

# *preferential* attachment

introduction to *network analysis* (*ina*)

Lovro Šubelj  
University of Ljubljana  
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# preferential *attachment*

- *generative models* reason about *network evolution*
- *cumulative advantage* process of *Price model* [Pri76]
- *preferential attachment* of *Barabási-Albert model* [BA99]

Pólya process    Yule process    Zipf's law    Matthew effect  
*rich-get-richer*    proportional growth    cumulative advantage

see preferential attachment model [NetLogo](#) demo



Derek de Solla Price



Albert-László Barabási



Réka Albert

# preferential $G(n, c, a)$ model

- $G(n, c, a)$  *cumulative advantage* model [Pri76]
- each new node  $i$  forms  $k_i^{out} = c > 0$  *directed links*
- node  $j$  *receives link with probability*  $\sim k_j^{in} + a = q_j + a > 0$

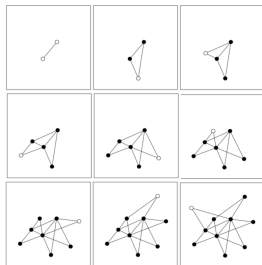
$n, c, a$  given

$p_q$  *unknown*

input parameters  $n, c, a$

output *directed* graph  $G$

- 1:  $G \leftarrow \geq c$  isolated nodes
- 2: while not  $G$  has  $n$  nodes do
- 3:   add node  $i$  to  $G$
- 4:   for  $c$  times do
- 5:     add link  $(i, j)$  with  $\sim q_j + a$
- 6: return  $G$



## preferential $G(n, c, a)$ equation

— *master equation* for *in-degree distribution*  $p_q(n)$

–  $p_q(n)$  is in-degree distribution  $p_q$  at time  $n$

$$\frac{q_i+a}{\sum_i q_i+a} = \frac{q_i+a}{n(c+a)} \quad cnp_q(n) \frac{q+a}{n(c+a)} = \frac{c(q+a)}{c+a} p_q(n)$$

$$(n+1)p_q(n+1) = np_q(n) + \frac{c(q-1+a)}{c+a} p_{q-1}(n) - \frac{c(q+a)}{c+a} p_q(n)$$
$$(n+1)p_0(n+1) = np_0(n) + 1 - \frac{ca}{c+a} p_0(n)$$

— *power-law in-degree distribution*  $p_q \sim q^{-\gamma}$  with  $\gamma > 2$

–  $p_q$  is in-degree distribution *in limit*  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty t^{x-1} e^{-t} dt \quad B(x, y) = \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)} \simeq x^{-y} \Gamma(y)$$

$$p_q = \frac{q+a-1}{q+a+1+a/c} p_{q-1} = \dots = \frac{B(q+a, 2+a/c)}{B(a, 1+a/c)} \sim q^{-2-a/c}$$

$$p_0 = \frac{1+a/c}{a+1+a/c}$$

# preferential $G(n, c)$ model

- $G(n, c)$  *preferential attachment* model [BA99]
- each new node  $i$  forms  $c > 0$  *undirected links*
- node  $j$  receives links with probability  $\sim k_j$

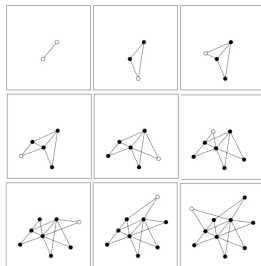
$n, c$  given

$p_k$  unknown

input parameters  $n, c$

output *undirected* graph  $G$

- 1:  $G \leftarrow c$  connected nodes
- 2: while not  $G$  has  $n$  nodes do
- 3:   add node  $i$  to  $G$
- 4:   for  $c$  times do
- 5:     add link  $\{i, j\}$  with  $\sim k_j$
- 6: return  $G$



## preferential $G(n, c)$ equation

- *undirected*  $G(n, c)$  is *directed*  $G(n, c, c)$  for  $k_i = q_i + c$
- *same master equation* for *in-degree distribution*  $p_q$

- $p_q$  is in-degree distribution *in limit*  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$p_q = \frac{B(q+c, 2+c/c)}{B(c, 1+c/c)} = \frac{B(q+c, 3)}{B(c, 2)} \sim q^{-3}$$

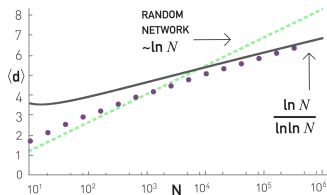
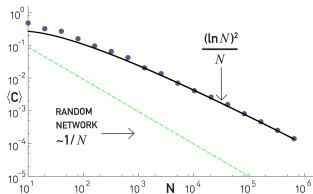
- *power-law degree distribution*  $p_k \sim k^{-3}$

- $p_k$  is degree distribution *in limit*  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$p_k = \frac{B(k, 3)}{B(c, 2)} = \cdots = \frac{2c(c+1)}{k(k+1)(k+2)} \sim k^{-3}$$

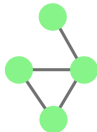
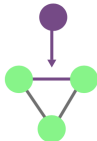
# preferential $\neg$ small-world

- *random graphs* are “small-world” as  $\langle d \rangle \simeq \frac{\ln n}{\ln \langle k \rangle}$
- *random graphs* are *not small-world* as  $\langle C \rangle = \frac{\langle k \rangle}{n-1}$
- *scale-free networks*  $\gamma = 3$  are “small-world” as  $\langle d \rangle \sim \frac{\ln n}{\ln \ln n}$
- *$G(n, c)$  scale-free model* is *not small-world* as  $\langle C \rangle \simeq \frac{(\ln n)^2}{n}$

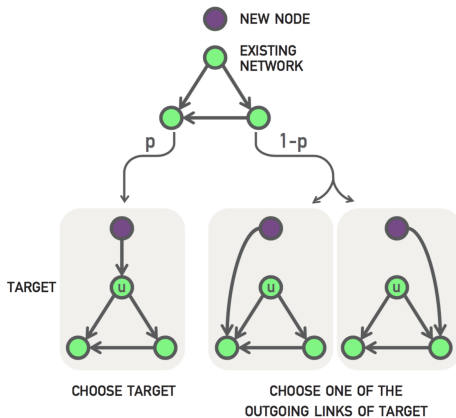


# preferential *models*

NEW NODE



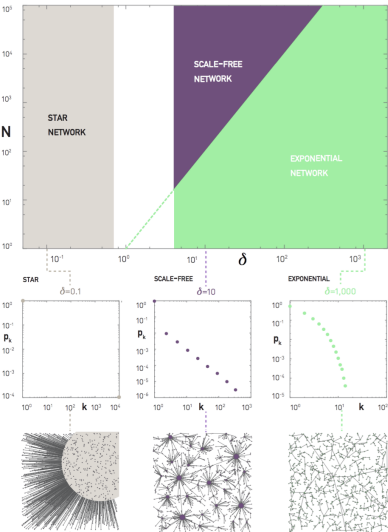
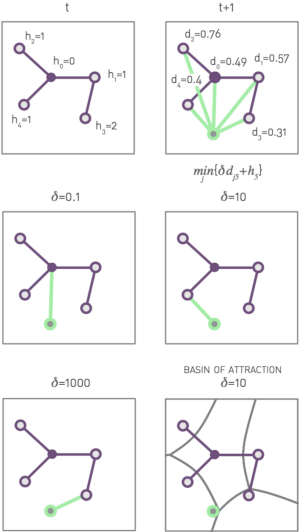
*link selection* [DM02]



random *link copying* model [KKR<sup>+</sup>99]



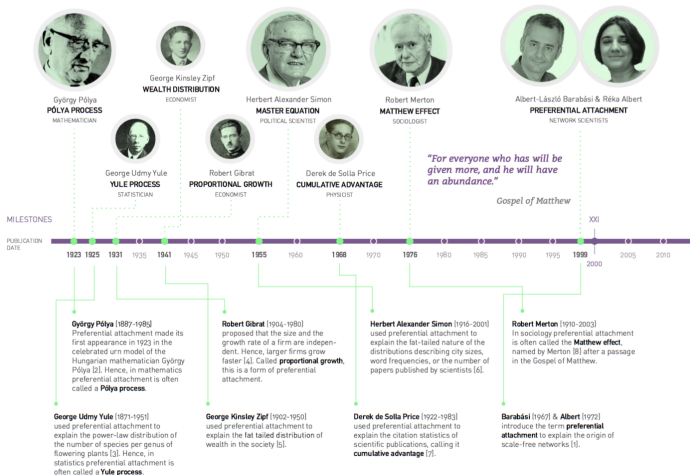
# preferential *optimization*



# preferential history

## PREFERENTIAL ATTACHMENT: A BRIEF HISTORY

Preferential attachment has emerged independently in many disciplines, helping explain the presence of power laws characterising various systems. In the context of networks preferential attachment was introduced in 1999 to explain the scale-free property.



# preferential *references*



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# preferential *references*



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