

# Diameter and Rumour Spreading in Real-World Network Models

Abbas Mehrabian  
amehrabi@uwaterloo.ca

University of Waterloo

2 April 2015

joint work with a few people

# Nick Wormald



## A fundamental question

How long does it take for an element in a network to broadcast a piece of information to everyone?

## A fundamental question

How long does it take for an element in a network to broadcast a piece of information to everyone?

1. Flooding algorithm: **diameter** of the underlying graph

## A fundamental question

How long does it take for an element in a network to broadcast a piece of information to everyone?

1. Flooding algorithm: **diameter** of the underlying graph
2. **Rumour spreading/Gossip**: each element communicates with one neighbour in each time-step.

## A fundamental question

How long does it take for an element in a network to broadcast a piece of information to everyone?

1. Flooding algorithm: **diameter** of the underlying graph
2. **Rumour spreading/Gossip**: each element communicates with one neighbour in each time-step.

Interested in graphs that resemble real-world networks, focus on **random graphs with power-law degree distribution**.

# Part I: DIAMETER

## Small-world phenomenon

In real-world graphs, average distance between two random vertices is **significantly smaller** than number of vertices in the graph



## Small-world phenomenon

In real-world graphs, average distance between two random vertices is **significantly smaller** than number of vertices in the graph, e.g.

- ✓ Acquaintance network of Americans: **6.2** [Travers, Milgram '69]
- ✓ The Webgraph, 200 million vertices: **6.83** [Broder et al. '99]
- ✓ Facebook graph, 721 million vertices: **4.74** [Backstrom et al. '11]

## Small-world phenomenon

In real-world graphs, average distance between two random vertices is significantly smaller than number of vertices in the graph, e.g.

- ✓ Acquaintance network of Americans: 6.2 [Travers, Milgram '69]
- ✓ The Webgraph, 200 million vertices: 6.83 [Broder et al. '99]
- ✓ Facebook graph, 721 million vertices: 4.74 [Backstrom et al. '11]

**Small-world** graph: A random graph model in which the **diameter** is  $O(\log n)$  a.a.s. as  $n$  grows.

## Small-world phenomenon

In real-world graphs, average distance between two random vertices is **significantly smaller** than number of vertices in the graph, e.g.

- ✓ Acquaintance network of Americans: **6.2** [Travers, Milgram '69]
- ✓ The Webgraph, 200 million vertices: **6.83** [Broder et al. '99]
- ✓ Facebook graph, 721 million vertices: **4.74** [Backstrom et al. '11]

**Small-world** graph: A random graph model in which the **diameter** is  $O(\log n)$  a.a.s. as  $n$  grows.

**Mathematical question:** which random graphs are small-world?

Generator	Diameter or Avg path len.	Community		Clustering coefficient	Remarks
		Bip. core vs size	$C(k)$ vs $k$		
Erdős-Rényi [1960]	$O(\log N)$		Indep.	Low, $CC \propto N^{-1}$	
PLRG [Aiello et al. 2000], PLOD [Palmer and Steffan 2000]	$O(\log N)$	Indep.		$CC \rightarrow 0$ for large $N$	
Exponential cutoff [Newman et al. 2001]	$O(\log N)$			$CC \rightarrow 0$ for large $N$	
BA [Barabási and Albert 1999]	$O(\log N)$ or $O(\frac{\log N}{\log \log N})$			$CC \propto N^{-0.75}$	
Initial attractiveness [Dorogovtsev and Mendes 2003]					
AB [Albert and Barabási 2000]					
Edge copying [Kleinberg et al. 1999], [Kumar et al. 1999]		Power-law			
GLP [Bu and Towsley 2002]				Higher than AB, BA, PLRG	Internet only
Accelerated growth [Dorogovtsev et al. 2001], [Barabási et al. 2002]				Non-monotonic with $N$	
Fitness model [Bianconi and Barabási 2001]					
Aiello et al. [2001]					
Pandurangan et al. [2002]					
Inet [Winick and Jamin 2002]					Specific to the AS graph
Forest Fire [Leskovec et al. 2005]	"shrinks" as $N$ grows				
Pennock et al. [2002]					
Small-world [Watts and Strogatz 1998]	$O(N)$ for small $N$ , $O(\ln N)$ for large $N$ , depends on $p$			$CC(p) \propto$ $(1-p)^3$ , Indep of $N$	$N$ = num nodes $p$ = rewiring prob
Waxman [1988]					
BRITE [Medina et al. 2000]	Low (like in BA)			like in BA	BA + Waxman with additions
Yook et al. [2002]					
Fabrikant et al. [2002]					Tree, density 1
R-MAT [Chakrabarti et al. 2004]	Low (empirically)				

## Our contribution

We developed a versatile technique for proving that certain random graphs are small-world.

### Theorem (M'14)

*The following random graph models are small-world.*

- ✓ *The (edge) copying model* [Kumar et al.'00]
- ✓ *Aiello-Chung-Lu models* [Aiello, Chung, Lu'01]
- ✓ *The Cooper-Frieze model* [Cooper, Frieze'01]
- ✓ *The generalized linear preference model* [Bu, Towsley'02]
- ✓ *The PageRank-based selection model* [Pandurangan et al.'02]
- ✓ *Directed scale-free graphs* [Bollobás et al.'03]
- ✓ *The forest fire model* [Leskovec, Kleinberg, Faloutsos'05]

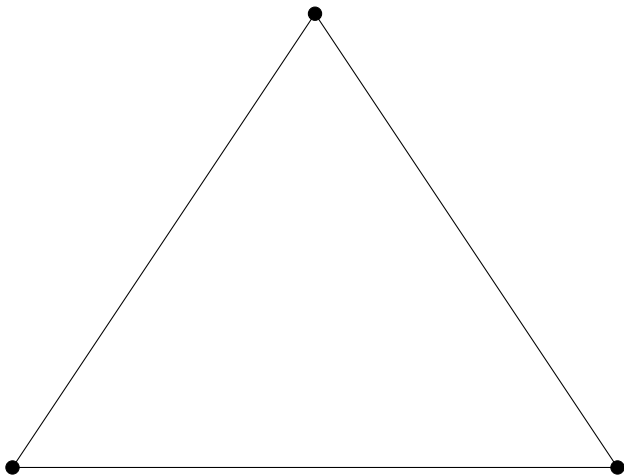
# The Cooper-Frieze model

- ✓ In each step, either a new vertex is born and edges are added from it to the existing graph, or edges are added between the existing vertices.
- ✓ The number of added edges is a bounded random variable.
- ✓ One endpoint of each added edge is either the new vertex, or a uniformly random vertex, or a vertex sampled according to the degrees.
- ✓ The other endpoint is either a uniformly random vertex or a vertex sampled according to the degrees.

