## The Topology of Preferential Attachment

The Asymptotics of the Expected Betti Numbers of Preferential Attachment Clique Complexes

Chunyin Siu
Cornell University
cs2323@cornell.edu

## So, preferential attachment...

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- Just a bouquet of circles?



## Agenda



Topological Data Analysis

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## I. Topological Data Analysis

## Points





## Networks and Complexes

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- Co-occurence complex in Math research paper [Salikov et al, 2018]


$$
\ominus_{\ominus}^{\ominus}
$$




## Gap in Understanding



## Benchmark of Comparison?

## II. Preferential Attachment

Towards a random model

## Preferential Attachment

[Albert and Barabasi 1999]

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## Preferential Attachment

## [Albert and Barabasi 1999]

$\mathrm{P}($ attaching to v$) \propto$ degree + a tuning parameter $\delta$

## Preferential Attachment

## [Albert and Barabasi 1999]



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What do we know?

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- triangle counts and clustering coefficient [Bollobas and Ridden 2002, Prokhorenkova et al 2013]


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## What do we know?

- triangle counts and clustering coefficient [Bollobas and Ridden 2002, Prokhorenkova et al 2013]
- subgraph counts [Garavaglia and Steghuis 2019]
- and more...


## Clique Complex

aka Flag Complex


## III Topology of Preferential Attachment

## My Lovely Collaborators



Christina Lee Yu


Gennady Samorodnitsky


Rongyi He (Caroline)

## Expected Betti Number $E\left[\beta_{q}\right]$

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Different curves, different random seeds. All curves have the same model parameters.

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## Expected Betti Number $E\left[\beta_{q}\right]$

- increasing trend
- concave growth
- outlier


Different curves, different random seeds.

## Expected Betti Number $E\left[\beta_{q}\right]$

Betti 2

- $c\left(\right.$ num of nodes $\left.{ }^{1-4 x}\right) \leq E\left[\beta_{2}\right] \leq C\left(\right.$ num of nodes $\left.{ }^{1-4 x}\right)$ under mild assumptions
- $x \in(0,1 / 2)$ depends on the preferential attachment strength.



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- $x \in(0,1 / 2)$ depends on the preferential attachment strength
- If $1-4 x<0$, then $E\left[\beta_{2}\right] \leq C$.
- $c\left(\right.$ num of nodes $\left.{ }^{1-2 q x}\right) \leq E\left[\beta_{q}\right] \leq C\left(\right.$ num of nodes $\left.{ }^{1-2 q x}\right)$ for $q \geq 2$.

Betti 2


## Recall

## Phase transition

P (attaching to v ) $\propto$ degree $+\delta$
$\mathrm{m}=$ number of edges per new node

$-\delta / m$
increasing preferential attachment

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unbounded $E\left[\beta_{2}\right]$
unbounded $E\left[\beta_{3}\right]$
Recall
$E\left[\beta_{2}\right] \approx$ num of nodes ${ }^{1-4 x}$
unbounded $E\left[\beta_{4}\right]$

## Theorem: $E\left[\beta_{2}\right] \approx$ num of nodes ${ }^{1-4 x}$ Proof?

## Proof of $E\left[\beta_{2}\right] \approx$ num of nodes ${ }^{1-4 x}$



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- Apply graph counting result in [Garavaglia and Stegehuis 2019] on a large class of subgraphs


## Theorem: $E\left[\beta_{2}\right] \approx$ num of nodes ${ }^{1-4 x}$ In practice???

## $E\left[\beta_{2}\right] \approx$ num of nodes ${ }^{1-4 x}$



## $E\left[\beta_{2}\right] \approx$ num of nodes ${ }^{1-4 x}$

$\log E\left[\beta_{2}\right] \approx(1-4 x) \log ($ num of nodes $)$

Betti 2



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Betti 2



## V. What lies ahead

order of magnitude of expected Betti numbers
homotopy connectedness
of the infinite complex?
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of the infinite complex?
order of magnitude of expected Betti numbers
simplicial preferential attachment?
parameter estimation?
homotopy connectedness
of the infinite complex?
order of magnitude of expected Betti numbers
simplicial preferential attachment?
other non-homogeneous complexes?

## What did we learn today?

- Random topology is cool.
- Preferential attachment graph has interesting topology.
- More interesting things are waiting to be discovered.


## Chunyin Siu cs2323@cornell.edu Cornell University



## Thank you!

## Chunyin Siu <br> Cornell University


c-siu.github.io cs2323@cornell.edu

my video about small holes

## Recall

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unbounded $E\left[\beta_{2}\right]$
unbounded $E\left[\beta_{3}\right]$
unbounded $E\left[\beta_{4}\right]$

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\begin{aligned}
& \pi_{1}\left(X_{\infty}\right) \cong 0, \text { unbounded } E\left[\beta_{2}\right] \\
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