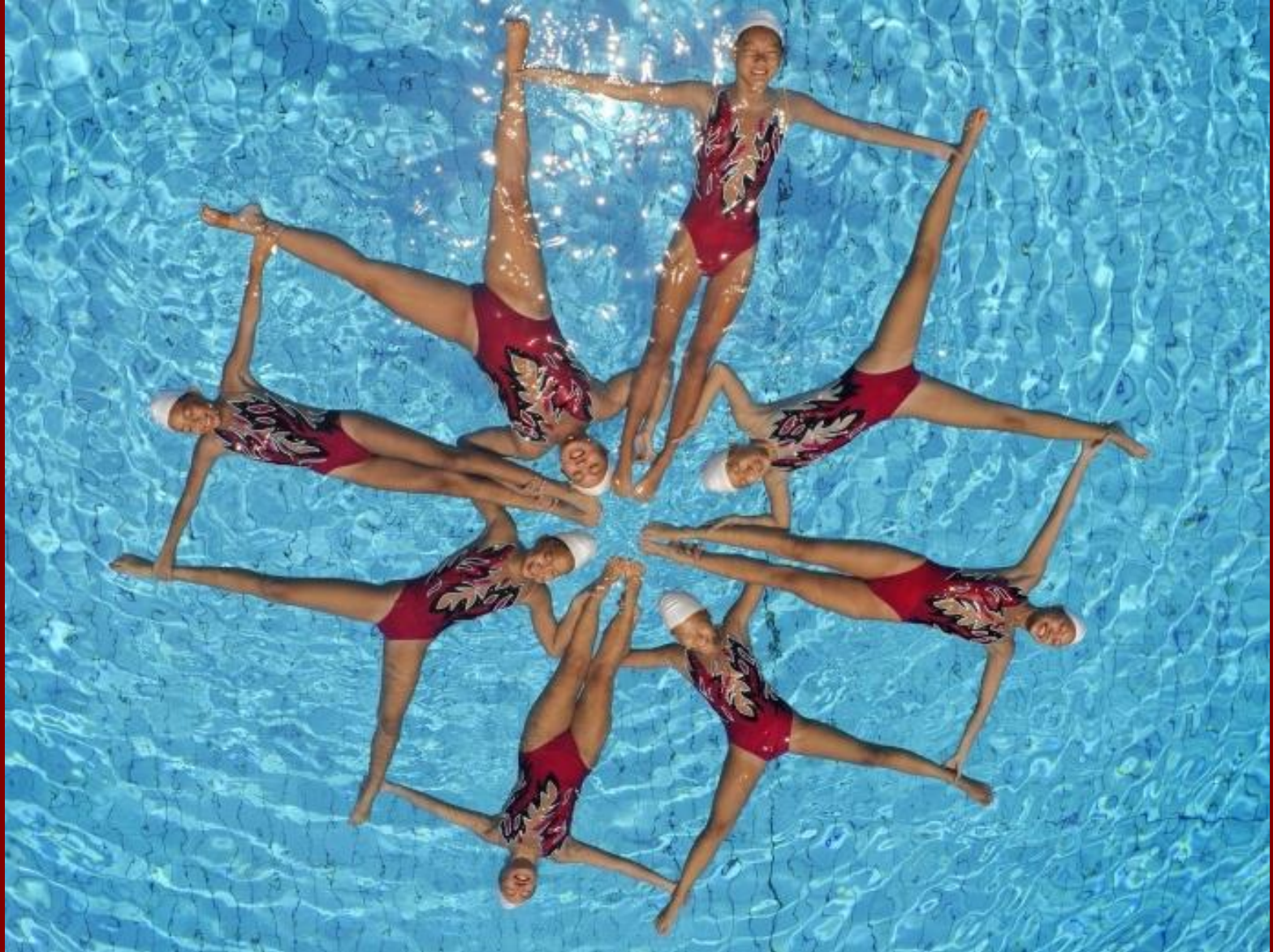


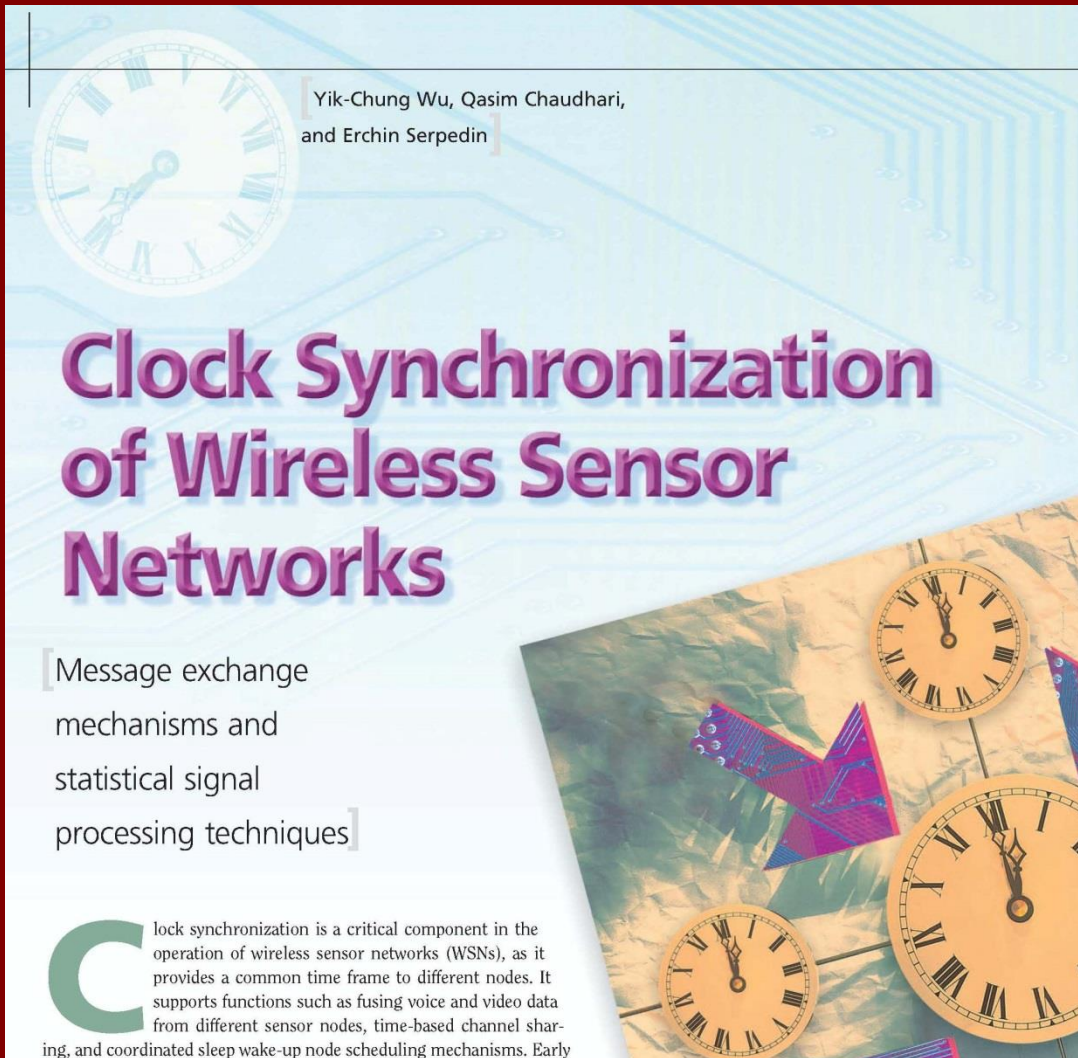
# SYNC

**GRChen / EE / CityU**

# Sync



# Synchrony can be essential

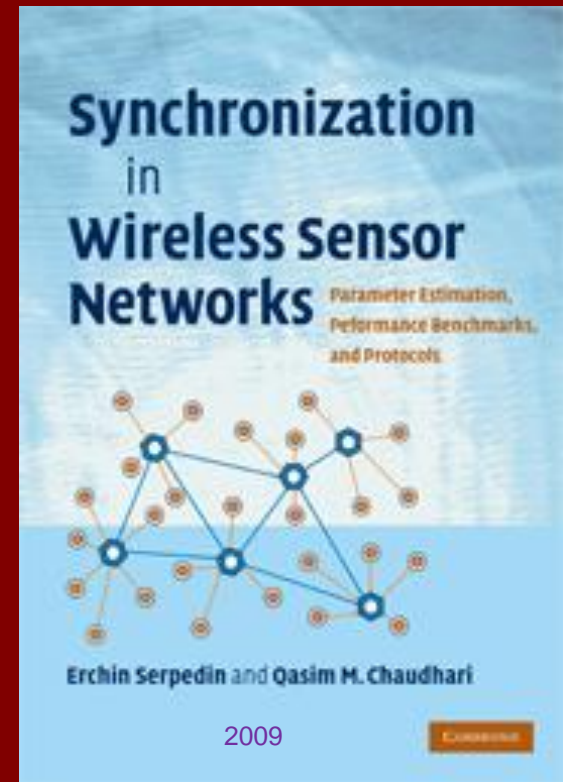


Yik-Chung Wu, Qasim Chaudhari,  
and Erchin Serpedin

## Clock Synchronization of Wireless Sensor Networks

Message exchange  
mechanisms and  
statistical signal  
processing techniques

**C**lock synchronization is a critical component in the operation of wireless sensor networks (WSNs), as it provides a common time frame to different nodes. It supports functions such as fusing voice and video data from different sensor nodes, time-based channel sharing, and coordinated sleep wake-up node scheduling mechanisms. Early



← “Clock synchronization is a critical component in the operation of wireless sensor networks, as it provides a common time frame to different nodes.”



FULL SCREEN



MIT neuroscientists found that brain waves originating from the striatum (red) and from the prefrontal cortex (blue) become synchronized when an animal learns to categorize different patterns of dots.

Illustration: Jose-Luis Olivares/MIT

## Synchronized brain waves enable rapid learning

MIT study finds neurons that hum together encode new information.

# Contents

- ❑ **Network synchronization and criteria**
- ❑ **Network spectra and synchronizability**
- ❑ **Networks with best synchronizability**
- ❑ **Networks with good controllability and strong robustness against attacks**

# A General Dynamical Network Model

An undirected network:

$$\dot{x}_i = f(x_i) - c \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} H(x_j)$$

$$x_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$i = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

$f(\cdot)$  – Lipschitz      Coupling strength  $c > 0$

$A = [a_{ij}]$  – Adjacency matrix       $H$  – Coupling matrix function

