



# Office of Infrastructure Protection (IP)

National Infrastructure Simulation and Analysis Center (NISAC)

*Complex Adaptive Systems of Systems (CASoS) Engineering*

*MORS Workshop on Risk-Informed Decision Making*

*April 16, 2009*

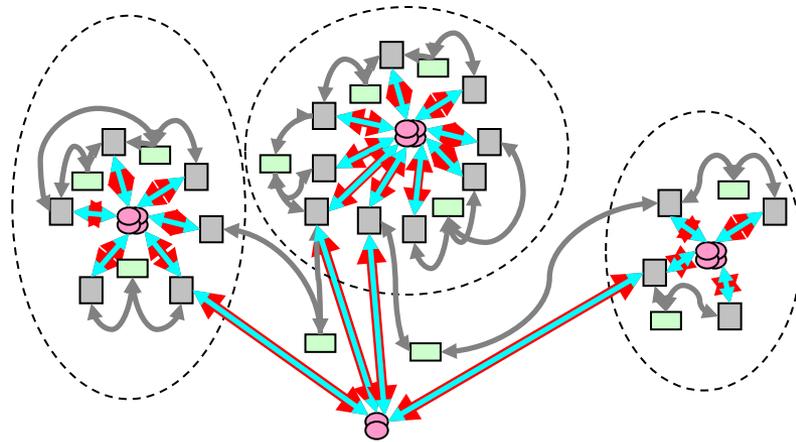


Homeland  
Security

UNCLASSIFIED

# Outline

- **Beginnings, Definitions and Examples**
- **General approach for modeling CASoS**
- **Engineering within a CASoS: Example of Influenza Pandemic Mitigation Policy Design**
- **Important Insights for CASoS Engineering**
- **The CASoS Engineering Initiative**



# 2003: Advanced Methods and Techniques Investigations (AMTI)

*Critical Infrastructures:*

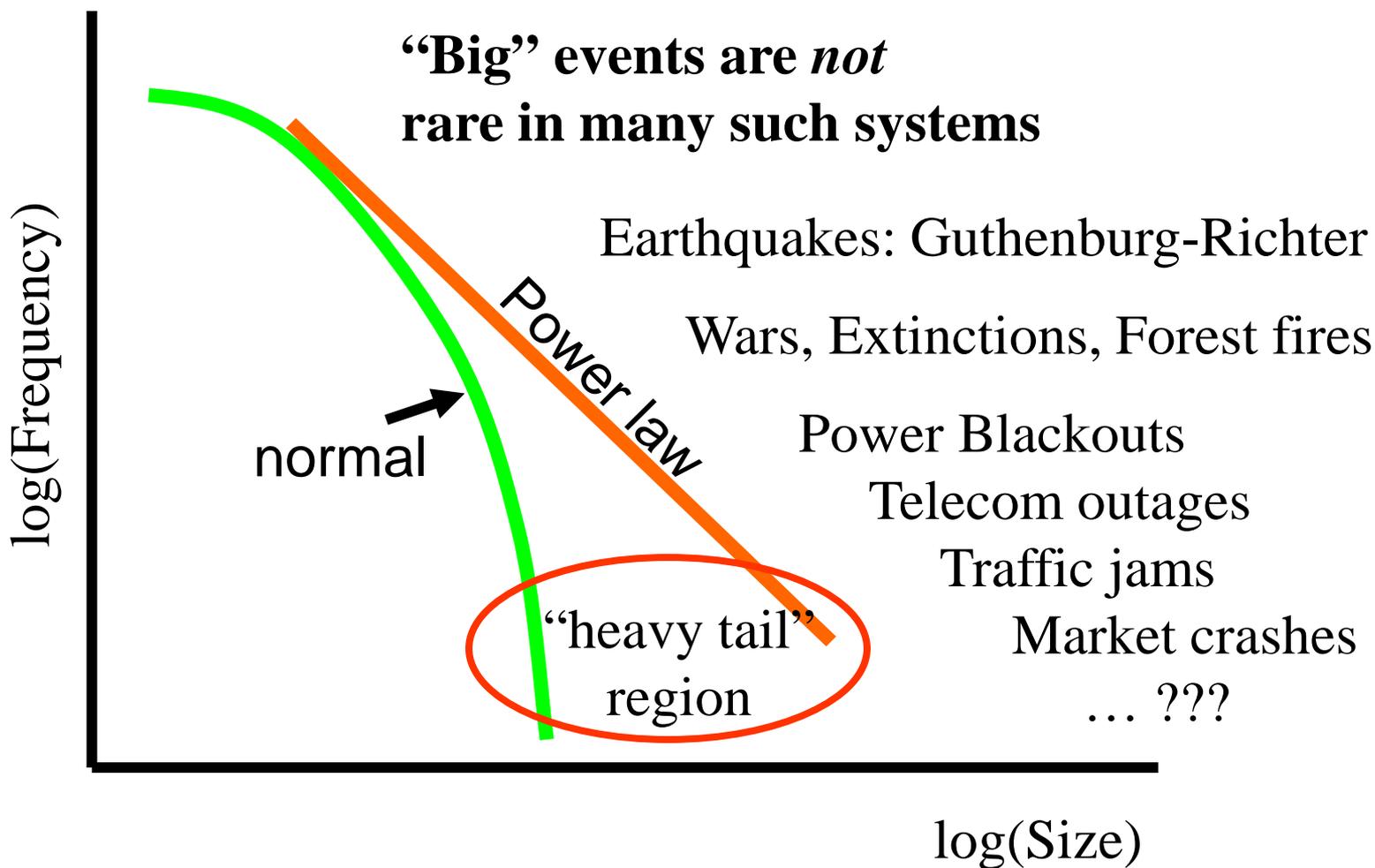
- *Are Complex: composed of many parts whose interaction via local rules yields emergent structure (networks) and behavior (cascades) at larger scales*
- *Grow and adapt in response to local-to-global policy*
- *Contain people*
- *Are interdependent “systems of systems”*



*Critical infrastructures are  
Complex Adaptive Systems  
of Systems: CASoS*

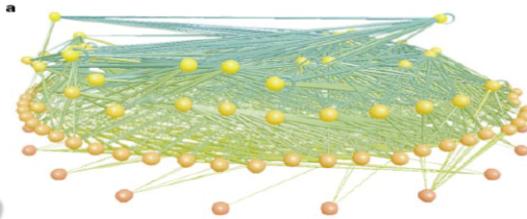


*First Stylized Fact: Multi-component Systems often have power-laws & “heavy tails”*

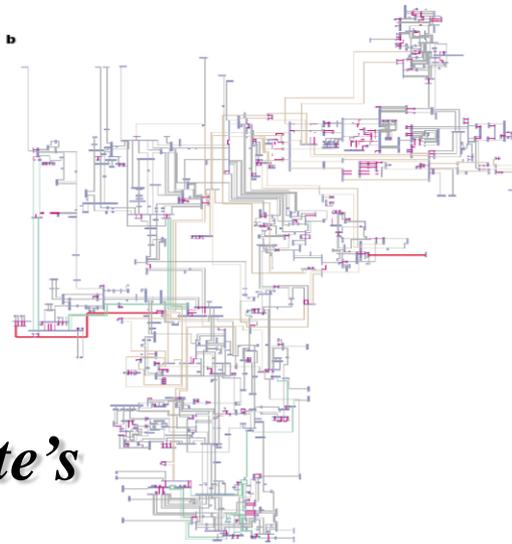


# Second Stylized Fact: Networks are Ubiquitous

## Food Web

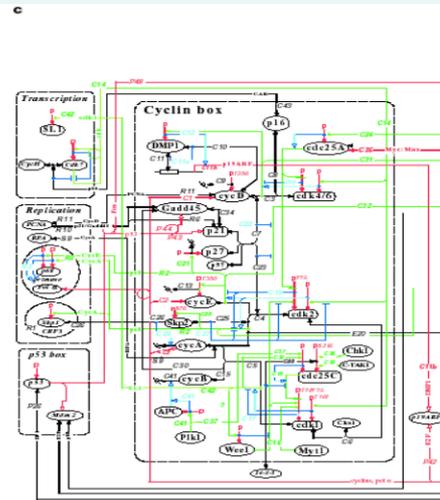


## New York state's Power Grid



**Figure 1** Wiring diagrams for complex networks. **a**, Food web of Little Rock Lake, Wisconsin, currently the largest food web in the primary literature<sup>8</sup>. Nodes are functionally distinct "trophic species" containing all taxa that share the same set of predators and prey. Height indicates trophic level with mostly phytoplankton at the bottom and fishes at the top. Cannibalism is shown with self-loops, and omnivory (feeding on more than one trophic level) is shown by different coloured links to consumers. (Figure provided by N. D. Martinez). **b**, New York State electric power grid. Generators and substations are shown as small blue bars. The lines connecting them are transmission lines and transformers. Line thickness and colour indicate the voltage level: red, 765 kV and 500 kV; brown, 345 kV; green, 230 kV; grey, 138 kV and below. Pink dashed lines are transformers. (Figure provided by J. Thorp and H. Wang). **c**, A portion of the molecular interaction map for the regulatory network that controls the mammalian cell cycle<sup>9</sup>. Colours indicate different types of interactions: black, binding interactions and stoichiometric conversions; red, covalent modifications and gene expression; green, enzyme actions; blue, stimulations and inhibitions. (Reproduced from Fig. 6a in ref. 6, with permission. Figure provided by K. Kohn.)

## Molecular Interaction



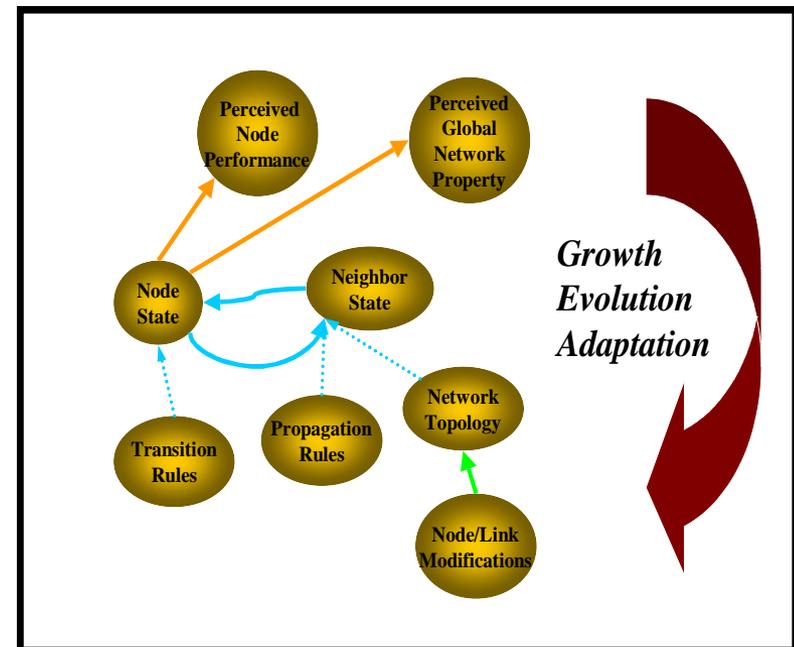
Illustrations of natural and constructed network systems from Strogatz [2001].

