



Generating Functions and Networks

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Complex Networks | @networksvox
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Sealie & Lambie Productions



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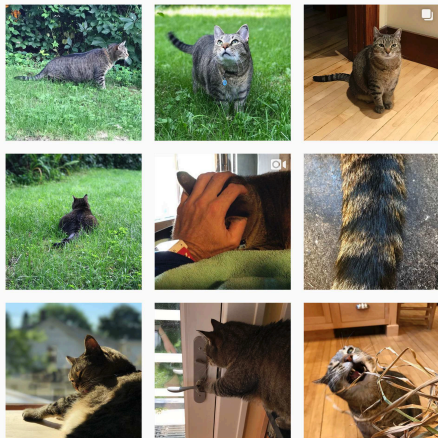


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 On Instagram at [pratchett_the_cat](https://www.instagram.com/pratchett_the_cat) 



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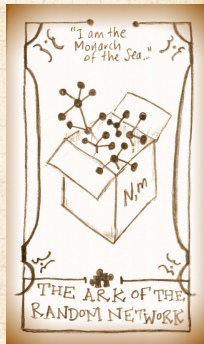
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Generating functionology ^[1]


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Generating
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 **Idea:** Given a sequence a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots , associate each element with a distinct function or other mathematical object.


 Well-chosen functions allow us to manipulate sequences and retrieve sequence elements.

Definition:

 The **generating function** (g.f.) for a sequence $\{a_n\}$ is

$$F(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n.$$

 Roughly: transforms a vector in R^∞ into a function defined on R^1 .

 Related to Fourier, Laplace, Mellin, ...

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Simple examples:


Rolling dice and flipping coins:


 $p_k^{(\text{die})} = \mathbf{Pr}(\text{throwing a } k) = 1/6$ where $k = 1, 2, \dots, 6$.

$$F^{(\text{die})}(x) = \sum_{k=1}^6 p_k^{(\text{die})} x^k = \frac{1}{6}(x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5 + x^6).$$

 $p_0^{(\text{coin})} = \mathbf{Pr}(\text{head}) = 1/2, p_1^{(\text{coin})} = \mathbf{Pr}(\text{tail}) = 1/2$.

$$F^{(\text{coin})}(x) = p_0^{(\text{coin})}x^0 + p_1^{(\text{coin})}x^1 = \frac{1}{2}(1 + x).$$

 A generating function for a probability distribution is called a **Probability Generating Function (p.g.f.)**.

 We'll come back to these simple examples as we derive various delicious properties of generating functions.

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Example

Take a degree distribution with exponential decay:

$$P_k = ce^{-\lambda k}$$

where geometrically, we have $c = 1 - e^{-\lambda}$

The generating function for this distribution is

$$F(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P_k x^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} ce^{-\lambda k} x^k = \frac{c}{1 - xe^{-\lambda}}.$$

Notice that $F(1) = c/(1 - e^{-\lambda}) = 1$.


For probability distributions, we must always have $F(1) = 1$ since

$$F(1) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P_k 1^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P_k = 1.$$


Check die and coin p.g.f.'s.




Properties:

 Average degree:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle k \rangle &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k P_k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k P_k x^{k-1} \Big|_{x=1} \\ &= \frac{d}{dx} F(x) \Big|_{x=1} = F'(1)\end{aligned}$$


 In general, many calculations become simple, if a little abstract.

 For our exponential example:

$$F'(x) = \frac{(1 - e^{-\lambda})e^{-\lambda}}{(1 - xe^{-\lambda})^2}.$$



$$\text{So: } \langle k \rangle = F'(1) = \frac{e^{-\lambda}}{(1 - e^{-\lambda})}.$$

 Check for die and coin p.g.f.'s.

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Useful pieces for probability distributions:

 Normalization:


$$F(1) = 1$$

 First moment:

$$\langle k \rangle = F'(1)$$

 Higher moments:

$$\langle k^n \rangle = \left(x \frac{d}{dx} \right)^n F(x) \Big|_{x=1}$$

 k th element of sequence (general):

$$P_k = \frac{1}{k!} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} F(x) \Big|_{x=0}$$

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A beautiful, fundamental thing:

- 🧱 The generating function for the sum of two random variables

$$W = U + V$$

is

$$F_W(x) = F_U(x)F_V(x).$$

- 🧱 Conolve yourself with Convolutions:
Insert question from assignment 5 .

