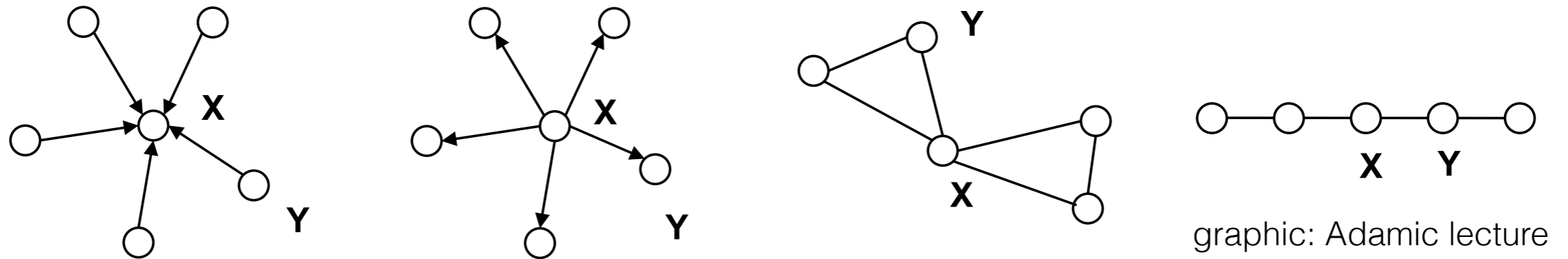


# Network Measures: Centrality and Prestige

(adapted from Lada Adamic)

# Centrality and Prestige

Some nodes are more important than others



But what it means to be “important” depends on the context: exchange, spread of information, brokerage opportunities, etc.

Centrality measures give us a way to quantify the different ways that a node can be important

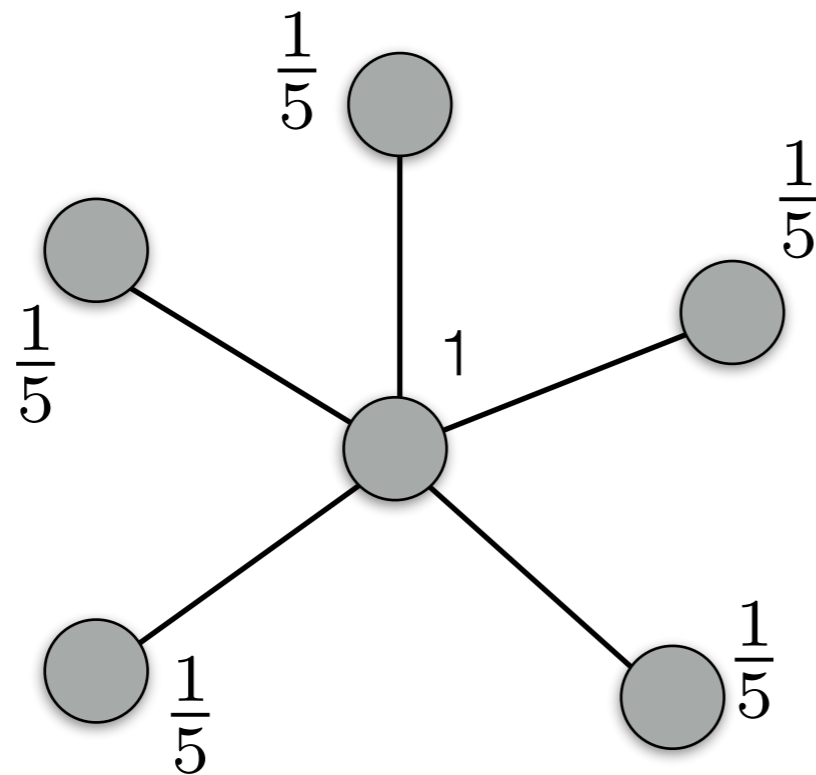
# Centrality and Prestige

Today:

- Tour through a variety of centrality measures:
  - Degree
  - Betweenness
  - Closeness
  - Eigenvector
- Look at how centrality is distributed:  
centralization
- Centrality on a directed network: prestige

# Degree Centrality

- First notion: the person with the most connections is most important

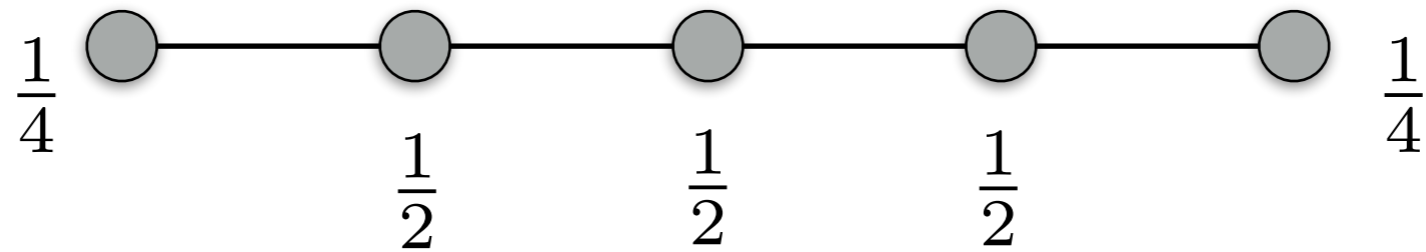
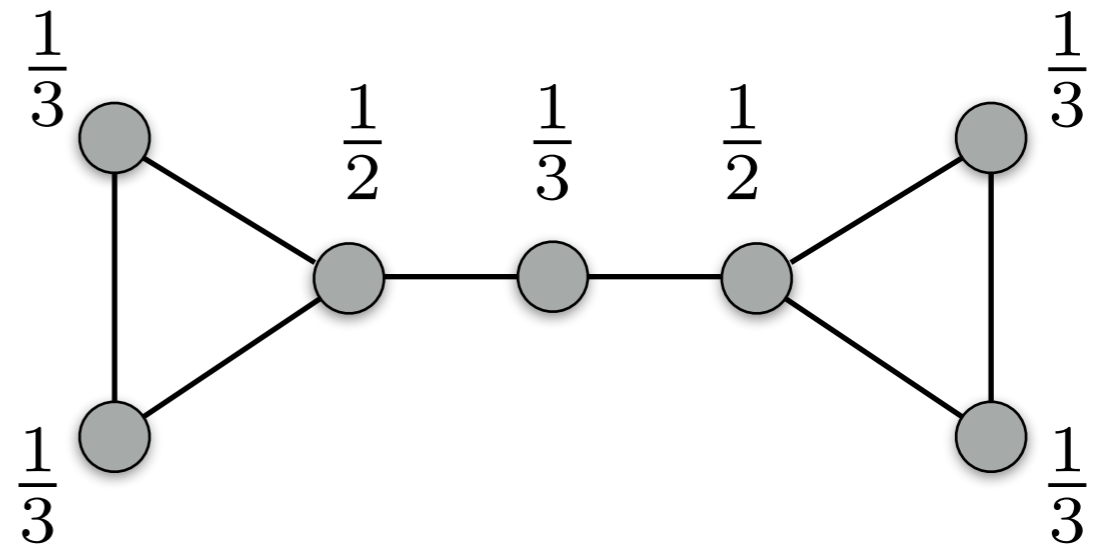
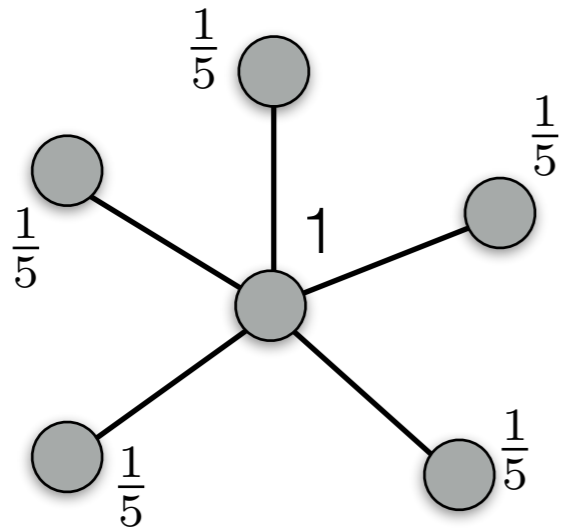


$$C_d(v_i) = \frac{1}{N-1} d_i$$

Normalize by the maximum possible number of connections you could have: (N-1)

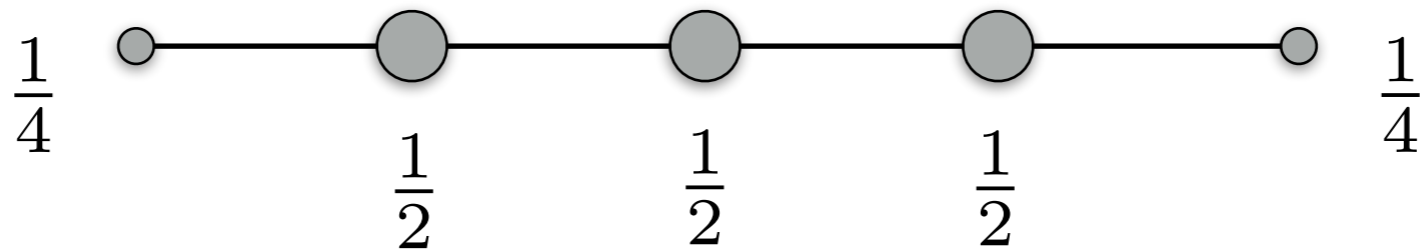
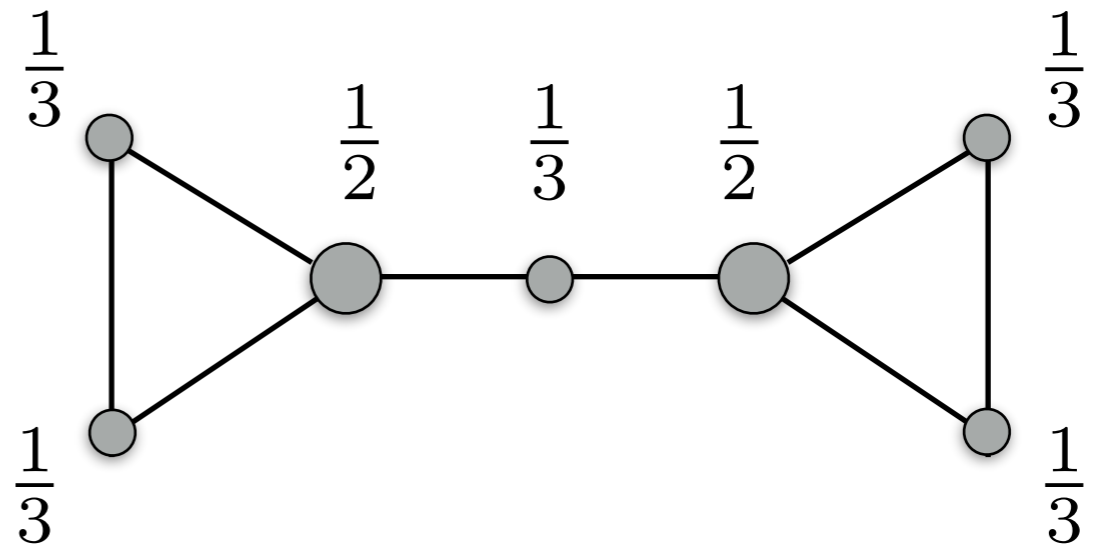
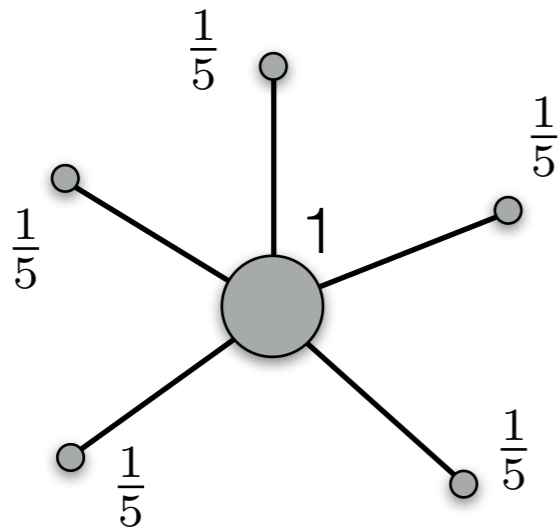
# Degree Centrality

