## "Explosive" percolation transitions

(tomorrow: cascades on interdependent networks)


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## Networks are increasingly ubiquitous:


(Network: a collection of discrete nodes/vertices connected to others by edges)

## The past decade, a "Science of Networks": <br> (Physical, Biological, Social)

- Geometric versus virtual (Internet versus WWW).
- Natural /spontaneously arising versus engineered /built.
- Each network may optimize something unique.
- Fundamental similarities and differences to guide design/understanding/control.
- Interplay of topology and function?
- Up until now, studied largely as individual networks in isolation .


NRC, 2005

## Achievements of Single Network View

(Goal : Intuition, prediction, design, control)

- Power law (broad scale) degree distributions ubiquitous.
- Small world effect (small diameter and local clusters).
- Vulnerability to "hub" removal resilience to random removal.
- Percolation, spreading and epidemics (phase transitions)
- Cascades.
- Synchronization.
- Random walks / Page rank.
- Communities / modules.



## In reality a collection of interacting networks:



- E-commerce $\rightarrow$ WWW $\rightarrow$ Internet $\rightarrow$ Power grid $\rightarrow$ River networks.
- Biological virus $\rightarrow$ Social contact network $\rightarrow$ Transportation networks $\rightarrow$ Communication networks $\rightarrow$ Power grid $\rightarrow$ River networks.


## Modeling networks as random graphs

- Erdős and Rényi random graphs $(1959,1960)$. Phase transition.
- Configuration models (Bollobás 1980, Molloy \& Reed RSA 1995).


Node degree is number of edges.

- Preferential attachment (Barbási-Albert 1999, etc.)
- Growth by copying (Kumar, Raghavan, Rajagopalan, Sivakumar, Tomkins, Upfal FOCS 2000), including duplication/mutation (Vazquez, Flammini, Maritan, Vespignani, ComPlexUs 2003)
- Random graphs analysis considers the ensemble of all graphs that can be constructed consistent with specified properties.


## Configuration models

- (Bollobás 1980, Molloy \& Reed RSA 1995).
- Enumerating over the ensemble of all networks with specified degree distribution. $\left\{p_{k}\right\}$ is fraction of nodes with degree $k$.
- To generate an instance: Begin with isolated nodes with halfedges and do a random matching. (Self-edges \& multiple edges possible).


Node degrees sampled from $p_{k}$.

- Probability generating functions $G(x)=\sum_{k} p_{k} x^{k}$, allow us to calculate moments/properties of the ensemble.
c.f. Newman, Watts, Strogatz, "Random graphs with arbitrary degree distributions and their applications" PRE 2001.


## Does a random graph really model an individual engineered or biological system?

- Ensemble (mean-field) not necessarily representative! Doyle, et. al., PNAS 102 (4)2005.

All these have same deg dist, $p_{i}$ :


- Neglects design principles: Redundancy, degree correlations, local optimization (Although D'Souza, et. al. PNAS 2007), ...
- M. E. J. Newman PRL 103 (2009) - Augment degree by adding in small motifs (i.e., triangles). See also work by J. Gleeson.


## The "classic" random graph, $G(n, p)$

- P. Erdős and A. Rényi, "On random graphs", Publ. Math. Debrecen. 1959.
- P. Erdős and A. Rényi, "On the evolution of random graphs", Publ. Math. Inst. Hungar. Acad. Sci. 1960.
- E. N. Gilbert, "Random graphs", Annals of Mathematical Statistics, 1959.

- Start with $n$ isolated vertices.
- Consider each possible edge, and add it with probability $p$.


