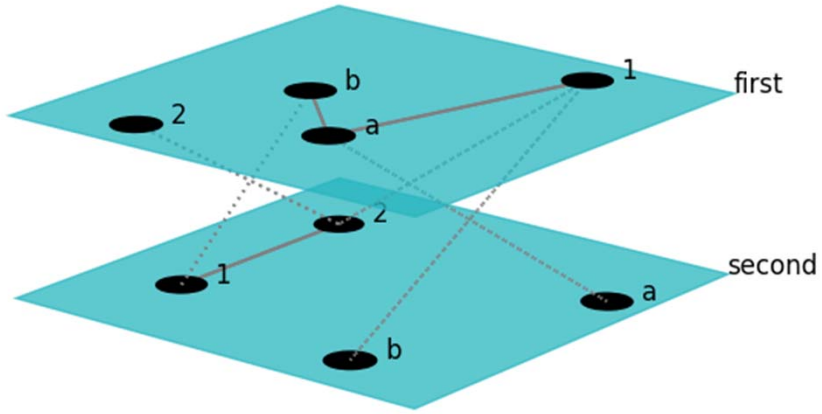
Multilayer Networks



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Multilayer networks

- Networks that are composed of multiple layers (tautological…)
- A number of different names:
  - Multilayer networks
  - Multiplex networks
  - Interconnected networks
  - Interdependent networks
  - Networks of networks

  etc…

Heads up

- This is even newer than temporal network research
- Tools for multilayer network research still under active development
  - But there are some tools now available ☺
- More math/theory-driven, and involve more dynamical models, than temporal network research

Examples

- Social network that involve different types of connections
- Network of airports connected by different air carriers
- Multiple infrastructures of a nation that are connected to each other
- Species interaction patterns that involve distinct layers of habitat

Fundamentals of Multilayer Networks

General representation

- To represent a multilayer network, define the following function:

$$a(i, \alpha, j, \beta) = 0 \text{ or } 1 \text{ (or weight)}$$

- $a(i, \alpha, j, \beta) = 1$ if node i in layer α is connected to node j in layer β, otherwise 0

  (This can be represented mathematically by an adjacency tensor)

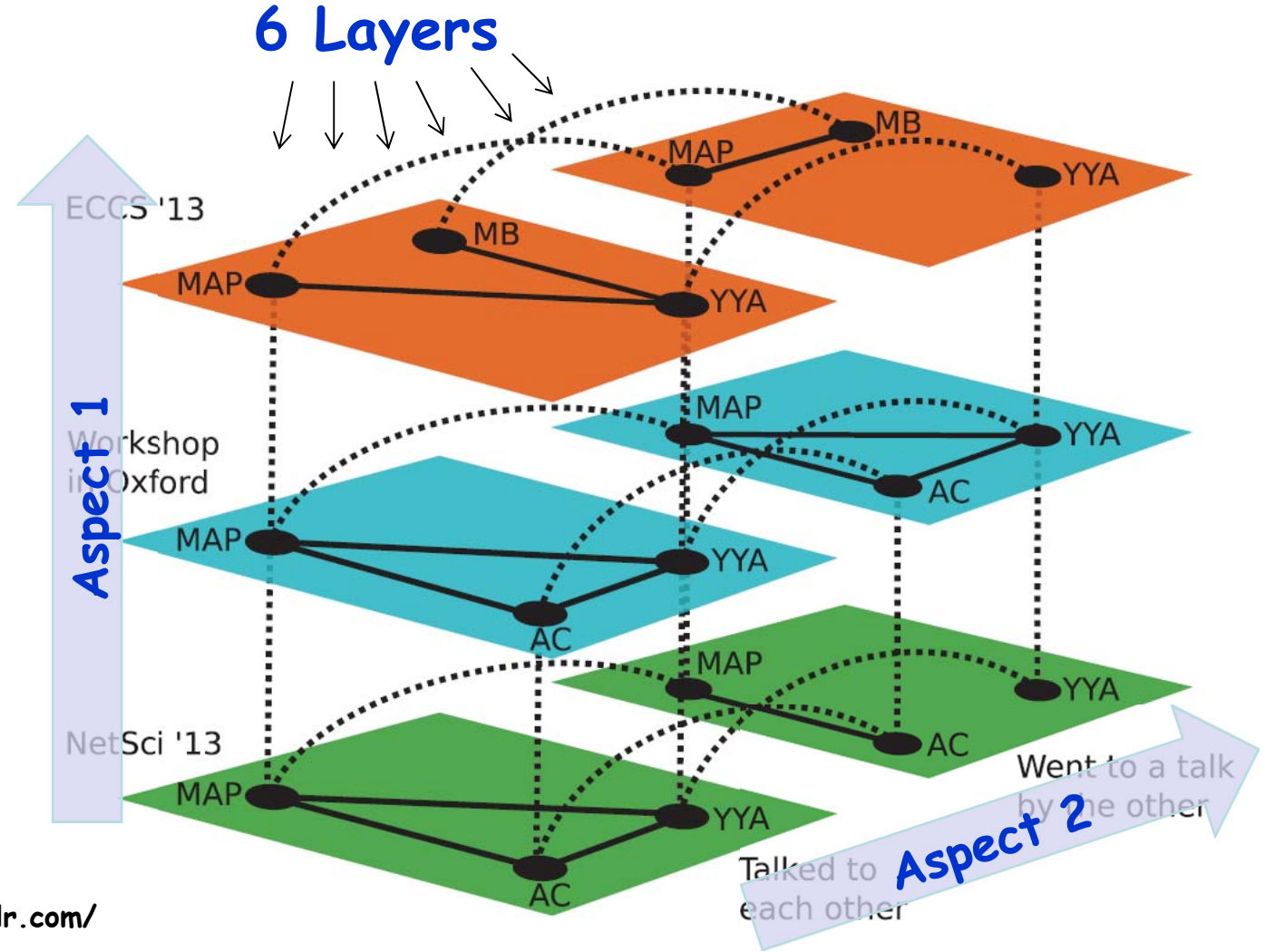
Aspects

- Layers α, β can be mapped to a space made of multiple "aspects"
  - Time, location, type of connection, etc.
  - This means α, β can be vectors

- Aspects help organize the relationships between different layers

Example: Zachary's Karate Club Club (ZKCC) network

http://networkkarate.tumblr.com/



Source: Kivelä et al. (2014)

Exercise

- Write down the values of the adjacency function a(i, α, j, β) for some edges in the previous ZKCC network

