

# Multilayer Networks:

## *An introduction*

*LTCC Course Multilayer Networks*  
*23-24 November 2016*

**Ginestra Bianconi**

*School of Mathematical Sciences, Queen Mary University of London, London, UK*



**Queen Mary**  
University of London

# Overview of the course

## Day 1

- Introduction to multilayer networks and applications
- Structure of multilayer networks
- Generative models

## Day 2

- Robustness of multilayer networks
- Message passing equations for percolation in multilayer networks
- Diffusion, epidemic spreading and centrality measures

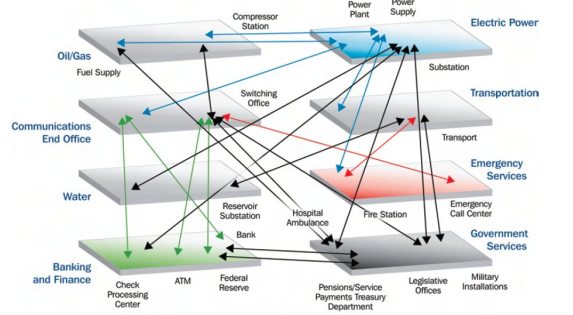
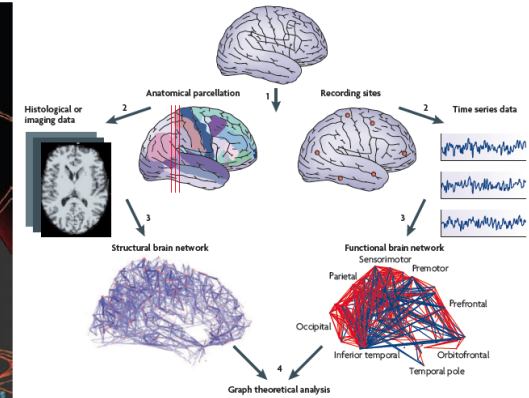


FIGURE 3.1 Connections and interdependencies across the economy. Schematic showing the interconnected infrastructures and their qualitative dependencies and interdependencies. SOURCE: Department of Homeland Security, National Infrastructure Protection Plan, available at [http://www.dhs.gov/xprevpro/programs/editorial\\_0827.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xprevpro/programs/editorial_0827.shtm).



The function of many complex  
**technological social and biological** systems  
 depends on the non-trivial interactions  
 between  
**different networks**

# Interacting Transportation networks

*Transportation networks are a major example of interacting networks.*

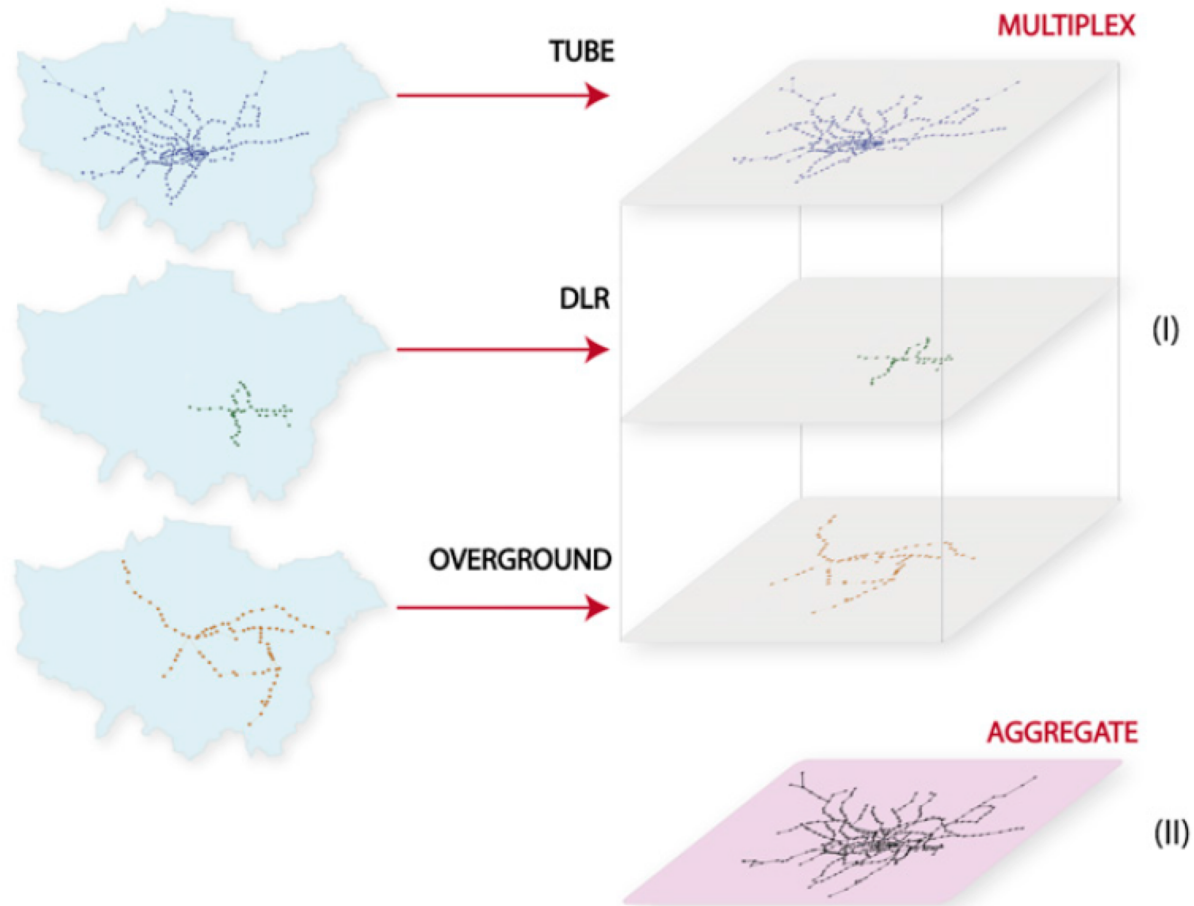
*Here blue lines represent short-range commuting flow by car or train the red lines indicate airline flow for few selected cities*



B. GONÇALVES ET AL, INDIANA UNIV.

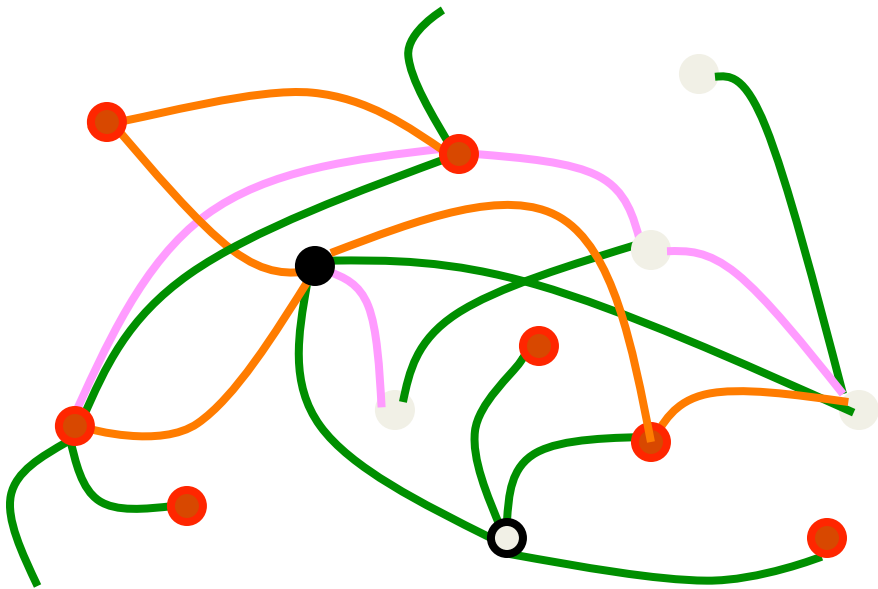
Vespignani Nature 2010

# Transportation networks

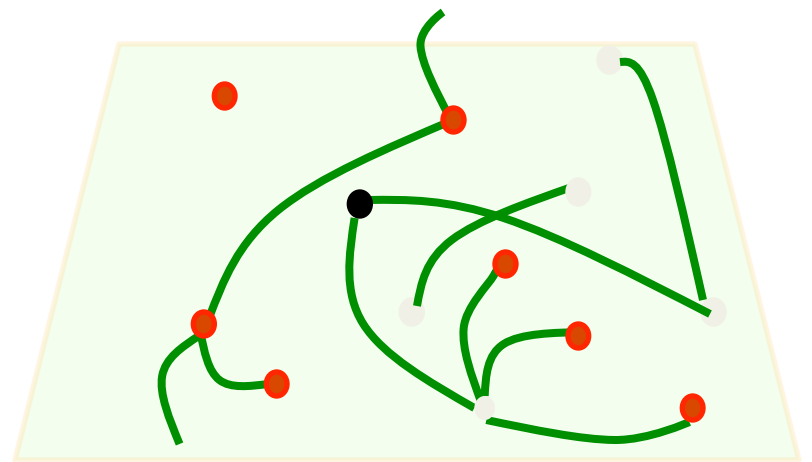
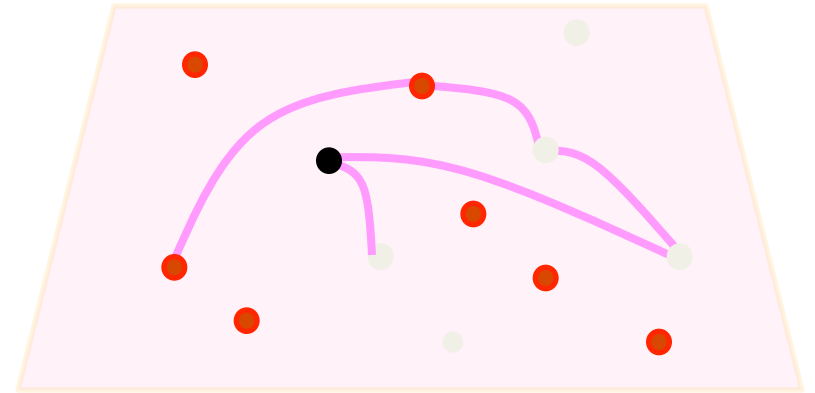
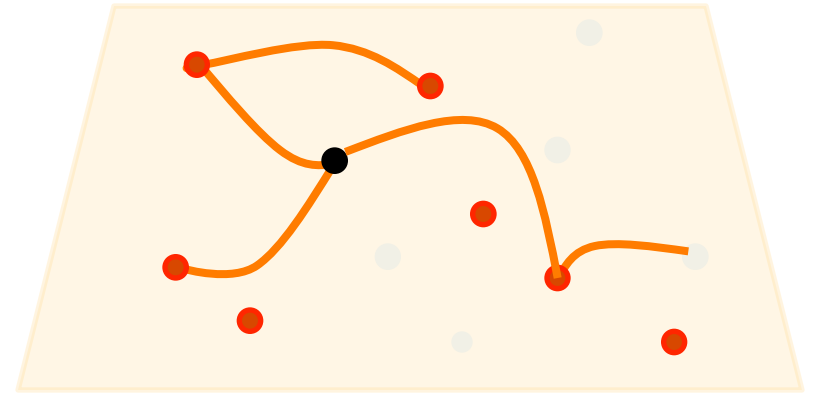
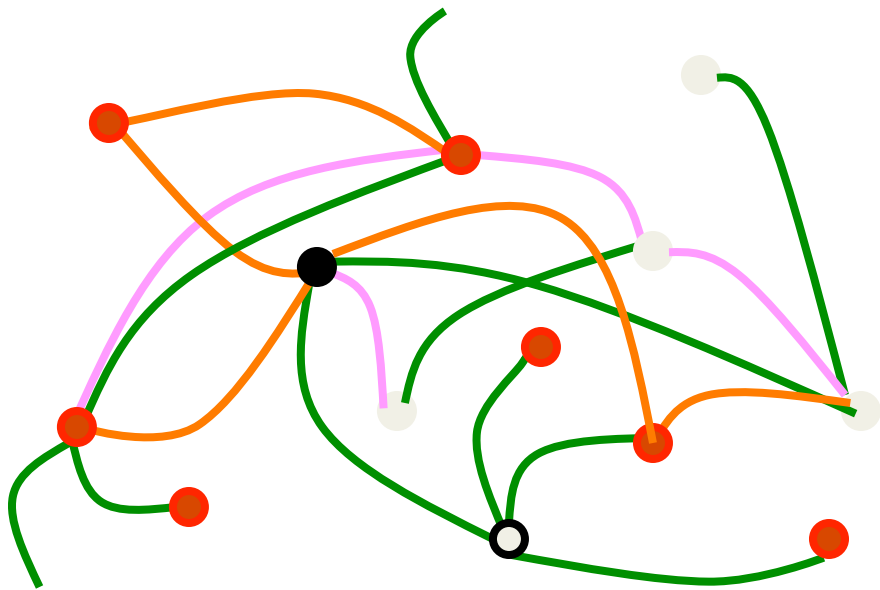


