



# Communicability and Geometry of Complex Networks

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# "The true beauty is the beauty at low temperatures"

Иосиф Алекса́ндрович Бро́дский





### Outline

- Motivating communicability
- ✓ Emergence of a geometry
- ✓ Communicability distance
- Communicability angles and spatial efficiency
- $\checkmark$  Communicability angles and diffusion





#### Infrastructures





### **Molecular interactions**



#### Anatomical systems



#### **Trophic relations**











### Social Networks





### **Ecological Networks**







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#### Anatomical Networks





Molecular Networks











G = (V, E)



Estrada & Knight: A First Course on Network Theory, Oxford Univ. Press, 2015





## **Useful information**





### Useful information



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It is rational to think that the communication between two nodes in a network occurs via the shortest path connecting them.





Problem 1) The sender does not know the global structure of the network and she can not know which of the many routes connecting it with the destination is the shortest one.

Problem 2) If the sender knows the shortest path, she does not know a priori whether there are damaged edges in it.





Although in a tree there is a unique shortest path between every pair of nodes, there are no "complex networks" with a tree structure.





It seems that the structural redundancy present in complex networks is necessary for guaranteeing the communication among the nodes.







## Adjacency Matrix



$$A_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & (i, j) \in E \\ 0 & (i, j) \notin E \end{cases}$$

Eigenvalues of **A**:  $\lambda_1 \ge \lambda_2 \ge \lambda_3 \ge \cdots \ge \lambda_n$ Eigenvector of  $\lambda_j$ :  $\vec{\varphi}_j = \left[ \varphi_j(1), \cdots, \varphi_j(n) \right]^T$ 



Walks in Graphs



**Definition 1:** A *walk* of length *I*, is any sequence of (not necessarily different) nodes  $v_1, \ldots, v_l$  such as for each *i* = 1,...,*I* there is a link from  $v_l$  to  $v_{l+1}$ .

**Theorem 0** (Cvetković). The number of walks of length l between the nodes p and q in a network is equal to:  $(A^l)_{pq}$ 





# The Communicability Concept

**Definition 2.** The communicability function is given by the total number of walks, weighted in a monotonic decreasing order of their lengths, connecting the vertices p and q in a network G

$$G_{pq} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(A^k)_{pq}}{k!} = (e^A)_{pq} = \sum_{j=1}^{n} \psi_{j,p} \psi_{j,q} e^{\lambda_j}$$

where the weighting  $(k!)^{-1}$  is selected arbitrarily among the several possibilities.

Estrada & Hatano: *Phys. Rev. E* 77, **2008**, 036111 Estrada, Hatano, Benzi, *Phys. Rep.* 514 **2012**, 89-119





Communicability Function  

$$M = \sum_{i} \hbar \Omega \left( a_{i}^{\dagger} a_{i} + \frac{1}{2} \right) - \frac{\hbar \omega^{2}}{4\Omega} \sum_{i,j} \left( a_{i}^{\dagger} + a_{j} \right) A_{ij} \left( a_{j}^{\dagger} + a_{j} \right)$$

**Theorem 1.** The communicability function corresponds (apart from physical constants) to the thermal Green's function of a network of coupled quantum harmonic oscillators:

$$G_{pq}(\beta) = e^{-\beta\hbar\Omega} \left( \exp\left[\frac{\beta\hbar\omega^2}{2\Omega}A\right] \right)_{pq} \qquad \qquad \Omega = \sqrt{K/m\omega} \\ \beta = (k_BT)^{-1}$$

Estrada, Hatano & Benzi: Phys. Rep. 514 (2012) 89-119.

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#### Network communities

#### Granular materials



Ma et al: J. Stat. Mech. Theo. Exp. (2010) P08012

#### Multiplex networks



Estrada & Gómez-Gardeñes: *Phys. Rev. E 89* (2014) 042819



Walker, Tordesillas.: Int. J. Sol. Struct. 47 (2010) 624-629.

