A** at rate  $\beta$ "*

Example: pathogen transmission

The number of **A**'s evolves according to:

$$\frac{d}{dt}n_A = \beta \cdot c_{AB} \longrightarrow \text{Mean number of encounters between types **A** and **B**}$$

$c_{A,B}$  depends on how **A** and **B** are arranged with respect to each other



# A simplification: homogeneous mixing

Key idea: individuals are all equivalent and mix completely at random

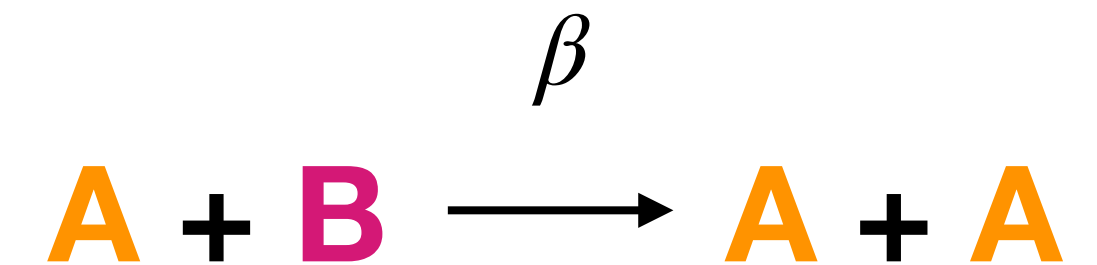
- Host equivalence: all hosts make the same number of contacts  $\langle k \rangle$
- Contact equivalence: same probability to bump into Barack Obama or Francesco Pinotti

$$c_{AB} = n_A \cdot \langle k \rangle \cdot \frac{n_B}{N}$$

Nr. of **A** types      Avg. contacts per individual

Total contacts of **A** types

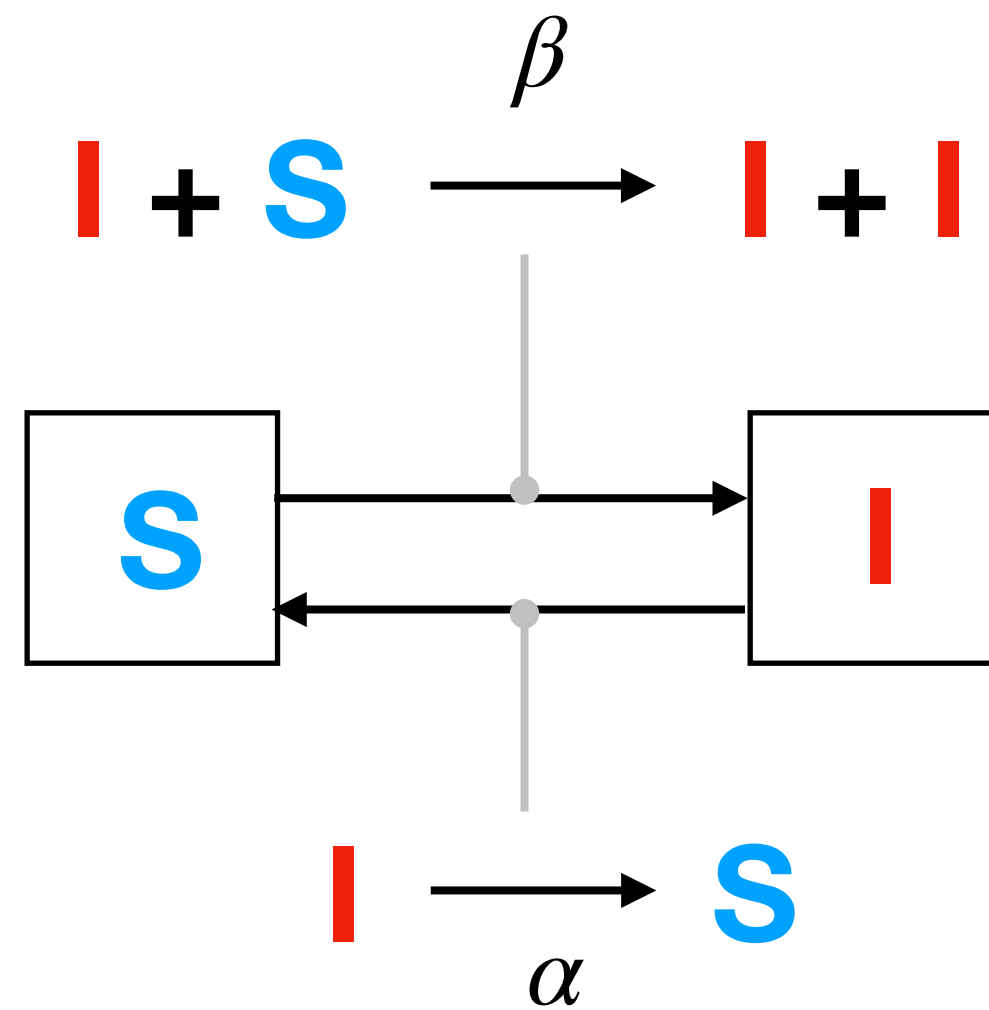
Probability to meet a **B** type



$$\frac{d}{dt}n_A = -\beta\langle k\rangle\frac{n_An_B}{N}$$



# SIS dynamics: homogeneous mixing



## SIS equations

$$\frac{d}{dt}n_S = -\beta \cdot \frac{n_I}{N} \cdot n_S + \alpha n_I$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}n_I = +\beta \cdot \frac{n_I}{N} \cdot n_S - \alpha n_I$$

Population size is constant

$$\frac{d}{dt}(n_S + n_I) = 0 \longrightarrow n_S = N - n_I$$

One equation is enough

$$\frac{d}{dt}n_I = +\beta \cdot \frac{n_I(N - n_I)}{N} - \alpha n_I$$

Define  $I = n_I/N$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = +\beta \cdot I(1 - I) - \alpha I \equiv F(I)$$

## Fixed point analysis

Solve  $F(I^*) = 0$

$$I_1^* = 0$$

Extinction

$$I_2^* = 1 - \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$$

Endemicity

# SIS dynamics: homogeneous mixing

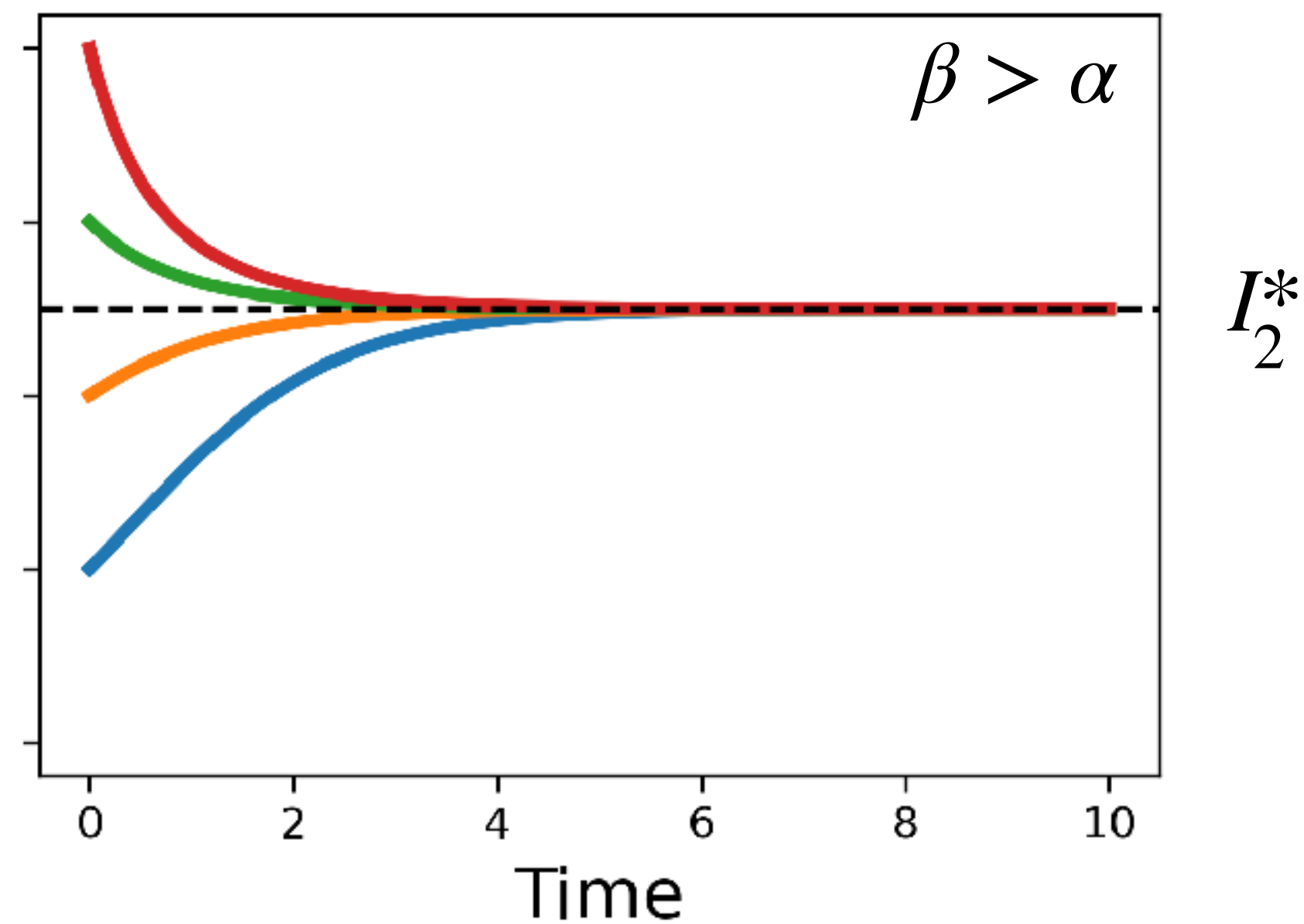
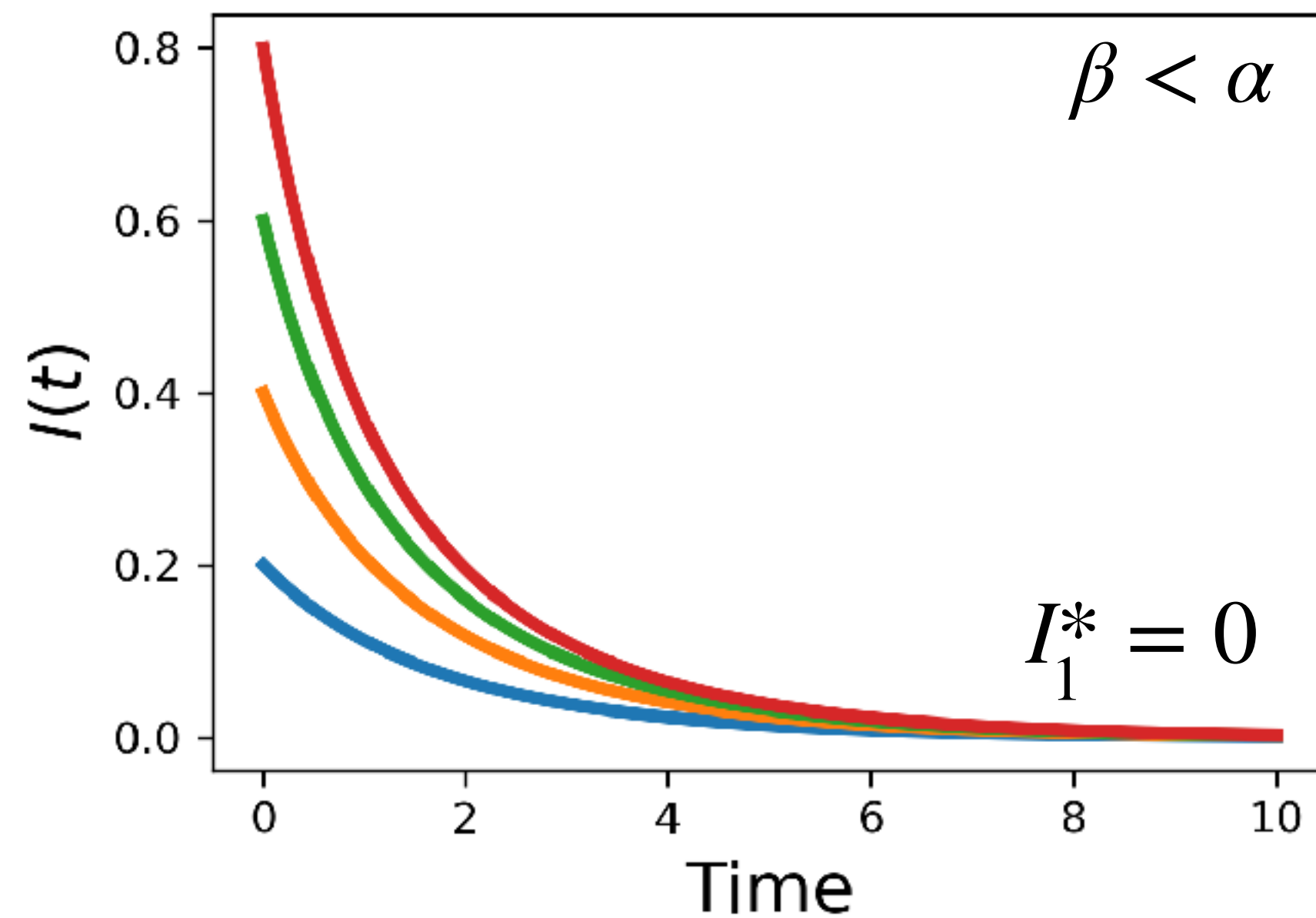
## Linear stability analysis

Assume  $I(t = 0) \approx 0$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} \approx (\beta - \alpha)I$$

$\beta < \alpha : I$  decays to  $I_1^*$  (**extinction**)

$\beta > \alpha : I$  flows to  $I_2^*$  (**endemicity**)



# The basic reproductive number

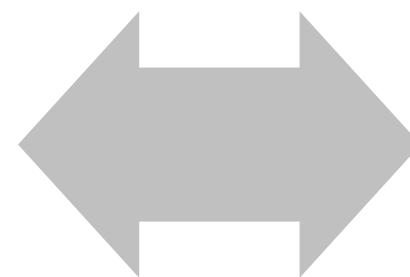
The condition for endemicity can be expressed as:

$$R_0 \equiv \frac{\beta}{\alpha} > 1$$

Basic reproductive number

*$R_0$  is the mean number of secondary infections generated by an infected in an entirely susceptible population*

$$R_0 = \beta \langle k \rangle \times \frac{1}{\mu}$$



Average number of infected contacts

X

Average infection duration

We reintegrated  $\langle k \rangle$



# The basic reproductive number

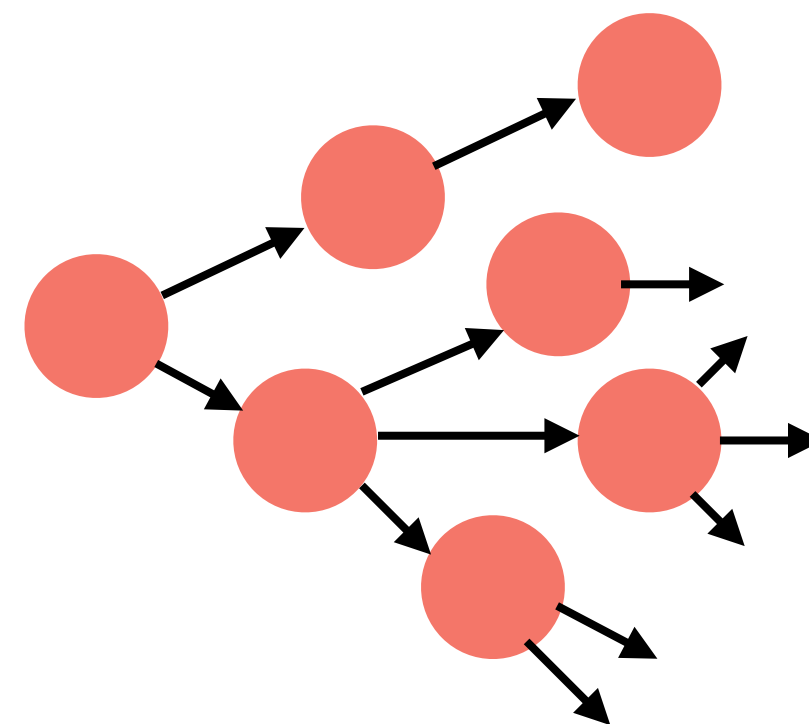
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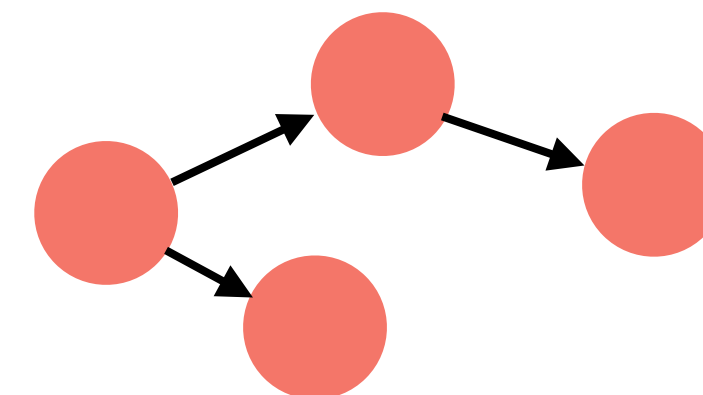
Basic reproductive number

*$R_0$  is the mean number of secondary infections generated by an infected in an entirely susceptible population*

$R_0 > 1$ : Exponential growth

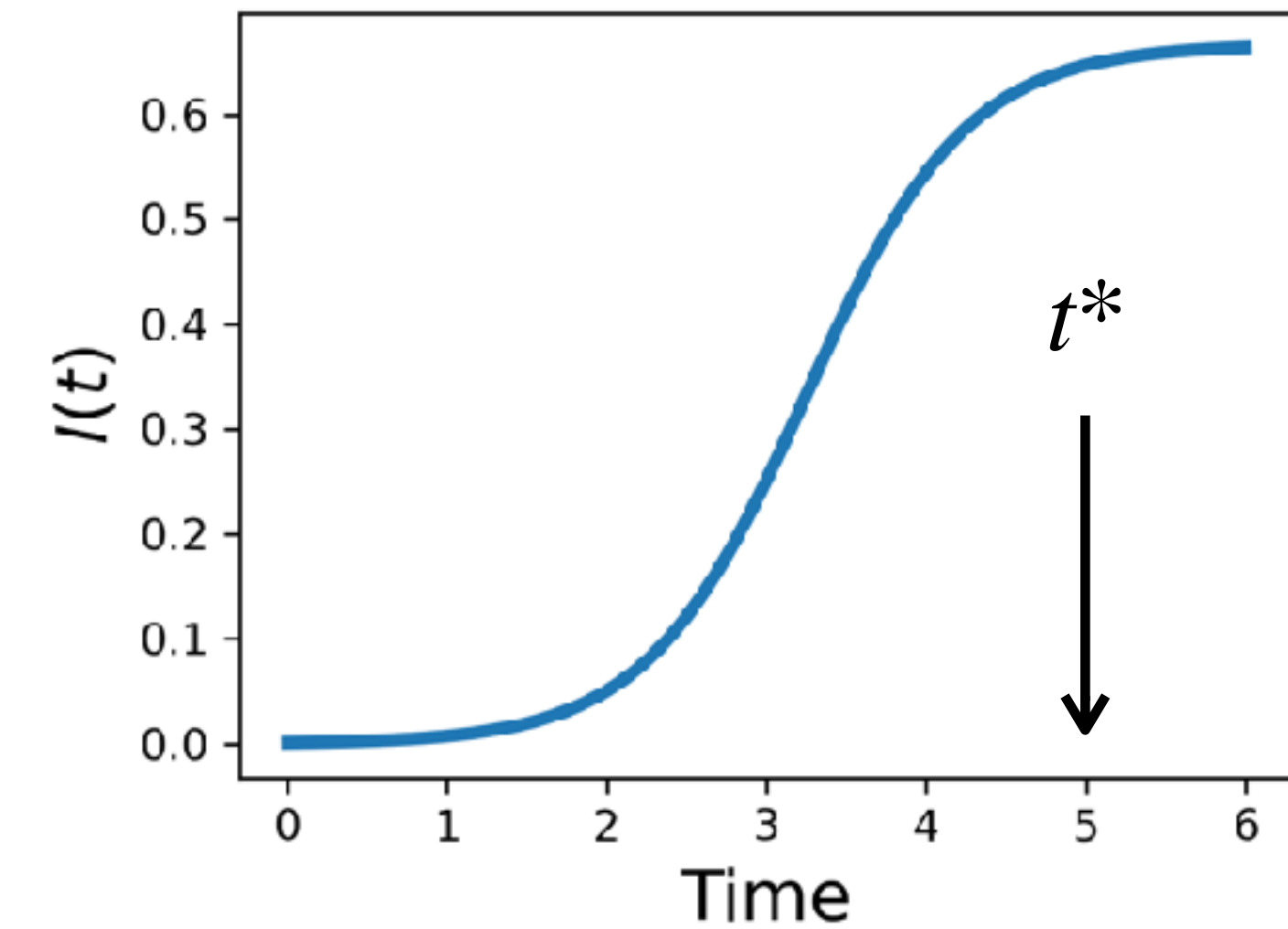
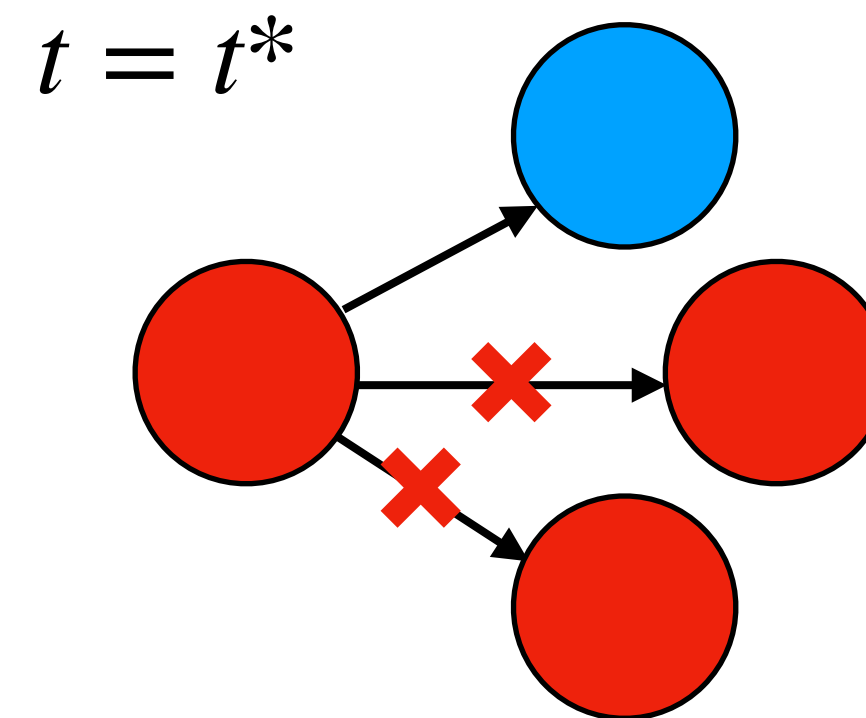
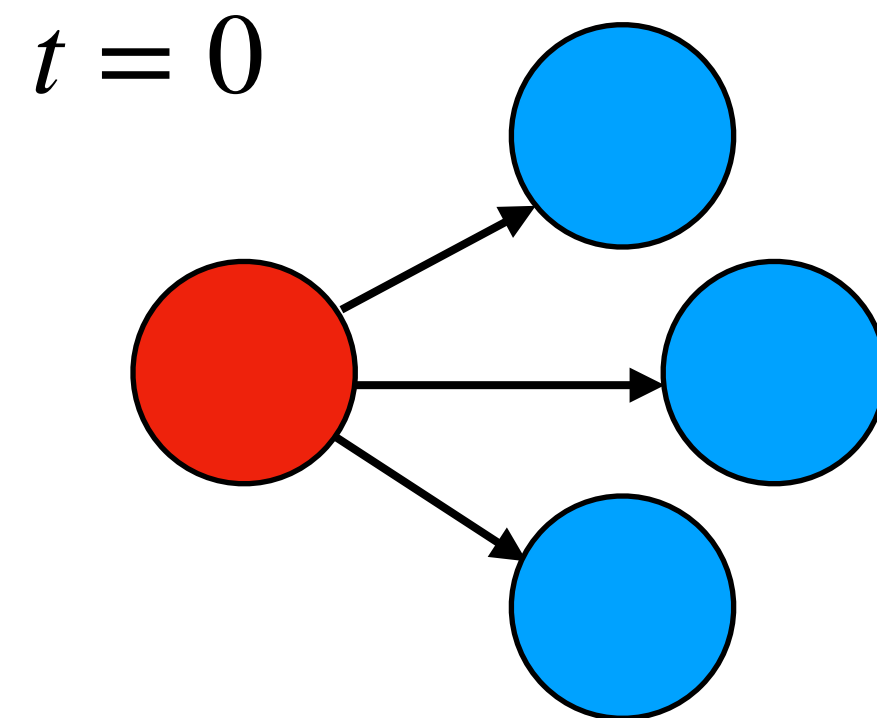


$R_0 < 1$ : Stuttering chains



# $R_0 > 1$ : unlimited exponential growth?

Epidemic slows down with fewer susceptible people



**Effective reproductive number:**

$$R_t = R_0 \cdot S(t)$$

Reproductive  
potential

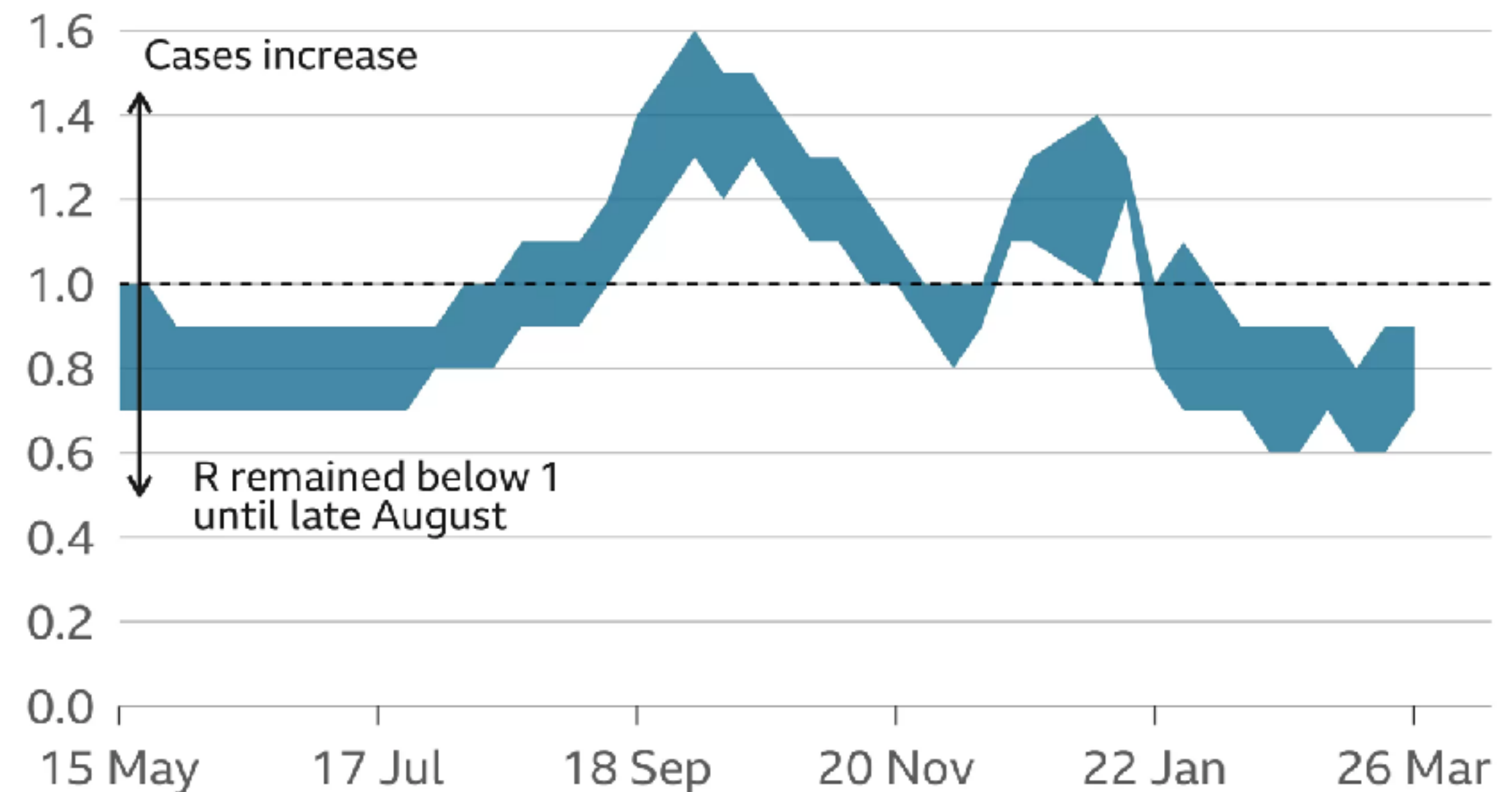
Pop-level  
susceptibility

- $R_t > 1$  epidemic grows
- $R_t < 1$  epidemic grows
- $R_t = 1$  equilibrium

$R_t$  for SARS-CoV2 in England

## How R has changed over time

Upper and lower R estimates, updated weekly since May



Source: gov.uk website

BBC

Effective reproductive number:

$$R_t = R_0 \cdot S(t)$$

Reproductive  
potential

Pop-level  
susceptibility

- $R_t > 1$  epidemic grows
- $R_t < 1$  epidemic grows
- $R_t = 1$  equilibrium



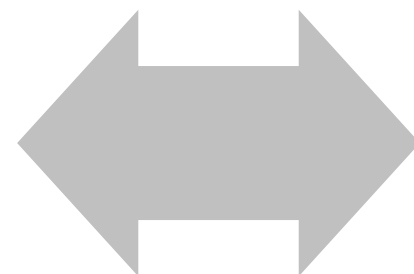
# Vaccination

Immunising people reduces  $S$  and hence  $R_t$ . If  $R_t < 1$  no epidemic occurs.

We vax a fraction  $u$  of people (everyone is susceptible initially):  $R_t = R_0(1 - u)$

**Herd-immunity threshold**

$$R_t < 1$$



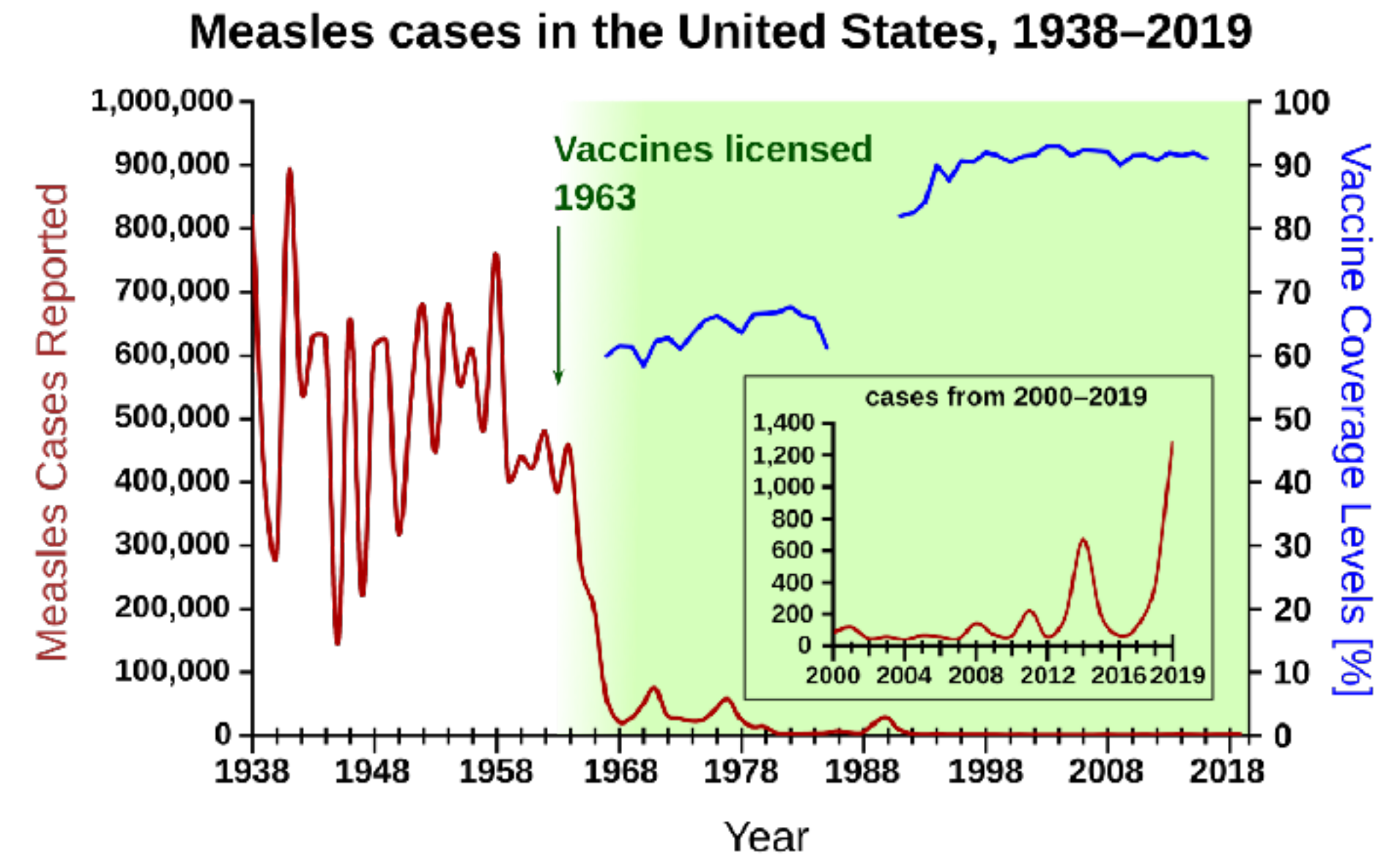
$$u > u^* = 1 - \frac{1}{R_0}$$

+ No need to vax everyone

- Vaccine is not perfect
- Immunity waning
- Demographic turnover
- Vaccine hesitancy

**Measles:**

$$R_0 \approx 15$$
$$u^* \approx 0.93$$



From Wikipedia

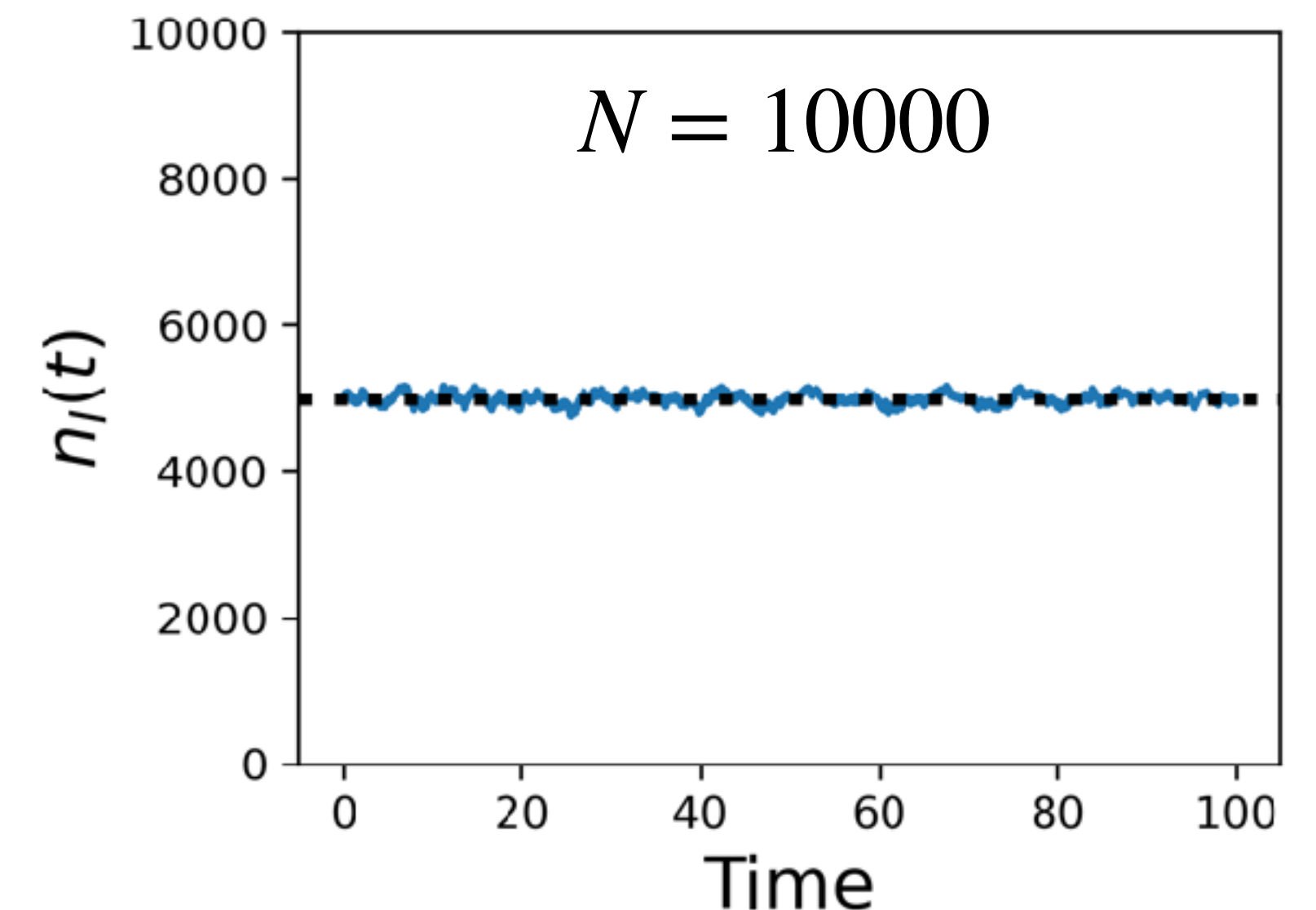
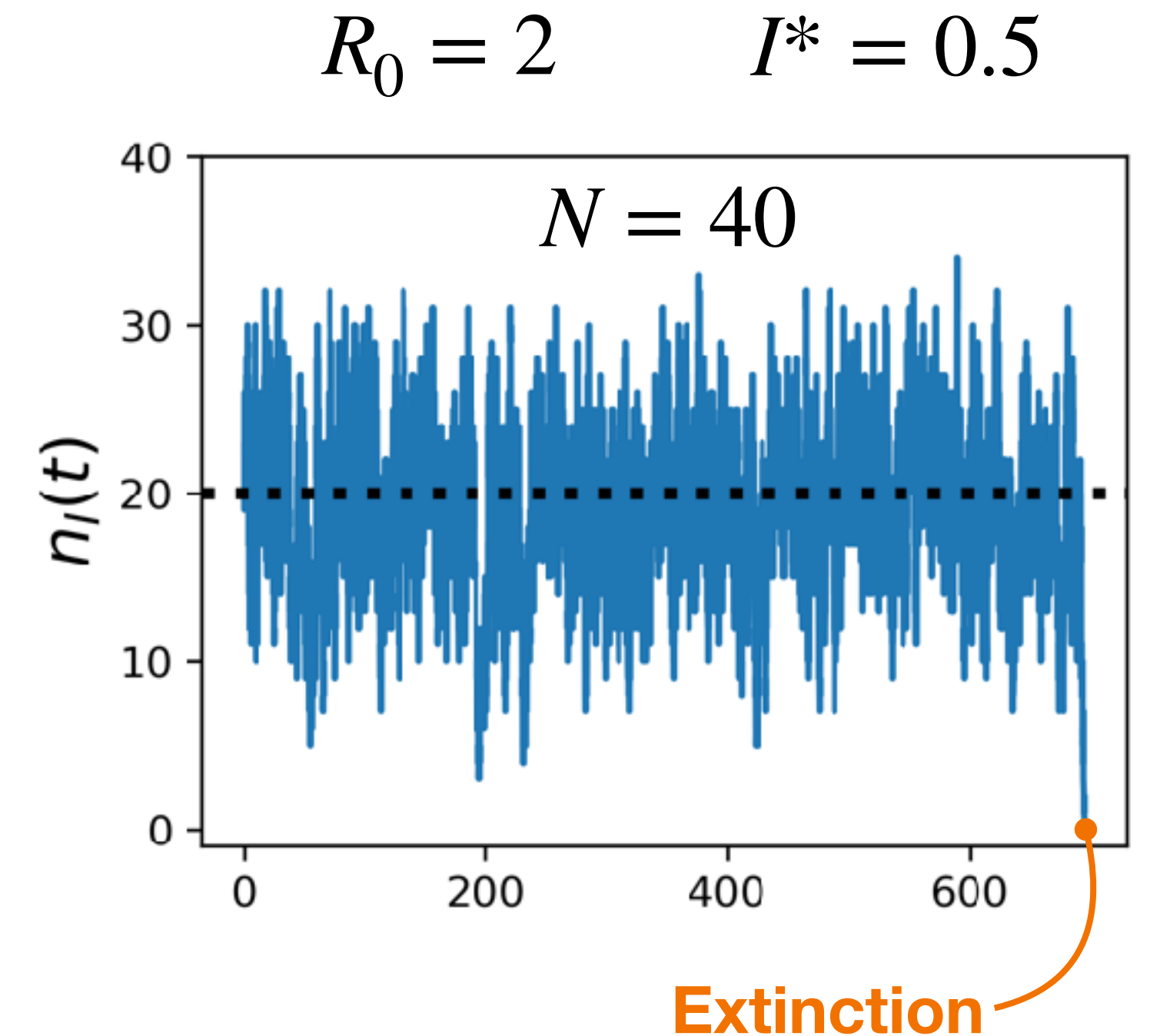
# Stochastic epidemics

