

# Lecture 6 Small-world Networks

- small diameter
- High clustering coefficient  $C$

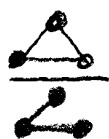
1.  $C$  - probability that a friend of a friend is a friend

Random networks:  $C \Rightarrow 0$

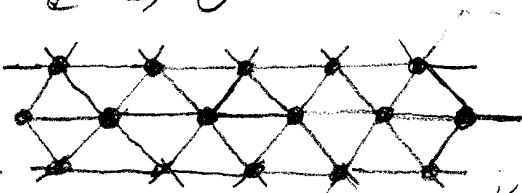
Insights from a triangular lattice

$$C = \frac{(\# \text{ of triangles}) \cdot 3}{\# \text{ of connected triples}}$$

$$= \frac{2n \cdot 3}{\binom{6}{2} n} = 0.4$$



6 - degree of each node



Unit cell

→ has 1/3

3 nodes

& 6 triangles

Each node has 2 triangles

$$C = 6$$

Another example: 1D ring



# Triangles: two steps within  $C/2$   
a.w. each node  $\binom{C/2}{2} = \frac{C}{4} (\frac{C}{2} - 1)$

$$C = \frac{\frac{C}{4} (\frac{C}{2} - 1) \cdot 3}{\frac{1}{2} C (C - 1)} = \frac{3}{4} \frac{C - 2}{C - 1} \in [0, \frac{3}{4}]$$

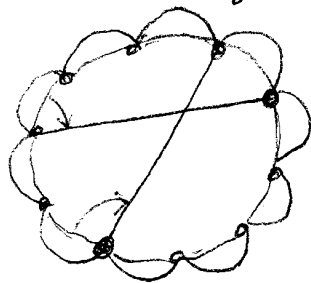
These simple, regular networks can generate large  $C$  values, but their diameters are also large  $\sim n$ .

Real social networks:  $\begin{cases} d \sim 0 \\ C \gg 0 \end{cases} (C \leq 1)$

2. Watts - Strogatz small-world network model

Ring network + short cuts

small in number



$p$  - probability of a shortcut between two nodes (randomly chosen)

rewiring probability

$k$  - # of shortcuts attached to any one node

$$k = C + S$$

$$n \langle S \rangle = \# \text{ of ends of shortcuts} = \frac{1}{2} n C \cdot 2 \cdot p = n C p$$

$$P_S = \binom{n-1}{S} p^S (1-p)^{n-1-S}$$

$$\langle S \rangle = C p$$

# of edges two ends for one shortcut

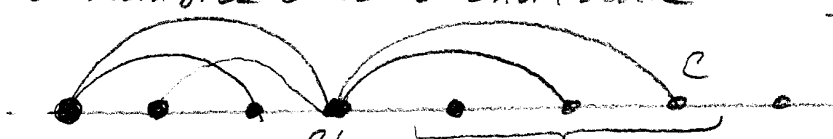
$$n \rightarrow \infty \quad p_s = e^{-cp} \frac{(cp)^s}{s!}$$

$$s = k - c \Rightarrow p_k = e^{-cp} \frac{(cp)^{k-c}}{(k-c)!} \quad n \binom{c-1}{k-c}$$

$c = ?$

- Triangles: ① Regular backbone:  $\frac{1}{4} n c (\frac{c}{2} - 1)$
- ② New triangles due to shortcuts

say  $c = 6$



# of paths of length two  $\sim n$

connected by a path of length two  
A shortcut  $\rightarrow$  triangle

a node's Probability of having such a shortcut  $\sim \frac{(\frac{1}{2} n c p)}{\binom{n}{2}} = \frac{c p}{n-1} \approx \frac{c p}{n}$

# of triangles due to shortcuts  $= n \cdot \frac{c p}{n} = c p$

Total # of triangles  $= \frac{1}{4} n c (\frac{c}{2} - 1) + c p \approx \frac{1}{4} n c (\frac{c}{2} - 1)$

- Connected triples

① From regular backbone:  $\frac{1}{2} c(c-1) \cdot n$

② shortcut + an edge in circle  $(\frac{1}{2} n c p) \cdot c \cdot 2 = n c^2 p$

③ pairs of shortcuts  
say, a node has  $S$  shortcuts  
# of shortcut triples from this node  $= \binom{S}{2} = \frac{1}{2} S(S-1)$

Expected # of each shortcut for one node:  $S$  - poisson distribution with mean  $cp$

$$\langle \binom{S}{2} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} (\langle S^2 \rangle - \langle S \rangle) = \frac{1}{2} ((\text{variance} + \langle S \rangle^2) - \langle S \rangle)$$

