Information Retrieval and Recommeder Systems (IRRS)
Master in Data Science (MDS)

Session 7: Network Analysis

Exercise List, Fall 2022

Basic comprehension questions.
Check that you can answer them before proceeding. Not for credit.

1. Make sure you know how to generate Erdős-Rényi, Watts-Strogatz, and Barabasi-Albert networks.

2. Enumerate basic differences between "real-world" networks and Erdős-Rényi networks.

3. Define what a *small-world* network is.

4. Define what a *scale-free* network is.

5. Define the three notions of centrality seen in class

Exercises for credit. Solving three of these exercises (not solved by the instructors in class) suffice for full credit for this assignment.

Exercise 1

Tell which of the networks in the following table are random according to the ER model seen in class. In the table, n stands for the number of nodes, m for the number of edges, and C for the clustering coefficient. Justify your answer.

	n	m	C
X1	4941	6594	0.08
X2	125	560	0.07
X3	256985	7778954	0.009

Exercise 2

Compute the global and local clustering coefficient of the following networks:

(1)   (2)   (3)   (4)
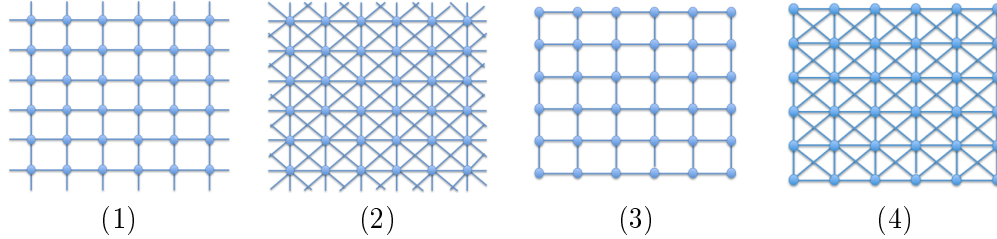
1. Infinite two-dimensional grid, where each node is connected to its 4 closest neighbors

2. Infinite two-dimensional grid, where each node is connected to its 8 closest neighbors

3. $n \times n$ two-dimentional grid, where each internal node is connected to its 4 closest neighbors, nodes along the sides are connected to 3 closest neighbors, and nodes in the corners have 2 neighbors.

4. $n \times n$ two-dimentional grid, where each internal node is connected to its 8 closest neighbors, nodes along the sides are connected to 5 closest neighbors, and nodes in the corners have 3 neighbors.

Exercise 3

Design an algorithmic test that, given an undirected network represented by its adjacency matrix, determines whether or not the input network is likely to be a real-world network. What is the complexity of your algorithm?

Exercise 4

Consider the following two different network growth models:

1. When nodes are added, the probability of attaching the new node to nodes already in the network is proportional to the nodes' degrees (Barabasi-Albert model).

2. When nodes are added, the probability of attaching the new node to nodes already in the network is uniform among all existing nodes (random growth model).

Using Freeman's general formula of centralization, what type of network do you think will be more centralized? Please justify.

Exercise 5

In the following scenarios, which of the centrality measures (degree, betweenness, closeness, PageRank) would you use and how. Please justify your answer.

1. You are a Government Agency, and you want to disrupt a peer to peer network.

2. You are an extremely curious person, and you want to know all the gossip around your network of friends.

3. You are a good doctor, and you want to stop an epidemic (nodes in the network are people, edges are physical connections between people).

4. You like to be in the spotlight, and in order to do that you need to be the only one spreading all the gossip around your network of friends.

Exercise 6

Use your favourite community structure finding algorithm to find 2 communities in the following simple network. Describe in detail what you have done.