

# Sparse random graphs with exchangeable point processes

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Introduction

Exchangeable matrices and their limitations

Statistical network models using exchangeable random measures

Exchangeability and sparsity properties

Special case: Generalized gamma process

Posterior characterization & Inference

Experimental results

# Outline

## Introduction

Exchangeable matrices and their limitations

Statistical network models using exchangeable random measures

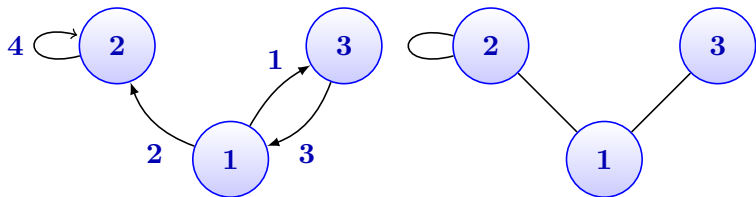
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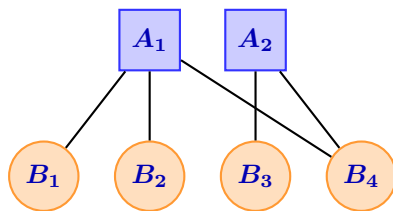
Experimental results

# Introduction



- ▶ Multi-edges directed graphs
  - ▶ Emails
  - ▶ Citations
  - ▶ WWW
- ▶ Simple graphs
  - ▶ Social network
  - ▶ Protein-protein interaction

# Introduction



## ▶ Bipartite graphs

- ▶ Scientists authoring papers
- ▶ Readers reading books
- ▶ Internet users posting messages on forums
- ▶ Customers buying items

# Introduction

- ▶ Build a statistical model of the network to
  - ▶ Find **interpretable structure** in the network
  - ▶ Predict **missing edges**
  - ▶ Predict connections of **new nodes**

# Introduction

- ▶ Properties of real world networks

- ▶ Sparsity

Dense graph:  $n_e = \Theta(n^2)$

Sparse graph:  $n_e = o(n^2)$

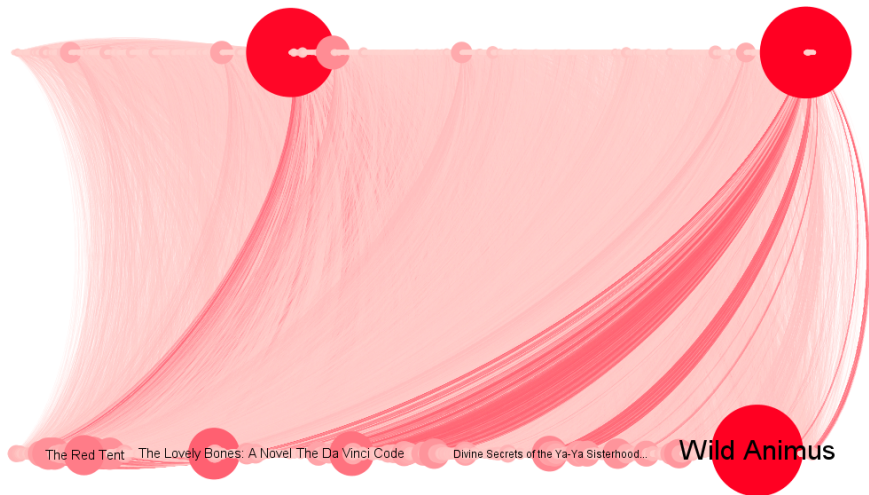
with  $n_e$  the number of edges and  $n$  the number of nodes

