

The shape of data in biology

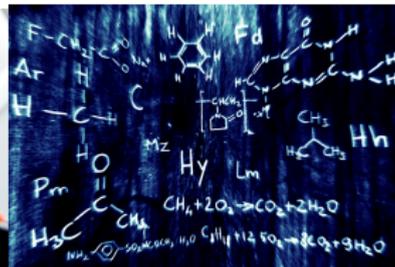
Heather Harrington

Mathematical Institute
University of Oxford

12 January 2017



What do gossip, guitar hero and chemical reactions have in common?

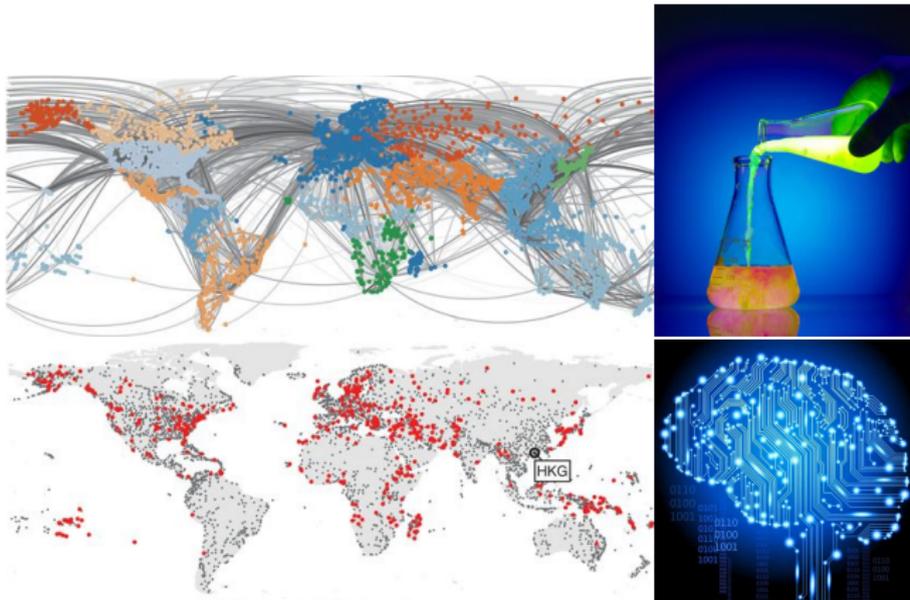


What do gossip, guitar hero and chemical reactions have in common?



Can mathematics help us find out?

- 1 How do processes (eg gossip, epidemics) spread?
- 2 How do we learn (to play guitar hero)?
- 3 How do cells make decisions (via chemical reactions)?



Brockman and Helbing (2013) Science

To study these problems requires models and data.

Data



Models



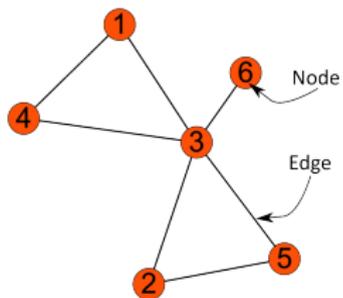
Data

Models

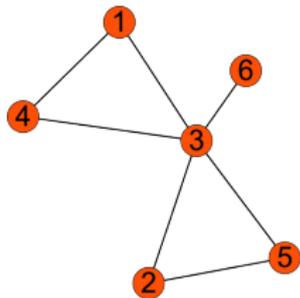


Data

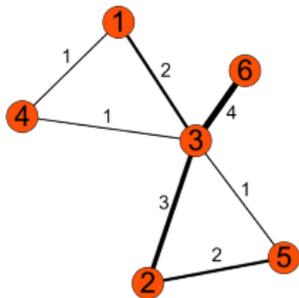
Models



Data



Models



Data

Models



Data

Models

$$y = m \cdot x + b$$

$$y = m \cdot x + b$$

Emma is going punting. The cost to initially hire a punt is £10. The hourly charge is £5/hour. If Emma hired a punt for 4 hours, how much did she pay?

$$y = m \cdot x + b$$

Emma is going punting. The cost to initially hire a punt is £10. The hourly charge is £5/hour. If Emma hired a punt for 4 hours, how much did she pay?

$$y = 5 \cdot x + 10$$

$$y = m \cdot x + b$$

Emma is going punting. The cost to initially hire a punt is £10. The hourly charge is £5/hour. If Emma hired a punt for 4 hours, how much did she pay?

$$y = 5 \cdot x + 10$$

$$y = 5 \cdot 4 + 10$$

Spreading processes

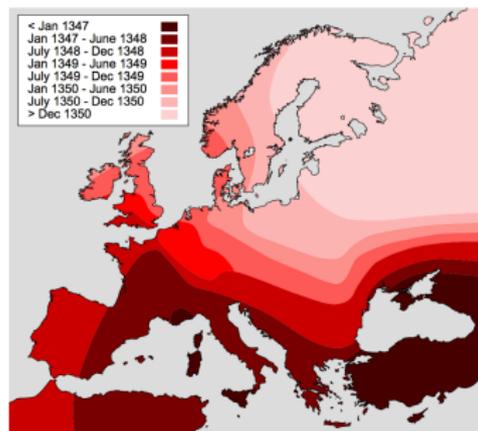
Social contagion

- Information diffusion (innovations, memes, marketing)
- Belief and opinion (voting, political views, civil unrest)
- Behavior and health



Epidemic contagion

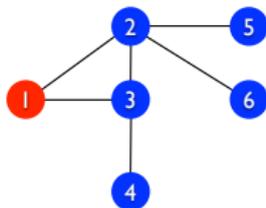
- Epidemiology for networks (social networks, technology)
- Preventing epidemics (immunization, malware)



Black death. Marvel et al (2014) arxiv 1310.2636

Complex contagion

Adoption of a contagion requires multiple contacts with the contagion

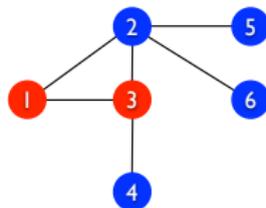


Timestep 0

Node	1	2	3	4	5	6
Activation time t	0					

Complex contagion

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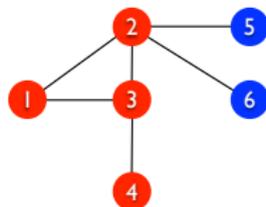


Timestep I

Node	1	2	3	4	5	6
Activation time t	0		1			

Complex contagion

Adoption of a contagion requires multiple contacts with the contagion

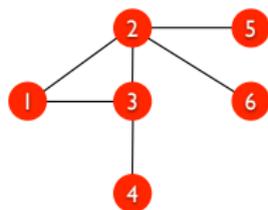


Timestep 2

Node	1	2	3	4	5	6
Activation time t	0	2	1	2		

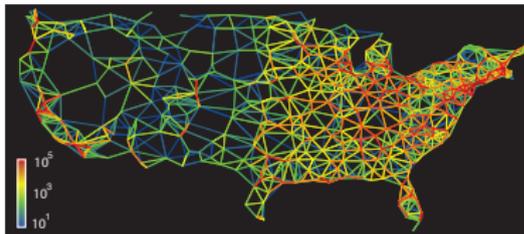
Complex contagion

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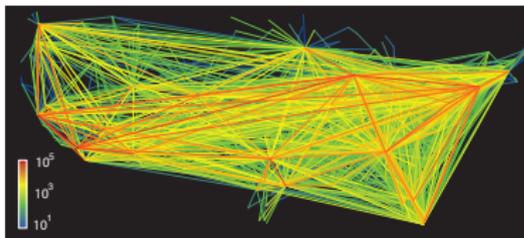


