

# Hierarchical networks: (information) diffusion and mapping

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100 years of living science

100

Topological properties  
(local, global)

How does structure  
affect dynamics?

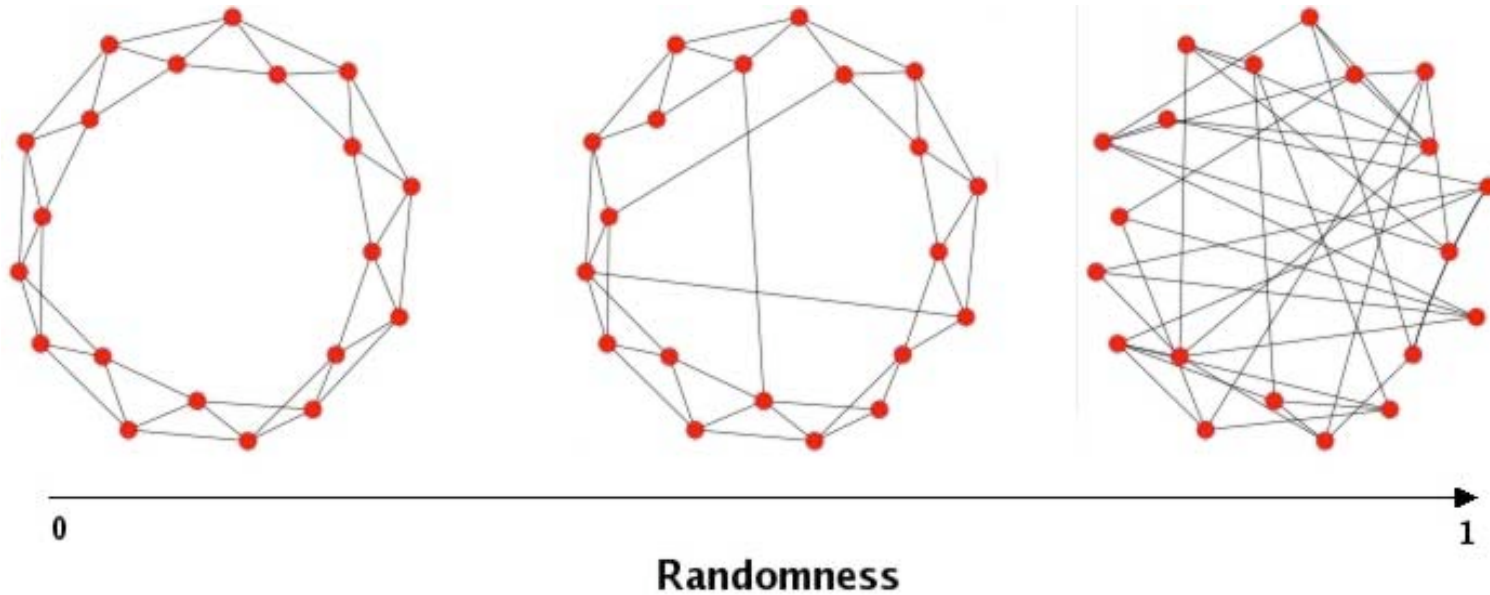


Can dynamics reveal  
the structure? (data mining)



Dynamical processes

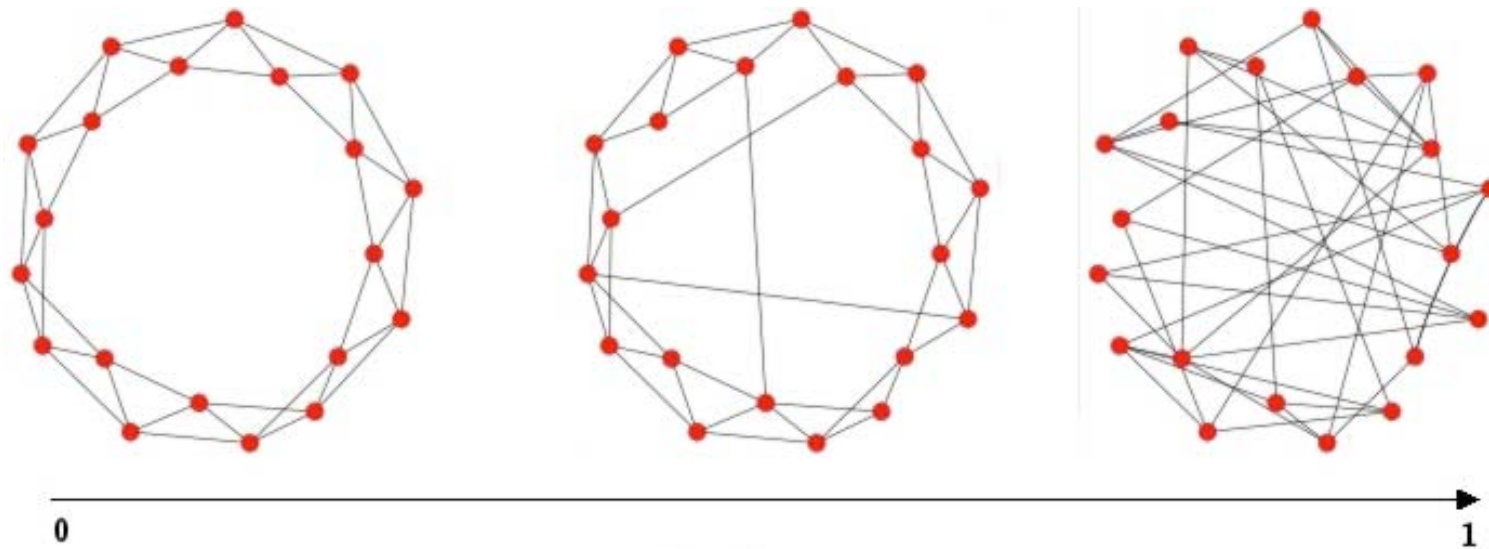
# Universal properties (common mechanisms?)



Small-world: High clustering and short diameter

# Information diffusion

What is the most efficient topology?



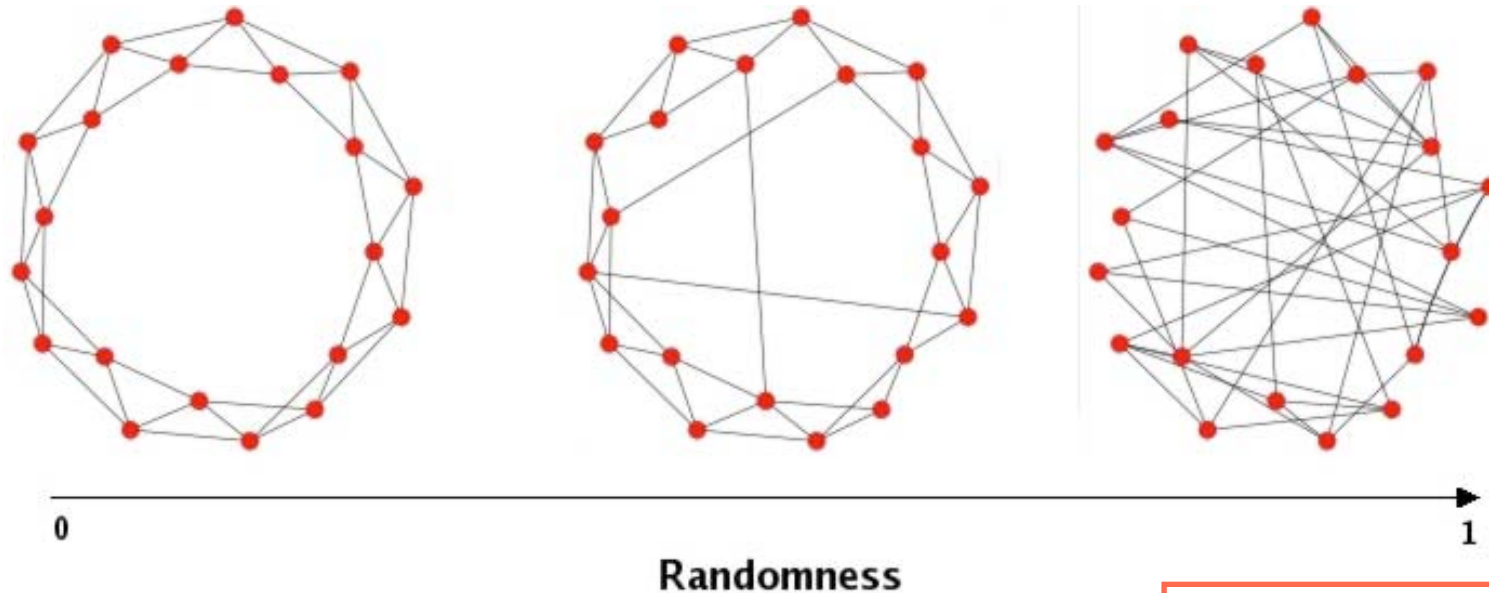
“closed”, dense, or cohesive networks => likely to foster trust, facilitate the enforcement of social norms, and enable the creation of a common culture (Coleman, 1988)

← opposite benefits →

“open”, sparse, or brokered networks: likely to connect people with different ideas, interests and perspectives (Burt, Granovetter)

# Information diffusion

What is the most efficient topology?



