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DLI Accelerated Data Science Teaching Kit

Lecture 17.2 - Graph Power Laws



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I have a graph. Now what?

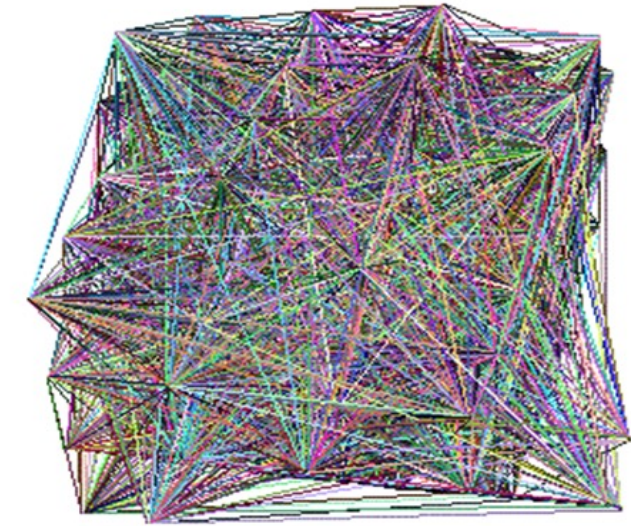
Analyze it! Do “data mining” or “graph mining”.

And visualize it if it's small.

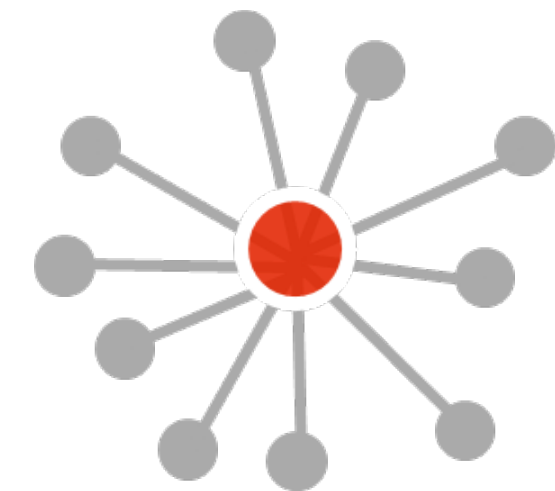
Does it follow any expected patterns? Or does it not follow patterns (outliers)?

Why does this matter?

- If we find patterns (models), we can do prediction, recommendation,
e.g., is Alice going to “friend” Bob on Facebook?
- Outliers often give us new insights
e.g., **telemarketer**'s friends don't know each other



Yuck.

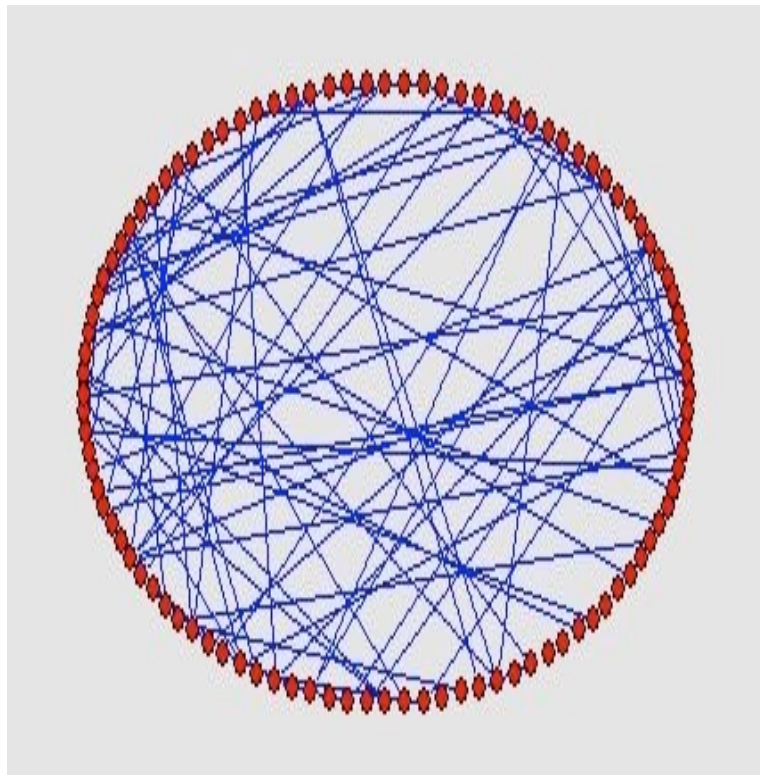


Are Real Graphs Random?

