Lecture 1: Graphs (Networks) Overview



pictures taken from Mark Newman: The structure and function of complex networks

Graphs: Frequented Terms

- vertex (site, node, actor)
- edge (bond, link, tie)
 - directed/undirected
 - loops, multiple edges
- degree
 - in, out
- component



Large Networks: Basic Question

 How can I tell what this network looks like when I cannot actually look at it?





Networks in the Real World

- social networks
 - friendship, social influence
- information networks
 - <u>WWW</u>, citations, <u>shopping carts</u>
- technological networks
 - electric power nets, Internet
- biological networks
 - metabolic pathways

Answering the Basic Question: Properties of Networks

- Degree distribution
 - P[random vertex has degree d]
- Components
 - how is the network partitioned
- Transitivity
 - "a friend of my friend is also my friend"?
- Small-world'ness
 - distance grows slowly (≤*log* n) for a fixed degree
- Network resilience
 - what happens if we delete a group of vertices?