

Extending ERGM Functionality within statnet: Building Custom User Terms

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ERGM basic expression

Probability of observing a network (set of relationships) y on a given set of actors:

$$P(Y = y) = \frac{\exp\{\theta' g(y)\}}{k(\theta)}$$

where: $g(y)$ = vector of network statistics (like the statistics in a standard regression)

θ = vector of model parameters (like the coefficients in a standard regression)

$$k(\theta) = \sum_{\substack{\text{all nets} \\ \text{on node} \\ \text{set of } Y}} \exp\{\theta' g(y)\}$$

Bahadur (1961), Besag (1974), Frank (1986); Wasserman and Pattison (1996)

ERGM logit formulation

The statement about the probability of a network:

$$P(Y = y) = \frac{\exp\{\theta' g(y)\}}{k(\theta)}$$

where: $g(y)$ = vector of network statistics
 θ = vector of model parameters
 $k(\theta) = \sum \exp\{\theta' g(y)\}$

Is equivalent to the statement about the conditional probability of any tie in the network:

$$\ln \frac{P(Y_{ij} = 1 | y_{ij}^c)}{P(Y_{ij} = 0 | y_{ij}^c)} = \theta' [g(y_{ij}^+) - g(y_{ij}^-)]$$

where: y_{ij} is the value of the tie from i to j
 y_{ij}^c is the network y , excluding y_{ij}
 y_{ij}^+ is the network y with y_{ij} set to 1
 y_{ij}^- is the network y with y_{ij} set to 0

The quantity $g(y_{ij}^+) - g(y_{ij}^-)$ is also referred to as $\delta(y_{ij})$, the change statistics for i, j

ERGMs and MCMC change statistics

Given a network and a model (i.e. a set of $g(y)$ statistics proposed to be of interest), one typically wants to find maximum likelihood estimates of the θ coefficients for that model.

- The normalizing constant $k(\theta)$ makes this impossible to do directly.
- Main solution: Markov Chain Monte Carlo (Geyer and Thompson 1992, Crouch et al. 1998)

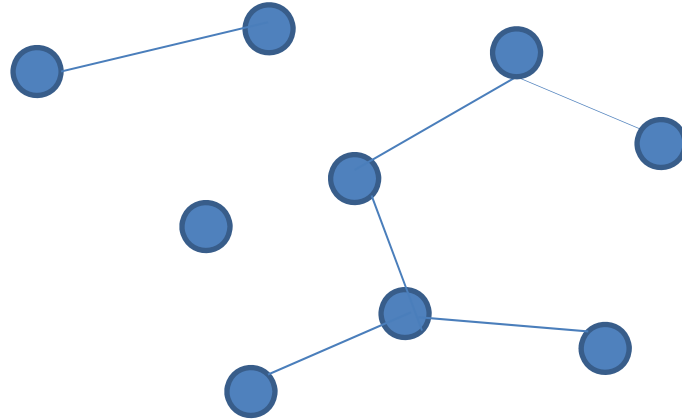
The MCMC algorithm repeatedly:

- selects an actor pair (or pairs)
- calculates the **MCMC change statistics** =
model statistics for the network with those tie values toggled -
model statistics for the current network
- uses an algorithm to decide whether or not to actually make those toggles

If one is only considering one actor pair, the MCMC change statistics must equal either $\delta(y_{ij})$ or $-\delta(y_{ij})$

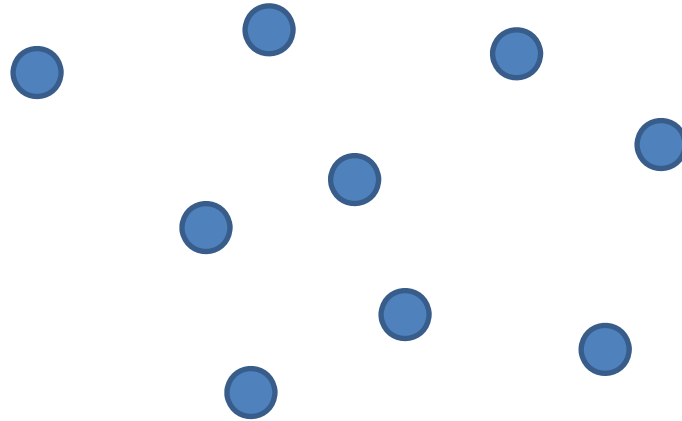
Calculating network statistics in the ergm package

