

# Networks, machine learning and big data: from predicting elections to understanding the brain

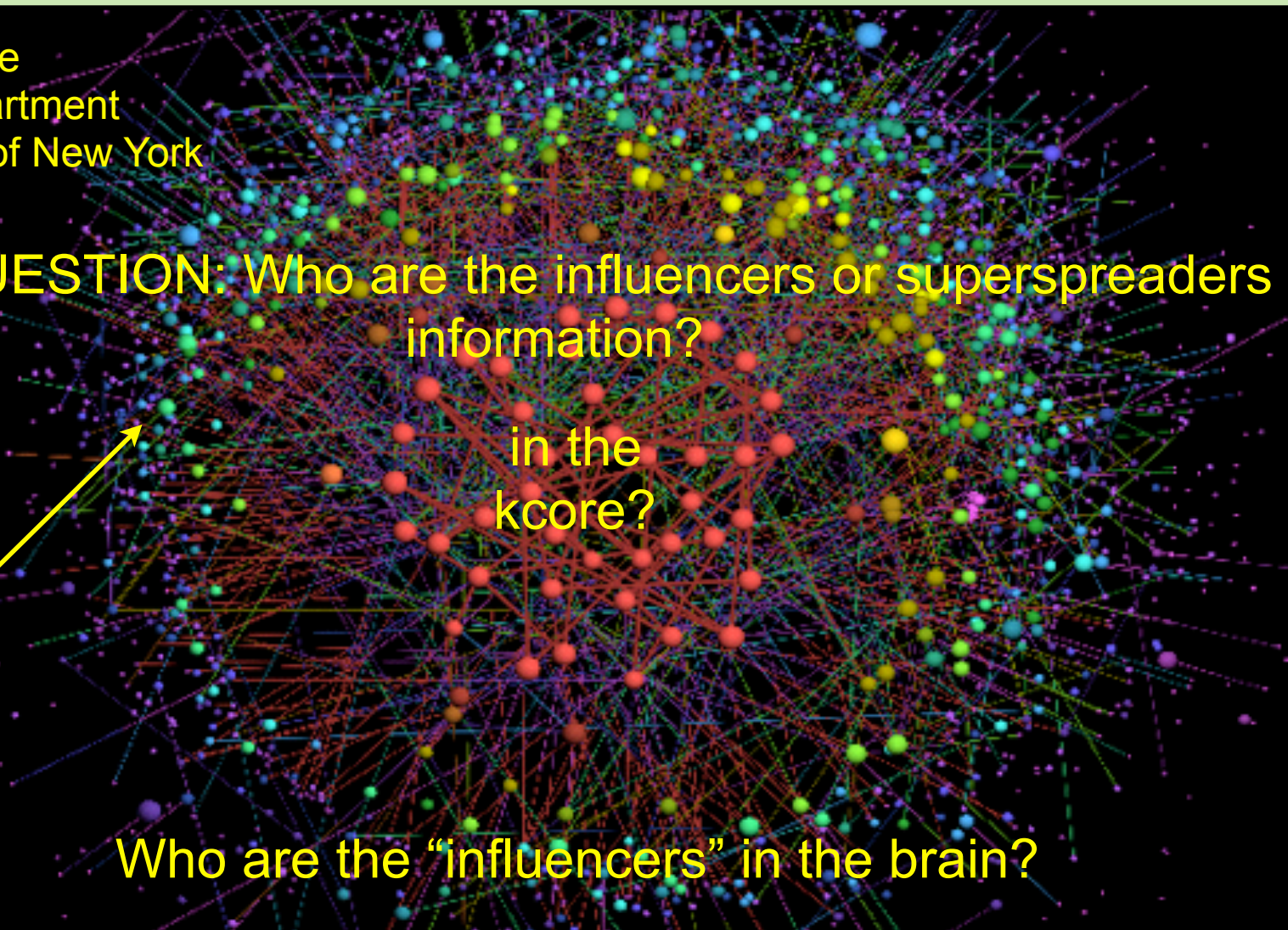
Hernán Makse  
Physics Department  
City College of New York

MAIN QUESTION: Who are the influencers or superspreaders of  
information?

in the  
kcore?

hubs?

Who are the “influencers” in the brain?





# Longstanding Problem in Network Science

Kitsak, Gallos, Makse, Nature Phys (2010)



- Viral marketing: \$\$\$
- Predicting trends social media
- Financial networks
- “too big to fail”
- Predict Stock markets
- Stop epidemic spreading
- Essential genes:  
gene regulation/  
protein networks
- Essential species:  
ecological networks
- Brain Networks:  
Essential nodes for integration

# How to become influencer in social media? EASY

## 1. Funny baby faces videos



♥ BABIESMAKINGFACES.COM

▶ ⏮ 🔊 0:00 / 9:53

⌚ CC ⚙️ 📺 🔍

FUNNY BABY VIDEOS

50 million  
hits

lindo  
bebeto!!



# How to become a New Yorker influencer? EASY

## 2. Funny dog faces videos



50 million  
hits



FUNNY DOG VIDEOS

lindos  
perritos!!



# 3. Most successful viral superspreading event in the history of humankind

Gangnam style video  
by Mr Psy

as of today: 2 billion hits  
(mainly teenagers)

This page refreshes every 20 minutes automatically for accuracy.

# 1,000,001,685

Estimate of Gangnam Style hitting 1 billion views:

## 23 hours 59 minutes 44 seconds

December 21, 2012, 7:11 am PST / December 21, 2012, 10:11 am EST / December 21, 2012, 3:11 pm UTC

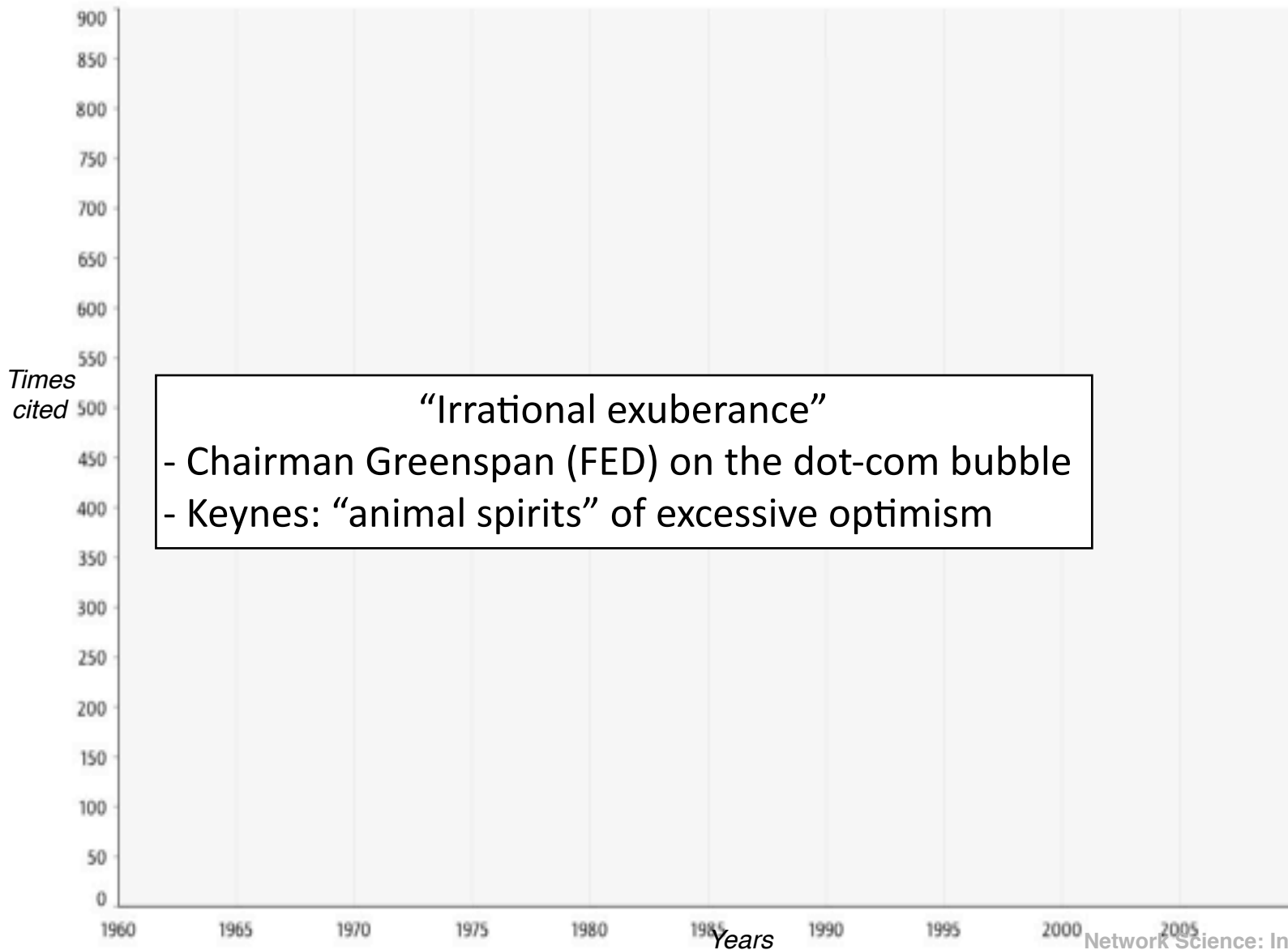
24 hour moving average: 105.4627 views per second



## 5. COMPLEX NETWORK SCIENCE: superspreading of ideas

- Analogous to herding behavior in the stock market

Courtesy of Gene Stanley





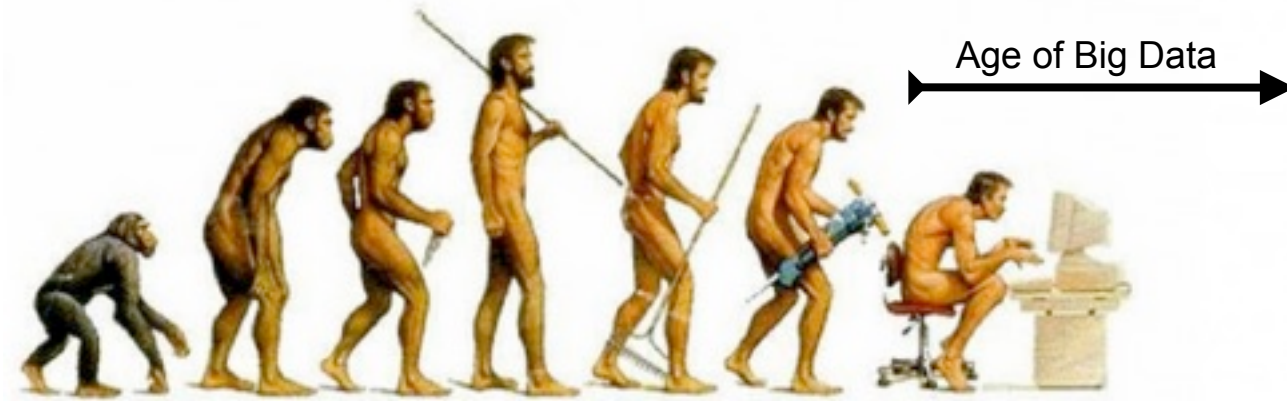
# THE ANSWER:

## Understanding BIG DATA

### What is the Problem with Big Data?



Eric Schmidt (CEO Google): “Every two years we create as much information (5 exabytes) as we did from the dawn of civilization until 2003”



# THE QUESTION ARISES:

What happened in the last two years?

Did we all get clever all of a sudden?

Most probably not

Two evidences (before Nov 2016):

Evidence #1: The USA Presidential Primary Election Debates

Evidence #2: Peter Thiel (founder PayPal)





# WHY IS THAT?

## THE AGE OF BIG DATA

## OR

## THE AGE OF BIG DATA JUNK?

The age of “fake news”:

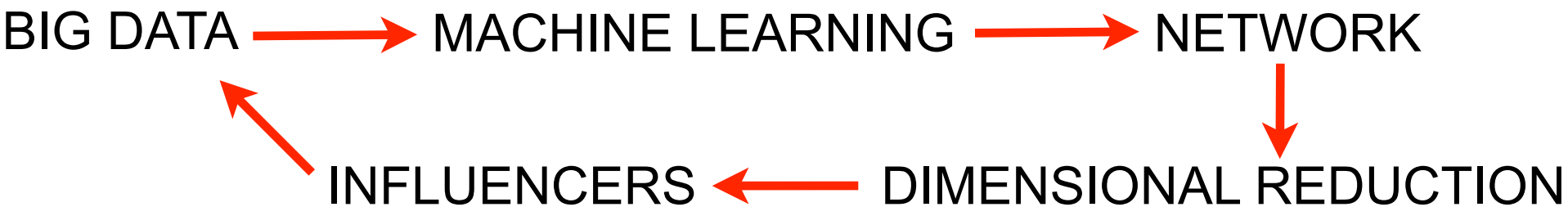
We are drowning in information but starving for knowledge

# Pipeline: Big Data - Machine Learning - Networks—> Influencers



- Kitsak, Gallos, Makse, Nature Phys (2010)
- Morone, Makse Nature (2015)
- Bovet, Morone, Makse, arxiv.org (2017)
- Morone, Min, Roth, Makse, PNAS (2017)
- Luo, Morone, Makse, Nature Comm (2017)

INFLUENCERS





# THE SOLUTION: REDUCE BIG DATA TO A FEW INFLUENCERS



MINIMAL  
INFLUENCERS:  
the needle in the  
haystack

NP-hard Maximization  
of Influence Problem:  
your influence is not yours, it  
depends on everyone else

# How Google solved this problem?

Typical approach: Brute-Force  
(heuristics)

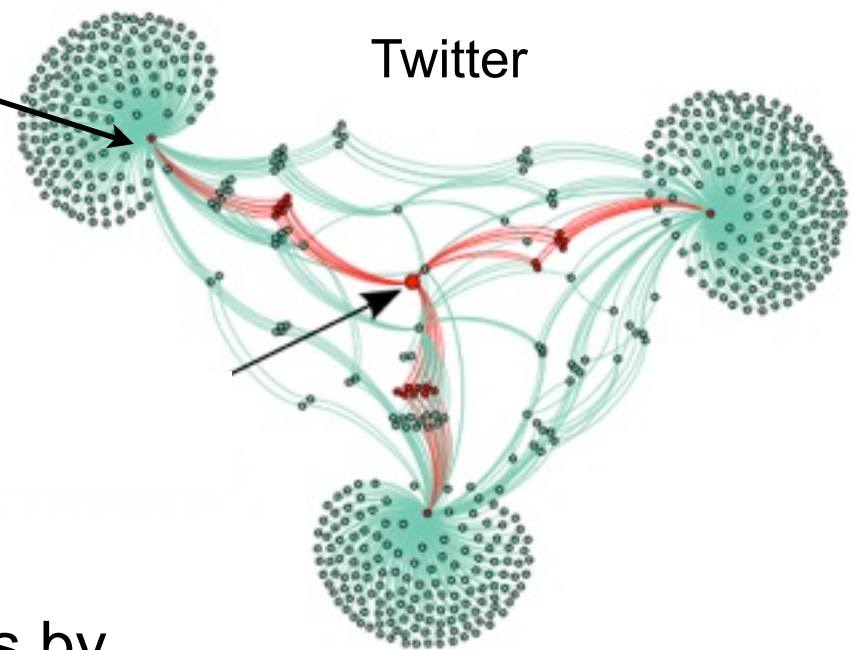
Influencers = hubs  
(scale free theory)

Pres Obama: 55M followers

Lady Gaga: 45M followers

Very few: 1 percenters....

We want to capture influencers  
among the 99-percenters



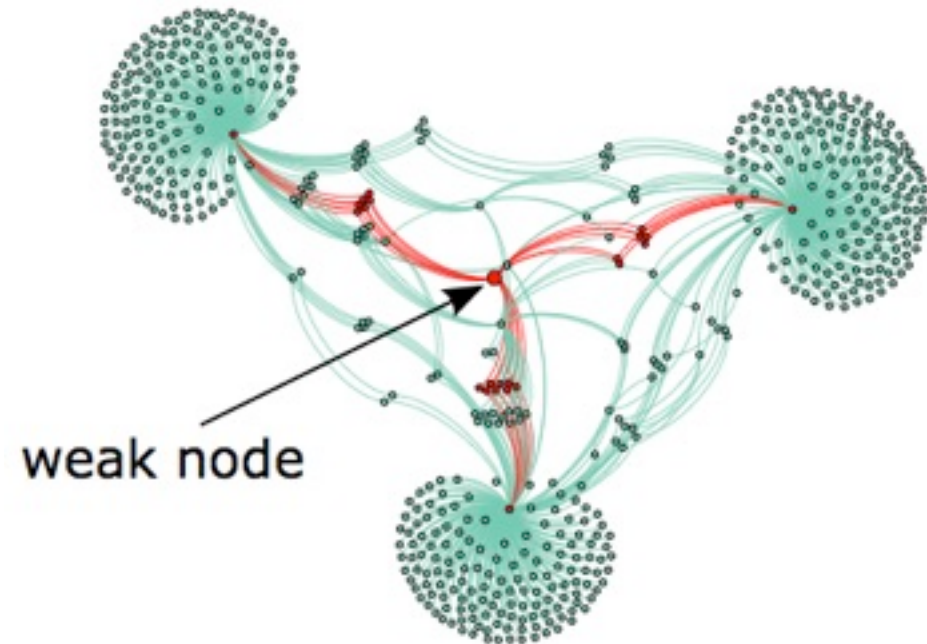
**Other heuristics:** ranking the nodes by

PageRank (Google): the largest eigenvalue of adjacency matrix,  
betweenness, eigenvector, closeness centralities, kcore,, etc..

**Problems:** heuristics do not maximize any function of influence

# Our approach

Inspired by French mime Marcel Marceau:  
“Making visible the invisible”



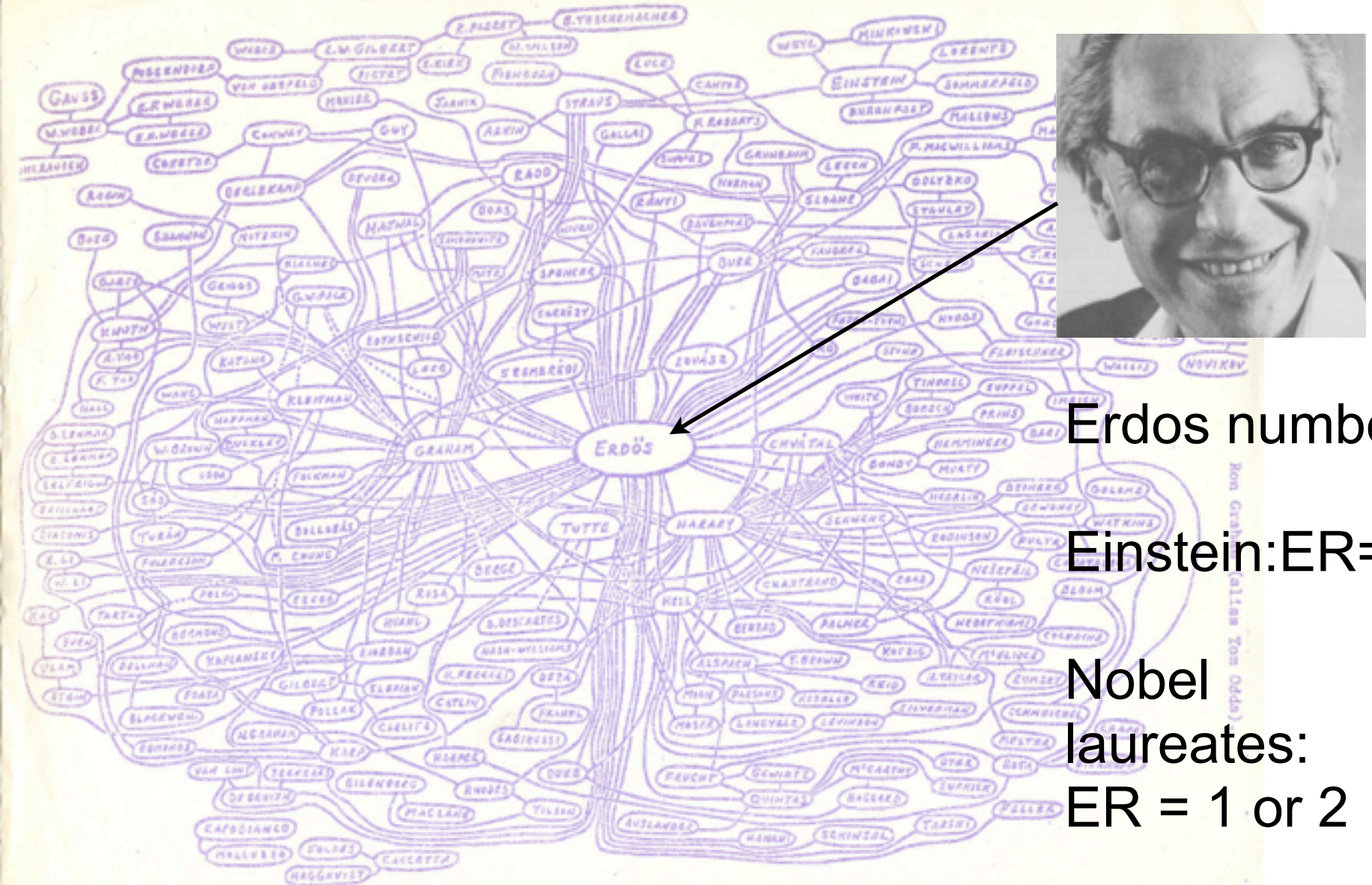
Collective  
optimization theory  
unravels the strength  
of “weak nodes”

Granovetter Social Theory (1973)  
“The strength of weak ties”



**Pál Erdős (1913-1996) --> 1400 papers with 600 collaborators**

Founding father of modern graph theory



Erdos number

Einstein:ER=2

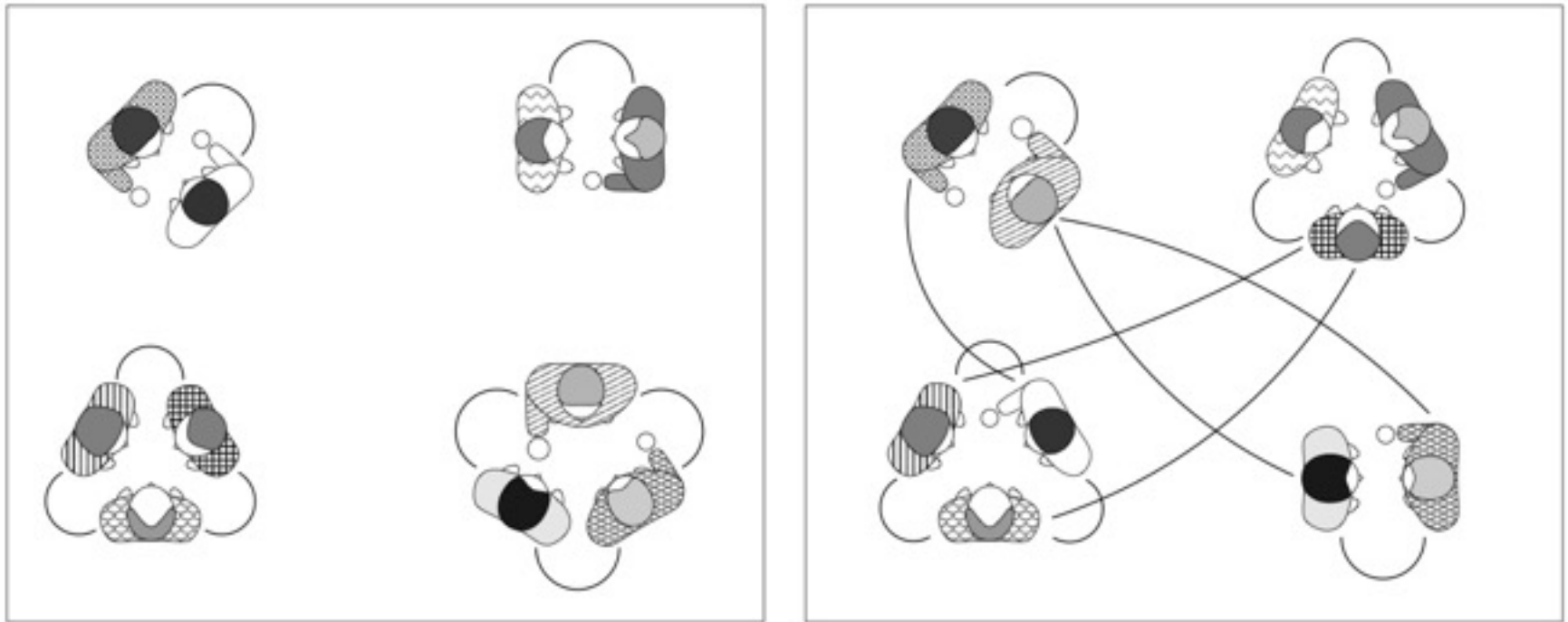
Nobel laureates:  
ER = 1 or 2

Figure 1  
To appear in Topics in Graph Theory (F. Harary, ed.) New York Academy of Sciences (1979).

