



Quasi-stationary states in temporal correlations for traffic systems: Cologne orbital motorway as an example

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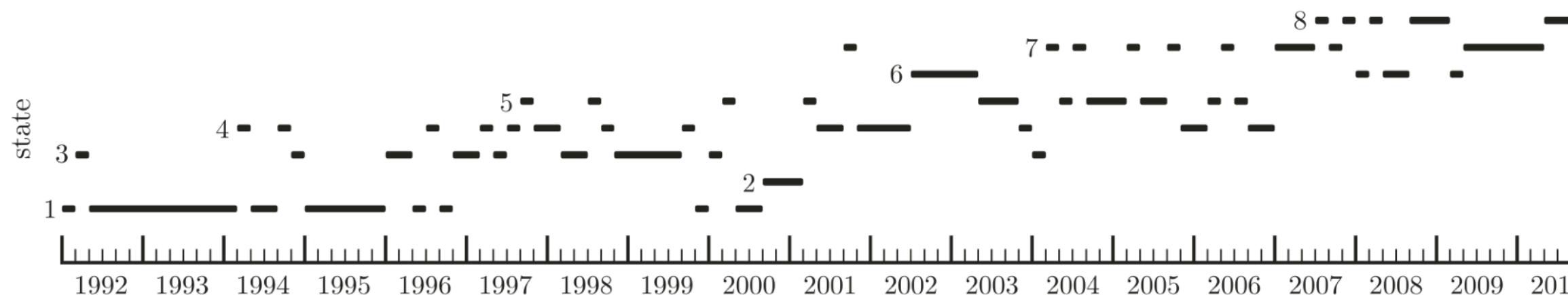


