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# (Complex) Networks Analysis

## Introduction to graph theory and Centrality Analysis (Part I): Tutorial

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# Section 1

## Introduction to network analysis and graph theory



## Exercise

Let be a *simple* i.e. no loops or multi-edges, and *undirected* graph  $G = (V, E)$ .

Establish the maximum number of edges (graph size) as a function of the number of nodes (graph order)

## Exercise

Let be a *simple* i.e. no loops or multi-edges, and *undirected* graph  $G = (V, E)$ .

Establish the maximum number of edges (graph size) as a function of the number of nodes (graph order)

*Answer:*

Before building the answer let's get some insight from the base cases:

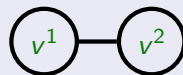
- If  $|V| = 1$ , then  $|E| = 0$  because  $E = \emptyset$ 
  - Remember: Loops are not valid in simple graphs.



## Exercise

*Answer (Cont.):*

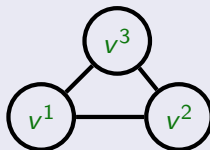
- If  $|V| = 2$ , then  $|E| = 1$  because  $E = \{(v^1, v^2)\}$ .
- Remember: In undirected graphs  $(v^1, v^2) = (v^2, v^1)$ .



## Exercise

*Answer (Cont.):*

- If  $|V| = 3$ , then  $|E| = 3$  because  $E = \{(v^1, v^2), (v^1, v^3), (v^2, v^3)\}$

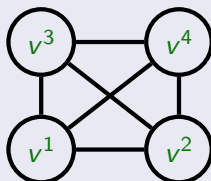




## Exercise

*Answer (Cont.):*

- If  $|V| = 4$ , then  $|E| = 6$  because  
 $E = \{(v^1, v^2), (v^1, v^3), (v^1, v^4), (v^2, v^3), (v^2, v^4), (v^3, v^4)\}$



# Network analysis

## Exercise

*Answer (Cont.):*

Bringing these base cases together; their (lower triangular part of the) adjacency matrices look like:

	$v^1$
$v^1$	

	$v^1$	$v^2$
$v^1$		
$v^2$	✓	

	$v^1$	$v^2$	$v^3$
$v^1$			
$v^2$	✓		
$v^3$	✓	✓	

	$v^1$	$v^2$	$v^3$	$v^4$
$v^1$				
$v^2$	✓			
$v^3$	✓	✓		
$v^4$	✓	✓	✓	

## Watch out!

Strictly, the adjacency matrix also includes the symmetric upper part. I'm intentionally hiding that here for the sake of clarity.



## Exercise

*Answer (Cont.):*

Bringing these base cases together:

$ V $	$ E $
1	0
2	1
3	3
4	6

A couple of additional observations; If loops were permitted i.e.  $(v^i, v^j) \in E$  then:

- The number of potential loops are  $|V|$
- Further, if in addition the graph was directed i.e.  $(v^i, v^j) \neq (v^j, v^i)$ , then the largest size would simply be  $|E| = |V|^2$ .



# Network analysis

## Exercise

*Answer (Cont.):*

We are now finally ready to solve the original question;

Starting from a potentially maximum number of edges (for a directed graph) of  $|E| = |V|^2$  and removing the loops

$$|E| = |V|^2 - |V| = |V||V| - |V| = |V| \cdot (|V| - 1)$$

... and considering that in undirected graphs  $(v^i, v^j) = (v^j, v^i)$ , then directed graphs have potentially double number of edges; or in other words, undirected graphs have half the size. Hence;

$$|E| = \frac{|V| \cdot (|V| - 1)}{2}$$

## Exercise

*Answer (Cont.):*

And we can verify:

$ V $	$ E $	$\frac{ V  \cdot ( V  - 1)}{2}$
1	0	0
2	1	1
3	3	3
4	6	6



## Section 2

# Centrality Analysis

## Exercise

Show that in any group of two or more people, there are always at least two people who have exactly the same number of friends assuming that friendship is reciprocal.

# Centrality Analysis

## Exercise

Show that in any group of two or more people, there are always at least two people who have exactly the same number of friends assuming that friendship is reciprocal.

*Answer:*

Let our friendship graph  $G = (V, E)$  has nodes  $V$  as people and edges  $E$  as friendships.

- Since friendship is reciprocal the graph is *undirected* and *simple*.
- Also, in principle there is nothing in the statement that hints that the quality or strength of the friendship has to be considered, hence we can choose to consider the graph *unweighted*





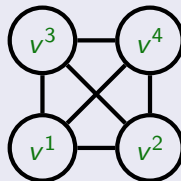
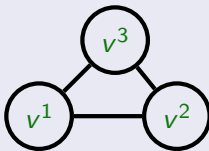
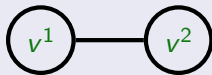
# Centrality Analysis

## Exercise

*Answer (Cont.):*

Let's start by constructing some intuition:

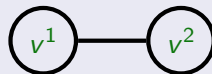
If the graph is complete; then all nodes have exactly  $|V| - 1$  acquaintances, and thus, complying with the statement that there are at least two people (nodes) who have exactly the same number of friends (edges).



