

# Dynamique de formation de groupes dans les réseaux sociaux

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# Simple model (J. Kleinberg, K. Ligett)

Information-sharing in social networks

Games and Economic Behavior 2013

- Two persons (vertices, players) are either friends or enemies

Friendship graph or **Conflict Graph  $G$**

- **Partition** of the persons into  $n$  groups  $X_i$  (some empty)

(a person is in exactly one group)

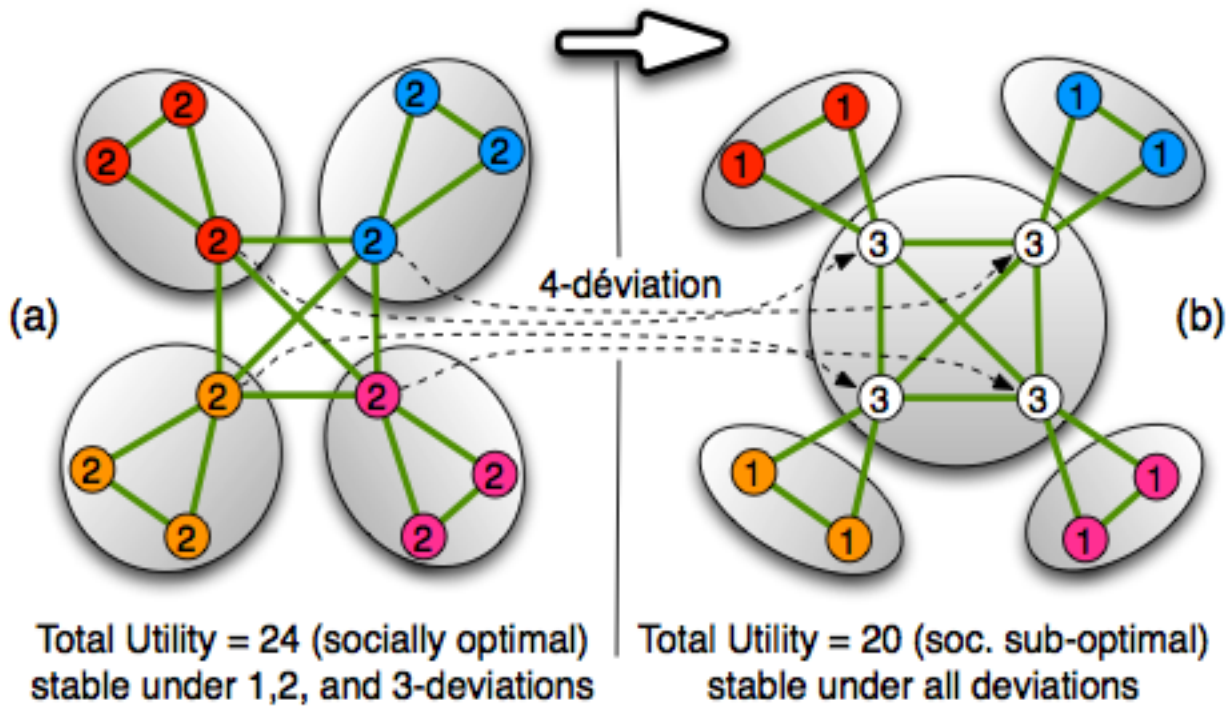
Emphasis on the fact

**two “enemies” are not in the same group.**

- **Utility for a person** = number of friends in her group

= size of the group to which she belongs – 1

(if there is an enemy utility =  $-\infty$ )

