

# Power Grids as Network Dynamical Systems

## Theoretical Challenges & Applications

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in collaboration with Dirk Witthaut, Martin Rohden, Andreas Sorge et al.



**Network Dynamics**

Max Planck Institute for Dynamics & Self-Organization

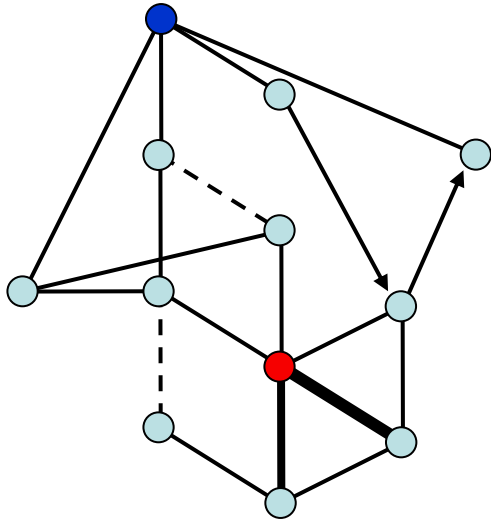


Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience, Göttingen



Georg August University, Göttingen

# Networks are everywhere - most are dynamic



**Nodes** interacting with other **nodes**



Social Network:

Neural Circuit:

Gene Network:

Traffic Network:

Computer Network:

Economic Network:

Power Grid:

...

**Person A** is friend with **person B**

**Neuron A** sends signal to **neuron B**

**Protein A** activates **gene B**

**Airport A** offers flights to **airport B**

**Server A** interacts with **host B**

**Stock A** rises/falls with **stock B**

**Power plant** influences **consumer B**

...

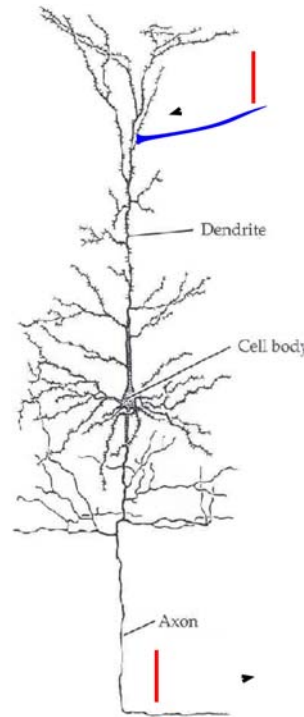
**All essential for everyday life!**

# Self-organized dynamics in networks

## Biological Networks

$(10^{-3} - 10^{10} s; 10^{-5} - 10^{-1} m)$

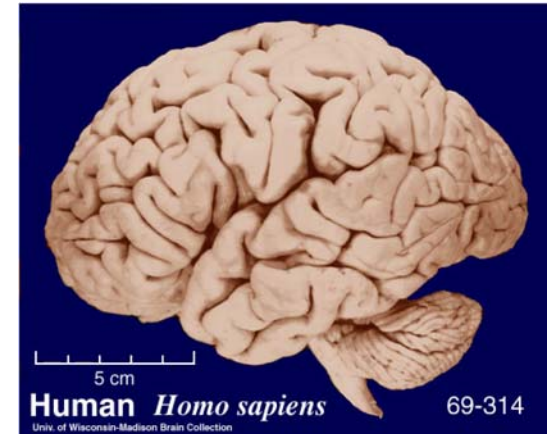
- Neurons & neural circuits
- Horizontal gene transfer & evolutionary networks
- information transfer in biological networks



## Networks of physical & artificial units

$(10^{-2} - 10^{10} s; 10^{-9} - 10^6 m)$

- Network growth & disordered media
- Modern power grids (mind the renewables!)
- Autonomous robots & network control



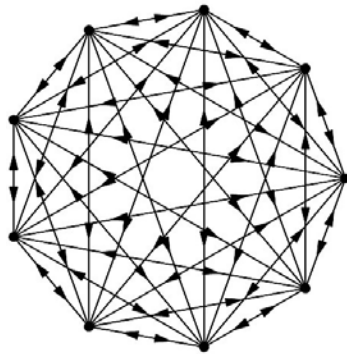
# Mathematical challenges for theory

Simultaneous occurrence of:

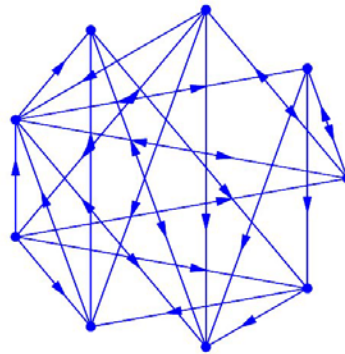
- **Nonlinearity**
- **High dimensionality**
- Complicated Network **Connectivity**
- Interaction **Delays**
- Strong **Heterogeneities**
- **Stochasticity**

common approach:

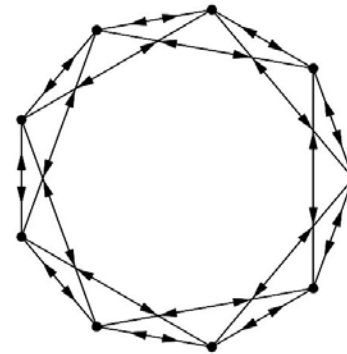
**Mean Field Theories, Statistical Description**, e.g. averaging over network



all-to-all  
(regular)



general  
(irregular)



local  
(regular)

**Mind the specifics (links, events, realizations, ...) !**

# Distributed collective grid dynamics ...



Local change



Nonlocal impact

## Stromausfall in Europa



Frankf. Allg. Zeitung,  
Nov 5, 2006

# ... far from fully understood

>> "In the past, these operations were often performed with no problems",

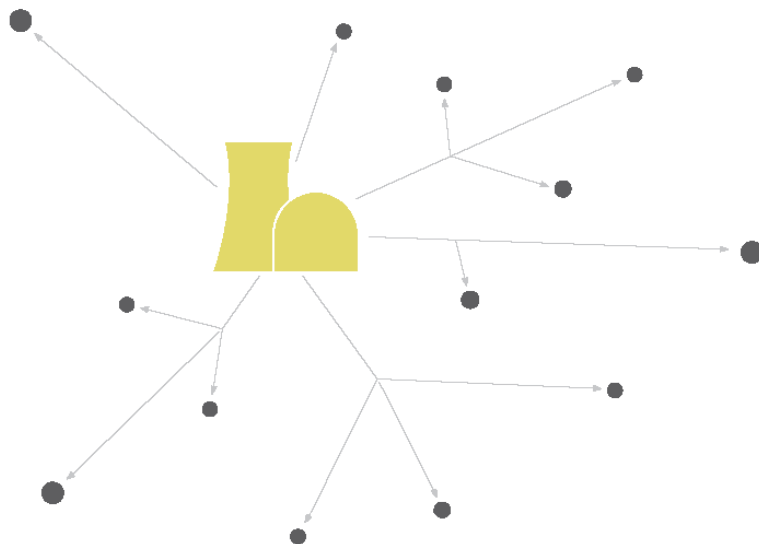
E.O.N. officials declared in great surprise << (*Softpedia*)

„We need more interconnections“

says A.Merlin of RTE, France's power-grid operator (*Bloomberg*)

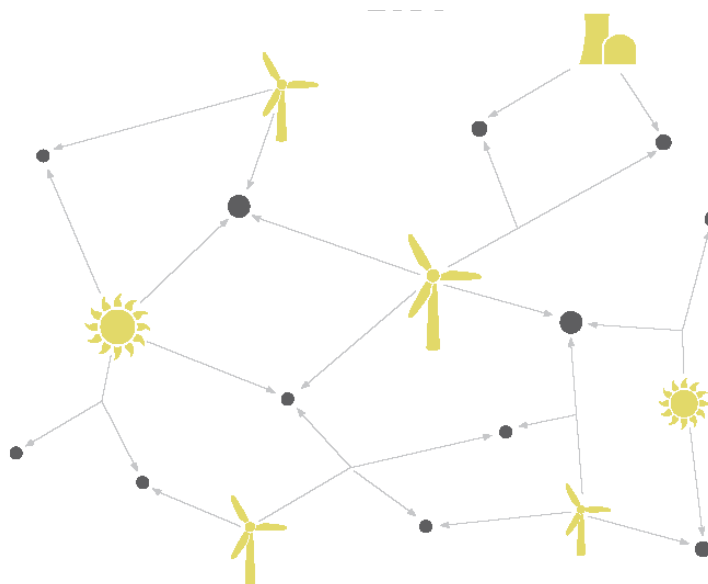
**Which factors determine  
the collective dynamics of power grids?**

