

# Diversity in humans and pathogens: implications for the dynamics of epidemics and the impact of interventions

Chiara Poletto

[chiara-poletto.github.io](https://chiara-poletto.github.io)

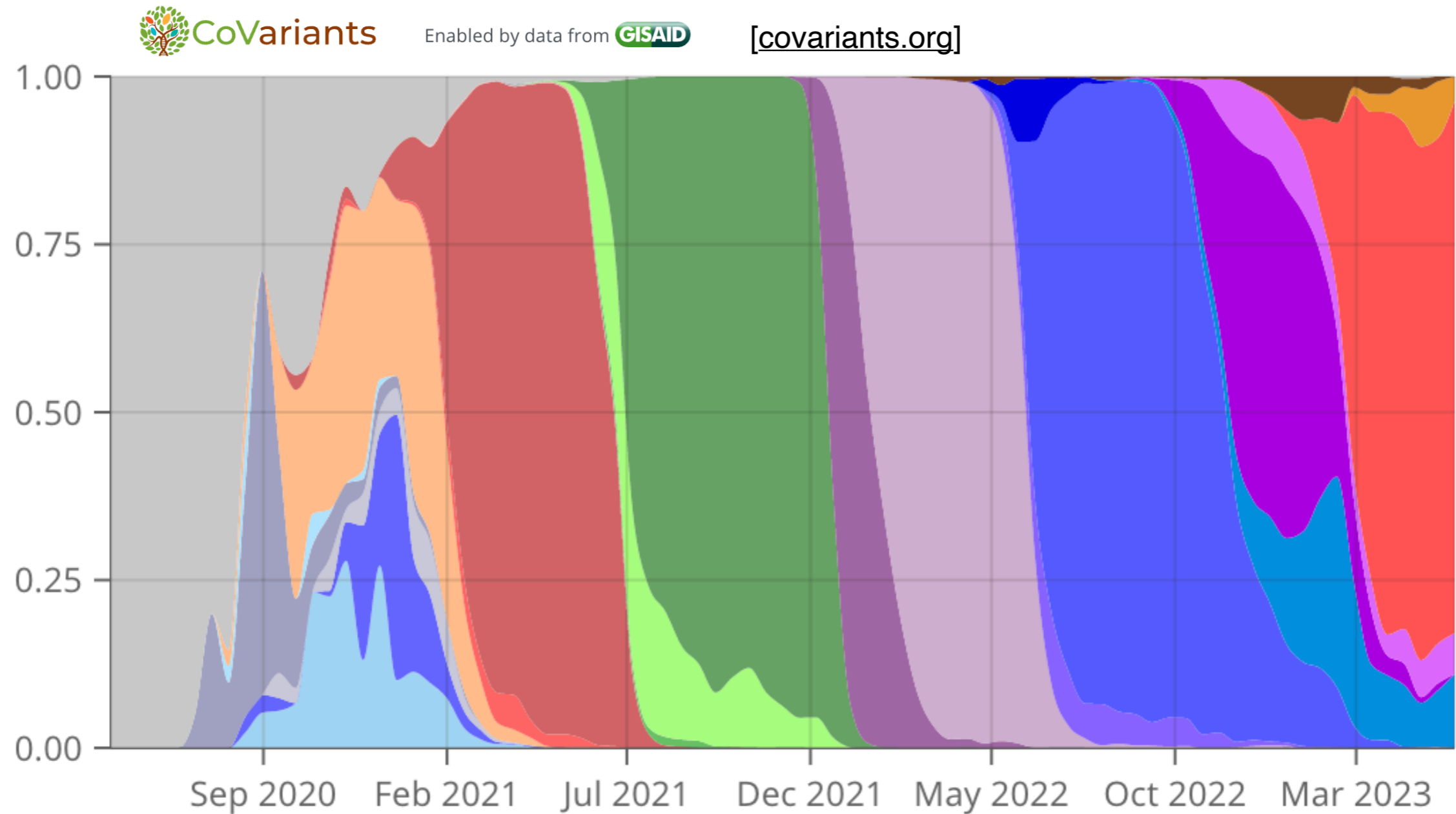
[@chpoletto](https://twitter.com/chpoletto)



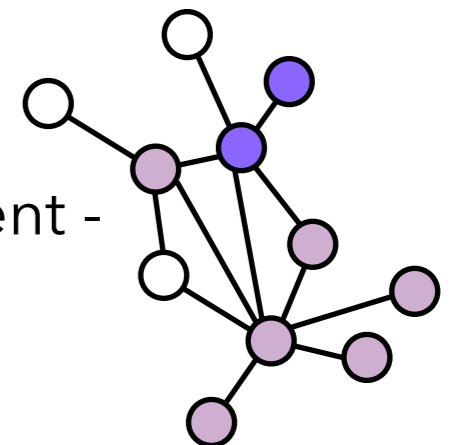
Institut Pierre Louis d'Épidémiologie et de Santé Publique  
Pierre Louis Institute of Epidemiology and Public Health

**Unifying the epidemiological and evolutionary dynamics of pathogens - Nordita - 13 June 2023**

# patterns of strain co-circulation



strain traits - strain interaction - host heterogeneities - treatment -  
vaccination - **contact/spatial structure**

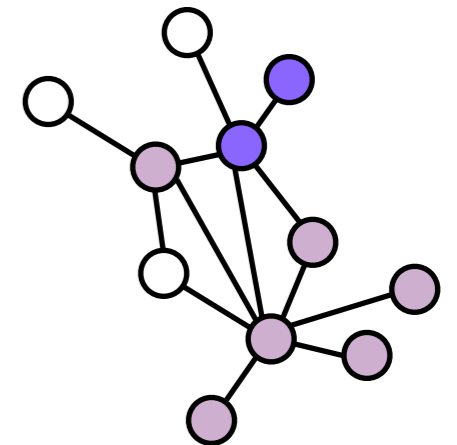


# patterns of strain co-circulation

contact and mobility  
networks determine the  
pattern of strain emergence

resident strains *alter* the  
network substrate

depending on hosts'  
interaction time-scale,  
either one of the two  
strains is advantaged

