

# Topology ID and Learning over Graphs: Accounting for Nonlinearities and Dynamics

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***Acknowledgments:*** *Drs. B. Baingana, J.-A. Bazerque, P. Forero, G. Mateos, K. Rajawat, D. Romero; and V. Ioannidis, G.-V. Karanikolas, M. Ma, Y. Shen, and P. Traganitis*

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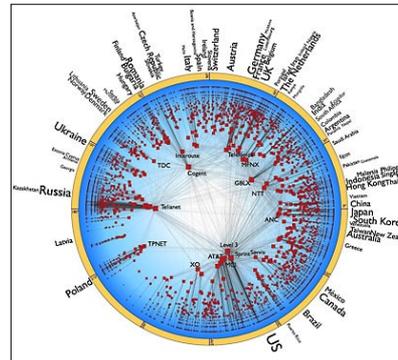
Driven to Discover<sup>SM</sup>

# Networks as graphs ... everywhere

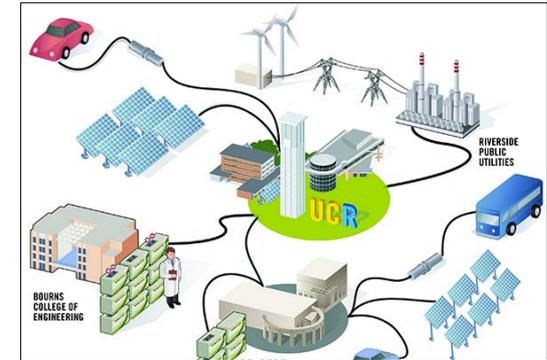
Social networks



Internet



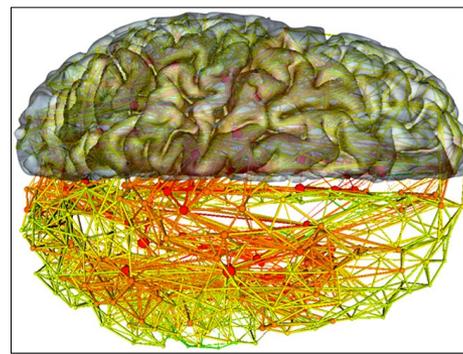
Energy grids



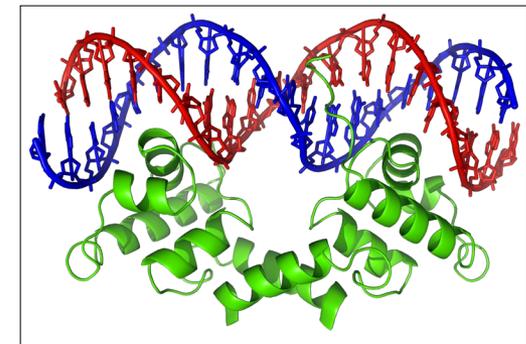
## Network Science



Financial markets



Brain networks



Gene/protein-regulatory nets

E. D. Kolaczyk, *Statistical Analysis of Network Data*, Springer, 2009.

D. I. Shuman, S. K. Narang, P. Frossard, A. Ortega, P. Vanderghenst, "The emerging field of signal processing on graphs: Extending high-dimensional data analysis to networks and other irregular domains," *IEEE Signal Proc. Mag.*, May 2013. 2

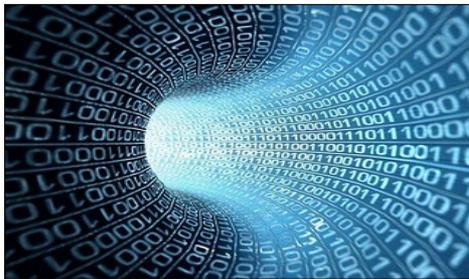
# Challenges and opportunities

## □ Network-level challenges

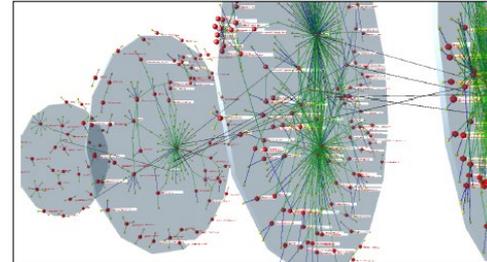
### ➤ Massive scale



### ➤ Streaming data (~6,000 tweets/sec)



### ➤ Dynamic topologies



### ➤ Unobservable links



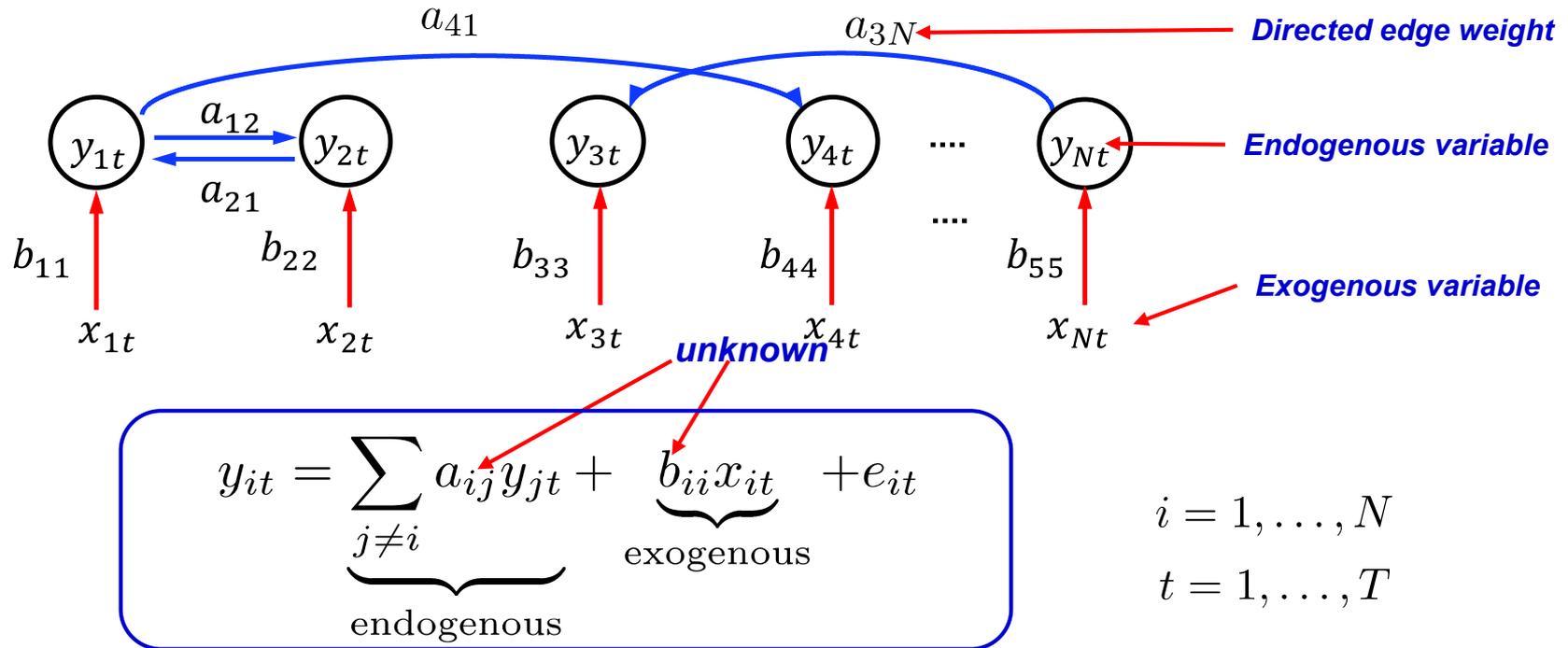
## □ Desiderata

- Parsimonious models of network structure
- Efficient inference algorithms over networks

## □ Framework: Cross-roads of machine learning, statistical SP, optimization, networking

# Linear structural equation models

- Setting:  $N$  nodes over which “observable” processes propagate [Goldberger’72,Kaplan’09]

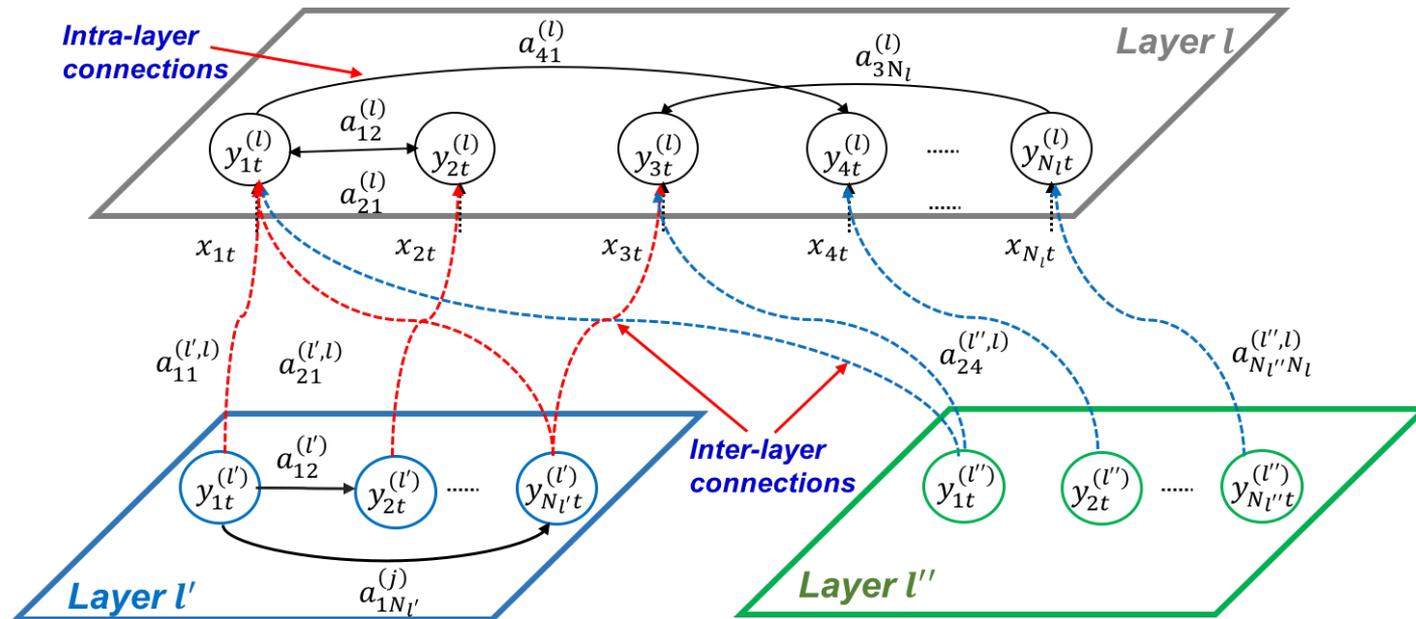


**Goal:** Given  $\{x_{it}, y_{it}\}$ , estimate  $\{a_{ij}, b_{ii}\}$  to capture **directed** dependencies  $a_{ij} \neq a_{ji}$