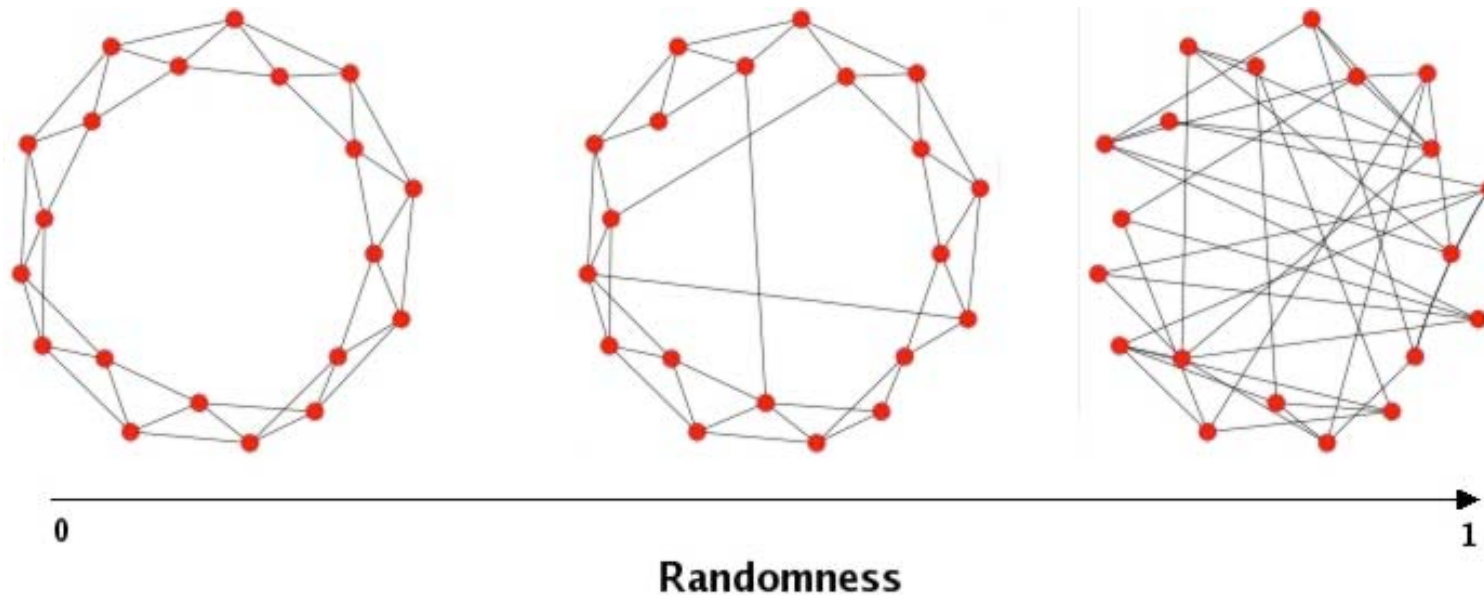
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“open”, sparse, or brokered networks: likely to connect people with different ideas, interests and perspectives

optimal for diffusive models (RW)

# Information diffusion

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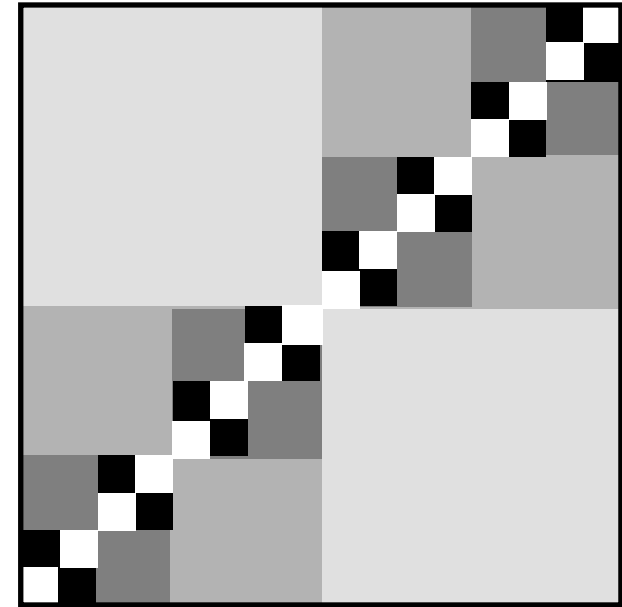
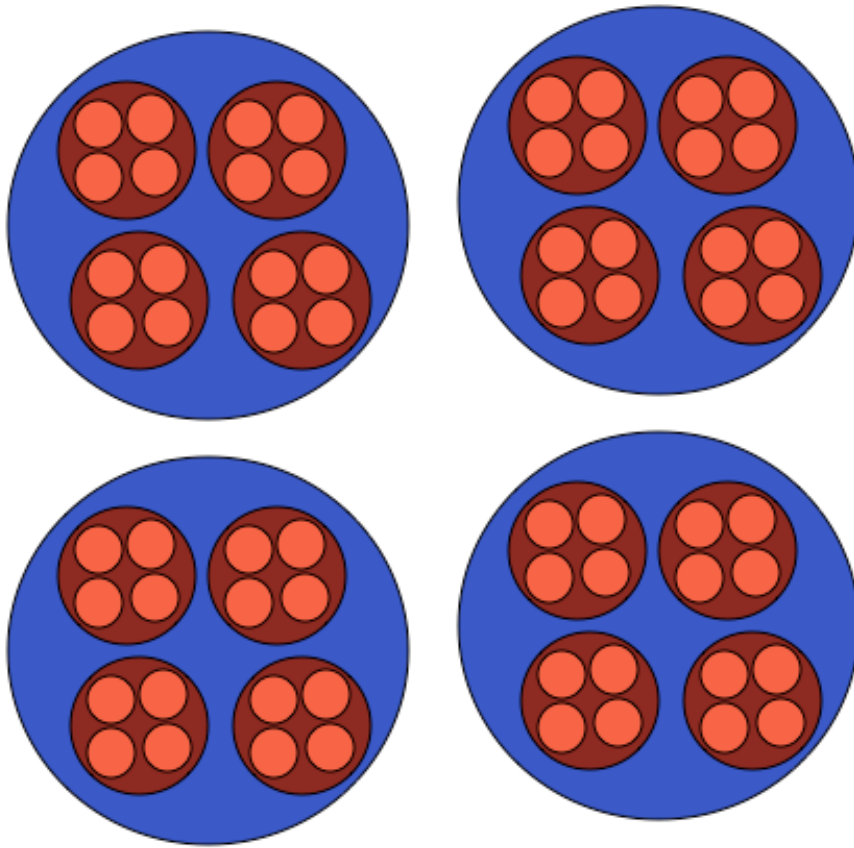
“open”, sparse, or brokered networks: likely to connect people with different ideas, interests and perspectives

importance of redundancy/simultaneous exposure to accelerate diffusion

Cascade Dynamics of Complex Propagation. D. Centola, V. M. Eguiluz and M. W. Macy, *Physica A* 374, 449-456 (2007).

The Role of Second Trials in Cascades of Information over Networks, C. de Kerchove et al., *Phys. Rev. E*, 79 (2009) 016114

# Universal properties (common mechanisms?)

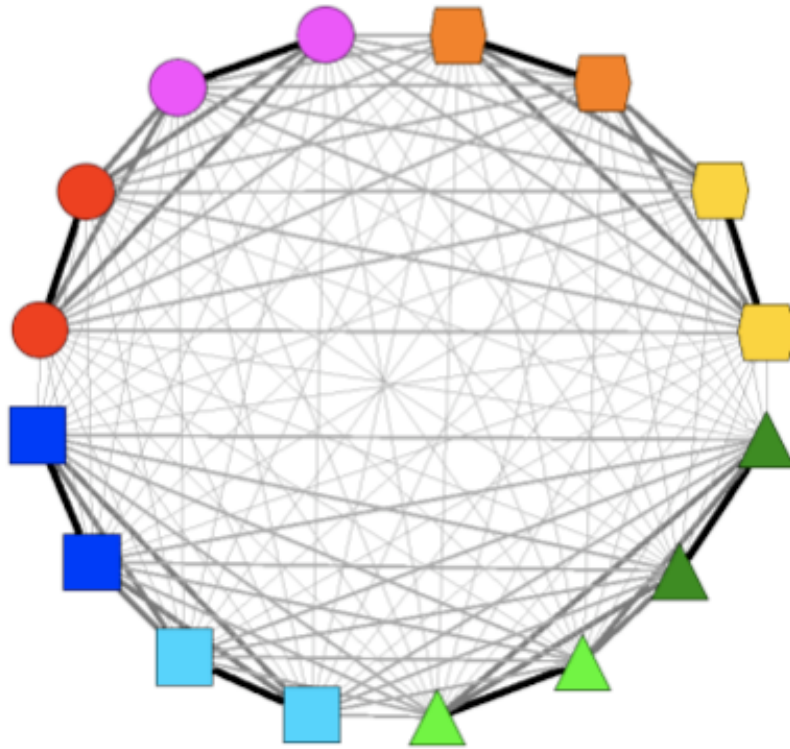


Hierarchical networks: modules within modules

Simon, H. (1962). The architecture of complexity. *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*, 106, 467–482.

