

# Lecture 2: Multivariate time series analysis and applications to climate and biomedical networks

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**6-th International Winter School on  
Data Analytics**

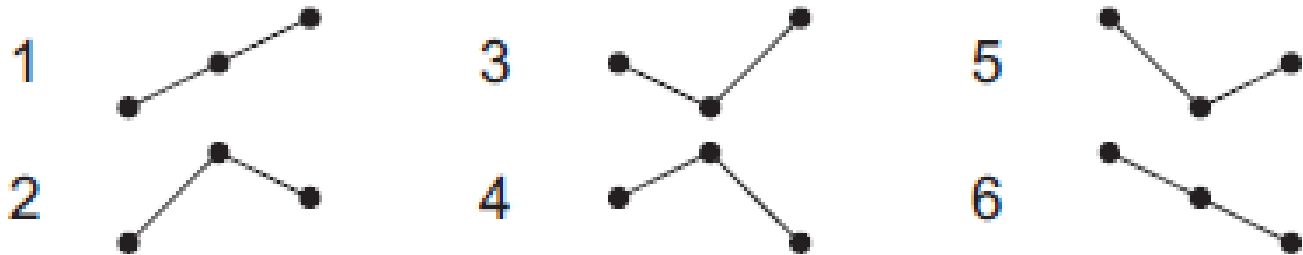
Nizhny Novgorod, October 21-22, 2021

# Outline

- Quick review of ordinal analysis (lecture 1)
- Permutation entropy
- Network representation of a time-series
- Spatio-temporal representation of a time-series
- Instantaneous phase and amplitude
- Bivariate time series analysis: cross-correlation and mutual information
- Multivariate time series analysis: brain functional networks, climate networks, network inference

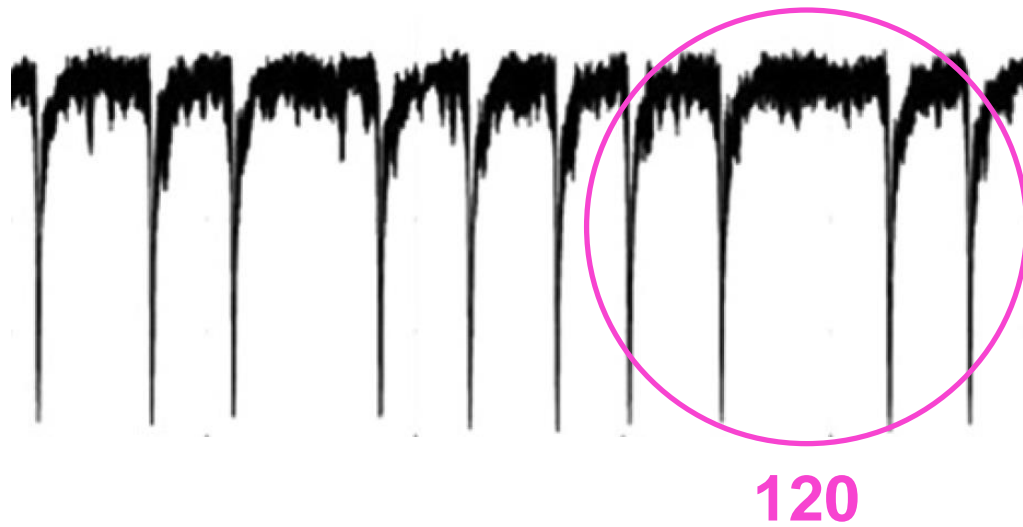
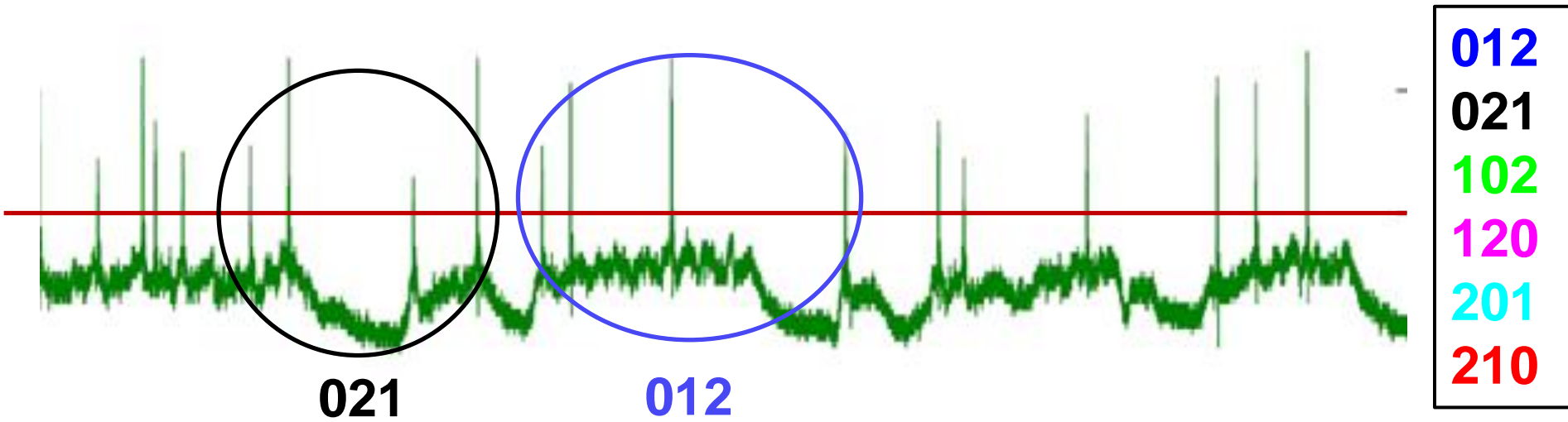
# Ordinal analysis: threshold-less method to define symbols

- Consider a time series  $x(t) = \{\dots x_i, x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}, \dots\}$
- Which are the possible order relations among three consecutive data points?

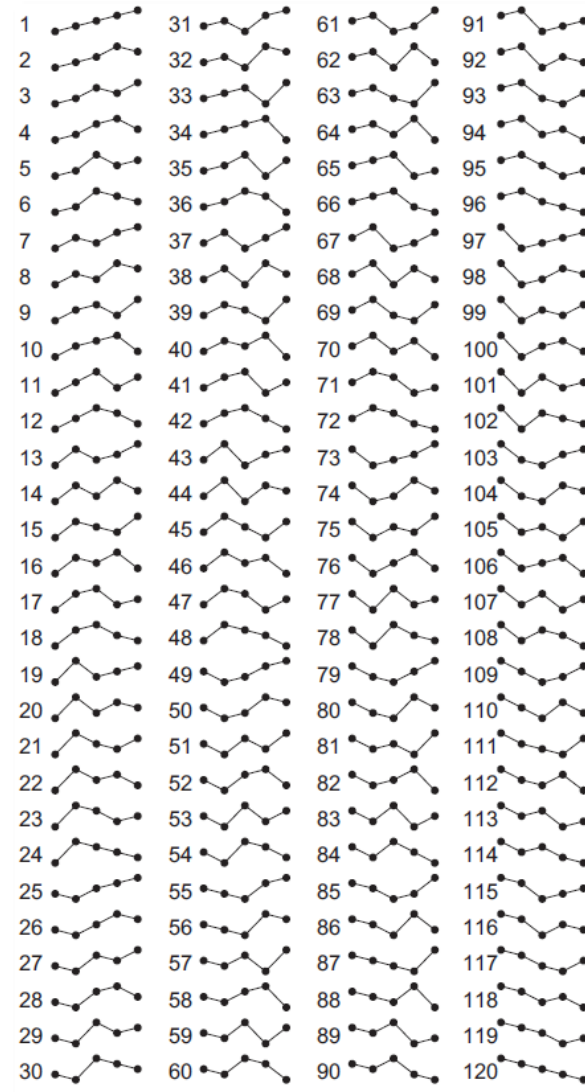
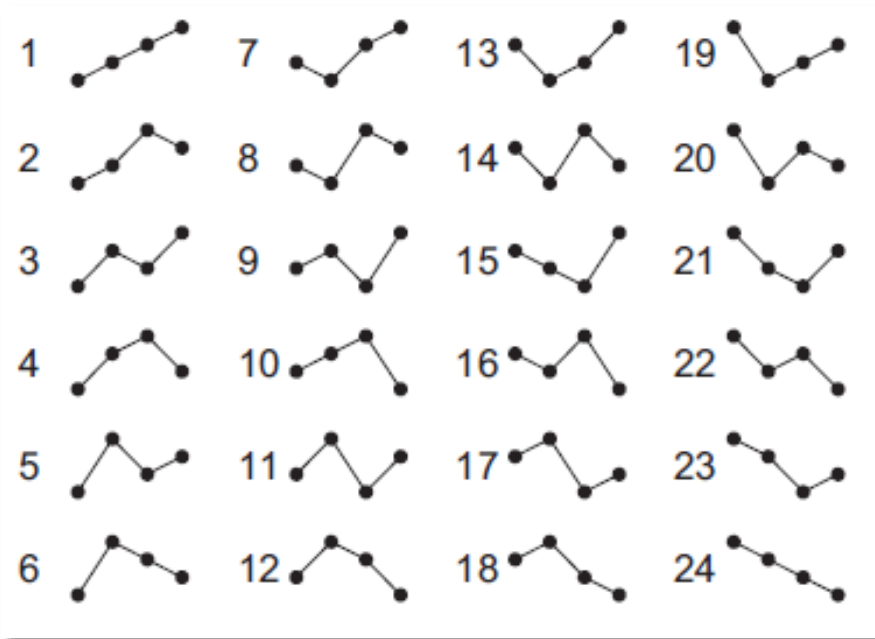


- Count how many times each “ordinal pattern” appears.
- Advantages: allows to identify temporal structures & is robust to noise.
- Drawback: information about actual data values is lost.

# Analysis of D=3 patterns in spike sequences



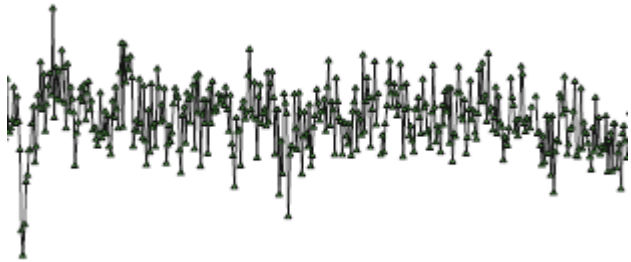
# The number of ordinal patterns increases as D!



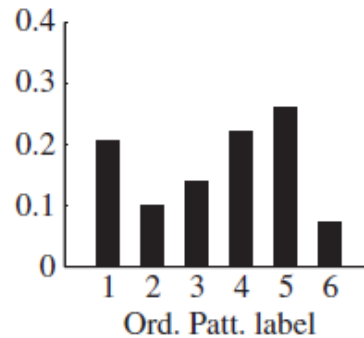
# Permutation entropy

- Entropy computed from ordinal probabilities.
- Number of probabilities = # of ordinal patterns (D!)

Time series



Ordinal probabilities



Permutation entropy

$$H = -\sum_{i=1}^N p_i \ln p_i$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N p_i = 1$$

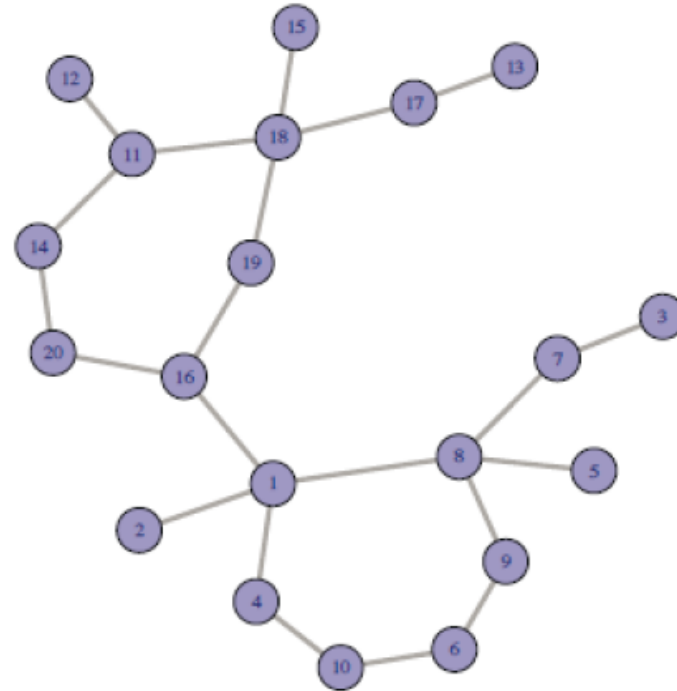


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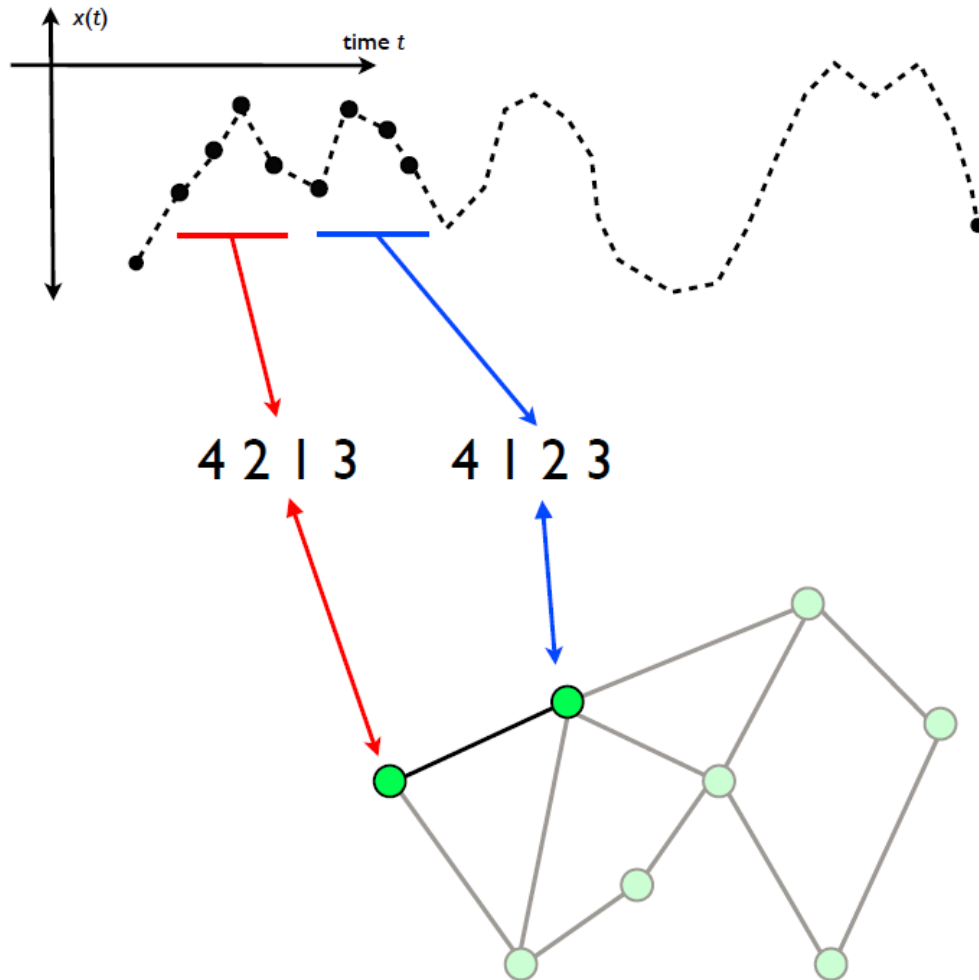
# What is a network?

