




CocoNuTs  
Complex Networks  
@networksvox  
Everything is connected

**Complex Networks, CSYS/MATH 303**  
**University of Vermont, Spring 2018**  
**Assignment 1 • code name: Basically made of glass** 

**Dispersed:** Thursday, January 18, 2018.

**Due:** Friday, February 2, by 11:59 pm, 2018.

*Some useful reminders:*

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**Office hours:** 10:05 am to 12:00 pm, Tuesday and Thursday

**Course website:** <http://www.uvm.edu/pdodds/teaching/courses/2018-01UVM-303>

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All parts are worth 3 points unless marked otherwise. Please show all your workingses clearly and list the names of others with whom you collaborated.

Graduate students are requested to use  $\LaTeX$  (or related  $\TeX$  variant).

**Email submission:** PDF only! Please name your file as follows (where the number is to be padded by a 0 if less than 10 and names are all lowercase):

CSYS303assignment%02d\$firstname-\$lastname.pdf as in  
CSYS303assignment06michael-palin.pdf

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**Please submit your project's current draft** in pdf format via email. Please use this file name format (all lowercase after CSYS):

CSYS303project-\$firstname-\$lastname-YYYY-MM-DD.pdf as in  
CSYS303project-lisa-simpson-1989-12-17.pdf

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- We will explore real networks throughout the course performing some key measurements introduced in Principles of Complex Systems.
- Please note that while Matlab files are available, you are encouraged to use Python (along with, for example, NetworkX or graph-tools).
- Data is available in two compressed formats:
  - Matlab + text (tgz): <http://www.uvm.edu/pdodds/teaching/courses/2018-01UVM-303/data/303complexnetworks-data-package.tgz>
  - Matlab + text (zip): <http://www.uvm.edu/pdodds/teaching/courses/2018-01UVM-303/data/303complexnetworks-data-package.zip>

and can also be found on the course website (helpfully) under data.

- The main Matlab file containing everything is networkdata\_combined.mat.
- For directed networks, the  $ij$ th entry of the adjacency matrix represents the weight of the link from node  $i$  to node  $j$ . Adjacency matrices for undirected networks are symmetric.
- For all questions below, treat each network as undirected unless otherwise instructed.
- For this assignment, convert all weights on links to 1, if the network is weighted.
- You do not have to use Matlab for your basic analyses. Python would be a preferred route for many.
- The supplied text versions may be of use for visualization using gml.
- The Matlab command spy will give you a quick plot of a sparse adjacency matrix.
- Real data sets used here are taken from Mark Newman's compilation (and linked-to sites) at <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~mejn/netdata/>.

1. Record in a table the following basic characteristics:

- $N$ , the number of nodes;
- $m$ , the total number of links;
- Whether the network is undirected or directed based on the symmetry of the adjacency matrix;
- $\langle k \rangle$ , the average degree ( $\langle k_{\text{in}} \rangle$  and  $\langle k_{\text{out}} \rangle$  if the network is directed);
- The maximum degree  $k^{\text{max}}$  (for both out-degree and in-degree if the network is directed);
- The minimum degree  $k^{\text{min}}$  (for both out-degree and in-degree if the network is directed).

2. (3+3)

- (a) Plot the degree distribution  $P_k$  as a function of  $k$ . In the case that  $P_k$  versus  $k$  is uninformative, also produce plots that are clarifying. For example,  $\log_{10} P_k$  versus  $\log_{10} k$ .  
(Note: Always use base 10.)
- (b) See if you can characterize the distributions you find (e.g., exponential, power law, etc.).

3. Measure the clustering coefficient  $C_2$  where

$$C_2 = \frac{3 \times \#\text{triangles}}{\#\text{triples}}.$$

For directed networks, transform them into undirected ones first.

One approach is to compute  $C_2$  as

$$C_2 = \frac{3 \times \frac{1}{6} \text{Tr} A^3}{\frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{ij} [A^2]_{ij} - \text{Tr} A^2 \right)}.$$

Note: avoiding computing  $A^3$  is important and can be done.