M. De Domenico, A. Solé-Ribalta, S. Gómez, and A. Arenas PNAS (2014)

# Multiplex Network

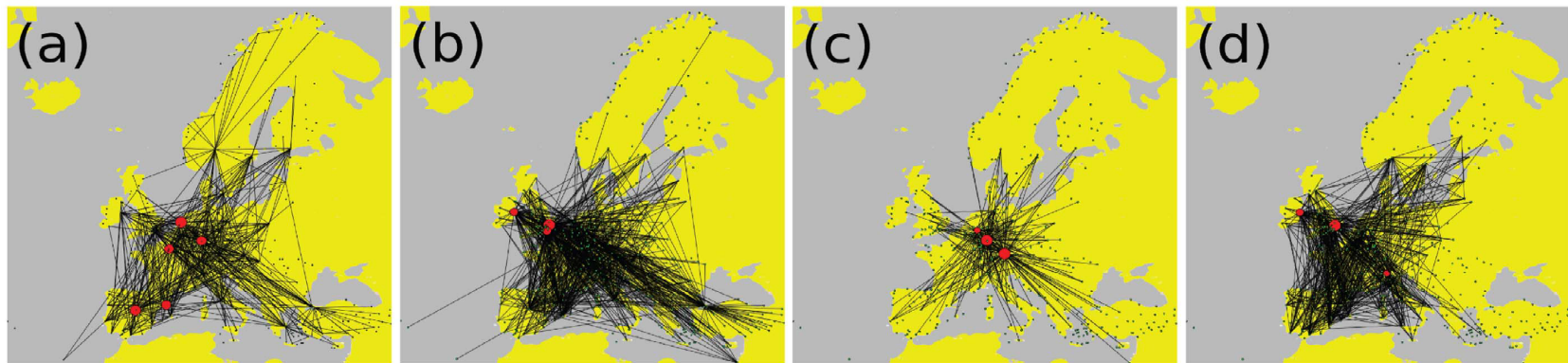


# Multiplex Network



# Airline multiplex network

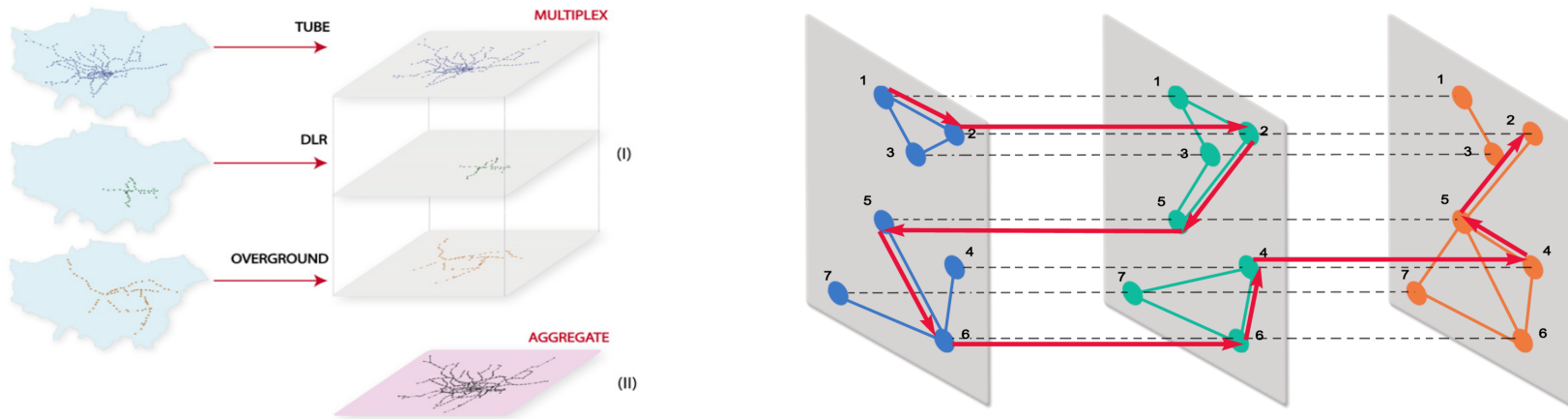
Every airline company is a layer of the multiplex network



Cardillo et al. Scientific Reports (2013).



# Diffusion in multiplex networks



Interlinks are essential for diffusion across the layers of multiplex networks

For high diffusion constant, diffusion is faster than on the slowest layer, and eventually can yield superdiffusion

S. Gomez et al., Phys. Rev. Lett.(2013)

Radicchi & Arenas, Nature Physics (2013)

M. De Domenico PNAS (2014)

# Interconnected infrastructures

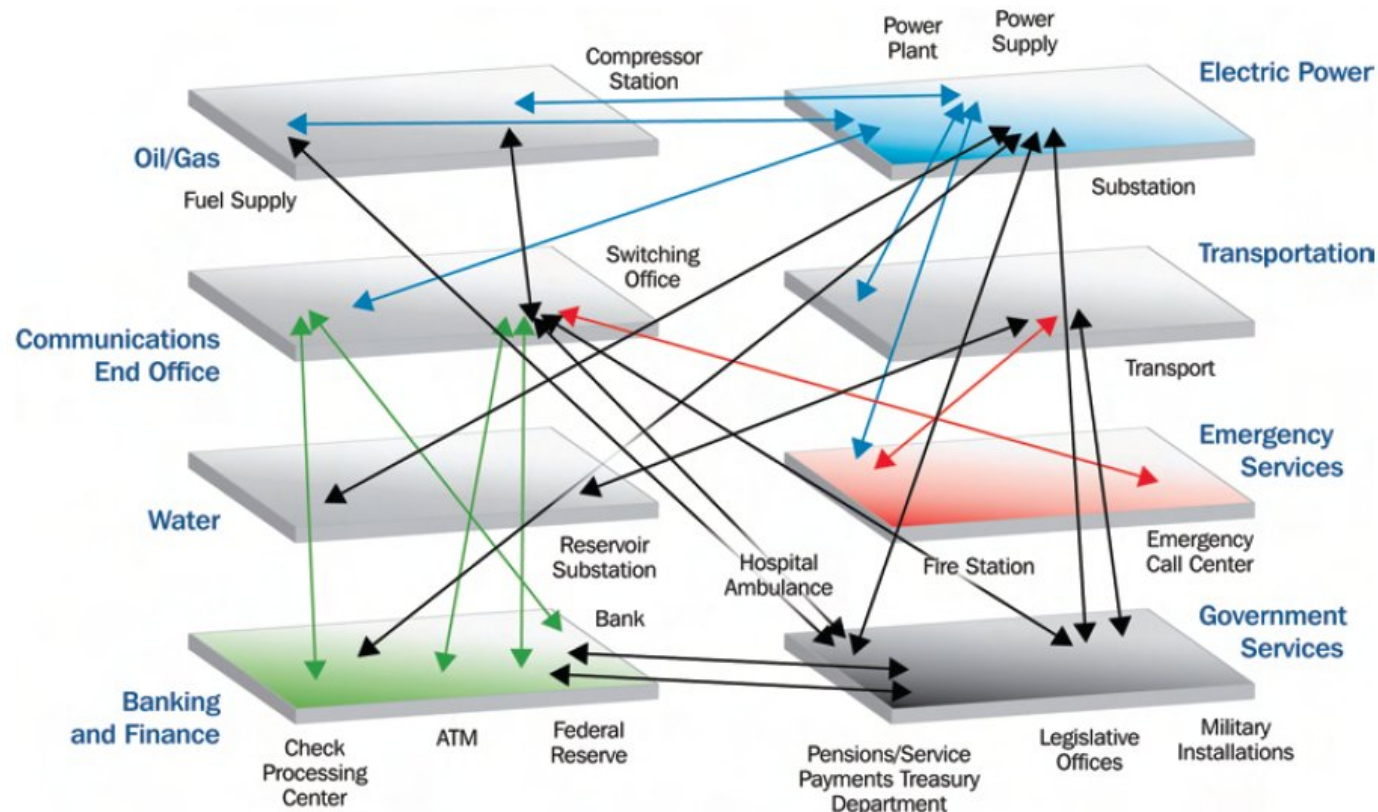
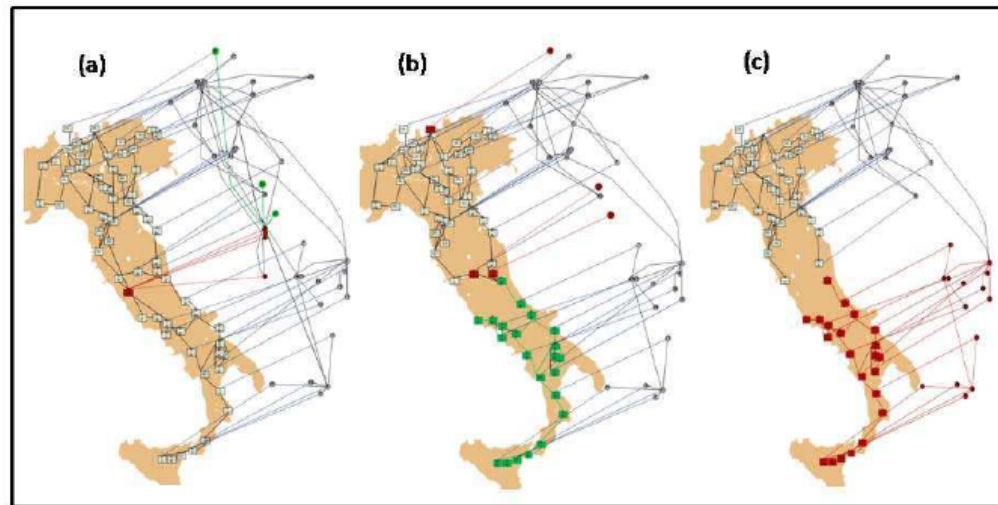


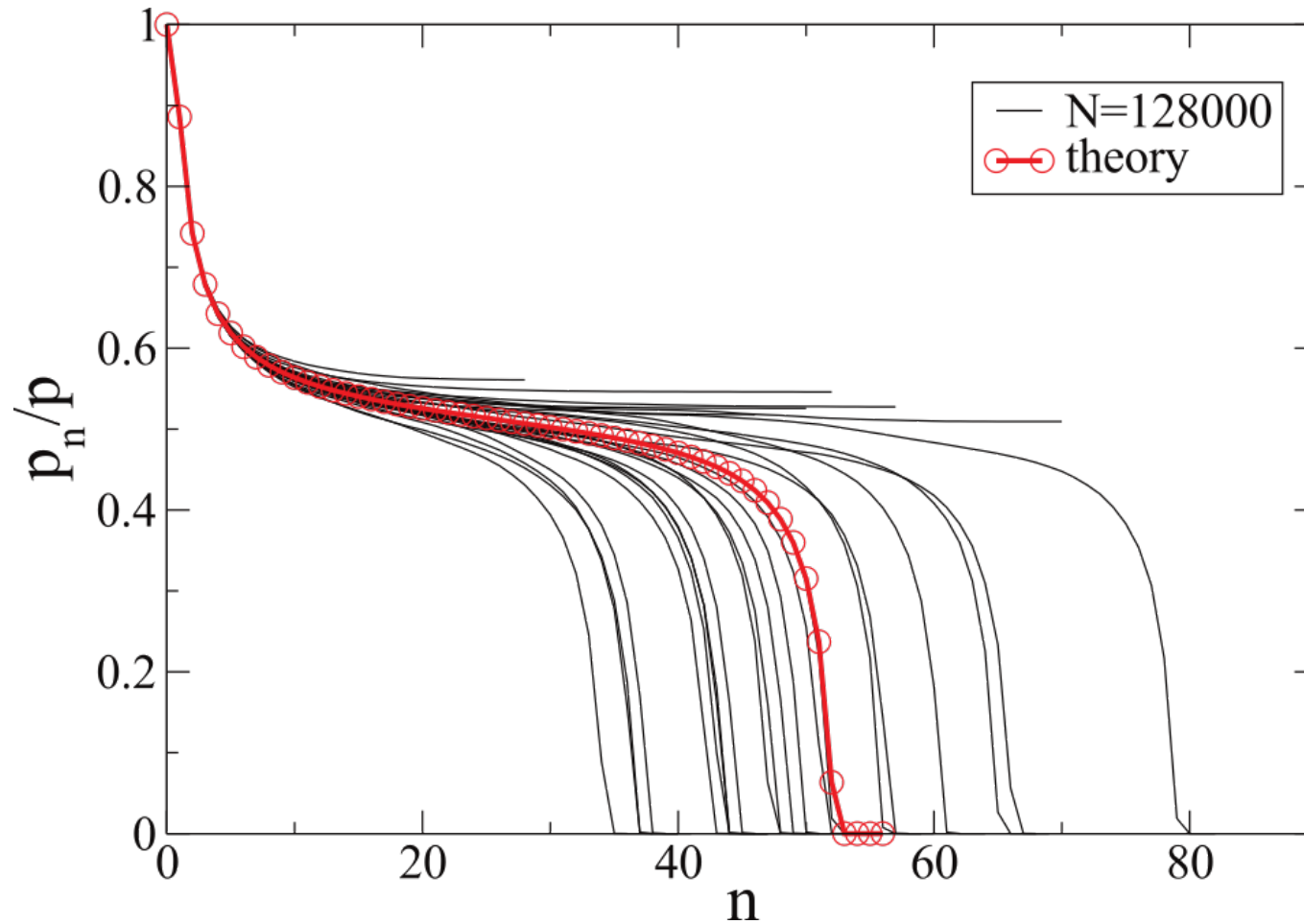
FIGURE 3.1 Connections and interdependencies across the economy. Schematic showing the interconnected infrastructures and their qualitative dependencies and interdependencies. SOURCE: Department of Homeland Security, National Infrastructure Protection Plan, available at [http://www.dhs.gov/xprevprot/programs/editorial\\_0827.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xprevprot/programs/editorial_0827.shtm).