# TUTORIAL: Emergence of giant connected component

Roof Top Party in New York City with  $N$  people

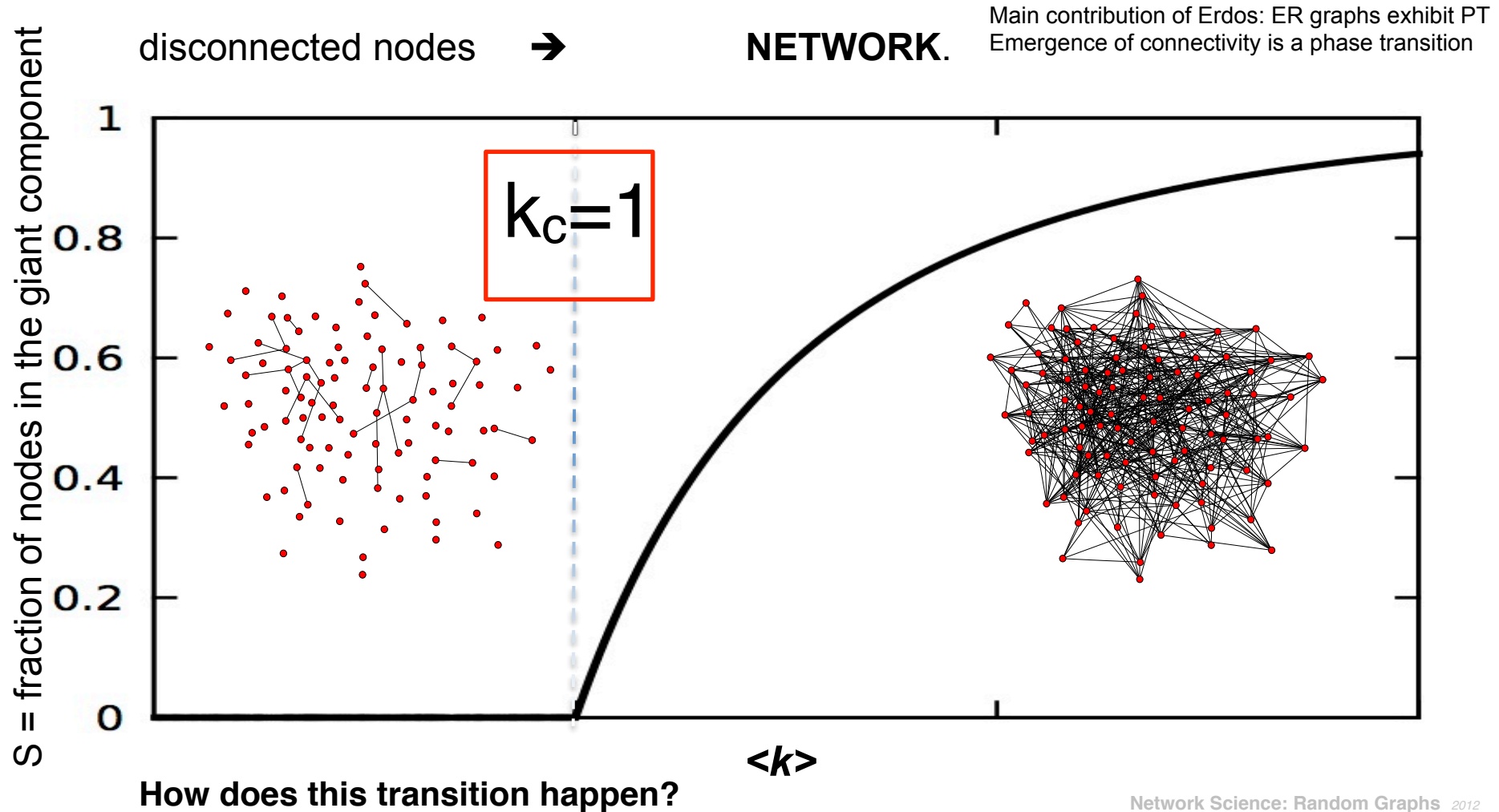
$k = \text{degree}$



$k=0$   $\longrightarrow$   $k=2$   $\longrightarrow$   $k=10$   $\longrightarrow$   $k=N-1$

At what time you form a connected component?

# EVOLUTION OF A RANDOM NETWORK --- PERCOLATION

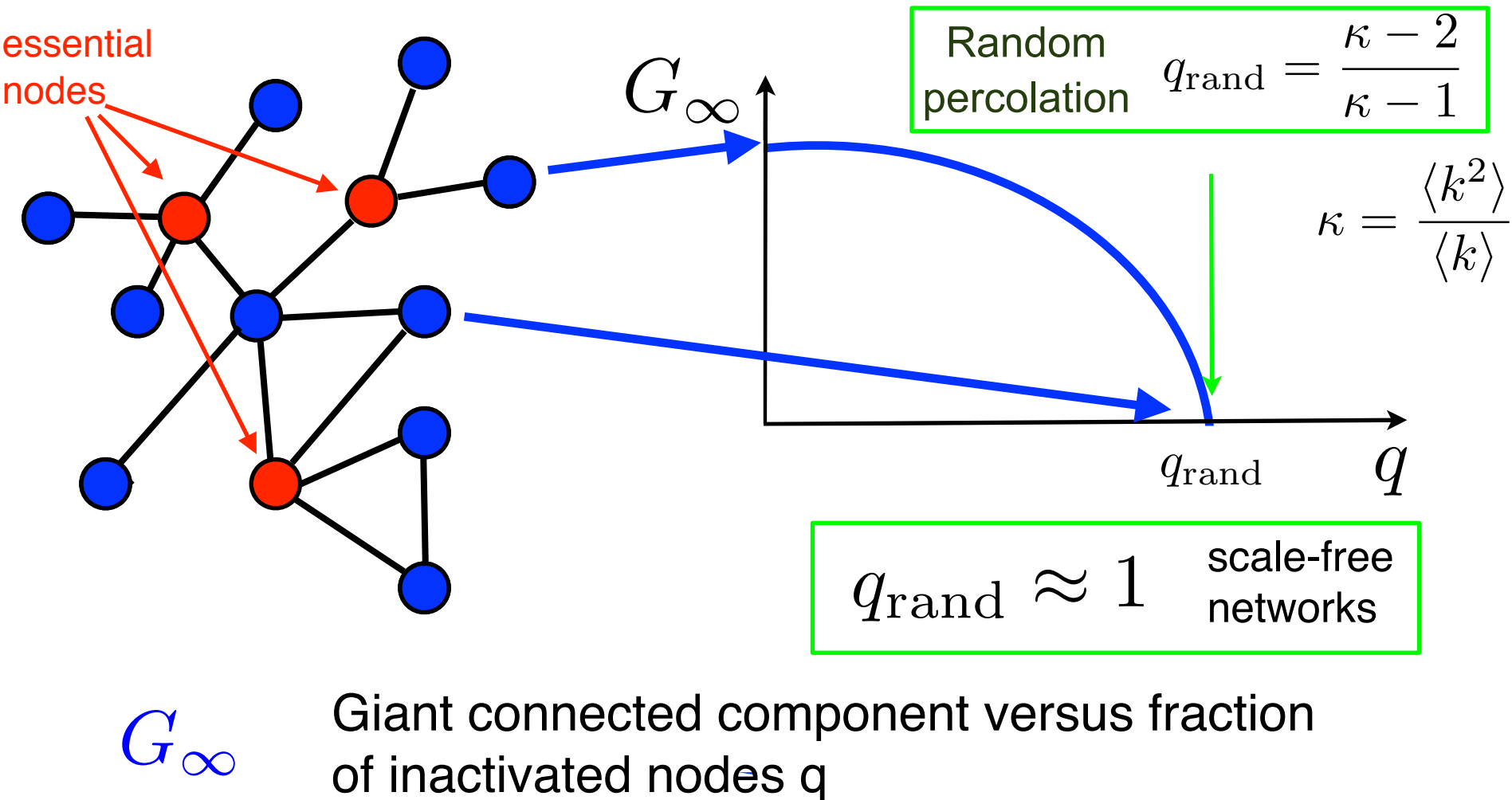


Who are responsible for the emergence of the giant component?



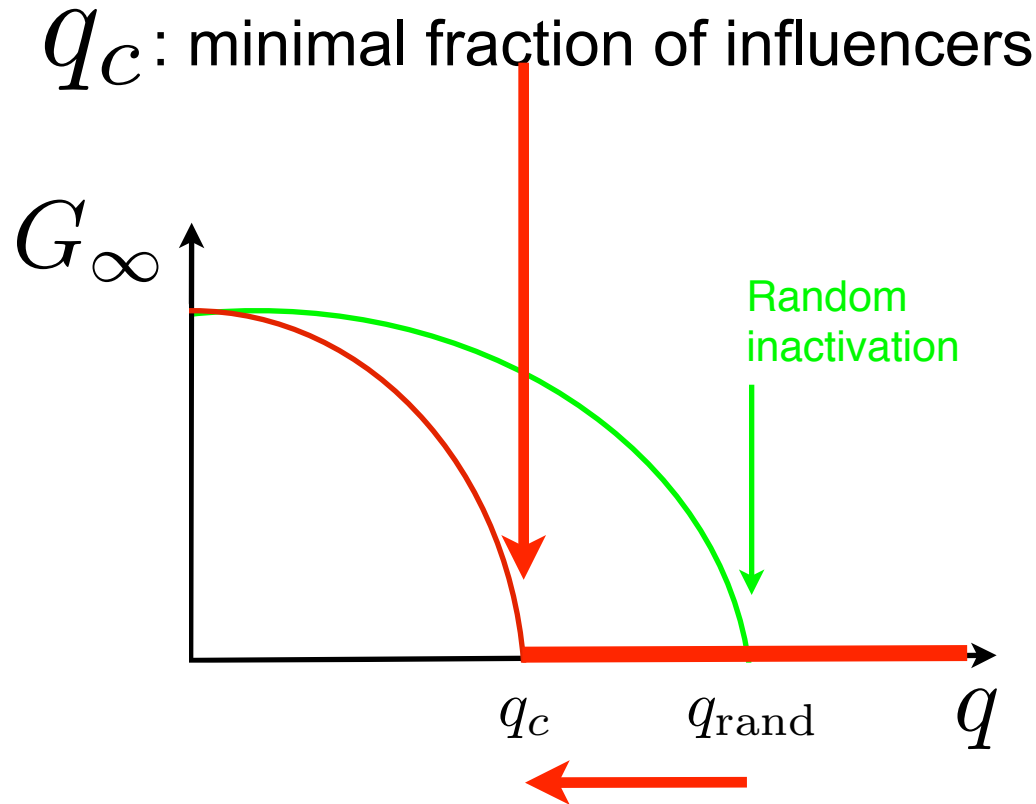
# Essential nodes are defined via graph percolation theory

Erdos-Renyi theory of percolation (ER networks, 1960)



# Influencers = Optimal Percolation

Morone, Makse, Nature (2015)



Essential nodes: minimal set of nodes  $q_c$  that disintegrate the giant connected component upon removal

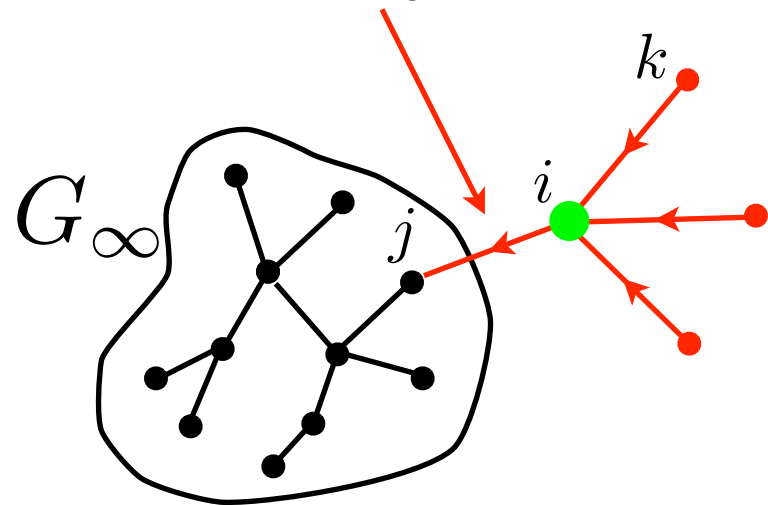
Targeted attack: Albert, Barabasi, Nature (2000)

Maximization of Influence, Kempe, Kleinberg (2003) (NP-hard, computer science, sociology)

# Message passing to calculate G

approximation = local tree (no loops)

node  $i$  sends a message to node  $j$ :  
membership to giant component



$n_i = 0$  node inactivation

$n_i = 1$  node active

Message passing equation in a  
sparse network

$$\nu_{i \rightarrow j} = n_i \left[ 1 - \prod_{k \in \partial i \setminus j} (1 - \nu_{k \rightarrow i}) \right]$$

Order parameter = Prob to belong to giant component:  $G_\infty$

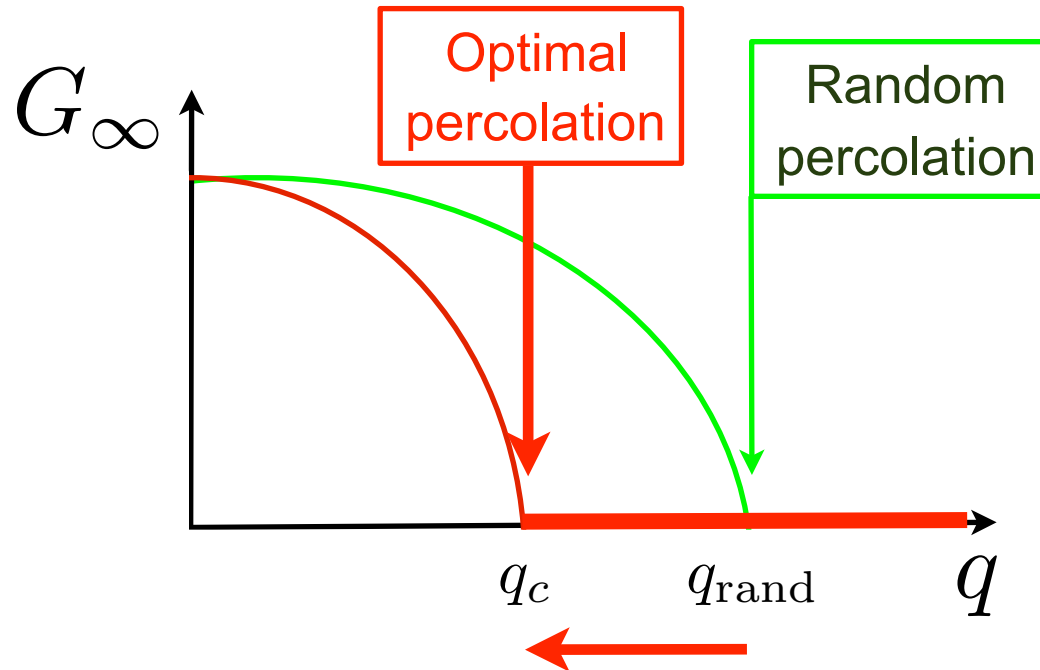


# Optimal Percolation = minimize $q_c$

$q_c$  : minimal fraction of influencers  
to destroy the network

NP-hard  
problem:

Transform  
the problem  
into a  
stability  
problem



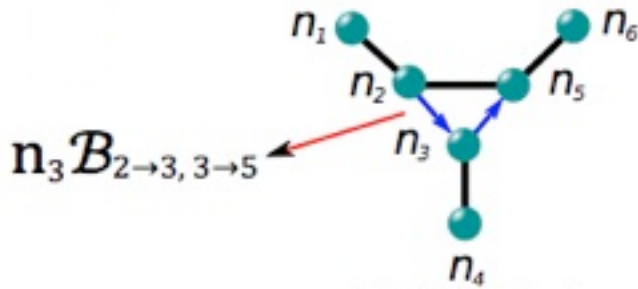
Strategy = minimize the giant component  
or

Minimize  $q_c$  = find the minimal influencers until the solution

$G_\infty = 0 \rightarrow \{\nu_{i \rightarrow j} = 0\}$  becomes unstable

Stability of  $G_\infty = 0$  is given by largest eigenvalue of non-backtracking matrix

$$\left. \frac{\partial \nu_{i \rightarrow j}}{\partial \nu_{k \rightarrow \ell}} \right|_{\nu_{i \rightarrow j} = 0} \equiv n_k \mathcal{B}_{k \rightarrow \ell, i \rightarrow j}$$



Non-Backtracking  
Matrix

2M x 2M  
matrix

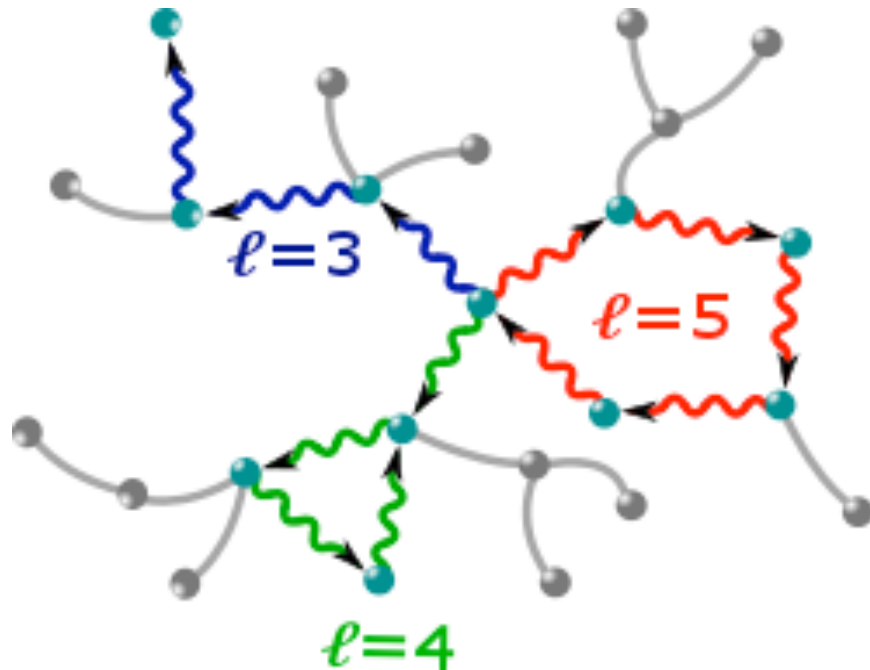
Solution is stable when the largest eigenvalue of the modified NB matrix:

$$\lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{n}, q) \leq 1$$

Finding the influencers = finding the nodes that minimizes the largest eigenvalue of the modified NB matrix:

$$\min_{\mathbf{n}} \lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{q}_c) = 1$$

# Essential superspreaders are the optimal non-backtracking random walkers



Non-backtracking walk of length  $\ell$ : a walker that cannot immediately come back

- Second largest eigenvalue of NB is also optimal for community detection. Krzakala PNAS (2013), Newman PRE (2013)
- In contrast, most heuristics are based on the adjacency matrix which measures only regular random walks: PageRank largest eigenvalue  $A_{ij}$



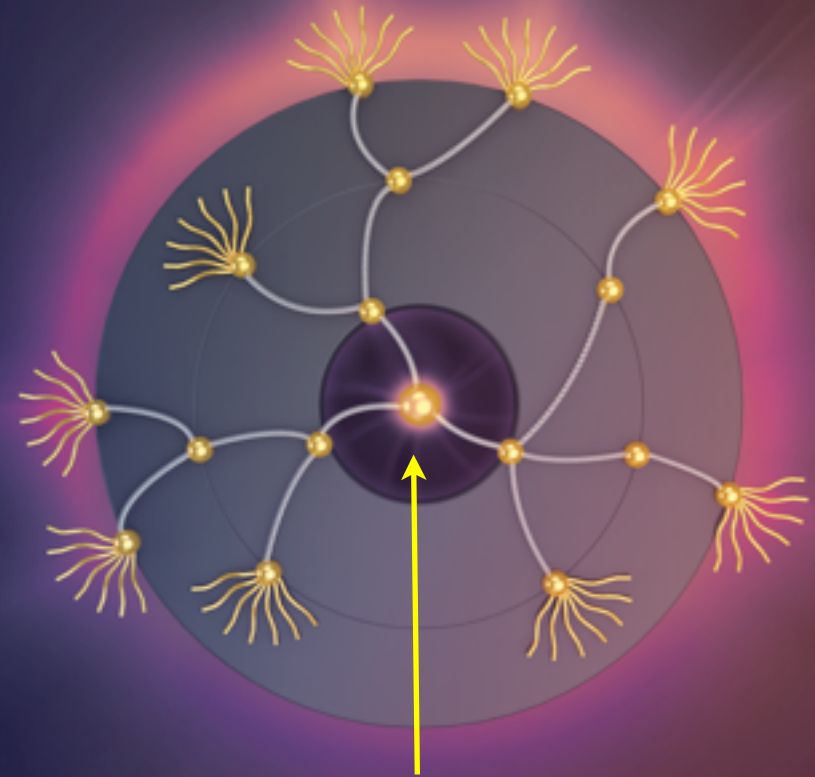
# Essential nodes for integration: weak nodes and Collective Influence Algorithm: CI

Optimization theory identifies a new class of influencer neglected by hub ranking and Pagerank

Weak node: a low degree node surrounded by hierarchical coronas of hubs at level  $\ell$

Related to Granovetter theory  
“Strength of weak ties” (1973) in  
Sociology

$$CI_{\ell} = (k_i - 1) \sum_{j \in \partial Ball(\ell)} (k_j - 1)$$



Weak node

Next, we address the question that will doubtless arise:

Is all this mathematical gibberish of any real use?

Four applications:

1. Influencers in Twitter
2. +Machine learning in Twitter. Predicting elections: Trump vs Clinton
3. Marketing campaign from Big data mobile phone networks
4. Brain: Erasing your memories

# 1. Twitter Search Engine for Influencers

[kcorelab.com](http://kcorelab.com)

KCORE ANALYTICS

KCORE

WHAT WE DO

WHO WE ARE

CASE STUDY

PRESS

NEWS

CONTACT

LOGIN

## CCNY DREAM TEAM:

### Search Engine for Influencers

Flaviano Morone



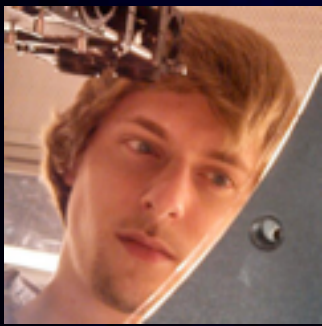
Hernan Makse



Twitter Influencers.



George Furbish



Andrea Morone



Alex Bovet



Kevin Roth



Francesca Lucini



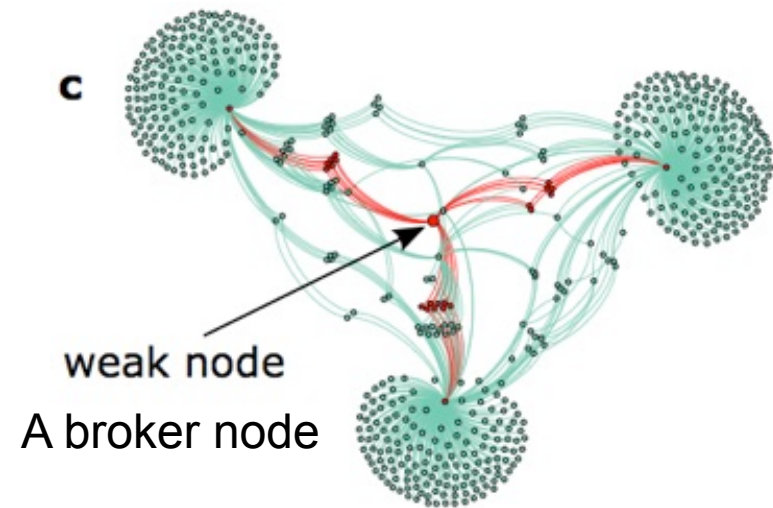
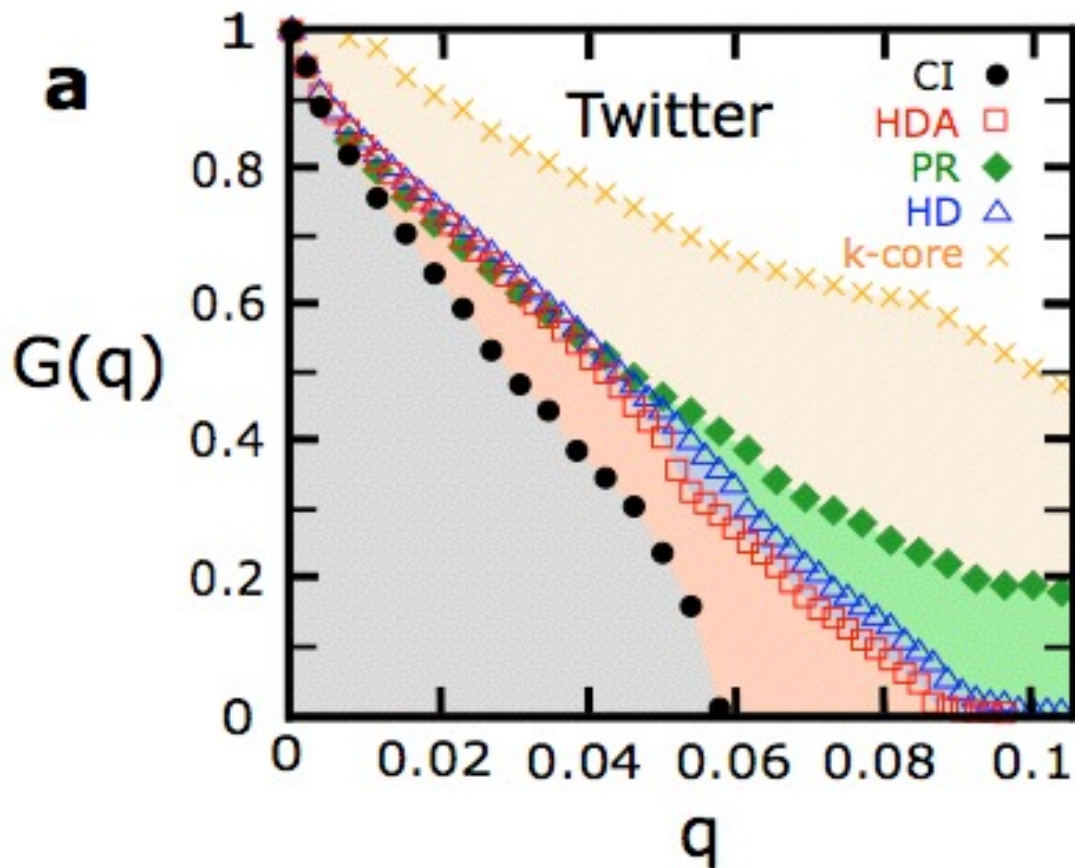




# TEST: INFLUENCERS IN TWITTER NETWORK



# Validation of CI in Big Data: Twitter



- CI identifies 40% less influencers than hubs and Google Pagerank

# PREDICTIONS FROM BIG DATA



COVER A crystal ball is surrounded by a visual representation of the application of a predictive algorithm's results. Decision-makers at all levels would love to know about the future effects of current decisions. This special issue focuses on what we currently can (and cannot) predict using the emerging conjunction of machine learning, big data, and human understanding. See page 468.

