

Topology of Scale-Free Graphs

Chunyin Siu
Stanford University, School of Medicine
siuc@stanford.edu

Topology of Scale-Free Graphs

— Homology and Homotopy

Chunyin Siu
Stanford University, School of Medicine
siuc@stanford.edu

Topology of Scale-Free Graphs

— Homology and Homotopy

with AATRn network exclusive: thoughts on neuroscience

Chunyin Siu
Stanford University, School of Medicine
siuc@stanford.edu

So, scale-free graphs...



(Stephen Coast
<https://www.fractalus.com/steve/stuff/ipmap/>)

So, scale-free graphs...

- topological properties



(Stephen Coast
<https://www.fractalus.com/steve/stuff/ipmap/>)

So, scale-free graphs...

- topological properties
- random fluctuation?



(Stephen Coast
<https://www.fractalus.com/steve/stuff/ipmap/>)

So, scale-free graphs...

- topological properties
- random fluctuation?
- —> random topology



(Stephen Coast
<https://www.fractalus.com/steve/stuff/ipmap/>)

Agenda

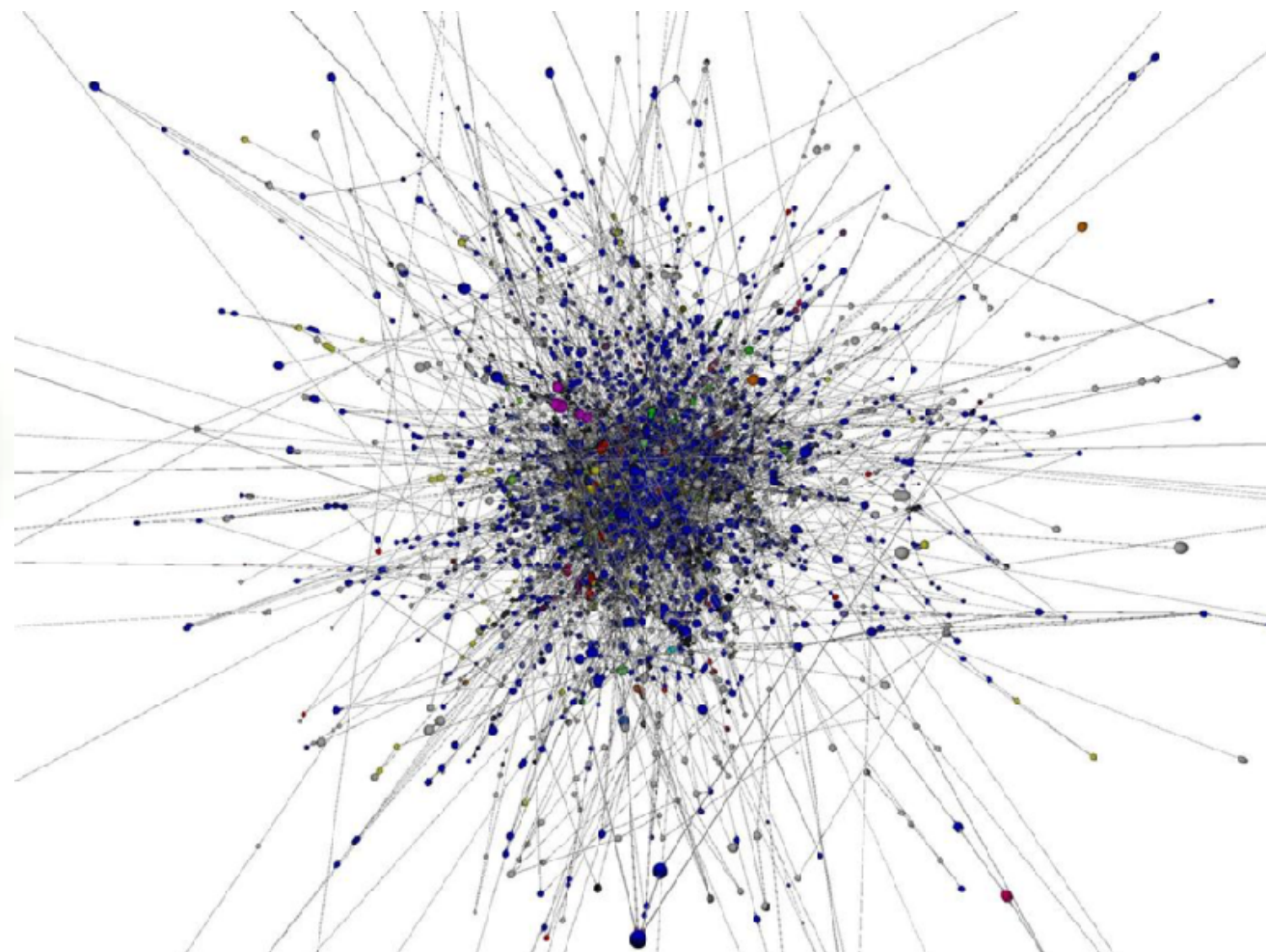


random topology

Agenda



random topology



preferential attachment

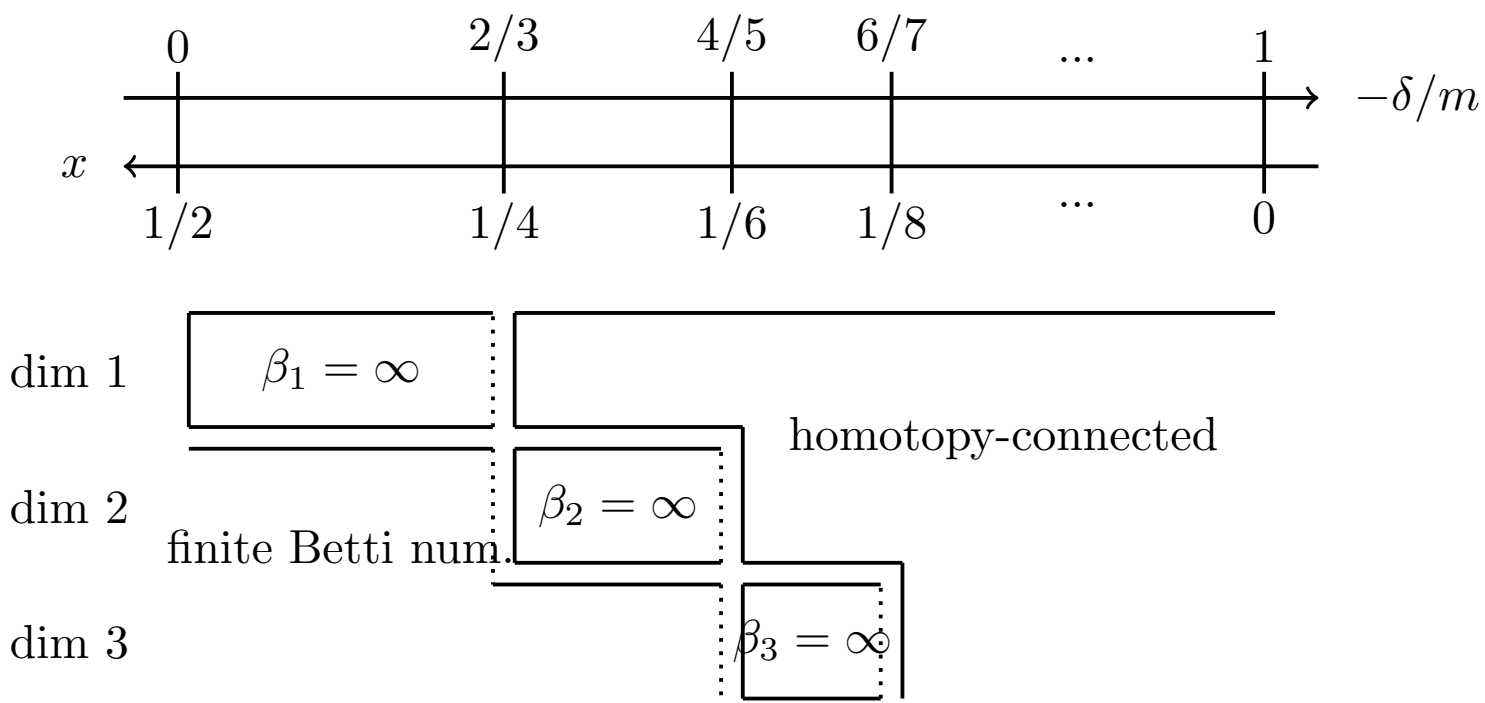
Agenda



random topology



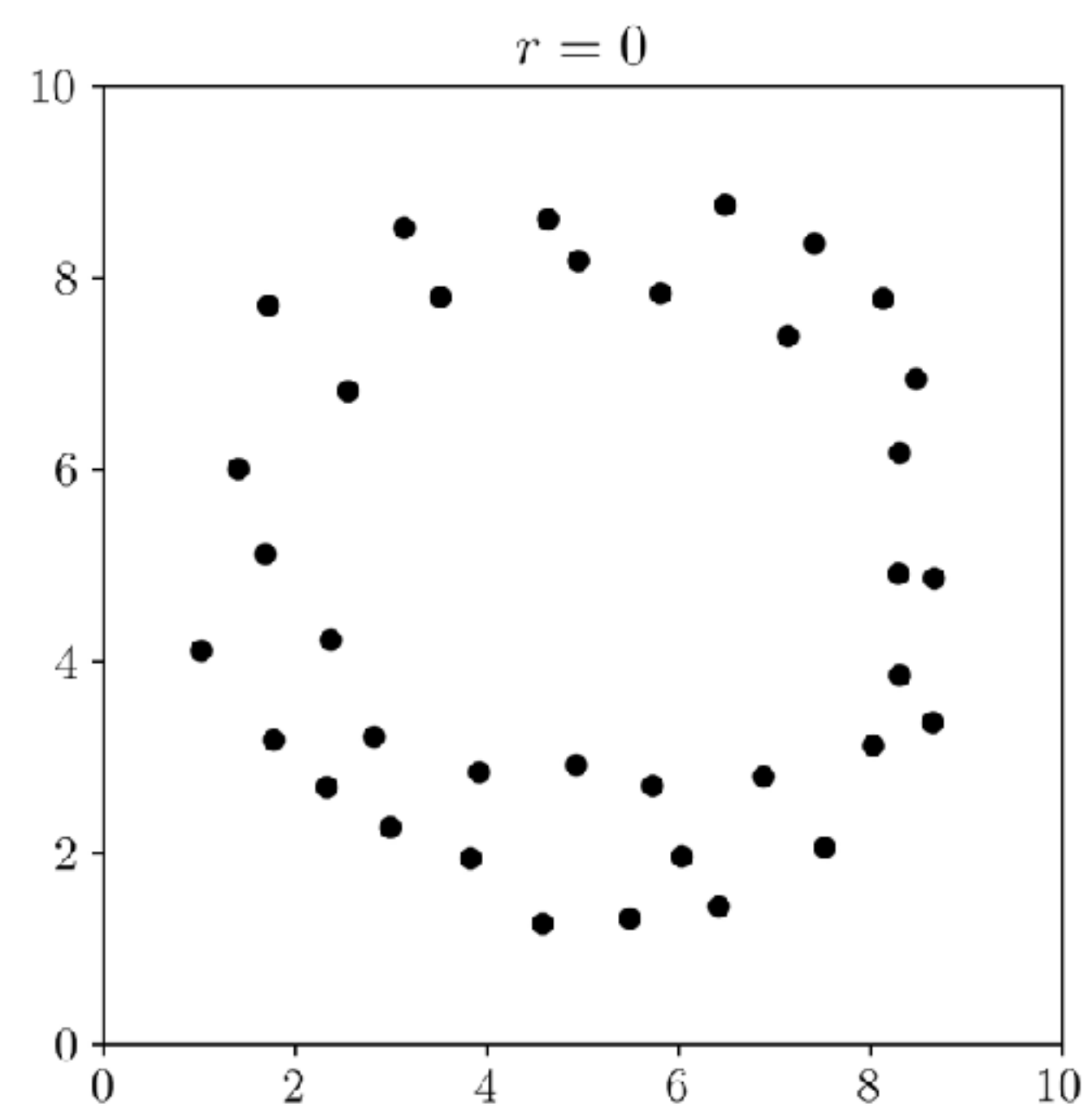
preferential attachment

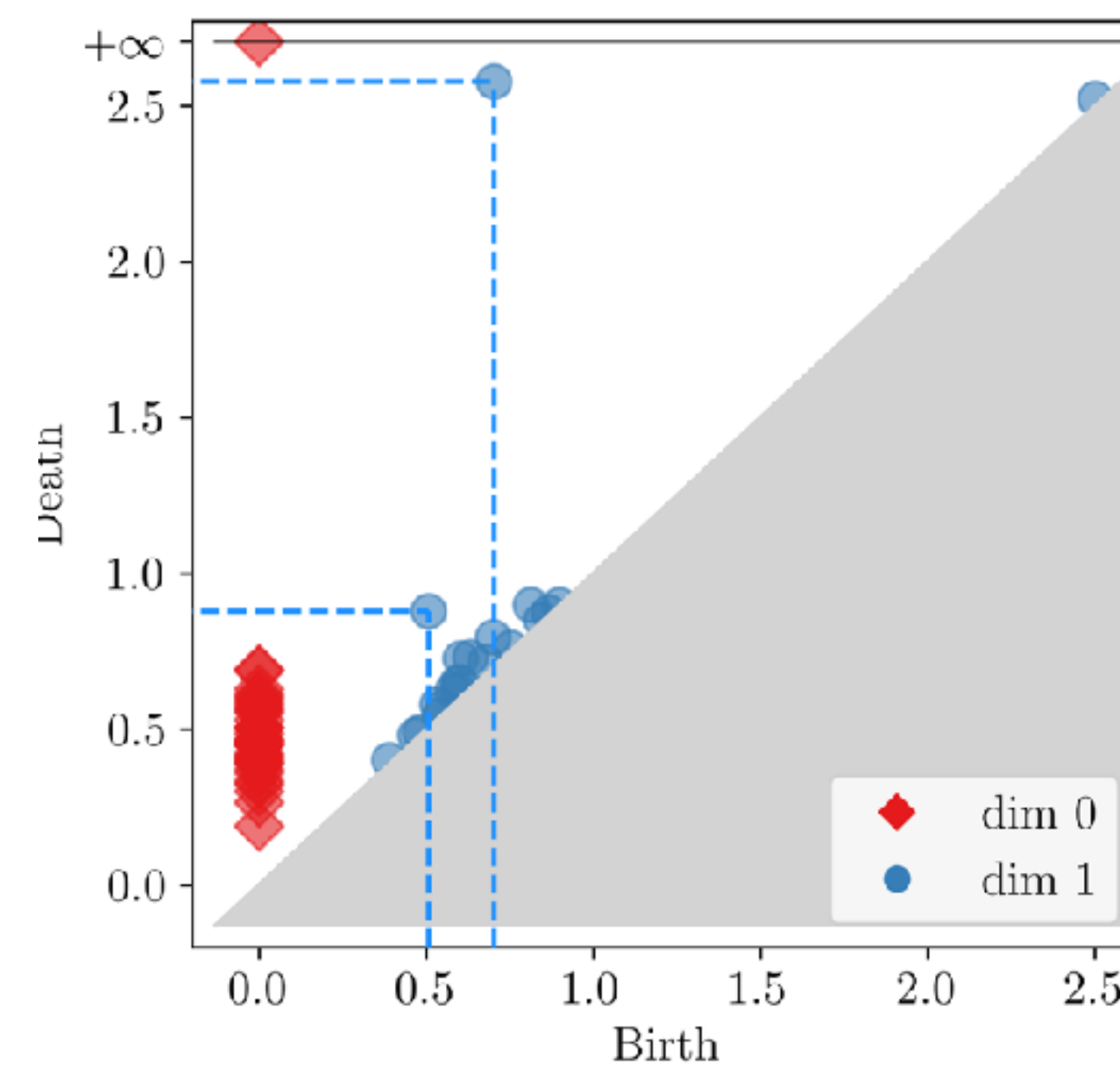
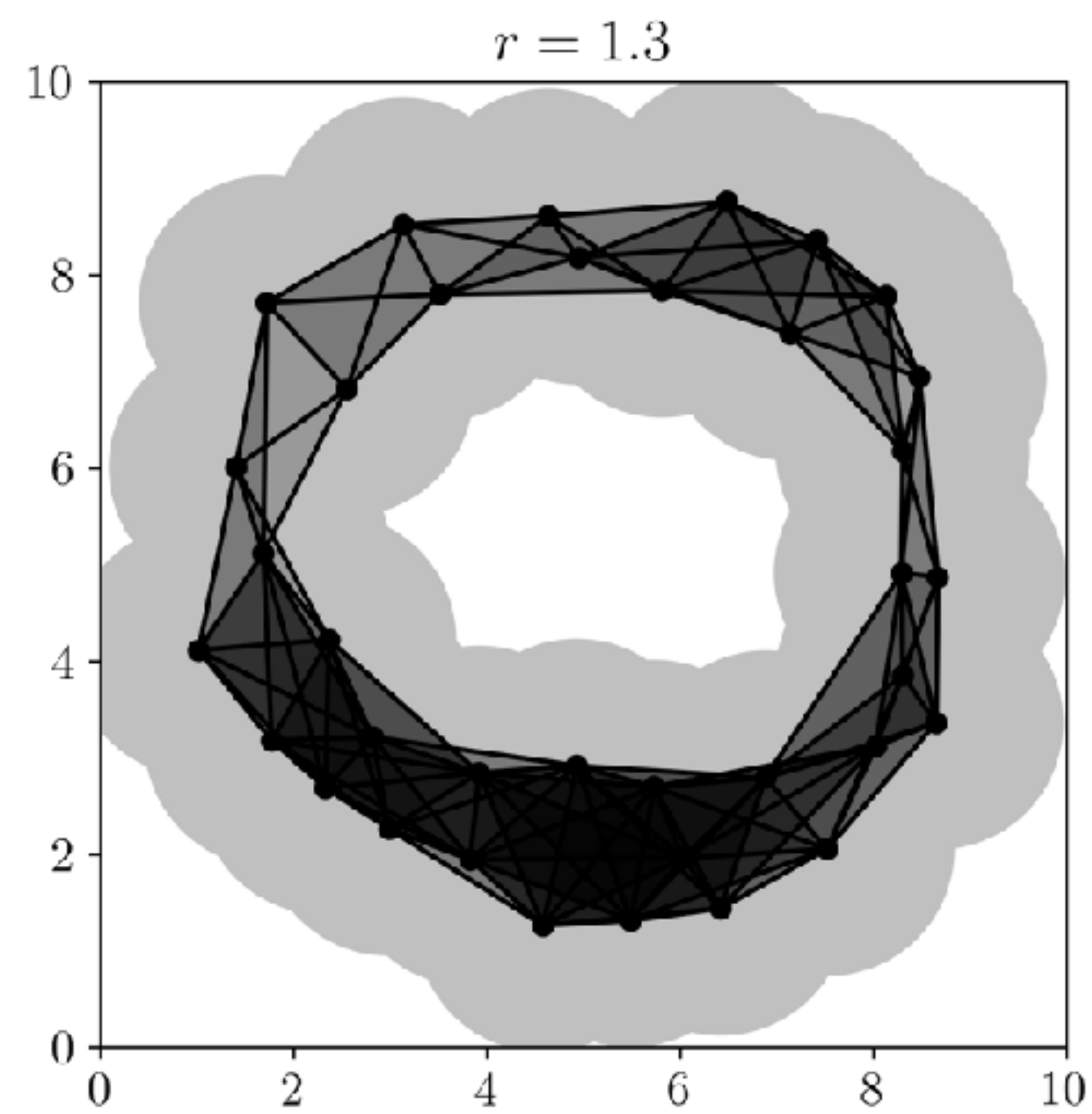
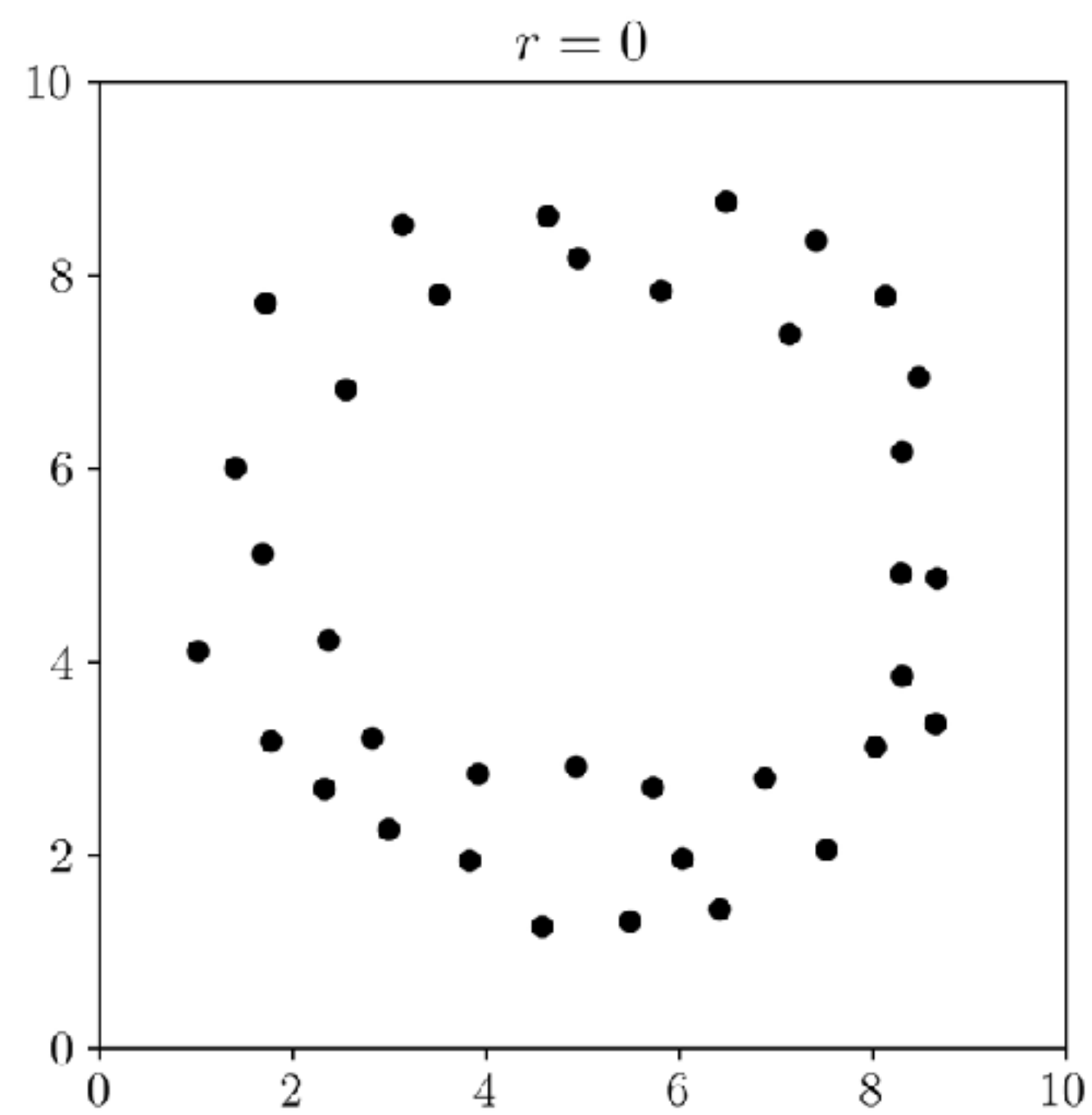


our result

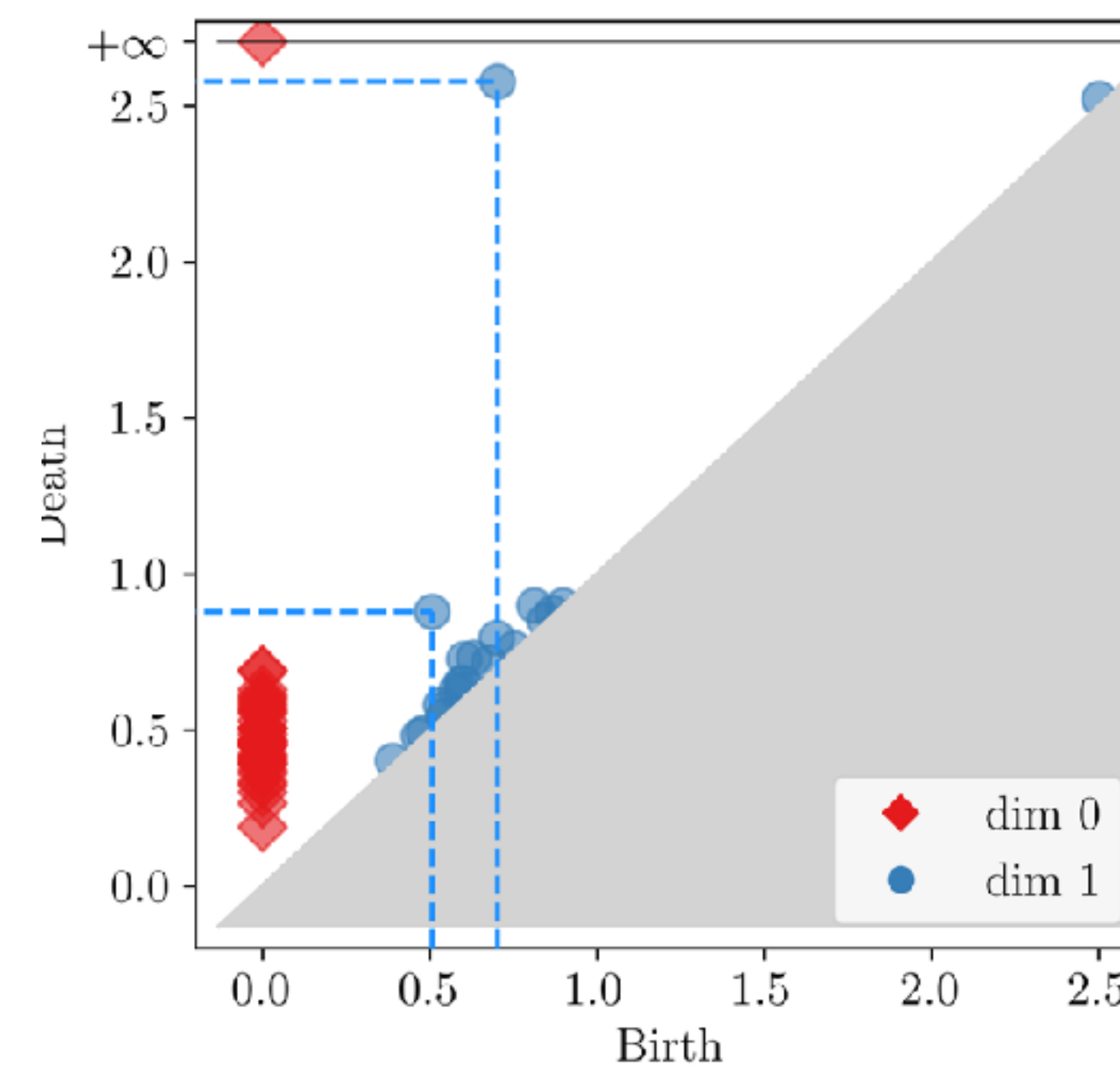
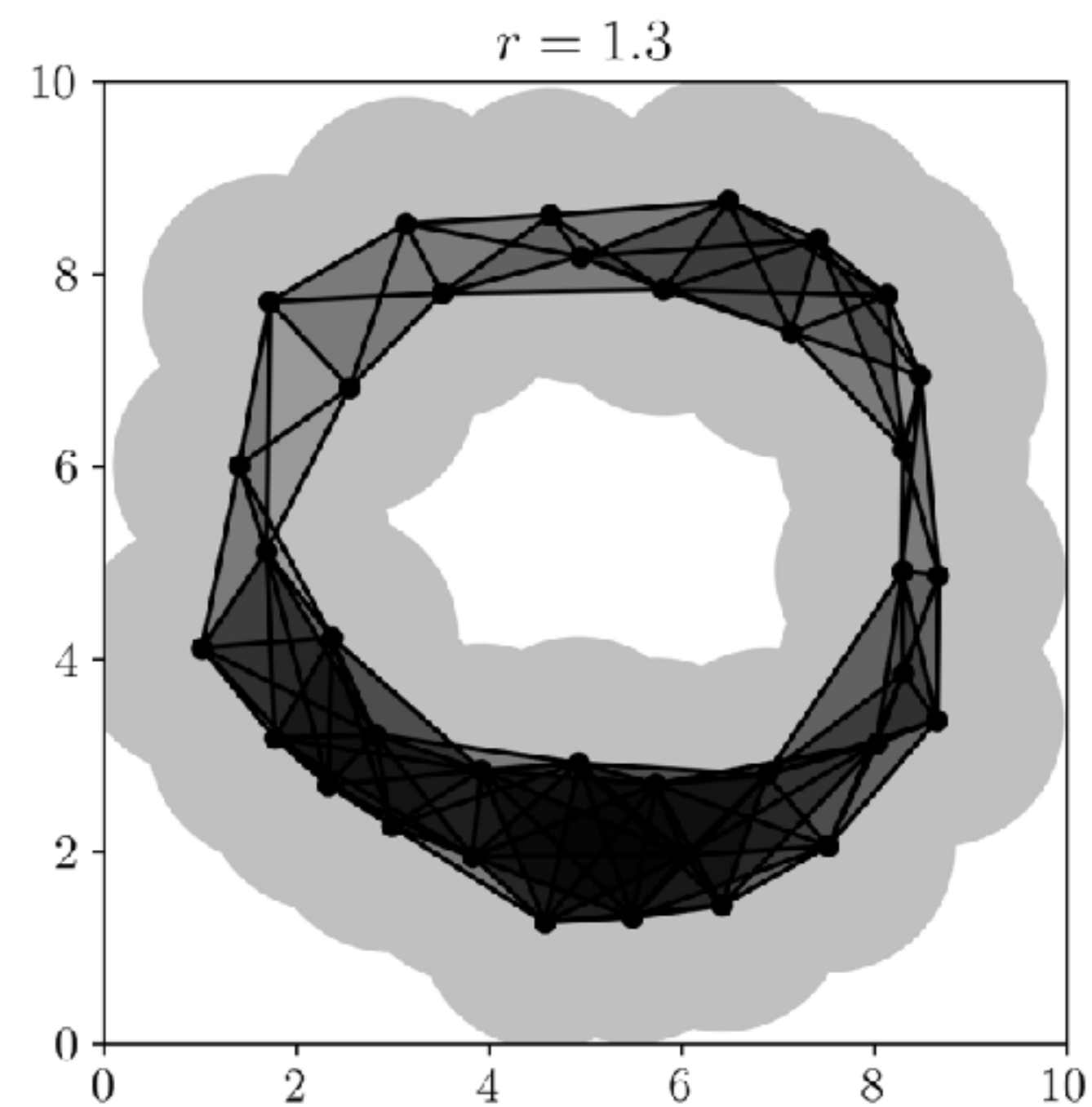
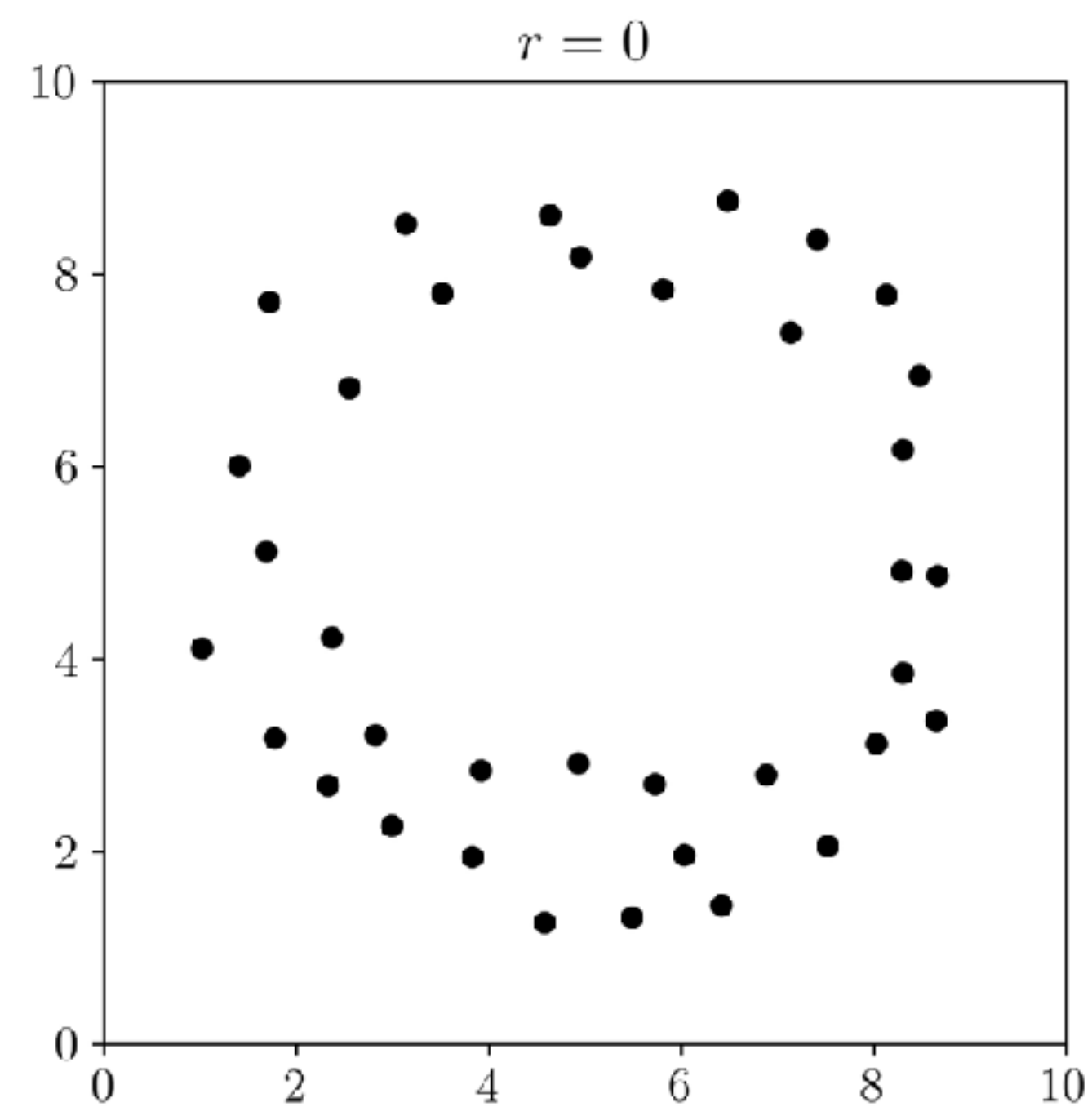
I. A Probabilist's Apology

Why Random Topology and What we Know

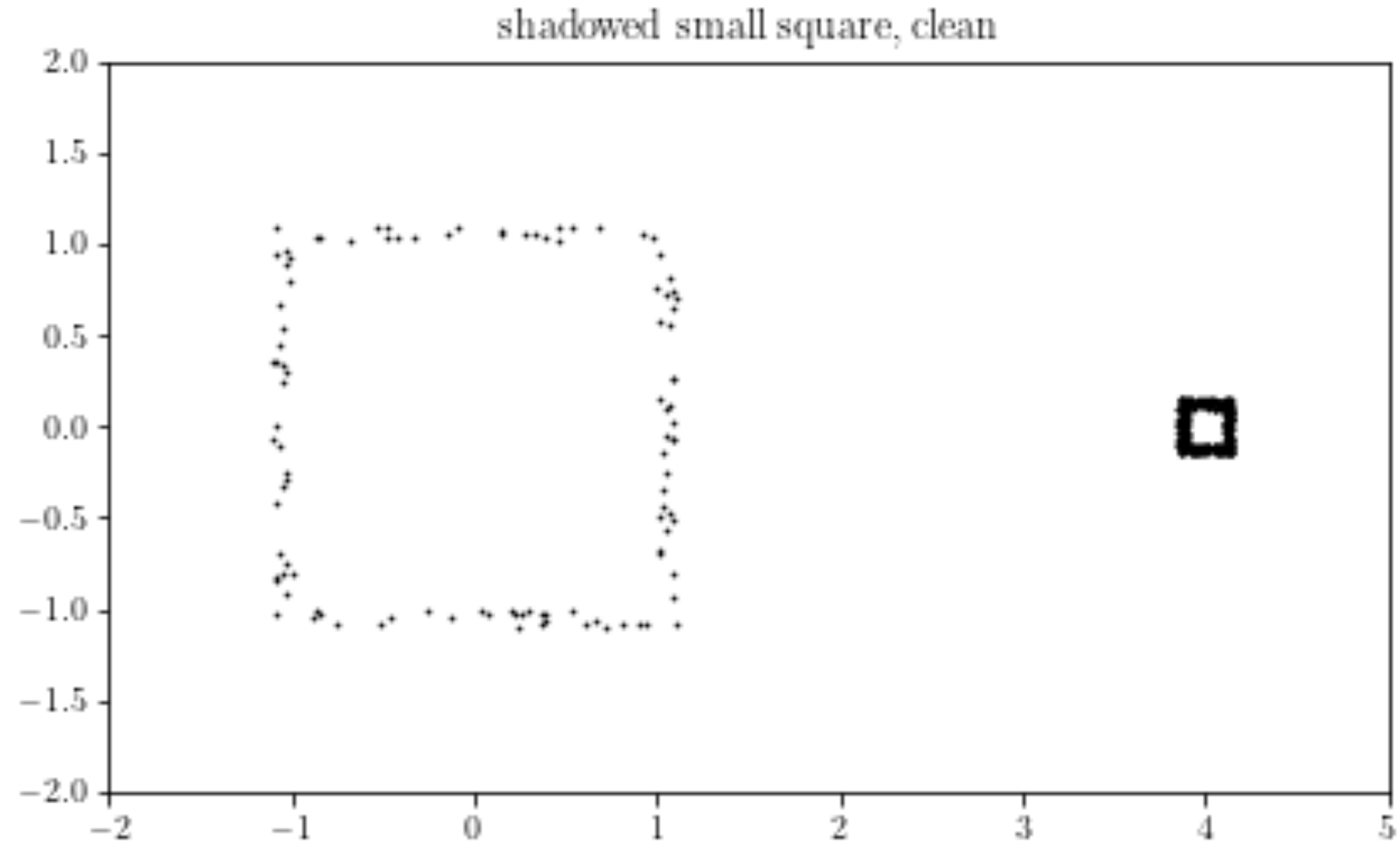




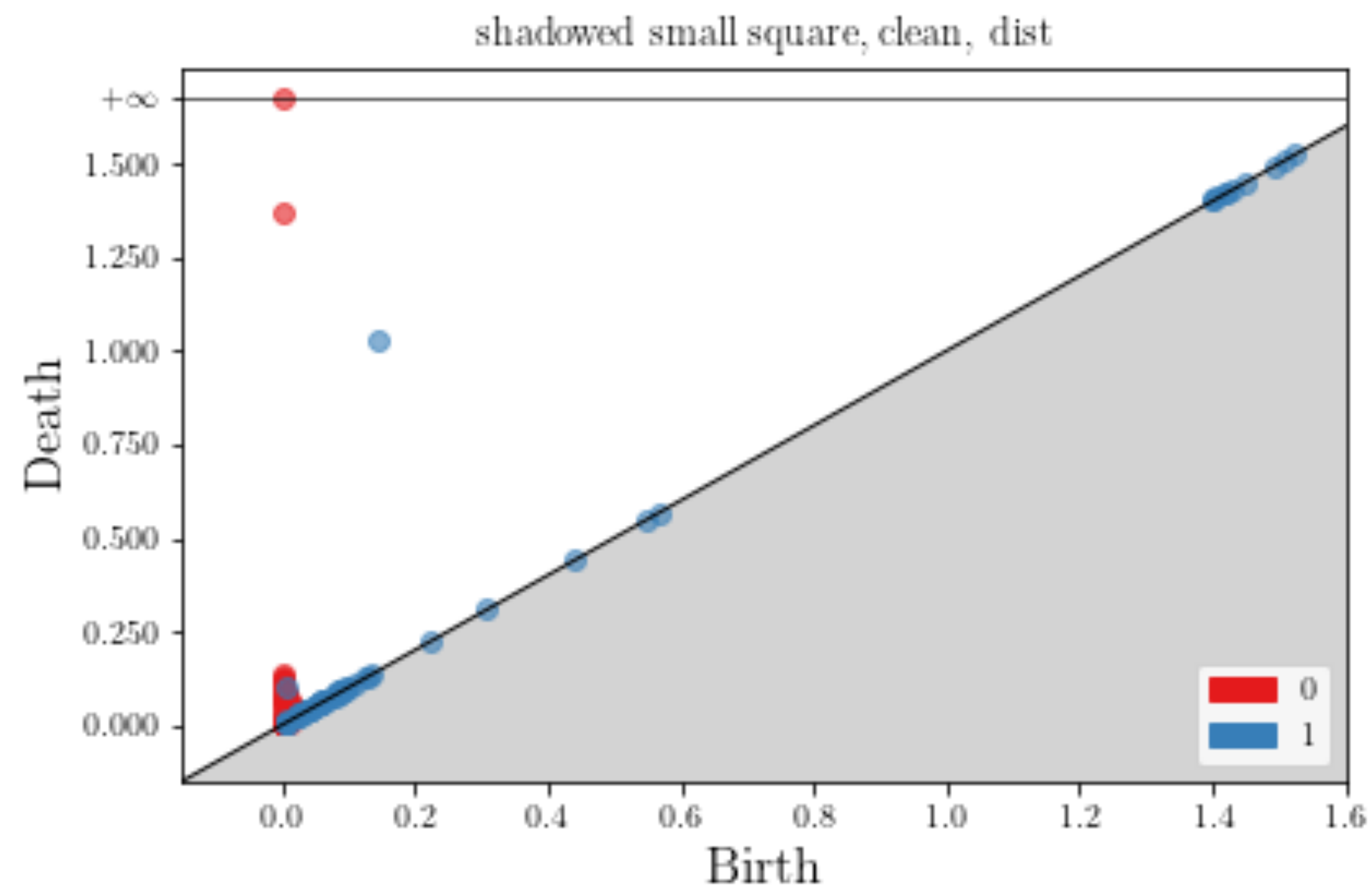
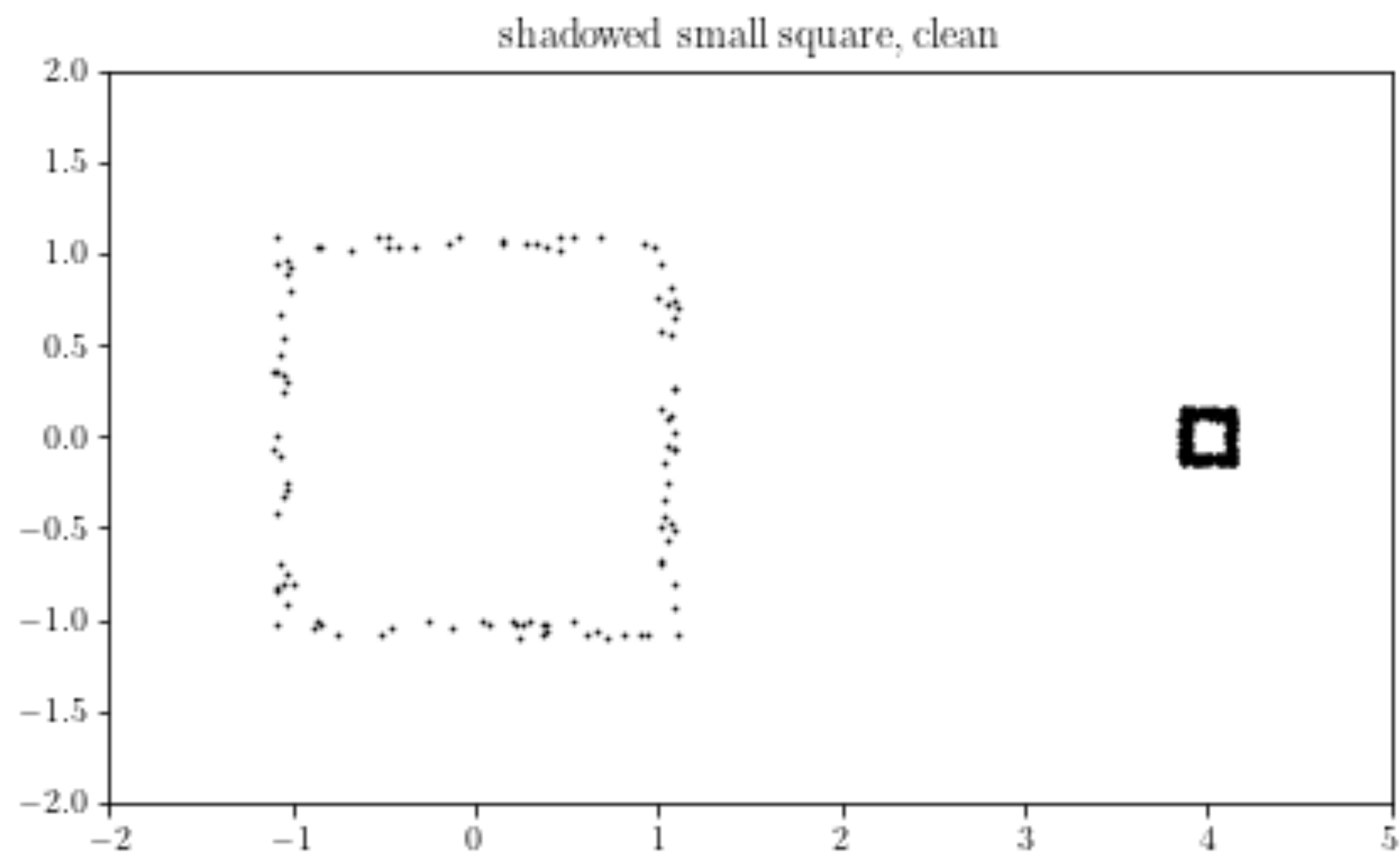
Size is Signal



Or is it?



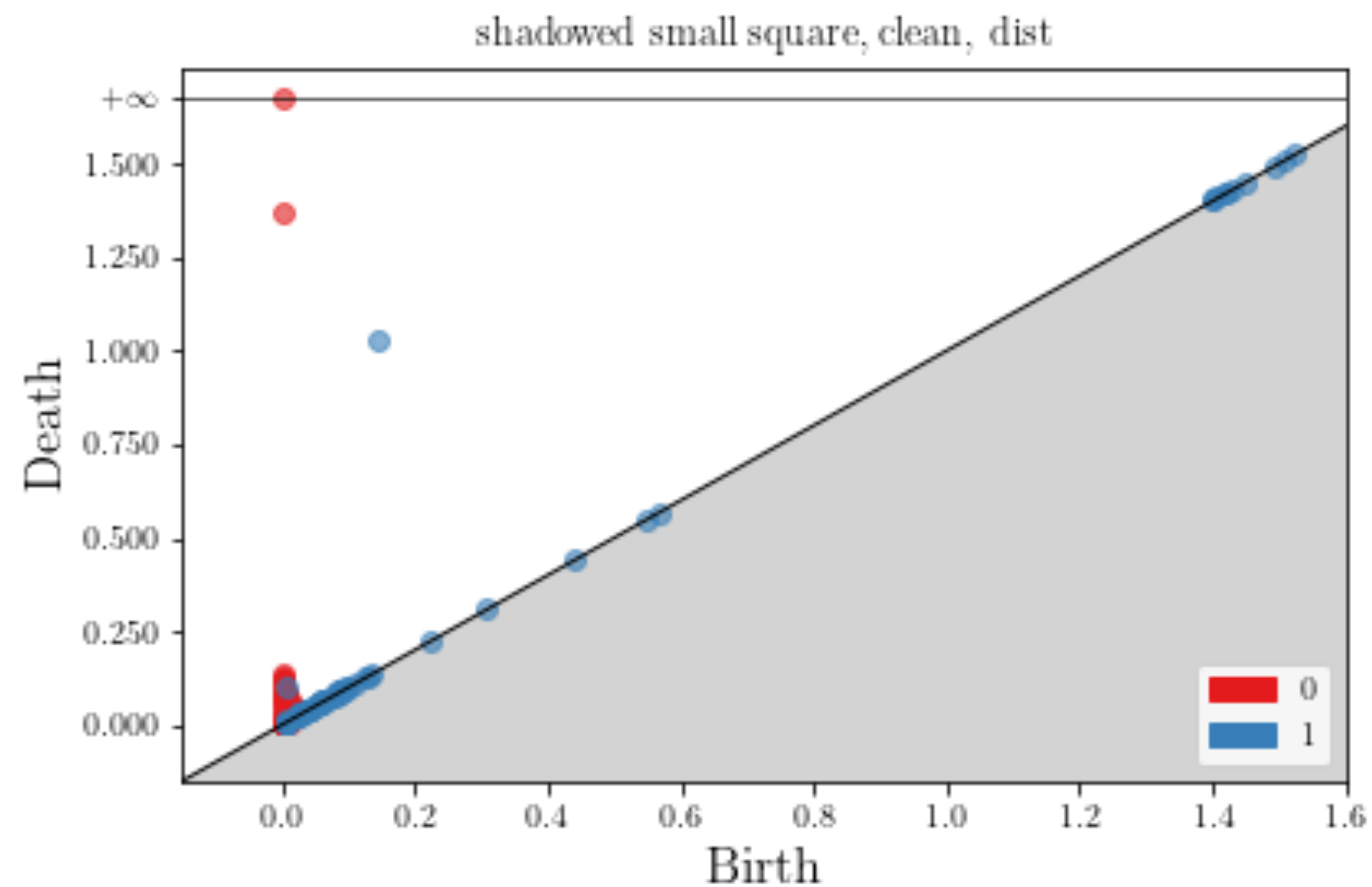
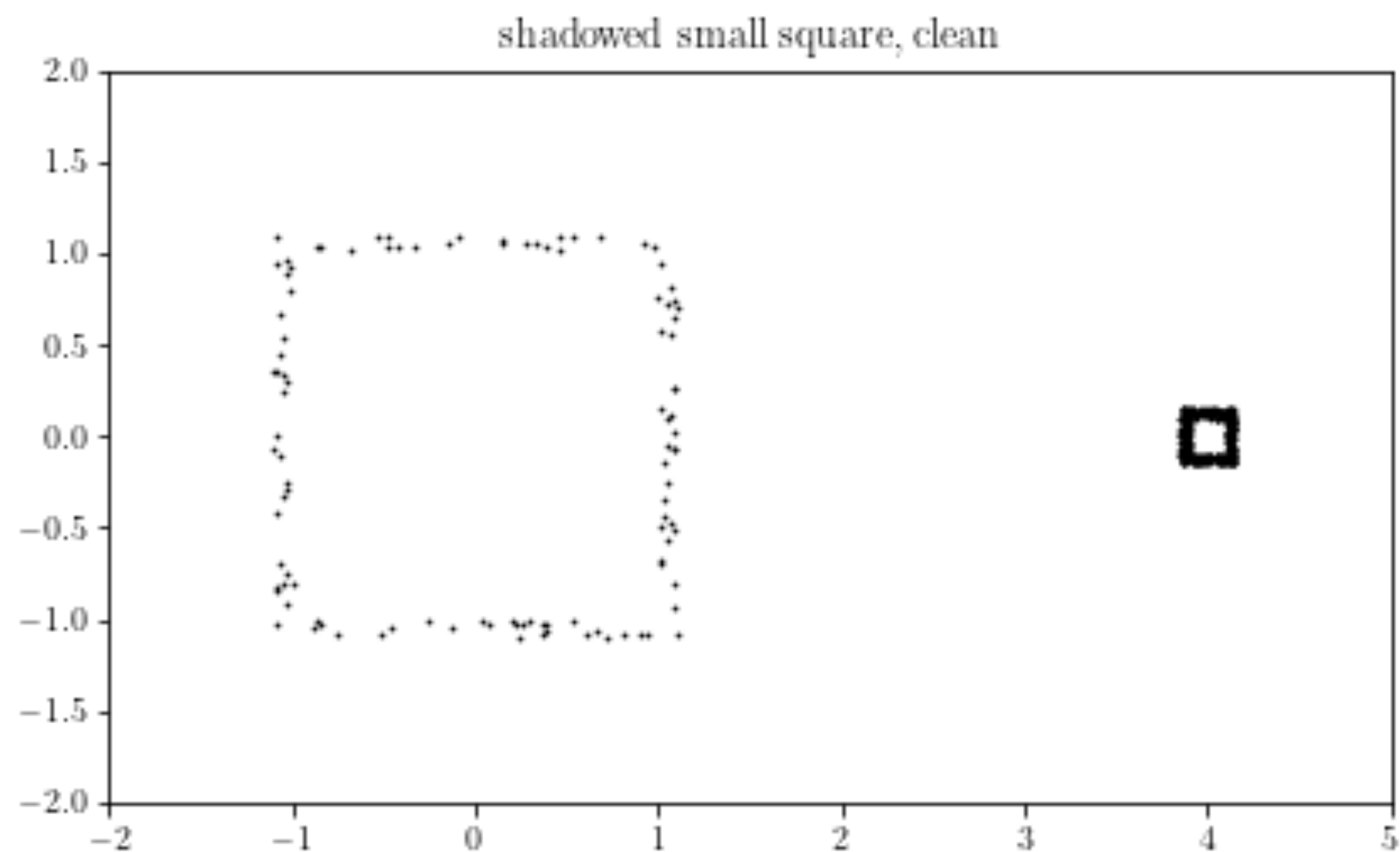
Or is it?