- A graph: a set of “nodes” connected by a set of “links”
- Nodes and links can be weighted or unweighted
- Links can be directed or undirected
- More in part 3 (multivariate time series analysis)





We use symbolic patterns as the *nodes* of the network.  
And the *links*? Defined as the transition probability  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$



- In each node  $i$ :

$$\sum_j w_{ij}=1$$

- Weigh of node  $i$ : the probability of pattern  $i$

$$(\sum_i p_i=1)$$

⇒ **Weighted and directed network**

# Network-based diagnostic tools

- Entropy computed from node weights (**permutation entropy**)

$$s_p = -\sum p_i \log p_i$$

- Average node entropy (entropy of the link weights)

$$s_n = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M s_i \quad s_i = -\sum w_{ij} \log w_{ij}$$

- Asymmetry coefficient: normalized difference of transition probabilities,  $P('01' \rightarrow '10') - P('10' \rightarrow '01')$ , etc.

$$a_c = \frac{\sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} |w_{ij} - w_{ji}|}{\sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} (w_{ij} + w_{ji})} \quad \begin{array}{l} (0 \text{ in a fully symmetric network;} \\ 1 \text{ in a fully directed network)} \end{array}$$

# First application: distinguishing *eyes closed* and *eyes open* brain states

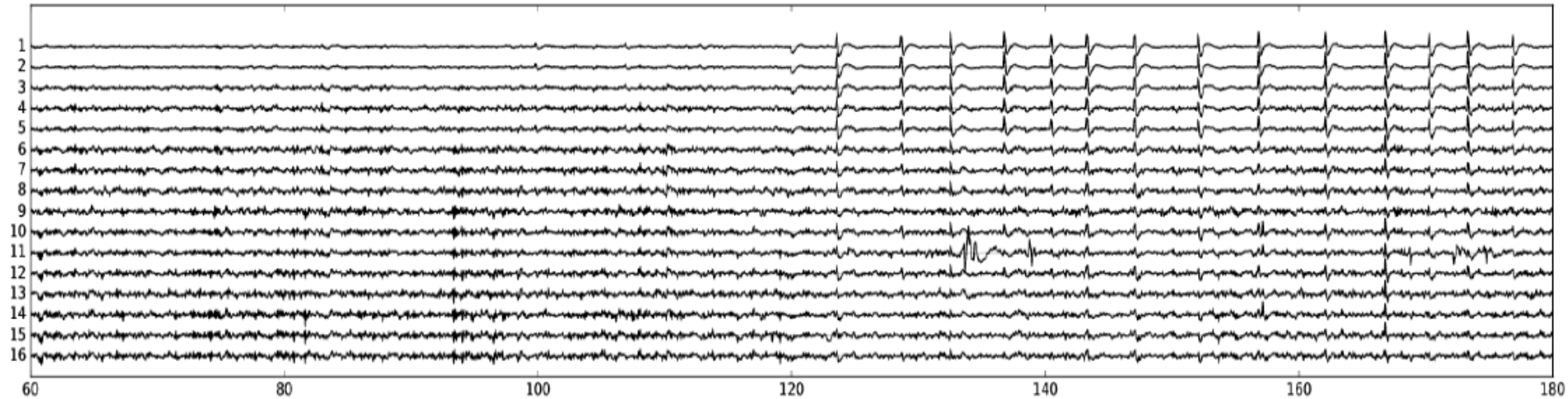
Analysis of two EEG datasets

BitBrain      PhysioNet

	DTS1	DTS2
Sampling rate(Hz)	256	160
Time task(seg)	120	60
Total points	30720	9600
Number of electrodes	16	64
Number of subjects	70	109

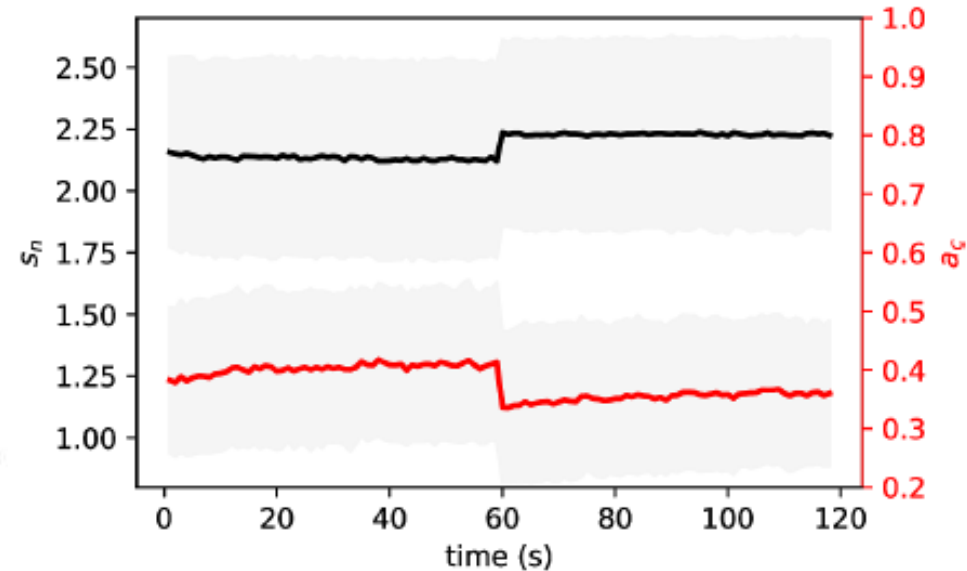
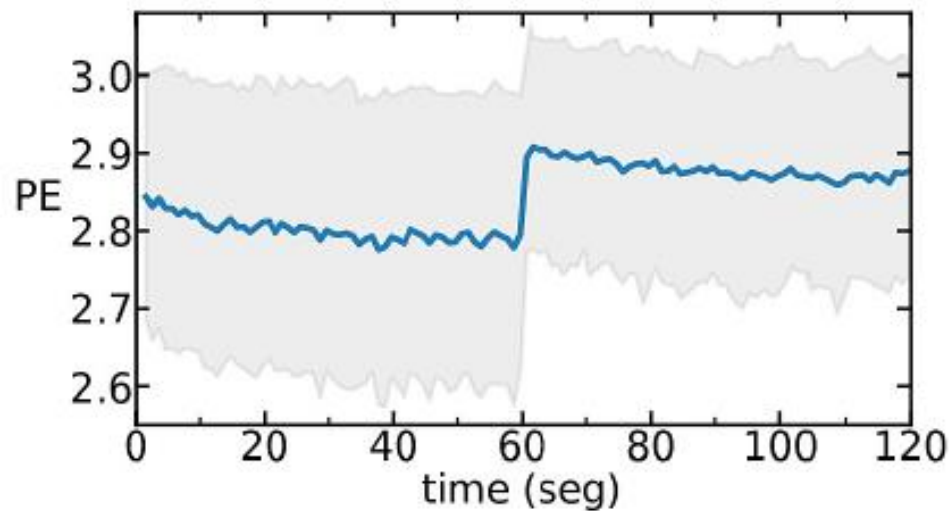
Eye closed

Eye open



Symbolic analysis is applied to the **raw** data; similar results were found with **filtered** data using independent component analysis.

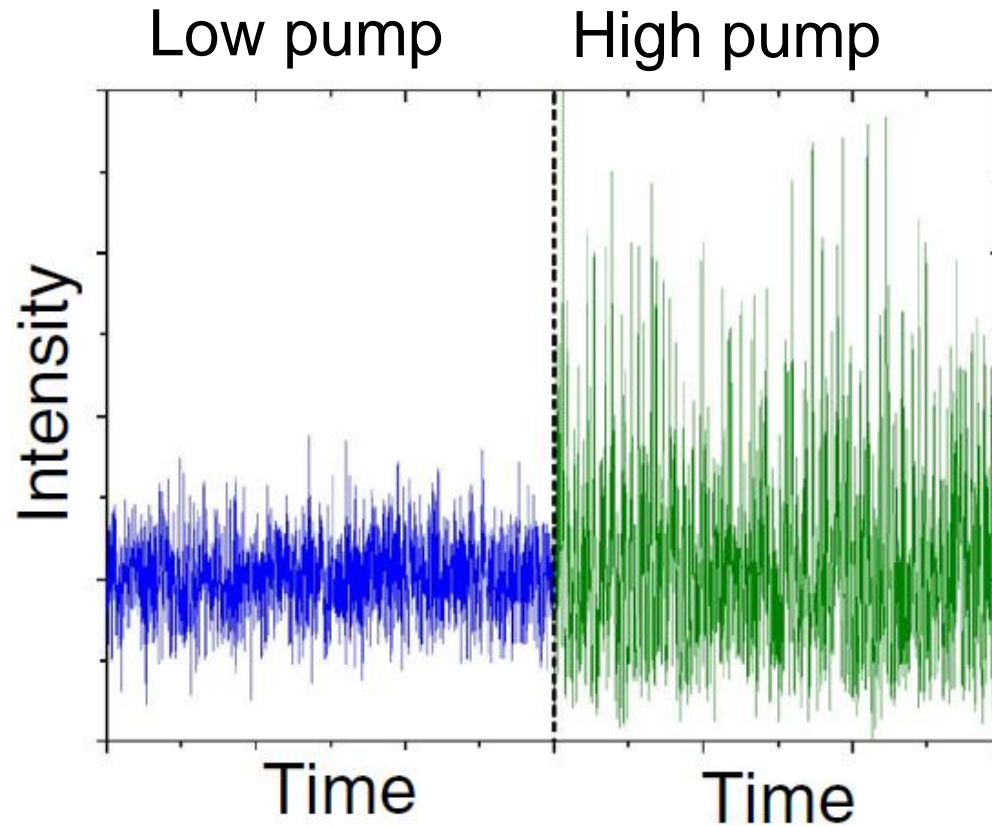
# “Randomization”: the entropies increase and the asymmetry coefficient decreases

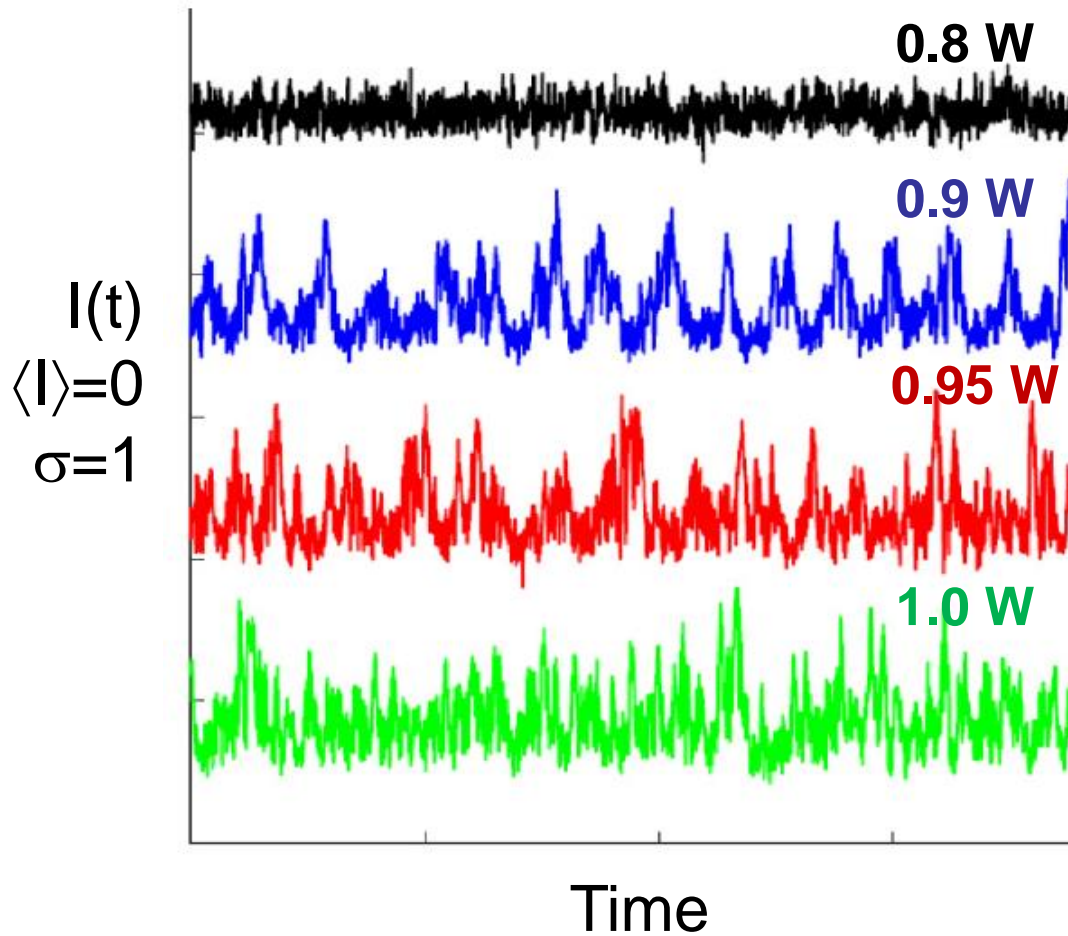


Time window = 1 s  
(160 data points)

[C. Quintero-Quiroz et al, “Differentiating resting brain states using ordinal symbolic analysis”, Chaos 28, 106307 \(2018\).](#)

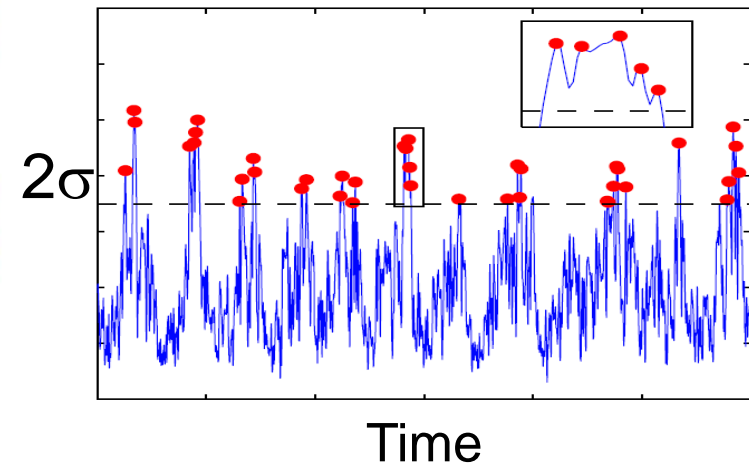
## Second application: Laminar $\rightarrow$ Turbulence transition in a fiber laser as the pump (control parameter) increases





Nonlinear  
temporal  
correlations?