# Generalized Method: Networks of Entities

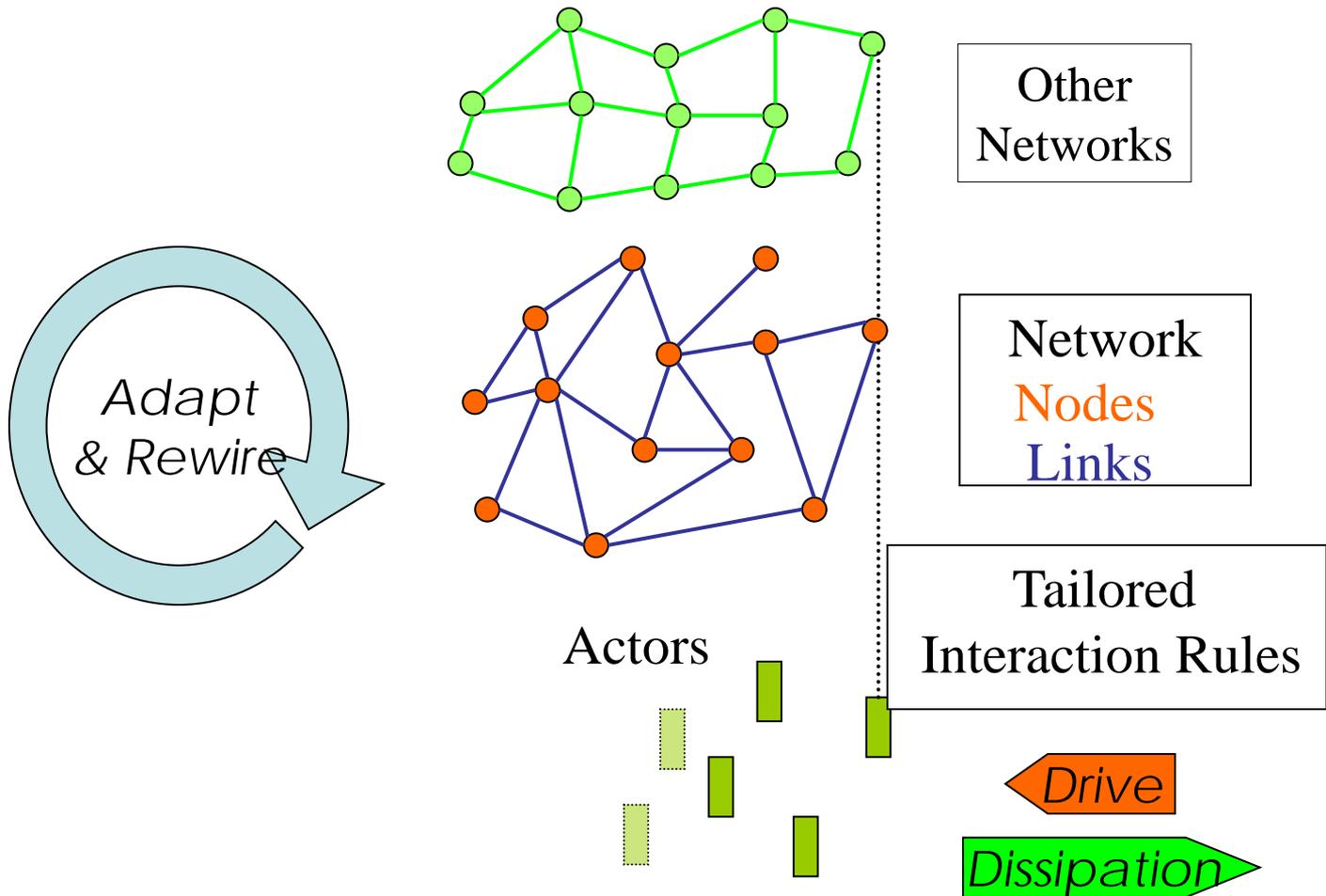
Take any system and Abstract as:

- Nodes (“Entities” with a variety of “types”)
- Links or “connections” to other nodes (with a variety of “modes”)
- Local rules for Nodal and Link behavior
- Local Adaptation of Behavioral Rules
- “Global” forcing from Policy

Connect nodes appropriately to form a system (network)  
Connect systems appropriately to form a System of Systems

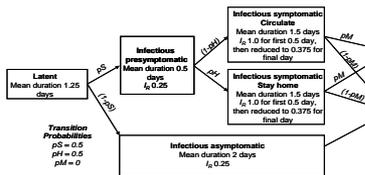
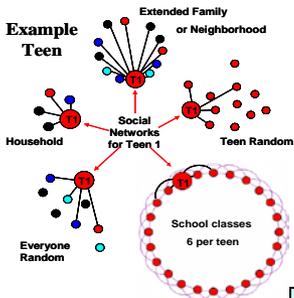


# Graphical Depiction: Networked Entities

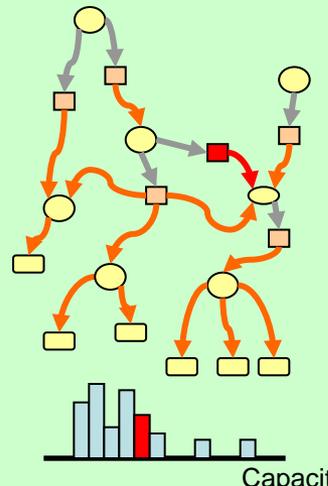


# NISAC Applications

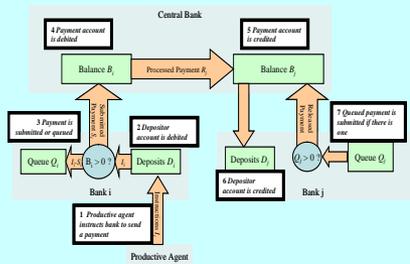
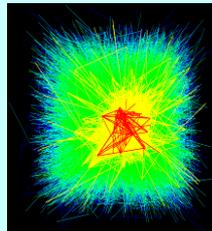
## Infectious Disease Spread



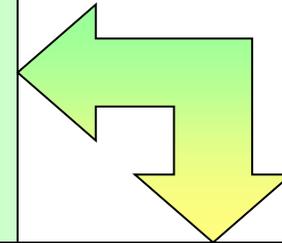
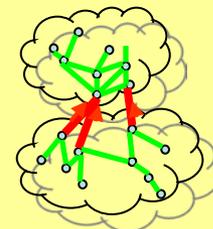
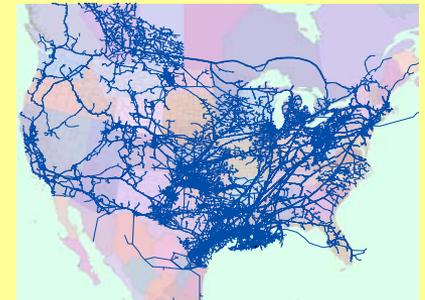
## Petrochemical Interdependencies



## Banking Interactions



## Natural Gas Transmission



# Engineering within a CASoS: Example

Three years ago on Halloween NISAC got a call from DHS. Public health officials worldwide were afraid that the H5NI “avian flu” virus would jump species and become a pandemic like the one in 1918 that killed 50M people worldwide.

**Pandemic now. No Vaccine,  
No antiviral. What could we  
do to avert the carnage?**



*Chickens being burned in Hanoi*

# Definition of the CASoS

- **System: Global transmission network composed of person to person interactions beginning from the point of origin (within coughing distance, touching each other or surfaces...)**
- **System of Systems: People belong to and interact within many groups: Households, Schools, Workplaces, Transport (local to regional to global), etc., and health care systems, corporations and governments place controls on interactions at larger scales...**
- **Complex: many, many similar components (Billions of people on planet) and groups**
- **Adaptive: each culture has evolved different social interaction processes, each will react differently and adapt to the progress of the disease, this in turn causes the change in the pathway and even the genetic make-up of the virus**

**HUGE UNCERTAINTY**

# Analogy with other Complex Systems

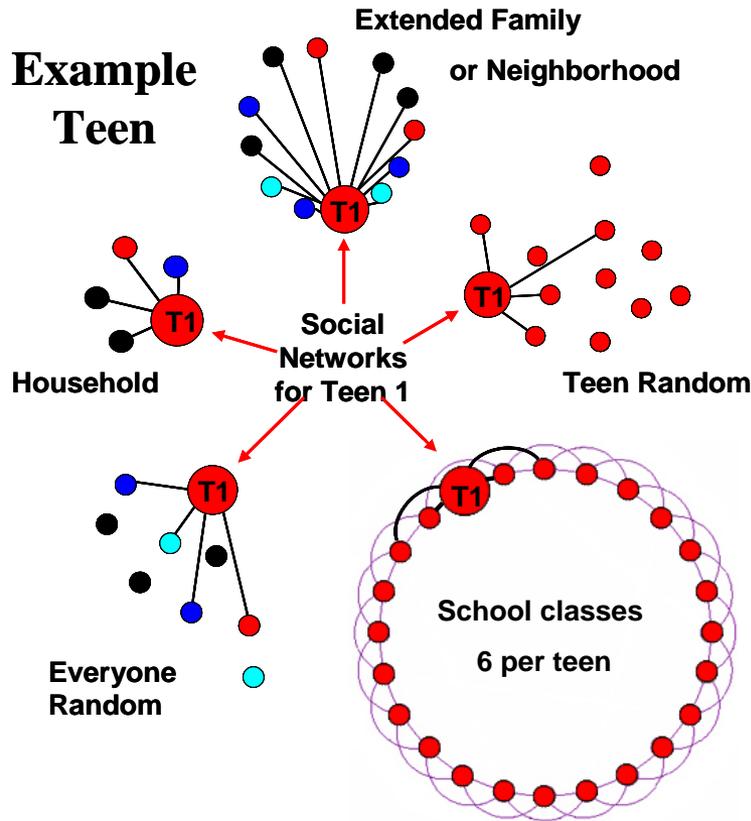
Simple analog:

- **Forest fires: You can *build fire breaks* based on where people throw cigarettes... or you can *thin the forest* so no that matter where a cigarette is thrown, a percolating fire (like an epidemic) will not burn.**

Aspirations:

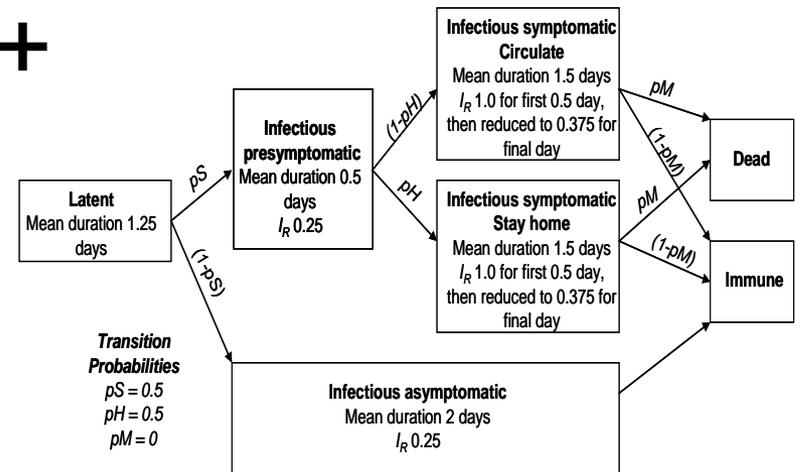
- **Could we target the social network within individual communities and thin it?**
- **Could we thin it intelligently so as to minimize impact and keep the economy rolling?**

# Application of Networked Agent Method



Disease manifestation  
(node and link behavior)

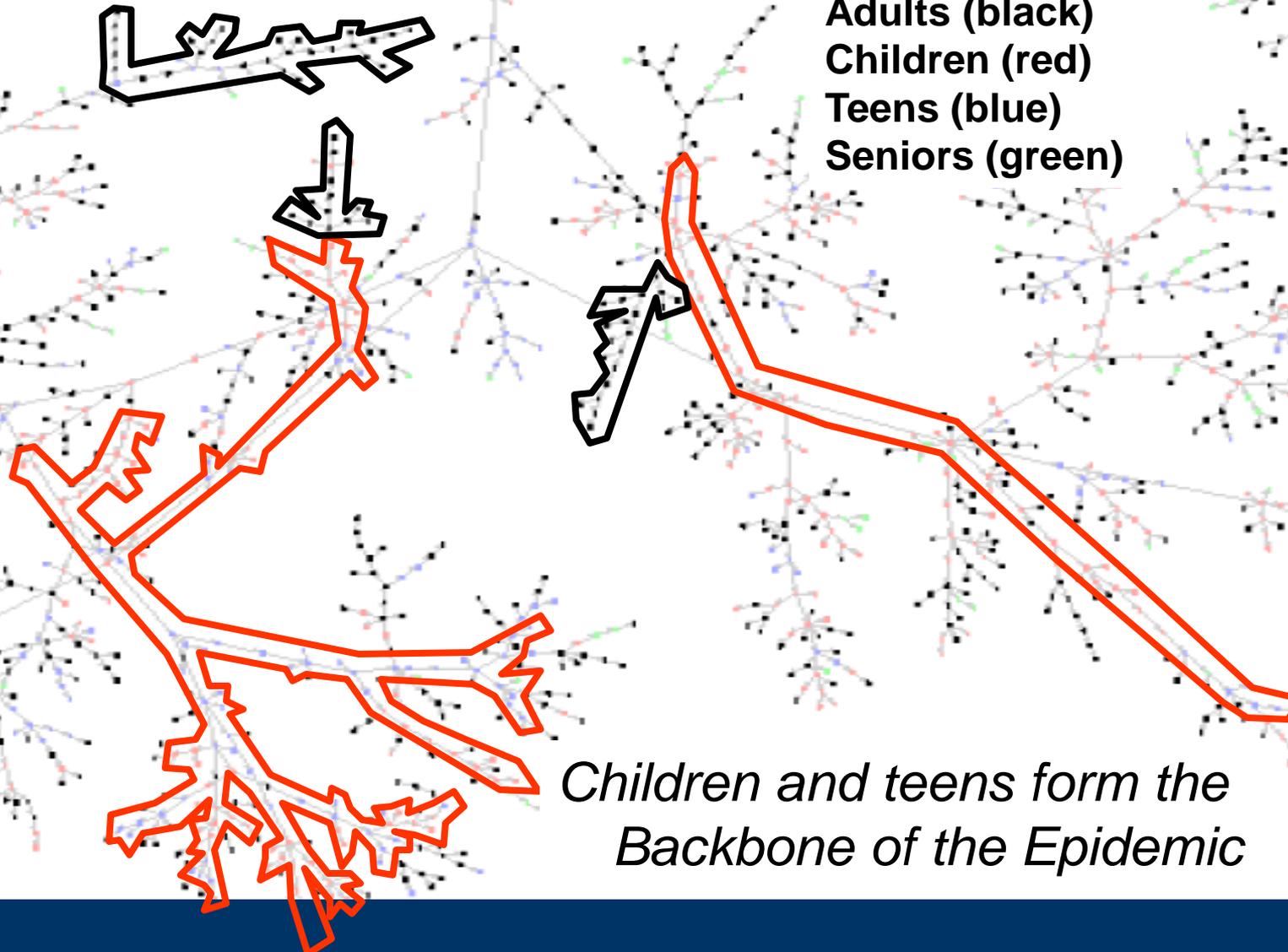
+



Stylized Social Network  
(nodes, links, frequency of interaction)

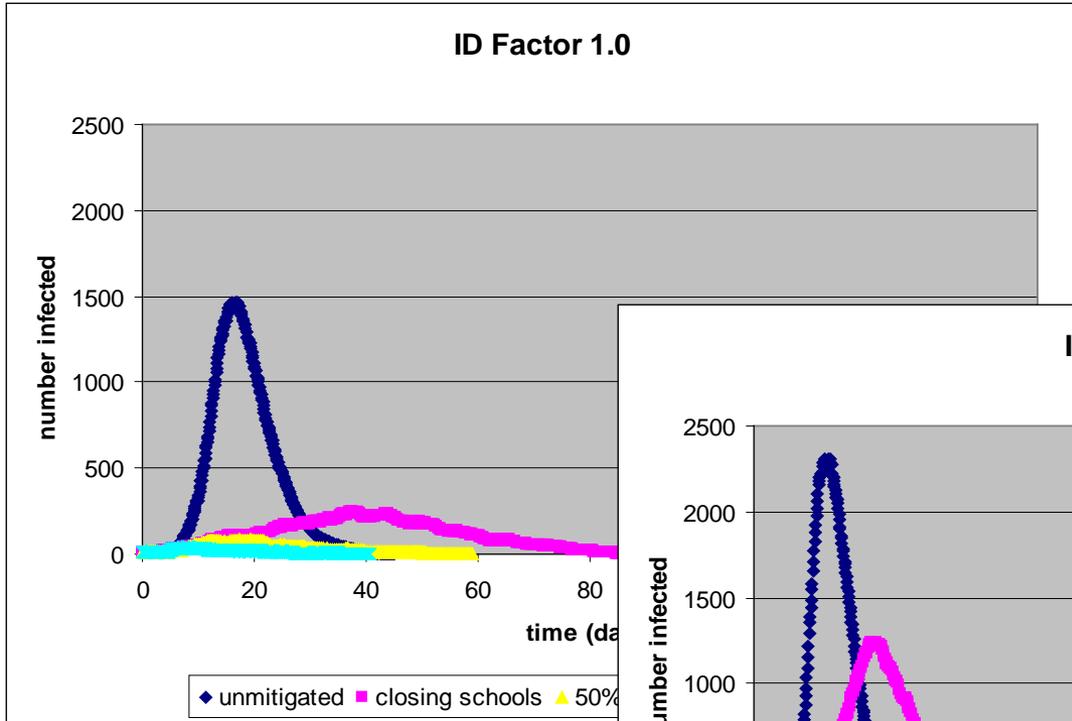
# Network of Infectious Contacts

Adults (black)  
Children (red)  
Teens (blue)  
Seniors (green)

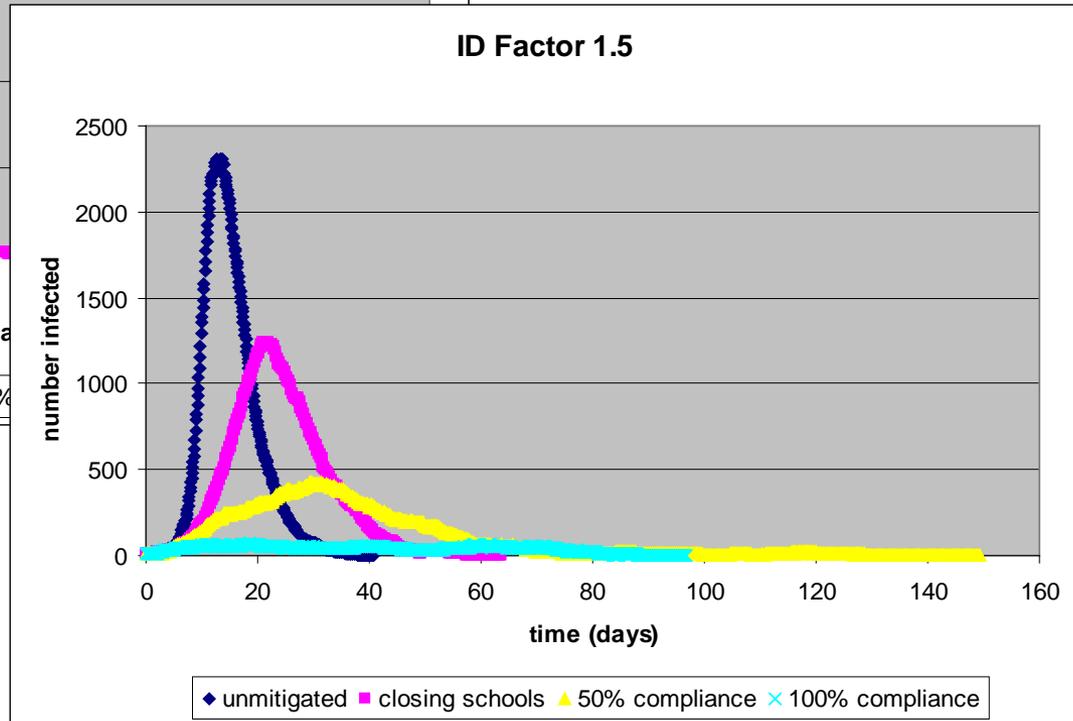


*Children and teens form the Backbone of the Epidemic*

# Closing Schools and Keeping the Kids Home



1958-like



1918-like

# Worked with the HSC to formulate Public Policy

A year later...