Size is Signal?

Surprise
~~Size~~ is Signal.

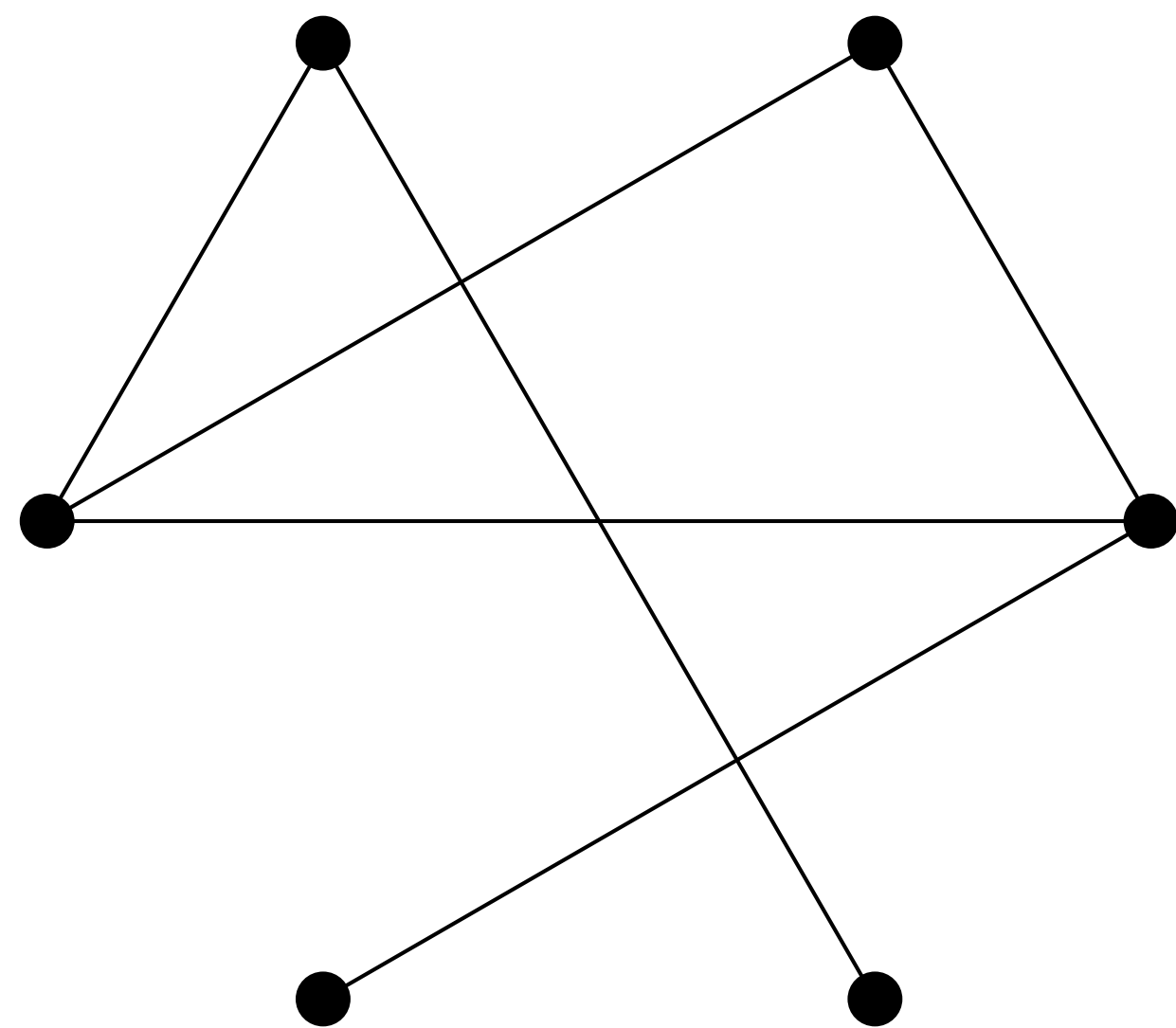
Random points don't do that.



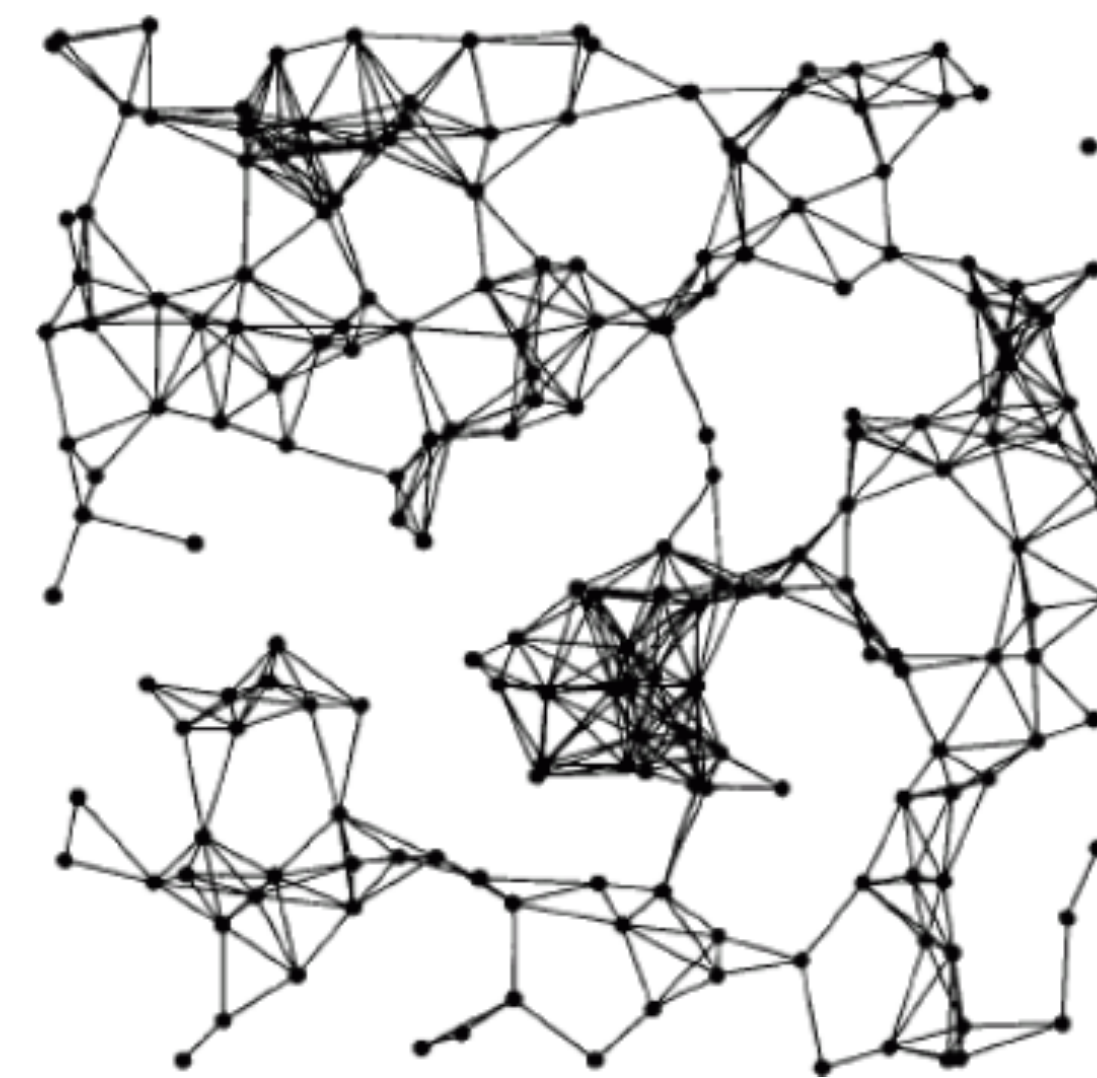
Signal is what is not random.

**Signal is what is not random.
So what is random?**

Examples in Random Topology

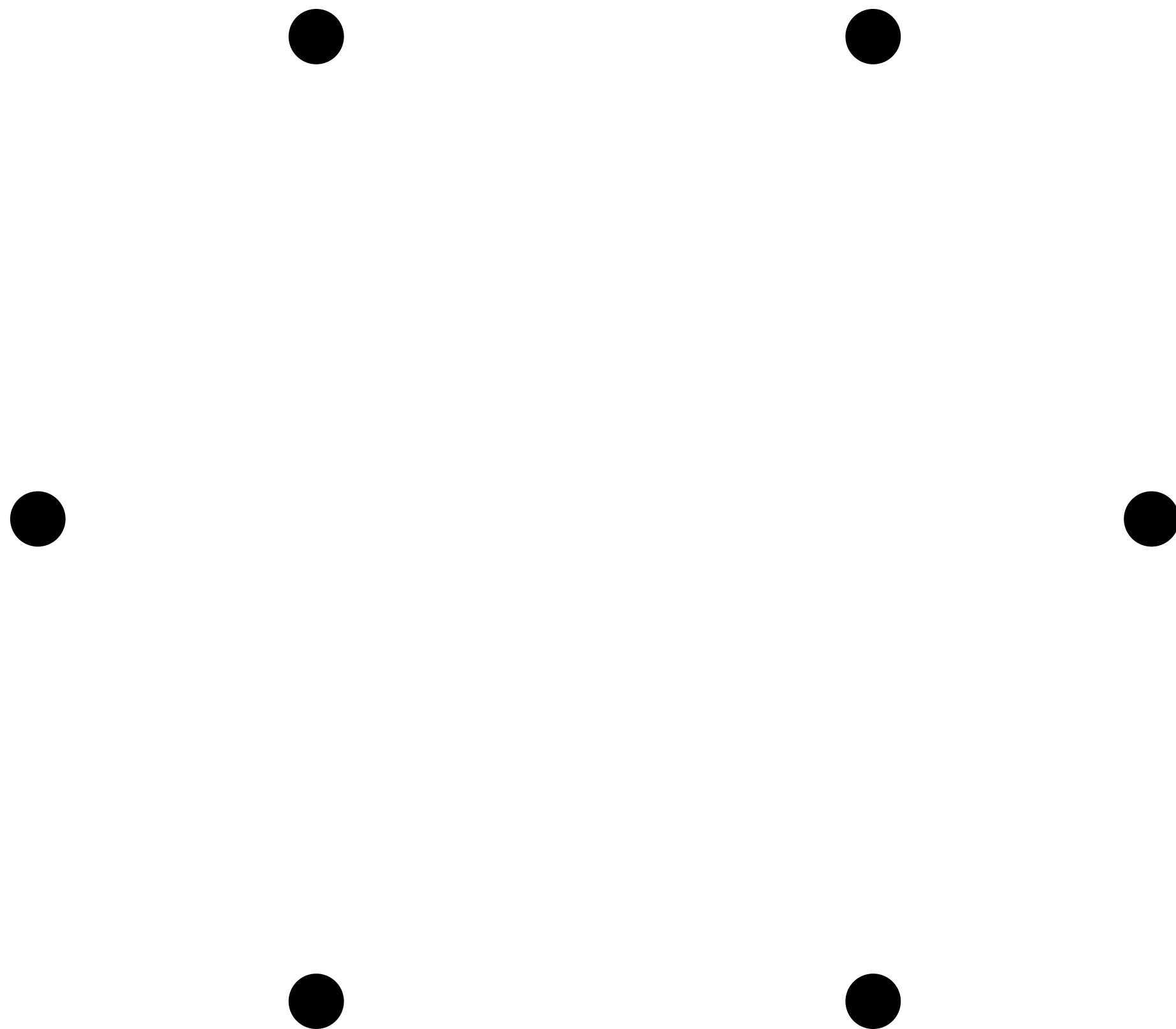


Erdős-Rényi Complexes

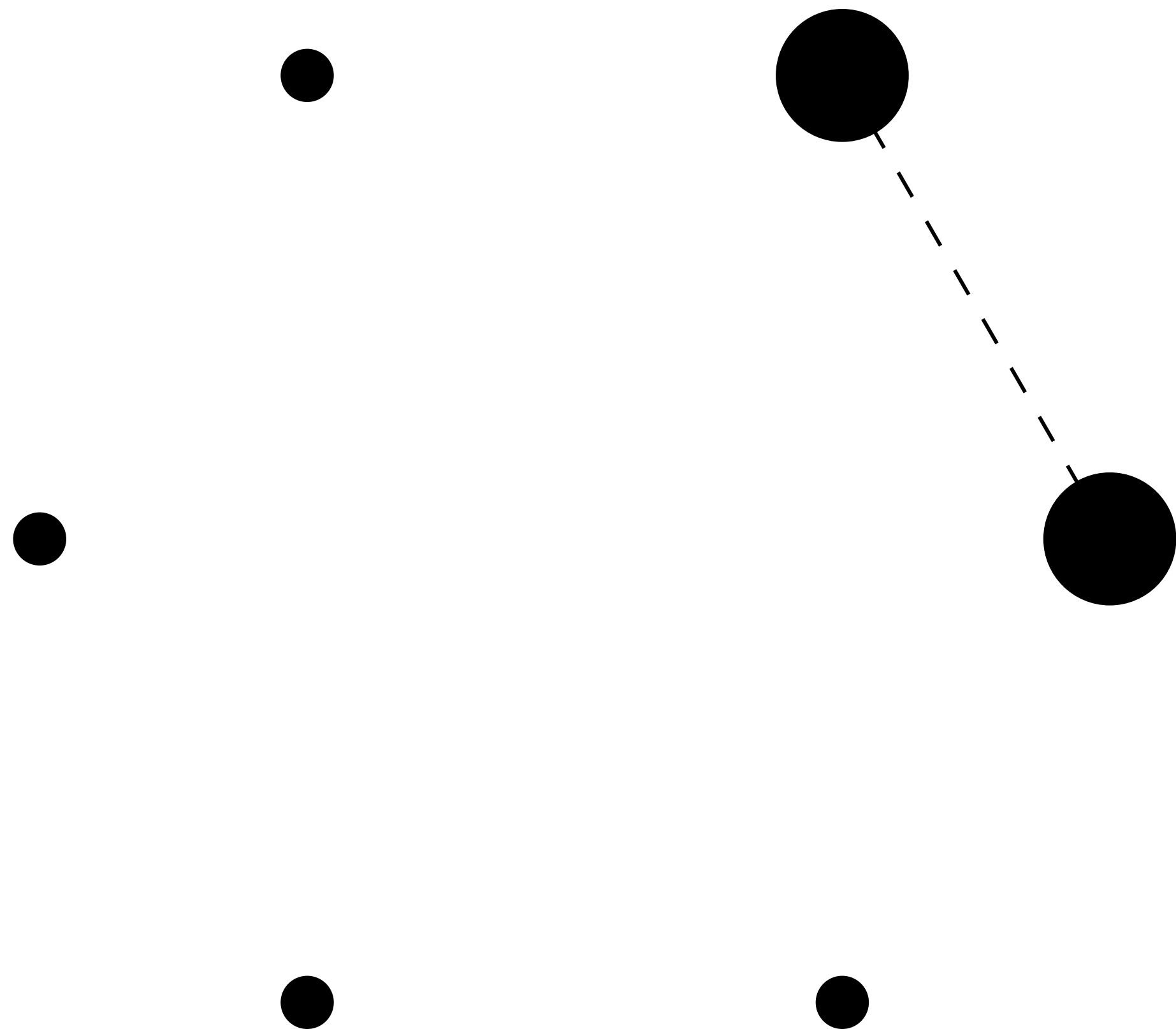


Geometric Complexes

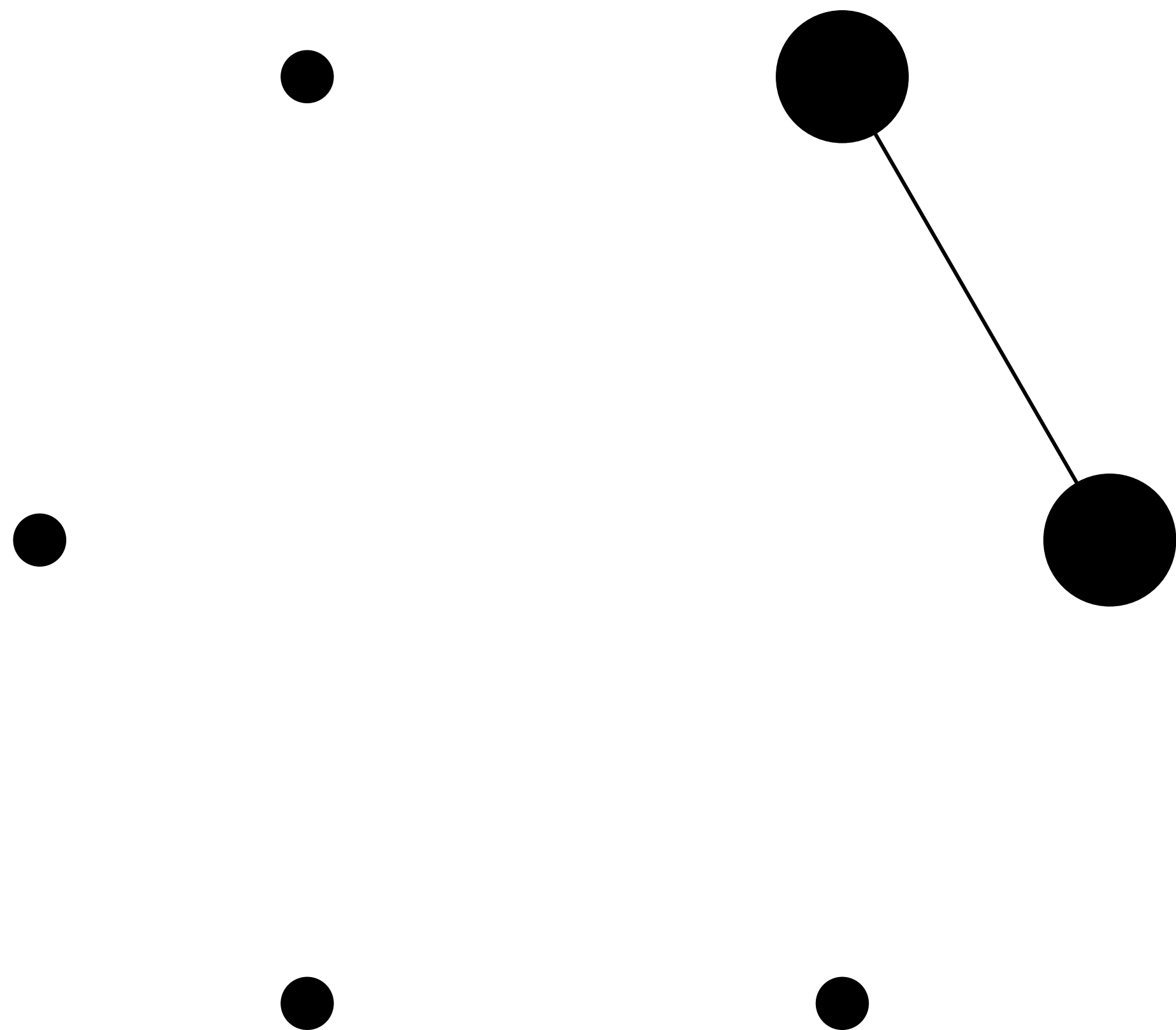
Erdos-Renyi graphs



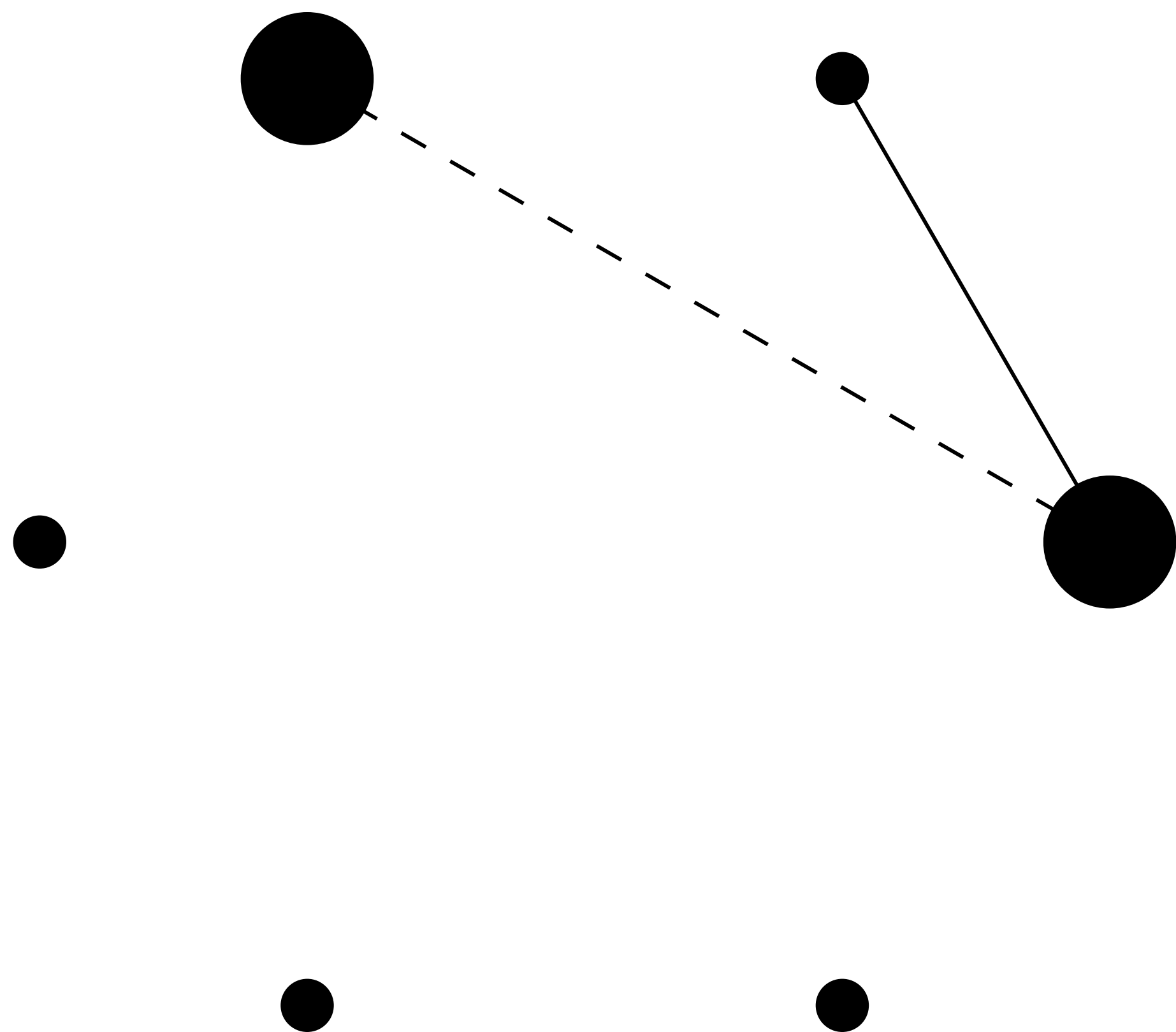
Erdos-Renyi graphs



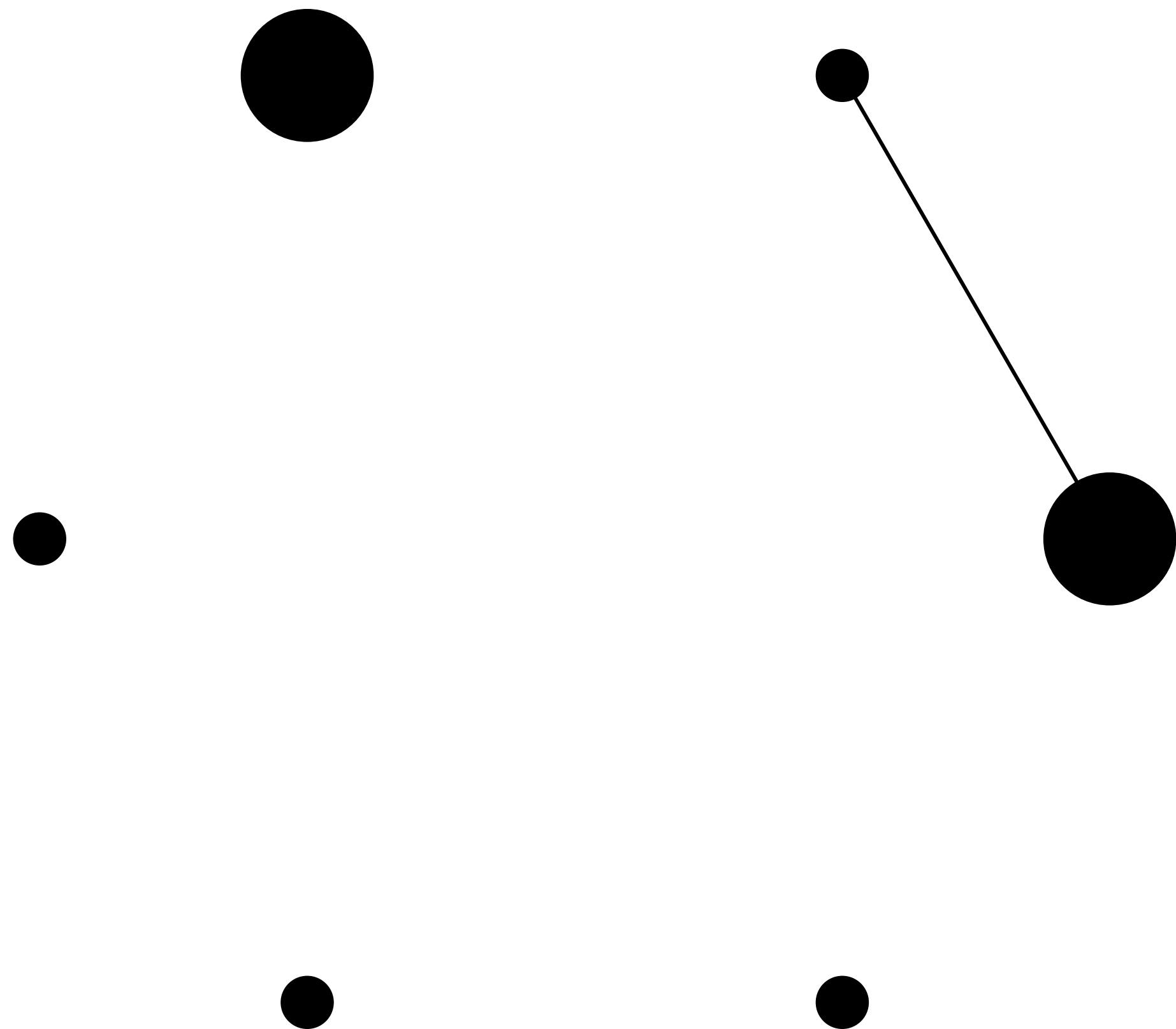
Erdos-Renyi graphs



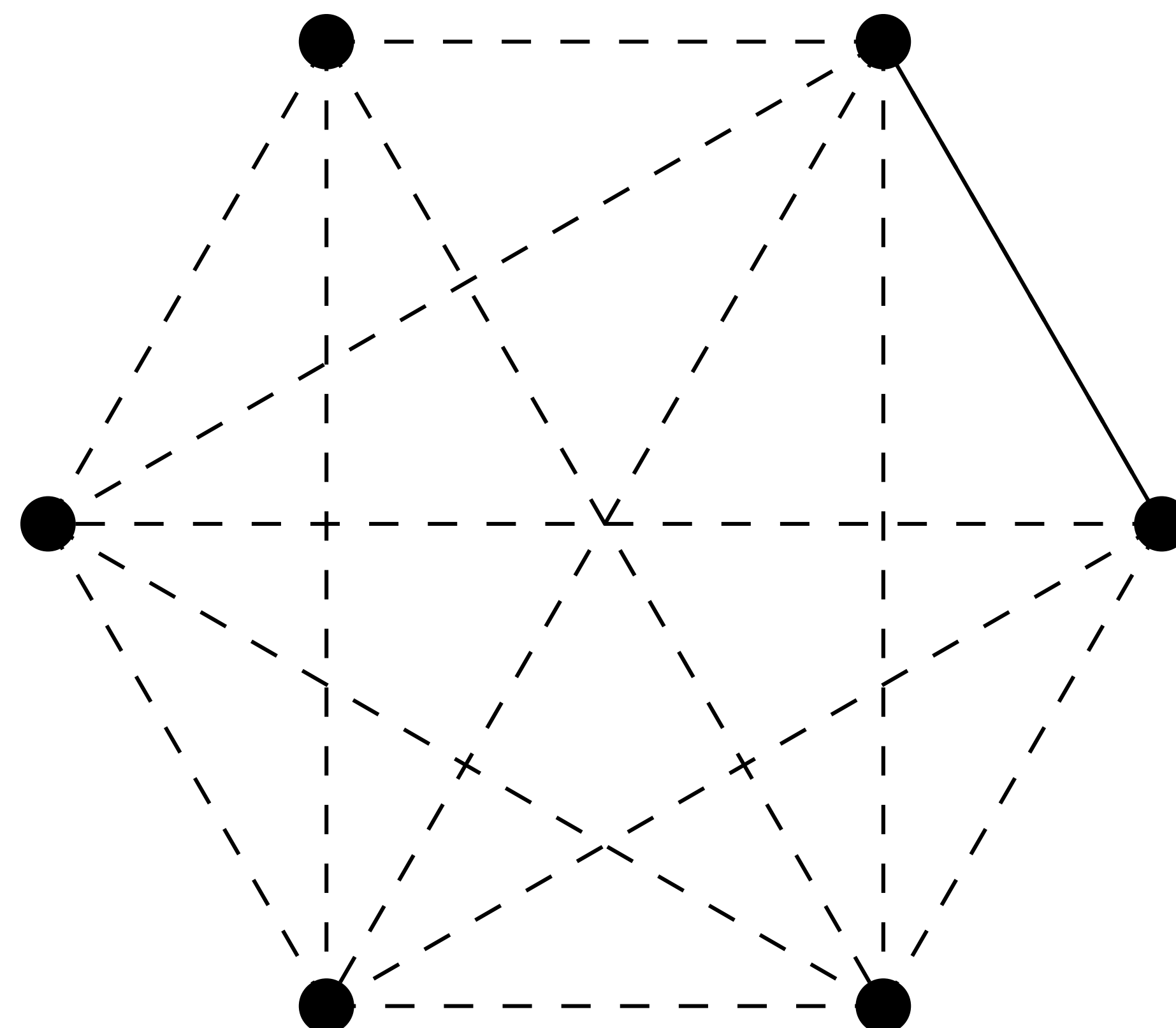
Erdos-Renyi graphs



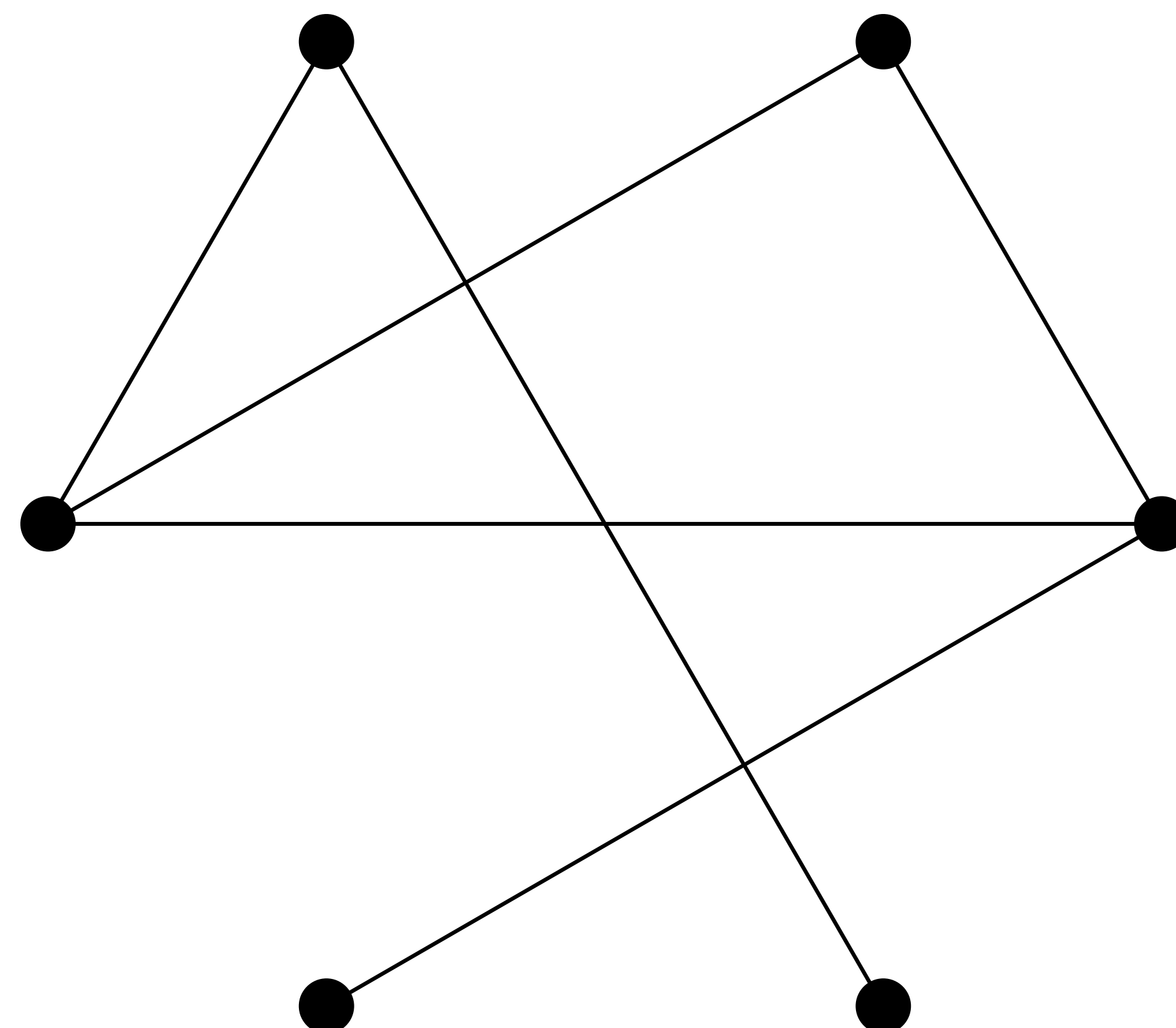
Erdos-Renyi graphs



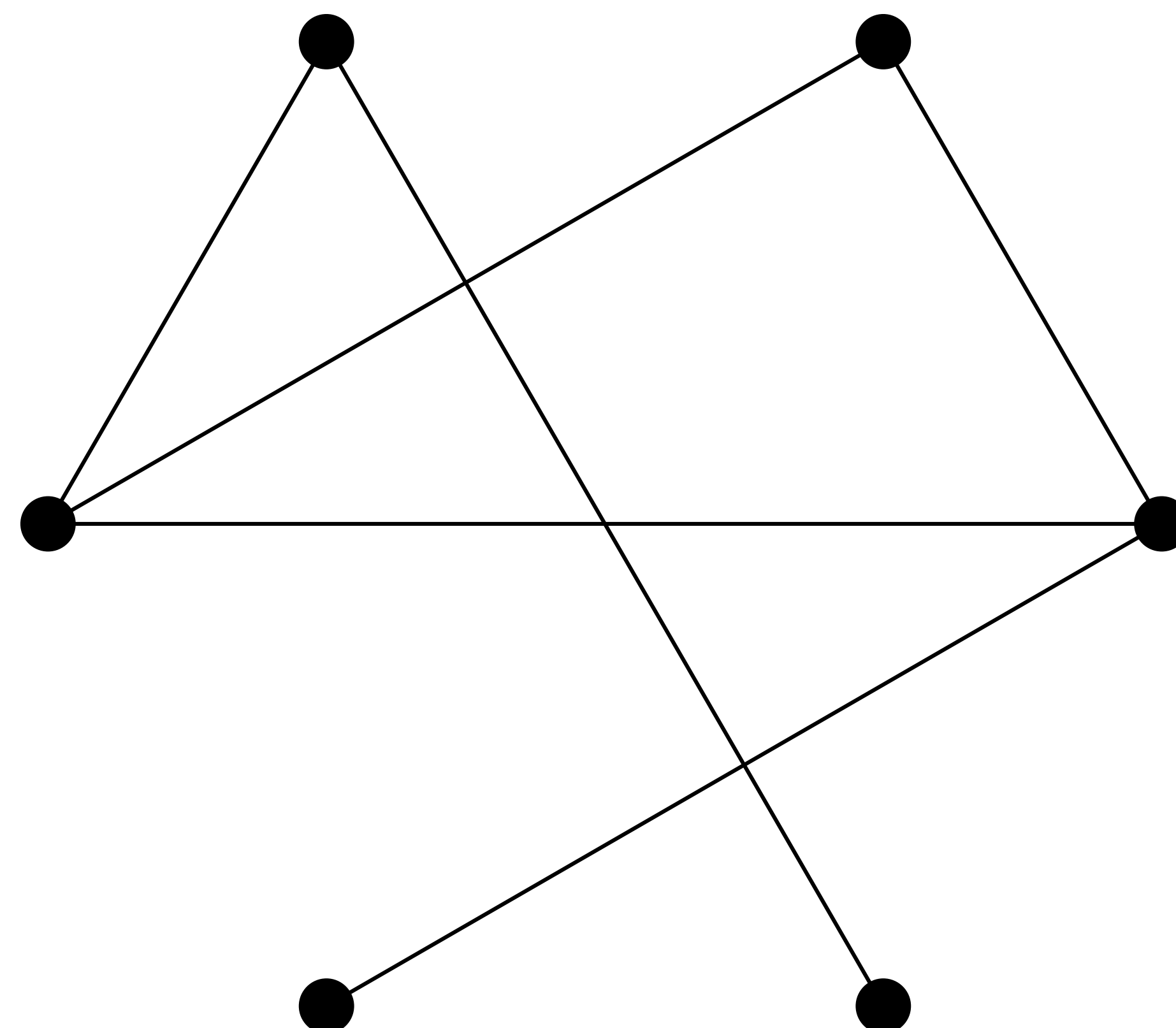
Erdos-Renyi graphs



Erdos-Renyi graphs

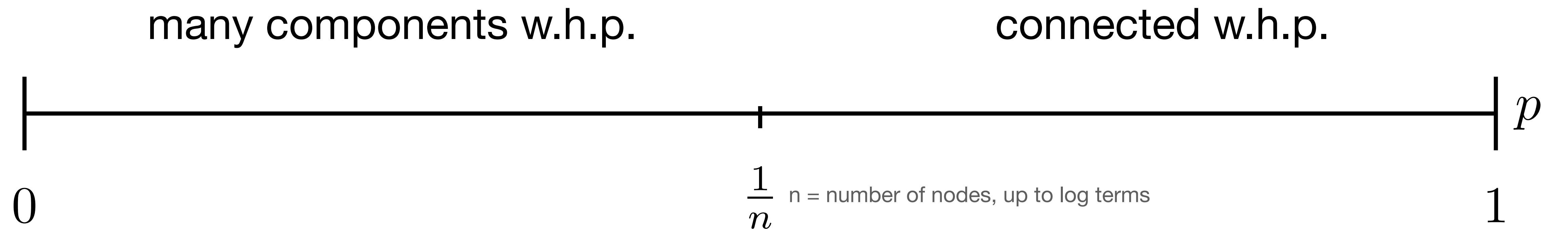


Erdos-Renyi graphs



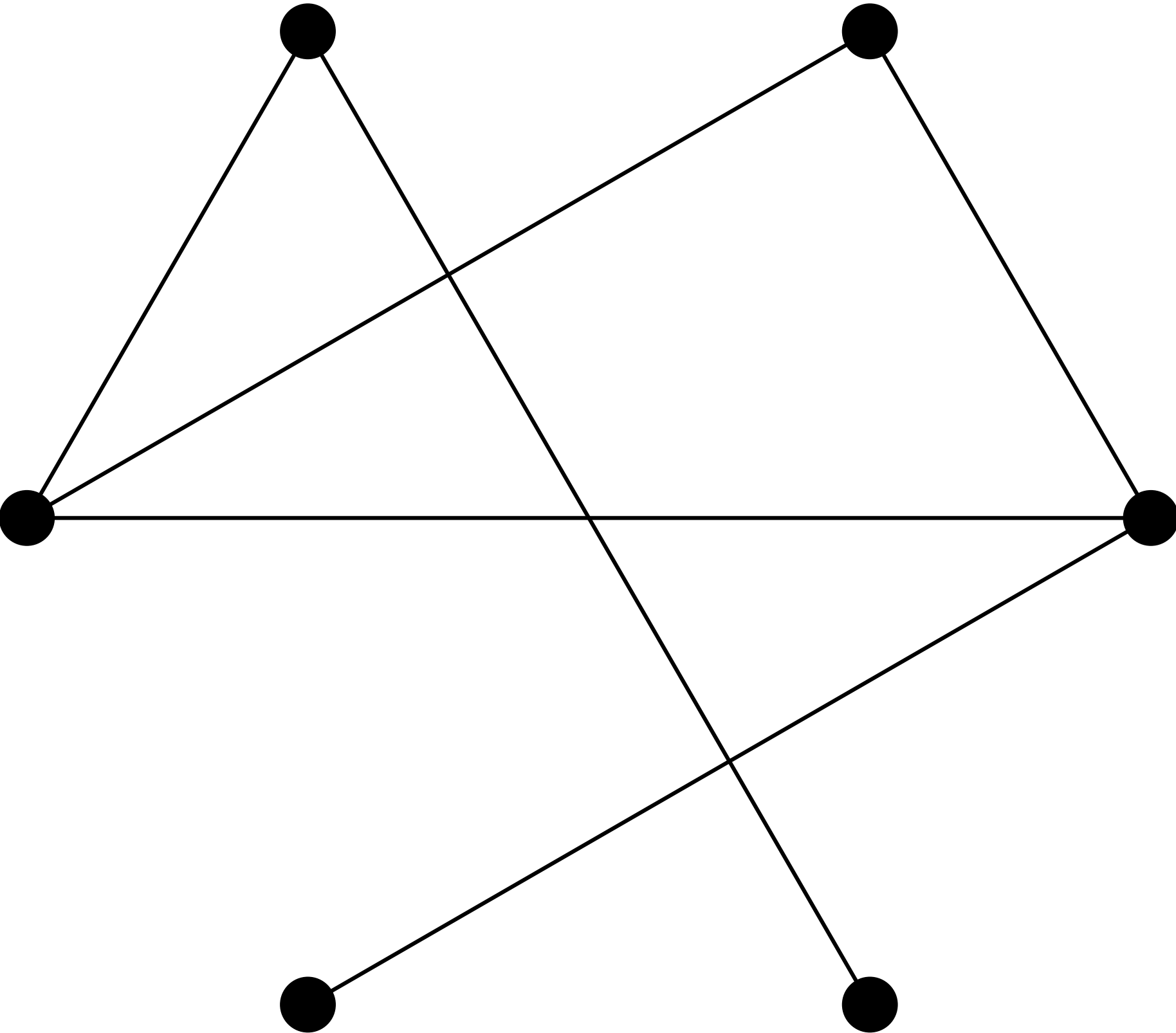
Phase Transition

[Erdos-Renyi 1960]

