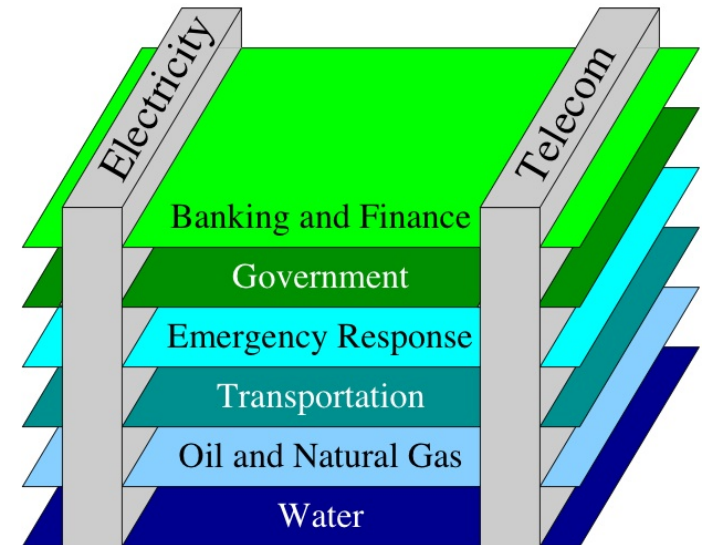
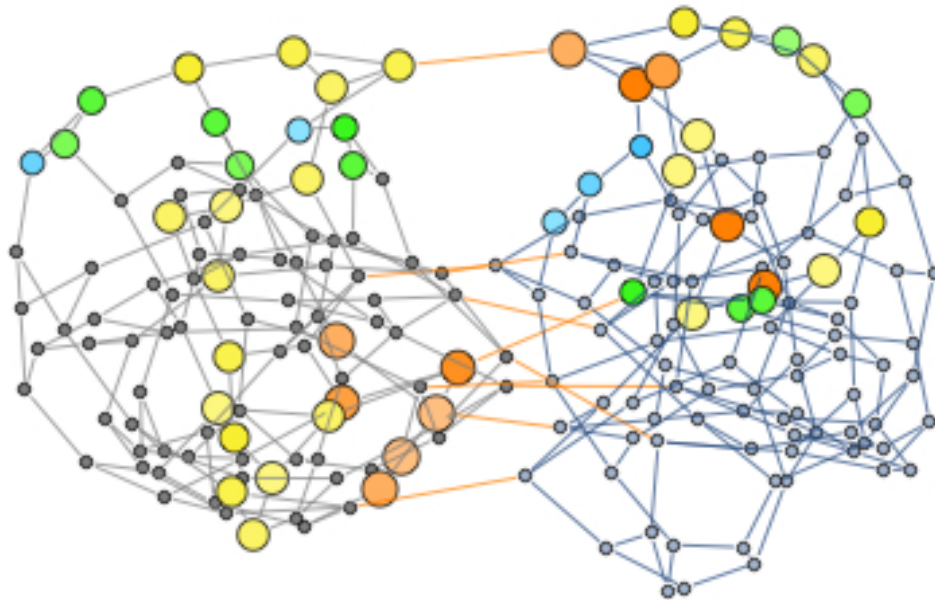


Is there a role for random graphs? Models of percolation and cascades



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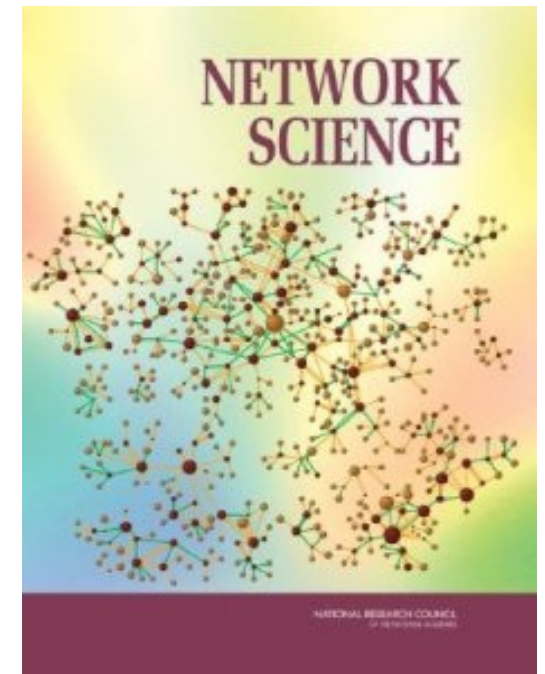
Complexity Sciences Center