- ▶ Power-law degree distributions

# Book-crossing community network

5 000 readers, 36 000 books, 50 000 edges

Readers

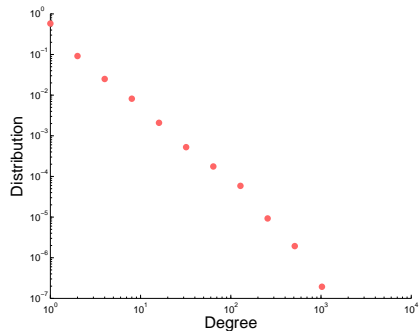


Books

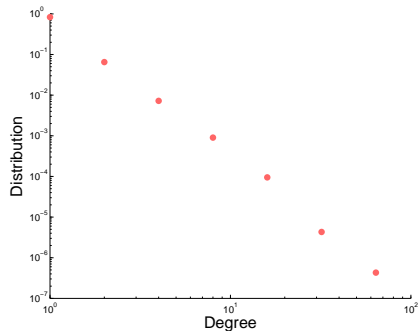


# Book-crossing community network

Degree distributions on log-log scale



(a) Readers



(b) Books

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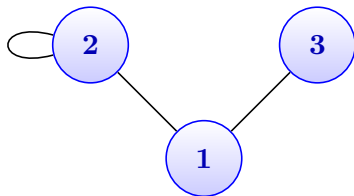
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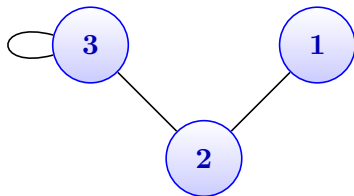
# Introduction

- ▶ Statistical network modeling
- ▶ Probabilistic symmetry: **exchangeability**
- ▶ Ordering of the nodes is irrelevant



# Introduction

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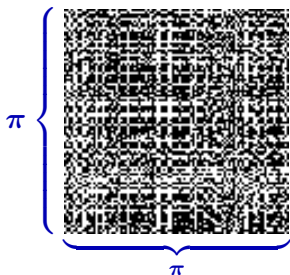


# Introduction

- ▶ Graphs usually represented by a discrete structure
- ▶ Adjacency matrix  $X_{ij} \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $(i, j) \in \mathbb{N}^2$
- ▶ **Joint exchangeability**

$$(X_{ij}) \stackrel{d}{=} (X_{\pi(i)\pi(j)})$$

for any permutation  $\pi$  of  $\mathbb{N}$



# Introduction

- ▶ **Aldous-Hoover** representation theorem

$$(X_{ij}) = (F(U_i, U_j, U_{\{ij\}}))$$

where  $U_i, U_{\{ij\}}$  are uniform random variables and  $F$  is a random function from  $[0, 1]^3$  to  $\{0, 1\}$

- ▶ Several network models fit in this framework (e.g. stochastic blockmodel, infinite relational model, etc.)

# Introduction

- ▶ Corollary of A-H theorem

*Exchangeable random graphs are either empty or dense*

- ▶ To quote the survey paper of Orbanz and Roy

**“the theory [...] clarifies the limitations of exchangeable models. It shows, for example, that most Bayesian models of network data are inherently misspecified”**

- ▶ Give up exchangeability for sparsity? e.g. preferential attachment model

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# Point process representation

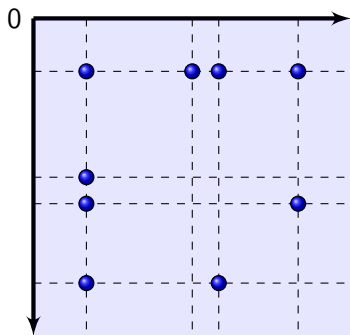
- ▶ Representation of a graph as a (marked) **point process** over  $\mathbb{R}_+^2$
- ▶ Representation theorem by Kallenberg for **jointly exchangeable point processes** on the plane
- ▶ Construction based on a **completely random measure**
- ▶ Properties of the model
  - ▶ Exchangeability
  - ▶ Sparsity
  - ▶ **Power-law** degree distributions (with exponential cut-off)
  - ▶ **Interpretable** parameters and hyperparameters
  - ▶ Reinforced urn process construction
- ▶ Posterior characterization
- ▶ Scalable inference

## Point process representation

- ▶ Undirected graph represented as a point process on  $\mathbb{R}_+^2$

$$Z = \sum_{i,j} z_{ij} \delta_{(\theta_i, \theta_j)}$$

with  $\theta_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $z_{ij} \in \{0, 1\}$  with  $z_{ij} = z_{ji}$



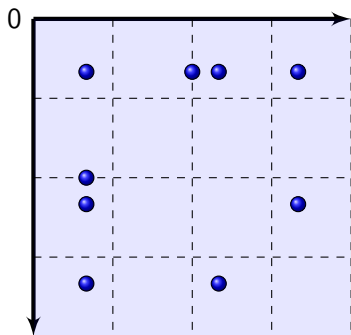
# Point process representation

Joint exchangeability

Let  $A_i = [h(i-1), hi]$  for  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  then

$$(Z(A_i \times A_j)) \stackrel{d}{=} (Z(A_{\pi(i)} \times A_{\pi(j)}))$$

for any permutation  $\pi$  of  $\mathbb{N}$  and any  $h > 0$



# Point process representation

- ▶ Kallenberg derived a **de Finetti style representation theorem** for **jointly and separately exchangeable point processes** on the plane
- ▶ Representation via random transformations of unit rate Poisson processes and uniform variables
- ▶ **Continuous-time** equivalent of Aldous-Hoover for binary variables
- ▶ Our construction will fit into this framework