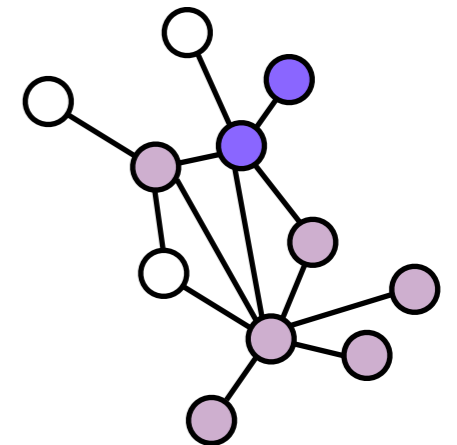


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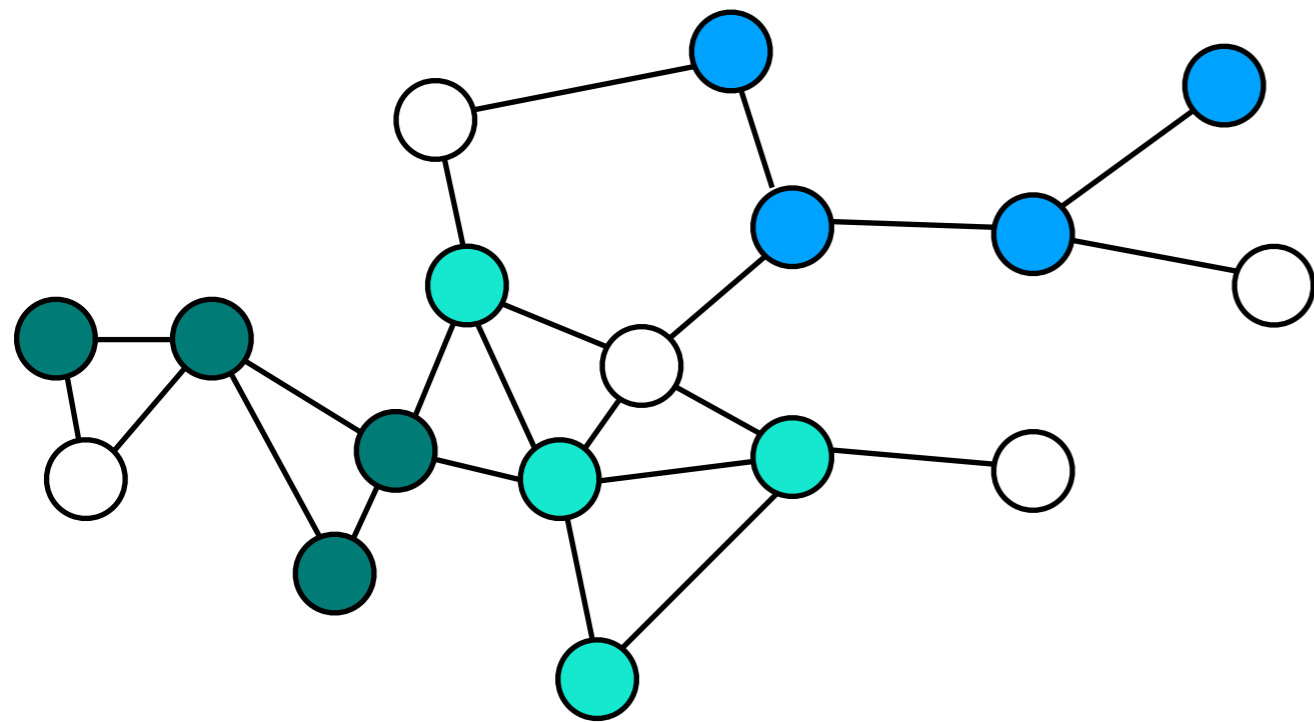
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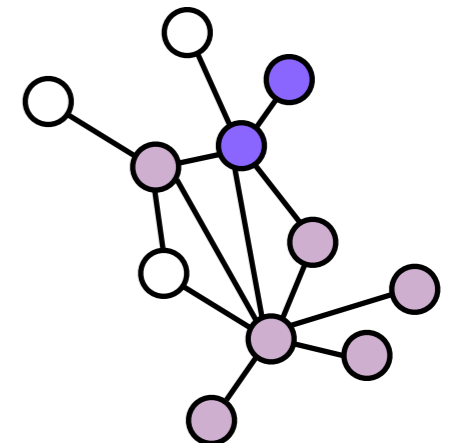
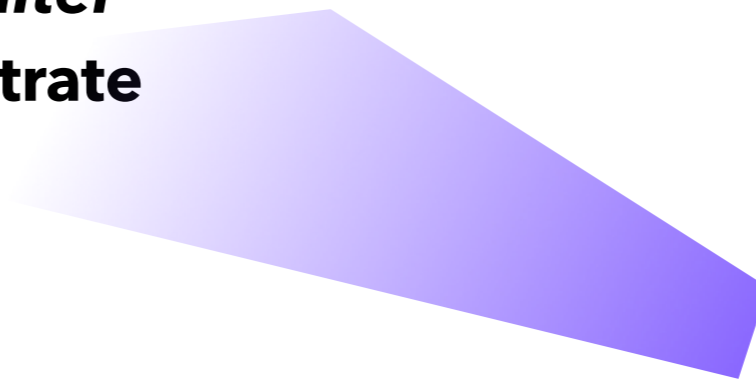
# patterns of strain co-circulation



strain responsible for past infections/  
resident strain/ fastest strain occupies a  
portion of nodes  
*emerging spread on a residual network*

[Karrer Newman PRE 2011; Leventhal et al Nature Comm 2015]

**resident strains *alter*  
the network substrate**



# patterns of strain co-circulation

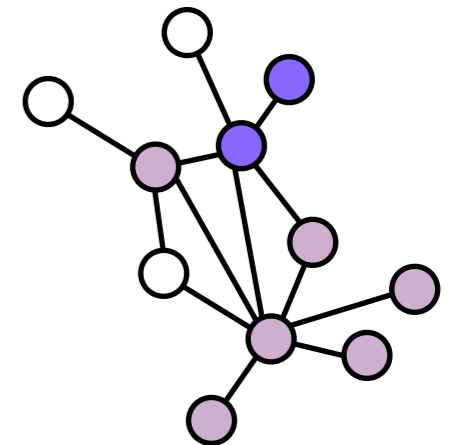


ecology of many strains on a network

[F. Pinotti, É. Fleury, D. Guillemot, P.-Y. Böelle, C. Poletto, PLoS Computational Biology 15(5) 2019]

[F. Pinotti et al in preparation]

**resident strains *alter*  
the network substrate**



# emergence/dominance/co-existence of *S aureus* strains

contact spatial structure in hospitals:

- small population  
(strong stochastic effects)
- high patient turn-over  
(strain introduction from the outside)
- ward composition
- host heterogeneities  
(patients/health care workers)

[Kouyos et al, PLOS Pathogens 2013; Kouyos et al PLOS Pathogens 2011; Cooper et al, PLOS Comput Biol 2012; Bonten et al CID 2001]



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**network data: face-to-face contacts / patient transfer**

[Liljeros et al Math Popul Stud 2007; Obadia et al. PLOS Comput Biol 2015; Isella et al PLoS ONE 2011; Donker et al PLoS ONE 2012; Nekkab et al PLOS Comput Biol 2017 ]

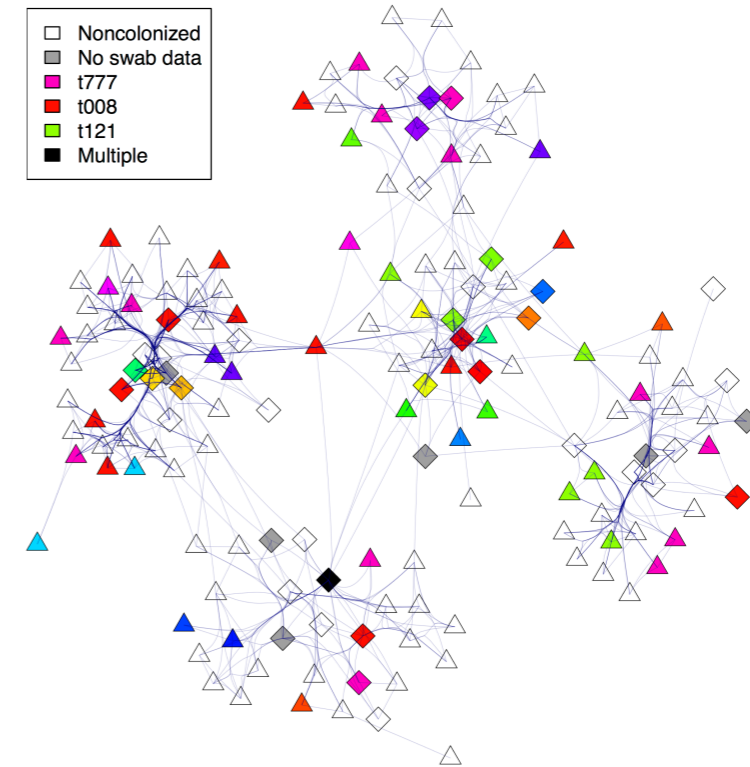


# Individual-Based Investigation of Resistance Dissemination (I-Bird)

- long term health care facility
- 5 wards
- duration 4 months

## Close Proximity Interaction data

- RFID technology
- 329 Patients - 261 Health-Care-Workers
- temporal resolution 30s



