

# 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)

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- **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)

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- **Transition probability matrix**

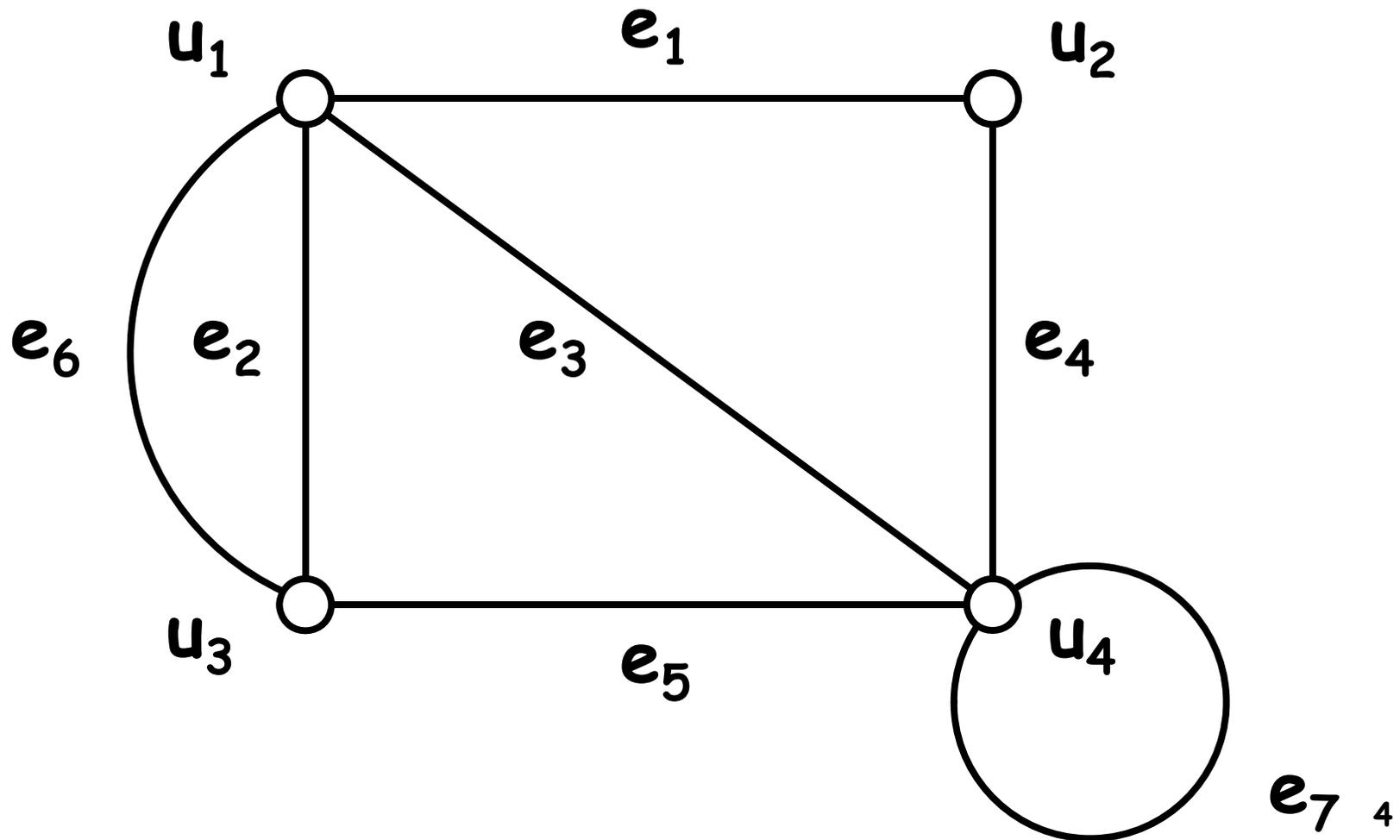
A matrix with rows and columns labeled by states (nodes), where  $a_{ij}$  represents the probability of transition from state (node)  $i$  to state (node)  $j$

- **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

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

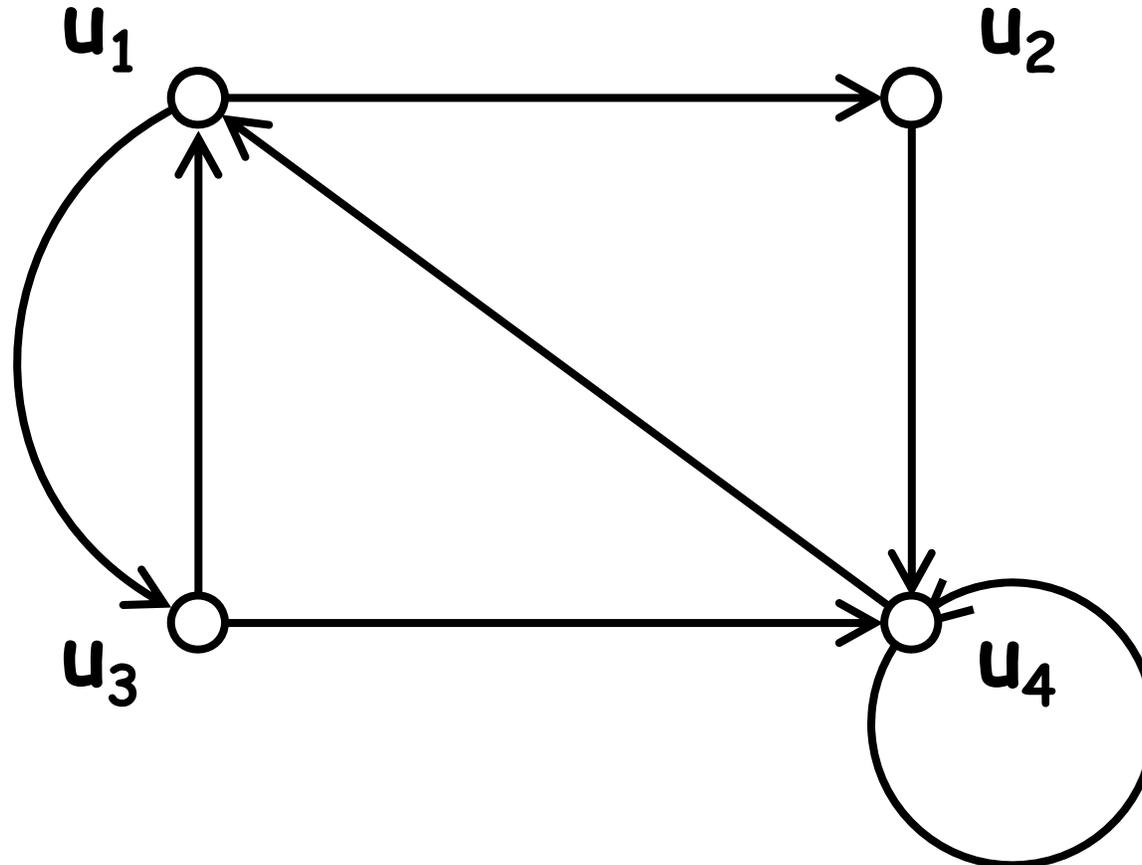
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# Exercise

