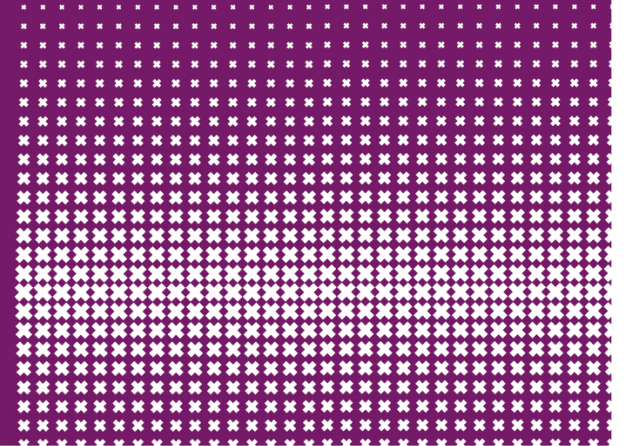




Rick Quax, Andrea Apolloni, Drona Kandhai, Emiliano Mancini,  
Peter M.A. Sloot



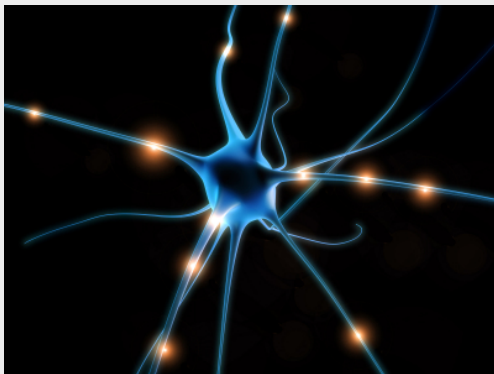
# Information dissipation in networks

Information is stored in system state, transferred through interactions,  
and lost due to noise

# Our view of a complex system

**node dynamics + complex network = complex system**

↑  
problem  
↓



**Each node has a state**  
which it changes over time

+



**Nodes interact with each other**  
i.e., their states influence each other

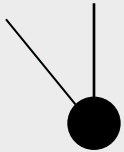
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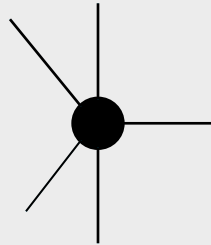
**The system behavior is complex**  
compared to an individual node

# Research question

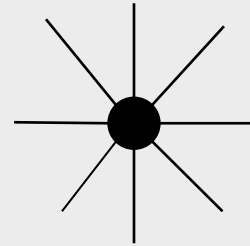
“Which units drive the behavior of the network?”