# How does the grid self-organize dynamically?



2000

- largely centralized
- dominated by large sources
- almost central control



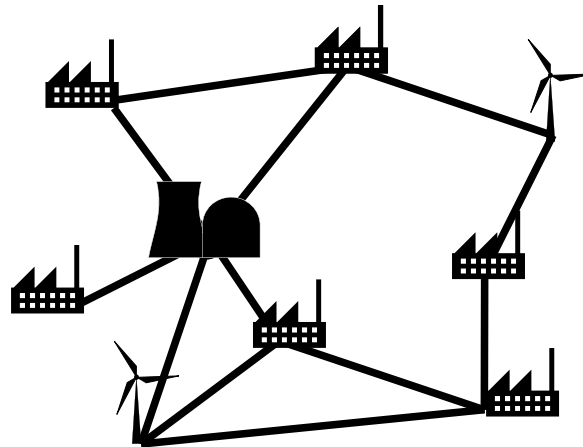
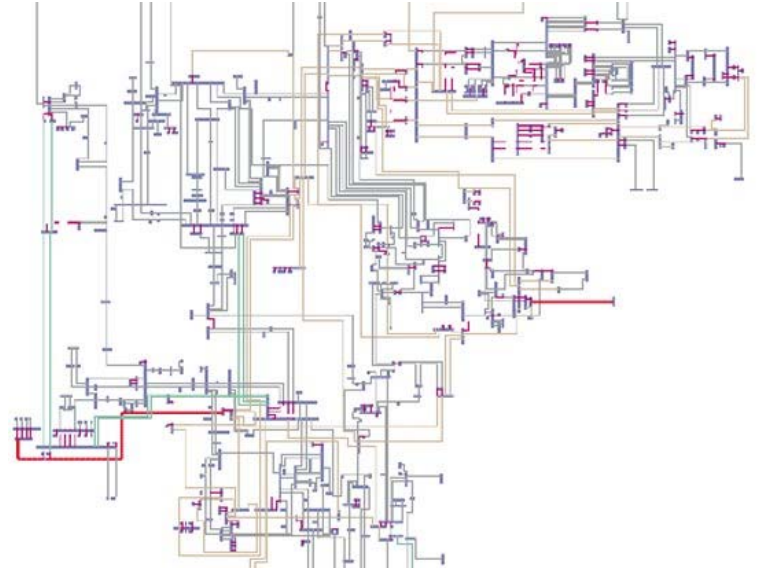
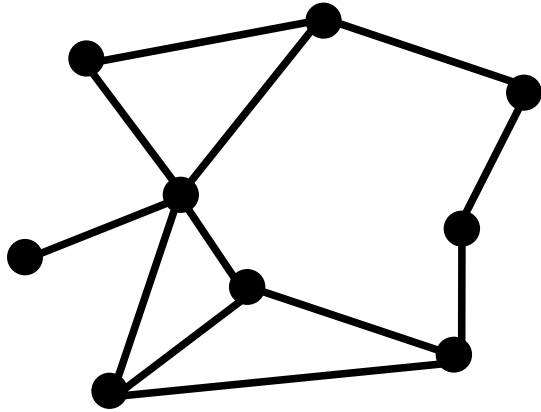
2050

- more distributed
- smaller sources
- less controllable

# Dynamic models between abstract and detailed

Abstract: homogeneous, statistic, quasi-static, large-scale

Detailed: heterogeneous, component-level, dynamic, small-scale

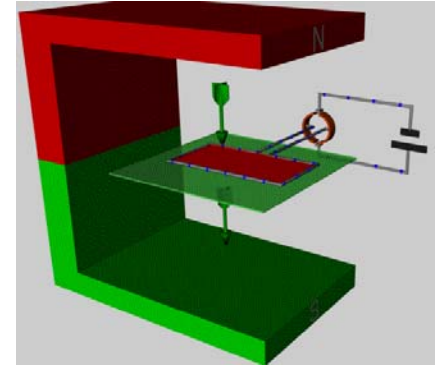
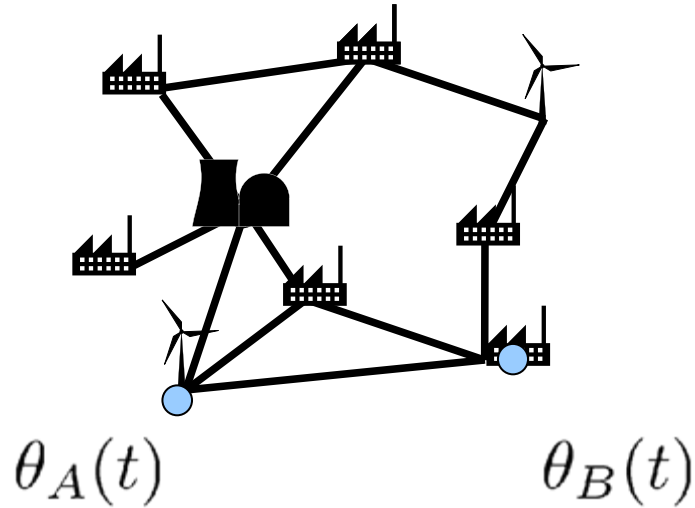
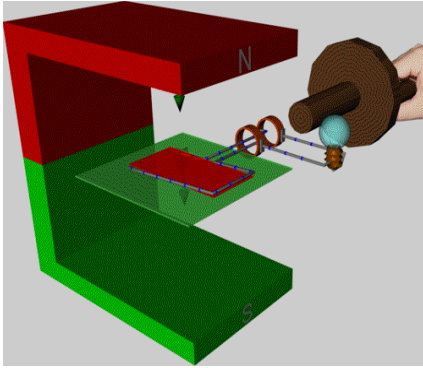


Oscillator model:

- heterogeneous
- coarse-grained
- dynamic
- large-scale



# Coarse, dynamic oscillator model of power grids



## Generator



## Motor



- $\theta(t)$  Phase at time  $t$
- $P$  input/output power
- $K$  Transmission capacity

# Dynamic oscillator model

$$\frac{d^2\phi_j}{dt^2} = P_j - \alpha \frac{d\phi_j}{dt} + \sum_{i=1}^N K_{ij} \sin(\phi_i - \phi_j)$$

$\phi_j(t)$  - phase deviation from base  $\Omega t$ ,  $\Omega = 2\pi 50\text{Hz}$

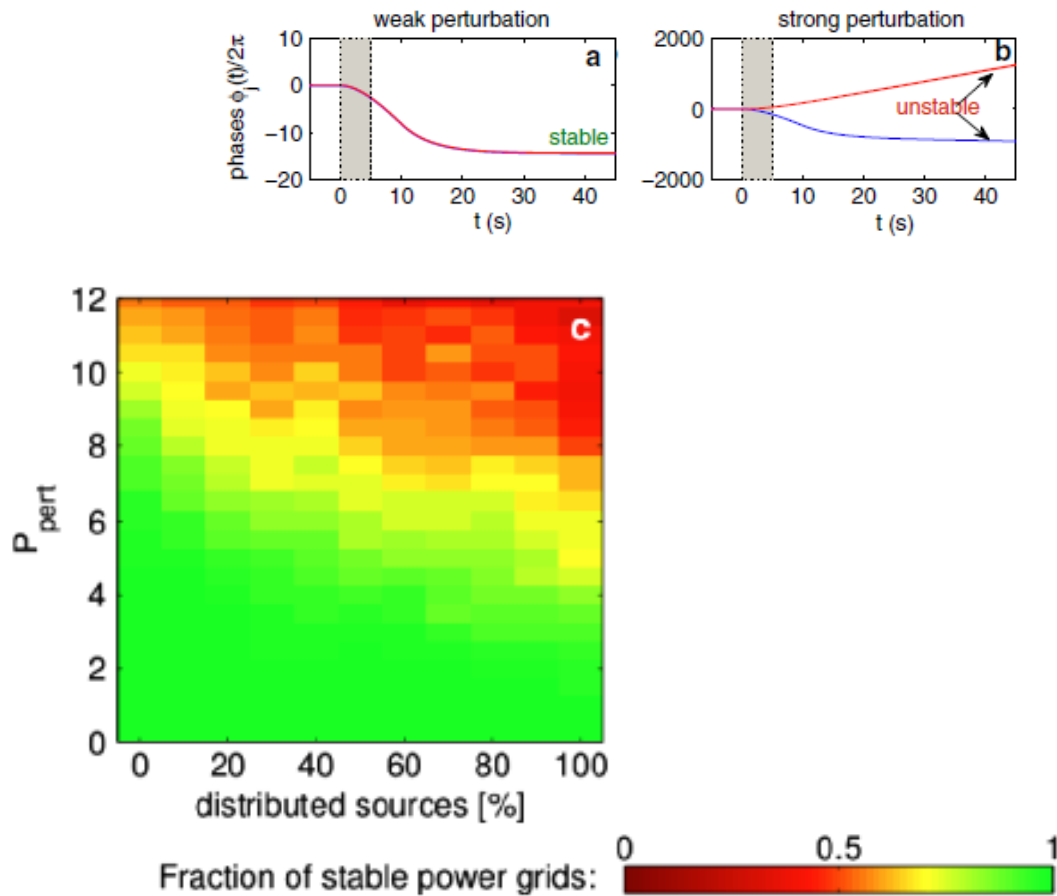
$\alpha$  - effective dissipation

$P_j$  - power consumed ( $< 0$ ) or generated ( $> 0$ )