Timestep 3

Node	1	2	3	4	5	6
Activation time t	0	2	1	2	3	3



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Balcan et al (2009) PNAS

We consider two types of connections:

Geometric connections

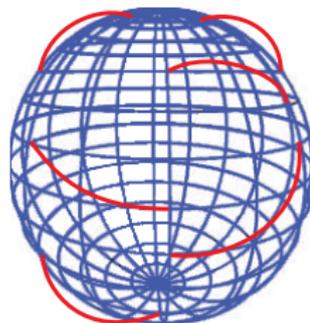
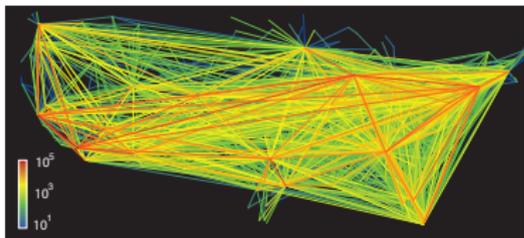
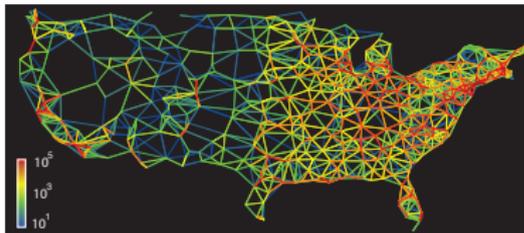
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Non-geometric connections

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Balcan et al (2009) PNAS

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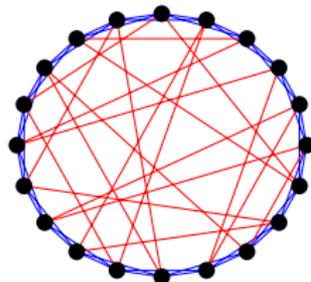
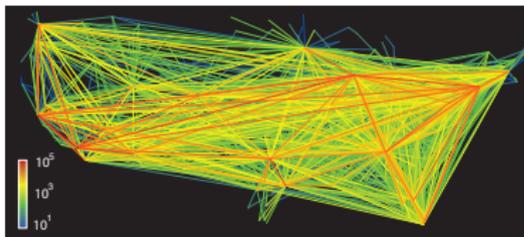
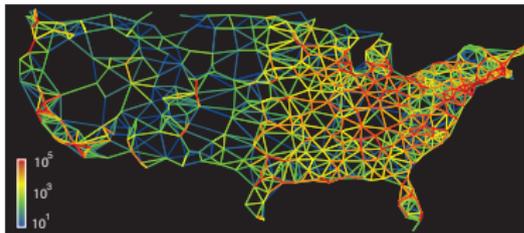
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Non-geometric connections

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Topology is concerned with the global properties of space



H is for homology

One can stretch or bend a shape, but not tear or glue it.

Homology allows one to distinguish shapes (even stretching or bending).

[Home](#) » [About Us](#) » [Life in Oxford Mathematics](#) » [Oxford Mathematics Alphabet](#)

H is for Homology

The Authors



Bernadette Stolz and
Barbara Mahler are
DPhil students in the

H is for Homology

A life belt, a coffee cup, a jumping ball, a beach ball - what do these objects have in common? What sets them apart? It is questions like these that are considered in the mathematical field called *topology*. A method to study these questions is given by the theory of homology.



<https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/r/alphabet>

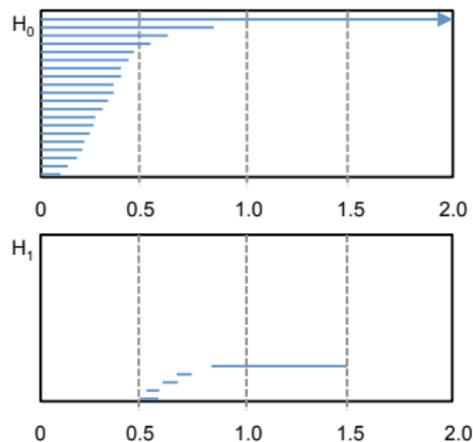
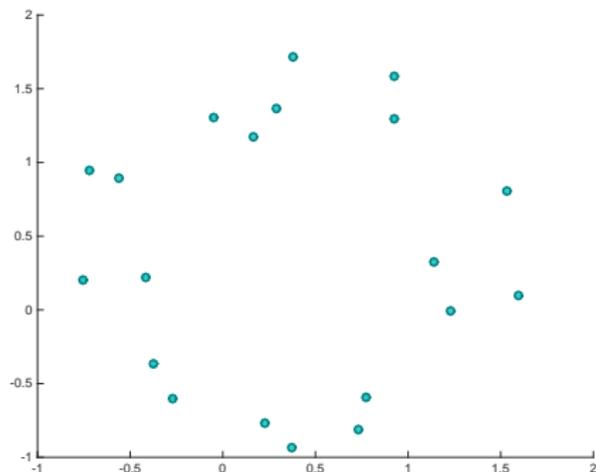
Topology is concerned with the global properties of space



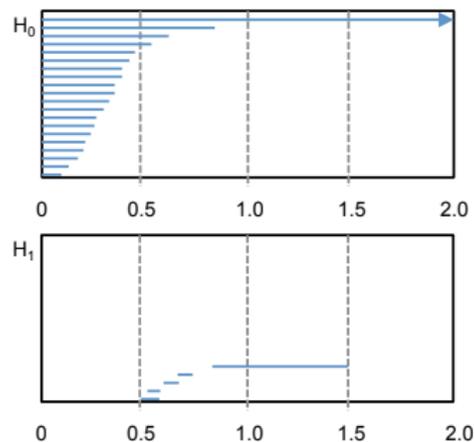
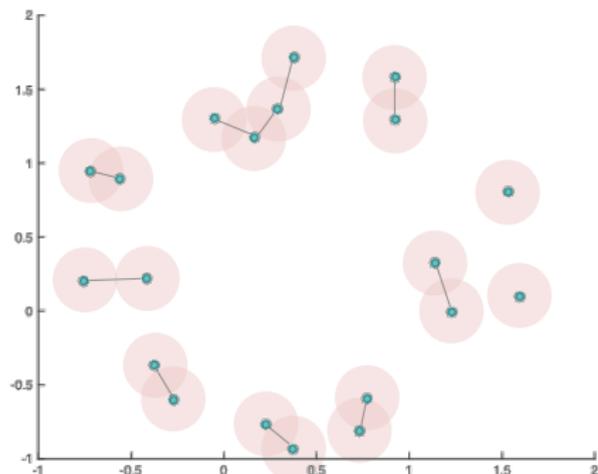
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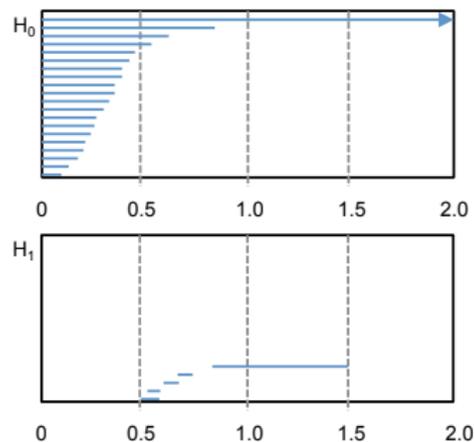
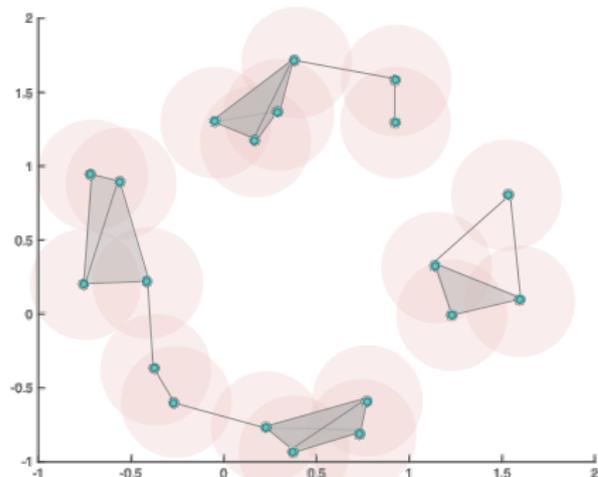
How to compute topology from a sample of the space?



