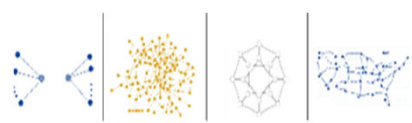


MA4404 Complex Networks

# *Betweenness Centrality*

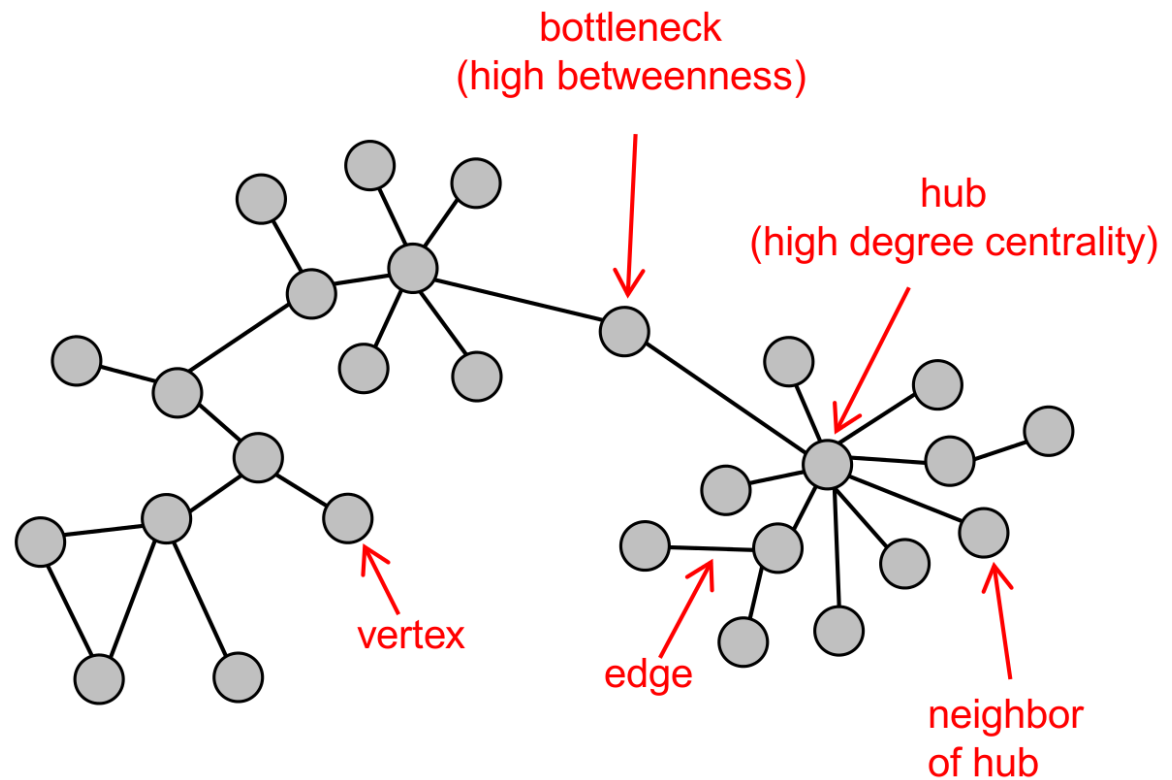
# Learning Outcomes

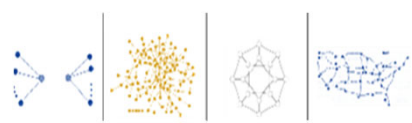
- Compute Betweenness Centrality per node.
- Interpret the meaning of the values of Betweenness Centrality.