External Professor, Santa Fe Institute



The past decade, a “Science of Networks”: (Physical, Biological, Social)

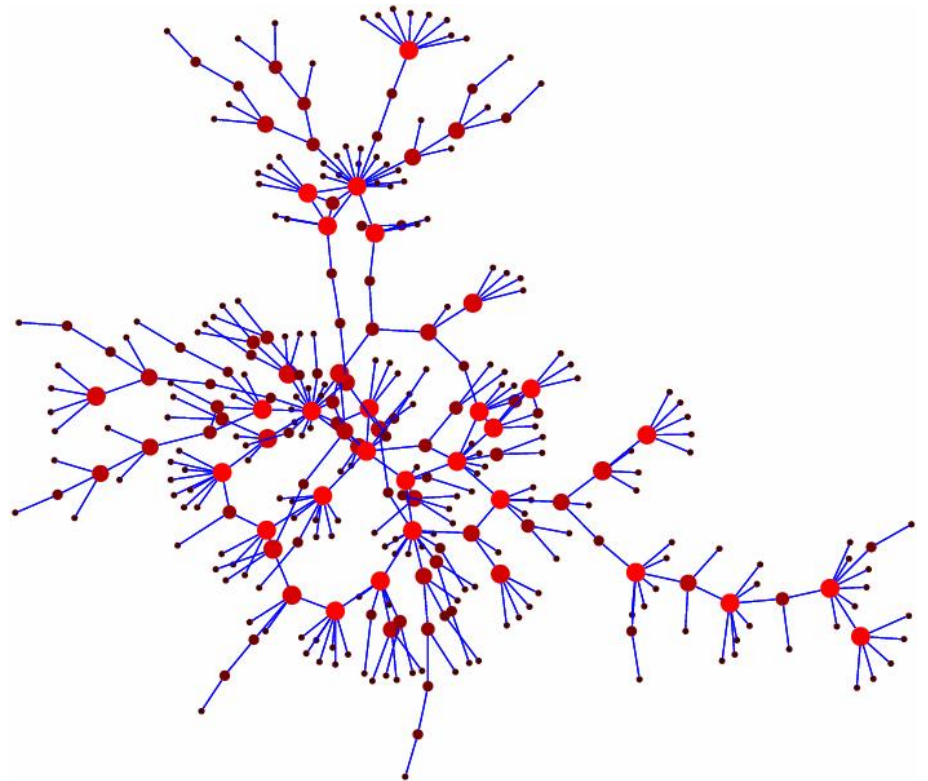
- **Geometric** versus **virtual** (Internet versus WWW).
- **Natural** /spontaneously arising versus **engineered** /built.
- Each network may **optimize** something unique.
- Fundamental **similarities** and **differences** to guide design/understanding/control.
- Interplay of **topology** and **function** ?
- Up until now, **studied largely as individual networks in isolation** .



NRC, 2005

Single Network View

- **Broad scale** degree distributions ubiquitous.
- **Small world** effect (small diameter and local clusters).
- **Vulnerability** to “hub” removal / **resilience** to random removal.
- **Percolation**, spreading and epidemics (phase transitions)
- **Cascades.**
- **Synchronization.**
- Random walks / **Page rank.**
- **Communities** / subnetworks.
- **Structural roles** of nodes.