Example: number of nodes of degree 2



Calculating network statistics in the ergm package

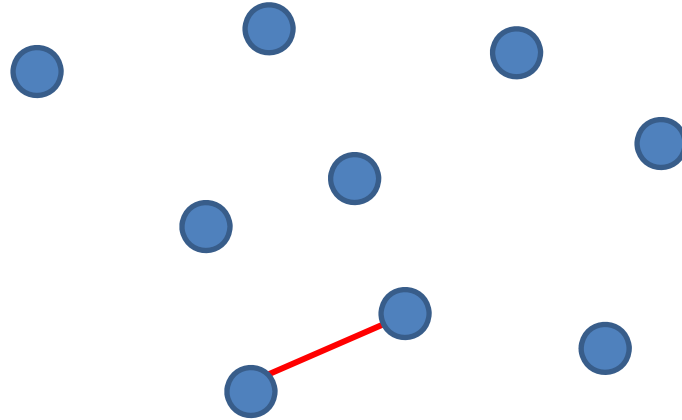
Example: number of nodes of degree 2



$g(y)$ 0

Calculating network statistics in the ergm package

Example: number of nodes of degree 2

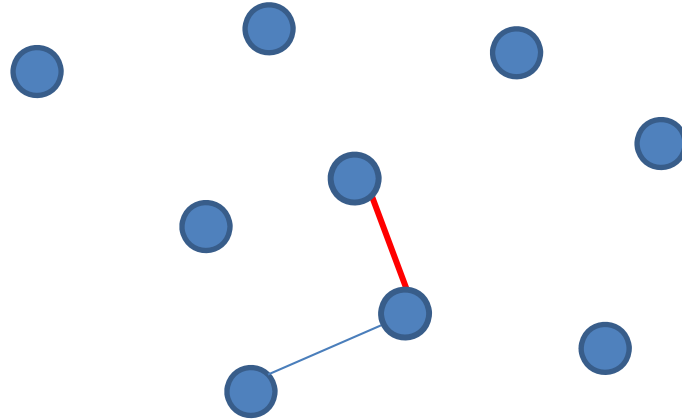


$g(y)$ 0 0

$\delta(y_{ij})$ +0

Calculating network statistics in the ergm package

Example: number of nodes of degree 2

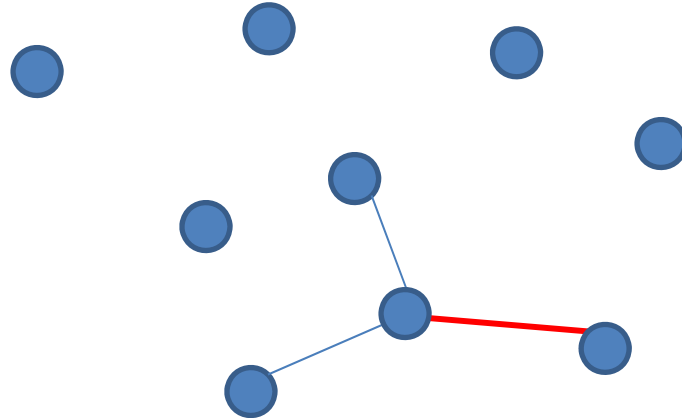


$g(y)$ 0 0 1

$\delta(y_{ij})$ +0 +1

Calculating network statistics in the ergm package

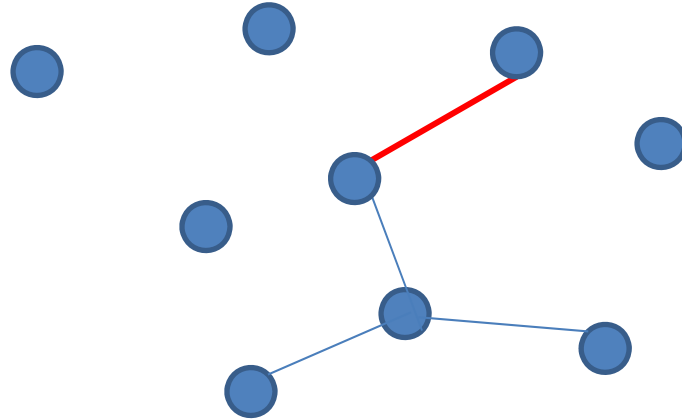