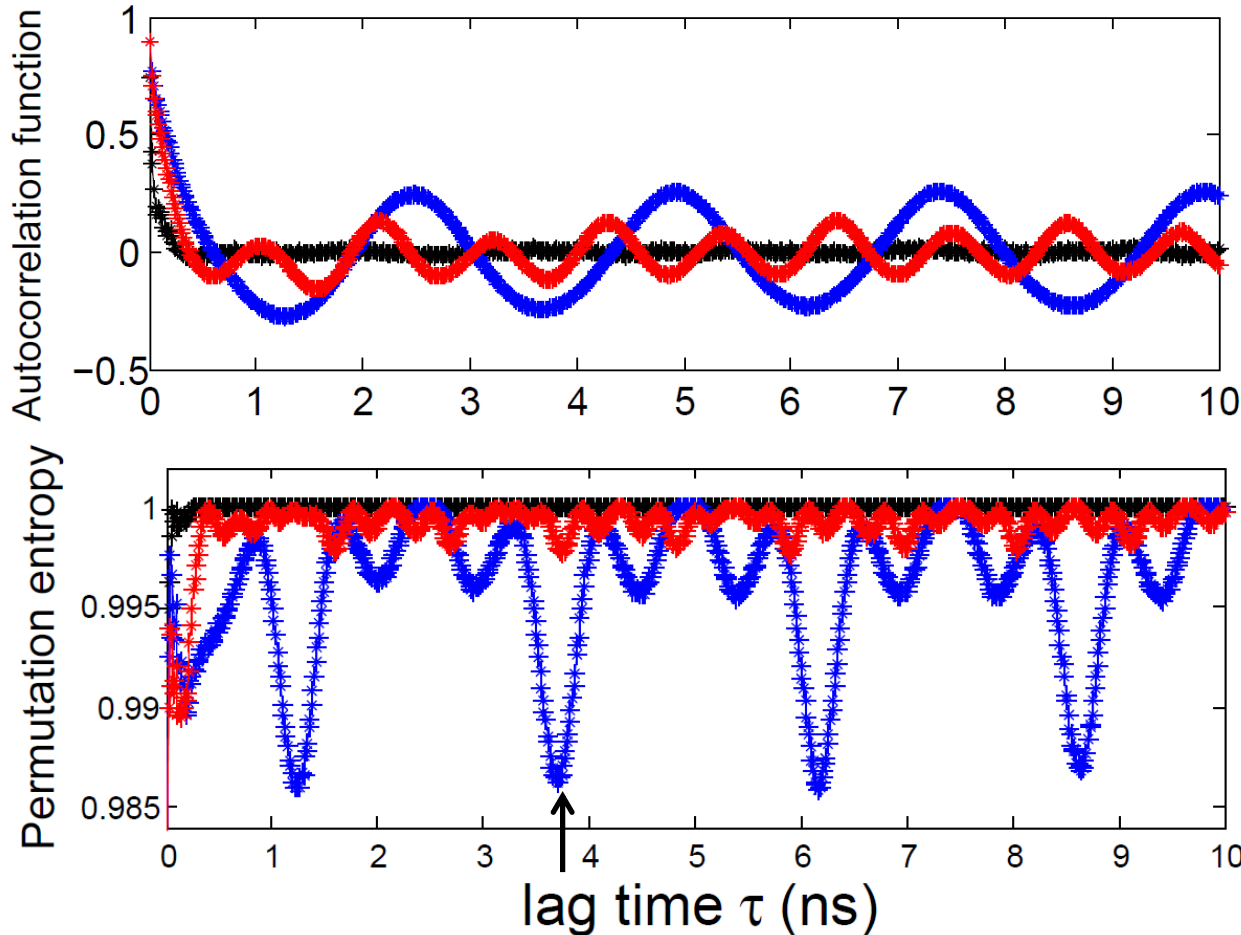
Raw and **thresholded** data



L. Carpi and C. Masoller, “*Persistence and stochastic periodicity in the intensity dynamics of a fiber laser during the transition to optical turbulence*”, Phys. Rev. A **97**, 023842 (2018).

# Ordinal analysis identifies “hidden” periodicity

$$\{I_i, I_{i+\tau}, I_{i+2\tau}, \dots\}$$



Autocorrelation

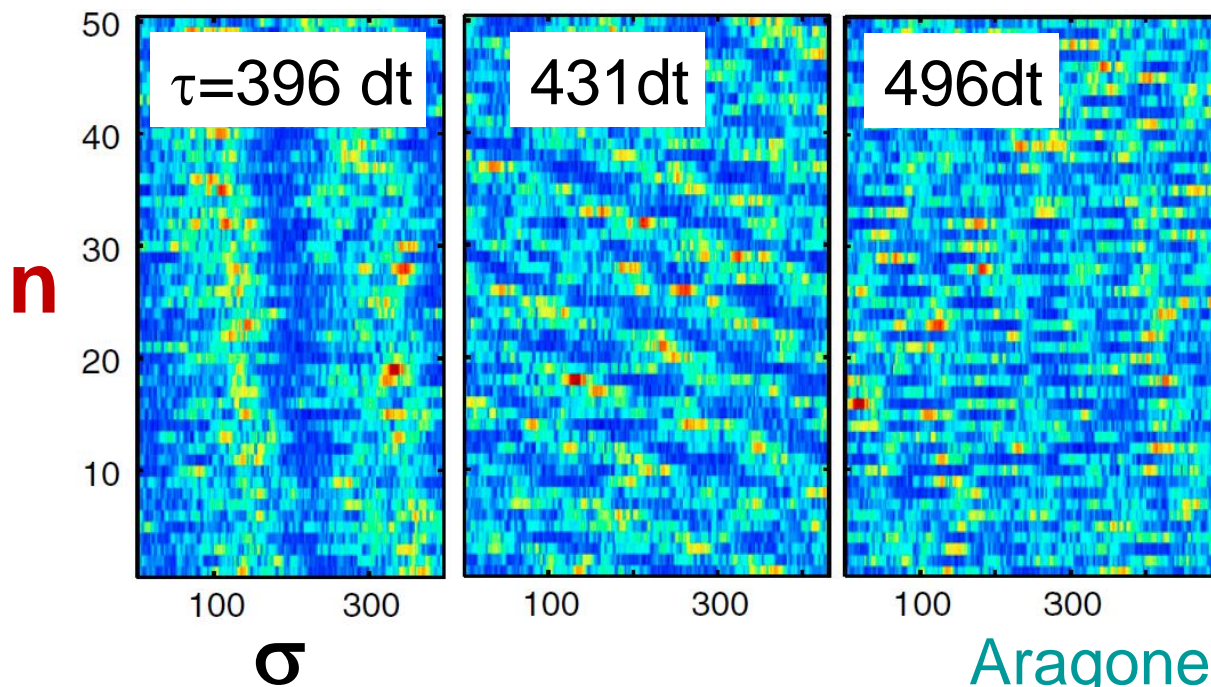
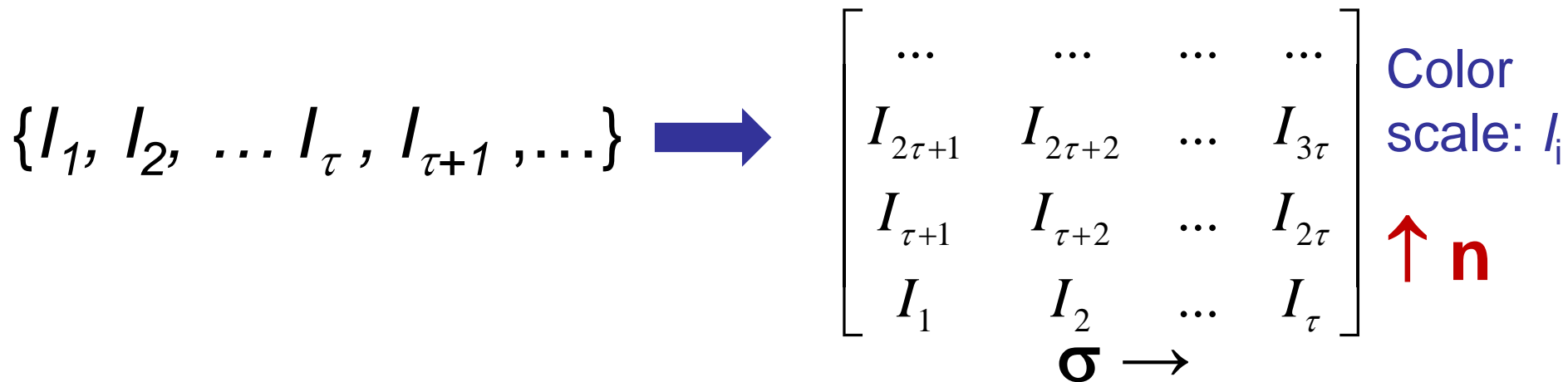
$$C(\tau) = \frac{\langle [I_i - \langle I \rangle][I_{i-\tau} - \langle I \rangle] \rangle}{\sigma^2}$$

Permutation entropy

$$H = -\sum_i p_i \log_2 p_i$$

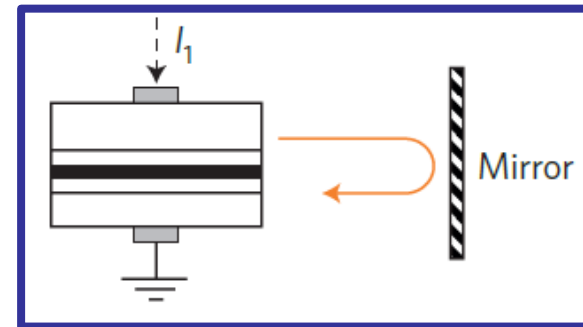


# The space-time representation of the intensity time series: a convenient way to visualize the dynamics

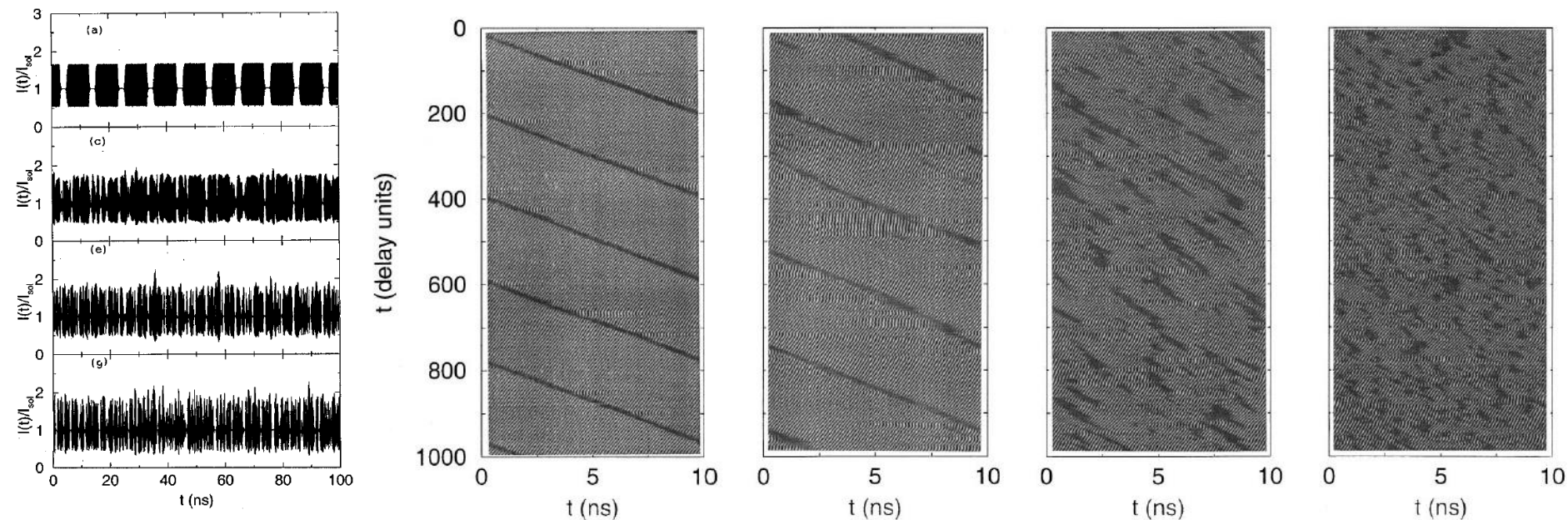


# Semiconductor laser with feedback light

- Time-delay due to propagation time (ns)
- Near threshold: stochastic spiking dynamics (quantum spontaneous emission noise).



Model simulations: increasing the feedback strength  $\rightarrow$  complex dynamics

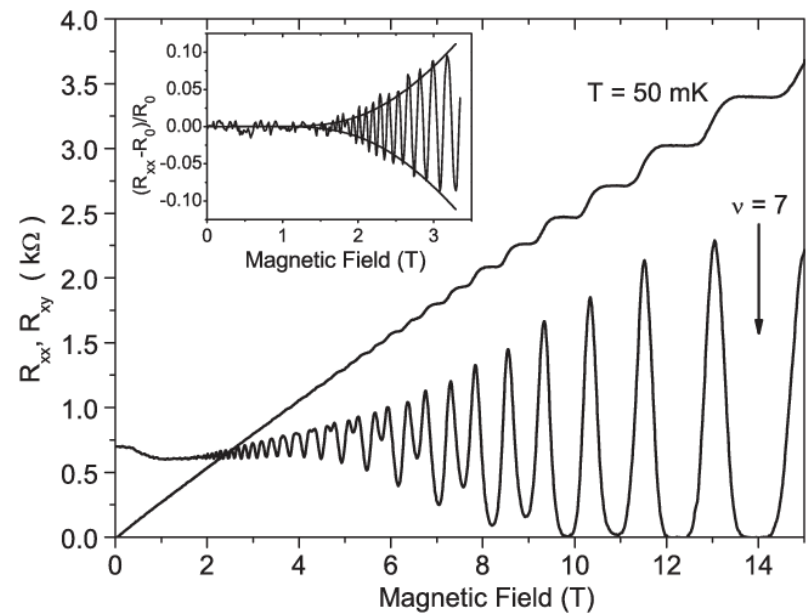


# Outline

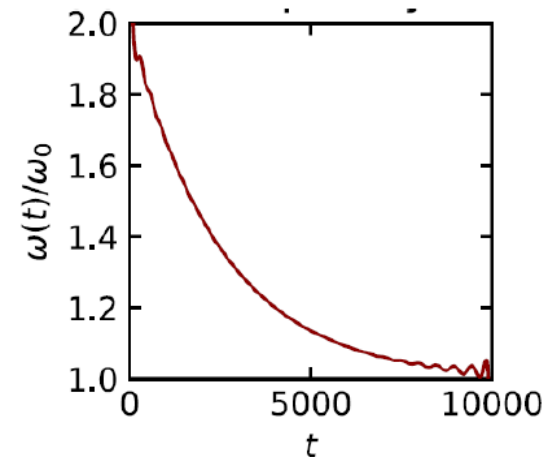
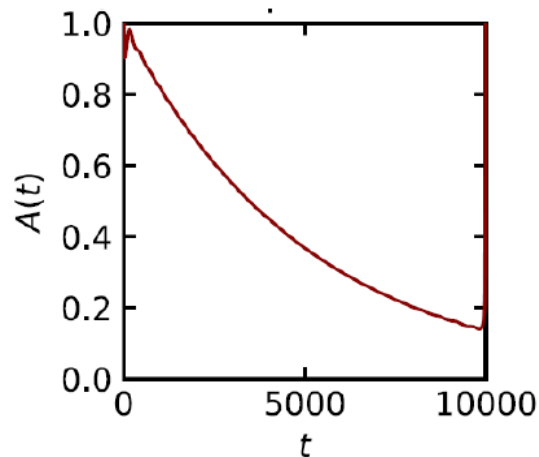
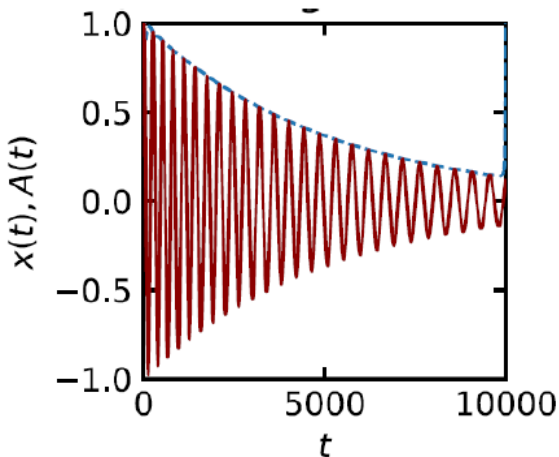
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# How to obtain information about instantaneous amplitude and frequency?