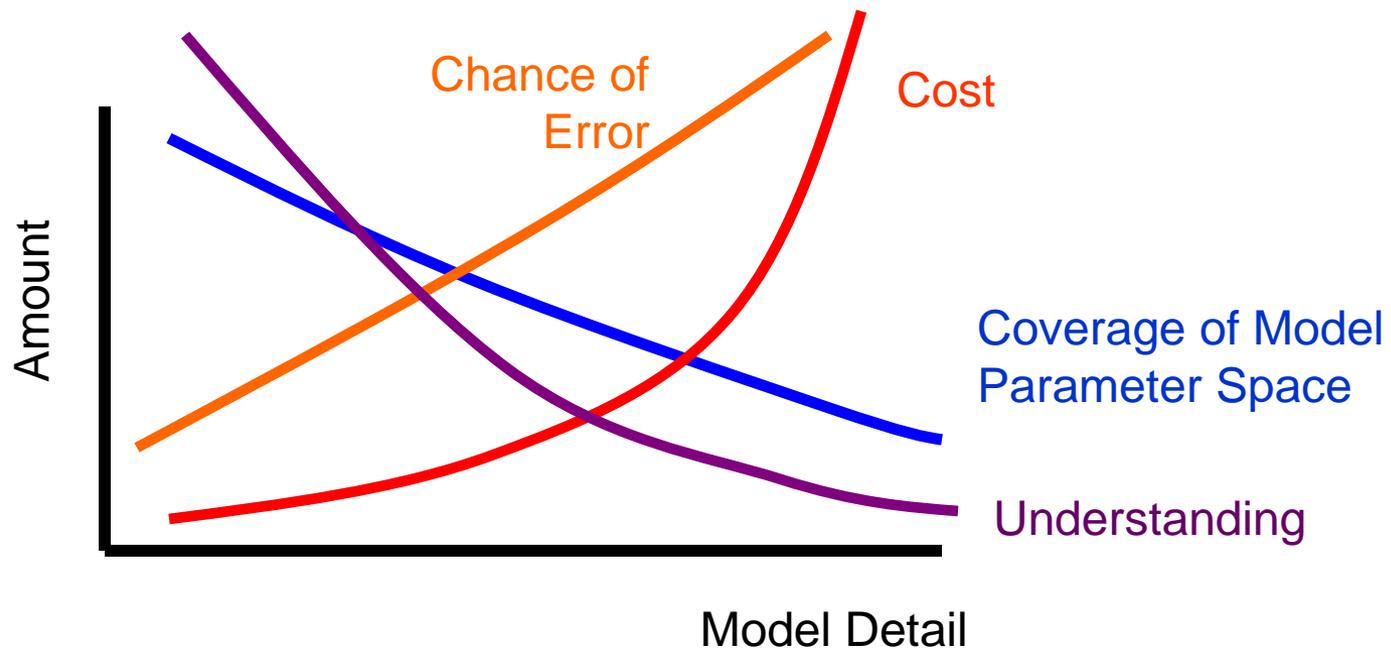
## Interim Pre-pandemic Planning Guidance: Community Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Mitigation in the United States—

Early, Targeted, Layered Use of Nonpharmaceutical Interventions





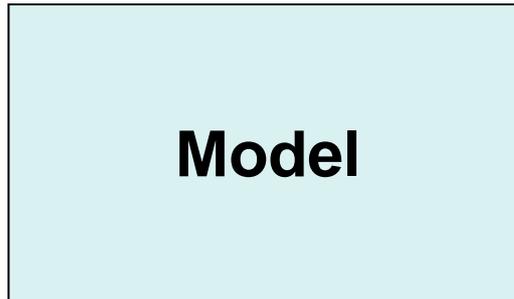
# Detail? More can be less



1. Recognize the tradeoff
2. Characterize the uncertainty with every model
3. Buy detail when and where its needed

# Uncertainty? Focus on robustness of Choice

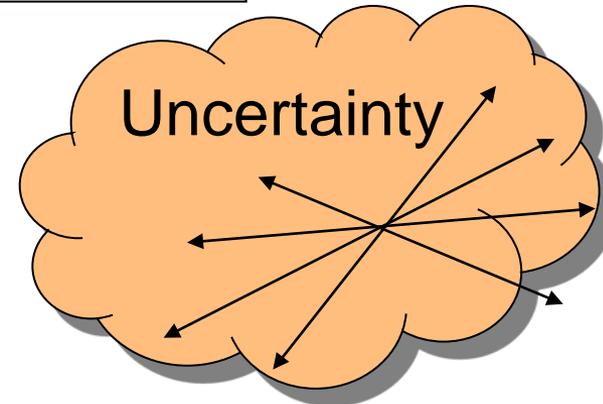
Policies or Actions



Measures of System Performance



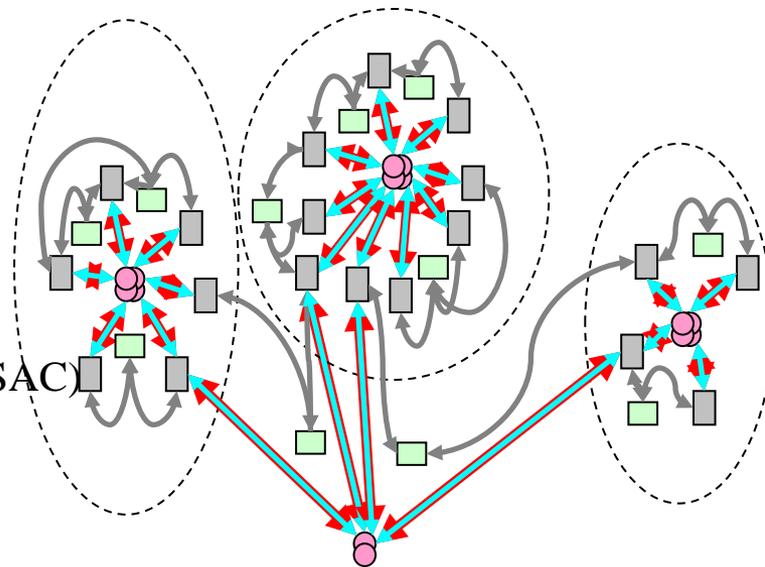
Rank Policies by Performance measures while varying parameters within expected bounds



“Best” policies are those that always rank high, their ***choice is robust to uncertainty***

# CASoS Engineering

- **Harnessing the tools and understanding of Complex Systems, Complex Adaptive Systems, and Systems of Systems to Engineer solutions for some of the worlds biggest, toughest problems: The CASoS Engineering Initiative**
- **Current efforts across a variety of Funders:**
  - Global Financial System (NISAC)
  - Global Energy System (DOE)
  - Health Care Systems (VA)
  - Cascading in Multi-Network Infrastructure (DOE)
  - Building out the critical national infrastructures (NISAC)





# Extra Slides

# What is a CASoS?

- **System:** A system is a set of entities, real or abstract, comprising a whole where each component interacts with or is related to at least one other component and that interact to accomplish some function. Individual components may pursue their own objectives, with or without the intention of contributing to the system function. Any object which has no relation with any other element of the system is not part of that system.
- **System of Systems:** The system is composed of other systems (“of systems”). The other systems are natural to think of as systems in their own right, can’t be replaced by a single entity, and may be enormously complicated.
- **Complex:** The system has behavior involving interrelationships among its elements and these interrelationships can yield emergent behavior that is nonlinear, of greater complexity than the sum of behaviors of its parts, not due to system complication.
- **Adaptive:** The system’s behavior changes in time. These changes may be within entities or their interaction, within sub-systems or their interaction, and may result in a change in the overall system’s behavior relative to its environment.

