

Complex Systems and Networks

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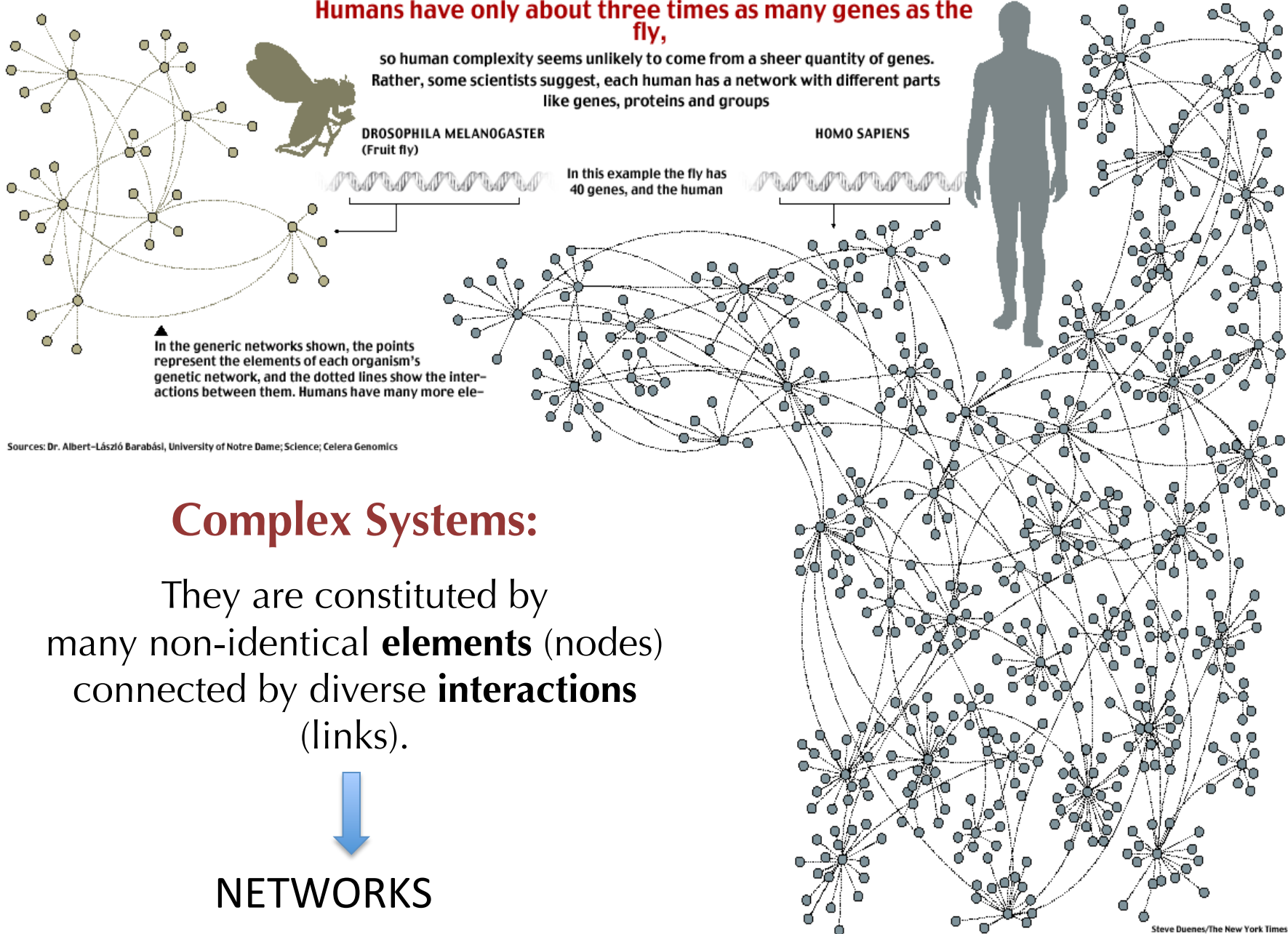
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Humans have only about three times as many genes as the fly,

so human complexity seems unlikely to come from a sheer quantity of genes. Rather, some scientists suggest, each human has a network with different parts like genes, proteins and groups



Sources: Dr. Albert-László Barabási, University of Notre Dame; Science; Celera Genomics

Complex Systems:

They are constituted by many non-identical **elements** (nodes) connected by diverse **interactions** (links).

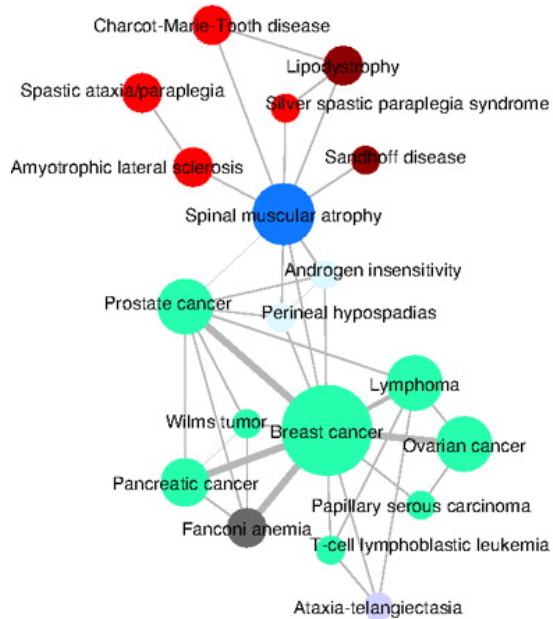


NETWORKS

Steve Duenes/The New York Times

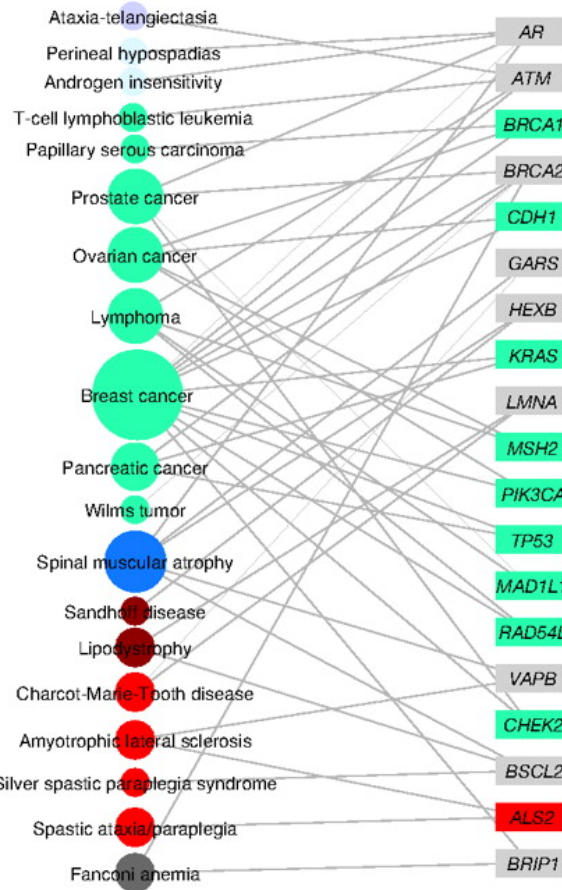
GENE NETWORK – DISEASE NETWORK

Human Disease Network (HDN)

