

Dynamics of language competition: social consensus in complex networks



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- X. Castelló, V. Eguíluz and M. San Miguel.** *New Journal of Physics*, 8, 308 (2006)
- + **Dietrich Stauffer,** *Physica A*, 374, 835-842 (2007)
- + **Lucía Loureiro Porto** *Advancing Social Simulation: The First World Congress. Takahashi, Shingo; Sallach, David; Rouchier, Juliette (Eds.)* (2007)
- + **R. Toivonen, J. Saramäki, K. Kaski** *Europhysics Letters* 79, 66066 (2007)
- + **R. Toivonen, J. Saramäki, K. Kaski** *Physical Review E* 79, 016109 (1-8) (2009)



IFISC



COLLECTIVE PHENOMENA: physics and social sciences

Statistical physics and Complex Systems

→ novel approach to collective emergent phenomena in social systems

micro-Macro, non-linear interactions, non-equilibrium dynamics, coarsening, phase transitions, bifurcations

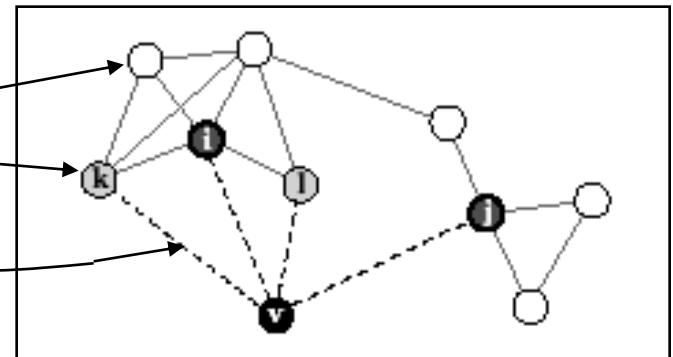
Complex networks

as *skeleton* of a complex system

Nodes (*individuals*)

Edges (*social links*)

- Non-regular connectivity



Modelling in: biological, technical, social, ...systems

Social networks in sociolinguistics

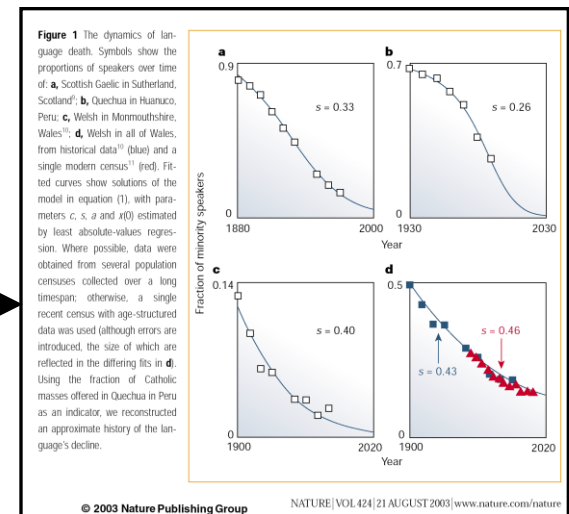
- ▶ L. Milroy *Language and social networks*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2nd ed (1987)
- ▶ Monographic issue on role of social networks in language competition/shift: K. De Bot and S. Stoessel, editors. *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*, volume 153 (2002)

INTRODUCTION: "...while researchers agree intuitively that social networks should play a role in questions relating to language change, and several qualitative studies have shown what kind of role they play, there is very little, if any, quantitative support for a direct relation between social network characteristics and language use."

1st approach from complex systems

Abrams, Strogatz (2003). *Nature* **424**, 900.

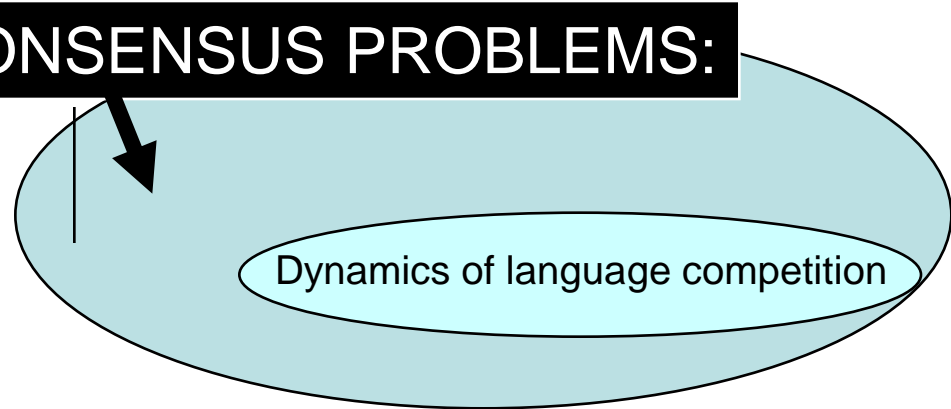
"Question: Extinction of endangered languages"



MODELS of CONSENSUS:

Def. Dynamics of a set of interacting agents that can choose among several **options** (*political vote, opinion, cultural features,...*) which can lead whether to a scenario of **consensus** of one of this opinions, whether to a state of **coexistence** of several options prevails.

CONSENSUS PROBLEMS:



Language competition → particular case of consensus model.

MODELS

- VOTER MODEL
- ISING MODEL (T=0) Glauber dynamics
- SZNAJD MODEL
- AXELROD MODEL
- GRANOVETTER'S MODEL

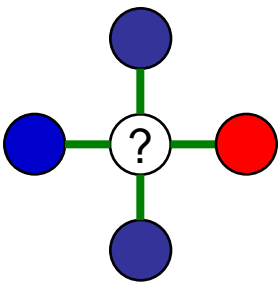
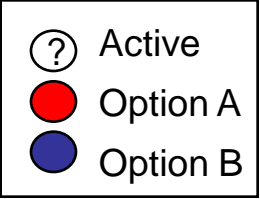
MECHANISMS

- Imitation
- Following majority. Social pressure
- Majority *CONVINCES*
- Homophily
- Threshold for social pressure



MODELS of CONSENSUS with *TWO OPTIONS* :

- Prototype models *with excluding options*: - VOTER MODEL
- SPIN FLIP KINETIC ISING MODEL T=0



$$\begin{aligned}
 p_{? \rightarrow B} &= 3/4 \\
 p_{? \rightarrow A} &= 1/4 \\
 \\
 p_{? \rightarrow B} &= 1 \\
 p_{? \rightarrow A} &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Voter Model	RANDOM IMITATION
Spin Flip Kinetic Ising T=0	SOCIAL PRESSURE

- New issue/class of models: **AB agents with coexisting options**
Example: Bilingual agents in the dynamics of two competing languages
General: Coexistence of social norms at the individual level (linux or windows)

ORDERING DYNAMICS WITH TWO NON-EXCLUDING OPTIONS

◆ GENERAL QUESTION:

Which are possible **mechanisms to stabilize the coexistence** of two (equivalent) competing options (languages)? Which is the role of AB-agents (bilingual individuals) and social structure in this process?

◆ PARTICULAR QUESTIONS:

■ **Mechanisms of growth** of spatial domains (monolingual). Dynamics at the interfaces (linguistic borders). Metastable states

regular networks

■ Effect of the **degree of disorder** in the social network and **time scales for consensus**.

small world networks

■ Effects of social structure with **communities** in the dynamics community-networks

Agent-Based ABRAMS-STROGATZ model

Abrams, Strogatz (2003). Nature 424, 900.

N agents within a network: nodes \rightarrow agents
links \rightarrow social interaction

- States of the agents:
 - using language A: belonging to a monolingual community A.
 - using language B: belonging to a monolingual community B.

- Local density of speakers:

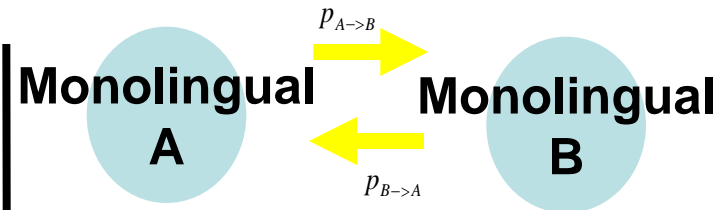
$$\sigma_{iA} = \frac{\# \text{ neighbours in state A}}{k_i}$$

$$\sigma_{iB} = \frac{\# \text{ neighbours in state B}}{k_i}$$

- Dynamics of interaction: choose randomly an agent,

$$p_{A \rightarrow B} = (1-s) \cdot (\sigma_B)^a$$

$$p_{B \rightarrow A} = s(\sigma_A)^a$$

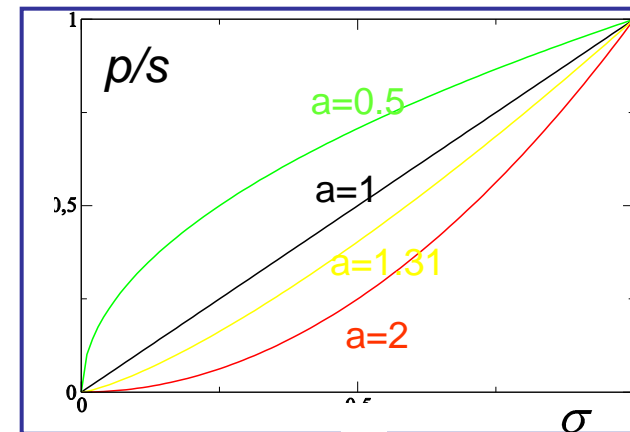


s: prestige of language A ($s_B=1-s$) language property

a: *volatility* (exponent) \rightarrow determines the shape of $p_{A \rightarrow B}$

social dynamics property

a > 1: Dominance a < 1: Coexistence



MINETT-WANG MODEL

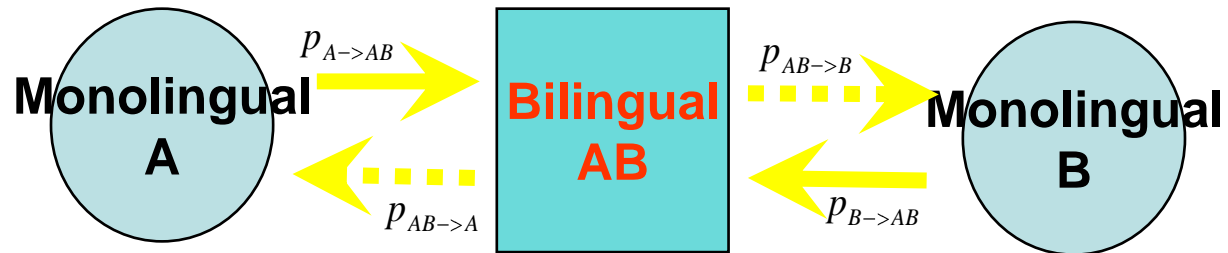
- States of the agents:
 - using language A: belonging to a monolingual community A.
 - using language B: belonging to a monolingual community B
 - using both, A & B: belonging to the bilingual community AB.
- Dynamics of interaction: choose randomly an agent,

$$p_{A \rightarrow AB} = (1-s) \cdot (\sigma_B)^a$$

$$p_{B \rightarrow AB} = s \cdot (\sigma_A)^a$$

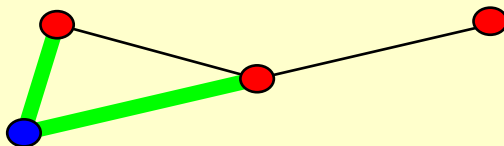
$$p_{AB \rightarrow A} = s \cdot (1-\sigma_B)^a$$

$$p_{AB \rightarrow B} = (1-s) \cdot (1-\sigma_A)^a$$



Wang, W. S-Y. and Minett, J. W, *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*, 20(5) 263 (2005)

Order Parameter: Average interface density



$$\rho = \frac{\text{\# links joining agents in different state}}{\text{total \# of links}}$$

Interface: a link connecting nodes with different states.