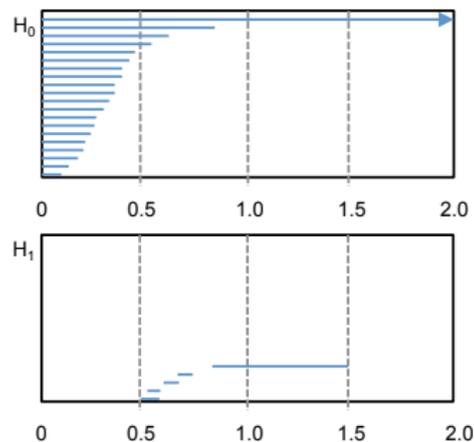
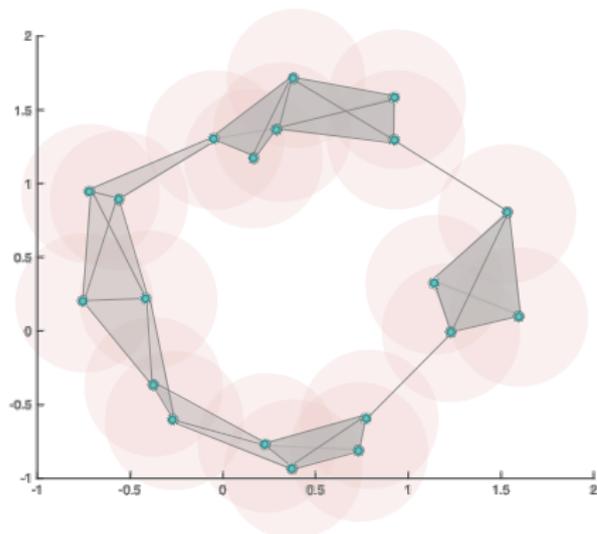
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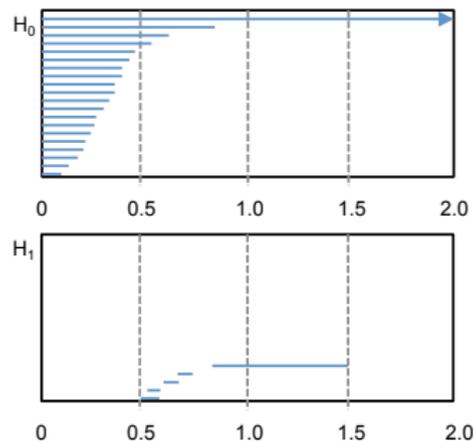
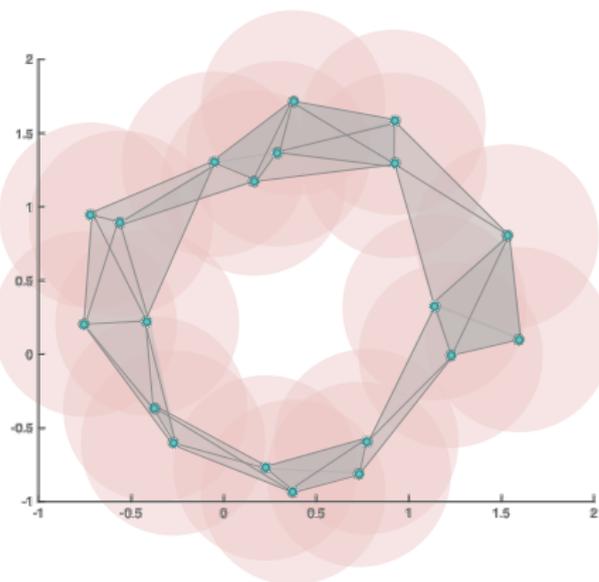
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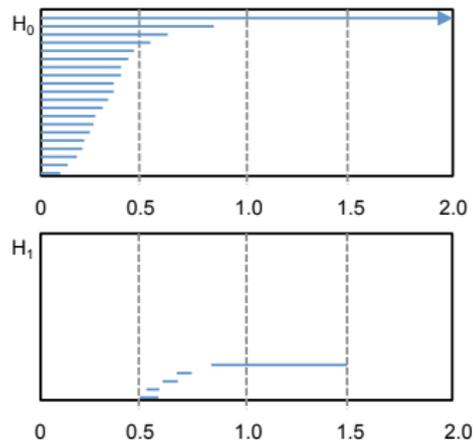
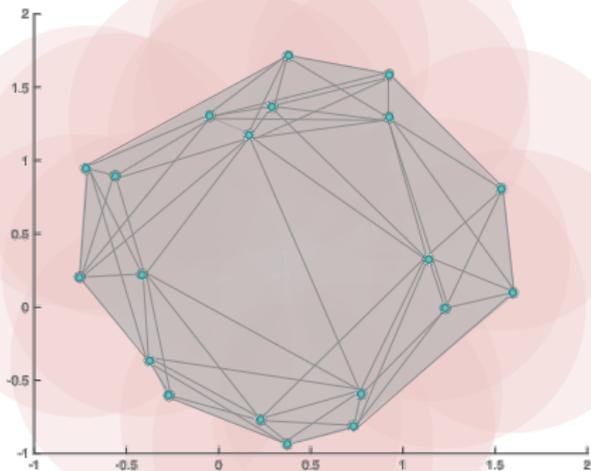
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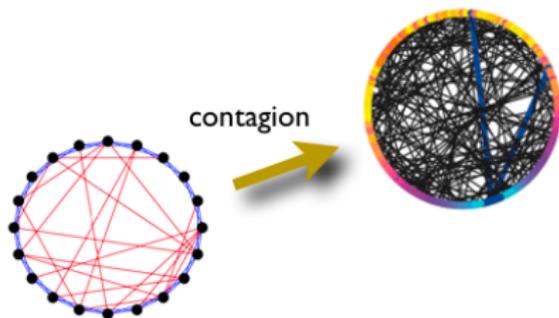


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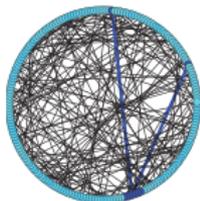


How to compute topology from a sample of the space?