# Why?!

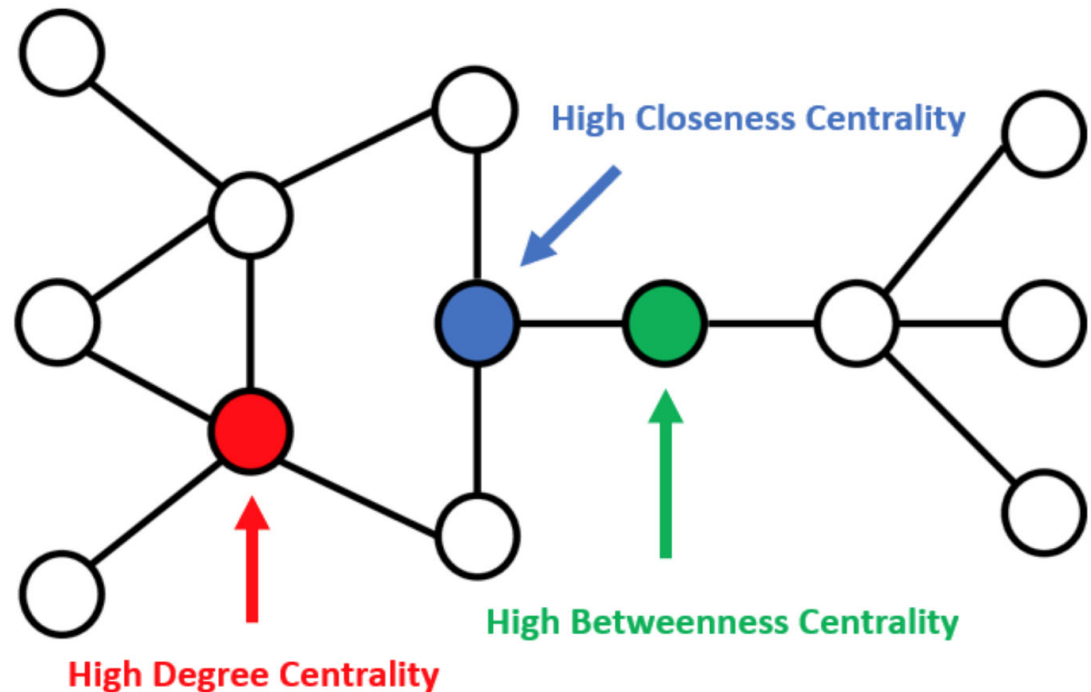
- **Intuition:** how many pairs of individuals would have to go through you in order to reach one another in the minimum number of hops?
- Interactions between two individuals depend on the other individuals in the set of nodes. The nodes in the middle have some control over the paths in the graph.
- Useful for flow, such as information or data packages

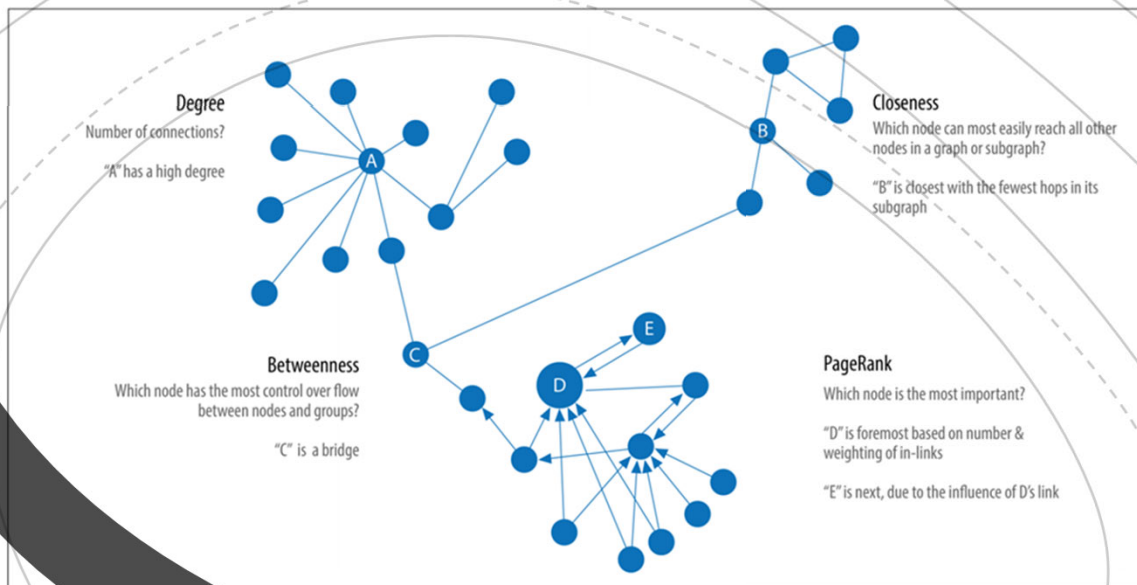




# Assumptions

- If more than one geodesic → all geodesics are equally likely to be used.
- Flow takes the shortest path (we'll look at alternatives)
- Every pair of nodes exchanges a message with equal probability per unit time.
- Question: How many messages, on average, will have passed through each vertex en route to their destination?
  - A node's betweenness is given by all pairs of nodes, including the node in question.





