



Energy-transfer dynamics of photosystems

Eunchul Kim^{1,2)†}

Daekyung Lee^{3)†}

Souichi Sakamoto^{4)†}

Ju-Yeon Ho^{4,7)}

Mauricio Vargas⁵⁾

Akihito Ishizaki^{4,6)*}

Jun Minagawa^{1,2)*}

Heetae Kim^{3)*}

†equally contributed

*corresponding author



1)



2,6)



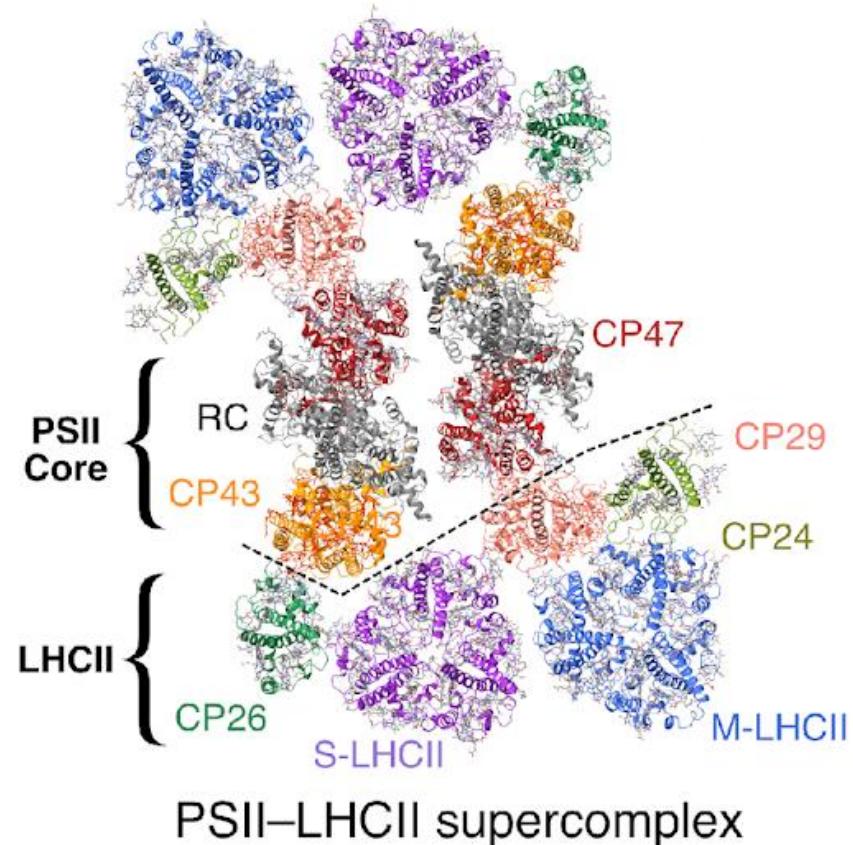
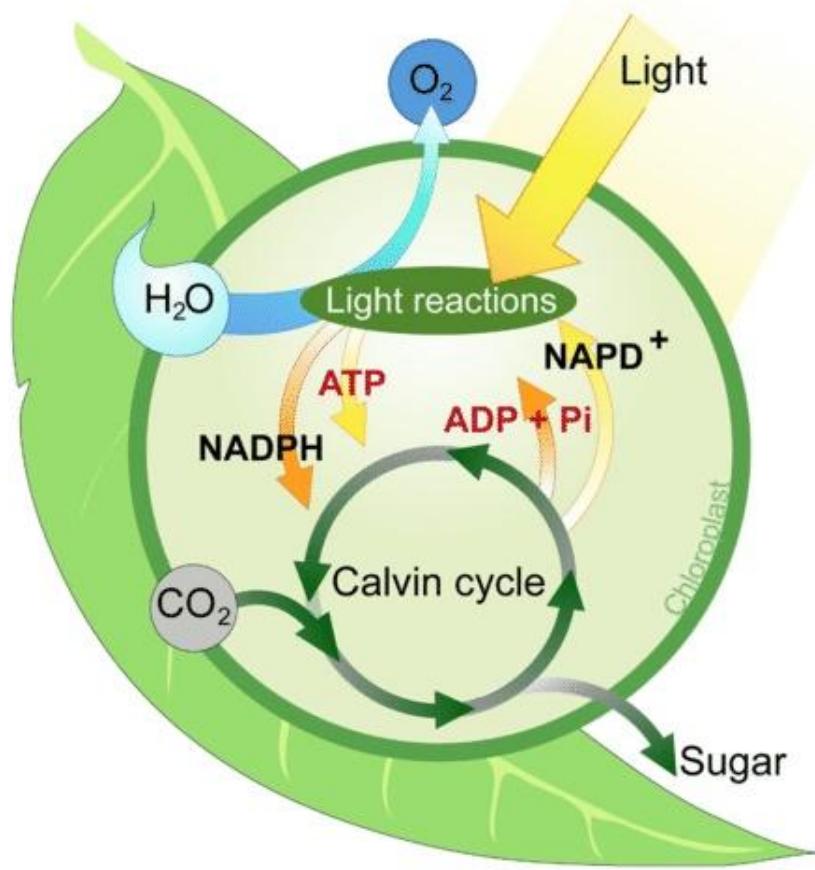
5)



3)