- 🧱 Try with die and coin p.g.f.'s.
 1. Add two coins (tail=0, head=1).
 2. Add two dice.
 3. Add a coin flip to one die roll.

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Edge-degree distribution

 Recall our condition for a giant component:

$$\langle k \rangle_R = \frac{\langle k^2 \rangle - \langle k \rangle}{\langle k \rangle} > 1.$$


 Let's re-express our condition in terms of generating functions.

 We first need the g.f. for R_k .

 We'll now use this notation:

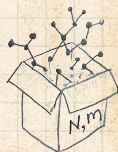
$F_P(x)$ is the g.f. for P_k .

$F_R(x)$ is the g.f. for R_k .


 Giant component condition in terms of g.f. is:

$$\langle k \rangle_R = F'_R(1) > 1.$$

 Now find how F_R is related to F_P ...



Edge-degree distribution

 We have

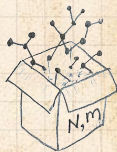
$$F_R(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} R_k x^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(k+1)P_{k+1}}{\langle k \rangle} x^k.$$

Shift index to $j = k + 1$ and pull out $\frac{1}{\langle k \rangle}$:

$$\begin{aligned} F_R(x) &= \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} j P_j x^{j-1} = \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} P_j \frac{d}{dx} x^j \\ &= \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle} \frac{d}{dx} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} P_j x^j = \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle} \frac{d}{dx} (F_P(x) - P_0) = \frac{1}{\langle k \rangle} F'_P(x). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, since $\langle k \rangle = F'_P(1)$,

$$F_R(x) = \frac{F'_P(x)}{F'_P(1)}$$



Edge-degree distribution

Recall giant component condition is
 $\langle k \rangle_R = F'_R(1) > 1$.

Since we have $F_R(x) = F'_P(x)/F'_P(1)$,

$$F'_R(x) = \frac{F''_P(x)}{F'_P(1)}.$$

Setting $x = 1$, our condition becomes

$$\frac{F''_P(1)}{F'_P(1)} > 1$$

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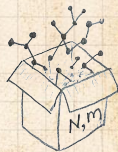
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Size distributions

To figure out the **size of the largest component** (S_1), we need more resolution on component sizes.

Definitions:

 π_n = probability that a random node belongs to a finite component of size $n < \infty$.

 ρ_n = probability that a random end of a random link leads to a finite subcomponent of size $n < \infty$.

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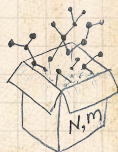
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Local-global connection:

$$P_k, R_k \Leftrightarrow \pi_n, \rho_n$$

neighbors \Leftrightarrow components

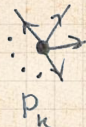


Connecting probabilities:

n nodes

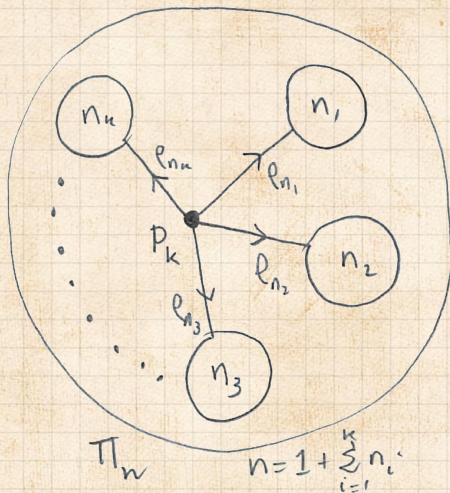


π_n



k edges

P_k



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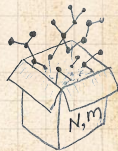
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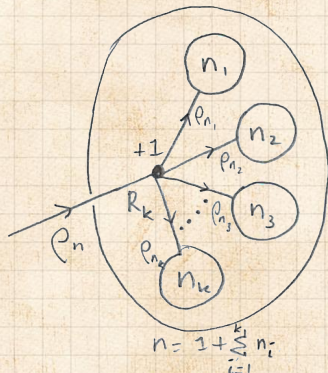
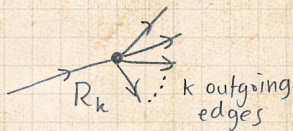
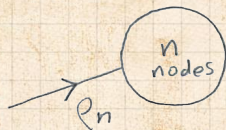


Markov property of random networks connects

π_n , ρ_n , and P_k .