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



# Exercise

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- 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	0	0	0	2	4	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	3	5	0
0	6	0	4	0	0	0	5
0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0

# Arithmetic Operations Applied to Adjacency Matrices

# Sum and difference of adjacency matrices

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

Adjacency matrix  
of graph A

Adjacency matrix  
of graph B

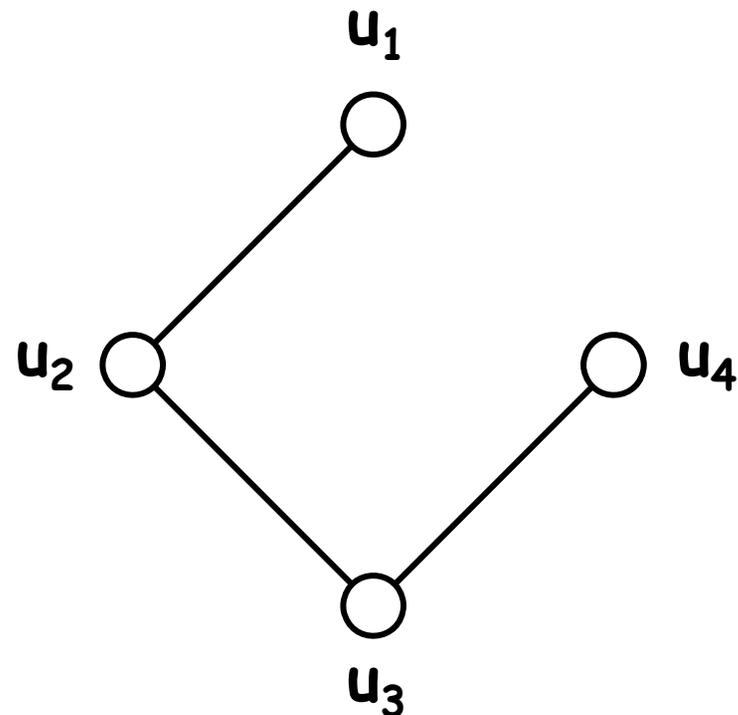
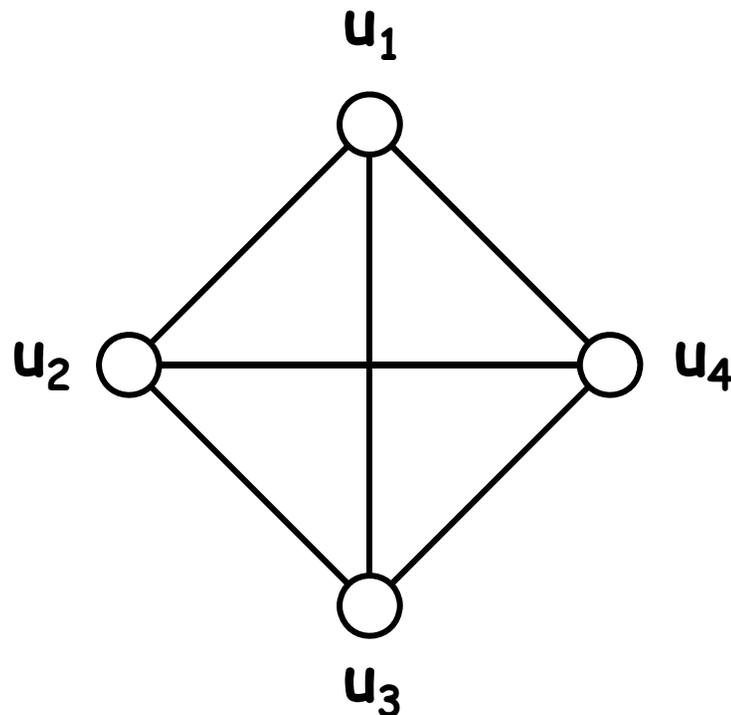
$$A + B$$

Sum of the two adjacency matrices

# Exercise

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- 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

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

Adjacency matrix  
of graph A

Adjacency matrix  
of graph B

**A B**

Product of the two  
adjacent matrices (1)

