

# **$N$ -Intertwined Mean-Field Approximation (NIMFA) versus exact SIS epidemics on Networks**

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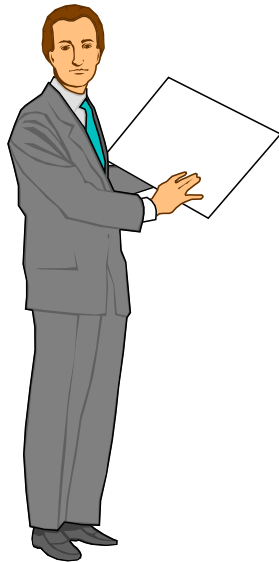
# Outline

Exact SIS model

NIMFA: N-intertwined MF approximation

*Defining* the SIS epidemic threshold

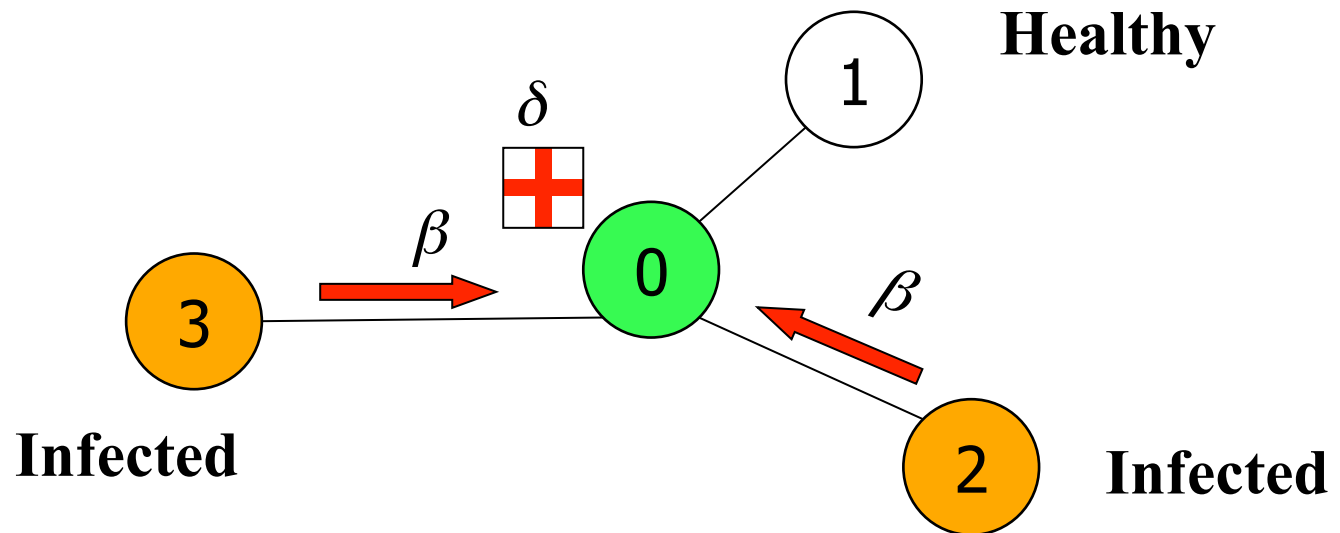
Future research



# Simple SIS model on networks

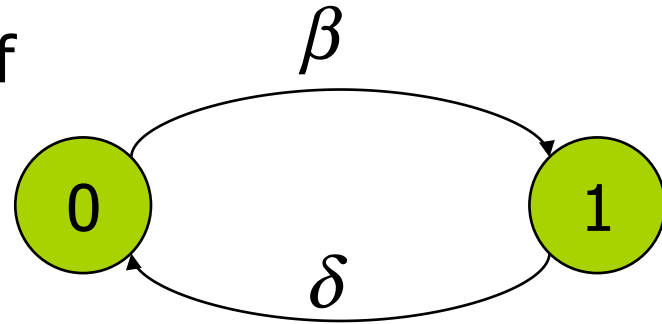
- Homogeneous birth (infection) rate  $\beta$  on all edges between infected and susceptible nodes
- Homogeneous death (curing) rate  $\delta$  for infected nodes

$\tau = \beta / \delta$  : effective spreading rate



# Definition of the states in SIS

- Each node  $j$  can be in either of the two states:
  - “0”: healthy
  - “1”: infected



- **Markov continuous time:**

- infection rate  $\beta$
- curing rate  $\delta$

- Mathematically:

- $X_j$  is the state of node  $j$

- infinitesimal generator  $Q_j(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -q_{1j} & q_{1j} \\ q_{2j} & -q_{2j} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -q_{1j} & q_{1j} \\ \delta & -\delta \end{bmatrix}$

## Governing SIS equation for node $j$

$$\frac{dE[X_j]}{dt} = E \left[ -\delta X_j + (1 - X_j) \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{kj} X_k \right]$$



time-change of  
 $E[X_j] = \Pr[X_j = 1]$ ,  
 probability that  
 node  $j$  is infected



if *infected*:  
 probability of  
 curing per  
 unit time



if *not infected (healthy)*:  
 probability of  
 infection per  
 unit time

$$\frac{dE[X_j]}{dt} = -\delta E[X_j] + \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{kj} E[X_k] - \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{kj} E[X_j X_k]$$

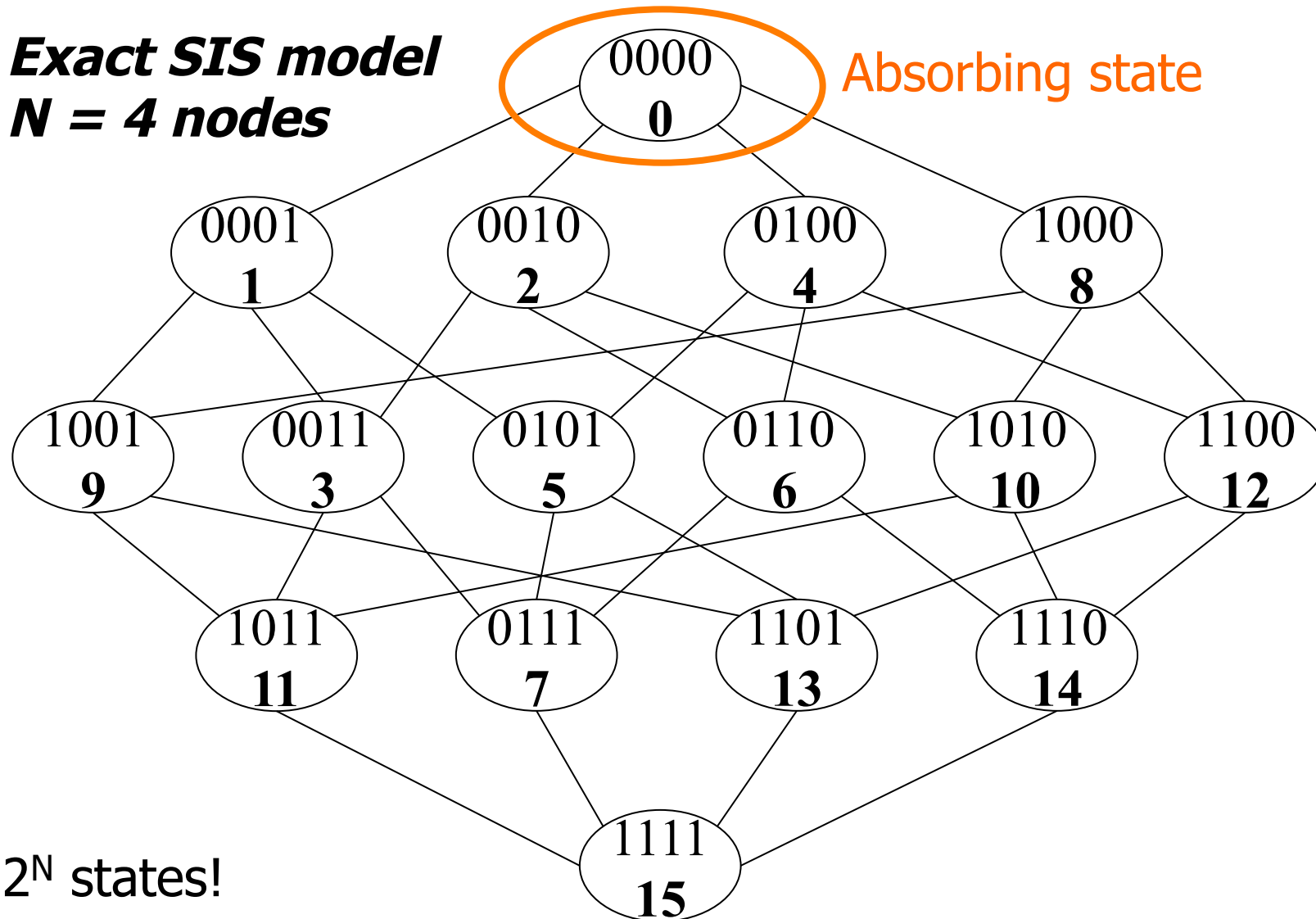
# Joint probabilities

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dE[X_i X_j]}{dt} &= E\left[\left\{-\delta X_i + \beta(1 - X_i) \sum_{k=1}^N a_{ik} X_k\right\} X_j + X_i \left\{-\delta X_j + \beta(1 - X_j) \sum_{k=1}^N a_{jk} X_k\right\}\right] \\ &= -2\delta E[X_i X_j] + \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{ik} E[X_j X_k] + \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{jk} E[X_i X_k] - \beta \sum_{k=1}^N (a_{jk} + a_{ik}) E[X_i X_j X_k]\end{aligned}$$

