



Aalto University  
School of Science

# Temporal features of mobile call networks

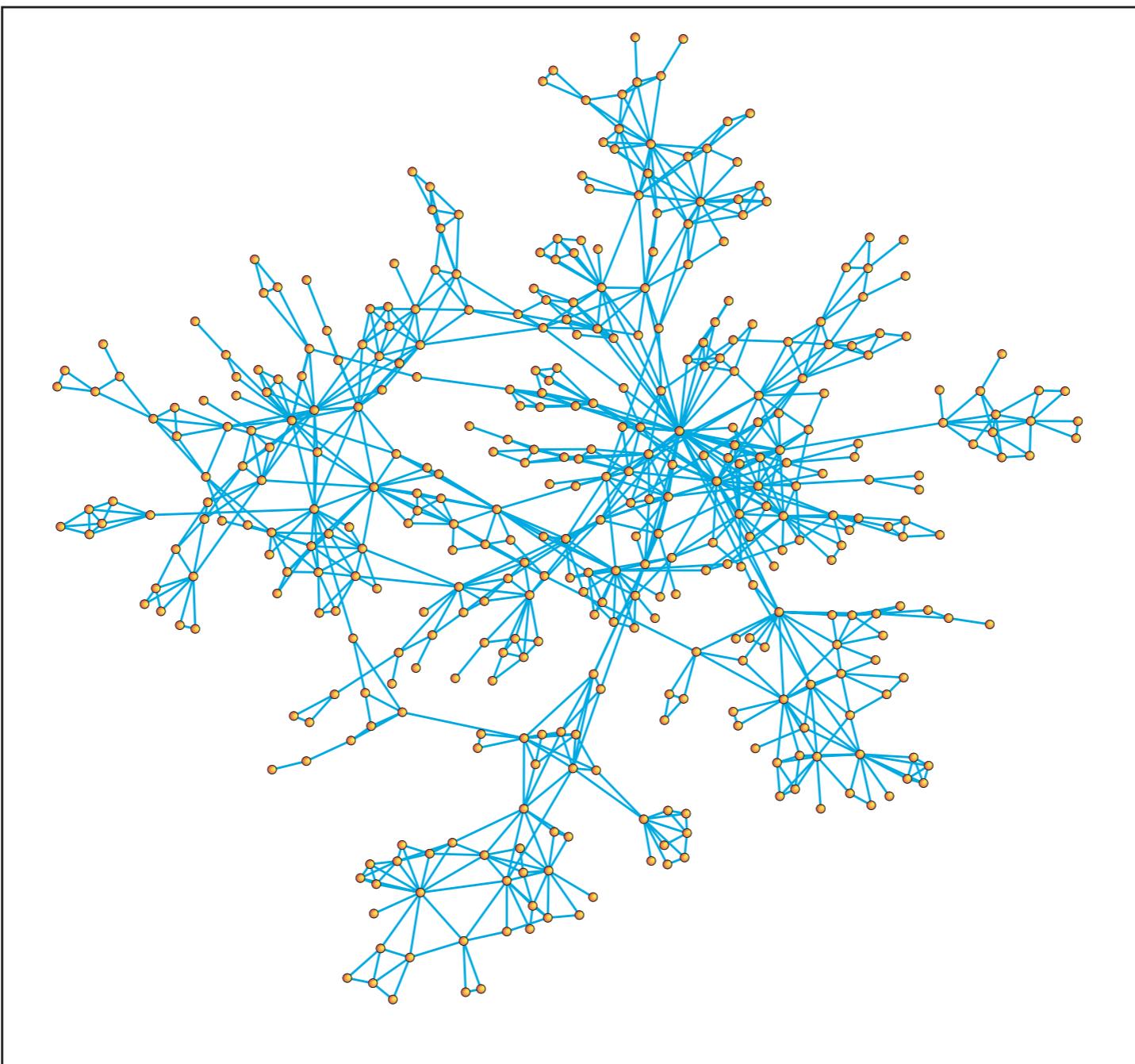
Jari Saramäki

Dept. of Biomedical Engineering & Computational Science  
Aalto University School of Science  
Helsinki, Finland

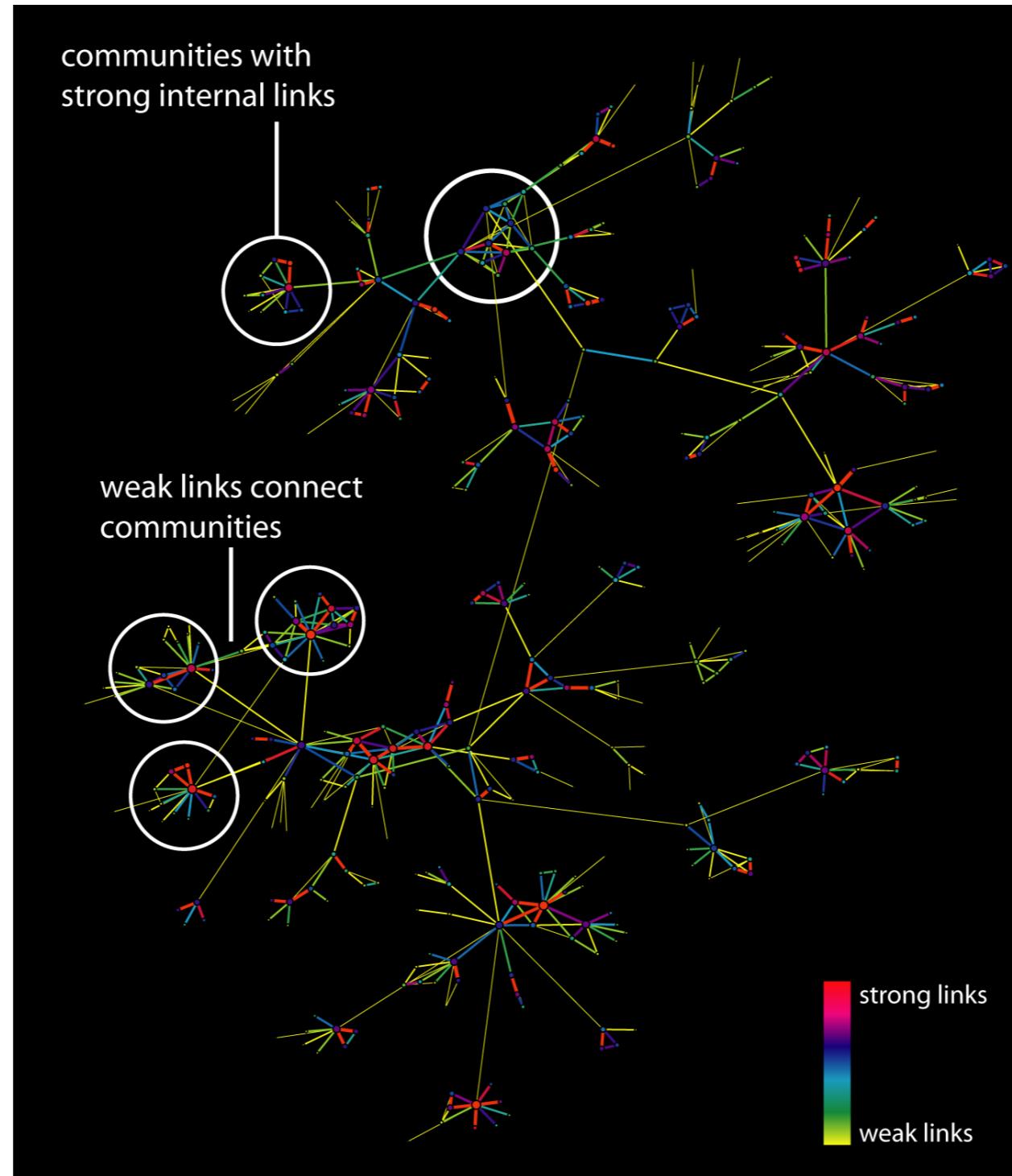
with M. Karsai, M. Kivelä, L. Kovanen, H.-H. Jo, R.K. Pan, J. Kertész, K. Kaski, A.-L. Barabási