Background—non-stationary time series

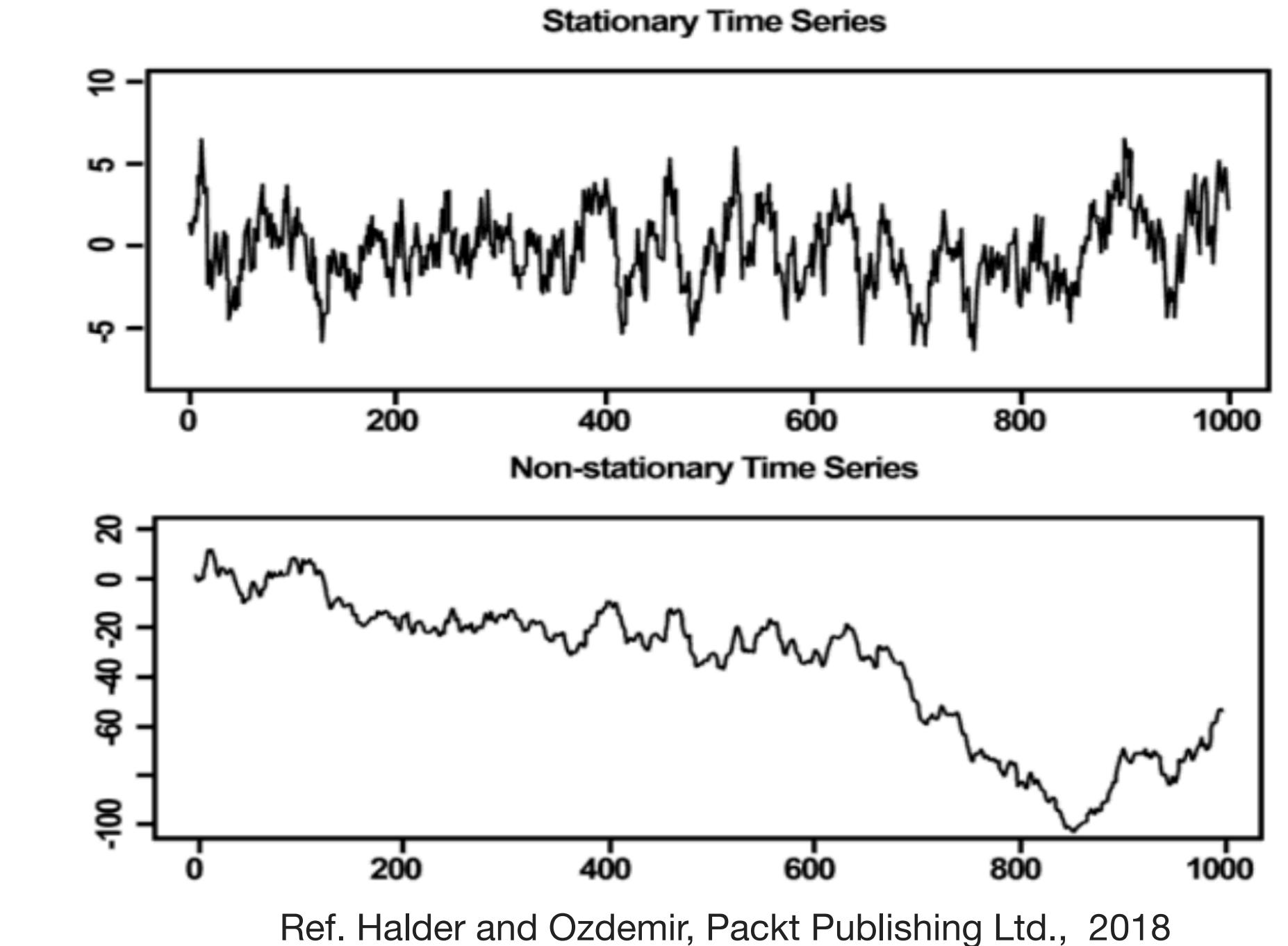
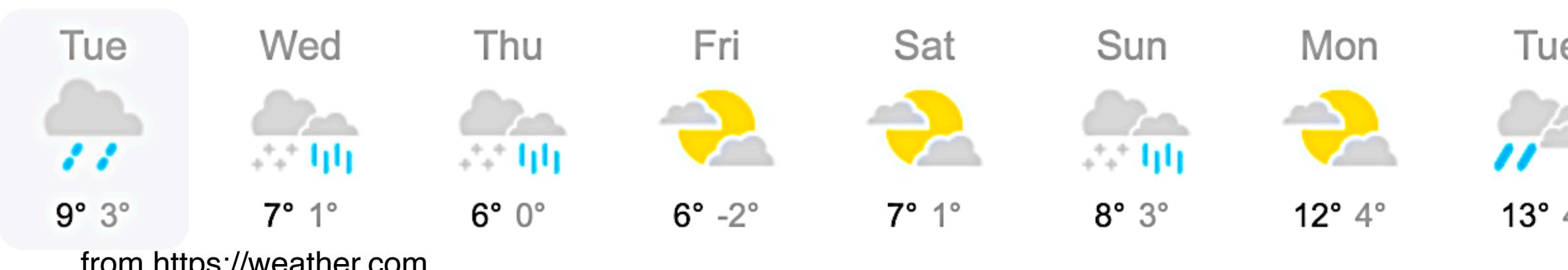
- Non-stationary time series have attracted much attention
- In non-stationary systems, parameters, e.g., mean and variance, may change over time
- Over a very short time period, non-stationary systems may be quasi-stationary



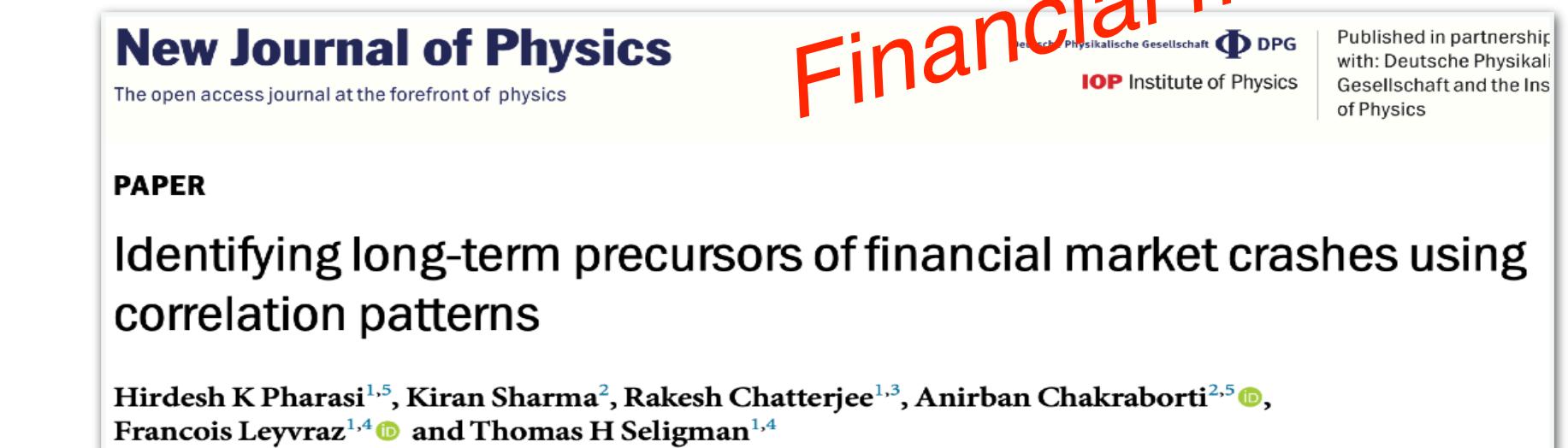
- Identifying the abrupt non-stationary transitions help us to obtain warnings before some events happen or to obtain post-event learning from a correlation analysis of known facts