# Interdependent infrastructure networks

*Complex infrastructures are interdependent and a failure in one network can generate a cascade of failures in the interdependent networks*



# Cascade of failure events at the percolation transition



Buldyrev et al. Nature

# Nature Physics News & Views

news & views

## MULTILAYER NETWORKS

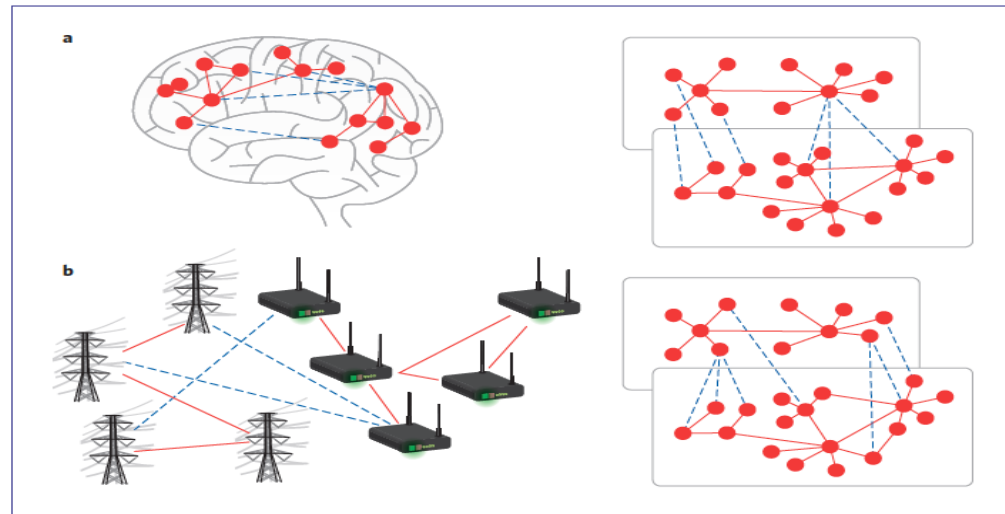
### Dangerous liaisons?

Many networks interact with one another by forming multilayer networks, but these structures can lead to large cascading failures. The secret that guarantees the robustness of multilayer networks seems to be in their correlations.

Ginestra Bianconi

Natural complex systems evolve according to chance and necessity — trial and error — because they are driven by biological evolution. The expectation is that networks describing natural complex systems, such as the brain and biological networks within the cell, should be robust to random failure. Otherwise, they would have not survived under evolutionary pressure. But many natural networks do not live in isolation; instead they interact with one another to form multilayer networks — and evidence is mounting that random networks of networks are acutely susceptible to failure. Writing in *Nature Physics*, Saulo Reis and colleagues<sup>1</sup> have now identified the key correlations responsible for maintaining robustness within these multilayer networks.

In the past fifteen years, network theory<sup>2,3</sup> has granted solid ground to the expectation that natural networks resist failure. It has also extended the realm of robust systems to man-made self-organized networks that do not obey a centralized design, such as the Internet or the World Wide Web. In fact, it has been shown that many isolated complex biological, technological and social networks are scale free, meaning that their nodes



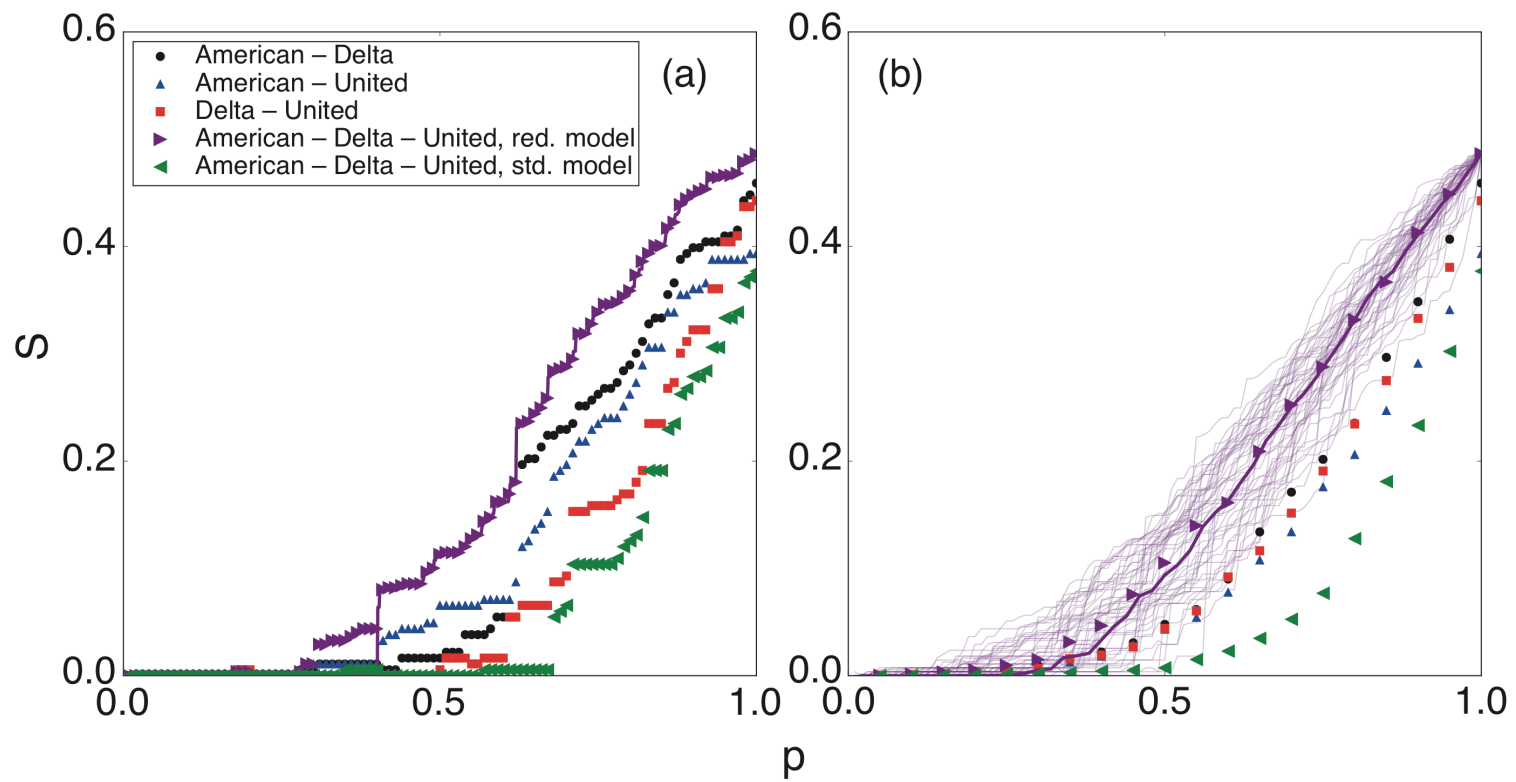
**Figure 1** | Reis *et al.*<sup>1</sup> have shown that correlations between intra- (red) and interlayer (blue dotted) interactions influence the robustness of multilayer networks. **a**, In the brain, each network layer has multilayer assortativity and the hubs in each layer are also the nodes with more interlinks, so liaisons between layers are trustworthy. **b**, In complex infrastructures (such as power grids and the Internet), if the interlinks are random, the resulting multilayer network is affected by large cascades of failures<sup>6</sup>, and liaisons can be considered dangerous.

# Redundant interdependencies

If a node is interdependent on each one of its replica nodes, the more layers we add the more fragile is a network.

If, instead interdependencies are redundant and a node is the Redundant MCGC if at least one replica node is active, then more layers we add to the network the more robust it becomes

# Redundant interdependencies boost the robustness of multilayer networks



**Multilayer networks  
encode more information than  
single layers**

*Multilayer networks are not equivalent  
to a larger single network*

Different types of links  
describe different types of interactions,  
therefore multilayer networks  
encode more information than  
their single layers  
taken in isolation

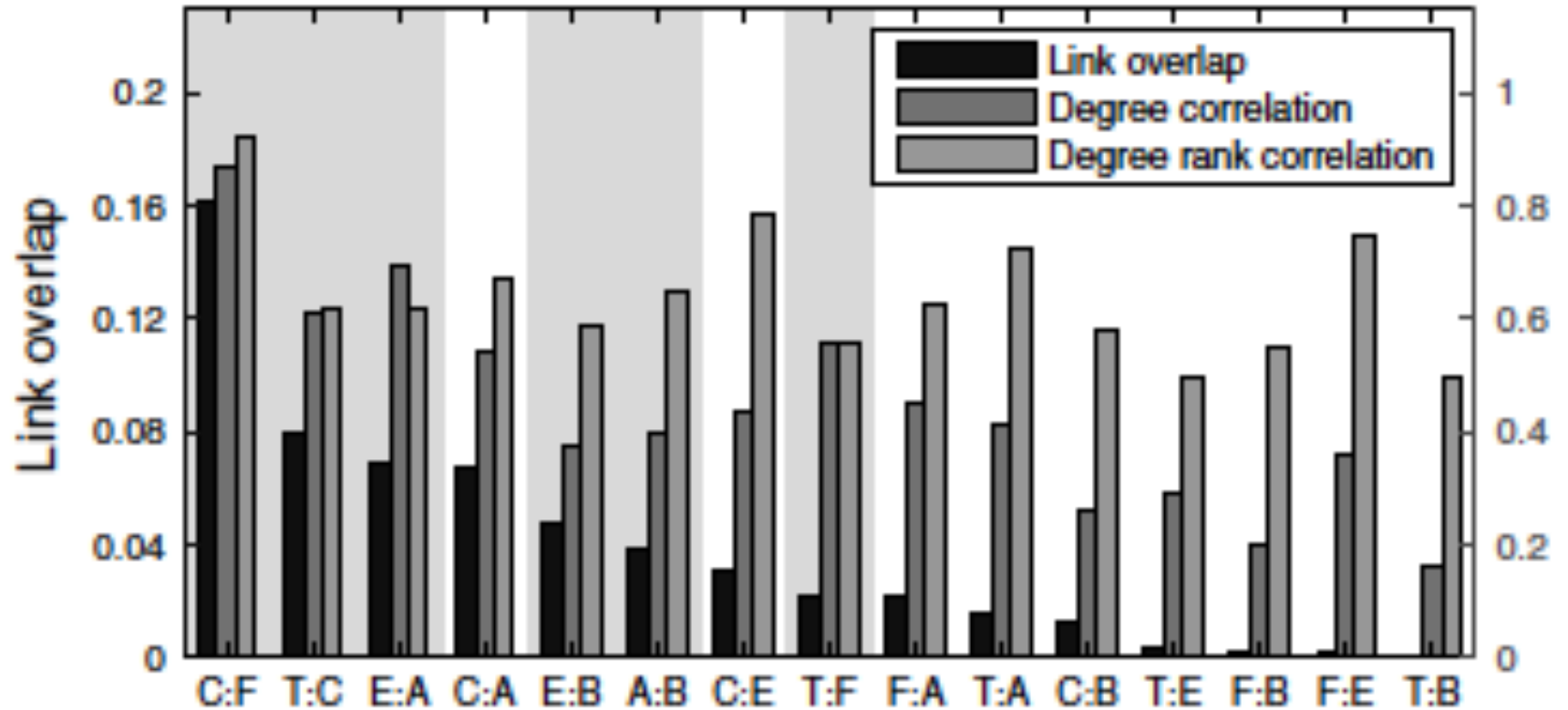


# Interacting Social networks

*Social networks are interacting and overlapping with profound implications for community detection algorithms*



# Multiplex social networks



Social network of online social game

Szell et al . PNAS 2010

# Multiplex community structure of the APS collaboration network

APS collaboration network



180,538 authors of the American Physical Society papers till 2014 with less than 10 authors

First layer PACS hierarchy  
(10 layers)