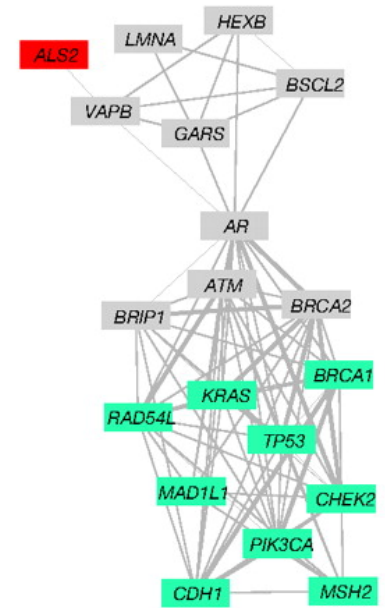


DISEASOME

disease phenotype disease genome



Disease Gene Network (DGN)



- **Networks are ubiquitous in nature** and everything around us is connected.

- Networks are made up of **nodes** and **links**

- The **connectivity or degree** of a particular node is the number of other nodes it is linked to.

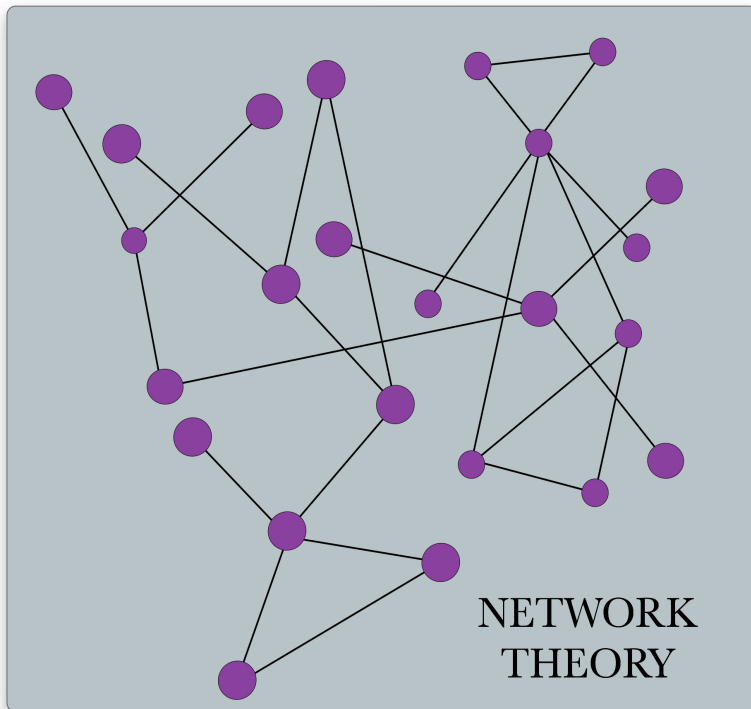
- There are **2 types of networks**:

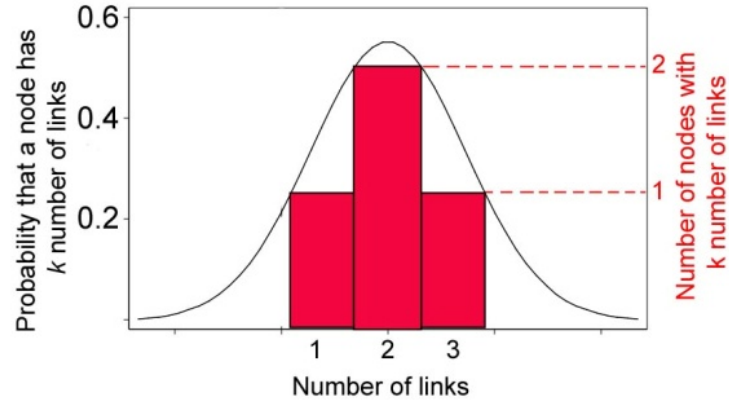
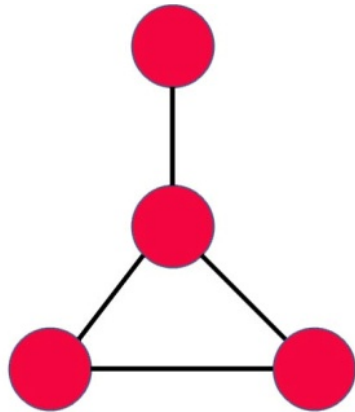
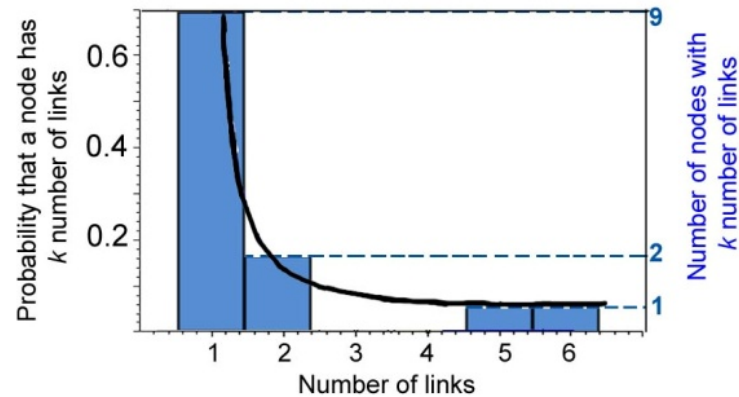
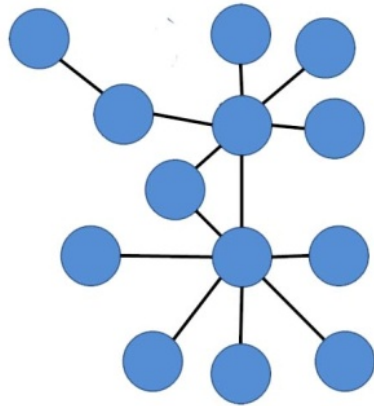
Homogeneous Networks &
Heterogeneous Networks

