

## RESEARCH

# Supplemental material: Identification of effective spreaders in contact networks using dynamical influence

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## S1 Spreader selection benchmarks

The results from comparisons with other benchmarks – including eigenvector centrality, s-core strategy (a weighted degree version of k-core/k-shell introduced by Eidsaa and Almaas (2013)), and betweenness centrality – are shown here alongside the weighted degree (no neighbours) and the three eigenvector-based selections using the exponentially adjusted Laplacian matrix. The no neighbour constraint, whereby nodes cannot be chosen as spreaders if they are directly connected to an already selected node, is also applied here for the s-core strategy. The results from the main paper are duplicated for these seven selections and presented in Fig. S1 for the real-world contact networks and in Fig. S2 for the proximity network (P-NNR).

## S2 Number of spreaders

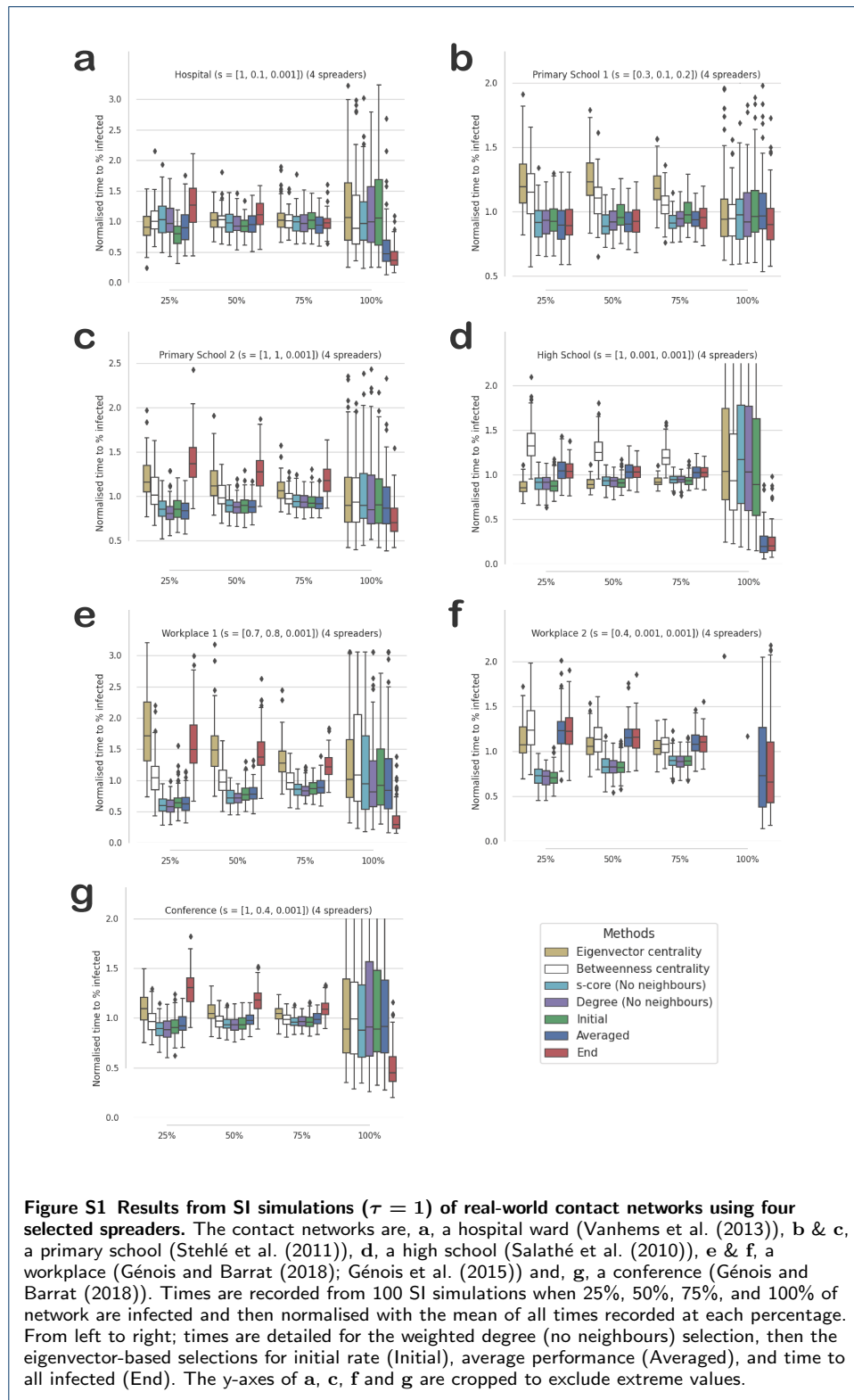
The paper focuses on selecting four spreaders, but the performance of the three eigenvector-based selections are shown in Fig. S3 to be similar when selecting 2, 4, 6, or 8 spreaders on the hospital ward contact network. It is interesting to note that there is still a clear trade-off between selections for fast initial response and full network infection when only selecting two spreaders, see **a**. Also note that the weighted degree (no neighbours) method cannot produce selections of more than 9 spreaders without violating the no neighbour constraint as no nodes are left without a direct connection to a selected spreader.