SPECIAL SECTION PREDICTION

## THE PULSE OF THE PEOPLE

Can internet data outdo costly and unreliable polls in predicting election outcomes?

By John Bohannon

In an apartment on New York City's Upper West Side on 8 November 2016, Herman Makse and several friends cooked bruschetta and clipped Chablis as they watched the U.S. presidential election unfold. They hopped between MSNBC and Fox News while keeping an eye on *The New York Times* website on a laptop. The *Times* was streaming live updates of its "presidential election forecast." It was still early, and results from key states had not yet come in. On a chart labeled "Chance of Winning Presidency" that reflected the polling data rolling in, Hillary Clinton bounced above 80%, leaving Donald Trump stranded below 20%.

Makse, a statistical physicist at City University of New York, had placed a scientific bet on the outcome. The day before, his lab group had posted a research paper to arXiv, the online preprint repository. They had feverishly revised it to make the 4 p.m. deadline and publish on Election Day. Like the gauge chart on the *Times* website, they predicted who would become president. But whereas the *Times* used data from state-by-state polling, Makse's prediction was based entirely on data gathered from Twitter in the months leading up to the election.

If Makse's group nailed the election forecast, they would have reason to brag. Polling, whether done by phone or door-to-door, is extremely labor intensive and expensive: It fuels an \$85 billion industry. And it has problems. Not only have response rates fallen to single digits, leaving pollsters to rely on a thin and biased sample of people, but also an analysis last year of more than

1000 polls found evidence of widespread data fabrication (*Science*, 4 March 2016, p. 3216). By contrast, Makse's group tracked the political opinions of millions of people directly, second by second, for months—and they got those data for free.

Twitter isn't the only online data stream that scientists are funneling into predictive models of everything from elections to street protests. The largest tech companies such as Facebook and Google generate data that are free for researchers to use, though with varying degrees of inconvenience. So Makse and many other social scientists are asking: Could online data enhance polling as a forecasting tool, or even replace it?

The election night verdict, not yet. As the evening wore on, Makse's forecast based on freely harvested tweets continued to match the pricey polling data, predicting a win for Clinton with 51.5% of the vote. But both forecasts got it wrong. Before their dinner was done, Makse watched as the predictions on the *Times*'s data-driven blog, *The Upshot*, caught up with reality: "It was funny to see how at around 8 p.m.," he says, "they switched from 10% to 50% for Trump."

The Internet, it seems, can't yet reliably take the pulse of the people. But Makse and many other social scientists are convinced that it eventually will—if only they can figure out how to translate terabytes of data into human intentions.

**FORECASTING WHAT PEOPLE WILL DO**, and why, is the essence of social science. Considering how hard it is to divine even a single person's behavior, scaling up predic-



Both polling and an analysis of pre-election night tweets failed to flush out Trump's hidden voters.

tion to a community or society seems like a nonstarter. "But in some ways that is an easier problem," says Yulia Yassierli, a computational social scientist at the University of Oxford Internet Institute in the United Kingdom. He offers an analogy from physics: Although the movement of a single particle looks random, "the behavior of a gas made up of millions of particles is very predictable."

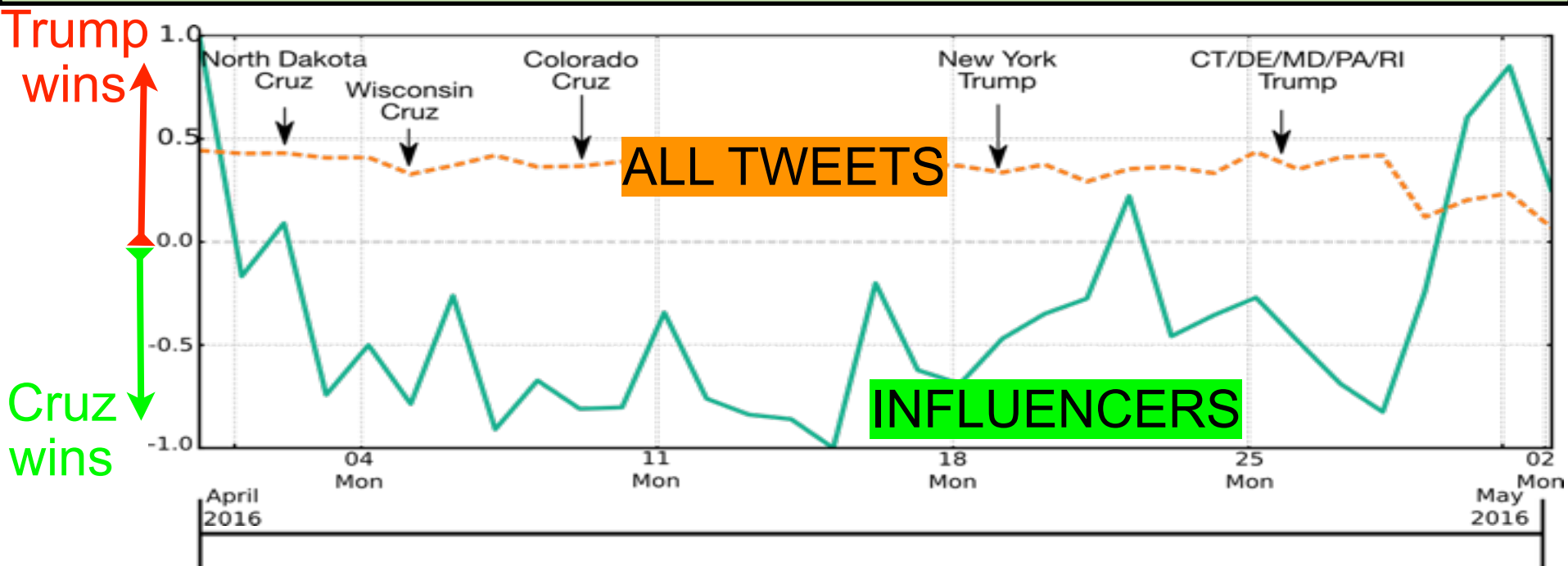
The idea that society can be treated like a physics problem has deep roots. In the 1950s, science fiction author Isaac Asimov explored up a branch of science called psychokinetics. With powerful computers and gargantuan data sets, he imagined, researchers would forecast not just elections,

470 2 FEBRUARY 2017 • VOL 353 ISSUE 604

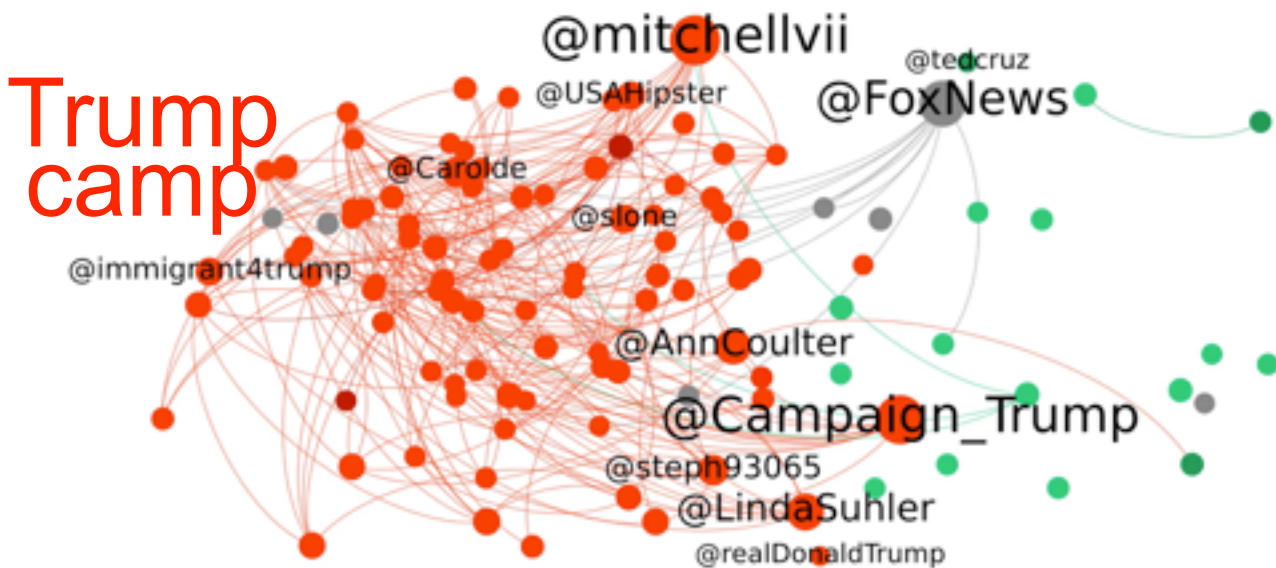
Published by AAAS

sciencemag.org SCIENCE

# 1. Influencers Predict Trump Sentiment



2016-03-31



Twitter  
network

Cruz  
camp

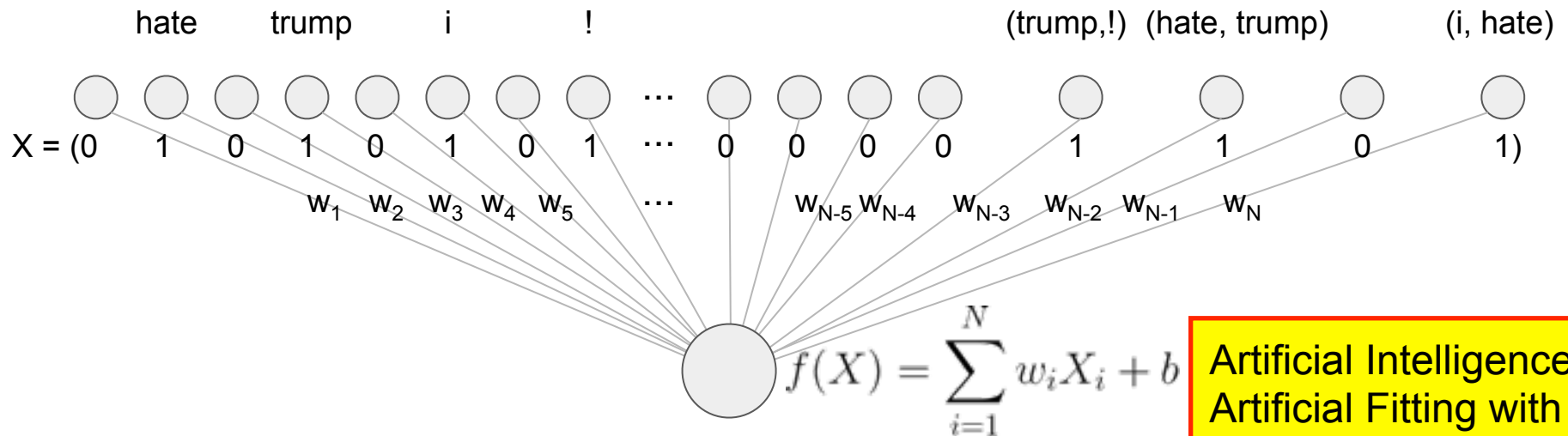


# 2. Add Machine Learning for Twitter opinion

How to classify a tweet:



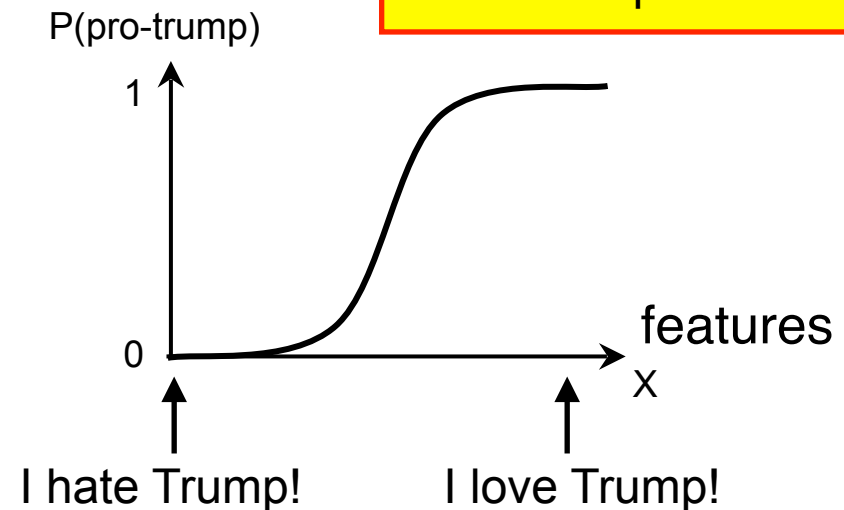
I hate Trump!



## IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

- 3.5M features = 3.5M parameters to fit
- Shakespeare = 35,000 features
- Whole English Language = 1M
- 1M training examples (tweets)
- We infer: 100M total number of tweets

Artificial Intelligence =  
Artificial Fitting with  
3.5 million parameters

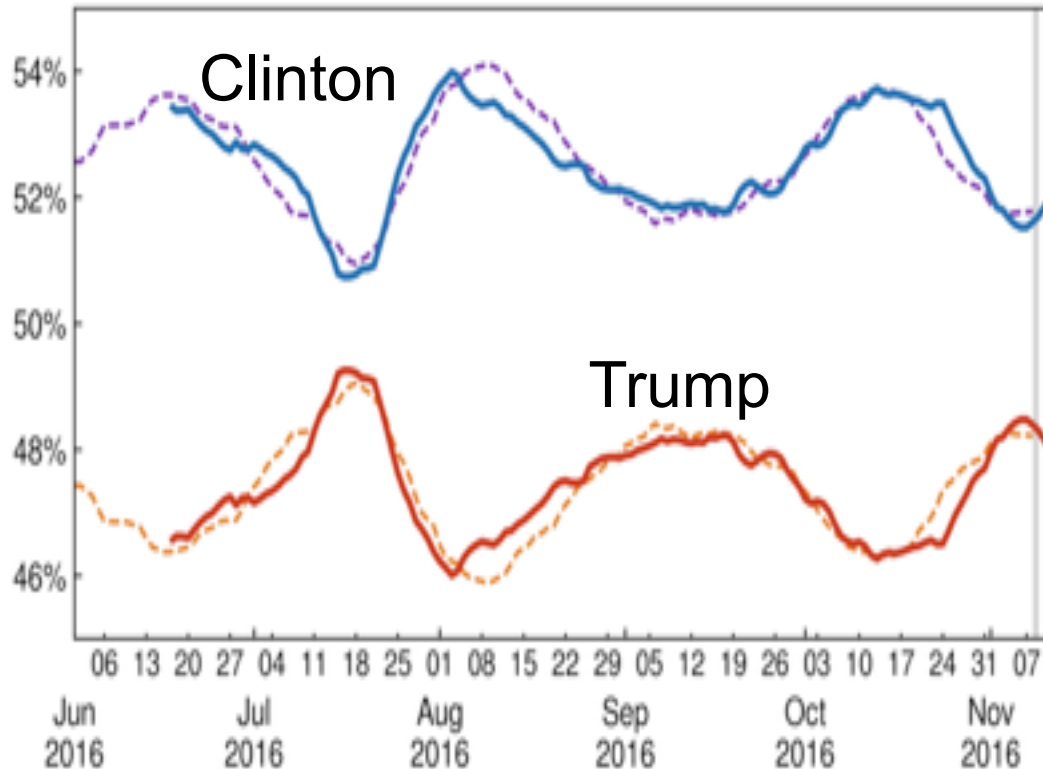




# Machine Learning + Network Theory

## Predict Election Trends from Twitter

Bovet, Morone, Makse (2017)



51.2%



48.8%

----- New York Times Polls  
(\$19b=polling industry)

\_\_\_\_\_ Our Twitter Analytics  
(\$30k=graduate student)

Training set of 1 million tweets  
Predicting the opinion of 100 million tweets  
of 11 million people

# Our Twitter Artificial Intelligence (and NYT) prediction did not go well in the Rust Belt



Electoral votes



232



306

Grant Wood on the rural American Midwest

# 3. Social Network: mobile phone calls

Market campaign targeting the high CI people = influencers

Mexico:  
110 million users  
calling over 3 months  
+  
banking data

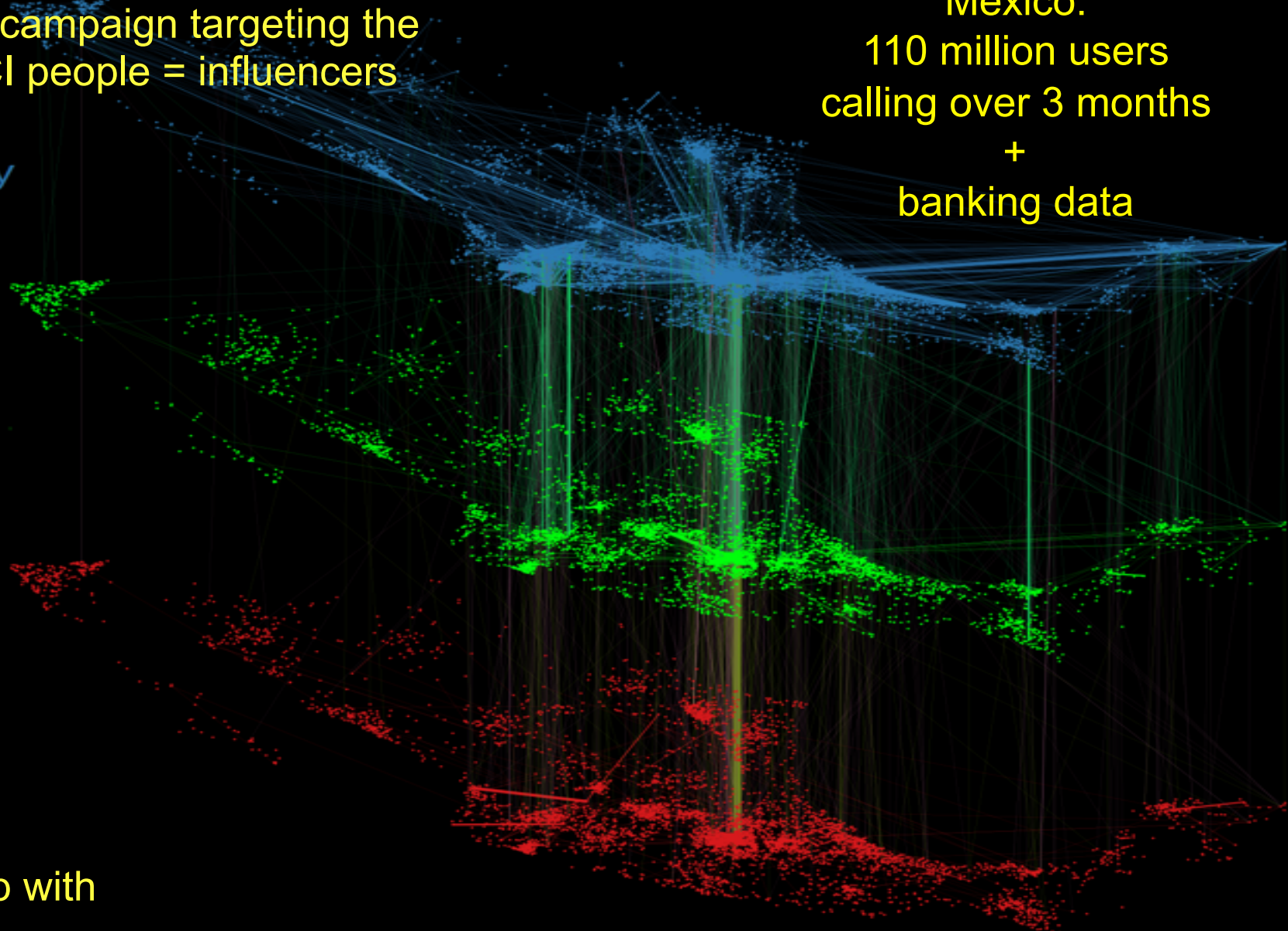
wealthy

middle  
class

poor

Team up with  
GranData.com

Luo, Morone, Makse, Nature Comm (2017)





# Communication patterns of rich and poor

Top 1% richest people

A

Bottom 20% poorest people

B

Top 1%

HIGH  
CI

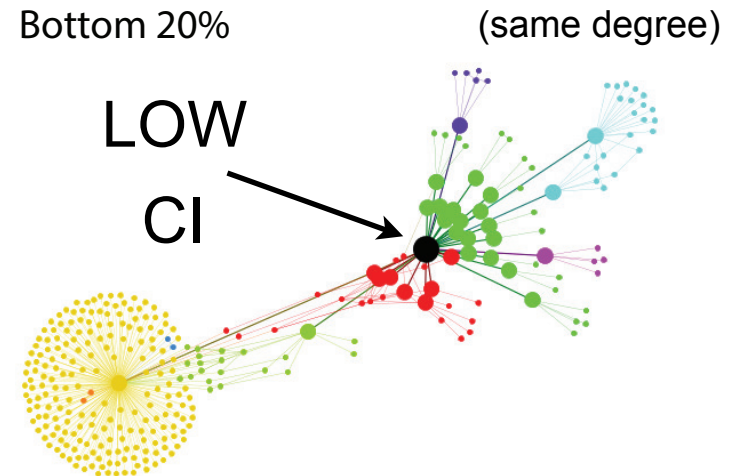
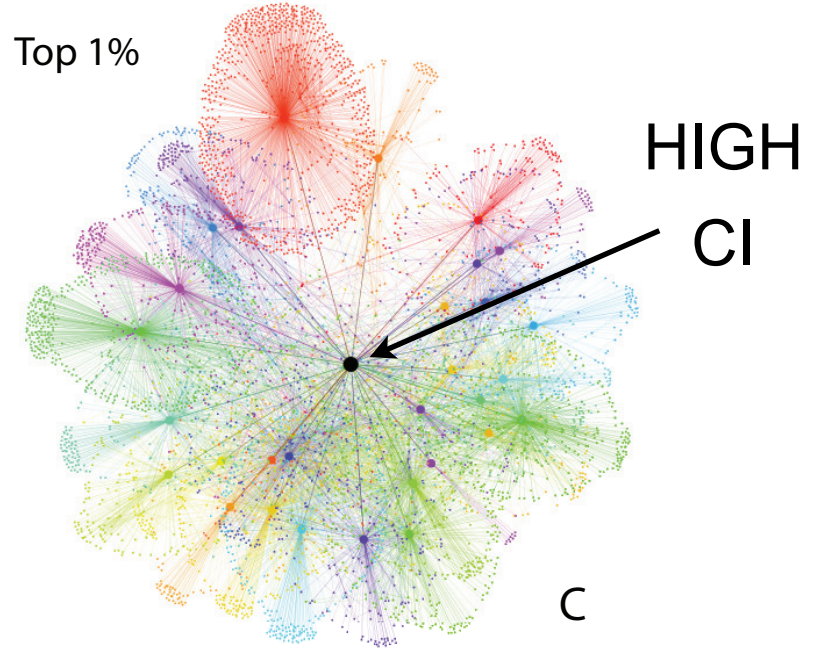
C

Bottom 20%

(same degree)

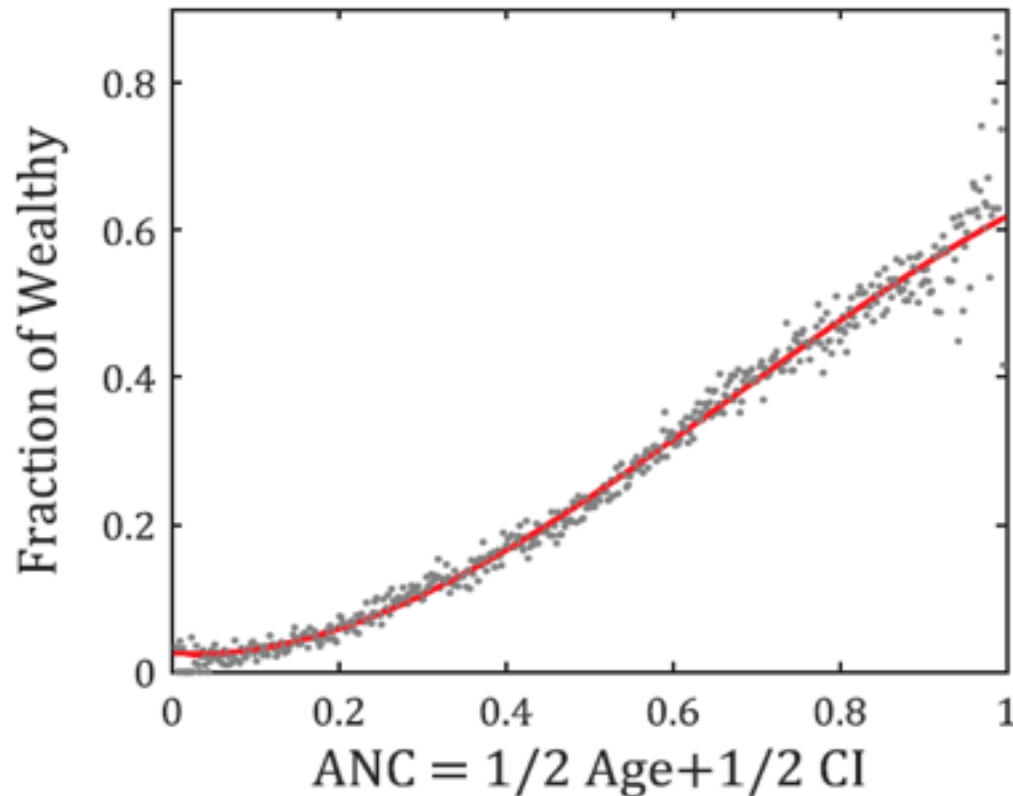
LOW  
CI

D



# Network centrality and wealth

Collective Influence:  $CI(\ell)_i = (k_i - 1) \sum_{j \in \partial Ball(i, \ell)} (k_j - 1)$