Connecting probabilities:



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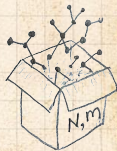
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 Markov property of random networks connects ρ_n and R_k .


G.f.'s for component size distributions:




$$F_{\pi}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \pi_n x^n \text{ and } F_{\rho}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \rho_n x^n$$

The largest component:

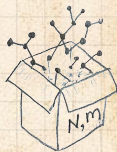
 **Subtle key:** $F_{\pi}(1)$ is the probability that a node belongs to a **finite** component.

 Therefore: $S_1 = 1 - F_{\pi}(1)$.

Our mission, which we accept:

 Determine and connect the four generating functions

$$F_P, F_R, F_{\pi}, \text{ and } F_{\rho}.$$



Useful results we'll need for g.f.'s

Sneaky Result 1:

- Consider two random variables U and V whose values may be 0, 1, 2, ...
- Write probability distributions as U_k and V_k and g.f.'s as F_U and F_V .
- SR1: If a third random variable is defined as

$$W = \sum_{i=1}^U V^{(i)} \text{ with each } V^{(i)} \stackrel{d}{=} V$$

then

$$F_W(x) = F_U(F_V(x))$$

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Proof of SR1:

Write probability that variable W has value k as W_k .

$$W_k = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} U_j \times \Pr(\text{sum of } j \text{ draws of variable } V = k)$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} U_j \sum_{\substack{\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_j\} \\ i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_j = k}} V_{i_1} V_{i_2} \dots V_{i_j}$$

$$\therefore F_W(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} W_k x^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} U_j \sum_{\substack{\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_j\} \\ i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_j = k}} V_{i_1} V_{i_2} \dots V_{i_j} x^k$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} U_j \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{\substack{\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_j\} \\ i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_j = k}} V_{i_1} x^{i_1} V_{i_2} x^{i_2} \dots V_{i_j} x^{i_j}$$

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Proof of SR1:

With some concentration, observe:

$$\begin{aligned} F_W(x) &= \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} U_j \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{\sum_{\substack{\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_j\} \\ i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_j = k}} V_{i_1} x^{i_1} V_{i_2} x^{i_2} \dots V_{i_j} x^{i_j}}_{x^k \text{ piece of } \left(\sum_{i'=0}^{\infty} V_{i'} x^{i'} \right)^j} \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} U_j \left(\sum_{i'=0}^{\infty} V_{i'} x^{i'} \right)^j = (F_V(x))^j \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} U_j (F_V(x))^j \\ &= F_U(F_V(x)) \end{aligned}$$



Alternate, groovier proof in the accompanying assignment.

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Useful results we'll need for g.f.'s

Sneaky Result 2:

Start with a random variable U with distribution U_k ($k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$)

SR2: If a second random variable is defined as

$$V = U + 1 \text{ then } F_V(x) = xF_U(x)$$

Reason: $V_k = U_{k-1}$ for $k \geq 1$ and $V_0 = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore F_V(x) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} V_k x^k = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} U_{k-1} x^k \\ &= x \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} U_j x^j = xF_U(x). \end{aligned}$$

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Generalization of SR2:

 (1) If $V = U + i$ then

$$F_V(x) = x^i F_U(x).$$

 (2) If $V = U - i$ then

$$F_V(x) = x^{-i} F_U(x)$$

$$= x^{-i} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} U_k x^k$$

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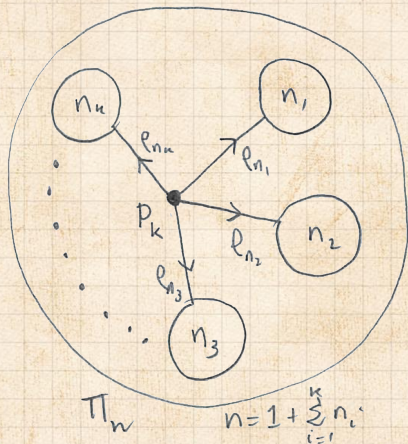
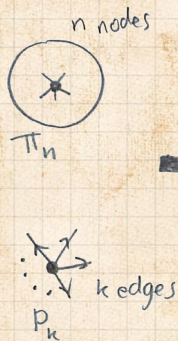


Connecting generating functions:

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 **Goal:** figure out forms of the component generating functions, F_π and F_ρ .