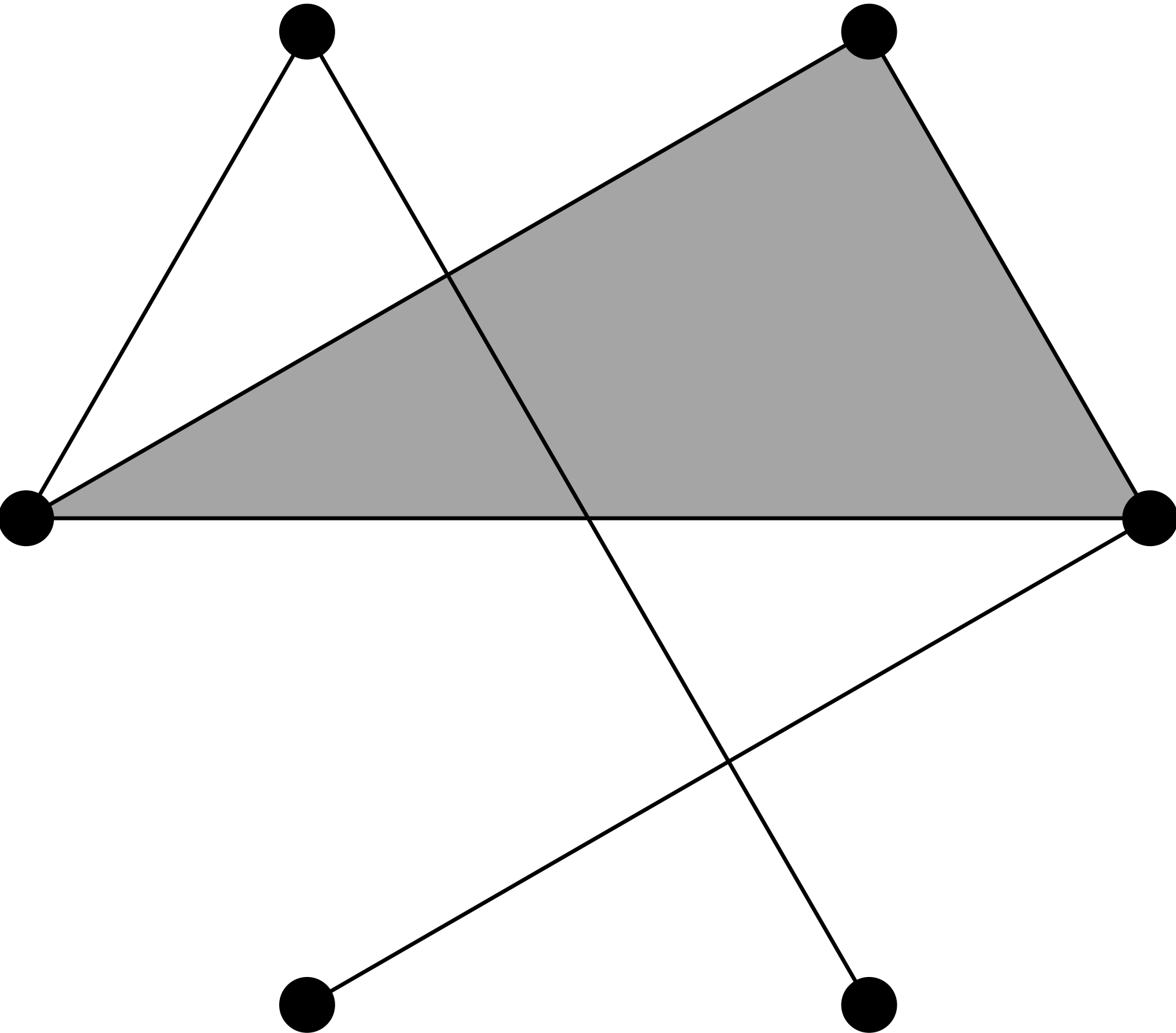


all log terms and constants forgone

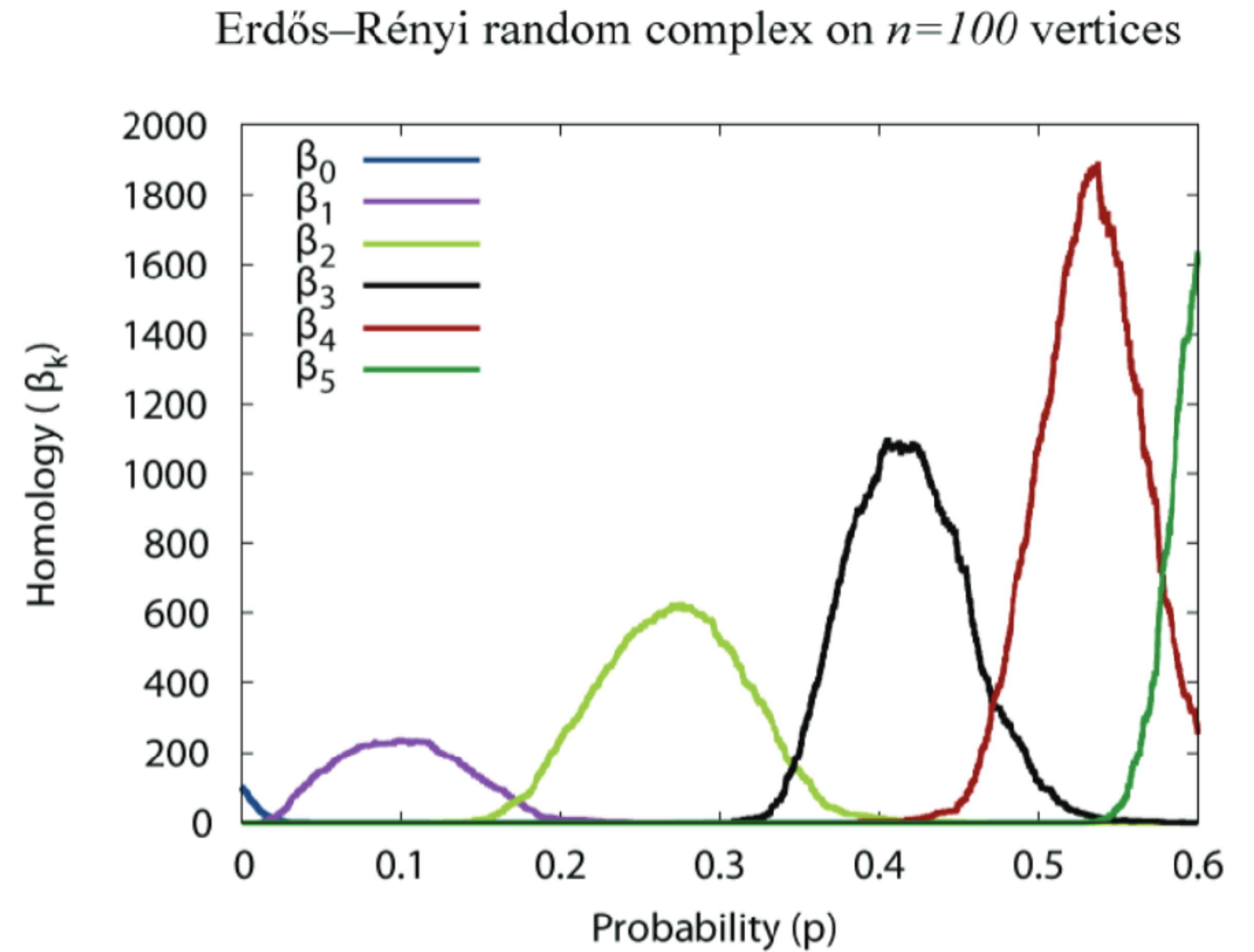
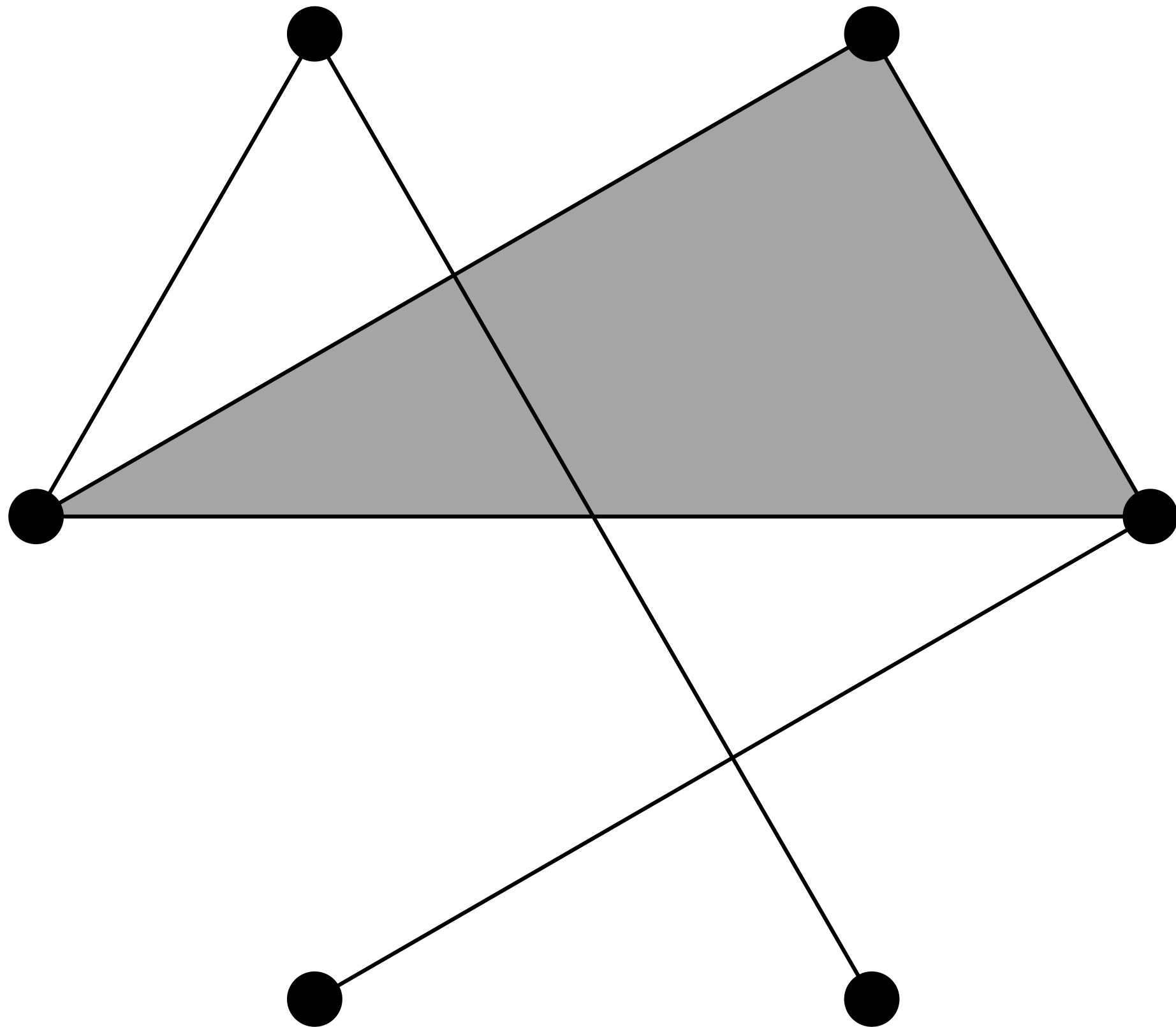
Erdos-Renyi Clique Complex



Erdos-Renyi Clique Complex



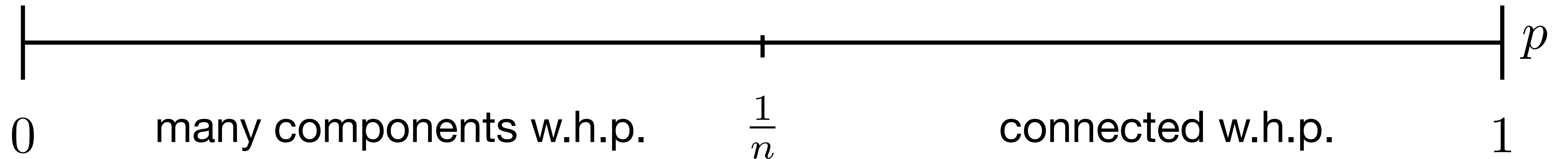
Betti Numbers



computation and plotting done by Zomorodian

Phase Transition

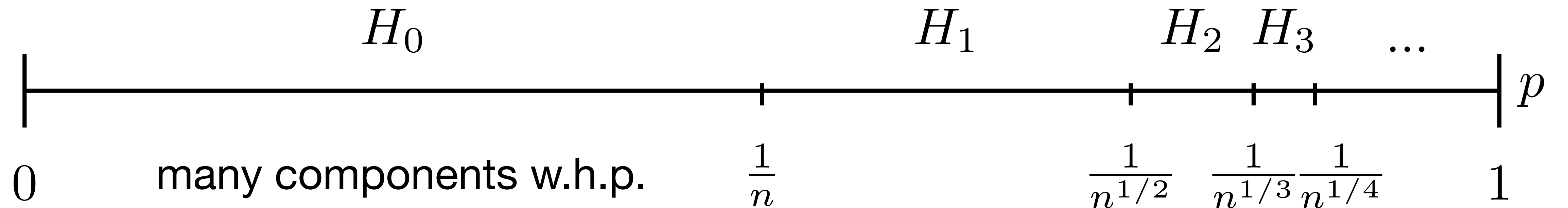
[Erdos-Renyi 1960]



n = number of nodes
all log terms and constants forgone

Phase Transition

[Kahle 2009, 2014]

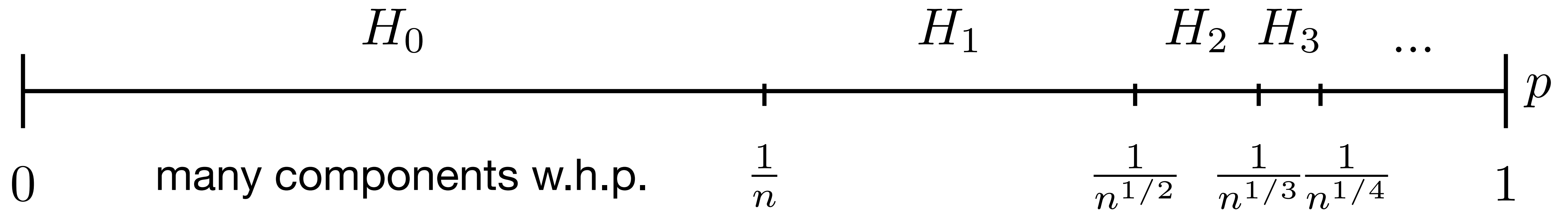
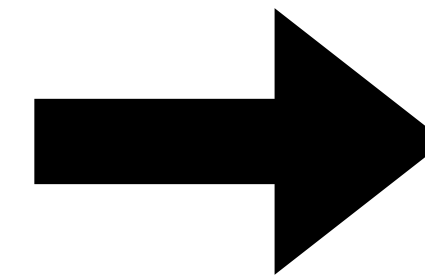


n = number of nodes
all log terms and constants forgone

Phase Transition

[Kahle 2009, 2014]

Holes get filled.



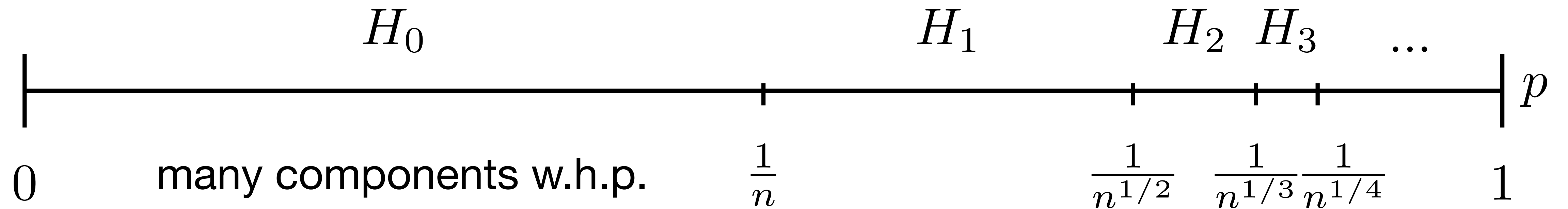
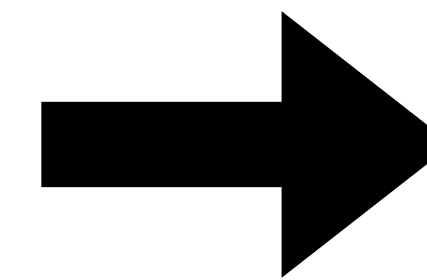
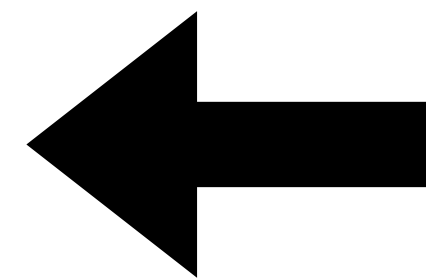
n = number of nodes
all log terms and constants forgone

Phase Transition

[Kahle 2009, 2014]

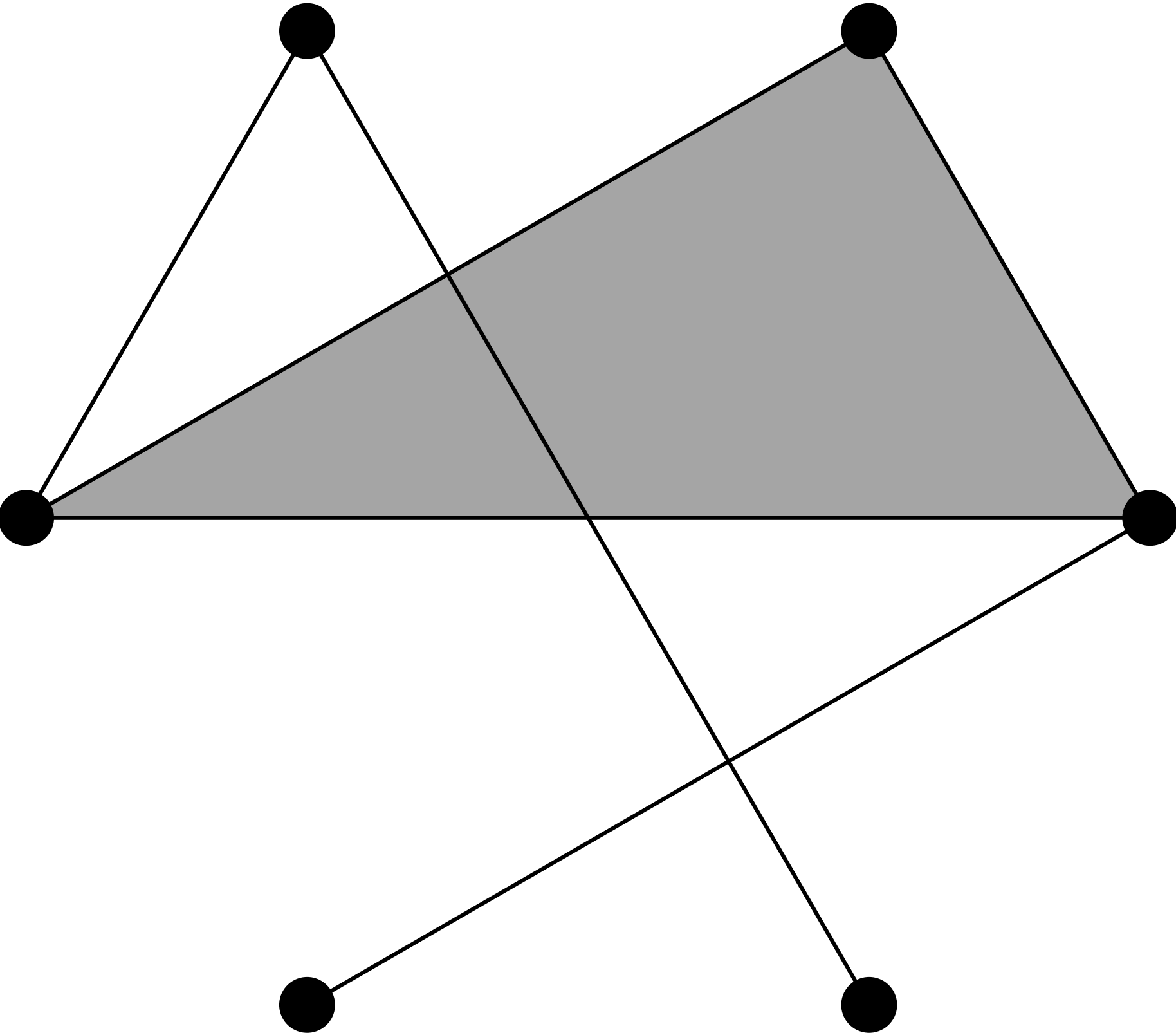
Holes can't form.

Holes get filled.



n = number of nodes
all log terms and constants forgone

Erdos-Renyi Clique Complex



Geometric Complexes



image credit: Penrose

Expected Betti numbers at dimension k

[Kahle 2011]

Expected Betti numbers at dimension k

[Kahle 2011]

- n , the number of points

Expected Betti numbers at dimension k

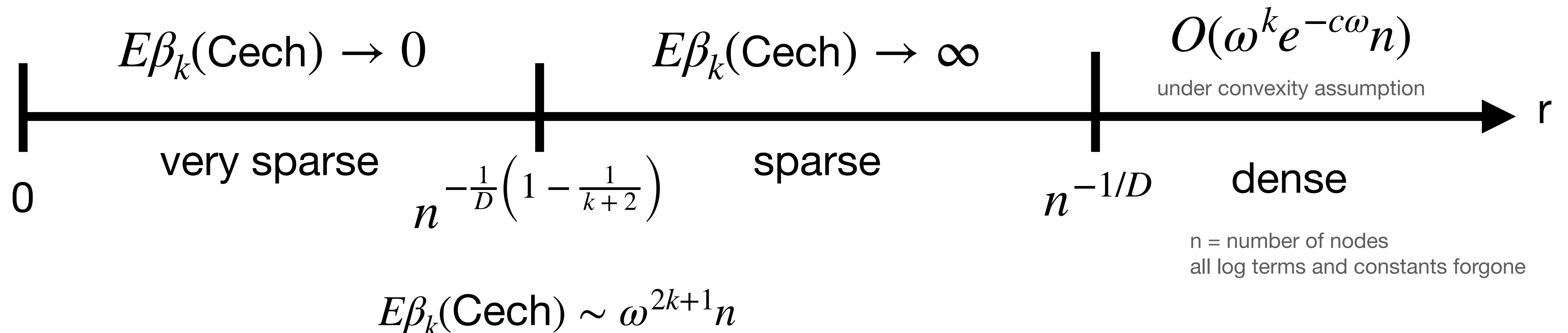
[Kahle 2011]

- n , the number of points
- $\omega = nr^D$, where D is the ambient dimension

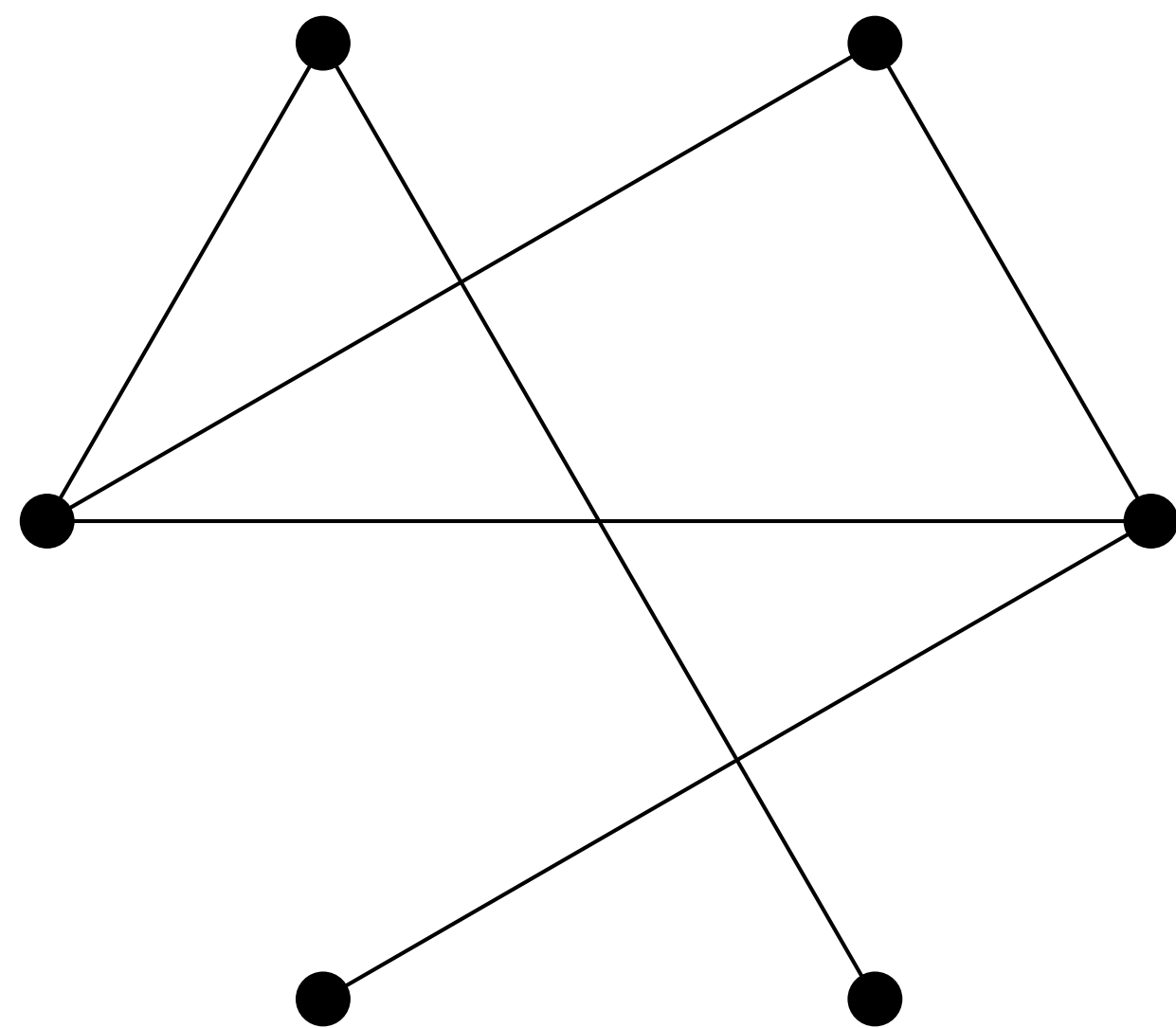
Expected Betti numbers at dimension k

[Kahle 2011]

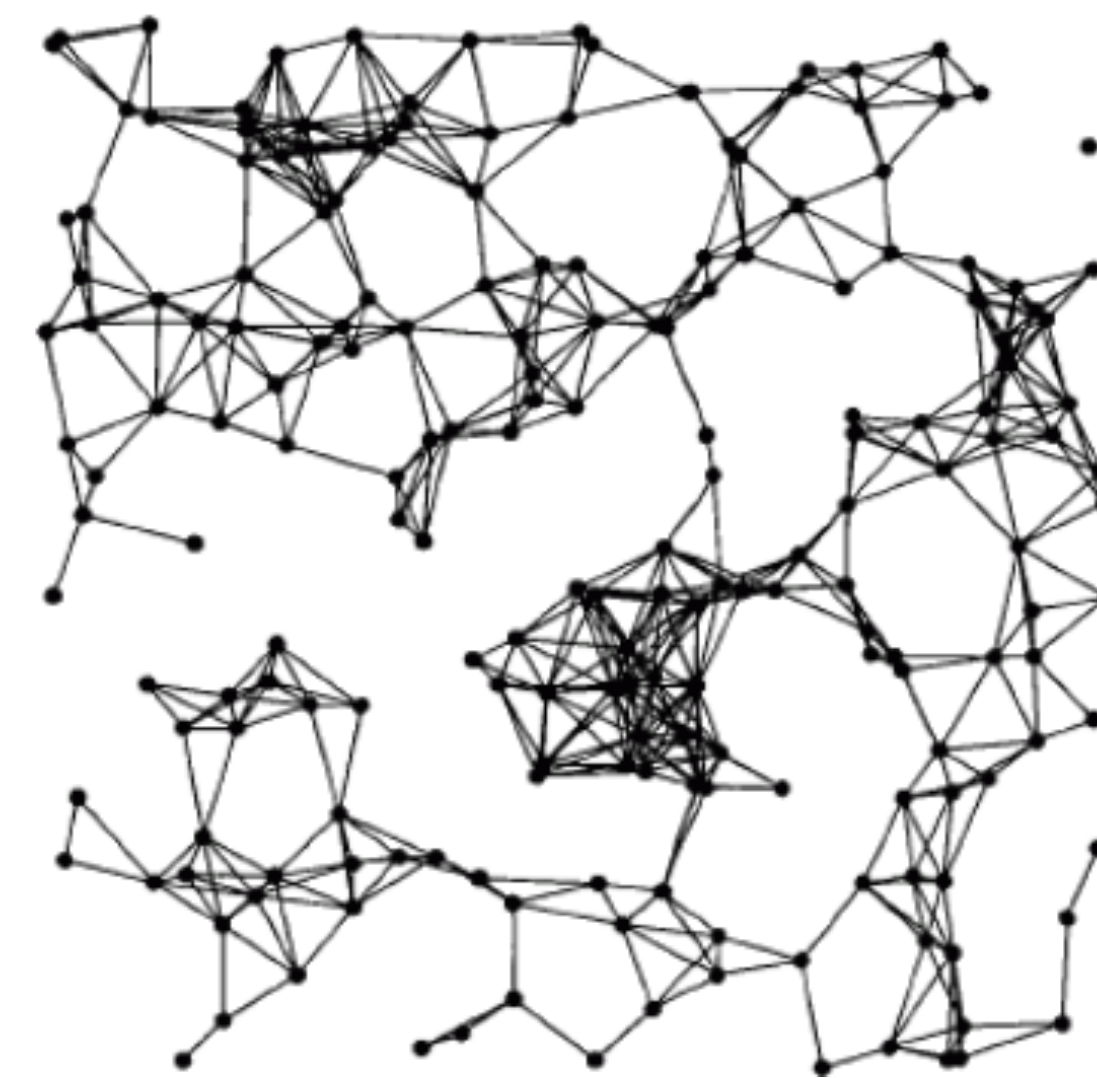
- n , the number of points
- $\omega = nr^D$, where D is the ambient dimension



Examples in Random Topology



Erdős-Rényi Complexes



Geometric Complexes

II. Preferential Attachment

Beyond independence and homogeneity

Independent and identically distributed?

Independent and identically distributed?



(Stephen Coast
<https://www.fractalus.com/steve/stuff/ipmap/>)

Preferential Attachment

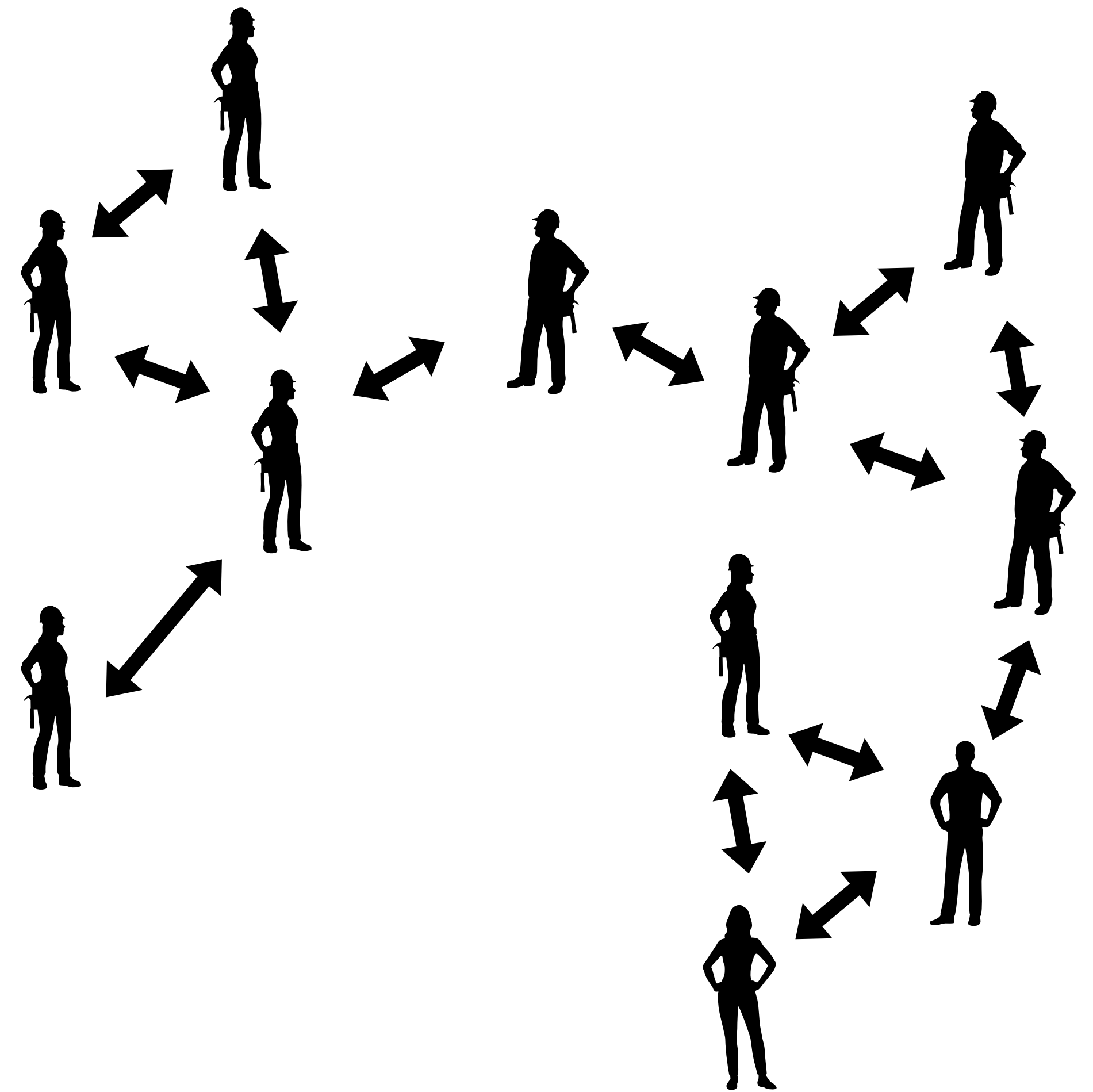
[Albert and Barabasi 1999]



(Stephen Coast
<https://www.fractalus.com/steve/stuff/ipmap/>)

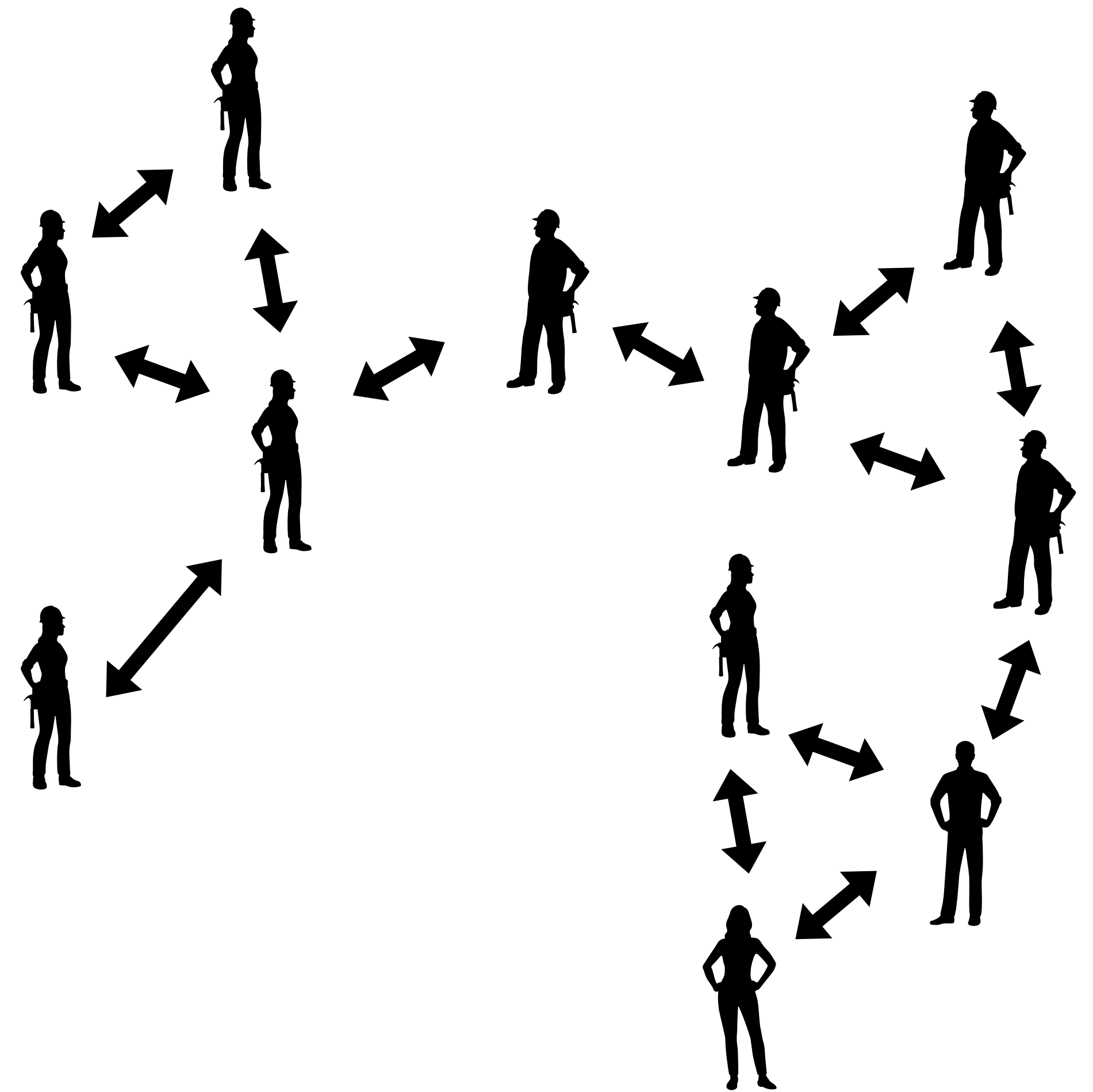
Preferential Attachment

[Albert and Barabasi 1999]



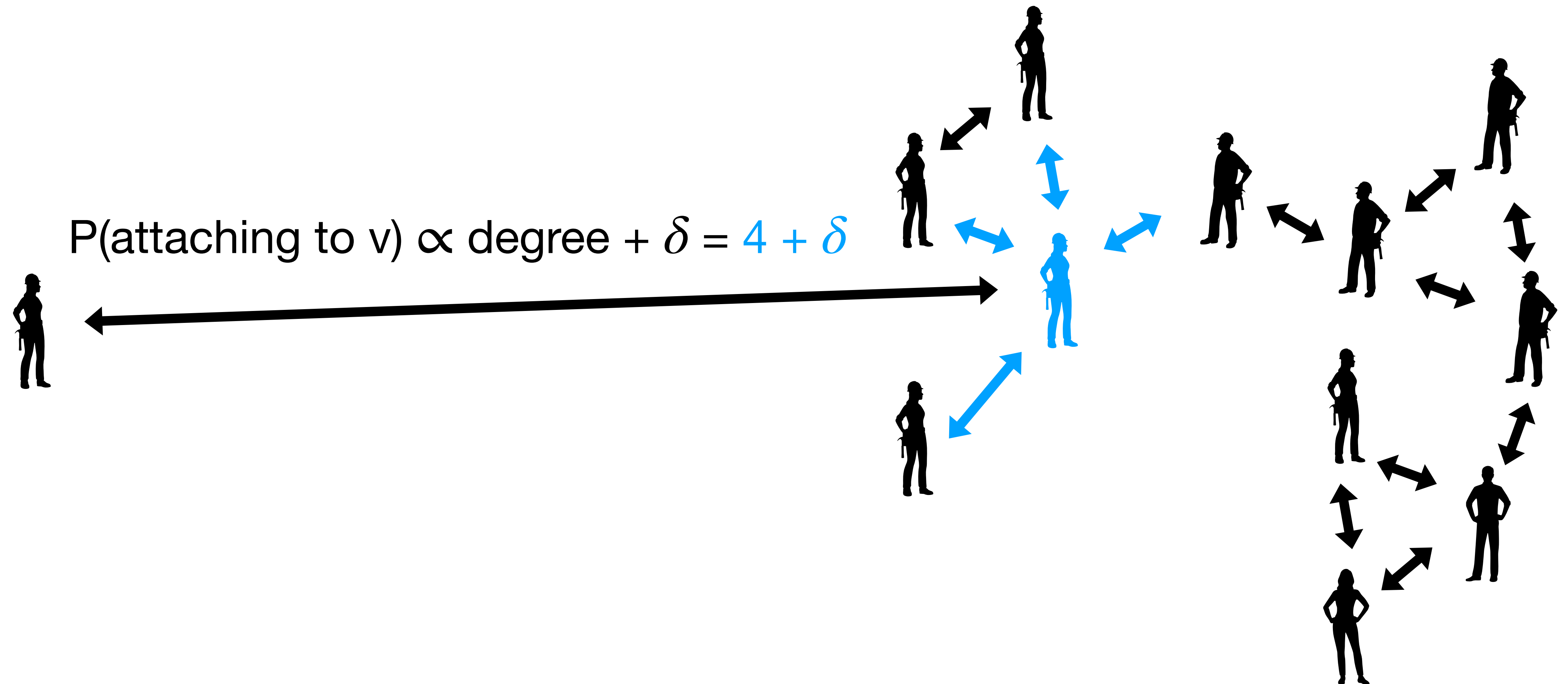
Preferential Attachment

[Albert and Barabasi 1999]



Preferential Attachment

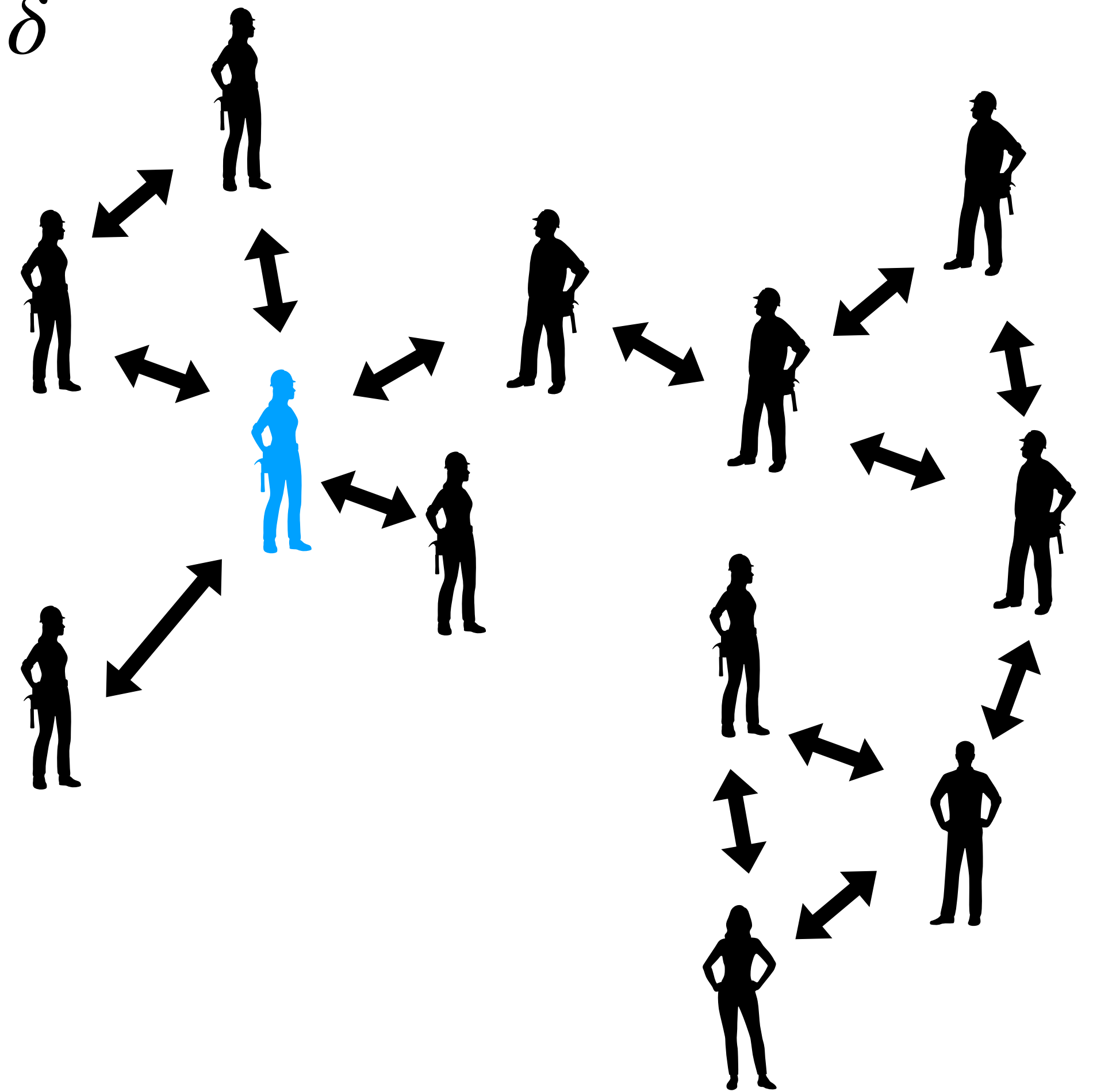
[Albert and Barabasi 1999]



Preferential Attachment

[Albert and Barabasi 1999]

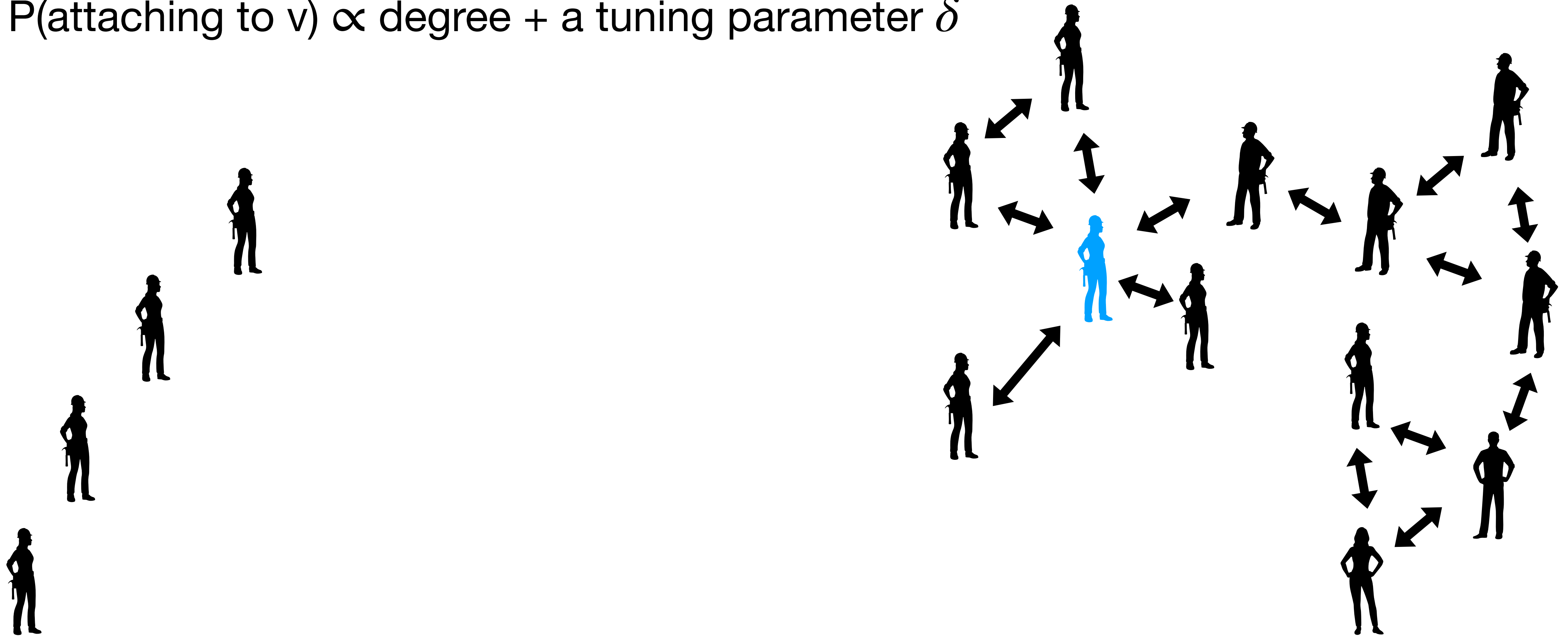
$P(\text{attaching to } v) \propto \text{degree} + \text{a tuning parameter } \delta$



Preferential Attachment

[Albert and Barabasi 1999]

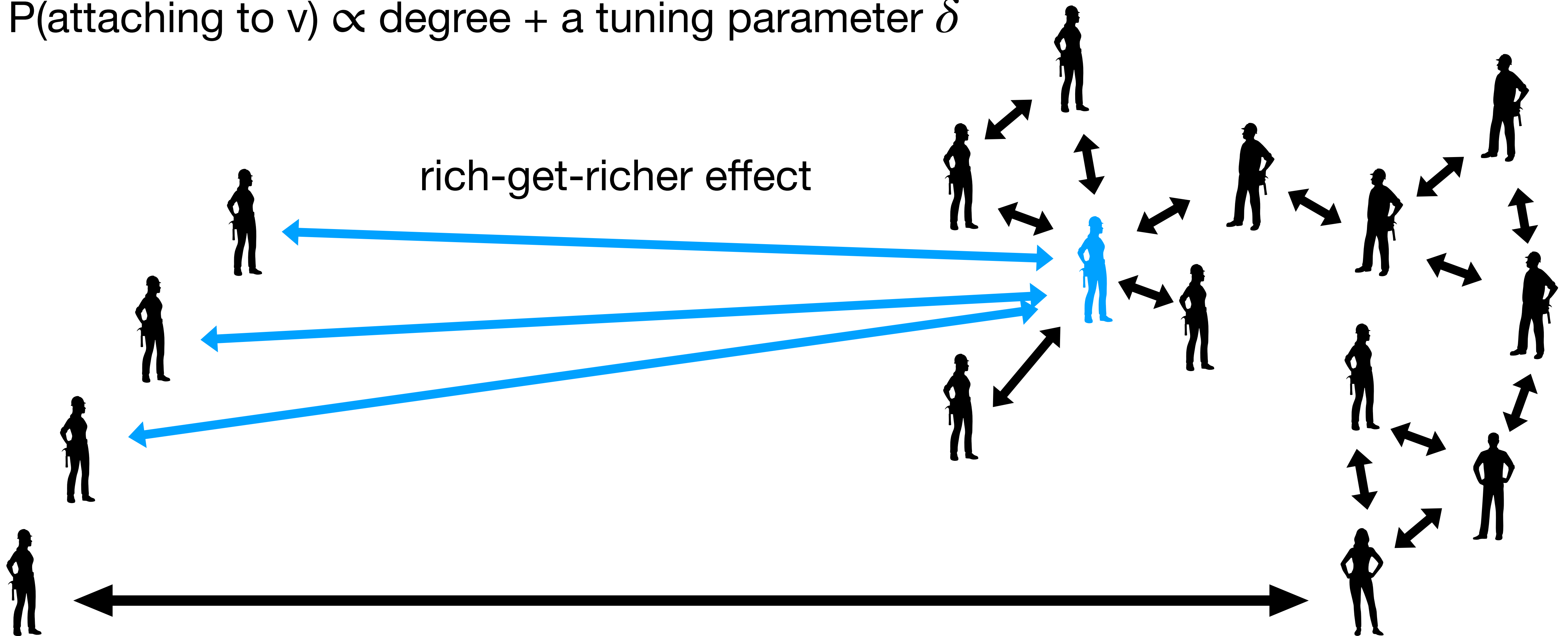
$P(\text{attaching to } v) \propto \text{degree} + \text{a tuning parameter } \delta$



Preferential Attachment

[Albert and Barabasi 1999]

$P(\text{attaching to } v) \propto \text{degree} + \text{a tuning parameter } \delta$



What do we know?

What do we know?

- degree distribution [Albert and Barabasi 1999]

What do we know?

- degree distribution [Albert and Barabasi 1999]
- triangle counts and clustering coefficient [Bollobas and Ridden 2002, Prokhorenkova et al 2013]

What do we know?

