

Mapping nonlocal relationships  
between metadata and network structure  
with metadata-dependent encoding of random walks

Martin Rosvall



Anton  
Holmgren



Vincenzo  
Nicosia



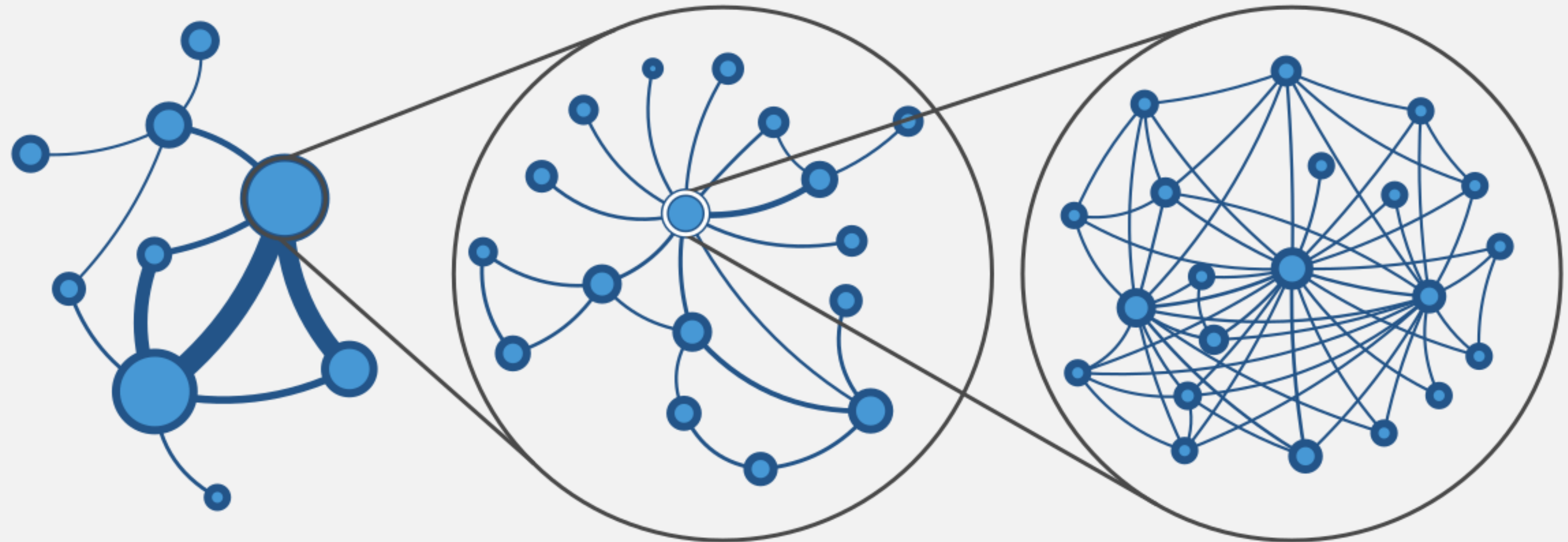
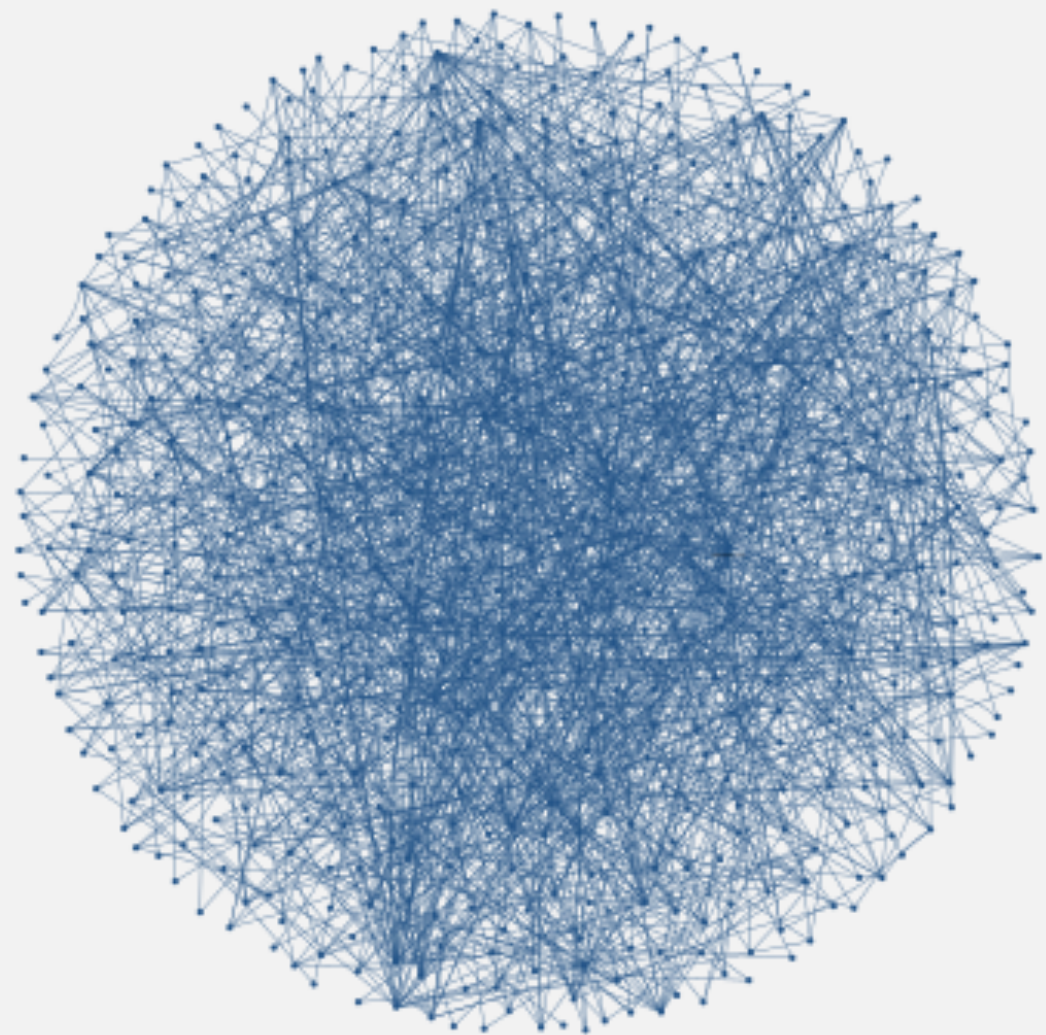
Aleix  
Bassolas



Antoine  
Marot



# Mapping network structure



# Mapping network structure

Function 1  
**Exploration**

Simplify and highlight

Organization  
Function  
Understanding

Network theory +  
information theory

Function 2  
**Navigation**

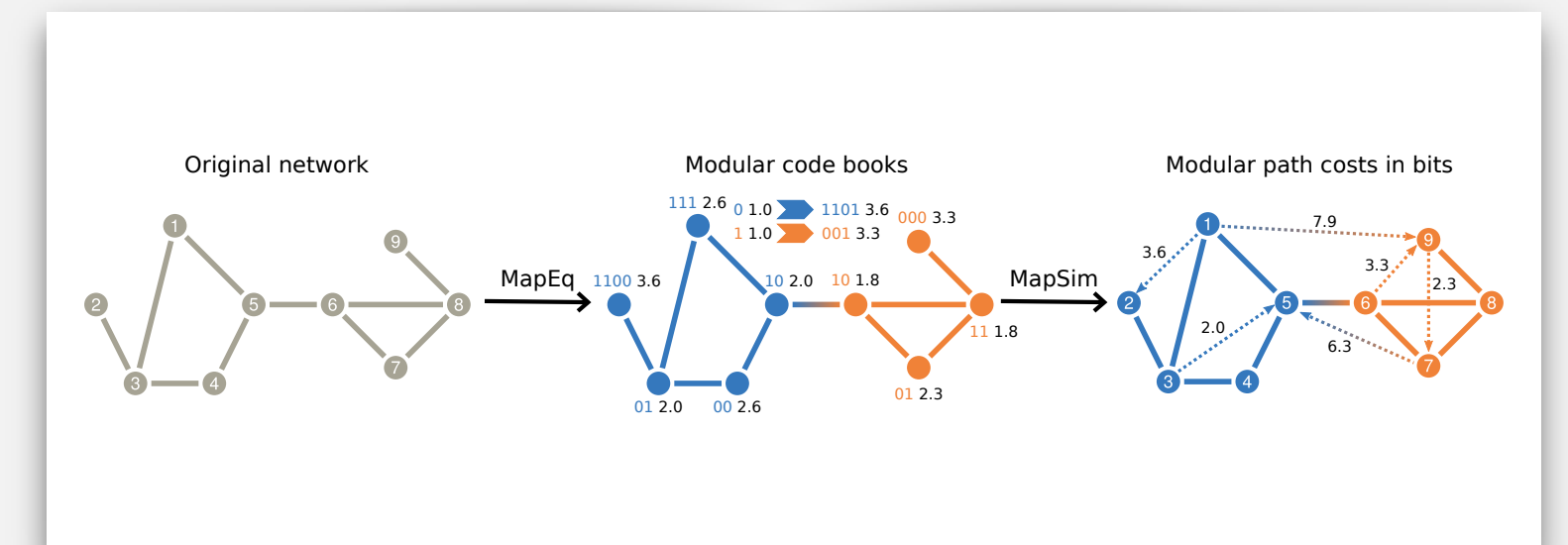
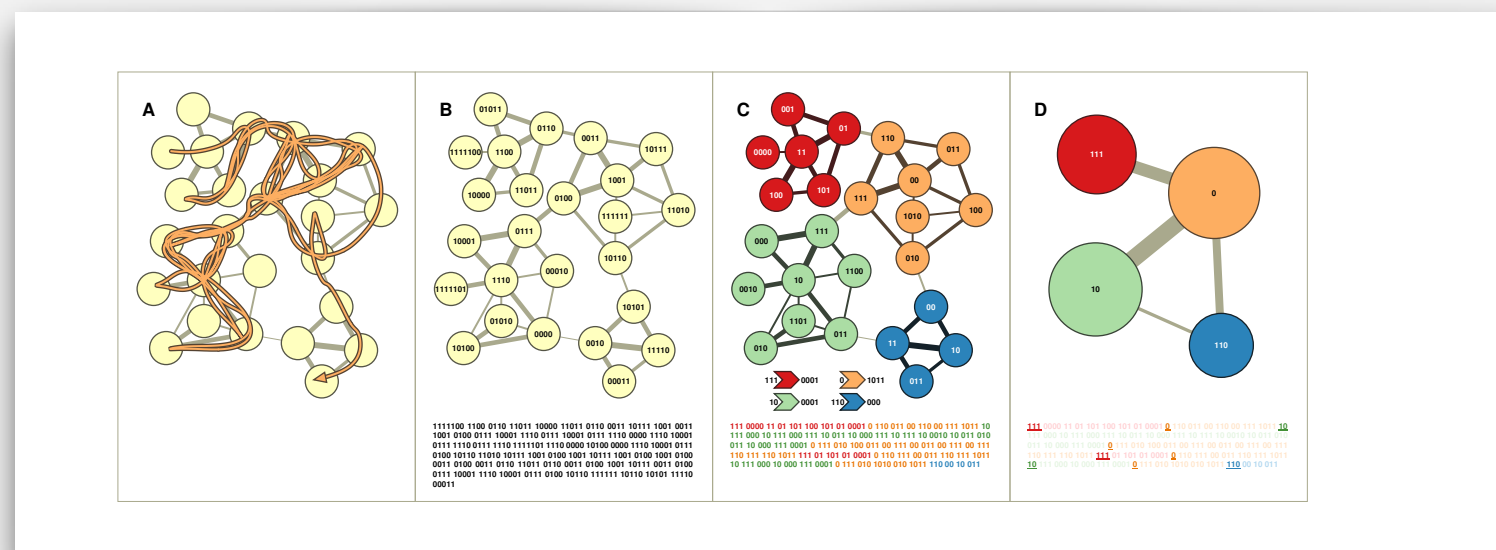
Show directions

Recommendations  
Drug repurposing  
Precision medicine

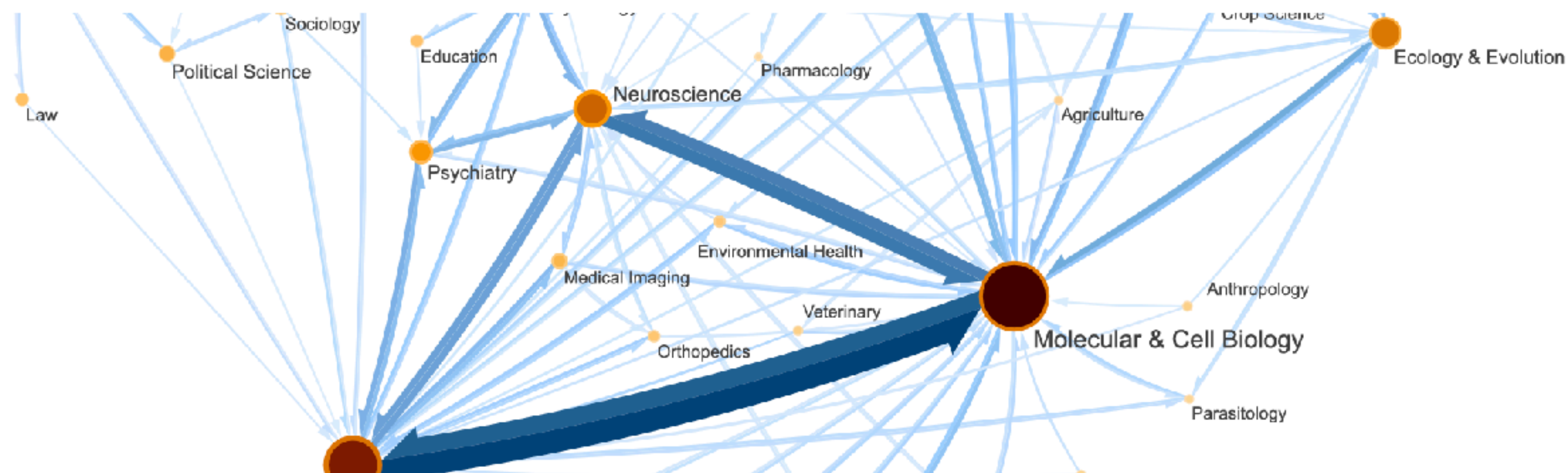
Network theory +  
information theory +  
machine learning

