



# Compressively sensed complex networks

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# Introduction

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- **Aim:** To develop low dimension parametric (deterministic) models of complex networks
  - Use compressive sensing (CS) and multiscale analysis to do so
    - Exploit the structure of complex networks (some are self-similar under coarsening)
- **Motivation:**
  - Graphs often form the understructure over which dynamics occur
    - e.g., chemical reactions, epidemiological processes, cascading failures, etc
  - Dynamics are easy to observe, but the graphical structure unknown
  - A low-dimension model of a graph allows its “discovery” by fitting to data
    - Inverse problem, network discovery, estimation of graphs etc



# Today's talk

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- **Can compressive sensing actually work?**
  - Under what circumstances?
- **Some assumptions/characteristics of the networks**
  - **Networks will be small –  $O(100)$  nodes**
    - In inverse problems, not enough info to fit detailed models
  - **Networks will be assumed to have densely connected “cliques” of different sizes**
    - Leads to “blocky” adjacency matrices
- **Outline**
  - **Compressive sensing – what is it?**
    - Sampling technique
    - Reconstruction technique
  - **Test cases**
    - 2 synthetic networks
    - Results – different levels of sampling/order reduction and reconstruction fidelity



# What is compressive sensing?

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- A technique to efficiently encode/decode a random vector  $x$  of length  $N$ 
  - $x$  can be a signal, a time-series
  - The process is lossy – the decoding is approximate
- Efficiency of representation rests on the presumption that the information content of the signal is small
  - i.e., a sparse representation exists for  $x$
  - In conjunction with efficient sampling, only a few samples are needed
- “Sampling” a signal means projection on a *sampling basis set*  $\psi_i$

$$y = \Psi x$$

- $y$  is the “signature”;  $y_i$  are the projections of  $x$
- Under certain conditions  $\text{size}(y) \sim \log(N)$



# When and why is $Y$ compressive?

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- If  $x$  can be described sparsely in an orthogonal basis set (e.g., wavelets),  $\Phi$ , then the basis weights can be sampled directly

$$x = \Phi s, \quad y = \Psi s$$

- Where only  $K$  elements of  $s$  are non-zero.  $K \ll \text{size}(s) = N$
- An efficient sampling of  $x$  collects information on all elements of  $s$  per projection
  - Can be done if  $\psi_i$  are random vectors
    - e.g., chosen from a high dimensional sphere (uniform spherical ensemble)
  - $\Psi$  is then an orthogonal matrix
- Under these conditions

$$M = \text{size}(y) \geq cK \log(N / K) \ll N$$



# Decoding - reconstructing $x$ from $Y$

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- Canonically, decoding is performed via  $l_1$  minimization

$$\min \|s\|_1 \quad \text{subject to } \|y - \Psi s\|_2 < \varepsilon$$

- Exact solutions (e.g., basis pursuit) too computationally expensive, so usually an approximate form is solved in practice
- Our algorithm, called StOMP (Stagewise Orthogonal Matching Pursuit)
  - Donoho et al, 2006 (preprint)
  - Iteratively finds the non-zero elements of  $s$
  - Number of iterations are bounded
    - But assumes that  $s$  is sparse
  - Computational cost comes from the pseudoinverse of  $\Psi$
  - Suitable for large problems

