

# Highly comparative time-series analysis

Paris School of Economics, Nov 2015

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Max Little,  
Aston University

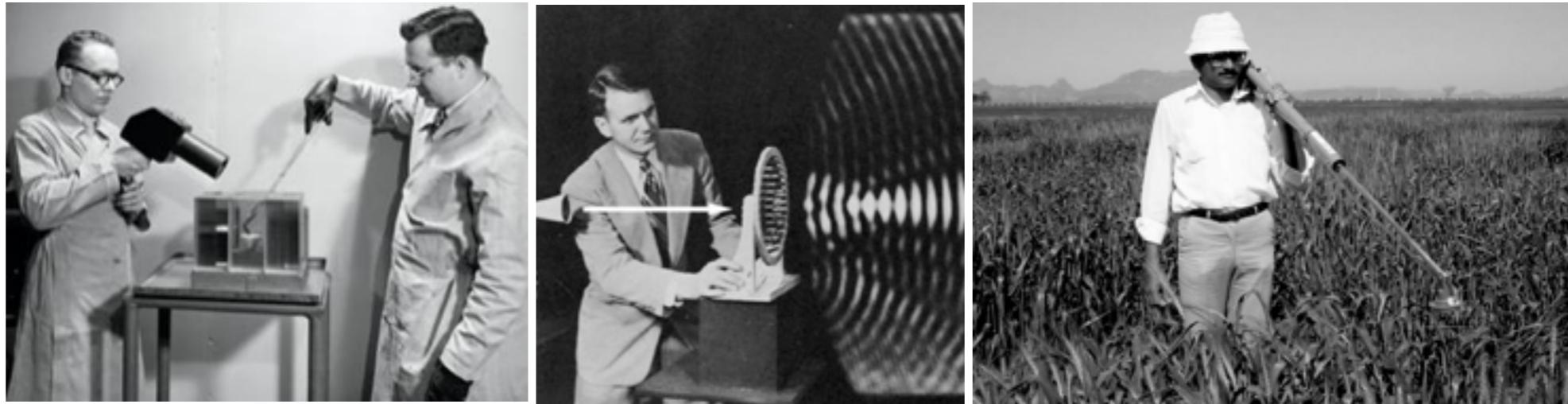


Nick Jones,  
Imperial College



# The art of time-series analysis

## I. Measure data



2. Inspect data thoroughly, talk to domain experts, and manually devise appropriate models and methods based on intuition and experience



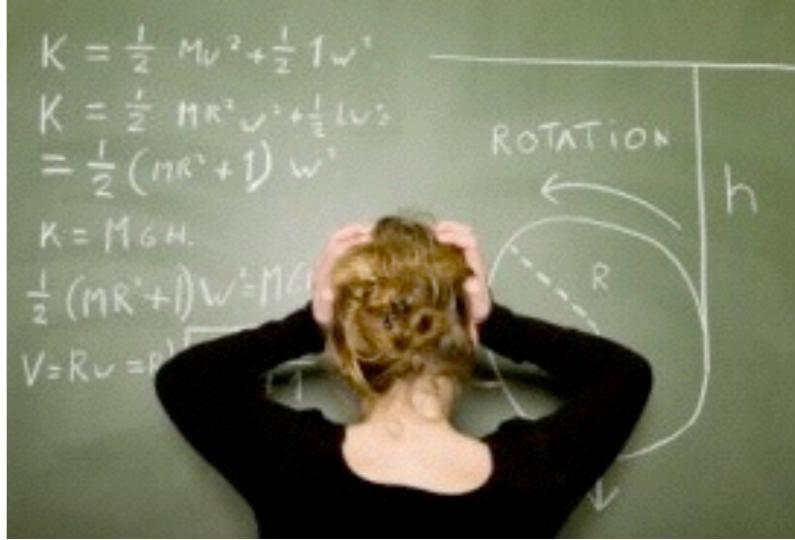
“Do what I did during my PhD”



“Use standard analysis methods from my field”

“Apply a hot new method I read about in Nature”

# Worries



- Is your proposed method best, or can another (perhaps simpler) method outperform it?
- Are new methods really new, or do they reproduce the performance of existing methods (e.g., from another field, or developed in the past)?
- Papers introducing a new method compare their method to an average of 0.91 others, and 1.85 different datasets\*.

# Competing interdisciplinary approaches/opinions

*vast and growing volumes of data and methods*

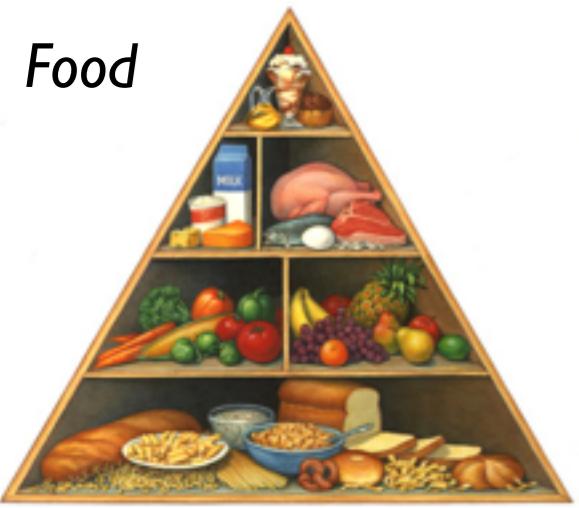
“I know  
someone  
smart who  
uses wavelets”

“Everyone knows  
you can’t apply  
AR time-series  
models to  
nonstationary  
biomedical data!”

“ARIMA models  
are a waste  
of time”



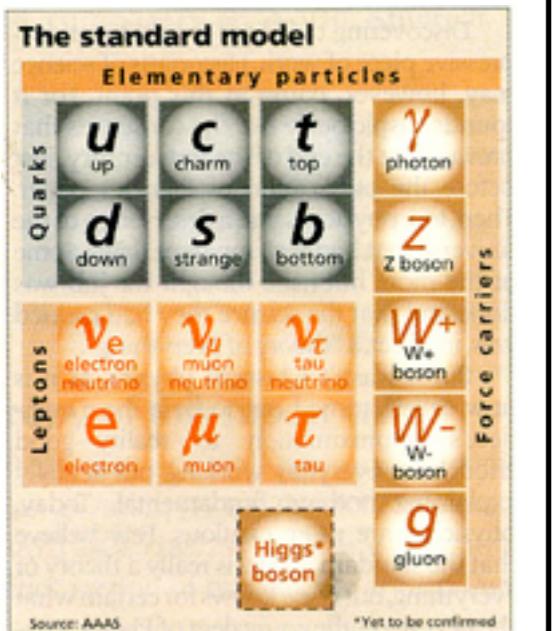
Food



# Structuring

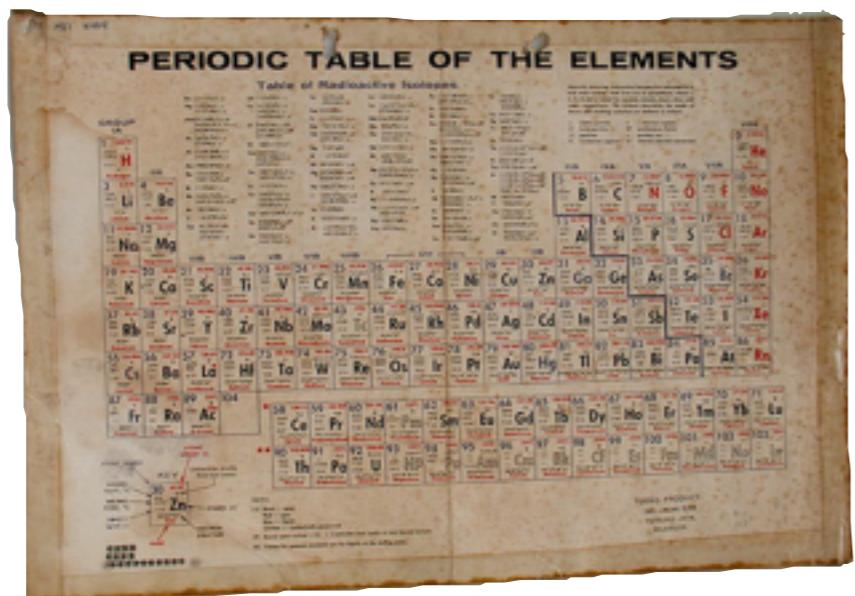
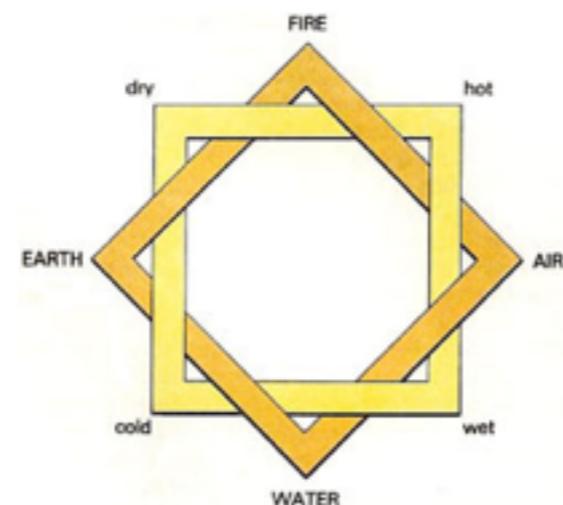
Scientific endeavors often focus on structuring libraries of collected information.

Matter

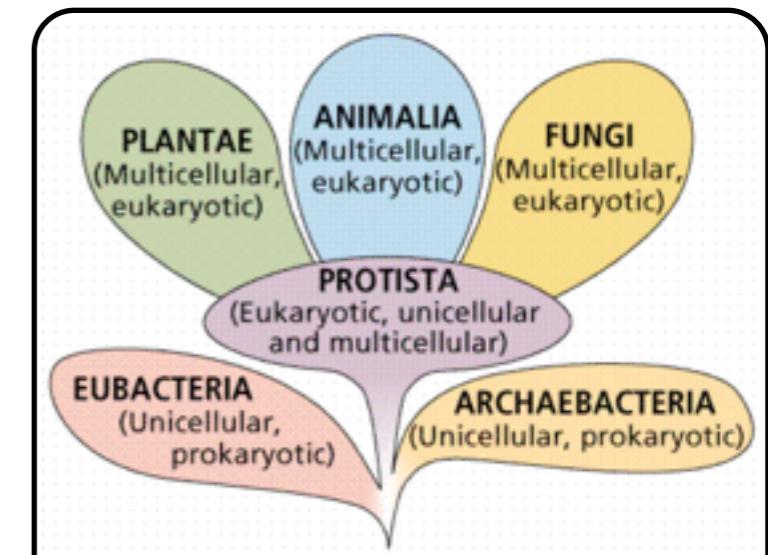
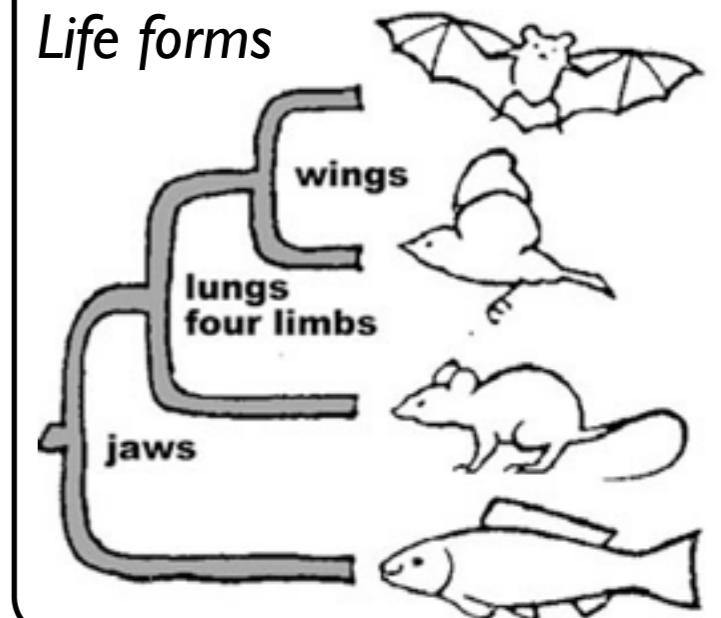


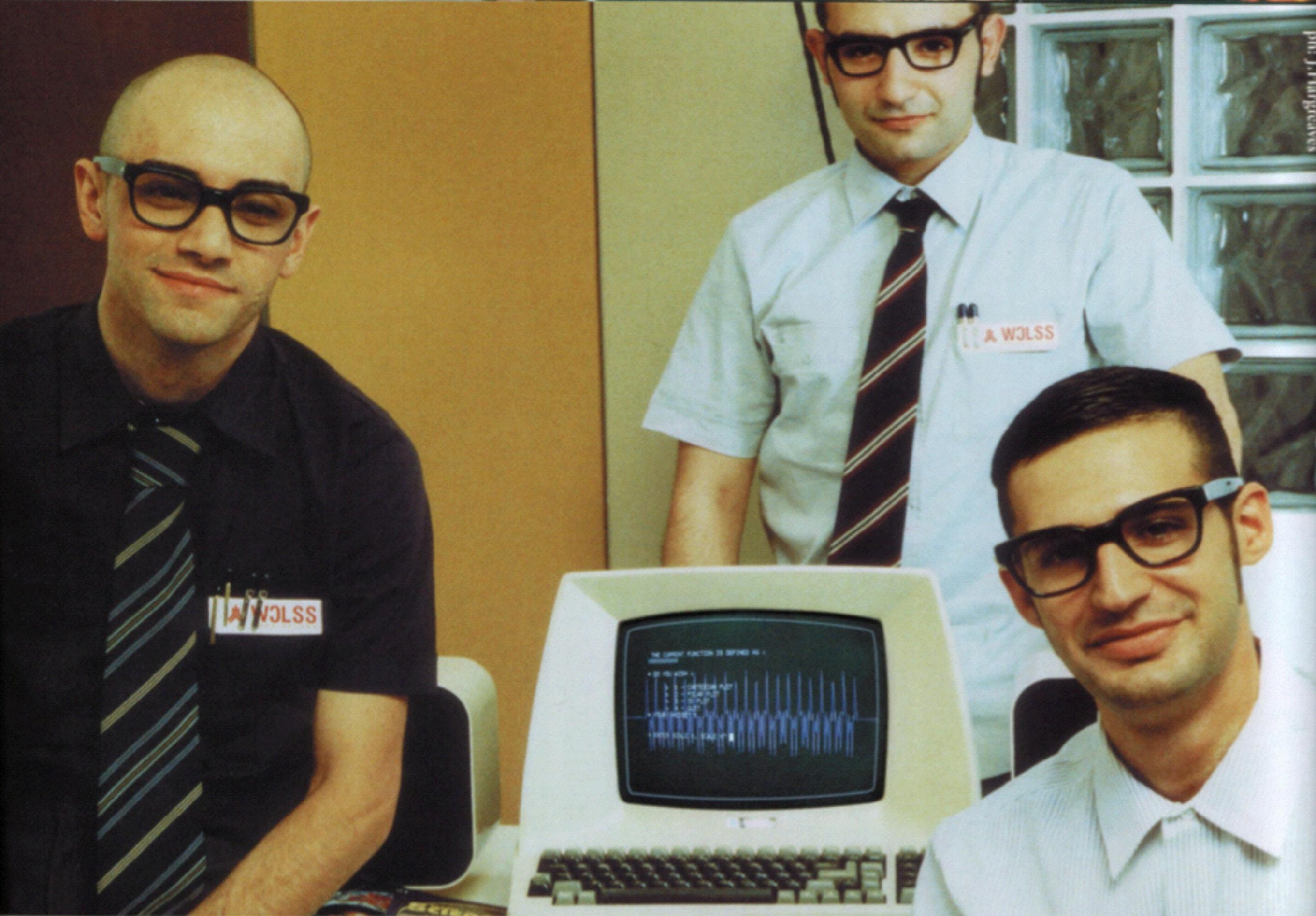
Helps us to understand  
the complexity in the world

Substances



Life forms





LET COMPUTERS DO IT !

# First we collect

e.g.:



Frolicking in field with net

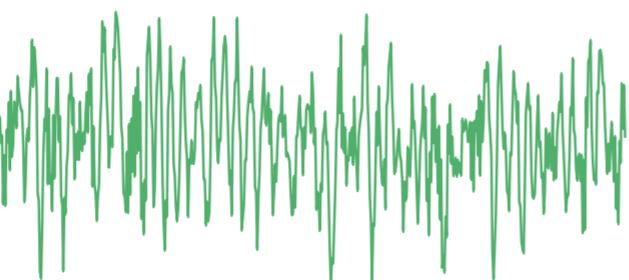
*before you  
know it* →



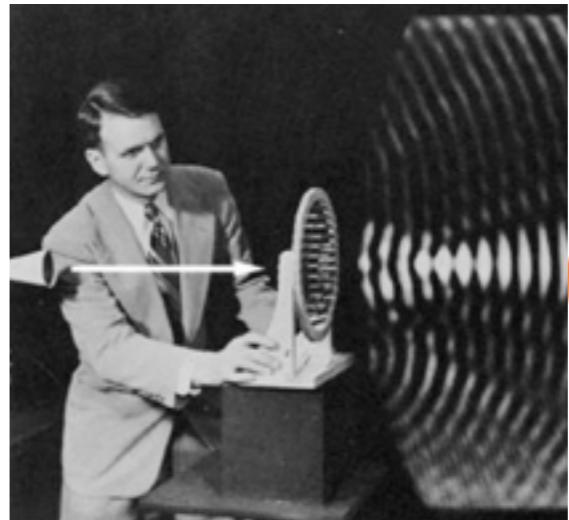
Butterfly collection

*Less fun, but also important:*

What about our data?   What about our methods?



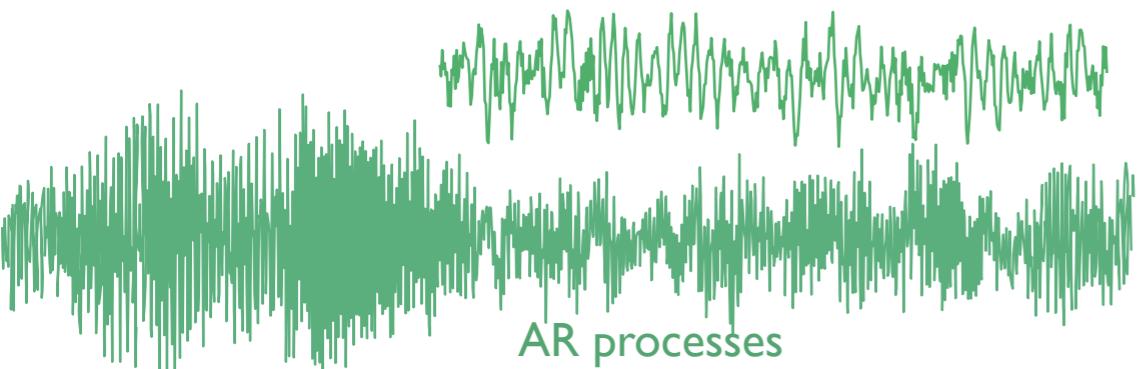
This dude is measuring crops



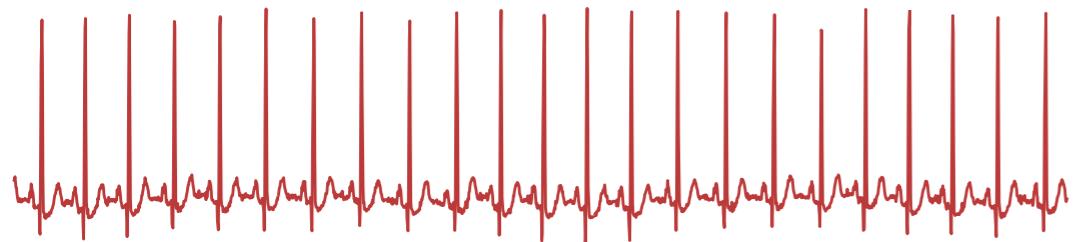
This dude is measuring sound waves

> 30 000

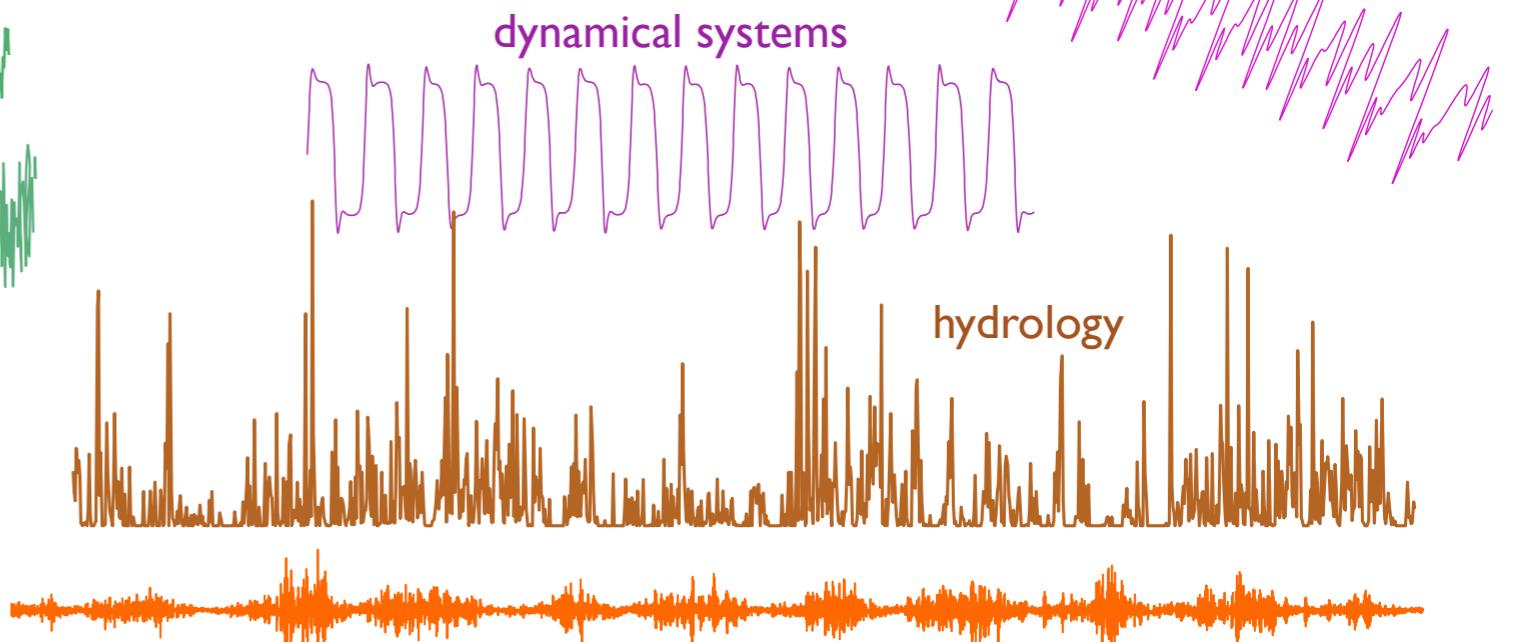
# What time series?



