

Kemeny's constant for several families of graphs and real-world networks

Robert Kooij

7 July 2022

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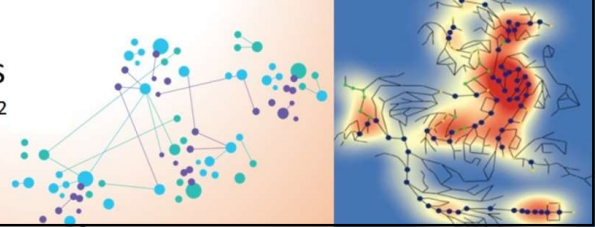
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The Fifth Delft - Girona Workshop on
Robustness of Complex Networks

7 July 2022

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John George Kemeny

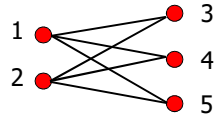


- János György Kemény (1926 - ??)
- Joined Manhattan Project aged 18!
- Invented BASIC programming language

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What is Kemeny's Constant?

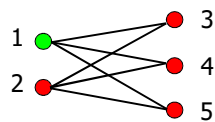


- Undirected graphs
- Random walks

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What is Kemeny's Constant?



- Undirected graphs
- Random walks
- Mean first passage time
 - $m_{13} = 5$

$$\Pr(1 \rightarrow 3) = 1/3$$

$$\Pr(1 \rightarrow 4) = 1/3$$

$$\Pr(1 \rightarrow 5) = 1/3$$

- Kemeny's Constant = mean first passage time from a given node to a randomly chosen other node

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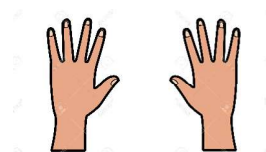
What is Kemeny's Constant?

- Kemeny's Constant = proxy for the robustness of a network
- Hence interest of the **Network Architectures and Services** group

- How do we increase the robustness of a network?



By increasing Kemeny's Constant

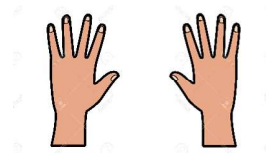


By decreasing Kemeny's Constant

What is Kemeny's Constant?

- Kemeny's Constant = proxy for the robustness of a network
- Hence interest of the **Network Architectures and Services** group

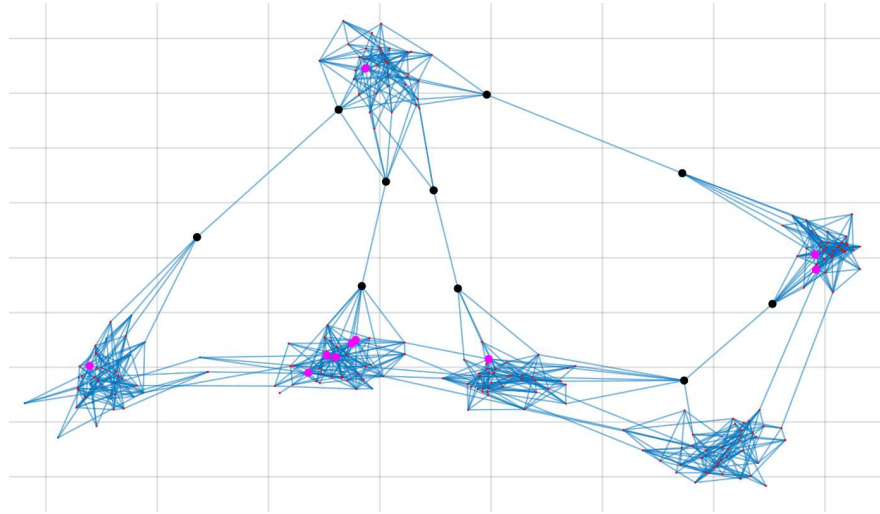
- How do we increase the robustness of a network?



