

• Supplementary File •

## Cost effective approach to identify multiple influential spreaders based on the cycle structure in networks

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### Appendix A The pseudocode of *NC* method.

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**Algorithm A1** *NC* method based on basic cycles

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**Input:** Graph  $G(V, E)$ ;

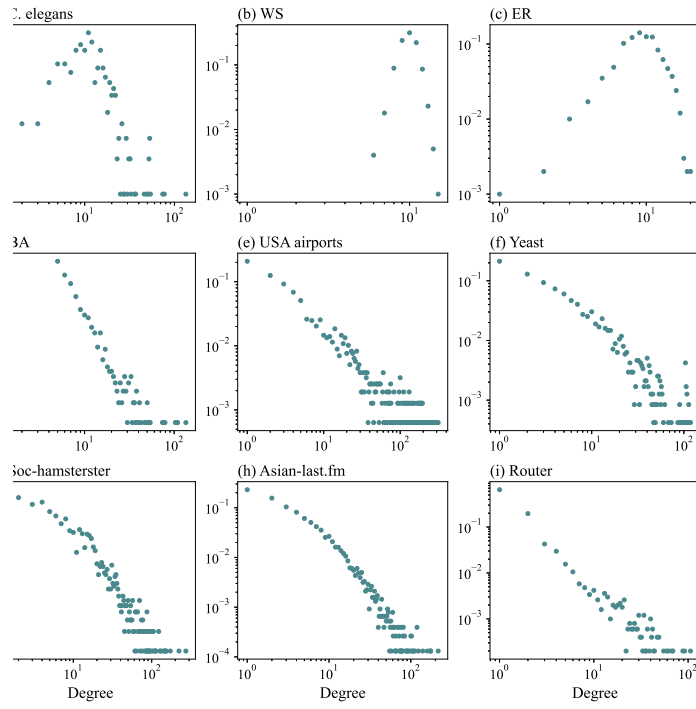
**Output:**  $NC_i$  for node  $i$ ;

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1: initialization:  $T \leftarrow \emptyset, U \leftarrow V, NC_i \leftarrow 0$ , randomly select a node from  $U$ , and add it to  $T$ 
2: if  $T \cap U \neq \emptyset$  then
3:   for  $z$  in  $T \cap U$  do
4:     for  $n$  in  $neighbor(z)$  do
5:       if  $n$  not in  $T$  then
6:         add  $n$  to  $T$ 
7:       else
8:         find a basic cycle  $c$ 
9:       end if
10:    end for
11:    remove  $z$  from  $U$ 
12:  end for
13: else
14:   get cycle basis  $B$ 
15: end if
16: for  $c$  in  $B$  do
17:   for  $i$  in  $c$  do
18:      $NC_i \leftarrow NC_i + 1$ 
19:   end for
20: end for
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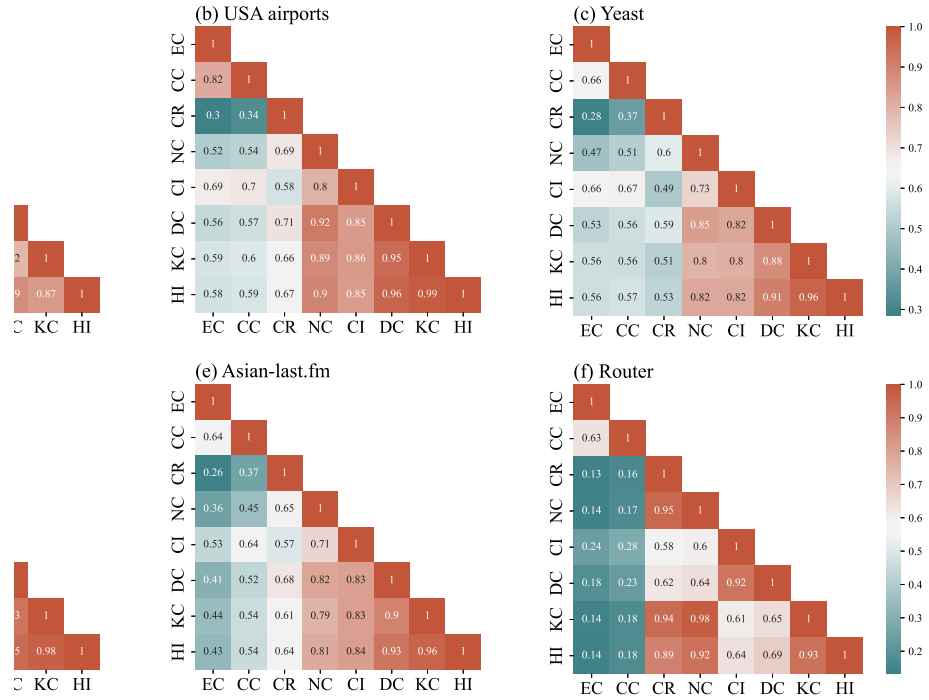
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**Appendix B** The degree distribution of three model networks and six empirical networks.