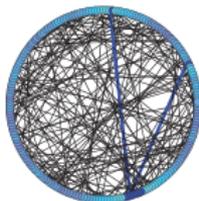




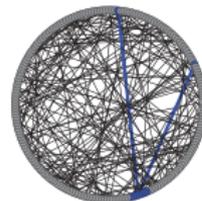
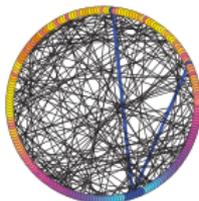
extremely fast
cascade



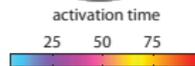
slow cascade



no global
cascade

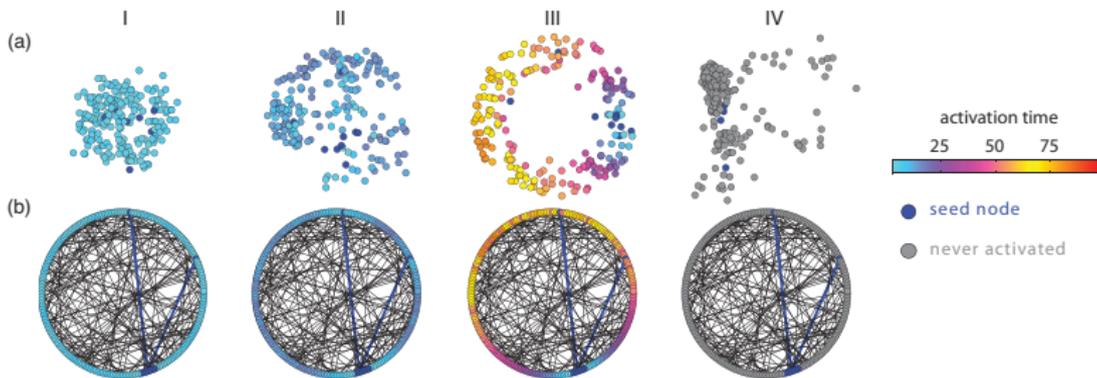
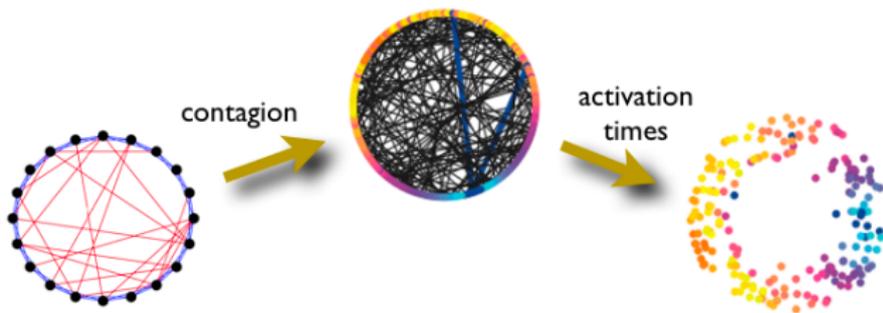


T increasing

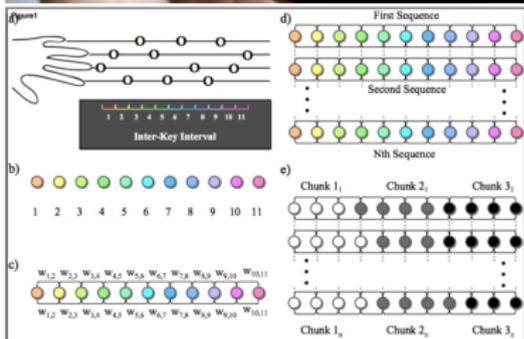


● seed node

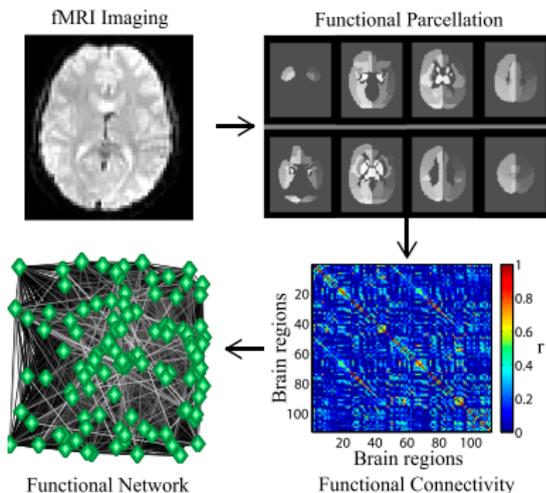
● never activated



How do we learn?



- 100 billion neurons in the brain
- Create a functional network



Bassett et al. (2011) *PNAS*.

British mathematician: Sir Christopher Zeeman



Two-page paper available on LMS website.
In search bar: "topological theory of the brain"

Physica D 65 (1993) 1–16
North-Holland

SDI: 0167-2789(92)00026-1

PHYSICA 

Topology from time series

M.R. Muldoon^a, R.S. MacKay^a, J.P. Huke^b and D.S. Broomhead^b

^a*Nonlinear Systems Laboratory, Mathematics Institute, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL, United Kingdom*

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Received 15 August 1992

Revised manuscript received 13 November 1992

Accepted 23 November 1992

Communicated by G. Ahlers

We describe methods for the study of topological properties of the invariant manifolds of experimental dynamical systems. We explain how to compute such invariants as the Euler characteristic and Betti numbers using time series data.

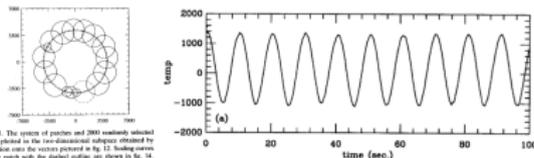
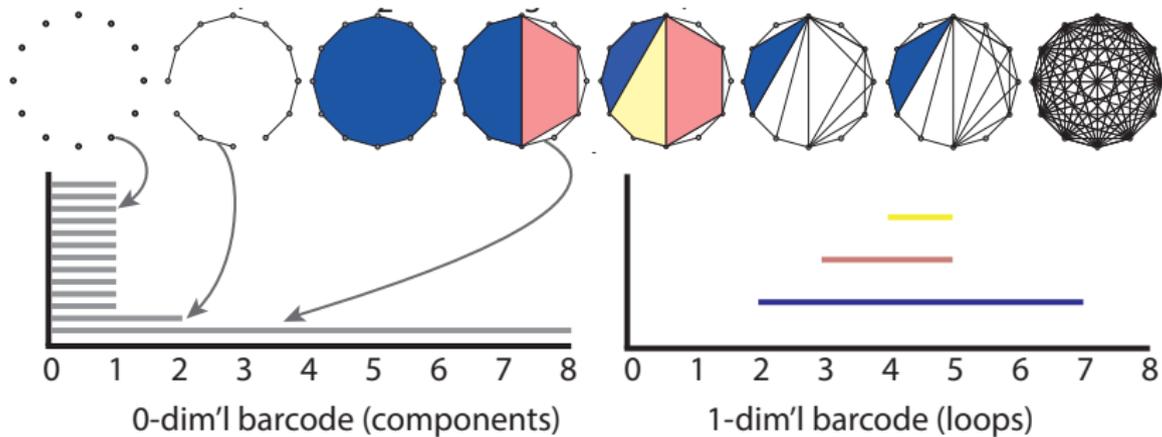
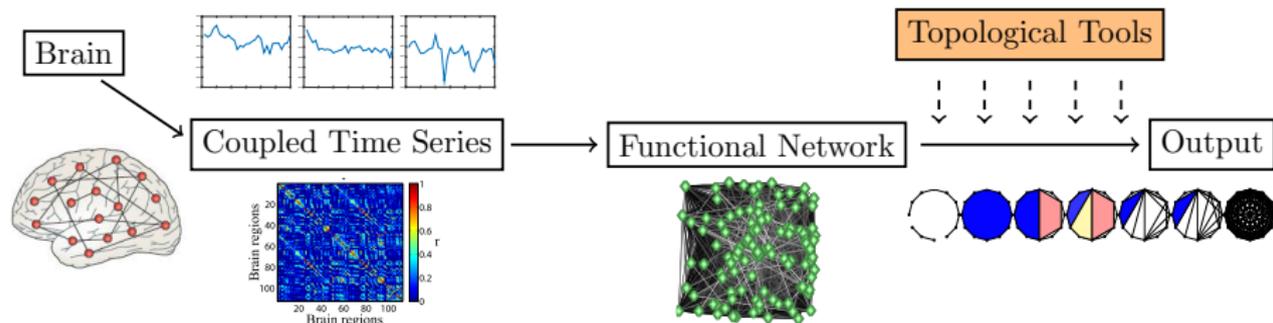


Fig. 13. The system of periodic and 2000 randomly selected points plotted in the two-dimensional subspace obtained by projection onto the vectors presented in Fig. 12. Scaling curves for the graph with the dashed outline are shown in Fig. 14.

