

# Network robustness

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# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Percolation processes
- 3 Errors in real networks
- 4 Attack Tolerance
- 5 Cascading Failures
- 6 Modeling cascading failure

# Complex networks - what we have learn so far

- Real complex networks can be found everywhere: social networks, biological networks, technological networks, transportation networks, etc.
- Real complex networks are:
  - heterogeneous - degree distribution, hubs, centralities
  - small world - average shortest path grows logarithmically with network size
  - correlated - assortative or disassortative
  - clustered - high value of clustering coefficient
- Structure of real complex networks is strongly related to their function and evolution

# Designed vs. self-organized

- Human designed systems - components are assembled according to set goal
- Real complex systems are self-organized and self-assembled with survival as the only goal
- Evolution plays an important role in robustness of complex networks

# Robustness: what

- Human designed systems fail if one component stops working: car stops working due to failure of component, computer stops working due to chip error, etc
- Complex systems (networks) function despite frequent occurrence of errors: protein folding fails often, missing members of organizations, members of social groups change constantly
- Real complex network are **robust**

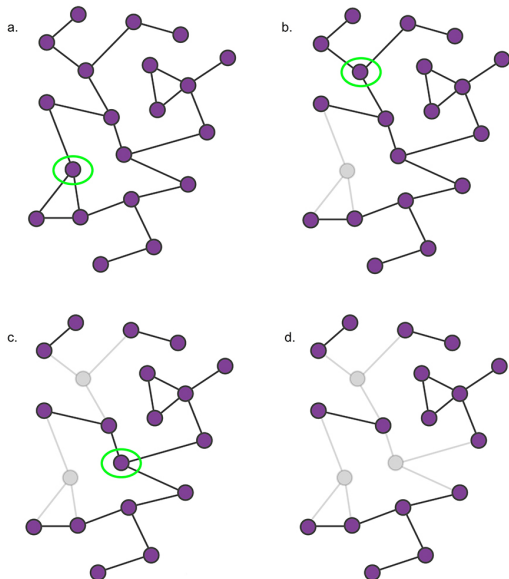
# Robustness: why

- Understanding the origins of this robustness is important
  - origin of diseases
  - stability of societies and economies
  - ecosystem robustness and failure
  - smart design
- Complex networks and their structure play a key role in the robustness of biological, social and technological systems
- Reading material: chapter 8 in Network science book,  
<http://networksciencebook.com/chapter/8>

# What we will cover

- Percolation processes
- Robustness of scale free networks
- Attack tolerance
- Cascading failures

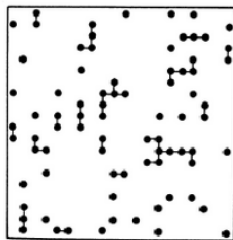
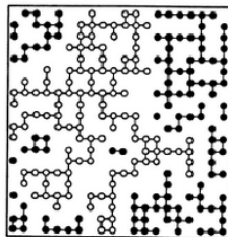
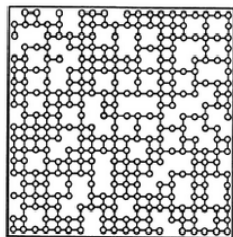
# Percolation example



- Removal of one node does not influence the network connectivity
- How many nodes need to be removed to disconnect network
- Same can be asked for edges
- Source: Network science book

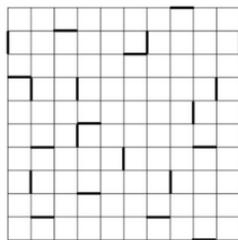
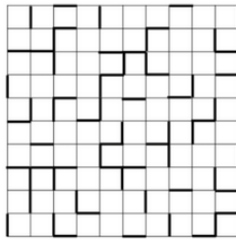
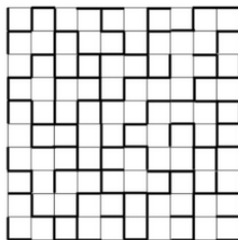


# Site percolation

 $p = 0.2$  $p = 0.59$  $p = 0.8$ 

Source: Bunde et al., Anomalous transport and diffusion in percolation systems (2007)