Shubnikov de Haas oscillations in a quantum spin system



$$x(t) = e^{-\alpha t} \cos[\omega_0(1 + e^{-2\alpha t})]$$

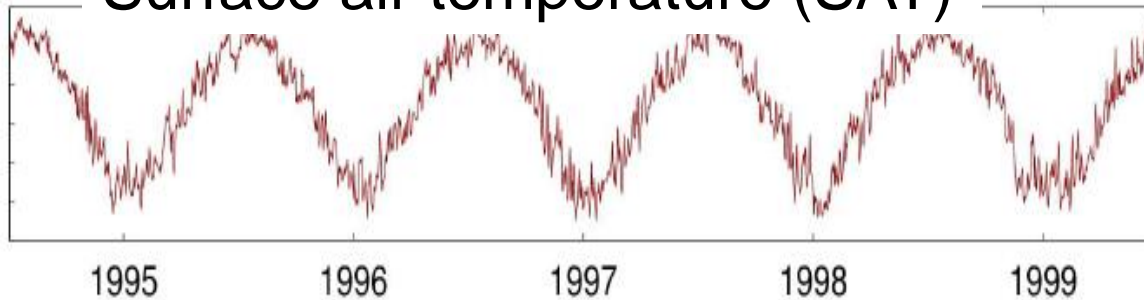


# Third example

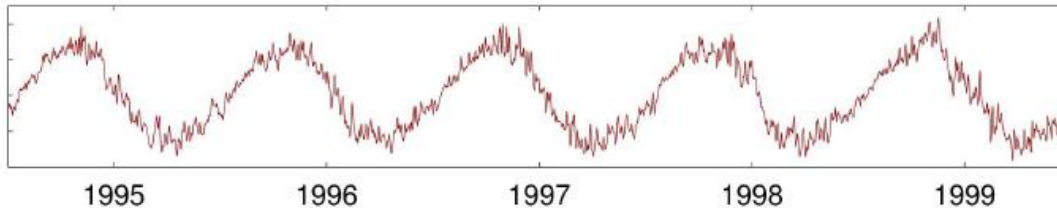
Surface air temperature (SAT)

**Normalization:**  $\mu=0, \sigma=1$

x

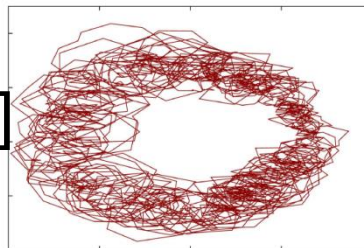


HT[x]



■  $HT[\sin(\omega t)] = \cos(\omega t)$

$y = HT[x]$



$$a(t) = \sqrt{[x(t)]^2 + [y(t)]^2}$$
$$\varphi(t) = \arctan[y(t)/x(t)]$$



# Hilbert transform

For a real time series  $x(t)$  defines an *analytic signal*

$$\zeta(t) = x(t) + iy(t) = a(t)e^{i\varphi(t)}$$
$$y(t) = H[x(t)] = \pi^{-1} \text{P.V.} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{x(\tau)}{t - \tau} d\tau$$

A word of warning:

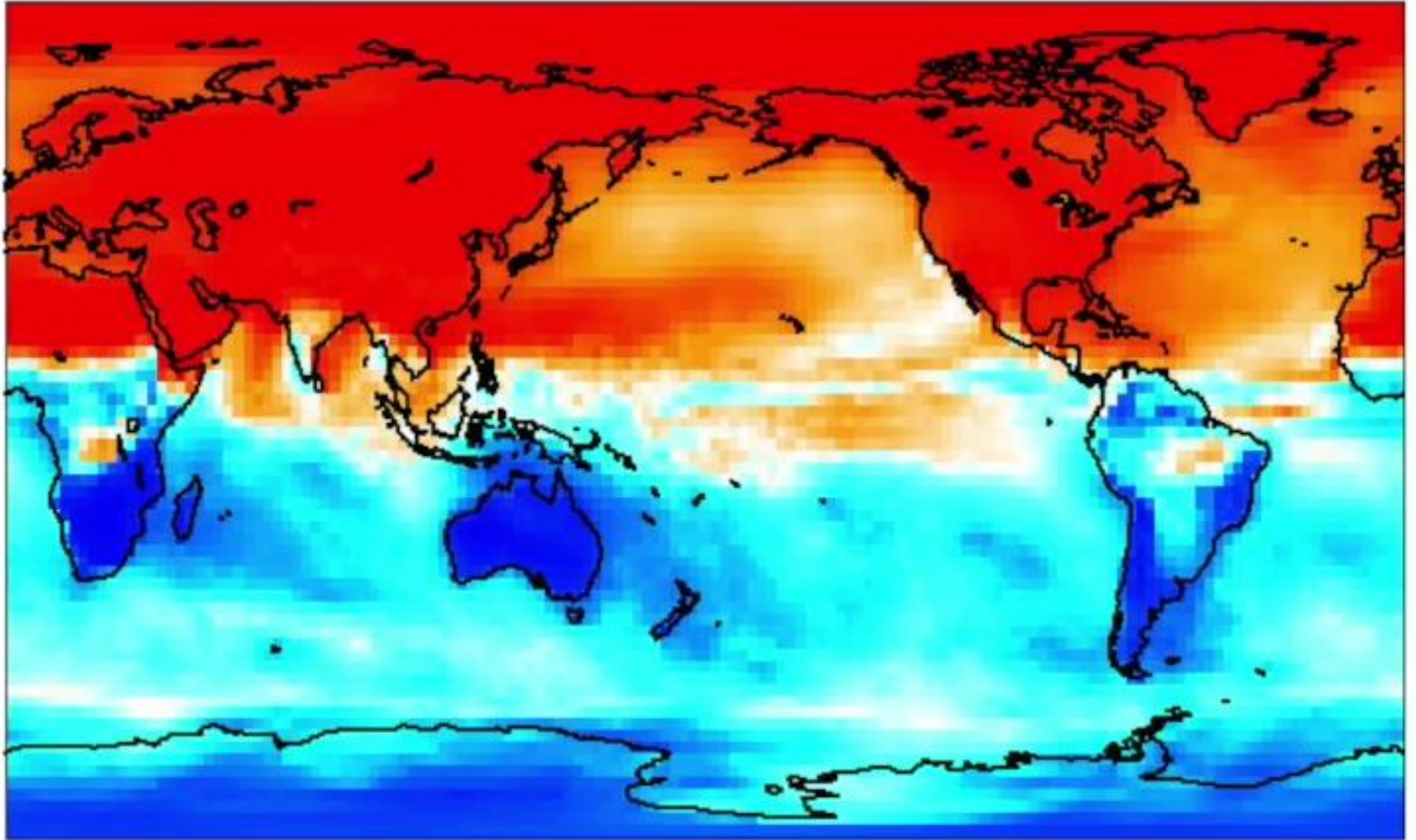
Although formally  $a(t)$  and  $\varphi(t)$  can be defined for any  $x(t)$ , **they have a clear physical meaning only if  $x(t)$  is a narrow-band oscillatory signal**: in that case, the  $a(t)$  coincides with the envelope of  $x(t)$  and the **instantaneous frequency,  $\omega(t)=d\varphi/dt$** , coincides with the dominant frequency in the power spectrum.

# Application to climate data

- Can we use the Hilbert amplitude, phase, frequency, to :
  - Identify and quantify regional climate change?
  - Investigate synchronization in climate data?
- Problem: climate time series are not narrow-band.
- Usual solution (e.g. brain signals): isolate a narrow frequency band.
- However, the Hilbert transform applied to Surface Air Temperature time series yields meaningful insights.

# Cosine of Hilbert phase

1 July

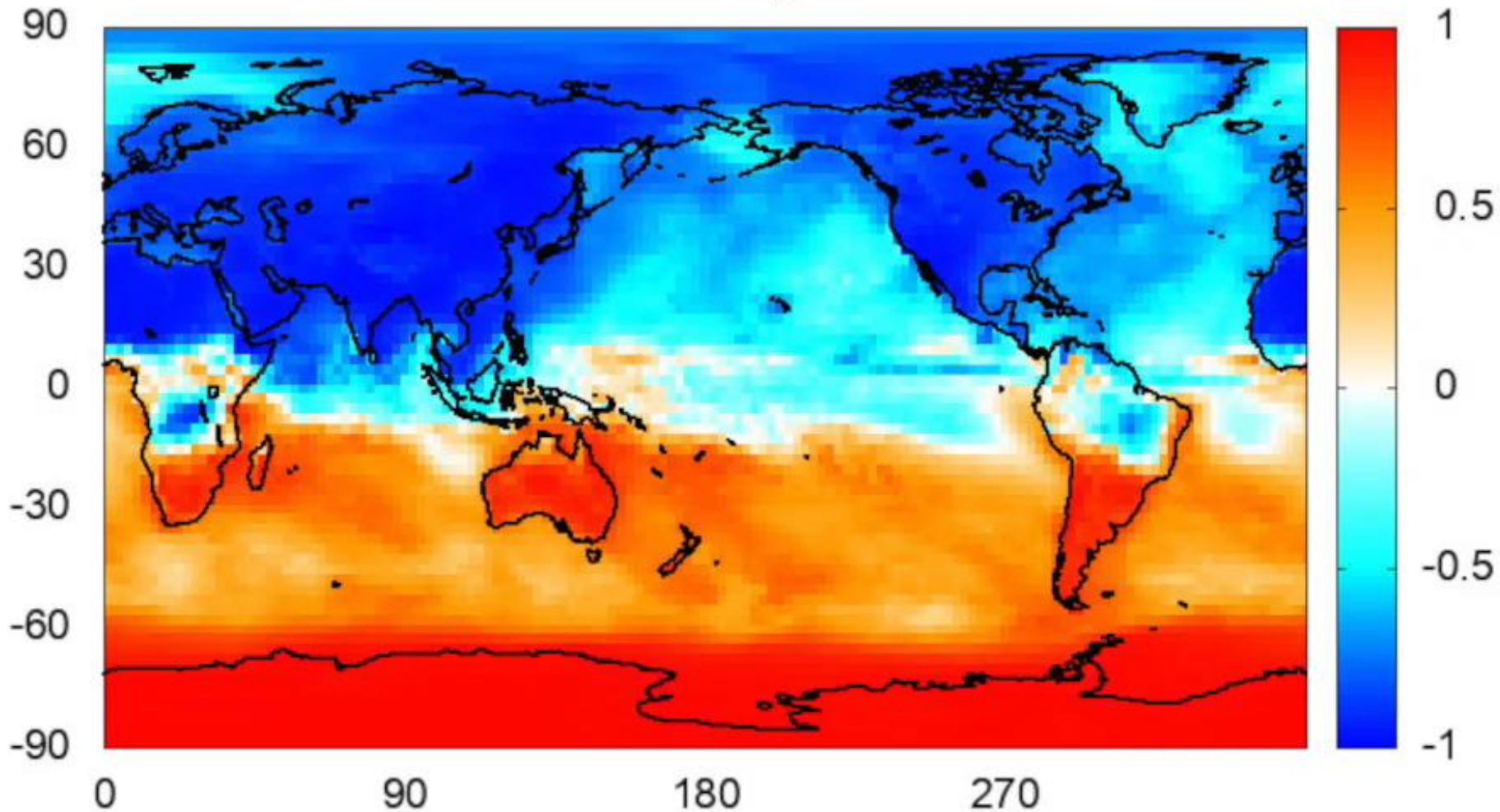




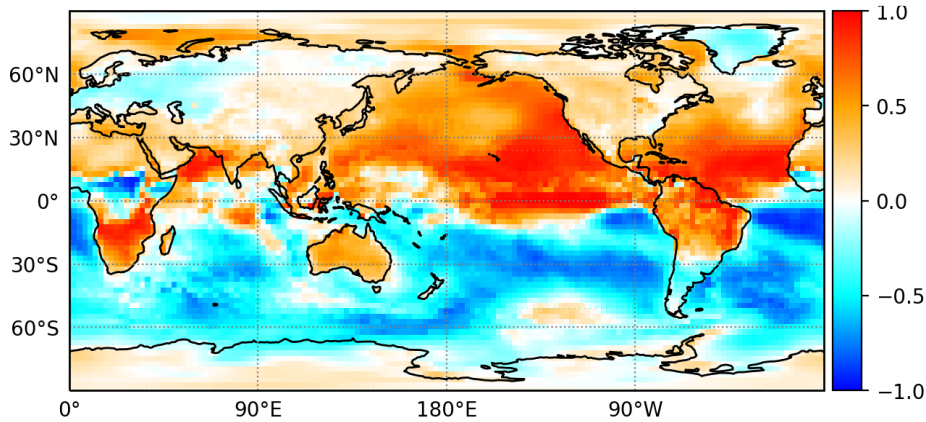
# How the seasons evolve?

## Temporal evolution of the cosine of the Hilbert phase

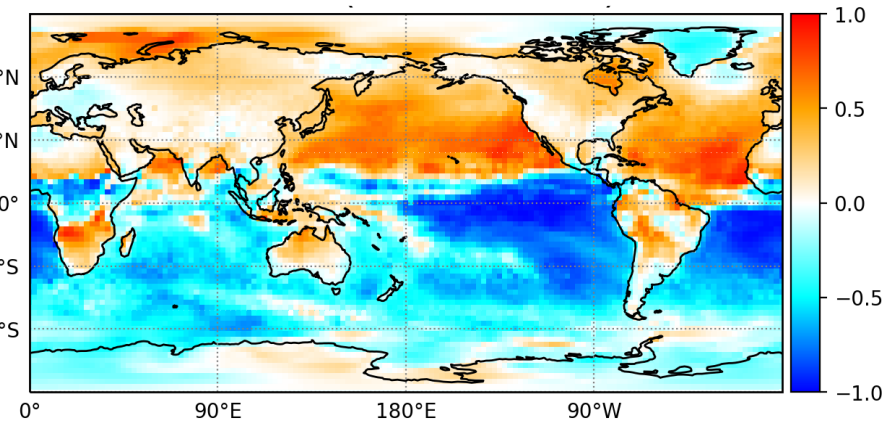
1 January



# Cosine of Hilbert phase during a El Niño period (October 2015)



# Cosine of Hilbert phase during a La Niña period (October 2011)



# Changes in Hilbert amplitude and frequency detect inter-decadal variations in surface air temperature (SAT)

## The data:

- Spatial resolution  $2.5^{\circ} \times 2.5^{\circ} \Rightarrow 10226$  time series
- Daily resolution 1979 – 2016  $\Rightarrow 13700$  data points

## Where does the data come from?

- European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF, ERA-Interim).
- Freely available.

