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Network visualisation

in Python

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- ¹ From data to visualization
- ^{2.} Static visualizations
- ^{3.} Interactive visualizations
- **4** Hands-on exercise

^{1.} From data to visualization

- ^{2.} Static visualizations
- ^{3.} Interactive visualizations
- ⁴ Hands-on exercise

From data to visualization

- deciding what network you want to observe (social network, semantic network, biological network, ...)
- getting the data (existing datasets online, scraping/collecting)
- extracting the nodes and finding connections between them to create edges
- creating network representation (edgelist, adjacency matrix, adjacency list, dataframe...)
- analyzing network properties
- visualizing the network

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Overview of tools

- NetworkX and iGraph (beginner friendly)
- SNAP and NetworKit (for large-scale networks)
- Gephi and Pyvis (focused on visualization)

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What can I learn about my network?

- explore all the concepts taught in the class:
 - degree and degree distribution
 - centrality
 - connectedness
 - modularity

What can I show on a graph?

- whatever you want
- should be relevant to what is interesting about your specific network
- creative ways to achieve what you want

What can I show on a graph?

- node properties: size and color
- edge properties: thickness and color
- network properties: size and connectedness
- layout properties: different layouts to highlight relationships between the nodes – gravity based, modularity based, etc.

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Static visualization

- let's head on over to Colab notebook to ...
- ... import the data and create a networkx graph
- ... change into iGraph and visualize
- ... play with node and edge properties

Static visualization – key takeaways

- in code visualization seamlessly integrate analysis and visualization – more control, good for experimenting with your data, faster computation
- Networkx most intuitive to use for analysis, relies on matlab for visualization support
- iGraph enables both visualization and slightly faster computing time
- for larger networks explore more advanced libraries (such as SNAP, Graph-tool, NetworKit)
- for easier control over visualization turn to software such as
 Gephi

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Hands on exercise

- create network (from your data, using Chat GPT, from internet sources)
- import the network into Python and create a networkx graph
- change the graph into iGraph
- calculate different network properties
- visualize different network properties
- try visualizing an interactive plot

Questions & comments

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