AR processes



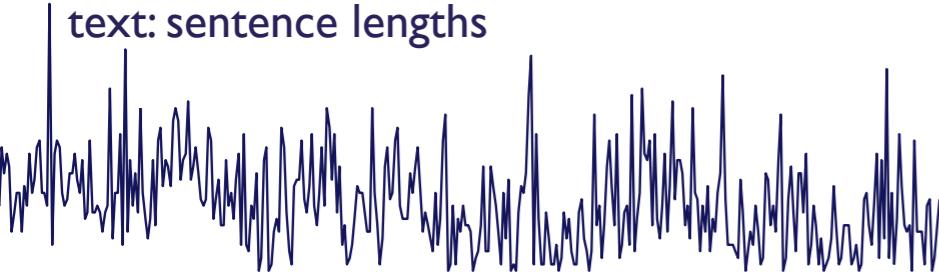
medical: normal sinus rhythm



dynamical systems

hydrology

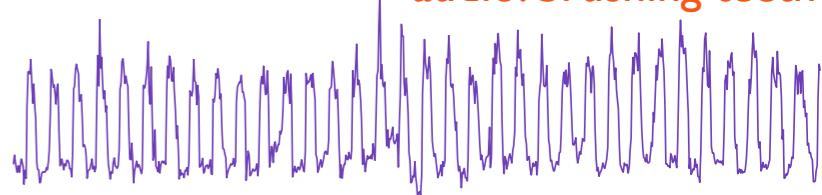
audio: brushing teeth



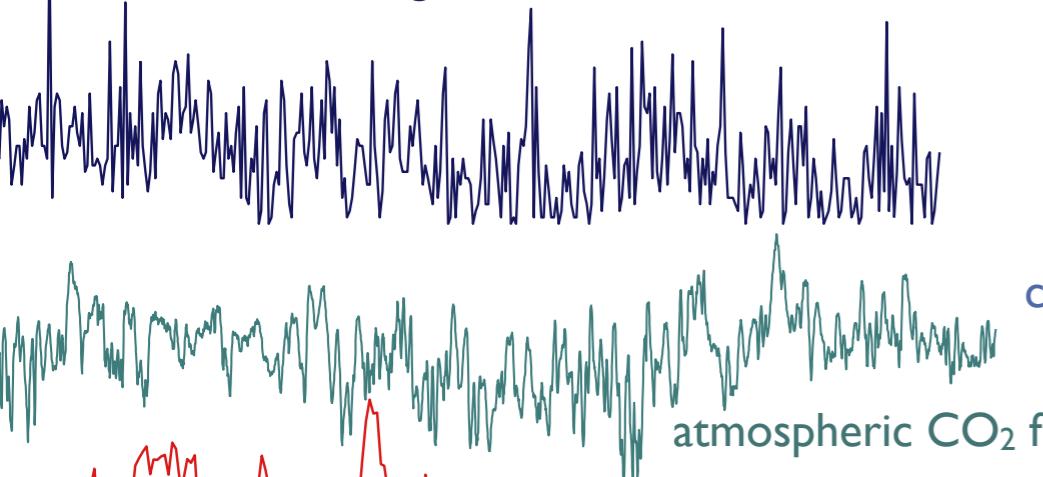
text: sentence lengths



finance: oil prices



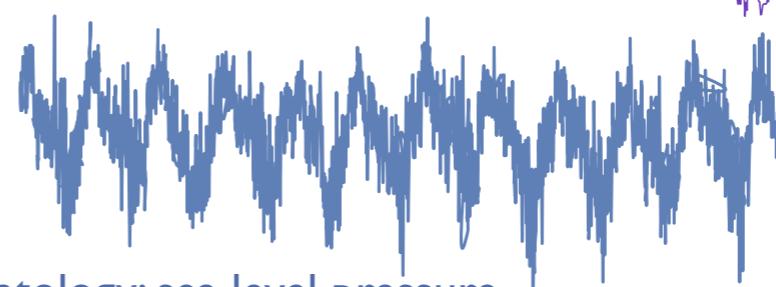
satellite position



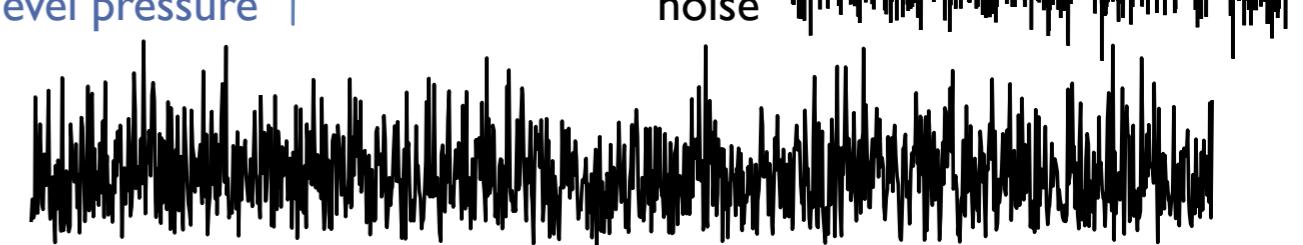
atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> fluctuations



SDEs



climatology: sea level pressure

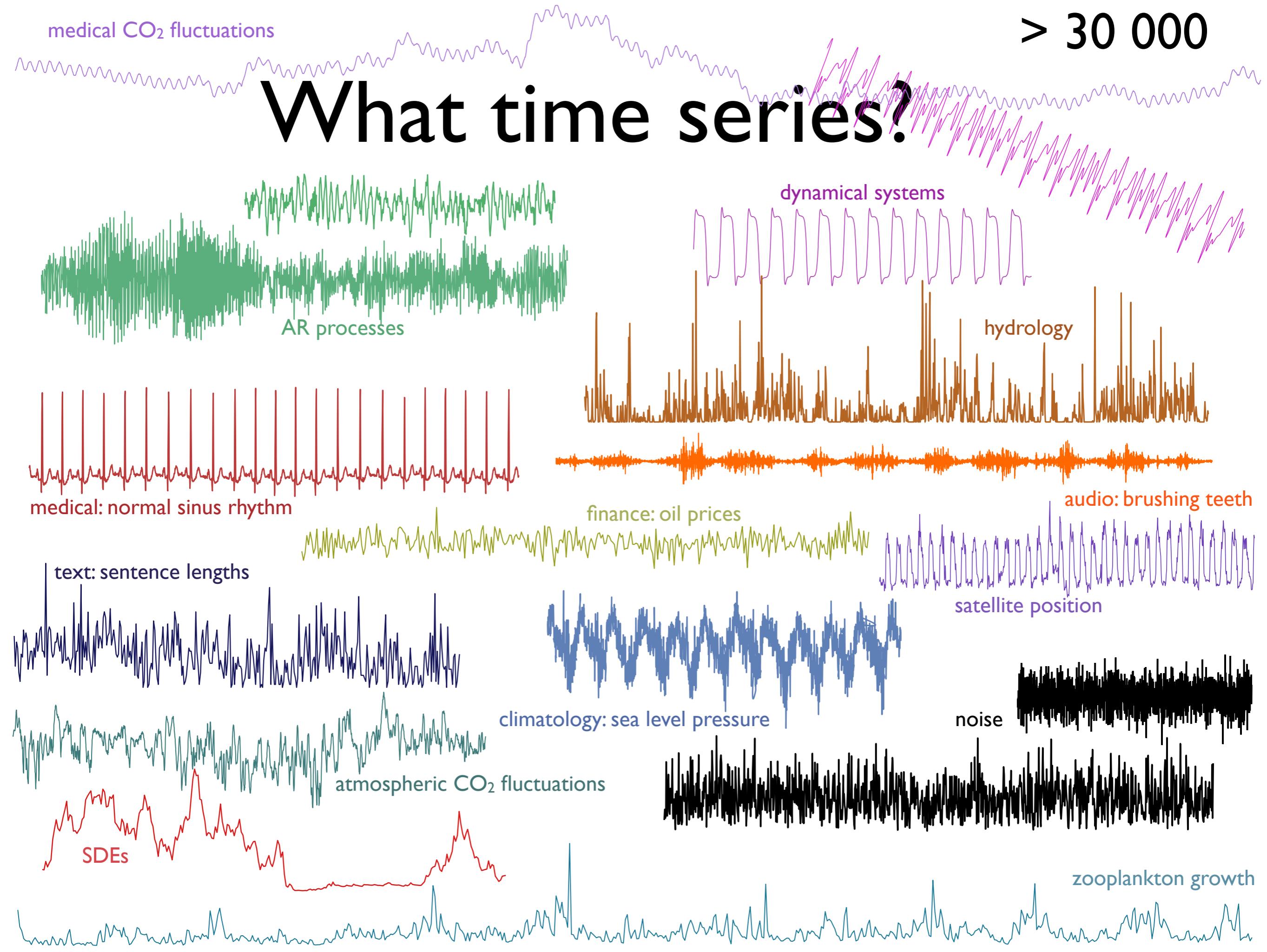


noise



zooplankton growth

medical CO<sub>2</sub> fluctuations



# Analysis methods

## Static distribution

Quantiles	Trimmed means
Fits to standard distributions	
Outliers	Moments
Rank-orderings	Entropy Standard deviation

## Stationarity

StatAv	Sliding window measures
Bootstraps	Step detection
	Distribution comparisons

## Basis Functions

Wavelet transform	
	Peaks of power spectrum
Spectral measures	Power in frequency bands

## Correlation

Linear autocorrelation	Decay properties
Additive noise titration	
	Nonlinear autocorrelations
Time reversal asymmetry	
	Generalized self-correlation
Recurrence structure	
	Autocorrelation robustness
Scaling and fluctuation analysis	
	Permutation robustness
Local extrema	
	Seasonality tests
Zero crossing rates	

## Model fits

Local prediction	GARCH models
Fourier fits	
Exponential smoothing	AR models
	State space models
Hidden Markov models	
Piecewise splines	Biased walker simulations
ARMA models	
	Gaussian Processes

## (Phys) Nonlinear

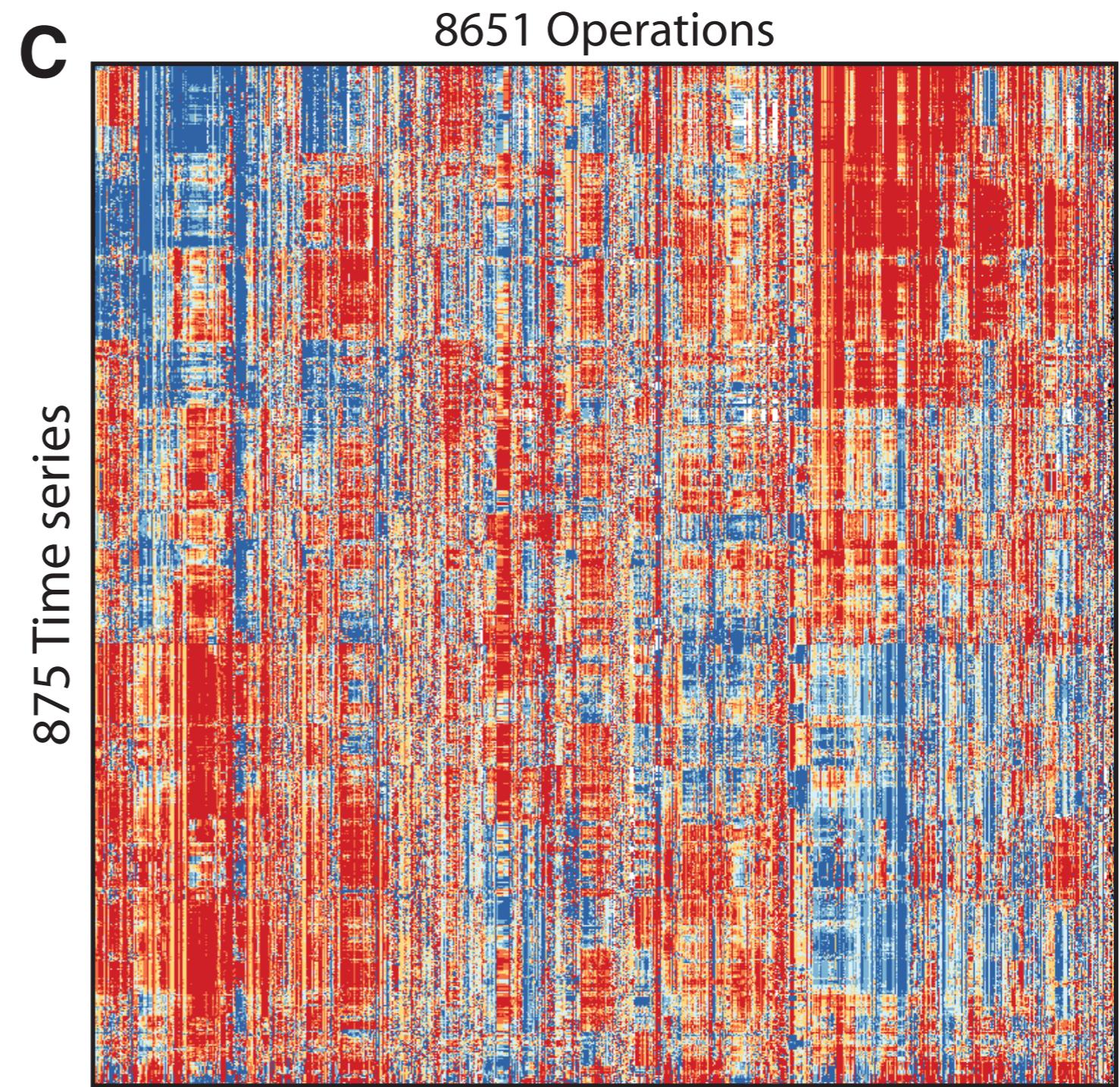
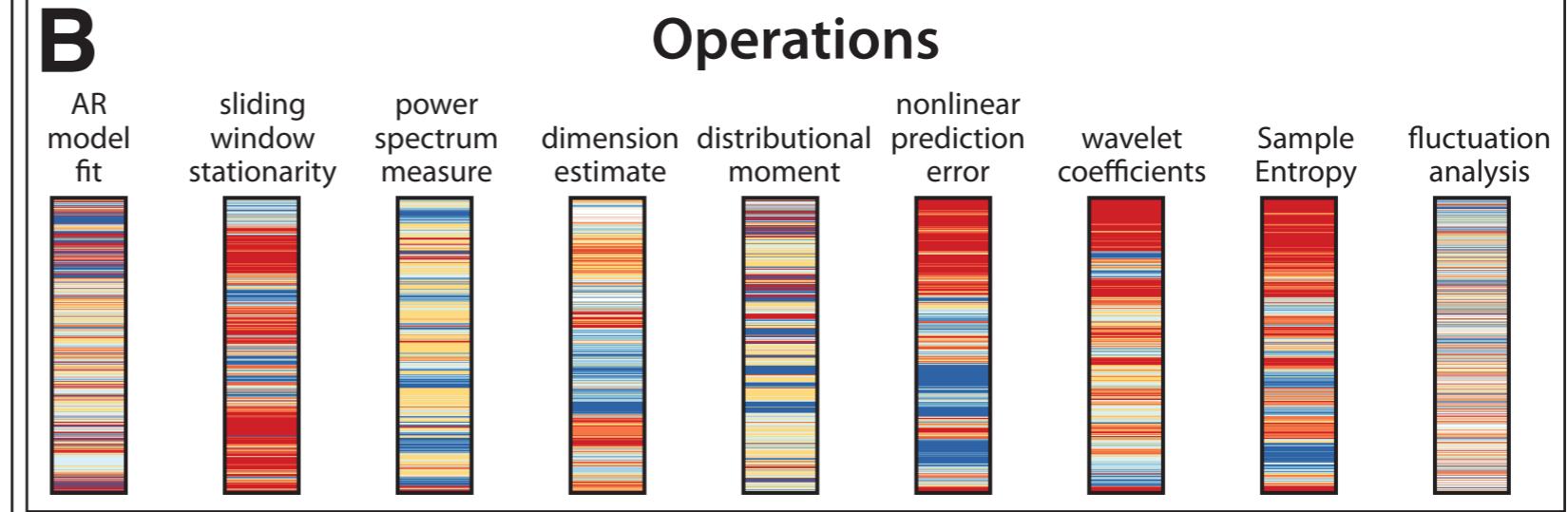
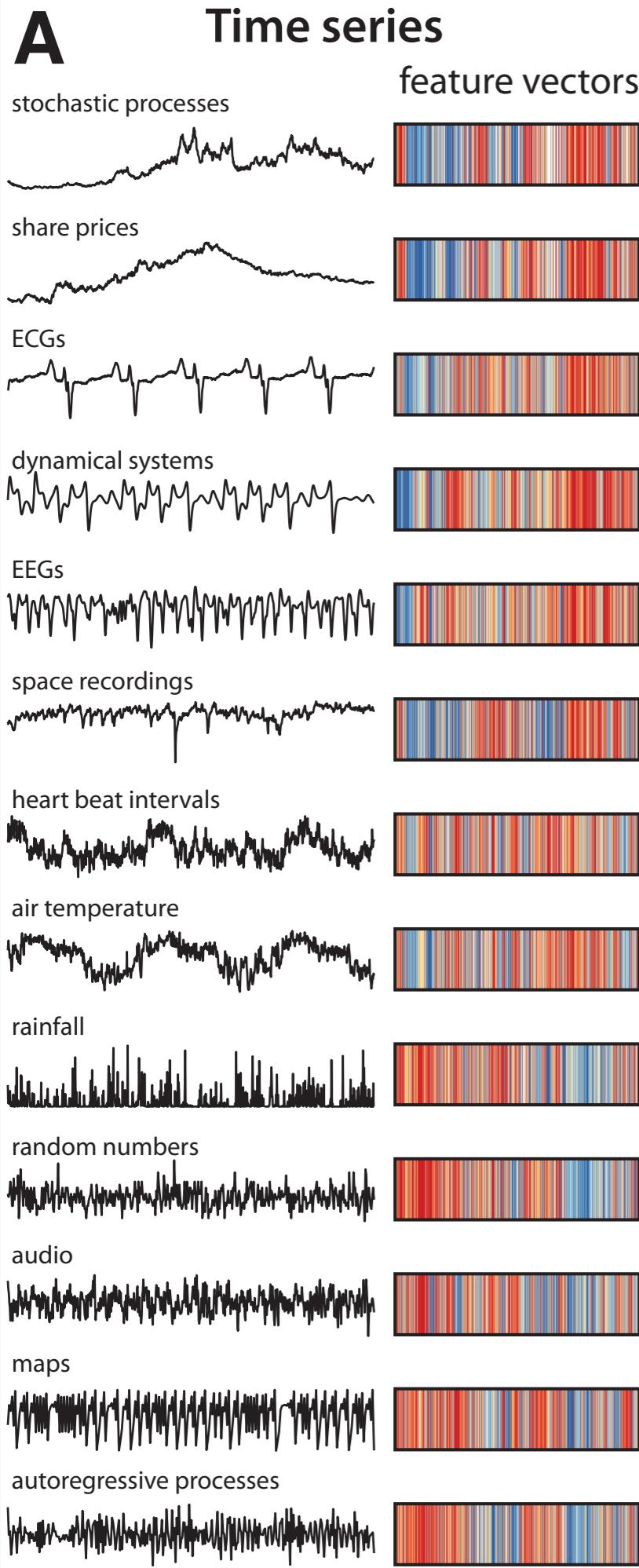
2D embedding structure	TSTOOL
TISEAN	Fractal dimension
Correlation dimension	Taken's estimator
Poincaré sections	Surrogate data
	Nonlinear prediction error
Lyapunov exponent estimate	
	False nearest neighbors

## Information Theory

Sample Entropy	Automutual information
Entropy rate	Approximate Entropy
Tsallis entropies	

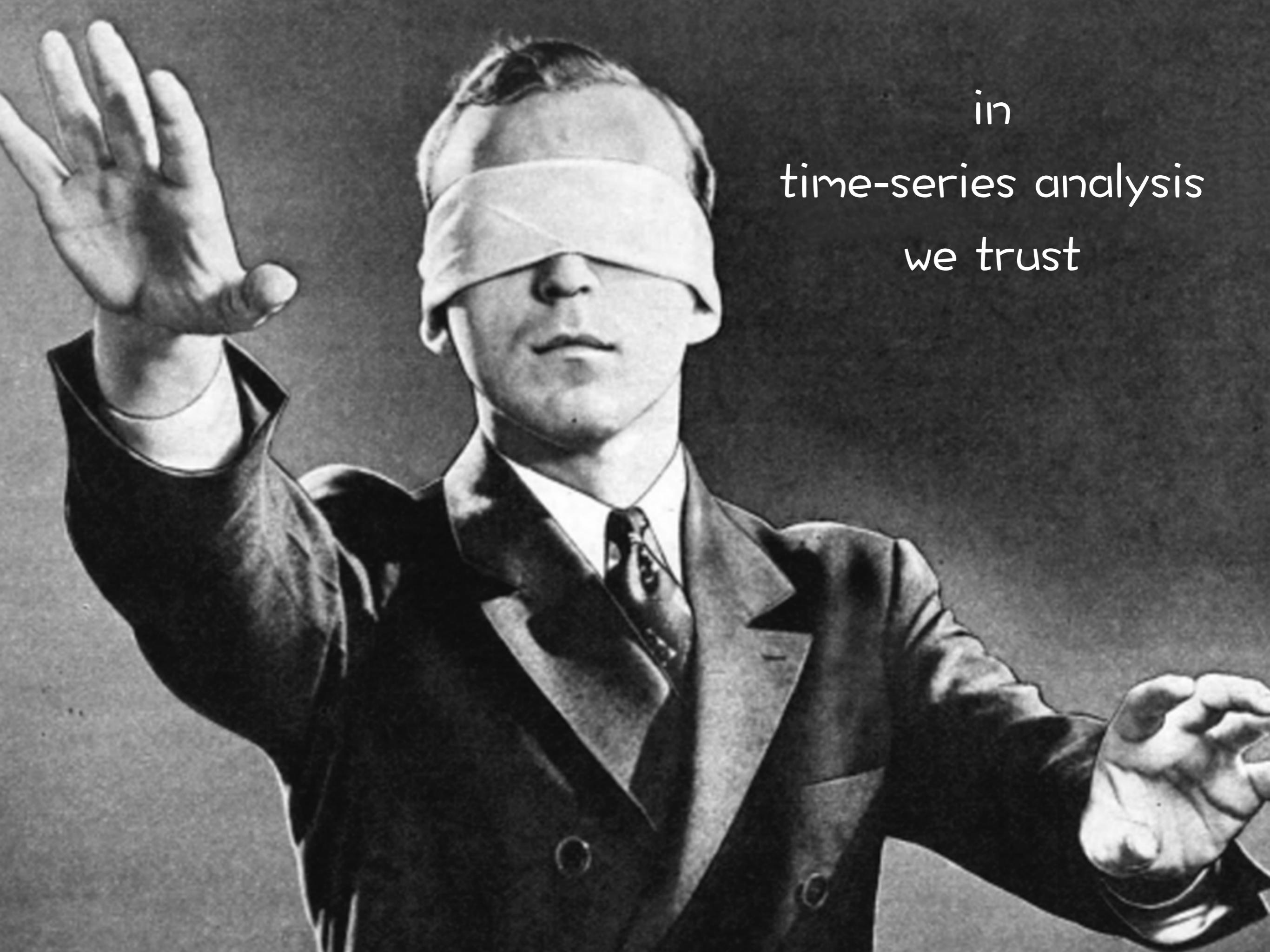
## Others

Transition matrices	Local motifs
Dynamical system coupling	
Visibility graph	Stick angle distribution
Extreme events	
	Singular spectrum analysis
Domain-specific techniques	



Time-series analysis 101:  
*always* look at your data

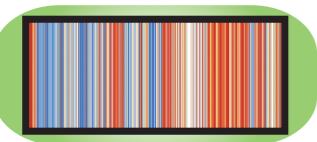




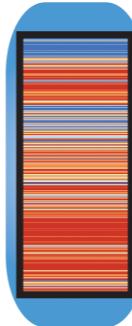
in  
time-series analysis  
we trust

# *Empirical fingerprints*

A flexible, powerful, and data-driven means of comparing time series, and analysis methods.



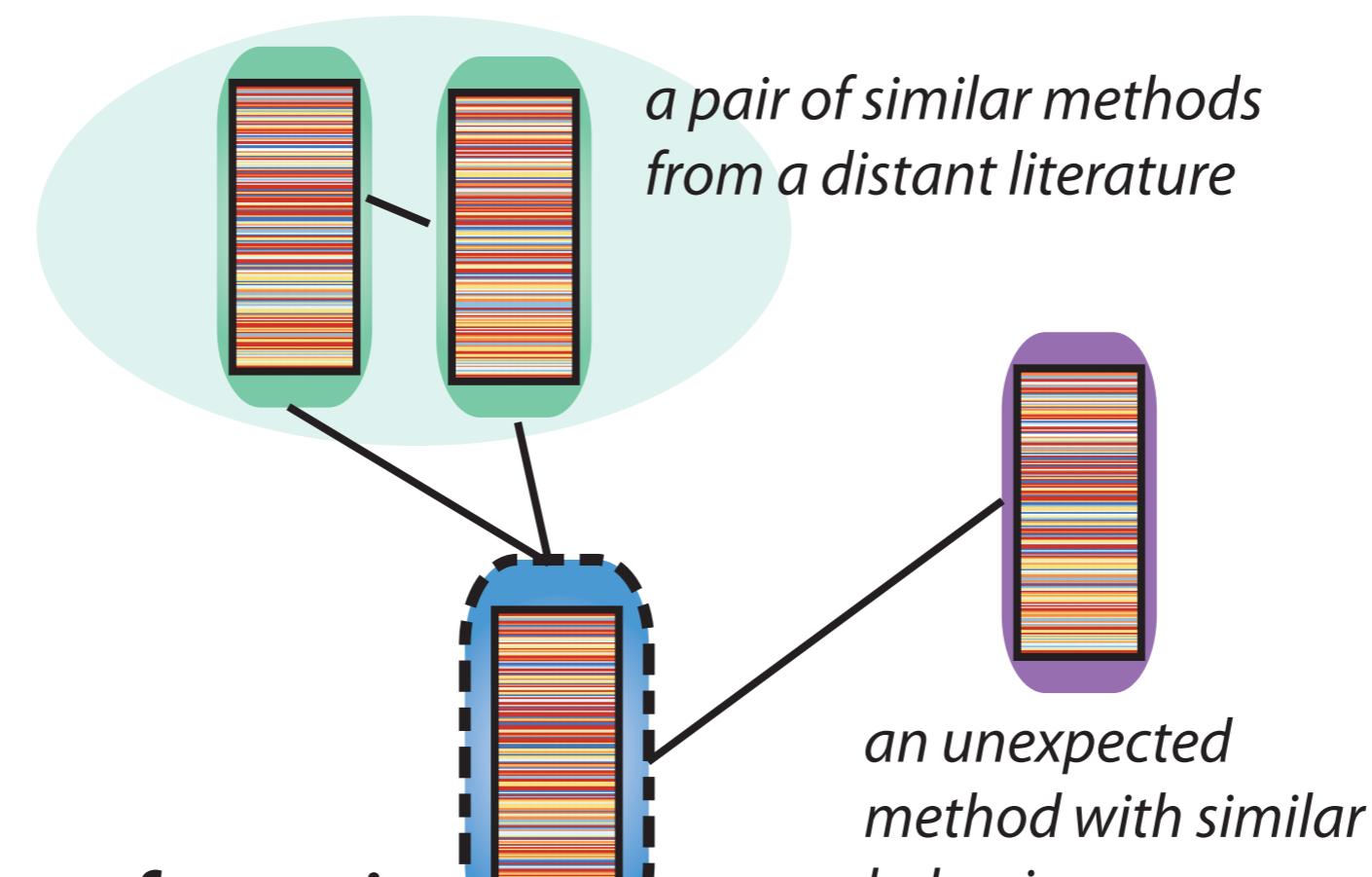
= time series of type 'green'  
*captures properties measured  
by diverse scientific methods*



= operation of type 'blue'  
*captures behaviour across a range  
of empirical time series*

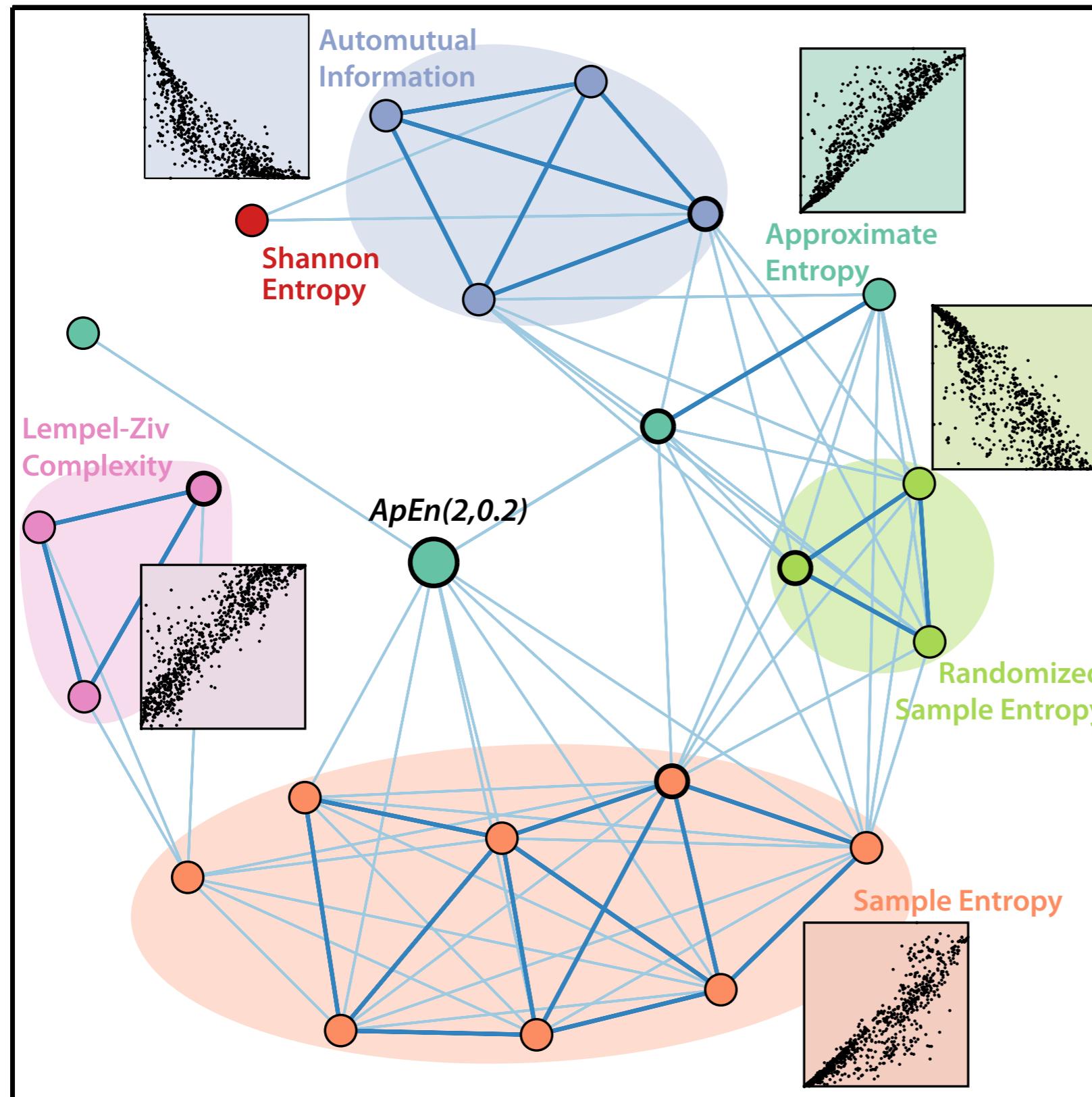
# Organizing our methods

Which time-series analysis methods  
are similar to the methods I use?



