

small-world networks

introduction to *network analysis* (*ina*)

Lovro Šubelj
University of Ljubljana
spring 2021/22

connected
the power of six degrees

documentary on small-world and scale-free networks



[WS98]



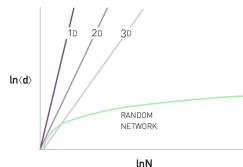
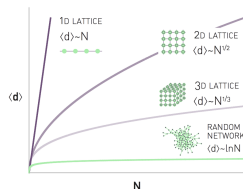
[BA99]



[AJB00]

small-world *phenomenon*

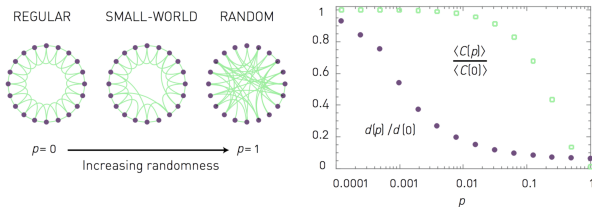
- for *regular lattices*
 - *high clustering* $\langle C \rangle \gg 0$
 - long distances $\langle d \rangle \simeq n^{1/D}$
- in *random graphs* [ER59]
 - low clustering $\langle C \rangle = \frac{\langle k \rangle}{n-1}$
 - *short distances* $\langle d \rangle \simeq \frac{\ln n}{\ln \langle k \rangle}$
- real *small-world networks* [WS98]
 - *high clustering* $\langle C \rangle \gg 0$
 - *short distances* $\langle d \rangle \simeq \frac{\ln n}{\ln \langle k \rangle}$



- $\langle d \rangle = 4.74$ for *Facebook* friendships [BBR⁺12] while $\frac{\ln n}{\ln \langle k \rangle} = 3.98$
- $\langle C \rangle = 0.61$ for *Facebook* social circles [NL12] while $\rho < 10^{-6}$

small-world *model*

- $G(n, k, p)$ *small-world* model [WS98]
- *randomly rewire* $pnk/2$ *links* of *regular lattice*
- *conceptually interesting* but *practically inapplicable*
 - for *some* p *small-world* with $\langle d \rangle \simeq \frac{\ln n}{\ln \langle k \rangle}$ and $\langle C \rangle \gg 0$
 - for $p = 1$ *random graph* with $\langle d \rangle \simeq \frac{\ln n}{\ln \langle k \rangle}$
 - for $p = 0$ *regular lattice* with $C = \frac{3(k-2)}{4(k-1)}$



see small-world model [NetLogo](#) demo

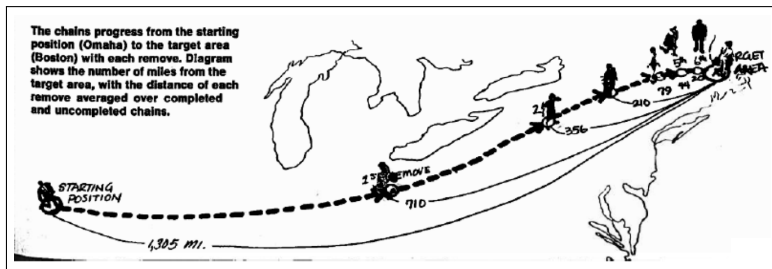
small-world *networks*

- *clustering coefficient* $\langle C \rangle$ in *real small-world* networks
- *average distance* $\langle d \rangle$ in *real small-world* networks

network	n	$\langle C \rangle$	$\gg \frac{\langle k \rangle}{n-1}$	$\langle d \rangle$	$\approx \frac{\ln n}{\ln \langle k \rangle}$
southern women [DGG41]	32	0.000	0.179	2.31	2.02
karate club [Zac77]	34	0.571	0.139	2.41	2.31
American football [GN02]	115	0.403	0.094	2.51	2.00
Java dependencies [ŠB11]	1368	0.497	0.012	2.21	2.59
Facebook circles [ML12]	4039	0.606	0.011	3.69	2.20
physics collaboration [New01]	36 458	0.657	0.000	5.50	4.68
Enron e-mails [LLDM09]	36 692	0.497	0.001	3.39	3.51
Internet map [HJJ ⁺ 03]	75 885	0.160	0.000	5.83	5.01
actors collaboration [BA99]	382 219	0.780	0.000	≈ 3.6	2.94
physics citation [ŠFB14]	438 943	0.227	0.000	≈ 5.0	4.23
patent citation [HJT01]	3 774 768	0.076	0.000	≈ 8.1	6.98
Facebook snowball [Fer12]	8 217 272	0.019	0.000	≈ 6.8	14.23

small-world *experiments*

- 6 *degrees of separation* in *letter* passing as $\langle d \rangle = 6.2$ [Mil67]
- 4/7 *degrees of separation* in *e-mail* communication [DMW03]
- 4 *degrees of separation* on *Facebook* as $\langle d \rangle = 4.74$ [BBR⁺12]

