



# The social dimension of citation networks

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# Chair of Systems Design @ ETH Zürich

**data-driven modeling  
of complex systems**

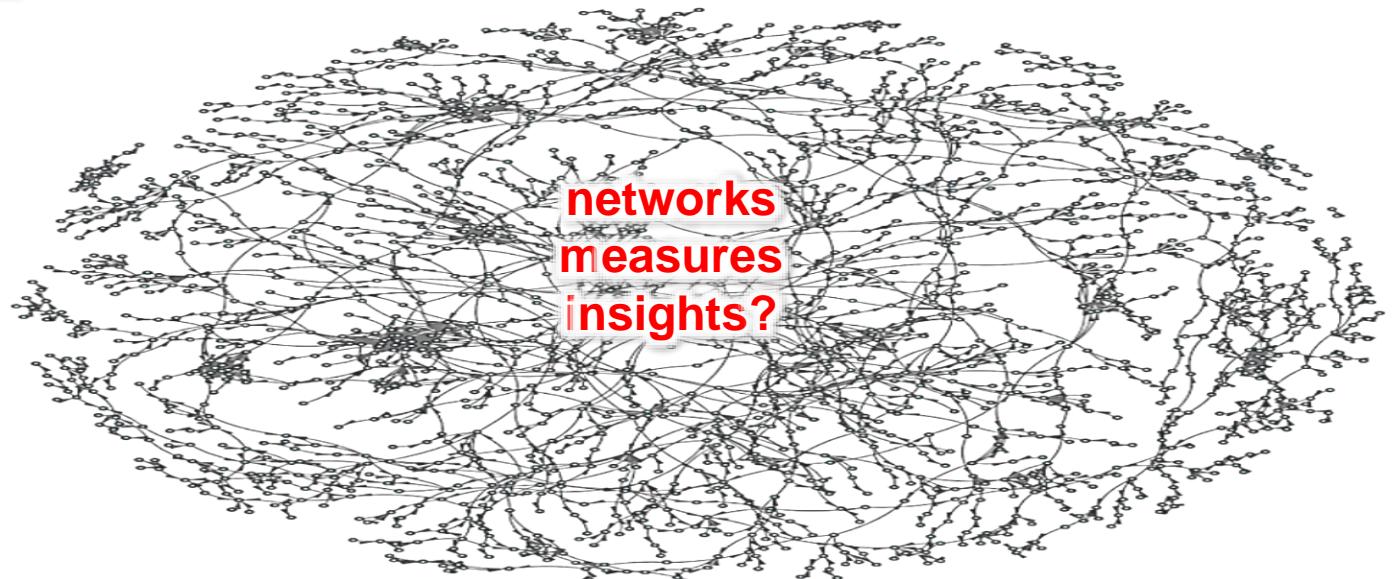


# Analysing citation networks



„Science is done by people“ (Heisenberg)

