# Frontiers of Network Science Fall 2023

# Class 11: Evolving Networks II Degree Correlations (Chapters 5 & 7 in Textbook)

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based on slides by Albert-László Barabási and Roberta Sinatra

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# Evolving network models

**Network Science: Evolving Network Models** 

#### **EVOLVING NETWORK MODELS**

#### The BA model is only a minimal model.

Makes the simplest assumptions:

- linear growth
- linear preferential attachment

 $\langle k \rangle = 2m$  $\Pi(k_i) \propto k_i$ 

#### Does not capture

variations in the shape of the degree distribution variations in the degree exponent the size-independent clustering coefficient

#### Hypothesis:

The BA model can be adapted to describe most features of real networks.

We need to incorporate mechanisms that are known to take place in real networks: addition of links without new nodes, link rewiring, link removal; node removal, constraints or optimization

#### **BA ALGORITHM WITH DIRECTED EDGES**

(the simplest way to change the degree exponent)



$$\frac{\partial k_i}{\partial t} \propto \Pi(k_i) = A \frac{k_i}{\sum_j k_j} = \frac{k_i}{t}$$

Undirected BA network:

Directed BA network:

$$\frac{\sum_{j} k_{j} = 2t}{\sum_{j} k_{j} = t}$$

 $k_i(t) = m \frac{t}{t_i}$ 

$$P_{in}(k) \sim k^{-2}$$

 $\beta$ =1: dynamical exponent Undirected BA:  $\beta$ =1/2;  $\gamma_{in}$ =2: degree exponent; P(k<sub>out</sub>)= $\delta(k_{out}$ -m)  $\gamma$ =3

#### **EXTENDED MODEL: Other ways to change the exponent**



#### Extended Model

- prob. p : internal links
- prob. q : link deletion
- prob. 1-p-q : add node

$$\mathsf{P}(\mathsf{k}) \sim (\mathsf{k} + \kappa(\mathsf{p}, \mathsf{q}, \mathsf{m}))^{-\gamma(\mathsf{p}, \mathsf{q}, \mathsf{m})}$$
$$\gamma \in [1, \infty)$$

$$\mathsf{P}(\mathsf{k}) \thicksim (\mathsf{k}+\kappa(\mathsf{p},\mathsf{q},\mathsf{m}))^{-\gamma(\mathsf{p},\mathsf{q},\mathsf{m})} \qquad \gamma \in [1,\infty)$$

#### →Predicts a small-k cutoff

→a correct model should predict all aspects of the degree distribution, not only the degree exponent. →Degree exponent is a continuous function of p,q,m



#### Extended Model

p=0.937

m=1

κ =

31.68

 $\gamma = 3.07$ 

- prob. p : internal links
- prob. q : link deletion
- prob. 1-p-q : add node

#### **NONLINEAR PREFERENTIAL ATTACHMENT: MORE MODELS**

• Non-linear preferential attachment:

$$\Pi(k) = \frac{k^{\alpha}}{\sum_{i} k_{i}^{\alpha}}$$

 $\rightarrow$  P(k) does not follow a power law for  $\alpha{\neq}1$ 

$$\Rightarrow \alpha < 1 : \text{stretch-exponential } P(k) \approx exp(-(k/k_{\theta})^{\beta})$$
$$\Rightarrow \alpha > 1 : \text{no-scaling } (\alpha > 2 : \text{"gelation"})$$

P. Krapivsky, S. Redner, F. Leyvraz, Phys. Rev. Lett. 85, 4629 (2000)

BA model: k=0 nodes cannot aquire links, as  $\Pi(k=0)=0$  (the probability that a new node will attach to it is zero)

$$\Pi(k) \approx A + k^{\alpha}, \ \alpha \leq 1$$

#### A - initial attractiveness

Initial attractiveness shifts the degree exponent:

$$\gamma_{in} = 2 + \frac{A}{m}$$

Note: the parameter A can be measured from real data, being the rate at which k=0 nodes acquire links, i.e.  $\Pi(k=0)=A$ 

Dorogovtsev, Mendes, Samukhin, Phys. Rev. Lett. 85, 4633 (2000)

#### **GROWTH CONSTRAINTS AND AGING CAUSE CUTOFFS**

- Finite lifetime to acquire new edges
- L. A. N. Amaral et al., PNAS 97, 11149 (2000)