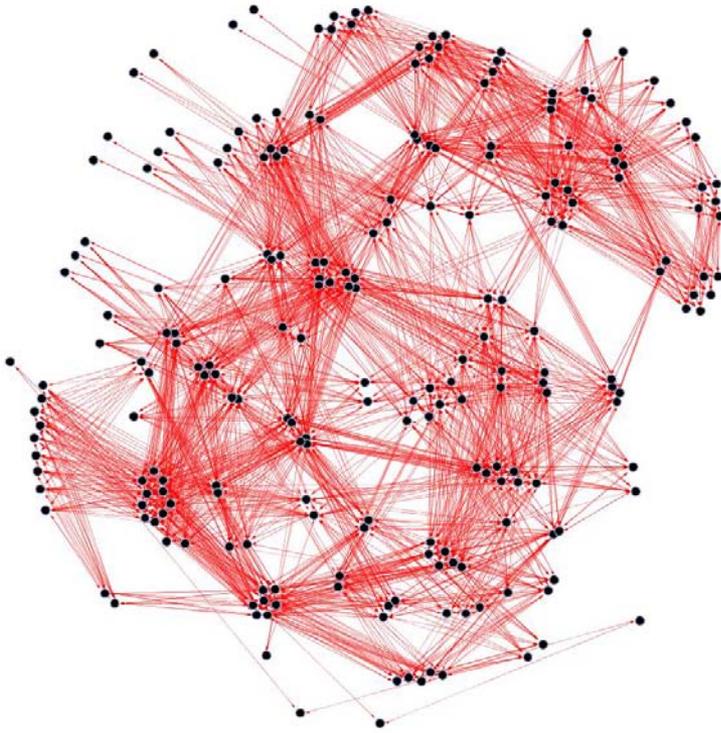


# Extending Compressive Sensing to networks

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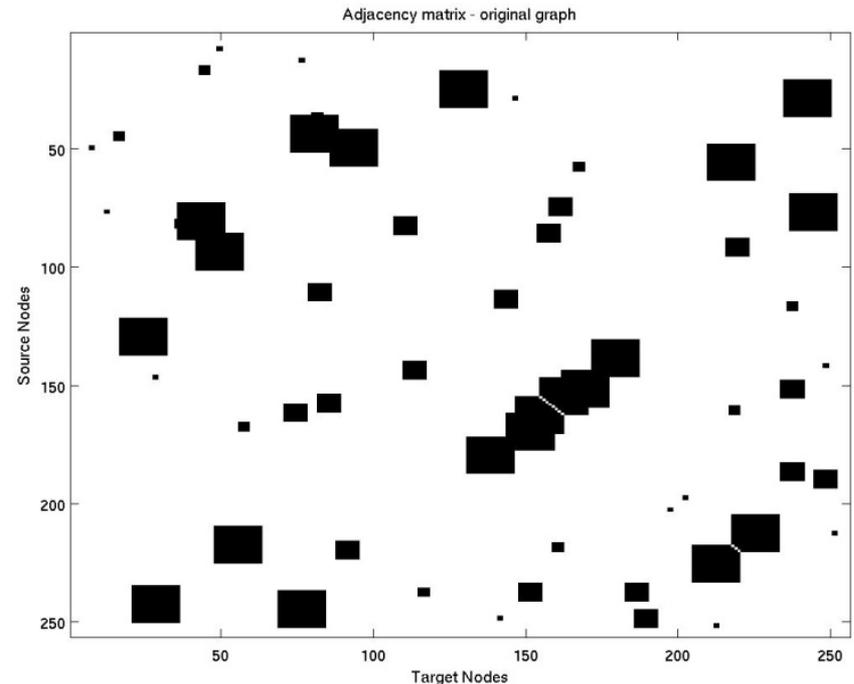
- Based on the CS of adjacency matrices
- We expect that the rows/columns of an adjacency matrix can be re-ordered to create a “blocky” adjacency matrix
  - Alternatively, node in a clique should have similar node-ids
- Networks showing self-similarity will show structure within the blocks
- Exploiting multi-resolution:
  - Decompose the adjacency matrix on a wavelet basis
    - In our case, Haar wavelets
  - Haar wavelet coefficients stored and treated hierarchically
    - Resolution by resolution, with no inter-resolution dependence modeled or exploited
  - Non-zero wavelet coefficients at each resolution will be sparse
  - Sampling and reconstruction too are performed hierarchically