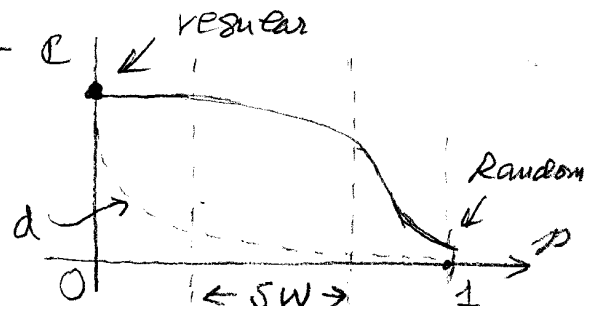
$$= \frac{1}{2} (cp + (cp)^2 - cp) = \frac{1}{2} (cp)^2$$

Total Expected #  $= \frac{1}{2} n c^2 p^2$

Total # of triples  $= \frac{1}{2} n c(c-1) + n c^2 p + \frac{1}{2} n c^2 p^2$

$$C = \frac{\frac{1}{4} n c (\frac{1}{2} c - 1) \cdot 3}{\frac{1}{2} n c(c-1) + n c^2 p + \frac{1}{2} n c^2 p^2}$$

$$= \frac{3(c-2)}{4(c-1) + 8cp + 4cp^2}$$



# Smallest Small-World Networks

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## Smallest small-world network

Takashi Nishikawa,<sup>1,\*</sup> Adilson E. Motter,<sup>1,†</sup> Ying-Cheng Lai,<sup>1,2</sup> and Frank C. Hoppensteadt<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Mathematics, Center for Systems Science and Engineering Research, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona 85287*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Electrical Engineering, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona 85287*

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Efficiency in passage times is an important issue in designing networks, such as transportation or computer networks. The small-world networks have structures that yield high efficiency, while keeping the network highly clustered. We show that among all networks with the small-world structure, the most efficient ones have a “single center” node, from which all shortcuts are connected to uniformly distributed nodes over the network. The networks with several centers and a connected subnetwork of shortcuts are shown to be “almost” as efficient. Genetic-algorithm simulations further support our results.

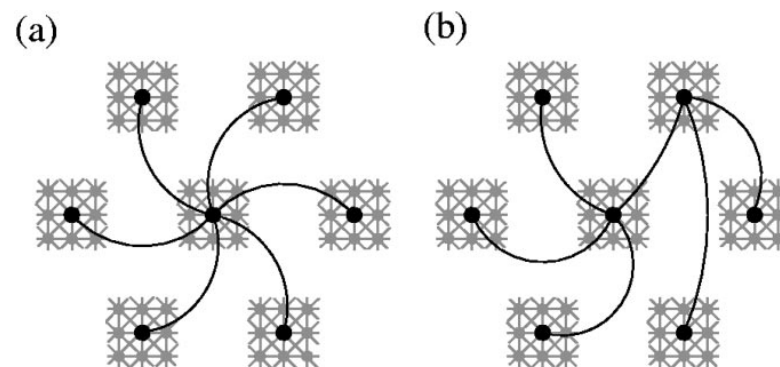


FIG. 1. Examples of shortcut configuration with (a) a single center and (b) two centers.