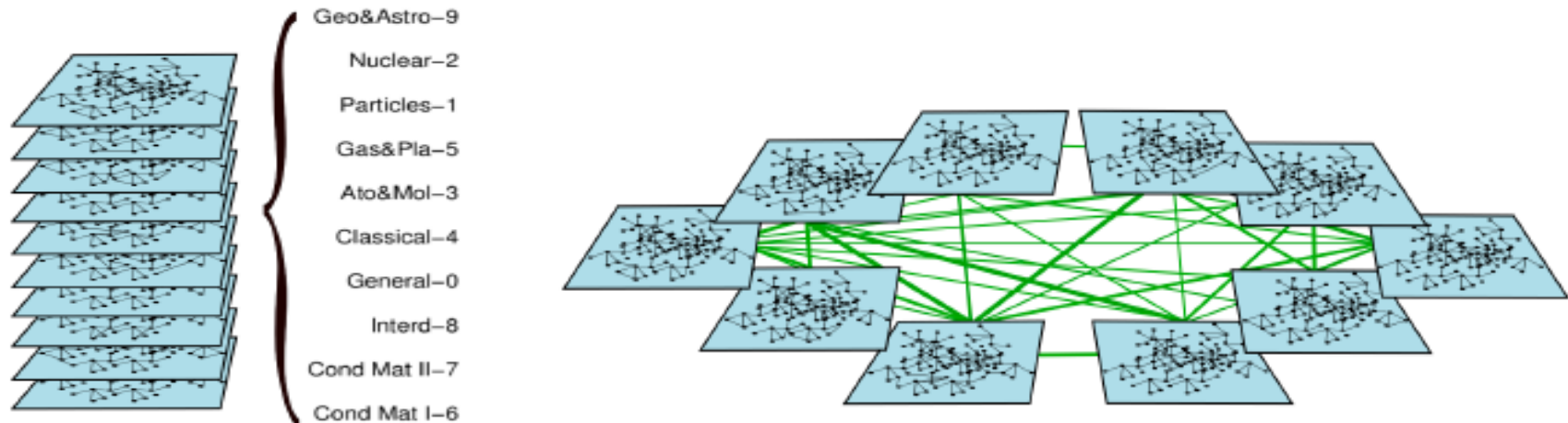


each layer describes the collaboration network in a general field of physics

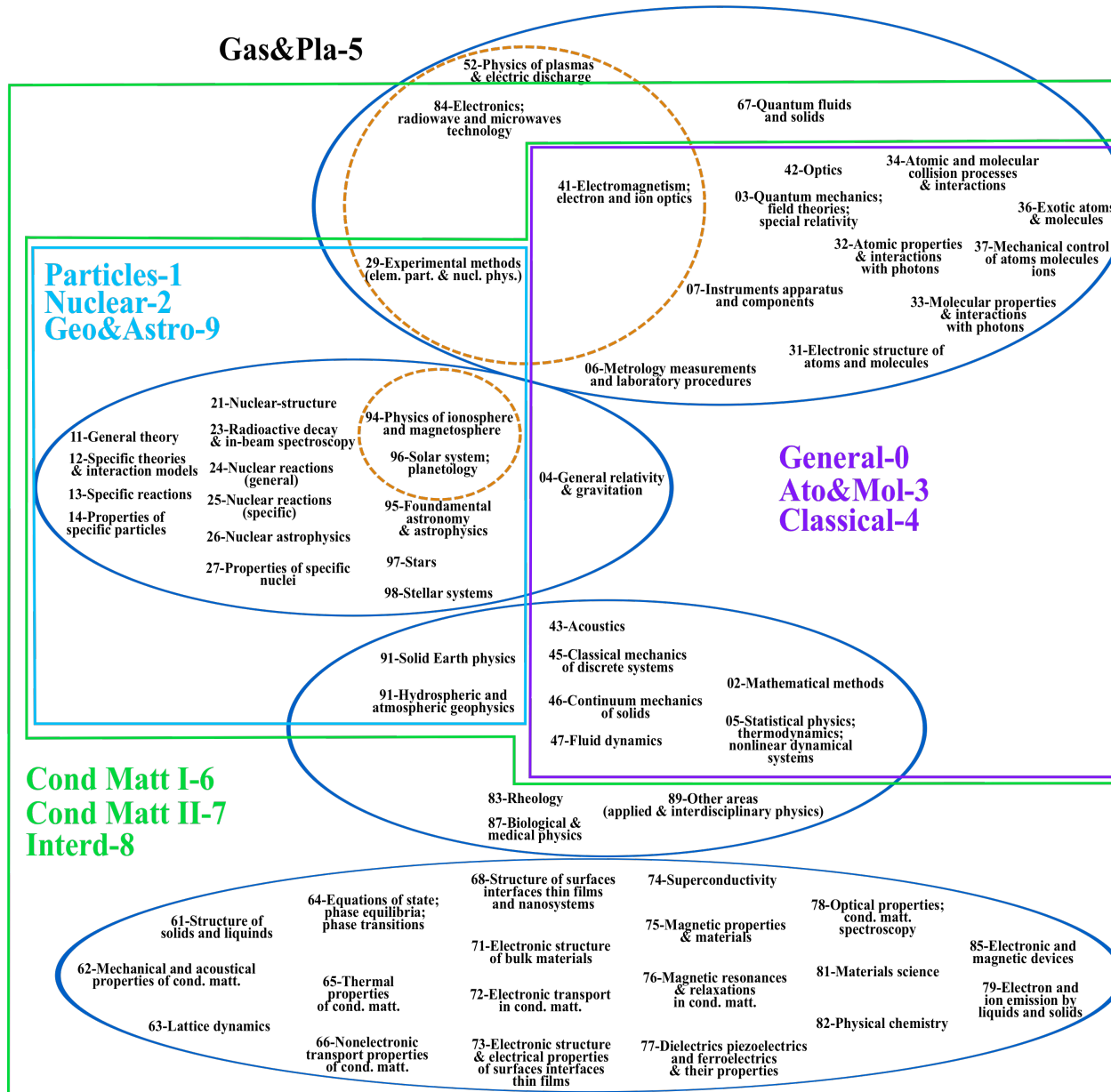
$q_i^\alpha$



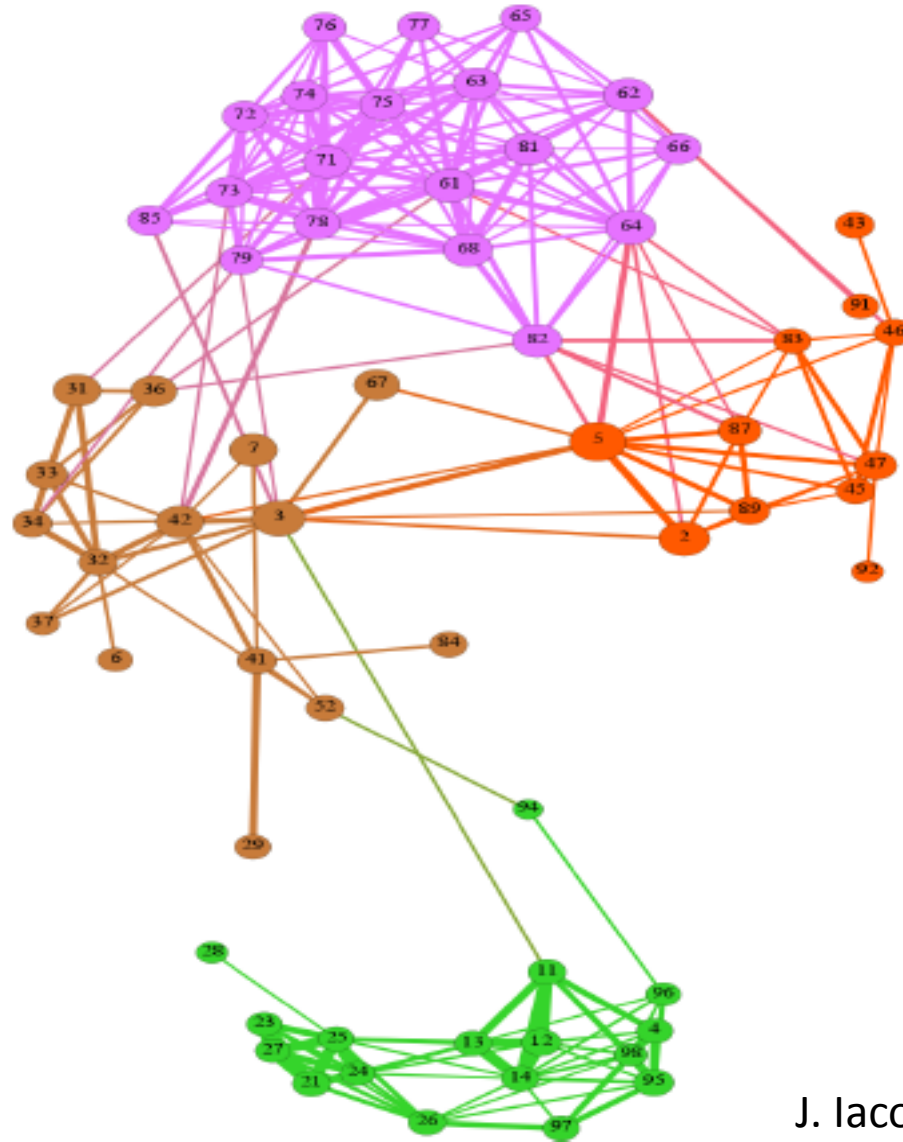
Community label of node  $i$  in layer  $\alpha$