If there is a connection between node  $i$  and node  $j$  ( $j \neq i$ ),  
then  $a_{ij} = a_{ji} = 1$ ; otherwise,  $a_{ij} = a_{ji} = 0$  and  $a_{ii} = 0$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$

Laplacian  $L = D - A$ ,  $D = \text{diag}\{d_1, \dots, d_N\}$  (node degrees)

For connected networks, eigenvalues:  $0 = \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_N$



# Network Synchronization

$$\dot{x}_i = f(x_i) - c \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} H(x_j)$$

$$x_i \in R^n$$

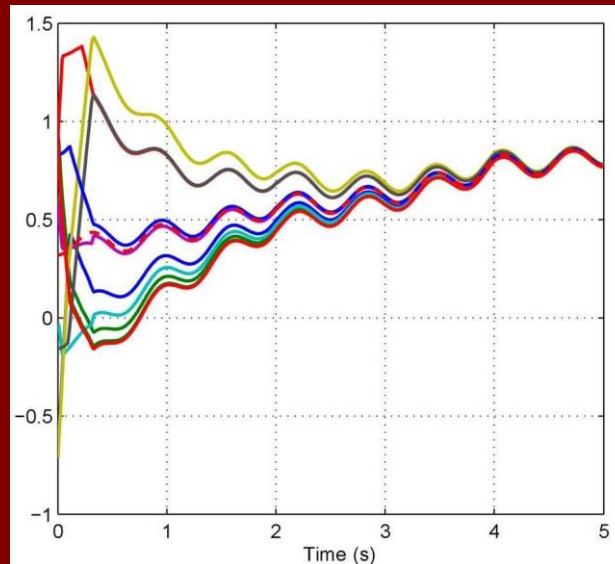
$$i = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

(Complete state)

Synchronization:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|x_i(t) - x_j(t)\|_2 = 0, \quad i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

Numerical example:



# Network Synchronization: Analysis

$$\dot{x}_i = f(x_i) - c \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} H(x_j)$$

$$x_i \in R^n$$

$$i = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

Put all equations together with  $\mathbf{x} = [x_1^T, x_2^T, \dots, x_N^T]^T$   
Then linearize it at equilibrium  $s$  :

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = [I_N \otimes [\nabla f(s)]] - c[A \otimes [\nabla H(s)]]\mathbf{x}$$

$f(\cdot)$  Lipschitz, or assume:  $\|\nabla f(s)\| \leq M$



Only

$cA$  or  $\{c\lambda_i\}$

is important

After linearization, perform local analysis



# Network Synchronization: Criteria

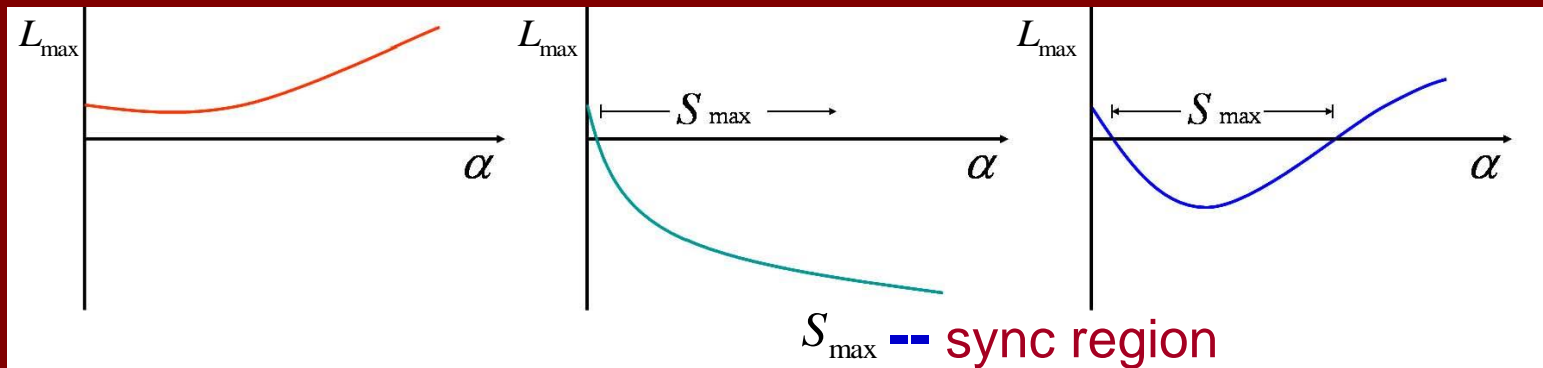
$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = [I_N \otimes [\nabla f(s)]] - c[A \otimes [\nabla H(s)]]\mathbf{x}$$

$$0 = \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_N$$

Master stability equation: (L.M. Pecora and T. Carroll, 1998)

$$\dot{y} = [[\nabla f(s)] - \alpha[\nabla H(s)]]y, \quad \alpha = \inf\{c\lambda_i(s), i = 2, 3, \dots, N\}$$