## S3 Ant colony results

The following Fig. S4 and S5 presents all 11 ant colonies from the survival experiment conducted by Stroeymeyt et al. (2018). The colony IDs, defined in Stroeymeyt et al. (2018), are as follows; **a**: 004, **b**: 007, **c**: 008, **d**: 010, **e**: 011, **f**: 014, **g**: 025, **h**: 032, **i**: 045, **j**: 049, and **k**: 055. In Fig. S4, the axes are the first two eigenvectors of the adjacency matrix ( $v_{A1}$  and  $v_{A2}$ ). In Fig. S5, the axes are the second and third eigenvectors of the adjacency matrix ( $v_{A2}$  and  $v_{A3}$ ). Communities are defined as communities of dynamical influence, see Clark et al. (2019). The queen ant is marked in each plot, except in **l** where the data was not available but the queen is likely to be the high weighted degree node at the head of the most influential community.

In the paper, we report that the queen is frequently separated from the infected nodes where they are often on opposite sides of the  $v_{A2}$  axis. In Fig. S4 **a**, **f**, **i**, and

k this is not the case with some of the infected nodes on the same side. However,



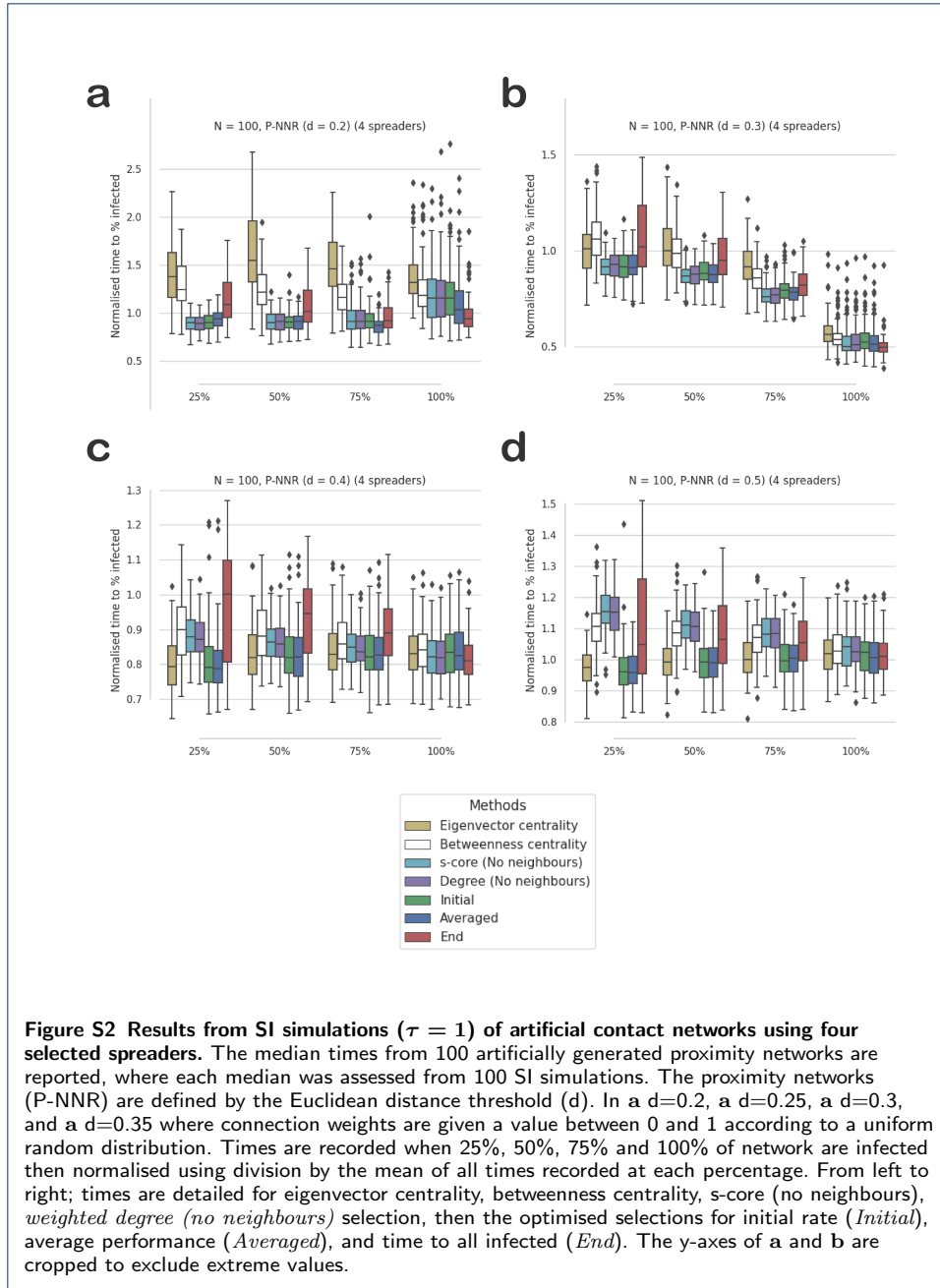