Example: number of nodes of degree 2



$g(y)$	0	0	1	0
$\delta(y_{ij})$	+0	+1	-1	

Calculating network statistics in the ergm package

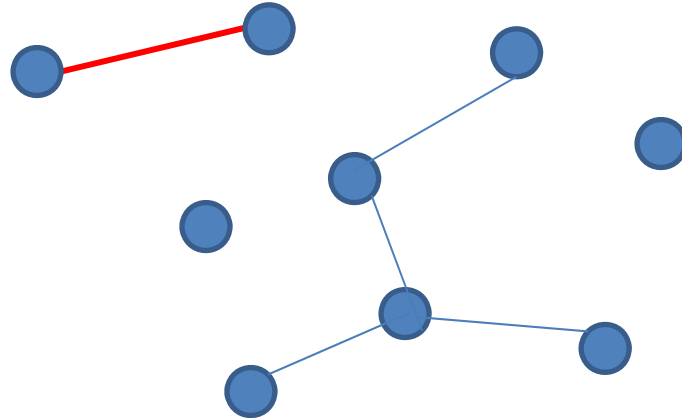
Example: number of nodes of degree 2



$g(y)$	0	0	1	0	1
$\delta(y_{ij})$	+0	+1	-1	+1	

Calculating network statistics in the ergm package

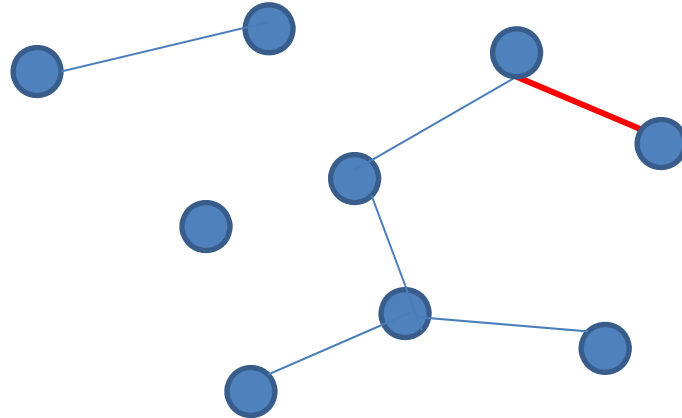
Example: number of nodes of degree 2



$g(y)$	0	0	1	0	1	1
$\delta(y_{ij})$	+0	+1	-1	+1	+0	

Calculating network statistics in the ergm package

Example: number of nodes of degree 2



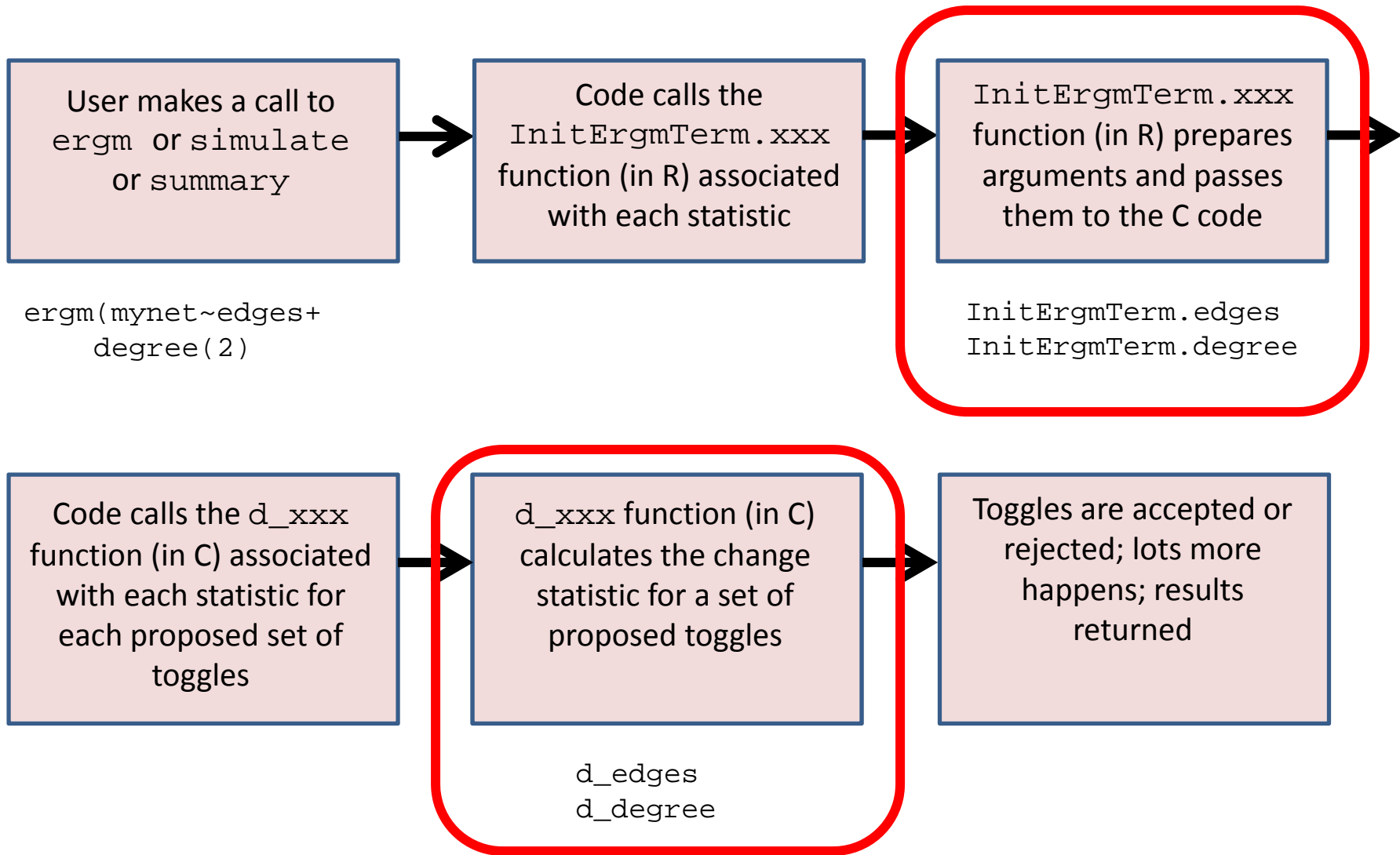
$g(y)$	0	0	1	0	1	1	2
$\delta(y_{ij})$	+0	+1	-1	+1	+0	+1	