Maximum Lyapunov exponent  $L_{\max}$  is a function of  $\alpha$



Synchronizing: if

$$S_1 = (\alpha_1, \infty)$$

or if

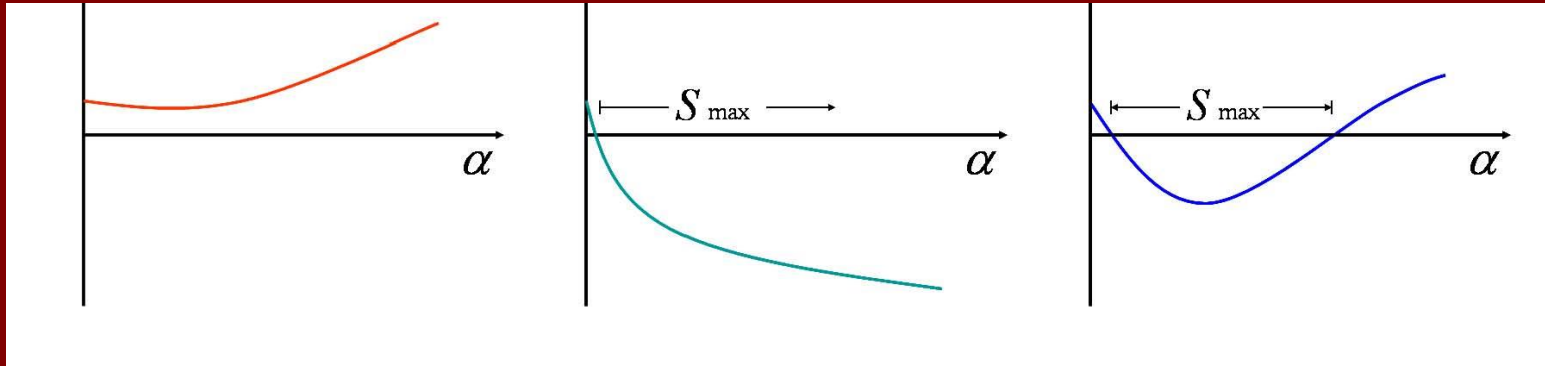
$$S_2 = (\alpha_2, \alpha_3)$$

$$0 \leq \alpha_1 < \alpha < \infty$$

$$0 \leq \alpha_2 < \alpha < \alpha_3 < \infty$$

# Network Synchronization: Criteria

Recall: Laplacian eigenvalues:  $0 = \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_N$



synchronizing if  $0 \leq \alpha_1 < c\lambda_2 < \infty$  or if  $0 < \alpha_2 < \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_N} < \alpha_3$

Case I:  
No sync

Case II:  
Sync region

$$S_1 = (\alpha_1, \infty)$$

Case III:  
Sync region

$$S_2 = (\alpha_2, \alpha_3)$$

Case IV:  
Union of  
intervals



$\lambda_2$  bigger is better

$\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_N}$  bigger is better

# In retrospect

Synchronizability characterized by Laplacian eigenvalues:

**1. unbounded region** (X.F. Wang and GRC, 2002)

$$\lambda_2, \quad 0 = \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_N \quad S_1 = (\alpha_1, \infty)$$

**2. bounded region** (M. Banahona and L.M. Pecora, 2002)

$$\lambda_2 / \lambda_N, \quad 0 = \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_N \quad S_2 = (\alpha_2, \alpha_3)$$

**3. union of several disconnected regions**

$$S_m = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2) \cup (\alpha_3, \alpha_4) \cup \dots \cup (\alpha_m, \infty)$$

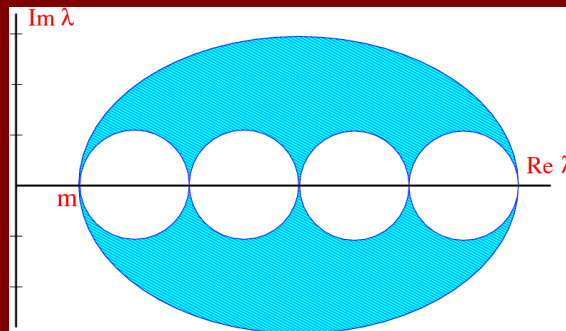
(A. Stefanski, P. Perlikowski, and T. Kapitaniak, 2007)

(Z.S. Duan, C. Liu, GRC, and L. Huang, 2007 - 2009)

# Spectra of Networks

- **Some theoretical results**
- **Relation with network topology**
- **Role in network synchronizability**

Spectrum



# Theoretical Bounds of Laplacian Eigenvalues

$\lambda_2$  bigger is better

$\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_N}$  bigger is better

**Concern:** upper and lower bounds of Laplacian eigenvalues

There are many classical results in graph spectral analysis

## Graph Theory Textbooks

For example:

P. V. Mieghem, Graph Spectra for Complex Networks (2011)

# Theoretical Bounds of Laplacian Eigenvalues

Node-degree sequence      eigenvalue sequence      (both in increasing order)

$$d = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_N)^T$$

$$\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N)^T$$

$$\frac{\|\lambda - d\|_2}{\|d\|_2} \leq \frac{\sqrt{\|d\|_1}}{\|d\|_2} \leq \sqrt{\frac{N}{\|d\|_1}}$$

Distribution:

For any node-degree  $d_i$  there exists a  $\lambda_* \in \{\lambda_j \mid j = 1, 2, \dots, N\}$  such that

$$d_i - \sqrt{d_i} \leq \lambda_* \leq d_i + \sqrt{d_i}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

$$\frac{\|\lambda - d\|_2}{\|d\|_2} \leq \frac{\sqrt{\|d\|_1}}{\|d\|_2} \leq \sqrt{\frac{N}{\|d\|_1}}$$

$$\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N)^T$$

$$d = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_N)^T$$

**Lemma** (Hoffman-Wielandt, 1953)

For matrices  $B - C = A$ :

$$\sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i(B) - \lambda_i(C)|^2 \leq \|A\|_F^2$$

Frobenius Norm

→ For Laplacian  $L = D - A$ :

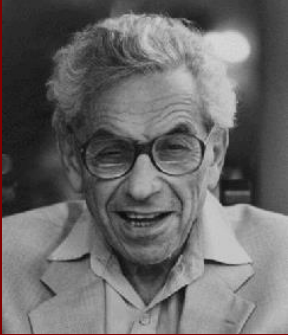
$$\sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i(L) - d_i|^2 \leq \|A\|_F^2$$

$$\|A\|_F^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{ij}|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n d_i$$

$$\rightarrow \left( \frac{\|\lambda - d\|_2}{\|d\|_2} \right)^2 \leq \frac{\sum d_i}{\sum d_i^2} \left( = \frac{\sqrt{\|d\|_1}}{\|d\|_2} \right) \leq \frac{\sum d_i}{(\sum d_i)^2 / N} = \frac{N}{\|d\|_1}$$

Cauchy Inequality

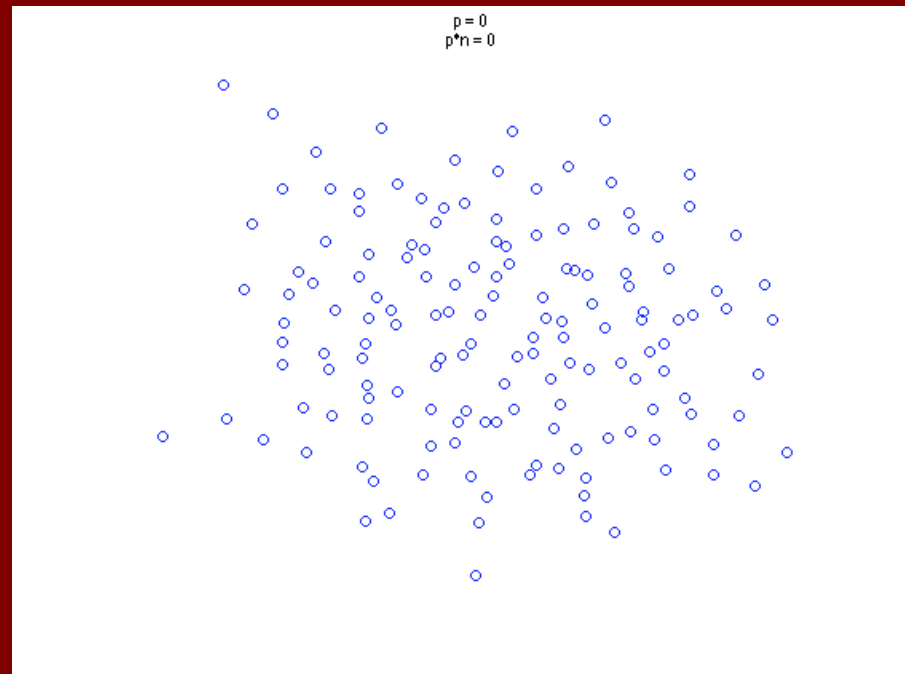
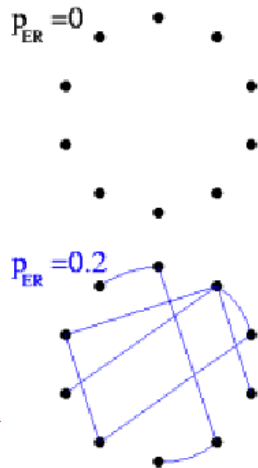
# Random Graphs



## Erdős-Rényi

(Publ. Math. Inst. Hung. Acad. Sci. **5**, 17  
(1960))