# Individual-Based Investigation of Resistance Dissemination (I-Bird)

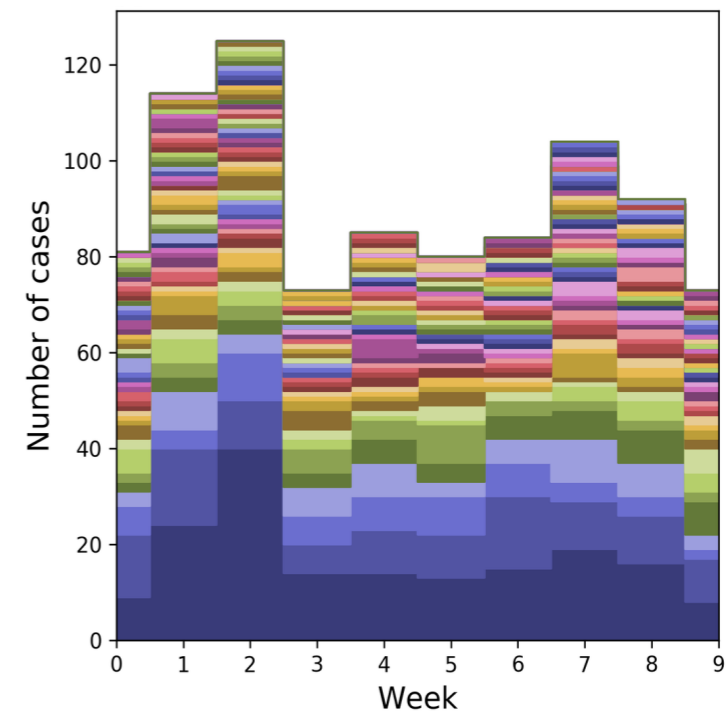
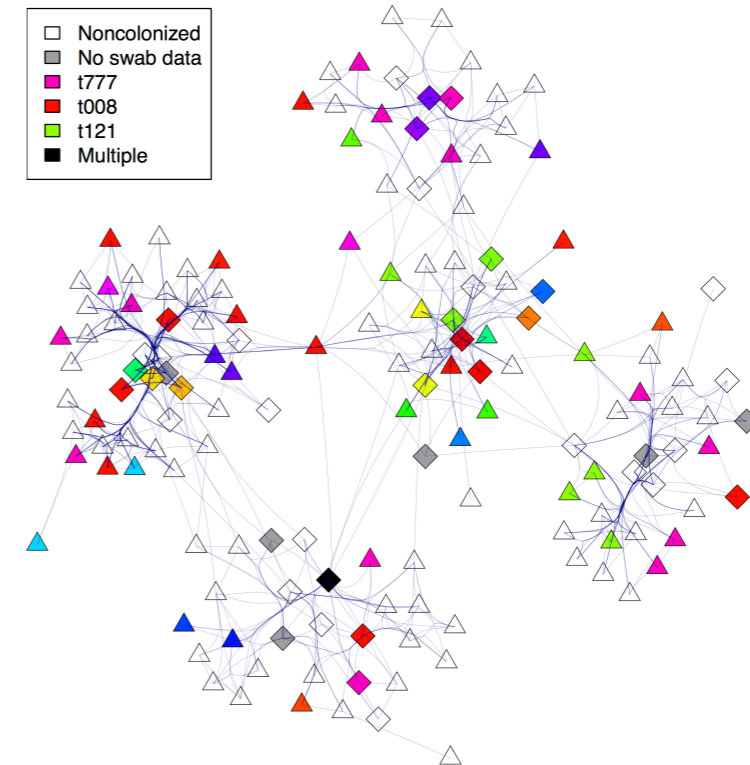
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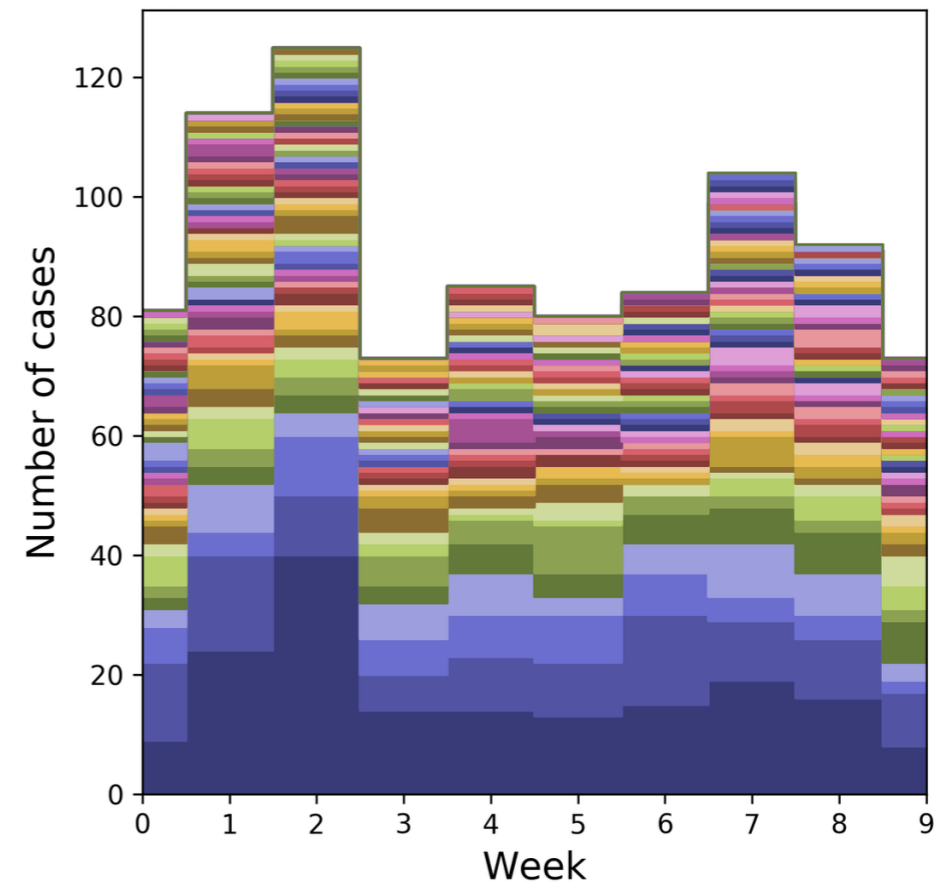
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## Colonisation

- weekly nasal swabs
- colonisation of *S. aureus*
- information of spa type + resistance profile

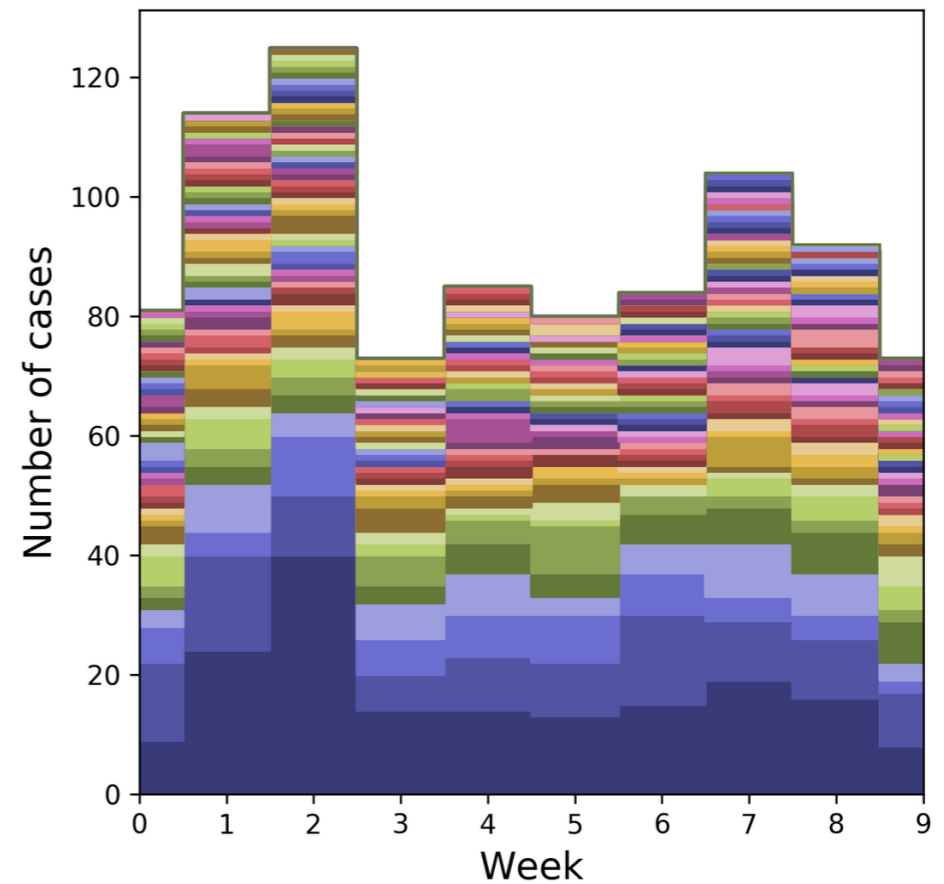


# ecological indicators



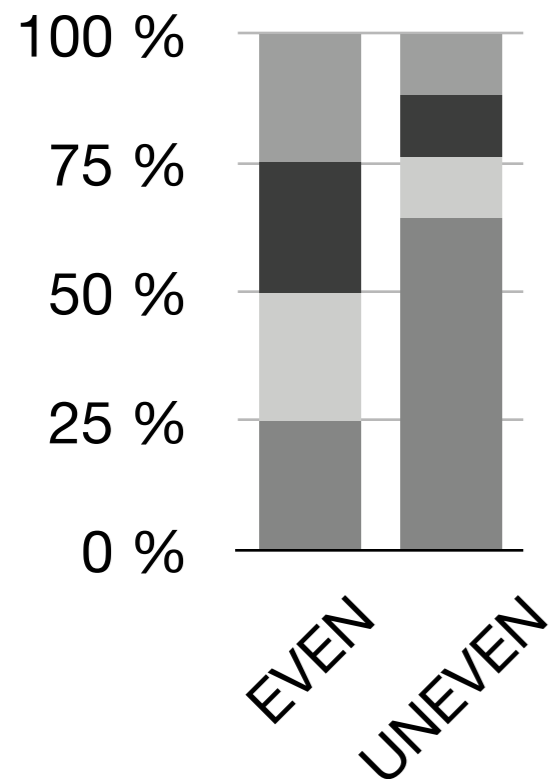
- prevalence
- richness : # strains
- evenness/dominance