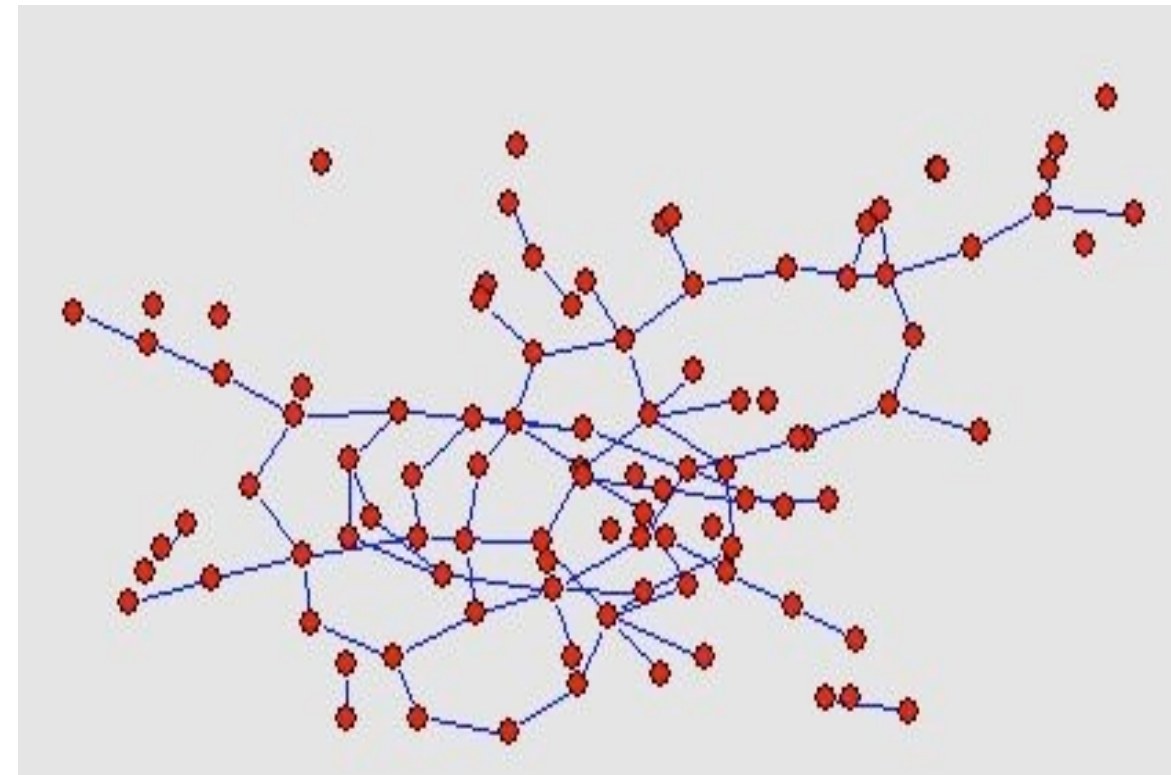
Random graph (Erdos-Renyi): edges are independent, and have equal chance in forming → **no obvious patterns**

Are **real-world graphs** (e.g., social networks) random?

Before layout



After layout



Graph and layout generated with pajek

<http://vlado.fmf.unilj.si/pub/networks/pajek/>

Laws and Patterns

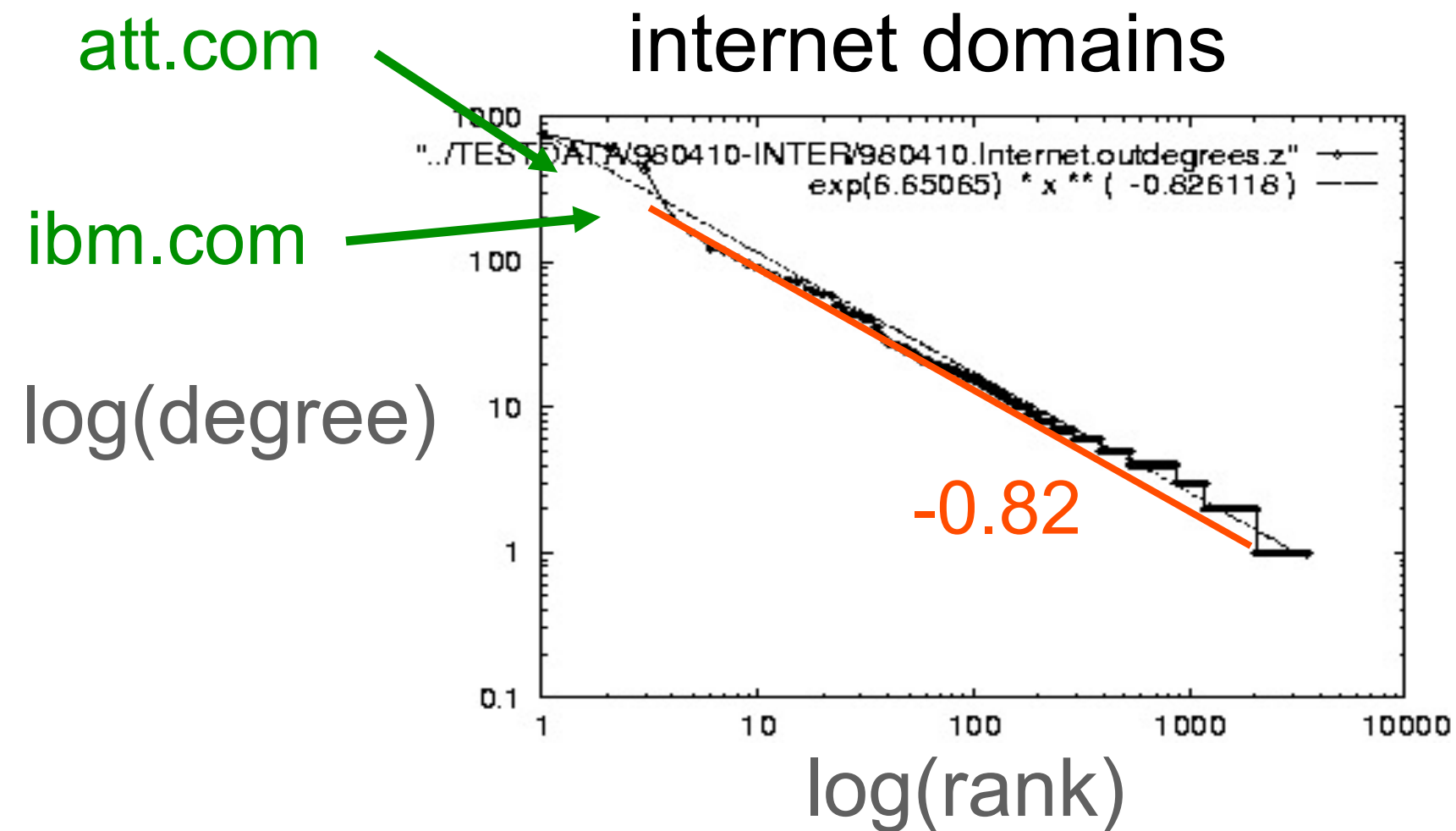
Nope! Real graphs are **NOT** random.