# Hierarchical networks

Small-world AND nearly-decomposable

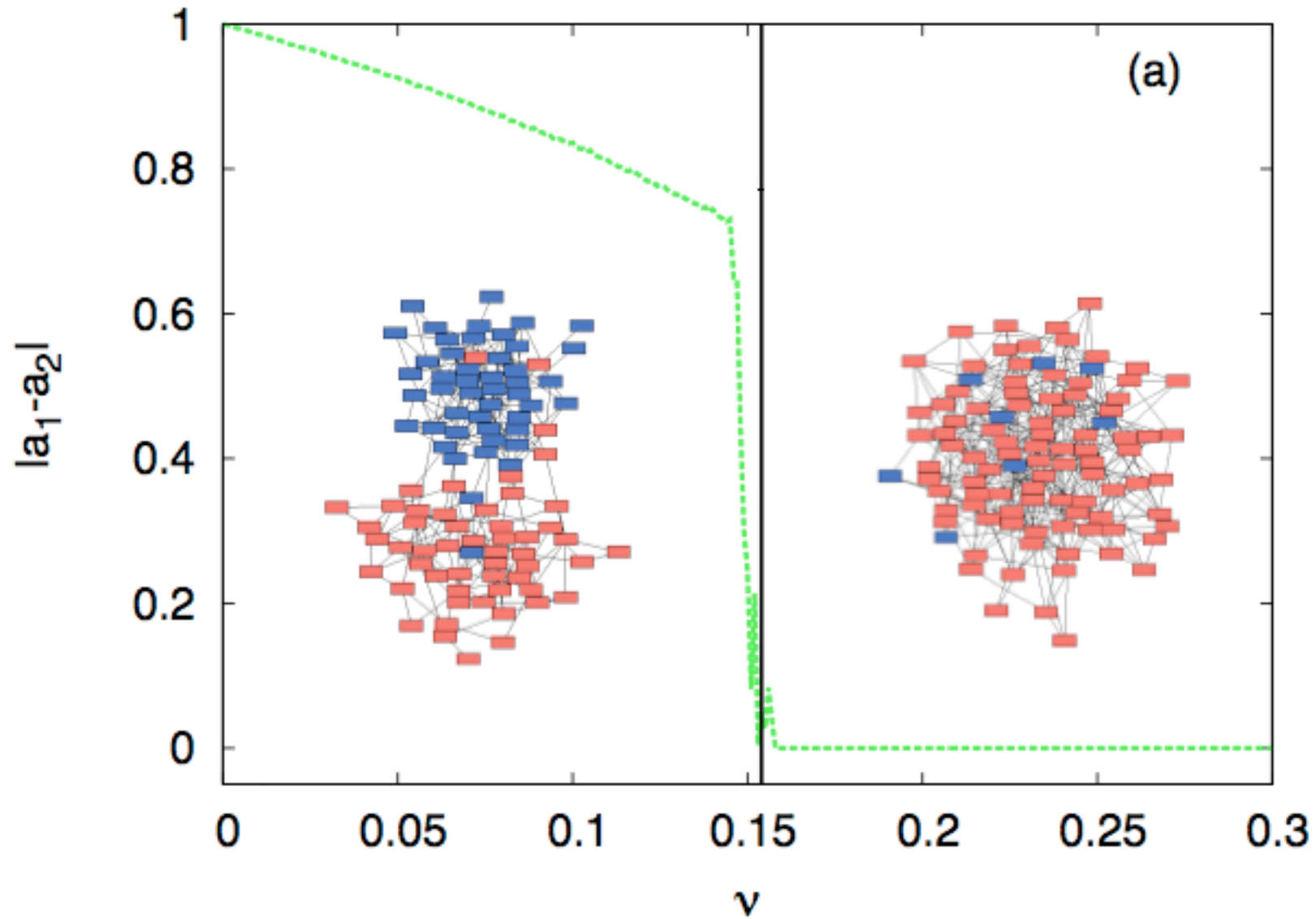


The system is made of interacting building blocks at different scales

Robustness: The system is weakly affected if a block disappears

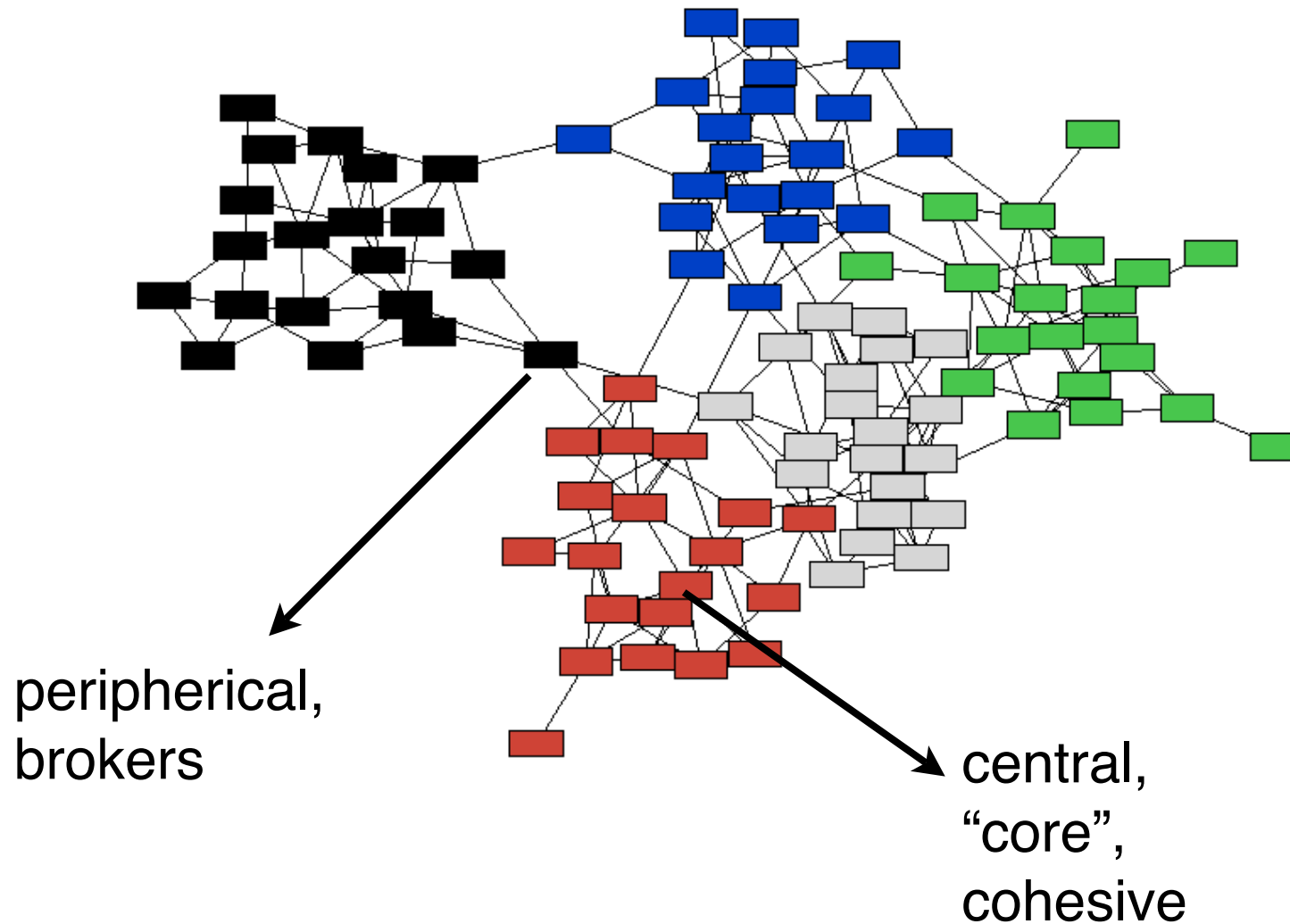
Global connectivity **and**  
Separation of (time) scales