**Theorem 1.** If  $a_{ii} = 0$ ,  $b_{ii} \neq 0$ ,  $\forall i$ ,  $b_{ij} = 0$ ,  $\forall i \neq j$ , then **A** and **B** identifiable if  $\text{kr}_{\mathbf{X}^\top} > 2 \max_{\text{deg}}(\mathcal{G})$ ,  $\mathbf{X} := [\mathbf{x}_1 \dots \mathbf{x}_T]$

OK if  
 $T > 2N$

# From single- to multi-layer SEMs



- Generalizes linear SEM to multi-layer settings
- Layers can model exogenous variables and time snapshots or lags

# Multilayer linear SEMs

- Per node

$$y_{it}^{(\ell)} = \underbrace{\sum_{j \neq i} a_{ij}^{(\ell)} y_{jt}^{(\ell)}}_{\text{Intra-layer term}} + \underbrace{\sum_{l' \neq \ell} \sum_j a_{ij}^{(l', \ell)} y_{kt}^{(l')}}_{\text{Inter-layer term}} + e_{it}^{(\ell)}$$

- Matrix form

$$\mathbf{Y}^{(\ell)} = \mathbf{Y}^{(\ell)} \mathbf{A}^{(\ell)} + \sum_{l' \neq \ell} \mathbf{Y}^{(l')} \mathbf{A}^{(l', \ell)} + \mathbf{E}^{(\ell)}, \quad \ell = 1, \dots, L$$

**Goal:** Given  $\{\mathbf{Y}^{(\ell)}\}_{\ell=1}^L$  find  $\{\mathbf{A}^{(\ell)}\}_{\ell=1}^L \{\mathbf{A}^{(l', \ell)}\}_{l' \neq \ell}^L$

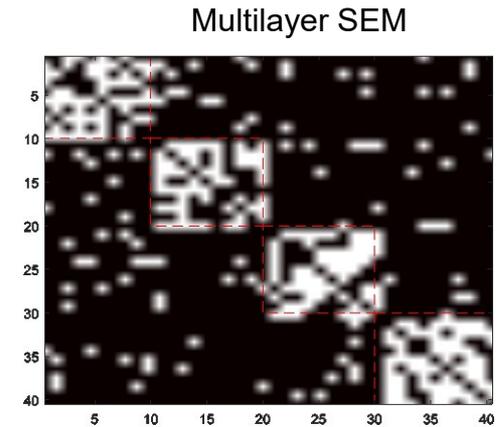
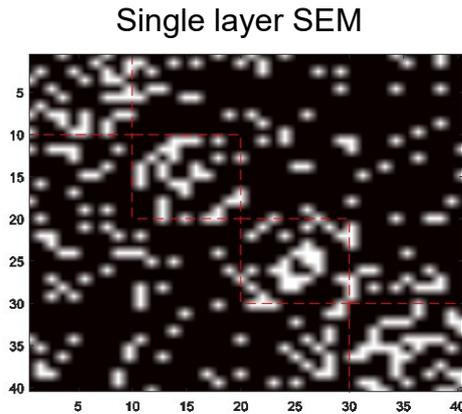
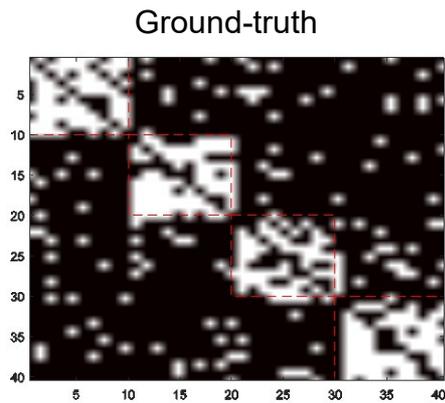
- Identifiability

**Theorem 2.** If  $\mathbf{Y} := [\mathbf{Y}^{(1)} \dots \mathbf{Y}^{(L)}]$ , and  $\text{kr}_Y > 2 \max_{\mathcal{G}} \text{deg}(\mathcal{G})$ , then  $\{\mathbf{A}^{(l', \ell)}\}_{l' \neq \ell}^L, \{\mathbf{A}^{(\ell)}\}_{\ell=1}^L$  identifiable

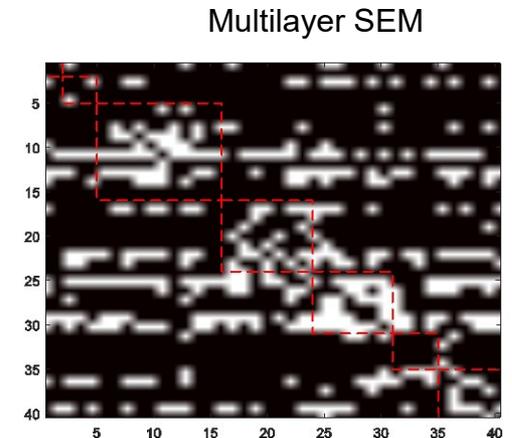
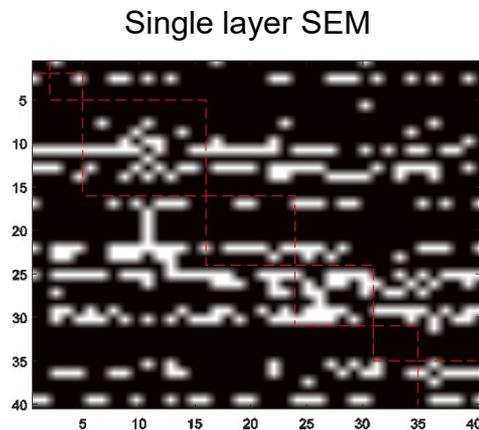
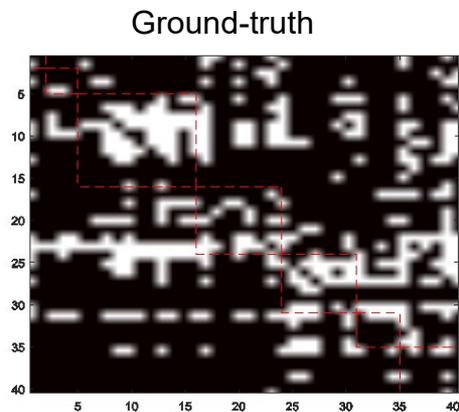
- Estimation via e.g., ordinary or regularized least-squares (LS)

# Simulated and real data tests

- **Synthetic network**,  $N=40$ ,  $L = 4$  (each layer corresponds to a block diagonal)



- **US economic sectors**,  $N=40$  industries,  $L = 7$  sectors (textiles, automotive ...)



# Topology tracking from network cascades

Contagions



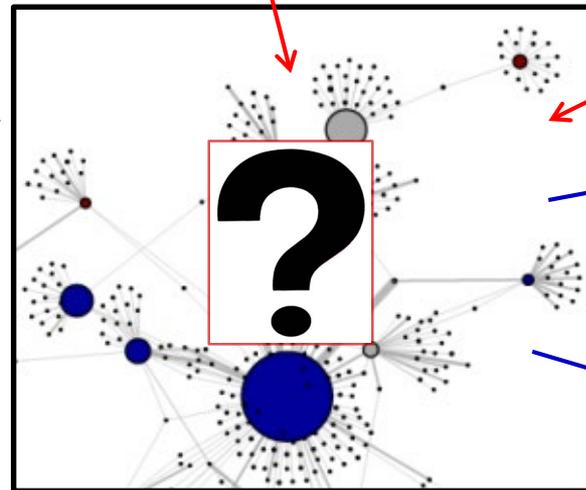
Popular news stories



Infectious diseases



Buying patterns



**Network topologies:**

Unobservable, dynamic, sparse

**Topology inference vital:**

Viral advertising, healthcare policy

Propagate in **cascades**  
over **implicit networks**

**Desiderata:** track unobservable time-varying network topology from cascade traces

# Linear dynamic SEMs

- **Data:** Infection time of node  $i$  by contagion  $c$  during interval  $t$

$$y_{ic}^t = \sum_{j \neq i} a_{ij}^t y_{jc}^t + b_{ii}^t x_{ic}^t + e_{ic}^t \quad \mathbf{Y}_t = \mathbf{A}_t \mathbf{Y}_t + \mathbf{B}_t \mathbf{X}_t + \mathbf{E}_t, \quad t = 1, \dots, T$$

**Goal:** Given data  $\{\mathbf{Y}_t, \mathbf{X}_t\}$ , track topology  $\{\mathbf{A}_t\}$  and external influences  $\{\mathbf{B}_t\}$

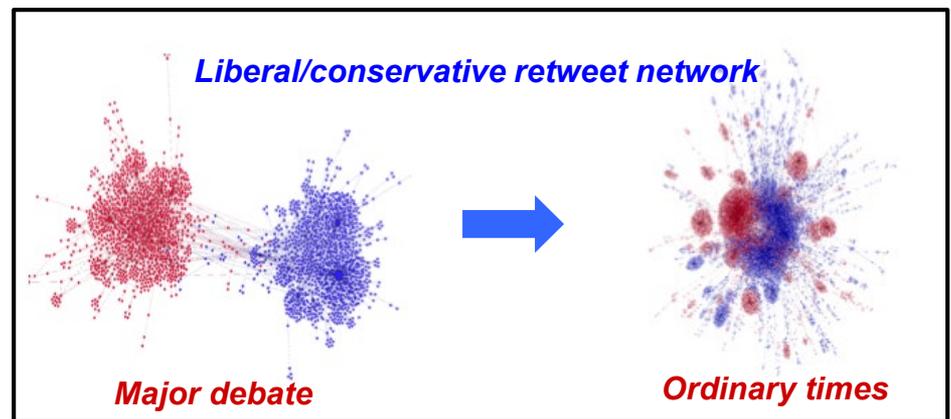
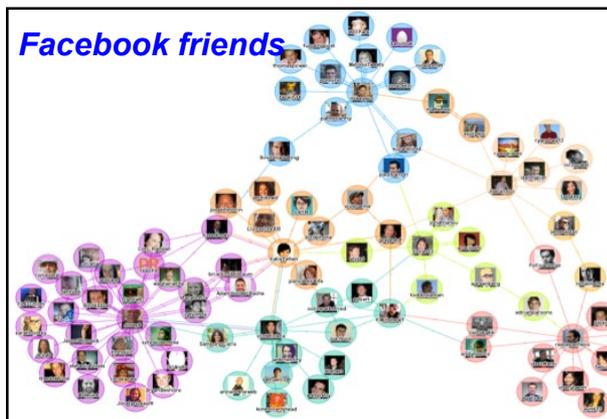
**Q:** How do network topologies evolve?

- Slow-varying network topologies

$\mathbf{A}_t$  changes slowly; e.g., Facebook

- Switching among discrete states  $\sigma(t) \in \{1, \dots, S\}$

$\mathbf{A}_t = \mathbf{A}_{\sigma(t)}$  e.g., *Tweets* during political/sports events



# Tracking slowly-varying topologies

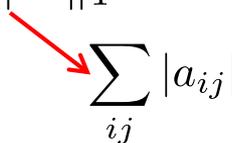
- Structural spatio-temporal properties

- Slowly time-varying topology
- Sparse edge connectivity,  $\#\text{edges} = \mathcal{O}(\#\text{nodes})$

- Sparsity-promoting **exponentially-weighted LS estimator (EWLSE)**

$$\{\hat{\mathbf{A}}_t, \hat{\mathbf{B}}_t\} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}} (1/2) \sum_{\tau=1}^t \beta^{t-\tau} \|\mathbf{Y}_\tau - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{Y}_\tau - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{X}_\tau\|_F^2 + \lambda_t \|\mathbf{A}\|_1$$

s.t.  $a_{ii} = 0, b_{ij} = 0, \forall i \neq j$



- **Edge sparsity** encouraged by  $\ell_1$ -norm regularization with  $\lambda_t > 0$
- **Tracking** dynamic topologies possible if  $\beta < 1$  ( $\beta \in (0, 1]$ )

- **Solver:** proximal-splitting optimization methods [Daubechies et al'04]

# The rise of Kim Jong-un

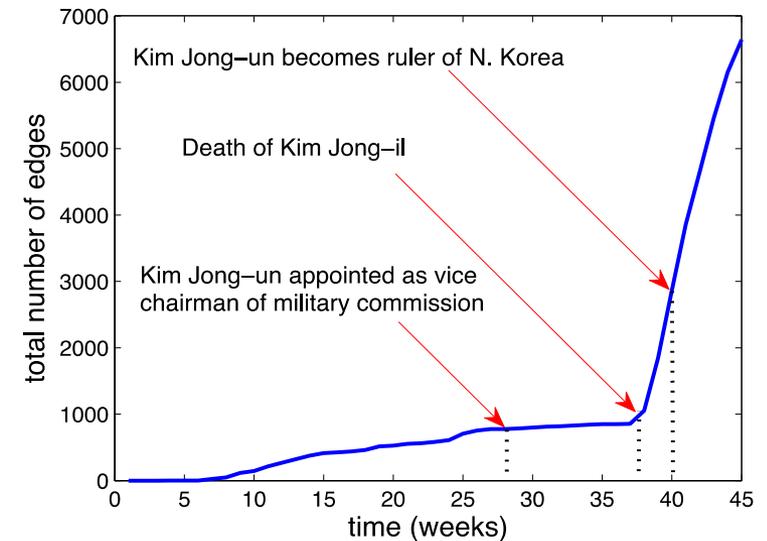
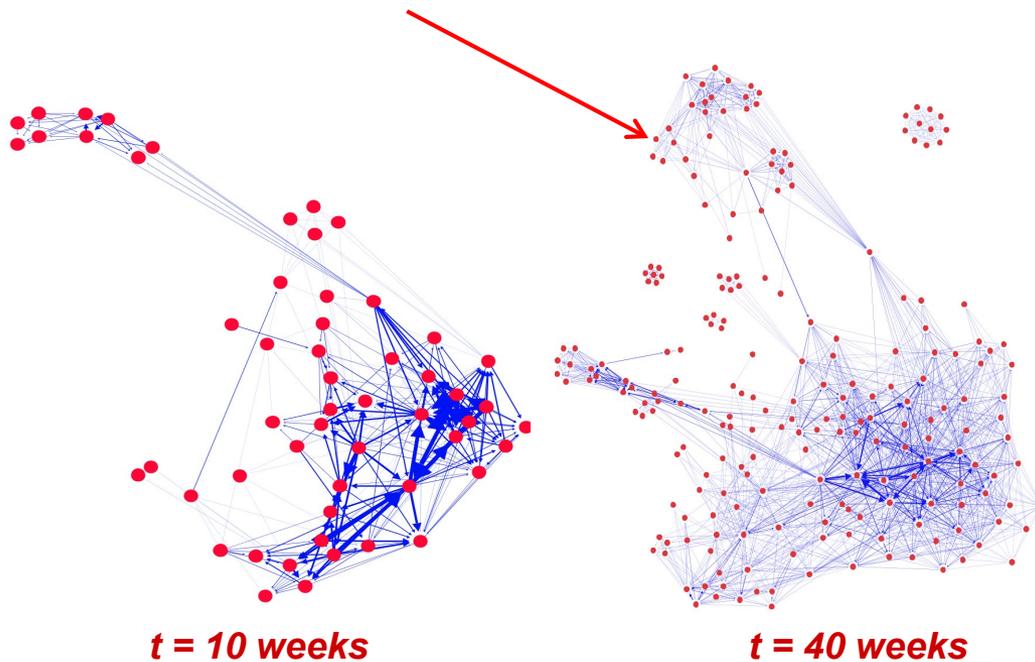
Web mentions of “**Kim Jong-un**” tracked from Mar.’11 to Feb.’12

$N = 360$  websites,  $C = 466$  cascades,  $T = 45$  weeks

*Kim Jong-un – Supreme leader of N. Korea*



*Increased media frenzy following Kim Jong-un’s ascent to power in 2011*

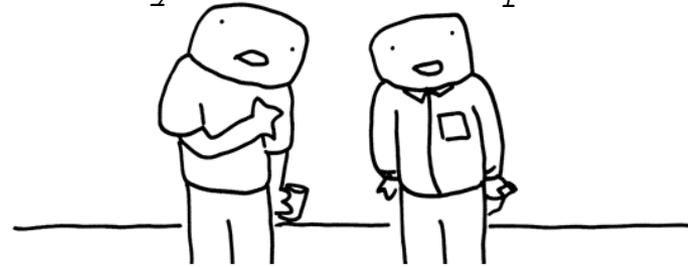


# Identifiability of SEMs with input statistics?

- Limited access to input  $\mathbf{x}$ 
  - Privacy concerns
  - Not explicitly available

**Goal:** Given statistics of  $\{\mathbf{y}_t, \mathbf{x}_t\}$  identify and track hidden **directed** network topology

How much did you invest in Apple stock yesterday? Uh ... not gonna say, man ... It's private!



$$\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}_t + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}_t$$



$$\mathbf{y}_t = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}_t = \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_t$$

- Covar. over segment  $m$   $\mathbf{R}_m^y := \mathbb{E}\{\mathbf{y}_t \mathbf{y}_t^\top\}$ ,  $t \in [\tau_m, \tau_{m+1} - 1]$ ,  $m = 1 \dots M$

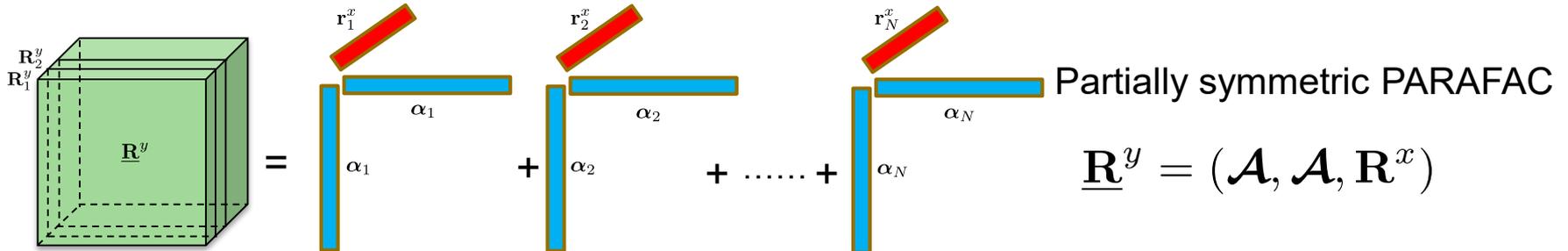
# Network snapshots as tensor slabs

■ Tensor slab

$$\mathbf{R}_m^y = \mathcal{A} \text{Diag}(\rho_m^x) \mathcal{A}^\top$$



$$\underline{\mathbf{R}}^y = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i \circ \alpha_i \circ \mathbf{r}_i^x$$



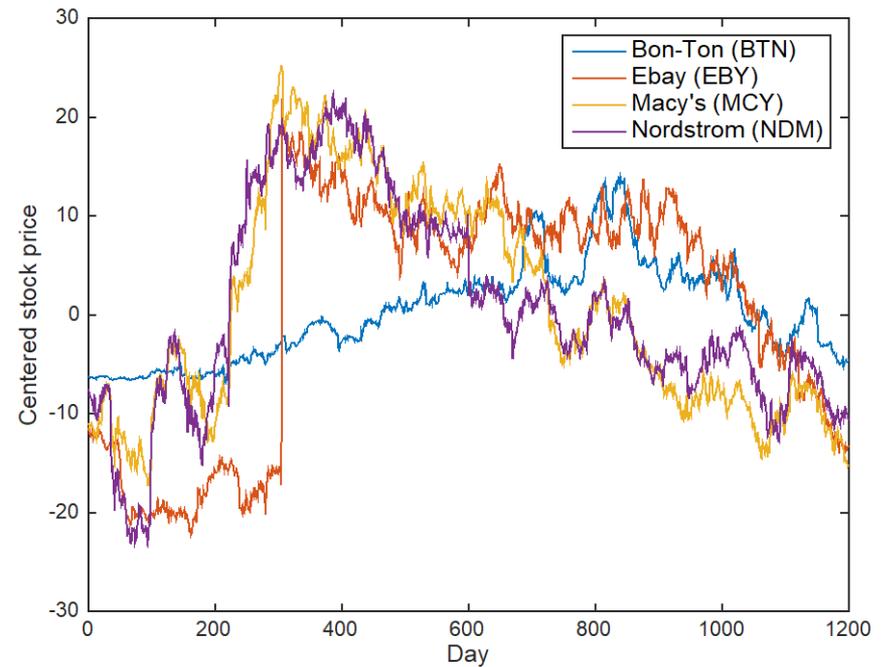
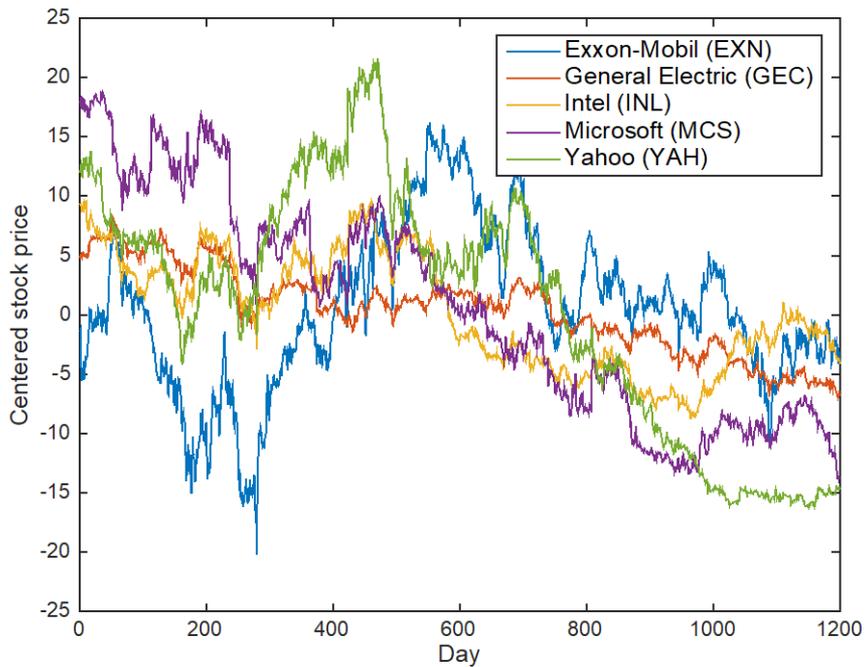
**Proposition 1:** If  $a_{ii} = 0$ ,  $b_{ii} \neq 0$ ,  $\forall i$ ,  $b_{ij} = 0$ ,  $\forall i \neq j$ , then  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are uniquely expressible in terms of  $\mathcal{A}$  as  $\mathbf{B} = (\text{Diag}[\mathcal{A}^{-1}])^{-1}$  and  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I} - (\text{Diag}(\mathcal{A}^{-1}))^{-1} \mathcal{A}^{-1}$

**Theorem 2a.** If  $\text{kr}_{R^x} > 1$ , and  $\mathbf{R}^x$  available, then  $\mathbf{A}$  is identifiable.

**Theorem 2b.** If  $\text{kr}_{R^x} > 1$ , but  $\mathbf{R}^x$  unknown,  $\mathbf{A}$  identifiable within permutations (**finite!**)

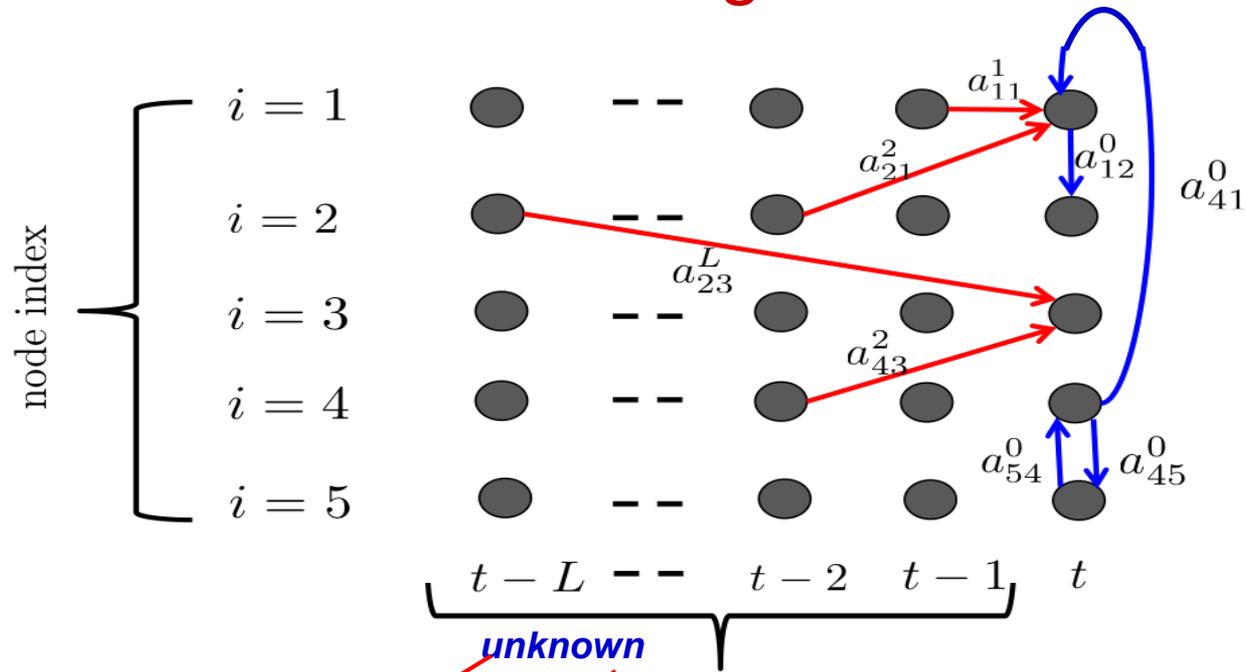
# Real stock networks

- Dec. 23 , 2011 to Sep. 30 , 2016 (1,200 days),  $M = 12$  time segments
- 100 runs each with random initialization



- Strong connectivity among major technology companies
- Stronger connectivity between Macy's and Nordstrom

# Linear structural vector autoregressive models



$$y_{jt} = \sum_{i \neq j} a_{ij}^0 y_{it} + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{\ell=1}^L a_{ij}^{\ell} y_{j(t-\ell)} + e_{jt}$$

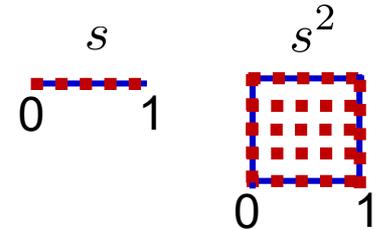
- Endogenous variables here played by lagged exogenous
- Edge weights  $\{a_{ij}^{\ell}\}$  capture **directed** causal dependencies
- Edge sparsity  $\Rightarrow$  only a few  $\{a_{ij}^{\ell}\}$  are nonzero

# From linear to nonlinear SVARMs

$$y_{jt} = \bar{f}_j(\mathbf{y}_{-jt}, \{\mathbf{y}_{t-\ell}\}_{\ell=1}^L) + e_{jt}, \quad j = 1, \dots, N$$

$(L+1)N-1$  variables

Curse of dimensionality



**Idea:** Reduce complexity using a generalized additive model

$$\bar{f}_j(\mathbf{y}_{-jt}, \{\mathbf{y}_{t-\ell}\}_{\ell=1}^L) = \sum_{i \neq j} \bar{f}_{ij}^0(y_{it}) + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{\ell=1}^L \bar{f}_{ij}^\ell(y_{i(t-\ell)})$$

$(L+1)N-1$  univariate functions

$$\bar{f}_{ij}^\ell(y) := a_{ij}^\ell f_{ij}^\ell(y) \quad a_{ij}^\ell \in \{0, 1\} \quad \bullet \text{ Linear SVARM is special case}$$

➤ Draw each univariate function from a reproducing kernel Hilbert space (RKHS)

$$\mathcal{H}_i^\ell := \{f_{ij}^\ell \mid f_{ij}^\ell(y) = \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \beta_{ijt}^\ell \kappa_i^\ell(y, y_{i(t-\ell)})\}$$

$$\{\hat{f}_{ij}^\ell\} = \arg \min_{\{f_{ij}^\ell \in \mathcal{H}_i^\ell\}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \left[ y_{jt} - \sum_{i \neq j} a_{ij}^0 f_{ij}^0(y_{it}) - \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{\ell=1}^L a_{ij}^\ell f_{ij}^\ell(y_{it}) \right]^2 + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{\ell=0}^L \Omega(\|a_{ij}^\ell f_{ij}^\ell\|_{\mathcal{H}^\ell})$$

# Edge sparsity leads to group-sparsity

- Representer theorem [Wahba etal'90]  $\hat{f}_{ij}^\ell(y) = \sum_{t=1}^T \beta_{ijt}^\ell \kappa_i^\ell(y, y_{i(t-\ell)})$
- $\alpha_{ij}^\ell := a_{ij}^\ell \beta_{ij}^\ell$ ,  $\beta_{ij}^\ell := [\beta_{ij1}^\ell, \dots, \beta_{ijT}^\ell]^\top$ ,  $[\mathbf{K}_i^\ell]_{t,\tau} = \kappa_i^\ell(y_{it}, y_{i(\tau-\ell)})$

$$\{\hat{\alpha}_{ij}^\ell\} = \arg \min_{\hat{\alpha}_{ii}^0 = \mathbf{0}, \{\alpha_{ij}^\ell\}} \frac{1}{2} \left\| \mathbf{Y} - \sum_{l=1}^L \bar{\mathbf{K}}^l \mathbf{W}_\alpha^l \right\|_F^2 + \lambda \sum_{l=0}^L \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{i=1}^N \sqrt{(\alpha_{ij}^\ell)^\top \mathbf{K}_i^\ell \alpha_{ij}^\ell}$$

- $\mathbf{Y} := [\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_N] \in \mathbb{R}^{T \times N}$      $\bar{\mathbf{K}}^\ell := [\mathbf{K}_1^\ell \dots \mathbf{K}_N^\ell]$
- Edge sparsity  $\Rightarrow$  **group sparsity** of  $\mathbf{W}_\alpha^l$      $\mathbf{W}_\alpha^l := \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{11}^\ell & \dots & \alpha_{1N}^\ell \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \alpha_{N1}^\ell & \dots & \alpha_{NN}^\ell \end{bmatrix}$

**Bottomline:** Nonzero  $\{\alpha_{ij}^\ell\}$  reveal edges; ADMM solver

- Multi-kernels can choose optimal kernel combination from a prescribed dictionary of kernels

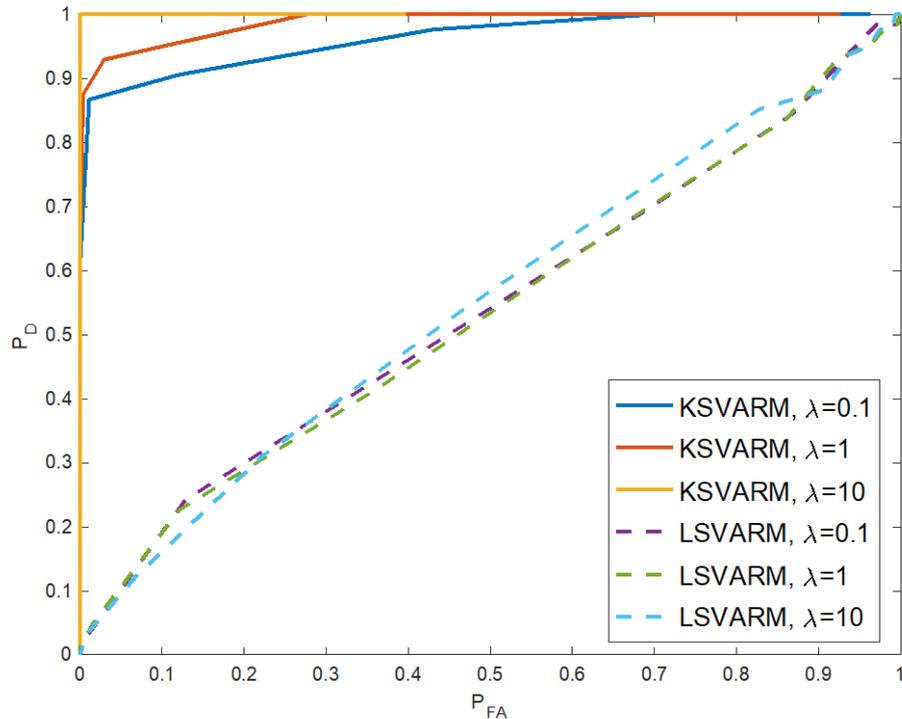
# Simulated test

□ Synthetic graph via Erdős–Rényi model,  $N=20$ ,  $T=40$

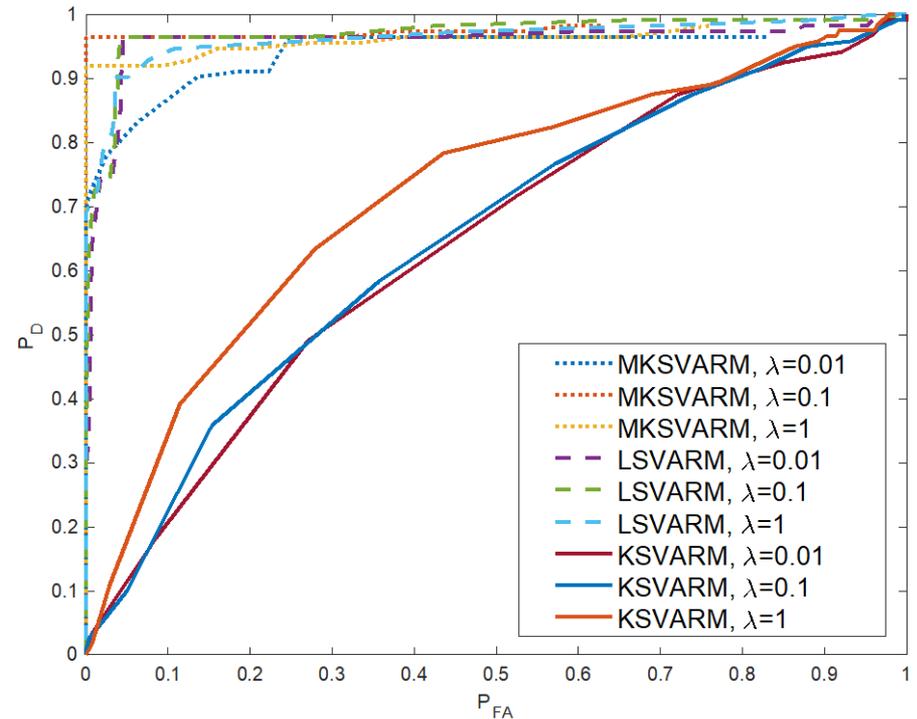
➤  $p = 0.3$   $\alpha_{ij}^{\ell} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$

➤  $\sigma_e = 0.1$

## Polynomial SVARM



## Linear SVARM

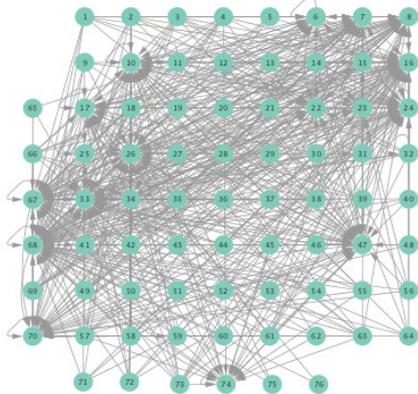


# Brain is densely networked

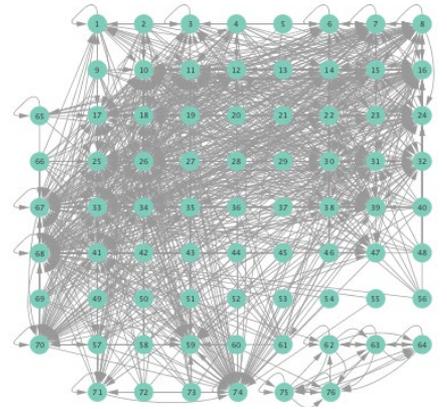
- **Data:** electrocorticography (ECoG) data for epilepsy [Kramer et al' 08]

➤ **Y:** ECoG data samples

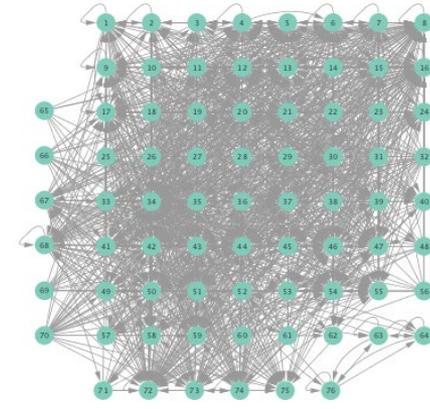
➤  $N = 76$  electrodes,  $T = 200$  samples,  $L=1$



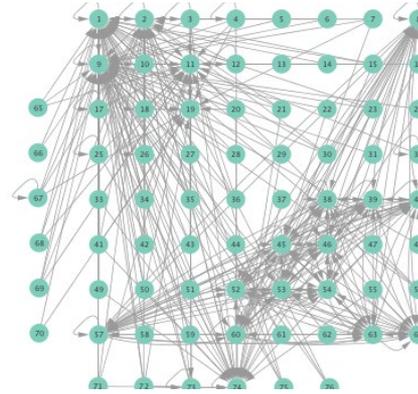
Linear SVARM (Preictal)



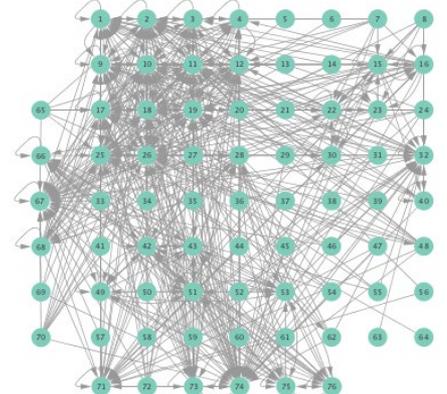
Kernel SVARM (preictal)



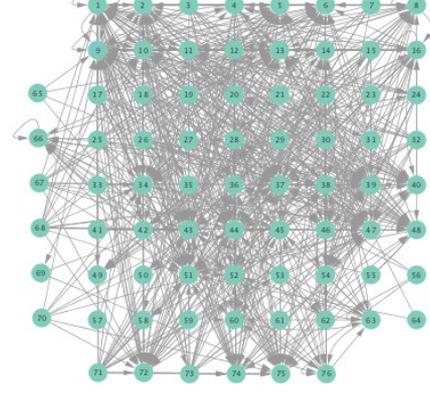
MKL SVARM (preictal)



Linear SVARM (Ictal)



Kernel SVARM (preictal)

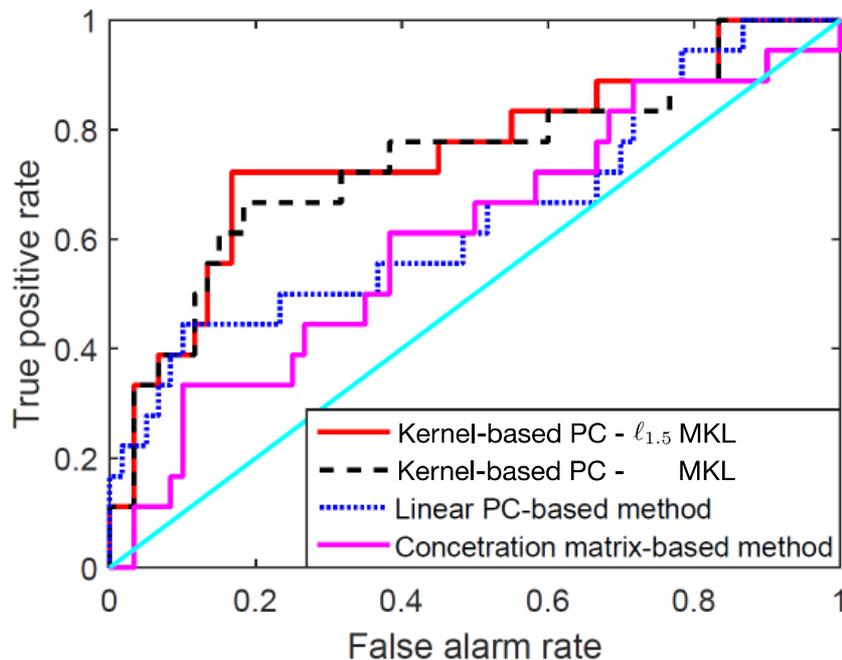


MKL SVARM (ictal)

- Diffusion of information is inhibited after the onset of an epileptic seizure

# Identifying connectivity of meshed power grids

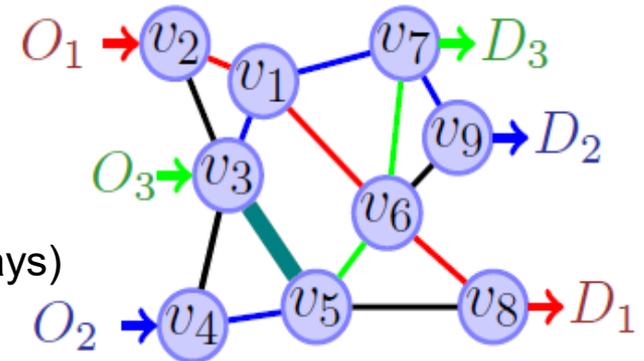
- ❑ Grid of  $N=14$  buses; nodal vectors are voltage angle time courses
  - IEEE-14 bus benchmark; voltage angles obtained using MATPOWER
- ❑ Real load data from 2012 Global Energy Forecasting Competition



- ❑ Nonlinear predictors improve ID of mesh grid connectivity

# Interpolating and extrapolating over networks

- Undirected graph  $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$  with  $|\mathcal{V}| = N$
- Process  $y_{nt}$  per node  $n$ , timeslot  $t$ 
  - Only measure  $M < N$  nodes (e.g., link counts, delays)



$$\mathbf{z}_t = \mathbf{M}_t \mathbf{y}_t + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t$$

**selection matrix**  $\mathbf{M}_t \in \{0, 1\}^{M \times N}$

$$\mathbf{z}_t := [z_{1t}, \dots, z_{Nt}]^\top, \mathbf{y}_t := [y_{1t}, \dots, y_{Mt}]^\top$$

- Rows of  $\mathbf{M}_t$  selected from  $\mathbf{I}_{N \times N}$

**Goal:** Impute misses and predict  $\mathbf{y}_t$  from selected node observations  $\mathbf{z}_t$

**Motivating application:** Estimate network delays

# Graph-regularized dictionary learning approach

□ Generalizes low-rank based matrix completion that cannot predict!

□ Adopt and learn basis and expansion coefficients ( $\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{s}_t$ )

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{B}: \{\|\mathbf{b}_q\|_2 \leq 1\}_{q=1}^Q} \sum_{t=1}^T \left[ \|\mathbf{z}_t - \mathbf{M}_t \mathbf{B} \mathbf{s}_t\|_2^2 + \lambda_s \|\mathbf{s}_t\|_1 + \lambda_w \mathbf{s}_t^\top \mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{L} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{s}_t \right]$$

*Dictionary:*  $N \times Q$ 
*Sparse coefficients*
*Graph Laplacian*

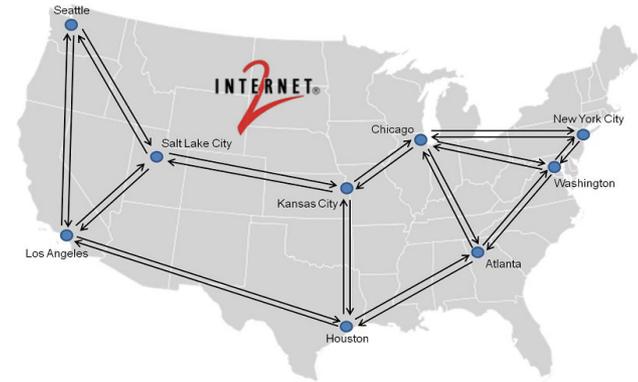
*Smoothness over graph*

➤ With adjacency matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , graph Laplacian  $\mathbf{L} := \text{Diag}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{1}_N) - \mathbf{A}$

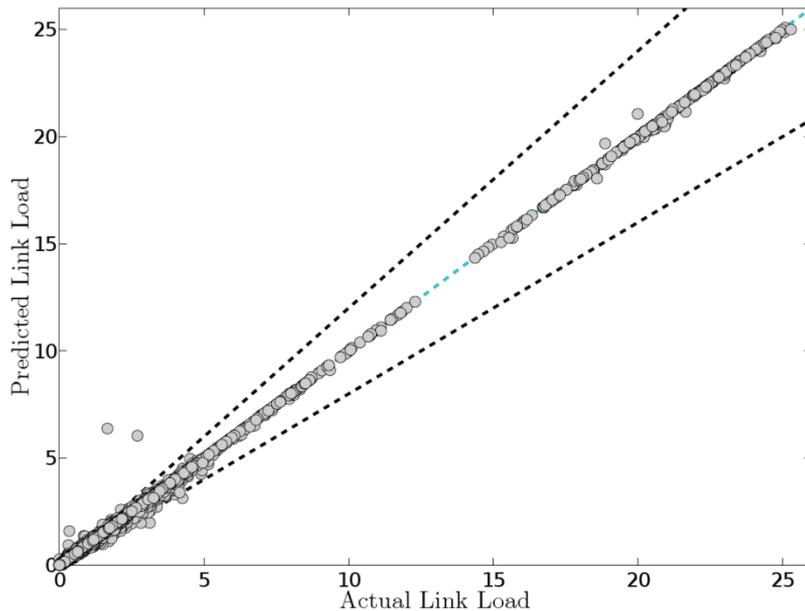
$$\mathbf{s}_t^\top \mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{L} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{s}_t = (1/2) \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} (y_{it} - y_{jt})^2 \quad \text{promotes smoothness}$$

# Test case: Internet2

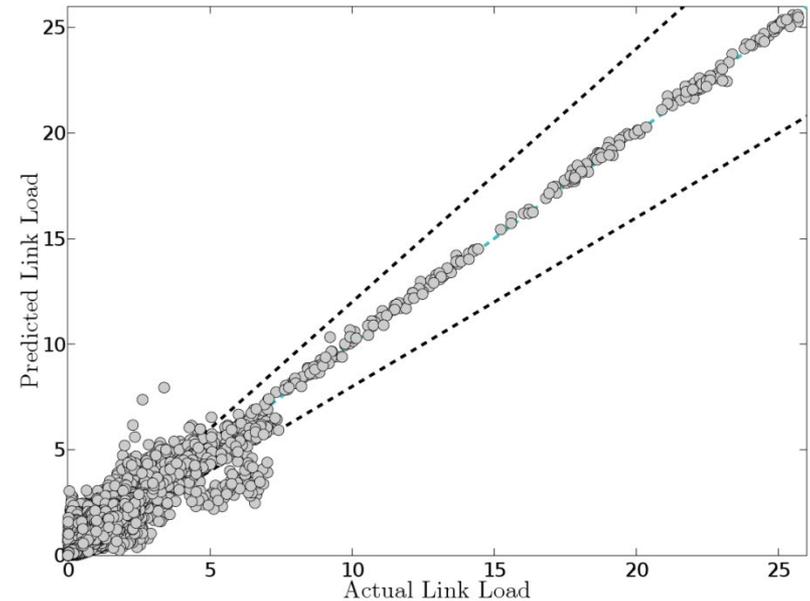
- Link count measurements:  $L=54$ ,  $T=2,000$   
(other features possible, e.g., delays)



Training phase – 30 links measured



Operational phase – 30 links predicted



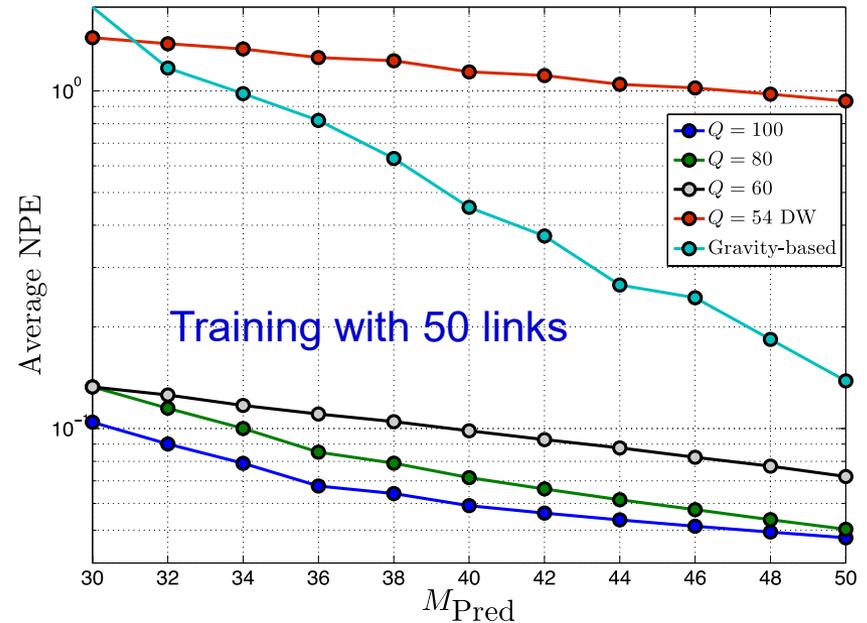
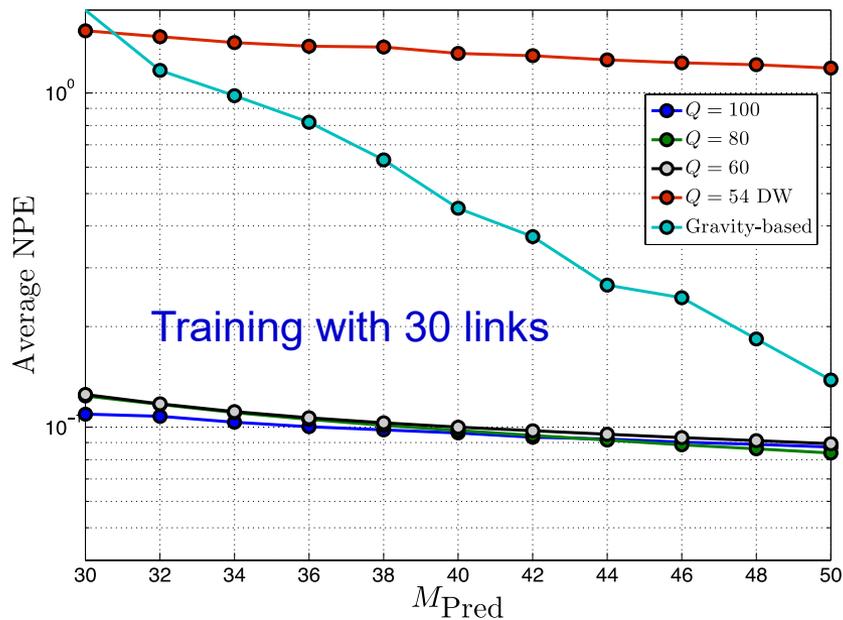
- Prediction improves as link load increases

# Performance comparisons

Normalized prediction error: 
$$\text{NPE} := \frac{1}{Lt_0} \sum_{\tau=1}^{t_0} \|\mathbf{y}_\tau - \hat{\mathbf{y}}_\tau\|_2^2$$

➤  $Q$  = number of columns of  $\mathbf{B}$ ;  $t_0=2,000$

Gravity-based [Zhang et al'05]; Diffusion wavelets [Coifman-Maggioni'07]

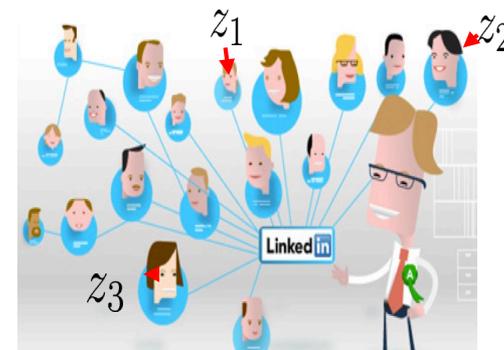


Graph-regularized DL with semi-supervised predictor outperforms alternatives

# Graph-adaptive kernel-based interpolation

$$\mathbf{z}_t = \mathbf{M}_t \mathbf{y}_t + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t$$

$$\mathbf{M}_t \in \{0, 1\}^{M \times N}$$
$$M < N$$



**Goal:** Given  $\mathbf{z}_t$ ,  $\mathbf{M}_t$ , and  $\mathcal{G}_t$ , estimate  $\mathbf{y}_t$

□ **RKHS model:**  $\mathbf{y}_t \in \mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{K}_t}$  iff  $\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{K}_t \boldsymbol{\alpha}_t$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}_t \in \mathbb{R}^N$

➤ Graph-dependent symmetric  $\mathbf{K}_t \geq \mathbf{0}$

➤ **Ex.** Laplacian ( $\mathbf{L}_t$ ) family  $\mathbf{K}_t := r^{-1}(\mathbf{L}_t)$

□ Kernel ridge regression (KRR) [Smola-Kondor '03]

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}}_t = \arg \min_{\mathbf{y}} \frac{1}{M} \|\mathbf{z}_t - \mathbf{M}_t \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 + \mu \|\mathbf{y}\|_{\mathbf{K}_t}^2$$
$$= \mathbf{K}_t \mathbf{M}_t^T (\mathbf{M}_t \mathbf{K}_t \mathbf{M}_t^T + \mu M \mathbf{I}_M)^{-1} \mathbf{z}_t$$

$$\|\mathbf{y}\|_{\mathbf{K}_t}^2 := \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{K}_t^{-1} \mathbf{y}$$

# Spatio-temporal processes on graphs

$$\mathbf{z}_t = \mathbf{M}_t \mathbf{y}_t + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t$$

- **Superimposed state model** for e.g., packet delays, stock values, temperature, ...

$$\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{y}_t^{(\nu)} + \mathbf{y}_t^{(\chi)}, \quad \mathbf{y}_t^{(\chi)} = \mathbf{A}_{t,t-1} \mathbf{y}_{t-1}^{(\chi)} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_t, \quad t = 1, 2, \dots$$

- Spatial  $\mathbf{y}_t^{(\nu)}$  temporally uncorrelated ('fast' dynamics across slots)
- Spatio-temporal  $\mathbf{y}_t^{(\chi)}$  VARM ('slow' dynamics; trend)

- **Space-time kriging ridge regression (KRR)**

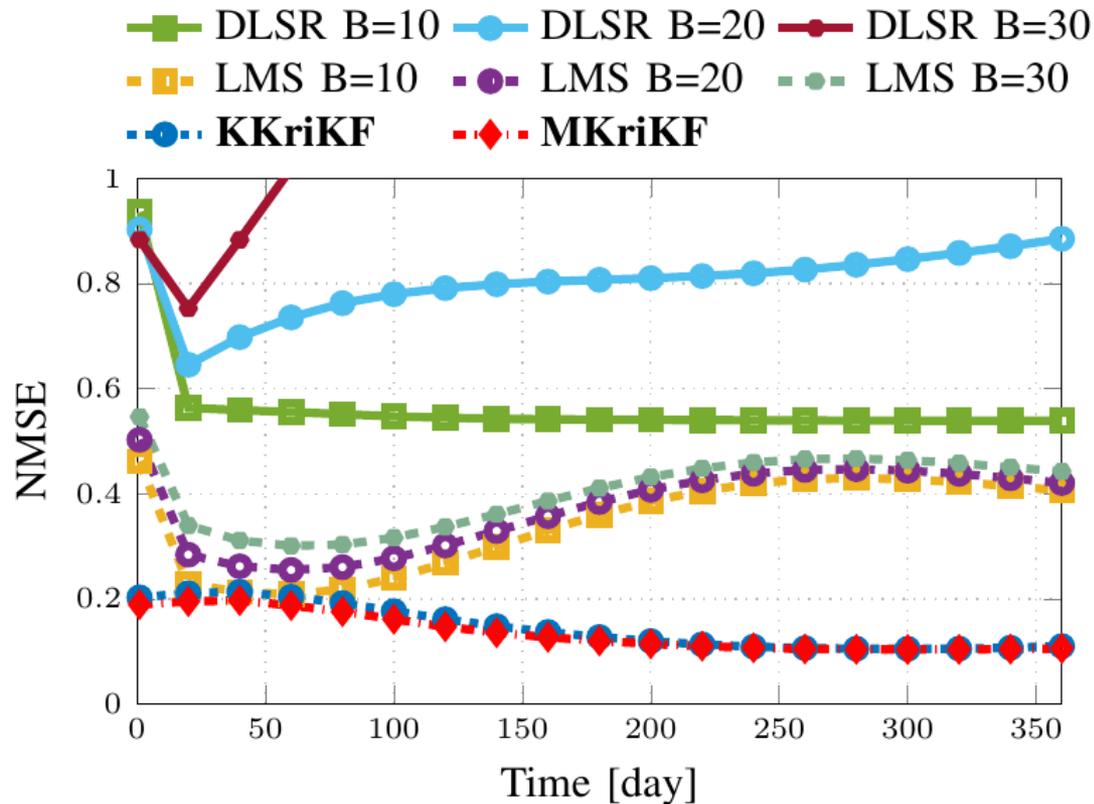
$$\begin{aligned} \arg \min_{\{\mathbf{y}_{t'}^{(\chi)}, \mathbf{y}_{t'}^{(\nu)}\}_{t'=1}^t} & \sum_{t'=1}^t \frac{1}{M_{t'}} \|\mathbf{z}_{t'} - \mathbf{M}_{t'} \mathbf{y}_{t'}^{(\chi)} - \mathbf{M}_{t'} \mathbf{y}_{t'}^{(\nu)}\|_2^2 + \mu_1 \sum_{t'=1}^t \|\mathbf{y}_{t'}^{(\chi)} - \mathbf{A}_{t',t'-1} \mathbf{y}_{t'-1}^{(\chi)}\|_{\mathbf{K}_{t'}^{(\chi)}}^2 \\ & + \mu_2 \sum_{t'=1}^t \|\mathbf{y}_{t'}^{(\nu)}\|_{\mathbf{K}_{t'}^{(\nu)}}^2 \end{aligned}$$

**Result.** KeKriKF produces the sequence of filtered  $\{\hat{\mathbf{y}}_{t'|t'}^{(\chi)}, \hat{\mathbf{y}}_{t'|t'}^{(\nu)}\}_{t'=1}^t$

# Temperature reconstruction



- Temperature sensor network  $N=109$ 
  - Compare reconstruction NMSE per day

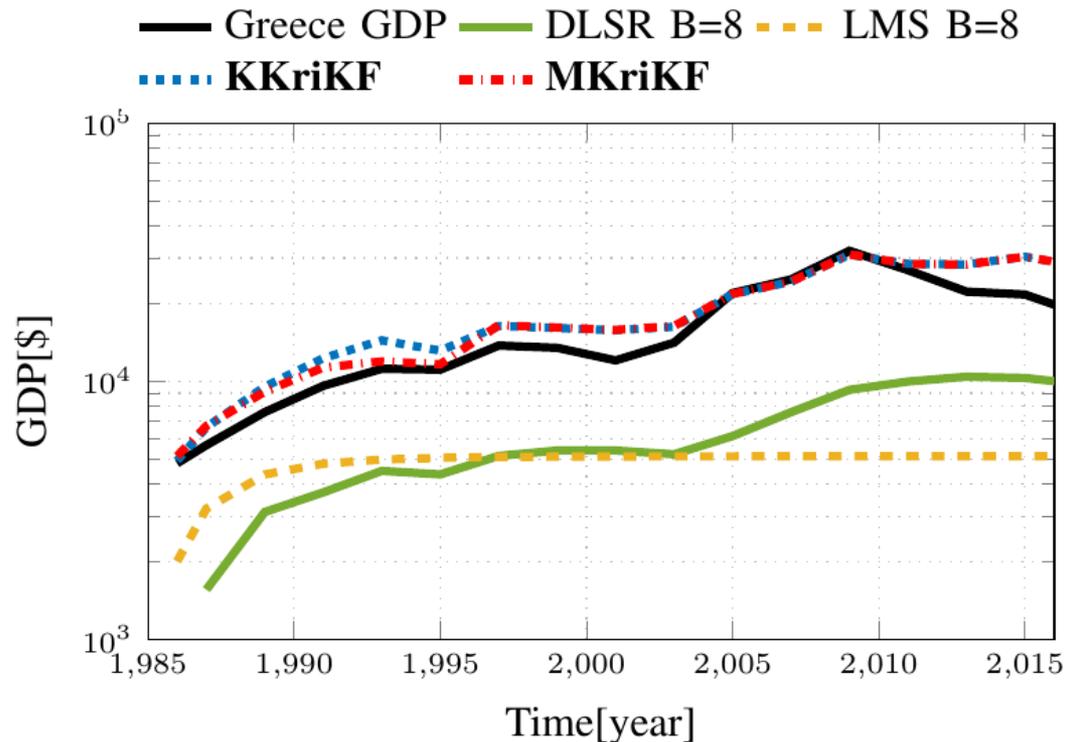


# GDP prediction



□ Financial network between  $N=127$  countries

➤ Track gross domestic product (GDP) at an unobserved country



# Joint ID of topologies and signals on graphs

**Q:** What if topology unknown and just a subset of data available due to privacy/large-scale ?

□ Linear SEM:  $\mathbf{y}_l = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}_l + \boldsymbol{\eta}_l$       □ Measurements:  $\mathbf{z}_l = \underbrace{\mathbf{M}_l}_{M_l \times N} \mathbf{y}_l + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_l$   $l = 1, \dots, L$

**Goal:** Given  $\{\mathbf{z}_l, \mathbf{M}_l\}_{l=1}^L$ , identify  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\{\mathbf{y}_l\}_{l=1}^L$

□ Joint inference of signals and (directed) graphs (**JISG**)

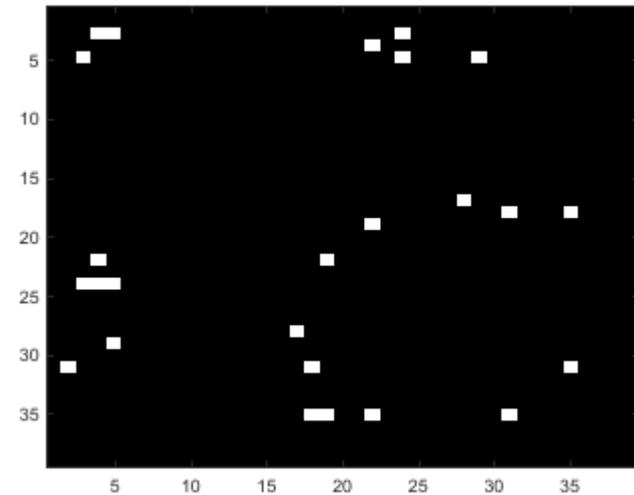
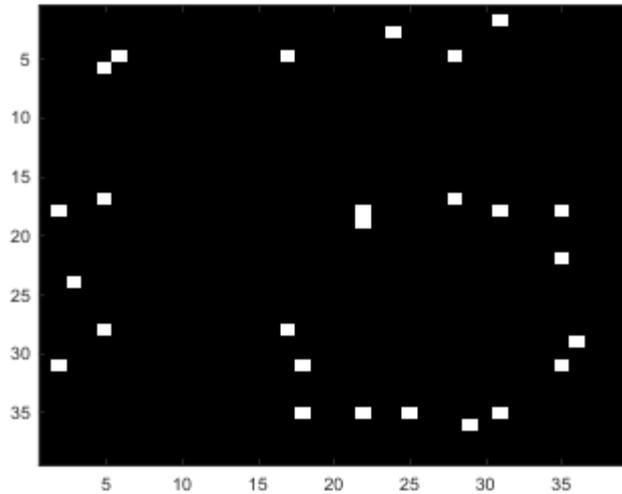
$$\min_{\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{A}, \{\mathbf{y}_l\}_{l=1}^L} \sum_{l=1}^L \|\mathbf{y}_l - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}_l\|_2^2 + \sum_{l=1}^L \|\mathbf{z}_l - \mathbf{M}_l \mathbf{y}_l\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{A}\|_1 + \lambda_2 \|\mathbf{A}\|_F^2$$

□ BCD/ADMM solver: Guaranteed convergence at reduced complexity (separable per  $l$ )

□ Generalizable to nonlinear SEM; multi-layer; and dynamic signals and graphs

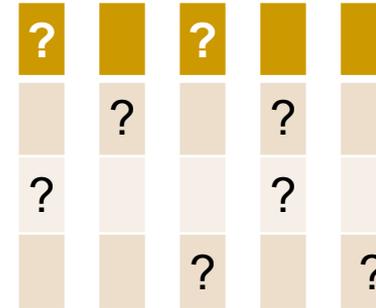
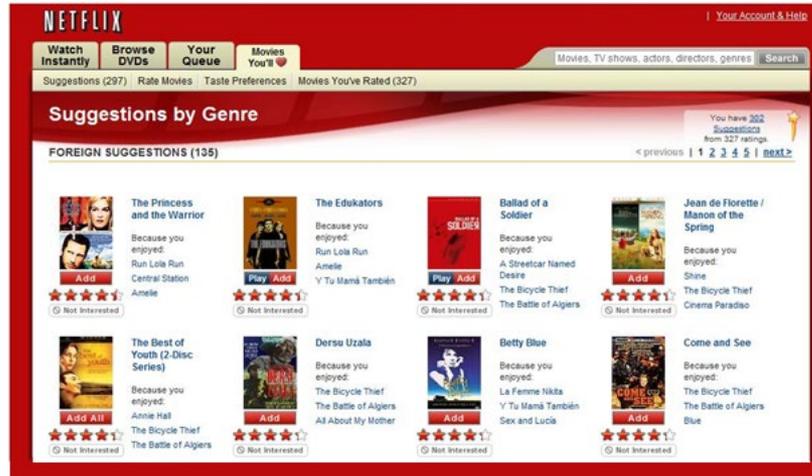
# Testing JISG on gene-regulatory networks

- $N=39$  immune-related genes;  $L=69$  unrelated individuals;  $y$ : gene expression level
- SEM oracle observes all genes  $M=39$  (left); **JISG** with  $M=31$  (right)  $M_l = M, \forall l$



- NMSE for  $\{\hat{y}_l\}_{l=1}^L = 0.017$
- JISG-based recovery similar to that of the oracle

# Top-N recommender systems and SLIM



**Goal:** Given subset of user-item ratings, rank `N-best` candidates of unavailable ratings

□ Sparse linear model (SLIM) of ratings: SEM followed by interpolation and ranking

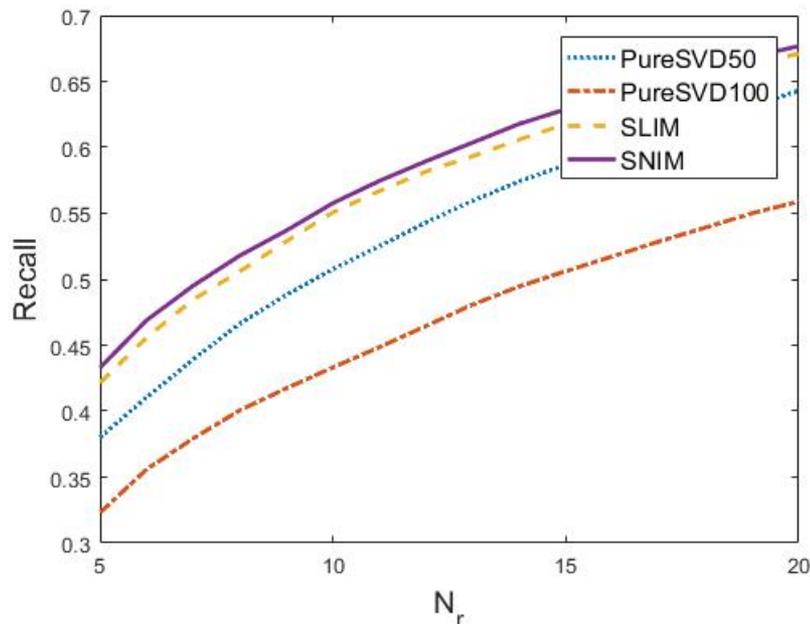
Topology ID via SEM: 
$$\min_{\{a_{ii'}\}} \left\| \mathbf{r}_i - \sum_{i'} a_{ii'} \mathbf{r}_{i'} \right\|_2^2 + \lambda \sum_{i'} |a_{ii'}|$$
 Interpolate and rank: 
$$\hat{r}_{ui} = \sum_{i'} a_{ii'} r_{ui'}$$

s.t.  $a_{ii} = 0, \quad a_{ii'} \geq 0 \quad \forall i'$ .

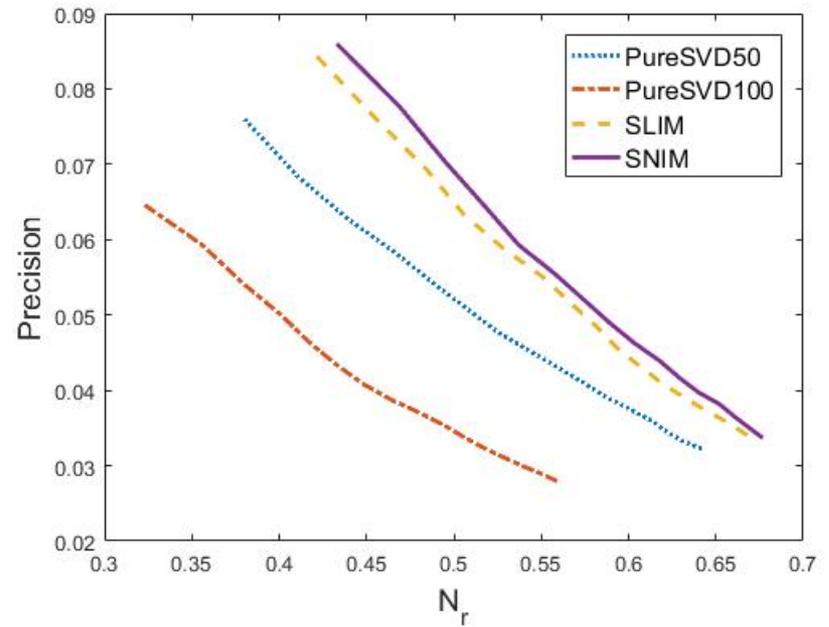
**Our idea:** Instead of SLIM, employ sparse nonlinear SVARM with  $L=0$  (SNIM)

# Movielens dataset

- 3,706 users; 6,040 movies; and 1M ratings
  - **Training set:** 97% randomly sampled ratings; **Probe set:** All 5 star ratings in testing set
  - # hits: number of ratings in probe set that also appear in the recommendation list



$$\text{recall}(N_r) = \# \text{hits} / \# \text{probe}$$



$$\text{precision}(N_r) = \text{recall}(N_r) / N_r$$

- Here SNIM outperforms SLIM by a slim margin

# Current research and outlook

## □ **Topology identification** – a “deterministic” RKHS-based approach

- Directed and linear multi-layer graphs are allowed with identifiability guarantees
- Nonlinear dependencies accommodated through multi-kernel regression
- Slow-varying and switching dynamics can be afforded

## □ **Learning of processes on graphs**

- Interpolation and extrapolation from partially-observed processes on graphs
- Topology can be known or unknown
- Kernel Kriged Kalman Filtering for inference of dynamic processes

## □ **Ongoing research and future directions**

- Graph-adaptive dimensionality reduction/manifold learning
- Tracking and identifiability of nonlinear and dynamic topologies
- RKHS-principled multi-kernel learning vis-à-vis DNNs



***Thank you!***