# Completely random measures

- ▶ Nodes are embedded at some location  $\theta_i \in \mathbb{R}_+$
- ▶ To each node is associated some **sociability parameter**  $w_i$
- ▶ Homogeneous **completely random measure** on  $\mathbb{R}_+$

$$W = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} w_i \delta_{\theta_i} \quad W \sim \text{CRM}(\rho, \lambda).$$



- ▶ Lévy measure  $\nu(dw, d\theta) = \rho(dw)\lambda(d\theta)$  with  $\lambda$  the Lebesgue measure

# Completely random measures

- ▶ Lévy measure  $\nu(dw, d\theta) = \rho(dw)\lambda(d\theta)$  with  $\lambda$  the Lebesgue measure
- ▶  $\rho$  is a measure on  $\mathbb{R}_+$  such that

$$\int_0^\infty (1 - e^{-w})\rho(dw) < \infty. \quad (1)$$

which implies that  $W([0, T]) < \infty$  for any  $T < \infty$ .

$$\int_0^\infty \rho(dw) = \infty \implies \text{Infinite number of jumps in any interval } [0, T]$$

“Infinite activity CRM”

$$\int_0^\infty \rho(dw) < \infty \implies \text{Finite number of jumps in any interval } [0, T]$$

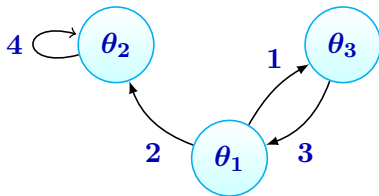
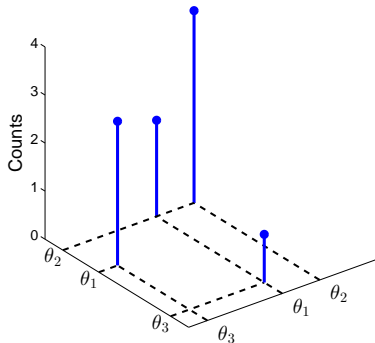
“Finite activity CRM”

## Model for multi-edges directed graphs

We represent the integer-weighted directed graph using an atomic measure on  $\mathbb{R}_+^2$

$$D = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} n_{ij} \delta_{(\theta_i, \theta_j)},$$

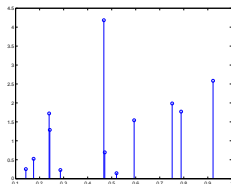
where  $n_{ij}$  counts the number of directed edges from node  $\theta_i$  to node  $\theta_j$ .



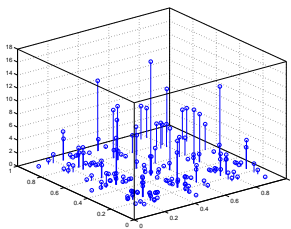
# Model for multi-edges directed graphs

- ▶ **Conditional Poisson process** with intensity measure  $\widetilde{W} = W \times W$  on the product space  $\mathbb{R}_+^2$ :

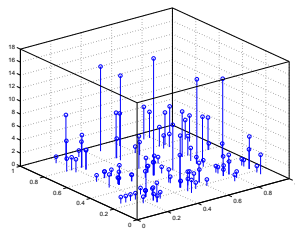
$$D \mid W \sim \text{PP}(W \times W)$$



(c) CRM  $W$



(d) Intensity measure  $\widetilde{W}$



(e) Poisson process  $D$



## Model for multi-edges directed graphs

- ▶ By construction, for any bounded intervals  $A$  and  $B$  of  $\mathbb{R}_+$ ,  
 $\widetilde{W}(A \times B) = W(A)W(B) < \infty$
- ▶ Finite number of counts over  $A \times B \subset \mathbb{R}_+^2$