• Gradual aging:

$$\prod(k_i) \propto k_i (t-t_i)^{-\nu}$$

 $\gamma$  increases with  $\nu$ 

S. N. Dorogovtsev and J. F. F. Mendes, Phys. Rev. E 62, 1842 (2000)

#### THE LAST PROBLEM: HIGH, SYSTEM-SIZE INDEPENDENT C(N)



#### A MODEL WITH HIGH CLUSTERING COEFFICIENT

- Each node of the network can be either active or inactive.
- There are *m* active nodes in the network in any moment.
- 1. Start with *m* active, completely connected nodes.
- 2. Each timestep add a new node (active) that connects to *m* active nodes.
- 3. Deactivate one active node with probability:  $P_d(k_i) \propto (a + k_i)^{-1}$



Linear growth, linear pref. attachment	$\gamma = 3$	Barabási and Albert, 1999
Nonlinear preferential attachment $\Pi(k_i) \sim k_i^{\alpha}$	no scaling for $\alpha \neq 1$	Krapivsky, Redner, and Leyvraz, 2000
Asymptotically linear pref. attachment $\Pi(k_i) \sim a_{\infty}k_i$ as $k_i \rightarrow \infty$	$\begin{array}{l} \gamma \to 2 \text{ if } a_{\infty} \to \infty \\ \gamma \to \infty \text{ if } a_{\infty} \to 0 \end{array}$	Krapivsky, Redner, and Leyvraz, 2000
Initial attractiveness $\Pi(k_i) \sim A + k_i$	$\gamma = 2$ if $A = 0$ $\gamma \rightarrow \infty$ if $A \rightarrow \infty$	Dorogovtsev, Mendes, and Samukhin, 2000a, 2000b
Accelerating growth $\langle k \rangle \sim t^{\theta}$ constant initial attractiveness	$\begin{array}{l} \gamma = 1.5 \text{ if } \theta \rightarrow 1 \\ \gamma \rightarrow 2 \text{ if } \theta \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$	Dorogovtsev and Mendes, 2001a
Internal edges with probab. <i>p</i>	$\gamma = 2 \text{ if}$ $q = \frac{1 - p + m}{1 + 2m}$ $\gamma \rightarrow \infty \text{ if } p, q, m \rightarrow 0$	Albert and Barabási, 2000
c internal edges or removal of c edges	$\gamma \rightarrow 2 \text{ if } c \rightarrow \infty$ $\gamma \rightarrow \infty \text{ if } c \rightarrow -1$	Dorogovtsev and Mendes, 2000c
Gradual aging $\Pi(k_i) \sim k_i (t-t_i)^{-\nu}$	$\begin{array}{c} \gamma \rightarrow 2 \text{ if } \nu \rightarrow -\infty \\ \gamma \rightarrow \infty \text{ if } \nu \rightarrow 1 \end{array}$	Dorogovtsev and Mendes, 2000b
Multiplicative node fitness	$P(k) \sim \frac{k^{-1-C}}{\ln(k)}$	
$\Pi_i \sim \eta_i k_i$		Bianconi and Barabási, 2001a
Edge inheritance	$P(k_{in}) = \frac{d}{k_{in}^{\sqrt{2}}} \ln(ak_{in})$	Dorogovtsev, Mendes, and Samukhin, 2000c
Copying with probab. $p$	$\gamma = (2-p)/(1-p)$	Kumar et al., 2000a, 2000b
Redirection with probab. r	$\gamma = 1 + 1/r$	Krapivsky and Redner, 2001
Walking with probab. p	$\gamma \simeq 2$ for $p > p_c$	Vázquez, 2000
Attaching to edges	$\gamma = 3$	Dorogovtsev, Mendes, and Samukhin, 2001a
p directed internal edges $\Pi(k_i, k_j) \propto (k_i^{in} + \lambda)(k_j^{out} + \mu)$	$\gamma_{in} = 2 + p\lambda$ $\gamma_{out} = 1 + (1-p)^{-1} + \mu p/(1-p)$	Krapivsky, Rodgers, and Redner, 2001

#### Section 11: Summary

Number of Nodes N = t	
Number of Links N = mt	
Average Degree $\langle k \rangle = 2m$	
<b>Degree Dynamics</b> $k_i(t) = m (t/t_i)^{\beta}$	
<b>Dynamical Exponent</b> $\beta = 1/2$	
Degree Distribution $m{p}_k \sim m{k}^{arphi}$	
Degree Exponent γ = 3	
Average Distance <d> ~ logN/log logN</d>	
Clustering Coefficient ⟨C⟩ ~ (lnN)²/N	The network grows, but the degree distribution is stationary.