Commonly used change statistics included in ergm

absdiff absdiffcat adegcor altkstar asymmetric
blconcurrent bldegree bldegree.edg cov
b2degree.edg cov blfactor blmindegree b2mindegree
blmindegree.edg cov b2mindegree.edg cov blstar
blstarmix bltwestar b2concurrent b2degree b2factor
b2star b2starmix b2twestar balance coincidence
concurrent ctripple cycle cyclicalities degcor
degcrossprod degree density dsp dyadcov edg cov
edges esp gwbldegree gw b2degree gwdegree gw dsp
gw esp gwdegree gw nsp gwodegree hamming hammingmix
idegree indegreepopularity intransitive isolates
istar kstar localtriangle m2star meandeg mutual
nearsimmelian nodecov nodefactor nodeicov
nodeifactor nodematch nodemix nodeocov nodeofactor
nsp odegree outdegreepopularity opentriad ostar
pdegcor rdegcor receiver sender simmelian
simmelianities smallldiff sociality threepath
transitive transitiveties triadcensus triangle
trippercent ttripple twopath

Most of which are documented at [help\("ergm-terms"\)](#)

General structure of an ergm call



Building your own terms in ergm requires:

- **The source code for the `ergm.userterms` package**
- **The tools and knowledge needed to build R packages from source**
- **Writing an `InitErgmTerm.xxx` function (in R)**
- **Writing a `d_XXX` function (in C)**

The edges statistic:

InitErgmTerm.edges

```
InitErgmTerm.edges<-function(nw, arglist, ...) {  
  a <- check.ErgmTerm(nw, arglist, directed=NULL, bipartite=NULL,  
                      varnames = NULL,  
                      vartypes = NULL,  
                      defaultvalues = list(),  
                      required = NULL)  
  list(name="edges", coef.names="edges", dependence=FALSE,  
        minval = 0, maxval = network.dyadcount(nw))  
}
```

d_edges

```
D_CHANGESTAT_FN(d_edges) {  
  int edgeflag, i;  
  ZERO_ALL_CHANGESTATS(i);  
  FOR_EACH_TOGGLE(i) {  
    {  
      edgeflag = IS_OUTEDGE(TAIL(i), HEAD(i));  
      CHANGE_STAT[0] += edgeflag ? - 1 : 1;  
      TOGGLE_IF_MORE_TO_COME(i);  
    }  
  }  
  UNDO_PREVIOUS_TOGGLES(i);  
}
```


Anatomy of an InitErgmTerm function

```
InitErgmTerm.absdiff <- function(nw, arglist, ...) {  
  ### Check the network and arguments to make sure they are appropriate.  
  a <- check.ErgmTerm(nw, arglist, directed=NULL, bipartite=NULL,  
    varnames = c("attrname", "pow"),  
    vartypes = c("character", "numeric"),  
    defaultvalues = list(NULL, 1),  
    required = c(TRUE, FALSE))  
  ### Process the arguments  
  nodecov <- get.node.attr(nw, a$attrname)  
  ### Construct the list to return  
  list(name="absdiff",  
    coef.names = paste(paste("absdiff", if(a$pow != 1) a$pow else "",  
      sep = ""), a$attrname, sep = "."),  
    pkgname = "ergm.userterms",  
    inputs = c(a$pow, nodecov),  
    dependence = FALSE )  
}
```