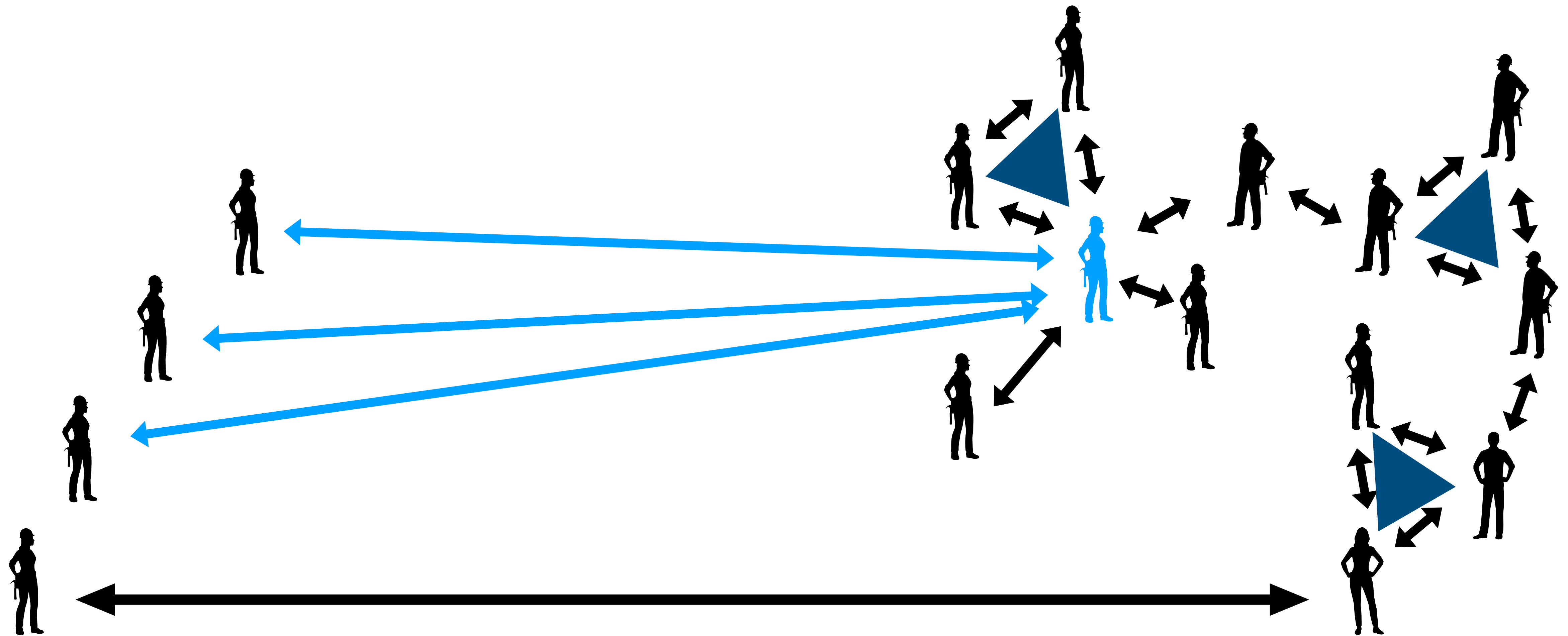
- degree distribution [Albert and Barabasi 1999]
- triangle counts and clustering coefficient [Bollobas and Ridden 2002, Prokhorenkova et al 2013]
- subgraph counts [Garavaglia and Steghuis 2019]

What do we know?

- degree distribution [Albert and Barabasi 1999]
- triangle counts and clustering coefficient [Bollobas and Ridden 2002, Prokhorenkova et al 2013]
- subgraph counts [Garavaglia and Steghuis 2019]
- and more...

Clique Complex

aka Flag Complex

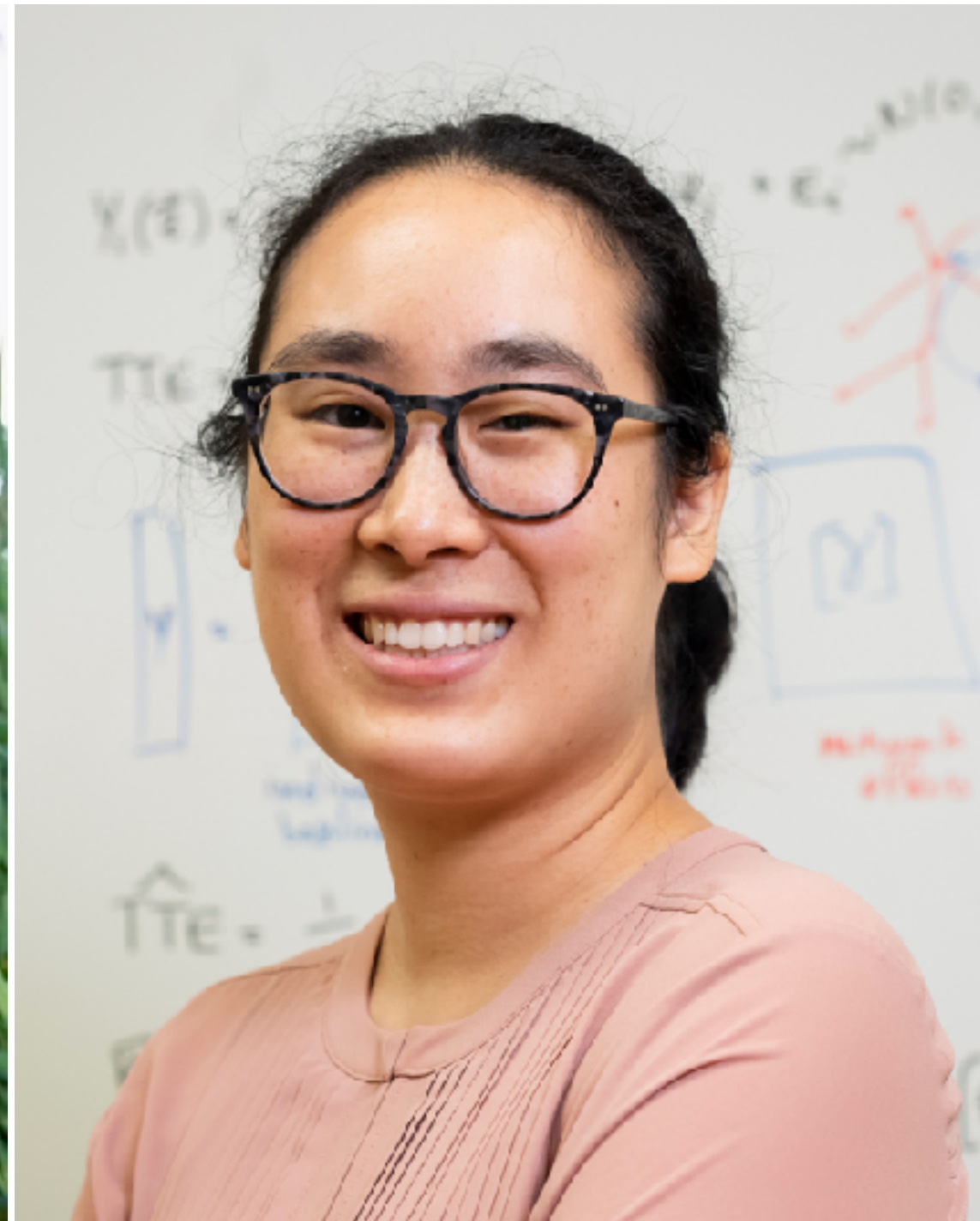


III Topology of Preferential Attachment

My Lovely Collaborators



Avhan Misra



Christina Lee Yu



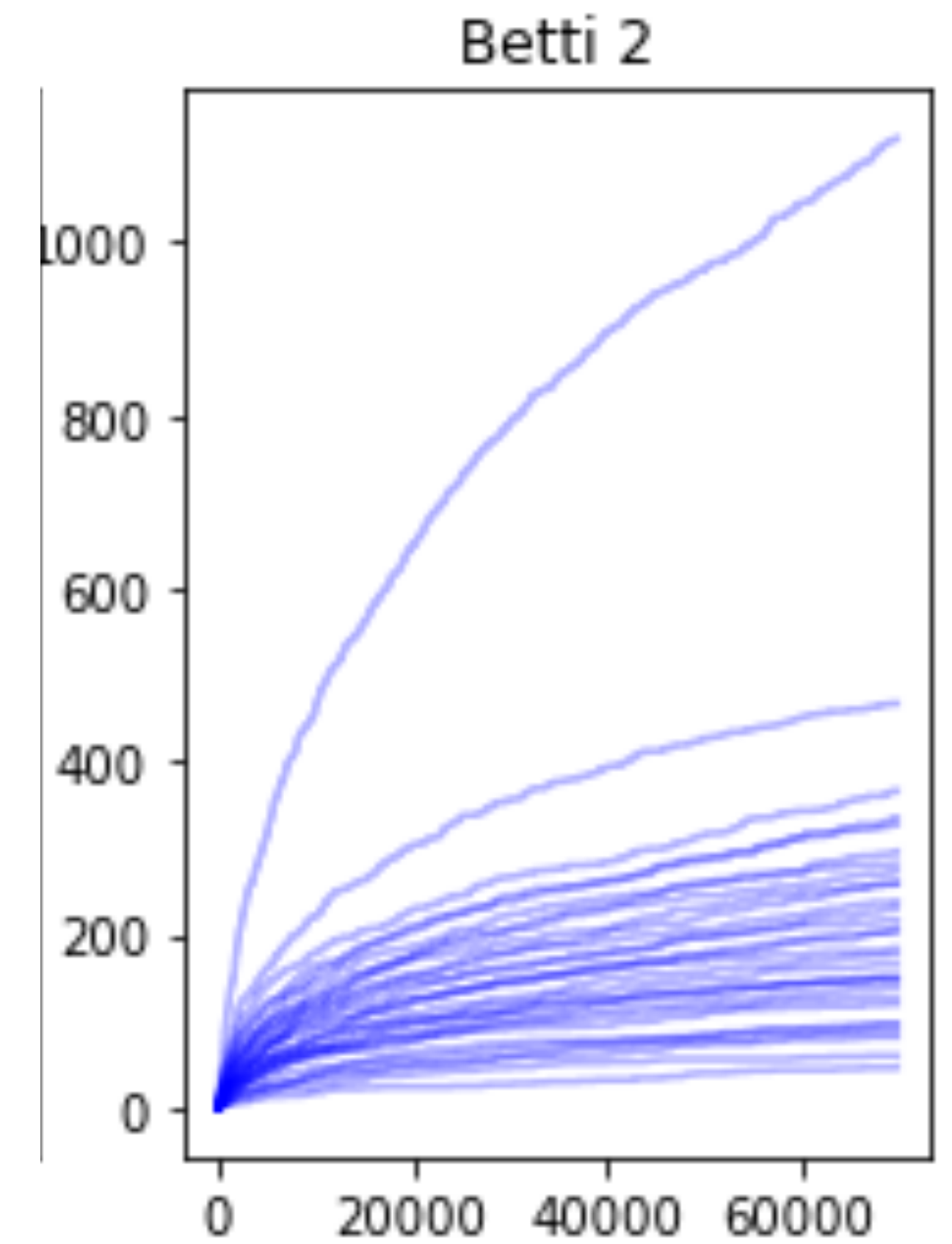
Gennady Samorodnitsky



Rongyi He (Caroline)

Betti Number β_q

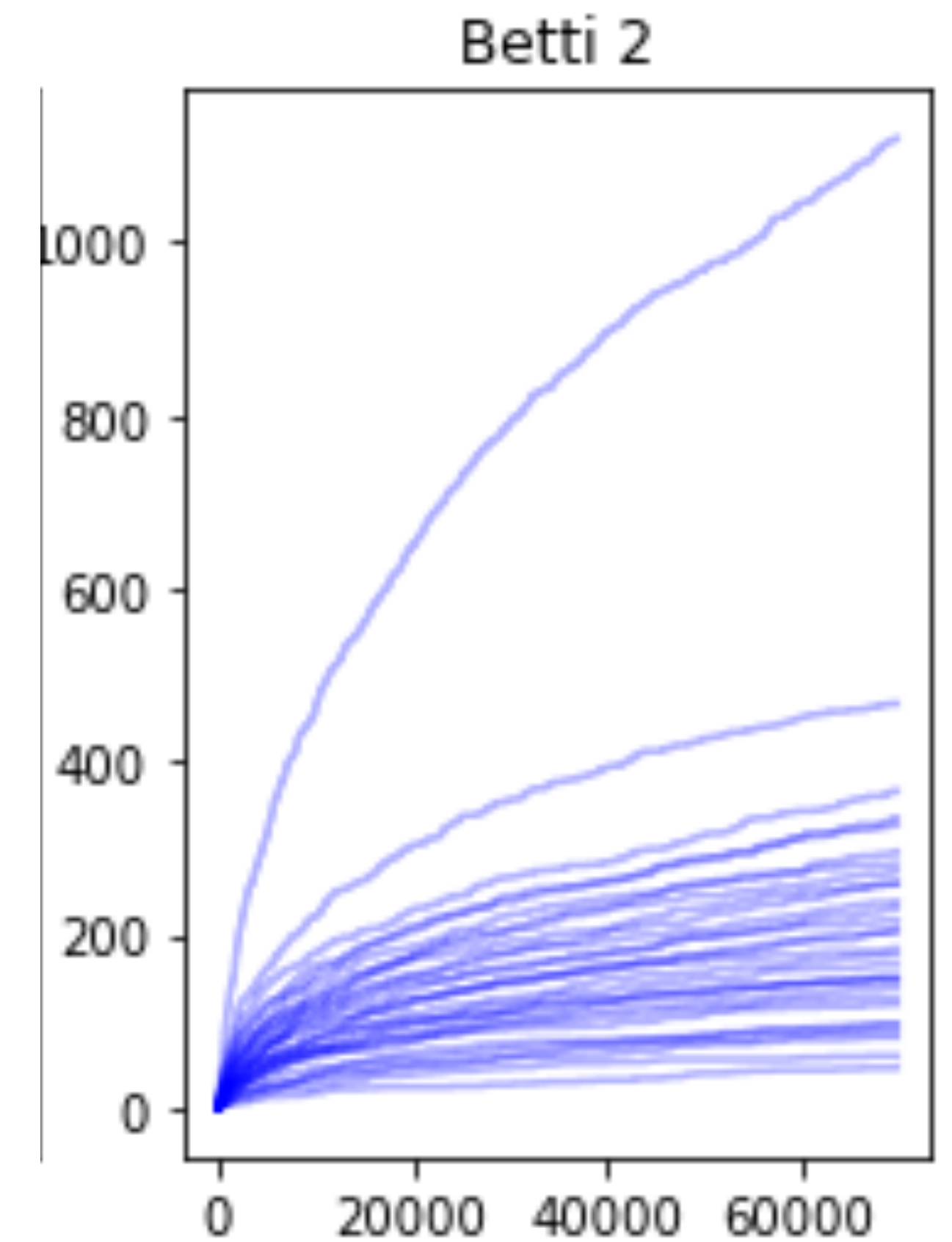
Betti Number β_q



Different curves, different random seeds.
All curves have the same model parameters.

Betti Number β_q

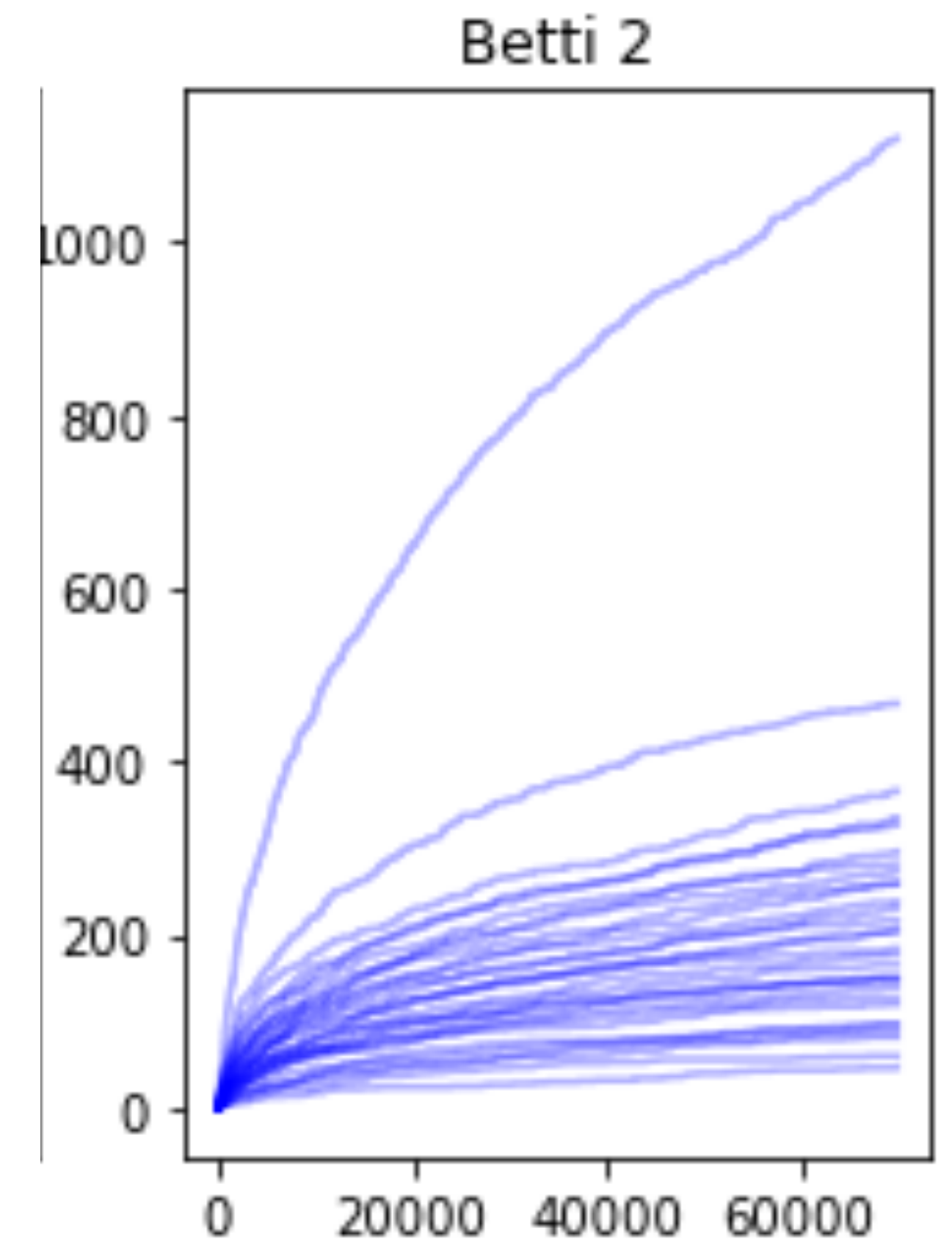
- increasing trend



Different curves, different random seeds.
All curves have the same model parameters.

Betti Number β_q

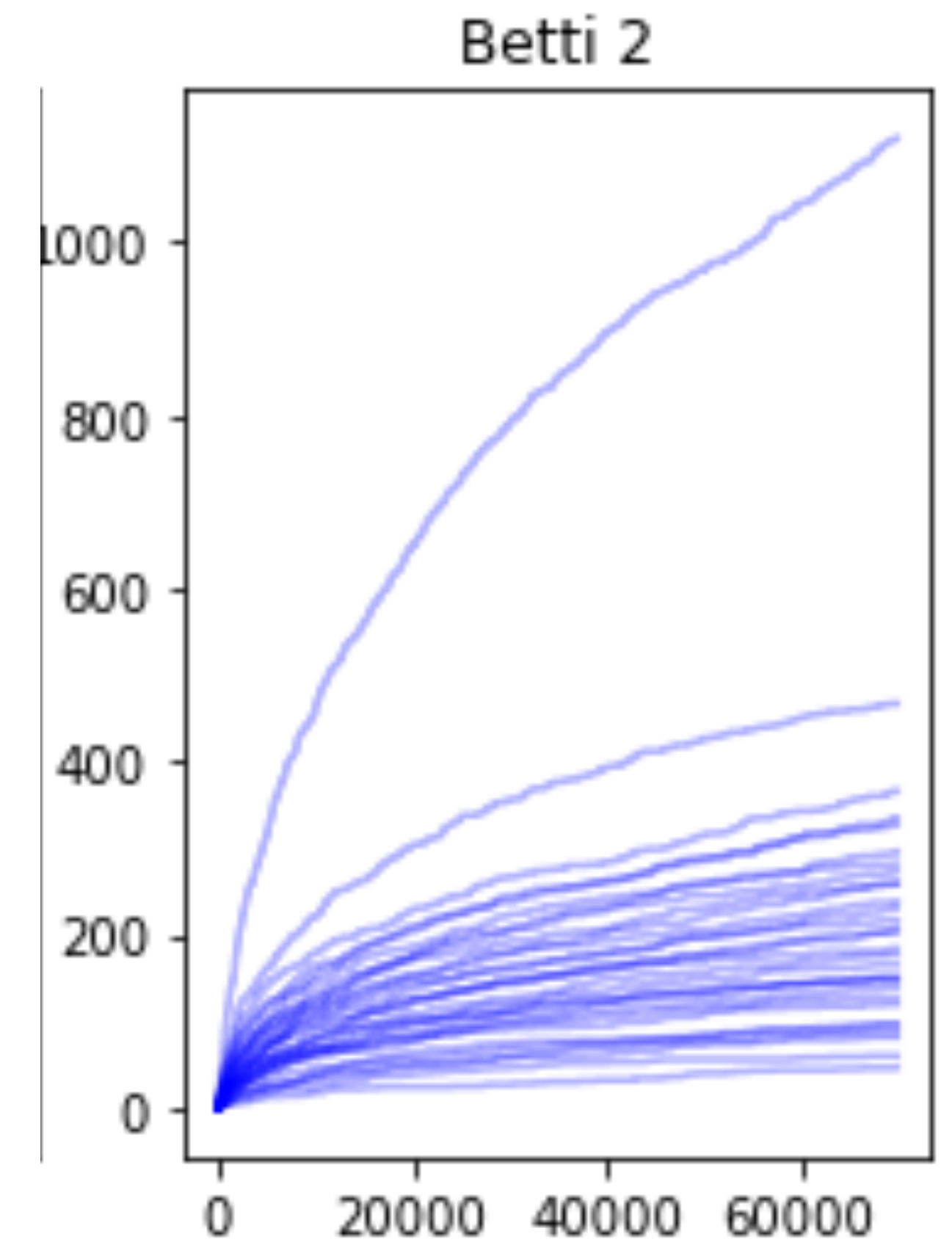
- increasing trend
- concave growth



Different curves, different random seeds.
All curves have the same model parameters.

Betti Number β_q

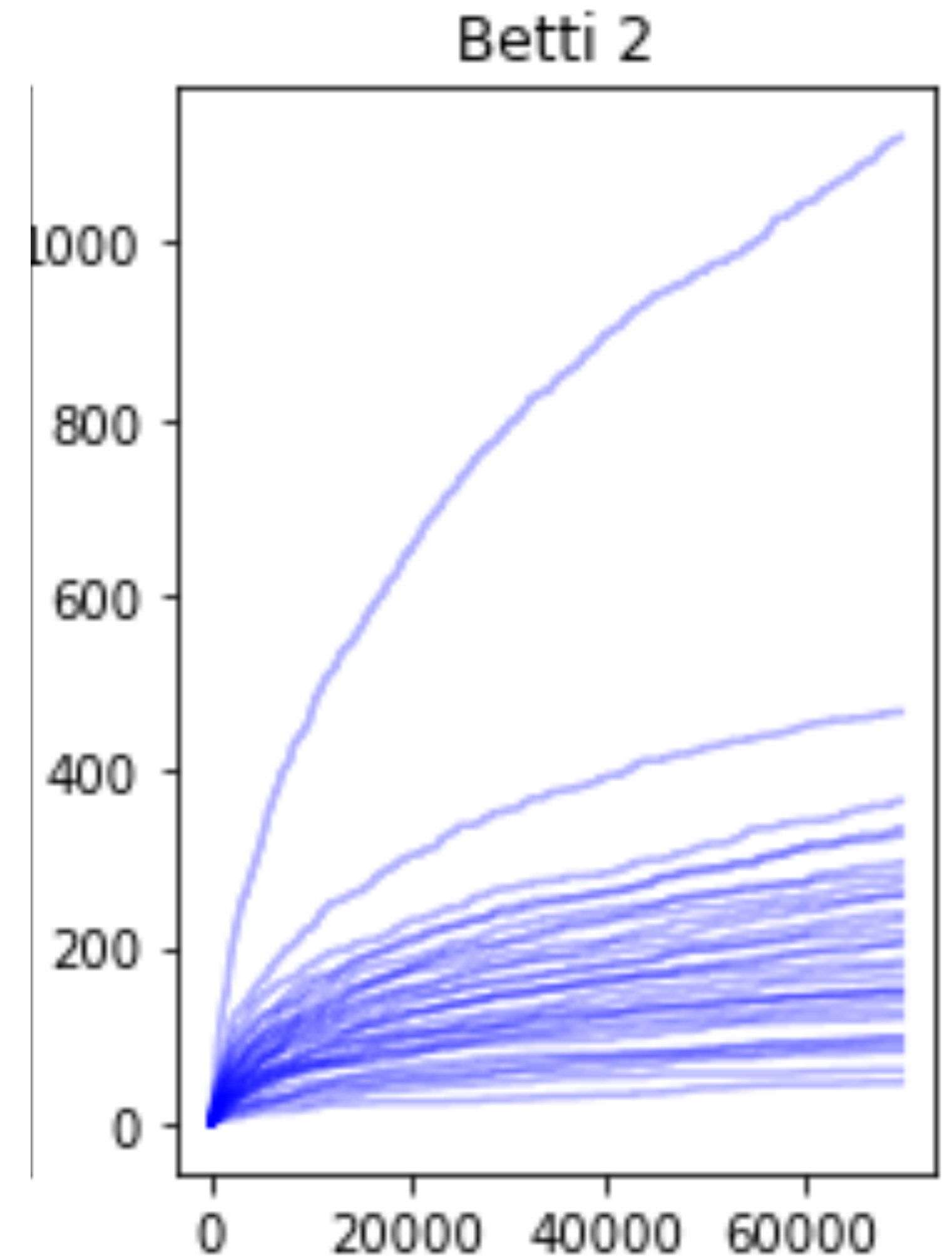
- increasing trend
- concave growth
- outlier



Different curves, different random seeds.
All curves have the same model parameters.

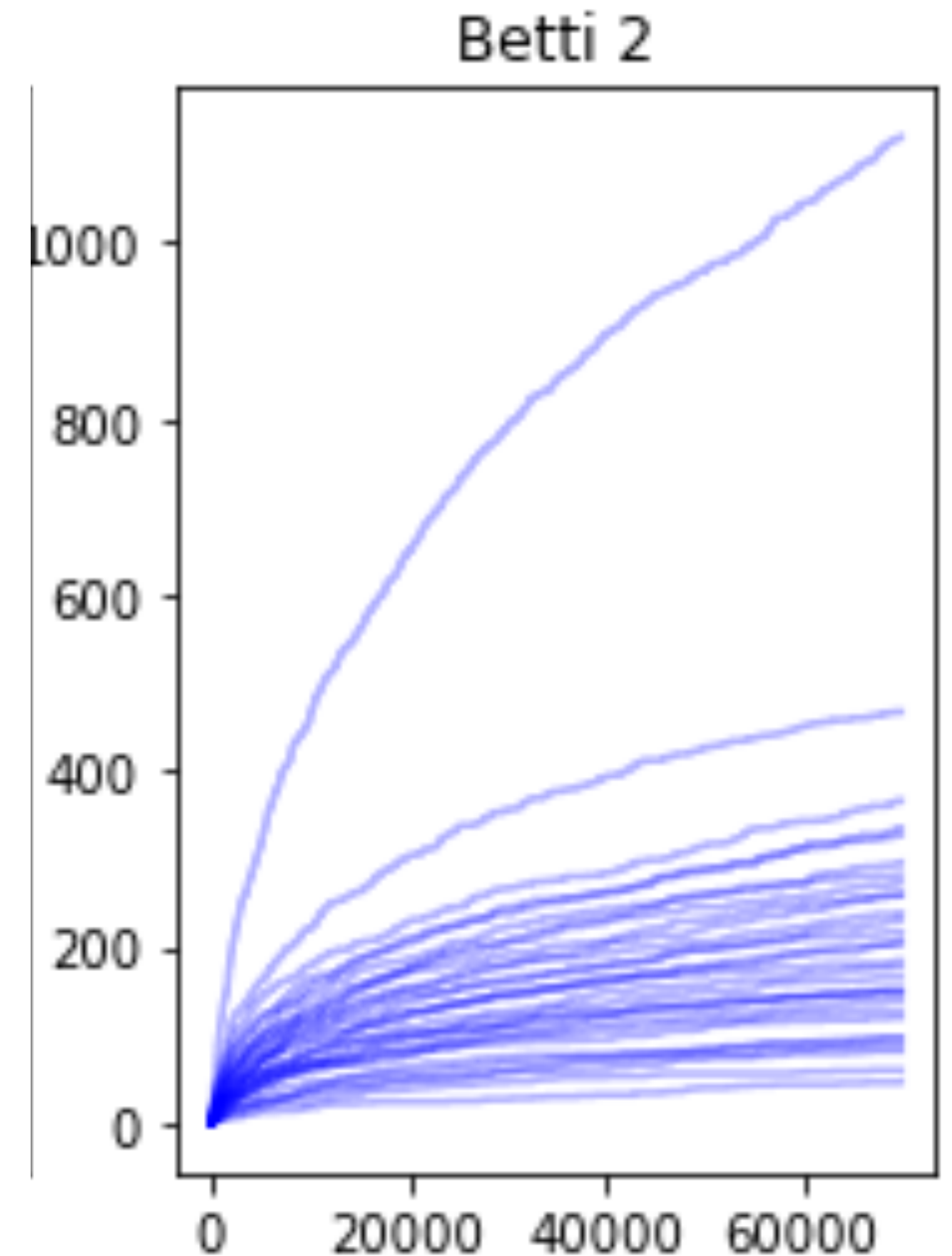
Betti Number β_q

- With probability at least $1 - \varepsilon$,
- $c_\varepsilon(\text{num of nodes}^{1-4x}) \leq \beta_2 \leq C_\varepsilon(\text{num of nodes}^{1-4x})$
- $x \in (0, 1/2)$ decreases with the preferential attachment strength
 - $P[T \text{ attaches to } i] \propto T^{-x}$



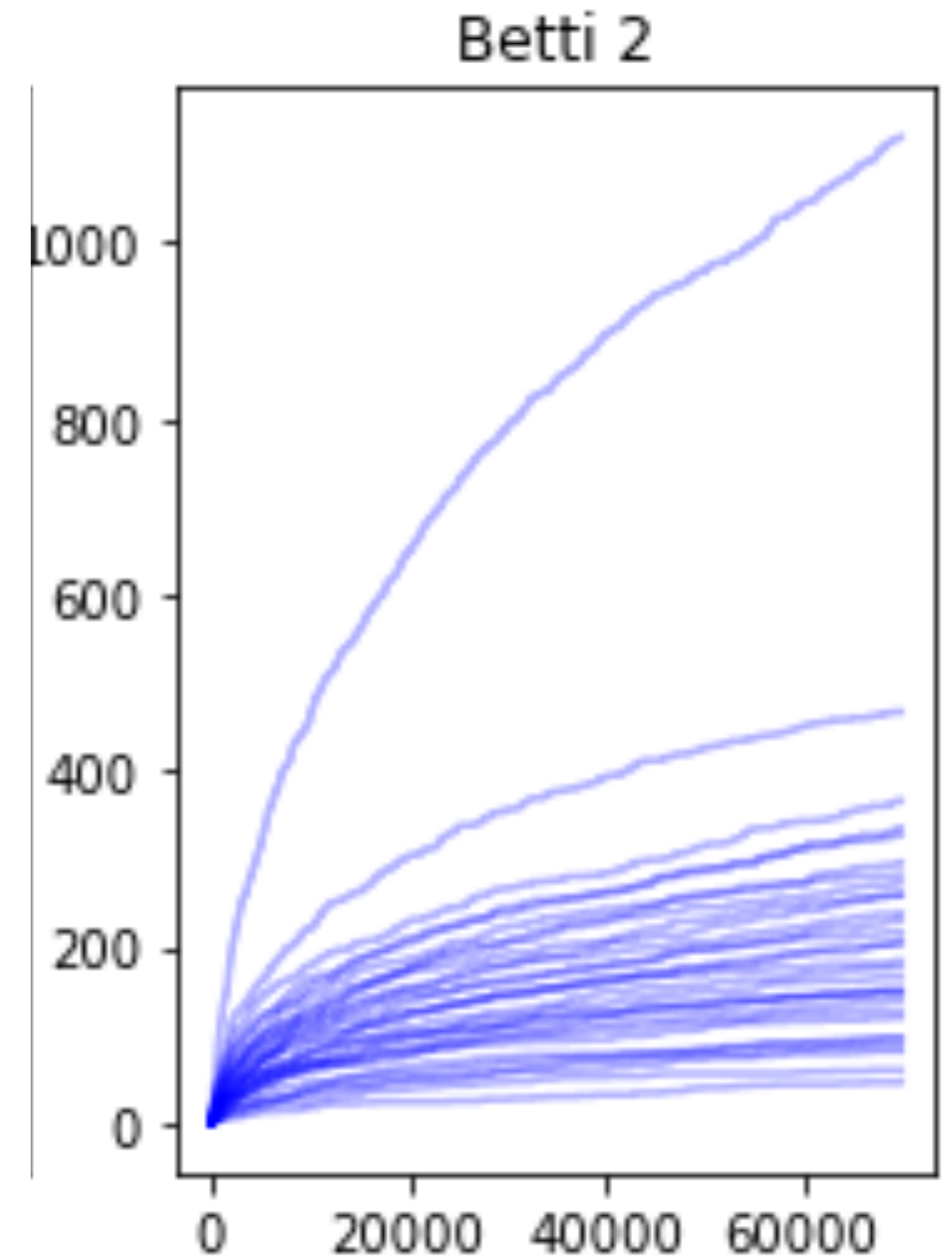
Betti Number β_q

- With probability at least $1 - \varepsilon$,
- $c_\varepsilon(\text{num of nodes})^{1-4x} \leq \beta_2 \leq C_\varepsilon(\text{num of nodes})^{1-4x}$
- $x \in (0, 1/2)$ decreases with the preferential attachment strength
 - $P[T \text{ attaches to } i] \propto T^{-x}$
- If $1 - 4x < 0$, then $\beta_2 \leq C_\varepsilon$.



Betti Number β_q

- With probability at least $1 - \varepsilon$,
- $c_\varepsilon(\text{num of nodes}^{1-\boxed{4}^x}) \leq \beta_2 \leq C_\varepsilon(\text{num of nodes}^{1-\boxed{4}^x})$
 - $x \in (0, 1/2)$ decreases with the preferential attachment strength
 - $P[T \text{ attaches to } i] \propto T^{-x}$
 - If $1 - 4x < 0$, then $\beta_2 \leq C_\varepsilon$.
- $c_\varepsilon(\text{num of nodes}^{1-\boxed{2q}^x}) \leq \beta_q \leq C_\varepsilon(\text{num of nodes}^{1-\boxed{2q}^x})$ for $q \geq 2$.

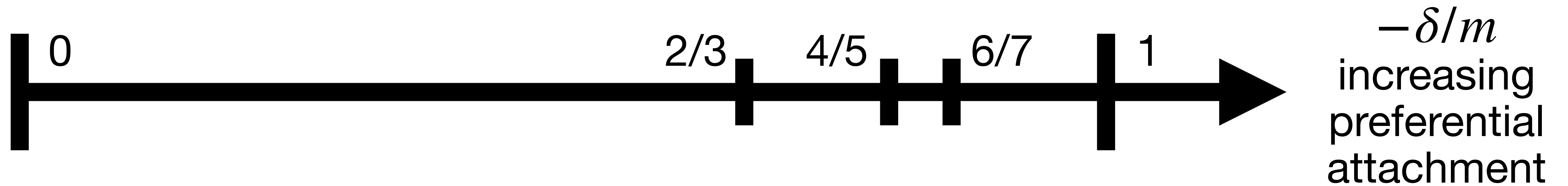


Phase transition

Recall

$P(\text{attaching to } v) \propto \text{degree} + \delta$

m = number of edges per new node

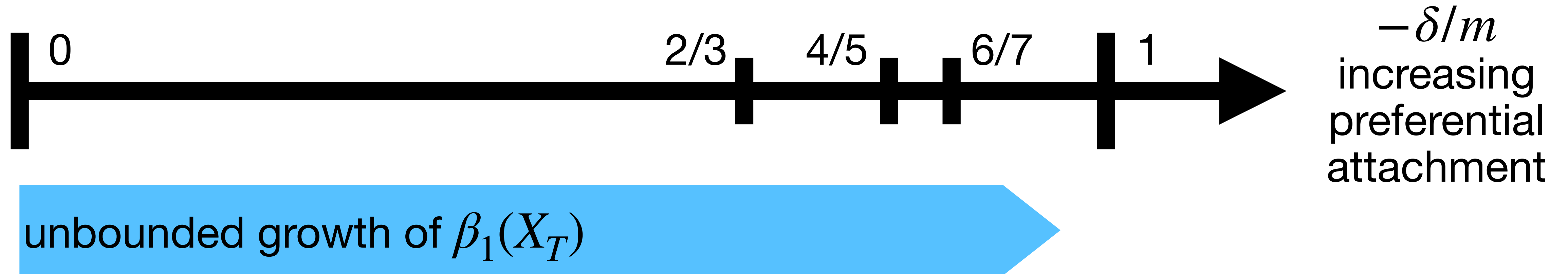


Phase transition

Recall

$P(\text{attaching to } v) \propto \text{degree} + \delta$

m = number of edges per new node

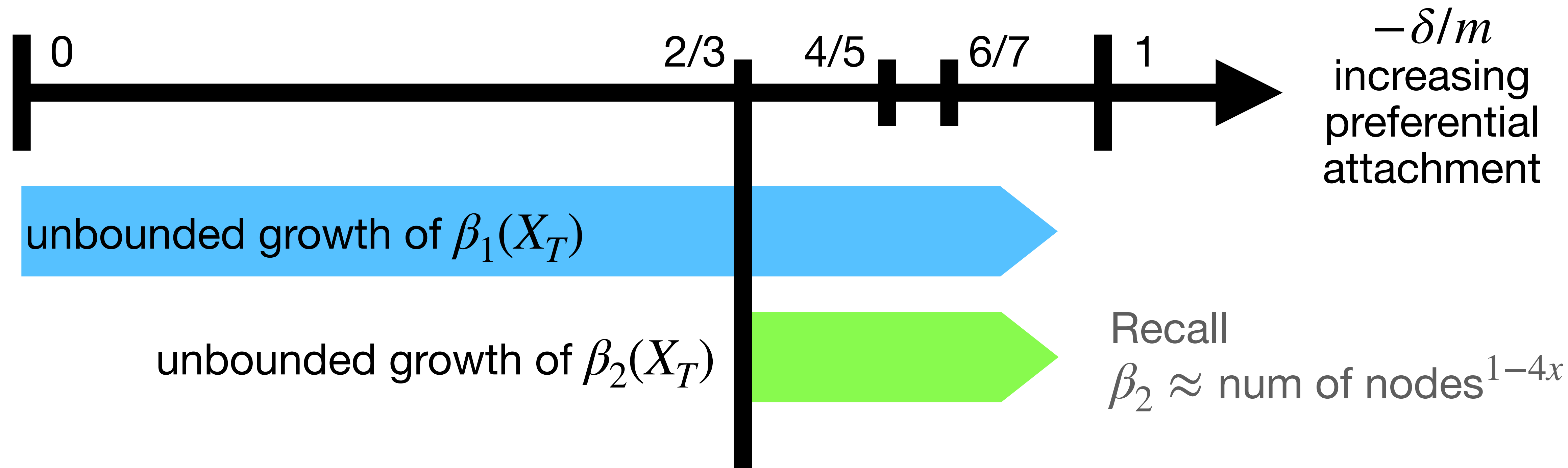


Phase transition

Recall

$P(\text{attaching to } v) \propto \text{degree} + \delta$

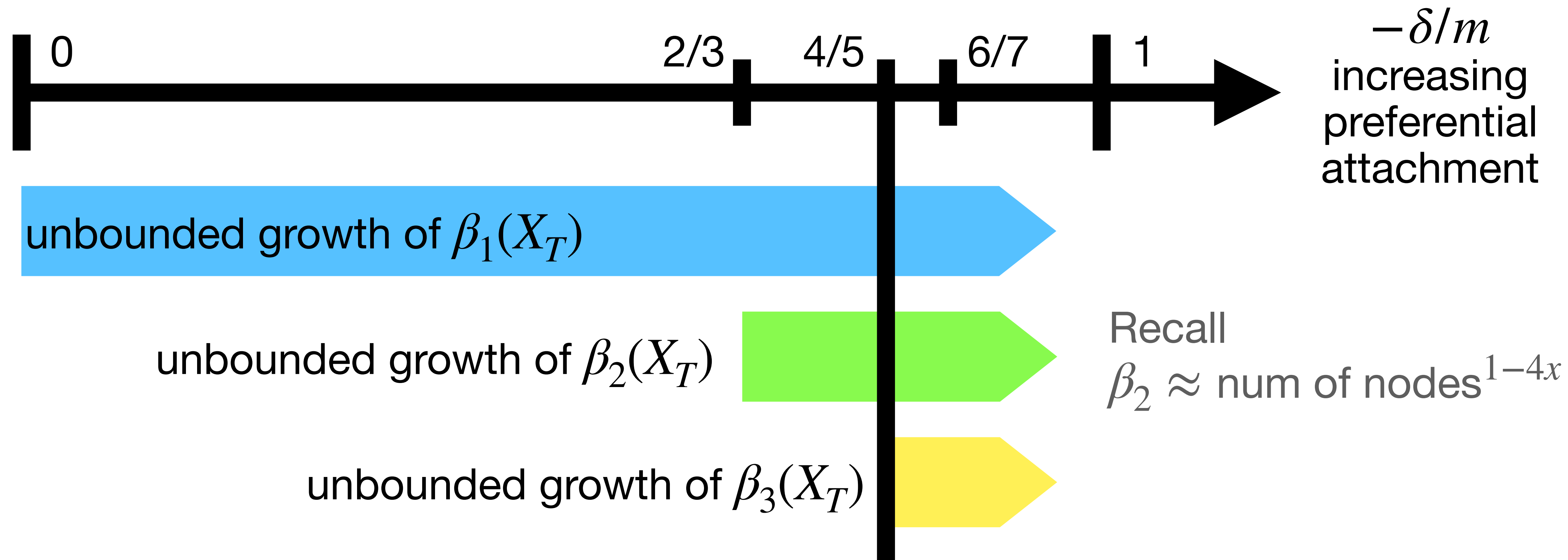
m = number of edges per new node



Phase transition

Recall

$P(\text{attaching to } v) \propto \text{degree} + \delta$
 $m = \text{number of edges per new node}$

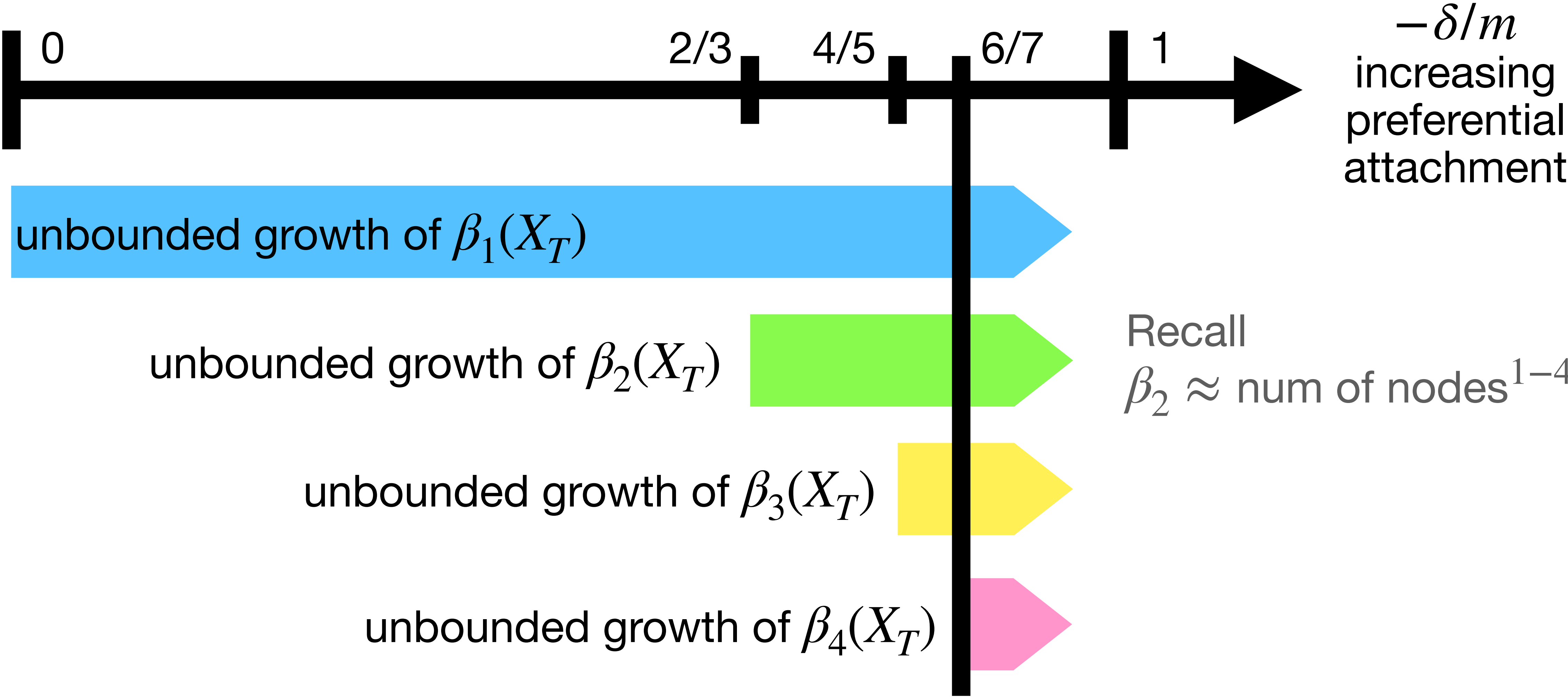


Phase transition

Recall

$P(\text{attaching to } v) \propto \text{degree} + \delta$

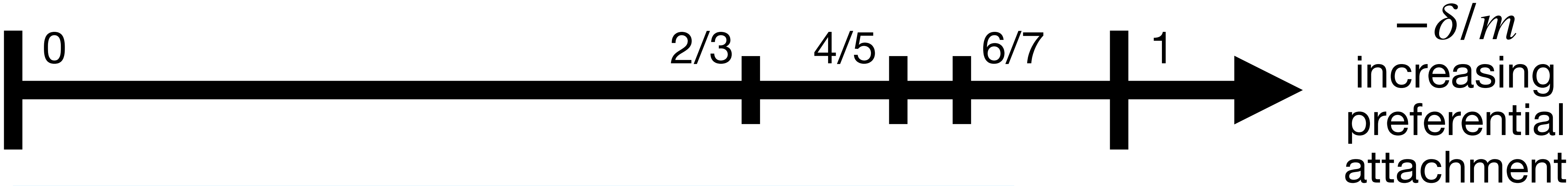
m = number of edges per new node



Phase transition

Recall

$P(\text{attaching to } v) \propto \text{degree} + \delta$
 $m = \text{number of edges per new node}$



unbounded growth of $\beta_1(X_T)$

unbounded growth of $\beta_2(X_T)$

unbounded growth of $\beta_3(X_T)$

unbounded growth of $\beta_4(X_T)$

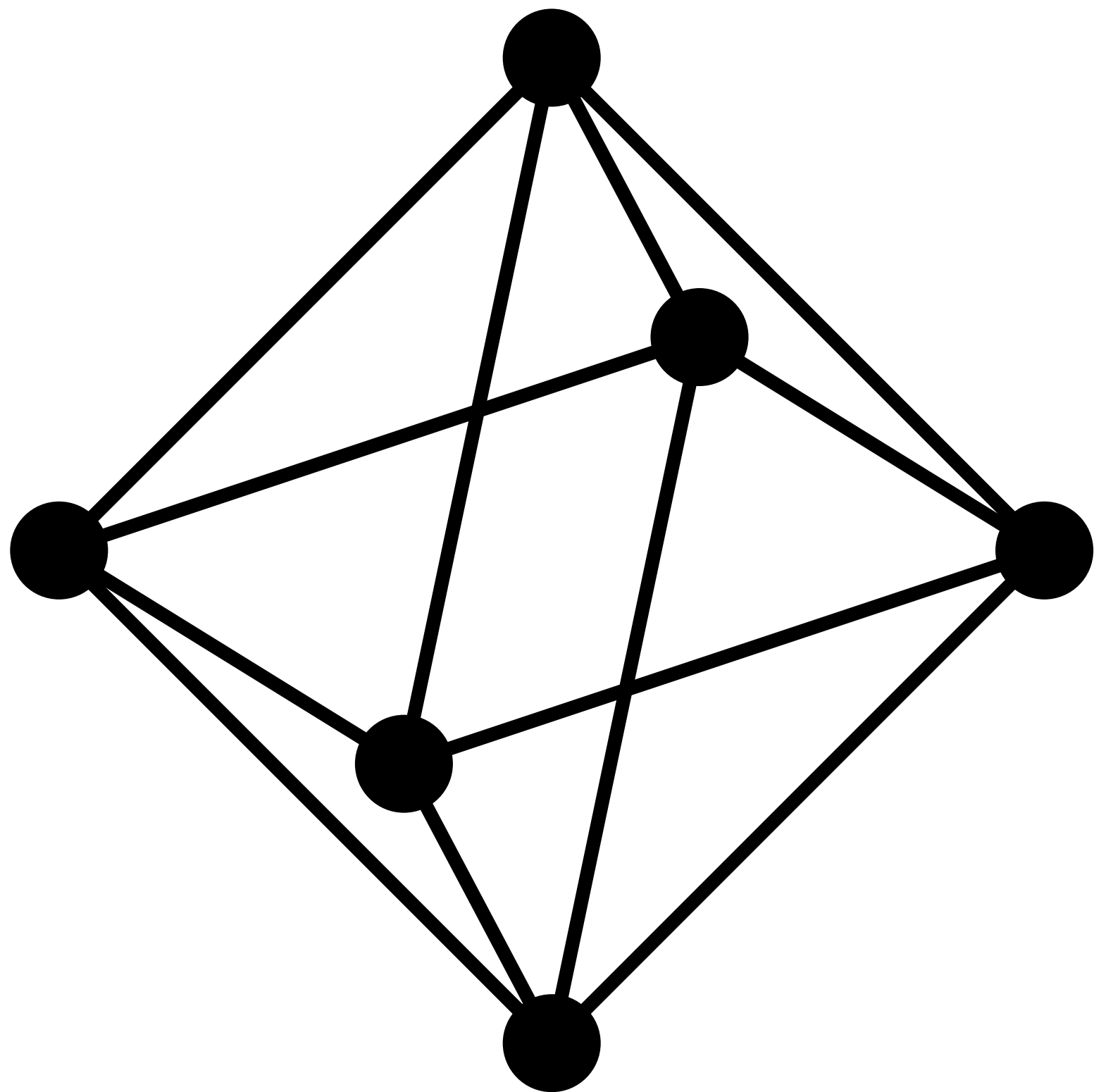
$\vdots$

Recall

$\beta_2 \approx \text{num of nodes}^{1-4x}$

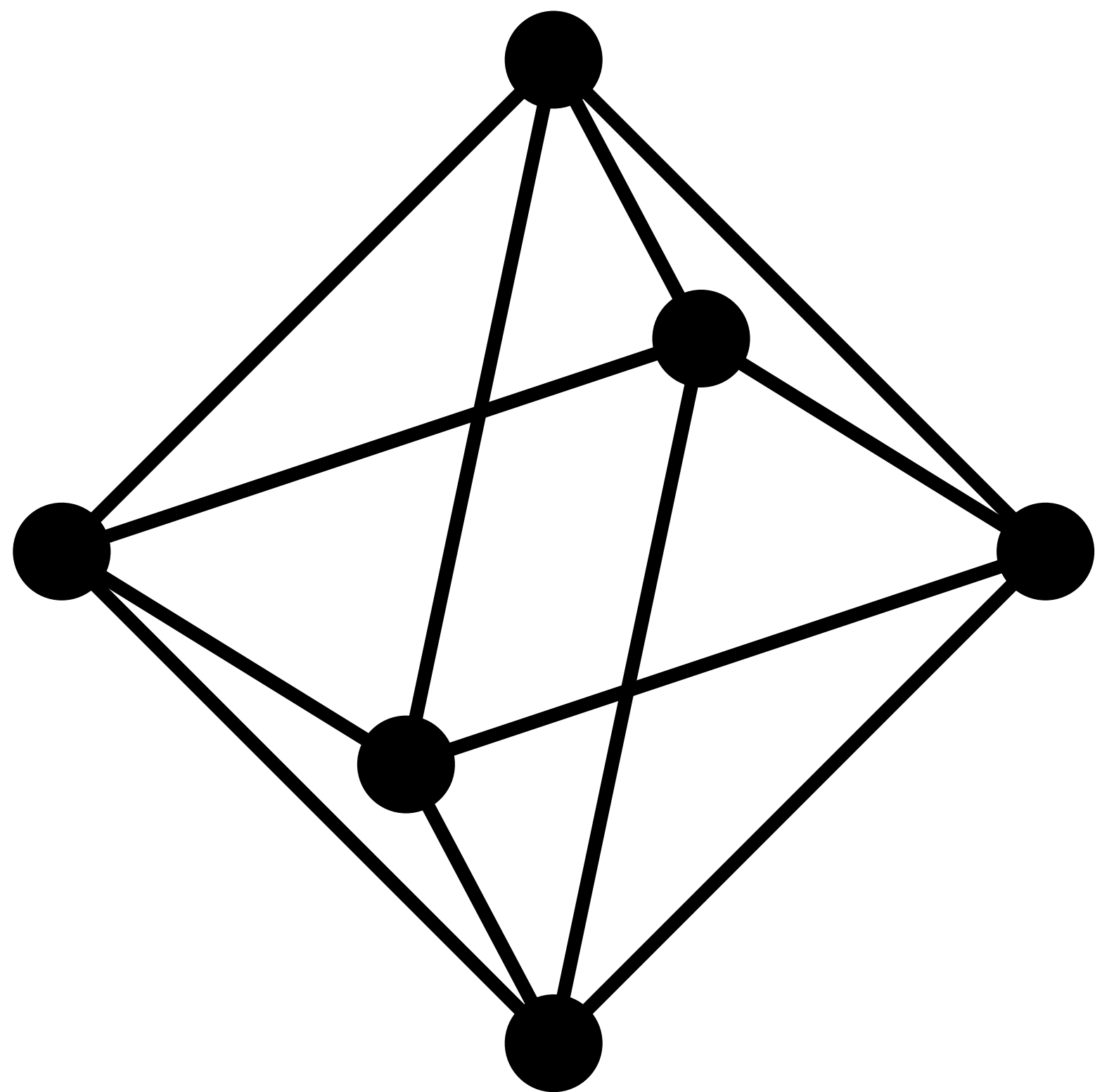
Theorem: $\beta_2 \approx \text{num of nodes}^{1-4x}$
Proof?