## “Features” extracted from each SAT time series

- Time averaged amplitude,  $\langle a \rangle$
- Time averaged frequency,  $\langle \omega \rangle$
- Standard deviations,  $\sigma_a$ ,  $\sigma_{\omega}$

## Relative decadal variations

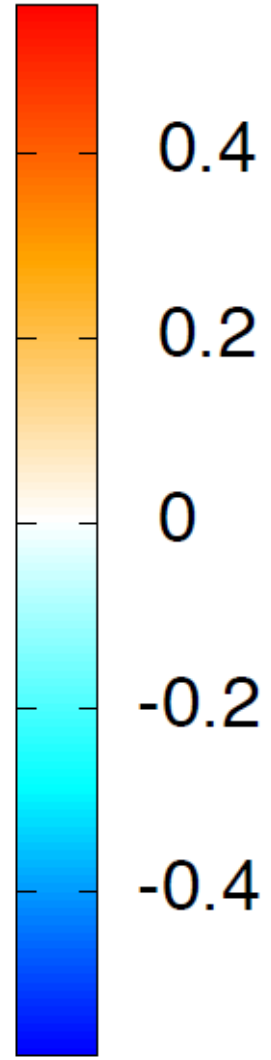
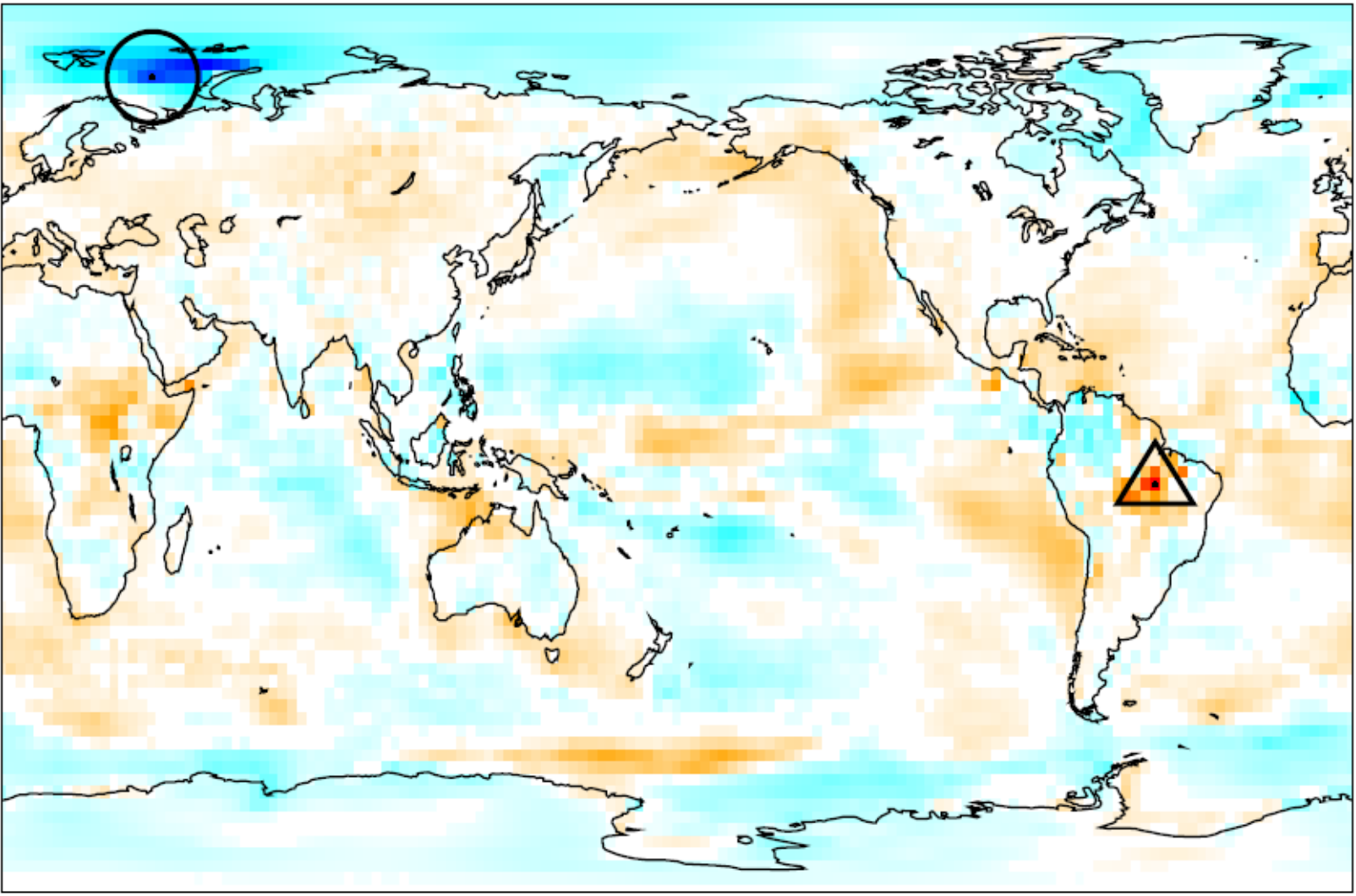
$$\Delta a = \langle a \rangle_{2016-2007} - \langle a \rangle_{1988-1979}$$
$$\frac{\Delta a}{\langle a \rangle_{2016-1979}}$$

Relative variation is considered significant if:

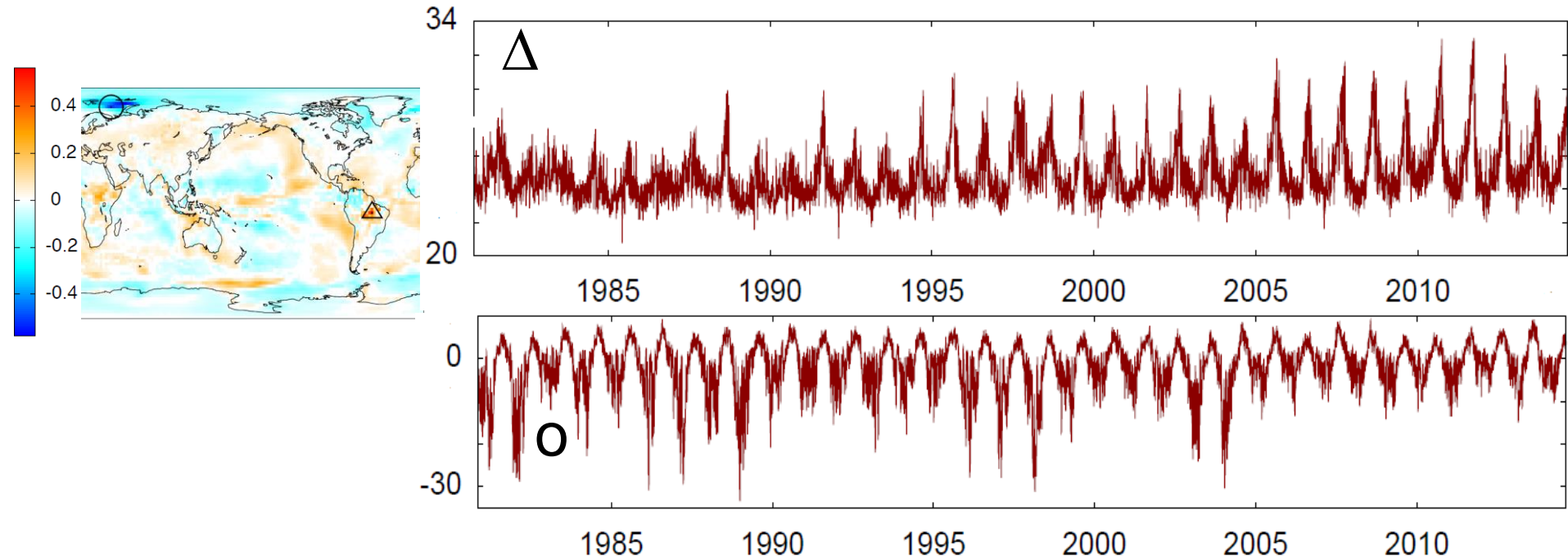
$$\frac{\Delta a}{\langle a \rangle} \geq \langle \cdot \rangle_s + 2\sigma_s \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\Delta a}{\langle a \rangle} \leq \langle \cdot \rangle_s - 2\sigma_s$$

100 “block” surrogates

[D. A. Zappala, M. Barreiro and C. Masoller, “Quantifying changes in spatial patterns of surface air temperature dynamics over several decades”, Earth Syst. Dynam. \*\*9\*\*, 383 \(2018\)](#)



# Relative variation of average Hilbert amplitude uncovers regions where the amplitude of the seasonal cycle increased or decreased



- **Decrease of precipitation:** the solar radiation that is not used for evaporation is used to heat the ground.
- **Melting of sea ice:** during winter the air temperature is mitigated by the sea and tends to be more moderated.

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# Cross-correlation of two time series $X$ and $Y$ of length $N$

$$C_{xy}(\tau) = \frac{1}{N - \tau} \sum_{k=1}^{N-\tau} x(k + \tau)y(k)$$

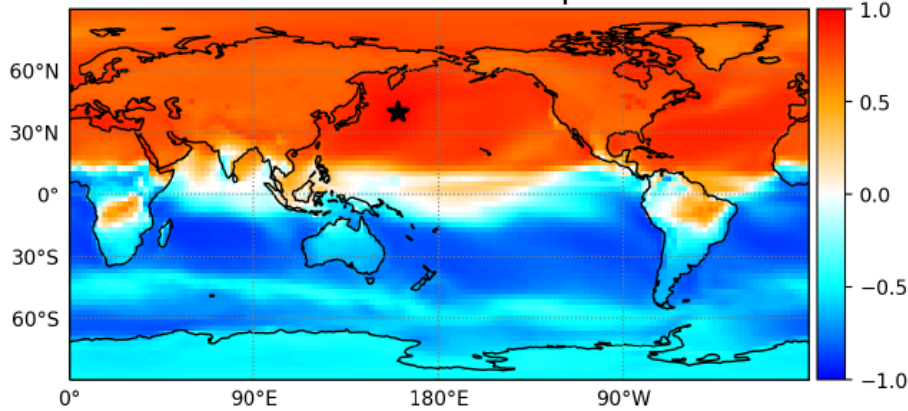
the two time series are normalized to zero-mean  $\mu=0$  and unit variance,  $\sigma=1$

- $-1 \leq C_{X,Y} \leq 1$
- $C_{X,Y} = C_{Y,X}$
- The maximum of  $C_{X,Y}(\tau)$  indicates the **lag** that renders the time series  $X$  and  $Y$  best aligned.
- Pearson coefficient:  $\rho = |C_{X,Y}(0)|$

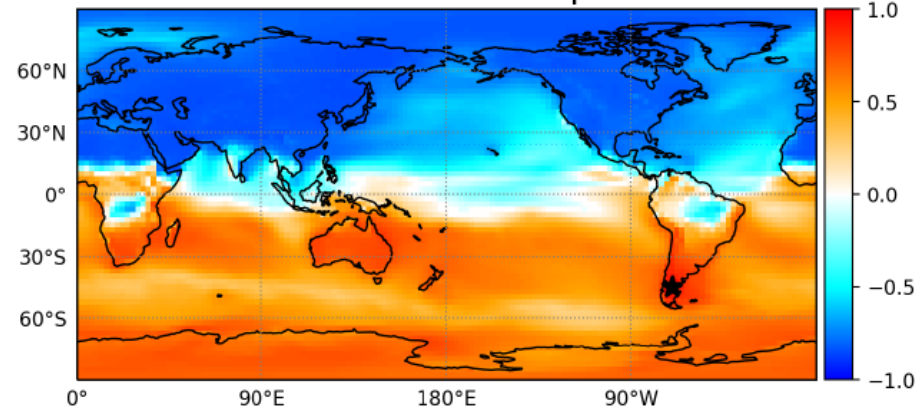


# Example: cross-correlation of cosine of Hilbert phase of SAT at a reference point (\*), and all other regions

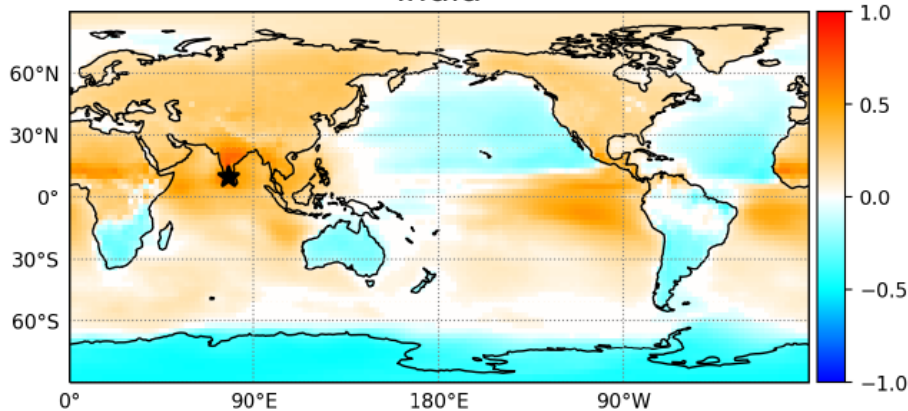
Northern extratropics



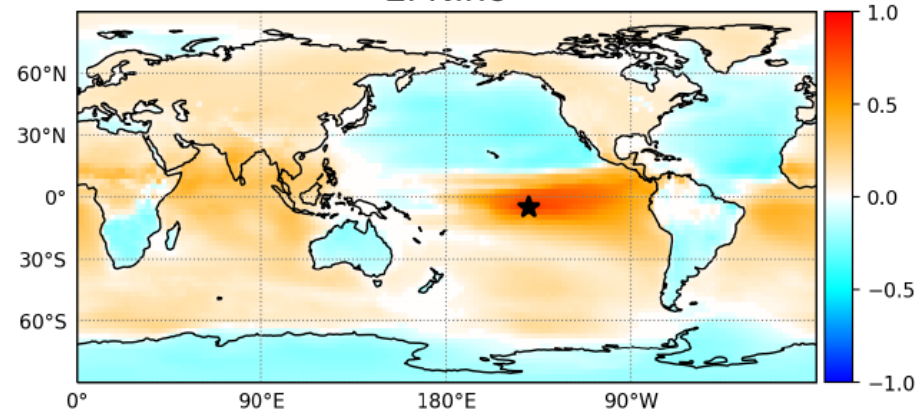
Southern extratropics



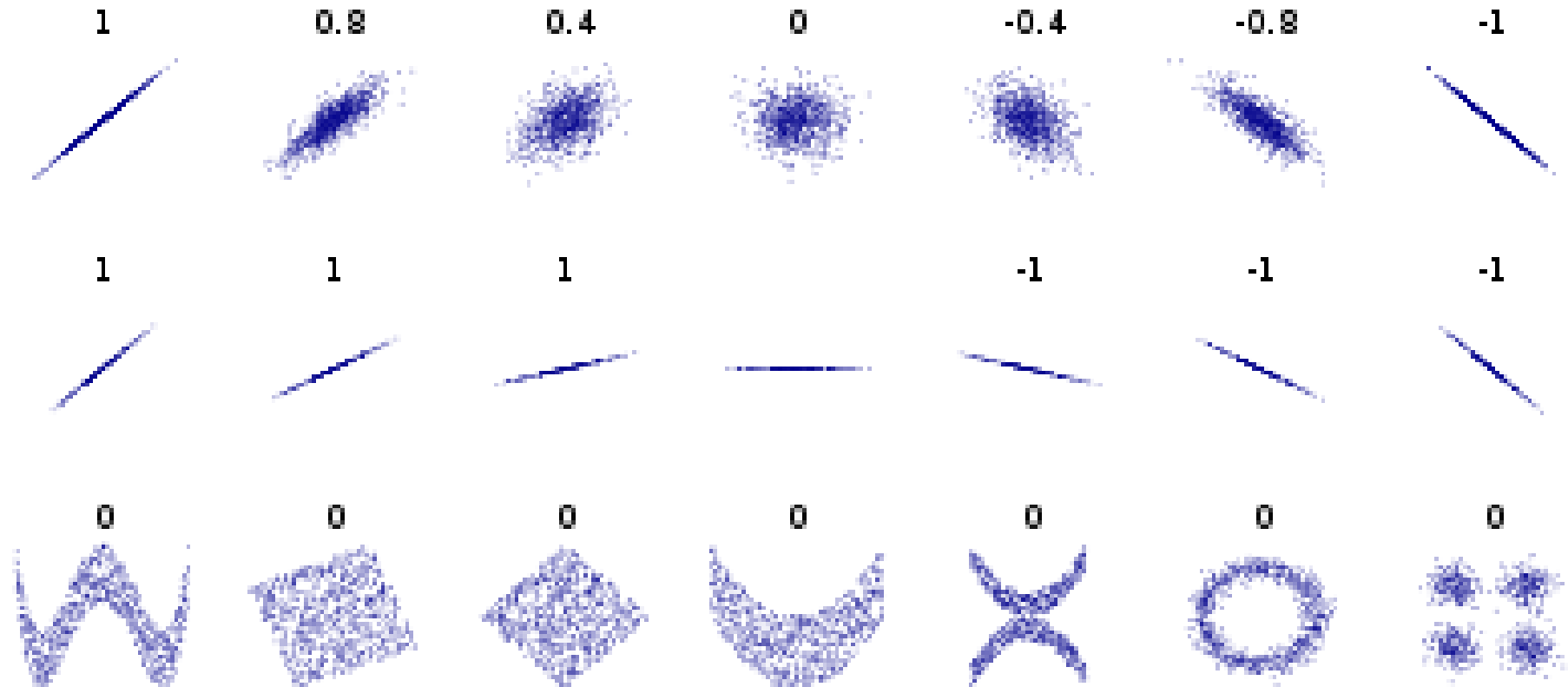
India



El Niño



# Cross-correlation analysis detects linear relationships only



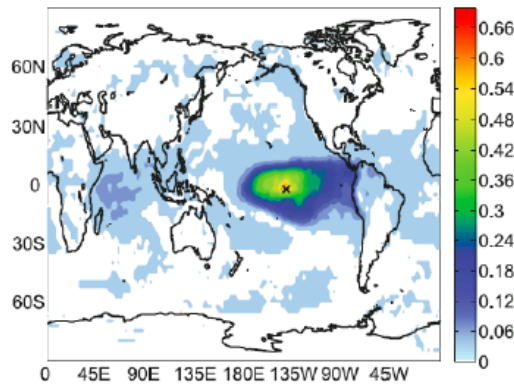
# Nonlinear correlation measure based on information theory: the mutual Information

$$MI = \sum_{i \in x} \sum_{j \in y} p(x, y) \log \left( \frac{p(x, y)}{p(x)p(y)} \right)$$