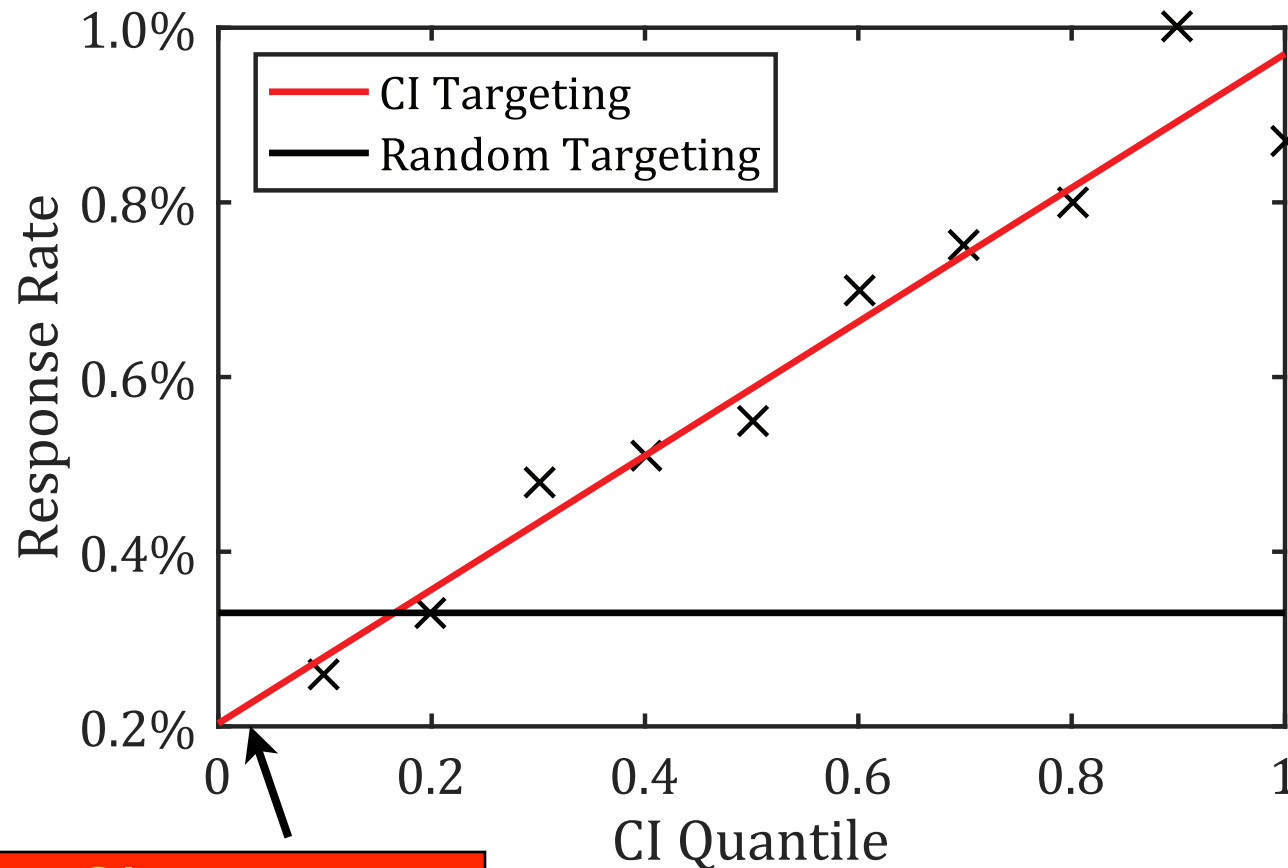
- Fraction of wealthy is strongly related to Age-Network Composite(ANC), a composite ranking of Age and CI ranking



# Validation: Improve response rate in a marketing campaign by five-fold

Targeting 60,000 people according to their Collective Influence in the network of entire Mexico

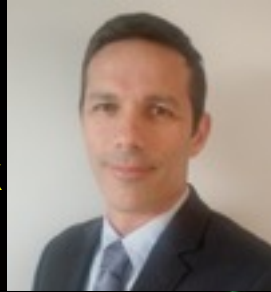
High CI: wealthy people



Low CI: poorest people

# 4. From Twitter to the Brain

- Lucas Parra  
Biomedical Engineering  
City College of New York  
(machine learning)

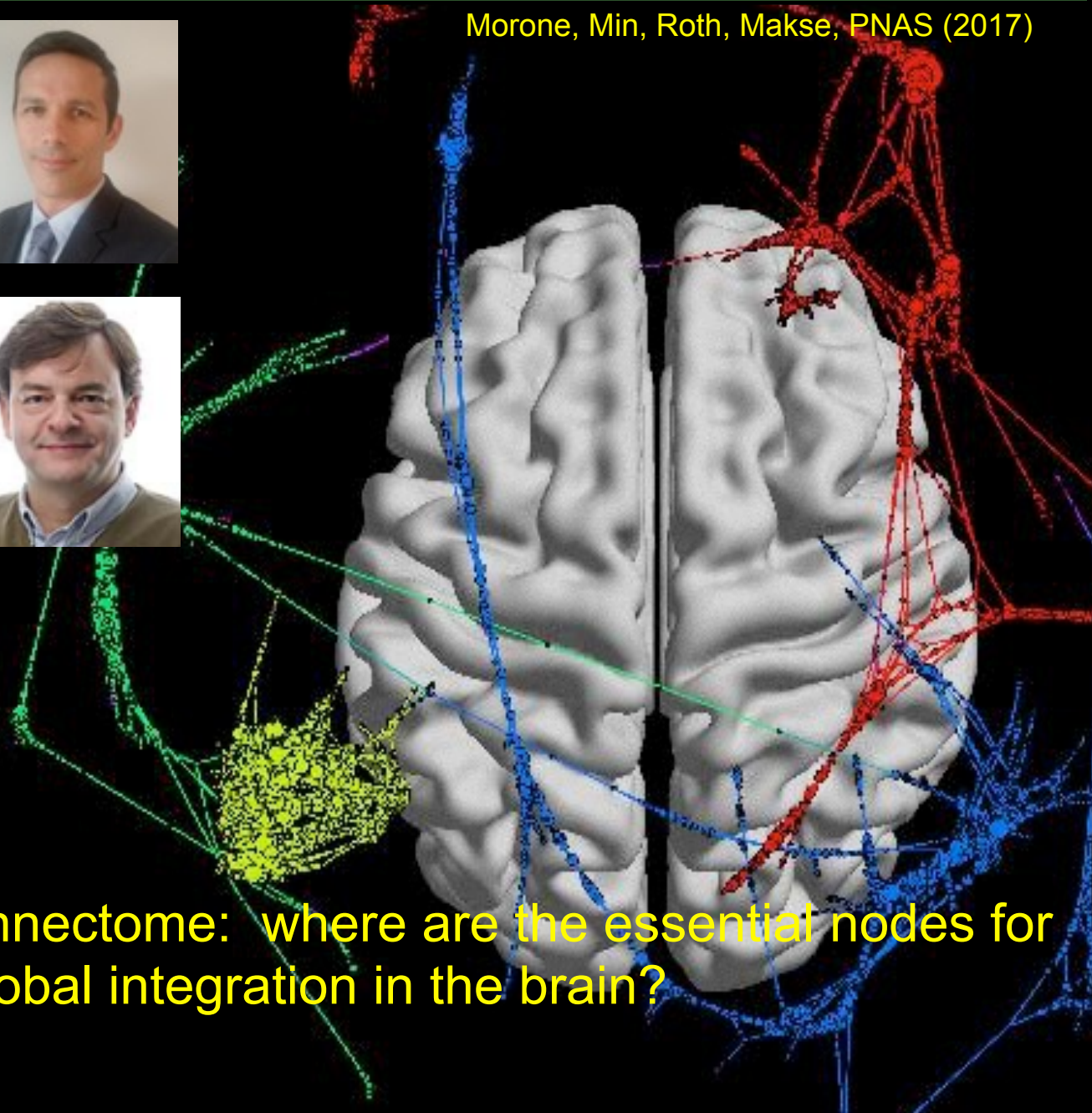


- Santiago Canals  
Institute of Neuroscience  
Alicante, Spain  
(experimental neuroscience)



Morone, Min, Roth, Makse, PNAS (2017)

Brain Network Connectome: where are the essential nodes for global integration in the brain?



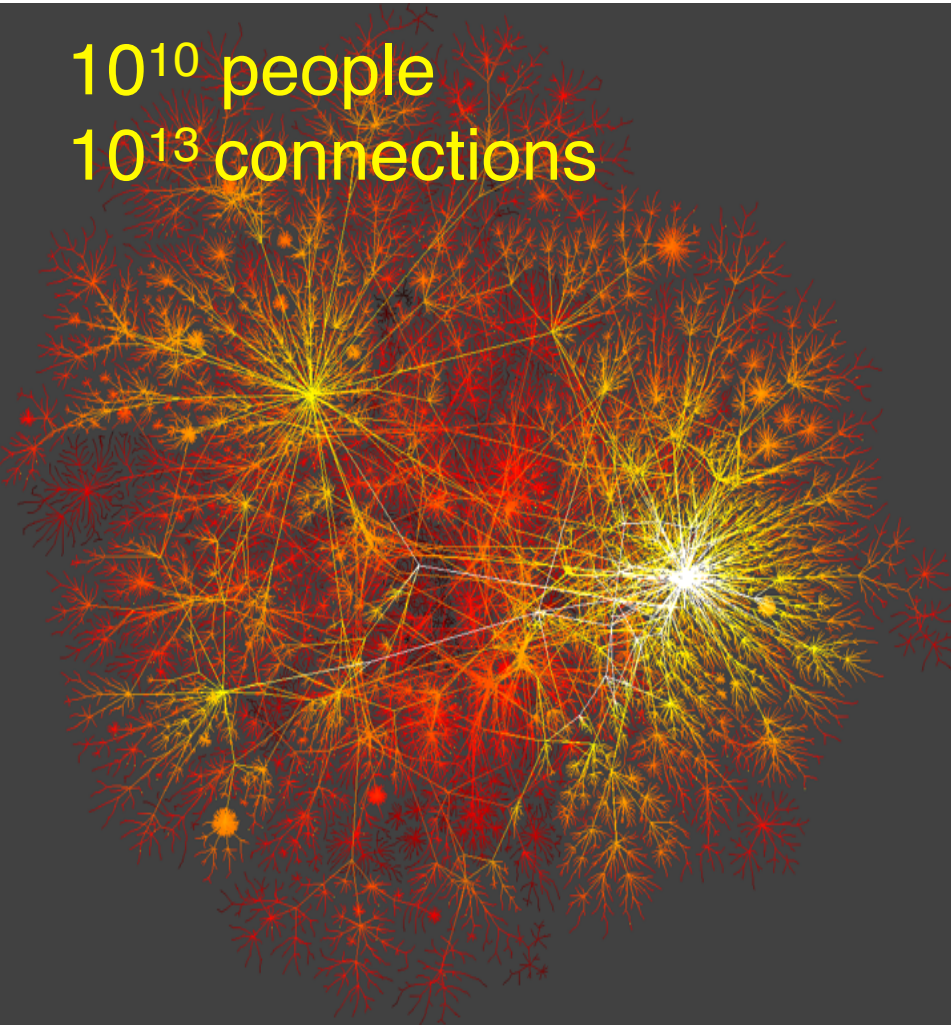
# FROM TWITTER TO THE BRAIN

HUMANS:  
ONE NETWORK

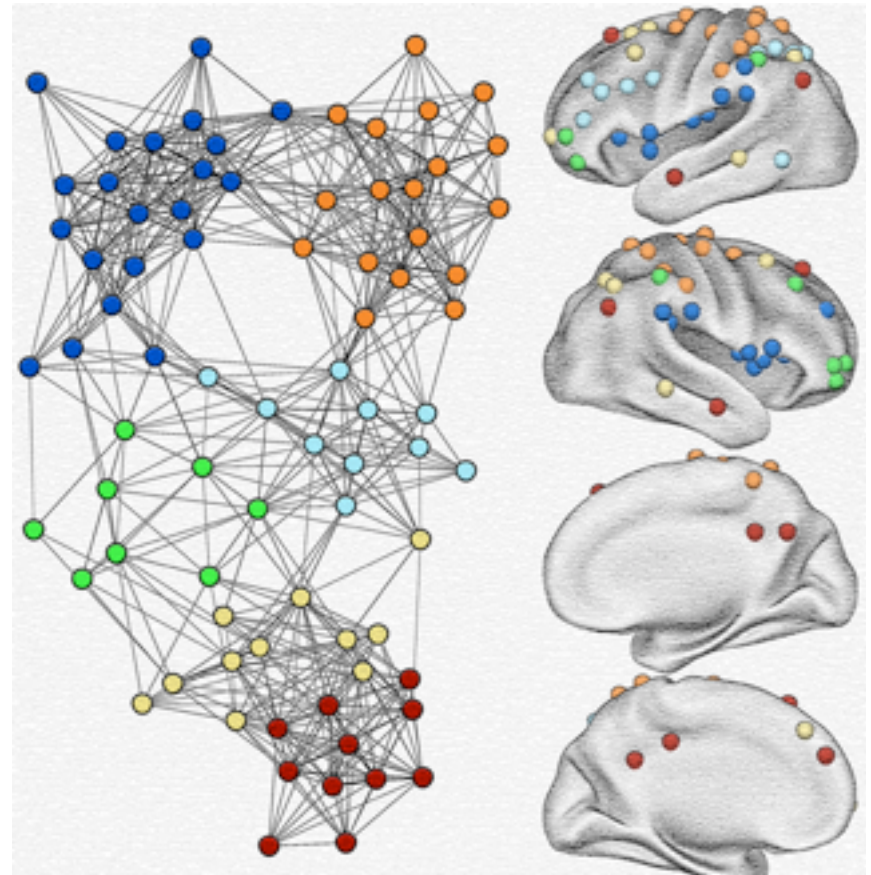


BRAIN: NETWORK OF  
NETWORKS

$10^{10}$  people  
 $10^{13}$  connections



$10^{11}$  neurons  
 $10^{15}$  connections

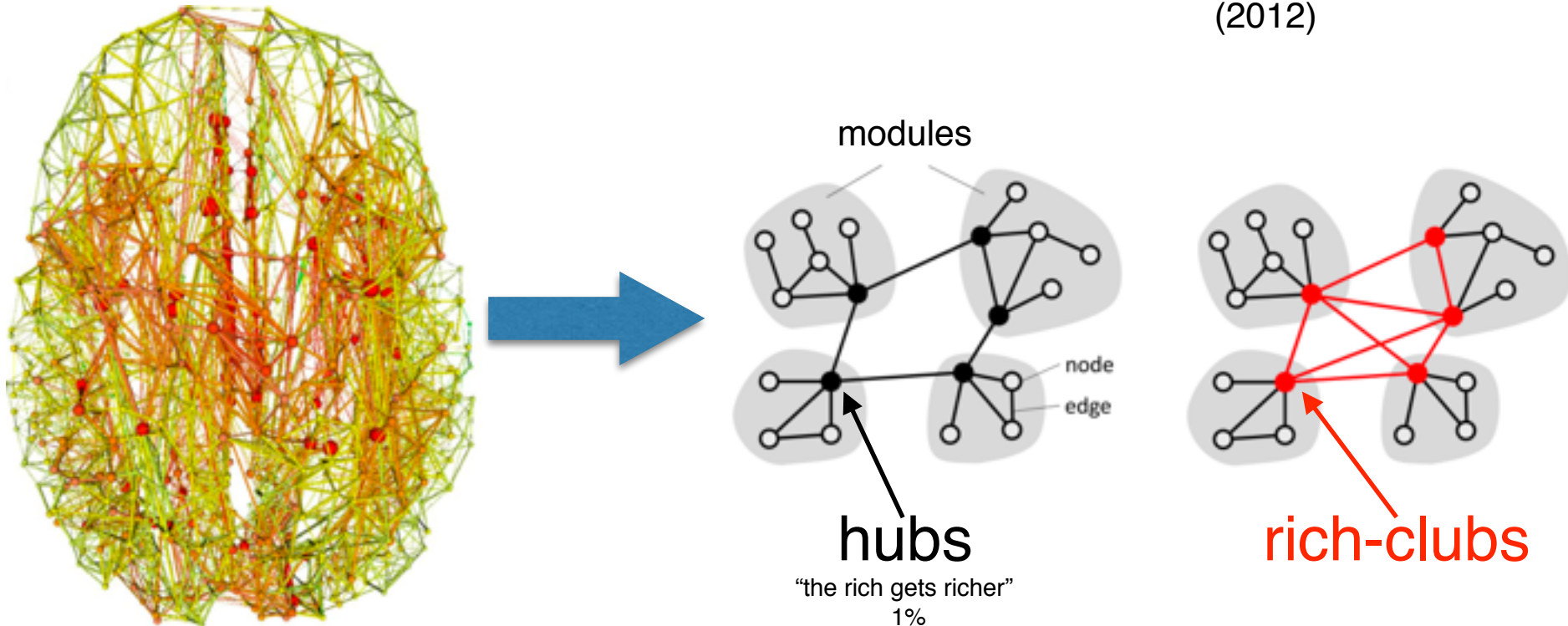




# Binding problem: how the brain integrates information: influencers in the brain

## Conventional hub-centric (scale-free) theory

Bullmore, Sporns,  
Nature Rev Neurosci  
(2012)

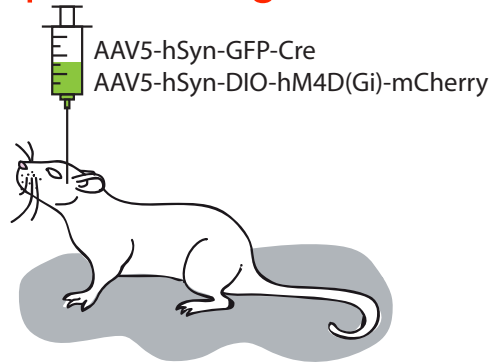


Problems with scale-free theory:

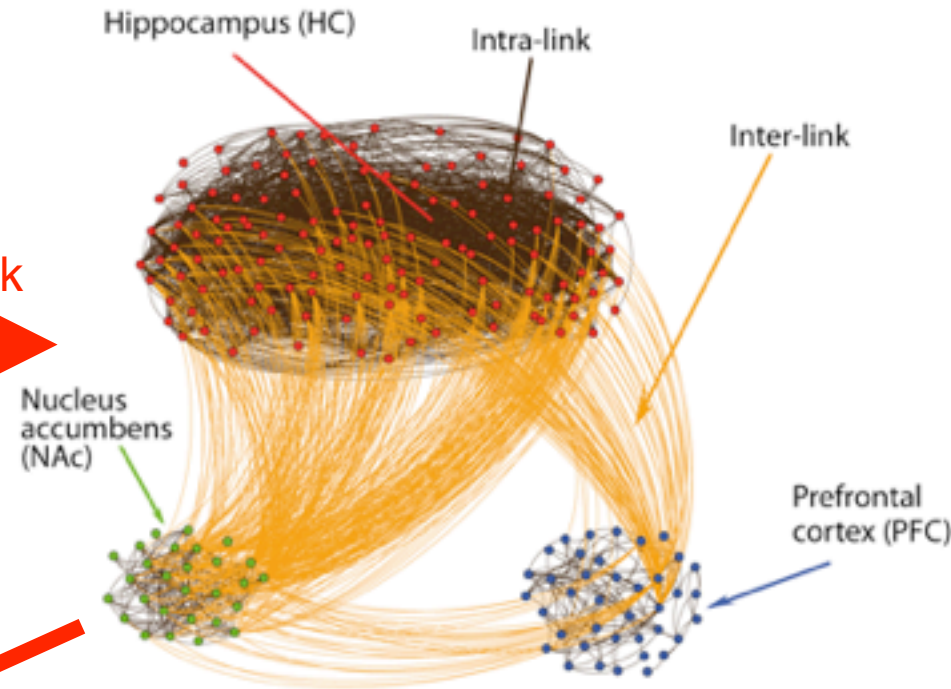
1. Not based on graph optimization theory (heuristic)
2. Doesn't guaranteed the minimal set of essential nodes

# Pipeline: machine learning and network theory to predict essential nodes in rat brain

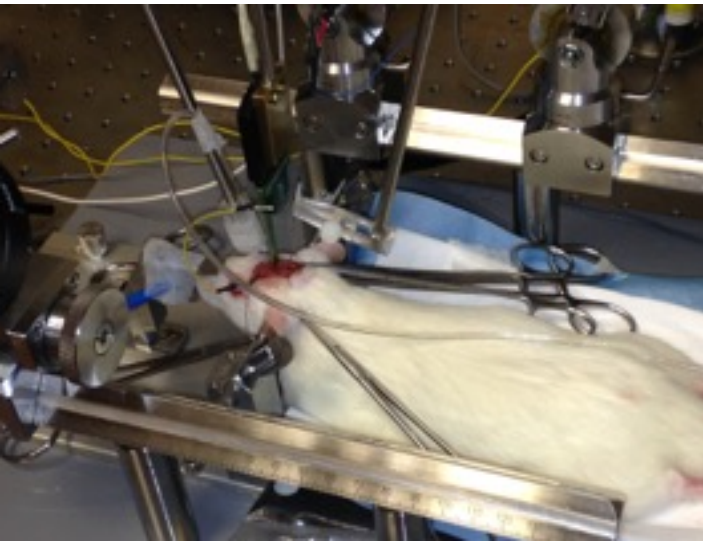
Simultaneous:  
LTP + fMRI read-out  
pharmacogenetics



big-data +  
machine learning  
to infer the network



Pharmacogenetics



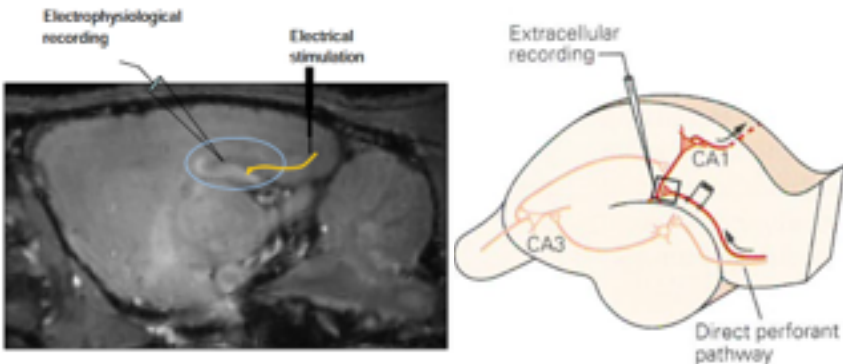
network theory to  
predict the essential areas  
in the brain

Gallos, Makse, Sigman, PNAS (2012)  
Reis, Sigman, Canals, Makse, Nature Phys (2014)  
Morone, Roth, Min, Stanley, Makse, PNAS (2017)

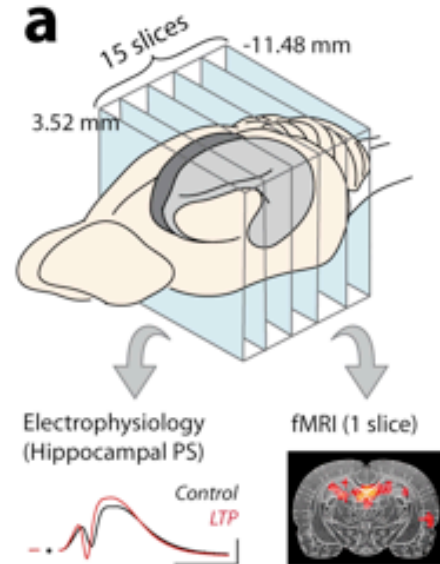


# Inducing a memory network of networks in long-term potentiation in rat hippocampus

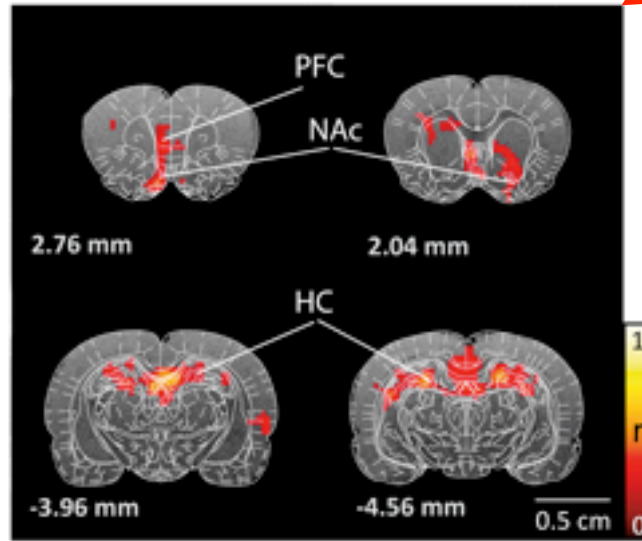
200 Hz electrical stimulation  
in perforant pathway HC