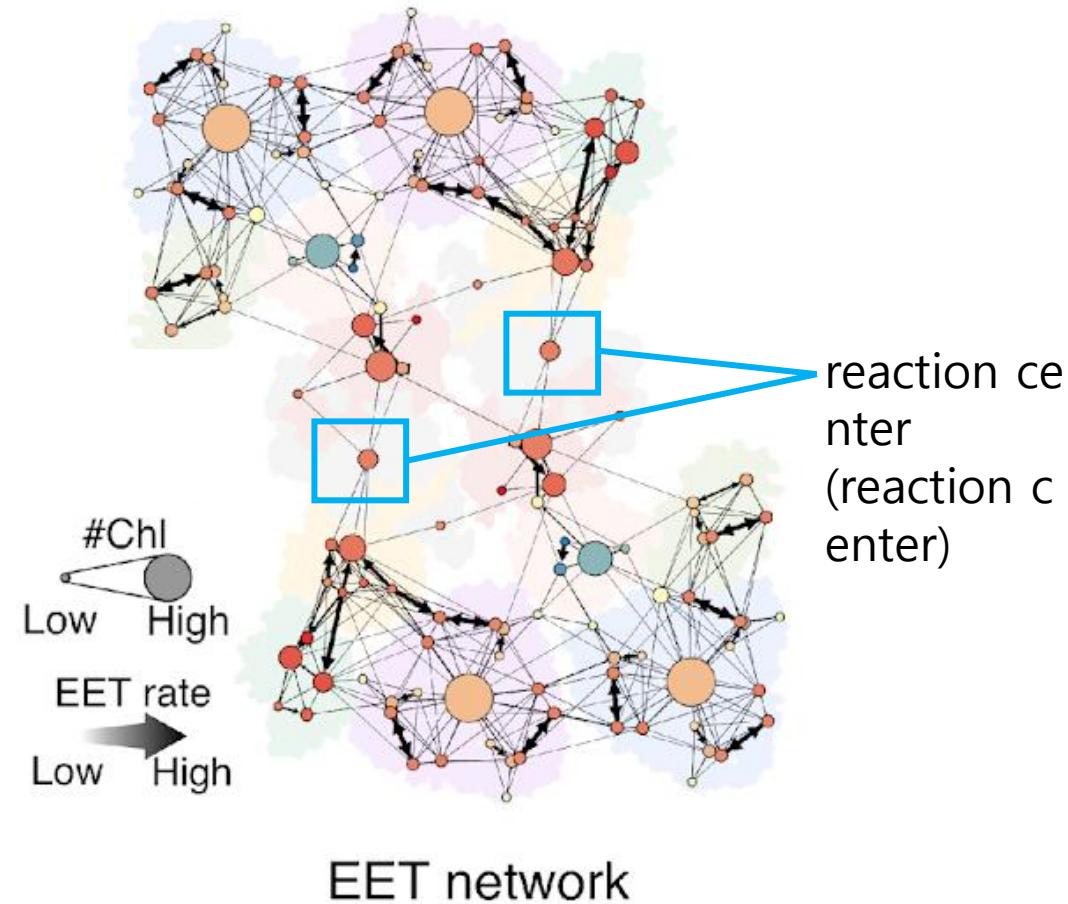
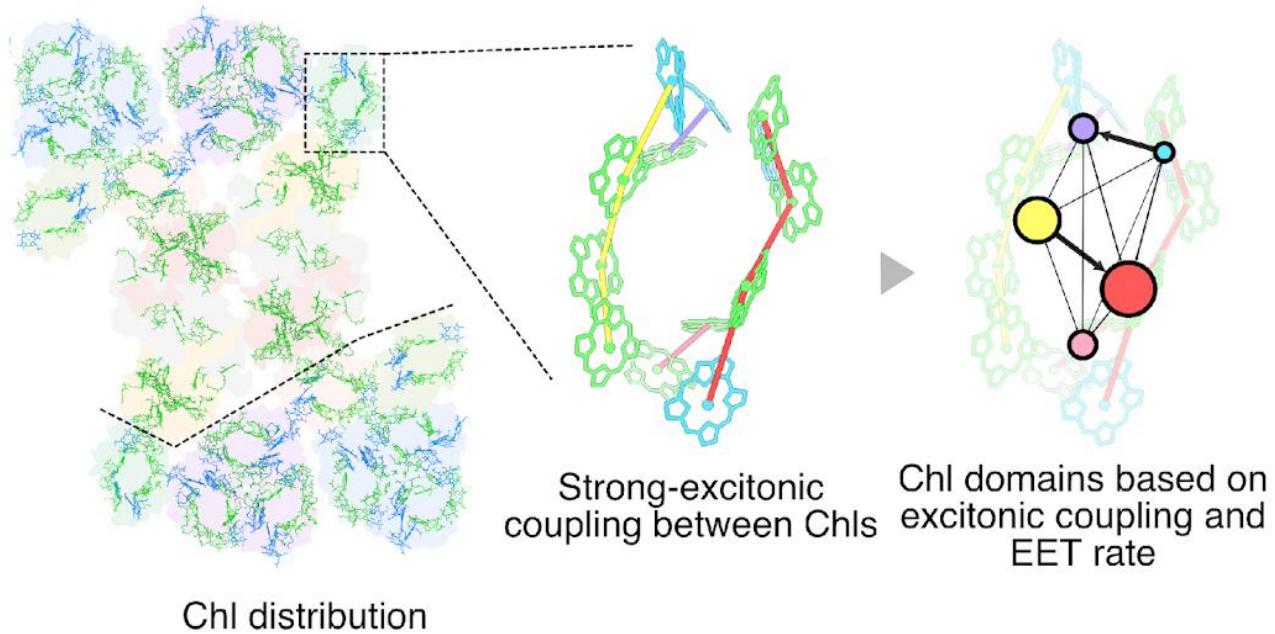
7)



- Functional and structural unit of protein complexes that carry out photosynthesis: photosystem
- Photosystem II: A system that transfers light energy to the next process in the form of excited electrons.
- Forms a network structure of various layers through the combination of chlorophyll