#### Section 11: Summary

 $\langle C \rangle \sim (\ln N)^2 / N$ 

Number of Nodes	
N = t	
Number of Links	
<i>N</i> = <i>mt</i>	
Average Degree	
$\langle k \rangle = 2m$	
Degree Dynamics	
$k_i(t) = m (t/t_i)^{\beta}$	Consequently
Dynamical Exponent	derstand the t
$\beta = 1/2$	into being.
Degree Distribution	
$p_{k} \sim k^{\gamma}$	
Degree Exponent	
γ = 3	
Average Distance	
$\langle d \rangle \sim \log N / \log \log N$	
<b>Clustering Coefficient</b>	The network

Consequently, the modeling philosophy behind the model is simple: to understand the topology of a complex system, we need to describe how it came into being.

The network grows, but the degree distribution is stationary.

#### Section 11: Summary

Number of Nodes N = t

Number of Links

N = mt

Average Degree

 $\langle k \rangle = 2m$ 

**Degree Dynamics**  $k_i(t) = m (t/t_i)^{\beta}$ 

# **Dynamical Exponent** $\beta = 1/2$

Degree Distribution  $p_k \sim k^{\gamma}$ 

**Degree Exponent** γ = 3

Average Distance  $\langle d \rangle \sim \log N / \log \log N$ 

Clustering Coefficient  $\langle C \rangle \sim (\ln N)^2 / N$  • The model predicts  $\gamma$ =3 while the degree exponent of real networks varies between 2 and 5 (Table 4.2).

- Many networks, like the WWW or citation networks, are directed, while the model generates undirected networks.
- Many processes observed in networks, from linking to already existing nodes to the disappearance of links and nodes, are absent from the model.
- The model does not allow us to distinguish between nodes based on some intrinsic characteristics, like the novelty of a research paper or the utility of a webpage.
- While the Barabási-Albert model is occasionally used as a model of the Internet or the cell, in reality it is not designed to capture the details of any particular real network. It is a minimal, proof of principle model whose main purpose is to capture the basic mechanisms responsible for the emergence of the scale-free property. Therefore, if we want to understand the evolution of systems like the Internet, the cell or the WWW, we need to incorporate the important details that contribute to the time evolution of these systems, like the directed nature of the WWW, the possibility of internal links and node and link removal.

#### **LESSONS LEARNED:** evolving network models

- 1. There is no universal exponent characterizing all networks.
- 2. Growth and preferential attachment are responsible for the emergence of the scale-free property.
- 3. The origins of the preferential attachment is system-dependent.
- 4. Modeling real networks:
  - identify the microscopic processes that take place in the system
  - measure their frequency from real data
  - develop dynamical models that capture these processes.

5. If the model is correct, it should correctly predict not only the degree exponent, but both small and large k-cutoffs.

# Philosophical change in network modeling:

ER, WS models are static models – the role of the network modeler it to cleverly place the links between a fixed number of nodes to that the network topology mimic the networks seen in real systems.

BA and evolving network models are dynamical models: they aim to reproduce how the network was built and evolved.
Thus their goal is to capture the network dynamics, not the structure.
→ as a byproduct, you get the topology correctly

# Philosophical change in network modeling:

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#### **DEGREE CORRELATIONS IN NETWORKS**



**Assortative:** hubs show a tendency to

link to each other.



#### Neutral:

nodes connect to each other with the expected random probabilities.



#### **Disassortative:**

Hubs tend to avoid linking to each other.

#### Quantifying degree correlations (three approaches):

- → full statistical description (Maslov and Sneppen, Science 2001)
- → degree correlation function (Pastor Satorras and Vespignani, PRL 2001)
- → correlation coefficient (Newman, PRL 2002)

 $e_{jk}$ : probability to find a node with degree *j* and degree *k* at the two ends of a randomly selected edge

$$\sum_{j,k} e_{jk} = 1 \qquad \sum_{j} e_{jk} = q_k$$

 $q_k$ : the probability to have a degree k node at the end of a link.