$$D(A \times B) < \infty$$

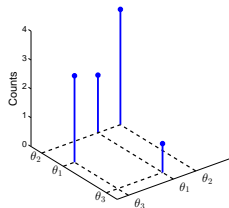
# Model for undirected graphs

- ▶ Point process

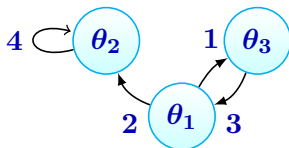
$$Z = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} z_{ij} \delta_{(\theta_i, \theta_j)},$$

with the convention  $z_{ij} = z_{ji} \in \{0, 1\}$

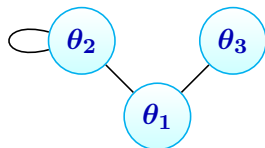
- ▶ Constructed from  $D$  by setting  $z_{ij} = z_{ji} = 1$  if  $n_{ij} + n_{ji} > 0$  and  $z_{ij} = z_{ji} = 0$  otherwise



(a)  $D$



(b) Integer-valued directed graph



(c) Undirected graph

# Model for undirected graphs

► Hierarchical model

$$W = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} w_i \delta_{\theta_i}$$

$$D = \sum_{ij} n_{ij} \delta_{(\theta_i, \theta_j)}$$

$$Z = \sum_{ij} \min(n_{ij} + n_{ji}, 1) \delta_{(\theta_i, \theta_j)}$$

$$W \sim \text{CRM}(\rho, \lambda)$$

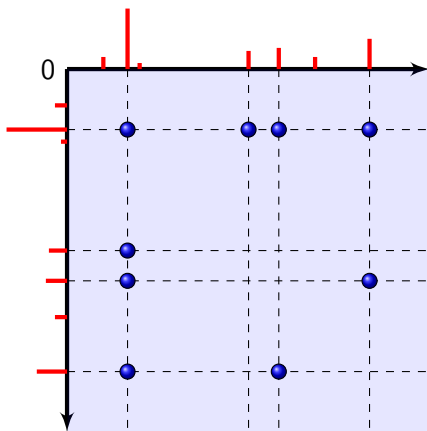
$$D \sim \text{PP}(W \times W)$$

## Model for undirected graphs

- ▶ Equivalent direct formulation for  $i \leq j$

$$\Pr(z_{ij} = 1 \mid w) = \begin{cases} 1 - \exp(-2w_i w_j) & i \neq j \\ 1 - \exp(-w_i^2) & i = j \end{cases}$$

and  $z_{ji} = z_{ij}$



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# Properties: Exchangeability

## Exchangeability

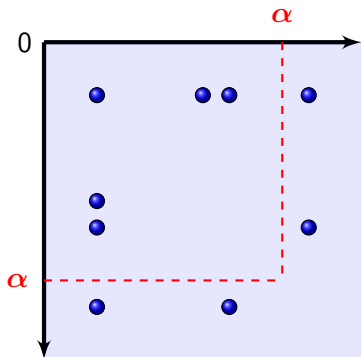
Let  $h > 0$  and  $A_i = [h(i-1), hi]$ ,  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . By construction,

$$(Z(A_i \times A_j)) \stackrel{d}{=} (Z(A_{\pi(i)} \times A_{\pi(j)}))$$

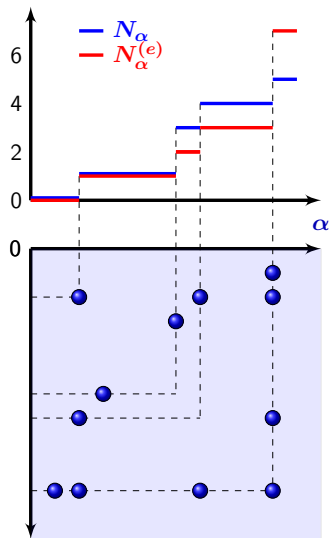
for any permutation  $\pi$  of  $\mathbb{N}$ .

## Properties: Sparsity

- ▶  $W(\mathbb{R}_+) = \infty$ , so infinite number of edges on  $\mathbb{R}_+^2$
- ▶ Restrictions  $D_\alpha$  and  $Z_\alpha$  of  $D$  and  $Z$ , respectively, to the box  $[0, \alpha]^2$ .
- ▶  $N_\alpha$  number of nodes, and  $N_\alpha^{(e)}$  number of edges



# Properties: Sparsity





# Properties: Sparsity

## Definition

**(Regular variation)** Let  $W \sim \text{CRM}(\rho, \lambda)$ . The (infinite-activity) CRM is said to be *regularly varying* if the tail Lévy intensity verifies

$$\int_x^\infty \rho(dw) \underset{x \downarrow 0}{\sim} \ell(1/x)x^{-\sigma}$$

for  $\sigma \in (0, 1)$  where  $\ell$  is a slowly varying function satisfying  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \ell(at)/\ell(t) = 1$  for any  $a > 0$ .