# A graph and its multiscale decomposition - I



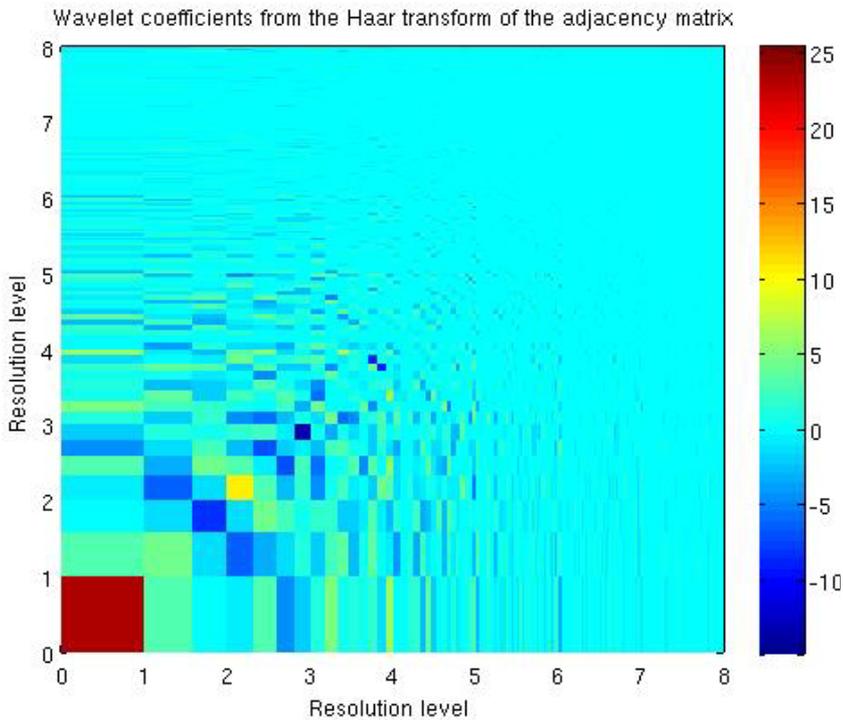
The network

Adjacency matrix



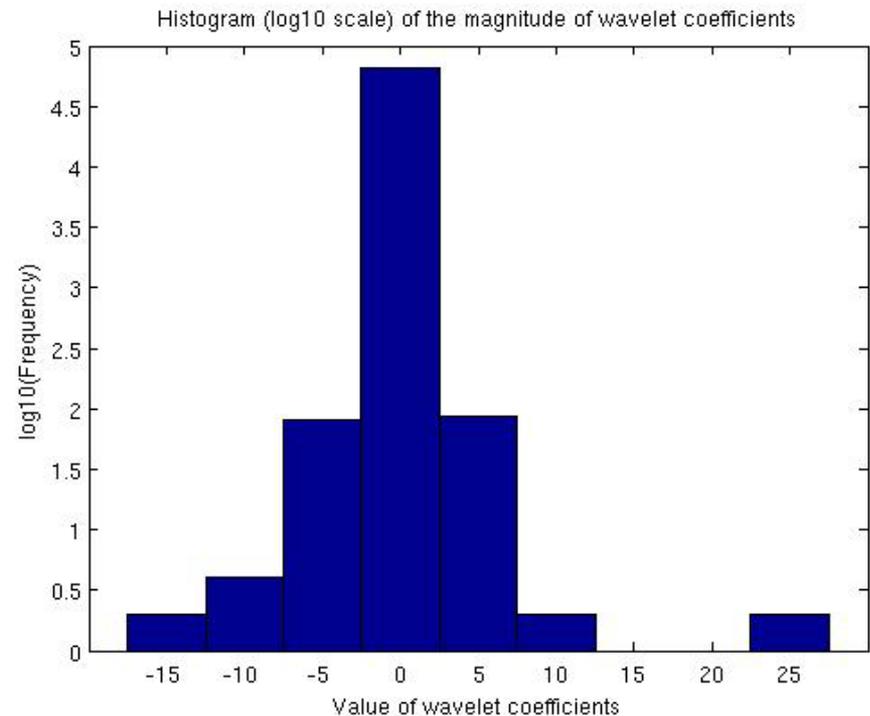
256 nodes,  $256^2$  wavelet coefficients

# A graph and its multiscale decomposition - II



Wavelet coefficients at different resolutions

Histogram of coefficient values  
( $\log_{10}(\text{Frequency})$ )



256 nodes,  $256^2$  wavelet coefficients



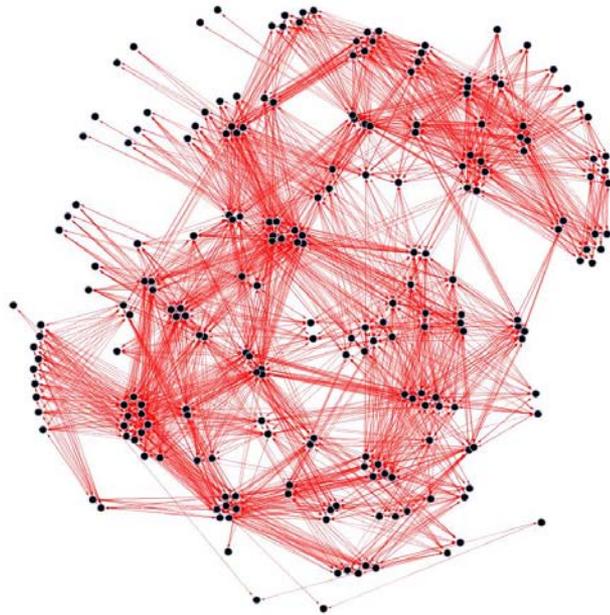
# Sampling issues

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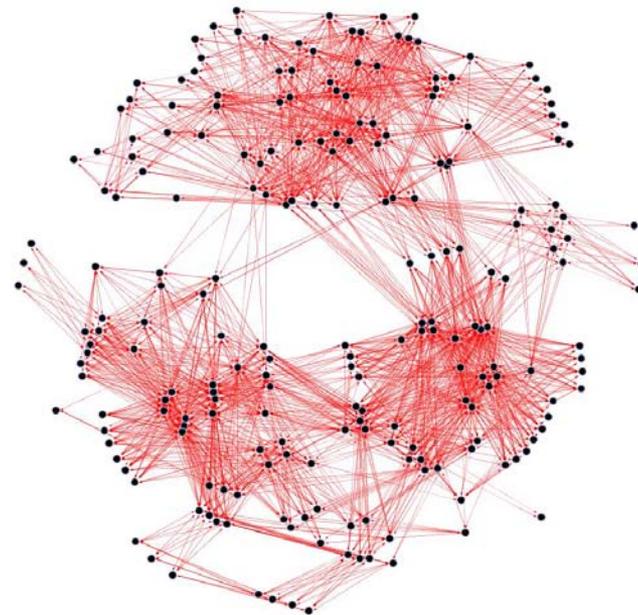
- The number of wavelet coefficients at level  $l$  is  $4^l$
- How many samples per level?
  - Generally expressed as a fraction of  $4^l$
  - Should this fraction vary with levels
- Some observations
  - Sampling has to be minimal at high resolutions
    - i.e. fine detail cannot be captured
    - Emphasis on “blockiness”, structure should be evident at a certain resolution
  - All wavelet coefficients at coarser resolutions can be retained
- So CS can be expected to work for graphs that are somewhat dense
  - Will not work for very sparse graphs

