# BIO 365 ecological networks

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# Introduction to course

|       |         |         | Thursday                           | Friday                  | F | Tuesday                              | Wednesday               | Thursday    | Friday                    | Tuesday                                | Wednesday                         | Thursday               | Friday                                | Tuesday   | Wednesday                        | Thursday                              |
|-------|---------|---------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|       |         | I       | March 17                           | March 18                |   | March 22                             | March 23                | March 24    | March 25                  | March 29                               | March 30                          | March 31               | April 1                               | April 5   | April 6                          | April 7                               |
| From  | То      |         |                                    |                         |   |                                      |                         |             |                           |  |                                   |                        |                                       |           |                                  |                                       |
| 10:15 | 12:00   | CTUR E  | Outline and<br>Intro               | Food webs               |   |                                      | Mutualistic<br>networks | Null models | Statistical<br>approaches |  | Spatial<br>networks               | Animal<br>behaviour    | Evolution in networks                 |           | Socio-<br>ecological<br>networks | Open time                             |
|       | Speaker | TE (    | Bascompte                          | Gaiarsa                 |   |                                      | Bascompte               | Bascompte   | Barbour                   |  | Gawecka                           | Hutchinson             | Pedraza                               |           | Cámara-Leret                     | office hours<br>(with<br>appointment) |
| 12:00 | 13:00   |         | Lunch                              |                         |   | Lunch                                | Lunch                   | Lunch       | Lunch                     | Lunch                                  | Lunch                             | Lunch                  | Lunch                                 |           | Lunch                            | Lunch                                 |
|       | Lead    | Е       | Vindigni                           | Gaiarsa                 |   | Кпор                                 | Gawecka                 | Pedraza     | Barbour                   | Vindigni                               | Gawecka                           | Hutchinson             | Pedraza                               |           | Cámara-Leret                     | Vindigni                              |
| 13:00 | 17:00   | EXERCIS | Toolkit for<br>network<br>analysis | Measuring<br>modularity |   | Sampling an<br>ecological<br>network | Measuring<br>nestedness | Null models | Statistical<br>models     | Assessing<br>topological<br>robustness | Comparing<br>networks in<br>space | Simulating<br>foraging | Models of<br>evolution in<br>networks | Open time | Socio-<br>ecological<br>networks | Exam                                  |

# outline of course



# general readings

- Barabási, A.-L. (2002). Linked: The New Science of Networks. Perseus Books Group •
- Bascompte, J. and Jordano, P. (2013). Mutualistic Networks. Princeton University • Press
- Pascual, M. and Dunne, J.A. (2006). Ecological Networks: Linking Structure to Dynamics in Food Webs. Oxford University Press
- Pimm, S.L. (1982). Food Webs. Chicago University Press •

# general readings

# course grading

- Written exam: multiple-choice test, up to two points.

#### • Practicals with web-based RStudio environment, up to three points.

# Introduction to network theory

160 letters from Wichita (Kansas) and Omaha (Nebraska) to Sharon (Mass)



### social networks



#### Milgram (1967)



In the Nebraska study, the chains varied between 2 and 10 intermediate acquaintances, with the median at 5

What a small world! El mundo es un pañuelo! C'est petit le monde! Die Welt ist klein!



### social networks

#### Milgram (1967)











## Erdös-Rényi model









### protein networks





Number of links



# Most real networks have the same internal structure Why? What are the implications?

## preferential attachment





## Rich get richer!



## back to the small world



Increasing randomness

#### Watts and Strogatz (1998)

### network robustness



#### Albert *et al.* (2000)

\$2\$703\$31529775 1.0

### network robustness



Albert et al. (2000)





### eradication in viruses



Pastor Satorras and Vespignani (2001)



а

Scale-free





## sexually transmitted diseases





#### Absence of eradication thresholds in scale-free networks

Lijeros et al. (2001)

## wrapping up: why networks?



- networks allow introducing heterogeneity into our previous homogeneous theories.
- networks put the focus on the patterns of interactions among elements.
- networks allow searching for commonalities among disparate systems.

## current/future applications of network theory

## PERSPECTIVE

### Systemic risk in banking ecosystems

Andrew G. Haldane<sup>1</sup> & Robert M. May<sup>2</sup>

In the run-up to the recent financial crisis, an increasingly elaborate set of financial instruments emerged, intended to optimize returns to individual institutions with seemingly minimal risk. Essentially no attention was given to their possible effects on the stability of the system as a whole. Drawing analogies with the dynamics of ecological food webs and with networks within which infectious diseases spread, we explore the interplay between complexity and stability in deliberately simplified models of financial networks. We suggest some policy lessons that can be drawn from such models, with the explicit aim of minimizing systemic risk.

- rationale for prudential regulation."
- means of buttressing systemic resilience."

### (I) Financial systems

• "Looking at financial risk through a network lens indicates a fundamentally different

• "In the United Kingdom, the new government have recently set up a Royal Commission to investigate the case for encouraging modularity and diversity in banking ecosystems, as a





# SCIENTIFIC **Reports**

#### OPEN

#### Emergence of consensus as a modular-to-nested transition in communication dynamics

Received: 01 March 2016 Accepted: 28 December 2016 Javier Borge-Holthoefer<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Raquel A. Baños<sup>3</sup>, Carlos Gracia-Lázaro<sup>3</sup> & Yamir Moreno<sup>3,4,5</sup>



"Our results show that collective attention around a topic is reached when the user-meme network self- adapts from a modular to a nested structure, which ultimately allows minimizing competition and attaining consensus."

### (2) Social revolts

#### OPINION

**Open Access** 

CrossMark 💭 An integrative approach for building personalized gene regulatory networks for precision medicine Monique G. P. van der Wijst<sup>†</sup>, Dylan H. de Vries<sup>†</sup>, Harm Brugge, Harm-Jan Westra and Lude Franke<sup>\*</sup> Disease SNP inter-individual variation in drug response driven by differences in each patient's gene regulatory networks



### (3) Personalized medicine

the drug target gene activates the key driver gene

interaction between the drug target gene and the key driver gene is absent