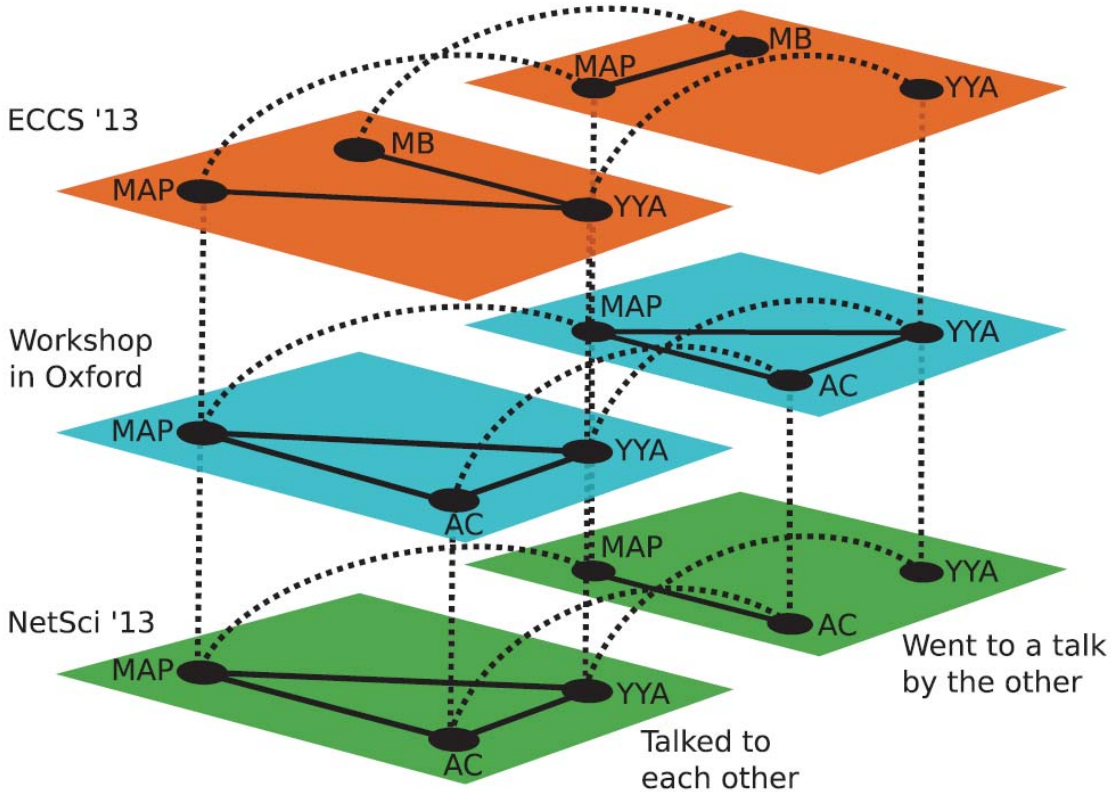
- Represent the same information in an edge list

Different classes of edges

- Intra-layer edge $[(i, \alpha), (j, \alpha)]$
- Inter-layer edge $[(i, \alpha), (j, \beta)]$ $\alpha \neq \beta$
  - In particular:
    Coupling edge $[(i, \alpha), (i, \beta)]$ $\alpha \neq \beta$

Exercise

- **Identify (a) intra-layer edges, (b) inter-layer edges and (c) coupling edges in this multilayer network**

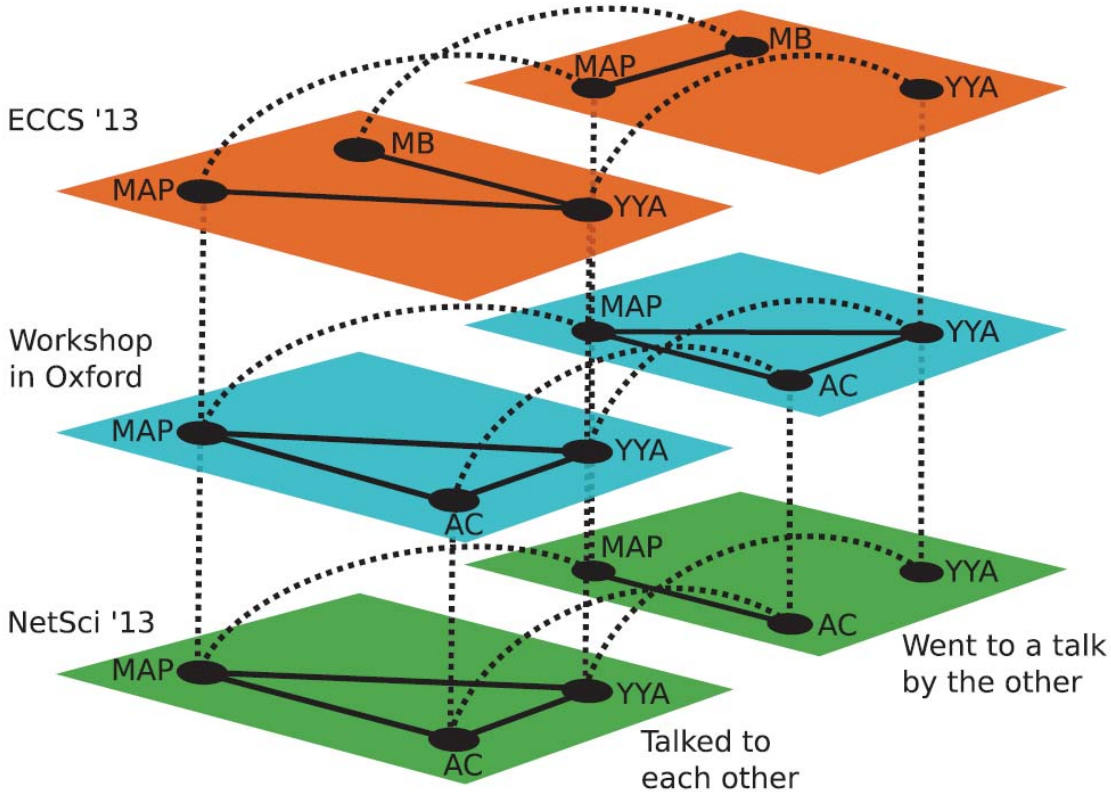


Properties of multilayer networks

- Do all the layers contain the same set of nodes? → **node-aligned**
- Or, does each node appear only in one layer? → **layer-disjoint**
- Are all the inter-layer edges coupling ones? → **diagonally coupled**
  - Are the diagonal coupling edges independent of nodes? → **layer-coupled**

Exercise

- **Is this network (a) node-aligned or layer-disjoint? (b) diagonally coupled? (c) layer-coupled?**



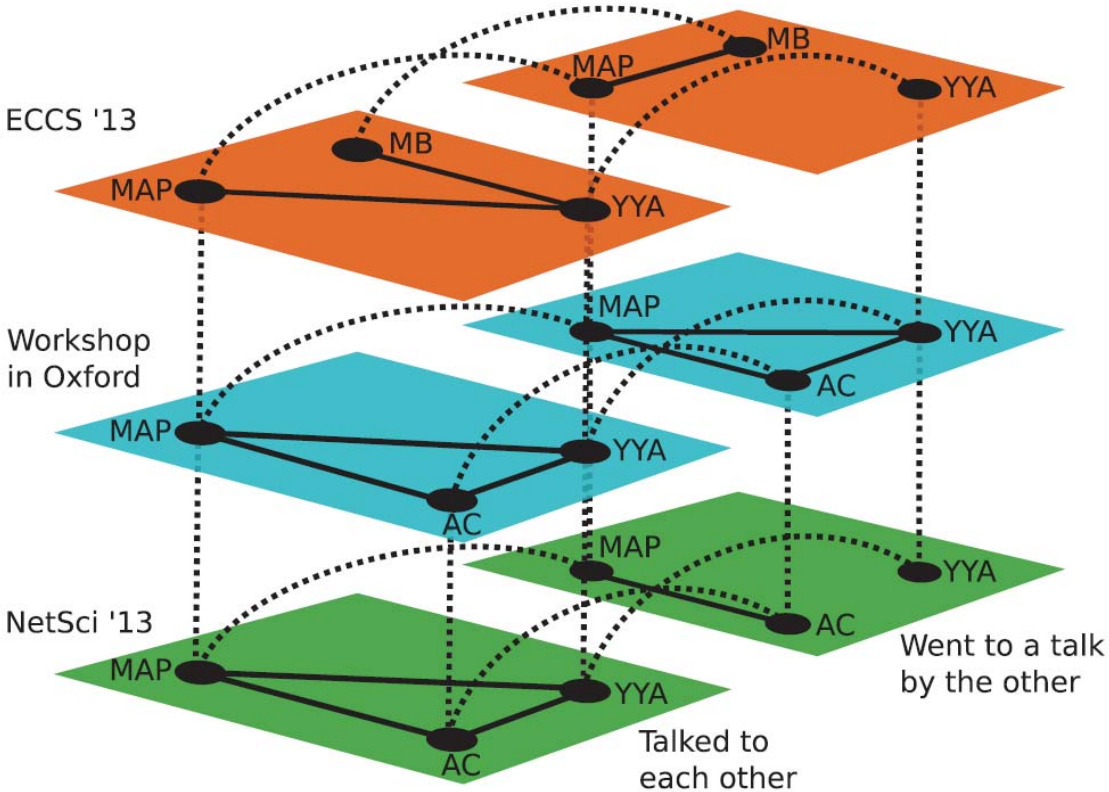
Different kinds of diagonal coupling along an aspect

