

# Statistical inference for the discovery of hidden interactions in complex networks

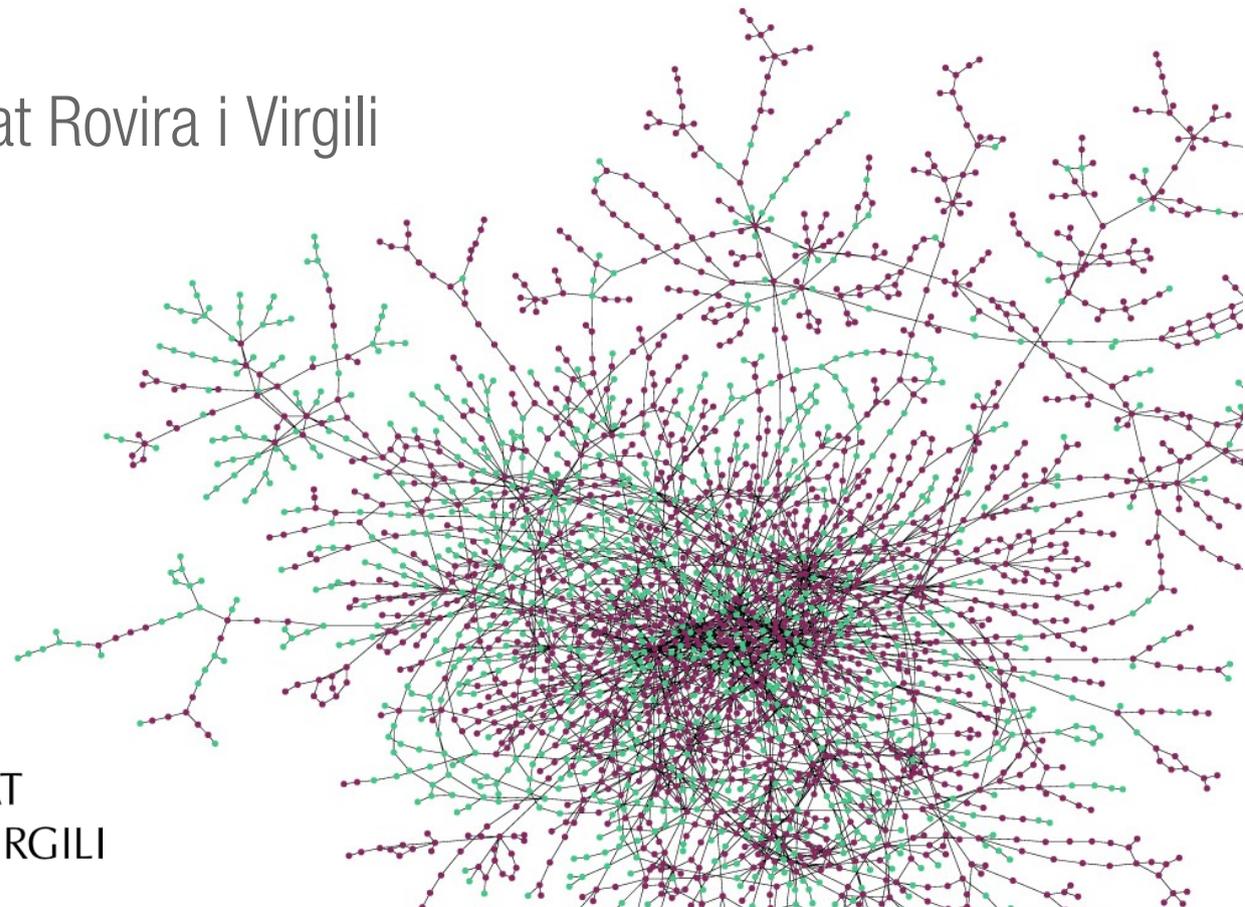
**Roger Guimerà**

ICREA and

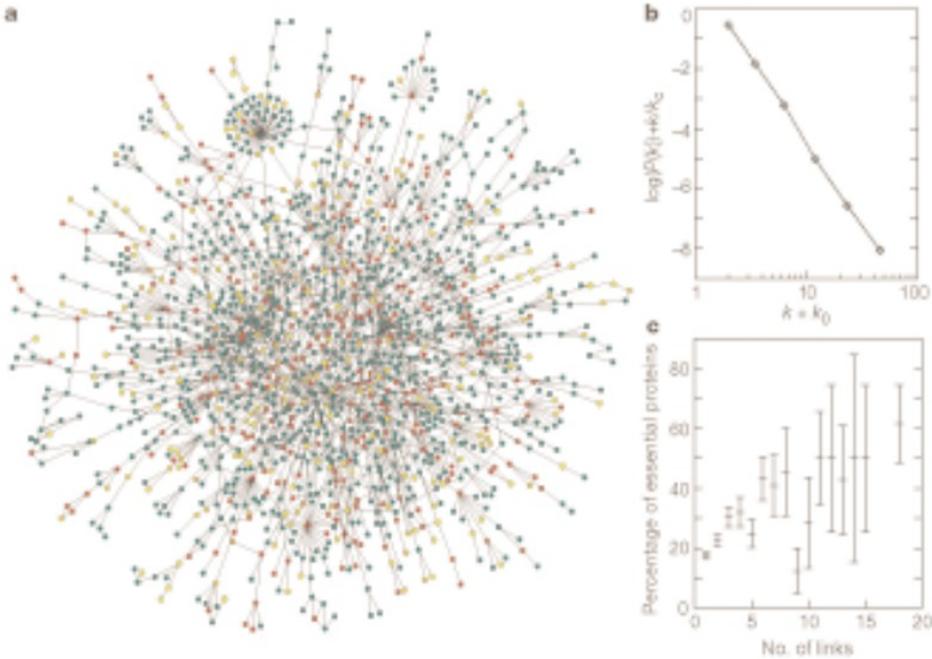
Chemical Engineering, Universitat Rovira i Virgili

NetSci'13

Copenhagen, June 4, 2013



# One billion dollars to map the human proteome



Jeong, et al., *Nature* (2001)

**nature**news

nature news home news archive specials opinion features news blog nature journal

Published online 23 April 2008 | 452, 920-921 (2008) | doi:10.1038/452920a

**News**

## Biologists initiate plan to map human proteome

**Project aims to characterize all human proteins.**

Helen Pearson

Ambitious plans to catalogue and characterize all proteins in the human body — a Human Proteome Project — are being drawn up by a small group of researchers. But with a price tag of around US\$1 billion, some question whether the organizers can raise enough money or momentum for such an undertaking.



**Topics by subject**

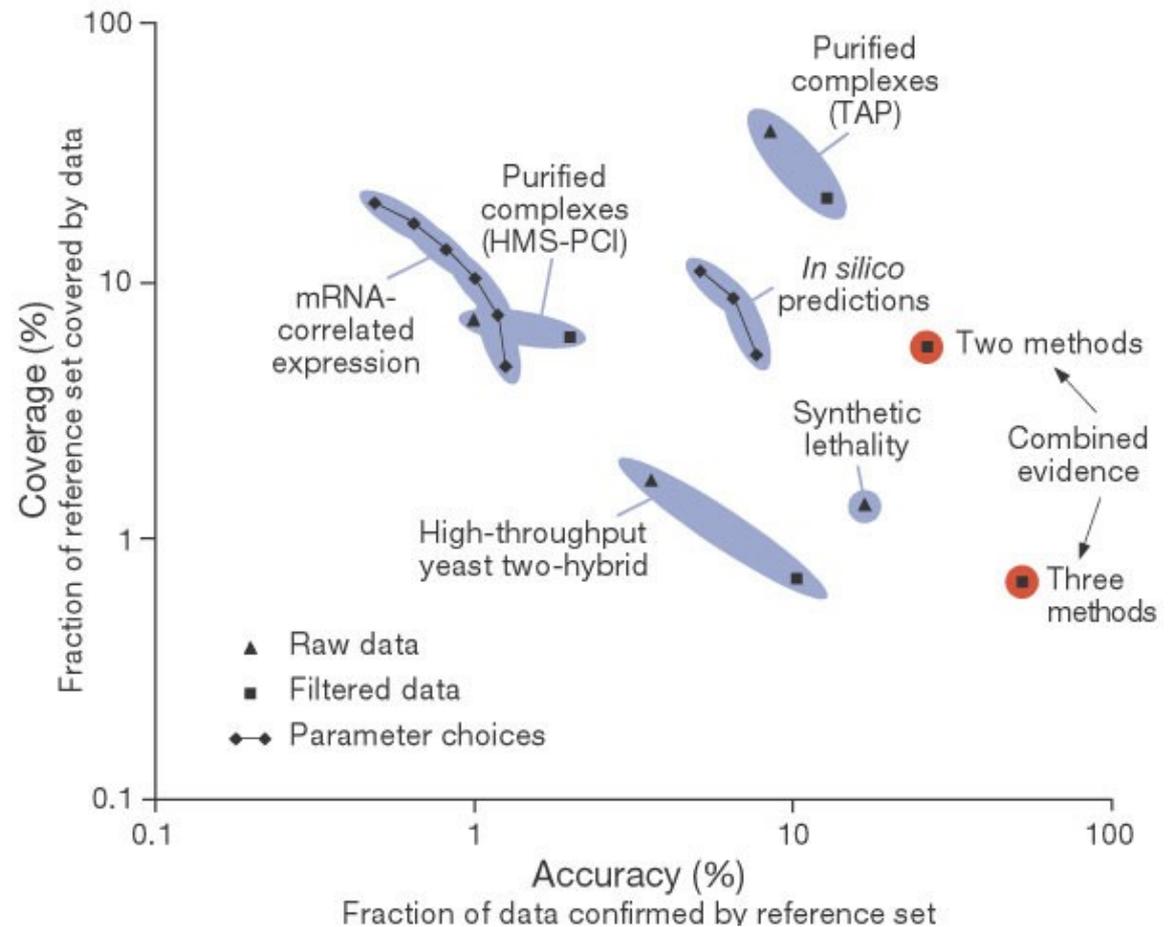
- [Biotechnology](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Cell and molecular biology](#)
- [Chemistry](#)
- [Genetics](#)
- [Health and medicine](#)
- [Lab life](#)
- [Technology](#)

**Topics by keywords**

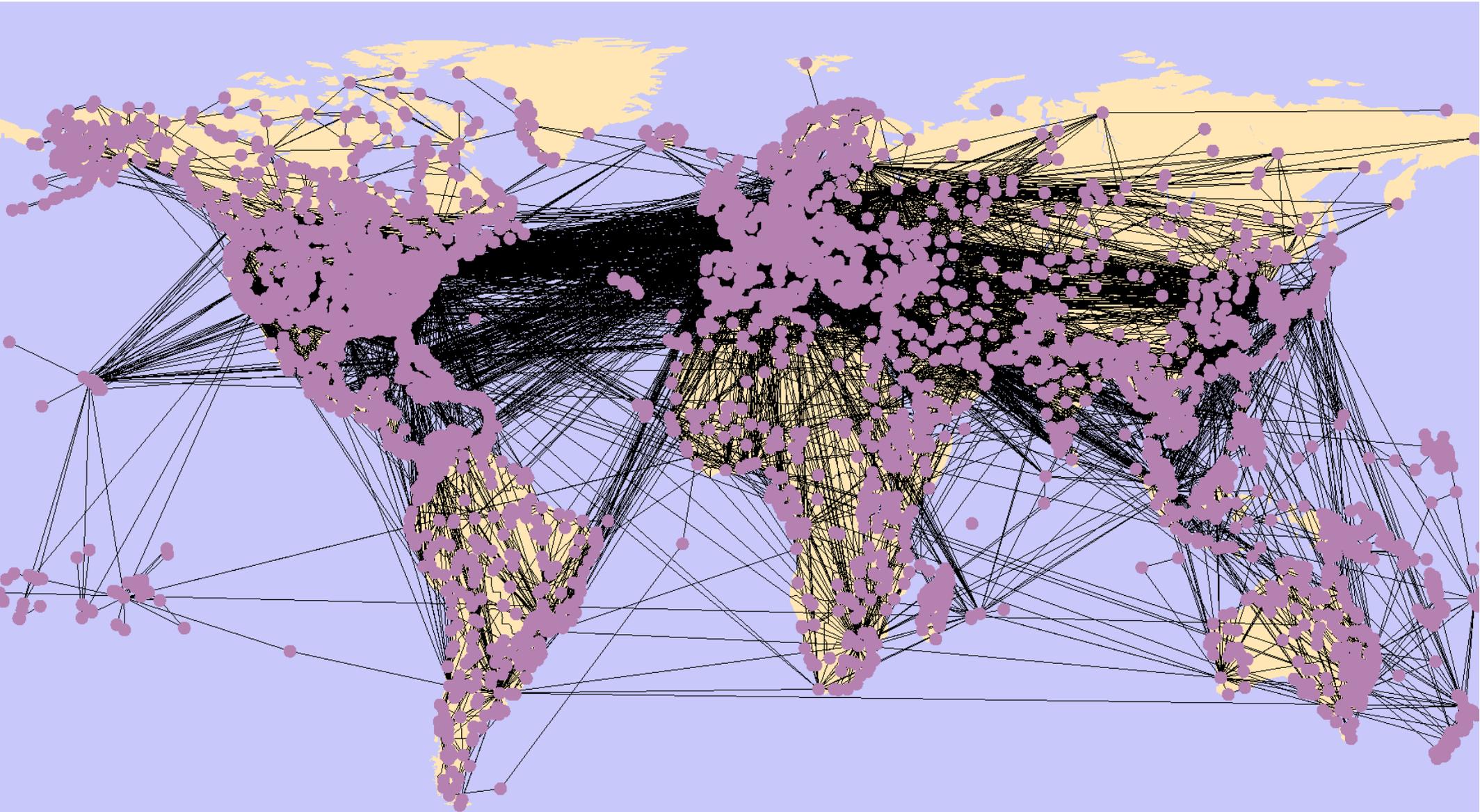
- [Proteomics](#)
- [Human Proteome Project](#)
- [Human Proteome Organisation](#)
- [Proteins](#)
- [Human Genome Project](#)

[View this article elsewhere](#)