$K_{ij}$  - Transmission capacity of line

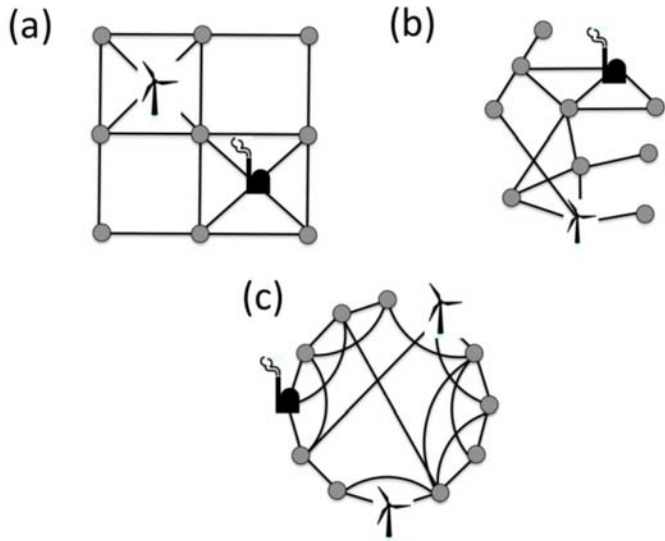
DEs derived from physics of synchr. machines in limit  $|\dot{\phi}_j| \ll \Omega$

# Part I: Decentralization (slightly) decreases stability

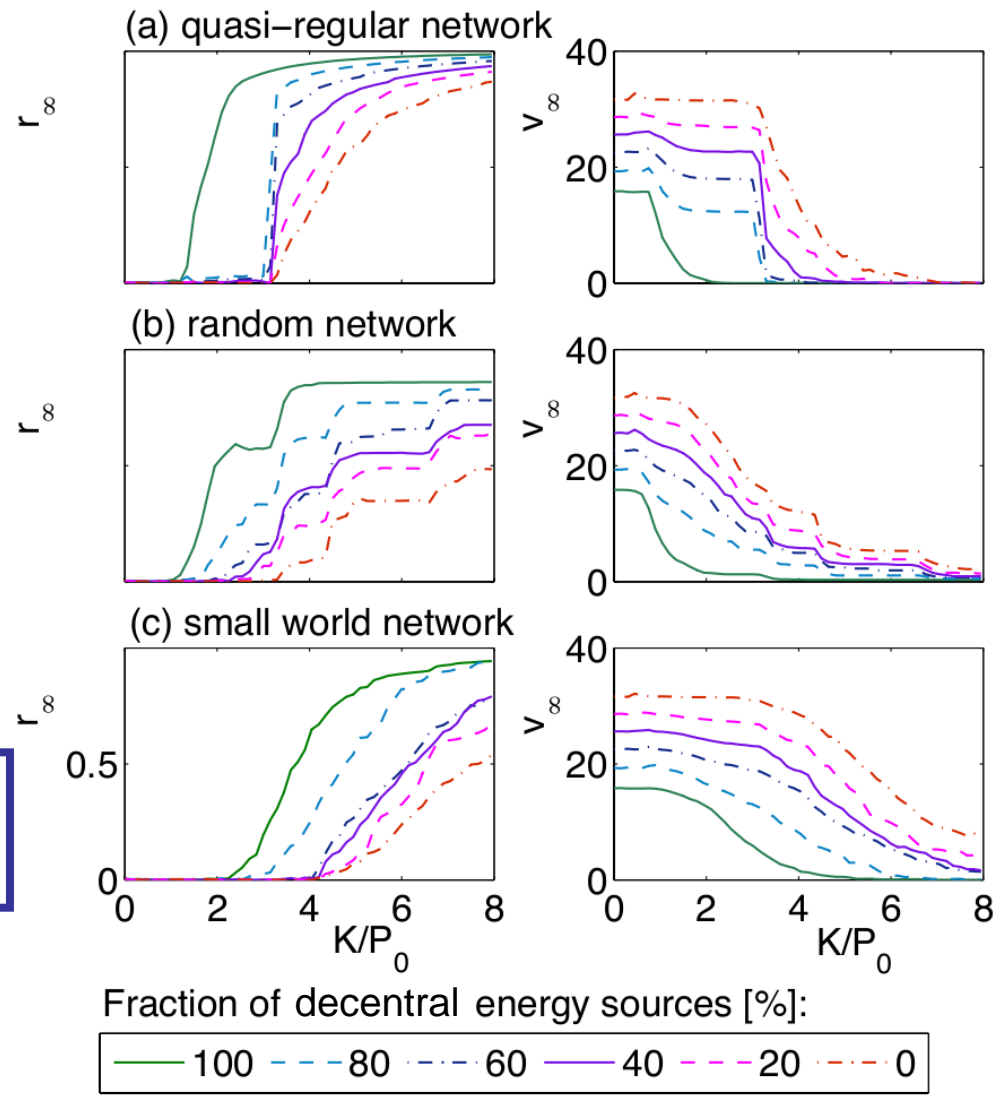


**Robustness to dynamical perturbations  
of same order of magnitude**

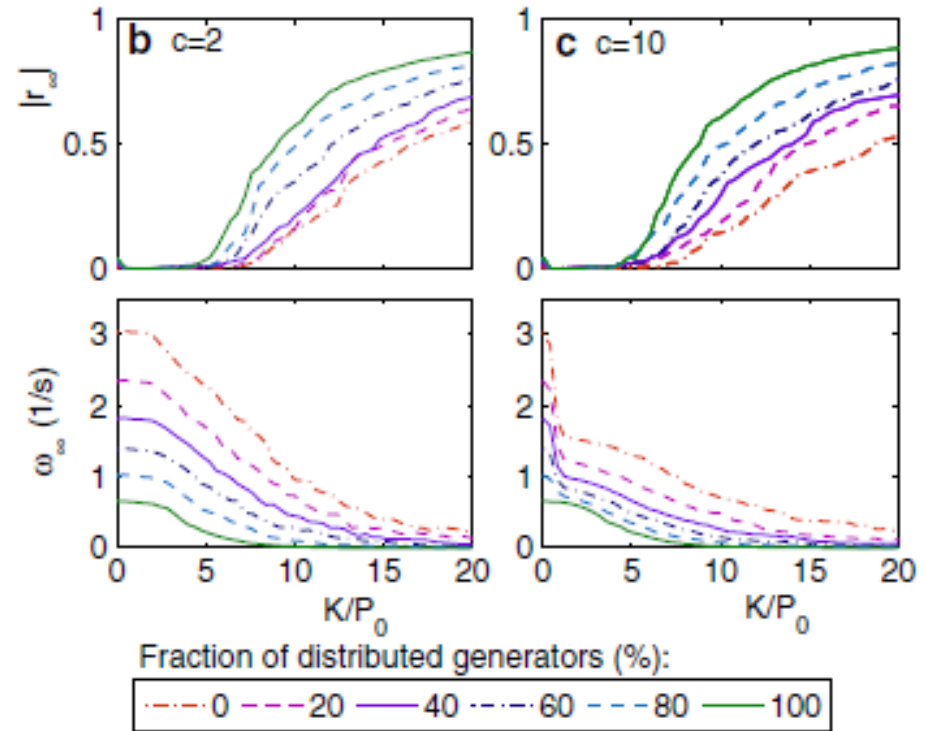
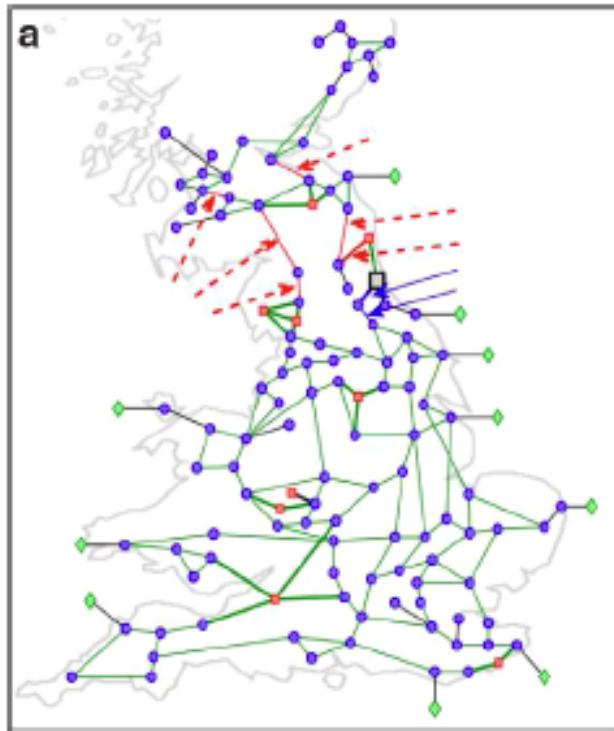
# Decentralizing increases structural robustness