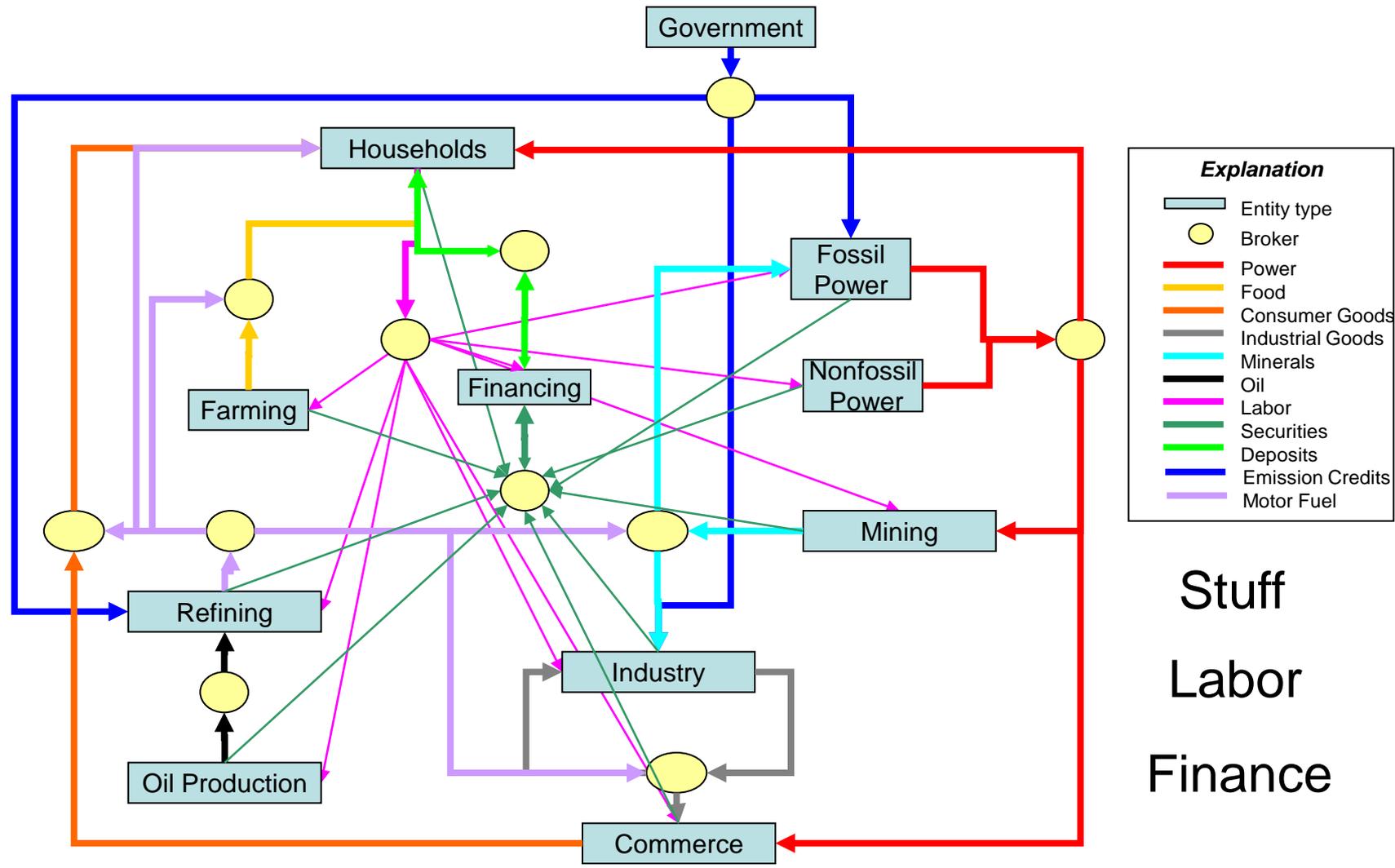


# General CASoS Engineering Framework

- Define
  - CASoS of interest and Aspirations,
  - Appropriate methods and theories (analogy, percolation, game theory, networks, agents...)
  - Appropriate conceptual models and required data
- Design and Test Solutions
  - What are *feasible choices* within multi-objective space,
  - How *robust* are these choices to uncertainties in assumptions, and
  - Critical enablers that increase system *resilience*
- Actualize Solutions within the Real World



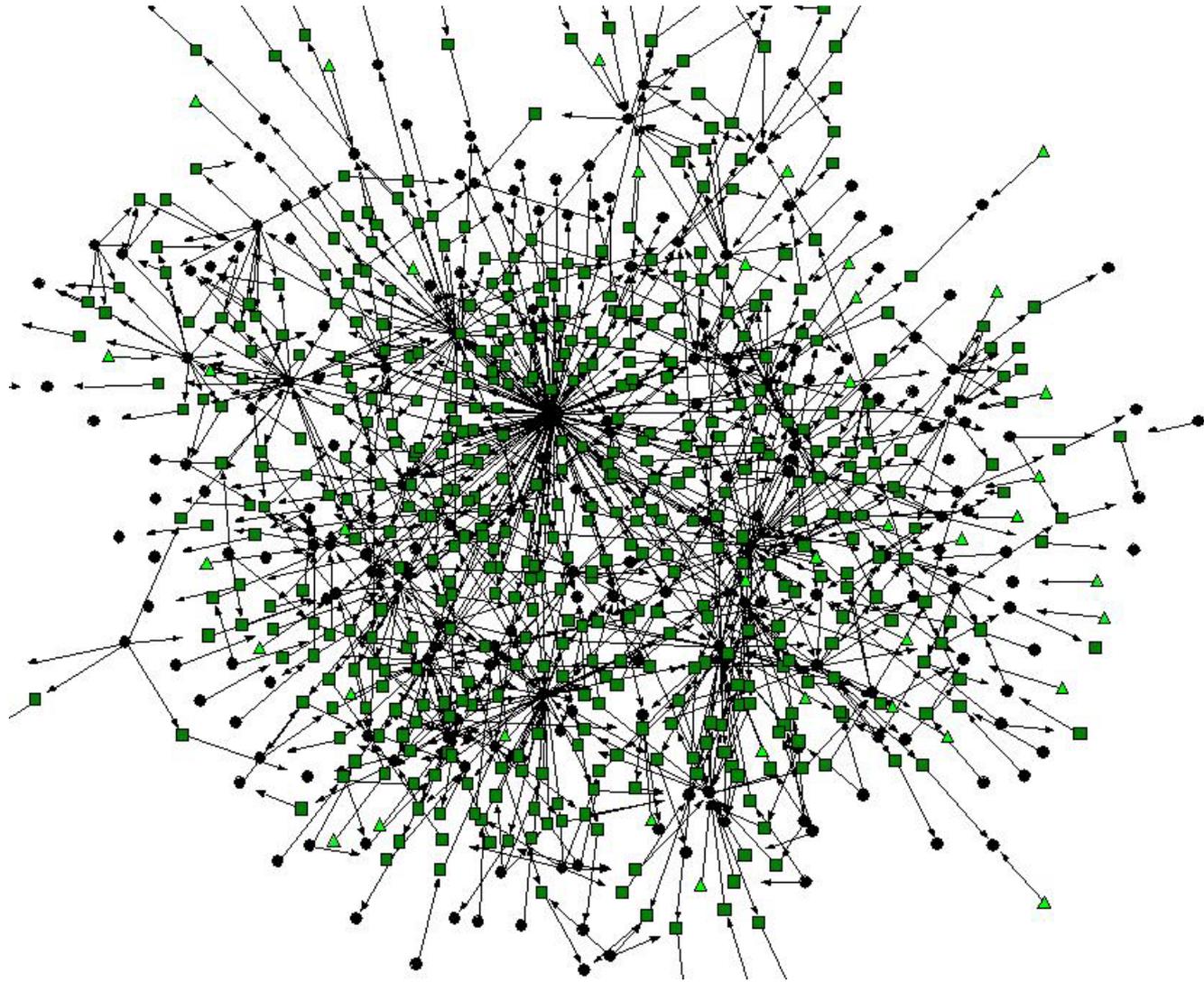
# Core Economy within Global Energy System



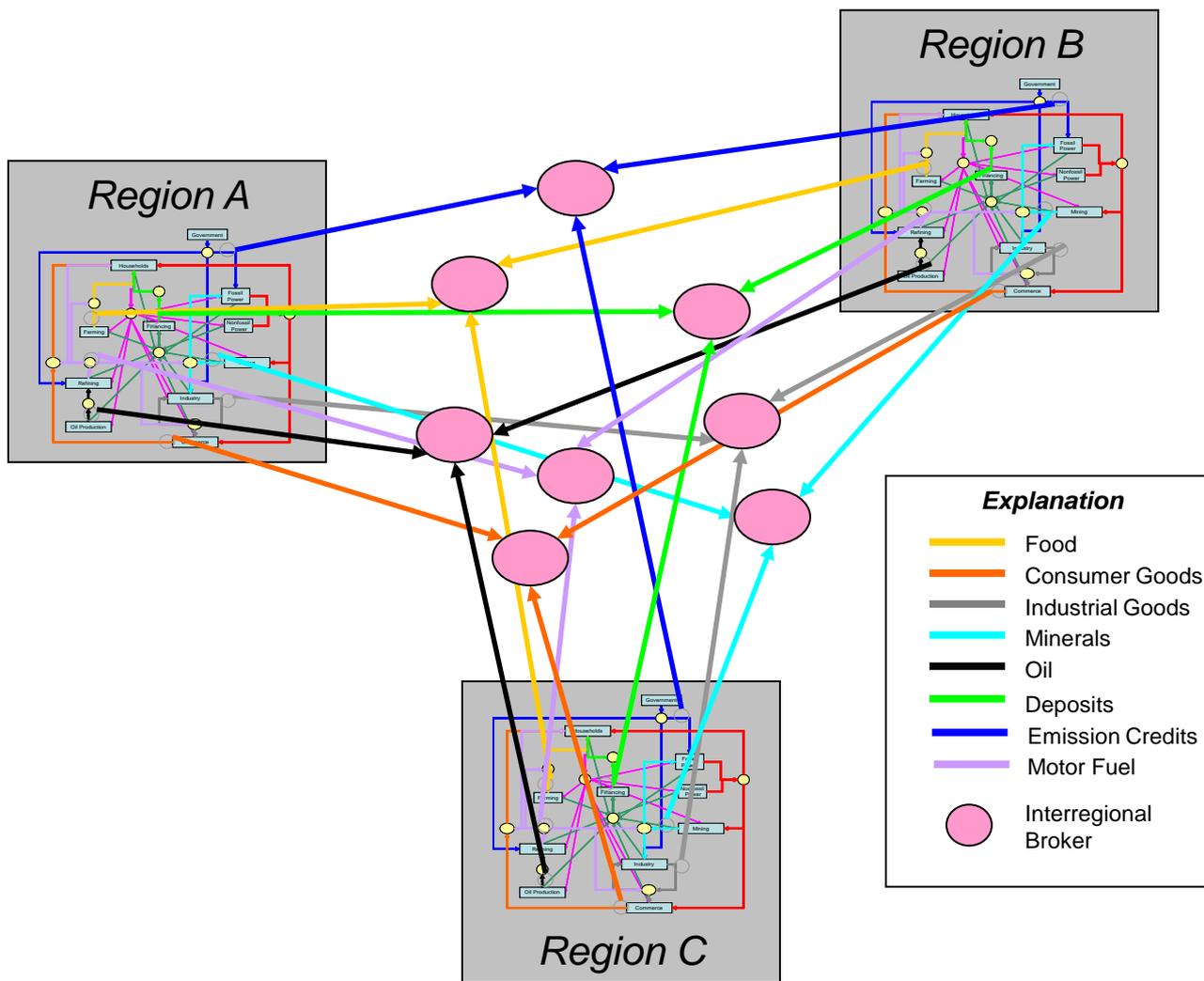
Explanation	
	Entity type
	Broker
	Power
	Food
	Consumer Goods
	Industrial Goods
	Minerals
	Oil
	Labor
	Securities
	Deposits
	Emission Credits
	Motor Fuel

