

Networks and Urban Energy Use

Applications and Methods

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Domestic Energy Networks Distributed Generation Smart Metering



Two questions:

- 1. What have I got to do with networks?
- 2. What have networks got to do with energy and buildings?



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- 1. What have I got to do with networks?
- 2. What have networks got to do with energy and buildings?

Career history

- 1. Ph.D.: Chaos in coupled systems (Manchester).2003–20072. PDRA: Emergence in complex systems (BICS).2007–2009
- 3. Research Fellow: Energy and complexity (Leeds). 2010–2012

1. Coupled nonlinear systems ¹



► Simple systems of oscillators: rings & feed-forward networks...



¹University of Manchester

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1. Coupled nonlinear systems ¹



- ► Simple systems of oscillators: rings & feed-forward networks...
- More complicated arrays.



- $\begin{array}{c}
 1 & \bullet & 2 & \bullet & 3 \\
 \bullet & \bullet & & \bullet & \bullet \\
 \hline
 4 & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\
 \bullet & & & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\
 \hline
 7 & \bullet & 8 & \bullet & 9 \\
 \end{array}$
- Application to distributed generation.

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2. Complex network models ²



Models of composite materials



2. Complex network models ²



Models of composite materials



- Explained emergent power-law dependence of conduction on component ratio.
- Applications in materials science...

²BICS

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Networks and Energy



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³With: C.S.E. Bale, A.M. Rucklidge, T.J. Foxon, W.F. Gale, University of Leeds.

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Networks and Energy





Energy use is both behaviour and use of technology...



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- ▶ Roll-out of energy efficiency technologies is a problem.



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- Decision-making tools are needed to support their potential contribution to energy and climate change targets [1].



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- We consider diffusion of EE innovations spread by "word of mouth"...i.e. via interpersonal social network.

Diffusion Models



- ► Individuals are considered as *nodes* on a network.
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Diffusion Models



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► Contact models (SI &c.): Single contact required for "infection".



▶ For ideas/technologies &c., may take more persuasion (> 1 contact).



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- ▶ Nodes on a network each have a variable for current state, $x_i = 0, 1$.
- ► Uptake based on *"Utility"* crossing a threshold:

future state:
$$x'_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_i = 1, \\ 1 & \text{if } x_i = 0 \text{ and } u_i > \theta_i, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$
 (1)

• θ_i : threshold (barriers, costs etc.)



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- θ_i : threshold (barriers, costs etc.)
- Network diffusion: proportion of neighbours.

Why is Energy Different?



- Model of uptake of technology.
- ► E.g. Smart-phones:
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- Energy technologies:
 - sometimes visible (solar panels).



http://www.greendayrenewables.com

Why is Energy Different?



- Model of uptake of technology.
- ► E.g. Smart-phones:
 - visible and socially desirable,
 - mediated by social contacts between individuals.
- Energy technologies:
 - sometimes visible (solar panels).
 - can be hidden (e.g. loft insulation),
 - decisions based on individual benefit.



http://www.greendayrenewables.com



http://www.homeinsulationgrants.com

Modelling Uptake of Innovations



- Decision of to adopt based on combination of factors:
 - personal + social benefit [2].



Modelling Uptake of Innovations



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Modelling Uptake of Innovations



- Decision of to adopt based on combination of factors:
 - personal + social benefit [2].
- Intrinsic benefits to individual.
- Social benefit combination of both [5]:
 - personal social network friends & neighbours,
 - mainstream social norm (society as a whole).





► Total *utility* to individual:

$$u_i = \alpha_i \mathbf{p}_i + \beta_i \mathbf{s}_i + \gamma_i \mathbf{m} \tag{2}$$

- ▶ p_i, s_i, m : personal, peer-group and societal influence.
- $\alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_i$: relative weightings given to each factor,

Real-world social networks



- ▶ Real networks have many features, including:
 - Iocal connections, distant ties, wide spread in degrees, community structure...



Figure: Inter-friend contacts on the Facebook website.

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Network models



Regular lattice:



- + e.g. city-like geography,
- + can have high *clustering*,
 - long path-lengths $I \propto d^{1/D}$.