- Diameter (longest shortest path)
- In-degree and out-degree distributions
- Other (surprising) patterns
- So, let's look at the data

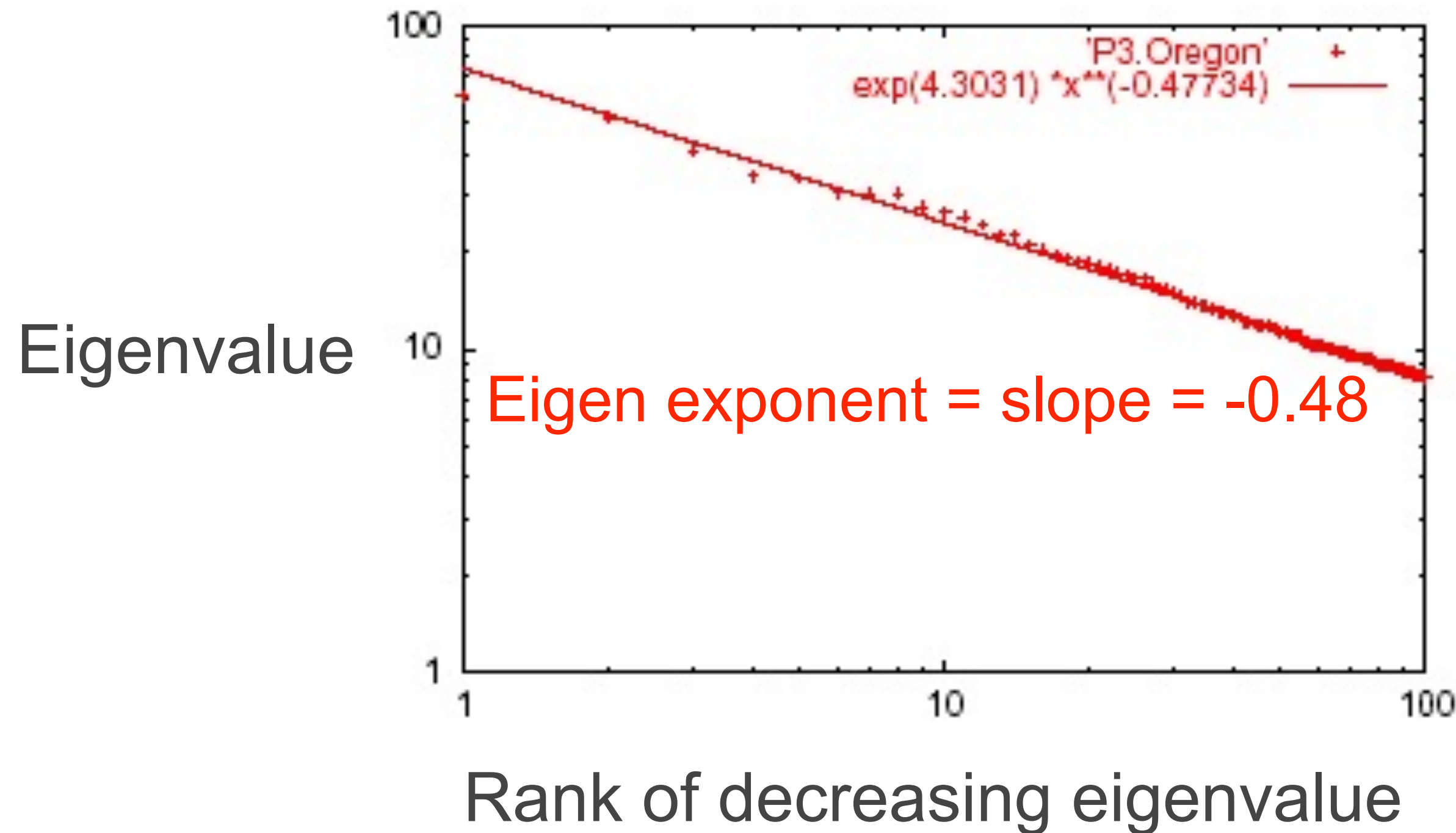
Power Law in Degree Distribution

Faloutsos, Faloutsos, Faloutsos [SIGCOMM99]
Seminal paper, by 3 brothers. Must read!