# ecological indicators



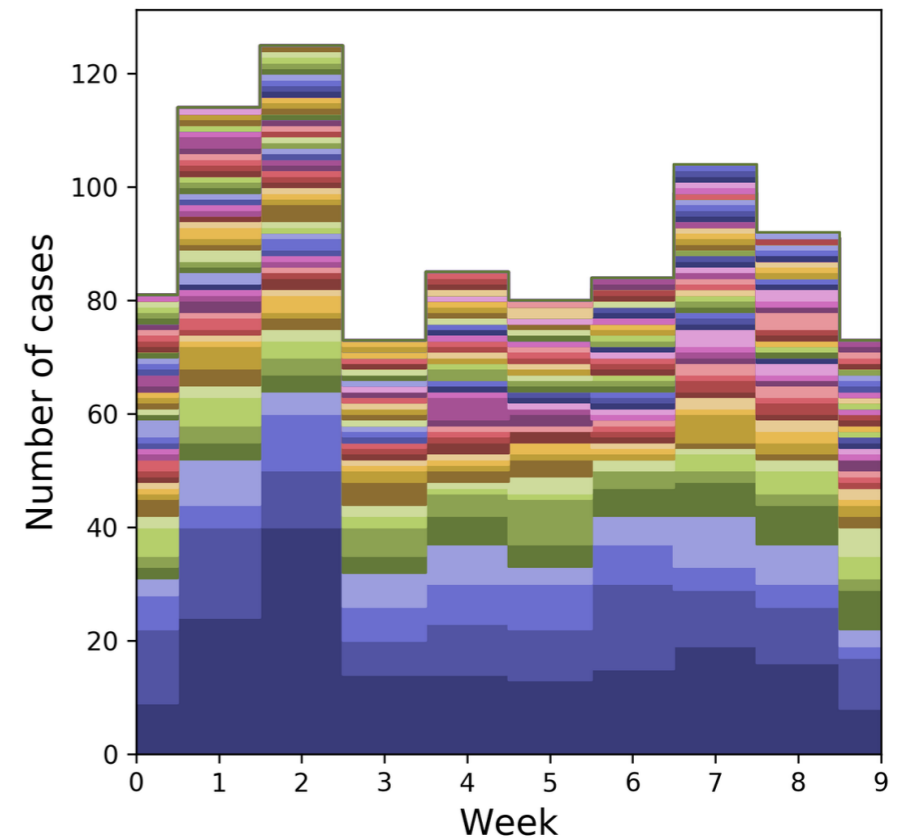
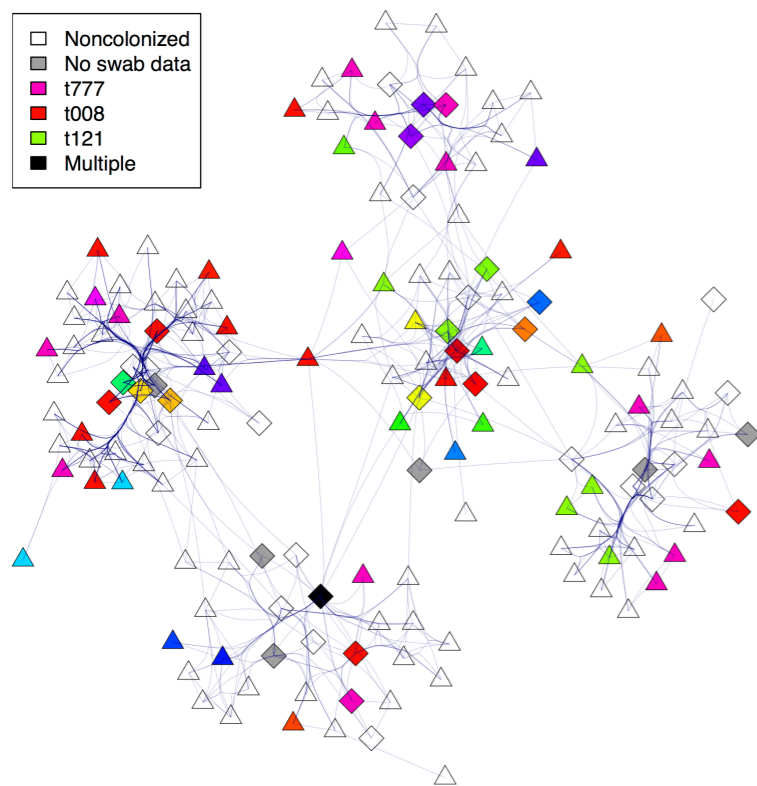
- prevalence
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## Berger-Parker index