$\rho=0$ in absorbing/ordered state

MEAN-FIELD analysis of Agent-Based ABRAMS-STROGATZ model

General case

$$\frac{d\sigma_A}{dt} = (1 - \sigma_A)\sigma_A(\sigma_A^{a-1}s - (1 - \sigma_A)^{a-1}(1 - s))$$

$$\sigma_B(t) = 1 - \sigma_A(t)$$

Fixed points :

	DOMINANCE $a > 1$	COEXISTENCE $a < 1$
$(\sigma_A, \sigma_B) = (1, 0)$ $= (0, 1)$	stable	unstable
(σ_A^*, σ_B^*)	▶ unstable	▶ stable

$s > 0.5 \rightarrow$ state A favoured

$s < 0.5 \rightarrow$ state B favoured

D. Abrams, S. Strogatz. Nature 424 (2003) 900

a=1: Marginal case

$$\frac{d\sigma_A}{dt} = (1 - \sigma_A)\sigma_A(2s - 1)$$

Logistic-Verhulst equation

VOTER MODEL ((a=1, s=1/2))

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d\sigma_A}{dt} = 0 \\ \sigma_B(t) = 1 - \sigma_A(t) \end{cases}$$

Any proportion of A-agents is a marginally stable solution

IMP! Magnetization is conserved

MEAN-FIELD analysis of MINETT-WANG model

General case

$$\frac{d\sigma_A}{dt} = (1 - \sigma_A - \sigma_B)(1 - \sigma_B)^a s - \sigma_A \sigma_B^a (1 - s)$$

$$\frac{d\sigma_B}{dt} = (1 - \sigma_A - \sigma_B)(1 - \sigma_A)^a (1 - s) - \sigma_B \sigma_A^a s$$

$$\sigma_{AB}(t) = 1 - \sigma_A(t) - \sigma_B(t)$$

Fixed points:

DOMINANCE

COEXISTENCE

$$a \geq 0.63$$

$$a < 0.63$$

$$(\sigma_A, \sigma_B, \sigma_{AB}) = (1, 0, 0)$$

$$= (0, 1, 0)$$

stable

unstable

$$(\sigma_A^* \neq 0, \sigma_B^* \neq 0, \sigma_{AB}^* \neq 0)$$

▶ unstable

▶ stable

$s > 0.5 \rightarrow$ state A is favoured
 $s < 0.5 \rightarrow$ state B is favoured

AB-model (a=1, s=1/2)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{d\sigma_A}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \left[-\sigma_A + (\sigma_B)^2 - 2\sigma_B \right] \\ \frac{d\sigma_B}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \left[-\sigma_B + (\sigma_A)^2 - 2\sigma_A \right] \\ \sigma_{AB}(t) = 1 - \sigma_A(t) - \sigma_B(t) \end{array} \right.$$

Fixed points:

Two stable points, corresponding to total dominance of one of the states:

$$(\sigma_A, \sigma_B, \sigma_{AB}) = (1, 0, 0)$$

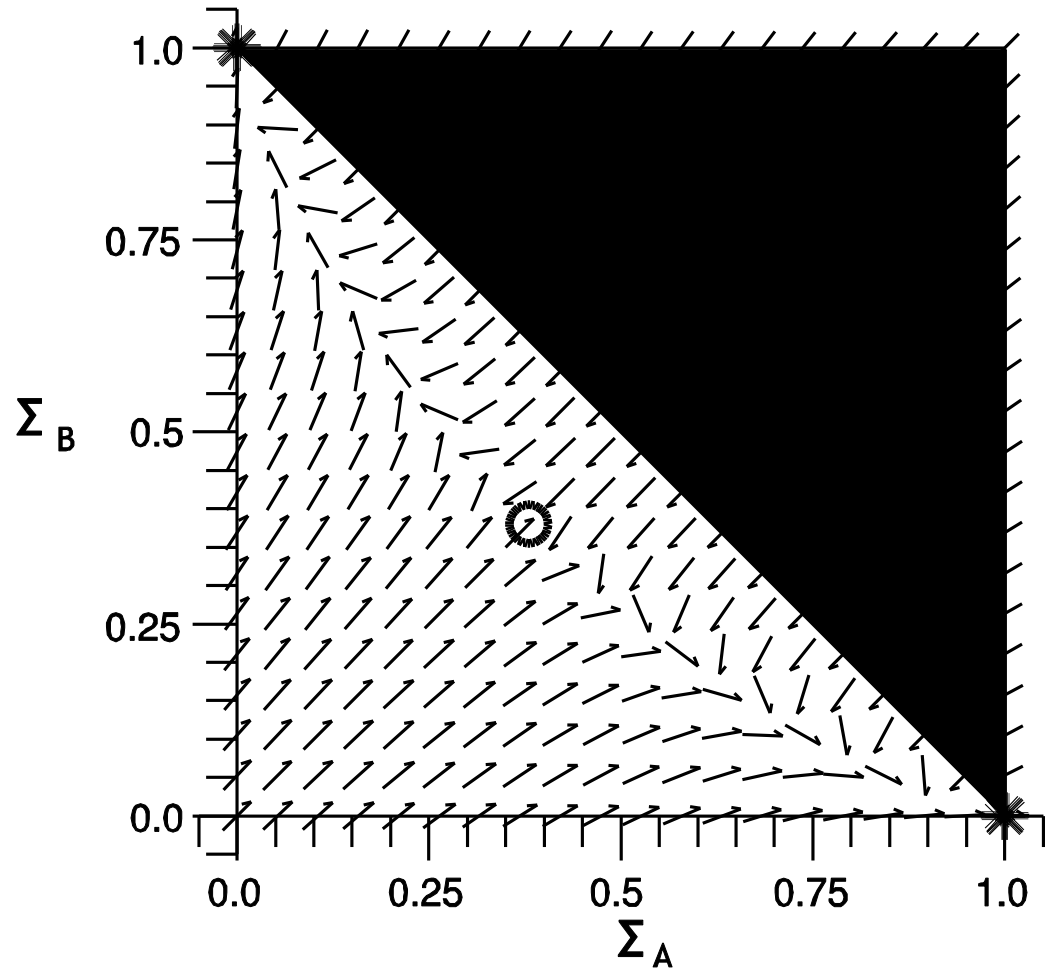
$$= (0, 1, 0)$$

▶ Unstable coexistence

$$(\sigma_A^*, \sigma_B^*, \sigma_{AB}^*) \cong (0.4, 0.4, 0.2)$$

Phase portrait:

AB-model
($a=1, s=1/2$)

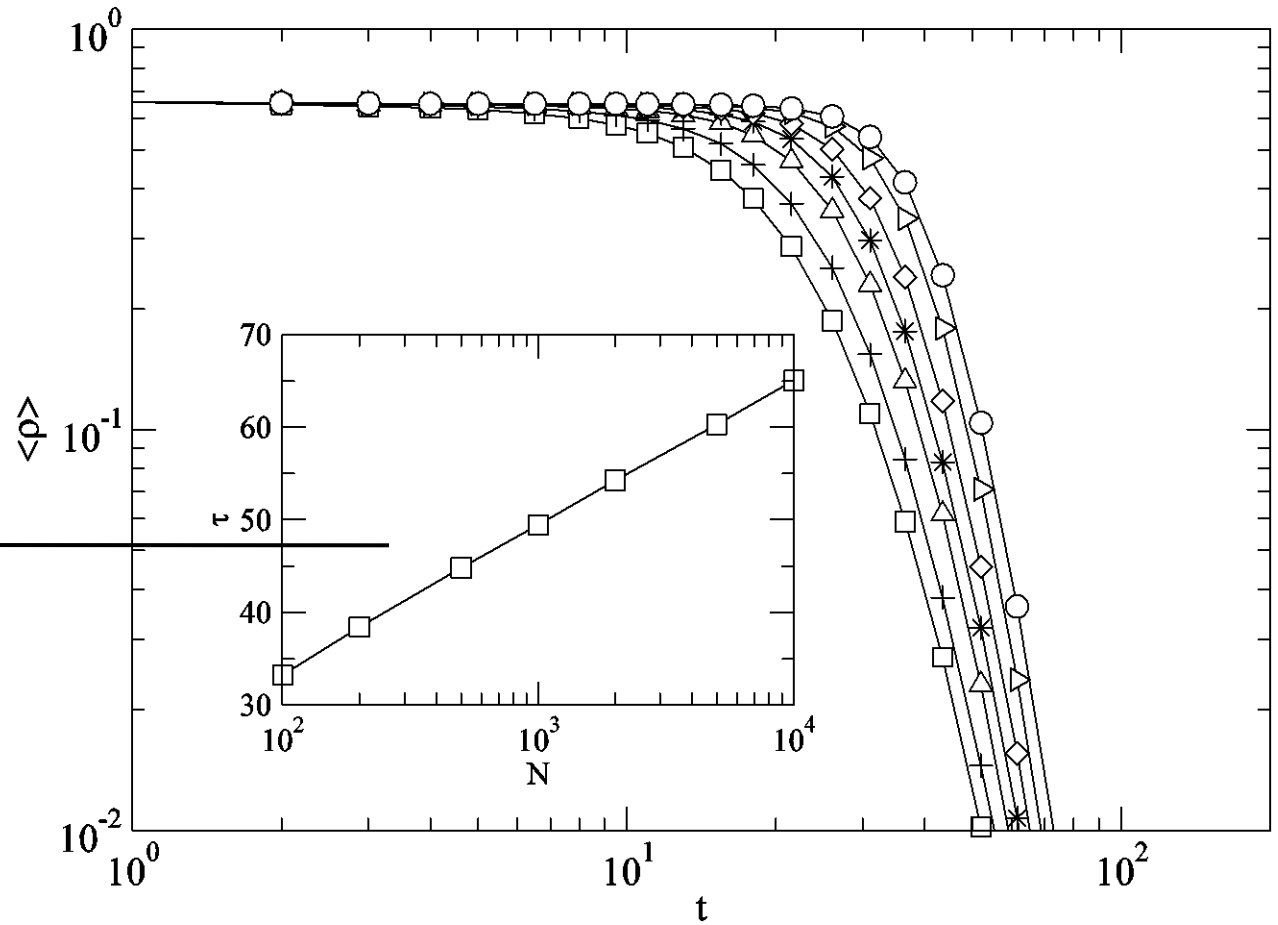


AB-model (a=1, s=1/2). Fully connected networks

Finite system size:

N=100,...,10000

$\tau \propto \ln N$



RESULTS 1:

Voter model VS AB-model in regular networks



→ **Castelló et al.** *New Journal of Physics*, 8, 308 (2006)

+ **Dietrich Stauffer**, *Physica A*, **374**, 835-842 (2007)

RESULTS. Regular network

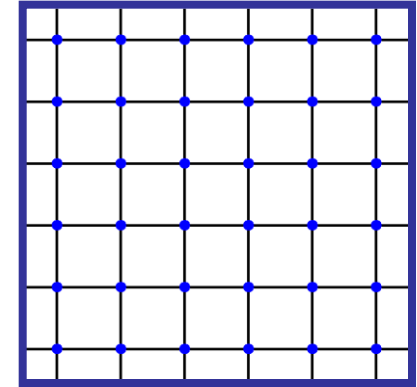
SEE APPLET!

http://www.ifisc.uib-csic.es/research/complex/APPLET_LANGDYN.html

In both models



Final scenario of
CONSENSUS



But... differences in the transient towards consensus:

VOTER MODEL

▶ Domains grow slowly

▶ No formation of localized domains

Noisy interface dynamics

AB-MODEL

▶ Single-option domains grow **FASTER**

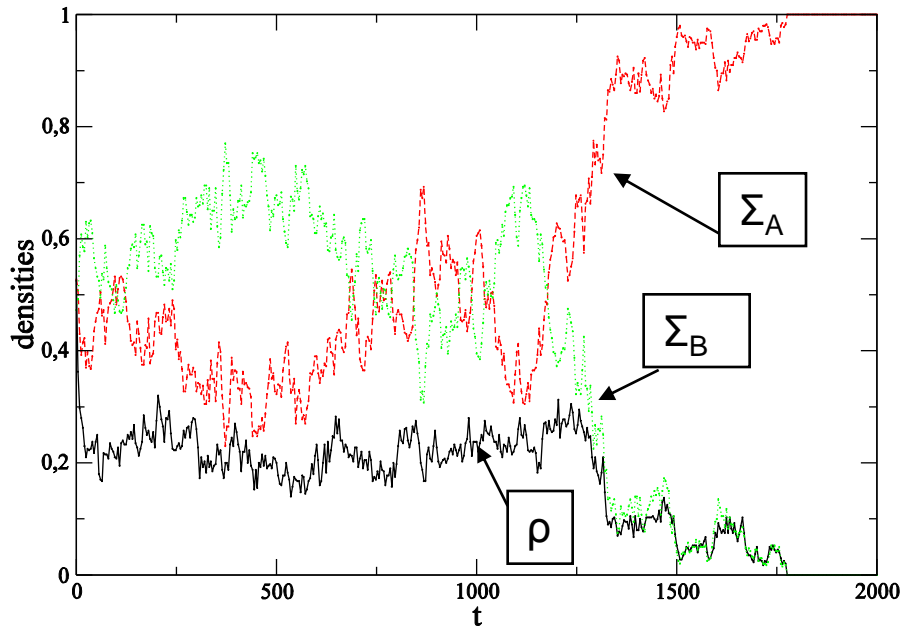
Formation of “localized” single-option domains

▶ AB-agents → do not form AB-domains
→ at the **interfaces**

Curvature driven dynamics

LOCAL EFFECTS: Typical realization in a 2-d regular lattice:

VOTER MODEL

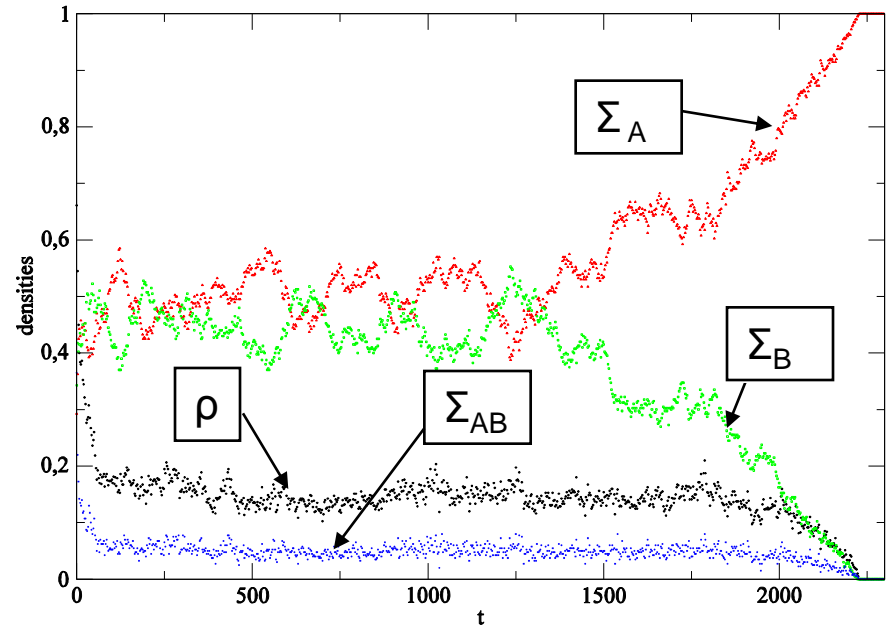


$N = 400$

Extinction of one single option community

- ρ initial decay
- ρ vanishes together with the extinct state

AB-MODEL



$N = 400$

Extinction of one option + AB-agents

- ρ **stronger** initial decay
- AB-agents density follows the evolution of ρ

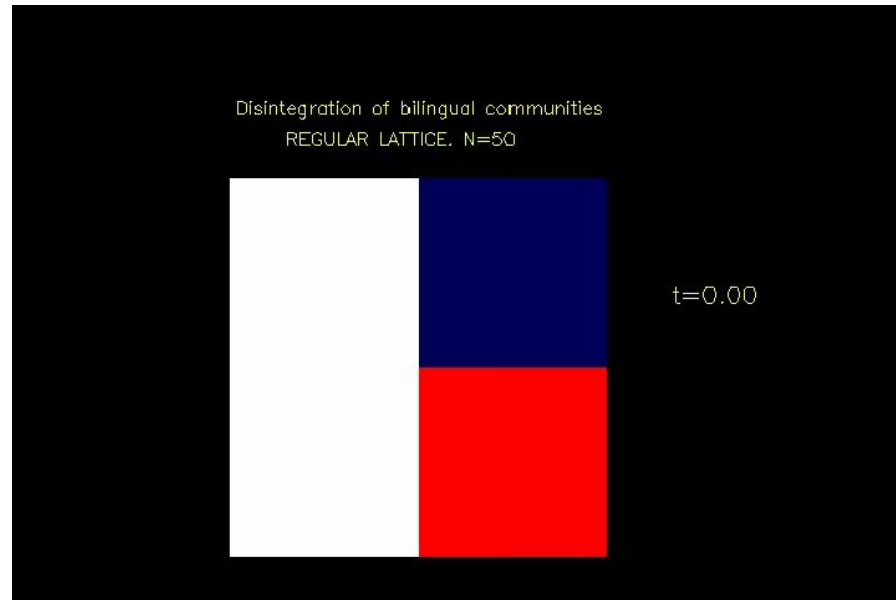
Disintegration of AB-domains

SEE APPLET!

http://www.ifisc.uib-csic.es/research/complex/APPLET_LANGDYN.html

AB- MODEL

- State A
- State B
- AB-state



$N = 50^2$

► Disintegration of **AB-domains**

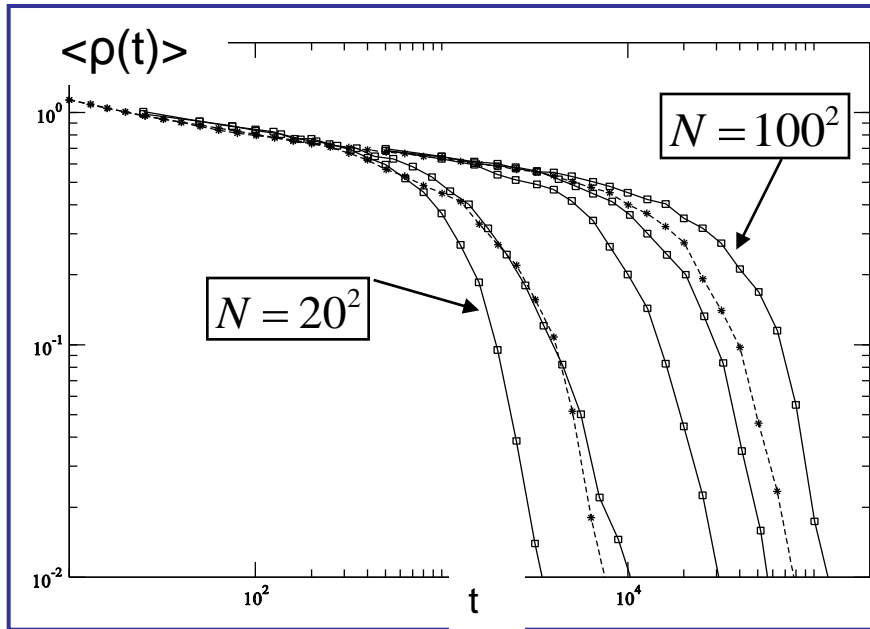
*Within the assumptions of our model:
Societies with possibility of **sharing two options at the individual level***



tend to end up splitting into single-option communities, even if the options are ideally socially equivalent.

LOCAL EFFECTS: domain growth

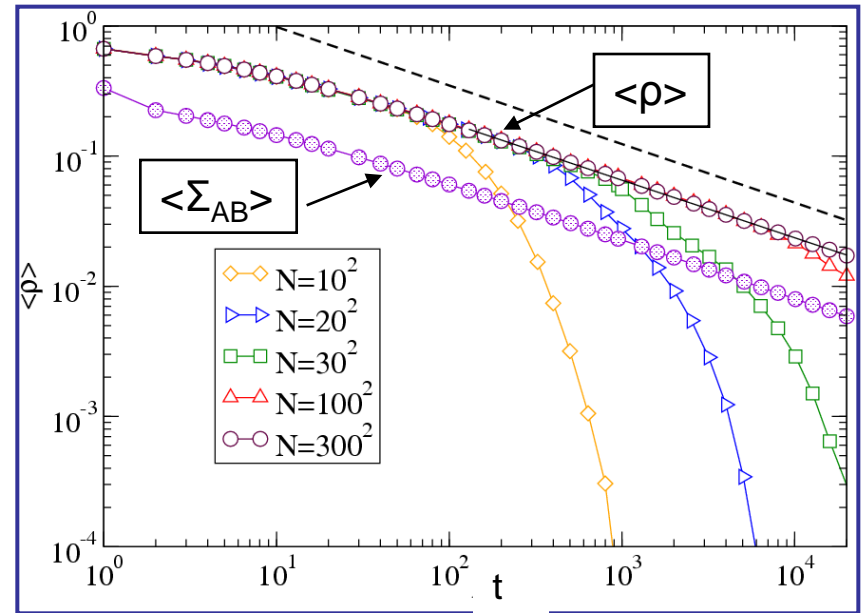
VOTER MODEL



$\langle \rho \rangle \propto t^{-0.11}$ compatible with $\rho \sim 1/\ln(t)$ coarsening (VOTER MODEL)

Domain growth: $l(t) \propto t^{0.11}$

AB-MODEL



$\langle \rho \rangle \propto t^{-0.45}$

$\langle \Sigma_{AB} \rangle \propto t^{-0.45}$

Domain growth: $l(t) \propto t^{0.45}$

- $\langle \rho \rangle$ and Σ_{AB} related
- compatible with curvature driven growth (SFKI)

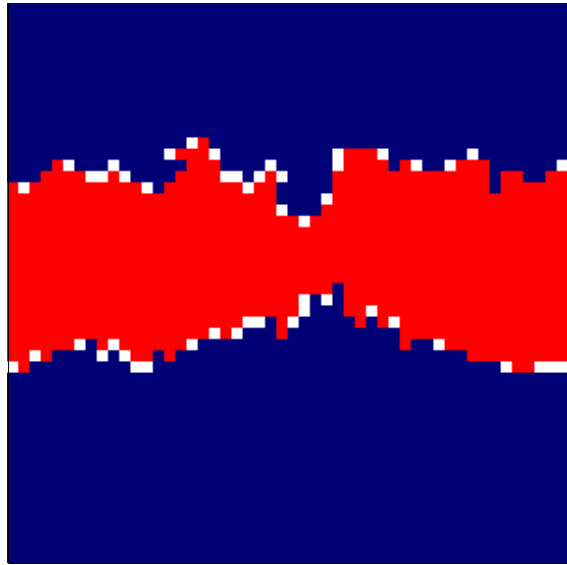
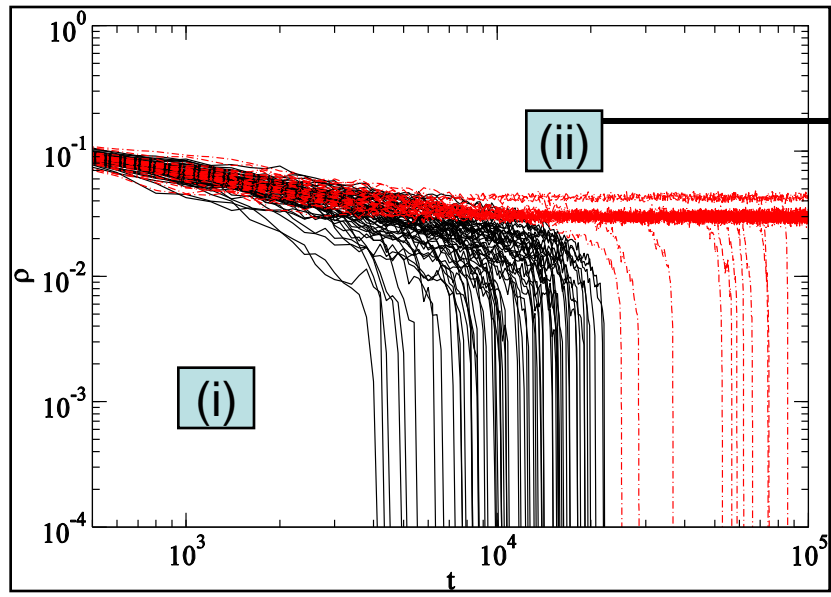
DYNAMICAL METASTABLE STATES:

On a closer inspection ...

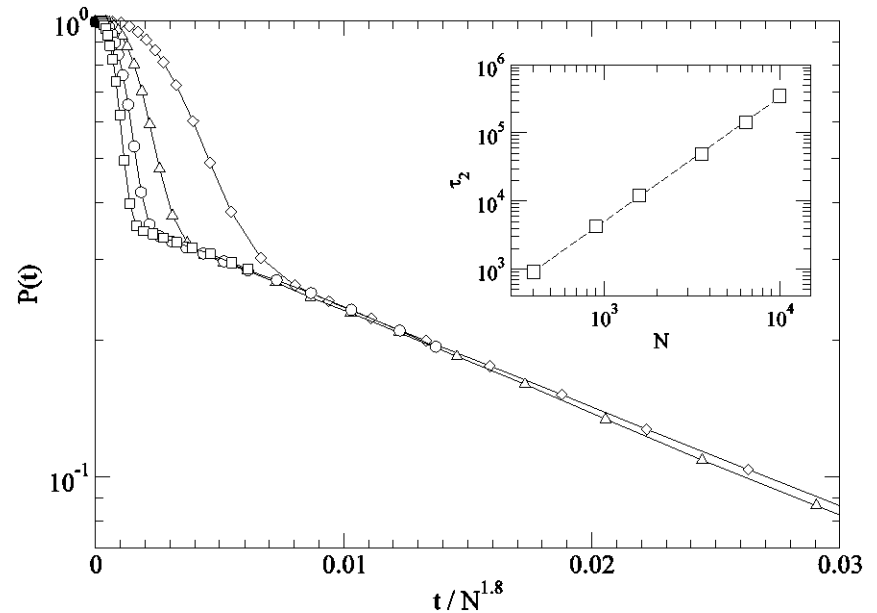
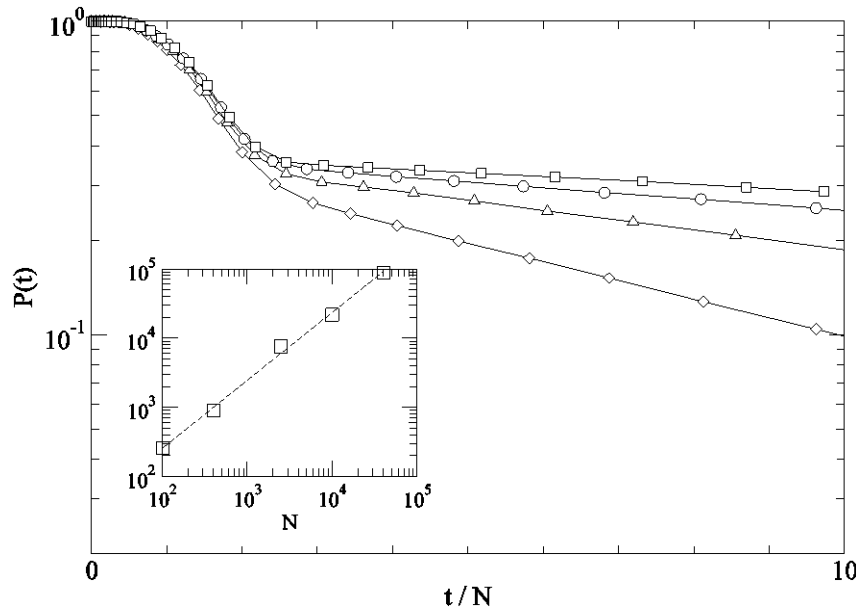
TWO TYPES OF REALIZATIONS



- $p=2/3$ i) coarsening stage + finite size fluctuation towards consensus
- $p=1/3$ ■ ii) coarsening + **long-lived metastable state** ($\rho \approx cte$) + finite size fluctuation towards consensus



DYNAMICAL METASTABLE STATES: $P(t)$ fraction alive runs



(i) Average time to reach consensus $\tau \propto N$

(ii) Distribution of survival times:

$$P(t) \sim e^{-\alpha(N)t} \longrightarrow \tau \propto N^{1.8}$$

characteristic of curvature driven coarsening (Ising model)

These states dominate the global scaling for large systems

$$\tau_{AB} / \tau_{voter} \propto N^{0.8} / \ln N$$

RESULTS 2:

Voter model VS AB-model in small world networks

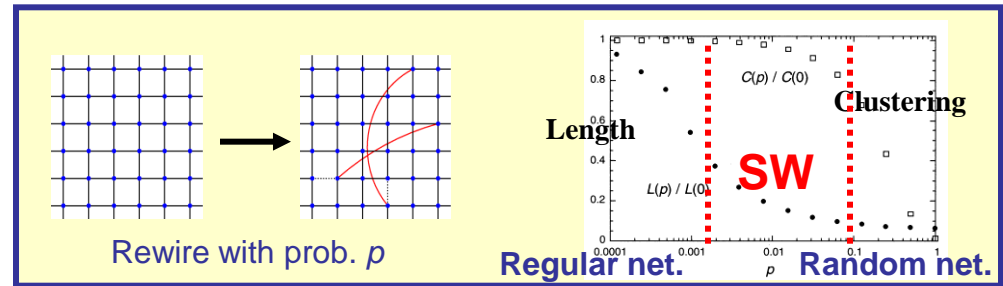
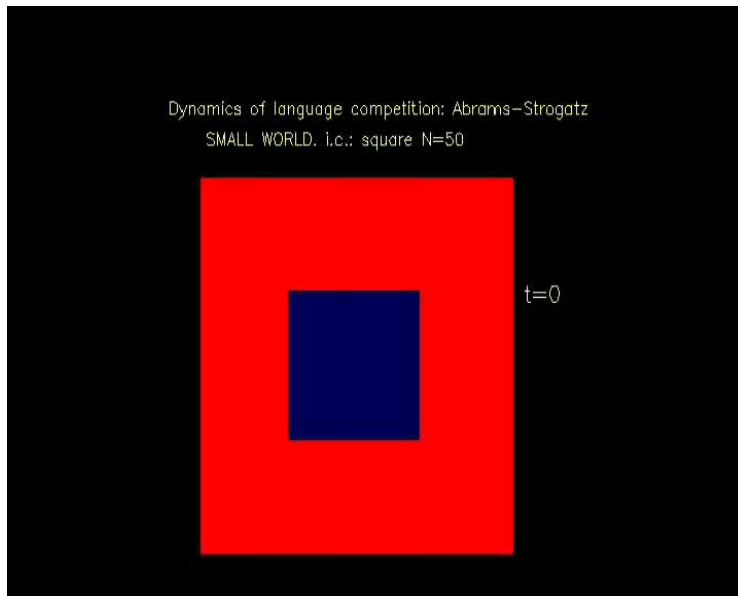


Castelló et al. *New Journal of Physics*, 8, 308 (2006)

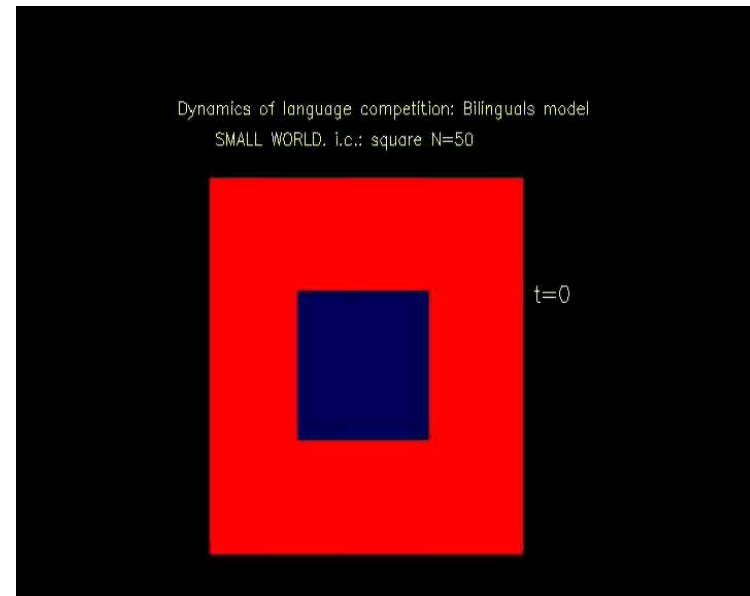
Social Structure: Small World Network

- State A
- State B
- AB-agents

VOTER MODEL



AB-MODEL



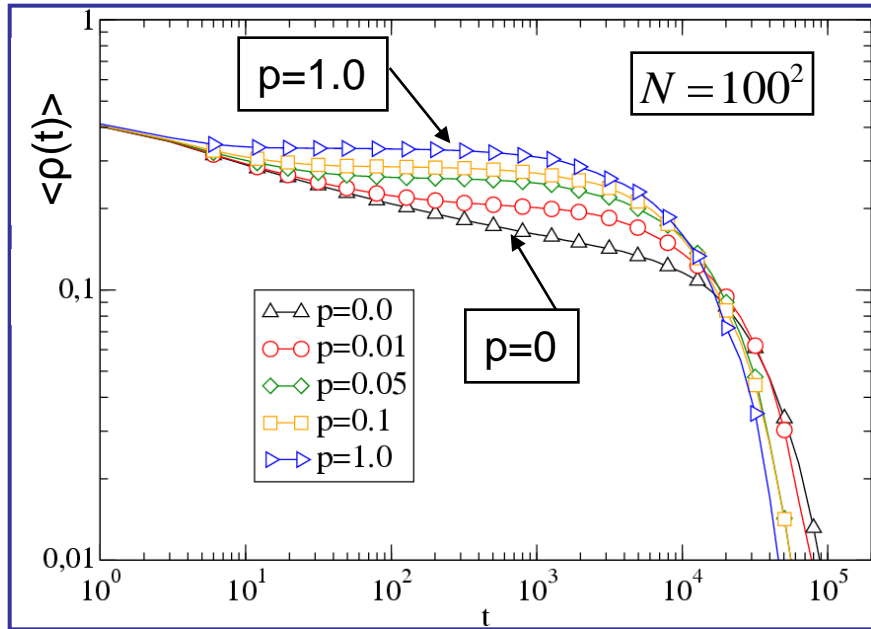
$p = 0.1 \quad N = 50^2$

AB-agents + Small World produce faster path to consensus

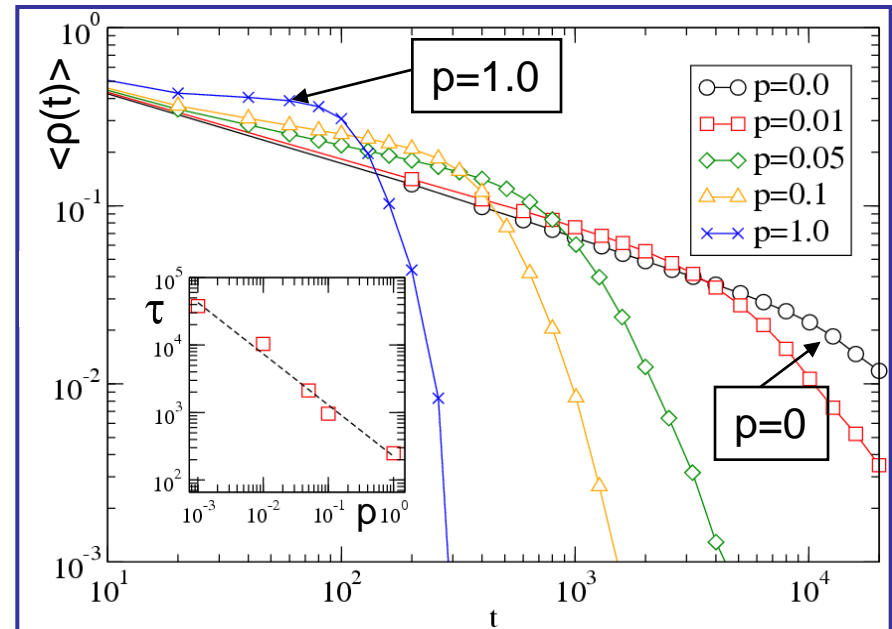
Social Structure: Small World network

τ : average time to reach an absorbing state

VOTER MODEL



AB-MODEL



■ Coarsening stopped: **Metastable states**

■ Minor effect of p

$$\tau \approx cte$$

■ Slower coarsening when increasing p .

■ Strong effect of p .

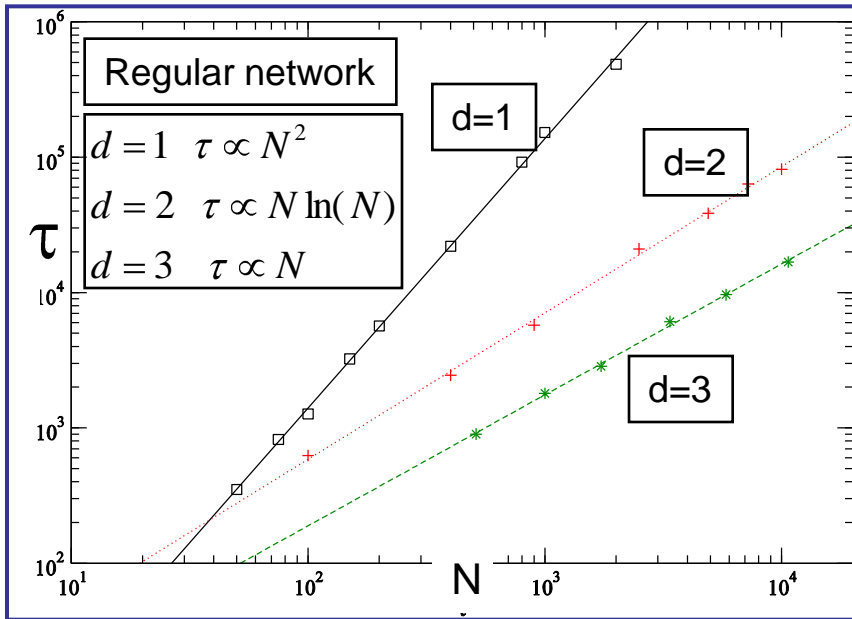
$$\tau \propto p^{-0.74}$$

For fixed p : AB-agents produce: faster growth of single-option domains
also a faster extinction of one of them

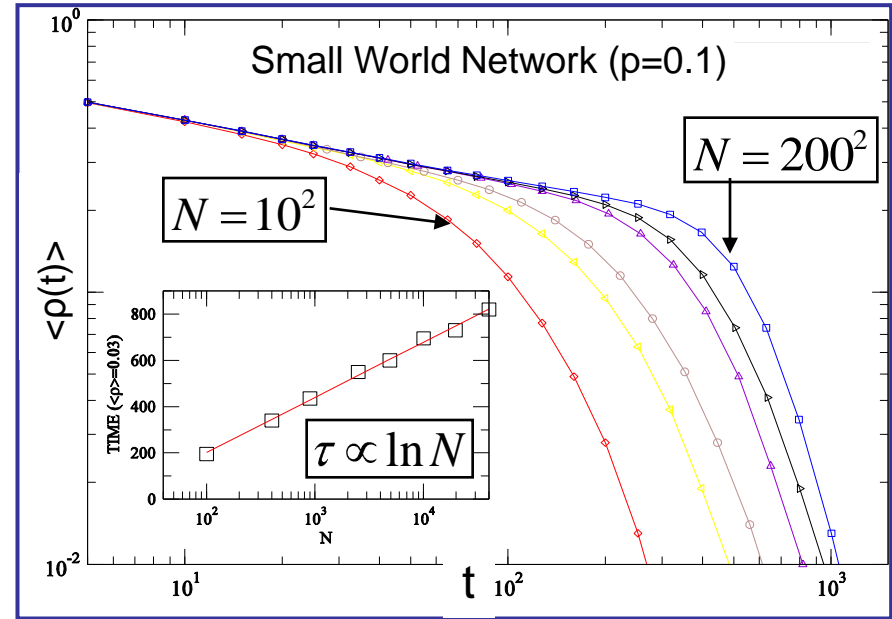
$$\tau_{AB} / \tau_{voter} \propto \ln N / N$$

Time to consensus: dependence on system size.

VOTER MODEL



AB- MODEL



- Small World net: $\tau \propto N$ (voter model)

In a **smW network** bilingual agents cause a faster extinction: $\tau_{AB} / \tau_{voter} \propto \ln N / N$

Characteristic times to consensus. Summary

	VOTER MODEL	AB-MODEL
Regular d-dimensional networks	$d = 1 \quad \tau \propto N^2$ $d = 2 \quad \tau \propto N \ln(N)$ $d = 3 \quad \tau \propto N$	$\tau \propto N^{1.8}$ (2 dim. Regular Net) $\tau_{AB} / \tau_{voter} \propto N^{0.8} / \ln N$
Small World network	$\tau(p) \approx cte$ $\tau \propto N$	$\tau(p) \propto p^{-0.74}$ $\tau \propto \ln N$ (also in FC Nets) $\tau_{AB} / \tau_{voter} \propto \ln N / N$ AB agents foster consensus

CONCLUSIONS I

AB-model (extension of the *voter model*): **AB-agents** is **NOT** effective mechanism in stabilizing the coexistence of two competing options. **Consensus ALWAYS** reached.

