MEMBERSHIP DIMENSION

CATEGORY-BASED ROUTING IN SOCIAL NETWORKS AND THE SMALL-WORLD PHENOMENON

PART I INTRODUCTION





- Consider a *social network*
- Milgram experiment



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 - Short paths exist between all people
 - "six degrees of separation"
 - ... and people are able to *find* these paths





ROUTING IN A SMALL WORLDFollow-up experiments



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 - Under what conditions of a network and set of categories does simple routing work?
 - How much does an individual need to know for this to work?

PART II DEFINITIONS & RESULTS

- Ingredients

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 A set U of n objects

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 - Simplest interpretation of "category-based" routing
 - Requires only local knowledge about neighbours and target





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- Rationale
 - Seems like a natural assumption
 - Makes it a lot easier to reason about simple routing











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 - Neccesary condition for routing to work



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 - Captures the "cognitive load" of people
 - We expect the membership dimension to be *small*





RESULTSSimple routing works?

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 - $\forall G \exists S : \text{yes} \land \text{mem}(S) \leq (\text{diam}(G) + \log n)^2$
 - $\forall S \exists G : no$

PART III TECHNICAL DETAILS

• Start with arbitrary graph ${\cal G}$

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- Start with arbitrary graph G
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 - $\operatorname{diam}(B) \leq \operatorname{diam}(T) + \log n$





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- $\operatorname{mem}(\mathcal{S}) = \operatorname{diam}(B)^2$

PART IV DISCUSSION

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 - For any given graph, there exists a set of categories of low membership dimension that makes simple routing work
 - Theoretical evidence that category-based routing is a feasible explanation of Milgram's experiment

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 - To what extent are real data sets shattered and internally connected?
- Slightly less simple routing
 - Can the routing strategy be made stronger in a fair way?

THANK YOU!