# Edge(bond) percolation

 $p = 0.1$  $p = 0.3$  $p = 0.6$ 

Source: Ghanbarian et al., Agricultural Water Management, 210, 208-216 (2018)

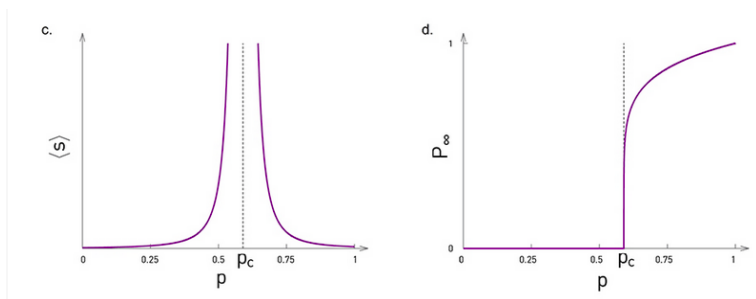
# Percolation theory

- Subfield of statistical physics and mathematics
- It is one parameter process - probability  $p$
- Questions:
  - What is the expected size of the largest cluster for a given  $p$ ?
  - What is the average cluster size for a given  $p$ ?
  - For what value of  $p$  we have spanning(infinite) cluster?
- Answers depend on the type of process (site vs. bond), probability  $p$ , and topology

# Measured quantities

- Average size of finite cluster:  $\langle s \rangle \sim |p - p_c|^{-\gamma_p}$
- Order parameter  $P_\infty$  - probability that randomly chosen site belongs to largest cluster: for  $p > p_c$   $P_\infty \sim (p - p_c)^{\beta_p}$ ,  $p \leq p_c$ ,  $P_\infty = 0$
- Correlation length  $\xi$  - the mean distance between two sites belonging to the same cluster:  $\xi \sim |p - p_c|^{-\nu}$

# Site percolation on square lattice

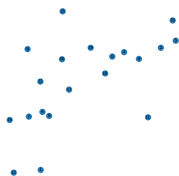


$$p_c = 0.593; \gamma_p = \frac{43}{18}, \beta_p = \frac{5}{36}, \text{ and } \nu = \frac{4}{3}$$

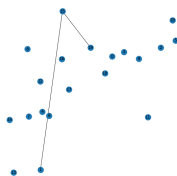
$p_c$  depends on lattice type;  $\gamma_p$ ,  $\beta_p$  and  $\nu$  depend on lattice dimension

Source: Network science book

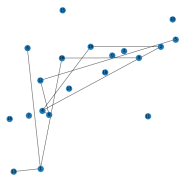
# Erdos-Renyi graphs as percolation process



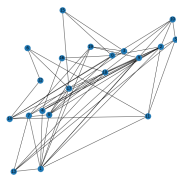
$p = 0$



$p = 0.01$



$p = 0.05$



$p = 0.3$

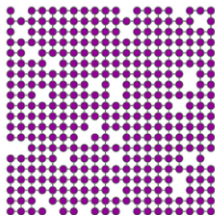
For  $p > p_c = \frac{1}{N}$  giant component emerges

# Inverse percolation process

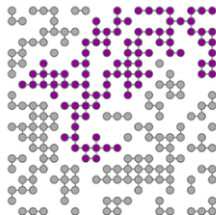
- Influence of node or edge failure on network integrity - robustness
- Inverse percolation process can be used to explain and understand this process
- How many nodes we need to remove to *destroy* giant component?