- Do the diagonal edges connect a node to its counterparts in all other layers along an aspect? → **categorical**

- Or, do the diagonal edges connect a node to its counterparts only in "nearby" layers along an aspect? → **ordinal**

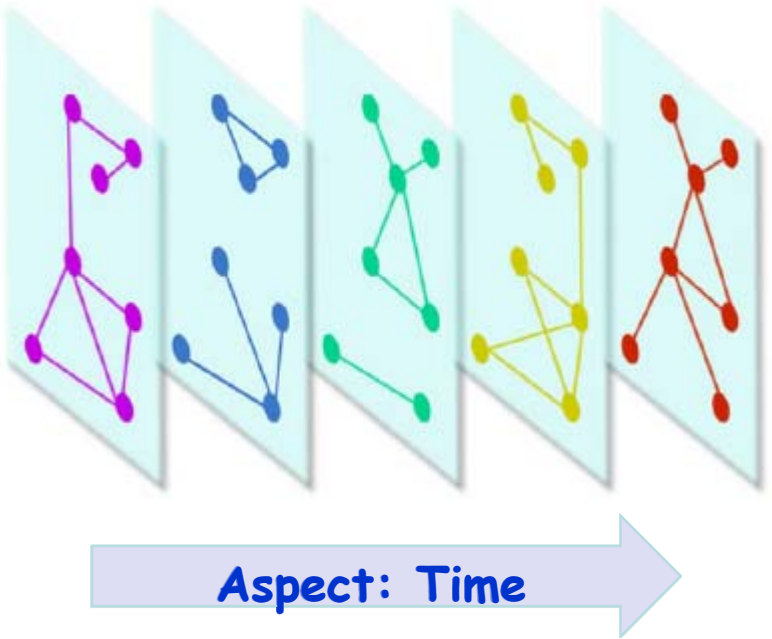
Exercise

- Does each of the two aspects of this network (a) categorical or (b) ordinal?



Temporal networks as multilayer networks

- Temporal networks can also be considered a special case of multilayer networks that have only one ordinal aspect: time



Source: De Domenico et al. (2013)

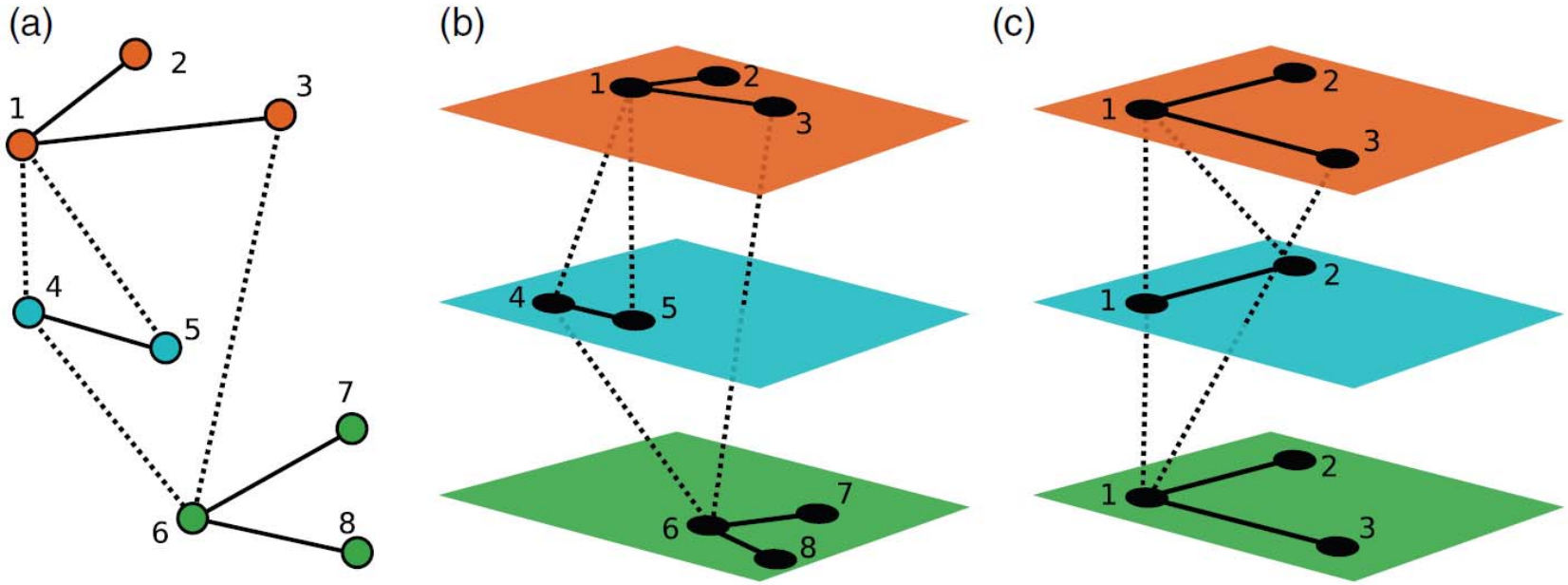
Two major subclasses of multilayer networks

- **Node-colored networks**
  (a.k.a. "interconnected networks", "interdependent networks", "networks of networks")

- **Edge-colored networks**
  (a.k.a. "multiplex networks", "multirelational networks")

Node-colored networks

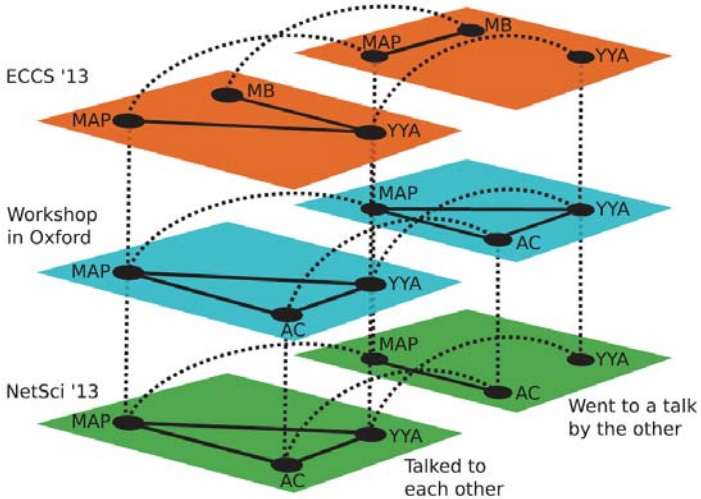
- **Interconnected networks, interdependent networks, networks of networks, etc.**