## What does the resulting graph look like?

(Typical member of the ensemble)

## $G(n=300, p)$

$p=1 / 400=0.0025$

$p=1 / 200=0.005$

## Emergence of a unique "giant component" Phase transition in connectivity



- $p_{c}=1 / n$.
- $p<p_{c}, C_{\max } \sim \log (n)$
- $p=p_{c}, \quad C_{\max } \sim n^{2 / 3}$
- $p>p_{c}, \quad C_{\max } \sim A \cdot n$

Expected \# of edges per node
$t=e / n=p(n-1) / 2$

$$
\text { so } t_{c}=1 / 2
$$

## Erdős-Rényi: unique "giant component"

- $t<1 / 2, \quad C_{\max } \sim \mathrm{O}(\ln n)$
- $t=1 / 2, \quad C_{\text {max }}=n^{2 / 3}$
- $t>1 / 2, \quad C_{\max } \sim A n, \quad$ with $A>1$
- The critical window

Bollobás, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., 286 (1984).
 Luczak, Random Structures and Algorithms, 1 (1990).

$$
t=1+\lambda n^{-1 / 3} \quad(\text { where } t=2 e / n)
$$

- Mean field critical exponents
e.g., Grimmett, Percolation. 2nd Edition. Springer-Verlag. 1999.

$$
\chi \sim\left(t_{c}-t\right)^{-\gamma}, \quad \text { with } \gamma=1
$$

where $\chi$ is the expected size of the component to which an arbitrarily chosen vertex belongs.

## Is connectivity a good thing? <br> (Context dependence)



- Communications, Transportation, Synchronization, ... versus
- Spread of human or computer viruses

Can any limited perturbation change the phase transition?
[Bohman, Frieze, RSA 19, 2001]
[Achlioptas, D'Souza, Spencer, Science 323, 2009]

- Possible to Enhance or Delay the onset?
- The "Product Rule"
- Choose two edges at random each step.
- Add only the desirable edge and discard the other.

- The Power of Two Choices in randomized algorithms. Azar; Broder; Mitzenmacher; Upfal; Karlin;


## ProdRule: Explicit example



- Prod $e_{1}=(7) \times(2)=14$
- $\operatorname{Prod} e_{2}=(4) \times(4)=16$
- To enhance choose $e_{2}$. To delay choose $e_{1}$.


## Product Rule

- Delay -

Extremely abrupt


## The scaling window, $\Delta$ from $n^{1 / 2}$ to $0.5 n$

- Let $e_{0}$ denote the last edge added for which $C_{\max }<n^{1 / 2}$. (Recall ER has $n^{2 / 3}$ at $t_{c}$.)
- Let $e_{1}$ denote the first edge added for which $C_{\max }>0.5 n$.
- Let $\Delta=e_{1}-e_{0}$.

(A)
$\mathrm{ER}($ and BF$) \Delta \sim n$

(B)

PR $\Delta \sim n^{2 / 3}$.

PR From $n^{1 / 2}$ to $0.5 n$ in number of edges that is sublinear in $n$.

## In terms of edge density or "time", $t_{c}$, where $t=e / n$

 (Note, for ER, $t_{c}=1 / 2$ )- For $t<t_{c}, C_{\max }<n^{1 / 2}$.
- For $t>t_{c}, C_{\max }>0.5 n$.


Jumps "instantaneously" from $C_{\max }=n^{1 / 2}$ to $0.5 n$.

## Why this is surprising

Percolation theory on networks and lattices serves as a theoretical underpinning for :

- Onset of epidemic spreading
- Flow through porous media / random transport
- Vulnerability and resilience of networks
- Many prior variants (bond, site, directed, ...) on many types of networks and lattices; All continuous transitions.
- Continuous phase transitions are accompanied by critical scaling which can provide warning signs.


## "Explosive Percolation in Random Networks"

From $n^{\gamma}$ to greater than $0.6 n$ "instantaneously" (Compelling evidence that the transition is discontinuous)
$C_{\text {max }}$ jumps from sublinear $n^{\gamma}$ to $\geq 0.5 n$ in $n^{\beta}$ edges, with $\beta, \gamma<1$.