Proof of $\beta_2 \approx \text{num of nodes}^{1-4x}$

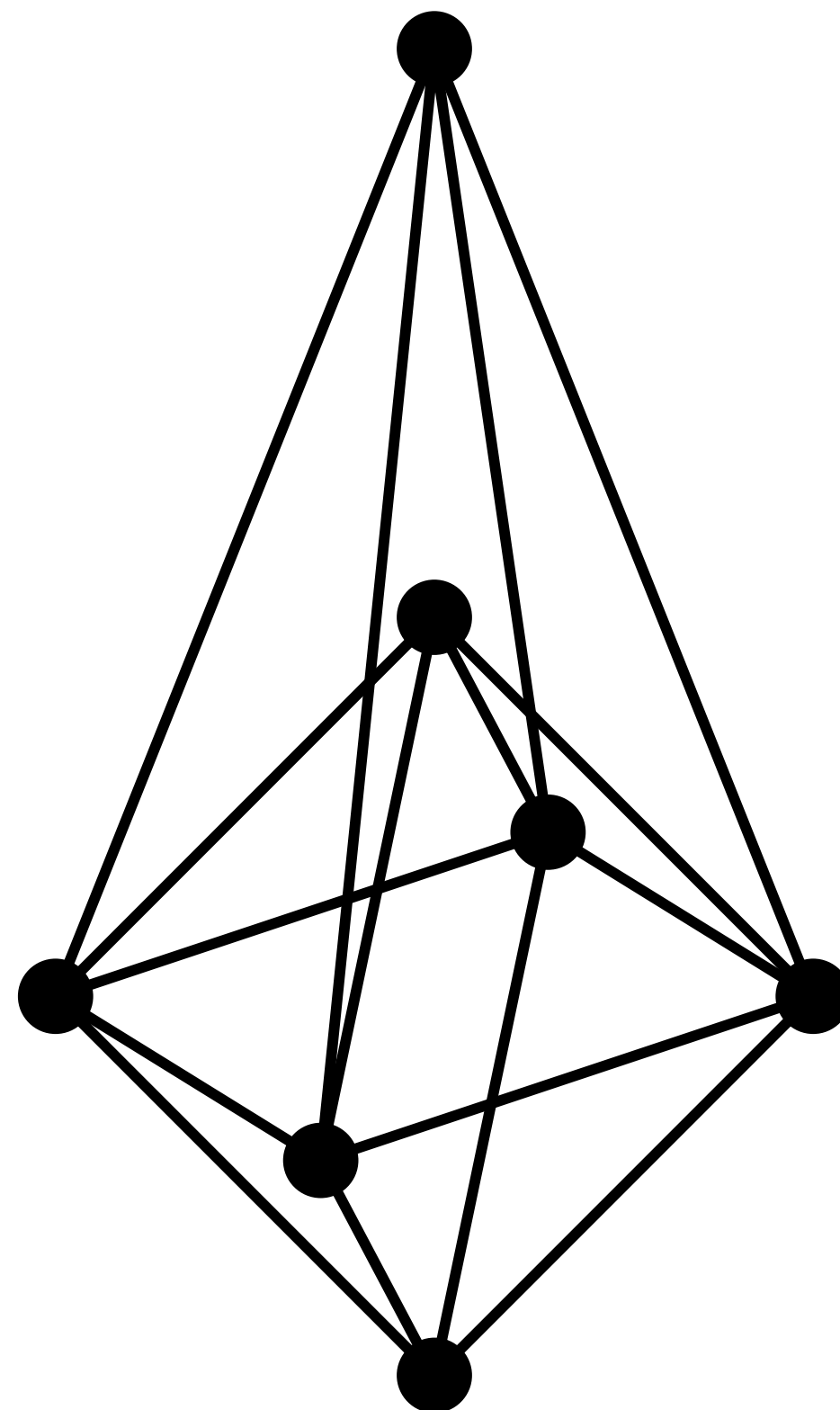


$$\beta_2 = 1$$

Proof of $\beta_2 \approx \text{num of nodes}^{1-4x}$

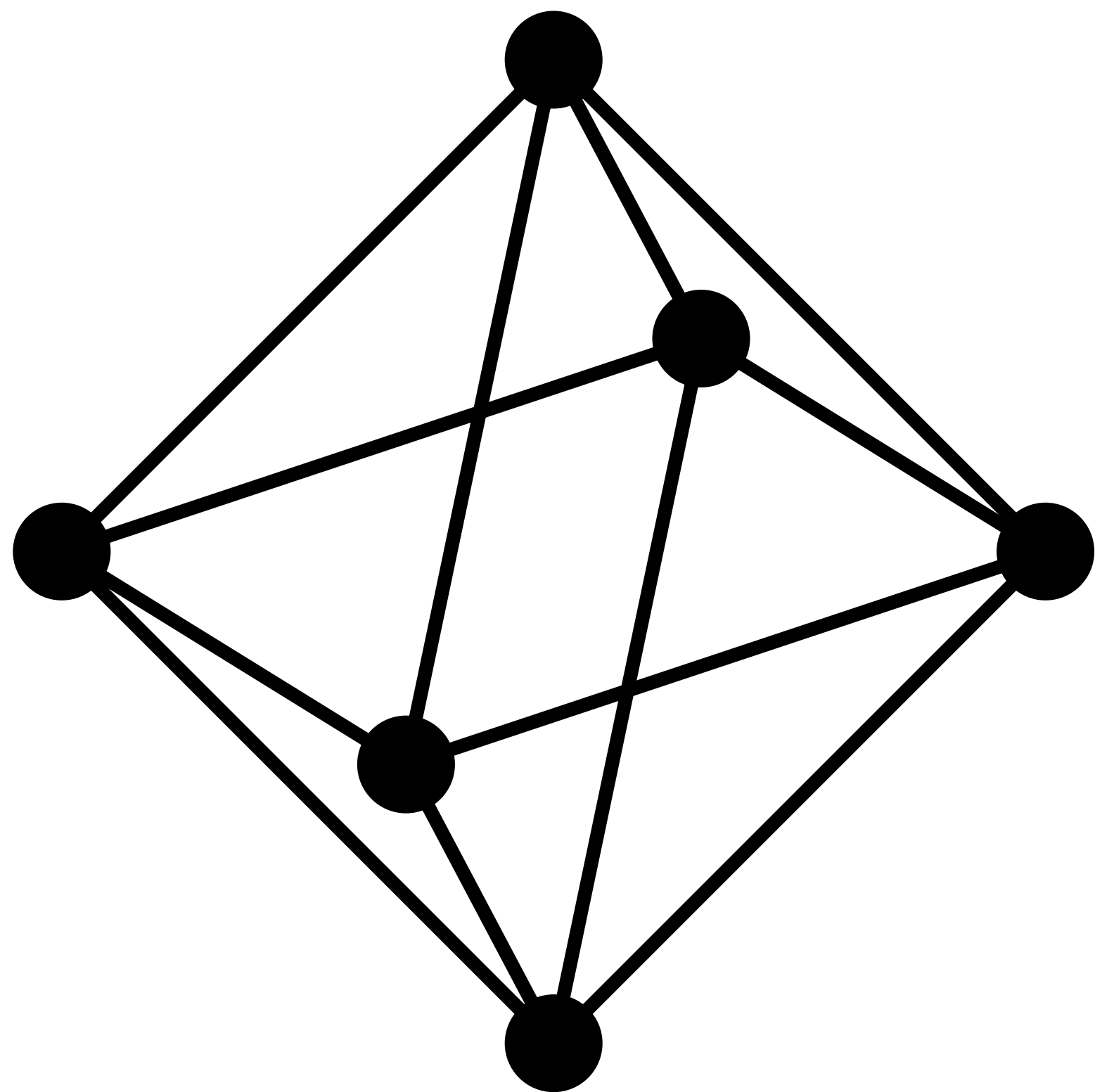


$$\beta_2 = 1$$

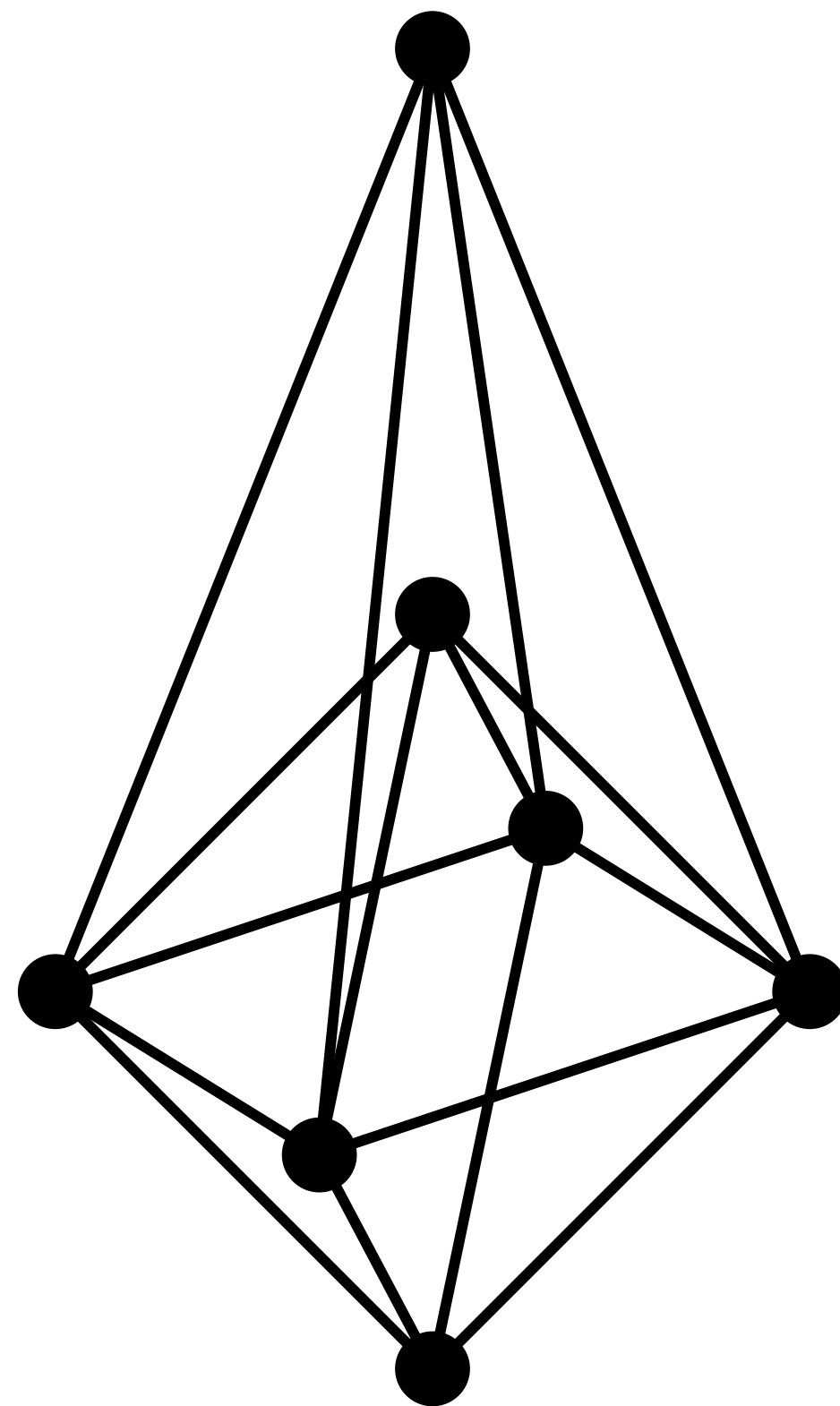


$$\beta_2 = 2$$

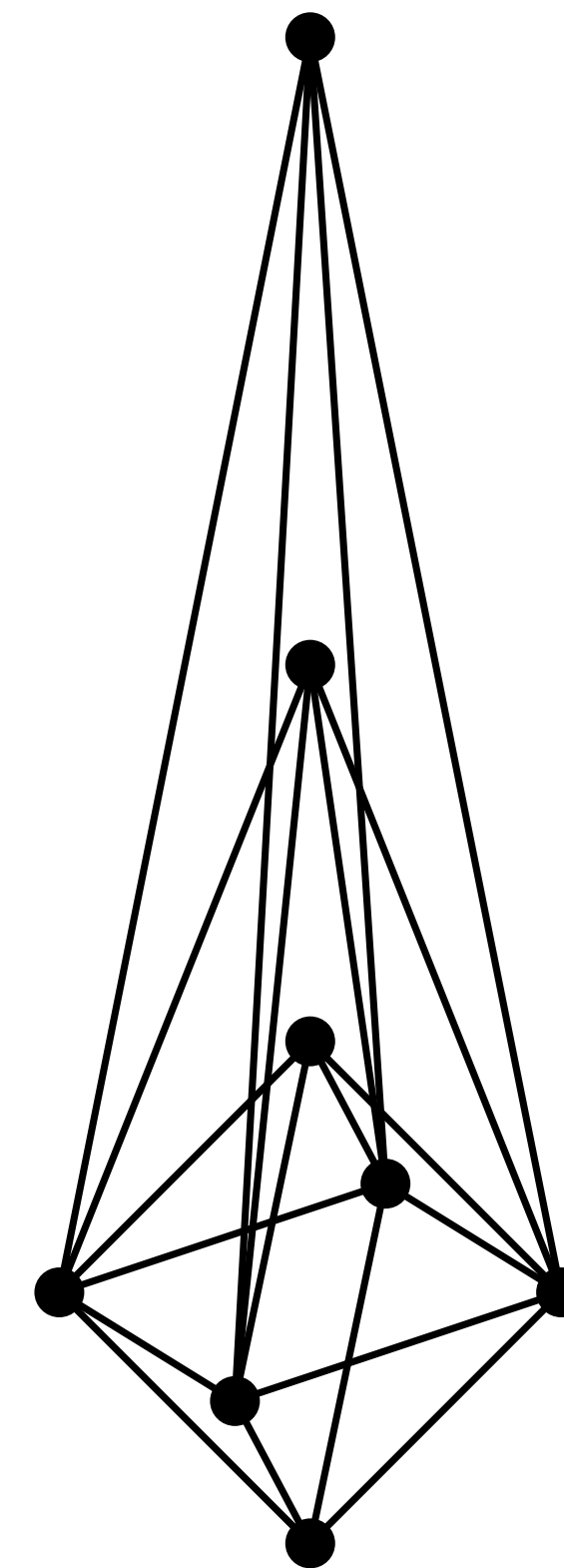
Proof of $\beta_2 \approx \text{num of nodes}^{1-4x}$



$$\beta_2 = 1$$



$$\beta_2 = 2$$



$$\beta_2 = 3$$

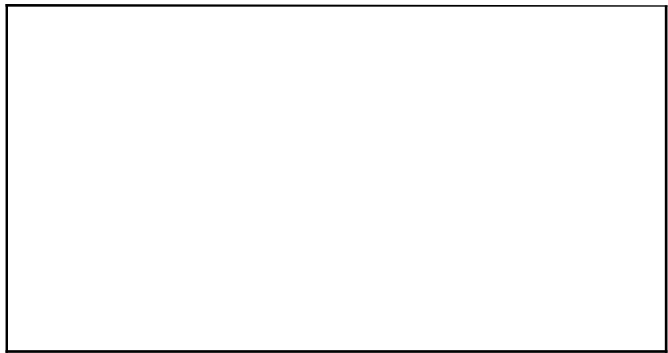
Homotopy-Connectivity?

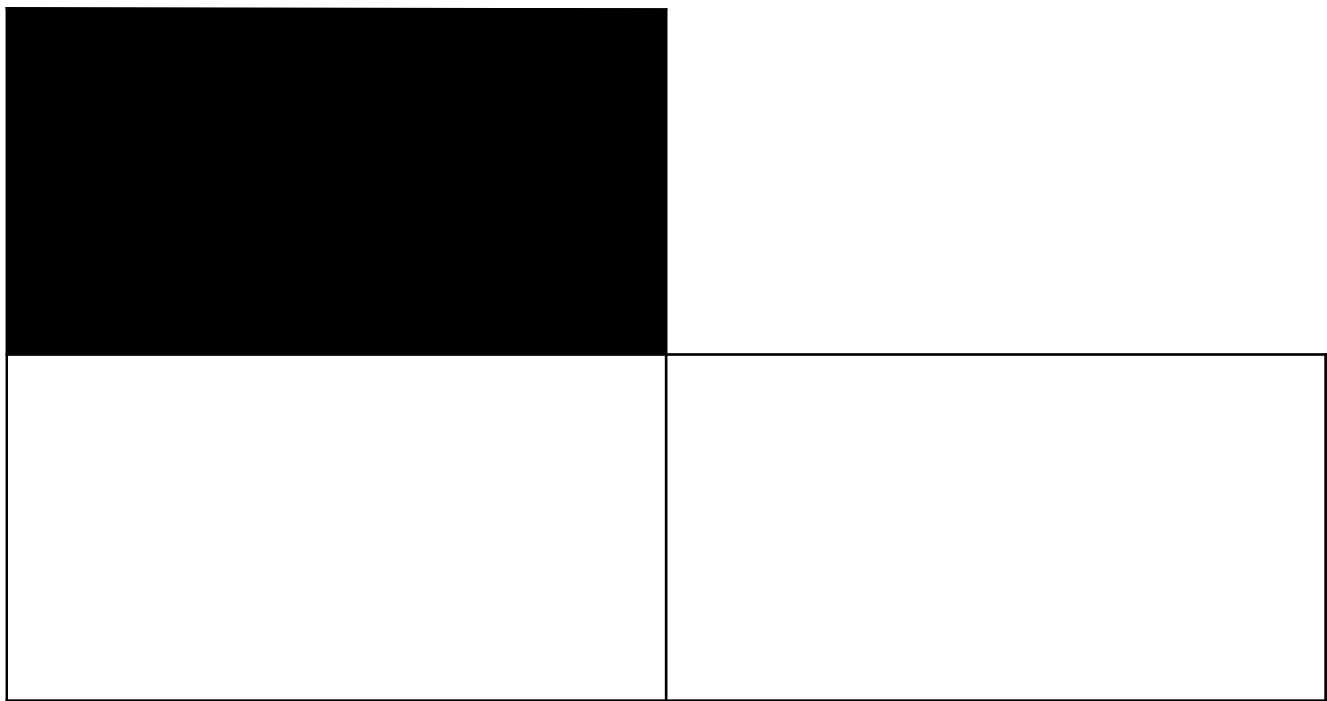
Homotopy-Connectivity?

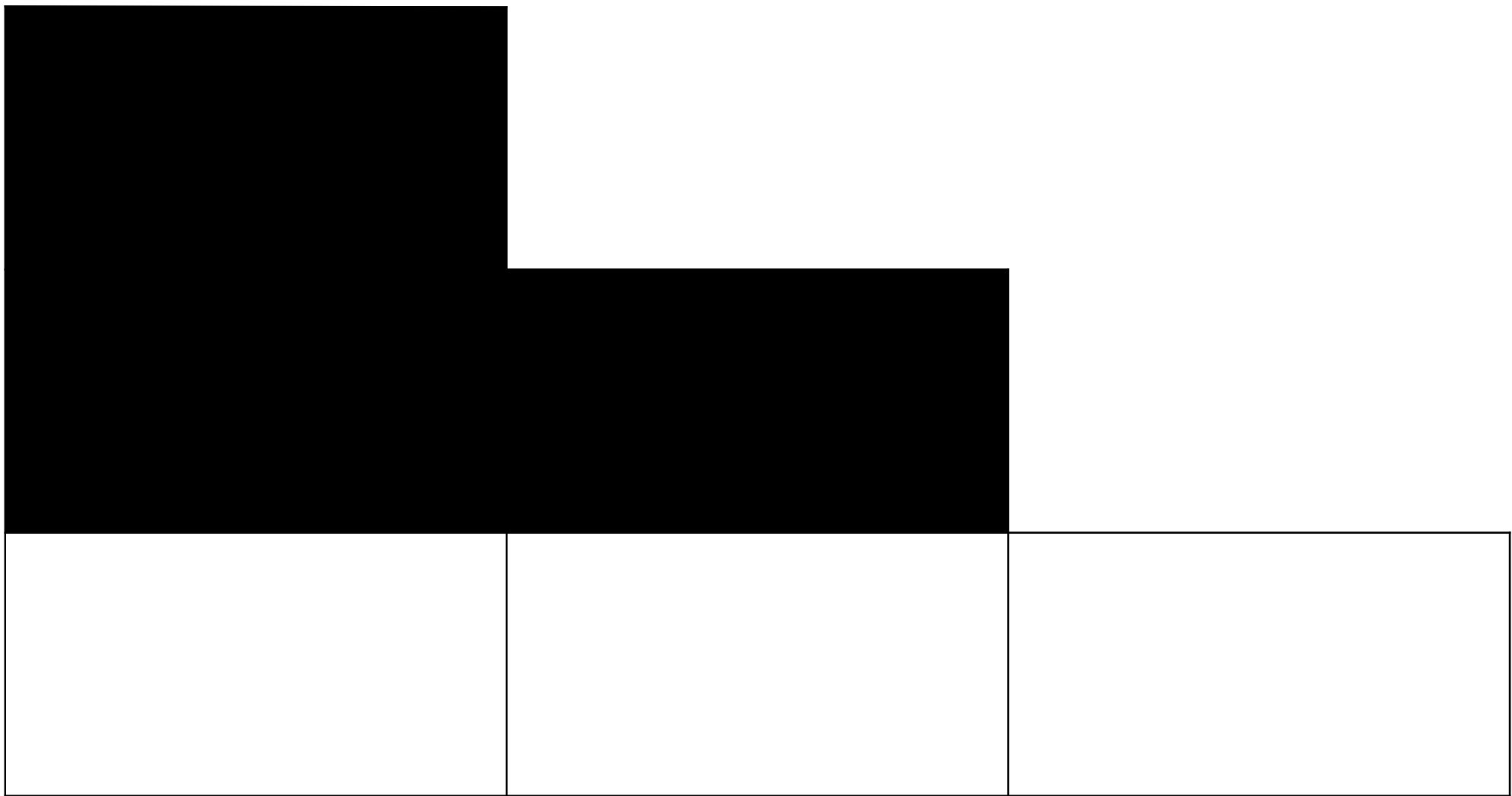
$$\beta_2 \approx \text{num of nodes}^{1-4x}$$

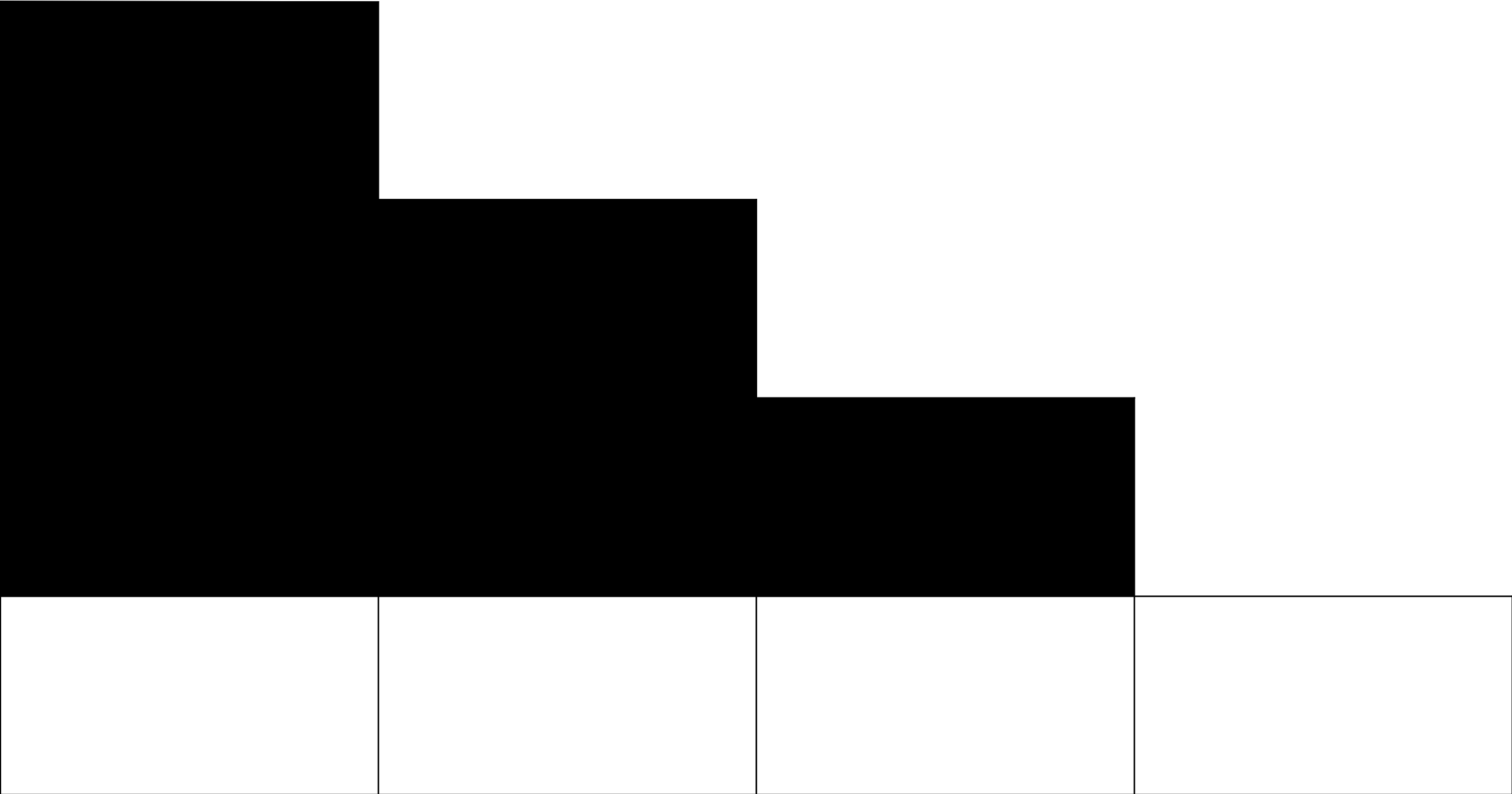
Pass to infinity

*S Weinberger, 2023
private conversation*

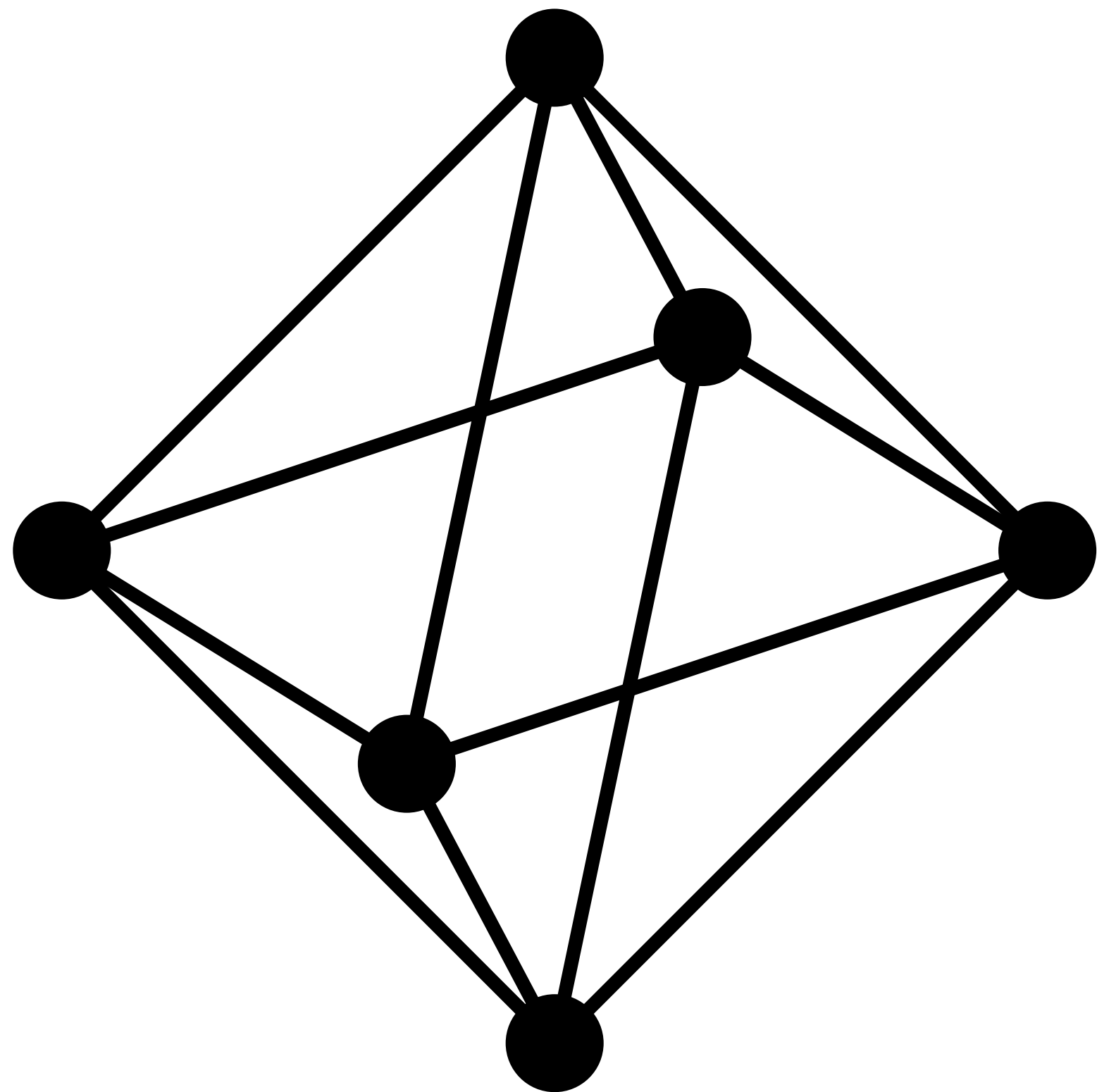




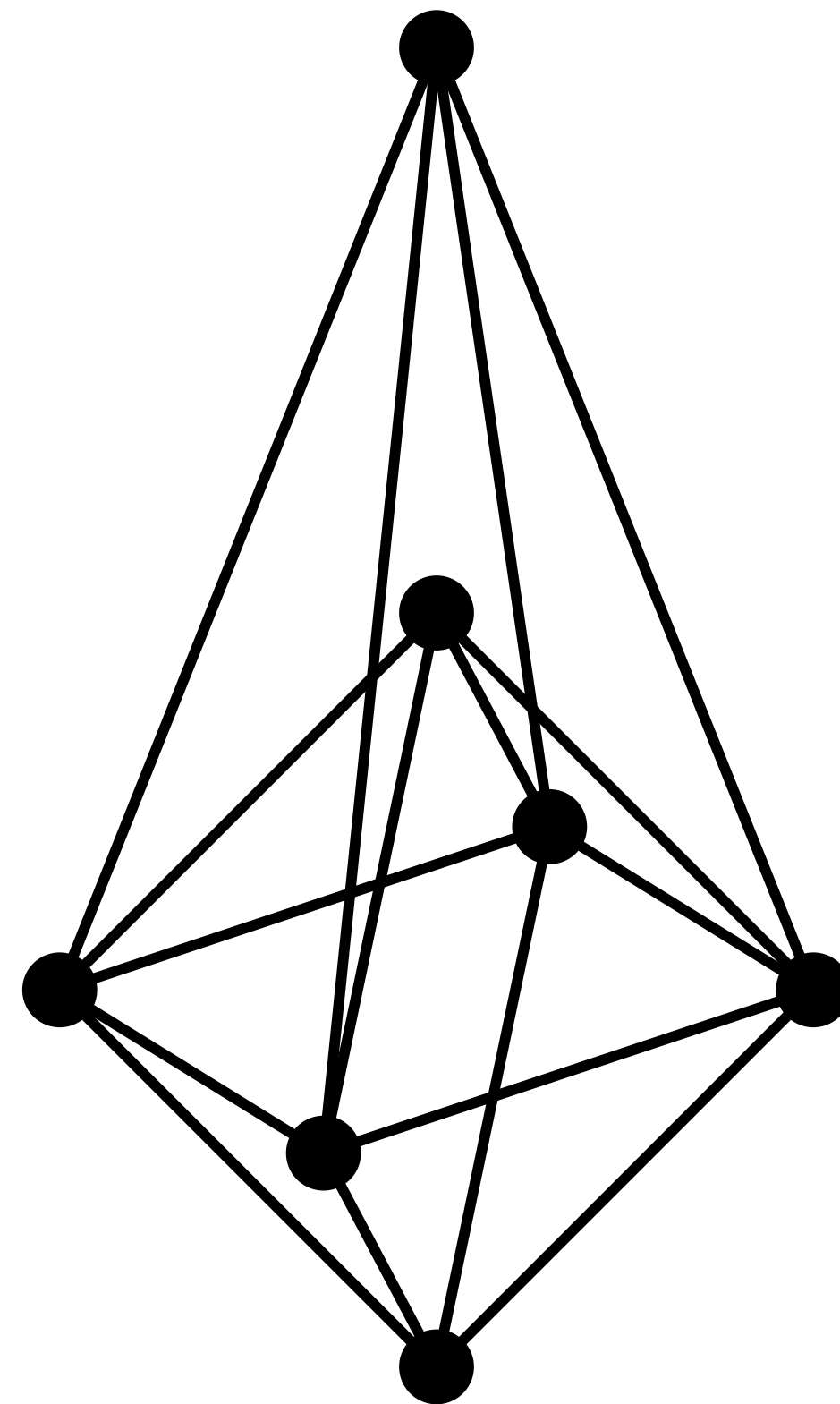




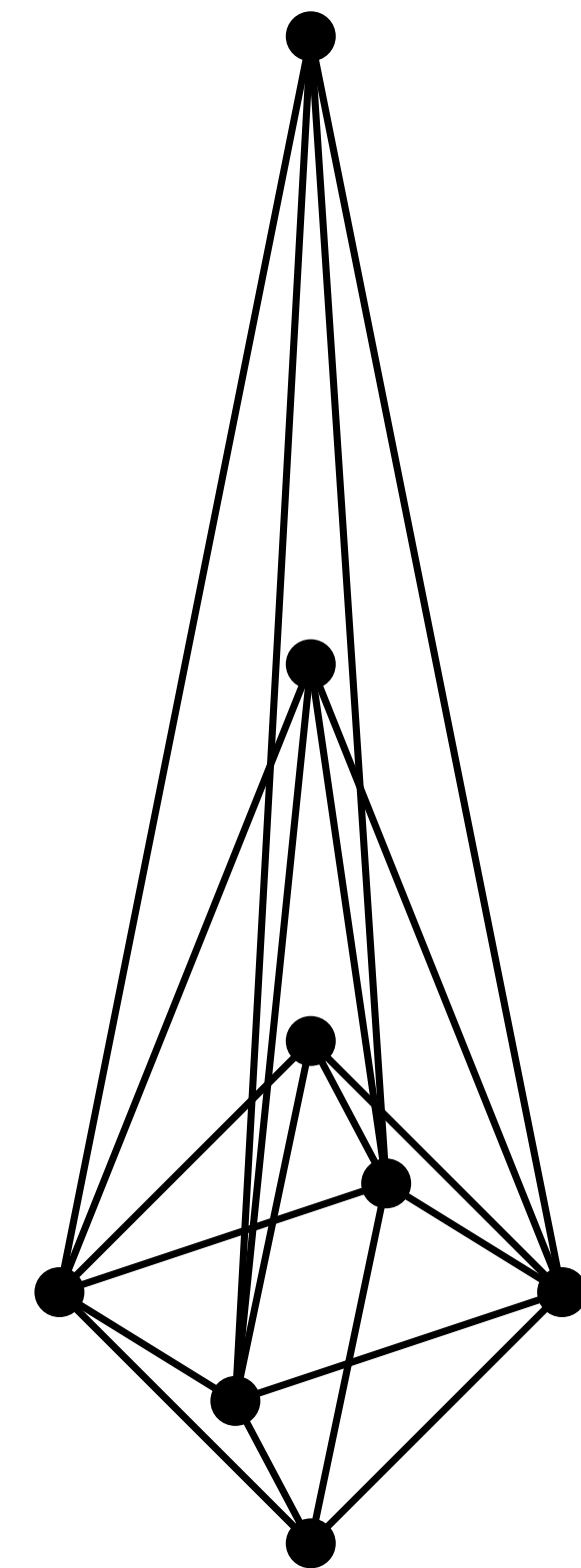
Will all of these be filled in at infinity?



$$\beta_2 = 1$$



$$\beta_2 = 2$$



$$\beta_2 = 3$$

[Barmak 2023]

- A clique complex is q -homotopy-connected
- if every collection of $2(q + 1)$ nodes has a common neighbor.

Homotopy-Connected

- Almost surely, the infinite preferential attachment complex
- is q -homotopy-connected if $x \leq \frac{1}{2(q+1)}$

Recall:

$x \in (0, 1/2)$ decreases with
the preferential attachment strength
 $P[T \text{ attaches to } i] \propto T^{-x}$

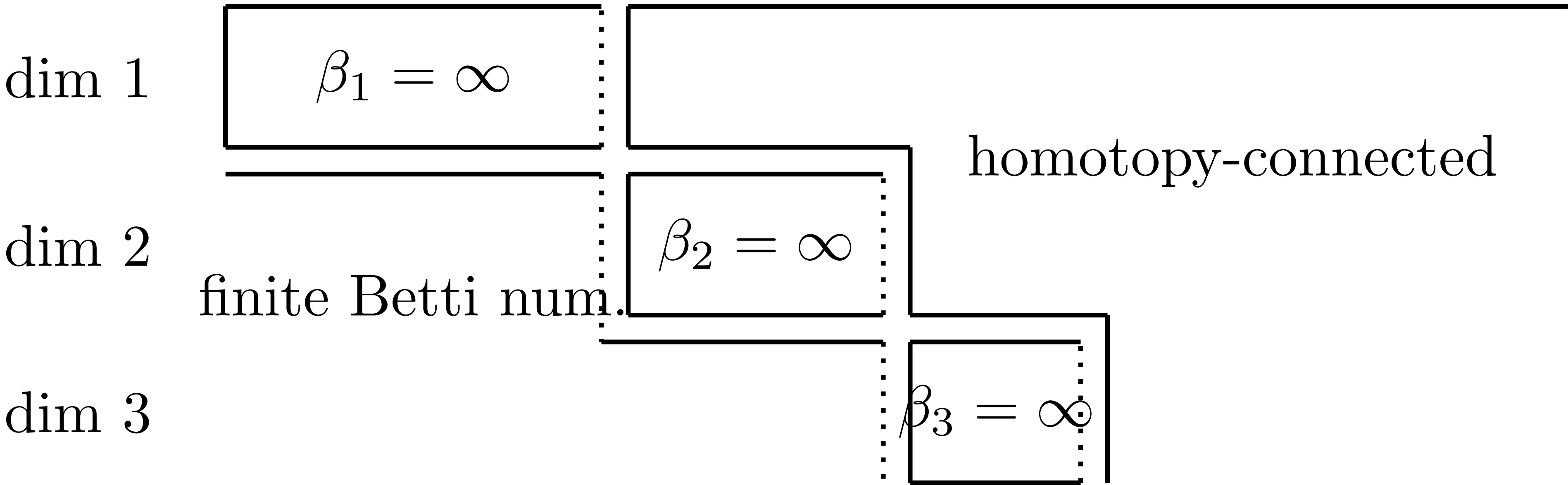
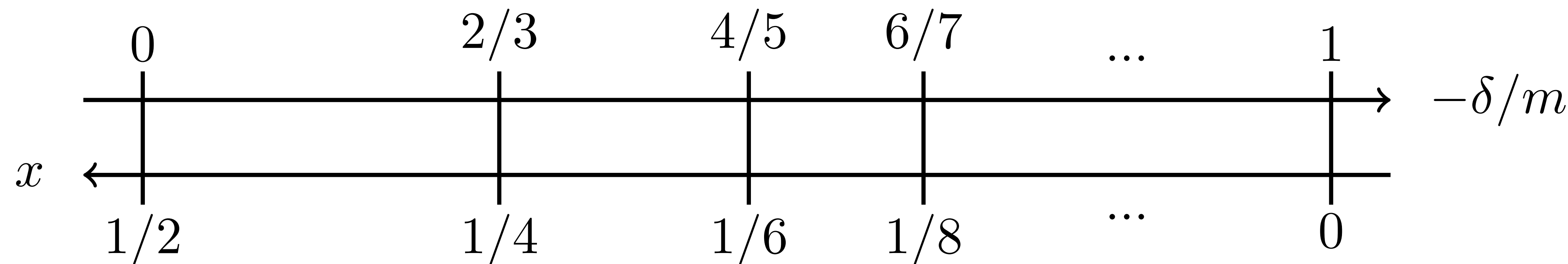
Homotopy-Connected

- Almost surely, the infinite preferential attachment complex
- is q -homotopy-connected if $x \leq \frac{1}{2(q+1)}$
- has infinite Betti number at dimension q if $\frac{1}{2(q+1)} < x \leq \frac{1}{2q}$

Recall:

$x \in (0, 1/2)$ decreases with
the preferential attachment strength
 $P[T \text{ attaches to } i] \propto T^{-x}$

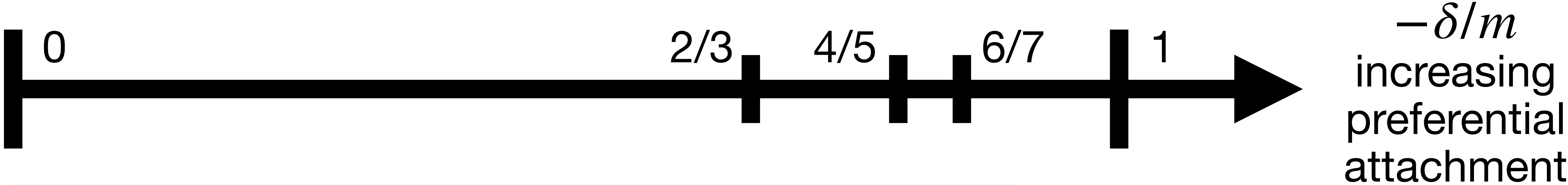
Phase Transition



Phase transition

Recall

$P(\text{attaching to } v) \propto \text{degree} + \delta$
 $m = \text{number of edges per new node}$



unbounded growth of $\beta_1(X_T)$

unbounded growth of $\beta_2(X_T)$

unbounded growth of $\beta_3(X_T)$

unbounded growth of $\beta_4(X_T)$

$\vdots$

Recall

$\beta_2 \approx \text{num of nodes}^{1-4x}$

- If the preferential attachment effect is strong enough,
- $\beta_q(X_T)$ grows sublinearly with high probability
- $\pi_q(X_\infty) \cong 0$ almost surely