Components: nodes, vertices

Interactions: links, edges

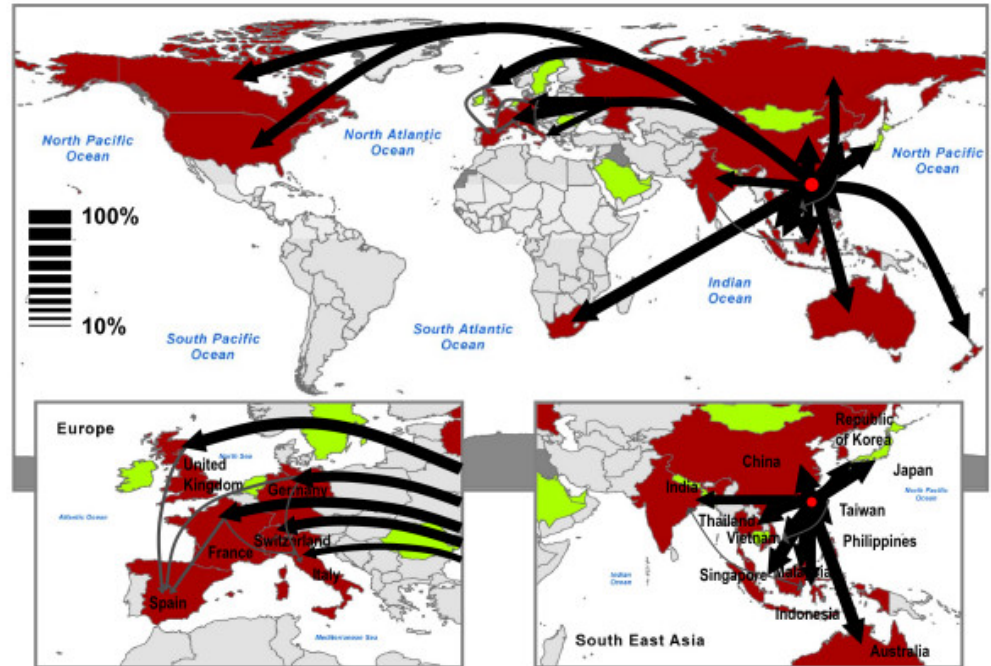
System: Network, graph



A**B**

Networks and their corresponding graphs. **(A) Random network** shows a normal distribution and **(B) Scale-free network** shows a power-law distribution when their number or fraction of nodes with different number of links are plotted.

But why is it important?




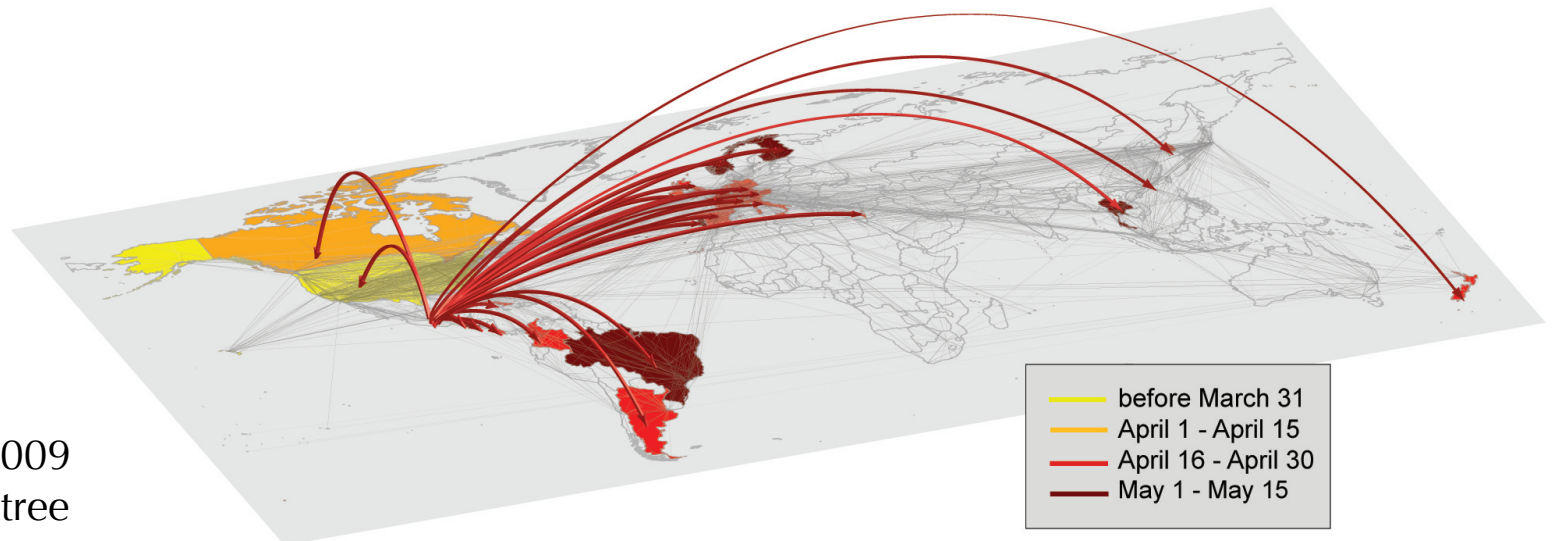
Can we predict the evolution of an epidemic outbreak as we do in weather forecasting?

Why is it difficult? What has changed?