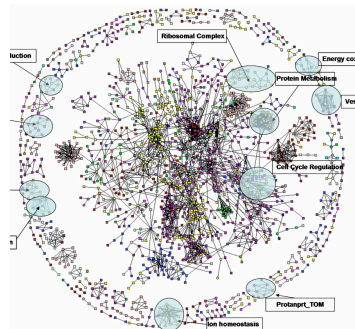


A collection of interacting networks:

Networks:



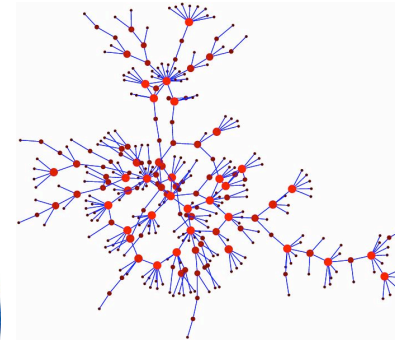
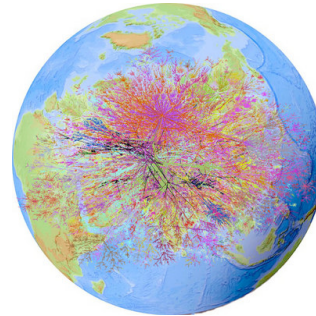
**Transportation Networks/
Power grid**
(distribution/
collection networks)



Biological networks

- protein interaction
- genetic regulation
- drug design

Computer networks



Social networks

- Immunology
- Information
- Commerce

- E-commerce → WWW → Internet → Power grid → River networks.
- Biological virus → Social contact network → Transportation networks → Communication networks → Power grid → River networks.

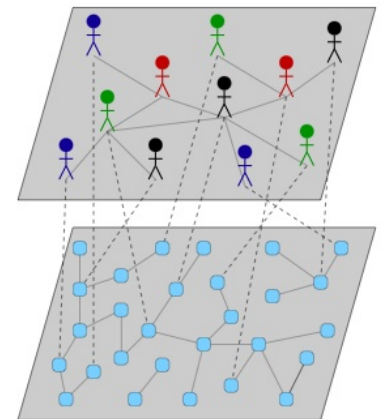
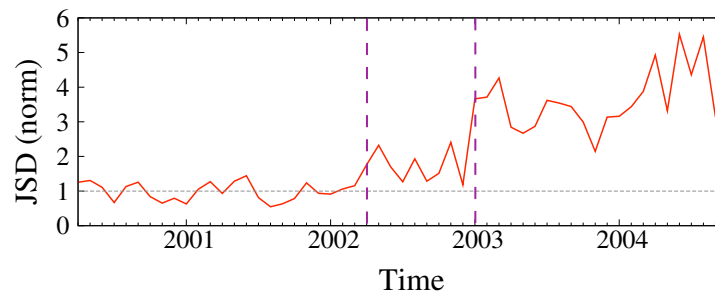
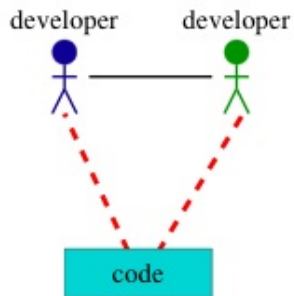
Interdependent networks

What are the simplest, useful, abstracted models ?

- What are the **emergent new properties**?
 - Host-pathogen interactions
 - Phase transition thresholds
- Interactions: **Cooperative, competitive, neutral** ?
- How do **demands** in one system shape the performance of the others? (e.g., demand informed by social patterns of communication)
- How do **constraints** on one system manifest in others?
 - (River networks shape placement of power plants)
 - (Overlay networks)
- **Coupling of scales across space and time** / co-evolution.

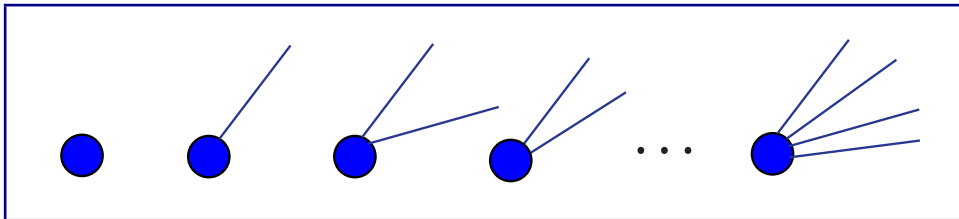
Models of interacting networks

- **Random graphs & branching processes**
(“Typical” graph consistent with specified parameters)
- **Phase transitions**
(The surprising consequences of interactions)
- **Motifs** (distinguishing real systems from random graphs)



Modeling networks as random graphs

- Erdős and Rényi random graphs (1959, 1960).
Phase transition in large-scale connectivity.
- Configuration models (Bollobás 1980, Molloy and Reed *RSA* 1995).
Enumerating over all networks with specified $\{p_i\}$.