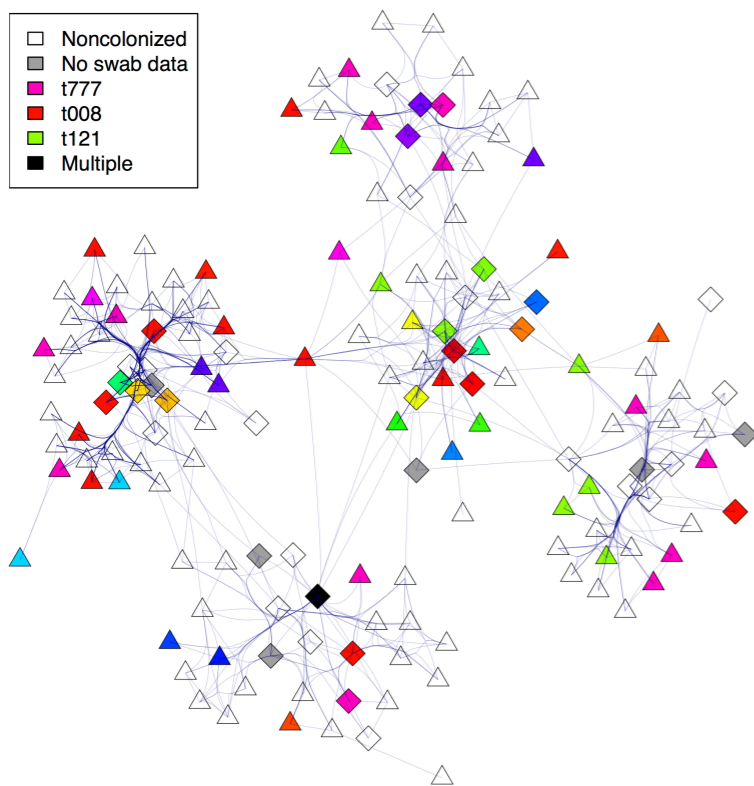
$$\max_i \frac{N_i}{\sum_i N_i}$$

# S. aureus spread in hospitals

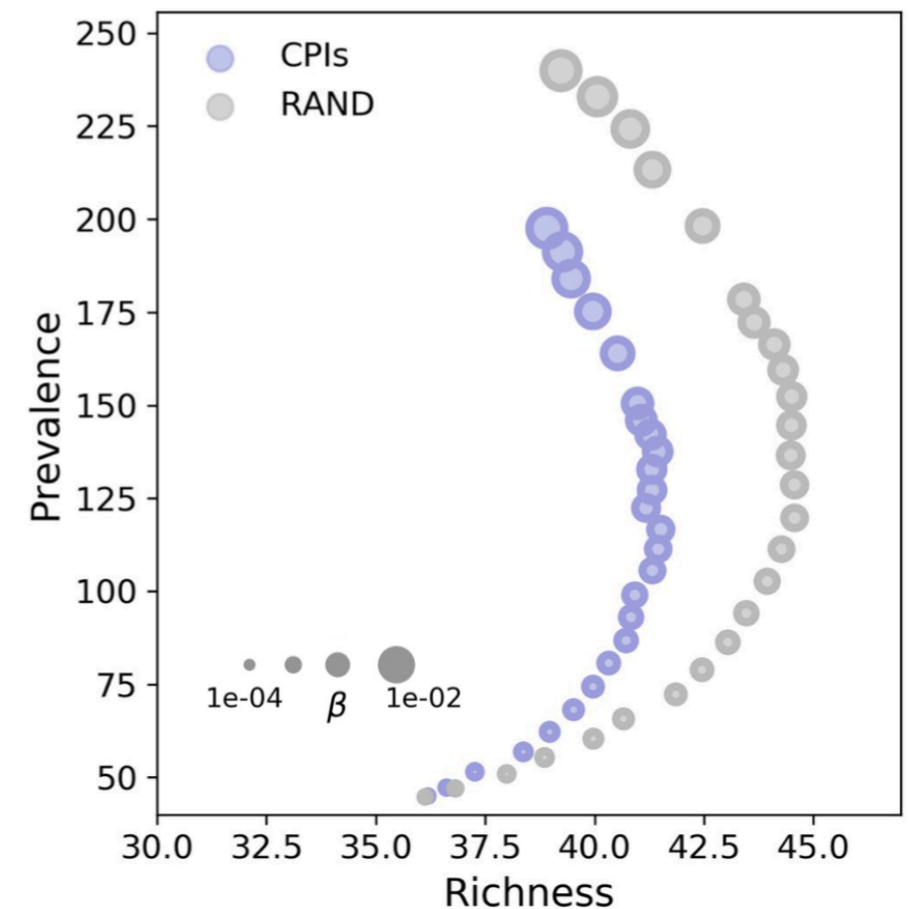
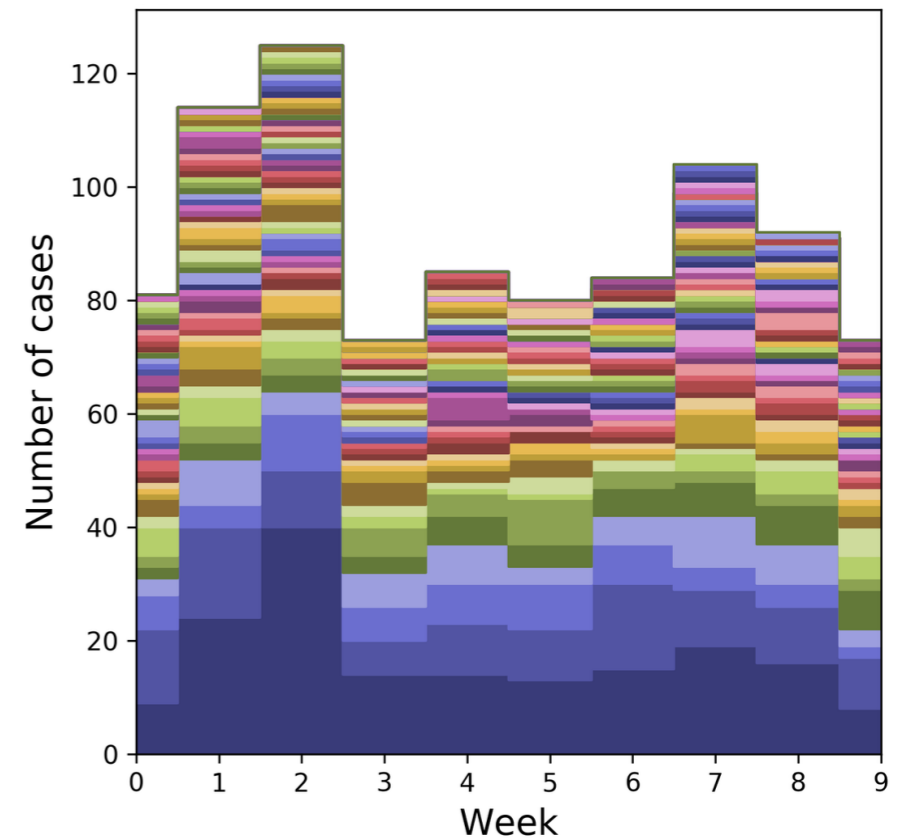


- multi-strain SIS model as simple model of S. aureus colonisation
- mutual exclusion
- strain injection
- neutral hypothesis: strains have same transmissibility and duration of colonisation
- simulation on the CPIs network
- compare with a randomisation (RAND)