By decreasing Kemeny's Constant

Applications

- Efficient testing for COVID in communities



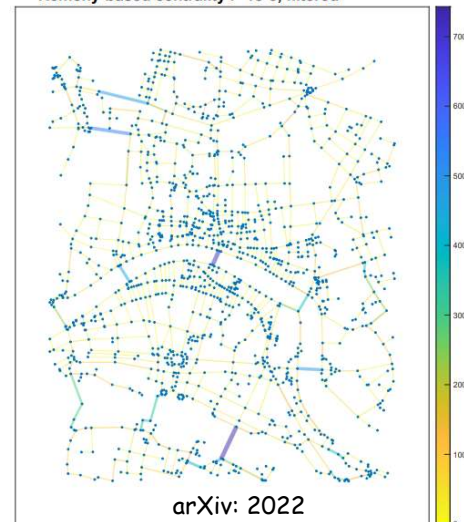
PLOS ONE: 2020

Applications

- Detecting bottlenecks in road networks



Kemeny-based centrality $r=1e-8$, filtered



arXiv: 2022

Background

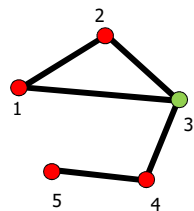
- Joint work with Johan Dubbeldam (DIAM)

[Discrete Applied Mathematics 285 \(2020\) 96–107](#)



Background

- A : adjacency matrix of graph $G(N,L)$
- Δ : diagonal degree matrix



$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(3 \rightarrow 1) &= 1/3 \\ \Pr(3 \rightarrow 2) &= 1/3 \\ \Pr(3 \rightarrow 4) &= 1/3\end{aligned}$$

- P : transition probability matrix

$$P = \Delta^{-1}A$$

- π : steady state probability vector

$$\pi^T P = \pi^T$$

Background

- Q : Laplacian matrix $Q = \Delta - A$
- R_G : effective graph resistance $R_G = N \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \mu_i$
- Q^\dagger : Moore-Penrose pseudo inverse of Laplacian $R_G = N \text{trace}(Q^\dagger)$

$$Q^\dagger = (Q + \frac{1}{N}J)^{-1} - \frac{1}{N}J$$

Background

$$K(P) = \sum_{i=1}^N \pi_i m_{ji} - 1$$

m_{ji} : mean first passage time

$$K(P) = \sum_{k=2}^N \frac{1}{1 - \lambda_k}$$

λ_k : eigenvalues of $\Delta^{-1/2} A \Delta^{-1/2}$

$$K(P) = \zeta^T d - \frac{d^T Q^\dagger d}{2L}$$

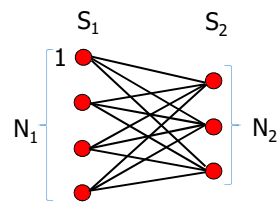
ζ : vector with diagonal elements Q^\dagger

d : degree vector

Overview

- Complete bi-partite graphs and some trees
- Windmill graphs
- Relation with effective graph resistance
- A sharp upper bound
- Real-world networks
- Synergy with BDCS?
- Wrap-up

Complete bi-partite graphs and some trees


 K_{N_1, N_2}

$$K(P) = N_1 + N_2 - \frac{3}{2}$$

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 0_{N_1 \times N_1} & \frac{1}{N_1} J_{N_1 \times N_2} \\ \frac{1}{N_2} J_{N_2 \times N_1} & 0_{N_2 \times N_2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\pi^T = \left(\frac{1}{2N_1} \cdots \frac{1}{2N_1}; \frac{1}{2N_2} \cdots \frac{1}{2N_2} \right)$$

Complete bi-partite graphs and some trees

$$K(P) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_1+N_2} \pi_i m_{1i} - 1 = \frac{1}{2} m_{1S_1} + \frac{1}{2} m_{1S_2} - 1$$

Mean passage time from node 1 to a specific node in S₂

Mean passage time from node 1 to a specific node in S₁

Condition on first jump

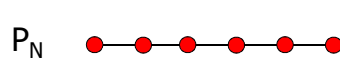
$$m_{1S} = \frac{1}{N_2} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{N_2}\right)(2 + m_{1S_1}) \quad \longrightarrow \quad m_{1S_2} = 2N_2 - 1$$

$$\text{Similarly } m_{S_2 1} = 2N_1 - 1$$

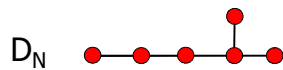
$$m_{1S_1} = 1 + m_{S_2 1} = 2N_1$$

Mean passage time from specific node in S₂ to node 1

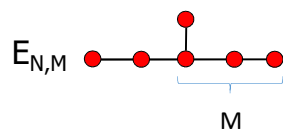
Complete bi-partite graphs and some trees