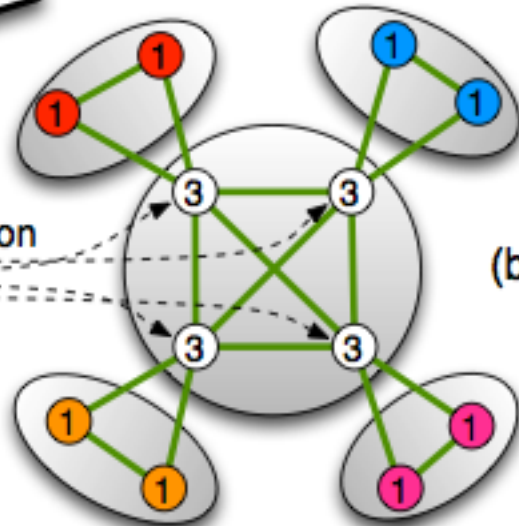
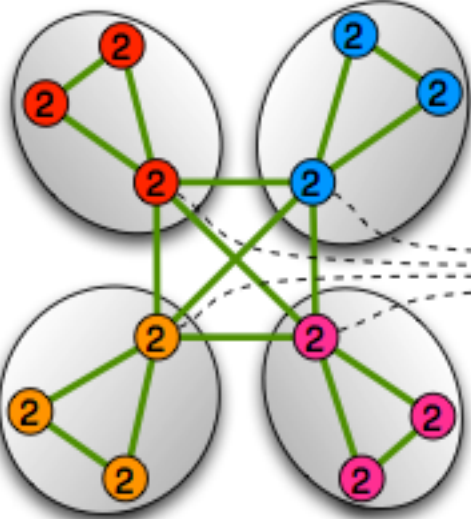
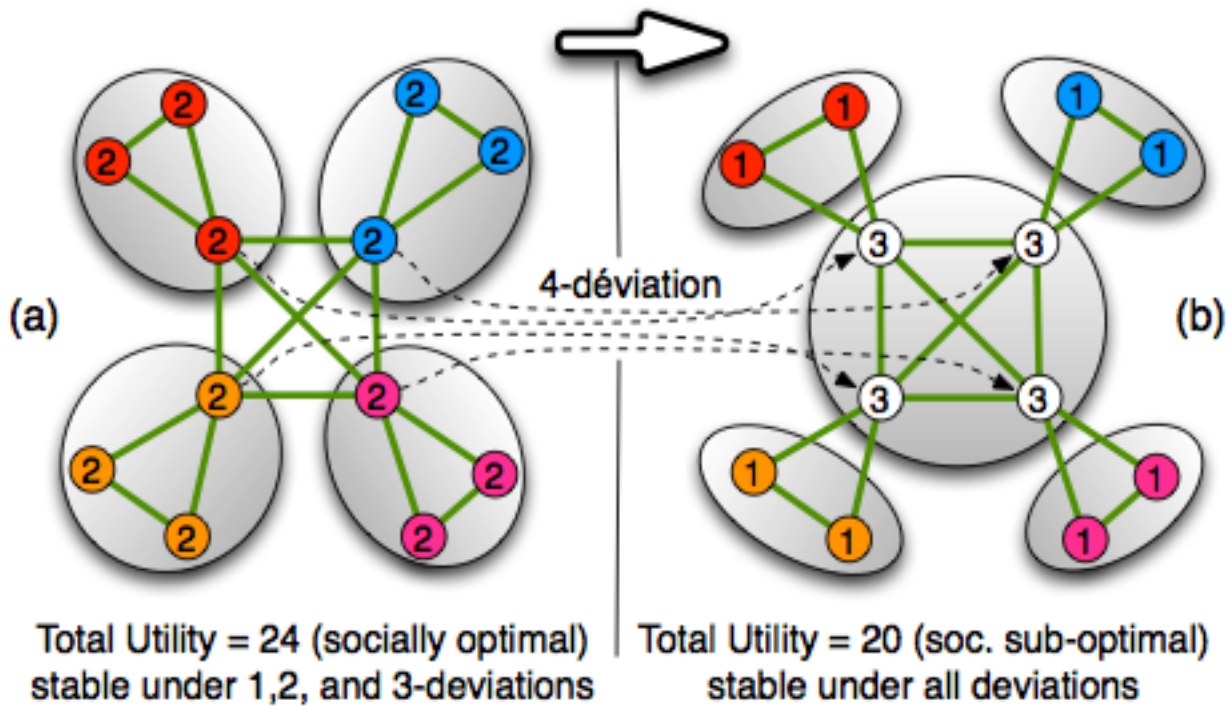


Total Utility = 24 (socially optimal)  
stable under 1,2, and 3-deviations

Total Utility = 20 (soc. sub-optimal)  
stable under all deviations

# Dynamics of the model (k-deviations)

- **Selfish behavior (bounded cooperation between users)**
- **1-deviation** : a person leaves the group to which she belongs to join another group but **only if it increases her utility** (in particular she does not join a group with an enemy)
- **k-deviation** : a set of at most  $k$  persons leaves the group to which they belong to join another group but **only if each person increases her utility** (if the group they join is empty it can be viewed as creating a new group)
- Partition  $k$ -stable if there does not exist a  $k$ -deviation