# Properties: Sparsity

Assume  $\rho \neq 0$  and  $\mathbb{E}[W([0, 1])] < \infty$ .

## Theorem

Let  $N_\alpha$  be the number of nodes and  $N_\alpha^{(e)}$  the number of edges in the undirected graph restriction,  $Z_\alpha$ . Then

$$N_\alpha^{(e)} = \begin{cases} \Theta(N_\alpha^2) & \text{if } W \text{ is finite-activity} \\ o(N_\alpha^2) & \text{if } W \text{ is infinite-activity} \\ O(N_\alpha^{2/(1+\sigma)}) & \text{if } W \text{ is regularly varying}^1 \text{ with } \sigma \in (0, 1) \end{cases}$$

almost surely as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ .

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<sup>1</sup>with  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \ell(t) > 0$

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# Generalized Gamma Process

- ▶ Lévy intensity

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\sigma)} w^{-1-\sigma} e^{-\tau w}$$

with  $\sigma \in (-\infty, 0]$  and  $\tau > 0$

or  $\sigma \in (0, 1)$  and  $\tau \geq 0$

- ▶ Special cases:

- ▶ Gamma process ( $\sigma = 0$ )

- ▶ Stable process ( $\tau = 0, \sigma \in (0, 1)$ )

- ▶ Inverse Gaussian process ( $\sigma = 1/2, \tau > 0$ )

- ▶ **Infinite activity** for  $\sigma \geq 0$
- ▶ **Regularly varying** for  $\sigma \in (0, 1)$
- ▶ Exact sampling of the graph via an **urn process**
- ▶ Power-law degree distribution

# Generalized Gamma Process

## Sparsity

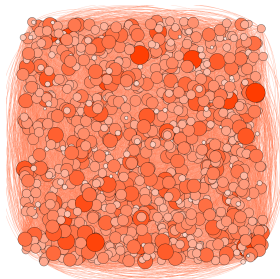
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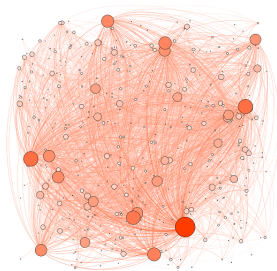
$$N_\alpha^{(e)} = \begin{cases} \Theta(N_\alpha^2) & \text{if } \sigma < 0 \\ o(N_\alpha^2) & \text{if } \sigma \in [0, 1), \tau > 0 \\ O(N_\alpha^{2/(1+\sigma)}) & \text{if } \sigma \in (0, 1), \tau > 0 \end{cases}$$

almost surely as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ . That is, the underlying graph is *sparse* if  $\sigma \geq 0$  and dense otherwise.

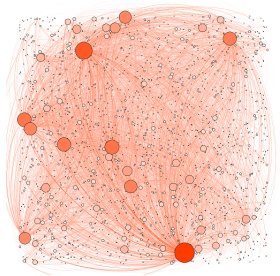
# Particular cases: Generalized Gamma Process



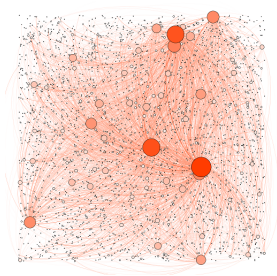
Erdős-Rényi  $G(1000, 0.05)$



Gamma Process

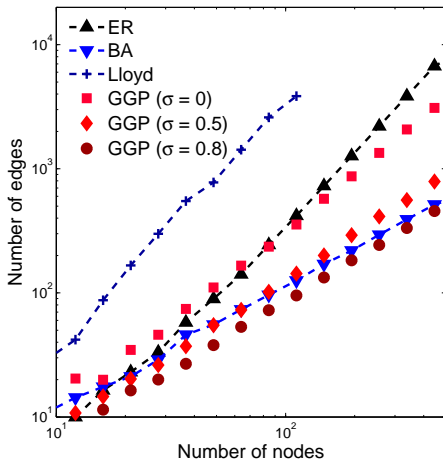


GGP ( $\sigma = 0.5$ )