Stuff  
Labor  
Finance

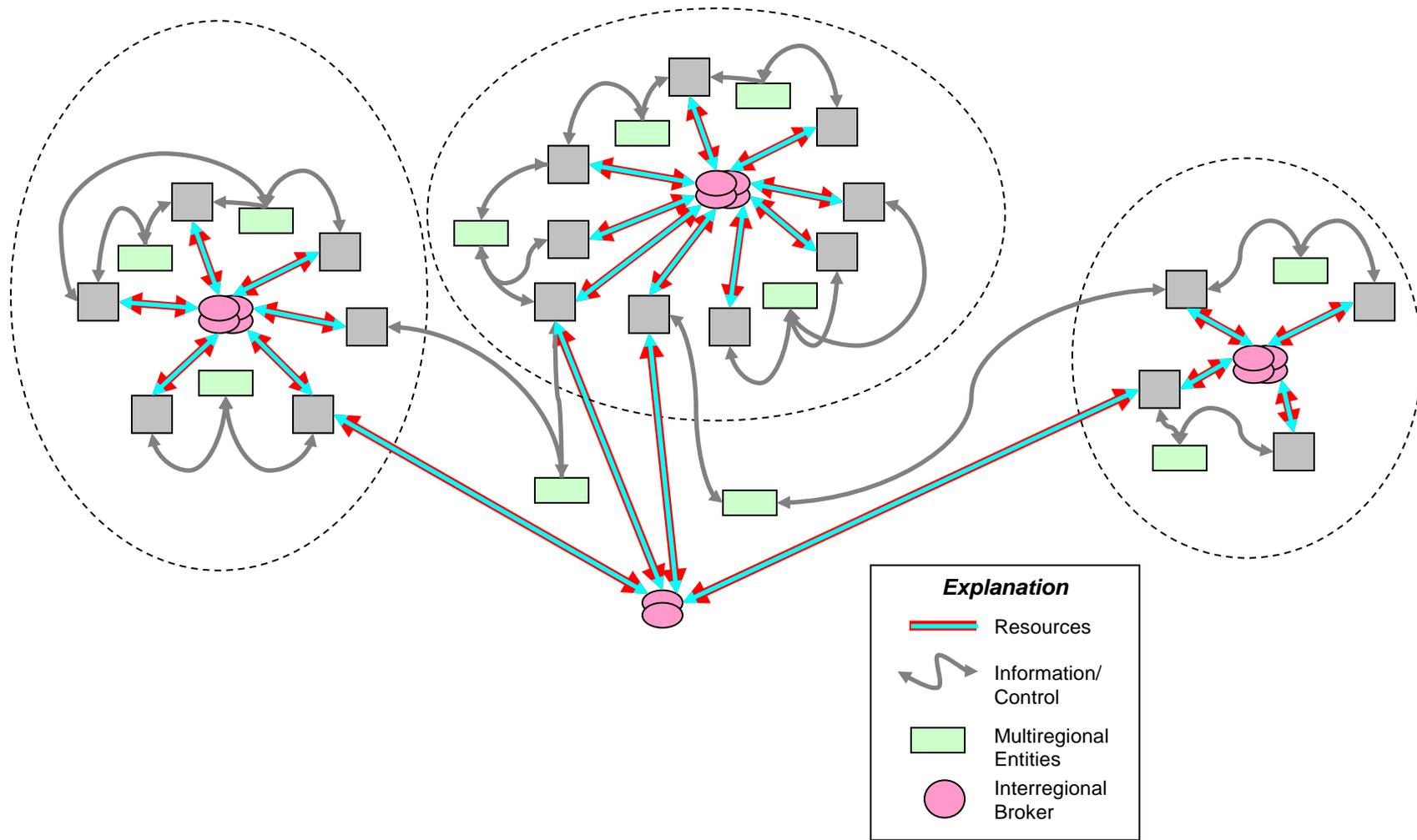
# Within an entity type...



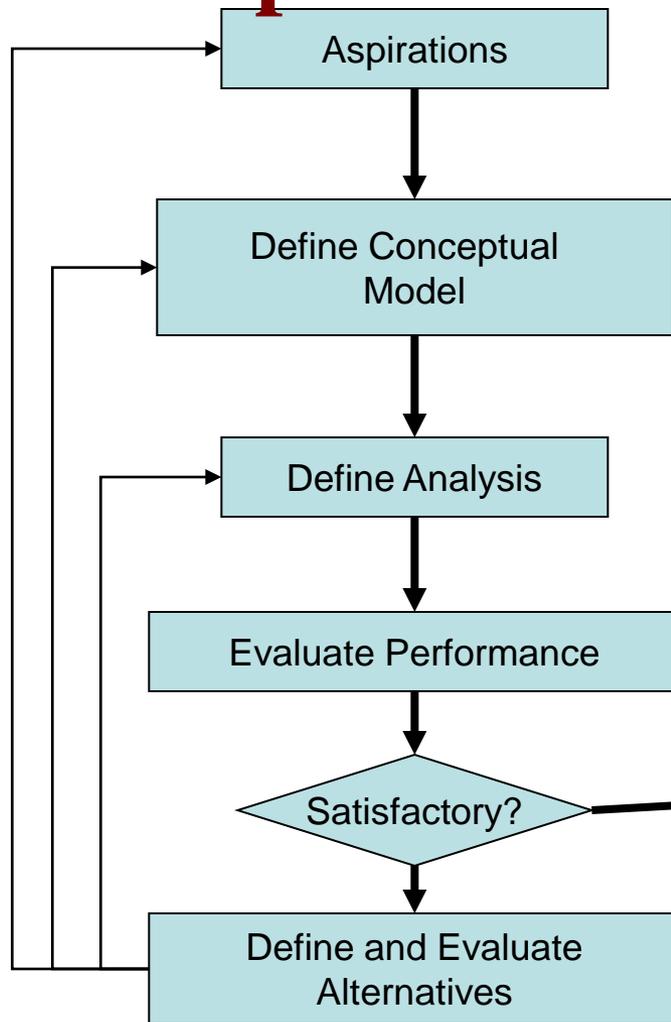
# Trading Blocks composed of Core Economies



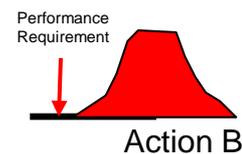
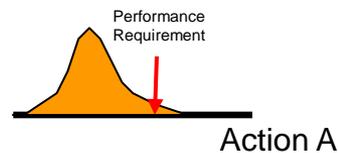
# Global Energy System



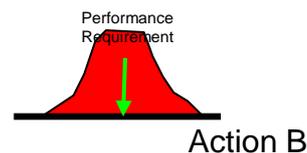
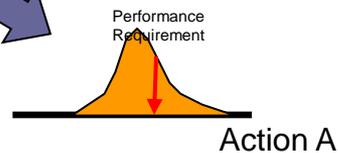
# Model development: an iterative process that uses uncertainty



Decision to refine the model  
Can be evaluated on the same  
Basis as other actions



Model uncertainty  
permits distinctions



Model uncertainty  
obscures important  
distinctions, and  
reducing uncertainty  
has value



# Many Examples of CASoS

- Tropical Rain forests
- Agro-Eco systems
- Cities and Megacities (and their ne
- Interdependent infrastr
- Government and politi  
energy systems (local to



# Extra NISAC Related

# Resolving Infrastructure Issues Today

**Each Critical Infrastructure Insures Its Own Integrity**



**Oil & Gas**



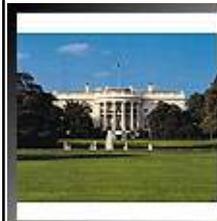
**Communica-  
tions**



**Water**



**Banking  
&  
Finance**



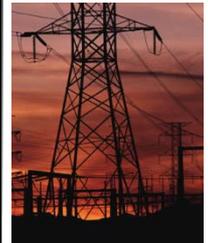
**Continuity  
of  
Gov. Services**



**Transpor-  
tation**



**Emergency  
Services**



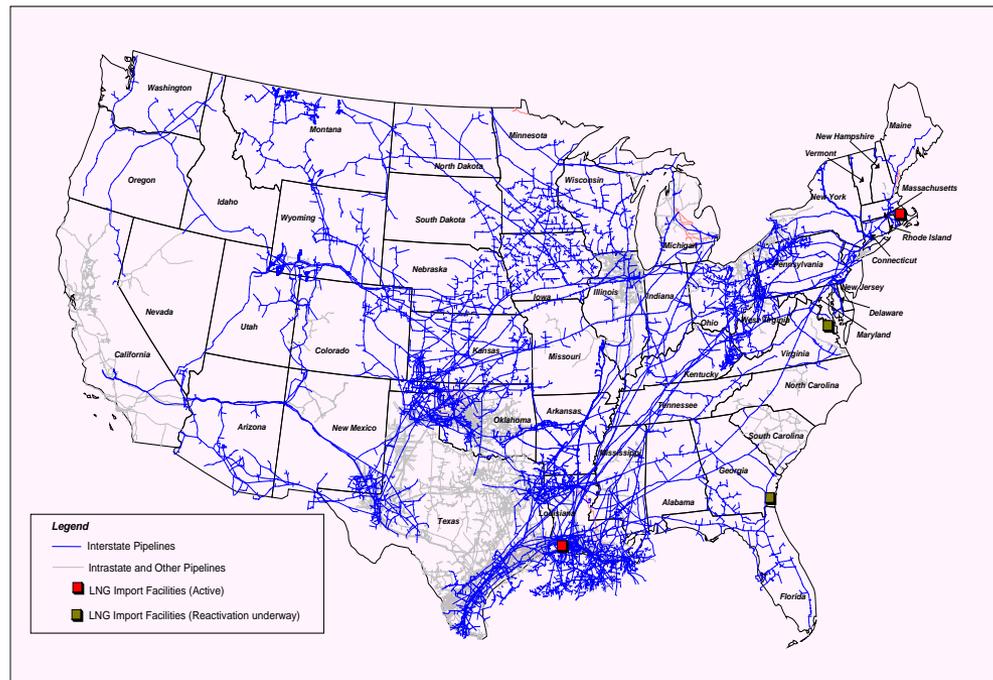
**Electric  
Power**

## **NISAC's Role:**

**Modeling, simulation, and analysis of critical infrastructures, their interdependencies, system complexities, disruption consequences**