# Coloring games

P. Panagolopoulou and P.Spirakis 2008

- « In this paper, we propose an efficient vertex coloring algorithm that is based on local search: Starting with an arbitrary proper vertex coloring (e.g. the trivial proper coloring where each vertex is assigned a unique color), we do local changes, by allowing each vertex (one at a time) to move to another color class of higher cardinality, until no further local moves are possible. «
- Players = persons = vertices
- Colors = groups
- Existence of a Nash equilibrium in  $O(n\alpha(G))$  giving known bounds in such an equilibrium

$$k \leq \min \left\{ \Delta_2(G) + 1, \frac{n + \omega(G)}{2}, n - \alpha(G) + 1, \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 + 8m}}{2} \right\}.$$

# Existence of k-stable partitions?

Main questions :

- 1- Does there always exist a k-stable partition ?
  - 2- Is it is easy (polynomial time) to find one?
  - 3- What about the convergence = number of k-deviations to reach a k-stable partition in the worst case ?
- Answers to 1 and 2 easy if the conflict graph is empty (partition formed by the unique group of n persons )

# Existence of 1-stable partition (Potential function)

Lemma : In a 1-deviation the global utility increases by at least 2

Proof :

A vertex leaves a group of size  $p$  to join a group of size  $q \geq p$

For this vertex increase by :  $q-p+1$

For the  $q$  vertices of the groups of size  $q$  increase by 1

For the  $p-1$  vertices of the group of size  $p$  decrease by 1

Altogether **increase**  $\geq (q-p+1)+q-(p-1) = 2q - 2p + 2 \geq 2$

Total utility at most  $n(\alpha(G)-1)$

so the **number of 1-deviations** is at most  $O(n\alpha(G))$



# Existence and Convergence using potential functions

Known results (Kleinberg-Ligett ; Escoffier Gourvès-Monnot 2012))

There always exist a  $k$ -stable partition which can be found in :

- $k = 1, 2 : O(n^2)$
- $k = 3 : O(n^3)$
- $k \geq 4 : O(2^n)$

# Existence of k-stable partitions

## Better response dynamics Algorithm

- 1- Start from the partition composed with  $n$  singleton groups
- 2- While there exists a  $k$ -deviation for the current partition  $P_i$  do it and compute the partition  $P_{i+1}$  obtained
- 3- If there is no  $k$ -deviation the partition obtained is stable

**This Algorithm converges to a  $k$ -stable partition in finite time**

**Proof :** • Partition vector associated to  $P$ :  $\vec{\Lambda}(P) = (\lambda_n(P), \dots, \lambda_1(P))$ , where  $\lambda_i(P)$  is the number of groups of size  $i$ .

Set  $S$  of vertices joins a group of size  $j \Rightarrow$  new group of size  $|S|+j$

The groups to which the vertices belonged are of size less so

$$\vec{\Lambda}(P_i) <_L \vec{\Lambda}(P_{i+1}) \text{ where } <_L \text{ is the lexicographical ordering.}$$

# Convergence

- $L(k, G^-)$  = size of a longest sequence of  $k$ -deviations with a conflict graph  $G^-$
- $L(k, n)$  = maximum over all the conflict graph with  $n$  vertices
- Observation :  $L(k, n)$  is always attained in the empty conflict graph