Christos
Faloutsos was
Polo's advisor



Power Law of Eigenvalues

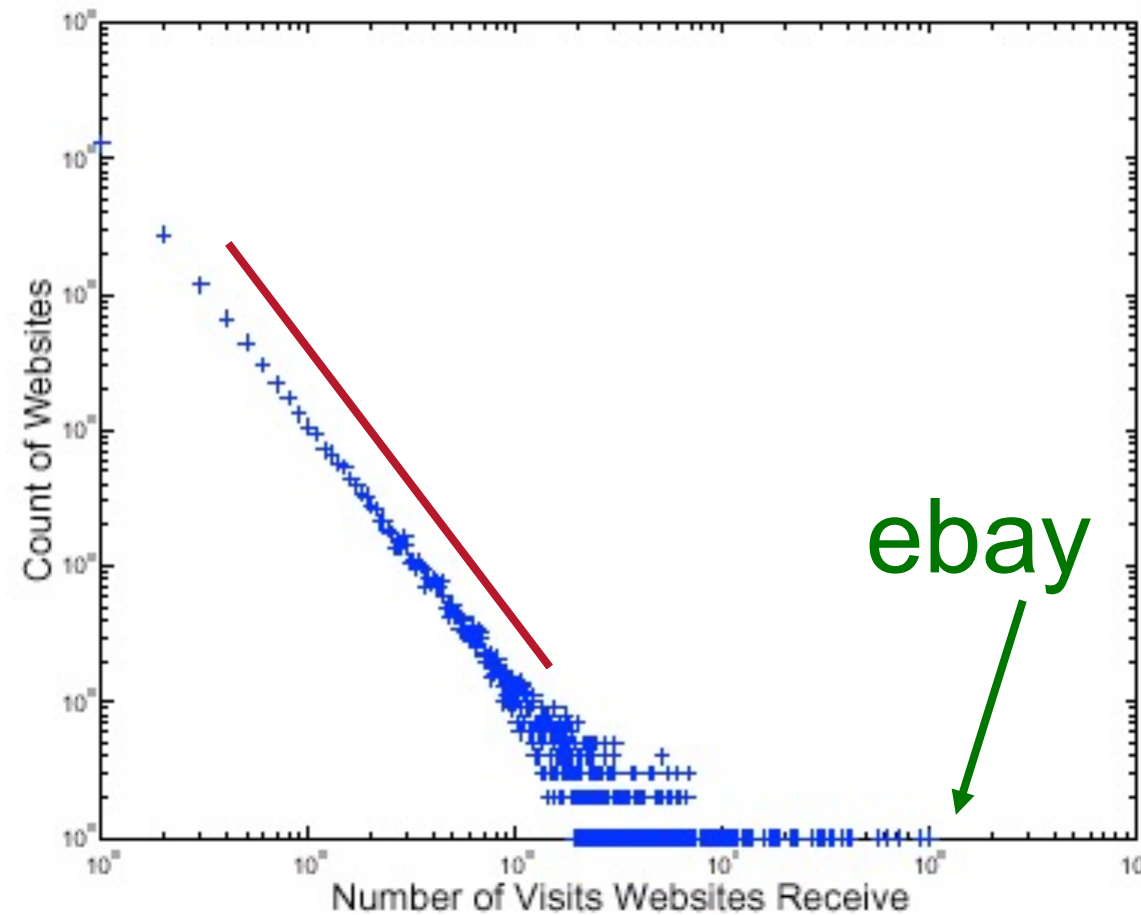
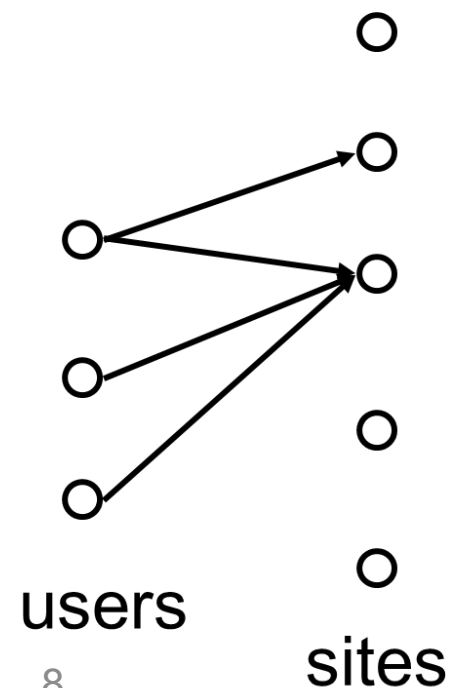


Power Laws in Many Domains

Web site traffic

[Alan L. Montgomery and Christos Faloutsos]

$\log(\#\text{website})$



$\log(\#\text{website visit})$

- # of sexual contacts
- Income [Pareto]:
80-20 distribution
- Duration of downloads
[Bestavros+]
- Duration of UNIX jobs
- File sizes
- ...