Anatomy of an InitErgmTerm function

1. Function call

```
InitErgmTerm.absdiff <- function(nw, arglist, ...) {  
  ### Check the network and arguments to make sure they are appropriate.  
  a <- check.ErgmTerm(nw, arglist, directed=NULL, bipartite=NULL,  
    varnames = c("attrname", "pow"),  
    vartypes = c("character", "numeric"),  
    defaultvalues = list(NULL, 1),  
    required = c(TRUE, FALSE))  
  ### Process the arguments  
  nodecov <- get.node.attr(nw, a$attrname)  
  ### Construct the list to return  
  list(name="absdiff",  
    coef.names = paste(paste("absdiff", if(a$pow != 1) a$pow else "",  
      sep = ""), a$attrname, sep = "."),  
    pkgname = "ergm.userterms",  
    inputs = c(a$pow, nodecov),  
    dependence = FALSE )  
}
```

Anatomy of an InitErgmTerm function

2. Checking input

```
InitErgmTerm.absdiff <- function(nw, arglist, ...) {  
  ### Check the network and arguments to make sure they are appropriate.  
  a <- check.ErgmTerm(nw, arglist, directed=NULL, bipartite=NULL,  
    varnames = c("attrname", "pow"),  
    vartypes = c("character", "numeric"),  
    defaultvalues = list(NULL, 1),  
    required = c(TRUE, FALSE))  
  ### Process the arguments  
  nodecov <- get.node.attr(nw, a$attrname)  
  ### Construct the list to return  
  list(name="absdiff",  
    coef.names = paste(paste("absdiff", if(a$pow != 1) a$pow else "",  
      sep = ""), a$attrname, sep = "."),  
    pkgname = "ergm.userterms",  
    inputs = c(a$pow, nodecov),  
    dependence = FALSE )  
}
```

Anatomy of an InitErgmTerm function

3. Processing input (optional)

```
InitErgmTerm.absdiff <- function(nw, arglist, ...) {  
  ### Check the network and arguments to make sure they are appropriate.  
  a <- check.ErgmTerm(nw, arglist, directed=NULL, bipartite=NULL,  
    varnames = c("attrname", "pow"),  
    vartypes = c("character", "numeric"),  
    defaultvalues = list(NULL, 1),  
    required = c(TRUE, FALSE))  
  ### Process the arguments  
  nodecov <- get.node.attr(nw, a$attrname)  
  ### Construct the list to return  
  list(name="absdiff",  
    coef.names = paste(paste("absdiff", if(a$pow != 1) a$pow else "",  
      sep = ""), a$attrname, sep = "."),  
    pkgname = "ergm.userterms",  
    inputs = c(a$pow, nodecov),  
    dependence = FALSE )  
}
```

Anatomy of an InitErgmTerm function

4. Constructing output

```
InitErgmTerm.absdiff <- function(nw, arglist, ...) {  
  ### Check the network and arguments to make sure they are appropriate.  
  a <- check.ErgmTerm(nw, arglist, directed=NULL, bipartite=NULL,  
    varnames = c("attrname", "pow"),  
    vartypes = c("character", "numeric"),  
    defaultvalues = list(NULL, 1),  
    required = c(TRUE, FALSE))  
  ### Process the arguments  
  nodecov <- get.node.attr(nw, a$attrname)  
  ### Construct the list to return  
  list(name="absdiff",  
    coef.names = paste(paste("absdiff", if(a$pow != 1) a$pow else "",  
      sep = ""), a$attrname, sep = "."),  
    pkgname = "ergm.userterms",  
    inputs = c(a$pow, nodecov),  
    dependence = FALSE )  
}
```

Anatomy of an InitErgmTerm function

1. Function call

- only thing you need to change is the name

```
InitErgmTerm.absdiff <- function(nw, arglist, ...) {  
  ### Check the network and arguments to make sure they are appropriate.  
  a <- check.ErgmTerm(nw, arglist, directed=NULL, bipartite=NULL,  
    varnames = c("attrname", "pow"),  
    vartypes = c("character", "numeric"),  
    defaultvalues = list(NULL, 1),  
    required = c(TRUE, FALSE))  
  ### Process the arguments  
  nodecov <- get.node.attr(nw, a$attrname)  
  ### Construct the list to return  
  list(name="absdiff",  
    coef.names = paste(paste("absdiff", if(a$pow != 1) a$pow else "",  
      sep = ""), a$attrname, sep = "."),  
    pkgname = "ergm.userterms",  
    inputs = c(a$pow, nodecov),  
    dependence = FALSE )  
}
```