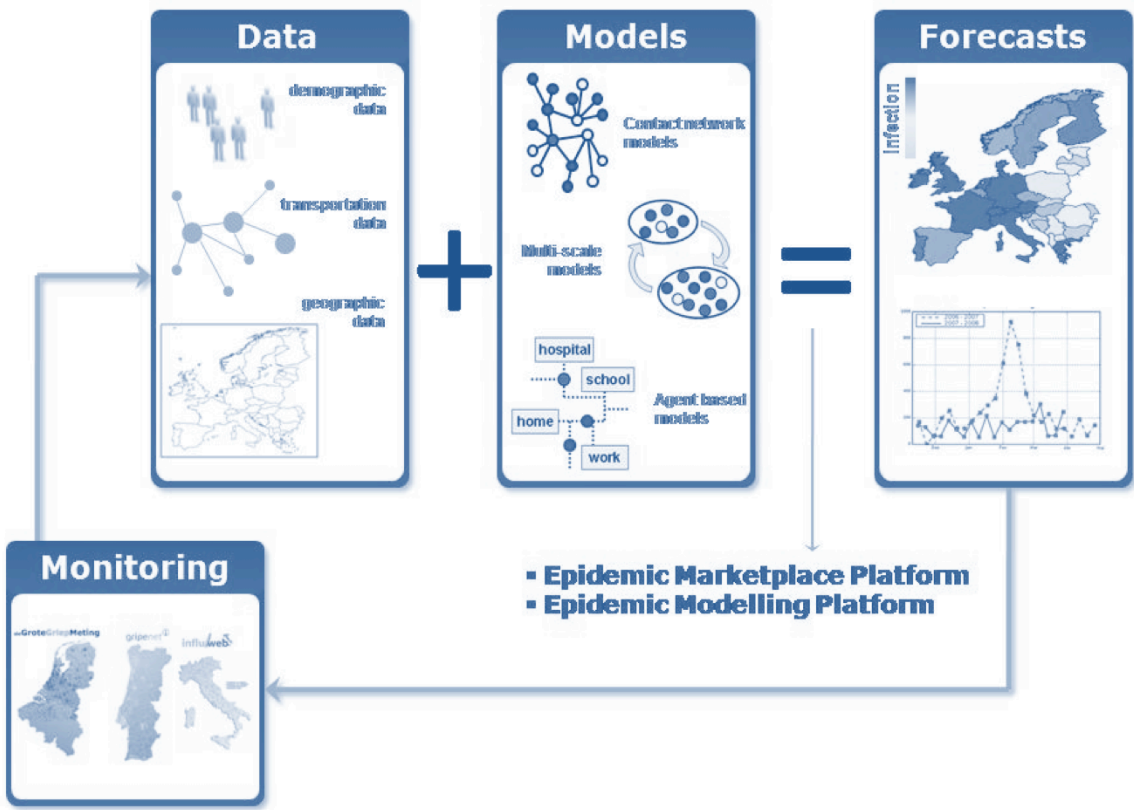
Black Death, Europe, Sicily, 1347

 Spread of the Black Death. Spread by merchants and travelers, the plague killed more than a third of Europe's population within five years.

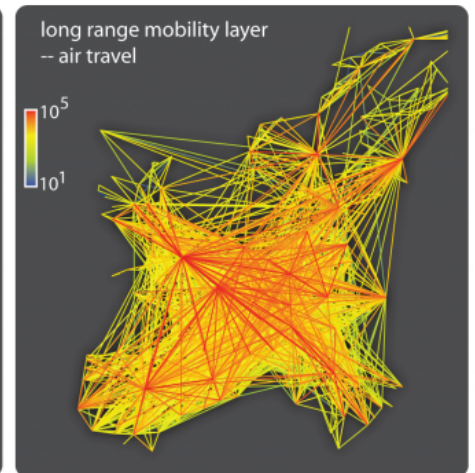
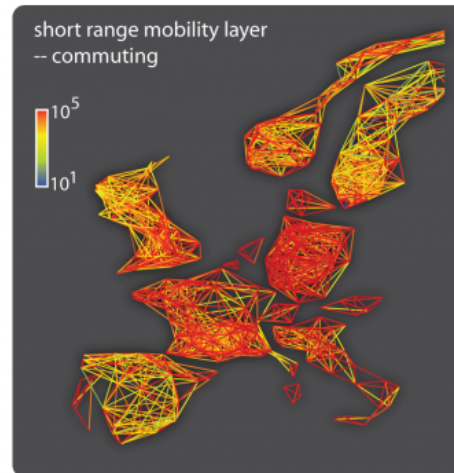