$$K(p) = \frac{1}{3}N^2 - \frac{2}{3}N + \frac{1}{2}$$



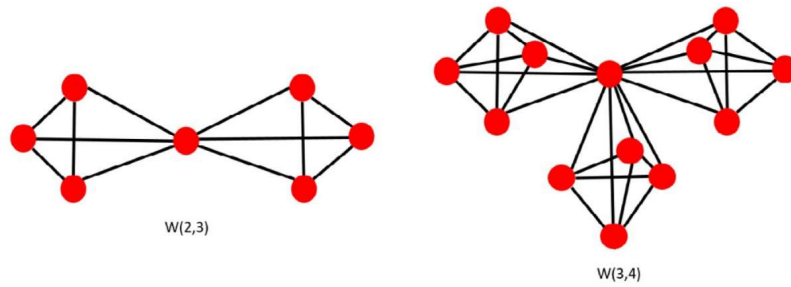
$$K(p) = \frac{1}{3}N^2 - \frac{2}{3}N + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2(N-3)}{N-1}$$



$$K(p) = \frac{1}{3}N^2 - \frac{2}{3}N + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2(M(N-3) - M(M-1))}{N-1}$$

Windmill graphs

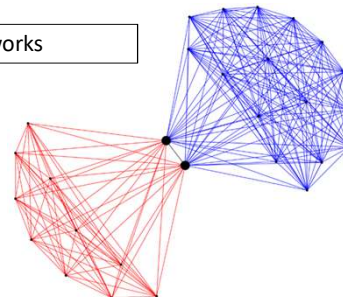
- Introduced by Estrada (2016)
 - η cliques of order k
 - connected through central node



Windmill graphs

- Generalized windmill Type I: $W'(\eta, k, l)$
 - η cliques of order k
 - connected through central clique of order l

Application: Public Transport Networks



Windmill graphs

- $K(P)$ for $W(\eta, k, l)$ using spectrum of $\Delta^{-1/2} A \Delta^{-1/2}$

$$K(P) = \frac{\eta(k-1)(k+l-1)}{k+l} + \frac{(\eta-1)(k+l-1)}{l} + \frac{(l-1)(\eta k+l-1)}{\eta k+l} + \frac{(\eta k+l-1)(k+l-1)}{\eta k(k+l-1) + l(\eta k+l-1)}$$

Special case: $l = 1$; windmill graph $W(\eta, k)$

$$K(P) = \frac{k^2(2\eta - 1)}{k + 1}$$

Relation with effective graph resistance

- Palacios (2010)
 - r -regular graphs on N nodes

$$K(P) = \frac{r}{N} R_G$$

- Approximation for non-regular graphs
 - Average degree D
 - Heterogeneity index H

$$D = \frac{2L}{N}$$

$$H = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (d_i - D)^2$$

$$K^*(P) = \frac{D}{N} R_G + Hf(N, L)$$

- Choose $f(N, L)$ such that $K^*(P)$ is exact for K_{N_1, N_2}

Relation with effective graph resistance

• for K_{N_1, N_2}
$$K(P) = N_1 + N_2 - \frac{3}{2}$$

$$D = \frac{2N_1N_2}{N_1 + N_2} \quad H = \frac{N_1N_2(N_1 - N_2)^2}{(N_1 + N_2)^2} \quad R_G = (N_1 + N_2) \left(\frac{N_2 - 1}{N_1} + \frac{N_1 - 1}{N_2} + \frac{1}{N_1 + N_2} \right)$$

$$f = \frac{1 - 2N_1 - 2N_2}{2N_1N_2}$$

• for K_{N_1, N_2}
$$N = N_1 + N_2$$

$$L = N_1N_2 \quad f(N, L) = \frac{1 - 2N}{2L}$$

Relation with effective graph resistance

$$K^*(P) = \frac{2L}{N^2} R_G + H \frac{1 - 2N}{2L}$$

- Exact for regular graphs
- Exact for complete bipartite graphs
- Also exact for windmill graphs!

Relation with effective graph resistance

Table 1

Kemeny's constant and its approximations K^* for several graphs.

Graph	N	L	$K(P)$	$K^*(P)$
$K_{10,15}$	25	150	23.50	23.50
P_{10}	10	9	27.17	29.53
D_{10}	10	9	25.61	28.06
$E_{10,2}$	10	9	24.50	27.16
$W(3, 10)$	31	165	45.45	45.45
$W'(3, 10, 5)$	35	295	35.49	33.77
$W''(3, 10, 5)$	35	285	35.54	34.67

A sharp upper bound

- $K^*(P)$ is not an upper bound

$$K(P) = \zeta^T d - \frac{d^T Q^\dagger d}{2L} \leq \zeta^T d - \frac{H}{D\mu_1} \equiv K_U(P)$$

A sharp upper bound

Table 2

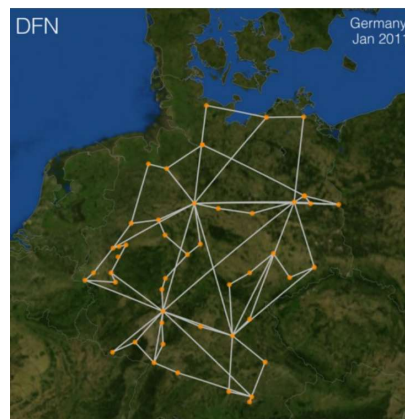
Kemeny's constant and the upper bound $K_U(P)$, for several graphs.