Cambridge, September 19th, 2012

# binary social network

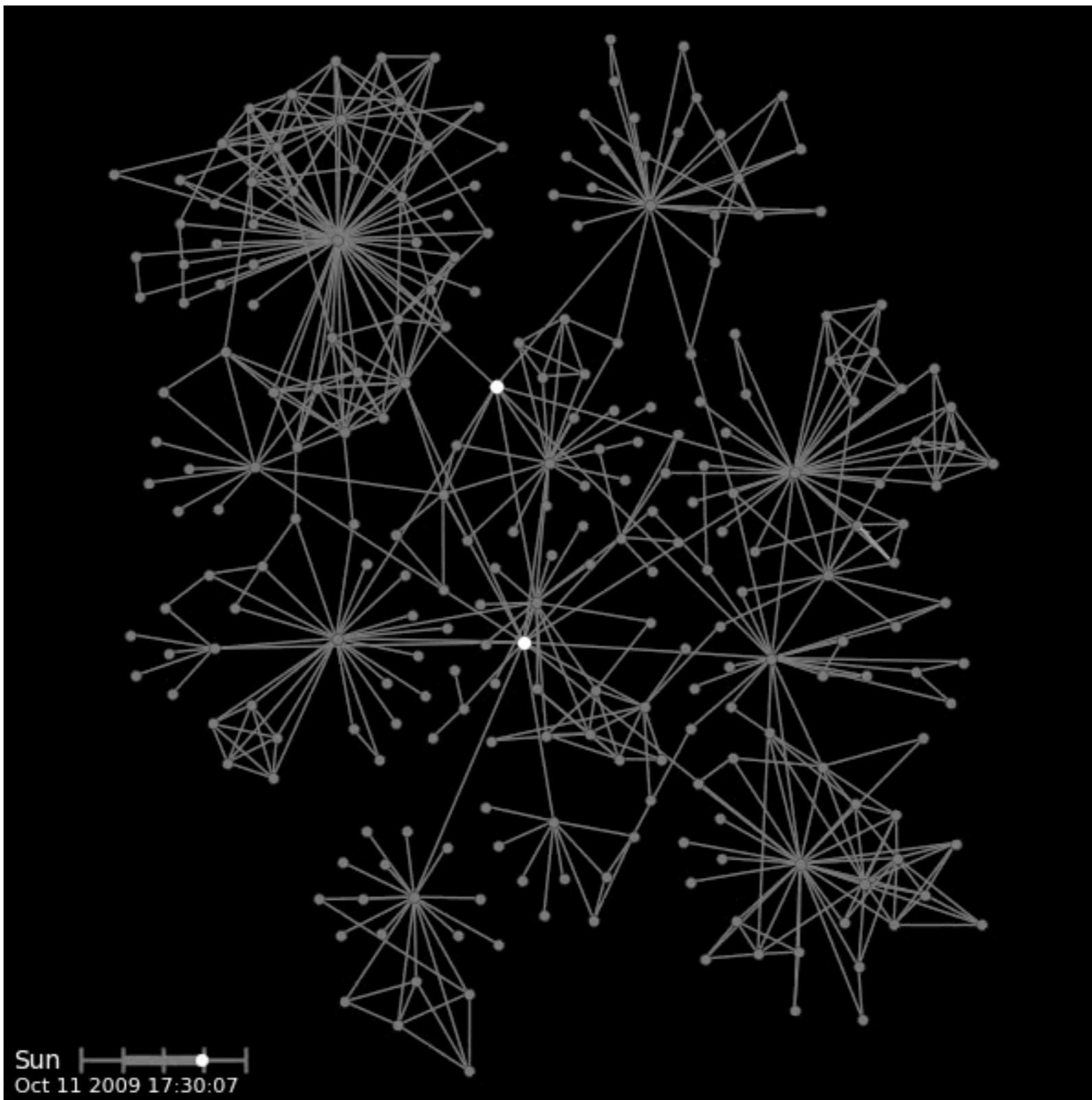


# weighted call network

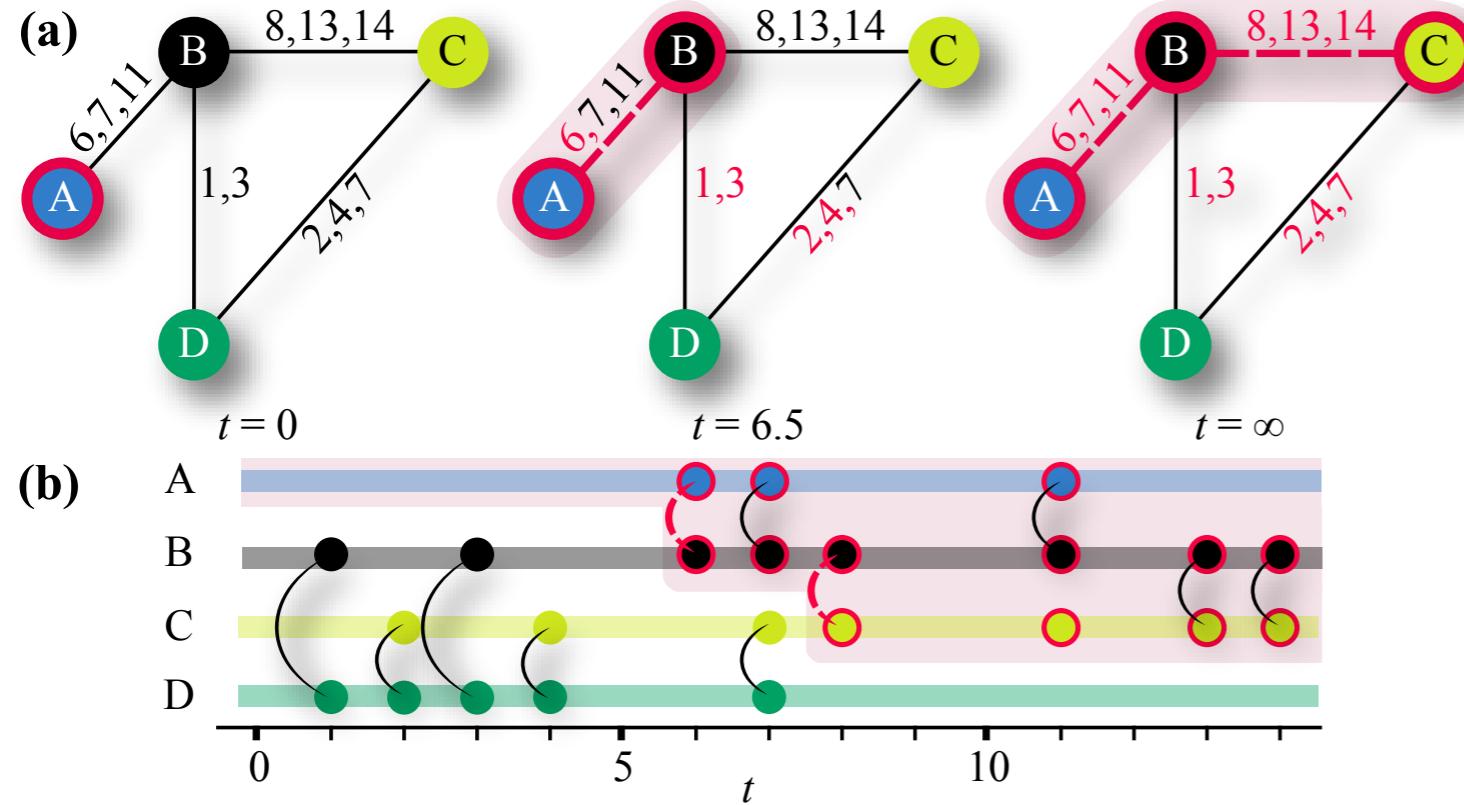


Onnela, Saramäki et al, PNAS 2007

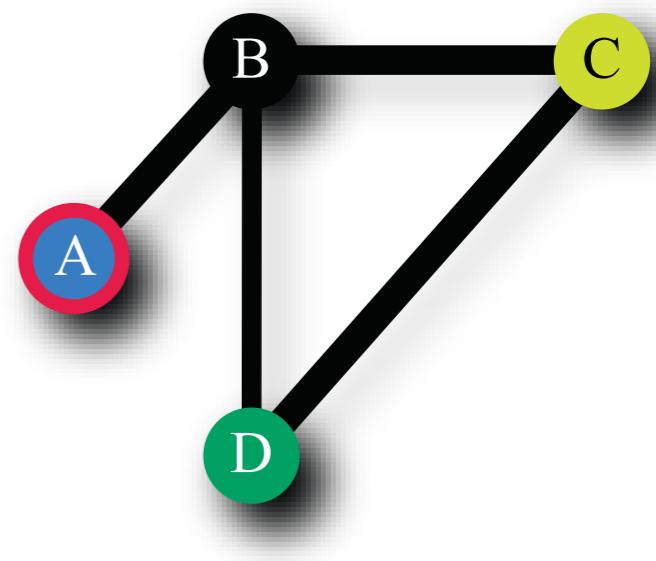
# temporal networks: time-stamped calls



temporal network



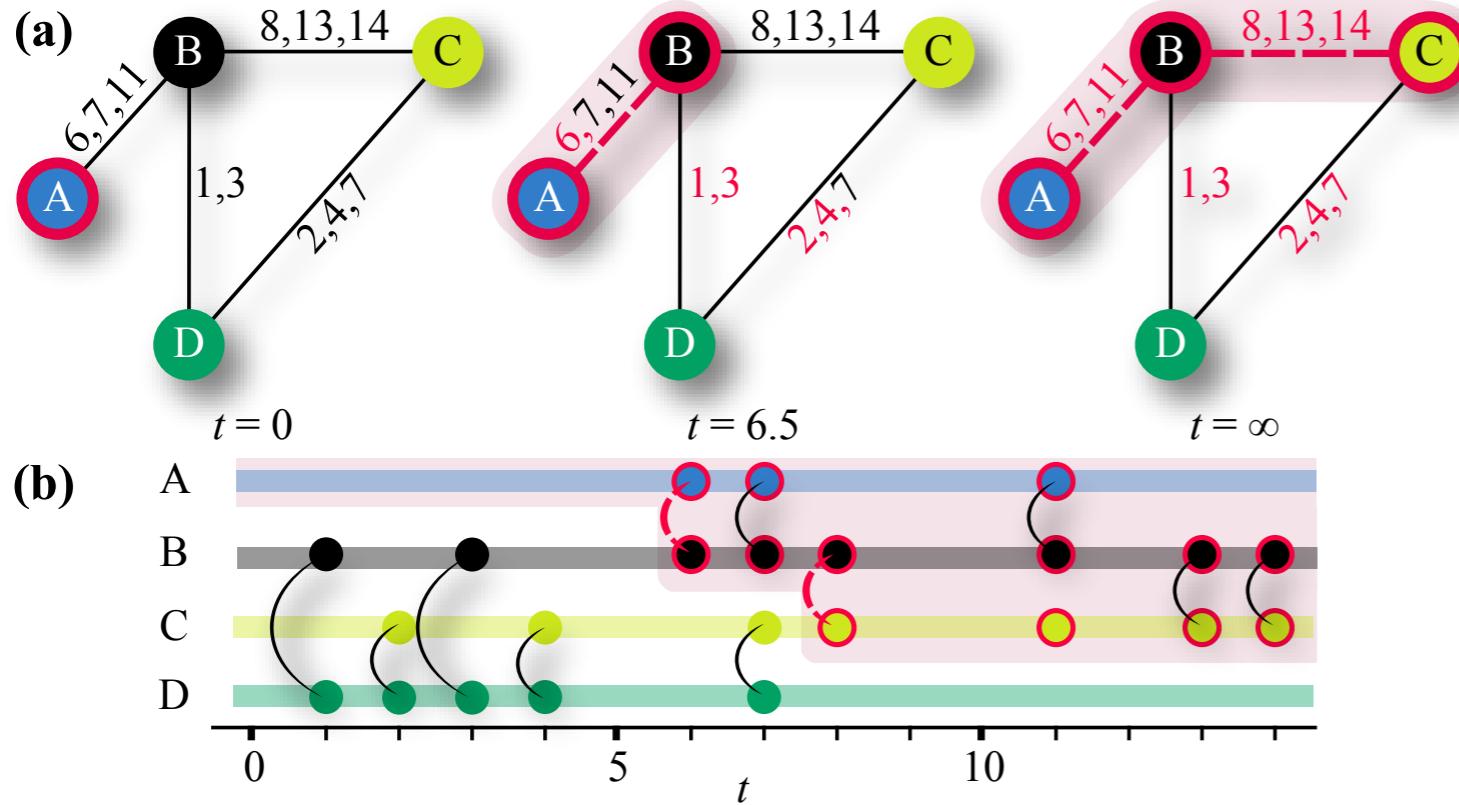
aggregated weighted network



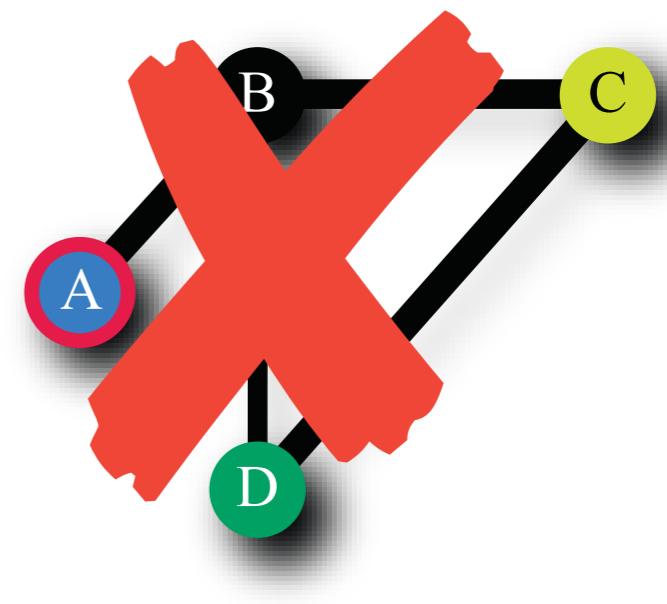
**networks are built out of interaction events  
with specified times; links not permanently “on”**

see P. Holme & J. Saramäki, *Temporal Networks*, Physics Reports (in press), arXiv:1108.1780 (2011)

# temporal network

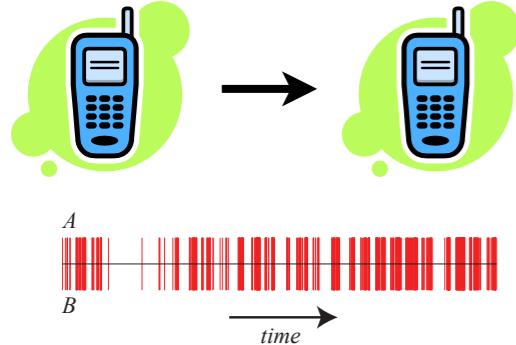


# aggregated weighted network

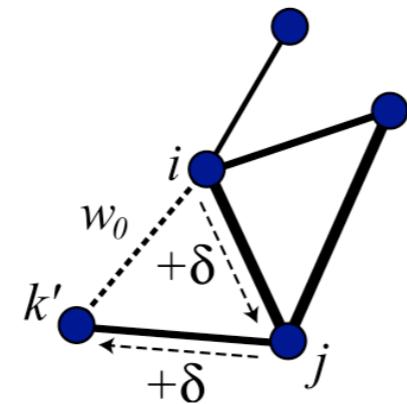


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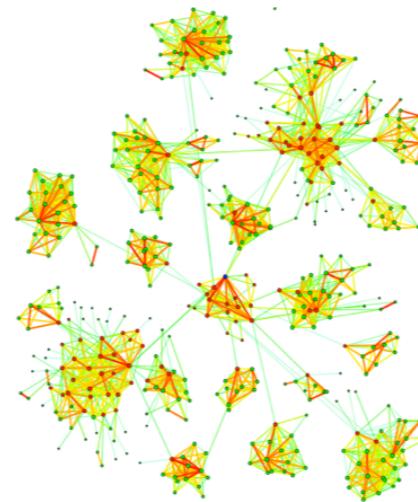
see P. Holme & J. Saramäki, *Temporal Networks*, Physics Reports (in press), arXiv:1108.1780 (2011)



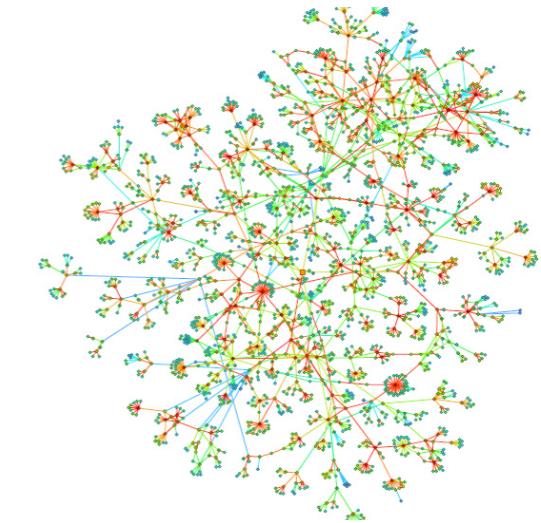
interaction  
events



dynamics  
of ties



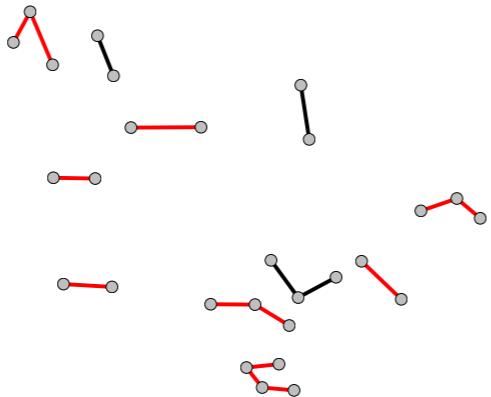
dynamics  
of groups



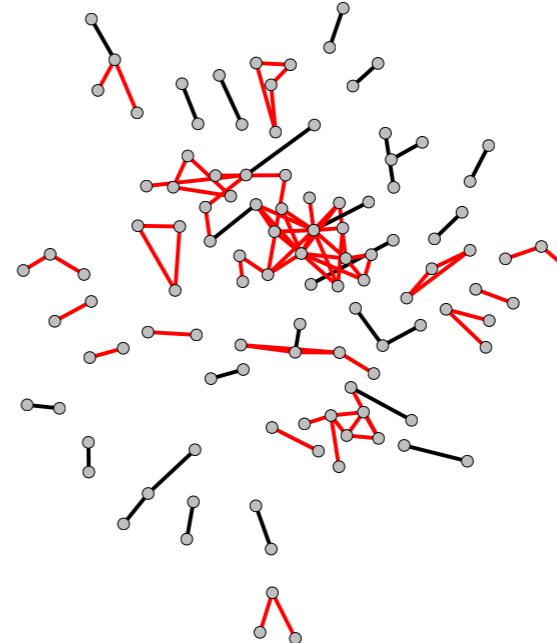
network-level  
dynamics

...many temporal & structural scales...

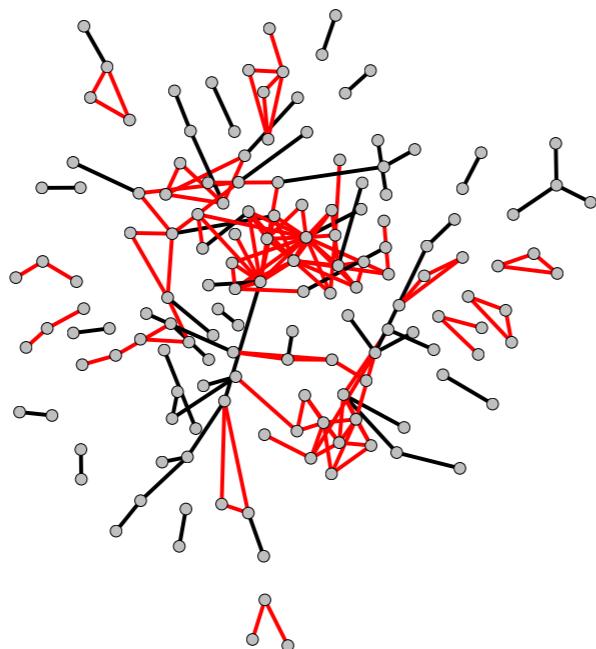
a)  $t = 1$  day



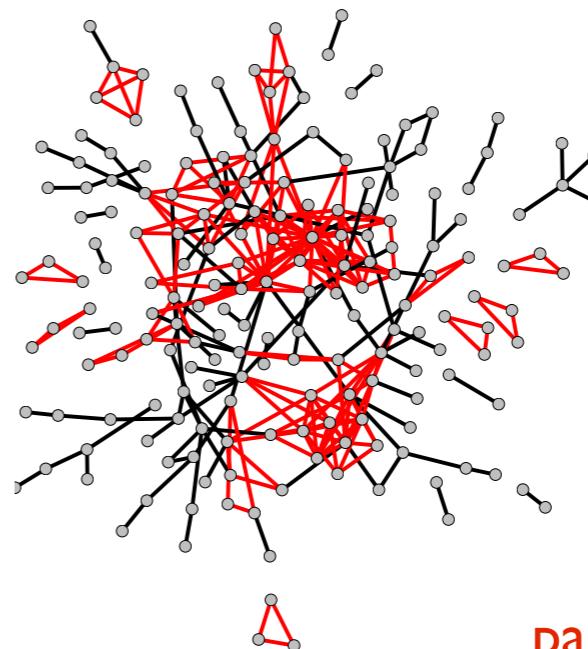
b)  $t = 1$  week



c)  $t = 4$  weeks



d)  $t = 6$  months



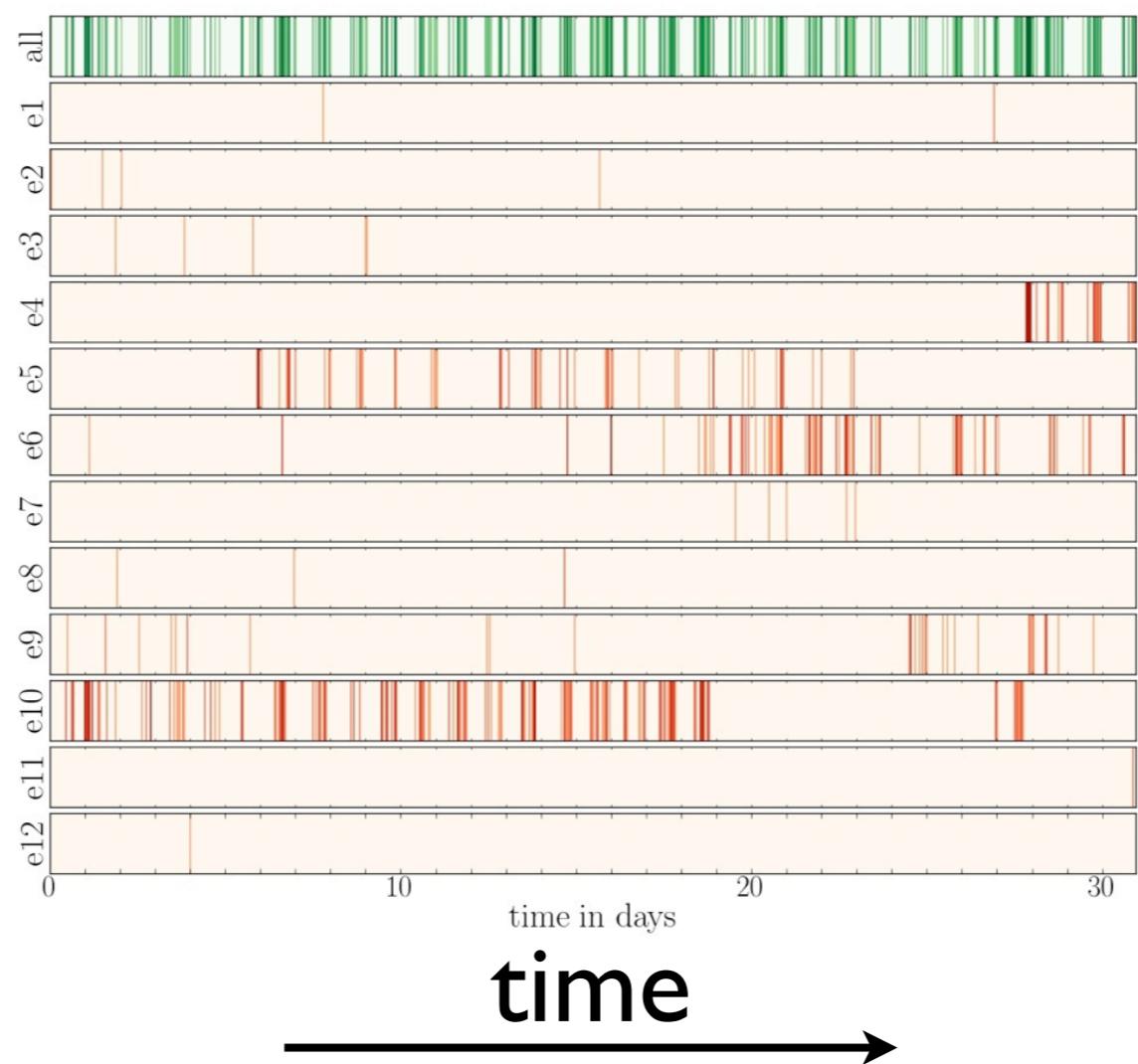
red links  
participate in triangles

Effects of time window size and placement on the structure of aggregated networks,  
G. Krings, M. Karsai, S. Bernardsson, V.D. Blondel, and J. Saramäki, EPJ Data Science 1:4 (2012), arXiv:1202.1145