Peripheral units



Intermediately connected units

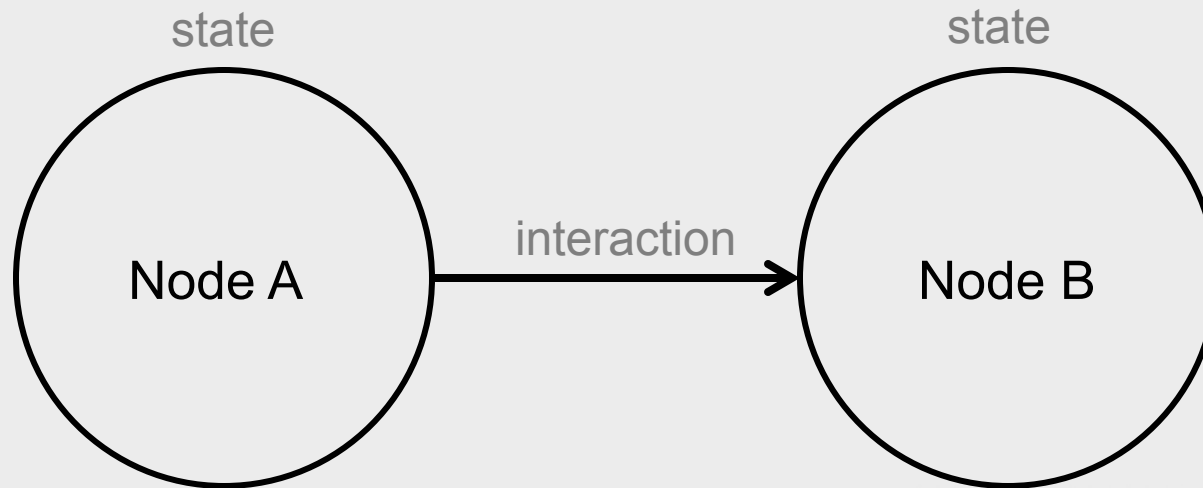


Highly connected units



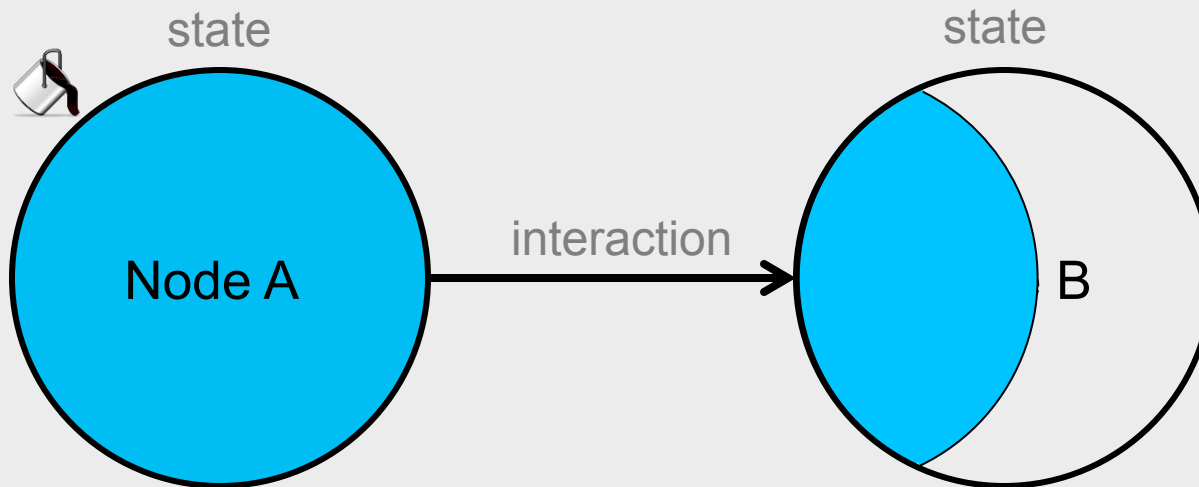
# Information processing in complex systems

- Let's say the state of A influences the state of B...



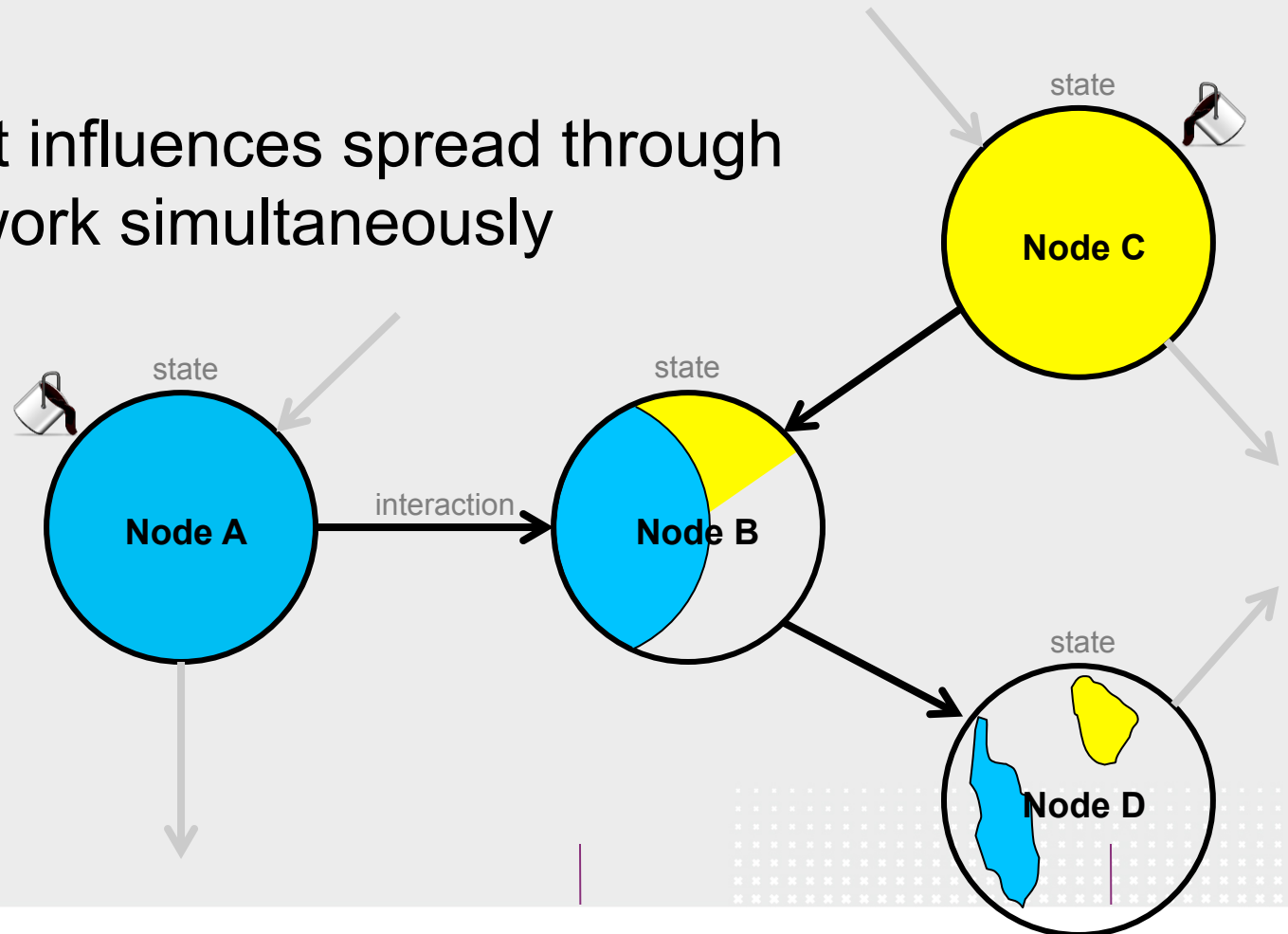
# Information processing in complex systems