Three hours later  
fMRI read out



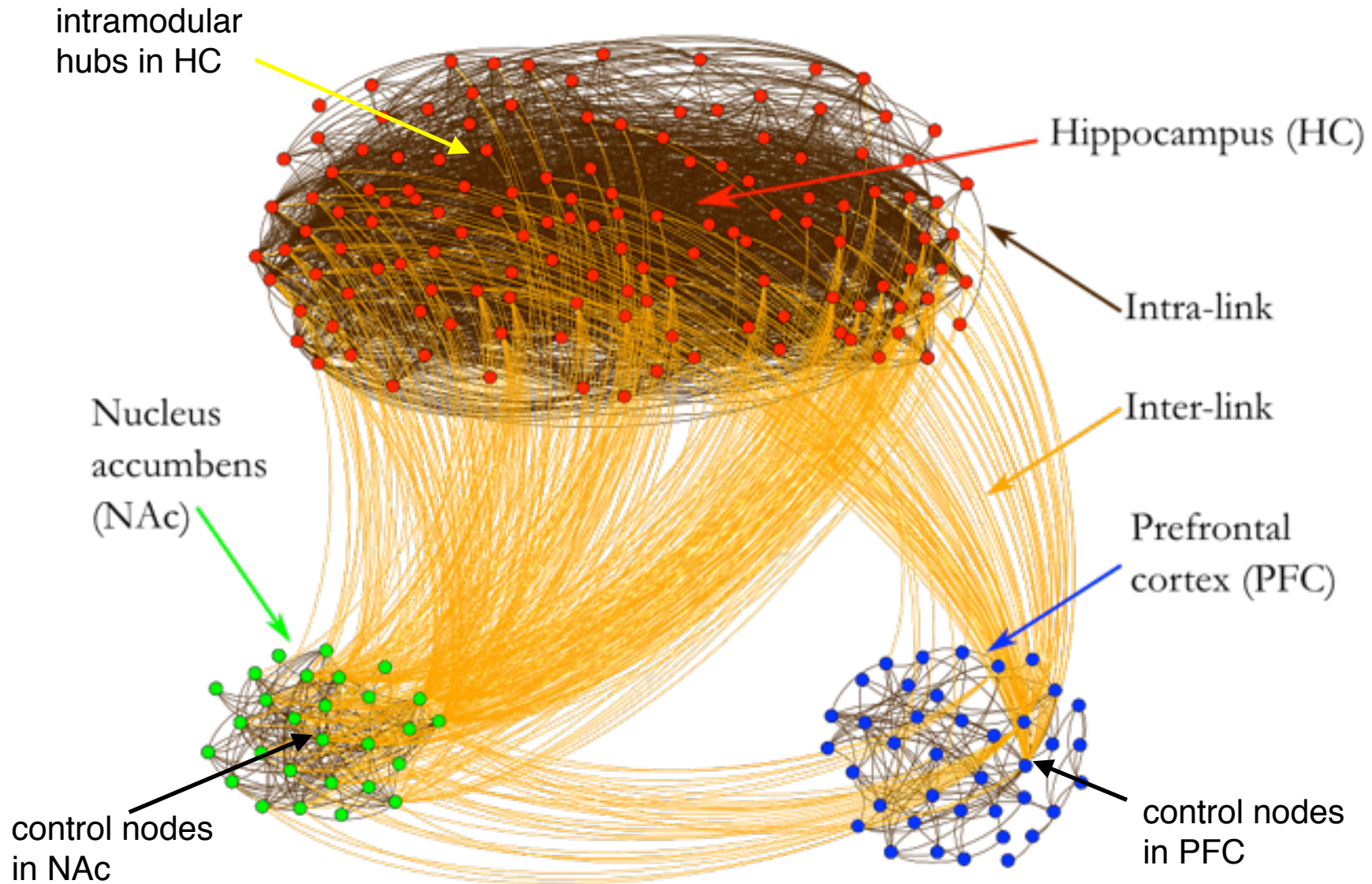
Canals,  
Logothetis, et  
al, Current Bio  
(2009)



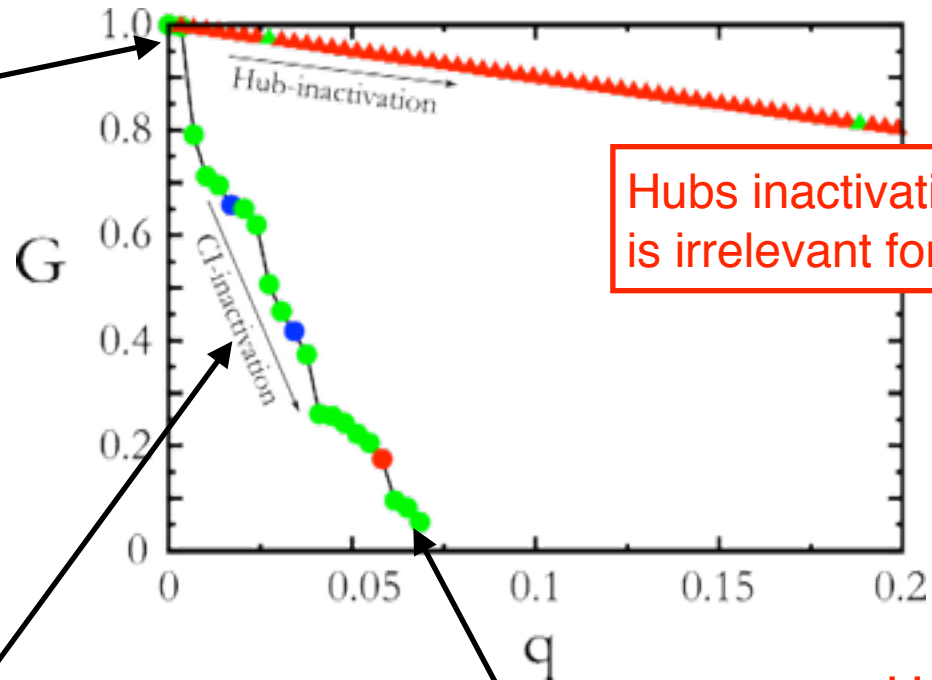
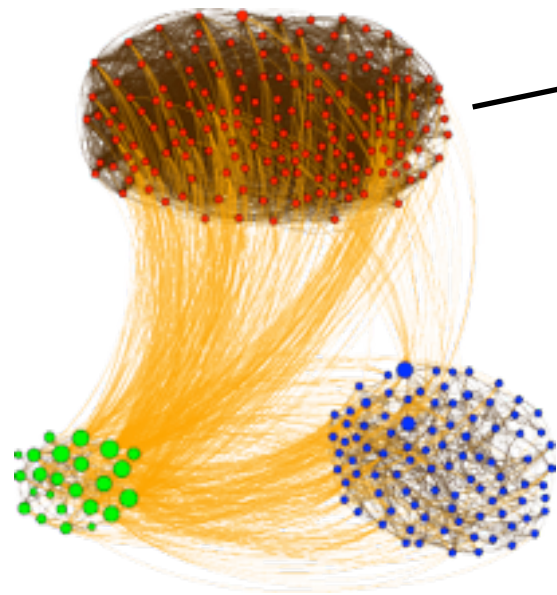
Result in global activation  
of three areas  
(mesolimbic + neocortical):

- Hippocampus: HC
- Pre-frontal cortex: PFC
- Nucleus Accumbens: NAc

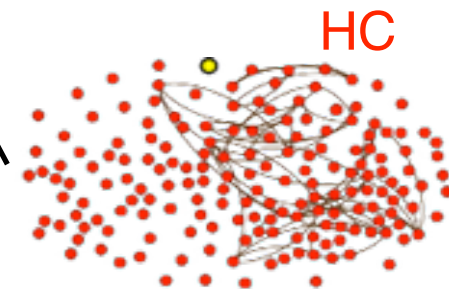
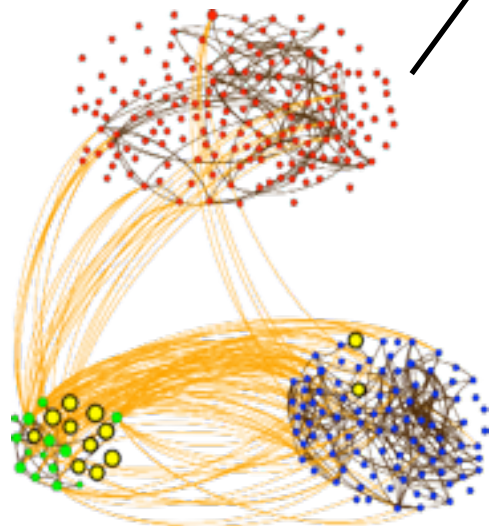
# Result: Sparse memory NoN



# Prediction of optima percolation in NoN



Hubs inactivation in HC is irrelevant for NoN

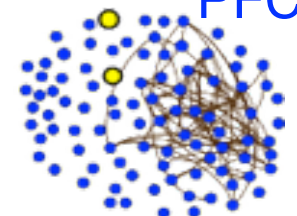


Shell NAc inactivation fully prevents global integration

NAc

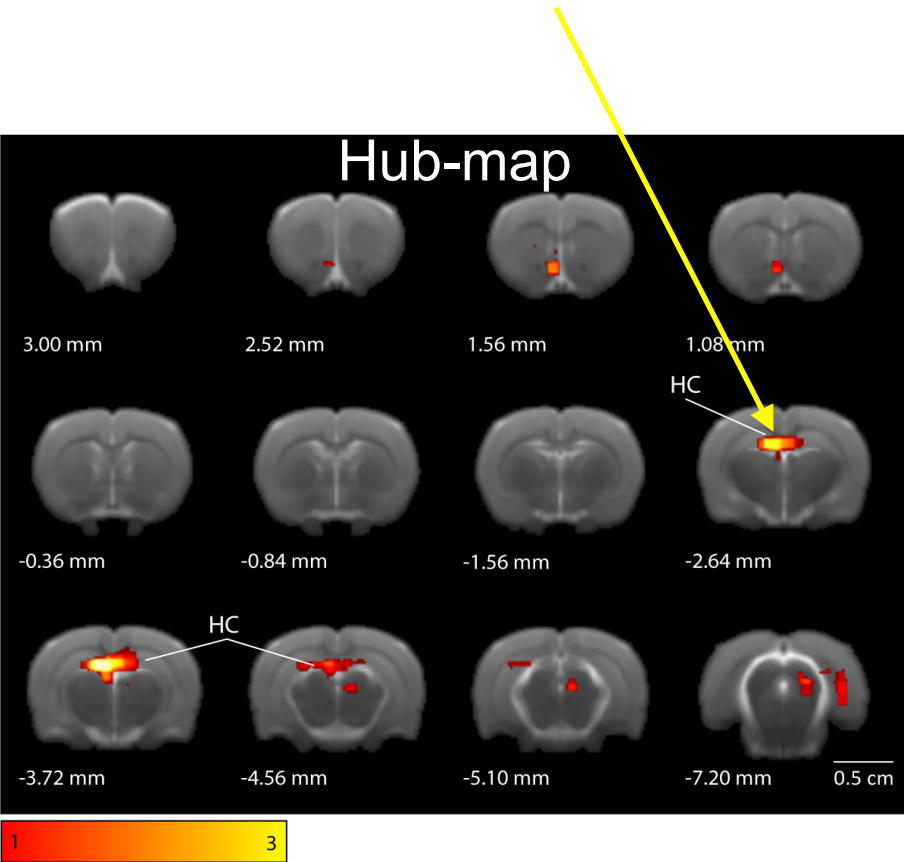


PFC

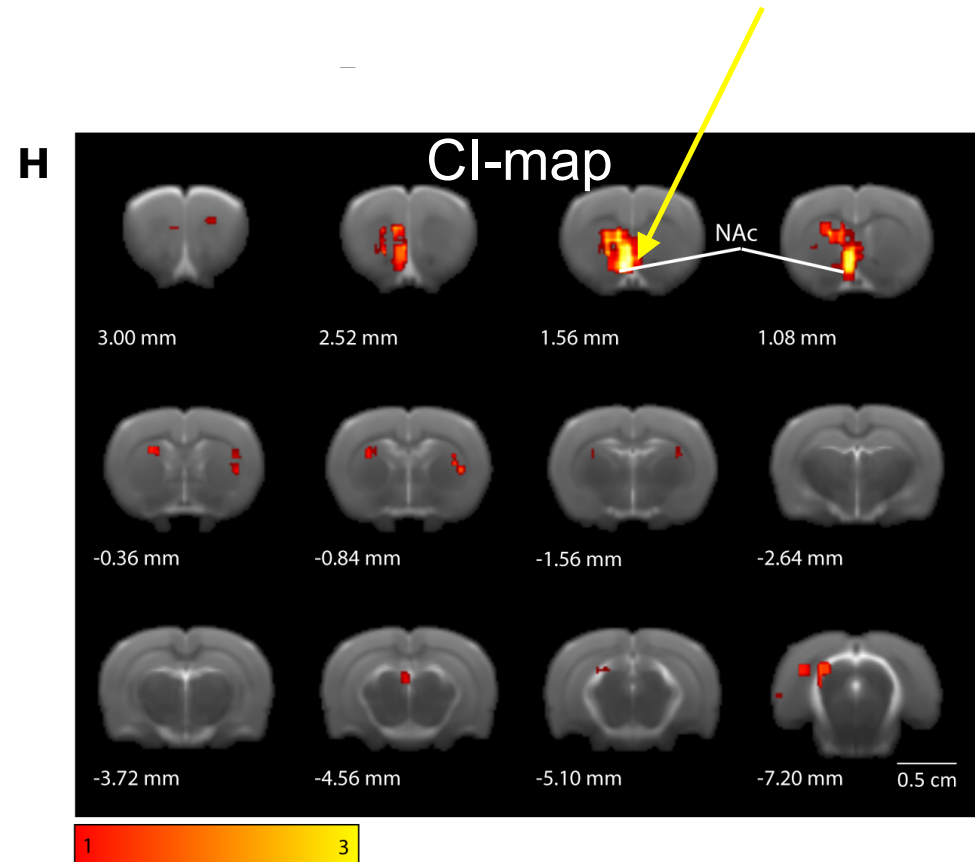


# Two different predictions for essential nodes

Hub-centric theory:  
Essential nodes in HC



Optimal Percolation:  
Essential nodes in NAc



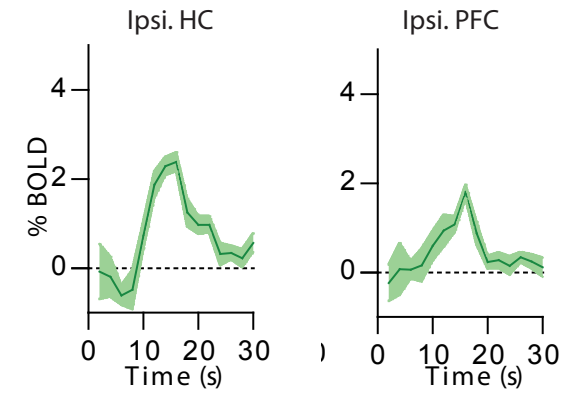
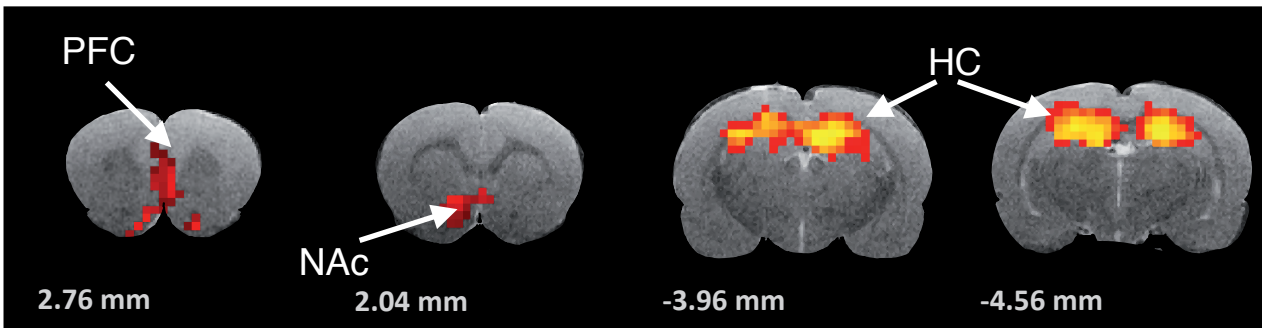
average over 6 rats



# Pharmacogenetic silencing essential node in NAc shell inactivates whole memory NoN

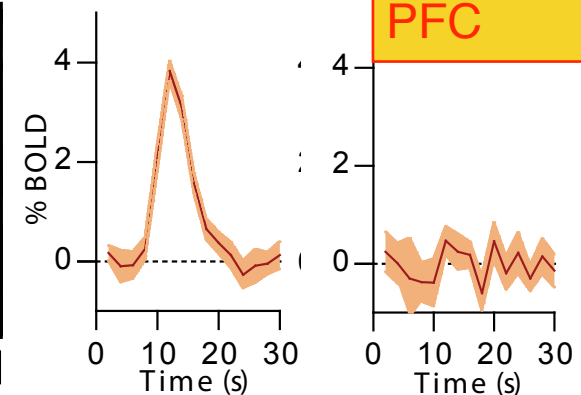
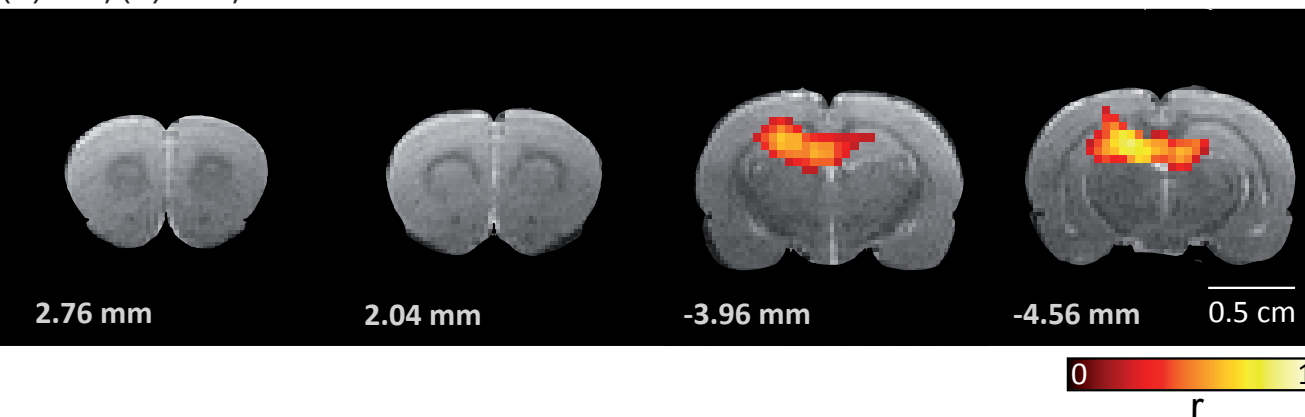
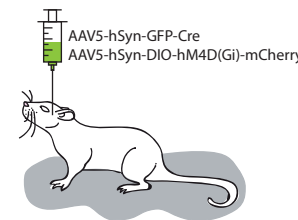
## Normal LTP

Min, Moreno, Morone, Parra, Canals, Makse, arxiv.org (2017)



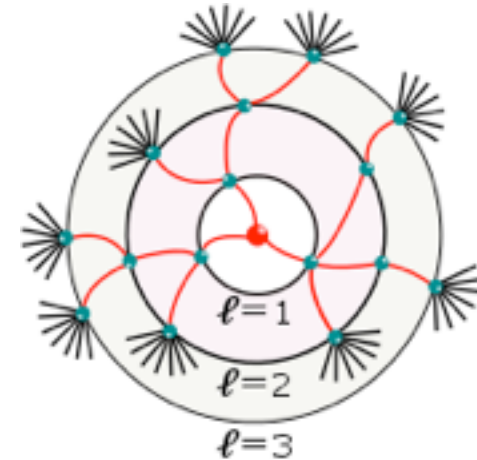
## LTP + single node NAc inactivation

(+)AAV, (+)CNO, Post-LTP



# Summary

1. A new class of strategically located influencers, called weak nodes, controls the information flow in social media and the brain

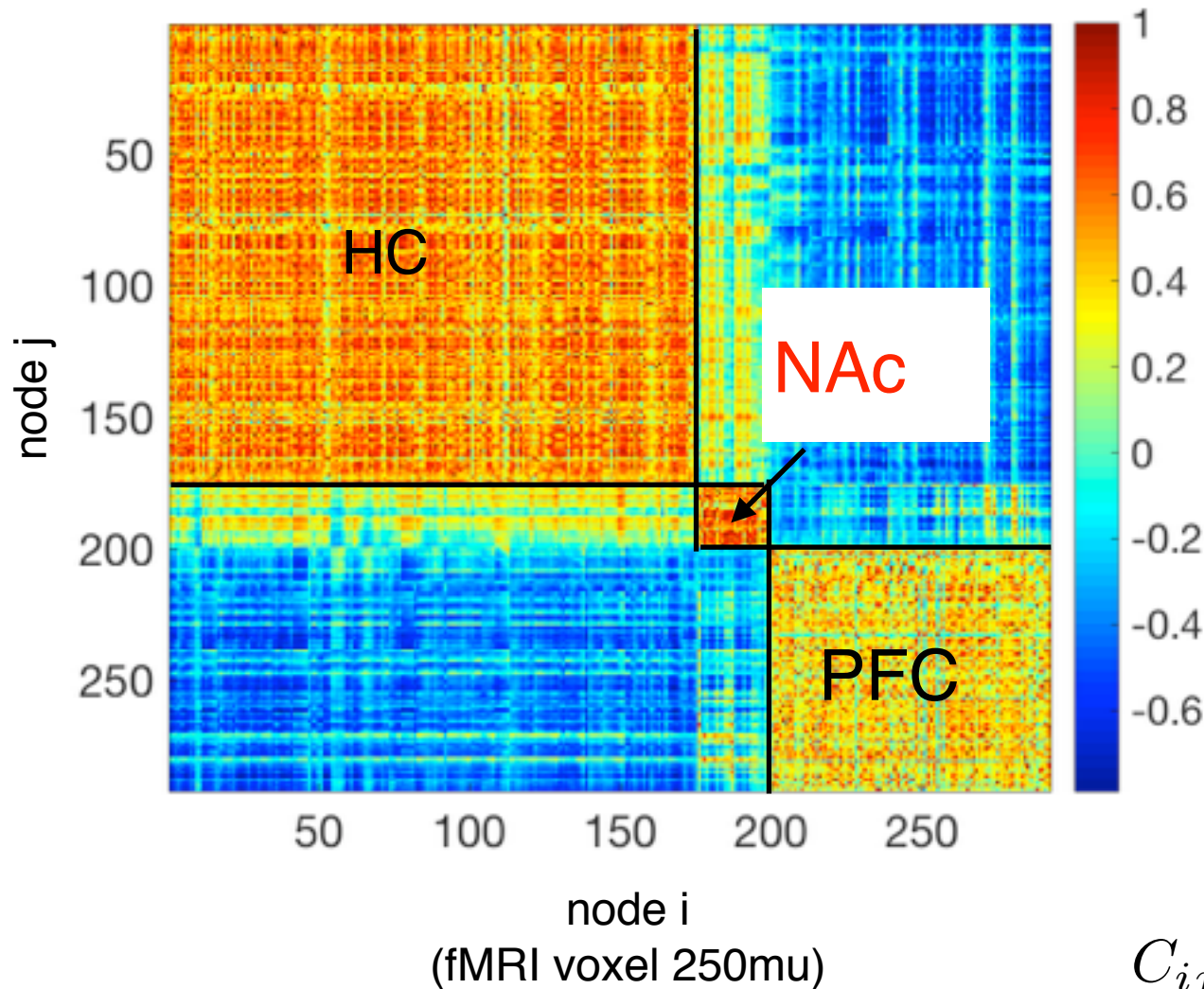


2. Implications for targeted marketing in social media and control of brain function and disease

3. Machine learning + big data + network theory might be able to realize the dreams of the digital age

# Infer sparse effective network of networks

$$C_{ij}$$



Covariance matrix  
from BOLD signal  
in fMRI

$$C_{ij} = \frac{\langle x_i x_j \rangle - \langle x_i \rangle \langle x_j \rangle}{\sigma_i \sigma_j}$$



More is  
different!

P. W. Anderson,  
Physics Nobel laureate 1977  
Structure of disordered  
systems

"Emergent properties", i.e.,  
"properties not contained in the  
simple laws of physics, although  
they are a consequence of them".