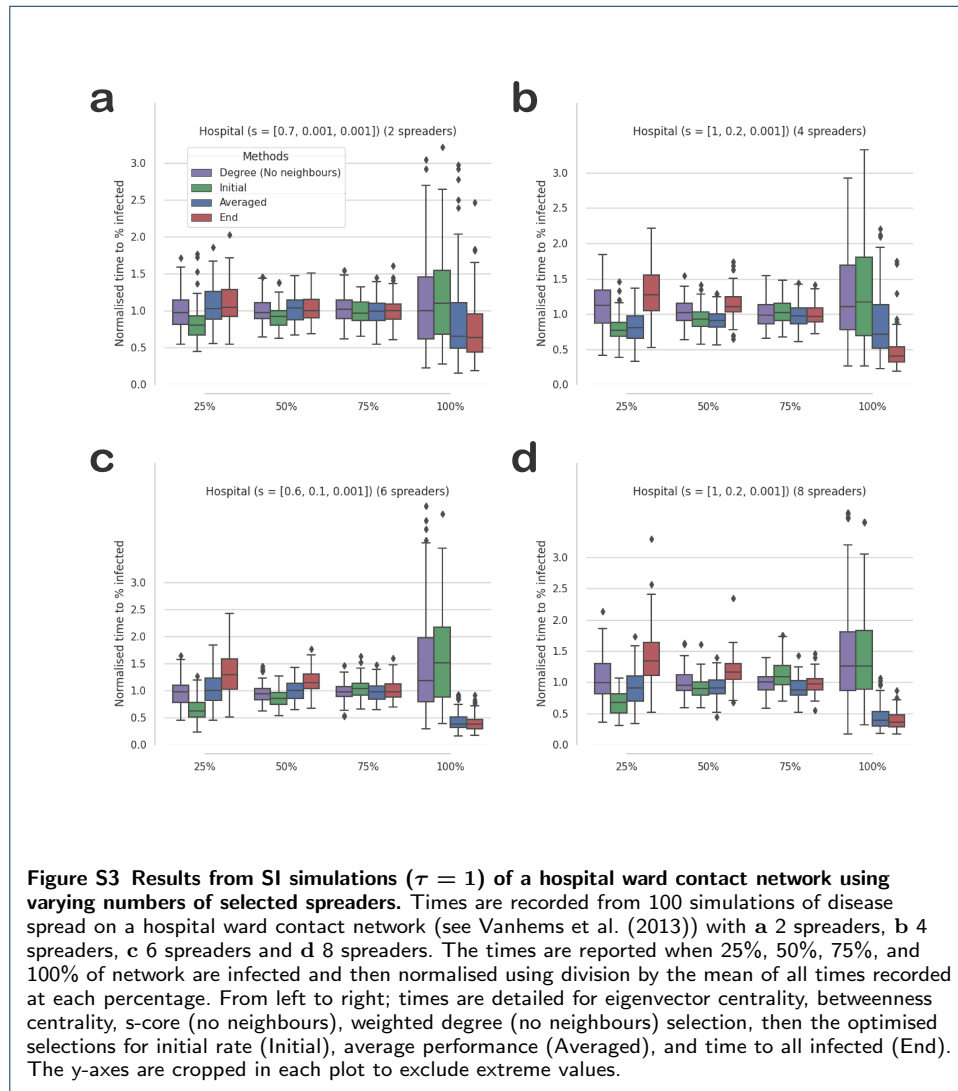
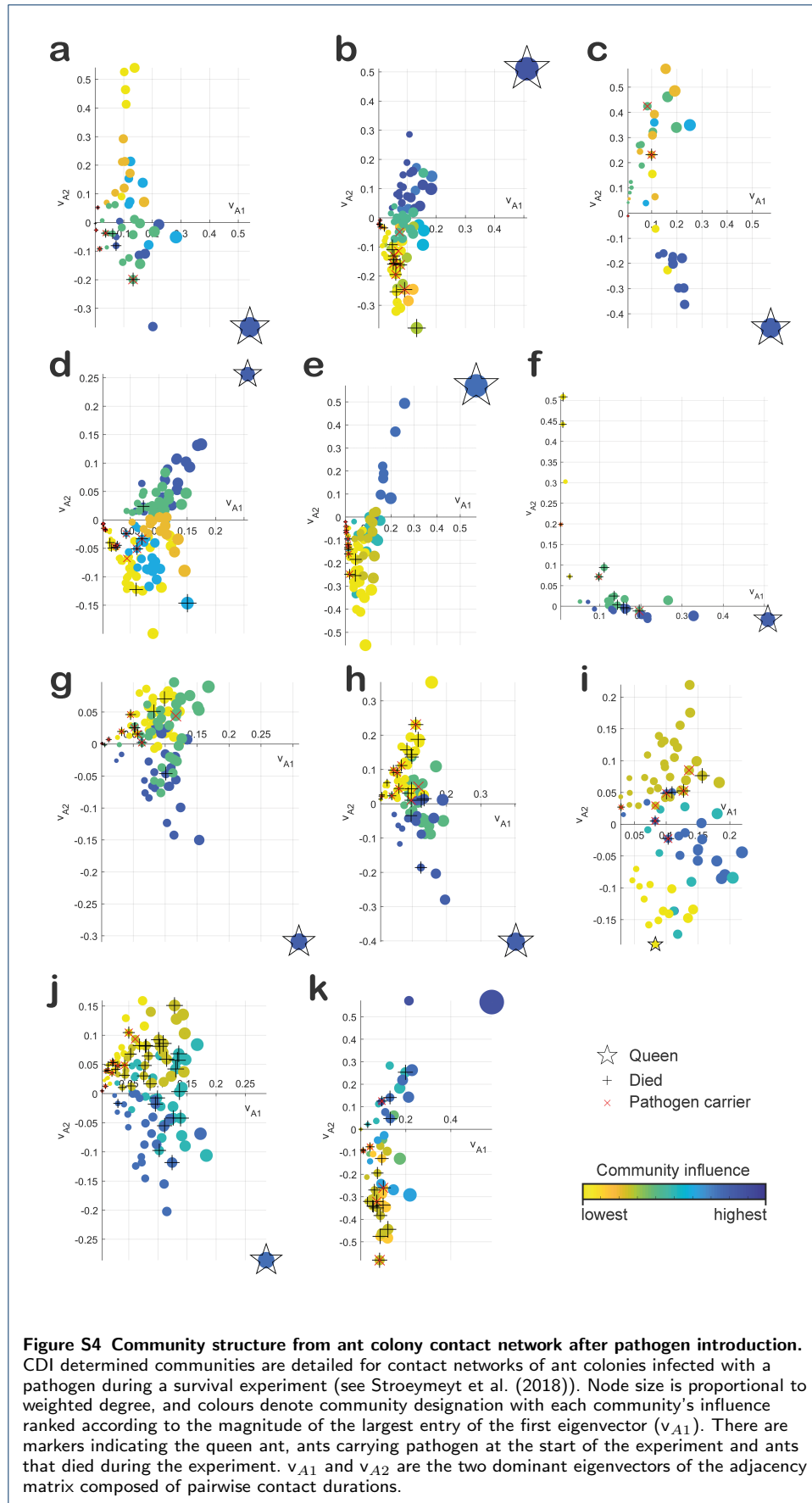
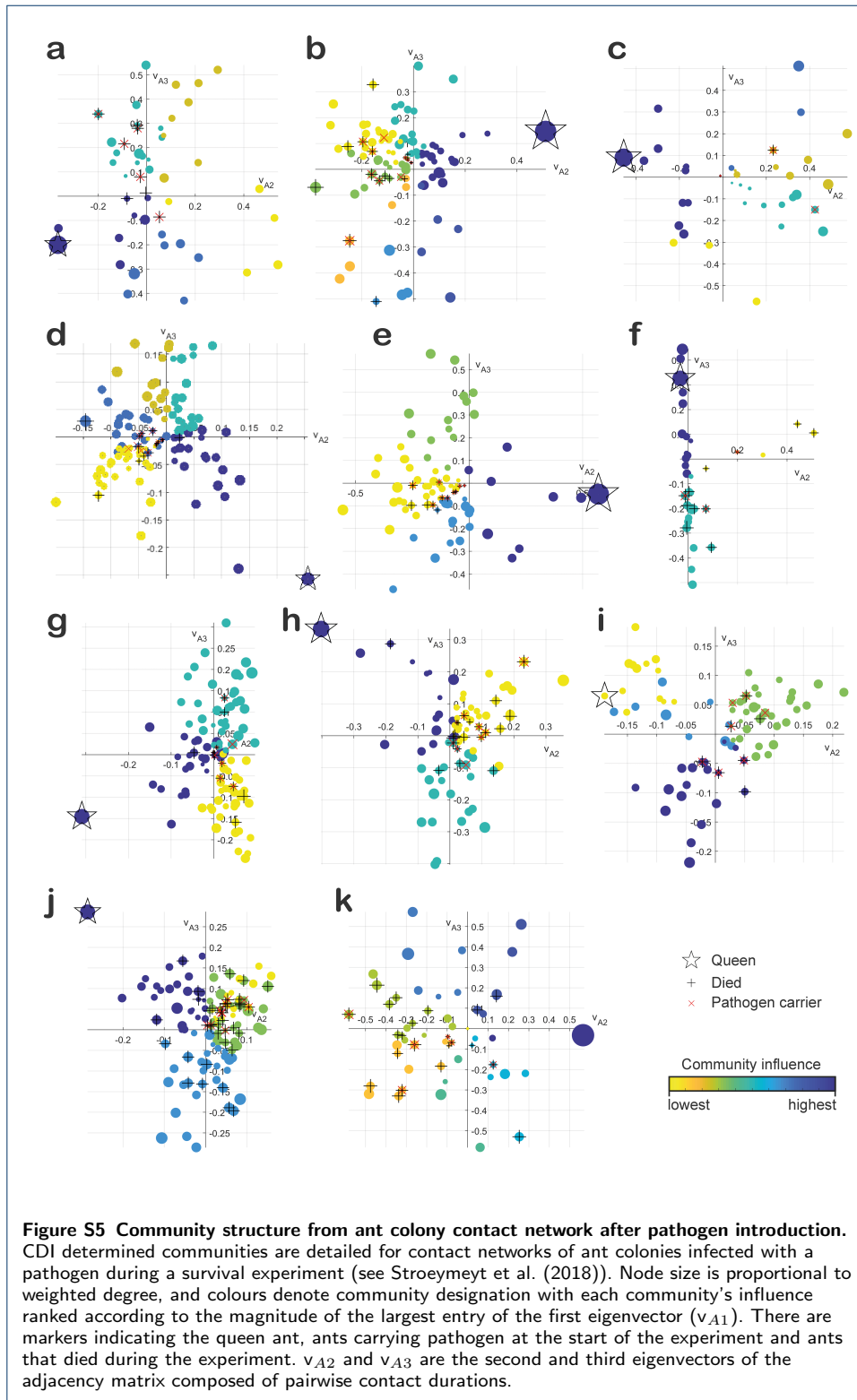


Fig. S5 shows that in almost every colony, except **k**, the queen has no infected nodes in the same quadrant when the axes are  $v_{A2}$  and  $v_{A3}$ .



**Figure S3 Results from SI simulations ( $\tau = 1$ ) of a hospital ward contact network using varying numbers of selected spreaders.** Times are recorded from 100 simulations of disease spread on a hospital ward contact network (see Vanhems et al. (2013)) with **a** 2 spreaders, **b** 4 spreaders, **c** 6 spreaders and **d** 8 spreaders. The times are reported when 25%, 50%, 75%, and 100% of network are infected and then normalised using division by the mean of all times recorded at each percentage. From left to right; times are detailed for eigenvector centrality, betweenness centrality,  $s$ -core (no neighbours), weighted degree (no neighbours) selection, then the optimised selections for initial rate (Initial), average performance (Averaged), and time to all infected (End). The y-axes are cropped in each plot to exclude extreme values.





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