Next, we need the  $\binom{N}{3}$  differential equations for  $E[X_i X_j X_k] \dots$

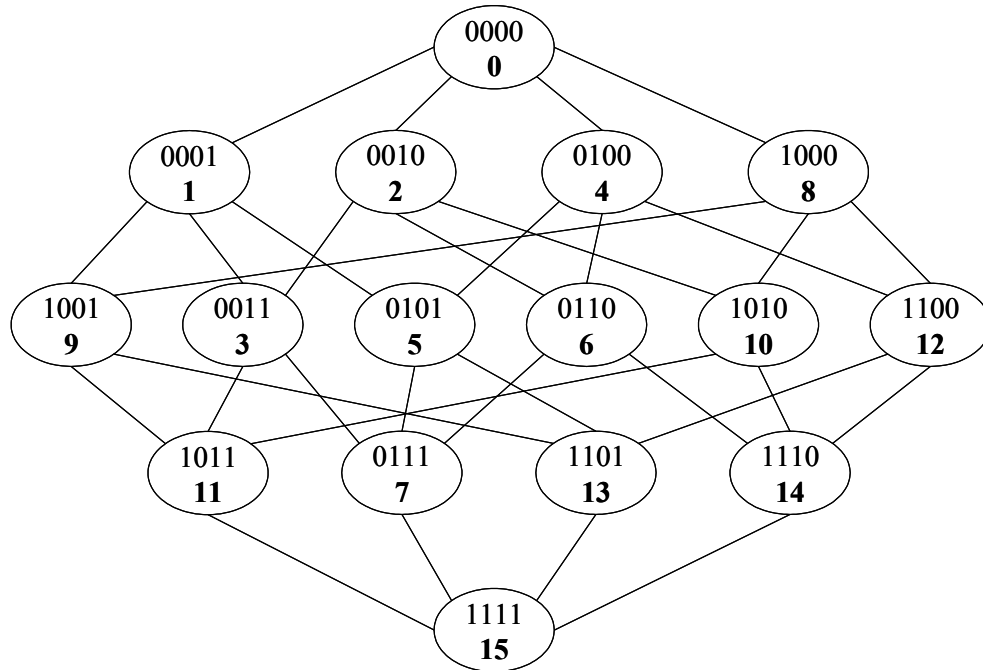
In total, the SIS process is defined by  $2^N = \sum_{k=1}^N \binom{N}{k} + 1$  linear equations

**Exact SIS model**  
 **$N = 4$  nodes**

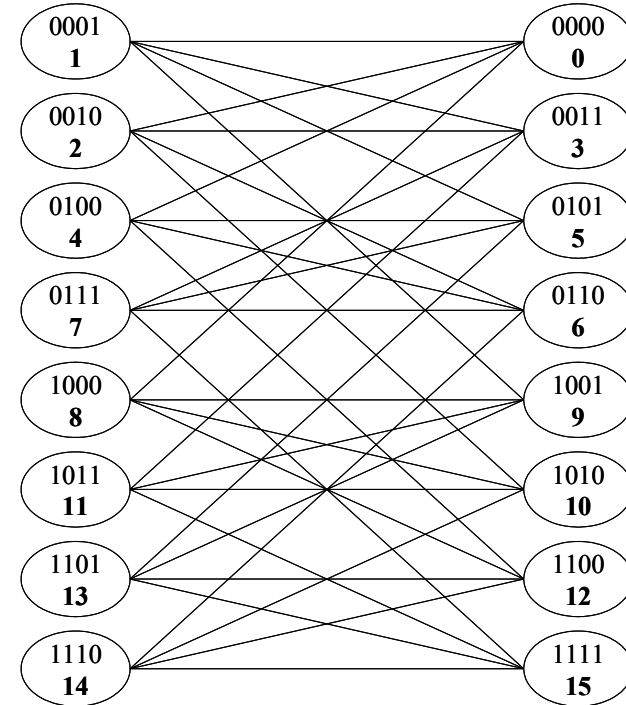


$2^N$  states!

# Markov theory



Regular bipartite Markov graph



Recursive structure of infinitesimal general  $Q_N$

Simon, P., M. Taylor and I. Z. Kiss, Exact epidemic models on graphs using graph-automorphism driven lumping, *Mathematical Biology*, Vol. 62, pp. 479-508, 2011

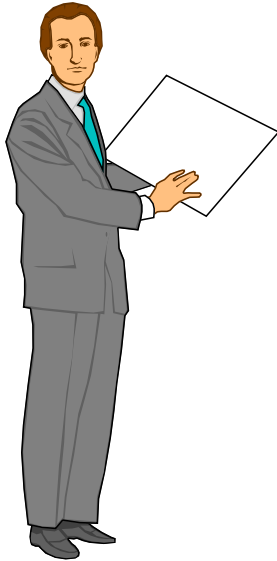
Van Mieghem, P. and E. Cator,  $\varepsilon$ -SIS epidemics and the epidemic threshold, *Physical Review E*, vol. 86, No. 1, July, p. 016116, 2012



# Markov Theory

- SIS model is exactly described as a continuous-time Markov process on  $2^N$  states, with infinitesimal generator  $Q_N$ .
- **Drawbacks:**
  - no easy structure in  $Q_N$
  - computationally intractable for  $N > 20$
  - steady-state is the absorbing state (reached after unrealistically long time)
  - very few exact results...
- The mathematical community (e.g. Liggett, Durrett,...) uses:
  - duality principle & coupling & asymptotics
  - graphical representation of the Poisson infection and recovery events

# Outline



Exact SIS model

NIMFA: N-intertwined MF approximation

*Defining* the SIS epidemic threshold

Future research

# NIMFA: N-intertwined mean-field approxim.

$$\frac{dE[X_j]}{dt} = -\delta E[X_j] + \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{kj} E[X_k] - \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{kj} E[X_j X_k]$$

$$E[X_j X_k] = \Pr[X_j = 1, X_k = 1] = \Pr[X_j = 1 | X_k = 1] \Pr[X_k = 1] \quad \text{and} \quad \Pr[X_j = 1 | X_k = 1] \geq \Pr[X_j = 1]$$

$$\longrightarrow E[X_j X_k] \geq \Pr[X_j = 1] \Pr[X_k = 1] = E[X_j] E[X_k]$$

$$\frac{dE[X_j]}{dt} \leq -\delta E[X_j] + \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{kj} E[X_k] - \beta E[X_j] \sum_{k=1}^N a_{kj} E[X_k]$$

NIMFA (= equality above) **upper bounds** the prob. of infection

# NIMFA non-linear equations

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{dv_1}{dt} = (1-v_1)\beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{1k}v_k - \delta v_1 \\ \frac{dv_2}{dt} = (1-v_2)\beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{2k}v_k - \delta v_2 \\ \vdots \\ \frac{dv_N}{dt} = (1-v_N)\beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{Nk}v_k - \delta v_N \end{array} \right.$$

where the viral probability of infection is

$$v_k(t) = E[X_k(t)] = \Pr[X_k(t) = 1]$$

In matrix form:

$$\frac{dV(t)}{dt} = \beta A \cdot V(t) - \text{diag}(v_i(t))(\beta A \cdot V(t) + \delta u)$$

where the vector  $u^T = [1 \ 1 \ \dots \ 1]$  and  $V^T = [v_1 \ v_2 \ \dots \ v_N]$

# Lower bound for the epidemic threshold

$$\frac{dv_j(t)}{dt} = -\delta v_j + \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{kj} v_k - \beta \sum_{k=1}^N a_{kj} E[X_i X_k] \quad v_k(t) = E[X_k(t)]$$

Ignoring the quadratic terms

$$\frac{dV(t)}{dt} \leq (-\delta I + \beta A) V(t) \quad \longrightarrow \quad V(t) \leq e^{(-\delta I + \beta A)t} V(0)$$

If all eigenvalues of  $\beta A - \delta I$  are negative,  $v_j$  tends exponentially fast to zero with  $t$ . Hence, if

$$\beta \lambda_1(A) - \delta < 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \tau = \frac{\beta}{\delta} < \frac{1}{\lambda_1(A)} < \tau_c$$

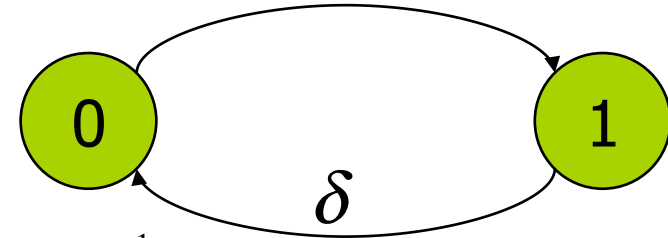
The NIMFA epidemic threshold is precisely

$$\tau_c^{(1)} = \frac{1}{\lambda_1(A)} < \tau_c$$

$$\tau_c^{(1)} = \frac{1}{\lambda_1(A)} < \tau_c^{(2)} = \frac{1}{\lambda_1(H)} < \tau_c$$

# Exact in steady-state for large $\tau$ $\beta d_i$

Almost all neighbors of node  $j$  are infected: independence



$$\Pr[X_j = 1] \cong \frac{\beta d_j}{\delta + \beta d_j} = \left(1 + \frac{1}{\tau d_j}\right)^{-1} = \left(1 + \frac{s}{d_j}\right)^{-1}$$