**N nodes, each  
pair of node is  
connected with  
probability p**





# Rectangular Random Graphs

$N$  nodes are randomly uniformly and independently distributed in a unit rectangle  $[a,b]^2 \subset R^2$  with  $a \cdot b = 1$   
(It can be generalized to higher-dimensional setting)

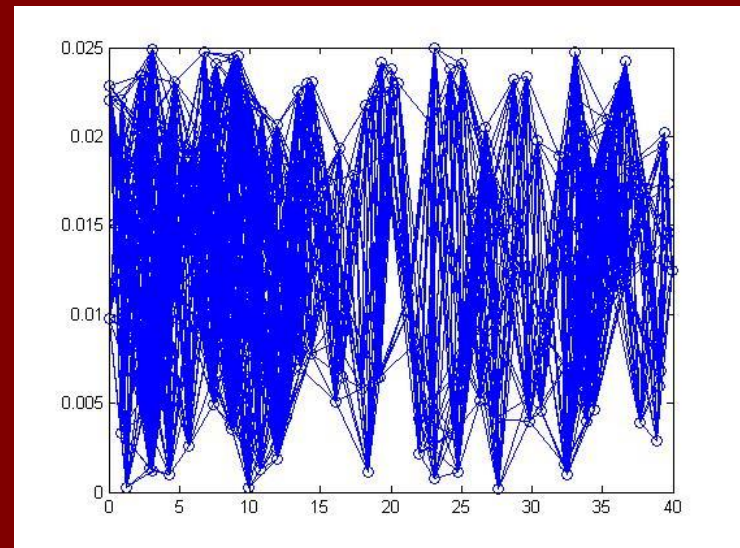
Two nodes are connected by an edge if they are inside a disc of radius  $r > 0$

**Example:**

$$N = 200$$

$$a = 40$$

$$r = 2.5$$



**Theorem:** Eigenvalue ratio is bounded by

$$\frac{1}{(N-1)N^2} \leq \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_N} \leq \frac{8(ar)^2}{a^4+1} \log_2^2 N$$

**Lower bound:**

The worst case: all nodes are located on the diagonal

$$\lambda_2 \geq \frac{1}{ND} \geq \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \quad (D - \text{diameter}) \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_N \leq N$$

$$\frac{1}{(N-1)N^2} \leq \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_N} \leq \frac{8(ar)^2}{a^4 + 1} \log_2^2 N$$

Upper bound:

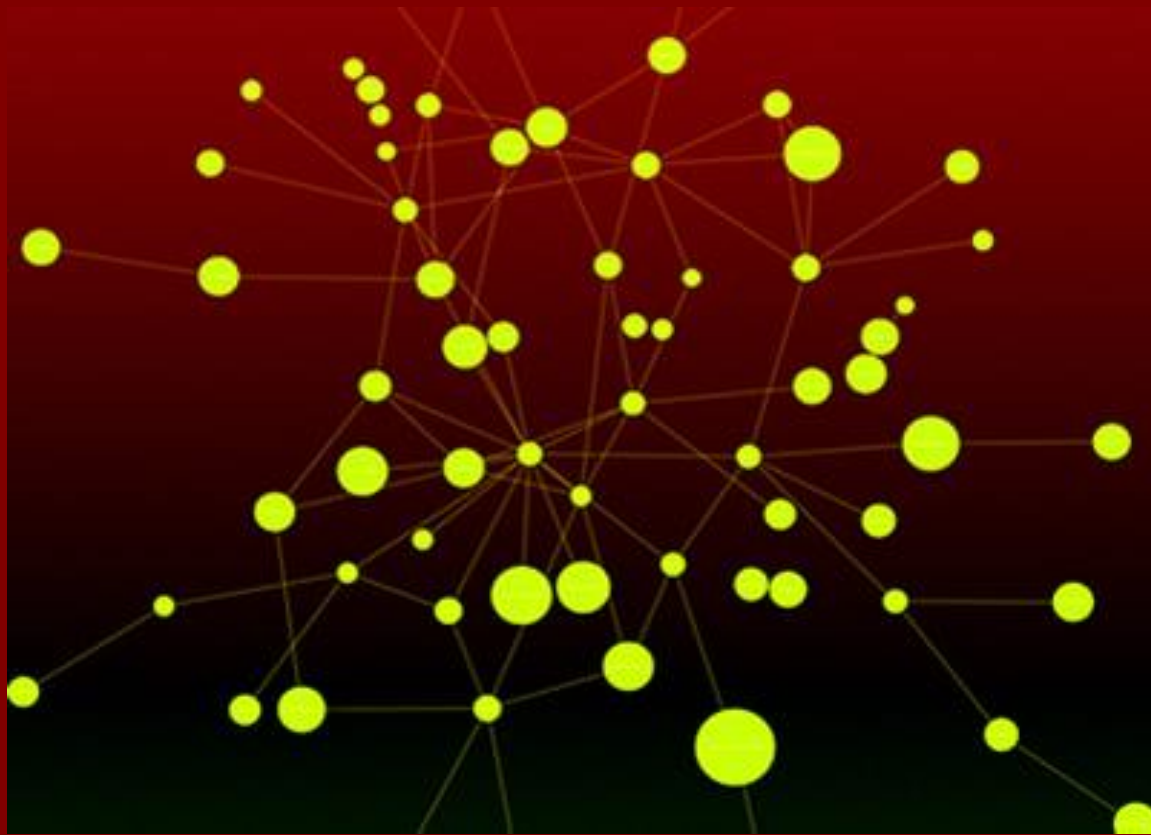
Lemma 1: Diameter  $D =$  diagonal length /  $r$

$$\rightarrow D \geq \left\lceil \frac{\sqrt{a^4 + 1}}{ar} \right\rceil$$

Lemma 2: Based on a result of Alon-Milman (1985)

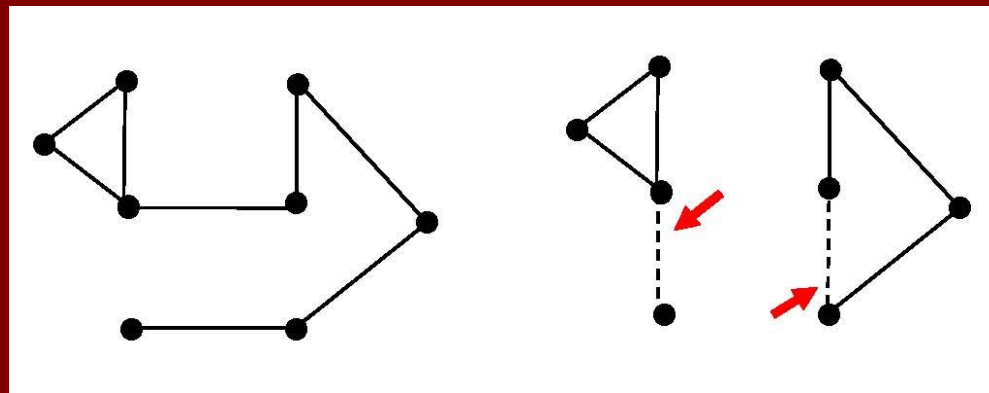
$$\rightarrow \lambda_2 \leq \frac{8k_{\max}}{D^2} \log_2^2 N$$

# Network Topology and Synchronizability



# Topology Determines Synchronizability?

**Answer:** Yes or No



This makes the situation complicated and the study difficult

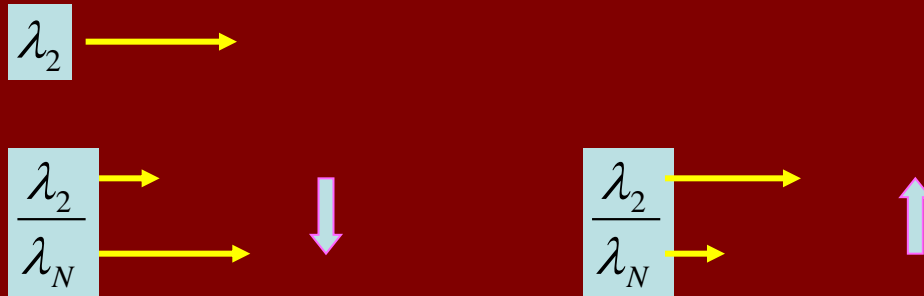
# More Edges $\rightarrow$ Better Synchronizability ?