Where:  $q_k = rac{kp_k}{\langle k 
angle}$ 

Probability to find a node at the end of a link is biased towards the more connected nodes, i.e.  $q_k=Ckp_{k,}$  where C is a normalization constant . After normalization we find C=1/<k>, or  $q_k=kp_k/<k>$ 

If the network has no degree correlations:  $e_{jk} = q_j q_k$ 

Deviations from this prediction are a signature of *degree correlation*.

#### EXAMPLE: e<sub>jk</sub> FOR A SCALE-FREE NETWORK



#### **Assortative:**

More strength in the diagonal, hubs tend to link to each other.

#### Neutral

#### **Disassortative:**

Hubs tend to connect to small nodes.





k

#### **EXAMPLE:** $e_{ik}$ FOR A SCALE-FREE NETWORK

# Perfectly assortative network:

 $e_{jk}=q_k\delta_{jk}$ 

Perfectly disassortative network:

#### **Assortative:**

More strength in the diagonal, hubs tend to link to each other.

#### **Disassortative:**

Hubs tend to connect to small nodes.





k

#### **REAL-WORLD EXAMPLES**



More strength in the diagonal, hubs tend to link to each other.





#### Network Science: Degree Correlations

(1) Difficult to extract information from a visual inspection of a matrix.

(2) Based on  $e_{jk}$  and hence requires a large number of elements to inspect:



#### We need to find a way to reduce the information contained in $e_{ik}$

#### <u>Average next neighbor degree</u>

 $k_{annd}$  (k): average degree of the first neighbors of nodes with degree k.

$$k_{annd}(k) = \sum_{k'} k' P(k' \mid k) = \frac{\sum_{k'} k' e_{kk'}}{\sum_{k'} e_{kk'}}$$



No degree correlations: 
$$k_{annd}(k) = \frac{\sum_{k'} k' e_{kk'}}{\sum_{k'} e_{kk'}} = \frac{\sum_{k'} k' q_k q_{k'}}{q_k} = \sum_{k'} k' q_{k'} = \sum_{k'} k' \frac{k' p(k')}{\langle k \rangle} = \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle}{\langle k \rangle}$$

#### If there are no degree correlations, $k_{annd}(k)$ is independent of k.

R. Pastor-Satorras, A. Vázquez, A. Vespignani, Phys. Rev. E 65, 066130 (2001)

## k<sub>annd</sub>(k) FOR REAL NETWORKS



 $k_{annd}(k)$ : average degree of the first neighbors of nodes with degree k.

constraint: 
$$\sum_{k}^{k} k_{annd}(k) \cdot k N p_{k} = \sum_{k}^{k} k^{2} \cdot N p_{k} \longrightarrow k_{max} - 1 \text{ independent}$$

$$k_{max} - 1 \text{ independent}$$
elements

 $k_{annd}(k)$  is a *k*-dependent function, hence it has much fewer parameters, and it is easier to interpret/read.

R. Pastor-Satorras, A. Vázquez, A. Vespignani, Phys. Rev. E 65, 066130 (2001)

#### PEARSON CORRELATION

If there are degree correlations,  $e_{jk}$  will differ from  $q_jq_k$ . The magnitude of the correlation is captured by  $\langle jk \rangle - \langle j \rangle \langle k \rangle$  difference, which is:

$$\sum_{jk} jk(e_{jk} - q_j q_k)$$

<jk>-<j><k> is expected to be:

*positive* for *assortative* networks, *zero* for *neutral* networks, *negative* for *dissasortative* networks

To compare different networks, we should normalize it with its maximum value; the maximum is reached for a *perfectly assortative network*, i.e.  $e_{ik}=q_k\delta_{ik}$ 

normalization:

$$\sigma_r^2 = \max \sum_{jk} jk(e_{jk} - q_j q_k) = \sum_{jk} jk(q_k \delta_{jk} - q_j q_k)$$

$$r = \frac{\sum_{jk} jk(e_{jk} - q_j q_k)}{\sigma_r^2} -1 \le r \le 1$$

$$r \ge 0$$

$$r \ge 0$$

$$r \ge 0$$

$$r \ge 0$$

#### **REAL NETWORKS**

	Network	n	r
	Physics coauthorship (a)	52 909	0.363
Social networks	Biology coauthorship (a)	1 520 251	0.127
	Mathematics coauthorship (b)	253 339	0.120
ale assoliative	Film actor collaborations (c)	449 913	0.208
	Company directors (d)	7 673	0.276
	Internet (e)	10 697	-0.189
	World-Wide Web (f)	269 504	-0.065
	Protein interactions (g)	2115	-0.156
Neural network (h) Marine food web (i) Freshwater food web (j) Random graph (u)	Neural network (h)	307	-0.163
	Marine food web (i)	134	-0.247
	92	-0.276	
		0	
	Callaway et al. (v)		$\delta/(1+2\delta)$
Barabási and Albert (w)		0	