Adjacency matrix  
of graph B

Adjacency matrix  
of graph A

**B A**

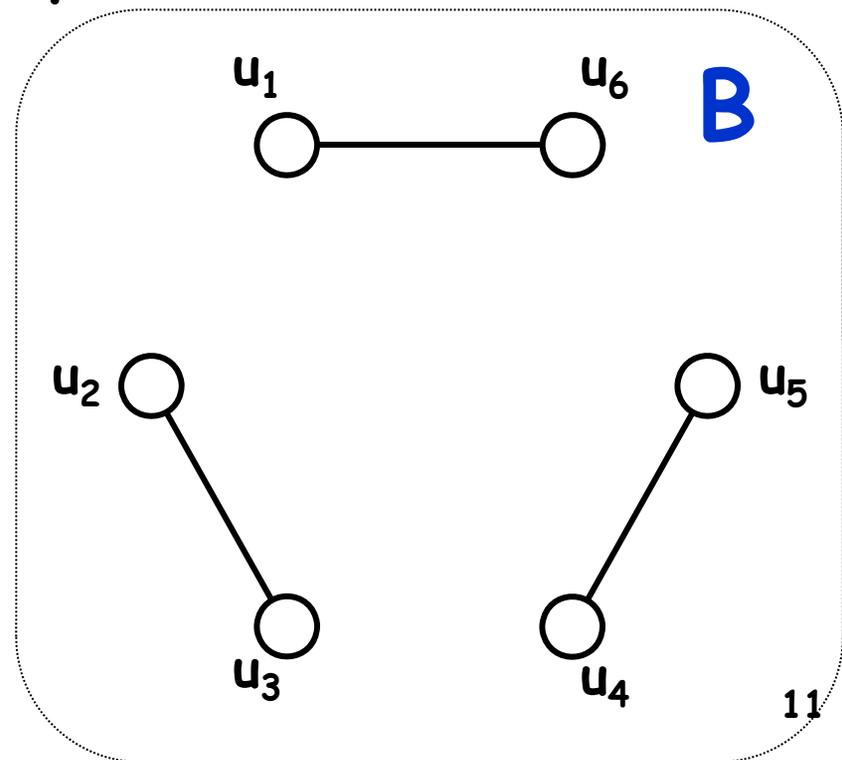
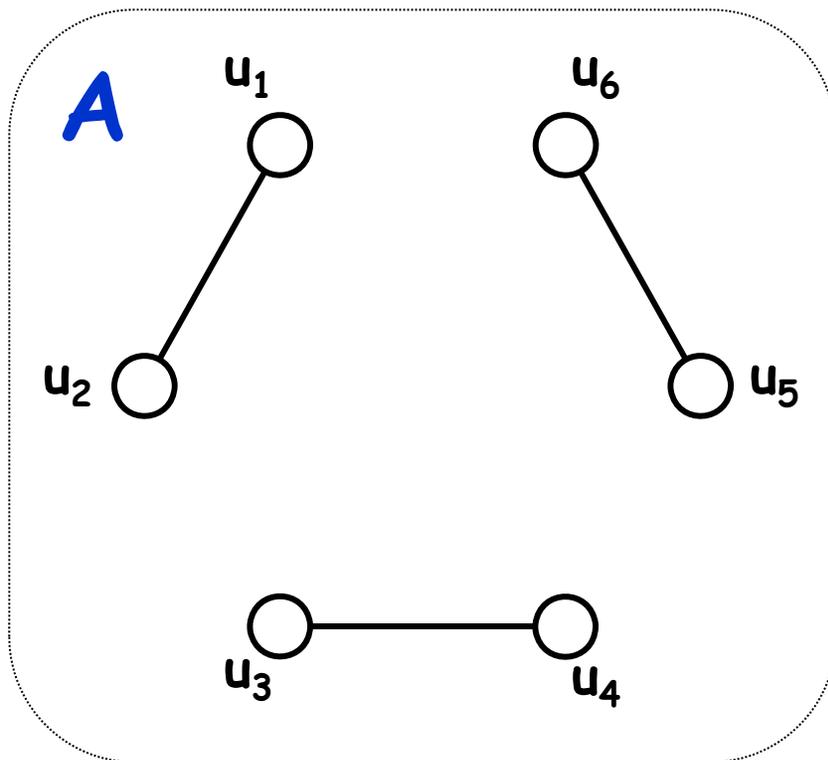
Product of the two  
adjacent matrices (2)

**≠**

not equal  
in general

# Exercise

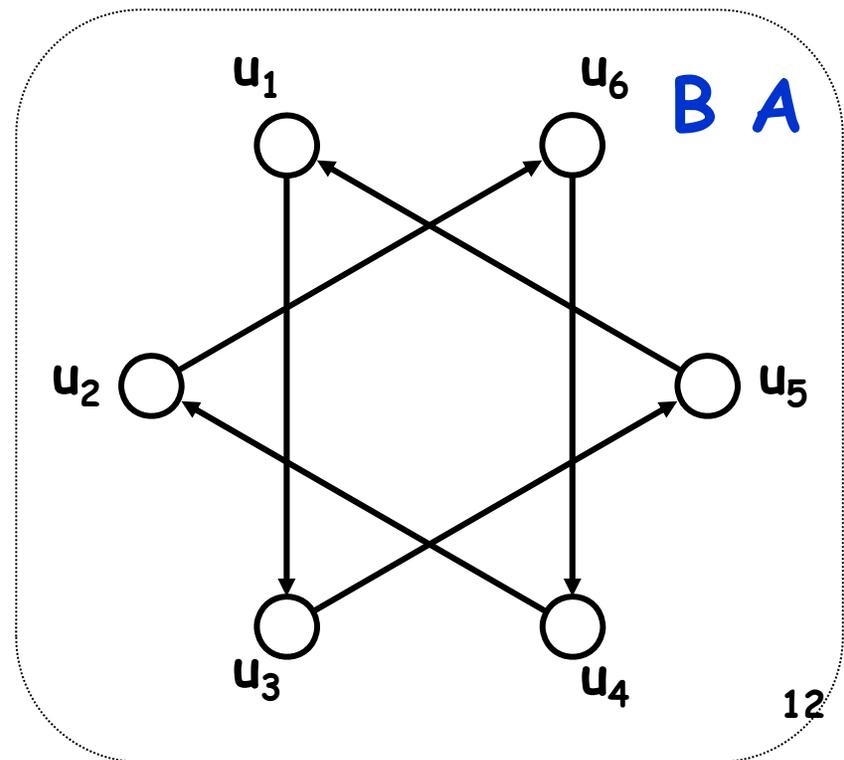
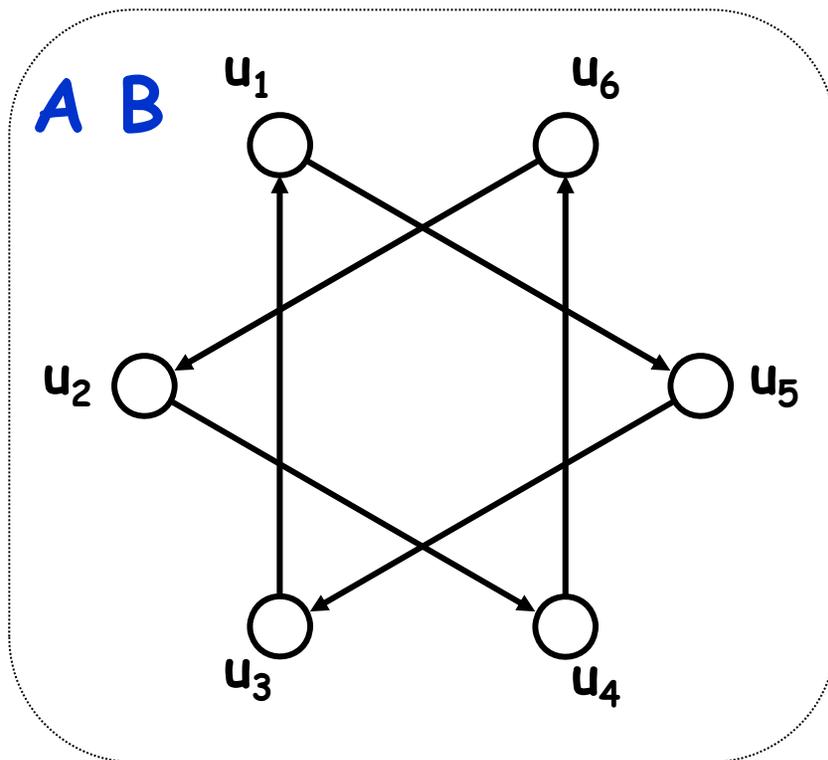
- Calculate two different products of the adjacency matrices of the following two graphs, and draw the actual shape of the results (Note: such multiplication may create directed graphs)
- Then think about what the product means