Answer: *Yes or No*

- **Lemma:** For any given connected undirected graph  $G$ , by adding any new edge  $e$ , one has

$$\lambda_i(G + e) \geq \lambda_i(G), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

- Note:



This also makes the situation complicated and the study difficult

# What Topology $\rightarrow$ Good Synchronizability ?

**Example:**

**Given Laplacian**

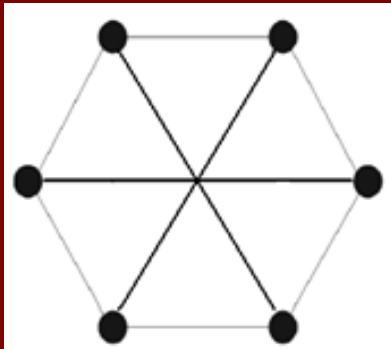
$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 3 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 4 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Q:** How to replace 0 and -1 (while keeping the connectivity and all row-sums = 0), such that  $\lambda_2/\lambda_N = \text{maximum ?}$

# Answer:

$$L^* = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & -1 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 & 3 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

→  $\lambda_2/\lambda_N = \text{maximum}$



**Observation:**

**Homogeneity + Symmetry**



# Problem

- With the same numbers of node and edges, while keeping the connectivity, **what kind of network has the best possible synchronizability?**

$$\text{Max}_{A \in A^*} \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_N} \quad A^* \text{ - set of } N \times N \text{ adjacency matrices}$$

Such that  $\sum_{i=1}^N d_i = N\bar{k}$  and  $\lambda_2 > 0$

(total degree = constant) (connected)

- **Computationally, this is NP-hard:**

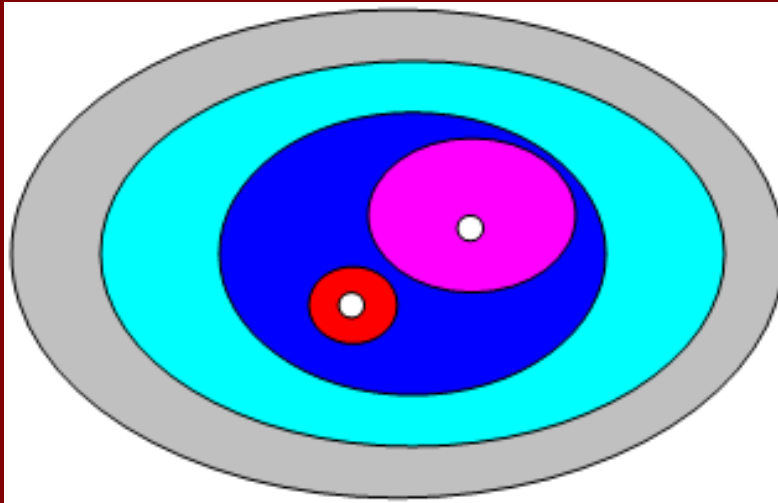
$$\max_{A \in A^*} \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_N} = \max_{A \in A^*} \left\{ \min_{x^T e=0, x \neq 0} \frac{x^T [D-A]x}{x^T x} \middle/ \max_{x^T e=0, x \neq 0} \frac{x^T [D-A]x}{x^T x} \right\}$$

# Our Approach

- **Homogeneity + Symmetry**
- **Same node degree**  $d_1 = \dots = d_N$
- **Shortest average path length**  $l_1 = \dots = l_N$
- **Shortest path-sum**  $l_i = \sum_{j \neq i} l_{ij}$
- **Longest girth**  $g_1 = \dots = g_N$

# Non-Convex Optimization

## Illustration:



White: Optimal  
solution location

Grey: networks with same numbers of nodes and edges

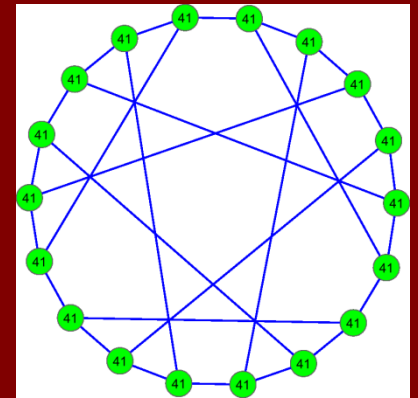
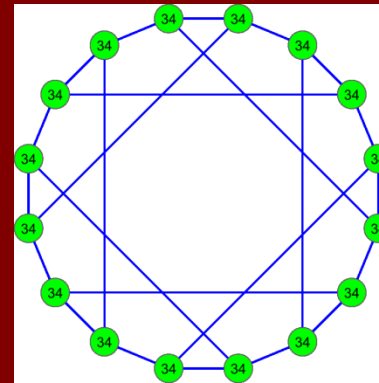
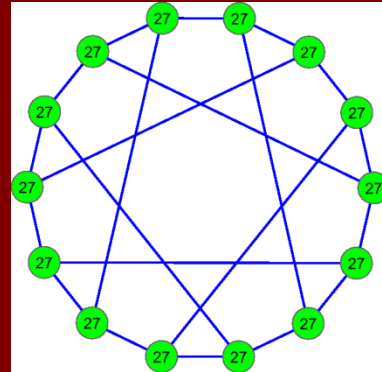
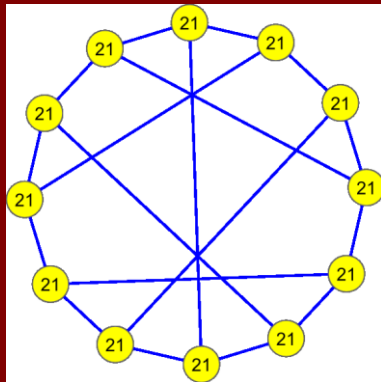
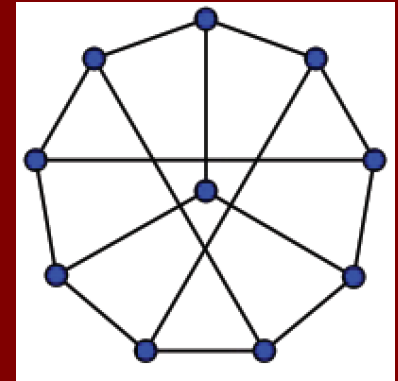
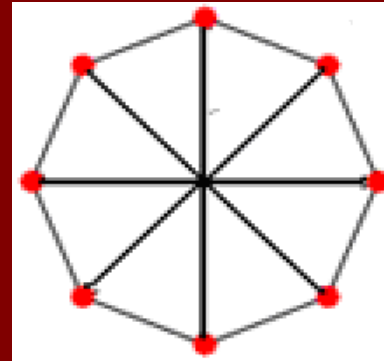
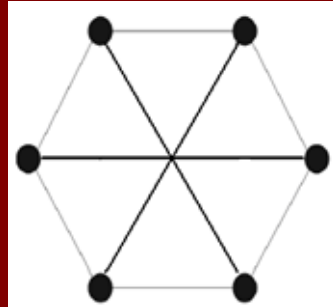
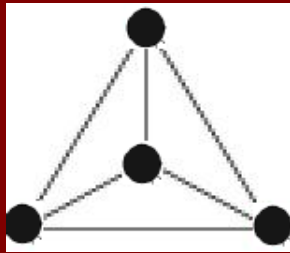
Green: degree-homogeneous networks