# Second PACS hierarchy (66 layers)

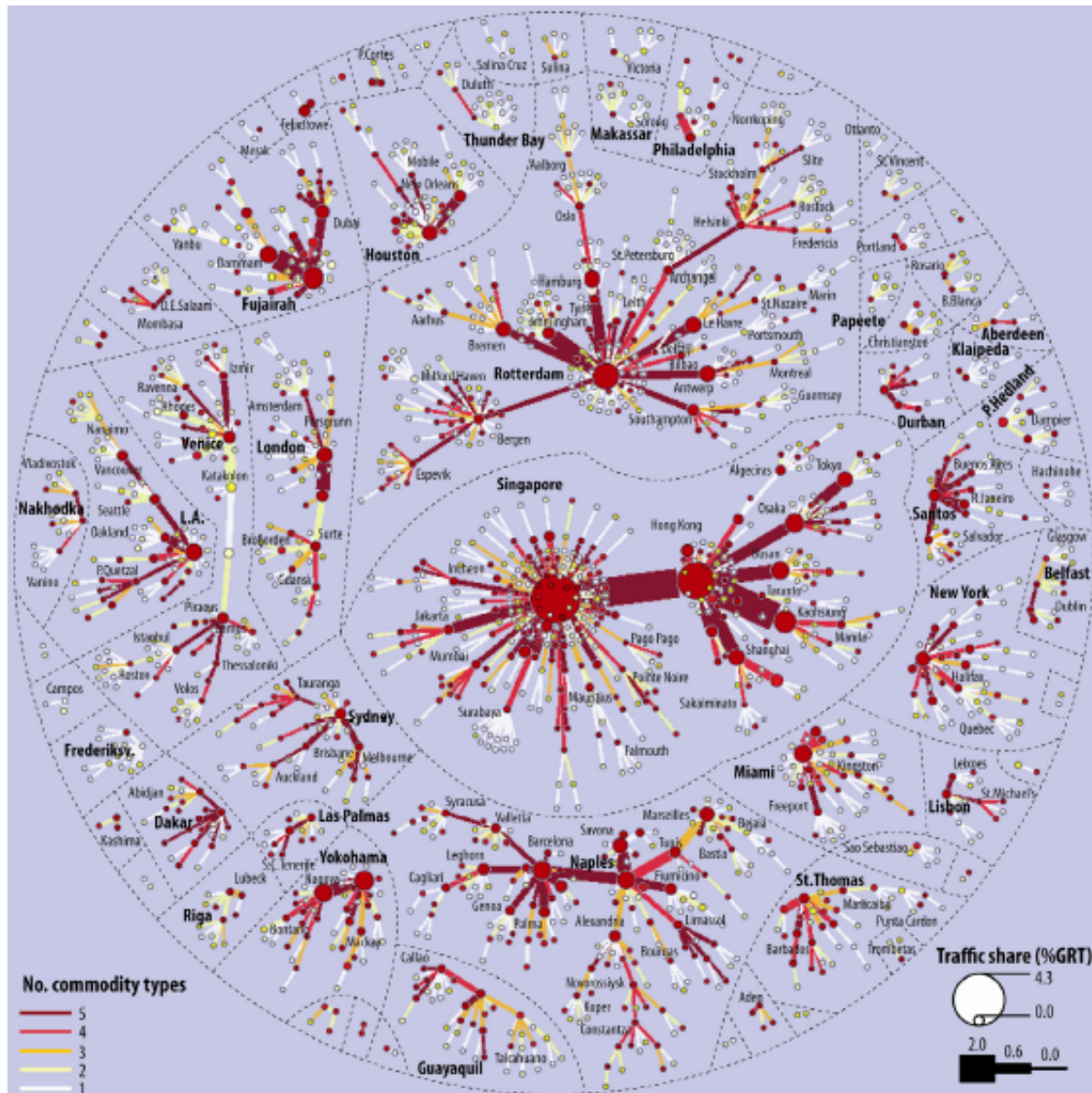


# Network between the layers



# Financial networks

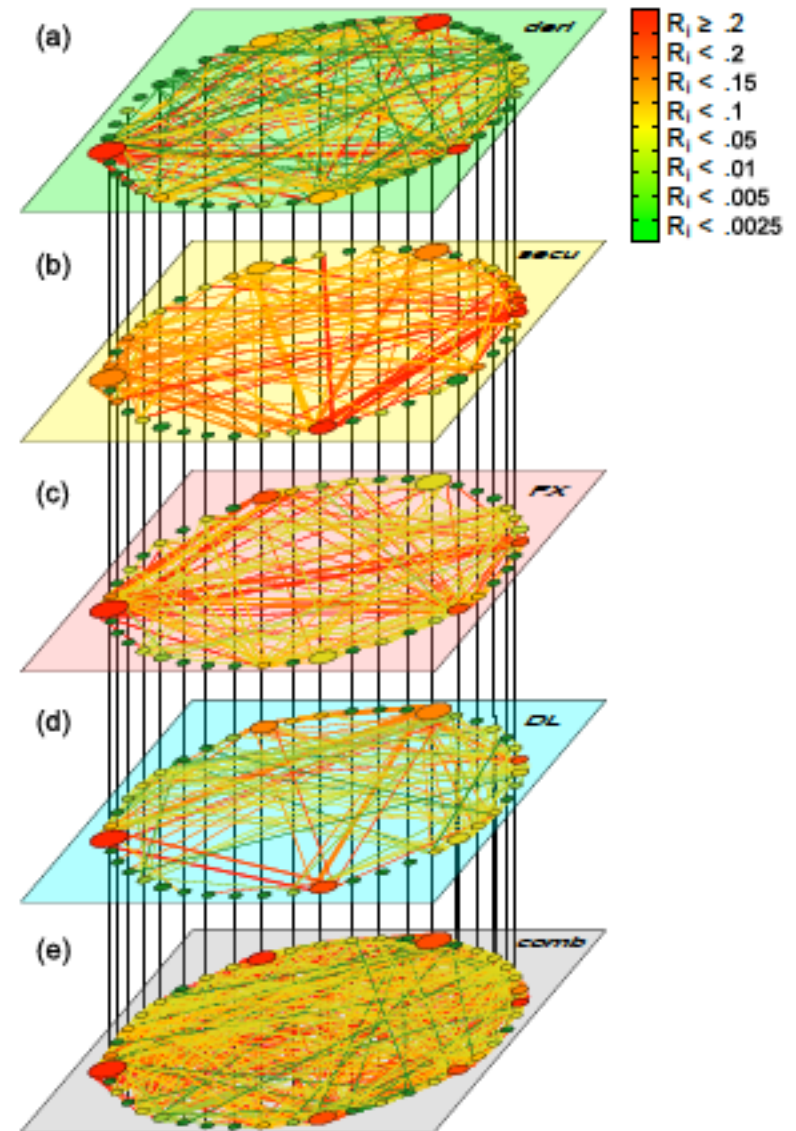
# Trade networks



# Systemic risk in multiplex financial networks

Banking multilayer in Mexico

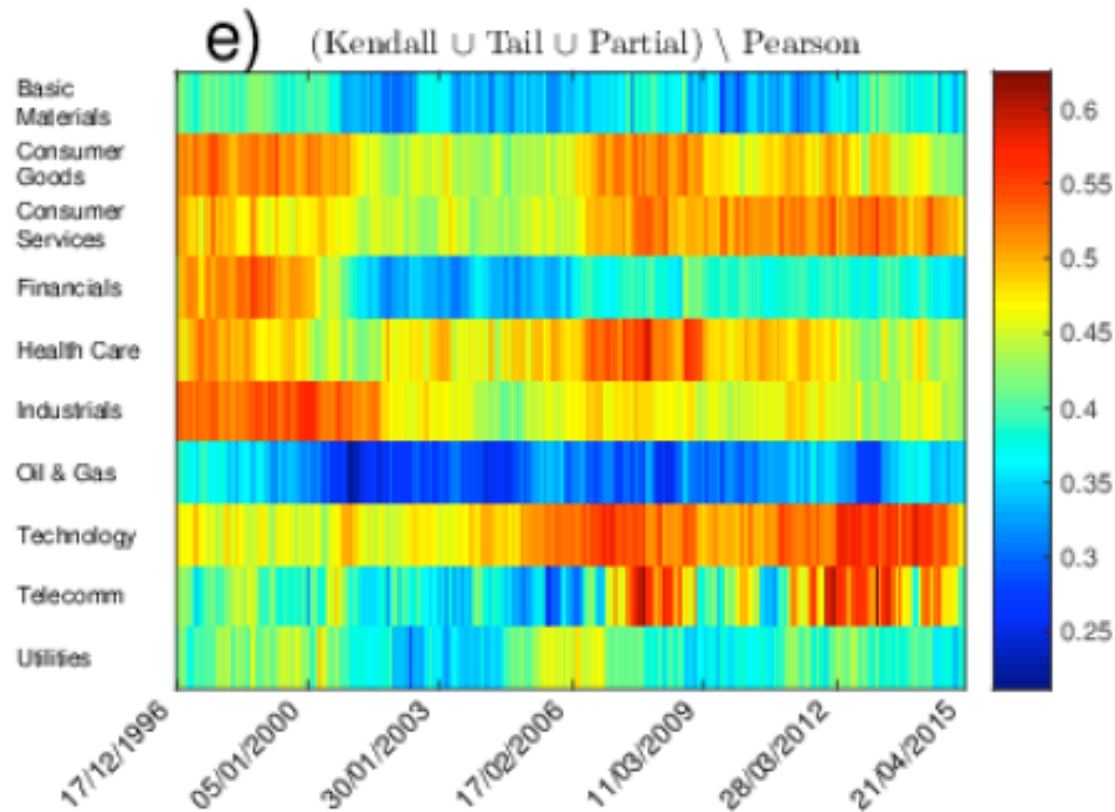
- (a) exposure from derivatives
- (b) securities cross-holdings
- (c) foreign exchange exposure
- (d) deposits and loans
- (e) combined network.



Poledna et al (2015)

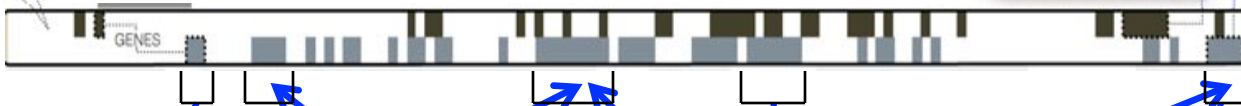
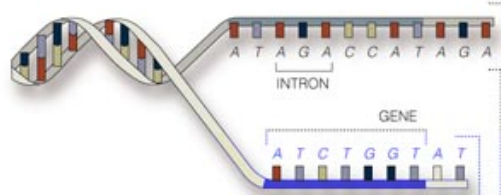
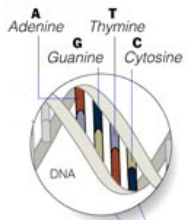


# Financial multiplex network using different measures of correlations between the assets



Musmeci et al. (2016)

# **Biological networks**



GENOME

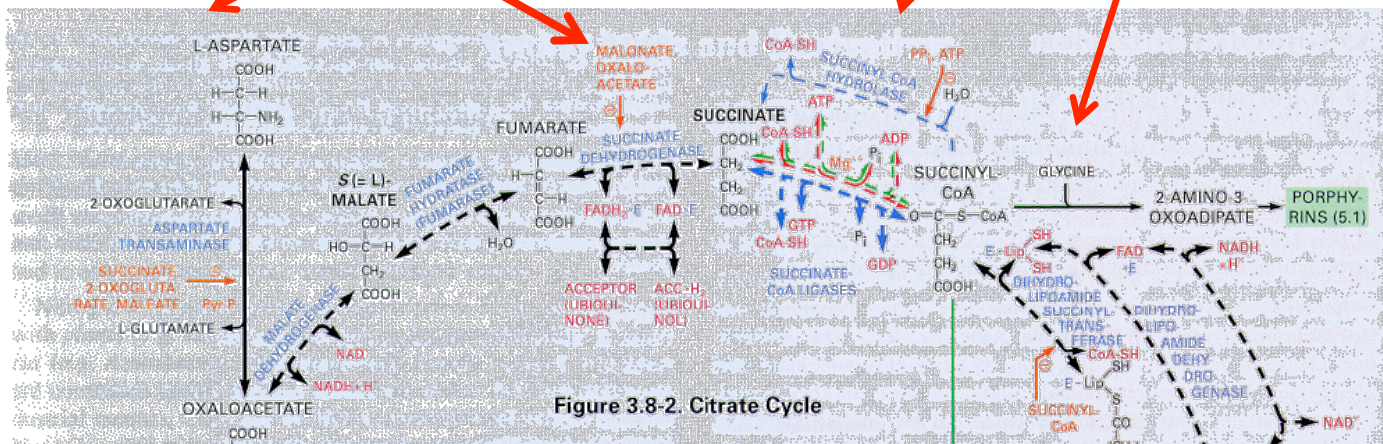
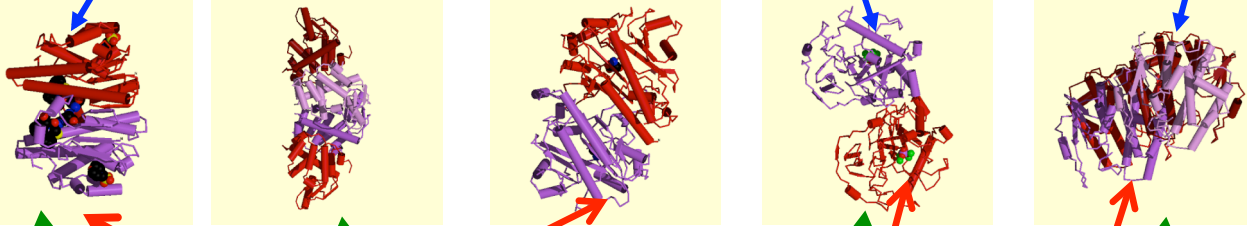
transcription  
networks

PROTEOME

Protein  
networks

METABOLISM

Bio-chemical  
reactions



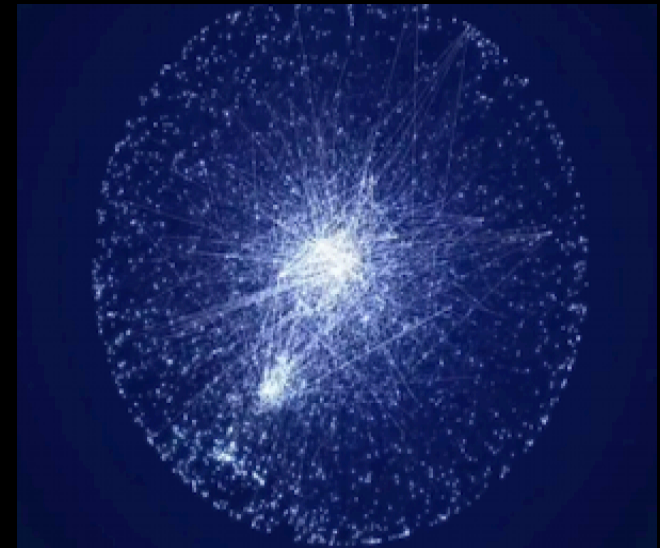
# The present of network biology: The interactome