*Connects scientific methods using  
their empirical behaviour*

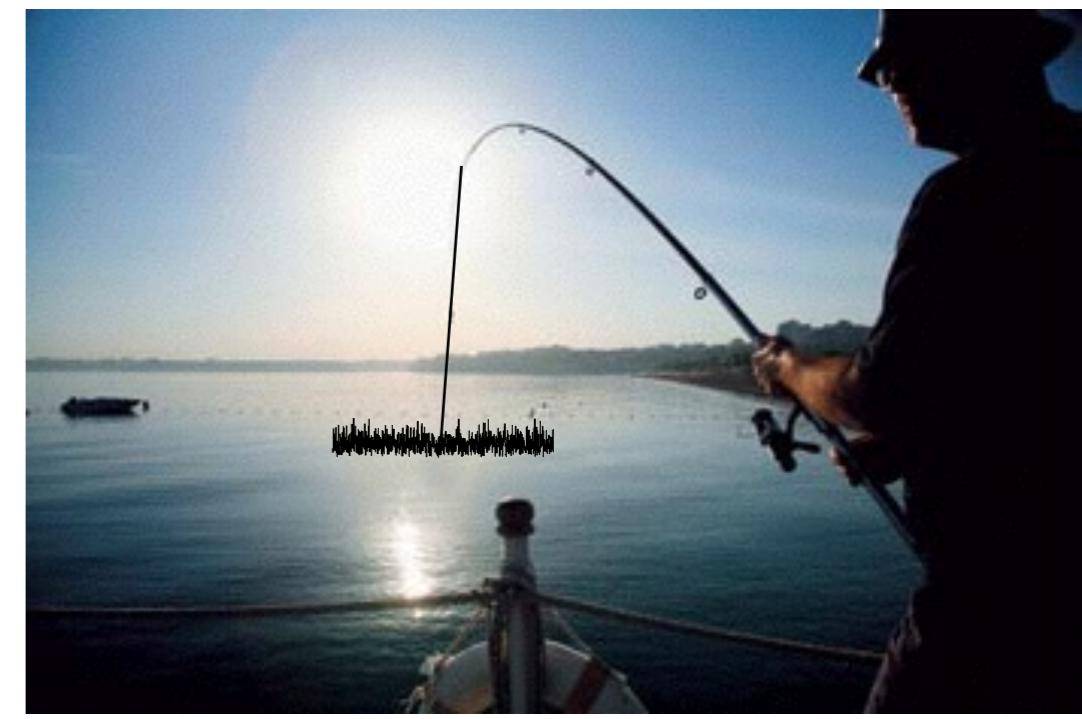
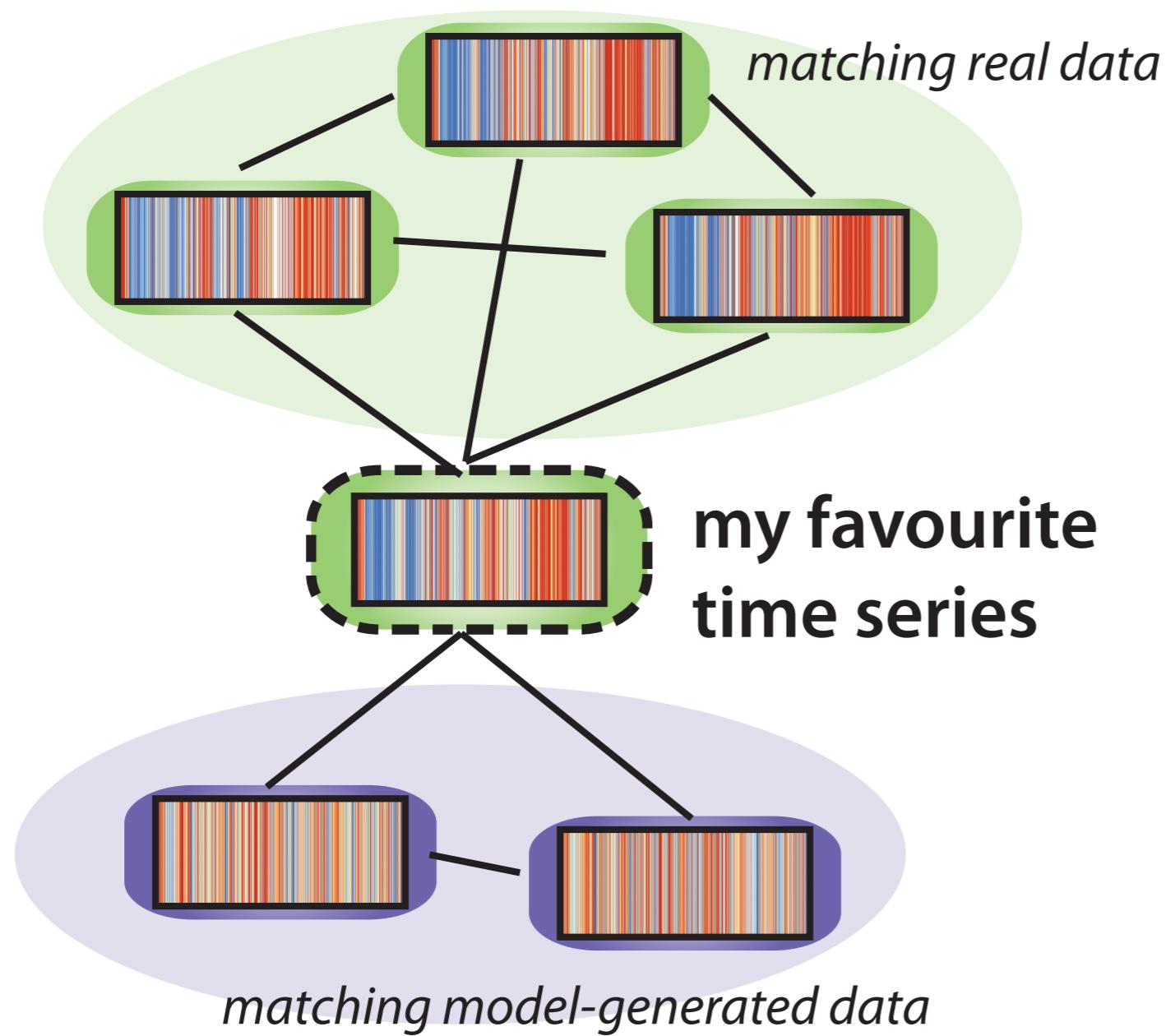
# Local neighborhoods

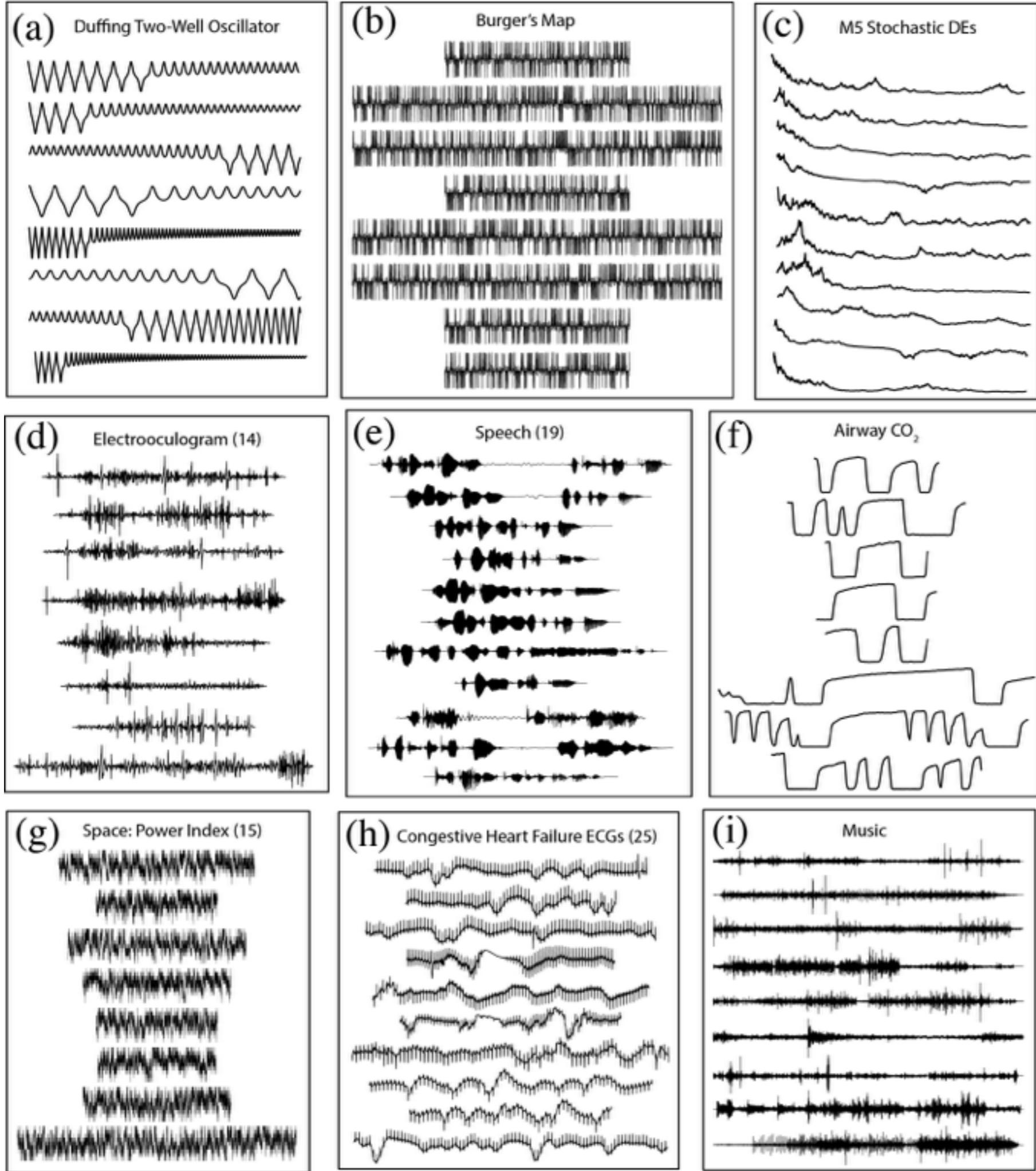


*Automatically find interdisciplinary connections between our methods for time-series analysis*

# Organizing our data

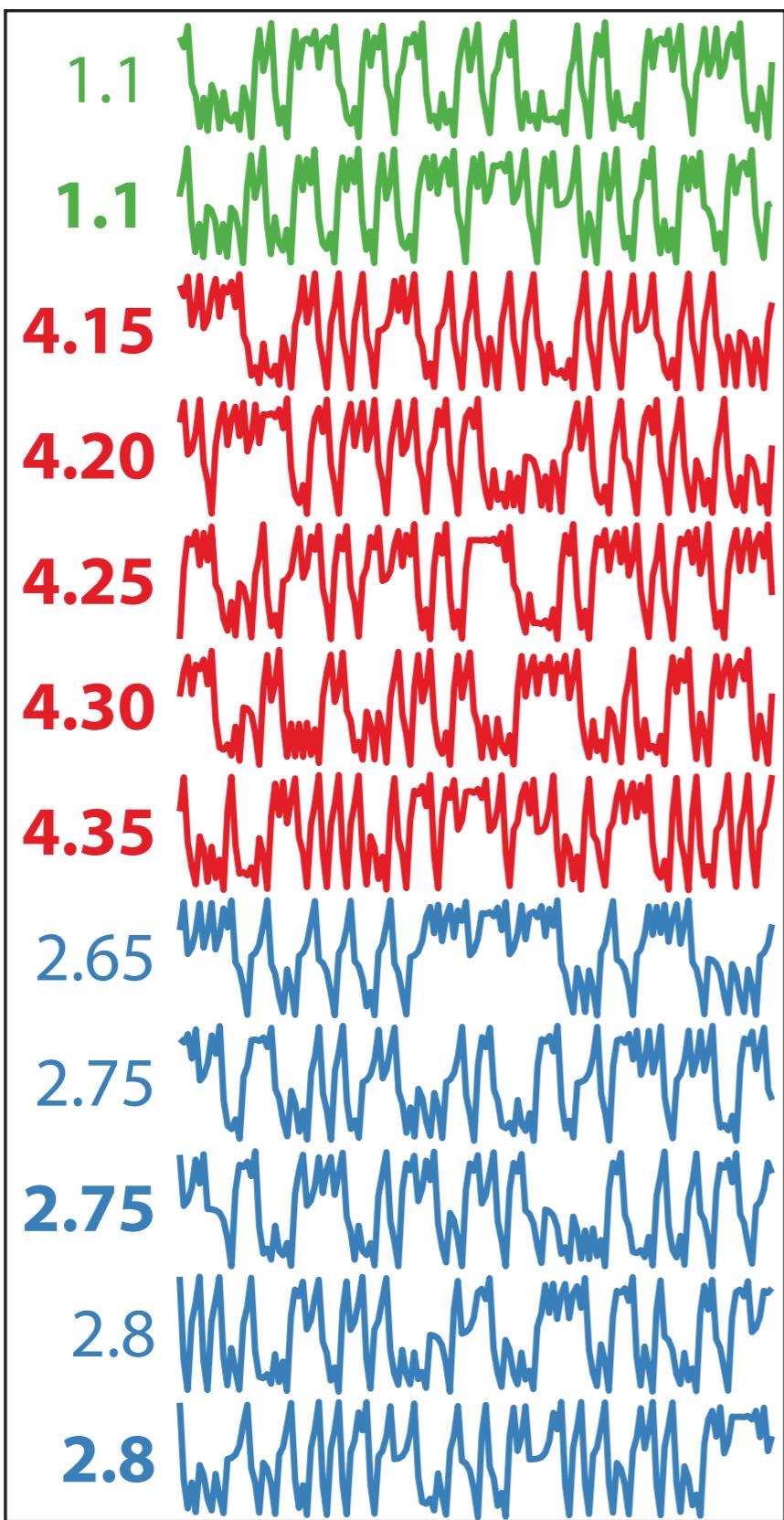
What types of real-world and model-generated time series are similar to my data?





*Clusters of time  
series  
group systems  
with common  
dynamics*

## A time-series cluster:



Sine map

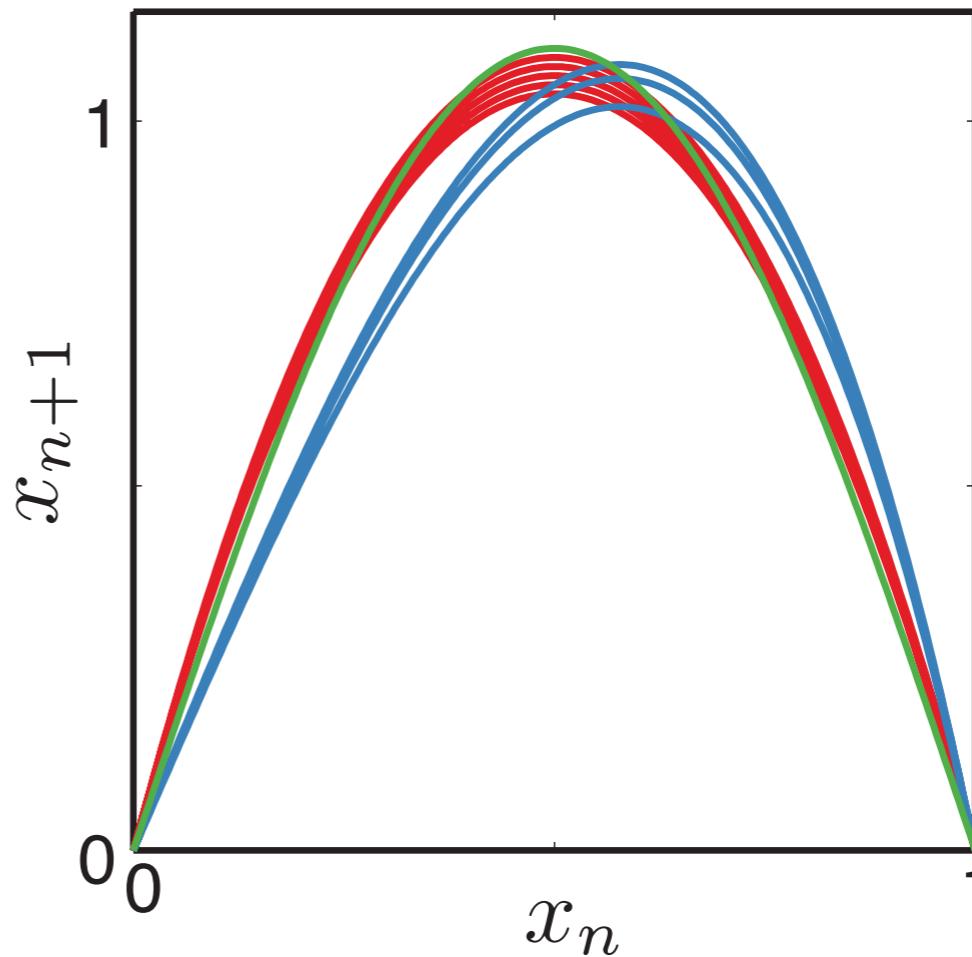
$$x_{n+1} = A \sin(\pi x_n)$$

Asymmetric Logistic map

$$x_{n+1} = Ax_n(1 - |x_n|)$$

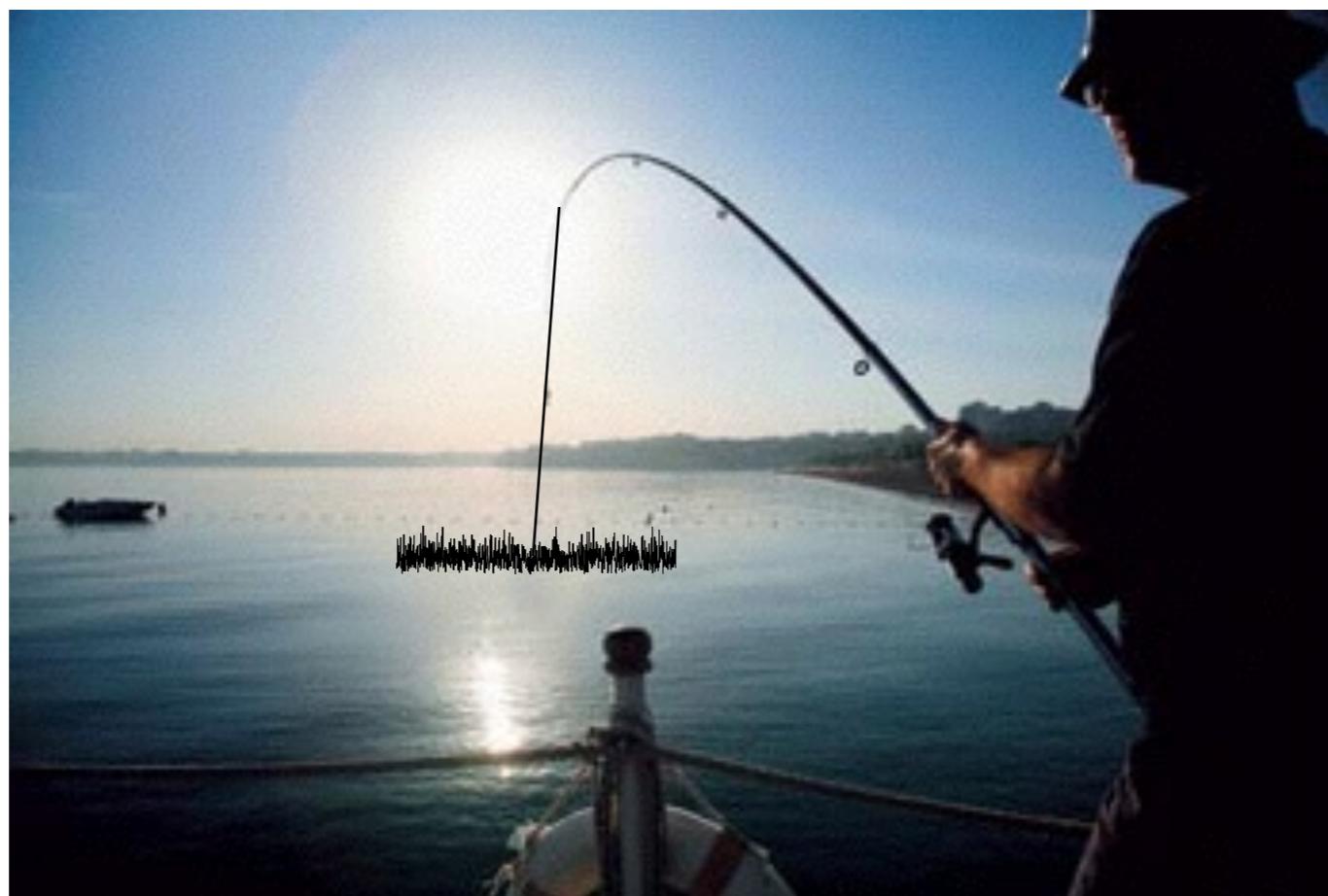
Cubic map

$$x_{n+1} = Ax_n(1 - x_n^2)$$

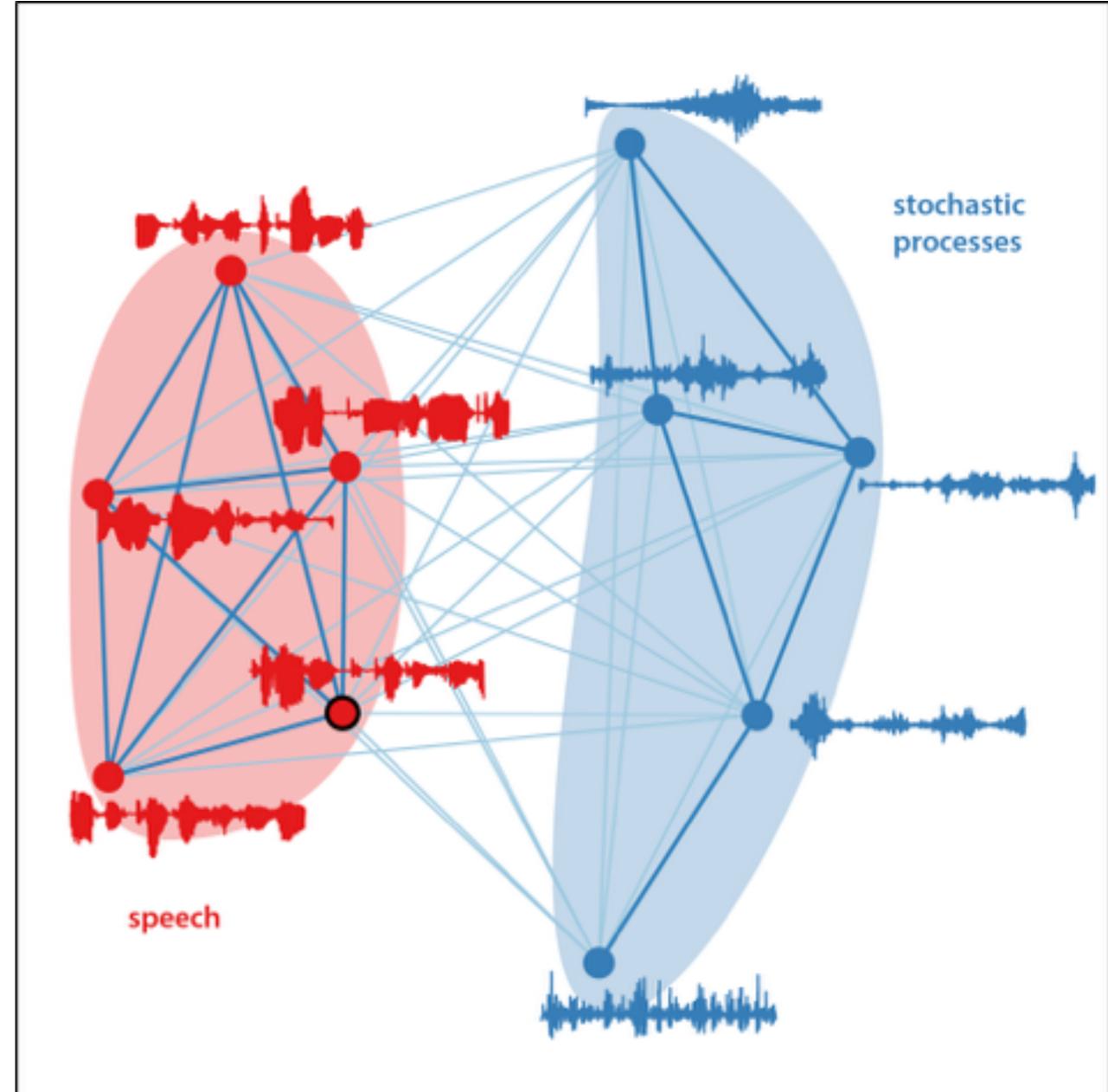
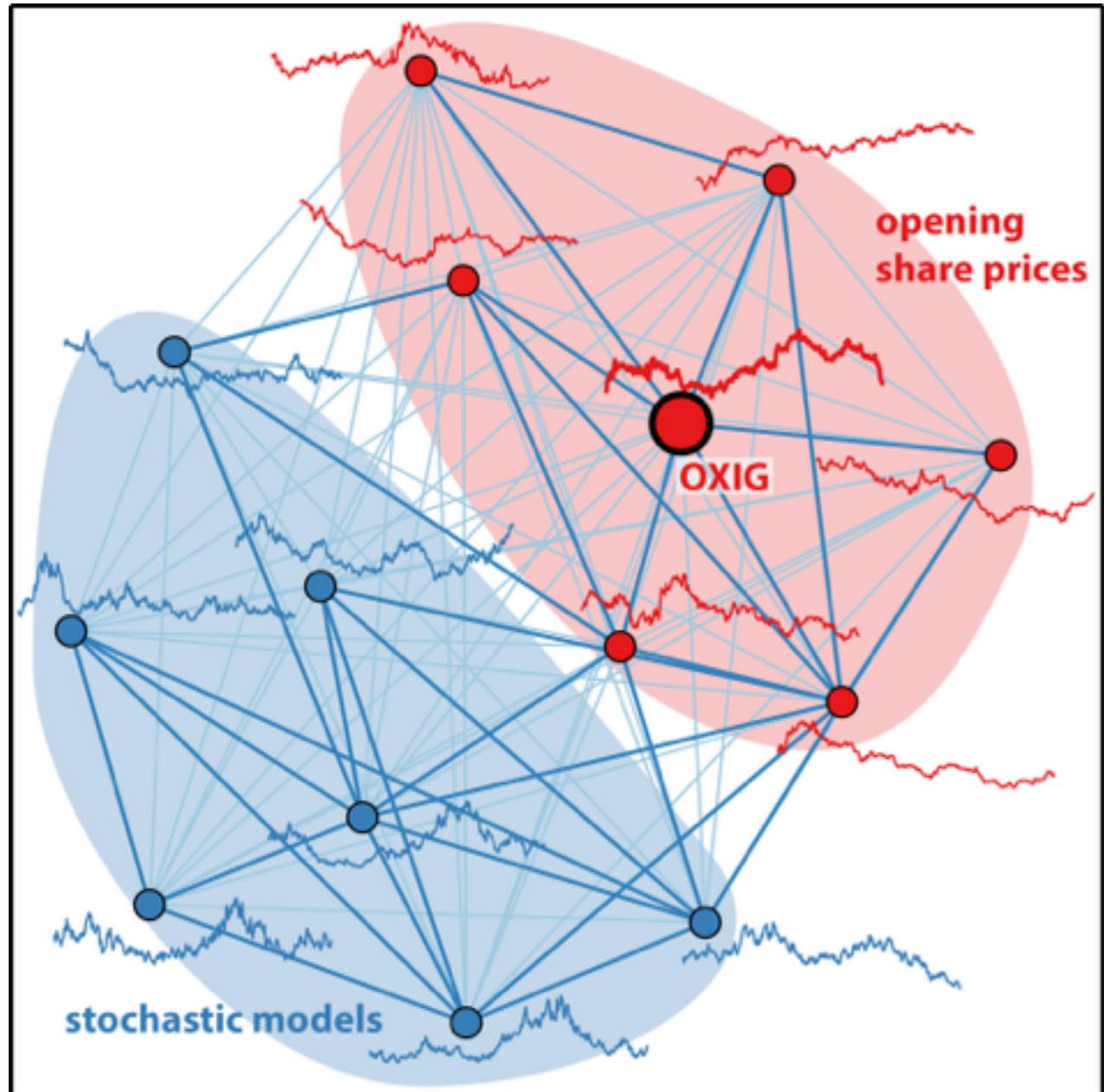
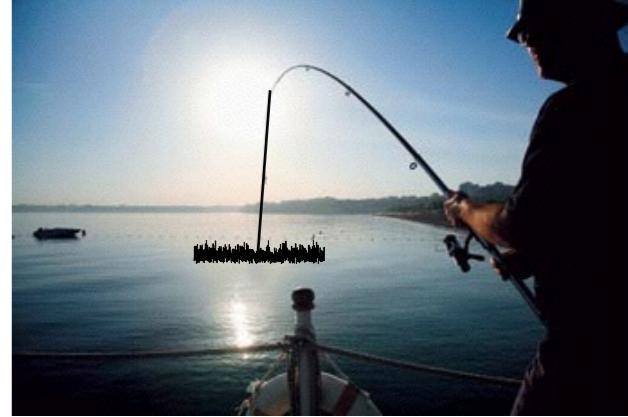