## Exercise

*Answer (Cont.):*

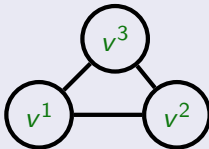
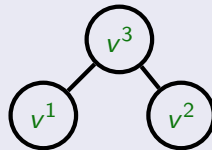
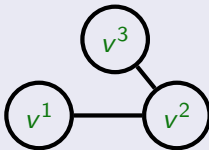
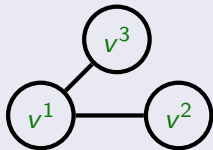
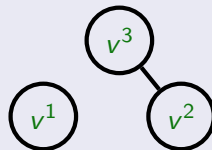
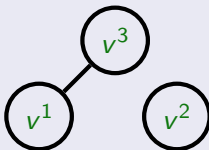
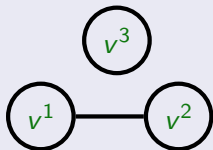
If the graph order is  $|V| = 2$  the all possible cases are;



# Centrality Analysis

## Exercise

Answer (Cont.): If the graph order is  $|V| = 3$  the all possible cases are;



# Centrality Analysis

## Exercise

*Answer (Cont.):*

Important observation: In all of the above, if any vertex has degree 0, then no other vertex has degree  $|V| - 1$ .

- If  $|V| = 2$ , and either  $\text{degree}(v^1) = 0$  or  $\text{degree}(v^2) = 0$ , then so does the other node have degree 0.
- If  $|V| = 3$ , and either  $\text{degree}(v^i) = 0$ , then both other nodes  $v^j \neq v^i$  have  $\text{degree}(v^j) = 1$

This makes sense; for a node to have degree  $|V| - 1$ , it means that it is connected to *all* other nodes, i.e. no node can have degree 0, and the opposite is also true, if a node has degree 0, it means that it is connected to *none* of the other nodes, i.e. no node can have degree  $|V| - 1$ ,



## Exercise

*Answer (Cont.):* Now that we have the intuition, we are ready to prove the statement;

Let's *assume* that there are no pair of nodes  $v^i$  and  $v^j$  having the same degree; that is, since there are  $|V|$  nodes; there ought to be:

- one node with degree 0,
- one node with degree 1,
- ...
- one node with degree  $|V| - 1$ ,

However, if any vertex has degree 0, we know no other vertex can have degree  $|V| - 1$  which is a contradiction with our assumption.



## Section 3

### Learning to test

# Random networks

A **random graph** is a graph in which the distribution of its edges may be described simply by a probability distribution, or by a random process.

A lot of measures in network analysis are based on estimating the deviations from a **random graph**. Hence, being able to generate a (pseudo-)random graph is critical for testing hypothesis.

Several algorithms exist to generate (pseudo-)random graphs, with **Watts–Strogatz model** [1] perhaps being the most well known.



# Random networks

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**Algorithm 1:** Watts-Strogatz model of (pseudo-)random graphs

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**Data:**  $N$ : Graph order

**Data:**  $K$ : Mean degree (even integer)

**Data:**  $p$ : Rewiring probability

**Result:**  $G$ : A random graph characterized by its adjacency matrix  $A$

```
1 /* Initialization: Construct a regular ring lattice */
2 /* - a graph with N nodes each connected to K neighbors
   (K/2 on each side). */
3 /* Adjacency matrix: Start with no connections */
4  $A \leftarrow \text{zeros}(N, N)$ ;
5 for  $a_{ij} \in A$  with  $j < i$  /* Add lattice connections */
6 do
7   if  $\text{mod}(|i - j|, N - 1 - \frac{K}{2}) > 0$  and  $\text{mod}(|i - j|, N - 1 - \frac{K}{2}) \leq \frac{K}{2}$ 
8     then
9        $a_{ij} \leftarrow 1$ ;
10       $a_{ji} \leftarrow 1$ ;
11    end if
12  end for
13 /* Rewire: Revisit each connected edge and rewire with
   probability p */
14 /* - Rewiring is done by replacing link (i,j) with link
   (i,k) where k is chosen uniformly at random from all
   possible nodes while avoiding self-loops ( $k \neq i$ ) and
   link duplication */
15 for  $a_{ij} \in A$  with  $j < i$  do
16   if  $a_{ij} = 1$  and  $\text{rand}() < p$  then
17      $k \leftarrow \lceil N * \text{rand}() \rceil$ ;
18     while  $k = i$  or  $a_{ik} = 1$  do
19        $k \leftarrow \lceil N * \text{rand}() \rceil$ ;
20     end while
21      $a_{ij} \leftarrow 0$ ;
22      $a_{ji} \leftarrow 0$ ;
23      $a_{ik} \leftarrow 1$ ;
24      $a_{ki} \leftarrow 1$ ;
25   end if
26 end for
```





## Exercise

Implement Watts–Strogatz model in some programming language.

Tip: In this exercise do not aim for efficiency or code elegance; instead focus on closely following the pseudo-code provided.

**NOTE: Solution is provided in MATLAB.**



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Implement Watts–Strogatz model in some programming language.

Tip: In this exercise do not aim for efficiency or code elegance; instead focus on closely following the pseudo-code provided.

**NOTE: Solution is provided in MATLAB.**

*Answer:*

Please open code:


IDA2023\_0004\_CNA\_RandomGraphs\_WattsAndStrogatz.m

MATLAB's internal algoirhtm is reported here:

<https://uk.mathworks.com/help/matlab/math/build-watts-strogatz-small-world-graph-model.html>



# References I

-  Duncan J Watts and Steven H Strogatz.  
Collective dynamics of 'small-world' networks.  
*nature*, 393(6684):440–442, 1998.

**Thank you! Questions?**