Any other 'laws'?

Yes! Small diameter (\sim constant!)

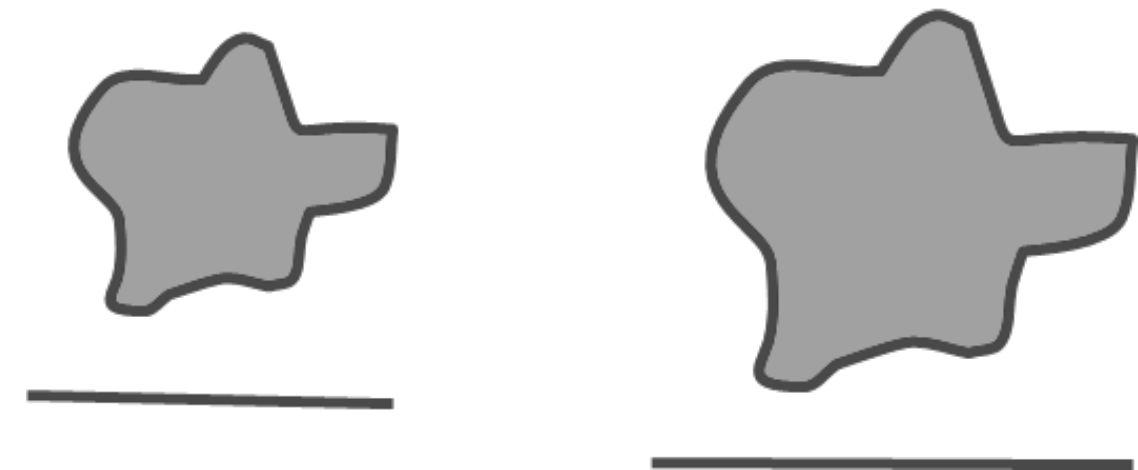
- Six degrees of separation / 'Kevin Bacon'
- Small worlds [Watts and Strogatz]

But how does the graph diameter change **over time**?

Evolution of the Diameter

By Leskovec, Kleinberg, Faloutsos

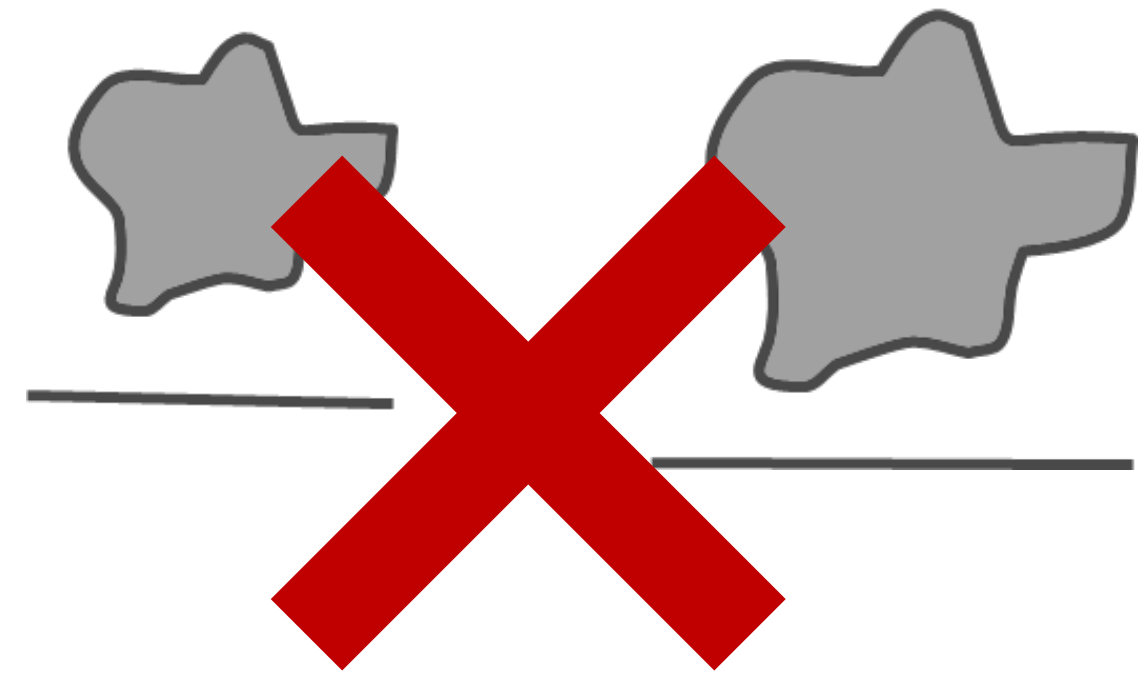
- Prior work on Power Law graphs hints at slowly growing diameter:
 - diameter $\sim O(\log N)$
 - diameter $\sim O(\log \log N)$
- What is happening in real data?