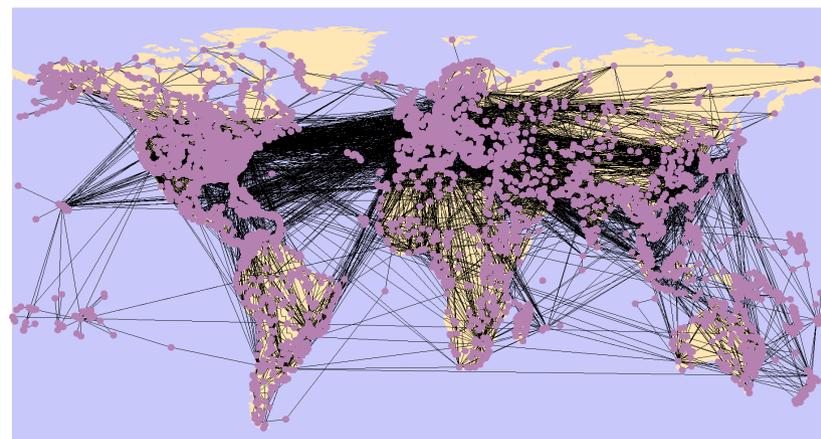
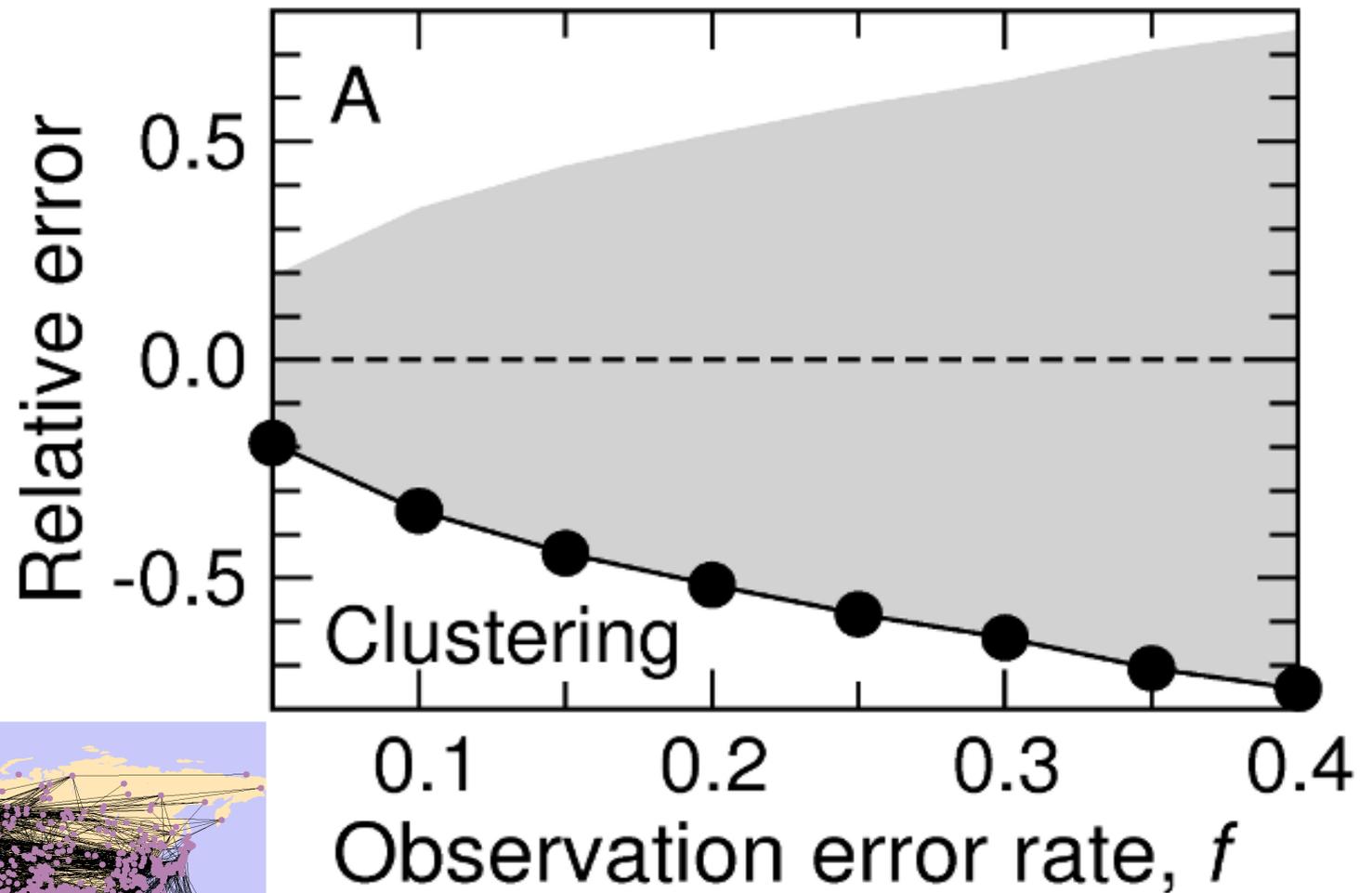
# Accuracy and coverage are a concern for protein interaction (and most other) datasets



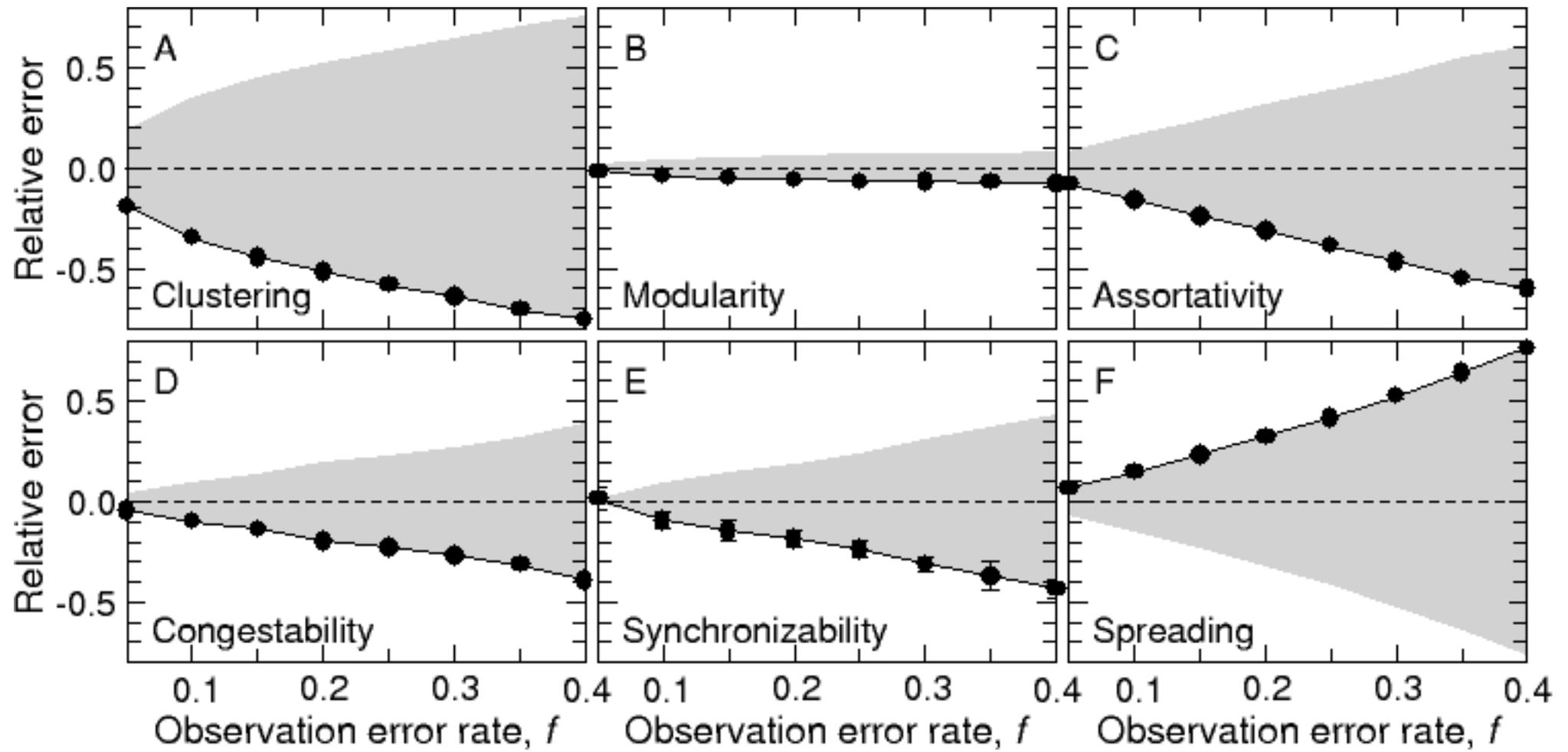
**All network data is subject to noise**



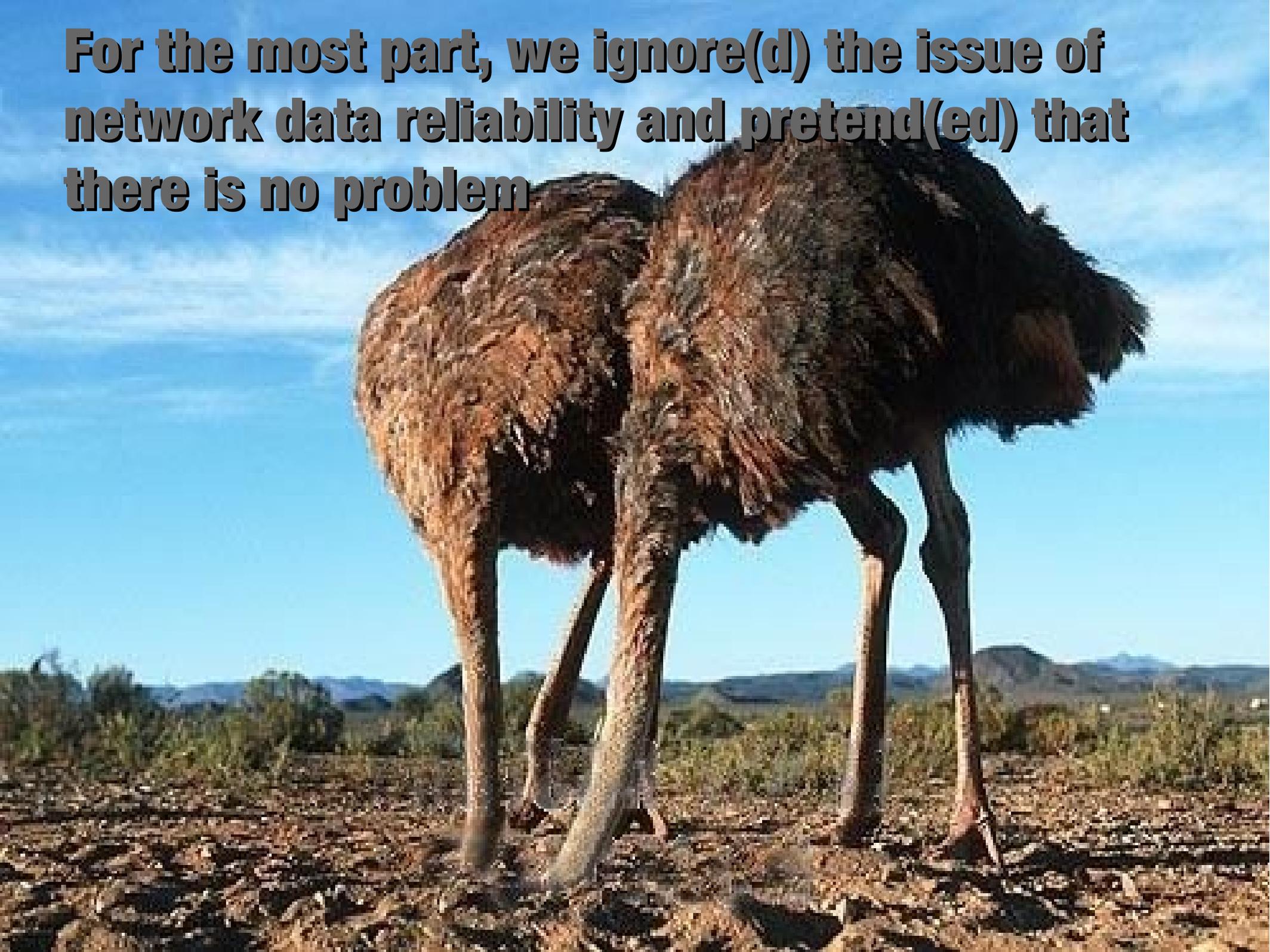
# Network properties are often sensitive to even low error rates



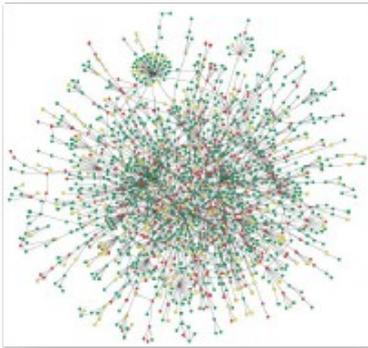
# Network properties are often sensitive to even low error rates



**For the most part, we ignore(d) the issue of network data reliability and pretend(ed) that there is no problem**



# Outline



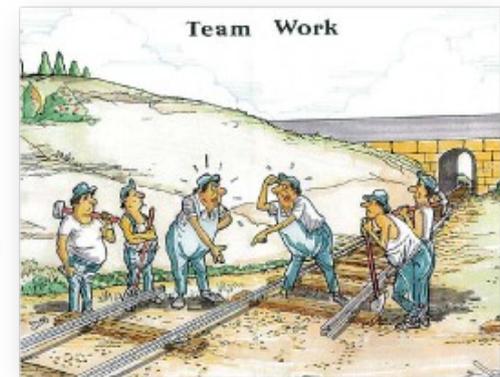
**Can we help to clean up noisy network data?**



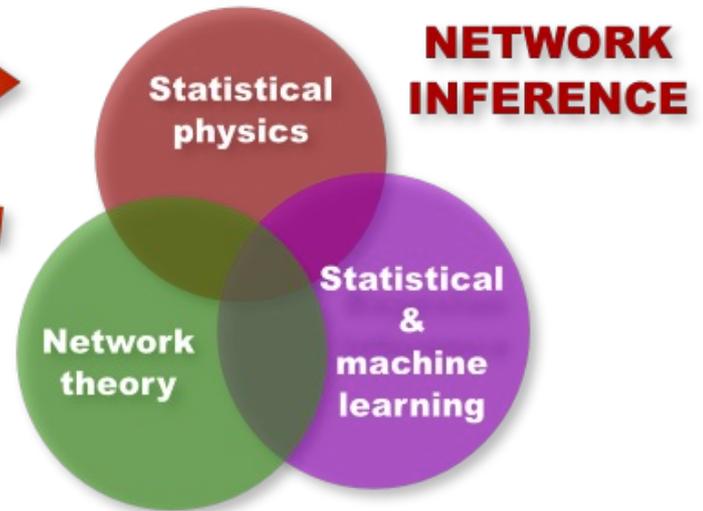
**Can we uncover unknown drug interactions?**



**Can we predict human decisions?**



**Can we predict conflict in small teams?**



# What is to be done?

- Given a single noisy observation of a network, determine:
  - *Missing interactions* Interactions that exist but are not captured in our observation of the system
  - *Spurious interactions* Interactions that do *not* exist but, for some reason, are included in our observation
- *Reconstruct the network*, so that our reconstruction has properties that are closer to the properties of the true network

# What is to be done?

- Given a single noisy observation of a network, determine:
  - *Missing interactions* Interactions that exist but are not captured in our observation of the system
  - *Spurious interactions* Interactions that do *not* exist but, for some reason, are included in our observation
- *Reconstruct the network*, so that our reconstruction has properties that are closer to the properties of the true network
- But:
  - We want to be able to do this for arbitrary real networks about which we don't know anything
  - There seems to be a paradox in trying to identify what is wrong in a network observation—from *the network observation itself* !