citation  
network

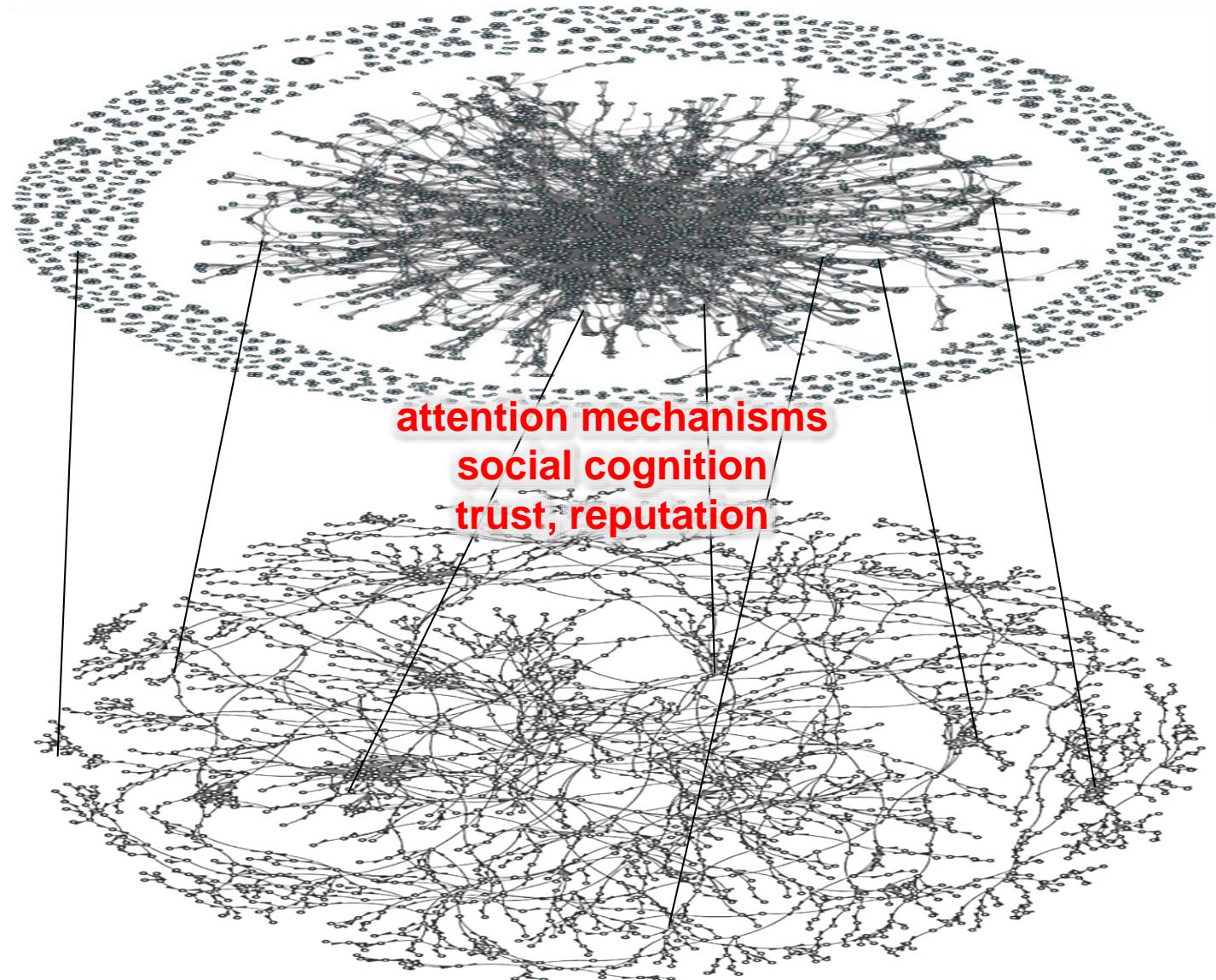


# A systems perspective

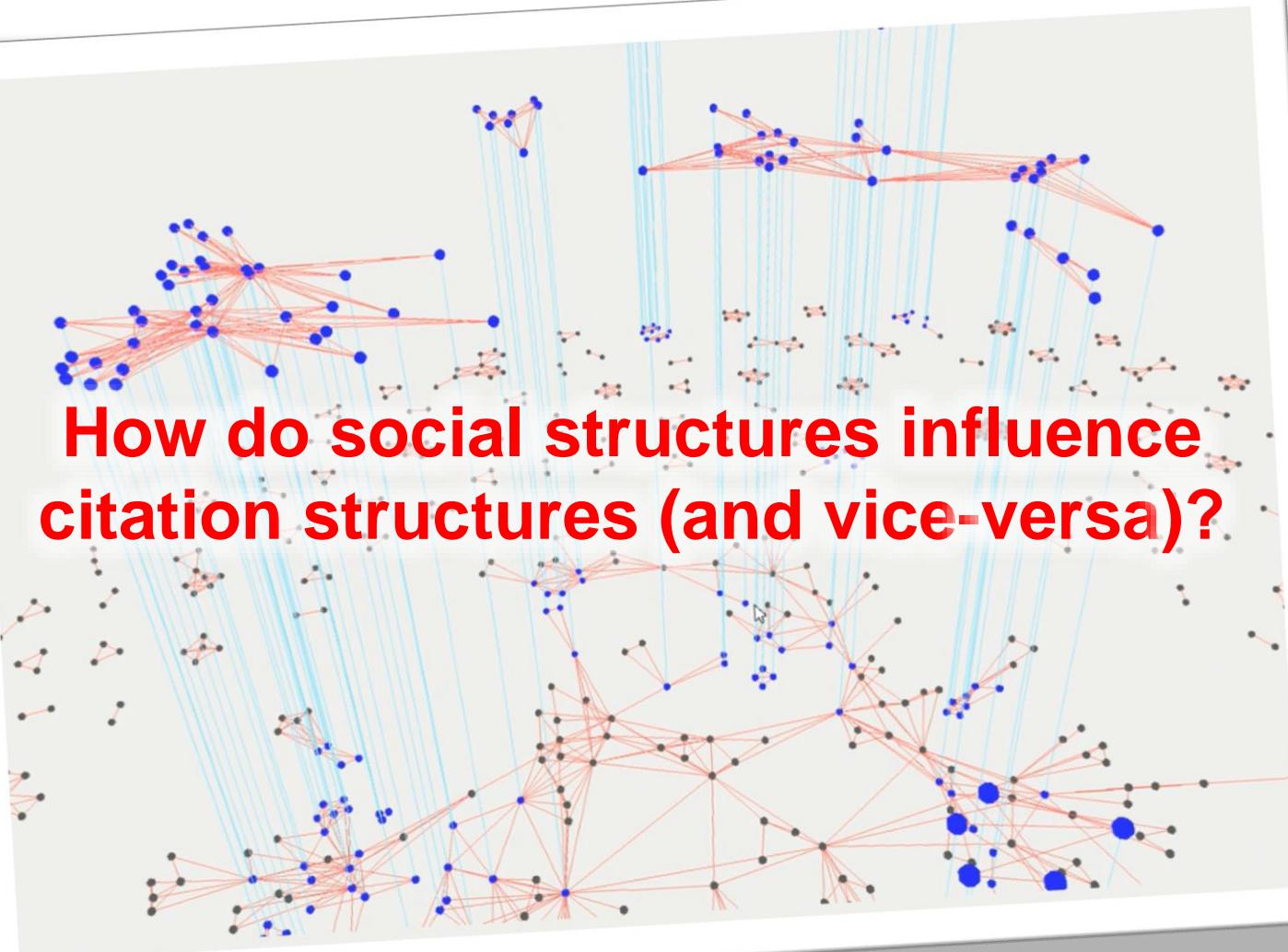
social  
system

citation  
network

attention mechanisms  
social cognition  
trust, reputation



# Collaborations and citations



collaborations (top layer) and citations (bottom layer) between authors at a CS conference

# Dynamic collaboration networks


 $\alpha$ 

Ralph **Alpher**

**Letters to the Editor**

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**The Origin of Chemical Elements**

R. A. ALPER\*

*Applied Physics Laboratory, The Johns Hopkins University,  
Silver Spring, Maryland*