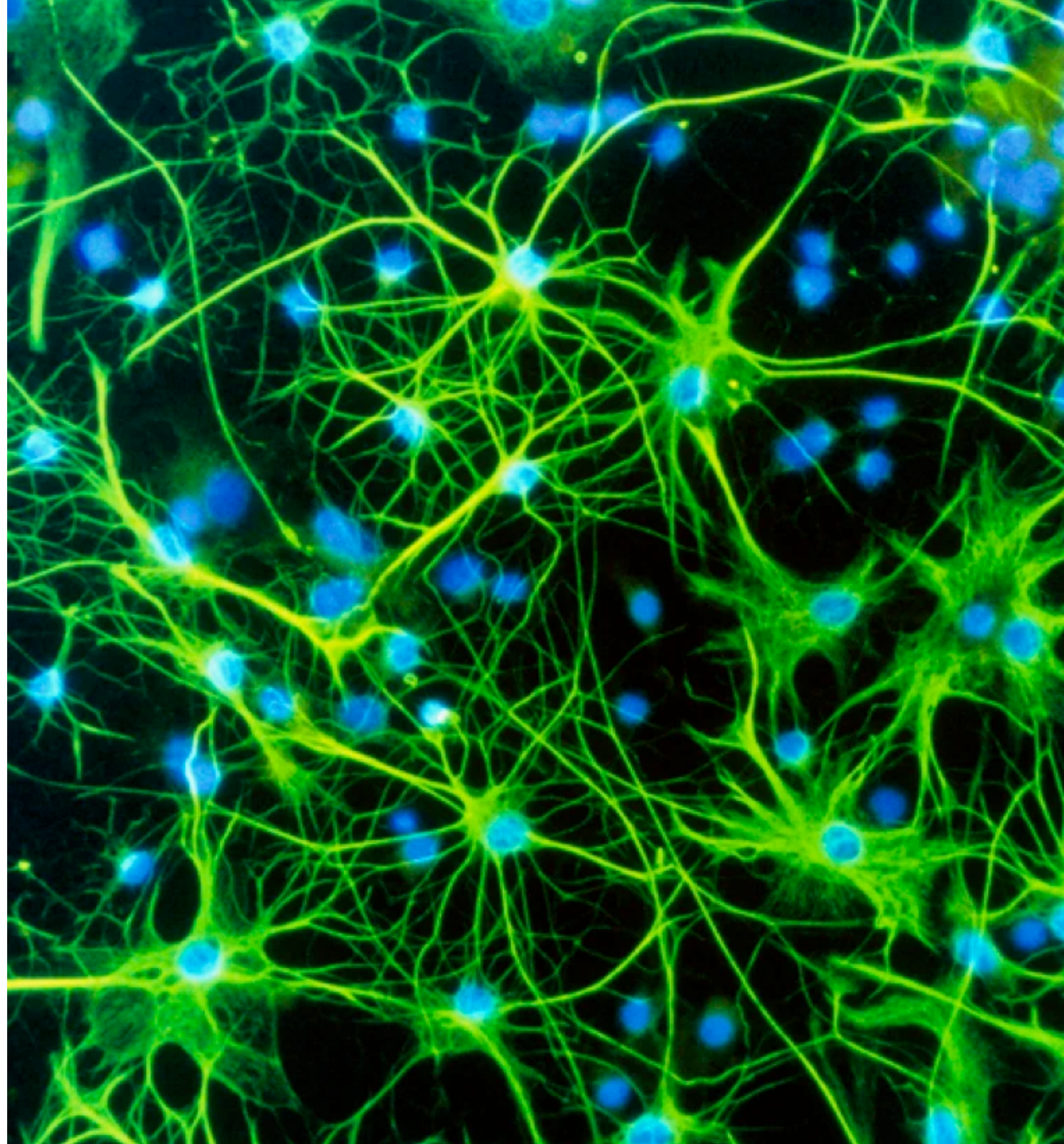
IV. Rumination on Neuroscience

What I am doing now

- depression, ADHD and other psychiatric conditions
- whole-brain functional MRI

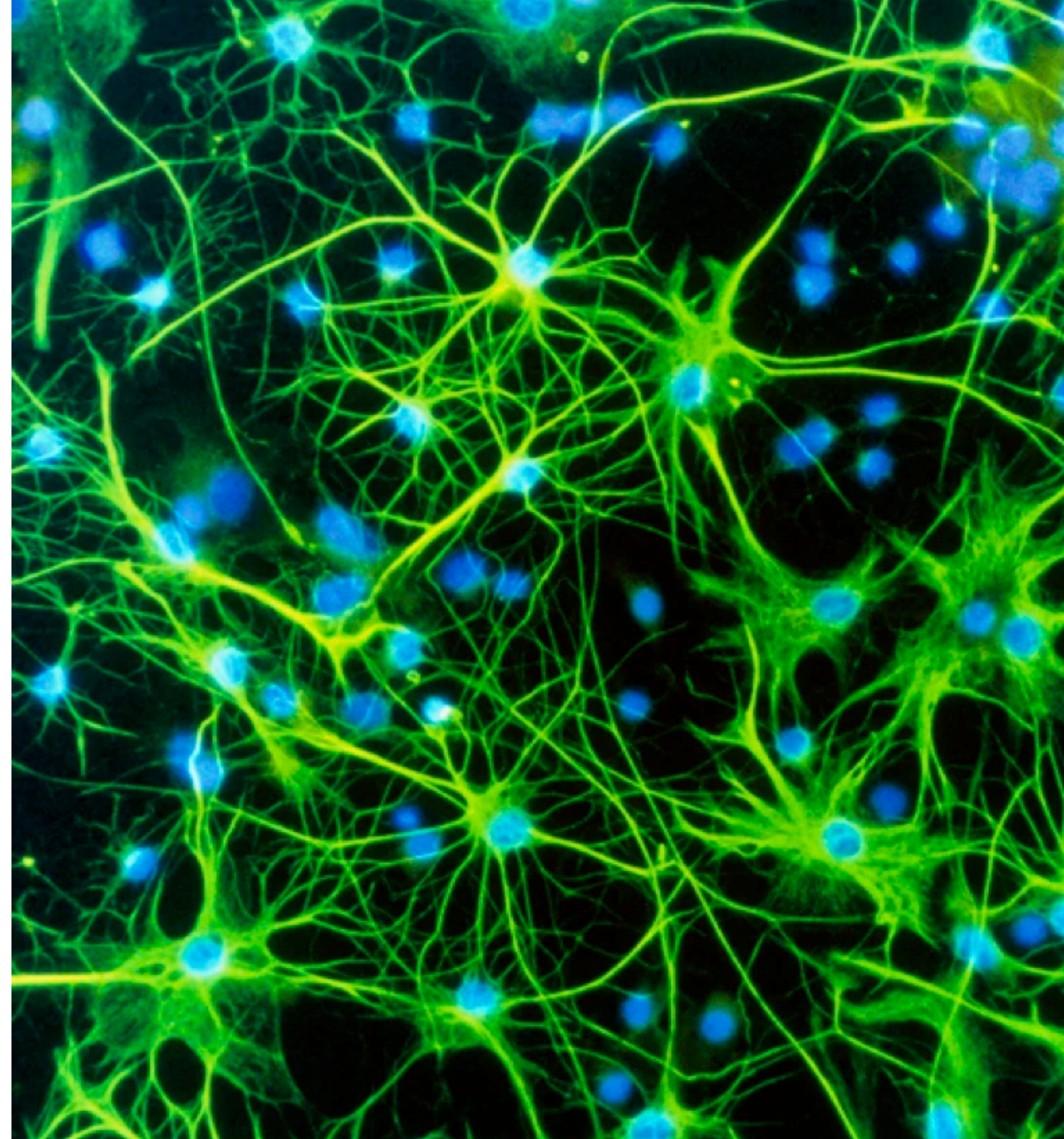


Question



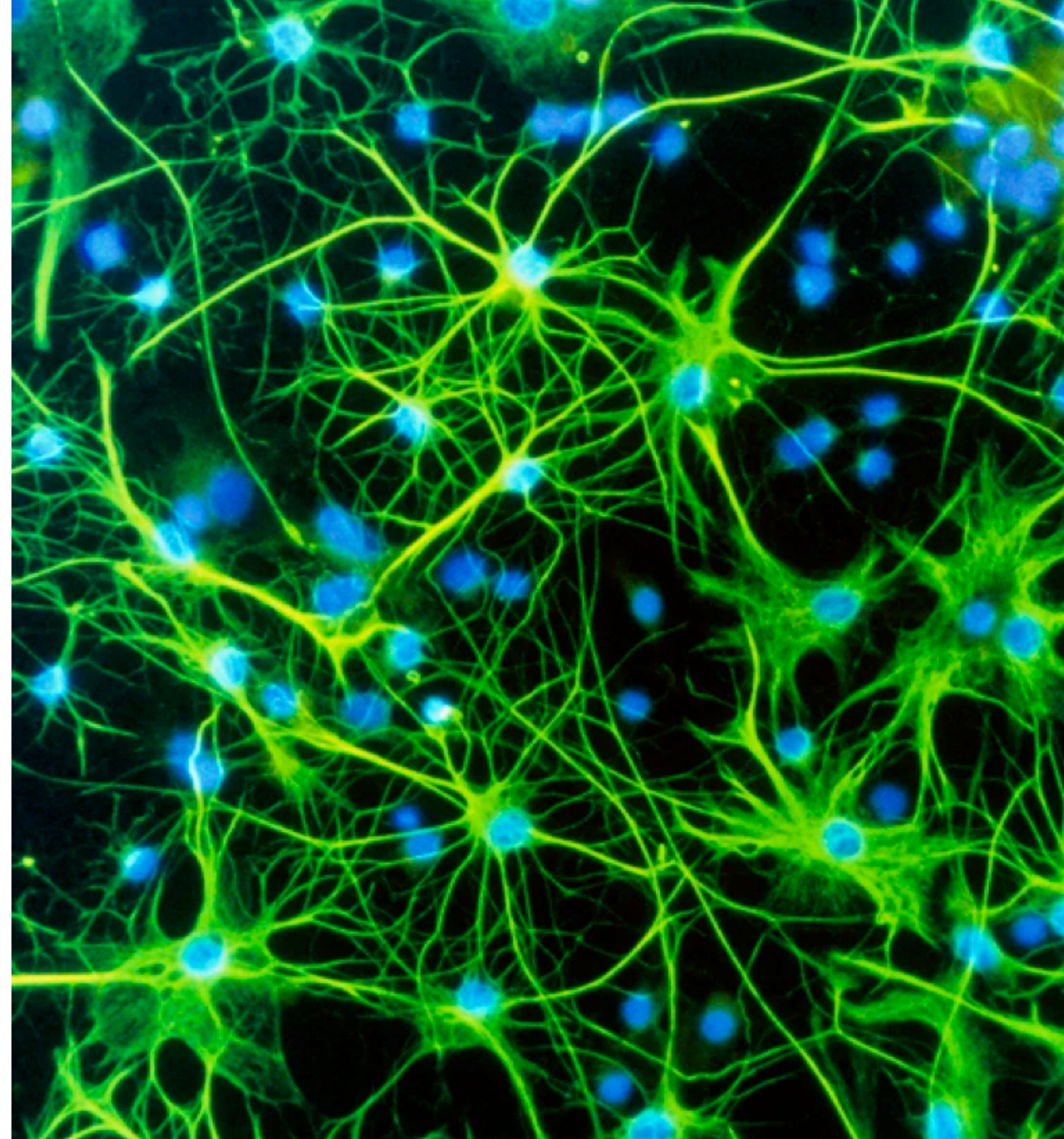
Question

- Not completely random (?)



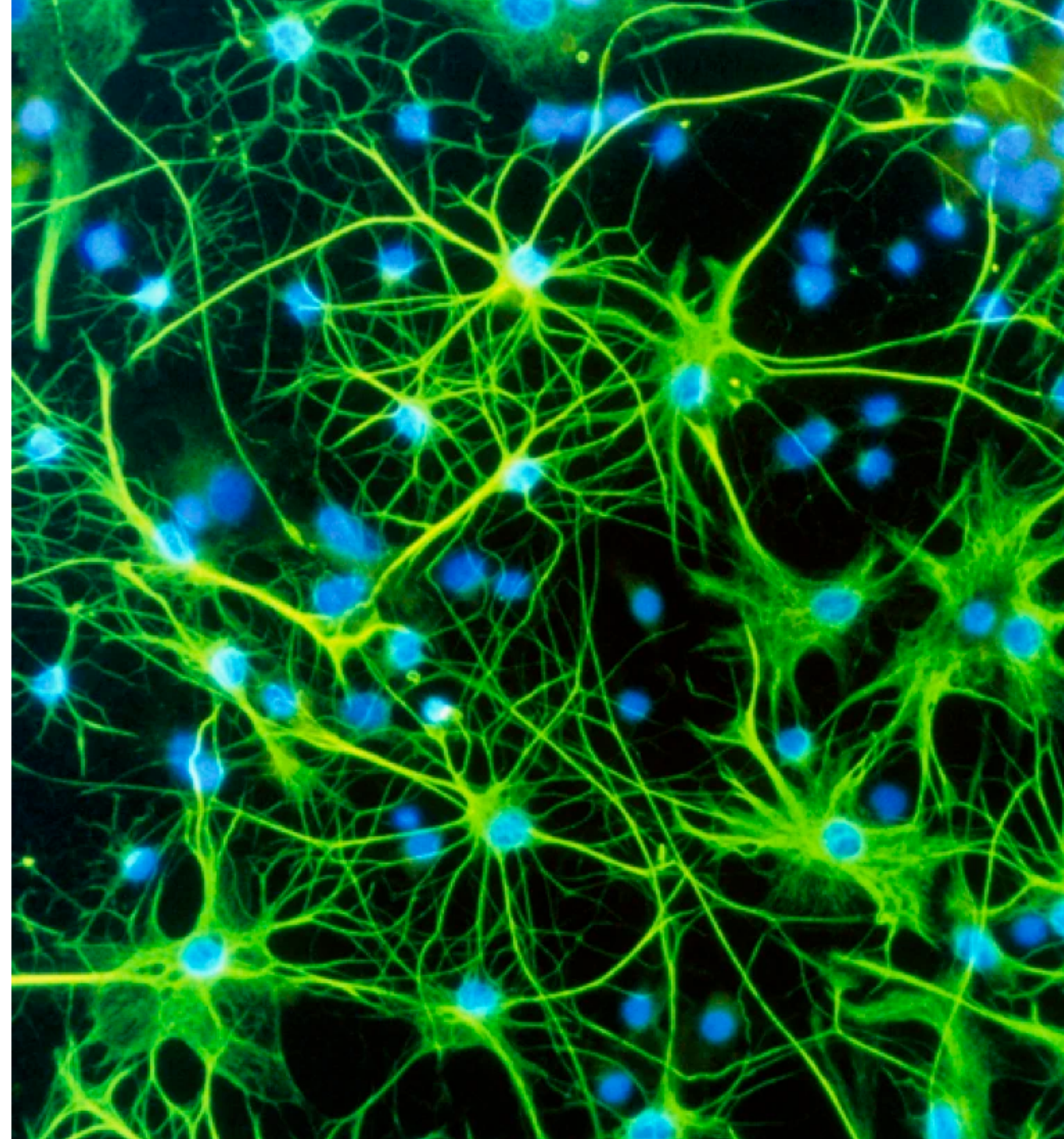
Question

- Not completely random (?)
 - local connections more likely (?)



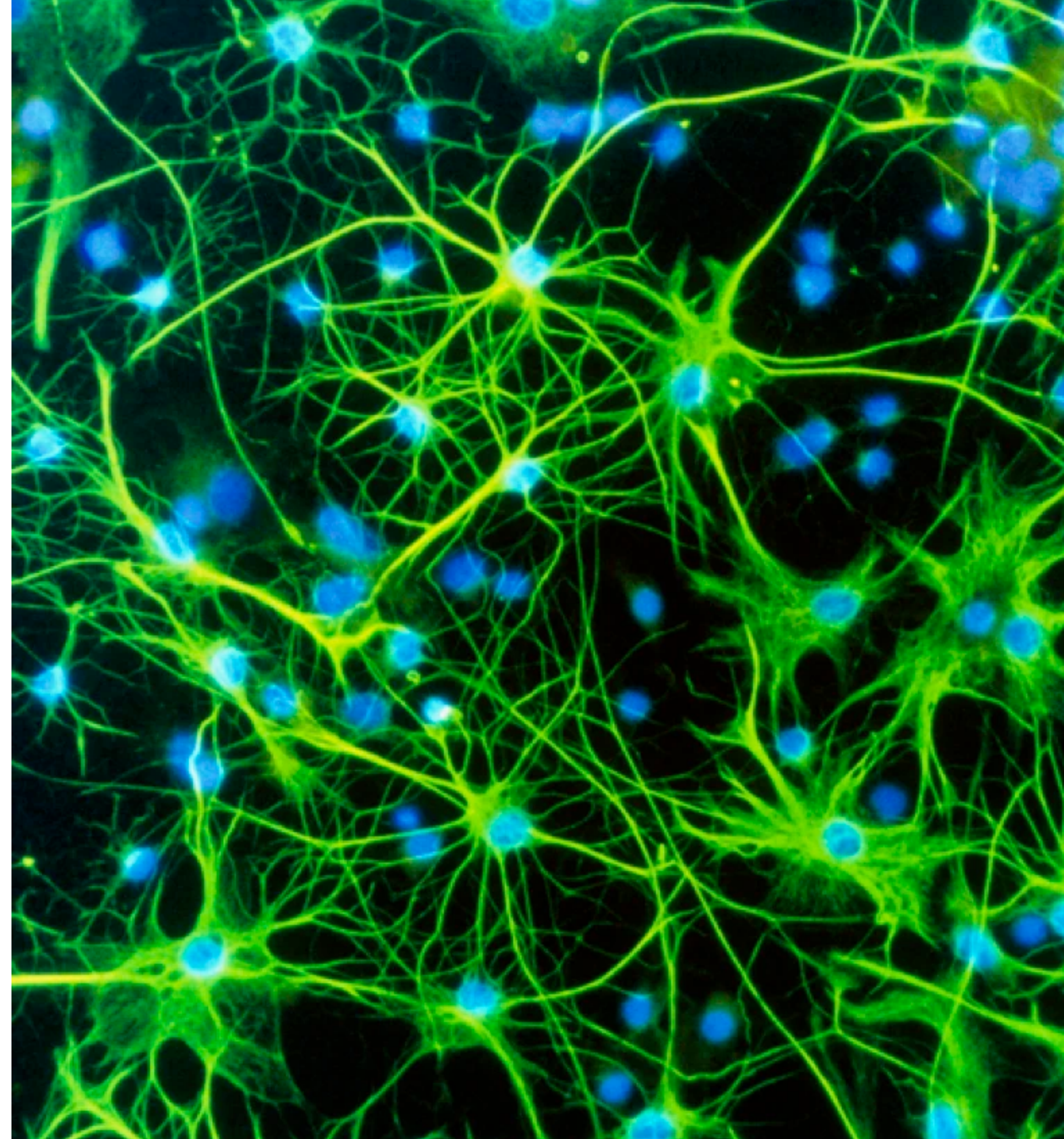
Question

- Not completely random (?)
 - local connections more likely (?)
- Not preferential attachment (?)



Question

- Not completely random (?)
 - local connections more likely (?)
- Not preferential attachment (?)
 - e.g. neurons do not “arrive” one by one (?)



What is the right model?

What is the right model?

- Are neuronal distribution (locally) spatially uniform?

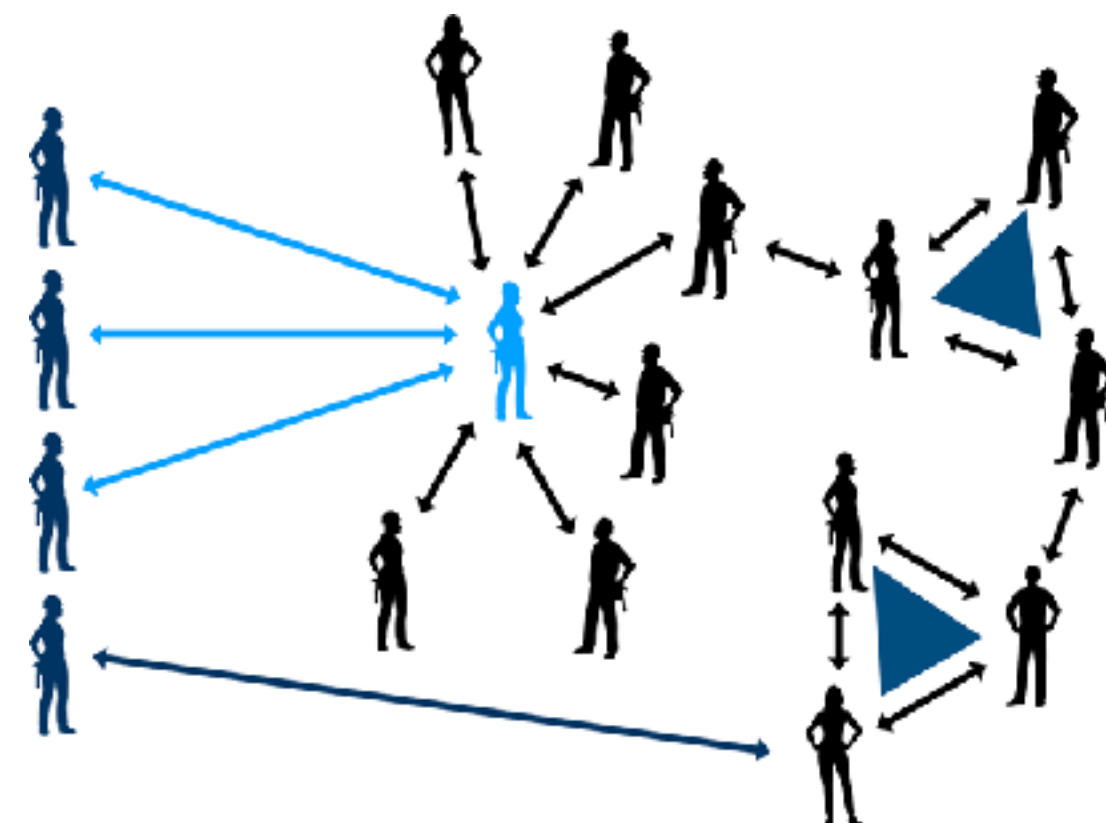
What is the right model?

- Are neuronal distribution (locally) spatially uniform?
- Does neuron connection probability depend only on distance?

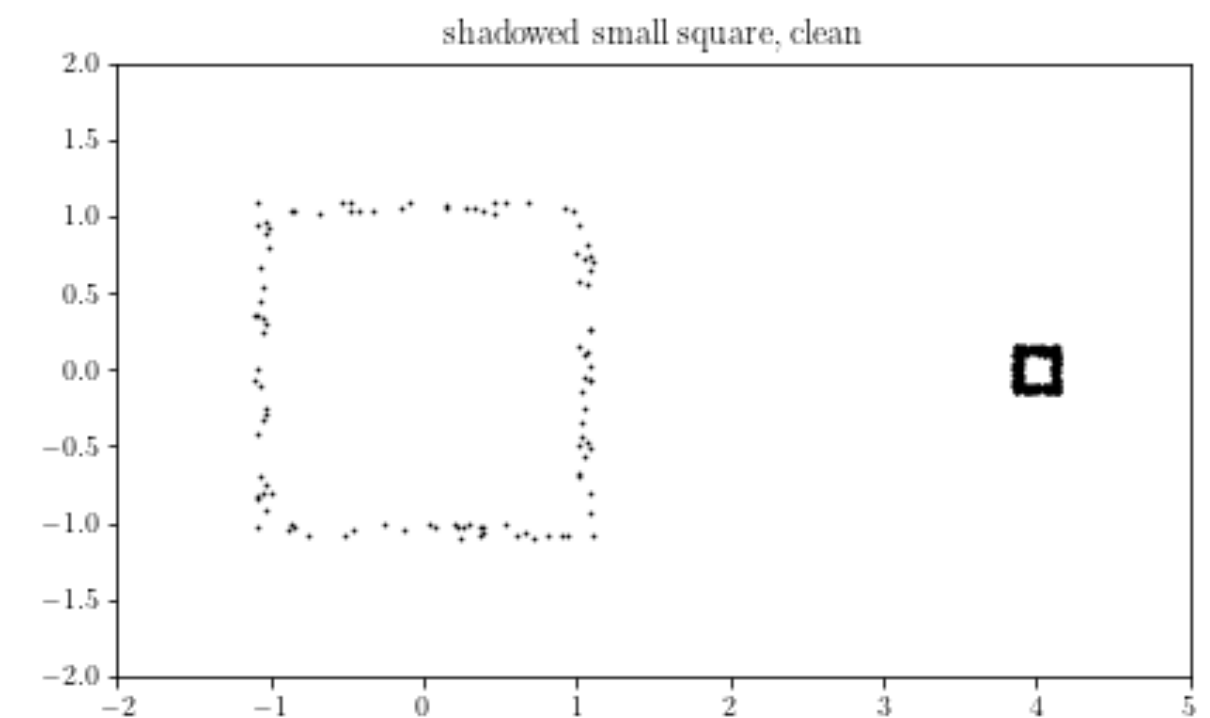
Chunyin Siu

siuc@stanford.edu

Stanford University, School of Medicine



arxiv paper



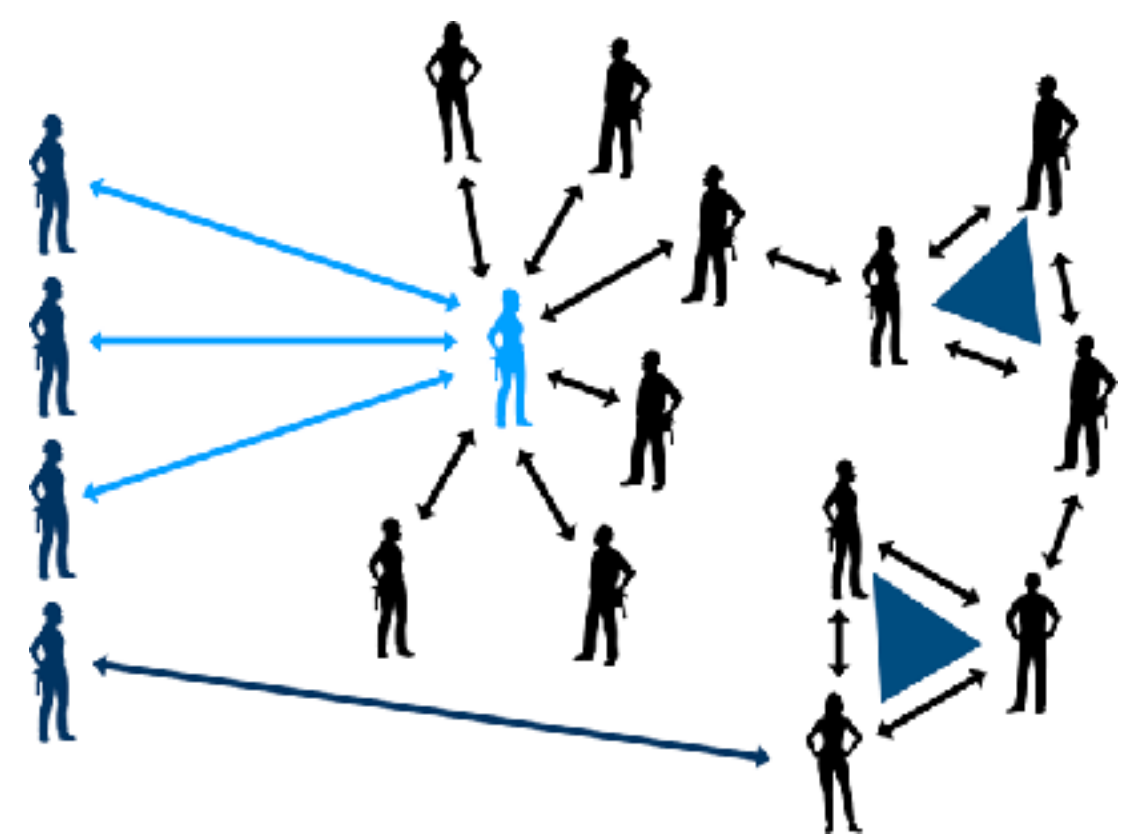
my video about small holes

Thank you!

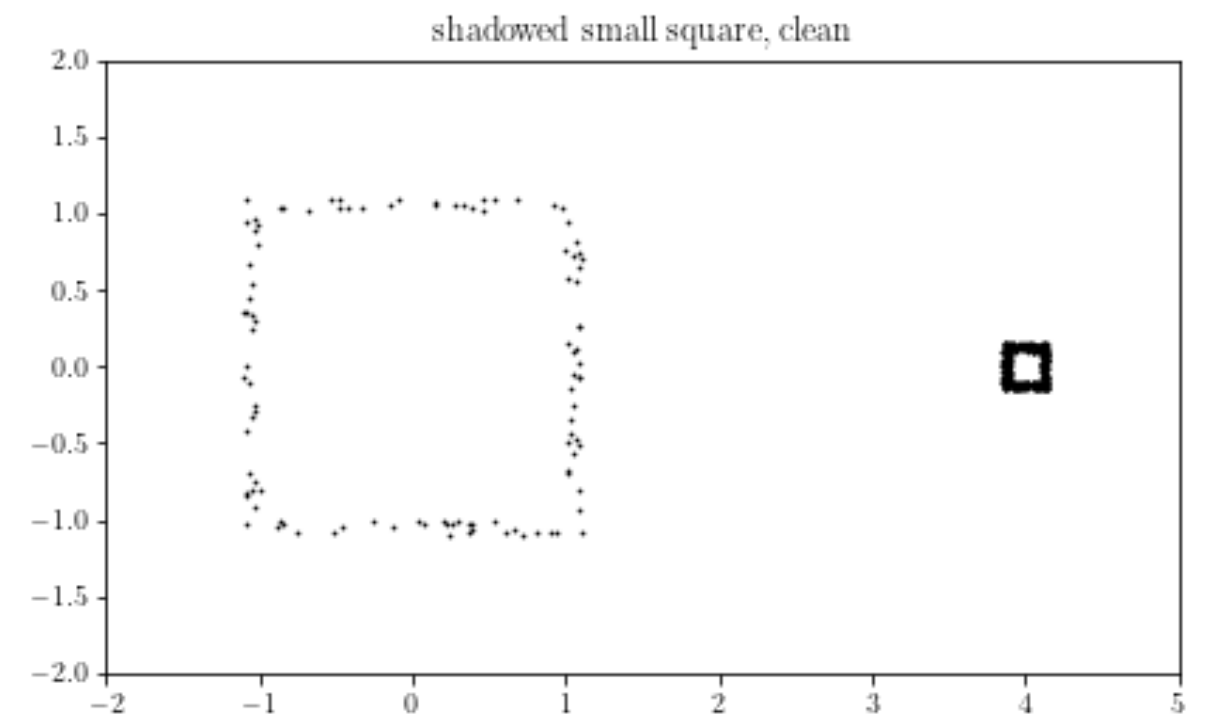
Chunyin Siu

Stanford University, School of Medicine

siuc@stanford.edu



arxiv paper



my video about small holes

What we know

[not meant to be complete]

What we know

[not meant to be complete]

- Erdos-Renyi clique complexes

What we know

[not meant to be complete]

- Erdos-Renyi clique complexes
 - Kahle 2009, 2014
 - Kahle and Meckes 2013
 - Costa et al 2015
 - Malen 2023
 - etc

What we know

[not meant to be complete]

- Erdos-Renyi clique complexes
 - Kahle 2009, 2014
 - Kahle and Meckes 2013
 - Costa et al 2015
 - Malen 2013
 - etc
- random geometric complexes

What we know

[not meant to be complete]

- Erdos-Renyi clique complexes
 - Kahle 2009, 2014
 - Kahle and Meckes 2013
 - Costa et al 2015
 - Malen 2013
 - etc
- random geometric complexes
 - Kahle 2011
 - Kahle and Meckes 2013
 - Yogeshwaran and Adler 2015
 - Bobrowski et al 2017
 - Hiraoka et al 2018
 - Thomas and Owada 2021a, b
 - Owada and Wei 2022
 - etc

Functional Convergence at dimension k ?

[Thomas and Owada 2020]

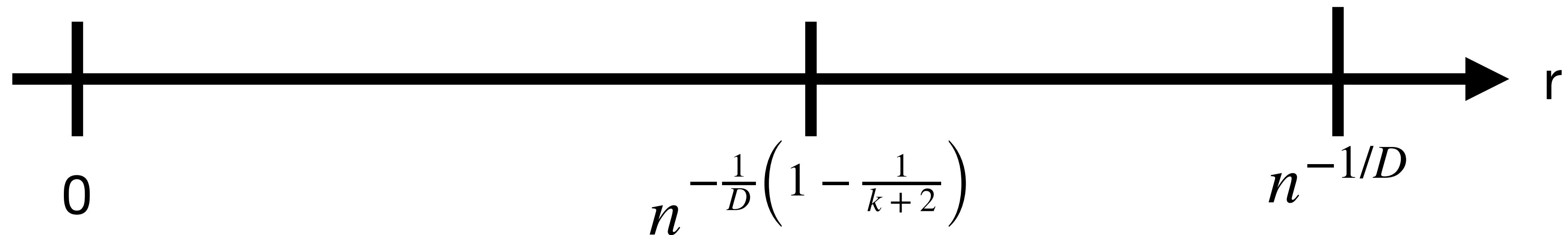


n = number of nodes
all log terms and constants forgone

Functional Convergence at dimension k ?

[Thomas and Owada 2020]

- Cech: weak convergence in finite-dimensional sense

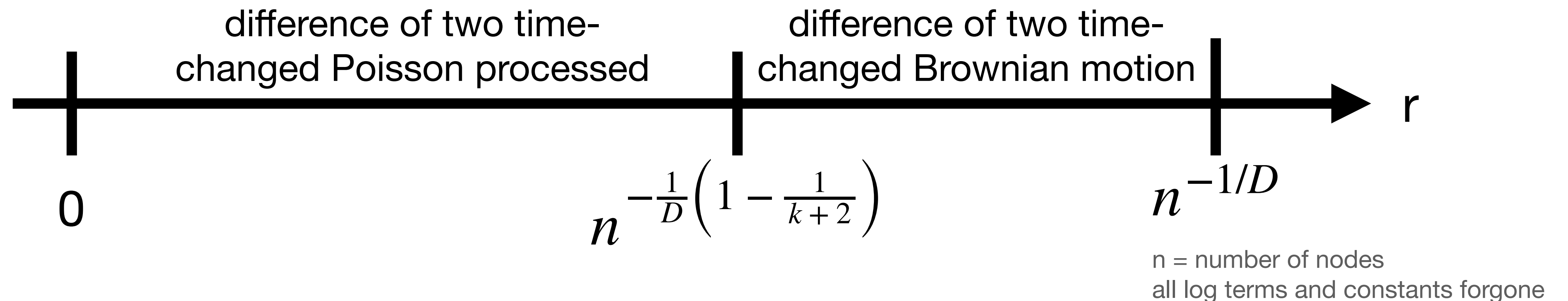


n = number of nodes
all log terms and constants forgone

Functional Convergence at dimension k ?

[Thomas and Owada 2020]

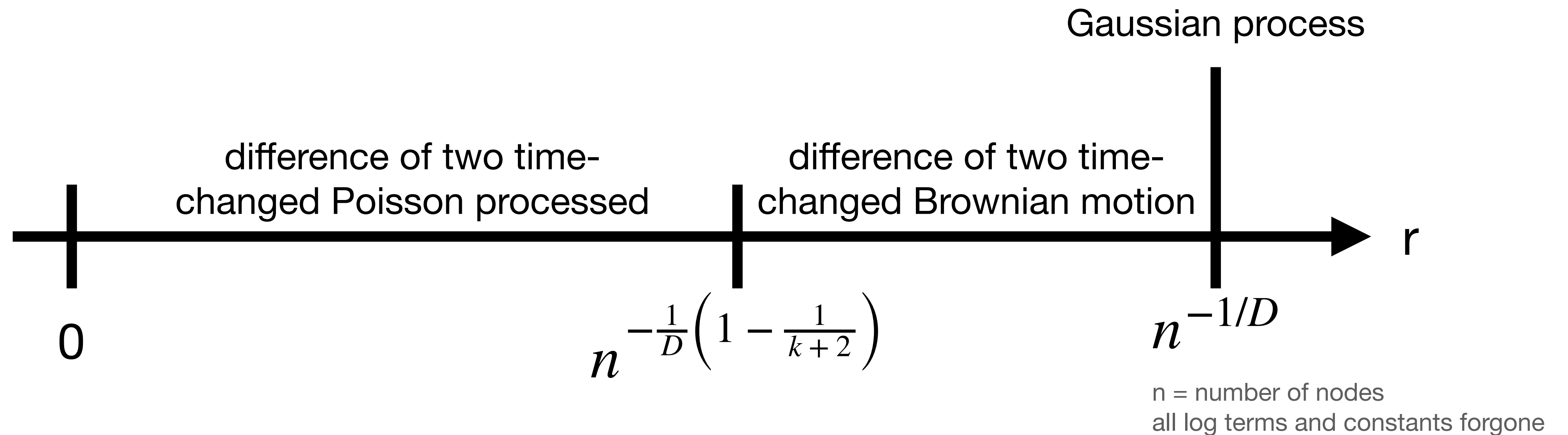
- Cech: weak convergence in finite-dimensional sense



Functional Convergence at dimension k ?

[Thomas and Owada 2020]

- Cech: weak convergence in finite-dimensional sense



- 4 CPU cores
- 40 minutes for the Betti numbers
- 7.5 hours for bounds
- memory issues for larger graphs

Subtleties

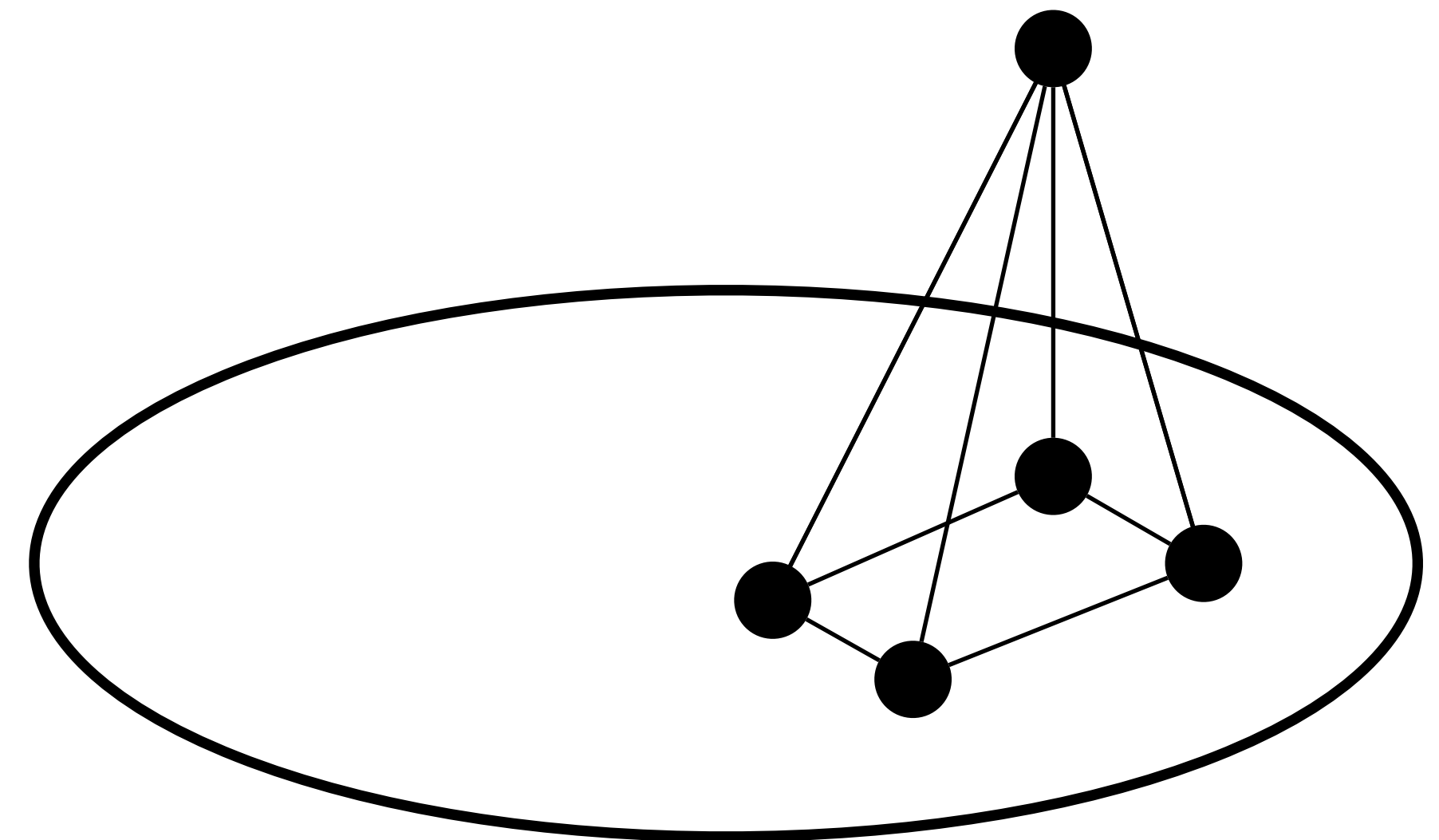
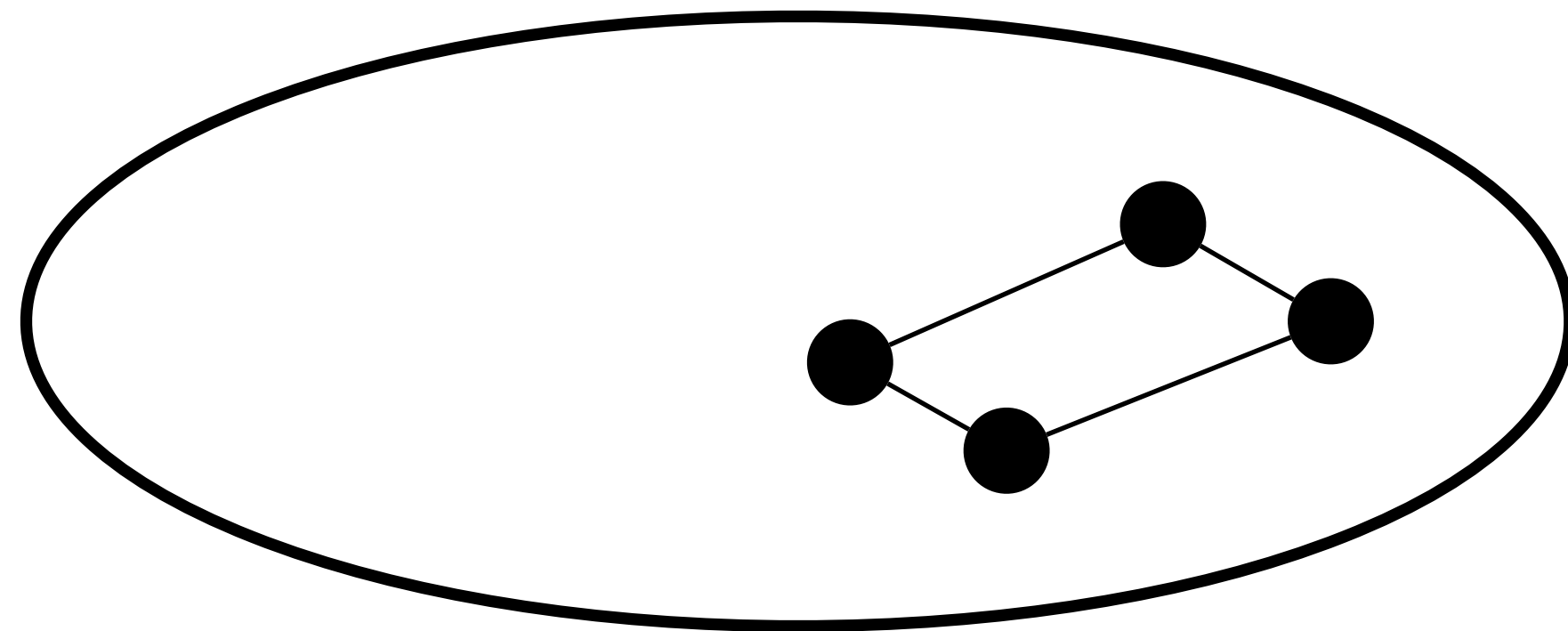
- Need homological algebra to relate Betti numbers with counts

Subtleties

- Need homological algebra to relate Betti numbers with counts
 - adding a vertex = construct mapping cone

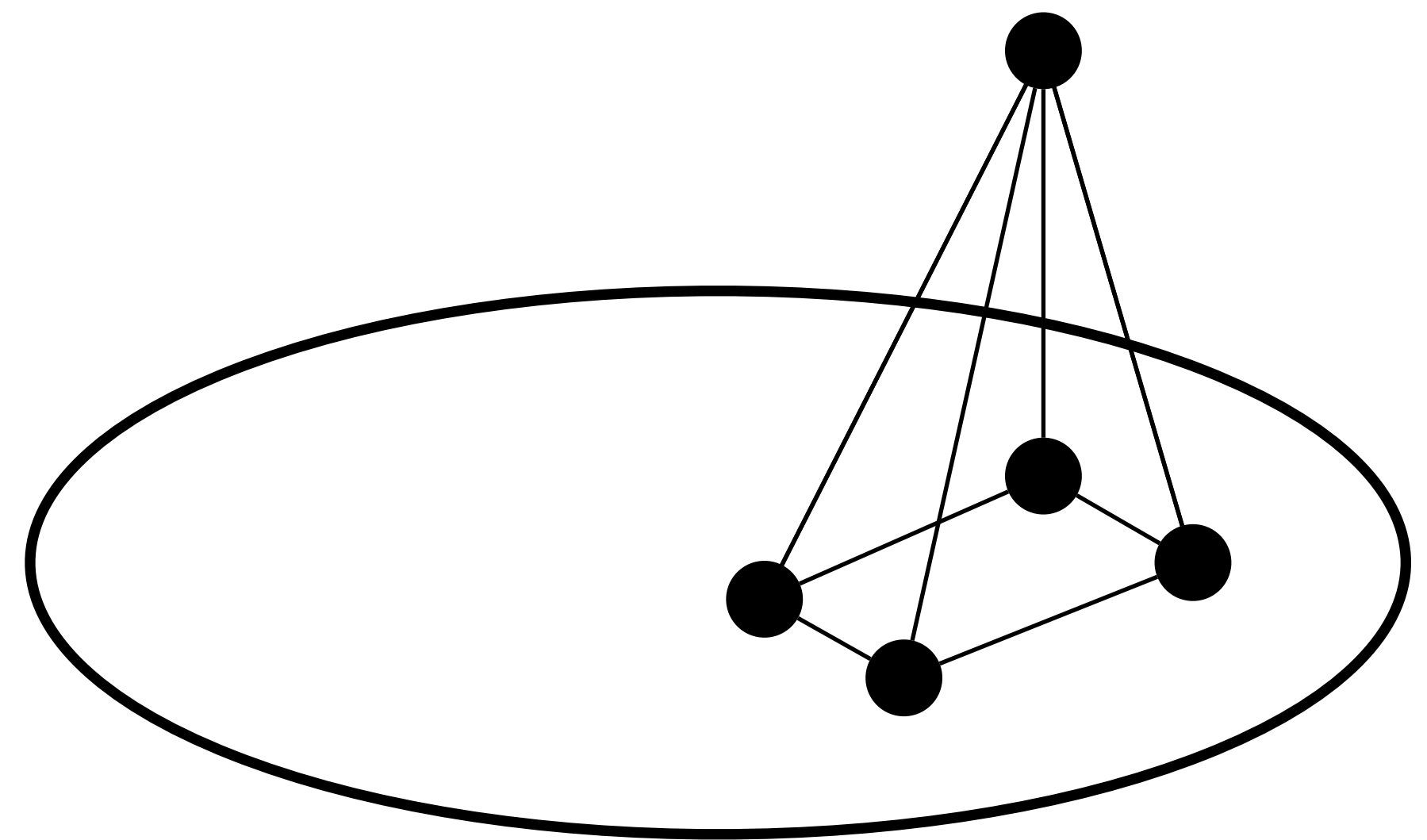
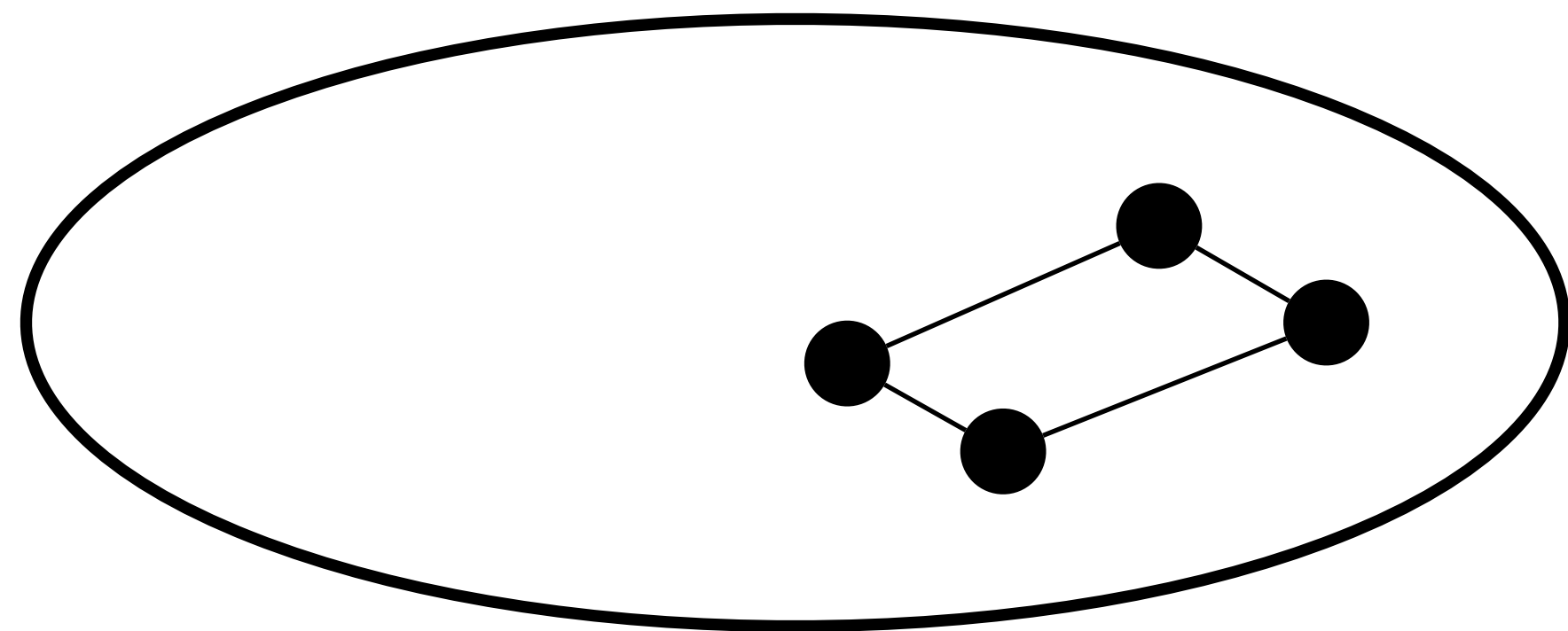
Subtleties

- Need homological algebra to relate Betti numbers with counts
 - adding a vertex = construct mapping cone