$$C_d(v_i) = \frac{1}{N-1} d_i$$



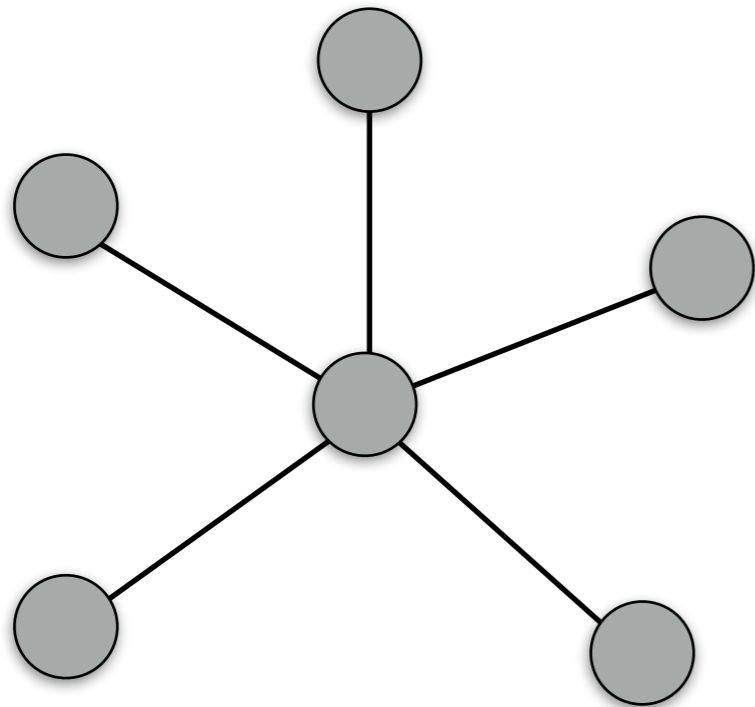
# Degree Centrality

$$C_d(v_i) = \frac{1}{N-1} d_i$$



# Degree Centrality

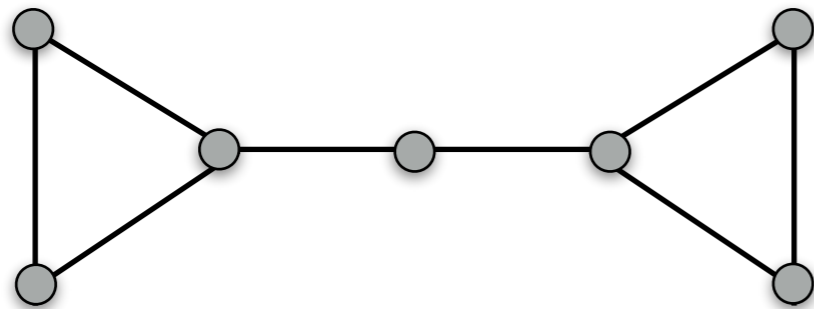
- Degree centrality makes sense when sheer *number* of contacts is important:



- Number of supporters
- Number of confidants
- Audience size
- Number of trading partners
- Number of direct reports

# Degree Centrality

- Clearly, there are some contexts where degree isn't exactly what we mean by "centrality"



- Suppose we are interested in who gets access to information?
- Or who can broker between different groups?



# Closeness Centrality

- Second notion: the person in the middle of the action is most central

$$C_C(v_i) = \frac{(N - 1)}{\sum_{v_j \in G} d(v_i, v_j)}$$

Normalization (min possible distance to the  $N-1$  other nodes)

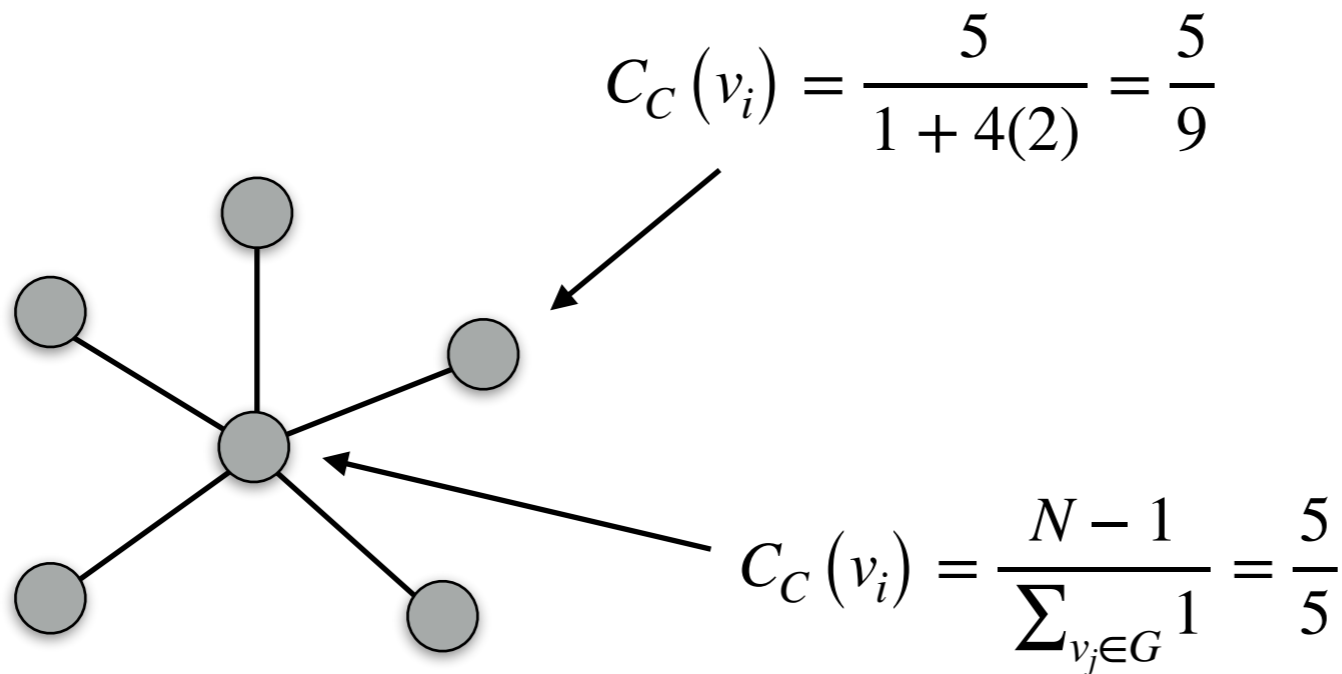
$d(v_i, v_j)$  = distance btwn  $i$  and  $j$

Total distance btwn  $i$  and the other nodes

- Person with the highest closeness centrality has the shortest average distance to other nodes

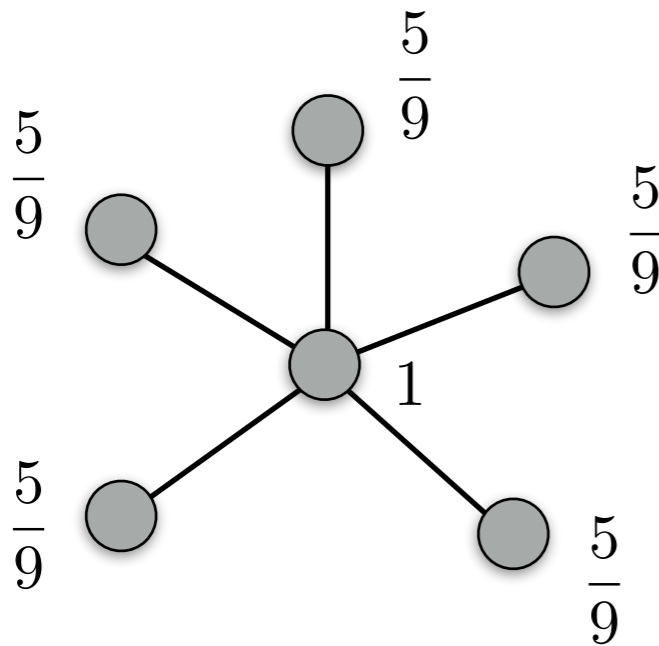
# Closeness Centrality

$$C_C(v_i) = \frac{(N - 1)}{\sum_{v_j \in G} d(v_i, v_j)}$$

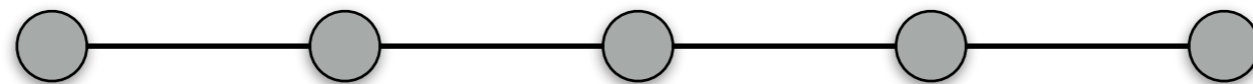
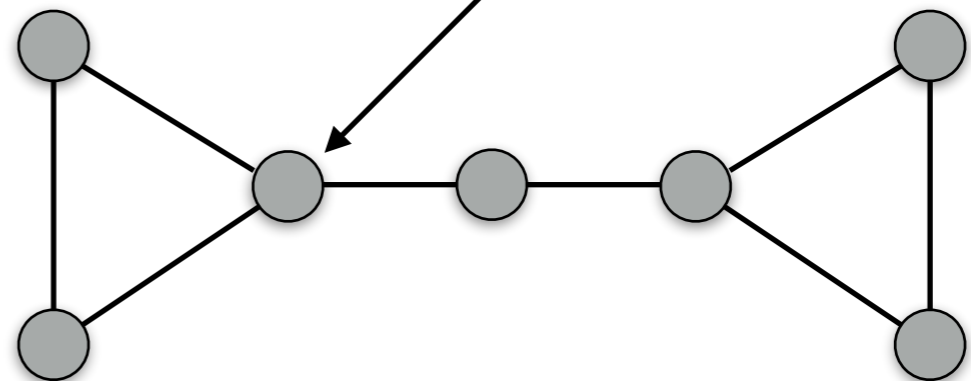


