# Algebraic Representation of Networks

```
\begin{pmatrix}
0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\
1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
2 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
1 & 1 & 1 & 1
\end{pmatrix}
```

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#### Describing networks with matrices (1)

#### Adjacency matrix

A matrix with rows and columns labeled by nodes, where  $a_{ij}$  represents the number of edges between node i and node j (must be symmetric for undirected graph)

· Incidence matrix (not discussed much)

A matrix with rows labeled by nodes and columns labeled by edges, where  $a_{ij}$  indicates whether edge j is connected to node i (1) or not (0)

#### Describing networks with matrices (2)

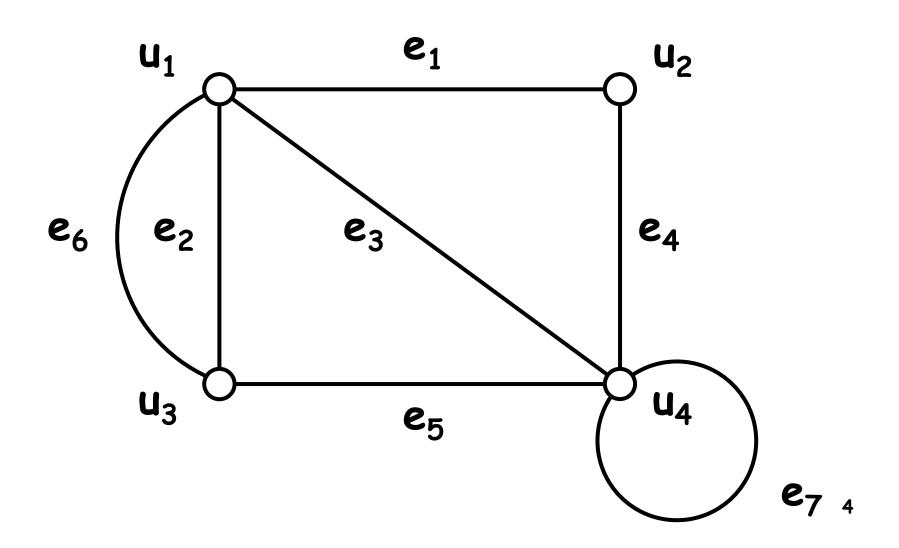
#### Transition probability matrix

A matrix with rows and columns labeled by states (nodes), where  $a_{ij}$  represents the probability of transition from state (node) i to state (node) j

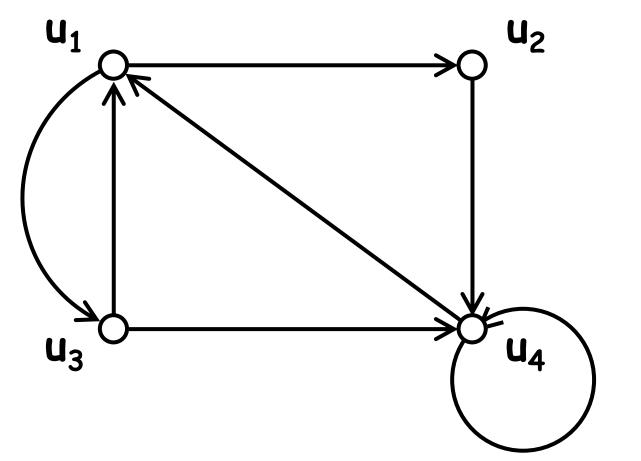
#### Laplacian matrix

A matrix with rows and columns labeled by nodes, where  $a_{ij}$  represents node degree if i = j, or is -1 if node i and node j are connected