# Answer

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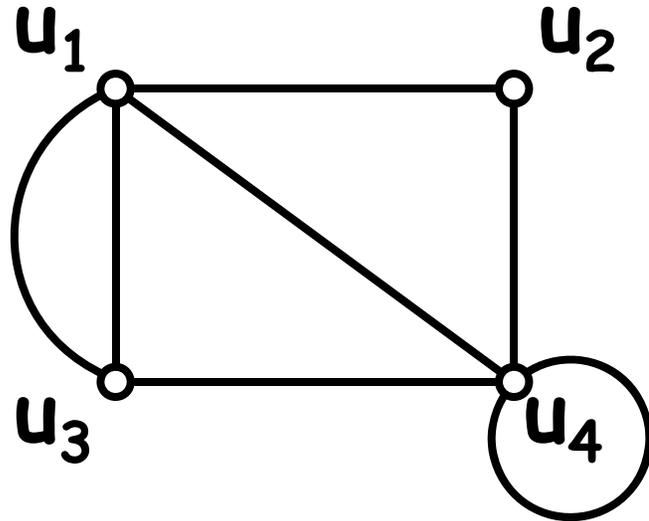
- Product  $X Y$  indicates a directed graph that maps each node to a set of possible destinations that may be reached by a two-step move, first following  $Y$  and then  $X$



# Power of Adjacency Matrices

# What does a power of an adjacency matrix mean?

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

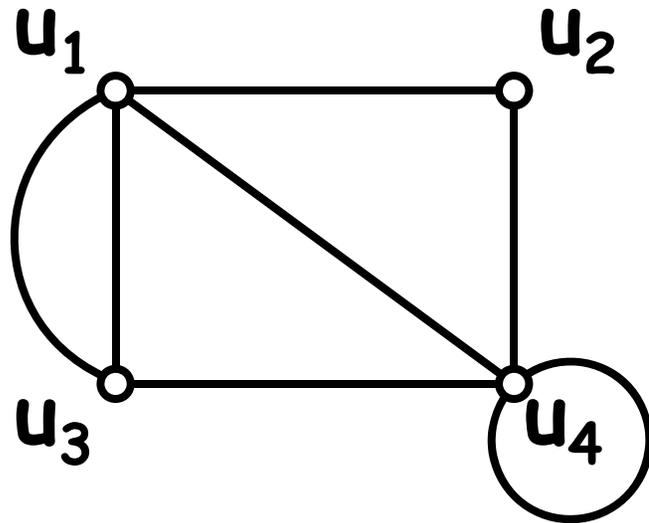
$A^n \times ?$

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

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

# What does a power of an adjacency matrix mean?

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

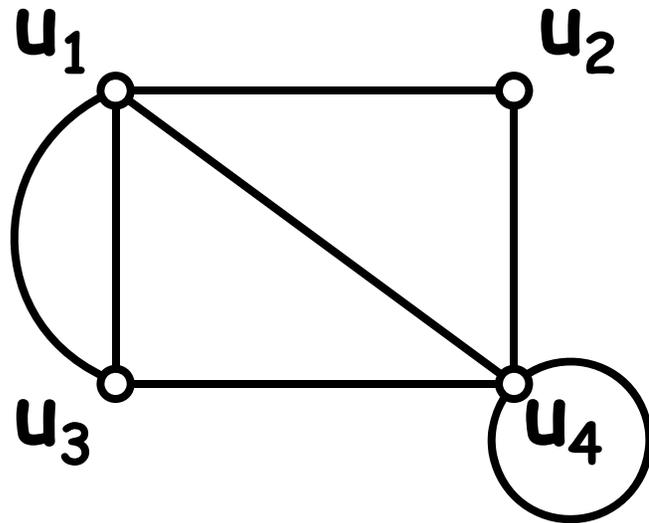
$A^n \times ?$

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

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?

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

$$A^n \mathbf{I} = A^n$$

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

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

# A theorem on the power of adjacency matrix

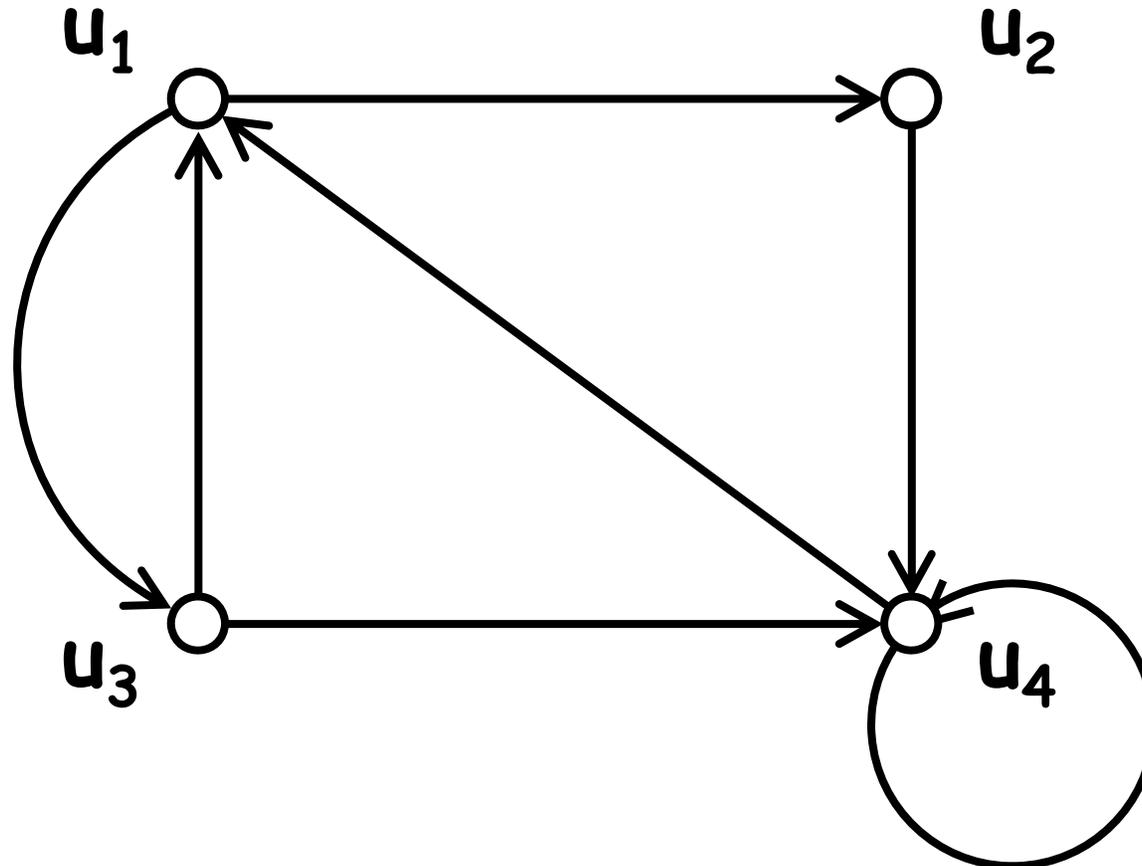
- In adjacency matrix  $A$  raised to the power of  $n$ ,  $(A^n)_{ij}$  gives the number of different walks of length  $n$  that starts at node  $j$  and ends at node  $i$