- Deterministic ODEs describe the **average** behaviour of an outbreak.
- Outbreaks are inherently random and discrete
- What does  $I(t) = 0.0001$  mean when there are only 40 individuals?
- Deterministic ODEs fail to describe rare extinction events

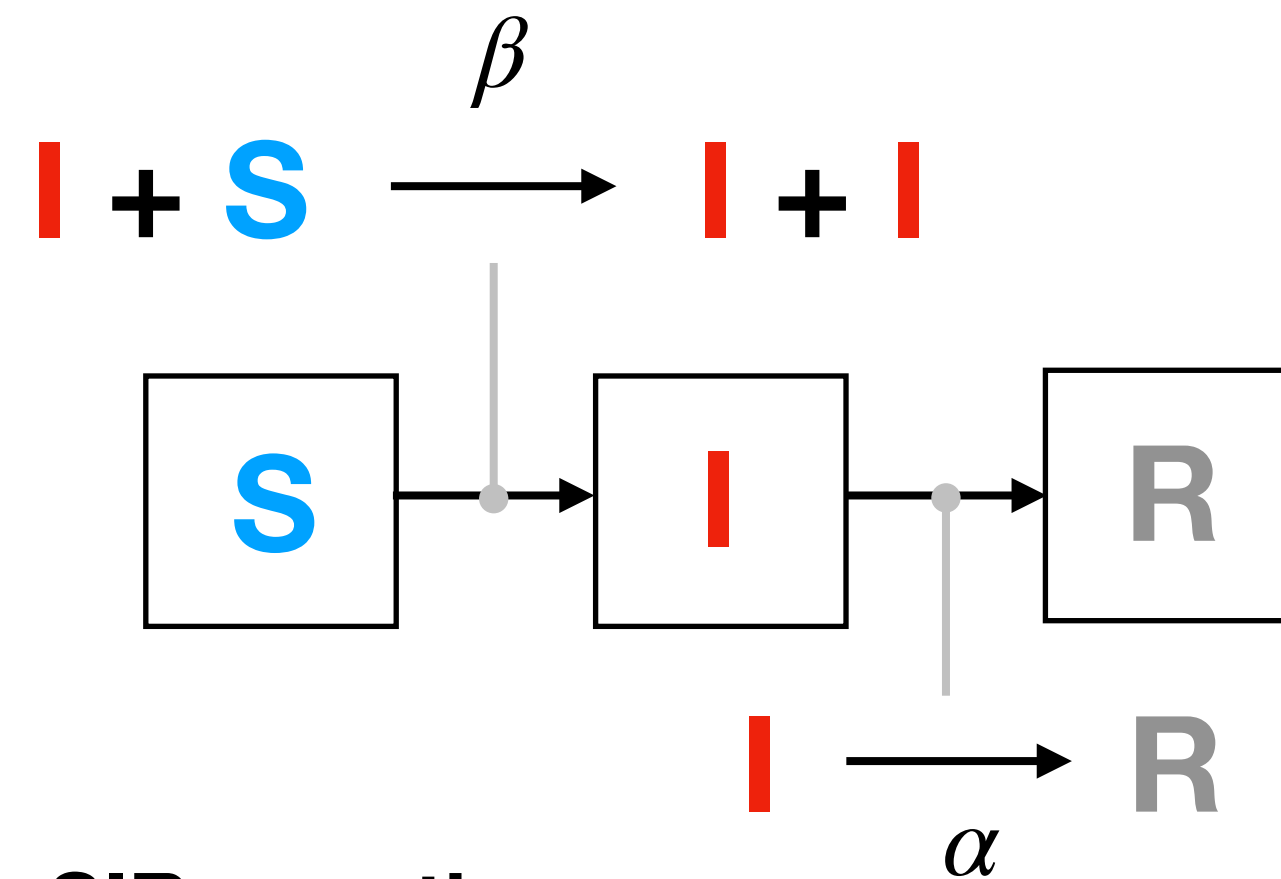
## Master equation

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}P_t(n_I) = & w_+(n_I - 1) \cdot P_t(n_I - 1) + \\ & + w_-(n_I + 1) \cdot P_t(n_I + 1) - \\ & - [w_+(n_I) + w_-(n_I)] \cdot P_t(n_I) \end{aligned}$$

$$w_+(n_I) = \frac{\beta n_I (N - n_I)}{N} \quad w_-(n_I) = \mu n_I$$



# SIR dynamics: homogeneous mixing



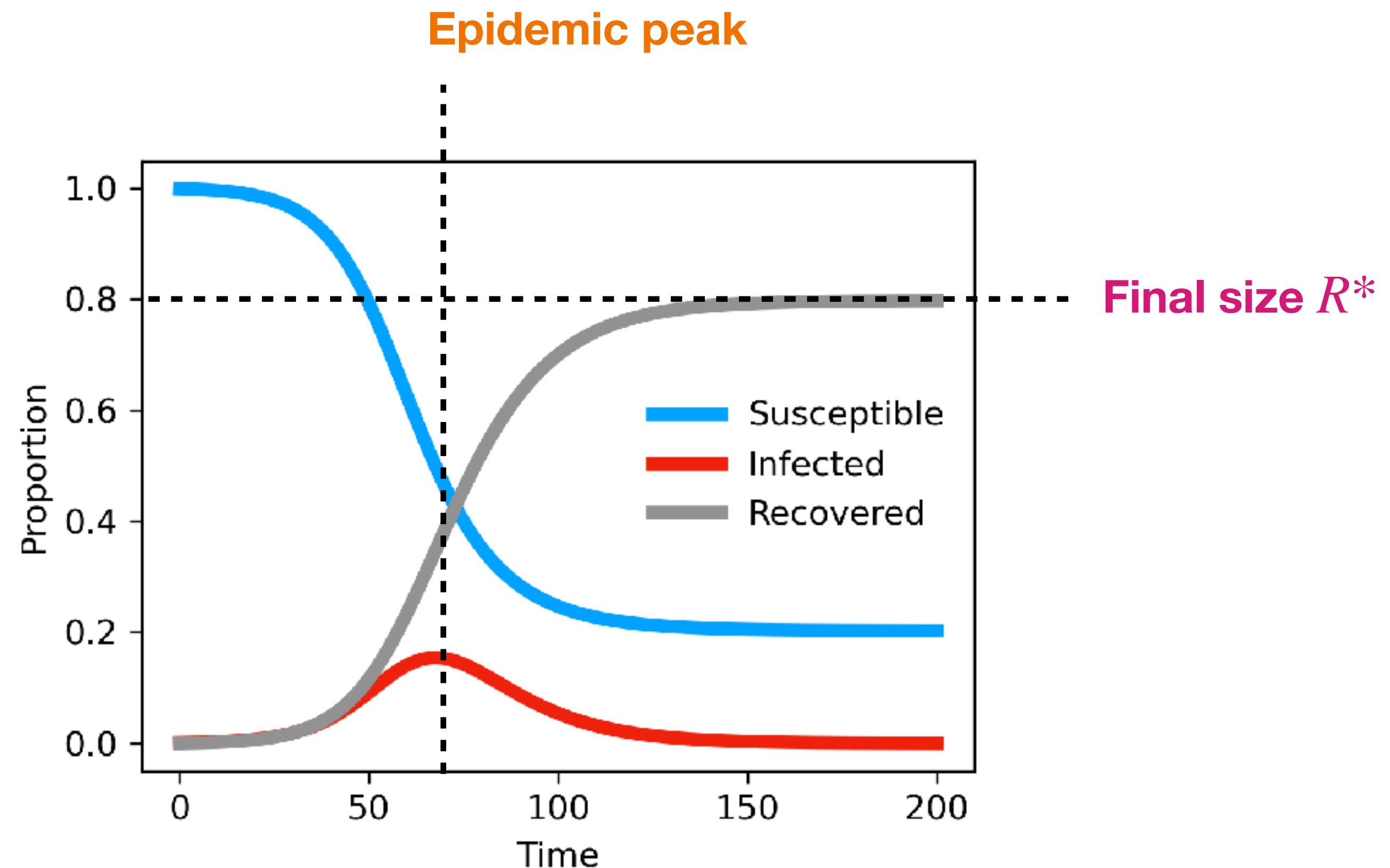
SIR equations

$$\frac{d}{dt}S = -\beta SI$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}I = +\beta SI - \alpha I$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}R = -\alpha I$$

This model describes a single outbreak when  $\beta > \alpha$ .  
The accumulation of immunity leads to the end of the epidemic.

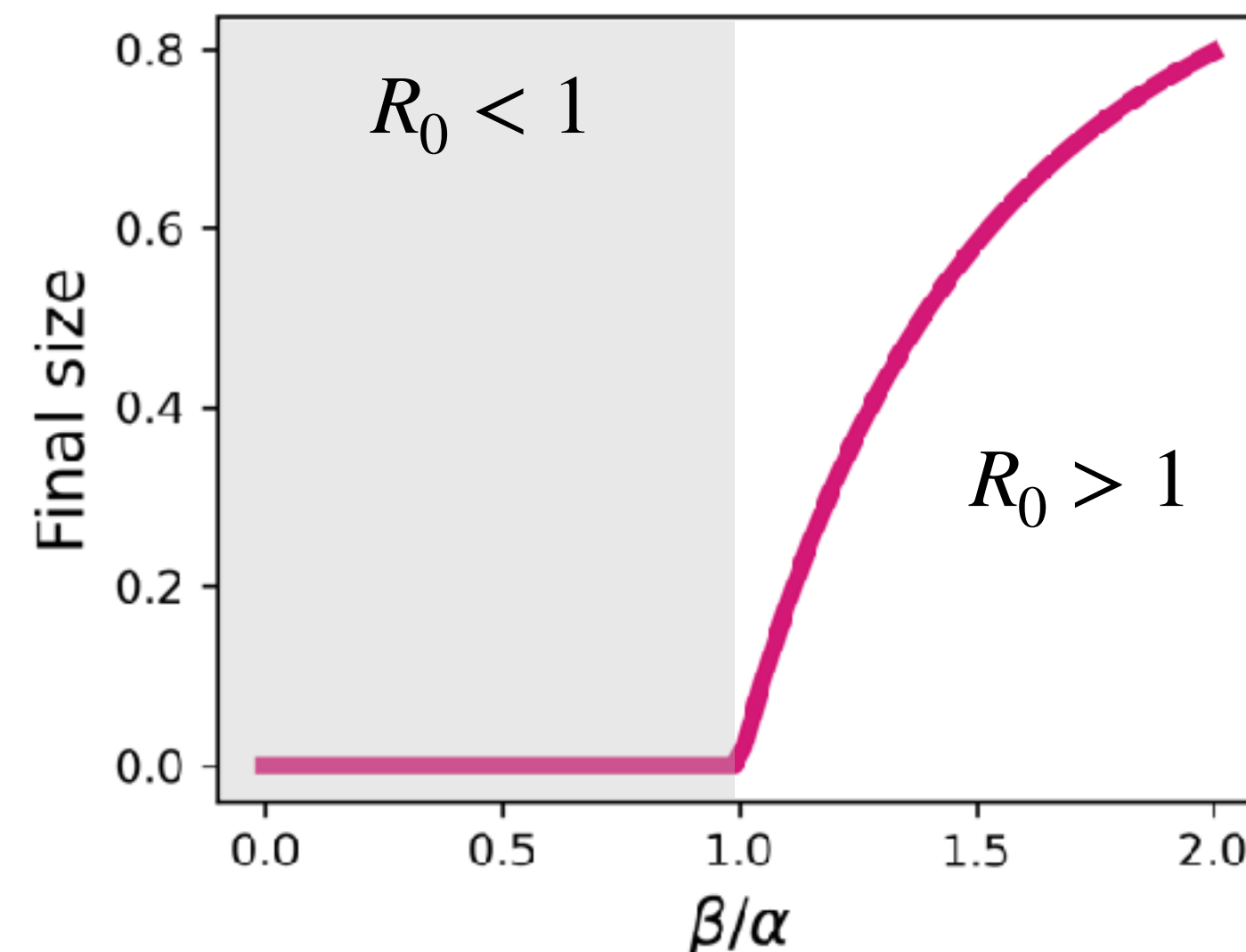
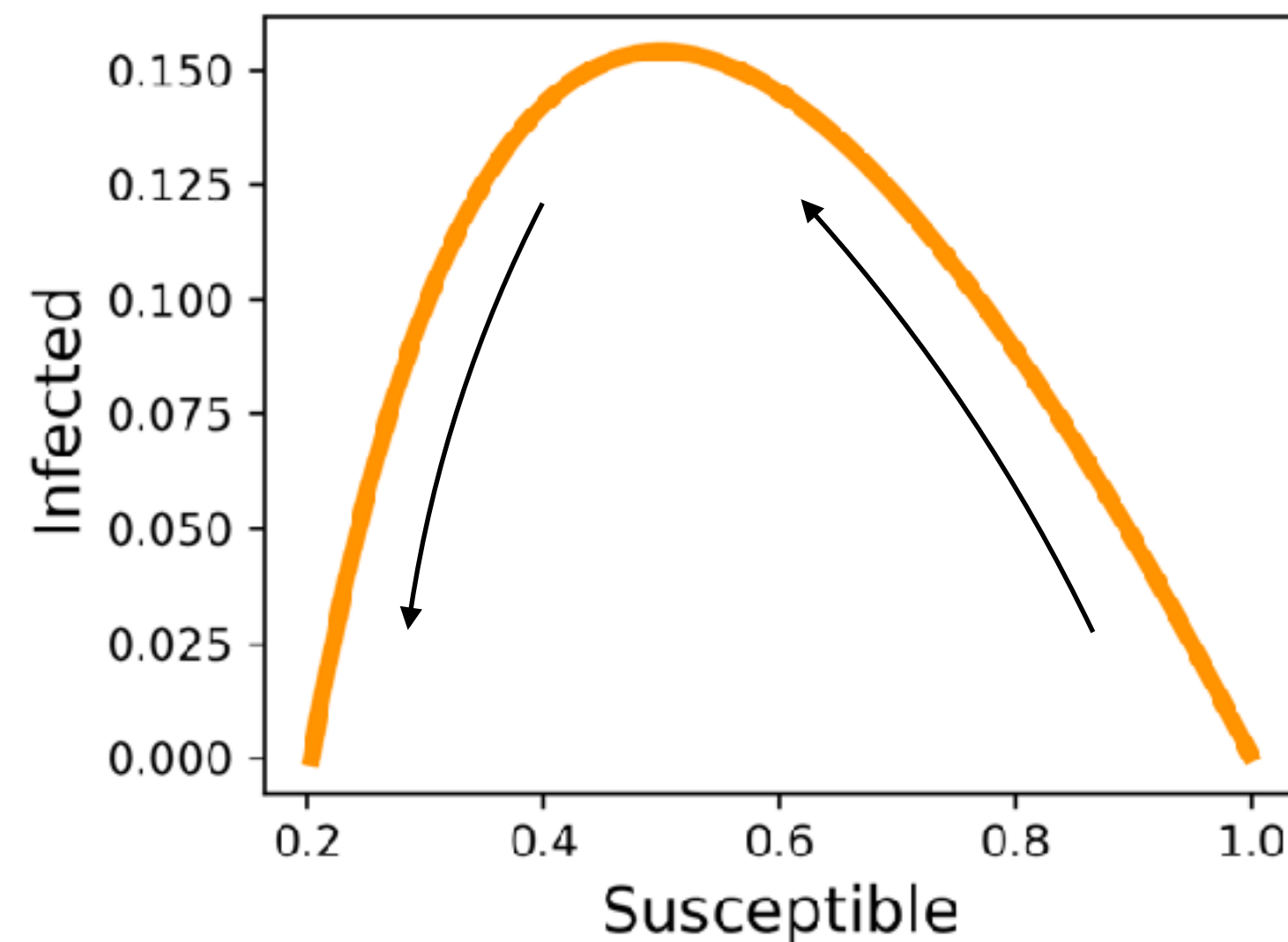




# SIR dynamics: final size formula

How many people are infected during a single outbreak? We may not know  $I(t)$  or  $S(t)$  but can derive  $S(I)$

$$\frac{dS}{dI} = \frac{\beta S}{\beta S - \alpha} \quad \xrightarrow{R^* = 1 - S^*} \quad 1 - R^* = \exp\left(-\frac{\beta}{\alpha} R^*\right) \quad \text{Final size formula}$$



# (Some) limitations of simple models

- Determinism → Use stochastic version

- Fixed parameters → Use time-varying parameters  $\beta \rightarrow \beta(t)$

- Constant population → Include vital dynamics

- Exponential transition times → Method of stages/integro-differential equations

- Not accounting for population heterogeneities → Ad-hoc compartments, e.g.  $I(t) \rightarrow I(\text{age}, t)$

- Simplistic contact hypotheses → Use **network**, **spatial** and **agent-based** models



A cell as seen by a physicist

# **Epidemics on networks**

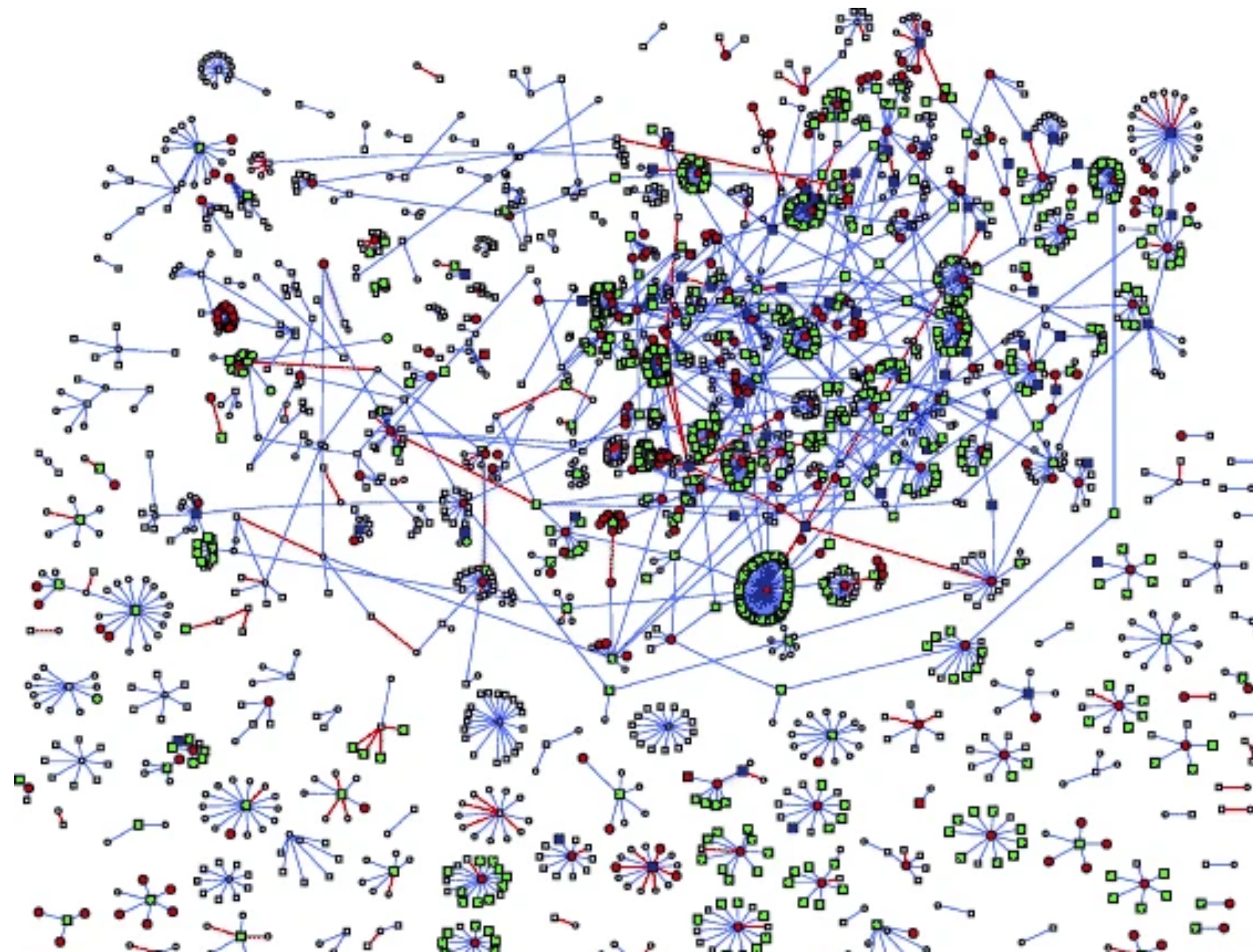


# Network epidemiology

## Homogeneous mixing assumptions

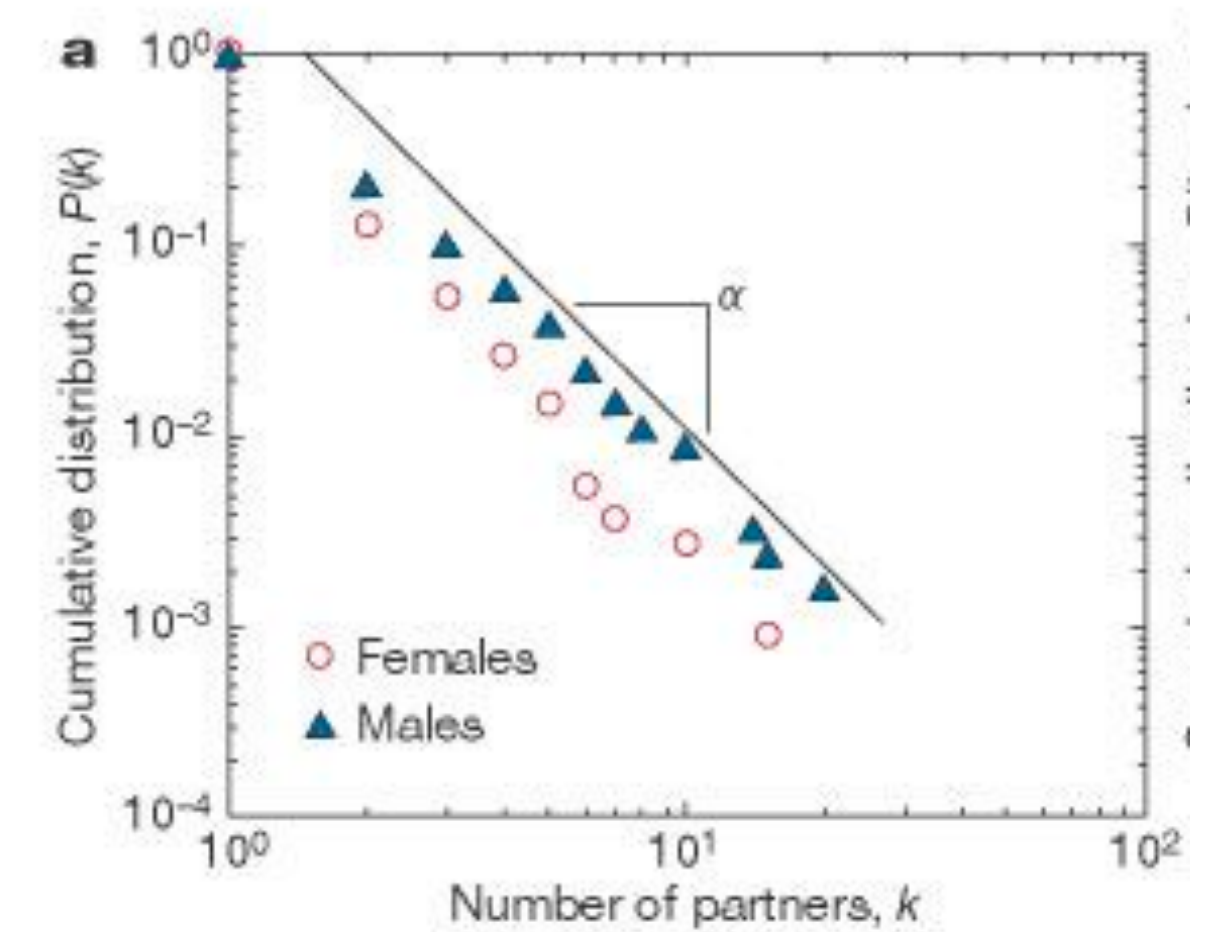
1. Host equivalence  $\longrightarrow$  Contact heterogeneities
2. Contact equivalence  $\longrightarrow$  Some contacts more likely than others

Sexual network  
in a US town



Liljeros et al, Nature, 2001  
Potterat et al, 2004  
Liljeros, 2009

# of partners in the last year



$$P(k) \propto k^{-\alpha}, \quad \alpha \simeq 2.3$$

**Risk is heterogeneous!!!**

Not just sexual contacts: epidemiological  
relevance of contacts depends on host &  
pathogen

# Network basics

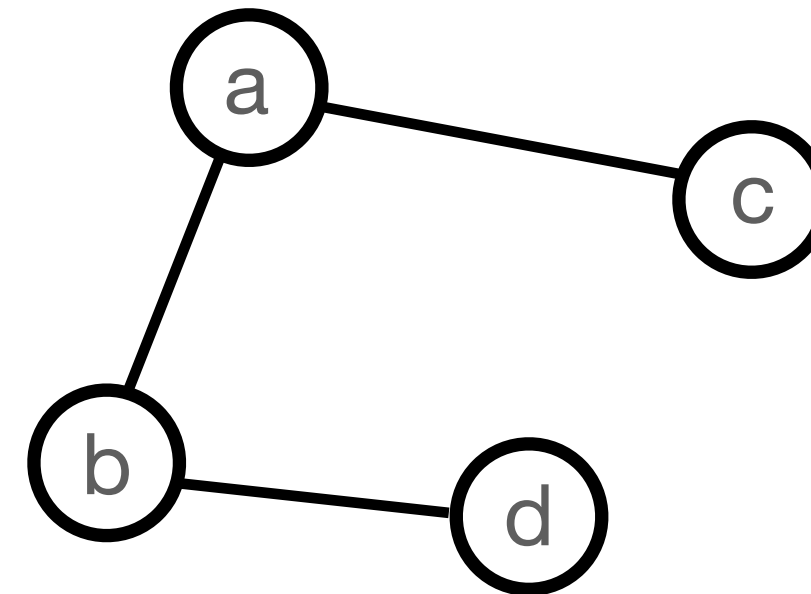
We are concerned with simple graphs:

- Undirected edges
- No self-edges
- No multi-edges

**Adjacency matrix**

$$A_{i,j} = 1 \text{ if } (i,j) \in E$$

$$A_{i,j} = 0 \text{ otherwise}$$



**Node set**

$$V = \{a, b, c, d\}$$

**Edge set**

$$E = \{(a, b), (a, c), (b, d)\}$$

$$A = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} a & b & c & d \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

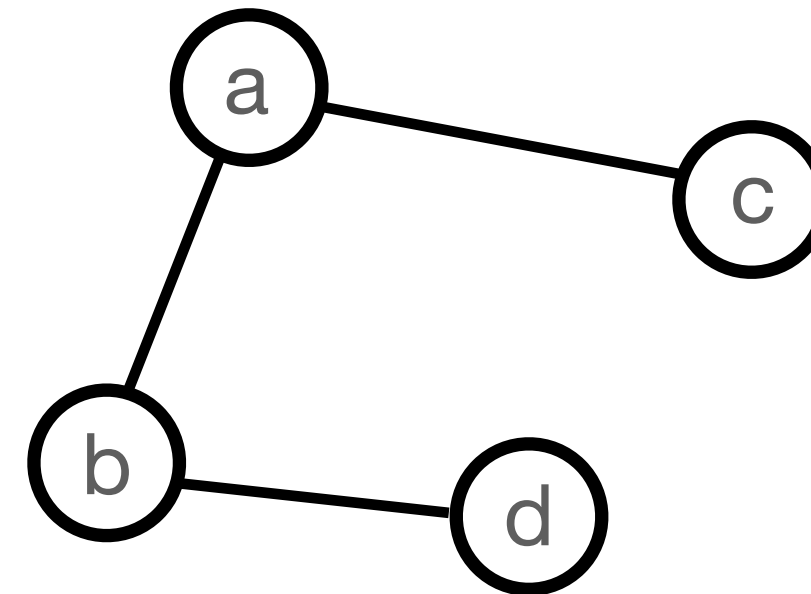


# Network basics

Node degree:

$$k_i = \sum_j A_{i,j}$$

$$k_a = k_b = 2 \quad k_c = k_d = 1$$



Node set

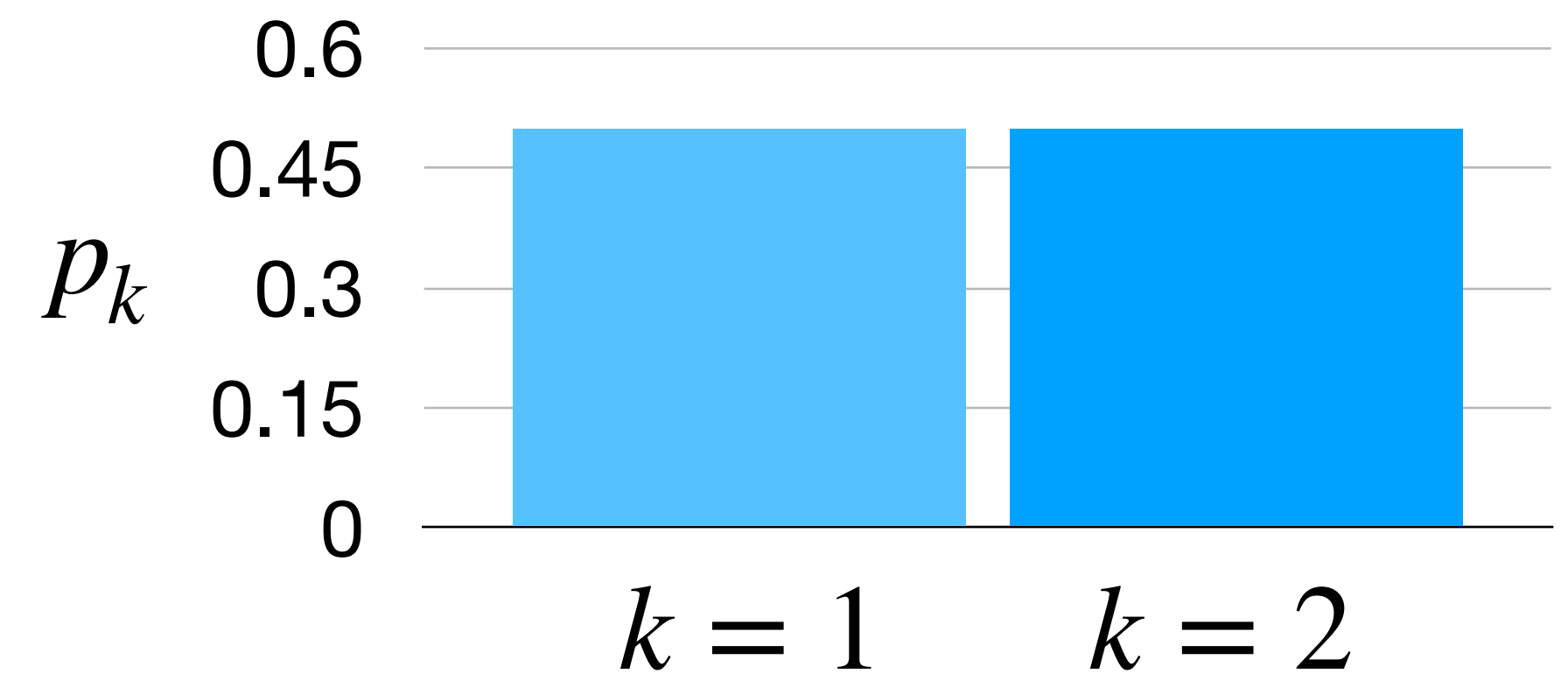
$$V = \{a, b, c, d\}$$

Edge set

$$E = \{(a, b), (a, c), (b, d)\}$$

The **degree distribution** is defined as

$$p_k = \frac{n_k}{N}$$



# Degree moments

Degree moments

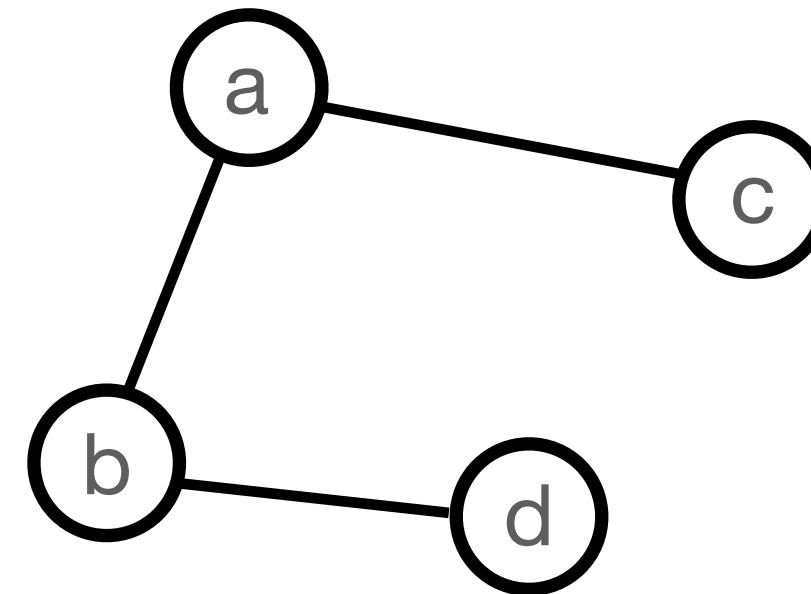
$$\langle k^n \rangle = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^n p_k$$

Average degree

$$\langle k \rangle = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k p_k$$

Degree variance

$$\text{Var}(k) = \langle k^2 \rangle - \langle k \rangle^2$$



**Node set**

$$V = \{a, b, c, d\}$$

**Edge set**

$$E = \{(a, b), (a, c), (b, d)\}$$

Note that  $\langle k^2 \rangle \geq \langle k \rangle^2$

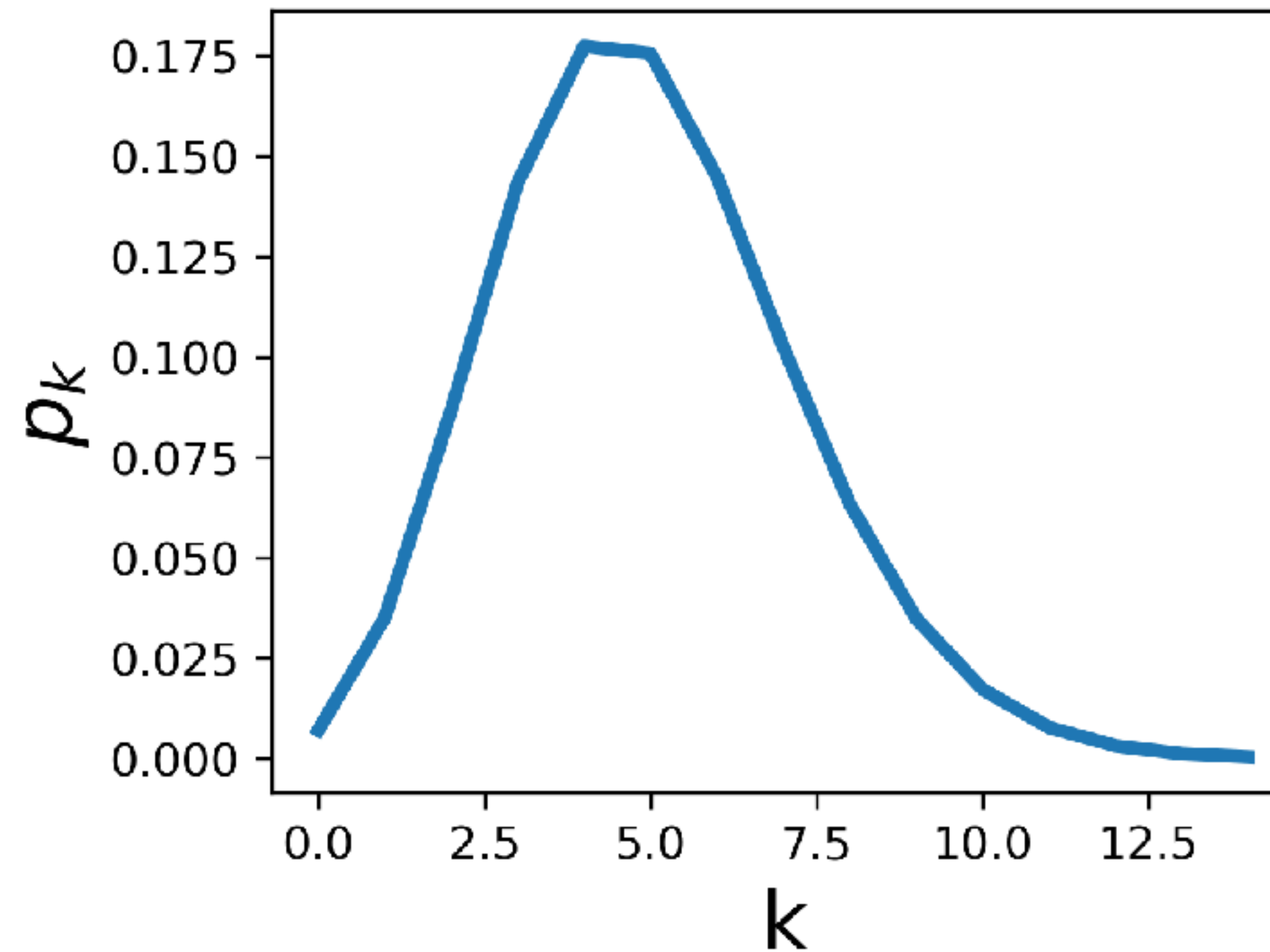
# Poisson degree distributions

## Poisson degree distribution

$$p_k = e^{-\langle k \rangle} \frac{\langle k \rangle^k}{k!}$$

- It's narrow (  $Var(k) = \langle k \rangle$  )
- Very small tail because of  $1/k!$