GGP ( $\sigma = 0.8$ )

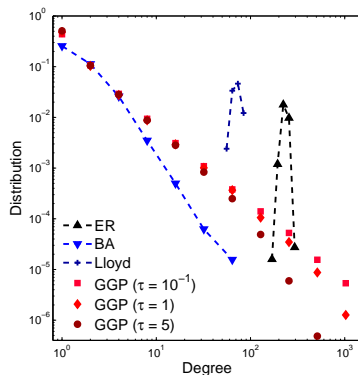
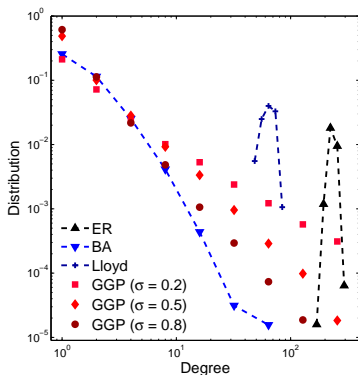
# Particular cases: Generalized Gamma Process



# Particular cases: Generalized Gamma Process

## Power-law degree distributions

- ▶ Power-law like behavior providing a heavy-tailed degree distribution
- ▶ Higher power-law exponents for larger  $\sigma$
- ▶ The parameter  $\tau$  tunes the exponential cut-off in the tails.





## Particular cases: Generalized Gamma Process

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# Posterior characterization

Conditional distribution of  $W_\alpha$  given  $D_\alpha$ .

## Theorem

Let  $(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_{N_\alpha})$ ,  $N_\alpha \geq 0$ , be the set of support points of  $D_\alpha$  such that  $D_\alpha = \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq N_\alpha} n_{ij} \delta_{(\theta_i, \theta_j)}$ . Let  $m_i = \sum_{j=1}^{N_\alpha} (n_{ij} + n_{ji}) > 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, N_\alpha$ . The conditional distribution of  $W_\alpha$  given  $D_\alpha$  is equivalent to the distribution of

$$w_* \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \tilde{P}_i \delta_{\tilde{\theta}_i} + \sum_{i=1}^{N_\alpha} w_i \delta_{\theta_i}$$

where  $\tilde{\theta}_i \sim \text{Unif}([0, \alpha])$ , and  $(\tilde{P}_i) | w_* \sim \text{PK}(\rho | w_*)$  are from a Poisson-Kingman distribution. The weights  $(w_1, \dots, w_{N_\alpha}, w_*)$  are jointly dependent conditional on  $D_\alpha$ , with  $p(w_1, \dots, w_{N_\alpha}, w_* | D_\alpha) \propto$

$$\left[ \prod_{i=1}^{N_\alpha} w_i^{m_i} \right] e^{-(\sum_{i=1}^{N_\alpha} w_i + w_*)^2} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^{N_\alpha} \rho(w_i) \right] \times g_\alpha^*(w_*)$$

where  $g_\alpha^*$  is the probability density function of the random variable  $W_\alpha^* = W_\alpha([0, \alpha])$ .

# Posterior inference for undirected graphs

- ▶ Let  $\phi = (\alpha, \sigma, \tau)$  with flat priors
- ▶ We want to approximate

$$p(\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_{N_\alpha}, \mathbf{w}_*, \phi | (z_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq N_\alpha})$$

- ▶ Latent count variables  $\bar{n}_{ij} = n_{ij} + n_{ji}$
- ▶ Markov chain Monte Carlo sampler
  1. Update the weights  $(\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_{N_\alpha})$  given the rest using an **Hamiltonian Monte Carlo** update
  2. Update the total mass  $\mathbf{w}_*$  and hyperparameters  $\phi = (\alpha, \sigma, \tau)$  given the rest using a **Metropolis-Hastings** update
  3. Update the latent counts  $(\bar{n}_{ij})$  given the rest from a **truncated Poisson** distribution

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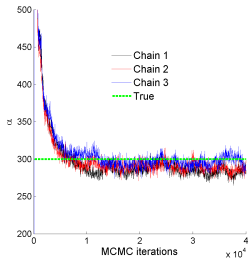
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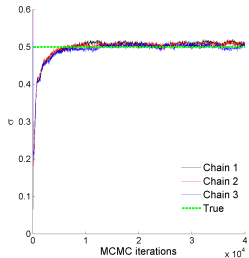
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## Simulated data