# A Challenging if not Daunting Task

- Each individual infrastructure is complicated
- Interdependencies are extensive and poorly studied
- Infrastructure is largely privately owned, and data is difficult to acquire
- No single approach to analysis or simulation will address all of the issues



Source: Energy Information Administration, Office of Oil & Gas

**Active Refinery Locations,  
Crude and Product Pipelines**

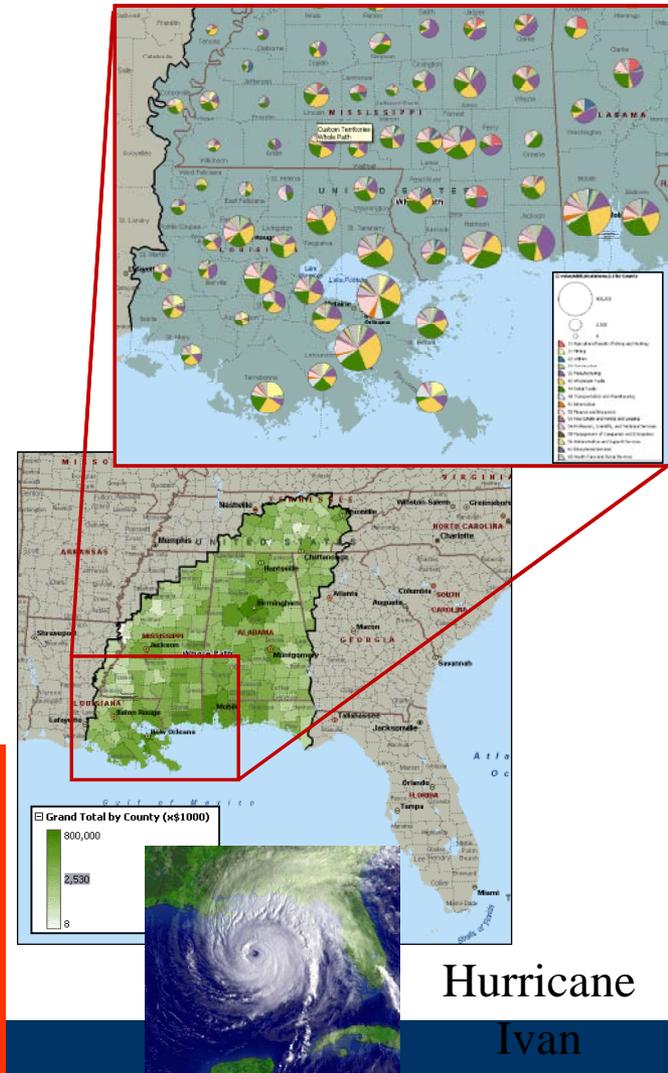
# Example Natural Disaster Analysis: Hurricanes

## Analyses:

- **Damage areas, severity, duration, restoration maps**
- **Projected economic damage**
  - Sectors, dollars
  - Direct, indirect, insured, uninsured
  - Economic restoration costs
- **Affected population**
- **Affected critical infrastructures**

## Focus of research:

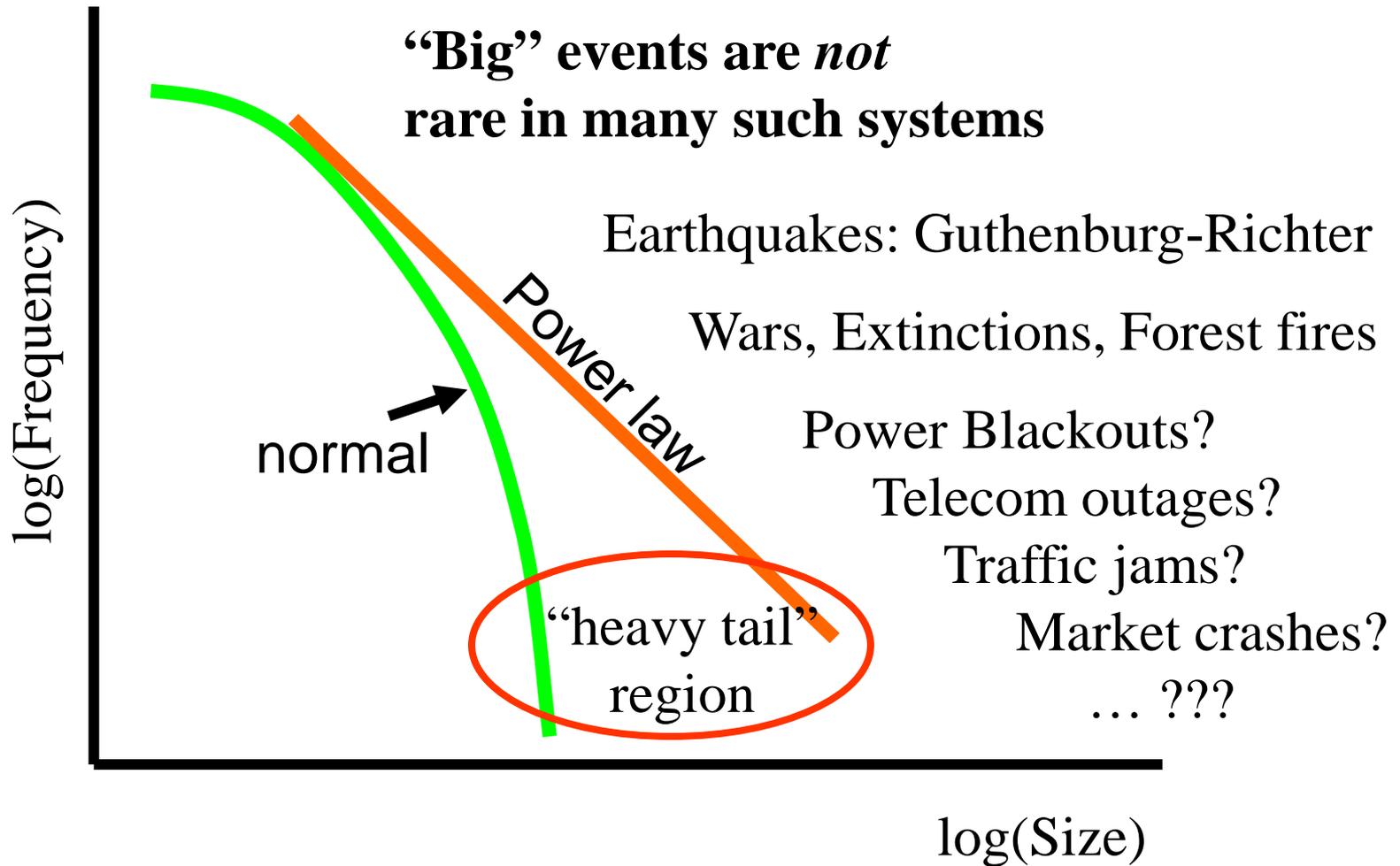
- **Comprehensive evaluation of threat**
- **Design of Robust Mitigation**
- **Evolving Resilience**