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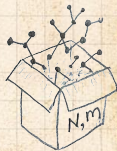
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 Relate π_n to P_k and ρ_n through one step of recursion.



Connecting generating functions:


 π_n = probability that a random node belongs to a finite component of size n

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P_k \times \Pr \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{sum of sizes of subcomponents} \\ \text{at end of } k \text{ random links} = n - 1 \end{array} \right)$$



Therefore:

$$F_{\pi}(x) = \underbrace{x}_{\text{SR2}} \underbrace{F_P(F_{\rho}(x))}_{\text{SR1}}$$

 Extra factor of x accounts for random node itself.

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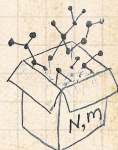
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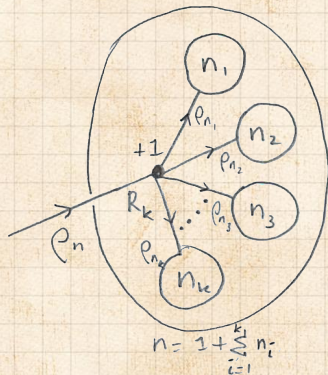
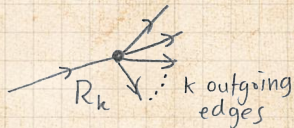
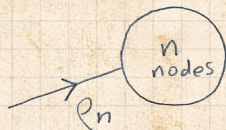
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Connecting generating functions:



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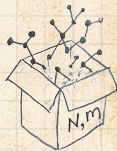
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Relate ρ_n to R_k and ρ_n through one step of recursion.

Connecting generating functions:

 ρ_n = probability that a random link leads to a finite subcomponent of size n .

 Invoke one step of recursion:


ρ_n = probability that in following a random edge, the outgoing edges of the node reached lead to finite subcomponents of combined size $n - 1$,

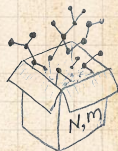
$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} R_k \times \Pr \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{sum of sizes of subcomponents} \\ \text{at end of } k \text{ random links} = n - 1 \end{array} \right)$$




Therefore:

$$F_{\rho}(x) = \underbrace{x}_{\text{SR2}} \underbrace{F_R(F_{\rho}(x))}_{\text{SR1}}$$


 Again, extra factor of x accounts for random node itself.





Connecting generating functions:


-  We now have two functional equations connecting our generating functions:

$$F_{\pi}(x) = xF_{\mathcal{P}}(F_{\rho}(x)) \quad \text{and} \quad F_{\rho}(x) = xF_{\mathcal{R}}(F_{\rho}(x))$$

-  Taking stock: We know $F_{\mathcal{P}}(x)$ and $F_{\mathcal{R}}(x) = F'_{\mathcal{P}}(x)/F'_{\mathcal{P}}(1)$.

-  We first untangle the **second equation** to find F_{ρ}

-  We can do this because it **only involves** F_{ρ} and $F_{\mathcal{R}}$.

-  The first equation then immediately gives us F_{π} in terms of F_{ρ} and $F_{\mathcal{R}}$.

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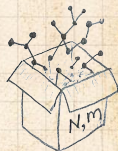
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 Remembering vaguely what we are doing:

Finding F_π to obtain the **fractional size of the largest component** $S_1 = 1 - F_\pi(1)$.

 Set $x = 1$ in our two equations:

$$F_\pi(1) = F_P(F_\rho(1)) \quad \text{and} \quad F_\rho(1) = F_R(F_\rho(1))$$

 Solve second equation numerically for $F_\rho(1)$.

 Plug $F_\rho(1)$ into first equation to obtain $F_\pi(1)$.

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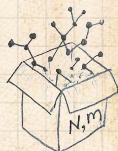
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Example: Standard random graphs.