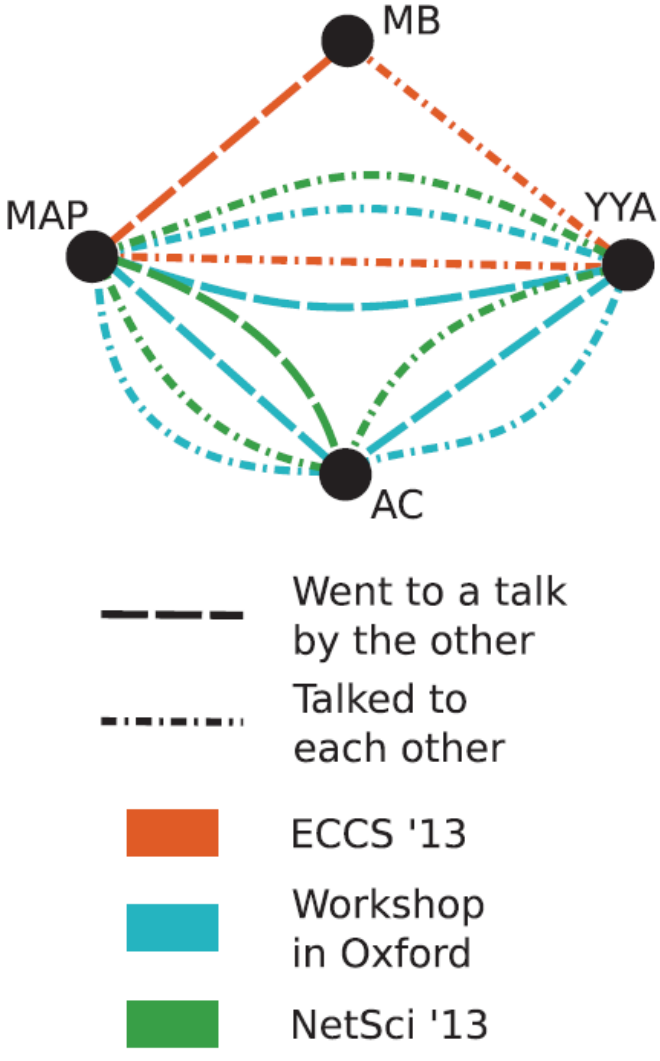


Source: Kivelä et al. (2014)

Edge-colored networks

- **Multiplex networks, multirelational networks, etc.**





Source: Kivelä et al. (2014)

Exercise

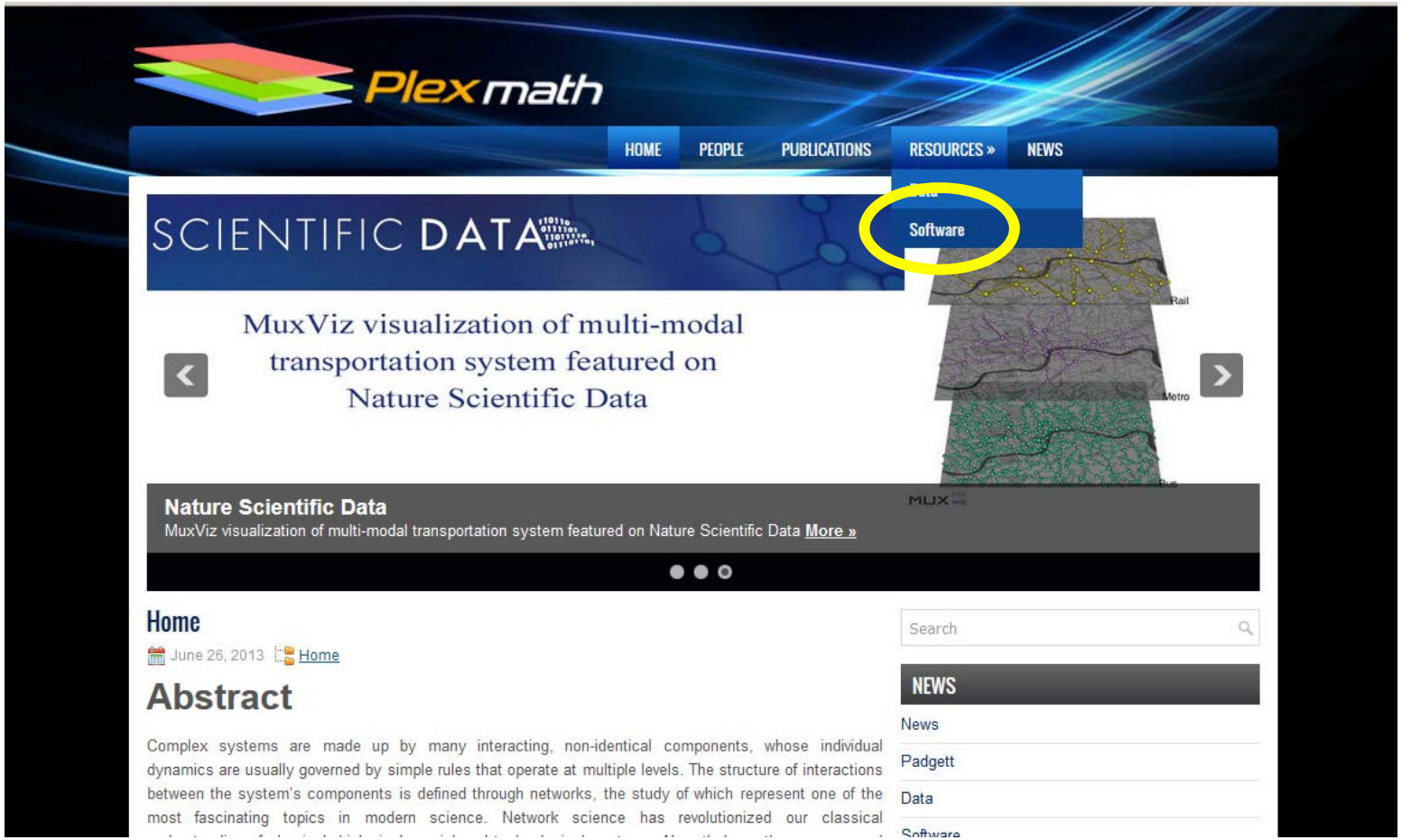
- Give a few real-world examples of (a) node-colored and (b) edge-colored multilayer networks

- Discuss properties of those networks, especially the types of their inter-layer connections

