

preferential attachment

introduction to *network analysis* (*ina*)

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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* $\sim k_j^{\text{in}} + a = q_j + a > 0$

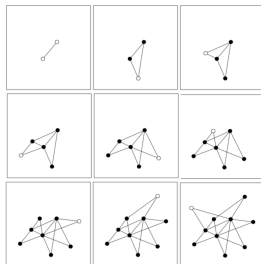
n, c, a given

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 $\sim k_j$

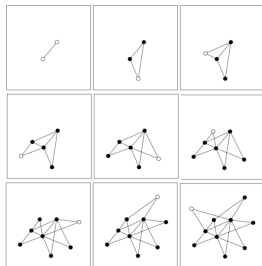
n, c given

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* $n \rightarrow \infty$

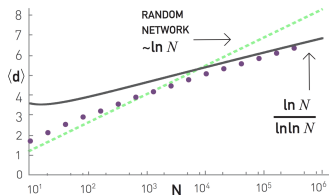
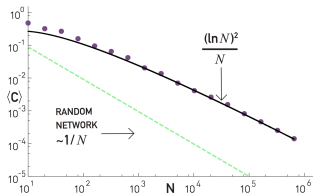
$$p_q = \frac{B(q+c, 2+c/c)}{B(c, 1+c/c)} = \frac{B(q+c, 3)}{B(c, 2)} \sim q^{-3}$$

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

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

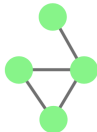
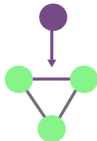
preferential \neg small-world

- *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 $\langle C \rangle \simeq \frac{(\ln n)^2}{n}$

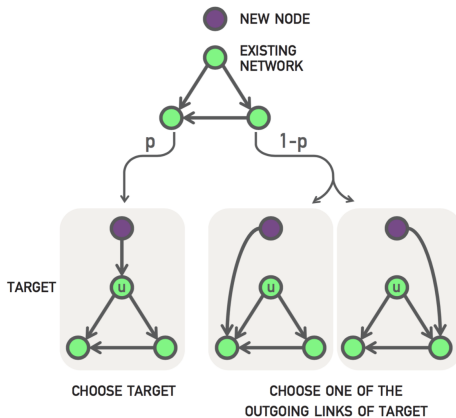


preferential *models*

NEW NODE

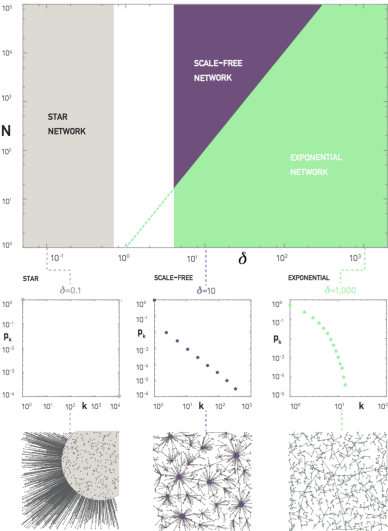
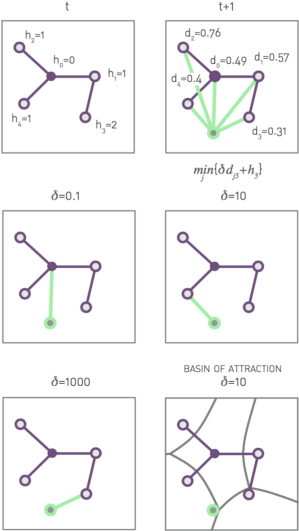


link selection [DM02]



random *link copying* model [KKR⁺99]

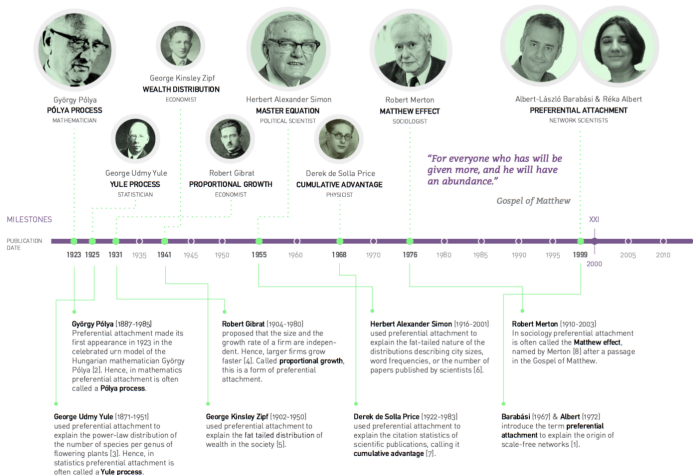
preferential *optimization*



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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