# Our data

- **Mobile telephone call & text records of ~7 million individuals**
  - Caller/callee
  - **Time stamp** (1 s resolution)
- Data over a period of >6 months
- After filtering out one-way links etc,  
~4 million individuals

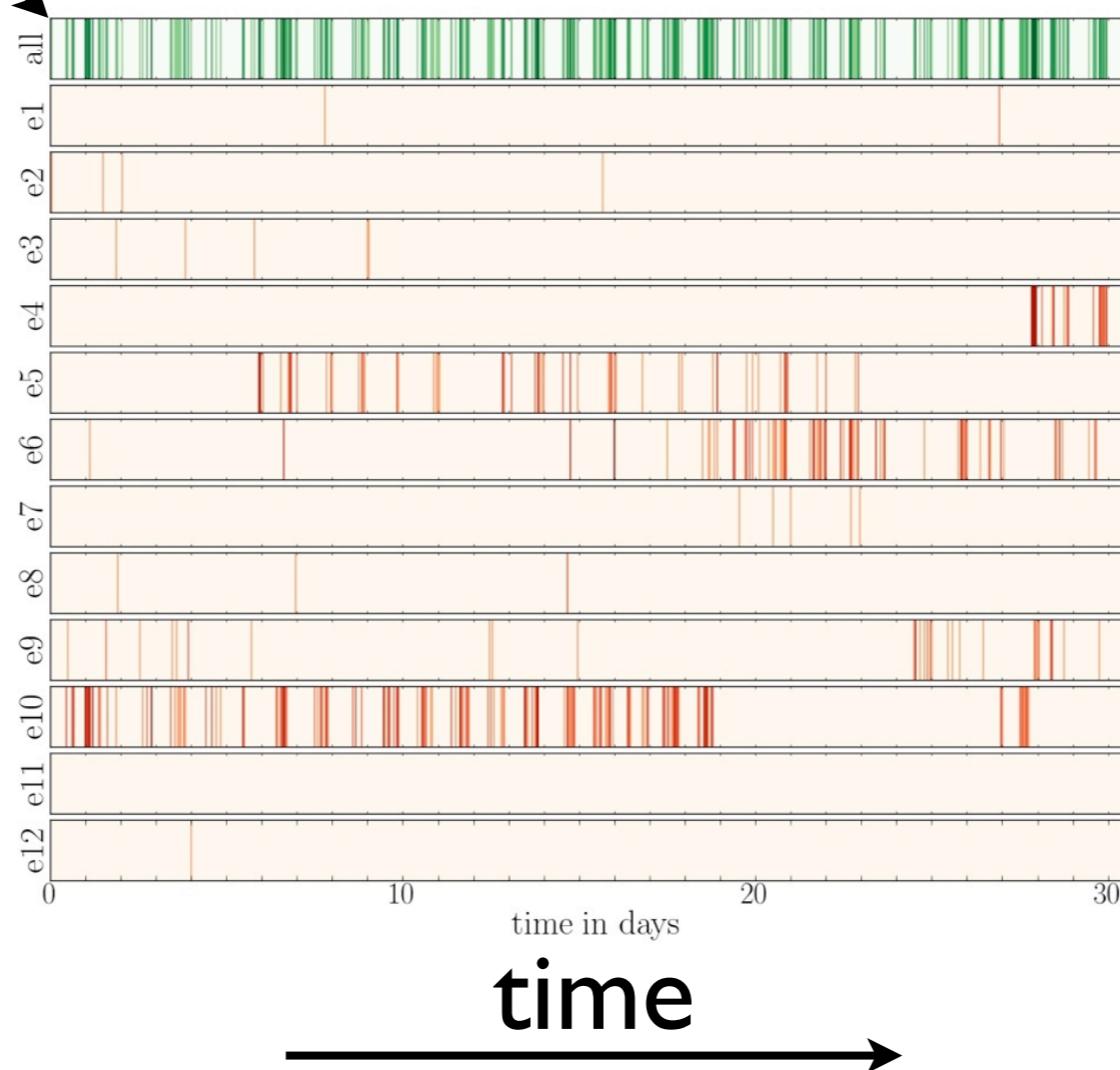
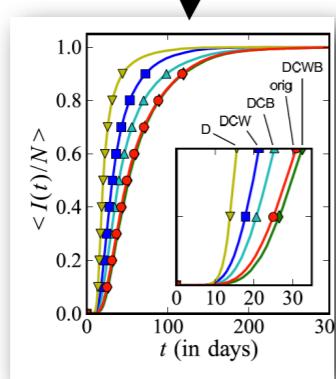
caller	callee	time
A	B	t=1
C	D	t=3
C	E	t=9
E	A	t=11



top row: all calls by one person  
red rows: calls to each alter

calls are bursty; this slows down spreading

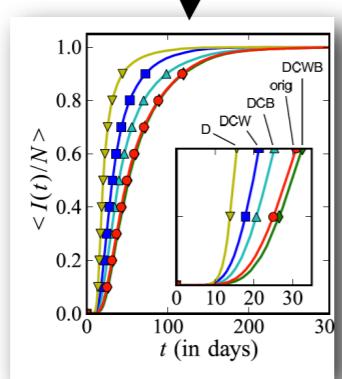
Karsai et al, *Phys. Rev. E* **83**, 025102(R) (2011)  
Pan & Saramäki, *Phys. Rev. E* **84**, 016105 (2011),  
Miritello et al., *Phys. Rev. E* **83**, 045102 (2011)



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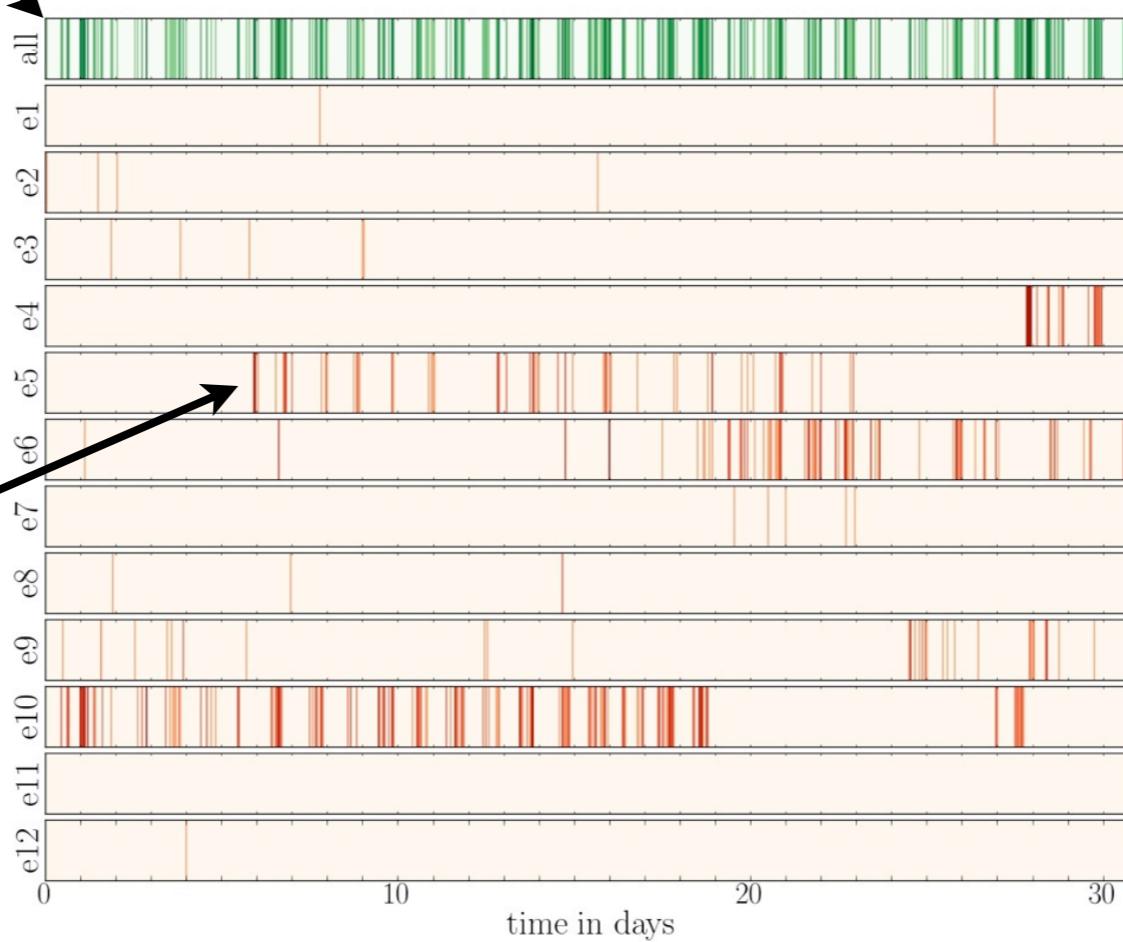
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Karsai et al, *Phys. Rev. E* **83**, 025102(R) (2011)  
Pan & Saramäki, *Phys. Rev. E* **84**, 016105 (2011),  
Miritello et al., *Phys. Rev. E* **83**, 045102 (2011)

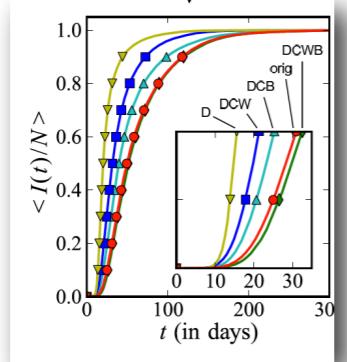


burstiness  
is associated with *ties*;  
individuals are bursty  
because their ties are  
bursty

Karsai, Kaski, Kertész,  
PLoS ONE 7(7), e40612  
(2012)



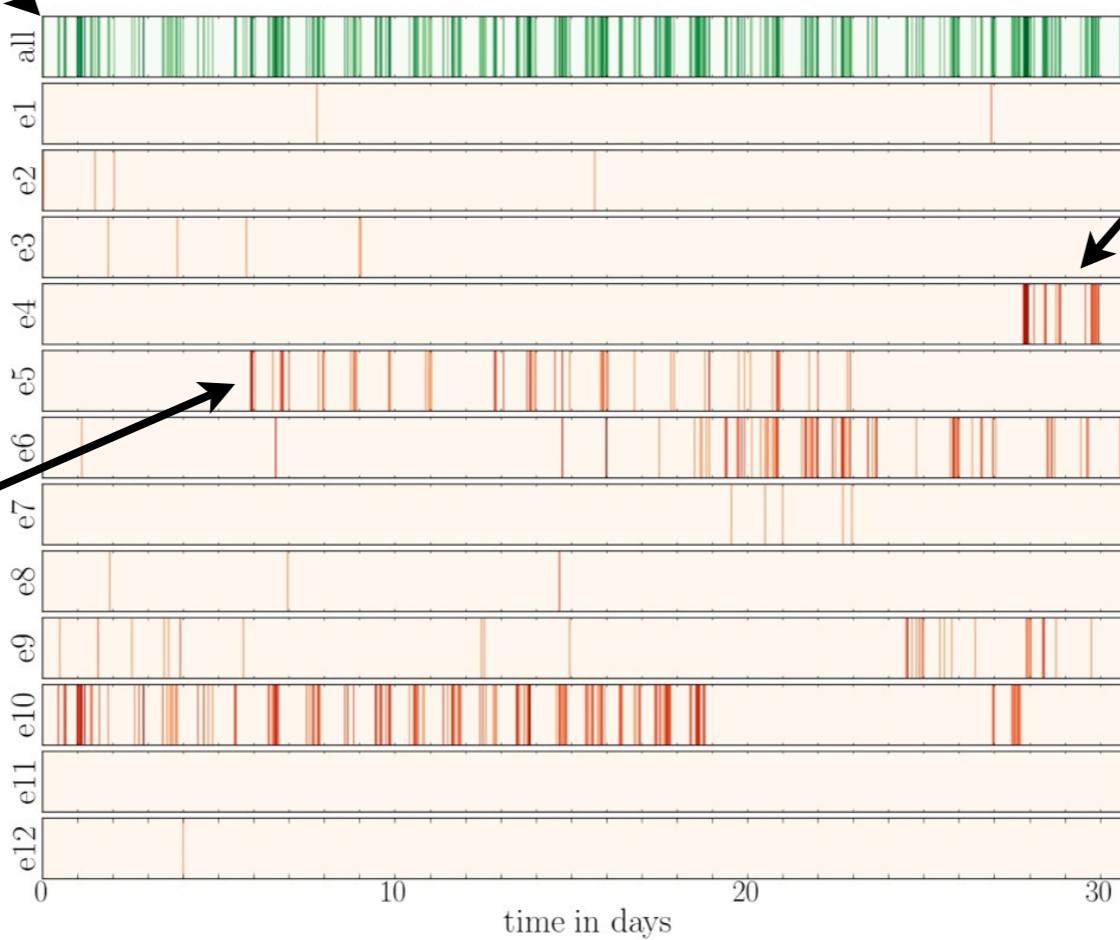
calls are bursty; this slows down spreading



Karsai et al, *Phys. Rev. E* **83**, 025102(R) (2011)  
Pan & Saramäki, *Phys. Rev. E* **84**, 016105 (2011),  
Miritello et al., *Phys. Rev. E* **83**, 045102 (2011)

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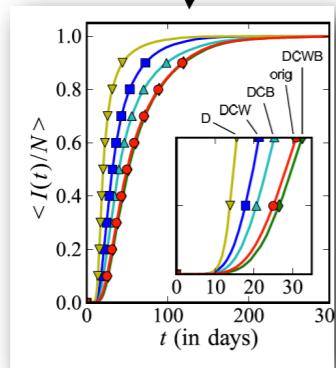


there are *bursty trains*

Karsai, Kaski, Kertész,  
Barabási, Scientific  
Reports 2, 397 (2012)

H.-H. Jo et al, New J Phys 14, 013055 (2011), arXiv:1011.0377  
 Zhao, Karsai, Bianconi, PloS One 6 e28116 (2011)