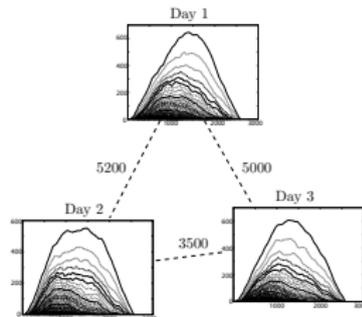
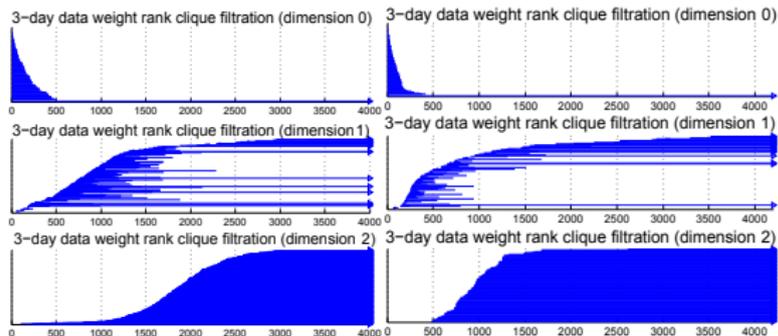
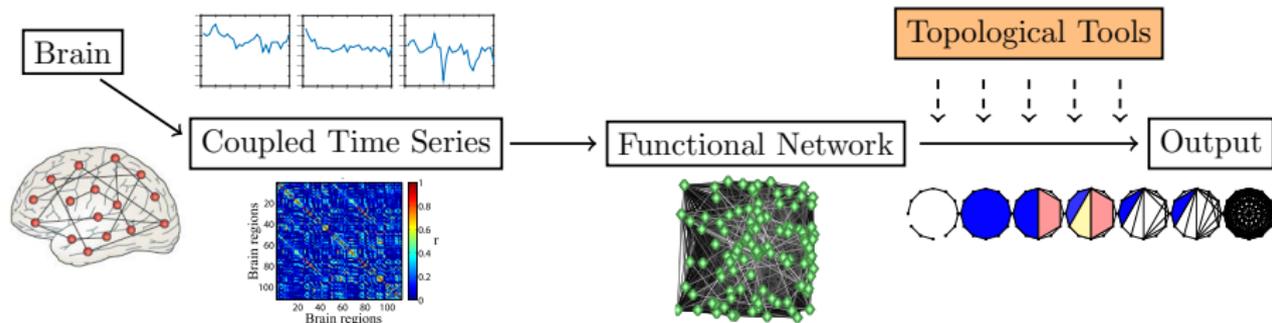




Topology for neuronal networks

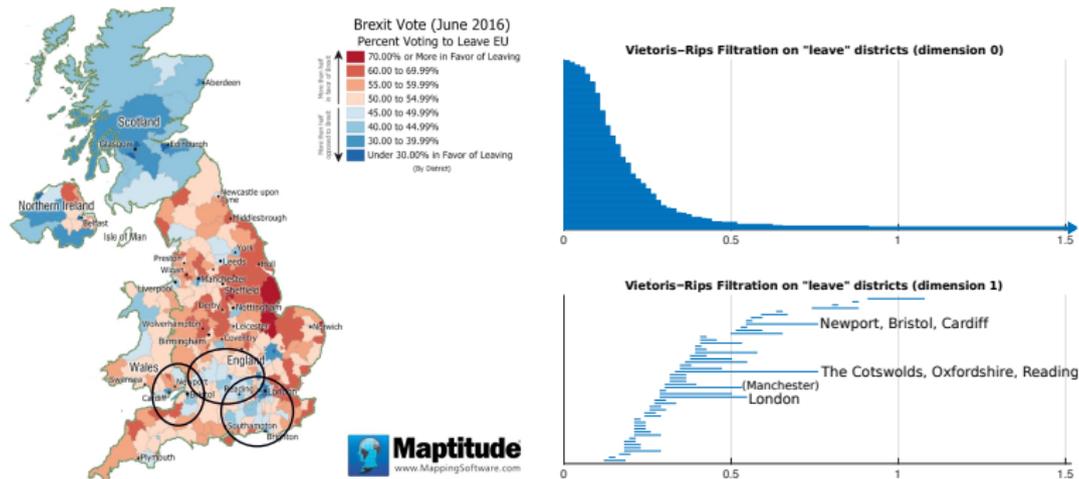


Topology for neuronal networks



Bassett et al. (2011) *PNAS*. B Stolz, HAH, MA Porter. arXiv:1605.00562

POINT CLOUD Topological data analysis of Brexit (UK)



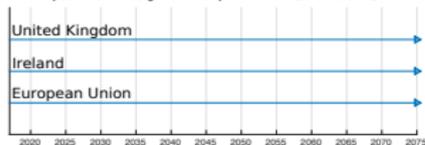
NETWORK Topological data analysis of Brexit (EU)



EU "pre-Brexit" weight rank clique filtration (dimension 0)



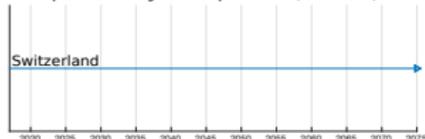
EU "post-Brexit" weight rank clique filtration (dimension 0)