Nontrivial Scaling behaviors

$$
\gamma+1.2 \beta=1.3 \text { for } A \in[0.1,0.6]
$$



Achlioptas, D’Souza, Spencer, Science, 323 (5920), 2009

## Many more EP systems and mechanisms now discovered

(Condensed list here)
Lattice percolation, power law graphs, cluster aggregation:

- R. Ziff, Phys. Rev. Lett. 103, 045701 (2009).
- Y. S. Cho, J. S. Kim, J. Park, B. Kahng, D. Kim, Phys. Rev. Lett. 103, 135702 (2009).
- F. Radicchi, S. Fortunato, Phys. Rev. Lett. 103, 168701 (2009).
- E. J. Friedman, A. S. Landsberg, Phys. Rev. Lett. 103, 255701 (2009).
- Y.S. Cho, B. Kahng, D. Kim, Phys. Rev. E (R), 2010.
- R. M. D'Souza, M. Mitzenmacher, Phys. Rev. Lett. 104, 195702 (2010).
- Araújo, Andrade Jr, Ziff, Herrmann, Phys. Rev. Lett. 106, 095703 (2011).
- Hooyberghs, Van Schaeybroeck, Phys. Rev. E 83, 032101 (2011).
- Gomez-Gardenes, Gomez, Arenas, Moreno, Phys. Rev. Lett. in press.

Observed in real world:

- Rozenfeld, Gallos, Makse; Eur. Phys. J. B, 75, 305-310, (2010). (PHN)
- Pan, Kivelä, Jari Saramäki, Kaski, Kertész, Phys. Rev. E 83, (2011). (Communities)
- Y. Kim, Y.-k. Yun, and S.-H. Yook, Phys. Rev. E 82, 061105 (2010). (Nanotubes)
- Growth of Wikipedias (Bounova, personal communication.)


## Alternate mechanisms (with out competition):

- Araújo, Herrmann, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 035701 (2010).
- W. Chen, R. M. D'Souza, Phys. Rev. Lett. 106, 115701 (2011).


## Beyond "Product Rule": Models with fixed choice

- "Achlioptas process": examine fixed number of edges, add the one that optimizes a pre-set criterion.
"Sum rule", Adjacent edge, Triangle rule, k-clique rule, etc., all also work.
- Novel subcritical behavior : components are similar in size; many almost linear size components

Rank-size top 1000 at t=t_c


- Applications: Community detection, Minimizing interference in wireless networks, Wikipedia growth....


## "Explosive Percolation": Some caveats

- "Weakly discontinuous" :
$\Delta C_{\text {max }}$, the biggest change in $C_{1}$ due to addition of a single edge, decays with system size. (Nagler, et. al, Nature Physics, 2011).
- In limit $n \rightarrow \infty$, fixed choice rules are continuous!
- da Costa, Dorogovtsev, Goltsev, Mendes, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, (2010).
- Riordan and Warnke, Science 333, (2011).
- Infinite choice : if number of choices $k \rightarrow \infty$ as number of nodes $n \rightarrow \infty$, this is sufficient for discontinuous transition.
e.g. $k=\log (n)$.
- As $n \rightarrow \infty$, jump $\Delta C_{\text {max }} \rightarrow 0$, but for $n \sim 10^{18}, \Delta C_{\max }$ can be of size 0.1 n .

The $n \rightarrow \infty$ limit is not the regime of real-world networks.
e.g., social networks $n \leq 10^{10}$

## Percolation as cluster aggregation models

- Excellent review on percolation as cluster aggregation:
D. J. Aldous, "Deterministic and stochastic models for coalescence (aggregation and coagulation): A review of the mean-field theory for probabilists", Bernoulli, 5(1): 348, 1999.
(Scientific Modeling (SM) mathematics rather than Theorem-Proof (TP) mathematics.)
- Assume each edge merges two previously distinct components, with probability of connecting a component of size $x$ and one of size $y$, proportional to kernel $K(x, y)$.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
K(x, y)=1 & \text { uniform attachment / size independent } \\
K(x, y)=x y & \text { "gravitational attraction" / this is Erdős-Rényi. }
\end{array}
$$

$$
\left(F_{\text {gravity }}=-M_{1} M_{2} / r_{12}^{2}\right)
$$



## Smoluchowski family of coagulation equations

- Given kernel $K(x, y)$
- Evolution of $n(x, t)$, the expected number of clusters of size $x$ at time $t$.
- Mean-field over all graphs (ensemble properties)

$$
\frac{d}{d t} n(x, t)=\frac{1}{2} \sum_{y=1}^{x-1} K(y, x-y) n(y, t) n(x-y, t)-n(x, t) \sum_{y=1}^{\infty} K(x, y) n(y, t)
$$