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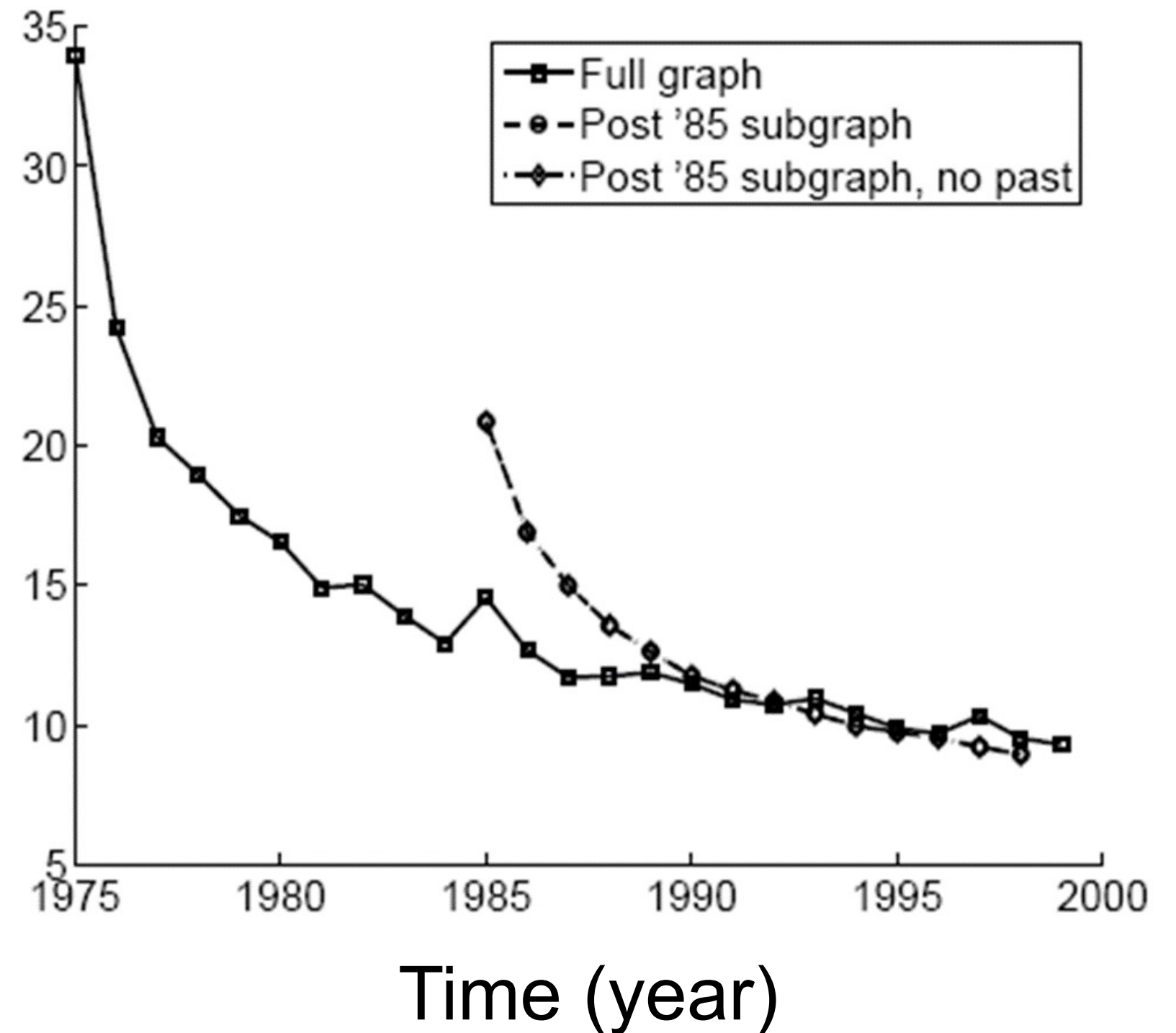


Diameter shrinks over time!

Diameter – Patents Network

- Patent citation network
- 25 years of data
- @1999
 - 2.9 M nodes
 - 16.5 M edges

Effective
diameter



Why Effective Diameter?

The maximum diameter is susceptible to outliers



So, we use **effective** diameter instead

- Defined as the minimum number of hops in which 90% of connected node pairs can reach each other

Evolution of #Node and #Edge

$N(t)$ = nodes at time t

$E(t)$ = edges at time t

Suppose. $N(t+1) = 2 * N(t)$

Q: What is your guess for $E(t+1)$? $2 * E(t)$?