Geographic Maps

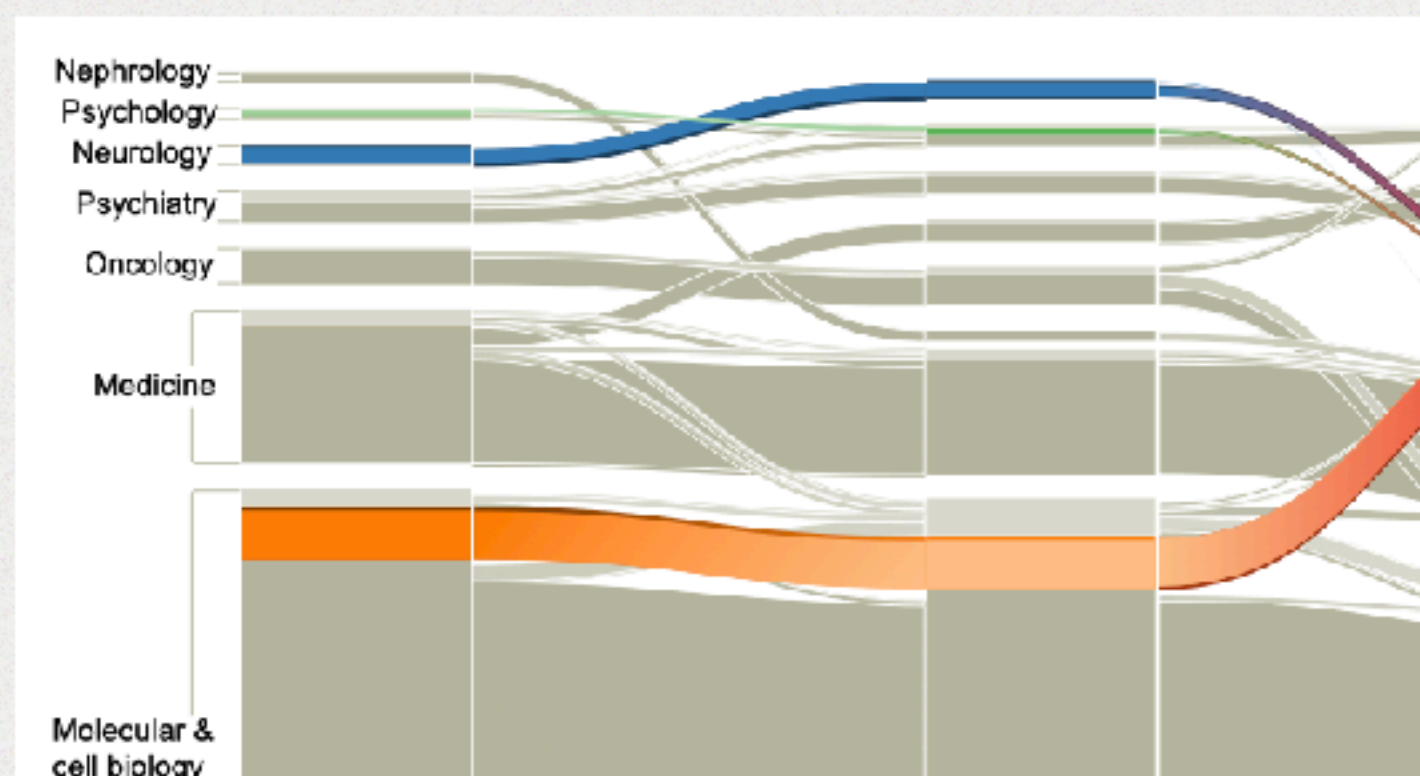
Google Maps  
for networks



# Simplify and highlight important structures in complex networks



[Apps »](#)




[Code »](#)

```
from infomap import Infomap
im = Infomap()
im.read_file("ninetriangles.net")
im.add_link(1, 10)
im.run("--two-level --num-trials 5")
print(im.codelength)
for node in im.tree:
    if node.is_leaf:
        print(node.node_id, node.module_id)
```

[Publications »](#)

Maps of information flow reveal community structure in complex networks  
 Martin Rosvall and Carl T. Bergstrom  
 PNAS **105**, 1118 (2008). [arXiv:0707.0609]



To comprehend the multipartite organization of large-scale biological and social systems, we introduce a new information-theoretic approach to reveal community structure in

## News

Jan 29, 2022 [Preprint](#) – [Map Equation Centrality: A Community-Aware Centrality Score Based on the Map Equation](#) – arXiv:2201.12590

Dec 10, 2021 [Research paper](#) – [Mapping flows on weighted and directed networks with incomplete observations](#) – J. Comp. Net. 9, 6 (2021)

# Mapping **network structure** and **metadata** on power grids



*“We would like to play with some parameters to give more importance to some nodes in the graph, somehow conditioning the clustering when we are interested in specific elements of the graph.”*

Antoine Marot

Lead AI Scientist at RTE – France’s Transmission System Operator

# Mapping **network structure** and **metadata** on power grids



*“We want coherent communities with nodes that share similar prices.”*

Antoine Marot

Lead AI Scientist at RTE – France’s Transmission System Operator





1. Mapping network flows

2. with metadata-dependent encoding

3. exploits nonlocal relationships

A vertical white bar on the left side of the slide, with a small white square at its base.

# Mapping network flows

using the minimum description length principle

MAPS depict regularities  
using less information

NETWORKS describe where flows move  
depending on the current node

# Mapping network flows

using the minimum description length principle

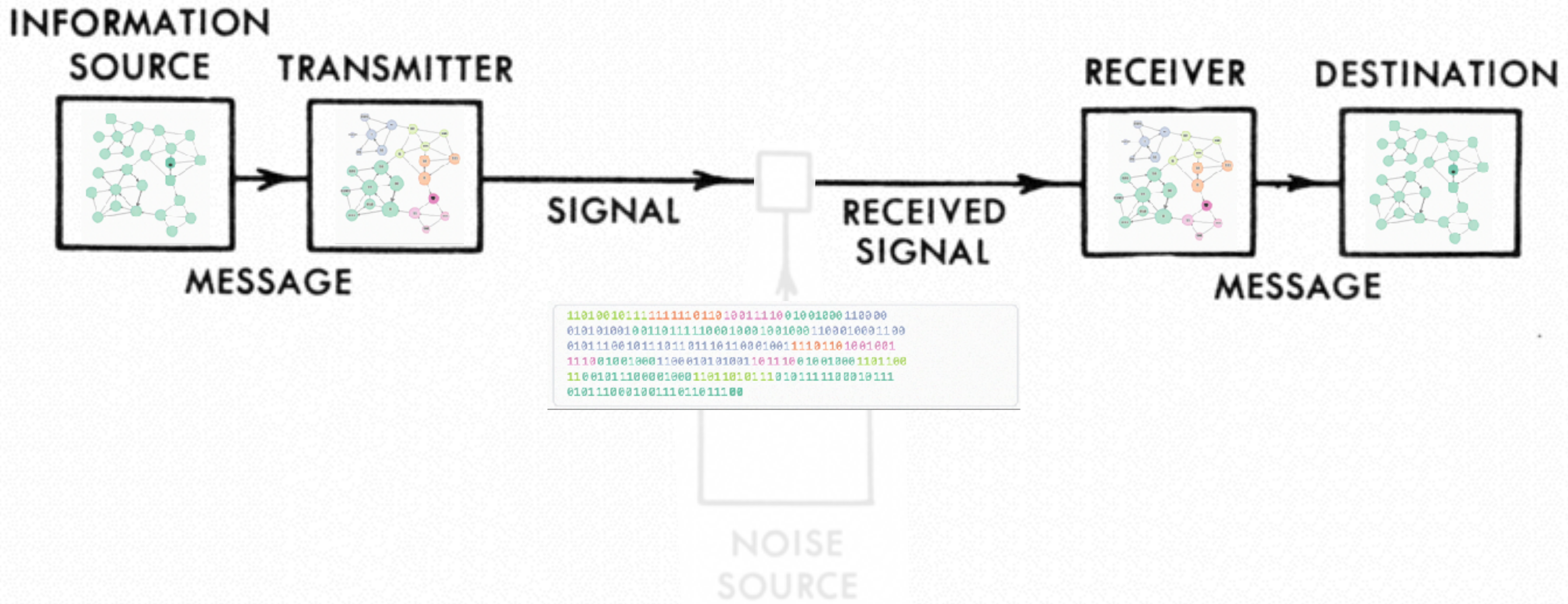


Fig. 1. — Schematic diagram of a general communication system.

# Mapping network flows

using the minimum description length principle

34

*The Mathematical Theory of Communication*

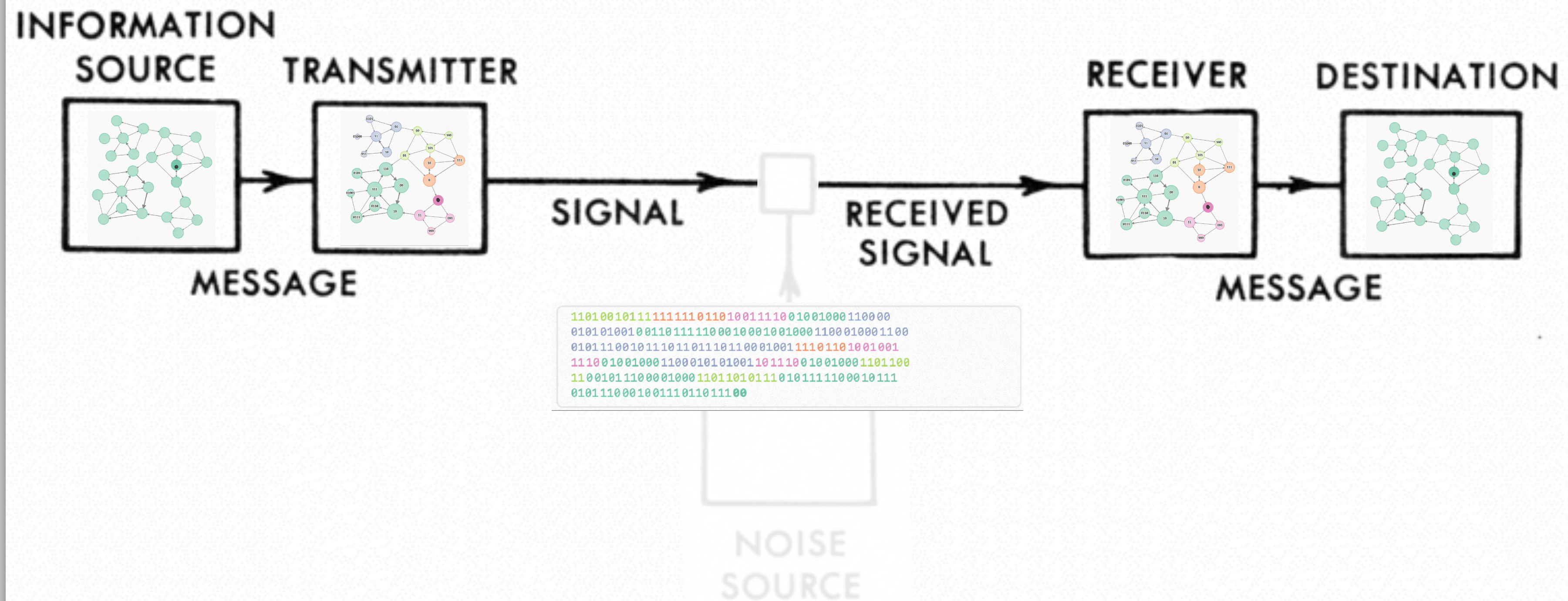
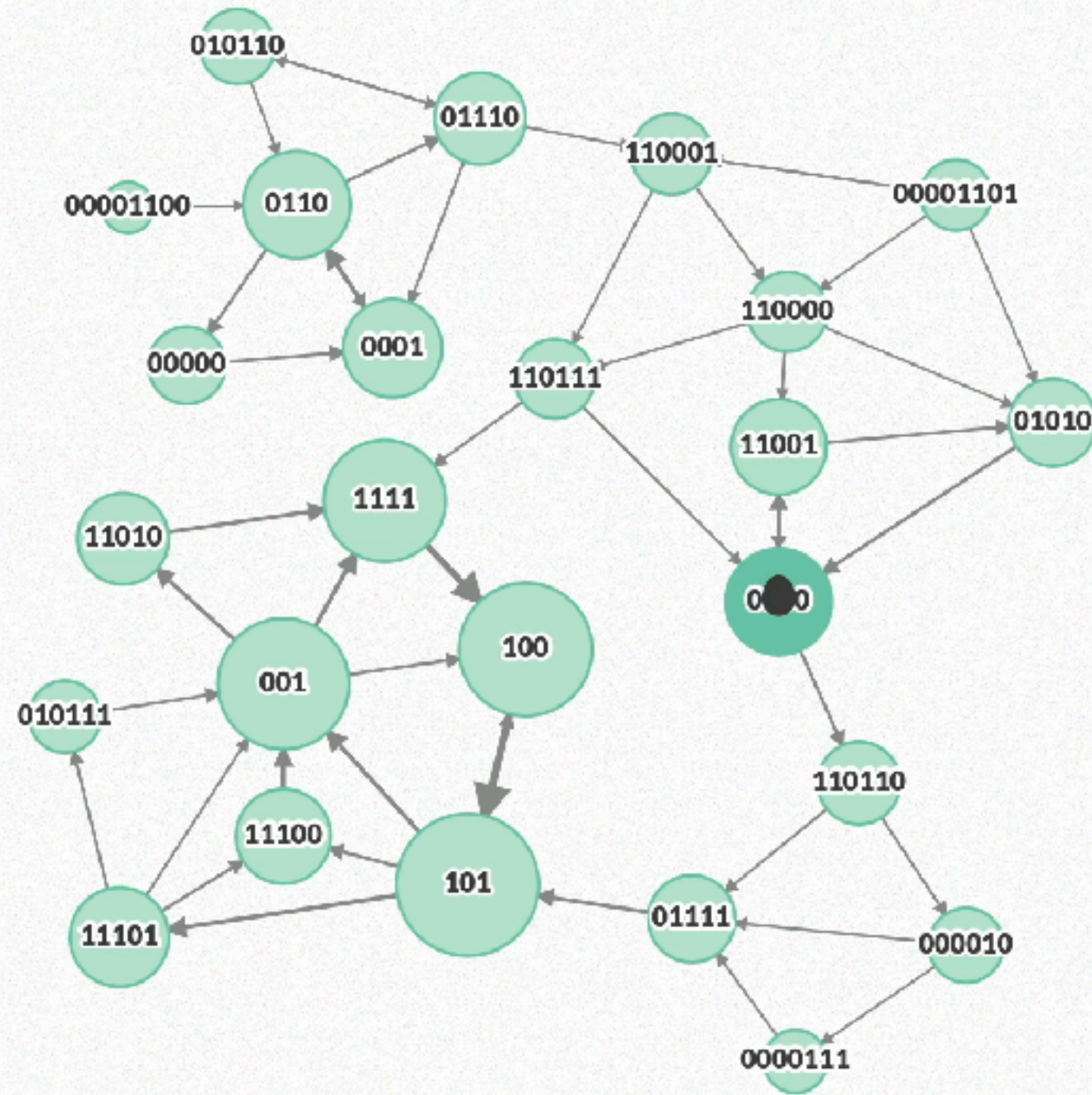


Fig. 1. — Schematic diagram of a general communication system.

# Mapping network flows

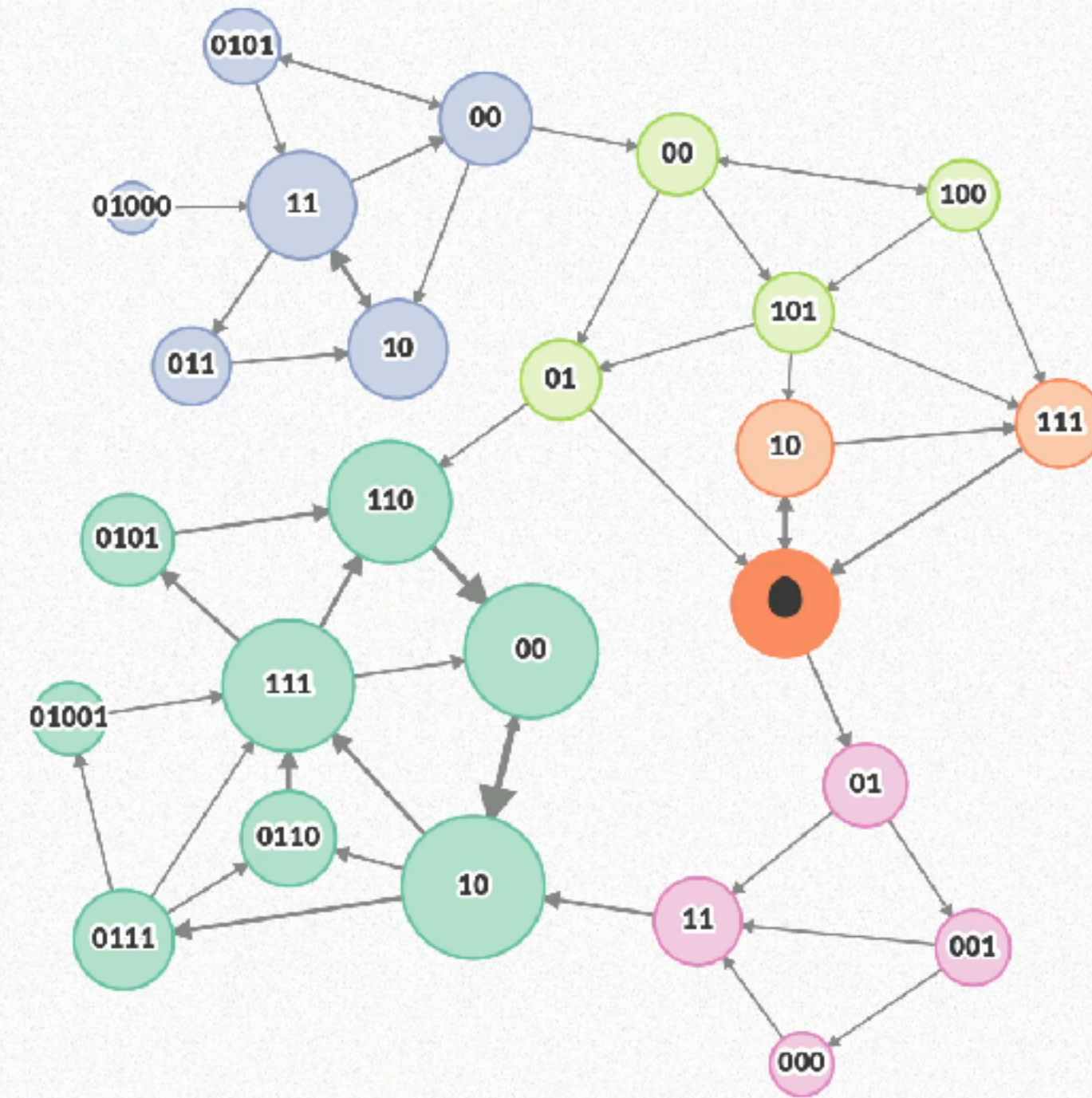
using the minimum description length principle



```
00000000101100001011000010110000000011100101010
01001100101010010011001010100100110010100110010100
110110011111010011001011101001110101111100101001
10010111100001110101111110010100110010100110110
011111011110000111110101001001100101010010011001
0100
```

