

# An Overview of Complex Networks Design and Analyses

Sanket Patil

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- Not “simple networks”
- Not random graphs
- Have non-trivial topological features

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- Food-webs, protein interaction networks
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- Have evolved/emerged over time
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# Representation

- Networks are modelled as “Graphs”
- A node/vertex/point represents a machine, a human, a cell etc.
- An edge/arc/line represents a *relation* between two nodes
- Edges can be undirected or directed.
- *Weights* are used to convey additional (extra-topological) information

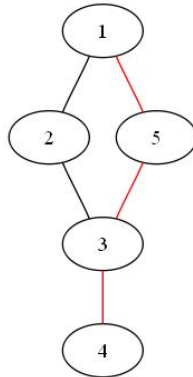
# Basic Definitions

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- **Path:** A sequence of *adjacent* vertices
- **Pathlength:** The number of edges in a path





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# Properties

- $P[X = k] \propto k^{-p}$
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- “heavy tail”, “long tail”, “80:20”
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- “Rich getting richer”
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## Saul Steinberg: Ninth Avenue





- Social Commentary
- Small world geometry

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## Kleinberg's "small world"

- Ninth Avenue as a powerful analogy
- The "far" is almost as accessible as the "near"
- How are your friends/acquaintances distributed?

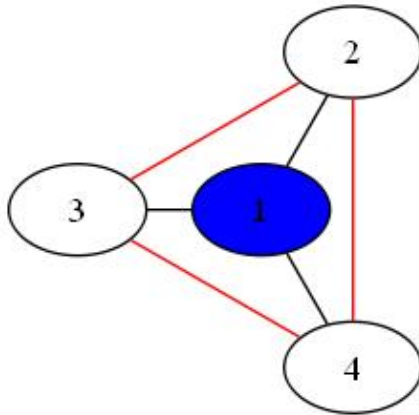
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# Clustering



# Clustering Coefficient

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- $C_i = \frac{\text{no of edges in the neighbourhood}}{\text{total possible edges}}$
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# Small Worlds

- High clustering coefficient
- Low average path length

## Navigability in small worlds

- Kleinberg's metric space models (circa 2000)
- Short paths do exist
- But can we *find* them using *local* information?

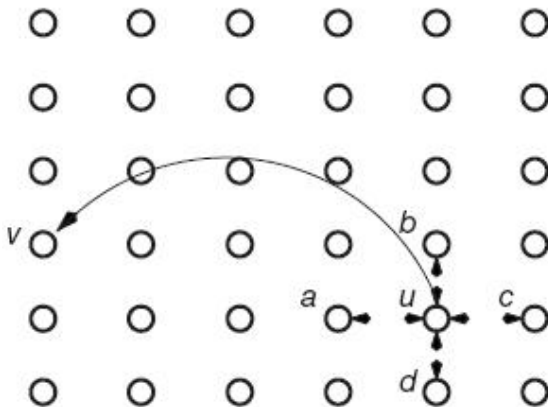
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## Short range and long range connections



# Clustering Exponent

- Connections based on distance ( $r$ ) and clustering exponent  $\alpha$
- For a node  $u$ , the probability of connecting to  $v$  is  $r^{-\alpha}$
- Highly clustered neighbourhood
- Number of long range links decays with distance
- Only when  $\alpha = 2$ , a decentralized routing algorithm can be found which has a  $\log n$  bound

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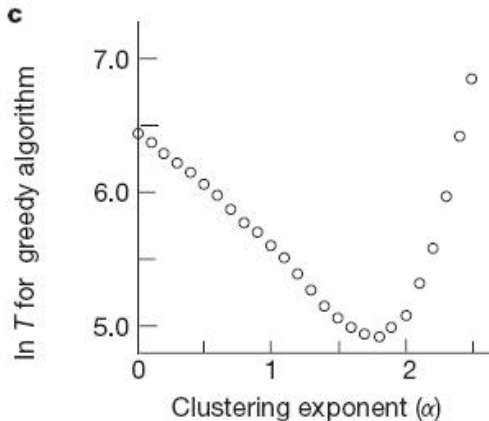
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## Finding short paths



# Other Features

- Communities
- Hierarchical Structures

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- Systems Theory
- Cybernetics
- Non-linear Dynamics
- Multiagent Systems and AI
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- How structure governs the function
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- Machines function based on norms
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# Approaches

- Mathematical Programming
- Ant Colony Optimization
- Swarm Intelligence
- Simulated Annealing
- Genetic Algorithms

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- Graph theoretic properties used in design and analyses
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- Design is usually evolution of optimal graphs under the given constraints

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- **Eccentricity:** The longest shortest path *for a node*
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# Centrality

- **Degree Centrality:** degree distribution
- **Betweenness:** importance of nodes based on the no. of paths passing through them
- **Closeness:** *per node* average path length
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# Connectivity

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- *Vertex Cut*: The smallest number of vertices whose removal renders the network disconnected
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- A graph is  $k$  – *connected* if the size of its *vertex cut* is  $k$
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- *Size* of the connected components also matters in many cases
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