Graph	$K(P)$	$K_U(P)$
$K_{10,15}$	23.50	23.50
P_{10}	27.17	27.28
D_{10}	25.61	25.71
$E_{10,2}$	24.50	24.61
$W(3, 10)$	45.45	45.45
$W'(3, 10, 5)$	35.49	35.49
$W''(3, 10, 5)$	35.54	35.54

- $K_U(P)$ is tight for (generalized) windmill graphs

Real-world networks

- Data from Internet Topology Zoo
 - 243 communication networks



Real-world networks

Table 3

Kemeny's constant, the approximations K^* and the upper bound K_U , for the smallest and largest networks in the Internet Topology Zoo.

Graph	N	L	$K(P)$	K^*	K_U
Arpanet196912	4	4	2.54	2.73	2.60
Renam	5	4	3.50	3.50	3.50
Mren	6	5	4.50	4.50	4.50
UsCarrier	158	189	1175.99	1265.48	1176.68
Cogentco	197	245	1082.45	1197.24	1083.35
Kdl	754	899	5907.29	6264.78	5908.32

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Real-world networks

Table 4

Statistics for the absolute value of the relative errors for the approximations K^* and the upper bound K_U , for 243 real-world networks.

Metric	K^*	K_U
Average absolute rel. error	27.25%	0.73%
Maximum absolute rel. error	122.60%	8.05%

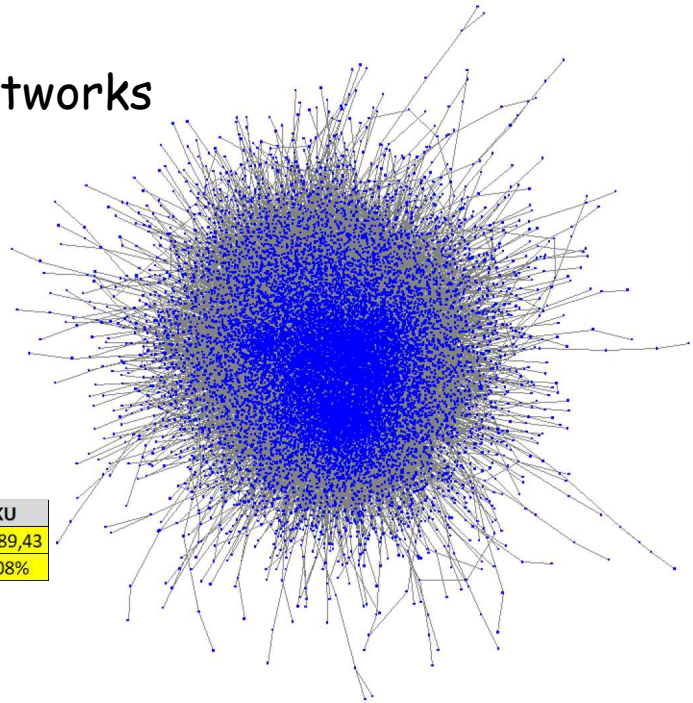
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Real-world networks

bio-CE-CX.edges (undirected)	
Summary Statistics	
Number of nodes	15083
Number of edges	245862

Network	K	K*	KU
bio-CE-CX	17375,46	128159,7	17389,43
	Rel. error	638%	0,08%



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Synergy with BDCS?

- Kemeny's Constant implemented in NRS
- Use Kemeny's Constant as a centrality indicator

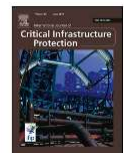
International Journal of Critical Infrastructure Protection 33 (2021) 100422

Resilient backup controller placement in distributed SDN under critical targeted attacks^{☆☆☆}

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Wrap-up

- Explicit expressions for K for some graph families
- An approximation using effective graph resistance
- A sharp upper bound
- Validation on real-world networks
- Kemeny's constant as robustness metric

Thanks for your attention!



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