Average codelength: 4.321 bits

$$L(M_1) = H(\mathcal{P}) = 4.23 \text{ bits}$$



```
1011100111011011111000100111111001011111000
010001100011101110111011101110010011110111010
11101011101001001101001111001011100100111
1110101110001011100100110111010111001000111100
10011010011110010011011111001000111111010111
0100
```

Average codelength: 3.765 bits

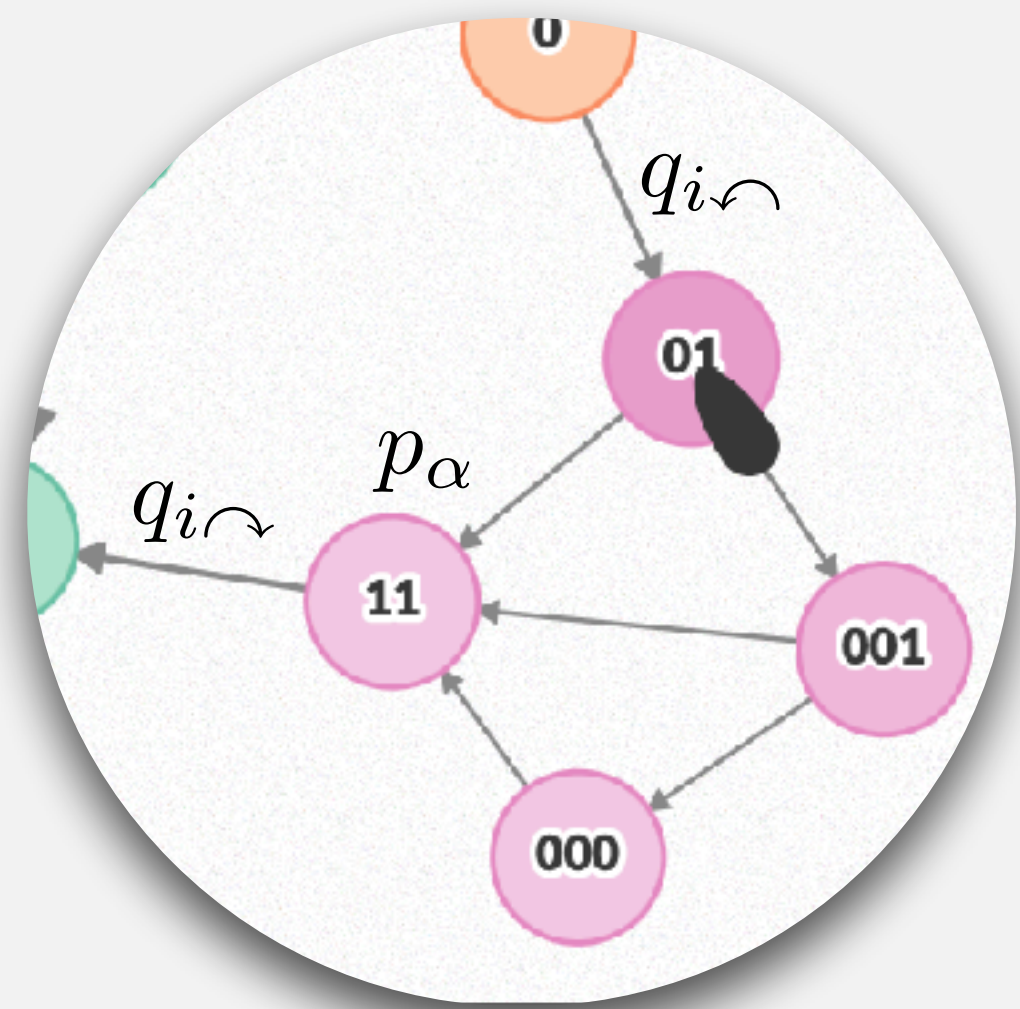
$$L(M_5) = q_{\mathcal{Q}} H(\mathcal{Q}) + \sum_{i=1}^5 p_i^{\mathcal{Q}} H(\mathcal{P}_i) = 0.42 + 3.13 = 3.55 \text{ bits}$$

# Mapping network flows

## using the map equation

Visit and transition rates

$$\boldsymbol{\rho} = (p_\alpha, q_{i \rightarrow}, q_{i \leftarrow})$$



Per-step use rate of the index codebook.

$$q_{\leftarrow} = \sum_{i=1}^m q_{i \leftarrow}$$

Per-step use rate of module codebook  $i$

$$p_i^{\circlearrowleft} = q_{i \leftarrow} + \sum_{\alpha \in M_i} p_\alpha$$

$$L(\mathbf{M}) = q_{\leftarrow} H(\mathcal{Q}) + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i^{\circlearrowleft} H(\mathcal{P}_i)$$

$$\mathcal{Q} = \{q_{i \leftarrow}\}$$

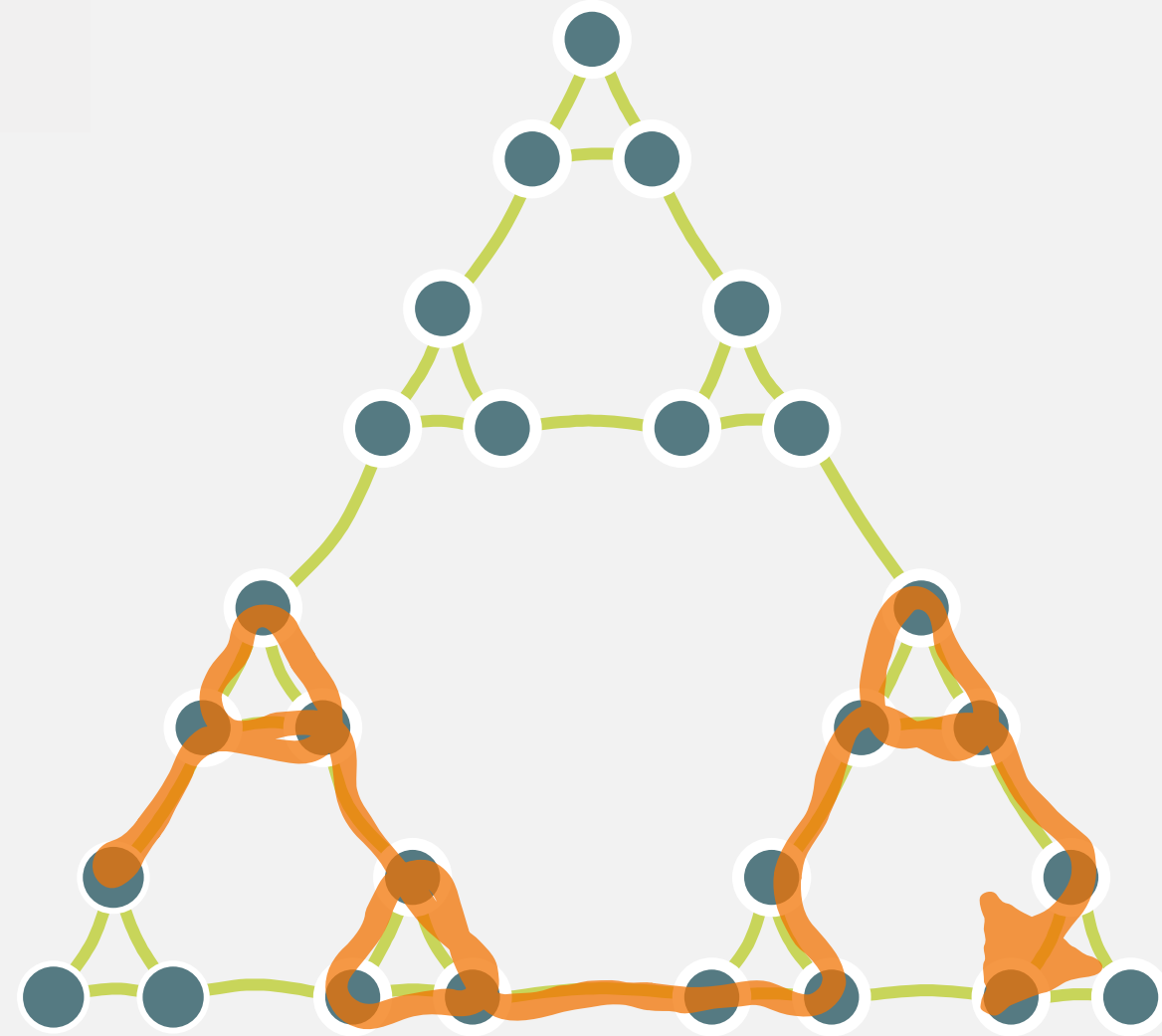
Per-step average code length of index codebook for steps between modules

$$\mathcal{P}_i = \{q_{i \leftarrow}, p_{\alpha \in M_i}\}$$

Per-step average code length of module codebook  $i$  for steps in module  $i$

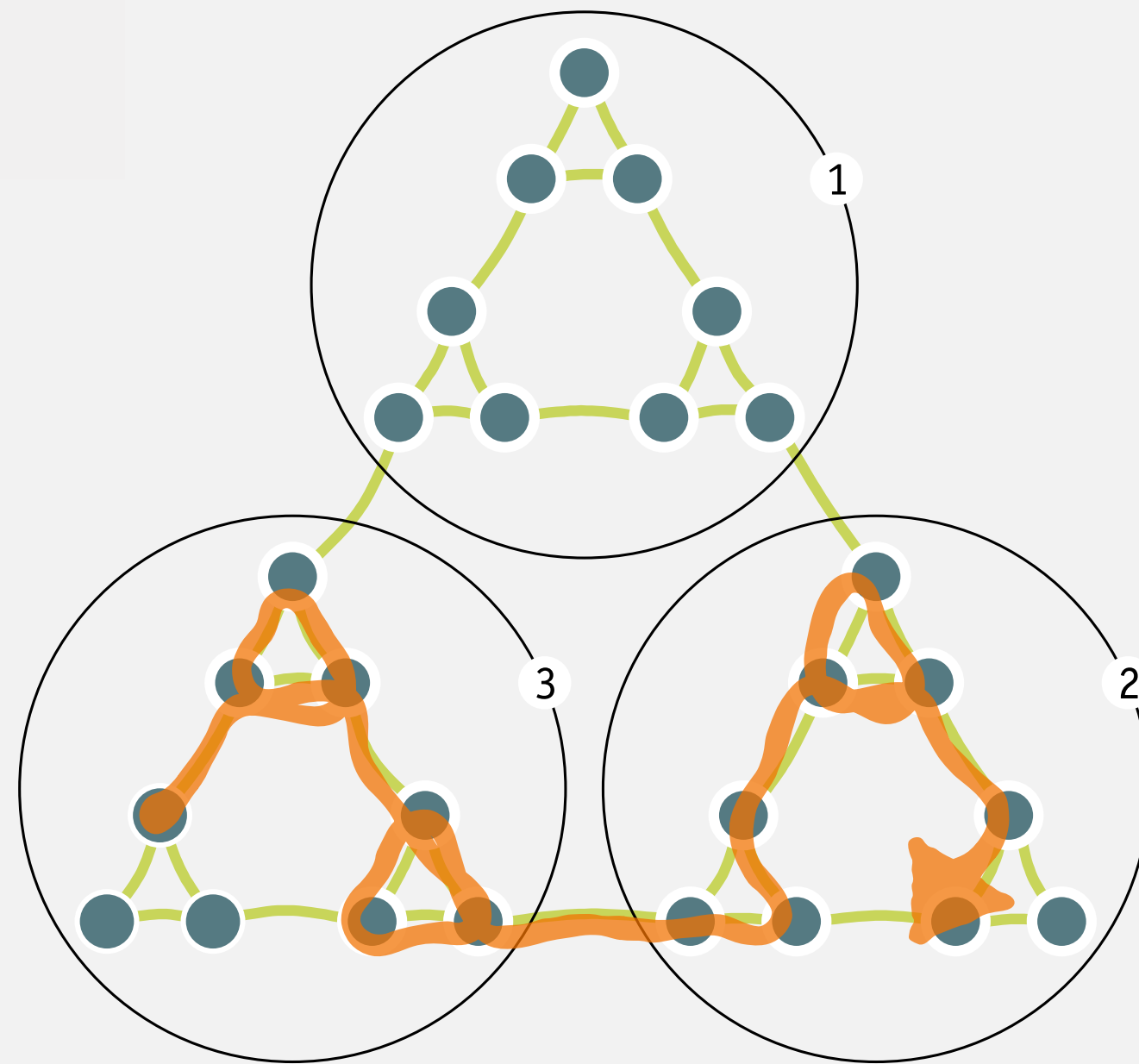
# The map equation

## Compression of network flows



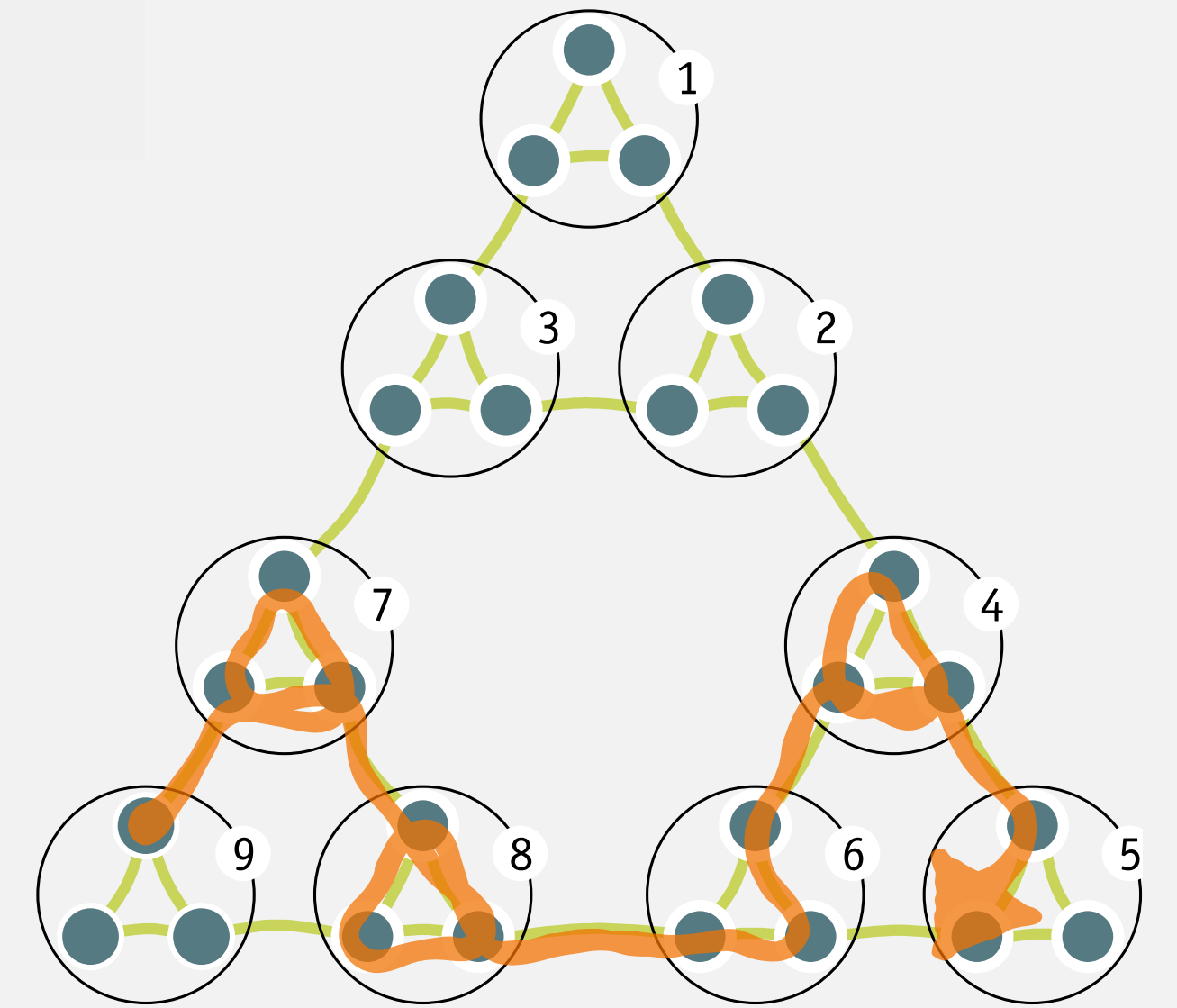
21

$$L(M) = H(\mathcal{P}) = 4.75 \text{ bits.}$$



22

$$L(M) = \underbrace{q_{\circlearrowleft} H(\mathcal{Q})}_{0.12 \text{ bits}} + \underbrace{\begin{cases} p_{\circlearrowleft}^1 H(\mathcal{P}^1) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^2 H(\mathcal{P}^2) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^3 H(\mathcal{P}^3) \end{cases}}_{3.56 \text{ bits}} = 3.68 \text{ bits.}$$