# Closeness Centrality

$$C_C(v_i) = \frac{(N - 1)}{\sum_{v_j \in G} d(v_i, v_j)}$$



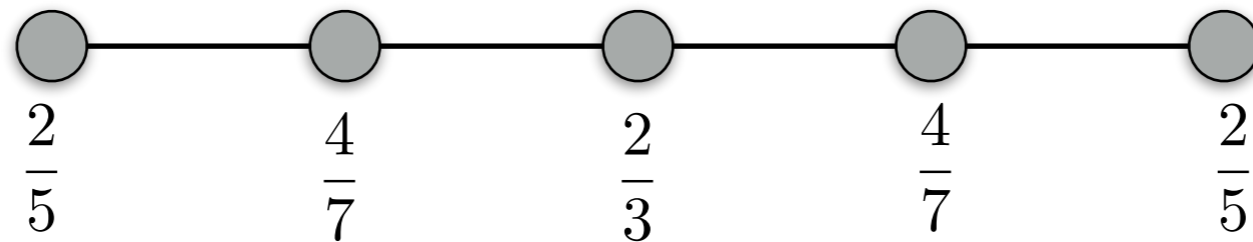
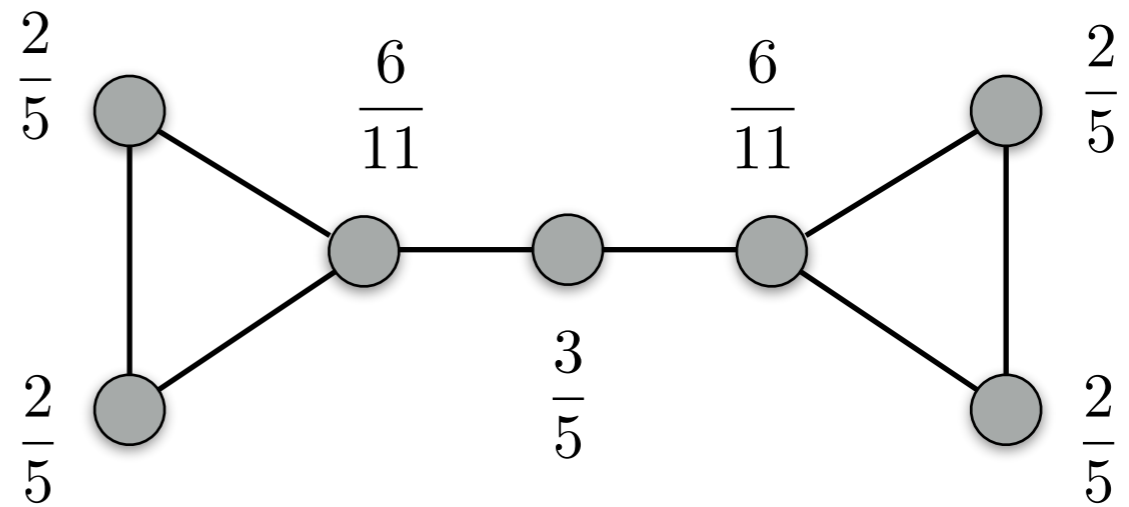
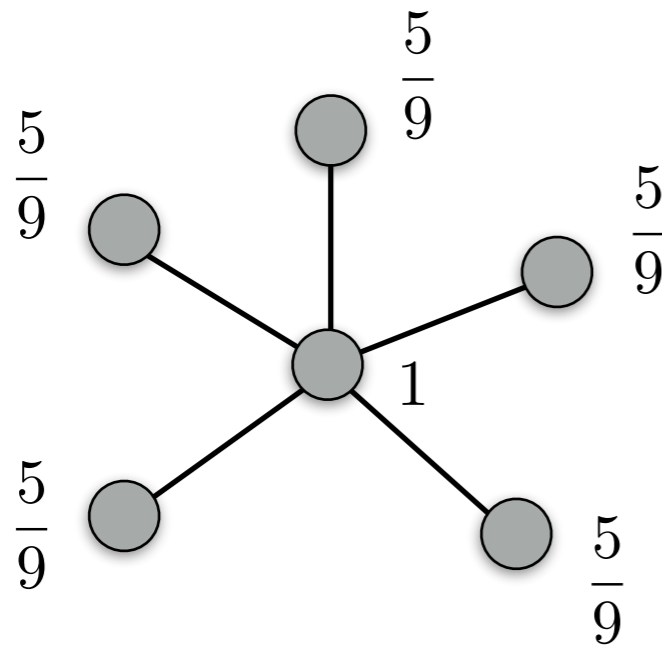
$$C_C(v_i) = \frac{6}{3(1) + 1(2) + 2(3)} = \frac{6}{11}$$



$$C_C(v_i) = \frac{4}{2(1) + 1(2) + 1(3)} = \frac{4}{7}$$

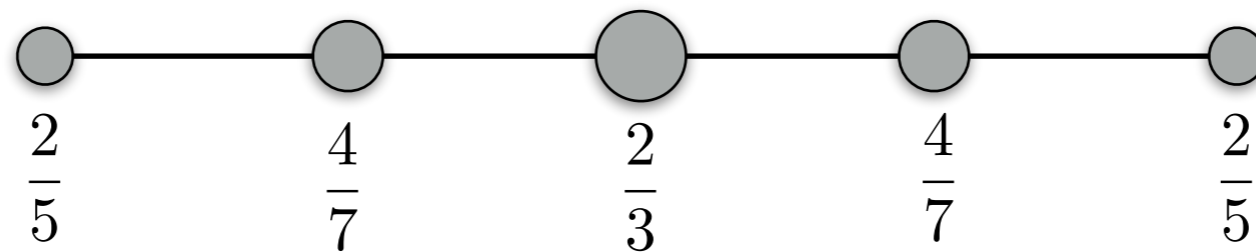
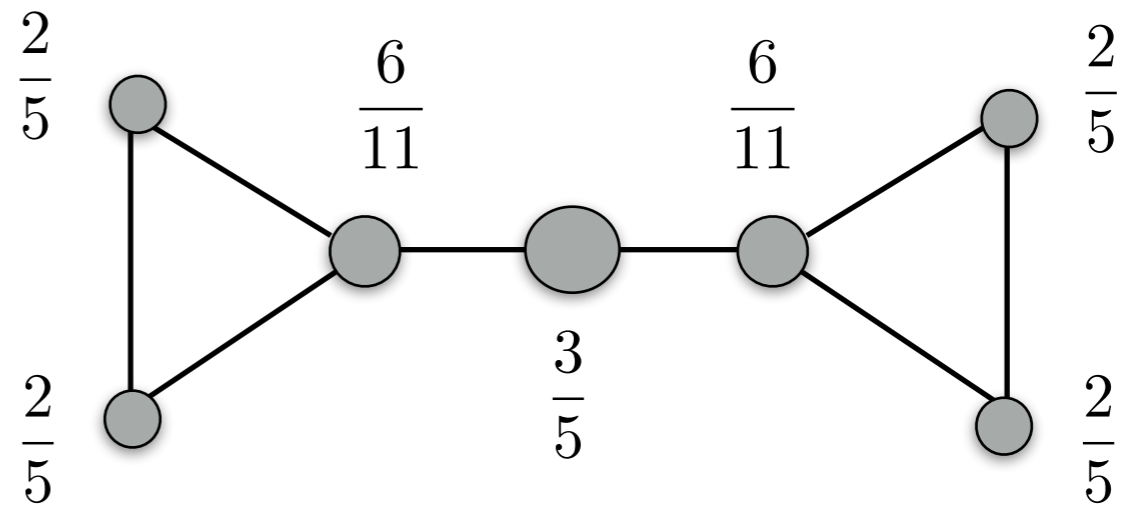
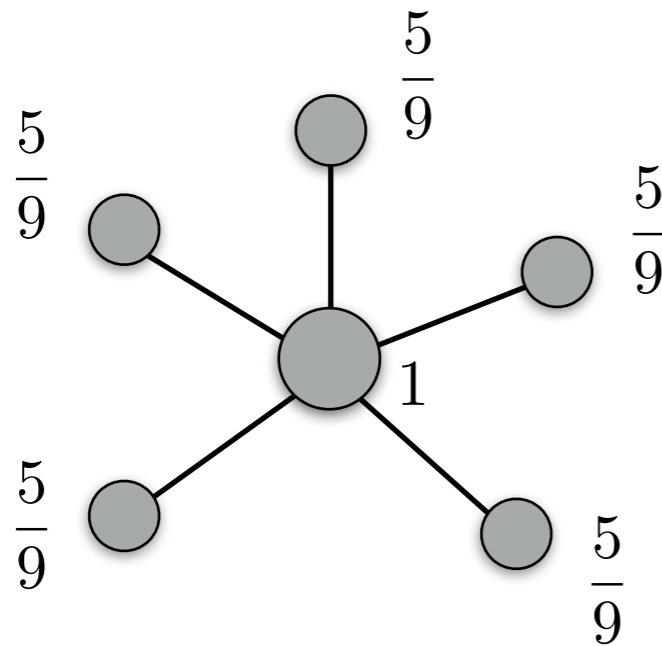
# Closeness Centrality

$$C_C(v_i) = \frac{(N - 1)}{\sum_{v_j \in G} d(v_i, v_j)}$$



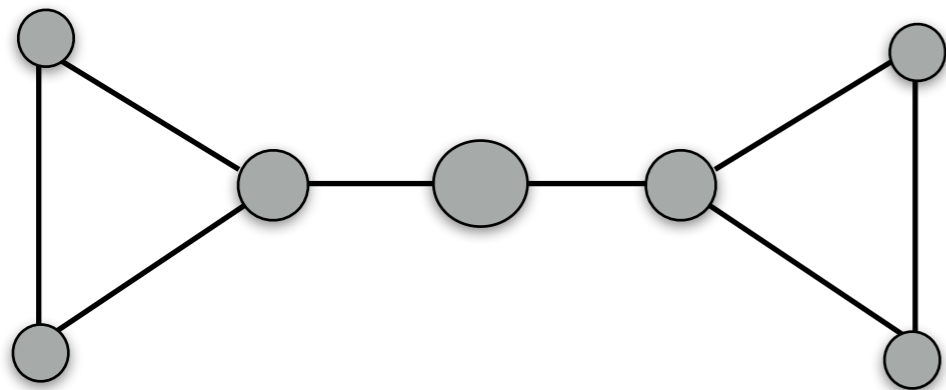
# Closeness Centrality

$$C_C(v_i) = \frac{(N - 1)}{\sum_{v_j \in G} d(v_i, v_j)}$$



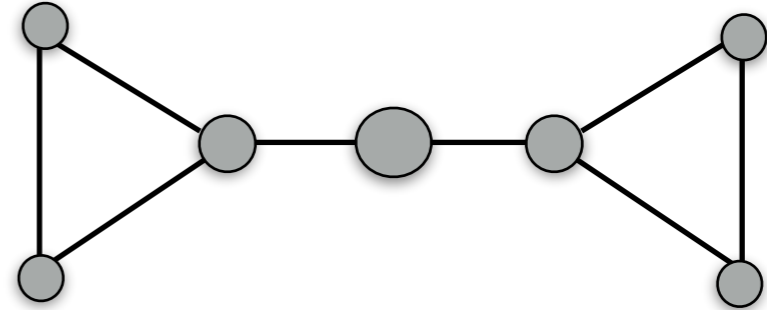
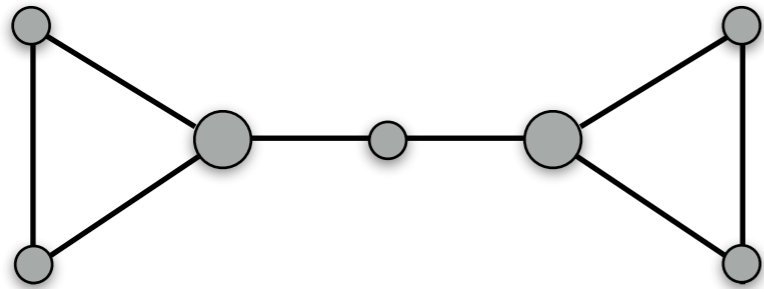
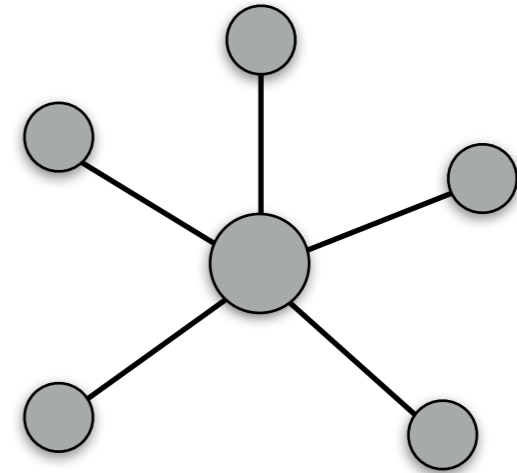
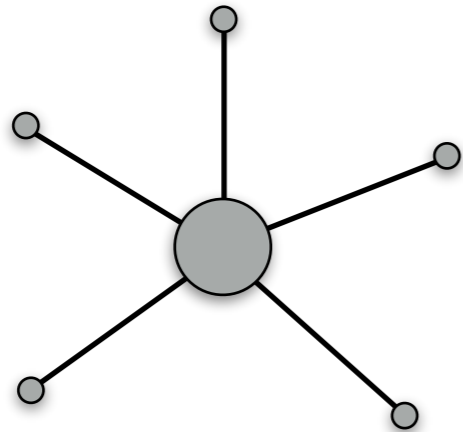
# Closeness Centrality

- Closeness centrality makes sense whenever *direct* access is important



- Access to information
- Opinion formation
- Spread of disease
- Adoption of new technology