# Intuition

# Betweenness

# Centrality

# Meaning of betweenness centrality



Vertices with high betweenness centrality have influence in the network by virtue of their control over information passing between others.

- They get to see the messages as they pass through
- They could get paid for passing the message along

Thus, their removal would disrupt communication

How would you capture it in a mathematical formula?

$$x_i = \sum n_{st}^i, \forall s, t \in V(G)$$

where

- $n_{st}^i$  is the number of  $s$ - $t$  geodesics that  $i$  belongs to (default:  $i$  cannot equal  $s$  or  $t$ )
- in an undirected graph, an  $s$ - $t$  geodesic is the same as a  $t$ - $s$  geodesics, so the edge gets counted twice)

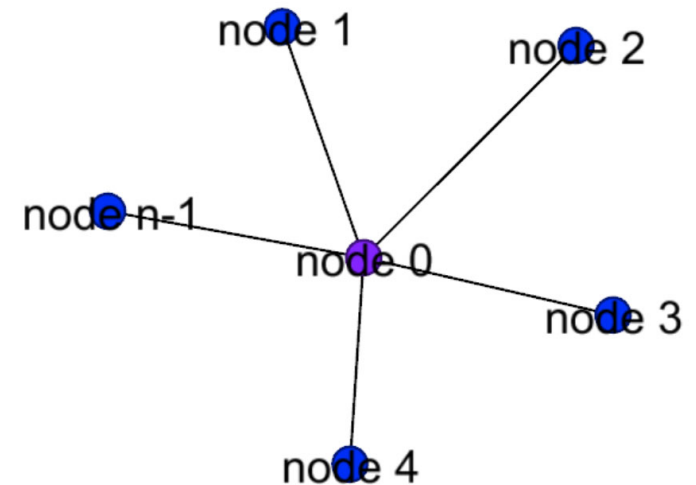
It is applicable to directed networks as well.

# Bounds for BC in connected graphs



Let  $G$  be a connected graph:

- What is the minimum value of betweenness centrality a vertex can have?
  - A leaf has:  $(n - 1) + (n - 1) + 1 = 2n - 1$  since we have  $n - 1$  paths from  $x$  to each vertex, also  $(n - 1)$  more paths from each vertex to  $x$ , and one path from  $x$  to  $x$ .
- What is the maximum value of betweenness centrality a vertex can have?
  - The center of a star, say node 0:  $n^2 - (n - 1)$   
Let  $V(\text{star}) = \{v, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}\}$  with center node at  $v$ . Then there are  $n^2$  pairs of nodes, from which we take away the  $n - 1$  paths from each  $v_i$  to itself since  $v_i \neq v$  (so  $v$  is not on any of these  $n-1$ )





# A refined formula

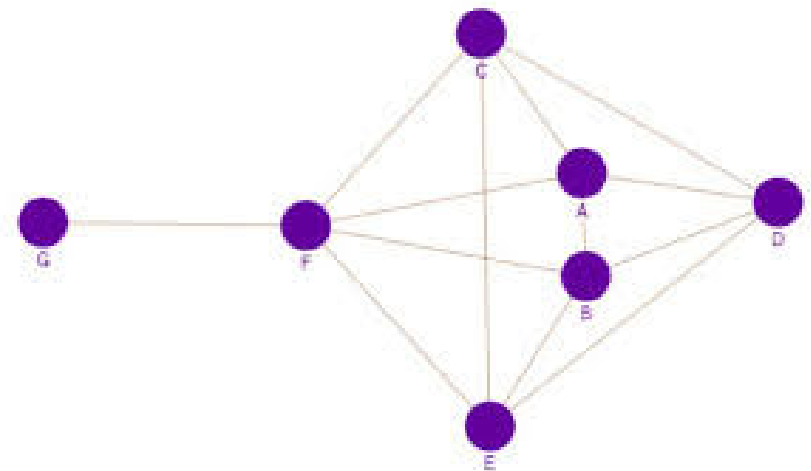
How do we find the relative (to the other nodes) betweenness centrality values?