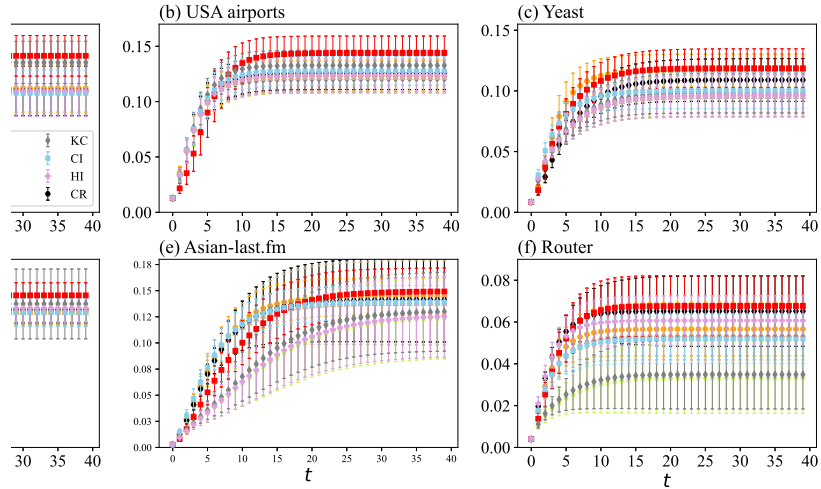
**Figure B1** The degree distribution of three model networks and six empirical networks.

**Appendix C The Kendall correlation among eight indicators on six empirical networks.**

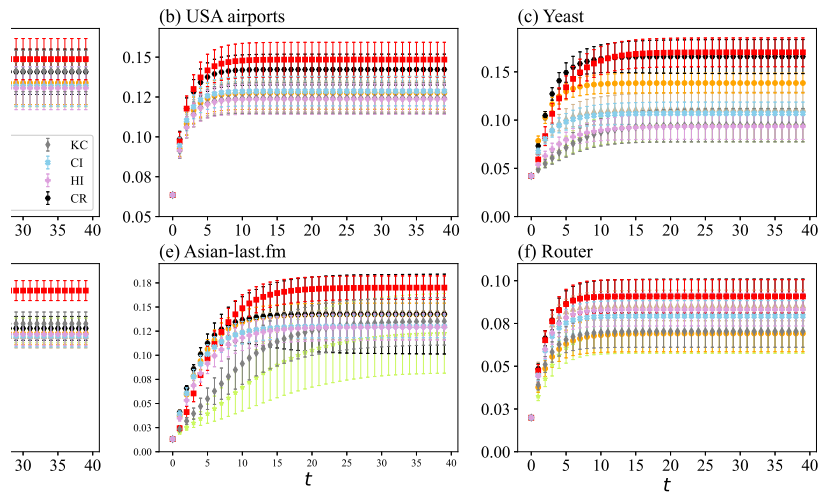


**Figure C1** The Kendall correlation coefficients among the eight indicators on the six empirical networks. All the correlation results are statistically significant ( $p$ -value  $< 0.001$ ).