# Tests

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Network I



Network II

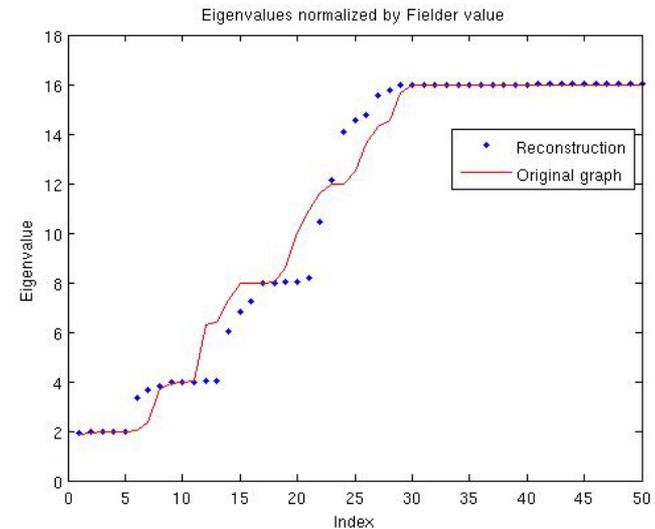
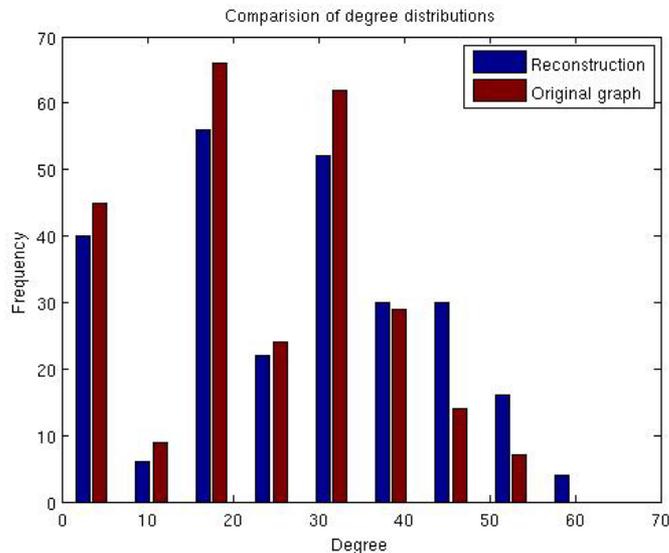
- 2 synthetic directed graphs, of 256 nodes. Average degree of 23 & 17
- Sample (to various degrees) and reconstruct
- Performance wrt number of samples and sparsity of graph

# Test I(a) – fine sampling (60%)

- Network I, with 256 nodes and 5914 edges
  - Needs  $2 \cdot N_{\text{edges}}$  to store
- Reconstruction with ~60% sampling

	Original	Reconstruction
No. of samples	11,824	7463 (~60%)
Average degree	23.1	27.2
Fiedler Value	1.85	1.91
No. edges	5914	6924

Degree distribution

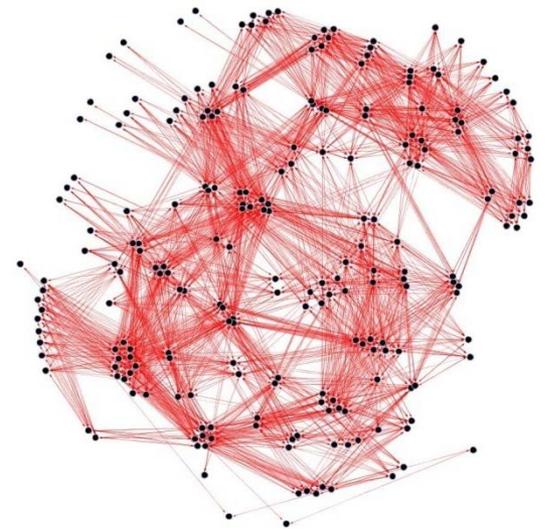
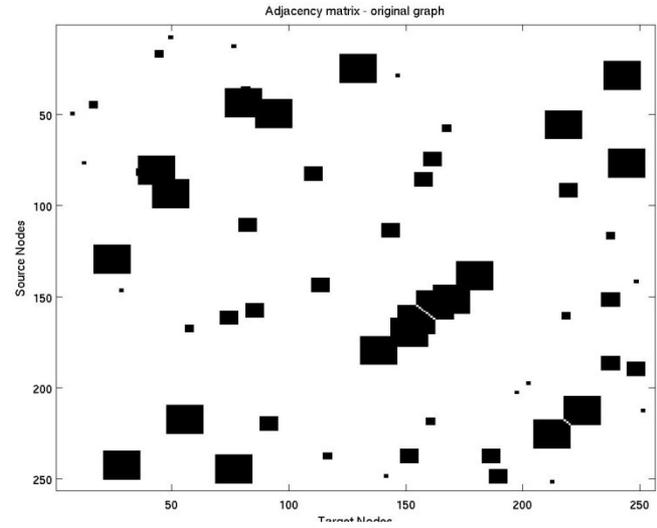


Eigenvalues of the Laplacian

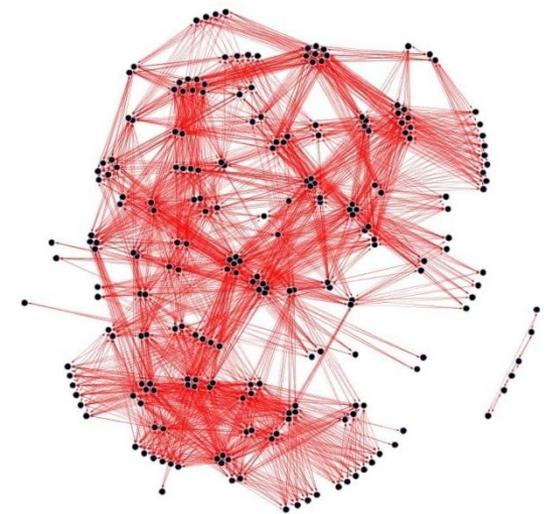
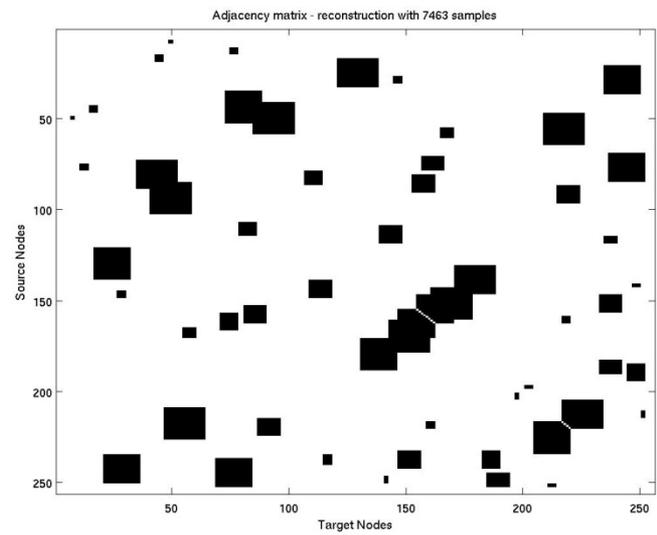