H1N1/2009
Invasion tree

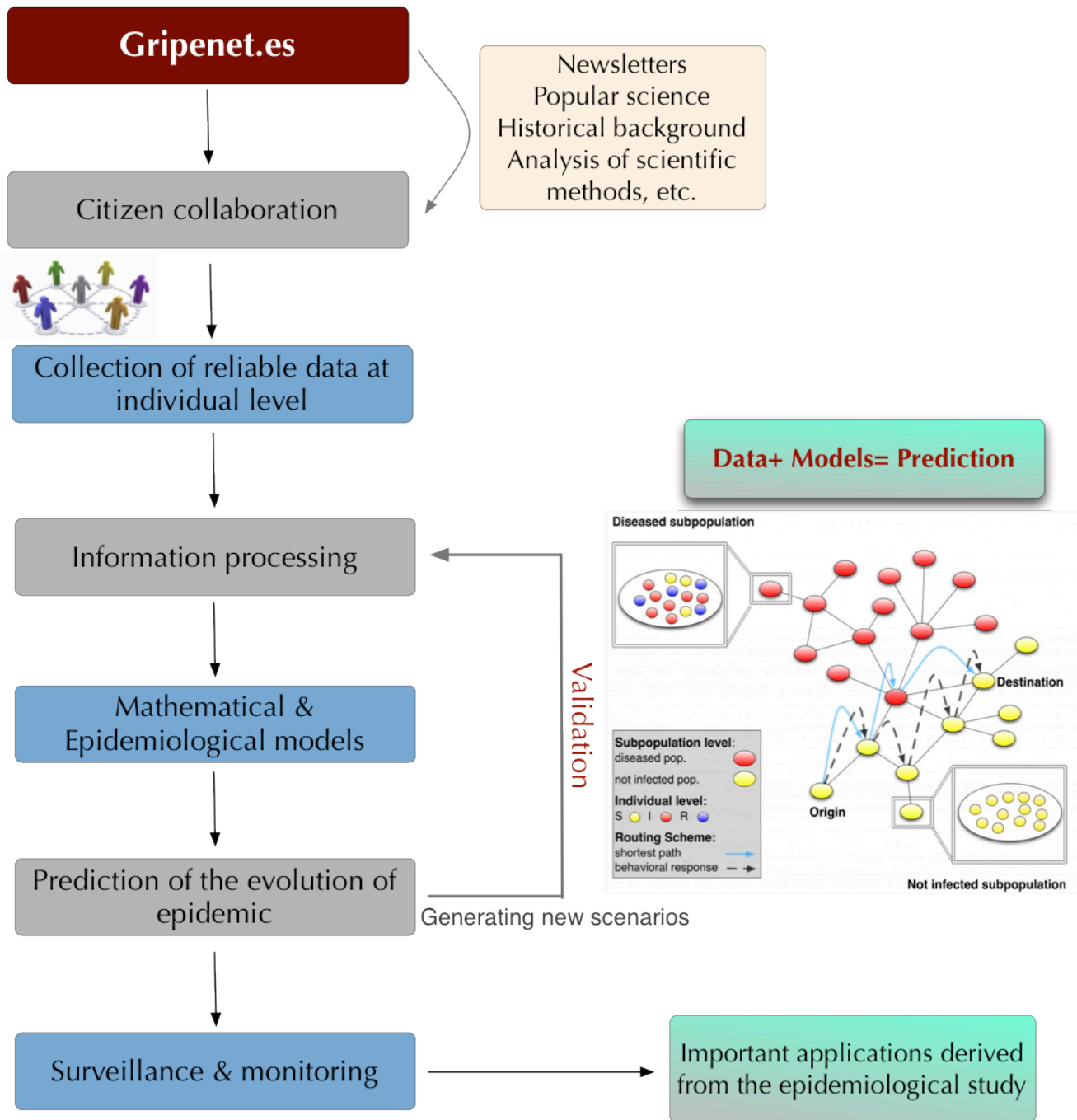




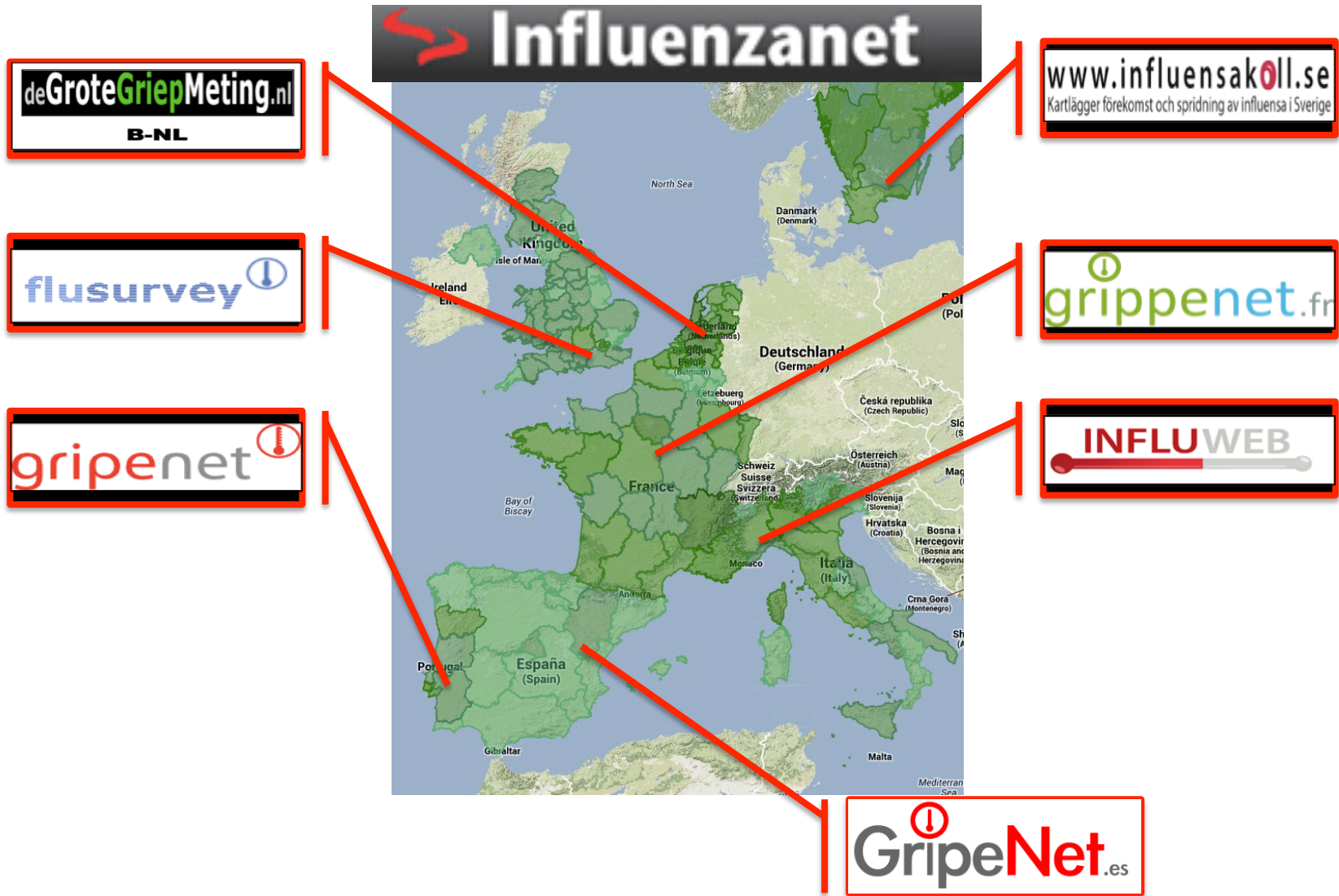
What do we need?

