

What is a random graph?

- randomly configured graph in "some way"

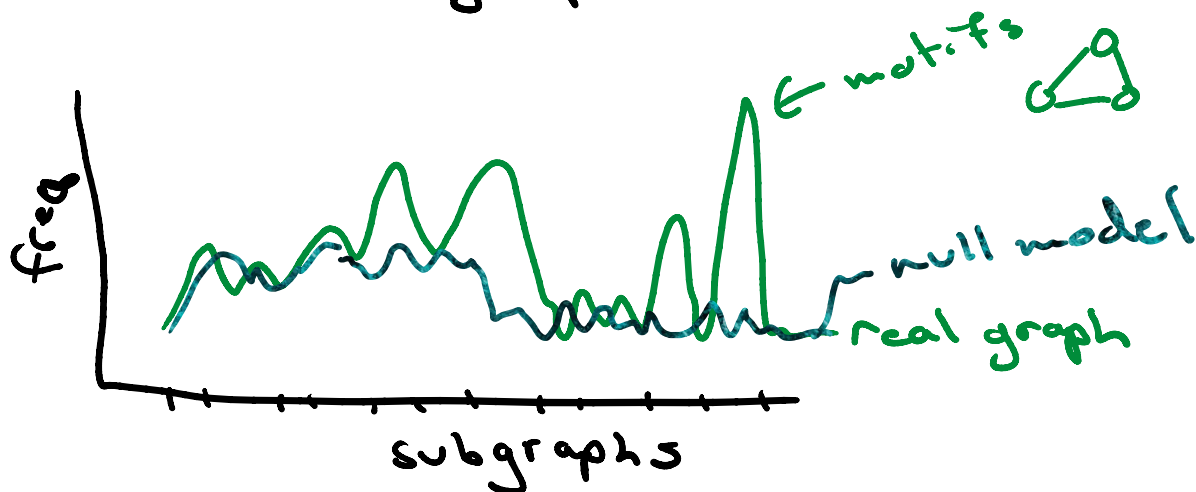
- usually: $|V(G)|$, $|E(G)|$, D , p

↙ degree dist.
↗ attachment probability

Why do we care?

- Mirror properties of existing real graphs for analytical/theoretical study
- Use random graphs as null models

E.g. motif finding
→ identifying "frequently-occurring" subgraph structures



Q: How do we define random graphs?



A: in various models

Classic model

=> Erdős - Rényi

$$O.G.: G(n, m)$$

\uparrow #verts \uparrow #edges \uparrow avg. degree

$$\langle k \rangle = \frac{2m}{n}$$

newer: $G(n, p)$

\uparrow attachment probability

\rightarrow prob. that u, v edge exists

\rightarrow generation by evaluating all u, v pairs and flipping a coin

\rightarrow Bernoulli process which outputs edge and degree distribution

$$P(k) = \binom{n-1}{k} p^k (1-p)^{(n-1)-k}$$

\uparrow

prob. of degree k

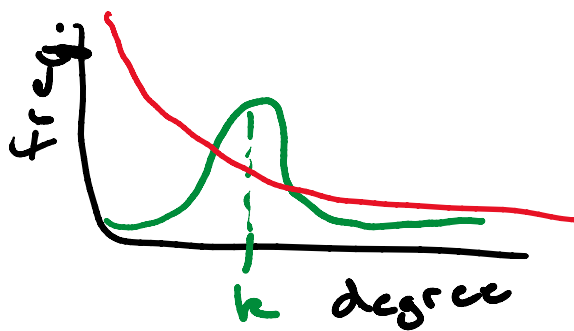
mean value $\Rightarrow \langle k \rangle = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} k p_k = p(n-1)$

As $n \rightarrow \infty$ and k is fixed

Binomial \rightarrow Poisson

$$P(k) = \frac{e^{-\langle k \rangle} \langle k \rangle^k}{k!}$$

\leftarrow mean value



Using our model to study real-world graph properties

- consider vertex v
- v has $\langle k \rangle$ neighbors, $|N(v)| = \langle k \rangle$
- each of v 's neighbors has $\langle k \rangle$ neighbors as well