$$x_i = \sum \frac{n_{st}^i}{g_{st}}, \forall s, t \in V(G),$$

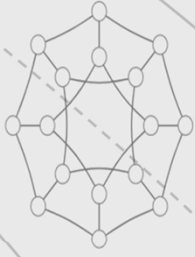
where:

- $n_{st}^i$  is the number of  $s$ - $t$  geodesics that  $i$  belongs to.
- $g_{st}$  is the number of  $s$ - $t$  geodesics
- Convention: if  $g_{st} = 0$  and  $n_{st}^i = 0$ , then  $x_i = 0$

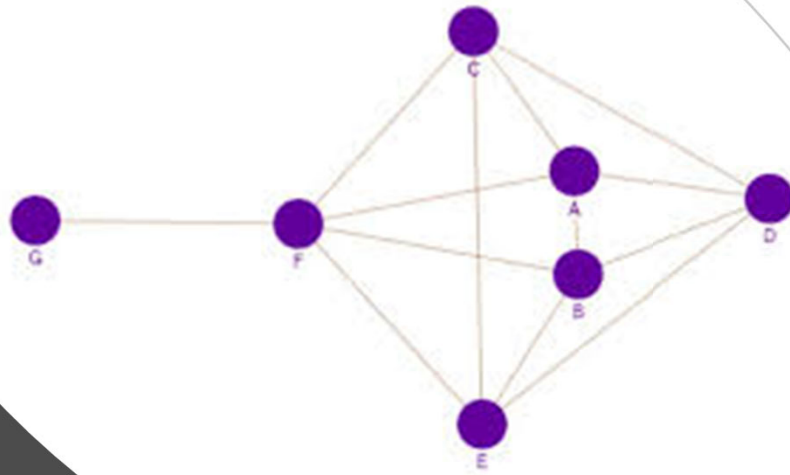
(in an undirected graph, an  $s$ - $t$  geodesic is the same as a  $t$ - $s$  geodesics, so it gets counted twice)







## An in-class activity

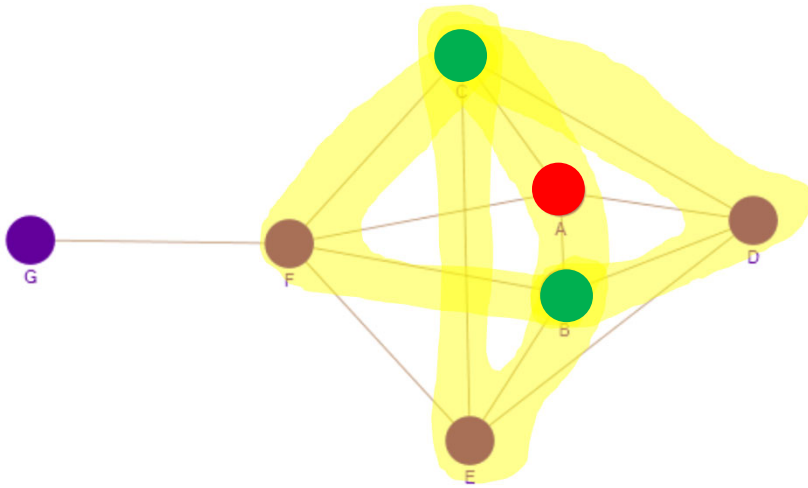




# What is the Betweenness of A?

Find the betweenness of A: fraction of shortest paths that include vertex A

$$x_A = \sum \frac{n_{st}^A}{g_{st}}, \quad \forall s, t \in V(G)$$



$$x_A = \sum \frac{n_{st}^A}{g_{st}} = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = 0.75$$

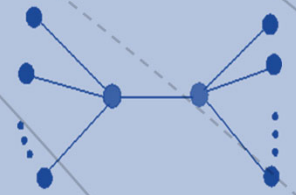
1 shortest path of 4 goes through A

Number of paths

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
A	-	1	1	1	4	1	1
B		-	4	1	1	1	1
C			-	1	1	1	1
D				-	1	4	4
E					-	1	1
F						-	1
G							-

1 shortest path of 4 goes through A

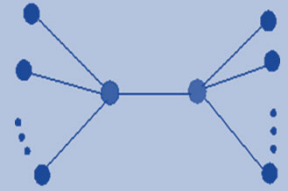
1 shortest path of 4 goes through A



$$x_A = \sum \frac{n_{st}^A}{g_{st}}, \quad \forall s, t \in V(G)$$

Refinement  
of the BC  
formula

# A normalized refined formula



How do we find the **normalized** relative betweenness centrality values? Allows to compare nodes in other graphs.

$$x_i = \left( \sum \frac{n_{st}^i}{g_{st}} \right) / n^2$$

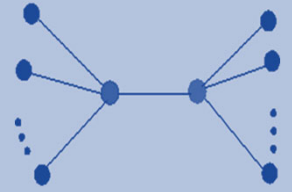
where:

$n_{st}^i$  is the number of  $s$ - $t$  geodesics that  $i$  belongs to.