# Fishing for data

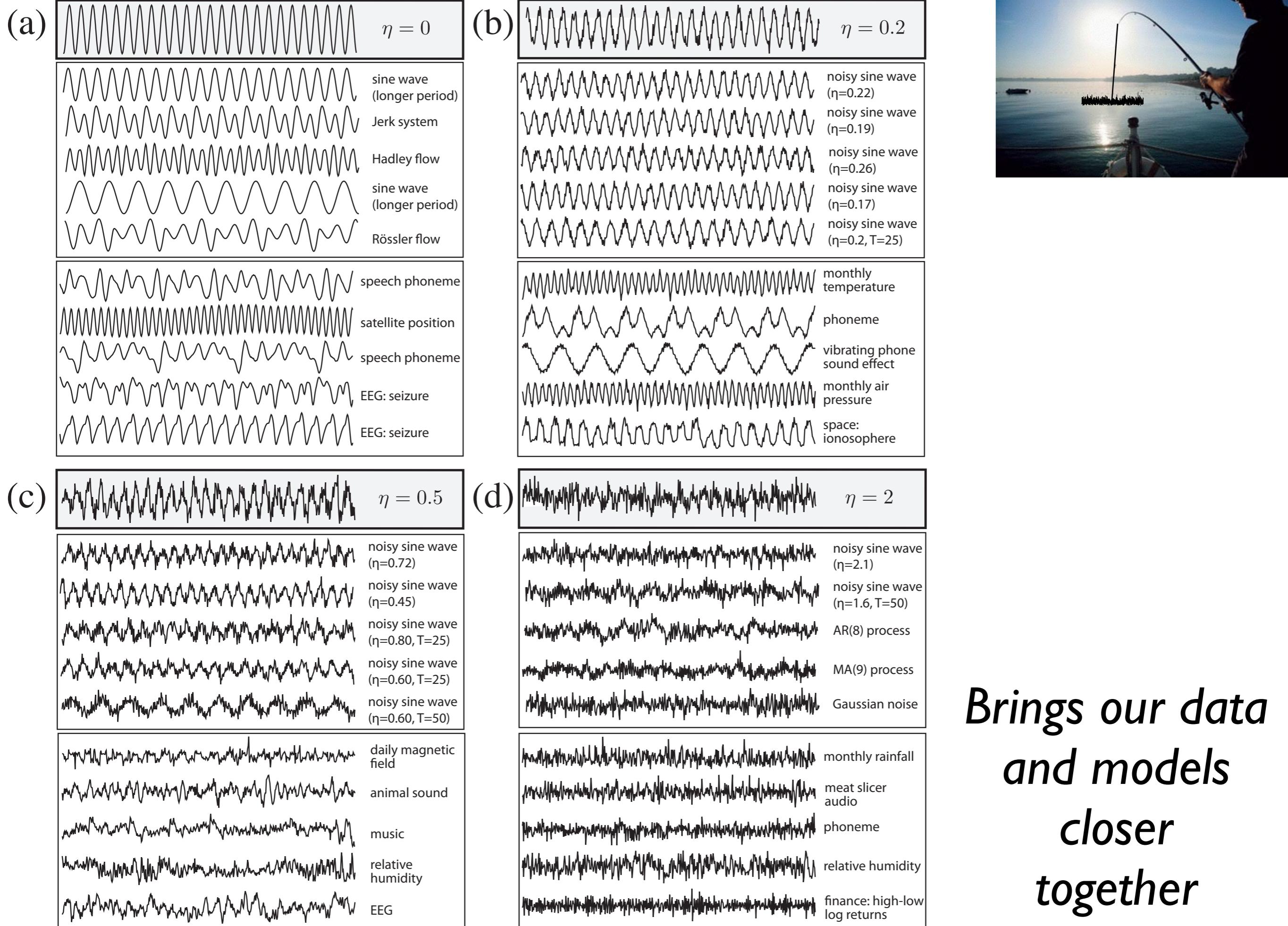
Can gain insights into your data by comparing it to a wealth of data collected in other areas of science



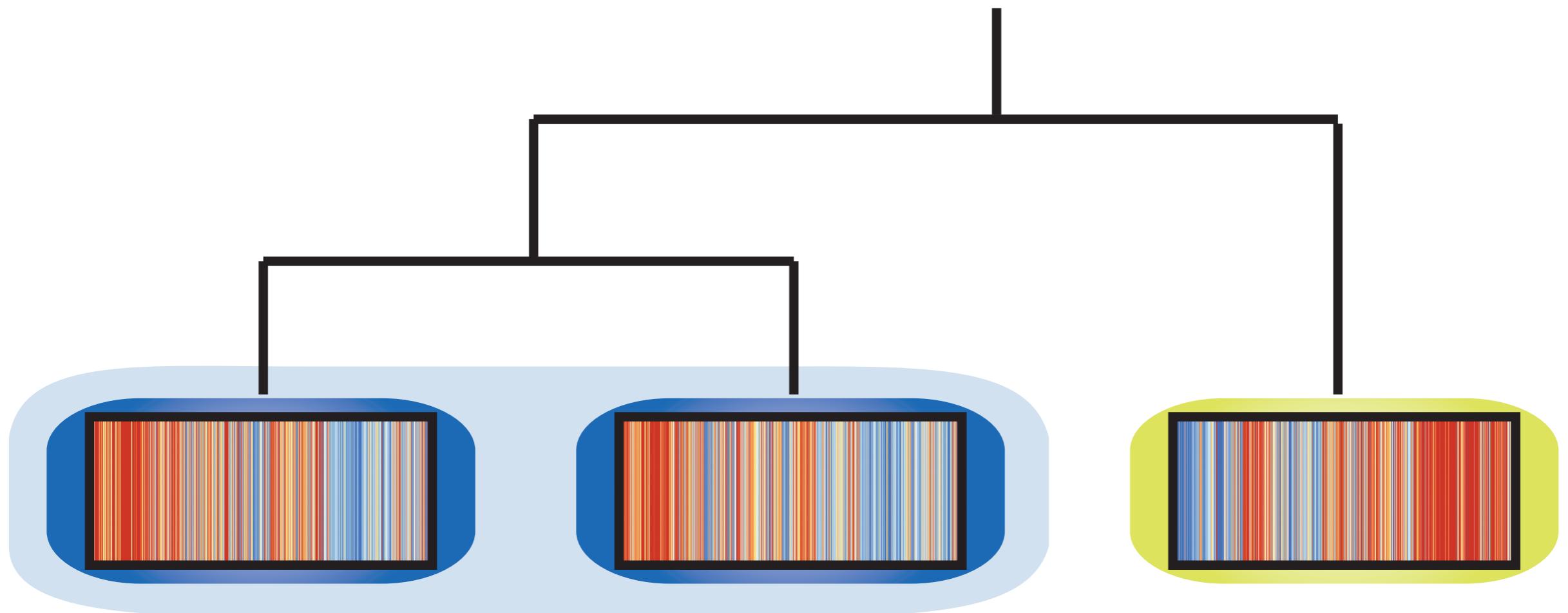
# Fishing for data



*suggest models, or similar real-world processes to our data*



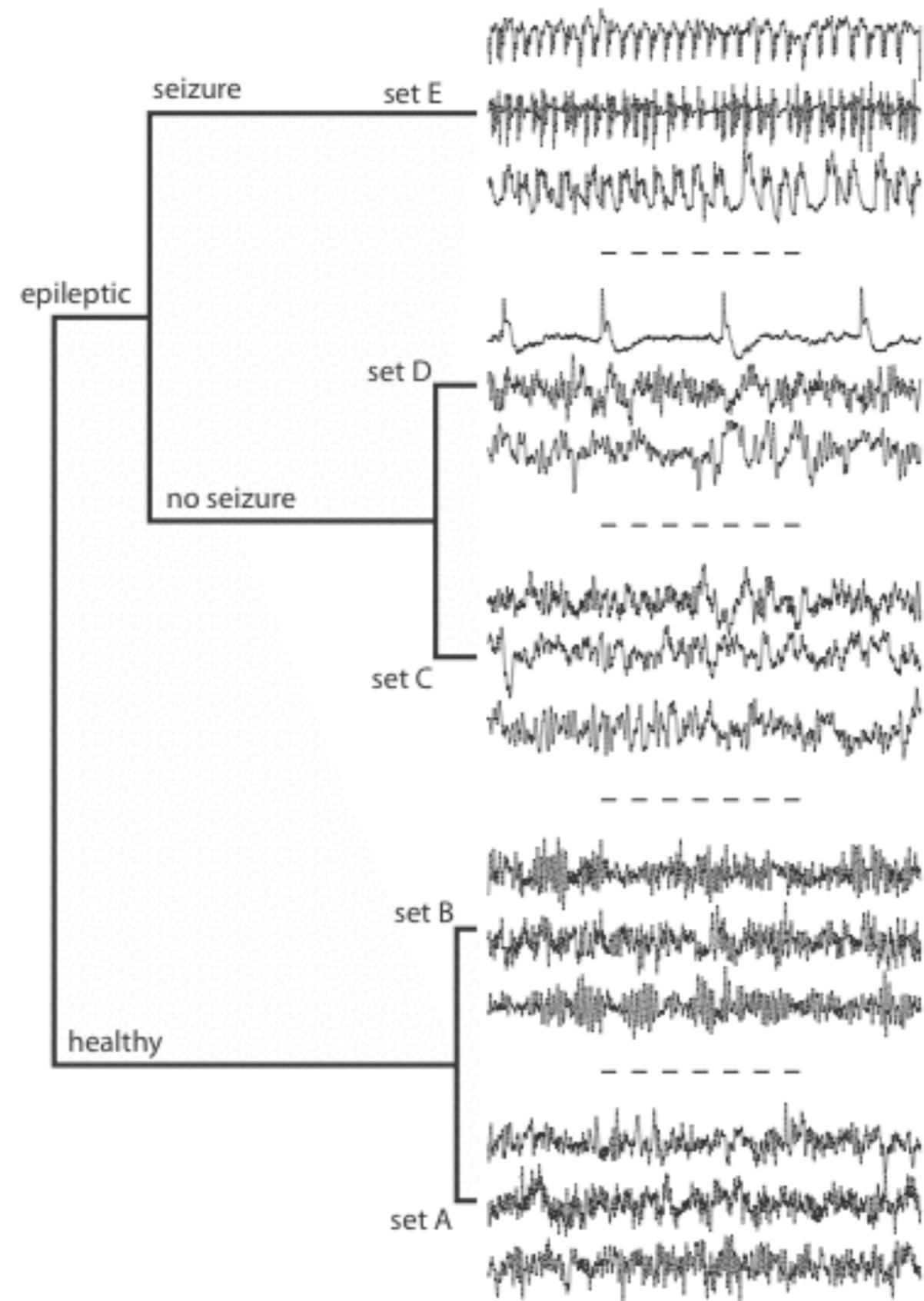
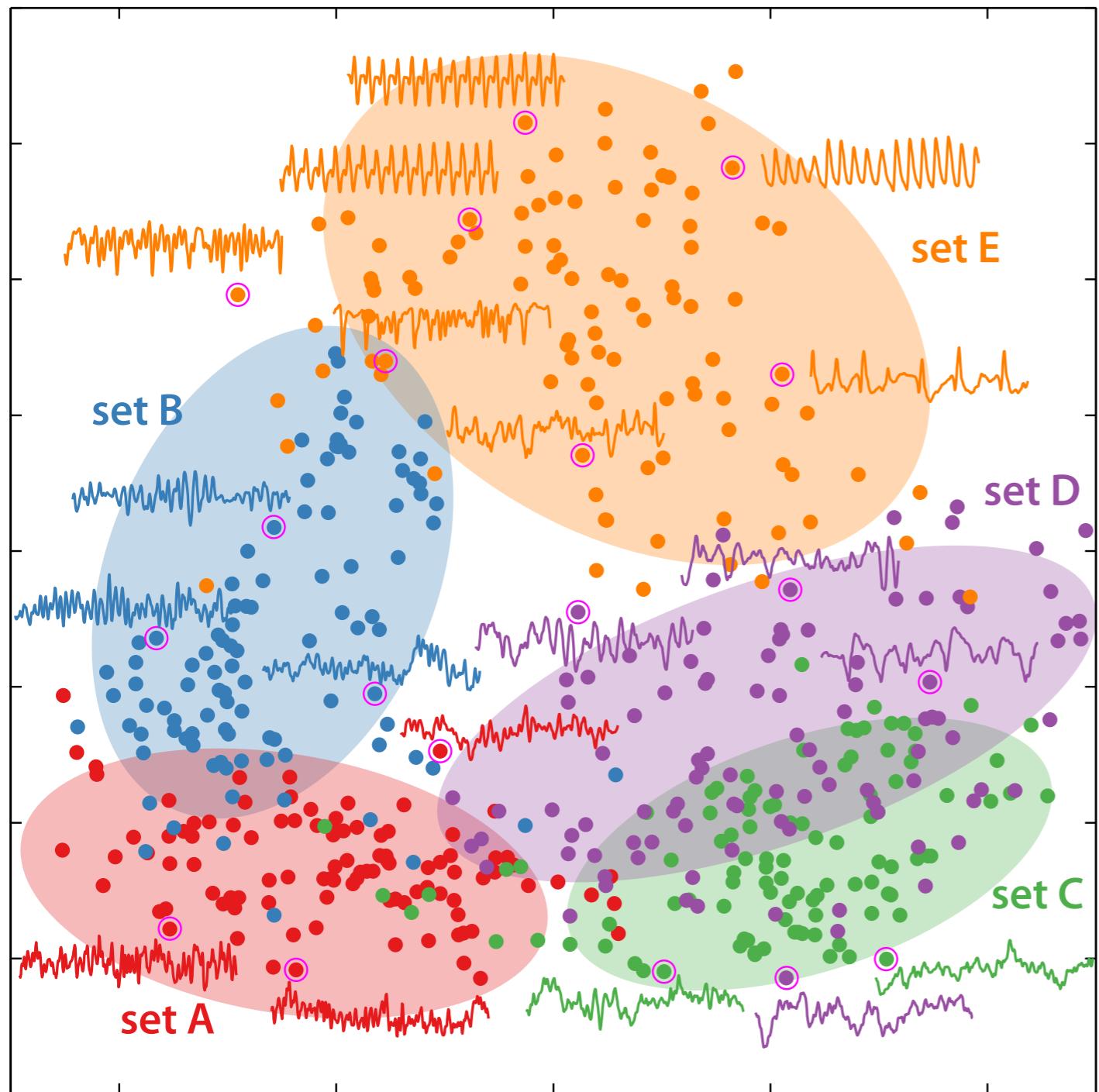
# Is there any structure in my time-series dataset?



*clusters of similar time series*

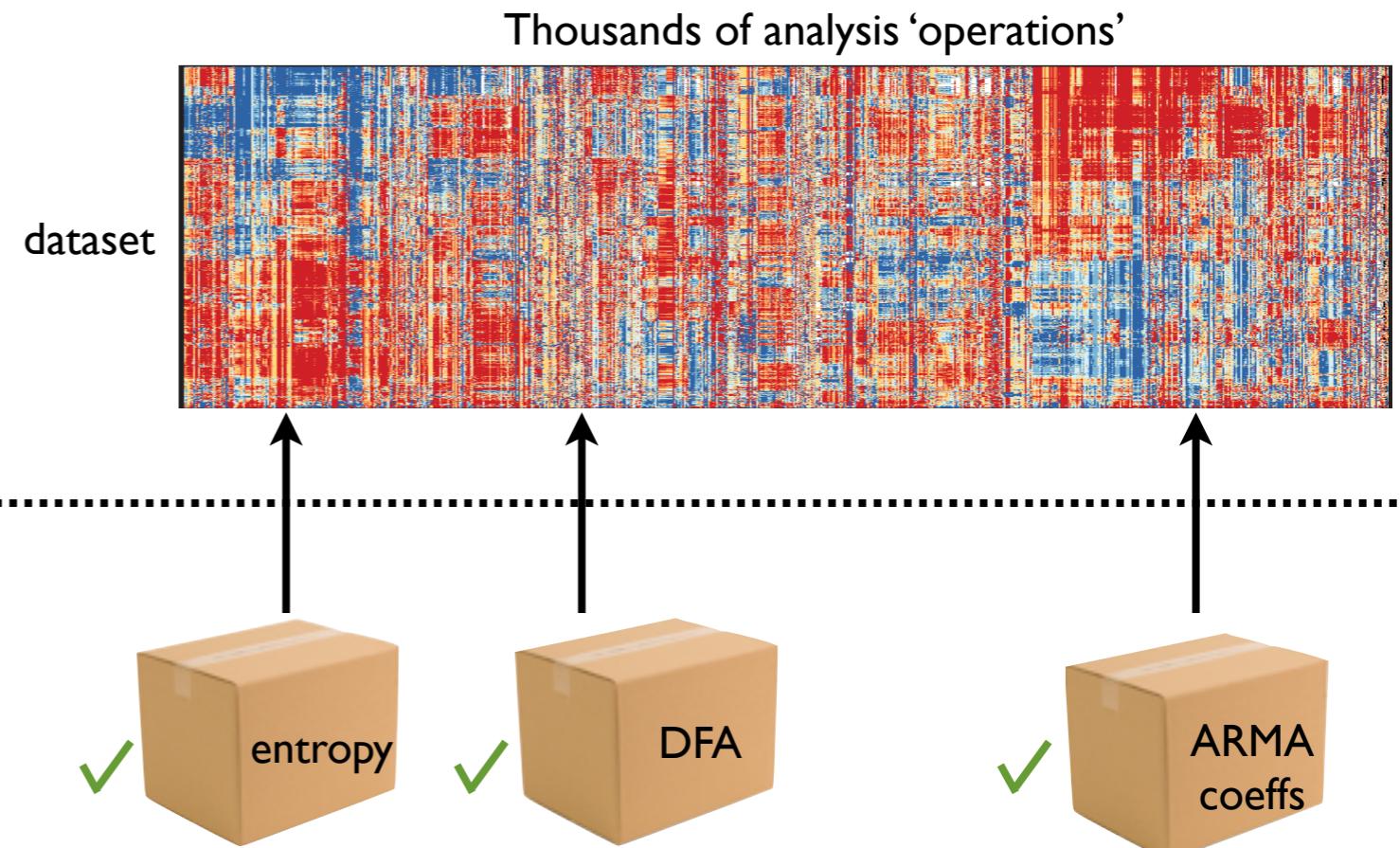
# EEGs

Principal Components projection



# Highly comparative time-series analysis

I. Compute and compare thousands of analysis methods

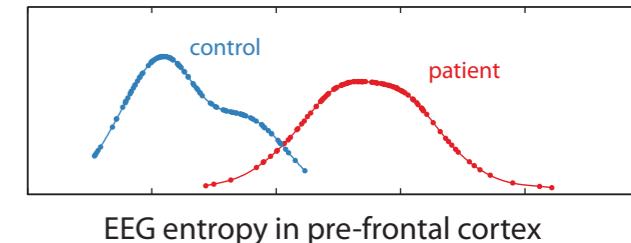


2. Select methods that perform well on your data

3. Interpret new methods to gain insights into your data

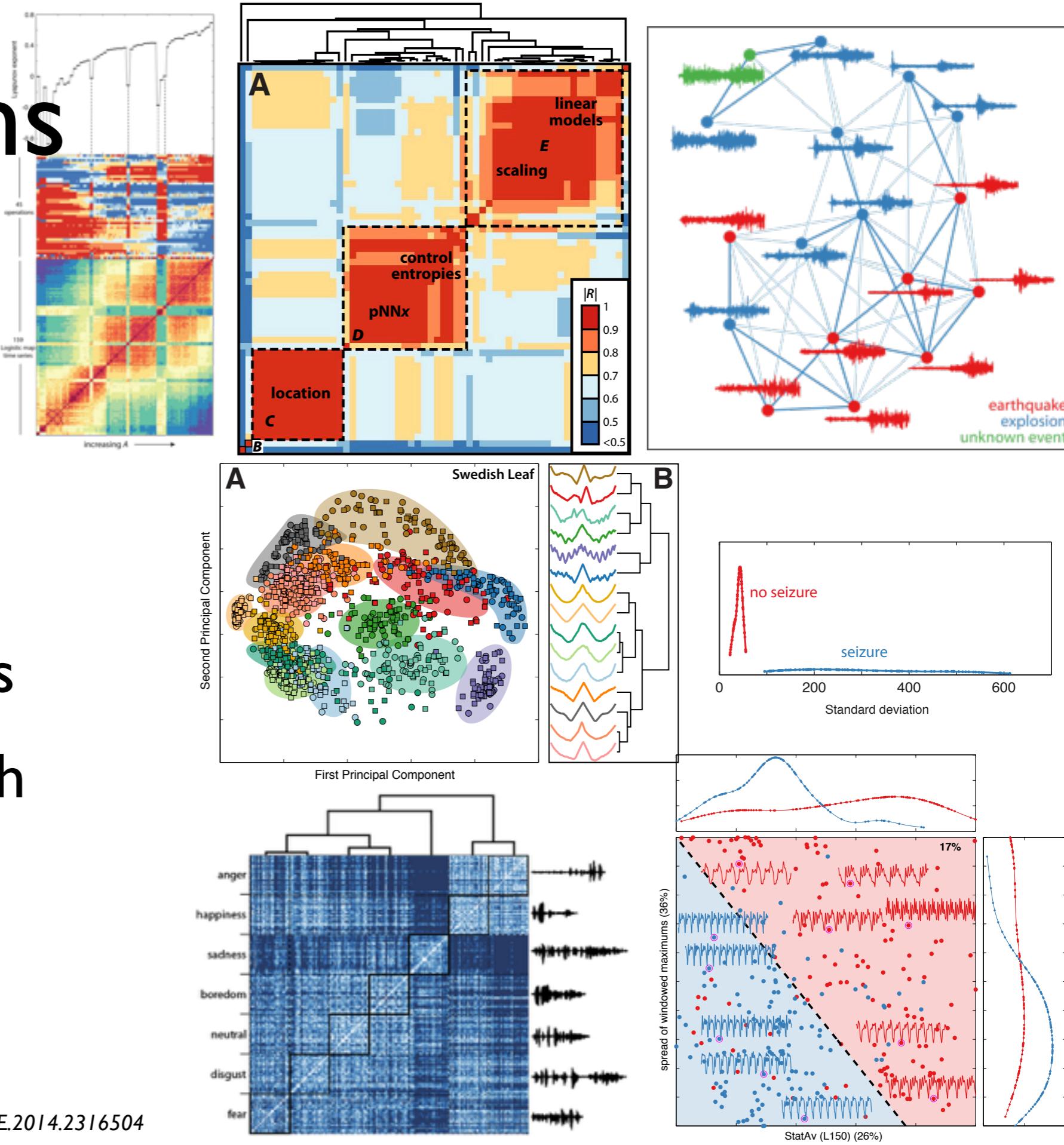
*“Signals from the patient group are less predictable”*  
*“Single neuron recordings from region X have more outliers and intermittent fluctuations”*

“...”