#### Write adjacency and incidence Exercise matrices of the (multi-)graph below



 Write an adjacency matrix of the (multi-)graph below



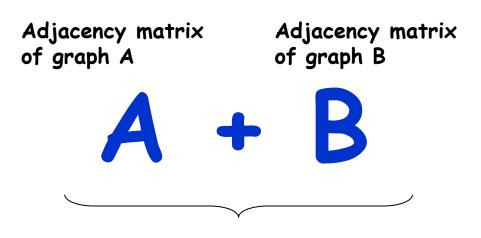
- Think about which node would be most suitable to be a source or a sink in a network represented by the adjacency matrix on the right
- Find the maximal flow of this network

```
0 0 3 0 0 0 0
    0 0 0 2 4
   0 0 0 0 0
     0 0 3 5 0
  6 0 4 0 0 0 5
     0 0 0 0
2 0 7 0 0 0 0 0
2 0 2 2 0 0
```

# Arithmetic Operations Applied to Adjacency Matrices

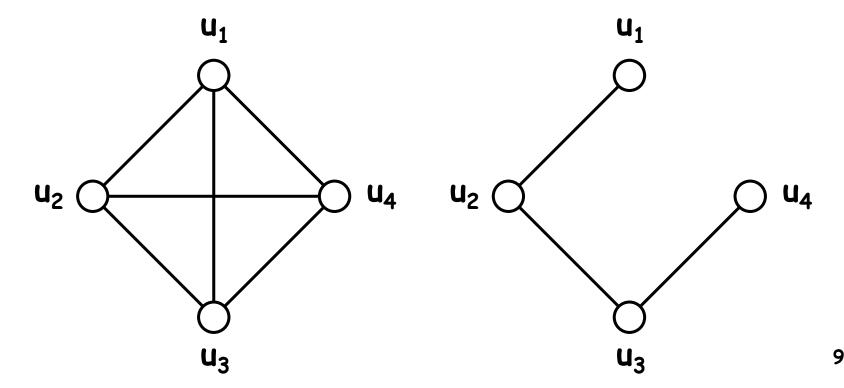
## Sum and difference of adjacency matrices

 One can calculate a sum and a difference of adjacency matrices if the two graphs have the same number of nodes.



Sum of the two adjacency matrices

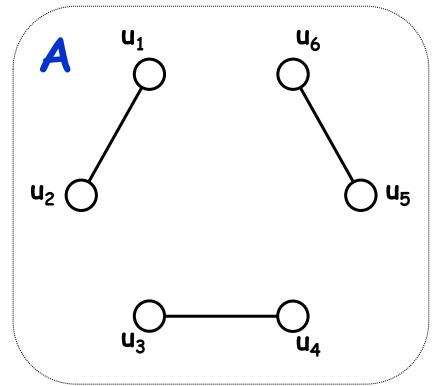
 Calculate the sum of and the difference between the adjacency matrices of the following two graphs, and draw the actual shape of the resultant graphs

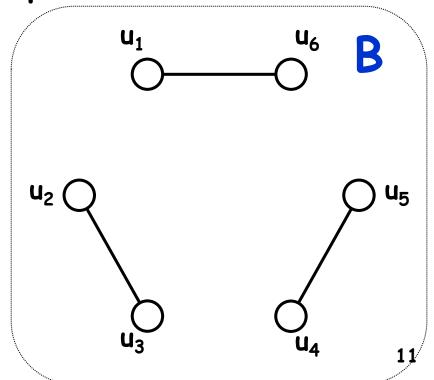


## Product of adjacency matrices

· Similarly, one can calculate a product of two adjacency matrices (multiplication is not commutative)

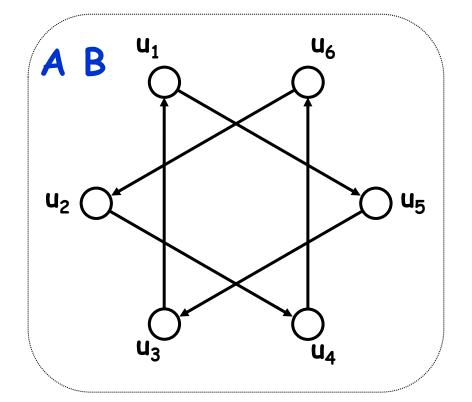
- Calculate two different products of the adjacency matrices of the following two graphs, and draw the actual shape of the results (Note: such multiplication may create directed graphs)
- Then think about what the product means

