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# Random graphs

## Network Science

### Lecture 3

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## Empirical network features:

- Power-law (heavy-tailed) degree distribution
- Small average distance (graph diameter)
- Large clustering coefficient (transitivity)

## Generative models:

- Random graph model (Erdos & Renyi, 1959)
- "Small world" model (Watts & Strogatz, 1998)
- Preferential attachment model (Barabasi & Albert, 1999)

Graph  $G\{E, V\}$ , nodes  $n = |V|$ , edges  $m = |E|$

Erdos and Renyi, 1959.

Random graph models

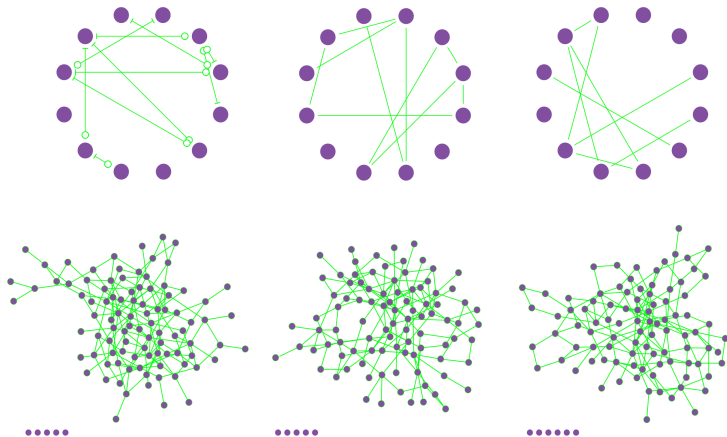
- $G(n, m)$  a randomly selected graph from the set of  $C_N^m$  graphs,  $N = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ , with  $n$  nodes and  $m$  edges
- $G(n, p)$  each pair out of  $N = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$  pairs of nodes is connected with probability  $p$ ,  $m$  - random number

$$\langle m \rangle = p \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$$

$$\langle k \rangle = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i k_i = \frac{2\langle m \rangle}{n} = p(n-1) \approx pn$$

$$\rho = \frac{\langle m \rangle}{n(n-1)/2} = p$$

# Random graph model $G(n, p)$



$n = 12, p = 1/6$

$n = 100, p = 0.03$

- In  $G(n, p)$  model, probability for a network to have  $m$  links is given by binomial distribution:

$$P(m) = C_N^m p^m (1 - p)^{N-m}$$

where  $N = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$

- $p^m$  - probability that  $m$  links are present  
 $(1 - p)^{N-m}$  - probability that other links are not  
 $C_N^m$  - number of ways to select  $m$  links out of all  $N$ ,  
 $C_N^m = \frac{N!}{m!(N-m)!}$
- expected number of links

$$\langle m \rangle = \sum_{m=0}^N m P(m) = pN = p \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$$

- Probability that  $i$ -th node has a degree  $k_i = k$  is given by Binomial distribution:

$$P(k_i = k) = P(k) = C_{n-1}^k p^k (1-p)^{n-1-k}$$

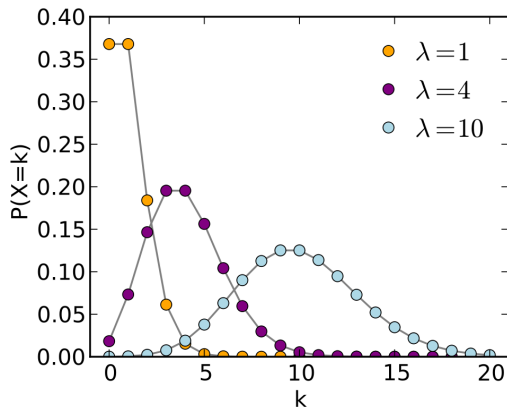
$p^k$  - probability that connects to  $k$  nodes (has  $k$ -edges)