Photosystem II Network

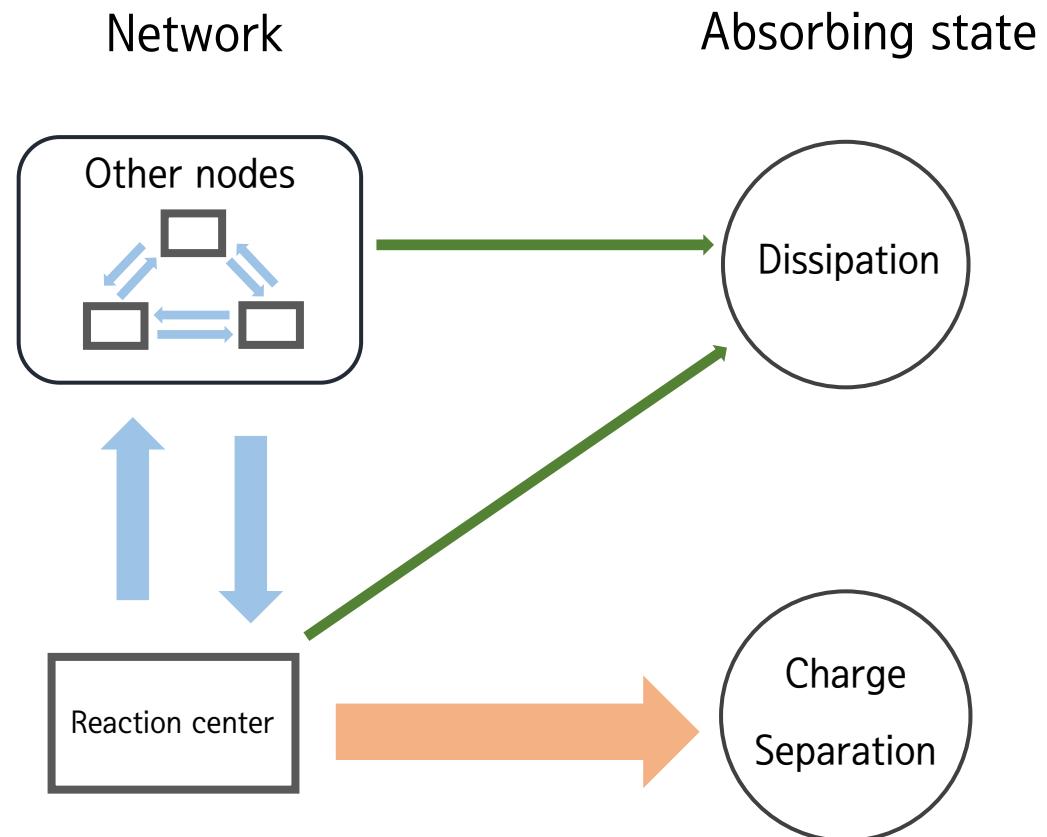
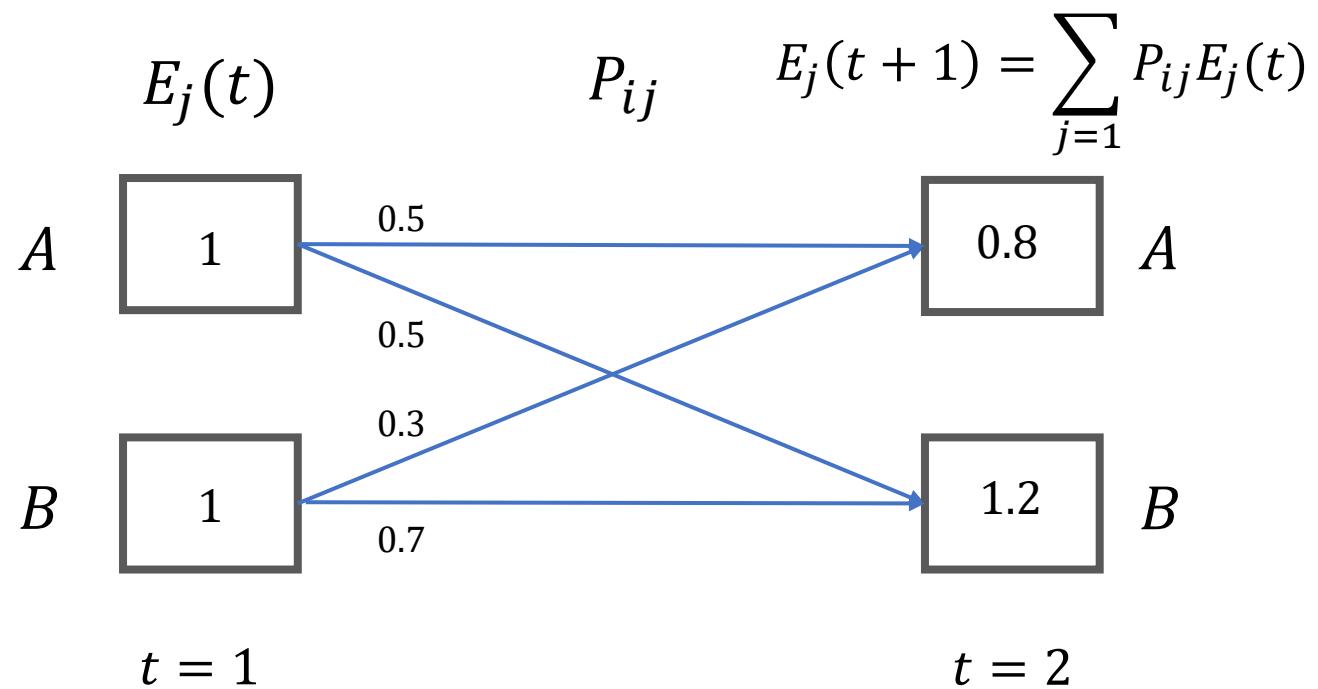
Introduction



- The basic unit of a Photosystem II network: Domain
- Individual domains made up of multiple chlorophylls are defined as nodes
- The light energy absorbed by each node moves to the reaction center and is transmitted through the network structure.

Absorbing Markov process