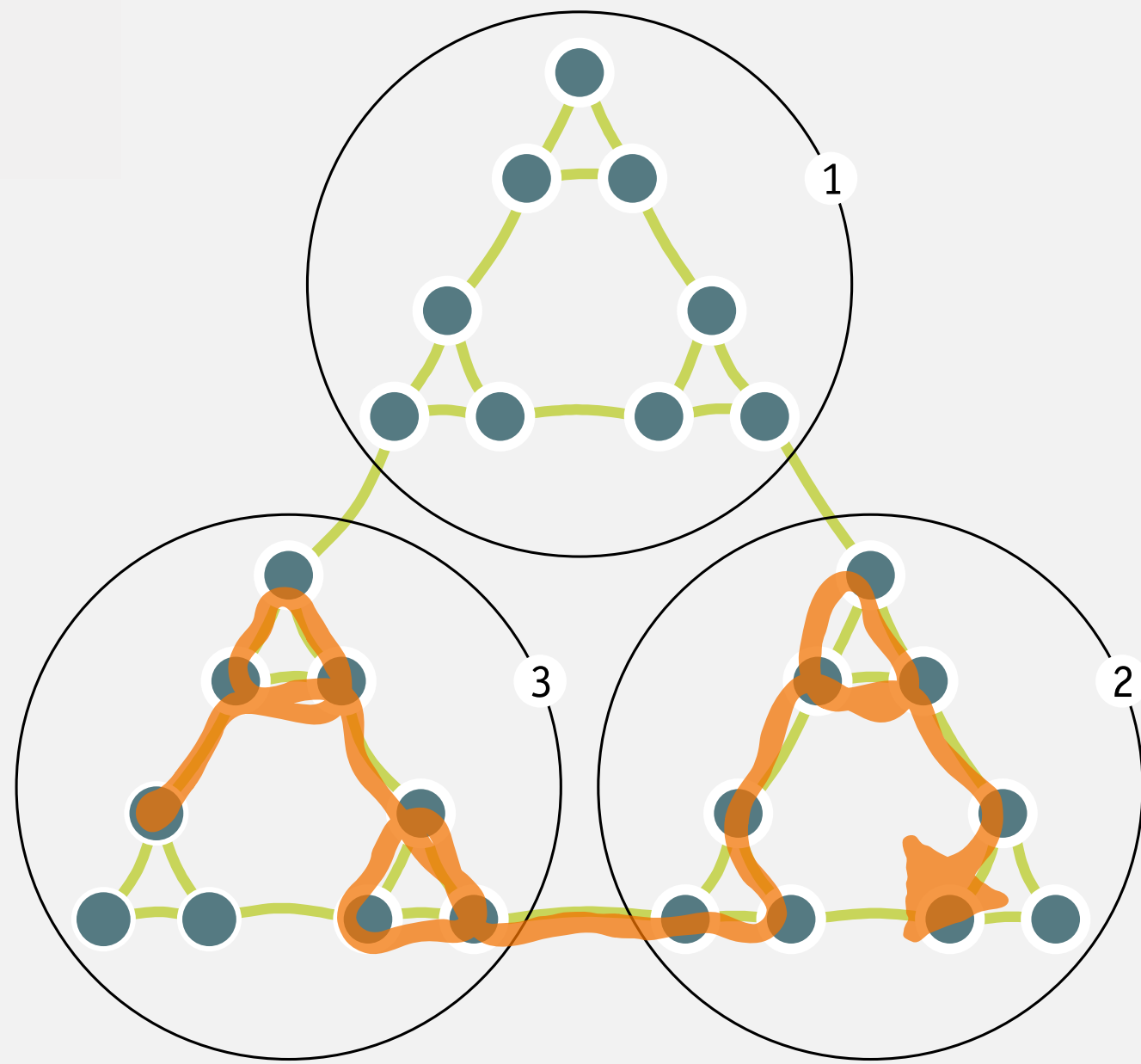
26

$$L(M) = \underbrace{q_{\circlearrowleft} H(\mathcal{Q})}_{0.97 \text{ bits}} + \underbrace{\begin{cases} p_{\circlearrowleft}^1 H(\mathcal{P}^1) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^2 H(\mathcal{P}^2) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^3 H(\mathcal{P}^3) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^4 H(\mathcal{P}^4) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^5 H(\mathcal{P}^5) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^6 H(\mathcal{P}^6) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^7 H(\mathcal{P}^7) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^8 H(\mathcal{P}^8) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^9 H(\mathcal{P}^9) \end{cases}}_{2.60 \text{ bits}} = 3.57 \text{ bits.}$$

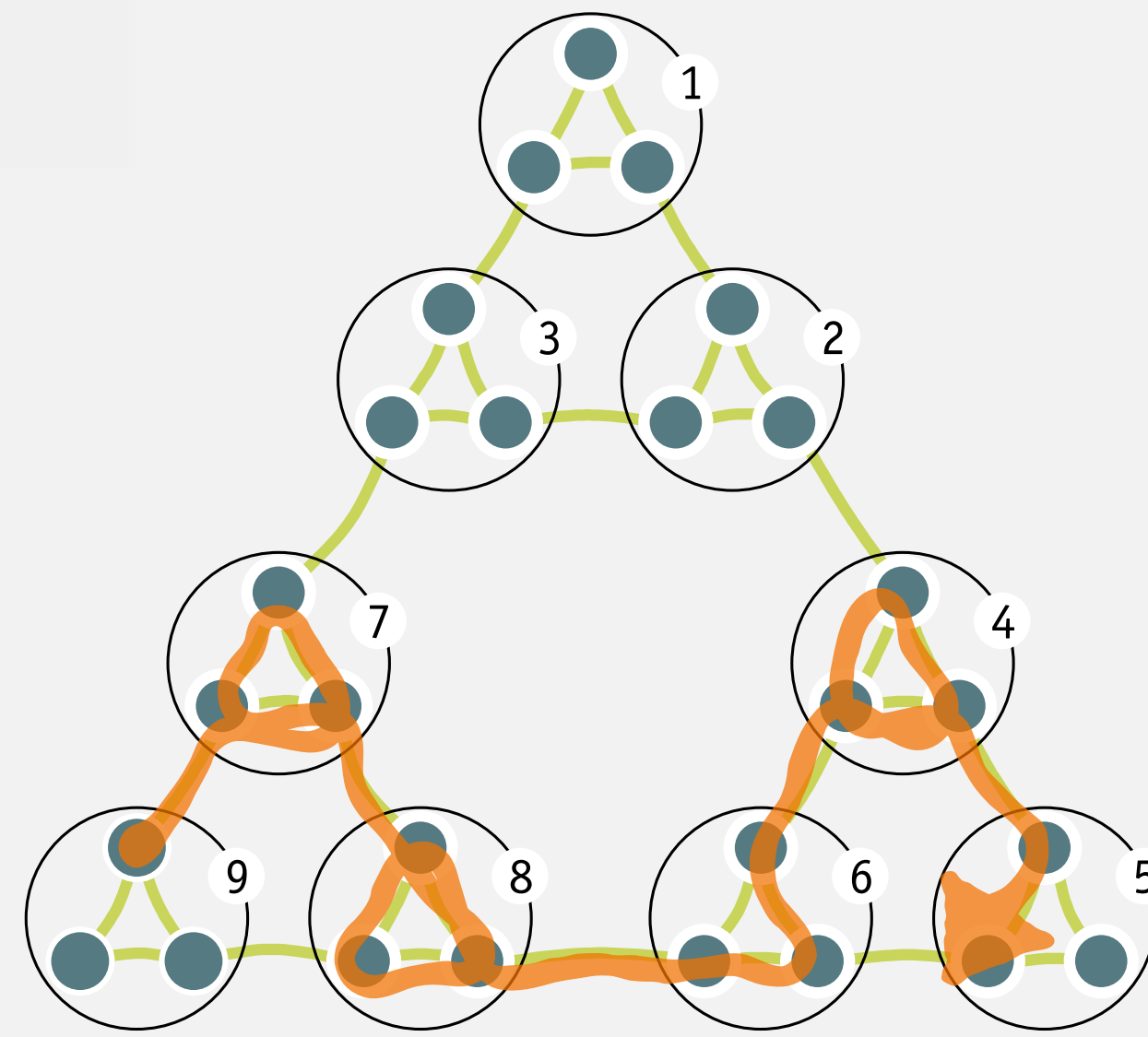


# The map equation

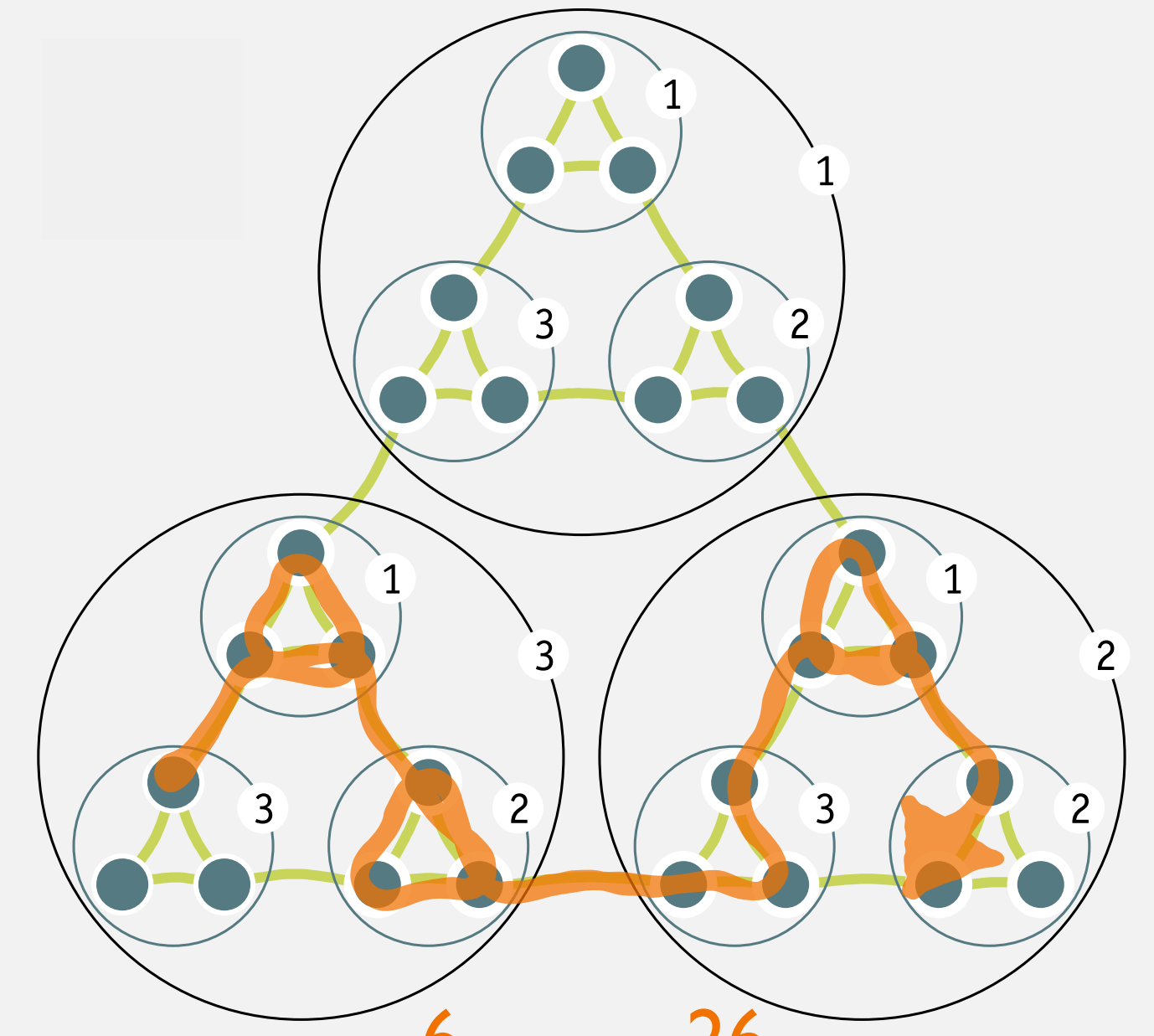
## Compression of network flows



$$L(M) = \underbrace{q_{\circlearrowleft} H(Q)}_{0.12 \text{ bits}} + \underbrace{\begin{cases} p_{\circlearrowleft}^1 H(\mathcal{P}^1) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^2 H(\mathcal{P}^2) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^3 H(\mathcal{P}^3) \end{cases}}_{22 \text{ bits}} = 3.68 \text{ bits.}$$



$$L(M) = \underbrace{q_{\circlearrowleft} H(Q)}_{5 \text{ bits}} + \underbrace{\begin{cases} p_{\circlearrowleft}^1 H(\mathcal{P}^1) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^2 H(\mathcal{P}^2) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^3 H(\mathcal{P}^3) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^4 H(\mathcal{P}^4) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^5 H(\mathcal{P}^5) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^6 H(\mathcal{P}^6) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^7 H(\mathcal{P}^7) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^8 H(\mathcal{P}^8) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^9 H(\mathcal{P}^9) \end{cases}}_{26 \text{ bits}} = 3.57 \text{ bits.}$$



$$L(M) = \underbrace{q_{\circlearrowleft} H(Q)}_{0.12 \text{ bits}} + \underbrace{\begin{cases} q_{\circlearrowleft}^1 H(Q^1) + \begin{cases} p_{\circlearrowleft}^{11} H(\mathcal{P}^{11}) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^{12} H(\mathcal{P}^{12}) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^{13} H(\mathcal{P}^{13}) \end{cases} \\ q_{\circlearrowleft}^2 H(Q^2) + \begin{cases} p_{\circlearrowleft}^{21} H(\mathcal{P}^{21}) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^{22} H(\mathcal{P}^{22}) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^{23} H(\mathcal{P}^{23}) \end{cases} \\ q_{\circlearrowleft}^3 H(Q^3) + \begin{cases} p_{\circlearrowleft}^{31} H(\mathcal{P}^{31}) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^{32} H(\mathcal{P}^{32}) \\ p_{\circlearrowleft}^{33} H(\mathcal{P}^{33}) \end{cases} \end{cases}}_{6 \text{ bits} + 26 \text{ bits}} = 3.48 \text{ bits.}$$

# Mapping network flows

using the minimum description length principle

The map equation infers modules with long flow persistence using the minimum description length principle.