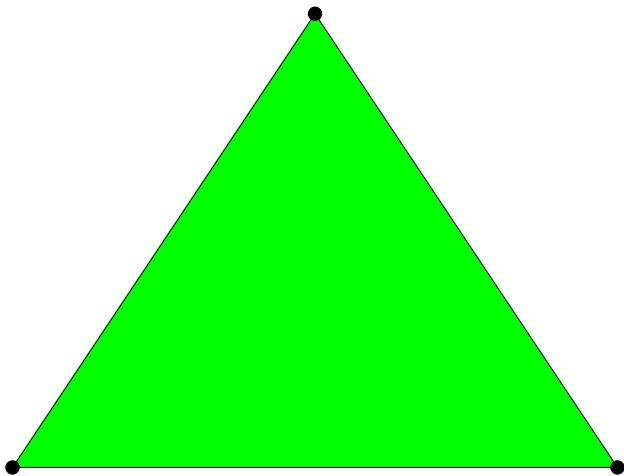
Generator	Diameter or Avg path len.	Community		Clustering coefficient	Remarks
		Bip. core vs size	$C(k)$ vs $k$		
Erdos-Rényi [1960]	$O(\log N)$		Indep.	Low, $CC \propto N^{-1}$	
PLRG [Aiello et al. 2000], PLOD [Palmer and Steffan 2000]	$O(\log N)$		Indep.	$CC \rightarrow 0$ for large $N$	
Exponential cutoff [Newman et al. 2001]	$O(\log N)$			$CC \rightarrow 0$ for large $N$	
BA [Barabási and Albert 1999]	$O(\log N)$ or $O(\frac{\log N}{\log \log N})$			$CC \propto N^{-0.75}$	
Initial attractiveness [Dorogovtsev and Mendes 2003]					
AB [Albert and Barabási 2000]					
Edge copying [Kleinberg et al. 1999], [Kumar et al. 1999]	$O(\log N)$	Power-law			
GLP [Bu and Towsley 2002]	$O(\log N)$			Higher than AB, BA, PLRG	Internet only
Accelerated growth [Dorogovtsev et al. 2001], [Barabási et al. 2002]				Non-monotonic with $N$	
Fitness model [Bianconi and Barabási 2001]					
Aiello et al. [2001]	$O(\log N)$				
Pandurangan et al. [2002]	$O(\log N)$				
Inet [Winick and Jamin 2002]					Specific to the AS graph
Forest Fire [Leskovec et al. 2005]	$O(\log N)$				
Pennock et al. [2002]					
Small-world [Watts and Strogatz 1998]	$O(N)$ for small $N$ , $O(\ln N)$ for large $N$ , depends on $p$			$CC(p) \propto$ $(1-p)^3$ , Indep of $N$	$N$ = num nodes $p$ = rewiring prob
Waxman [1988]					
BRITE [Medina et al. 2000]	Low (like in BA)			like in BA	BA + Waxman with additions
Yook et al. [2002]					
Fabrikant et al. [2002]					Tree, density 1
R-MAT [Chakrabarti et al. 2004]	Low (empirically)				