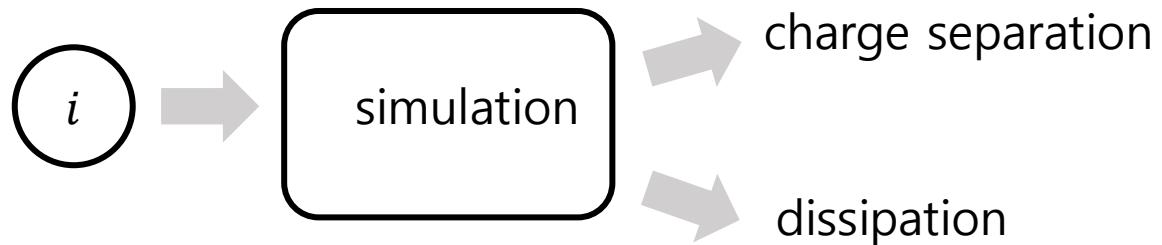
Method



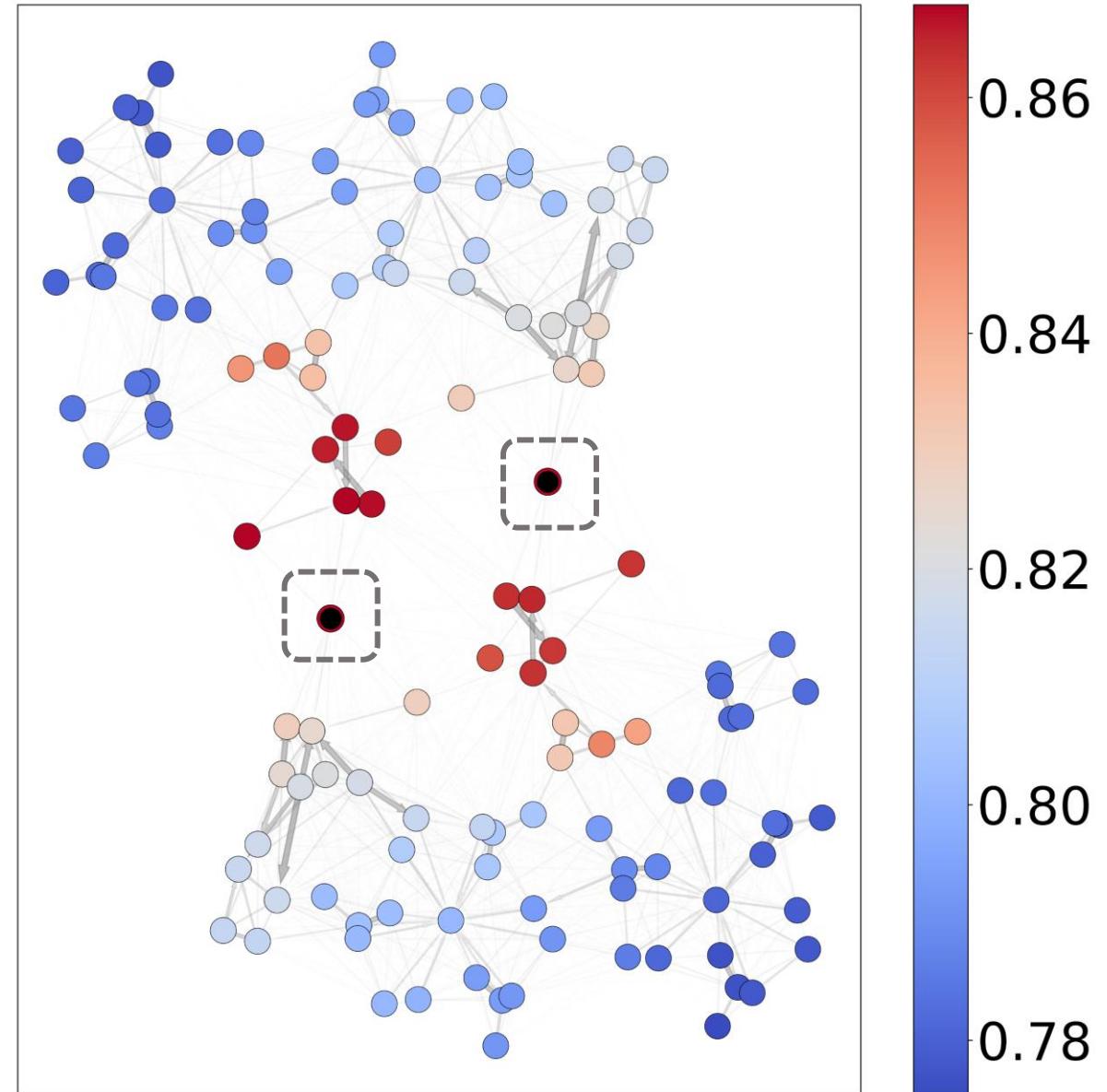
- Energy transfer process in photosynthetic networks: Markov process
- The energy of each node changes depending on the transition probability at every time step (0.2 ps).
- At each step, a portion of the total energy is lost, and a portion of the energy in reaction center is transferred.