Exact steady-state average fraction of infected nodes:

$$y_\infty(s) \cong \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \Pr[X_j = 1] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \left(1 + \frac{s}{d_j}\right)^{-1}$$

Slope:  $\left. \frac{dy_\infty(s)}{ds} \right|_{s=0} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{d_j} = E\left[\frac{1}{D}\right]$

# What is so interesting about epidemics?

network protection

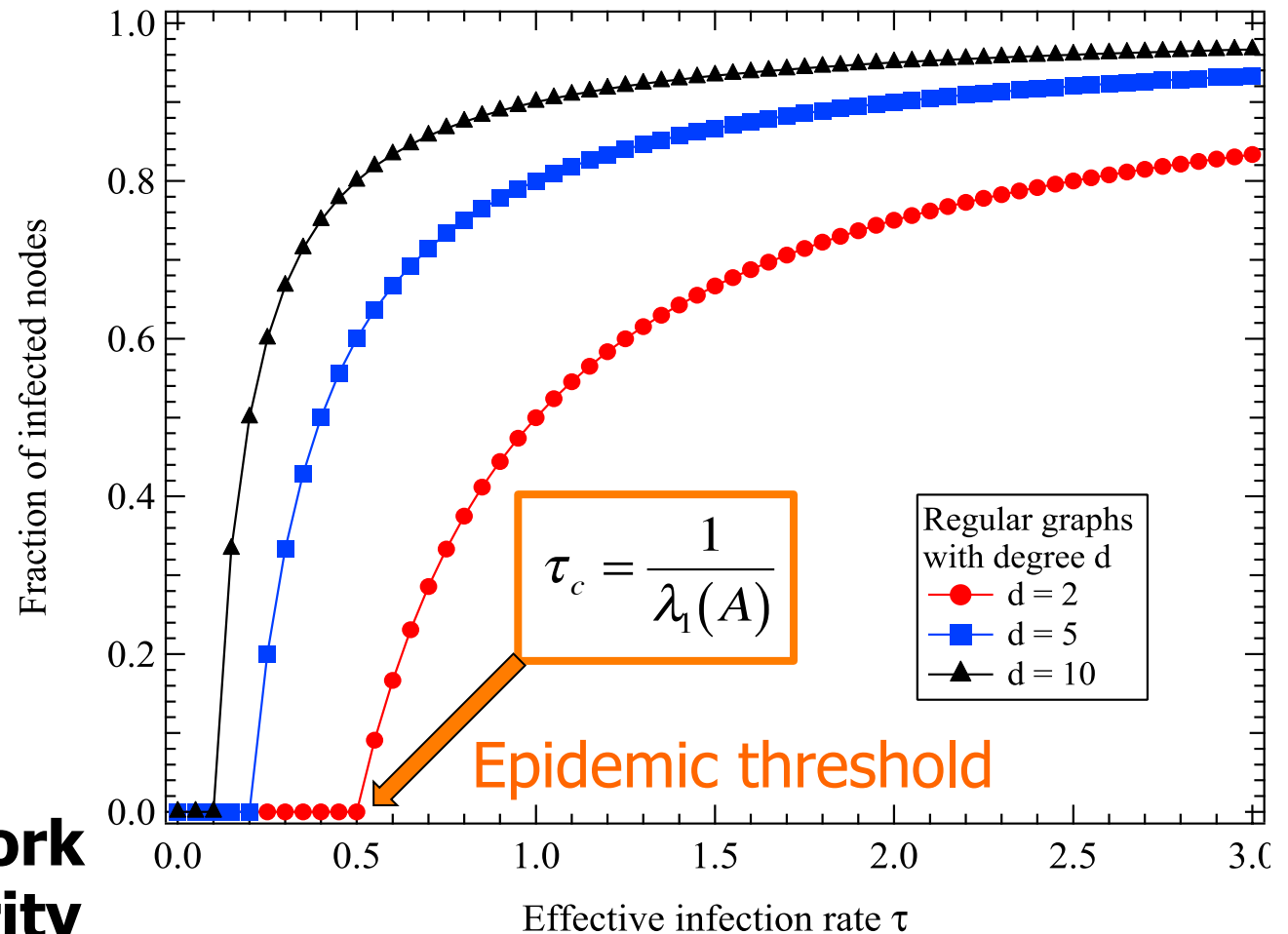
self-replicating  
objects (worms)

propagation errors

rumors (social nets)

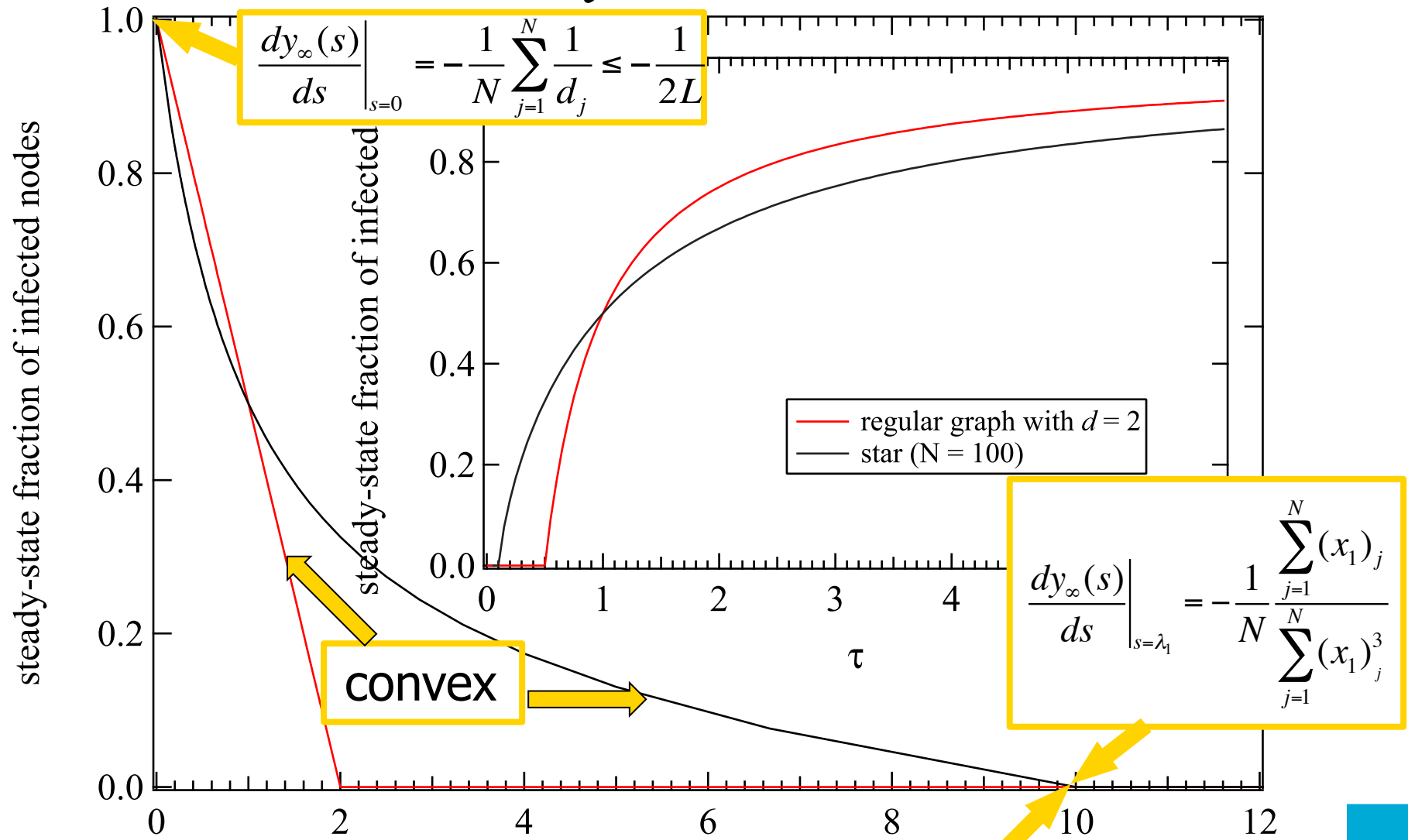
epidemic algorithms  
(gossiping)

**cybercrime : network  
robustnes & security**



$$\max \left( E[D] \sqrt{1 + \frac{\text{Var}[D]}{(E[D])^2}}, \sqrt{d_{\max}} \right) \leq \lambda_1(A) \leq d_{\max}$$

# Transformation $s = \frac{1}{\tau}$ & principal eigenvector



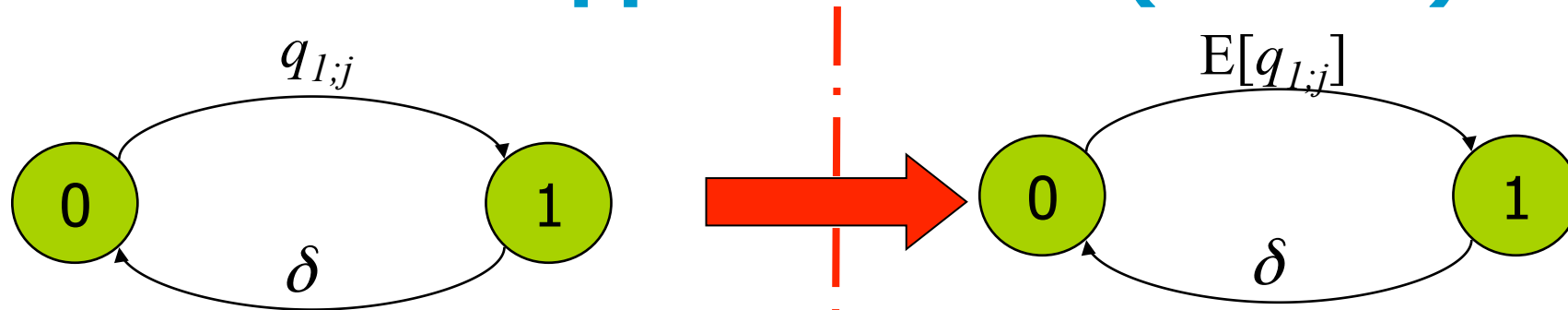
Van Mieghem, P., 2012, "Epidemic Phase Transition of the SIS-type in Networks", *Europhysics Letters (EPL)*, Vol. 97, Februari, p. 48004.