# Random Apollonian Networks

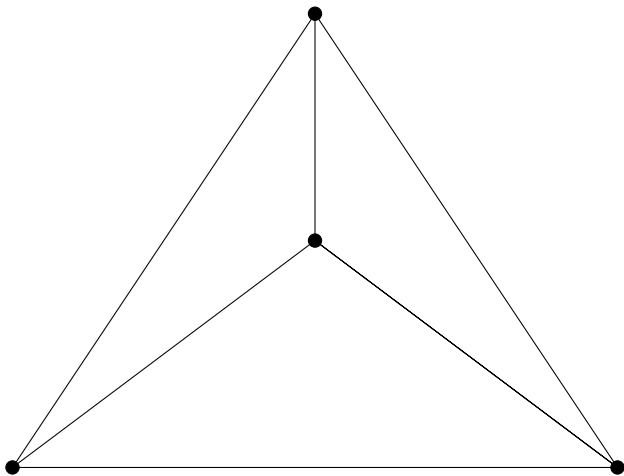




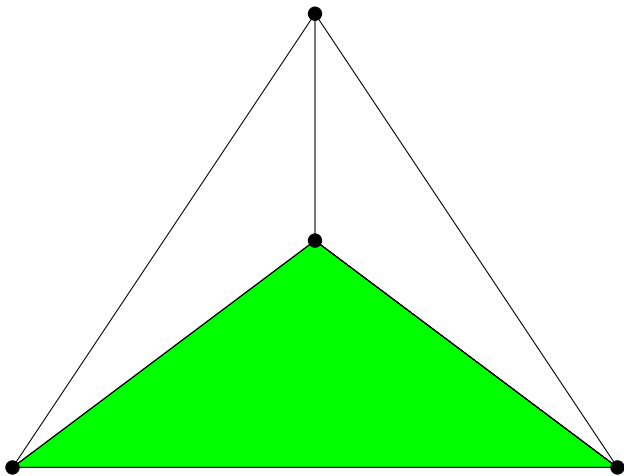
$t = 0$



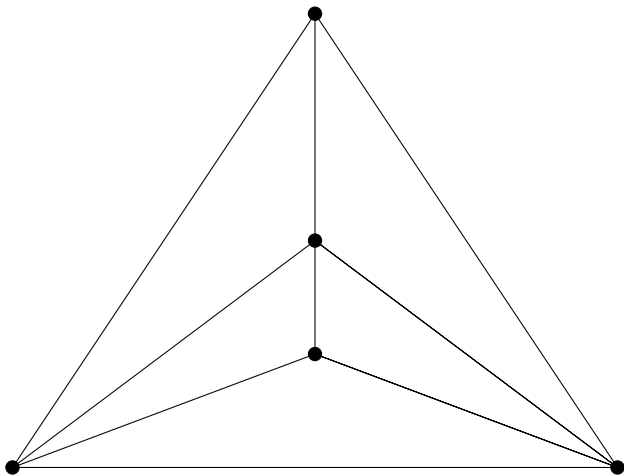
$t = 0$



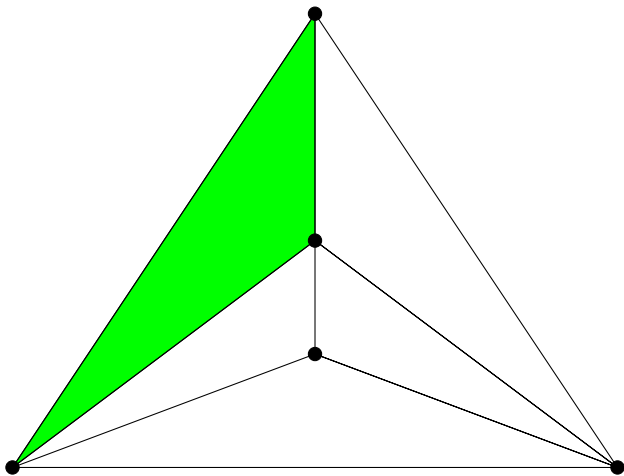
$$t = 1$$



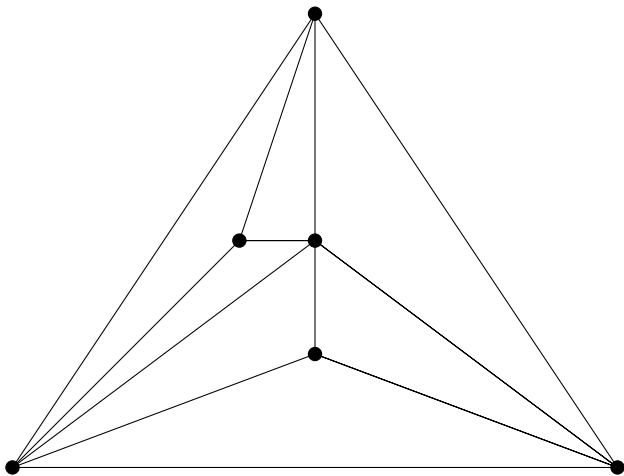
$$t = 1$$



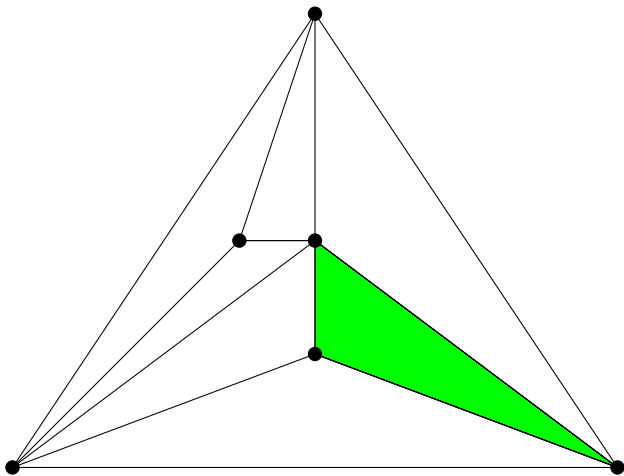
$$t = 2$$



$$t = 2$$

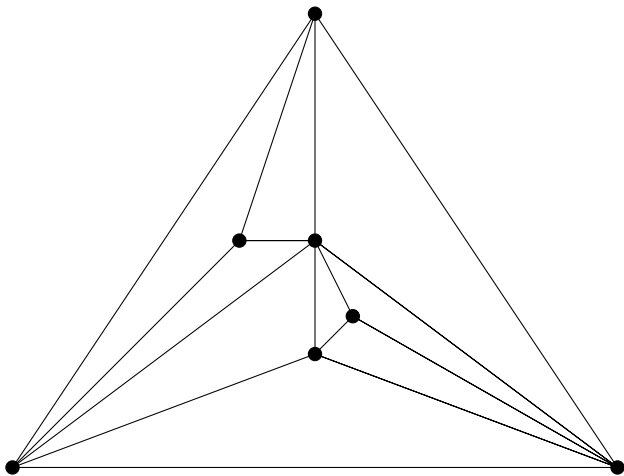


$$t = 3$$



$$t = 3$$





$$t = 4$$

## Old and new results

After  $t$  steps, a random triangulated plane graph with  $n = t + 3$  vertices, called a **Random Apollonian Network (RAN)**.

Zhou, Yan, Wang'05: **planar** graphs with power-law degree distribution.

## Old and new results

After  $t$  steps, a random triangulated plane graph with  $n = t + 3$  vertices, called a **Random Apollonian Network (RAN)**.

Zhou, Yan, Wang'05: **planar** graphs with power-law degree distribution.

Theorem (Albenque and Marckert'08; Frieze and Tsourakakis'12)

*A.a.s.*

$$0.54 \log n < \text{diameter} < 7.1 \log n$$

## Old and new results

After  $t$  steps, a random triangulated plane graph with  $n = t + 3$  vertices, called a **Random Apollonian Network (RAN)**.

Zhou, Yan, Wang'05: **planar** graphs with power-law degree distribution.

Theorem (Albenque and Marckert'08; Frieze and Tsourakakis'12)

*A.a.s.*

$$0.54 \log n < \text{diameter} < 7.1 \log n$$

Theorem (Ebrahimzadeh, Farczadi, Gao, M, Sato, Wormald, Zung'13)

*A.a.s.*

$$\frac{\text{diameter}}{\log n} \rightarrow c \approx 1.668 \quad \text{in probability}$$

## Old and new results

After  $t$  steps, a random triangulated plane graph with  $n = t + 3$  vertices, called a **Random Apollonian Network (RAN)**.

Zhou, Yan, Wang'05: **planar** graphs with power-law degree distribution.

Theorem (Albenque and Marckert'08; Frieze and Tsourakakis'12)

*A.a.s.*

$$0.54 \log n < \text{diameter} < 7.1 \log n$$

Theorem (Ebrahimzadeh, Farczadi, Gao, M, Sato, Wormald, Zung'13)

*A.a.s.*

$$\frac{\text{diameter}}{\log n} \rightarrow c \approx 1.668 \quad \text{in probability}$$

A similar result was proved independently by

Cooper, Frieze, Uehara'13 and Kolossváry, Komjáty, Vágó'13.

## Length of a longest path

$\mathcal{L}_n$  := length of a longest path

Frieze and Tsourakakis'12 Is  $\mathcal{L}_n = \Omega(n)$  a.a.s.?

## Length of a longest path

$\mathcal{L}_n$  := length of a longest path

Frieze and Tsourakakis'12 Is  $\mathcal{L}_n = \Omega(n)$  a.a.s.?

EFGMSWZ'13 No! A.a.s. we have  $\mathcal{L}_n < ne^{-\Omega(\log \log n)}$

## Length of a longest path

$\mathcal{L}_n$  := length of a longest path

Frieze and Tsourakakis'12 Is  $\mathcal{L}_n = \Omega(n)$  a.a.s.?

EFGMSWZ'13 No! A.a.s. we have  $\mathcal{L}_n < ne^{-\Omega(\log \log n)}$

Cooper and Frieze'Mar14 A.a.s. we have  $\mathcal{L}_n < ne^{-\sqrt{\log n}}$



## Length of a longest path

$\mathcal{L}_n$  := length of a longest path

Frieze and Tsourakakis'12 Is  $\mathcal{L}_n = \Omega(n)$  a.a.s.?

