Social Network Analysis Tools

Course Outline

- Graph Theory and Social Networks
- Visualizing Social Networks
 - Tools
- Information Networks and the World Wide Web
- Game Theory
- Network Dynamics
- Applications of SNA in various domains

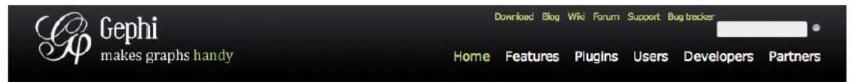
Introduction

- There are many tools available for Visualization and SNA.
- Many tools can be used to calculate graph metrics
 - Many have features supporting Social Network Analysis
- Two Types:
 - Systems providing visualizations
 - Toolkits that can be used to build systems
- Some are Commercial systems (Many have free basic versions)

Systems providing visualizations

- Pajek
- Gephi
- NodeXL
- TouchGraph
- Many more!

Gephi http://gephi.org



The Open Graph Viz Platform

Gephi is a visualization and exploration platform for all kinds of networks and complex systems, dynamic and hierarchical graphs.

Runs on Windows, Linux and Mac OS X. Gephi is open-source and free.

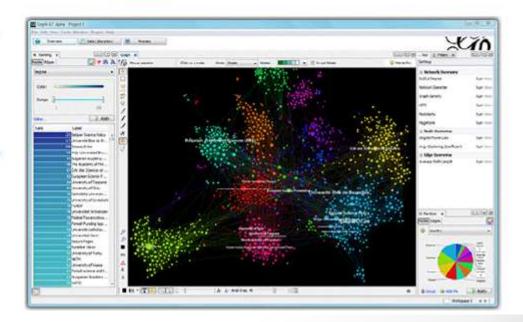
Learn More on Gephi Platform »



Release Notes | System Requirements

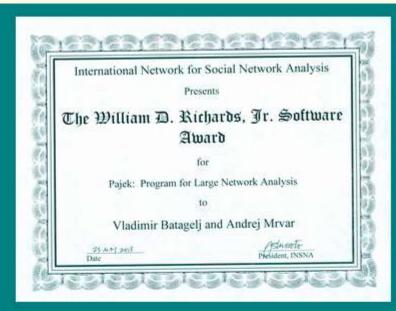






Pajek / Pajek-XXL versions 3.** and 4.**



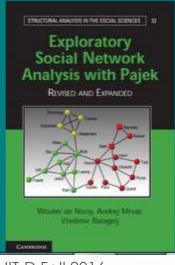




Pajek and Pajek-XXL

Programs for Analysis and Visualization of Very Large Networks

Reference Manual
List of commands with short explanation



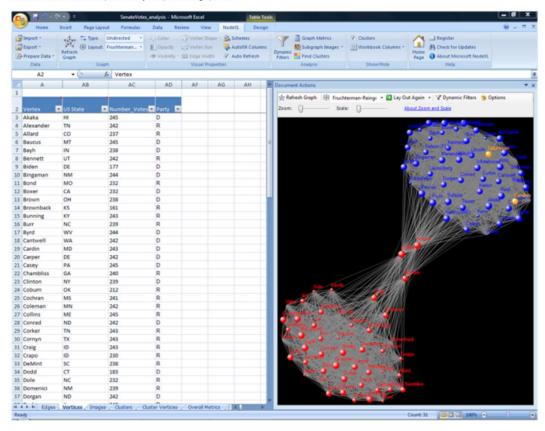




NodeXL

NodeXL is a powerful and easy-to-use interactive network visualisation and analysis tool that leverages the widely available MS Excel application as the platform for representing generic graph data, performing advanced network analysis and visual exploration of networks. The tool supports multiple social network data providers that import graph data (nodes and edge lists) into the Excel spreadsheet.