The interactome integrates

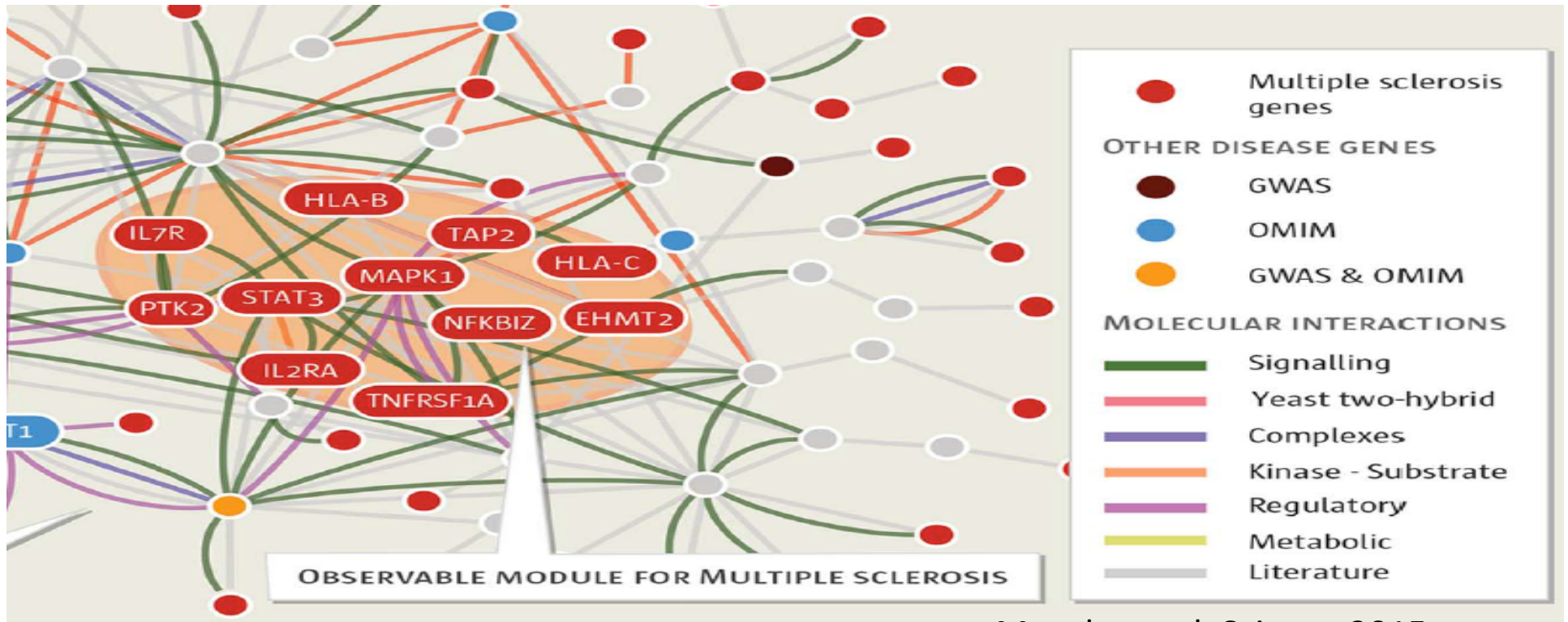
- Gene regulatory interactions
- Protein interactions
- Metabolic pathway interactions
- Kinase-substrate interaction
- Signaling interactions

with

- GWAS databases
- Online Mendelian Inheritance of Man



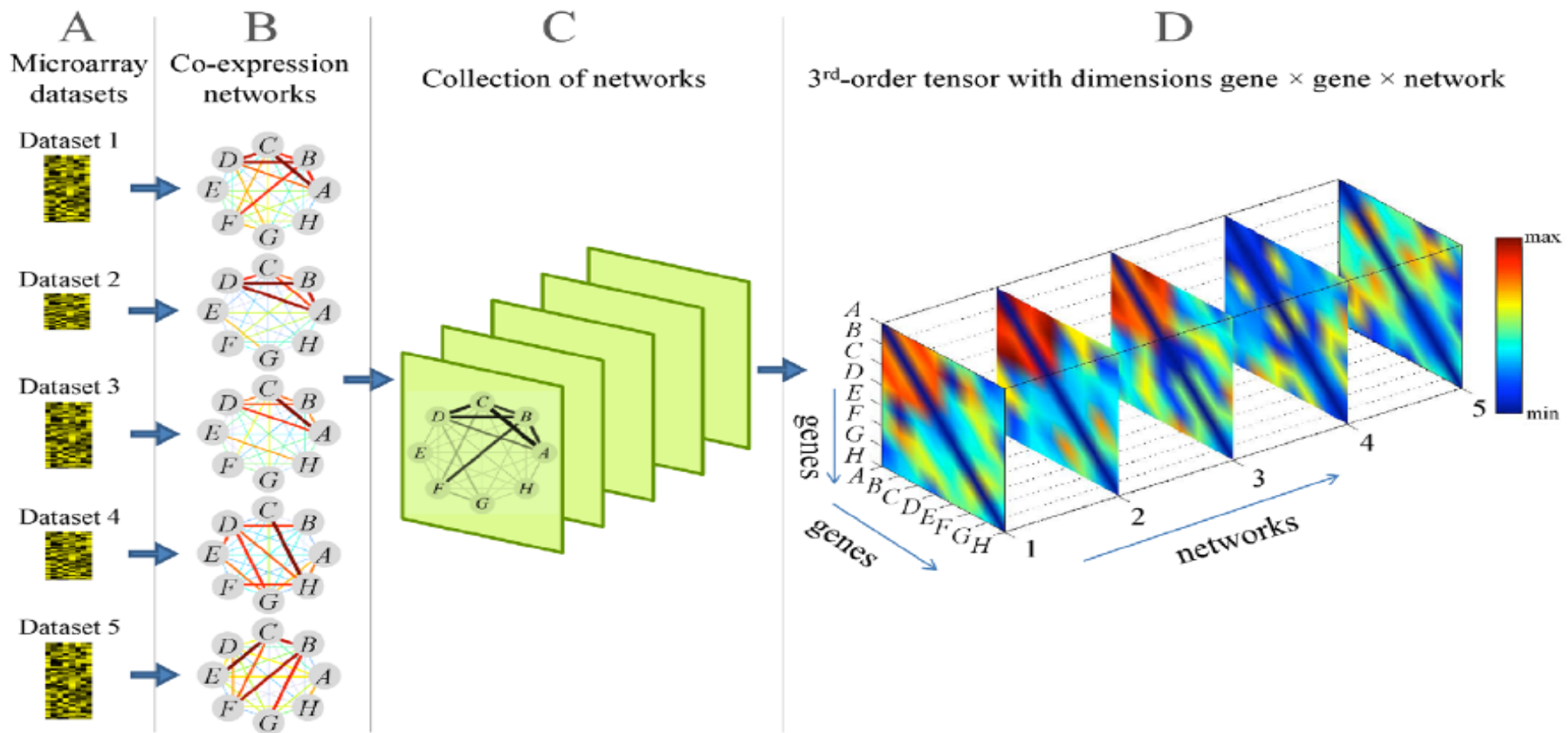
Menche et al. Science 2015



Menche et al. Science 2015

Network medicine  
 depends on the non-trivial interactions  
 between  
 different networks

# Multiplex networks and gene expression datasets



Li et al. Plos Computational Biology 2011

# Interacting and multiplex Brain networks

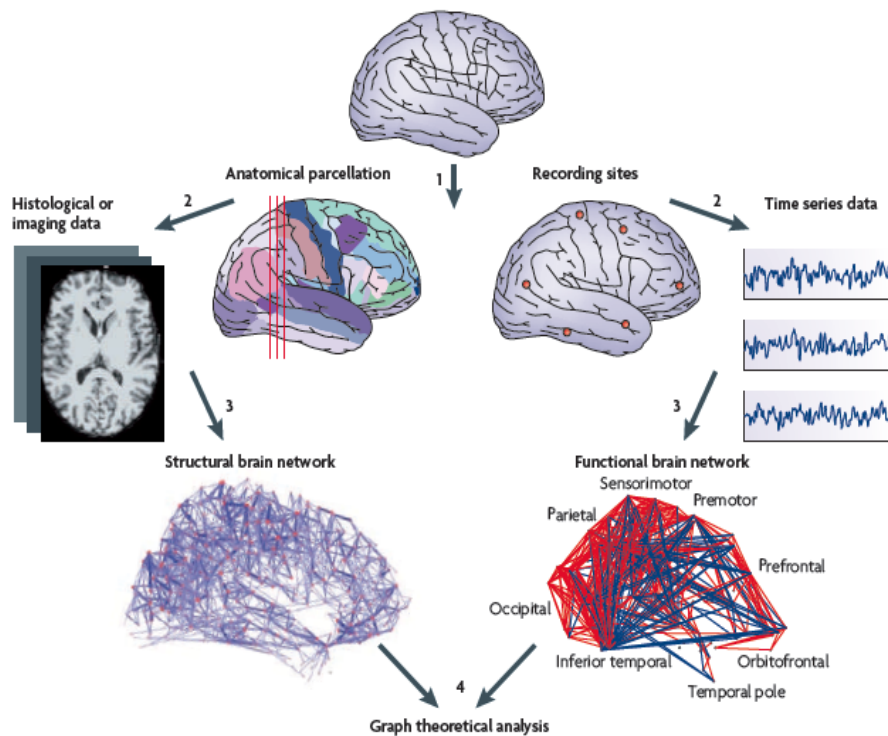
The brain function is determined  
at the same time

by

the structural brain network

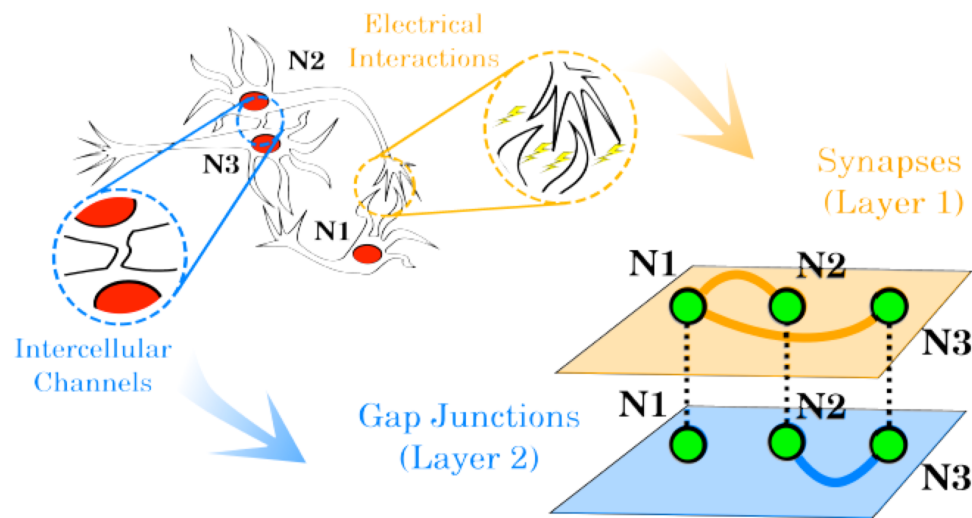
and

the functional brain network,



*Bullmore Sporns 2009*

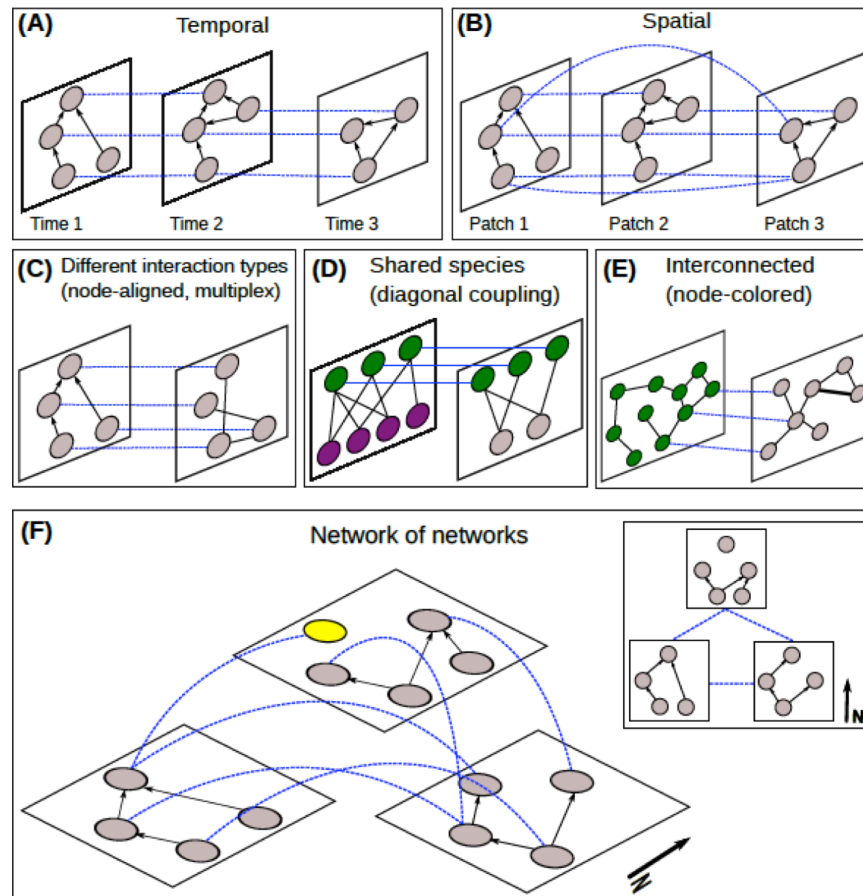
# Multiplex Connectome of *C. elegans* Gap junctions/Synapses



V. Nicosia and V. Latora PRE (2014)



# Ecological networks



S Pilosof, MA Porter, S Kefi (2015)

# Multilayers networks

In order to  
characterize, model, predict and control  
**complex systems**

we need to characterize  
the structure  
and the  
the function  
of

**multilayer networks**

# New Review articles on Multilayer Networks

*Journal of Complex Networks* (2014) Page 1 of 69  
doi:10.1093/comnet/cnu016

## Multilayer networks

MIKKO KIVELÄ

*Oxford Centre for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford,  
Oxford OX2 6GG, UK*

ALEX ARENAS

*Departament d'Enginyeria Informàtica i Matemàtiques, Universitat Rovira I Virgili,  
43007 Tarragona, Spain*

MARC BARTHELEMY

*Institut de Physique Théorique, CEA, CNRS-URA 2306, F-91191, Gif-sur-Yvette, France and Centre  
d'Analyse et de Mathématiques Sociales, EHESS, 190-198 avenue de France, 75244 Paris, France*

JAMES P. GLEESON

*MACSI, Department of Mathematics & Statistics, University of Limerick, Limerick, Ireland*