# Separation of time scales: diversity



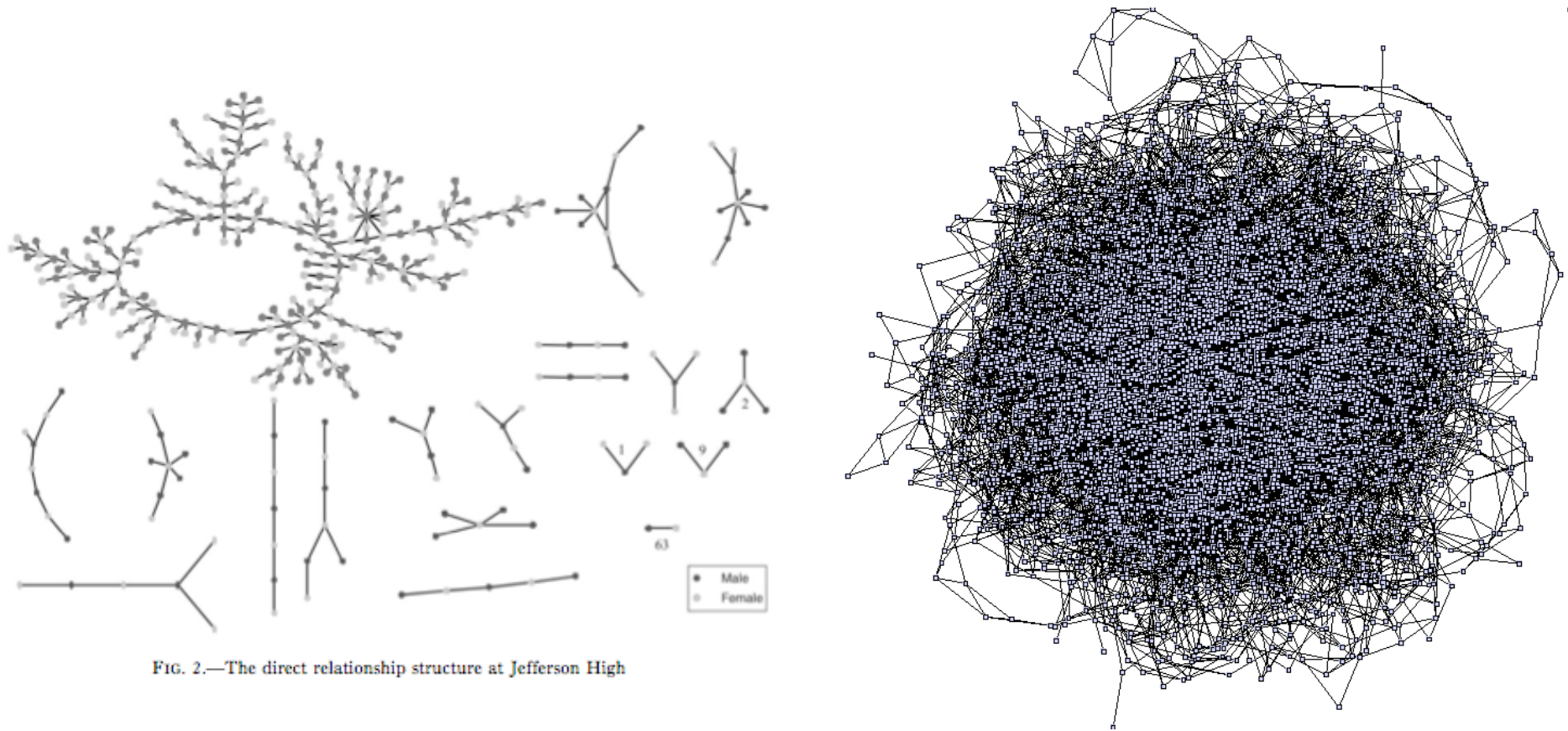
# Modular networks

Inhomogeneity: different location, different roles



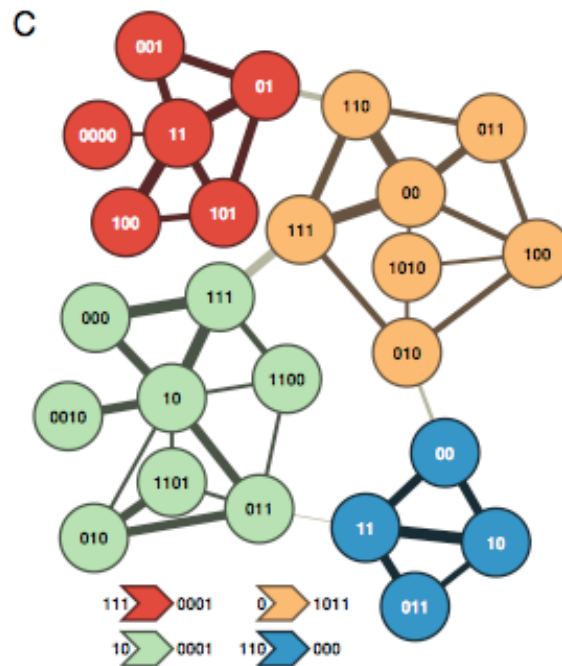
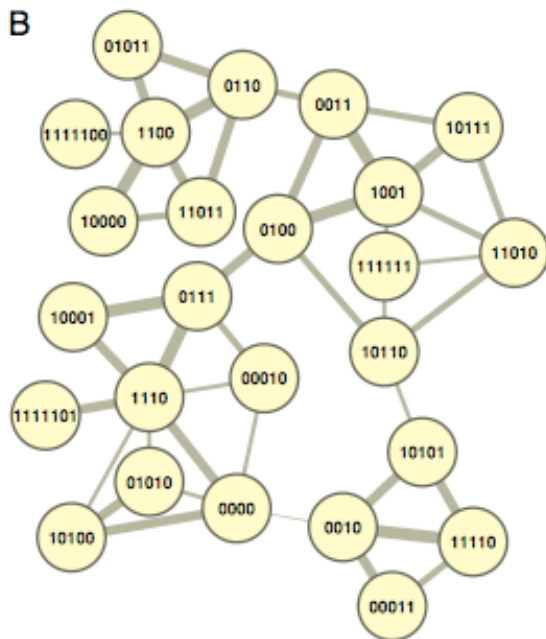
# Modular Networks

Uncovering communities/modules helps to understand the structure of the network, to uncover similar nodes and to draw a readable map of the network (when N is large).



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Find a partition of the network into communities

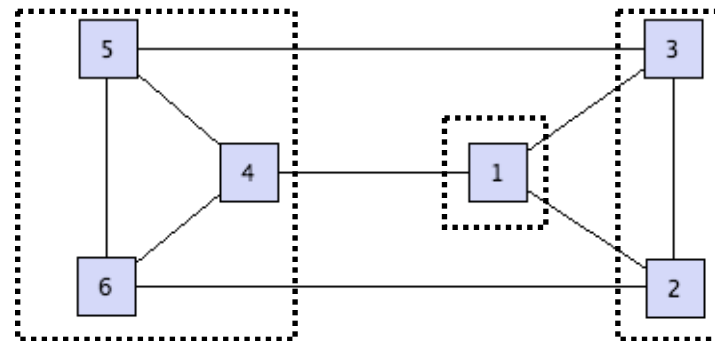
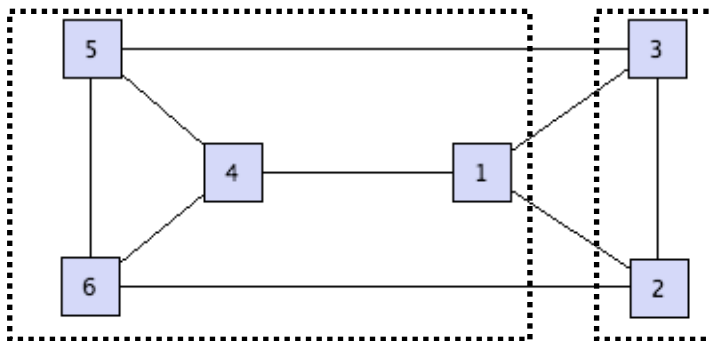
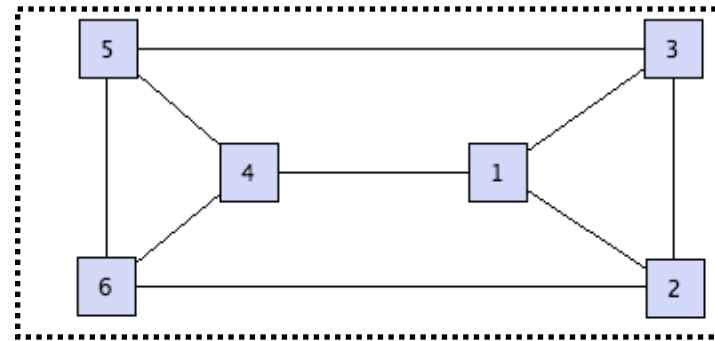
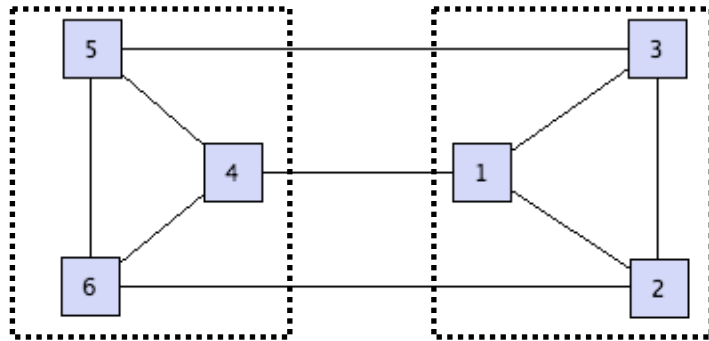


Coarse-grained description

# Quality of a partition

How good are those partitions of the same graph?

Among those, what is the best partition?

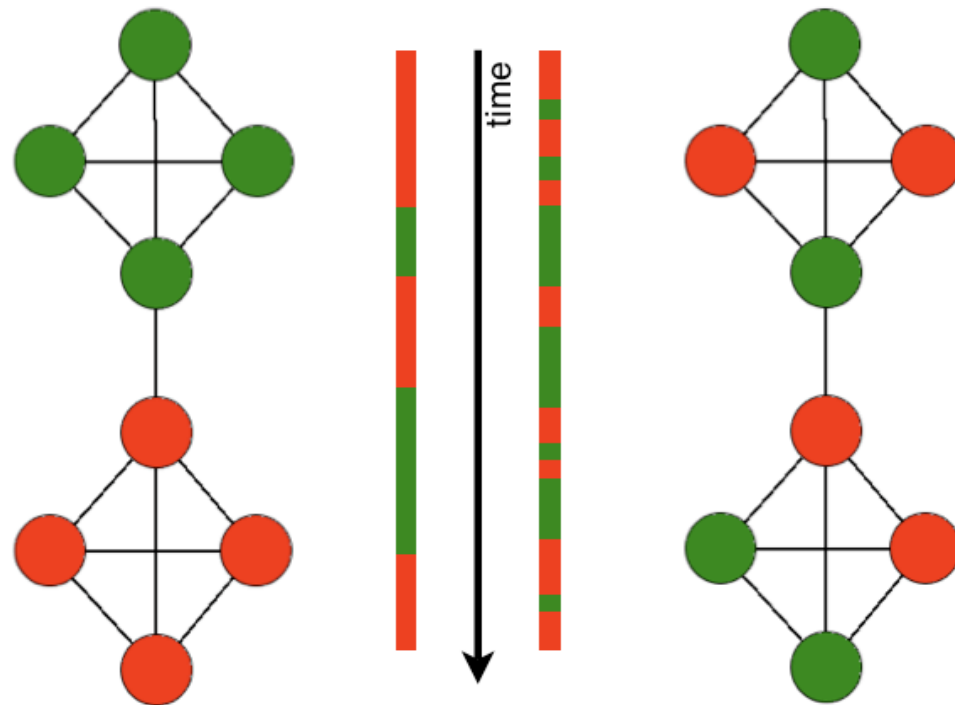


.....

# Stability

The quality of a partition is determined by the patterns of a flow within the network: a flow should be trapped for long time periods within a community before escaping it.

The stability of a partition is defined by the statistical properties of a random walker moving on the graph:



# Stability: time as a resolution parameter

Let us consider a continuous-time random walk with Poisson waiting times

$$\dot{p}_i = \sum_j \frac{A_{ij}}{k_j} p_j - p_i \quad \xrightarrow{\text{equilibrium}} \quad p_i^* = k_i / 2m$$

$$R(t) = \sum_{i,j} \left[ \left( e^{t(B-I)} \right)_{ij} \frac{k_j}{2m} - \frac{k_i k_j}{(2m)^2} \right] \delta(c_i, c_j)$$