# There are two possible scenarios when it comes to solving the paradox

- Scenario 1: We *don't* have a clue about what the network should look like, or where does it come from (mechanistically or statistically):
  - We cannot do anything
- Scenario 2: We *do* have some ideas about the structure of the network:
  - We can formalize these ideas into a set of models
  - We can use the models to assess what is likely to be missing/wrong

# The “reliability formalism”

- We assume our network is the outcome of an undetermined model  $M$  from a (potentially infinite) collection of models  $\mathcal{M}$
- We observe a network  $A^O$
- Given my observation  $A^O$ , what is the probability that a property  $X$  takes the value  $X=x$  if we generate a new network (with the same model)?

$$\begin{aligned} p(X = x|A^O) &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} dM p(X = x|M) p(M|A^O) \\ &= \frac{\int_{\mathcal{M}} dM p(X = x|M) p(A^O|M) p(M)}{\int_{\mathcal{M}} dM p(A^O|M) p(M)} \end{aligned}$$

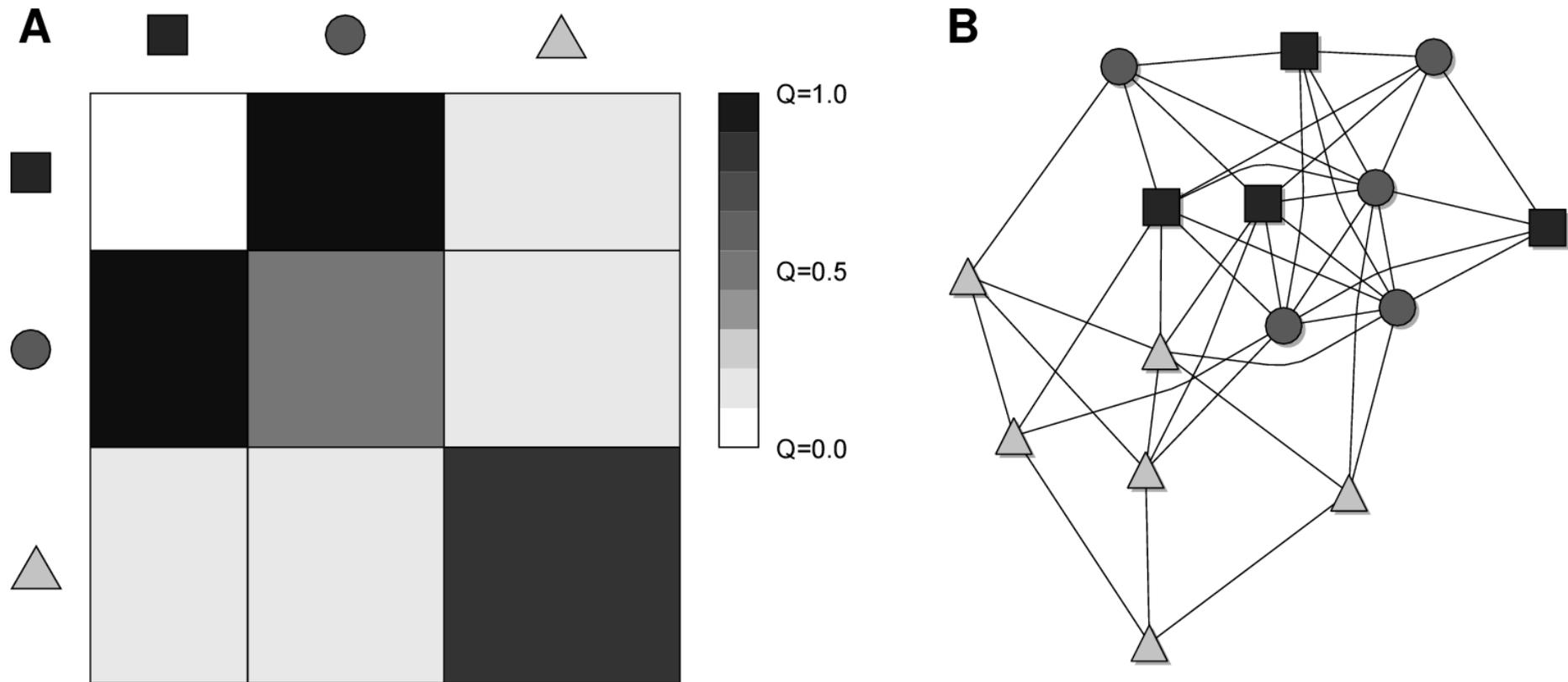
- We call  $p(X=x|A^O)$  the reliability of the  $X=x$  measurement

# In particular, one can use the formalism to infer missing and spurious interactions

$$p(A_{ij} = 1 | A^O) = \frac{\int_{\mathcal{M}} dM p(A_{ij} = 1 | M) p(A^O | M) p(M)}{\int_{\mathcal{M}} dM p(A^O | M) p(M)}$$

- What property of networks is general enough that applies to *all* complex networks?
- Broad (scale-free) connectivity distribution? No
- Small world property? Yes—but no realistic/tractable model
- Modularity? Group structure? YES

# Stochastic block models (SBM) are *general, empirically grounded* and *analytically tractable*



- A stochastic block model is fully determined by a partition of the nodes into groups and the probabilities  $Q$  that a node in a group is connected to a node in any other group

White, Boorman, Breiger, *AJS* (1976)

Holland, Laskey, Leinhardt, *Soc. Networks* (1983)

Nowicki, Snijders, *JASA* (2001)

# Stochastic block models (SBM) are *general*, *empirically grounded* and *analytically tractable*

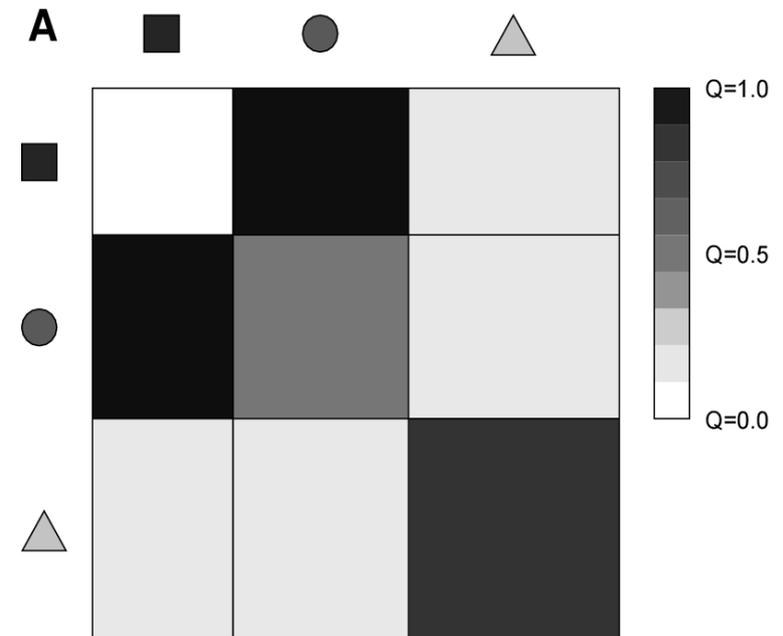
$$p(A_{ij} = 1 | A^O) = \frac{\int_{\mathcal{M}} dM p(A_{ij} = 1 | M) p(A^O | M) p(M)}{\int_{\mathcal{M}} dM p(A^O | M) p(M)}$$

$$p(A_{ij} = 1 | M) = Q_{\sigma_i \sigma_j}$$

$$p(A^O | M) = \prod_{\alpha \leq \beta} Q_{\alpha\beta}^{n_{\alpha\beta}^1} (1 - Q_{\alpha\beta})^{n_{\alpha\beta}^0}$$

$$p(M) = \text{constant}$$

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}} dM \rightarrow \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \prod_{\alpha \leq \beta} \left( \int_0^1 dQ_{\alpha\beta} \right)$$



# The link reliability is an ensemble average over all possible partitions of the nodes into groups

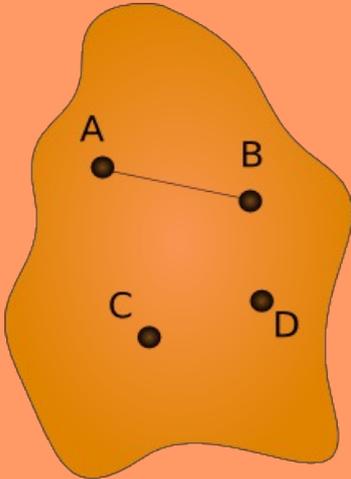
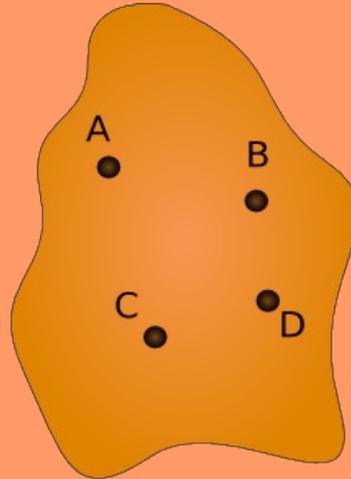
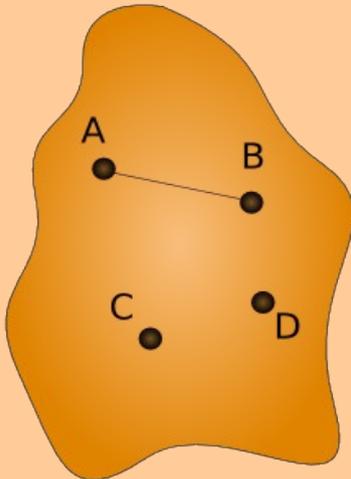
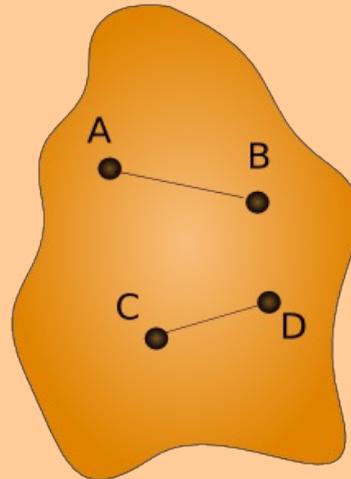
→ In the end, the reliability of a link is

$$p(A_{ij} = 1 | A^O) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \left( \frac{n_{\sigma_i \sigma_j}^1 + 1}{n_{\sigma_i \sigma_j}^0 + n_{\sigma_i \sigma_j}^1 + 2} \right) \exp[-\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{P})]$$

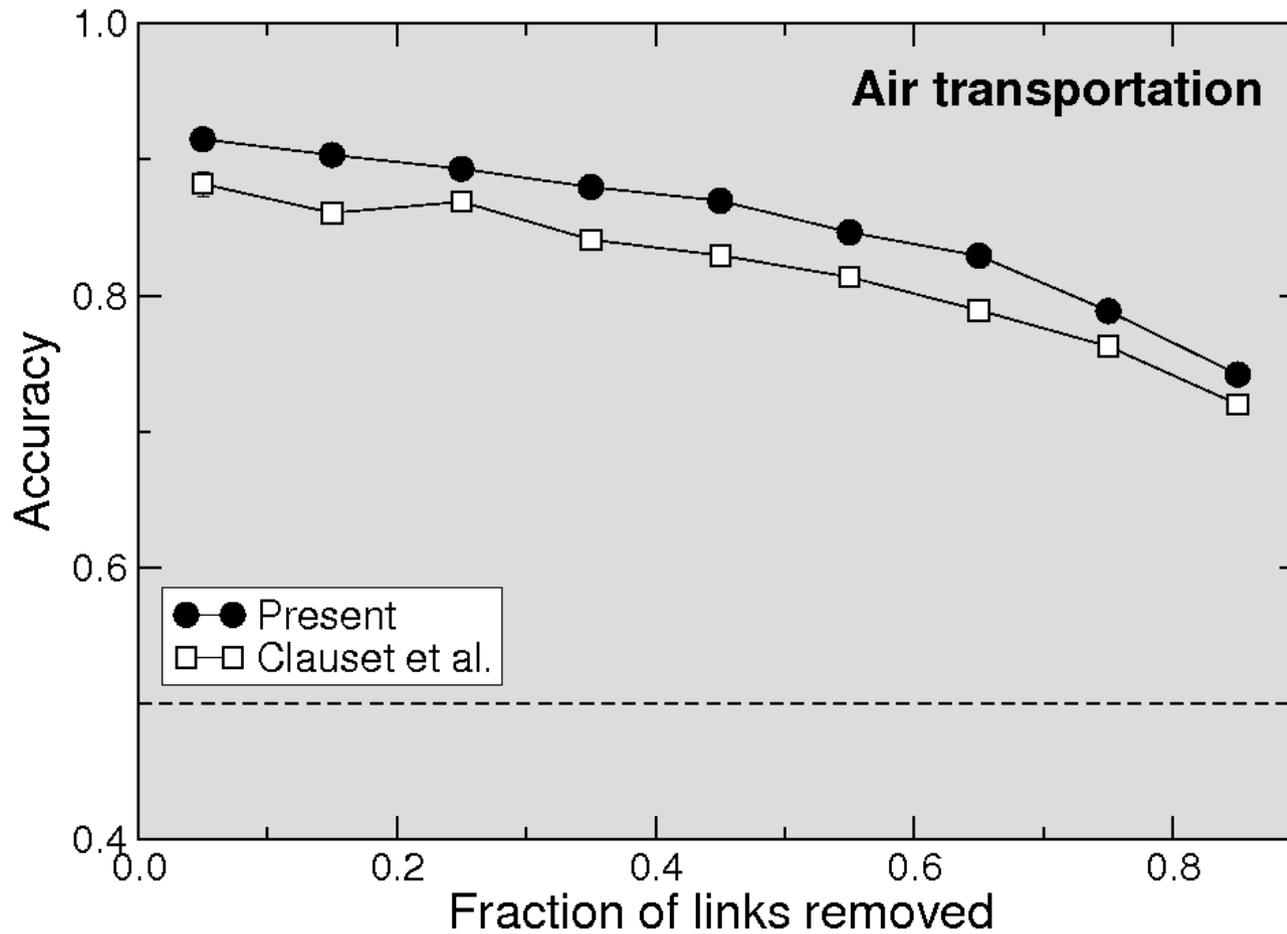
→ Where:

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{P}) = \sum_{\alpha \leq \beta} [\ln(n_{\alpha\beta} + 1)! - \ln(n_{\alpha\beta}^0)! - \ln(n_{\alpha\beta}^1)!]$$