Computational Modeling and Analysis of Multilayer Networks

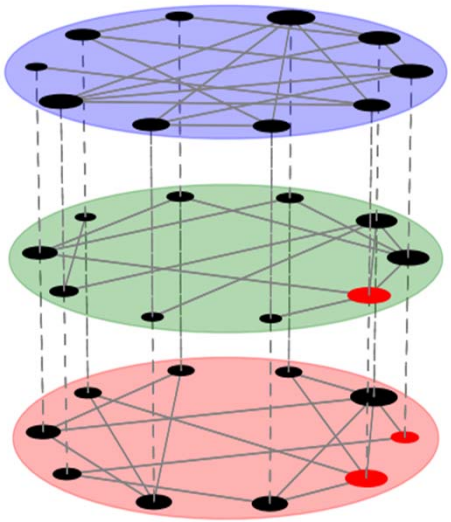
PlexMath project

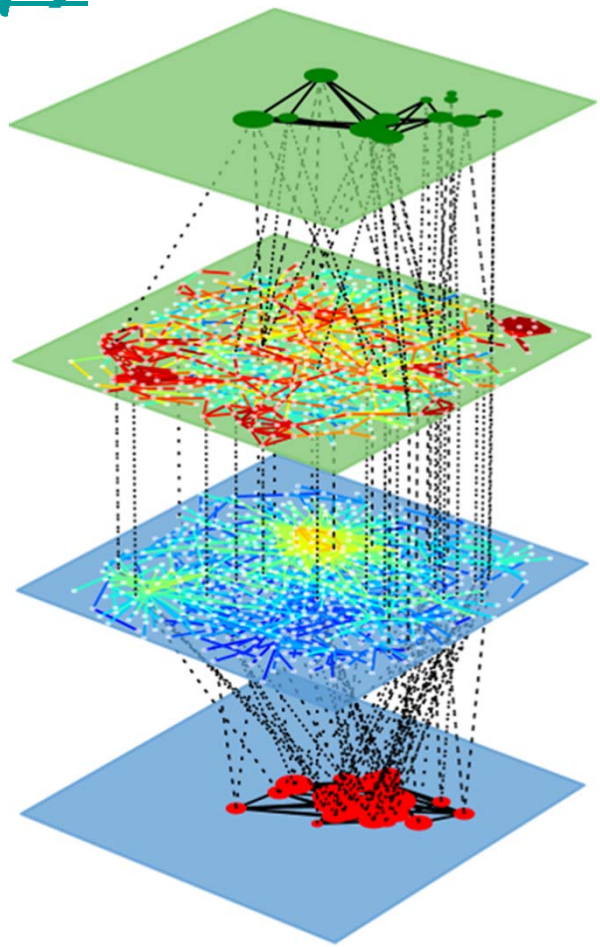
- http://www.plexmath.eu/



Pymnet library

- http://www.mkivela.com/pymnet/
  - Developed by Mikko Kivelä





Exercise

- Download the pymnet library and its documentation
- Follow its tutorial to learn how to build multilayer/multiplex networks
  - Place the "pymnet" folder to your working directory, or add it to your Python path
  - Commands are different from NetworkX, but access to all NetworkX commands are provided under "nx." prefix

Pymnet's data structure

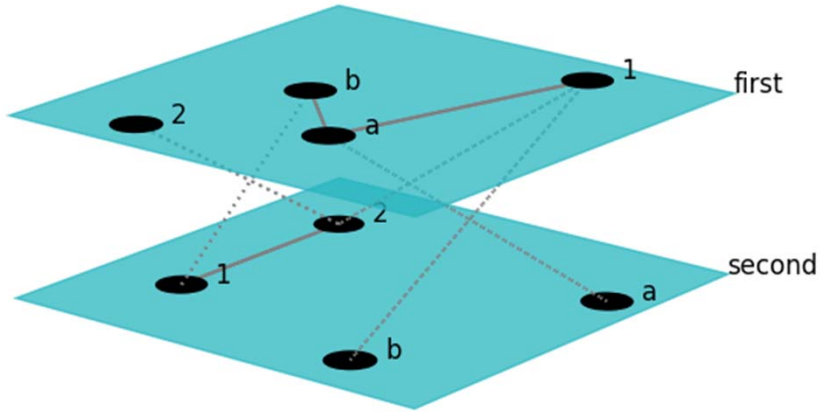
- MultilayerNetwork(aspects = **)
  - To represent general multilayer networks
- MultiplexNetwork(couplings = **)
  - To specifically represent multiplex networks
  - nx.Graph(g) converts these into a NetworkX Graph (monolayer only)

Pymnet: Basics

- add_node(), add_layer()
- g[ID][ID] = 1 adds edge (ID: sequence of indices, including aspects)
- list(g) gives node list
- list(g.iter_**()) gives node, layer, or node-layer list
- list(g.edges) gives edge list
- list(g[ID]) gives neighbor list
- g[ID].deg() or .str() gives degree or strength

Drawing multilayer networks

- Just draw(g) !!



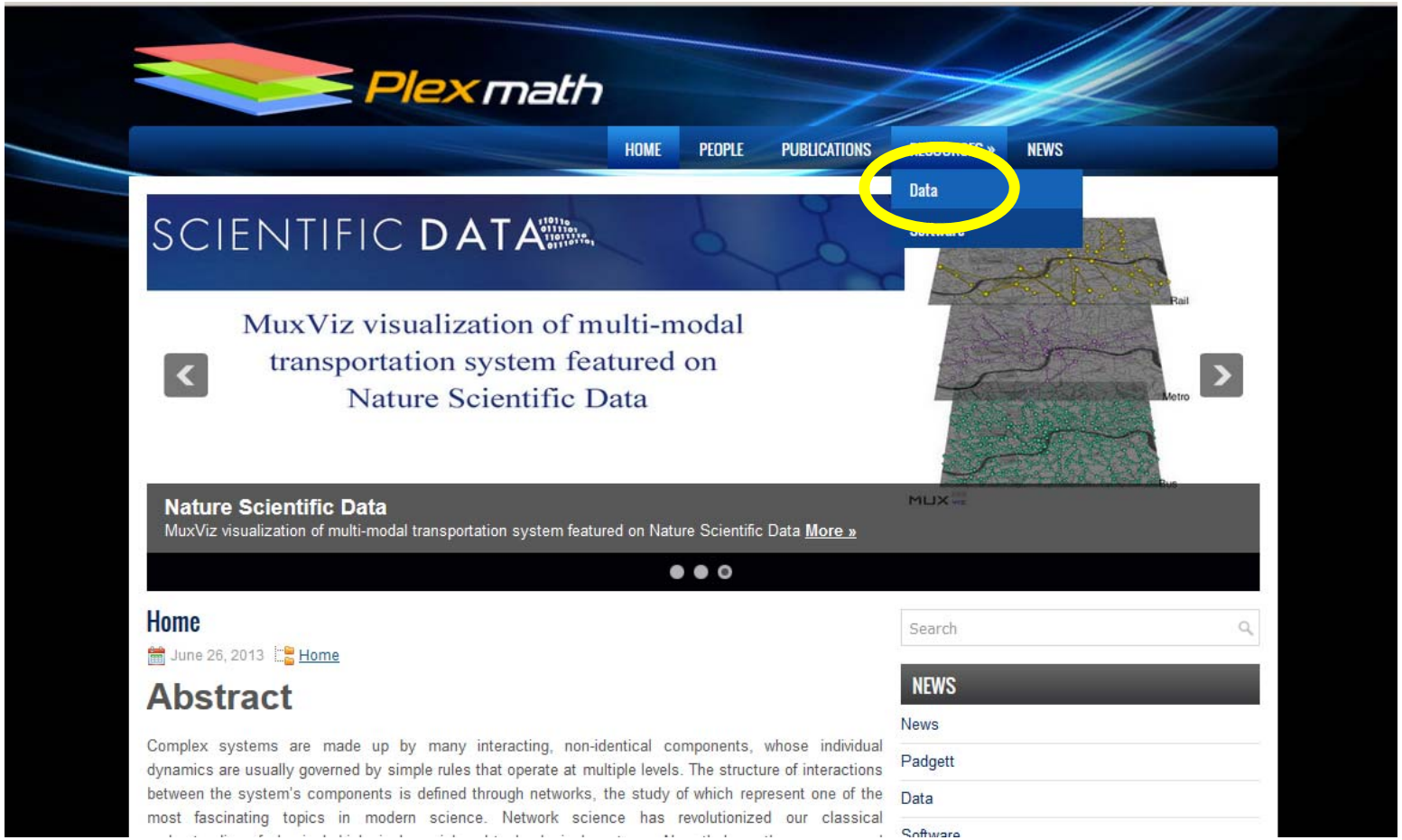
  - If you draw in a separate window, you can click and drag to rotate it
  - Many options are available to customize visualization results

Exercise

- Check out the references of pymnet
  - http://www.mkivela.com/pymnet/reference.html
- Create a few multilayer/multiplex networks and visualize them
- Explore customization of visualization as you like

Get the data!