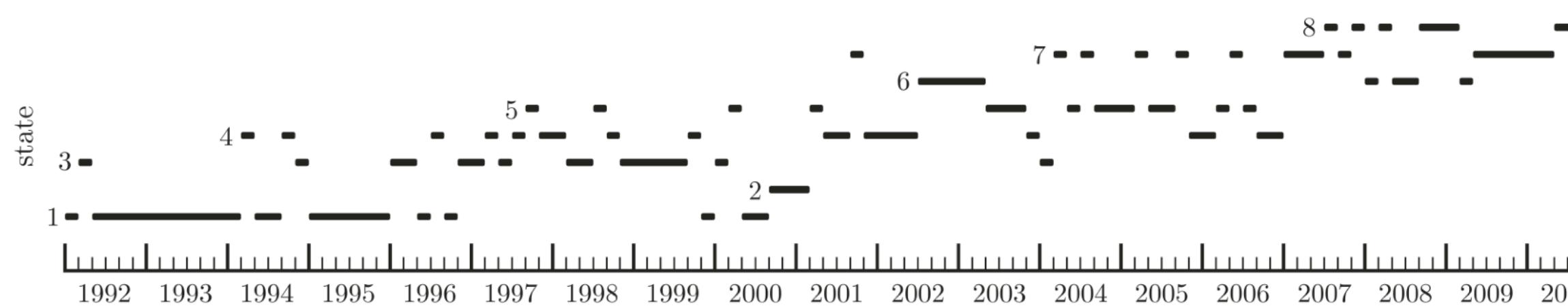
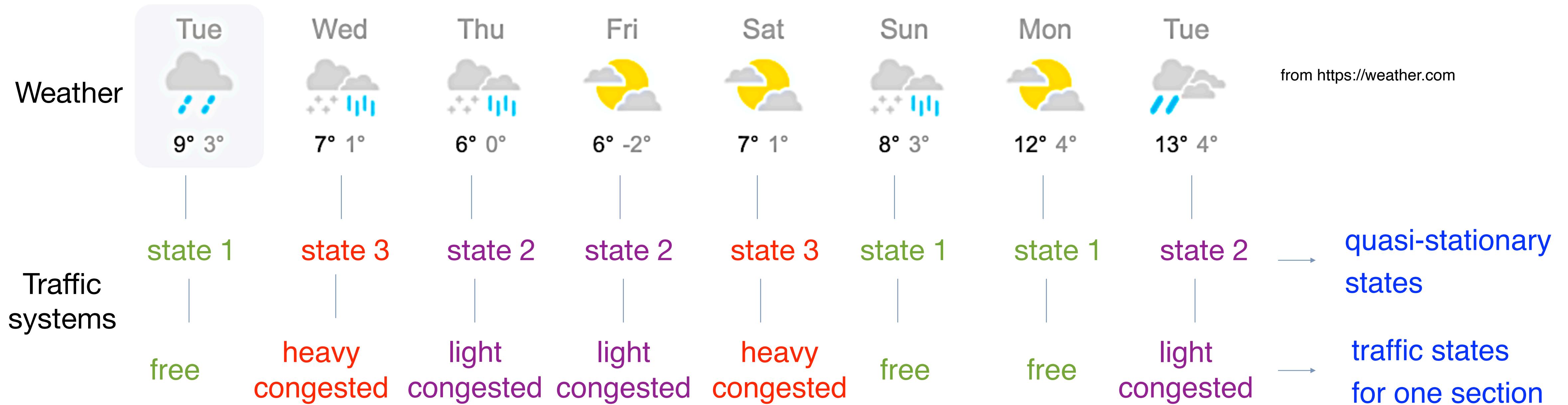
Ref. Münnix, Shimada, Schäfer, Leyvraz, Seligman, Guhr, and Stanley. Scientific Reports, 2:644, 2012