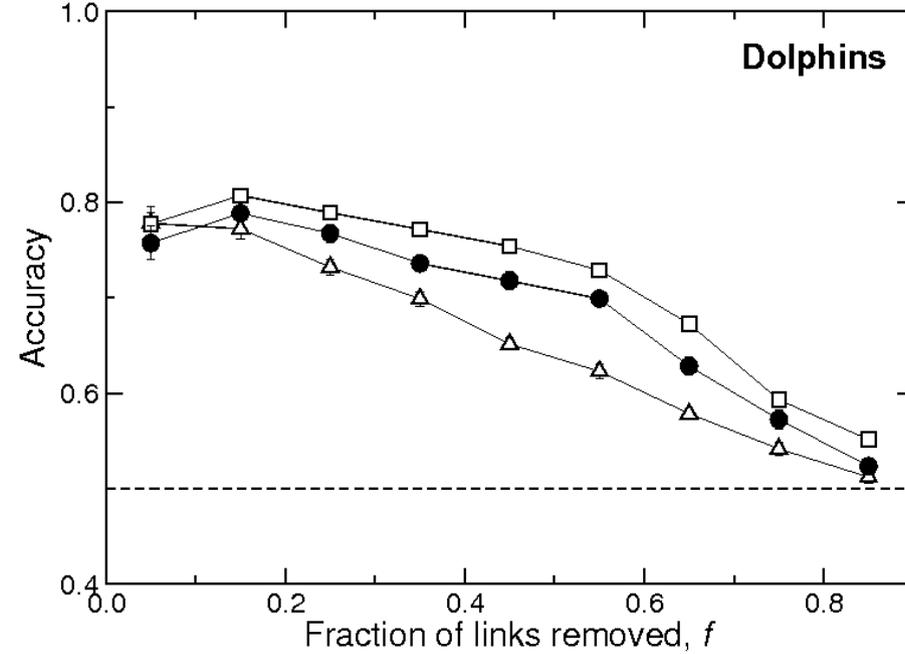
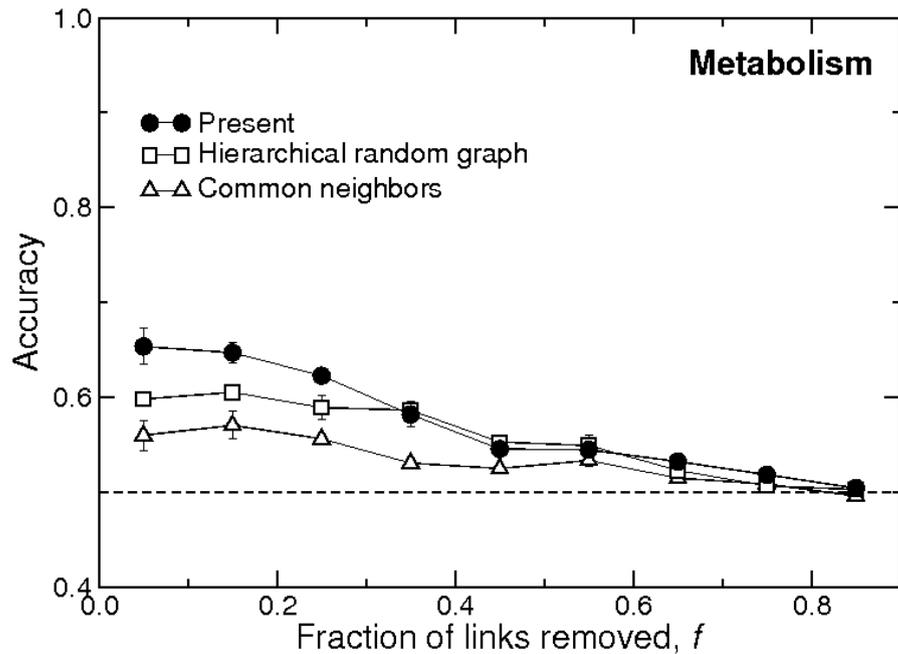
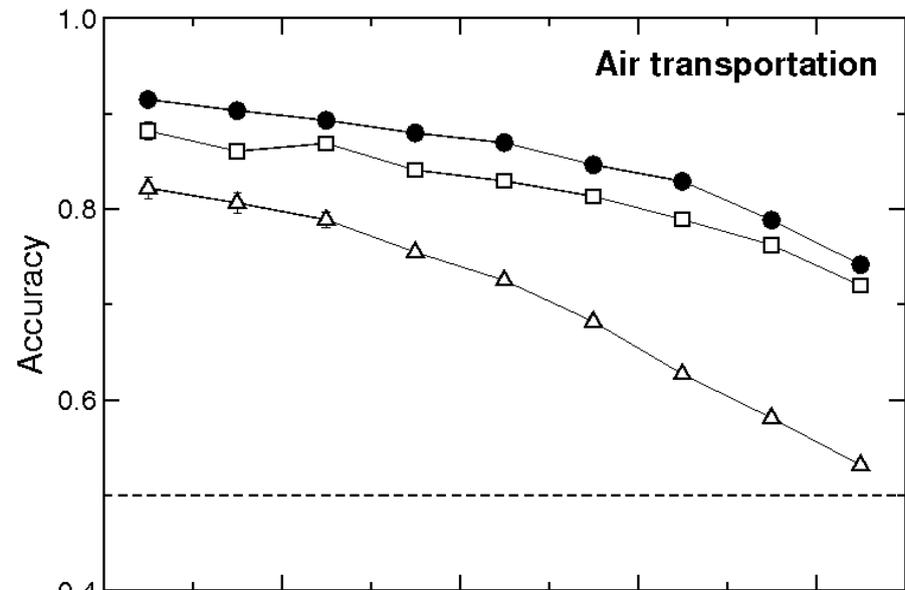
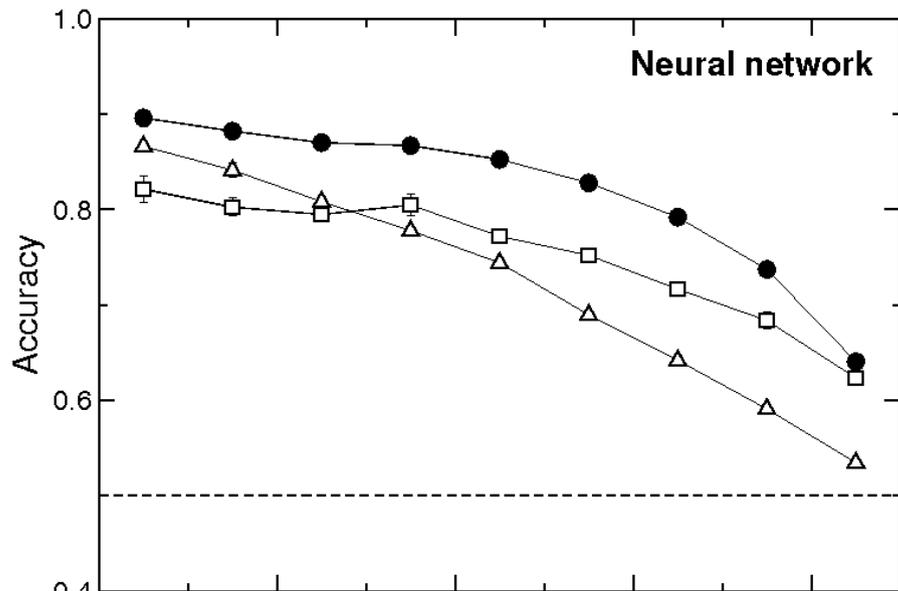
# We test our algorithm to see if it can identify missing and spurious interactions in real networks

	True network	Observed network	Test
Missing interactions			How often is AB more reliable than CD?
Spurious interactions			How often is CD less reliable than AB?

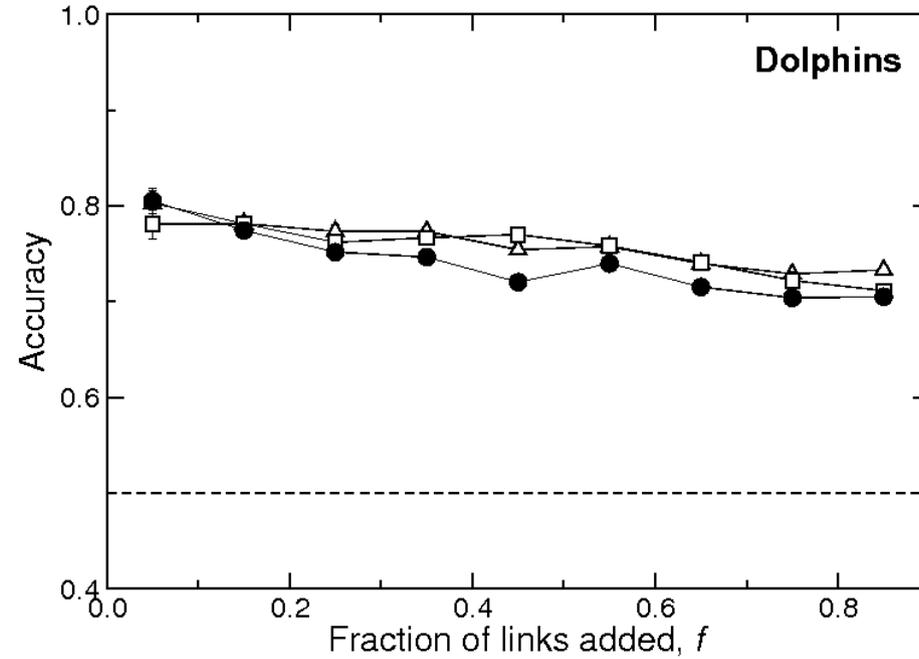
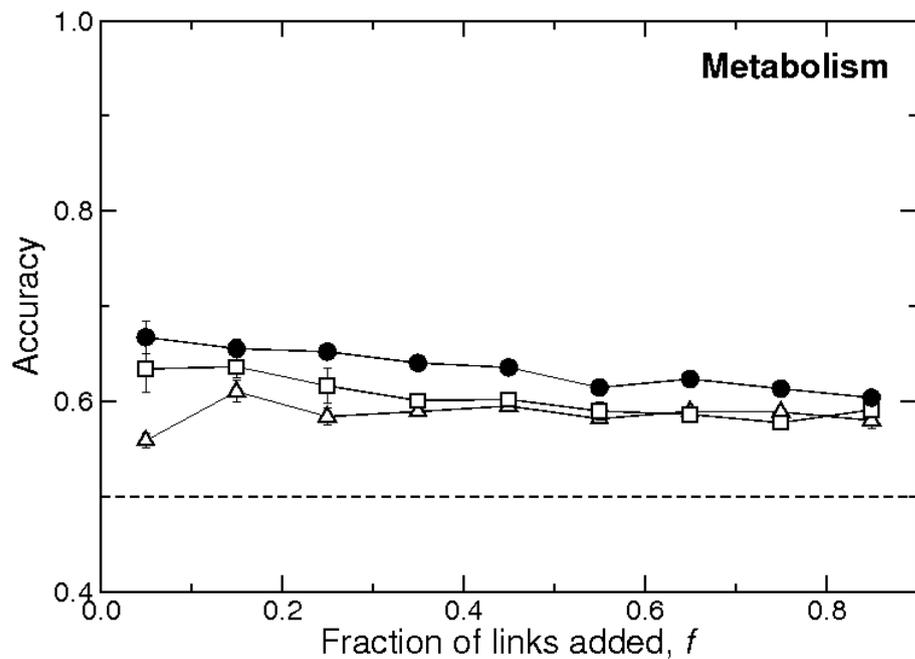
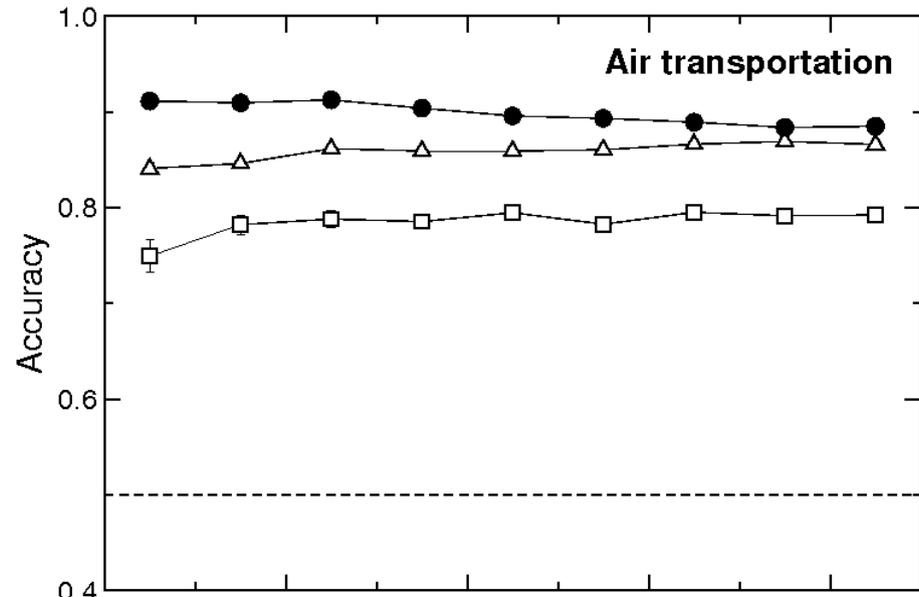
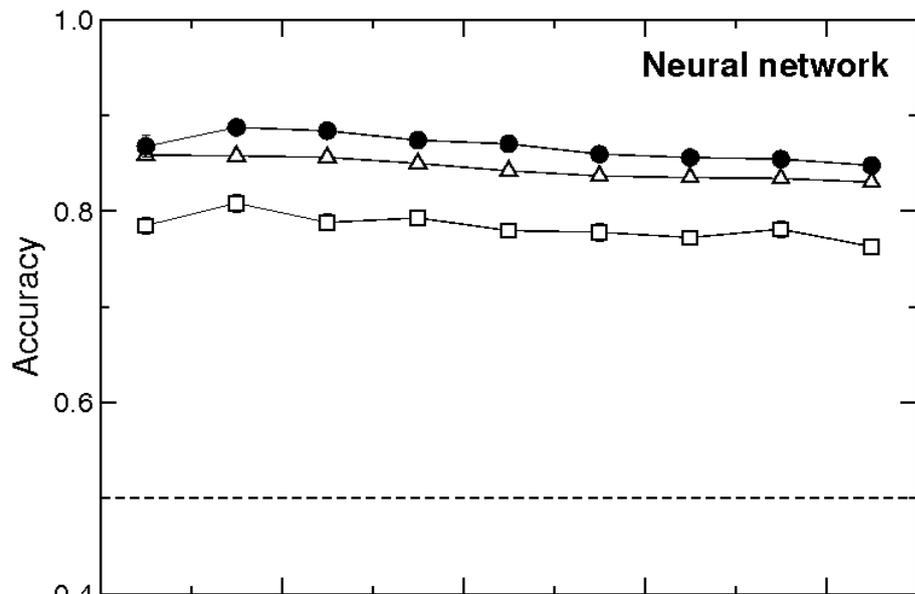
# Our approach accurately recovers missing interactions



# Our approach accurately recovers missing interactions



# Our approach accurately recovers spurious interactions



# Wonkish interlude I: H, module identification, maximum likelihood block models and all that

$$p(A_{ij} = 1 | A^O) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \left( \frac{n_{\sigma_i \sigma_j}^1 + 1}{n_{\sigma_i \sigma_j}^0 + n_{\sigma_i \sigma_j}^1 + 2} \right) \exp[-\mathcal{H}(P)]$$

→ What is this “energy”?

$$\mathcal{H}(P) = -\ln p(P | A^O)$$

→ Therefore, the partition that minimizes **this** energy is the most likely given the data (except for priors, degree correction of the block model...):

→ More appropriate “modularity” function

→ No need to play with the number of groups

→ No over-fitting

# Wonkish interlude II

Unipartite unweighted:  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{P}) = \sum_{\alpha \leq \beta} [\ln(n_{\alpha\beta} + 1)! - \ln(n_{\alpha\beta}^0)! - \ln(n_{\alpha\beta}^1)!]$

Unipartite weighted:  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{P}) = \sum_{\alpha \leq \beta} \left[ \ln(n_{\alpha\beta} + K - 1)! - \sum_{k=1}^K \ln(n_{\alpha\beta}^k)! \right]$

Bipartite weighted:  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{P}_U, \mathcal{P}_I) = \sum_{\alpha, \beta} \left[ \ln(n_{\alpha\beta} + K - 1)! - \sum_{k=1}^K \ln(n_{\alpha\beta}^k)! \right]$

Guimera, Sales-Pardo, *PNAS* (2009)

Guimera, Sales-Pardo, *PLOS ONE* (2011)

Guimera, Llorente, Moro, Sales-Pardo, *PLOS ONE* (2012)

Rovira-Asenjo, Gumi, Sales-Pardo, Guimera, *in press* (2013)

# Reconstructing a network is more complicated than just adding missing interactions and removing spurious interactions

→ Challenges:

- We don't know how many links need to be added and removed
- Links cannot be added and removed independently of each other

# We define a network reliability

→ The reliability of a network is

$$p(A|A^O) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}} f(A; A^O, P) \exp[-\mathcal{H}(P)]$$

