Week 10: Social Networks

Data Wrangling and Visualization

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Fall 2026

Due This Week: Problem Set 8

Lecture: Social Network Visualization

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Readings & Reference Material

- Core Reading
  - Ognyanova, "Static and dynamic network visualization with R"
  - **DMSS**, ch 13
- Reference Materials
  - Newman, Networks.
    - A technical and highly interdisciplinary look at networks, spanning physical networks, biological networks, social networks, and more. Comprehensive, lots of network theory.
  - Menczer, Fortunato, and Davis, A First Course in Network Science.
    - A short introduction focused on networks in a broad sense, with a focus on computation for network analysis in Python.
  - Jackson, Social and Economic Network Analysis.
    - As befits the name, a focus on economic and social networks.
  - Scott, Social Network Analysis.
    - An introduction for beginners, with a focus on substance over computation.

Network Visualization Examples

Social networks have inspired a lot of creativity when it comes to thinking about things in relational contexts. A few examples are below to spark your interest and imagination ahead of your problem set this week.

- Hamilton (Musical)
- Game of Thrones (TV Show and Books) *see also news coverage* here
- Myst (Computer Game)
- Biblical Gospels (Religion)
- Star Wars (Movies)
- Marvel (Movies/Comics)

Due Next Week: Problem Set 9