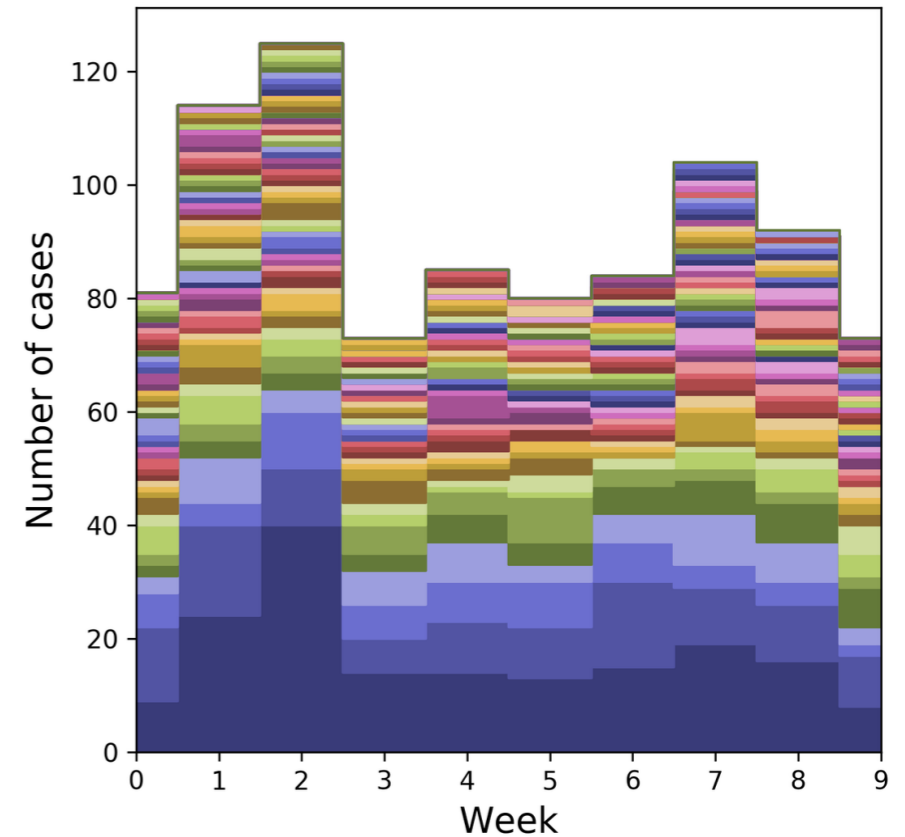
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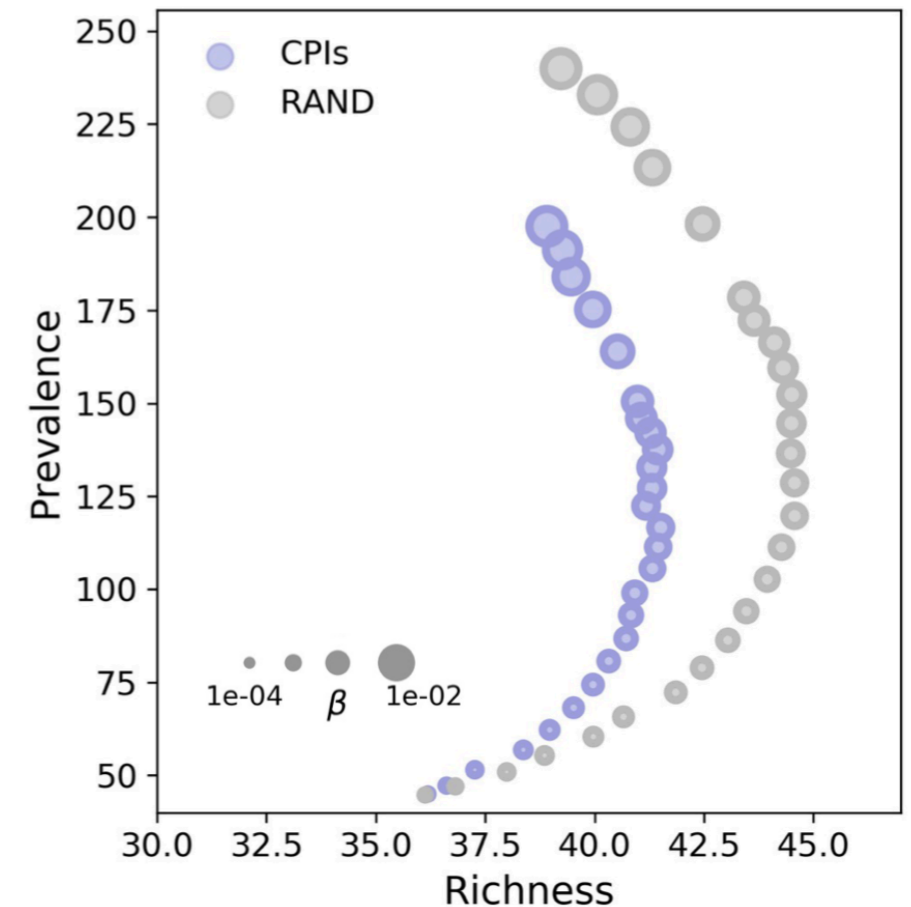
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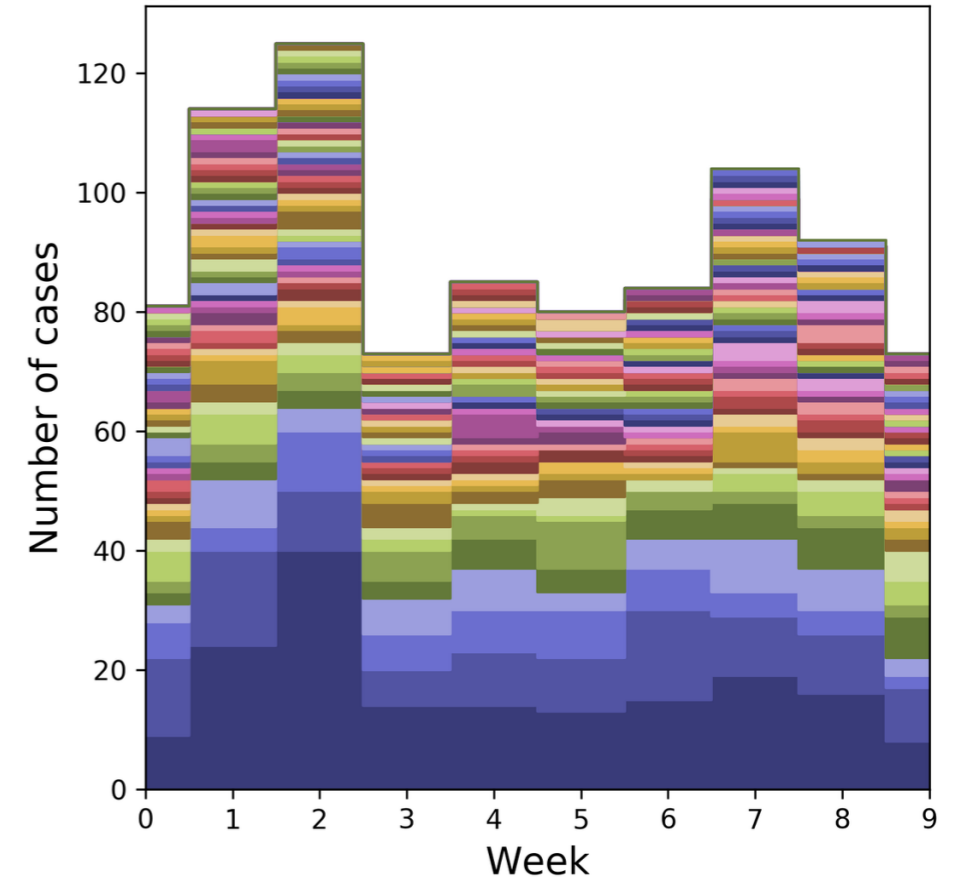
## richness and prevalence

Comparison between RAND and  
CPIs done at same parameters

***CPIs has smaller richness at same  
prevalence***



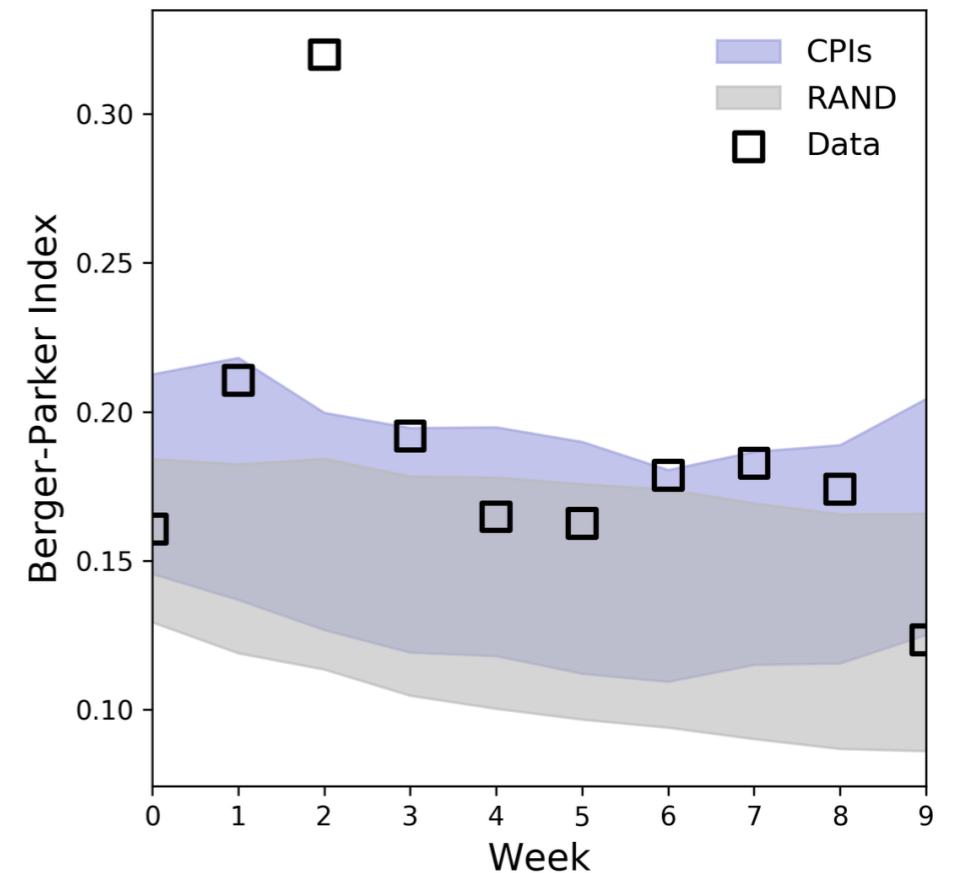
# S. aureus spread in hospitals



## dominance

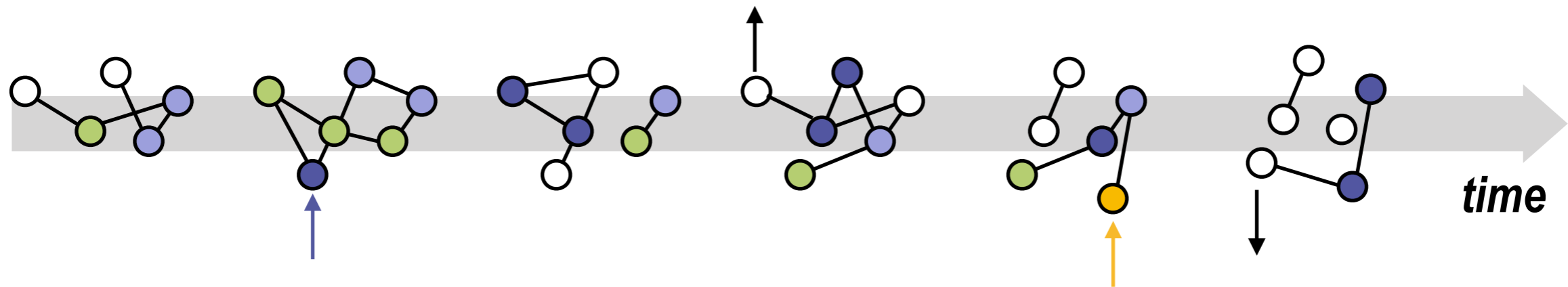
Comparison between RAND and  
CPIs done at same richness and  
prevalence