- We would like to 'see' influence spreading



# Information processing in complex systems

- Different influences spread through the network simultaneously

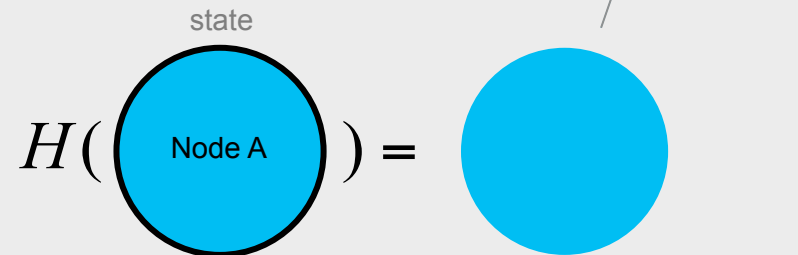


How to make  
make this  
quantitative?

# Solution: information theory?

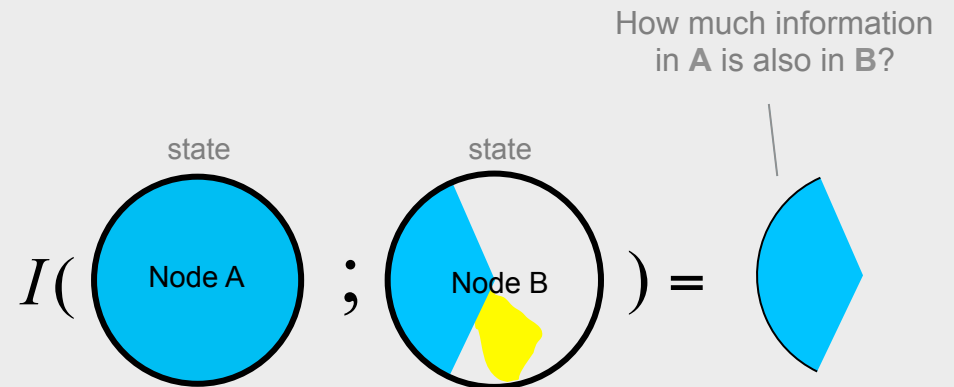
## Entropy:

$$H(A) = - \sum_i p_{A=i} \log p_{A=i}$$



## Mutual information

$$I(A; B) = H(B) - H(B | A)$$



(pitfall: MI = causality + correlation)