Generalizations to many network representations.

# 2. Mapping network flows

with metadata-dependent encoding

# Mapping network flows

## Absorbing random walks

1. We use random walks that remember their origin
2. Each node  $i$  has associated metadata  $f_i$
3. The probability  $x_{ij}$  of a walker starting at  $i$  to be absorbed at  $j$  depends on  $f_i$  and  $f_j$

# Mapping network flows

## Encoding probabilities for categorical metadata

Encoding probability

Baseline encoding probability,  $[0, 1]$

$$\varepsilon_{ij} = p\delta_{f_i, f_j} + \frac{p}{c}(1 - \delta_{f_i, f_j})$$

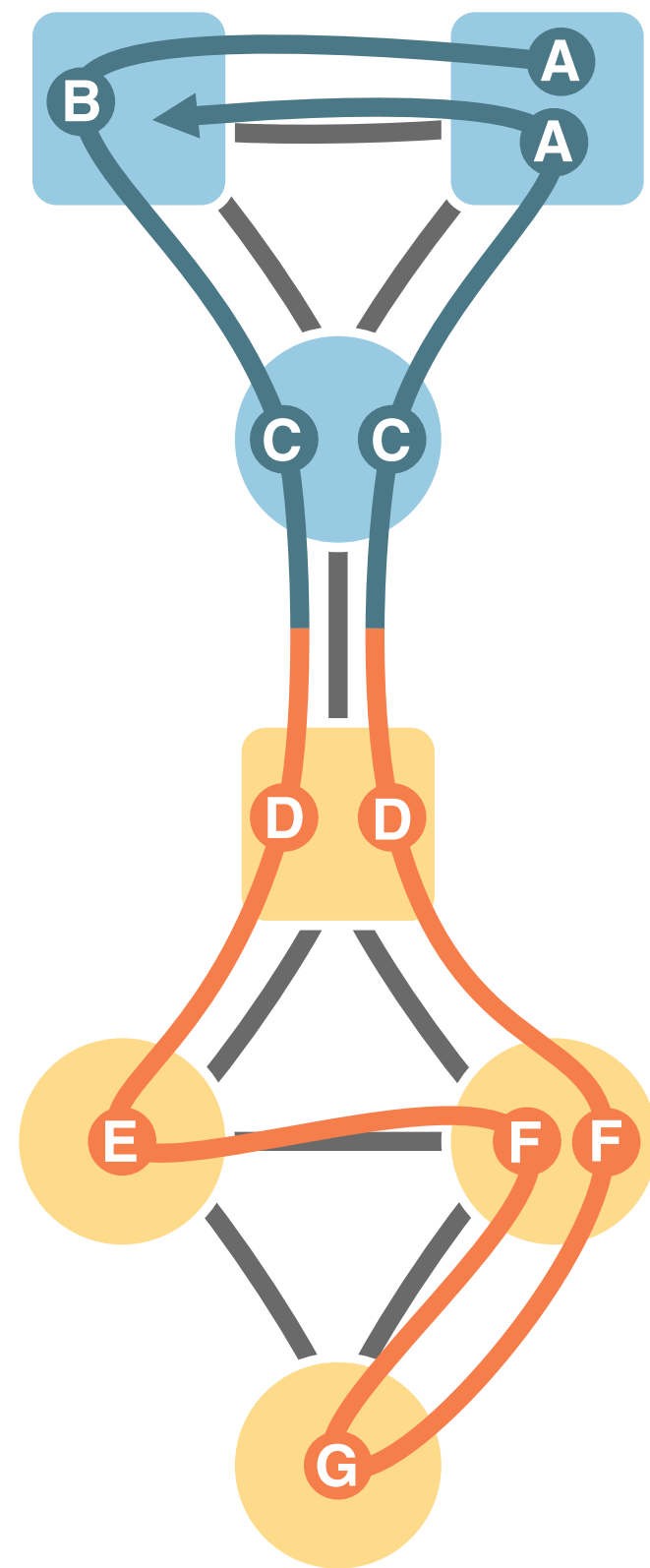
Metadata dependence,  $[p, +\infty]$

- If  $c > 1$ , the walker will encode more frequently at nodes belonging to the same class of the starting node (assortative encoding).
- For  $p < c < 1$ , encode will be more probable at nodes belonging to a different class than the one of the starting node (disassortative encoding).
- For  $c = 1$ , the encoding dynamics no longer depend on class assignments (neutral encoding).
- When  $p \ll 1$ , the structure is irrelevant and absorption depends only on metadata.

# Mapping network flows

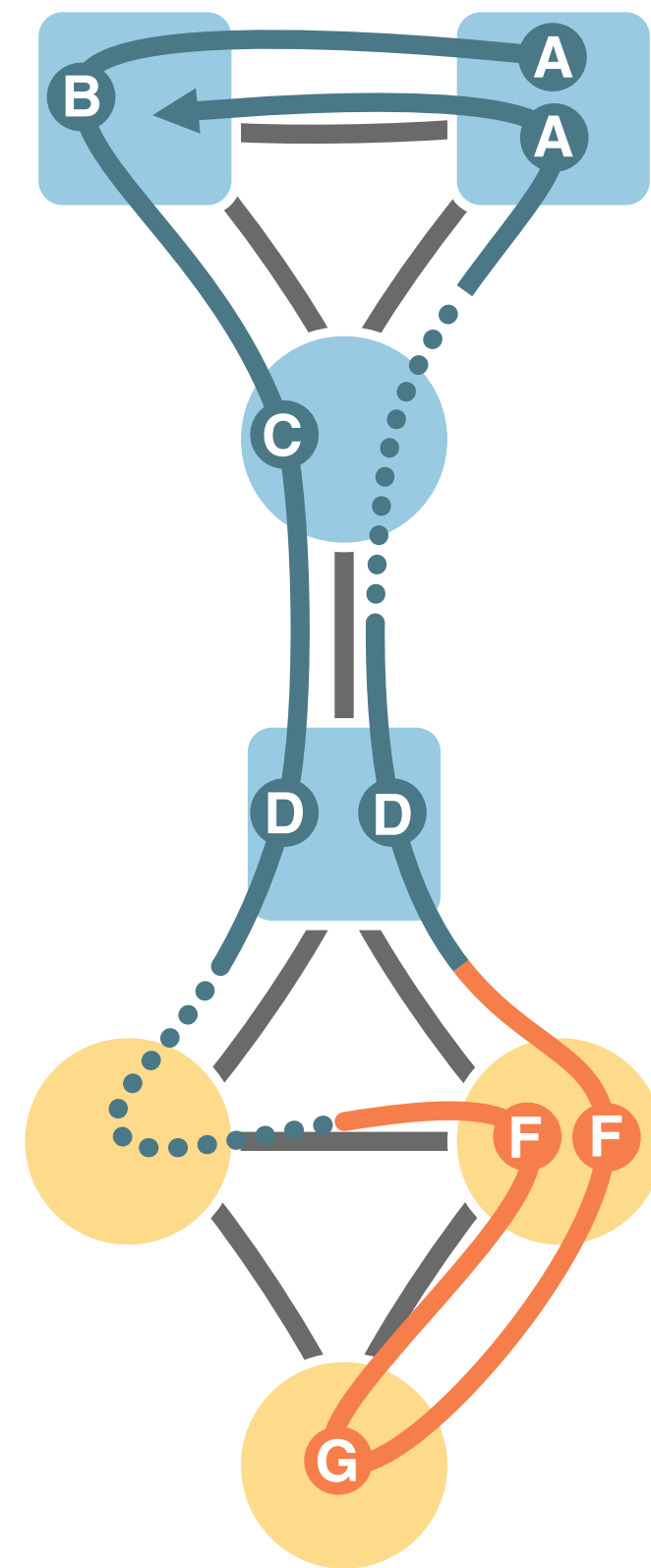
## Random walks with metadata-dependent encoding probabilities

$c \in [1, 3]$



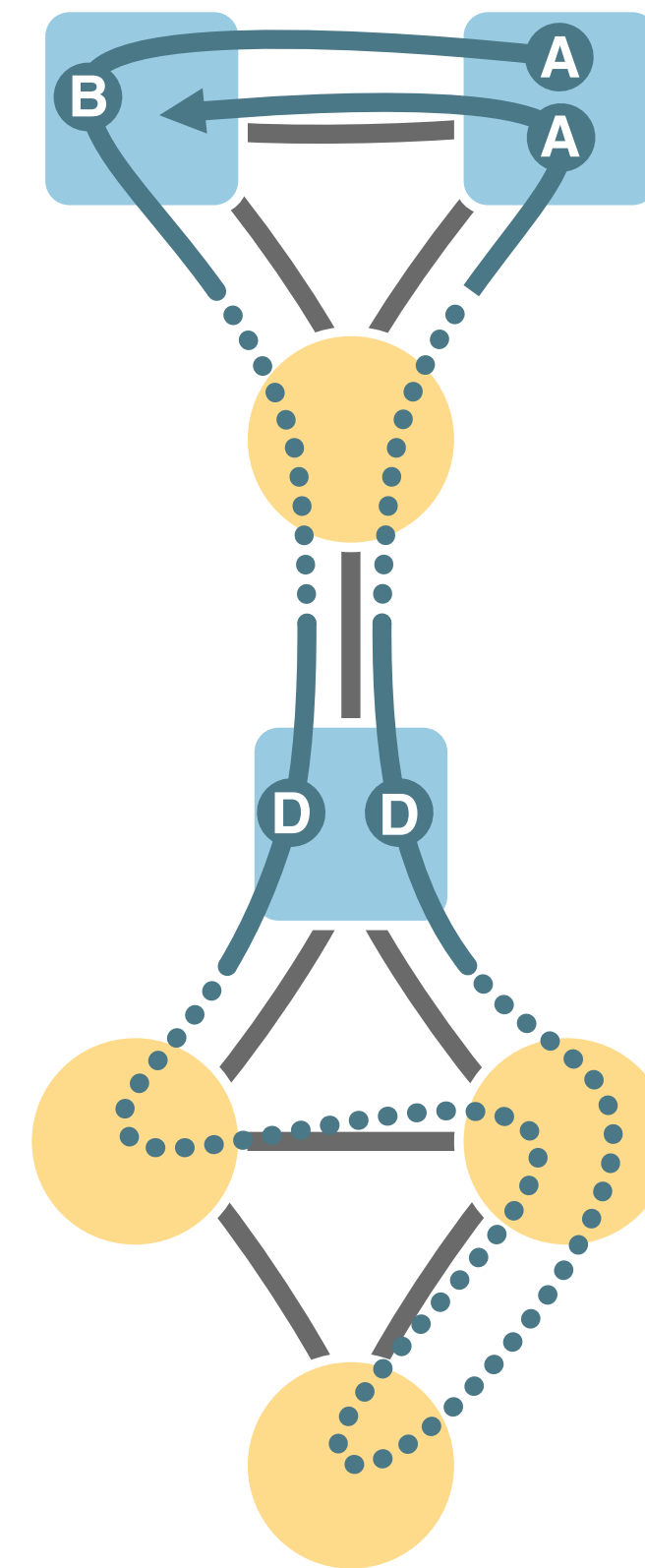
ABCDEF GFD CAB

$c \in (3, 10]$



ABCD FGFD AB

$c > 10$



AB D D AB

# Mapping network flows

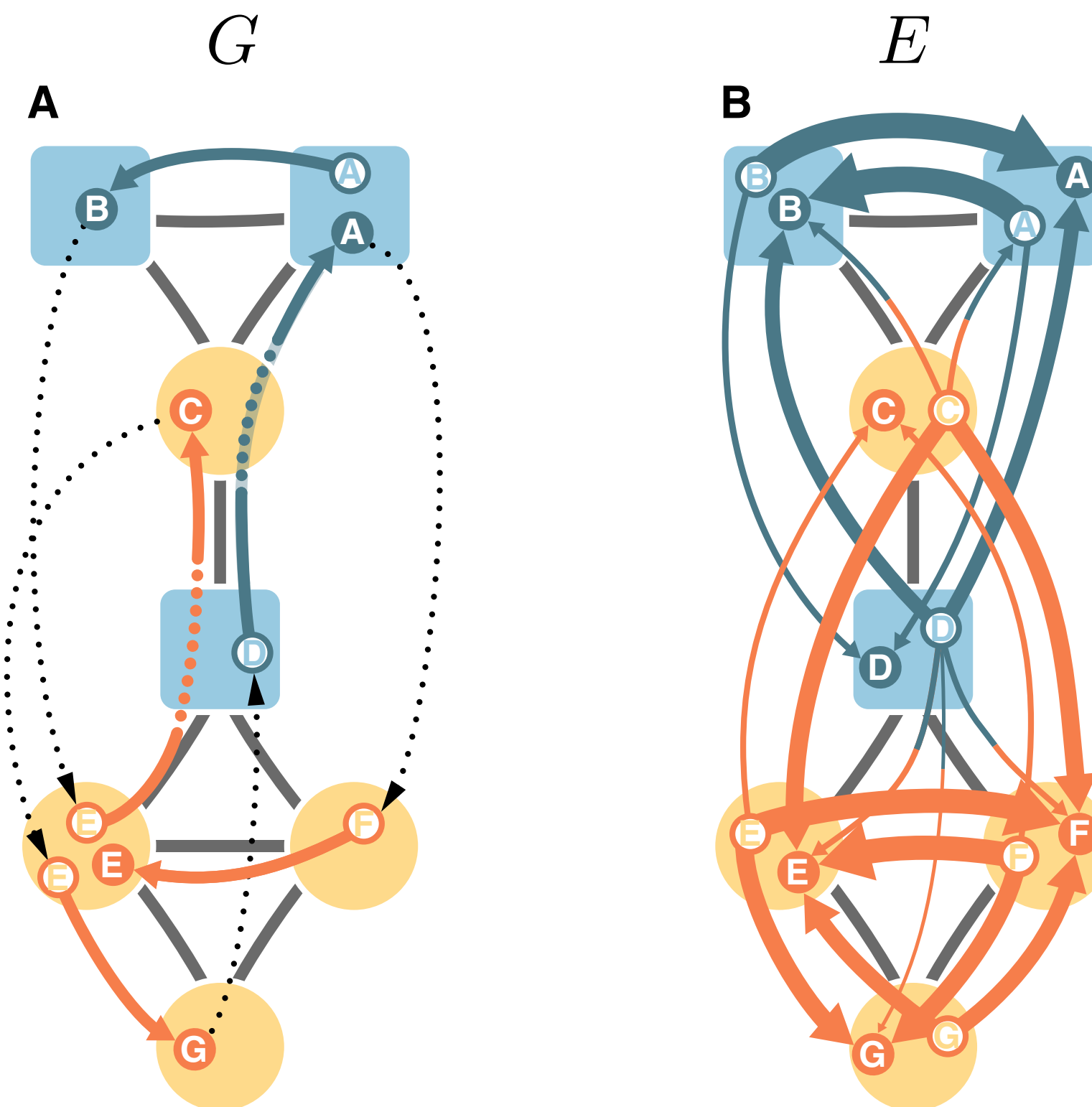
## Random walks with metadata-dependent encoding probabilities

Original graph  $G \rightarrow E$  with  $E_i = \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \epsilon_i^T \tilde{\Pi}_i^t P(0|i)$ ,  
Encoding graph