# COMPLEXITY SCIENCE: The realm of Matter and Life

Emergent phenomena:  
Complex Systems

MATTER

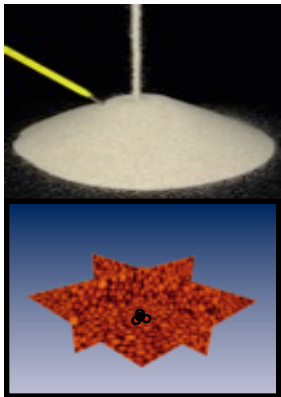
Sociology: human activity

Living organisms, species

Brain → Consciousness

Cell

Biology: Macromolecules,  
proteins



grains of sand = mm

colloids = microns

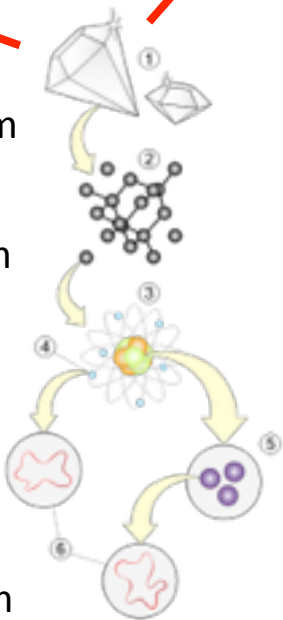
nanoparticles = nm

Molecules =  $10^{-10}\text{m}$

Atoms =  $10^{-11}\text{m}$

Quarks - electrons =  $10^{-15}\text{m}$

Strings =  $10^{-25}\text{m}$



Emergent  
phenomena

Reductionist  
approach

## 2. Influencers in Real Marketing Campaign using Mobile Phone Networks

Market campaign targeting the high CI people, AKA influencers

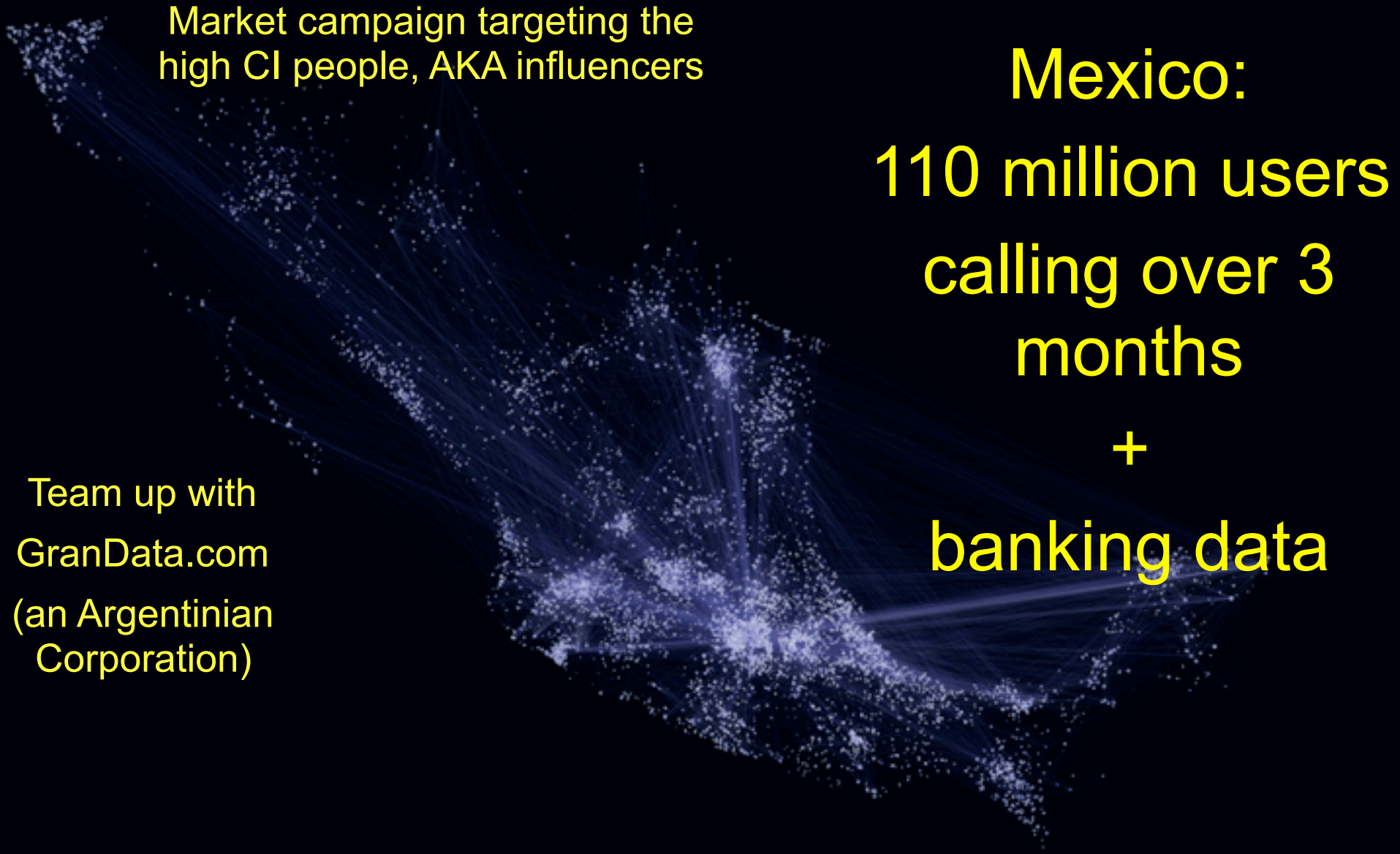
**Mexico:**

**110 million users  
calling over 3  
months**

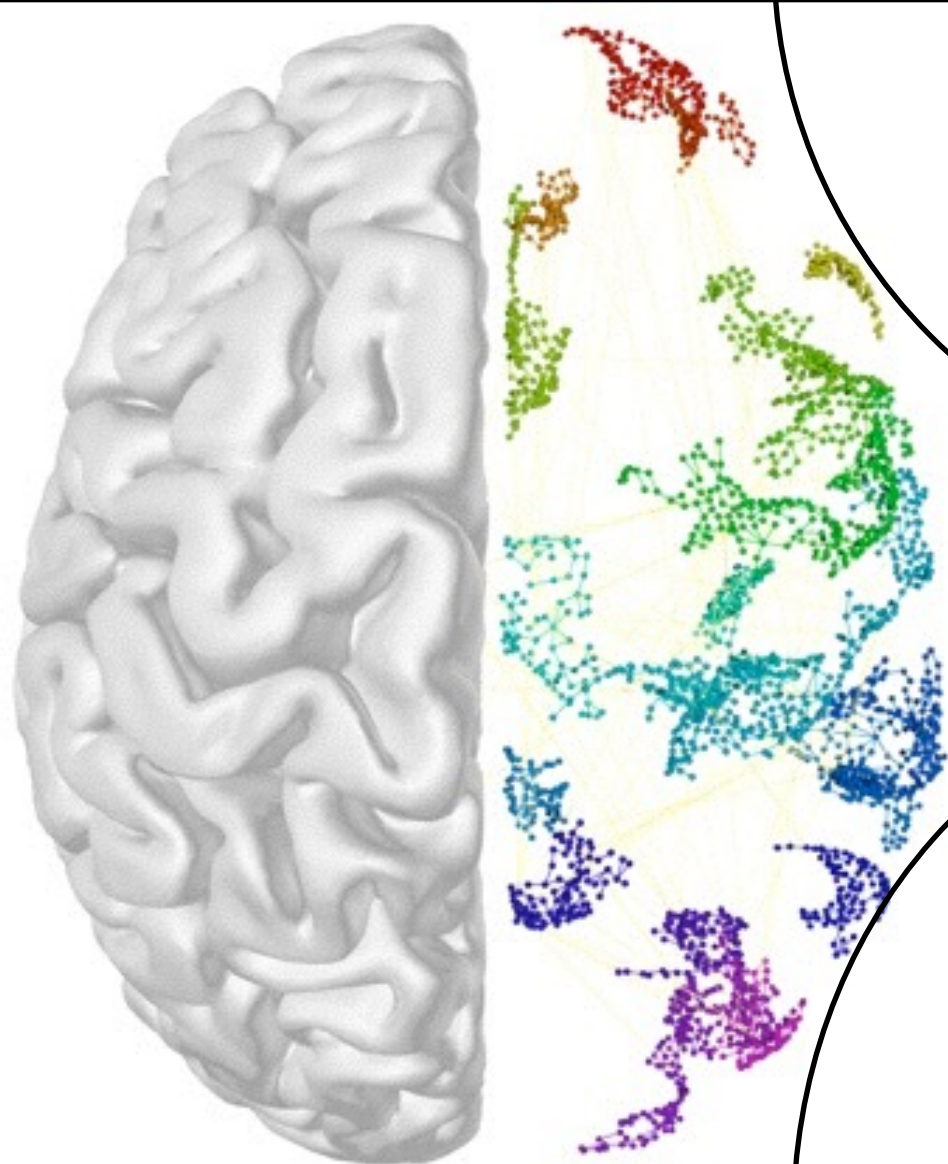
**+**

**banking data**

Team up with  
GranData.com  
(an Argentinian  
Corporation)



# THE MAIN INFLUENCER IN A BRAIN MEMORY NETWORK



NUCLEUS  
ACCUMBENS

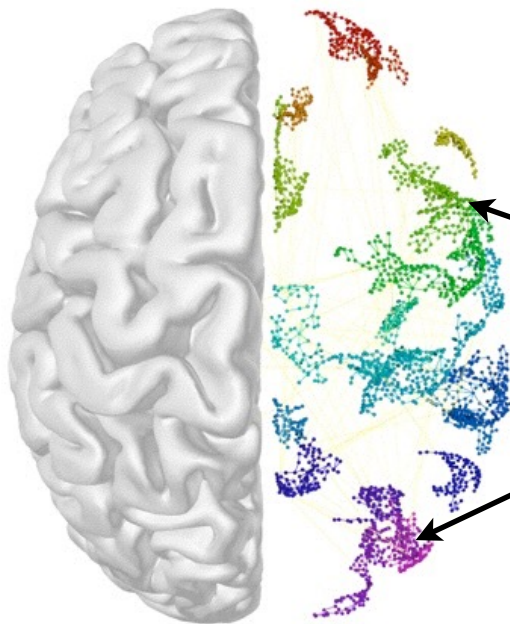
Morone, Makse  
Nature 2015

# 4. Brain conundrum: Binding Problem

## HOW THE BRAIN INTEGRATES DIFFERENT NETWORKS:

Brain modules ought to be sufficiently independent to guarantee functional specialization and sufficiently connected to bind multiple processors for efficient information transfer for, for instance, unitary perception (ie, visual areas analyze simultaneously form, color, motion, etc)

Segregation versus integration at the network level



Problem of any information processing system:

Network of  
Networks

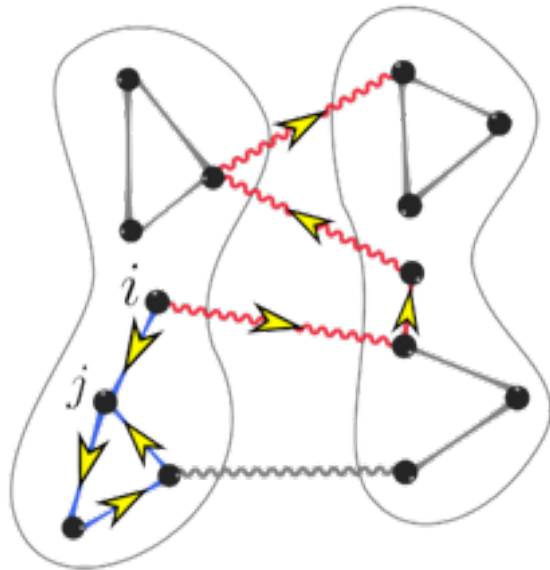
Gallos, Makse, Sigman, PNAS (2012)

Reis, Andrade, Sigman, Canals, Makse, Nat Phys (2014)



# Influencers in a Network of Networks

Influencers are the best non-backtracking walkers walking along two types of links. Information flows via two type of messages: intra-modular and inter-modular



$$\mathcal{M}_{k \rightarrow \ell, i \rightarrow j}(n_i) = \left. \frac{\partial \rho_{i \rightarrow j}}{\partial \rho_{k \rightarrow \ell}} \right|_{\rho=0}$$

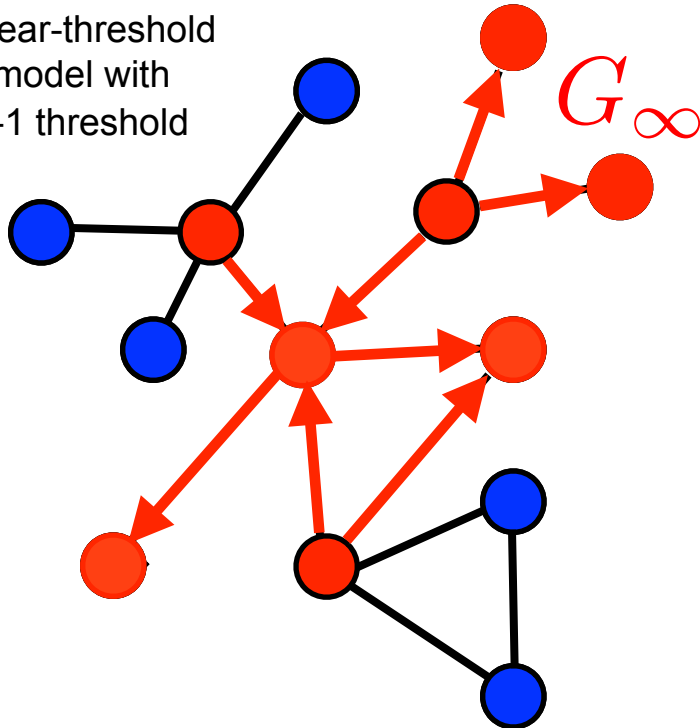
$$\hat{\mathcal{M}} \equiv \left( \begin{array}{cc} \hat{\mathcal{M}}_{\rho\rho} & \hat{\mathcal{M}}_{\rho\varphi} \\ \hat{\mathcal{M}}_{\varphi\rho} & \hat{\mathcal{M}}_{\varphi\varphi} \end{array} \right) \Big|_{G=0} \equiv \left( \begin{array}{cccc} \frac{\partial \rho_{k_A \rightarrow l_A}}{\partial \rho_{i_A \rightarrow j_A}} & \frac{\partial \rho_{k_B \rightarrow l_B}}{\partial \rho_{i_A \rightarrow j_A}} & \frac{\partial \varphi_{k_A \rightarrow l_B}}{\partial \rho_{i_A \rightarrow j_A}} & \frac{\partial \varphi_{k_B \rightarrow l_A}}{\partial \rho_{i_A \rightarrow j_A}} \\ \frac{\partial \rho_{k_A \rightarrow l_A}}{\partial \rho_{i_B \rightarrow j_B}} & \frac{\partial \rho_{k_B \rightarrow l_B}}{\partial \rho_{i_B \rightarrow j_B}} & \frac{\partial \varphi_{k_A \rightarrow l_B}}{\partial \rho_{i_B \rightarrow j_B}} & \frac{\partial \varphi_{k_B \rightarrow l_A}}{\partial \rho_{i_B \rightarrow j_B}} \\ \frac{\partial \rho_{k_A \rightarrow l_A}}{\partial \varphi_{i_A \rightarrow j_B}} & \frac{\partial \rho_{k_B \rightarrow l_B}}{\partial \varphi_{i_A \rightarrow j_B}} & \frac{\partial \varphi_{k_A \rightarrow l_B}}{\partial \varphi_{i_A \rightarrow j_B}} & \frac{\partial \varphi_{k_B \rightarrow l_A}}{\partial \varphi_{i_A \rightarrow j_B}} \\ \frac{\partial \rho_{k_A \rightarrow l_A}}{\partial \varphi_{i_B \rightarrow j_A}} & \frac{\partial \rho_{k_B \rightarrow l_B}}{\partial \varphi_{i_B \rightarrow j_A}} & \frac{\partial \varphi_{k_A \rightarrow l_B}}{\partial \varphi_{i_B \rightarrow j_A}} & \frac{\partial \varphi_{k_B \rightarrow l_A}}{\partial \varphi_{i_B \rightarrow j_A}} \end{array} \right) \Big|_{G=0}$$

# Optimal Percolation = Best attack = best influencers

Morone, Makse,  
Nature (2015)

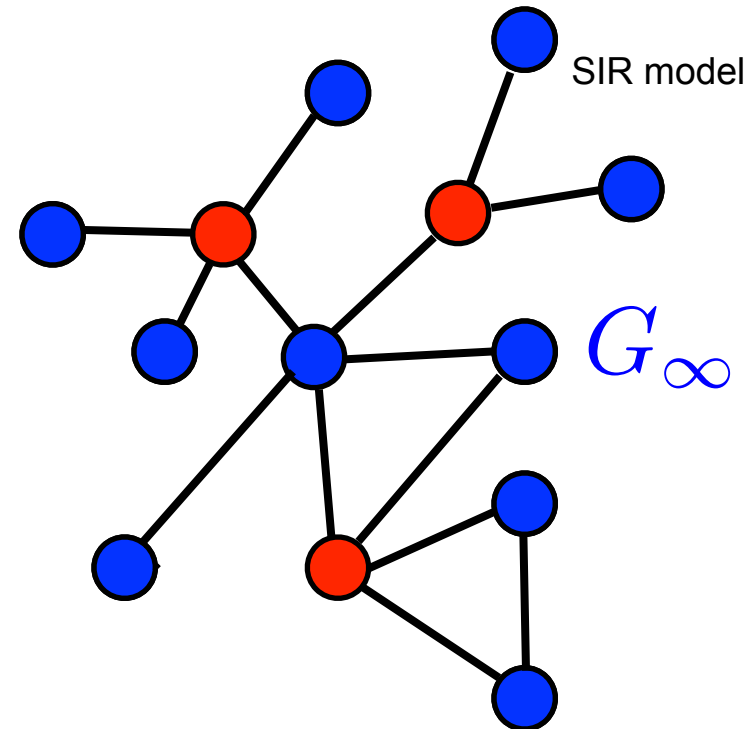
Mapping to Optimal Percolation to find the minimal set of  
“influencers” to fragment the network

Linear-threshold  
model with  
k-1 threshold



Best spreaders = minimize the  
inactive nodes = maximize giant  
component

$G_\infty$



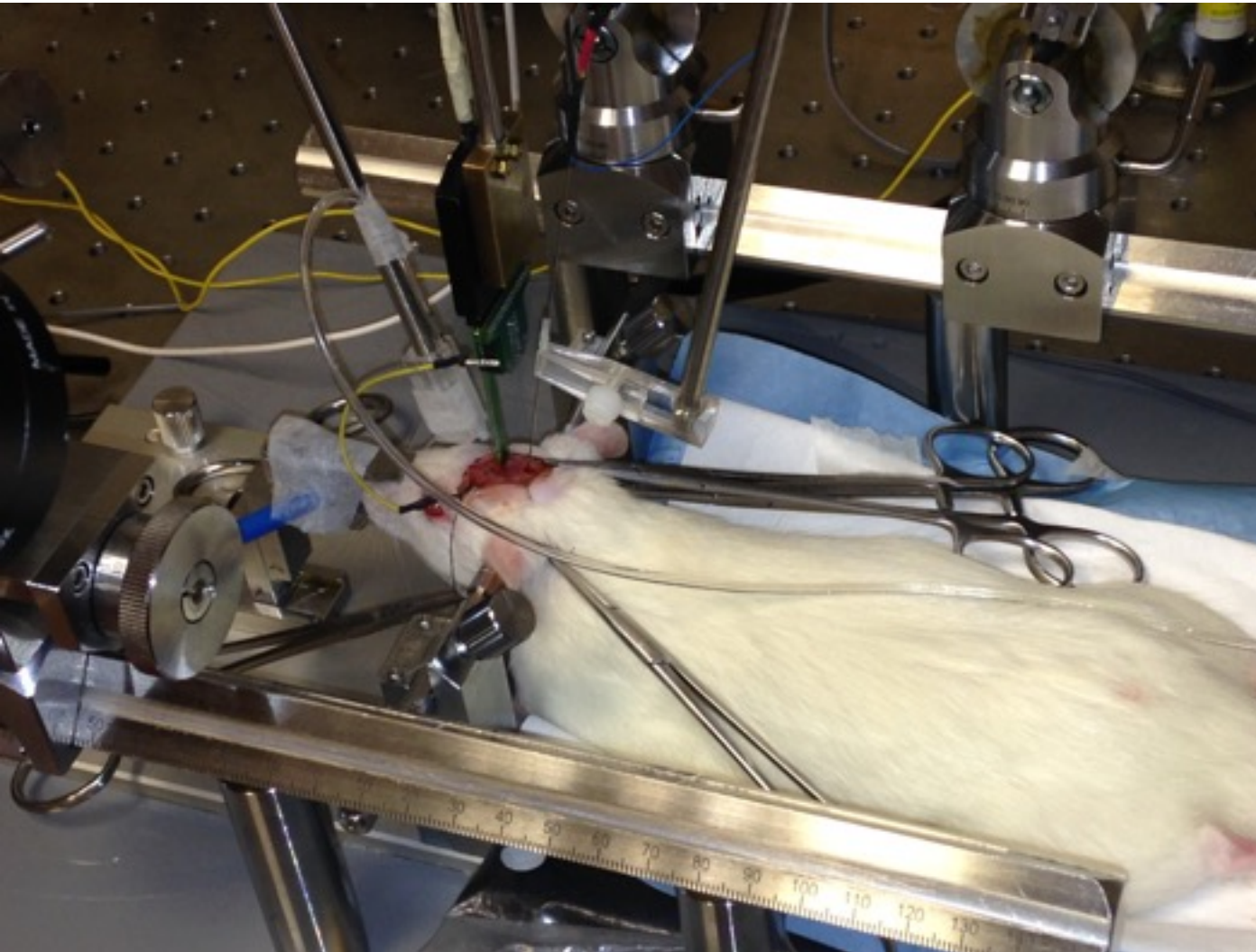
Best attack = minimize the giant  
connected component

$G_\infty$

# Network Theory predicts how to inhibit the memory in a rat

SIMULTANEOUS fMRI readout + OPTOGENETICS CONTROL

to manipulate activity in essential nodes + electrical stimulation of Hippocampus in LTP

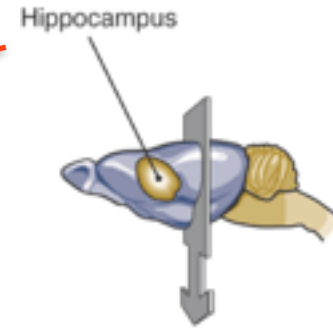
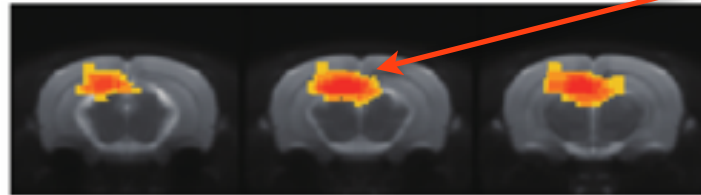


In collaboration  
with Santiago Canals  
Institute of  
Neuroscience  
Alicante - Spain



