

preferential attachment

introduction to *network analysis* (*ina*)

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spring 2024/25

preferential *attachment*

- *generative models* reason about *network evolution*
- *cumulative advantage* process of *Price model* [Pri76]
- *preferential attachment* of *Barabási-Albert model* [BA99]

Pólya process Yule process Zipf's law Matthew effect
rich-get-richer proportional growth cumulative advantage

see preferential attachment model *NetLogo* demo



Derek de Solla Price



Albert-László Barabási



Réka Albert

preferential $G(n, c, a)$ model

- $G(n, c, a)$ *cumulative advantage* model [Pri76]
- each new node i forms $k_i^{\text{out}} = c > 0$ *directed links*
- node j *receives link with probability* $\sim k_j^{\text{in}} + a = q_j + a > 0$

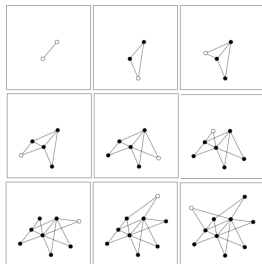
n, c, a given

p_q *unknown*

input parameters n, c, a

output *directed* graph G

- 1: $G \leftarrow \geq c$ isolated nodes
- 2: while not G has n nodes do
- 3: add node i to G
- 4: for c times do
- 5: add link (i, j) with $\sim q_j + a$
- 6: return G



preferential $G(n, c, a)$ equation

— *master equation* for *in-degree distribution* $p_q(n)$

– $p_q(n)$ is in-degree distribution p_q at time n

$$\frac{q_i+a}{\sum_i q_i+a} = \frac{q_i+a}{n(c+a)} \quad cn p_q(n) \frac{q+a}{n(c+a)} = \frac{c(q+a)}{c+a} p_q(n)$$

$$(n+1)p_q(n+1) = np_q(n) + \frac{c(q-1+a)}{c+a} p_{q-1}(n) - \frac{c(q+a)}{c+a} p_q(n)$$
$$(n+1)p_0(n+1) = np_0(n) + 1 - \frac{ca}{c+a} p_0(n)$$

— *power-law in-degree distribution* $p_q \sim q^{-\gamma}$ with $\gamma > 2$

– p_q is in-degree distribution *in limit* $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty t^{x-1} e^{-t} dt \quad B(x, y) = \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)} \simeq x^{-y} \Gamma(y)$$

$$p_q = \frac{q+a-1}{q+a+1+a/c} p_{q-1} = \dots = \frac{B(q+a, 2+a/c)}{B(a, 1+a/c)} \sim q^{-2-a/c}$$

$$p_0 = \frac{1+a/c}{a+1+a/c}$$

preferential $G(n, c)$ model

- $G(n, c)$ *preferential attachment* model [BA99]
- each new node i forms $c > 0$ *undirected links*
- node j receives links with probability $\sim k_j$

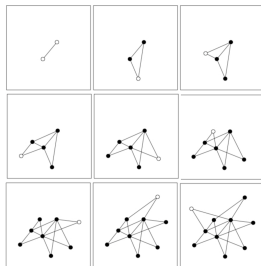
n, c given

p_k unknown

input parameters n, c

output *undirected* graph G

- 1: $G \leftarrow c$ connected nodes
- 2: while not G has n nodes do
- 3: add node i to G
- 4: for c times do
- 5: add link $\{i, j\}$ with $\sim k_j$
- 6: return G



preferential $G(n, c)$ equation

- *undirected* $G(n, c)$ is *directed* $G(n, c, c)$ for $k_i = q_i + c$
- *same master equation* for *in-degree distribution* p_q
 - p_q is in-degree distribution *in limit* $n \rightarrow \infty$

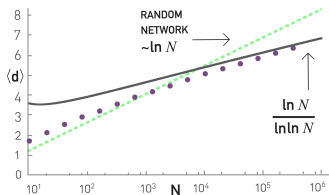
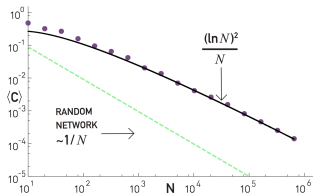
$$p_q = \frac{B(q+c, 2+c/c)}{B(c, 1+c/c)} = \frac{B(q+c, 3)}{B(c, 2)} \sim q^{-3}$$