***CPIs has stronger dominance***



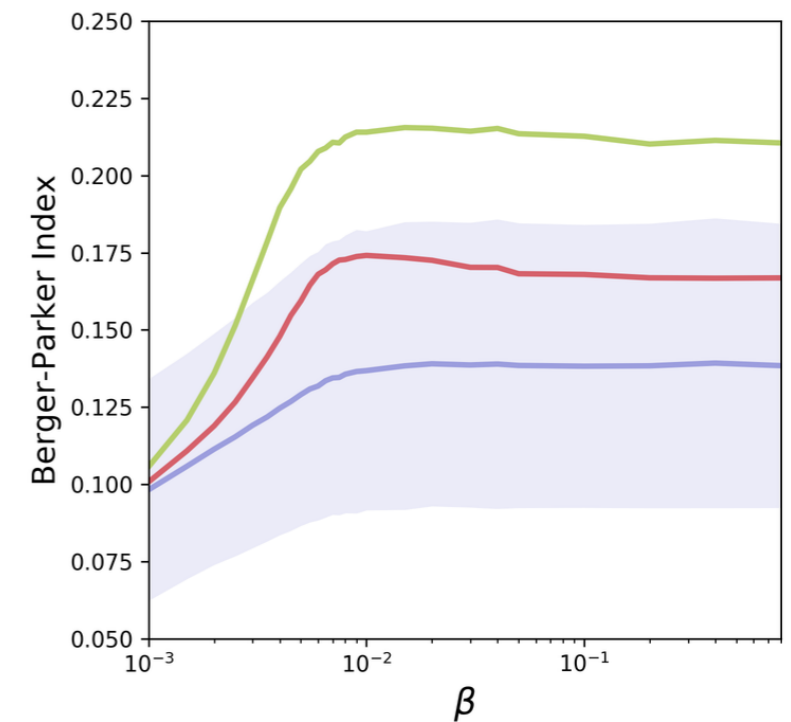
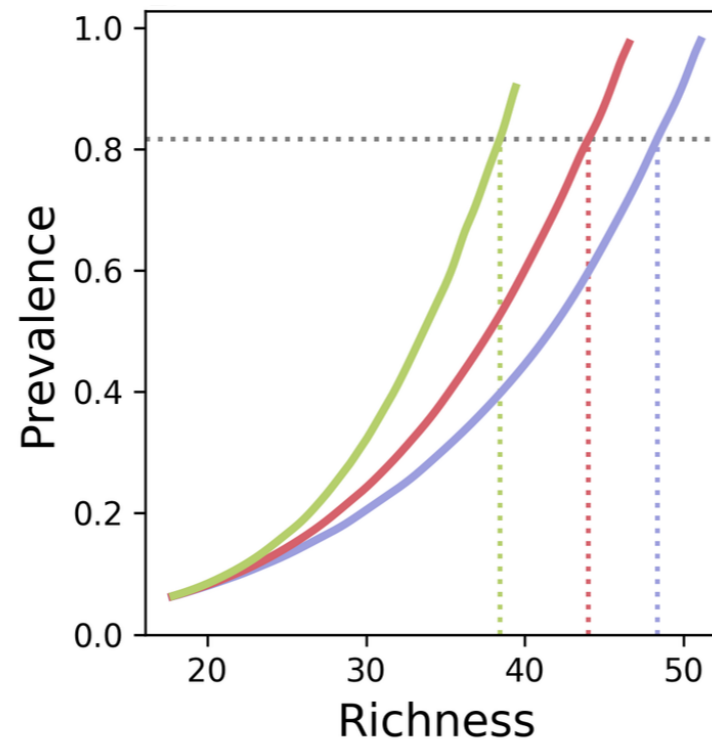
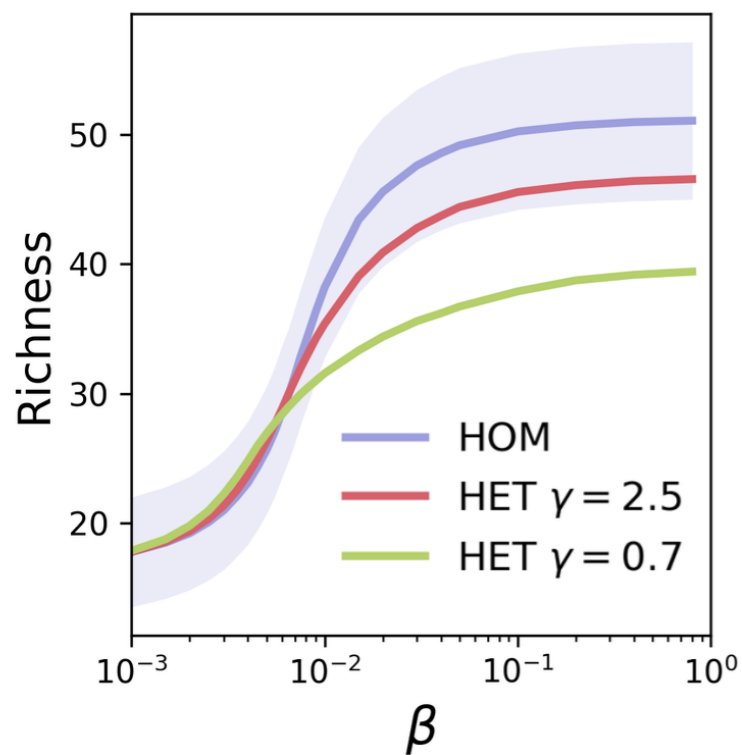
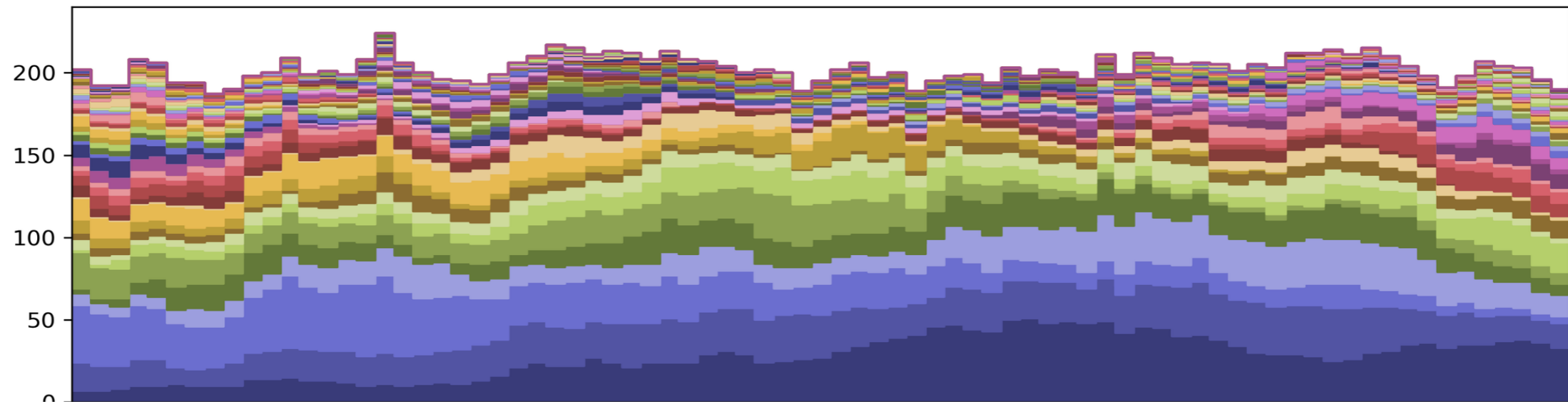


# synthetic network model



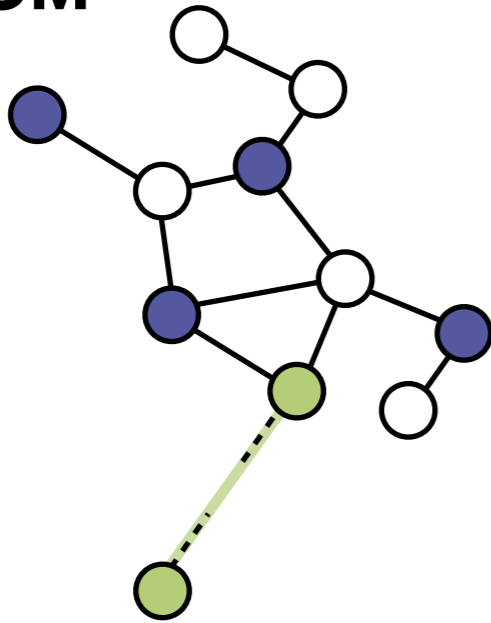
- nodes entering and leaving
- community structure
- forming contacts
  - **HET** heterogeneous activity
  - **HOM** homogeneous activity