Encoding probabilities

Transition matrix

Stationary occupation probability

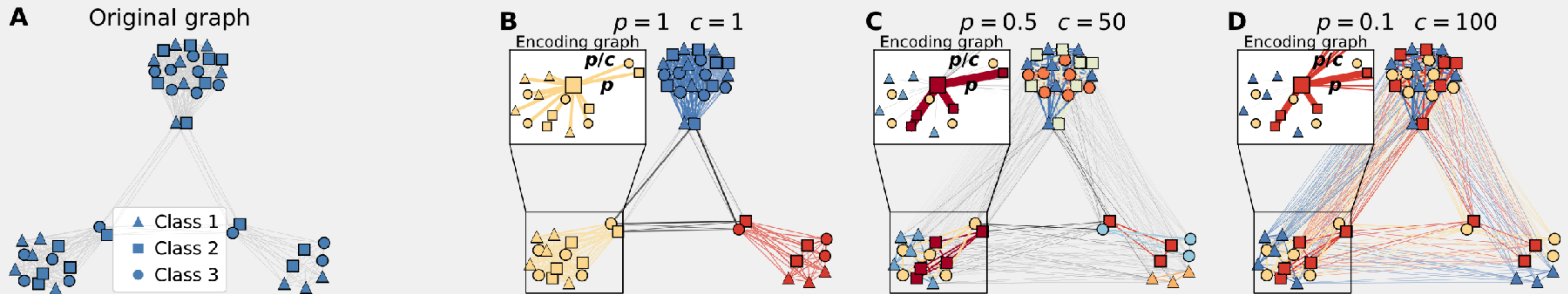


AB E C EG D A FE

# Mapping network flows

## Random walks with metadata-dependent encoding probabilities

### Synthetic example





# Mapping network flows

## Encoding probabilities for real-valued metadata

Encoding probability

Real-valued node metadata

Baseline encoding probability

Strength of metadata information

Scale parameter

$$\varepsilon_{ij} = s \exp\left(\frac{-|f_i - f_j|}{b}\right) p + (1 - s)$$

# 2. Mapping network flows

with metadata-dependent encoding

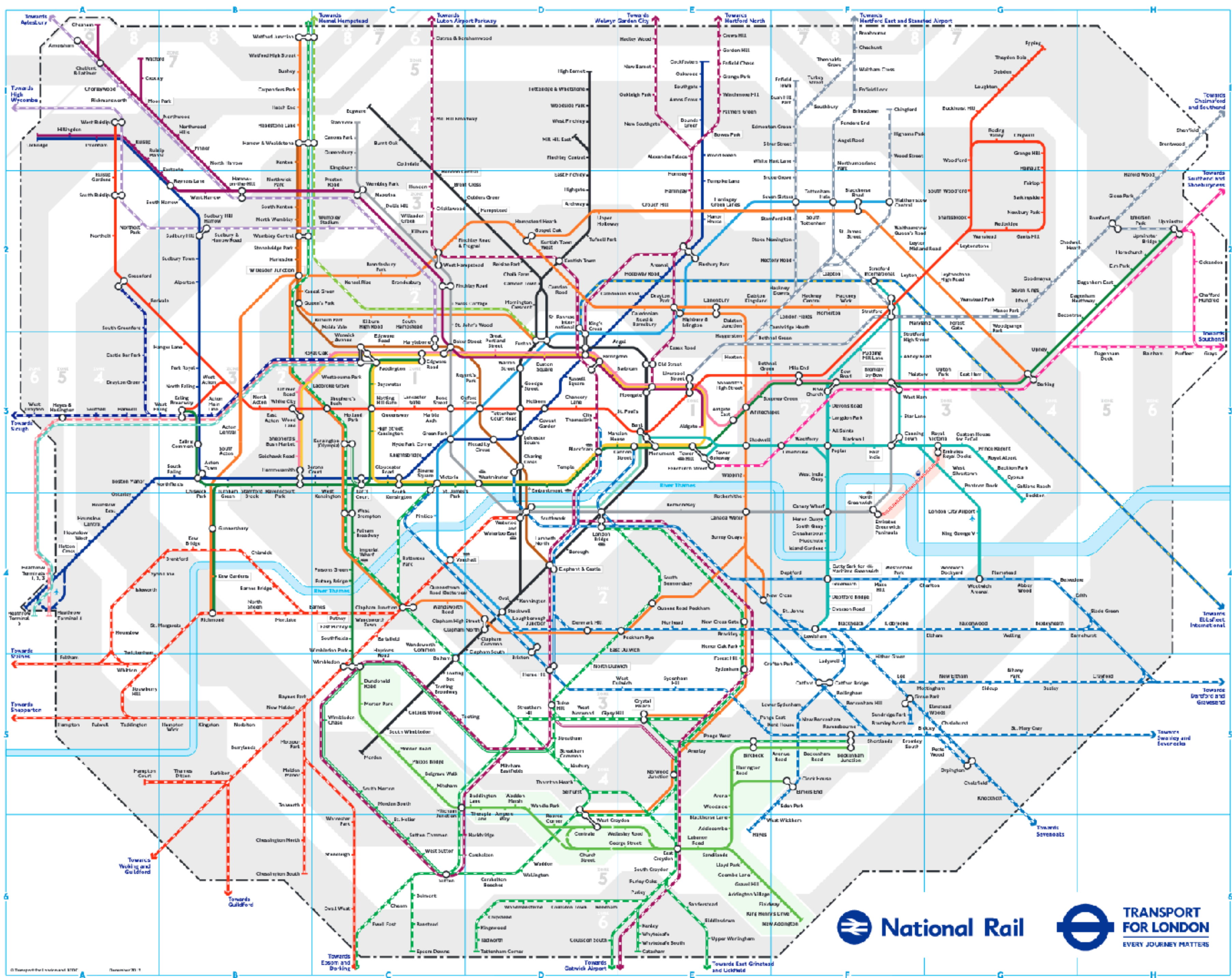
Random walks with metadata-dependent encoding probabilities integrate network information and distant metadata.

3

■

Mapping network flows  
with metadata-dependent encoding  
exploits nonlocal relationships