EFGMSWZ'13 No! A.a.s. we have  $\mathcal{L}_n < ne^{-\Omega(\log \log n)}$

Cooper and Frieze'Mar14 A.a.s. we have  $\mathcal{L}_n < ne^{-\sqrt{\log n}}$

Collecchio, M, Wormald'Apr14 A.a.s. we have  $\mathcal{L}_n < ne^{-\Omega(\log n)}$

## Length of a longest path

$\mathcal{L}_n$  := length of a longest path

Frieze and Tsourakakis'12 Is  $\mathcal{L}_n = \Omega(n)$  a.a.s.?

EFGMSWZ'13 No! A.a.s. we have  $\mathcal{L}_n < ne^{-\Omega(\log \log n)}$

Cooper and Frieze'Mar14 A.a.s. we have  $\mathcal{L}_n < ne^{-\sqrt{\log n}}$

Collecchio, M, Wormald'Apr14 A.a.s. we have  $\mathcal{L}_n < ne^{-\Omega(\log n)}$

Theorem (EFGMSWZ'13)

*We have*

$$\mathcal{L}_n > n^{0.63}$$

*and*

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_n] = \Omega(n^{0.88})$$



# Random-Surfer Webgraphs

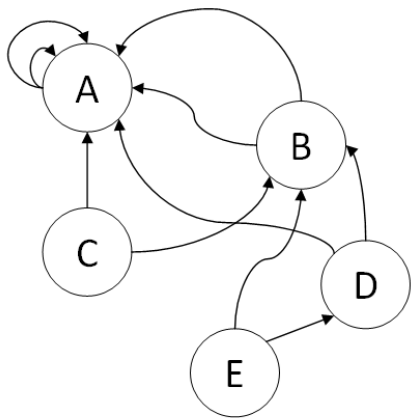
## Model definition

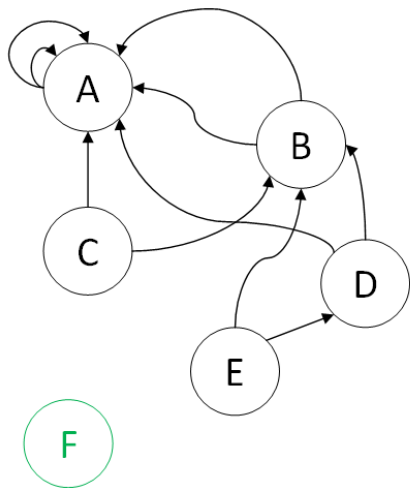
- ✓ Parameters:  $p$  and  $d$
- ✓ Consider a pool of independent  $\text{Geo}(p)$  random variables.
- ✓ Build a random graph with out-degree  $d$ : start with one vertex with  $d$  loops, add a new vertex in each step.

## Model definition

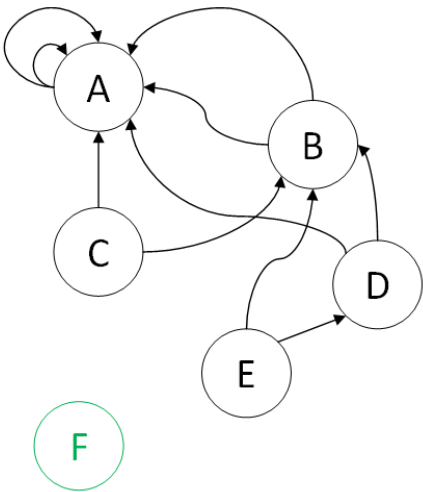
- ✓ Parameters:  $p$  and  $d$
- ✓ Consider a pool of independent  $\text{Geo}(p)$  random variables.
- ✓ Build a random graph with out-degree  $d$ : start with one vertex with  $d$  loops, add a new vertex in each step.

Say  $p = 1/2$  and  $d = 2$

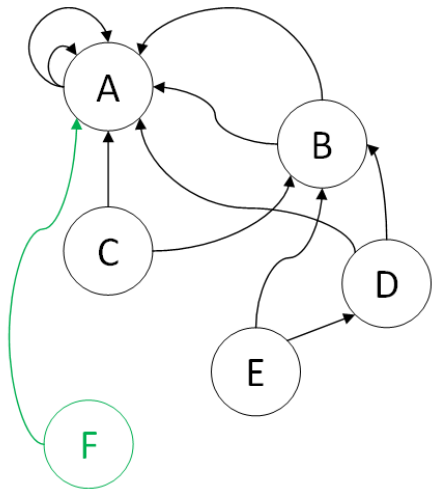




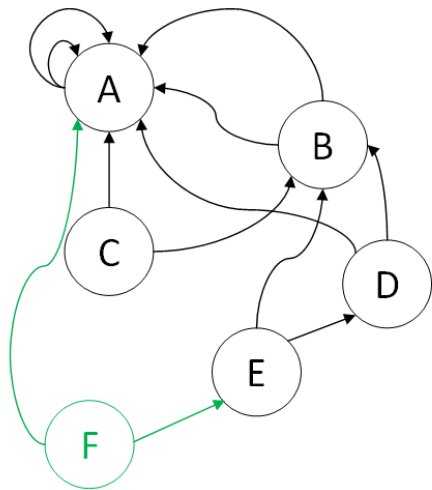




C, 2



C, 2



C, 2

E, 0

Blum, Chan and Rwebangira'06.

## Our result

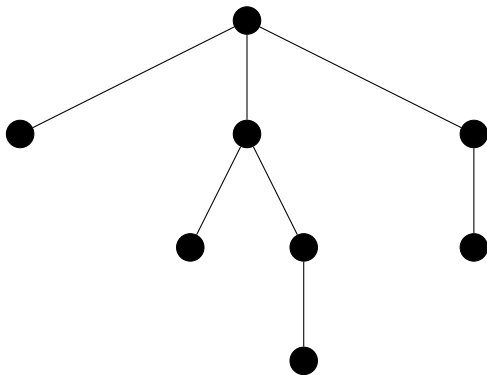
Previous work focused on the degree distribution.

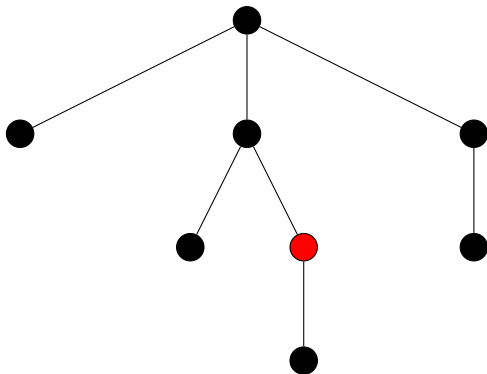
Theorem (M, Wormald'14)

*A.a.s. the diameter of the underlying graph  $\leq (8e^p/p) \log n$*

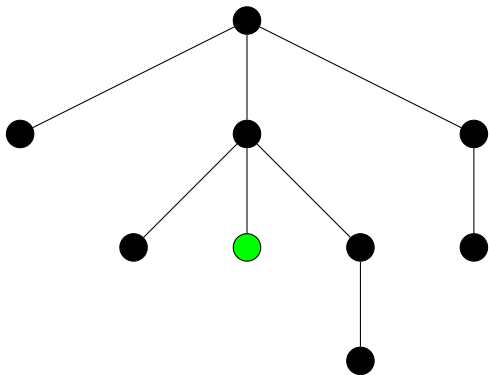
- ✓ The **small-world phenomenon** holds for this model.