# Degree vs Closeness



Degree

Closeness

# Betweenness Centrality

Third notion: the most important people are those you have to go through to get to others

So what fraction of the geodesics go through the node?

$$C_B(v_i) = \frac{\sum_{j < k} \frac{g_{jk}(v_i)}{g_{jk}}}{(N-1)(N-2)/2}$$

$g_{jk}(v_i)$  = number of geodesics between  $j$  and  $k$  that go through  $i$

$g_{jk}$  = total number of geodesics between  $j$  and  $k$



# Betweenness Centrality

Third notion: the most important people are those you have to go through to get to others

So what fraction of the geodesics go through the node?

$$C_B(v_i) = \frac{\sum_{j < k} \frac{g_{jk}(v_i)}{g_{jk}}}{(N-1)(N-2)/2}$$

fraction of geodesics between j and k that go through i

# Betweenness Centrality

Third notion: the most important people are those you have to go through to get to others

So what fraction of the geodesics go through the node?

total fraction of geodesics that go through node  $i$

fraction of geodesics between  $j$  and  $k$  that go through  $i$

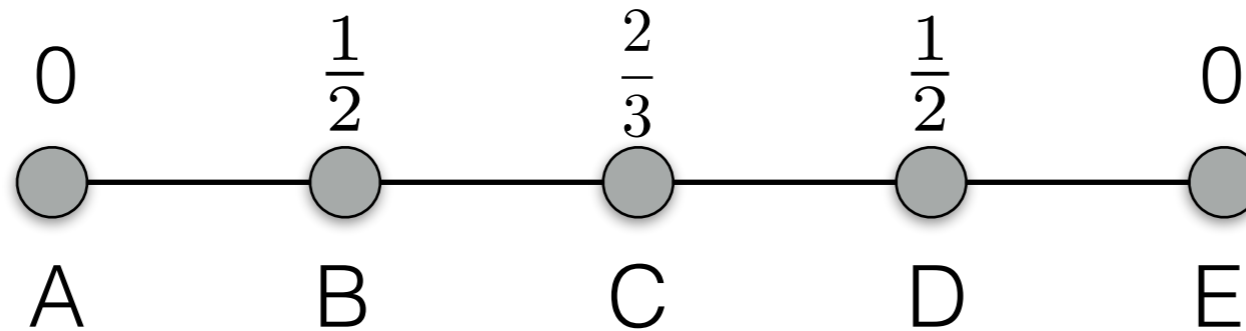
$$C_B(v_i) = \frac{\sum_{j < k} \frac{g_{jk}(v_i)}{g_{jk}}}{(N-1)(N-2)/2}$$

Normalization:  $\binom{N-1}{2}$

If all geodesics between all pairs of nodes go through node  $i$

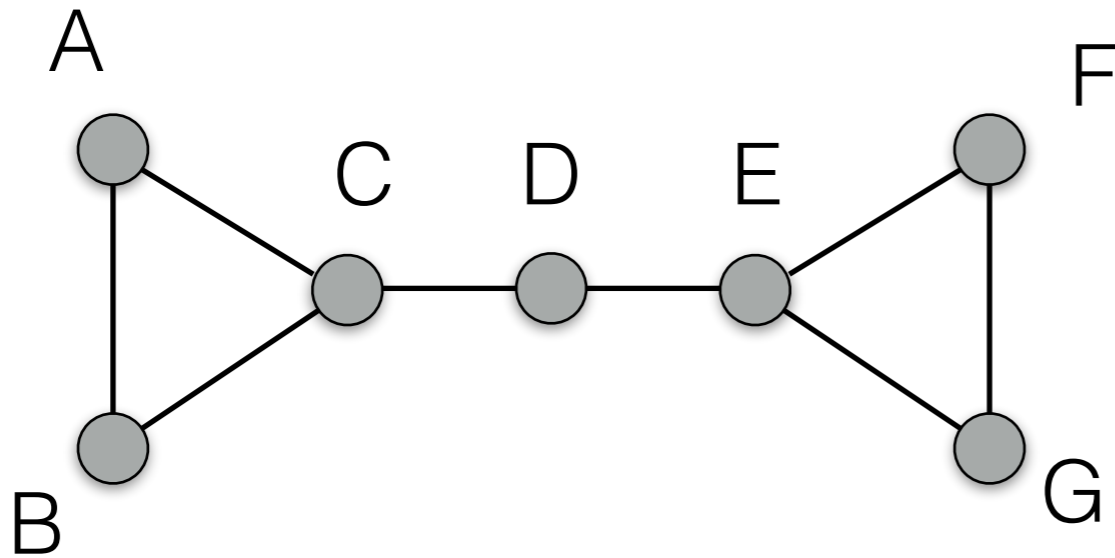
# Betweenness Centrality

$$C_B(v_i) = \frac{\sum_{j < k} \frac{g_{jk}(v_i)}{g_{jk}}}{(N-1)(N-2)/2}$$



- A and E are not on any shortest paths
- B and D are both on 3 shortest paths
- C is on 4 shortest paths

# Betweenness Centrality

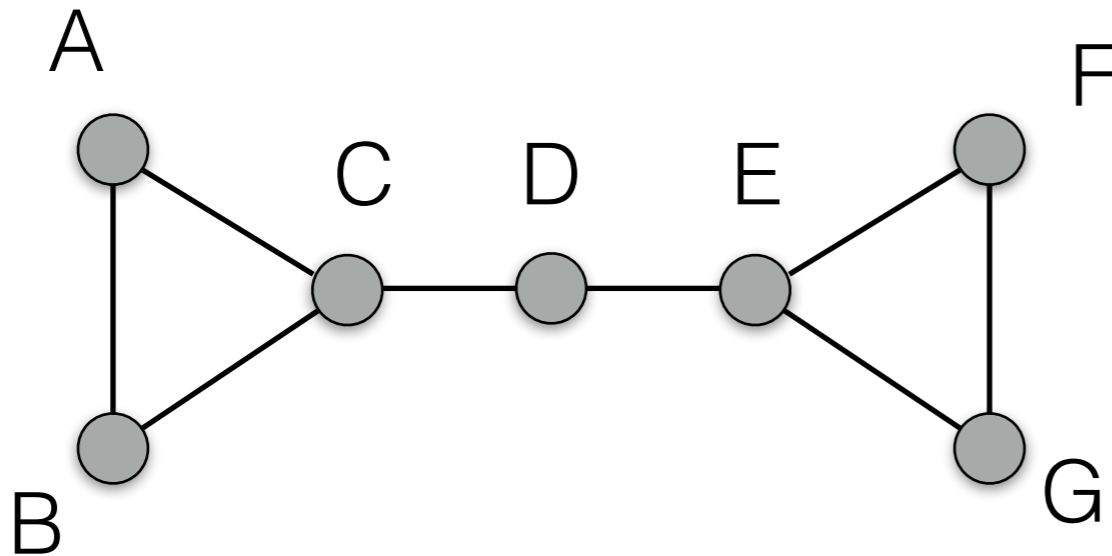


$$C_B(v_i) = \frac{\sum_{j < k} \frac{g_{jk}(v_i)}{g_{jk}}}{(N-1)(N-2)/2}$$

A:	BC	$\frac{0}{1}$	CD	$\frac{0}{1}$	DE	$\frac{0}{1}$	EF	$\frac{0}{1}$	FG	$\frac{0}{1}$
	BD	$\frac{0}{1}$	CE	$\frac{0}{1}$	DF	$\frac{0}{1}$	EG	$\frac{0}{1}$		
	BE	$\frac{0}{1}$	CF	$\frac{0}{1}$	DG	$\frac{0}{1}$				
	BF	$\frac{0}{1}$	CG	$\frac{0}{1}$						
	BG	$\frac{0}{1}$								

$$\rightarrow C_B(A) = \frac{15 * 0}{15}$$

# Betweenness Centrality



$$C_B(v_i) = \frac{\sum_{j < k} \frac{g_{jk}(v_i)}{g_{jk}}}{(N-1)(N-2)/2}$$

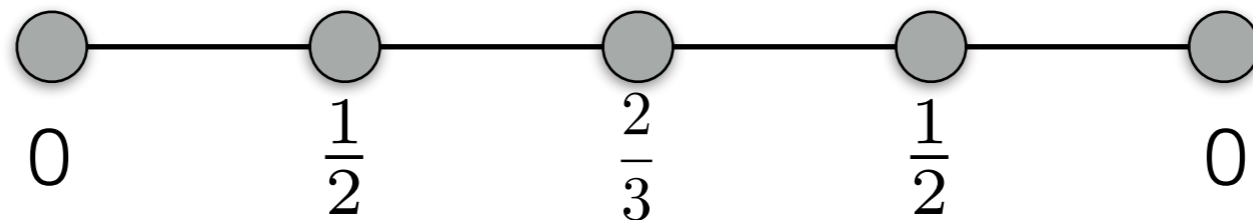
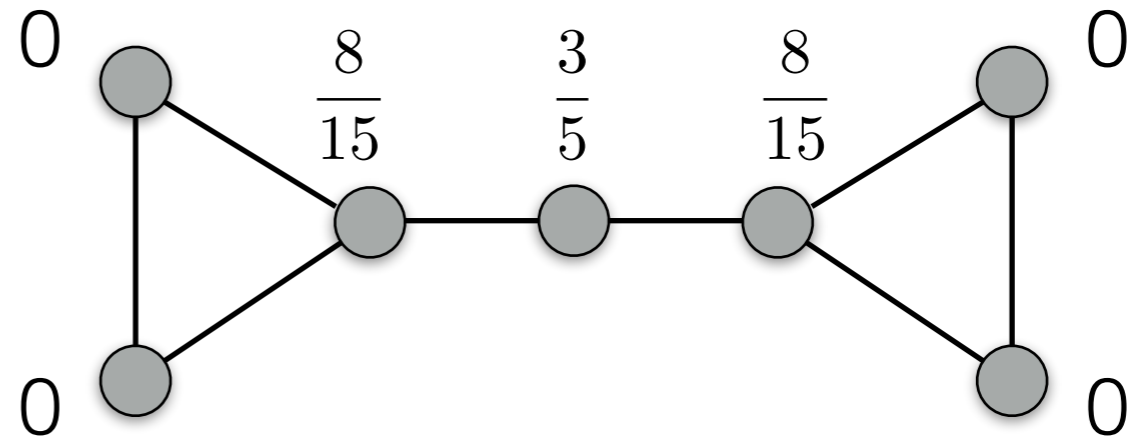
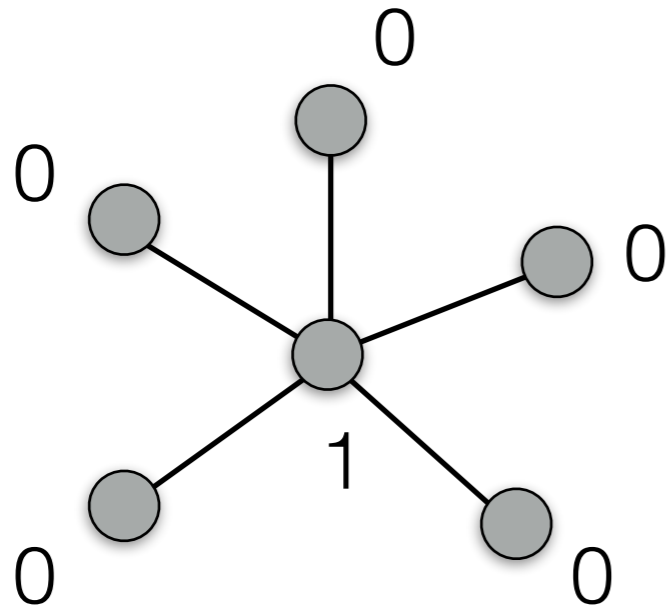
D:

AB	$\frac{0}{1}$	BC	$\frac{0}{1}$	CE	$\frac{1}{1}$	EF	$\frac{0}{1}$	FG	$\frac{0}{1}$
AC	$\frac{0}{1}$	BE	$\frac{1}{1}$	CF	$\frac{1}{1}$	EG	$\frac{0}{1}$		
AE	$\frac{1}{1}$	BF	$\frac{1}{1}$	CG	$\frac{1}{1}$				
AF	$\frac{1}{1}$	BG	$\frac{1}{1}$						
AG	$\frac{1}{1}$								

$$\rightarrow C_B(D) = \frac{6 * 0 + 9 * 1}{15} = \frac{3}{5}$$

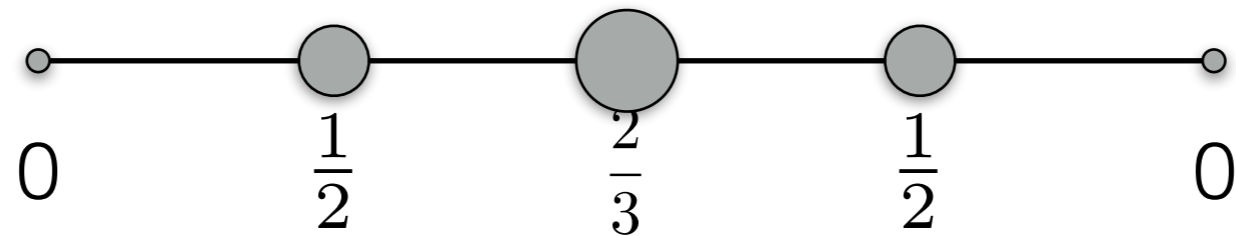
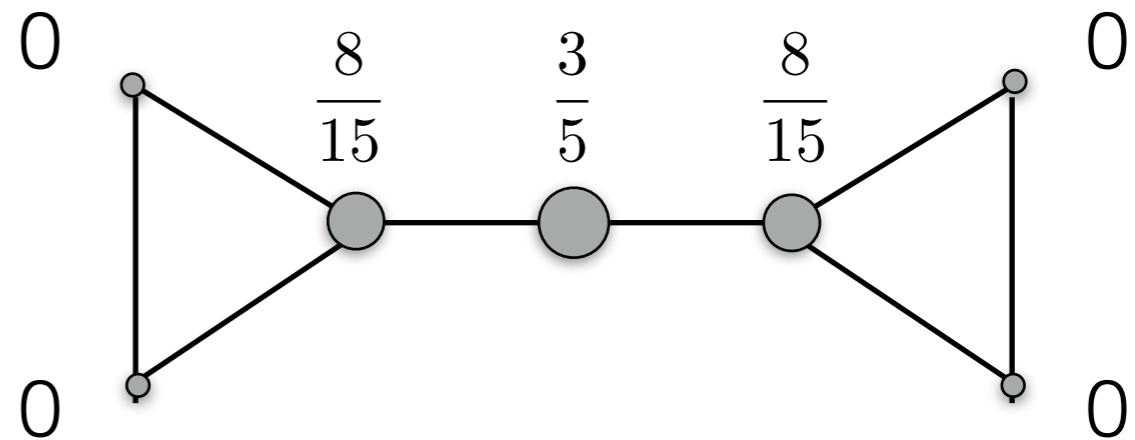
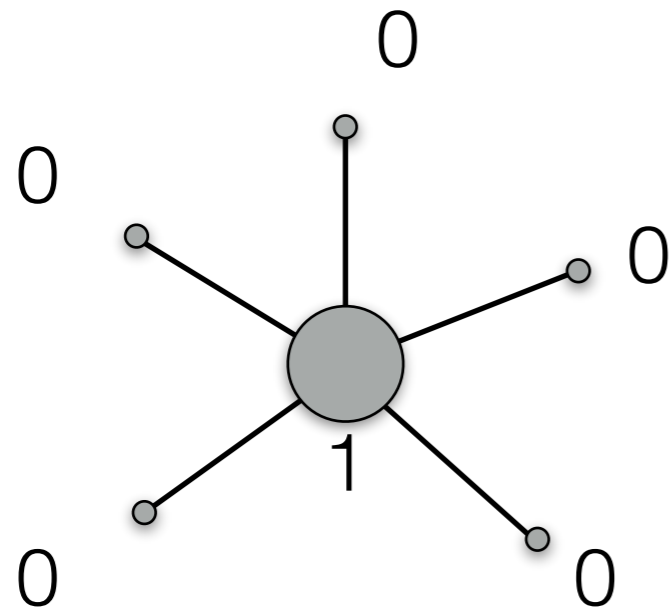
# Betweenness Centrality

$$C_B(v_i) = \frac{\sum_{j < k} \frac{g_{jk}(v_i)}{g_{jk}}}{(N-1)(N-2)/2}$$



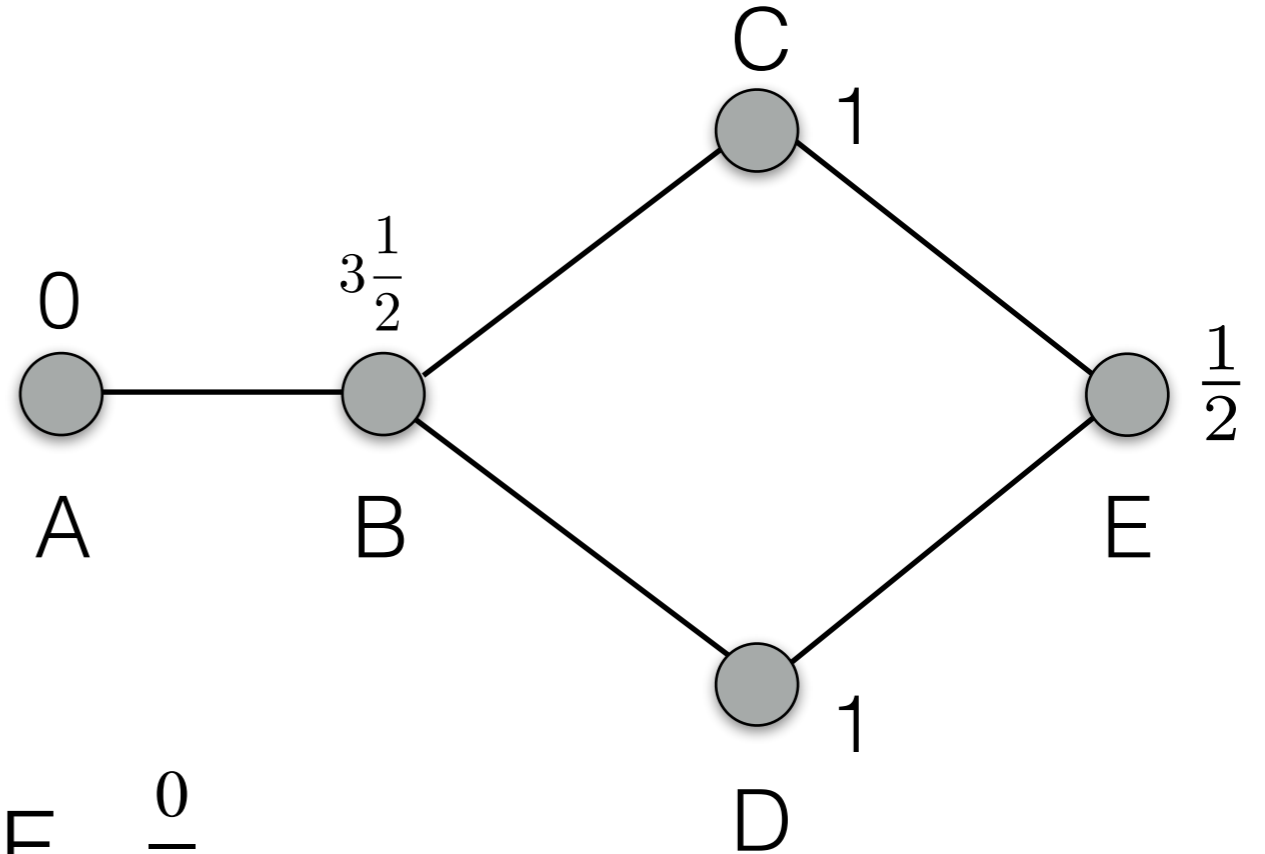
# Betweenness Centrality

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# Betweenness Centrality

$$C_B(v_i) = \frac{\sum_{j < k} \frac{g_{jk}(v_i)}{g_{jk}}}{(N-1)(N-2)/2}$$



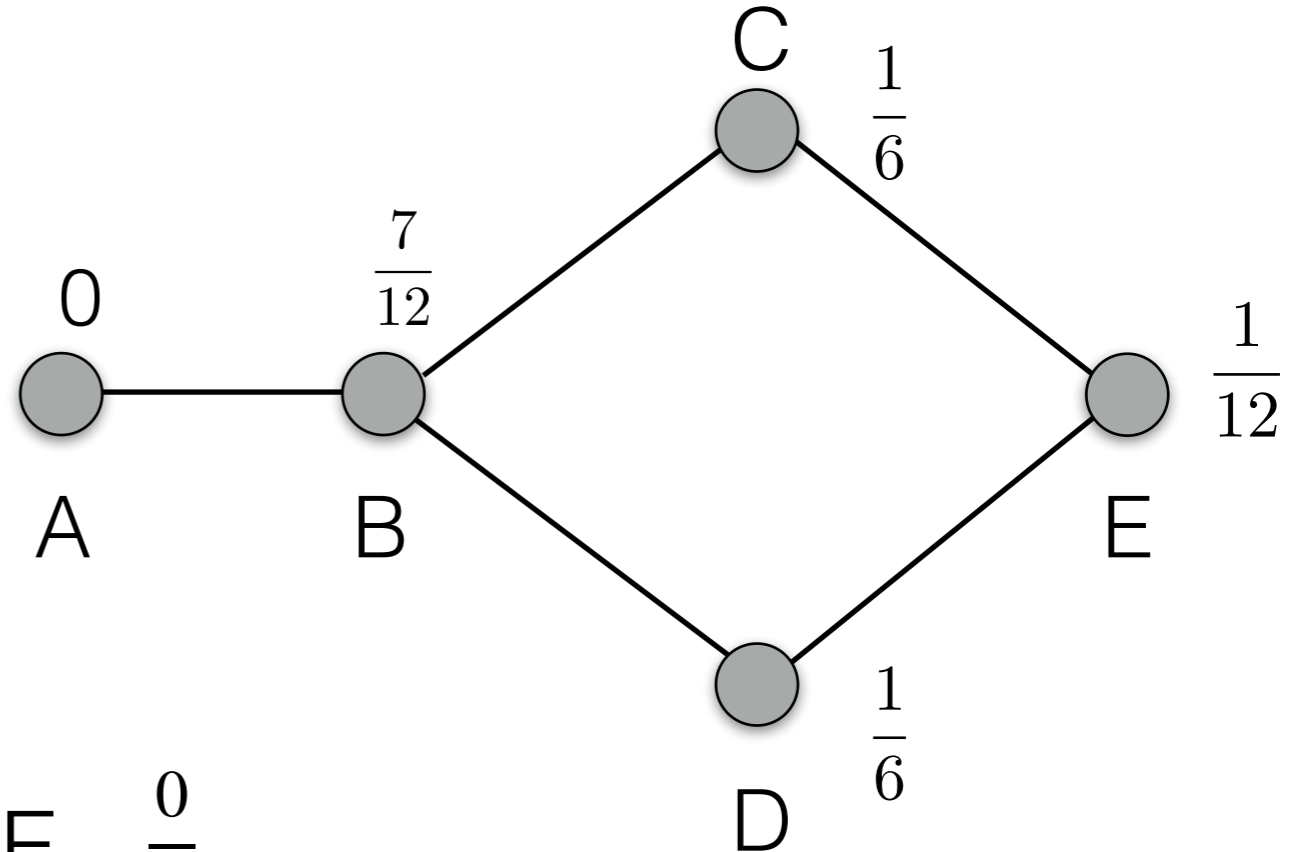
AC	$\frac{1}{1}$	CD	$\frac{1}{2}$	DE	$\frac{0}{1}$
AD	$\frac{1}{1}$	CE	$\frac{0}{1}$		
AE	$\frac{1}{1}$				