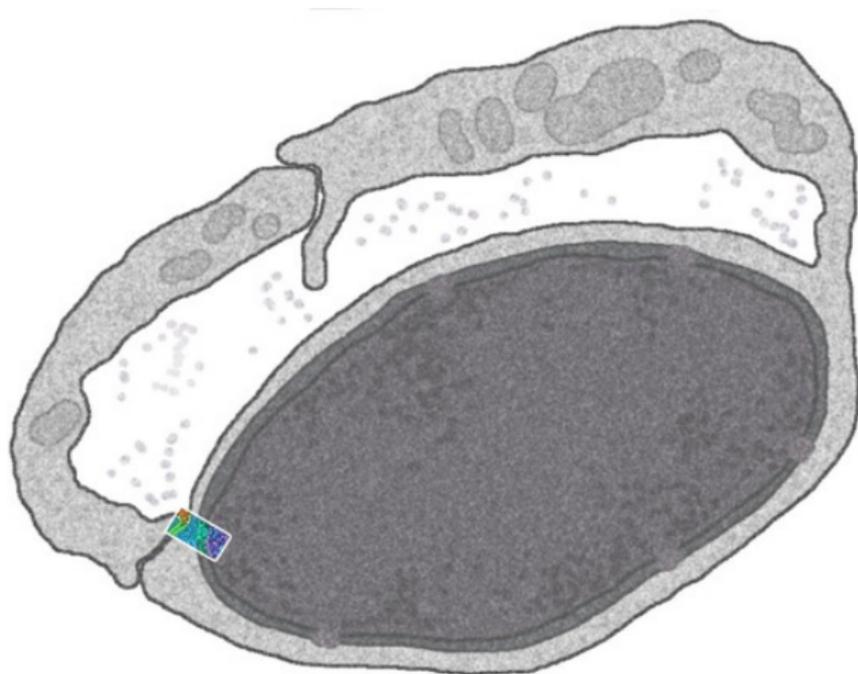
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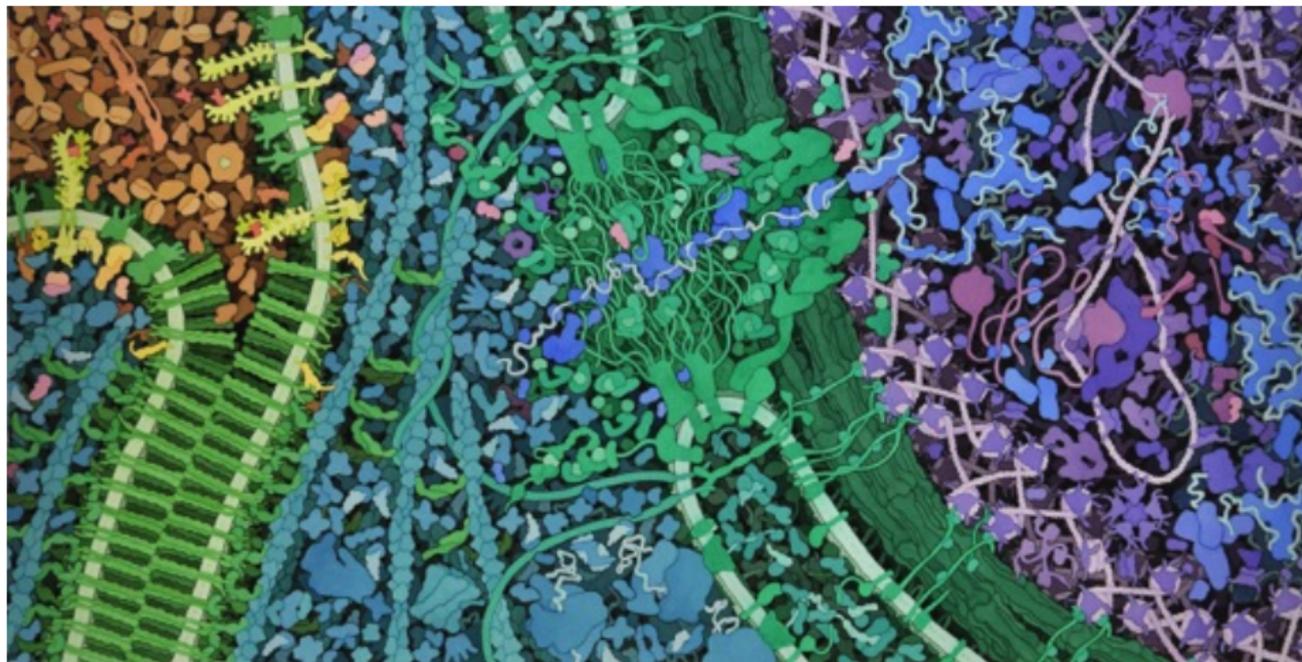
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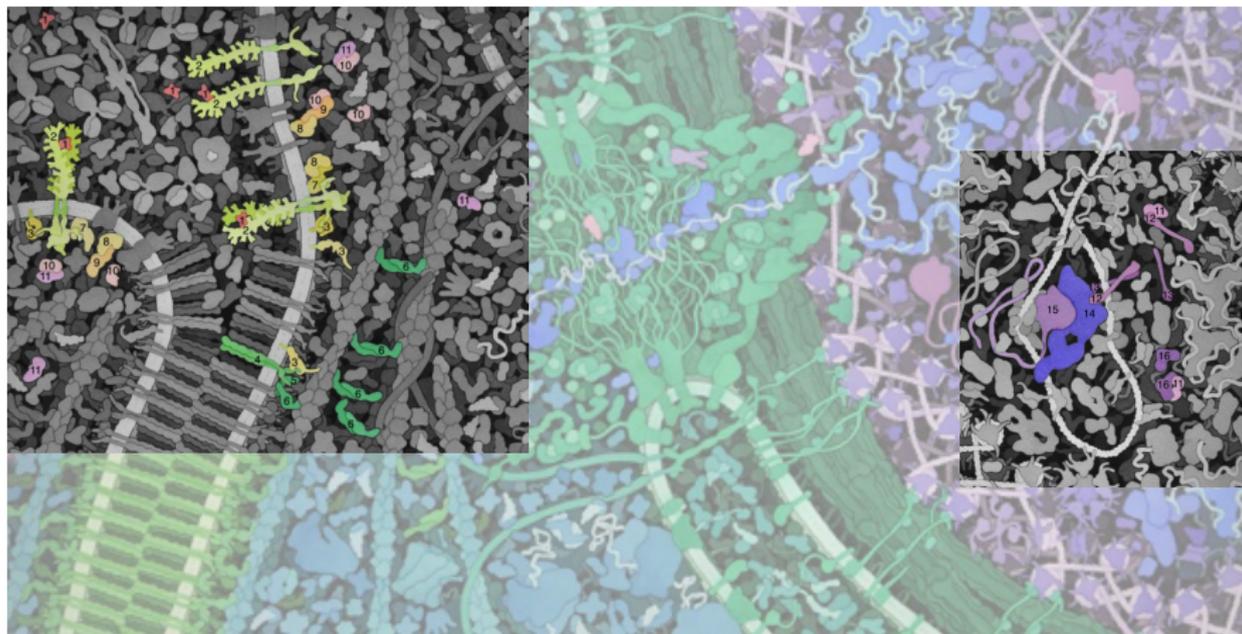
How do cells make decisions?



How do cells make decisions?

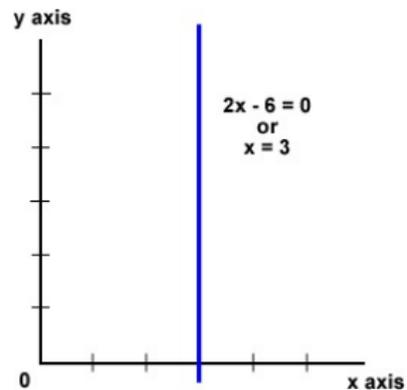


David Goodsell

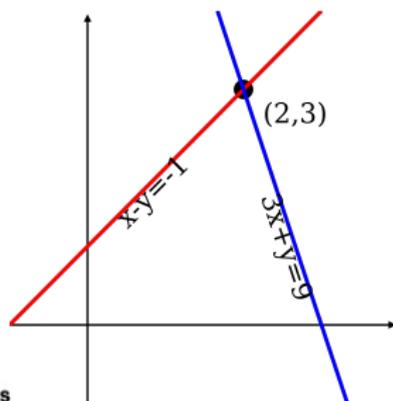
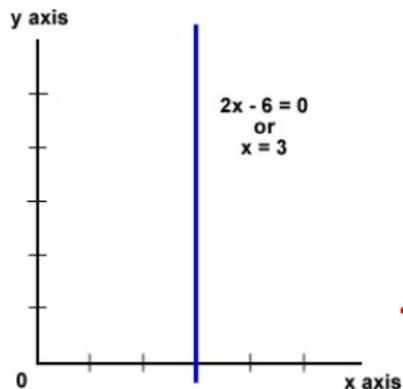