# Extensions of the N-intertwined model

- In-homogeneous: each node  $i$  has own  $\beta_i$  and  $\delta_i$ :
  - P. Van Mieghem and J. Omic, "In-homogeneous Virus Spread in Networks", TUDelft report (see <http://www.nas.ewi.tudelft.nl/people/Piet/>)
- SAIS instead of SIS:
  - From 2 states (Infected and Susceptible) to a 3-states (Infected, Susceptible, Alert)
  - "Epidemic Spread in Human Networks", F. Darabi Sahneh and C. Scoglio, 50<sup>th</sup> IEEE Conf. Decision and Control, Orlando, Florida (2011)
- SIR instead of SIS:
  - "An individual-based approach to SIR epidemics in contact networks", M. Youssef and C. Scoglio, Journal of Theoretical Biology 283, pp. 136-144, (2011).
- Very general extension:  $m$  compartments (includes both SIS, SAIS, SIR,...):
  - "Generalized Epidemic Mean-Field Model for Spreading Processes over Multi-Layer Complex Networks", F. Darabi Sahneh, C. Scoglio, P. Van Mieghem, submitted IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking

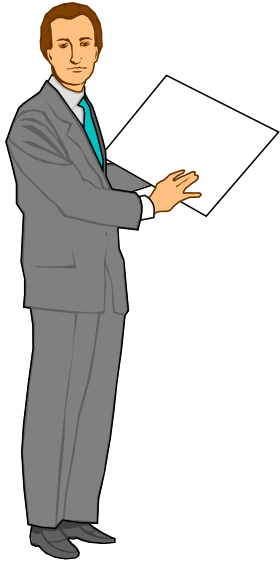
# Mean-field approximation (NIMFA)



- $2^N$  linear equations
- Steady-state
  - absorbing (healthy) state
  - reached after unrealistically long time
- difficult to analyze

- $N$  non-linear equations
- Meta-stable state:
  - phase-transition
  - epidemic threshold
  - realistic
- analytically tractable
- lower bound epidemic threshold

# Outline



Exact SIS model

NIMFA: N-intertwined MF approximation

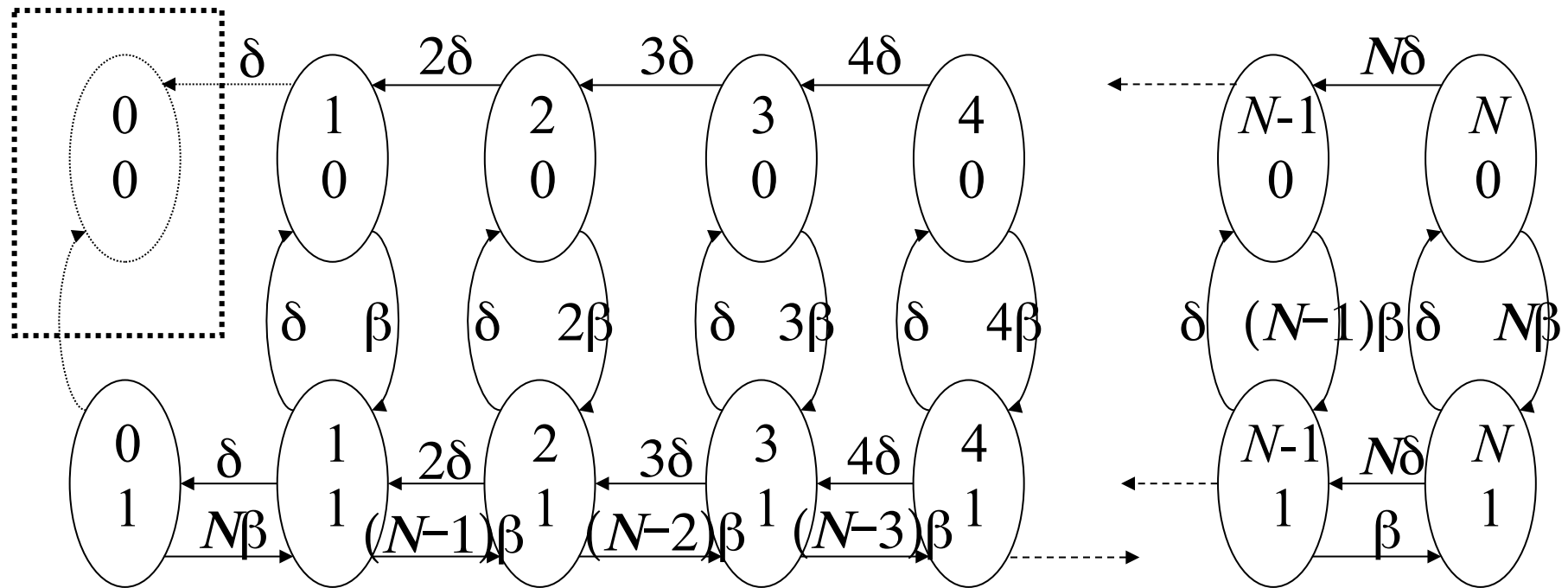
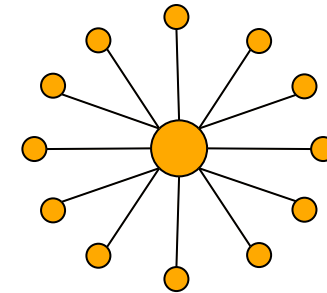
*Defining* the SIS epidemic threshold

Future research

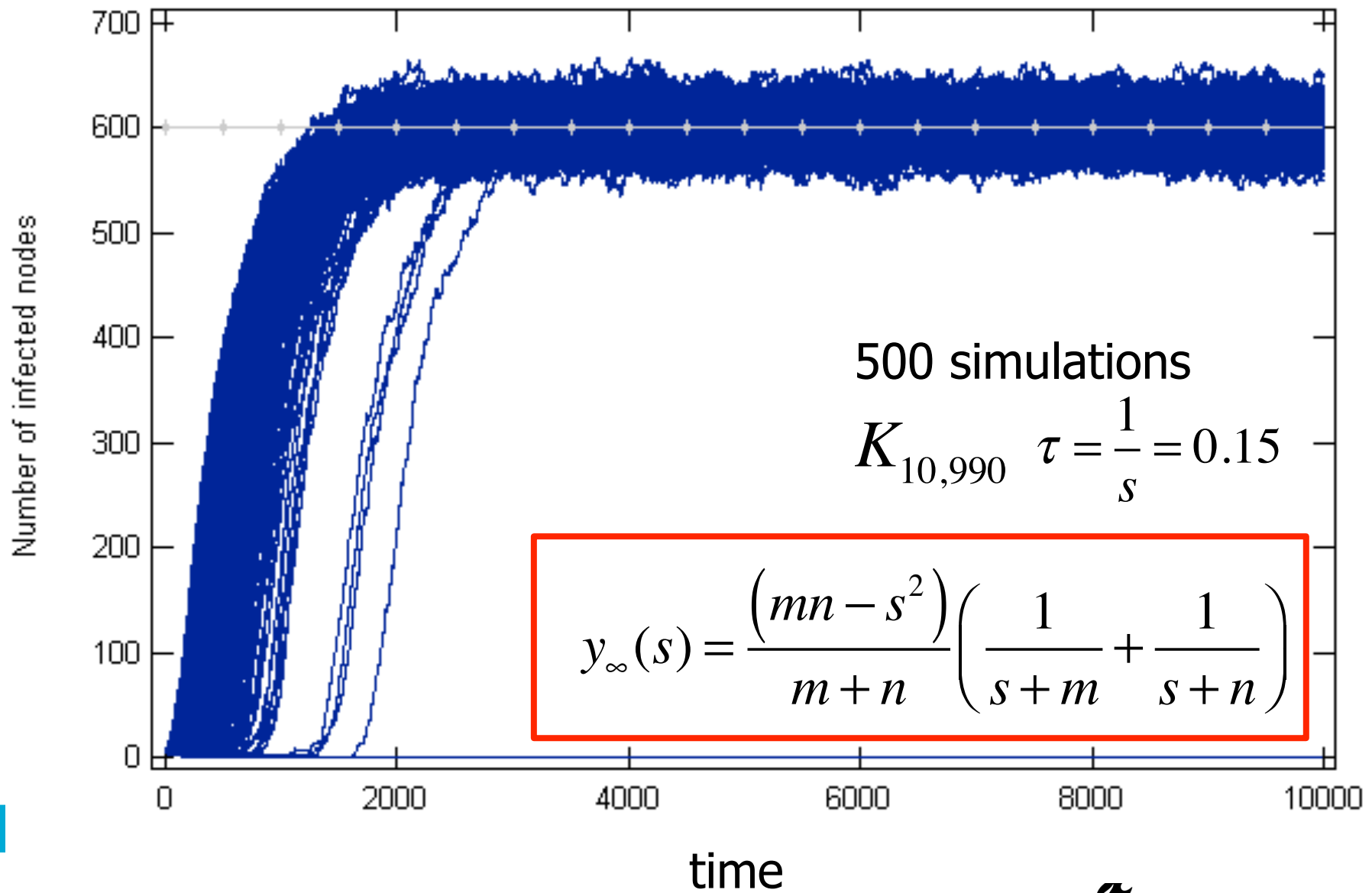
# Defining the SIS epidemic threshold

- Exact SIS steady-state (finite N):
  - overall healthy state (physically not interesting)
- Metastable (or quasi-stationary) state:
  - not defined, but physically interesting
- Two approaches:
  - modified SIS Markov chain (excluding overall healthy state)
  - $\varepsilon$ -SIS Markov model