Example: Erdős-Rényi model



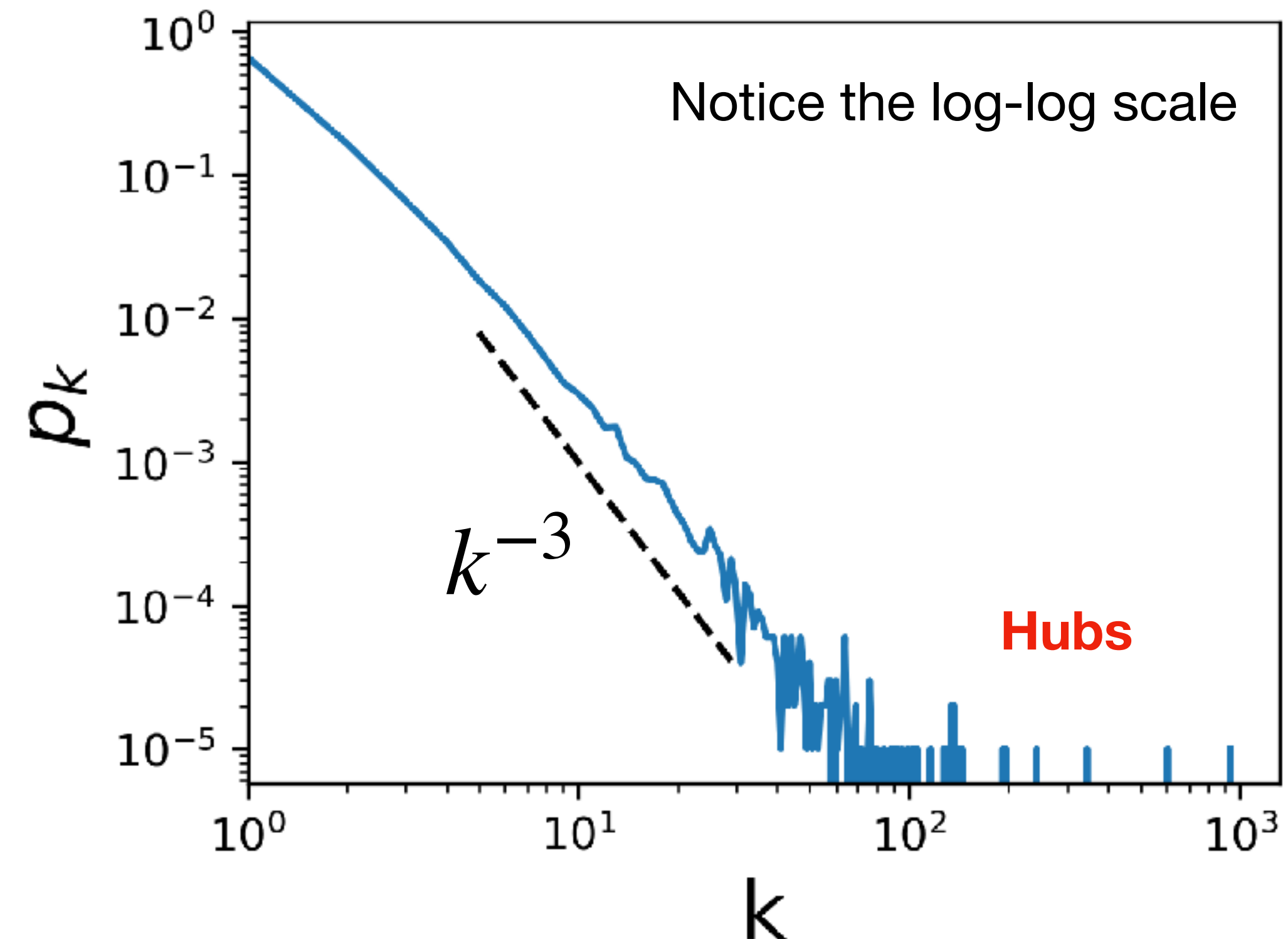
# Power-law degree distributions

## Power-law degree distribution

Example: Barabasi-Albert model (has  $\gamma = 3$ )

$$p_k \propto k^{-\gamma}$$

- Slower decay than exponential
- Wide range of degree values
- Infinite variance when  $\gamma < 3$

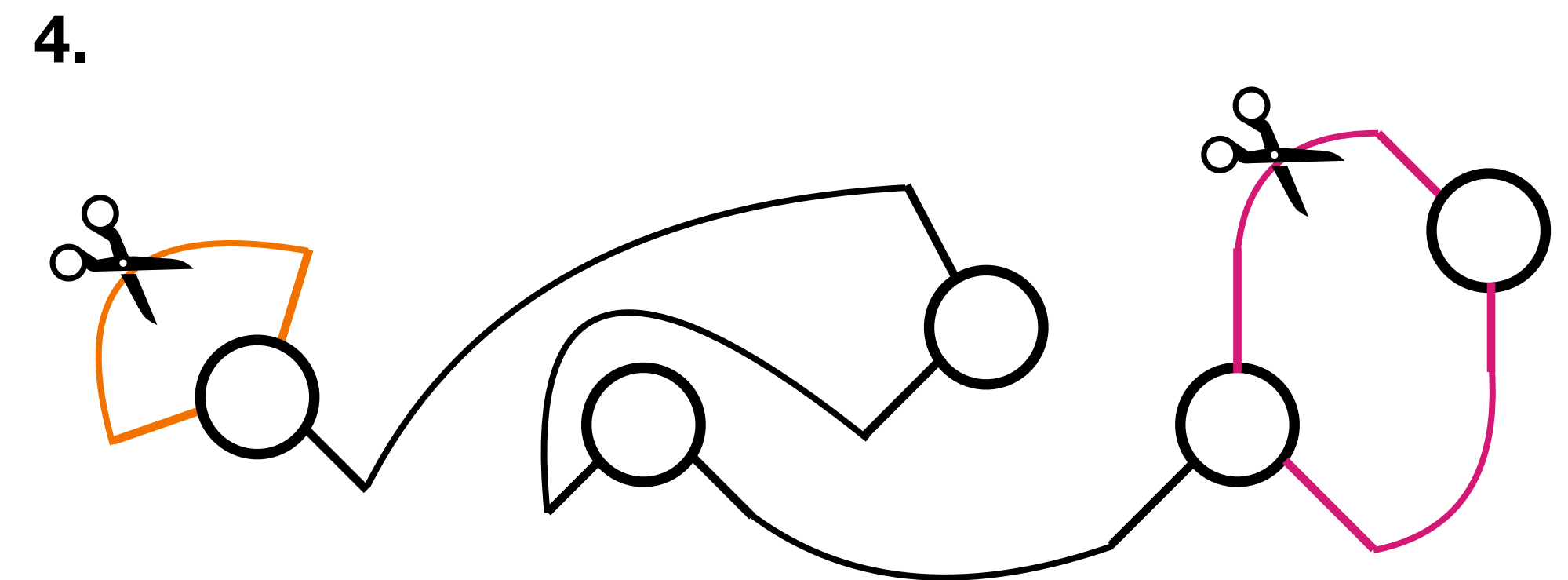
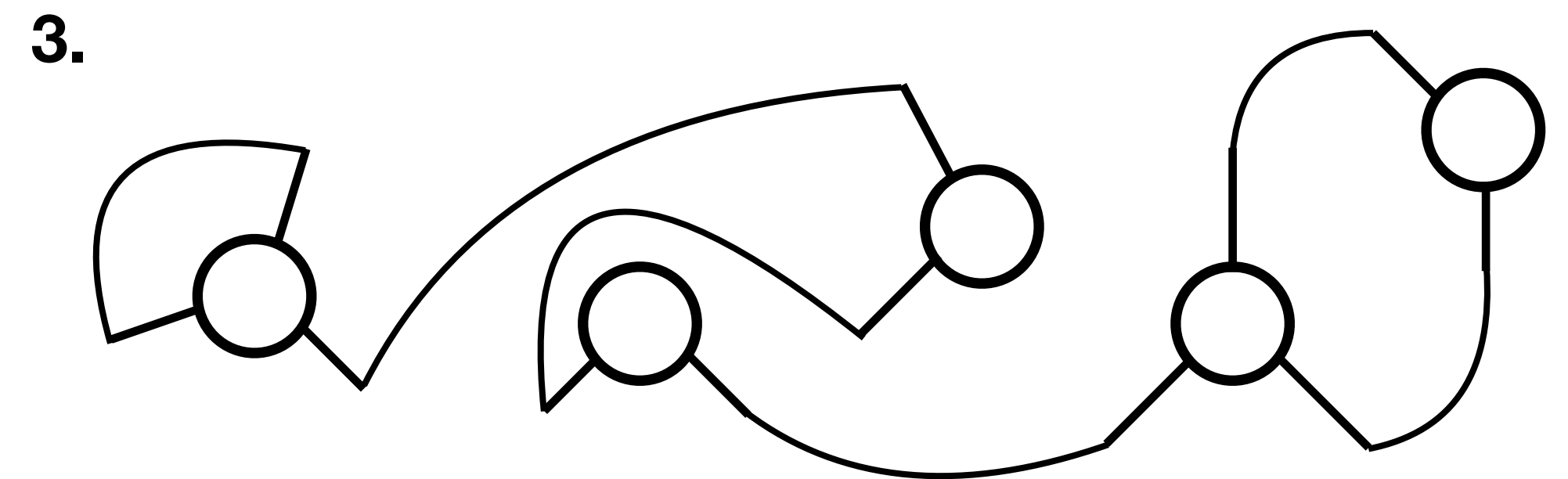
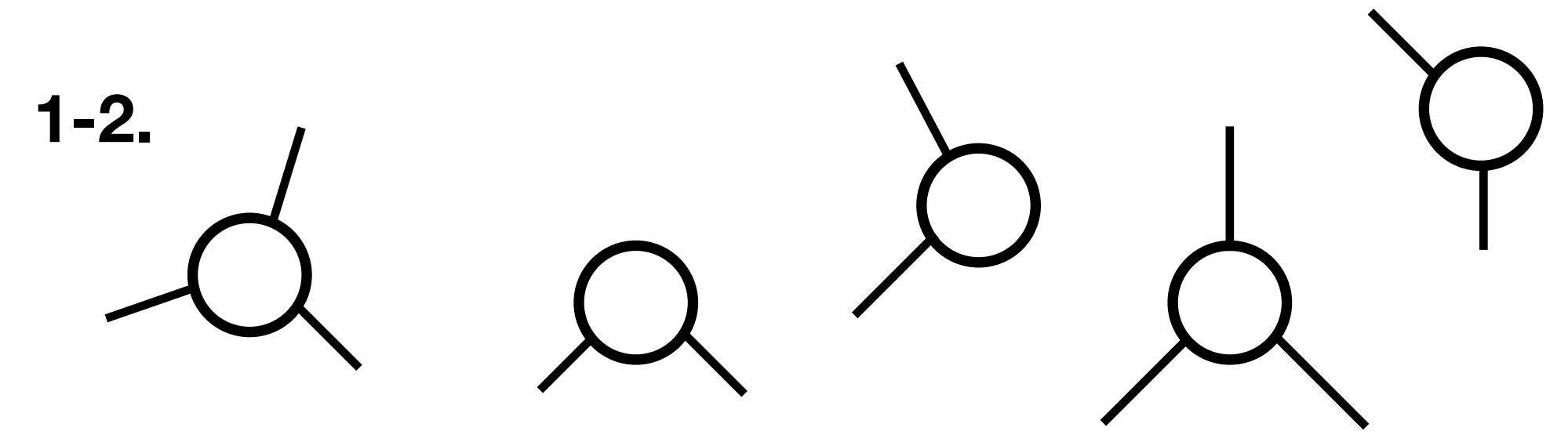


# The configuration model

Generate networks with the **desired degree distribution**

1. Start with a list of degrees  $\vec{k} = \{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_N\}$
2. Create  $N$  "stars" with  $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_N$  stubs each
3. Match stubs at random to form edges
4. Remove **self-** and **multi-**edges or repeat process

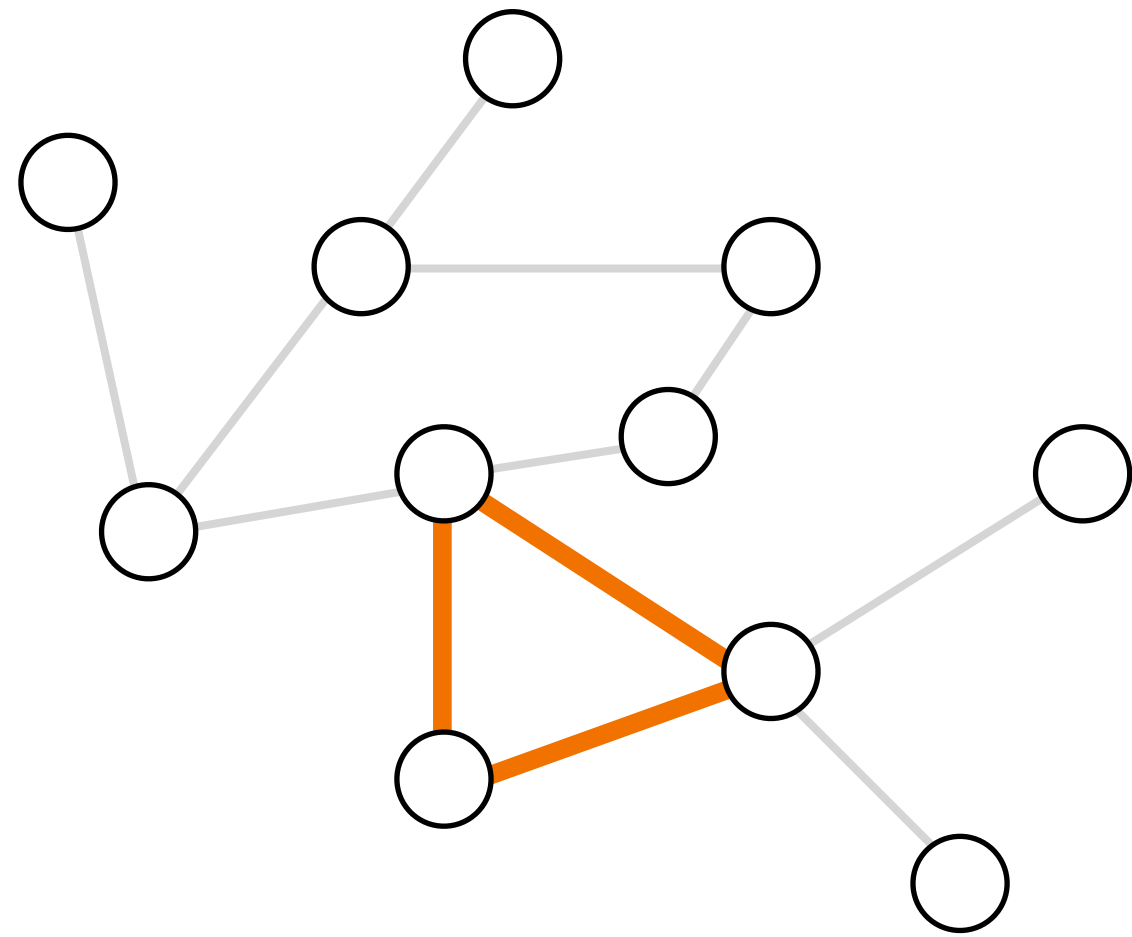
Number of **self-** and **multi-**edges decreases with network size





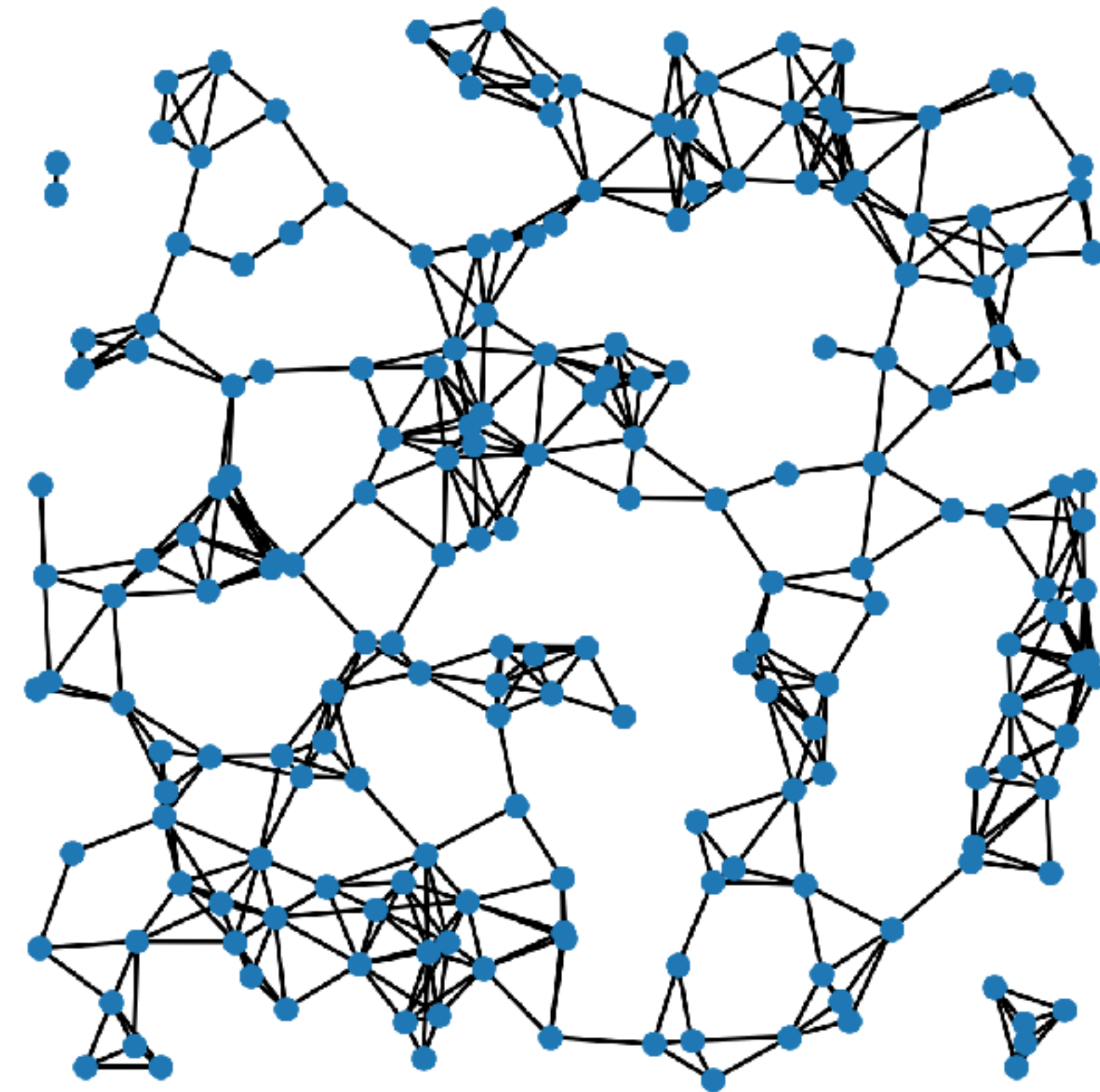
# Is the degree distribution all there is to networks?

The CM fails to generate networks with many triangles



CM networks display small clustering

**A spatial network**

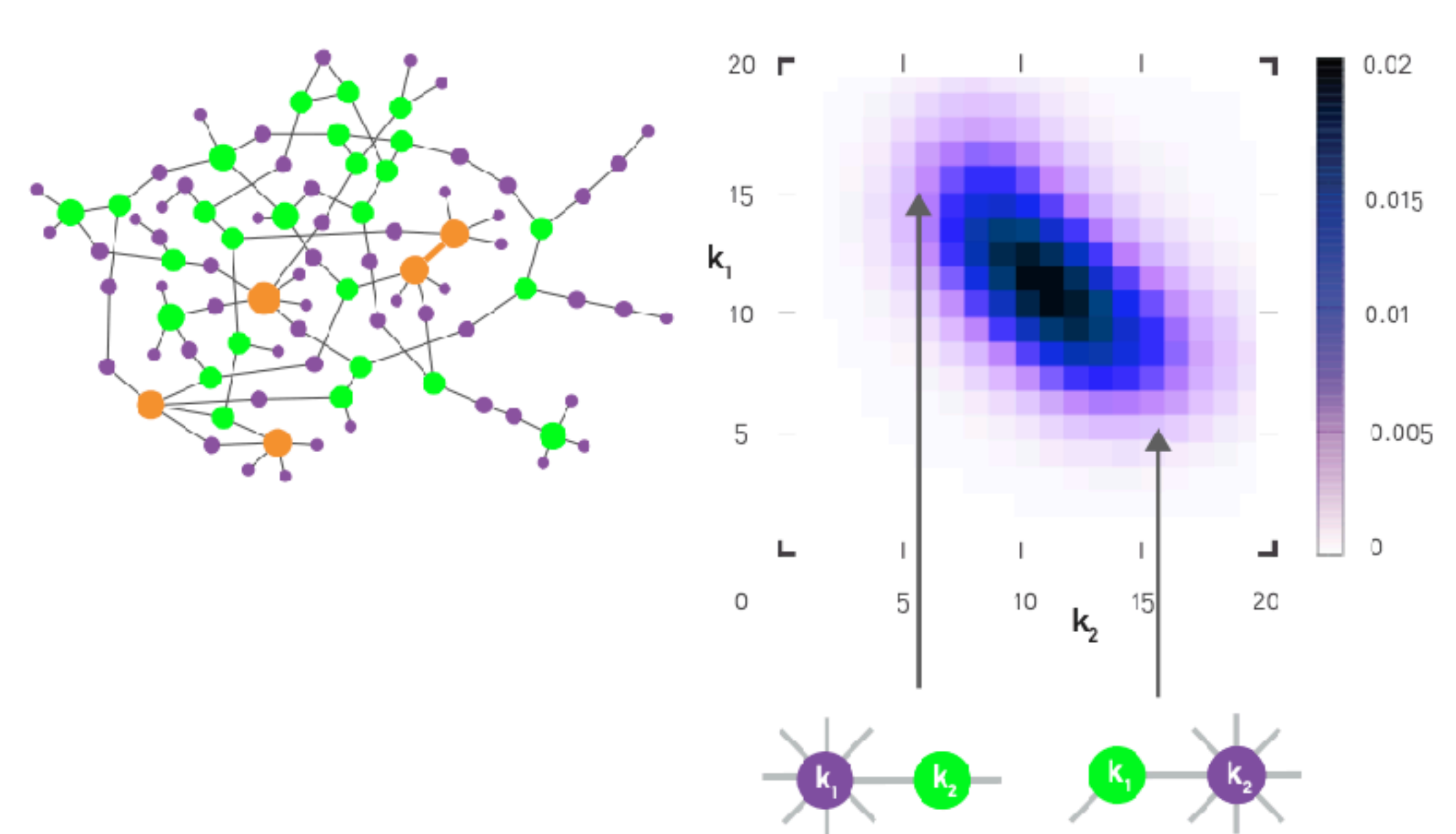
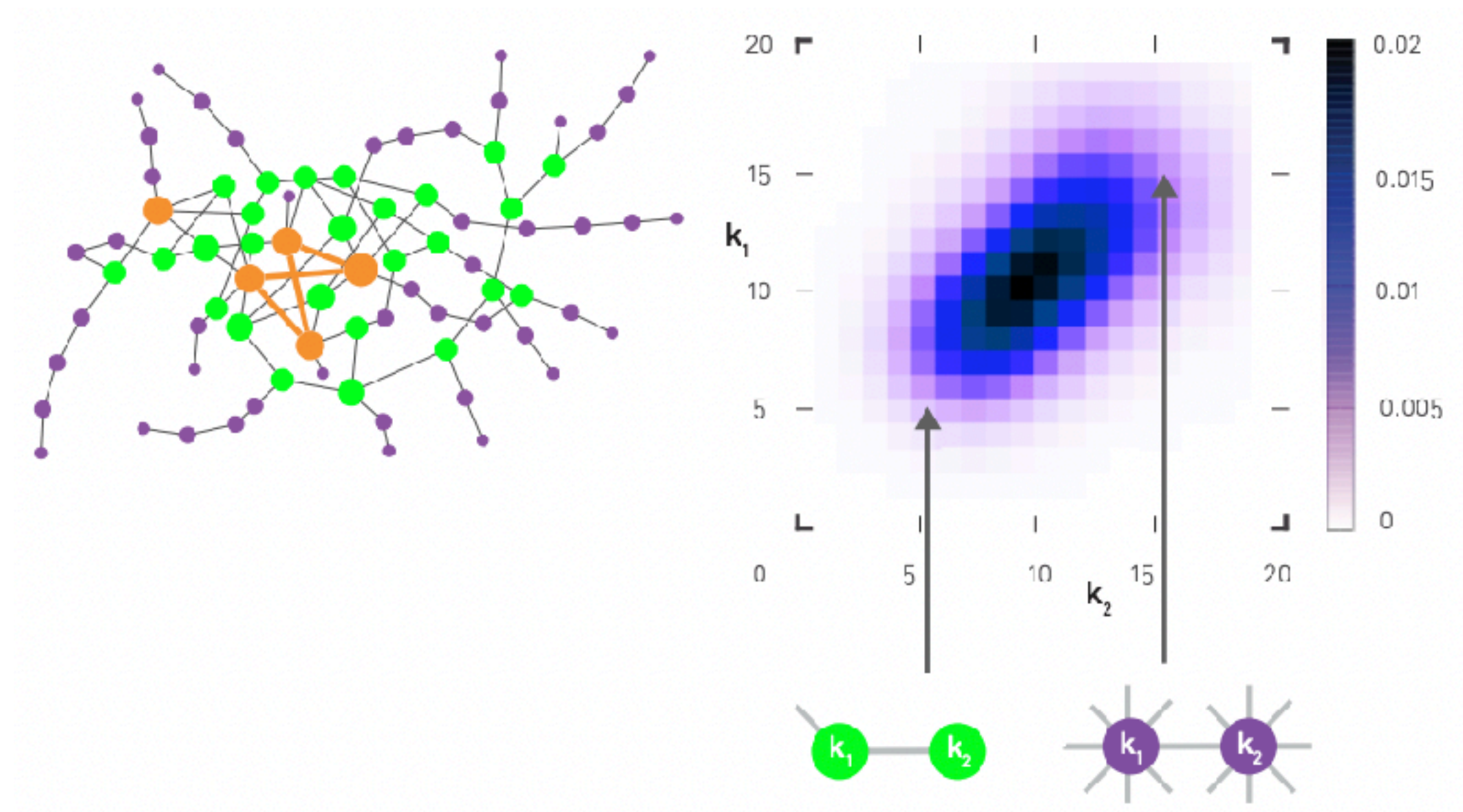


# Is the degree distribution all there is to networks?

The CM implies a connection probability:  $p_{i,j} = \frac{k_i k_j}{2|E|}$  i.e. nodes choose their connections at random

**Assortative networks:** nodes with similar degree tend to be neighbours

**Disassortative networks:** nodes with dissimilar degree tend to be neighbours



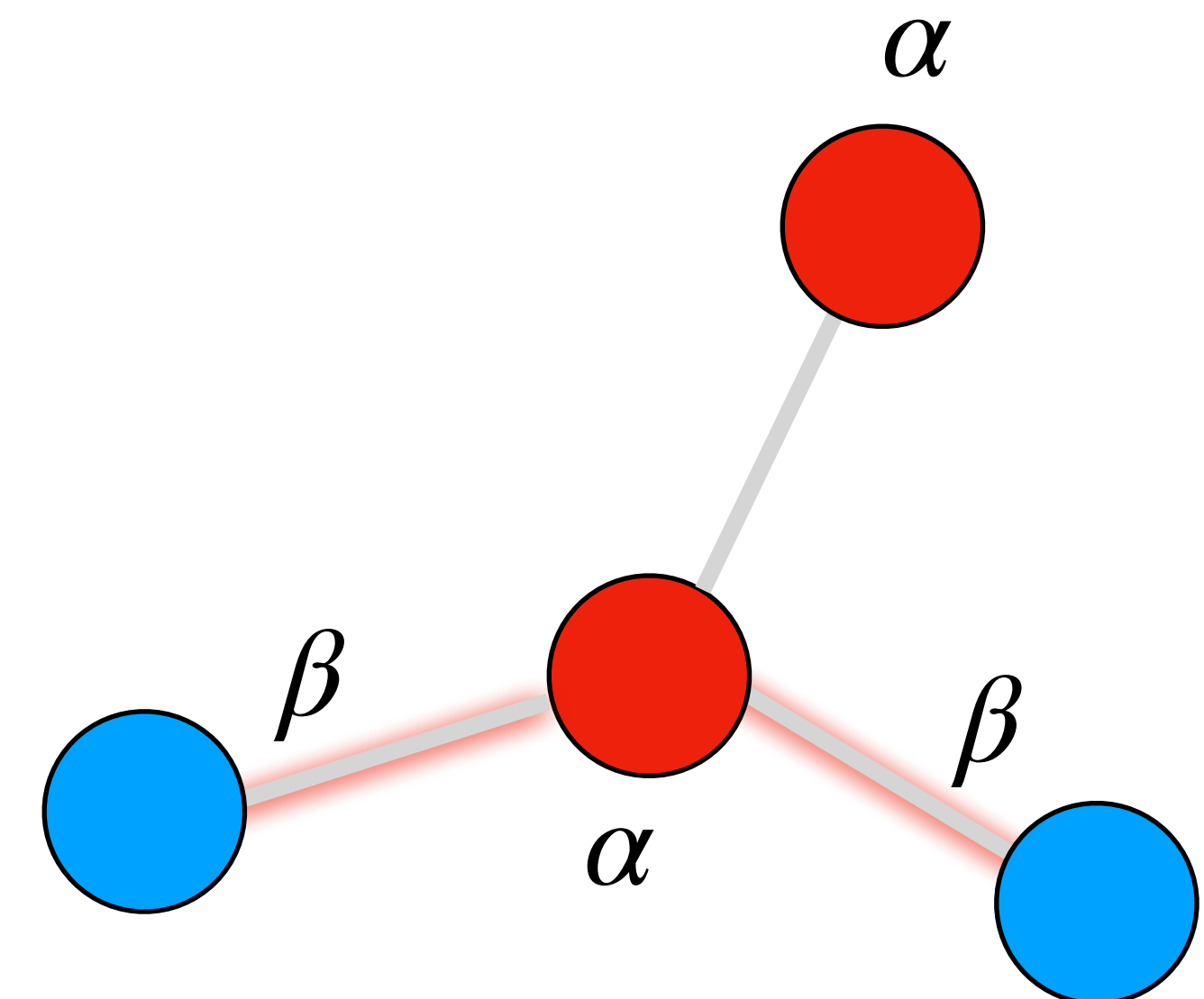
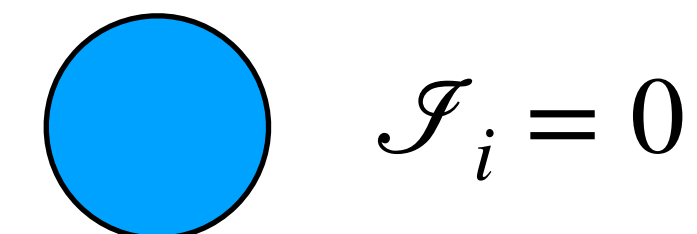
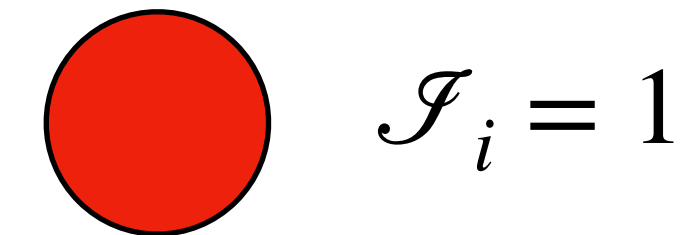
# SIS model on networks

Each individual/node is either susceptible ( $\mathcal{I}_i = 0$ ) or infected ( $\mathcal{I}_i = 1$ ).

Infection propagates along edges at rate  $\beta$  while recovery occurs at rate  $\alpha$

We define the probability  $\rho_i(t) = \Pr\{\mathcal{I}_i(t) = 1\}$  that node  $i$  is infected at time  $t$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho_i(t) = -\alpha\rho_i + \beta \sum_{j \neq i} A_{i,j} \cdot \underbrace{\Pr\{\mathcal{I}_i(t) = 0, \mathcal{I}_j(t) = 1\}}_{\text{Two-point correlation}}$$





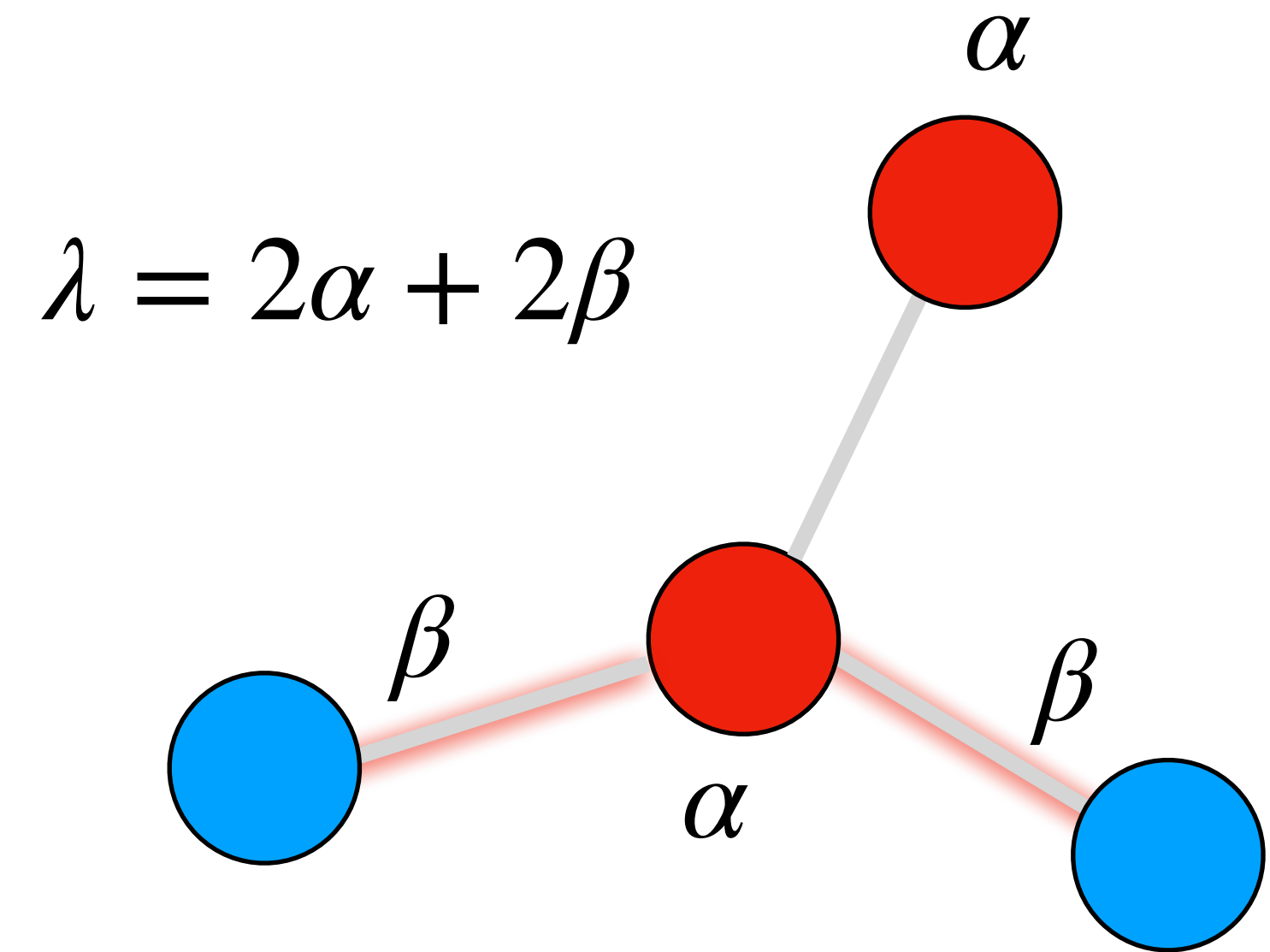
# Gillespie-SIS simulations

Key idea: recovery and infection times are exponentially distributed so the time to the next event (**recovery** or **infection**) is also exponentially distributed with rate:

$$\lambda = \alpha n_I(t) + \beta \sum_{i,j} A_{i,j} \mathcal{I}_i(t) [1 - \mathcal{I}_j(t)]$$

Then keep repeating the following steps:

- Draw time to next event  $\tau_{next} \sim \exp(\lambda)$
- Select an event proportionally to its rate
- Update the system according to chosen event



# Individual-based mean-field theory

**Problem:** the hierarchy of n-points correlations

$$\Pr\{\mathcal{J}_i(t) = a\} \longleftarrow \Pr\{\mathcal{J}_i(t) = a, \mathcal{J}_j(t) = b\} \longleftarrow \Pr\{\mathcal{J}_i(t) = a, \mathcal{J}_j(t) = b, \mathcal{J}_k(t) = c\} \longleftarrow$$

**Two-point correlation**                      **Three-point correlation**

**IBMF:** assuming independence between nodes stops the hierarchy

$$\Pr\{\mathcal{J}_i(t) = 0, \mathcal{J}_j(t) = 1\} \approx \Pr\{\mathcal{J}_i(t) = 0\} \cdot \Pr\{\mathcal{J}_j(t) = 1\} = [1 - \rho_i(t)] \cdot \rho_j(t)$$

**IBMF equations**

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho_i(t) = -\alpha\rho_i + \beta(1 - \rho_i) \sum_{j \neq i} A_{i,j}\rho_j$$

Just  $N$  equations!



# IBMF: epidemic threshold

Initially  $\rho_i$  is very small

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho_i(t) \approx -\alpha\rho_i + \beta \sum_{j \neq i} A_{i,j}\rho_j = \sum_j J_{i,j} \cdot \rho_j$$

**Jacobian matrix**

$$J_{i,j} = -\alpha\delta_{i,j} + \beta A_{i,j}$$

The eigenvalues  $\Lambda_n^J$  of  $J$  decide the fate of initial perturbations:

$$\vec{\rho} \approx \sum_n \vec{u}_n \cdot e^{\Lambda_n^J \cdot t}$$

- If all the  $\Lambda_n^J$  are negative,  $\vec{\rho}$  shrinks to 0, hence no equilibrium.
- If at least one  $\Lambda_n^J$  (the largest) is positive, the epidemic takes off.