# Information dissipation

**How long** is the information about a node's state retained in the network?



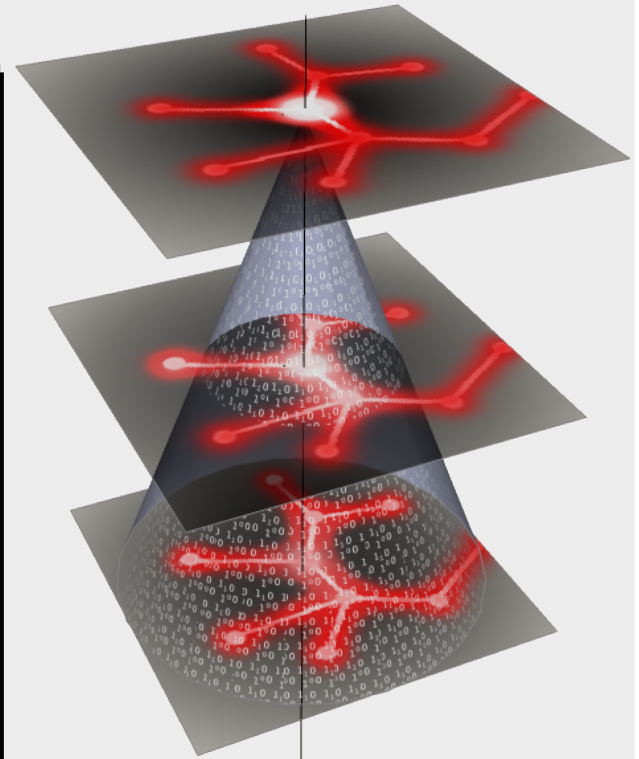
**measures of influence of a single node on the behavior of the entire network!**



**How far** can the information about a node's state reach before it is lost?

Information dissipation time

Information dissipation length

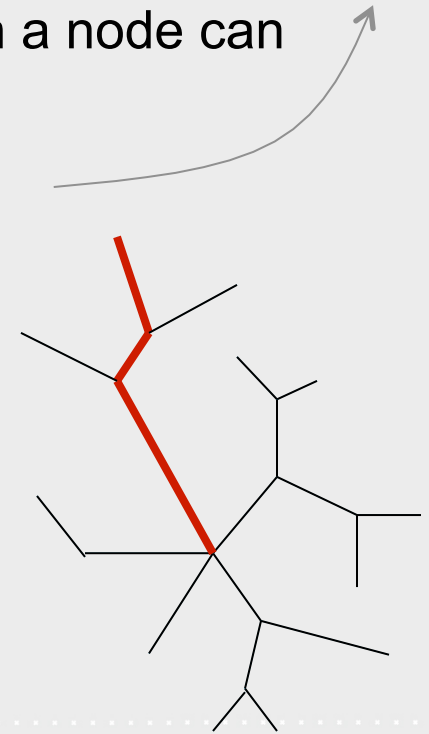




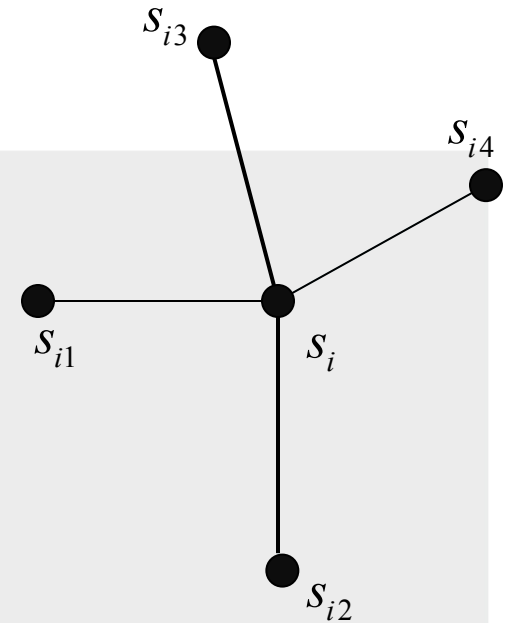
# Information dissipation time

$$p(s_i^{t+1} = x \mid s_j^t, \dots) \propto \exp \sum_j -E(x, s_j^t)$$

- Edges represent an interaction potential to which a node can quasi-equilibrate
  - → Node dynamics: (local) Gibbs measure
- Network structure
  - Large
  - Randomized beyond degree distribution
  - $k_{\max}$  grows less than linear in  $N$ 
    - And thus locally tree-like



# Information dissipation time



$$I_0^k \equiv I(S^t; s_i^t) = I(s_i^t; s_i^t) = H(s_i^t)$$

$$I_1^k \approx I([s_{j1}^t, \dots, s_{jk}^t]; s_i^t)$$

$$\mathcal{I} = \sum_m q(m) \cdot I_1^{m+1} / I_0^{m+1}.$$

$$D(s) = \log_{c_{\text{eff}} \cdot \mathcal{I}} \left[ \frac{\varepsilon}{I_1^k} \right] = \frac{\log \varepsilon - \log I_1^k}{\log c_{\text{eff}} + \log \mathcal{I}}.$$