 We can show $F_P(x) = e^{-\langle k \rangle(1-x)}$


$$\Rightarrow F_R(x) = F'_P(x)/F'_P(1)$$


$$= \langle k \rangle e^{-\langle k \rangle(1-x)} / \langle k \rangle e^{-\langle k \rangle(1-x')} \Big|_{x'=1}$$

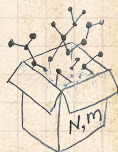
$$= e^{-\langle k \rangle(1-x)} = F_P(x) \quad \dots\text{aha!}$$

 RHS's of our two equations are the same.

 So $F_\pi(x) = F_\rho(x) = xF_R(F_\rho(x)) = xF_R(F_\pi(x))$

 Consistent with how our dirty (but wrong) trick worked earlier ...

 $\pi_n = \rho_n$ just as $P_k = R_k$.



Component sizes



We are down to

$$F_{\pi}(x) = xF_R(F_{\pi}(x)) \text{ and } F_R(x) = e^{-\langle k \rangle(1-x)}.$$



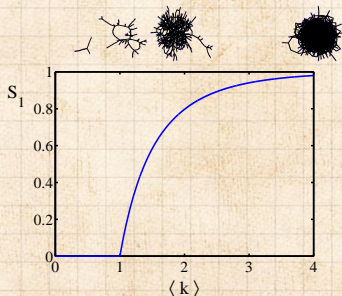
$$\therefore F_{\pi}(x) = xe^{-\langle k \rangle(1-F_{\pi}(x))}$$



We're first after $S_1 = 1 - F_{\pi}(1)$ so set $x = 1$ and replace $F_{\pi}(1)$ by $1 - S_1$:

$$1 - S_1 = e^{-\langle k \rangle S_1}$$

$$\text{Or: } \langle k \rangle = \frac{1}{S_1} \ln \frac{1}{1 - S_1}$$




Just as we found with our dirty trick ...





Again, we (usually) have to resort to numerics ...





A few simple random networks to contemplate and play around with:


 **Notation:** The Kronecker delta function $\delta_{ij} = 1$ if $i = j$ and 0 otherwise.


 $P_k = \delta_{k1}$.


 $P_k = \delta_{k2}$.


 $P_k = \delta_{k3}$.

 $P_k = \delta_{kk'}$ for some fixed $k' \geq 0$.

 $P_k = \frac{1}{2}\delta_{k1} + \frac{1}{2}\delta_{k3}$.

 $P_k = a\delta_{k1} + (1-a)\delta_{k3}$, with $0 \leq a \leq 1$.

 $P_k = \frac{1}{2}\delta_{k1} + \frac{1}{2}\delta_{kk'}$ for some fixed $k' \geq 2$.

 $P_k = a\delta_{k1} + (1-a)\delta_{kk'}$ for some fixed $k' \geq 2$ with $0 \leq a \leq 1$.

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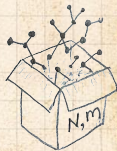
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A joyful example \square :


$$P_k = \frac{1}{2}\delta_{k1} + \frac{1}{2}\delta_{k3}.$$


 We find (two ways): $R_k = \frac{1}{4}\delta_{k0} + \frac{3}{4}\delta_{k2}$.


 A giant component exists because:
 $\langle k \rangle_R = 0 \times 1/4 + 2 \times 3/4 = 3/2 > 1$.


 Generating functions for P_k and R_k :

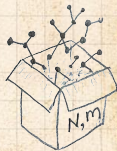
$$F_P(x) = \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}x^3 \text{ and } F_R(x) = \frac{1}{4}x^0 + \frac{3}{4}x^2$$

 Check for goodness:


 $F_R(x) = F'_P(x)/F'_P(1)$ and $F_P(1) = F_R(1) = 1$.

 $F'_P(1) = \langle k \rangle_P = 2$ and $F'_R(1) = \langle k \rangle_R = \frac{3}{2}$.