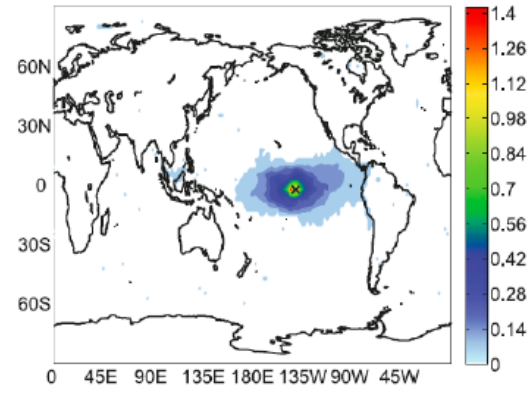
- $MI(x, y) = MI(y, x)$
- $p(x, y) = p(x) p(y) \Rightarrow MI = 0$ , else  **$MI > 0$**
- $MI$  can also be computed with a lag-time.
- $MI$  can also be computed from symbolic probabilities (e.g., probabilities of ordinal patterns).

# Example: MI maps computed from Surface Air Temperature anomalies at a reference point in El Niño, and other regions

Histograms



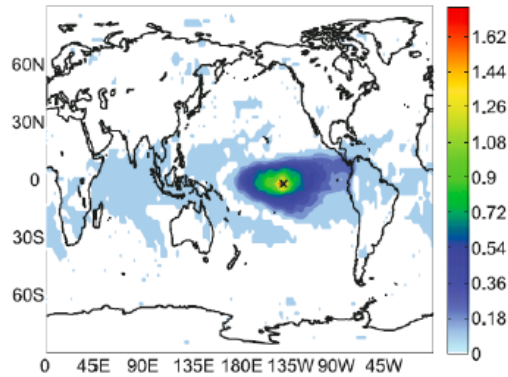
(a)



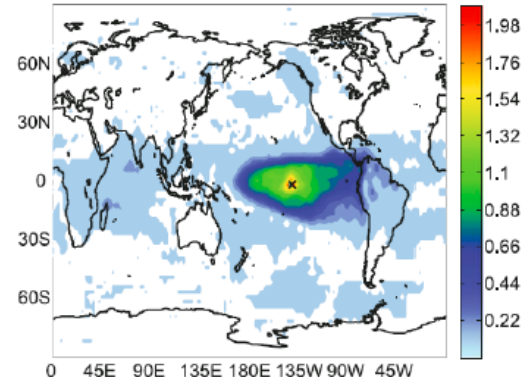
(b)

3 months  
ordinal  
patterns

Inter-  
annual  
ordinal  
patterns



(c)



(d)

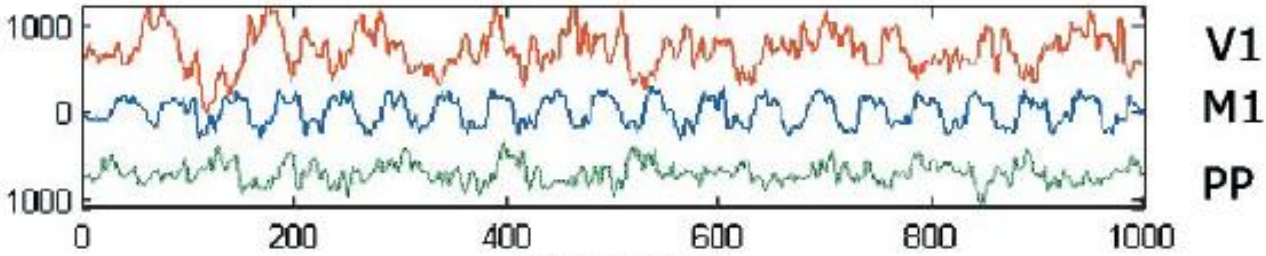
3 years  
ordinal  
patterns

Ordinal analysis separates the times-scales of the interactions

# Outline

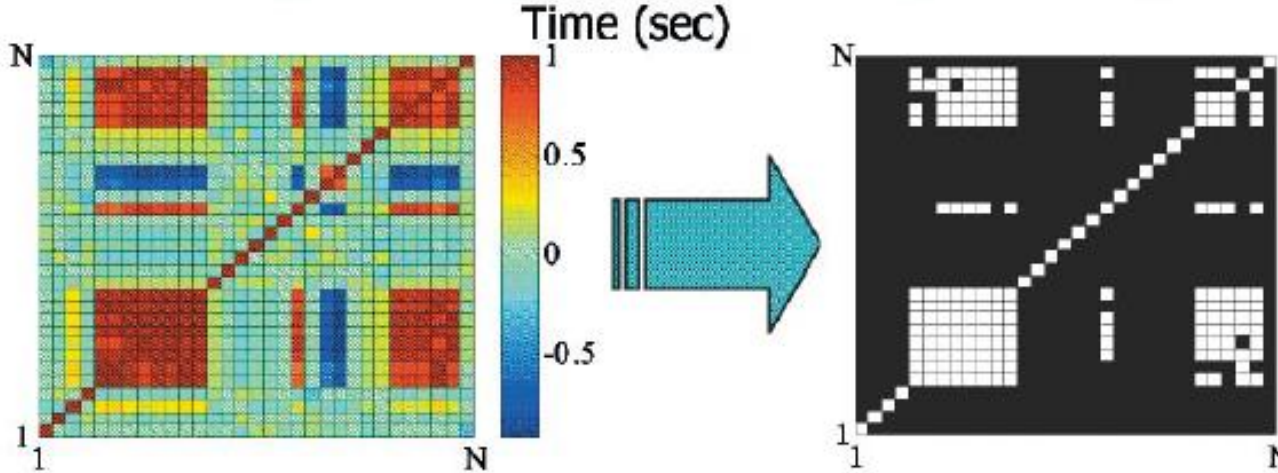
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# Brain functional network



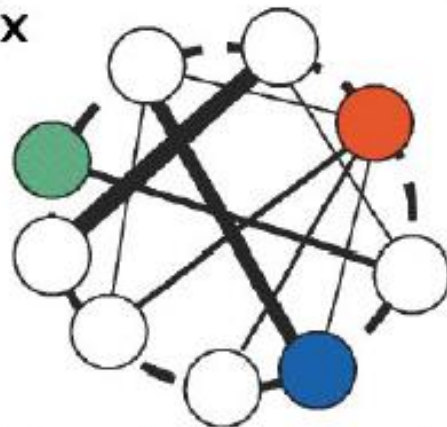
**Adjacency matrix**

$$S_{ij} > Th \\ \Rightarrow A_{ij} = 1, \\ \text{else } A_{ij} = 0$$



Correlation Matrix

Thresholded Matrix



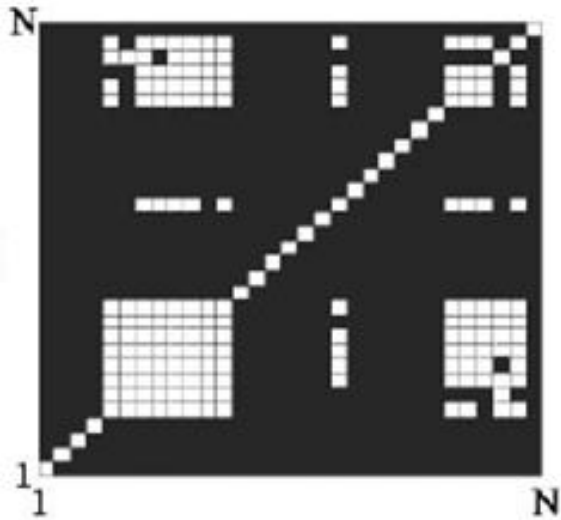
Network Extracted

*Eguiluz et al, PRL 2005*



# Graphical representation

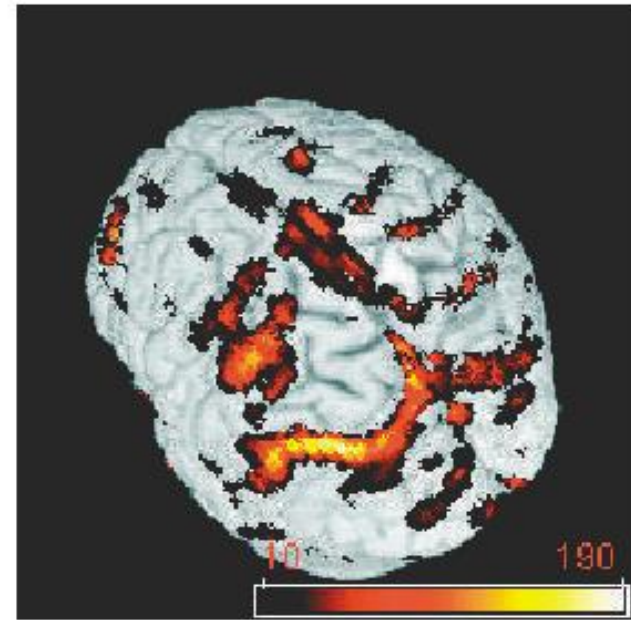
Adjacency matrix



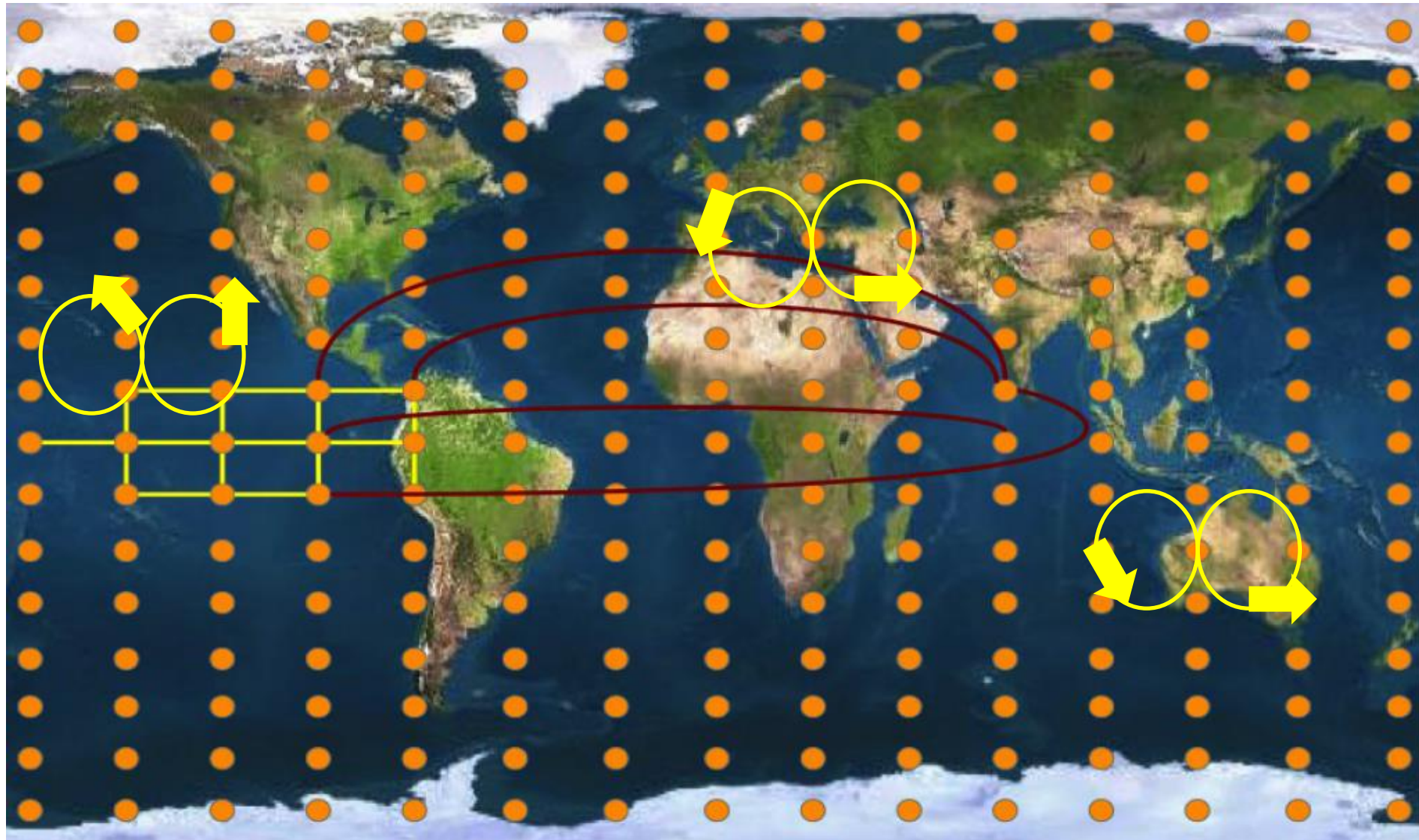
Thresholded  
matrix = inferred  
("functional")  
network

**Degree** of a node: number of links

$$k_i = \sum_j A_{ij}$$

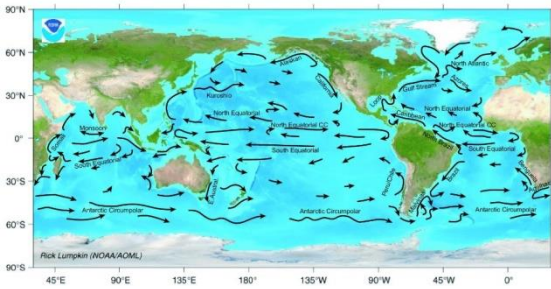


# The climate system as a set of “interacting oscillators”

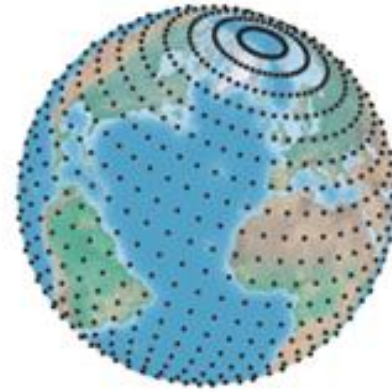




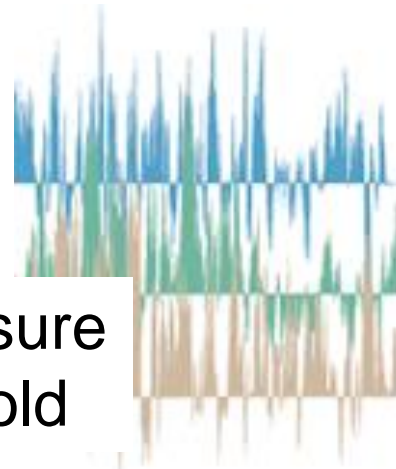
# Complex network representation of the climate system



Back to the climate system: interpretation (currents, winds, etc.)



