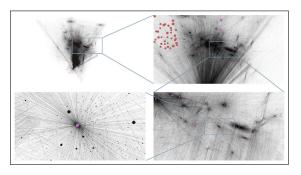
#### scale-free networks

introduction to network analysis (ina)

Lovro Šubelj University of Ljubljana spring 2023/24

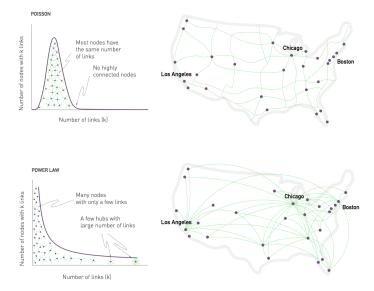
# scale-free *property*

- random graphs = Poisson degree distribution  $p_k$  [ER59]
- real networks contain highly linked hubs [Pri65, FFF99]
- scale-free networks  $\sim$  power-law degree distribution  $p_k$  [BA99]



see zooming into World Wide Web demo

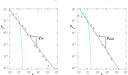
## scale-free structure



# scale-free power-law

— power-law degree distribution  $p_k$  with exponent  $\gamma > 1$ 

$$p_k \sim k^{-\gamma}$$
 $\log p_k \sim -\gamma \log k$ 



— theoretically correct discrete power-law  $p_k$  for  $k \geq 1$ 

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_k = C \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^{-\gamma} = C\zeta(\gamma) = 1$$
$$p_k = Ck^{-\gamma} = \frac{k^{-\gamma}}{\zeta(\gamma)}$$

— analytically convenient continuos power-law p(k) for  $k \geq k_{min}$ 

$$\int_{k_{min}}^{\infty} p(k) \, \mathrm{d}k = C \int_{k_{min}}^{\infty} k^{-\gamma} \, \mathrm{d}k = C \left. \frac{k^{-\gamma+1}}{-\gamma+1} \right|_{k_{min}}^{\infty} = C \frac{k^{-\gamma+1}}{\gamma-1} = 1$$

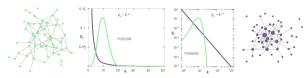
$$p(k) = Ck^{-\gamma} = (\gamma - 1)k_{min}^{\gamma-1} k^{-\gamma}$$

#### scale-free hubs

- for small  $k \ll \langle k \rangle$  power-law above Poisson

  many small degree nodes in scale-free network
- for average  $k \approx \langle k \rangle$  power-law below Poisson most nodes similar degree in random graph
- for large  $k \gg \langle k \rangle$  power-law above Poisson

existence of hubs in scale-free network



- random graph with  $n \approx 10^{12}$  and  $\langle k \rangle = 4.6$  then  $n_{k>100} \approx 10^{-82}$
- scale-free network with  $n \approx 10^{12}$  and  $\gamma = 2.1$  then  $n_{k>100} \approx 4 \cdot 10^9$

## scale-free cutoff

- maximum degree  $k_{max}$  by upper natural cutoff of p(k)
- for random graph with exponential  $p(k) = \lambda e^{\lambda k_{min}} e^{-\lambda k}$

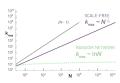
$$\int_{k_{max}}^{\infty} p(k) \, \mathrm{d}k = \lambda \mathrm{e}^{\lambda k_{min}} \, \frac{\mathrm{e}^{-\lambda k}}{-\lambda} \Big|_{k_{max}}^{\infty} = \mathrm{e}^{\lambda k_{min}} \mathrm{e}^{-\lambda k_{max}} = n^{-1}$$
 
$$k_{max} = k_{min} + \frac{\ln n}{\lambda}$$

— for scale-free network with power-law  $p(k) = (\gamma - 1)k_{min}^{\gamma - 1}k^{-\gamma}$ 

$$\textstyle \int_{k_{\max}}^{\infty} p(k) \, \mathrm{d}k = (\gamma-1) k_{\min}^{\gamma-1} \left. \frac{k^{-\gamma+1}}{-\gamma+1} \right|_{k_{\max}}^{\infty} = k_{\min}^{\gamma-1} k_{\max}^{-\gamma+1} = n^{-1}$$

$$k_{max} = k_{min} n^{\frac{1}{\gamma - 1}}$$

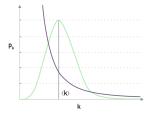




- random graph with  $n \approx 3 \cdot 10^5$  and  $\lambda = 1$  then  $k_{max} \approx 14$
- scale-free network with  $n \approx 3 \cdot 10^5$  and  $\gamma = 2.1$  then  $k_{max} \approx 10^5$

#### scale-free moments

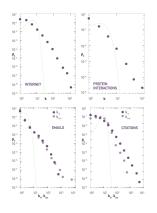
- x-th moment  $\langle k^{\times} \rangle$  of power-law  $p_k \sim k^{-\gamma}$ —  $\langle k^2 \rangle = \sigma_k^2 + \langle k \rangle^2$  determines spread and  $\langle k^3 \rangle$  determines skewness  $\langle k^{\times} \rangle = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^{\times} p_k \approx \int_{k_{min}}^{k_{max}} k^{\times} p(k) \, \mathrm{d}k \sim \frac{k_{max}^{\times - \gamma + 1} - k_{min}^{\times - \gamma + 1}}{x - \gamma + 1}$
- moments  $\mathbf{x} \leq \gamma 1$  finite whereas moments  $\mathbf{x} > \gamma 1$  diverge