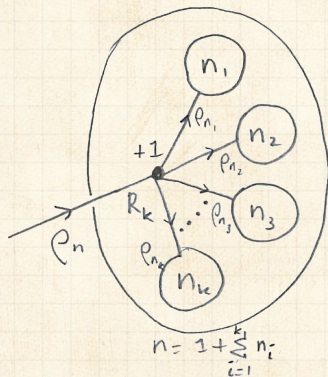
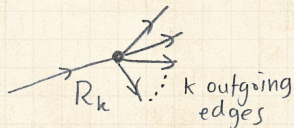
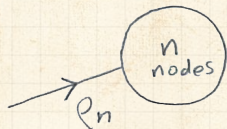
 Things to figure out: Component size generating functions for π_n and ρ_n , and the size of the giant component.



Find $F_\rho(x)$ first:

 We know:

$$F_\rho(x) = xF_R(F_\rho(x)).$$



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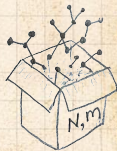
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 Sticking things in things, we have:


$$F_\rho(x) = x \left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4} [F_\rho(x)]^2 \right).$$


 Rearranging:


$$3x [F_\rho(x)]^2 - 4F_\rho(x) + x = 0.$$

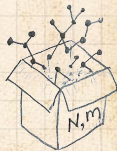
 Please and thank you:

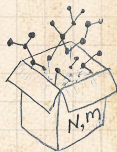
$$F_\rho(x) = \frac{2}{3x} \left(1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{3}{4}x^2} \right)$$

 Time for a Taylor series expansion.

 The promise: non-negative powers of x with non-negative coefficients.

 First: which sign do we take?





Because ρ_n is a probability distribution, we know $F_\rho(1) \leq 1$ and $F_\rho(x) \leq 1$ for $0 \leq x \leq 1$.

Thinking about the limit $x \rightarrow 0$ in

$$F_\rho(x) = \frac{2}{3x} \left(1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{3}{4}x^2} \right),$$


we see that the positive sign solution blows to smithereens, and the negative one is okay.

So we must have:


$$F_\rho(x) = \frac{2}{3x} \left(1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{3}{4}x^2} \right),$$

We can now deploy the Taylor expansion:

$$(1+z)^\theta = \binom{\theta}{0} z^0 + \binom{\theta}{1} z^1 + \binom{\theta}{2} z^2 + \binom{\theta}{3} z^3 + \dots$$


 Let's define a binomial for arbitrary θ and $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$:

$$\binom{\theta}{k} = \frac{\Gamma(\theta + 1)}{\Gamma(k + 1)\Gamma(\theta - k + 1)}$$

 For $\theta = \frac{1}{2}$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} (1+z)^{\frac{1}{2}} &= \binom{\frac{1}{2}}{0} z^0 + \binom{\frac{1}{2}}{1} z^1 + \binom{\frac{1}{2}}{2} z^2 + \dots \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(\frac{3}{2})}{\Gamma(1)\Gamma(\frac{3}{2})} z^0 + \frac{\Gamma(\frac{3}{2})}{\Gamma(2)\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})} z^1 + \frac{\Gamma(\frac{3}{2})}{\Gamma(3)\Gamma(-\frac{1}{2})} z^2 + \dots \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{2}z - \frac{1}{8}z^2 + \frac{1}{16}z^3 - \dots \end{aligned}$$

where we've used $\Gamma(x+1) = x\Gamma(x)$ and noted that $\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2}$.

 Note: $(1+z)^\theta \sim 1 + \theta z$ always.

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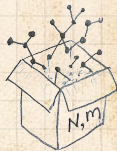
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 Totally psyched, we go back to here:

$$F_\rho(x) = \frac{2}{3x} \left(1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{3}{4}x^2} \right).$$

 Setting $z = -\frac{3}{4}x^2$ and expanding, we have:


$$F_\rho(x) =$$


$$\frac{2}{3x} \left(1 - \left[1 + \frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{3}{4}x^2 \right)^1 - \frac{1}{8} \left(-\frac{3}{4}x^2 \right)^2 + \frac{1}{16} \left(-\frac{3}{4}x^2 \right)^3 \right] + \dots \right)$$

 Giving:


$$F_\rho(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \rho_n x^n =$$


$$\frac{1}{4}x + \frac{3}{64}x^3 + \frac{9}{512}x^5 + \dots + \frac{2}{3} \left(\frac{3}{4} \right)^k \frac{(-1)^{k+1} \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)}{\Gamma(k+1) \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2} - k\right)} x^{2k-1} + \dots$$


 Do odd powers make sense?

