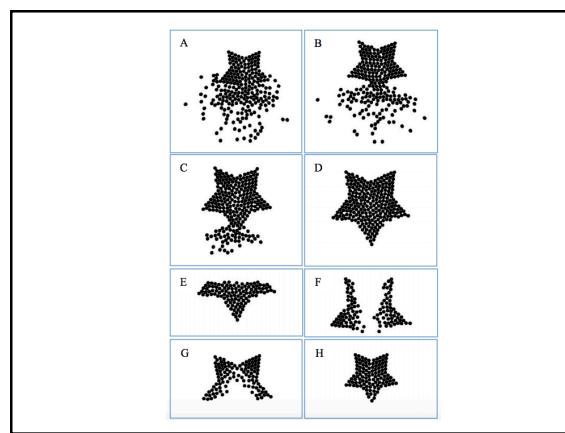
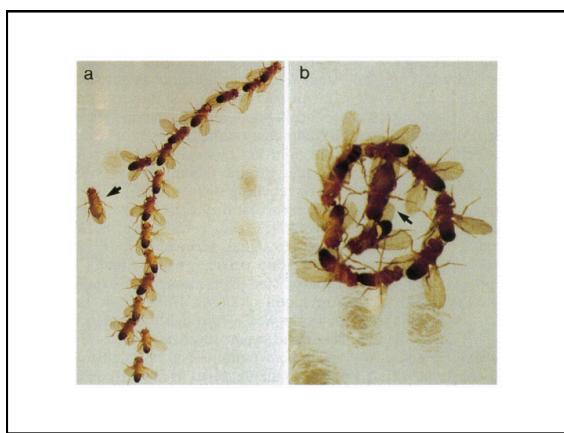
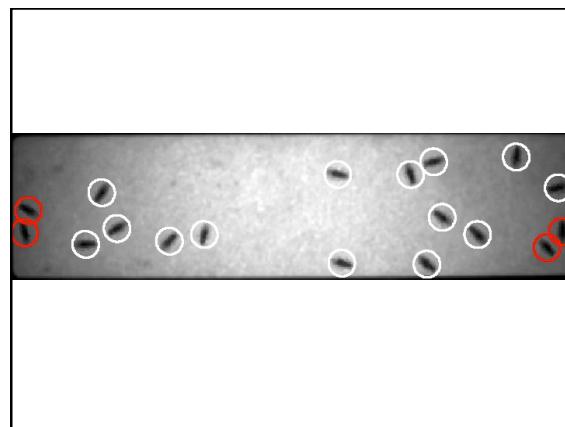
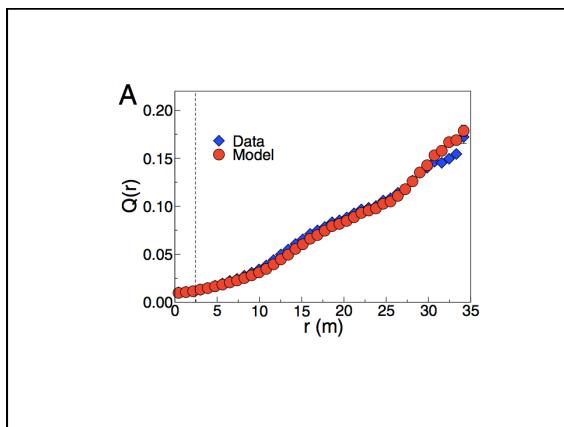
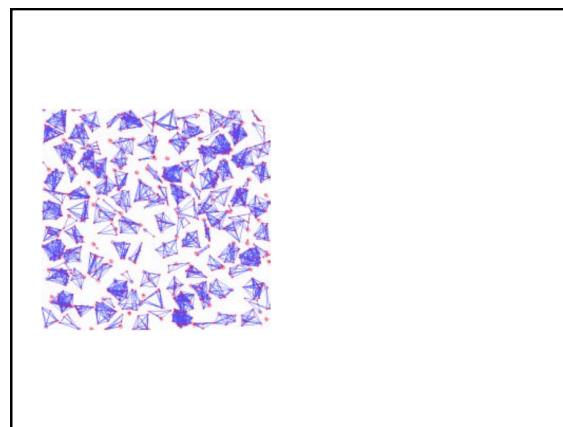
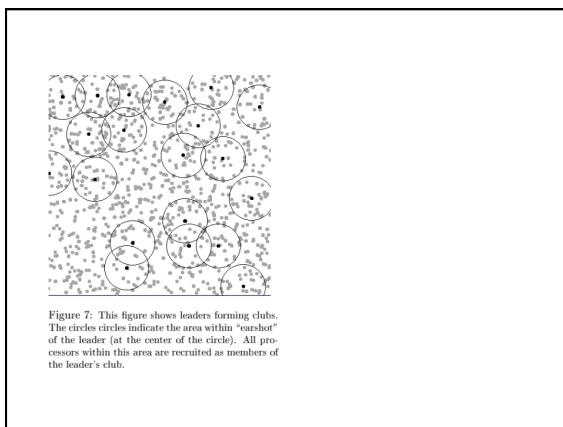
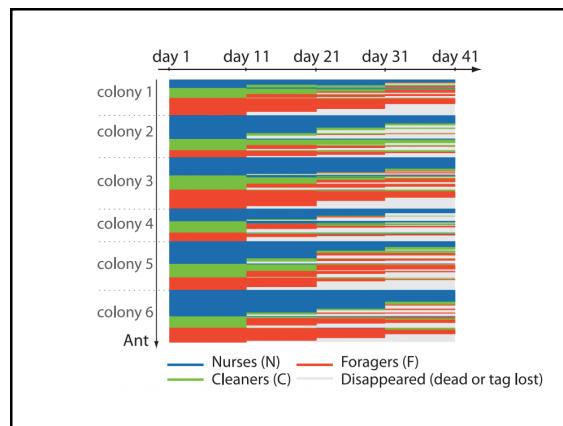
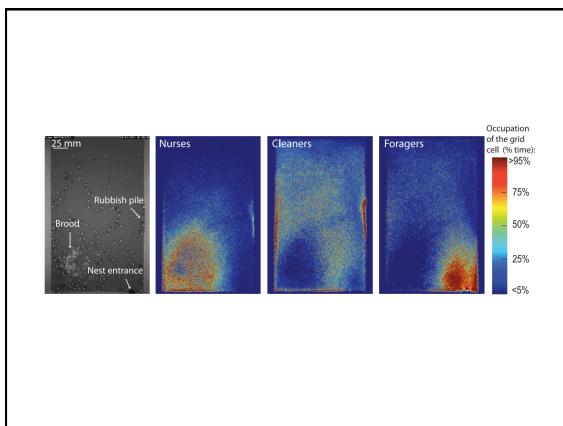
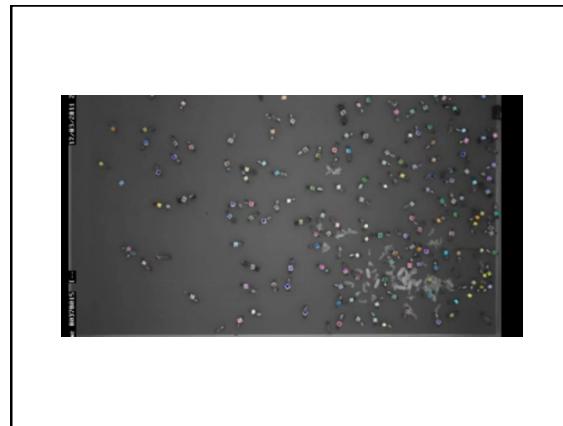