Anatomy of an InitErgmTerm function

2. Checking input

- Check network and argument (don't change)
- Let R know if OK for directed/undirected, bipartite/non-bipartite
- List arguments, and specify their type, default value and whether required

```
InitErgmTerm.absdiff <- function(nw, arglist, ...) {  
  ### Check the network and arguments to make sure they are appropriate.  
  a <- check.ErgmTerm(nw, arglist, directed=NULL, bipartite=NULL,  
    varnames = c("attrname", "pow"),  
    vartypes = c("character", "numeric"),  
    defaultvalues = list(NULL, 1),  
    required = c(TRUE, FALSE))  
  ### Process the arguments  
  nodecov <- get.node.attr(nw, a$attrname)  
  ### Construct the list to return  
  list(name="absdiff",  
    coef.names = paste(paste("absdiff", if(a$pow != 1) a$pow else "",  
      sep = ""), a$attrname, sep = "."),  
    pkgname = "ergm.userterms",  
    inputs = c(a$pow, nodecov),  
    dependence = FALSE )  
}
```

Anatomy of an InitErgmTerm function

3. Processing output

- Pulling values of arguments out from a
- Processing them in any way needed for passing

```
InitErgmTerm.absdiff <- function(nw, arglist, ...) {  
  ### Check the network and arguments to make sure they are appropriate.  
  a <- check.ErgmTerm(nw, arglist, directed=NULL, bipartite=NULL,  
    varnames = c("attrname", "pow"),  
    vartypes = c("character", "numeric"),  
    defaultvalues = list(NULL, 1),  
    required = c(TRUE, FALSE))  
  ### Process the arguments  
  nodecov <- get.node.attr(nw, a$attrname)  
  ### Construct the list to return  
  list(name="absdiff",  
    coef.names = paste(paste("absdiff", if(a$pow != 1) a$pow else "",  
      sep = ""), a$attrname, sep = "."),  
    pkgname = "ergm.userterms",  
    inputs = c(a$pow, nodecov),  
    dependence = FALSE )  
}
```


Anatomy of an InitErgmTerm function

4. Constructing output

- C function name (w/o the d_)
- Coefficient name
- Package name
- Inputs to pass to c function
- Whether dyadic dependent
- Empty network stats (opt.)
- No need to pass the network

```
InitErgmTerm.absdiff <- function(nw, arglist, ...) {  
  ### Check the network and arguments to make sure they are appropriate.  
  a <- check.ErgmTerm(nw, arglist, directed=NULL, bipartite=NULL,  
    varnames = c("attrname", "pow"),  
    vartypes = c("character", "numeric"),  
    defaultvalues = list(NULL, 1),  
    required = c(TRUE, FALSE))  
  ### Process the arguments  
  nodecov <- get.node.attr(nw, a$attrname)  
  ### Construct the list to return  
  list(name="absdiff",  
    coef.names = paste(paste("absdiff", if(a$pow != 1) a$pow else "",  
      sep = ""), a$attrname, sep = "."),  
    pkgname = "ergm.userterms",  
    inputs = c(a$pow, nodecov),  
    dependence = FALSE )  
}
```

Anatomy of a d_ function

```
CHANGESTAT_FN(d_absdiff) {
    double change, p; Vertex t, h; int i;
    ZERO_ALL_CHANGESTATS(i);
    FOR_EACH_TOGGLE(i) {
        t = TAIL(i); h = HEAD(i);
        p = INPUT_PARAM[0];
        if(p==1.0){
            change = fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]);
        }else{
            change = pow(fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]), p);
        }
        CHANGE_STAT[0] += IS_OUTEDGE(t,h) ? -change : change;
        TOGGLE_IF_MORE_TO_COME(i); /* Needed in case of multiple toggles */
    }
    UNDO_PREVIOUS_TOGGLES(i); /* Needed on exit in case of multiple toggles */
}
```

Anatomy of a d_ function

1. Function call

```
CHANGESTAT_FN(d_absdiff) {  
    double change, p; Vertex t, h; int i;  
    ZERO_ALL_CHANGESTATS(i);  
    FOR_EACH_TOGGLE(i) {  
        t = TAIL(i); h = HEAD(i);  
        p = INPUT_PARAM[0];  
        if(p==1.0){  
            change = fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]);  
        }else{  
            change = pow(fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]), p);  
        }  
        CHANGE_STAT[0] += IS_OUTEDGE(t,h) ? -change : change;  
        TOGGLE_IF_MORE_TO_COME(i); /* Needed in case of multiple toggles */  
    }  
    UNDO_PREVIOUS_TOGGLES(i); /* Needed on exit in case of multiple toggles */  
}
```