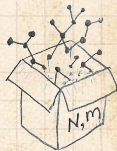
 We can now find $F_\pi(x)$ with:


$$\begin{aligned}
 F_\pi(x) &= xF_P(F_\rho(x)) \\
 &= x\frac{1}{2}\left(\left(F_\rho(x)\right)^1 + \left(F_\rho(x)\right)^3\right) \\
 &= x\frac{1}{2}\left[\frac{2}{3x}\left(1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{3}{4}x^2}\right) + \frac{2^3}{(3x)^3}\left(1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{3}{4}x^2}\right)^3\right]
 \end{aligned}$$

 Delicious.


 In principle, we can now extract all the π_n .


 But let's just find the size of the giant component.




 First, we need $F_\rho(1)$:


$$F_\rho(x)|_{x=1} = \frac{2}{3 \cdot 1} \left(1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{3}{4}1^2} \right) = \frac{1}{3}.$$

 This is the probability that a random edge leads to a sub-component of finite size.

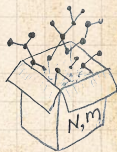
 Next:

$$F_\pi(1) = 1 \cdot F_P(F_\rho(1)) = F_P\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^3 = \frac{5}{27}.$$

 This is the probability that a random chosen node belongs to a finite component.

 Finally, we have

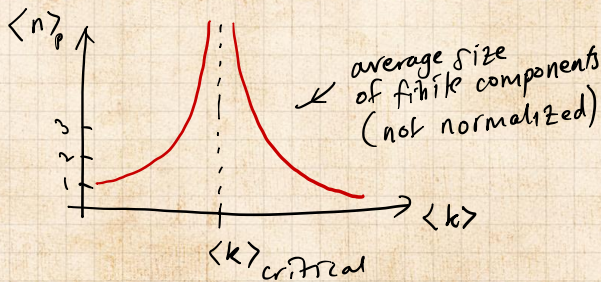
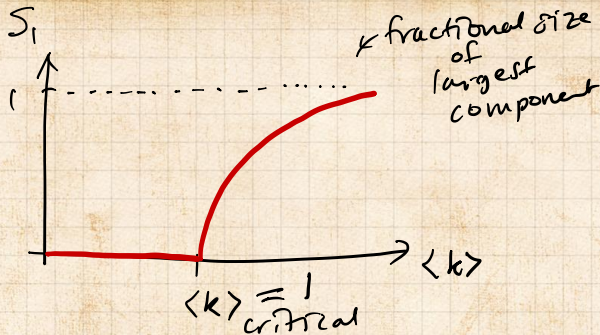
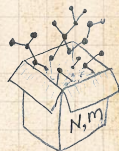
$$S_1 = 1 - F_\pi(1) = 1 - \frac{5}{27} = \frac{22}{27}.$$



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Average component size

Next: find **average size** of **finite** components $\langle n \rangle$.

Using standard G.F. result: $\langle n \rangle = F'_\pi(1)$.

Try to avoid finding $F_\pi(x)$...

Starting from $F_\pi(x) = xF_P(F_\rho(x))$, we differentiate:

$$F'_\pi(x) = F_P(F_\rho(x)) + xF'_\rho(x)F'_P(F_\rho(x))$$

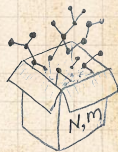
While $F_\rho(x) = xF_R(F_\rho(x))$ gives

$$F'_\rho(x) = F_R(F_\rho(x)) + xF'_\rho(x)F'_R(F_\rho(x))$$

Now set $x = 1$ in both equations.

We solve the second equation for $F'_\rho(1)$ (we must already have $F_\rho(1)$).

Plug $F'_\rho(1)$ and $F_\rho(1)$ into first equation to find $F'_\pi(1)$.



Average component size

Example: Standard random graphs.



Use fact that $F_P = F_R$ and $F_\pi = F_\rho$.