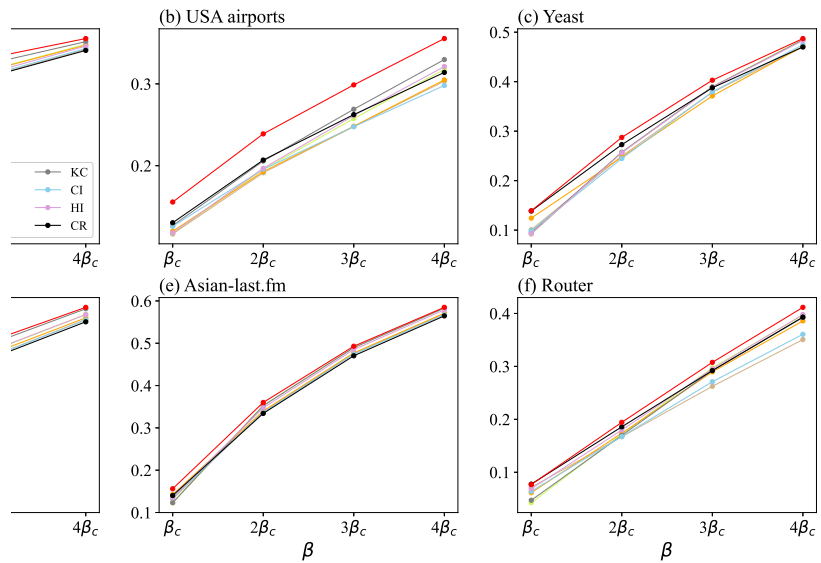
**Appendix D Supplementary spreading experiments.**



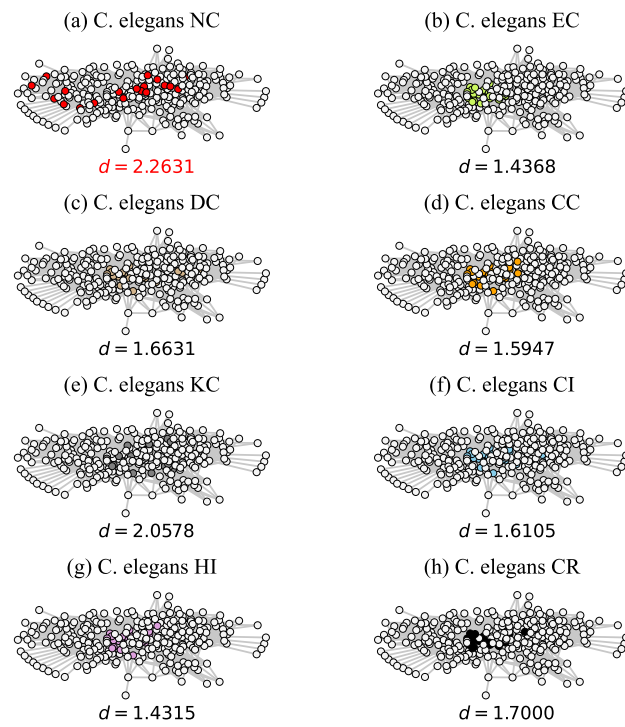
**Figure D1** Comparison of the spreading ability  $R_t$  of the top-20 nodes ranked by  $NC$  and seven benchmark indicators in the six empirical networks. We set the recovery rate  $\mu = 0.5$ , and the spreading rate  $\beta = \beta_c$ . Error bars denote the standard deviation among 1000 realizations.



**Figure D2** Comparison of the spreading ability  $R_t$  of the top-100 nodes ranked by  $NC$  and seven benchmark indicators in the six empirical networks. We set the recovery rate  $\mu = 0.5$ , and the spreading rate  $\beta = \beta_c$ . Error bars denote the standard deviation among 1000 realizations.



**Figure D3** Comparison of the overall spreading ability ( $R$ ) of the top-50 nodes ranked by  $NC$  and seven benchmark indicators with different spreading rates ( $\beta = \beta_c, 2\beta_c, 3\beta_c,$  and  $4\beta_c$ ). The recovery rate  $\mu = 0.5$ , and the results are obtained by averaging over 1000 independent realizations.



**Figure D4** Visualization of the top-20 nodes selected by *NC* and other indicators in *C. elegans* network.  $d$  below each panel denotes the average shortest distance among the top-20 nodes selected by the corresponding indicator.