$(1-p)^{n-k-1}$  - probability that does not connect to any other node

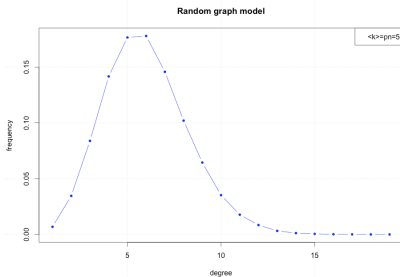
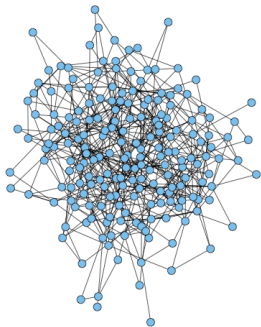
$C_{n-1}^k$  - number of ways to select  $k$  nodes out of all to connect to,  $C_{n-1}^k = \frac{(n-1)!}{k!(n-k-1)!}$

- Binomial distribution, when  $\langle k \rangle \ll N$  or  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $p \rightarrow 0$  at fixed  $\langle k \rangle$ , is well approximated by Poisson distribution:

$$P(k) = \frac{\langle k \rangle^k e^{-\langle k \rangle}}{k!} = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}, \quad \langle k \rangle = pn = \lambda$$



$$P(k_i = k) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}, \quad \lambda = \langle k \rangle = pn$$

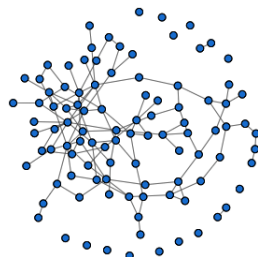
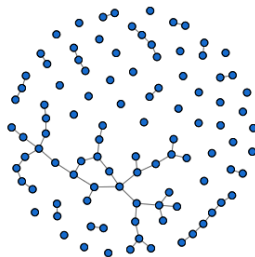
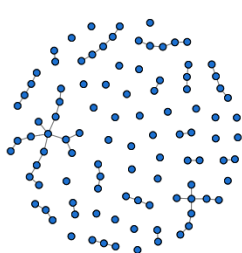


$$\langle k \rangle = pn = 5$$



Consider  $G_{n,p}$  as a function of  $p$

- $p = 0$ , empty graph -  $\langle k \rangle = 0$
- $p = 1$ , complete (full) graph -  $\langle k \rangle = n - 1$
- $n_G$  -largest connected component,  $s = \frac{n_G}{n}$



$p$

Let  $u$  – fraction of nodes that do not belong to GCC. The probability that a node does not belong to GCC

$$\begin{aligned} u = \frac{n - n_G}{n} &= P(k=0) + P(k=1) \cdot u + P(k=2) \cdot u^2 + P(k=3) \cdot u^3 \dots = \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P(k) u^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!} u^k = e^{-\lambda} e^{\lambda u} = e^{\lambda(u-1)} \end{aligned}$$

Let  $s$  -fraction of nodes belonging to GCC (size of GCC)

$$u = e^{\lambda(u-1)}$$

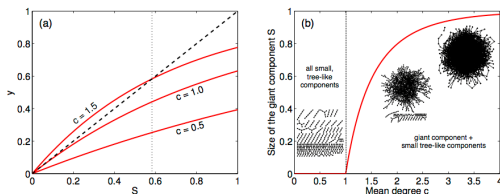
$$s = 1 - u, \quad 1 - s = e^{-\lambda s}$$

$$\lambda = pn = \langle k \rangle$$

when  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $s \rightarrow 1$

when  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$ ,  $s \rightarrow 0$

$$s = 1 - e^{-\lambda s}$$



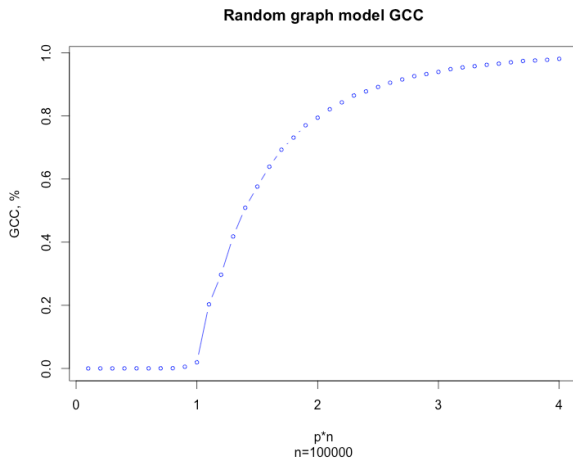
non-zero solution exists when (at  $s = 0$ ):

$$\lambda e^{-\lambda s} > 1$$

critical value:

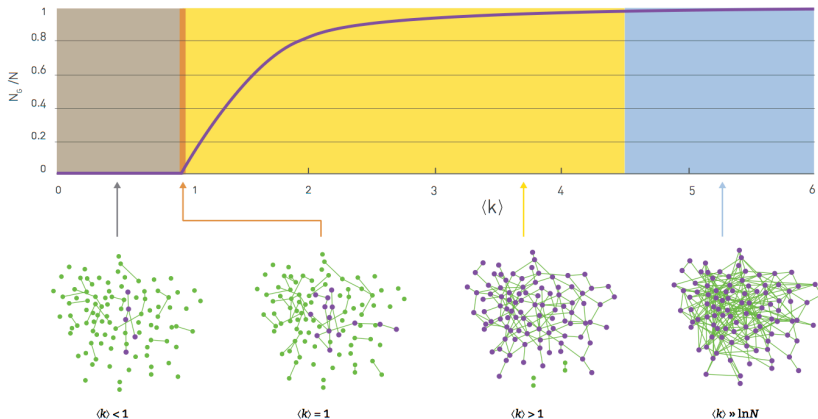
$$\lambda_c = 1$$

$$\lambda_c = \langle k \rangle = p_c n = 1, \quad p_c = \frac{1}{n}$$



$$\langle k \rangle = pn$$

# Evolution of random network

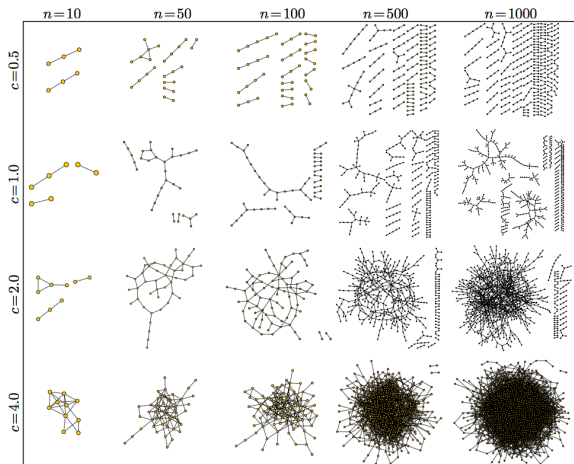


from A-L. Barabasi, 2016

Graph  $G(n, p)$ , for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , critical value  $p_c = 1/n$

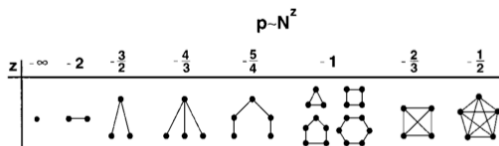
- Subcritical regime:  $p < p_c$ ,  $\langle k \rangle < 1$  there is no components with more than  $O(\ln n)$  nodes, largest component is a tree
- Critical point:  $p = p_c$ ,  $\langle k \rangle = 1$  the largest component has  $O(n^{2/3})$  nodes
- Supercritical regime:  $p > p_c$ ,  $\langle k \rangle > 1$  gigantic component has all  $O((p - p_c)n)$  nodes
- Connected regime:  $p \gg \ln n/n$ ,  $\langle k \rangle > \ln n$  gigantic component has all  $O(n)$  nodes

Critical value:  $\langle k \rangle = p_c n = 1$ - on average one neighbor for a node



Graph  $G(n, p)$

Threshold probabilities when different subgraphs of  $k$ -nodes and  $l$ -edges appear in a random graph  $p_s \sim n^{-k/l}$



When  $p > p_s$ :

- $p_s \sim n^{-k/(k-1)}$ , having a tree with  $k$  nodes
- $p_s \sim n^{-1}$ , having a cycle with  $k$  nodes
- $p_s \sim n^{-2/(k-1)}$ , complete subgraph with  $k$  nodes



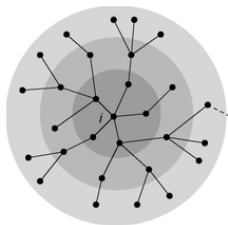
- Clustering coefficient (probability that two neighbors link to each other):

$$C_i(k) = \frac{\text{\#of links between NN}}{\text{\#max number of links NN}} = \frac{pk(k-1)/2}{k(k-1)/2} = p$$

$$C = p = \frac{\langle k \rangle}{n}$$

- when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $C \rightarrow 0$

- $G(n, p)$  is locally tree-like (GCC) (no loops; low clustering coefficient)