# The *network reconstruction* is the most reliable network

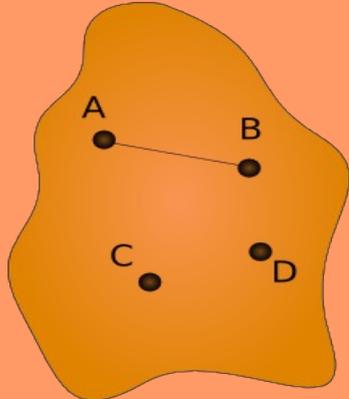
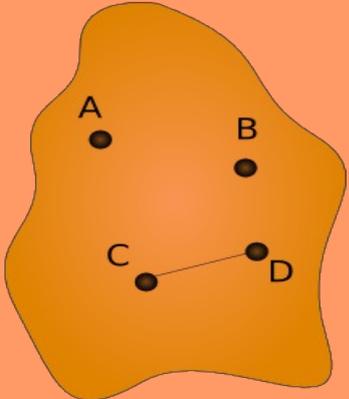
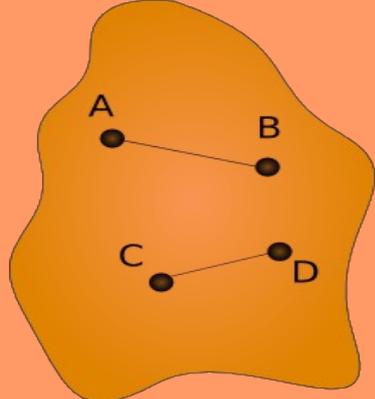
→ The reliability of a network is

$$p(A|A^O) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}} f(A; A^O, P) \exp[-\mathcal{H}(P)]$$

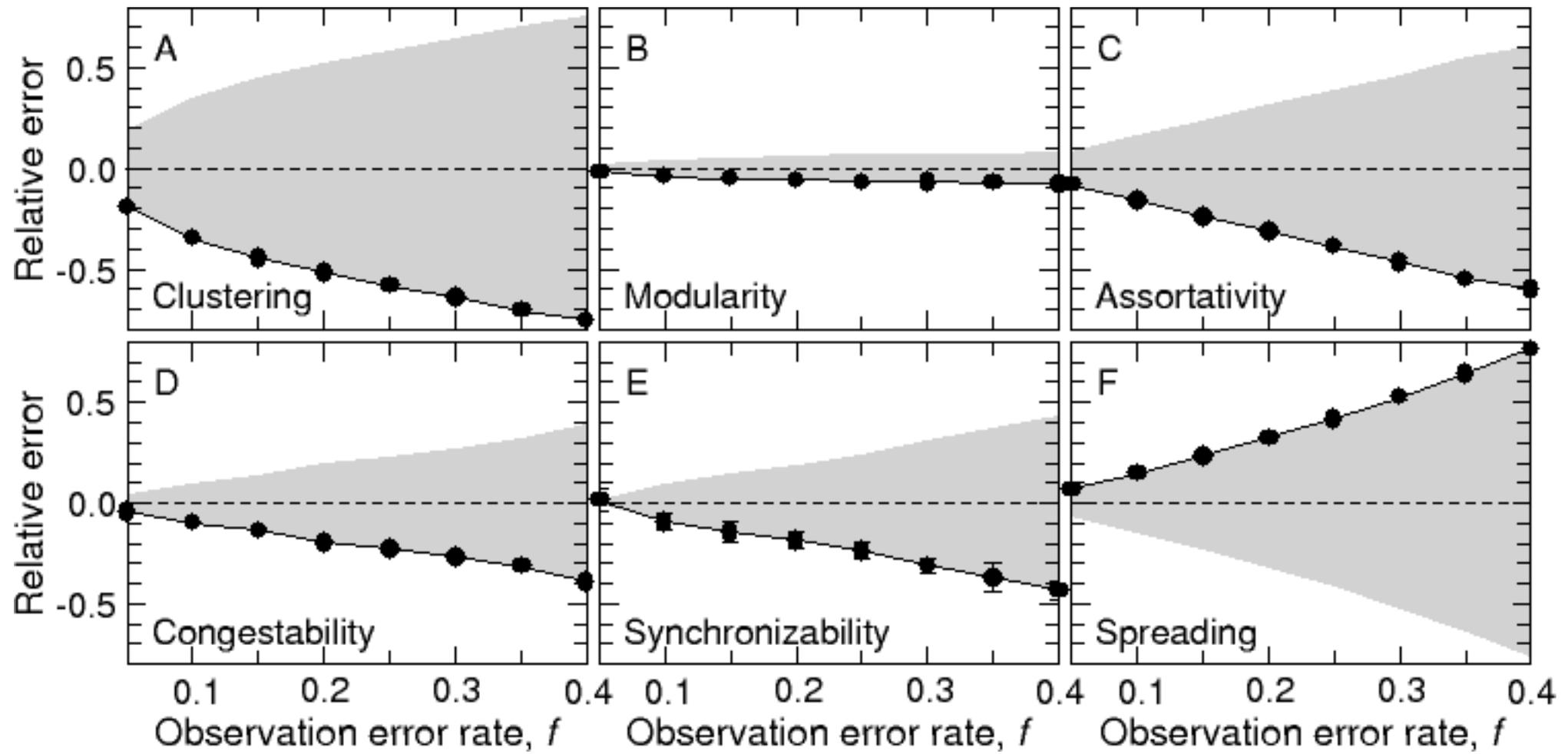
→ The reconstruction  $A^R$  is the network that maximizes this probability

→ We obtain  $A^R$  using uphill search

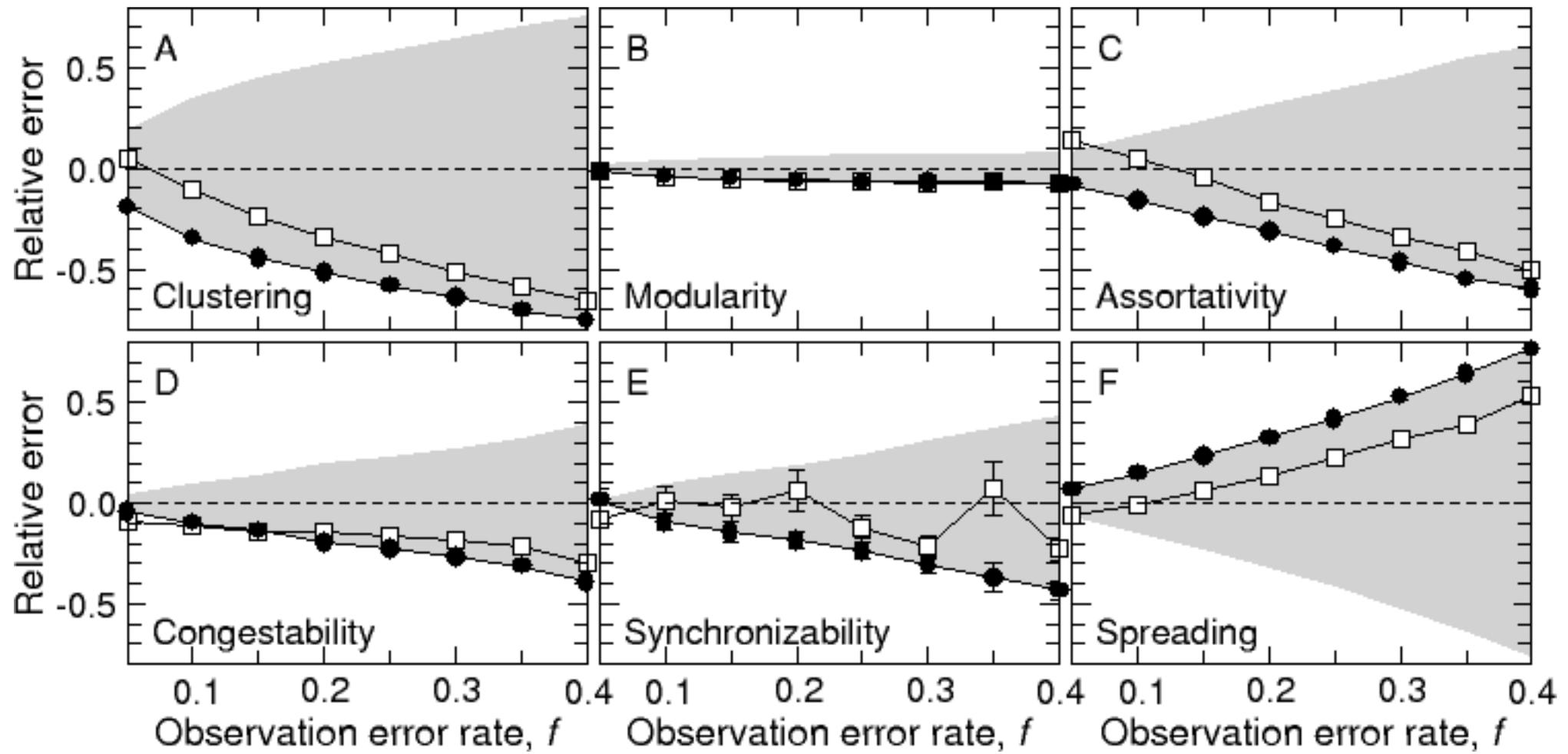
# We can test what is the effect of random errors in our network observations

	<b>True network</b>	<b>Observed network</b>	<b>Test</b>
<b>Random errors</b>			<b>How do network properties change?</b>
		<b>Reconstructed network</b>	
			<b>How do network properties change?</b>

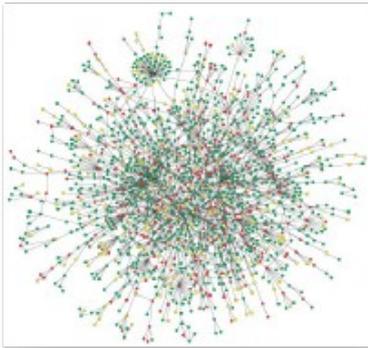
# Network reconstructions provide better estimates of global network properties than the observations themselves



# Network reconstructions provide better estimates of global network properties than the observations themselves



# Outline



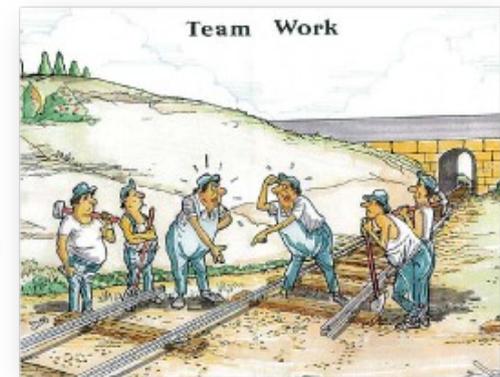
**Can we help to clean up noisy network data?**



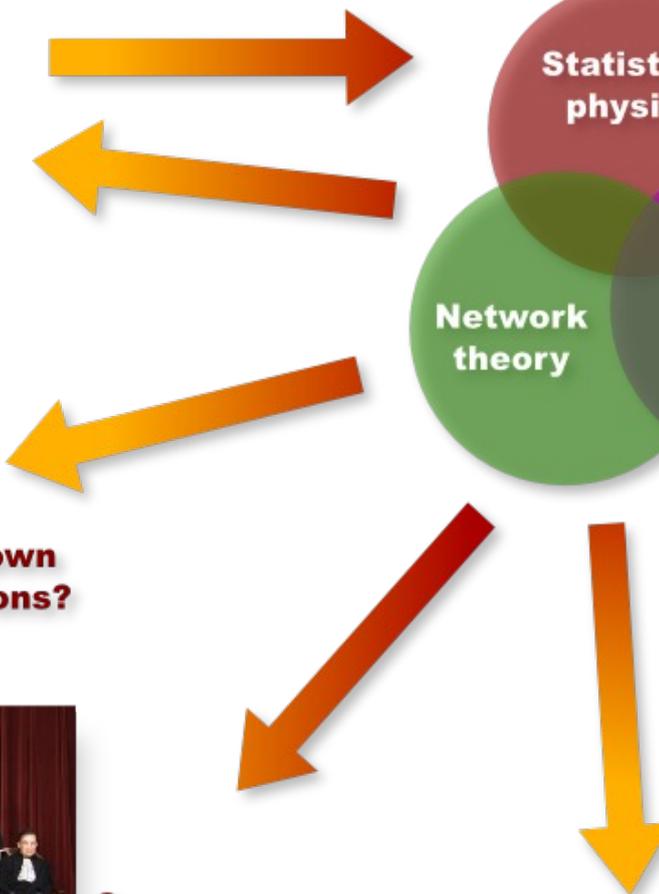
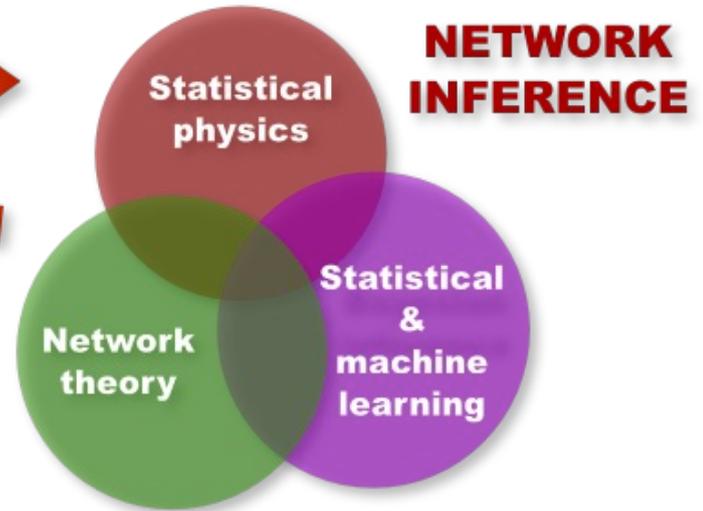
**Can we uncover unknown drug interactions?**



**Can we predict human decisions?**



**Can we predict conflict in small teams?**



# The challenge of discovering novel drug-drug interactions

The image is a screenshot of a web page from TheScientist.com. The page features a blue header with the site's name and navigation links. The main content area is titled 'Dangerous Liaisons' by Chris Bode. The article's lead paragraph discusses the risk of drug interactions. A large illustration shows a hand holding a handgun, with a red pill being inserted into the trigger. To the right of the illustration is the beginning of the article text, starting with 'My mother-in-law moved in with us when she was 82. As her physical condition gradually deteriorated, the number of medications she was taking for various ailments increased: two for high blood pressure, two to promote gastric motility, one for congestive heart failure, one synthetic thyroid hormone, an expectorant, and two inhalers for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). In addition, there was the occasional antibiotic for recurrent pneumonias. The drugs were prescribed by at least three different groups of doctors, none of whom communicated with the others. It soon became difficult to tell a new malady from a side effect of one of the drugs, or a potentially harmful interaction between the combinations of

Volume 24 | Issue 3 | Page 38  
Date: 2010-05-01  
Reprints | Issue Contents  
SHARE  
Comment on this article

By Chris Bode

**Dangerous Liaisons**

With a large portion of the US population taking multiple prescription drugs and supplements, the increased risk of drug interactions and side effects drives the need for better testing before the medicines reach patients.

