Fitting the WHOIS Internet data

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This short technical manuscript contains supporting information for Ref. [1]. We consider the RIPE WHOIS internet data as characterized by the Cooperative Association for Internet Data Analysis (CAIDA) [2], and show that the Tempered Preferential Attachment (TPA) model [1] provides an excellent fit to this data. First we define the complementary cumulative probability distribution (ccdf), and then derive the ccdf for a TPA graph. Next we discuss the ccdf for the WHOIS data. Finally we discuss the fit provided by the TPA model and by a power law with exponential decay (PLED).

I. DEFINING THE CCDF

The complementary cumulative probability distribution, ccdf(x):

$$\operatorname{ccdf}(x) = 1 - \sum_{j=1}^{x-1} p_j = \sum_{j=x}^{\infty} p_j.$$
 (1)

II. THE CCDF PREDICTED BY TPA WITH $A_1 \neq A_2$

A. First recall the recursion relations

The recursion relations defining the degree distribution for TPA graphs were derived explicitly in Refs. [3] and [4]. Here we derive the corresponding ccdf. These are Eqn's (16) and (17) in [3]:

$$p_{i} = \left(\prod_{k=2}^{i} \frac{k-1}{k+w}\right) p_{1} = \left(\prod_{k=1}^{i-1} \frac{k}{k+w+1}\right) p_{1}, \quad \text{for } i \leq A_{2},$$
 (2)

and

$$p_i = \left(\frac{A_2}{A_2 + w}\right)^{i - A_2} p_{A_2} = q^{i - A_2} p_{A_2}, \quad \text{for } i \ge A_2.$$
 (3)

Note

$$p_{A_2} = \left(\prod_{k=1}^{A_2 - 1} \frac{k}{k + w + 1}\right) p_1,\tag{4}$$

and, for convenience, we defined:

$$q \equiv \left(\frac{A_2}{A_2 + w}\right). \tag{5}$$

We will first calculate the CCDF for $i \geq A_2$ as we will use that result to determine the CCDF for $i < A_2$.

B. Calculating the CCDF, for $x \geq A_2$

Recall the definition of the CCDF from Eqn. (1):

Since q < 1, the sum in Eqn. (6) is a geometric series; $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} q^j = 1/(1-q)$. Thus we can write:

$$\operatorname{ccdf}(x) = \left(\frac{p_{A_2}}{1-q}\right) q^{x-A_2}, \text{ for } x \ge A_2.$$
 (7)

C. Calculating the CCDF, for $x < A_2$

This is slightly more complicated, as we have different functional forms for $x < A_2$ and $x > A_2$.

$$ccdf(x) = \sum_{j=x}^{\infty} p_{j}
= \sum_{j=x}^{A_{2}-1} p_{j} + \sum_{j=A_{2}}^{\infty} p_{j}
= \sum_{j=x}^{A_{2}-1} p_{j} + ccdf(A_{2})
= \sum_{j=x}^{A_{2}-1} p_{j} + \left(\frac{p_{A_{2}}}{1-q}\right).$$
(8)

Plugging in the relation for p_i from Eqn. (3), we obtain:

$$\operatorname{ccdf}(x) = p_{A_2} \left(\frac{1}{1 - q} + \sum_{j=x}^{A_2 - 1} \prod_{k=j}^{A_2 - 1} \frac{k + w + 1}{k} \right), \text{ for } x < A_2.$$
(9)

D. Standard Normalization

First we can check that Eqns. (7) and (9) give the same value for $ccdf(A_2)$. They do:

$$\operatorname{ccdf}(A_2) = \frac{p_{A_2}}{1 - q}. (10)$$

And we can determine the value of p_{A_2} by the normalization condition that

$$\operatorname{ccdf}(1) = 1 = p_{A_2} \left(\frac{1}{1-q} + \sum_{j=1}^{A_2-1} \prod_{k=j}^{A_2-1} \frac{k+w+1}{k} \right). \tag{11}$$

In other words,

$$p_{A_2} = \left(\frac{1}{1-q} + \sum_{j=1}^{A_2-1} \prod_{k=j}^{A_2-1} \frac{k+w+1}{k}\right)^{-1}.$$
 (12)