$$D(s) \propto \text{const} + \log I_1^k,$$

$$I_1^k = U(k) \cdot k \cdot T(k), \text{ where}$$

$$T(k) = \left\langle I(s_j^{t+1}; s_i^t) \right\rangle_{k_j},$$

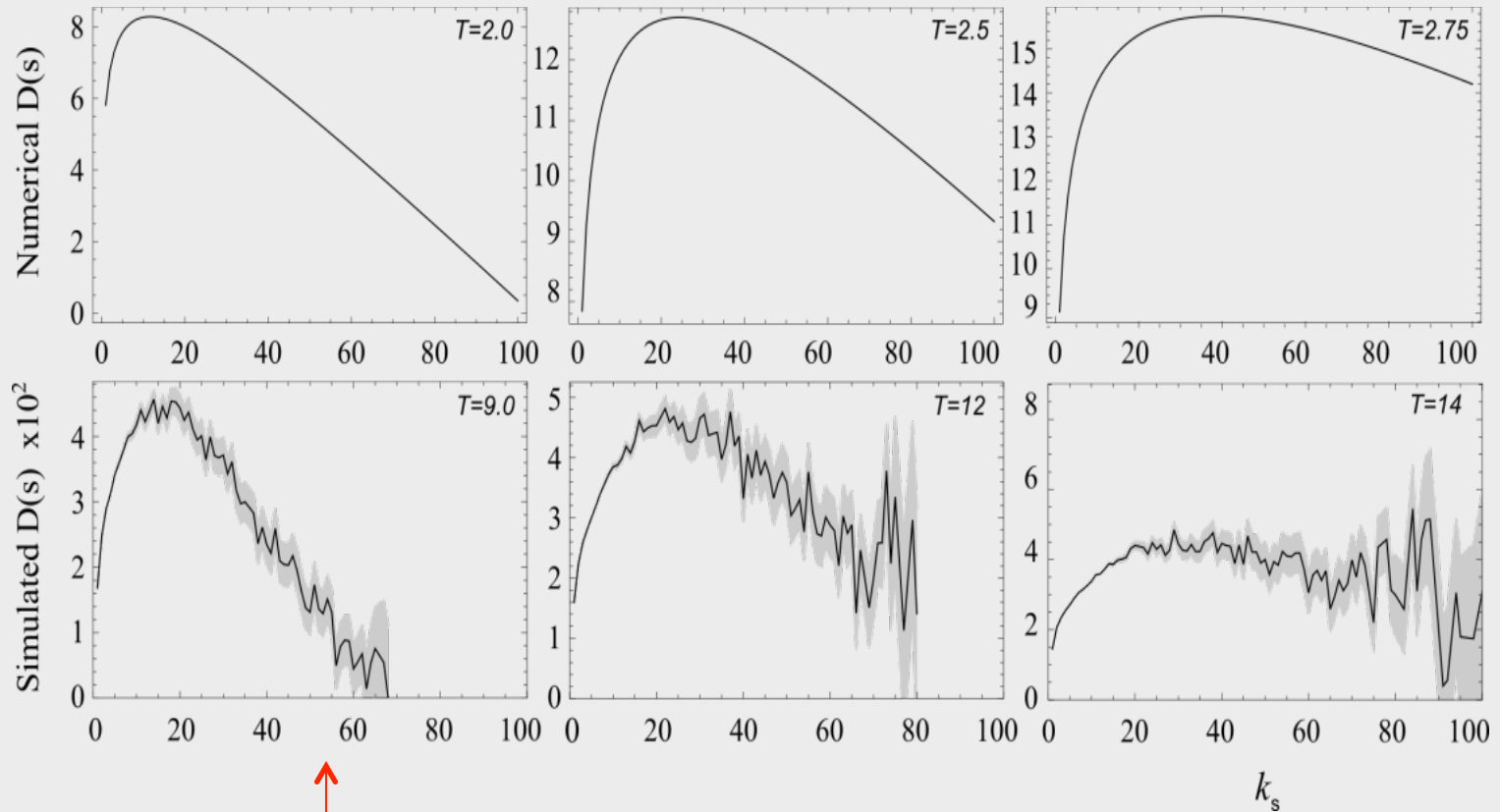
$$T(k) = \left\langle H(s_i^t) - H(s_i^t | s_j^{t+1}) \right\rangle_{k_j}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} H(s_i^t) &= - \sum_{q \in \Sigma} p(s_i^t = q) \log p(s_i^t = q) \\ &= - \sum_{q \in \Sigma^+} (1 - b_q^{-k}) \log(1 - b_q^{-k}) - \sum_{q \in \Sigma^-} b_q^{-k} \log b_q^{-k} \\ &= - \sum_{q \in \Sigma^+} (1 - b_q^{-k}) \log(1 - b_q^{-k}) + k \sum_{q \in \Sigma^-} b_q^{-k} \log b_q \\ &\approx k \sum_{q \in \Sigma^-} b_q^{-k} \log b_q \\ &= O(k \cdot x^{-k}). \end{aligned}$$