# Test I(a) – comparison of nets

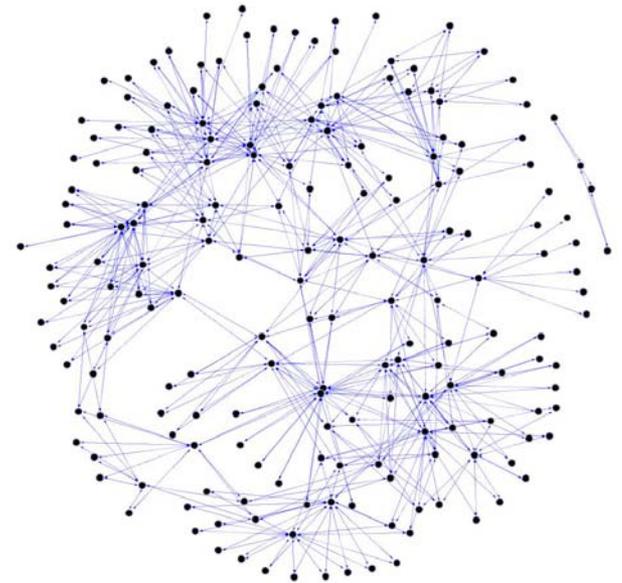
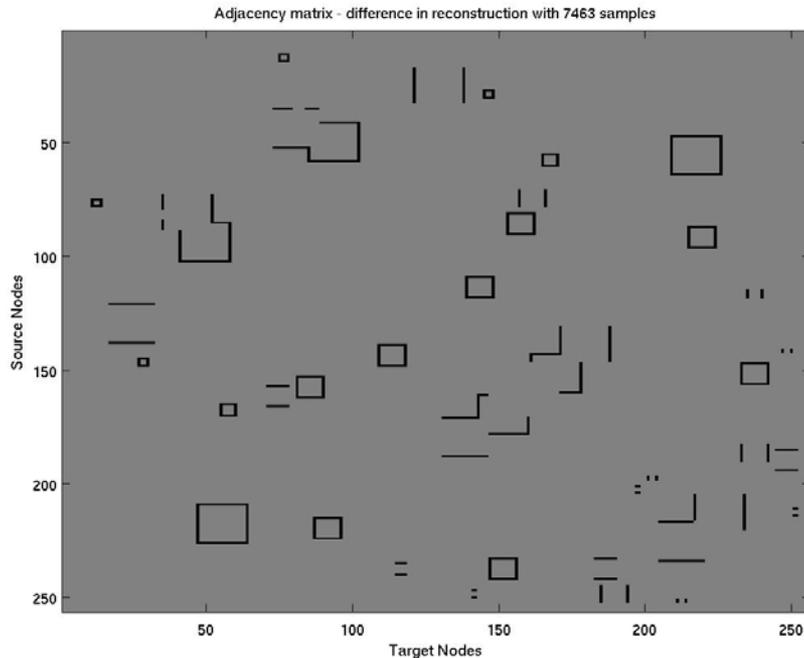
Original