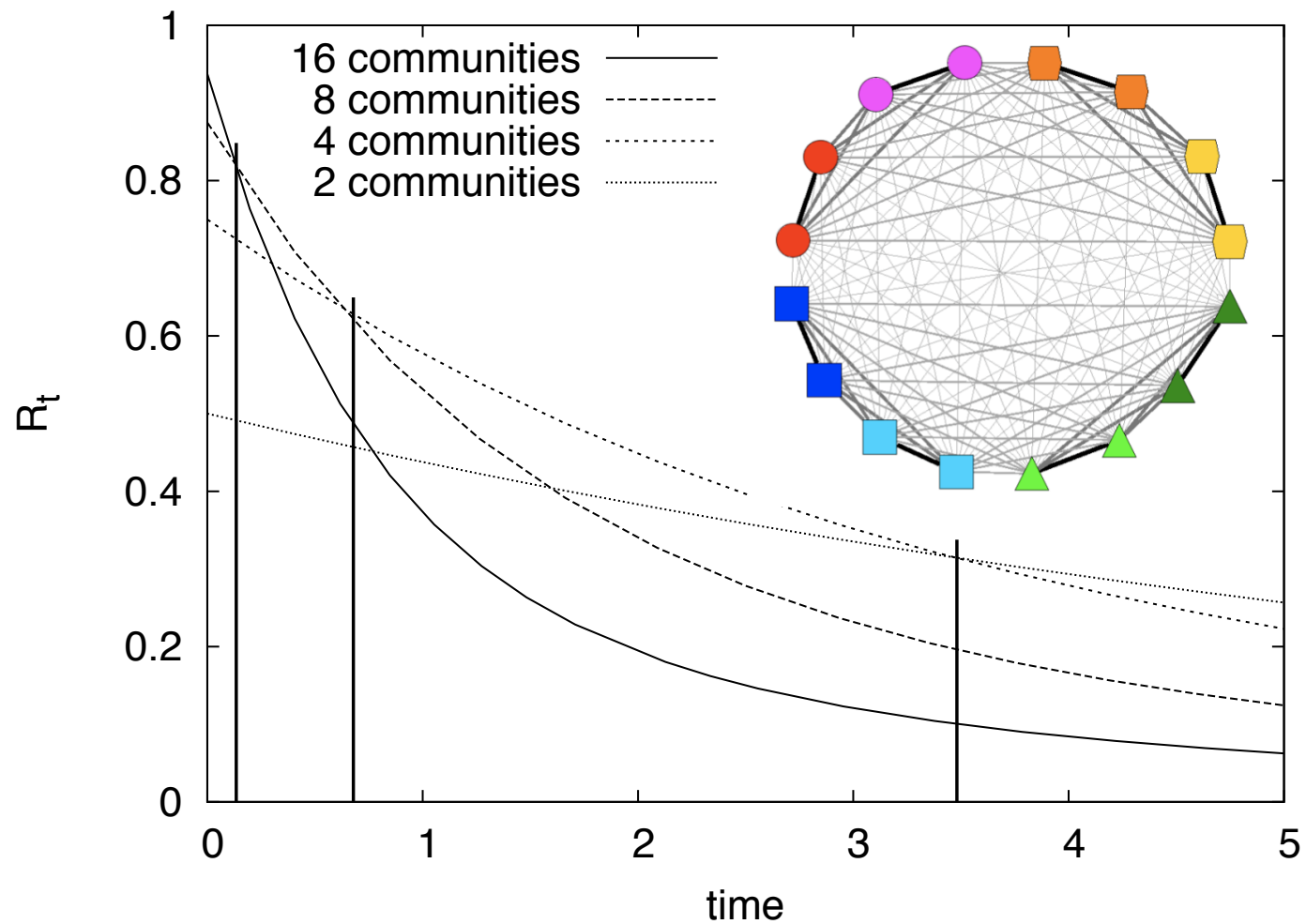
$$B_{ij} = A_{ij} / k_j$$

Probability that a walker is in the same community initially and at time t

Same probability for independent walkers

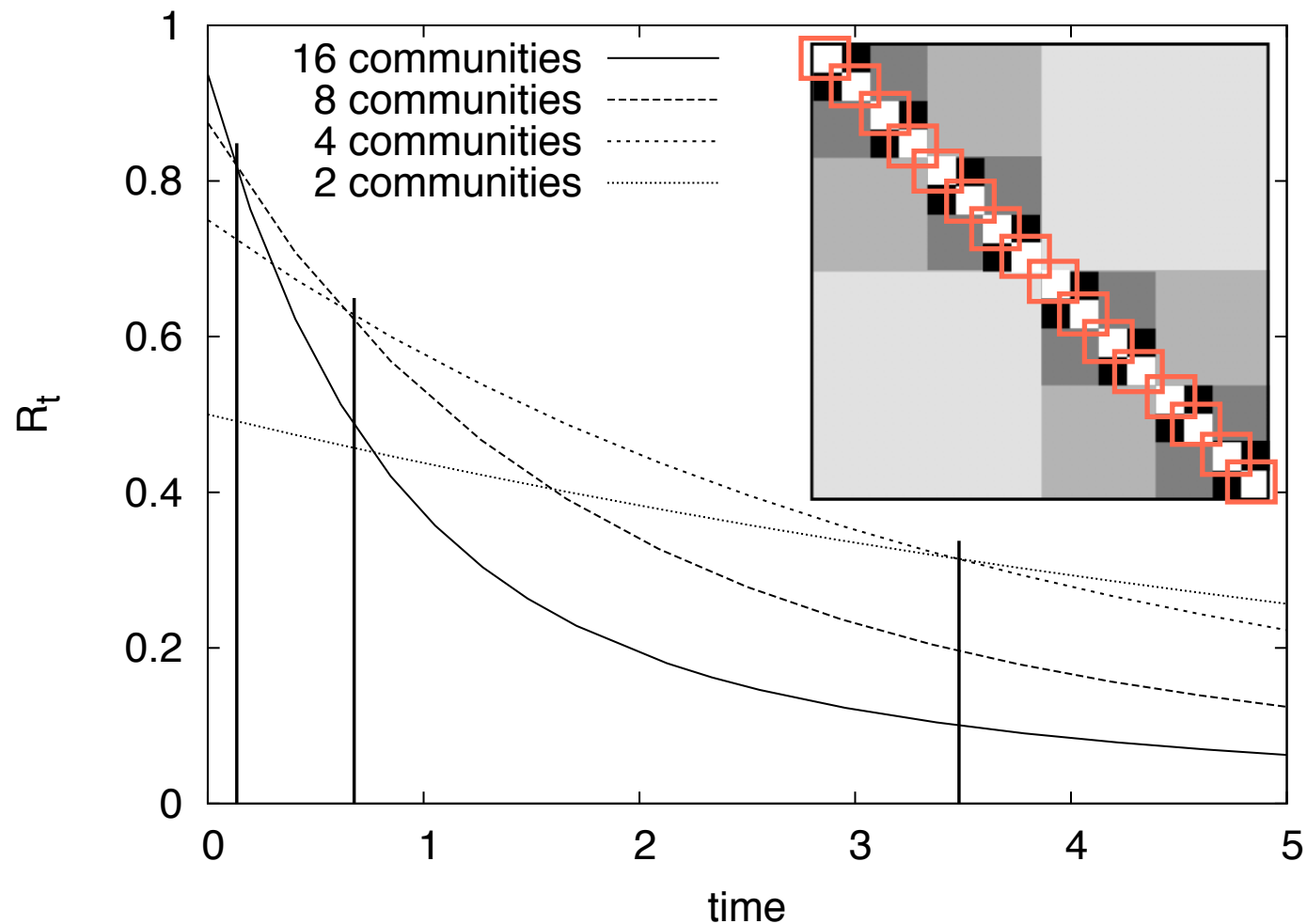
# Stability: time as a resolution parameter

Time is a “resolution parameter”: larger and larger communities when time is increased