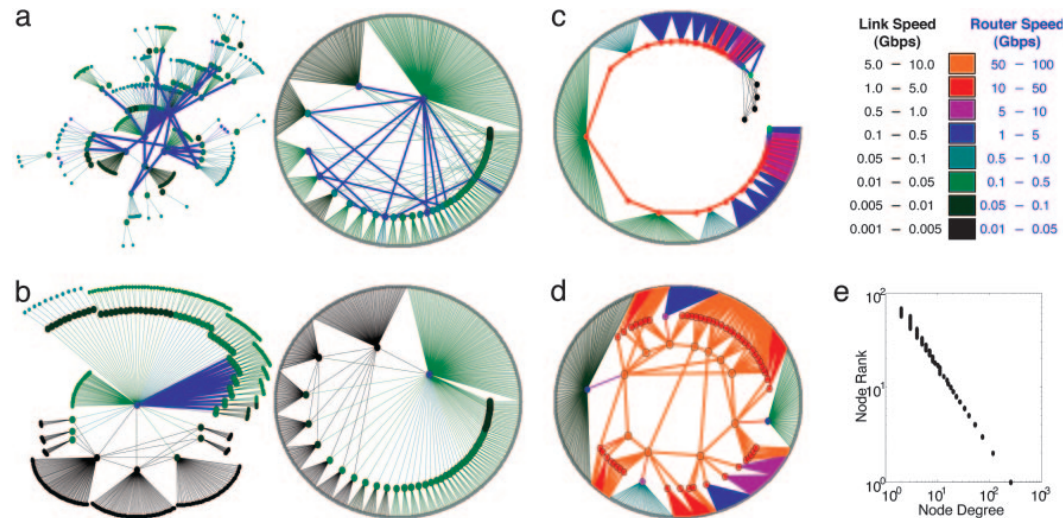
- Preferential attachment (Barbási-Albert 1999, etc.)
- Growth by copying (Kumar, Raghavan, Rajagopalan, Sivakumar, Tomkins, Upfal *FOCS* 2000), including duplication/mutation (Vazquez, Flammini, Maritan, Vespignani, *ComPlexUs* 2003)
- **Random graphs analysis considers the ensemble of all graphs that can be constructed consistent with specified properties.**

Cautions for use of random graphs

- Ensemble not necessarily representative
- Degree distribution is often not enough:

Doyle, et. al., PNAS **102** (4)2005.

All these have
same deg dist, p_i :



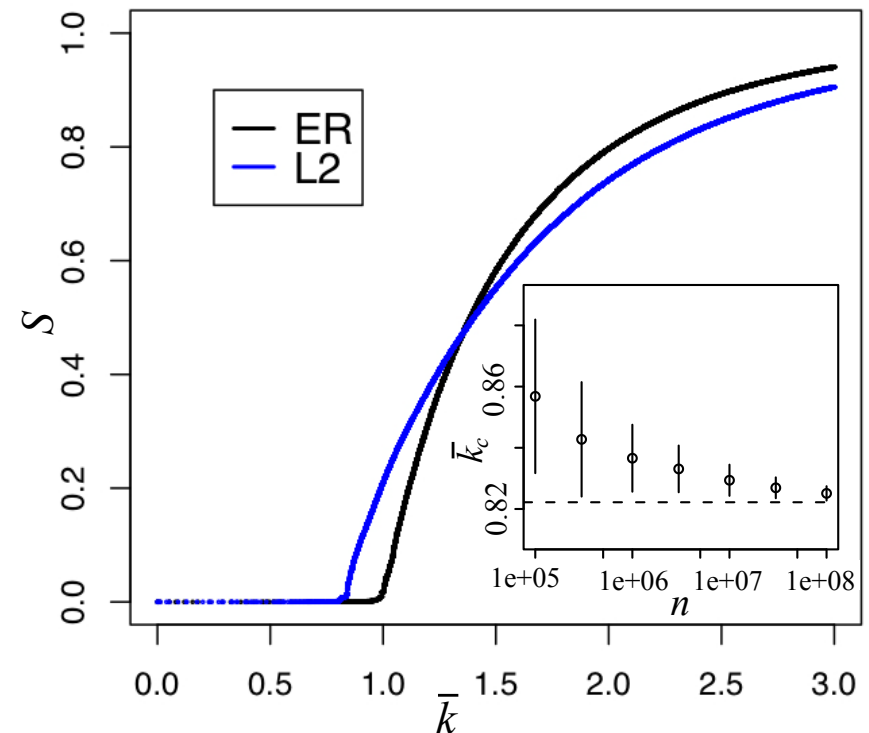
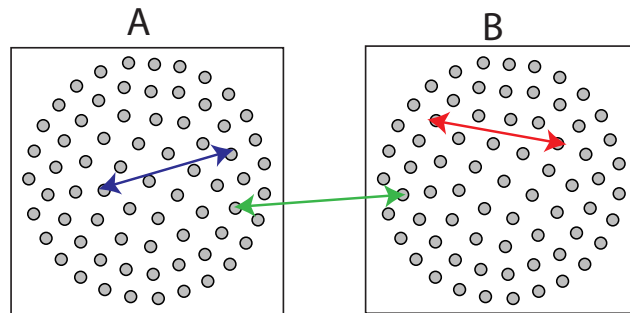
- Graph distance ... complicated to build in Euclidean space