Yield of individual nodes

Analysis

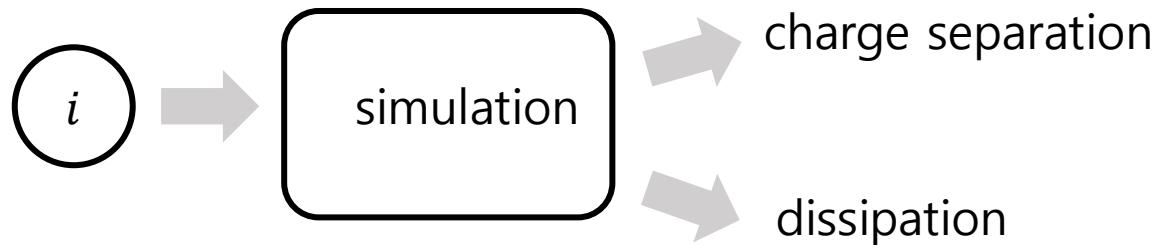


- Goal: analyze energy transfer in the photosynthetic network
- Inject energy into each node and measure the fraction reaching the RC
- Node color: final energy efficiency (used energy/total energy)
- Link color and direction: net transfer probability ($P_{ij} - P_{ji}$)

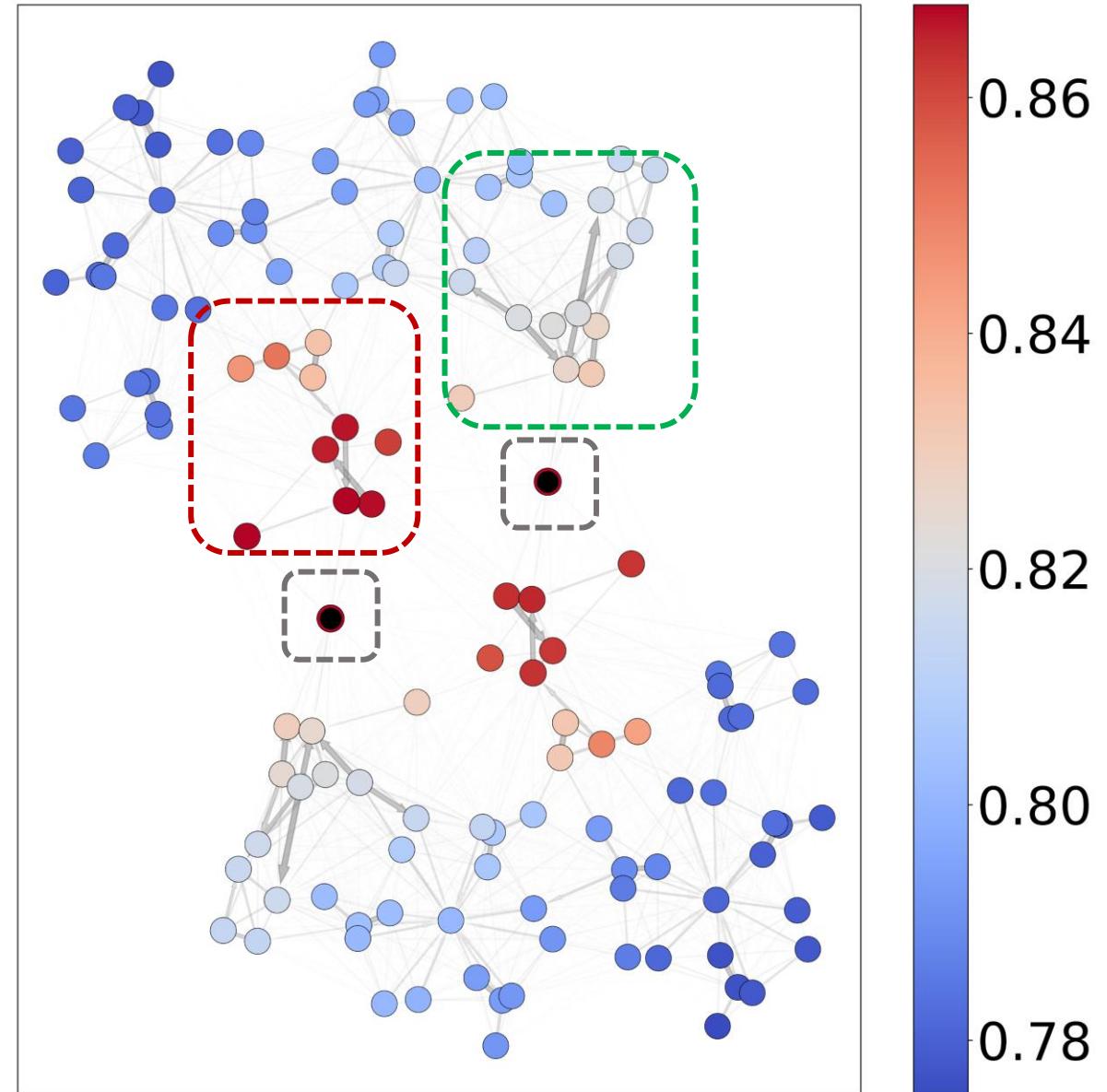


Yield of individual nodes

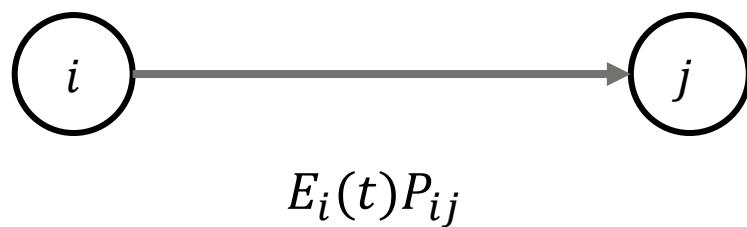
Analysis



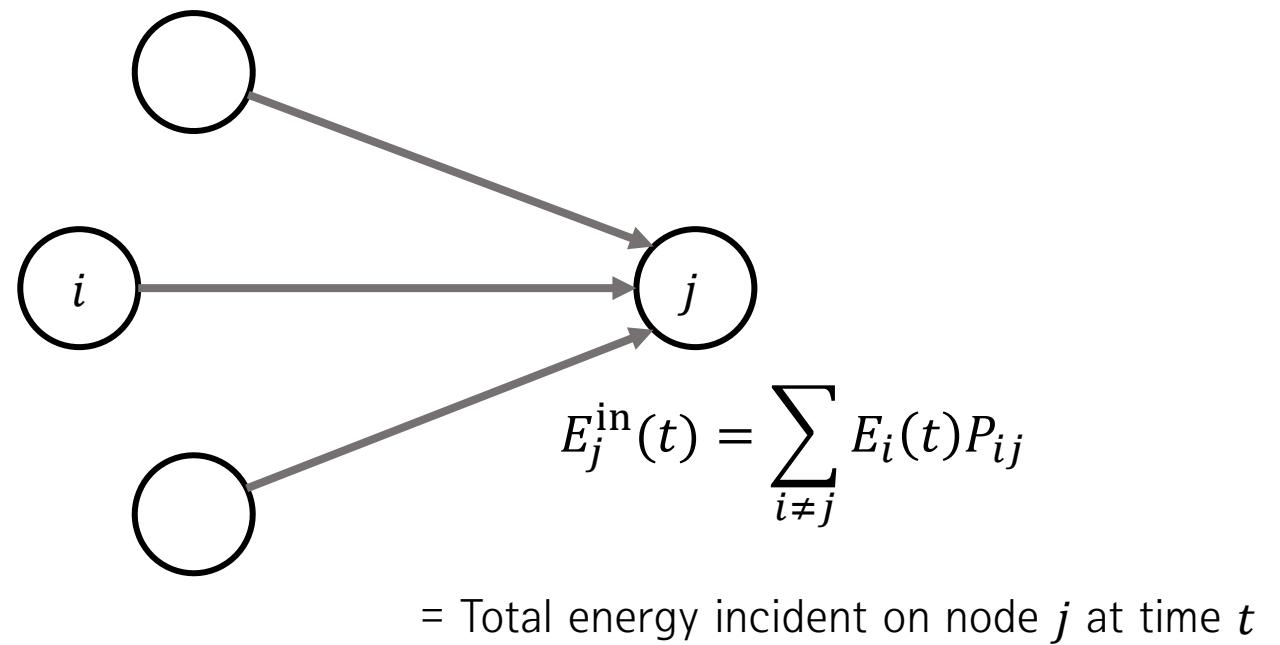
- Goal: analyze energy transfer in the photosynthetic network
- Inject energy into each node and measure the fraction reaching the RC
- Node color: final energy efficiency (used energy/total energy)
- Link color and direction: net transfer probability ($P_{ij} - P_{ji}$)
- Nodes closer to the reaction center (gray) tend to show higher efficiency.
- At similar distances, the red region shows higher efficiency
- While the green region is relatively less efficient.
- Structural asymmetry?



- Introduce a new quantity to examine detailed energy flow.
- Track cumulative flow on each link until uniformly incident energy is fully absorbed.
- $E_i(t)$ = expected energy at node i at time t .
- Measuring link-wise energy flow and node-wise incoming energy.



= Energy flow from i to j at time t

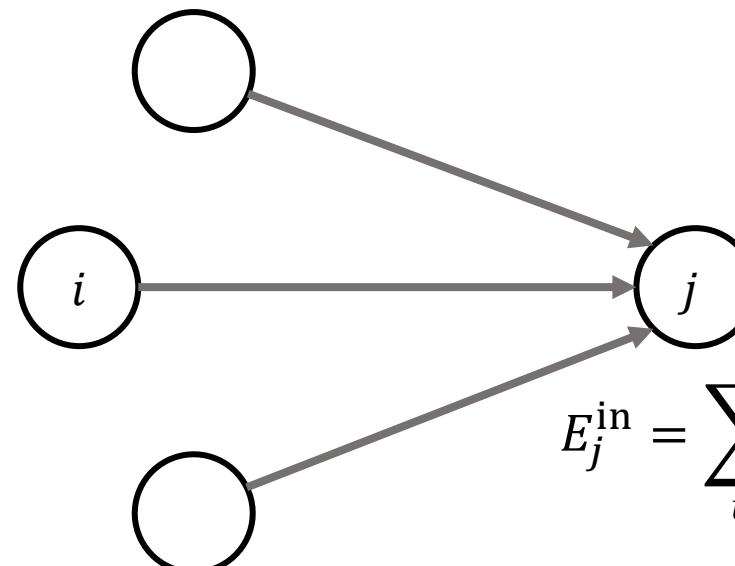


- Introduce a new quantity to examine detailed energy flow.
- Track cumulative flow on each link until uniformly incident energy is fully absorbed.
- $E_i(t)$ = expected energy at node i at time t .
- Measuring link-wise **cumulative** energy flow and node-wise **cumulative** incoming energy.