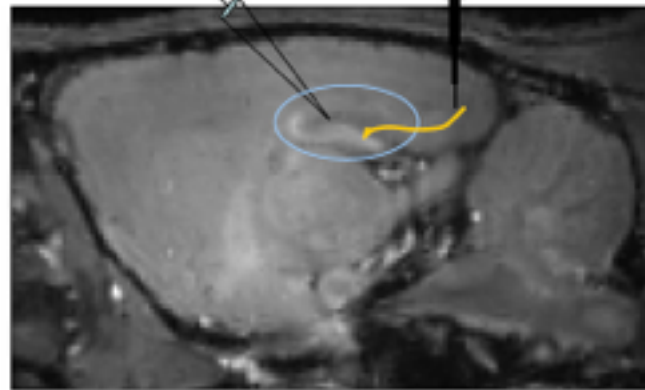
# Long-Term Potentiation (LTP) induction: High frequency electric stimulation was applied at Hippocampus

fMRI scan



Electrophysiological recording

Electrical stimulation



Stimulation protocol

4 s on



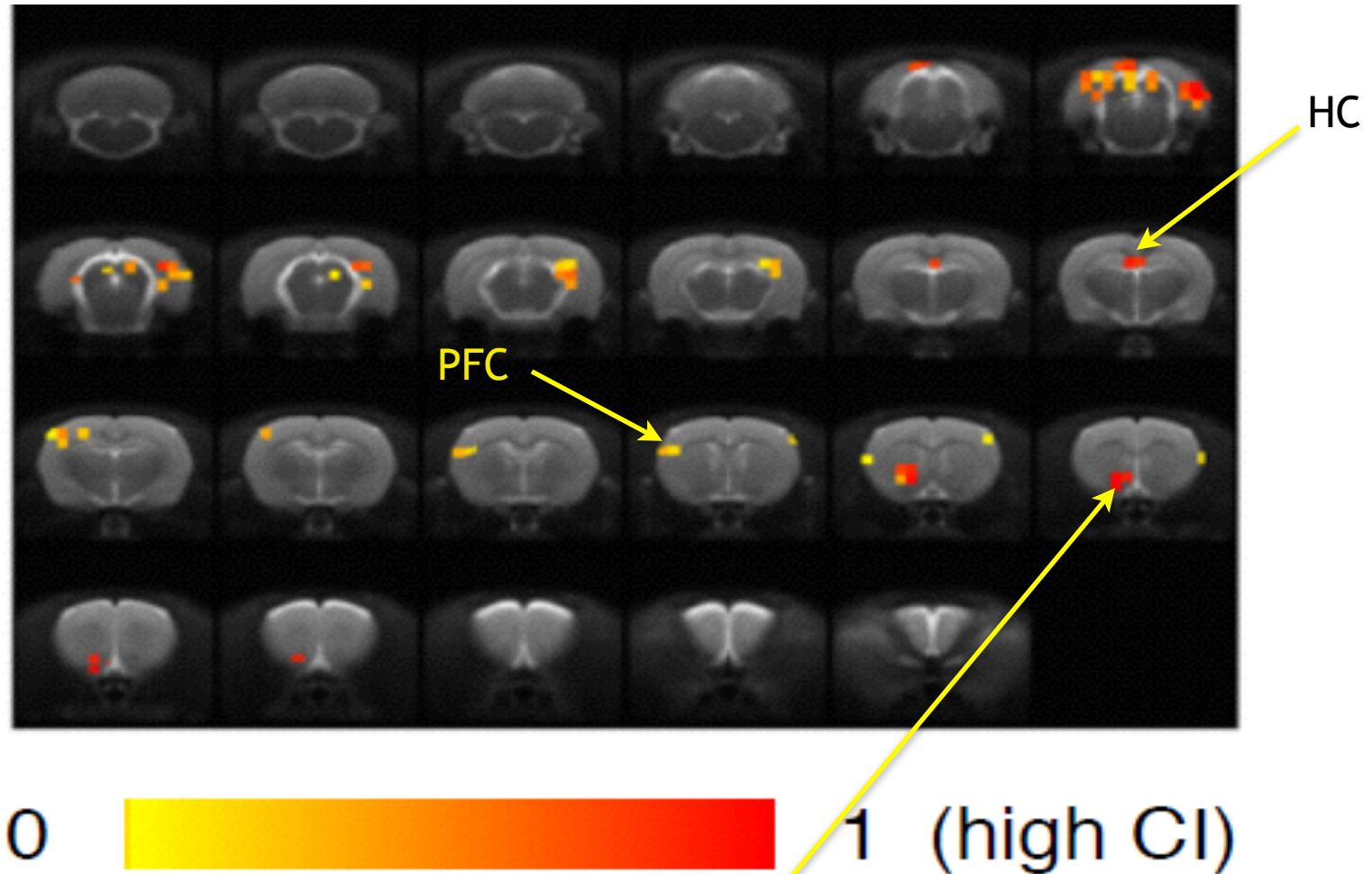
26 s off

200 Hz



# We find the Memory 3-Network of Networks: Hippocampus + Nucleus Accumbens + Prefrontal Cortex

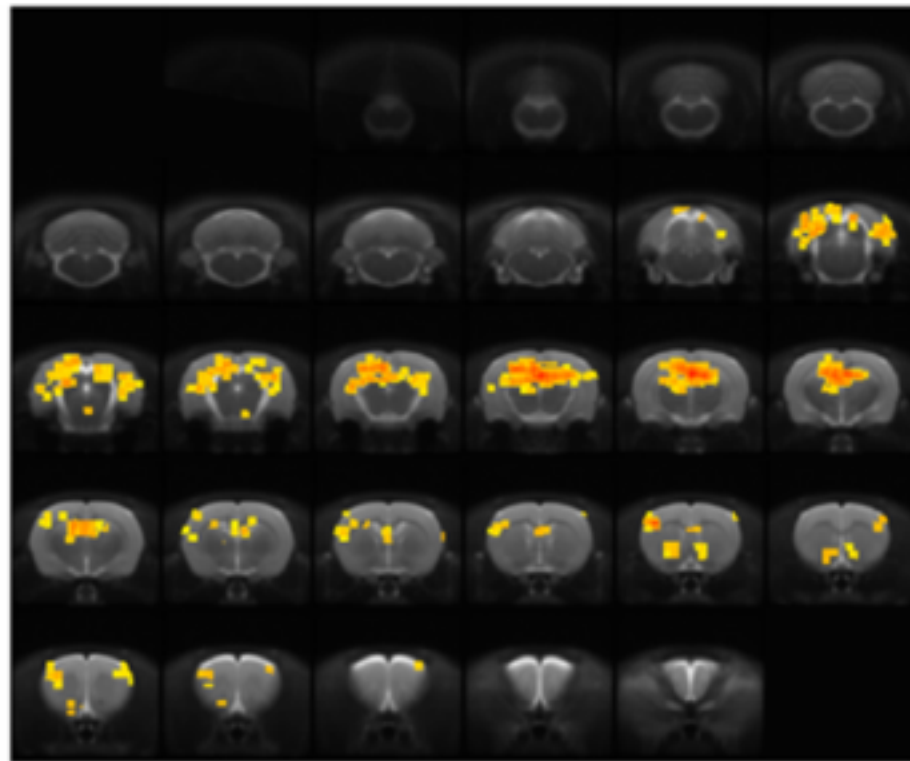
## INFLUENCE MAP OF THE MEMORY NETWORK



**NUCLEUS ACCUMBENS IS THE MOST INFLUENTIAL AREA EVEN  
THOUGH IT HAS LOW CONNECTIVITY!**

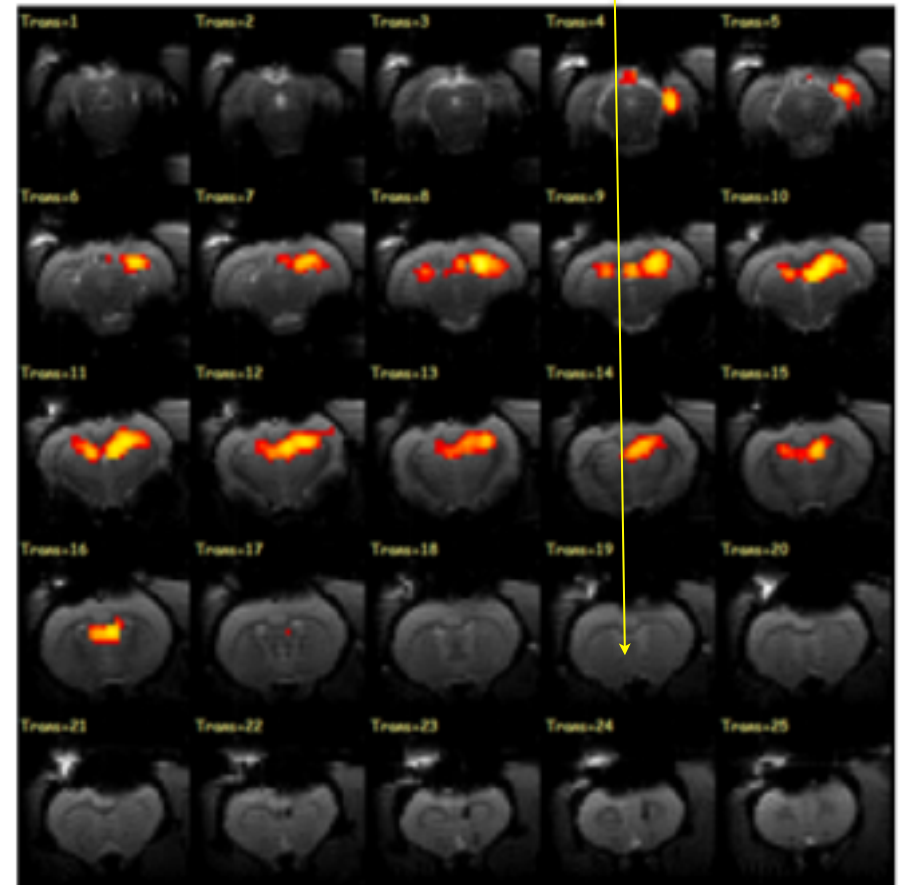
# Inhibition of single core node in Nucleus Accumbens destroys the whole memory consolidation in the Prefrontal Cortex

ACTIVATION MAP  
WITHOUT KO



0.2  3.5 (high CI)

ACTIVATION MAP WITH  
KO OF ACCUMBENS



LTP does not strengthen any area when the core node in the NAc predicted by CI map is inhibited

# Awake brain surgery to dissect tumor with no clear boundaries

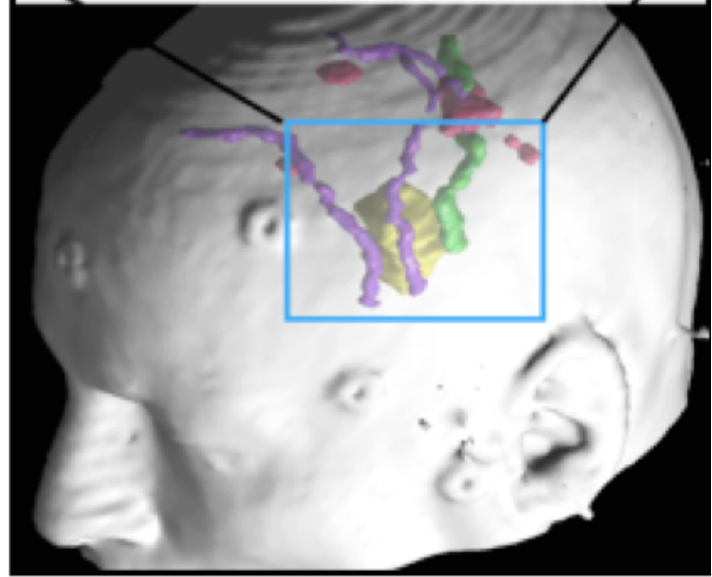
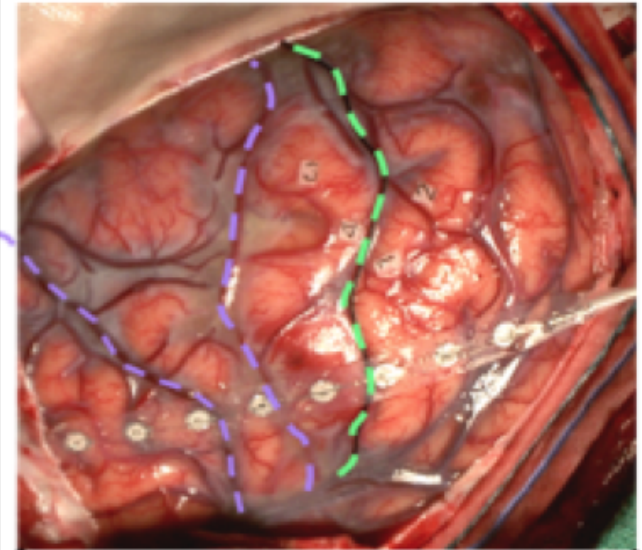
Neurosurgeon stimulates areas around the tumor with electrodes to locate the essential functional areas.

Functional areas (eg, language, motor) are located by asking patient to talk, move, etc. Remove as much tumor as possible avoiding the essential areas.

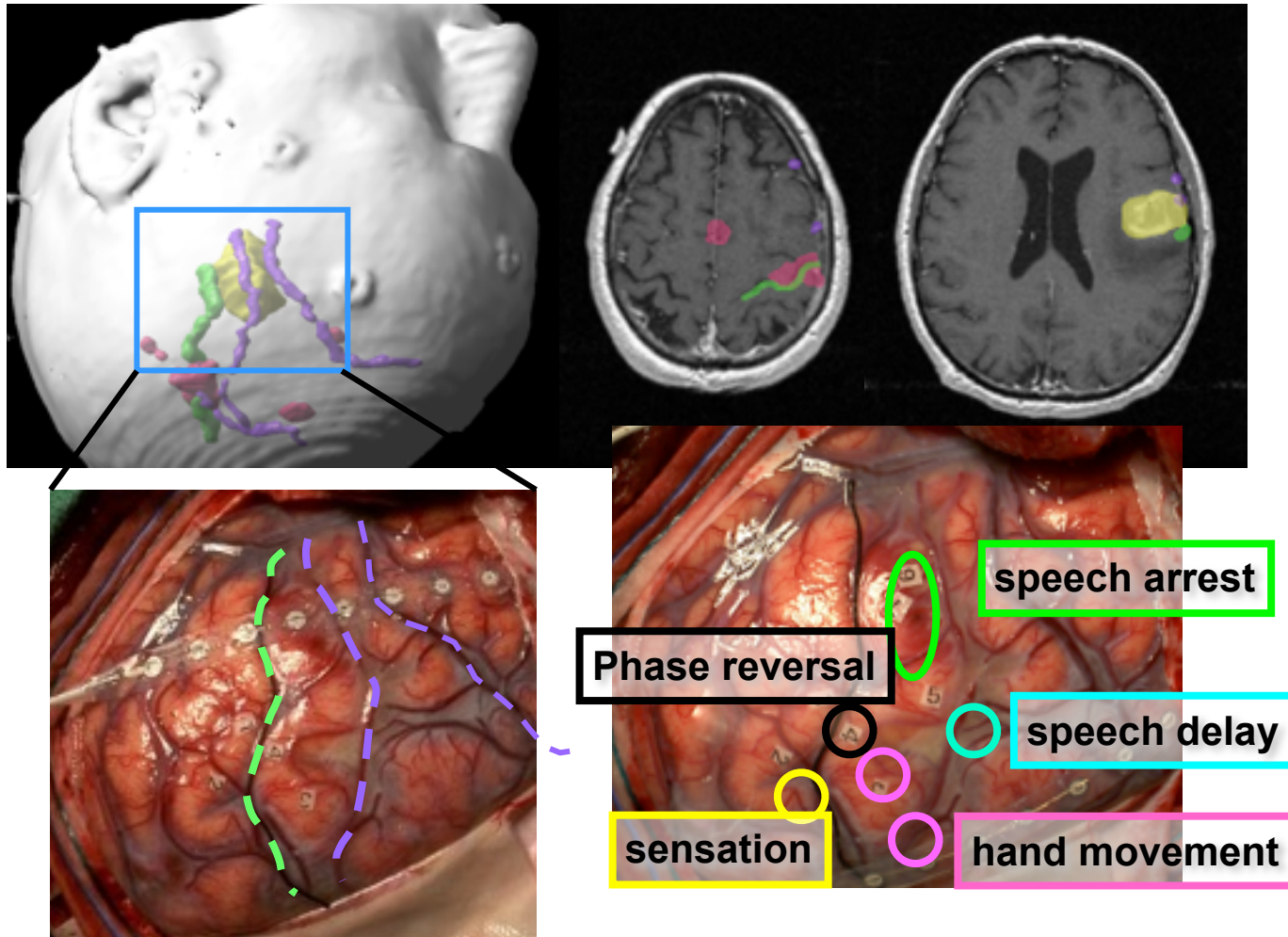
**GOAL: predict the essential areas of the brain with NoN theory**



Collaboration with  
Andrei Holodny, Memorial  
Sloan Kettering Cancer Center



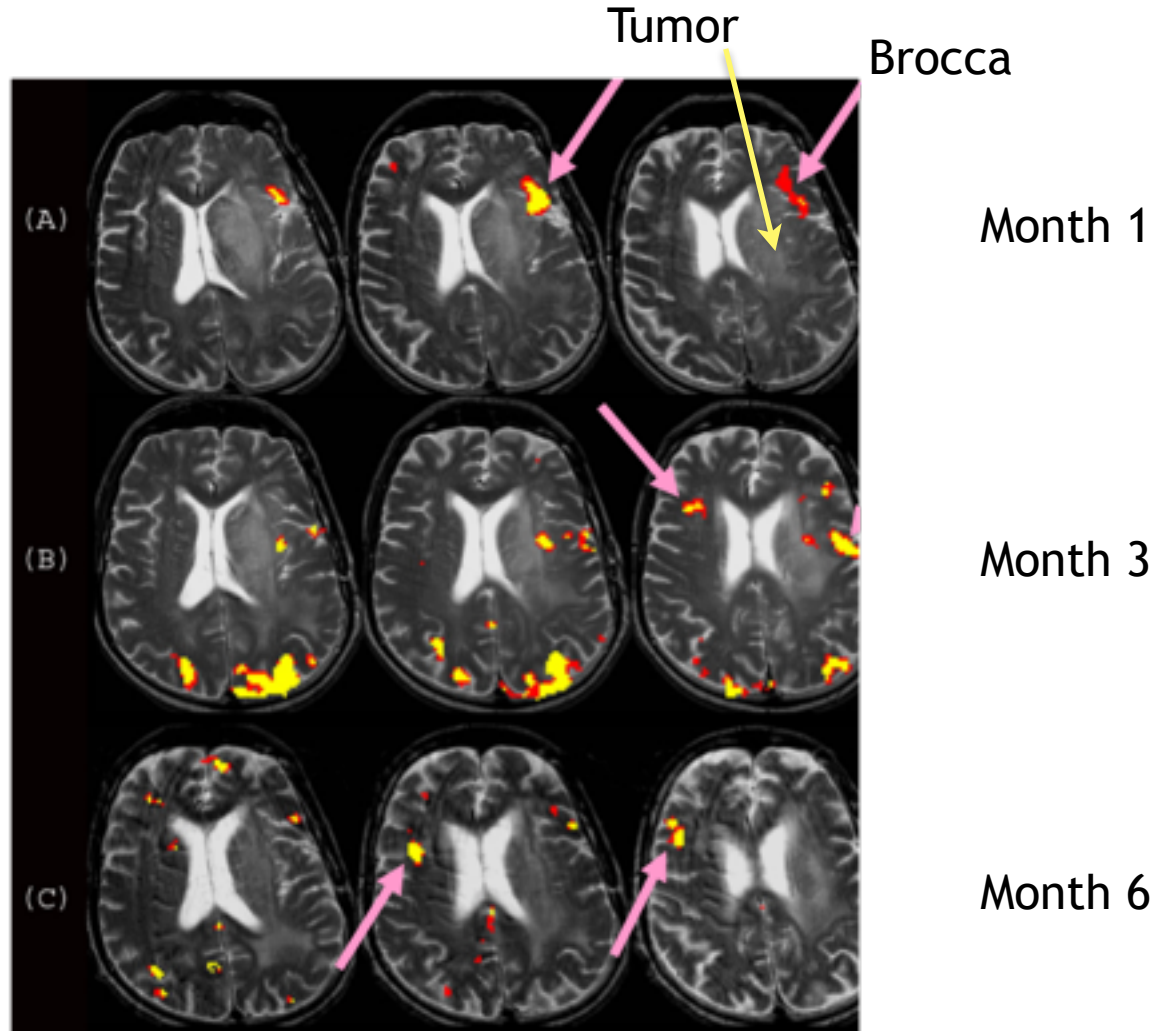
# NOWADAYS: Functional areas are identified by asking patient



Functional areas are identified by asking patient to talk during awake brain surgery.



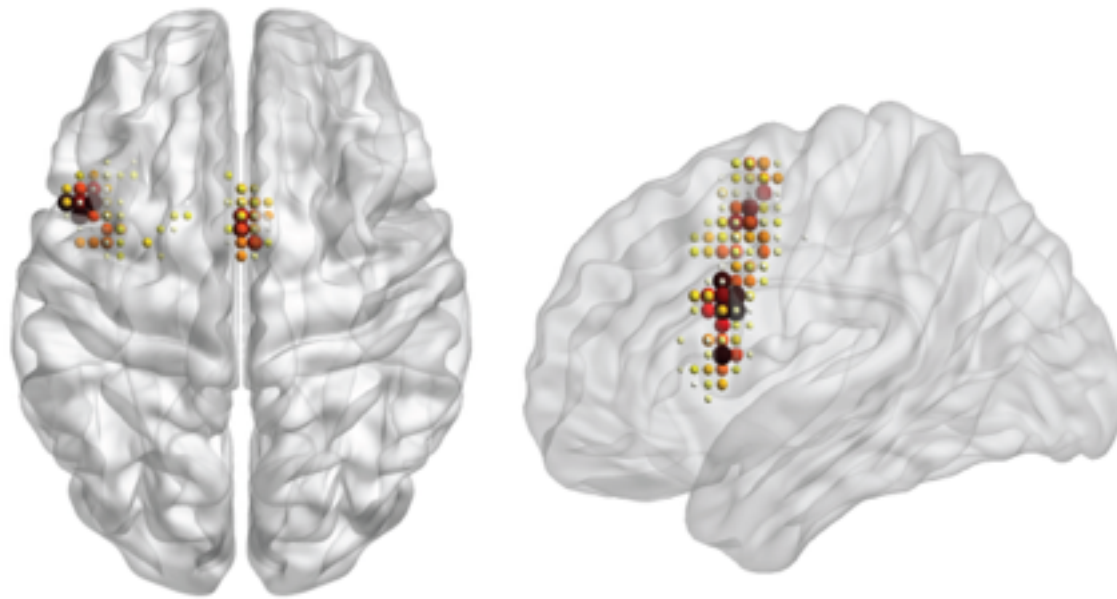
# Brain reorganization of language function after tumor



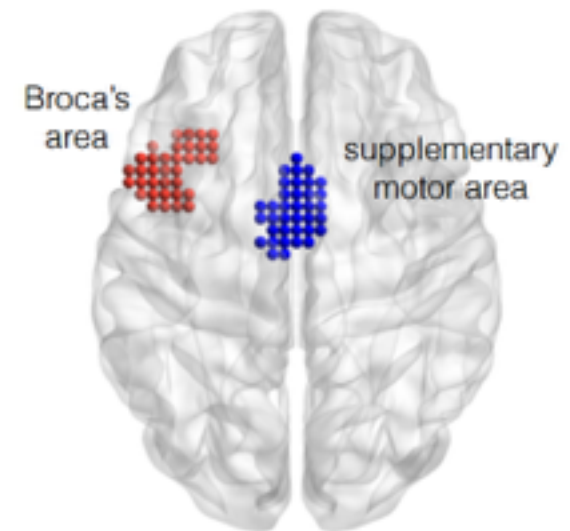
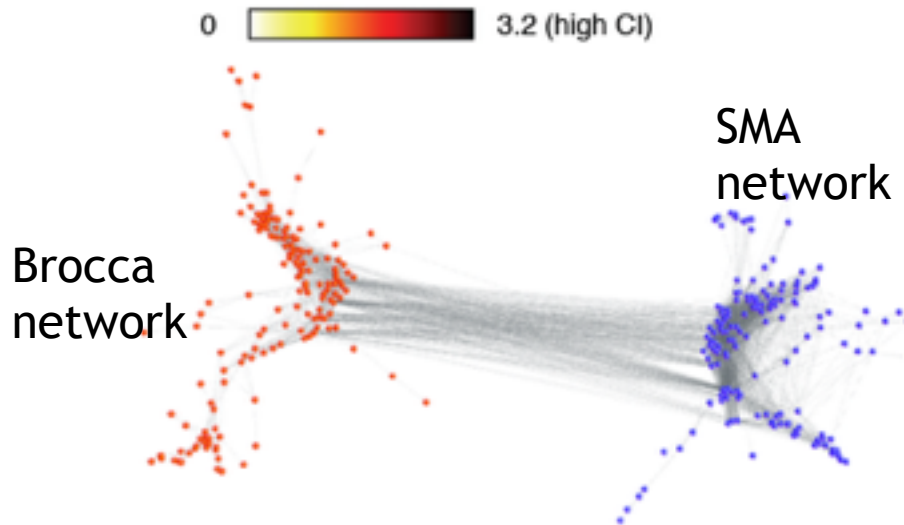
Brocca language area is reorganized!!

But only in half of 70 patients

# Predicting the essential area in the human brain of language function may help to understand both problems (in progress)



Predicting the core nodes in language function in the brain by Network Theory



# Data Analytics at the Cutting-Edge for Free!

## kcore-analytics.com

KCORE ANALYTICS

KCORE

WHAT WE DO

WHO WE ARE

CASE STUDY

PRESS

NEWS

CONTACT

LOGIN

## CCNY DREAM TEAM:

Search Engine for Influencers

Flaviano Morone



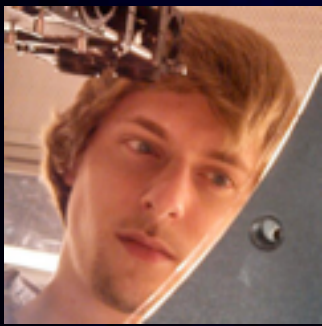
Hernan Makse



Twitter Influencers.



George Furbish



Andrea Morone



Alex Bovet



Kevin Roth



Francesca Lucini



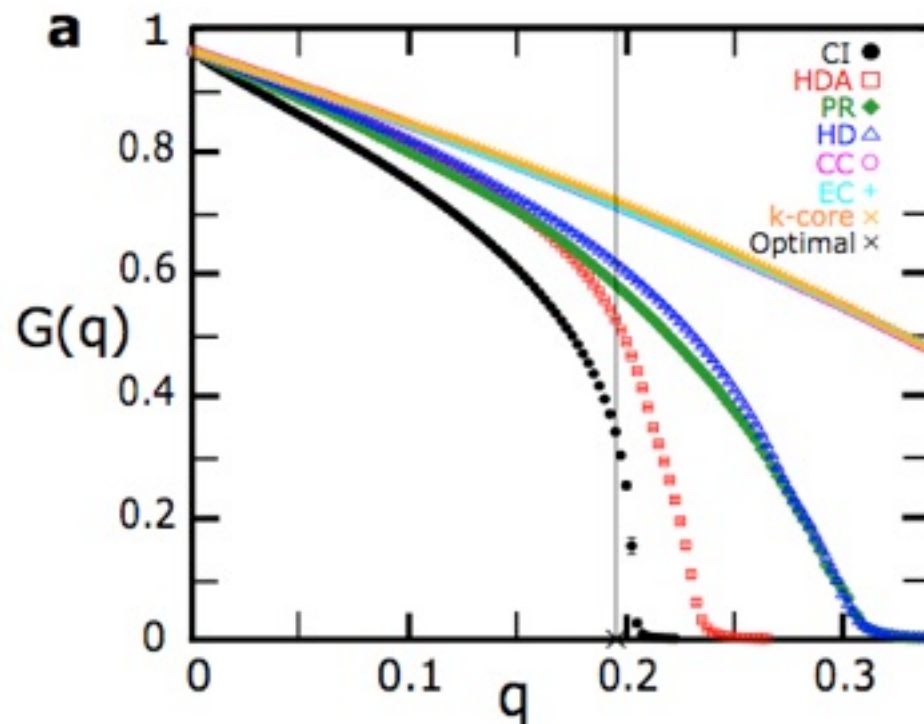
# Summary

1. NETWORK THEORY allows to predict the essential areas of the brain and influencers in social networks
2. Applications to open brain surgery in collaboration with Holodny, MSKCC.
3. Test in memory consolidation in rats in collaboration with Canals, Alicante.