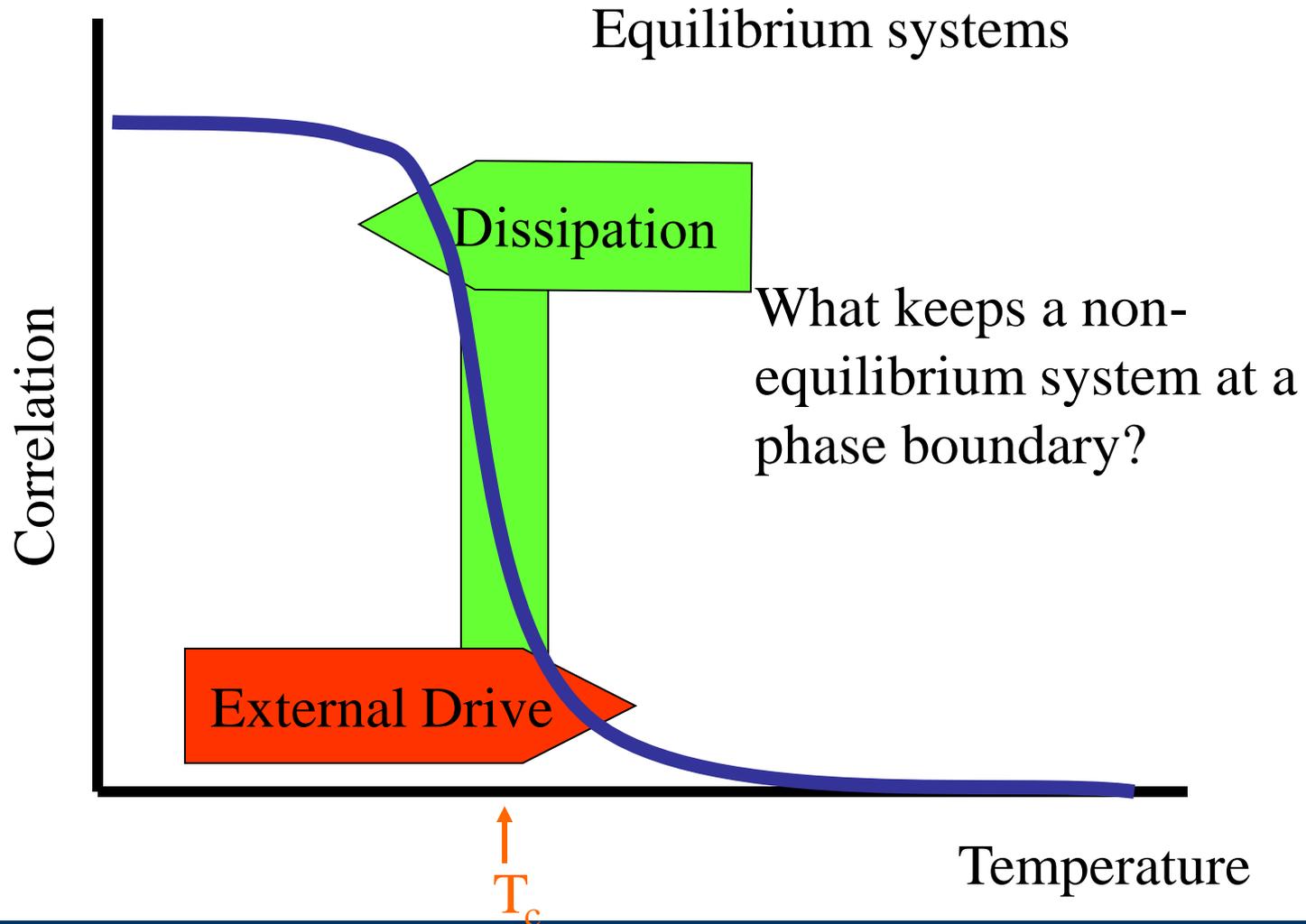
Hurricane  
Ivan

# Complexity Primer Slides

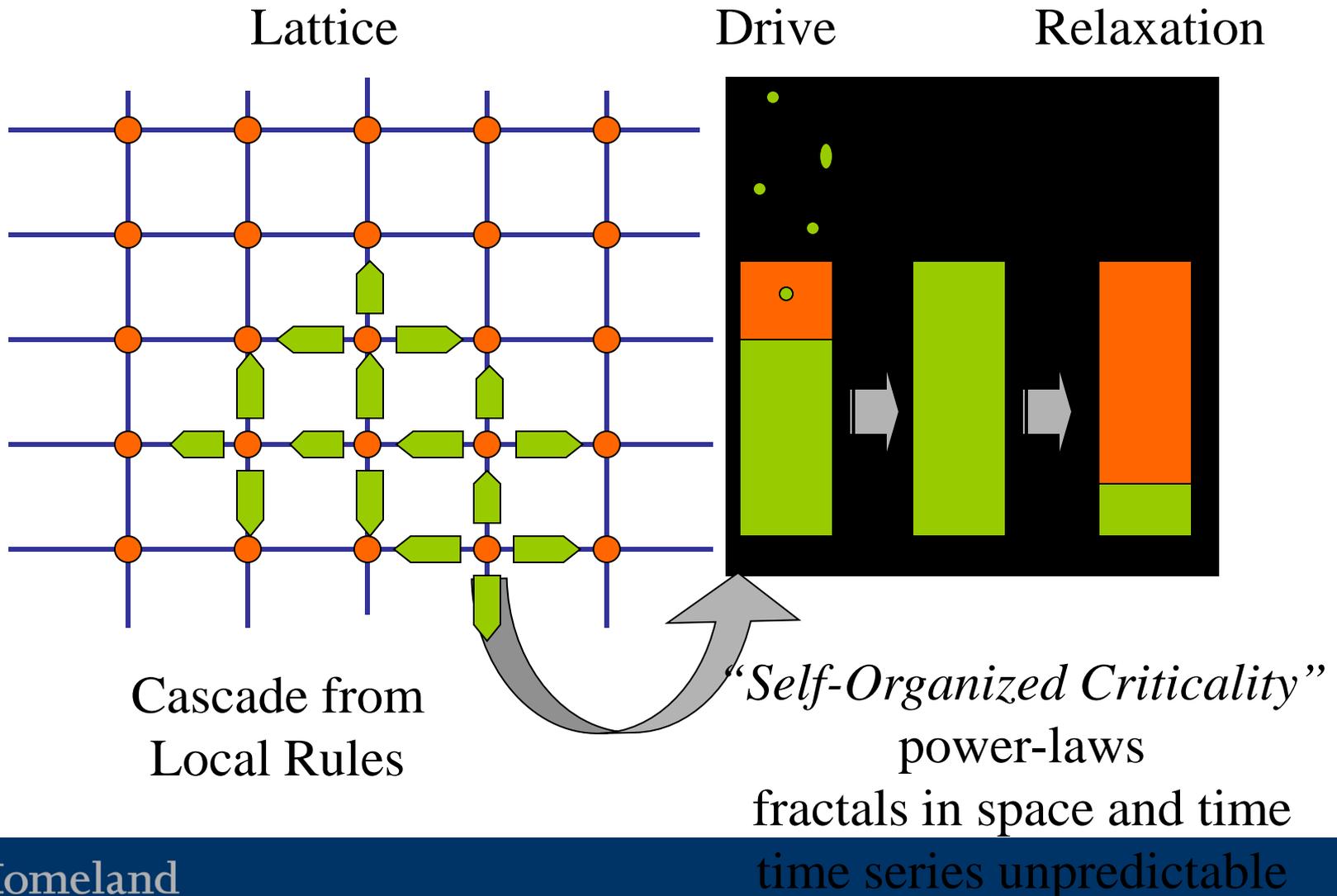
*First Stylized Fact: Multi-component Systems often have power-laws & “heavy tails”*



# *Power Law - Critical behavior - Phase transitions*

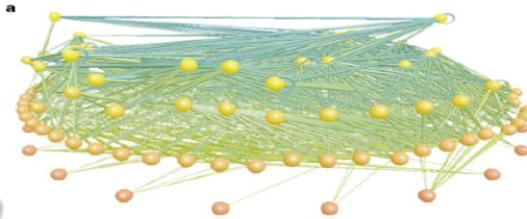


# 1987 Bak, Tang, Wiesenfeld's "Sand-pile" or "Cascade" Model



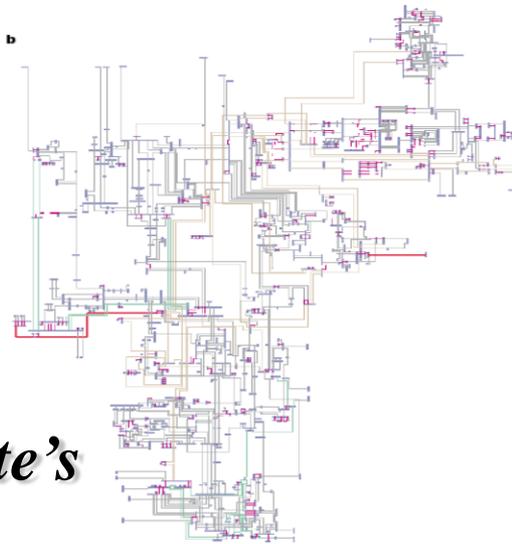
# *Second Stylized Fact: Networks are Ubiquitous in Nature and Infrastructure*

*Food Web*

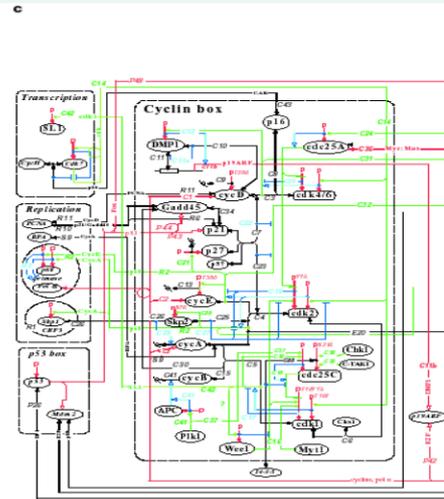


**Figure 1** Wiring diagrams for complex networks. **a**, Food web of Little Rock Lake, Wisconsin, currently the largest food web in the primary literature<sup>6</sup>. Nodes are functionally distinct “trophic species” containing all taxa that share the same set of predators and prey. Height indicates trophic level with mostly phytoplankton at the bottom and fishes at the top. Cannibalism is shown with self-loops, and omnivory (feeding on more than one trophic level) is shown by different coloured links to consumers. (Figure provided by N. D. Martinez). **b**, New York State electric power grid. Generators and substations are shown as small blue bars. The lines connecting them are transmission lines and transformers. Line thickness and colour indicate the voltage level: red, 765 kV and 500 kV; brown, 345 kV; green, 230 kV; grey, 138 kV and below. Pink dashed lines are transformers. (Figure provided by J. Thorp and H. Wang). **c**, A portion of the molecular interaction map for the regulatory network that controls the mammalian cell cycle<sup>6</sup>. Colours indicate different types of interactions: black, binding interactions and stoichiometric conversions; red, covalent modifications and gene expression; green, enzyme actions; blue, stimulations and inhibitions. (Reproduced from Fig. 6a in ref. 6, with permission. Figure provided by K. Kohn.)

*New York state's Power Grid*

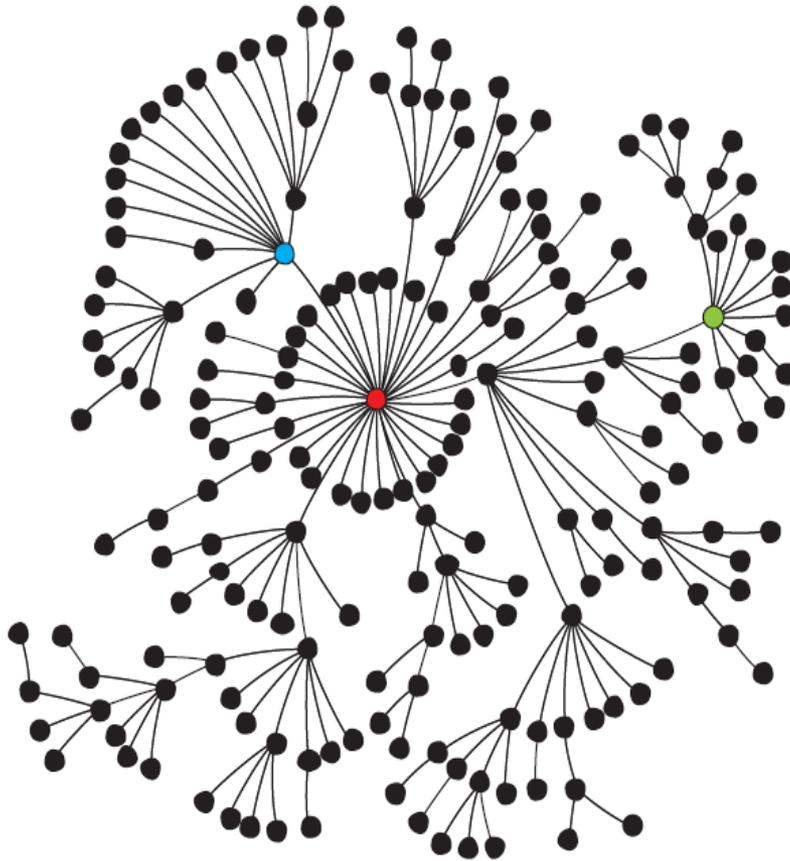


*Molecular Interaction*



Illustrations of natural and constructed network systems from Strogatz [2001].

# *1999 Barabasi and Albert's "Scale-free" network*



Simple Preferential attachment model:  
“*rich get richer*”  
yields  
Hierarchical structure  
with  
“King-pin” nodes

**Properties:**  
tolerant to random  
failure...  
vulnerable to  
informed attack