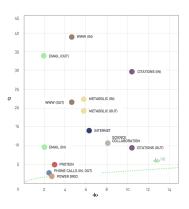


- scale-free networks  $\gamma < 3$  lack scale as  $k = \langle k \rangle \pm \infty$
- random graphs have scale as  $k = \langle k \rangle \pm \sqrt{\langle k \rangle}$

#### scale-free networks

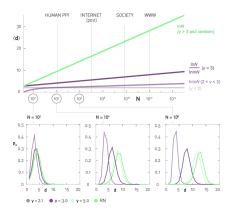
- heavy-tail  $p_k$  of real networks [Bar16]
- spread  $\sigma_k = \sqrt{\langle k^2 \rangle \langle k \rangle^2}$  in real networks



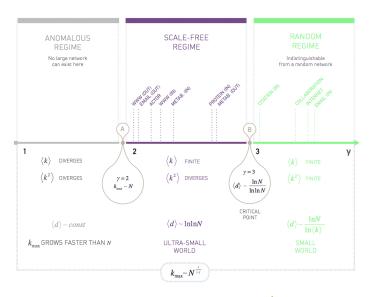


## scale-free "small-world"

- random graphs are "small-world" as  $\langle d \rangle \simeq \frac{\ln n}{\ln \langle k \rangle}$
- scale-free networks  $\gamma >$  3 are "small-world" as  $\langle d \rangle \sim \ln n$
- scale-free networks  $\gamma < 3$  "ultrasmall-world" as  $\langle d \rangle \sim \ln \ln n$



## scale-free *exponent*

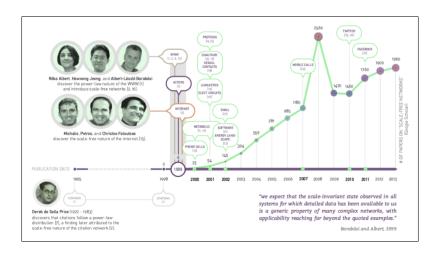


no graphical  $\{k\}$  for  $\gamma < 2$   $n = (k_{max}/k_{min})^{\gamma-1}$  nonexistent for  $\gamma \gg 3$ 

# scale-free distributions

NAME	$p_x/p(x)$	$\langle x \rangle$	$\langle x^2 \rangle$
Poisson (discrete)	$e^{-\mu}\mu^x/x!$	$\mu$	$\mu(1+\mu)$
Exponential (discrete)	$(1-e^{-\lambda})e^{-\lambda x}$	$1/(e^{\lambda}-1)$	$(e^{\lambda}+1)/(e^{\lambda}-1)^2$
Exponential (continuous)	$\lambda e^{-\lambda x}$	$1/\lambda$	$2/\lambda^2$
Power law (discrete)	$x^{-lpha}/\zeta(lpha)$	$\begin{cases} \zeta(\alpha-2)\big/\zeta(\alpha), & \text{if } \alpha>2\\ \infty, & \text{if } \alpha\leq1 \end{cases}$	$\begin{cases} \zeta(\alpha-1)/\zeta(\alpha), & \text{if } \alpha > 1\\ \infty, & \text{if } \alpha \le 2 \end{cases}$
Power law (continuous)	$lpha x^{-lpha}$	$\begin{cases} \alpha/(\alpha-1), & \text{if } \alpha > 2\\ \infty, & \text{if } \alpha \le 1 \end{cases}$	$\begin{cases} \alpha/(\alpha-2), & \text{if } \alpha > 1\\ \infty, & \text{if } \alpha \le 2 \end{cases}$
Power law with cutoff (continuous)	$rac{\lambda^{1-lpha}}{\Gamma(1-lpha)}x^{-lpha}e^{-\lambda x}$	$\lambda^{-1}\tfrac{\Gamma(2-\alpha)}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)}$	$\lambda^{-2} \frac{\Gamma(3-lpha)}{\Gamma(1-lpha)}$
Stretched exponential (continuous)	$\beta \lambda^{\beta} x^{\beta-1} e^{-(\lambda x)^{\beta}}$	$\lambda^{-1}\Gamma(1+\beta^{-1})$	$\lambda^{-2}\Gamma(1+2\beta^{-1})$
Log-normal (continuous)	$\frac{1}{x\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}}e^{-(\ln x - \mu)^2 / (2\sigma^2)}$	$e^{\mu+\sigma^2ig/2}$	$e^{2(\mu+\sigma^2)}$
Normal (continuous)	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}}e^{-(x-\mu)^2\Big/(2\sigma^2)}$	μ	$\mu^2 + \sigma^2$

## scale-free *history*



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