$$F_{ij} = \sum_t E_i(t) P_{ij}$$

= Cumulative energy flow from i to j at time t

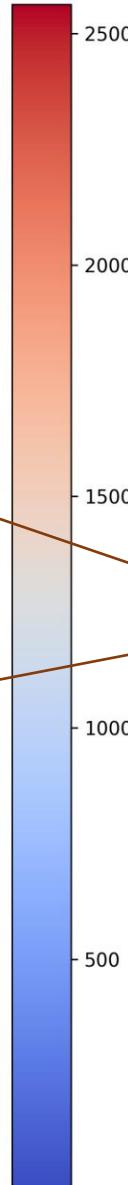
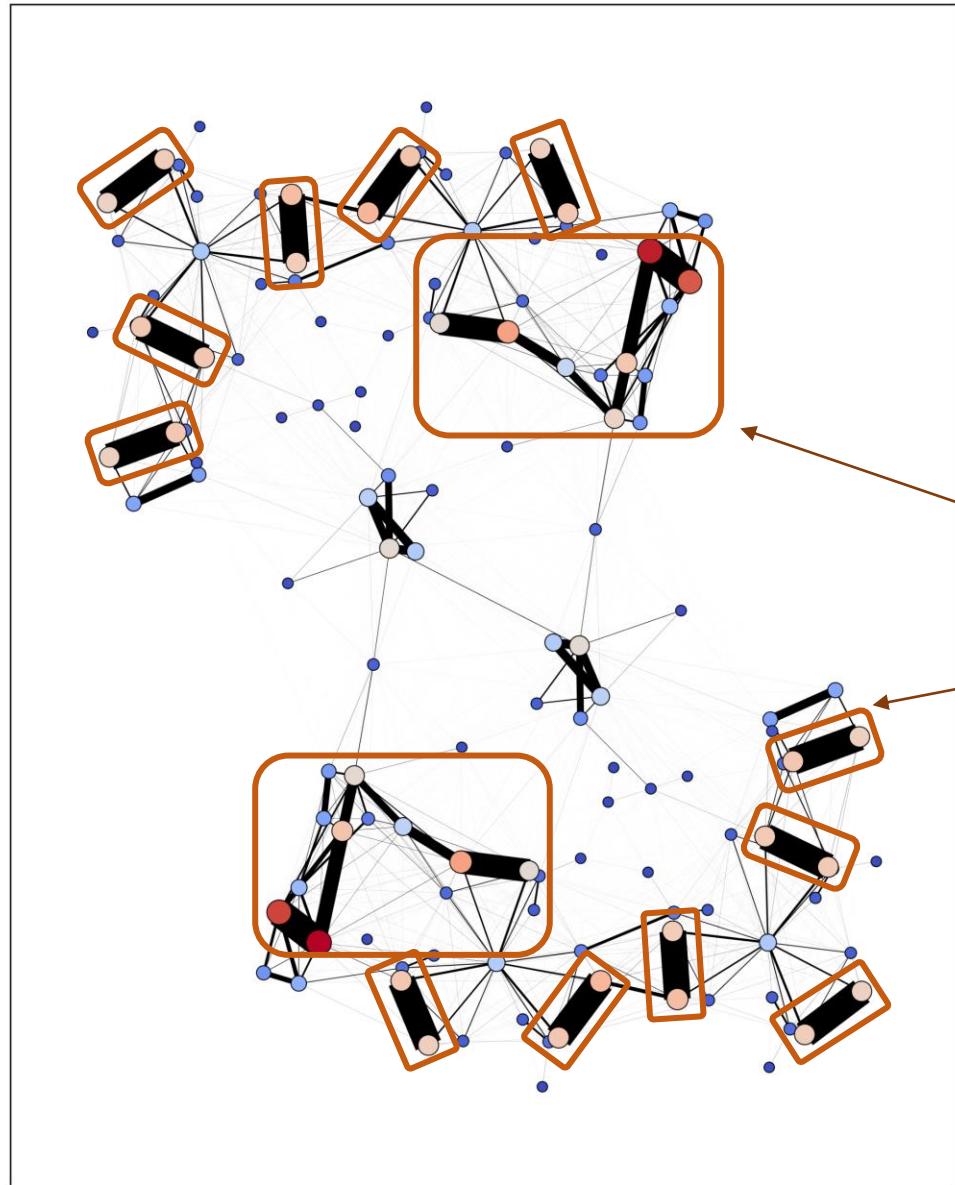


$$E_j^{\text{in}} = \sum_t \sum_{i \neq j} E_i(t) P_{ij}$$

= Cumulative total energy incident on node j at time t

Cumulative flow analysis

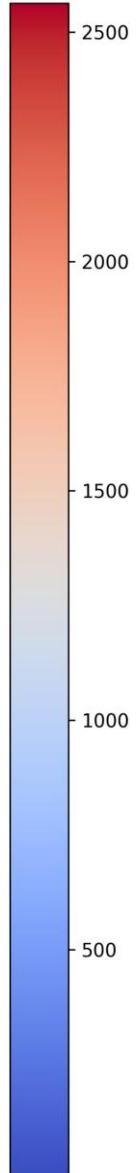
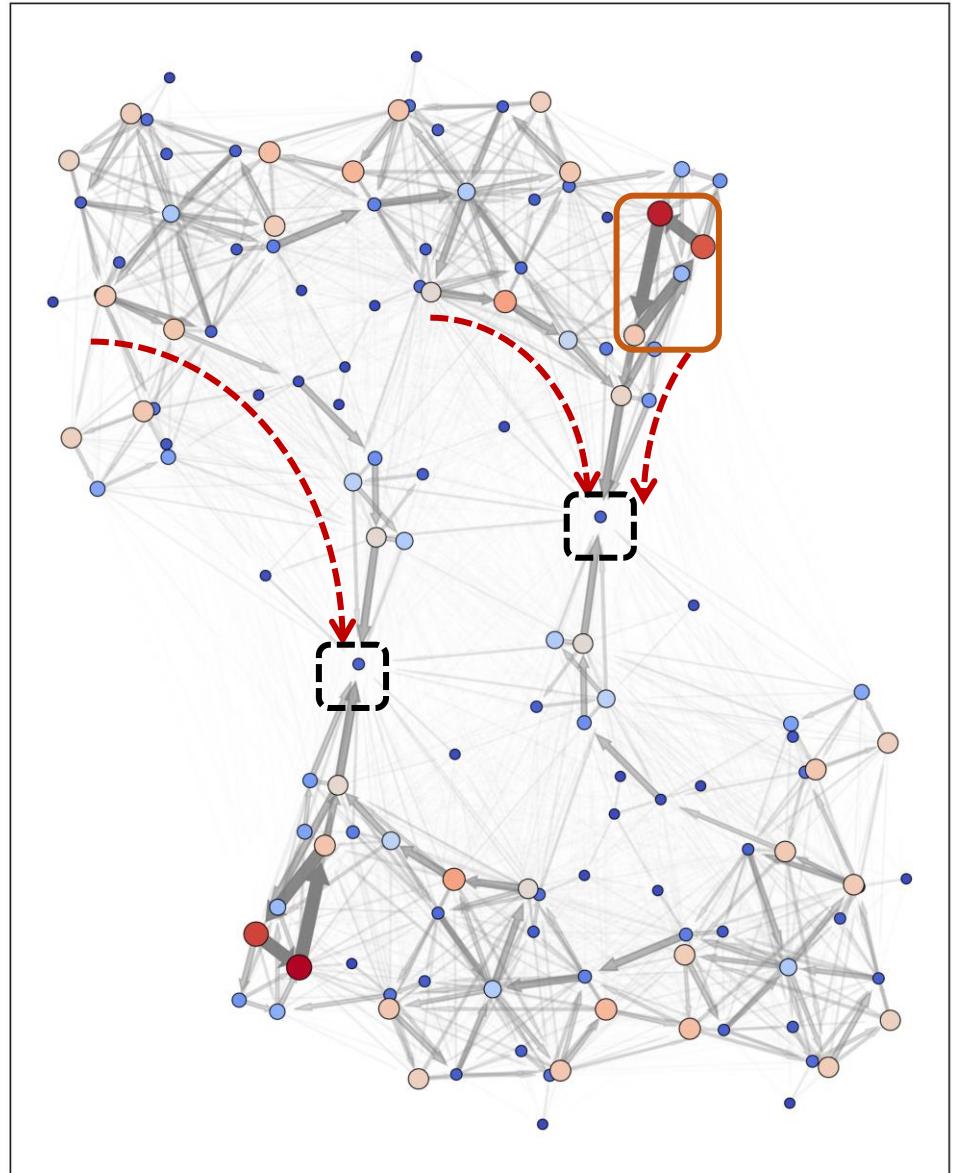
Analysis