$g_{st}$  is the number of  $s$ - $t$  geodesics

Convention:  $g_{st} = 0$  and  $n_{st}^i = 0$ , then  $x_i = 0$

# Another normalized formula



How do we find the **normalized** relative betweenness centrality values? Allows to compare nodes in other graphs.

$$x_i = \left( \sum \frac{n_{st}^i}{g_{st}} \right) / (n^2 - n + 1)$$

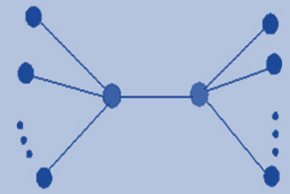
where:

$n_{st}^i$  is the number of  $s$ - $t$  geodesics that  $i$  belongs to.

$g_{st}$  is the number of  $s$ - $t$  geodesics

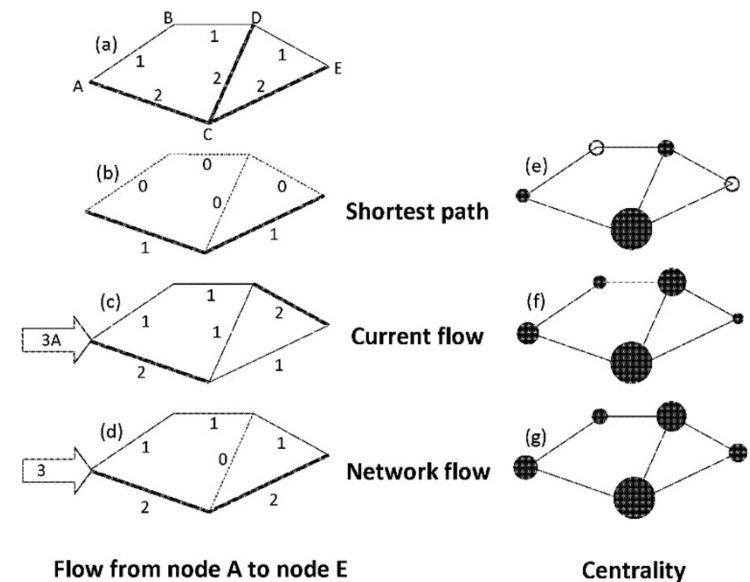
Convention:  $g_{st} = 0$  and  $n_{st}^i = 0$ , then  $x_i = 0$

# Extensions of Betweenness Centrality



- Used generally for Information flow
- Typically distributed over a wide range
- Betweenness only uses geodesic paths
- Information can also flow on longer paths
  - Sometimes we hear it through the grapevine

While betweenness focuses just on the geodesic, **flow betweenness centrality** focuses on how information might flow through many different paths, for example.



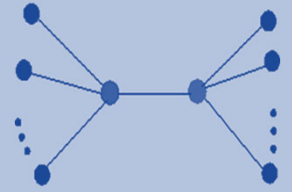
Flow from node A to node E

Centrality

These methods consider respectively

- 1) the single shortest path,
- 2) probabilistic flow across all possible paths, and
- 3) optimal flow which considers, but may not use, all possible paths.

# Extensions of Betweenness Centrality



- Used generally for Information flow
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While betweenness focuses just on the geodesic, **flow betweenness centrality** focuses on how information might flow through many different paths, for example.