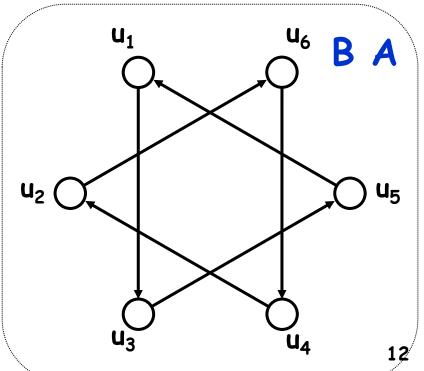




#### Answer

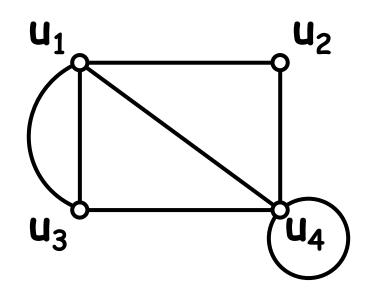
 Product X Y indicates a directed graph that maps each node to a set of possible destinations that may be reached by a two-step move, first following Y and then X





## Power of Adjacency Matrices

## What does a power of an adjacency matrix mean?



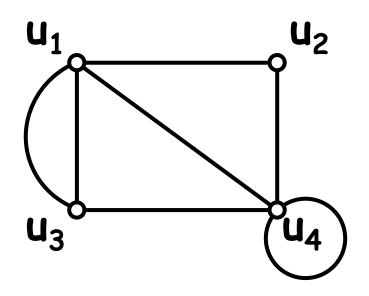
$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

 $A^n \times ?$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Try to calculate Ax,  $A^2x$ ,  $A^3x$ , etc.

# What does a power of an adjacency matrix mean?



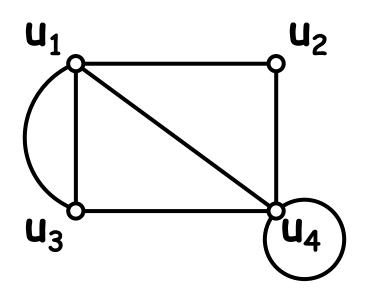
$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

 $A^n \times ?$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

This formula gives a set of nodes that can be reached in n steps from node  $u_2$  (and the # of such walks)

# What does a power of an adjacency matrix mean?



$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A^n I = A^n$$

$$\begin{pmatrix}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1
\end{pmatrix}$$

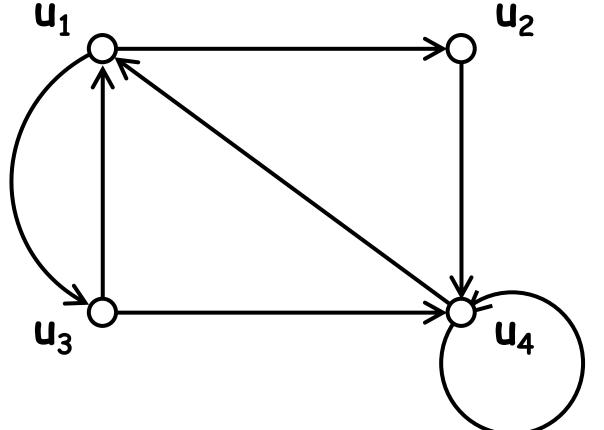
Arranging all the results starting from every node gives a power of adjacency matrix A

# A theorem on the power of adjacency matrix

• In adjacency matrix A raised to the power of n,  $(A^n)_{ij}$  gives the number of different walks of length n that starts at node j and ends at node i

(This applies to both undirected and directed graphs; proof can be easily obtained by using mathematical induction with n)

· Calculate how many walks of length two exist between  $\mathbf{u}_1$  and every other node in the graph below