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

# Exercise

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- Calculate how many walks of length two exist between  $u_1$  and every other node in the graph below



# Exercise

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- 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

- $A^n$  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

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

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

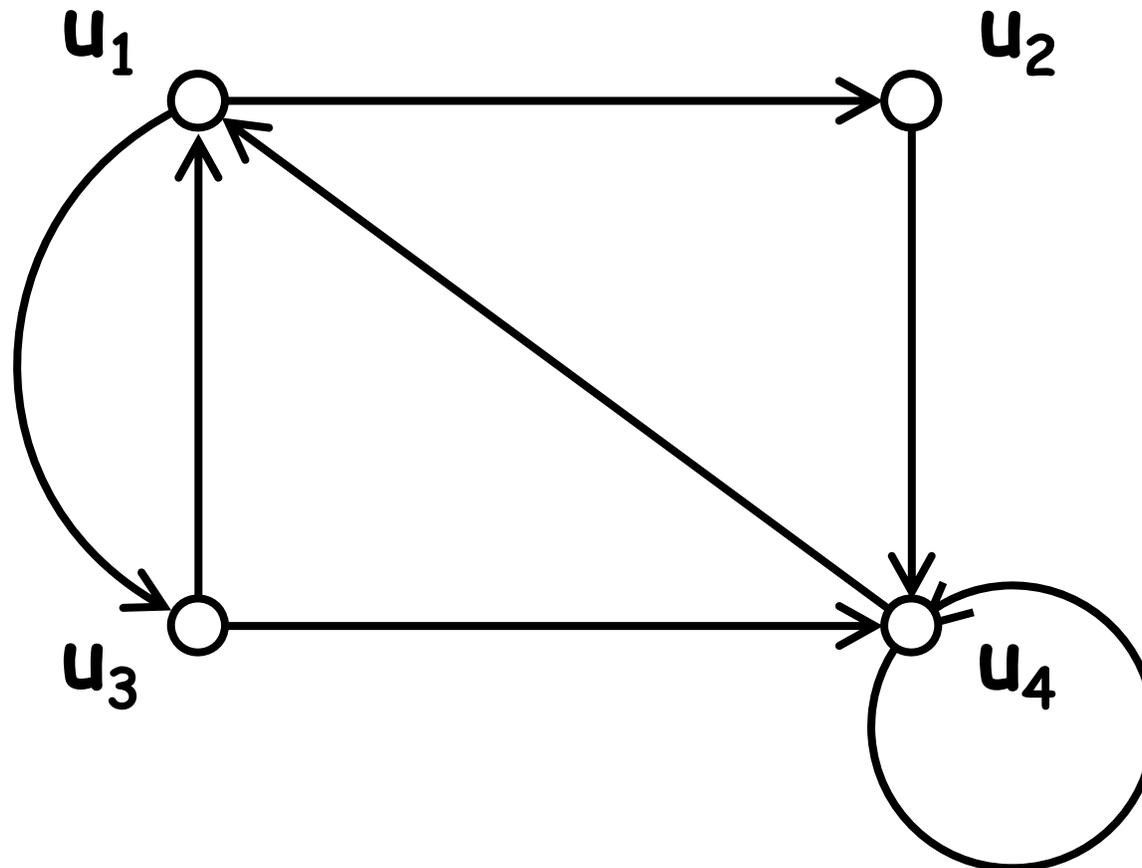
# Determining graph connectivity

- $C_{(\# \text{ of nodes} - 1)} = \sum_{k=1 \sim (\# \text{ of nodes} - 1)} A^k$
- 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)
  - $\Rightarrow$  The original graph is **\*numerically\*** determined to be a (strongly) connected graph

# Exercise

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



# Exercise

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- 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

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- Transitive closure of a graph is a graph that contains edge  $\langle u, v \rangle$  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

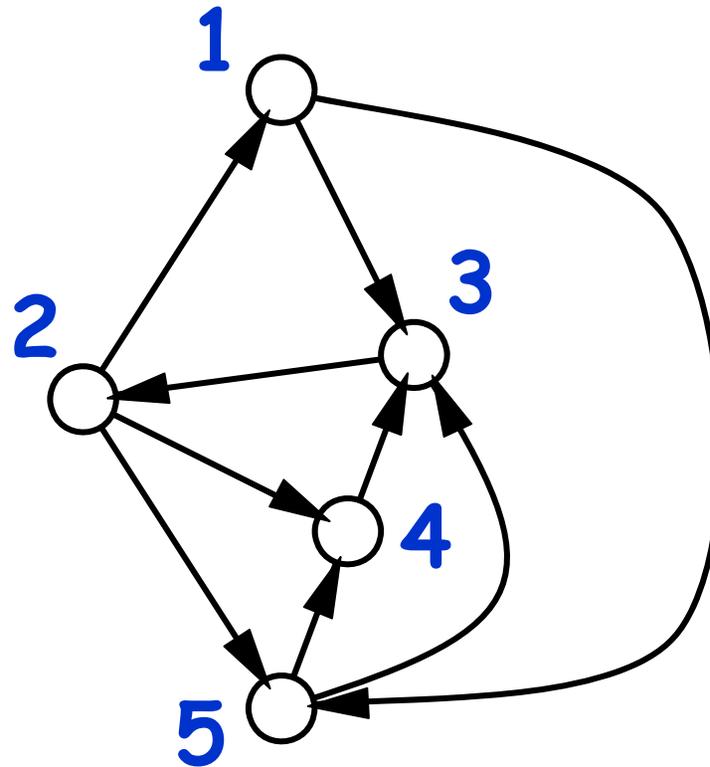
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- An adjacency matrix of a directed graph with normalized weights (i.e., sum of all weights of outgoing links is always 1 for every node)
  - Considers each node as a “state”, and a directed link as a stochastic “state transition”: Representing a Markov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

# Exercise

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- Create a TPM of the following graph



# Properties of TPMs

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- A product of two TPMs is also a TPM
- Always has **eigenvalue 1**
- $|\lambda| \leq 1$  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

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- $|\lambda| \leq 1$  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