**More & smaller sources  
 → larger stationary stability**



# ... for model topologies ... and for British grid



Decentralization decreases synchronization threshold

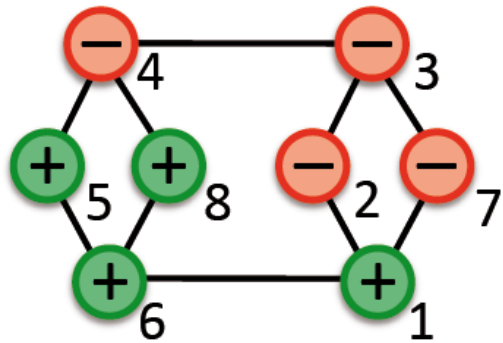
# Counteracting effects of decentralization

## Dezentralization

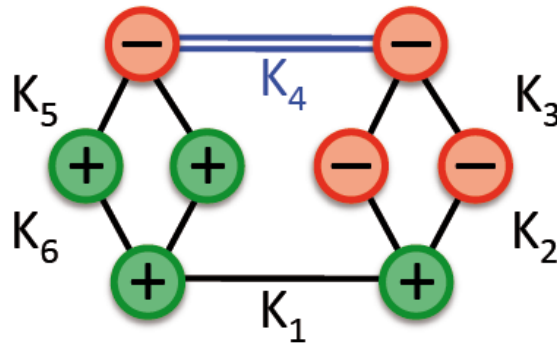
- **slightly deminishes** dynamic **stability** against instantaneous perturbations
- decreases synchronization threshold = **increases structural robustness**

# Part II: Braess' paradox: adding lines may cause failures

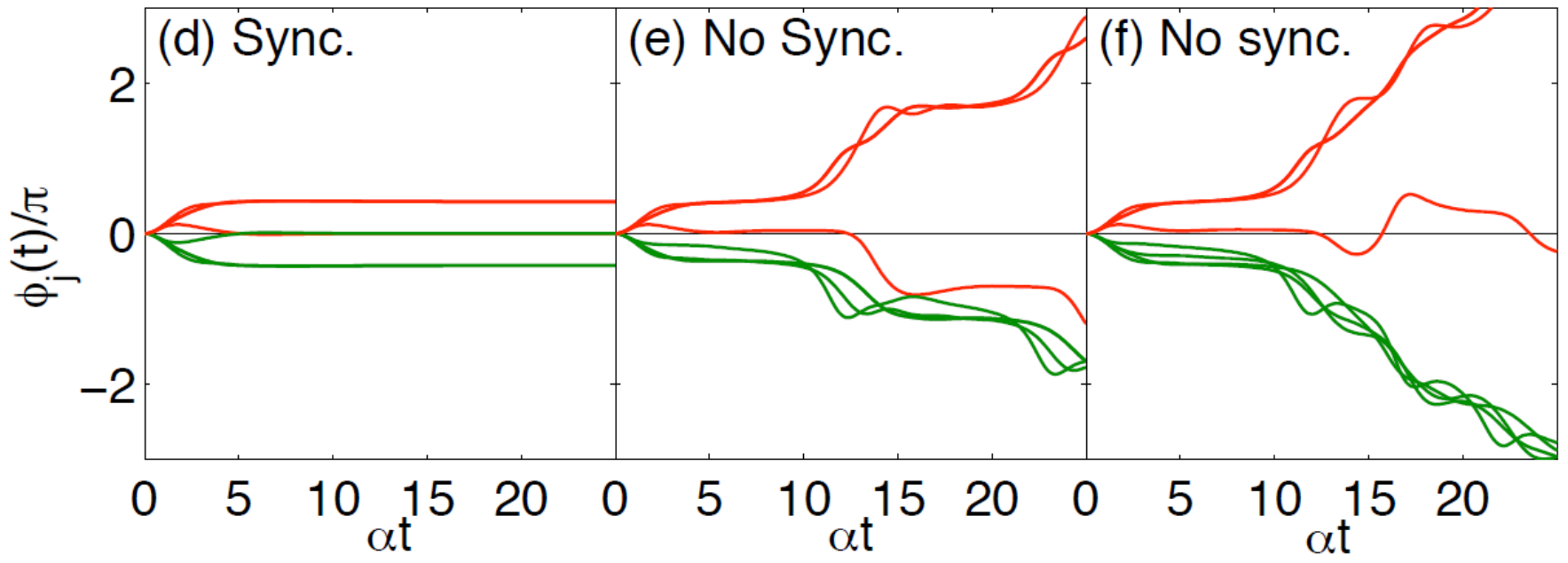
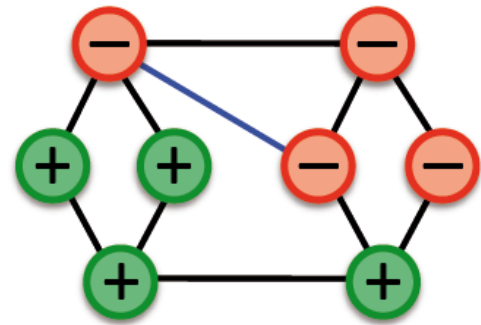
(a) Original configuration



(b) Add capacity

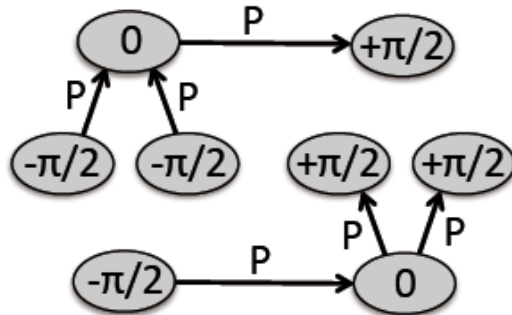


(c) Add line

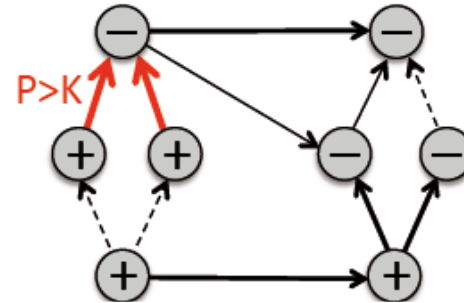


# Mechanism of Braess paradox: geometric frustration

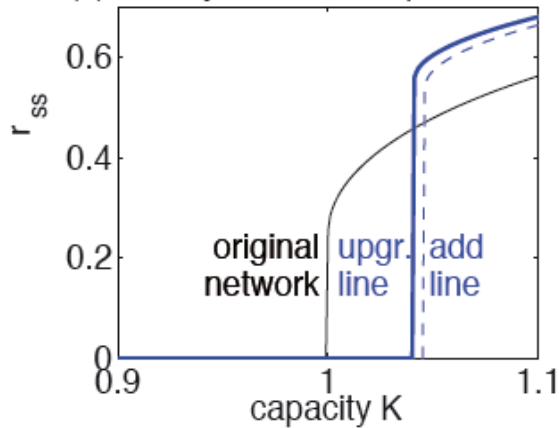
(a) Original network:  
Flows and phases at  $K_c$



(b) Adding a transmission line:  
Change of the energy flow



(c) Steady-state order parameter



$$\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{C}} (\phi_i - \phi_j) = 2\pi n, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