- Using the power of an adjacency matrix, count the number of triangles included in:
  - (a) A complete graph made of 20 nodes
  - (b) An Erdos-Renyi random network made of 1000 nodes with connection probability 0.01

## Determining graph connectivity

 A<sup>n</sup> gives the number of different walks of length n between every pair of nodes

• 
$$C_n = \sum_{k=1 \sim n} A^k$$

gives the number of different walks of length n or shorter between every pair of nodes

## Determining graph connectivity

$$\cdot C_n = \sum_{k=1 \sim n} A^k$$

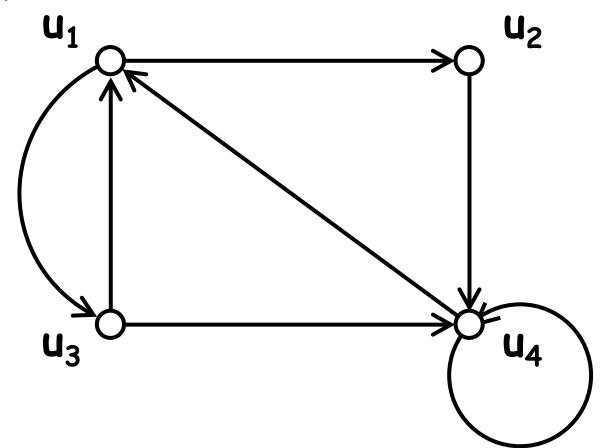
gives the number of different walks of length n or shorter between every pair of nodes

- In  $C_{(\# \text{ of nodes 1})}$ , every possible path in that graph should be counted
  - Because a path must not visit the same node more than once

## Determining graph connectivity

- $C_{\text{(# of nodes 1)}} = \sum_{k=1 \sim \text{(# of nodes 1)}} A^k$
- If  $(C_{(\# \text{ of nodes } 1)})_{ij}$  > 0 for all  $i \neq j$ , then there is a path between any pair of nodes (and vice versa)
  - ⇒ The original graph is \*numerically\* determined to be a (strongly) connected graph

 Show the strong connectivity of the graph below by calculating the sum of powers of its adjacency matrix



- An alternative method is just to calculate  $(A + I)^{(\# \text{ of nodes } -1)}$  and check if all elements have positive values
  - Those values no longer show # of paths, but still tell us whether there are paths between each pair of nodes
- · Why does this work?

#### Transitive closure

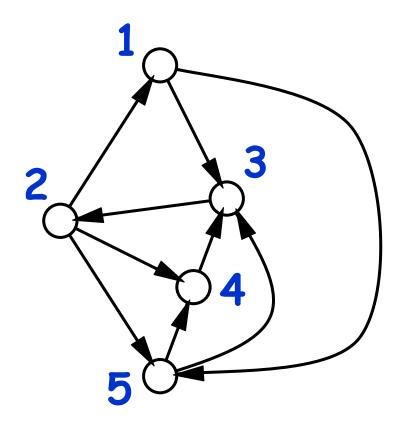
- Transitive closure of a graph is a graph that contains edge <u, v> whenever there is a path from node u to node v in the original graph
  - Obtained by making all diagonal components 0 and all non-diagonal non-zero components 1 in  $C_{(\# \text{ of nodes 1})}$
  - Describes accessibility between nodes
  - Is a complete graph if the original graph is (strongly) connected

### Transition Probability Matrix

## Transition probability matrix

- An adjacency matrix of a directed graph with normalized weights (i.e., sum of all weights of outgoing links is always 1 for every node)
  - Considers each node as a "state", and a directed link as a stochastic "state transition": Representing a Markov chain
  - Can be constructed from a unweighted directed graph by assigning normalized weights

· Create a TPM of the following graph



### Properties of TPMs

- · A product of two TPMs is also a TPM
- · Always has eigenvalue 1
- $|\lambda| <= 1$  for all eigenvalues
- · If the original network is strongly connected (with some additional conditions), the TPM has one and only one eigenvalue 1 (no degeneration)

