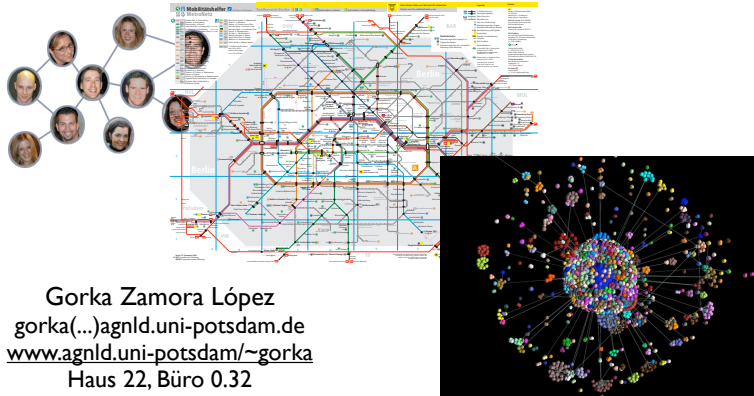


# Characterization of Complex Networks



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# SUMMARY

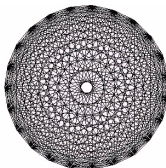
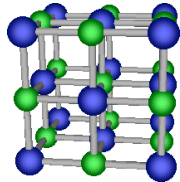
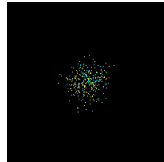
1. Introduction
2. Characterization of networks:
  - degree distributions and correlations
  - clustering coefficient
  - network distance
3. Analytical properties of random graphs
4. Generation of random graphs
  - Generation methods
  - Rewiring methods
5. Analysis pitfalls. Known examples.

## Complexity

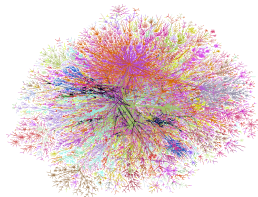
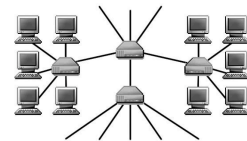
Crystal Lattices



All-to-all interactions

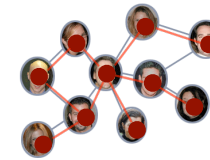


Internet

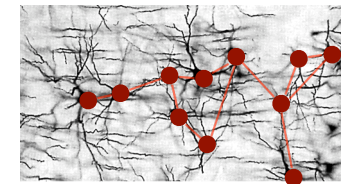


## So... what is a network?

Social interactions



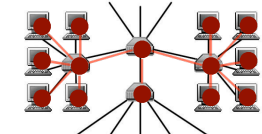
Biology



Transportation



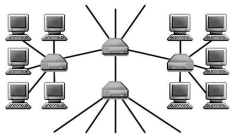
Technological systems



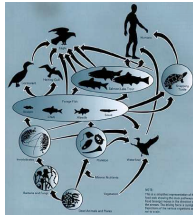
- Abstract manner to represent a large class of systems.
- Unique analysis toolkit: Graph Theory.

## Network classes

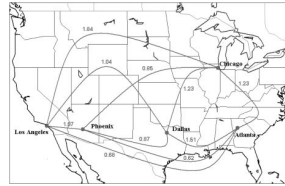
Graphs (undirected)



Digraphs (directed)



Weighted



Multigraphs



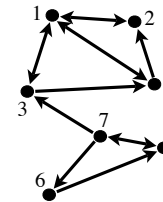
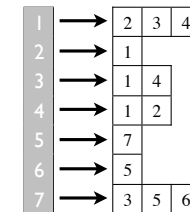
## Network representation

- $N$ , number of nodes
  - $L$ , number of links
- $$\left. \vphantom{\begin{matrix} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{matrix}} \right\} \text{Density} \Rightarrow \rho = \frac{L}{N(N-1)} \quad (\text{no self-loops})$$

Adjacency Matrix

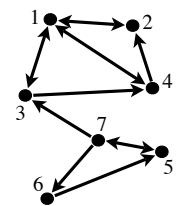
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
6	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
7	0	0	1	0	1	1	0

Adjacency Lists



Computational implications!