**Epidemic threshold**

$$\max\{\Lambda_n^J\} = \beta \cdot \max\{\Lambda_n^A\} - \alpha \geq 0$$

$$R_0 = \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \cdot \max\{\Lambda_n^A\} \geq 1$$

# Degree-based mean-field approximation

Uses degree-aggregated variables, e.g. **density of infected nodes with degree  $k$**

$$I_k(t) \equiv \frac{n_{I,k}(t)}{N} = \frac{\sum_{i \in k} \rho_i(t)}{N}$$

$\sum_{i \in k}$  runs over nodes with degree  $k$

Evolves according to:

$$\frac{d}{dt} I_k(t) = -\alpha I_k + \beta(p_k - I_k) \sum_{k'} \frac{kk'}{\langle k \rangle} I_{k'}$$

Connection probability  $\propto kk'$

Hypotheses:


- Neglects neighbour correlations (like IBMF)
- Nodes with the same degree are dynamically equivalent
- Assumes that the pathogen spreads slowly with respect to the dynamics of pathogens

# From IBMF to DBMF

DBMF involves an approximation on top of IBMF.

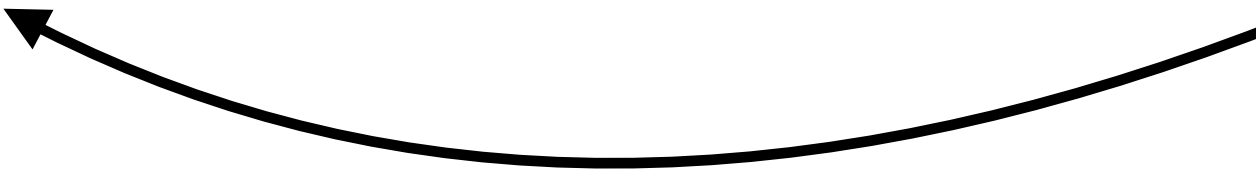
Sum over nodes with some degree and then over all degrees

$$\frac{d}{dt} \sum_{i \in k} \rho_i(t) = -\alpha \sum_{i \in k} \rho_i + \beta \sum_{i \in k} (1 - \rho_i) \sum_{j \neq i} A_{i,j} \rho_j$$

$$\sum_j = \sum_{k'} \sum_{j \in k'}$$


Annealed approximation:  
Nodes 'see' only the average connectivity

$$\frac{d}{dt} n_{I,k} = -\alpha n_{I,k} + \beta \sum_{k'} \sum_{i \in k} \sum_{j \in k'} (1 - \rho_i) \cdot A_{i,j} \cdot \rho_j$$

$$A_{i,j} \rightarrow p_{i,j} = \frac{k_i k_j}{N \langle k \rangle}$$


N.B. no degree correlations

$$\frac{d}{dt} n_{I,k} = -\alpha n_{I,k} + \beta \sum_{k'} \sum_{i \in k} (1 - \rho_i) \sum_{j \in k'} \rho_j \cdot \frac{k_i k_j}{N \langle k \rangle}$$

$$N \langle k \rangle = 2 |E|$$

# From IBMF to DBMF

DBMF involves an approximation on top of IBMF.

$$\frac{d}{dt}n_{I,k} = -\alpha n_{I,k} + \beta \sum_{k'} \sum_{i \in k} (1 - \rho_i) \sum_{j \in k'} \rho_j \cdot \frac{k_i k_j}{N \langle k \rangle}$$

But  $k_i = k$  and  $k_j = k'$  because  $i \in k$  and  $j \in k'$

$$\frac{d}{dt}n_{I,k} = -\alpha n_{I,k} + \beta k \sum_{i \in k} (1 - \rho_i) \sum_{k'} \frac{k' \sum_{j \in k'} \rho_j}{N \langle k \rangle}$$

The sums  $i \in k$  and  $j \in k'$  can now be done explicitly

$$\frac{d}{dt}n_{I,k} = -\alpha n_{I,k} + \beta k (n_k - n_{I,k}) \sum_{k'} \frac{k' I_{k'}}{\langle k \rangle}$$

Divide by  $N$  to get the DBMF equation

# DBMF: epidemic threshold

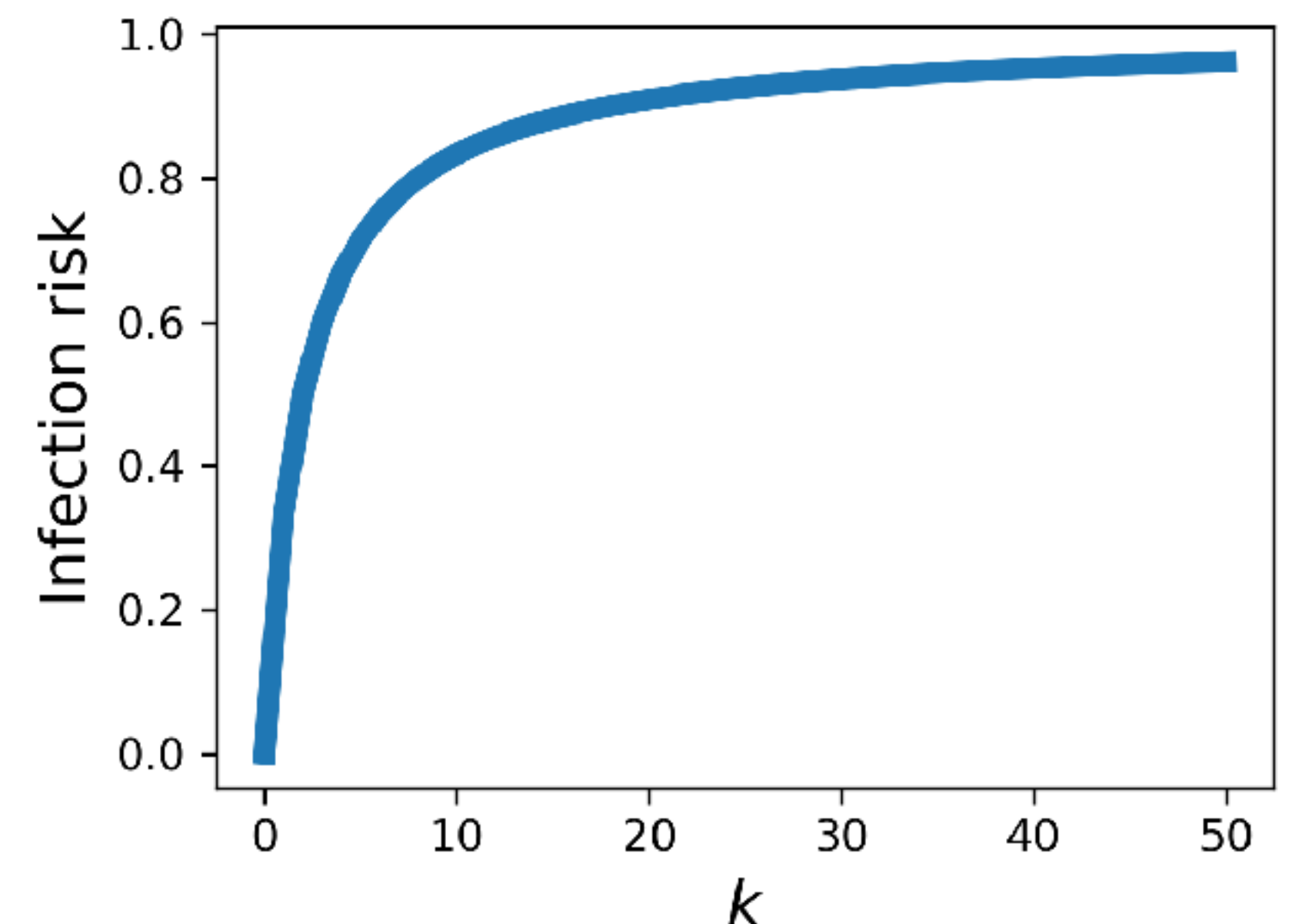
Let's find the stationary solution  $I_k^*$

$$-I_k^* + \lambda \Theta^* \cdot k(p_k - I_k^*) = 0 \quad \Theta(t) = \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle} \sum_k k I_k(t) \quad \lambda = \frac{\beta}{\alpha}$$

In terms of  $\Theta^*$  (still unknown):

$$I_k^* = \frac{\lambda \Theta^* k}{1 + \lambda \Theta^* k} \cdot p_k \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{I_k^*}{p_k} = \frac{\lambda \Theta^* k}{1 + \lambda \Theta^* k}$$

Probability of infection increases with degree  $k$





# DBMF: epidemic threshold

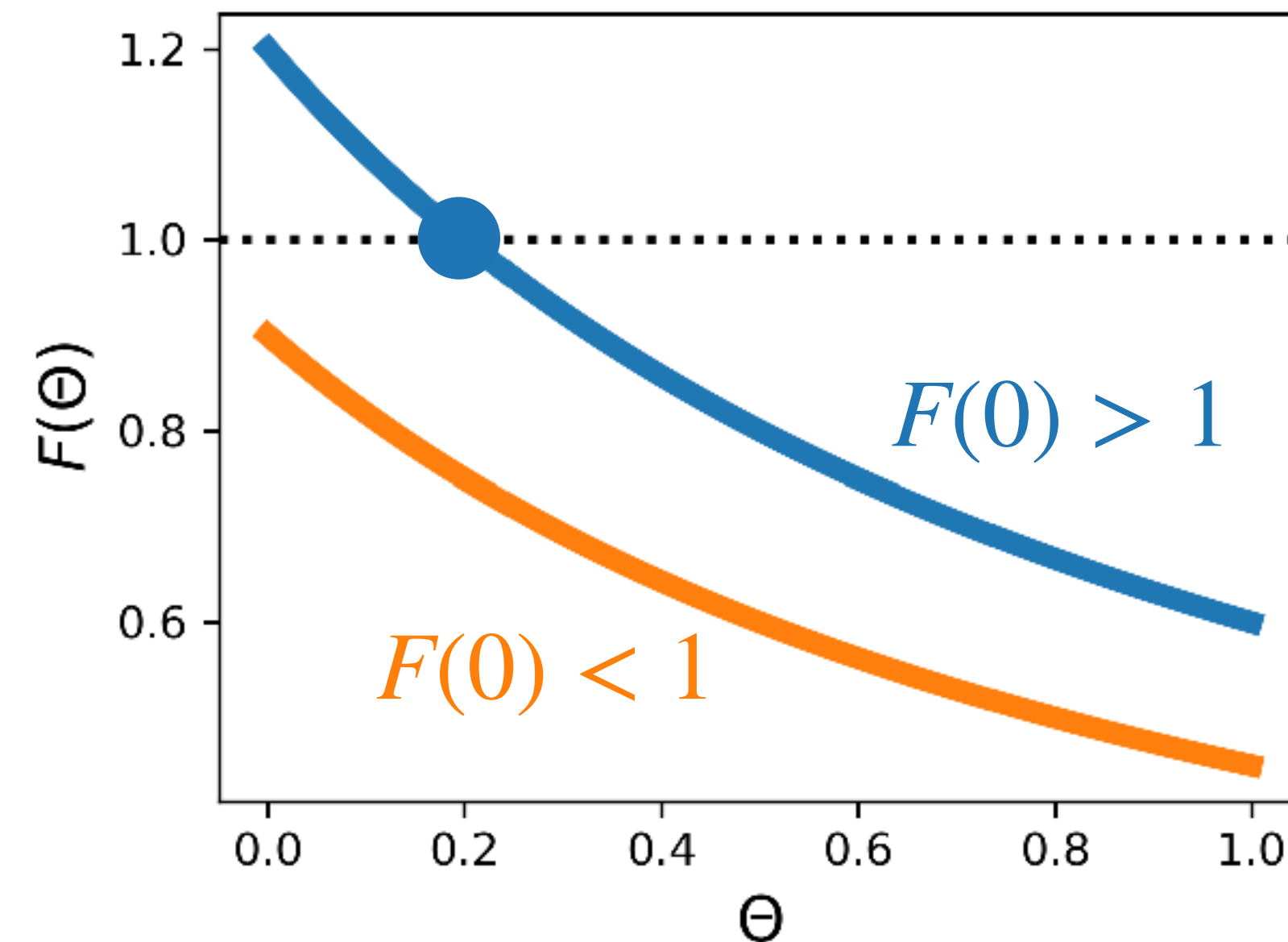
$\Theta^*$  is found using self-consistency. We are interested in the endemic solution  $\Theta^* > 0$ .

$$\Theta^* = \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle} \sum_k k I_k^* = \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle} \sum_k \frac{\lambda \Theta^* k^2}{1 + \lambda \Theta^* k} p_k \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{\frac{1}{\langle k \rangle} \sum_k \frac{\lambda k^2 \cdot p_k}{1 + \lambda \Theta^* k} = 1} \quad F(\Theta^*)$$

Has a solution only if  $F(0) \geq 1$

$$F(0) = \frac{\lambda}{\langle k \rangle} \sum_k k^2 p_k = \boxed{\frac{\beta}{\alpha} \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle}{\langle k \rangle} \geq 1}$$

We just found  $R_0 = \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle}{\langle k \rangle}$

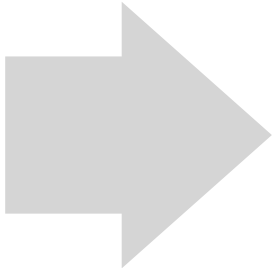


# Impact of contact heterogeneities

1. Contact heterogeneities facilitate transmission with respect to homogeneous mixing

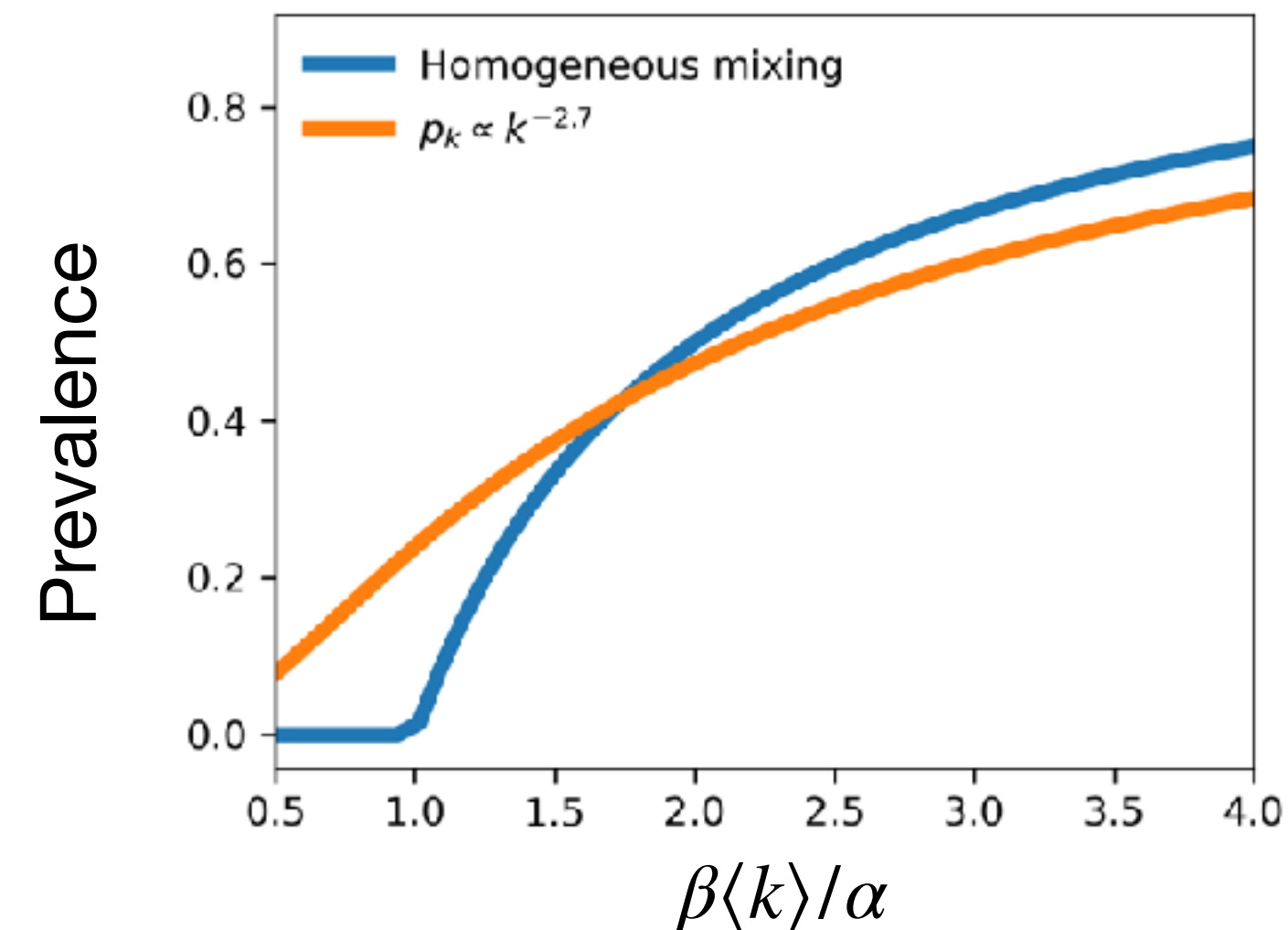
$$\frac{\beta}{\alpha} \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle}{\langle k \rangle} \geq \boxed{\frac{\beta}{\alpha} \langle k \rangle} \quad \text{Homogeneous mixing } R_0$$

2. Epidemic threshold can vanish in very heterogeneous networks

Assume  $p_k = Ck^{-\gamma}$    $\langle k^2 \rangle = \sum_k k^2 p_k = C \sum_k k^{-\gamma+2}$   $R_0$  diverges with  $\langle k^2 \rangle$  when  $\gamma < 3$

3. Smaller prevalence in networks

Low degree nodes do not contribute much to transmission: infection transmits in a part of the Network



# Comparison with IBMF

## IBMF

$$R_0^{IBMF} = \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \cdot \Lambda_m^A$$

## DBMF

$$R_0^{DBMF} = \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \cdot \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle}{\langle k \rangle}$$

Remember: DBMF makes a further approximation wrt IBMF

General result for random graphs

$$\Lambda_m^A = \max \left\{ \sqrt{k_{max}}, \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle}{\langle k \rangle} \right\}$$

$k_{max}$  : typical maximum degree

Assume  $p_k = Ck^{-\gamma}$  in a finite network of size  $N$

$$\Lambda_m^A = \begin{cases} \sqrt{k_{max}} & \text{if } \gamma > 2.5 \\ \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle}{\langle k \rangle} & \text{if } \gamma < 2.5 \end{cases}$$

# Vaccination in heterogeneous networks

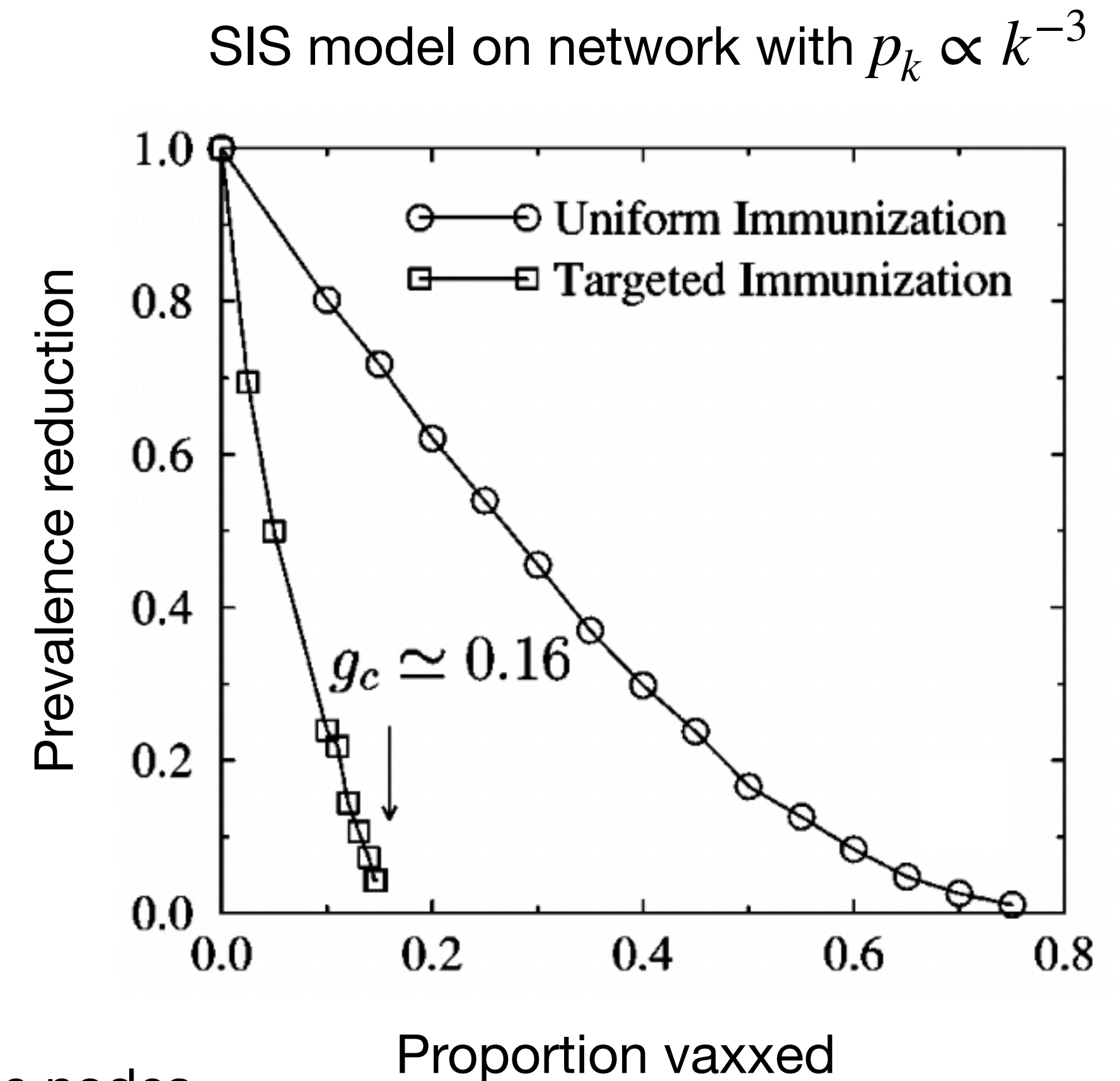
Which nodes should we vax?

- **Uniform vaccination**: select nodes at random
- **Targeted vaccination**: start from most connected nodes

The **targeted** strategy is better because it removes nodes that contribute the most to transmission (and their contacts)

$$R_0^{DBMF} = \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \cdot \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle}{\langle k \rangle}$$

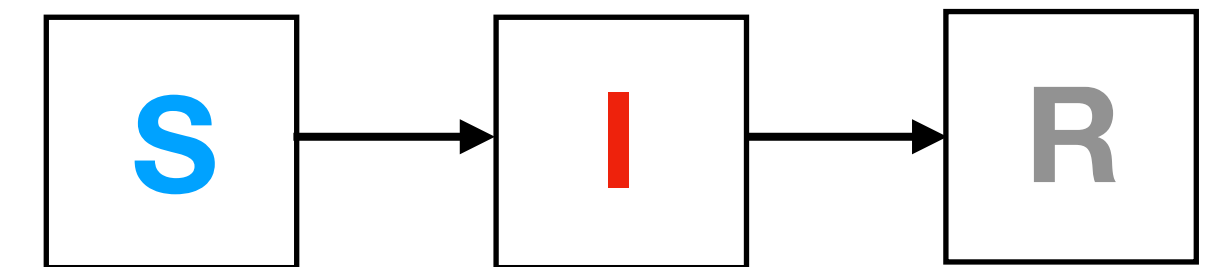
Suggests increasing returns from vaxing high-degree nodes



# DBMF analysis of SIR dynamics

Nodes with larger degrees are depleted faster

$$\frac{d}{dt}S_k(t) = -\beta k S_k \Theta \quad \Rightarrow \quad S_k(t) \approx e^{-\beta k \int_0^t \Theta(u) du}$$



Same epidemic threshold of SIS model

$$\frac{d}{dt}I_k(t) = -\alpha I_k + \beta k S_k \Theta \quad \Rightarrow \quad R_0 = \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle}{\langle k \rangle}$$



# Event-driven SIR simulations

Keep a time-ordered list  $Q$  of **recovery** and **infection** events.

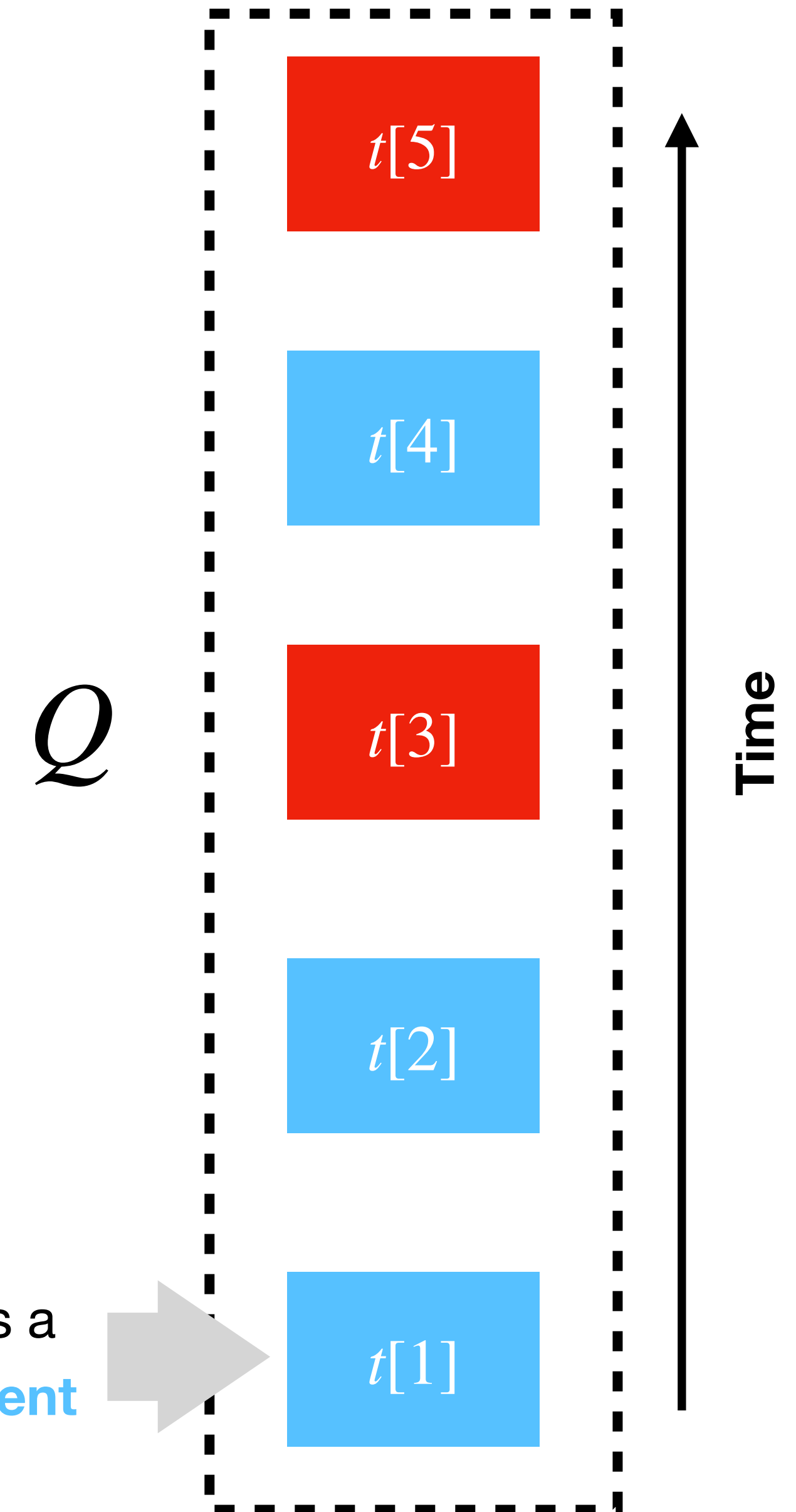
Apply events sequentially. Note that an event may spawn new events and thus modify  $Q$  itself.

Assume node  $i$  is infected at time  $t$ :

- Draw an infectious period  $\tau \sim \exp(\alpha)$  and push a **recovery event** into  $Q$
- For each susceptible neighbour  $j$  draw an infection time  $\tau_j \sim \exp(\beta)$ , but push an **infection event** only if  $\tau_j < \tau$  (i.e. before it recovers)

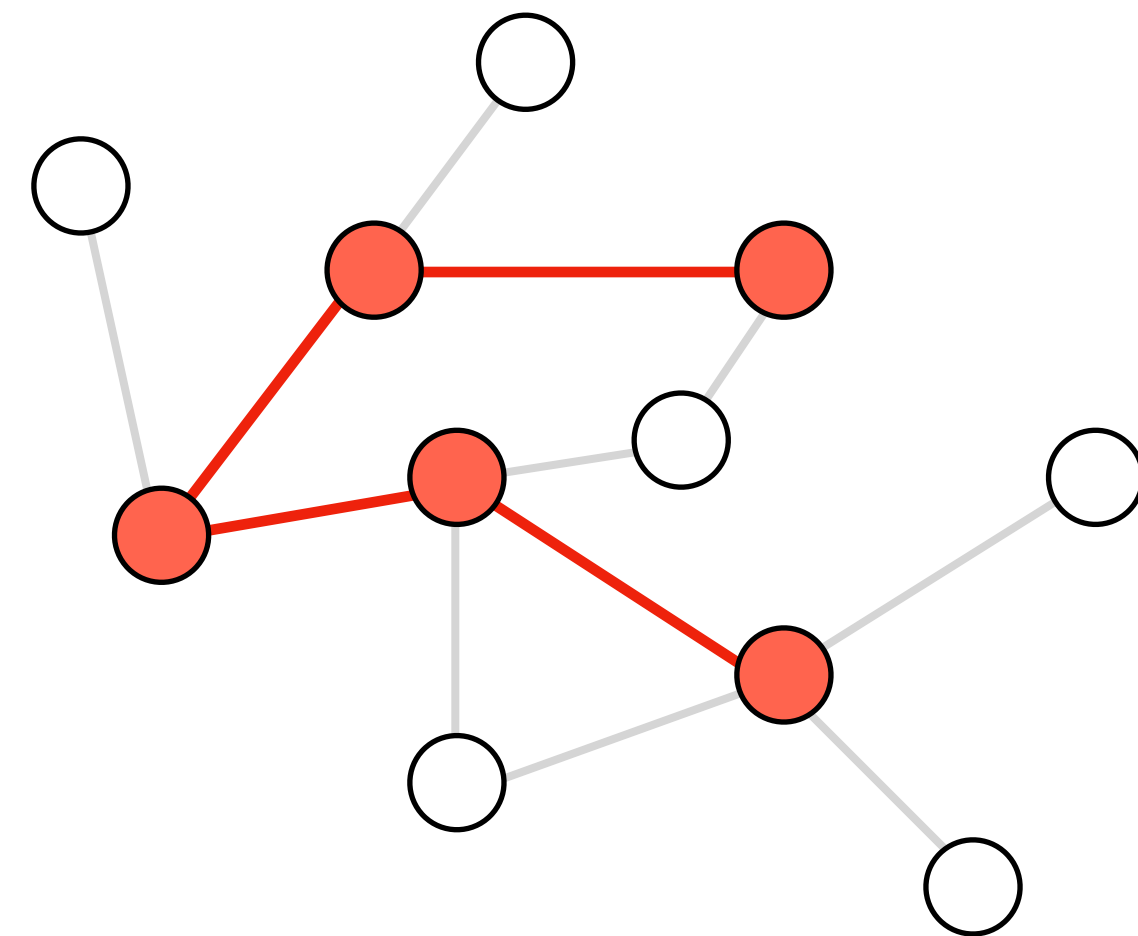
Discard infection events hitting infected or recovered nodes

Next event is a  
**recovery event**



# Percolation analysis of SIR dynamics

Key idea: retrospectively, an **outbreak** looks like the result of **percolation**



○ — Not occupied  
● — Occupied

Infection travels along one edge with probability

$$T = \frac{\beta}{\alpha + \beta}$$

**Bond occupation probability**

A large outbreak corresponds to an **infinitely large** percolating cluster

When percolation occurs mean cluster size  $\langle s \rangle$  diverges

**Desired result** (don't know  $T_c$  yet)

- If  $T < T_c$  then  $\langle s \rangle$  is finite (**no percolation/small outbreaks only**)
- If  $T > T_c$  then  $\langle s \rangle$  is infinite (**percolation/large outbreak**)

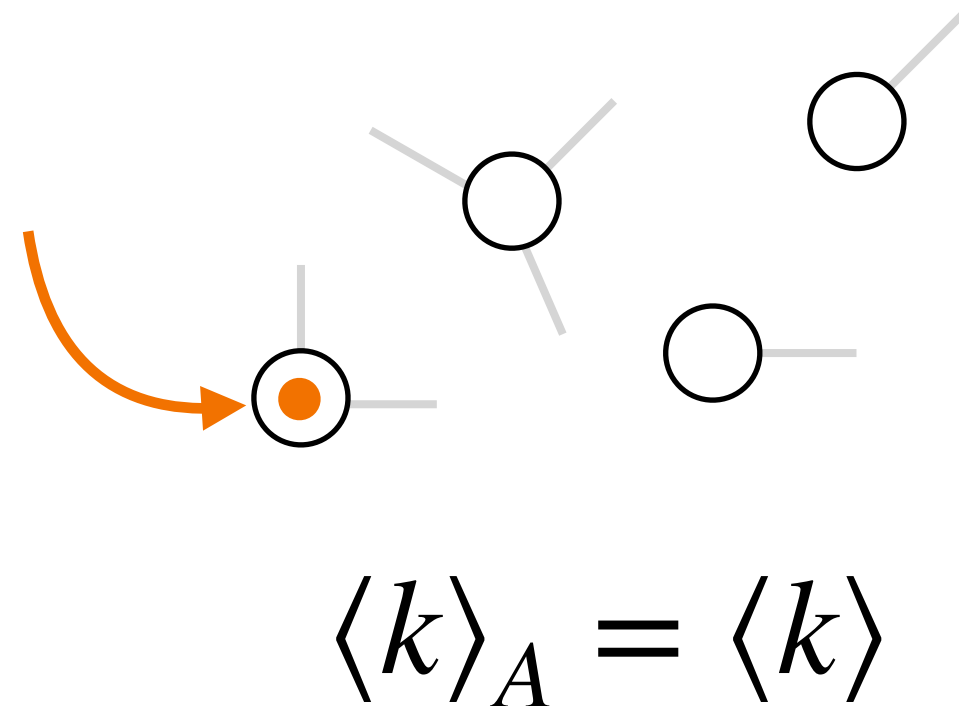
# Interlude: choosing a random node

What is the probability that a randomly chosen node has degree  $k$ ? Depends on how the node is selected!

## Strategy A:

Pick a random node label

Answer:  $p_k$

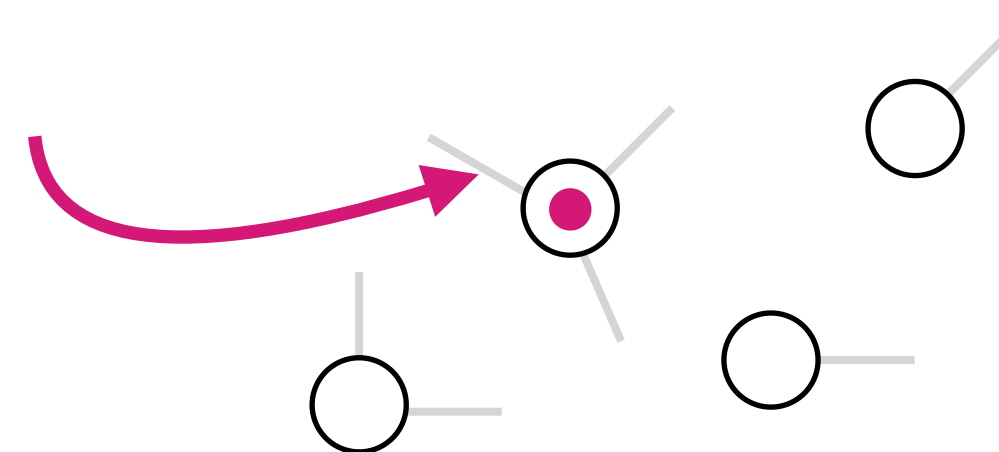


## Strategy B:

First pick a random edge and then one node at its ends (or pick a stub)

Answer:  $q_k = \frac{k p_k}{\langle k \rangle}$

A  $k = 10$  node is 10x more likely to be chosen than a  $k = 1$  node because 10 edges lead to it.



$$\langle k \rangle_B = \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle}{\langle k \rangle}$$

# Interlude: probability generating functions

Let  $p_n$  denote a discrete probability distribution. We define the PGF  $G(x) = \sum_n p_n x^n$

## Properties

1.  $G(x)$  encodes  $p_n$
2.  $G(x)$  allows to calculate the moments of  $p_n$
3. Convolution: if  $Z = X + Y$ , then  $G_Z(u) = G_X(u)G_Y(u)$
4. Composition: if  $Z = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_K$  where  $K$  itself is random, then  $G_Z(u) = G_K(G_X(u))$

## Moments

$$G(x=1) = \sum_n p_n = 1 \quad \frac{d}{dx}G(x=1) = \sum_n np_n = \langle n \rangle$$

# Examples

1. **Bernoulli** “One egg hatches with probability  $T$ ”

$$\text{Let } X = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{with prob. } 1 - T \\ 1 & \text{with prob. } T \end{cases} \quad G_X(u) = (1 - T) \cdot u^0 + T \cdot u^1 = 1 - T + Tu \quad \text{(PGF definition)}$$

2. **Binomial** “One hen lays a fixed number  $M$  of eggs, each hatching with probability  $T$ ”

$$Y \sim \text{Binomial}(M, T). \text{ Because } Y = X_1 + \dots + X_M: \quad G_Y(u) = G_X^M(u) = (1 - T + Tu)^M \quad \text{(Property 3: addition)}$$

3. **Binomial with random number of draws** “One hen lays a random number  $M$  of eggs, each hatching with probability  $T$ ”

$$G_Y(u) = G_M(G_X(u)) = G_M(1 - T + Tu) \quad \text{(Property 4: composition)}$$

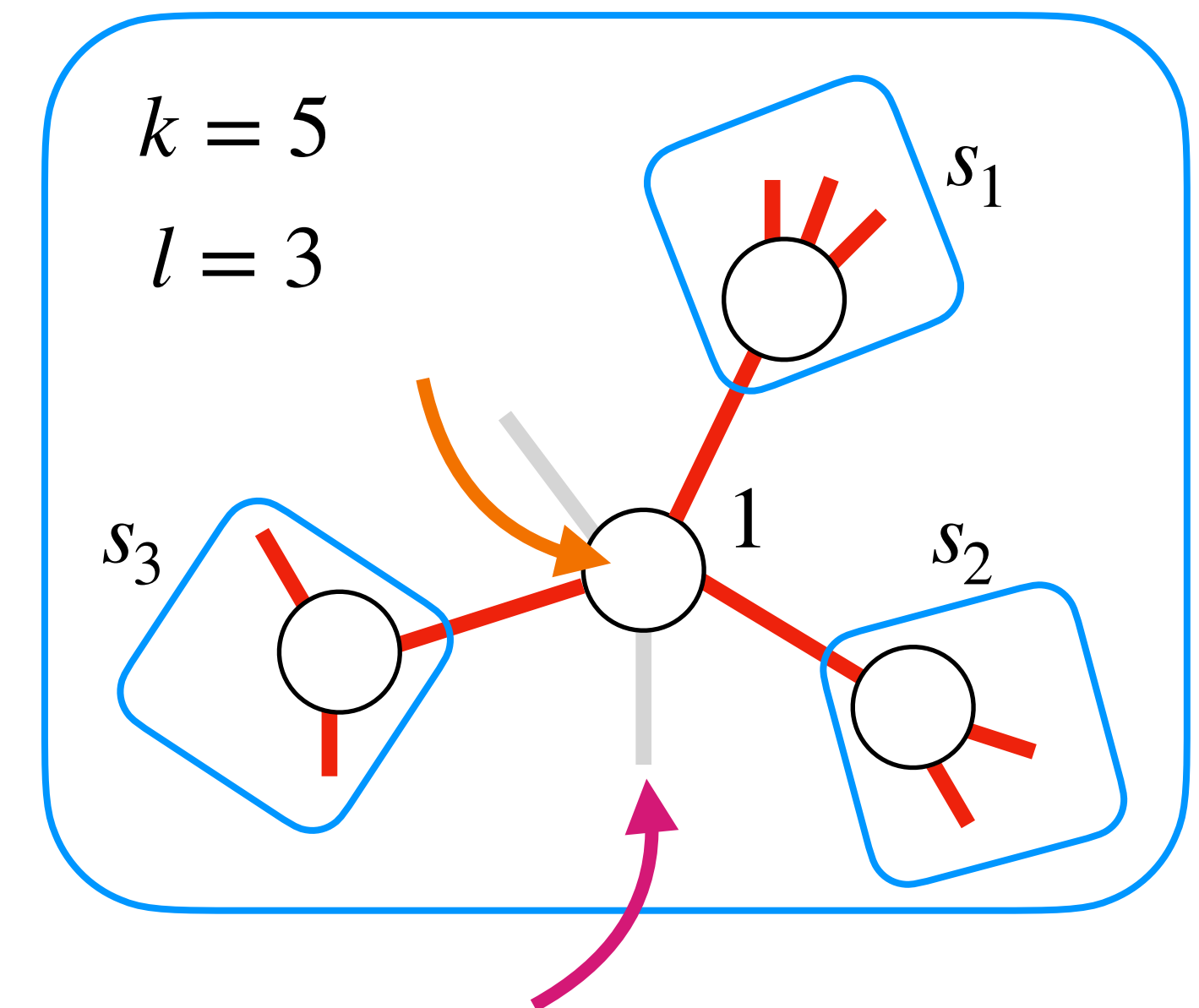


# Back to SIR and percolation

Pick a random node. How large is the cluster containing it?