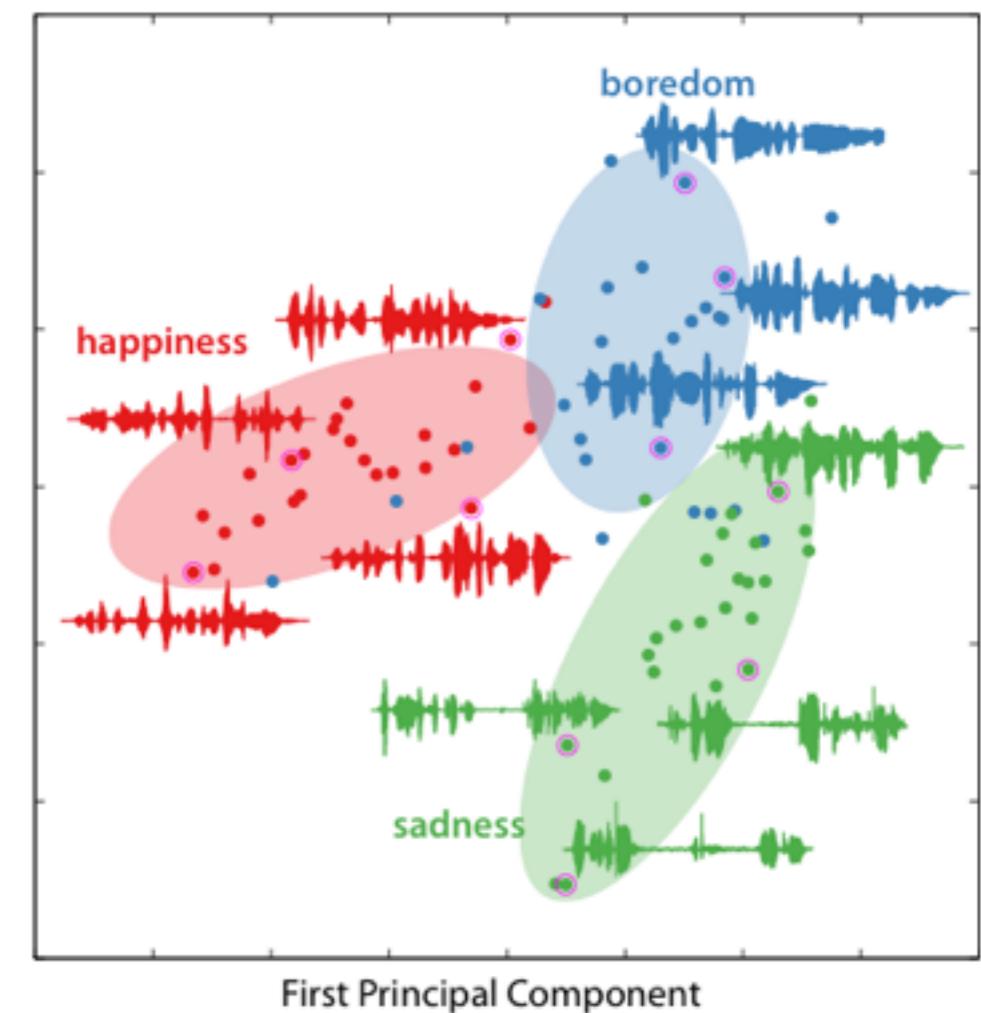
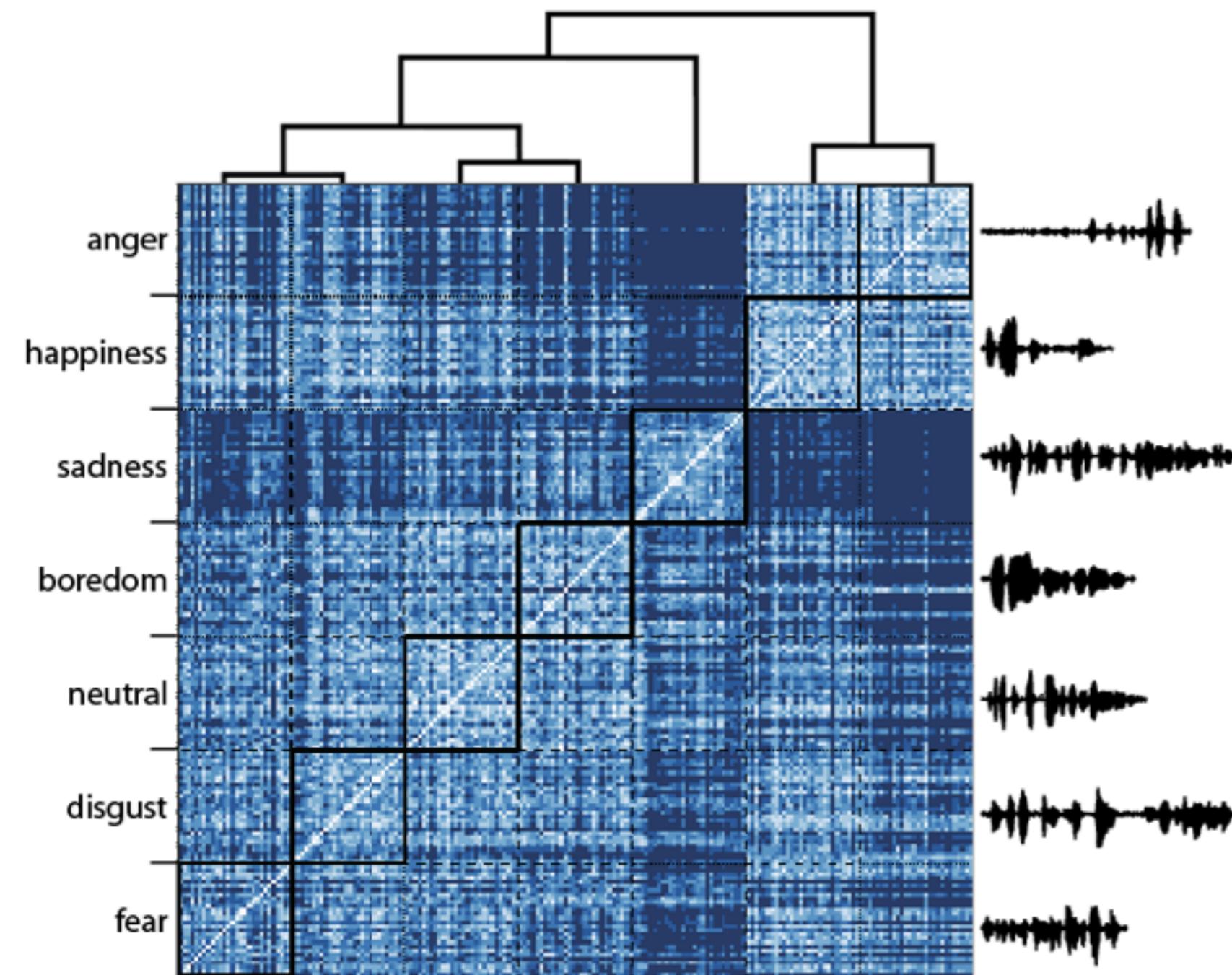


# Applications

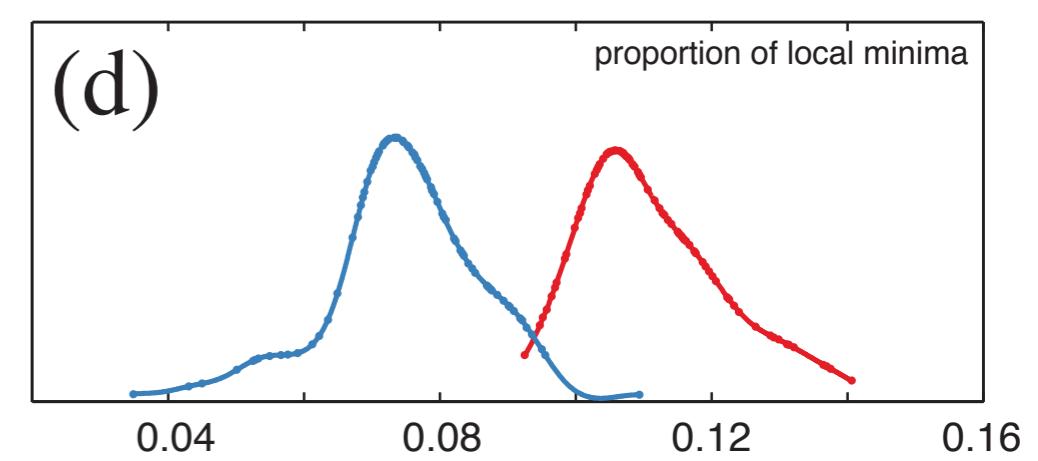
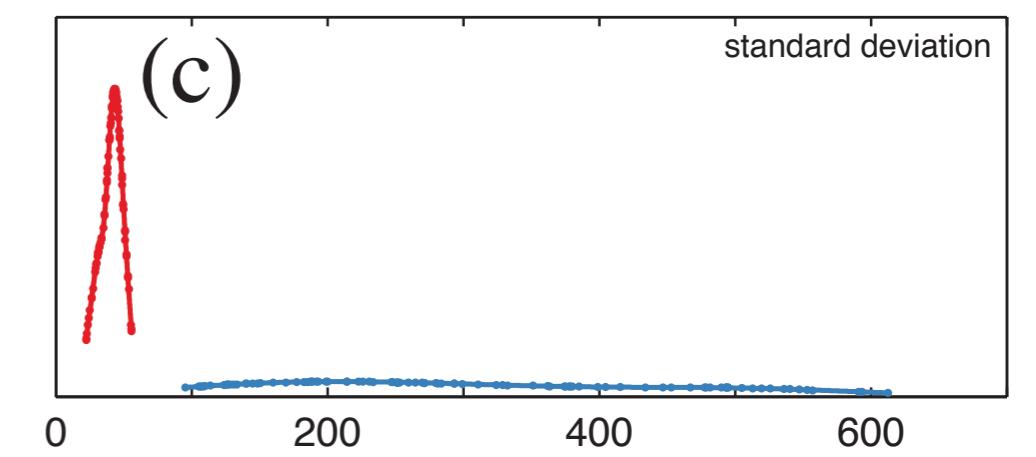
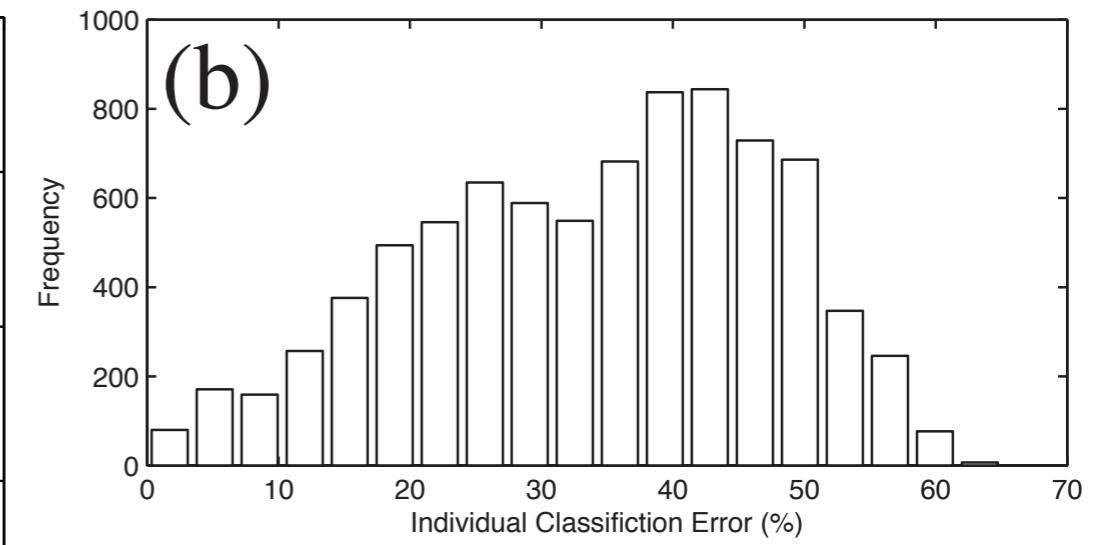
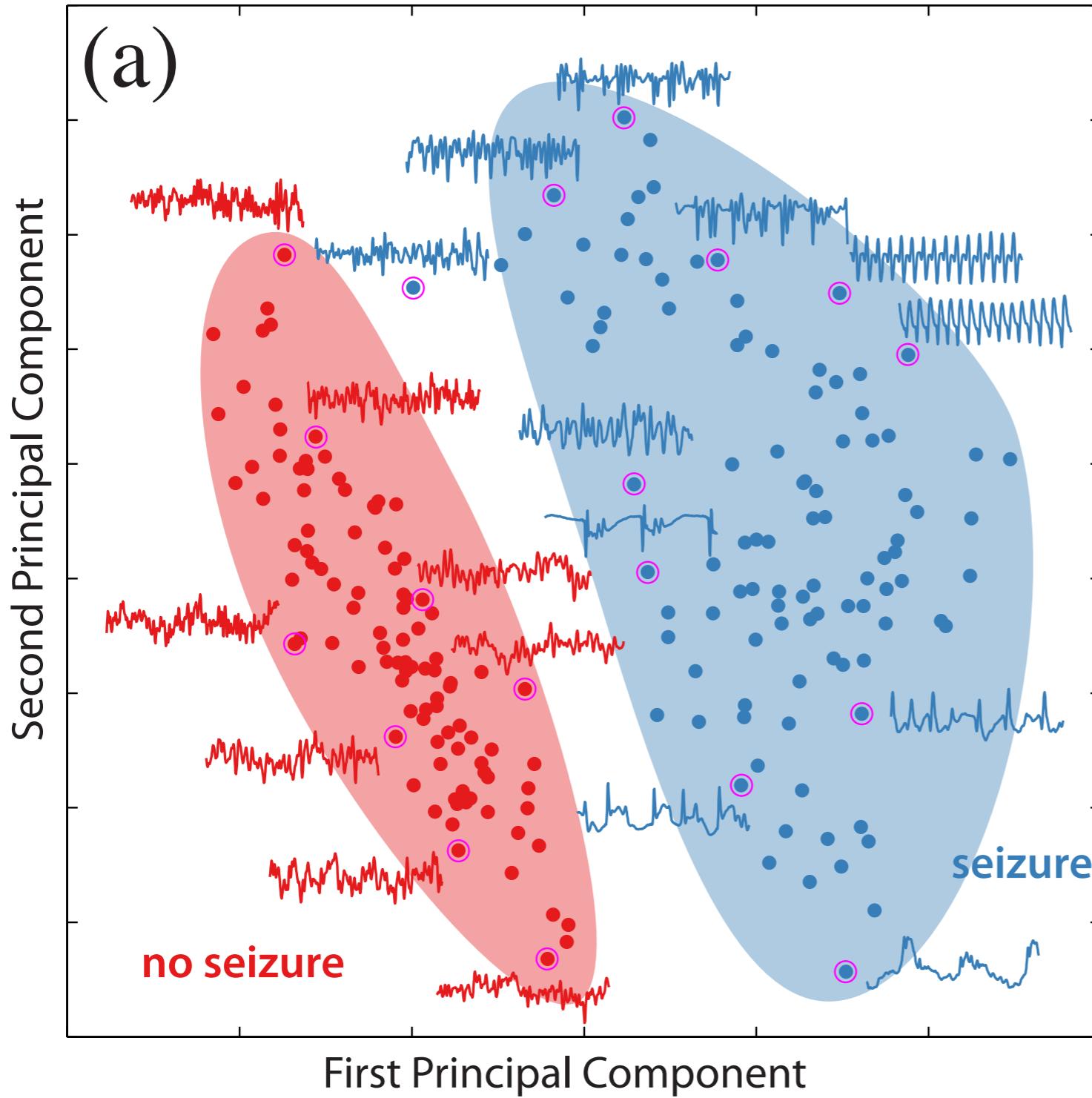
- Seismic data
- Simulated chaos
- Fetal heart rate
- Heart rate intervals
- Parkinsonian speech
- Epileptic EEGs
- Emotional speech



# Identifying emotions in German speech

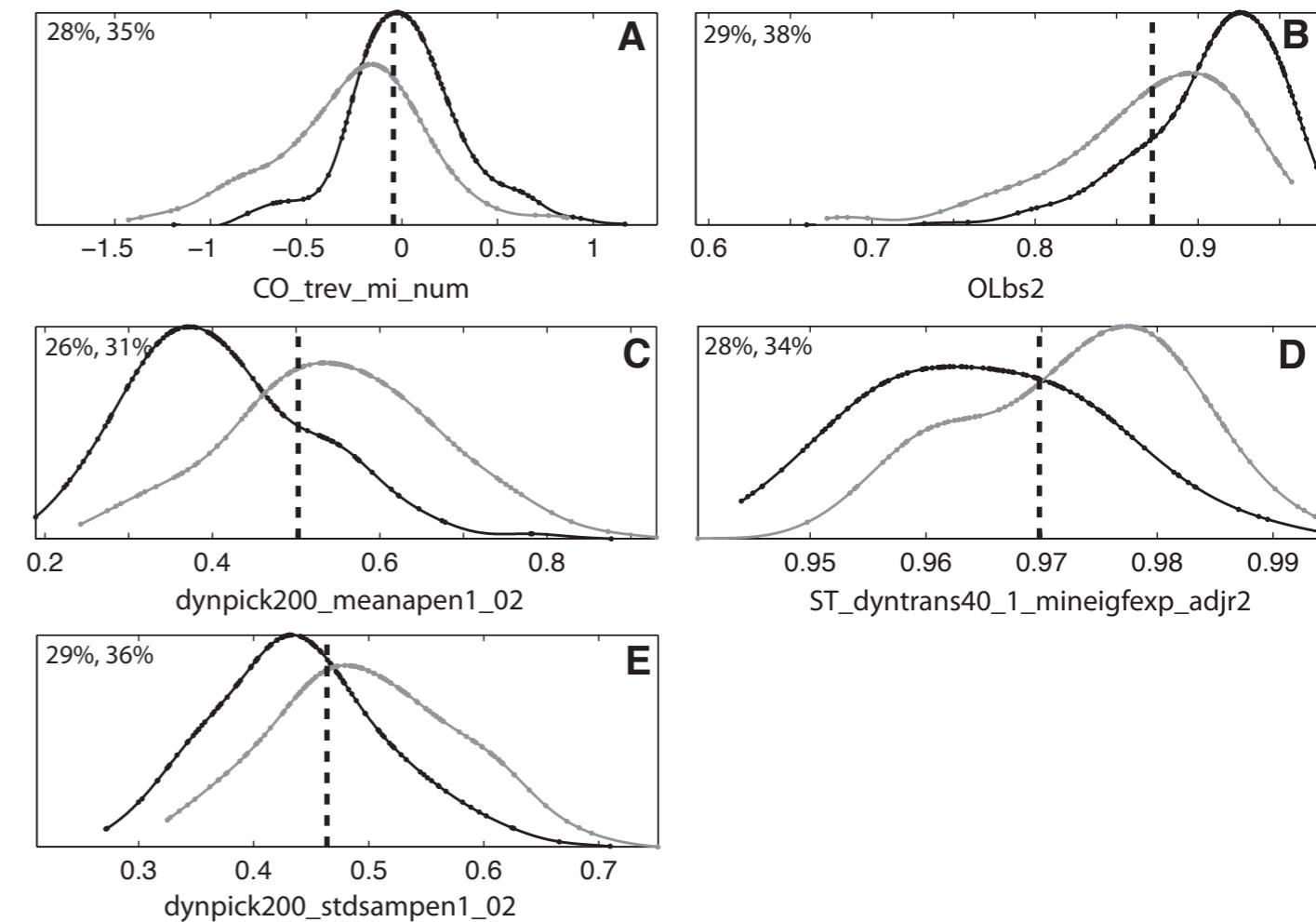
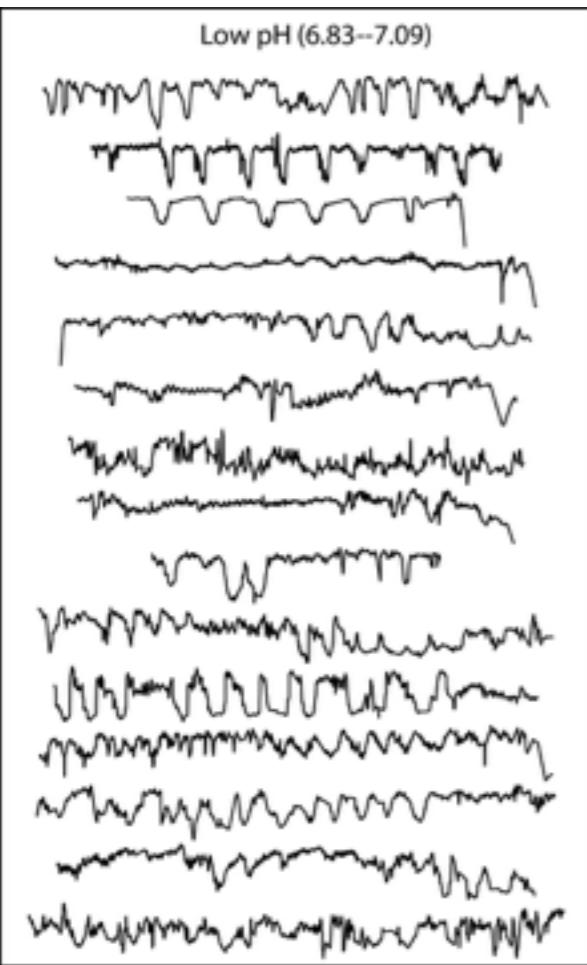
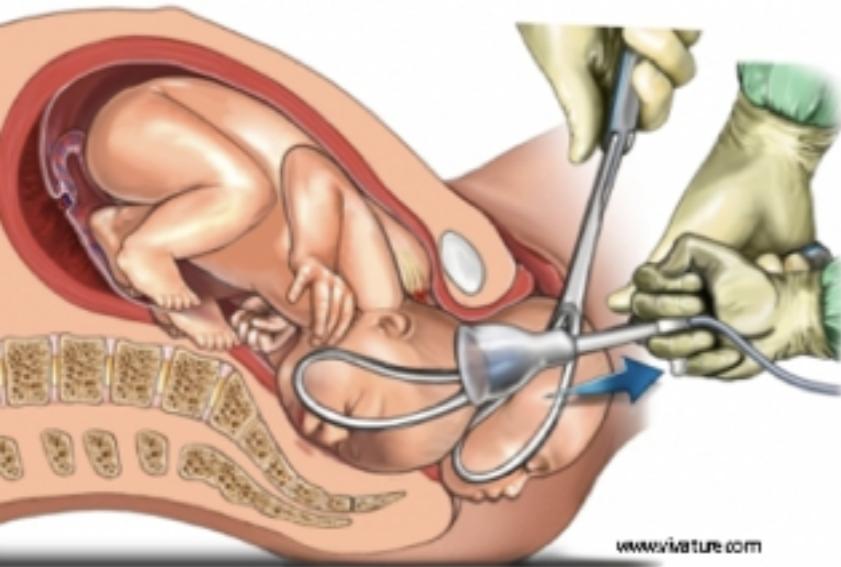


# Classifying seizures

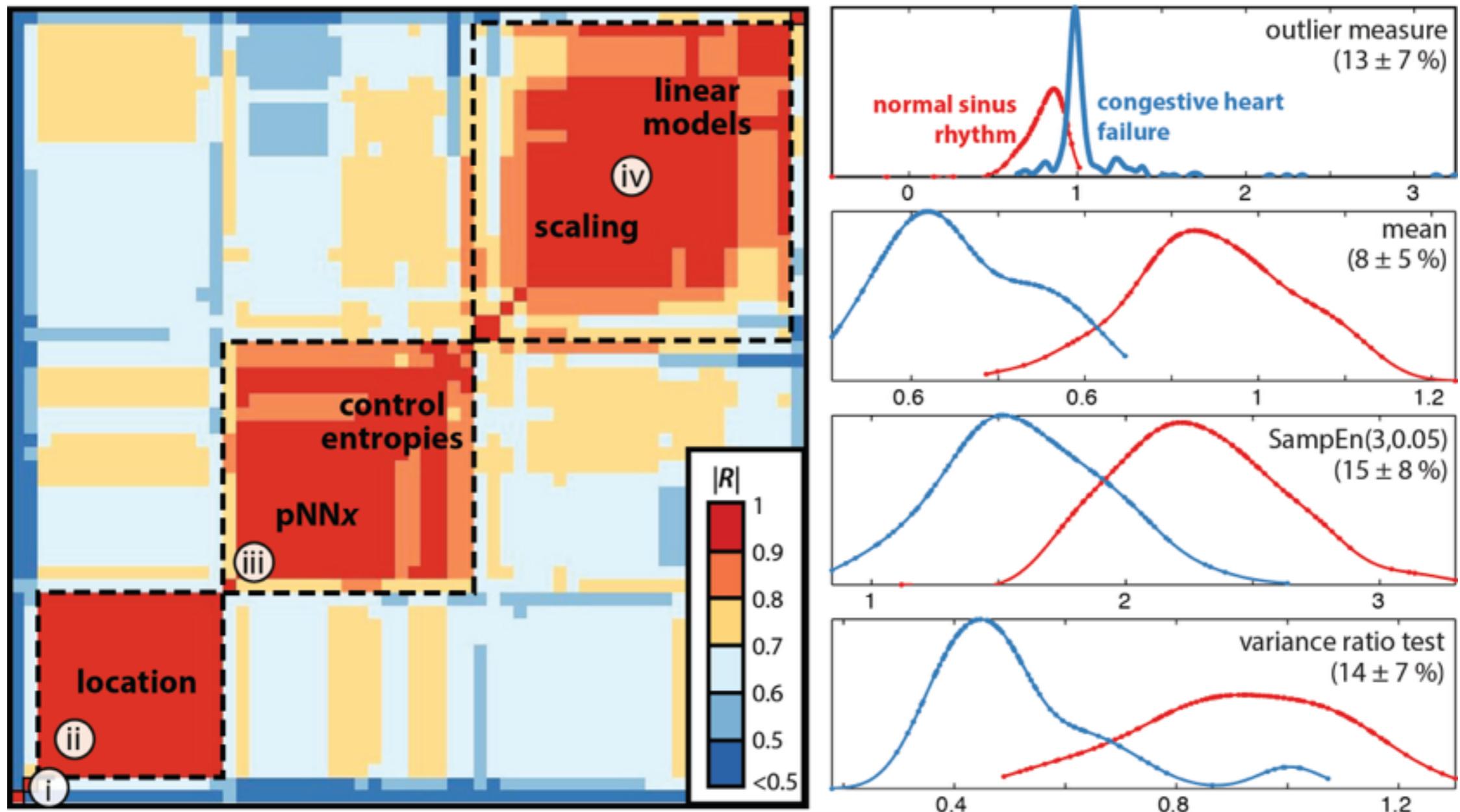
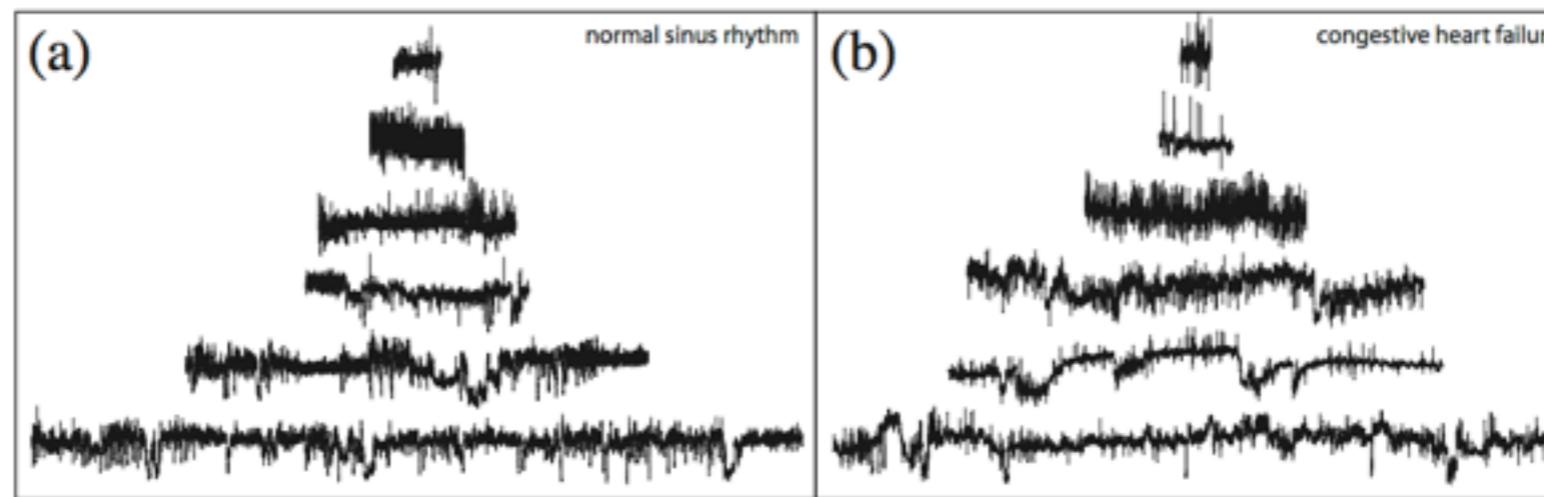