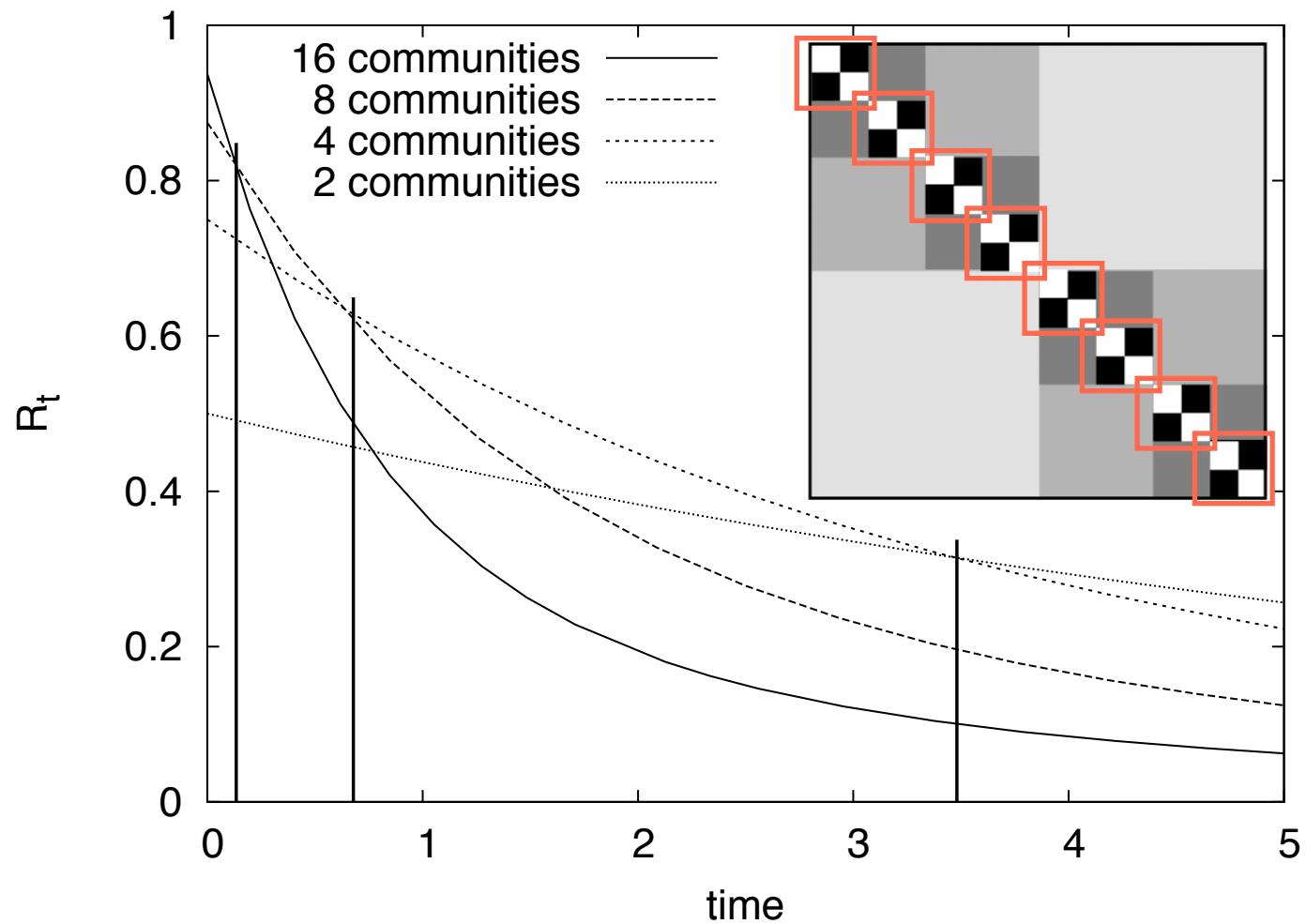
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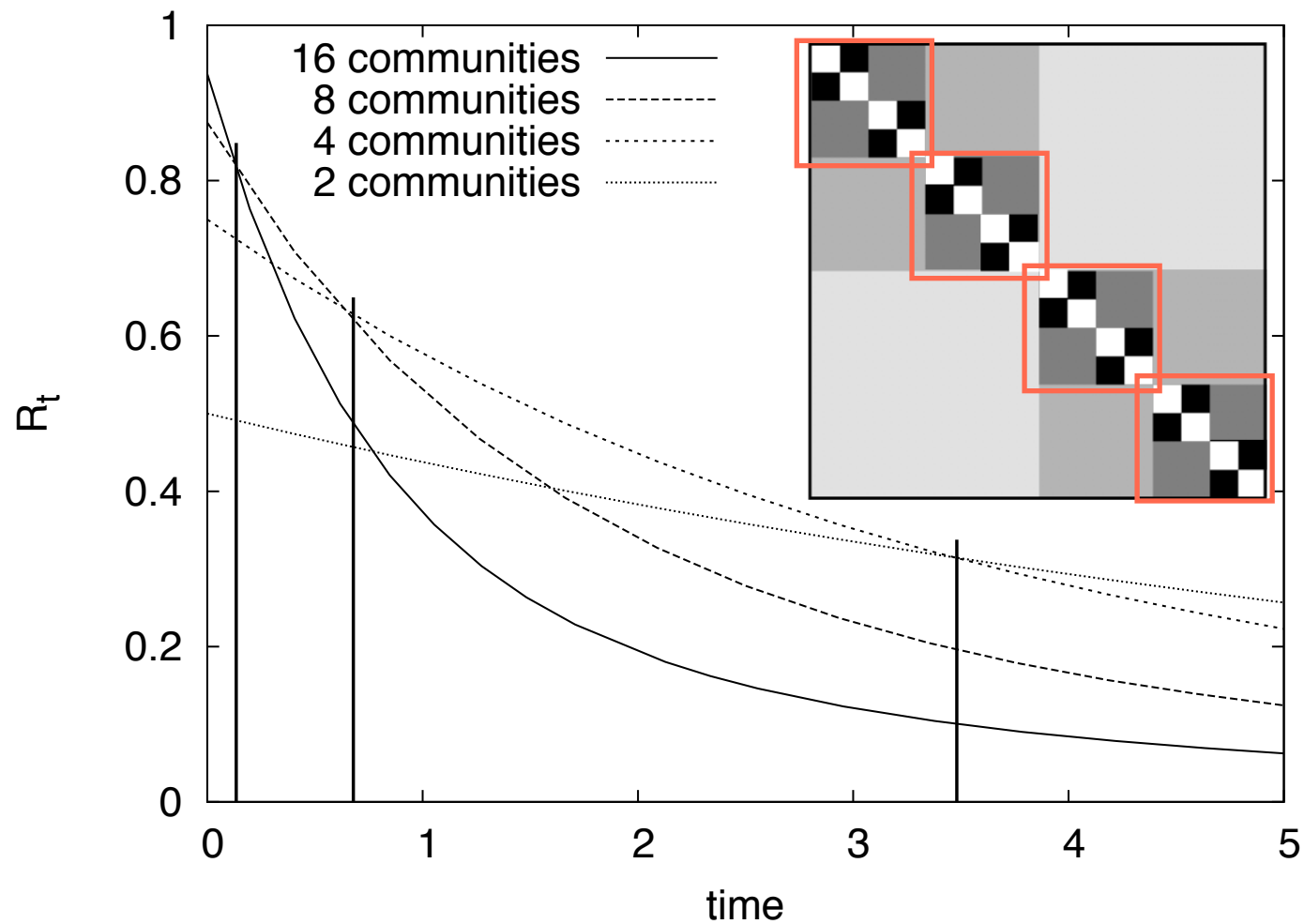
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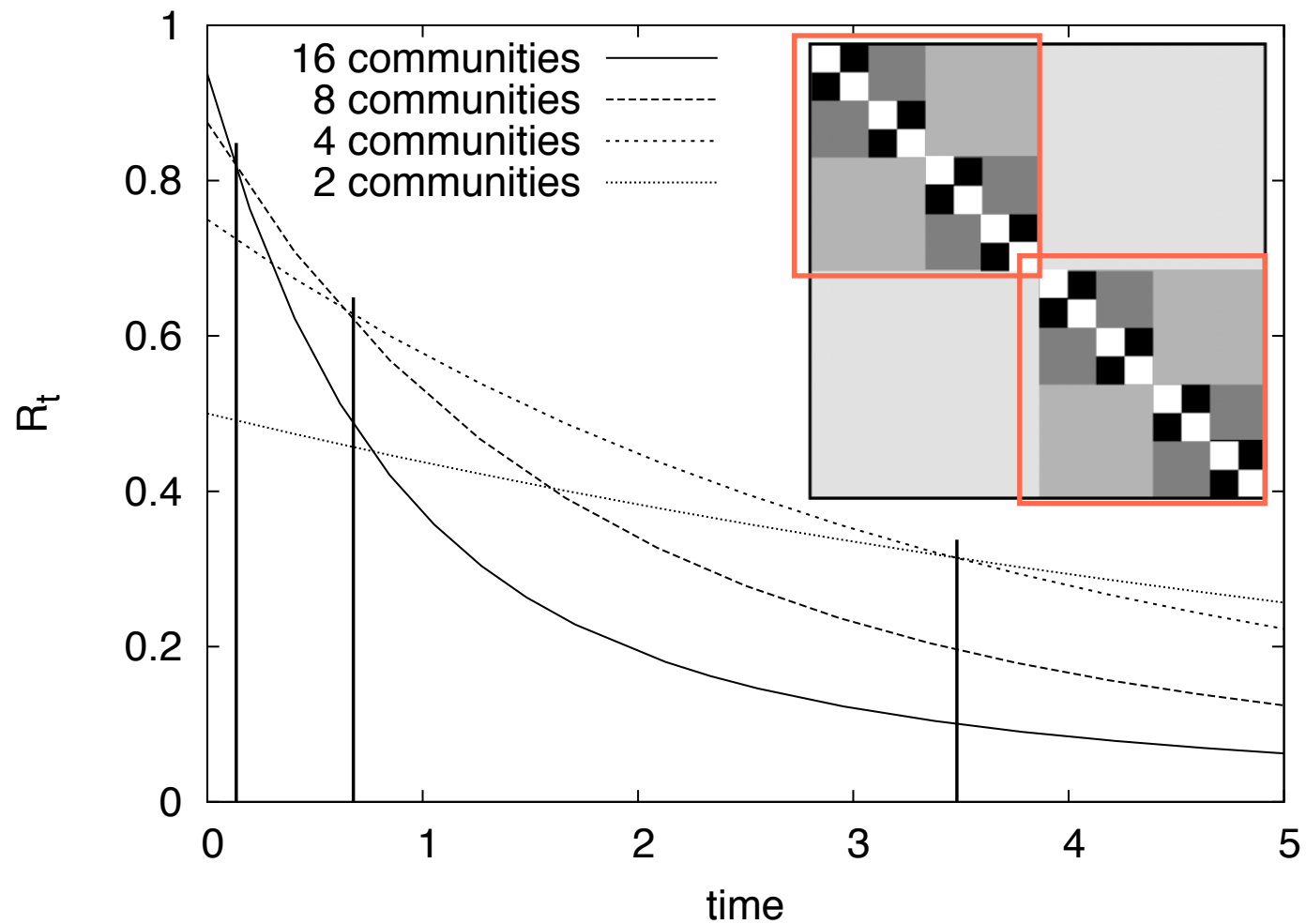
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# In practice: Selection of the most relevant scales

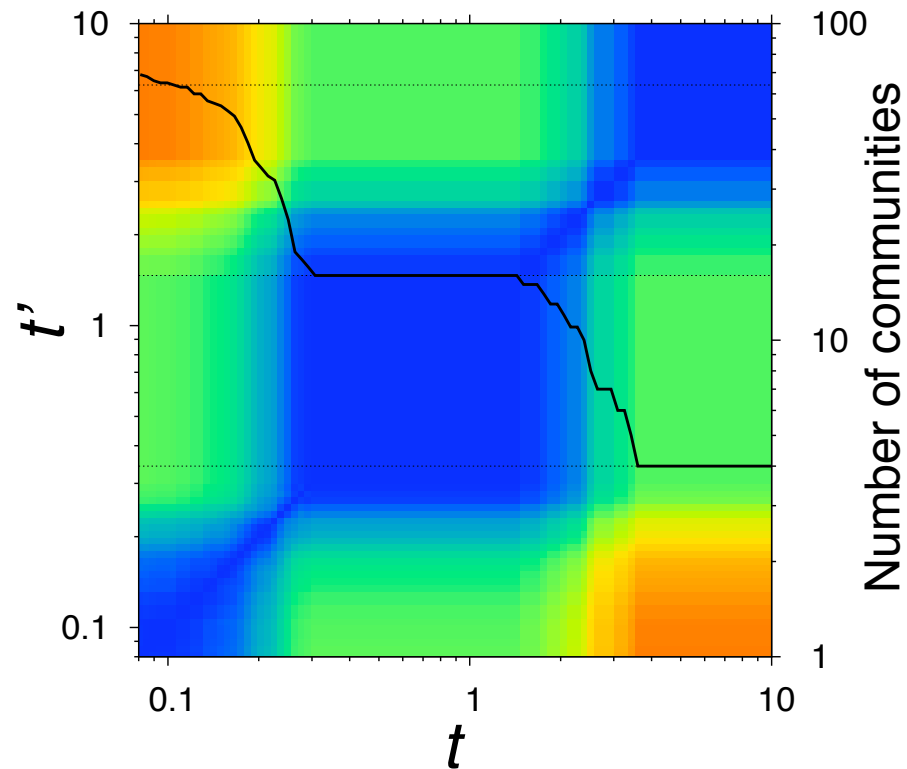
The optimization of  $R(t)$  over a period of time leads to a sequence of partitions that are optimal at different time scales.