## Random-surfer trees ( $d = 1$ )

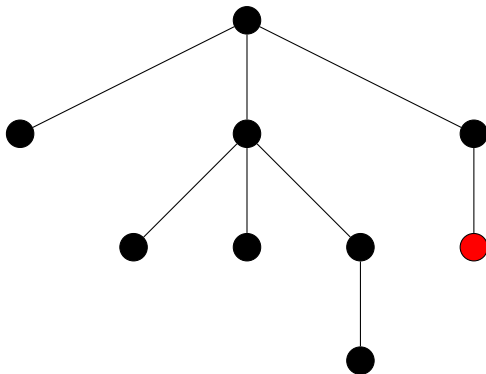




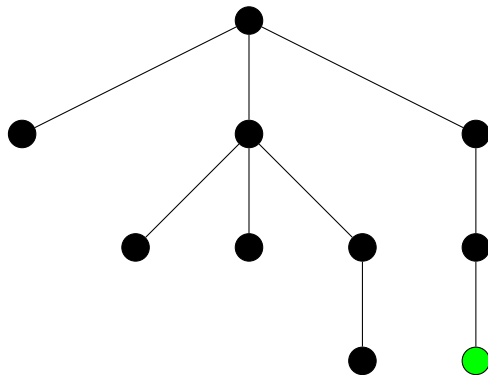
next geom.r.v. = 1







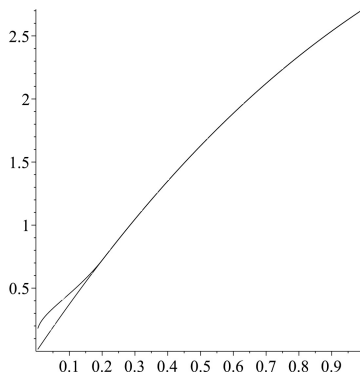
next geom.r.v. = 0



## Our result

Theorem (M, Wormald'14)

*A.a.s. the height is between  $(L(p) - o(1)) \log n$  and  $(U(p) + o(1)) \log n$ , and the diameter is between twice these values.*



## Part II: RUMOUR SPREADING

## Protocols definition

- ✓ Initially, one vertex knows a **rumour**.

## Protocols definition

- ✓ Initially, one vertex knows a **rumour**.
- ✓ Vertex  $v$  performs an **action** means:
  - if  $v$  knows the rumour, sends it to a random neighbour;
  - else if  $v$  doesn't know the rumour, queries a random neighbour about it.

## Protocols definition

- ✓ Initially, one vertex knows a **rumour**.
- ✓ Vertex  $v$  performs an **action** means:  
if  $v$  knows the rumour, sends it to a random neighbour;  
else if  $v$  doesn't know the rumour, queries a random neighbour about it.
- ✓ In the **synchronous push&pull** protocol, each vertex performs an action at times  $1, 2, 3, \dots$  [Demers et al.'87]

## Protocols definition

- ✓ Initially, one vertex knows a **rumour**.
- ✓ Vertex  $v$  performs an **action** means:  
if  $v$  knows the rumour, sends it to a random neighbour;  
else if  $v$  doesn't know the rumour, queries a random neighbour about it.
- ✓ In the **synchronous push&pull** protocol, each vertex performs an action at times  $1, 2, 3, \dots$  [Demers et al.'87]
- ✓ In the **asynchronous push&pull** protocol, each vertex performs an action at times corresponding to an independent Poisson process with rate 1. [Boyd et al.'06]



## Protocols definition

- ✓ Initially, one vertex knows a **rumour**.
- ✓ Vertex  $v$  performs an **action** means:  
if  $v$  knows the rumour, sends it to a random neighbour;  
else if  $v$  doesn't know the rumour, queries a random neighbour about it.
- ✓ In the **synchronous push&pull** protocol, each vertex performs an action at times  $1, 2, 3, \dots$  [Demers et al.'87]
- ✓ In the **asynchronous push&pull** protocol, each vertex performs an action at times corresponding to an independent Poisson process with rate 1. [Boyd et al.'06]
- ✓  $s(G)$  and  $a(G)$ : average time it takes to broadcast the rumour.

## Applications and known results

Replicated databases and distributed computing; news propagation in social networks and spread of viruses on the Internet.

## Applications and known results

Replicated databases and distributed computing; news propagation in social networks and spread of viruses on the Internet.

Graph $G$	$s(G)$	$a(G)$
Path	$(4/3)n + O(1)$	$n + O(1)$
Star	2	$\log n + O(1)$
Complete	$(1 + o(1)) \log_3 n$ [Karp et al.'01]	$\log n + o(1)$
$\mathcal{G}(n, p)$ $1 < np$ fixed	$\Theta(\log n)$ [Feige et al.'90]	$(1 + o(1)) \log n$ [Panagiotou, Speidel'13]

## Our results

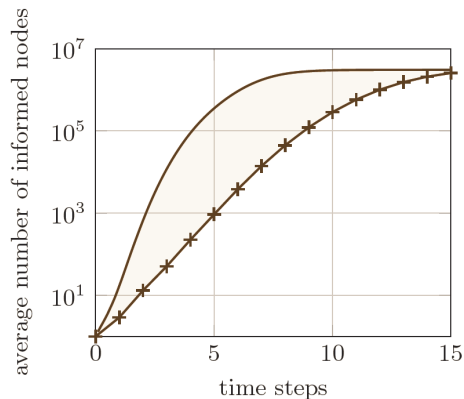
Theorem (Acan, Collecchio, M, Wormald'14)

*For any connected  $G$  we have*

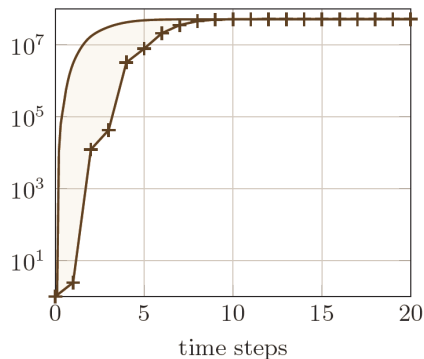
$$1 \leq s(G) \leq 4.6n$$

$$\log(n)/3 \leq a(G) \leq 4n$$

# Comparison of the two protocols on the same graph: experiments



(a) Orkut network



(b) Twitter network

From Doerr, Fouz, and Friedrich. MedAlg 2012.