„geometric frustration“ → Additional capacity „breaks the balance“



# Geometric Frustration in Flow Networks

**Flow balance**  
at every node  $j$

$$P_j + \sum_{l=1}^N K_{j,l} S_{j,l} = 0$$

hyper-plane  
( $N=|V|$  eqns  
for  $M=|E|$  variables)

**No overload**  
at every edge  $(j,l)$

$$|S_{j,l}| \leq 1$$

hyper-polygon  
( $M$  inequalities)

Load relate to  
**phase differences**

$$\Delta_{j,l}^+ = \arcsin(S_{j,l})$$

$$\Delta_{j,l}^- = \pi - \arcsin(S_{j,l})$$

$2^M$  discrete points

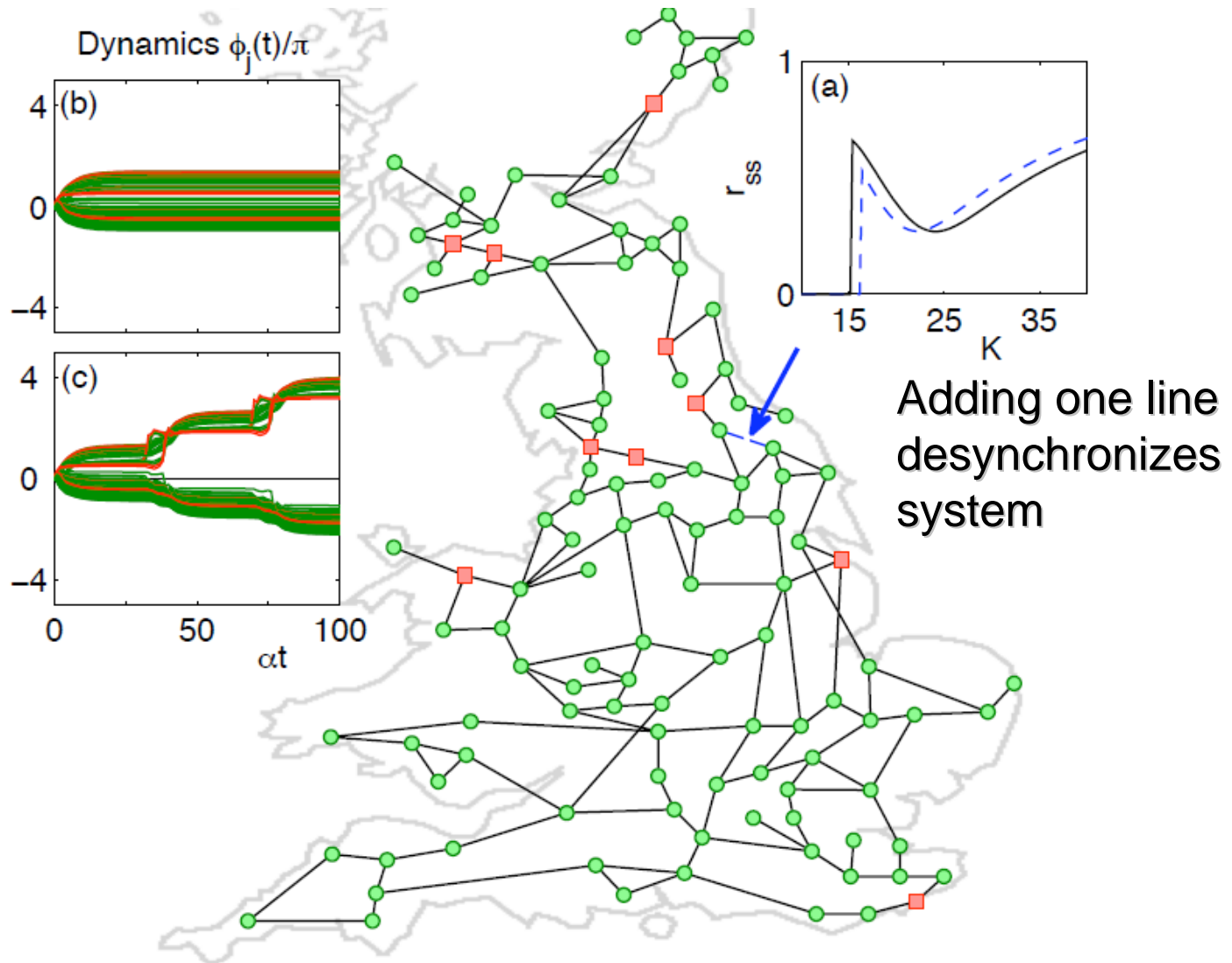
**Geom. constraints**  
(cycles in networks)

$$\sum_{\text{cycle}} \Delta_{j,\ell} = 0 \quad (\text{mod } 2\pi)$$

excludes certain combinations

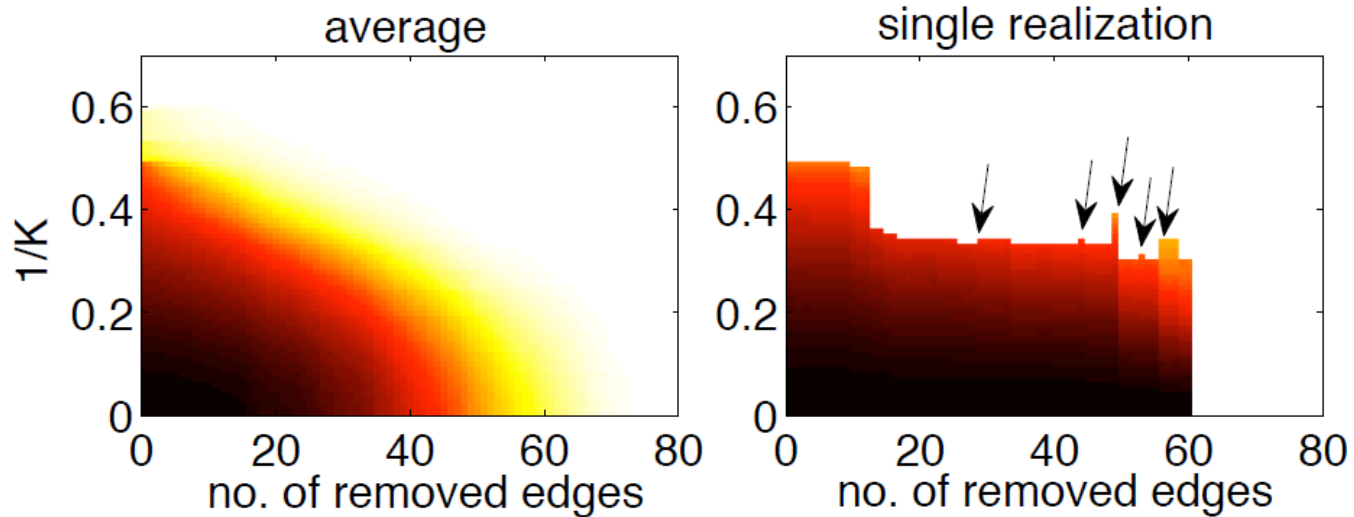
In addition: stability conditions

# Braess' paradox on real topology



# Braess' paradox prevails ...

e.g., small world networks:

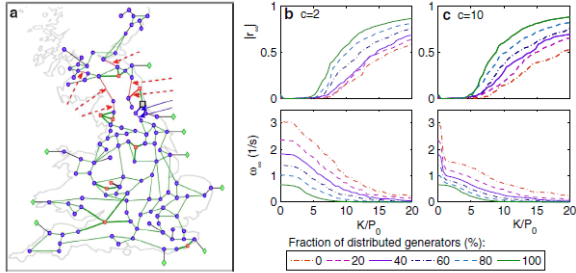


**... but not seen in „mean field“**

# Overview of Recent Advances ...

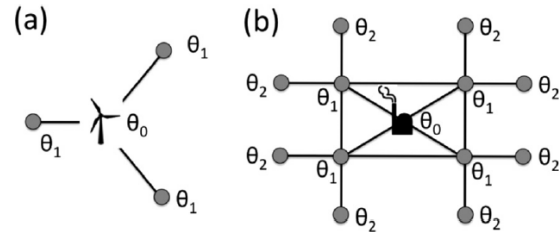
## Counter-acting impact of decentralization:

*Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2012) – Editorial Suggestion