## TPM and asymptotic probability distribution

- $|\lambda| <= 1$  for all eigenvalues
- If the original network is strongly connected (with some additional conditions), the TPM has one and only one eigenvalue 1 (no degeneration)
- → This is a unique dominant eigenvalue; the probability vector will converge to its corresponding eigenvector

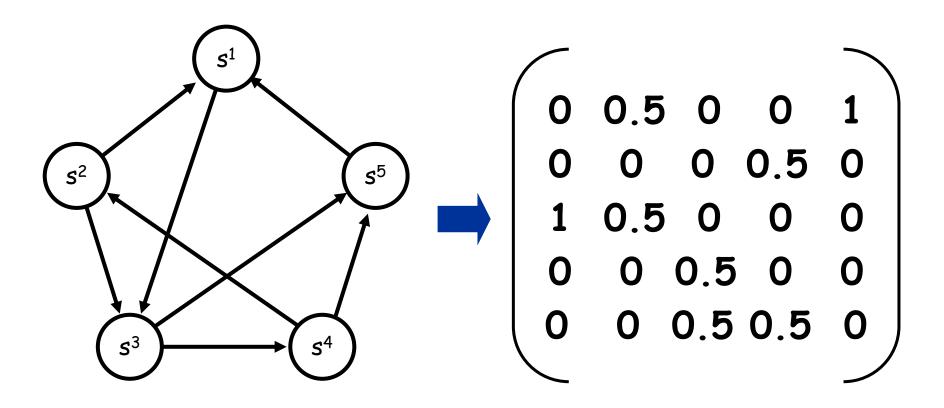
 Obtain eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the TPM created in the previous exercise

• Calculate  $T^n$  (1/5,1/5,1/5,1/5)T for large n and see what you will get

### Application: Google's "PageRank"

- Lawrence Page, Sergey Brin, Rajeev Motwani, Terry Winograd, 'The PageRank Citation Ranking: Bringing Order to the Web' (1998): http://www-db.stanford.edu/~backrub/pageranksub.ps
- Node: Web pages
- · link: Web links
- State: Temporary "importance" of that node
- Its coefficient matrix is a transition probability matrix that can be obtained by dividing each column of the adjacency matrix by the number of 1's in that column,

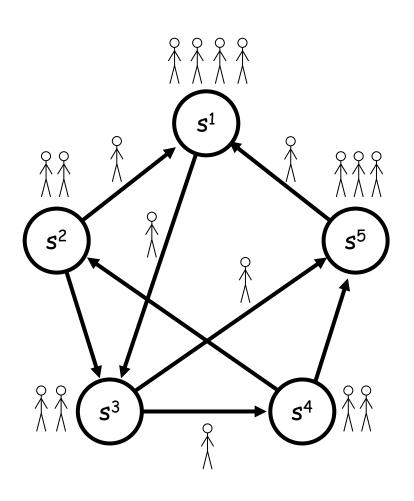
## Example



\* PageRank is actually calculated by forcedly assigning positive non-zero weights to all pairs of nodes in order to make the entire network strongly connected

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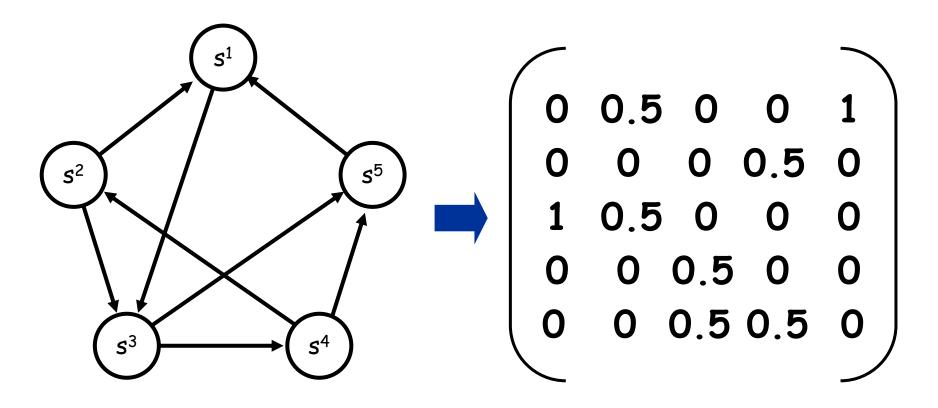
# Interpreting the PageRank network as a stochastic system



