#### Networks

Marisa Eisenberg

### Network Modeling

- Network = nodes & edges
- Also called a graph
- Node (vertex) an object, can be people, communities, locations, water sources, signaling molecules, genes, etc.
- Edge a connection between two nodes



### Types of Graphs (Networks)

- **Directed graph** edges have a direction associated with them (e.g. friendships that go one way)
  - Edges sometimes called arcs
  - Friendship networks & social status (Newman & Ball)
  - Disease Transmission



## Types of Graphs (Networks)

- Weighted graph assigns a number (weight) to each edge/node
  - E.g. association strength, parameter value, disease status
  - Weighting can also be thought of as a type or state instead of number (e.g. S, I, R, or cancer stage, etc.)
  - One of the most common for modeling
  - Can have weighted edges, nodes, or both

## Key definitions/vocab

- Degree number of edges attached to a node
  - "Egocentric" social network



- In-degree number of incoming edges
- Out-degree number of outgoing edges



## Network Centrality

- How central or important is a particular node? How to find "important" nodes?
- Many different approaches & types of centrality
- **Degree centrality** of a node is just the degree (can also use indegree & outdegree)

## Closeness Centrality

- **Closeness centrality** of node x measures shortest paths from x to other nodes
  - Idea is that the easier it is to get from one node to all other nodes quickly the more 'central' it is

$$C(u) = \frac{n-1}{\sum_{v=1}^{n-1} d(v, u)},$$

- **Betweenness Centrality** measures how 'bridge-y' the node is, i.e. if a node is an important bridge from one set of nodes to another, it is more central
  - Betweenness centrality of node x determine how often the shortest path between two nodes uses x



## Eigenvector Centrality

- Centrality is based on centrality of your neighbors (connections to highly central individuals increases your centrality)
- Google pagerank
- This works out to be the eigenvector of the largest eigenvalue of the adjacency matrix

#### Degree

#### Betweenness



#### Closeness

#### Eigenvector

#### Network Features & Properties

- **Degree** of nodes
- Degree sequence List of degrees for all nodes in a graph
- Often use this to infer the degree distribution (more on this later when we talk about random graphs)
- Degree sequence/distribution can tell you a lot about structure of graph

### Power Law degree distribution

• Scale free networks - power law degree distribution

$$P(k) \sim k^{-\gamma}$$

- Long tail results in both very sparse nodes and hub nodes
- Many biological networks, social networks, WWW, etc. are scale free



















Scale-Free Network, Accidental Node Failure





Scale-Free Network, Attack on Hubs





and the second second

### Scale Free Networks

- Scale free networks are robust to random failures (e.g. mutations in a gene)
- However, vulnerable to targeted attacks on hubs

#### Scale Free Networks

- However, lots of things look linear-ish on a log-log scale...
- Many suggest some abuse of power law/scale free idea
- Probably a lot of these are just heavy-tailed



### Random Networks

### Random Networks

- Why would you want to do this?
  - Often want to simulate network effects
  - May not know exact network
  - But often do know some general features of the network (e.g. degree distribution)
  - So: simulate random networks with those features conserved

### Erdös-Rényi Networks

- Erdös-Rényi (also Gilbert) Network two forms:
  - G(n,p) network on n nodes with each edge having probability p of existing
  - G(n,M) network on n nodes with M edges chosen randomly
  - Often called a "random network" even though all of the networks here are also random







### Erdös-Rényi Networks

- Not so realistic for lots of things (e.g. social networks, many gene/protein/biological networks)
- But, often handy as a test case
- And useful for making analogs of homogeneous mixing (e.g. from SIR or linear compartmental models)

### Preferential Attachment Networks

- Barabasi-Albert algorithm
- Add new nodes to the network sequentially, preferentially connecting them to high-degree nodes
- Generates random scale free networks

#### Small World Networks

- Most nodes are not neighbors of one another, but most nodes can be reached from every other by a small number of hops or steps
- Average distance L between two nodes is proportional to log n (where n is the number of nodes)



### Small World Network

- Creates the "what a small world!" effect: two nodes will tend to have a mutual friend (adjacent node)
- Can be similar to scale free in that they tend to produce hubs as well as sparsely connected individuals
  - Network can be both small-world and scale-free

### Small World Networks

- How to generate random small world network?
- Newman-Watts-Strogatz Algorithm
- However, this tends to produce more similar degrees for nodes rather than scale free



# Configuration models

- Given a degree sequence, generate random network with that sequence
- Random graphs, but with the advantage that the degree sequence can be chosen realistically
- E.g. useful when we have egocentric data!
- Algorithm: generate 'stubs' with the correct degree, then connect pairs of stubs



## Clustering in networks

## Clustering in networks

- Many different ways to look at clustering
- How do node traits (degree, covariates) cluster based on edges? E.g. do smokers tend to be friends with other smokers? Do individuals cluster by popularity?
- Community detection finding clusters (groups) of nodes that are highly connected within the group and less connected between groups (i.e. clustering, where similarity is based on connectivity)

## Assortativity

- Assortativity measures network-level tendency for nodes to to attach to similar nodes
  - Similarity can be defined by node attributes, degree, etc.
- Calculate fraction of edges between nodes of the same type/ value, compare to what would be expected from a random network
- Ranges from -1 (dissassortative) to 1 (assortative)
  - But min value (most dissassortative) is between -1 and 0 depending on the composition of the network

### Assortativity

- Heterosexual networks highly dissassortative by gender
- Social/sexual networks often assortative on a range of demographic, degree, behavioral traits - 'birds of a feather flock together'



#### Assortativity

• Defined based on a mixing matrix - entries are the fraction of edges in a network linking type i to type j

$$r = \frac{\sum_{i} e_{ii} - \sum_{i} a_{i}b_{i}}{1 - \sum_{i} a_{i}b_{i}} = \frac{\mathrm{Tr}\mathbf{e} - ||\mathbf{e}^{2}||}{1 - ||\mathbf{e}^{2}||},$$

 For degree assortativity (and other scalar variables), assortativity is the Pearson correlation coefficient of degree between pairs of linked nodes

# Modularity

- How to decide communities (clusters) in a network?
- We want communities to have more in-group edges than
  between-group edges
- We could minimize between group edges, but this would lead to just putting all nodes in one community



# Modularity

- Modularity compares observed community edges to what would be expected at random
- Modularity is the number fraction of within-group edges minus the fraction expected at random (if degree conserved but edges are randomized)
- Modularity-based community detection: find community groupings that maximize modularity



### Karate club example



### Political books



# Modularity

- Can be slow/difficult to maximize—spectral methods have made much faster
- Resolution limit as the network grows larger, it is harder for modularity-based community detection methods to find small communities