Reconstruction



# Test I(a) – analysis of differences



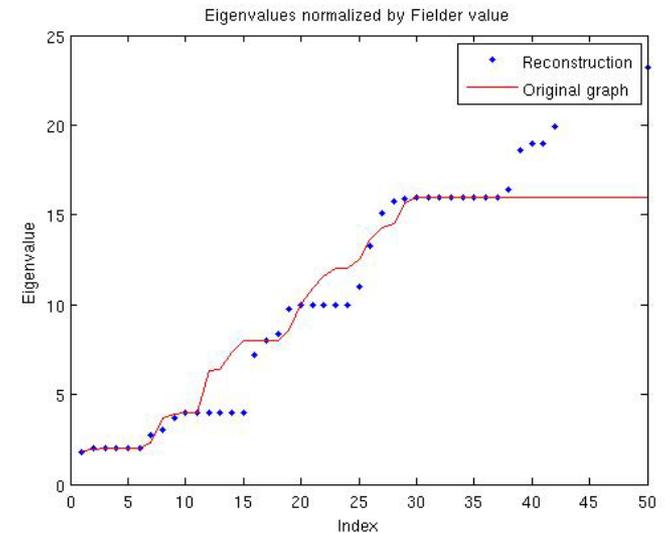
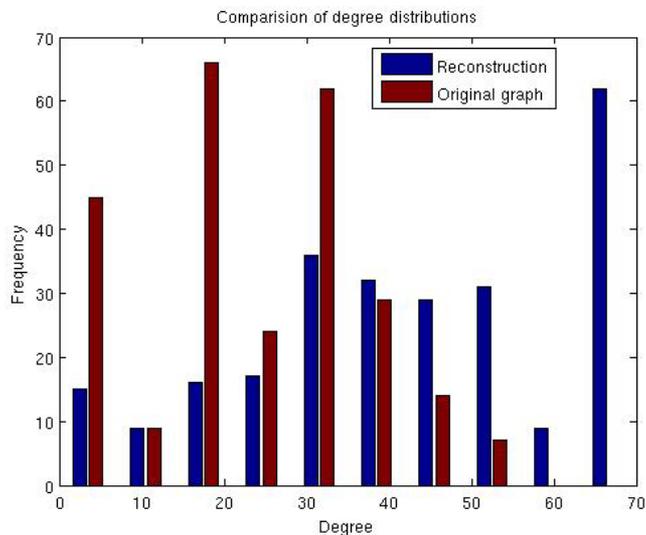
- **Difference of adjacency matrices**
  - Small differences around the blocks
  - Normalized error (Frobenius norm) ~ 42%
  - Red edge: false negative; Blue edge: false positive

# Test I(b) – coarse sampling (25%)

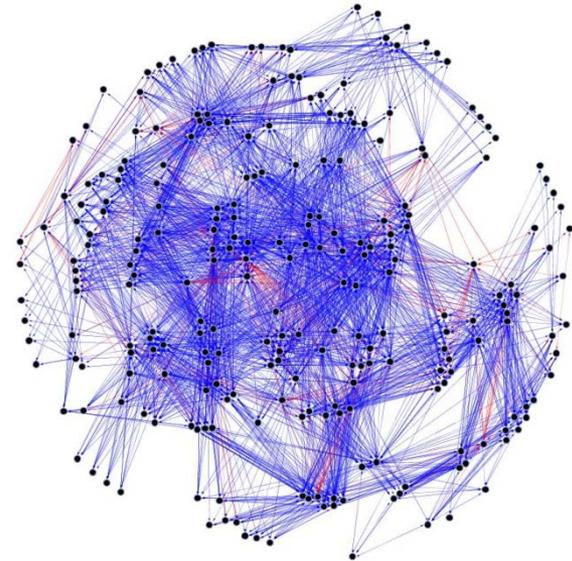
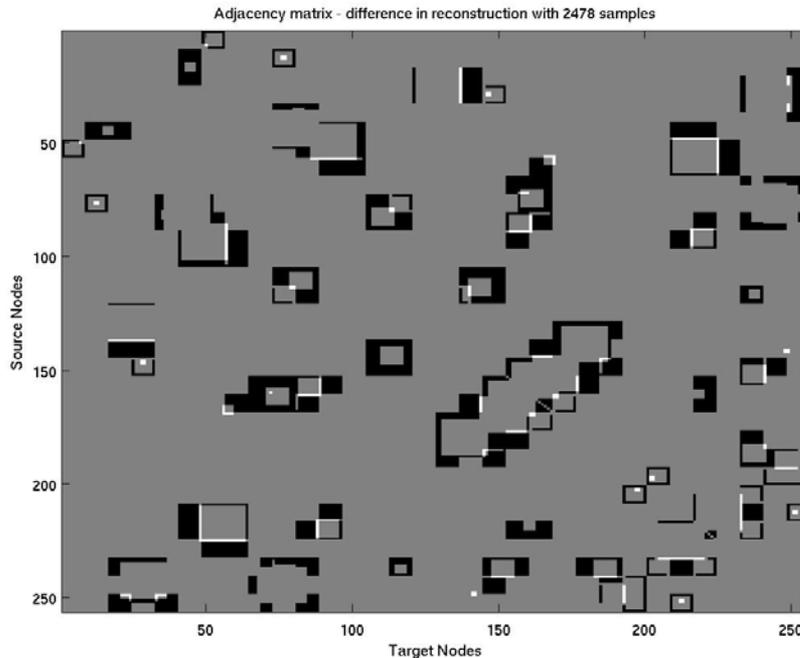
- Network I, with 256 nodes and 5914 edges
  - Needs  $2 \cdot N_{\text{edges}}$  to store
- Reconstruction with ~ 25% sampling

	Original	Reconstruction
No. of samples	11,824	2478 (~25%)
Average degree	23.1	44.6
Fiedler Value	1.85	1.81
No. edges	5914	11424