E. Normalizing without degree d = 1 nodes

We may want to neglect nodes with degree d < 2 for various reasons. In that case, the normalization would be:

$$\operatorname{ccdf}(2) = 1 = p_{A_2} \left(\frac{1}{1 - q} + \sum_{j=2}^{A_2 - 1} \prod_{k=j}^{A_2 - 1} \frac{k + w + 1}{k} \right). \tag{13}$$

Thus

$$p_{A_2} = \left(\frac{1}{1-q} + \sum_{j=2}^{A_2-1} \prod_{k=j}^{A_2-1} \frac{k+w+1}{k}\right)^{-1}$$
 (14)

with Eqns. (7) and (9) unchanged (except Eqn. (9) now holds for $2 \le x < A_2$, rather than for $1 \le x < A_2$).

III. THE WHOIS CCDF, FOR d > 1

A. Whois data, renormalize to remove d < 2

By definition:

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} p_j = 1.$$

Thus:

$$\sum_{j=2}^{\infty} p_j = 1 - p_1.$$

We want to renormalize $(p'_j = \eta p_j)$ such that:

$$\sum_{j=2}^{\infty} p'_{j} = \eta \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} p_{j} = 1,$$

Thus $\eta = 1/(1-p_1)$. For the Whois data, $p_1 = 0.0573$. and $\eta = 1.0608$.

The **complementary cumulative distribution function** (ccdf) for the renormalized probabilities:

$$\operatorname{ccd} f'(x) = \sum_{j=x}^{\infty} p_j' = \eta \sum_{j=x}^{\infty} p_j = \eta \, \operatorname{ccd} f(x).$$

Whois original CCDF, and p1's removed

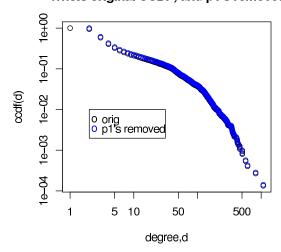


FIG. 1: Original CCDF of Whois data, and the renormalized CCDF'(x) = η CCDF(x).

IV. FITTING TPA TO WHOIS WITH $d \ge 2$

Whois $d \geq 2$ distribution discussed above. TPA with $d \geq 2$ is the same as with $d \geq 1$ except the value of p_{A_2} is defined as in Eqn. (14), in terms of d = 2 instead of d = 1.

Whois, d>1, and CIPA with A1=187, A2=90

FIG. 2: Whois CCDF for $d \ge 2$. Data points are from the Whois tables. The solid line is the fit to TPA for $d \ge 2$ with $A_1 = 187$ and $A_2 = 90$ (and thus $\gamma = 1.83$). With this fit, R = 0.986, thus $R^2 = 0.972$.

V. FITTING PLED TO WHOIS WITH $d \ge 2$

Assuming a PLED: $p(x) = Ax^{-b} \exp(-x/c)$. The normalization constant, A, is determined by the relation:

$$\sum_{x=2}^{\infty} p(x) = 1 = A \sum_{x=2}^{\infty} x^{-b} \exp(-x/c).$$

Then the ccdf:

$$\operatorname{ccdf}(x) = A \sum_{j=x}^{\infty} x^{-b} \exp(-x/c).$$

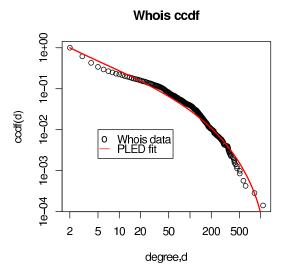


FIG. 3: Whois CCDF for $d \ge 2$. Data points are from the Whois tables. The solid line is the fit $\operatorname{ccdf}(x) = A \sum_{j=x}^{\infty} x^{-b} \exp(-x/c)$, where b = 1.63 and c = 350. With this fit, R = 0.985, thus $R^2 = 0.970$.

[1] R. M. D'Souza, C. Borgs, J. T. Chayes, N. Berger and R. D. Kleinberg. Emergence of Tempered Preferential Attachment From Optimization, to appear *Proc. Natn. Acad. Sci. USA*, 2007. This article will be "open access", and hence freely available for download from the publisher when it appears.

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