## Smoluchowski approach to "Explosive Percolation"

- Y.S. Cho, B. Kahng, D. Kim; Phys. Rev. E 81, 030103(R), 2010. "Cluster aggregation model for discontinuous percolation transition"
- R.D. and M. Mitzenmacher, "Local cluster aggregation models of explosive percolation", Phys. Rev. Lett., 104, 2010.

Adjacent edge: Let $x_{i}=i n(i, t)$ (fraction of nodes) $\frac{d x_{i}}{d t}=-i x_{i}-i\left(2 x_{i} S_{i}-x_{i}^{2}\right)+i \sum_{j+k=i} x_{j}\left(2 x_{k} S_{k}-x_{k}^{2}\right)$


- S. S. Manna and Arnab Chatterjee "A new route to Explosive Percolation", Physica A 390, 177182 (2011).
- R. A. da Costa, S. N. Dorogovtsev, A. V. Goltsev, J. F. F. Mendes, "'Explosive Percolation' Transition is Actually Continuous", Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 255701 (2010).


## da Costa, et al PRL 2010

- Define $P(s, t)=s n(s, t) /\langle s\rangle$, distribution of finite component sizes to which a randomly chosen vertex belongs.
- Use a (mean-field) Smoluchowski-type eqn:

$$
\frac{\partial P(s, t)}{\partial t}=s \sum_{u+v=s} Q(u, t) Q(v, t)-2 s Q(s, t)
$$

- Size of largest component, $S(t)=1-\sum_{i} P(s, t) \cong 1-\sum_{i=1}^{10^{6}} P(s, t)$.
- If assume $P\left(s, t_{c}\right)$ is distributed according to a power law, obtain the main result: critical behavior, $S(t) \sim\left(t-t_{c}\right)^{\beta}$, with $\beta=0.0555 \approx 1 / 18$.
- Jump: $\Delta S=S\left(t_{c}^{+}\right)-S\left(t_{c}\right)=S\left(t_{c}^{+}\right)-o(n) \sim\left(t_{c}^{+}-t_{c}\right)^{\beta}=(1 / n)^{\beta}$
- If $n=10^{18}$, jump $=0.1 \mathrm{n} \ldots$ ten percent of system!

Are any real social or technological networks of size $n \sim 10^{18} \boldsymbol{?}$

## Riordan and Warnke, Science 2011

- Rigorous proof: Any fixed choice process ultimately continuous!
- Proof by contradiction. ("The vanishing 'powder keg'")
- $\Delta$, the scaling window from our PR simulations, will ultimately crossover to linear in $n$, but no estimate of crossover length from these arguments.
- Moreover, AP's can be nonconvergent (no scaling limit). (arXiv.1111.6177) Typically assume $\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} C_{1}=A(t) n$ once $t>t_{c}$
(That there is a function $A(t)$ that describes the growth of $C_{1}$ in the supercritical regime.)
translated into physics terminology:

"Achlioptas processes are not always self-averaging", to appear PRE


## Beyond choice and competition: Discontinuous percolation other mechanisms

- Control only of the largest cluster
- Araujo, N. A. M. \& Herrmann, H. J. Explosive percolation via control of the largest cluster. Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 035701 (2010).
- Araujo, et. al. Tricritical point in explosive percolation. Phys. Rev. Lett. 106, (2011). ('tri-critical" points separate region of 1st order (discontinuous) from 2nd order (continuous) transitions).
- W. Chen and R.D. Phys. Rev. Lett. 83 (2011).
- Cooperative phenomena
- Bhizani, Paczuski, Grassberger "Discontinuous percolation transitions in epidemic processes, surface deppining in random media and Hamiltonian graphs". in press PRE
- Correlated percolation
- L. Cao, J. M. Schwarz, "Correlated percolation and tricriticality", arXiv:1206.1028
- Dressing up a simple structure (one-dim lattice with hierarchy of longrange bonds) Boettcher, Singh, Ziff, Nature Communications, 3:787 (2012).
- Restricted Erdős-Rényi: Choose one node at random, one from restricted set. Panagiotou, et. al. Elec. Notes. Disc. Math. 2011.


## A deterministic model

Friedman, Landsberg PRL (2009); Rozenfeld, et. al. EPJB (2010); Nagler, Levina, Timme, Nature Phys. (2011)

- (a) Phase $k=2$, merge all isolated nodes into pairs.
- (b) Phase $k=4$, merge pairs into size 4 components.
- (c) Phase $k=8$, merge pairs of 4's into 8's.
- etc.

- At edge $e=n$ (time $t=1$ ) one giant of size $n$ emerges
(Giant emerges when only one component remains)


## Re-visiting the Bohman Frieze Wormald model (BFW)

(Random Structures \& Algorithms, 25(4):432-449, (2004))

- A stochastic model, which exams a single-edge at a time.
- Like deterministic, start with $n$ isolated vertices, and stage $k=2$.
- Sample edges uniformly at random from the complete graph on $n$ nodes.
- Can reject edges provided the fraction of accepted remains greater than a function decaying with phase $k$. Let:
$u$ be number of edges sampled, $t$ be the number accepted:


## Fraction of accepted edges,

$$
t / u \geq g(k)=1 / 2+(2 k)^{-1 / 2}
$$

(Note: $\lim _{k \rightarrow \infty} g(k) \rightarrow 1 / 2$ )


## The BFW model

- Start with $n$ isolated vertices, and cap on maximum component set to $k=2$.
- Examine an edge selected uniformly at random from the complete graph:

1. If the resulting component size $\leq k$, accept the edge.
2. Otherwise reject that edge if possible (meaning the fraction of accepted edges $t / u \geq g(k)$ ).
3. Else augment $k \rightarrow k+1$, and repeat (1) and (2), with (3) if necessary. (Step 3 executes for "troubling edge")


When troubling edge encountered, $k \rightarrow k+1$ until either:

- The edge can be rejected due to sufficient decrease of $g(k)$
- The edge can be accepted due to $k$ large enough.


## The BFW model stated formally

- Initially $n$ isolated nodes with cap on maximum size set to $k=2$.
- Let $u$ denote the total number of edges sampled
- $A$ the set of accepted edges (initially $A=\emptyset$ )
- $t=|A|$ the number of accepted edges.

At each step $u$, select edge $e_{u}$ uniformly at random from complete graph, and apply the following loop:

```
Set \(l=\) maximum size component in \(A \cup\left\{e_{u}\right\}\)
    if \((l \leq k)\{\)
    \(A \leftarrow A \cup\left\{e_{u}\right\}\)
    \(u \leftarrow u+1\}\)
    else if \((t / u<g(k))\{k \leftarrow k+1\}\)
    else \(\{u \leftarrow u+1\}\)
```

- If the edge $e_{u}$ is troubling and $t / u<g(k)$, augment $k$ repeatedly until either:
(i) $k$ increases sufficiently that $e_{u}$ is accepted or
(ii) $g(k)$ decreases sufficiently that $e_{u}$ is rejected.


## Simultaneous emergence of multiple stable giants in a strongly discontinuous transition (Wei Chen and R.D. Phys. Rev. Lett. 83 (2011).)

- Two stable giants!

$$
\left(C_{1}=0.570, C_{2}=0.405 .\right)
$$

- Fraction of internal cluster edges $>1 / 2$.
- (If restrict to sampling only edges that span clusters, only one giant ultimately.)