- http://www.plexmath.eu/



Exercise

- Download the "Vickers & Chan 7th graders social network" data from the PlexMath website
- Write a Python code to read the data and construct a multilayer network
  - As a MultilayerNetwork object
  - As a MultiplexNetwork object
- Visualize it

Some built-in measurements

- degs(g) gives degree distribution
- density(g) gives network density
- multiplex_degs(g) for each layer
- multiplex_density(g) for each layer
- Various clustering measurements
  - But not so many functions available yet… (the author Mikko said he would welcome any contributions!)

Exercise

- Plot the degree distribution for each layer in the Vickers & Chan 7th graders multiplex network

- Measure the density of each layer and determine which layer was most/least dense

Other network measurements

- You can represent a multilayer network as a plain monolayer network and apply various measurements
- Is it a multiplex network and does changing layers take no cost or distance?
  - Yes to both → Aggregate the network
  - Otherwise → Flatten the network

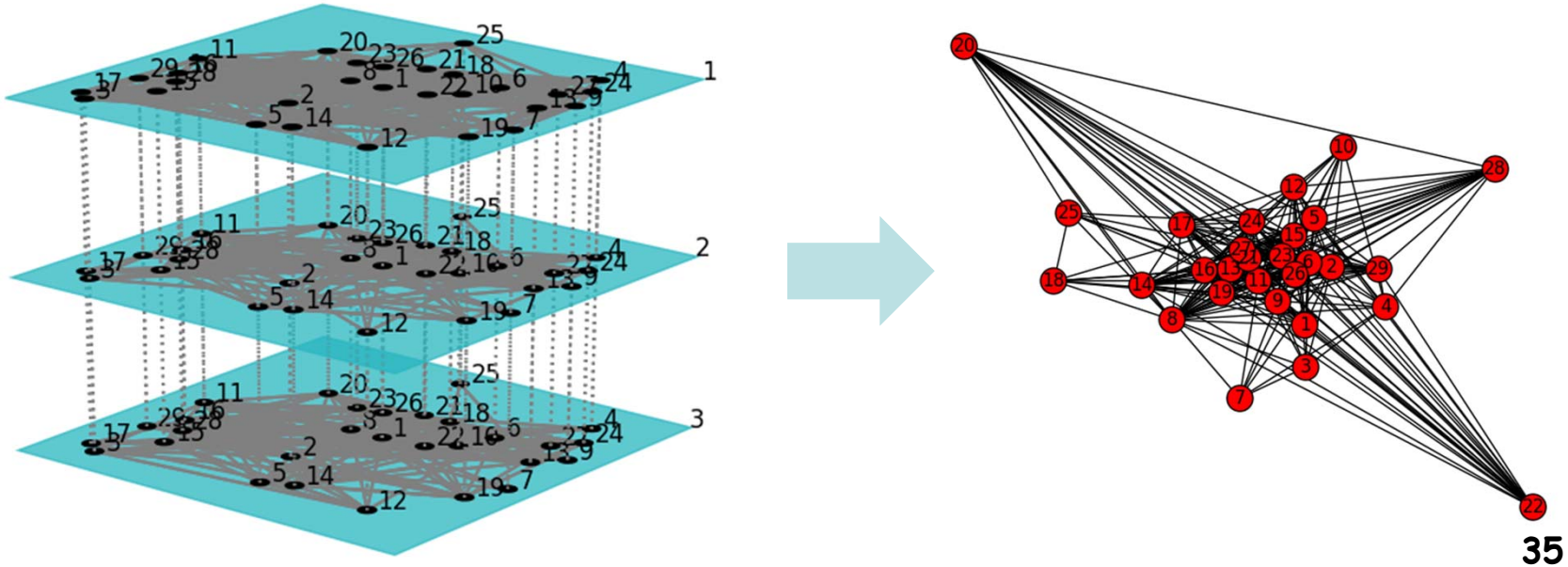
Note: When you create a monolayer network…

- Consider how the weights of intra-layer edges compare to each other between different layers
- Each layer may represent different connectivity; adjust their weights as needed
  - E.g.:

    Best friend, friend, acquaintance
    Flight, train, bus, bike, walk

Aggregating layers

- **aggregate(g, aspects)** creates a simple network aggregated over aspects
  - Works for both multilayer and multiplex, but most meaningful for multiplex

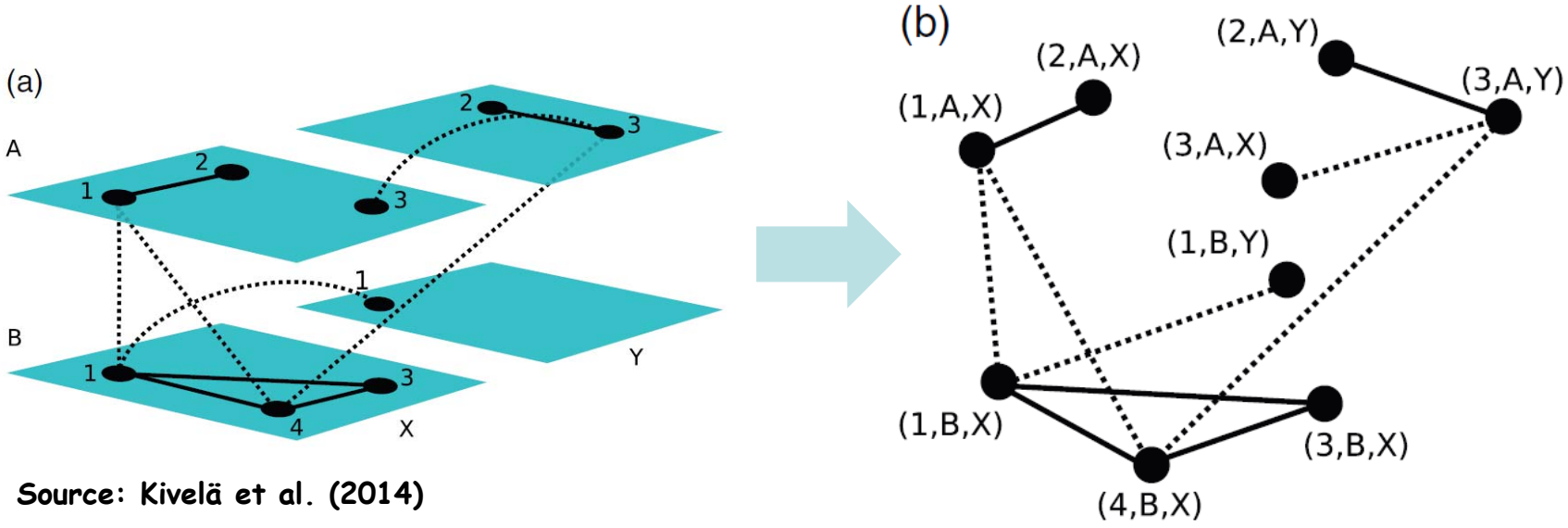


Exercise

- Create an aggregated network of the Vickers & Chan 7th graders multiplex network
- Calculate several shortest paths, average shortest path length, and several centralities of the nodes
- Detect communities using the Louvain method

