

Dot-app User Guide

Using dot-app

Exporting

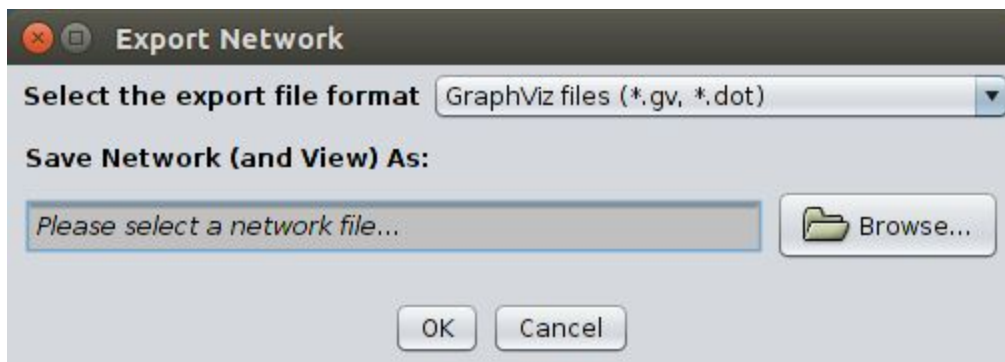
When exporting your network as a Graphviz file, you can choose whether or not to include the visual information from the Network View.

To include the visual information, export your network by navigating to **File->Export->Network and View**, or by clicking the **Export Network and View to File** button on the toolbar (shown to the right).



If you do not wish to include the visual information, export your network by navigating to **File->Export->Network**. The Graphviz output will contain only Node and Edge declarations.

Upon starting the export process by any of the previously stated means, you will be presented with a dialog titled “**Export Network**”. In order to export the network as a Graphviz file, select Graphviz files (*.gv, *.dot) from the drop down menu for **Select the export file format**.

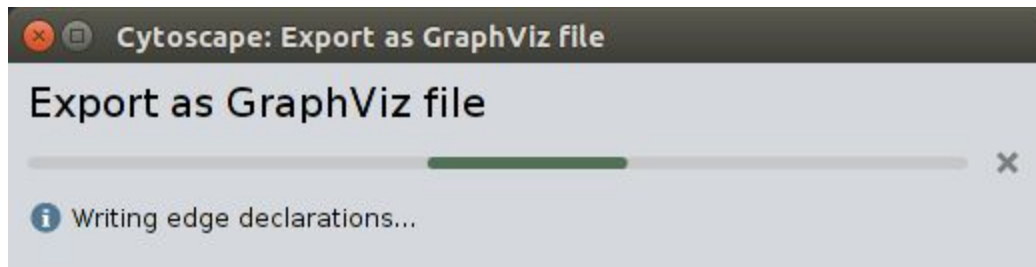


The Export Network dialog with the GraphViz file format chosen

After selecting the Graphviz file format and a file location, another dialog will appear titled “**Set Parameters**”. This dialog allows you to set some general options for the export. They are:

- How the edges should be routed
- Where node labels should appear on the node
- Where where the network label should appear

Upon clicking *OK*, the export will begin. A progress bar will appear on the screen depending on how large is the network. You can cancel the export by clicking the “x” to the right of the bar, **but** it is your responsibility to delete the incomplete file.



Progress bar of an export while writing the edges to file

Once the export is complete, the progress bar will close and a notification signaling the completion will appear in the bottom-left corner of the main window. If dot-app needed to change the network name in order to comply to the dot language rules, it will issue a warning. The way it modifies the network name is by encasing it in quotation marks (“ “).



Export Finished notification

NOTE: When writing the output, dot-app writes each node as “[Node name]\${SUID}”. SUID comes from Cytoscape and it allows for nodes with the same name to be written.

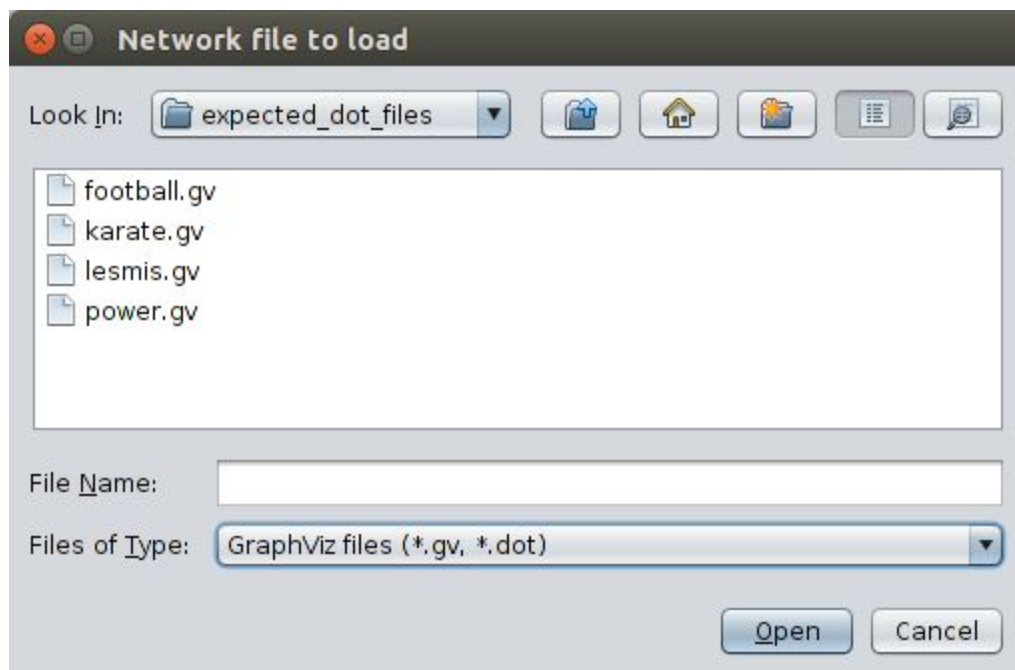
Importing

A Graphviz network can be imported in three ways: from the **Welcome Screen**, by navigating to **File->Import->Network->File...**, or by clicking the **Import Network from File** button on the toolbar (shown to the right).



Upon starting the import process by any of the previously stated means, you will be presented with a file browser dialog titled “**Network file to load**”. You are able to filter the dialog to display only Graphviz files by selecting Graphviz files (*.gv, *.dot) from the drop down menu for **Files of Type**.

From this point, importing a Graphviz network is the same as importing a network from any of Cytoscape’s accepted file formats. To see those steps, refer to the Cytoscape User Manual [here](#).



The Network file to load dialog with the GraphViz file format chosen

NOTE: Large networks will not generate a view when imported, but the data is there. To see the network, right click the network on the left side of the Cytoscape window, and click “Create View”

Giving Feedback

The dot team values any comments, questions, or concerns you may have in regards to using dot-app. Reach out to us by email through any of these emails:

Braxton Fitts - bfitts@ucsd.edu

Massoud Maher - mahermassoud@gmail.com

Sean Zhang - ziz025@ucsd.edu