# Square lattice

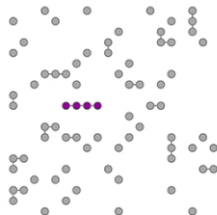
$$f = 1 - p$$



$$f = 0.1$$



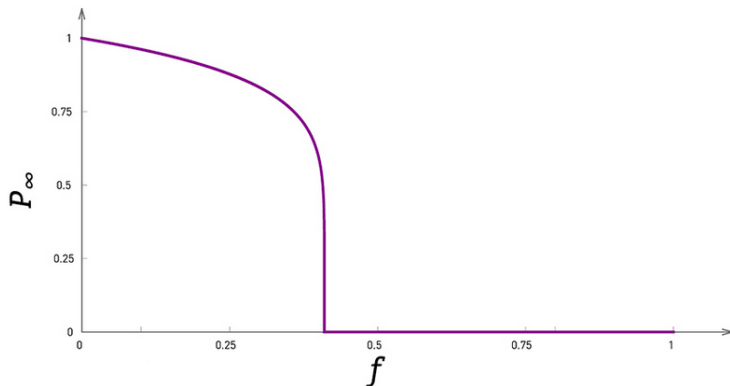
$$f = f_c = 1 - p_c$$



$$f = 0.8$$



# Square lattice - order parameter



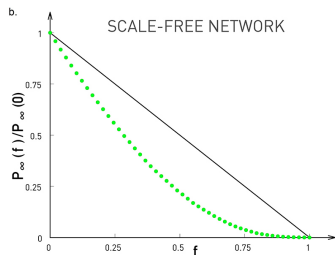
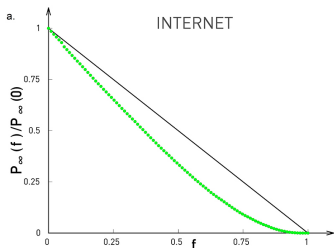
$f_c$  depends on the type of lattice, exponents depend on lattice dimension

# Error failure in ER graphs

- Error failure in ER graphs can be described by inverse percolation
- We remove  $f$  fraction of nodes in  $ER$  graph and observe how different properties change
- ER graphs have infinite dimension;  $\gamma_p = 1$ ,  $\beta_p = 1$  and  $\nu = \frac{1}{2}$

# Robustness of internet network

Real complex networks are robust to errors!



We need to remove almost all nodes ( $f \approx 1$ ) to destroy giant component

Source: Network science book

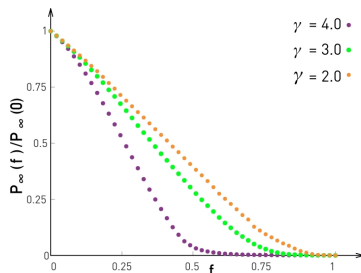
# Estimate of $f_c$

- For a giant component to exist most nodes that belong to it must be connected to at least two other nodes
- **Molloy-Reed Criterion**  $\kappa = \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle}{\langle k \rangle} > 2$ ;  $\langle k^2 \rangle = \sum_k P(k)k^2$
- It is valid for any  $P(k)$
- Critical threshold for networks:  $f_c = 1 - \frac{1}{\frac{\langle k^2 \rangle}{\langle k \rangle} - 1}$

# $f_c$ for ER graphs

- ER graphs:  $\langle k^2 \rangle = \langle k \rangle (\langle k \rangle + 1)$ ,  $f_c = 1 - \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle}$
- For ER graphs  $f_c$  is finite;  $f_c$  is directly related to network density

# $f_c$ for scale free networks



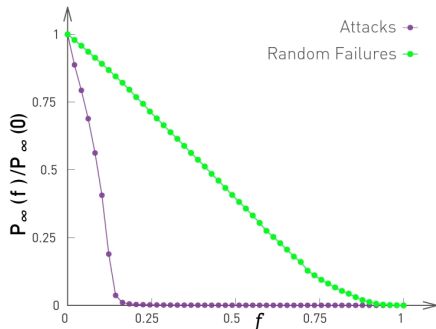
- For networks with  $2 < \gamma < 3$  ( $P(k) \sim k^{-\gamma}$ ):  

$$f_c = 1 - \frac{1}{\frac{\gamma-2}{3-\gamma} k_{min}^{\gamma-2} k_{max}^{3-\gamma} - 1};$$
for  $N \rightarrow \infty$   $k_{max} \rightarrow \infty$  and  $f_c = 1$
- For networks with  $\gamma > 3$  ( $P(k) \sim k^{-\gamma}$ ):  

$$f_c = 1 - \frac{1}{\frac{\gamma-2}{\gamma-3} k_{min} - 1}$$
and it is independent of the network size  $N$