**M** My mother-in-law moved in with us when she was 82. As her physical condition gradually deteriorated, the number of medications she was taking for various ailments increased: two for high blood pressure, two to promote gastric motility, one for congestive heart failure, one synthetic thyroid hormone, an expectorant, and two inhalers for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). In addition, there was the occasional antibiotic for recurrent pneumonias. The drugs were prescribed by at least three different groups of doctors, none of whom communicated with the others. It soon became difficult to tell a new malady from a side effect of one of the drugs, or a potentially harmful interaction between the combinations of

All illustrations © raquel aparicio

Follow The Scientist on twitter  
CLICK HERE

transformational SCIENCE  
Life Sciences in Thailand

Supplements  
1. NRW: Biotechnology in North Rhine-Westphalia  
2. Life Sciences in Ireland  
3. Schizophrenia  
4. Autoimmunity

Survey Series

The Power of Simplicity—  
Veriti® Thermal Cycler

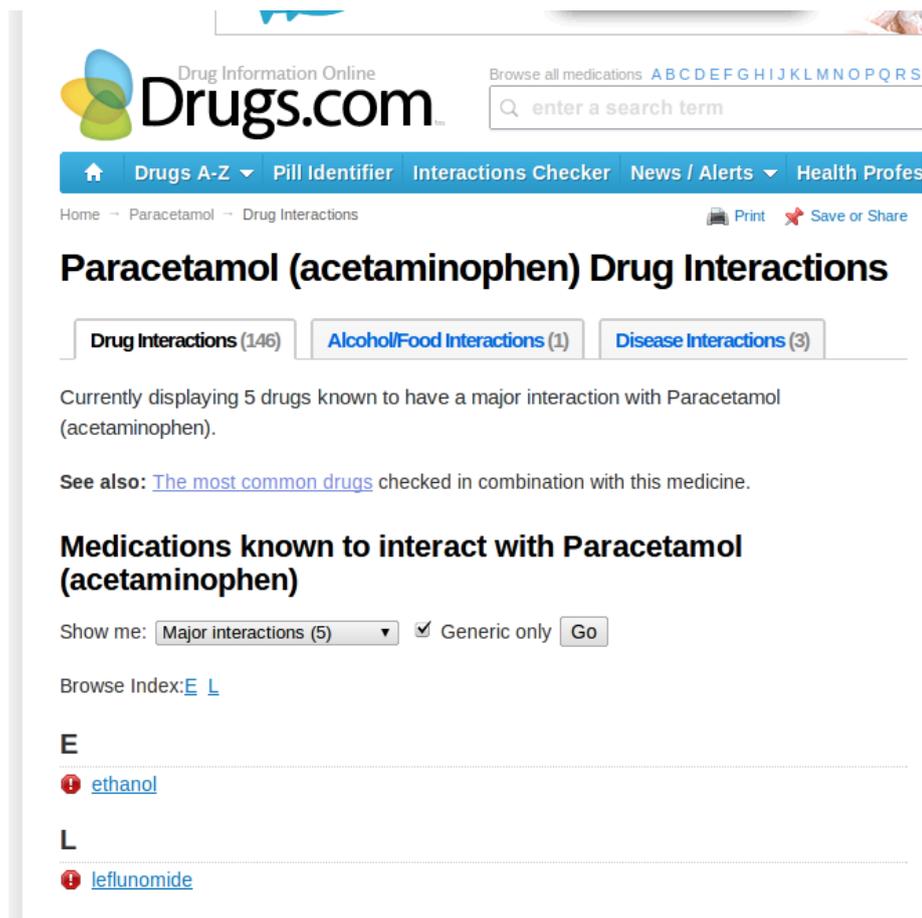
Easy-to-Use, Reliable PCR

AB applied biosystems

Ask by Google  
Cytochrome P450

- Twenty-nine percent [of U.S. population aged 57-85] used at least 5 prescription medications concurrently.
- Overall, 4% of individuals were potentially at risk of having a major drug-drug interaction.

# Can we predict which severe drug interactions will be added to / removed from a database?



Drug Information Online  
**Drugs.com**  
Browse all medications ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRS  
Q enter a search term

Home → Paracetamol → Drug Interactions

## Paracetamol (acetaminophen) Drug Interactions

Drug Interactions (146) Alcohol/Food Interactions (1) Disease Interactions (3)

Currently displaying 5 drugs known to have a major interaction with Paracetamol (acetaminophen).

See also: [The most common drugs](#) checked in combination with this medicine.

### Medications known to interact with Paracetamol (acetaminophen)

Show me: Major interactions (5)  Generic only

Browse Index: [E](#) [L](#)

**E**

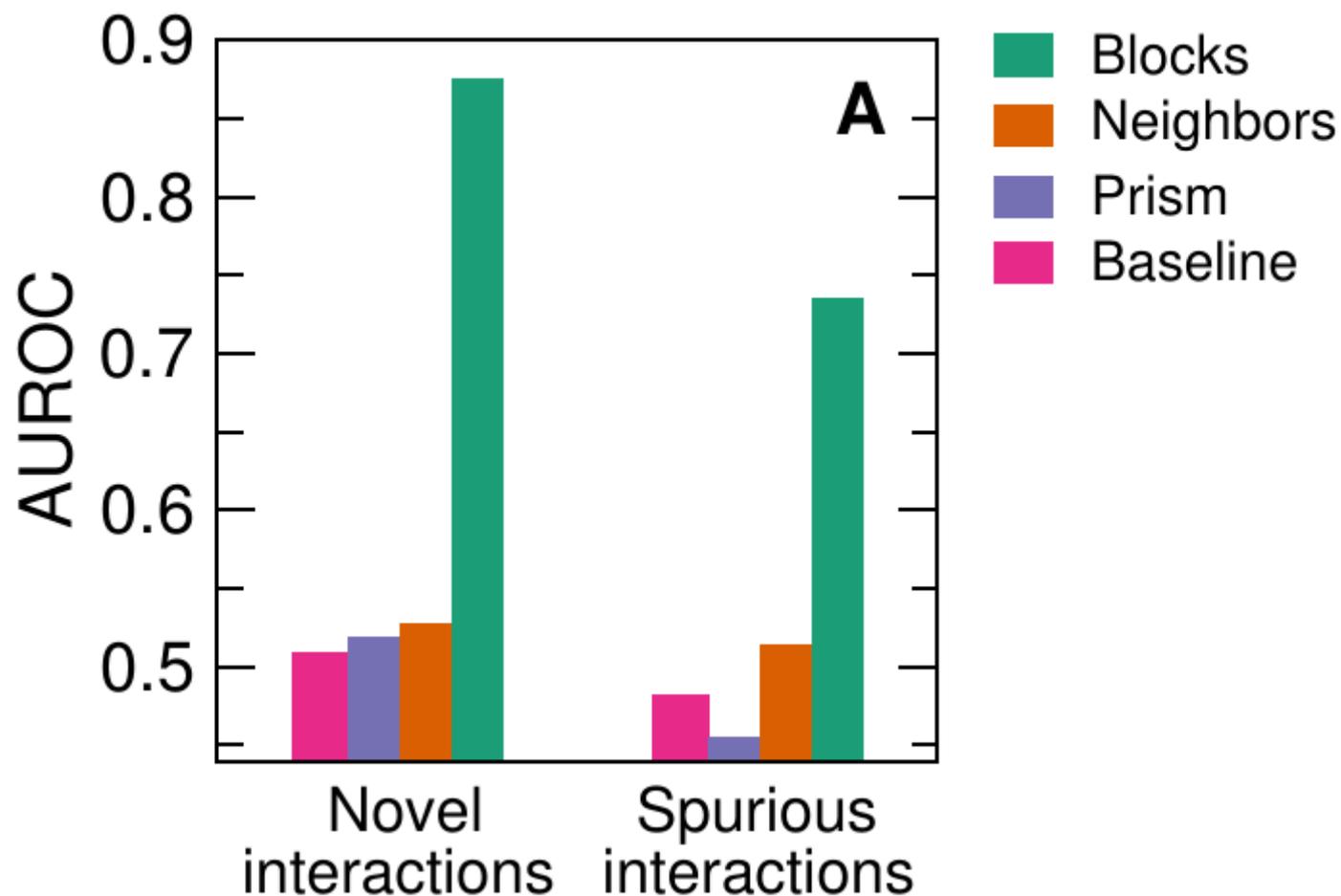
[ethanol](#)

**L**

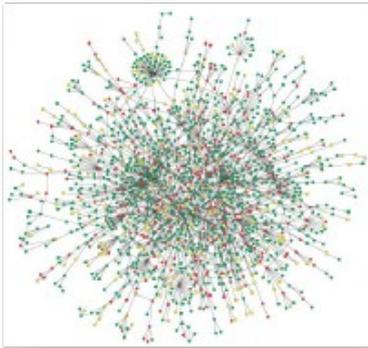
[leflunomide](#)

- Two snapshots of the drug-interaction database available at *drugs.com*:
  - May 10th, 2010
  - February 22nd, 2012
- Between the snapshots:
  - 1349 interactions added
  - 165 interactions removed

# We can predict which severe drug interactions will be removed from and added to a database



# Outline



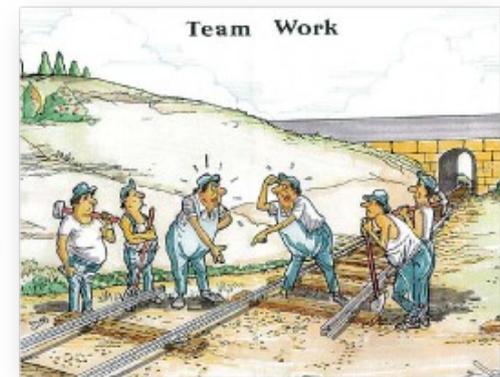
**Can we help to clean up noisy network data?**



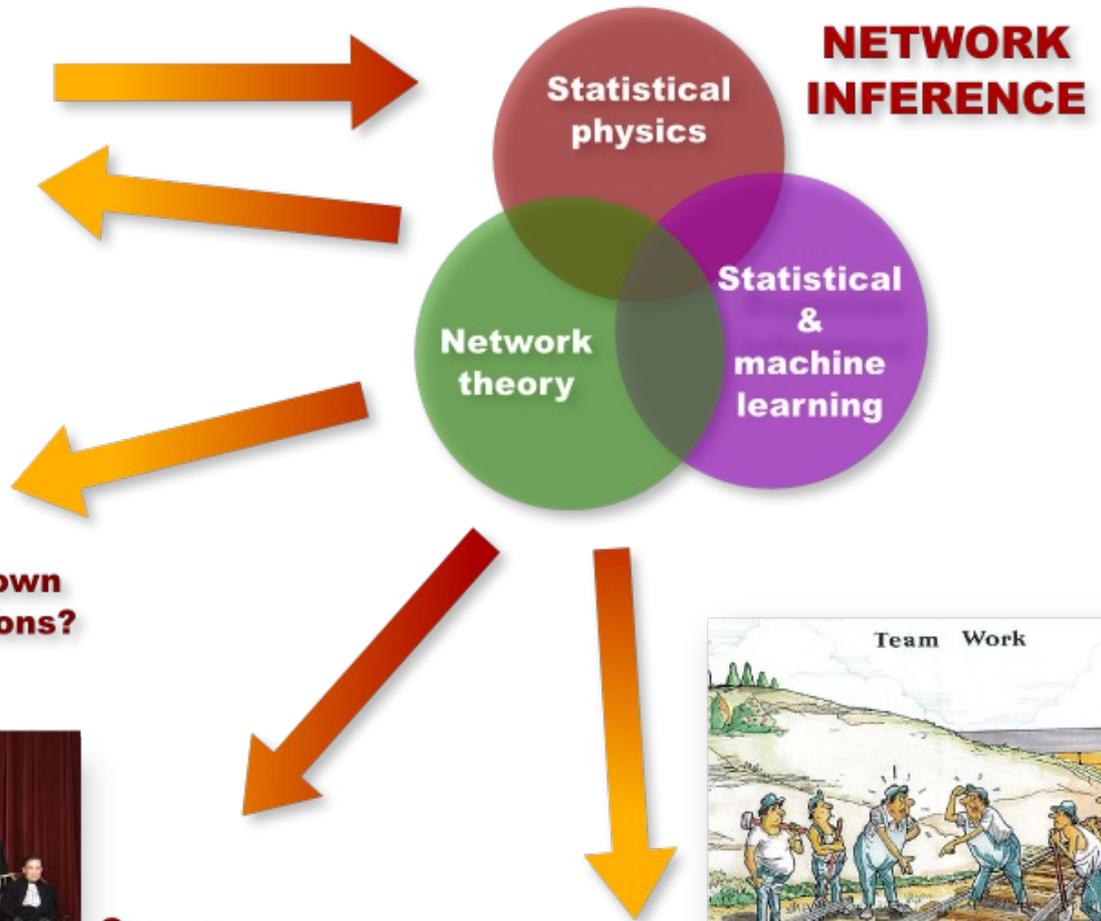
**Can we uncover unknown drug interactions?**