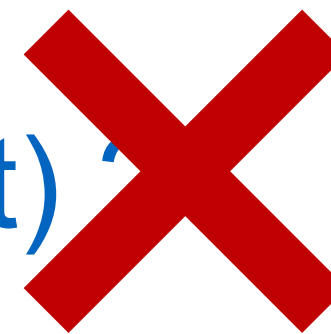
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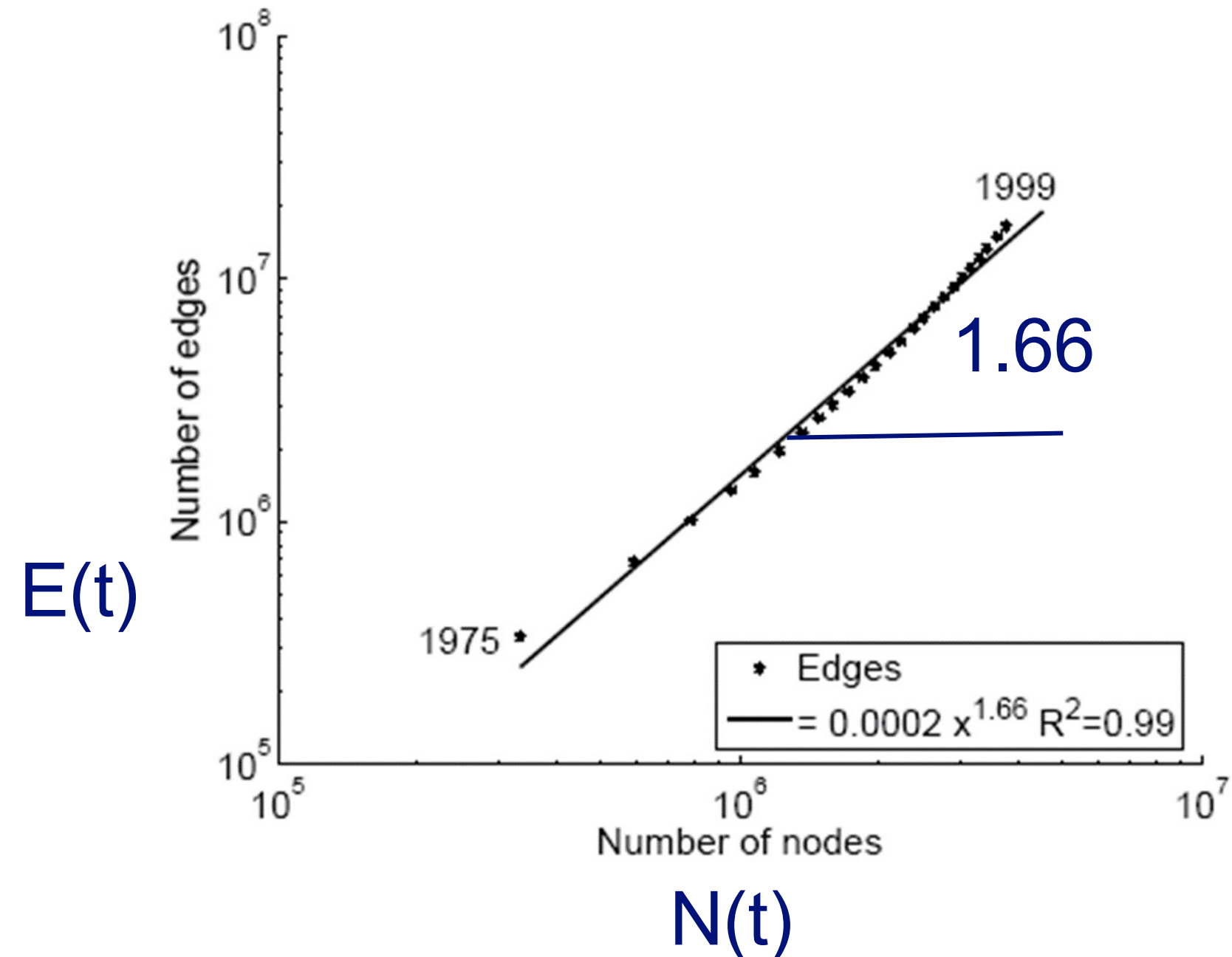
Q: What is your guess for $E(t+1)$? $2 * E(t)$



A: Over-doubled! And obeying the “Densification Power Law”

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So Many Laws!

There will be more to come...

To date, there are **11 (or more) laws**

RTG: A Recursive Realistic Graph
Generator using Random Typing
[Akoglu, Faloutsos]