- State of each node can be viewed as a relative population that are visiting the webpage at t
- At next timestep, the population will distribute to other webpages linked from that page evenly

## PageRank calculation

- · Just one dominant eigenvector of the TPM of a strongly connected network always exists, with  $\lambda = 1$
- This shows the equilibrium distribution of the population over WWW
- So, just solve x = Ax and you will get the PageRank for all the web pages on the World Wide Web



Calculate the PageRank of each node in the above network (the network is already strongly connected so you can directly calculate its dominant eigenvector; but also try using the NetworkX built-in function for PageRank)

## A note on PageRank

- PageRank algorithm gives non-trivial results only for asymmetric networks
- If links are symmetric (undirected), the PageRank values will be the same as node degrees
  - Prove this

# Laplacian Matrix

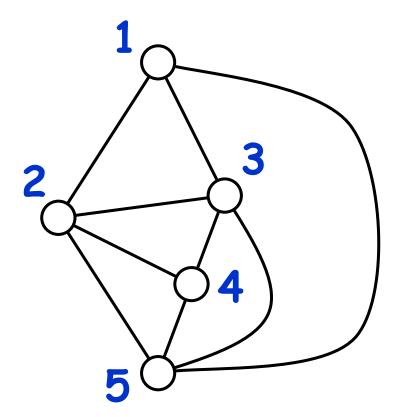
# Laplacian matrix

 A matrix with rows and columns labeled by nodes, where a<sub>ij</sub> represents node degree if i = j, or is -1 if node i and node j are connected

$$L = D - A$$

D: degree matrix (diagonal elements are node degrees; all 0 elsewhere)

 Write a Laplacian matrix of the graph below



# Relationship with Laplacians in vector calculus

- Related to "Laplacian" in vector calculus/PDEs
  - It is a negative, discrete version of it
  - Similar to a "second-order derivative", defined on a network
  - E.g. diffusion on a network:

$$x(t+1) = x(t) - d L x(t)$$

# Relationship with Laplacians in vector calculus

### Laplacian discretized over 2-D space:

$$\nabla^{2}f = \partial^{2}f/\partial x^{2} + \partial^{2}f/\partial y^{2}$$

$$\sim (f_{t}(x+\Delta x,y)+f_{t}(x-\Delta x,y)-2f_{t}(x,y)) / \Delta x^{2}$$

$$+(f_{t}(x,y+\Delta y)+f_{t}(x,y-\Delta y)-2f_{t}(x,y)) / \Delta y^{2}$$

$$= (f_{t}(x+\Delta k,y) + f_{t}(x-\Delta k,y) + f_{t}(x,y+\Delta k)$$

$$+ f_{t}(x,y-\Delta k) - 4f_{t}(x,y) / \Delta k^{2}$$
Laplacian (graph)  $\sim$  - Laplacian (vector calc.)

## Properties of a Laplacian

- · Has (1, 1, 1, ..., 1) as an eigenvector
  - Because each row/column adds up to 0
  - The corresponding eigenvalue is 0
- All eigenvalues >= 0
  - # of zero eigenvalues = # of connected components in a graph
  - 2nd smallest ev.: "algebraic connectivity"
  - Smallest non-zero ev.: "spectral gap"
    - · Shows how quickly the network can suppress non-homogeneous states and synchronize

- Create an Erdos-Renyi random network made of 100 nodes with connection probability 0.03
- Obtain its Laplacian matrix and calculate its eigenvalues
  - See what you find
  - Visualize the network and compare the results