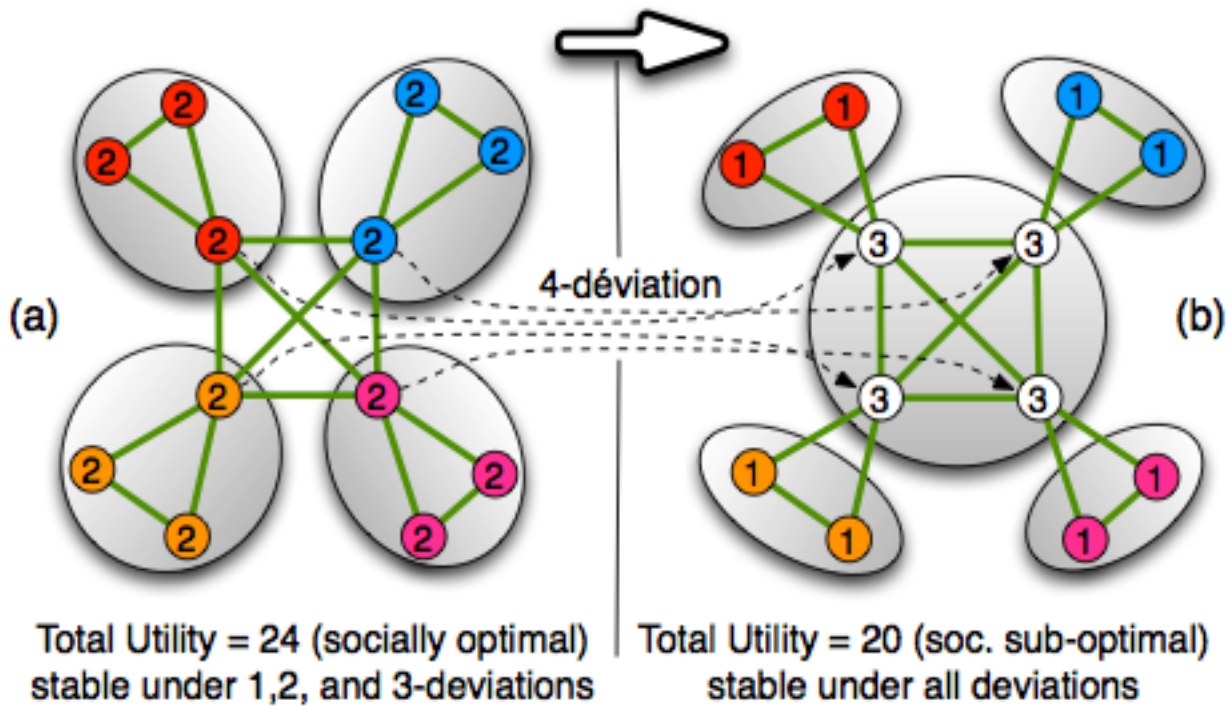
*Definition 2 ([Bry73]). An integer partition of  $n \geq 1$ , is a non-increasing sequence of integers  $Q = q_1 \geq q_2 \geq \dots \geq q_n \geq 0$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^n q_i = n$ .*

- To a partition  $P$  into groups  $X_i$  with size  $q_i$  we associate the integer partition  $Q(P)$  with values  $q_i$
- Converse true if the graph is empty
- Number of integer partitions  $p_n = \Theta((e^\pi \sqrt{\frac{2n}{3}})/n)$

# Results

Table 1: Previous Bounds and results we obtained on  $L(k, n)$ .

$k$	Prior to our work	Our results	
1	$O(n^2)$ [KL13]	exact analysis, which implies $L(1, n) \sim \frac{(2n)^{3/2}}{3}$	Theorem 7
2	$O(n^2)$ [KL13]	exact analysis, which implies $L(2, n) \sim \frac{(2n)^{3/2}}{3}$	Theorem 10
1-2	$O(n\alpha(G^-))$ [PS08]	$L(k, G^-) = \Omega(n.\alpha(G^-))$ for some $G^-$ and $\alpha(G^-) = 0(\sqrt{n})$	Theorem 13
3	$O(n^3)$ [EGM12, KL13]	$\Omega(n^2)$	Theorem 14
$\geq 4$	$O(2^n)$ [KL13]	$\Omega(n^{\Theta(\ln(n))})$ , $O(\exp(\pi\sqrt{2n/3})/n)$	Theorem 15



# Examples

- First partition P into 4 groups of size 3

Partition vector  $(0,0,\dots,0,4,0,0)$

Integer Partition  $Q(P) = 3,3,3,3,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0$

- Second partition Q': 1 group of 4, 4 groups of 2

Partition Vector  $(0,\dots,0,1,0,4,0)$

Integer partition  $Q' = Q(P') = 4,2,2,2,2, 0,0,0,0,0,0,0$

# Case $k = 1$ : Dominance ordering

## Dominance lattice

- $Q' = (q'_1 \geq \dots \geq q'_n)$  dominates  $Q = (q_1 \geq \dots \geq q_n)$

if

$$\sum_{j=1}^i q'_j \geq \sum_{j=1}^i q_j, \text{ for all } 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

Equivalence between chains in the dominance lattice and sequences of 1-deviations (Conflict graph empty)

Lemma : Let  $P'$  be the partition obtained from  $P$  after a 1-deviation ; then  $Q' = Q(P')$  dominates  $Q = Q(P)$

Lemma : Conflict graph empty: If  $Q'$  dominates  $Q$

Then the partition  $P'$  is obtained from  $P$  via a sequence of 1-deviations.