- Link width: bidirectional cumulative flow ($F_{ij} + F_{ji}$)
- Node color: cumulative incoming energy (E_i^{in})
- Energy flow concentrates in distinct local regions.

Cumulative flow analysis

Analysis

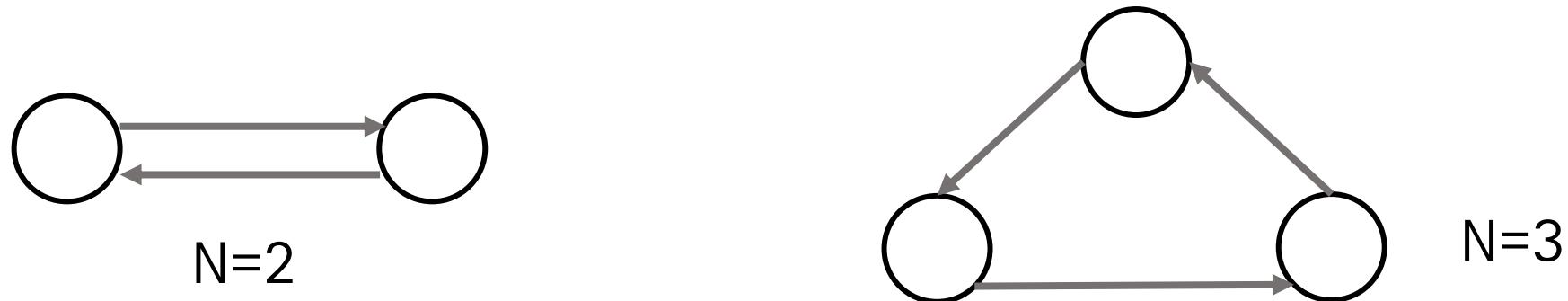


- Link width and direction: absolute difference in bidirectional cumulative flow($|F_{ij} - F_{ji}|$)
- Loop structures appear in high-flow regions.
- Characteristic pathways that deliver energy to the reaction center emerge.

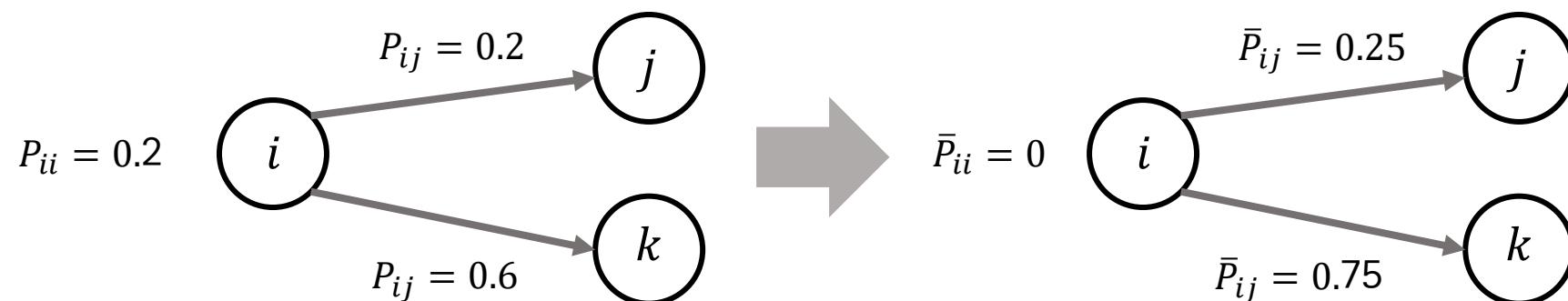
Effective loop analysis

Analysis

- In energy flow analysis, loop structures of various lengths exist.
- Energy originating from one node passes through another node and returns to the original node.