# Diagnosis of fetal heart rates

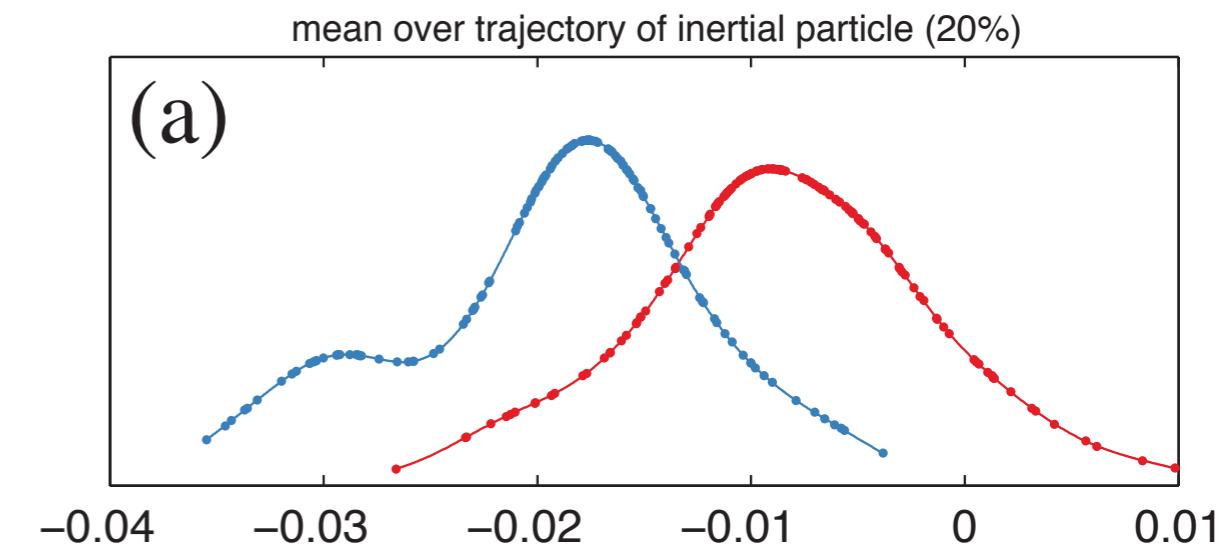
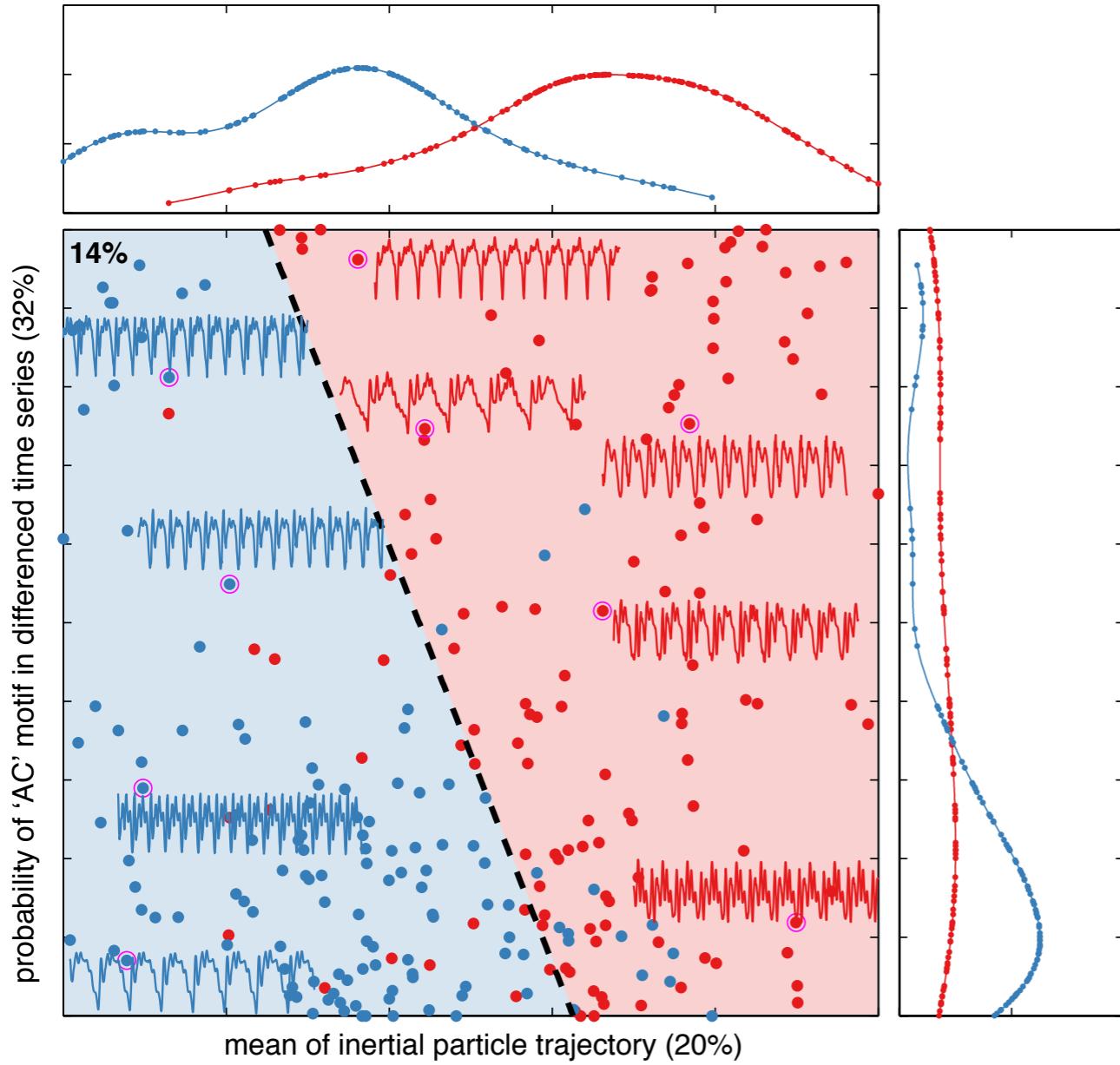
Arterial and venous blood samples



# Heart rate variability

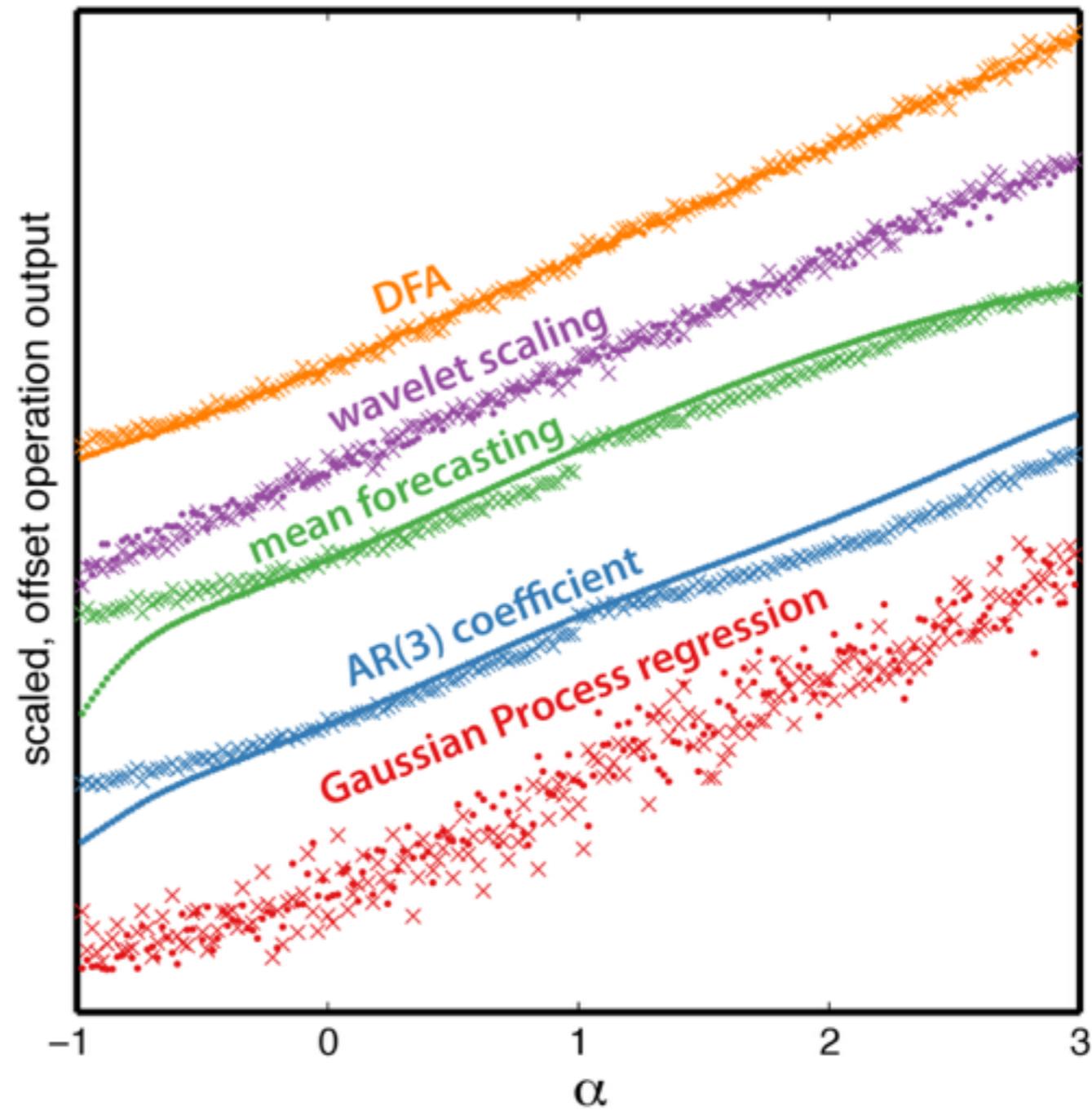
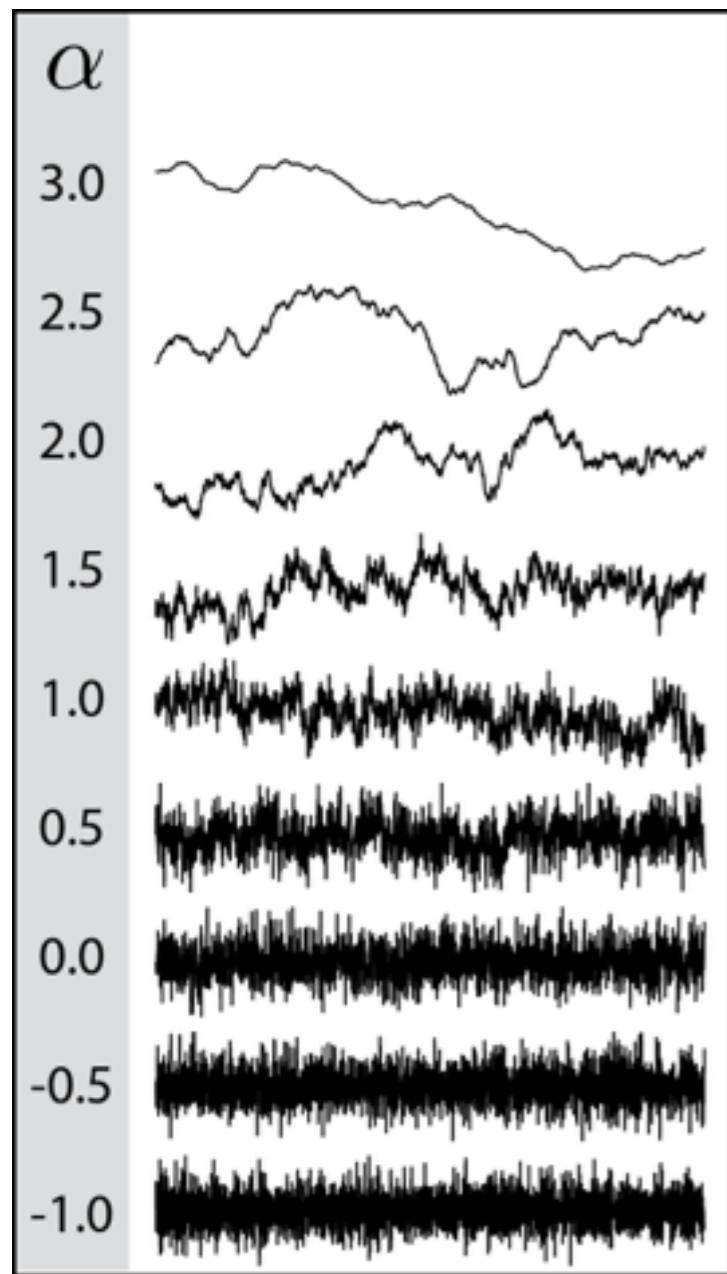


# Parkinsonian speech



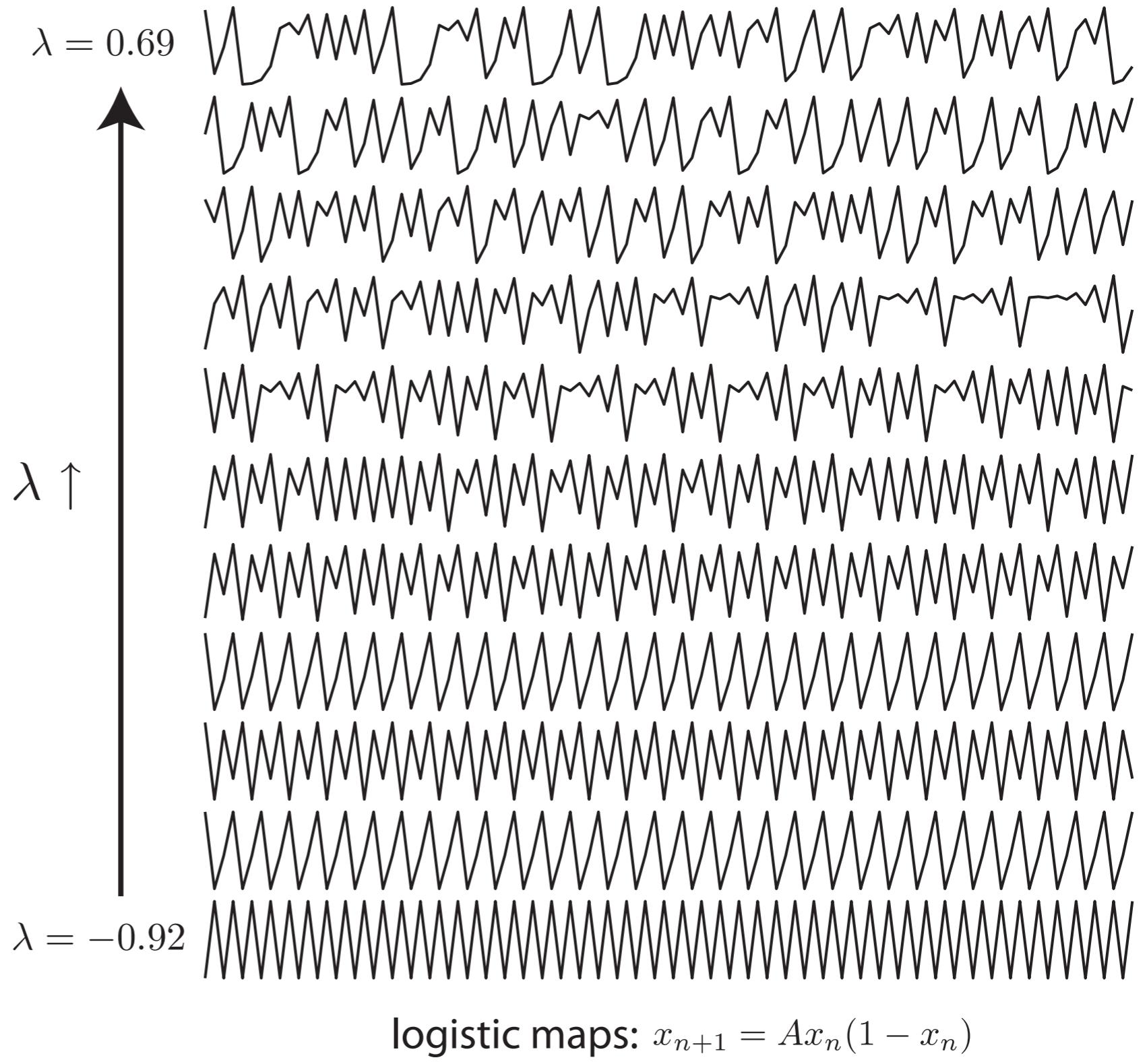
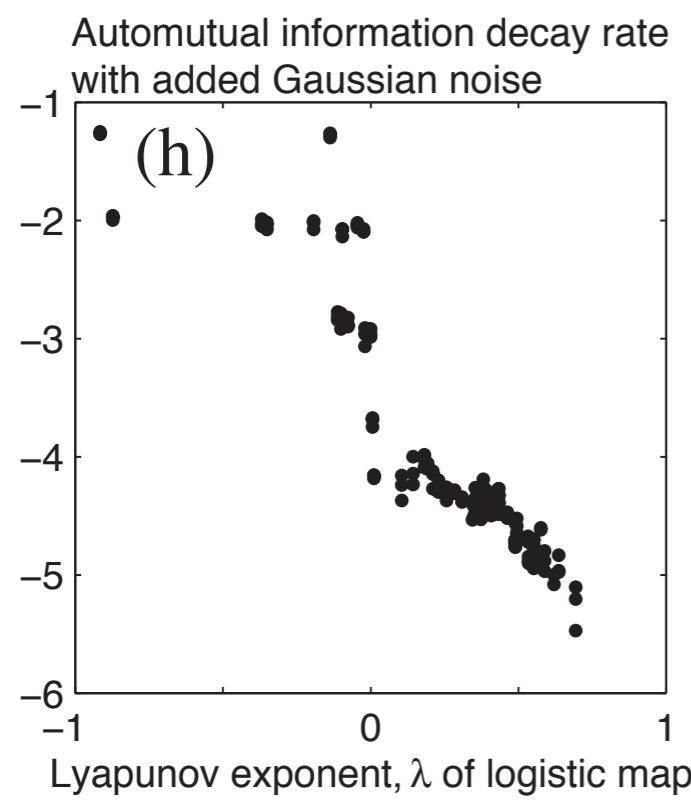
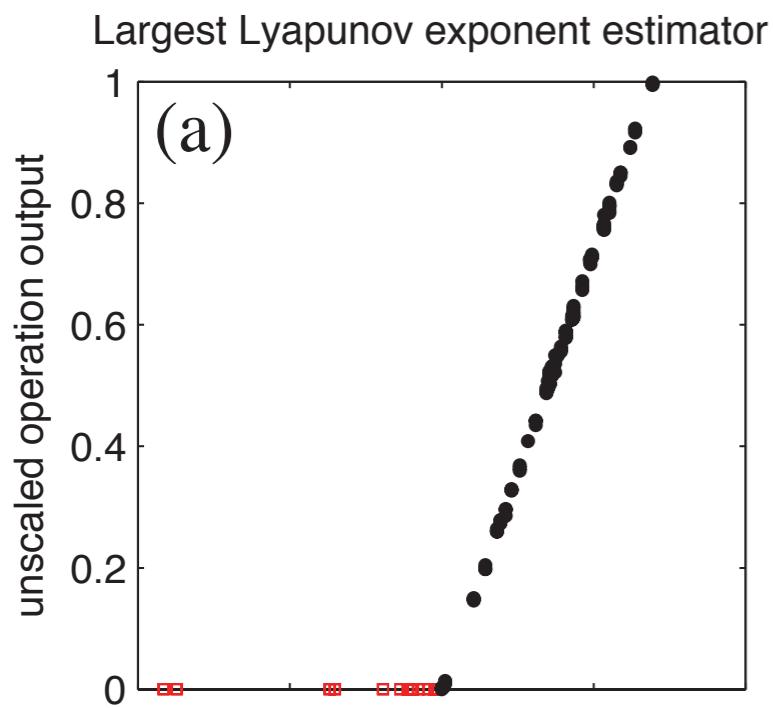
*Classifiers combine methods developed in different scientific disciplines*

# Self-affine time series



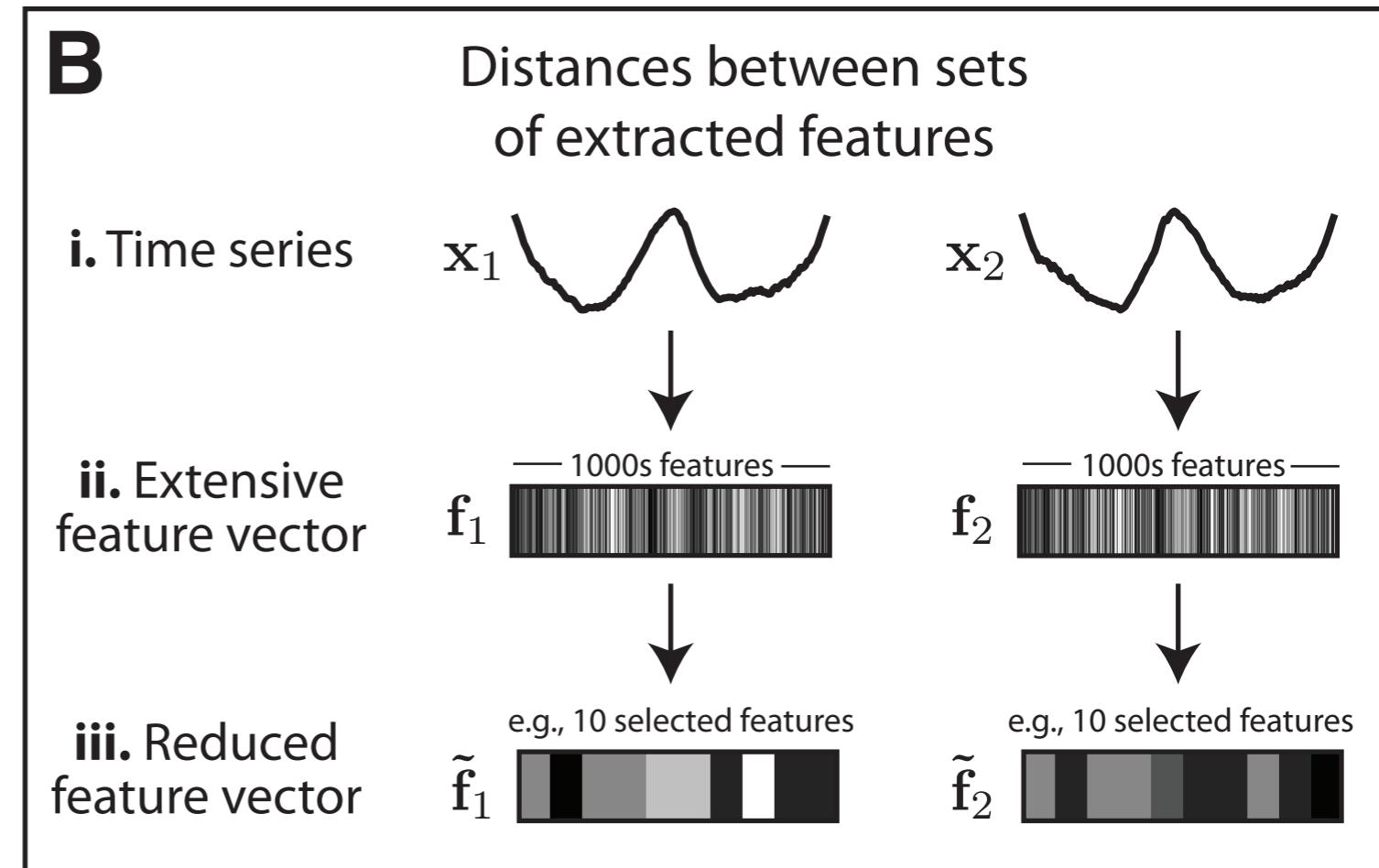
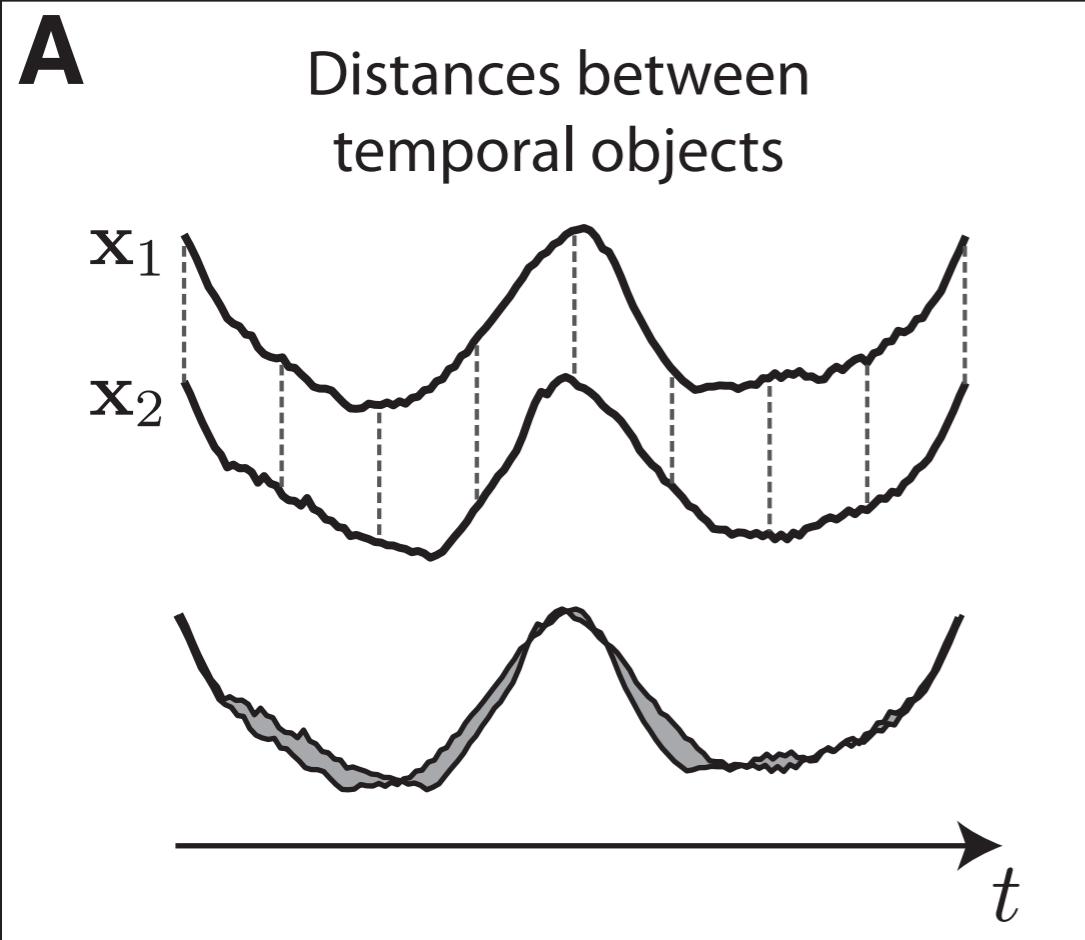


