

# *In search of .... The Giant Component*

## Objectives:

- Practice using the Graph/Digraph graph classes.
- Practice using the connected-component classes and the author's design pattern
- Practice developing code to perform a computational experiment
- Practice analyzing data

In this assignment, you will investigate the emergence of the so-called Giant Component in random graphs. The term Giant Component is somewhat loosely defined – the basic notion is: the component that contains a significant portion of the vertices (or the one that is significantly larger than all the other components).

You will use the Erdos-Renyi ( $N, p$ ) random graph model. In this model, we choose a graph/digraph size  $N$ , and a value  $p$  in  $[0, 1]$ . Here,  $p$  represents the probability of the existence of an edge between every pair of vertices  $v, w$  in the graph/digraph. Functions are provided to generate the ER graphs/digraphs for you.

You are to write a program(s) to experimentally **investigate the relationship between the value  $p$  and the size of:**

- **the largest component in an ER undirected graph**
- **largest strongly connected component in an ER digraph.**

## Undirected graphs: suggested procedure

1. The `algs41/CC.java` program computes the connected components of a graph. Modify this class to include a function which returns the largest component size.
2. Copy/paste the `erRandom` function into your source file (or copy/paste into the `algs41/GraphGenerator` class).
3. Modify the main program to create a series of `erRandom` Graphs of size  $N=100$ , with varying values for  $p$ ; computing the largest component size for each one.
4. Repeat step 3 'M' times to attempt to get 'average' component sizes for each value of  $p$  that are relatively stable.
5. Analyze the data. (maybe plot  $p$  vs component size) ( maybe change  $N$  to 200, see if you see a pattern?)

## Directed graphs: suggested procedure

1. The `algs42/KosarajuSharirSCC.java` program computes the strongly connected components of a graph. Modify this class to include a function which returns the largest component size.
2. Copy/paste the `erRandom` function (Digraph version) into your source file (or copy/paste into the `algs42/DigraphGenerator` class).
3. Modify the main program to create a series of `erRandom` Digraphs of size  $N=100$ , with varying values for  $p$ ; computing the largest component size for each one.
4. Repeat step 3 'M' times to attempt to get 'average' component sizes for each value of  $p$  that are relatively stable.
5. Analyze the data. (maybe plot  $p$  vs component size) ( maybe change  $N$  to 200, see if you see a pattern?)

Hint: The only interesting values of  $p$  will turn out to be relatively small. You might investigate this by trial and error. See if you can find an interval ( $p_1, p_2$ ) where interesting things happen.

Create a document which contains an overview of your experiment, observation & results.

Include plots if you made any

Be sure you are addressing the experimental question (in red, first page).

1-2 pages should be plenty (including any plots).

Turn in:

1 Document

2 Source files.

Please make sure the code you added is clearly delineated. E.g. add a bunch of blank lines and/or comment blocks

```
/* this is my code */
```

```
/* my code ends here */
```

```
// Erdos-Renyi (N,p) random graph
public static Graph erRandom(int V, double p) {
    if (V < 0 || p < 0) throw new IllegalArgumentException ();
    Graph G = new Graph (V);
    for ( int v = 0; v < V; v++)
        for (int w = v+1; w < V; w++)
            if ( StdRandom.uniform() <= p)
                G.addEdge(v, w);
    return G;
}
```

```
// Erdos-Renyi (N,p) random digraph
public static Digraph erRandom(int V, double p) {
    if (V < 0 || p < 0) throw new IllegalArgumentException ();
    Digraph D = new Digraph (V);
    for ( int v = 0; v < V; v++)
        for (int w = 0; w < V; w++)
            if ( v != w )
                if ( StdRandom.uniform() <= p)
                    D.addEdge(v, w);
    return D;
}
```