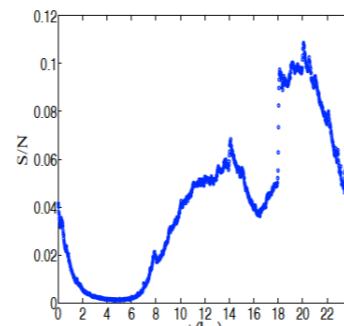
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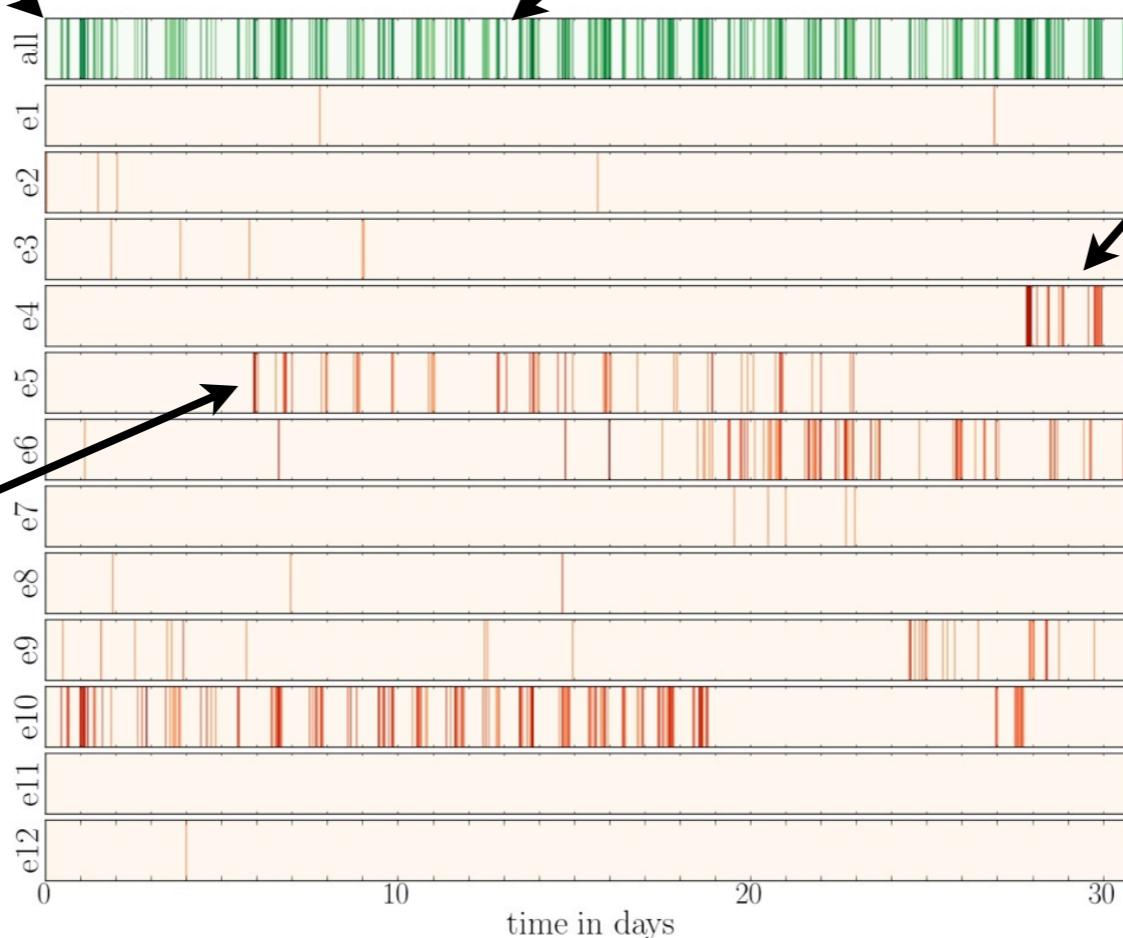
Karsai et al, *Phys. Rev. E* **83**, 025102(R) (2011)  
 Pan & Saramäki, *Phys. Rev. E* **84**, 016105 (2011),  
 Miritello et al., *Phys. Rev. E* **83**, 045102 (2011)

burstiness is associated with *ties*; individuals are bursty because their ties are bursty

Karsai, Kaski, Kertész, PLoS ONE 7(7), e40612 (2012)



there is a circadian pattern; reflected in entropy and predictability

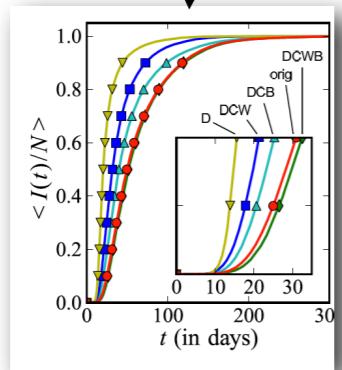


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Karsai, Kaski, Kertész, Barabási, Scientific Reports 2, 397 (2012)

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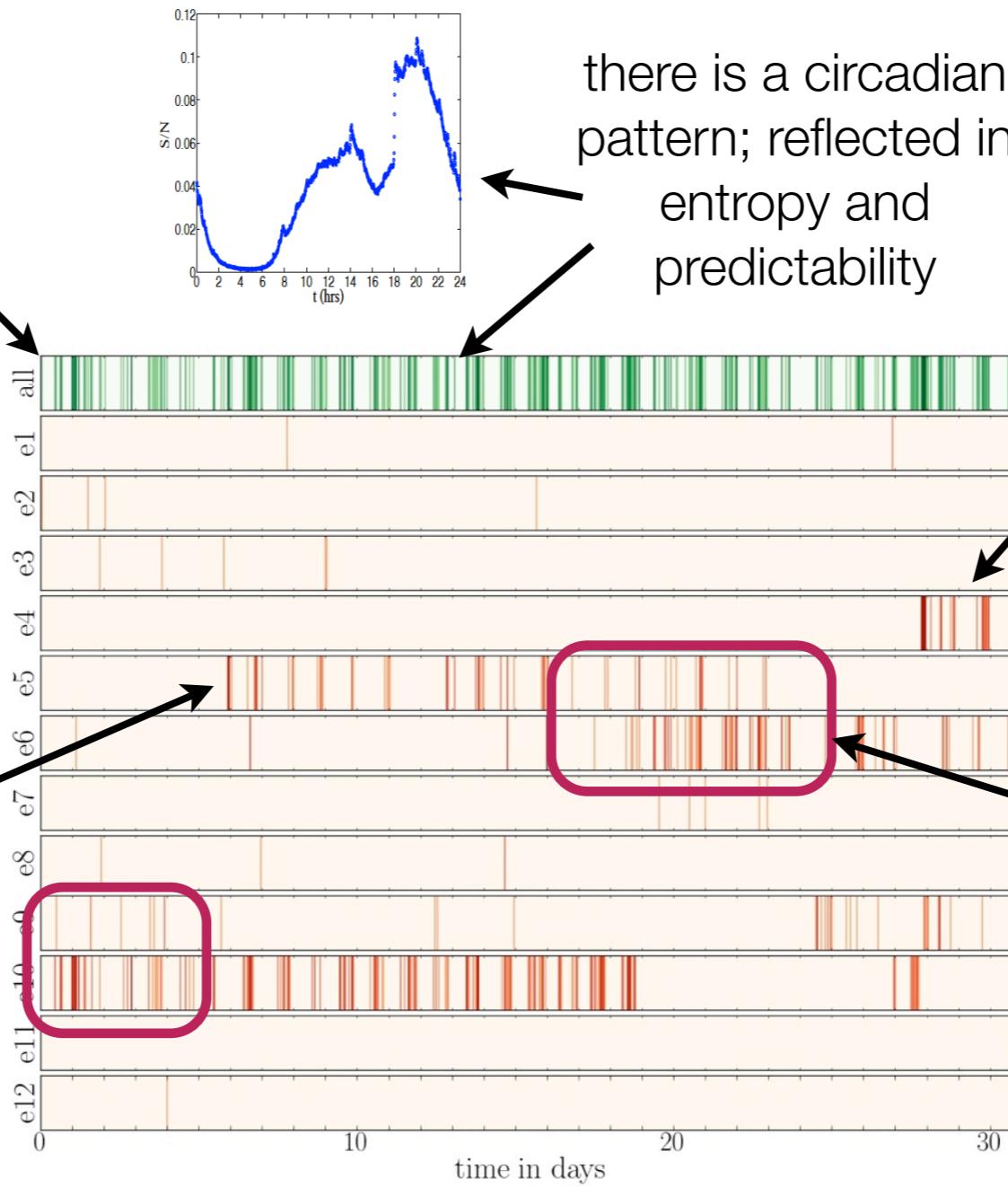
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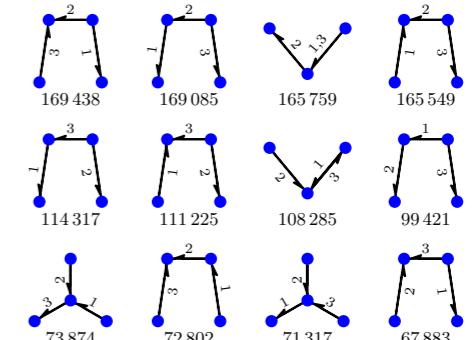
there is a circadian pattern; reflected in entropy and predictability

there are *bursty trains*

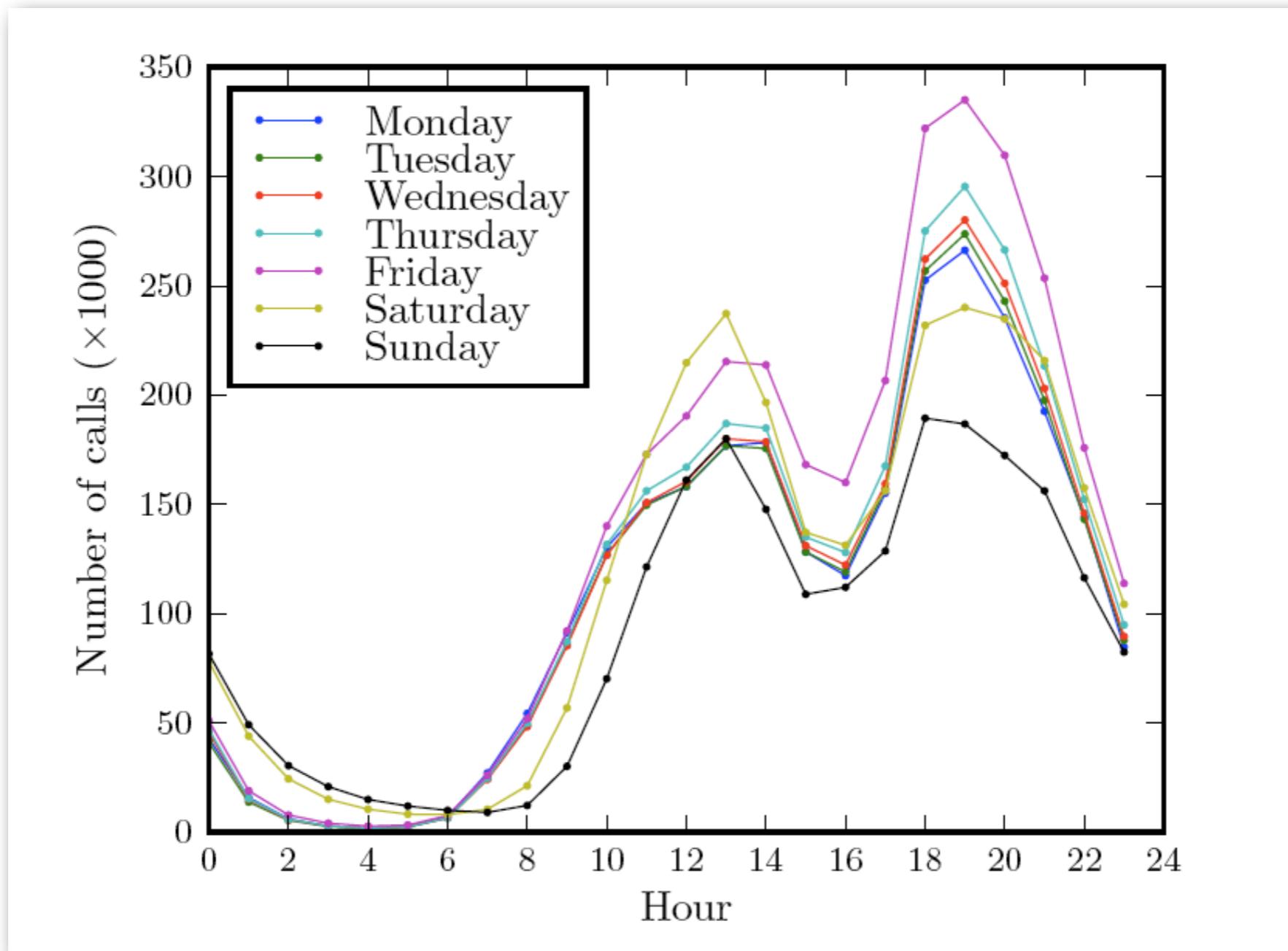
Karsai, Kaski, Kertész, Barabási, Scientific Reports 2, 397 (2012)

there are patterns involving several individuals

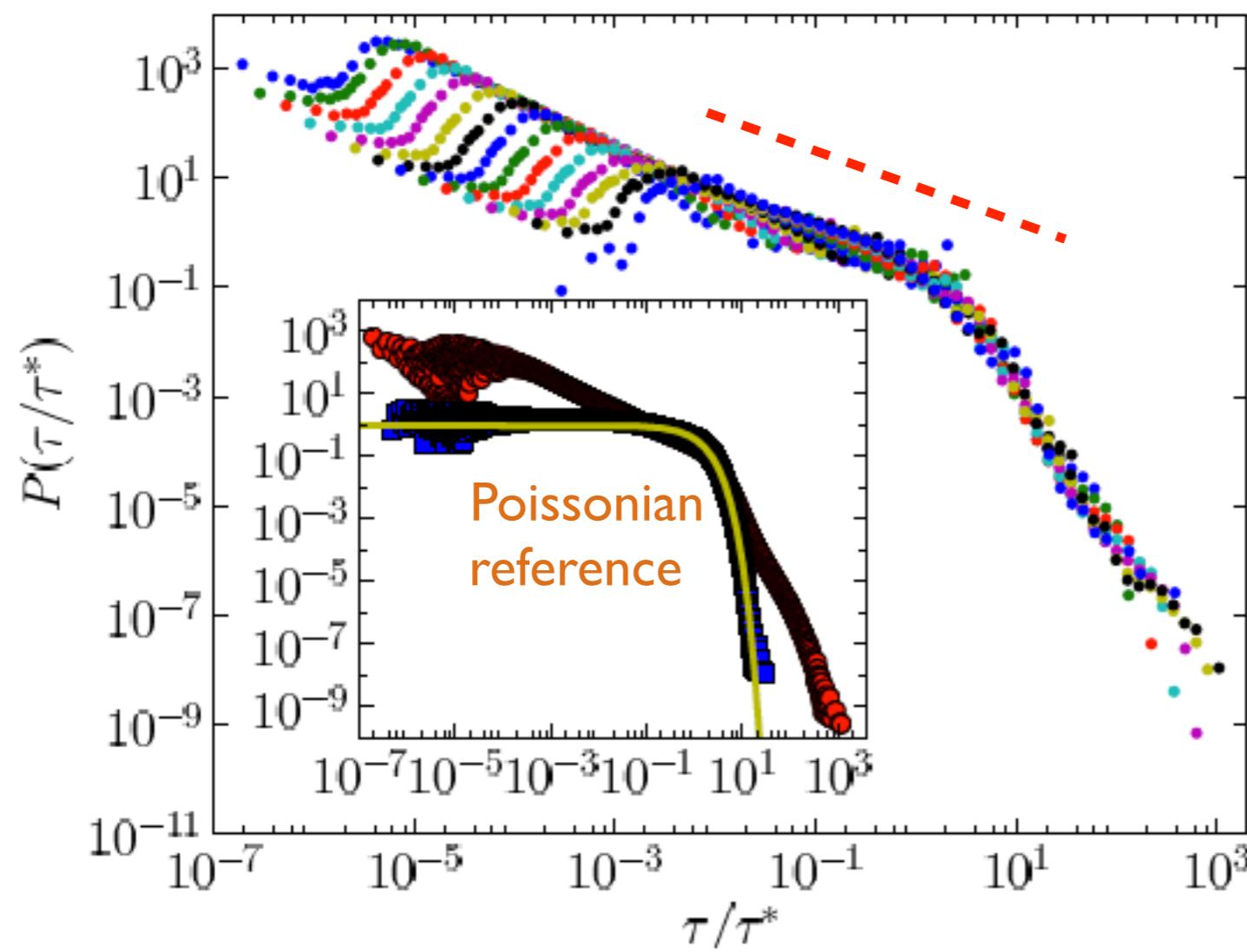
Kovanen et al, J Stat Mech, P11005 (2011)