## $f_c$ for finit networks

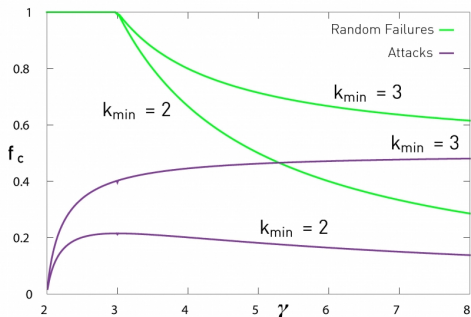
- Real network have a finit size!
- Internet network  $\kappa = 37.91$  and  $f_c = 0.0972$
- Real networks are robust!
- They have enhanced robustness  $f_c > f_c^{ER}$
- Similar is observed for link removal!



- We remove nodes according to their degree, starting from the node with the highest degree
- We need to remove less than 20% of nodes to decompose a network
- Real networks are less tolerant to attacks



# $f_c$ for attacks



$$f_c^{\frac{2-\gamma}{1-\gamma}} = 2 + \frac{2-\gamma}{3-\gamma} k_{\min} (f_c^{\frac{3-\gamma}{1-\gamma}} - 1)$$

Real networks are vulnerable to deliberate attacks

# $f_c$ for attacks

Network	Random Failures (Real Network)	Random Failures (Randomized Network)	Attack (Real Network)
Internet	0.92	0.84	0.16
WWW	0.88	0.85	0.12
Power Grid	0.61	0.63	0.20
Mobile Phone Calls	0.78	0.68	0.20
Email	0.92	0.69	0.04
Science Collaboration	0.92	0.88	0.27
Actor Network	0.98	0.99	0.55
Citation Network	0.96	0.95	0.76
E. Coli Metabolism	0.96	0.90	0.49
Protein Interactions	0.88	0.66	0.06

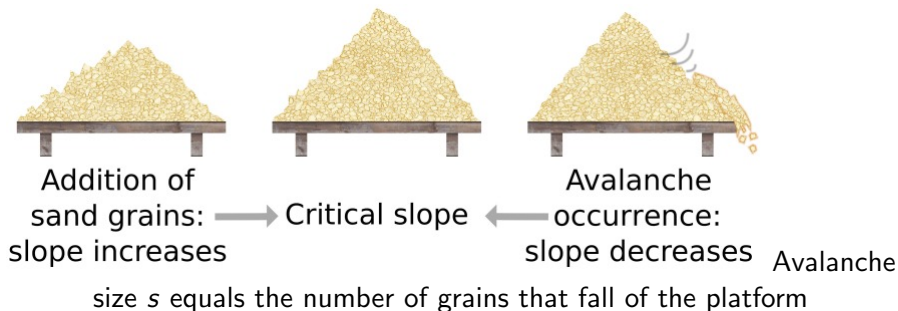
Source: Network science book

More details in *Network science* Chapter 8

# Cascading failures

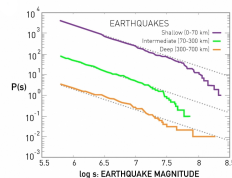
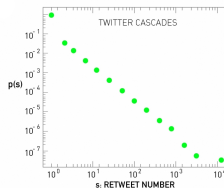
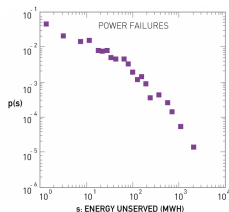
- Failures are not independent - blackouts (Power Grid network), financial crisis (financial networks)
- Attacks are not always independent - Denial of Service Attacks (Internet)
- Domino effect - failure of one node leads to increased pressure on connected nodes and their failure
- Connected failures - **cascading failures**

# Avalanches



Distribution of avalanche sizes  $P \sim s^{-\alpha}$  Source: Hesse et al., Frontiers in systems neuroscience 8, 166 (2014).