1 IA		2 IIA		3 IIIA		4 IVB		5 VB	
8000 1979 <b>DC</b> Degree									
224 1971 <b>BC</b> Betweenness	239 2008 <b>EBC</b> Endpoint BC								
942 1966 <b>CC</b> Closeness	239 2008 <b>PBC</b> Proxy BC								
1279 1972 <b>EC</b> Eigenvector	239 2008 <b>LSBC</b> LscaledBC	224 1971 <b>EBC</b> Edge BC	53 2009 <b>CBC</b> Commun. BC	236 2007 <b><math>\Delta C</math></b> Delta Cent.					
1306 1953 <b>KS</b> Katz Status	239 2008 <b>DBBC</b> DBounded BC	979 2005 <b>RWBC</b> RWalk BC	477 1991 <b>TEC</b> Total Effects	42 2009 <b>LI</b> Lobby Index					
8053 1999 <b>PR</b> Page Rank	239 2008 <b>DSBC</b> DScaled BC	291 1953 $\sigma$ Stress	477 1991 <b>IEC</b> Immediate Eff.	1 2014 <b>DM</b> Degree Mass					
484 2005 <b>SC</b> Subgraph	613 1991 <b>FBC</b> Flow BC	14 2012 <b>RLBC</b> RLimited BC	477 1991 <b>MEC</b> Mediative Eff.	69 2010 <b>LEVC</b> Leverage Cent.					

■ "Traditional"  
■ Betweenness-like

# Extensions of Betweenness Centrality



# Flow betweenness centrality



Same expression,

$$x_i = \sum \frac{n_{st}^i}{g_{st}}, \forall s, t \in V(G)$$

BUT

- $n_{st}^i$  is the maximum flow transmitted from  $s$  to  $t$  through all possible paths that  $i$  belongs to.
- $g_{st}$  is the maximum flow transmitted from  $s$  to  $t$  through all possible paths
- Convention:  $g_{st} = 0$  and  $n_{st}^i = 0$ , then  $x_i = 0$   
(in an undirected graph, an  $s$ - $t$  geodesic is the same as a  $t$ - $s$  geodesics, so it gets counted twice)

# Random walk betweenness centrality



Same expression,

$$x_i = \sum \frac{n_{st}^i}{g_{st}}, \forall s, t \in V(G)$$

BUT

- $n_{st}^i$  is the number of times a random walk from  $s$  to  $t$  passes through  $i$ , averaged over many repetitions of a walk
- Note that  $n_{st}^i \neq n_{ts}^i$
- A good measure for traffic that doesn't have a particular destination

# Other extensions of centralities



- How would you extend the centralities you have seen? What else would you introduce that would capture the centrality of a vertex?
- Would you use it for edges?
- This is a good time to share your thoughts
- Subgraph/subset centrality?
  - How central are you to that particular subgraph?
  - How central is the subgraph to the network?
  - If so, would you repeat the centralities seen before for that subgraph?