# There is a network-wide daily pattern

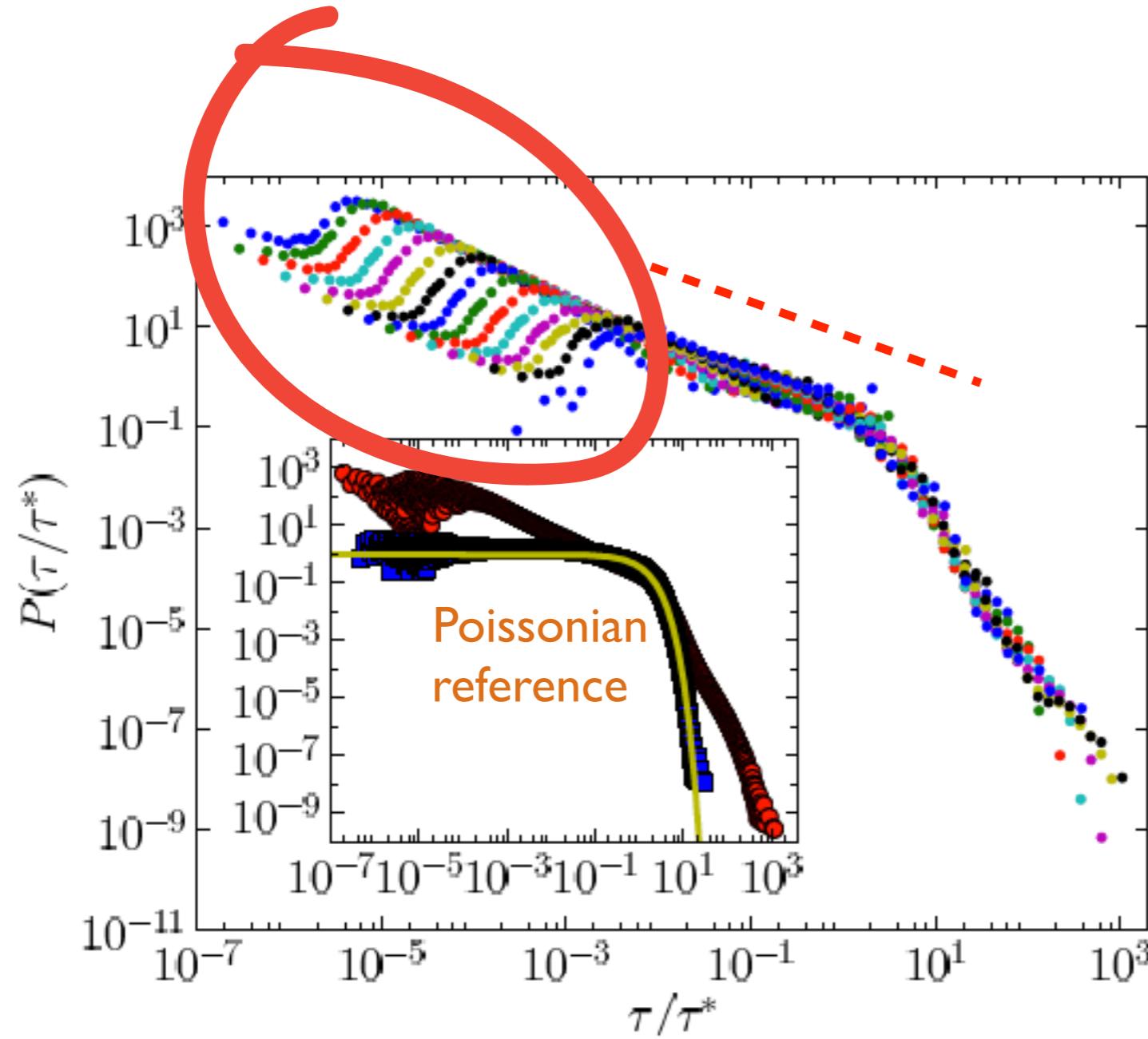


# Burstiness: broad inter-call time distributions



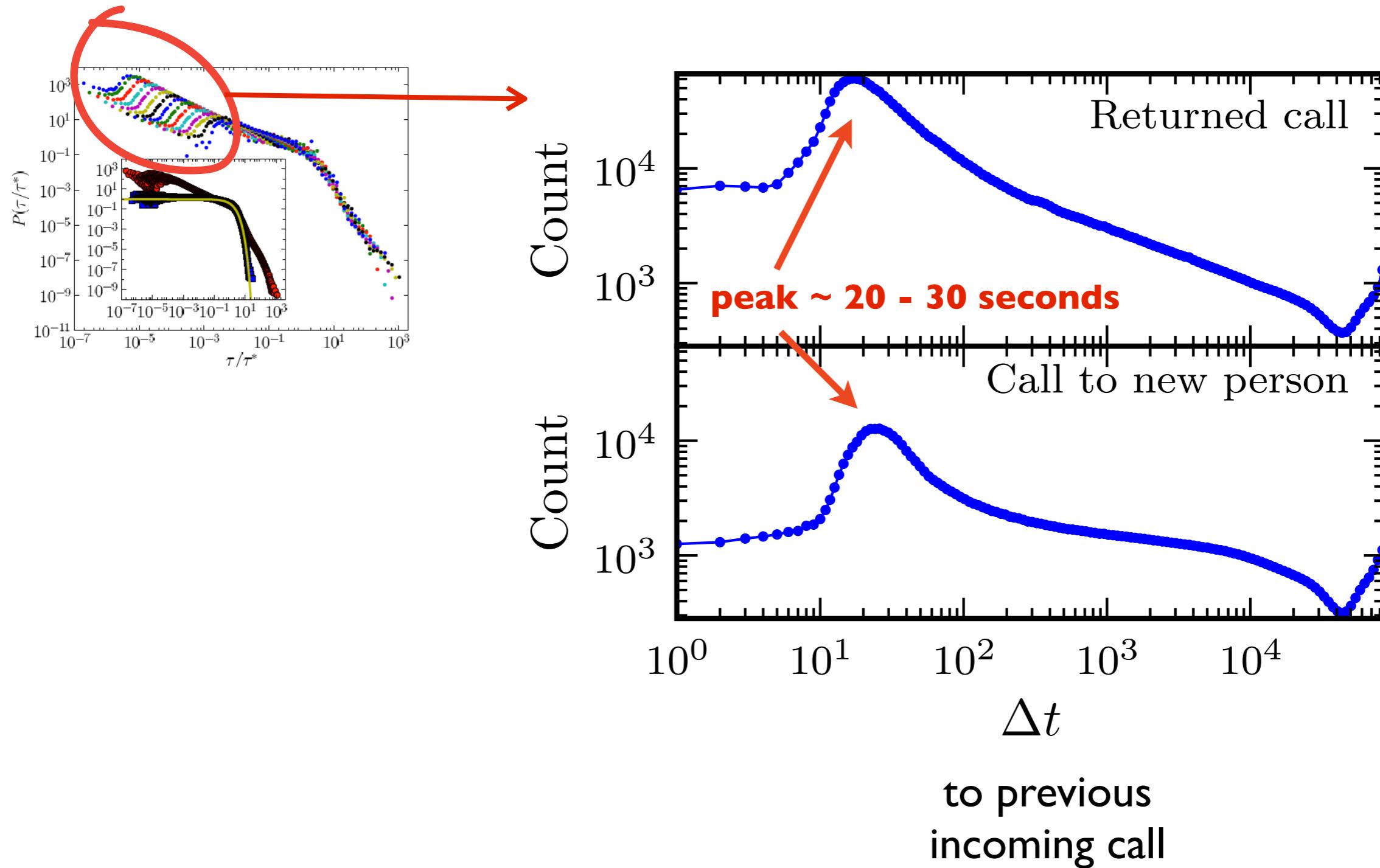
- Nodes binned according to # of calls of node
- Interevent time distribution scaled by avg interevent time in bin

# Burstiness: broad inter-call time distributions



- Nodes binned according to # of calls of node
- Interevent time distribution scaled by avg interevent time in bin

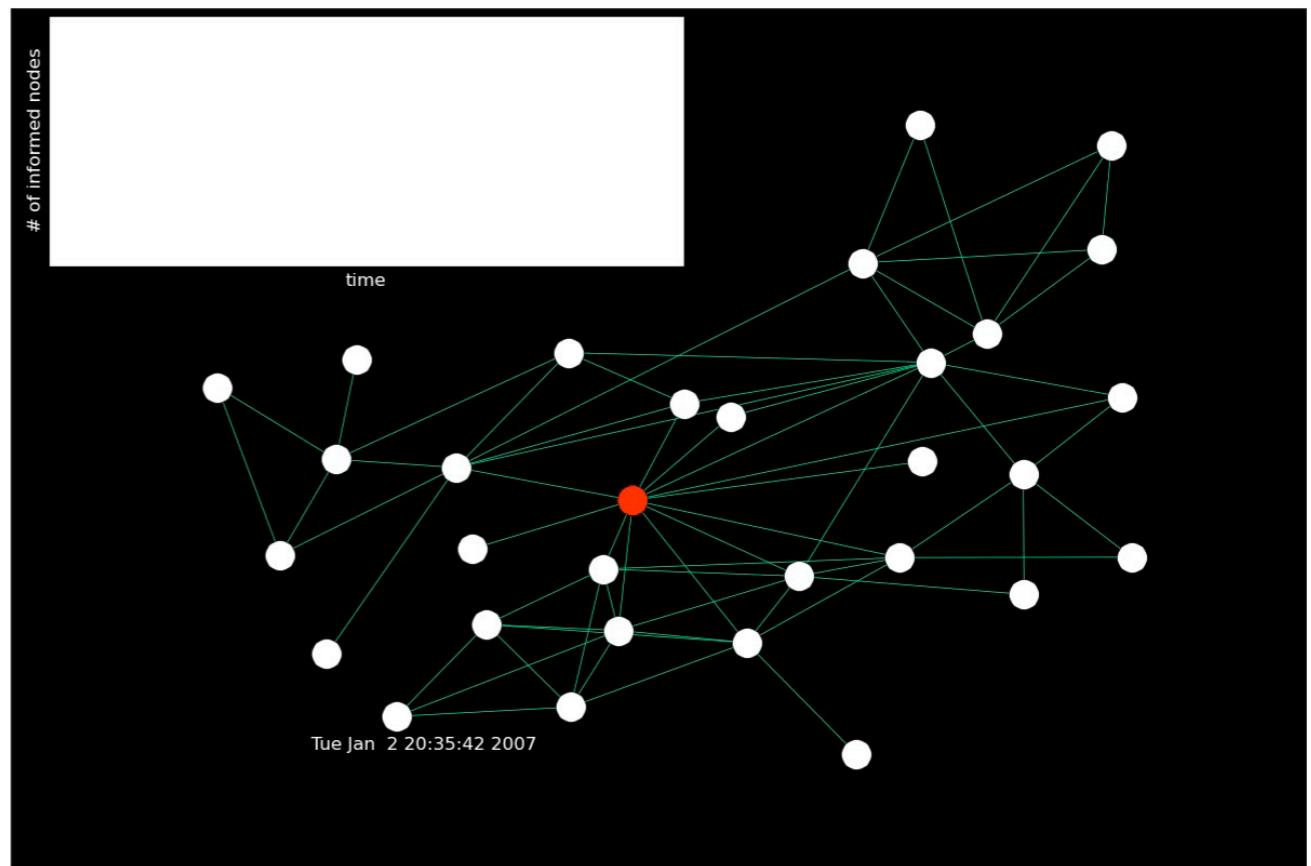
# Calls trigger calls



# Dynamics at the network level: SI spreading

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- (S)usceptible-(I)nfectious
- Represents maximum velocity of information spreading

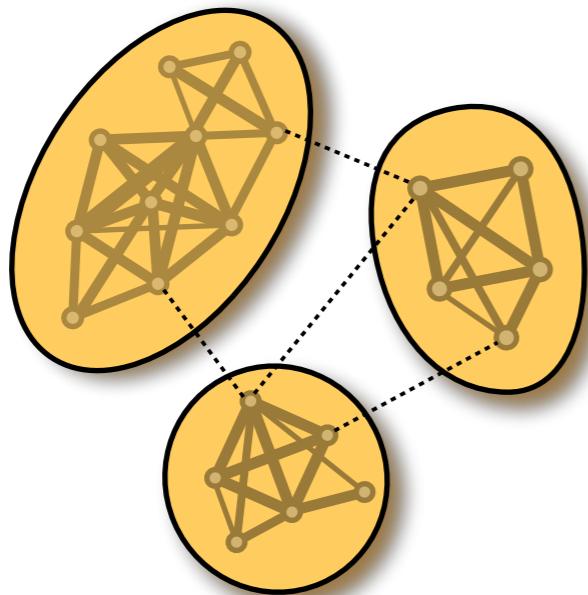


# Features that affect spreading dynamics

## TOPOLOGICAL

**C:** Community structure

**W:** Weight-topology correlations

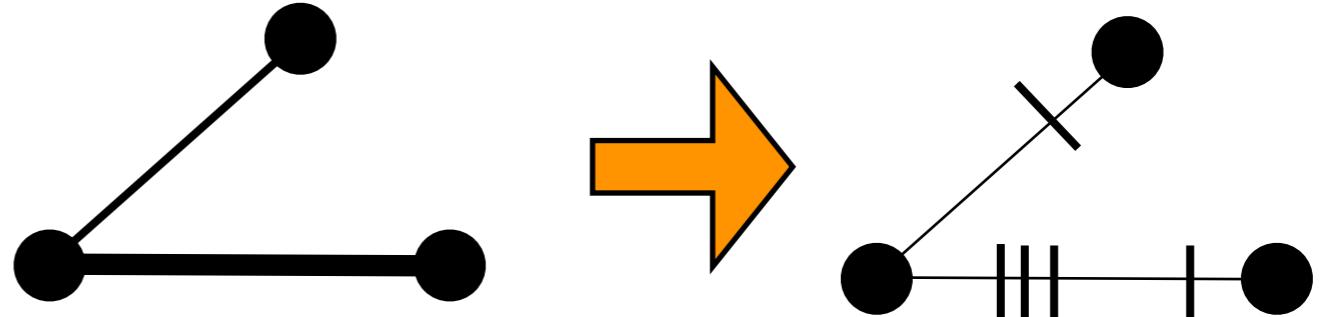


## TEMPORAL

**B:** Bursty single-edge dynamics (“ping-pong”)

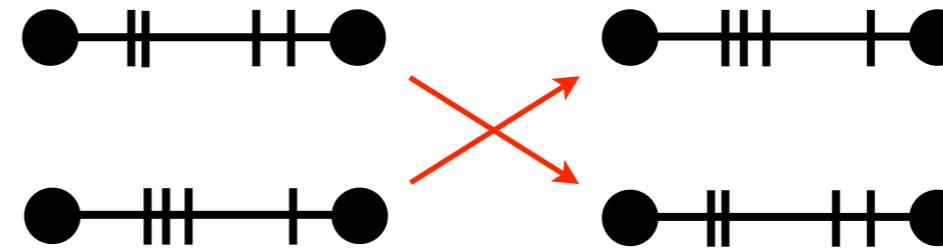
**E:** link-link correlations  
(calls trigger calls, A to B to C)

**D:** Daily pattern (more calls around lunchtime, etc)

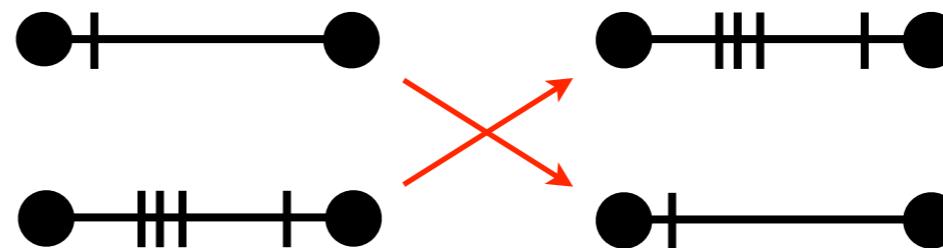


# Randomized reference models for removing correlations

**Destroy link-link correlations**



**Destroy link-link correlations + weight-topology correlations**



**Destroy all temporal correlations except daily pattern, retain weights**

A diagram illustrating the transformation of temporal correlations. On the left, there is a 4x3 matrix representing temporal correlations between callers and callees at different times. The matrix rows are: (A,B,I), (D,E,3), (D,F,9), (F,A,II). An arrow points to a second 4x3 matrix where the time stamps have been shuffled. The second matrix rows are: (A,B,9), (D,E,II), (D,F,3), (F,A,I). Red arrows indicate the movement of time stamp values between the two matrices.

