# Social Network Analysis 

## \#3 Graphs

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## Euler \& the 7 bridges of Königsberg (1736)



How to walk through the city by crossing each bridge only once?

## Networks as graphs



Graph $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{V}, \boldsymbol{\mathcal { E }})$ : network
$\square$ Vertices (set $\mathcal{V}$ ) : nodes, people, concepts
$\square$ Edges (set $\mathcal{E}$ ): links, relations, associations


## Directed versus undirected

$\square$ A connection relationship can have a privileged direction or can be mutual
$\square$ Either a directed or an undirected link


If the network has only (un)directed links, it is also called itself (un)directed network
$\square$ Certain networks can have both types

## Directed versus undirected

$\square$ At first glance undirected $\rightarrow$ directed by duplicating links, but not necessarily quite the same though


## Some examples



## Can $U$ think of other social nets?



## Generality of representation



## Multi-graphs

$\square$ Multi-graphs (or pseudo-graphs)
Some network representations require multiple links (e.g., number of citations from one author to another)


## Weighted graph

## $\square$ Weighted graph

Sometimes a weight is associated to a link, e.g., to underline that the links are not identical (strong/weak relationships)

Can be seen as a generalization of multi-graphs (weight = \# of links)


```
e.g., strength of a tie
    0.2 = weak (acquaintances)
    1 = strong (friends)
    1.5 = stronger (close friends)
    2.3 = very strong (best friends)
```


## Signed graphs

$\square$ Edges can have signed values
positive if there is an agreement between nodes negative if there's a disagreement

$\square$ This is typical of correlation networks correlation = a measure of similarity
$\square$ More difficult to handle

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## Example

A personality network (Costantini et al, 2015)


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## Self-interactions

In many networks nodes do not interact with themselves
$\square$ To account for self-interactions, we add loops to represent them


## Adjacency matrix

## $\square$ An adjacency matrix $A=\left[a_{i j}\right]$ associated to graph $\boldsymbol{G}$ has

entries $a_{i j}=0$ if nodes $i$ and $j$ are not connected if nodes $i$ and $j$ are connected then $a_{i j} \neq 0$
in plain (binary) graphs $a_{i j}=\{1,0\}$


## Symmetries

$\square$ Undirected graph = symmetric matrix

$\square$ Directed graph $=$ asymmetric matrix


## Convention

$\square$ The weight $a_{i j}$ is associated to $i$ th row
$j$ th column
directed edge $j \rightarrow i$ starting from node $j$ and leading to node $i$


## Example



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which of these representations do you like best?

## Graph plots do not always carry relevant info



## Real networks are sparse

The adjacency matrix is typically sparse good for tractability !


## A question 4 u

So, what's the take-away so far?

## Storing network data

Adjacency matrix versus edge list

$$
\boldsymbol{A}=\left[\begin{array}{ccccccc} 
& l \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right]
$$



Which one do U think is better?

## Useful terms

$\square$ Path
a sequence of interconnected nodes (meaning each pair of nodes adjacent in the sequence are connected by a link)

$\square$ Path length
\# of links involved in the path (if the path involves $n$ nodes then the path link is $n-1$ )
$\square$ Cycle
path where starting and ending nodes coincide

## Useful terms

$\square$ Shortest path (between any two nodes) the path with the minimum length, which is called the distance
it is not unique!
$\square$ Diameter (of the network) the highest distance in the network

$\square$ Algorithms
available to compute distances: Dijkstra, Bellman-Ford, BFS

## Small world

$\square$ Average path length
average distance between all nodes pairs (apply an algorithm to all node couples, and take the average)
$\square$ In real networks distance between two randomly chosen nodes is generally short
$\square$ Milgram [1967]: 6 degrees of separation
$\square$ What does this mean?
We are more connected than we think

## We \& the US



## Connectivity

## $\square$ Connected graph (undirected)

for all couples $(i, j)$ there exists a path connecting them
if disconnected, we count the \# of connected components (e.g., use BFS and iterate)
$\square$ Giant component (the biggest one)
$\square$ Isolates (the other ones)


$$
\boldsymbol{A}=\left[\begin{array}{llllllll}
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0
\end{array}\right]
$$

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## Bridges (ideal definition)

$\square$ A bridge is a link between two connected components
its removal would make the network disconnected


## Bipartite graphs

## Connections are available only between the groups $\mathcal{V}_{1}$ and $\mathcal{V}_{2}$



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## Example



Tweets

## \#

Hashtags


## Meaning

$\square$ Bipartite graphs are useful to represents memberships/relationships, e.g., groups $\left(\mathcal{V}_{1}\right)$ to which people $\left(\mathcal{V}_{2}\right)$ belong
examples: movies/actors, classes/students, conferences/authors
$\square$ We can build separate networks (projections) for $\mathcal{V}_{1}$ and $\mathcal{V}_{2}$ (sometimes this is useful)
in the movies/actors example being linked can be interpreted in two ways: "actors in the same movie" (projection on $\mathcal{V}_{2}$ ), or "movies sharing the same actor" (projection on $\mathcal{V}_{1}$ )

## Projection on \#


\#climateaction tweets after Greta Thunberg

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## Example



## A bit of maths

The two projections on $\mathcal{V}_{1}$ and $\mathcal{V}_{2}$ can be obtained by inspecting the squared adjacency matrix $A^{2}$

> \# of common neighbors of $i=6$ and $j=5$

## Today take-aways

(un)Directed graphs
Weighted and signed graphs
$\square$ Adjacency matrix
Giant component, isolates, bridges
Bipartite graphs and projections