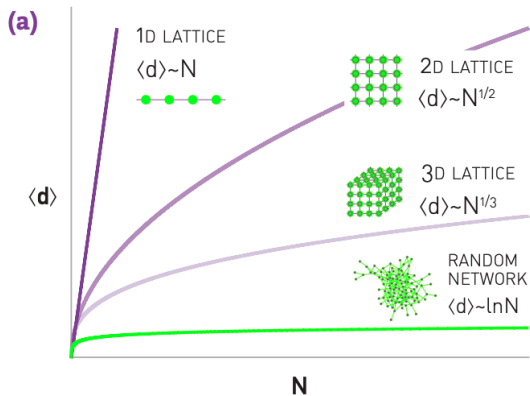


- on average, the number of nodes  $d$  steps away from a node

$$n = 1 + \langle k \rangle + \langle k \rangle^2 + \dots \langle k \rangle^D = \frac{\langle k \rangle^{D+1} - 1}{\langle k \rangle - 1} \approx \langle k \rangle^D$$

- around  $p_c$ ,  $\langle k \rangle^D \sim n$ ,

$$D \sim \frac{\ln n}{\ln \langle k \rangle}$$



- Node degree distribution function - Binomial/Poisson:

$$P(k) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}, \quad \lambda = pn = \langle k \rangle$$

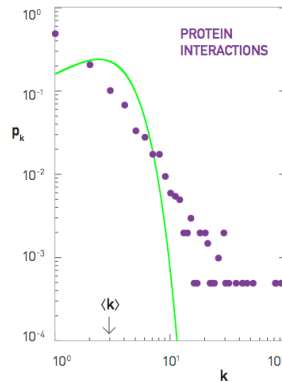
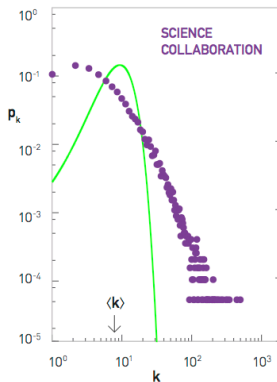
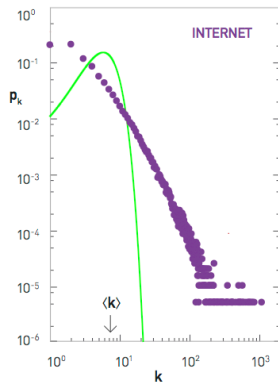
- Average path length:

$$\langle L \rangle = \frac{\ln n}{\ln \langle k \rangle}$$

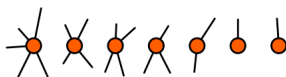
- Clustering coefficient:

$$C = \frac{\langle k \rangle}{n}$$

## Degree distribution in real networks



- Random network with a predefined degree sequence:  
 $D = \{k_1, k_2, k_3 \dots k_n\}$ ,  $n$  - nodes and  $m = 1/2 \sum_i k_i$  edges.
- Construct by randomly matching two stubs and connecting them by an edge.

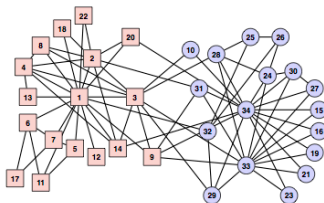


- Can contain self loops and multiple edges
- Probability that two nodes  $i$  and  $j$  are connected

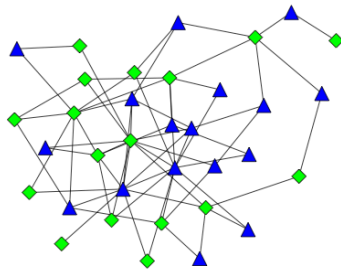
$$p_{ij} = \frac{k_i k_j}{2m - 1}$$

- Will be a simple graph for special "graphical degree sequence"

Can be used as a "null model" for comparative network analysis



karate club



configuration model

Clauset, 2014

- On random graphs I, P. Erdos and A. Renyi, Publicationes Mathematicae 6, 290–297 (1959).
- On the evolution of random graphs, P. Erdos and A. Renyi, Publication of the Mathematical Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, 17-61 (1960)