How to select the most relevant scales of description?

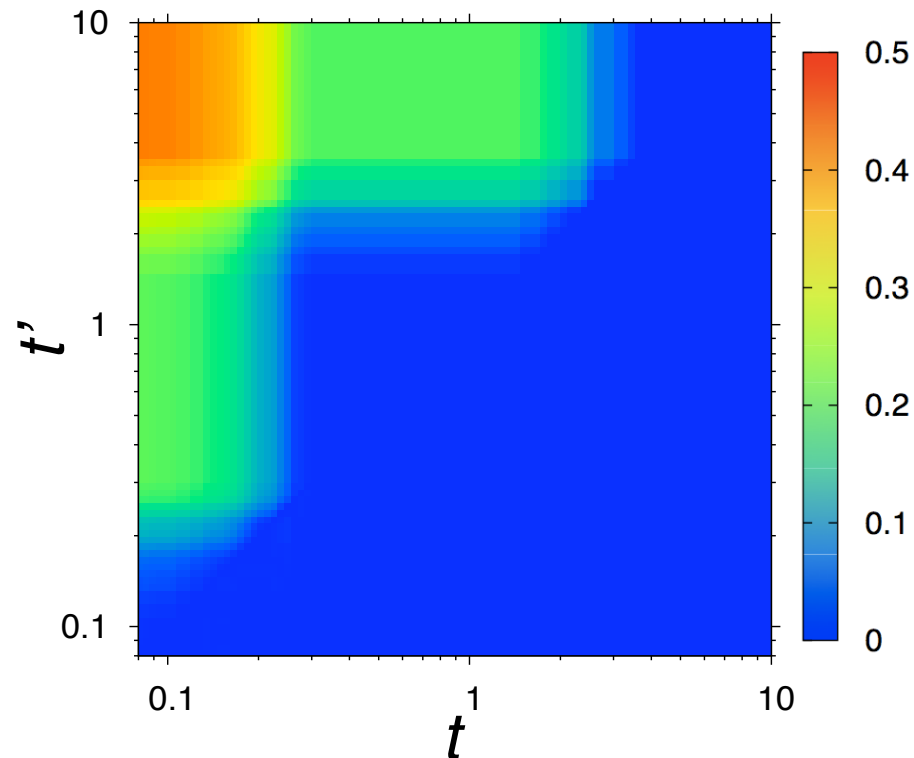
The significance of a particular scale is usually associated to a certain notion of the robustness of the optimal partition. Here, robustness indicates that a small modification of the optimization algorithm, of the network, or of the quality function does not alter this partition.

We look for regions of time where the optimal partitions are very similar. The similarity between two partitions is measured by the *normalised variation of information*.

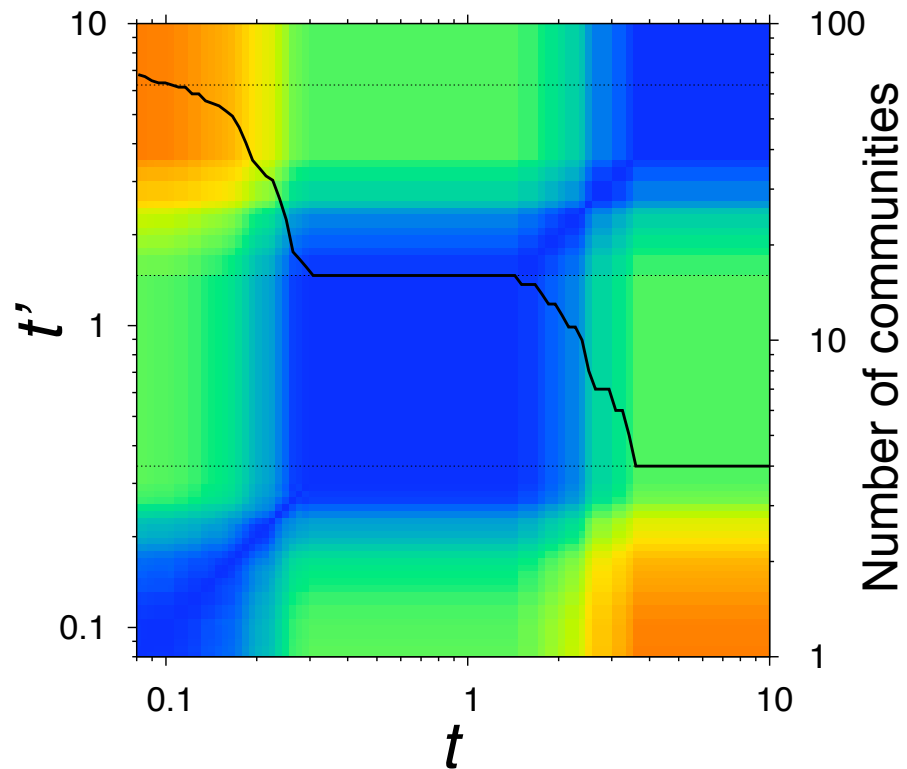
Normalised variation of information vanishes only if partitions  $P_t$  and  $P_{t'}$  are identical.



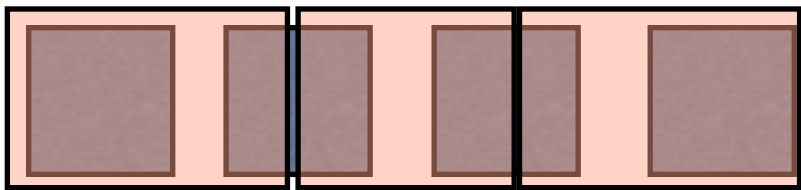
Normalized conditional entropy vanishes only if each community of  $P_t$  is the union of communities of  $P_{t'}$ .



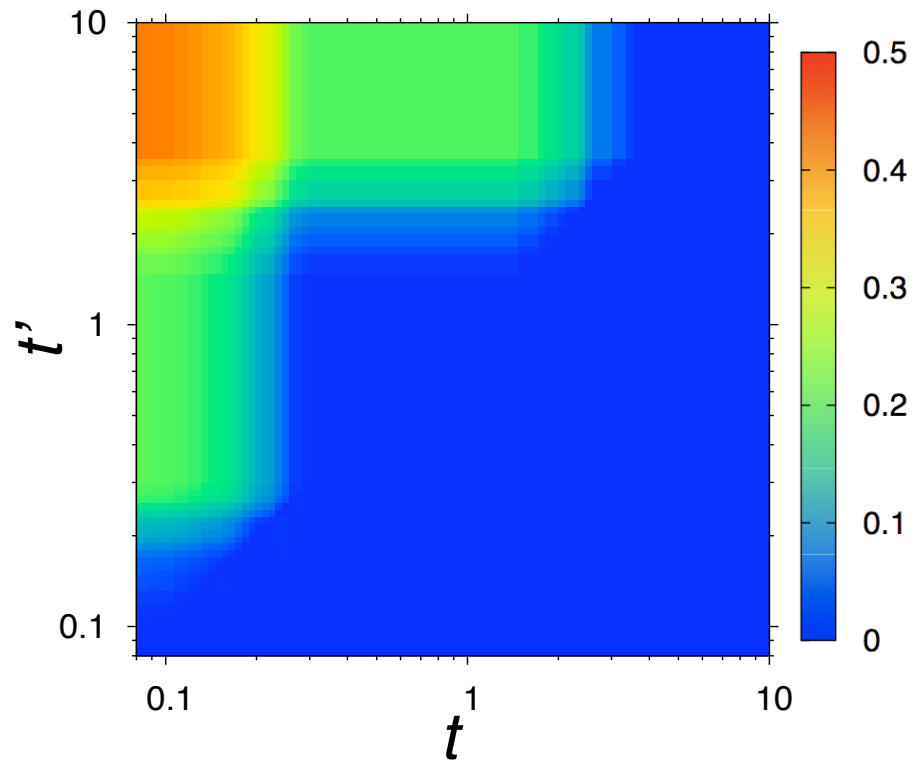
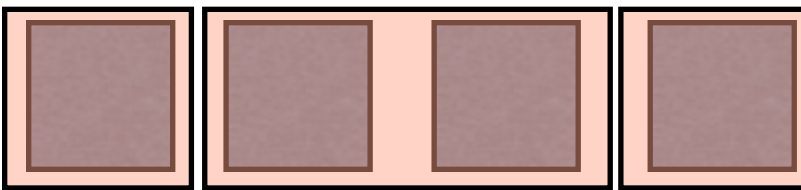
*Normalised variation of information vanishes only if partitions  $P_t$  and  $P_{t'}$  are identical.*