Ref. Halder and Ozdemir, Packt Publishing Ltd., 2018



Background—motivation



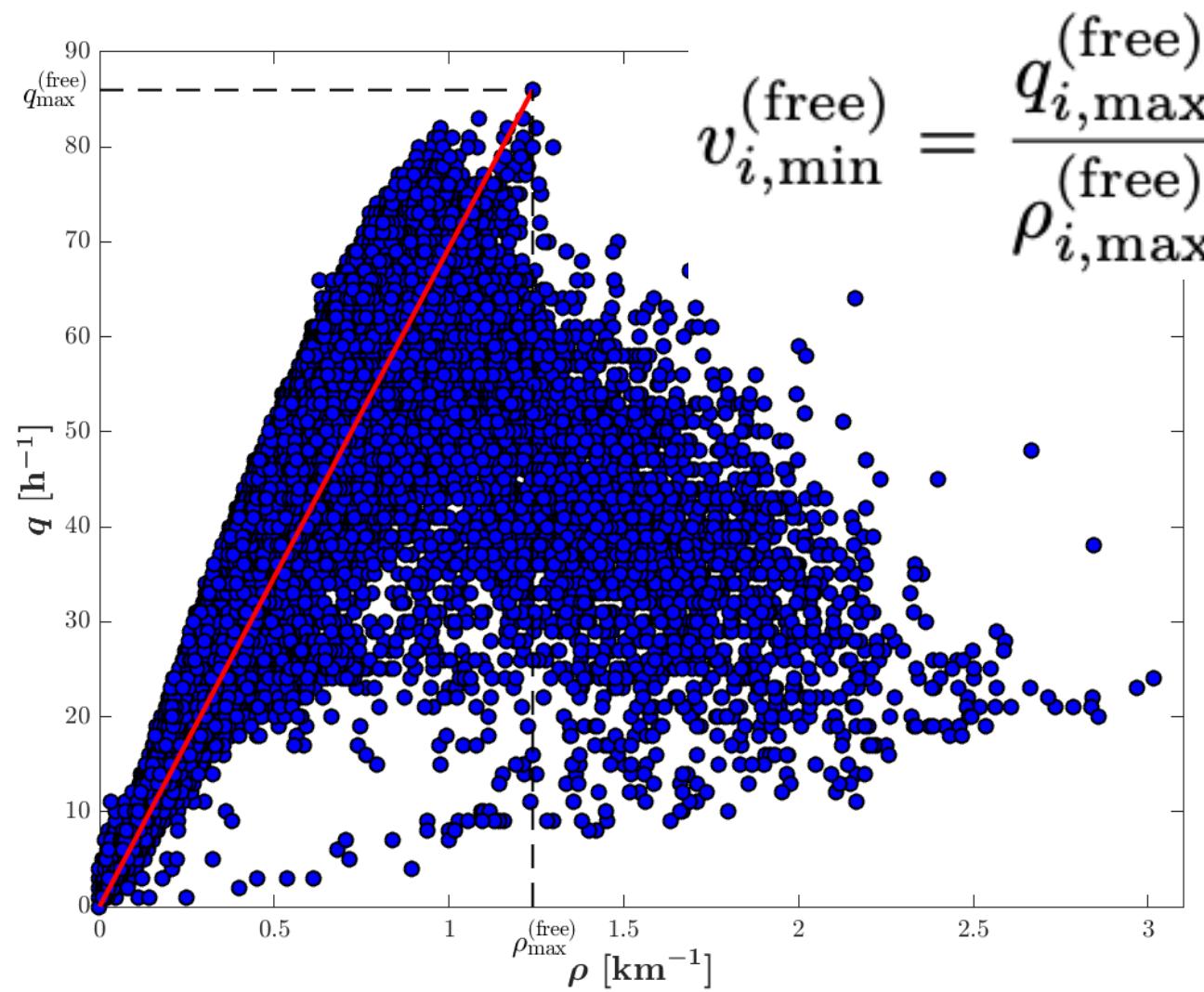
find quasi-stationary states

- as a precursor in traffic states
- for predication through models

- guide traffic planning, traffic control, traveling strategy
- improve traffic efficiency