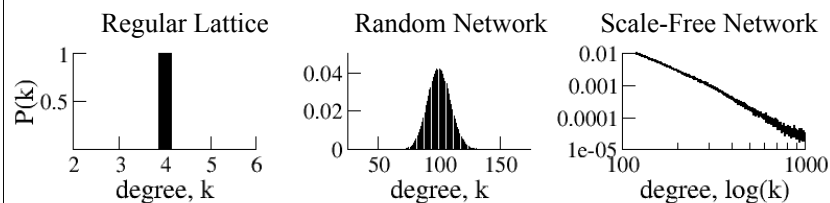
## Degree distribution



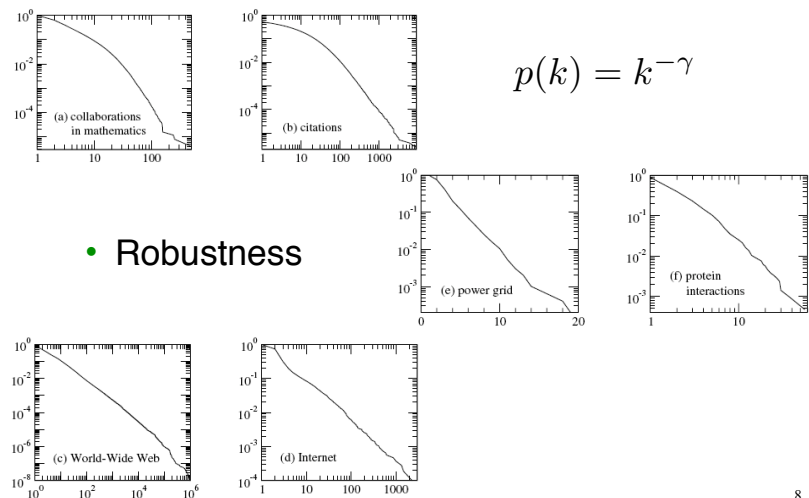
- Node degrees:  $k = (k_i, k_o)$ 
  - node relevance
  - centrality
  - robustness

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} k_i = \sum_j A_{ij} \\ k_o = \sum_i A_{ij} \end{array} \right.$$

- $k$  – distribution



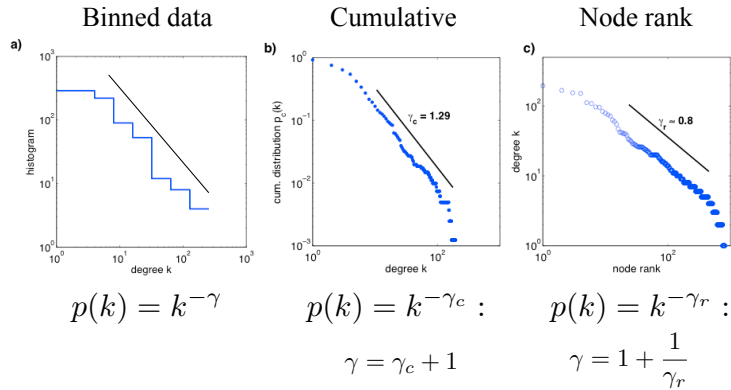
## Scale-free networks



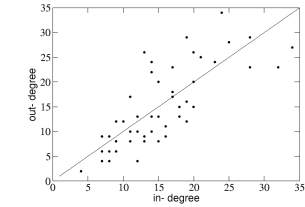
$$p(k) = k^{-\gamma}$$

- Robustness

# Scale-free networks



# Degree correlations



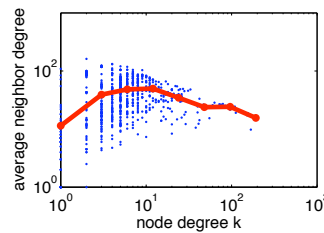
- 1-node correlations
- 2-node correlations:  $k \bullet \text{---} \bullet q$ 
  - Joint probability,  $P(k,q)$  **Poor statistics**
  - Pearson's correlation (for random links):

$$r = \frac{\sum_{k,q} kq(e_{kq} - a_k b_q)}{\sigma_a \sigma_b}, \quad -1 < r < 1$$