#### r>0: assortative network:

Hubs tend to connect to other hubs.

#### r<0: disassortative network:

Hubs tend to connect to small nodes.

### **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN r AND k**annd

In general case we need to know  $q_k$  and  $k_{annd}(k)$  to calculate r.

Assuming: 
$$k_{annd}(k) = a \cdot k + b$$

#### Using the constraint for ANND:

$$\langle k^{2} \rangle = \langle k_{annd}(k)k \rangle = \sum_{k'} a \cdot k^{2} p_{k} + b \cdot k p_{k} = a \langle k^{2} \rangle + b \langle k \rangle \longrightarrow b = \frac{(1-a)\langle k^{2} \rangle}{\langle k \rangle}$$

$$r = \frac{\sum_{k} k \cdot (a \cdot k + b) q_{k} - \frac{\langle k^{2} \rangle^{2}}{\langle k \rangle^{2}}}{\sigma_{r}^{2}} = \frac{\sum_{k} k \cdot \left(a \cdot k + \frac{(1-a)\langle k^{2} \rangle}{\langle k \rangle}\right) \frac{k p_{k}}{\langle k \rangle} - \frac{\langle k^{2} \rangle^{2}}{\langle k \rangle^{2}}}{\sigma_{r}^{2}} = \frac{a \left(\sum_{k} k^{3} \frac{p_{k}}{\langle k \rangle} - \frac{\langle k^{2} \rangle^{2}}{\langle k \rangle^{2}}\right) + \frac{\langle k^{2} \rangle^{2}}{\langle k \rangle^{2}} - \frac{\langle k^{2} \rangle^{2}}{\langle k \rangle^{2}}}{\sigma_{r}^{2}} = a$$
Network Science: D

egree Correlat

#### **PROBLEM WITH THE PREVIOUS DEVIATION:** k<sub>annd</sub>(k)~k<sup>β</sup>



#### CONNECTION WITH ANND

Assuming:

$$k_{annd}(k) = a \cdot k^{\beta}$$

Using the constraint for ANND:  $\langle k^2 \rangle = \langle k_{annd}(k)k \rangle = \sum a \cdot k^{\beta+1} p_k = a \langle k^{\beta+1} \rangle \longrightarrow a = \frac{\langle k^- \rangle}{\langle k^{\beta+1} \rangle}$ 



 $\beta < 0 \rightarrow r < 0$  $\beta = 0 \rightarrow r = 0$  $\beta > 0 \rightarrow r > 0$ 

# CONNECTION BETWEEN R AND k<sub>ANND</sub>

$$\beta = 0: \qquad \frac{\left\langle k^{\beta+2} \right\rangle}{\left\langle k^{\beta+1} \right\rangle} - \frac{\left\langle k^2 \right\rangle}{\left\langle k \right\rangle} = \frac{\left\langle k^2 \right\rangle}{\left\langle k \right\rangle} - \frac{\left\langle k^2 \right\rangle}{\left\langle k \right\rangle} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad r = 0$$

$$\left\langle k^{\alpha+\beta} \right\rangle = \sum_{k_{\min}}^{k_{\max}} k^{\alpha+\beta} p_{k} \sum_{k_{\min}}^{k_{\max}} k^{\alpha} p_{k} = k_{\max}^{\beta} \left\langle k^{\alpha} \right\rangle$$
$$> k_{\min}^{\beta} \sum_{k_{\min}}^{k_{\max}} k^{\alpha} p_{k} = k_{\min}^{\beta} \left\langle k^{\alpha} \right\rangle$$