¿ "Strongly" discontinuous (gap independent of $n$ )

$$
\Delta C_{1} \approx 0.165
$$

## Tuning the number of stable giants

## (Wei Chen and R.D. Phys. Rev. Lett. 83 (2011).)

- Now let $g(k)=\alpha+(2 k)^{-1 / 2}$. Smaller $\alpha$ more edges can be rejected. $\alpha$ determines number of stable giants!



- Multiple stable giants, not anticipated. ("uniqueness of the giant component" / gravitational coalescence of Smoluchowski kernel $K(x, y)=x y$ )
- Applications for multiple giants? (Communications, epidemiology, building blocks for modular networks, polymerization (Krapivsky, Ben-Naim)...)


## Evolution of component density for BFW



- For $\beta=0.5$ no scaling. Separates into components of size $O(n)$ and $<\log (n)$.
- For $\beta=0.5$ and $\beta=2.0$ no finite size effects in the location of the "hump" (inset), unlike for PR where location depends on $n$. (c.f. Lee, Kim, Park: data collapse)
- No scaling, no "early warning signs" (Scheffer, et. al. Nature (2009).


## Deriving the underlying mechanism: Slow decay of $g(k)$ leads to growth by overtaking

(Wei Chen and R.D, arXiv:1106.2088)

- Instead of $g(k)=1 / 2+(2 k)^{-1 / 2}$ now let $g(k)=1 / 2+(2 k)^{-\beta}$
- Procedure: analyze by how much $k$ must grow before $g(k)$ would decrease sufficiently to reject troubling edge.

- For $\beta \in(0.5,1]$, an increase in $k \sim n^{\beta}$ is always sufficient to reject a troubling edge. Slow increase in $k$ means:
- Growth by overtaking*: two smaller components merge becoming new $C_{1}$. - Multiple components of size $O(n)$ before the largest jump.


- For $\beta>1$, once stage $k=n^{1 / \beta}$, troubling edges must be accepted at times, leading to large direct growth of $C_{1}$, and a weakly discontinuous transition.
* Consistent with Nagler, et. al., Nature Phys (2011), for direct growth forbidden.


## More generally, macroscopic jump means: Multiple giants coexist in critical window

- Note, we define as the critical point $t_{c}$, the single edge who's addition causes the biggest change, $\Delta C_{1}$. (Recall $C_{1}$ is the fraction of nodes in the largest component.)
- If $\Delta C_{1}>0$ there necessarily existed another macroscopic component. e.g. If $\Delta C_{1}=0.1$ that means $C_{1}$ merged with a component of size $\left|C_{j}\right|=0.1 n$.
- Let $t_{c}^{\prime}$ denote emergence of giant.
- Let $t_{c}$ denote largest jump in $C_{1}$
- Is $t_{c}=t_{c}^{\prime}$ ??


Is $t_{c}=t_{c}^{\prime}$ ?


## "Explosive Percolation" Conclusions \& Future Directions:

- Delaying percolation leads to abrupt connectivity transition.
- Finite choice results in continuous transition for $n \rightarrow \infty$. But large jumps (e.g., 0.2 n to 0.5 n ) for sizes of real-world networks ( $\mathrm{n}=10^{10}$ ) Can we develop a rigorous finite size scaling theory?
- Is $t_{c}=t_{c}^{\prime}$ ?
- Mechanisms:
- $\log (n)$ choices (i.e. infinite choice)
- evolving cap on largest component,
- cooperation / correlations
- specialized structures (e.g., hierarchical small world 1-D lattices, restricted Erdős-Rényi)
- Applications based on keeping clusters distributed in space and of similar size - community structure detection, wireless networks, going viral through local community growth....


## Tomorrow?

## Methods

- Probability generating functions / configuration models
- Cluster aggregation evolution equations / Smoluchowski equations
- Multitype branching processes


## Models

- Cascades on interconnected networks