#### **Temporal networks**



Estrada : *Phys. Rev. E* 88 (2013) 042811







### **1. Stroke lesions**



Crofts & Higham: *J. Roy. Soc. Interface* **6** (2009) 411 Crofts et al: *NeuroImage* **54** (2011) 161-9



### **2. Computational tool**

#### BIOINFORMATICS APPLICATIONS NOTE Vol. 30 no. 23 2014, pages 3387–3389 doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/btu536

Genome analysis

Advance Access publication August 13, 2014

#### NetComm: a network analysis tool based on communicability

Ian M. Campbell<sup>†</sup>, Regis A. James<sup>†</sup>, Edward S. Chen and Chad A. Shaw<sup>\*</sup> Department of Molecular and Human Genetics, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX 77054, USA Associate Editor: John Hancock

#### 4 CONCLUSIONS

Network communicability provides advantages over alternative metrics because it retains topology information, lends itself to set-based analysis and is easy to represent with univariate scores. It outperforms shortest path in a variety of situations. Overall, our metric may prove useful in the analysis of a variety of biological networks, and our package provides a straightforward approach to computation even on large networks.







### **A diversion: Network Bipartivity**



# **Communication Efficiency**



In a diffusive-like process, not all the "information" is delivered to the target. Some of it returns to its originator!







# Some evidences...

# The Small-World Problem

By Stanley Milgram



Stanley Milgram 1933-1984 With group inbreeding, X's acquaintances feed back into his own circle, normally eliminating new contacts.



Milgram, S., 1967. *Psychology today*, 2(1), pp.60-67.





# **Communication Efficiency**

**Definition 3.** The "quality of communication" can be quantified as the difference between the number of routes potentially returning the information to each vertex and the number of routes potentially connecting the vertices p and q:

$$\xi_{pq} = G_{pp} + G_{qq} - 2G_{pq}$$



Estrada: Lin. Alg. Appl. 436 (2012) 4317-4328.





# **Communicability Applications**

**Definition 4.** The "quality of communication" can be quantified as the ratio between the number of routes potentially connecting the vertices p and q, and the number of routes potentially returning the information to each vertex:

$$\gamma_{pq} = \frac{G_{pq}}{\sqrt{G_{pp}G_{qq}}}$$



Estrada & Hatano: SIAM Rev. 58 (2016) 692-715.





# **Communicability distance**

**Theorem 2.** The function  $\xi_{pq}$  is a squared Euclidean distance between the nodes p and q in the network.

**Theorem 3.** The function  $\gamma_{pq}$  is the cosine of the Euclidean angle spanned by the position vectors of the nodes p and q.

$$\theta_{pq} = \cos^{-1} \frac{\vec{x}_{p} \cdot \vec{x}_{q}}{\|\vec{x}_{p}\| \|\vec{x}_{q}\|} = \cos^{-1} \frac{G_{pq}}{\sqrt{G_{pp}G_{qq}}}$$

Estrada: *Lin. Alg. Appl.* **436** (2012) 4317-4328. Estrada & Hatano: *SIAM Rev.* **58** (2016) 692-715.





**Theorem 4.** *The communicability distance induces an embedding of a network into an (n-1)-dimensional Euclidean sphere of radius:* 

$$R^2 = \frac{1}{4} \left( c - \frac{(2-b)^2}{a} \right)$$

$$a = \vec{1}^T e^{-A} \vec{1}$$
  $b = \vec{s}^T e^{-A} \vec{1}$   $c = \vec{s}^T e^{-A} \vec{s}$ 

**Remark.** *The communicability distance matrix C is circum-Euclidean:* 

$$C = \vec{s} \vec{1}^T + \vec{1} \vec{s}^T - 2e^A \qquad \vec{s} = diag(e^A)$$

Estrada et al.: Discrete Appl. Math. 176 (2014) 53-77.



# Induced vs. Imposed Geometry

### **Induced geometry**

The geometric properties of the object emerges from the properties of the object itself. The emerged geometry is unique.



### **Imposed geometry**

*The geometry appears as a consequence of a given embedding imposed to the object. The geometry is not unique as it depends of the embedding selected.* 







# Communicability geometry

Example:



$$A\,\vec{\psi}_{j} = \lambda_{j}\vec{\psi}_{j}$$

$$\vec{\psi}_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \vec{\psi}_{2} = \begin{bmatrix} -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \vec{\psi}_{3} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$





# **Communicability Angle** $A = U\Lambda U^T$

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_{1,1} & \psi_{2,1} & \cdots & \psi_{n,1} \\ \psi_{1,2} & \psi_{2,2} & \cdots & \psi_{n,2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \psi_{1,n} & \psi_{2,n} & \cdots & \psi_{n,n} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{\phi}_p = \left[ \psi_{1,p} \cdots \psi_{\mu,p} \cdots \psi_{n,p} \right]^p$$

$$\vec{x}_p = \exp(\Lambda/2)\vec{\phi}_p$$











# **Communicability** Angle



communicability

$$G_{pq} = \vec{x}_p \cdot \vec{x}_q$$

Estrada: *Lin. Alg. Appl.* **436** (2012) 4317-4328. Estrada & Hatano: *SIAM Rev.* **58** (2016) 692-715.