*No hierarchy:*

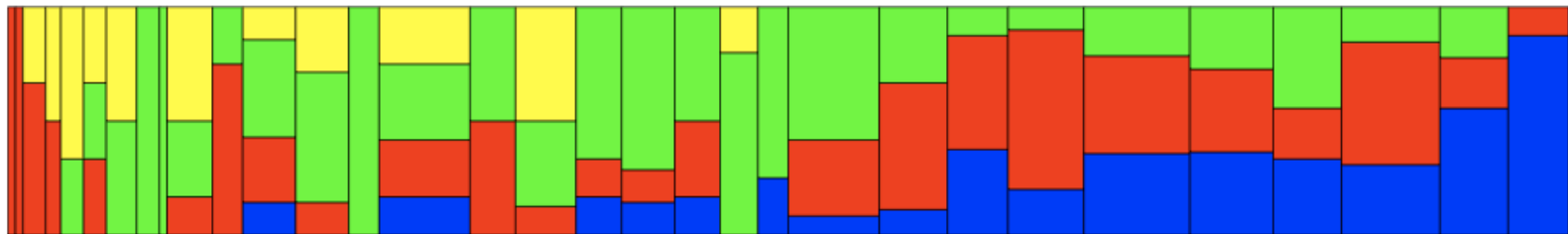
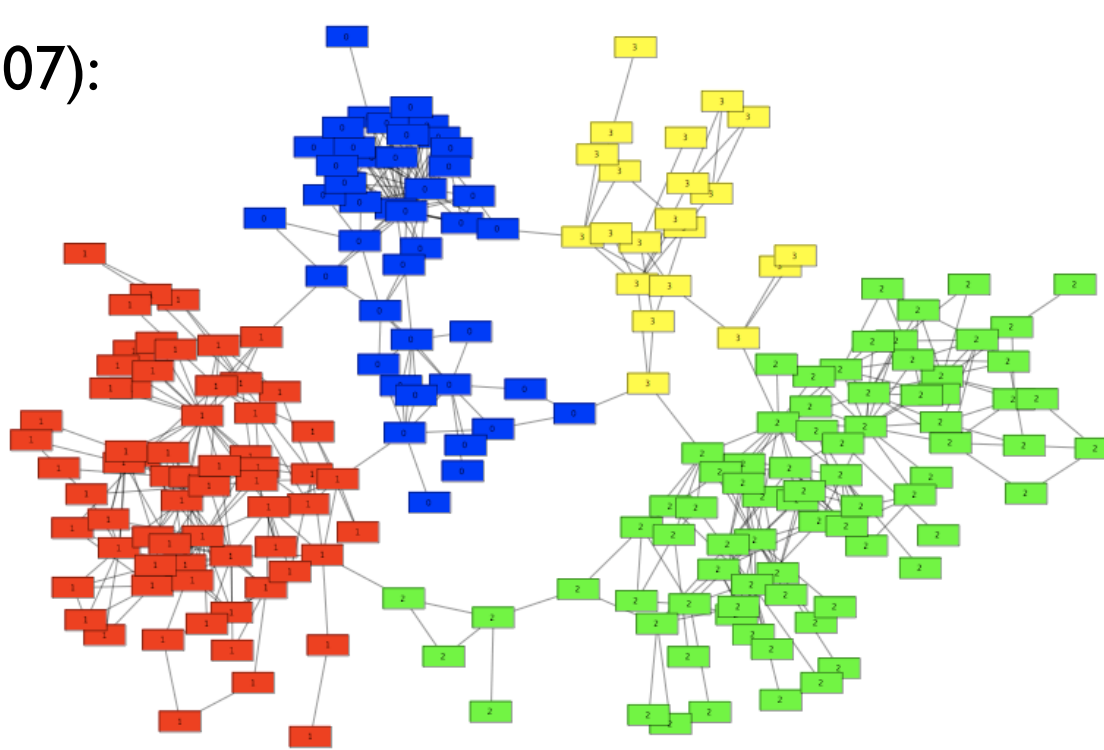


*Hierarchy:*



# Uncovering researchers' mobility through self-citation networks

W. Ebeling (207):



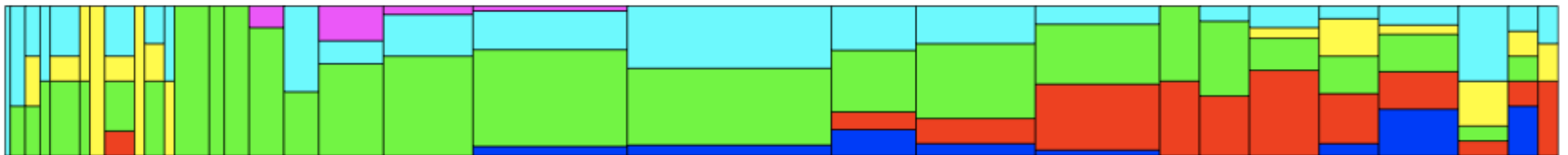
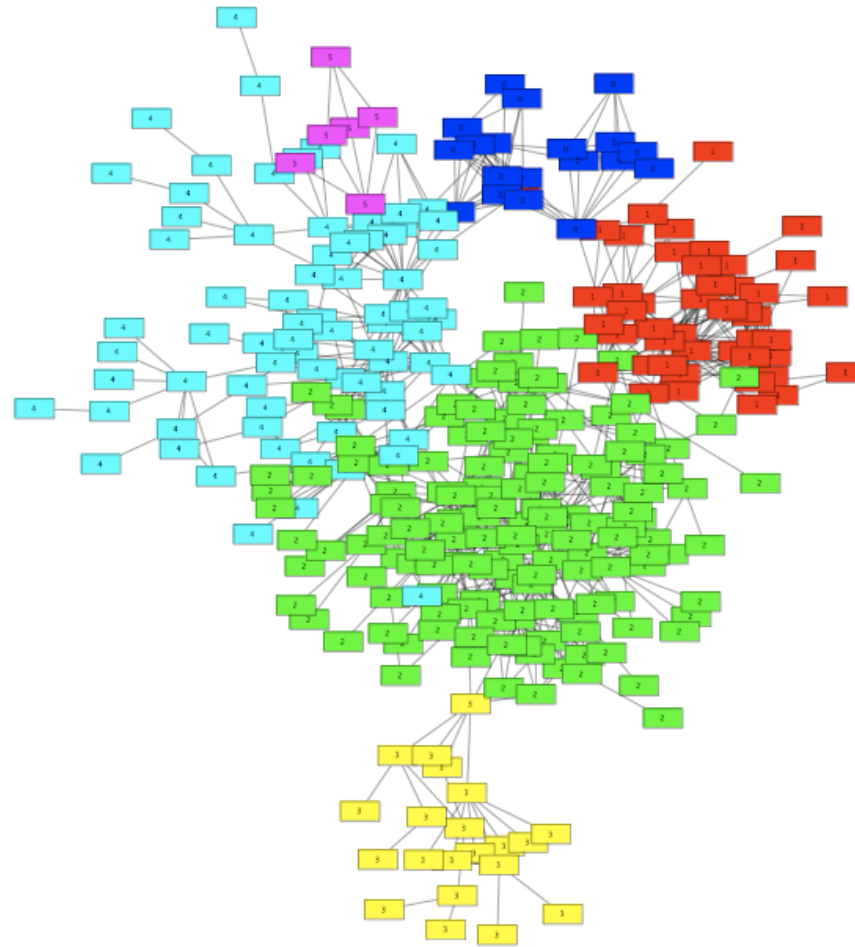
1974

2006

*Self-Citations, Co-Authorships and Keywords: A New Method for Detecting Scientists' Field Mobility?*, I. Hellsten, R. Lambiotte, A. Scharnhorst and M. Ausloos, *Scientometrics*, 72 (2007) 469

# Uncovering researchers' mobility through self-citation networks

M. Ausloos (312):

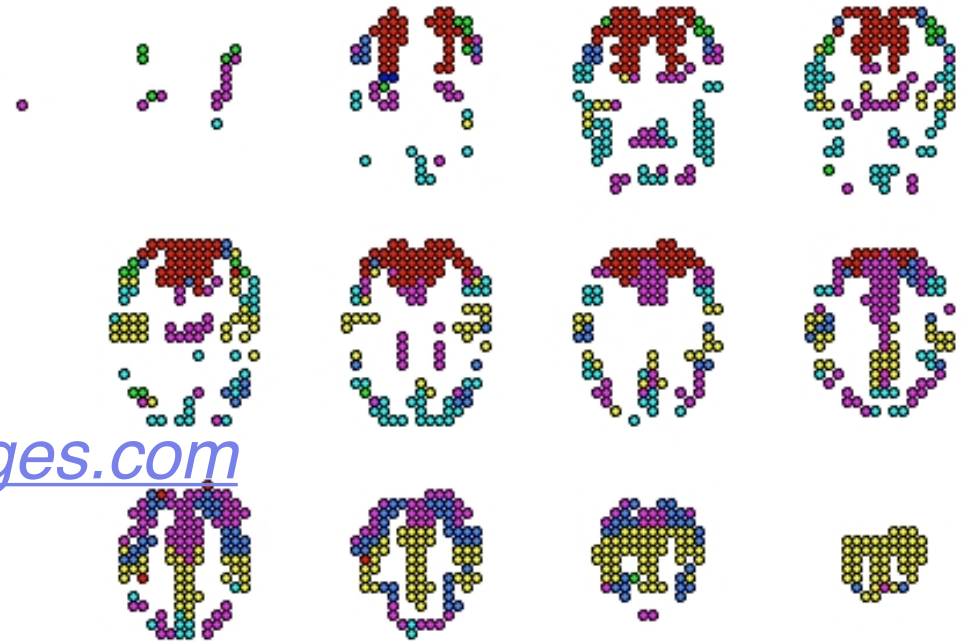


1976

2007

# Thanks to:

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J.-L. Guillaume (Paris)  
M. Ausloos (Liege)  
A. Scharnhorst (Amsterdam)



<http://findcommunities.googlepages.com>

<http://www.lambiotte.be>

- *Communities, Knowledge Creation and Information Diffusion*, R. Lambiotte and P. Panzarasa, *Journal of Informetrics*, 3 (2009) 180–190
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- *Self-Citations, Co-Authorships and Keywords: A New Method for Detecting Scientists' Field Mobility?*, I. Hellsten, R. Lambiotte, A. Scharnhorst and M. Ausloos, *Scientometrics*, 72 (2007) 469
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- *Fast unfolding of community hierarchies in large networks*, V.D. Blondel, J.-L. Guillaume, R. Lambiotte and E. Lefebvre, *J. Stat. Mech.*, (2008) P10008
- *Hierarchical modularity in human brain functional networks*, D. Meunier, R. Lambiotte, A. Fornito, K.D. Ersche, E.T. Bullmore, *Frontiers in Neuroinformatics in press*
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# Coevolution