- Generate the following network topologies w/ similar size and density:
  - random graph
  - barbell graph
  - ring-shaped graph (i.e., degree-2 regular graph)
- Measure their spectral gaps and see how topologies quantitatively affect their values

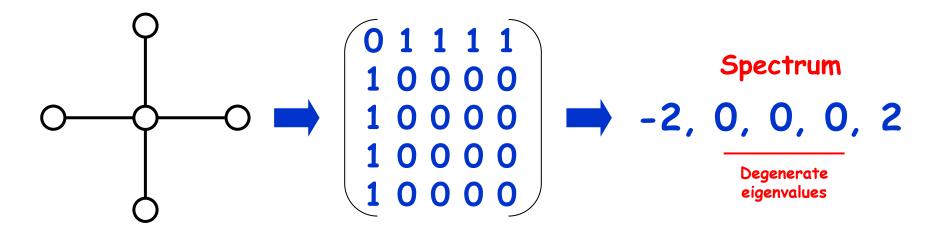
## Graph Spectrum

# Degree distribution and graph spectrum

- Structural characteristics of a large complex network can be studied by analyzing these distributions
  - Similar networks often have similar degree distributions and graph spectra
  - Degree distribution is structural, intuitive and very easy to obtain
  - Graph spectrum has strong connection to both structure and dynamical behavior

## Graph spectrum

 Distribution of eigenvalues of the adjacency matrix of the network

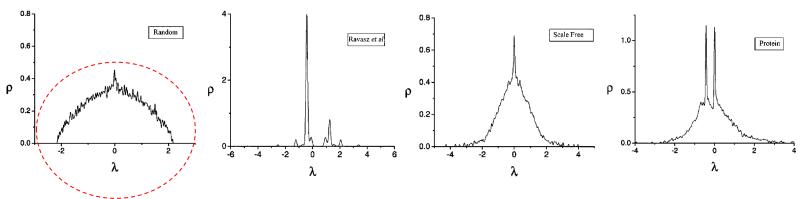


 Undirected graphs have symmetric adj. matrices → all real eigenvalues

# Graph spectral analysis

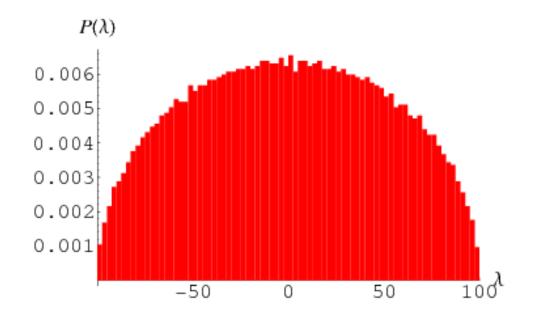
Wigner's semi-circle law

- Plotting an eigenvalue distribution (i.e., histogram)
  - Especially effective for visualizing complex network data obtained experimentally
  - Computing power may be needed to obtain these plots for large networks



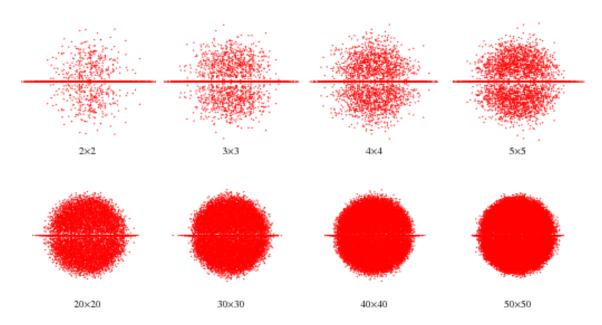
## FYI: Wigner's semi-circle law

 Eigenvalue distribution density (histogram) of a large random real symmetric matrix is a semi-circle