AND

H. BETHE

*Cornell University, Ithaca, New York*

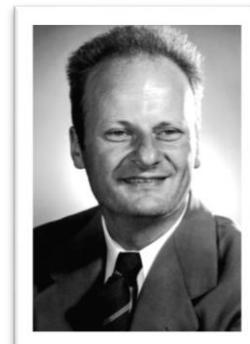
AND

G. GAMOW

*The George Washington University, Washington, D. C.  
February 18, 1948*

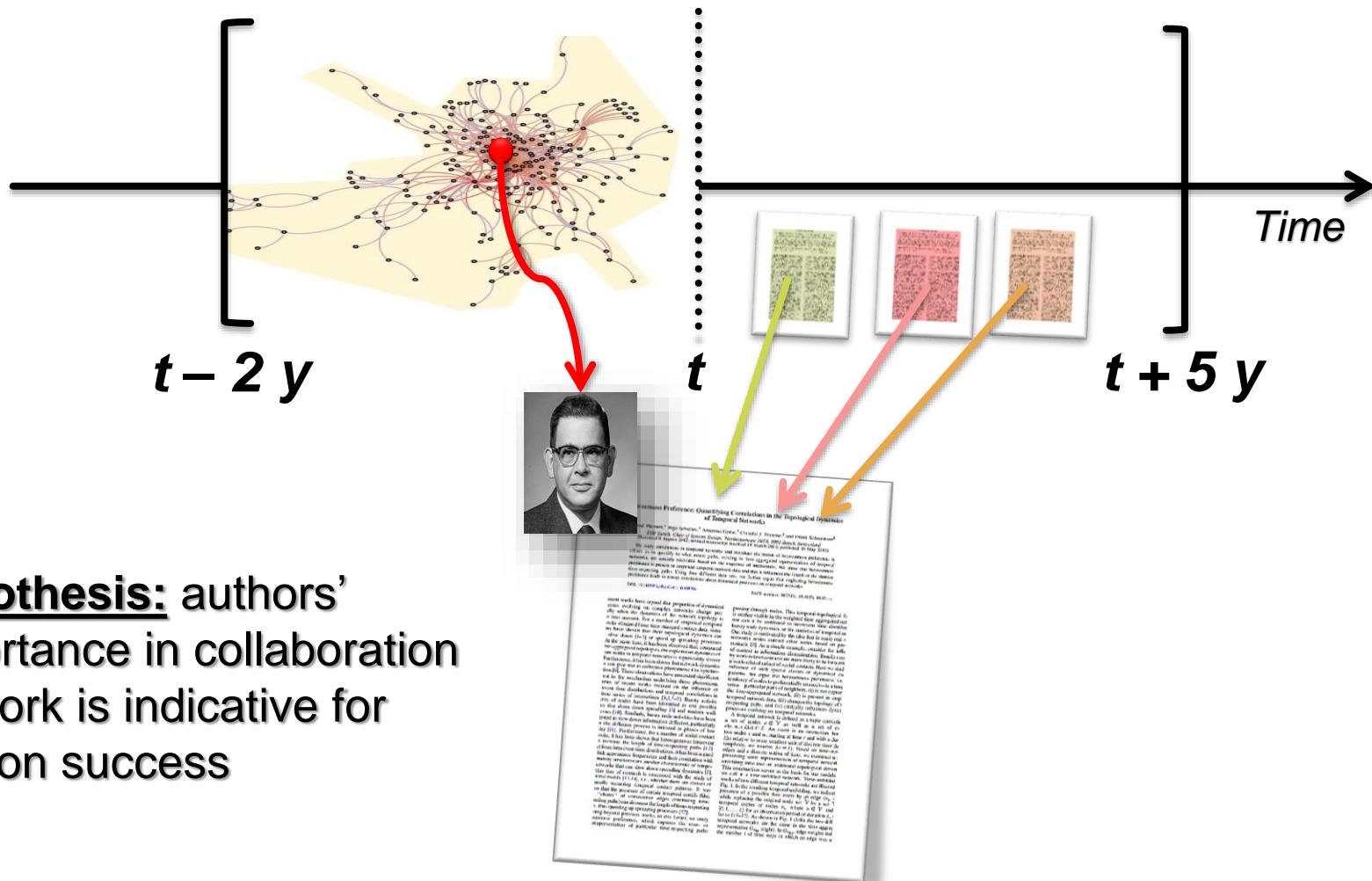

 $\gamma$ 

George **Gamow**

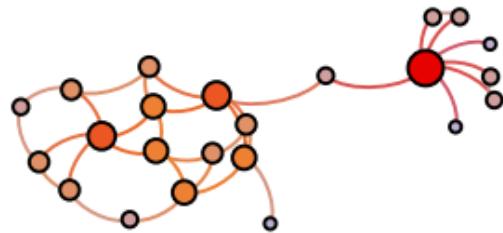

 $\beta$ 

Hans **Bethe**

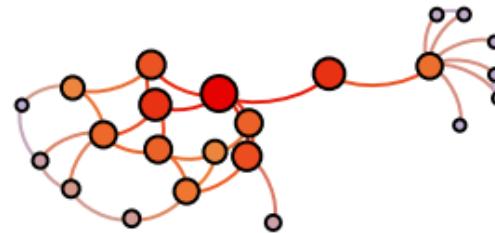
# Dynamic collaboration networks



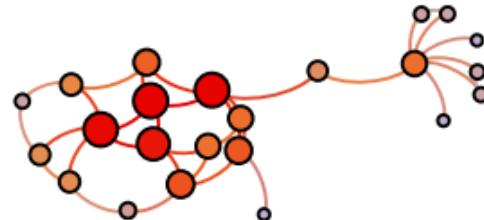
# How to quantify importance?