More than 10000 nodes (with different sizes).



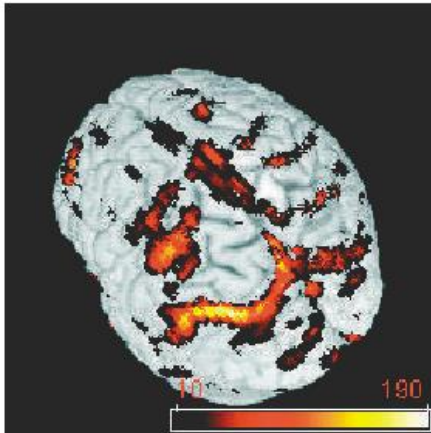
Daily resolution: more than 13000 data points in each TS



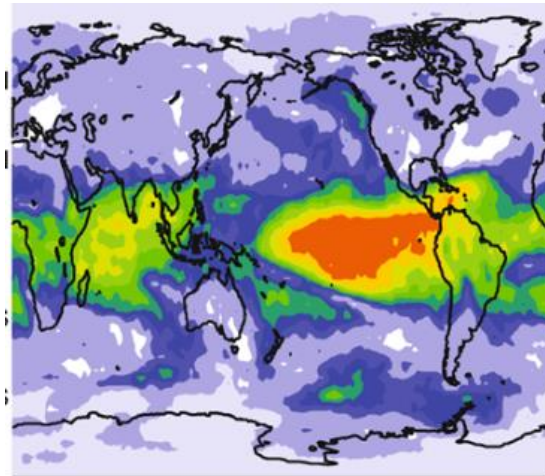
Sim. measure + threshold

Surface Air Temperature Anomalies (solar cycle removed)

## Brain network



## Climate network



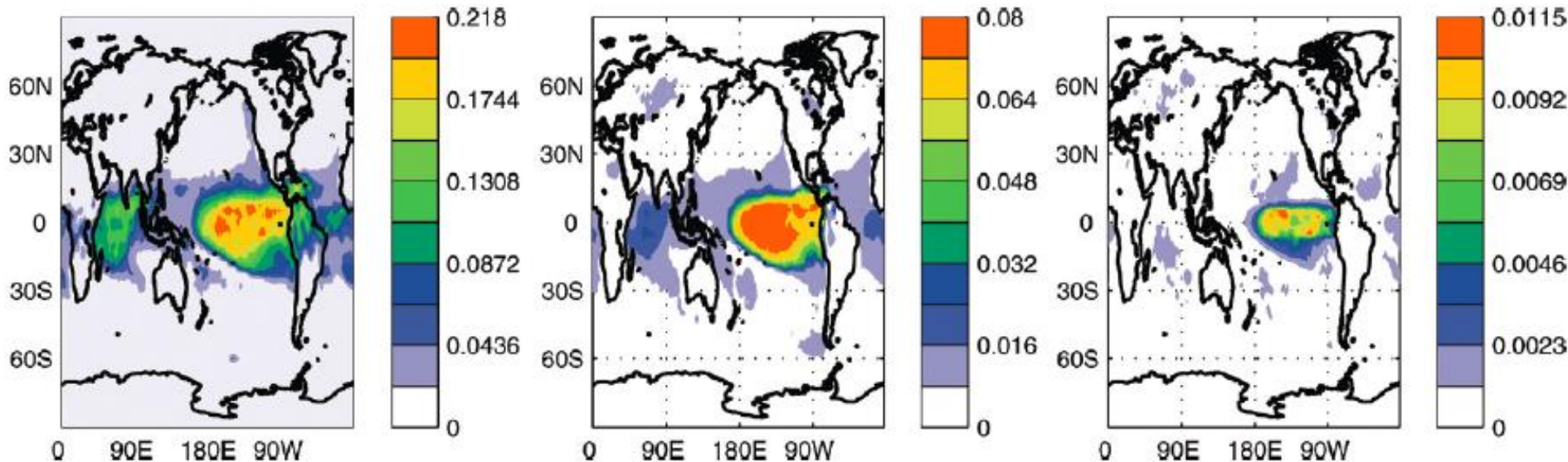
Area weighted connectivity (AWC):  
weighted degree (nodes represent areas with different sizes)

$$AWC_i = \frac{\sum_j^N A_{ij} \cos(\lambda_j)}{\sum_j^N \cos(\lambda_j)}$$

# How to select the threshold ?

$$\text{If } S_{ij} > \text{Th} \Rightarrow A_{ij} = 1, \\ \text{else } A_{ij} = 0$$

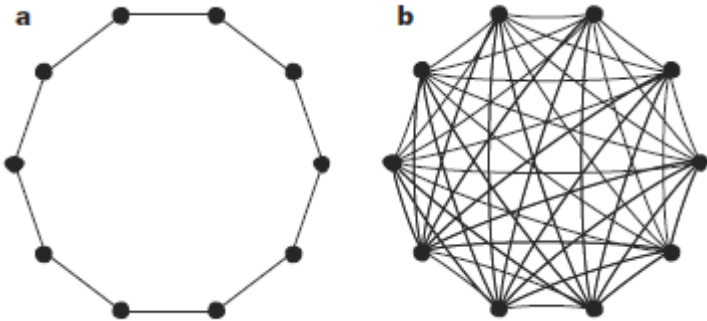
Th  $\Rightarrow$



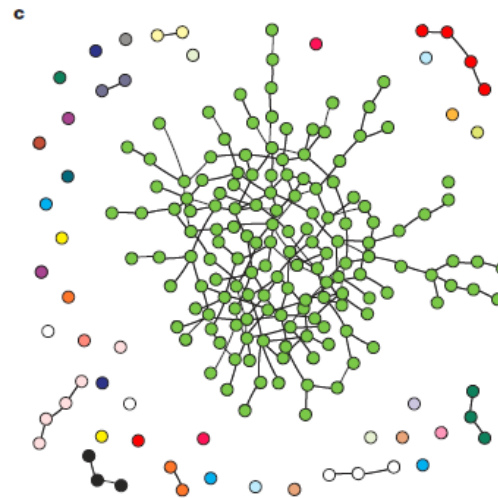
[M. Barreiro, et. al, Chaos 21, 013101 \(2011\)](#)

# An important challenge in time-series analysis: how to infer the structure of the network from observed data

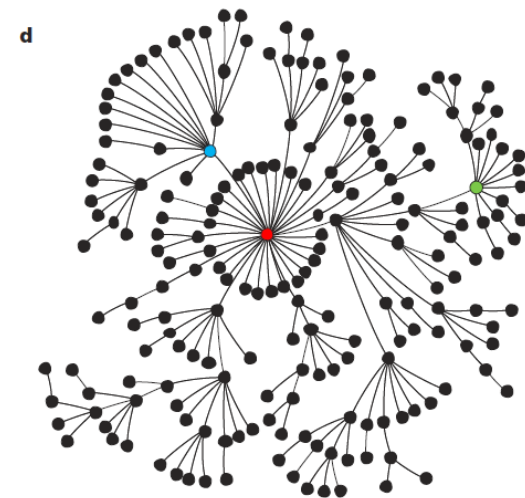
## Regular



## Random



## Scale-free



# A link classification problem

$$S_{ij} > Th \Rightarrow A_{ij} = 1, \text{ else } A_{ij}=0$$

- There are many **statistical similarity measures** to infer interactions from observations, i.e., to classify:
  - the interaction exists (is significant)
  - the interaction does not exist (or is not significant)
- How to select the threshold?
- In “spatially embedded networks”, nearby nodes have the strongest links.
- How to keep **weak-but-significant** links?



**Goal: use a system with known connectivity to test the performance of statistical similarity measures**

*Observed time series in nodes  $i$  and  $j$ :  $a_i(t)$ ,  $a_j(t)$ ,  $t=1, \dots, T$   
(normalized  $\mu=0$ ,  $\sigma=1$ )*

Lagged |cross correlation|: 
$$CC_{ij}(\tau) = \frac{1}{T - \tau_{\max}} \left| \sum_{t=0}^{T-\tau_{\max}} a_i(t) a_j(t + \tau) \right|$$

Statistical Similarity Measure:

$$\begin{aligned} S_{ij} &= \max | CC_{ij}(\tau) | \\ &= | CC_{ij}(\tau_{ij}) | \quad \tau_{ij} \text{ in } [0, \tau_{\max}] \end{aligned}$$

We compare with the Mutual Information, computed from probabilities of “raw” values and from ordinal probabilities

[G. Tirabassi et al., “Inferring the connectivity of coupled oscillators from time-series statistical similarity analysis”, Sci. Rep. 5 10829 \(2015\).](#)

# Kuramoto oscillators in a random network

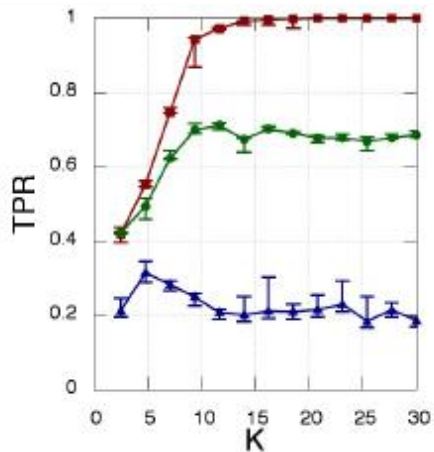
$$d\theta_i = \omega_i dt + \frac{K}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N A_{ij} \sin(\theta_j - \theta_i) dt + D dW_t^i$$

$A_{ij}$  is a symmetric random matrix;  
 $N=12$  time-series, each with  $10^4$  data points.

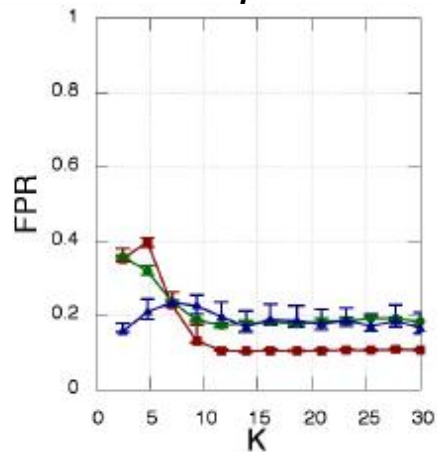
## Phases ( $\theta$ )

CC MI MIOP

### True positives

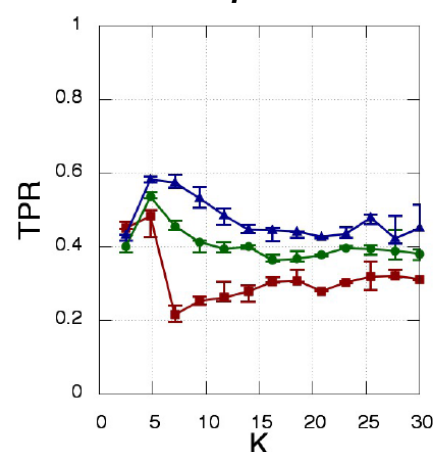


### False positives

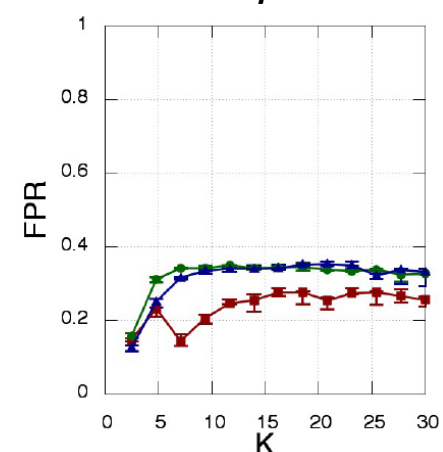


## “Observable” $Y=\sin(\theta)$

### True positives



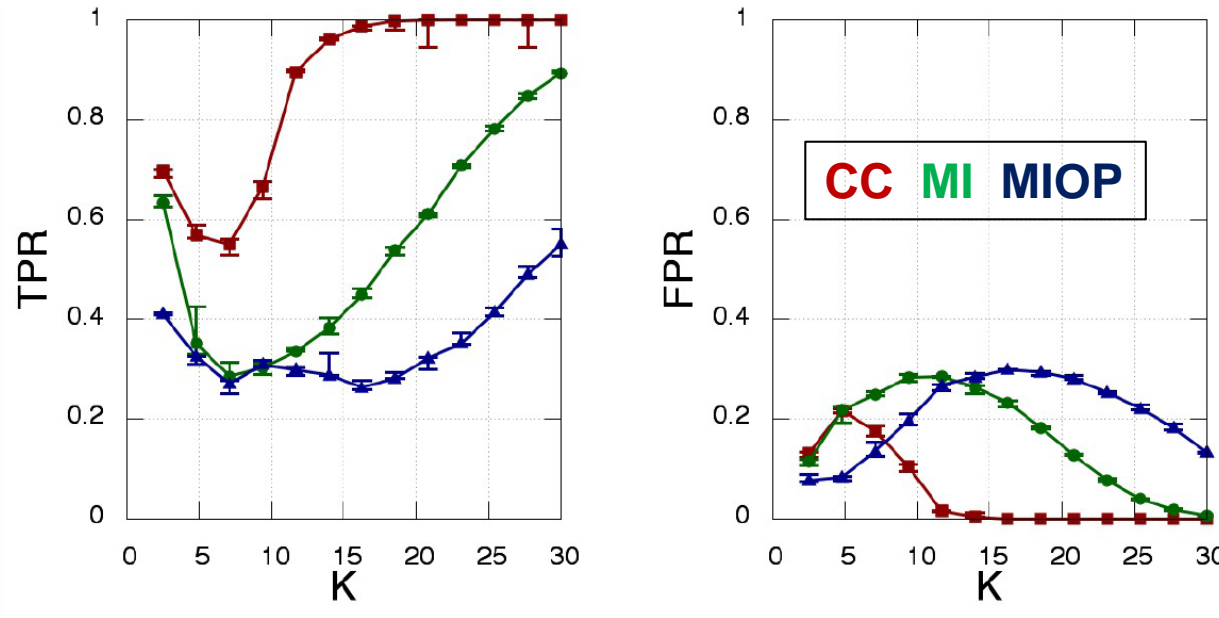
### False positives



Results of a 100 simulations with different oscillators' frequencies, random matrices, noise realizations and initial conditions.

For each  $K$ , the threshold was varied to obtain optimal reconstruction.

# Instantaneous frequencies ( $d\theta/dt$ )



Perfect network inference is possible!