# impact of heterogeneous contact activity

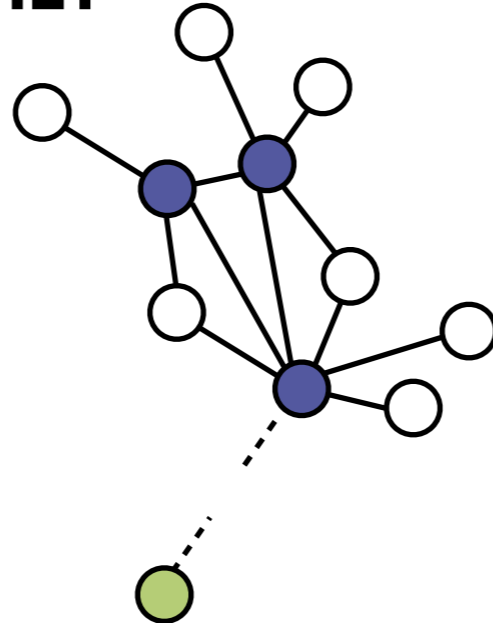


# impact of heterogeneous contact activity

**HOM**



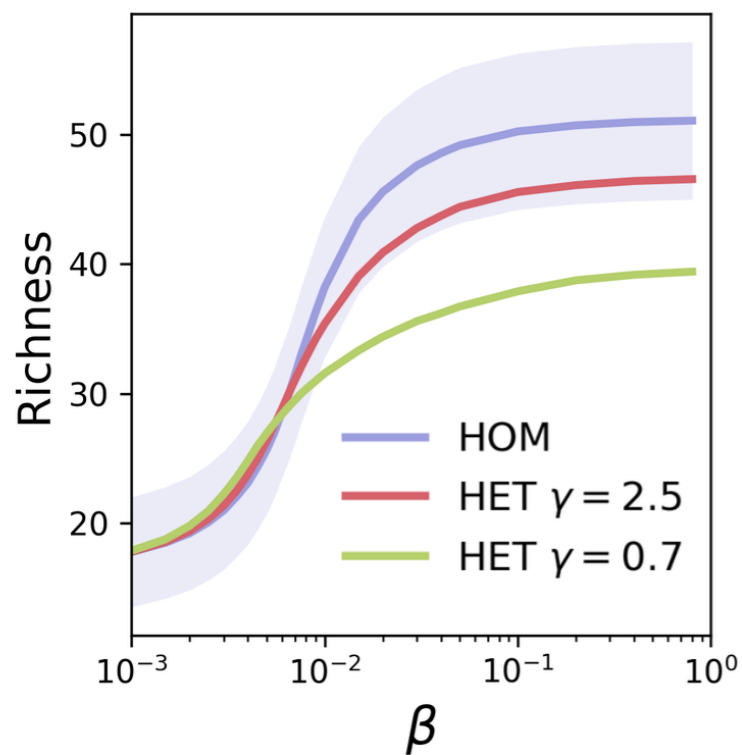
**HET**



highly active nodes act as **super-blocker**

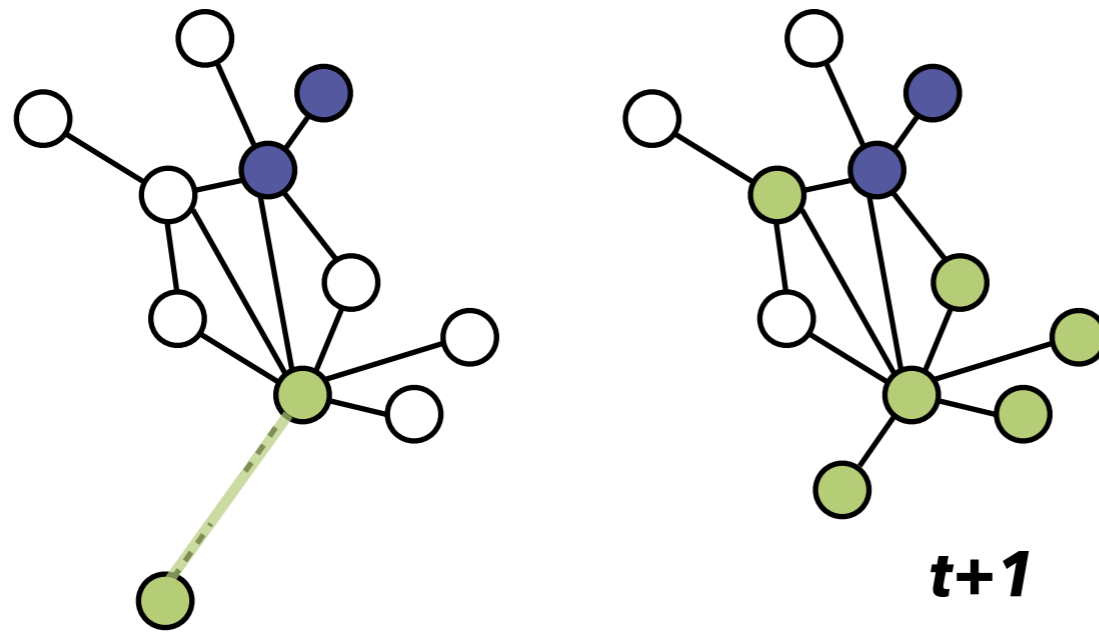
hinder the emergence of a strain

[Leventhal et al. Nat Comm 2015]



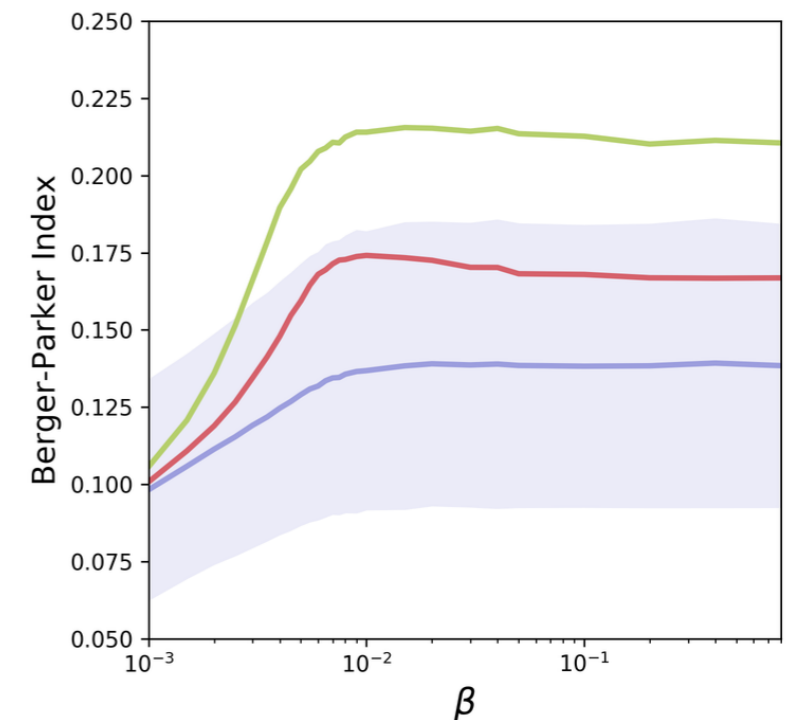
[Pinotti et al, PLoS Comp Biol, 2019 ]

# impact of heterogeneous contact activity



highly active nodes act as *super-spreader* enhance the spread of few lucky strains

— HOM  
— HET  $\gamma = 2.5$   
— HET  $\gamma = 0.7$



# Conclusions

- ecological perspective to characterise strain population
- contact heterogeneities:
  - hinder the introduction of strains from the outside
- [Leventhal et al Nature Comm 2015]
  - amplify certain strains, making outbreaks more likely
- importance of contact network to properly interpret ecological data

# ack:

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Francois Blanquart,

# ref:

F. Pinotti, É. Fleury, D. Guillemot, P.-Y. Böelle, C. Poletto,  
PLoS Computational Biology 15(5) 2019

[@chpoletto](#)

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