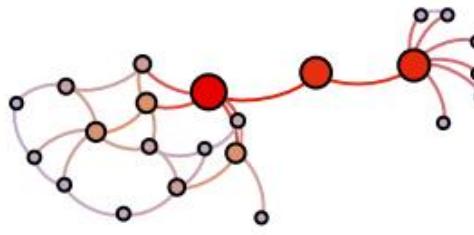
degree centrality



closeness centrality



eigenvector centrality



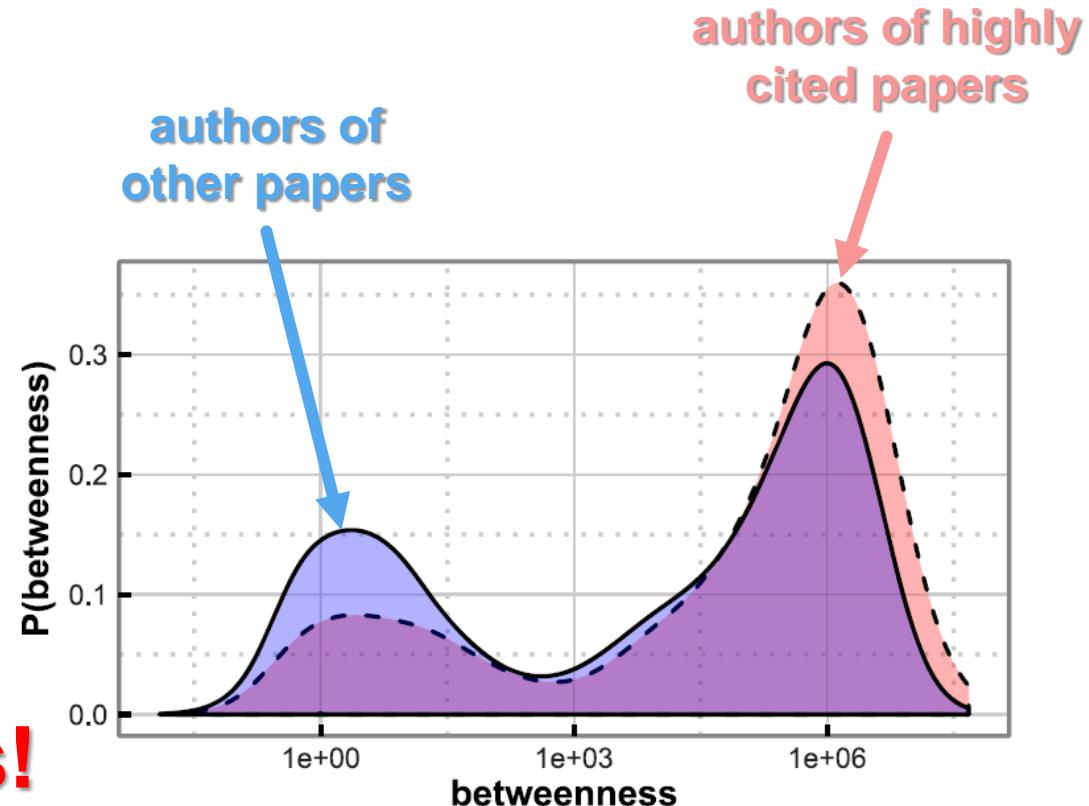
betweenness centrality

# Centrality and citation success

data: ~ 108,000  
computer science  
publications (1996-2008)  
from MS Academic  
Search

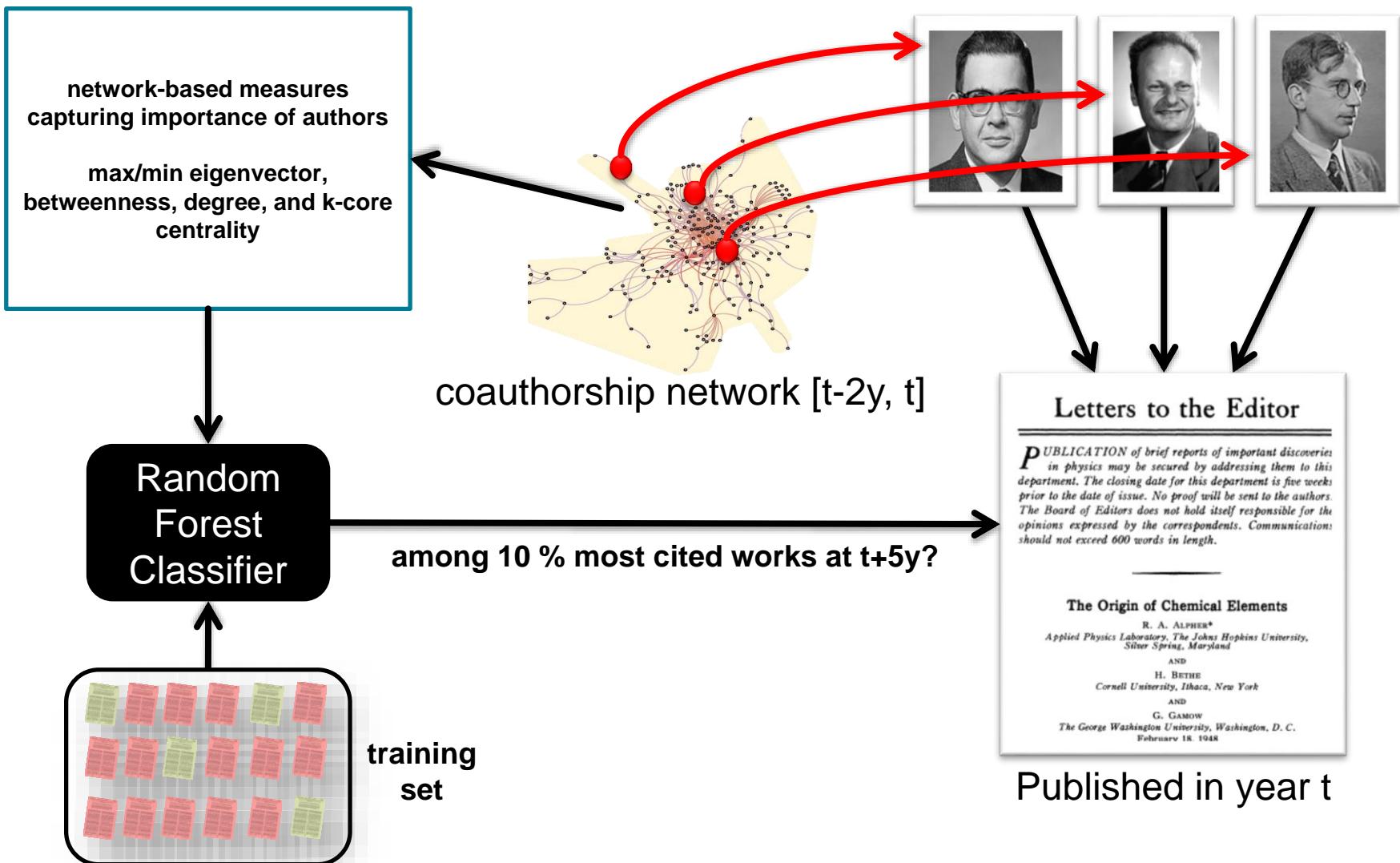
**Hypothesis:** authors'  
importance in collaboration  
network is indicative for  
citation success