# Exercise

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- Obtain eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the TPM created in the previous exercise
- Calculate  $T^n (1/5, 1/5, 1/5, 1/5, 1/5)^T$  for large  $n$  and see what you will get

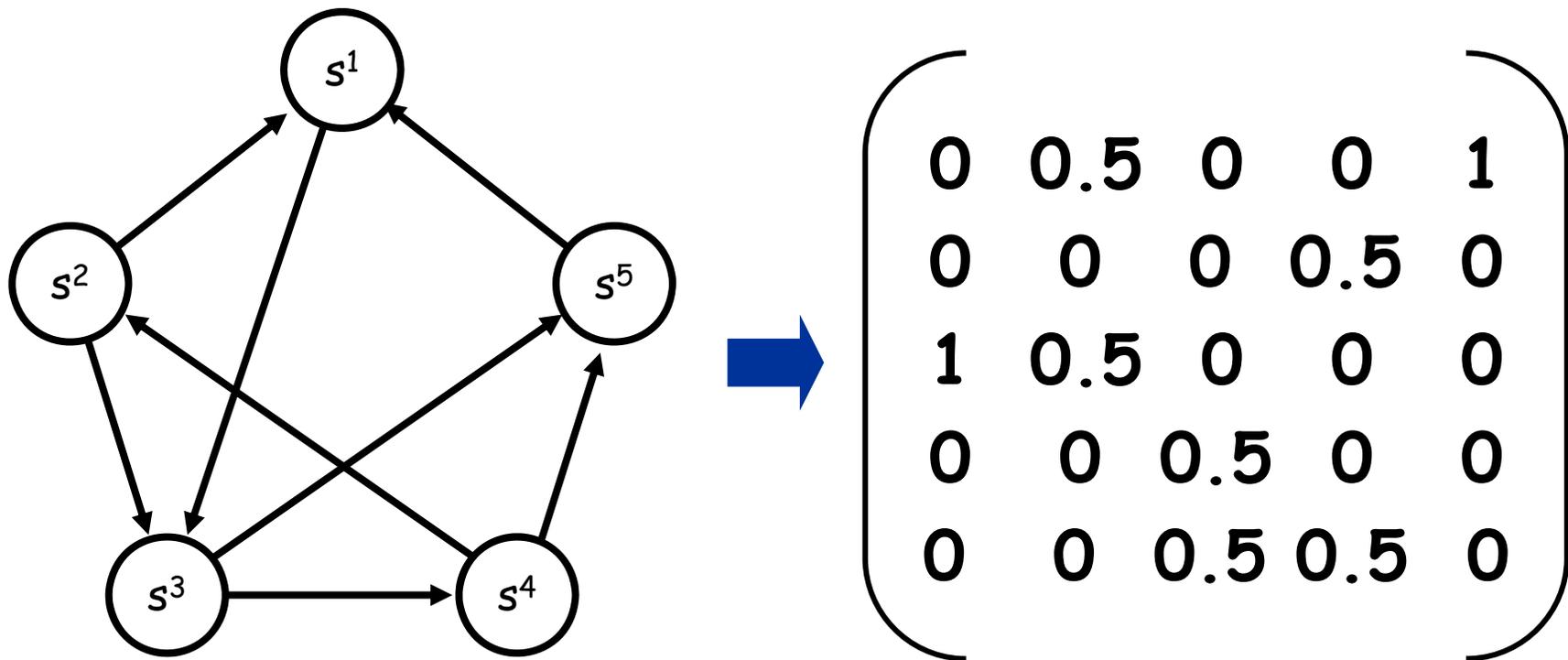
# Application: Google's "PageRank"

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- 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<sub>32</sub>

# Example

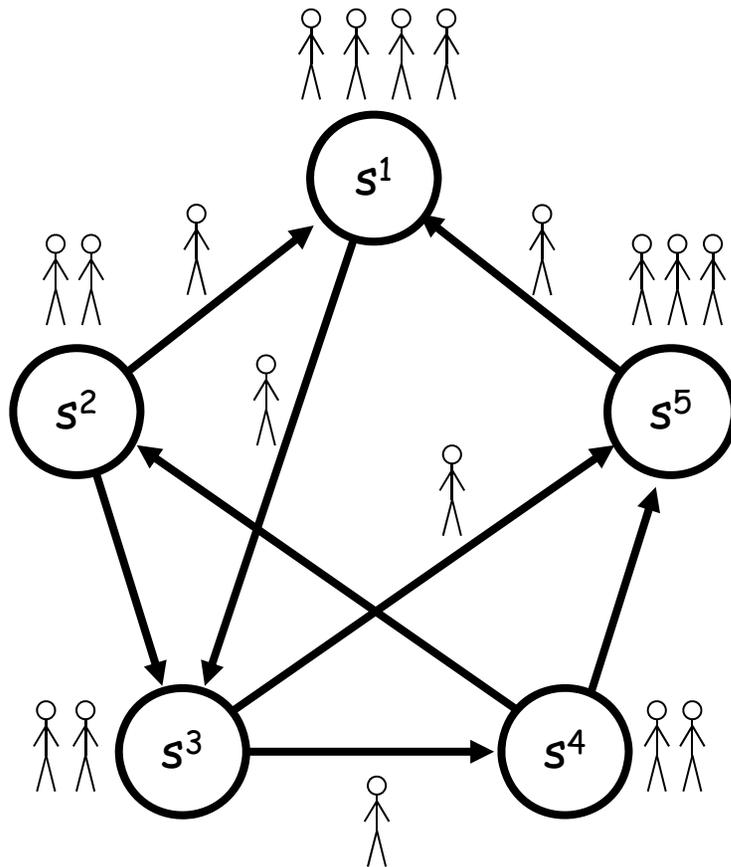
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\* PageRank is actually calculated by forcedly assigning positive non-zero weights to all pairs of nodes in order to make the entire network strongly connected

# Interpreting the PageRank network as a stochastic system

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- 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