$$T(k+1) = \alpha \cdot T(k), \text{ where } \alpha \leq 1.$$

# Results: analytical and numerical

Information dissipation time  $D(s)$   
of a node  $s$



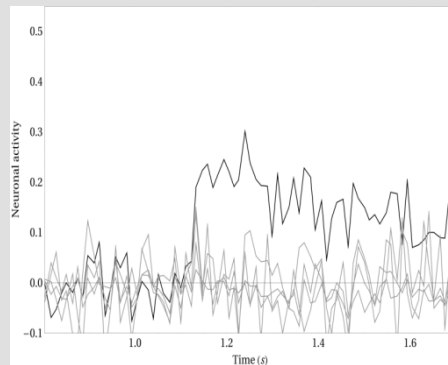
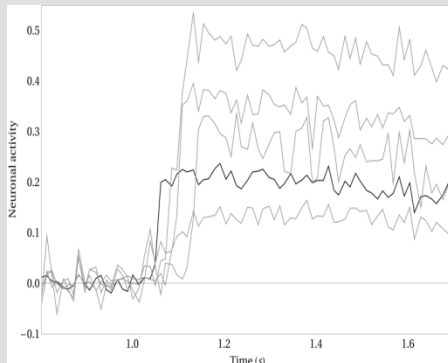
Number of interactions  
of a node

analytical proof:  $D(s)$  will eventually be  
a decreasing function of  $k_s$

# Qualitative evidence from experiments

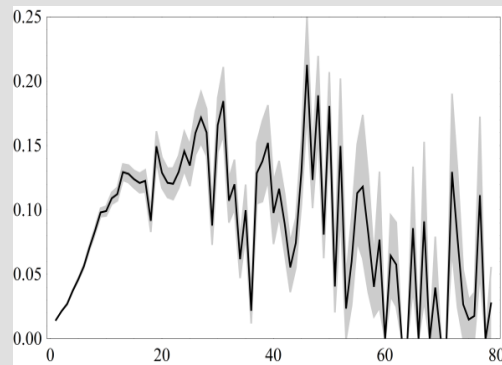
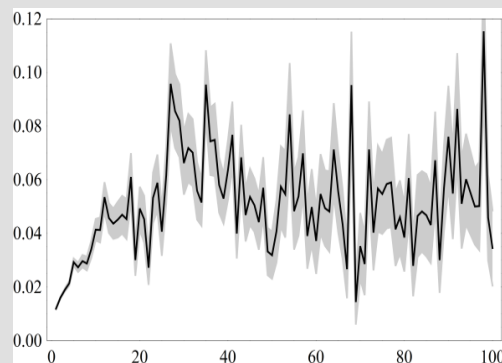
Network of neurons  
cultured in a Petri dish

#1



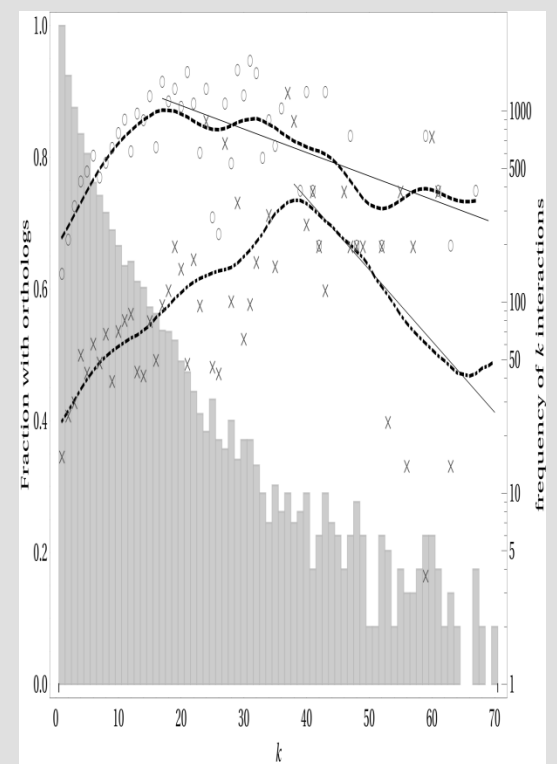
Social network of  
word-of-mouth marketing