Opportunities for random graphs?

- Enhance/delay onset of percolation
 - Achlioptas, R.D., Spencer, *Science*, 2009.
 - R.D., Mitzenmacher *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 2010.
 - Chen, R.D. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 2011.
- Local optimization models:
tradeoffs between Euclidean and tree metrics
 - R.D., Borgs, Chayes, Berger, Kleinberg, *PNAS* 2007.
- Epidemic spreading: SIS/SIR
- Socio-technical models (“Task oriented social networks”)
 - Wen, R.D, Devanbu, Filkov (under review): OSS systems: shared ownership of tasks good; but need a project lead.
- Signatures for onset of phase transitions

Wiring which respects group structures percolates earlier!

(E. Leicht and R. D'Souza, arXiv:0907.0894)



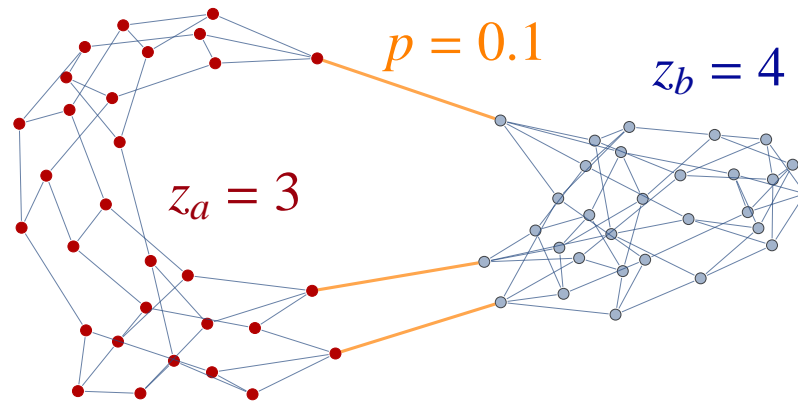
(Also tradeoffs between sparser and denser subnetworks.)

- Probability distribution for node degrees: $\{p_{k_a k_b}^a, p_{k_a k_b}^b\}$
- Generating functions to calculate properties of the ensemble of such networks.

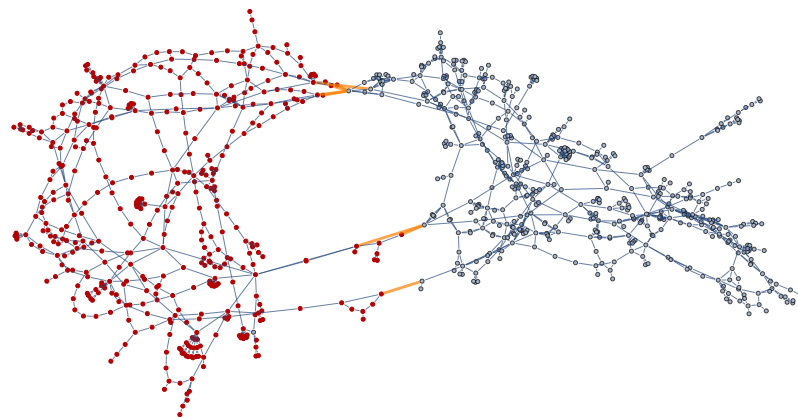
Calculating optimal interconnectivity

[Brummitt, R.D., Leicht, *PNAS* 109 (12) E680-E689, 2012.]
(Author Summary may be of particular interest)