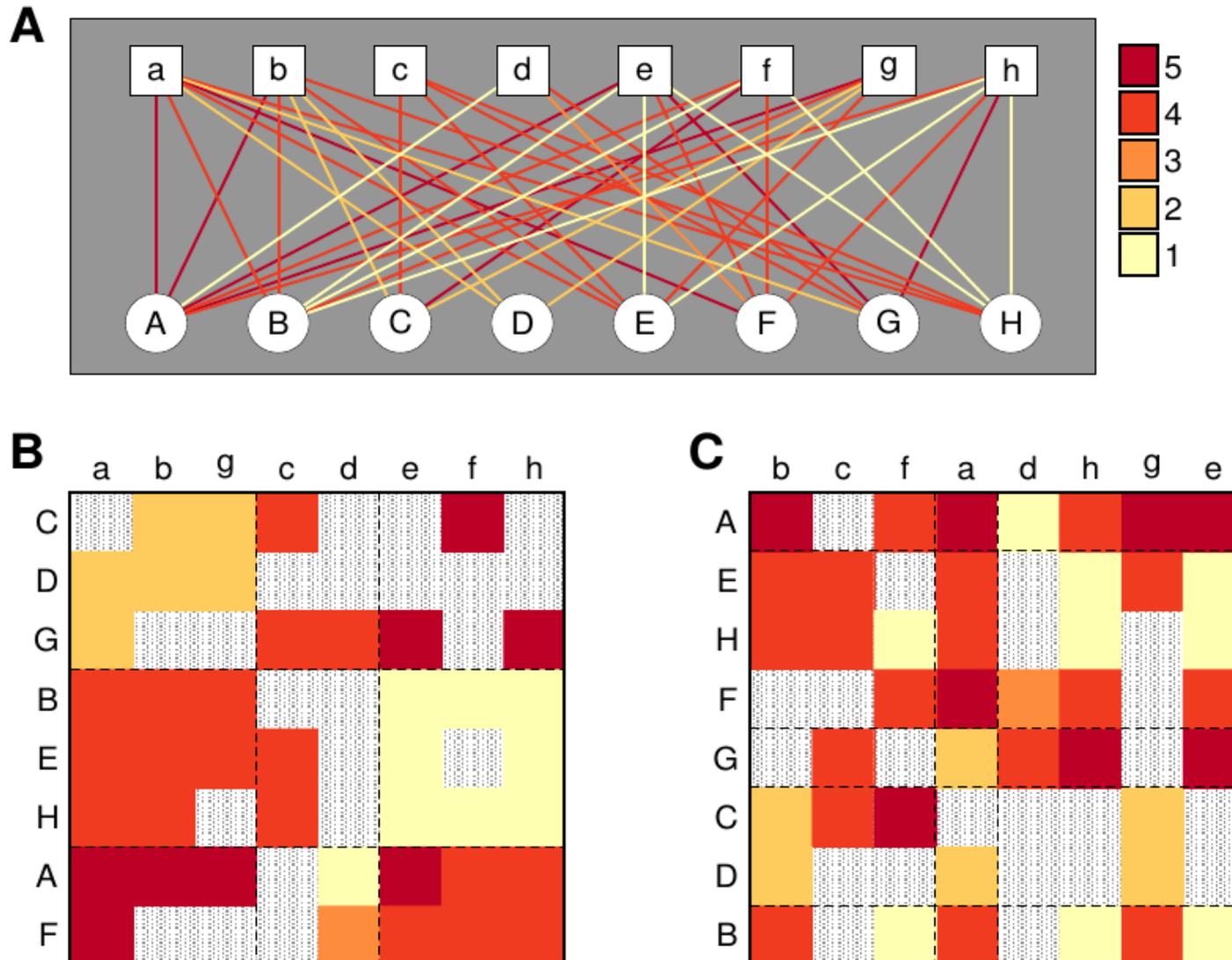
**Can we predict human decisions?**



**Can we predict conflict in small teams?**



# Predicting human preferences can be reformulated as a problem of network inference

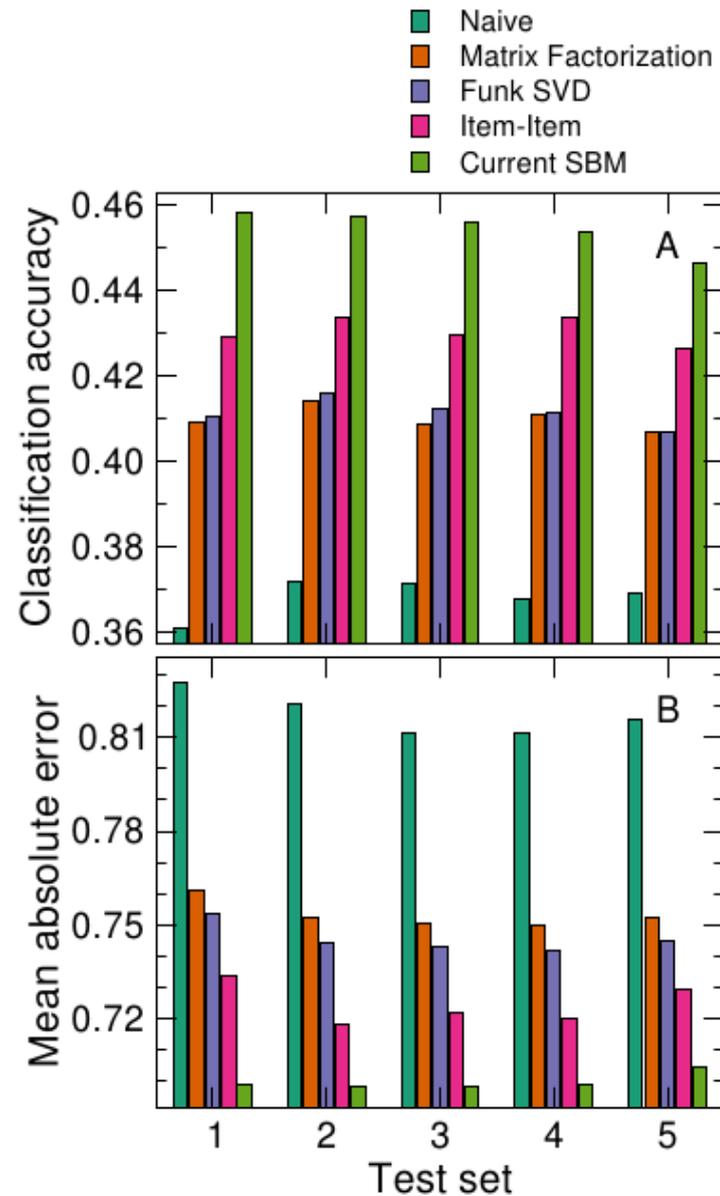


# Our approach predicts human preferences better than state-of-the-art collaborative filtering algorithms

- MovieLens set: 100,000 real 1-5 movie ratings by ~1,000 users
- 5 independent splits of the data into 80,000 observed ratings and 20,000 validation ratings

# Our approach predicts human preferences better than state-of-the-art collaborative filtering algorithms

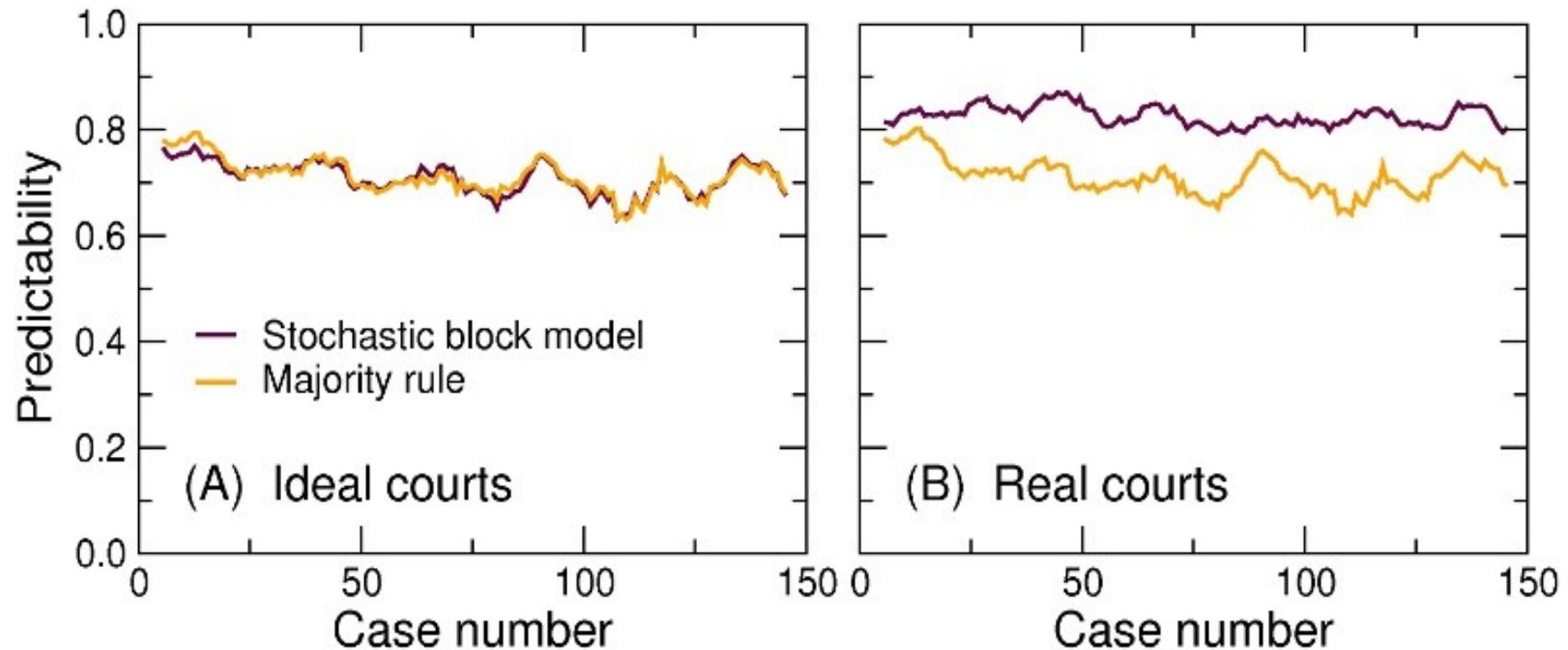
- MovieLens set: 100,000 real 1-5 movie ratings by ~1,000 users
- 5 independent splits of the data into 80,000 observed ratings and 20,000 validation ratings



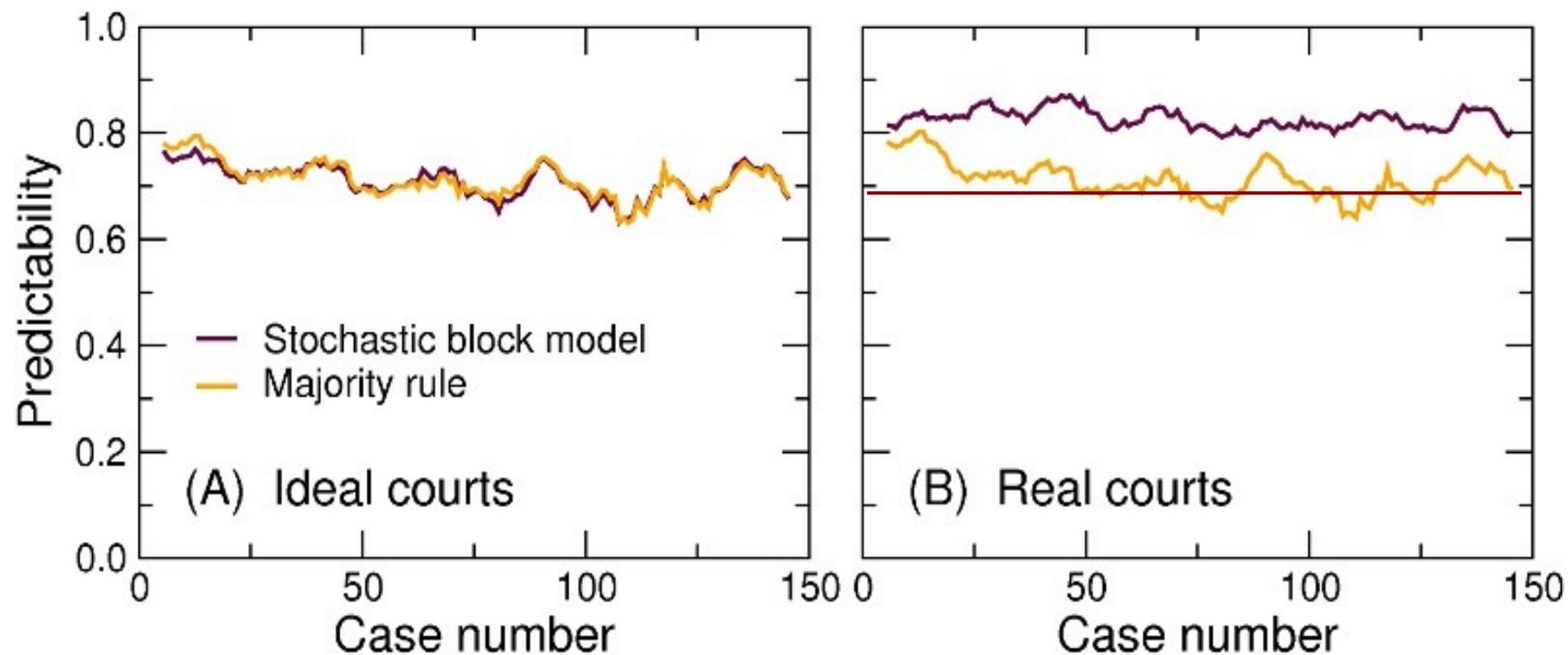
**Can we predict what a US Supreme Court justice votes based on what the others did?**



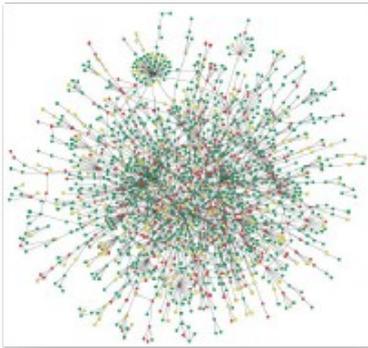
# Supreme Court votes are more predictable than expected from ideal courts



# Supreme Court votes are more predictable than expected from ideal courts



# Outline



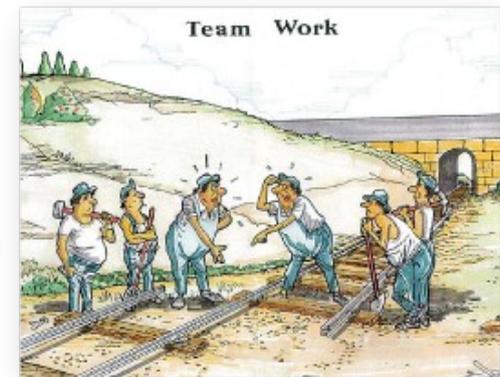
**Can we help to clean up noisy network data?**



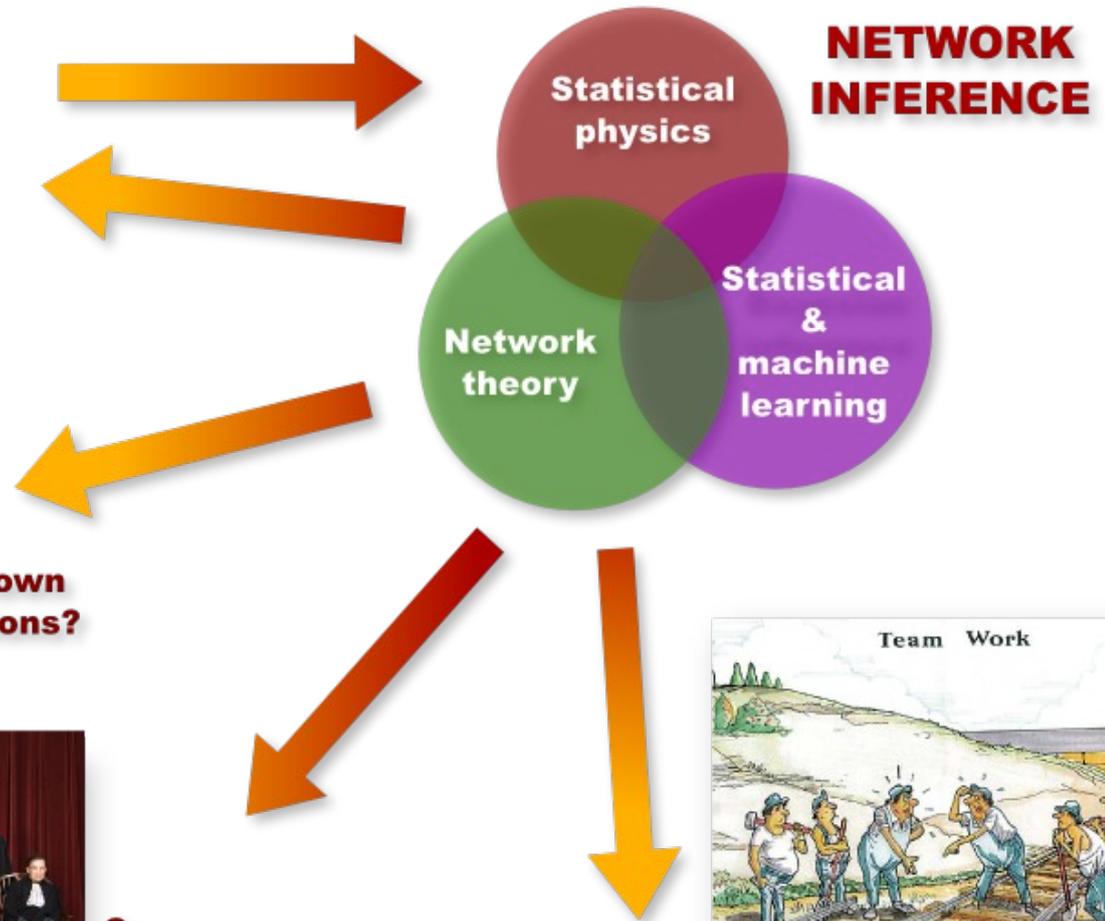
**Can we uncover unknown drug interactions?**