# A periodic table of centralities

**Periodic Table of Network Centrality**

1	1 IA 8000 1979 <b>DC</b> Degree	2 IIA											13 IIIA	14 IVA	15 VA	16 VIA	17 VIIA	18 VIIIA 518 1989 <b>IC</b> Information C
2	224 1971 <b>BC</b> Betweenness	239 2008 <b>EBC</b> Endpoint BC											26 1989 <b>kPC</b> kPath C.	275 2002 <b>EGO</b> Ego	51 2004 <b>HYPER</b> Hypergraphs	279 1997 <b>AFF</b> Affiliation C.	399 2 001 <b><math>\alpha</math>-C</b> $\alpha$ -Cent.	178 1995 <b>ECC</b> Eccentricity
3	942 1966 <b>CC</b> Closeness	239 2008 <b>PBC</b> Proxy BC	3 IIIA	4 IVB	5 VB	6 VIB	7 VIIB	8 VIIIB	9 VIIIB	10 VIIIB	11 IB	12 IIB	9068 1999 <b>HITS</b> Hubs/Authority	573 2006 <b>g-kPC</b> geodesic kPath	296 1999 <b>GROUP</b> Groups/Classes	80 2006 <b>HYPSC</b> Hyperg. SC	34 2010 <b>t-SC</b> t-Subgraph	116 1998 <b>RAD</b> Radiality
4	1279 1972 <b>EC</b> Eigenvector	239 2008 <b>LSBC</b> LscaledBC	224 1971 <b>EBC</b> Edge BC	53 2009 <b>CBC</b> Commun. BC	236 2007 <b><math>\Delta</math>C</b> Delta Cent.	5 2010 <b>MDC</b> MD Cent.	0 2015 <b>EYC</b> Entropy C.	2 2013 <b>CAC</b> Comm. Ability	56 2007 <b>EPTC</b> Entropy PC	281 1971 <b>CCoef</b> Clust. Coef.	42 2012 <b>PeC</b> PeC	427 2007 <b>BN</b> Bottleneck	43 2009 <b>EI</b> Essentiality I.	573 2006 <b>e-kPC</b> e-disjoint kPC	573 2006 <b>v-kPC</b> v-disjoint kPC	505 2010 <b>WEIGHT</b> Weighted C.	17 2013 <b>TCom</b> Total Comm.	116 1998 <b>INT</b> Integration
5	1306 1953 <b>KS</b> Katz Status	239 2008 <b>DBBC</b> DBounded BC	979 2005 <b>RWBC</b> RWalk BC	477 1991 <b>TEC</b> Total Effects	42 2009 <b>LI</b> Lobby Index	11 2008 <b>MC</b> Mod Cent.	0 2014 <b>COMCC</b> Community C.	45 2012 <b>ECCoef</b> ECCoef	0 2015 <b>SMD</b> Super Mediat.	1 2014 <b>UCC</b> United Comp.	4 2012 <b>WDC</b> WDC	119 2008 <b>MNC</b> MNC	43 2009 <b>KL</b> Clique Level	179 2005 <b>BIP</b> Bipartivity	426 1988 <b>GPI</b> GPI Power	116 1991 <b>kRPC</b> Reachability	58 2007 <b>SCodd</b> odd Subgraph	586 2004 <b>RWCC</b> RWalk CC
6	8053 1999 <b>PR</b> Page Rank	239 2008 <b>DSBC</b> DScaled BC	291 1953 <b><math>\sigma</math></b> Stress	477 1991 <b>IEC</b> Immediate Eff.	1 2014 <b>DM</b> Degree Mass	10 2012 <b>LAPC</b> Laplacian C.	0 2012 <b>ABC</b> Attentive BC	1699 2001 <b>STRC</b> Straightness C.	0 2015 <b>SNR</b> Silent Node R.	15 2011 <b>HPC</b> Harm. Prot.	26 2011 <b>LAC</b> Local Average	119 2008 <b>DMNC</b> DMNC	3 2013 <b>LR</b> Lurker Rank	2457 1987 <b><math>\beta</math>-C</b> $\beta$ Cent.	X X <b>HYP</b> Hyperbolic C.	27 2012 <b>kEPC</b> k-edge PC	13 2007 <b>FC</b> Functional C.	0 2014 <b>HCC</b> Hierar. CC
7	484 2005 <b>SC</b> Subgraph	613 1991 <b>FBC</b> Flow BC	14 2012 <b>RLBC</b> RLimited BC	477 1991 <b>MEC</b> Mediative Eff.	69 2010 <b>LEVC</b> Leverage Cent.	35 2010 <b>TC</b> Topological C.	X X <b>SDC</b> Sphere Degree	15 2010 <b>ZC</b> Zonal Cent.	14 2013 <b>CI</b> Collab. Index	11 2013 <b>CoEWC</b> CoEWC	45 2012 <b>NC</b> NC	108 2010 <b>MLC</b> Moduland C.	X X <b>RSC</b> Resolvent SC	1 2014 <b>SWIPD</b> SWIPD	36 2009 <b>XXXX</b> LinComb	0 2014 <b>BCPR</b> BCPR	0 2014 <b>TPC</b> Tunable PC	0 2015 <b>EDCC</b> Effective Dist.

citations	year
<b>C</b>	
Name	

8000 1979 Freeman Conceptual	942 1966 Sabidussi Axiomatic	573 2006 Borgatti/Everett Conceptual	1130 2005 Borgatti Conceptual	24 2014 Boldi/Vigna Axiomatic	252 1974 Nieminen Axiomatic	6 1981 Kishi Axiomatic	3 2012 Kitti Axiomatic	3 2009 Garg Axiomatic
2065 1934 Moreno Historic	1546 1950 Bavelas Historic	780 1948 Bavelas Historic	1475 1951 Leavitt Historic	297 1992 Borgatti/Everett Conceptual	3649 2001 Jeong et al. Empirical	4167 1998 Tsai/Ghoshal Empirical	961 1993 Ibarra Empirical	71 2008 Valente Empirical

- "Traditional"
- Betweenness-like
- Friedkin Measures
- Miscellaneous
- Path-based
- Specific Network Type
- Spectral-based
- Closeness-like