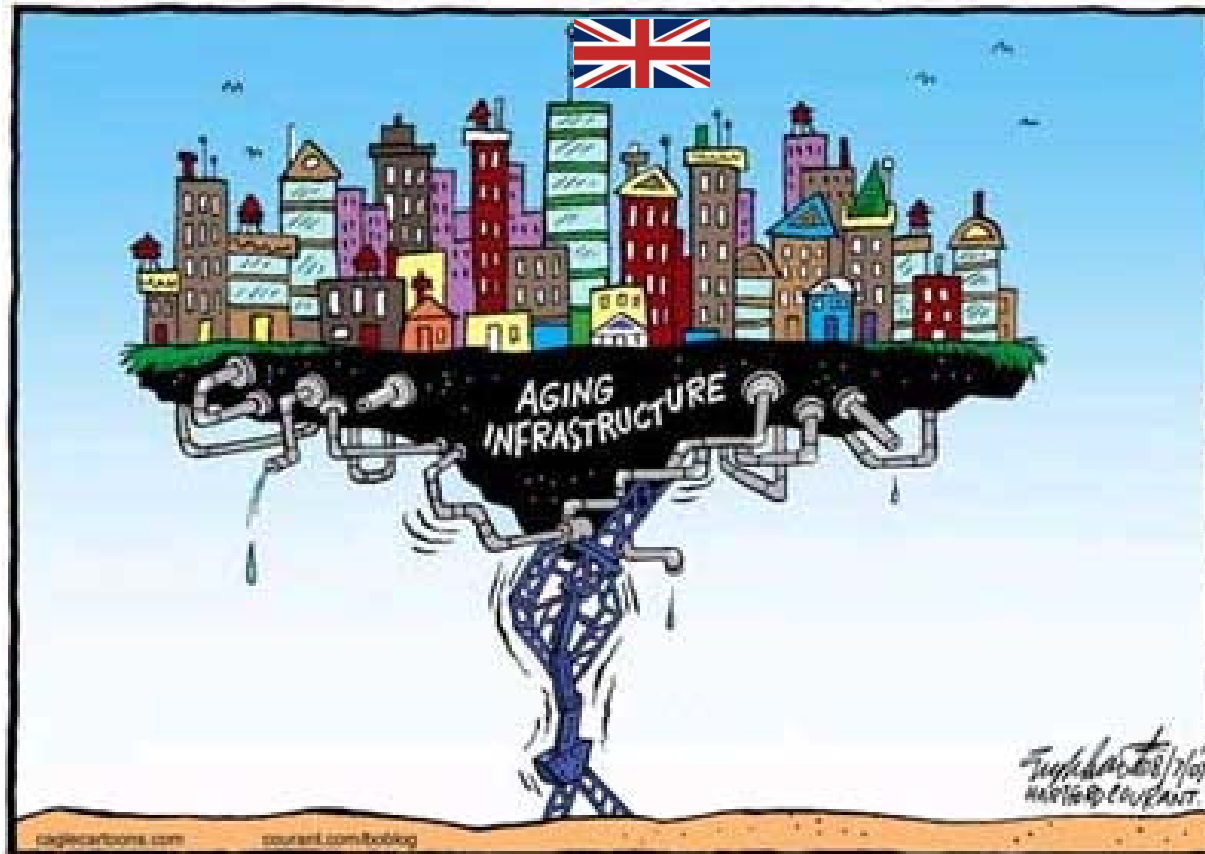
- Branching process on multi-type random-regular graphs



- Simulations of sandpiles on real power grid topologies



A view from the UK's Chief Science Advisor



(Source: Prof. Brian Collins, Chief Science Advisor, UK Dept of Transport)

Thanks to:

