NEMO

EC-project in 6th FP

Network Models, Governance and R&D collaboration networks

Some research images

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NEMO: EC project

NEMO is a three-year project (2006-2009) supported by the New and Emerging Science and Technology programme of the sixth Framework Programme of the European Commission.

NEMO studies ways to optimize the structure of R&D collaboration networks for creating, transferring and distributing knowledge.

The Mathematical Physics department of the University of Bielefeld (Prof. Philippe Blanchard), Germany, is involved in work package 2 "Structure and dynamics of complex random graphs and associated processes".

I currently continue with similar work in the IRU.

Following are images from 5 years of (pre-)NEMO research ...

Network analysis

... studies and compares databases with respect to connectivity ...

NEMO Bipartite Network
from Organisations
and Projects
in CORDIS database
(FP = Framework Programme)

then
Organisations-Projection
(connect when common project)

then SNA
= (Social) Network Analysis
with standard measures

graph characteristic	FP1	FP2	FP3	FP4
# vertices: N	2500	6135	9615	20873
(N for larg. comp.)	(2038)	(5875)	(8920)	(20130)
N outside larg.comp.	462	260	695	743
# edges: M	9557	64300	113693	199965
(# edges M larg.comp.)	(9410)	(64162)	(113219)	(199182)
mean degree: $\bar{d}$	7.65	20.96	23.65	19.16
($\bar{d}$ larg.comp.)	(9.23)	(21.84)	(25.39)	(19.79)
maximal degree: $d_{\max}$	140	386	648	649
mean triangles per vertex: $\triangle$	22.90	169.70	244.91	146.04
($\triangle$ larg.comp.)	(27.97)	177.16	263.84	151.26
maximal triangle-number	966	5295	15128	10730
cluster coefficient: $\bar{C}$	0.57	0.72	0.72	0.79
($\bar{C}$ larg. comp.)	(0.67)	(0.74)	(0.75)	(0.81)
number of components	369	183	455	467
diameter of largest component	9	7	9	10
mean path length: λ of l.c.	3.70	3.27	3.32	3.59
exponent of degree distribution	-2.1	-2.0	-2.0	-2.1
variance of degree exponent	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
exponent of org-size distr.	-2.1	-1.9	-1.7	-1.8
variance of size exponent	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.3
mean # projects per org: $\mathbb{E}(\lvert O \rvert)$	2.40	4. 87	5.6	6.24
maximal size ($\max \lvert O \rvert$)	130	82	138	172

TABLE II: Basic network properties of FP1–4 organizations projection.

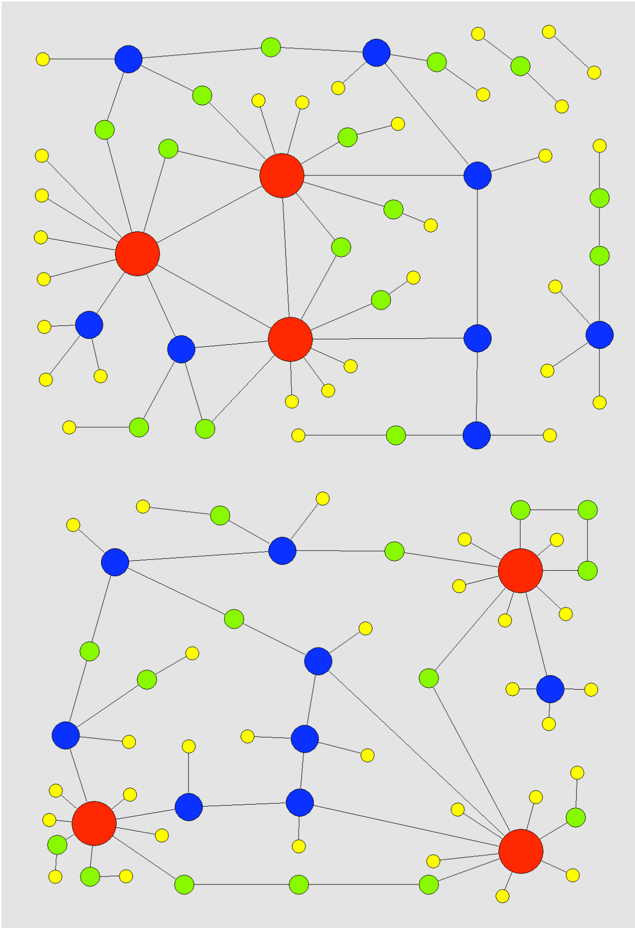
Synthetic Networks

… create random networks to identify which measurements are essential …

"degree" of a network node
= number of neighbors

Networks with identical degree distributions can have very different degree correlations.

We compared the NEMO empirical networks with differently generated synthetic random networks.



Communication Index

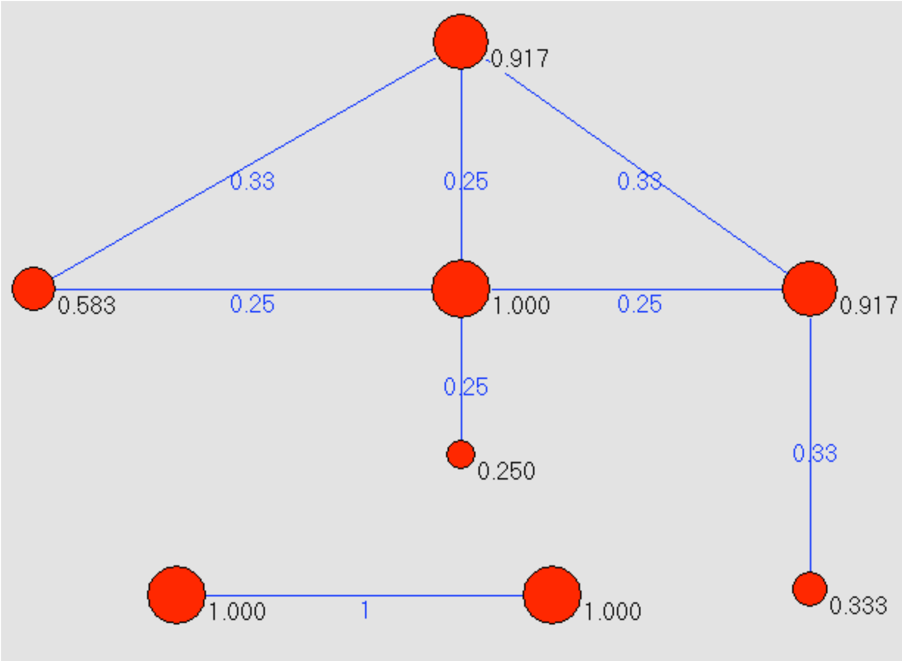
… some networks are balanced better with respect to communication …

Our new network measure is a proxy to estimate the communication saturation of nodes in networks

communication edge weight (blue) = $min(\frac{1}{\deg(x)}, \frac{1}{\deg(y)})$

node-sum (black)
= sum of all edge weights
around one node

mean value (of all black numbers)
in this example network:
0.75 = "communication index" of the network



GEP Knowledge Diffusion Model

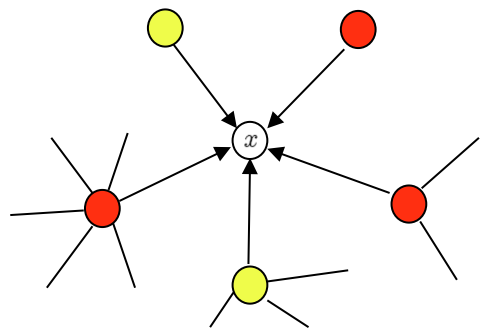
… a complex infection model which "lives and breathes" on such networks …

$\omega(x, t)$ in [0,1]
= node x is knowing / not-knowing at time t

Local infection:

$\Omega(x, t)$ = number of infected neighbours

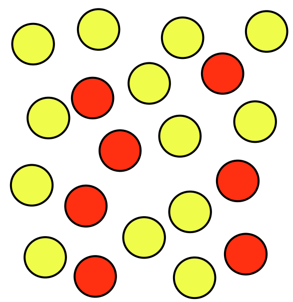
$$= \sum_{y \sim x} \omega(y,t)$$



Mean-field infection:

b_t = total prevalence of knowing nodes at time t

$$b_t = \frac{1}{|V|} \sum_{y \in V} \omega(y,t)$$



7 / 20 = 0.35

GEP: Generalized Epidemic Process

... we studied corruption epidemics with it – and now knowledge diffusion ...

Several competing and resonating processes:

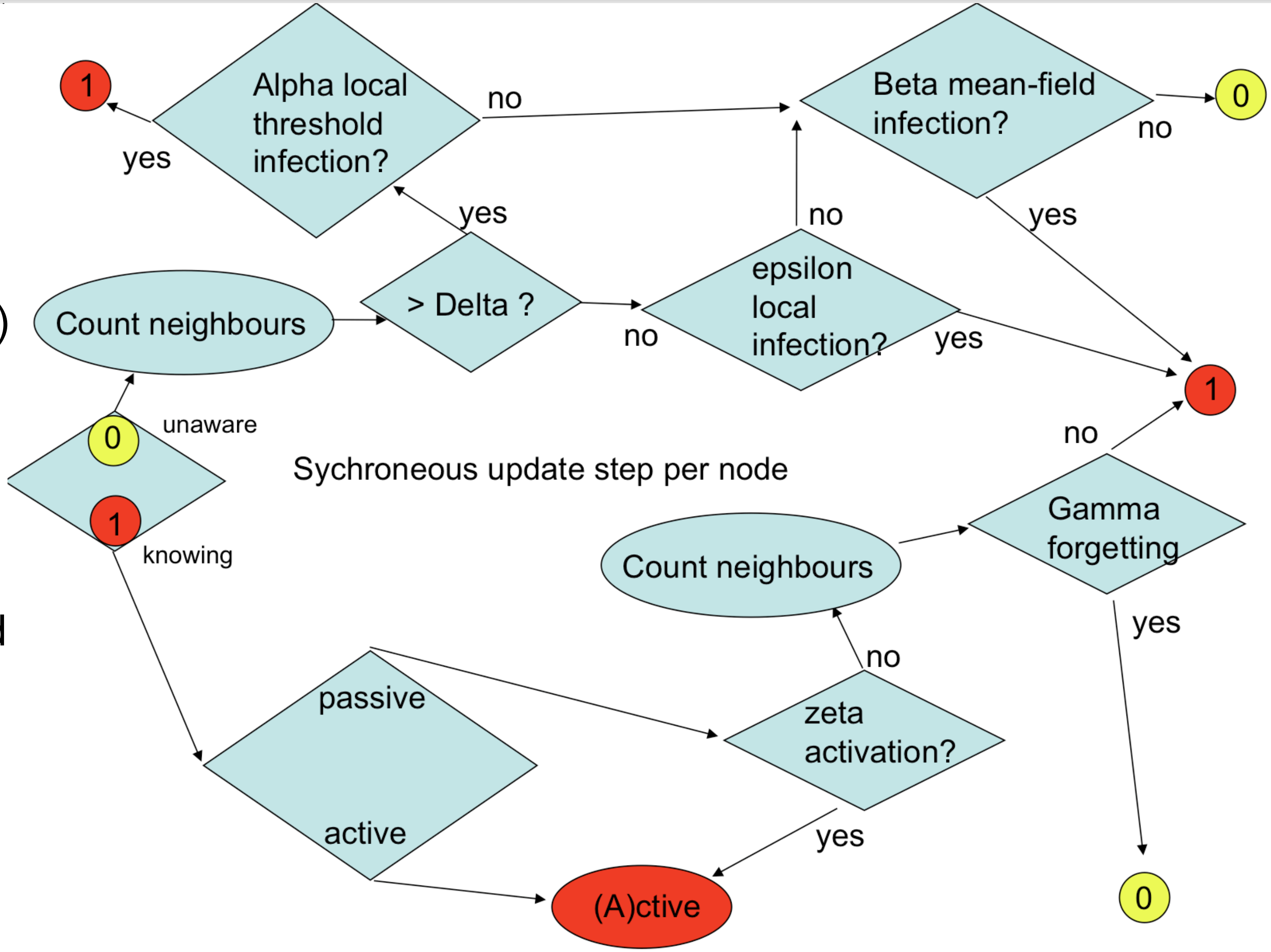
- local infection:
  - classical epidemics (like a flu)
  - **threshold epidemics** **if $\Omega(x, t) \geq \Delta$**
- mean-field infection (e.g. by mass media)
- passive and active knowledge
  - passive knowledge can become active knowledge
  - active knowledge cannot be forgotten

Initial infection:

"seed group" of interconnected nodes

Simplified example of rules

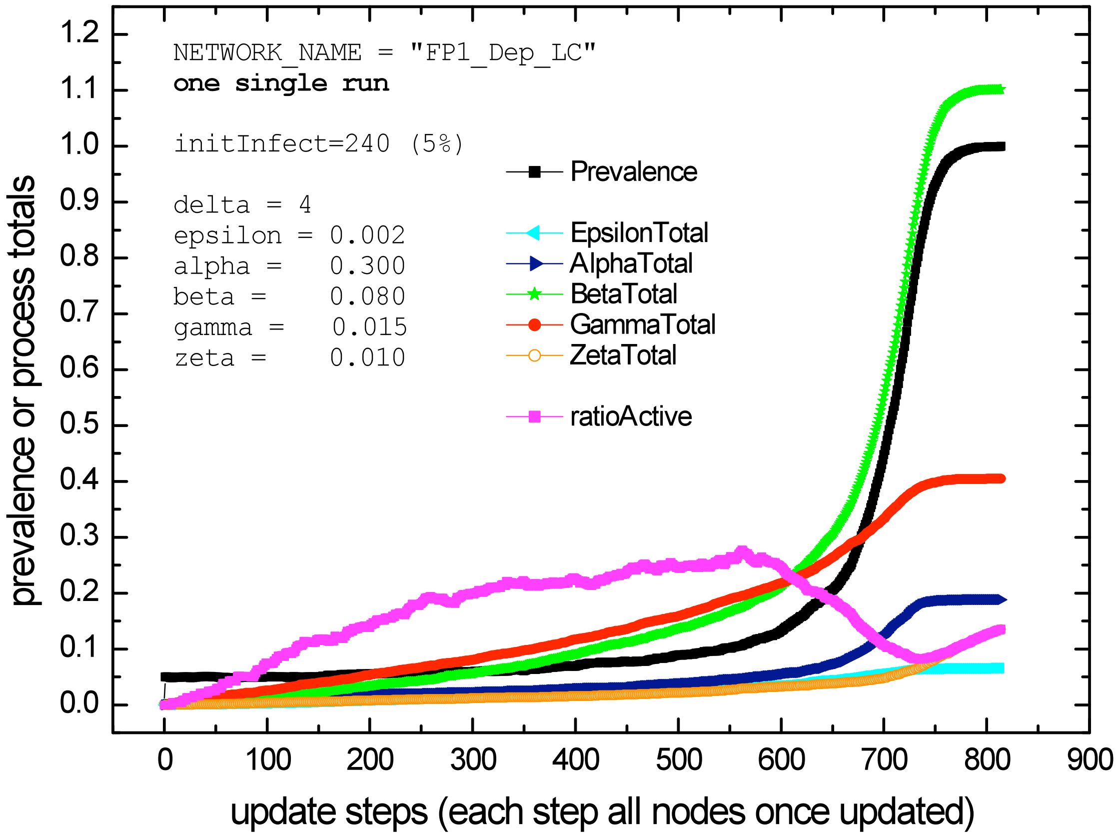
- done for each node
- synchronous update (no path dependence)
- runs until stagnation
  (nothing happens anymore)
- intermediate and
- end results are stored
- studied: dependence on initial infection



GEP single run example

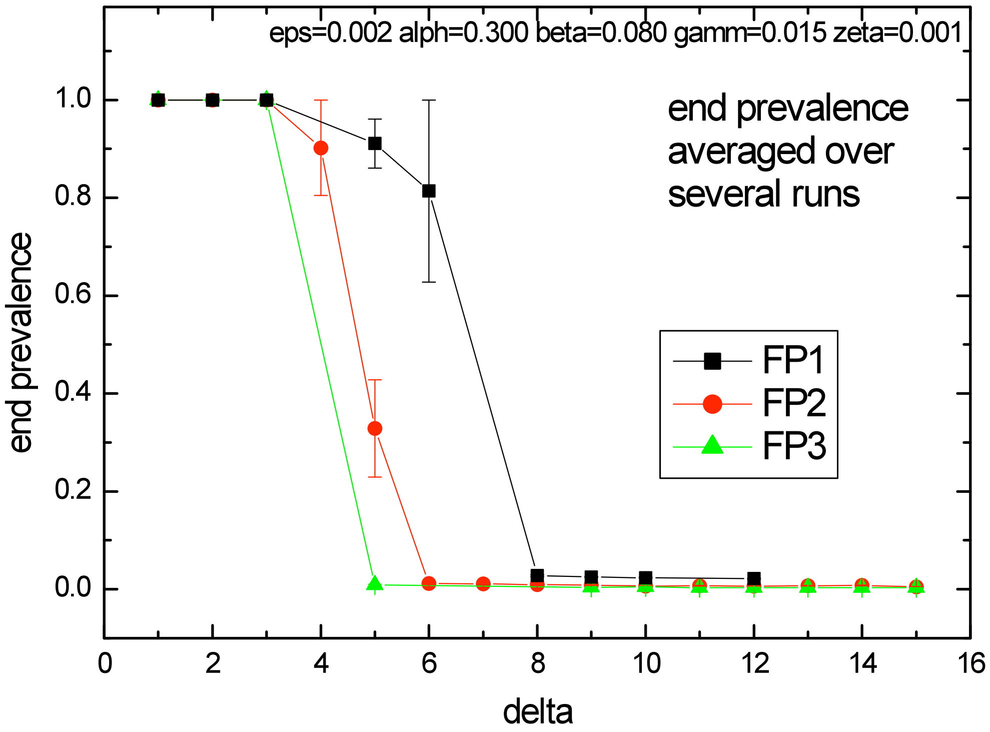
… in a single run we observe how one knowledge spreads once …

From 5% initial infection into 100% stagnation within 800 time steps …



GEP analysis example

… a new way of looking at the NEMO networks – permeability for processes …



"Delta Δ" is the threshold of infected neighbors above which I am strongly susceptible to the (new) knowledge.

"End prevalence" is the average outcome of a single infection run.

Contact us

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