Role of AB-agents:

- **AB-agents** → at the *interfaces*
- no formation of **AB-domains**
- **dynamical metastable states** (stripe-like configurations)

Noisy interface dynamics → **Curvature driven**

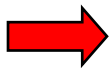
Role of Small World social structure (large systems): consensus **earlier** when AB-agents are *present!!!*

LANGUAGE COMPETITION. *Within the assumptions and limited framework of current models:*

bilingualism is **NOT** an effective mechanism in stabilizing the coexistence of two competing languages, and extinction is accelerated when a **small world social structure** is considered

RESULTS 3(a)

Voter model VS AB-model in community networks



Castelló, X.; Toivonen, R.; Eguíluz, V. M.; Saramäki, J.; Kaski, K.; San Miguel, M.
[Europhysics Letters 79, 66066 \(2007\)](#)

NETWORKS WITH COMMUNITY STRUCTURE

Definition of **community**: set of nodes more interconnected with one another, than with the rest of the network

EXAMPLE

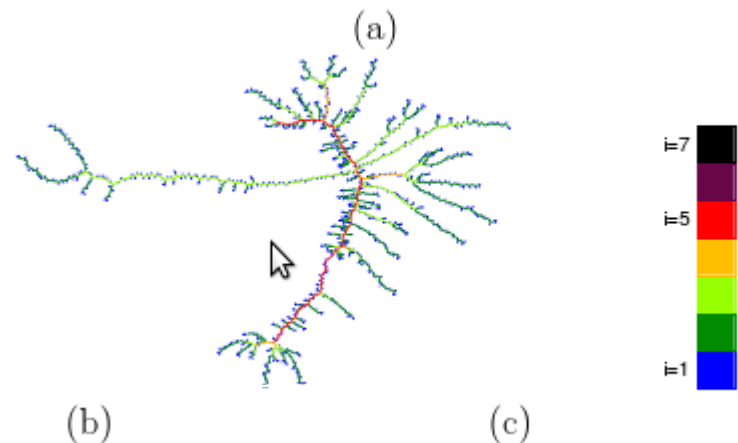
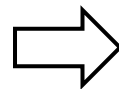
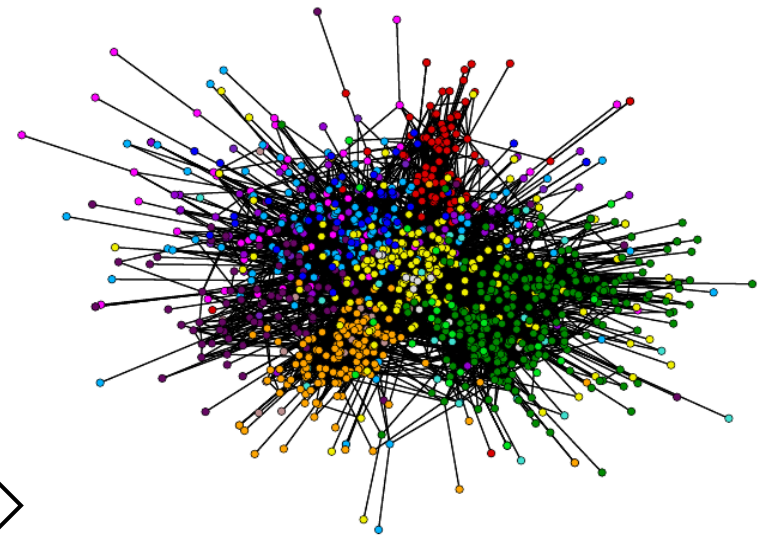
E-mail network of Universitat Rovira i Virgili (Tarragona)

R. Guimerà, L. Danon, A. Díaz-Guilera, F. Giralt and A. Arenas, *Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organization* , 61(4), 653-667 , (2006)

Detection algorithm used:

→ removal of high betweenness links

Newman M E J and Girvan M, *Phys. Rev. E* 69 026113 (2004)



DYNAMICAL EFFECTS

Impact on the dynamics already found in:

- synchronization

A. Arenas, A. Díaz-Guilera, and C. J. Pérez-Vicente, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 96, 114102 (2006)

- information transfer

J.-P. Onnela, J. Saramäki, J. Hyvönen, G. Szabó, D. Lazer, K. Kaski, J. Kertész, and A.-L. Barabási, *PNAS. (USA)* 104, 7332 (2007)

- emergence of cooperation

S. Lozano, A. Arenas, and A. Sánchez, *PLoS ONE* 3, e1892 (2008)

MODEL NETWORK:

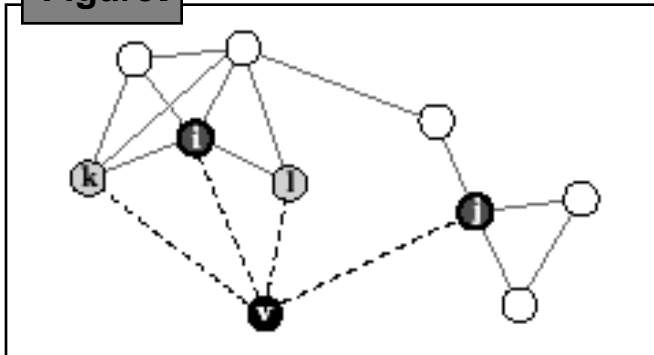
→ mimics features found in real social networks

- i) **Communities**
- ii) **Hubs**
- iii) **Assortativity**
- iv) **High clustering**

Algorithm:

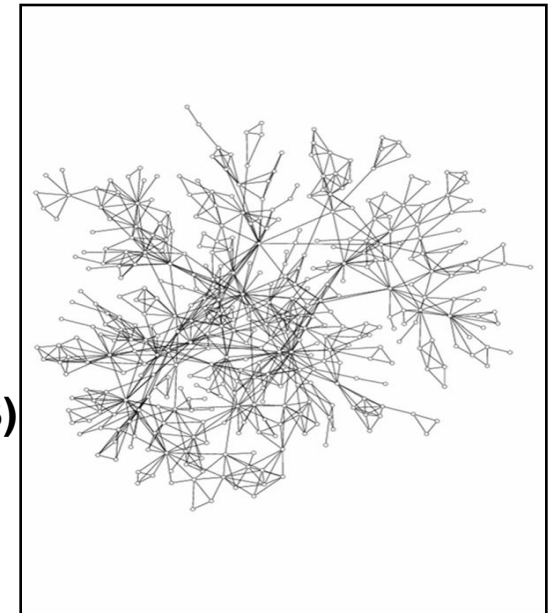
- i) Start with seed network of N_0 nodes.
- ii) Add a new node v .
- iii) Pick on average $m_r \geq 1$ random vertices as initial contacts. (l, j in figure)
- iv) Pick on average $m_s \geq 0$ random neighbours of each initial contact as second contacts. (l, k in figure)

Figure:



Standard parameters:

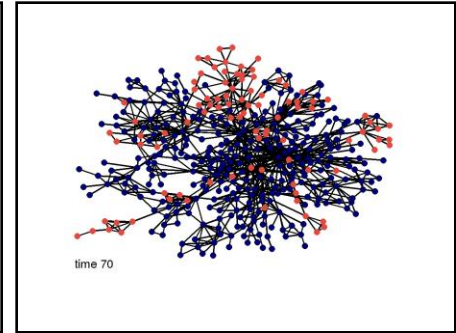
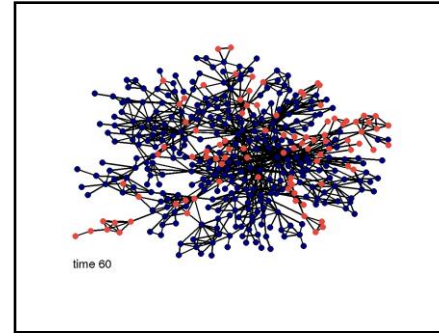
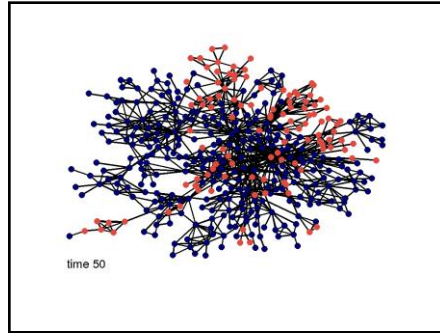
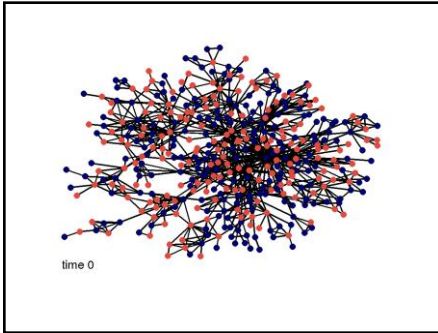
- 1st contacts: $p_1=0.95$;
 $p_2=0.05$
- 2nd contacts from $U(0,3)$



R. Toivonen, J.-P. Onnela, J. Saramäki, J. Hyvönen, K. Kaski.
Physica A, Volume 371, Issue 2, 15 Nov 2006, Pages 851-860

VOTER MODEL

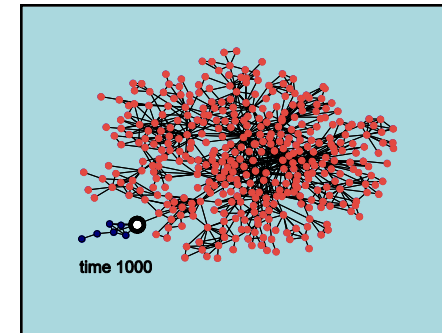
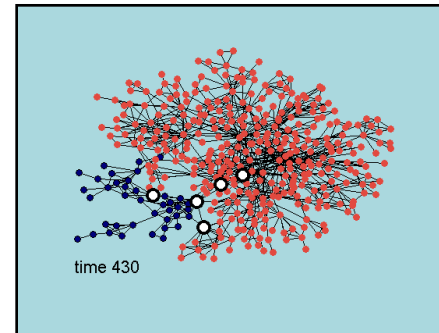
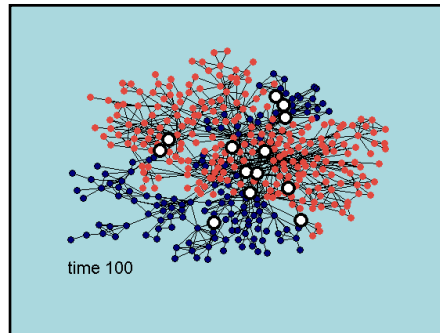
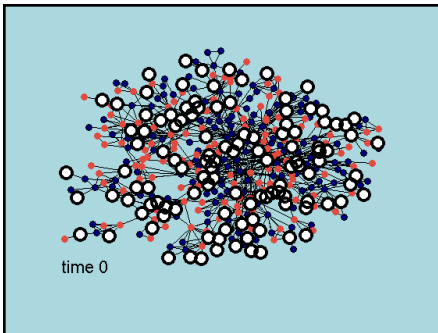
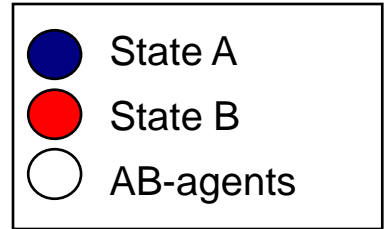
Minority option **does not get localized** in the network!



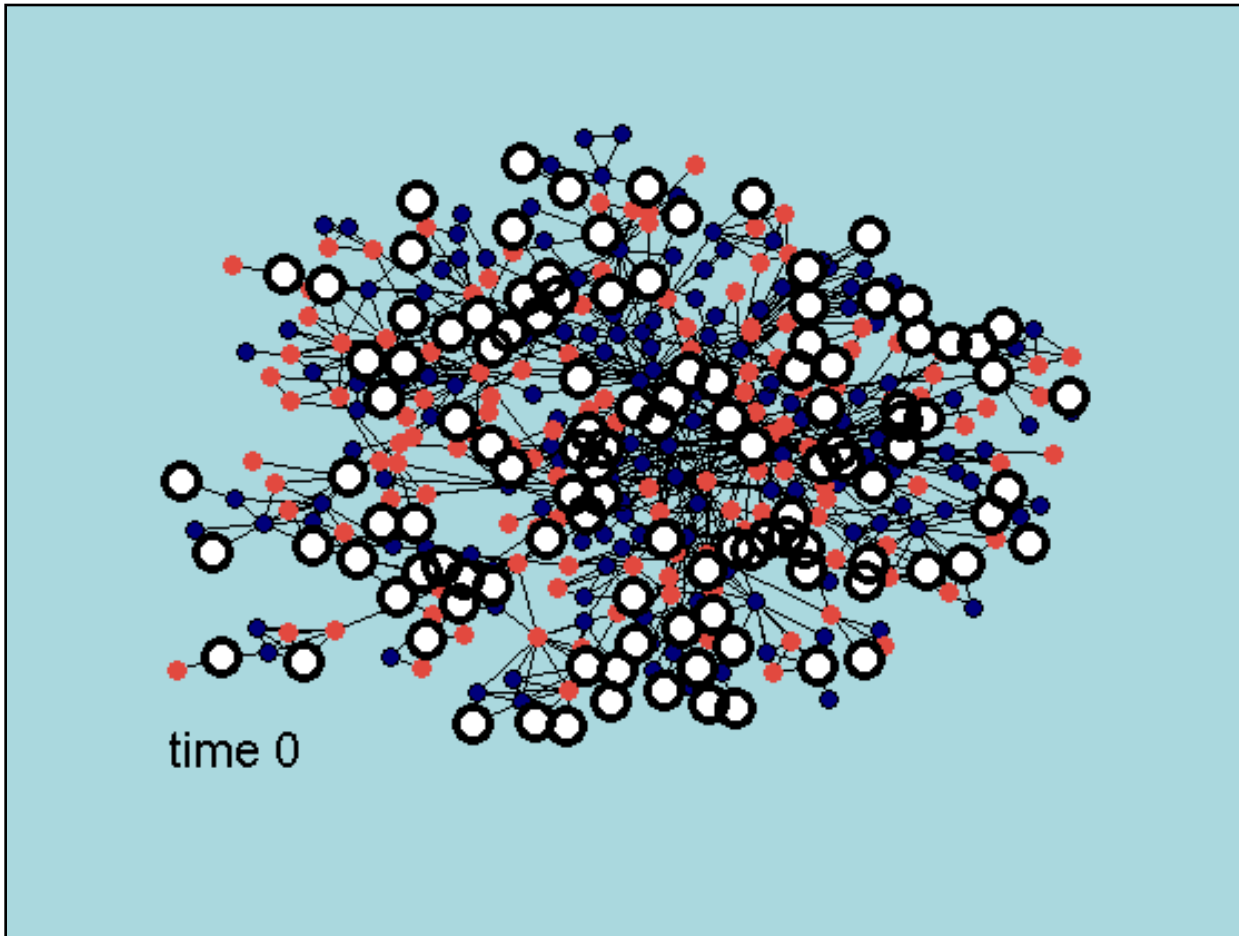
Minor effect of community structure.