# Network Diameter

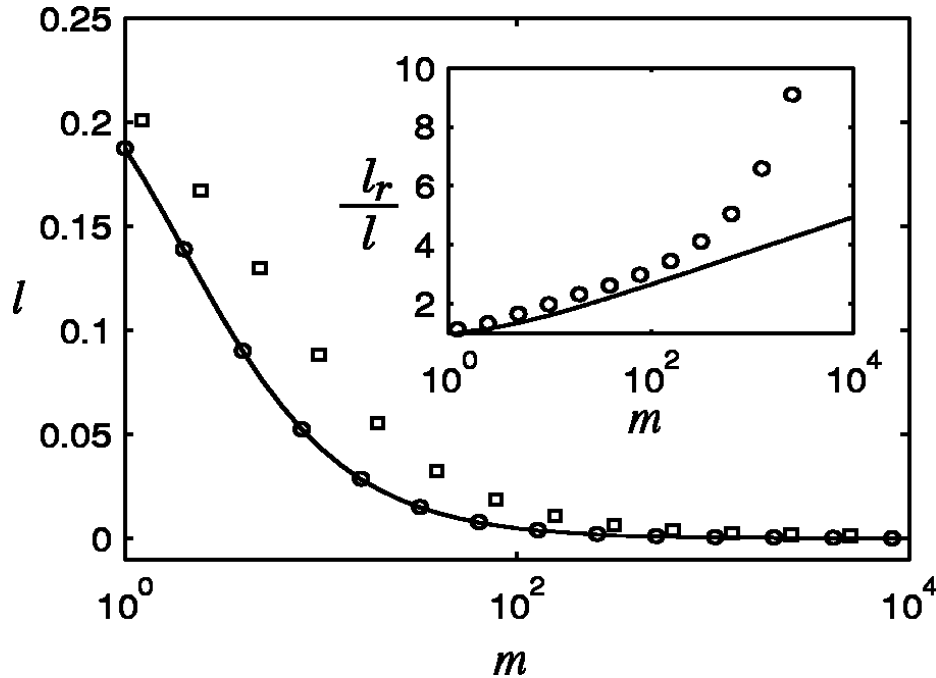


FIG. 4. Normalized path length of the network as a function of the number  $m$  of shortcuts for  $k=1$ . The continuous curve is Eq. (1). The circles and squares are the numerical computation of  $l$  for the configuration with a single center and of  $l_r$  over 10 random shortcut configurations, respectively. The inset shows the ratio  $l_r/l$  computed from numerical simulations (circles) and from theoretical results (1) and (2) for  $N=\infty$  (continuous line).  $N=10^4$  was used for numerical computations.

$m$  shortcuts from one center:

$$l = \frac{1}{k} d(P, Q) = \frac{2m+1}{4k(m+1)^2}$$

$m$  randomly distributed shortcuts:

$$l_r = \frac{1}{2k\sqrt{m^2+2m}} \tanh^{-1} \left( \frac{m}{\sqrt{m^2+2m}} \right)$$

## Simulation Results from Genetic Algorithm

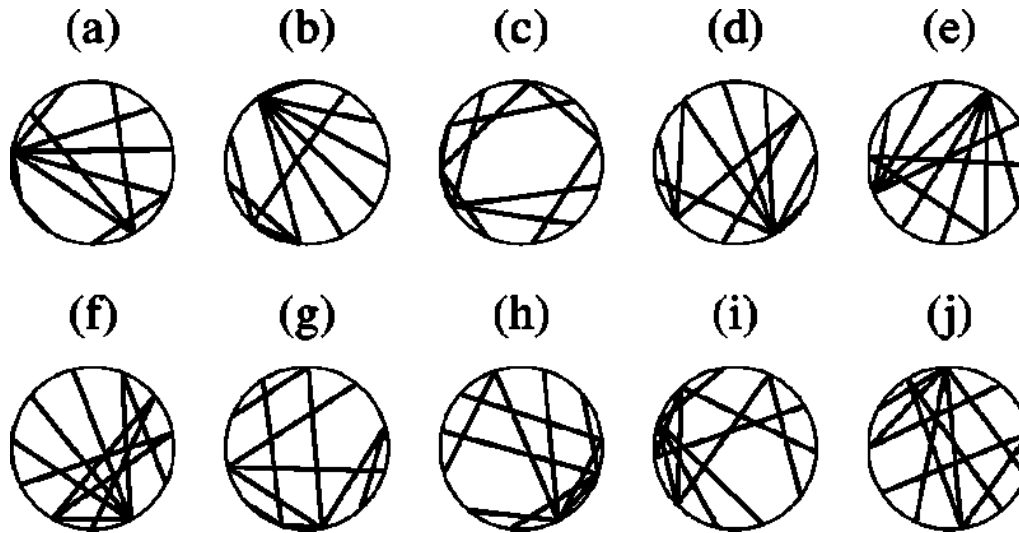


FIG. 6. Ten best solutions from 81 independent runs of GA simulation with the population size of 30,  $N=1000$ ,  $m=10$ , and  $k=2$ . The corresponding average path lengths are (a)  $L=24.309$ , (b)  $L=24.379$ , (c)  $L=24.622$ , (d)  $L=24.627$ , (e)  $L=24.640$ , (f)  $L=24.650$ , (g)  $L=24.653$ , (h)  $L=24.660$ , (i)  $L=24.779$ , (j)  $L=24.798$ . The average path length is 23.795 for the single-center configuration, while it is approximately 43 for random shortcuts.

- Initial population:  $m$  pairs of integers
- Fitness:  $1/L$
- What does GA do? - Maximize fitness for different choices of the  $m$  pairs of integers