Assume node has degree  $k$ , but only  $l \leq k$  edges are occupied

$$s = 1 + s_1 + s_2 + s_3$$



Cluster size can be found recursively (exact on **trees**)

$$s = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^l s_i$$

# Back to SIR and percolation

Pick a random node. How large is the cluster containing it?

Assume node has degree  $k$ , but only  $l \leq k$  edges are occupied

Define:

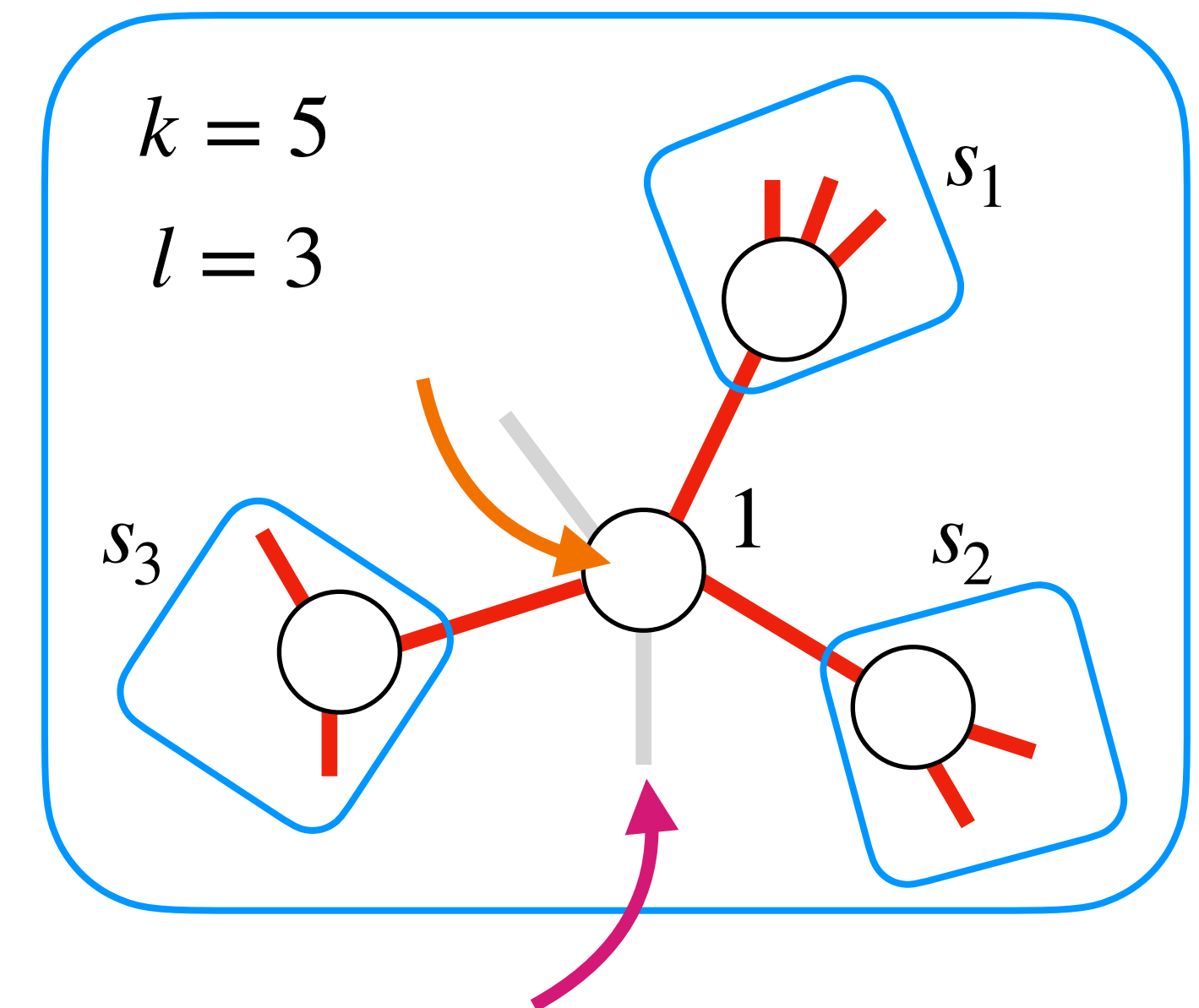
- The PGF of cluster sizes when the first node is picked with **strategy A**:  $H_A(u)$
- The PGF of cluster sizes when the first node is picked with **strategy B**:  $H_B(u)$
- The PGF of the degree distribution  $G_A(u)$  (needed with **strategy A**)

- The PGF of the excess degree distribution  $G_B(u) = \sum_k \frac{(k+1)p_{k+1}}{\langle k \rangle} u^k$  (needed with **strategy B**)

Cluster size can be found recursively (exact on **trees**)

$$s = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^l s_i$$

$$s = 1 + s_1 + s_2 + s_3$$



$$\langle s \rangle = H'_A(1)$$

# Cluster size PGF

Pick a random node. How large is the cluster containing it?

Assume node has degree  $k$  , but only  $l \leq k$  edges are occupied

Cluster size can be found recursively (exact on **trees**)

$$s = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^l s_i$$

Using **strategy A** to pick the initial node:

**Prop. 3**

**Prop.4**

$$H_A(u) = u \cdot G_A[1 - T + TH_B(u)]$$

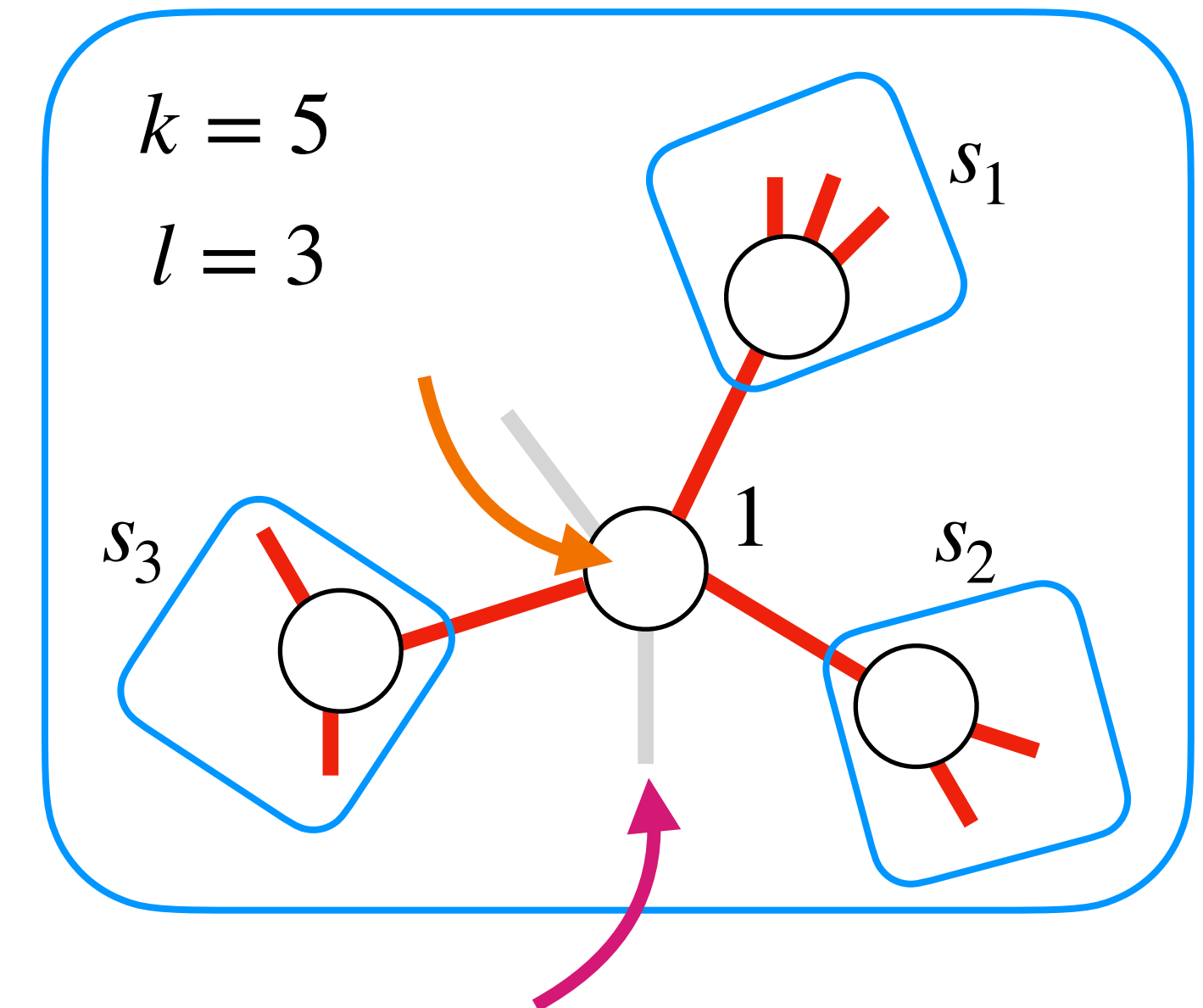
Initial node contributes 1  
to cluster size,  $G(u) = u$

Initial degree comes from  
 $p_k$  due to **strategy A**

Random occupation  
contributes  
 $1 - T + T(\cdot)$

Sub-clusters are entered  
by following an edge  
(**strategy B**)

$$s = 1 + s_1 + s_2 + s_3$$



# Cluster size PGF

Pick a random node. How large is the cluster containing it?

Assume node has degree  $k$ , but only  $l \leq k$  edges are occupied

Cluster size can be found recursively (exact on **trees**)

$$s = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^l s_i$$

Using **strategy B** to pick the initial node:

**Prop. 3**

**Prop.4**

$$H_B(u) = u \cdot G_B[1 - T + TH_B(u)]$$

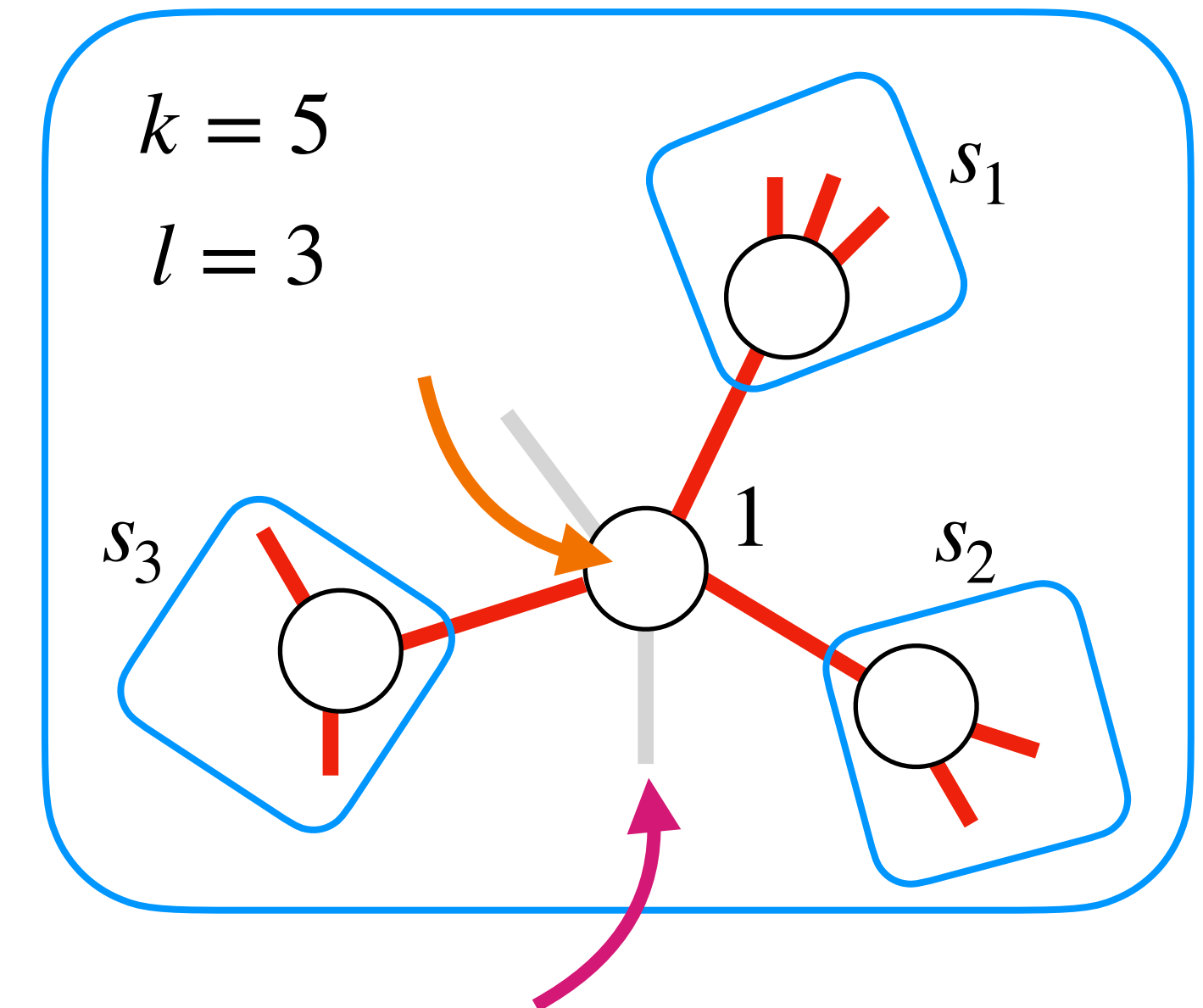
Initial node contributes 1  
to cluster size,  $G(u) = u$

Initial degree comes from  
 $kp_k/\langle k \rangle$  due to **strategy B**

Random occupation  
contributes  
 $1 - T + T(\cdot)$

Sub-clusters are entered  
by following an edge  
(**strategy B**)

$$s = 1 + s_1 + s_2 + s_3$$



# Mean cluster size

Finally, use **property 2** to obtain mean cluster size from PGFs

$$H_A(u) = u \cdot G_A[1 - T + TH_B(1 - T + Tu)] \longrightarrow \langle s \rangle = H'_A(1) = 1 + TG'_A(1)H'_B(1)$$

$$H_B(u) = u \cdot G_B[1 - T + TH_B(1 - T + Tu)]$$

$$H'_B(1) = \frac{1}{1 - TG'_B(1)}$$

**Mean cluster size:**

$$\langle s \rangle = 1 + \frac{TG'_A(1)}{1 - TG'_B(1)}$$

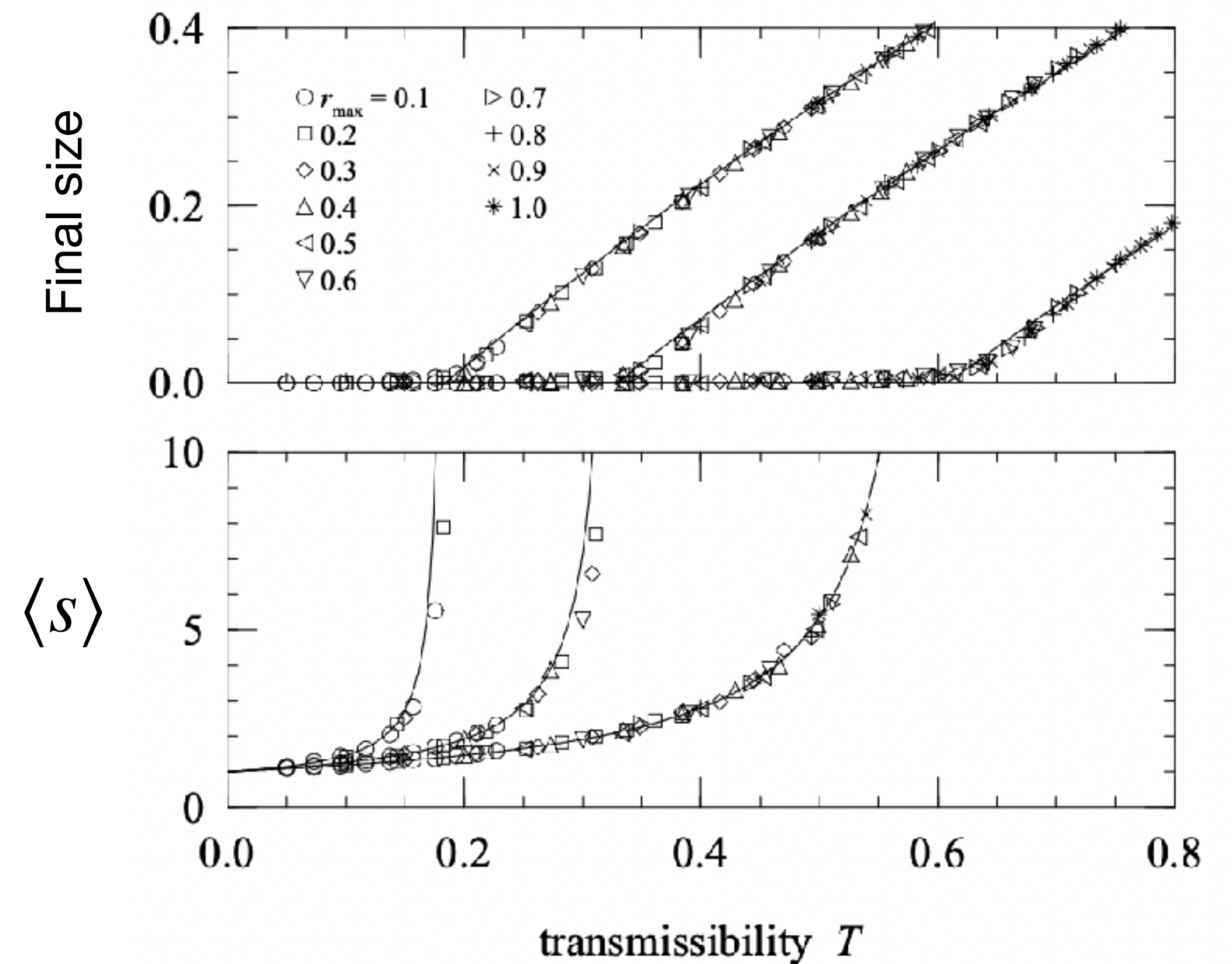


# Percolation threshold

Using  $T = \frac{\beta}{\beta + \alpha}$  a large outbreak occurs when:

$$\frac{\beta}{\alpha} \geq \frac{\langle k \rangle}{\langle k^2 \rangle - 2\langle k \rangle}$$

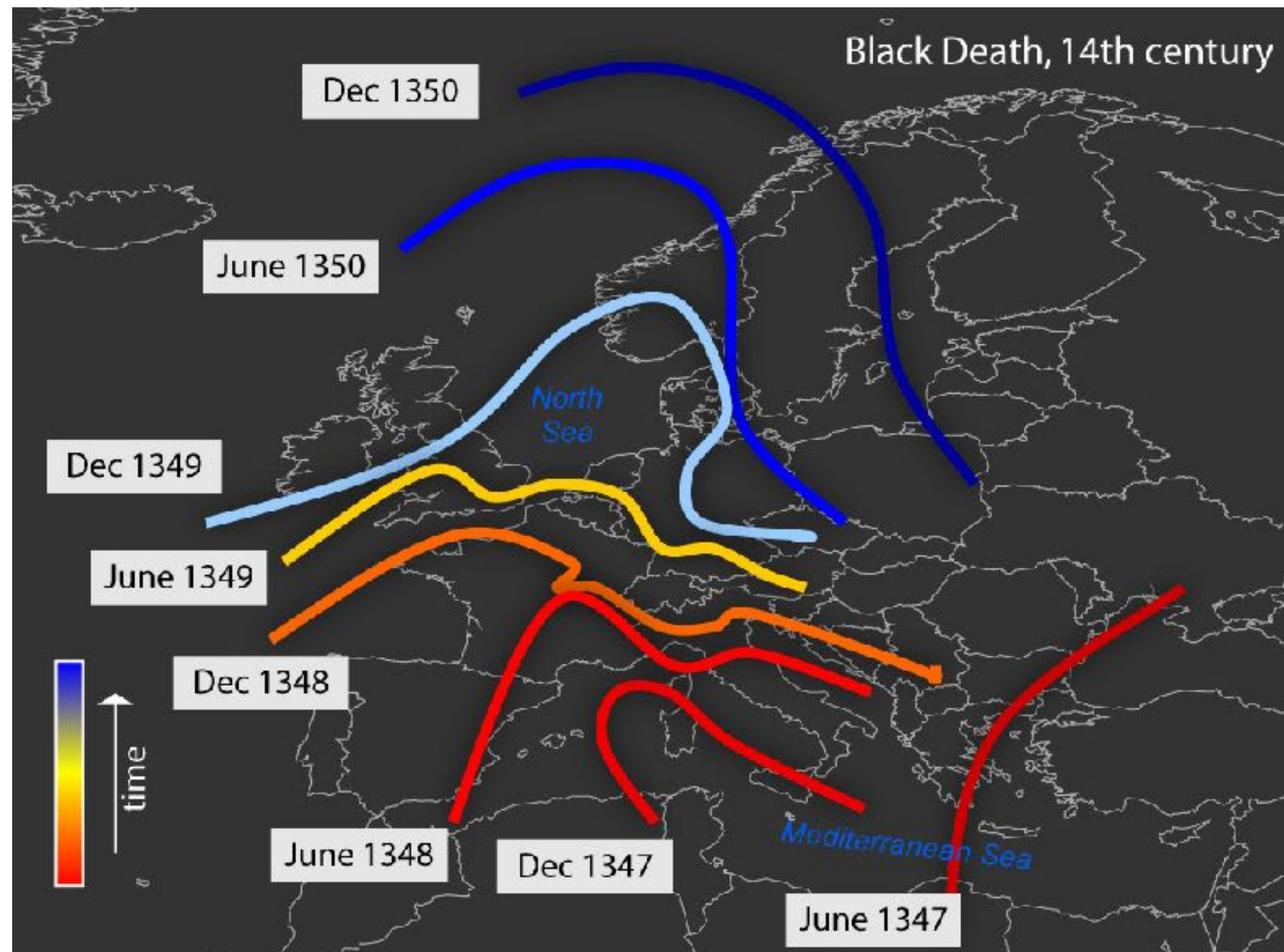
Exact on trees, works well with loopy networks



# **Spatial and metapopulation models**



# The Black Death (1347-1350)



Credits: Langer, Sci Amer 1964;  
Chiara Poletto

Front velocity:

$$v = 2\sqrt{D(R_0 - 1)\alpha} \approx 140 \text{ miles} \cdot \text{y}^{-1}$$

Noble, *Nature*, 1974

Where:

$R_0$  : Basic reproductive number

$\alpha$  : Recovery/death rate

$D$  : Diffusion constant

Relates to host **dispersal**

# Diffusion in space

Let  $f(\vec{r}, t)$  denote the density of hosts in space and time

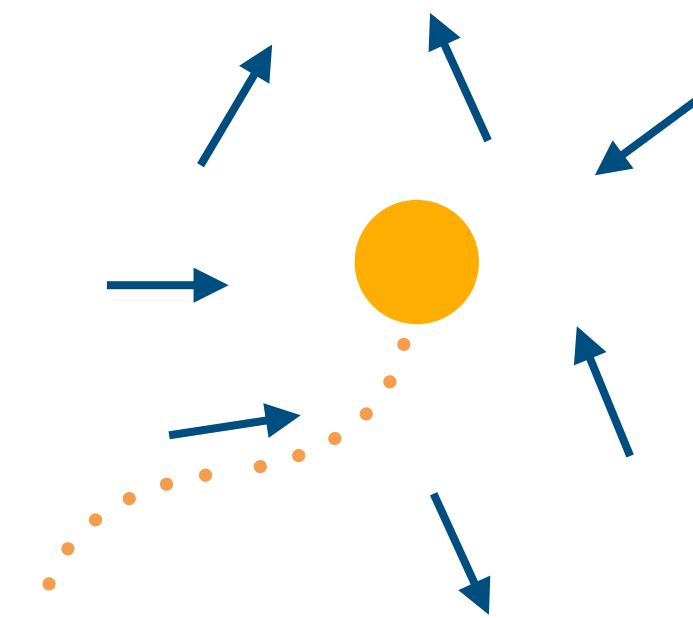
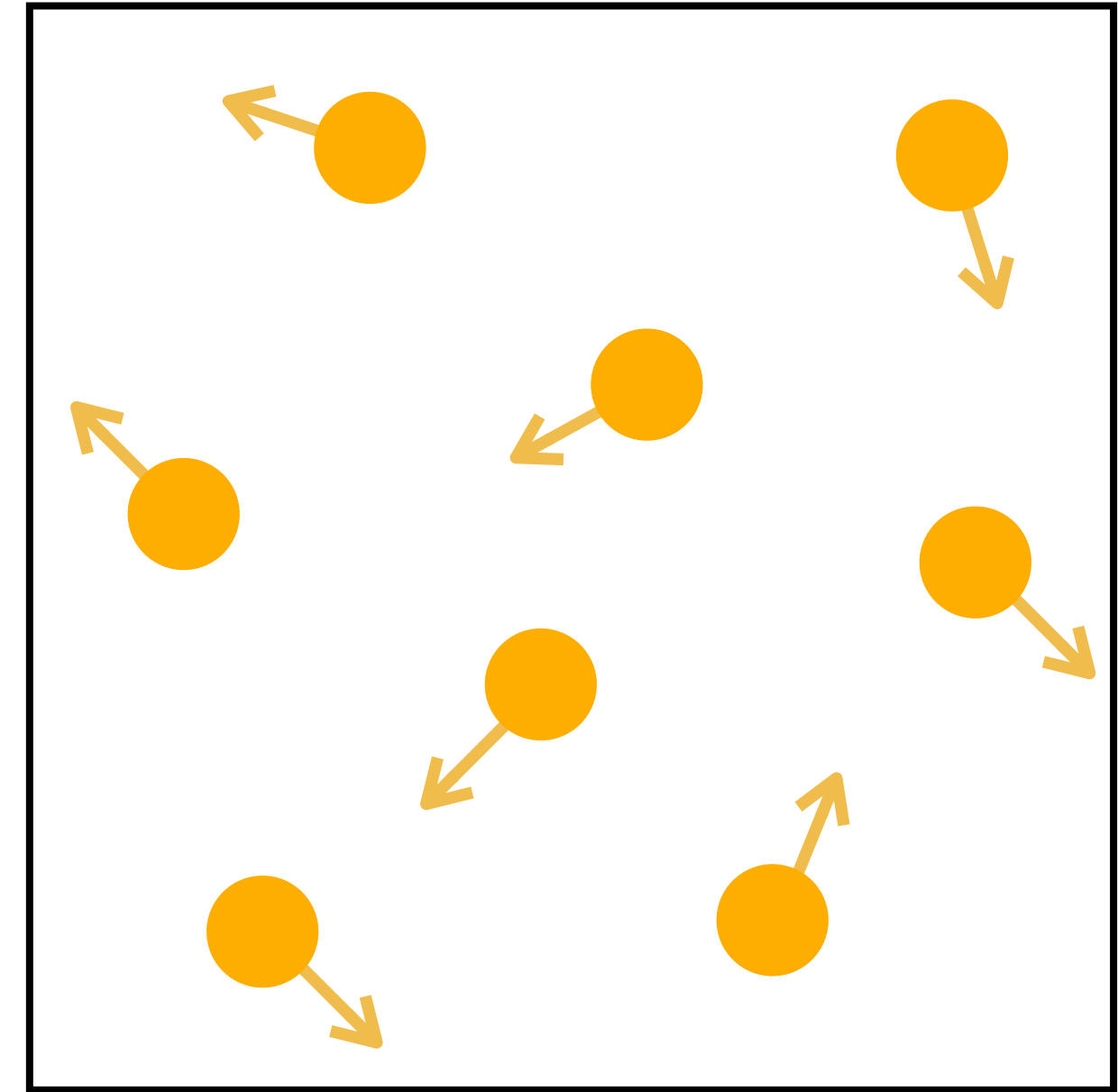
$$\frac{\partial f(\vec{r}, t)}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 f(\vec{r}, t)}{\partial x^2} + D \frac{\partial^2 f(\vec{r}, t)}{\partial y^2}$$

**2D Laplacian:**  $D \nabla^2 f$

This PDE describes hosts moving as **random walkers**:

It is equivalent to an equation of motion with a **random force**  $\vec{\eta}$

$$\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \vec{\eta}$$



$\vec{\eta}$  pulls the walker in random directions  
all the time



# Reaction-diffusion equations

- **Diffusion** alone is boring
- **Diffusion** & **local reactions** create interesting patterns

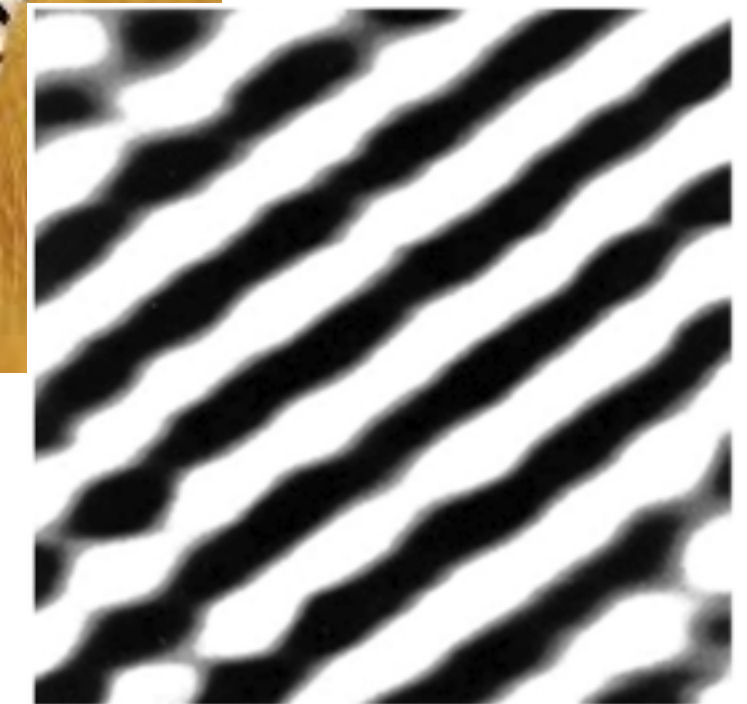
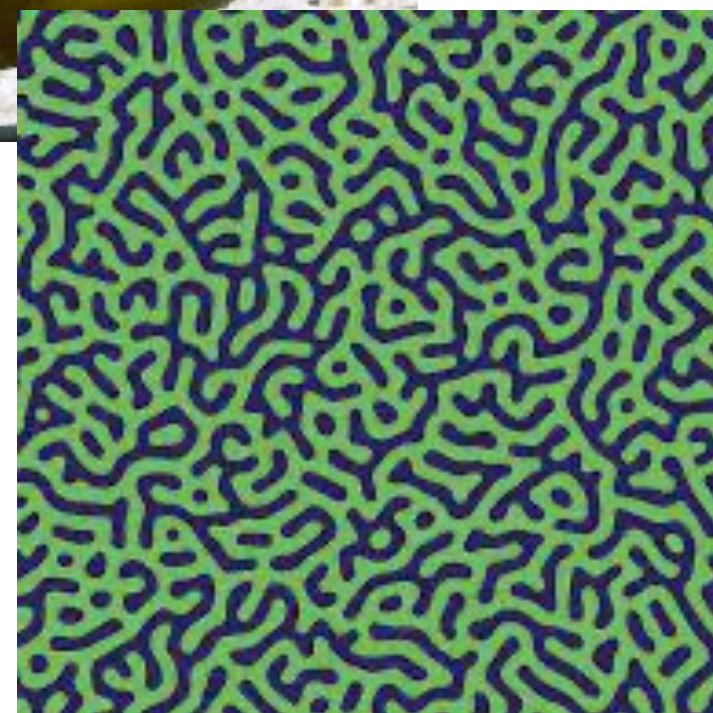
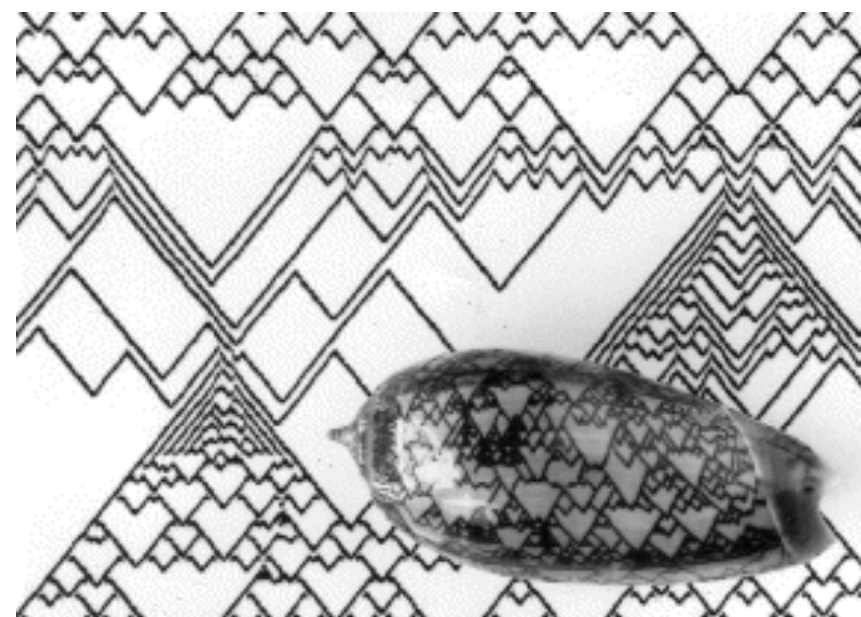
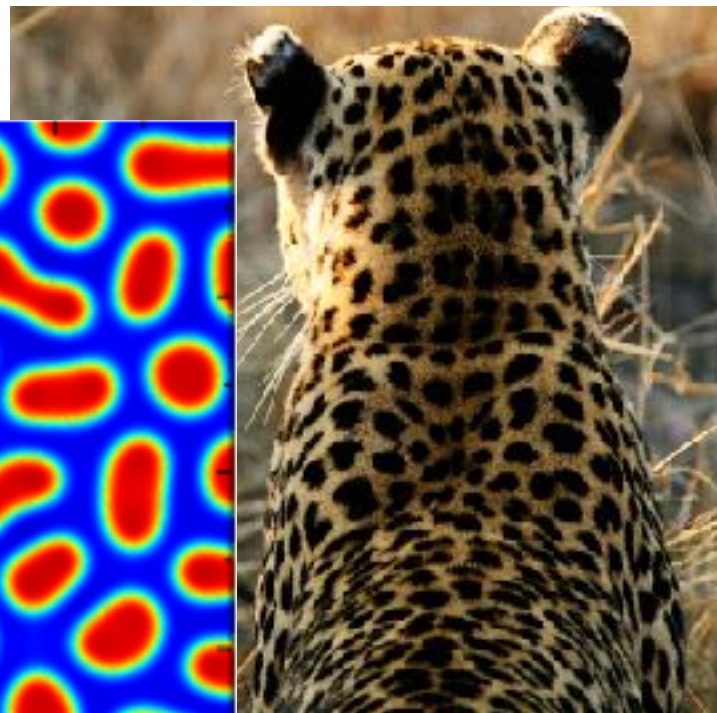
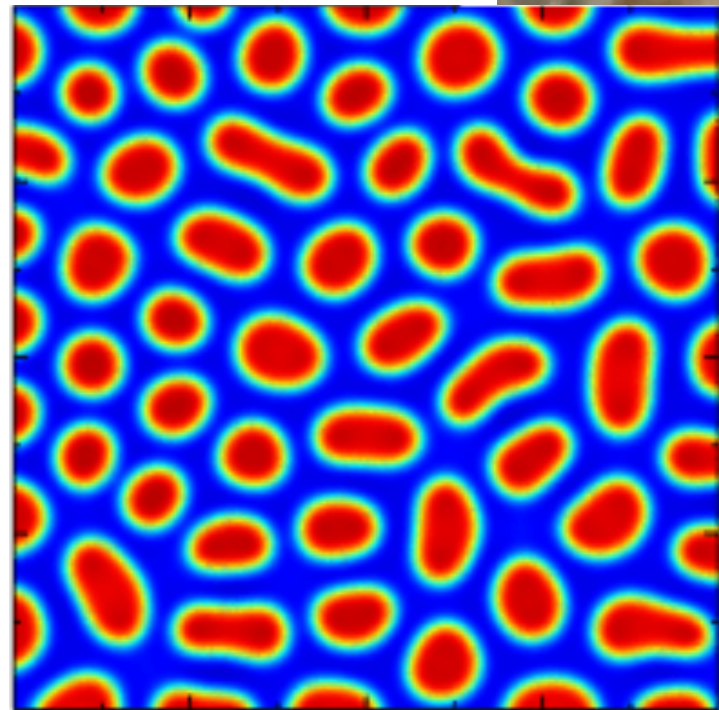
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = D \nabla^2 f + R(f)$$

**Reaction term**

E.g. local death:

$$R(\vec{x}, t) = -\alpha f(\vec{x}, t)$$

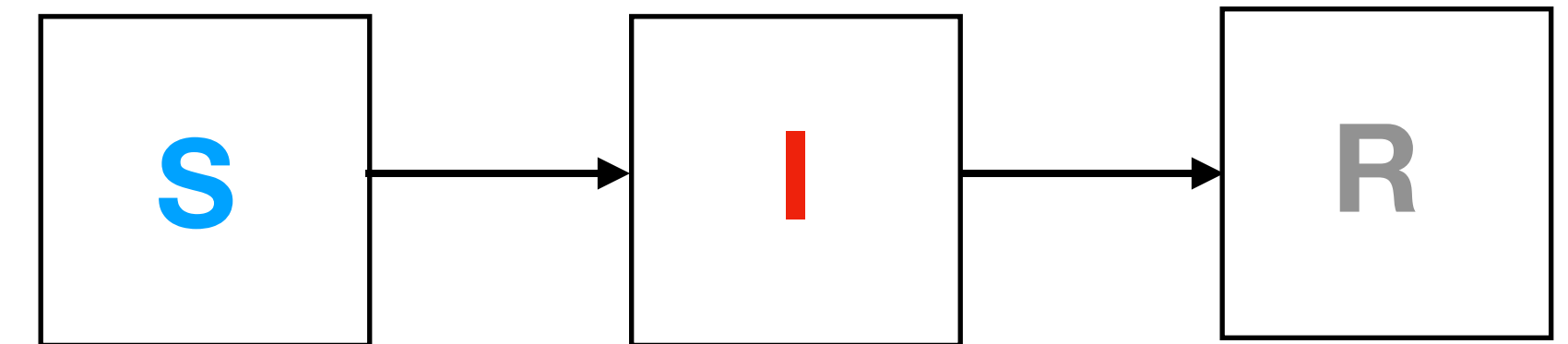
Turing patterns are found everywhere!