AB-MODEL

Single-option domains **correlated with the communities!**



IMPORTANT effect of community structure.

AB-model in CommNet: time evolution**Legend**

State A



State B



AB-agents



Analysis of the distribution of “alive” runs, $P(t)$

$$P(t) = 1 - \int_0^t p(t') dt'$$

$p(t)$: probability distribution of life times

VOTER MODEL

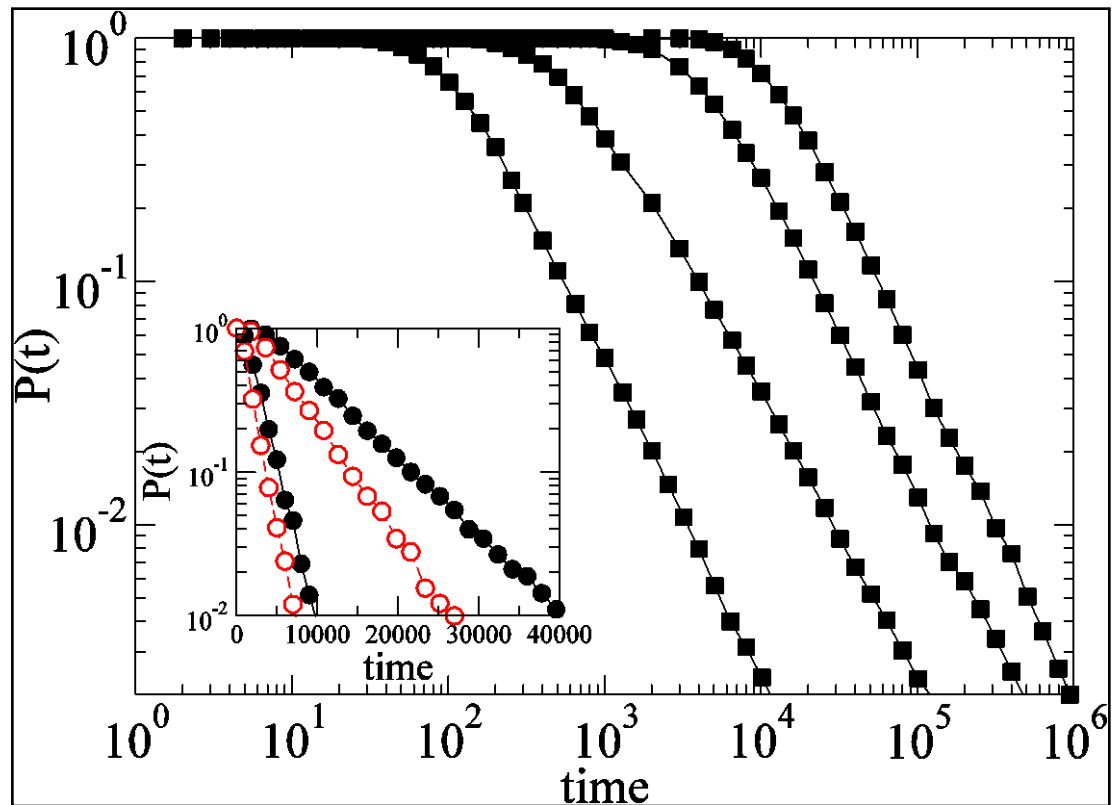
Exponential decay
for the distribution of “alive”
runs (*inset*)

AB-MODEL

Power law decay for the
distribution of “alive” runs

↓ $P(t) \propto t^{-\alpha}$, $\alpha \approx 1,3$

<T> does not define a
characteristic time scale!
▶ alive runs at any time
scale



N=100, 400, 2500, 10000

Closer inspection: analysis of single runs in the AB-model

CLASSES OF REALIZATIONS:

(i)

Ordering stage + extinction

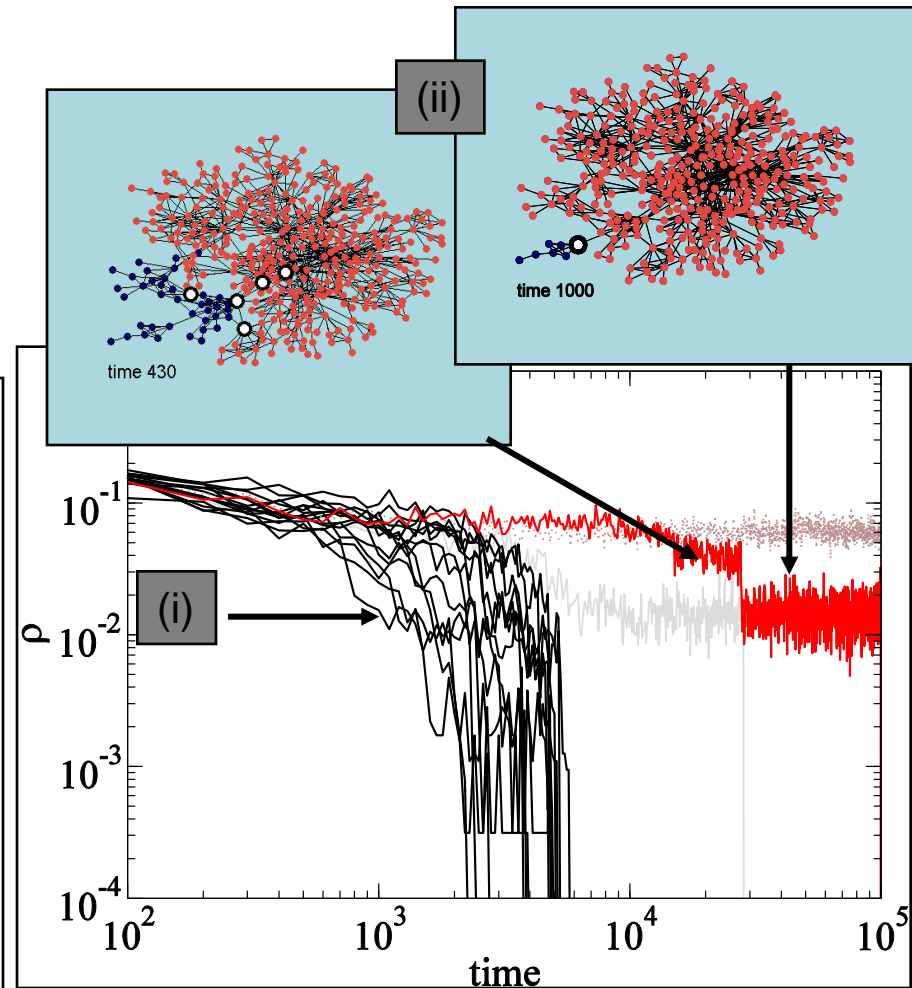
(ii)

Ordering + fall into long-lived trapped metastable states

NO characteristic time scale

scenario of coexistence at any time scale

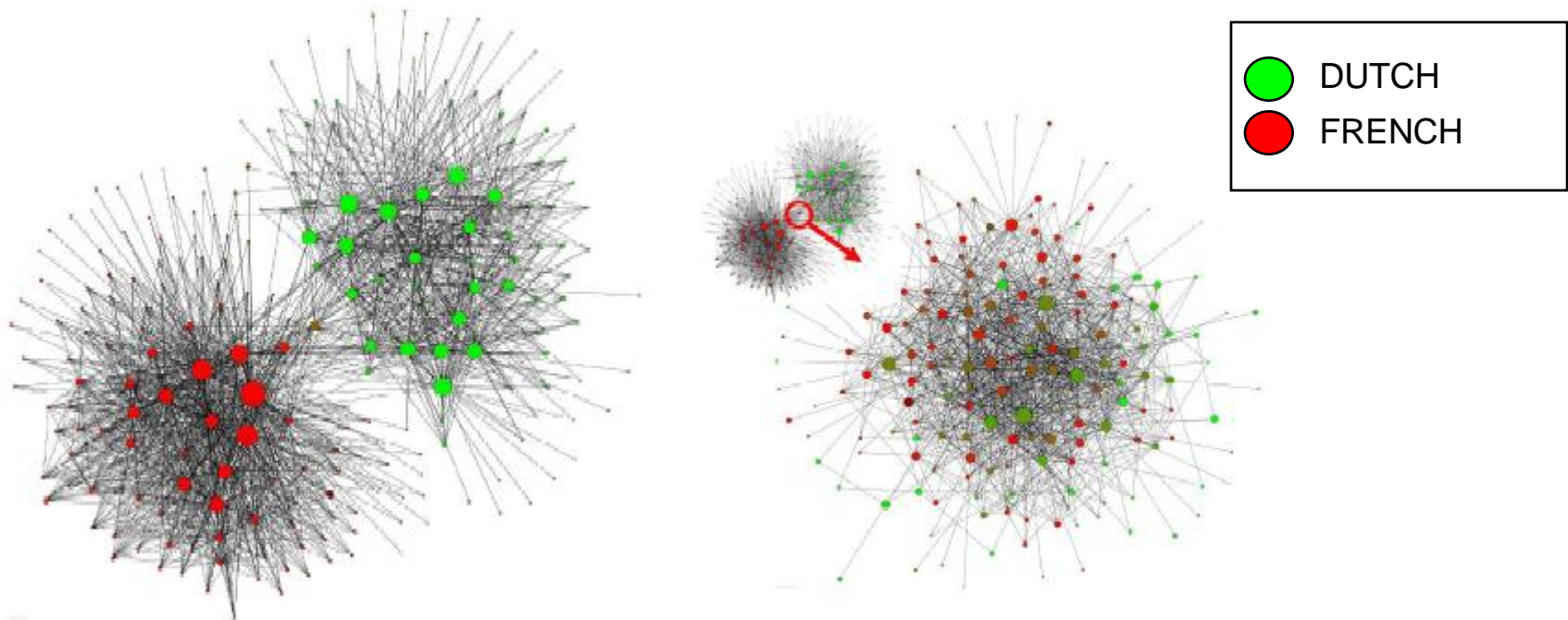
Hierarchical levels



DATA on LANGUAGE USE

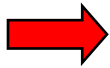
analysis of a Belgian mobile phone network of 2.6 million customers

V. D. Blondel, J.-L. Guillaume, R. Lambiotte, E. Lefebvre arXiv:0803.0476v1
[physics.soc-ph] (March 2008)



RESULTS 3(b)

AB-model in *clique-like* community networks



Toivonen, R.; Castelló, X.; Eguíluz, V. M.; Saramäki, J.; Kaski, K; San Miguel, M.
[Physical Review E 79, 016109 \(1-8\) \(2009\)](#)

MECHANISMS AT WORK AT MESOSCALE LEVEL

Which are the minimal (sufficient) ingredients for the existence of a PL distribution for $P(t)$ such that a characteristic time scale does not exist in the dynamics??

IDEA: build up a simple “controllable” community structure

→ complex networks with **cliques** as *super-nodes*
(clique: set of nodes which are all interconnected)

Topologies studied:

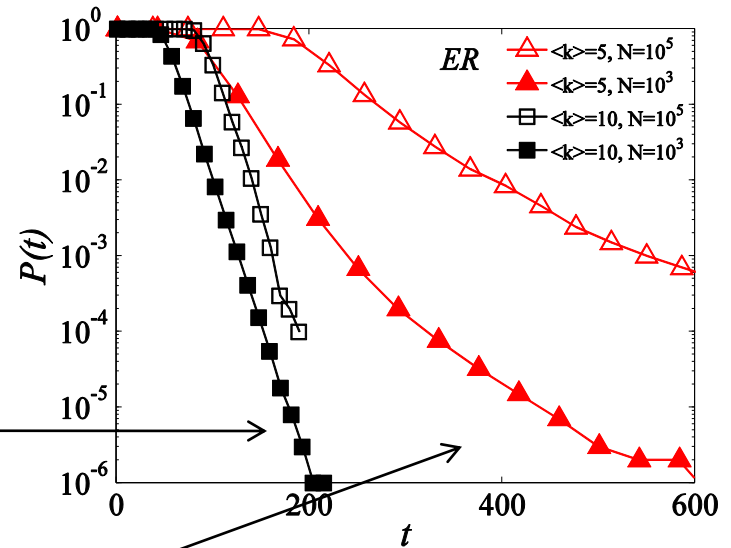
- ▶ a) Erdős Renyi random networks (*no communities*)
- ▶ b) Clique-community networks

a) Erdős-Rényi networks

- Networks with large $\langle k \rangle$:

$P(t)$ shows exponential decay ($\langle k \rangle = 10$)

$$P(t) \propto e^{-t/\tau}$$



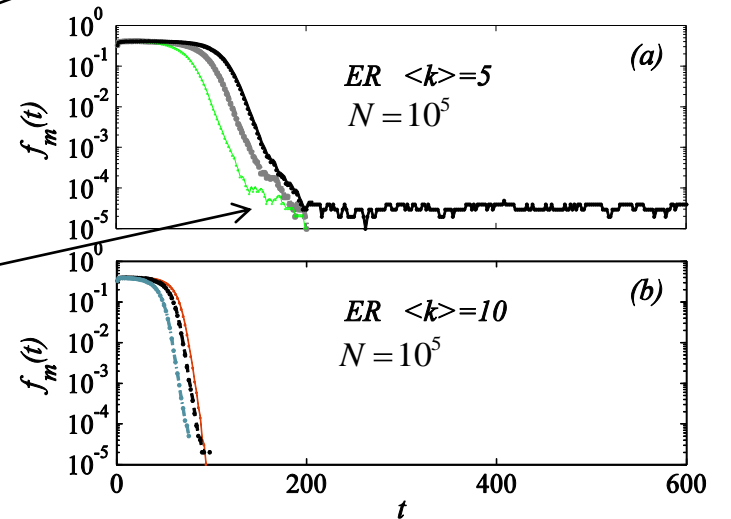
- Networks with small $\langle k \rangle$:

$P(t)$ shows broader than exponential tails for “small k ” ($\langle k \rangle = 5$)



metastable states

f_m : fraction of nodes in the minority state



What happens for small $\langle k \rangle$?