Two differentiated equations reduce to only one:

$$F'_\pi(x) = F_P(F_\pi(x)) + xF'_\pi(x)F'_P(F_\pi(x))$$

Rearrange:
$$F'_\pi(x) = \frac{F_P(F_\pi(x))}{1 - xF'_P(F_\pi(x))}$$



Simplify denominator using $F'_P(x) = \langle k \rangle F_P(x)$

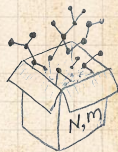


Replace $F_P(F_\pi(x))$ using $F_\pi(x) = xF_P(F_\pi(x))$.




Set $x = 1$ and replace $F_\pi(1)$ with $1 - S_1$.


End result:
$$\langle n \rangle = F'_\pi(1) = \frac{(1 - S_1)}{1 - \langle k \rangle (1 - S_1)}$$





Average component size

 Our result for standard random networks:


$$\langle n \rangle = F'_\pi(1) = \frac{(1 - S_1)}{1 - \langle k \rangle(1 - S_1)}$$


 Recall that $\langle k \rangle = 1$ is the critical value of average degree for standard random networks.


 Look at what happens when we increase $\langle k \rangle$ to 1 from below.

 We have $S_1 = 0$ for all $\langle k \rangle < 1$ so

$$\langle n \rangle = \frac{1}{1 - \langle k \rangle}$$

 This blows up as $\langle k \rangle \rightarrow 1$.

 **Reason:** we have a power law distribution of component sizes at $\langle k \rangle = 1$.

 Typical critical point behavior ...



Average component size

Limits of $\langle k \rangle = 0$ and ∞ make sense for

$$\langle n \rangle = F'_\pi(1) = \frac{(1 - S_1)}{1 - \langle k \rangle(1 - S_1)}$$

As $\langle k \rangle \rightarrow 0$, $S_1 = 0$, and $\langle n \rangle \rightarrow 1$.

All nodes are isolated.

As $\langle k \rangle \rightarrow \infty$, $S_1 \rightarrow 1$ and $\langle n \rangle \rightarrow 0$.

No nodes are outside of the giant component.

Extra on largest component size:

For $\langle k \rangle = 1$, $S_1 \sim N^{2/3}/N$.

For $\langle k \rangle < 1$, $S_1 \sim (\log N)/N$.

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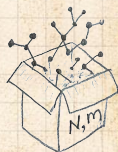
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Let's return to our example: $P_k = \frac{1}{2}\delta_{k1} + \frac{1}{2}\delta_{k3}$.

We're after:

$$\langle n \rangle = F'_\pi(1) = F_P(F_\rho(1)) + F'_\rho(1)F'_P(F_\rho(1))$$

where we first need to compute

$$F'_\rho(1) = F_R(F_\rho(1)) + F'_\rho(1)F'_R(F_\rho(1)).$$

Place stick between teeth, and recall that we have:

$$F_P(x) = \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}x^3 \text{ and } F_R(x) = \frac{1}{4}x^0 + \frac{3}{4}x^2.$$

Differentiation gives us:

$$F'_P(x) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2}x^2 \text{ and } F'_R(x) = \frac{3}{2}x.$$





We bite harder and use $F_\rho(1) = \frac{1}{3}$ to find:

$$\begin{aligned} F'_\rho(1) &= F_R(F_\rho(1)) + F'_\rho(1)F'_R(F_\rho(1)) \\ &= F_R\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) + F'_\rho(1)F'_R\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} + \cancel{\frac{1}{4}} \frac{1}{3\cancel{2}} + F'_\rho(1) \cancel{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{\cancel{3}}. \end{aligned}$$



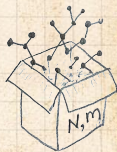
After some reallocation of objects, we have $F'_\rho(1) = \frac{13}{2}$.



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Finally: } \langle n \rangle &= F'_\pi(1) = F_P\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) + \frac{13}{2}F'_P\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{3^3} + \frac{13}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \cancel{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{3\cancel{2}} \right) = \frac{5}{27} + \frac{13}{3} = \frac{122}{27}. \end{aligned}$$



So, kinda small.



- Generating functions allow us to strangely calculate features of random networks.
- They're a bit scary and magical.
- We'll find generating functions useful for contagion.
- But we'll also see that more direct, physics-bearing calculations are possible.

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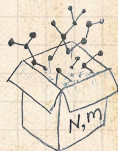
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