YAMIR MORENO

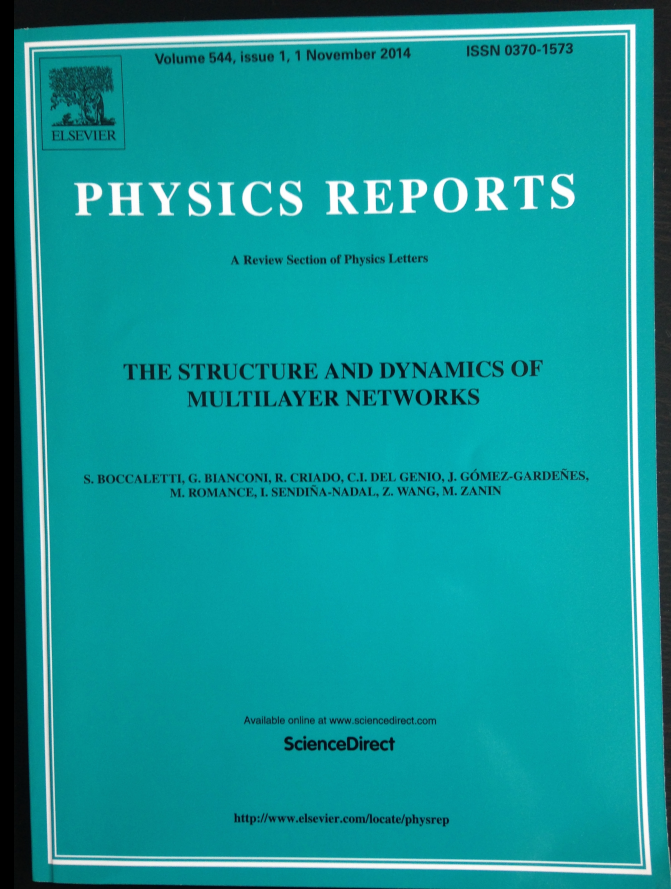
*Institute for Biocomputation and Physics of Complex Systems (BIFI), University of Zaragoza,  
Zaragoza 50018, Spain and Department of Theoretical Physics, University of Zaragoza,  
Zaragoza 50009, Spain*

AND

MASON A. PORTER<sup>†</sup>

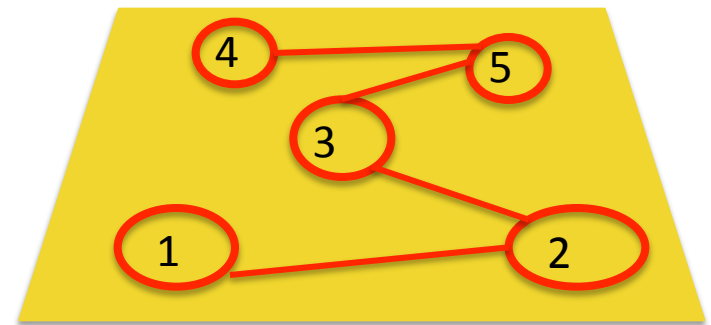
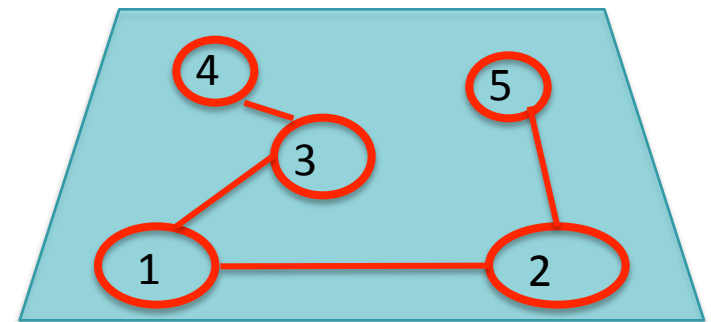
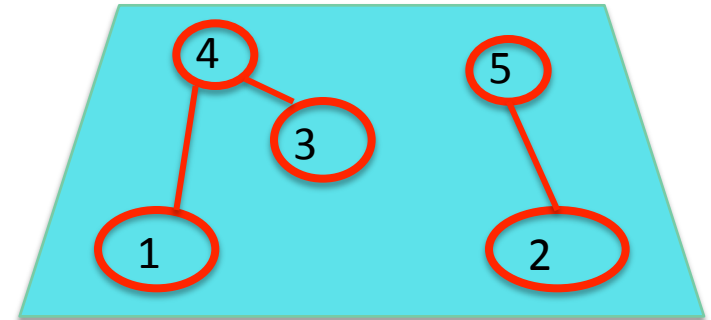
*Oxford Centre for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford,  
Oxford OX2 6GG, UK and CABDyN Complexity Centre, University of Oxford, Oxford OX1 1HP, UK*

<sup>†</sup>Corresponding author. Email: porter@m.maths.ox.ac.uk

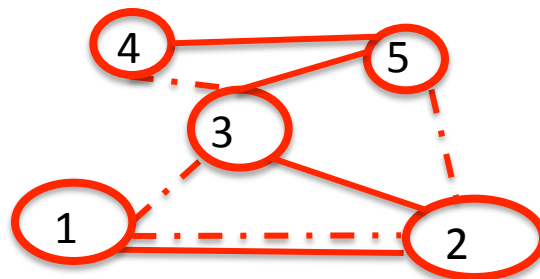
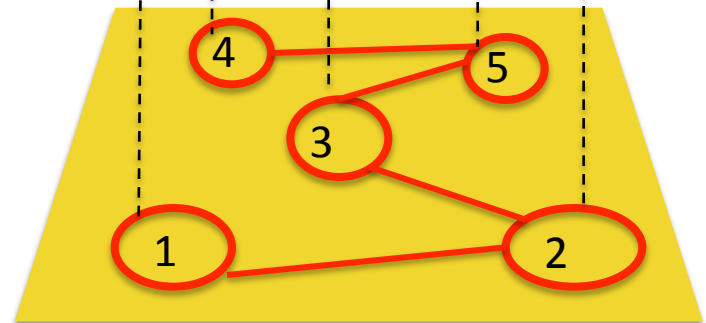
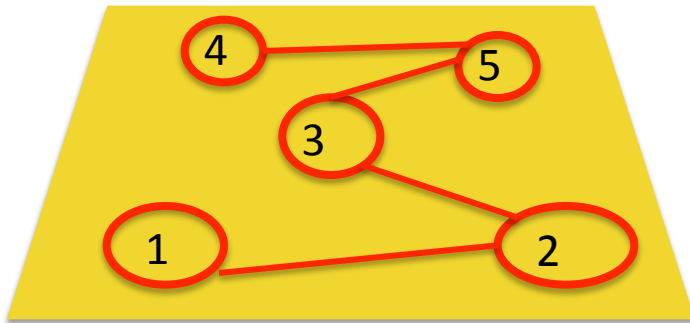
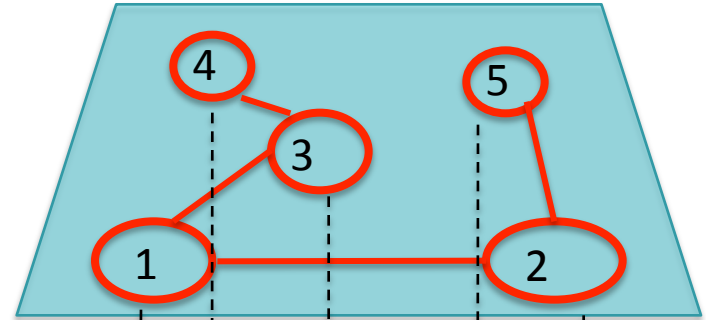
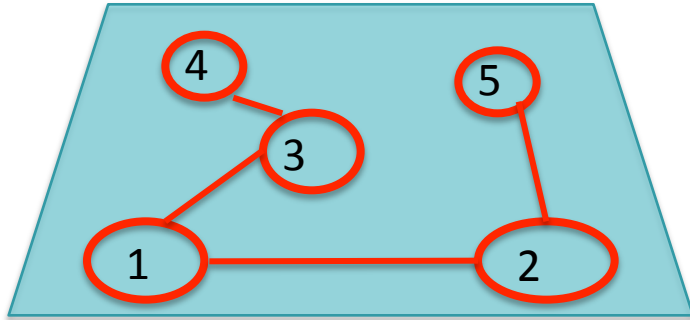


# Multiplex Networks

- A multiplex is formed by a set of nodes that are present at the same time on different networks,
- A multiplex is formed by M layers (in the figure M=3)
- Each layer is formed by a network



# Different representations of the same multiplex network



# Representation of a multiplex

A multiplex network of  $N$  nodes formed by  $M$  layers  
is fully specified by  
 $M$  adjacency matrices

$$a^{[\alpha]}$$

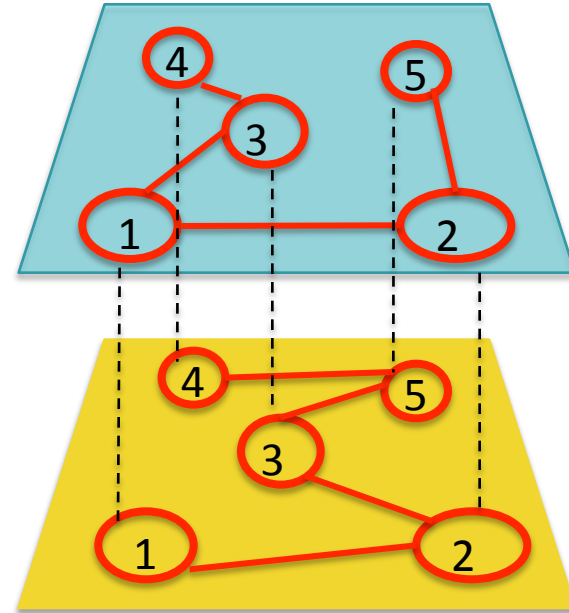
with  $\alpha=1, 2, \dots, M$   
of matrix elements

$$a_{ij}^{[\alpha]} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if node } i \text{ and node } j \text{ are linked in layer } \alpha \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Supra-adjacency matrix of a multiplex network

The supra-adjacency matrix includes all the links in each layers and the **interlinks**

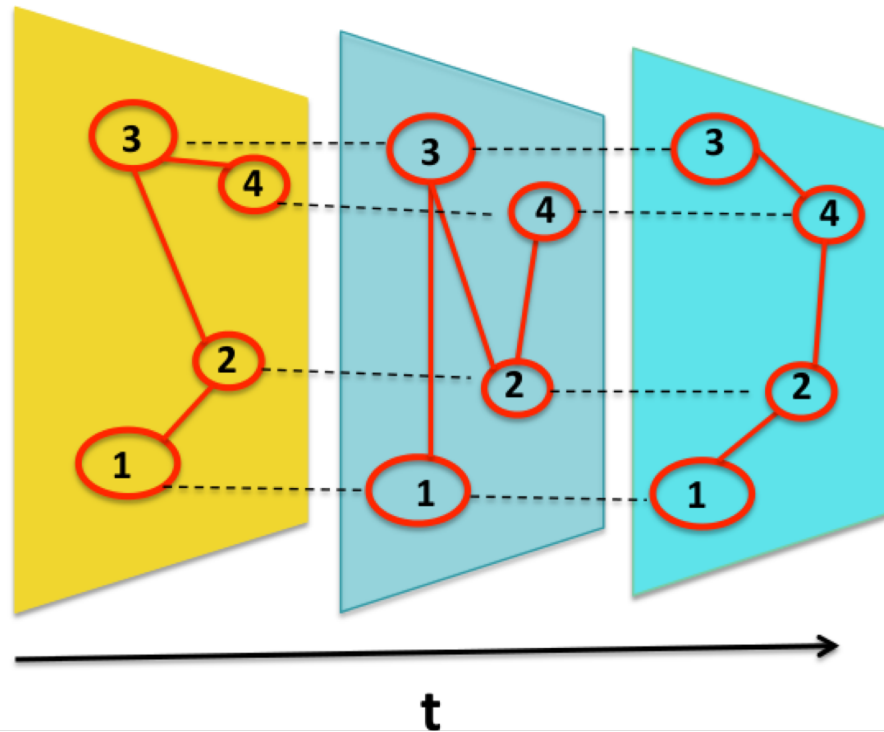
It indicates if a node  $i$  in layer  $\alpha$  is connected to a node  $j$  in layer  $\beta$



$$A_{i\alpha, j\beta} = \begin{cases} a_{ij}^{[\alpha]} & \text{if } \alpha = \beta \\ \delta_{ij} & \text{if } \alpha \neq \beta \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}^{[1]} & \mathbf{I} & \dots & \mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{a}^{[2]} & \dots & \mathbf{I} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{I} & \dots & \mathbf{a}^{[M]} \end{pmatrix},$$

# Temporal or multi-slice networks



Temporal networks can be seen as a multi-slice network where each slice is a temporal snapshot