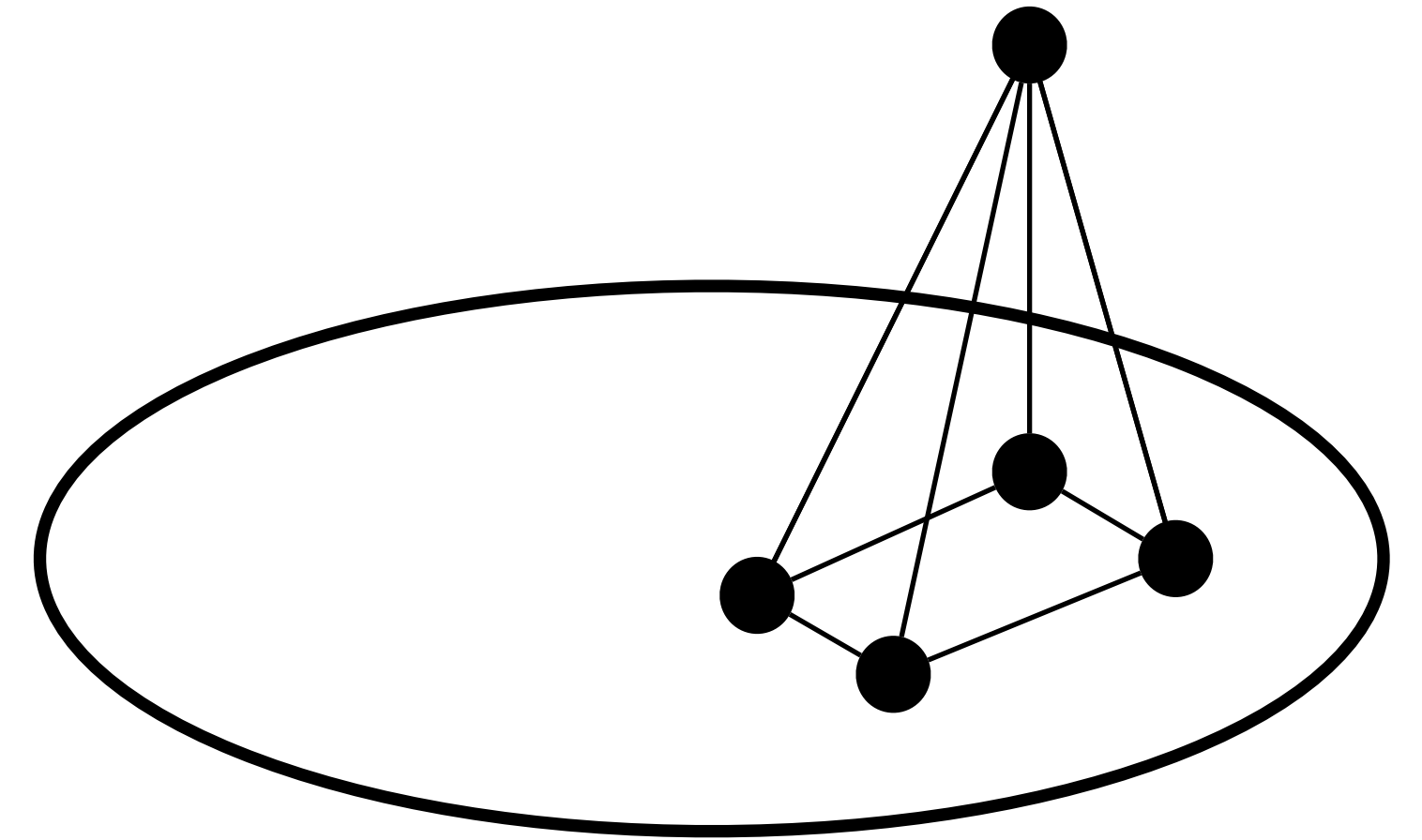
Subtleties

- Need homological algebra to relate Betti numbers with counts
 - adding a vertex = construct mapping cone
 - $\beta_q(\text{new}) \leq \beta_q(\text{old}) + \beta_{q-1}(\text{link})$



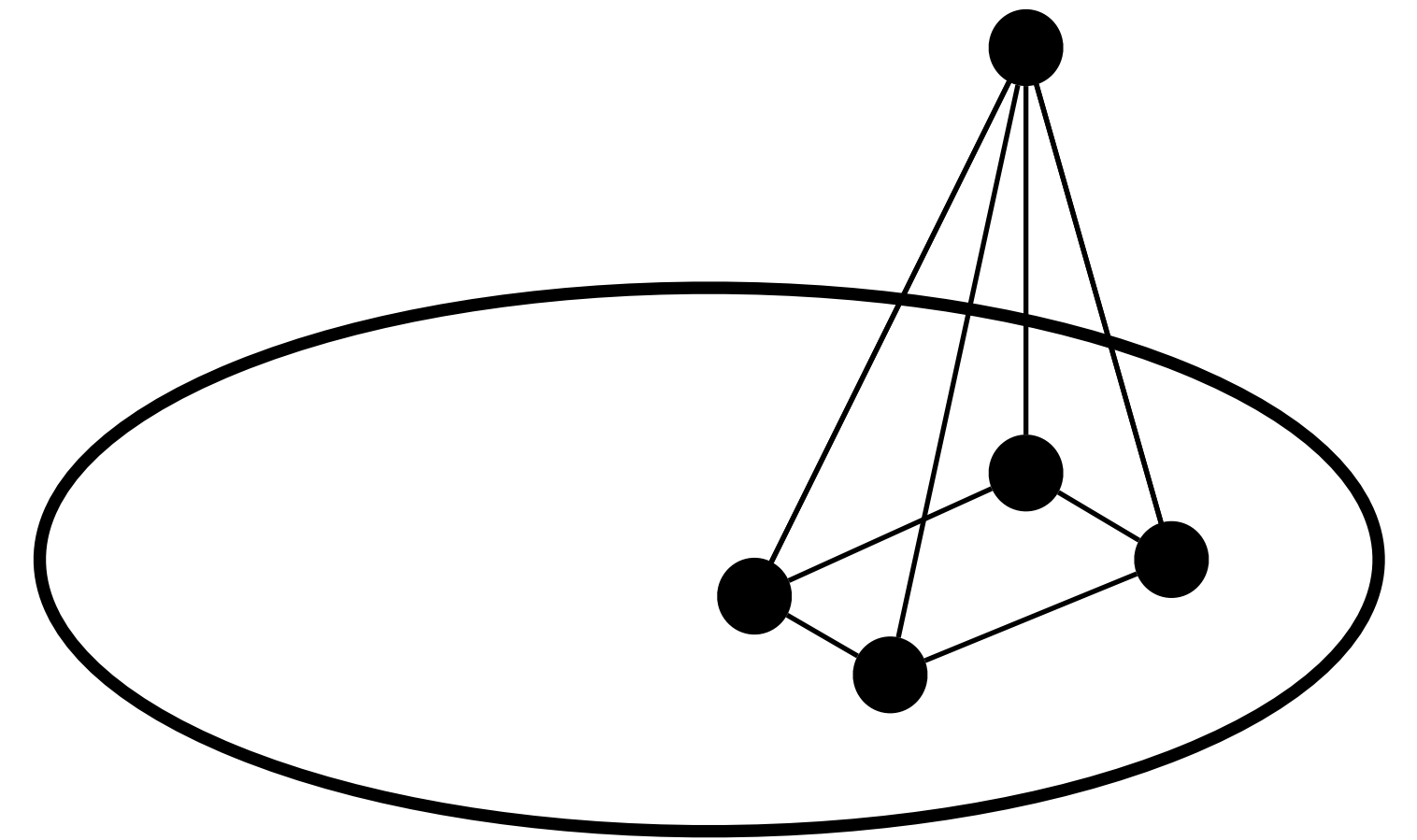
Subtleties

- Need homological algebra to relate Betti numbers with counts
 - $\beta_q(\text{new}) - \beta_q(\text{old}) \leq \beta_{q-1}(\text{link})$



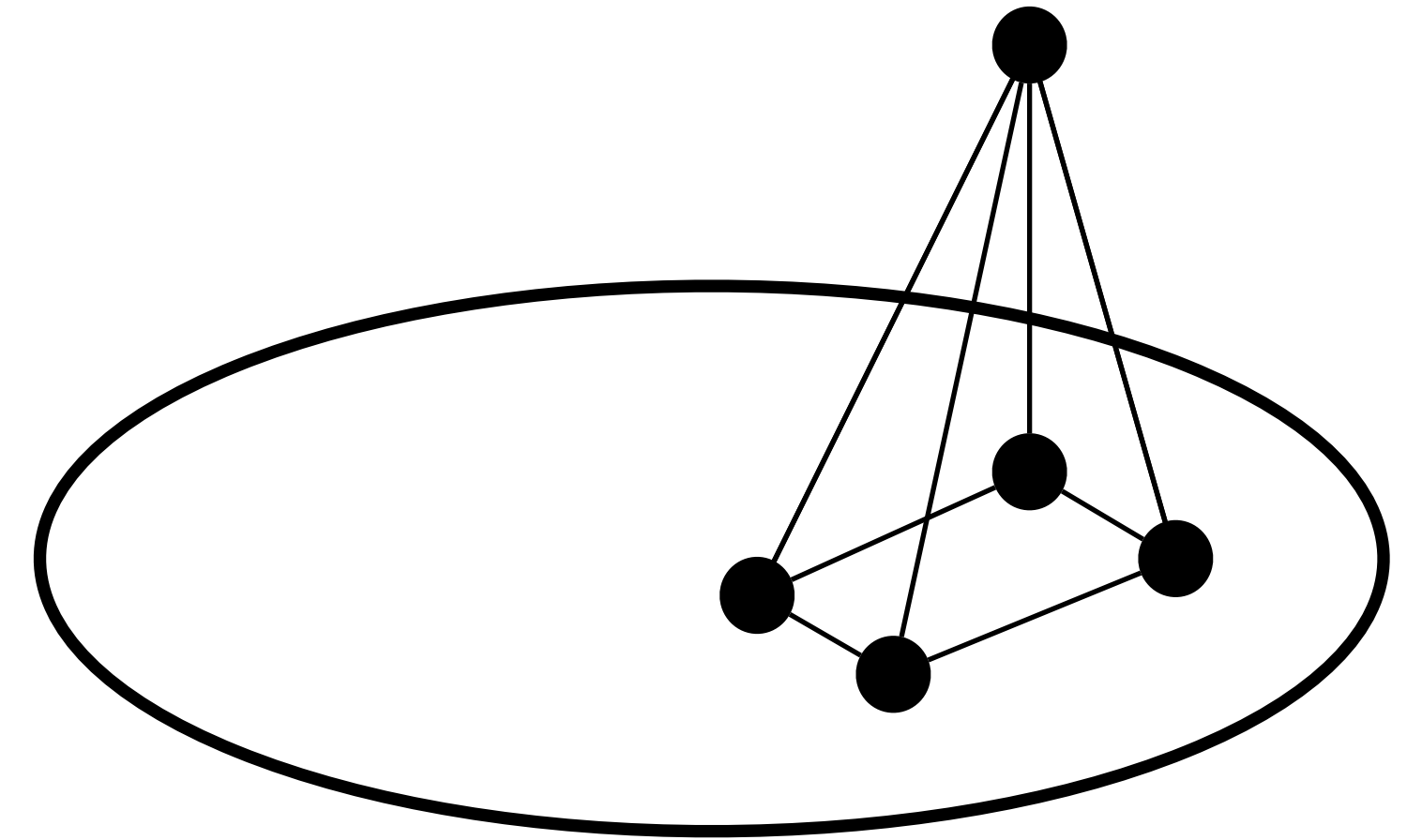
Subtleties

- Need homological algebra to relate Betti numbers with counts
 - $\beta_q(\text{new}) - \beta_q(\text{old}) \leq \beta_{q-1}(\text{link})$
- Identify the “square count” as the main term with minimal cycle results in [Gal 2005] and [Kahle 2009]



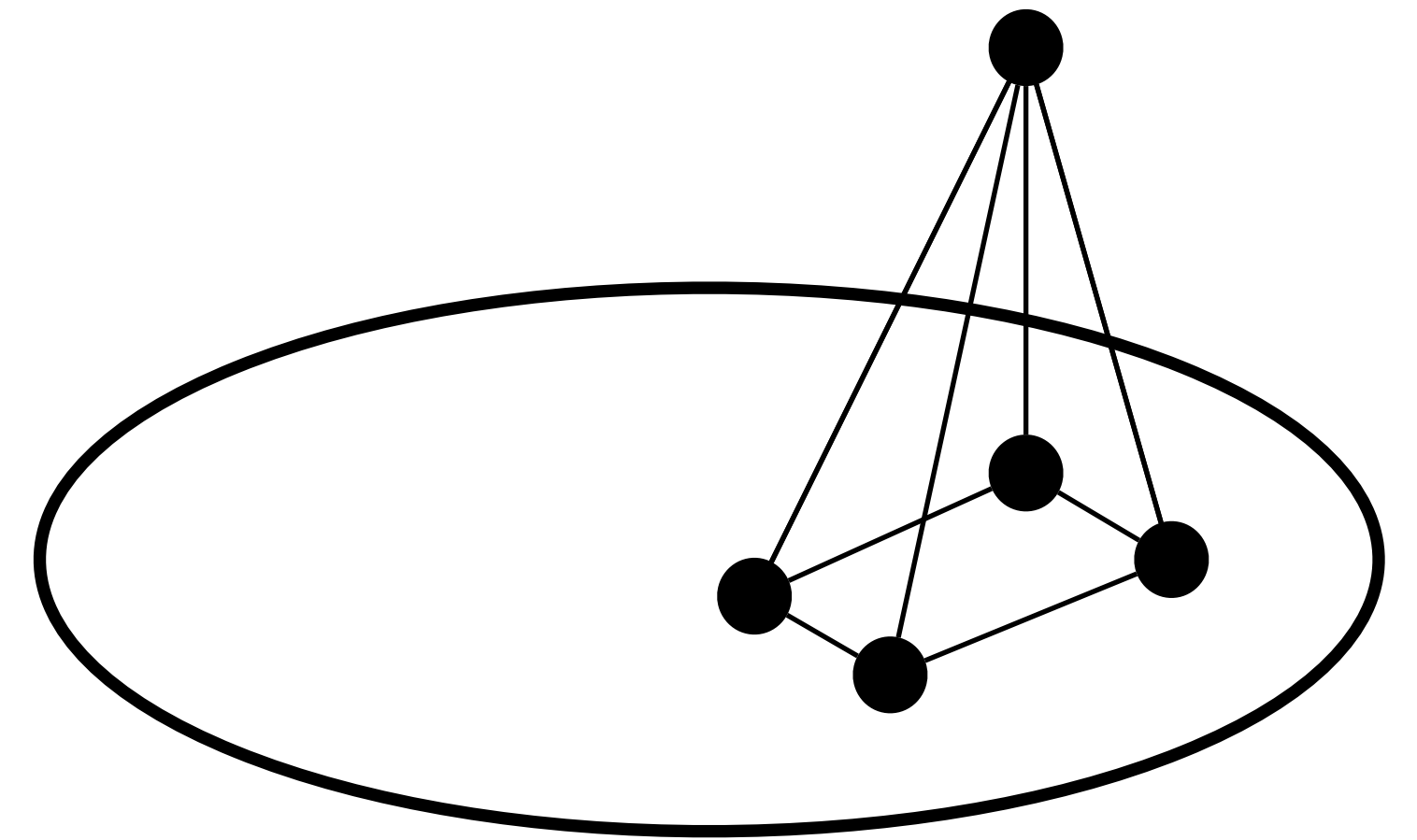
Subtleties

- Need homological algebra to relate Betti numbers with counts
 - $\beta_q(\text{new}) - \beta_q(\text{old}) \leq \beta_{q-1}(\text{link})$
- Identify the “square count” as the main term with minimal cycle results in [Gal 2005] and [Kahle 2009]
- Generalize minimal cycle results with homological algebra



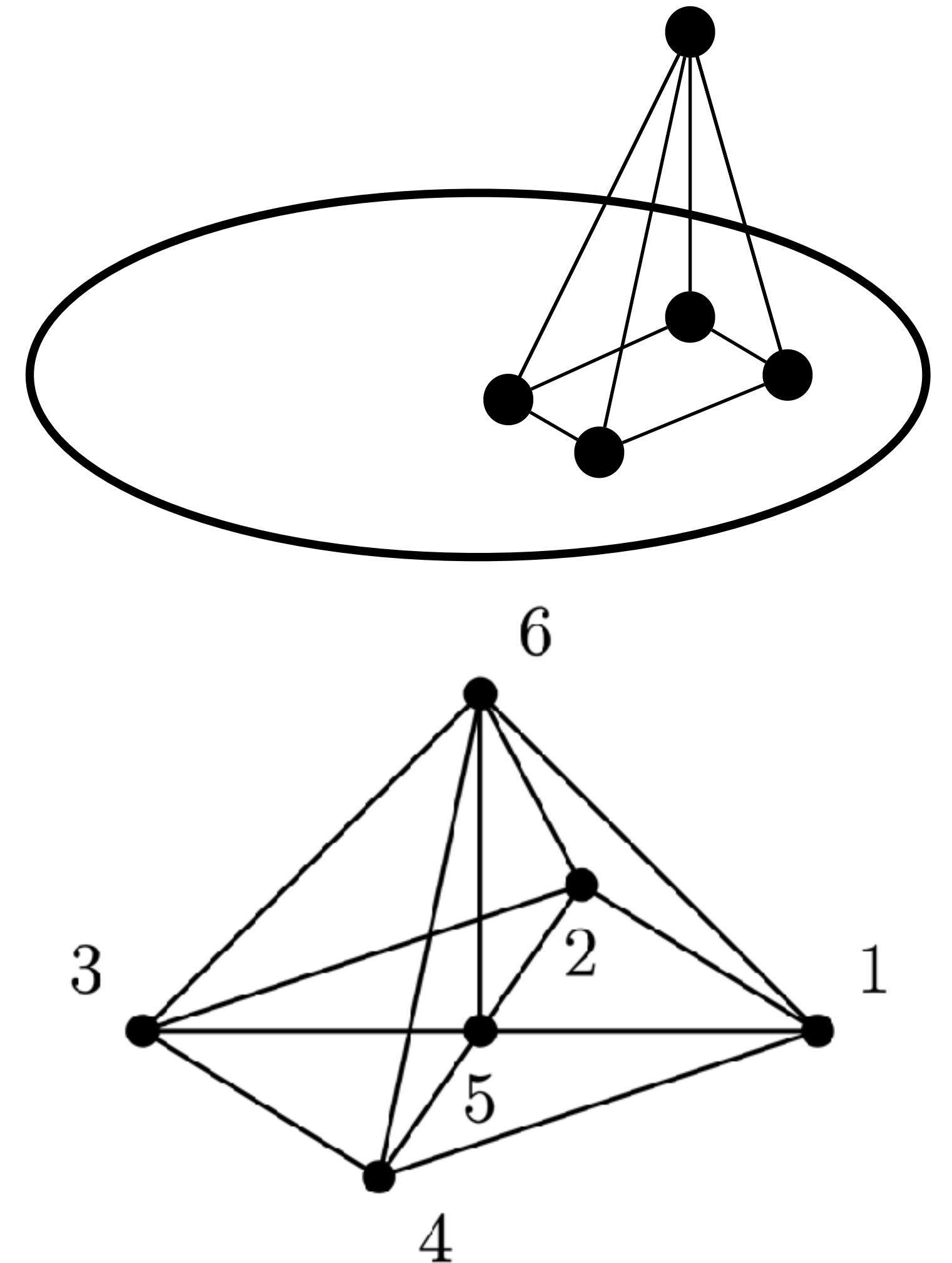
Subtleties

- Need homological algebra to relate Betti numbers with counts
 - $\beta_q(\text{new}) - \beta_q(\text{old}) \leq \beta_{q-1}(\text{link})$
- Identify the “square count” as the main term with minimal cycle results in [Gal 2005] and [Kahle 2009]
- Generalize minimal cycle results with homological algebra
 - $1 - \beta_q(\text{link}, S^{q-1}) - \beta_q(\text{link}) \leq \beta_q(\text{new}) - \beta_q(\text{old}) \leq \beta_{q-1}(\text{link})$



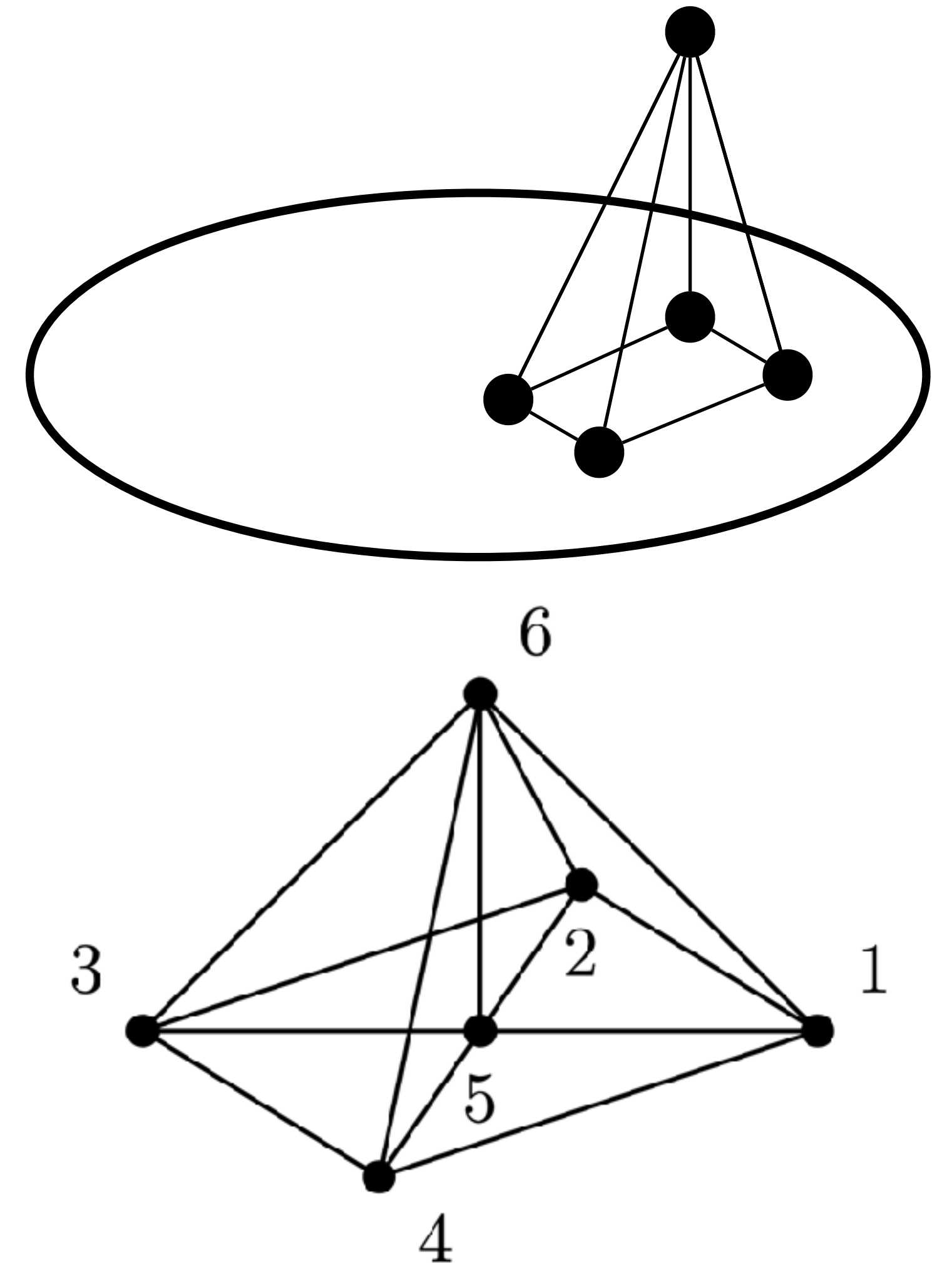
Subtleties

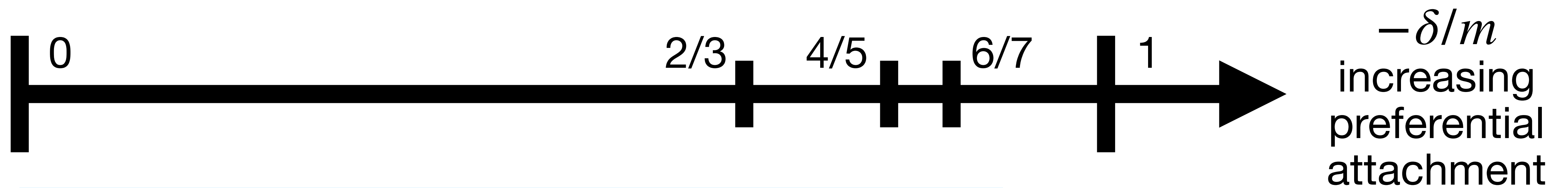
- Need homological algebra to relate Betti numbers with counts
 - $\beta_q(\text{new}) - \beta_q(\text{old}) \leq \beta_{q-1}(\text{link})$
- Identify the “square count” as the main term with minimal cycle results in [Gal 2005] and [Kahle 2009]
- Generalize minimal cycle results with homological algebra
 - $1 - \beta_q(\text{link}, S^{q-1}) - \beta_q(\text{link}) \leq \beta_q(\text{new}) - \beta_q(\text{old}) \leq \beta_{q-1}(\text{link})$



Subtleties

- Need homological algebra to relate Betti numbers with counts
 - $\beta_q(\text{new}) - \beta_q(\text{old}) \leq \beta_{q-1}(\text{link})$
- Identify the “square count” as the main term with minimal cycle results in [Gal 2005] and [Kahle 2009]
- Generalize minimal cycle results with homological algebra
 - $1 - \beta_q(\text{link}, S^{q-1}) - \beta_q(\text{link}) \leq \beta_q(\text{new}) - \beta_q(\text{old}) \leq \beta_{q-1}(\text{link})$
- Apply graph counting result in [Garavaglia and Stegehuis 2019] on a large class of subgraphs



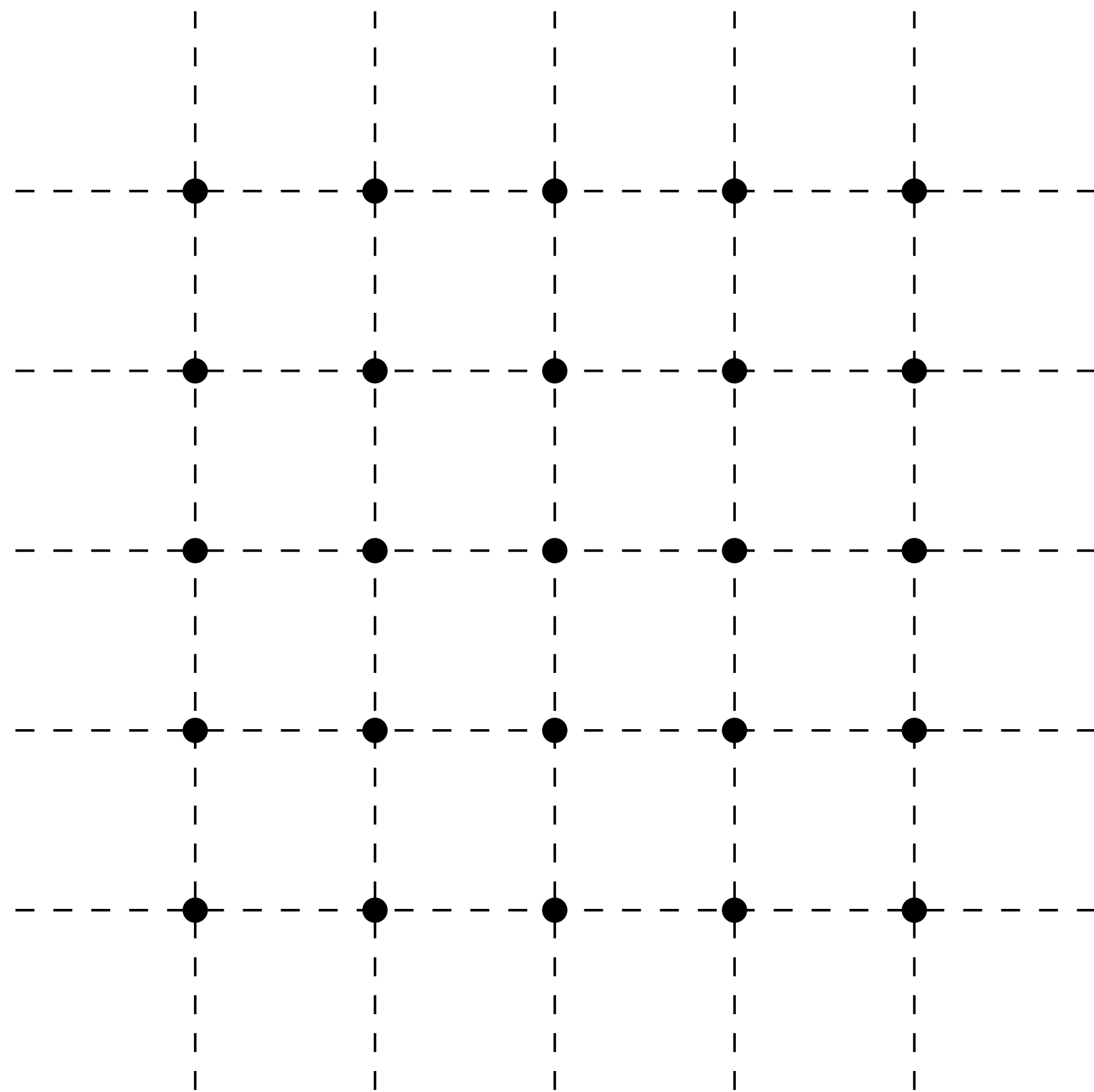


unbounded growth of $\beta_1(X_T)$

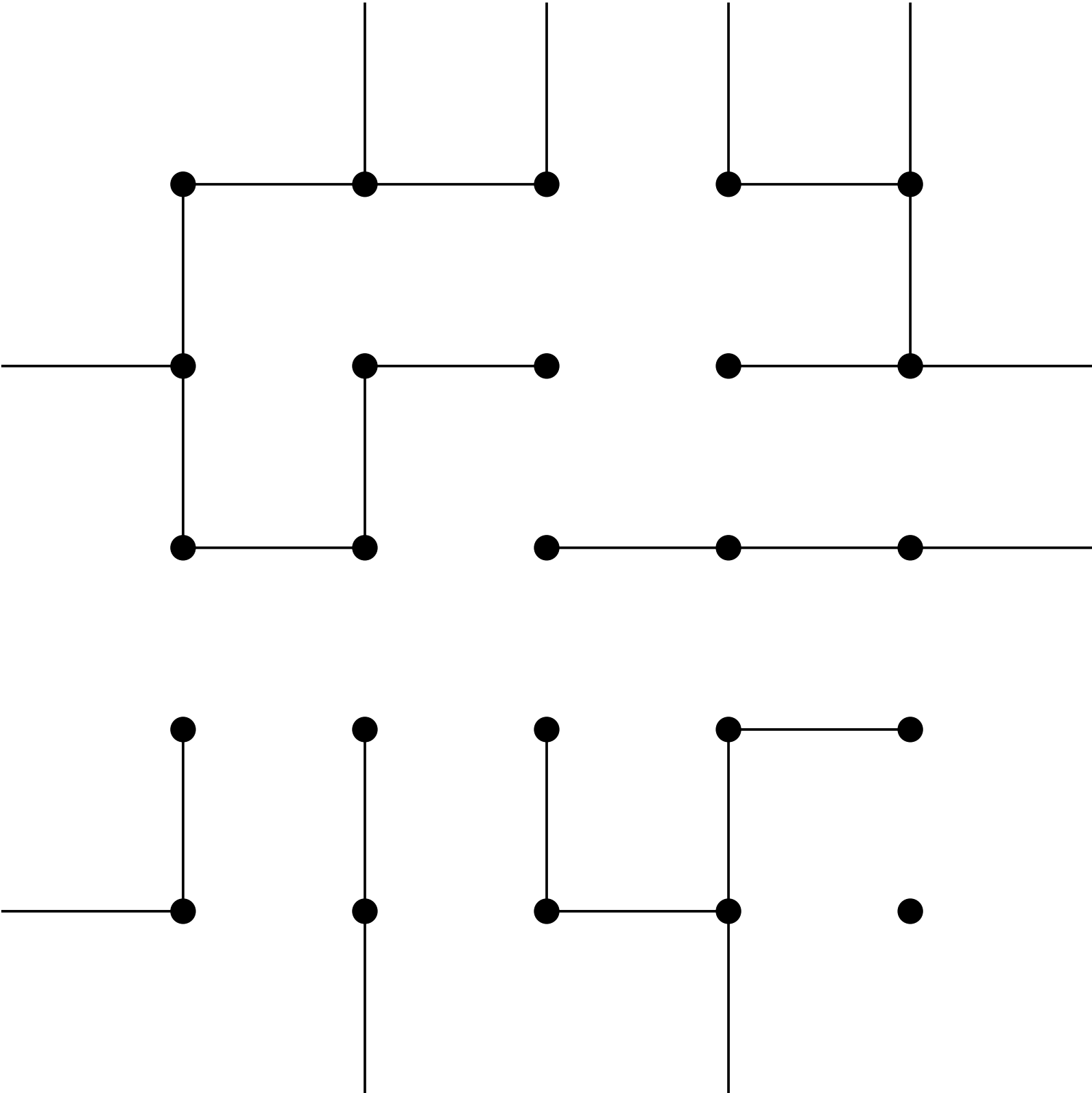
unbounded growth of $\beta_2(X_T)$

unbounded growth of $\beta_3(X_T)$

Bernoulli Bond Percolation

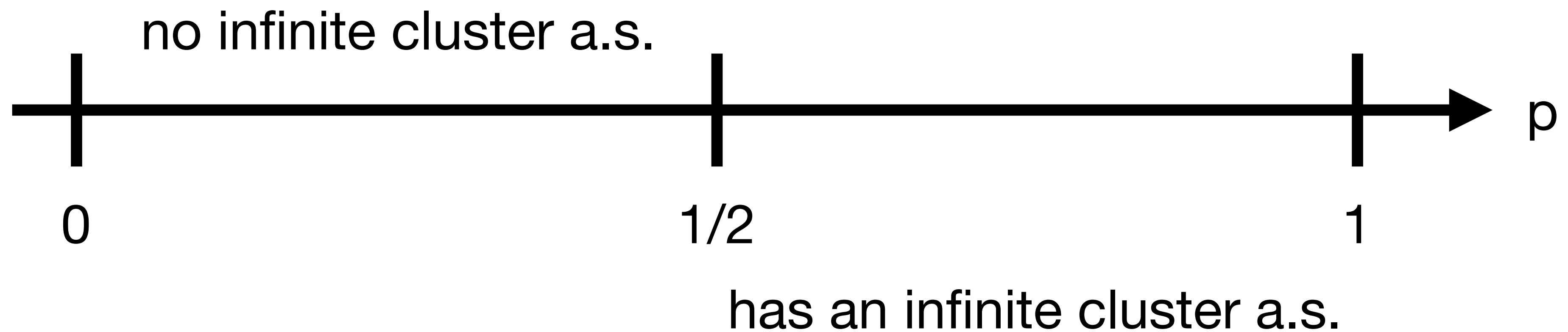


Bernoulli Bond Percolation



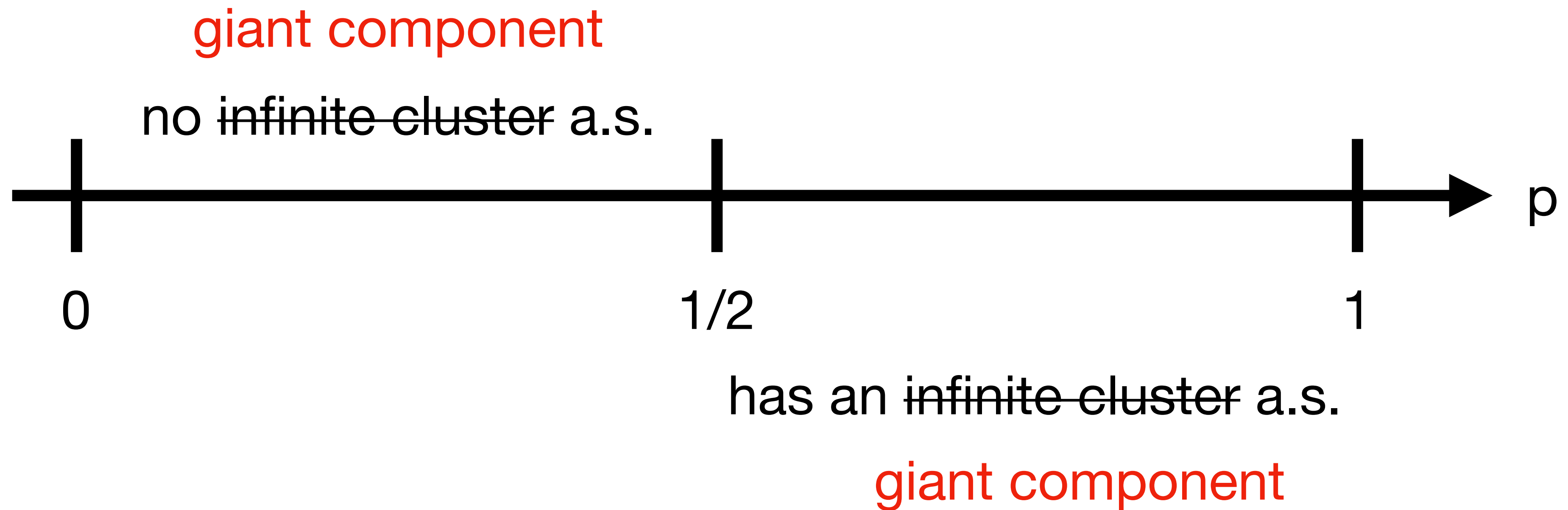
Phase Transition

[Harris 1960, Kesten 1980]



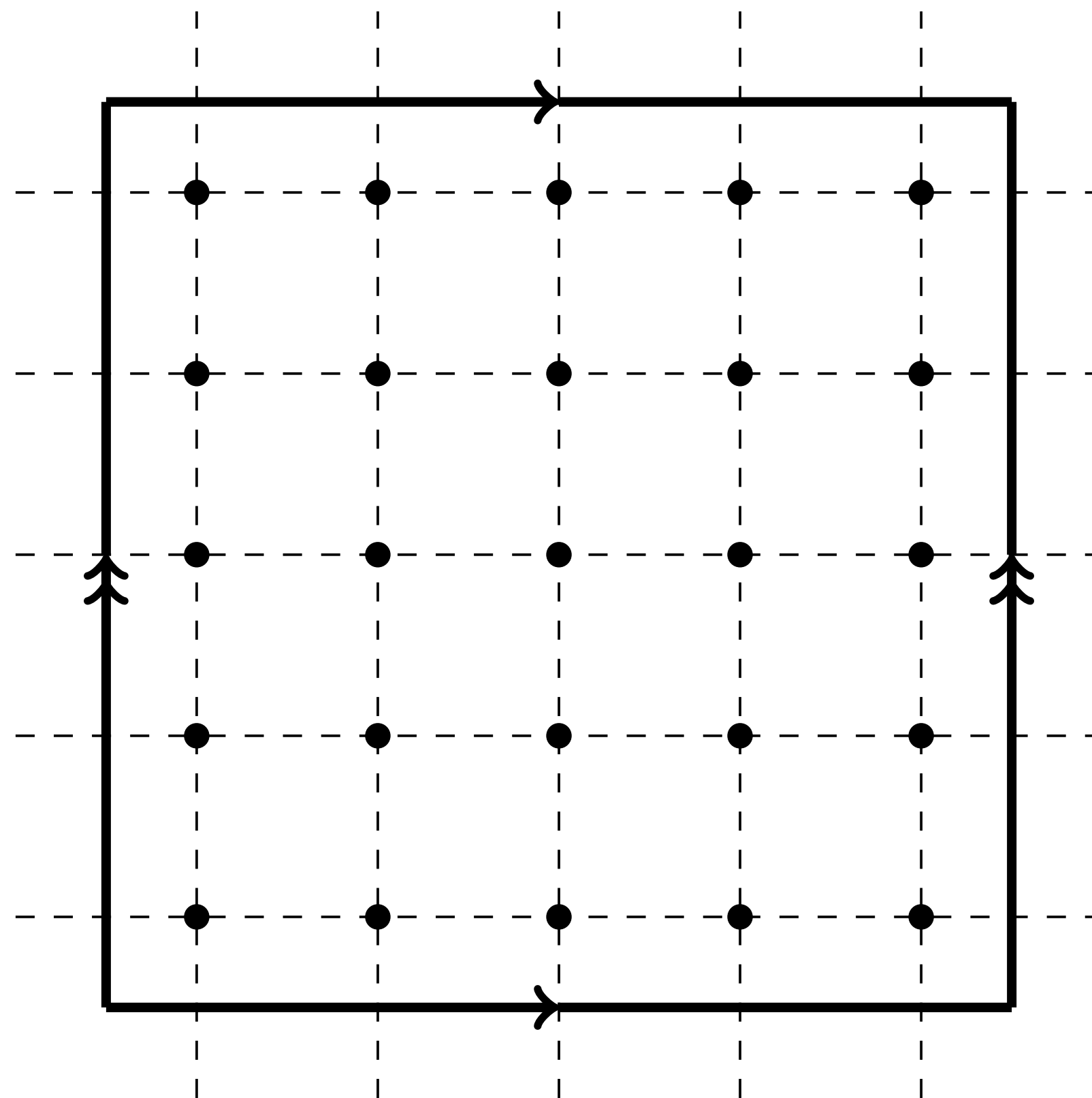
Phase Transition

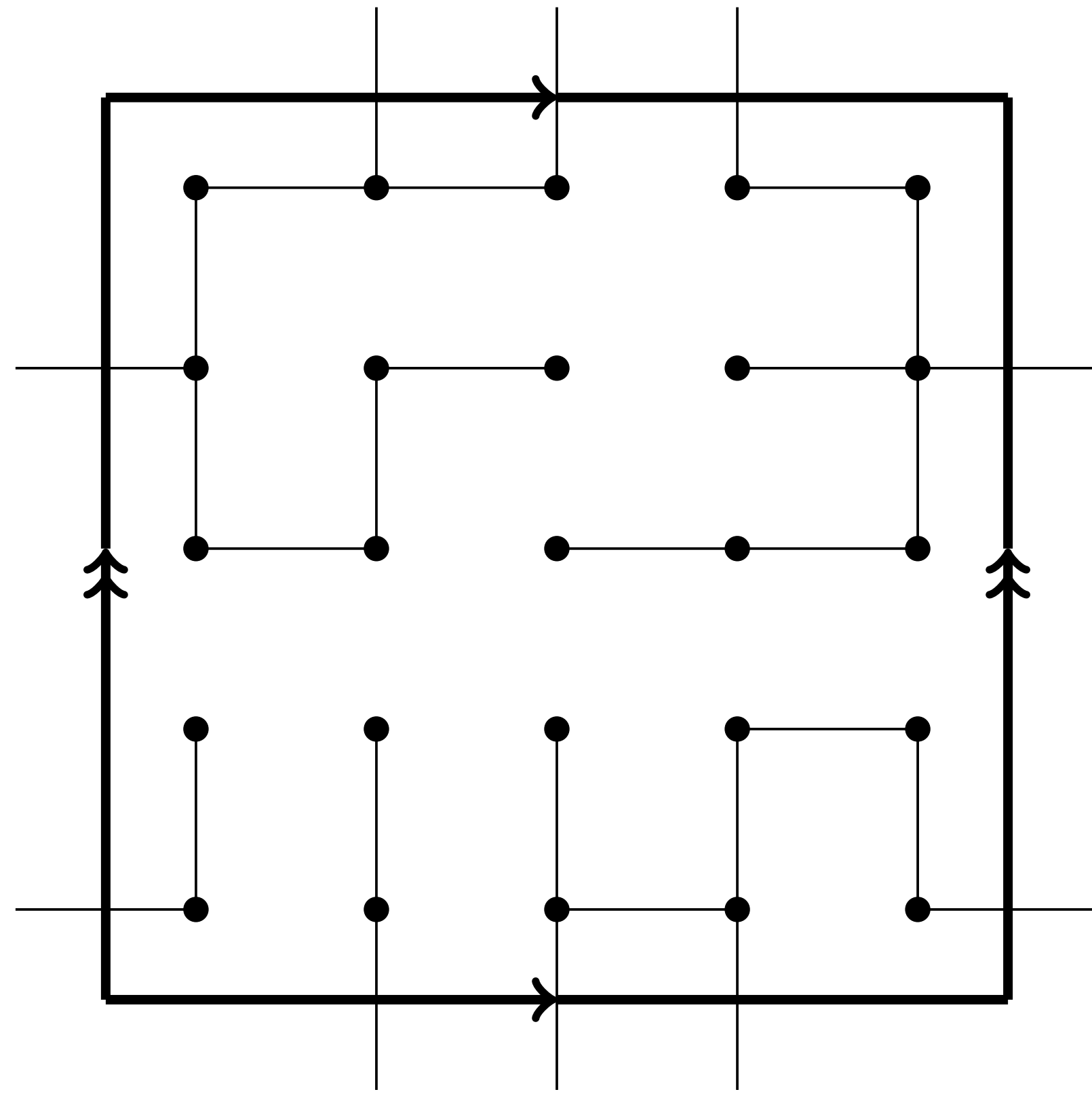
[Harris 1960, Kesten 1980]



Giant Cycles?