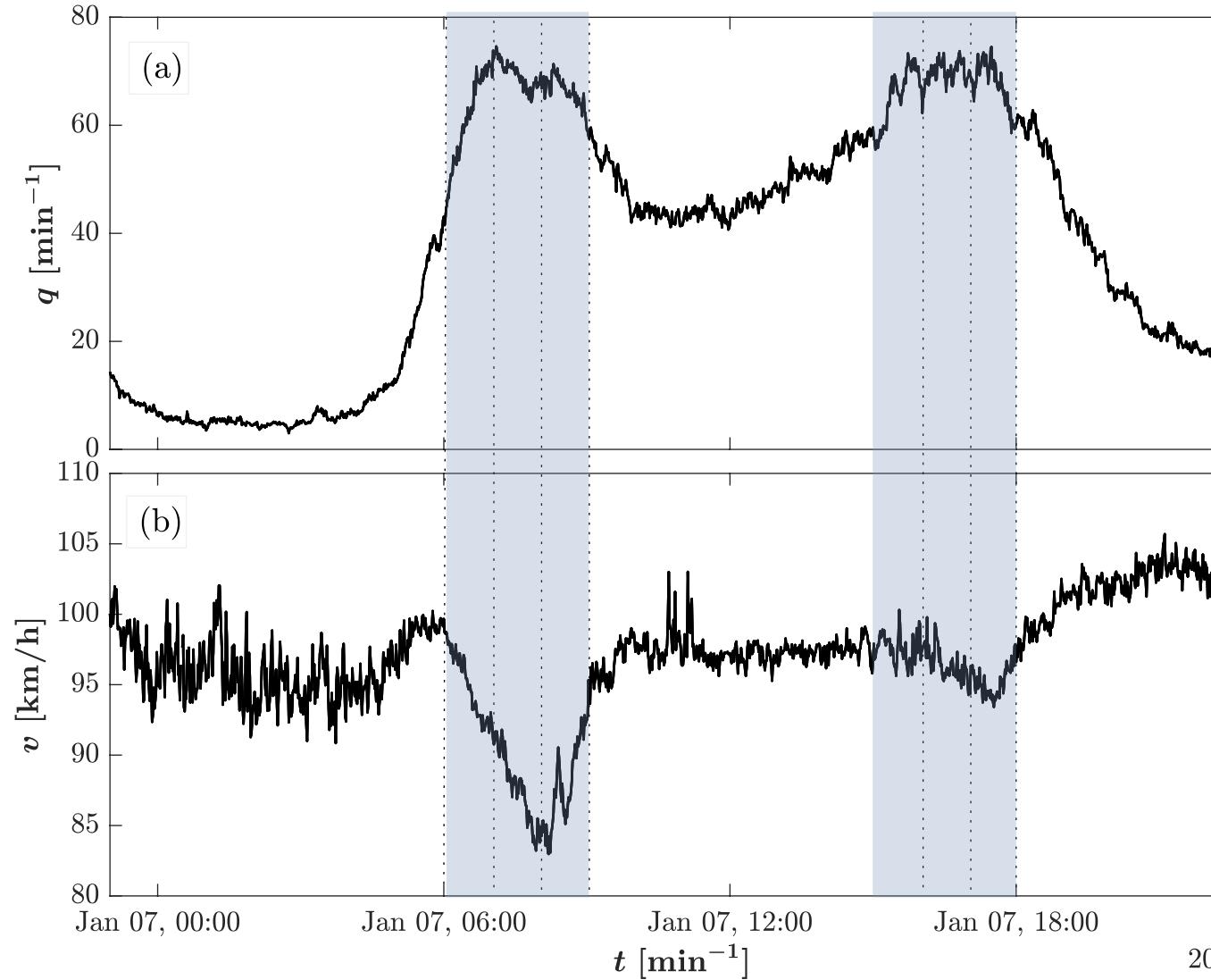
Ref. Münnix, Shimada, Schäfer, Leyvraz, Seligman, Guhr, and Stanley. Scientific Reports, 2:644, 2012