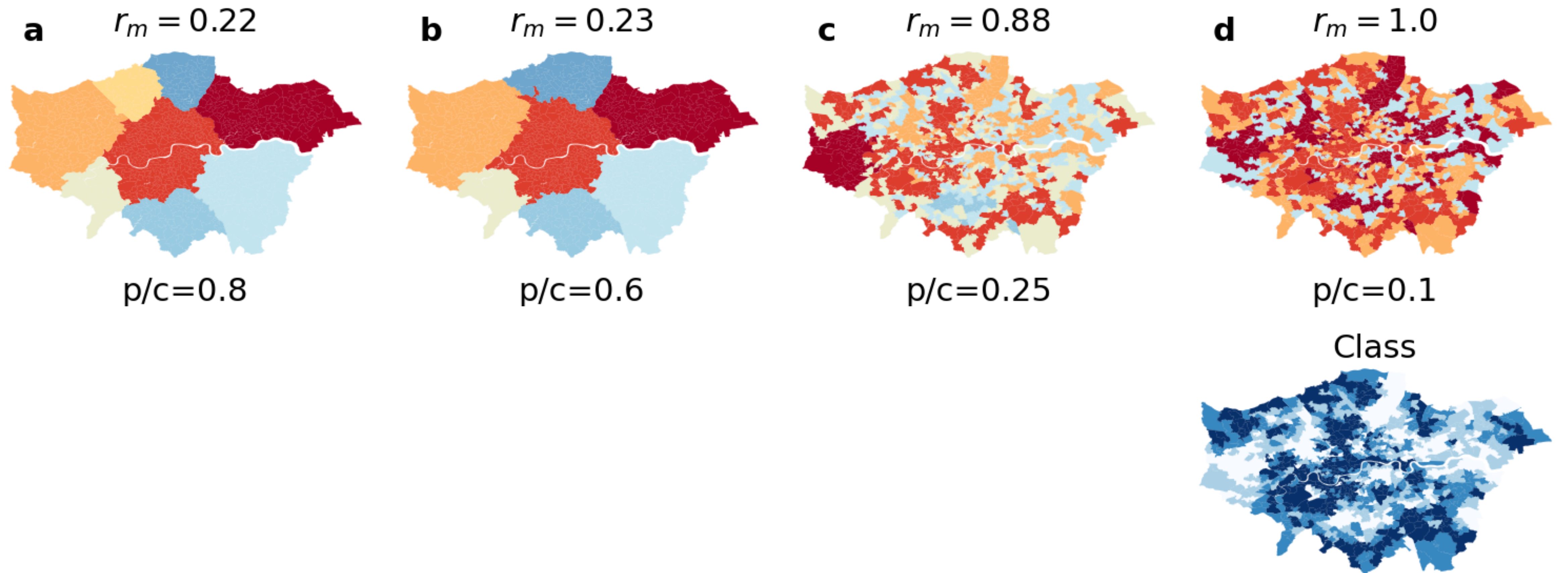
 National Rail

 **TRANSPORT FOR LONDON**  
EVERY JOURNEY MATTERS

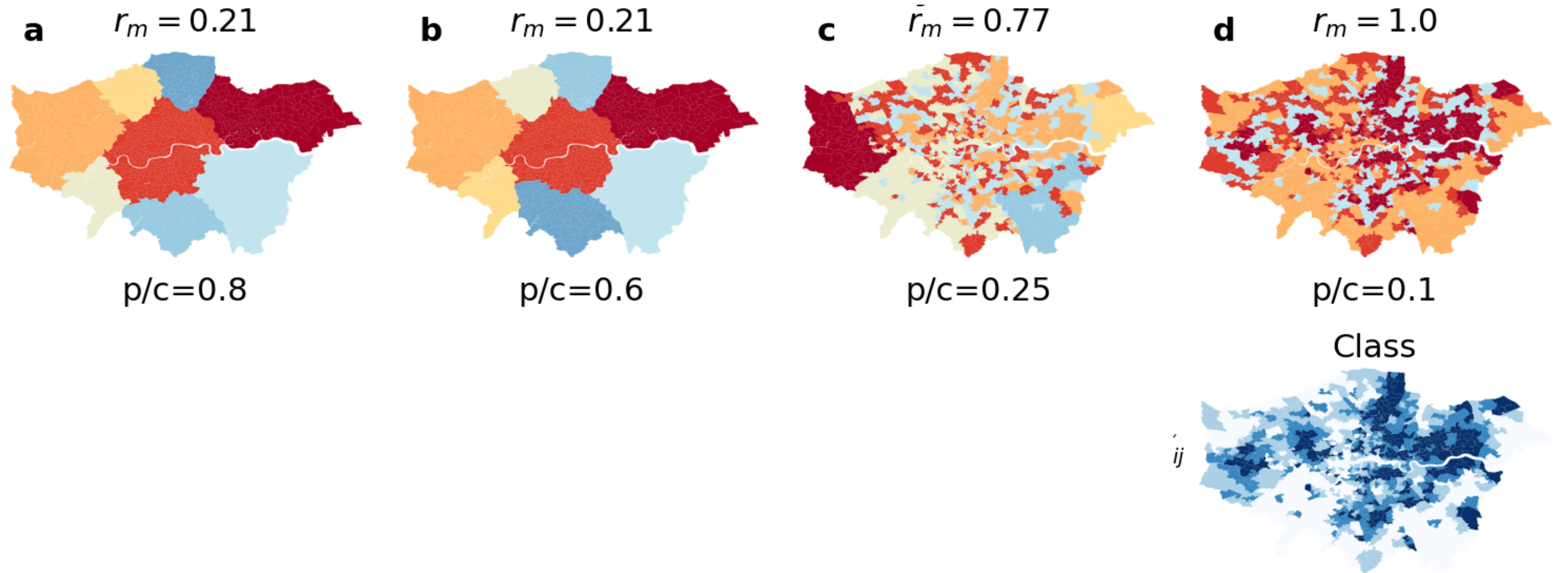
# Starting point matters



# Income class matters in the commuting network of London

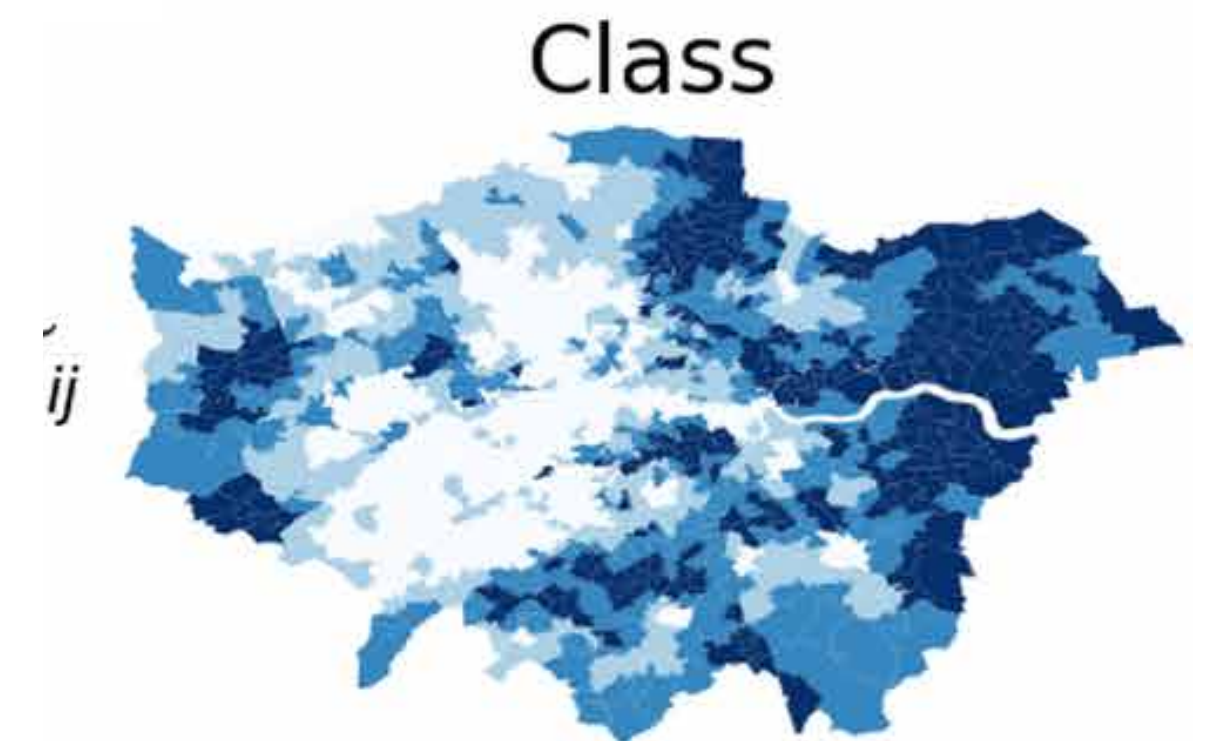
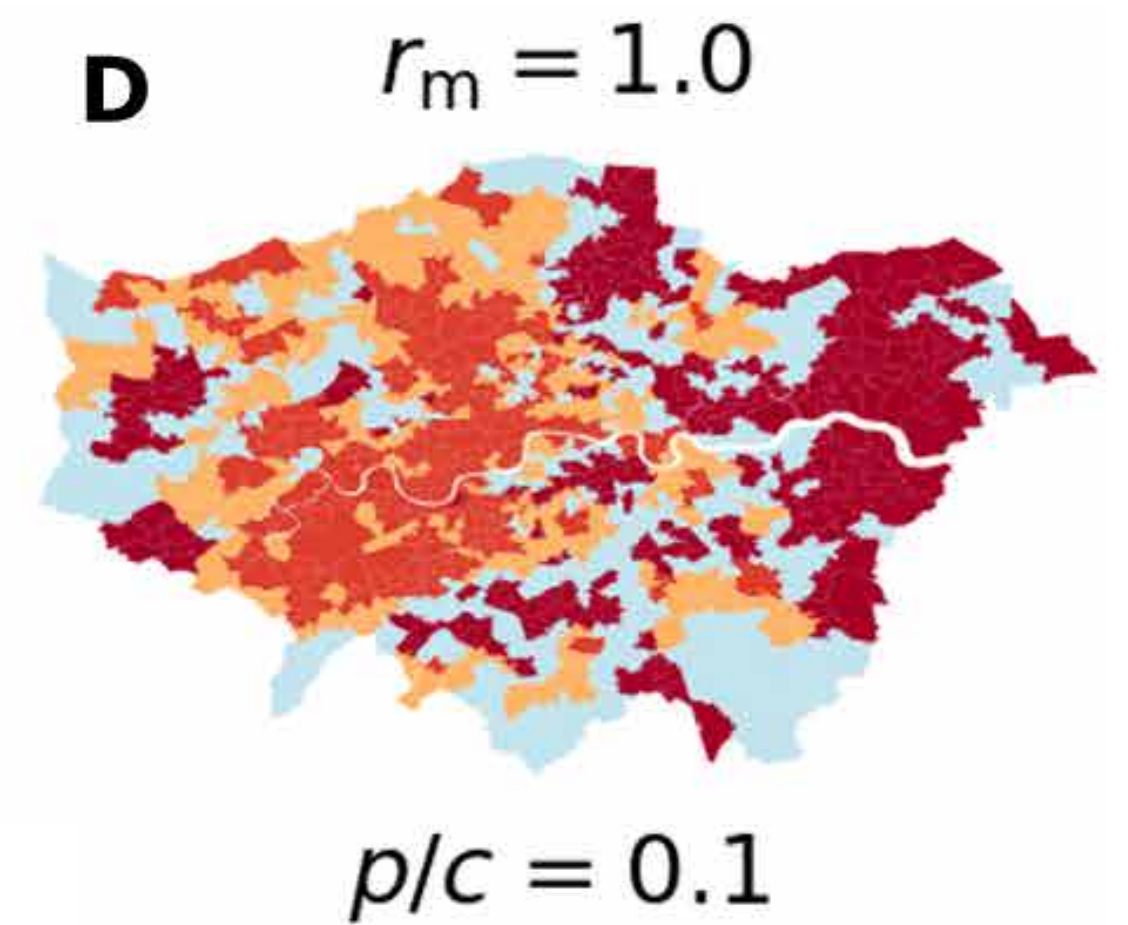
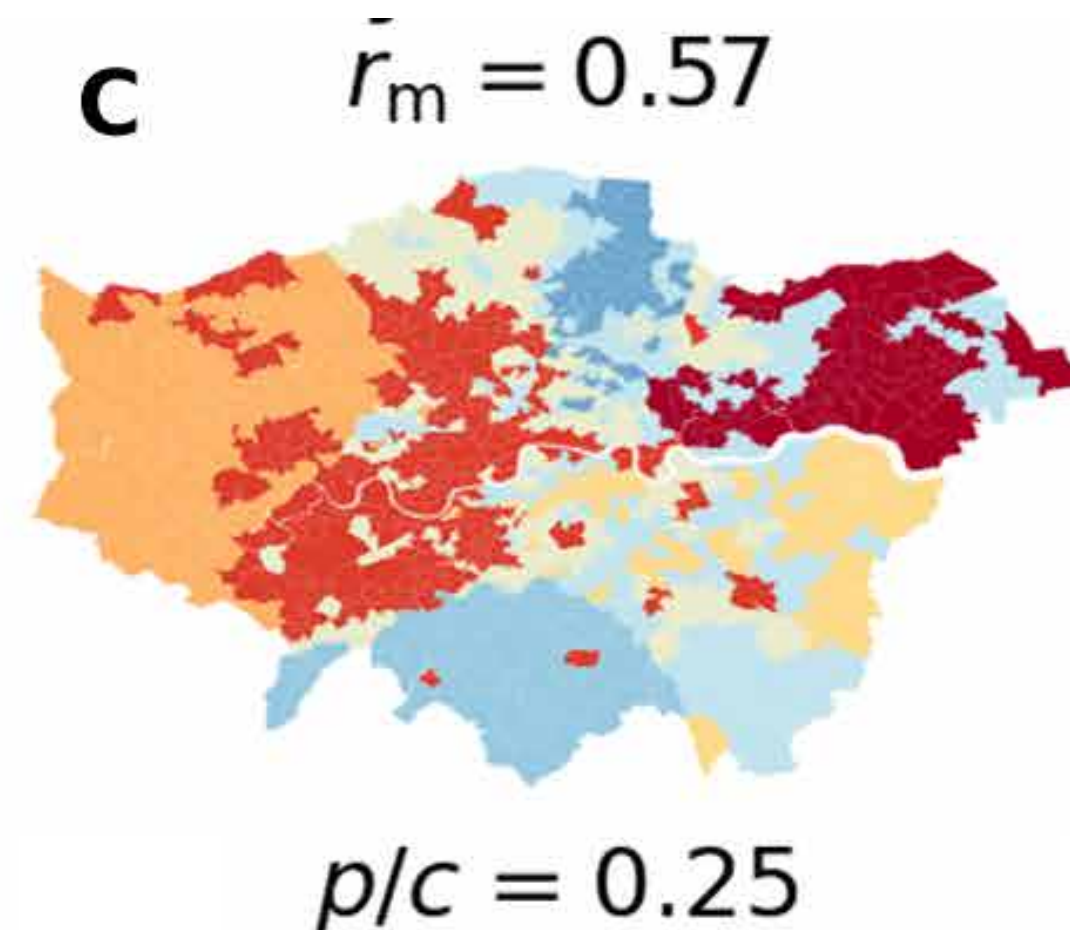
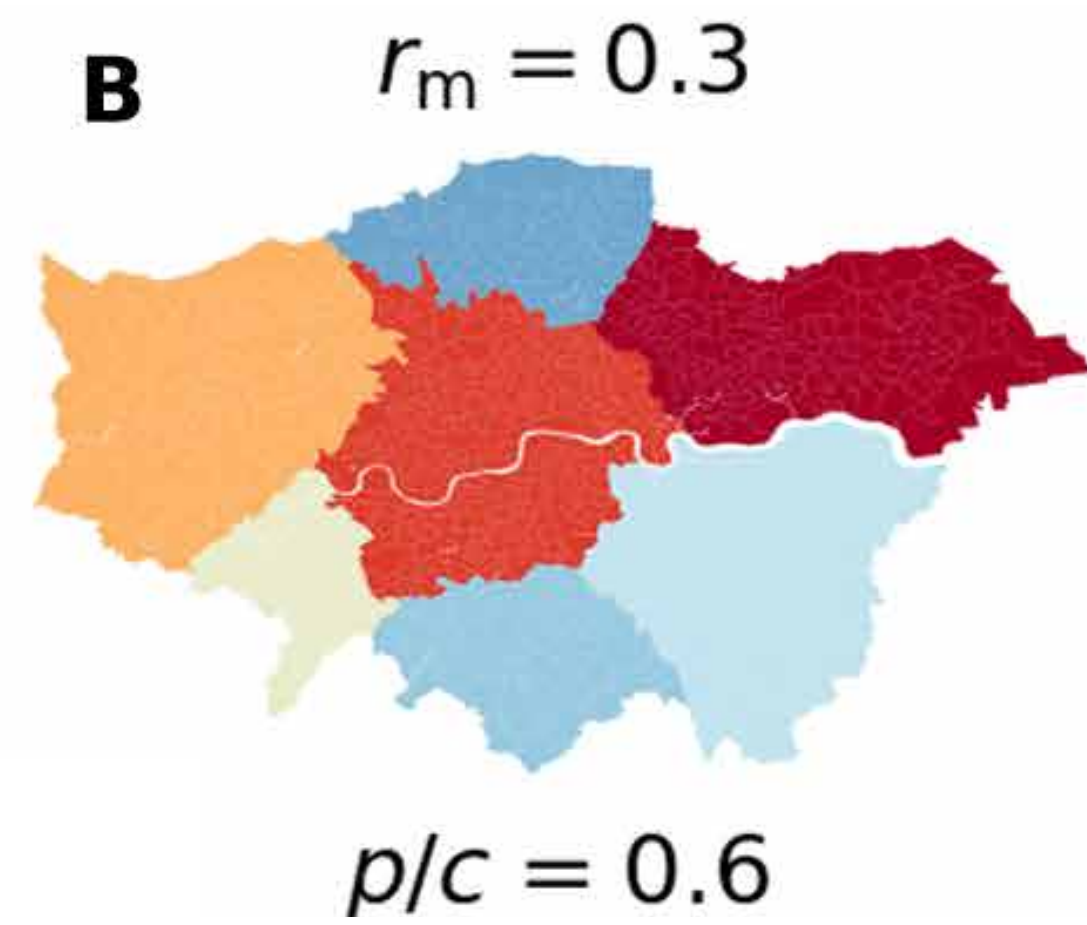
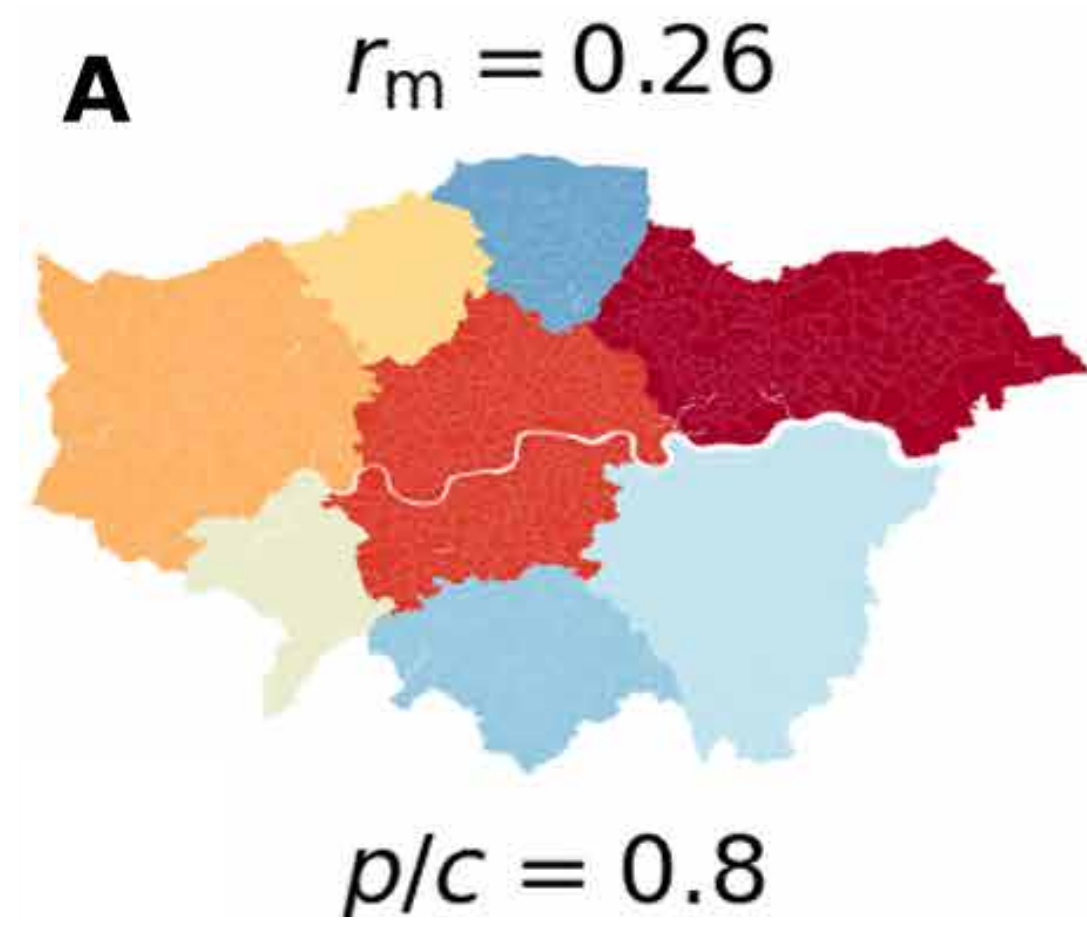