# Exact value of $L(1,n)$

- Using the result of Greene and Kleitman (1986)

Theorem: Let  $n = m(m+1)/2 + r$ ,  $0 \leq r \leq m$ ,

Then  $L(1, n) = 2\binom{m+1}{3} + mr$ .



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Algorithm : Choose among the possible deviations the one which leads to the smallest Increase of the global utility

# Exact value of $L(2,n)$

- Using the result of Greene and Kleitman (1986)

Theorem: Let  $n = m(m+1)/2 + r$ ,  $0 \leq r \leq m$ ,

Then  $L(1, n) = 2 \binom{m+1}{3} + mr$ .

Conflict graph empty : Any 2-deviation can be replaced by 1 or 2 1-deviations.

So  $L(2,n) = L(1,n)$

# k= 1,2 General Conflict graph

- Upper bound (potential function)  $O(n\alpha(G^-))$
- Empty  $G^-$   $\alpha(G^-) : n$  but  $O(n^{3/2})$
- Conjecture :  $O(n\sqrt{\alpha(G^-)})$ .

**Theorem 11.** For  $n = \binom{m+1}{2}$  there exists a conflict graph  $G$  with  $\alpha(G^-) = m = \sqrt{n}$  and a sequence of  $\binom{m+1}{3}$  valid 1-deviations that is a sequence of  $\Omega(n^{3/2}) = \Omega(n\alpha(G^-))$  1-deviations.

# Open problems

- For  $k = 3$  Conjecture :  $L(3,n)$  of order  $n^2$
- For  $k \geq 4$  polynomial algorithm to find a  $k$ -stable partition
- Parallel deviations
- Case of neutral relations and in general of relations with various weights of friendship or incompatibility (OK for 1-deviations but not for 2)
- Digraphs with symmetric or asymmetric relations
- Case a person can be in multiple groups

# Unstable case $k = 2$

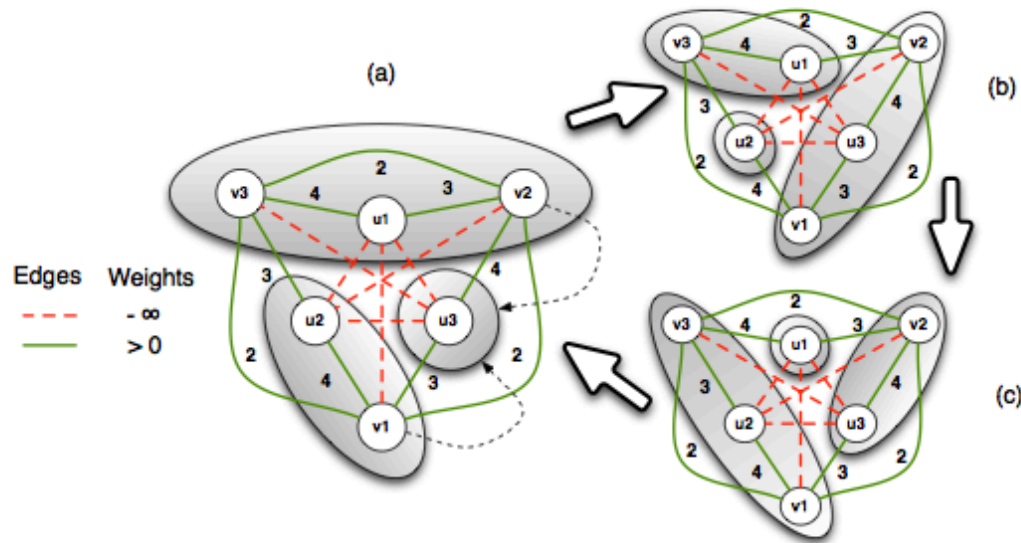


Figure 1: A network with set of weights  $\mathcal{W} = \{-\infty, 2, 3, 4\}$  that does not admit a 2-stable partition. (a) 1-stable partition that is not 2-stable and that can be obtained after a 2-deviation in partition depicted in (c). (b) 1-stable partition that is not 2-stable and that can be obtained after a 2-deviation in partition depicted in (a). (c) 1-stable partition that is not 2-stable and that can be obtained after a 2-deviation in partition depicted in (b).

THANK YOU