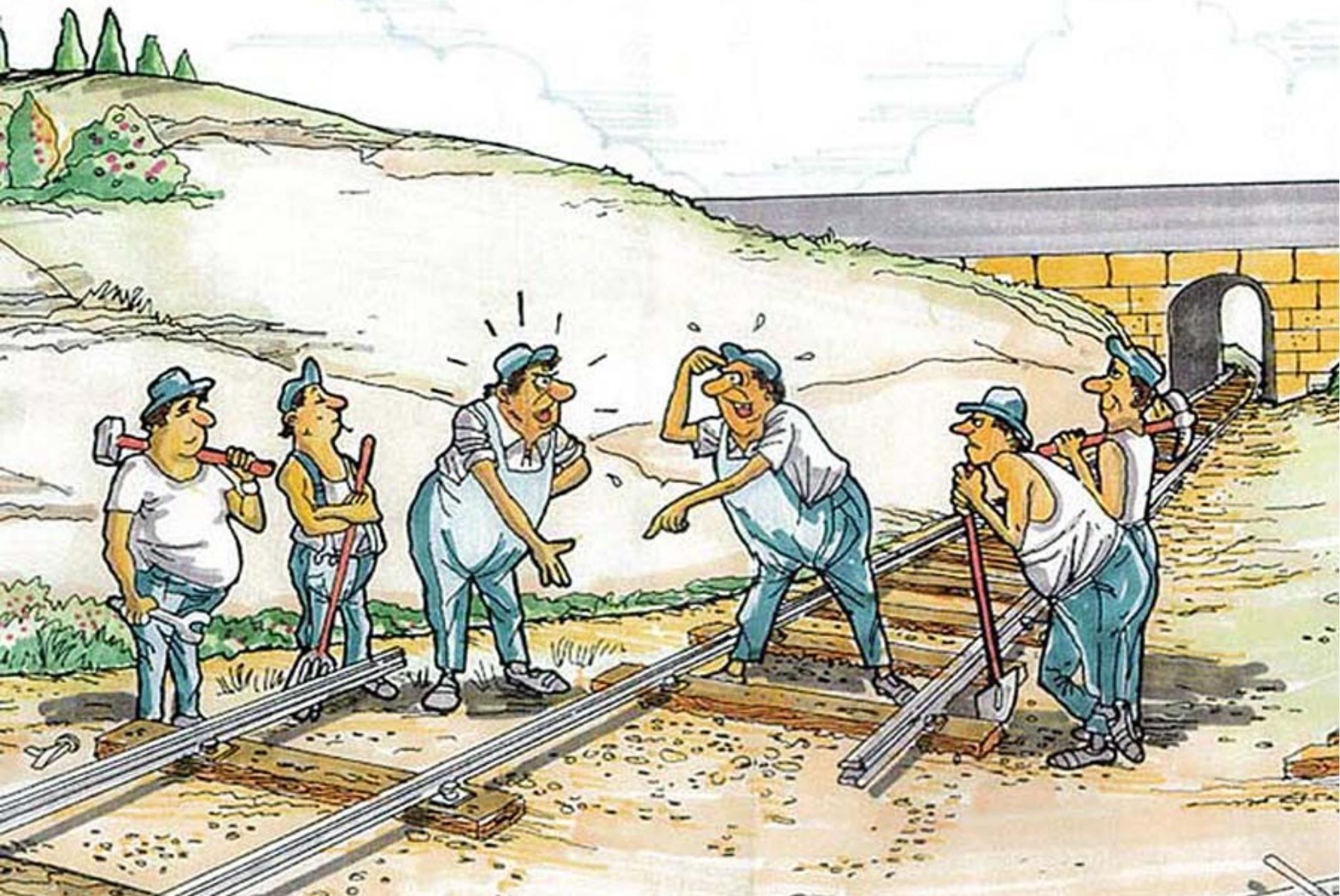
**Can we predict human decisions?**



**Can we predict conflict in small teams?**



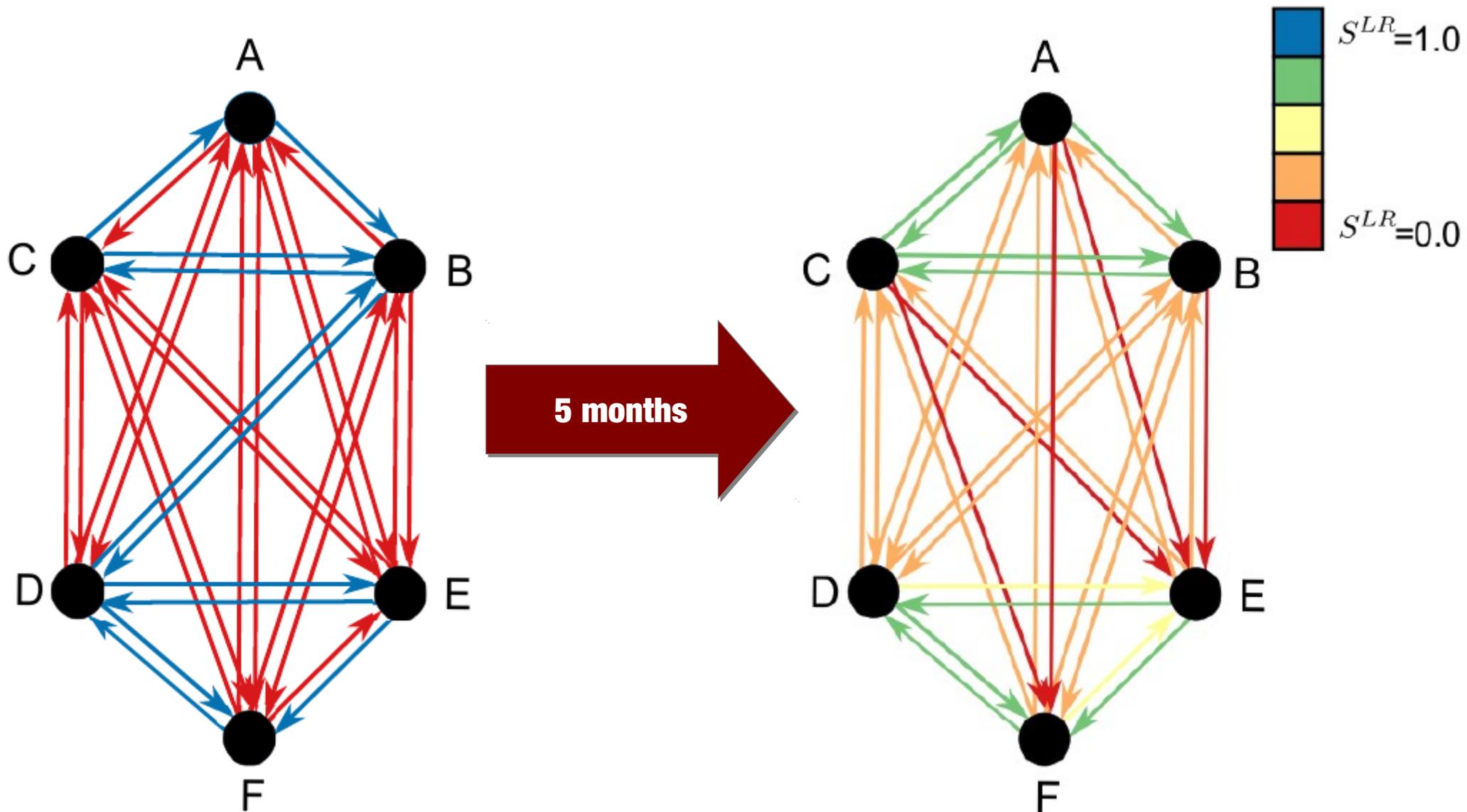
# Team Work



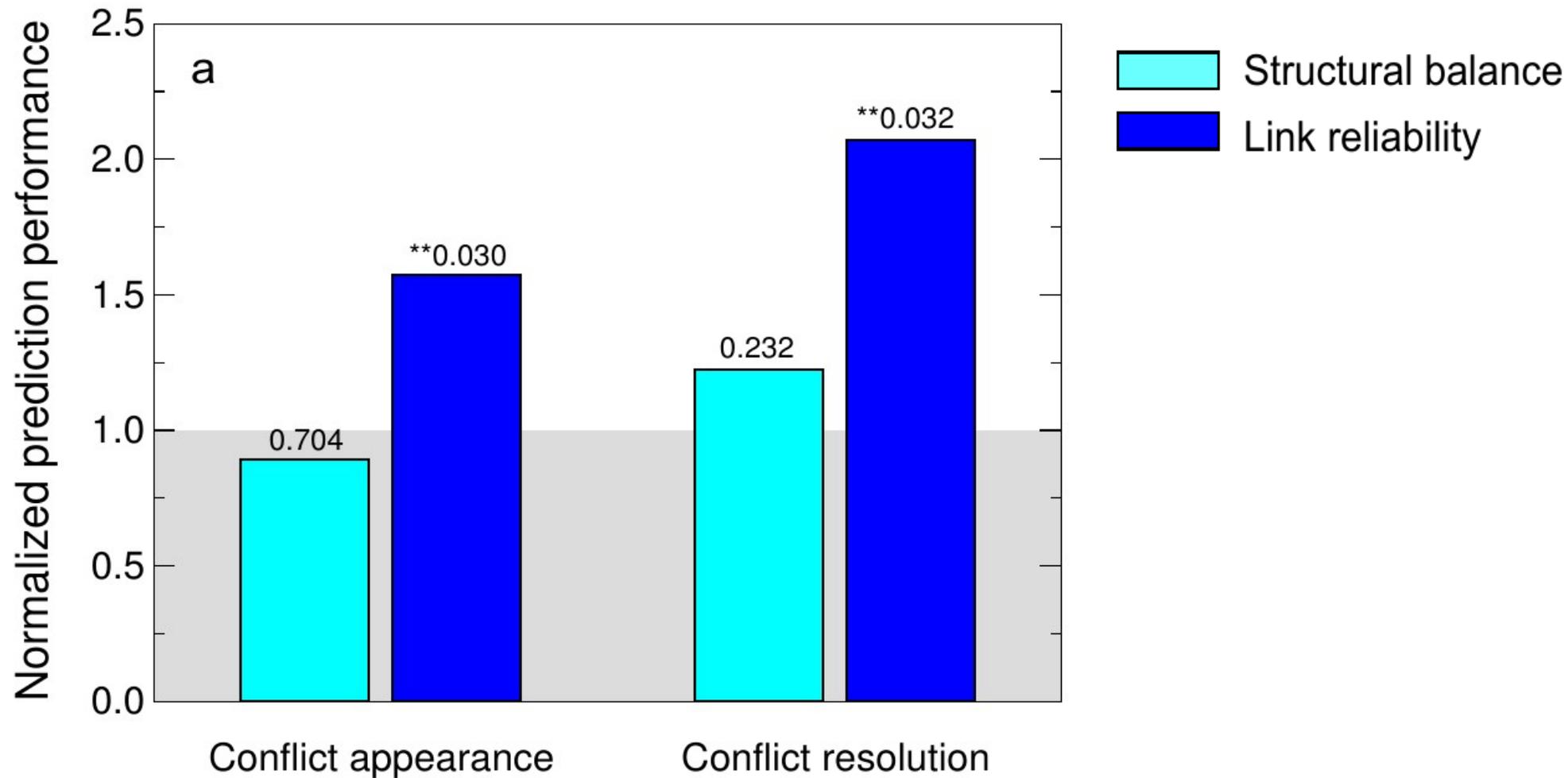
# Tracking team conflict in the real world

- 16 teams with ~6 people, working on a real project during 9 months
- We administer 2 surveys:
  - First: After 4 months working together
  - Second: At the end of the project
- “Would you like to work with this person again in the future”

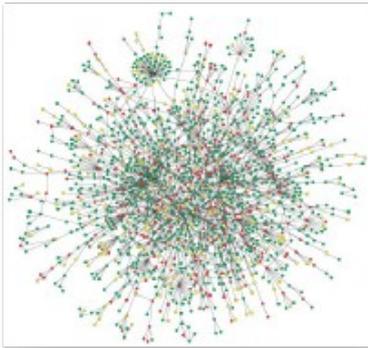
# Can we predict where conflict is going to arise and where it is going to resolve?



# Our approach predicts conflict appearance and conflict resolution whereas structural balance does not



# Outline



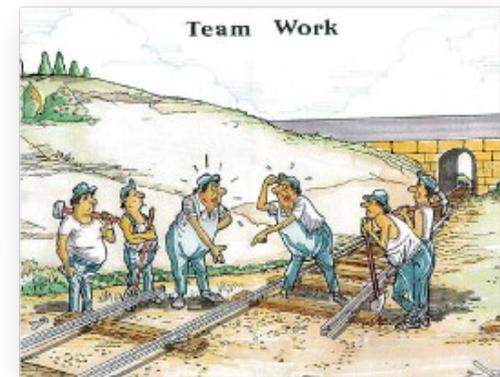
**Can we help to clean up noisy network data?**



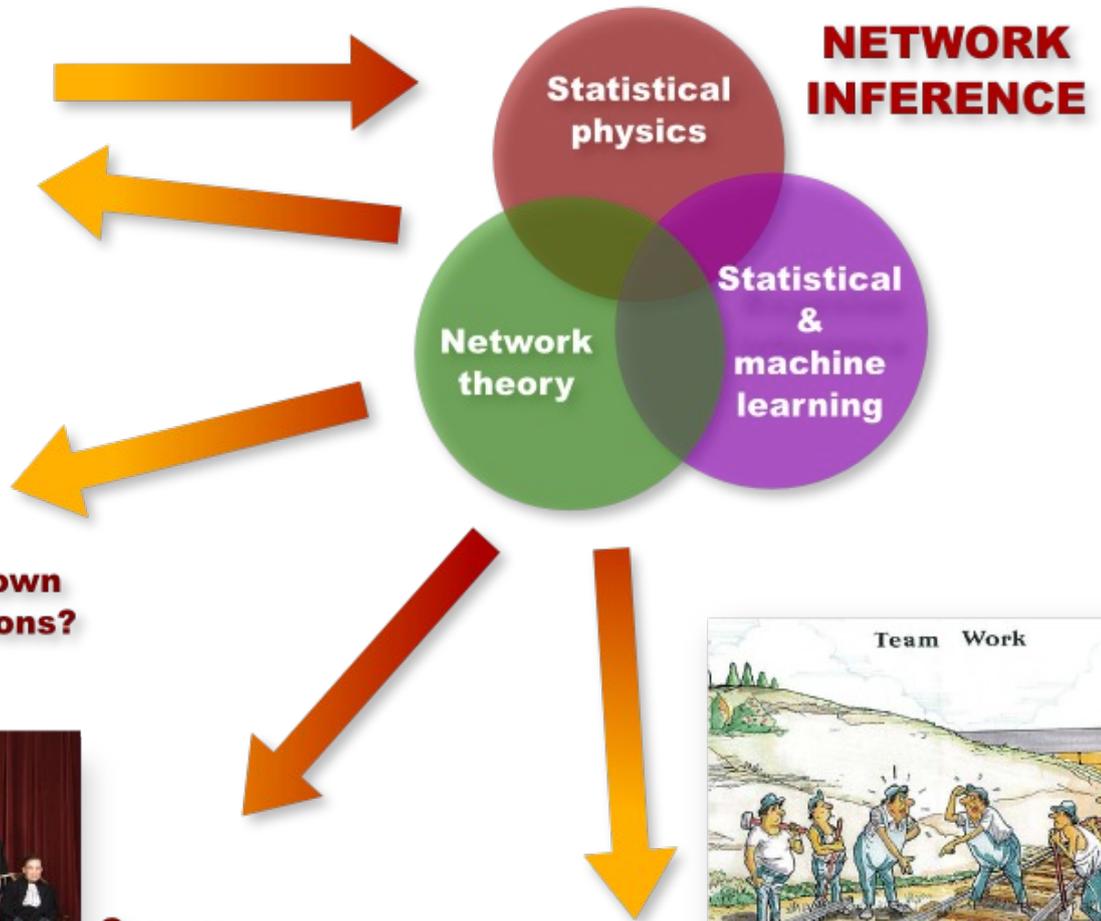
**Can we uncover unknown drug interactions?**



**Can we predict human decisions?**



**Can we predict conflict in small teams?**



# Thank you

- T. Gumí, A. Llorente, E. Moro, N. Rovira-Asenjo, M. Sales-Pardo
- Funding



JAMES S.  
MCDONNELL  
FOUNDATION



- More information:
  - <http://seeslab.info>
  - @sees\_lab