\rightarrow 2-hop neighborhood of v
 $\Rightarrow \langle k \rangle^2$

In general:

$$|N_d(v)| = \langle k \rangle + \langle k \rangle^2 + \dots + \langle k \rangle^d$$

\uparrow
d-hop neighborhood

$$\approx \frac{\langle k \rangle^{d+1} - 1}{\langle k \rangle - 1}$$

$$\uparrow$$

d-hop neighborhood $\approx \frac{\langle k \rangle^d - 1}{\langle k \rangle - 1}$

consider as $|N_d(v)| \rightarrow n$

we can take

$$|N_d(v)| = n \approx \frac{\langle k \rangle^{d+1} - 1}{\langle k \rangle - 1}$$

$$n \approx \langle k \rangle^d$$

$$d \approx \frac{\ln(n)}{\ln(\langle k \rangle)} \quad \langle k \rangle \ll n$$

$$d \approx \ln(n)$$

expected diameter grows logarithmically with $|V(G)|$

Issue: we don't model an explicit degree sequence

Introducing:

the configuration model

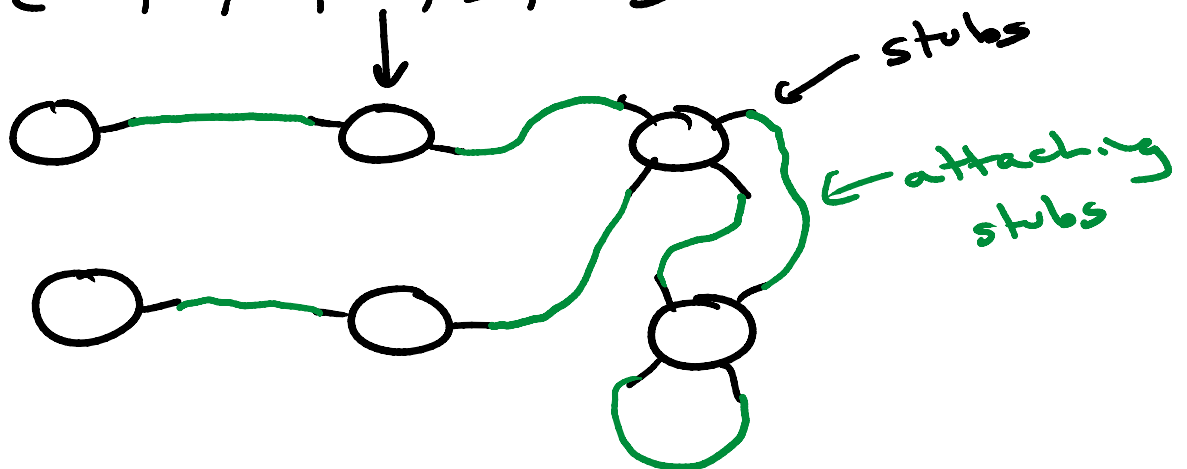
→ this will generate a random graph with
 (assuming realizable)

→ this will generate a random graph with same degree sequence (assuming realizable)

Basic idea:

- we have a bijection from our degree sequence to n vertices each with $d(i)$ number of stubs

$$S = \{4, 4, 2, 2, 1, 1\}$$



What about attachment probabilities?

consider i j i j

Note: more likely to select stubs from higher degree vertex

Consider attachment of i, j 's stubs
→ we know it'll probably be a function of $d(i), d(j)$

of $d(i), d(j)$

Probability of edge (i, j)

= (prob. of selecting i 's stub)

*
(prob. of selecting j 's stub)

*
2 ← we can select (i, j) or (j, i)

*
m ← we select m total edges

prob. of i 's stub = $\frac{d(i)}{2m}$

$$P_{i,j} = \frac{d(i)}{2m} * \frac{d(j)}{2m} * 2$$

↑
attachment probability

$$P_{i,j} = \frac{d(i)d(j)}{2m}$$

Configuration model → attachment probs

attachment probs. → another model

→ Chung-Lu

$P_{i,j} = w_i w_j$ ← weights associated with vertex

$$P_{ij} = \frac{w_i w_j}{\sum_k w_k} \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{weights associated} \\ \text{with each vertex} \\ \text{aka degrees} \end{array}$$