The tool includes an Excel template for easy manipulation of graph data:



https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/project/nodexl-network-overview-discovery-and-exploration-in-excel/

TouchGraph

- TouchGraph allows for the creation and navigation of ineractive graphs.
- Commercial system
 - http://www.touchgraph.com
- Older free system for a set of interfaces for graph visualization using force-based layout and focus+context techniques
 - http://sourceforge.net/projects/touchgraph/

Toolkits & Infrastructures

- Set of components or capabilities that allow others to put together visualization systems
- Coherent software architecture and set of programming components
- Data structure is a table
- Views: time series, parallel coordinates, scatterplots, node-link diagrams, treemaps
- Added capabilities in color management, labeling, dynamic queries, ...
- Advantage: Much more control
- Disadvantage: Learning curve

Toolkits & Infrastructures

- Cytoscape (Java)
- D3 (Javascript)
- SNAP (C++)
- Network X (Python)
- Neo4J

Cytoscape

- Cytoscape is an open source software platform for visualizing molecular interaction networks and biological pathways and integrating these networks with annotations, gene expression profiles and other state data.
- Although Cytoscape was originally designed for biological research, now it is a general platform for complex network analysis and visualization.
- Cytoscape core distribution provides a basic set of features for data integration, analysis, and visualization.
- Additional features are available as Apps (formerly called Plugins).
 - Apps are available for network and molecular profiling analyses, new layouts, additional file format support, scripting, and connection with databases.
- They may be developed by anyone using the Cytoscape open API based on <u>Java™</u> technology
- http://www.cytoscape.org/

D3: Data Driven Documents

- D3.js is a JavaScript library for manipulating documents based on data.
- D3 helps you bring data to life using HTML, SVG, and CSS.
- D3's emphasis on web standards gives you the full capabilities of modern browsers without tying yourself to a proprietary framework, combining powerful visualization components and a datadriven approach to DOM manipulation.
- "Not just an infovis toolkit"
- http://d3js.org/

SNAP



SNAP for C++: Stanford Network Analysis Platform

Stanford Network Analysis Platform (SNAP) is a general purpose network analysis and graph mining library. It is written in C++ and easily scales to massive networks with hundreds of millions of nodes, and billions of edges. It efficiently manipulates large graphs, calculates structural properties, generates regular and random graphs, and supports attributes on nodes and edges. SNAP is also available through the NodeXL which is a graphical front-end that integrates network analysis into Microsoft Office and Excel

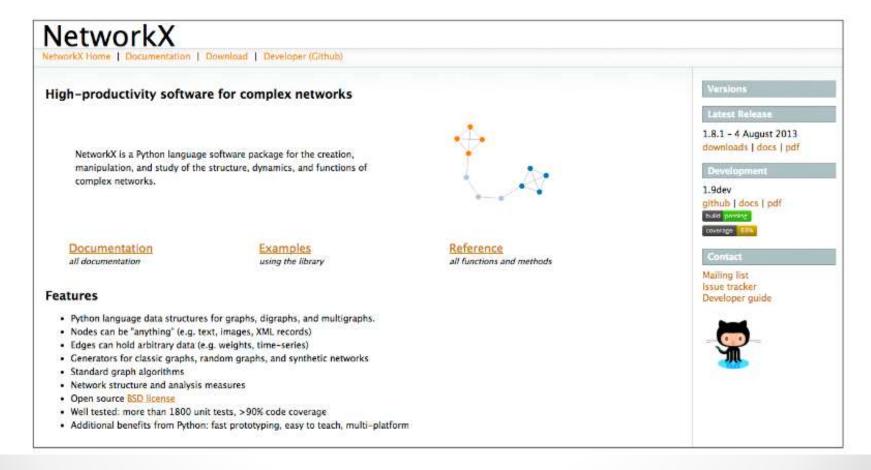
Snap.py: SNAP for Python

Snap.py is a Python interface for SNAP. It provides performance benefits of SNAP, combined with flexibility of Python. Most of the SNAP C++ functionality is available via Snap.py in Python.

http://snap.stanford.edu/

NetworkX

https://networkx.github.io/



Neo4J

- Native Database for Graphs
- Graph analytics
- Visualization
- https://neo4j.com/

Disclaimer

- There are many other tools and packages
- New tools are being developed