# Avalanche sizes in different systems



Many other systems exhibit cascading failure: species, collective emotions, supply chains, neural systems etc.

$$1 < \alpha \leq 2$$

Most of the avalanches are small but large ones are still probable

# Cascading failure

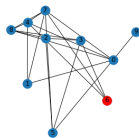
- Emergence of cascade:
  - Network properties
  - Propagation process
  - Breakdown criteries
- The distribution of sizes is universal
- Universality - the process does not depend on details
- Models that capture power-law size distribution

# Failure Propagation Model

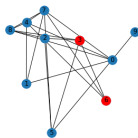
- Network of arbitrary structure
- Each agent can be in two states: active 0 and inactive 1
- Each agent has a breakdown threshold  $\phi_i = \phi$
- At  $t = 0$  all agents are active except one agent that is in state 1

# Failure Propagation Model

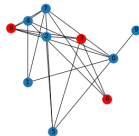
## Dynamics rules



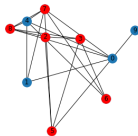
$t = 0$



$t = 5$



$t = 10$



$t = 15$

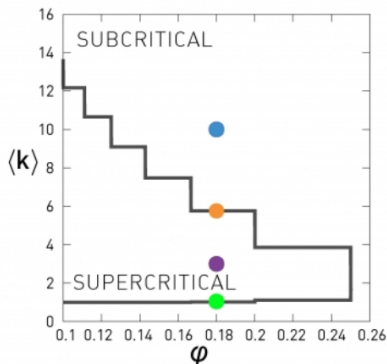
At each time step we select a random agent  $i$ :

- If agent  $i$  is in state 0 we calculate the fraction of its  $k_i$  neighbours that are in the state 1 -  $\xi_i$ ; if  $\xi > \phi_i$  agent  $i$  becomes inactive
- If agent  $i$  is in a state 1 then nothing happens

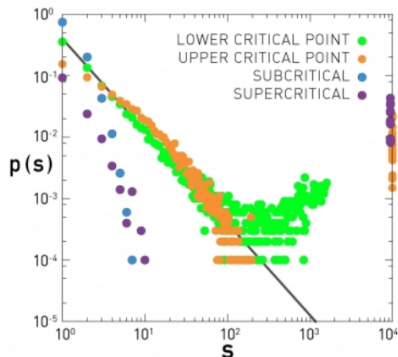


# Failure Propagation Model - results

c.

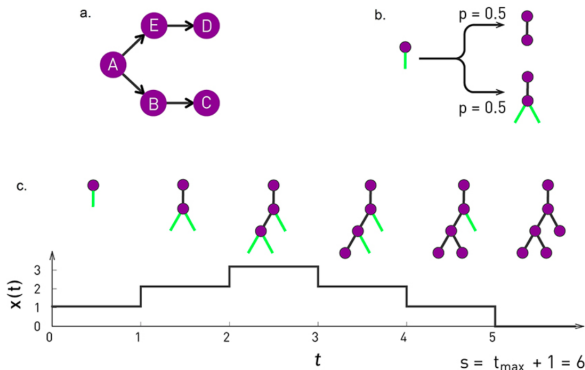


d.



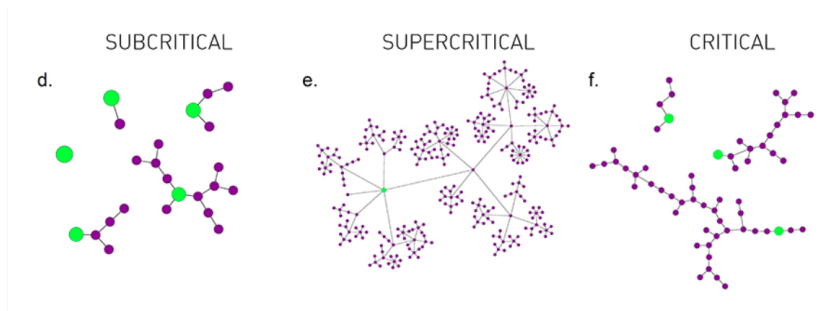
$\phi = 0.18$ :  $\langle k \rangle = 1.05$  (lower critical point),  $\langle k \rangle = 3.0$  (supercritical),  $\langle k \rangle = 5.76$  (upper critical point),  $\langle k \rangle = 10.0$  (supercritical);  $\alpha = 32$

# Branching model



We begin with one node; in each step a new generation of nodes create a next generation of nodes taken from  $P(k)$  distribution; the process stops when  $k = 0$

# Branching model



Source: Network science book