# Logistic Map



# Time-series data mining

*Cluster and classify short time-series ‘patterns’ (functional data)*

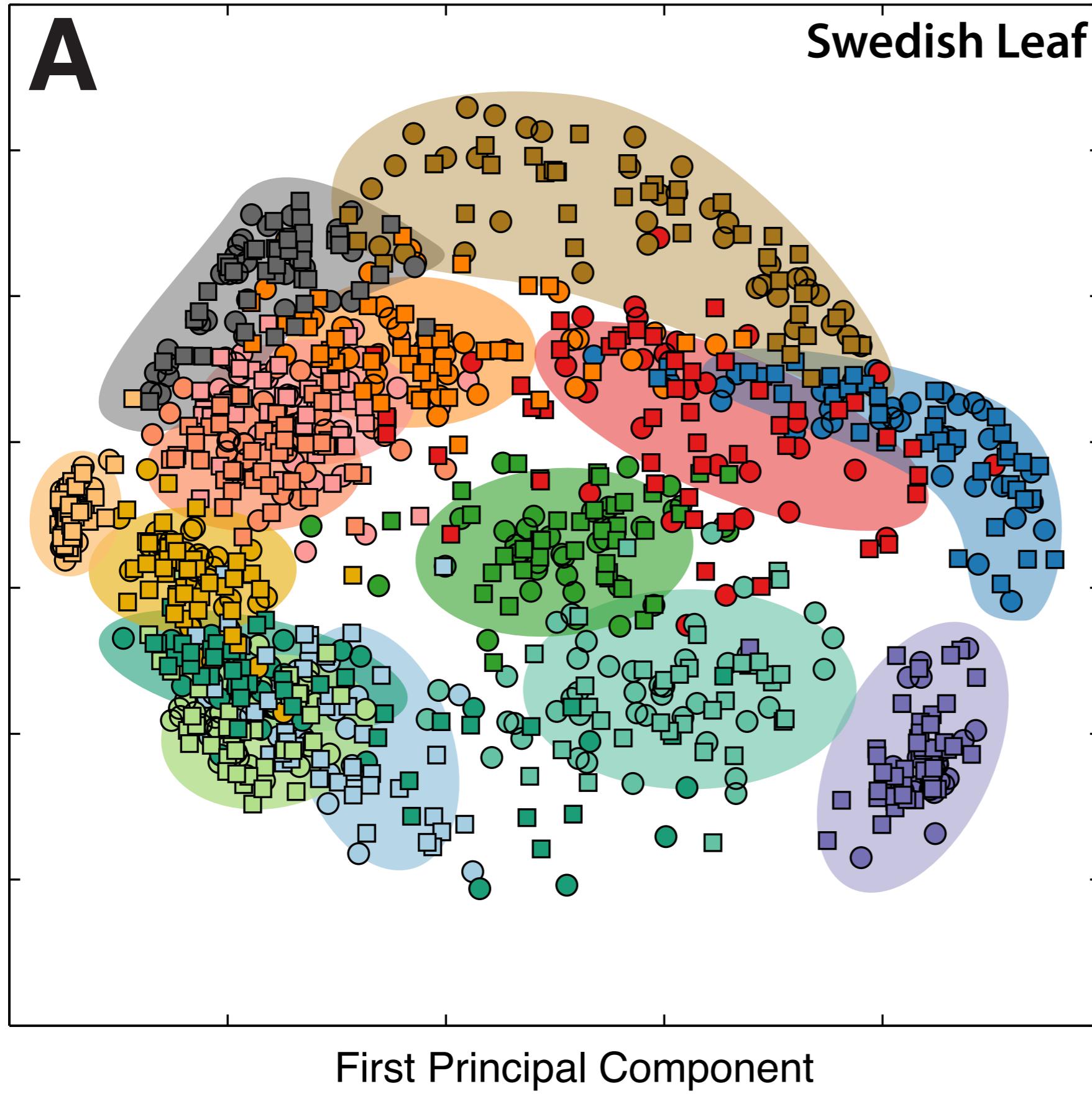


Second Principal Component

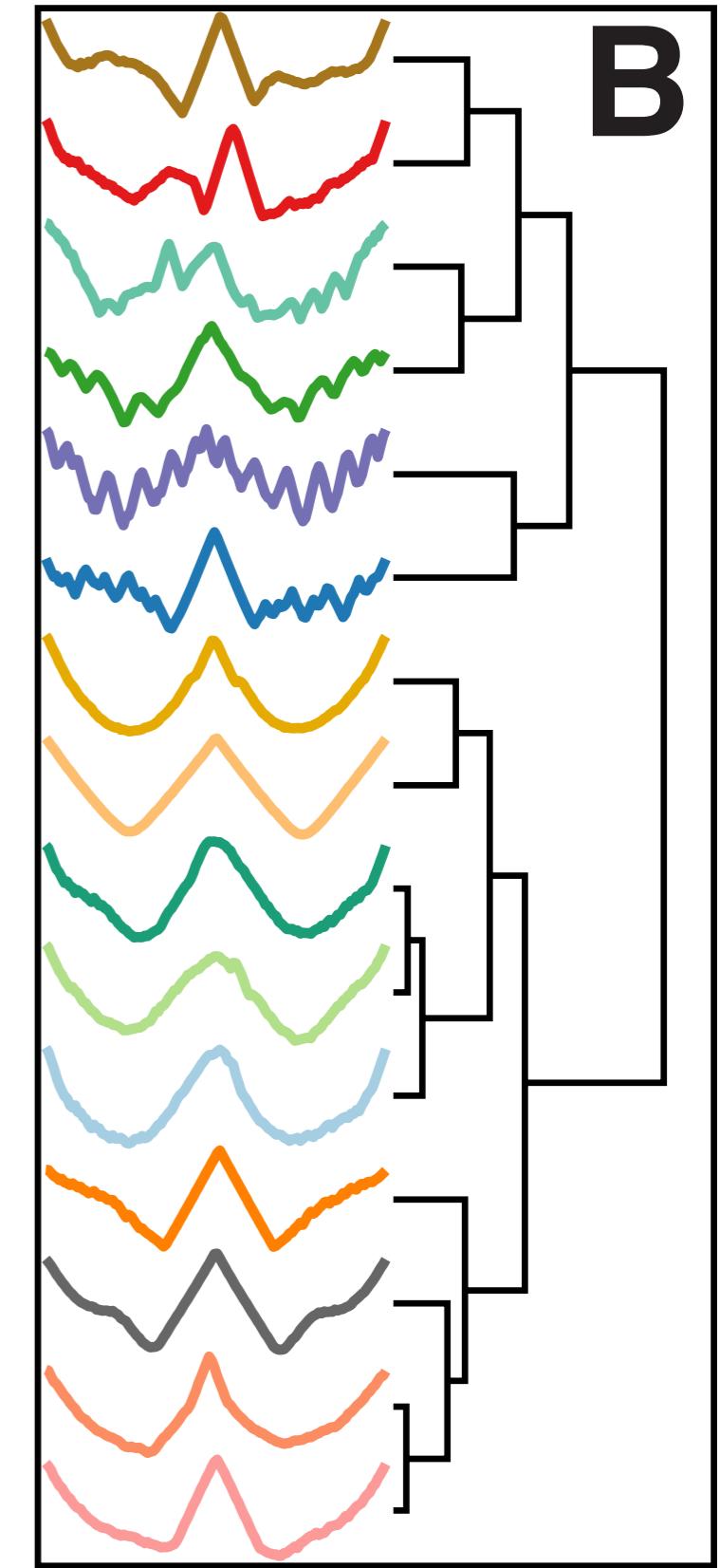
A

Swedish Leaf

First Principal Component

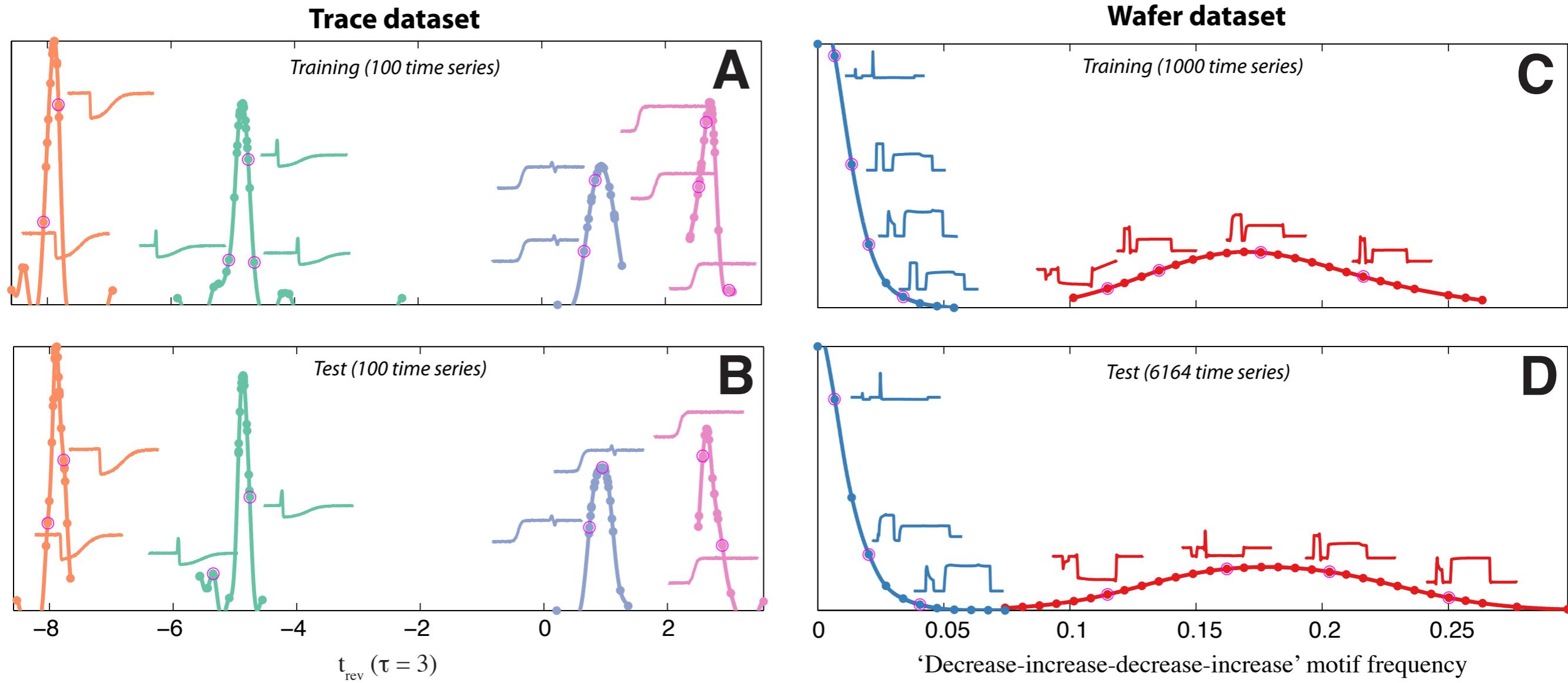


B

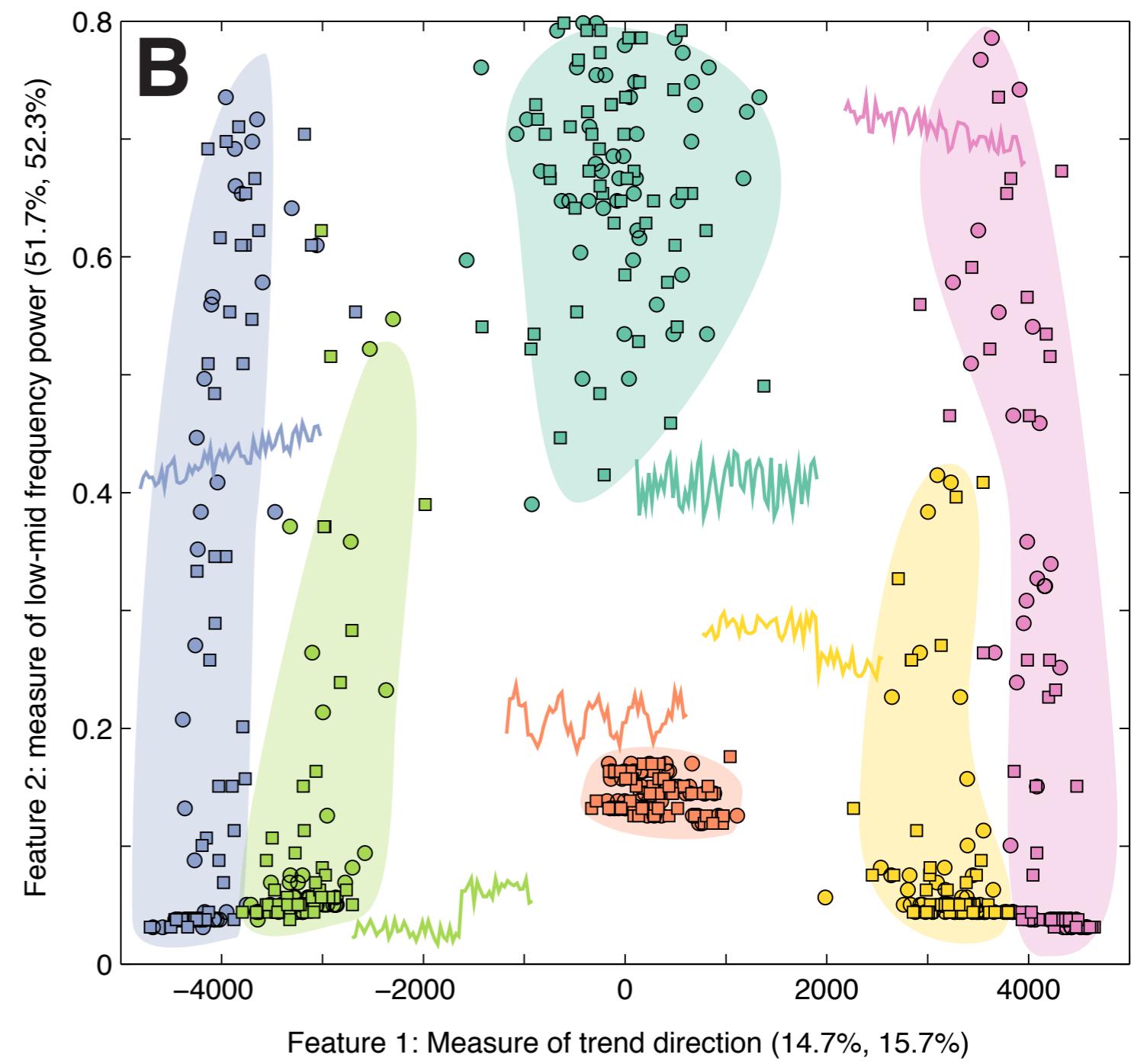
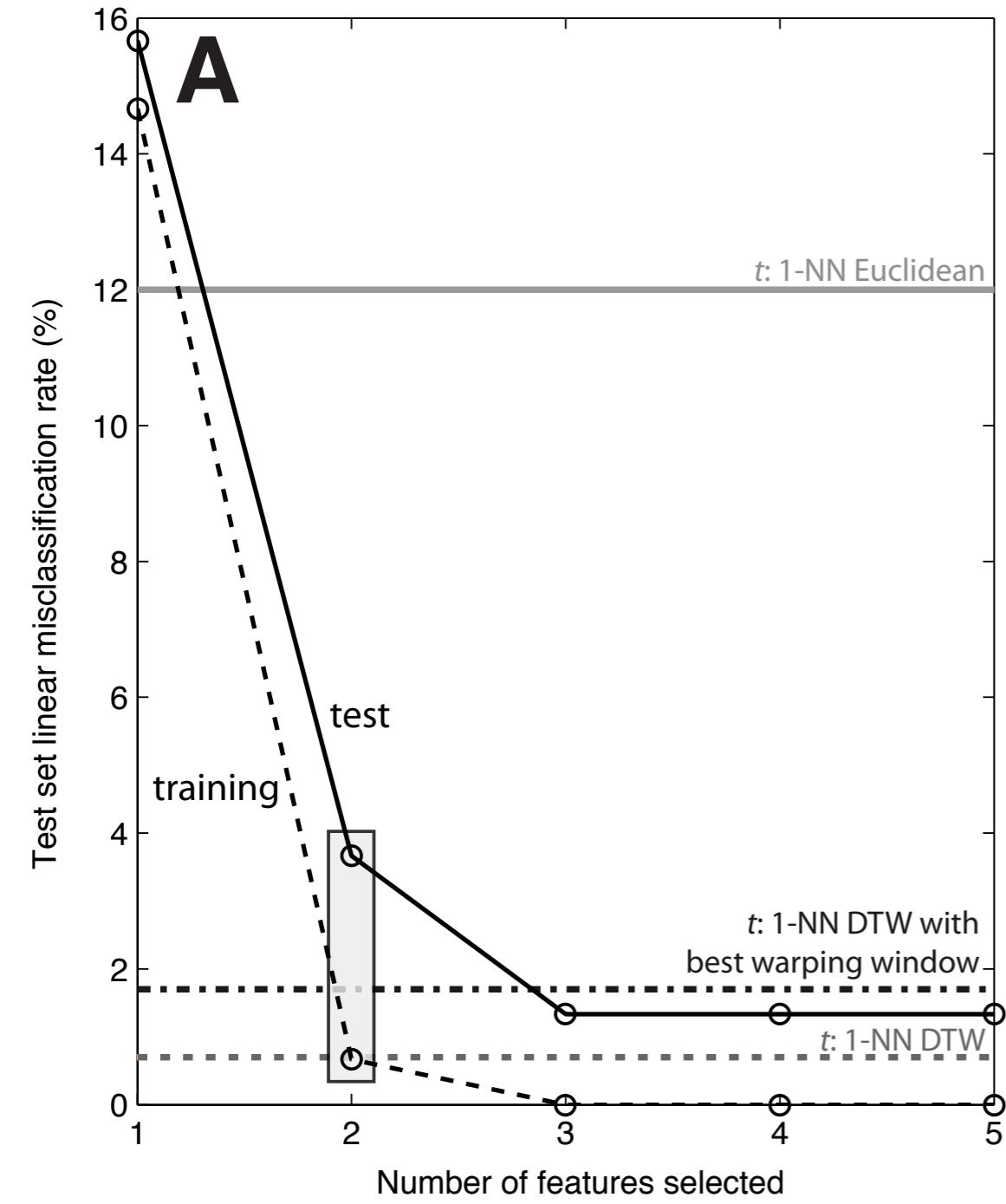


# Single features perform well

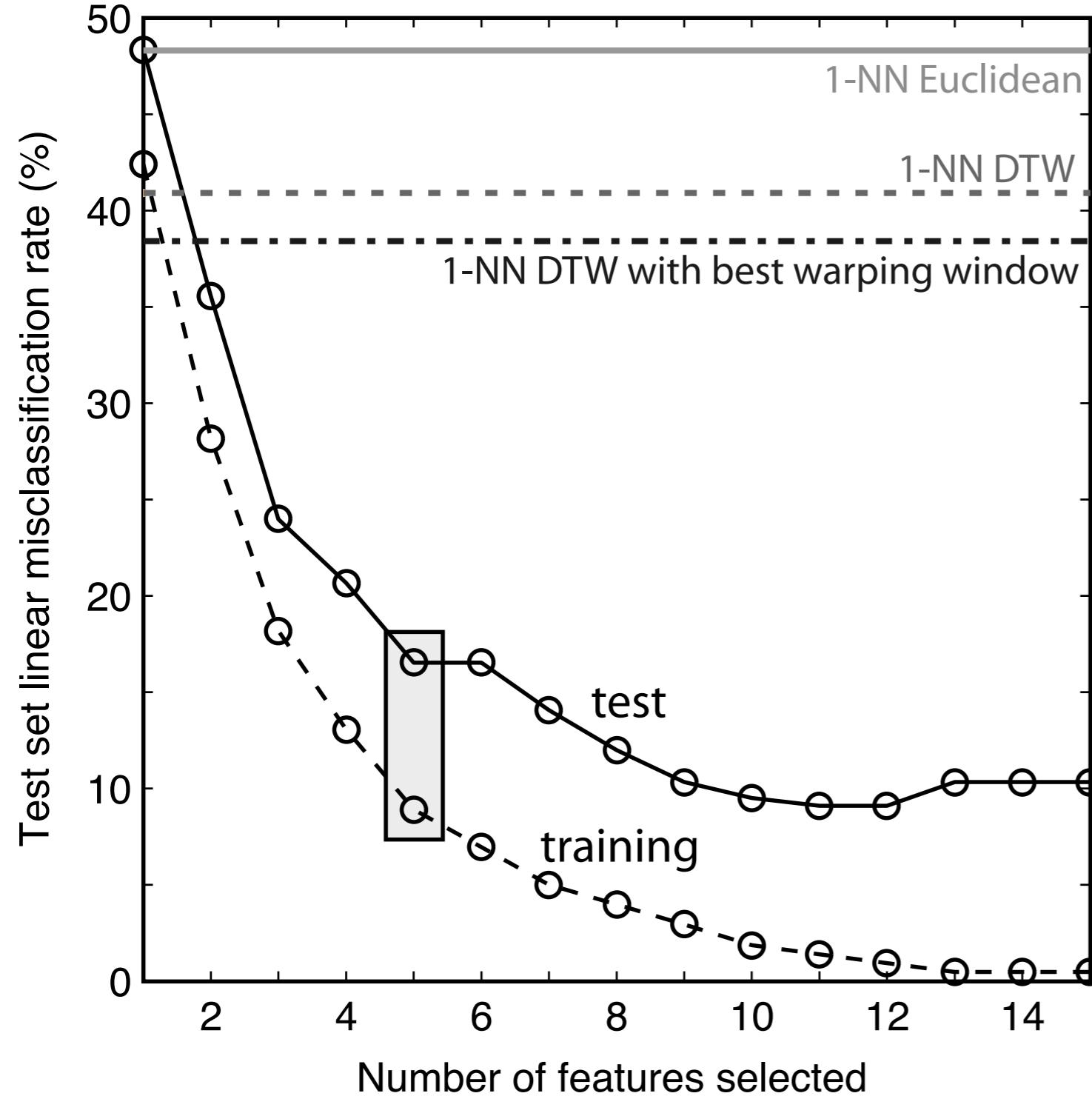
would be difficult to motivate by intuition



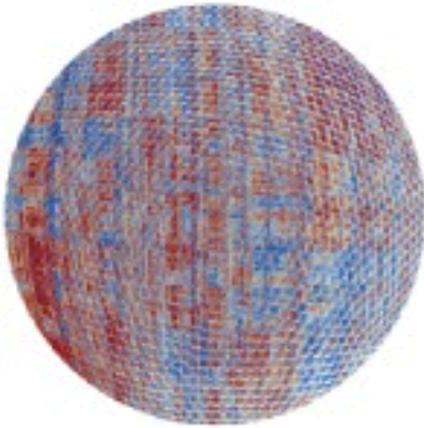
# Improvements by adding a second feature



# Improvements by adding multiple features



automatic  
massive dimensionality  
reduction  
fast classification of new examples  
diverse, interpretable features



# Comp-Engine Time Series

A comparison engine for data and its analysis methods

**[www.comp-engine.org/timeseries](http://www.comp-engine.org/timeseries)**

- Web resource for interdisciplinary scientific collaboration on time-series analysis
- >32,000 views since launching in February 2014
- Explore relationships between ~30,000 time series and ~9,000 analysis operations
- alpha implementation of drag-and-drop

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Comp-Engine Time Series website. At the top right is a circular logo with a red and blue pixelated pattern. To its right, the text "Comp-Engine Time Series" is displayed, followed by a smaller line of text: "A comparison engine for data and their analysis methods". Below the header is a horizontal navigation bar with links: Home (highlighted in blue), About, Time-series data, Analysis code, Bulk downloads, and Contact. To the right of the navigation bar is a search bar with the placeholder "Search...". Below the search bar are three sections: "Browse operation code" (with links "By Category", "By Source", and "By Tag"), "Browse time-series data" (with links "By Category", "By Source", and "By Tag"), and a large central banner. The banner features a stylized background of wavy lines and text overlays: "Why might this resource be useful for science?", "time series", and "analysis code". Below the banner, there is descriptive text about the resource's purpose and a link to a key scientific article.

Welcome to Comp-Engine Time Series, a comparison engine for time-series data and time-series analysis methods.

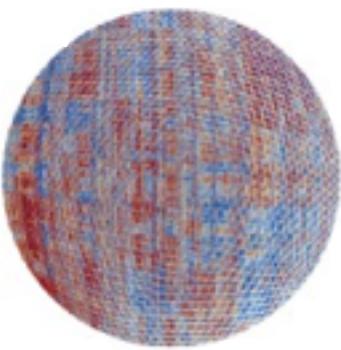
This website opens up the results of years of work collecting and synthesizing tens of thousands of time series, and thousands of existing and newly-developed methods for measuring structure in time series. Click the banners below for an overview of why this resource might be useful for science, or to begin exploring our libraries of time-series data and Matlab-based time-series analysis code.