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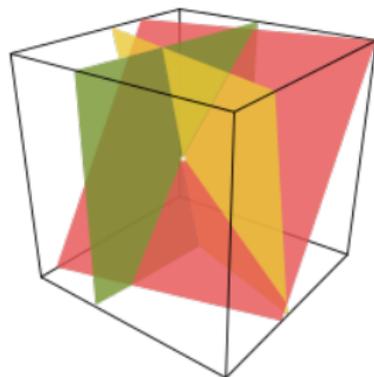
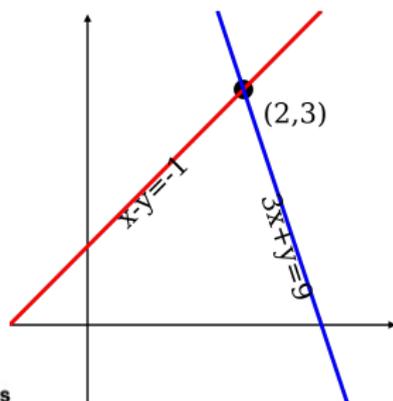
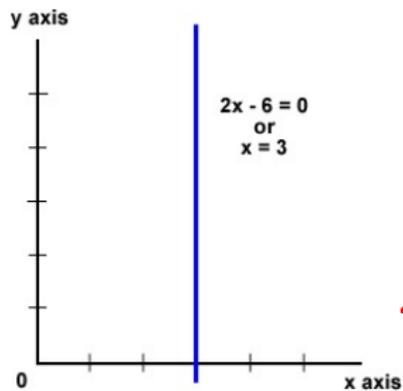
Linear equations



Linear equations



Linear equations



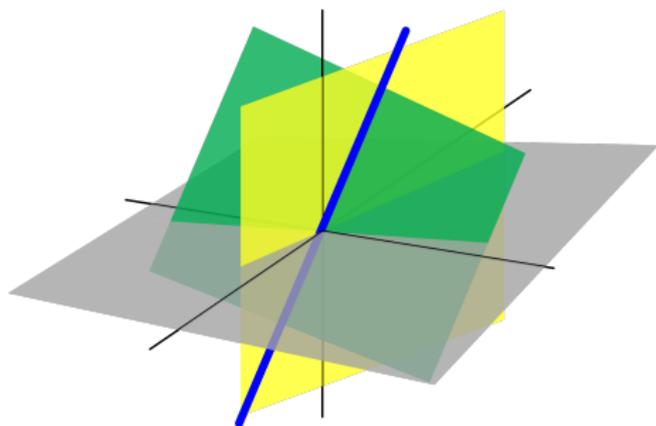
Linear equations

Suppose we are given 2 equations:

$$x + y - z = 0 \text{ and } 2x + 3y + 2z = 0.$$

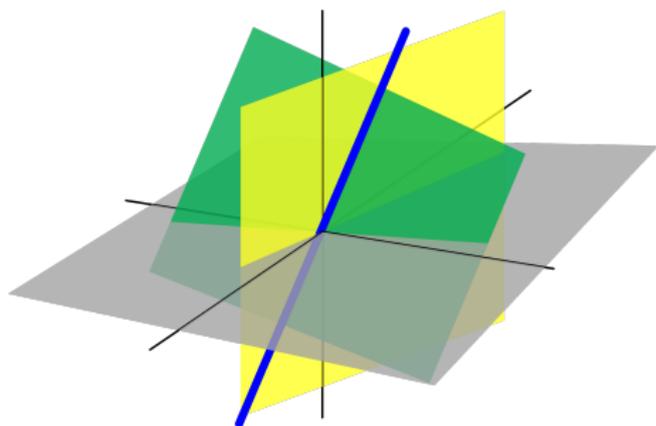
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Linear equations

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$$\begin{array}{r} x + y - z \overline{) 2x + 3y + 2z} \\ \underline{2x + 2y - 2z} \\ y + 4z \end{array}$$

Now we can write

$$y + 4z = 0 \implies y = -4z$$

and substitute,

$$\begin{aligned} x + y - z &= 0 \\ x - 4z - z &= 0 \\ \implies x &= 5z \end{aligned}$$

Nonlinear equations

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

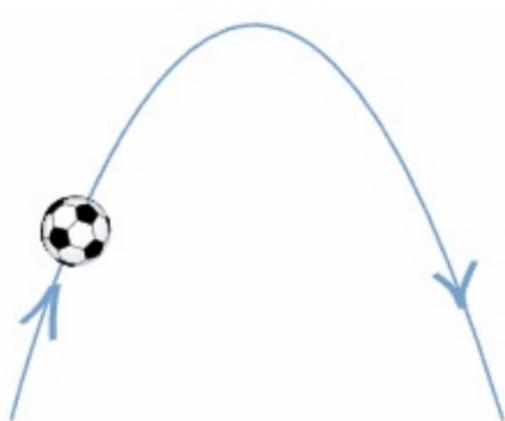
Nonlinear equations

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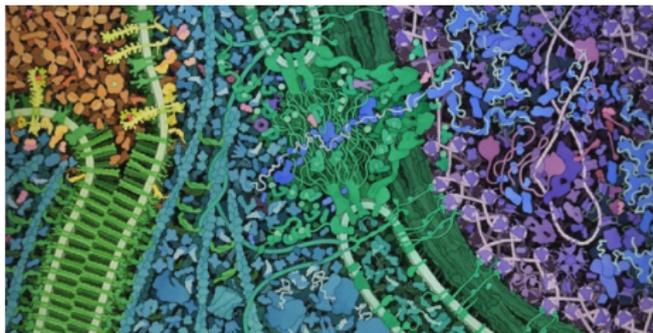
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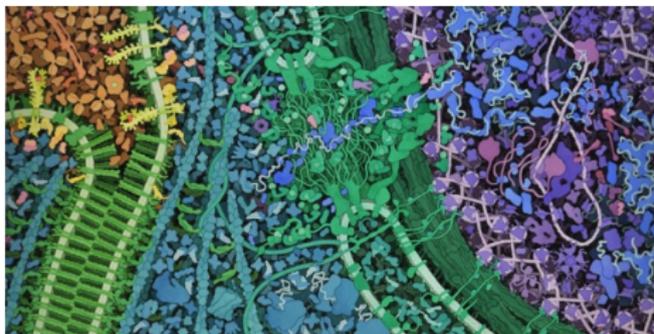


$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

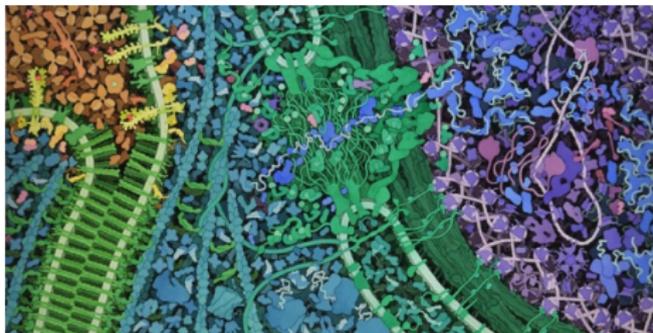
Nonlinear equations



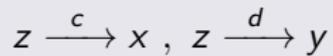
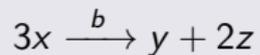
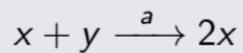
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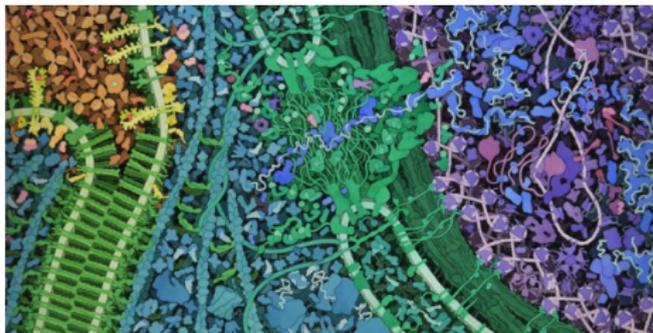
Nonlinear equations