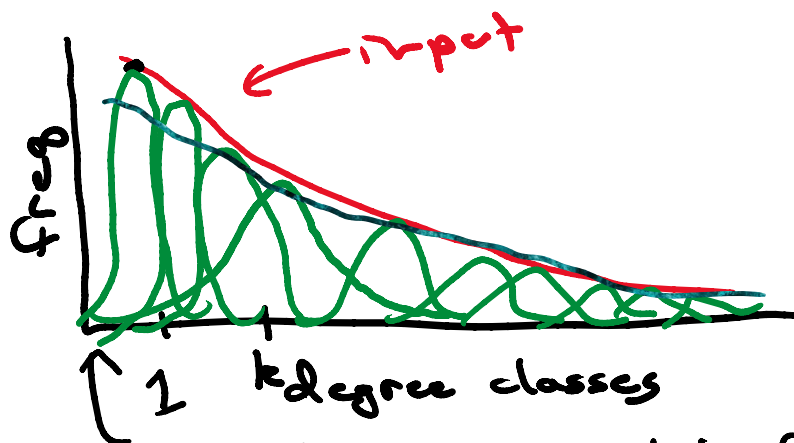
We can generate a graph by evaluating this prob. for all u, v pairs

→ Note: we won't be hitting the degree distribution exactly
(in expectation we are (not really))

Reason: we're actually layering a bunch of $G(n, p)$ graphs

So: a vertex's degree is a sum of degrees for these E-R graphs

⇒ it's expected degree is a sum of Poisson's → Poisson



we end up with a lot of degree-0 verts

One more issue: $P_{ij} = \frac{d(i)d(j)}{\sum_k d(k)}$

One more issue: $P_{ij} = \frac{d(i)d(j)}{2m}$

what happens when $d(i)d(j) > 2m$?

multi-graph $\rightarrow P_{ij}$ is just expected
of (i,j) edges

simple graph \rightarrow nonsense

Null models

\rightarrow a graph with some properties that
is selected or implicitly defined from
all possible graph topologies that fit
the given properties

For multi-graphs: our configuration model
and its probs. match a null model

For simple graphs: Chung-Lu graphs
but the attachment probabilities are
wrong and it's not an unbiased sample

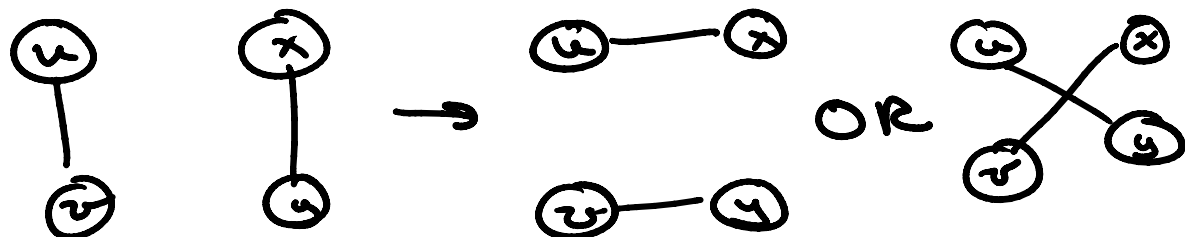
Q: how can we get an unbiased sample?

A1: not via attachment probability

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A2: via double-edge swaps

Double-edge swap:



Note: degrees are unmodified

An approach for simple null model generation:

Generate graph via H-H \rightarrow perform "same number" of d.e.s. that don't create loops or multi-edges

Note: this is a Markov process

"Mixing time" = "same number"

= unknown in the general case

To get our attachment probabilities:

- we generate a large number of unbiased samples

- we just measure actual attachment

- we just measure actual attachment rates
- we can use these to calculate empirical attachment probs for simple graphs \square