Anatomy of a d_ function

2. Variable declaration

```
CHANGESTAT_FN(d absdiff) {  
    double change, p; Vertex t, h; int i;  
    ZERO_ALL_CHANGESTATS(i);  
    FOR_EACH_TOGGLE(i) {  
        t = TAIL(i); h = HEAD(i);  
        p = INPUT_PARAM[0];  
        if(p==1.0){  
            change = fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]);  
        }else{  
            change = pow(fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]), p);  
        }  
        CHANGE_STAT[0] += IS_OUTEDGE(t,h) ? -change : change;  
        TOGGLE_IF_MORE_TO_COME(i); /* Needed in case of multiple toggles */  
    }  
    UNDO_PREVIOUS_TOGGLES(i); /* Needed on exit in case of multiple toggles */  
}
```

Anatomy of a d_ function

3. Multiple toggle code

```
CHANGESTAT_FN(d_absdiff) {
    double change, p; Vertex t, h; int i;
    ZERO_ALL_CHANGESTATS(i);
    FOR_EACH_TOGGLE(i) {
        t = TAIL(i); h = HEAD(i);
        p = INPUT_PARAM[0];
        if(p==1.0){
            change = fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]);
        }else{
            change = pow(fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]), p);
        }
        CHANGE_STAT[0] += IS_OUTEDGE(t,h) ? -change : change;
        TOGGLE_IF_MORE_TO_COME(i); /* Needed in case of multiple toggles */
    }
    UNDO_PREVIOUS_TOGGLES(i); /* Needed on exit in case of multiple toggles */
}
```

Anatomy of a d_ function

4. Change statistic calculation

```
CHANGESTAT_FN(d_absdiff) {
    double change, p; Vertex t, h; int i;
    ZERO_ALL_CHANGESTATS(i);
    FOR EACH TOGGLE(i) {
        t = TAIL(i); h = HEAD(i);
        p = INPUT_PARAM[0];
        if(p==1.0){
            change = fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]);
        }else{
            change = pow(fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]), p);
        }
        CHANGE_STAT[0] += IS_OUTEDGE(t,h) ? -change : change;
        TOGGLE_IF_MORE_TO_COME(i); /* Needed in case of multiple toggles */
    }
    UNDO_PREVIOUS_TOGGLES(i); /* Needed on exit in case of multiple toggles */
}
```

Anatomy of a d_ function

1. Function call

- only thing you need to change is the name

```
CHANGESTAT_FN(d_absdiff) {  
    double change, p; Vertex t, h; int i;  
    ZERO_ALL_CHANGESTATS(i);  
    FOR_EACH_TOGGLE(i) {  
        t = TAIL(i); h = HEAD(i);  
        p = INPUT_PARAM[0];  
        if(p==1.0){  
            change = fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]);  
        }else{  
            change = pow(fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]), p);  
        }  
        CHANGE_STAT[0] += IS_OUTEDGE(t,h) ? -change : change;  
        TOGGLE_IF_MORE_TO_COME(i); /* Needed in case of multiple toggles */  
    }  
    UNDO_PREVIOUS_TOGGLES(i); /* Needed on exit in case of multiple toggles */  
}
```

Anatomy of a d_ function

2. Variable declaration

- Declare all variables you use (easiest to do at the end)
- Note the two extra variable types available: Vertex and Edge

```
CHANGESTAT FN(d absdiff) {  
    double change, p; Vertex t, h; int i;  
    ZERO_ALL_CHANGESTATS(i);  
    FOR_EACH_TOGGLE(i) {  
        t = TAIL(i); h = HEAD(i);  
        p = INPUT_PARAM[0];  
        if(p==1.0){  
            change = fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]);  
        }else{  
            change = pow(fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]), p);  
        }  
        CHANGE_STAT[0] += IS_OUTEDGE(t,h) ? -change : change;  
        TOGGLE_IF_MORE_TO_COME(i); /* Needed in case of multiple toggles */  
    }  
    UNDO_PREVIOUS_TOGGLES(i); /* Needed on exit in case of multiple toggles */  
}
```


Anatomy of a d_ function

3. Multiple toggle code

- Don't change a thing!

```
CHANGESTAT_FN(d_absdiff) {
    double change, p; Vertex t, h; int i;
    ZERO_ALL_CHANGESTATS(i);
    FOR_EACH_TOGGLE(i) {
        t = TAIL(i); h = HEAD(i);
        p = INPUT_PARAM[0];
        if(p==1.0){
            change = fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]);
        }else{
            change = pow(fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]), p);
        }
        CHANGE_STAT[0] += IS_OUTEDGE(t,h) ? -change : change;
        TOGGLE_IF_MORE_TO_COME(i); /* Needed in case of multiple toggles */
    }
    UNDO_PREVIOUS_TOGGLES(i); /* Needed on exit in case of multiple toggles */
}
```