- + short path lengths $I \propto \frac{\log N}{\log k}$,
 - no clustering (N $ightarrow \infty$).

"Complex" networks





Different models reproduce different features.



Figure: (a): A *small world* network with random *rewiring* of a regular lattice. (b): A preferential attachment graph which has a *scale-free* degree distribution. (c): A simple model of weakly-connected communities.

Random Clustered Model [4]



- Each node associated with *G* groups.
- ► Linked to *L* others in each group.



- Can also be linked to individuals in wider network.
- Can also impose geography.

Demonstrating the Model



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Individual Sensitivity Vs Ensembles



Chance of success depends on model parameters:









Individual Sensitivity Vs Ensembles



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Individual Sensitivity Vs Ensembles



Chance of success depends on model parameters:







Methods of Analysis





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Analysis [3]



► Simple cases:

- $\alpha p > \theta$: Immediate uptake below $\beta = 1 \gamma \frac{\theta}{p}$,
- $\alpha p + \gamma m_0 > \theta$: values below $\beta = 1 \frac{\theta}{p} \gamma \left(1 \frac{m_0}{p}\right)$ successful.
- Simple *mean field*: assume average $\bar{s}_i = m$:

$$u = \alpha p + (\beta + \gamma)m_0 \geq \theta, \text{ i.e.,}$$

$$p + (m_0 - p)(\beta + \gamma) \geq 0; \text{ hence:}$$

$$\beta + \gamma \leq \frac{\theta - p}{m_0 - p},$$
(3)

 Given individuals have a certain θ, p, α, β, γ and m, require critical fraction of *active* neighbours:

$$s^* = \frac{\theta - \alpha p - \gamma m}{\beta},\tag{4}$$



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- $0 < s^* \le 1$: required number of active contacts:

$$X_i \equiv \sum_j A_{ij} x_j \ge \lceil k_i s^* \rceil \equiv X_i^*,$$
(5)



UNIVERSITY OF

Given individuals have a certain θ, p, α, β, γ and m, require critical fraction of *active* neighbours:

Local neighbourhood sensitivity

$s^* = \frac{\theta - \alpha p - \gamma m}{\beta},\tag{4}$

- $s^* > 1$: impossible,
- $s^* \leq 0$: immediate,
- $0 < s^* \le 1$: required number of active contacts:

$$X_i \equiv \sum_j A_{ij} x_j \ge \lceil k_i s^* \rceil \equiv X_i^*,$$
(5)

• combining (4) and (5) gives X^* regions of β, γ plots...



Comparison with Watts-Strogatz





Figure: (a) $1D \ \bar{k} = 6$, $p_r = 0$, (b) $1D \ \bar{k} = 6$, $p_r = 0.2$; (c) truss k = 8, $p_r = 0.05$, (d) truss k = 8, $p_r = 0.2$.

by chance with probability⁴:

$$P(X \ge X^*) = \sum_{n=X^*}^k \binom{k}{n} m^n (1-m)^{(k-n)},$$
 (6)

•
$$X^* = \lceil k(\theta - \alpha p - \gamma m)/\beta \rceil$$
.

⁴assume $k_i = k$ and random network.



Number of active neighbours can be sufficient



Chance and rate of uptake



Number of active neighbours can be sufficient by chance with probability⁴:

$$P(X \ge X^*) = \sum_{n=X^*}^k \binom{k}{n} m^n (1-m)^{(k-n)},$$
 (6)

•
$$X^* = \lceil k(\theta - \alpha p - \gamma m)/\beta \rceil$$
.

► This is fraction of remaining (1 – m) of individuals to adopt, increasing overall average:

$$\Delta m = (1 - m)P(X \ge X^*). \tag{7}$$

⁴assume $k_i = k$ and random network.

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Growth of initiated cluster



$$m'=m+(1-m)P(X\geq X^*)\equiv f(m).$$



Effect of initial seed size



$$\Delta m = (1-m)\sum_{n=X_i^*}^{k_i} \binom{k_i}{n} m^n (1-m)^{(k_i-n)},$$

▶ for small *m*:

$$\Delta m \sim \binom{k_i}{X_i^*} m^{X^*}.$$
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- For X* > 1 disproportionate effect of low initial seed sizes ("funding").
 - E.g. k = 15, X^{*} = 4, Δm ~ 1365m⁴. Half initial m₀ takes 8 times as long to reach target.