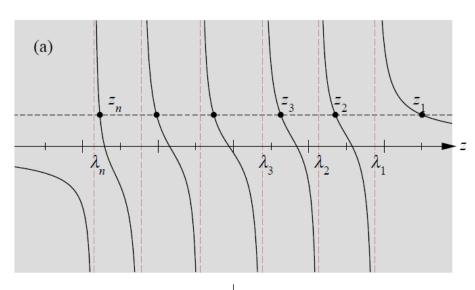


### FYI: Girko's circular law

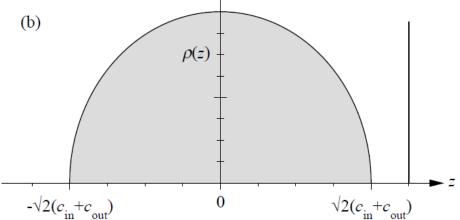
 Eigenvalue distribution of a large random real asymmetric matrix is a circle in a complex number plane



### Community detectability threshold



Nadakuditi, R. R.,
& Newman, M. E.
(2012). PRL
108(18), 188701.



$$c_{\rm in} - c_{\rm out} = \sqrt{2(c_{\rm in} + c_{\rm out})}$$

- Obtain spectra of networks made of 1,000 nodes each
  - Random
  - Scale-free
  - Based on some data

· Plot their density distributions

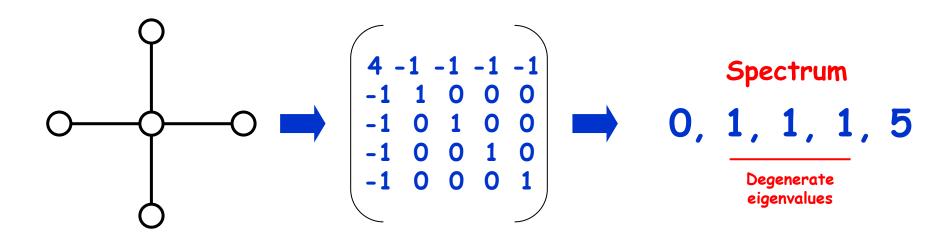
- Obtain the spectrum of the Supreme Court Citation network
  - Can you do this??
  - If you can't, make a subgraph induced by randomly selected 1,000 nodes, and conduct the same analysis
    - · Crude random sampling technique...

# What eigenvalues and eigenvectors can tell us

- An eigenvalue tells whether a particular "state" of the network (specified by its corresponding eigenvectors) grows or shrinks by interactions between nodes over edges
  - $Re(\lambda) > 0 \Rightarrow growing$
  - $Re(\lambda) < 0 \Rightarrow shrinking$

## Laplacian spectrum

 Distribution of eigenvalues of the Laplacian matrix of the network



# Review of Laplacian spectrum

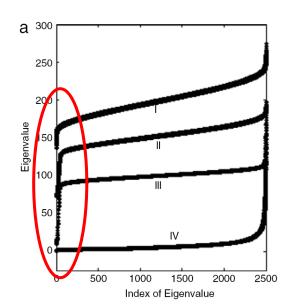
- At least one  $\lambda$  is zero
- All the other  $\lambda s$  are zero or positive
- # of zero  $\lambda s$  corresponds to # of connected components in the graph
- 2nd smallest  $\lambda$ : "algebraic connectivity"
- Smallest non-zero  $\lambda$ : "spectral gap"

Algebraic connectivity 
$$0=\lambda_1+\lambda_2+\ldots=\lambda_{k-1}+\lambda_k+\lambda_k + \lambda_k +$$

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## Spectral gap

- Determines how easily a dynamical network can get synchronized
  - The larger it is (relatively to the largest  $\lambda_N$ ), the easier the synchronization is (Barahona & Pecora, Phys. Rev. Lett. 89: 054101. 2002)



I. ER randomII. NW small-worldIII.WS small-worldIV. BA scale-free

(Zhan, Chen & Yeung, Physica A 389: 1779-1788, 2010)

- Create a small-world network of 1,000 nodes with varying p
- Obtain Laplacian spectra of the network and find its spectral gap  $\lambda_2$

• Plot  $\lambda_2$  over p and see how it changes as random rewiring rate increases