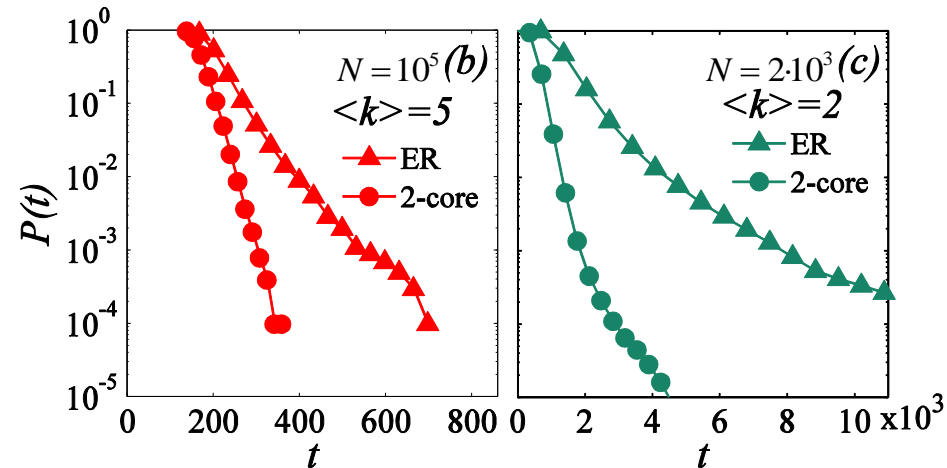
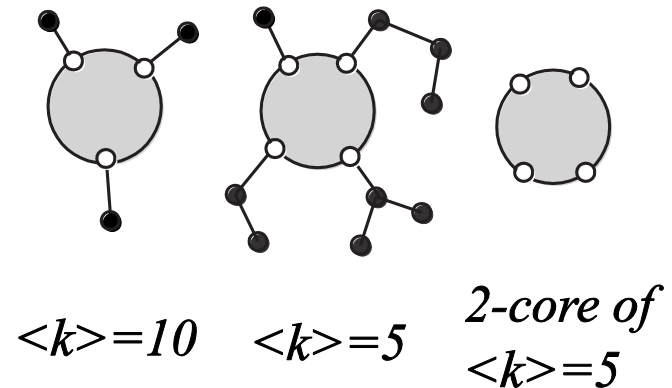
The role of *branches*:

Get the *2-core* of the network

(remove nodes i with $k_i = 1$ until all nodes have $k_i \geq 2$)

► Except for very sparse networks ($\langle k \rangle = 2$), an exponential tail is recovered.

► Branches are responsible for the longest-lived metastable states.



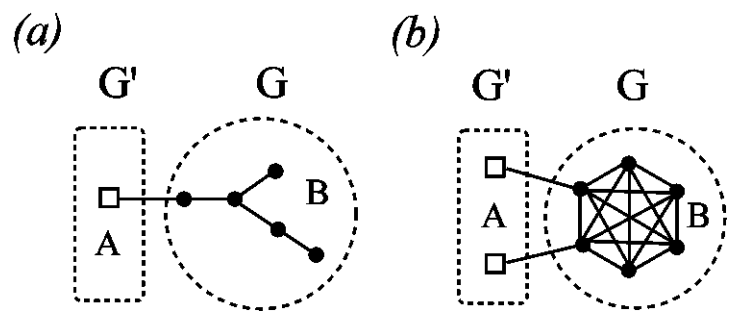
Dynamical robustness

(for a given topological structure G in a given dynamics)

The resistance of G against consenting to outside pressure applied to G by its neighbours G'

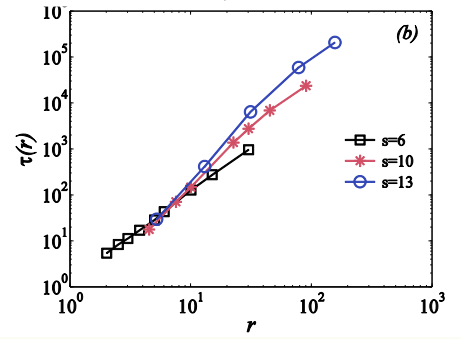
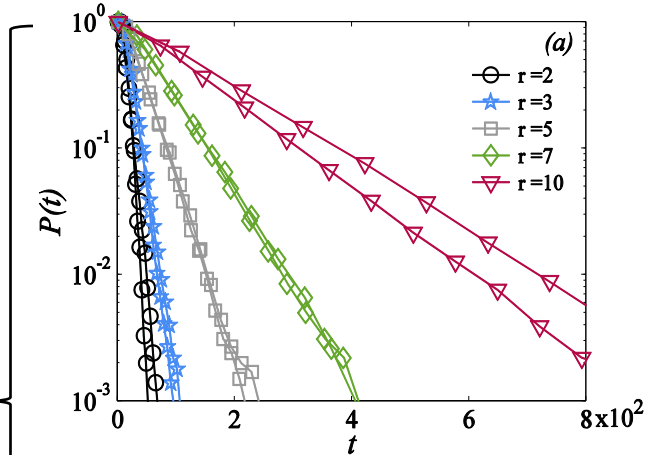
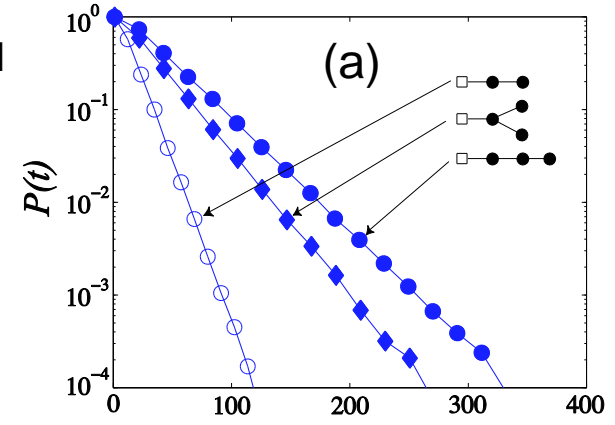
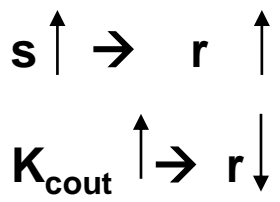
Characterized by a survival time τ

$$P(t) \propto e^{-t/\tau}$$



Dynamical robustness for a *clique* (size: s)
(characterized by the topological measure, r)

$$r \equiv \frac{k_{n_{in}}}{\langle k_{n_{out}} \rangle} = \frac{s(s-1)}{k_{c_{out}}}$$



b) Clique-community networks

random networks (degree $k_{c,out}$) with **cliques** as *super-nodes*

► Equally sized cliques (s : clique size): $p(s) = \delta(s - s')$

i) Equal out-degree random network $p(k_{c,out}) = \delta(k_{c,out} - \langle k_{c,out} \rangle)$ (**EDhom nets**)

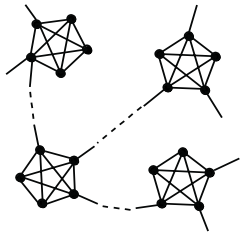
ii) Erdős-Rényi networks (**ERhom nets**)

► Exponential distribution of clique sizes $p(s) \propto e^{-(s-s_{min})/\mu}$ → heterogeneous cliques

iii) Equal out-degree random network $p(k_{c,out}) = \delta(k_{c,out} - \langle k_{c,out} \rangle)$ (**EDexp nets**)

(i)

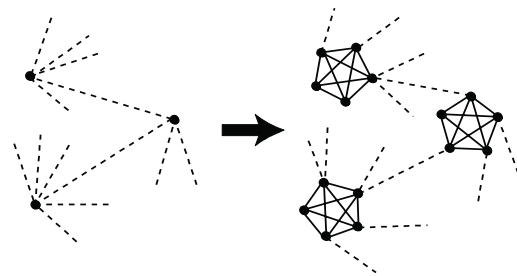
EDhom



(ii)

ER

ERhom

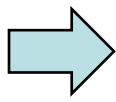


i) EDhom Nets

homogeneous dynamical robustness of cliques

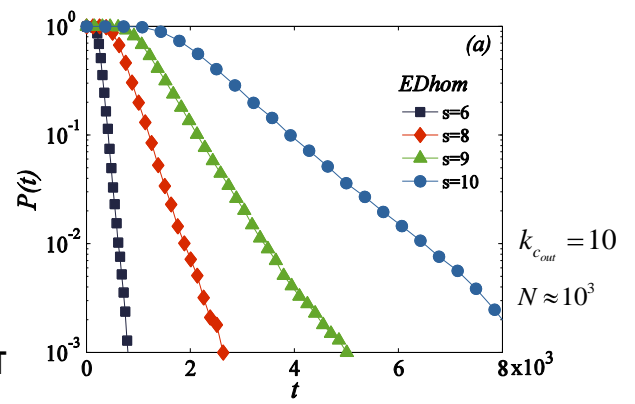
$$p(s) = \delta(s - s')$$

$$p(k_{c_{out}}) = \delta(k_{c_{out}} - \langle k_{c_{out}} \rangle)$$



$$P(t) \propto e^{-t/\tau}$$

Well defined characteristic time, τ

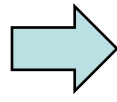


ii) ERhom Nets

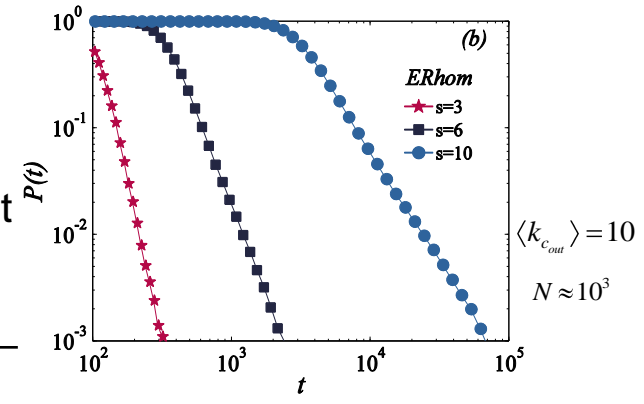
small differences in dynamical robustness of cliques

$$p(s) = \delta(s - s')$$

$$p(k_{c_{out}}) = e^{-\langle k_{c_{out}} \rangle} \frac{\langle k_{c_{out}} \rangle^{k_{c_{out}}}}{k_{c_{out}}!}$$



$P(t)$ broader than exponential, but with well defined characteristic time, τ

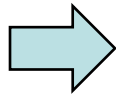


iii) EDexp Nets

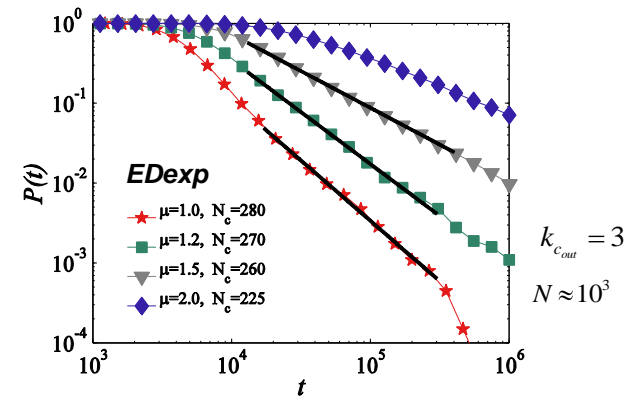
$$P(t) \propto t^{-\eta}, 1 < \eta < 2$$

$$p(s) \propto e^{-(s-s_{min})/\mu}, s_{min} = 3$$

$$p(k_{c_{out}}) = \delta(k_{c_{out}} - \langle k_{c_{out}} \rangle)$$



Dynamical robustness heterogeneity
→ NO characteristic time!!