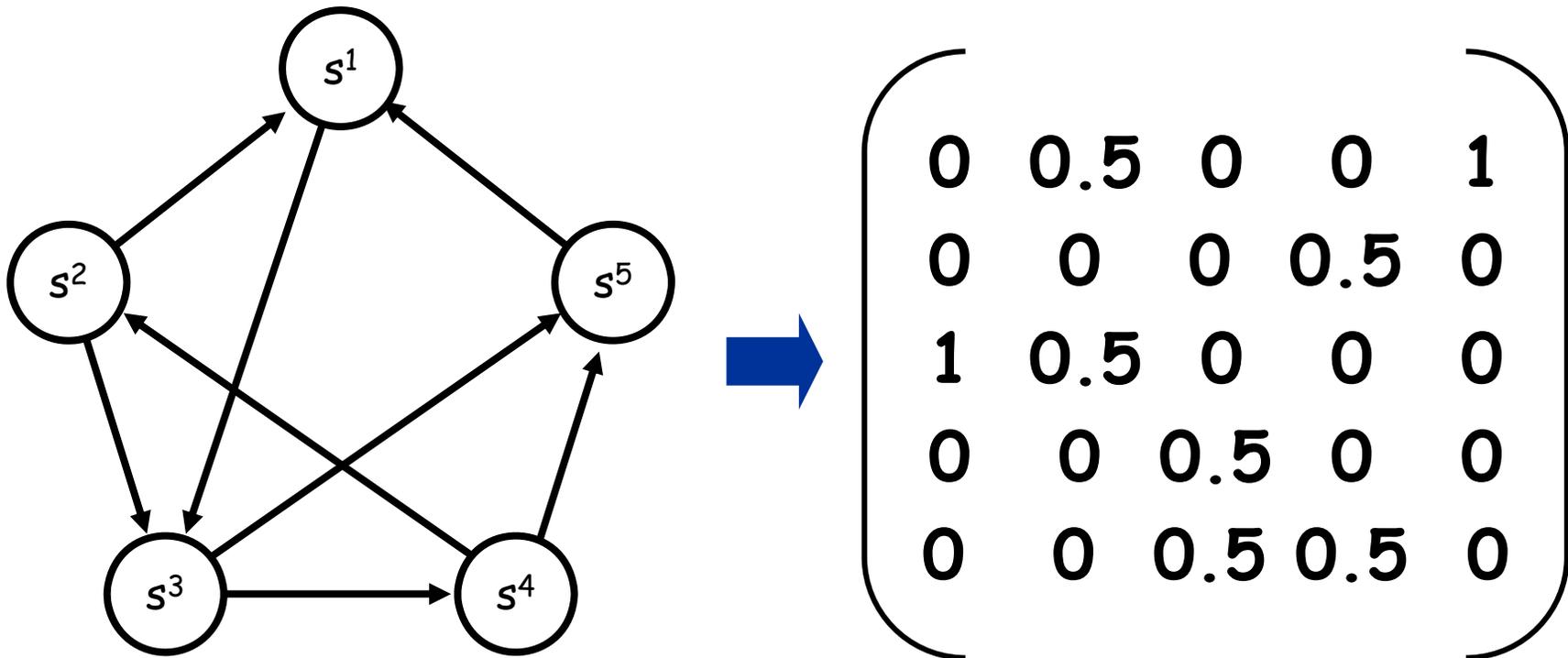
# PageRank calculation

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- 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

# Exercise

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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

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- 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

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- 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

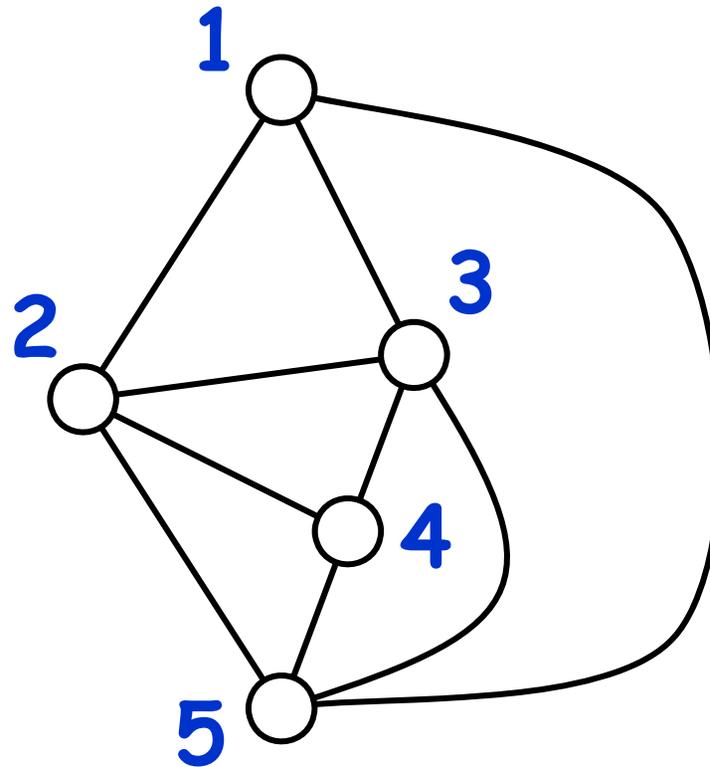
$$L = D - A$$

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

# Exercise

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- Write a Laplacian matrix of the graph below



# Relationship with Laplacians in vector calculus

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- 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

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Laplacian discretized over 2-D space:

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

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

$$= ( f_+(x+\Delta k, y) + f_+(x-\Delta k, y) + f_+(x, y+\Delta k) \\ + f_+(x, y-\Delta k) - 4f_+(x, y) ) / \Delta k^2$$

Laplacian (graph)  $\sim$  - Laplacian (vector calc.)

# Properties of a Laplacian

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- Has  $(1, 1, 1, \dots, 1)$  as an eigenvector
  - Because each row/column adds up to 0
  - The corresponding eigenvalue is 0
- All eigenvalues  $\geq 0$ 
  - # 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

# Exercise

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- 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

# Exercise

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- **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

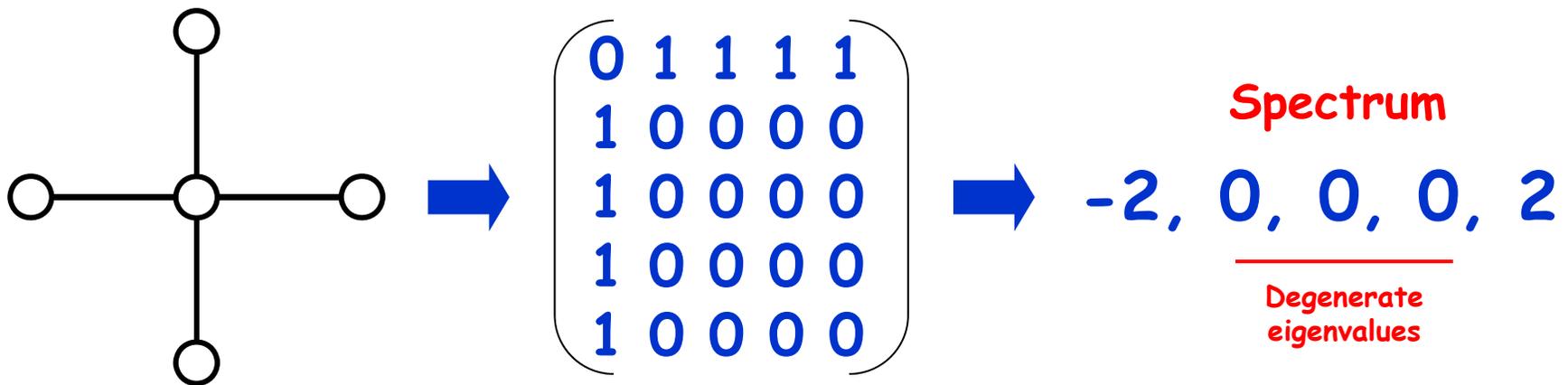
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- **Structural characteristics of a large complex network can be studied by analyzing these distributions**
  - **Similar networks often have similar degree distributions and graph spectra**
  - **Degree distribution is structural, intuitive and very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