Degree distribution



# Test I(b) – analysis of differences



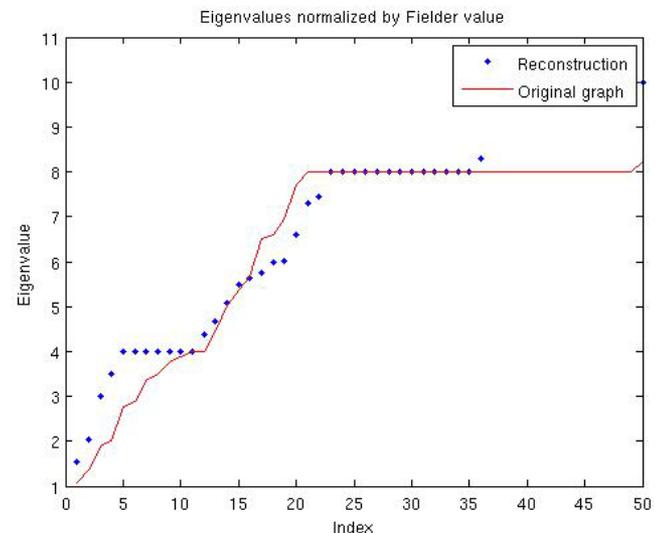
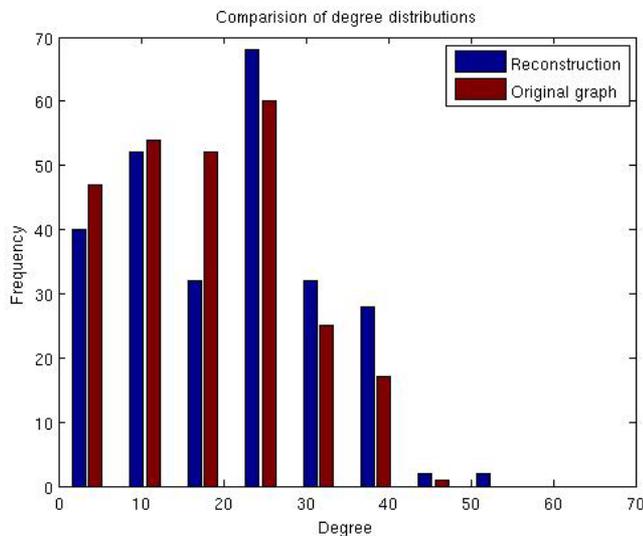
- **Difference of adjacency matrices**
  - Significant structural differences
  - Normalized error (Frobenius norm) ~ 100%
  - Red edge: false negative; Blue edge: false positive

# Test II - a sparser net

- Network II, with 256 nodes and 4426 edges
- Reconstruction with ~ 85% sampling

	Original	Reconstruction
No. of samples	8852	7589 (~85%)
Average degree	17.29	20.1
Fiedler Value	1.08	1.54
No. edges	4426	5144

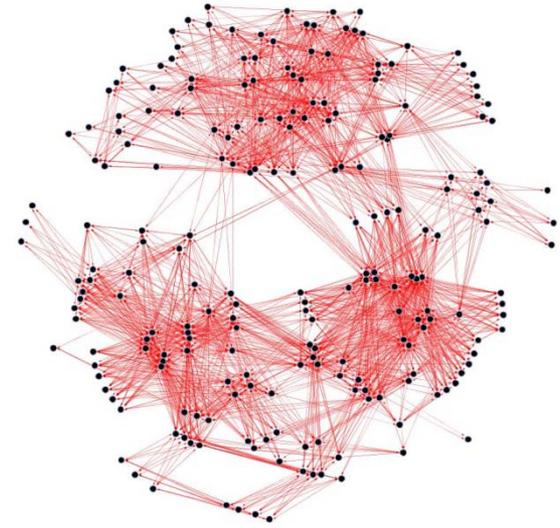
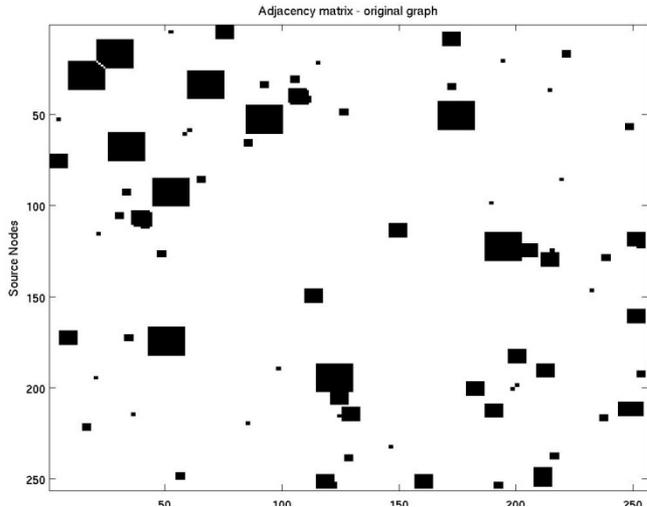
Degree distribution



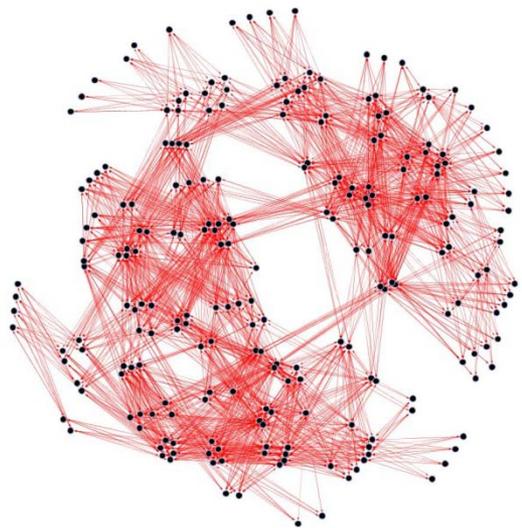
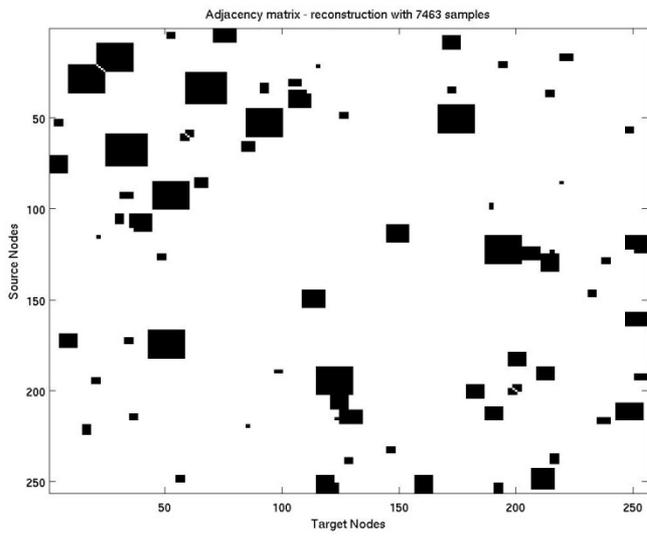