SUFFICIENT MECHANISM dynamical robustness heterogeneity at mesoscale level

Metastable states

ERHom (s=10)

n_m : number of agents in the minority state
 ρ : interface density

- Cliques **rarely convert** to the minority state

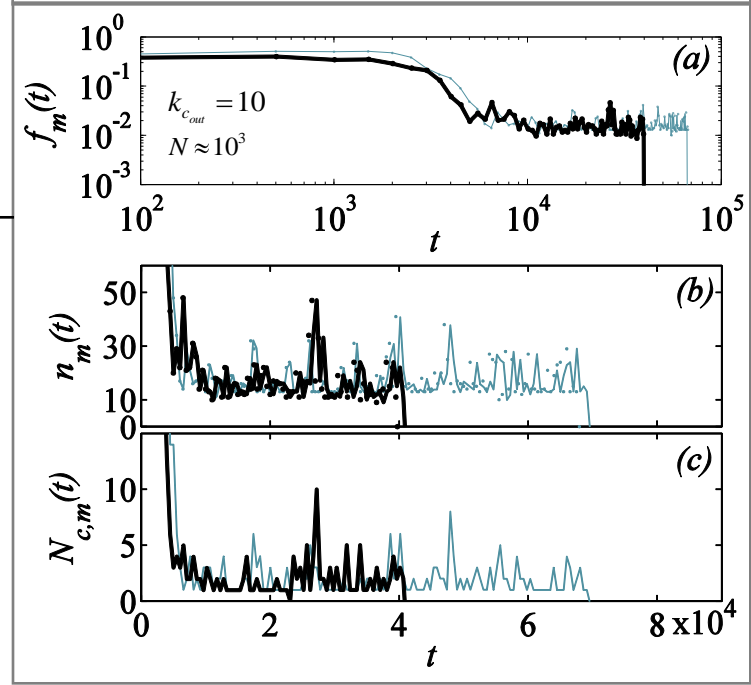
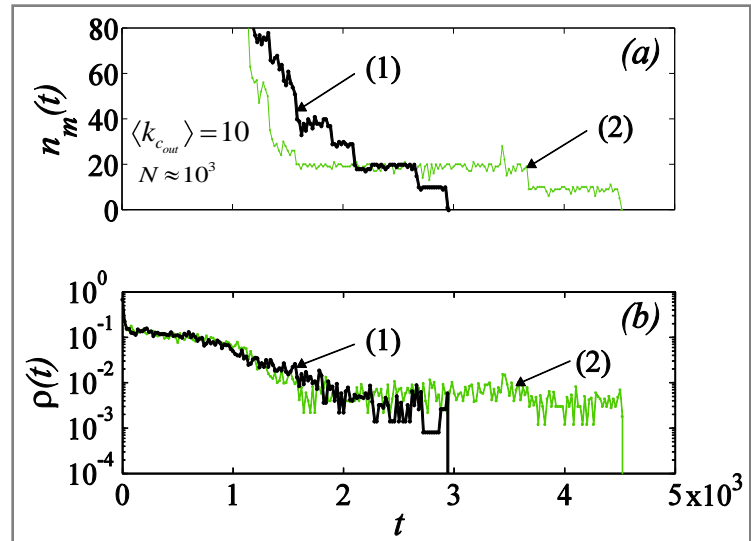
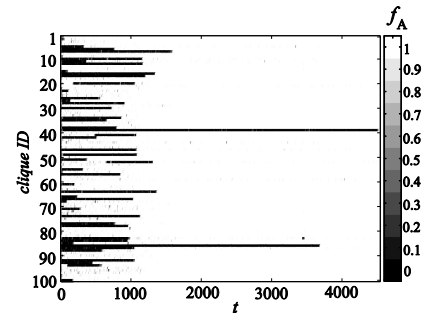
- *Role of branches* : cliques that remain in the minority state have a relatively small number of out-links (hence are slightly more dynamically robust).

EDexp

f_m : fraction of agents in the minority state
 $N_{c,m}$: number of cliques in which more than 90% were in the minority state

Buffering effect: a relatively big cluster converts its less dynamically robust neighbouring cliques

→ $N_{c,m}$ **fluctuating** around 1



CONCLUSIONS II

Final scenario (Voter Model & AB-model) → **CONSENSUS** in *A* or *B* option (*absorbing states*)

Important: TRANSITION towards **consensus** → depends on **NETWORK STRUCTURE**

Role of Community Structure in the ordering dynamics:

- Voter Model : not significantly sensitive to mesoscale structure
- AB-model: **LONG** extinction times. NO characteristic time scale..!!
 - we find scenario of coexistence of the options at any time scale
 - single-option domains correlated with community structure!! (+hierarchical levels)

→ Sufficient mechanism : **dynamical robustness heterogeneity at the mesoscale level**

Within the assumptions and limited framework of current models for socially equivalent languages:

Language coexistence is favoured by social structures with **heterogeneous mesoscale structure** when **bilingual agents** are considered in the modelling (effect of *curvature driven dynamics*)

→ contrary to *smW*, they favour minority language to be resilient in dynamically robust communities

Other works

Consider languages within a **viability/resilience problem**.

effects on the tuning of prestige (s) → actions of the government

Bernard, Chapel, Castelló et al. et al. (2008) preprint

Explore the whole **parameter space** (a,s): transitions from scenarios of coexistence → dominance

→ **MW-model** has a *generalized voter model transition* shifted compared to **AS-model**

work in progress... with F. Vázquez

Link dynamics: language modelled as a property of the interaction (LINK) rather than of the agent (NODE)

bilingual agents emerge naturally + dynamics in the associated line graph

work in progress... with V. Eguíluz & M. San Miguel

Explore new dynamics allowing for the **emergence of a NEW language** due to language contact (preliminary results using the Naming Game framework)

→ towards *creolization*

Castelló, Baronchelli, Loreto (2009) preprint

+ *work in progress ...*

LINK Dynamics: Language is a link, not an agent property



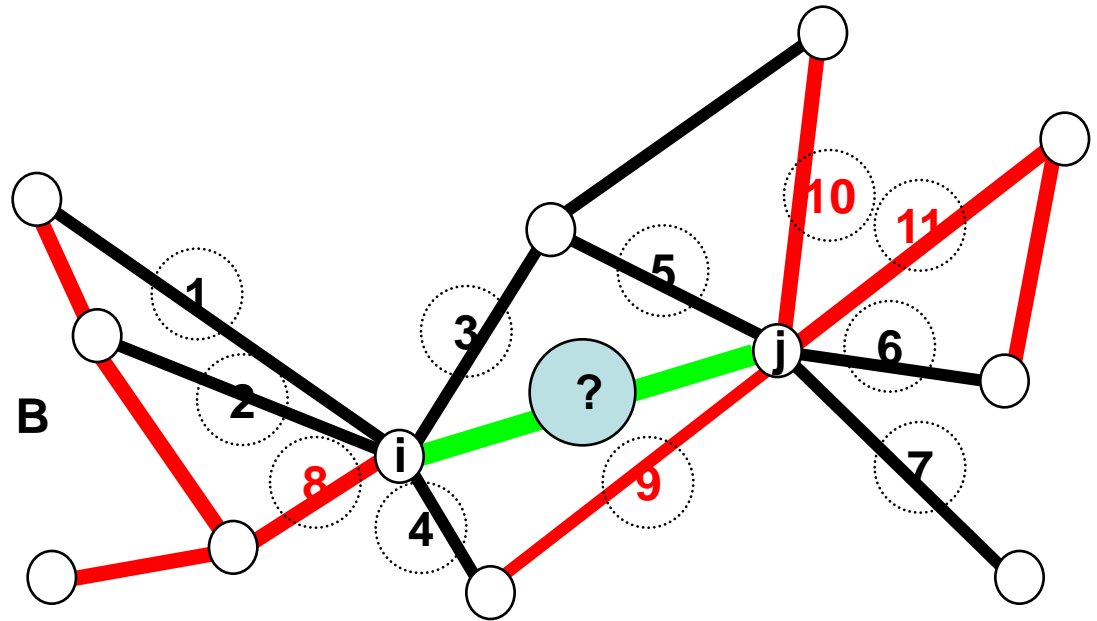
σ_m proportion of m-links of contacts from i and j. m=A, B

$$p_{? \rightarrow B} = \sigma_B = 4/11$$

$$p_{? \rightarrow A} = \sigma_A = 7/11$$

$a=1, s=0.5$

Types of agents








- Monolingual A* 100% **A-links**
- Monolingual B* 100% **B-links**
- Bilingual agent* q % **A-links** 100-q % **B-links**

↳ different degrees of bilingualism

Bilinguals: Agents vs. Link Dynamics

Regular network, marginal volatility ($a=1$), no prestige ($s=0.5$)

-  Monolingual A
-  $\frac{3}{4}$ links A
-  2 links A, 2 links B
-  $\frac{3}{4}$ links B
-  Monolingual B

Agent-based model

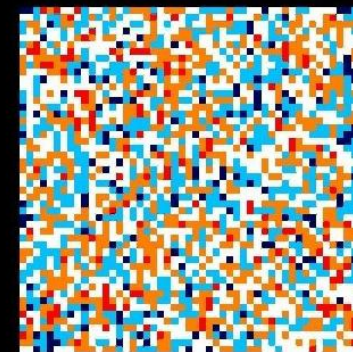
SEE APPLET!

http://www.ifisc.uib-csic.es/research/complex/APPLET_LANGDYN.html

$N = 50^2$

Link-based model

Dynamics of language competition: Link-VM model
REGULAR LATTICE, Random I.c. $N=50$



$t=0$

Coarsening: Growth of monolingual spatial domains. No bilingual domains

Bilinguals are the interfaces (linguistic borders)

- Dynamics: Curvature driven
- FASTER growth of the monolingual domains.

Broad linguistic borders

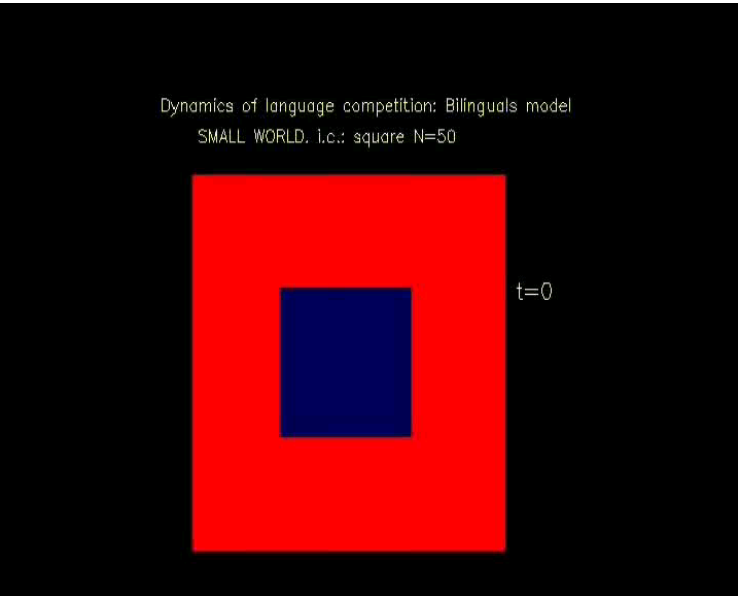
- Dynamics: Interfacial noise
- SLOWER growth of the monolingual domains.

Bilinguals: Agents vs. Link Dynamics

Small World Network

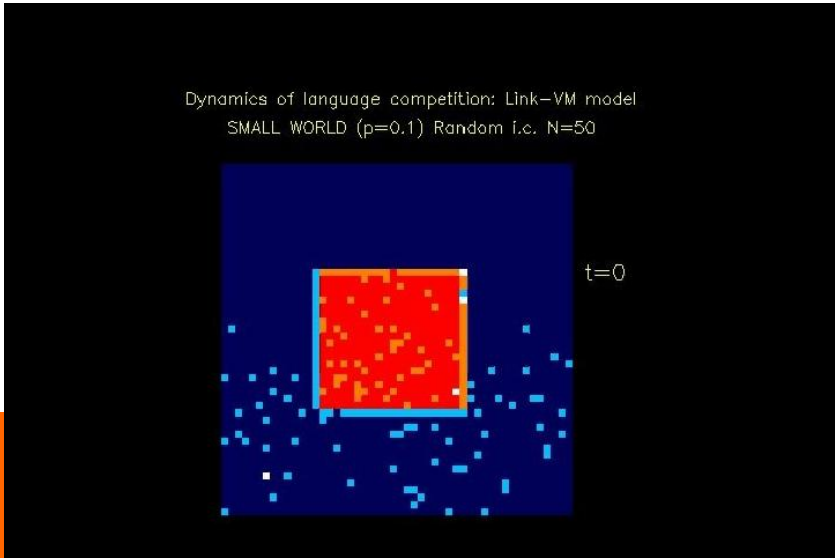
*marginal volatility (a=1)
no prestige (s=0.5)*

Agent-based model








► **Fast extinction of one monolingual community**

Link-based model



$p = 0.1$
 $N = 50^2$

► **Long lived metastable states of language coexistence**
► **Large fraction of bilingual agents in state of coexistence ~ 40%**

-  **Monolingual A**
-  **Links A > 60%**
-  **40% < Links A < 60%**
-  **Links B > 60%**
-  **Monolingual B**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

List of publications:

- X. Castelló, V. Eguíluz and M. San Miguel.** *New Journal of Physics*, 8, 308 (2006)
- + **Dietrich Stauffer,** *Physica A*, 374, 835-842 (2007)
- + **Lucía Loureiro Porto** *Advancing Social Simulation: The First World Congress.* Takahashi, Shingo; Sallach, David; Rouchier, Juliette (Eds.) (2007)
- + **R. Toivonen, J. Saramäki, K. Kaski** *Europhysics Letters* 79, 66066 (2007)
- + **R. Toivonen, J. Saramäki, K. Kaski** *Physical Review E* 79, 016109 (1-8) (2009)