Anatomy of a d_ function

4. Change statistic calculation

- Pull out the tail and head of the toggle
- Pull out other parameters passed, by position
- Calculate change statistic for i,j (often with conditionals)
- Common practice: flip sign for dissolution toggle

```
CHANGESTAT_FN(d_absdiff) {
    double change, p; Vertex t, h; int i;
    ZERO_ALL_CHANGESTATS(i);
    FOR EACH TOGGLE(i) {
        t = TAIL(i); h = HEAD(i);
        p = INPUT_PARAM[0];
        if(p==1.0){
            change = fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]);
        }else{
            change = pow(fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]), p);
        }
        CHANGE_STAT[0] += IS_OUTEDGE(t,h) ? -change : change;
        TOGGLE_IF_MORE_TO_COME(i); /* Needed in case of multiple toggles */
    }
    UNDO_PREVIOUS_TOGGLES(i); /* Needed on exit in case of multiple toggles */
}
```

Network storage in ergm

Directed network



represents both: an outedge from 3 to 5
an inedge 5 to 3

`IS_OUTEDGE(3 , 5)` 1 (true)

`IS_INEDGE(5 , 3)` 1 (true)

`IS_OUTEDGE(5 , 3)` 0 (false)

`IS_INEDGE(3 , 5)` 0 (false)

Undirected network

stored as directed
tail node < head node

Examples of macros

Found in changestat.h in the src directory of your ergm.userterms source code folder

- **TAIL(i)** ID of tail node in toggle i
- **HEAD(i)** ID of head node in toggle i
- **IS_OUTEDGE(a,b)** 1/0 for whether edge a->b exists
- **IS_INEDGE(a,b)** 1/0 for whether edge a<-b exists
- **IS_UNDIRECTEDEEDGE(a,b)** 1/0 for whether edge a--b exists

- **OUT_DEG[a]** outdegree of node a
- **IN_DEG[a]** indegree of node a

- **N_EDGES** total # of edges in the network currently
- **N_NODES** total # of nodes in the network
- **N_DYADS** total # of dyads in the network
- **DIRECTED** 0 if network is directed, 1 if directed

- **INPUT_PARAM** inputs passed from R
- **N_INPUT_PARAMS** number of inputs passed from R

- **STEP_THROUGH_OUTEDGES(a,e,v)** : sets up loop to go through all of node a's outedges, indexed by v

Example: mymindegree

We want a term that

- Works on undirected, non-bipartite networks only
- Refers to the number of nodes in the network of at least degree x
- Only needs to handle one value of x , not a whole vector

Example: degree2

We want a term that

- Calculates the number of nodes of degree 2

```

InitErgmTerm.absdiff <- function(nw, arglist, ...) {
  ### Check the network and arguments to make sure they are appropriate.
  a <- check.ErgmTerm(nw, arglist, directed=NULL, bipartite=NULL,
    varnames = c("attrname","pow"),
    vartypes = c("character","numeric"),
    defaultvalues = list(NULL,1),
    required = c(TRUE,FALSE))

  ### Process the arguments
  nodecov <- get.node.attr(nw, a$attrname)
  ### Construct the list to return
  list(name="absdiff",
    coef.names = paste(paste("absdiff", if(a$pow != 1) a$pow else "",
      sep = ""), a$attrname, sep = "."),
    pkgname = "ergm.userterms",
    inputs = c(a$pow, nodecov),
    dependence = FALSE )
}

```

```

CHANGESTAT_FN(d_absdiff) {
  double change, p; Vertex t, h; int i;
  ZERO_ALL_CHANGESTATS(i);
  FOR_EACH_TOGGLE(i) {
    t = TAIL(i); h = HEAD(i);
    p = INPUT_PARAM[0];
    if(p==1.0){
      change = fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]);
    }else{
      change = pow(fabs(INPUT_PARAM[t] - INPUT_PARAM[h]), p);
    }
    CHANGE_STAT[0] += IS_OUTEDGE(t,h) ? -change : change;
    TOGGLE_IF_MORE_TO_COME(i); /* Needed in case of multiple toggles */
  }
  UNDO_PREVIOUS_TOGGLES(i); /* Needed on exit in case of multiple toggles */
}

```

Put it all together:

- Put the R code at the end of the file “InitErgmTerm.users.R” in the R directory of your ergm.userterms source code directory (or in its own file named *.R in that directory)
- Put the C code at the end of the file “changestats.users.c” in the src directory of your ergm.userterms source code directory
- Open a cmd/terminal window.
- Navigate to your ergm.userterms source code directory
- Type: R CMD build ergm.userterms
- Type: R CMD INSTALL ergm.userterms_3.0-1.tar.gz
- Open R
- Type: library(ergm.userterms)
- Use your new term!!