Why might this resource be useful for science?

time series analysis code

The key scientific article describing how this resource was used to perform highly comparative time-series analysis can be found here: [Highly comparative time-series analysis: The empirical structure of time series and their methods](#), J. Roy. Soc. Interface, **10** (80) 20130048. Please cite this work if you use this web resource.

All (unrestricted) data used in the above article is included in this web resource, as are the hundreds of pieces of code developed for performing time-series analysis. Feel free to explore and play around with this comprehensive database of scientific data and analysis code: visualize



# Comp-Engine Time Series

A comparison engine for data and its analysis methods

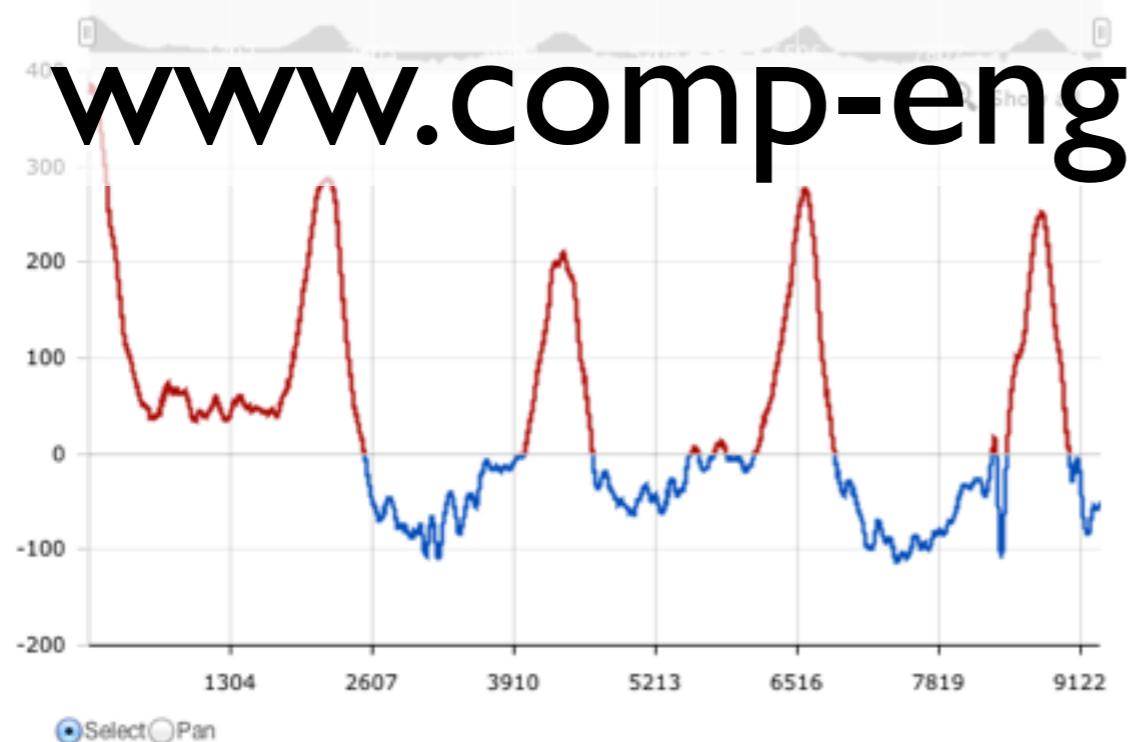
[MD\\_mghdb\\_mgh79\\_Resplmp\\_SNIP\\_9145-18444](#)

Share:

Data file: MD\_mghdb\_mgh79\_Resplmp\_SNIP\_9145-18444.dat

Length: 9300

chart by amcharts.com



Tags:

[medical](#), [mghdb](#), [physionet](#), [respiratoryimpedance](#), [snip](#)

Categories:

[Real-world](#)

Time series measured from real-world systems

[Medical](#)

Source:

## Time Data Source Archives: Physionet: MGHDB (1089 items)

The Massachusetts General Hospital/Marquette Foundation (MGH/MF) Waveform Database is a collection of electronic recordings of hemodynamic and electrocardiographic waveforms of patients units. It is the result of a collaboration between physicians, biomedical engineers and nurses at the General Hospital. The database consists of recordings from 250 patients and represents a broad spectrum of physiologic and pathophysiologic states.

Individual recordings vary in length from 12 to 86 minutes, and in most cases are about an hour long. The typical recording includes three ECG leads, arterial pressure, pulmonary arterial pressure, central

### Data by Source

[Air Temperature](#), [NCEP/NCAR](#), [CRU](#) [Ben Fulcher Simulated Ben generated powernoise Ben](#) [iTunes Ben making rmpnoise Ben](#) [MA simulations Ben](#) [music Ben](#) [Random Ben](#) [Jeffrey's Randomizations Ben](#) [Gutenberg\(P\) Ben](#) [Google lab](#) [Climatic Research Unit, University of East Anglia](#) [Driven pendulum Ben](#) [Financial log returns Ben](#) [Frietas Stochastic Sine Map Ben](#) [Google trends Ben](#) [Logistic Map A sweep Ben](#) [Macaulay Library NCEP/NCAR, CRU](#) [Physionet](#) [Physionet: CHFDB](#) [Physionet: MGHDB](#) [Physionet: NESFDB](#) [Physionet: NSRDB](#) [Physionet RR CHF NSR Precipitation rate, NCEP/NCAR, CRU Project](#) [Project Gutenberg Relative humidity, NCEP/NCAR, CRU](#) [SDE Toolbox M1a](#) [SDE Toolbox](#) [M5a SDE Toolbox M10a](#) [SDE Toolbox Simulated Sea level pressure, NCEP/NCAR, CRU](#) [Sound Jay SPIDR](#) [SPIDR Geomagnetic annual means -- Ionosphere](#) [Sprott Conservative Flows Sprott](#) [Conservative Maps Ben](#) [Sprott Damped driven pendulum Ben](#) [Sprott Dissipative Maps Ben](#) [Sprott](#) [Noninvertible Maps Ben](#) [Text](#) [Processing Ben](#) [Time-Series Data Library](#) [Timmer nonstationary autoregressive processes Yahoo Finance](#) [Yahoo Finance Shares](#)

### Data by Category

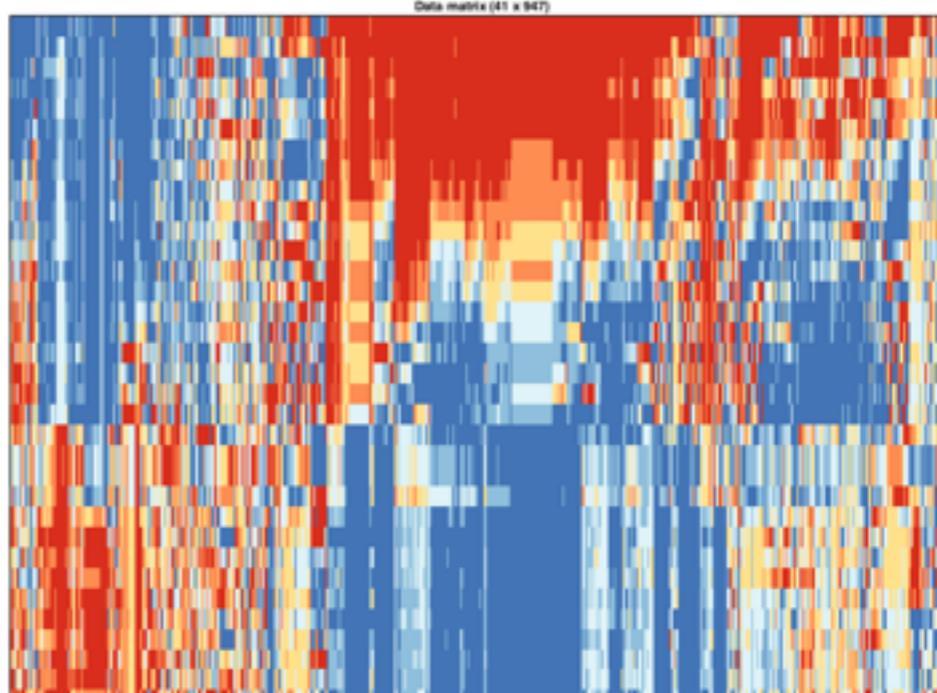
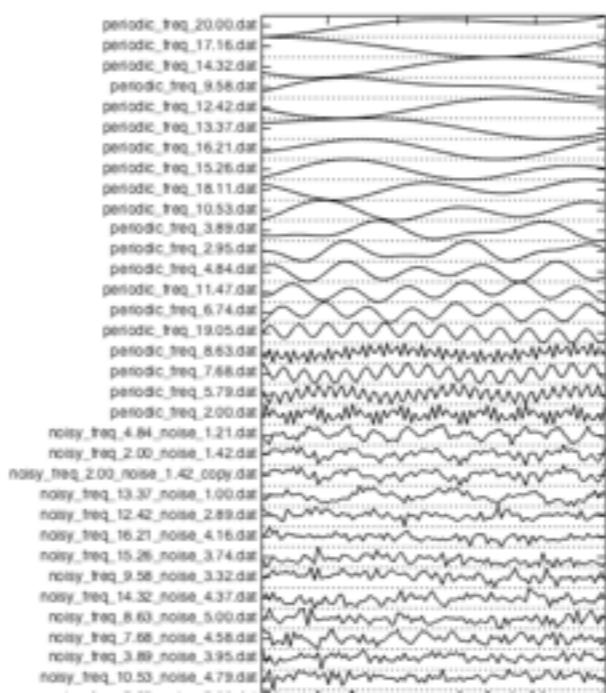
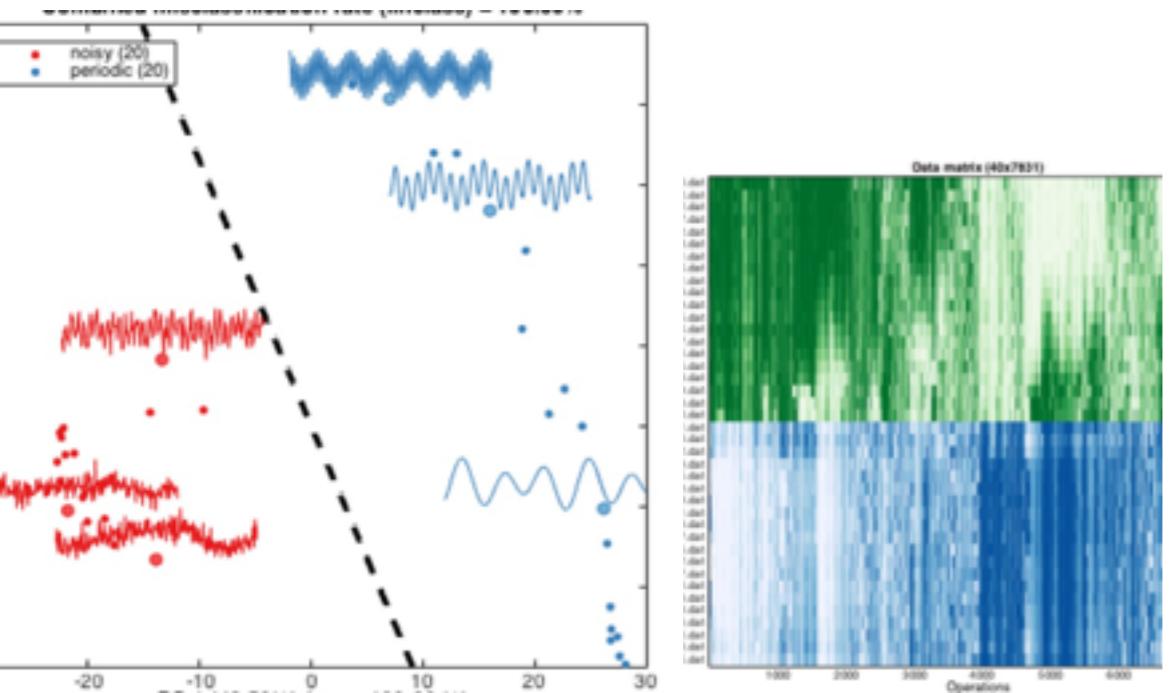
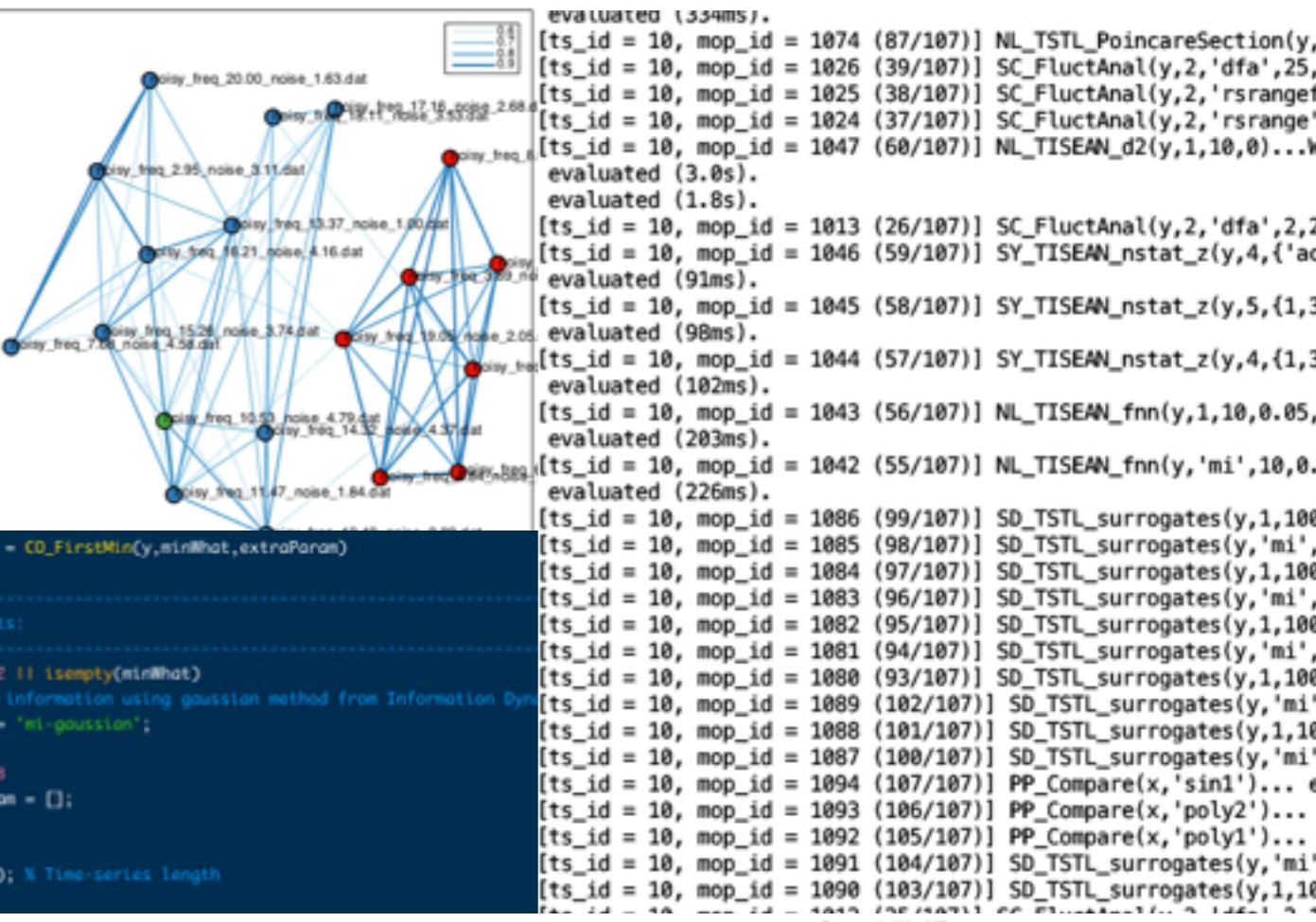
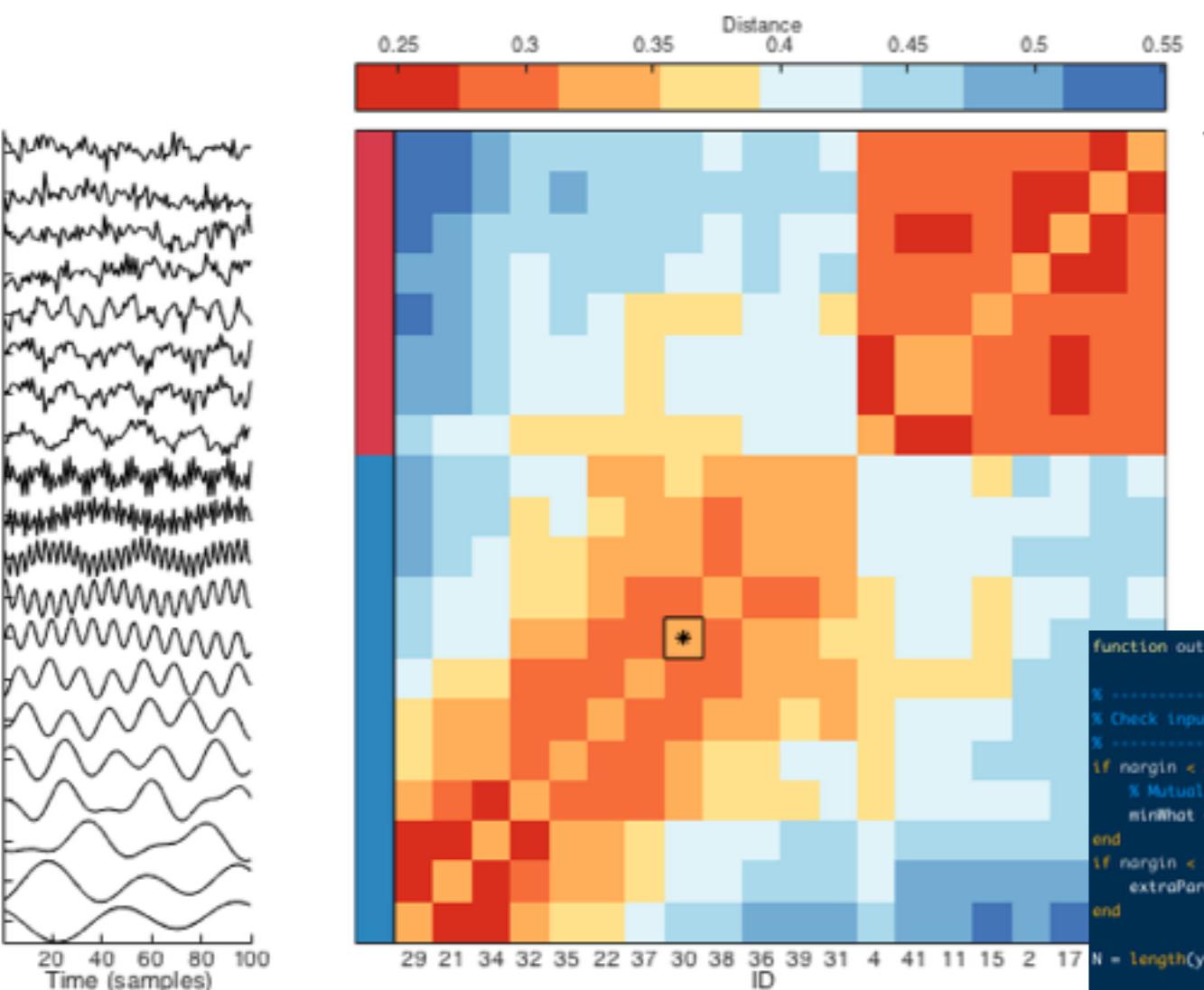
[Air pressure](#) [Air temperature](#) [Animal sounds](#)  
[Astrophysics](#) [Audio](#) [Autoregressive with noise](#) [Beta noise](#) [Birdsong](#)  
[Correlated Noise](#) [Damped driven pendulum](#) [Driven pendulum with dissipation](#) [ECG](#)  
[Finance Flow](#) [Frietas Stochastic Sine Map](#)  
[Gait High low Like MIX\(P\)](#) [Logistic map](#) [Map](#)  
[Medical Meteorology](#) [Model M1a](#)  
[Model M5a](#) [Model M10a](#) [Moving average process](#) [Music Nonstationary autoregressive opening prices](#)  
[Postural sway](#) [Powerlaw noise](#) [Precipitation rate](#) [Real-world](#)  
[Relative humidity](#) [Rossler attractor](#) [RR](#) [SDE models](#) [Sound effects](#) [Sprott 3D Flows](#)  
[Stochastic processes](#) [Synthetic](#) [Text Traded volume](#)  
[Uncategorised](#) [White noise](#)

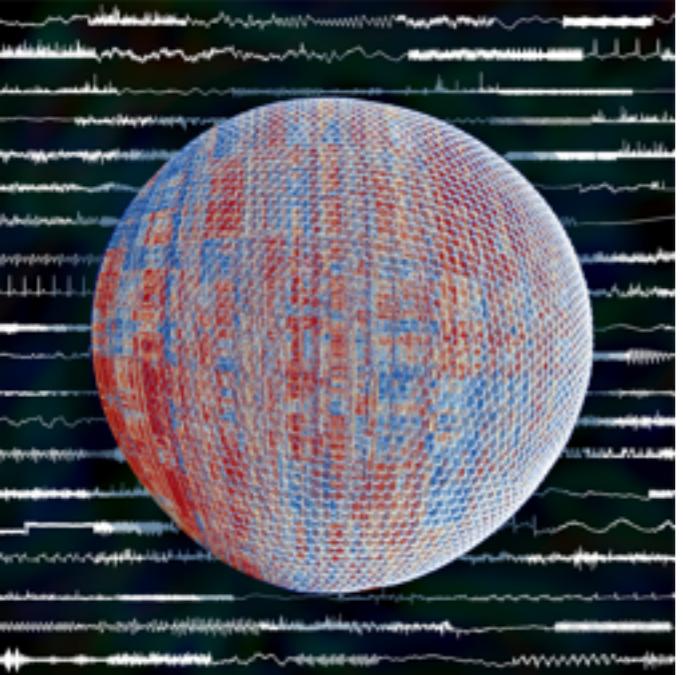
**www.comp-engine.org/timeseries**

# Matlab-based code repository

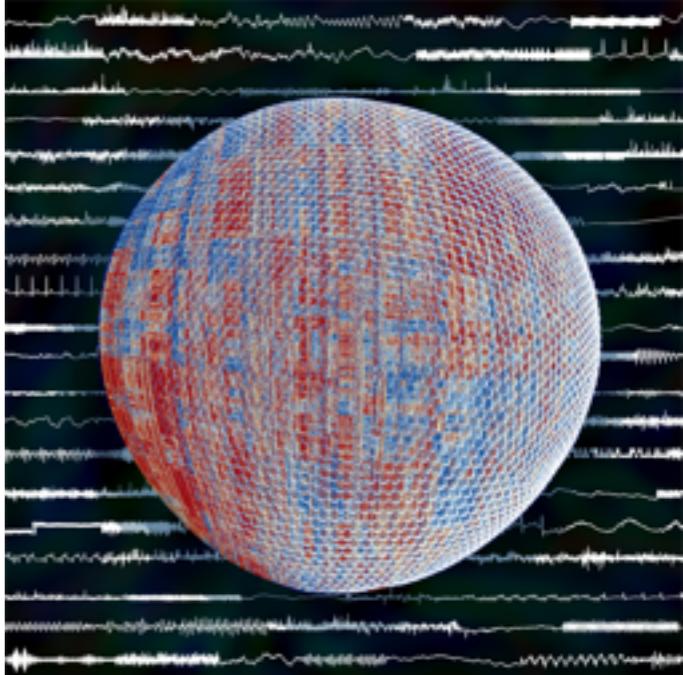


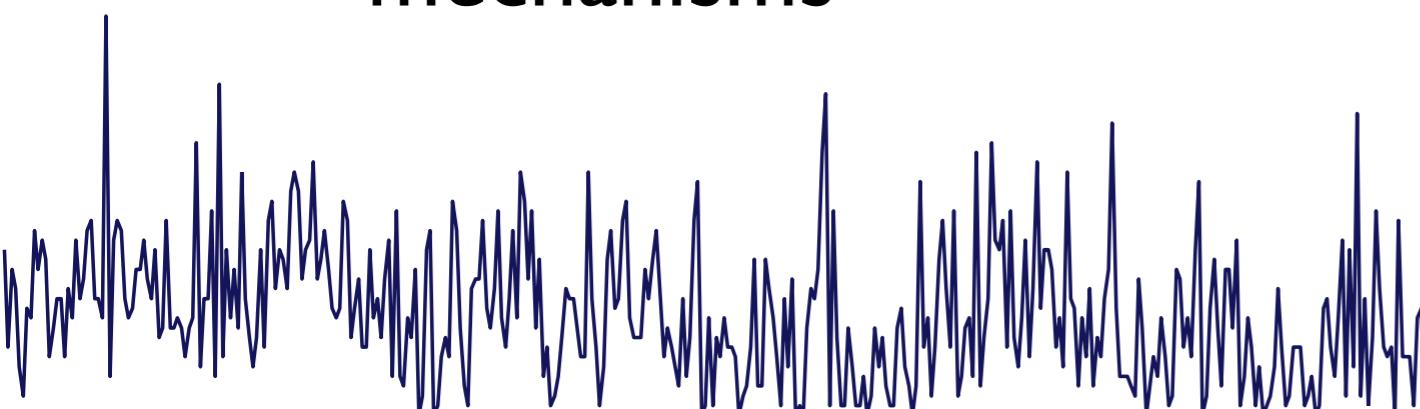
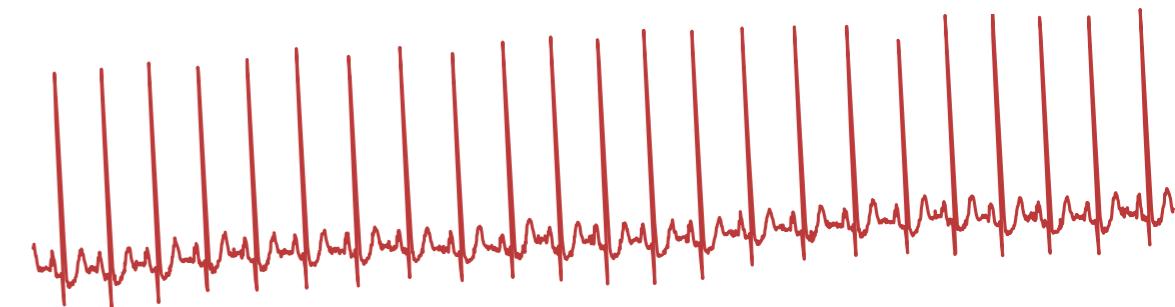
# @compTimeSeries





# Conclusions



- A semi-automated approach to time-series analysis that compares thousands of interdisciplinary methods
  - Can be viewed as a starting point to guide more focused time-series analysis
  - Results provide insights into underlying dynamical mechanisms
- 
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 [@bendfulcher](https://twitter.com/bendfulcher), [@compTimeSeries](https://twitter.com/compTimeSeries)

[www.comp-engine.org/timeseries](http://www.comp-engine.org/timeseries)