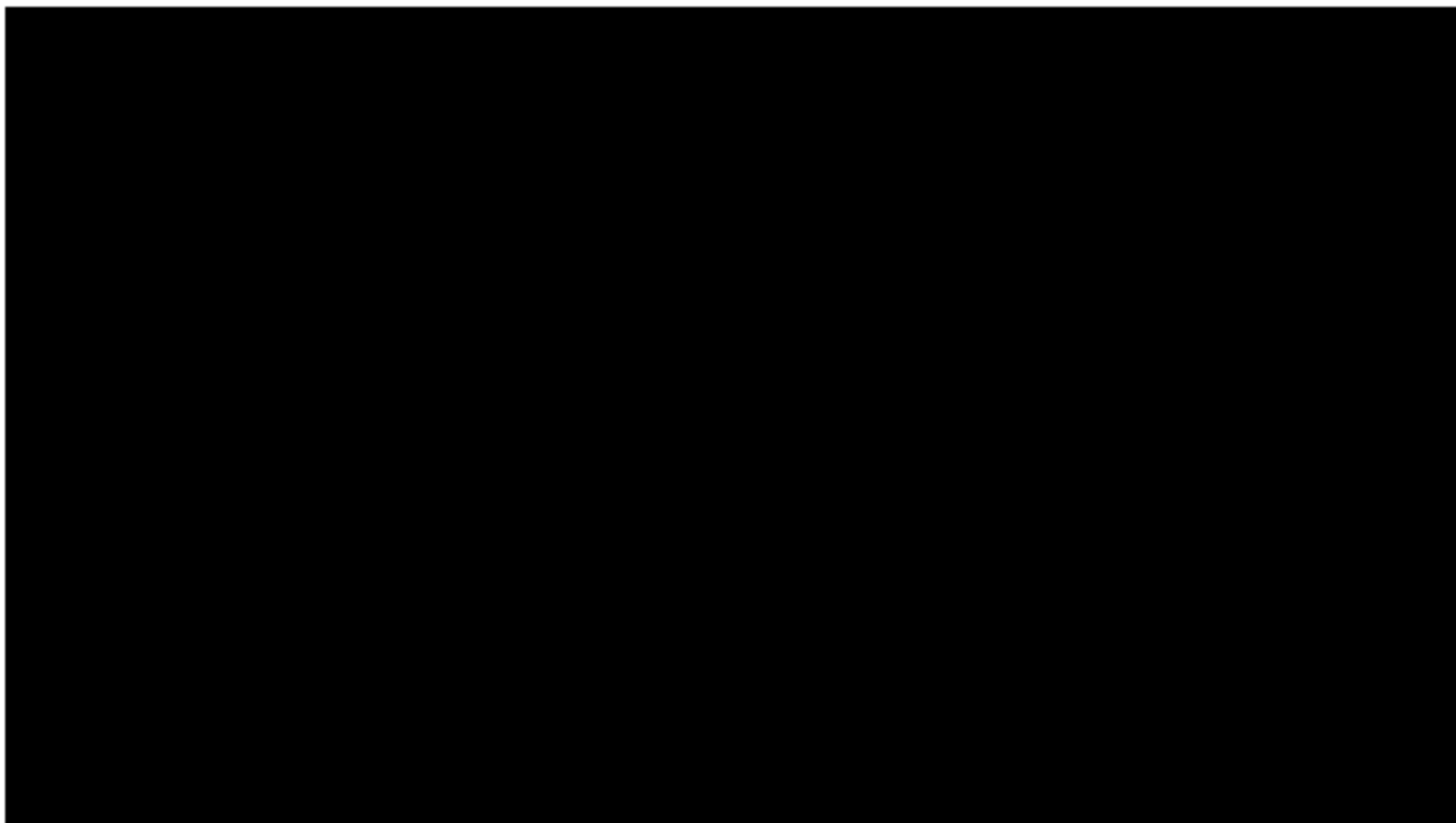


Citizen science and volunteering
Influenzanet

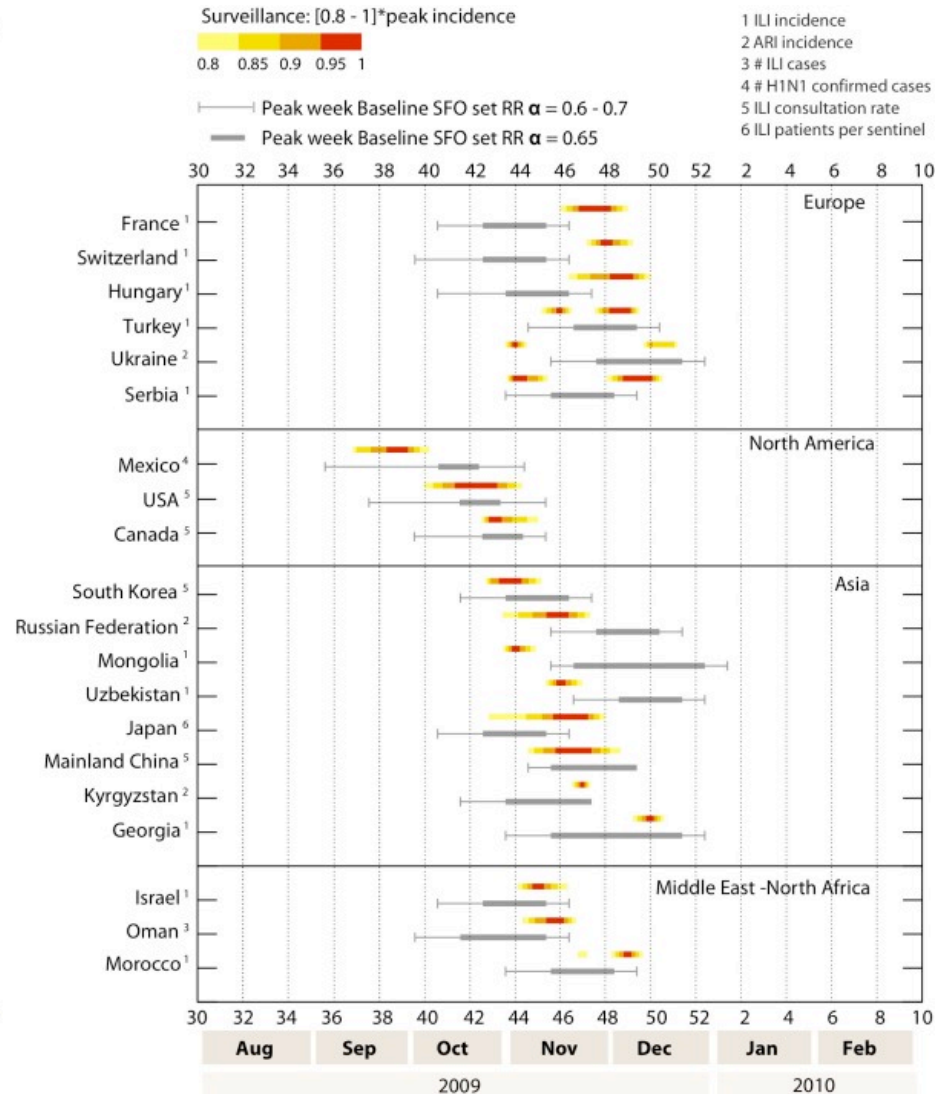
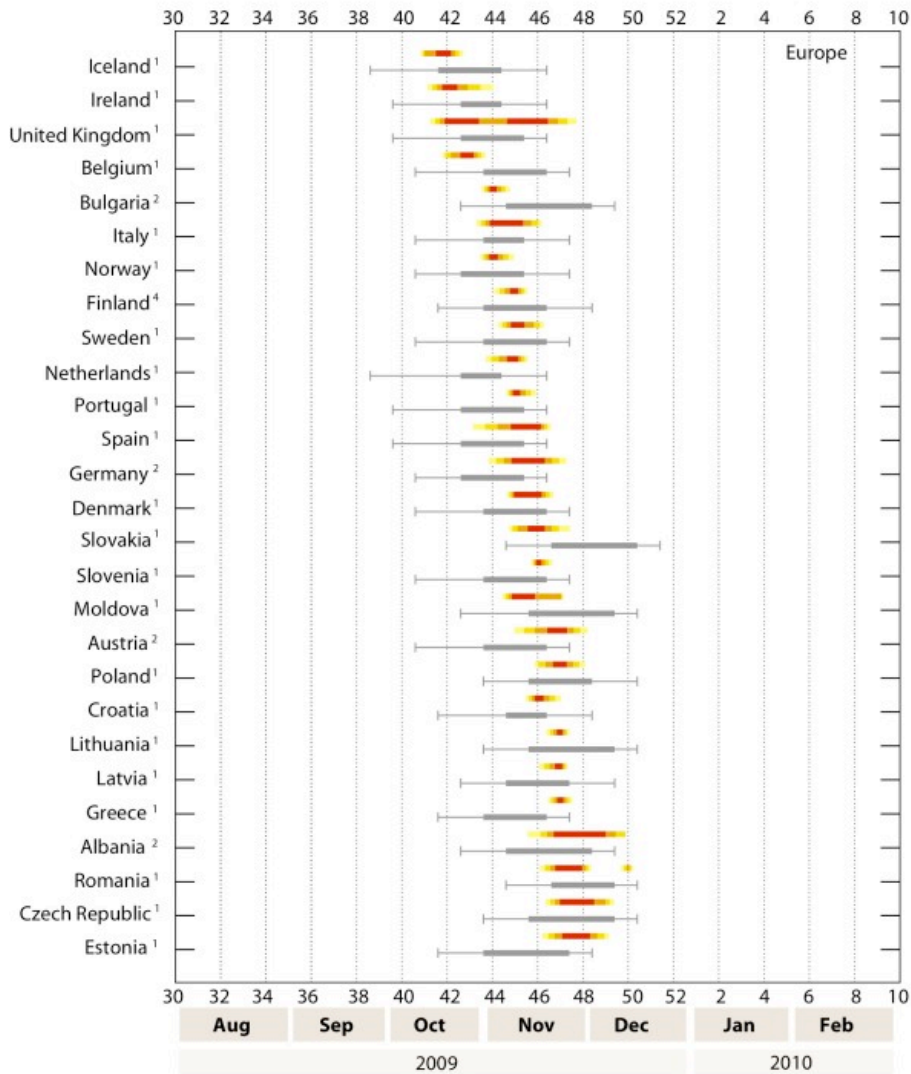