#2



Gene regulation  
network

#3

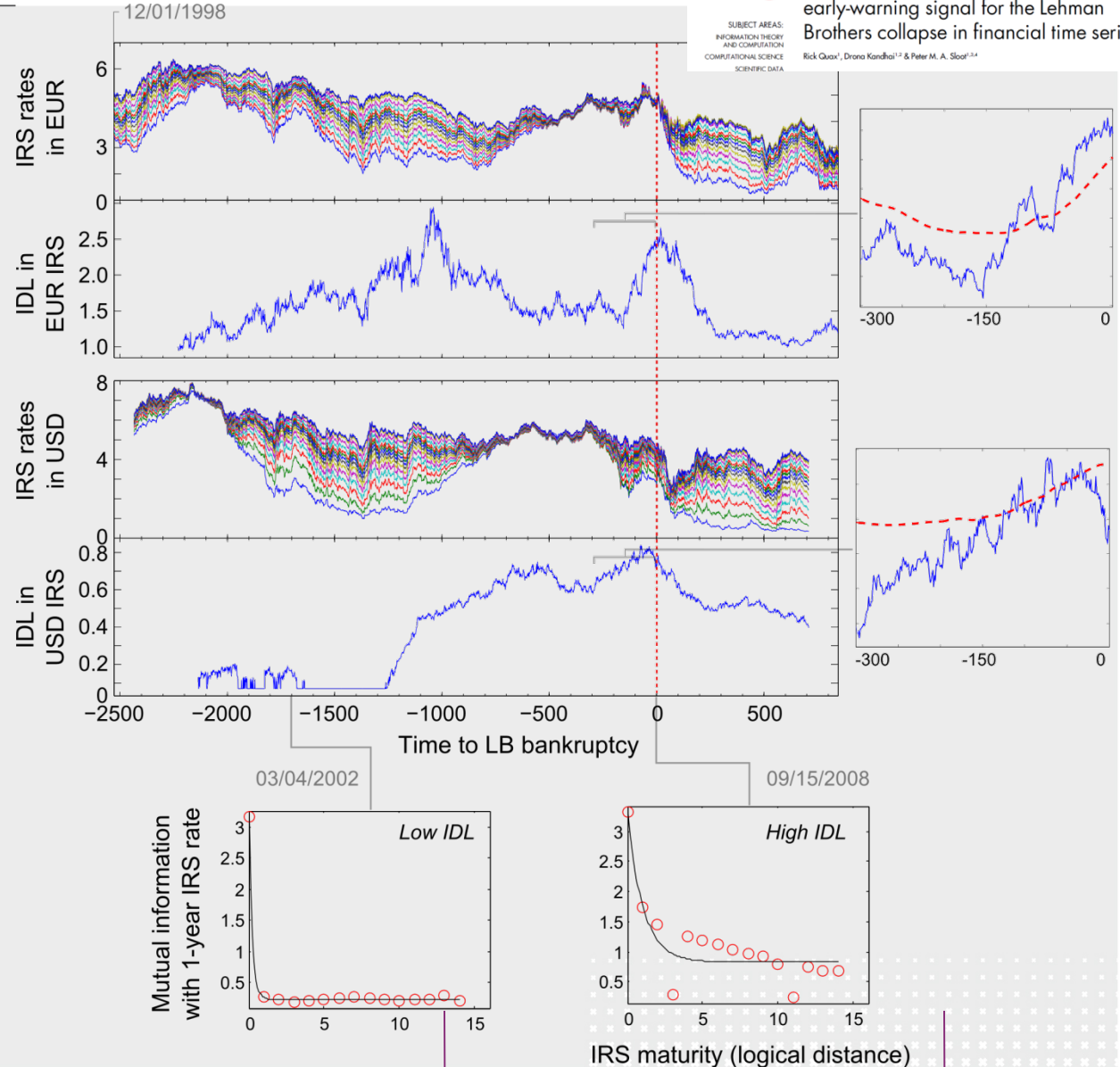
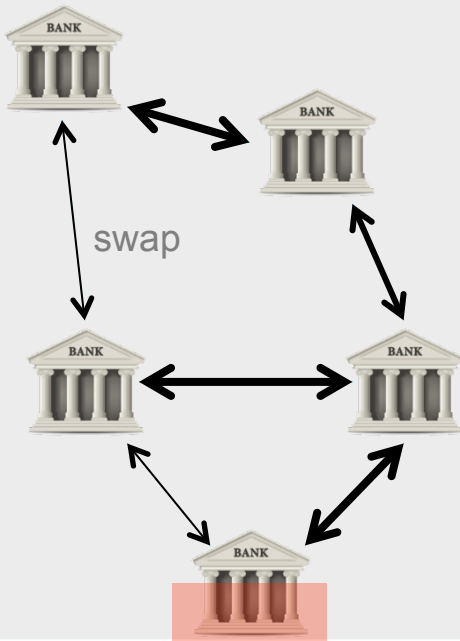