$$\rightarrow C_B(A) = \frac{3(1) + \frac{1}{2} + 2(0)}{6} = \frac{3.5}{6}$$



# Betweenness Centrality

$$C_B(v_i) = \frac{\sum_{j < k} \frac{g_{jk}(v_i)}{g_{jk}}}{(N-1)(N-2)/2}$$

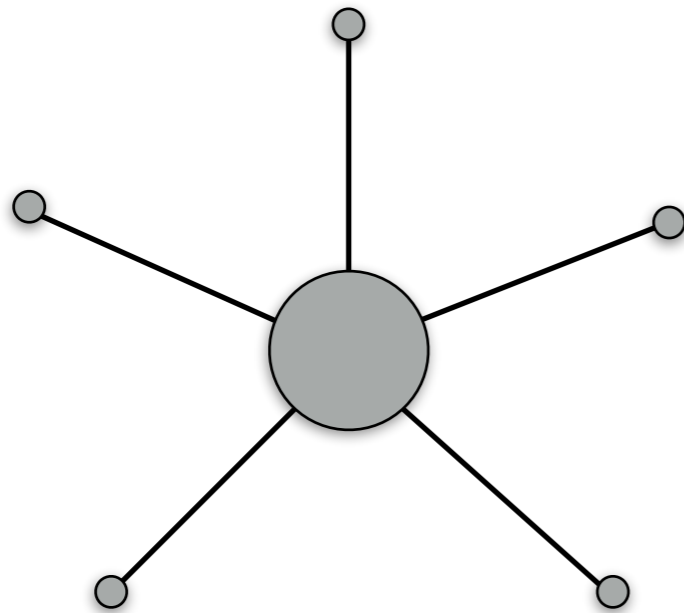


AC	$\frac{1}{1}$	CD	$\frac{1}{2}$	DE	$\frac{0}{1}$
AD	$\frac{1}{1}$	CE	$\frac{0}{1}$		
AE	$\frac{1}{1}$				

$$\rightarrow C_B(A) = \frac{3(1) + \frac{1}{2} + 2(0)}{6} = \frac{3.5}{6}$$

# Betweenness Centrality

- Betweenness centrality make sense when you gain from bridging between different groups



- Brokering between groups
- Control of information
- Innovation
- Collaboration

# Eigenvector Centrality

- Fourth notion: you are more important if you're connected to important people
- For example:
  - a small twitter account followed by someone with a large audience
  - a entrepreneur who knows Jack Dorsey
  - an aide to the president
- This is harder to calculate (I would not make you calculate it on an exam)

# Eigenvector Centrality

Such a centrality measure must satisfy:  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$

the sum of the centralities of your neighbors

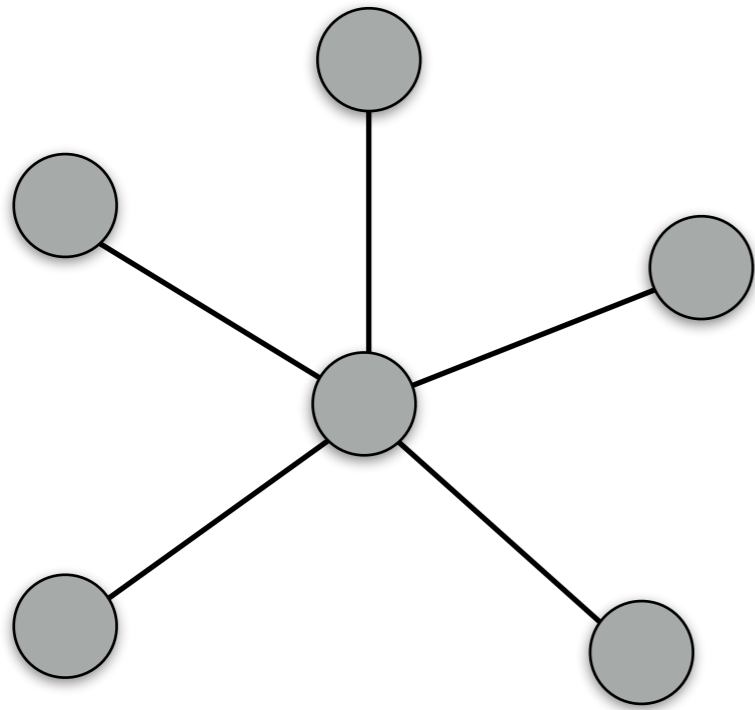
leading eigenvalue of the matrix A

$$C_e(v_i) = \frac{1}{\lambda_1} \sum_j A_{ij} C_E(v_j)$$

- A node's eigenvector centrality is proportional to the centrality of its neighbors
- A node can have higher eigenvector centrality because:
  - They have more connections
  - They have more important connections

# Network Centralization

- Centralization: a measure of how centrality is distributed in the network



→ An attempt to quantify how centralized the network is as a whole

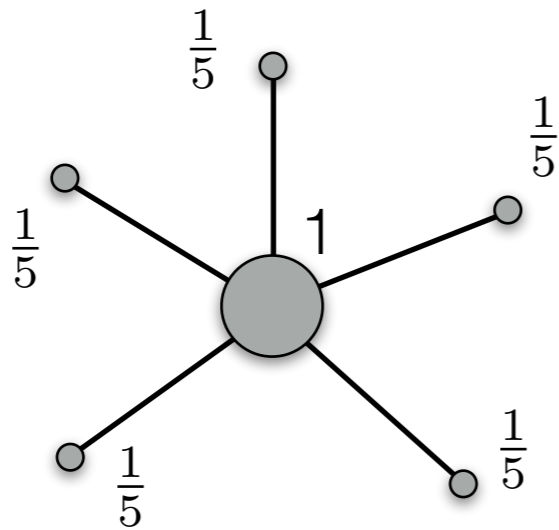
Difference between a node's centrality and the maximum centrality in the network

$$C_D(G) = \frac{\sum_{v_i \in G} [C_D(v^*) - C_D(v_i)]}{(N - 1)}$$

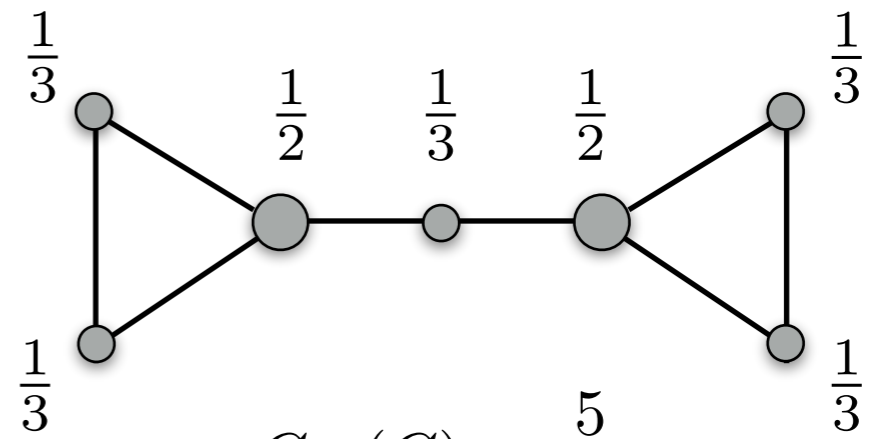
Normalization: if everyone had maximum centrality

# Centralization

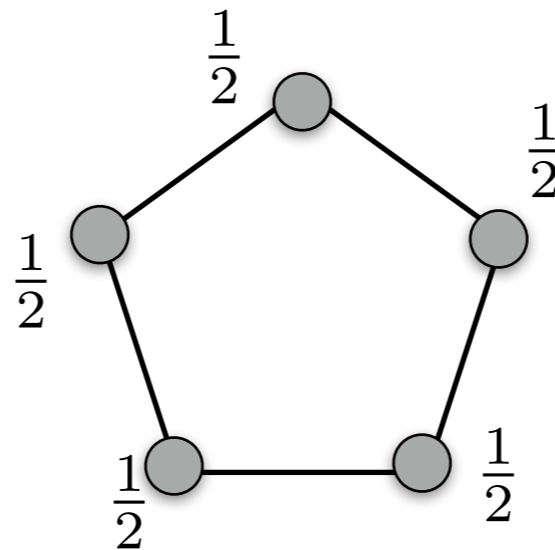
$$C_D(G) = \frac{\sum_{v_i \in G} [C_D(v^*) - C_D(v_i)]}{(N - 1)}$$



$$C_D(G) = \frac{4}{5}$$



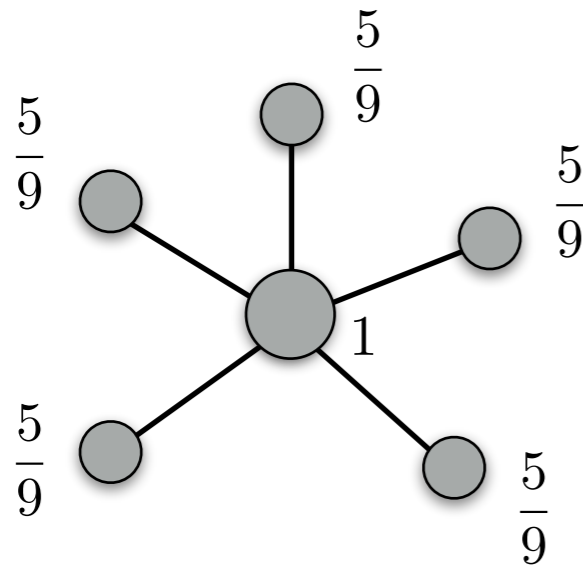
$$C_D(G) = \frac{5}{36}$$



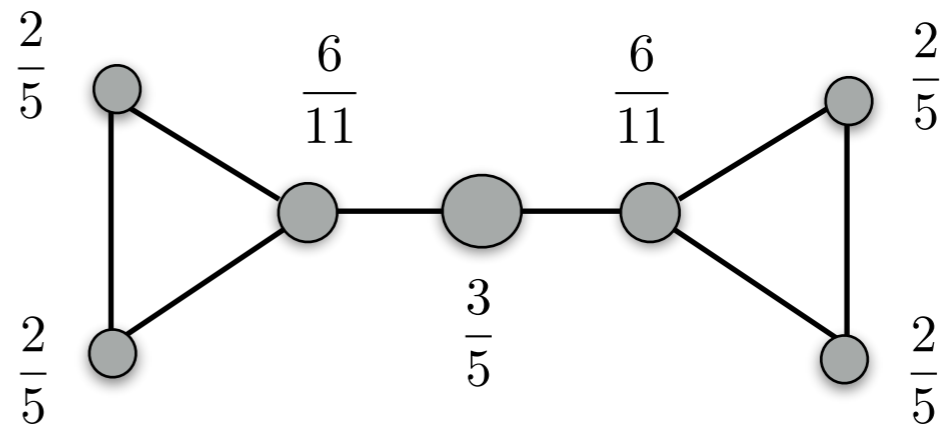
$$C_D(G) = 0$$

# Centralization

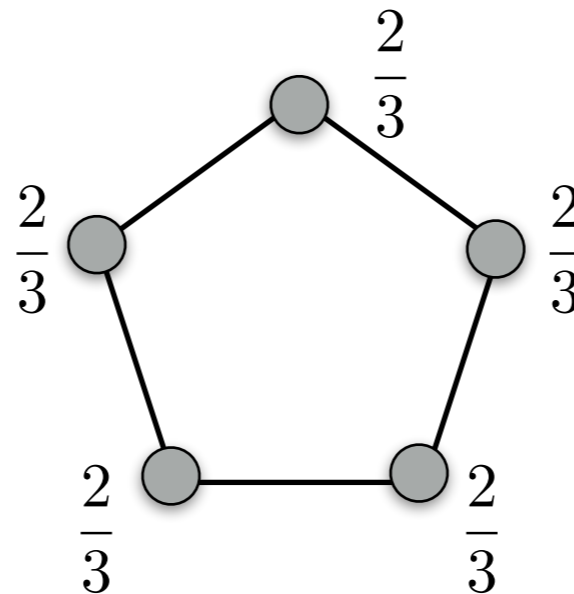
$$C_C(G) = \frac{\sum_{v_i \in G} [C_C(v^*) - C_C(v_i)]}{(N - 1)}$$