**Remark.** The shortest route based on the communicability distance is the shortest path that avoids the nodes with the highest 'returnability' in the graph.

Estrada: Phys. Rev. E. 85 (2012) 066182.



# **Communicability Distance**

AITV-THOP

STPp

AITd

46

STPa

7a

V1

V3

V3a

V4t



Data: Sporn & Kotter. Plos Biol., 2 (2004), e369.

PIP

PO

MT

 $\sum_{(p,q)\in P} \xi_{pq}^2 = 121.86$ 



# **Communicability Distance**





# **Communicability Distance**







### **Closeness centralities**







### **Closeness centralities**

#### **PPI network**

#### **Centrality measure**



### Ranking

Rank	Protein	Essential ?
1	YCR035C	Y
2	YIL062C	Y

Estrada: Proteomics 6 (2006) 35-40.





### **Closeness centralities**



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# Network 'Spatial Efficiency'

**Definition 4.** Let  $\chi(G)$  be a metric space defined by the 'flow of communication' among the vertices in the network G. The spatial efficiency is measured by the packing of the vertices of G in  $\chi(G)$ .







 $\langle heta 
angle$  : average communicability angle

For simple, unweighted, undirected networks:



Good spatial efficiency

Poor spatial efficiency • 44

















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We studied 120 real-world networks representing biological, ecological, infrastructural, social, and technological systems.



Estrada & Hatano: SIAM Rev. 58 (2016) 692-715.



### $\langle heta angle$ in the Real-World



**Relative Packing Efficiency** 

$$P = \frac{V_e - V_o}{V_e}$$

 $V_e$  expected volume from ideal 3D structure of the protein  $V_o$  observed volume from X-rays crystal of the protein



 $\langle heta 
angle$  in the Real-World



Estrada & Hatano: SIAM Rev. 58 (2016) 692-715.





## Spatial Efficiency in the Real-World

2) Non geographically embedded networks

#### **Class Collaboration Graph**



Myers: *Phys. Rev. E* **68** (2003) 046116.

# Strathclyde Spatial Efficiency in the Real-World









### **Reducing dimensionality**

Multidimensional scaling





Estrada & Pereda: Work in progress (2016)







# Network 'Spatial Efficiency'



Estrada: Work in progerss, (2016).



# **Reducing dimensionality**



Estrada & Pereda: Work in progress (2016)







$$\vec{u} = -L(G)\vec{u}(t), \qquad L(i,j) = \begin{cases} k_i & i = j \\ -1 & (i,j) \in E \\ 0 & (i,j) \notin E \end{cases}$$

(1

Mesbahi, Egerstedt, *Graph Theoretic Methods in Multiagent Networks*, Pricenton Univ. Press, 2010, pp. 42-48.





**Problem.** Given a network G, which are the most critical edges for a consensus (diffusion) dynamics. In other words, which are the edges whose removal do not disconnect the network but significantly increase the time for global consensus.



Estrada, Vargas-Estrada & Ando: Phys. Rev. E 92 2015, 052809.





### Method:

Rank the edges according to a given centrality index:

- ✓ edge betweenness,
- $\checkmark$  average communicability of the vertices in the edge,
- $\checkmark$  communicability angle

*Remove 20% of the edges in the top of each ranking, guaranteeing the connectivity of the network.* 

*Compare the consensus time with the original network and with the random removal of 20% of edges.* 

Estrada, Vargas-Estrada & Ando: *Phys. Rev. E* 92 **2015**, 052809.





Estrada, Vargas-Estrada & Ando: Phys. Rev. E 92 2015, 052809.

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### Take home messages

- New mathematical and conceptual developments should be defined and studied for understanding the structural organisation of networks.
- The communicability distances and angles characterise the geometrical properties emerging from the communication among the nodes in a network.
- The geometric parameters of a network based on the communicability function capture important structural and dynamical characteristics of networks.



# Thank you!