**YES, it is!**



Emre Sarigöl, René Pfitzner, Ingo Scholtes, Antonios Garas and Frank Schweitzer: **Predicting Scientific Success Based on Coauthorship Networks**, EPJ Data Science, Vol. 3, No. 9, September 25 2014

# Predicting scientific success



# Prediction results

Results (CS)	
Precision	60 %
Recall	18 %
F1-Score	0.28

- ✓ six times better than random guess
- ✓ social position of authors alone sufficient to predict citation success of 2,000 out of 10,800 top papers

- ✓ position in collaboration network predicts citation success
- ✓ citation network contains semantic information
- ✓ citation network contains social information

## Computer model predicts academic success

Algorithm based on publications finds that first-author articles in leading journals matter most.

Richard Van Noorden

02 June 2014

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# The PI Predictor

PIPredictor - Predict your probability to become a Principal Investigator (PI)

Updates (August 2014):

- \* The PubMed database was updated to include publications up to August 2014
- \* The submission form can now handle last name with apostrophe (e.g., O'Hara)
- \* The submission form can now handle multiple last names

**Input your last name:**  
note: if you have **MORE** than one last name, list both of them separated by a comma (e.g.: OldName, NewName)

Male  Female

Take career length into account?  Yes  No

**Input your papers' PubMed IDs** (you can use the frame below to easily obtain them): (what's this?)  
note: if you are **NOT** the first author but have equal contribution, add a trailing asterisk to that PMID (e.g., 23565060\*)

If you don't feel like waiting, enter your email (we won't save it after sending results):

54937 PI predictions so far  
Estimated run time ~8.4 seconds

was the h-index only the beginning?

a glimpse at the future of hiring committees?

what is the feedback introduced by such tools?

# Feedback?

**nature**  
International weekly journal of science

Home | News & Comment | Research | Careers & Jobs | Current Issue | Archive | Audio & Video | For Authors

Archive > Volume 517 > Issue 7534 > Column: World View > Article

NATURE | COLUMN: WORLD VIEW

 Reinhard Werner

**The focus on bibliometrics makes papers less useful**

Forcing research to fit the mould of high-impact journals weakens it. Hiring decisions should be based on merit, not impact factor, says **Reinhard Werner**.

13 January 2015

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How do we recognize a good scientist? There is an entire industry — bibliometrics — that would have us believe that it is easy: count journal articles, sort them according to the impact factors of the journals, and count all the citations.