Network Science: Degree Correlations

#### **DEGREE CORRELATION IN NETWORKS**



Network Science: Degree Correlations

#### **GENERATING NETWORK WITH GIVEN ASSORTATIVITY**

#### We have a desired $e_{ik}$ distribution, which also specifies $p_k$ .

- 1. Generate a network with the desired degree distribution using the configuration model.
- 2. Choose two links at random from the network:  $(v_1, w_1)$  and  $(v_2, w_2)$ .
- 3. Measure the degrees j<sub>1</sub>, k<sub>1</sub>, j<sub>2</sub>, k<sub>2</sub> of nodes v<sub>1</sub>, w<sub>1</sub>, v<sub>2</sub>, w<sub>2</sub>. Replace the two selected links with two new ones (v<sub>1</sub>,v<sub>2</sub>) and (w<sub>1</sub>,w<sub>2</sub>) with probability

$$P = \begin{cases} \frac{e_{j_1 j_2} e_{k_1 k_2}}{e_{j_1 k_1} e_{k_2 j_2}} & \text{if } e_{j_1 j_2} e_{k_1 k_2} < e_{j_1 k_1} e_{k_2 j_2} \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

1. Repeat from step 2.

The algorithm is ergodic and satisfies detailed balance, therefore in the long time limit it samples the desired network ensemble correctly.

#### **GENERATING NETWORK WITH GIVEN ASSORTATIVITY**

- 2. Choose two edges random from the network:  $(v_1, w_1)$  and  $(v_2, w_2)$ .
- 3. Measure the degrees  $j_1$ ,  $k_1$ ,  $j_2$ ,  $k_2$  of vertices  $v_1$ ,  $w_1$ ,  $v_2$ ,  $w_2$ . Replace the two selected edges with two new ones ( $v_1$ , $v_2$ ) and ( $w_1$ , $w_2$ ) with probability





#### **GENERATING NETWORK WITH GIVEN ASSORTATIVITY**

If we only specify r we have great degree of freedom in choosing  $e_{ik}$ .

Possible choice for disassortative case:

$$e_{jk}^{(d)} = q_j x_k + x_j q_k - x_j x_k$$
 Where  $x_k$  is

Where  $x_k$  is any normalized distribution.

This form satisfies the constraints on  $e_{ik}$ :

$$\sum_{jk} e_{jk} = \sum_{jk} q_k x_j + x_k q_j - x_k x_j = 1 + 1 - 1 = 1 \qquad \sum_{jk} e_{jk} = \sum_{jk} q_k x_j + x_k q_j - x_k x_j = q_k + x_k - x_k = q_k$$

The *r* value can be easily calculated:

$$r_{d} = \frac{\sum_{jk} jk \left(q_{k} x_{j} + x_{k} q_{j} - x_{k} x_{j} - q_{k} q_{j}\right)}{\sigma_{r}^{2}} = \frac{2 \left\langle k \right\rangle_{q} \left\langle k \right\rangle_{x} - \left\langle k \right\rangle_{x}^{2} - \left\langle k \right\rangle_{q}^{2}}{\sigma_{r}^{2}} = -\frac{\left(\left\langle k \right\rangle_{x} - \left\langle k \right\rangle_{q}\right)^{2}}{\sigma_{r}^{2}}$$

Assortative case: 
$$e_{jk}^{(a)} = q_j q_k - e_{jk}^{(d)} \longrightarrow r_a = -r_d$$

#### M. E. J. Newman, Phys. Rev. E 67, 026126 (2003)



#### EXAMPLE: Erdős-Rényi



Network Science: Degree Correlations

# Structural cut-off

High assortativity  $\rightarrow$  high number of links between the hubs.

If we allow only one link between two nodes, we can simply run out of hubs to connect to each other to satisfy the assortativity criteria.

Number of edges between the set of

nodes with degree k and degree k':

$$E_{kk'} = e_{kk'} \langle k \rangle N$$

Maximum number of edges between the two groups:

$$m_{kk'} = \min\{kN_k, k'N_{k'}, N_kN_{k'}\}$$

There cannot be more links between the two groups, than the overall number of edges joining the nodes with degree k.

This is true even if we allow multiple edges.

If we only have **simple edges**, we cannot have more links between the two groups, than if we connect every node with degree k to every node with degree k' **once**.