# Test: Exact optimal solution and best approximation with CI in Erdos-Renyi network

CI outperforms heuristic centralities and approximates well the exact optimal solution

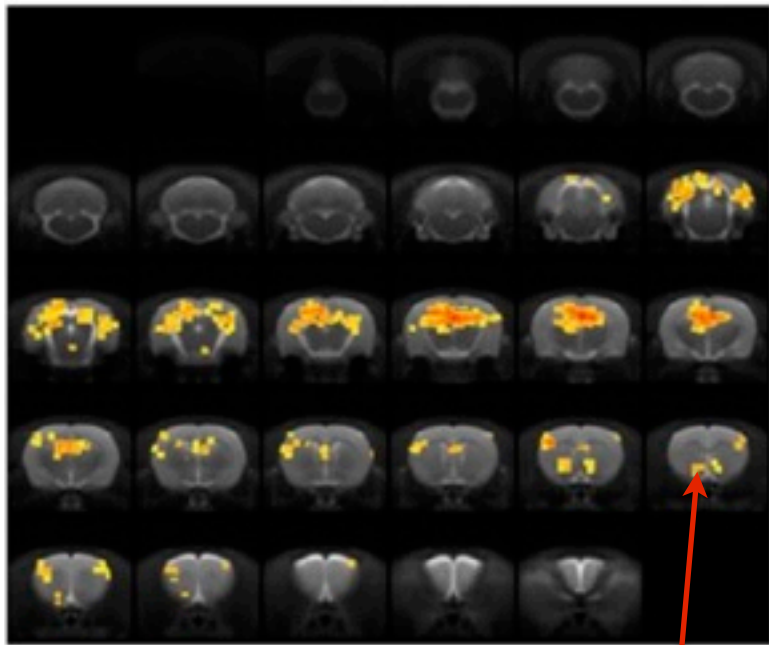


The best possible attack is to remove the loops to get a tree at  $q_c$

Others: hub removal (HD, high degree and adaptive HDA), PageRank, Closeness Centrality, Eigenvector Centrality, k-core, EGP

# NUCLEUS ACCUMBENS IS THE MOST INFLUENTIAL AREA EVEN THOUGH IT HAS LOW CONNECTIVITY!

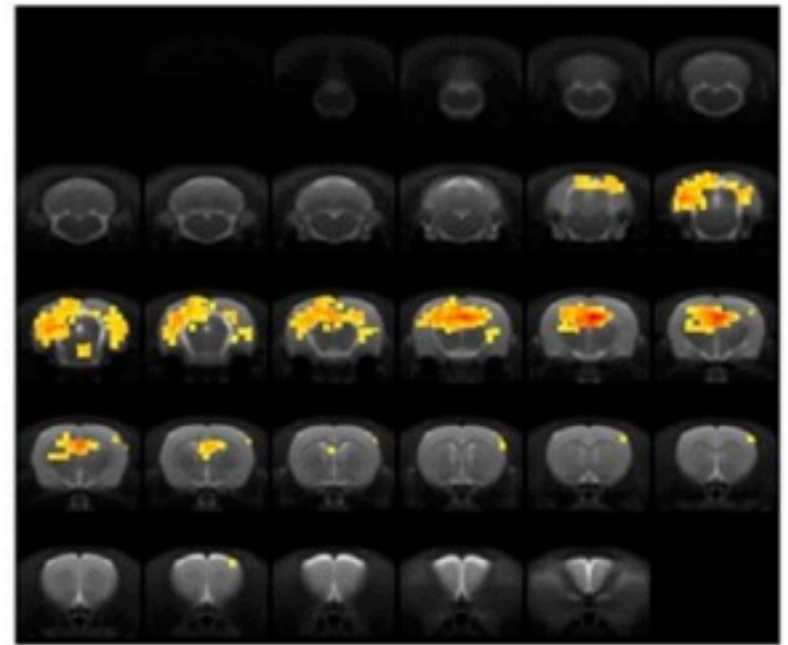
INFLUENCE MAP  
OVER 6 RATS



0.2 3.5 (high CI)

NUCLEUS ACCUMBENS

HIGH CONNECTIVITY MAP



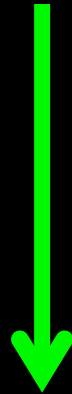
0.5 4.5 (high k)

# Attention involves an integration of two different influences

Corbetta, Schulman (2002)

Goal-directed  
by

expectation,  
knowledge,  
experience



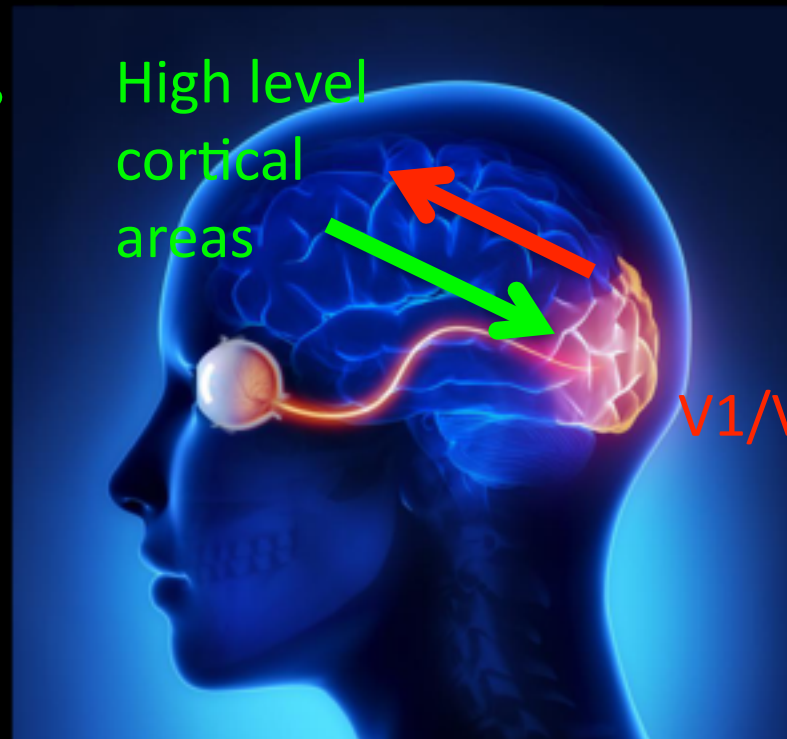
Top-Down  
control

Bottom-up  
processing



Stimulus-driven  
by

visual,  
sensory  
stimulation

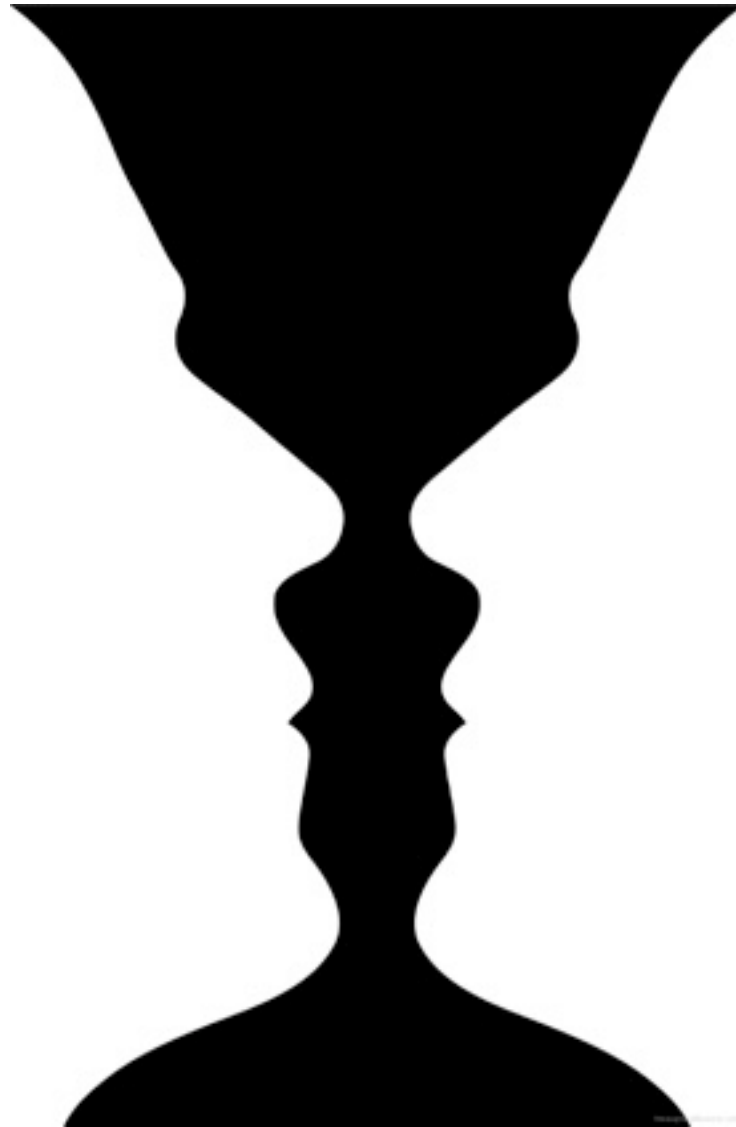


High level  
cortical  
areas

V1/V2: visual cortex

**Do you see the faces or the vase?**

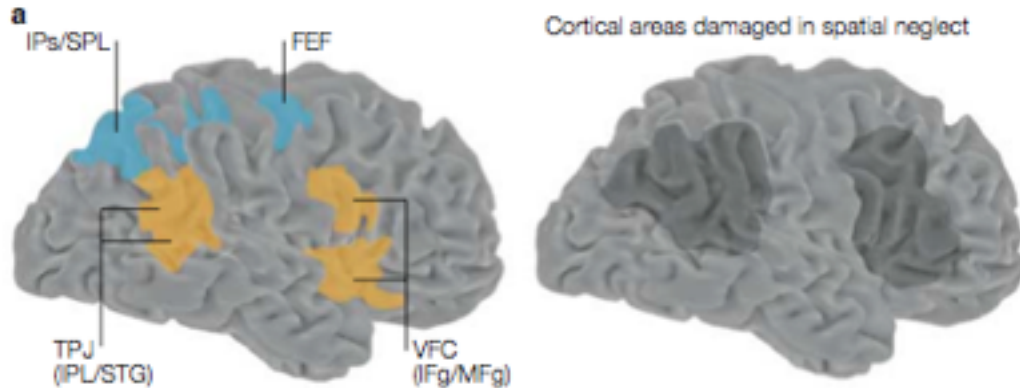
Multistability  
Gestalt





# DEBATE IN NEUROSCIENCE

## The binding problem: how to integrate modules in a Network of Networks (segregation vs integration)



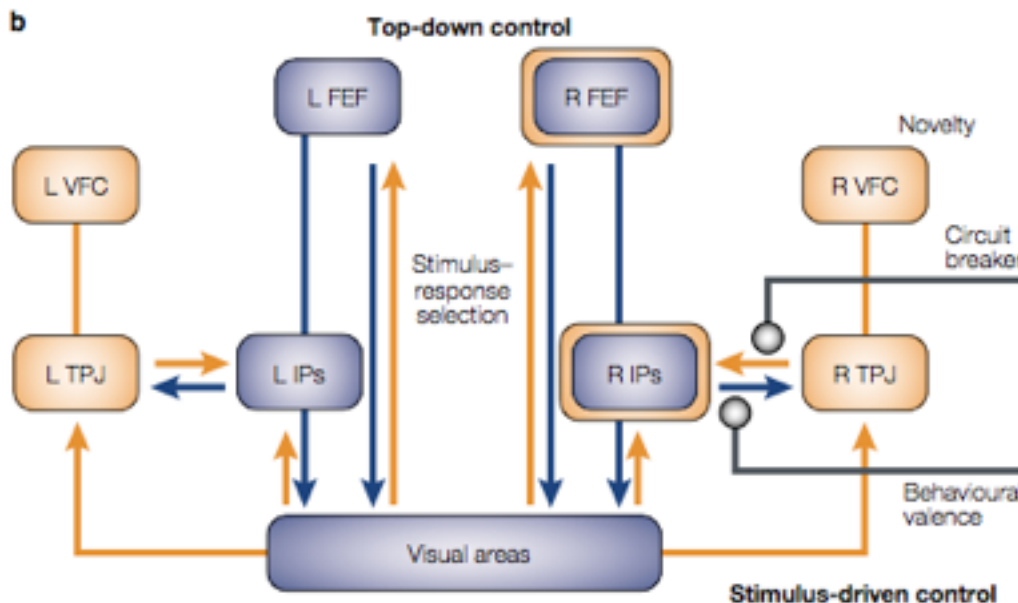
*Corbetta, Shulman '02*  
*Tononi, Sporns, Edelman '94*  
*Dehane, Naccache '01*  
*Sigman, Gilbert '07*  
*Treisman '96*

Binding problem

Segregation vs integration

Selective Attention

Consciousness



**A General Question in  
Network Science**



## 4. Ebola outbreak traced back to a single superspreader event

**The  
New York  
Times**  
NYTIMES.COM



By DONALD G. McNEIL Jr.

AUGUST 28, 2014



Sierra Leone's explosion of Ebola cases in early summer appears to stem from one traditional healer's funeral at which 14 women were infected, according to scientists studying the blood of victims.

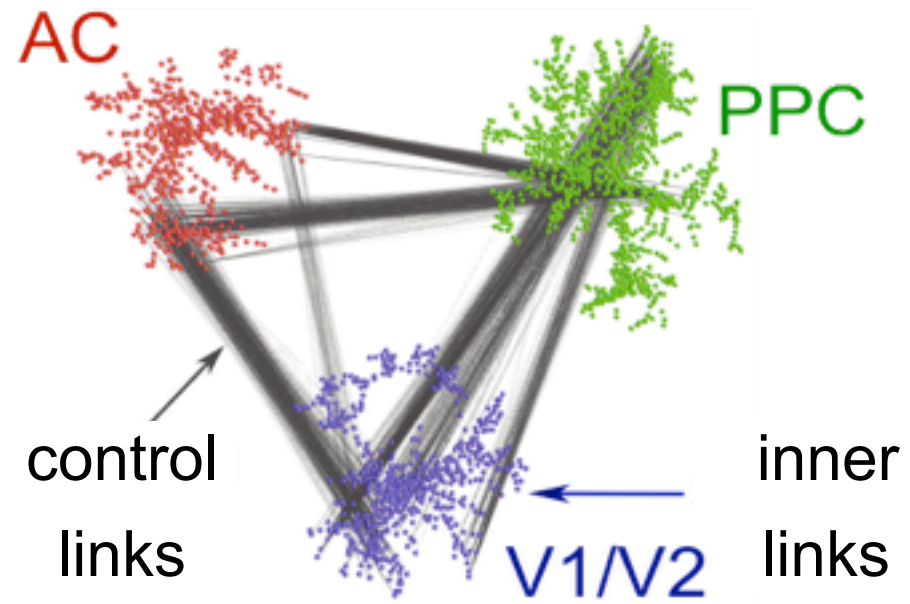
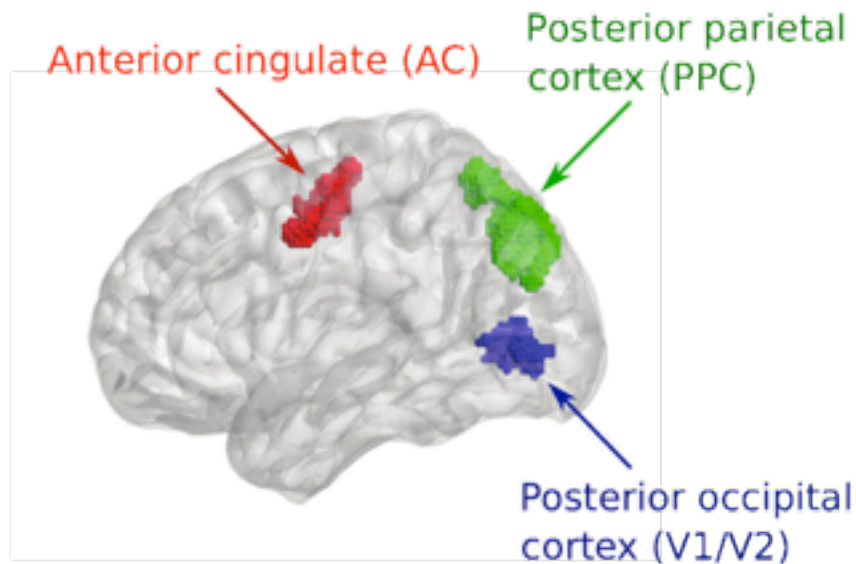
The funeral, which took place in mid-May, constitutes a "super-spreader" event comparable to one in 2003 in a [Hong Kong hotel](#) in which one doctor from China dying of SARS infected nine other guests who spread the virus throughout the city and to Vietnam and Canada.

# THE BRAIN IS A NETWORK OF NETWORKS

We use fMRI readouts in a dual task experiment:  
visual + auditory task

Finding the essential minimal nodes in the brain

- (analogous to neural correlates of  
consciousness) -





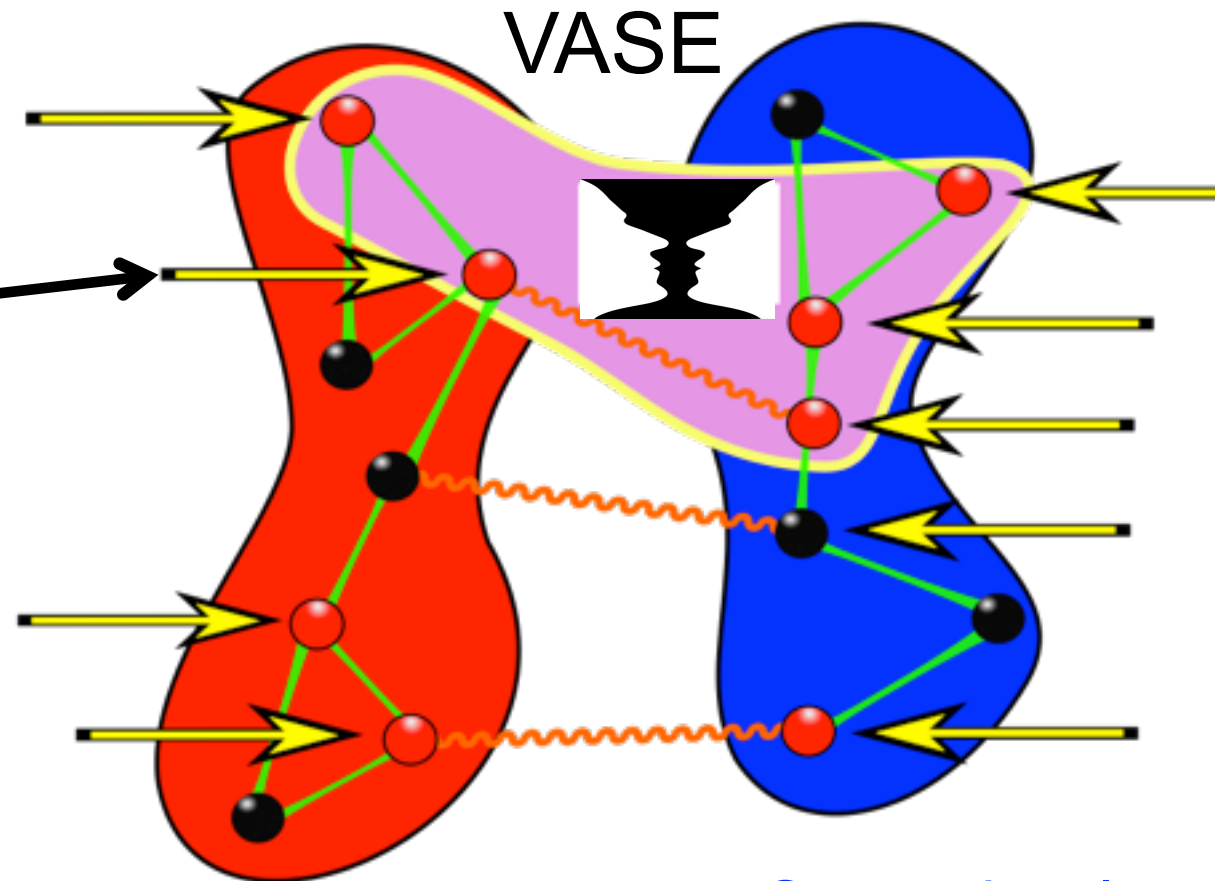
# HYPOTHESIS: Perception = emergence of Giant Connected Component G

Koch and Crick  
Stan Dehaene

Giant active  
component G

$G$  = what you are  
aware of

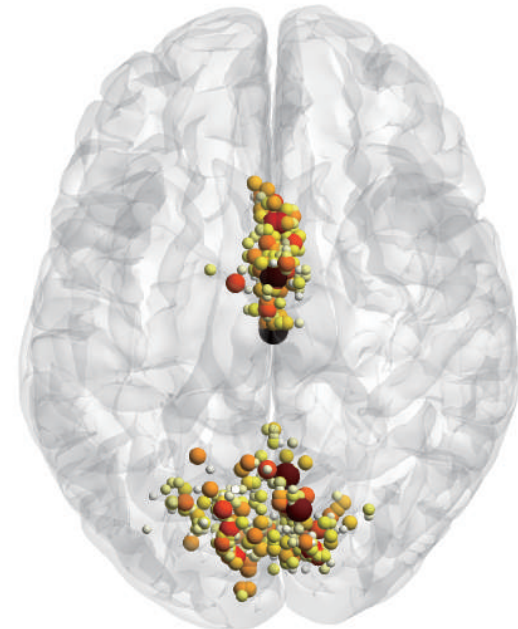
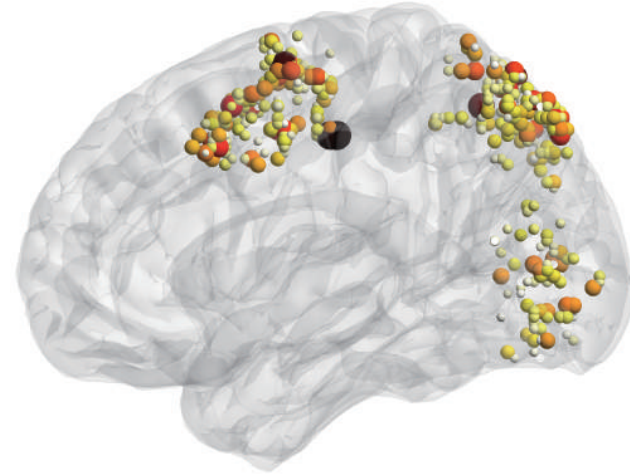
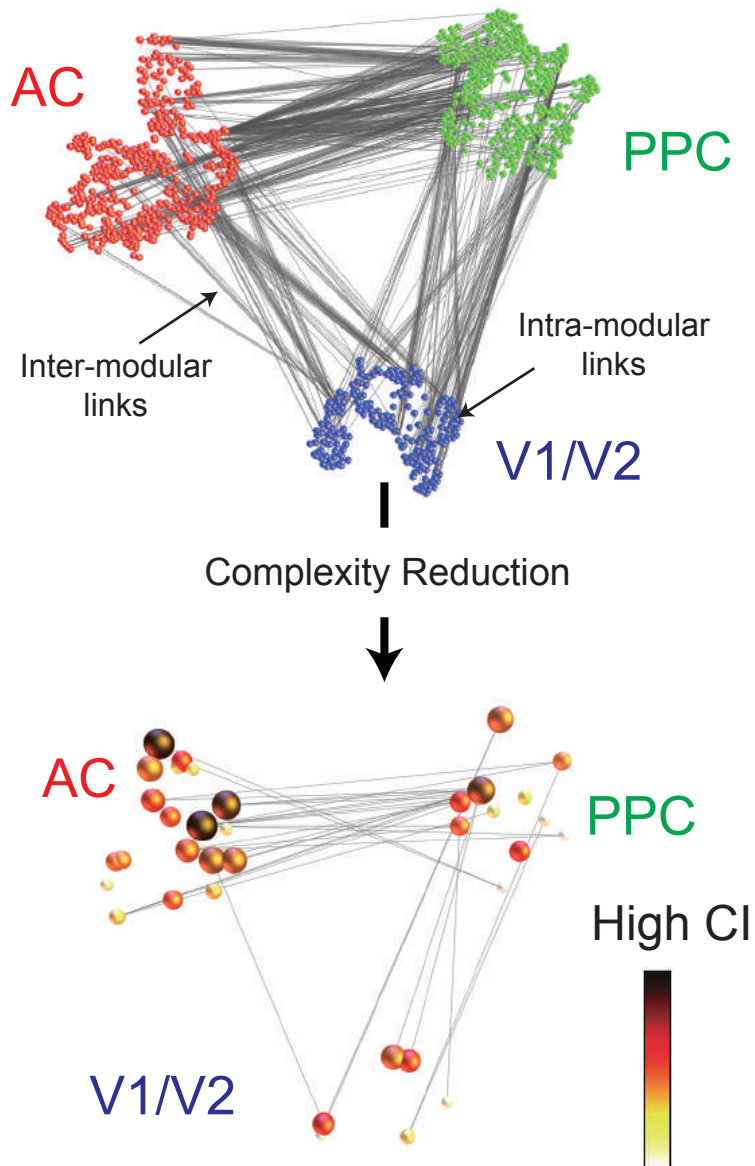
Global unitary  
perception



Different top-  
down control

Same visual  
input at V1/V2

# Collective Influence Map of the Human Brain: reducing the brain to its essential nodes



# RANDOM PERCOLATION: CREATE OR DESTROY THE NETWORK

