Engineering Agreement: The Naming Game with Asymmetric and Heterogeneous Agents

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Social Convention

- Conventions are universally adopted from two or more alternatives.
- Language, etiquette, or custom.



Agreement on Convention



Engineering Agreement

- What can help or harm convergence?
 - Homogeneity or heterogeneity
 - Community structure
- How robust are the dynamics to possible manipulations?

Naming Game [Baronchelli 06]

• A agent-based process on a network



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 - Each agent has inventory of names



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 - At each time an edge is selected at random



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 - Failure: listener adds the new name



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 - Failure: listener adds the new name
 - Success: both remove all other names



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 - Empty



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 - Success: both remove all other names
 - Empty: speaker invent a new word



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 - Failure: listener adds the new name
 - Success: both remove all other names
 - Empty: speaker invent a new word
 - Convergence



Different initial states

Empty initial states

Segregated initial states



Motivating Questions

- What can help or harm convergence?
 - Homogeneity or heterogeneity
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Different graphs











Heterogeneous



Heterogeneous



Heterogeneous



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Community Structure



Disjoint cliques



Tree Structure



Tree Structure



Adding Homogeneity



Community Structure



Simulation on Disjoint Cliques

Empty initial states

Segregated initial states



Simulation on Disjoint Cliques

Empty initial states

Segregated initial states



• Segregated start: for $p < p_0 \approx 0.110$, consensus time= $\exp(\Omega(n))$



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- Segregated start: for $p < p_0 \approx 0.110$, consensus time= $\exp(\Omega(n))$
 - Mean field approximation
 - Stability of autonomous system
 - Local stability
 - Global stability



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Robustness



Stubborn nodes

• How and when can such nodes affect the name to which the dynamics converge?



Stubborn nodes

- How and when can such nodes affect the name to which the dynamics converge?
 - The network topology
 - The time when the stubborn nodes are activated

Stubborn nodes and network

Graph size = 1000



Graph size = 10000

Adding stubborn nodes after consensus

• After consensus: with $p < p_0 \approx 0.108$ fraction of stubborn nodes, the consensus time = $\exp(\Omega(n))$.



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QUESTIONS?