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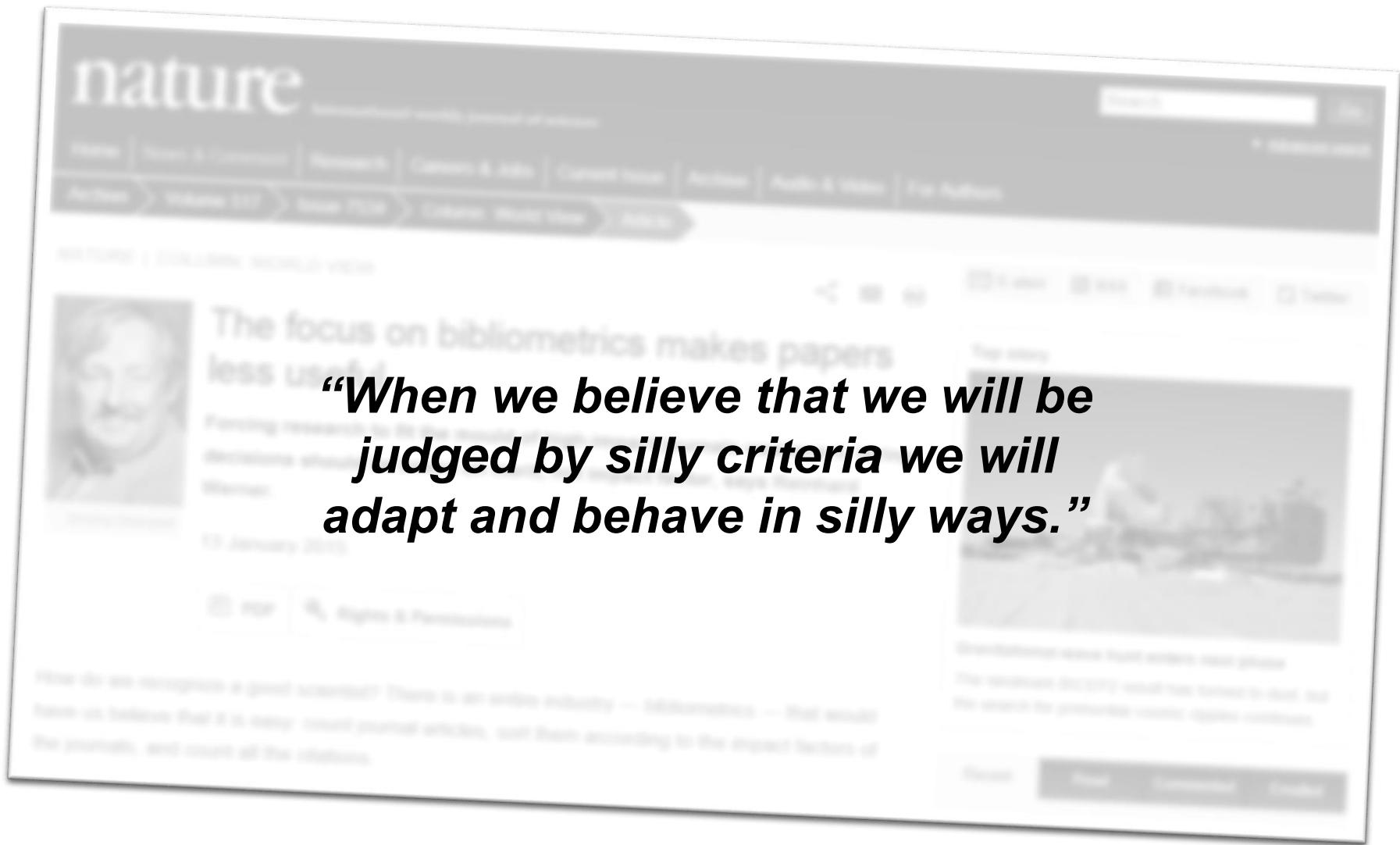
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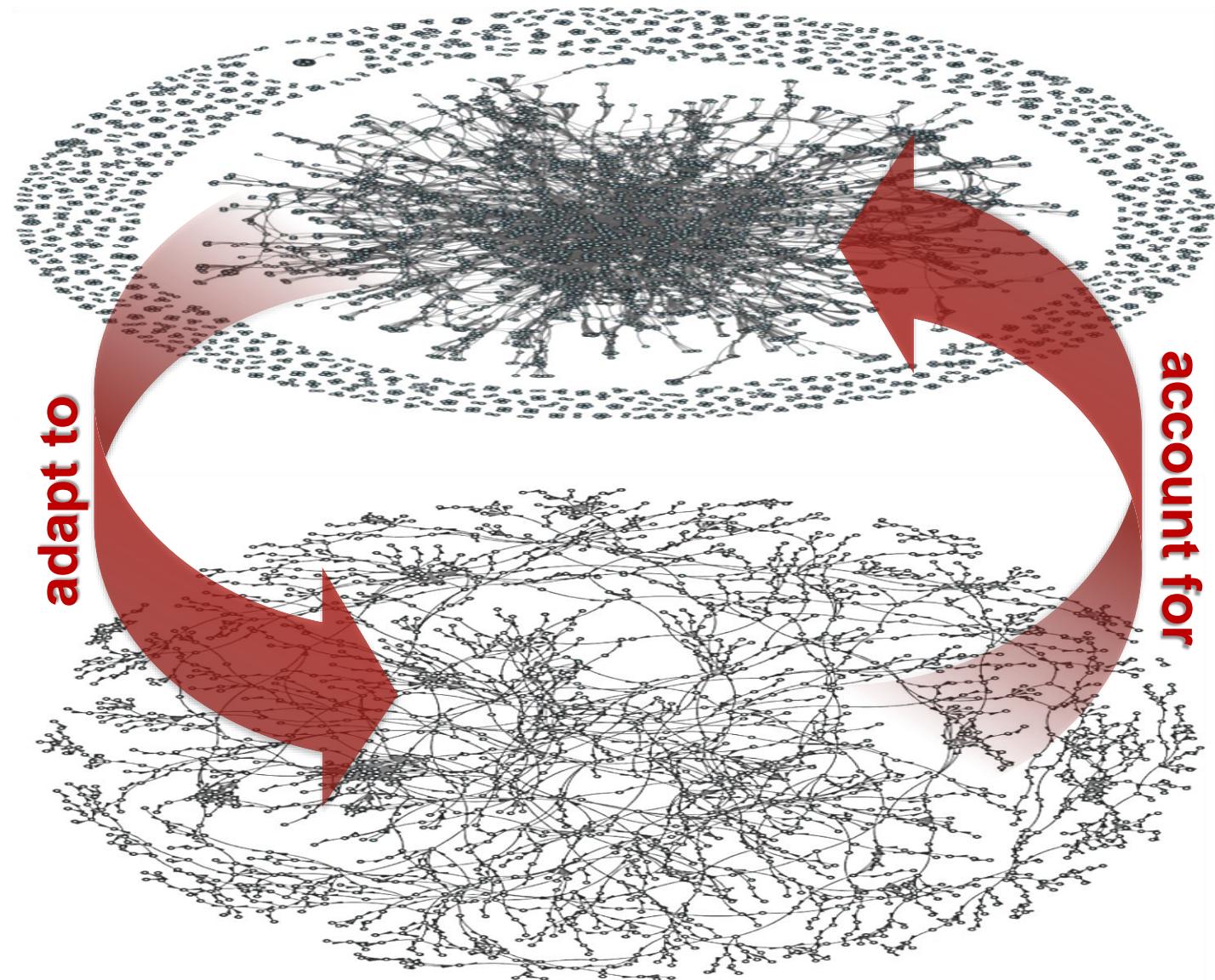
# Feedback?