"Flattening" multilayer networks

- Ignore layers and represent all the connections in a plain network

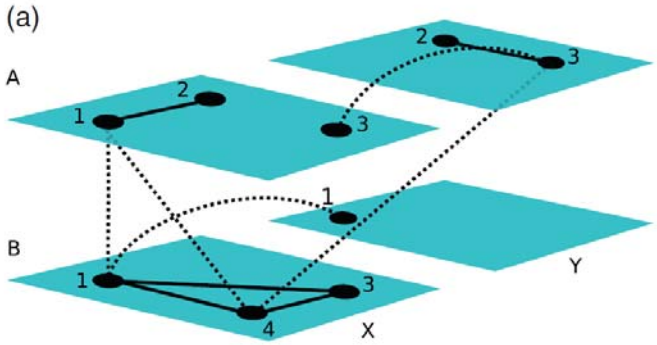


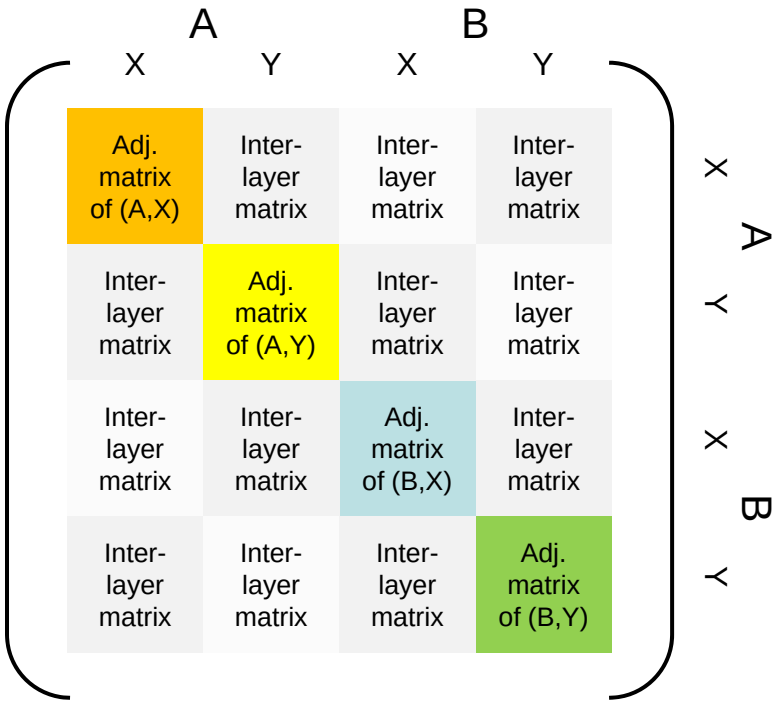
Source: Kivelä et al. (2014)

- (This is essentially the same as the construction of a space-time network for a temporal network)

Supra-adjacency matrix

- An adjacency matrix of a flattened version of a multilayer network





If inter-layer edges are "diagonal" couplings, the inter-layer matrices are diagonal too (hence the name)

Supra-adjacency matrix in pymnet

- supra_adjacency_matrix(g) creates the supra-adjacency matrix of g and a list of node IDs (arranged in the order used in the matrix)

- nx.from_numpy_matrix(A), with A being the supra-adjacency matrix, creates a flattened monolayer network

Exercise

- Create a flattened network of the Vickers & Chan 7th graders multiplex network
- Calculate several shortest paths, average shortest path length, and several centralities of the nodes
- Detect communities using the Louvain method

Inter-layer measurement

- "Interdependence"

  Ratio of the number of shortest paths that use multiple layers to the total number of shortest paths

  High interdependence

  → Communication/transportation in a multilayer network uses multiple layers more often (i.e., those layers depend on each other)

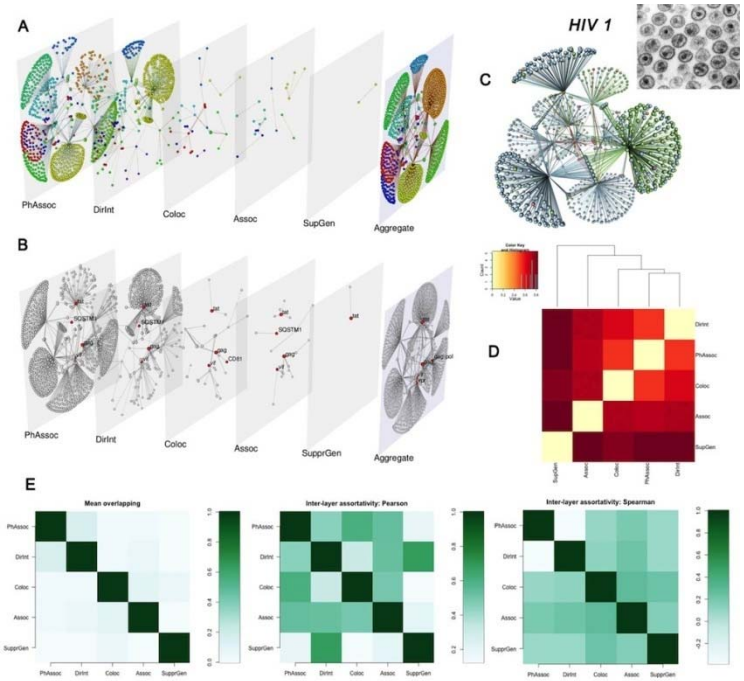
Exercise

- Design and implement a code to measure the level of interdependence in the Vickers & Chan 7th graders multiplex network

- Apply the code to other multilayer network data

FYI: If you use R…

- muxViz
  - http://muxviz.net
  - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gcpYSdi_-xI



Developed by
Manlio De Domenico

Dynamical Processes on Multilayer Networks

Dynamics on multilayer networks

- Several dynamical models have been studied recently

- Mostly focused on two-layer multiplex networks

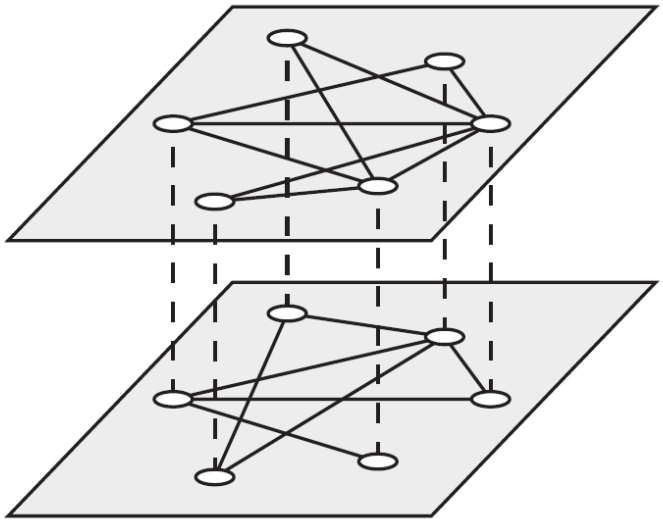
Cascade of failures

- Buldyrev, S. V., Parshani, R., Paul, G., Stanley, H. E., & Havlin, S. (2010). Catastrophic cascade of failures in interdependent networks. *Nature*, *464*(7291), 1025-1028.