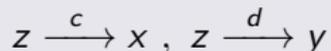
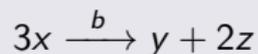
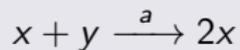
Chemical reaction system



Nonlinear equations



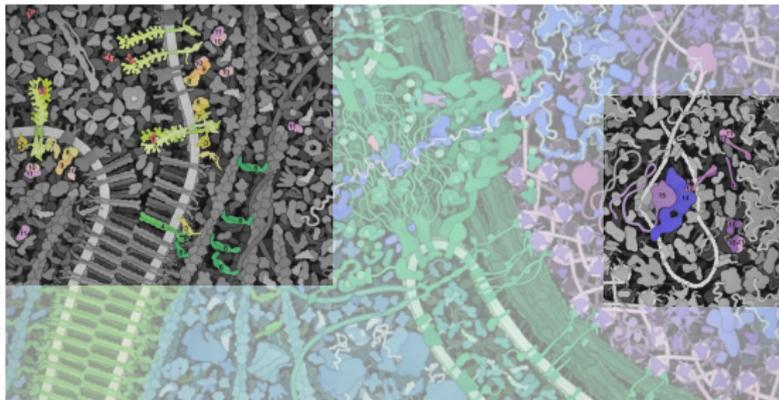
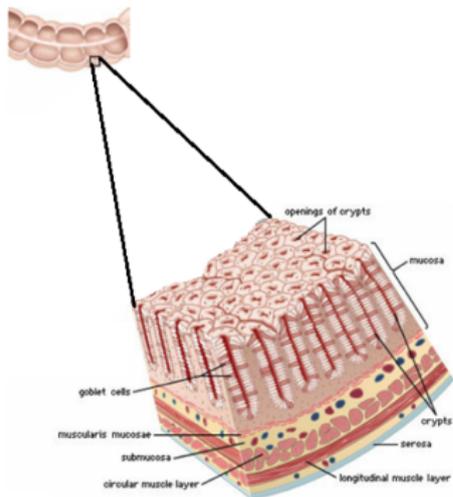
Chemical reaction system



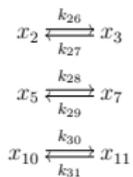
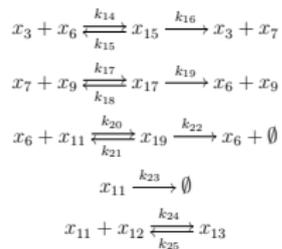
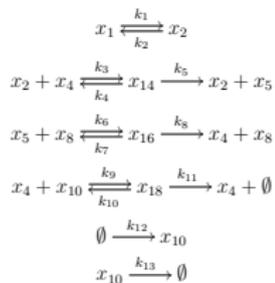
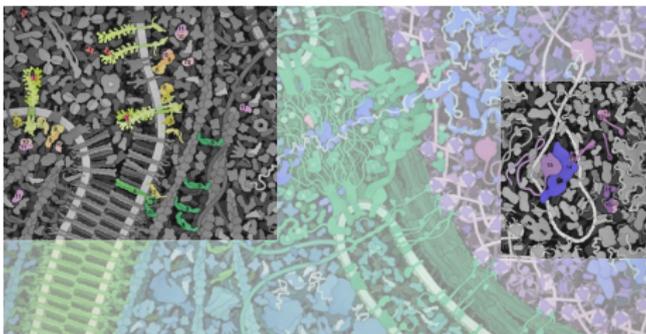
$$axy - 3bx^3 + cz = 0, \quad -axy + bx^3 + dz = 0, \quad 2bx^3 - cz - dz = 0$$

Mathematical models

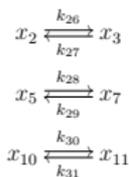
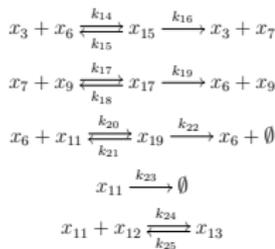
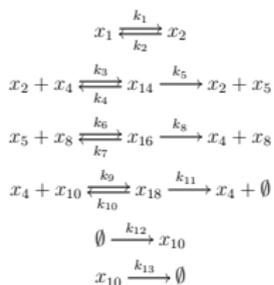
One species (x)	<p>LINEAR</p> <p>EX1: $x - 4 = 0$</p>	<p>NON-LINEAR</p> <p>EX3: $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$</p>
More species (x,y,z)	<p>EX2: $x + y - z = 0$ $2x + 3y + 2z = 0$</p>	<p>EX4: $axy - 3bx^3 + cz = 0$ $-axy + bx^3 + dz = 0$ $2bx^3 - cz - dz = 0$</p>



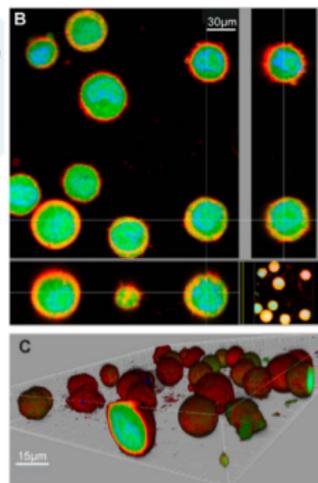
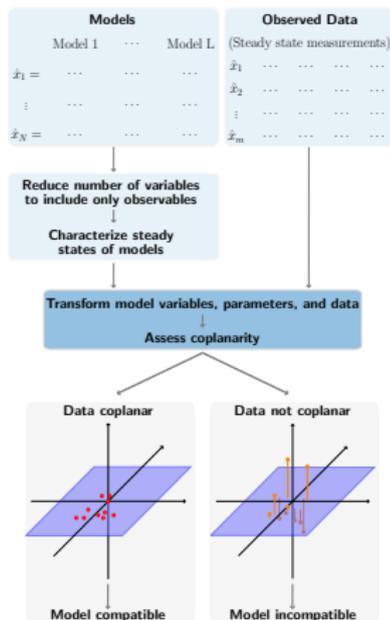
David Goodsell



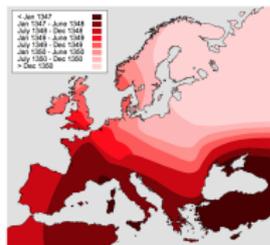
Models



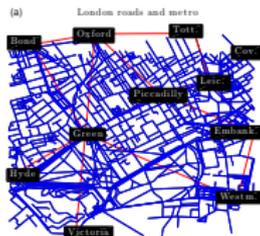
Data



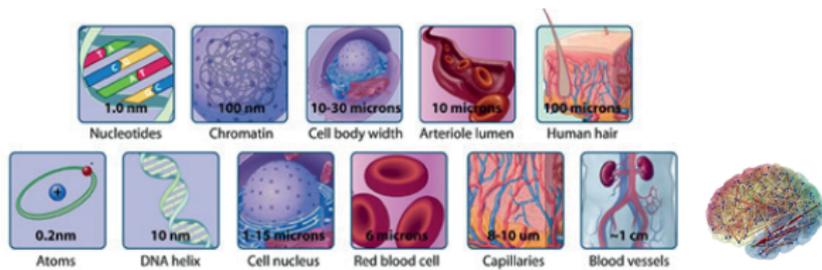
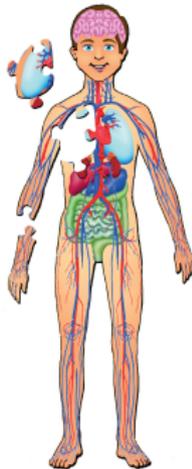
Computational algebra and topology is useful for biology!



Contagions/Epidemic spread



Population



Molecules ← Organelles ← Cells ← Tissues ← Organs ← Organism