M. Boguñá, R. Pastor-Satorras, A. Vespignani, EPJ B 38, 205 (2004)

# Structural cut-off

 $E_{kk'} = e_{kk'} \langle k \rangle N$  $m_{kk'} = \min\{kN_k, k'N_{k'}, N_kN_{k'}\}$ 

The ratio of  $E_{kk'}$  and  $m_{kk'}$  has to be  $\leq 1$  in the physical region!

$$r_{kk'} = \frac{E_{kk'}}{m_{kk'}} \le 1$$



k

• 
$$r_{k_sk_s} = 1$$
 defines the structural cut-off

M. Boguñá, R. Pastor-Satorras, A. Vespignani, EPJ B 38, 205 (2004)

# Structural cut-off for uncorrelated networks



#### k<sub>s</sub>(N) represents a structural cutoff:

one cannot have nodes with degree larger than  $k_s(N)$ ,

 $\rightarrow$ if there are nodes with  $k > k_s(N)$  we cannot find sufficient links between the highly connected nodes to maintain the neutral nature of the network.

#### Solution:

(a) Introduce a structural cutoff (i.e. do not allow nodes with k> k<sub>s</sub>(N)
 (b) Let the network become more dissasortative, having fewer links between hubs.

#### Example: Degree sequence introduces disassortativity



Scale-free network generated with the configuration model (N=300, L=450,  $\gamma$ =2.2).

#### The measured r=-0.19! $\rightarrow$ Dissasortative!

Red hub: 55 neighbors. Blue hub: 46 neighbors.

Let's calculate the expectation number of links between red node (k=55) and blue node (k=46) for uncorrelated networks!

 $p_{k'}$ 

In order for the network to be neutral, we need 2.8 links between these two hubs.



1 - CDF

#### The effect is particularly clear for N=10,000:



The red curves are those of interest to us: one can see that a clear dissasortativity property is visible in this case.

# Natural cutoffs in scale-free networks

All real networks are finite  $\rightarrow$  let us explore its consequences.  $\rightarrow$  We have an expected maximum degree,  $K_{max}$ 

#### Estimating K<sub>max</sub>

 $\int_{K_{\text{max}}}^{\infty} P(k) dk \approx \frac{1}{N}$  Why: the probability to have a node larger than  $K_{\text{max}}$  should not exceed the prob. to have one node, i.e. 1/N fraction of all nodes

$$\int_{K_{\text{max}}}^{\infty} P(k) dk = (\gamma - 1) K_{\min}^{\gamma - 1} \int_{K_{\text{max}}}^{\infty} k^{-\gamma} dk = \frac{(\gamma - 1)}{(-\gamma + 1)} K_{\min}^{\gamma - 1} \left[ k^{-\gamma + 1} \right]_{K_{\text{max}}}^{\infty} = \frac{K_{\min}^{\gamma - 1}}{K_{\max}^{\gamma - 1}} \approx \frac{1}{N}$$
Natural cutoff:  $K_{\max} = K_{\min} N^{\frac{1}{\gamma - 1}}$ 

# Structural cut-off for uncorrelated networks

Structural cutoff:
$$k_s(N) \sim (\langle k \rangle N)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
 $e_{kk'} = q_k q_{k'} = \frac{kk' p_k p_{k'}}{\langle k \rangle^2}$ Natural cut-off: $k_{max}(N) \sim N^{\frac{1}{\gamma-1}}$ 

**y=3:**  $k_s(N)$  and  $k_{max}(N)$  scale the same way, i.e.  $\sim N^{1/2}$ .

$$\gamma < 3: k_{max} > k_s \longrightarrow$$

The size of the largest hub is above the structural cutoff, which means that it cannot have enough links to the other hubs to maintain its neutral status.

 $\rightarrow$  disassortative mixing

 $\rightarrow$ a randomly wired network with  $\gamma$ <3 will be

(a) dissasortative

(b) Or will have to have a cutoff at  $k_s(N) < k_{max}(N)$ 

#### Example: introducing a structural cut-off



Scale-free network generated with the configuration model (N=300, L=450,  $\gamma$ =2.2) with structural cut-off ~  $N^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

#### $r=0.005 \rightarrow neutral$

Red hub: 12 neighbors. Blue hubs: 11 neighbors.

Again we can calculate the expectation number of edges between the hubs.

 $300 \approx 0.3 < 1$ 

 $p_{k'}$ 



1 - CDF

#### The effect is particularly clear for N=10,000:



A clear case of neutral assortativity property is visible in this case thanks to imposing structural cut-off.