- Proposed a model of two-layer interdependent network (e.g., power grid and the Internet)
- Fragmentation by a cascade of failures occurs quite differently on this model than monolayer networks

Diffusion

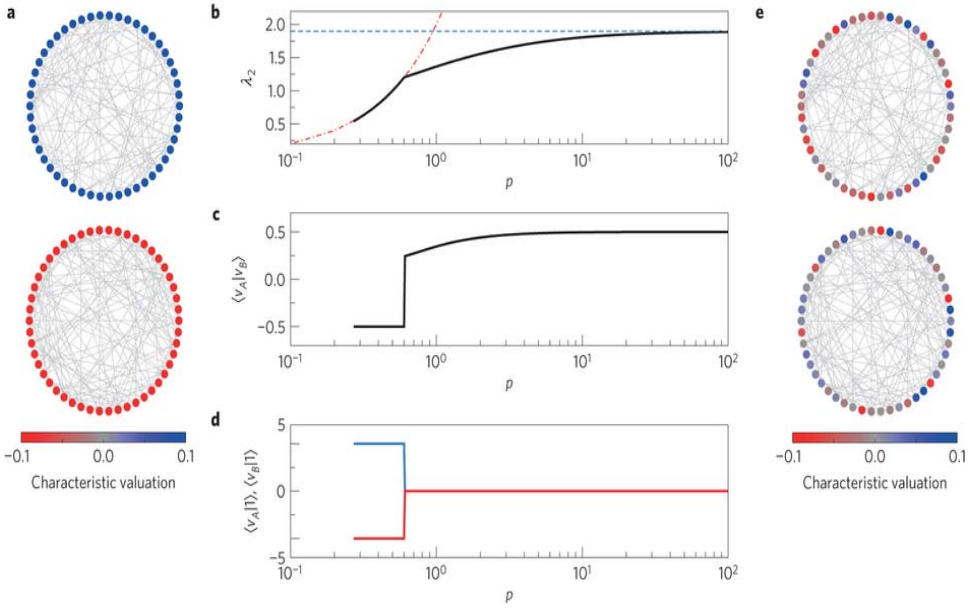
- Gomez, S., Diaz-Guilera, A., Gomez-Gardeñes, J., Perez-Vicente, C. J., Moreno, Y., & Arenas, A. (2013). Diffusion dynamics on multiplex networks. *Physical Review Letters*, *110*(2), 028701.



- Studied diffusion processes on two-layer multiplex networks
- Analyzed the spectrum of a "supra-Laplacian" matrix of the network

Structural transition

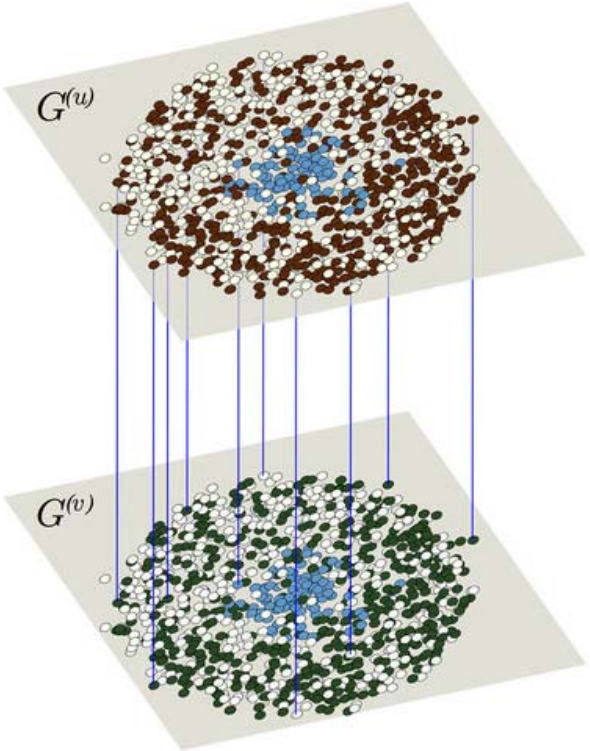
- Radicchi, F., & Arenas, A. (2013). Abrupt transition in the structural formation of interconnected networks. *Nature Physics*, *9*(11), 717-720.



- Discovered that the algebraic connectivity and Fiedler's vector undergo a sharp transition as inter-layer connectivity is increased on two-layer multiplex networks

Pattern formation

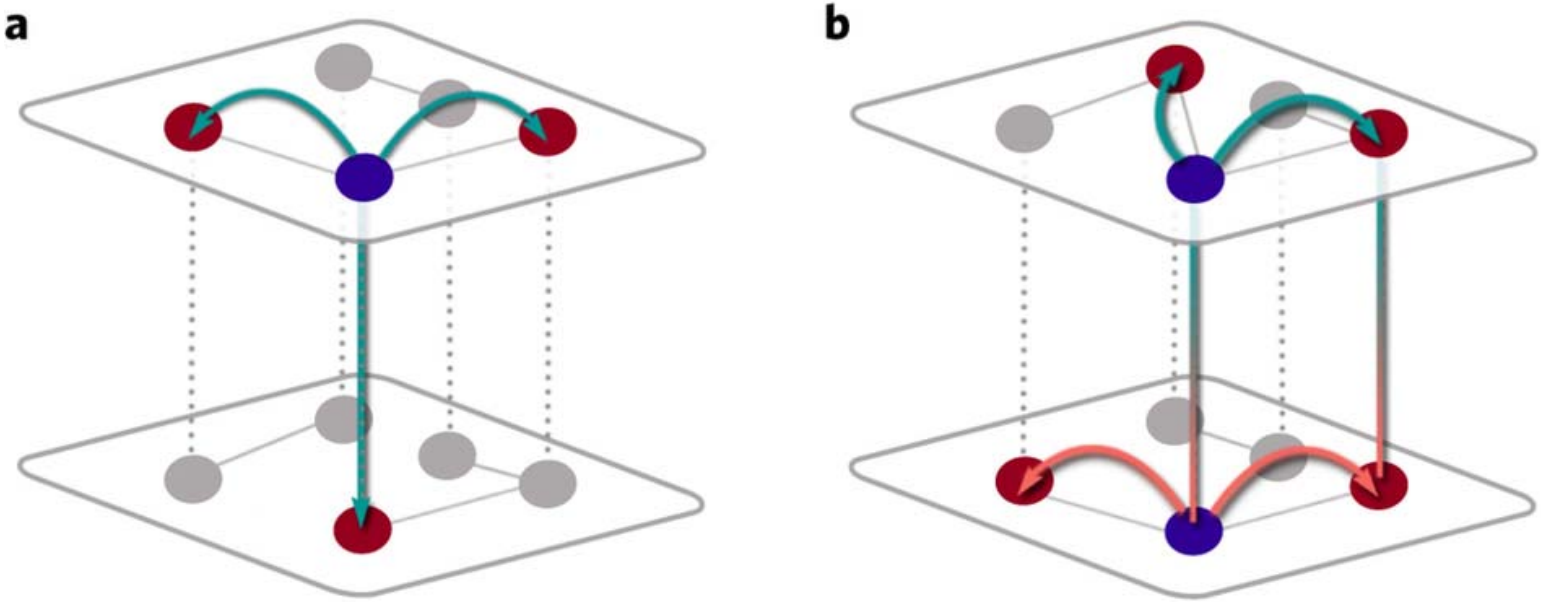
- Kouvaris, N. E., Hata, S., & Díaz-Guilera, A. (2015). Pattern formation in multiplex networks. *Scientific reports*, *5*, 10840.



- Studied reaction-diffusion dynamics on two-layer multiplex networks
- Showed that the difference in topologies between two layers can cause pattern formation (a.k.a. Turing instability) *even if diffusion constants are the same*

Spreading

- De Domenico, M., Granell, C., Porter, M. A., & Arenas, A. (2016). The physics of spreading processes in multilayer networks. *Nature Physics* 12, 901–906.



Exercise

- Implement a "cascade of failure" model on a random multilayer network with k layers
- Conduct numerical simulations with the probabilities of intra- and inter-layer connections systematically varied
- Identify the parameter values with which large-scale failure occurs