$$C_C(G) = \frac{4}{9}$$



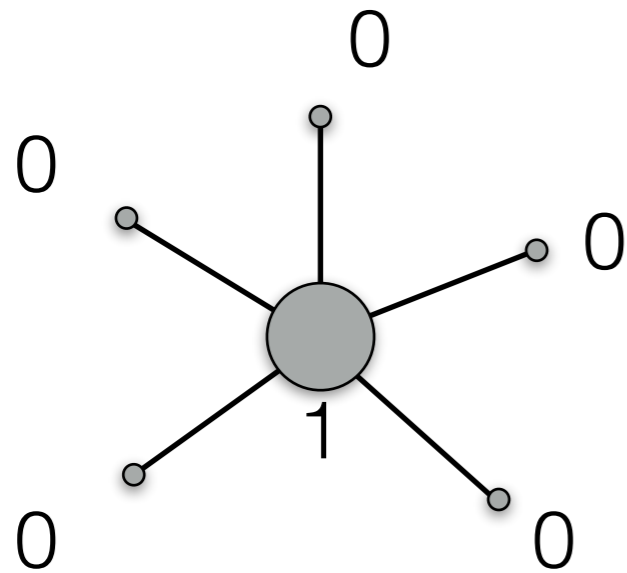
$$C_C(G) = \frac{10}{66}$$



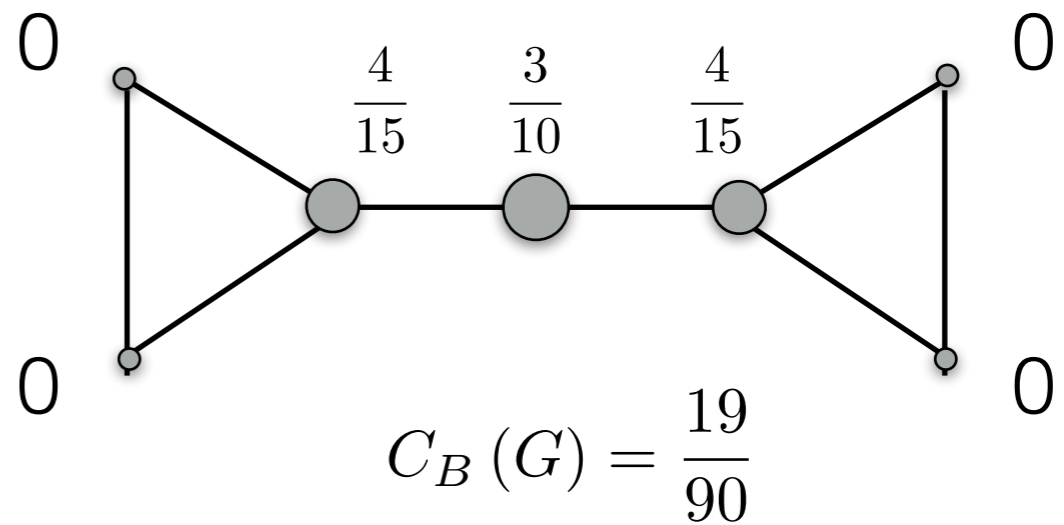
$$C_C(G) = 0$$

# Centralization

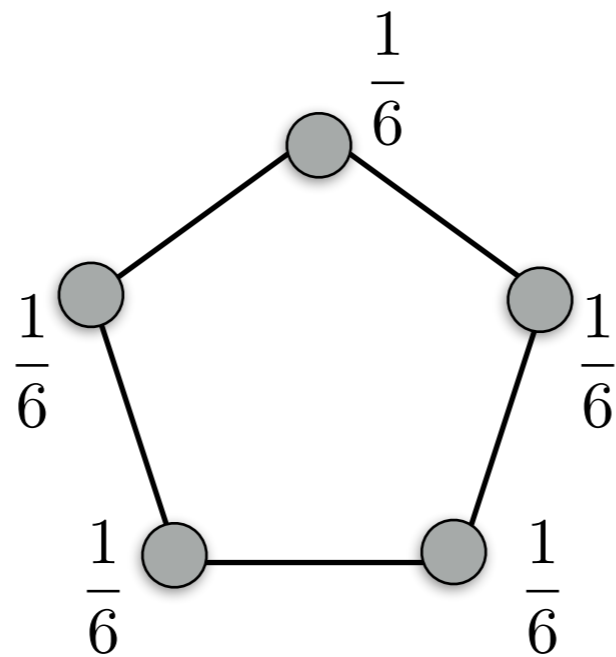
$$C_B(G) = \frac{\sum_{v_i \in G} [C_B(v^*) - C_B(v_i)]}{(N - 1)}$$



$$C_B(G) = 1$$



$$C_B(G) = \frac{19}{90}$$



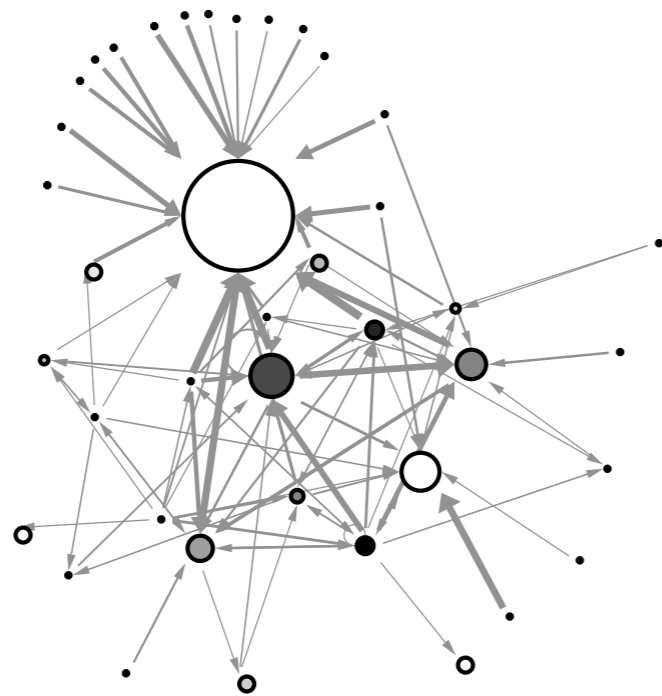
$$C_B(G) = 0$$



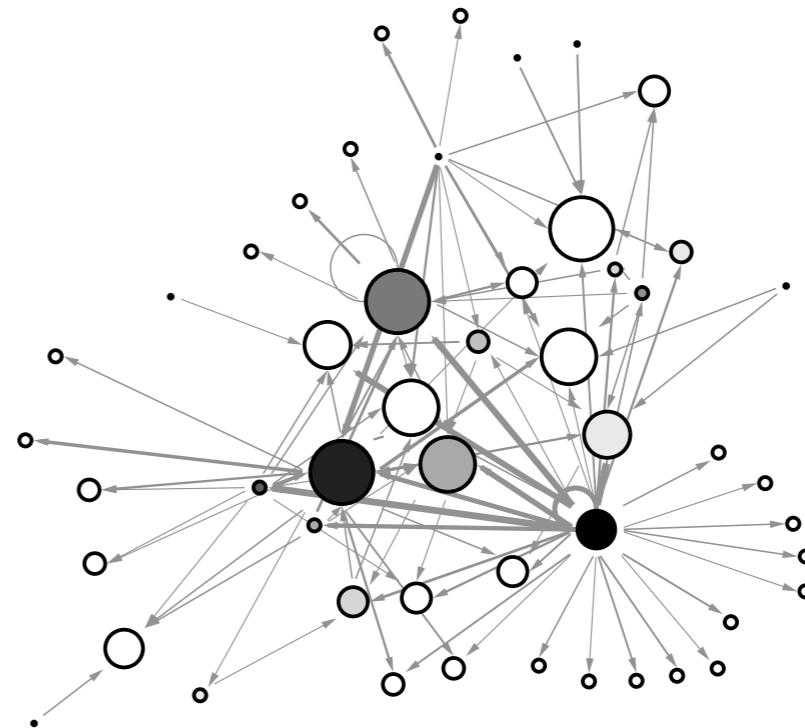
# Centralization

Centralization tells us about how influence is spread across the network

Example: Financial Trading Networks

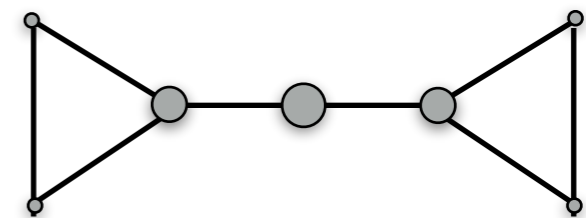
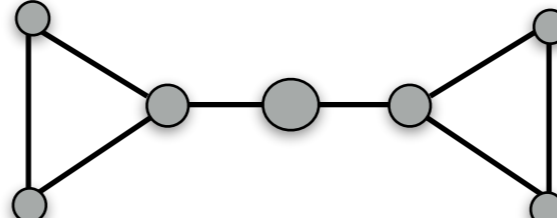
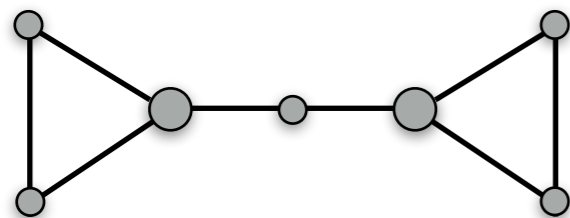
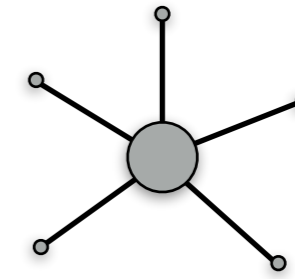
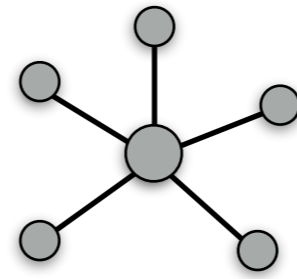
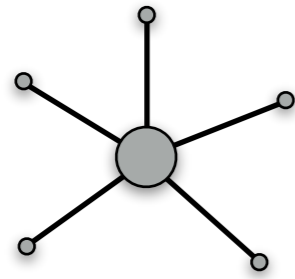


High centralization:  
one node dominates  
the network



Low centralization:  
trades are more evenly  
distributed

# Comparing Centrality Measures



Degree

Closeness

Betweenness

The three are clearly related, but they each get at something slightly different

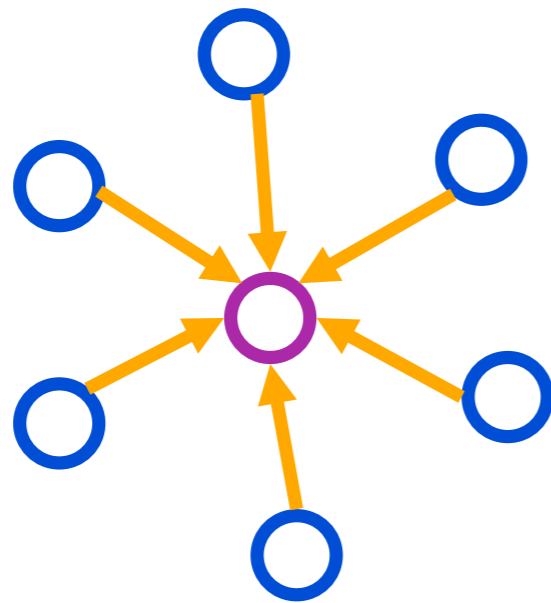
# Directed Networks: “Prestige”