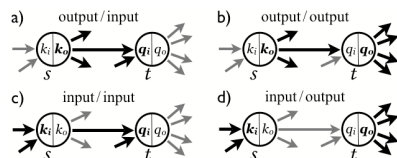
**Only if linear relation!**

# Degree correlations

- 2-node correlations:
  - Neighbour's degree,  $K_{nn}(k)$

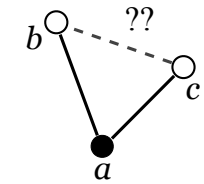


- Directed networks



# Clustering coefficient

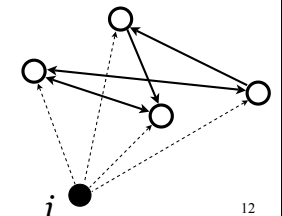
Tendency for transitivity (cohesiveness) in a network:  
 "are my friends also friends with each other?"



- Global clustering:
  - Strictly speaking...  $P(bc|(ab \cap ac))$
  - Measuring...  $C = 3 \times \frac{N(\nabla)}{N(\vee)}, \quad C \in [0, 1]$

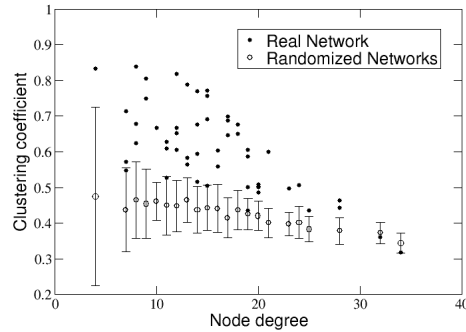
- Local clustering:

$$c_i = \frac{\sum_{j,k} A_{ij} A_{ik} (A_{jk} + A_{kj})}{k_i (k_i - 1)}$$



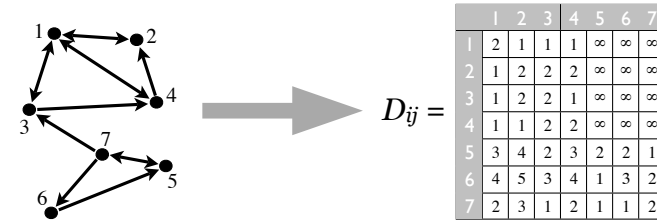
## Clustering coefficient

- Average of  $c_i \neq C$  !!



Average  $c_i = 0.614$   
Clustering = 0.496

## Distance



- Path multiplicity → information transmission
- Average pathlength:  $l = \langle D_{ij} \rangle$
- Graph diameter:  $diam(G) = \max(D_{ij})$

- Node centrality:

$$exc(i) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_j D_{ij} \quad status(i) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_j D_{ji}$$

## Data analysis, Overview

- 1) Observable  $X$  is measured →  $x$
- 2) is  $x$  large or small? → interpretation
- 3) is  $x$  expected or surprising?
  - 3.1) significance testing
  - 3.2) re-interpretation.
- 4) other observables  $Y, Z \dots$ 
  - 4.1)  $X, Y, Z$  correlations? → understanding!!



- 5) hopefully create a model !!

## Significance testing

Compare the measured value,  $x$ , to the expected value of some random model.