## Comparison of the two protocols on the same graph: our results

Theorem (Acan, Collevecchio, M, Wormald'14)

*We have*

$$\frac{C_1}{\log^2 n} \leq \frac{s(G)}{a(G)} \leq C_2 n^{2/3} \log n$$

*Moreover, there exist infinitely many graphs for which this ratio is  $\Omega((n/\log n)^{1/3})$ .*

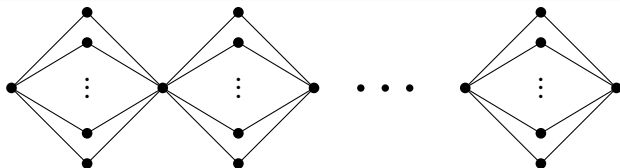
# Comparison of the two protocols on the same graph: our results

Theorem (Acan, Collevecchio, M, Wormald'14)

We have

$$\frac{C_1}{\log^2 n} \leq \frac{s(G)}{a(G)} \leq C_2 n^{2/3} \log n$$

Moreover, there exist infinitely many graphs for which this ratio is  $\Omega((n/\log n)^{1/3})$ .



This graph has  $\approx n^{1/3}$  diamonds, each consisting of  $\approx n^{2/3}$  paths of length 2. It satisfies  $a(G) = O(\log n)$  and  $s(G) = \Omega(n^{1/3}(\log n)^{2/3})$ .



GRANTS PICNIC GRD  
VIA NEUMANN TK 2 km  
GRANTS PICNIC GRD  
VIA PADDY TK 4.6 km

For more information call 08 836 3111  
www.nsw.gov.au  
Grants Picnic Ground



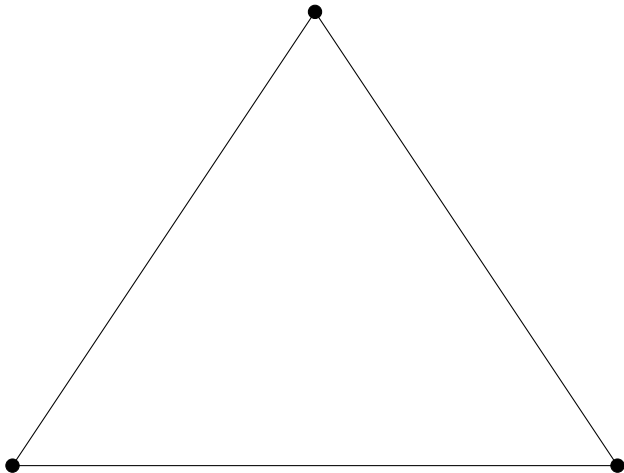
## Synchronous Push&Pull on RANs and random $k$ -trees

## Synchronous Push&Pull on RANs

Theorem (M, Pourmiri'14)

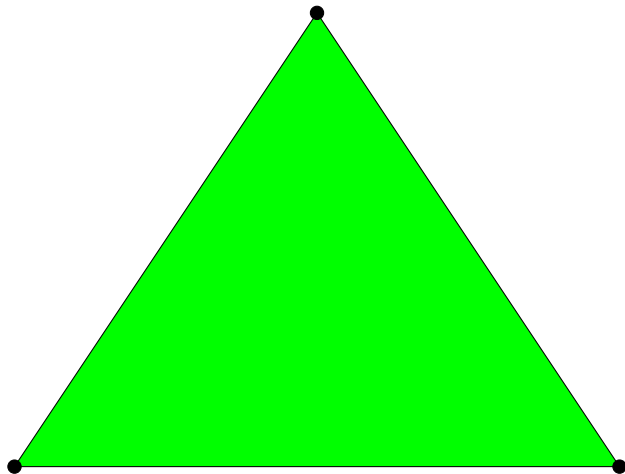
*If initially a random vertex of a RAN knows a rumour, a.a.s. after  $O(\log^2 n)$  rounds, 99 percent of the vertices will get informed.*