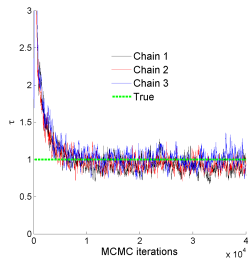
- ▶ Simulation of a GGP graph with  $\alpha = 300, \sigma = 1/2, \tau = 1$
- ▶ 13,995 nodes and 76,605 edges
- ▶ MCMC sampler with 3 chains and 40,000 iterations
- ▶ Takes 10min on a standard desktop with Matlab



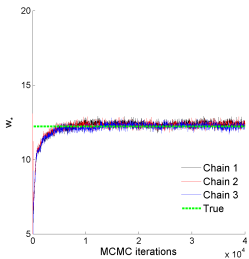
(a)  $\alpha$



(b)  $\sigma$

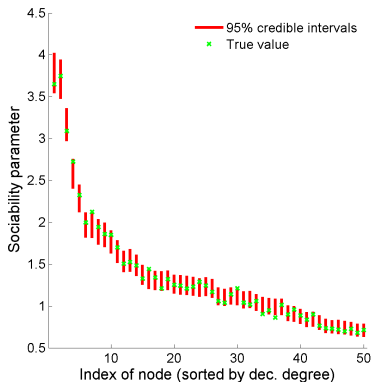


(c)  $\tau$

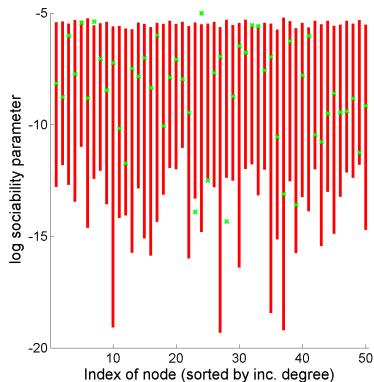


(d)  $w_*$

# Simulated data



(a) 50 nodes with highest degree



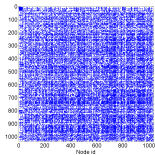
(b) 50 nodes with lowest degree

**Figure:** 95 % posterior intervals of (a) the sociability parameters  $w_i$  of the 50 nodes with highest degree and (b) the log-sociability parameter  $\log w_i$  of the 50 nodes with lowest degree. True values are represented by a green star.

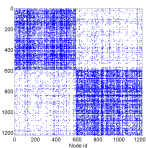


# Real network data

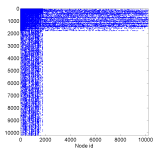
- ▶ Assessing the sparsity of the network
- ▶ We aim at reporting  $\Pr(\sigma \geq 0|z)$  based on a set of observed connections ( $z$ )
- ▶ 12 different networks
- ▶  $\sim 1,000 - 300,000$  nodes and  $10,000 - 1,000,000$  edges