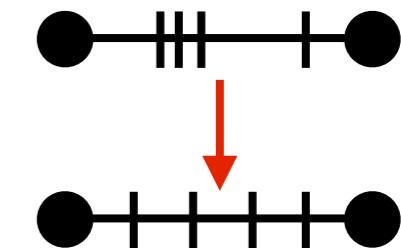
caller	callee	time
A	B	I
D	E	3
D	F	9
F	A	II

→

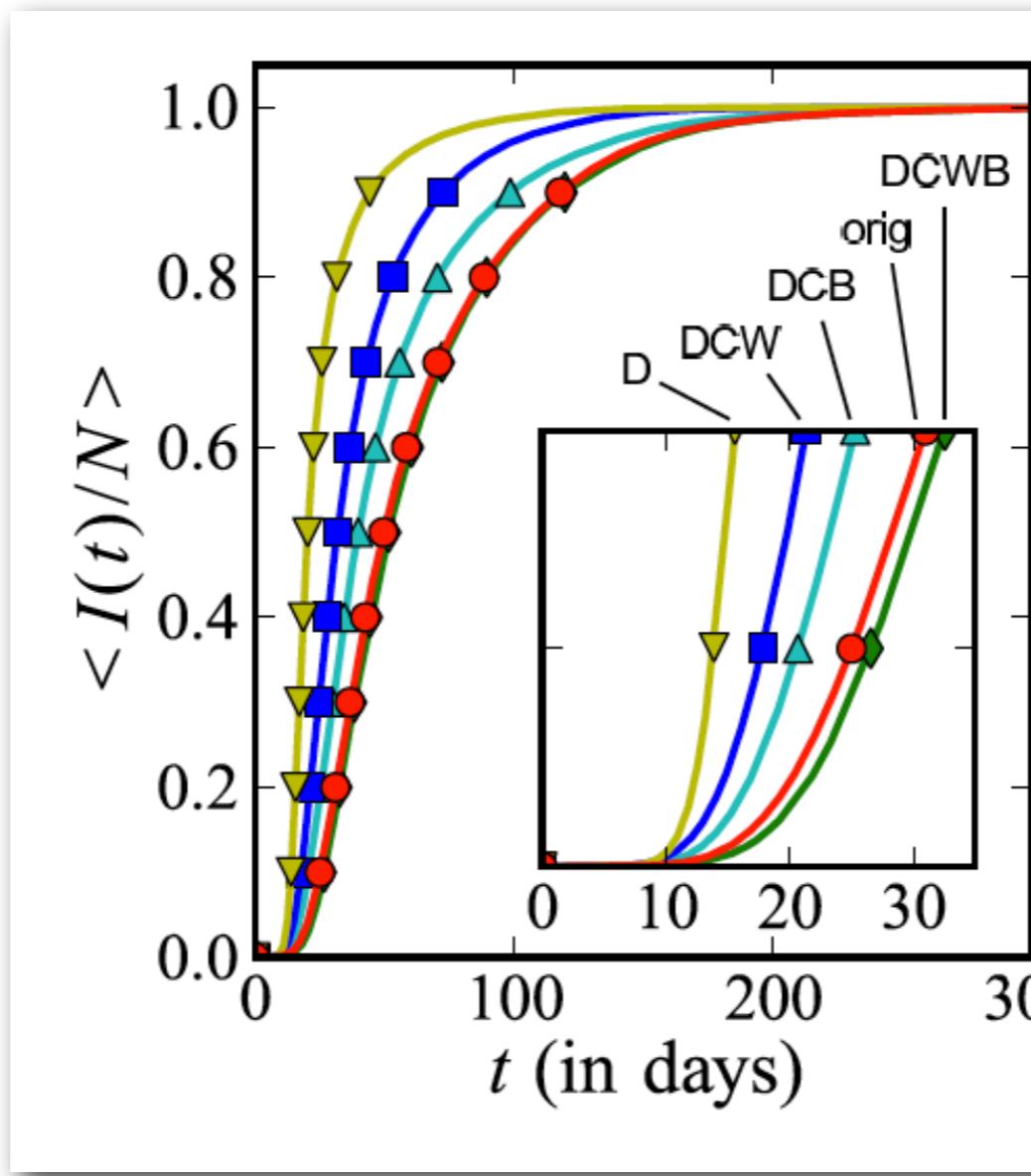
caller	callee	time
A	B	9
D	E	II
D	F	3
F	A	I

**Destroy all**

Configuration model topological rewiring + random link sequence placement + time stamp shuffling



## prevalence vs time - curves for null models



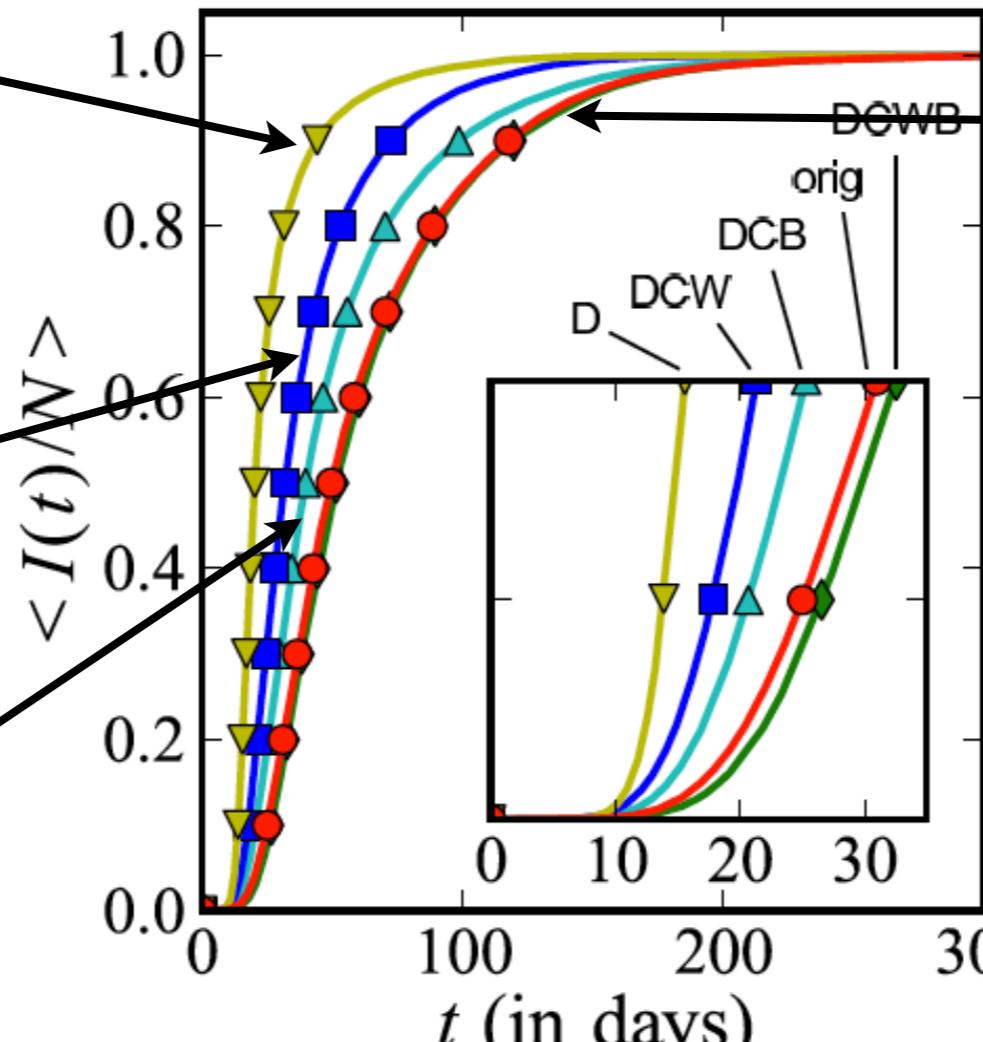
*Small but slow world: how network topology and burstiness slow down spreading,*  
M. Karsai, M. Kivelä, R. K. Pan, K. Kaski, J. Kertész, A.-L. Barabási, and  
J. Saramäki, Phys Rev E **83**, 025102(R) (2011)

most correlations removed

link burstiness removed

burstiness on, weak-link bottleneck removed

## prevalence vs time - curves for null models

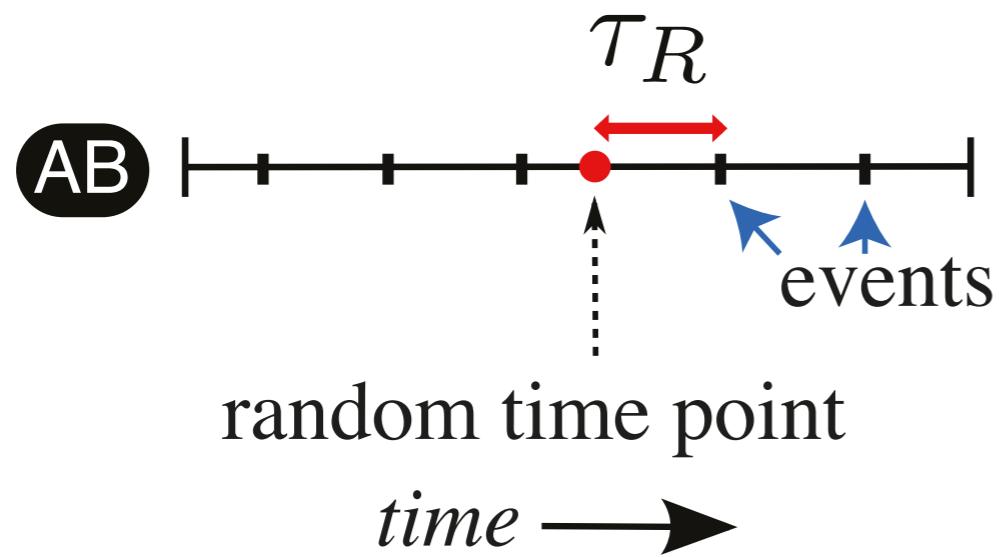


original call sequence

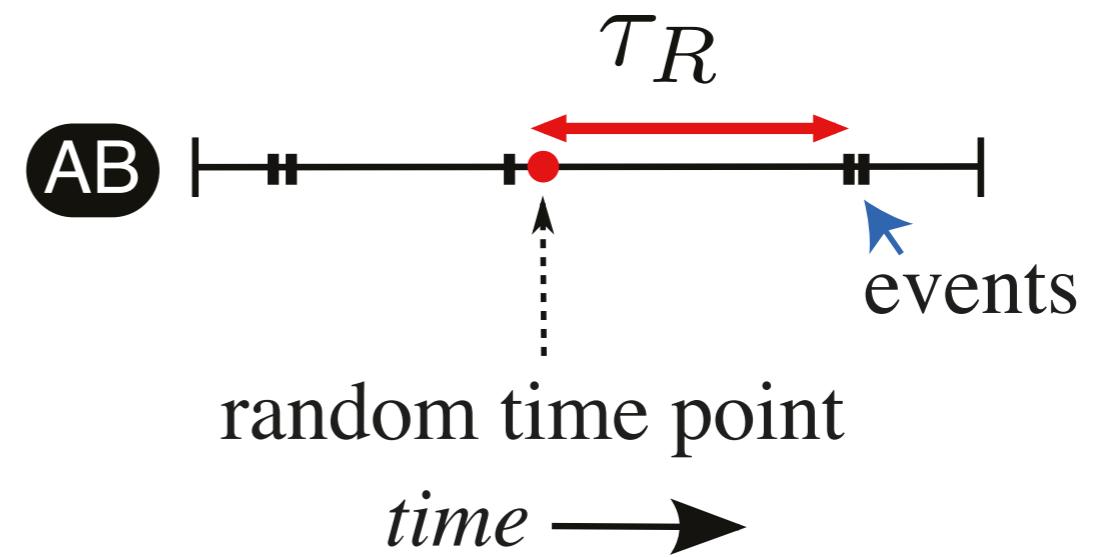
**Bursty dynamics slows down spreading a lot!**

*Small but slow world: how network topology and burstiness slow down spreading,*  
M. Karsai, M. Kivelä, R. K. Pan, K. Kaski, J. Kertész, A.-L. Barabási, and  
J. Saramäki, Phys Rev E **83**, 025102(R) (2011)