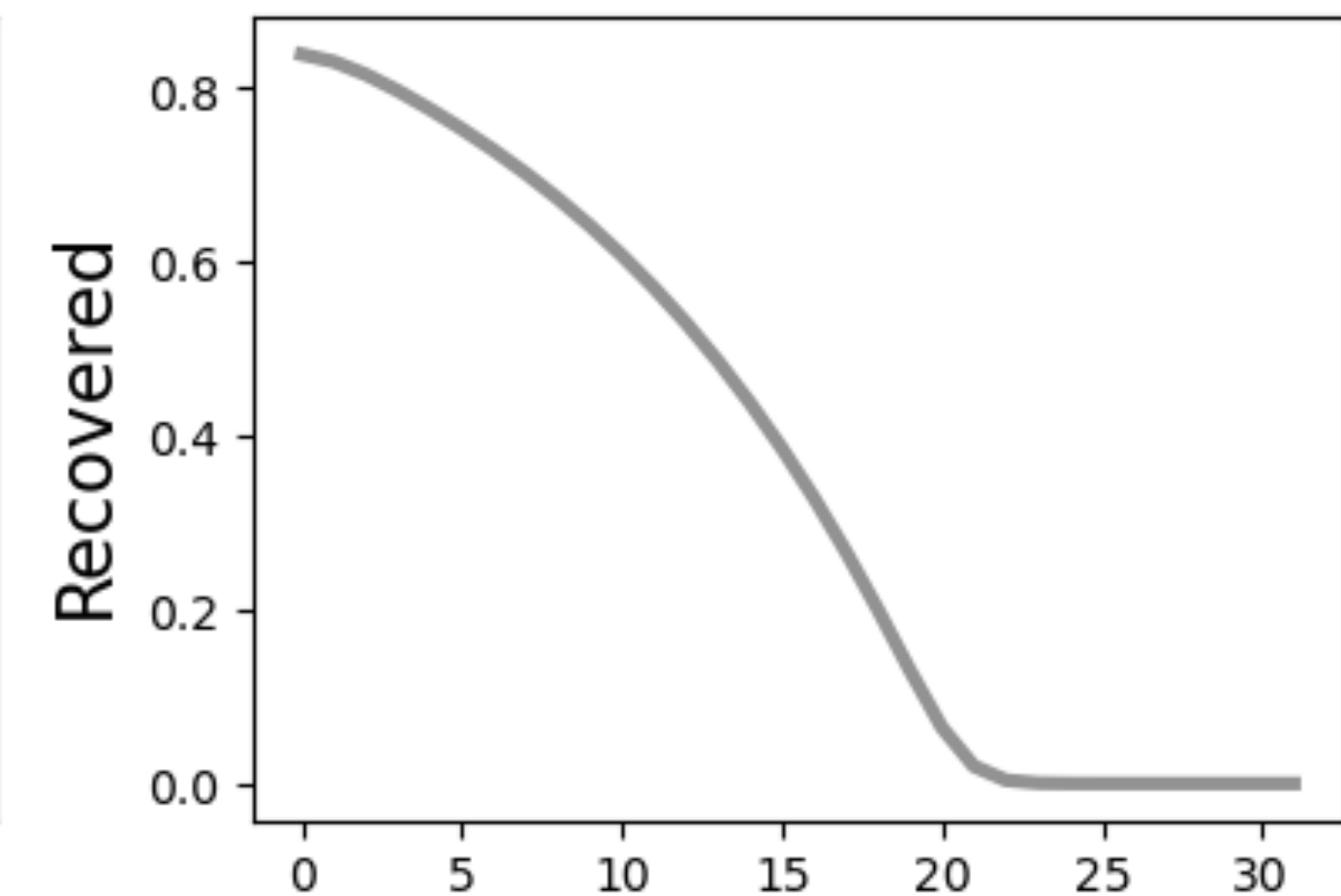
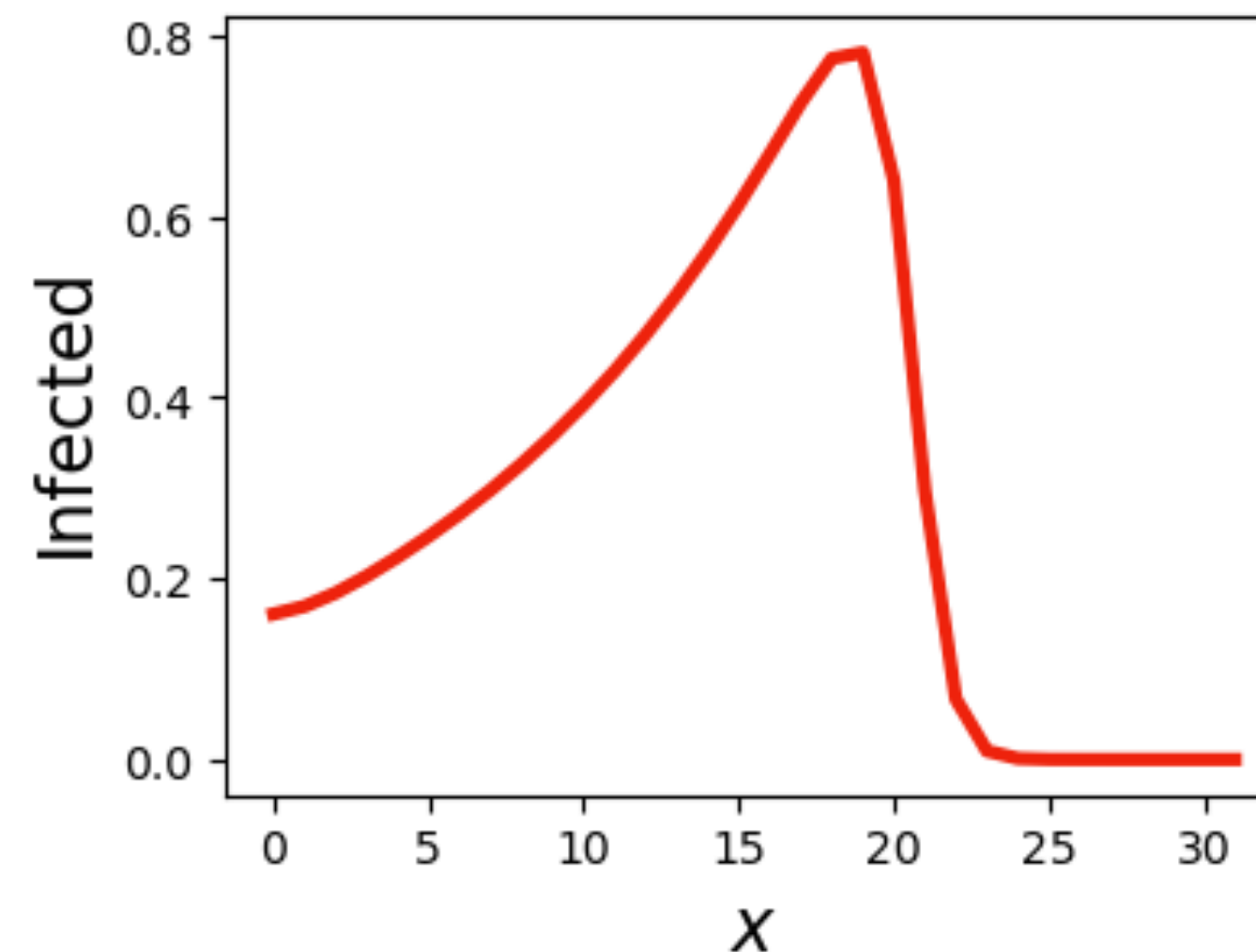
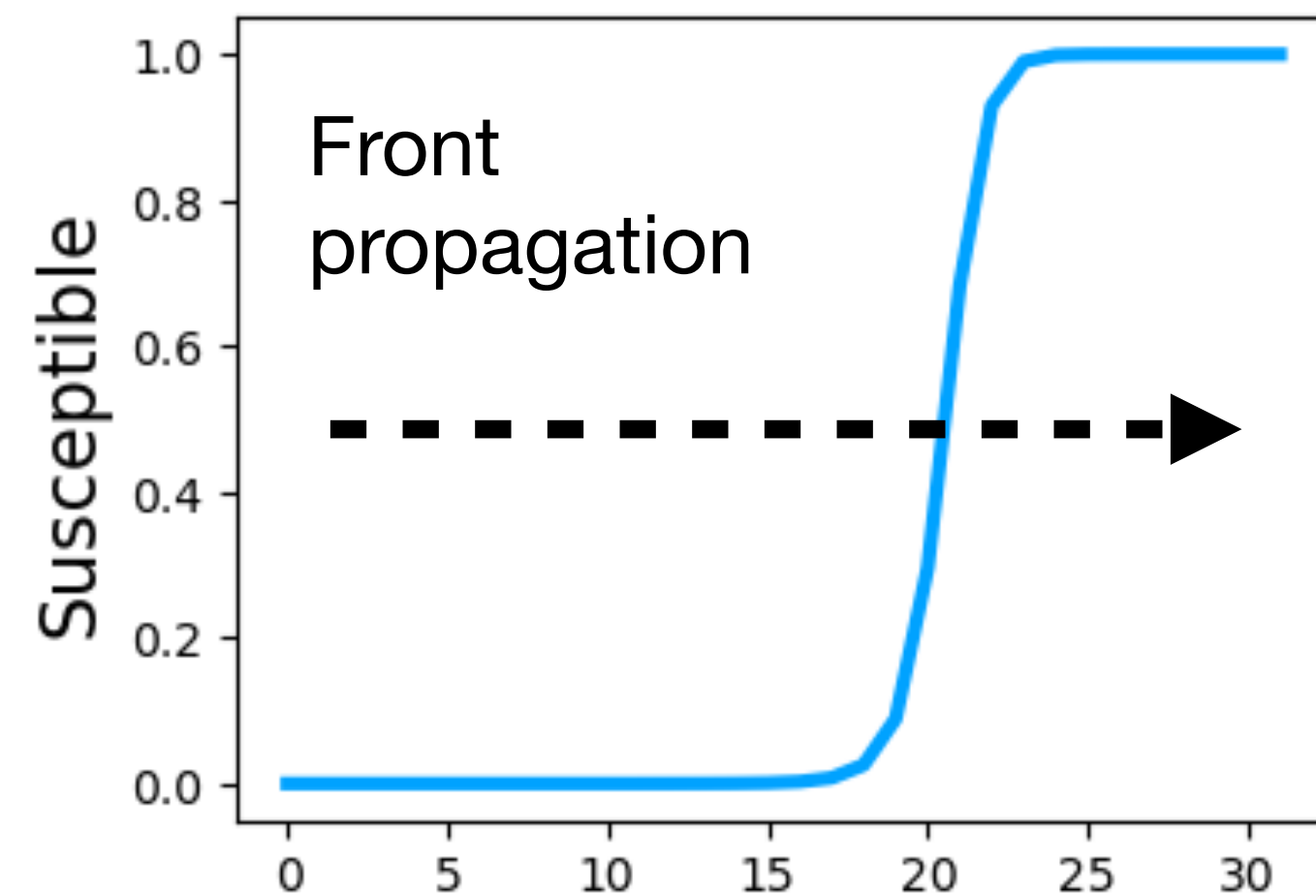


# SIR model in 1D

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 S}{\partial x^2} - \beta SI \quad \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial x^2} + \beta SI - \alpha I$$

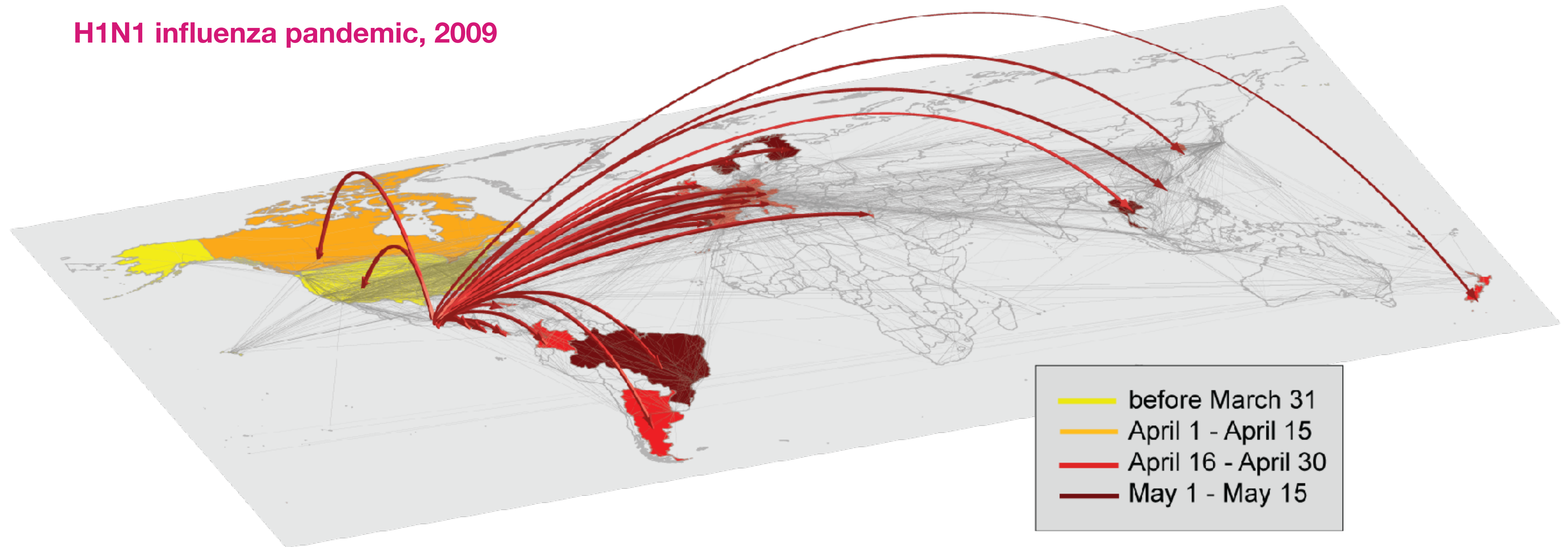


Travelling wave solution:  $I(x, t) \rightarrow I(z = x - vt)$  with velocity:  $v = 2\sqrt{D(\beta - \alpha)}$



# Pathogens now fly first class

H1N1 influenza pandemic, 2009



Geographic distance can't explain pathogen arrival times



# Mobility network data

**Air travel:** data collected by the International Air Transport Association (IATA)

How many people travelled daily on a given route?

*Hufnagel et al PNAS 2004*  
*Colizza et al PLoS Med 2007*  
*Balcan et al PNAS 2009*



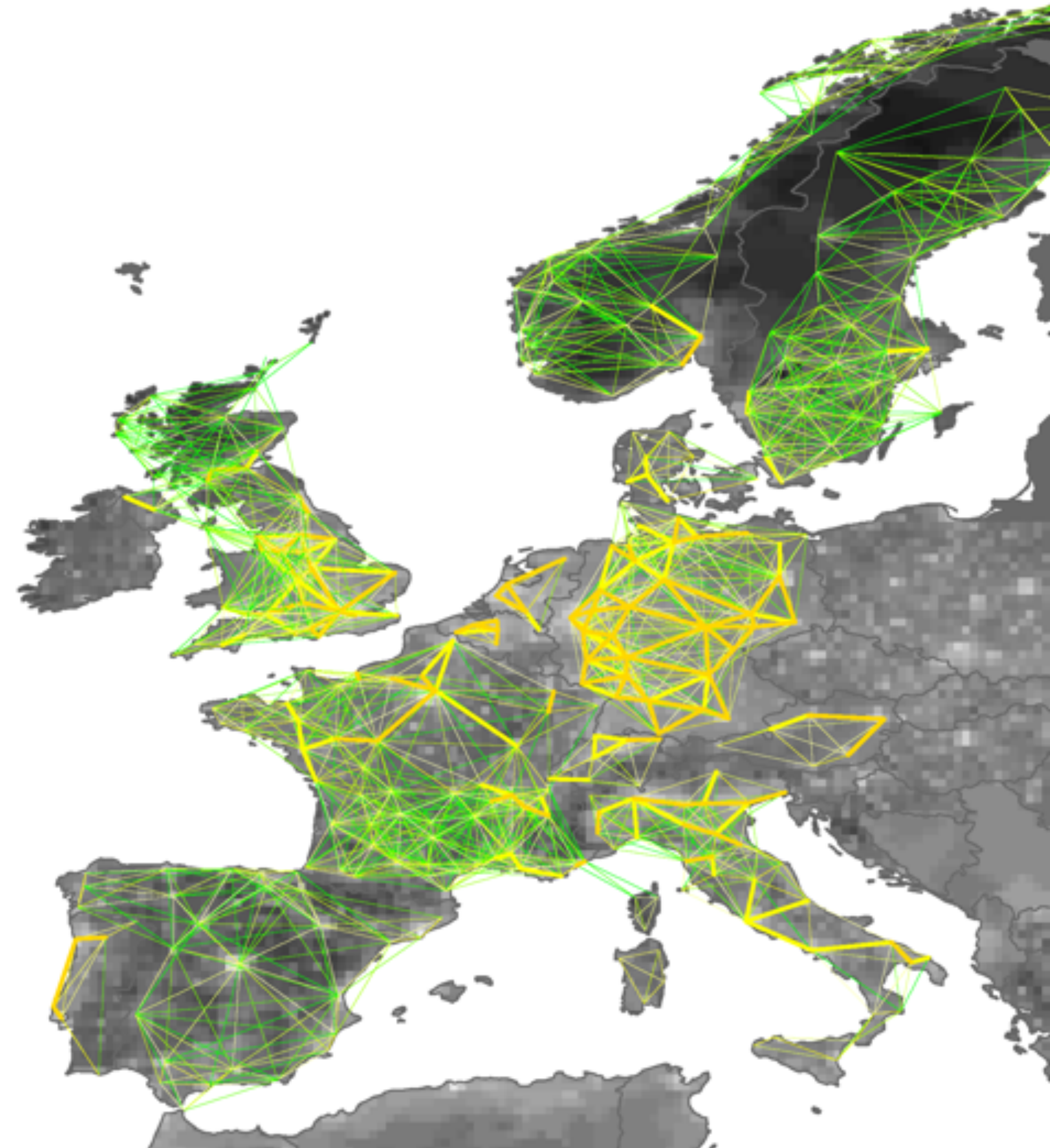


# Mobility network data

**Commuting:** census data from different countries

How many people living at one location commute to another location?

*Balcan et al PNAS 2009*



# Metapopulations

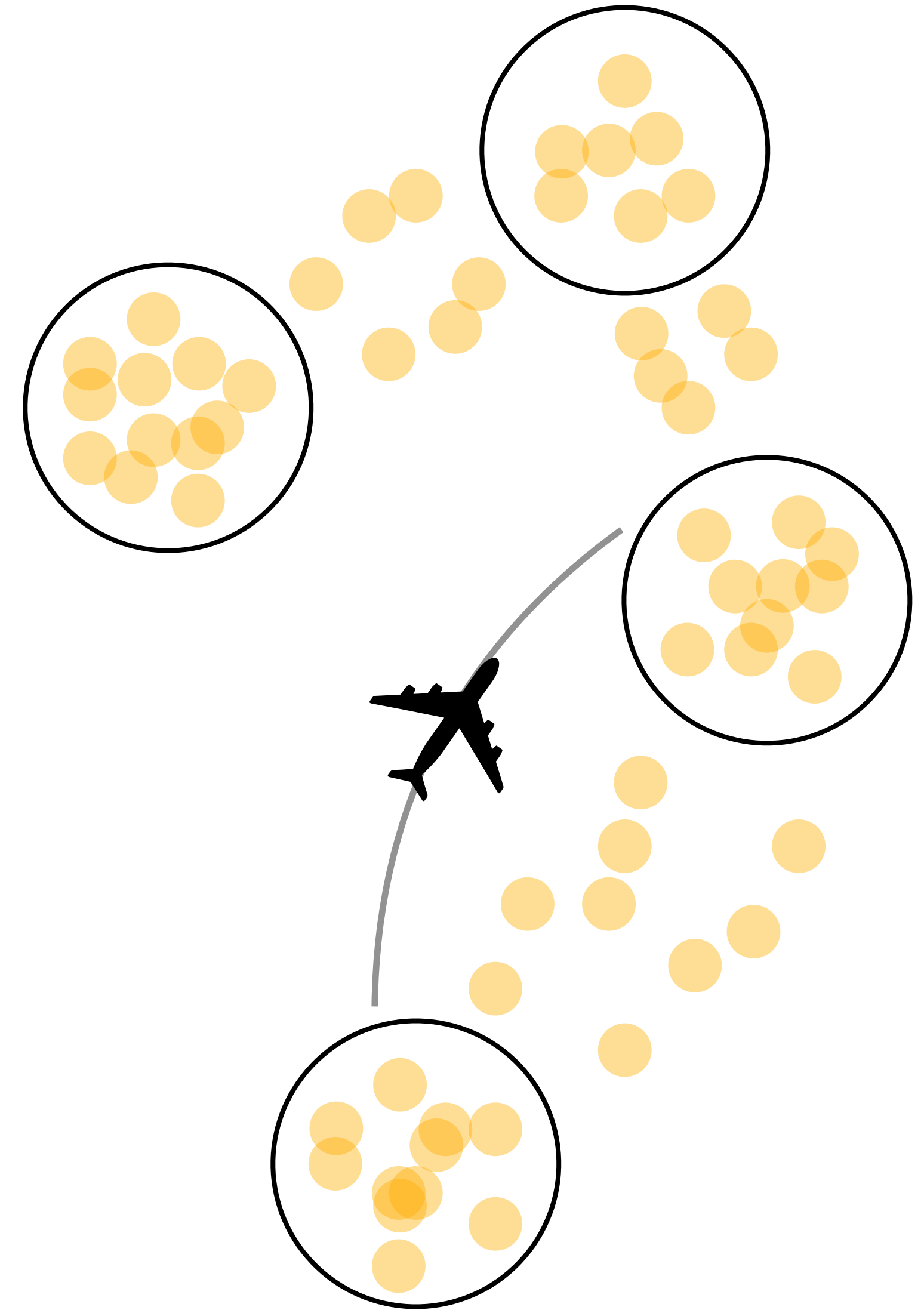
A **metapopulation** is a population that has been partitioned in smaller subpopulations contained in discrete **patches**

Subpopulations may interact with each other through individual movements (**coupling/flows**)

An example relevant to infectious disease epidemiology:

**Patches**: airports and surrounding areas

**Coupling**: air travel fluxes





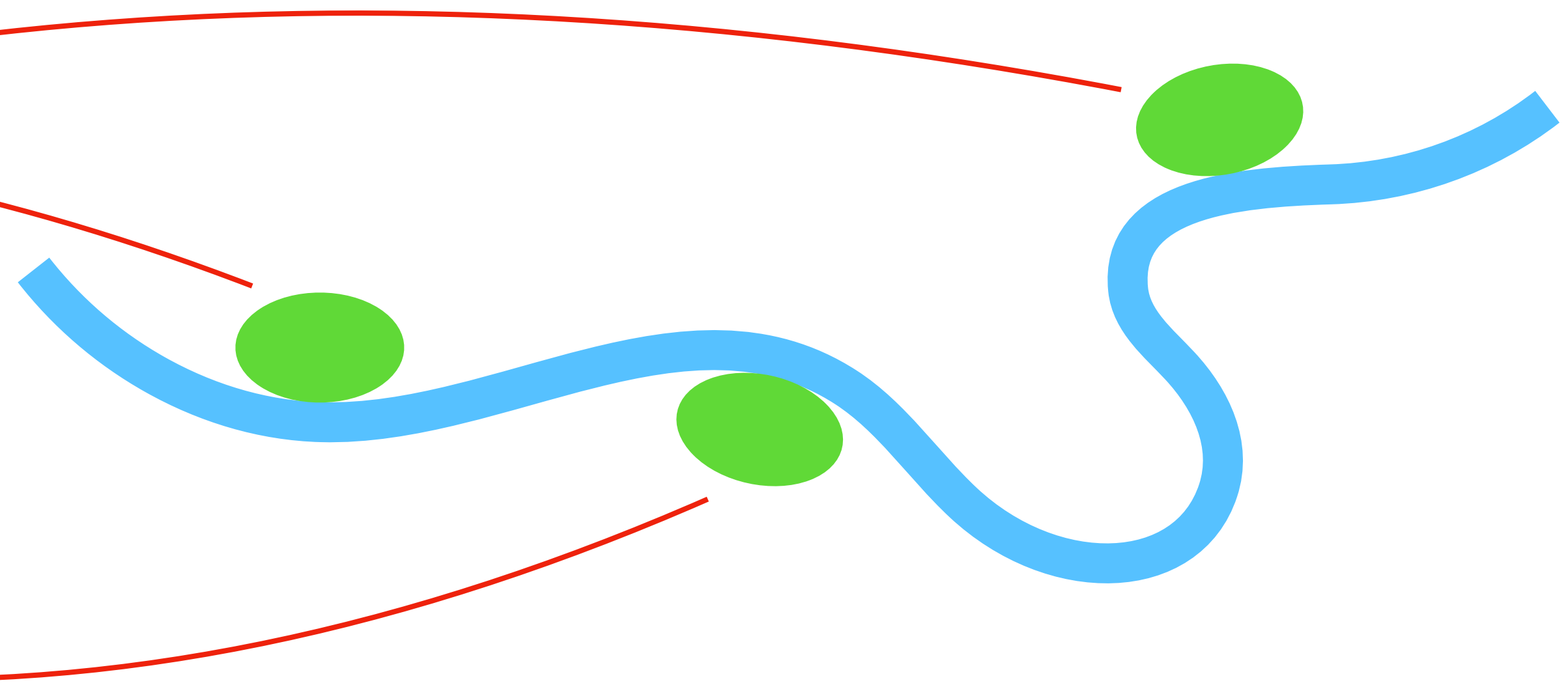
# An example from ecology

Water voles occupy a **fragmented habitat** made of short stretches of grassland along rivers

Water voles can migrate between patches



*Sutherland et al, Ecology 2012*  
*Photo credit: Rosalie Burdon*

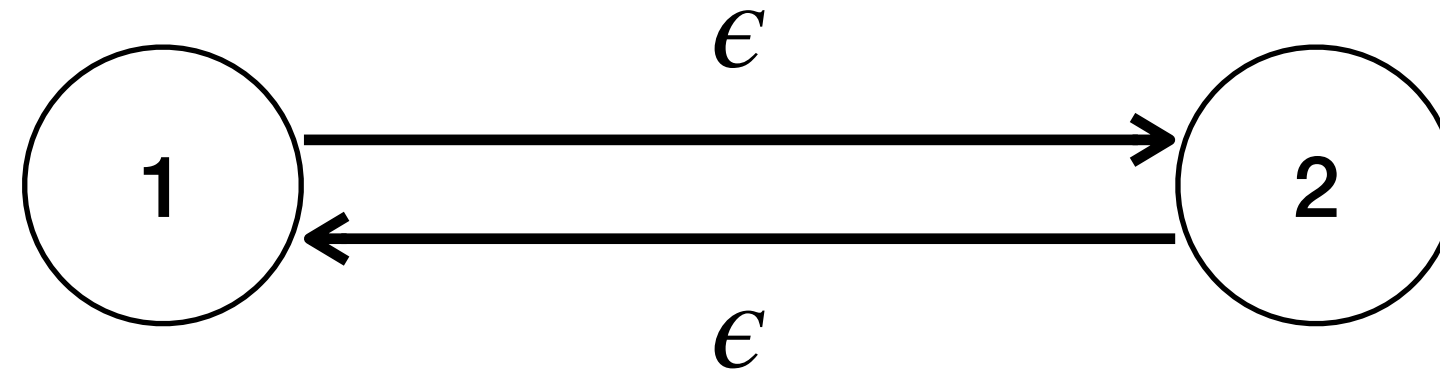


# Diffusion on networks

Let us consider 2 subpopulations (nodes) with simple diffusion

$$\frac{dN_1}{dt} = \epsilon N_2 - \epsilon N_1$$

$$\frac{dN_2}{dt} = \epsilon N_1 - \epsilon N_2$$



It is assumed that any individual travels at rate  $\epsilon$  (**coupling**)



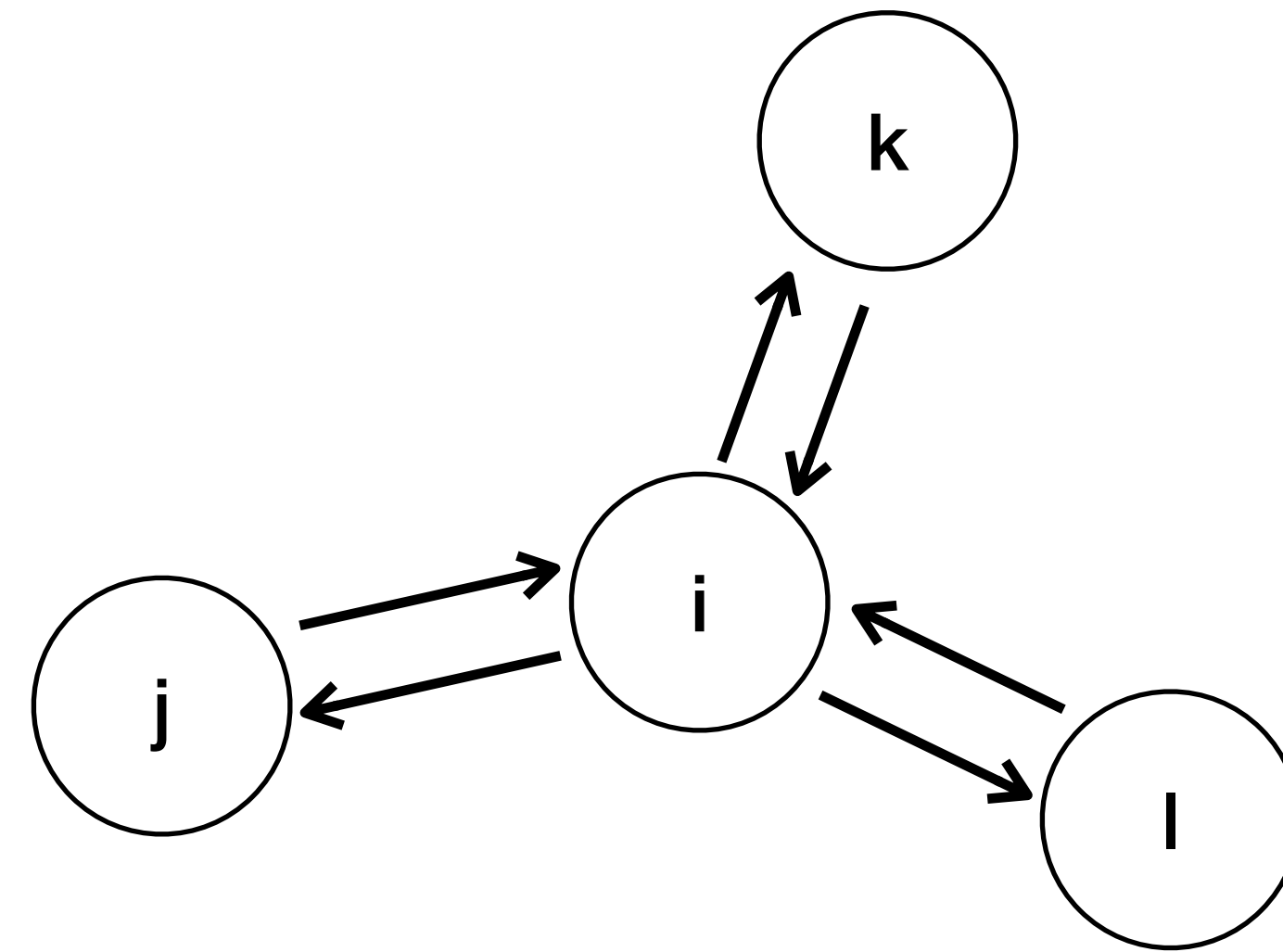
# Diffusion on networks

When considering multiple nodes:

$$\frac{dN_i}{dt} = \epsilon(N_j + N_k + N_l) - 3\epsilon N_i$$

We find a general pattern:

$$\frac{dN_i}{dt} = -\epsilon \sum_j L_{i,j} \cdot N_j(t)$$



**Graph Laplacian**

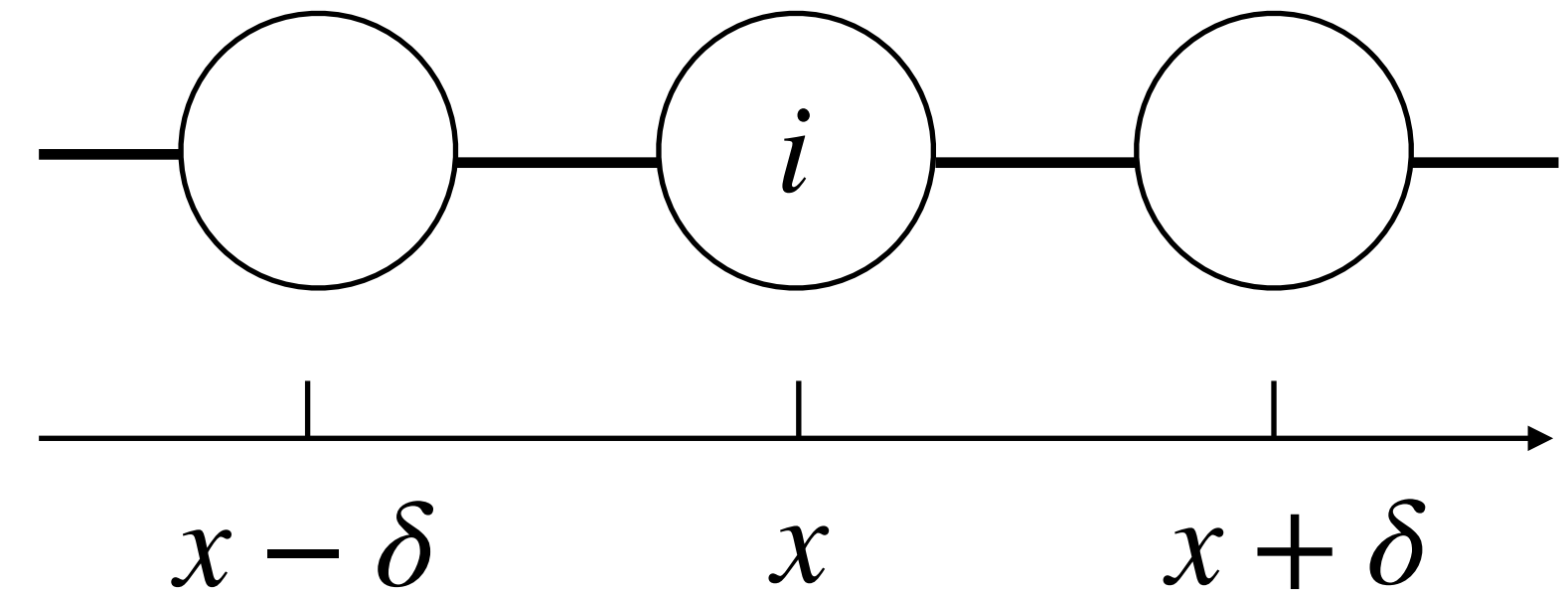
$$L_{i,j} = \begin{cases} k_i & \text{if } i = j \\ -A_{i,j} & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases}$$

# Recovering spatial diffusion

The graph laplacian extends the operator  $\nabla^2$  to networks.