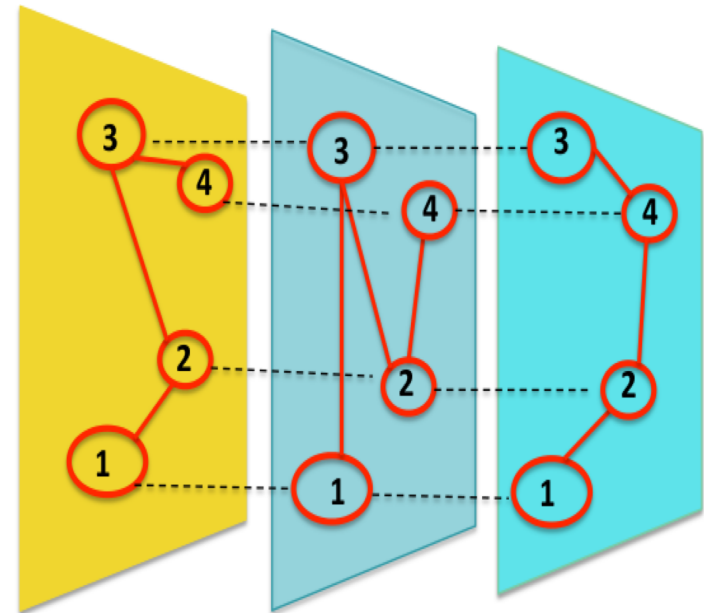


# Supra-adjacency matrix of temporal networks

The supra-adjacency matrix includes all the links in each layers and the **interlinks**

It indicates if a node  $i$  in layer  $\alpha$  is connected to a node  $j$  in layer  $\beta$

(b)



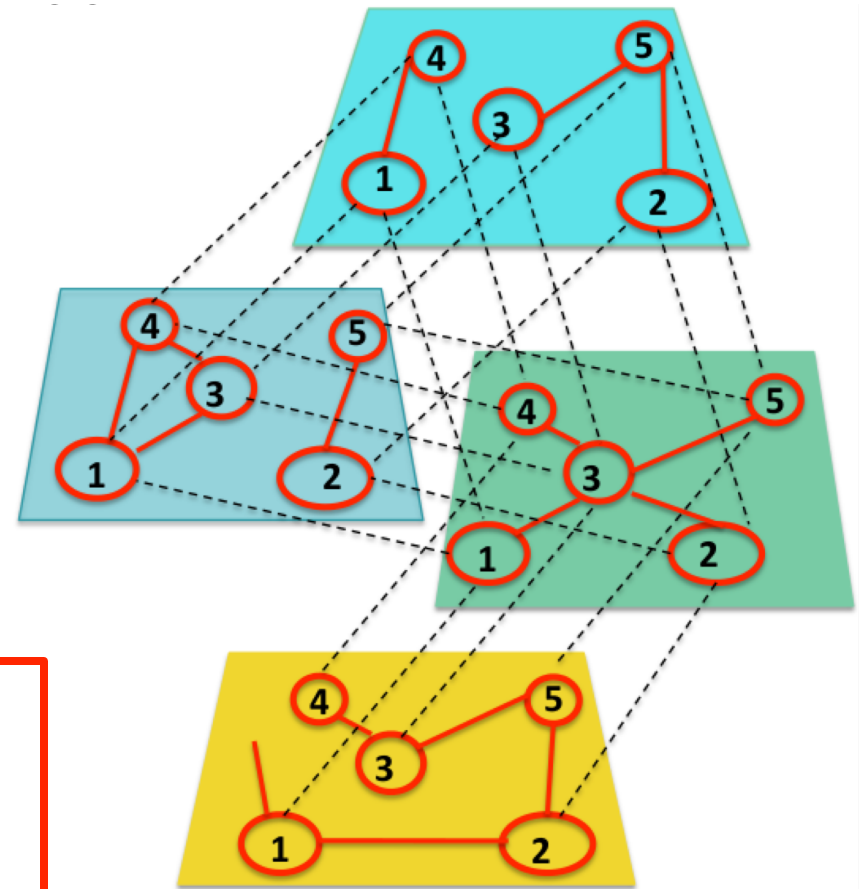
$$A_{i\alpha, j\beta} = \begin{cases} a_{ij}^{[\alpha]} & \text{if } \alpha = \beta \\ \delta_{ij} & \text{if } \alpha = \beta - 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}^{[1]} & \mathbf{I} & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbf{a}^{[2]} & \mathbf{I} & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \mathbf{a}^{[M-1]} & \mathbf{I} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \mathbf{a}^{[M]} \end{pmatrix},$$

# Network of networks

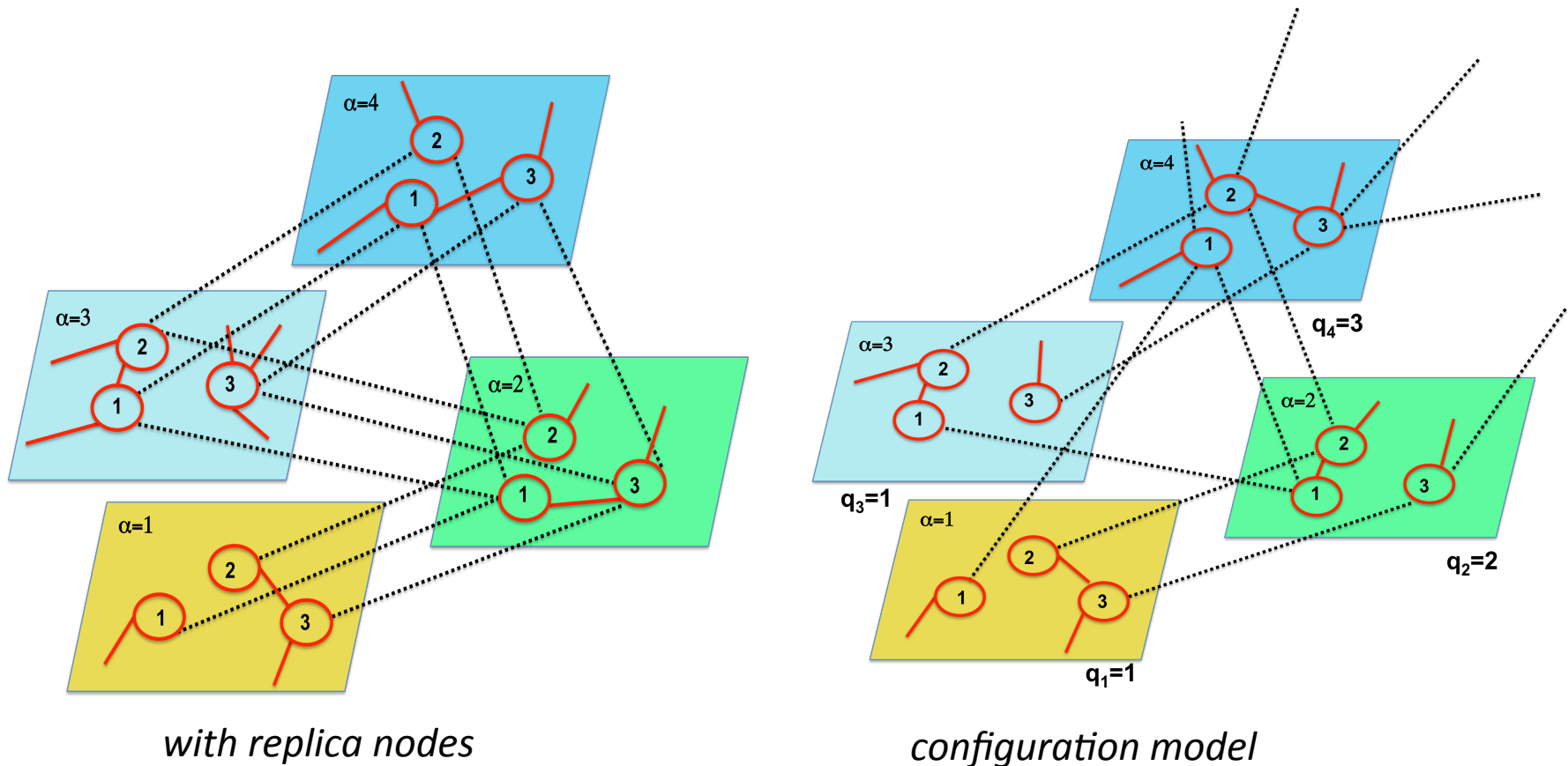
Each node is determined by  
the pair of label  $(i, \alpha)$   
 $i=1,2,\dots,N$   $\alpha=1,2,\dots,M$

Links across layers are  
called interlinks

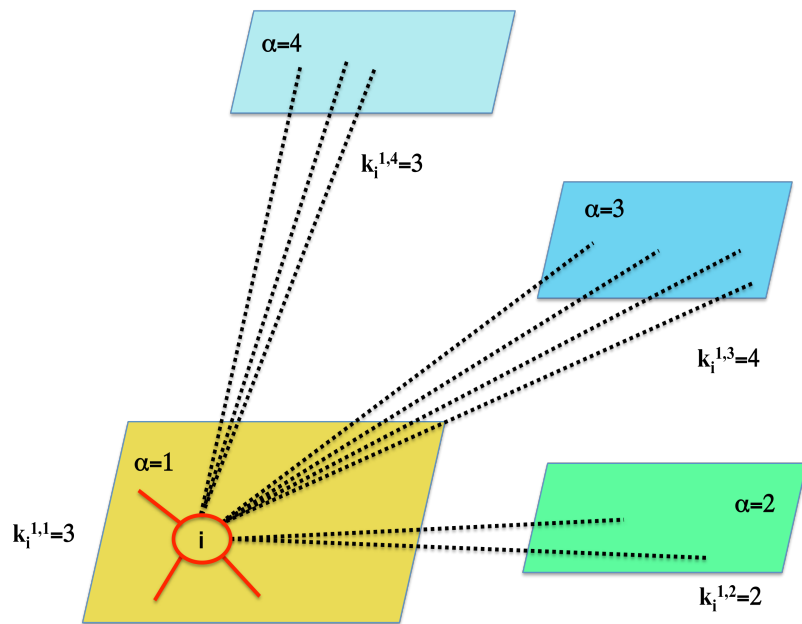


$$A_{i\alpha, j\beta} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (i, \alpha) \text{ and } (j, \beta) \text{ are linked} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

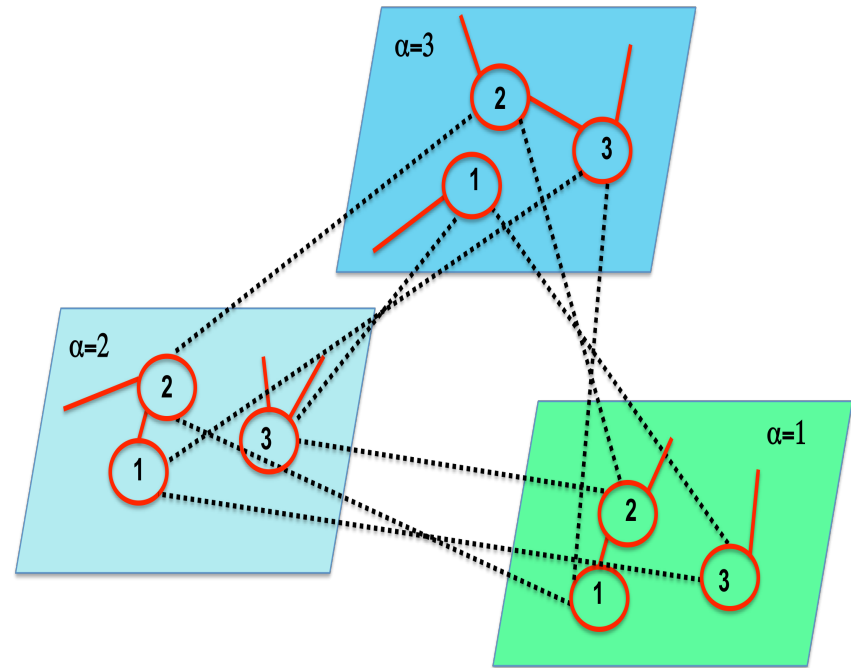
# Types of network of networks



# Types of network of networks



*with multiple interlinks*



*random matching of the nodes*

# Conclusions

Most complex systems  
are formed by  
several interacting and co-evolving networks.

In order to  
model, predict and control  
complex networks  
we need to investigate the interplay between  
structure and dynamics in

**Multilayer Networks**

# References and repositories

- **REVIEWS**

- Boccaletti, Stefano, Ginestra Bianconi, et al. "The structure and dynamics of multilayer networks." *Physics Reports* 544, no. 1 (2014): 1-122.
- Kivelä, Mikko, Alex Arenas, et al. "Multilayer networks." *Journal of complex networks* 2, no. 3 (2014): 203-271.

- **DATA and CODES repositories :**

- GitHub page: <https://github.com/ginestrab> (G. Bianconi)
- GitHub page: <https://github.com/manlius> (M. De Domenico)
- GitHub page: <https://github.com/KatolaZ> (V. Nicosia)
- <http://deim.urv.cat/~manlio.dedomenico/data.php> (M. De Domenico)