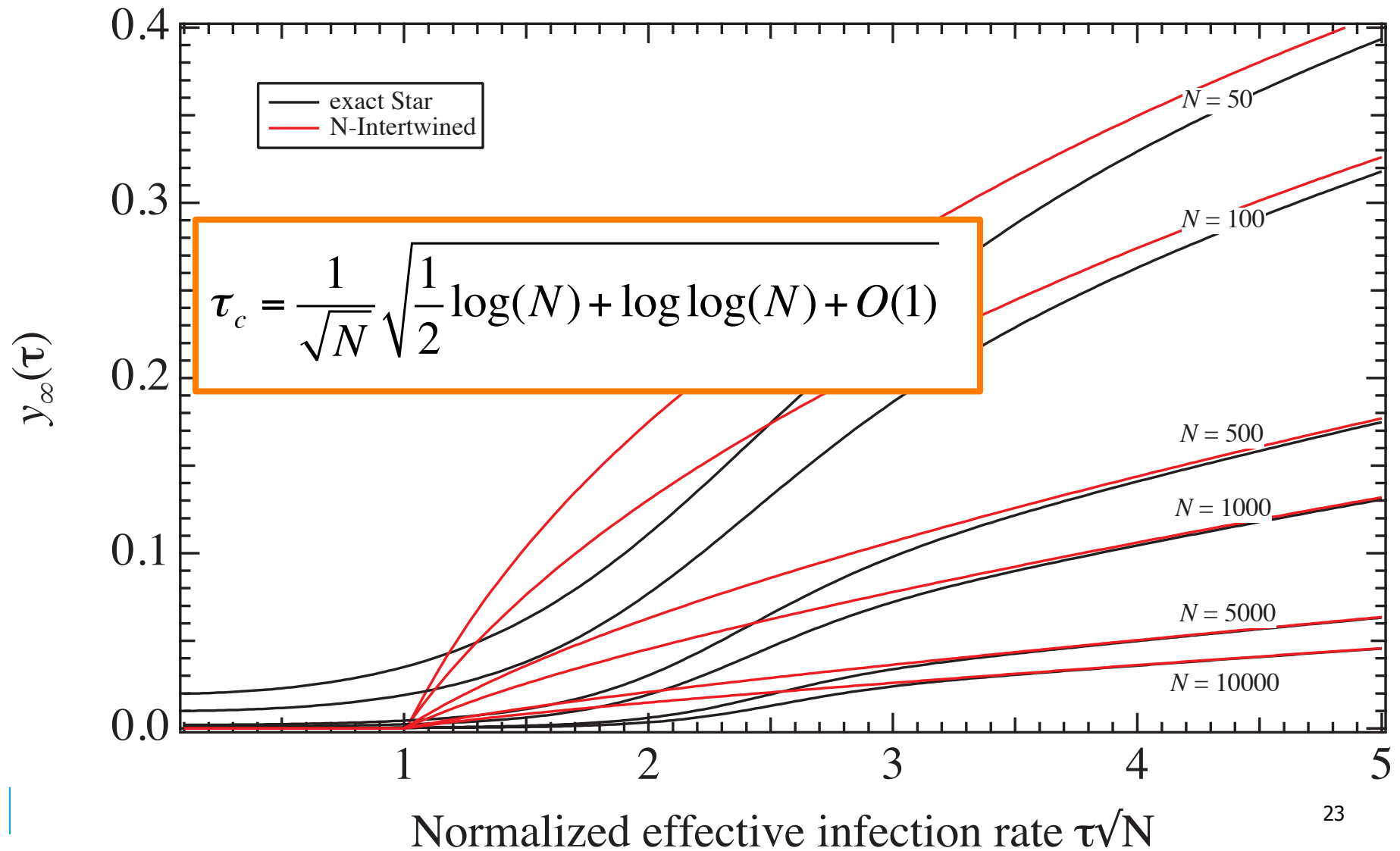
# MSIS Markov Chain Star



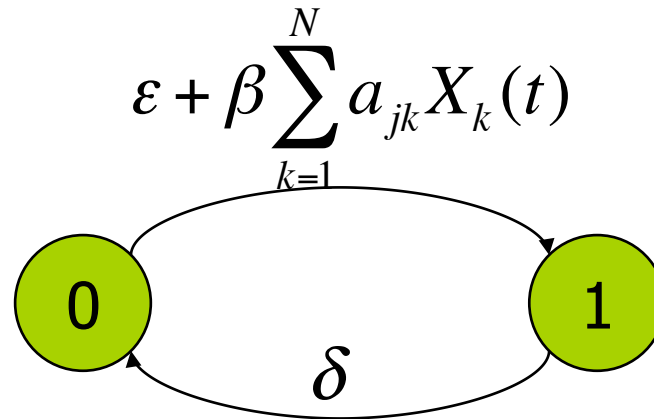
# Simulations



# Star graph



# $\varepsilon$ -SIS epidemics



due to self-infection with rate  $\varepsilon > 0$ , the steady-state is **not** the absorbing state!



epidemic threshold & meta-stable state in SIS can be defined for a given  $0 < \varepsilon < \delta/N$



# $\varepsilon$ -SIS epidemics on the complete graph

$$\pi_j = \pi_0 \binom{N}{j} \tau^j \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{\varepsilon^*}{\tau} + j\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{\varepsilon^*}{\tau}\right)} \quad \pi_0^{-1} = \sum_{k=0}^N \binom{N}{k} \tau^k \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{\varepsilon^*}{\tau} + k\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{\varepsilon^*}{\tau}\right)} \quad \varepsilon^* = \frac{\varepsilon}{\delta}$$

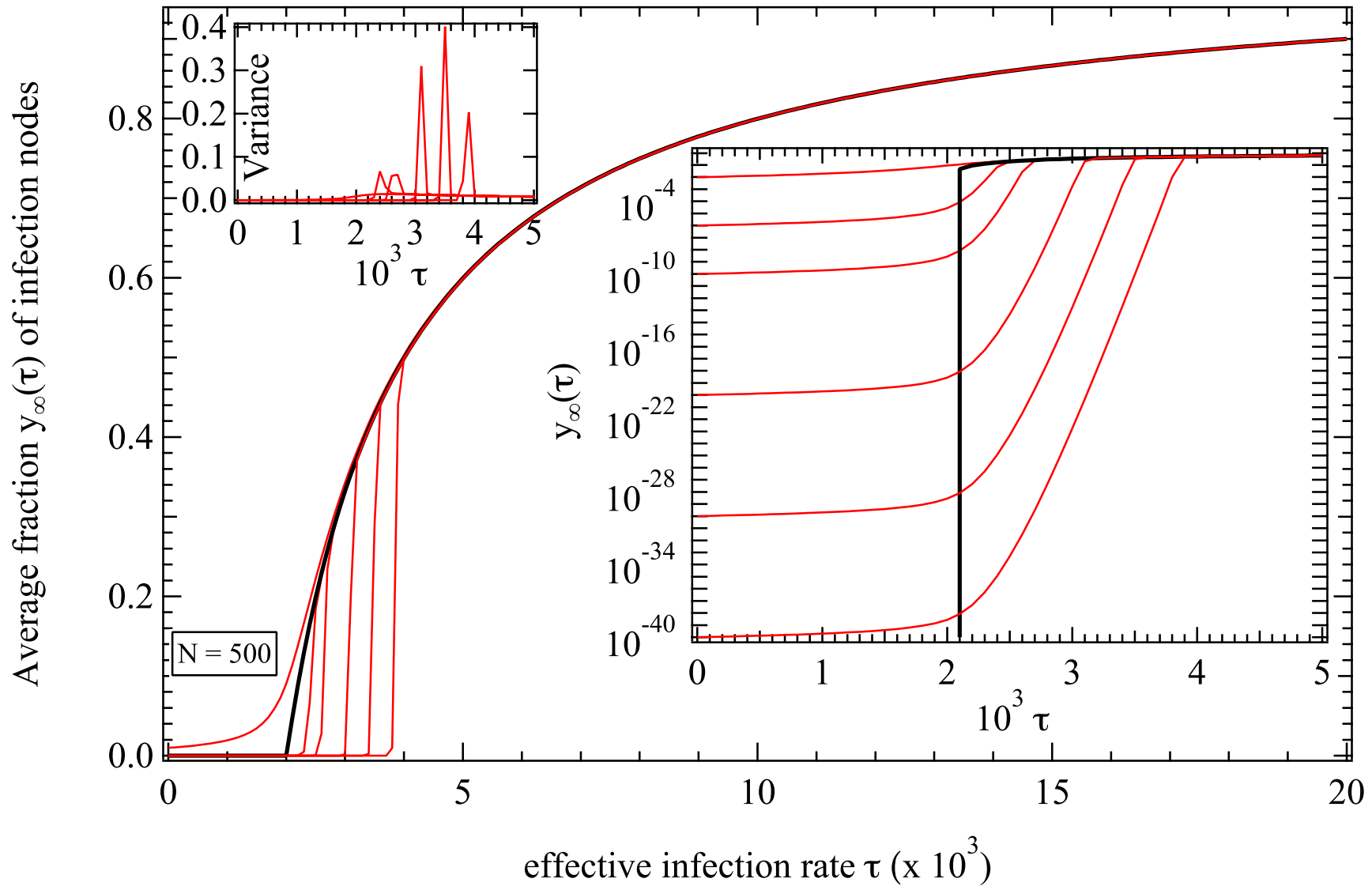
$$\tau = \frac{\beta}{\delta}$$

average steady-state fraction of infected nodes is  $y_\infty(\tau | \varepsilon^*) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N j \pi_j$