- Analytical → null-models with given conditions

Calculate expressions for:

- expected value,  $x_{expected}$
  - variance,  $\sigma$
- } Usually very difficult !! :(

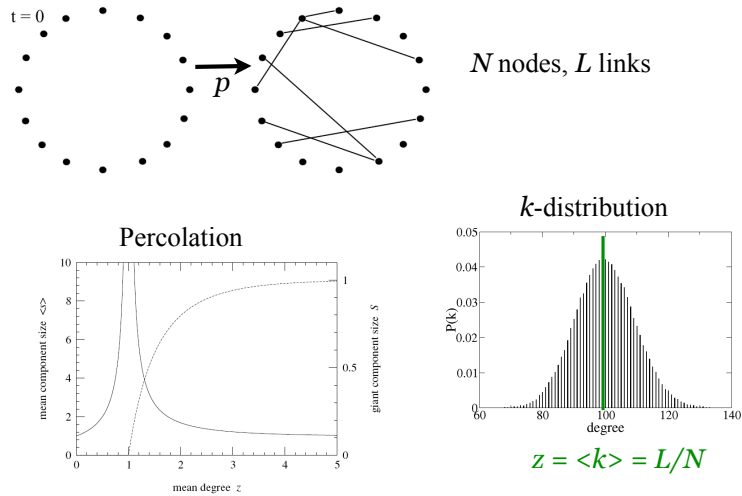
- Numerical → ensembles of "random" networks.

For each realization measure  $X \rightarrow x_i$

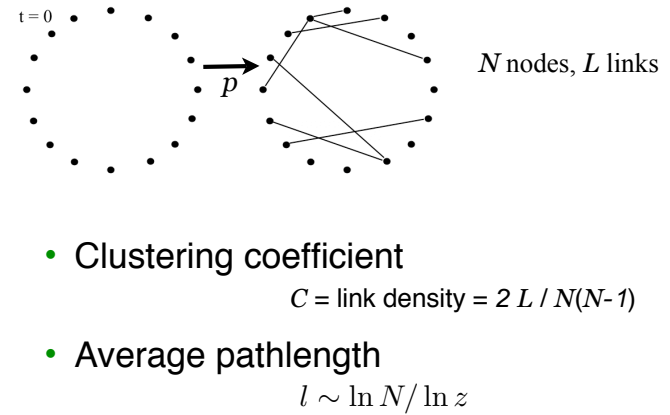
- ensemble average,  $\langle x_i \rangle = x_{expected}$
- deviations

} Computationally very demanding with large networks !!

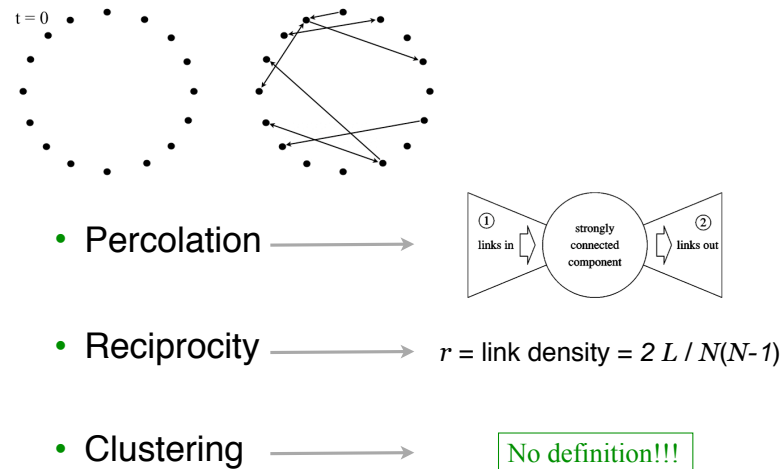
## Random Networks (Erdős - Rényi)



## Random Networks (Erdős - Rényi)

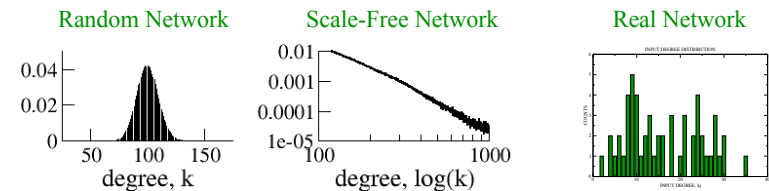


## Random Digraphs



## Arbitrary degree distribution

- What if a network has scale-free  $k$ -distribution?