- Centrality in directed networks is called “prestige”
- This is sometimes a fine name:
  - admiration or trust
  - influence
  - friendship
  - trade
- But depending on the type of link, it might be misleading:
  - money lending
  - giving advice
  - hatred or distrust

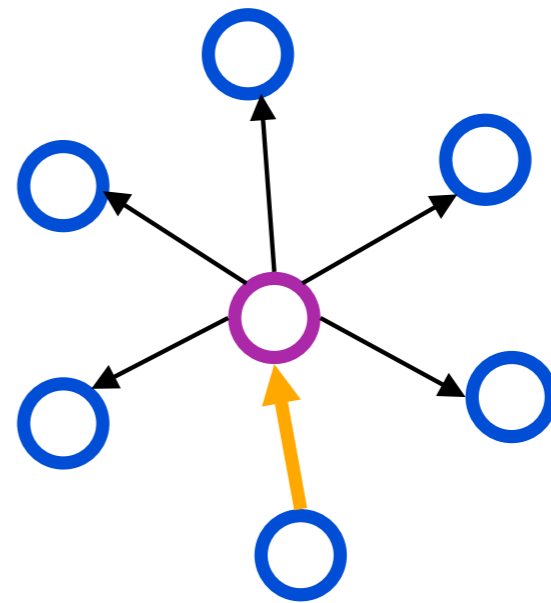
# Directed Networks: “Prestige”

- Measure 1: directed version of in-degree
  - A website that is linked to often has high prestige
  - A person who is frequently nominated for a reward has high prestige

$$C_D(v_i) = \frac{d_{in}(v_i)}{(N - 1)}$$



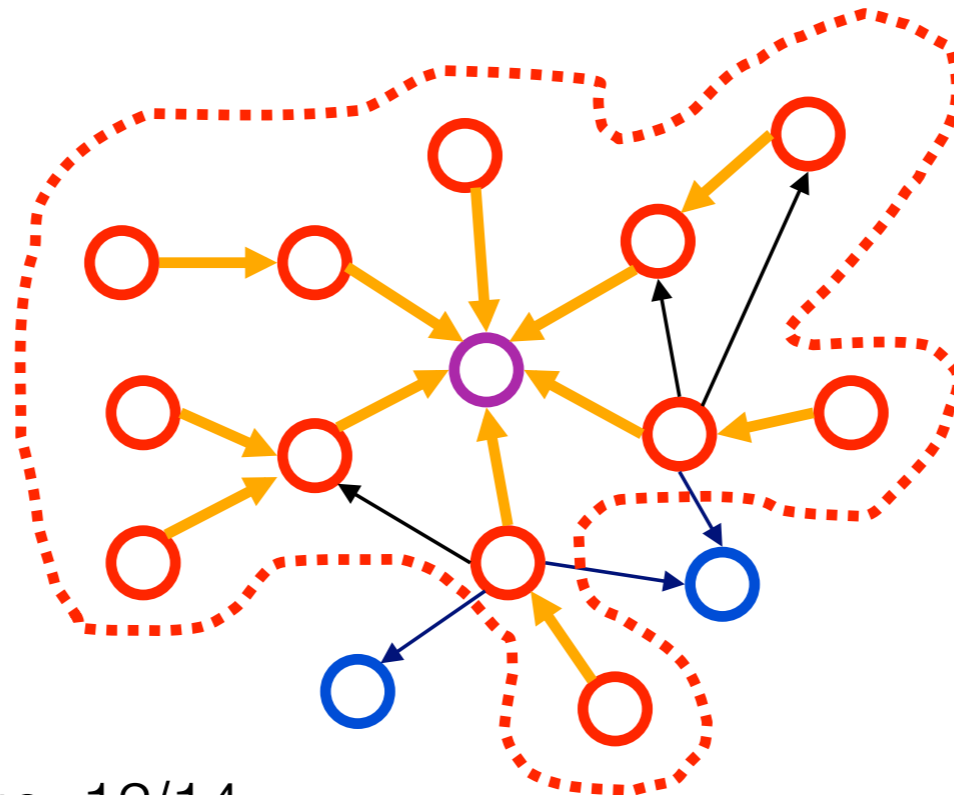
High



Low

# Directed Networks: “Prestige”

- Measure 2: Influence range
  - The influence range is what fraction of the nodes in the network can reach you via directed paths

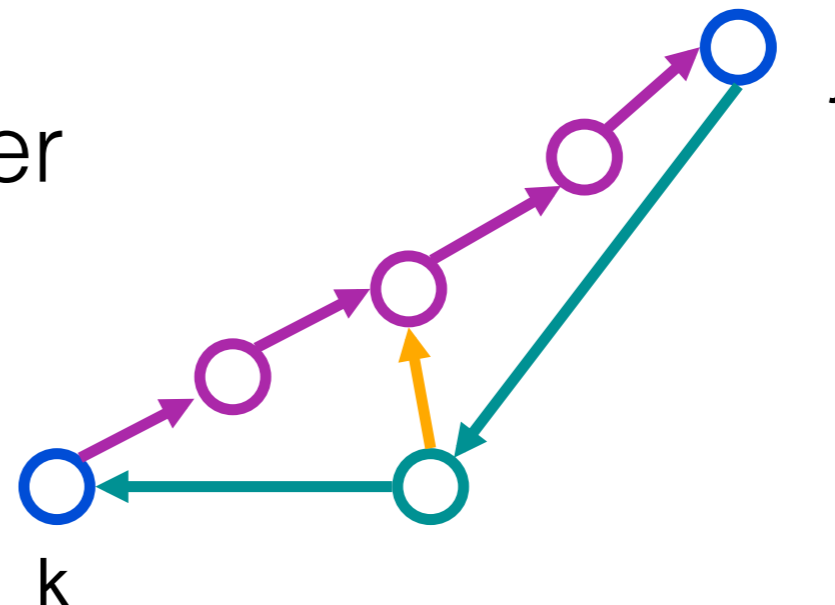


Influence Range: 12/14

# Directed Networks: “Prestige”

A note on directed geodesics:

- You need to follow the arrows when tracing a path through the network
- The shortest directed path may not be the geodesic on the related undirected network
- The directed geodesic from  $j$  to  $k$  may be shorter than the directed geodesic from  $k$  to  $j$



# Directed Networks: “Prestige”

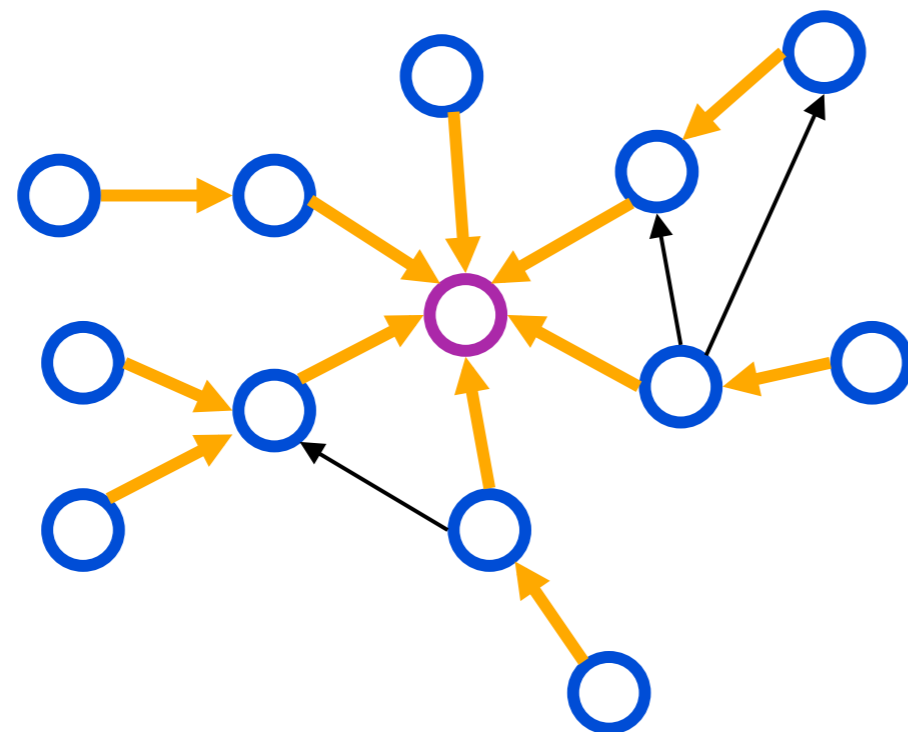
Directed Betweenness: Almost exactly the same as betweenness, but with directed geodesics and normalized in a directed way

$$C_B(v_i) = \frac{1}{(N-1)(N-2)} \sum_{j,k} \frac{g_{jk}(v_i)}{g_{jk}}$$

Note: *both* directions  $\rightarrow$   $j,k$   $\leftarrow$   $g_{jk}$

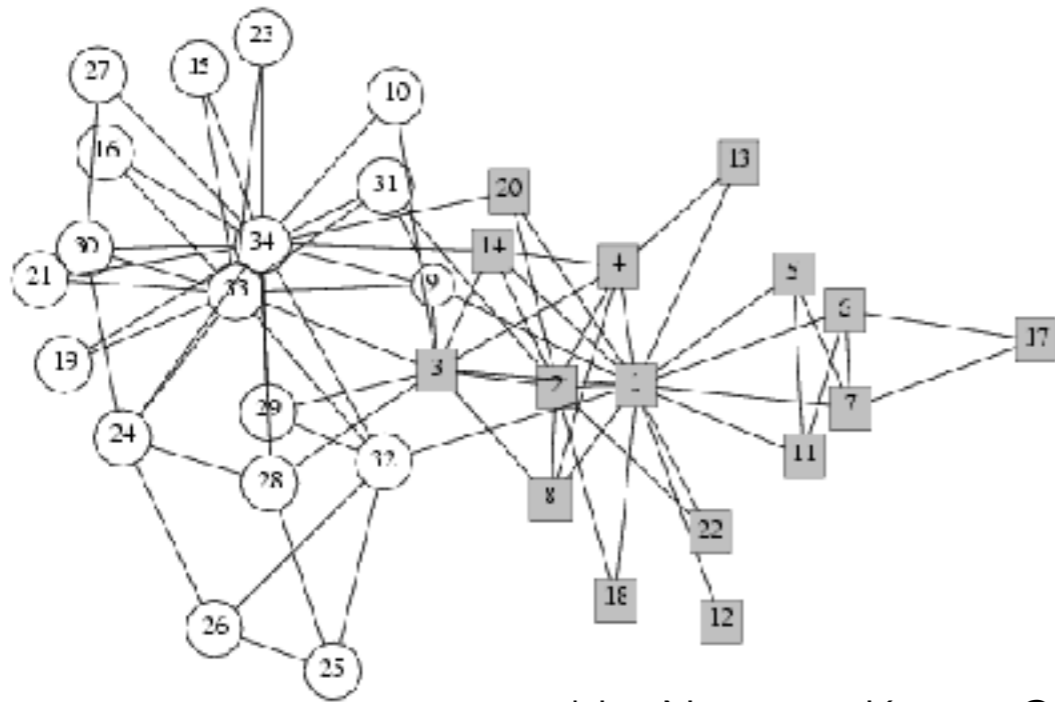
$g_{jk}(v_i)$   $\leftarrow$  Number of directed geodesics between  $j$  and  $k$  containing  $i$

$g_{jk}$   $\leftarrow$  Total number of directed geodesics between  $j$  and  $k$



Directed Betweenness Centrality: 0

# Summing up...



graphic: Newman Karate Club

There are lots of ways for a node to be “central” to a network

- Degree
- Closeness
- Betweenness
- etc!

- *Different types of centrality will be relevant in different contexts.*
- Which is most interesting is a judgment call!