Let us consider a special graph: a 1D array of evenly spaced (spacing:  $\delta$ ) nodes

$$-\sum_j L_{i,j} \cdot f_j = f(x - \delta) + f(x + \delta) - 2f(x)$$



Expanding:  $f(x \pm \delta) \approx f(x) \pm \delta f'(x) + \frac{\delta^2}{2} f''(x)$

Hence:  $-\sum_j L_{i,j} \cdot f_j \approx \delta^2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$

**We obtain the Laplace operator!**

# Heterogeneous rates

Host at some locations are more likely to travel than others. Also, some destinations are more popular than others.

$$\frac{dN_i}{dt} = -\epsilon_i N_i + \sum_j \epsilon_{j,i} \cdot N_j$$

$\epsilon_{i,j}$  : rate of travelling from  $i$  to  $j$

$$\epsilon_i = \sum_j \epsilon_{i,j} : \text{total rate of travelling from } i$$

If an average of  $w_{i,j}$  individuals travel from  $i$  to  $j$  in one day, we can estimate these rates:

$$\hat{\epsilon}_i = \frac{\sum_j w_{i,j}}{\bar{N}_i}$$

← Total people leaving in  $i$

$$\epsilon_{i,j} = \hat{\epsilon}_i \cdot \frac{w_{i,j}}{\sum_j w_{i,j}}$$

Probability of choosing  $j$  as a destination when leaving from  $i$



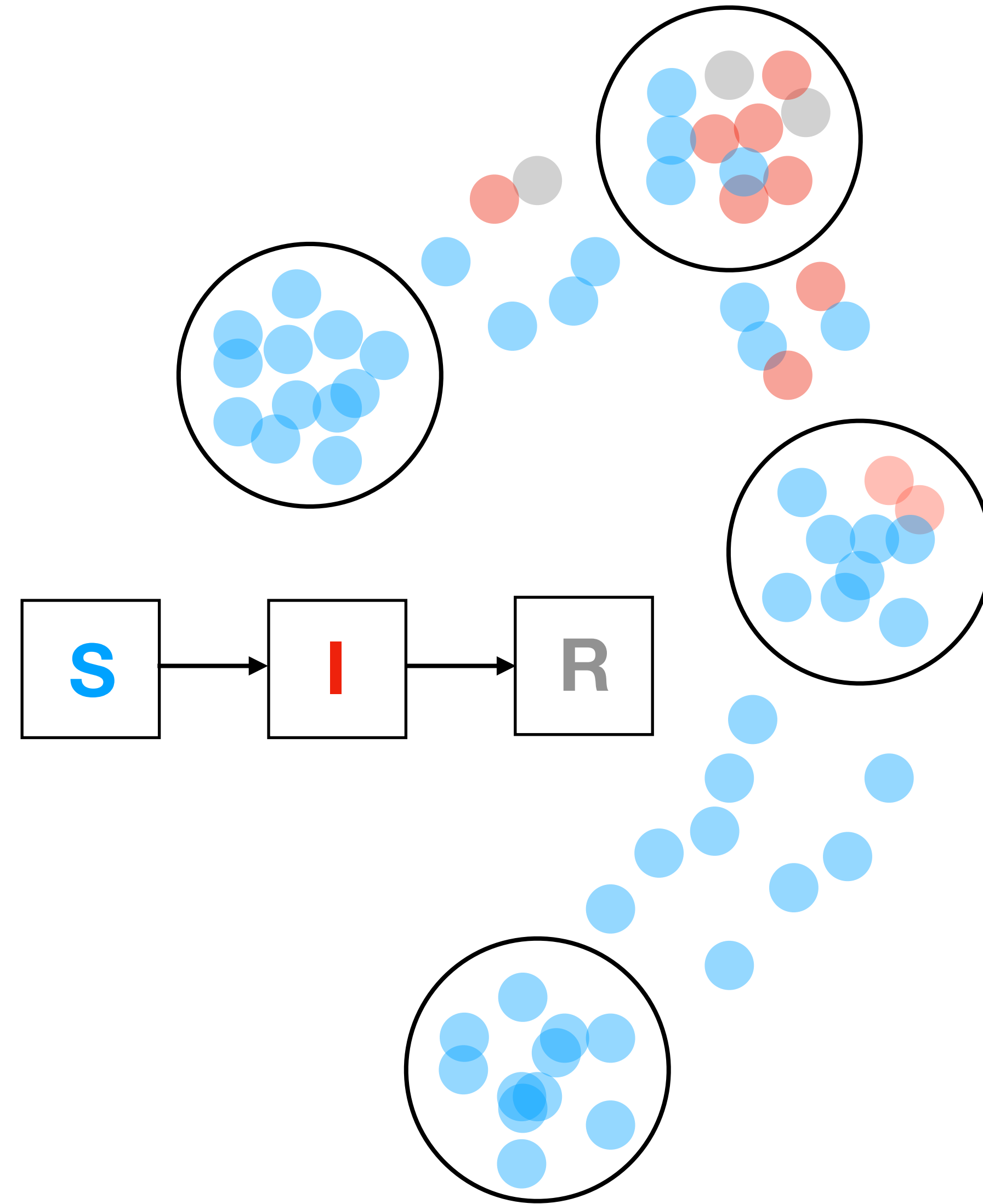
# SIR metapopulation model

Still a reaction-diffusion system

$$\frac{dS_i}{dt} = -\beta \frac{S_i I_i}{N_i} - \epsilon_i S_i + \sum_j \epsilon_{j,i} \cdot S_j$$

$$\frac{dI_i}{dt} = \beta \frac{S_i I_i}{N_i} - \alpha I_i - \epsilon_i I_i + \sum_j \epsilon_{j,i} \cdot I_j$$

$$\frac{dR_i}{dt} = \alpha I_i - \epsilon_i R_i + \sum_j \epsilon_{j,i} \cdot R_j$$

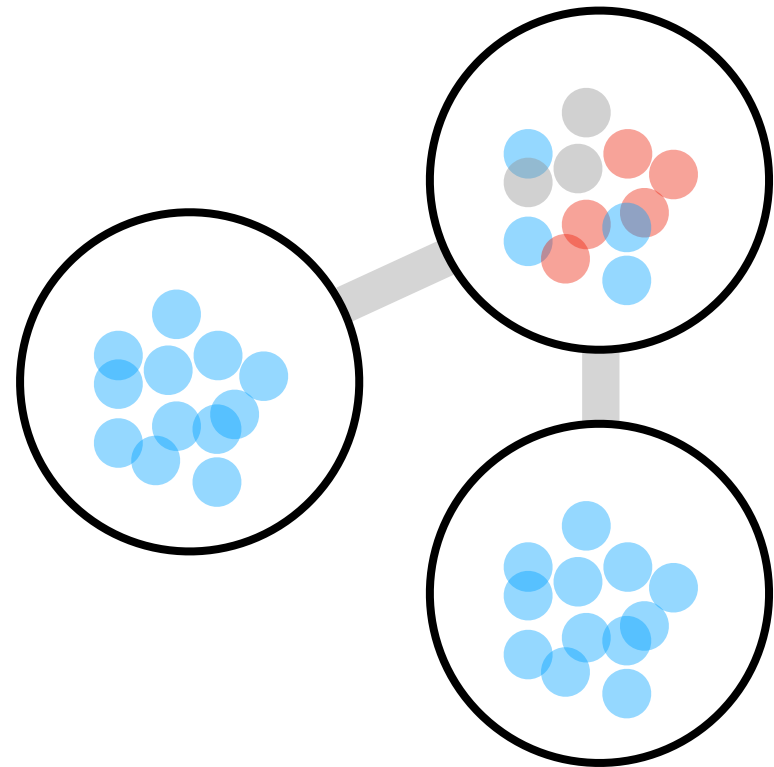


# Global invasion threshold

Local spread occurs when  $R_0 = \beta/\alpha > 1$  but does not guarantee global spread (many patches invaded)

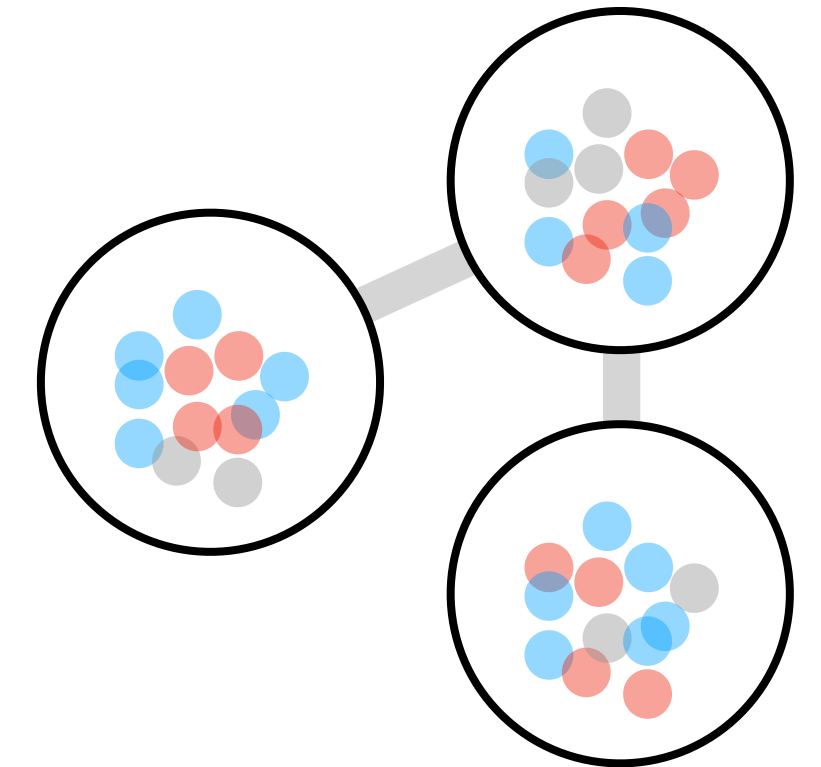
$$\epsilon = 0$$

No global spread



$$\epsilon \rightarrow \infty$$

Global spread



# Global invasion threshold

Local spread occurs when  $R_0 = \beta/\alpha > 1$  but does not guarantee global spread (many patches invaded)

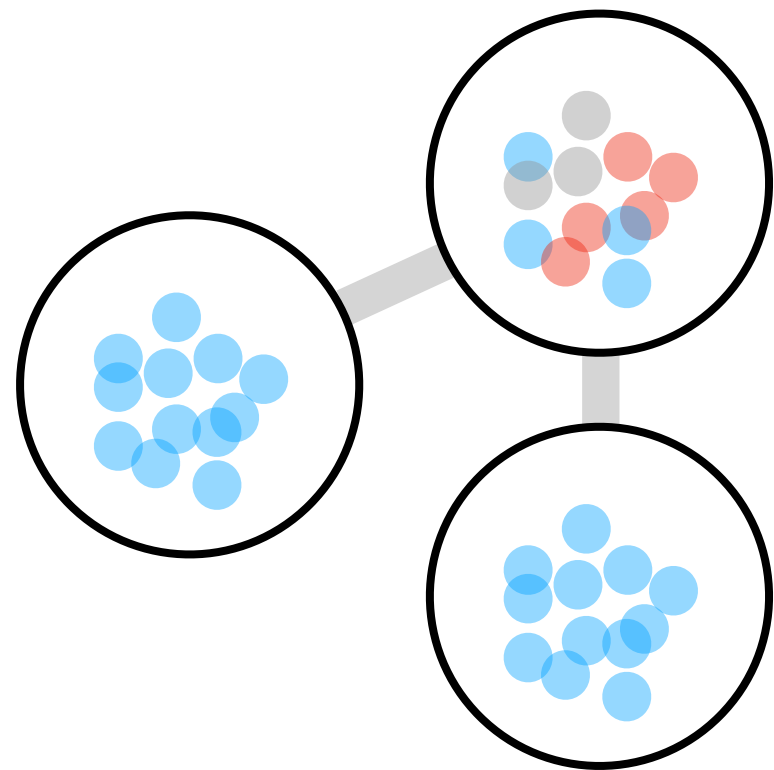
$$\epsilon = 0$$

$$\epsilon = \epsilon_c$$

$$\epsilon \rightarrow \infty$$

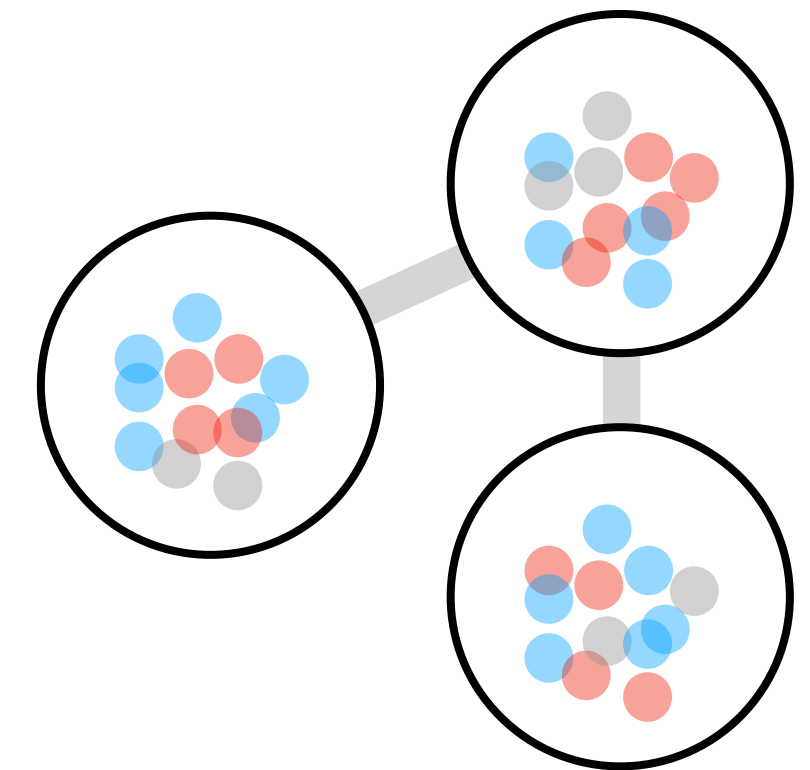
No global spread

Global spread



Global invasion requires  $\epsilon > \epsilon_c$  for fixed  $R_0$

Equivalently:  $R_g(R_0, \epsilon) > 1$



# Global invasion threshold

Let  $D_k^n$  be the number of patches with degree  $k$  invaded at generation  $n$

1. Invaded patches at  $t - 1$  with degree  $k'$

2.  $k' - 1$  possible channels

5. Prob successful invasion given  $\lambda_{k,k'}$  infected travellers

$$D_k^n = \sum_{k'} D_{k'}^{n-1} \cdot (k' - 1) \cdot \frac{k P_k}{\langle k \rangle} \cdot \left( 1 - \frac{\sum_{m=0}^{n-1} D_k^m}{V_k} \right) \cdot \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{1}{R_0} \right)^{\lambda_{k,k'}} \right]$$

3. Prob connecting to a degree  $k$  patch

4. Prob uninvaded degree  $k$  patch

$V_k$  : #patches with degree  $k$

# Global invasion threshold

Initially almost all patches are uninvaded and  $\lambda_{k,k'} \approx \bar{\lambda} \ll 1$ :

$$D_k^n = \sum_{k'} D_{k'}^{n-1} \cdot (k' - 1) \cdot \frac{k P_k}{\langle k \rangle} \cdot \bar{\lambda} (R_0 - 1)$$

Define  $\theta^n = \sum_k D_k^n (k - 1)$

$$\theta^n = \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle - \langle k \rangle}{\langle k \rangle} \cdot \frac{2(R_0 - 1)^2}{R_0^2} \frac{\epsilon \bar{N}}{\alpha} \cdot \theta^{n-1}$$

1. Prop infected

3. Prop selecting edge

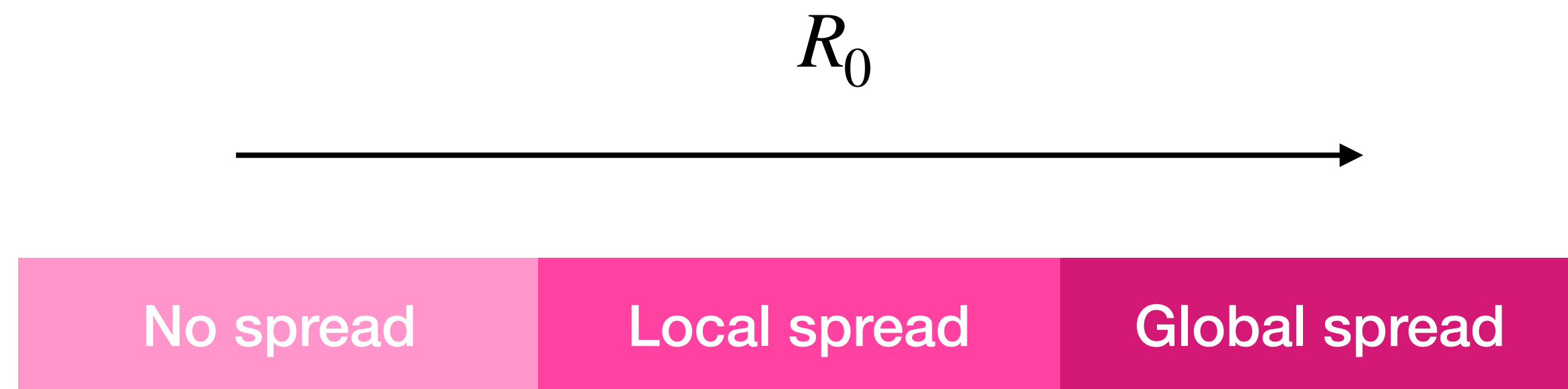
$$\bar{\lambda} = \bar{N} \frac{2(R_0 - 1)}{R_0^2} \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{\alpha} \cdot \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle}$$

2. Prop travelling while infectious

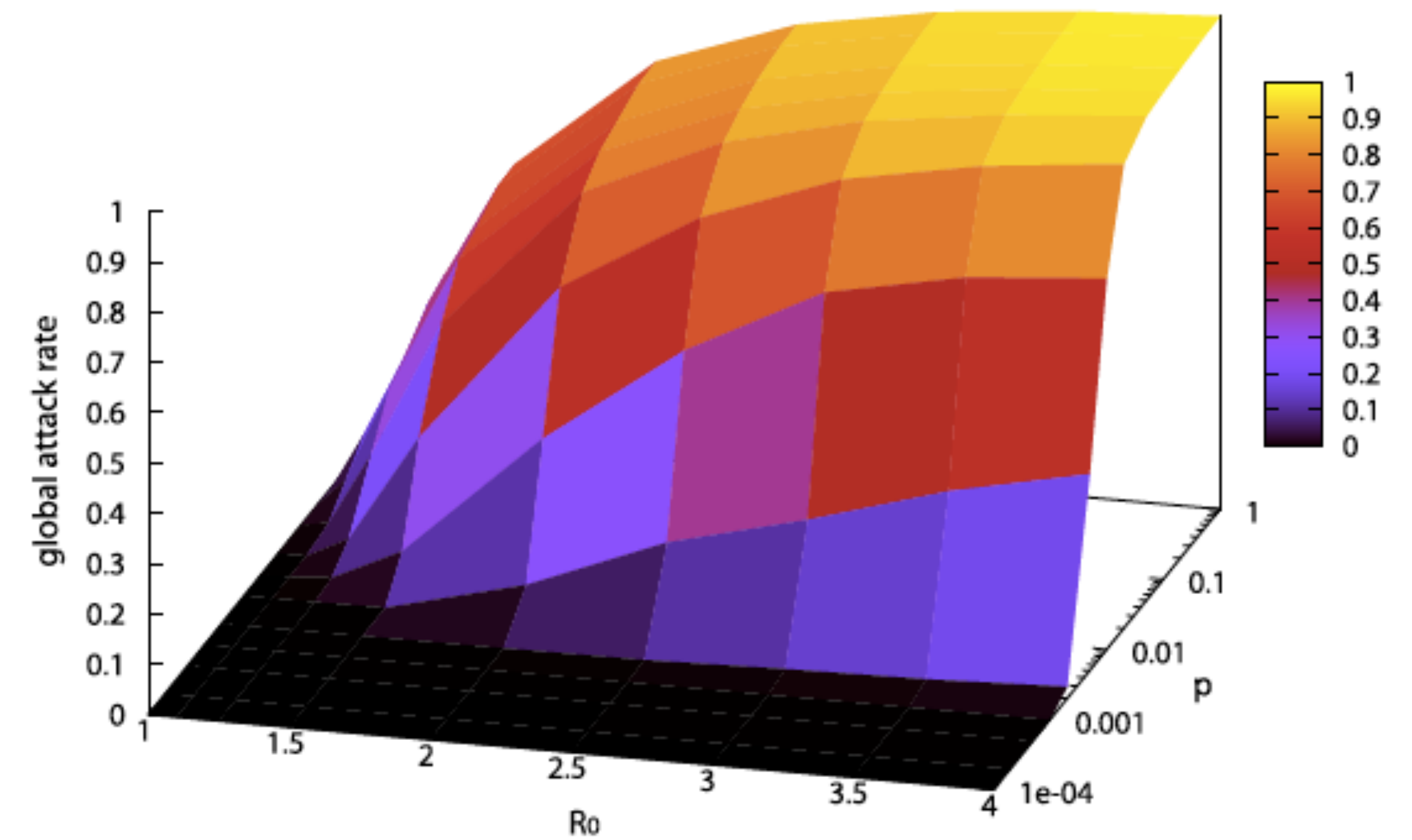
$$R_g(R_0, \epsilon)$$



# Global invasion threshold



$$R_g = \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle - \langle k \rangle}{\langle k \rangle} \cdot \frac{2(R_0 - 1)^2}{R_0^2} \frac{\epsilon \bar{N}}{\alpha}$$





# Effective distance

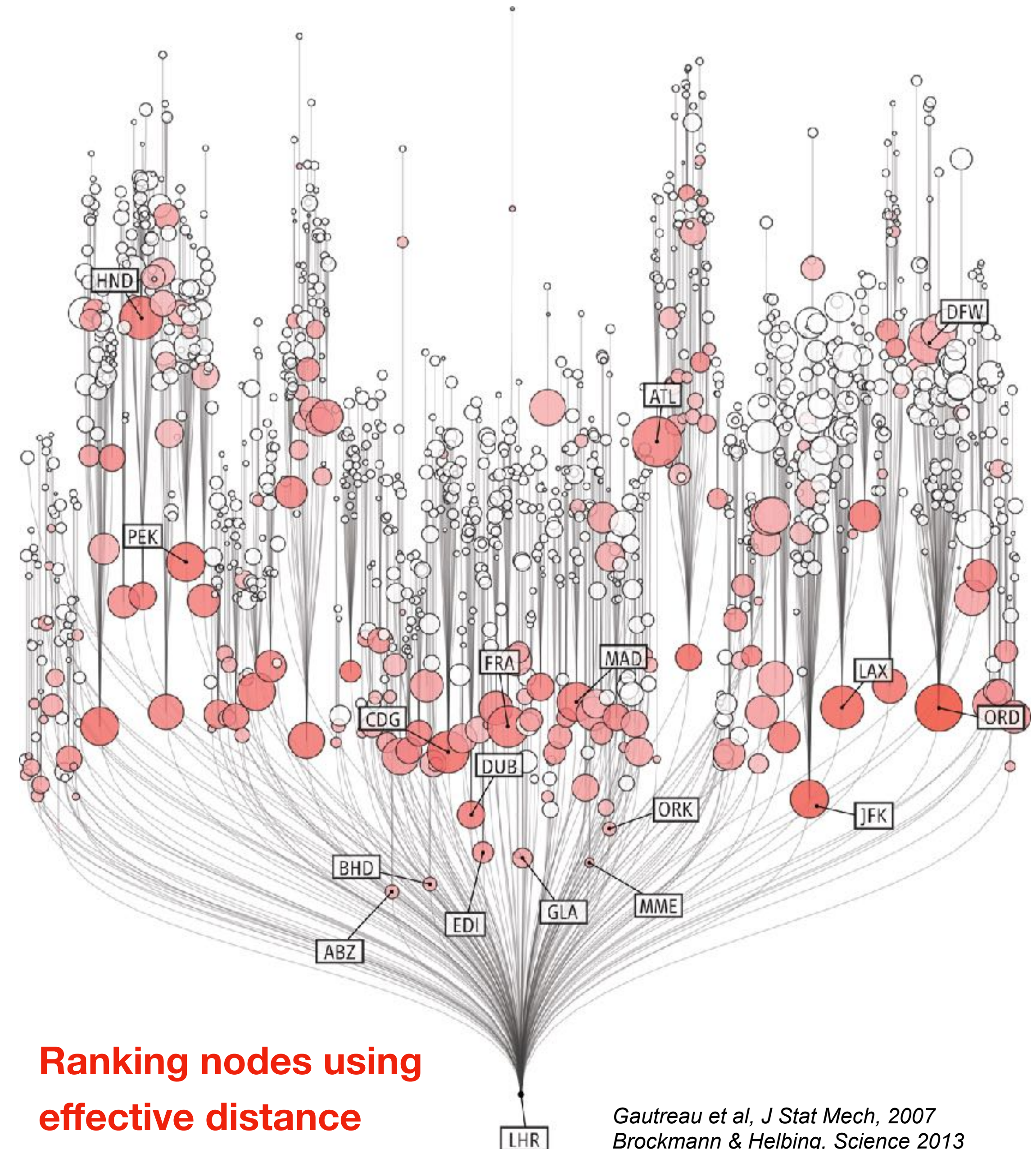
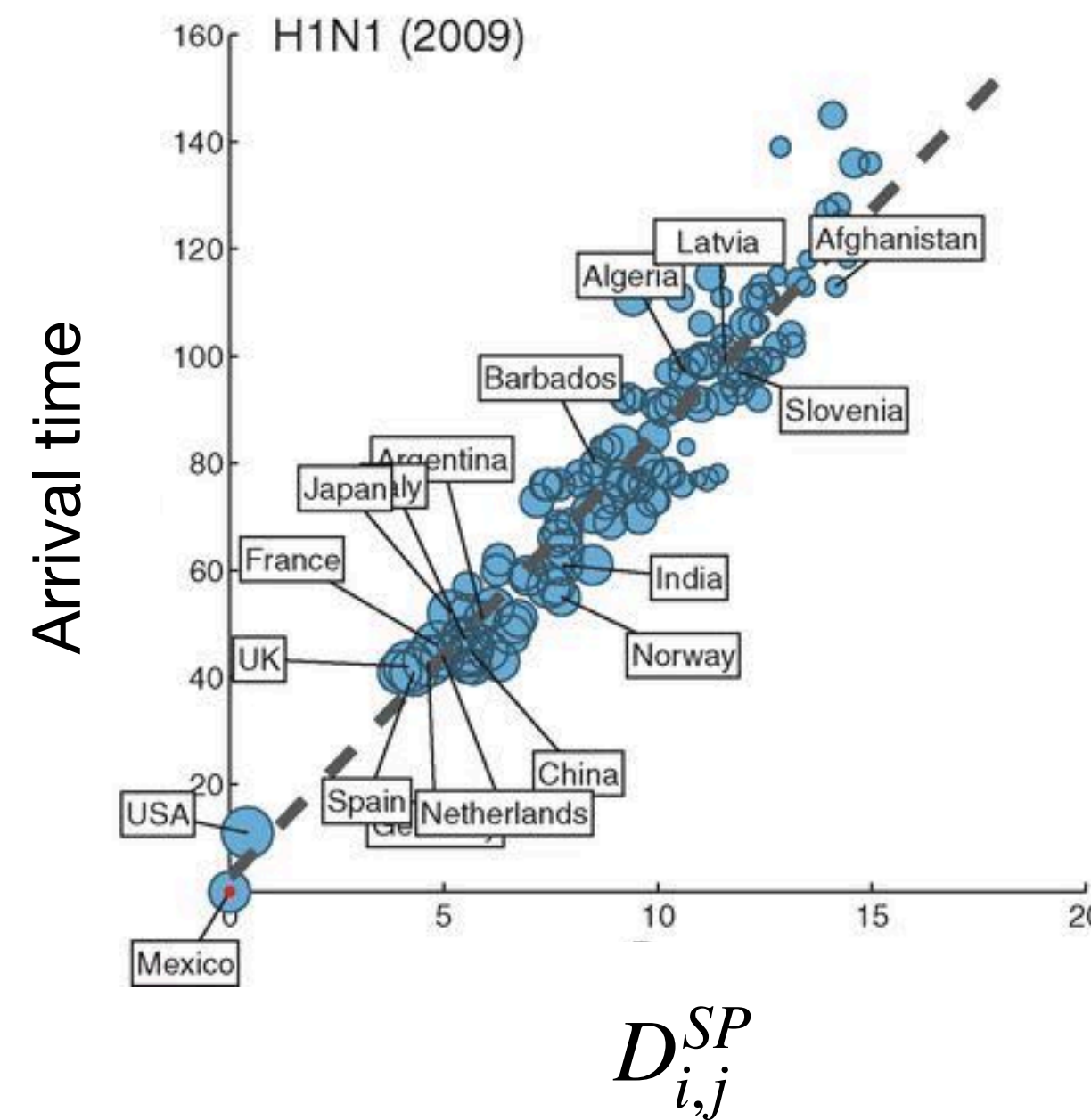
Passenger flows, not geographic distance, predict arrival times

Shortest path distance

$$D_{i,j}^{SP} = \sum_{(m,n) \in SP_{i,j}} D_{m,n}$$

Effective distance

$$D_{i,j} = 1 - \ln \left( \frac{\epsilon_{i,j}}{\sum_j \epsilon_{i,j}} \right)$$



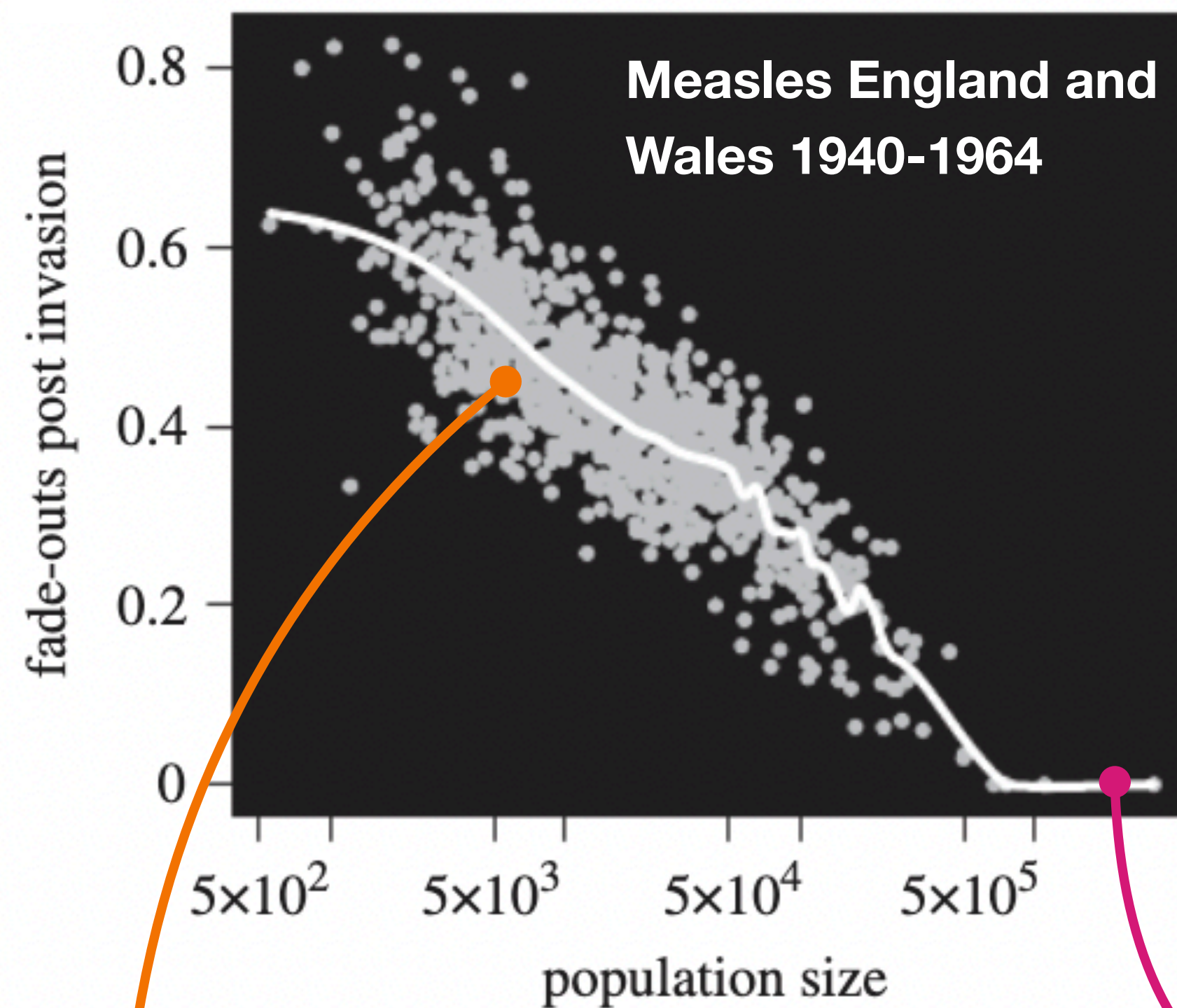
Ranking nodes using  
effective distance

Gautreau et al, J Stat Mech, 2007  
Brockmann & Helbing, Science 2013  
Iannelli et al, PRE, 2017



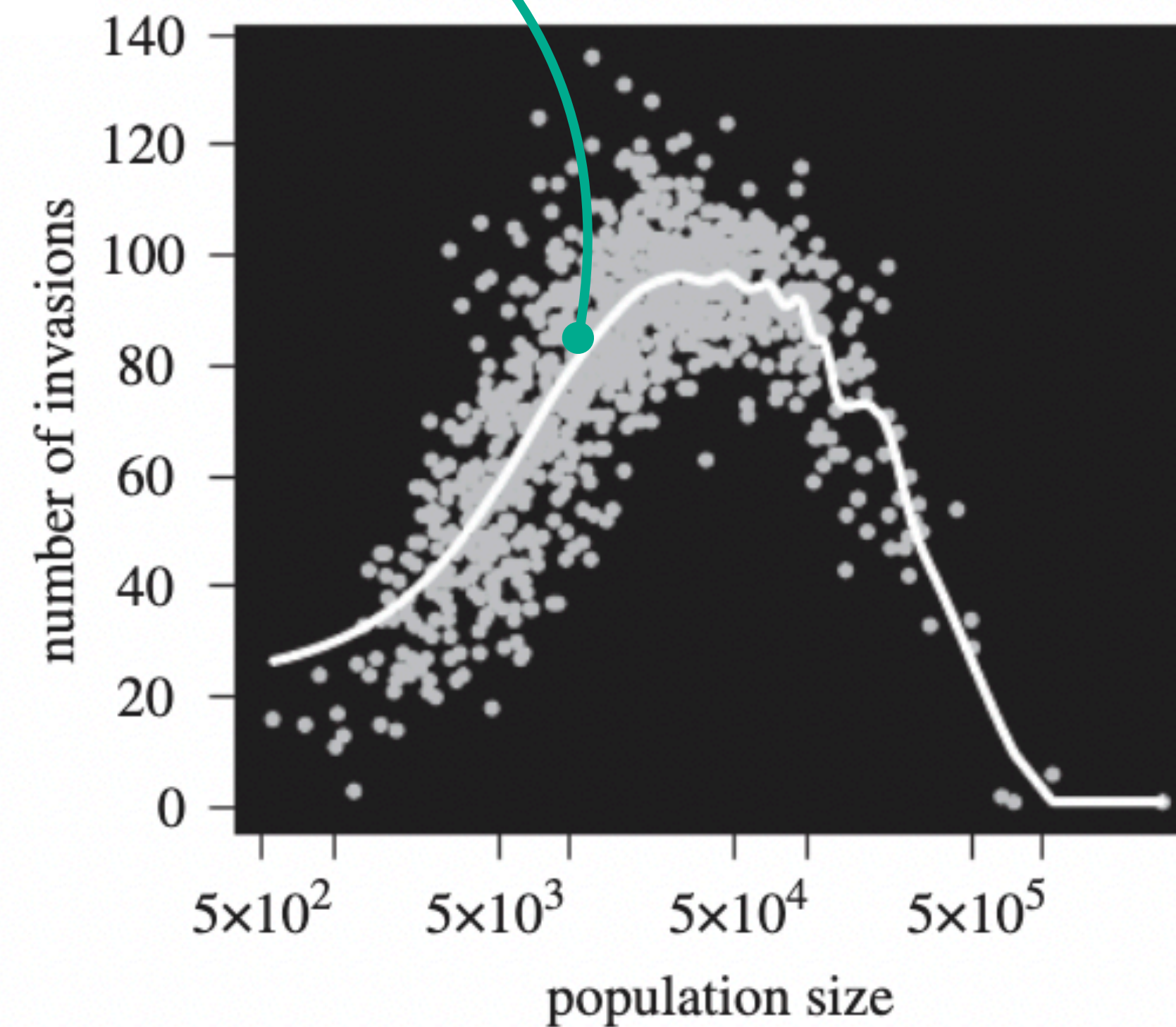
# Persistence in a metapopulation

Local extinction is possible but global extinction is unlikely due to re-invasions



Measles fadeouts in small towns

No fadeouts in large towns (e.g. London)



# Recurrent mobility

People are not random walkers: they move for a wide range of reasons (commuting, leisure, buying groceries..) but then return to their house after some time

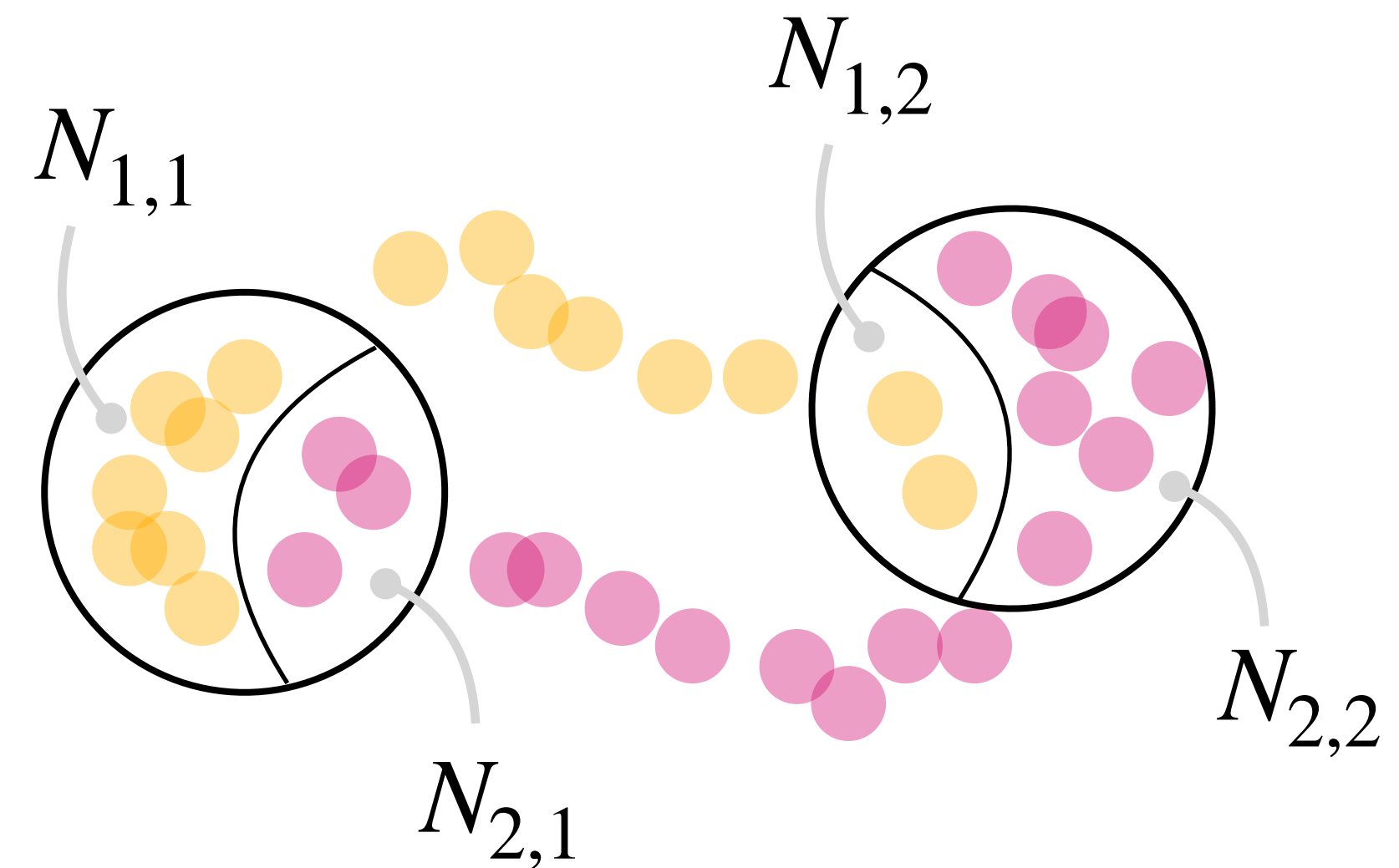
This can be accounted for in a metapopulation framework by tracking who lives where