# Unemployment class matters in the commuting network of London

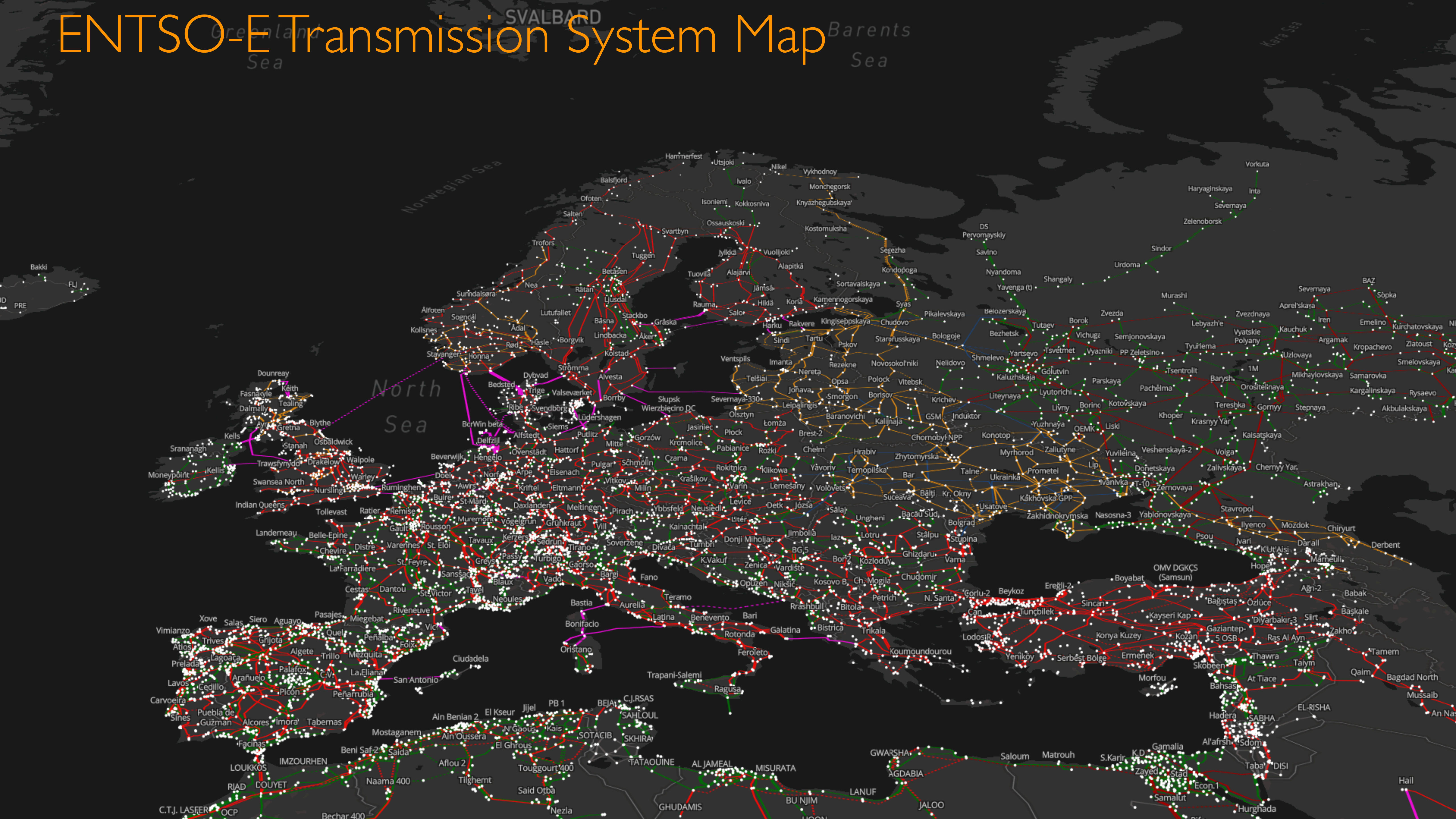




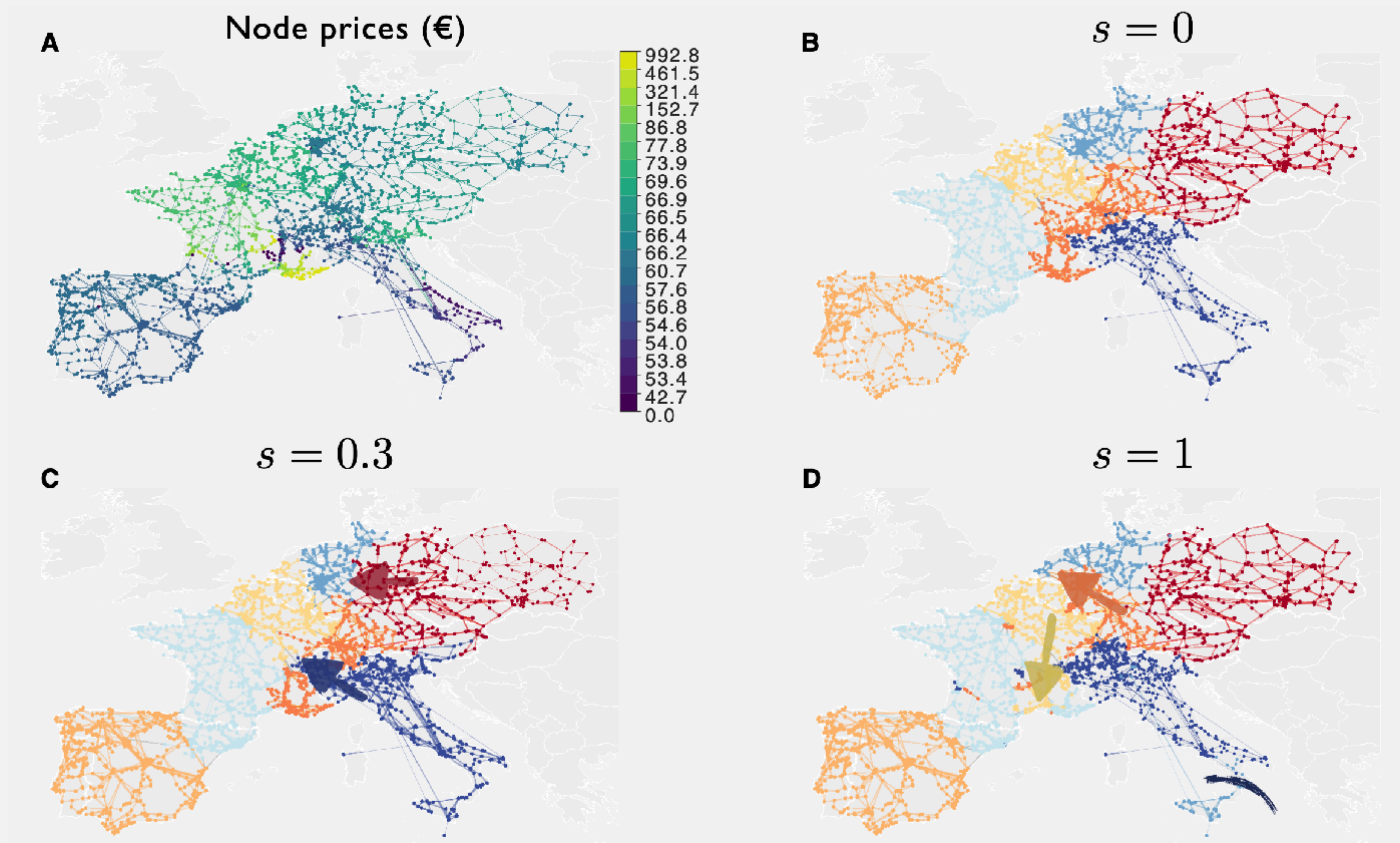
# Obesity class matters in the commuting network of London



# ENTSO-E Transmission System Map



# European power grid network with node prices and optimal partitions



# Full derivations and more examples in Sci. Adv. 8, eabn7558 (2022)

SCIENCE ADVANCES | RESEARCH ARTICLE

## NETWORK SCIENCE

# Mapping nonlocal relationships between metadata and network structure with metadata-dependent encoding of random walks

Aleix Bassolas<sup>1,2,3†</sup>, Anton Holmgren<sup>4†</sup>, Antoine Marot<sup>5</sup>, Martin Rosvall<sup>4</sup>, Vincenzo Nicosia<sup>1\*</sup>

Integrating structural information and metadata, such as gender, social status, or interests, enriches networks and enables a better understanding of the large-scale structure of complex systems. However, existing approaches to augment networks with metadata for community detection only consider immediately adjacent nodes and cannot exploit the nonlocal relationships between metadata and large-scale network structure present in many spatial and social systems. Here, we develop a flow-based community detection framework based on the map equation that integrates network information and metadata of distant nodes and reveals more complex relationships. We analyze social and spatial networks and find that our methodology can detect functional metadata-informed communities distinct from those derived solely from network information or metadata. For example, in a mobility network of London, we identify communities that reflect the heterogeneity of income distribution, and in a European power grid network, we identify communities that capture relationships between geography and energy prices beyond country borders.

## INTRODUCTION

The network structure of a complex system provides meaningful insights into its function, dynamics, and evolution (1–3). For exam-

and network structure exist, the presence of metadata adds no value to the extended stochastic block models (16, 17). Similarly, encoding metadata in flow-based modules without local correlations

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for the Advancement  
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Commons Attribution  
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# 3. Mapping network flows

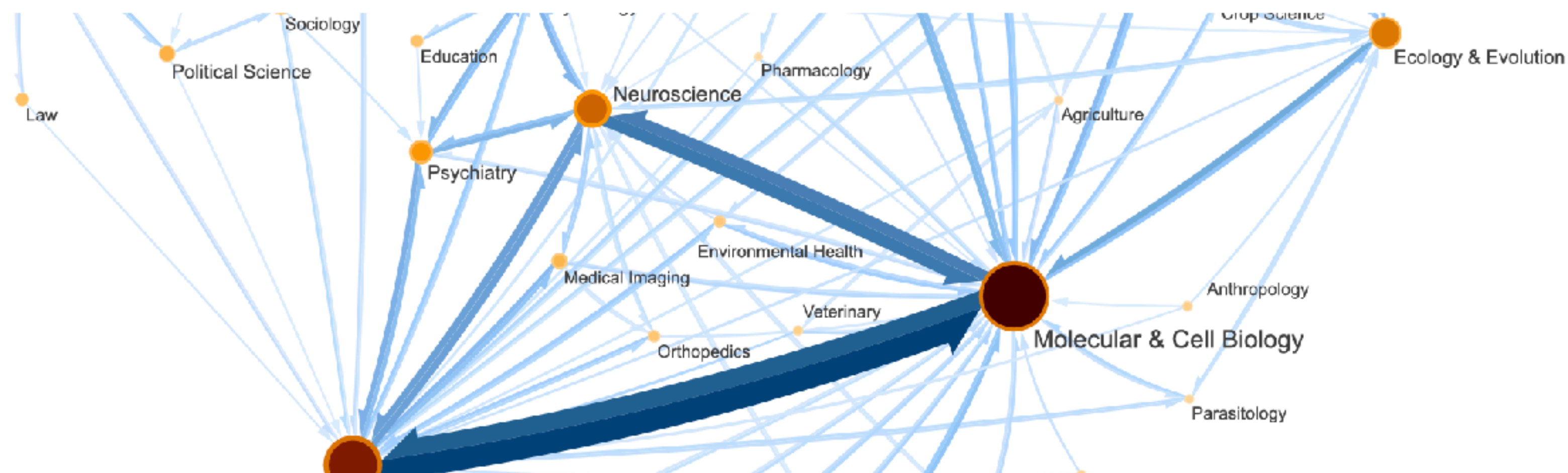
with metadata-dependent encoding  
exploits nonlocal relationships

Random walks with metadata-dependent encoding probabilities reveals functional metadata-informed communities

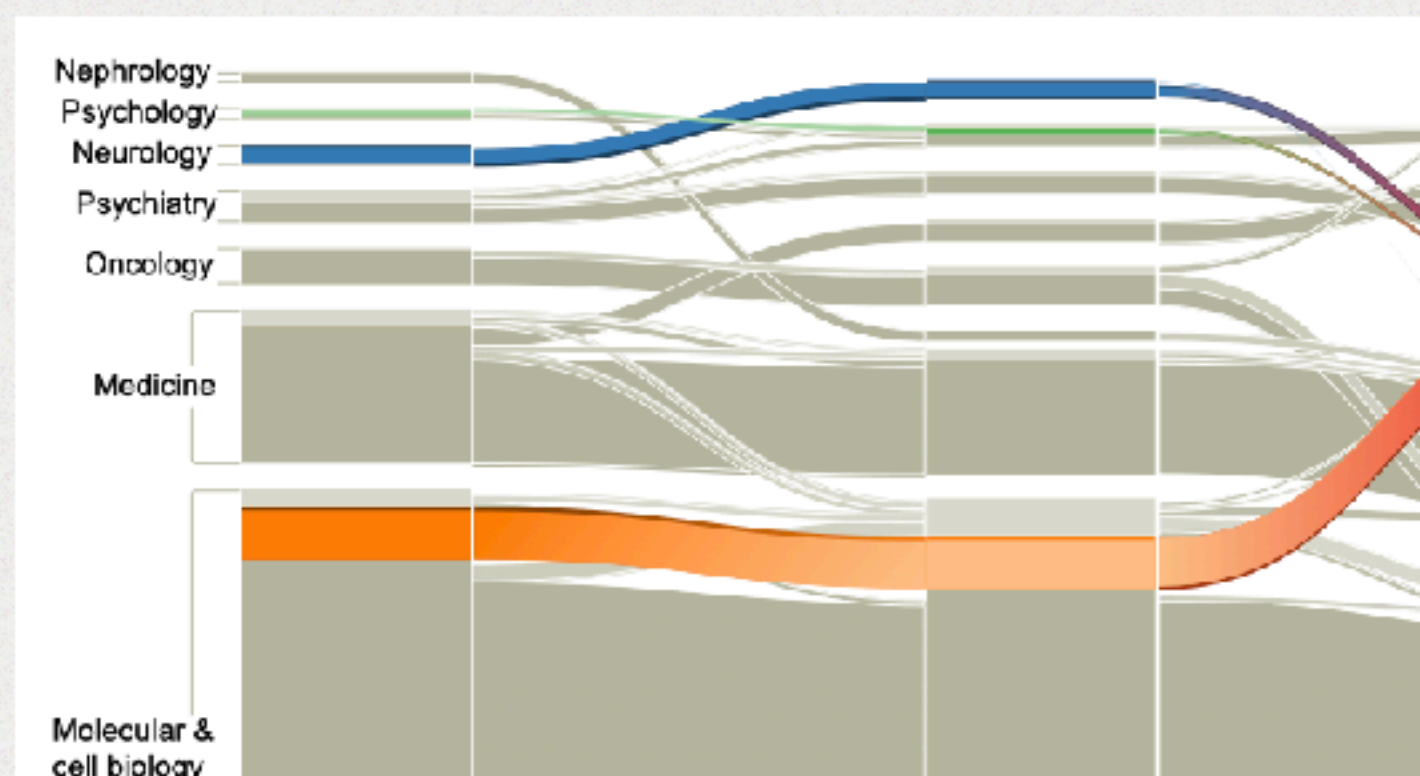
# CONCLUSION

Random walks with metadata-dependent encoding probabilities integrate structural and metadata information beyond nodes' immediate neighbors, revealing functional metadata-informed communities

# Simplify and highlight important structures in complex networks



Apps »



Code »

```
from infomap import Infomap
im = Infomap()
im.read_file("ninetriangles.net")
im.add_link(1, 10)
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```

Publications »

## Maps of information flow reveal community structure in complex networks

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PNAS **105**, 1118 (2008). [arXiv:0707.0609]



To comprehend the multipartite organization of large-scale biological and social systems, we introduce a new information-theoretic approach to reveal community structure in

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Dec 10, 2021 [Research paper](#) – [Mapping flows on weighted and directed networks with incomplete observations](#) – J. Comp. Net. 9, 6 (2021)

# Three ways to run Infomap

<https://www.mapequation.org/infomap/>

## Python (C++ speed)

To install, run

```
pip install infomap
```

To upgrade, run

```
pip install --upgrade infomap
```

Infomap only supports Python 3

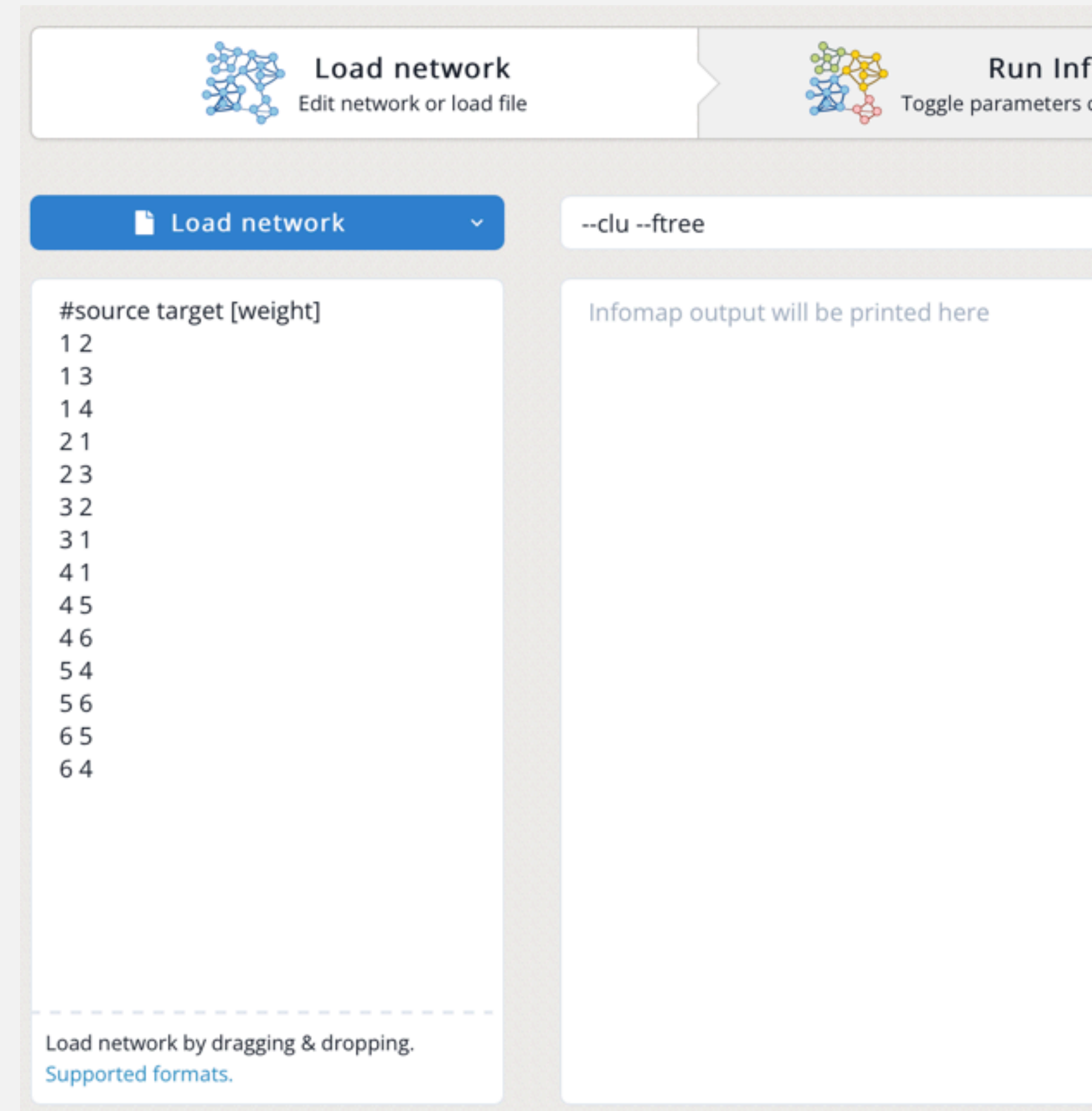
We currently build packages for Python 3.6 to 3.10.

## C++

```
git clone git@github.com:mapequation/infomap.git
cd infomap
make -j
```

	OPENMP	WITHOUT OPENMP
 WINDOWS	<a href="#">infomap-win.zip</a>	<a href="#">infomap-win-noomp.zip</a>
 UBUNTU 18.04	<a href="#">infomap-ubuntu.zip</a>	<a href="#">infomap-ubuntu-noomp.zip</a>
 MACOS 10.15	<a href="#">infomap-mac.zip</a>	<a href="#">infomap-mac-noomp.zip</a>

## Infomap online (JS speed)



Load network  
Edit network or load file

Run Infomap  
Toggle parameters

Load network

--clu --ftree

Infomap output will be printed here

```
#source target [weight]
1 2
1 3
1 4
2 1
2 3
3 2
3 1
4 1
4 5
4 6
5 4
5 6
6 5
6 4
```

Load network by dragging & dropping.  
Supported formats.