## Motif-guided stability analysis

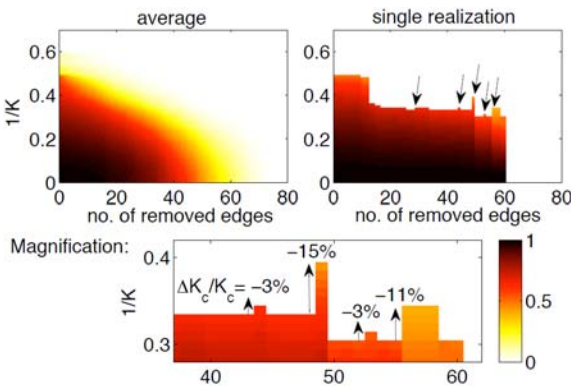
*Chaos* (2014);



## Braess' paradox

In flow networks with relevant **phase relations**

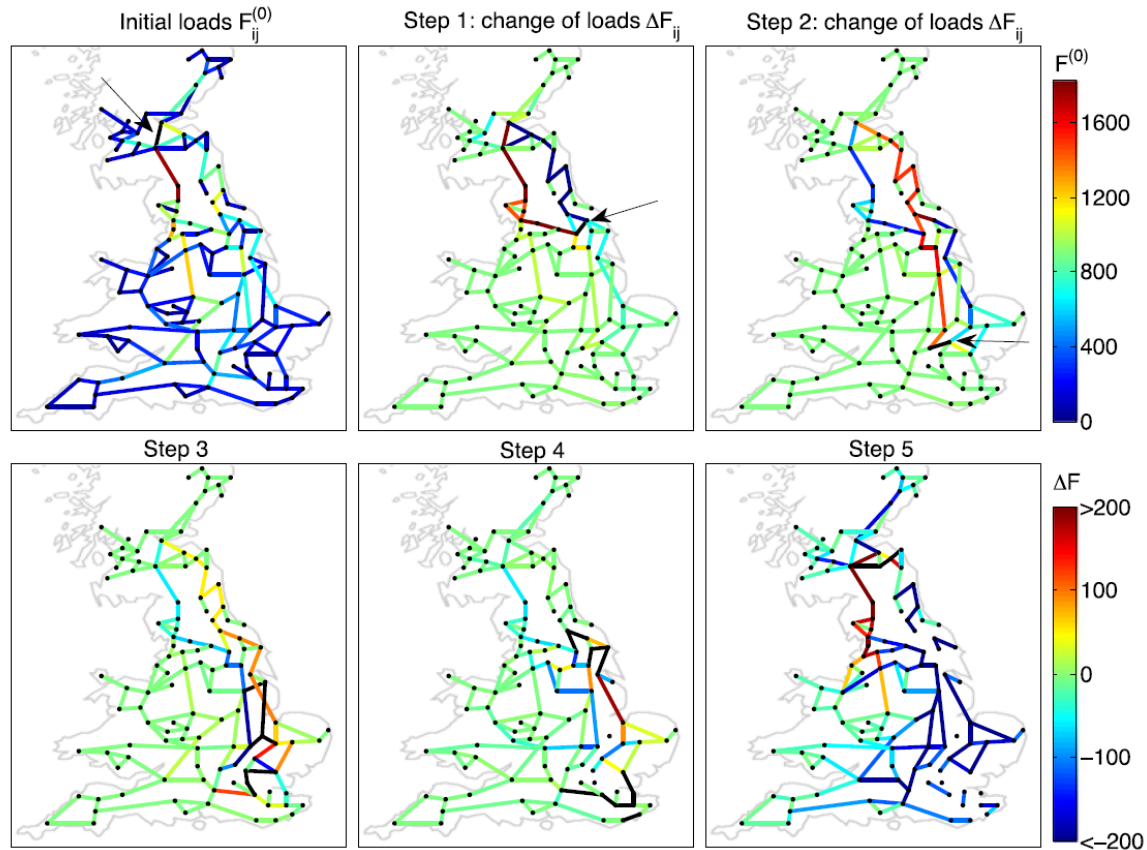
*New. J. Phys.* (2012);



# Current Directions I -- nonlocal failure propagation

Multiple feedbacks collectively induce nonlocal failures

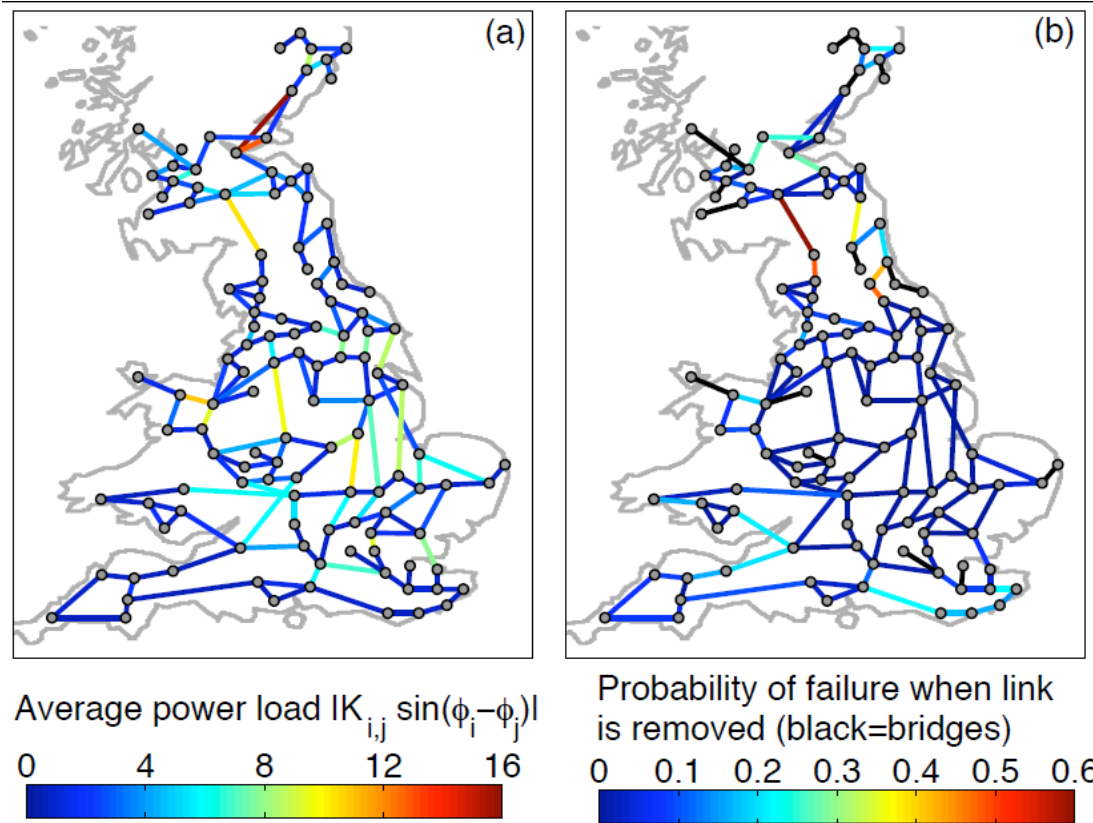
Eur. Phys. J. B (2013)



Mechanisms?

# Current Directions II – predicting critical edges prior to outage

Network redundancies complement loads



Optimal Prediction?