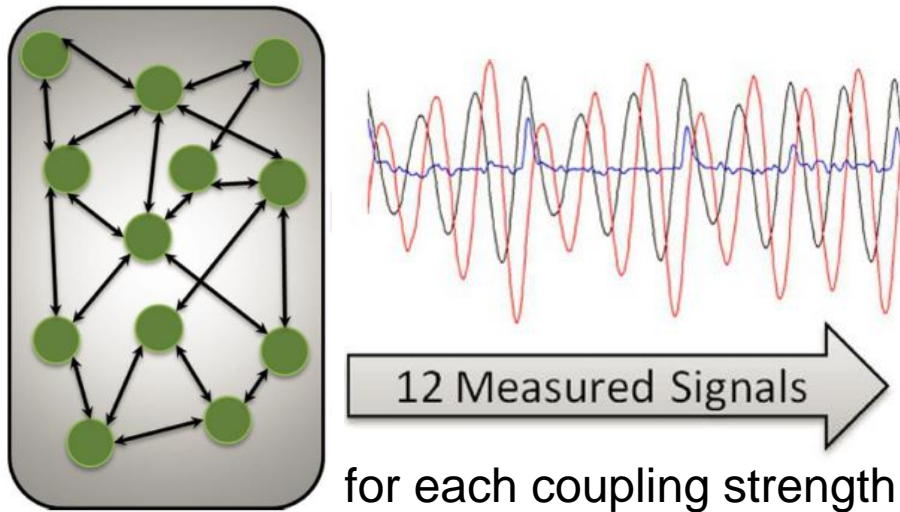
BUT

- the number of oscillators is small (12),
- the coupling is symmetric ( $\Rightarrow$  only 66 possible links) and
- the data sets are long ( $10^4$  points)

[G. Tirabassi et al, Sci. Rep. 5 10829 \(2015\)](#)

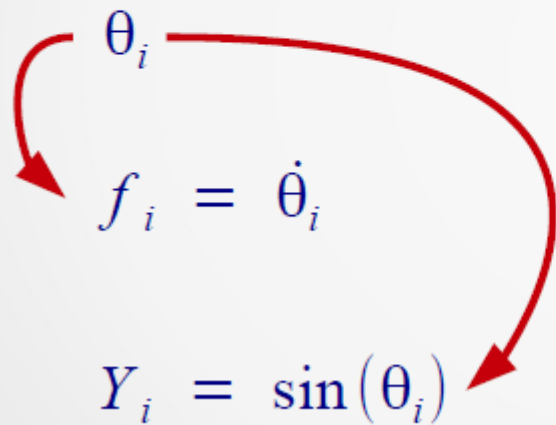


We also analyzed **experimental data** recorded from 12 chaotic Rössler electronic oscillators (symmetric and random coupling)

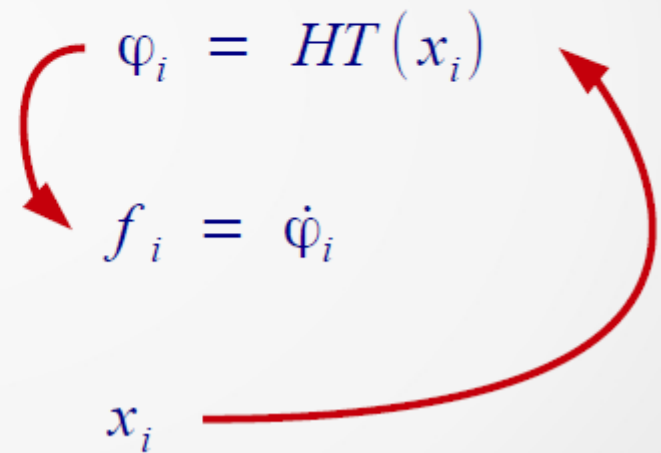


The Hilbert Transform was used to obtain phases from experimental data

- Kuramoto Oscillators' Network

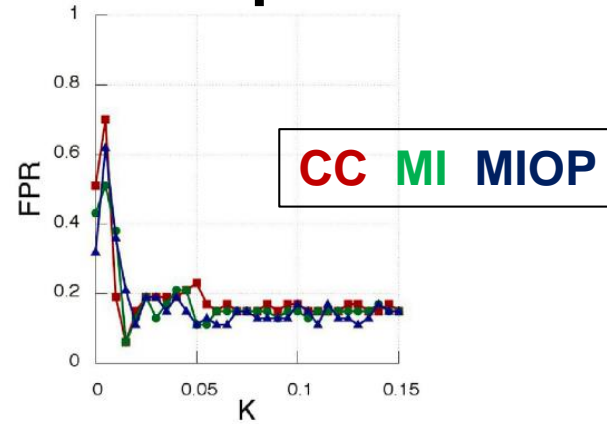
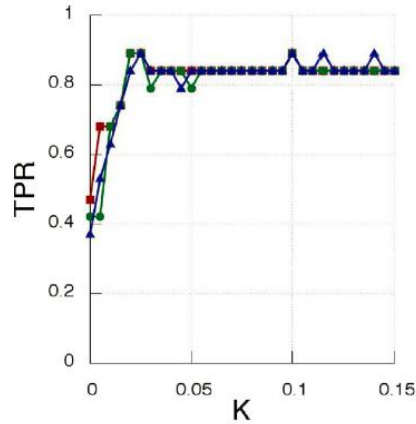


- Rössler Oscillators' Network

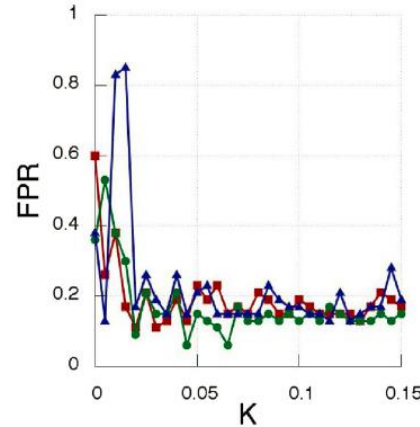
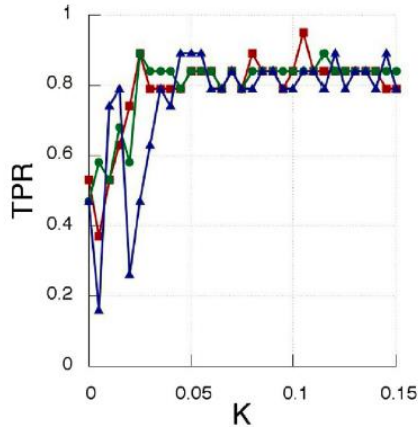


# Results obtained with experimental data

Observed variable (x)



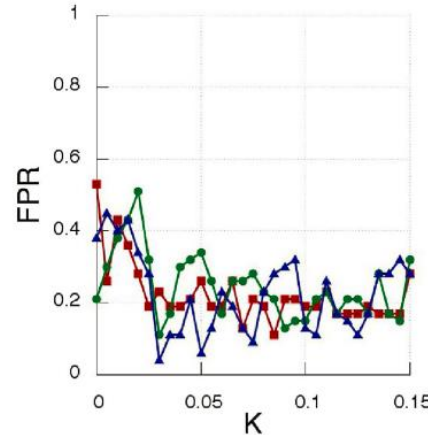
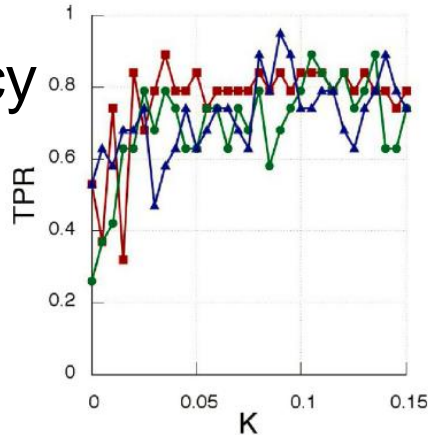
Hilbert phase



– No perfect reconstruction

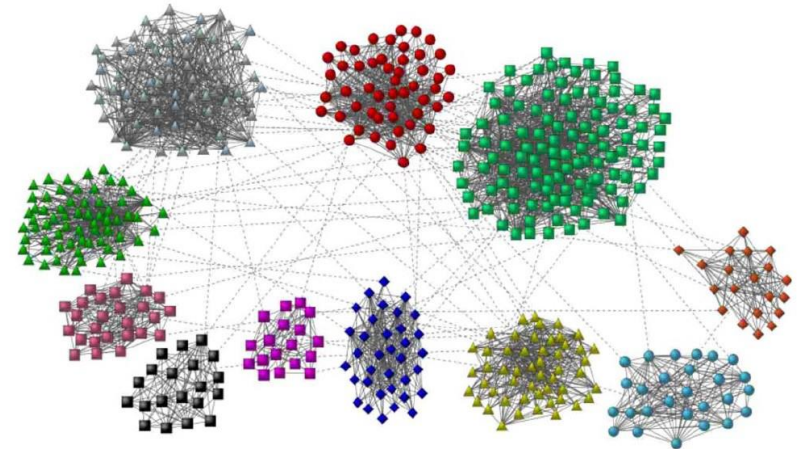
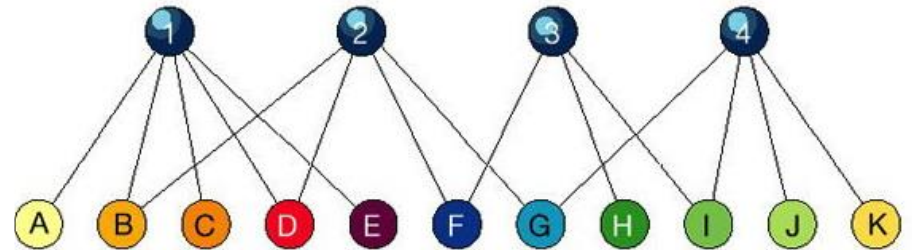
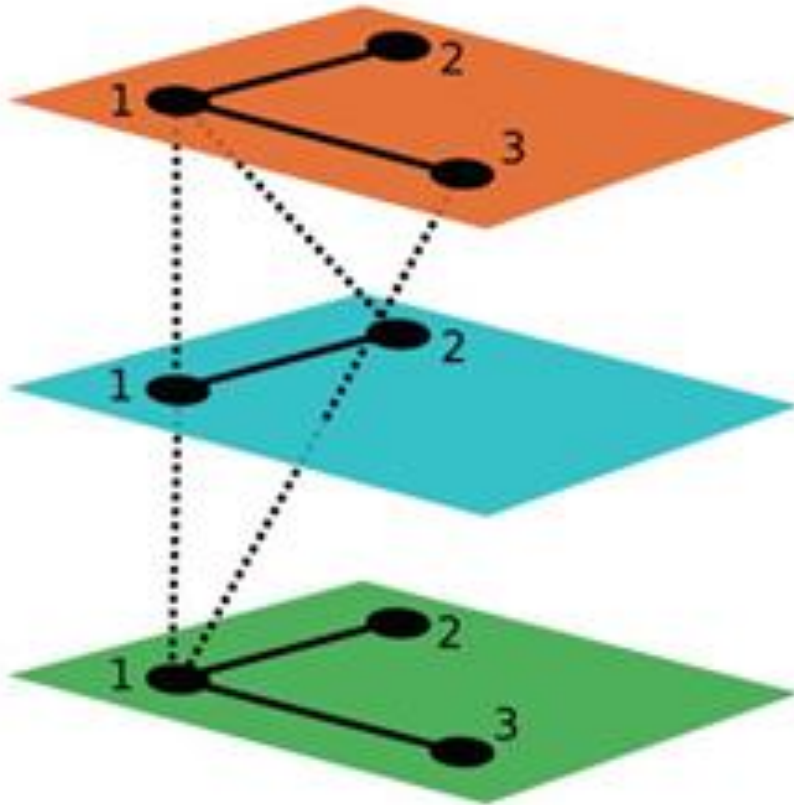
– No important difference among the 3 methods & 3 variables

Hilbert frequency



# **Generalizations of complex network analysis**

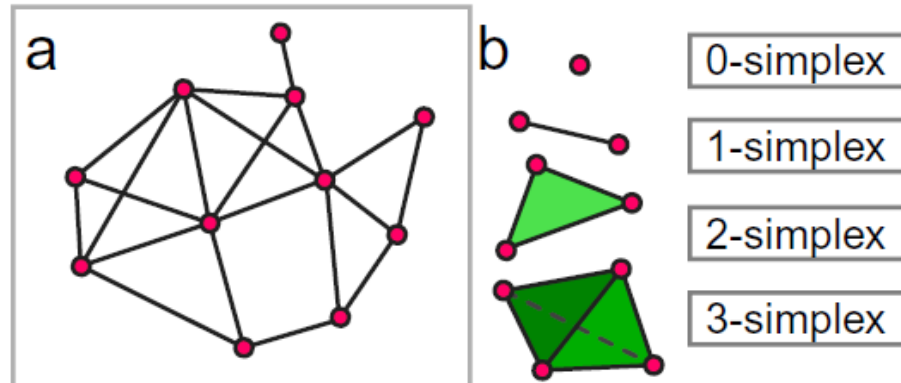
# Network structures: Multilayer, multiplex, bipartite, networks of networks and many others



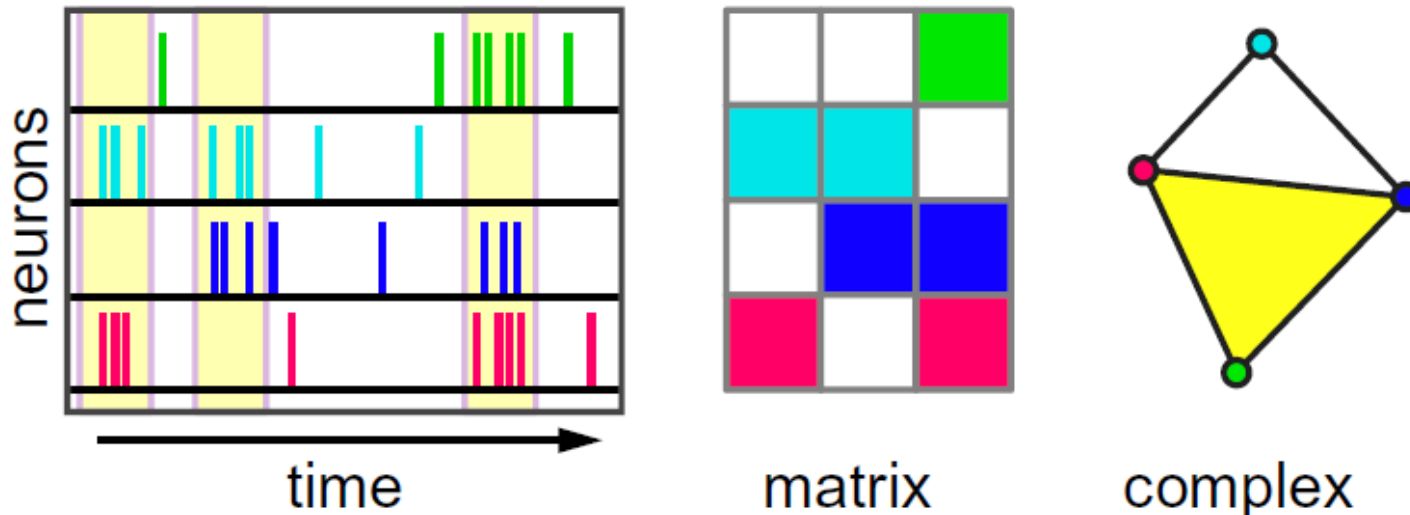
# **Limitations of complex network analysis**

# Interactions are not limited to pairs of elements

- Links represent interactions between pairs of nodes.
- **Simplicial complexes** represent interactions among several nodes.



## Example





# And many more time series analysis methods

- Wavelets
- Detrended fluctuation analysis
- Sample entropy, approximate entropy
- Multifractality
- Topological data analysis
- Etc. etc.

# Take home messages

- Many methods are available for investigating complex signals.
- Different methods provide *complementary* information.
- Time series analysis allows us to obtain sets of “features”.
- Data science, machine learning: feature selection and analysis.
- Time series analysis is an interdisciplinary field with many applications.



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