

**“Causal inference in social networks: A new hope?”**

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**Abstract**

Latent homophily generally makes it impossible to identify contagion or influence effects from observations on social networks.

Sometimes, however, homophily also makes it possible to accurately infer nodes' latent attributes from their position in the larger network. I will lay out some assumptions on the network-growth process under which such inferences are good enough that they enable consistent and asymptotically unbiased estimates of the strength of social influence. Time permitting, I will also discuss the prospects for tracing out the "identification possibility frontier" for social contagion.

(Joint work with Edward McFowland III; paper: <https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Farxiv.org%2Fabs%2F1607.06565&amp;data=02%7C01%7Celizabeth.eocaci-tucker%40yale.edu%7C6cd2bb05efdc4224153e08d7a39176e2%7Cdd8cbebb21394df8b4114e3e87abeb5c%7C0%7C0%7C637157717484291574&amp;sdata=sILAQbr8f%2BxTGOS4ygKYQGMWrEuKOEyVuIFiZfaEbjs%3D&amp;reserved=0> )

# 12:00 Noon, Tuesday, February 18, 2020

**47 College Street, 106B**

**11:45 AM- Lunch served outside of Rm. 106B**