uniformly random

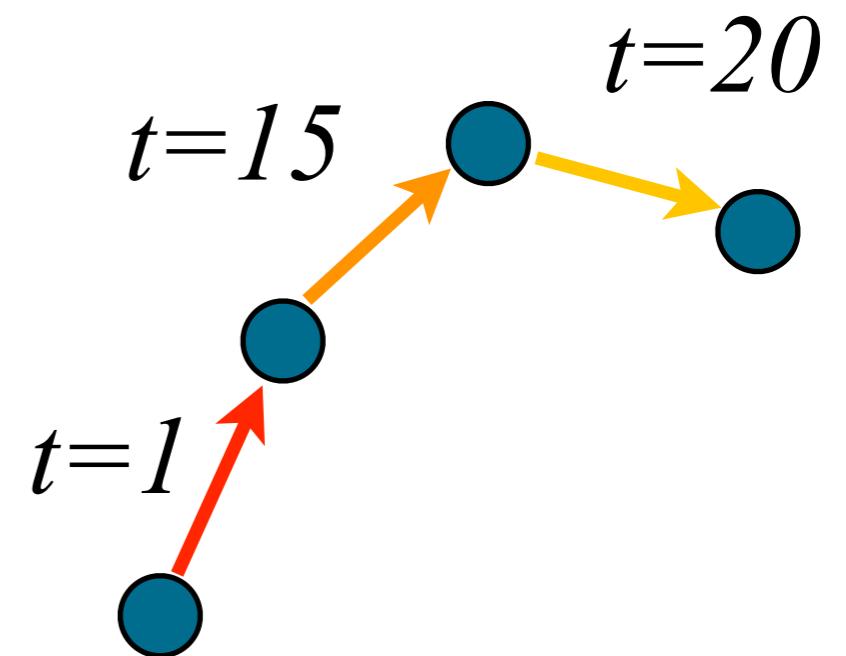


bursty

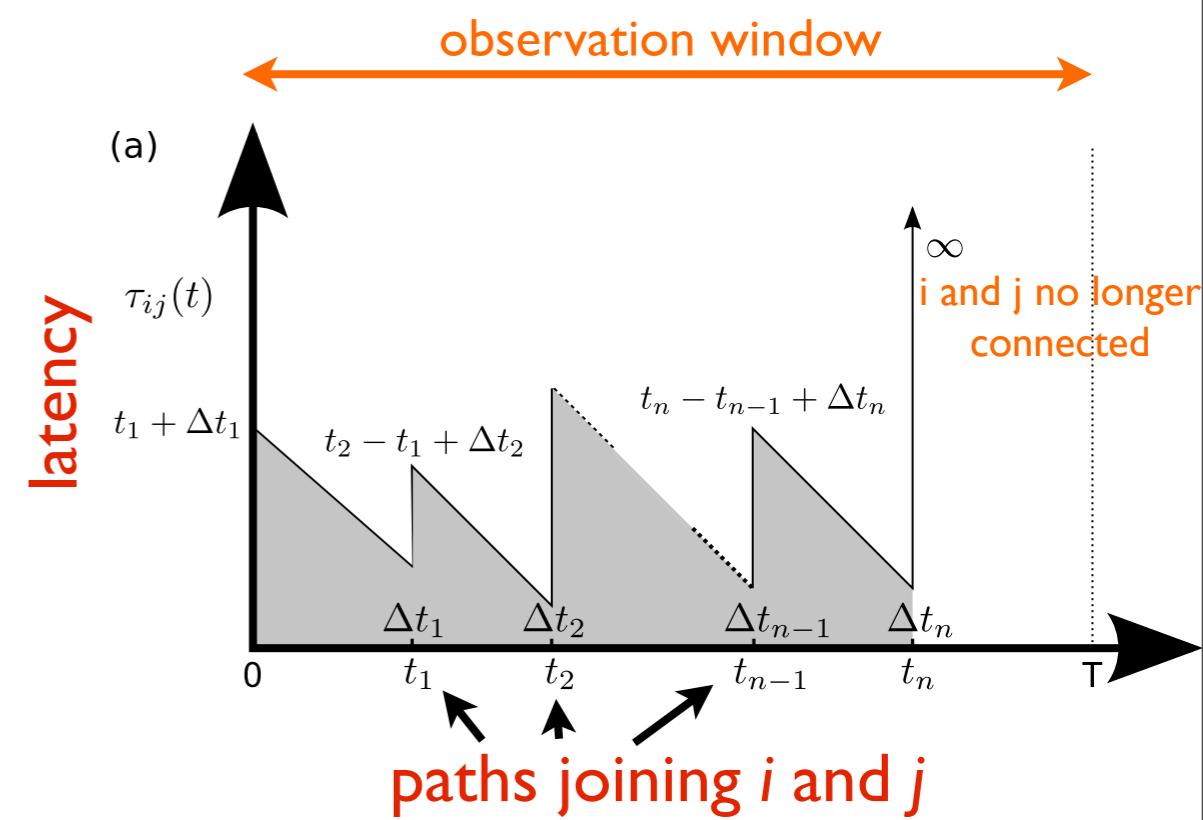


# Slow spreading = slow temporal paths

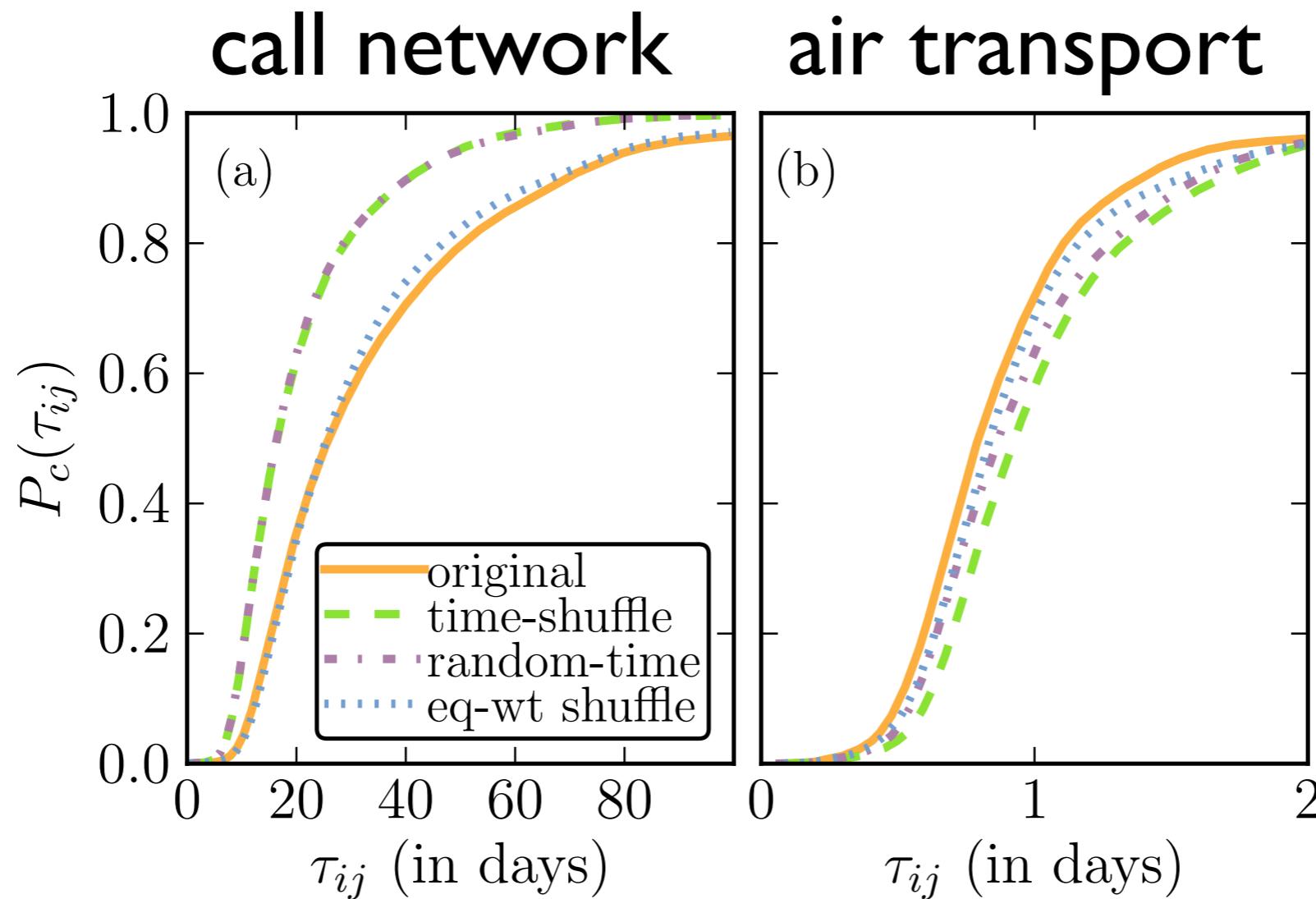
- One can characterize a temporal graph by measuring **average latencies** between nodes
- Temporal latency  $\tau_{ij}$ : the time it takes to reach  $j$  from  $i$  via a time-respecting path, beginning at time  $t$



- The statement “ $i$  and  $j$  are connected via a temporal path” is not enough
  - need to know ***when, how often, and how long*** does it take to traverse the paths
- Average quantities: ***finite observation window!***
- See *Path lengths, correlations, and centrality in temporal networks*, R.K. Pan and J. Saramäki, Phys. Rev. E 84, 016105 (2011), arXiv:1101.5913



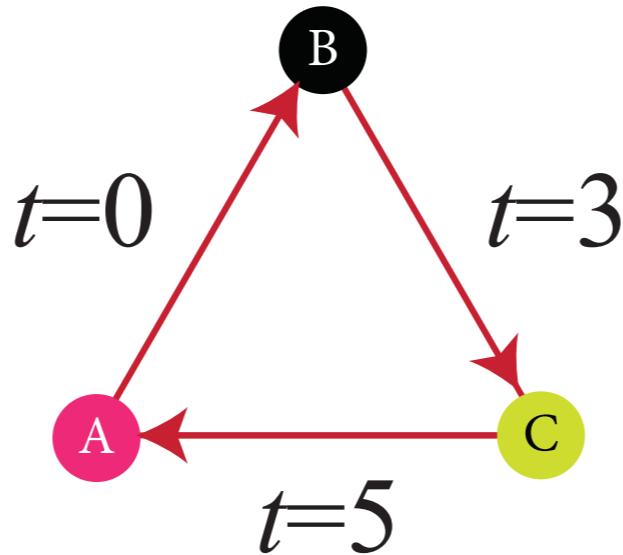
# cumulative latency distributions



For the air transport network,  
temporal correlations give rise to  
faster paths

# temporal motifs

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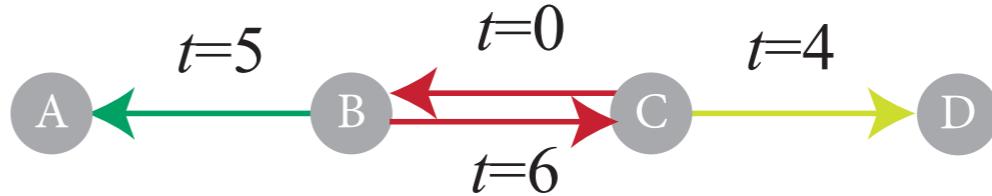
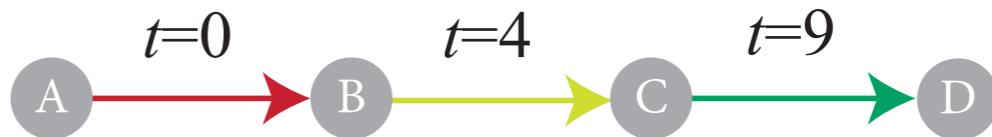
- We want to detect **temporal patterns, where links activate within short time periods**
- Patterns should be grouped into equivalence classes (motifs) that take event order into account

# $\Delta t$ -adjacent and $\Delta t$ -connected events

these two are temporal subgraphs



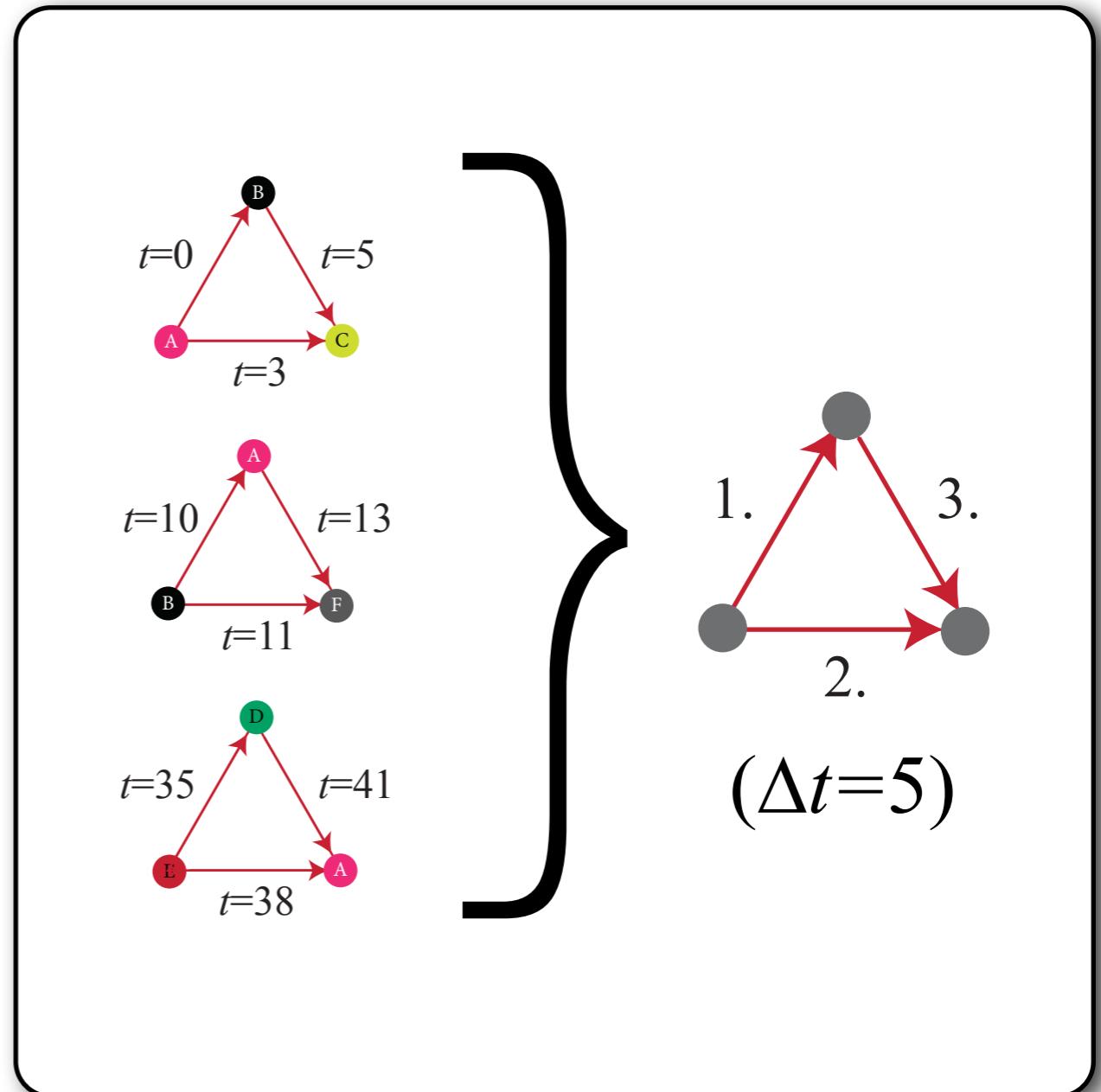
$\Delta t$ -adjacent  
for  $\Delta t=5$



$\Delta t$ -connected  
for  $\Delta t=5$

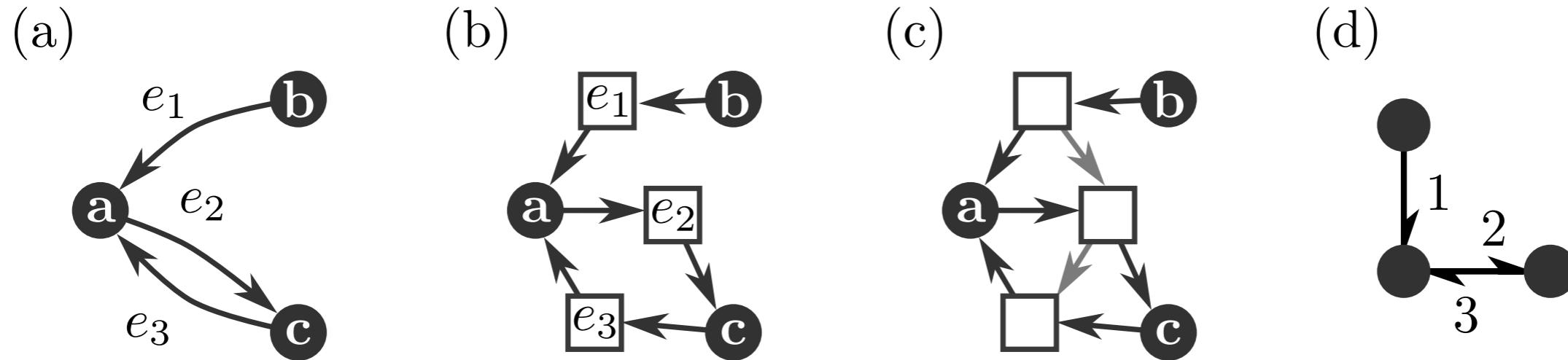
# Temporal motifs: definition

- **temporal motifs** = equivalence classes of **valid** temporal subgraphs
- equivalence: order of events matters, exact timings don't
- **valid** = no events are skipped at nodes