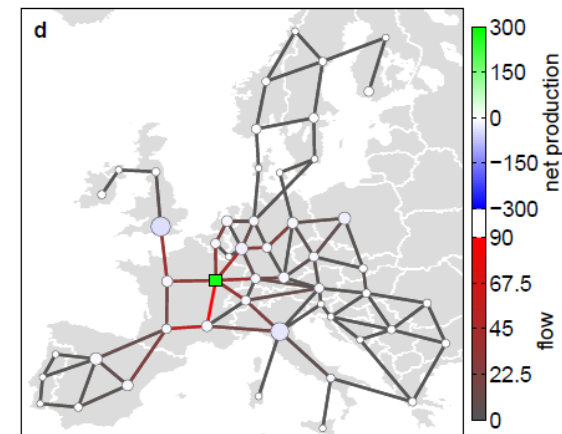
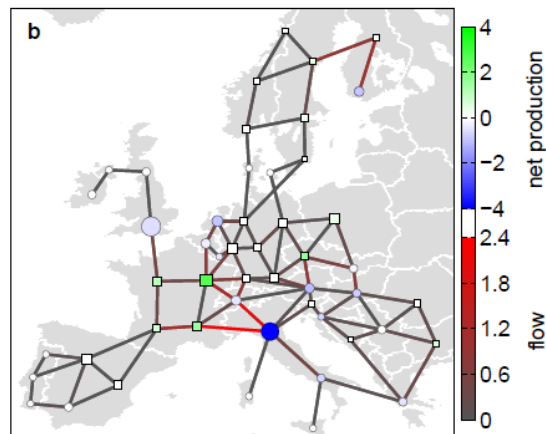
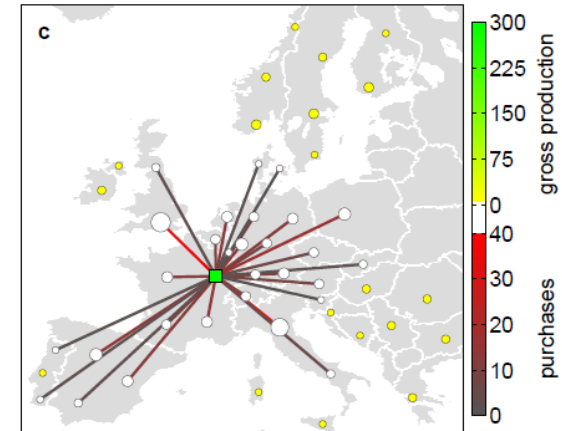
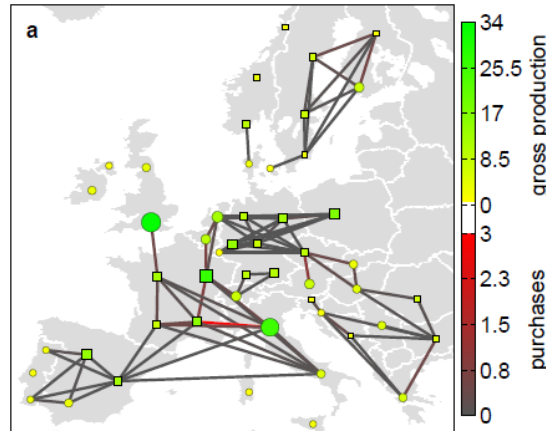
# Current Directions III -- coupling market networks to dynamics

**Trading Network**  
(who buys where  
& how much)

**Flow Network**  
(power distribution  
over the grid)

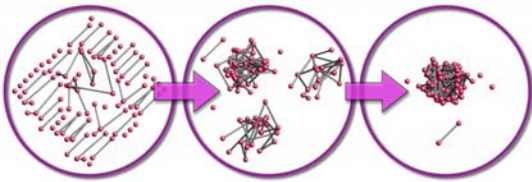
Decreasing returns  
Low transmission price

Increasing returns  
Low transmission price



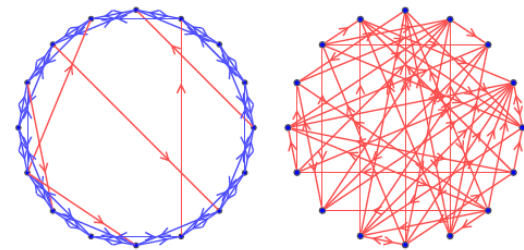
How to set up economic incentives?

# Recent Progress – Fundamentals



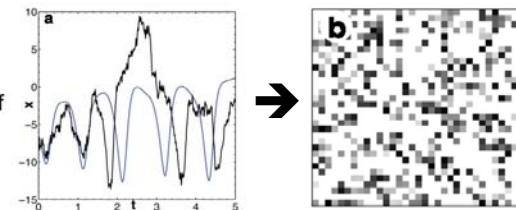
## Network Growth **single link matters!**

*Nature Phys.* (2011);



## Small World Networks

**structure:** Watts & Strogatz, *Nature* (1998), >21000 citations  
now relaxation **dynamics** *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2012a)

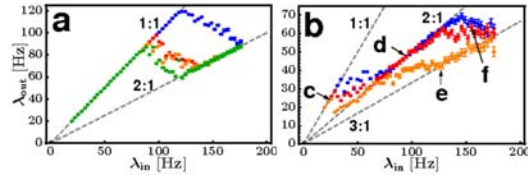


## Network Inverse Problem: **inference and design**

*Front. Comput. Neurosci.* (2011); *New. J. Phys.* (2011);

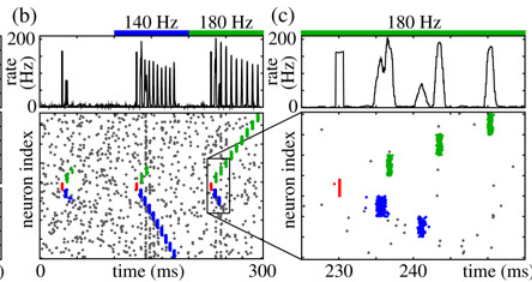


# Recent Progress – Neurophysics



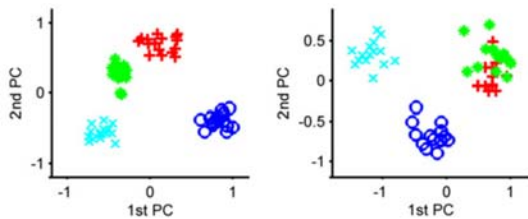
## Non-monotonic spike sequence processing in neurons

*BMC Neurosci.* (2013); *PLoS Comput. Biol.* (under review, 2014)



## Non-additive coupling & plasticity in networks

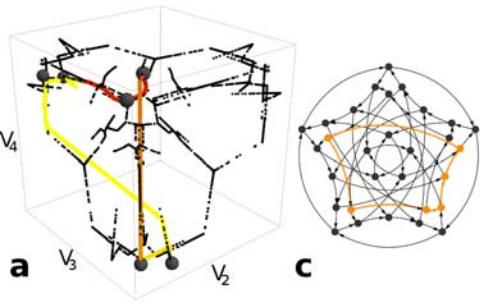
*PLoS Comput Biol.* (2012, 2013); *Phys. Rev. X* (2012)



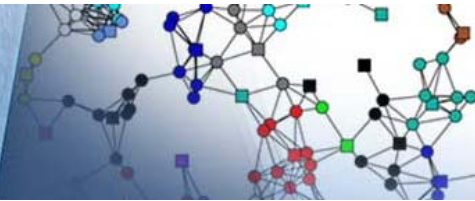
## Combinatorial Processing exploiting heterogeneities

joint PhD students with A. Fiala (Uni-Bio); *PLoS ONE* (2011);

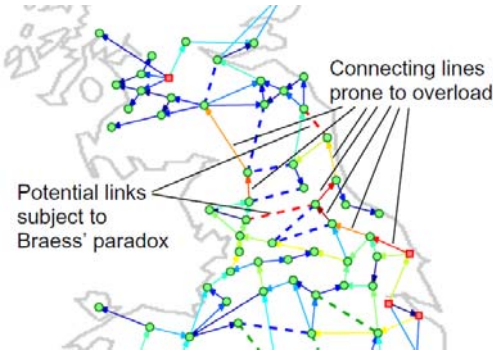
# Recent Progress – Dynamics in Engineering & Computation



Intelligent Dynamical Systems: heteroclinic computing  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2012b)



Control for Communication Networks & Robotics  
→ **self-organize versatile functions**  
*Nature Phys.* (2010); **patent** (2013); *New J. Phys.* (2012a);



Dynamically Smart Power Grids

*Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2012c), *New J. Phys.* (2012b);  
*EPJ B* (2013); *Chaos* (2014); EPJ-ST, under review (2014)

# Funding & Cooperation

## Public

- Max Planck Society
- University of Göttingen
- IMPRS Physics of Biological and Complex Systems
- GGNB - Graduate School for Neurosciences & Molecular Biosciences
- DFG – German Science Foundation
- BMBF – German Ministry for Education and Research

## Industry

**SIEMENS**  
corporate research



**WIRSOL**

**Lakeside Labs**  
SELF-ORGANIZING NETWORKED SYSTEMS



# Thanks to ...

## Network Dynamics

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Martin Rohden

Andreas Sorge

Wen-Chuang Chou

Sven Jahnke

Fabio Schittler-Neves

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Dirk Witthaut

Shubham Dipt

Benedict Luensmann

Florencia Noriega

Nahal Sharafi

Xiaozhu Zhang

Jan Nagler, Andre Fiala, Florentin Wörgötter,...