# Missing: System's perspective

social  
organisations  
and processes

(citation-based)  
impact  
measures



# Thank you!

Ingo Scholtes, René Pfitzner and Frank Schweitzer: **The Social Dimension of Information Ranking: A Discussion of Research Challenges and Approaches**, In ``Social Informatics - The Social Impact of Interactions between Humans and IT'', Springer Proceedings in Complexity, ISBN 978-3319093772, October 2014

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Marcelo Zanetti, Ingo Scholtes, Claudio Tessone and Frank Schweitzer: **Categorizing Bugs with Social Networks: A Case Study on Four Open Source Software Communities**, In Proceedings of the 35<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2013), SEIP track, San Francisco, CA, USA, 2013, <http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2486788.2486930>

Marcello Zanetti, Ingo Scholtes, Claudio Tessone and Frank Schweitzer: **The Rise and Fall of a Central Contributor: Centralization and Performance in the Gentoo Community**, In Proceedings of the 6<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Cooperative and Human Aspects of Software Engineering (CHASE) held at ICSE 2013, San Francisco, CA, USA, 2013, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/CHASE.2013.6614731>

René Pfitzner, Ingo Scholtes, Antonios Garas, Claudio Tessone, Frank Schweitzer: **Betweenness Preference: Quantifying Correlations in the Topological Dynamics of Temporal Networks**, Phys Rev Lett, Vol. 110, 198701, May 10 2013

Ingo Scholtes, Nicolas Wider, René Pfitzner, Antonios Garas, Claudio Tessone, Frank Schweitzer: **Causality-Driven Slow-down vs. Speed-up of Diffusion in Non-Markovian Temporal Networks**, Nature Communications, Vol. 5, September 24 2014



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