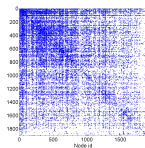
(a) facebook107



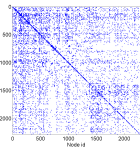
(b) polblogs



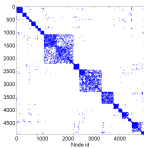
(c) USairport



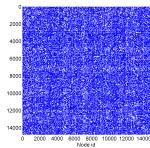
(d) UCirvine



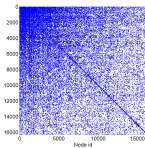
(e) yeast



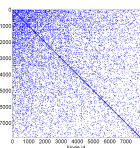
(f) USpower



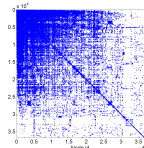
(g) IMDB



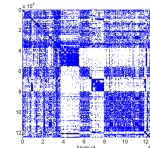
(h) cond-mat1



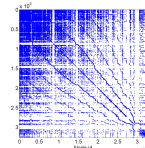
(i) cond-mat2



(j) enron



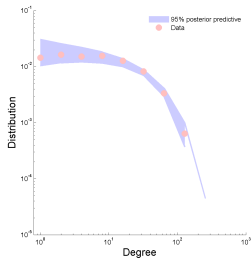
(k) internet



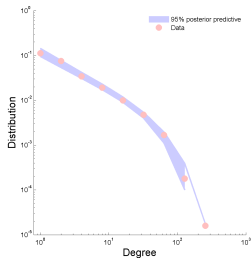
(l) www

## Real network data

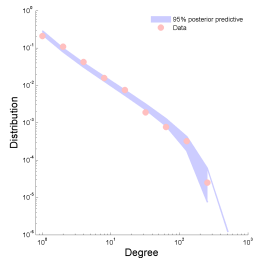
Name	Nb nodes	Nb edges	Time (min)	$\Pr(\sigma > 0 z)$	99% CI $\sigma$
facebook107	1,034	26,749	1	0.00	$[-1.06, -0.82]$
polblogs	1,224	16,715	1	0.00	$[-0.35, -0.20]$
USairport	1,574	17,215	1	1.00	$[0.10, 0.18]$
UCirvine	1,899	13,838	1	0.00	$[-0.14, -0.02]$
yeast	2,284	6,646	1	0.28	$[-0.09, 0.05]$
USpower	4,941	6,594	1	0.00	$[-4.84, -3.19]$
IMDB	14,752	38,369	2	0.00	$[-0.24, -0.17]$
cond-mat1	16,264	47,594	2	0.00	$[-0.95, -0.84]$
cond-mat2	7,883	8,586	1	0.00	$[-0.18, -0.02]$
Enron	36,692	183,831	7	1.00	$[0.20, 0.22]$
internet	124,651	193,620	15	0.00	$[-0.20, -0.17]$
www	325,729	1,090,108	132	1.00	$[0.26, 0.30]$



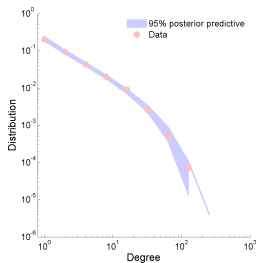
(a) facebook107



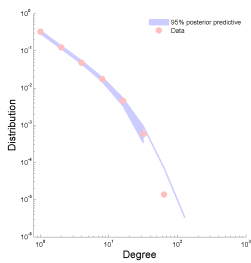
(b) polblogs



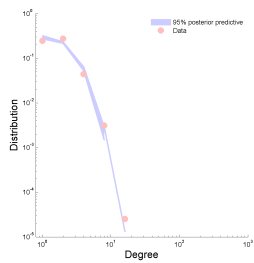
(c) USairport



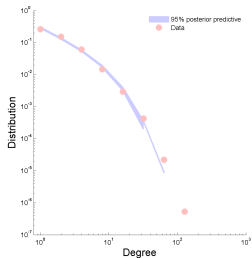
(d) UCirvine



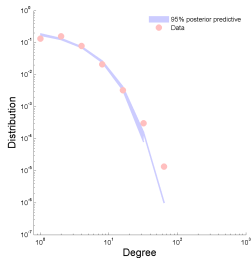
(e) yeast



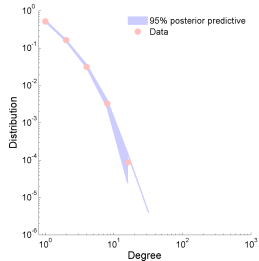
(f) USpower



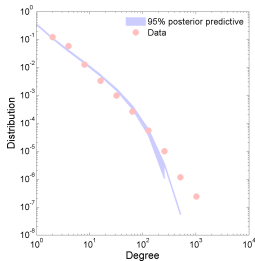
(g) IMDB



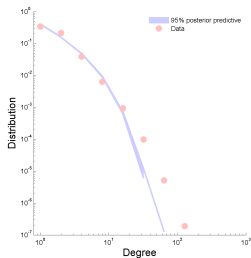
(h) cond-mat1



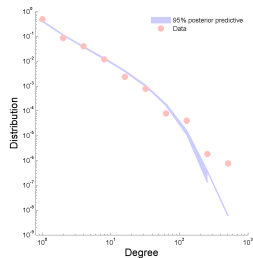
(i) cond-mat2



(j) enron



(k) internet



(l) www

# Conclusion

- ▶ Statistical network models
- ▶ Build on **exchangeable random measures**
- ▶ Sparsity and power-law properties
- ▶ Scalable inference
- ▶ Similar construction for bipartite graphs
- ▶ Extensions to more structured models: low-rank, block-model, covariates, dynamic networks, etc

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