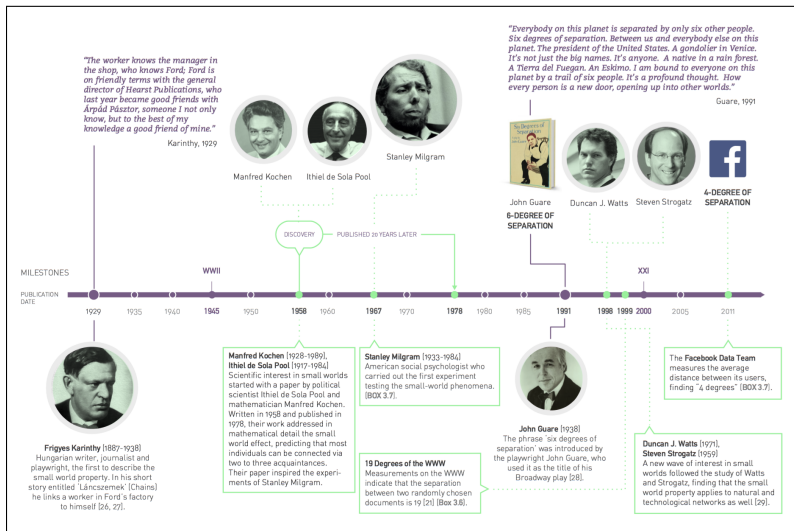


- the *strength* (*weakness*) of *weak* (*strong*) *ties* [Gra73]

small-world *navigation*

does existence of short paths imply
navigable small-world by *decentralized search*? [Kle00]

small-world *history*



small-world *references*



Reka Albert, Hawoong Jeong, and Albert Laszlo Barabasi.
Error and attack tolerance of complex networks.
Nature, 406(6794):378–382, 2000.



A.-L. Barabási and R. Albert.
Emergence of scaling in random networks.
Science, 286(5439):509–512, 1999.



A.-L. Barabási.
Network Science.
Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2016.



Lars Backstrom, Paolo Boldi, Marco Rosa, Johan Ugander, and Sebastiano Vigna.
Four degrees of separation.
In *Proceedings of the ACM International Conference on Web Science*, pages 45–54, Evanston, IL, USA, 2012.



A. Davis, B. B. Gardner, and M. R. Gardner.
Deep South.
Chicago University Press, Chicago, 1941.



Peter Sheridan Dodds, Roby Muhamad, and Duncan J. Watts.
An experimental study of search in global social networks.
Science, 301(5634):827–829, 2003.



Wouter de Nooy, Andrej Mrvar, and Vladimir Batagelj.
Exploratory Social Network Analysis with Pajek: Expanded and Revised Second Edition.
Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2011.



David Easley and Jon Kleinberg.
Networks, Crowds, and Markets: Reasoning About a Highly Connected World.
Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2010.

small-world *references*



Ernesto Estrada and Philip A. Knight.
A First Course in Network Theory.
Oxford University Press, 2015.



P. Erdős and A. Rényi.
On random graphs I.
Publ. Math. Debrecen, 6:290–297, 1959.



Stefano Ferretti.
On the degree distribution of faulty peer-to-peer overlays.
ICST Transactions on Complex Systems, 2012.



M. Girvan and M. E. J Newman.
Community structure in social and biological networks.
P. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 99(12):7821–7826, 2002.



Mark S. Granovetter.
The strength of weak ties.
Am. J. Sociol., 78(6):1360–1380, 1973.



M Hoerdt, M Jaeger, A James, D Magoni, J Maillard, D Malka, and P Merindol.
Internet {IP}v4 overlay map produced by network cartographer (nec), 2003.



B. H. Hall, A. B. Jaffe, and M. Tratjenberg.
The NBER patent citation data file: Lessons, insights and methodological tools.
Technical report, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2001.



Jon M. Kleinberg.
Navigation in a small world.
Nature, 406(6798):845, 2000.

small-world *references*



Jure Leskovec, Kevin J Lang, Anirban Dasgupta, and Michael W Mahoney.

Community structure in large networks: Natural cluster sizes and the absence of large well-defined clusters.
Internet Math., 6(1):29–123, 2009.



Stanley Milgram.

The small world problem.
Psychol. Today, 1(1):60–67, 1967.



Seth A. Myers and Jure Leskovec.

Clash of the contagions: Cooperation and competition in information diffusion.
In *Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Data Mining*, 2012.



M. E. J. Newman.

The structure of scientific collaboration networks.
P. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 98(2):404–409, 2001.



Mark E. J. Newman.

Networks.
Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2nd edition, 2018.



Azree Nazri and Pietro Lio.

Investigating meta-approaches for reconstructing gene networks in a mammalian cellular context.
PLoS ONE, 7(1):e28713, 2012.



Lovro Šubelj and Marko Bajec.

Community structure of complex software systems: Analysis and applications.
Physica A, 390(16):2968–2975, 2011.



Lovro Šubelj, Dalibor Fiala, and Marko Bajec.

Network-based statistical comparison of citation topology of bibliographic databases.
Sci. Rep., 4:6496, 2014.

small-world *references*



D. J. Watts and S. H. Strogatz.

Collective dynamics of 'small-world' networks.

Nature, 393(6684):440–442, 1998.



Wayne W. Zachary.

An information flow model for conflict and fission in small groups.

J. Anthropol. Res., 33(4):452–473, 1977.