## Random 3-tree



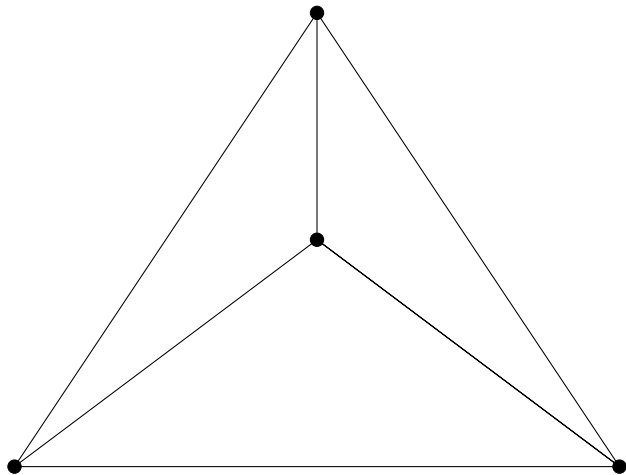
$t = 0$

# Random 3-tree



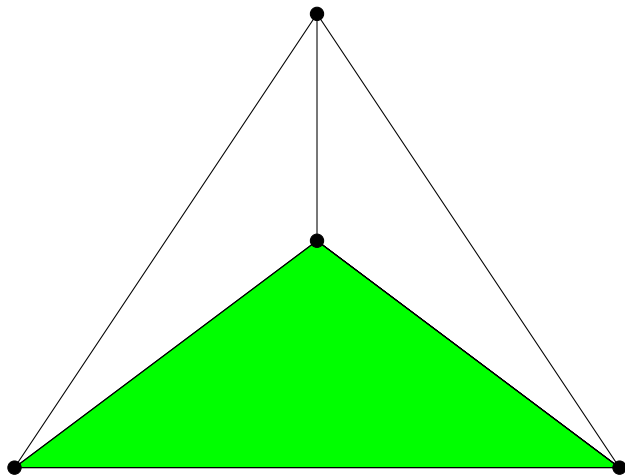
$t = 0$

## Random 3-tree



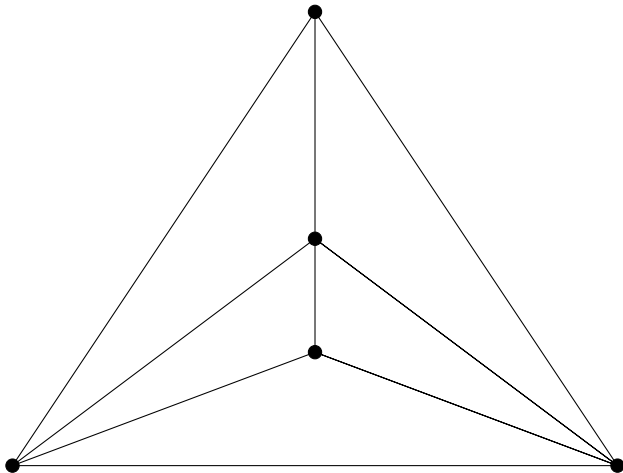
$t = 1$

# Random 3-tree



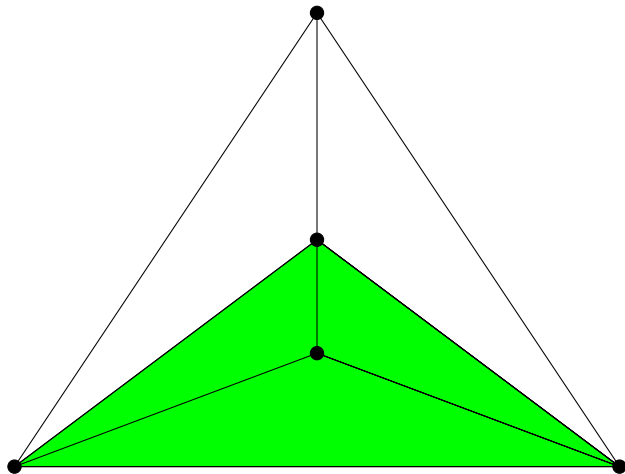
$t = 1$

## Random 3-tree



$t = 2$

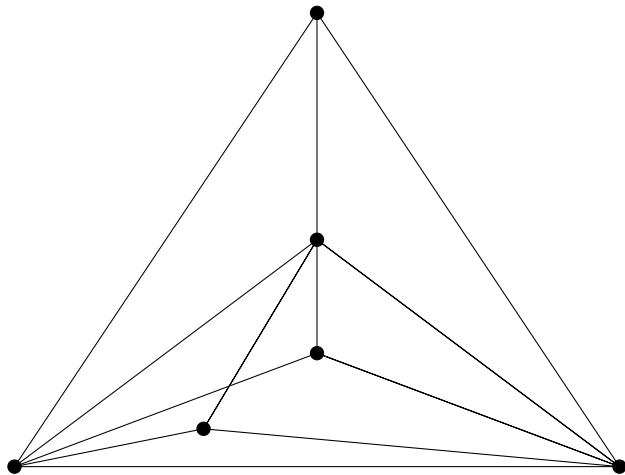
## Random 3-tree



$$t = 2$$

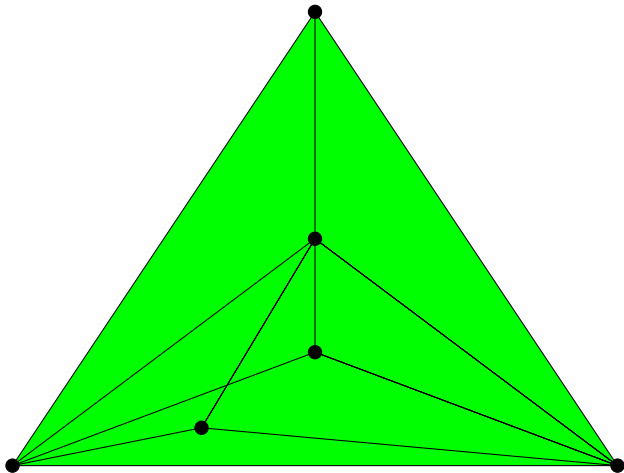


## Random 3-tree



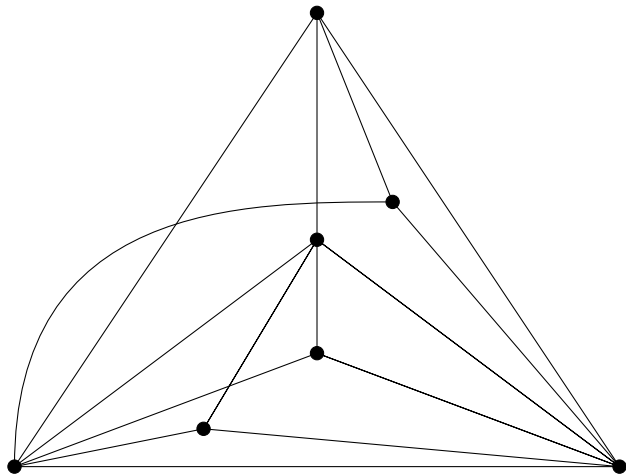
$t = 3$

## Random 3-tree



$t = 3$

## Random 3-tree



$t = 4$

## Synchronous push&pull on random $k$ -trees

Random  $k$ -trees were defined in 2009 by Gao, who proved their degree distribution is power-law.

## Synchronous push&pull on random $k$ -trees

Random  $k$ -trees were defined in 2009 by Gao, who proved their degree distribution is power-law.

Theorem (M, Pourmiri'14, upper bound)

*If initially a random vertex knows the rumor,  
a.a.s. after  $(\log n)^{1+3/k}$  rounds, 99 percent of vertices will know it.*

## Synchronous push&pull on random $k$ -trees

Random  $k$ -trees were defined in 2009 by Gao, who proved their degree distribution is power-law.

Theorem (M, Pourmiri'14, upper bound)

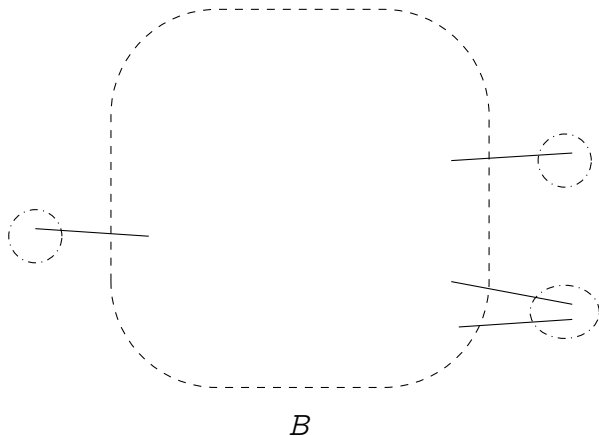
*If initially a random vertex knows the rumor, a.a.s. after  $(\log n)^{1+3/k}$  rounds, 99 percent of vertices will know it.*

Theorem (M, Pourmiri'14, lower bound)

*The time required to inform all vertices is  $> n^{1/3k}$  a.a.s.*

Exponential blow up if informing each and every vertex is required.

# The picture





Thanks for listening!



# APPENDIX

## Versatile technique

### Theorem (M'14)

The following random graph models have diameter  $O(\log n)$  a.a.s.

- ✓ The (edge) copying model [Kumar et al.'00]
- ✓ Aiello-Chung-Lu models [Aiello, Chung, Lu'01]
- ✓ The Cooper-Frieze model [Cooper, Frieze'01]
- ✓ The generalized linear preference model [Bu, Towsley'02]
- ✓ The PageRank-based selection model [Pandurangan et al.'02]
- ✓ Directed scale-free graphs [Bollobás et al.'03]
- ✓ The forest fire model [Leskovec, Kleinberg, Faloutsos'05]

### Theorem (M'14, 3.24)

The PARID model of Deijfen et al.'09 has diameter  $O(\log^3 n)$  a.a.s. if the initial degrees' distribution has an exponential decay.