Blue: networks with maximum girths

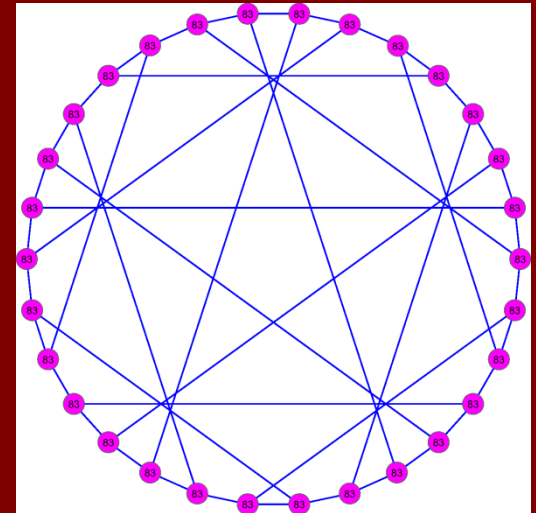
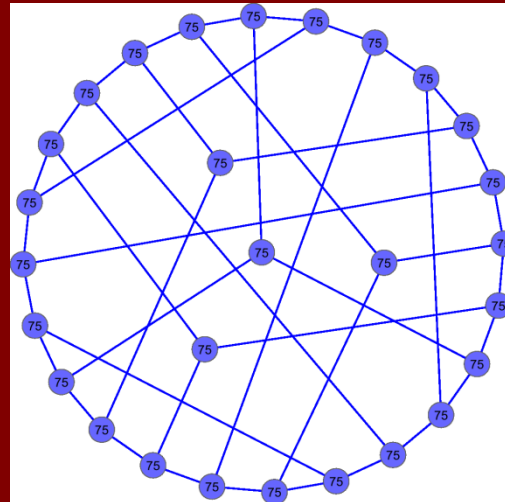
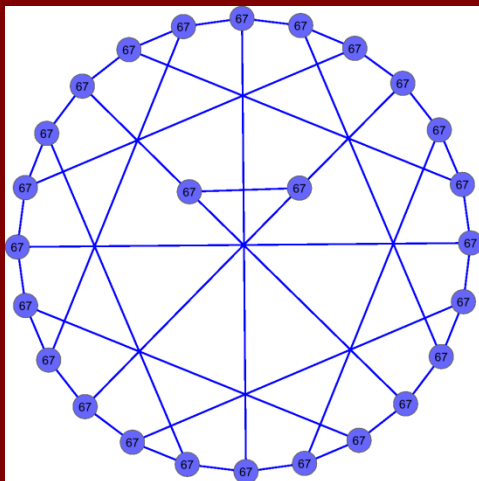
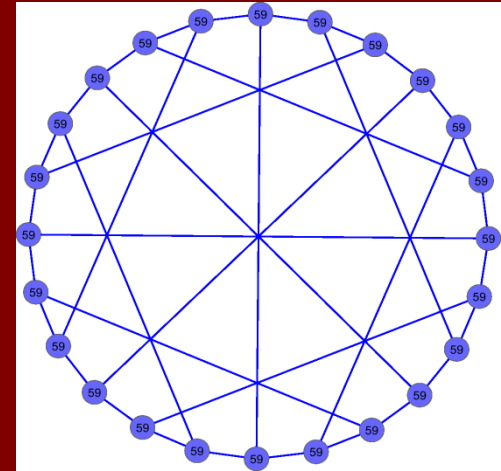
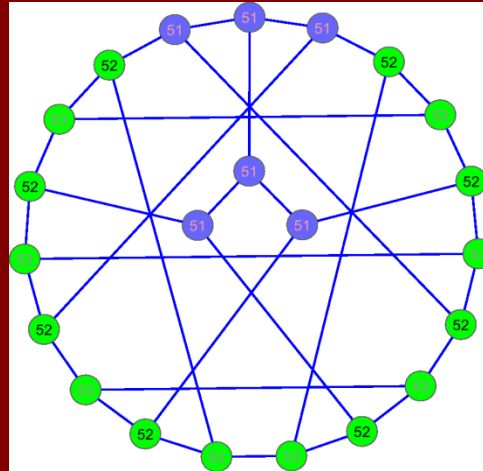
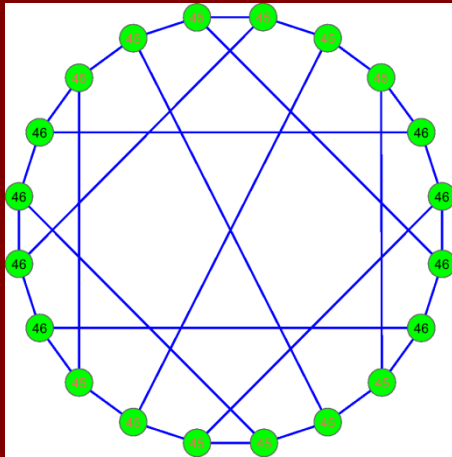
Pink: possible optimal networks

Red: near homogenous networks

# Optimal 3-Regular Networks



# Optimal 3-Regular Networks



# Open Problems

## Looking for optimal solutions:

Given:

$$\begin{bmatrix} d_1 & -1 & 0 & & -1 \\ -1 & d_2 & & & 0 \\ 0 & & \ddots & & \\ & & & \ddots & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & & 0 & d_N \end{bmatrix}$$

Move which -1

$$\begin{bmatrix} d_1 & -1 & 0 & & -1 \\ -1 & d_2 & & & 0 \\ 0 & & \ddots & & \\ & & & \ddots & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & & 0 & d_N \end{bmatrix}$$

can maximize  $\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_N}$  ?

**Constraints:**  
keeping the graph  
connectivity and  
all row-sums = 0

Where to add -1

$$\begin{bmatrix} d_1 & -1 & 0 & & -1 \\ -1 & d_2 & & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & & \ddots & & \\ & -1 & & \ddots & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & & 0 & d_N \end{bmatrix}$$

can maximize  $\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_N}$  ?

Where to delete -1 ..... can maximize  $\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_N}$  ?

And so on ..... ???

# Multiplex Congruence Networks of Natural Numbers

- **Good Sync-Controllability**
- **Strong Robustness against Attacks**

**Number Theory and Complex Networks**

# Chinese Remainder Theorem

三三数之剩二，五五数之剩三，七七数之剩二。

$$\begin{cases} x \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \\ x \equiv 3 \pmod{5} \\ x \equiv 2 \pmod{7} \end{cases} \quad (\text{Congruence Equations})$$

《孙子歌诀》

三人同行七十稀，五树梅花廿一枝，七子  
团圆正半月，除百零五便得知。

$$N = 3 \times 5 \times 7 = 105$$

$$(2 \times 70 + 3 \times 21 + 2 \times 15) / 105 \text{ with remainder } 23 \quad (\text{Answer: } x = 23)$$

---

**Notation:** Let  $n (> 1)$ ,  $x (> n)$ ,  $a (< n)$  be integers

If  $n$  is divisible by  $(x - a)$ , then  $x$  and  $a$  are **congruent modulo  $n$** , denoted as  $x \equiv a \pmod{n}$



# Chinese Remainder Theorem

Let  $n_1, \dots, n_k$  (all  $>1$ ) be integers

If  $n_i$  are pairwise coprime, then for integers  $a_1, \dots, a_k$ , there exist infinitely many integers  $x$  satisfying

$$x \equiv a_1 \pmod{n_1}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$x \equiv a_k \pmod{n_k}$$

(congruence)

And, any two such  $x$  are congruent modulo  $N = n_1 \times \dots \times n_k$

(Only natural numbers  $a_1, \dots, a_k$  are discussed here)

# Congruence Networks

Given a natural number  $r$ , there exist infinitely many pairs of natural numbers  $(a, m)$  satisfying  $a \equiv r \pmod{m}$

Example:

For  $r = 2$ , one has  $(a, m) = (3, 5), (5, 7), (7, 11), \dots$

namely,  $3 \equiv 2 \pmod{5}, 5 \equiv 2 \pmod{7}, 7 \equiv 2 \pmod{11}, \dots$

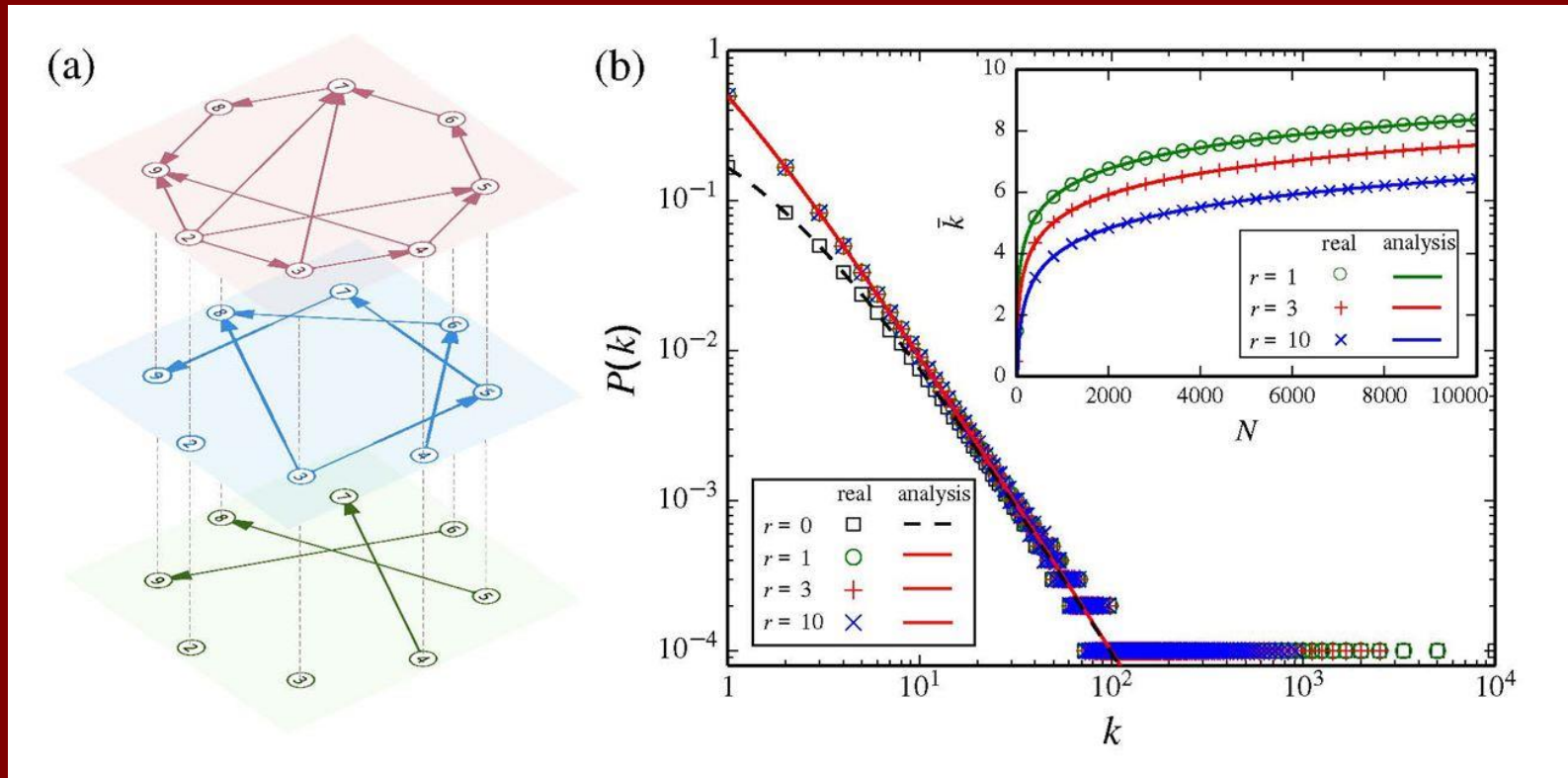
Connecting  $3 \rightarrow 5, 5 \rightarrow 7, 7 \rightarrow 11, \dots, \dots \rightarrow N$

or  $3 \leftarrow 5, 5 \leftarrow 7, 7 \leftarrow 11, \dots, \dots \leftarrow N$

yields a **directed** congruence network of  $N$  nodes

**Different  $r$  yields different** Multiplex Congruence Network (MCN),  
denoted as  $G(r, N)$

# Example

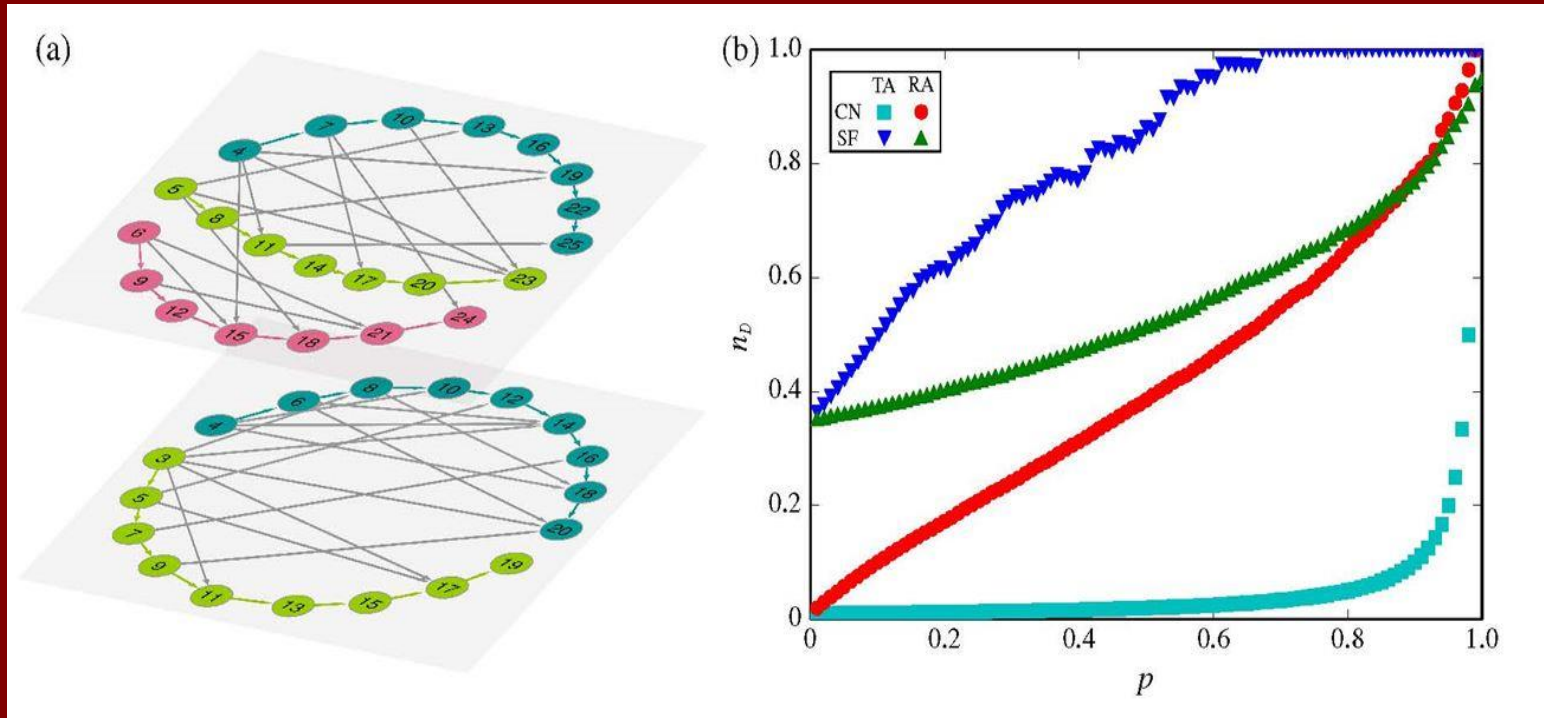


(a) MCN:  $G(r = \{1, 2, 3\}, 9)$

(b) Degree distribution,  $N = 10000$

MCNs are **scale-free networks** with node-degree distribution  $P(k) \sim k^{-2}$

# Sync-Controllability and Robustness



(a) MCNs have chain-structures (b) Number of control nodes needed:  $n_D$

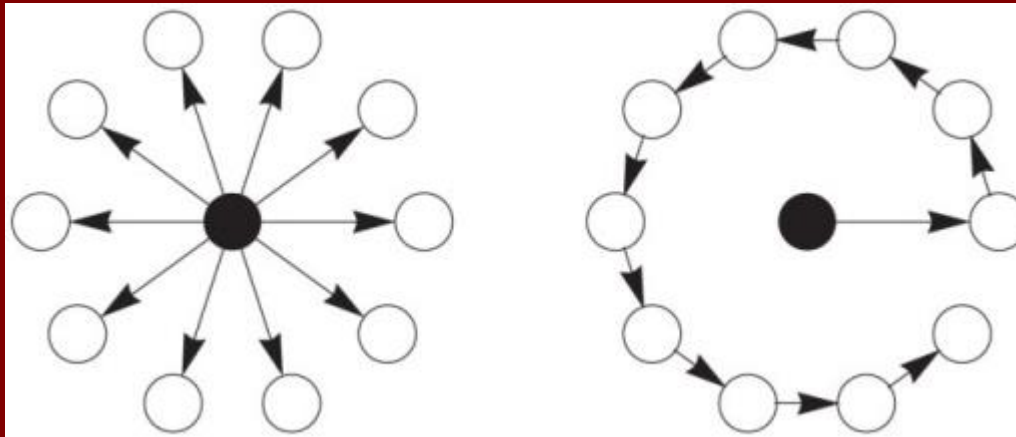
## Robustness against attacks:

CN = Congruence Network ( $N = 100$ ); SF = Scale-free Network ( $N = 100$ )

TA = Targeted Attack; RA = Random Attack

# Graphical Explanation

**Chain** structure is good for both **controllability** and **robustness** against attacks

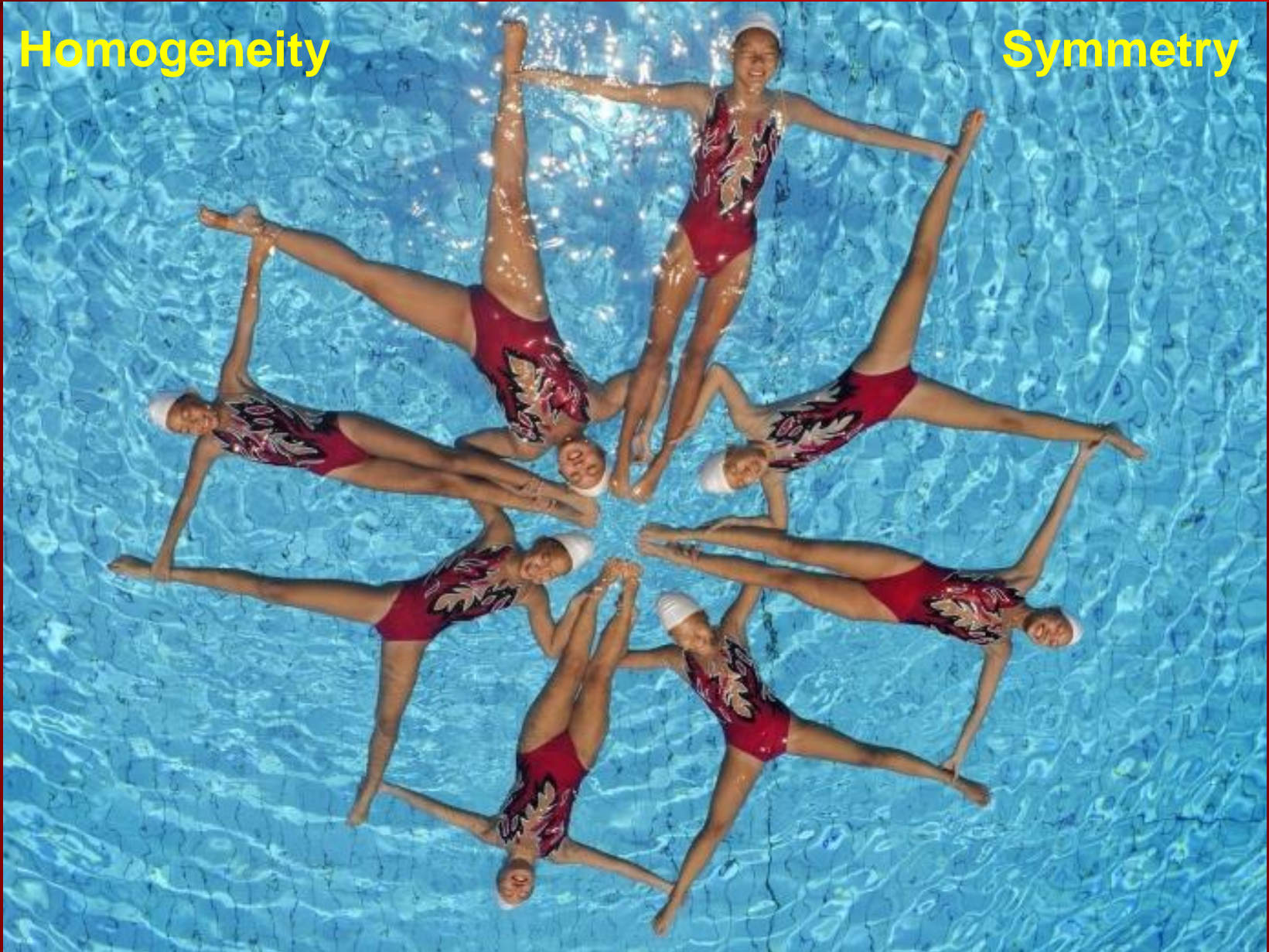


**Controllability:** ● is Controller (Driver Node)

# Thank You !

Homogeneity

Symmetry



# References

- [1] F.Chung, Spectral Graph Theory, AMS (1992, 1997)
- [2] T.Nishikawa, A.E.Motter, Y.-C.Lai, F.C.Hoppensteadt, Heterogeneity in oscillator networks: Are smaller worlds easier to synchronize? PRL 91 (2003) 014101
- [3] H.Hong, B.J.Kim, M.Y.Choi, H.Park, Factors that predict better synchronizability on complex networks, PRE 65 (2002) 067105
- [4] M.diBernardo, F.Garofalo, F.Sorrentino, Effects of degree correlation on the synchronization of networks of oscillators, IJBC 17 (2007) 3499-3506
- [5] M.Barahona, L.M.Pecora, Synchronization in small-world systems, PRL 89 (5) (2002)054101
- [6] H.Hong, M.Y.Choi, B.J.Kim, Synchronization on small-world networks, PRE 69 (2004) 026139
- [7] F.M. Atay, T.Biyikoglu, J.Jost, Network synchronization: Spectral versus statistical properties, Physica D 224 (2006) 35–41
- [8] A.Arenas, A.Diaz-Guilera, C.J.Perez-Vicente, Synchronization reveals topological scales in complex networks, PRL 96(11) (2006 )114102
- [9] A.Arenas, A.Diaz-Guilera, C.J.Perez-Vicente, Synchronization processes in complex networks, Physica D 224 (2006) 27–34
- [10] B.Mohar, Graph Laplacians, in: Topics in Algebraic Graph Theory, Cambridge University Press (2004) 113–136
- [11] F.M.Atay, T.Biyikoglu, Graph operations and synchronization of complex networks, PRE 72 (2005) 016217
- [12] T.Nishikawa, A.E.Motter, Maximum performance at minimum cost in network synchronization, Physica D 224 (2006) 77–89

- [13] J.Gomez-Gardenes, Y.Moreno, A.Arenas, Paths to synchronization on complex networks, PRL 98 (2007) 034101
- [14] C.J.Zhan, G.R.Chen, L.F.Yeung, On the distributions of Laplacian eigenvalues versus node degrees in complex networks, Physica A 389 (2010) 17791788
- [15] T.G.Lewis, Network Science –Theory and Applications, Wiley 2009
- [16] T.M.Fiedler, Algebraic Connectivity of Graphs, Czech Math J 23 (1973) 298-305
- [17] W.N.Anderson, T.D.Morley, Eigenvalues of the Laplacian of a graph, Linear and Multilinear Algebra 18 (1985) 141-145
- [18] R.Merris, A note on Laplacian graph eigenvalues, Linear Algebra and its Applications 285 (1998) 33-35
- [19] O.Rojo, R.Sojo, H.Rojo, An always nontrivial upper bound for Laplacian graph eigenvalues, Linear Algebra and its Applications 312 (2000) 155-159
- [20] G.Chen, Z.Duan, Network synchronizability analysis: A graph-theoretic approach, CHAOS 18 (2008) 037102
- [21] T.Nishikawa, A.E.Motter, Network synchronization landscape reveals compensatory structures, quantization, and the positive effects of negative interactions, PNAS 8 (2010)10342
- [22] P.V.Mieghem, Graph Spectra for Complex Networks (2011)
- [23] D. Shi, G. Chen, W. W. K. Thong and X. Yan, Searching for optimal network topology with best possible synchronizability, IEEE Circ. Syst. Magazine, (2013) 13(1) 66-75
- [24] X. Yan, W. Wang, G. Chen and D. Shi, Multiplex congruence network of natural numbers, Scientific Reports, (2015) 10.1038



# Acknowledgements

**Prof Xiaofan Wang, Shanghai Jiao Tong University**

**Prof Dinghua Shi, Shanghai University**

**Prof Zhi-sheng Duan, Peking University**

**Prof Ernesto Estrada, University of Strathclyde, UK**

**Dr Choujun Zhan, City University of Hong Kong**

**Dr Wilson W K Thong, City University of Hong Kong**

**Dr Xiaoyong Yan, Beijing Normal University**