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**Nijmegen**

Srinivas Gorur Shandilya

**Yale**

Moritz Matthiae

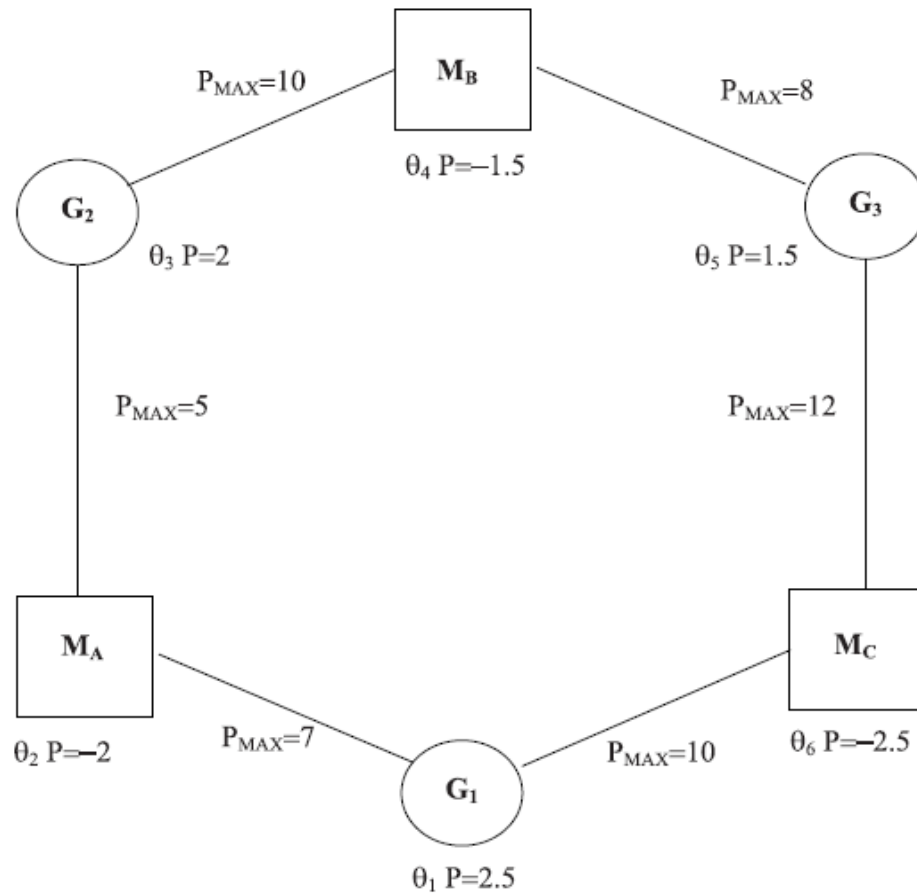
**Aarhus**

**YOU all for your attention !**

**Questions & Comments Welcome!**

# Previous studies on this model

Approximation to grid of Zealand (Denmark)



- simple topology
- specific parameters
  
- simulations of impact of temporary perturbations

Filatrella et al., *Eur. Phys. J. B*, 61:485 (2008)

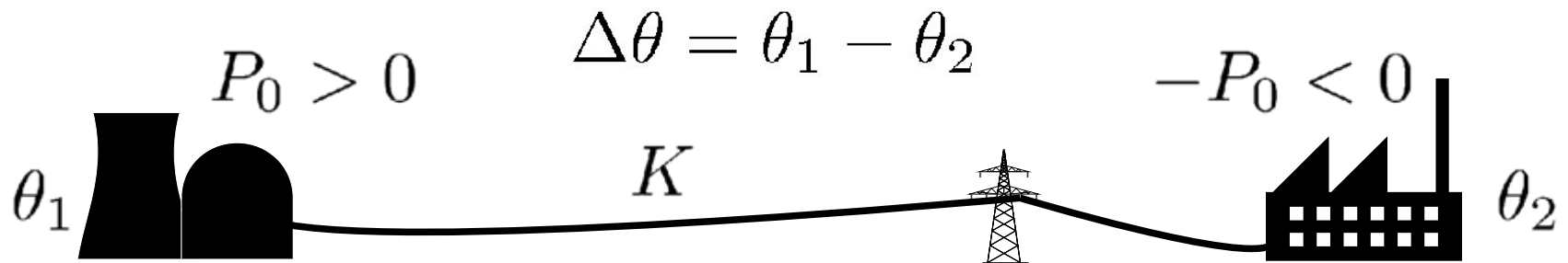
## Part 0: Analysis of stationary dynamics (first N=2)

$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{\theta}_1 + \dot{\theta}_1 - K \sin(-\Delta\theta) &= P_0 \\ - \ddot{\theta}_2 + \dot{\theta}_2 - K \sin(\Delta\theta) &= -P_0\end{aligned}$$

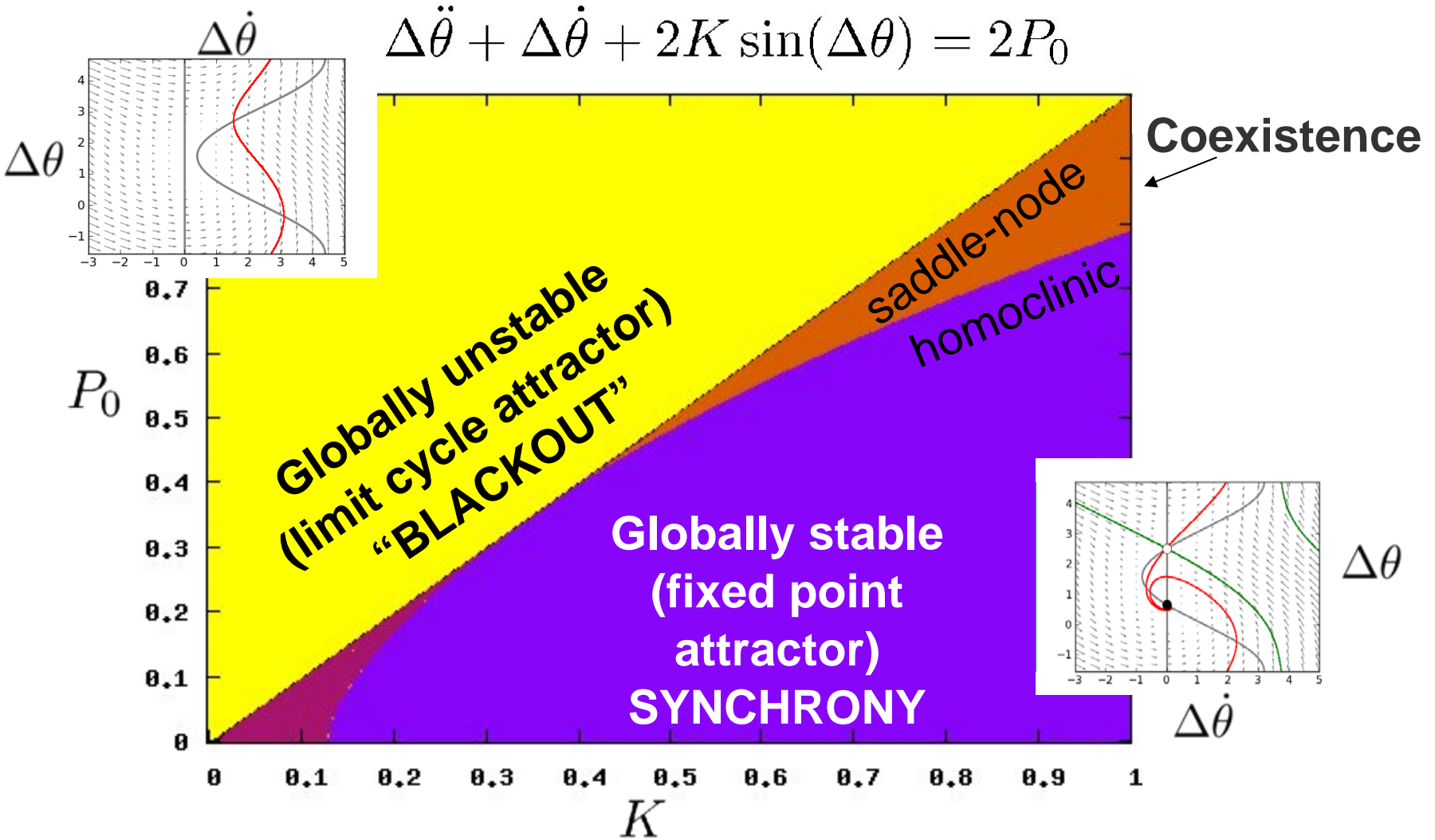
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$$\Delta\ddot{\theta} + \Delta\dot{\theta} + 2K \sin(\Delta\theta) = 2P_0$$

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# Coexistence of blackout and stable operation



Rohden et al., *Chaos*, **24**:013123 (2014);  
 Manik, Witthaut et al., in prep. (2014)