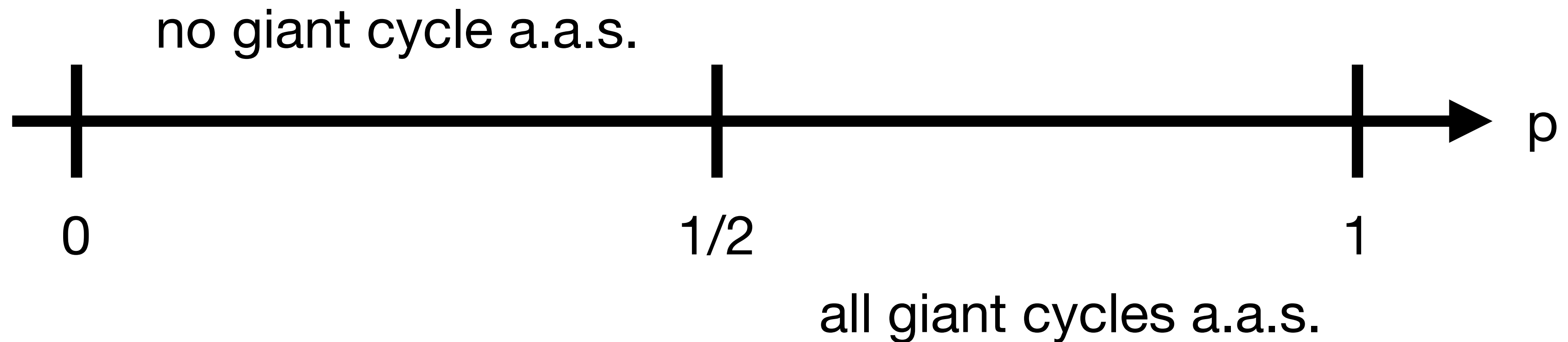
Bernoulli Bond Percolation



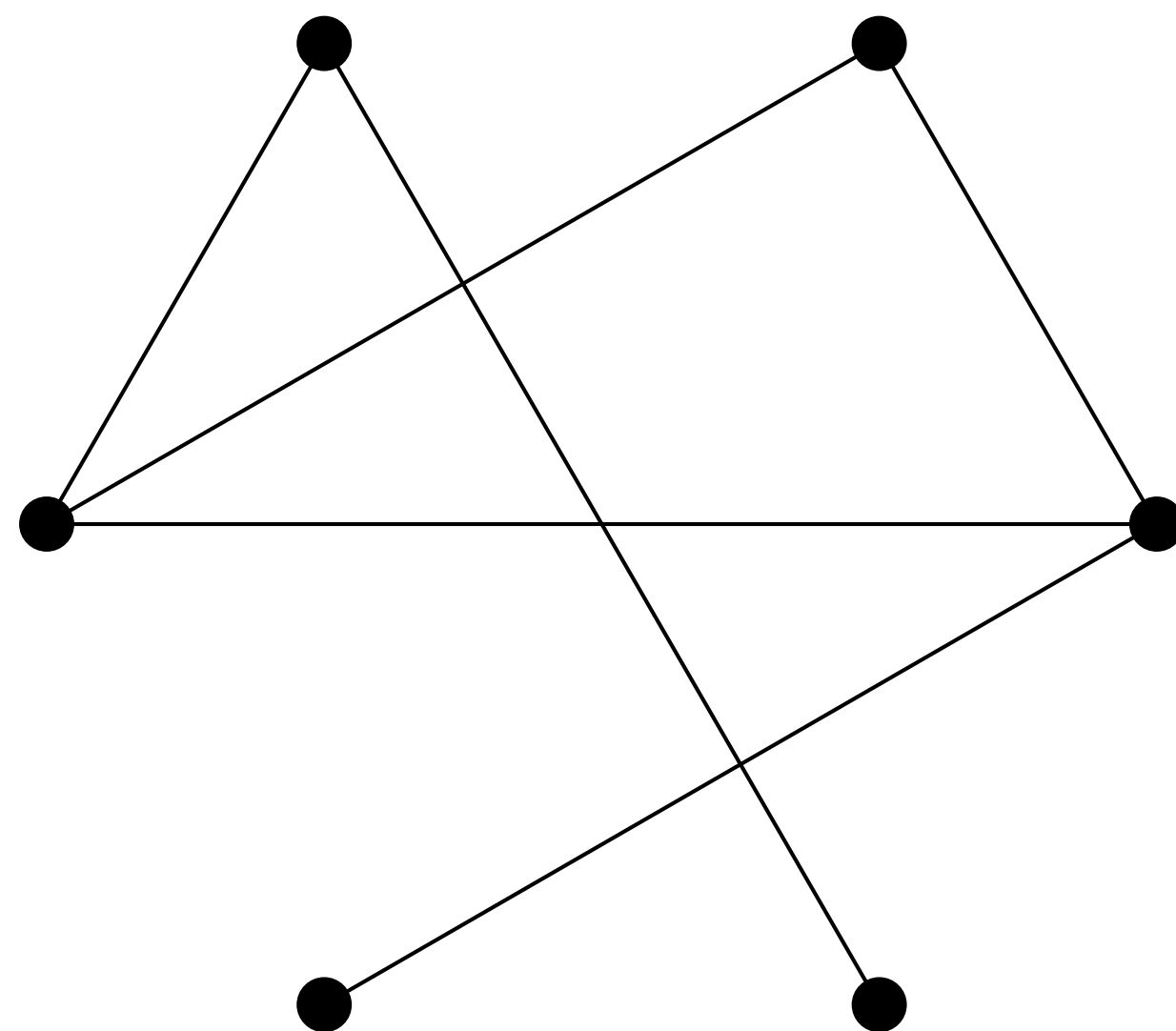


Phase Transition

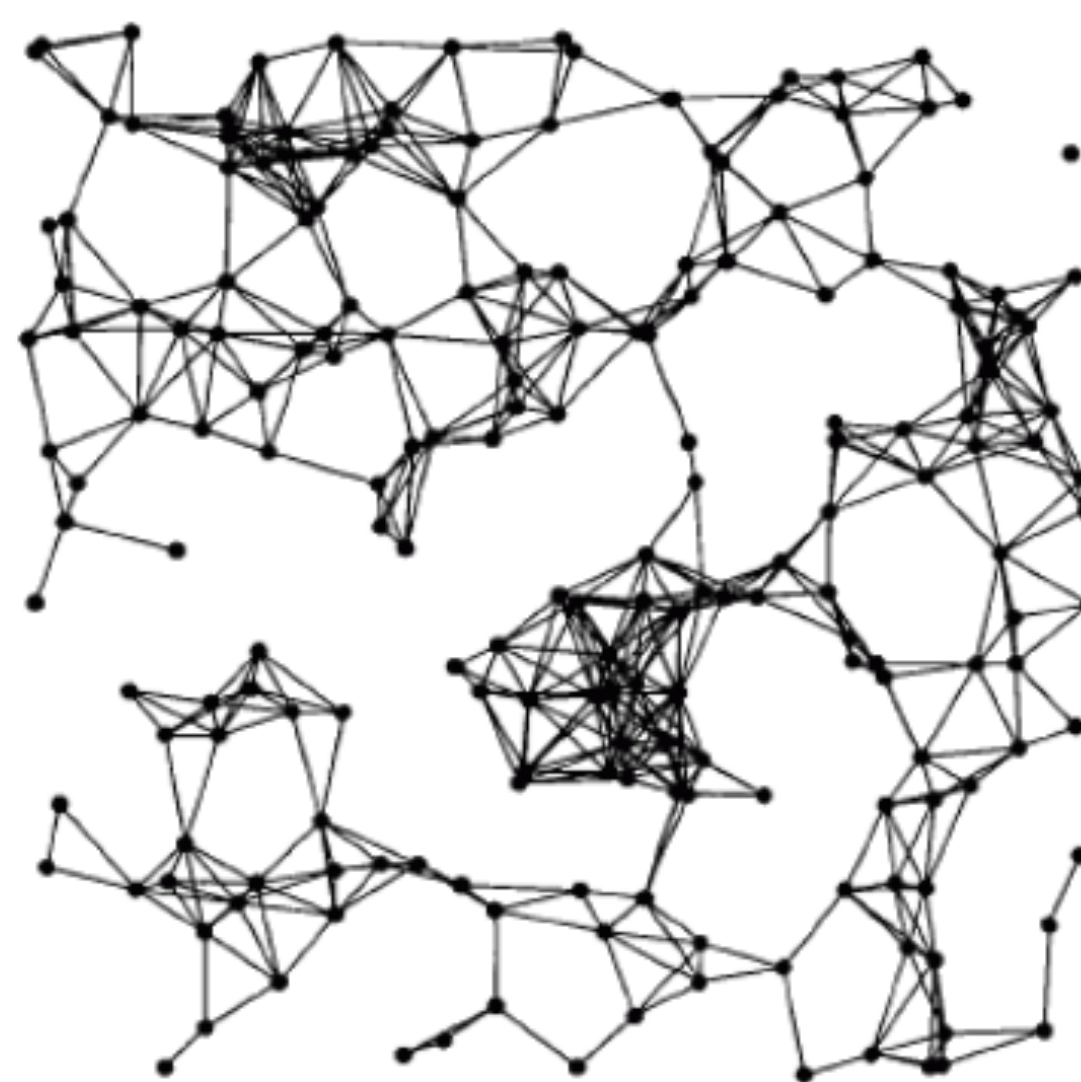
[Duncan-Kahle-Schweinhardt, 2021]



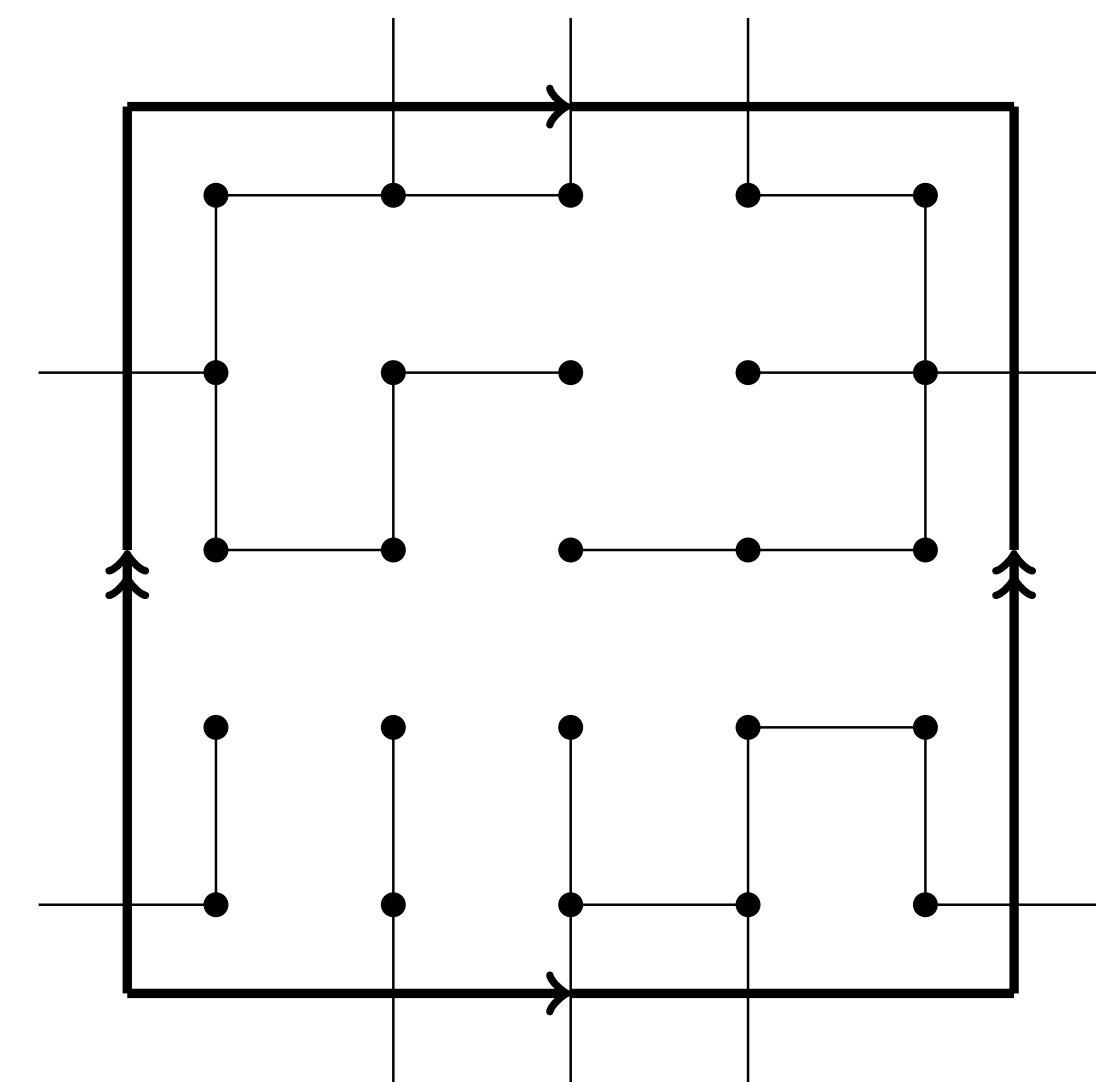
Tea with Random Topology



Erdo-Renyi Complexes



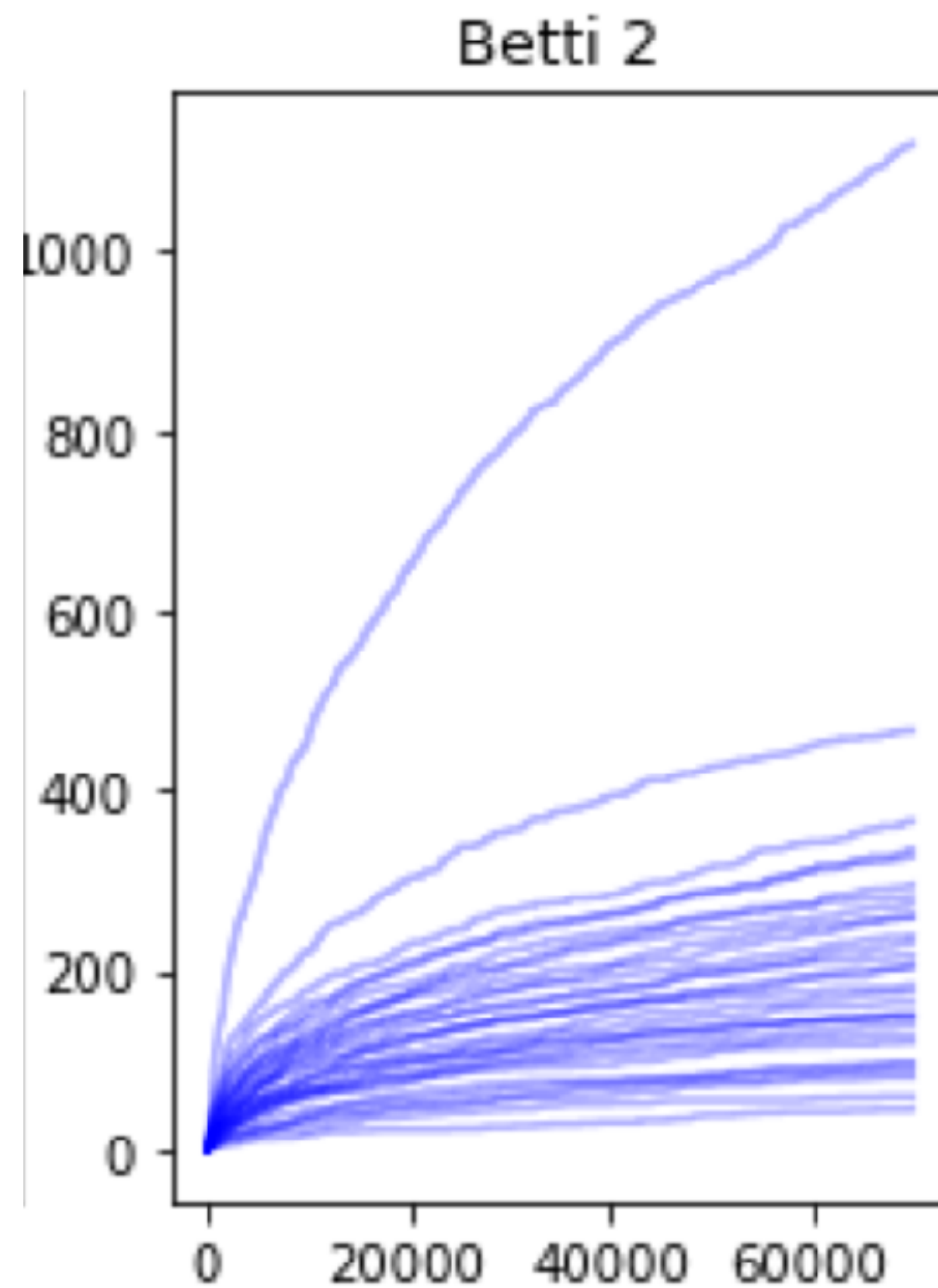
Geometric Complexes



Topological Percolation

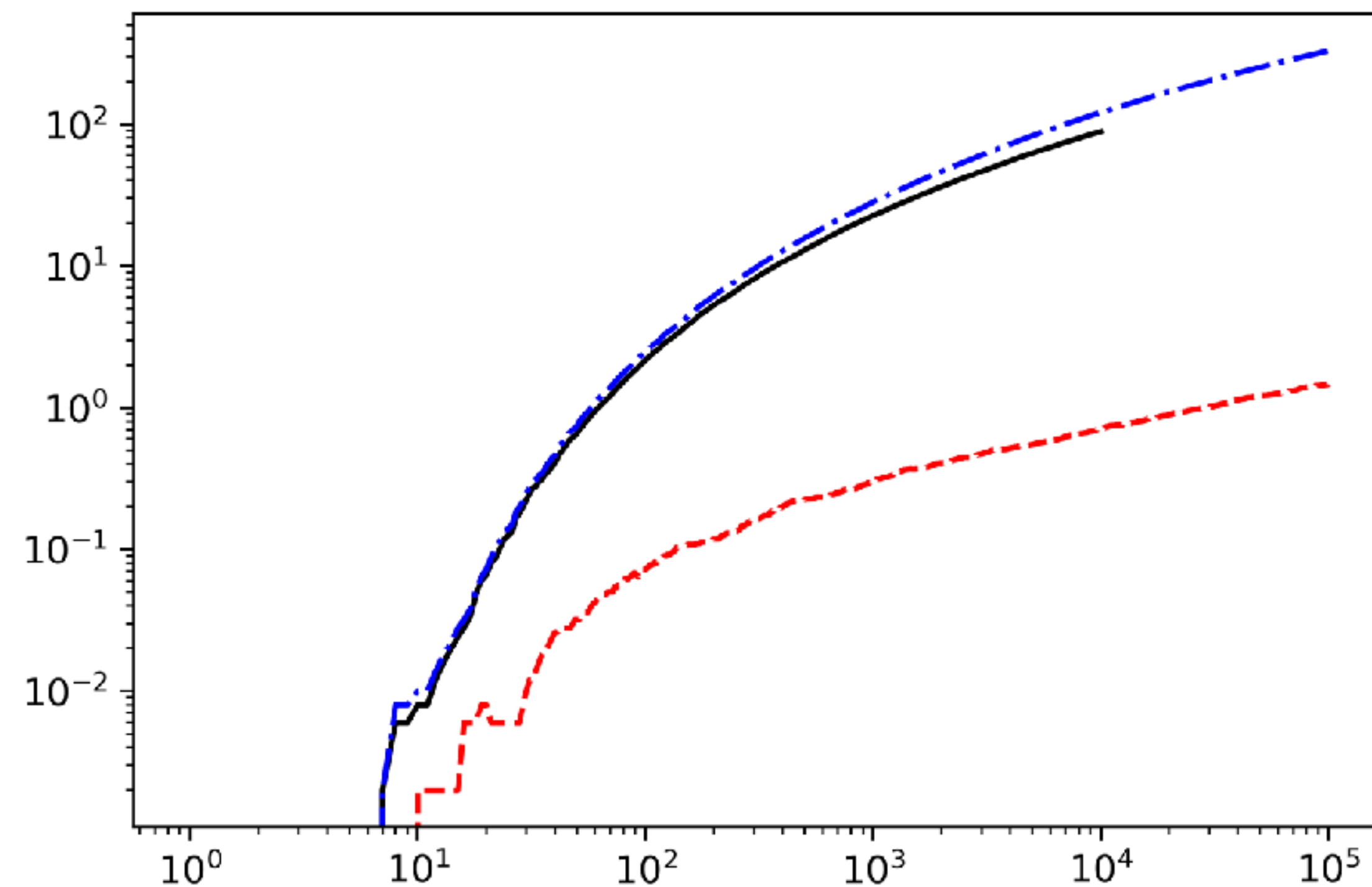
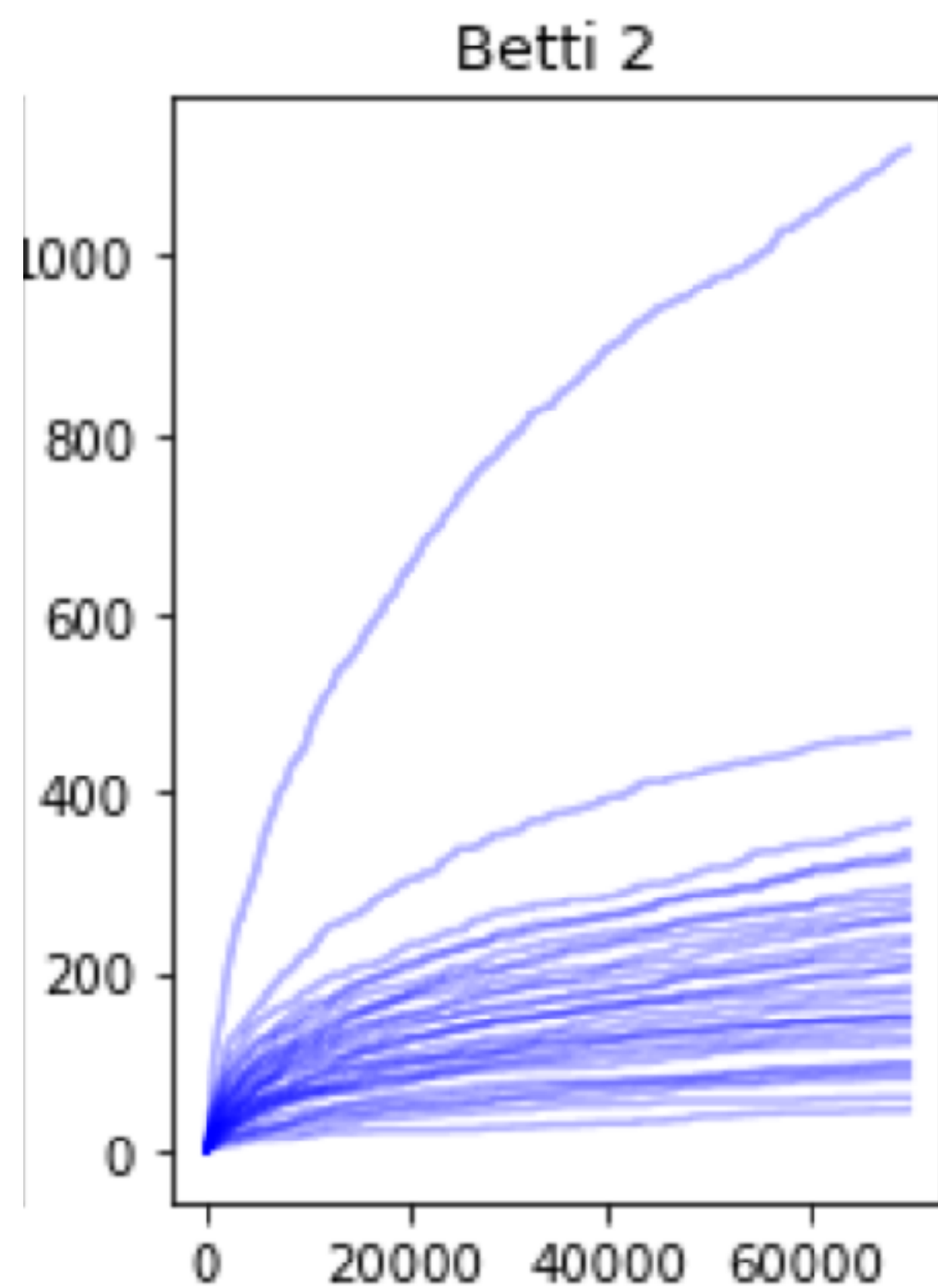
Theorem: $E[\beta_2] \approx \text{num of nodes}^{1-4x}$
In practice???

$$E[\beta_2] \approx \text{num of nodes}^{1-4x}$$
$$\log E[\beta_2] \approx (1 - 4x)\log(\text{num of nodes})$$

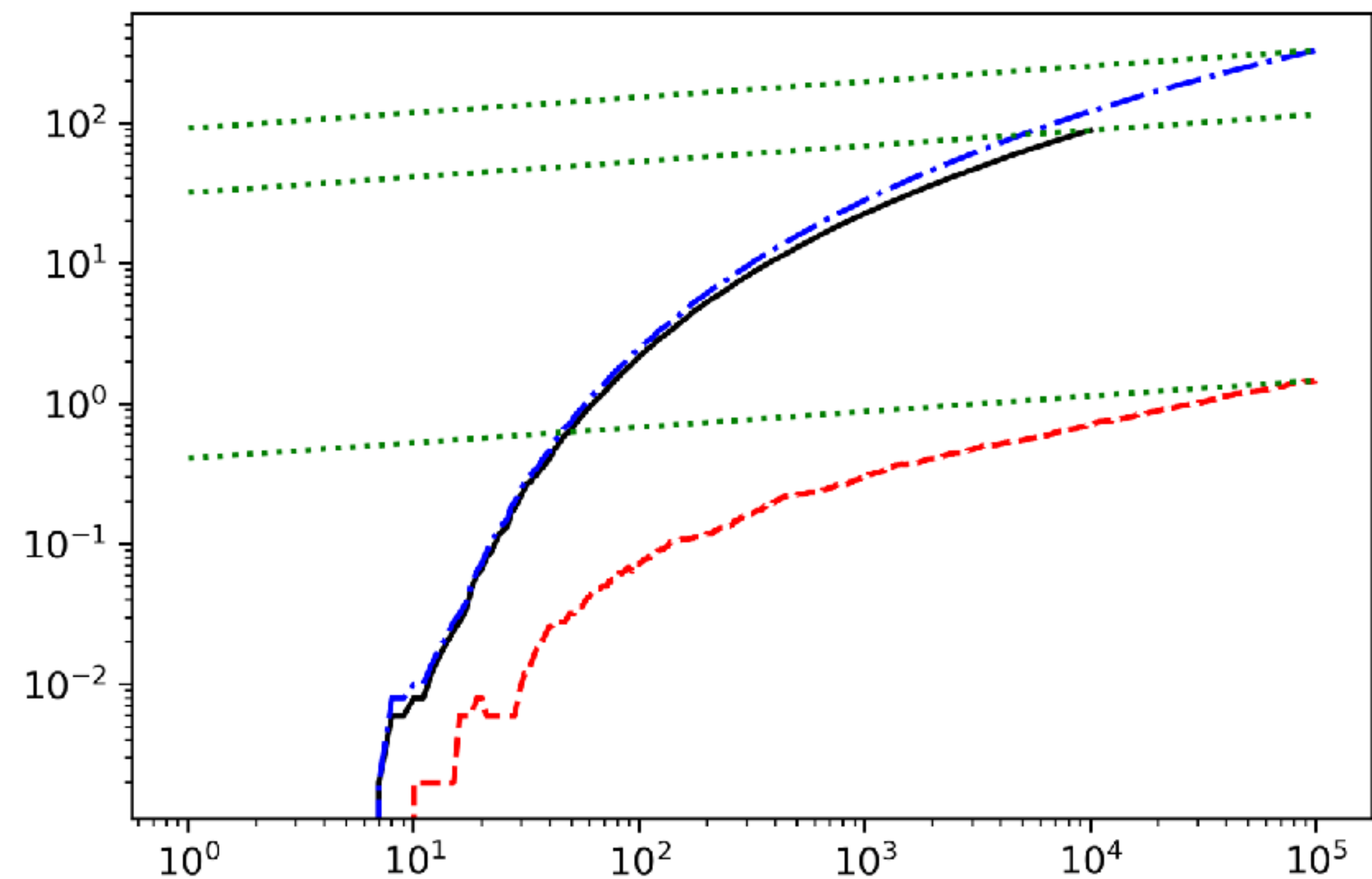
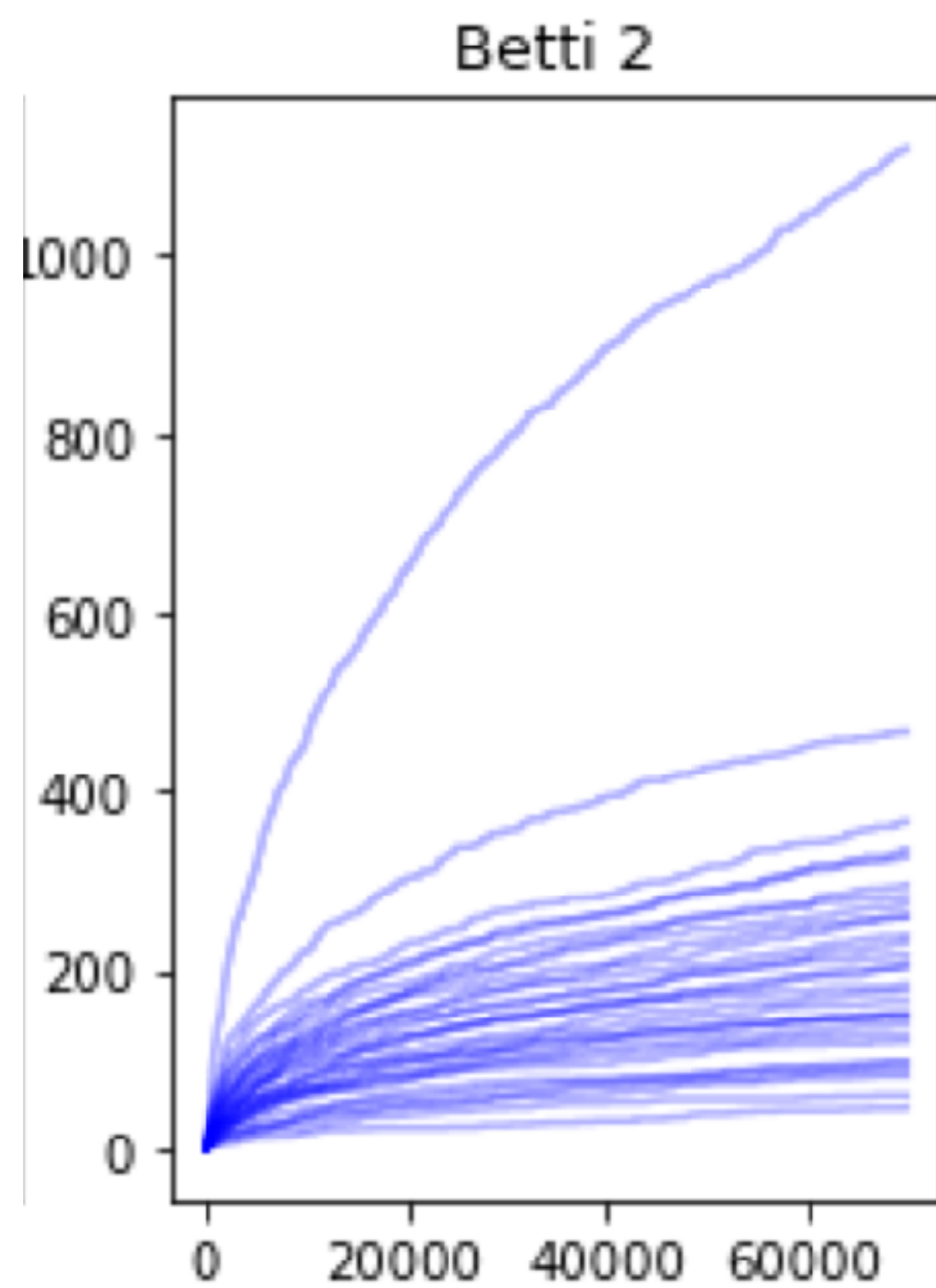


$$E[\beta_2] \approx \text{num of nodes}^{1-4x}$$

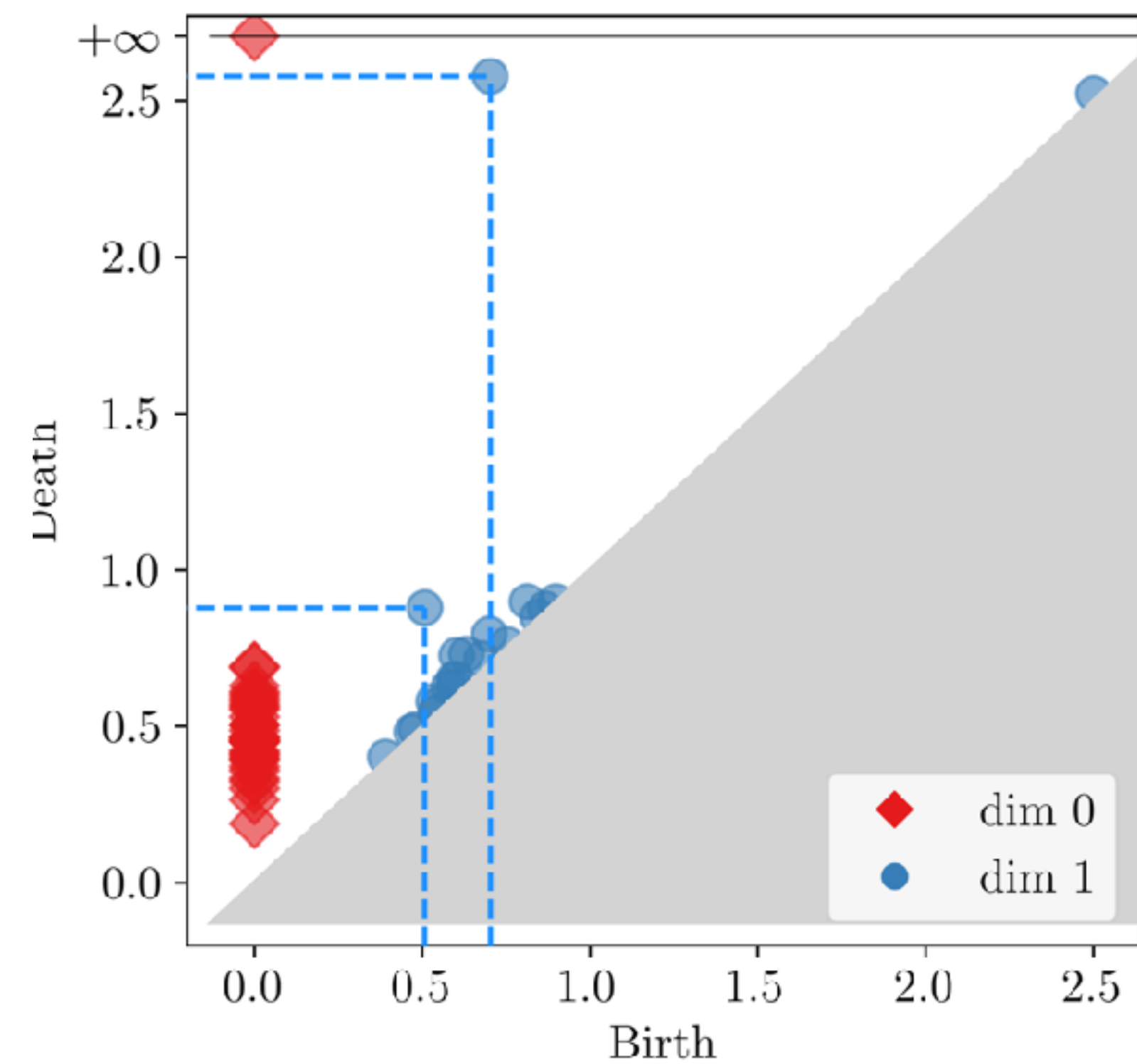
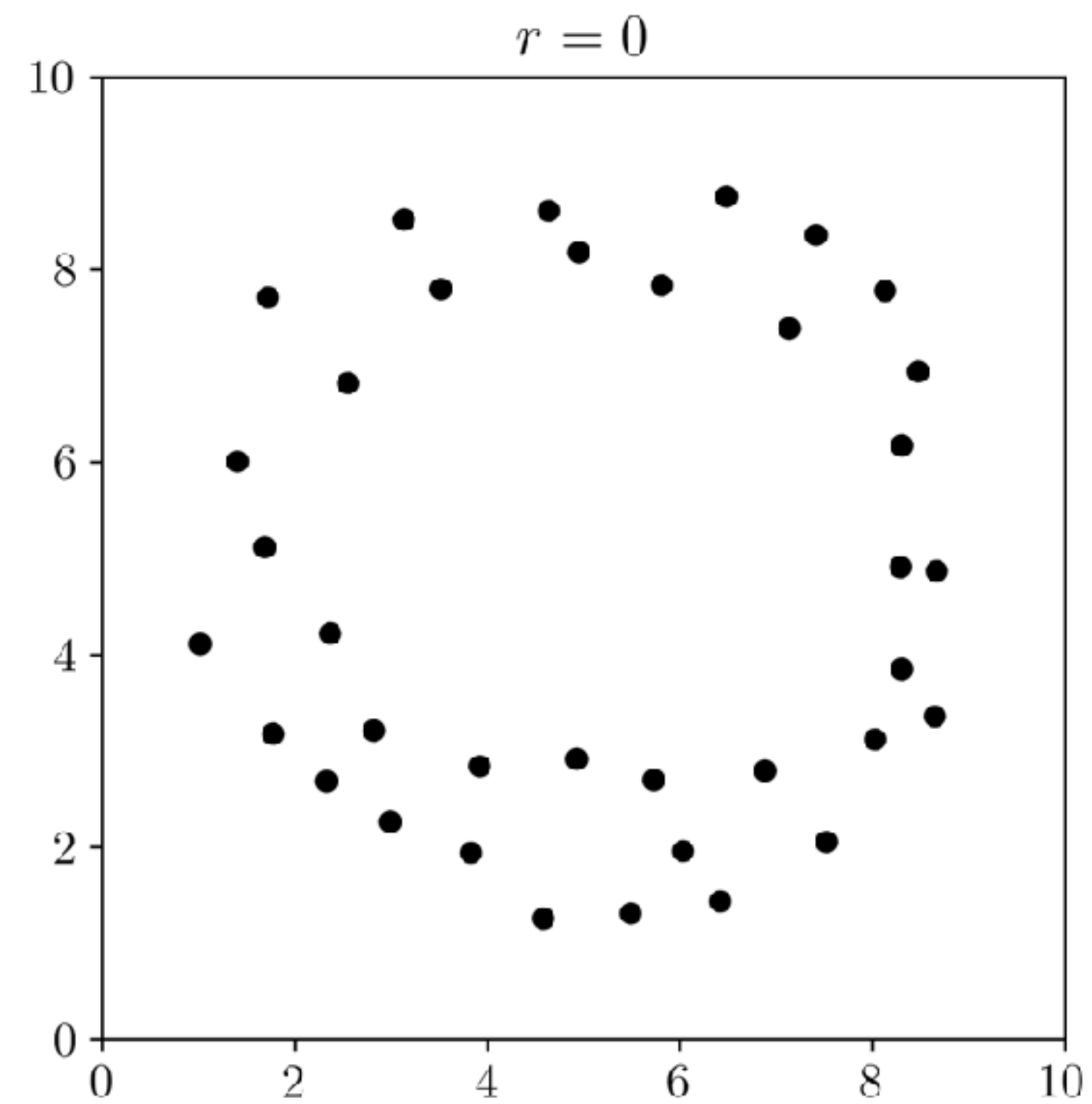
$$\log E[\beta_2] \approx (1 - 4x)\log(\text{num of nodes})$$



$$E[\beta_2] \approx \text{num of nodes}^{1-4x}$$



Maximally Persistent Cycles



Maximally Persistent Cycles

n points in expectation

k -cycle

Maximally Persistent Cycles

[Bobrowski-Kahle-Skraba 2017]

n points in expectation

k -cycle

$$c \left(\frac{\log n}{\log \log n} \right)^{1/k} \leq \max \text{ persistence} \leq C \left(\frac{\log n}{\log \log n} \right)^{1/k} \text{ a.a.s.}$$

V. What lies ahead

orders of magnitude of
Betti numbers

homotopy connectedness

orders of magnitude of
Betti numbers

homotopy connectedness

parameter estimation?

simplicial preferential
attachment?

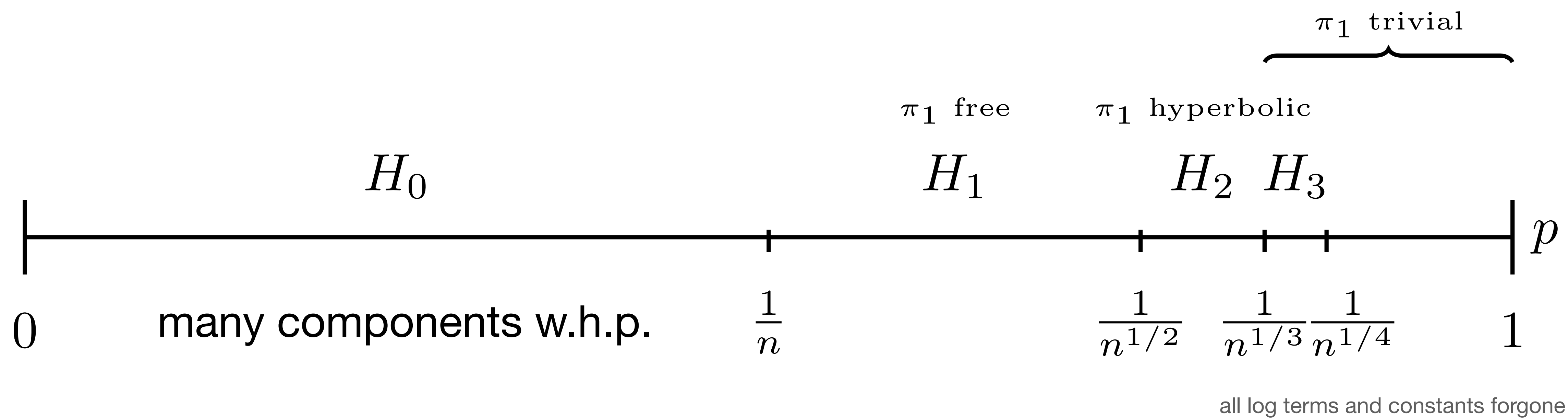
other non-homogeneous
complexes?

What did we learn today?

- Random topology is cool.
- Preferential attachment graph has interesting topology.
- More interesting things are waiting to be discovered.

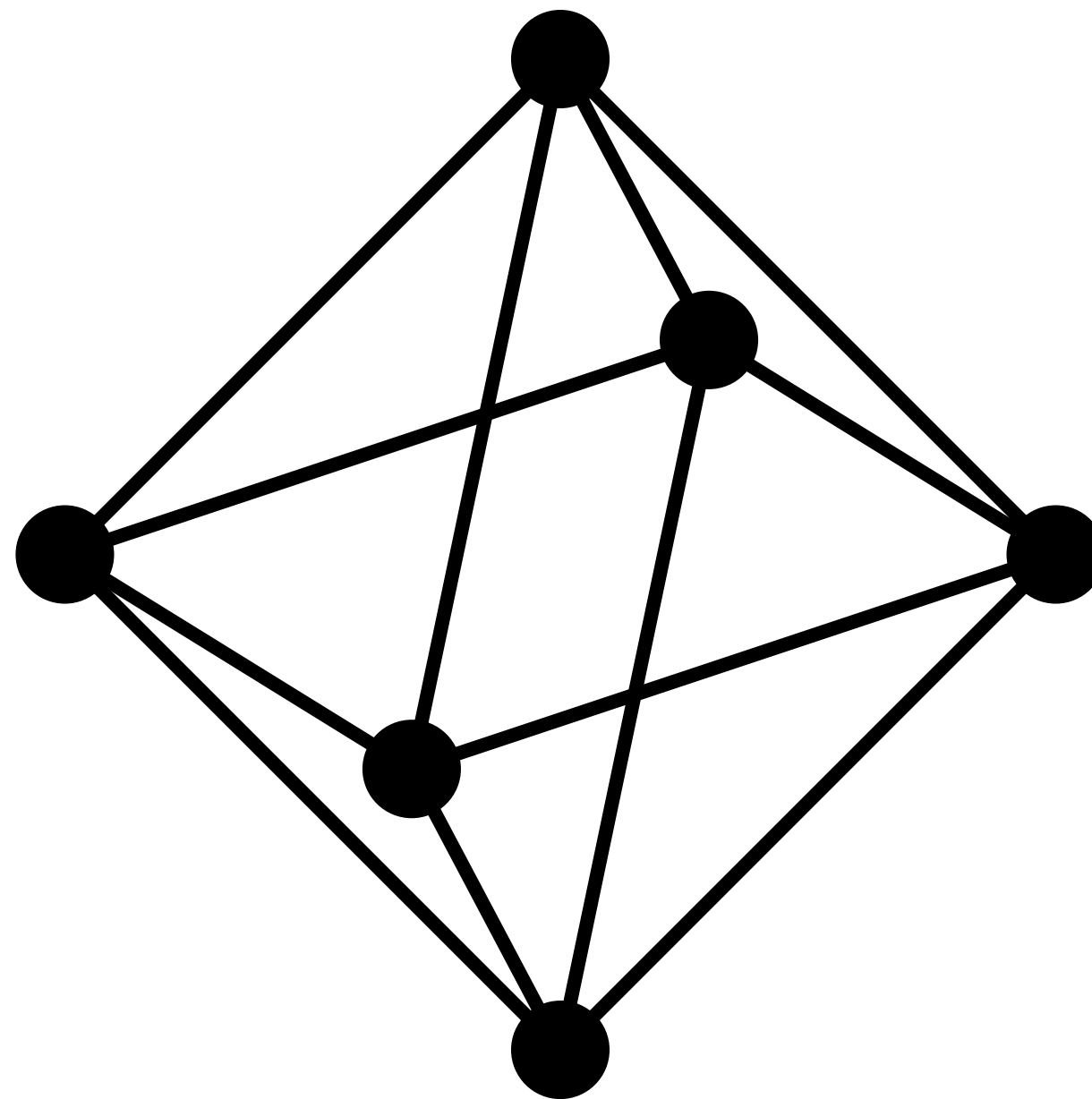
Fundamental Group

[Kahle 2009, Babson 2012, Costa-Farber-Horak 2015]



[Barmak 2023]

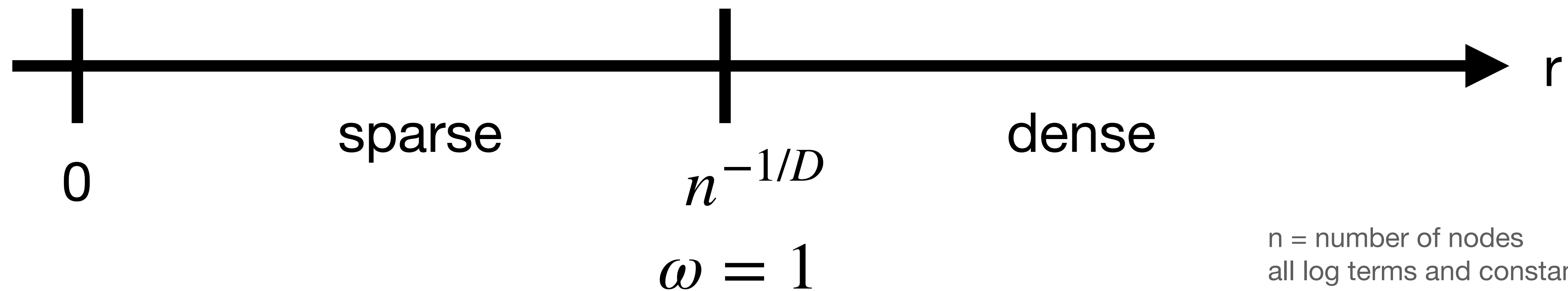
- A clique complex is q -homotopy-connected
- if every collection of $2(q + 1)$ nodes has a common neighbor.



Expected Betti numbers at dimension k

[Kahle 2011]

- n , the number of points
- $\omega = nr^D$, where D is the ambient dimension

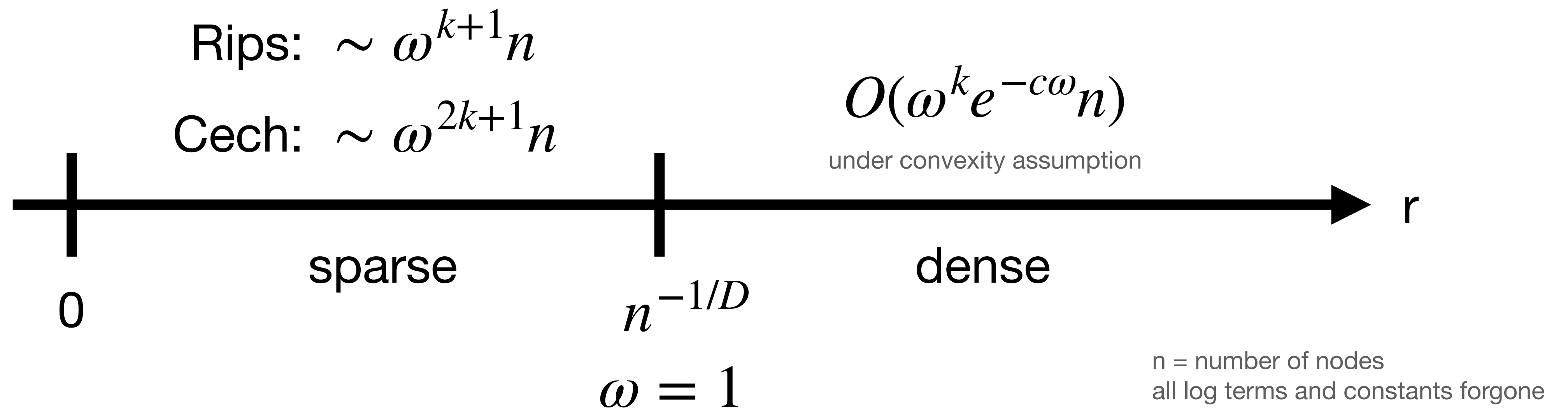


n = number of nodes
all log terms and constants forgone

Expected Betti numbers at dimension k

[Kahle 2011]

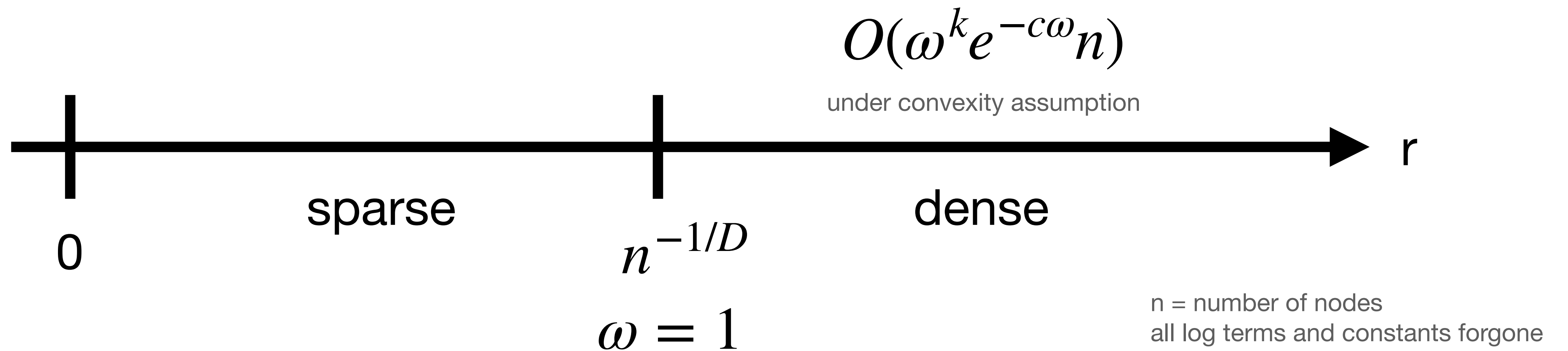
- n , the number of points
- $\omega = nr^D$, where D is the ambient dimension



Expected Betti numbers at dimension k

[Kahle 2011]

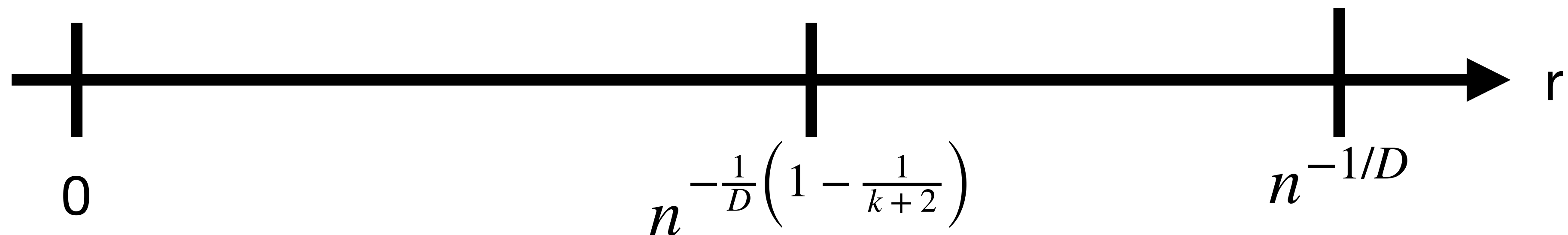
- n , the number of points
- $\omega = nr^D$, where D is the ambient dimension
- $E\beta_k(\text{Cech}) \sim \omega^{2k+1}n$



Expected Betti numbers at dimension k

[Kahle 2011]

- n , the number of points
- $\omega = nr^D$, where D is the ambient dimension
- $E\beta_k(\text{Cech}) \sim \omega^{2k+1}n$

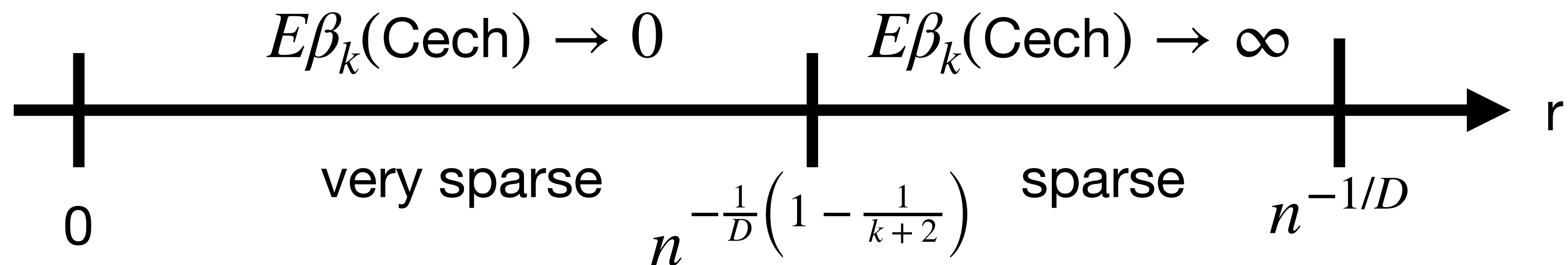


n = number of nodes
all log terms and constants forgone

Expected Betti numbers at dimension k

[Kahle 2011]

- n , the number of points
- $\omega = nr^D$, where D is the ambient dimension
- $E\beta_k(\text{Cech}) \sim \omega^{2k+1}n$



n = number of nodes
all log terms and constants forgone