$N_{i,j}$  : # of hosts living in  $i$  but currently in  $j$

$$\frac{dN_{i,i}}{dt} = -\epsilon_i N_{i,i} + \tau^{-1} \sum_j N_{i,j}$$

$$\frac{dN_{i,j}}{dt} = -\tau^{-1} N_{i,i} + \epsilon_{i,j} N_{i,i}$$

$\tau$  : Time spent at destination

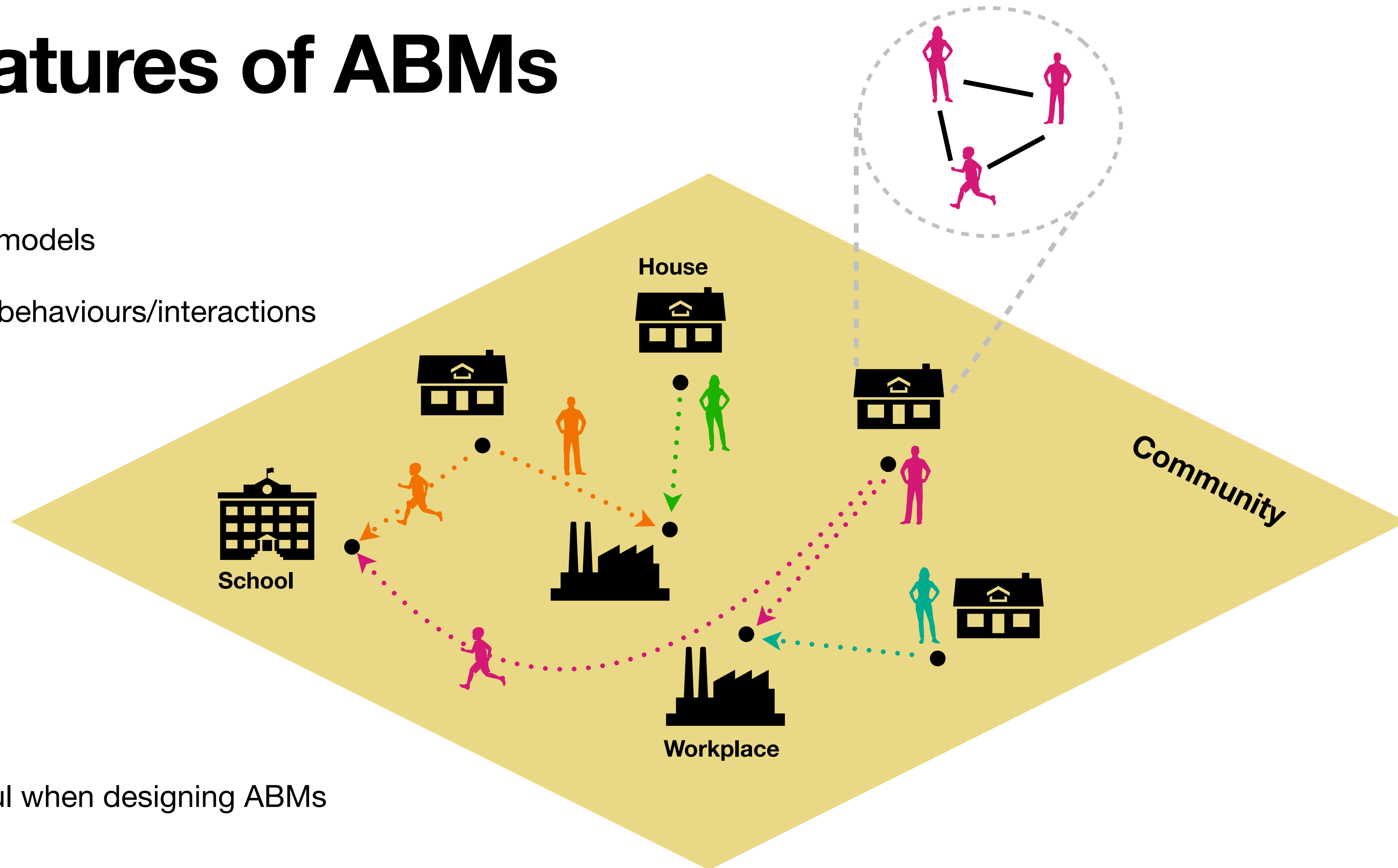


# **Agent-based models**



# Some features of ABMs

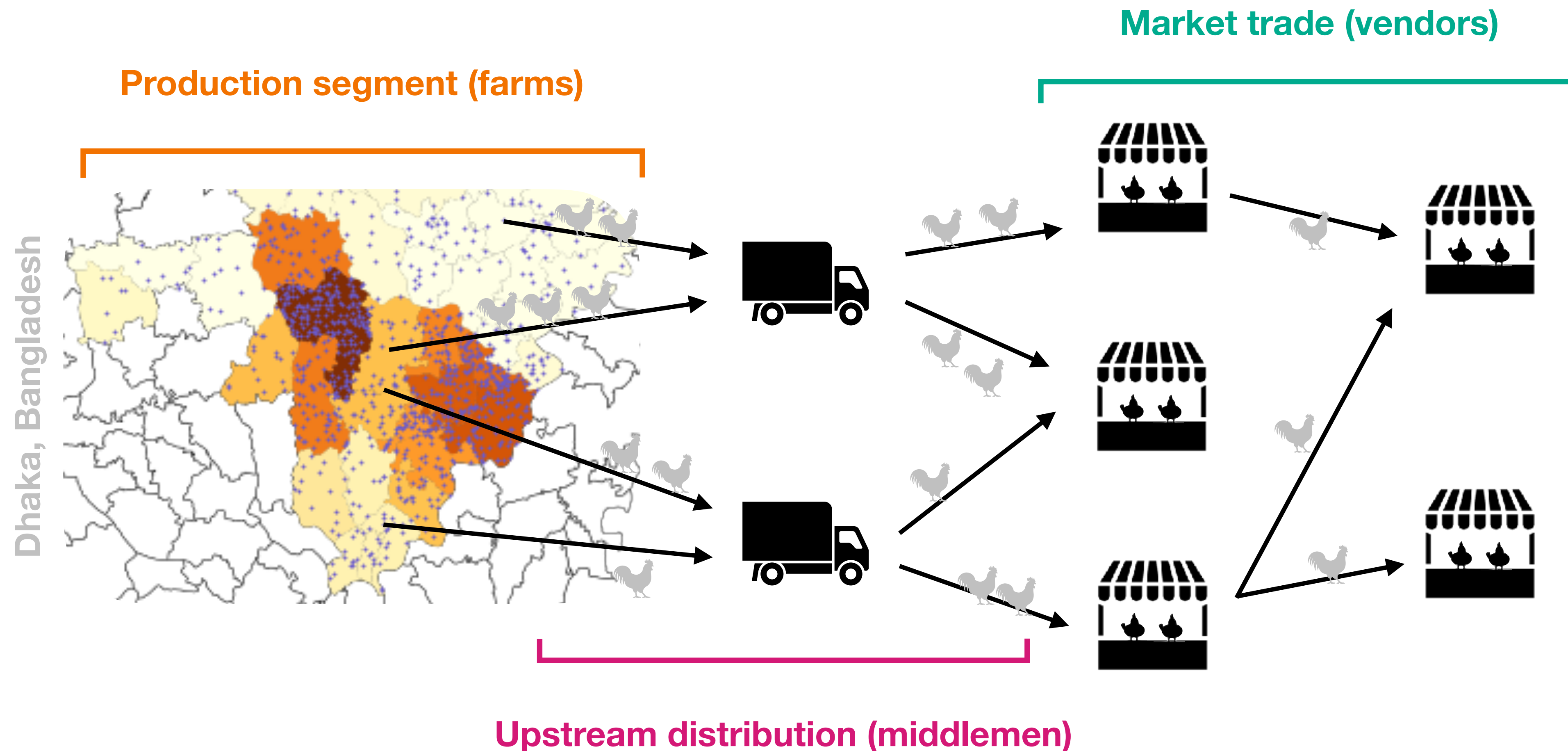
- Computer simulation models
- Agents with complex behaviours/interactions
- Multi-scale
- Flexible & extendable
- Difficult to fit



Networks can be useful when designing ABMs

# An ABM for poultry movements

An ABM to simulate transmission in a poultry supply chain

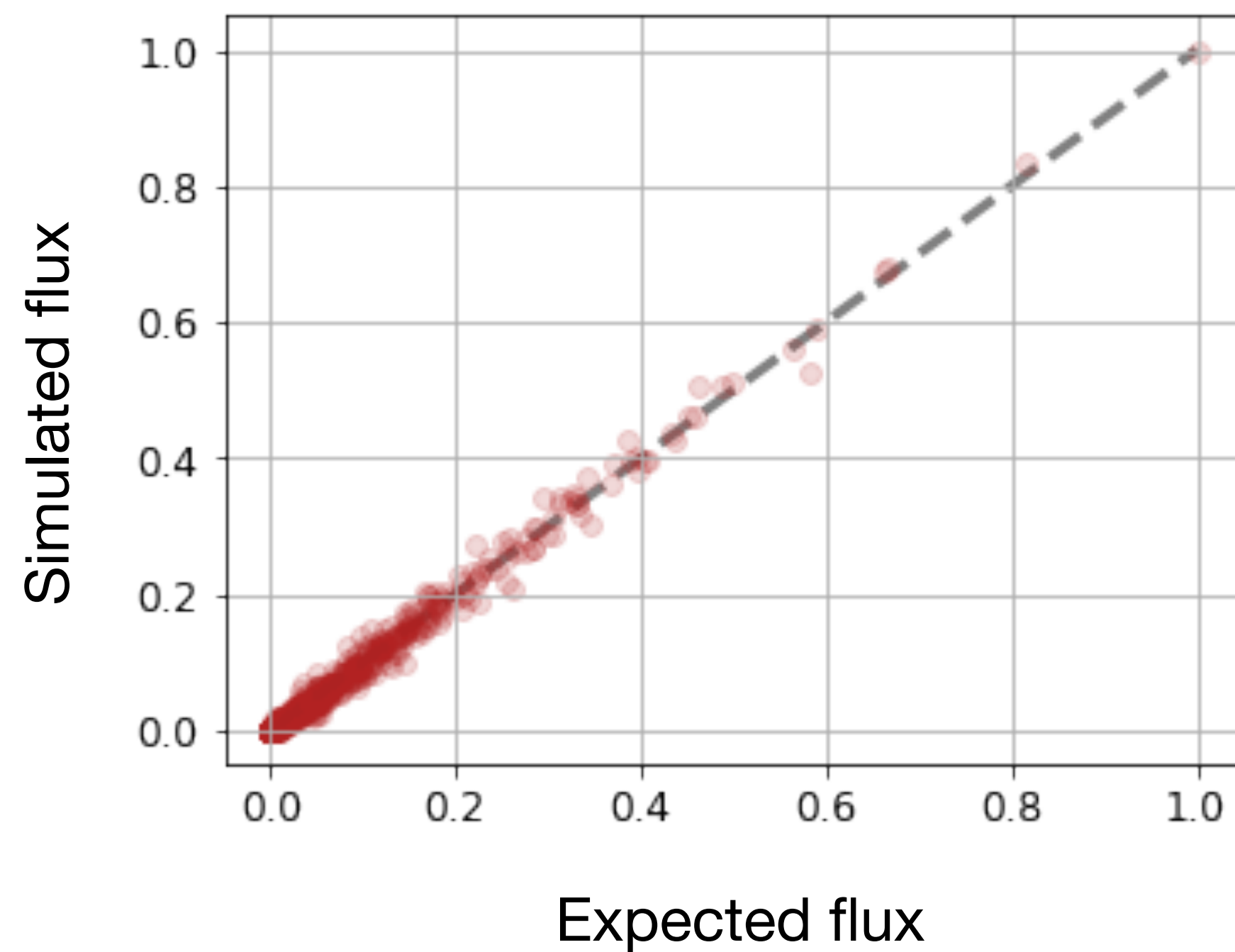


# Realistic poultry movements

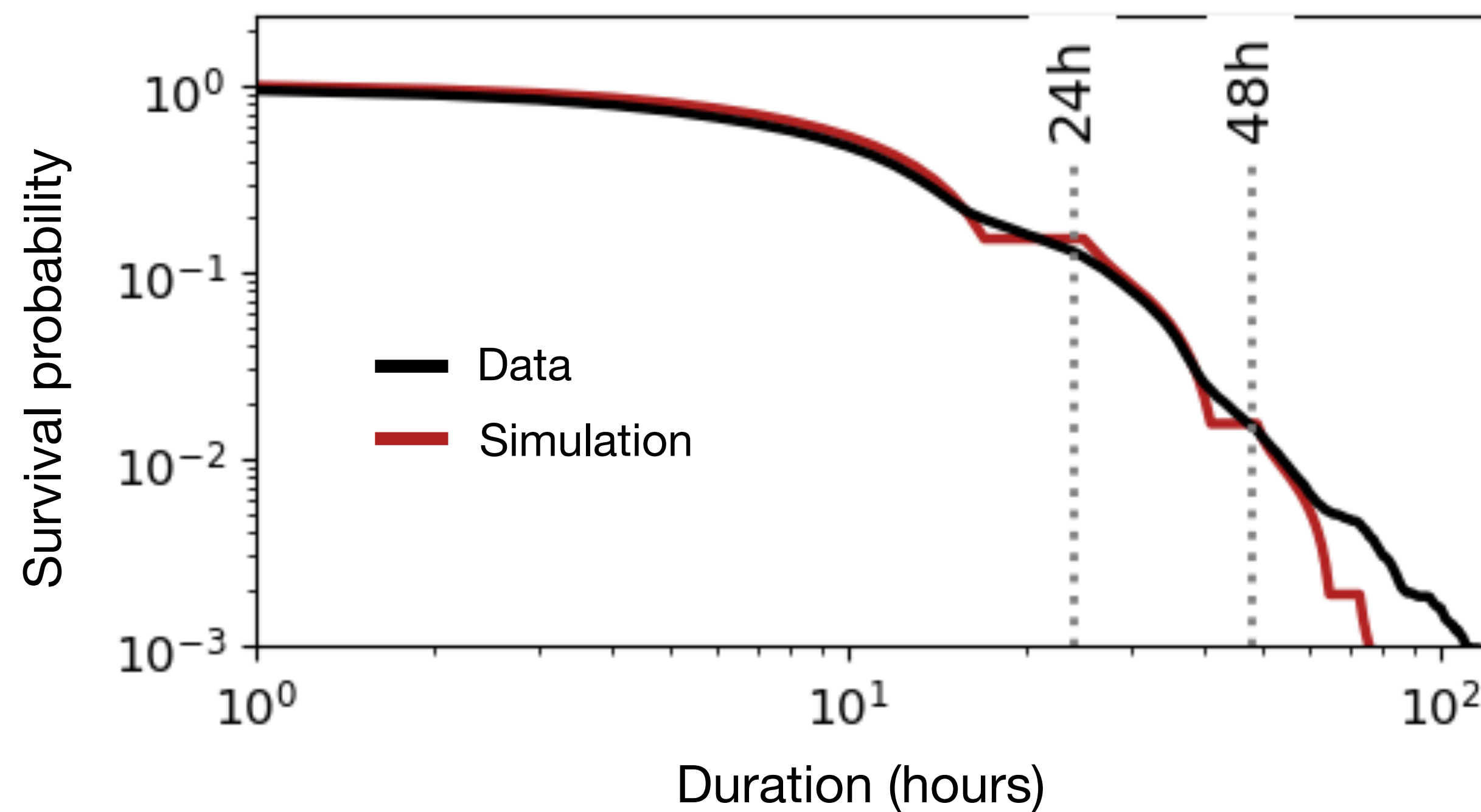


ABM is informed by extensive field data

**Region-to-market poultry flux**  
Where do chickens come from?

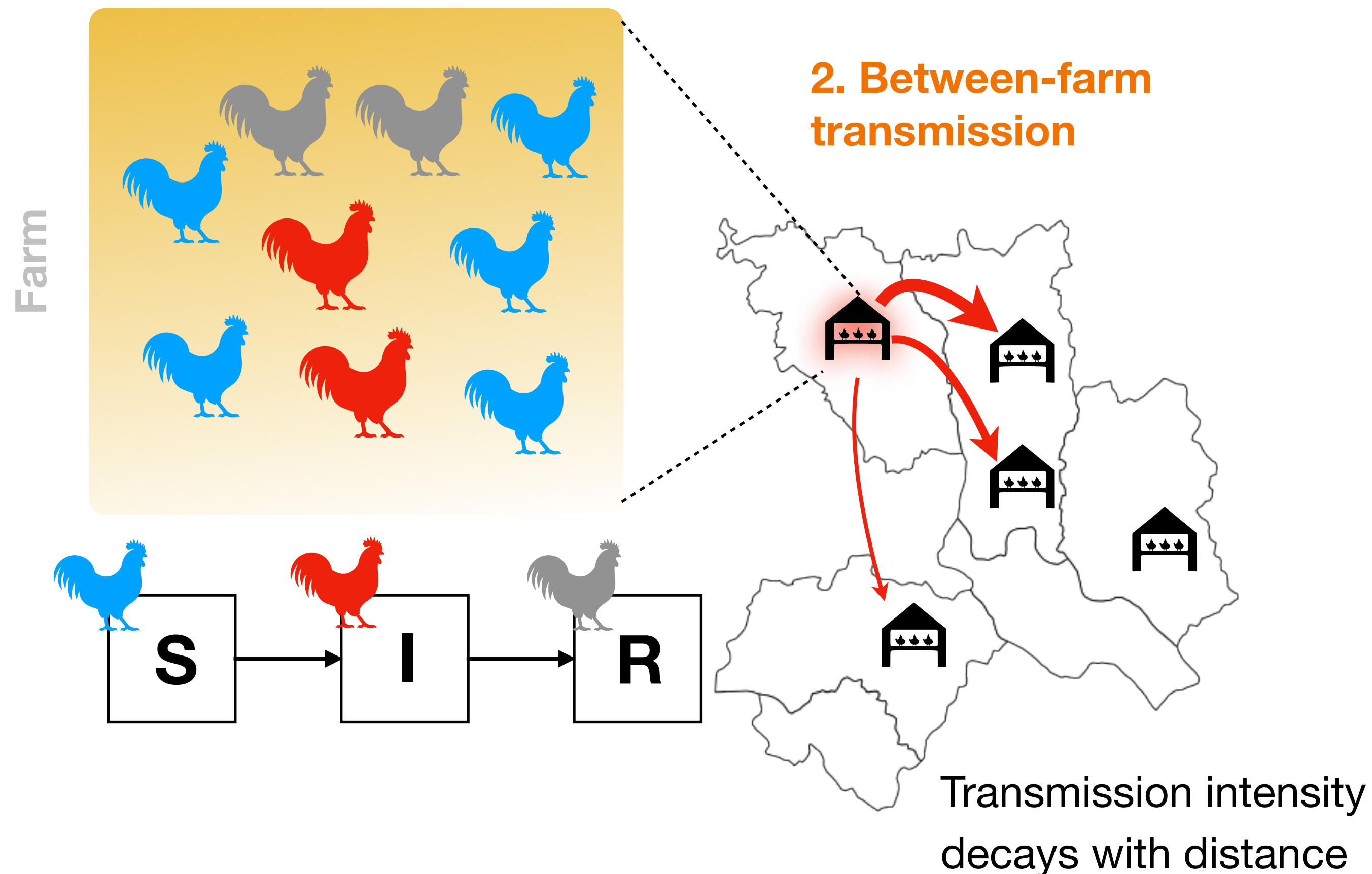


**Length of stay in markets**  
How long before a chicken is sold?



# Simulating Avian Influenza transmission

## 1. Within-flock transmission



## Additional elements

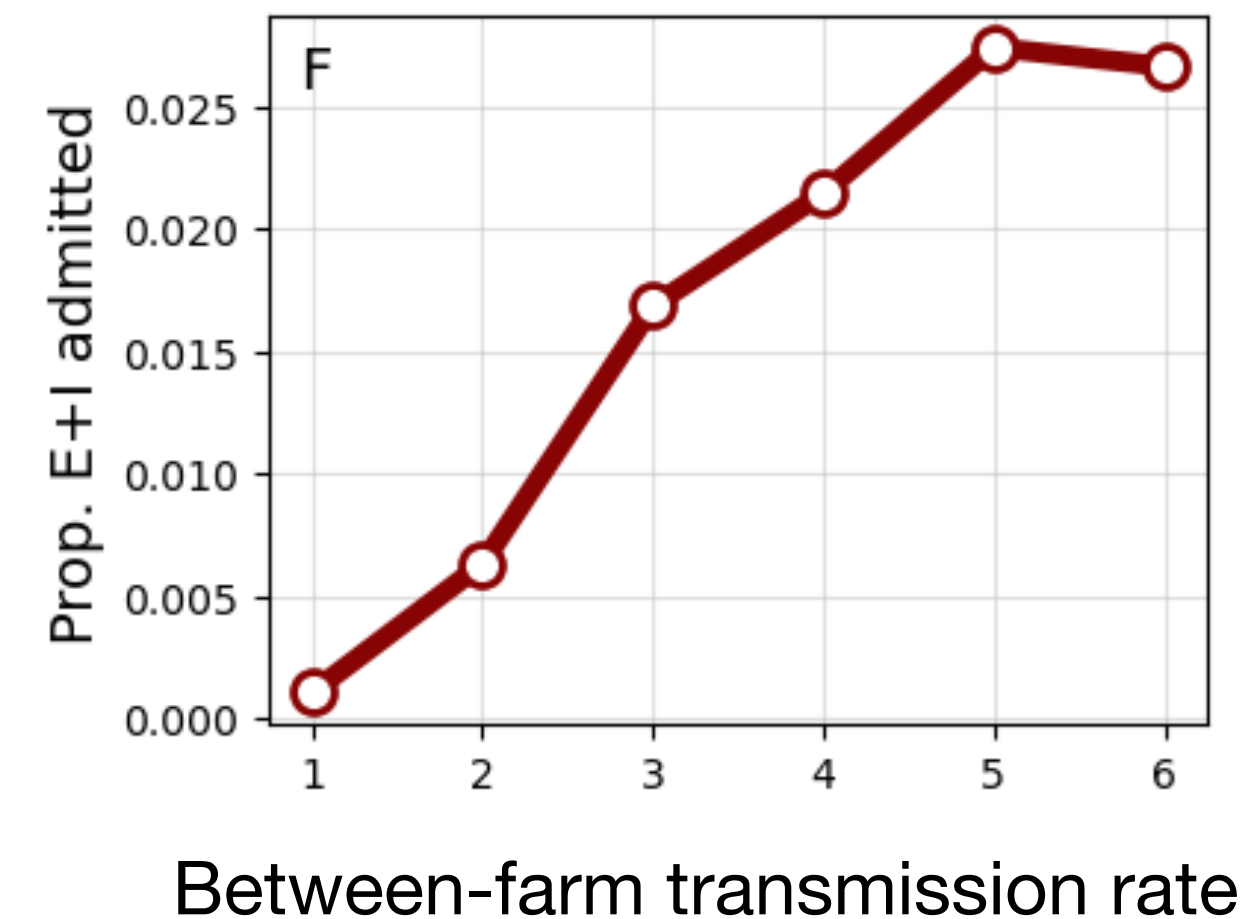
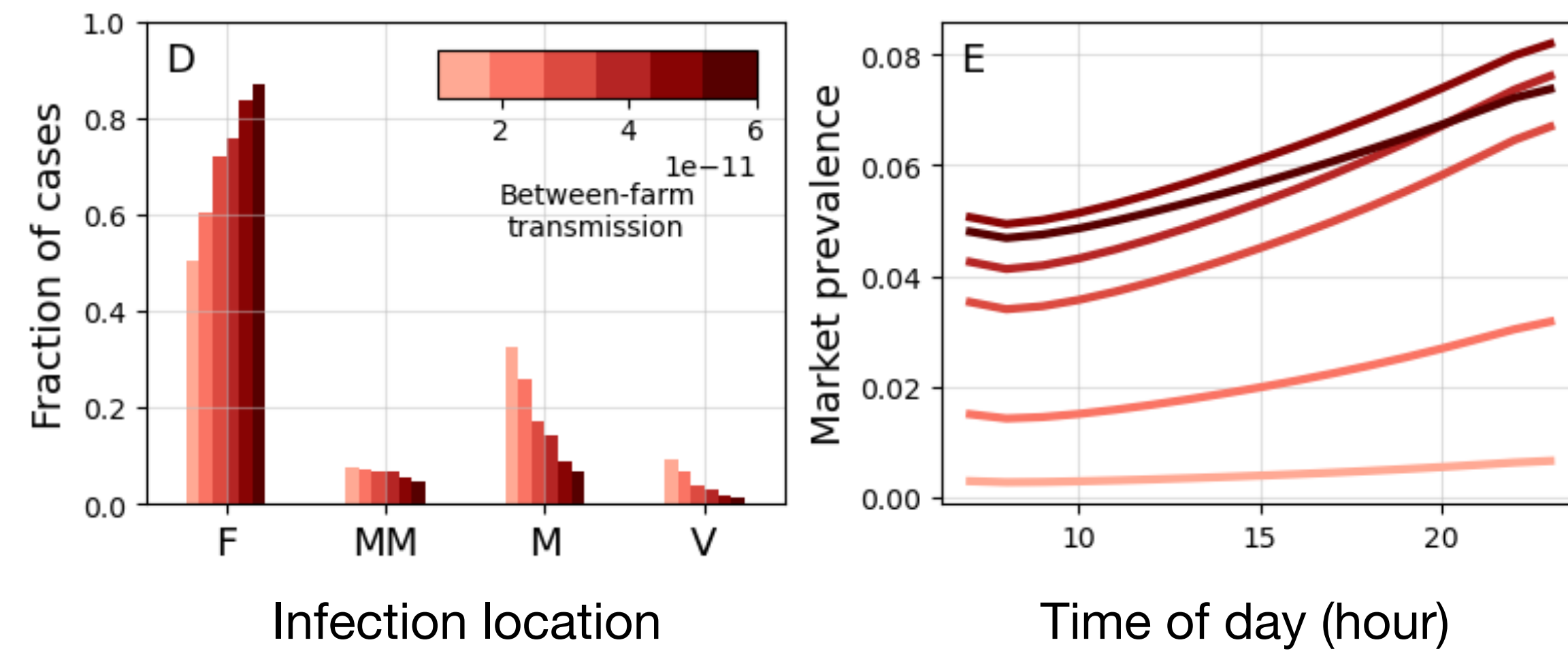
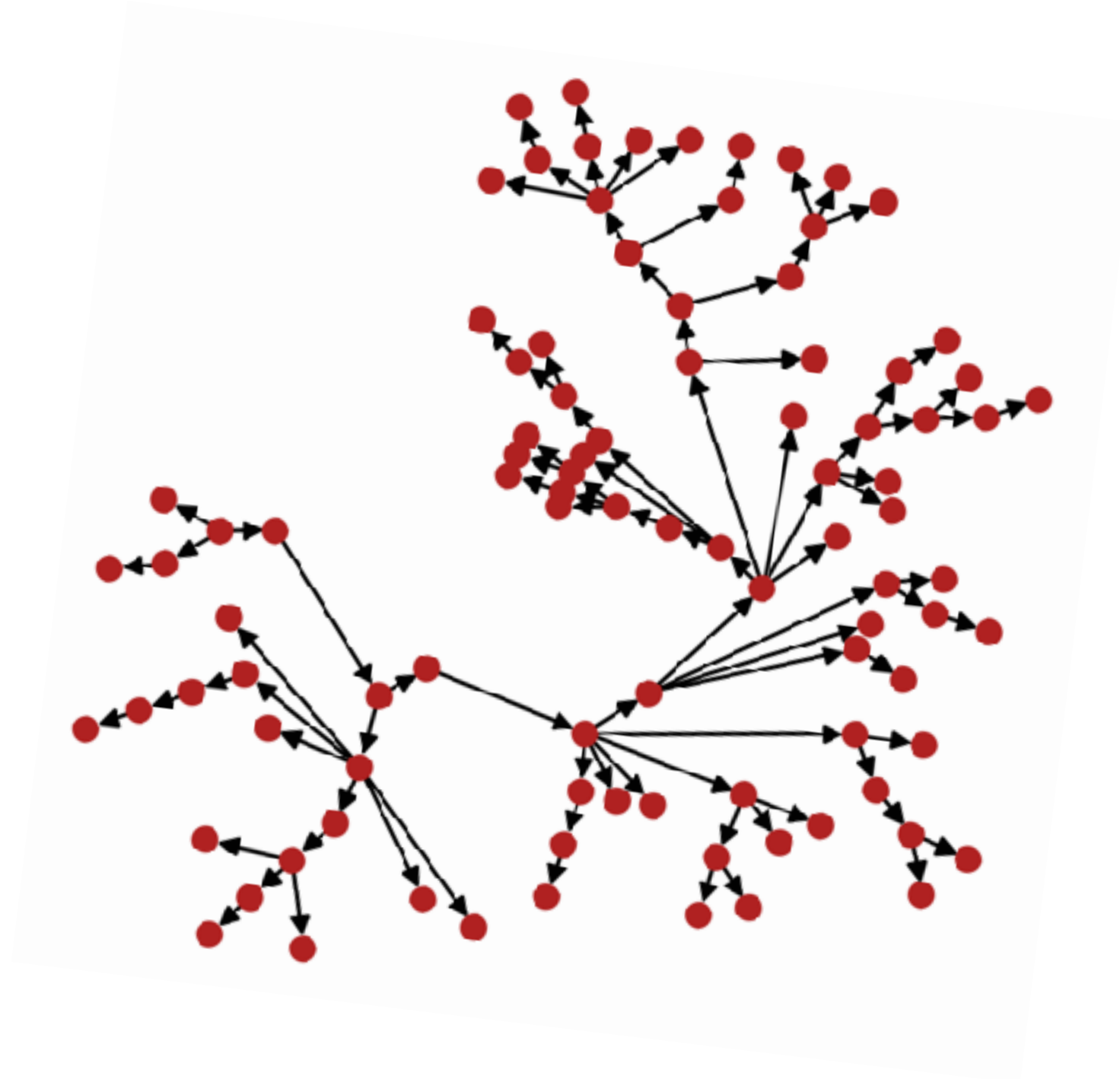
- Latent stage
- Age- and type-specific susceptibility
- Disease-induced mortality
- Multiple strains with interactions



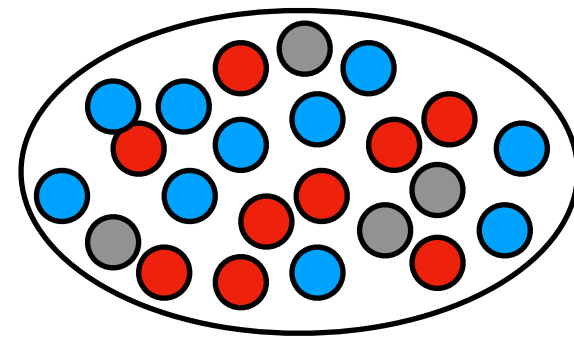
# Simulating Avian Influenza transmission

## Transmission chain

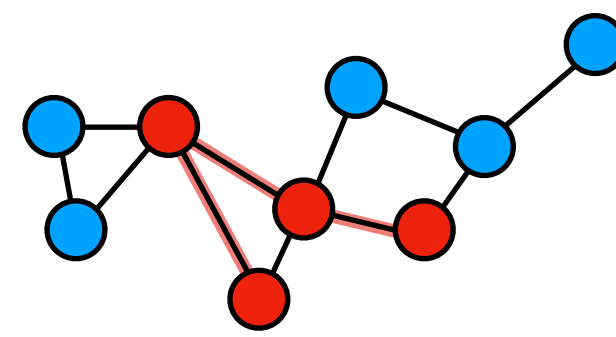
Which chicken infected which chicken?



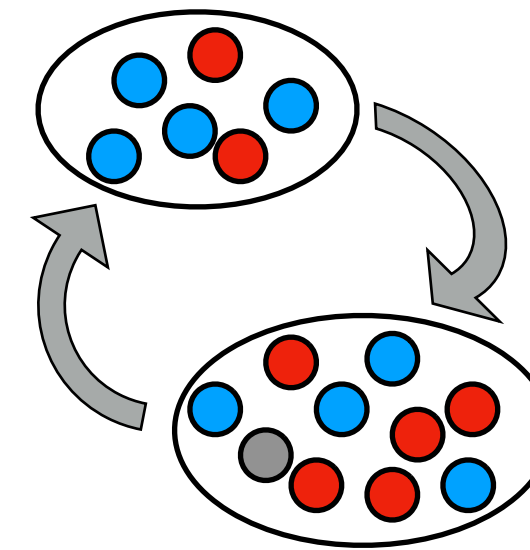
# Model complexity



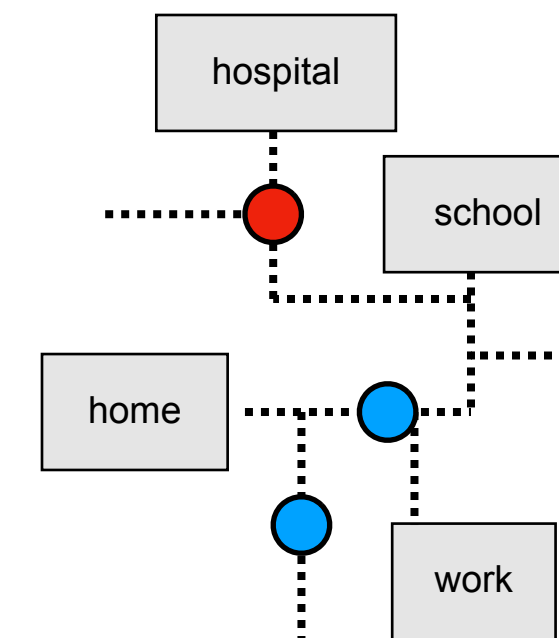
Homogeneous mixing



Network



Metapopulation

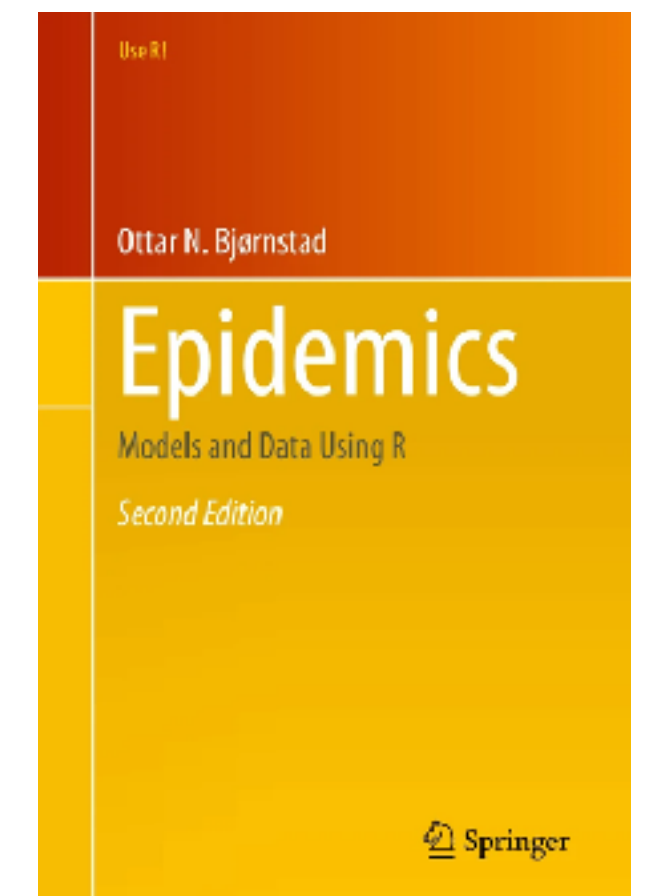
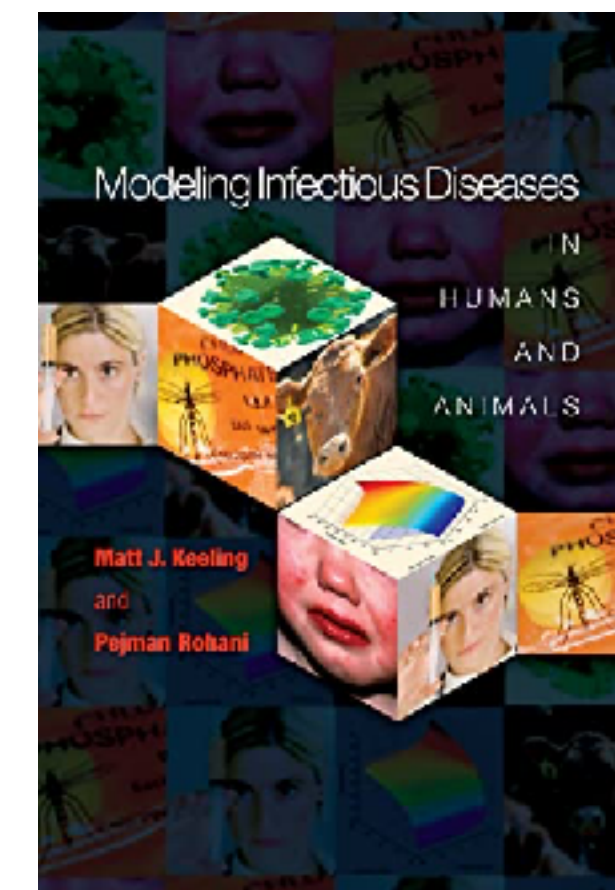
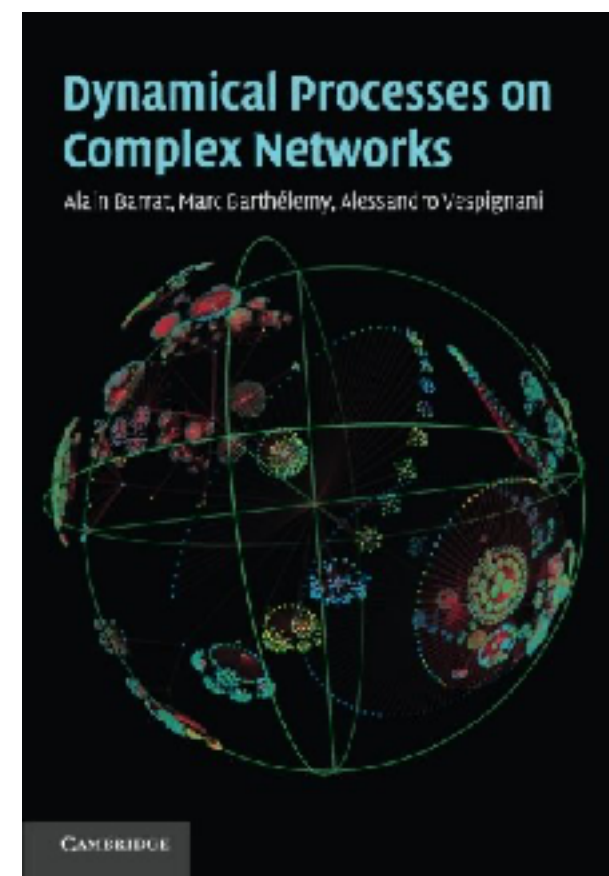


Agent-based

**COMPLEXITY**

# Resources

- (Paper) R. Pastor Satorras et Al., Epidemic processes in complex networks, Rev. Mod. Phys., 2015
- (Book) A. Barrat et Al., Dynamical Processes on Complex Networks, Cambridge University Press, 2012
- (Book) M. J. Keeling & P. Rohani, Modeling Infectious Diseases in Humans and Animals, Princeton University Press, 2007
- (Book) O. N. Bjørnstad, Epidemics: Models and Data Using R, Springer 2023



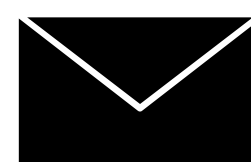
# Thank you!



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Credits: Chiara Poletto