# Applications of IDT and IDL

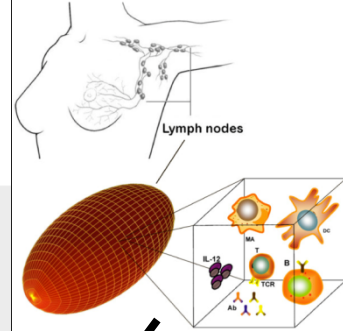


# Leading indicator in financial markets



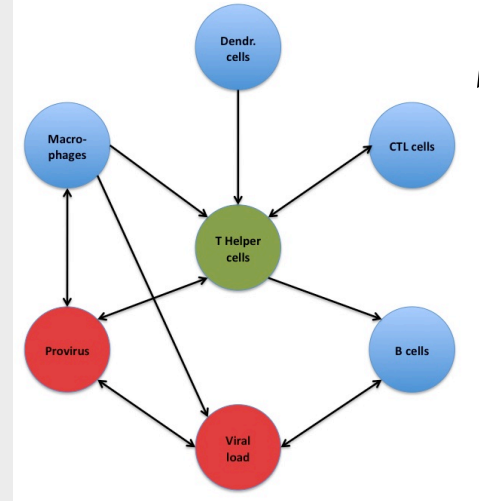
# Susceptibility of HIV immune response to perturbation

Cell types in immune response and their interactions



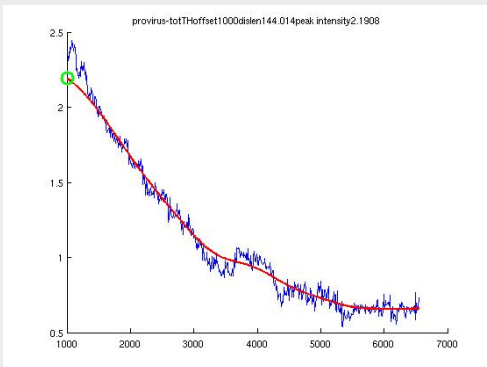
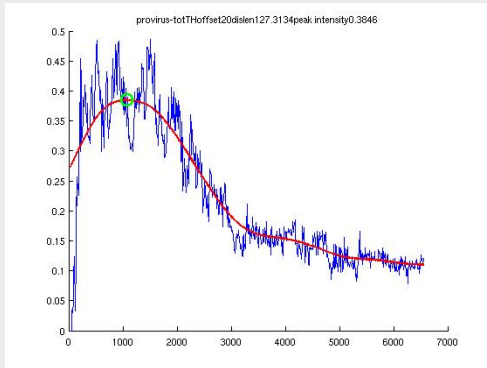
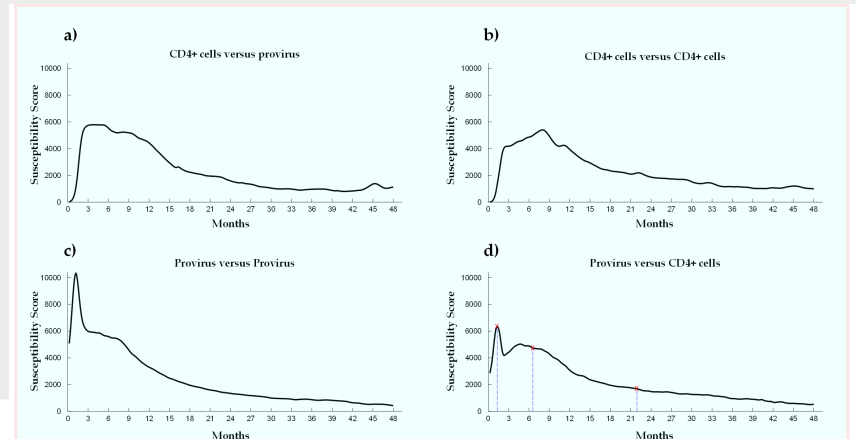
$$I(\text{provirus}(t_0); \text{CD4}(t_0 + t))$$

Agent-based simulations



Susceptibility of immune system

IDT



# Acknowledgements

## EU FP7 projects:



## Collaborators:

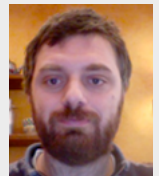
Peter Slood



Emiliano Mancini



Andrea Apolloni



Drona Kandhai