# Diameter of RANs

Theorem (EFGMSWZ'13, 4.1)

$$f(x) := \frac{12x^3}{1-2x} - \frac{6x^3}{1-x},$$

$y :=$  unique solution to

$$x(x-1)f'(x) = f(x) \log f(x), \quad x \in (0, 1/2),$$

$$c := (1 - y^{-1}) / \log f(y) \approx 1.668$$

Then for every fixed  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}[(1 - \varepsilon)c \log n \leq \text{diameter of a RAN} \leq (1 + \varepsilon)c \log n] \rightarrow 1$$

## Longest paths in RANs

$\mathcal{L}_n$  := length of a longest path in a RAN

Theorem (EFGMSWZ'13, 4.2)

*We have*

$$\mathcal{L}_n > n^{0.63}$$

*and*

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_n] = \Omega(n^{0.88})$$

Theorem (Collecchio, M, Wormald'14, 4.4)

*A.a.s. we have  $\mathcal{L}_n < n^{0.99999996}$*

# The random-surfer Webgraph model

Theorem (M, Wormald'14, 5.2)

*A.a.s. the diameter of the underlying graph  $\leq (8e^p/p) \log n$*

# The random-surfer tree model

Theorem (M, Wormald'14, 5.3 and 5.4)

Given  $p$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , a.a.s. the height is between  $(L(p) - \varepsilon) \log n$  and  $(U(p) + \varepsilon) \log n$ , and the diameter is between twice these values. Let  $p_0 \approx 0.206$  be the unique solution in  $(0, 1/2)$  to

$$\log \left( \frac{1-p}{p} \right) = \frac{1-p}{1-2p}.$$

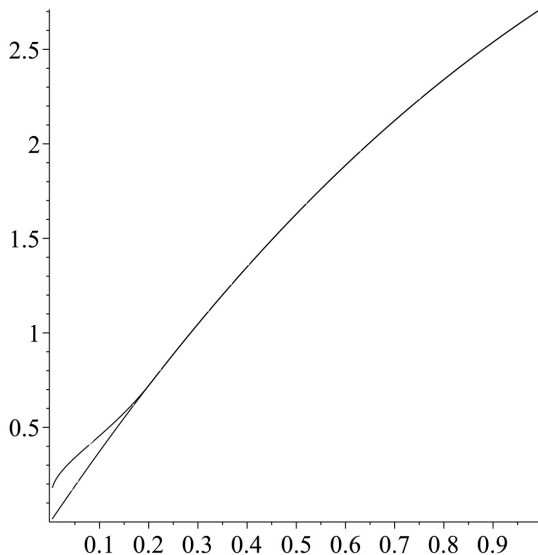
Let  $s$  be the solution in  $(0, 1)$  to

$$s \log \left( \frac{(1-p)(2-s)}{1-s} \right) = 1.$$

Then  $L(p) = e^{1/s} s(2-s)p$  and

$$U(p) = \begin{cases} L(p) & \text{if } p_0 \leq p < 1 \\ \left( \log \left( \frac{1-p}{p} \right) \right)^{-1} & \text{if } 0 < p < p_0. \end{cases}$$

## The random-surfer tree model (cont'd)



## Extremal spread times

Theorem (Acan, Collecchio, M, Wormald'14, 6.3)

For any connected  $G$ ,

$$(1 - 1/n) \text{wast}_a(G) \leq \text{gst}_a(G) \leq e \text{wast}_a(G) \log n, \quad (1)$$

$$\text{wast}_a(G) = \Omega(\log n) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{wast}_a(G) = O(n), \quad (2)$$

$$\text{gst}_a(G) = \Omega(\log n) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{gst}_a(G) = O(n \log n). \quad (3)$$

Theorem (Acan, Collecchio, M, Wormald'14, 6.4)

For any connected  $G$ ,

$$(1 - 1/n) \text{wast}_s(G) \leq \text{gst}_s(G) \leq e \text{wast}_s(G) \log n, \quad (4)$$

$$\text{wast}_s(G) = O(n), \quad (5)$$

$$\text{gst}_s(G) = O(n \log n). \quad (6)$$



# Comparison of the two protocols on the same graph

Theorem (Acan, Collecchio, M, Wormald'14, 6.9)

We have

$$\frac{C_1}{\log n} \leq \frac{\text{gst}_s(G)}{\text{gst}_a(G)} \leq C_2 n^{2/3},$$

and the left-hand bound is asymptotically best possible, up to the constant factor. Moreover, there exist infinitely many graphs for which this ratio is  $\Omega(n^{1/3}(\log n)^{-4/3})$ .

## Rumour spreading on random $k$ -trees

### Theorem (M,Pourmiri'14, 7.3)

Let  $k \geq 2$  be fixed and let  $f(n) = o(\log \log n)$  be any function going to infinity with  $n$ . If initially a random vertex of a random  $k$ -tree knows a rumour, then a.a.s. after  $O\left((\log n)^{1+\frac{2}{k}} \cdot \log \log n \cdot f(n)\right)$  rounds of the synchronous push&pull protocol,  $n - o(n)$  vertices will know the rumour.

### Theorem (M,Pourmiri'14, 7.5)

Let  $k \geq 2$  be fixed and let  $f(n) = o(\log \log n)$  be any function going to infinity with  $n$ . Suppose that initially one vertex in the random  $k$ -tree knows the rumour. Then, a.a.s. the synchronous push&pull protocol needs at least  $n^{(k-1)/(k^2+k-1)}/f(n)$  rounds to inform all vertices.

# Rumour spreading on random $k$ -Apollonian networks

Theorem (M, Pourmiri'14, 7.6)

Let  $k \geq 3$  be fixed and let  $f(n) = o(\log \log n)$  be any function going to infinity with  $n$ . Assume that initially a random vertex of a random  $k$ -Apollonian network knows a rumour. Then, a.a.s. after

$$O\left((\log n)^{(k^2-3)/(k-1)^2} \cdot \log \log n \cdot f(n)\right)$$

rounds of the synchronous push&pull protocol, at least  $n - o(n)$  vertices will know the rumour.

# Power-law degree distribution

## Definition

A graph has power-law degree distribution with exponent  $\beta$  if the fraction of vertices of degree  $k$  is proportional to  $k^{-\beta}$ .

Examples:

- ✓ The Webgraph (in 2000) had  $\beta = 2.1$
- ✓ Collaboration graph of mathematicians (MathSciNet 2000) had  $\beta = 2.46$ .