# Test II – comparison of nets

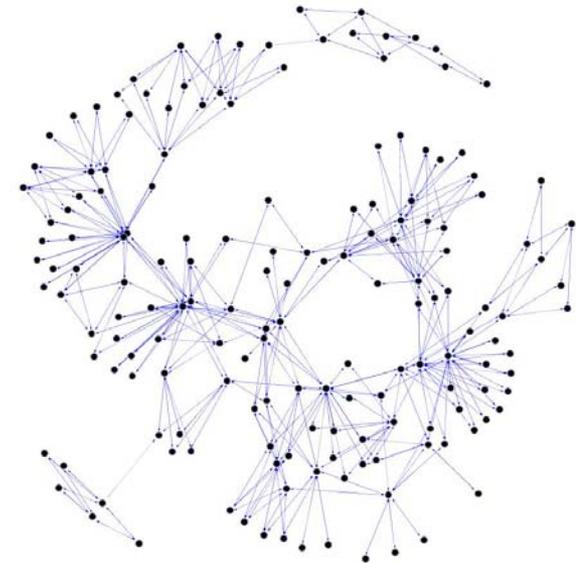
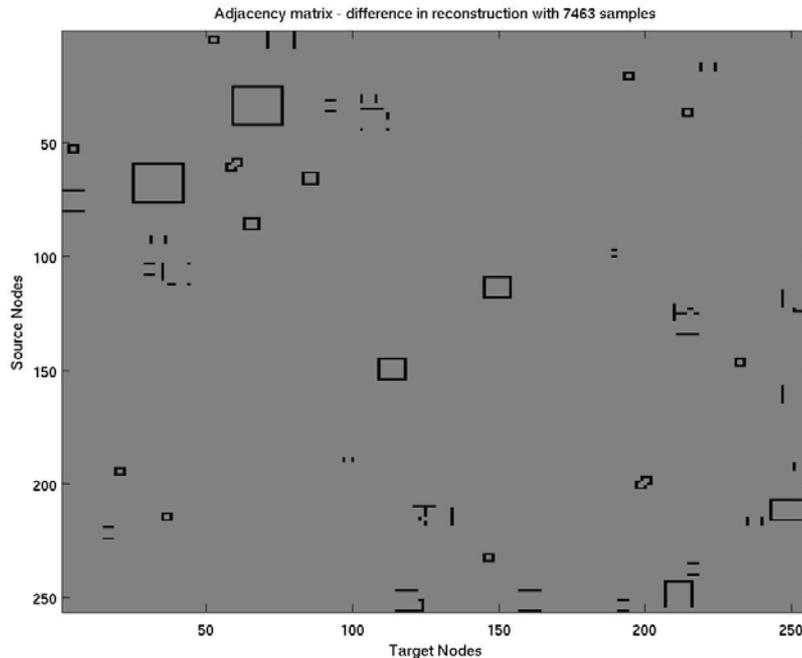
Original



Reconstruction



# Test II – analysis of differences



- **Difference of adjacency matrices**
  - Small differences around the blocks
  - Normalized error (Frobenius norm) ~ 40%
  - Red edge: false negative; Blue edge: false positive



# Summary of the tests

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- **Define: Average link probability = average degree / # of nodes**
- **For an average link probability of around 10%:**
  - 60% sampling gives excellent reconstruction
  - 25% sampling leads to over estimation of average degree
    - i.e., the reconstructed graph is very coarse & lacks detail
- **For an average link probability of around 7%:**
  - The technique requires too many samples (~85%) and is not competitive
- **In general, matching the eigenvalue spectrum is easy**
  - Fiedler value less so, but getting to +/- 10% is possible
- **Matching the degree distribution is harder**
  - 25% sampling does not do it
  - 60% or higher does it, depending upon the average link probability



# Summary and Conclusions

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- **CS provides a new way of sampling and reconstructing networks**
- **Approach based on multiresolution decomposition of the adjacency matrix and its efficient sampling**
- **Requires preprocessing of the adjacency matrix to make it “blocky”**
  - **Biggest (combinatorial) algorithm challenge.**
- **Current CS reconstruction algorithm makes no use of the structure of a graph – very general (and so not very efficient/customized)**
  - **Other model-based CS techniques exist, but not yet adapted to networks**
  - **Obvious starting point for future work to increase the efficiency of reconstruction**