- *power-law degree distribution* $p_k \sim k^{-3}$
 - p_k is degree distribution *in limit* $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$p_k = \frac{B(k, 3)}{B(c, 2)} = \cdots = \frac{2c(c+1)}{k(k+1)(k+2)} \sim k^{-3}$$

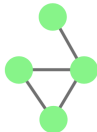
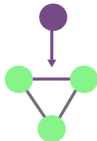
preferential \neg small-world

- *random graphs* are “small-world” as $\langle d \rangle \simeq \frac{\ln n}{\ln \langle k \rangle}$
- *random graphs* are *not small-world* as $\langle C \rangle = \frac{\langle k \rangle}{n-1}$
- *scale-free networks* $\gamma = 3$ are “small-world” as $\langle d \rangle \sim \frac{\ln n}{\ln \ln n}$
- *$G(n, c)$ scale-free model* is *not small-world* as $\langle C \rangle \simeq \frac{(\ln n)^2}{n}$

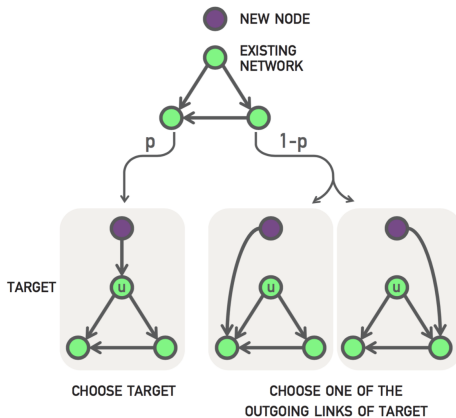


preferential *models*

NEW NODE

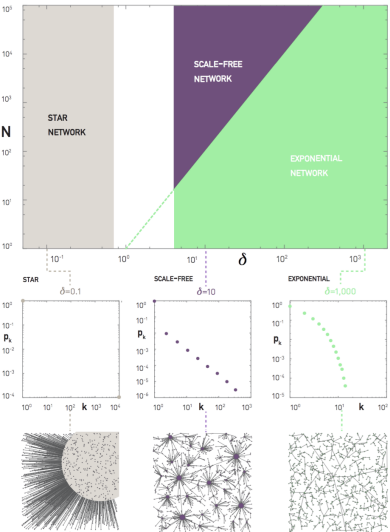
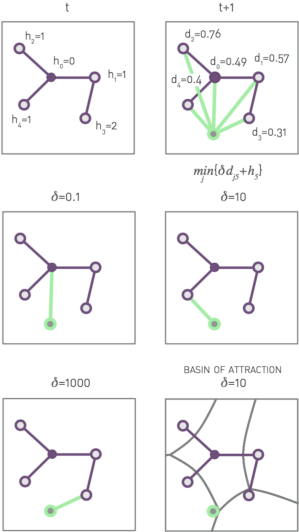


link selection [DM02]



random *link copying* model [KKR⁺99]

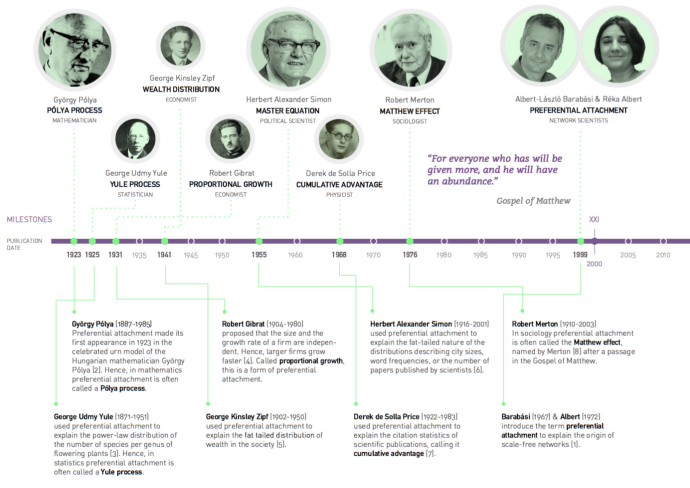
preferential *optimization*



preferential *history*

PREFERENTIAL ATTACHMENT: A BRIEF HISTORY

Preferential attachment has emerged independently in many disciplines, helping explain the presence of power laws characterising various systems. In the context of *networks* preferential attachment was introduced in 1999 to explain the scale-free property.



preferential *references*



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preferential *references*



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