# From subgraphs to equivalence classes

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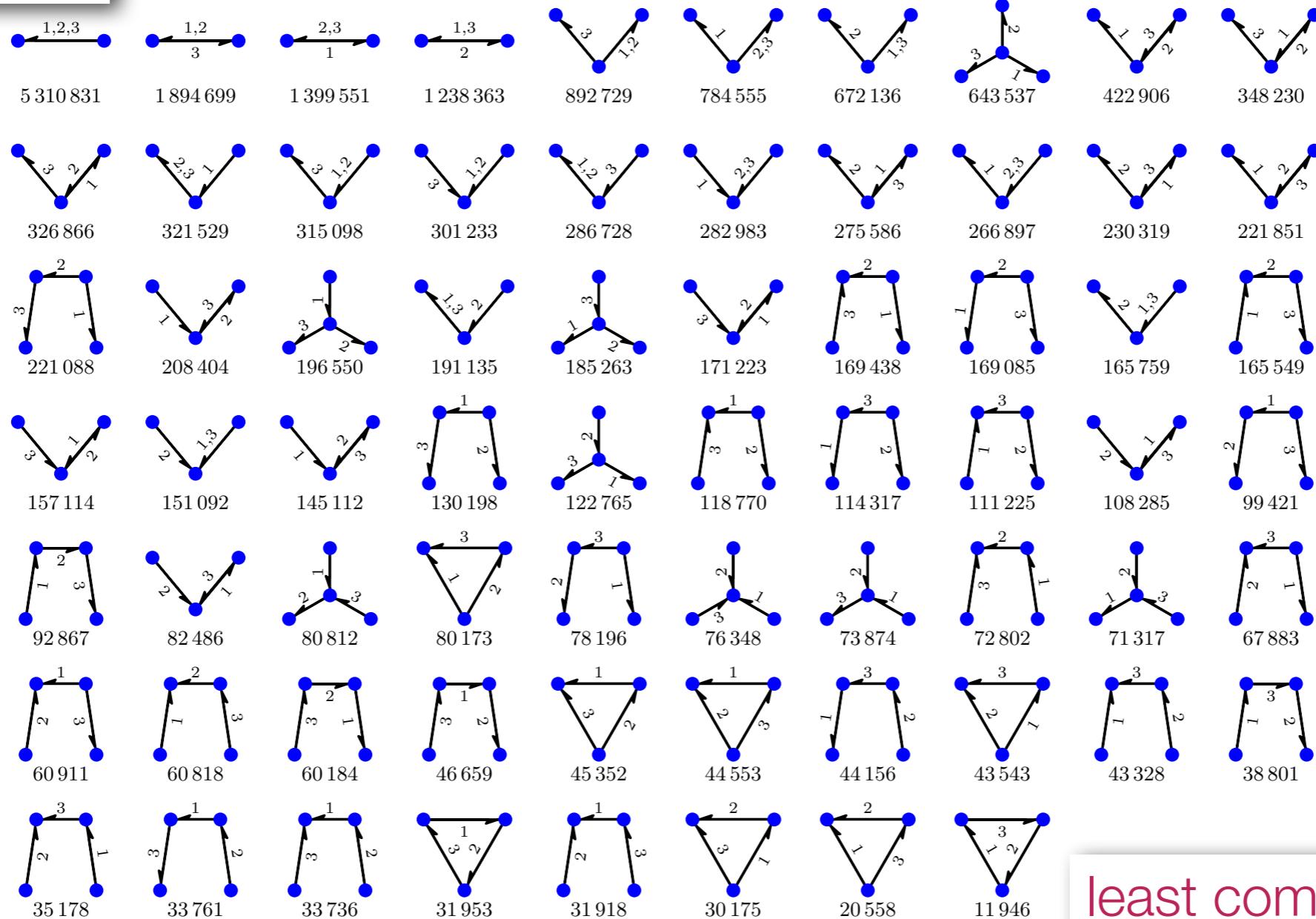


- Temporal subgraphs are mapped into directed, coloured graphs
- Isomorphism algorithms are used for assigning equivalence classes

See Kovanen et al., J Stat Mech P11005 (2011), arXiv:1107.5646 (2011)

# Motifs in call data

most common

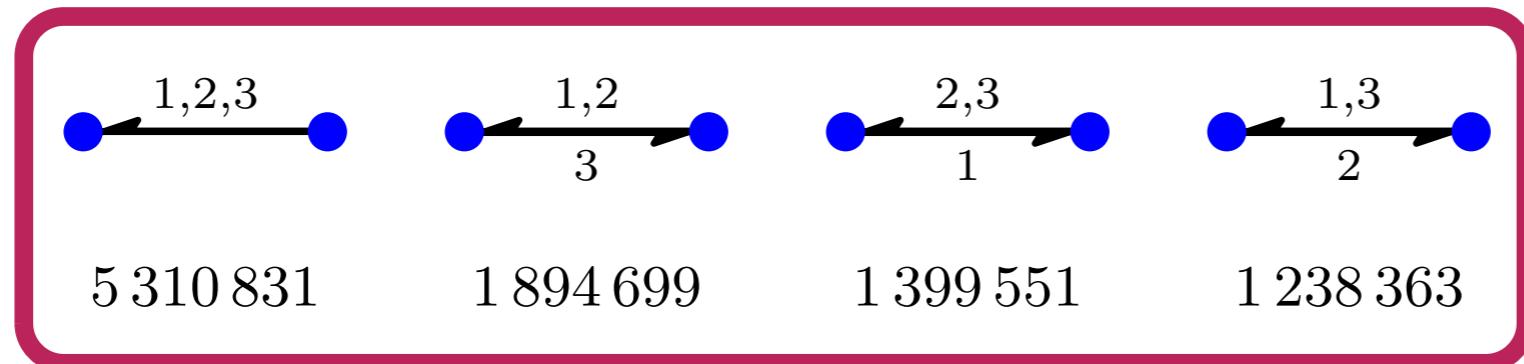


all 3-call motifs

least common

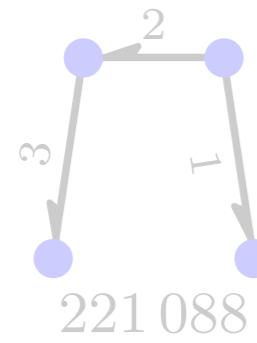
(motifs from ~320 mill. call events, with  $\Delta t=10$  min  $\rightarrow$  35% of events are time-adjacent with some other event)

# Motifs in call data

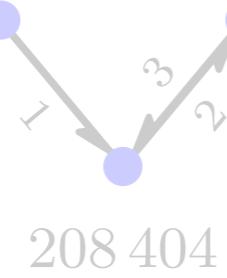


THE MOST COMMON MOTIFS REFLECT  
BURSTINESS

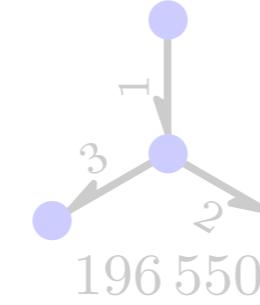
326 866



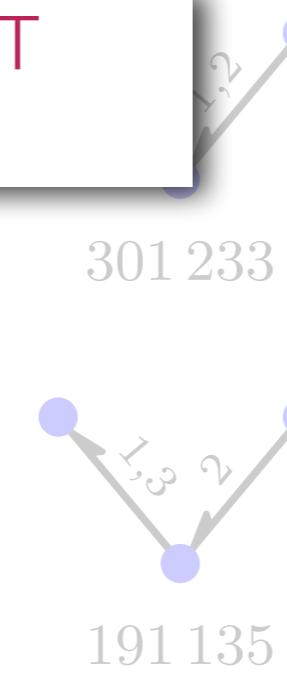
321 529



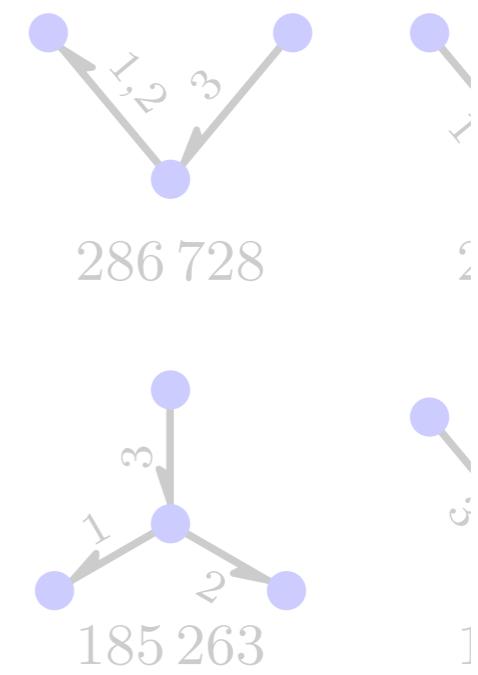
315 098



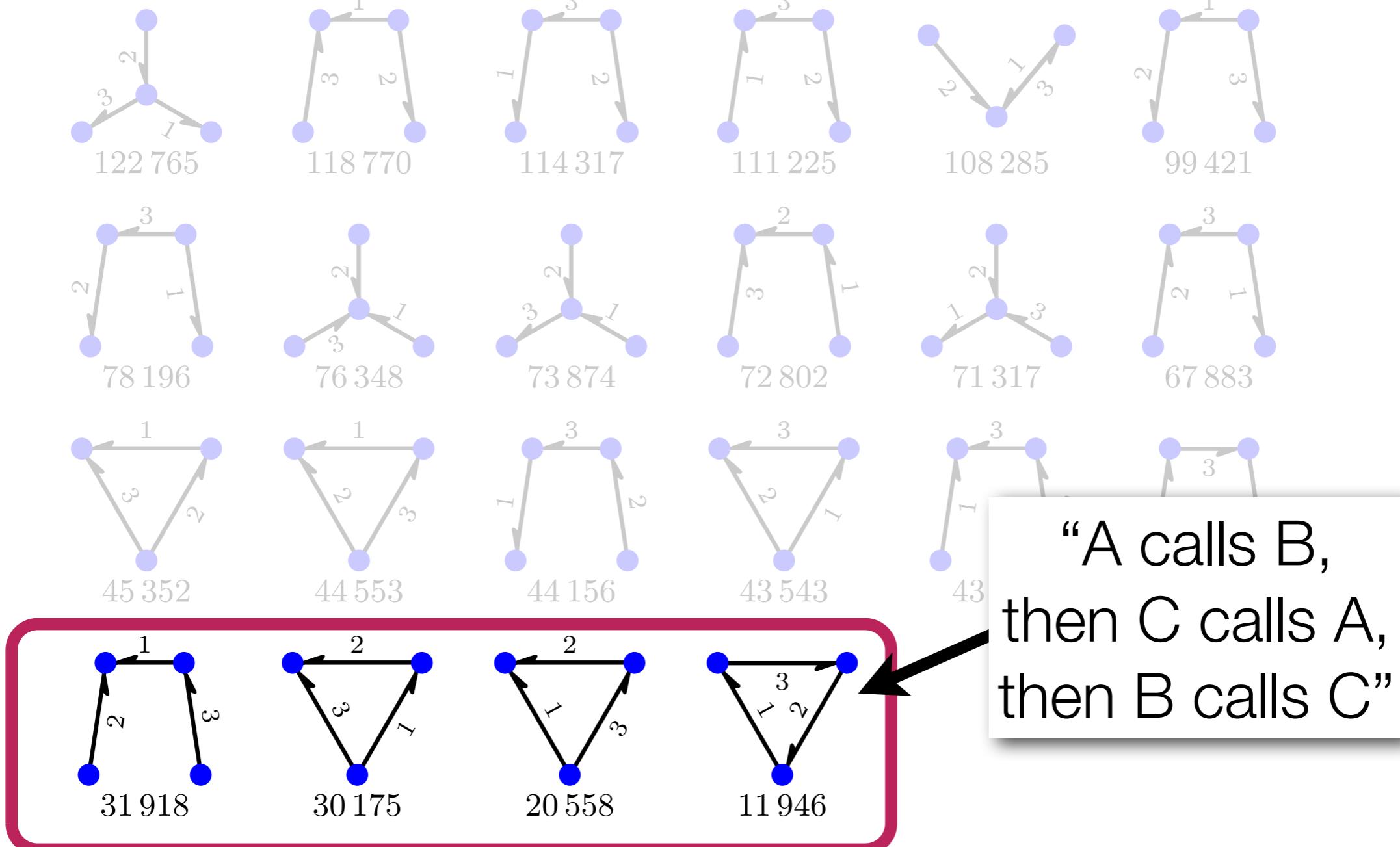
301 233



286 728

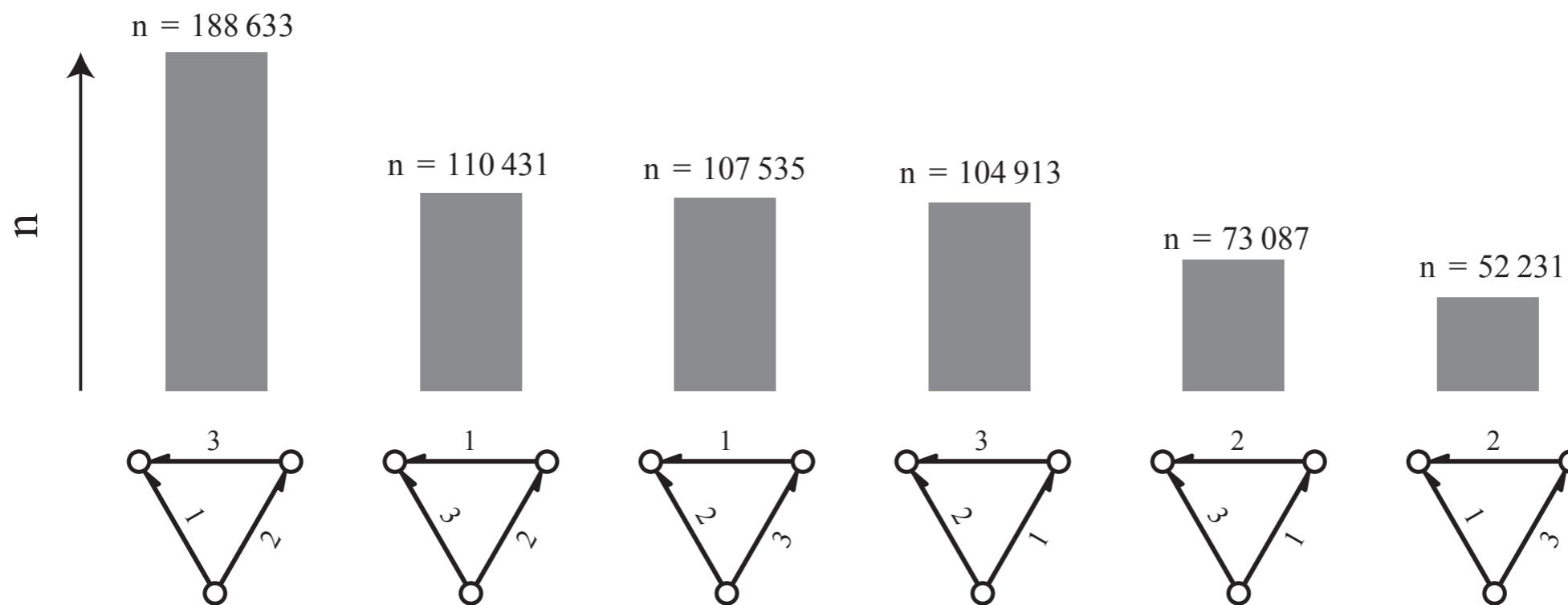


# Motifs in call data



THE LEAST COMMON MOTIFS ARE (probably) NOT CAUSAL SEQUENCES

# triangular motifs in call data



# THANK YOU!

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Some related papers by the Aalto Complex Networks group:

- *Small but slow world: how network topology and burstiness slow down spreading*, M. Karsai, M. Kivelä, R. K. Pan, K. Kaski, J. Kertész, A.-L. Barabási, and J. Saramäki, Phys. Rev. E **83**, 025102(R) (2011)
- *Path lengths, correlations, and centrality in temporal networks*, R.K. Pan and J. Saramäki, Phys. Rev. E **84**, 016105 (2011)
- *Temporal motifs in time-dependent networks*, L. Kovanen, M. Karsai, K. Kaski, J. Kertész, and J. Saramäki, J. Stat. Mech. P11005 (2011), arXiv:1107.5646 (2011)
- *Multi-scale analysis of spreading in a large communication network*, M. Kivelä, R.K. Pan, K. Kaski, J. Kertész, J. Saramäki, and M. Karsai, J. Stat. Mech. P03005 (2012), arXiv:1112.4312
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