Other Networks





Figure: (a) Random N = 2000, $\bar{k} = 6$, (b) random N = 500, $\bar{k} = 15$, (c) geographic, connected communities, $\bar{k} = 7.5$, (d) disconnected communities, $\bar{k} = 5$.

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Networks and Energy

The Problem of Clustering



Clustering creates non-independent neighbourhoods:



The Problem of Clustering



Enhances expected uptake:



Figure: Expected uptake for clustered random network, with number of *groups* W determining level of clustering c.

▶ Only one "success" required in network for spreading to occur.

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Modelling Inhomogeneity





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Modelling Inhomogeneity







Figure: Thresholds distributed over three values. (a) 28% of $\theta = 0.25$, 17% of $\theta_2 = 0.45$, 5% of $\theta_3 = 0.75$, 50% of $\theta_4 = 1$; (b) 28% of $\theta_1 = 0.25$, 67% of $\theta_2 = 0.45$, 5% of $\theta_3 = 0.75$.

Modelling Inhomogeneity







Figure: The population is divided into three archetypes and individual nodes are each assigned to an archetype $A_j = (\alpha_j, \beta_j, \gamma_j)$. (a) $A_1 = (0.25, 0.7, 0.05)$, $A_2 = (0.1, 0.8, 0.1)$, $A_3 = (0.05, 0.6, 35)$. (b) Thresholds are also distributed, with: $A_2 = (0.25, 0.65, 0.1)$, $A_3 = (0.1, 0.7, 0.2)$

Real World Scenarios





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Using survey data





- Survey data including info on behaviours.
 - Over 1050 valid responses received from residents of Leeds.
- Data used as a guide rather than definitive source,
 - used to narrow choice of structure and parameter values,
 - also to illustrate potential applications.

Model element	Parameter	Question / Data		
Network	number of active individual	Q. on who talks to		
	/ group connections.	whom about energy.		
Threshold	θ	Q. on house type,		
		tenancy and income.		
Node archetypes	hetypes α, β, γ Defra types of provide the definition of the			
		enviro. behaviour		





Model Feature	Parameters	Data (if used)	
Network structure	$N, G, M \mid W, L$	Survey Assumption	
Individual connections	I L	Survey Assumption	
Group connections	G L	Survey Assumption	
Archetypes	$A_i = (\alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_i), P(A_i)$	Simulation	
Threshold	$\theta \mid P\theta$	Survey Assumption	

Modelling Scenarios



 Different scenarios studied by varying dynamical model and network parameters.

	Baseline	Seeded	Community	Incentives	Snowball
Model Param.	Do Nothing	Give efficiency measure to some (random) individuals	Give efficiency measure to whole communities.	Advertise a money off scheme.	Recommend-a- friend discount voucher scheme.
Links	Data based	_	-	-	Increase
Threshold	Data based	_	-	Lower	Lower
Initial Seed	Unforced	Random	Target	-	-

Real World Scenarios



Baseline



60% 50% 40% 40% 20%



Community



Incentives

Seeded



Real World Scenarios



Baseline



Snowball



Seeding Level



Snowball + Extra



Future Energy Networks





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Domestic Energy Networks







BREDEM-12, B.R. Anderson, et al., BRE (2001)

- Networks models of heat flows in buildings.
- Interaction network between occupants, building, technology.
- Smart systems & automated management of building energy.

Distributed Generation



- Renewables distributed to households across network are intermittent.
- ► Nodes can flip between energy *source* and *sink*.
- Problems of synchronisation and erratic inputs/outputs.
- Resonances could cause problems...







http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distributed_generation

Smart Metering



- How do users interact to feedback from local network?
- What is ideal level of feedback?
- What is best strategy for role-out of meters?



Energy Retailers Association/PA



http://sierramadretattler.blogspot.com

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