- What if the data acquisition process introduces biases?

## Arbitrary degree distribution

- Percolation threshold:

- Undirected  $\longrightarrow \sum_k k(k-2)p_k = 0$

- Directed  $\longrightarrow \sum_{k_i, k_o} (2k_i k_o - k_i - k_o) p_{k_i k_j} = 0$

- Reciprocity:  $\longrightarrow r = \frac{L}{N^2} \frac{\langle k_i k_o \rangle^2}{\langle k \rangle^4}$

## Arbitrary degree distribution

- Average distance

- Undirected  $\longrightarrow l = \frac{\ln(N/z_1)}{\ln(z_2/z_1)} + 1$

- Directed  $\longrightarrow$

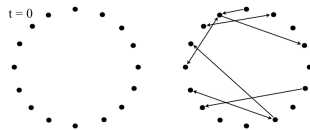
- Clustering  $\longrightarrow$  **??!!**

Even expected values of “simple” measures are very difficult to obtain analytically !!

## Ensembles of random networks

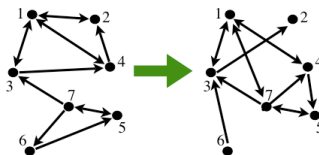
- 2 approaches:

- Generation of networks from null sets



Usually faster!

- Rewiring the real networks



## Generation methods

- Random graphs/digraphs

- 1) select two nodes at random: source  $s$  and target  $t$
- 2) link them:  $s \rightarrow t$
- 3) Watch out with self-loops and double links!

- With given  $k$ -sequences

$in-k$ : [1,1,1,1,2,3,3 ...  $N,N,N$ ]

$out-k$ : [1,2,2,2,3,3, ...  $N,N$ ]

**→ need tricks to avoid getting stuck**

## Rewiring methods

- Random graphs/digraphs

- 1) select one link at random:  $s \rightarrow t_1$

- 2) rewire to another target:  $s \rightarrow t_2$

- 3) Watch out with self-loops and double links!

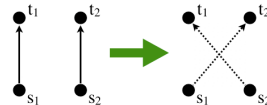
warning! how will you choose a link so that all links have same probability  $1/L$  to be selected?

- Conserving the  $k$ -sequences

- 1) select two links at random

- 2) switch the links

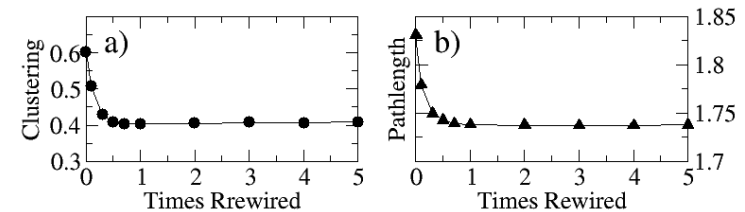
- 3) watch out with self-loops and double links!



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## Rewiring methods

- Need to test the validity of rewiring!!



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## Homework, before lab-day 1

- **Read** the introduction to Python. ([www.python.org](http://www.python.org))
- **think**: having the adjacency matrix of a network, how will you calculate the degree of each node?
- **think**: how will you calculate the global clustering coefficient of a network? how do you calculate/count all paths of length = 2? how do you count the number of triangles?
- **think**: if you have the list with the degree of all nodes, how will you compute the cumulative degree distribution?

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## Homework, before lab-day 2

- **think**: how do you randomly introduce  $L$  links at random into an initially null matrix?
- **think**: how do you avoid the introduction of self-loops and multiple links?
- **think**: given a real network, how will you randomly choose a link? make sure that all links have the same probability of being chosen!!

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