epidemic threshold  $\tau_c = \frac{1}{N} \left( 1 + \frac{2}{\sqrt{N}} + O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right) \right)$

NIMFA epidemic threshold  $\tau_c^{(1)} = \frac{1}{N-1} = \frac{1}{N} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{N} + O\left(\frac{1}{N^2}\right) \right)$

# $\varepsilon$ -SIS epidemics on the complete graph



# HMF mean-field approximation

governing eq.:

$$\frac{d\rho_k(t)}{dt} = -\delta\rho_k(t) + \beta k(1 - \rho_k(t))\Theta(\rho(t))$$

steady-state:

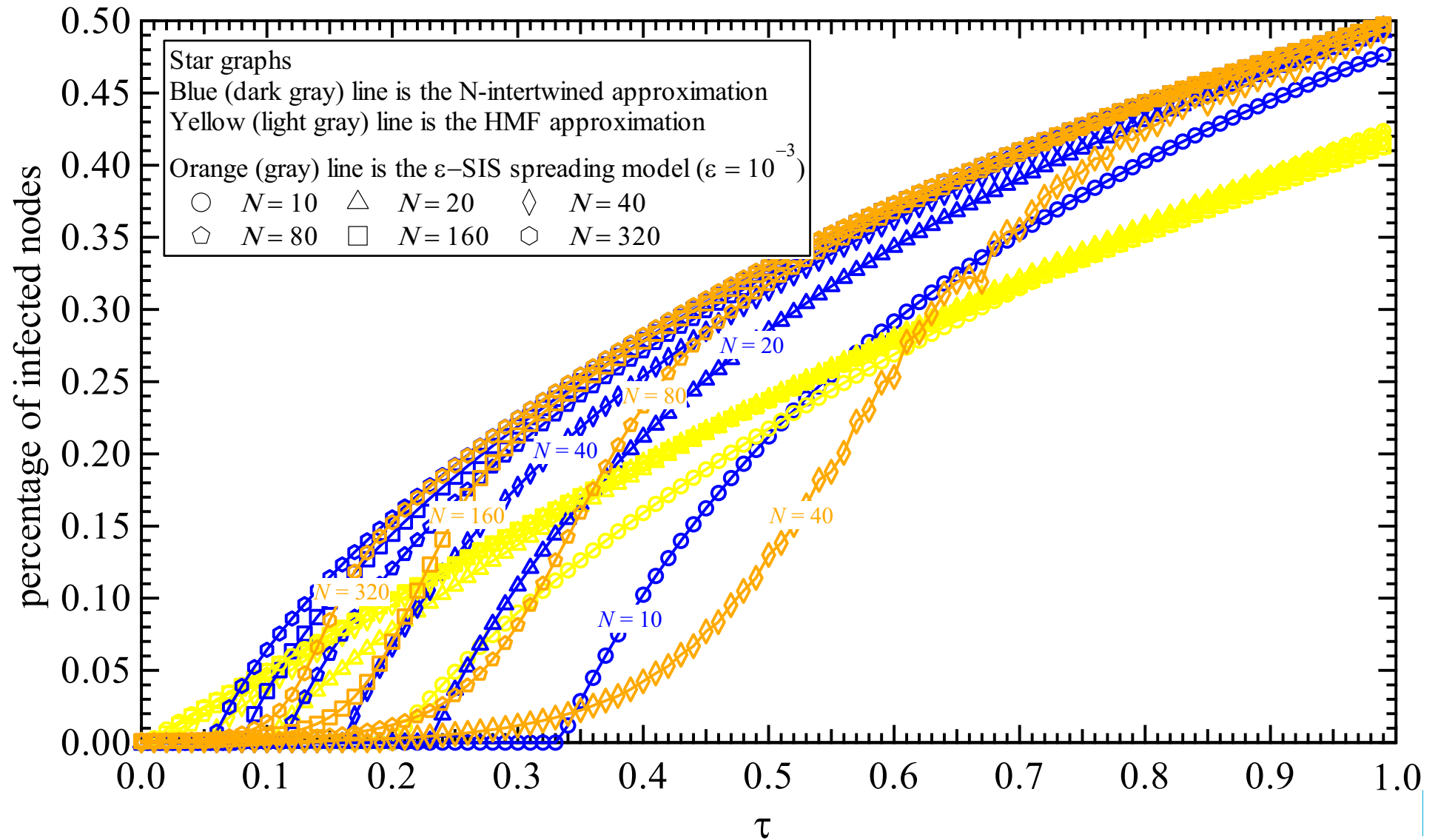
$$\rho_k(\tau) = \frac{\tau k \Theta(\tau)}{1 + \tau k \Theta(\tau)} \quad \tau = \frac{\beta}{\delta}$$

$$\Theta(\tau) = \frac{1}{E[D]} \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} k \Pr[D = k] \rho_k(\tau)$$

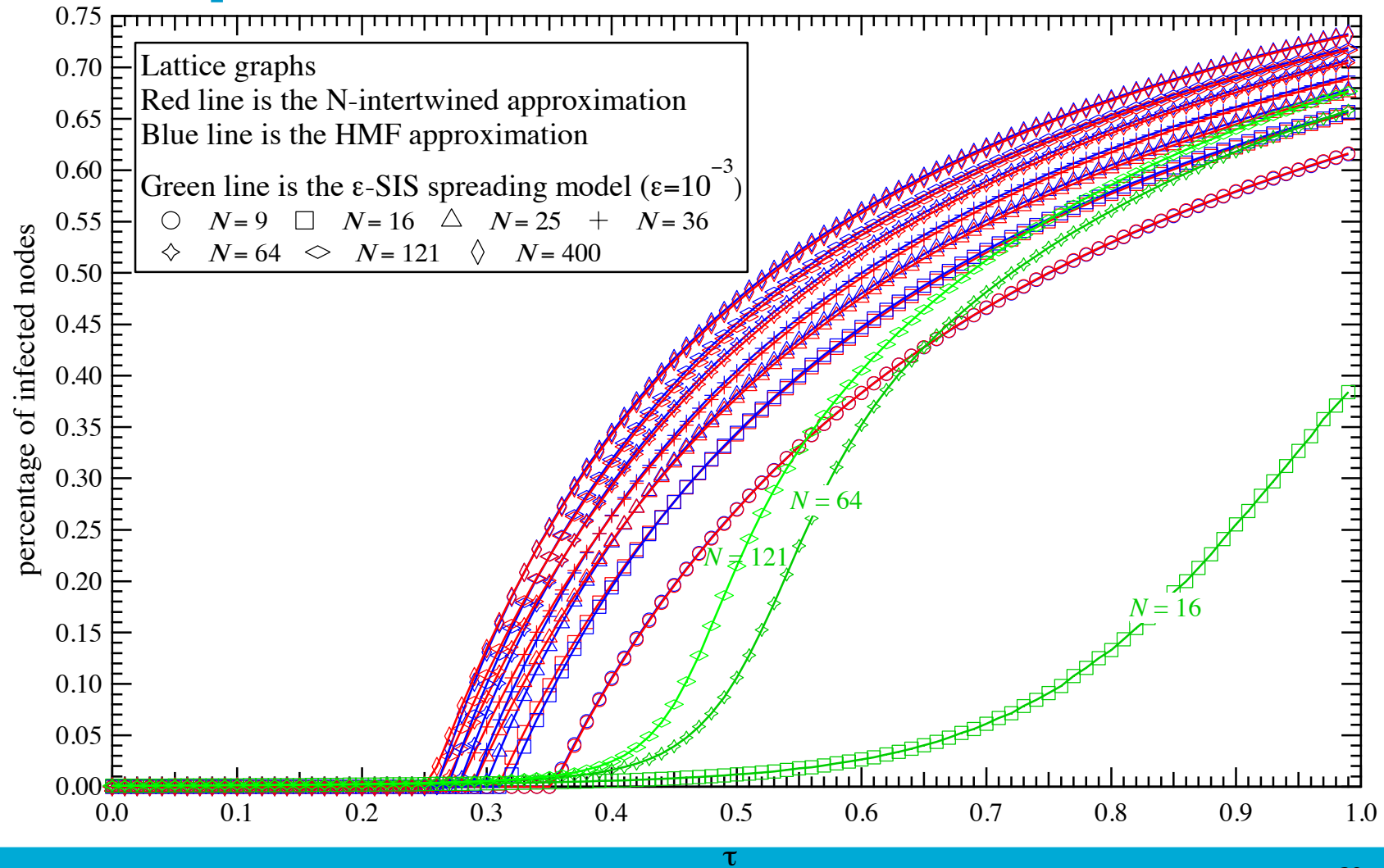
HMF epidemic threshold:

$$\tau_{c;HMF} = \frac{E[D^2]}{E[D]}$$

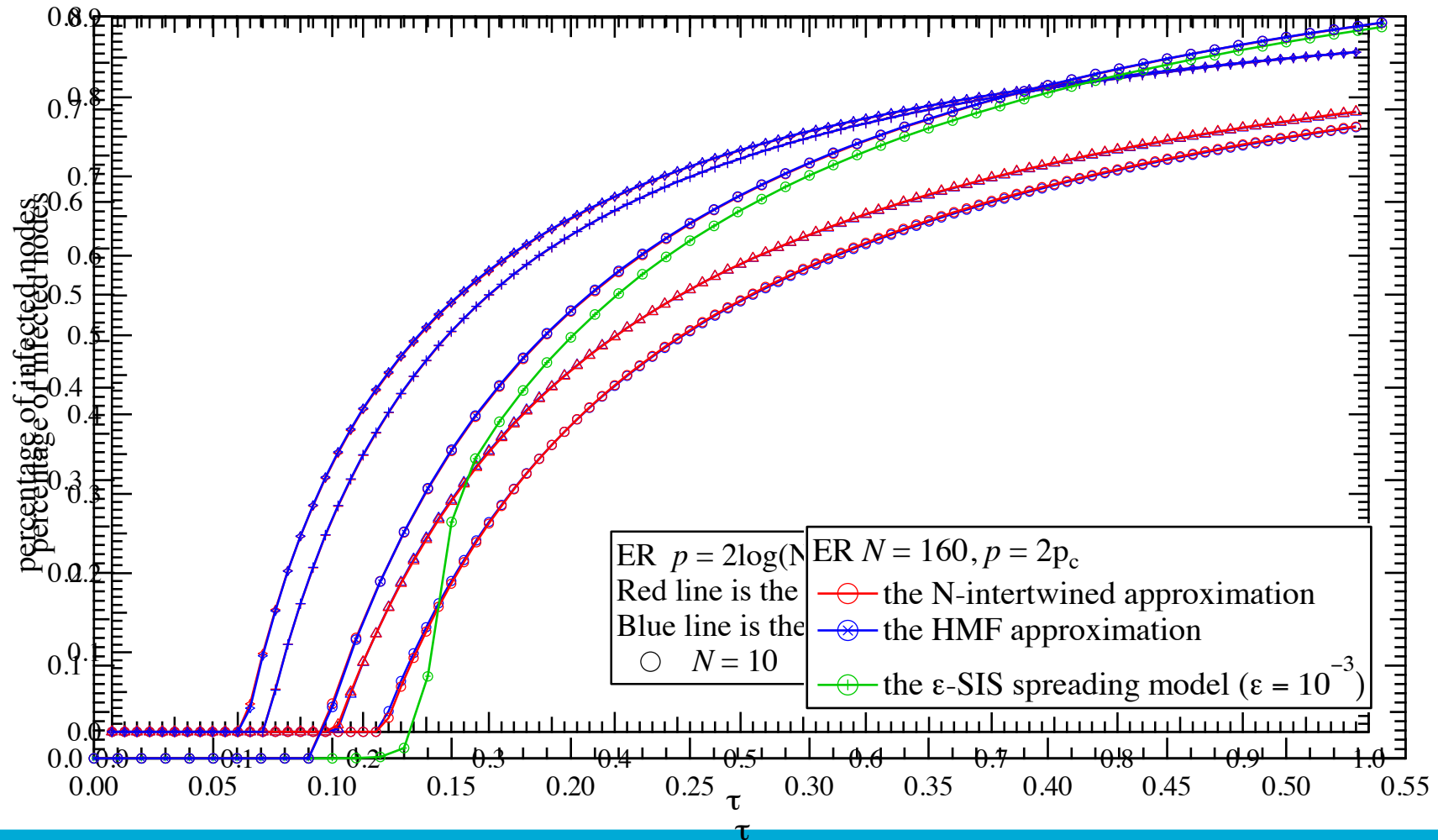
# Comparison: star graph



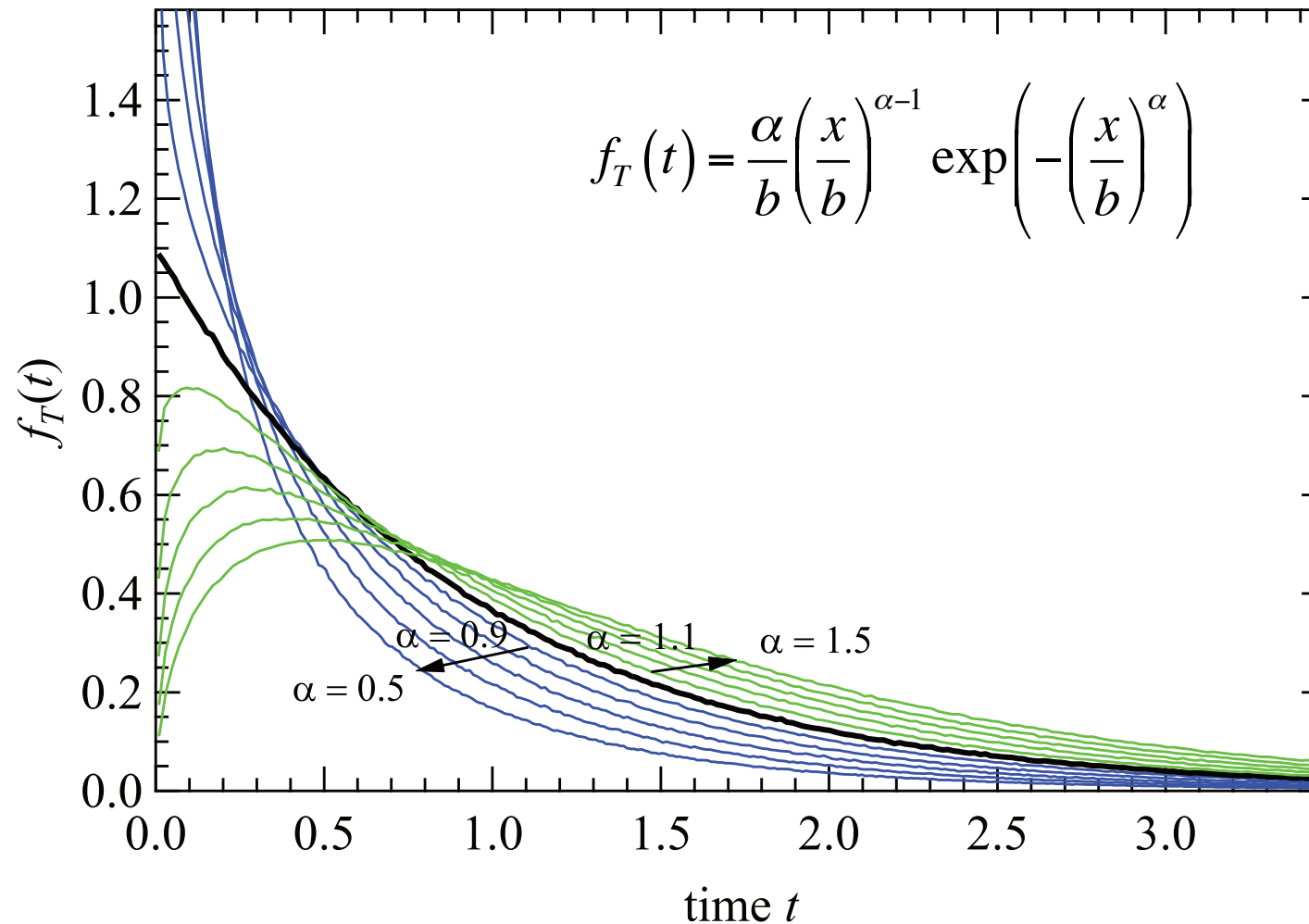
# Comparison: Lattice



# Comparison: ER graph (close to $p_c$ )



# Non-Markovian infection

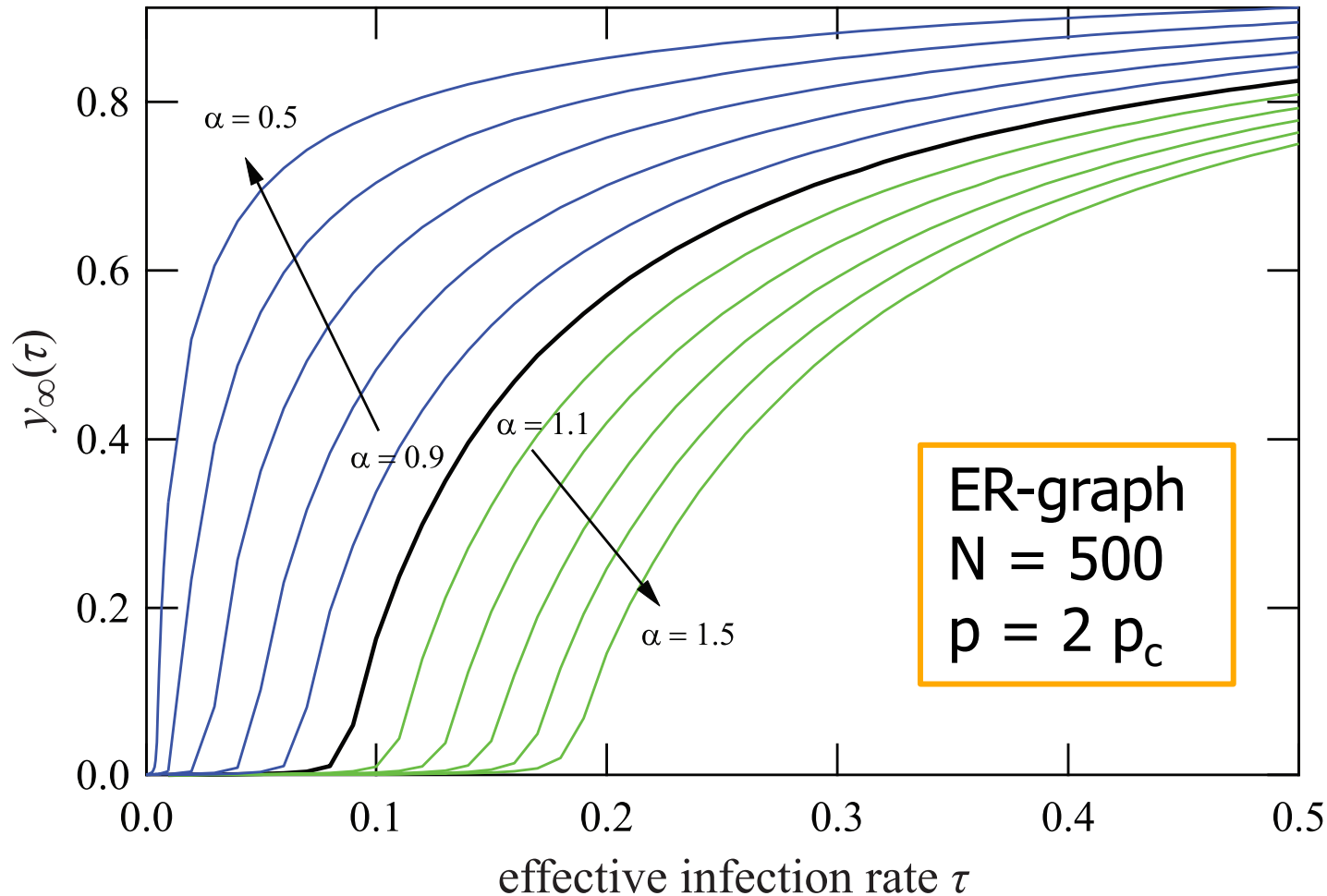


Same mean  
 $E[T]$ :

$$b = \frac{1}{\beta \Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{\alpha}\right)}$$

$T$  is the time to infected a neighboring node

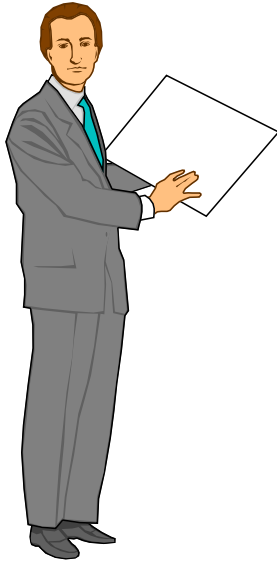
# Non-Markovian epidemic threshold



**Non-exponential infection time has a dramatic influence!**



# Outline



Exact SIS model

NIMFA: N-intertwined MF approximation

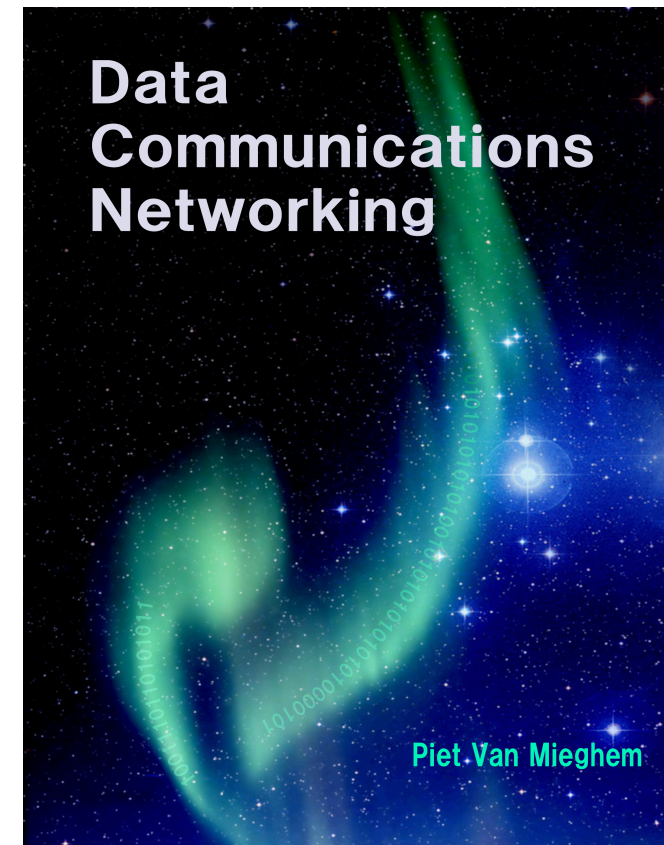
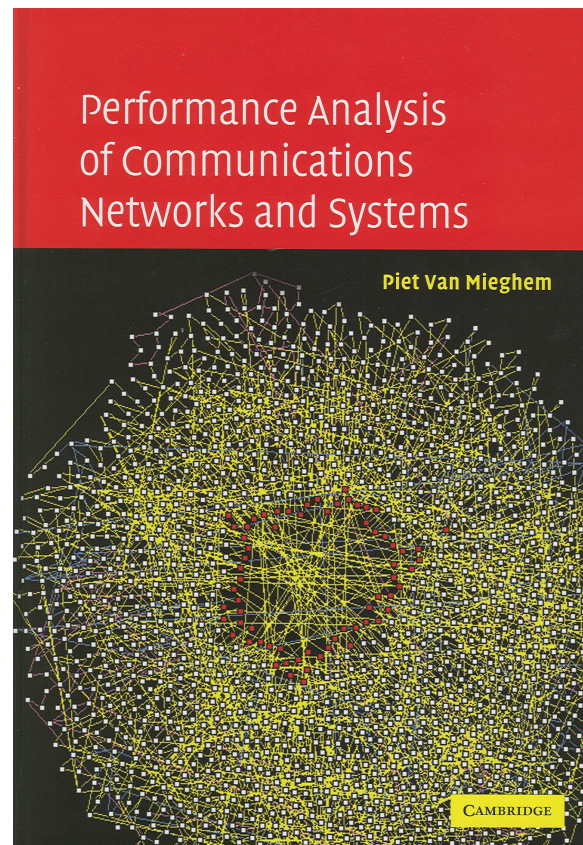
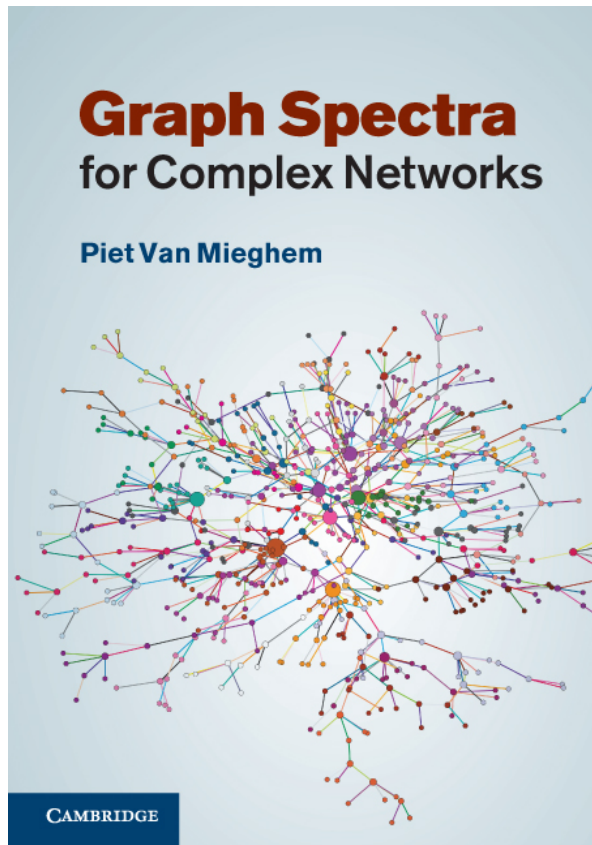
*Defining* the SIS epidemic threshold

Future research

# Agenda for future research

- Determine for which graphs NIMFA is accurate
- Can we compute/estimate the epidemic threshold for non-exponential infection times?
- Impact of directionality of the graph on the epidemic threshold
- **Wider scope:**
  - Epidemics in adaptive networks
  - Epidemics & Games (OPEN POSITION EU CONGAS)

# Books



Articles: <http://www.nas.ewi.tudelft.nl>

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A photograph of a modern architectural structure, likely a library or lecture hall, featuring a prominent conical roof with a metal framework. The building is situated on a green hillside with a paved walkway and a person walking. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

**Thank You**

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