# Graph spectrum

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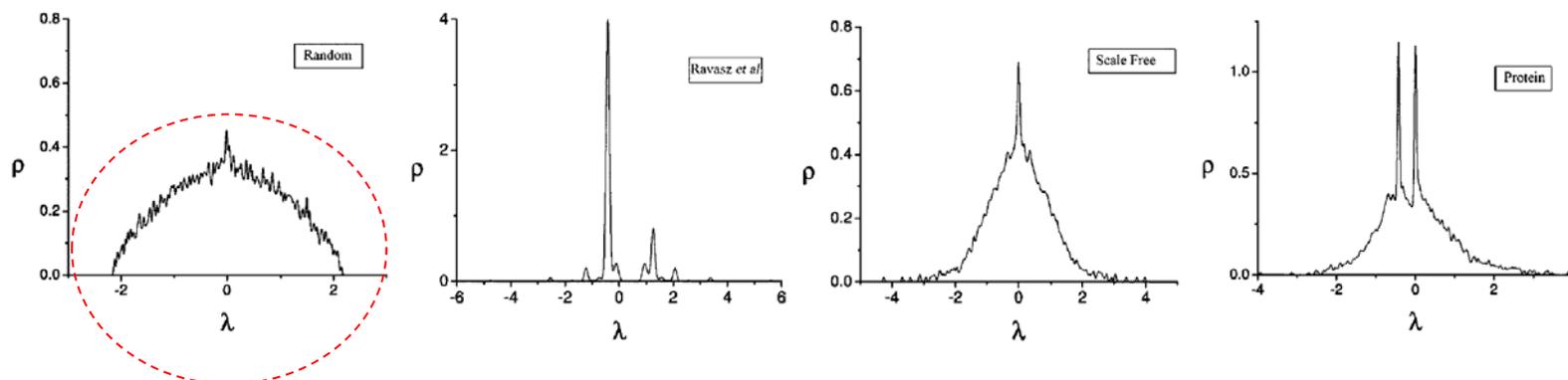
- Distribution of eigenvalues of the adjacency matrix of the network



- Undirected graphs have symmetric adj. matrices  $\rightarrow$  all real eigenvalues

# Graph spectral analysis

- 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



Wigner's semi-circle law

de Aguiar & Bar-Yam, Phys. Rev. E 71: 016106 (2005)

# Exercise

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

# Exercise

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- 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

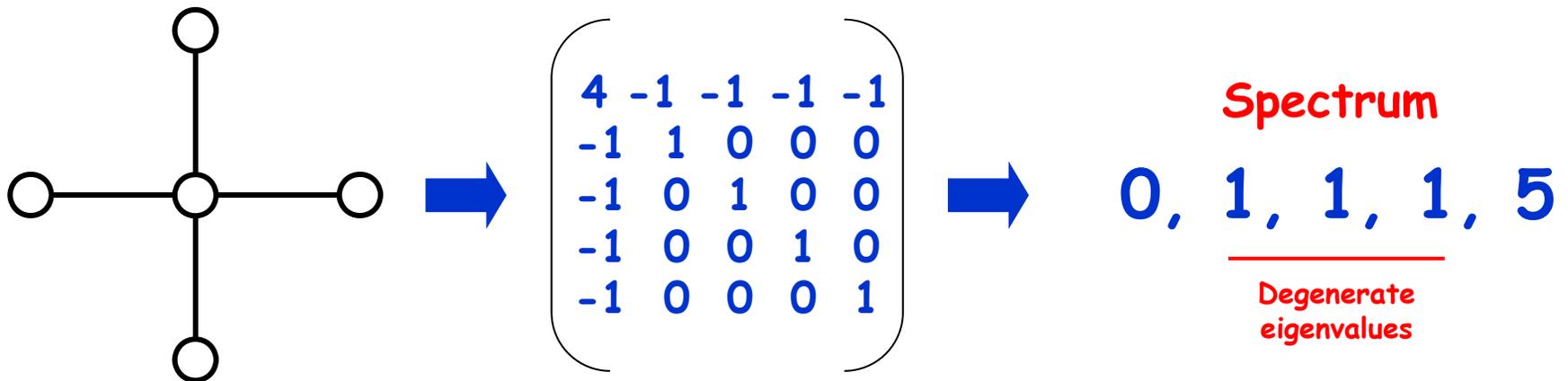
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- An eigenvalue tells whether a particular “state” of the network (specified by its corresponding eigenvectors) grows or shrinks by interactions between nodes over edges
  - $\text{Re}(\lambda) > 0 \Rightarrow$  growing
  - $\text{Re}(\lambda) < 0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

# Laplacian spectrum

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- Distribution of eigenvalues of the Laplacian matrix of the network



# Review of Laplacian spectrum

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- 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

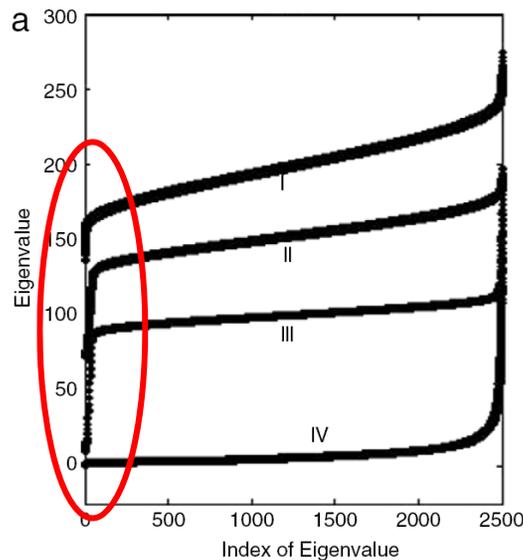
$$0 = \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \dots = \lambda_{k-1} < \lambda_k \leq \lambda_{k+1} \leq \dots \leq \lambda_N$$

As many 0's as # of CC's      Spectral gap

# Spectral gap

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- 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 random
- II. NW small-world
- III. WS small-world
- IV. BA scale-free

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

# Exercise

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- 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