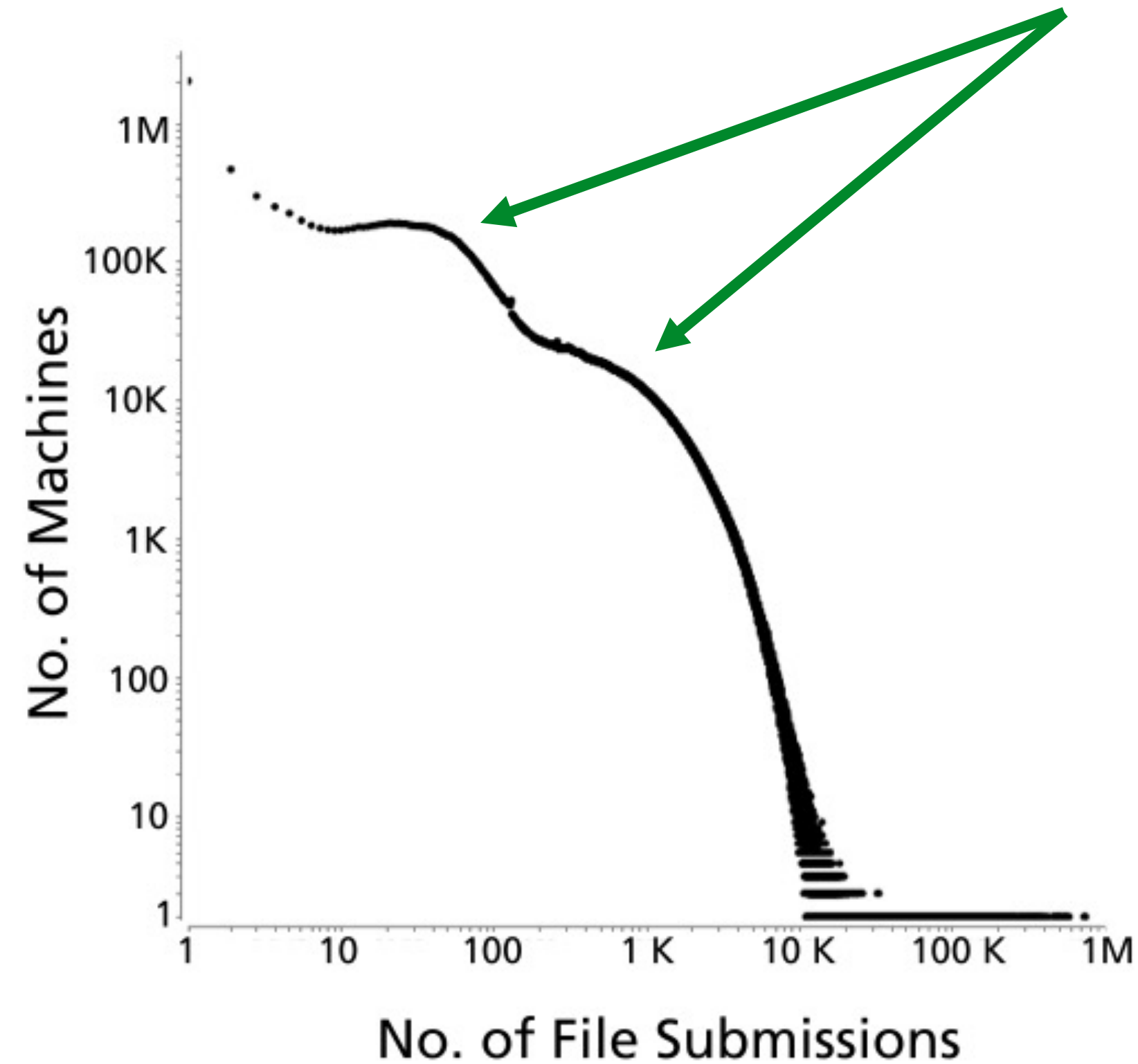
- L01** *Power-law degree distribution*: the degree distribution should follow a power-law in the form of $f(d) \propto d^\gamma$, with the exponent $\gamma < 0$ [5, 11, 16, 24]
- L02** *Densification Power Law (DPL)*: the number of nodes N and the number of edges E should follow a power-law in the form of $E(t) \propto N(t)^\alpha$, with $\alpha > 1$, over time [20].
- L03** *Weight Power Law (WPL)*: the total weight of the edges W and the number of edges E should follow a power-law in the form of $W(t) \propto E(t)^\beta$, with $\beta > 1$, over time [22].
- L04** *Snapshot Power Law (SPL)*: the total weight of the edges W_n attached to each node and the number of such edges, that is, the degree d_n should follow a power-law in the form of $W_n \propto d_n^\theta$, with $\theta > 1$ [22].
- L05** *Triangle Power Law (TPL)*: the number of triangles Δ and the number of nodes that participate in Δ number of triangles should follow a power-law in the form of $f(\Delta) \propto \Delta^\sigma$, with $\sigma < 0$ [29].
- L06** *Eigenvalue Power Law (EPL)*: the eigenvalues of the adjacency matrix of the graph should be power-law distributed [28].
- L07** *Principal Eigenvalue Power Law (λ_1 PL)*: the largest eigenvalue λ_1 of the adjacency matrix of the graph and the number of edges E should follow a power-law in the form of $\lambda_1(t) \propto E(t)^\delta$, with $\delta < 0.5$, over time [1].
- L08** *small and shrinking diameter*: the (effective) diameter of the graph should be small [2] with a possible spike at the ‘gelling point’ [22]. It should also shrink over time [20].

So Many Laws!

What should You Do?

- Try as many distributions as possible and see if your graph fits them.
- If it doesn't, find out the reasons. Sometimes it's due to errors/problems in the data; sometimes, it signifies some new patterns!

What might be the reasons for the “hills”?



Polonium: Tera-Scale Graph Mining and Inference for Malware Detection [Chau, et al]



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Thank You