Citizen Science and volunteering



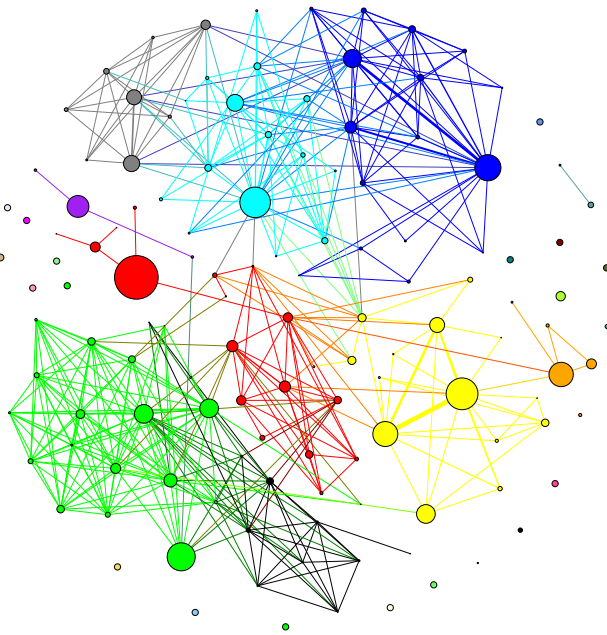


Results: H1N1

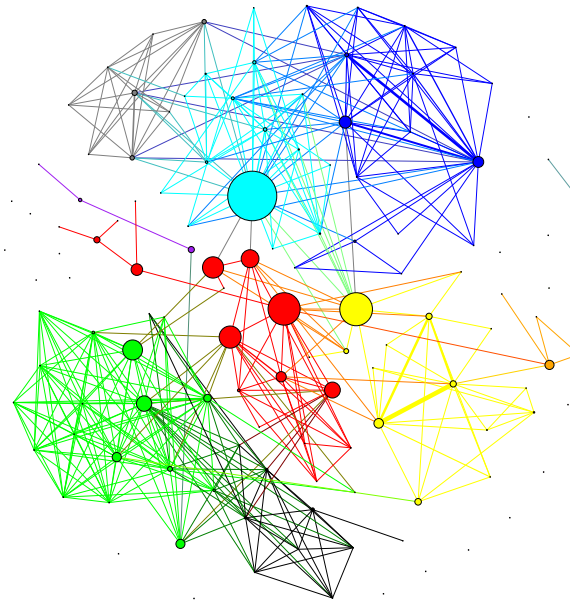


R&D and Organizational Networks

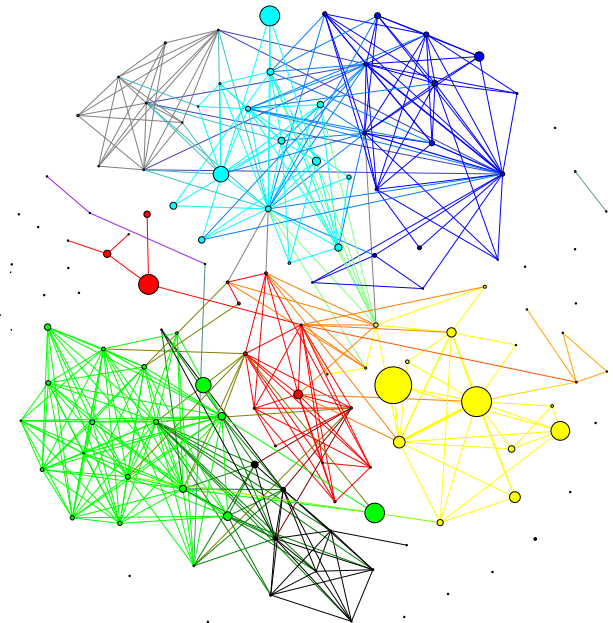
Scientific Production



Centrality

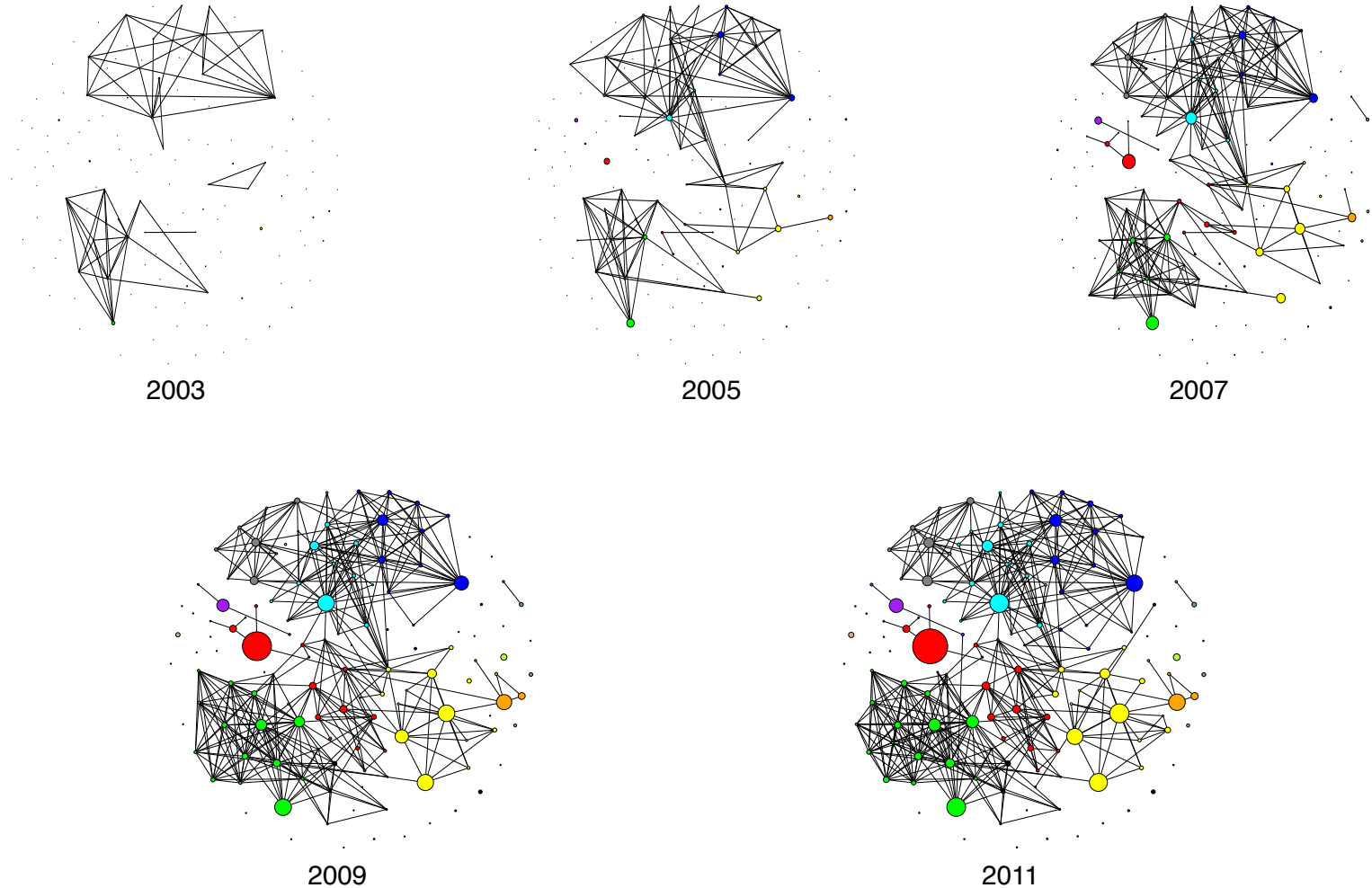


Scientific Impact



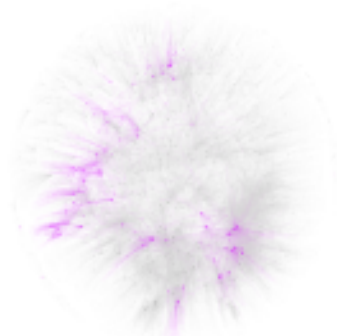
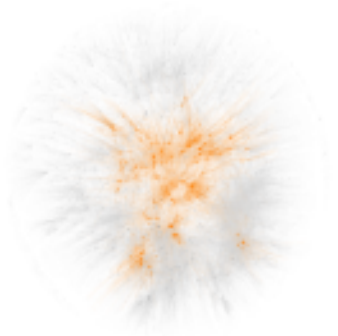
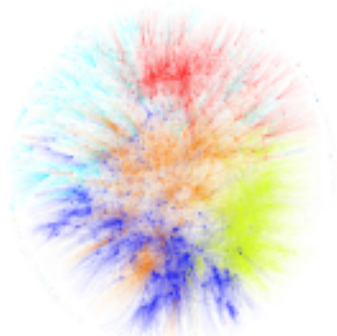
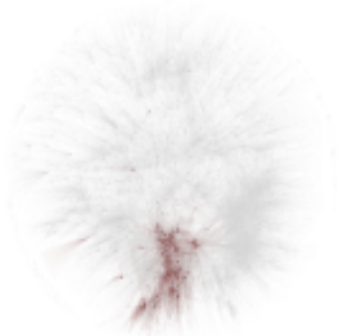
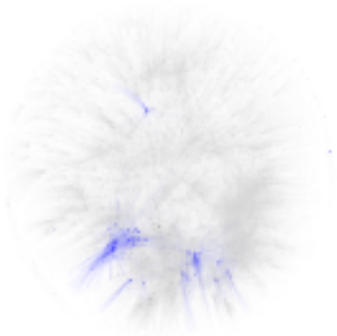
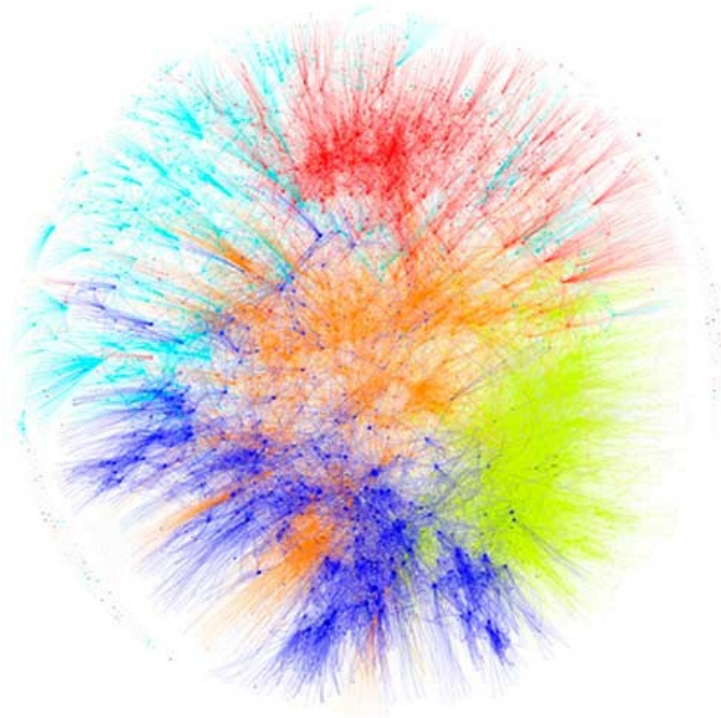
Collaboration Network @BIFI, 2003-2011. Nodes represent researchers from BIFI. Links are established whenever two authors have published a paper together. The size of the nodes is proportional to: the total number of papers in the period analyzed (scientific production); the betweenness centrality of the nodes -i.e., how often a node is in the shortest paths between other vertices- (centrality); and the average number of citations per paper (scientific impact). Colors stand for communities as given by a community detection algorithm. Source: ISI WoK. © J. Borge-Holthoefer & Y. Moreno.

R&D and Organizational Networks



Evolution of the Collaboration Network @BIFI. Nodes represent researchers from BIFI. Links are established whenever two authors have published a paper together. The size of the nodes is proportional to the total number of papers in the period analyzed. © J. Borge-Holthoefer & Y. Moreno

Evolution of the scientific collaboration network, @BIFI



Main Conclusions:

- Complex systems cannot be fully understood by studying only their isolated constituents. *“The whole is more than the sum of its parts”*
- Understanding and modeling the structure of complex networks would lead to a better cottoning on their dynamical and functional behavior.
- To test the innovative tools and methods, and apply new methodologies and procedures in the analysis and design of complex systems.
- The findings and results obtained will deliver new insights in different scientific fields such as: Epidemiology, communication technologies, Biology at all levels (molecular, cellular) etc.
- It is important to foster a community of multidisciplinary scientists, who master the discipline of complex systems and use it for their daily research.
- Identify the best course of action to transfer the acquired knowledge from basic sciences to the application level. This is our goal.

Conclusions and Perspectives

- Complex systems cannot be fully understood by studying only their isolated constituents. *“The whole is more than the sum of its parts”*
- Understanding and modeling the structure of complex networks would lead to a better cottoning on their dynamical and functional behavior.
- This would also lead to new methodologies and procedures for the analysis and design of complex networked systems.
- It is important to foster a community of multidisciplinary scientists, who master the discipline of complex systems and use it for their daily research.
- Need of identifying the best course of action to transfer the acquired knowledge from basic sciences to the application level.