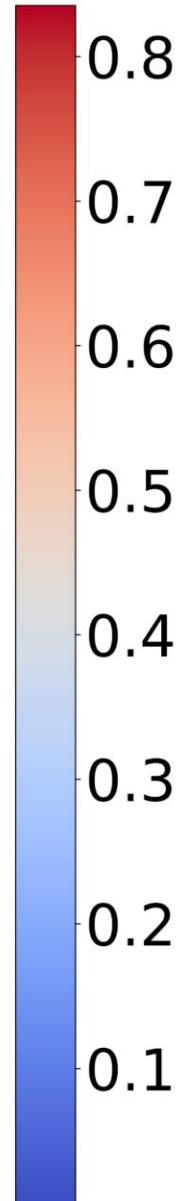
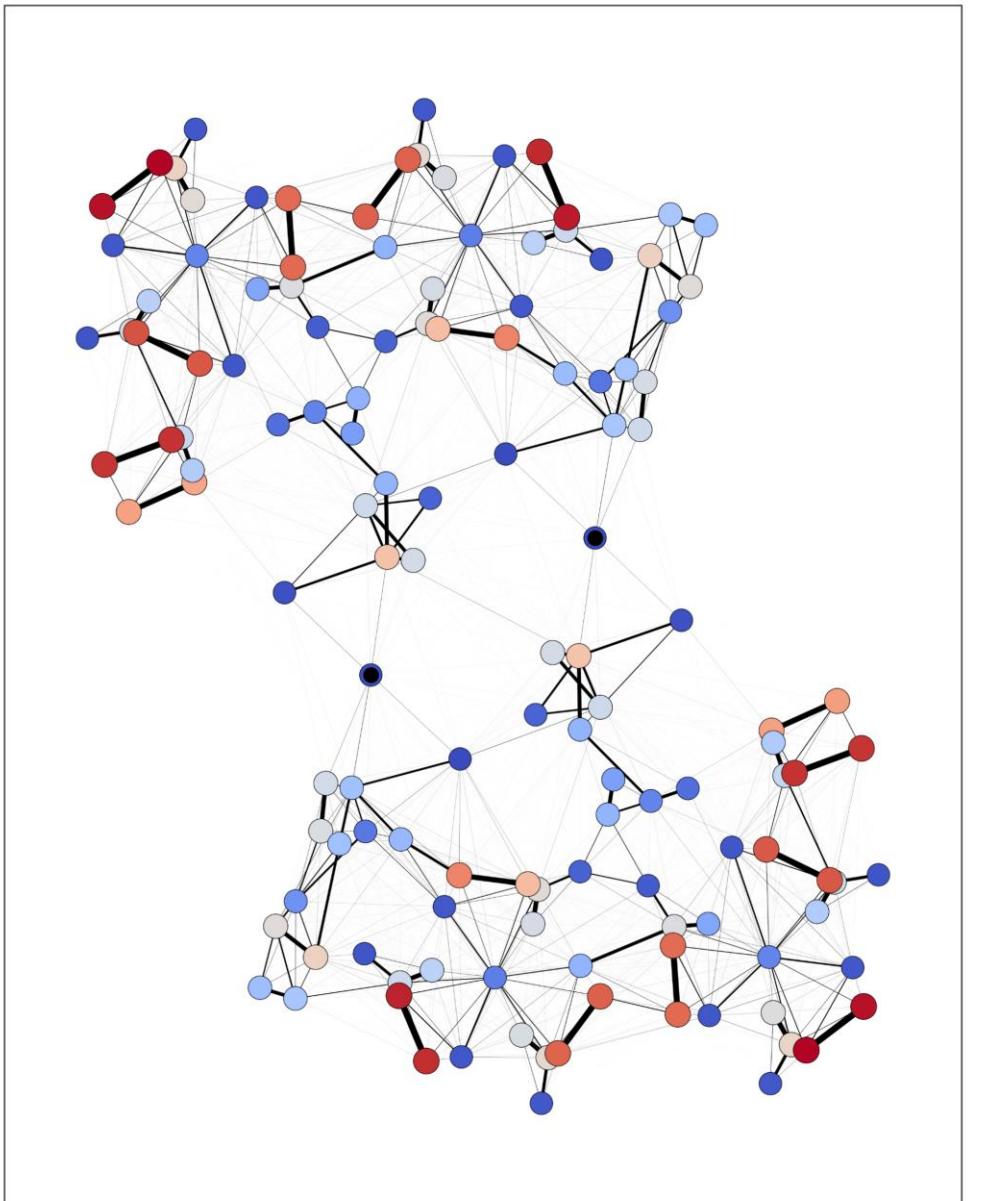


- Pure transition probability (\bar{P}): transition matrix that excludes dwelling probability and counts only movement to other nodes.
- Diagonal element of \bar{P}^N : fraction of energy returning to the original node after passing through $N-1$ other nodes.



Effective loop analysis

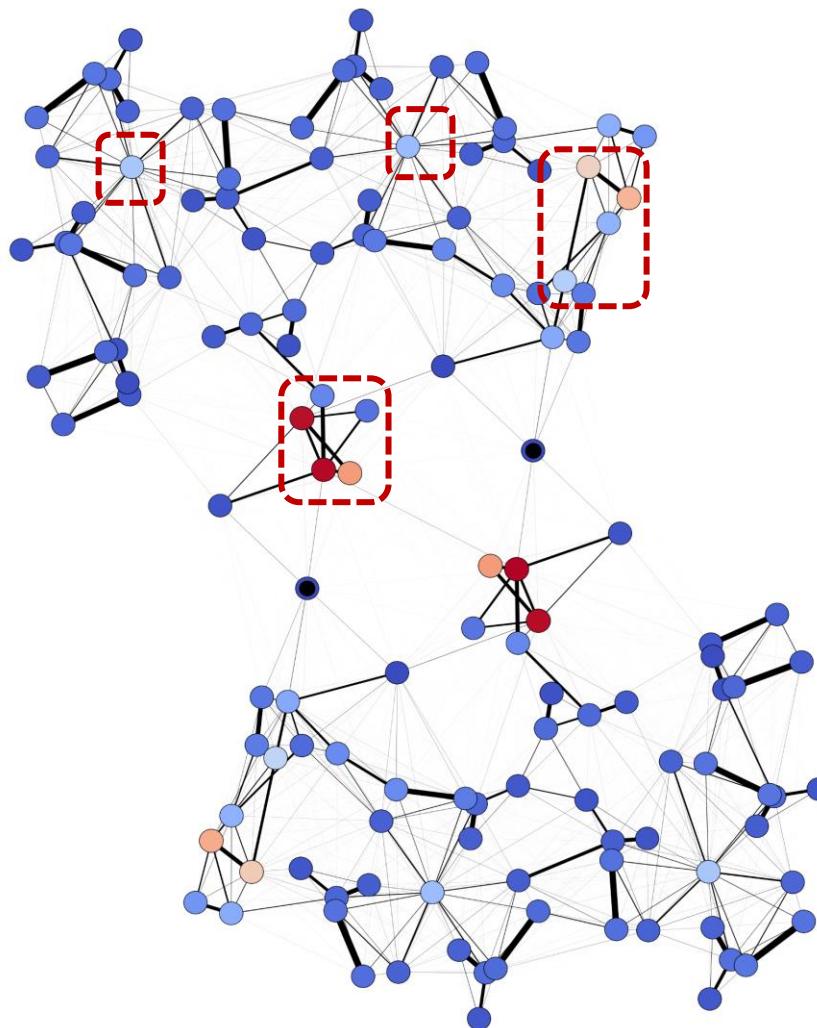
Analysis



- Link width: mean bidirectional pure transition probability $\left(\frac{\bar{P}_{ij} + \bar{P}_{ji}}{2}\right)$
- Node color: fraction of energy returning via a 2-step loop (\bar{P}_{ii}^2)
- Most peripheral nodes exchange energy among themselves.
- They may act to prevent immediate absorption into the network.

Effective loop analysis

Analysis



- Link width: mean bidirectional pure transition probability $\left(\frac{\bar{P}_{ij} + \bar{P}_{ji}}{2}\right)$
- Node color: fraction of energy returning via a 2-step loop (\bar{P}_{ii}^2)
- Two length-3 loop structures appear in the two regions adjacent to the reaction center.

Energy-transfer dynamics of photosystems

Summary

- Analyze energy flow in photosystem network
- Perform simulation with Absorbing Markov process
- Energy efficiency analysis of individual nodes
- Discover characteristic paths through cumulative energy flow analysis
- Identify the area where energy resides through loop analysis
- Application and expansion to transportation networks, power grid networks, etc.