$$\mathcal{H}(\{\vec{v}_i\}) = \frac{J}{4V^2} \sum_{ij=1}^N n_{ij} |\vec{v}_i - \vec{v}_j|^2 + \frac{g}{2V^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (v_i - V)^2$$

$$Q(r) = \frac{1}{V^2} \left\langle |\vec{v}_i - \vec{v}_j|^2 \right\rangle_{r_{ij}=r}$$





A Biological Solution to a Fundamental Distributed Computing Problem

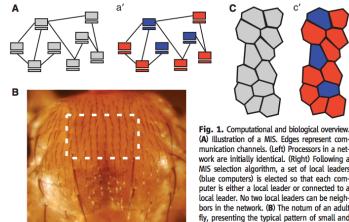


Fig. 1. Computational and biological overview. (A) Illustration of a MNS. Edges represent communication channels. (left) Processing in a network of nodes. (right) Following a MIS selection algorithm, a set of local leaders (blue computers) is elected so that each computer is either a local leader or connected to a local leader. (B) Microscopy image showing a cluster of cells. (C) Illustration of SOPs in files. (left) Cells in a cluster are initially equivalent. (right) Following a SOP selection process, selected SOPs (blue cells) inhibit their physical neighbors (red cells), and so for the cluster depicted in this figure, no more SOPs can be selected.

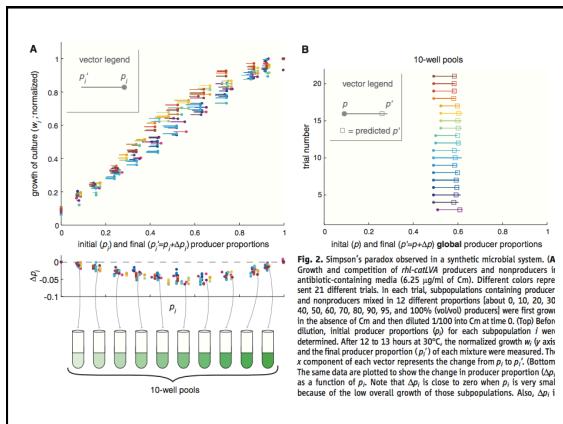
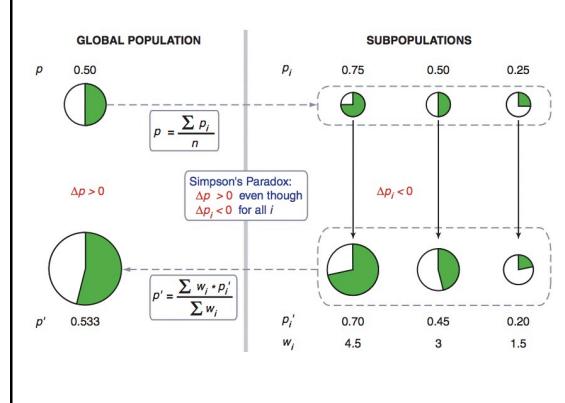


Fig. 2. Simpson's paradox observed in a synthetic microbial system. (A) Growth and competition of rh-cattVA producers and nonproducers in antibiotic-containing media (6.25 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of Cm). Different colors represent 21 different mixtures. In each trial, subpopulations of rh-cattVA producers and nonproducers mixed at 21 different proportions (labeled 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 95, and 100% (v/vol) producers) were first grown in the absence of Cm and then diluted 1/100 into Cm at time 0. (Top) Below different initial producer proportions, the growth (y -axis) and final growth (p') were determined. After 12 to 13 hours at 30°C, the normalized growth in (y -axis) and the final producer proportion (p') of each mixture were measured. The x component of each vector represents the change from p to p' . (Bottom) Same data as in (A) plotted as the change in producer proportion (Δp) as a function of p . Note that Δp is close to zero when p is very small because of the low overall growth of these subpopulations. Also, Δp is