Background—traffic systems

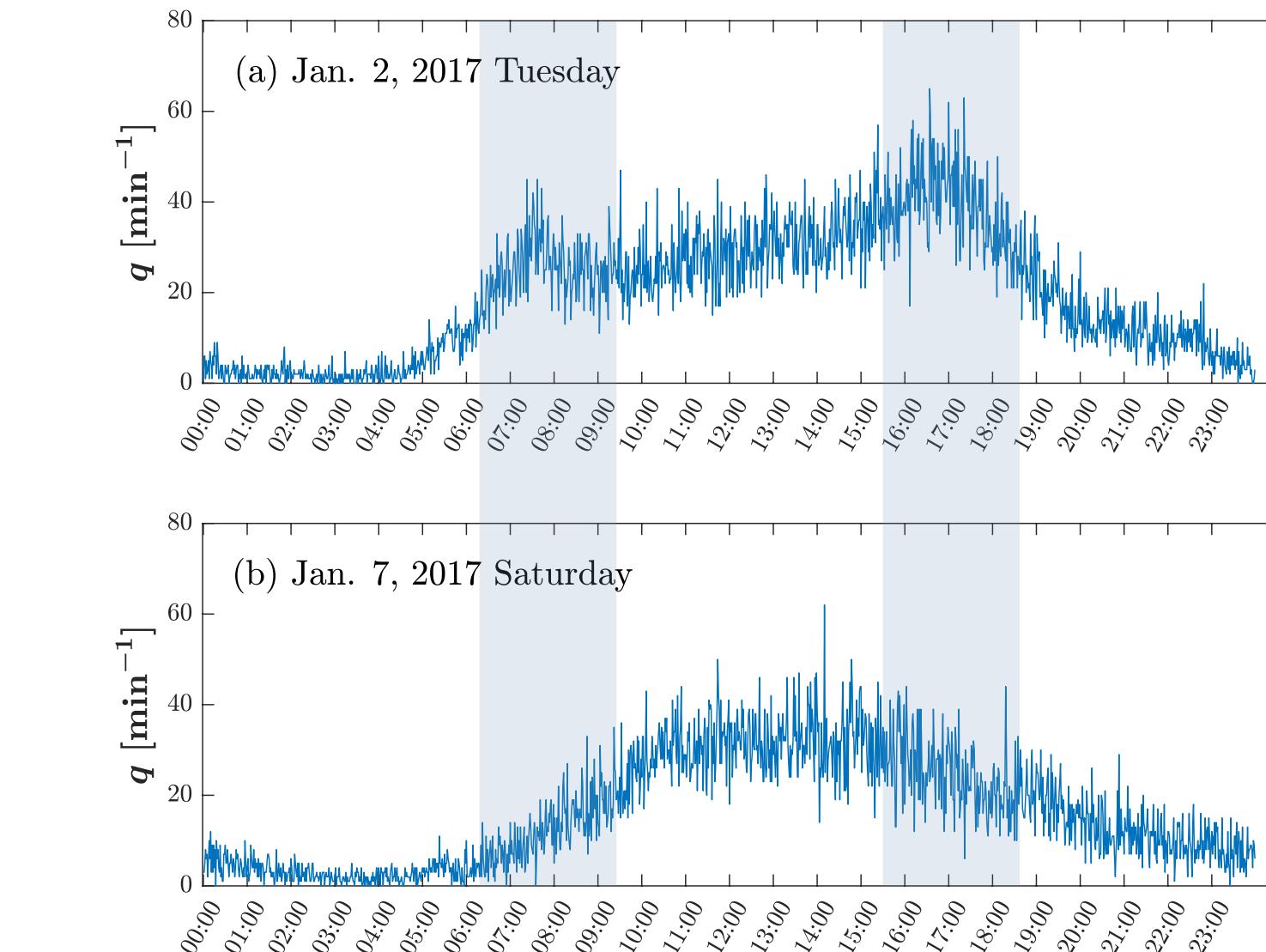


- **flow**: number of vehicles at unit time
- **density**: number of vehicles at unit length
- **velocity** = flow / density
- **traffic states**: free or congested states

- **critical velocity**:
 - $v_i \geq v_{i,\min}^{(\text{free})}$
 - $v_i < v_{i,\min}^{(\text{free})}$
- Ref. Kerner, The Physics of Traffic, Springer, 2012

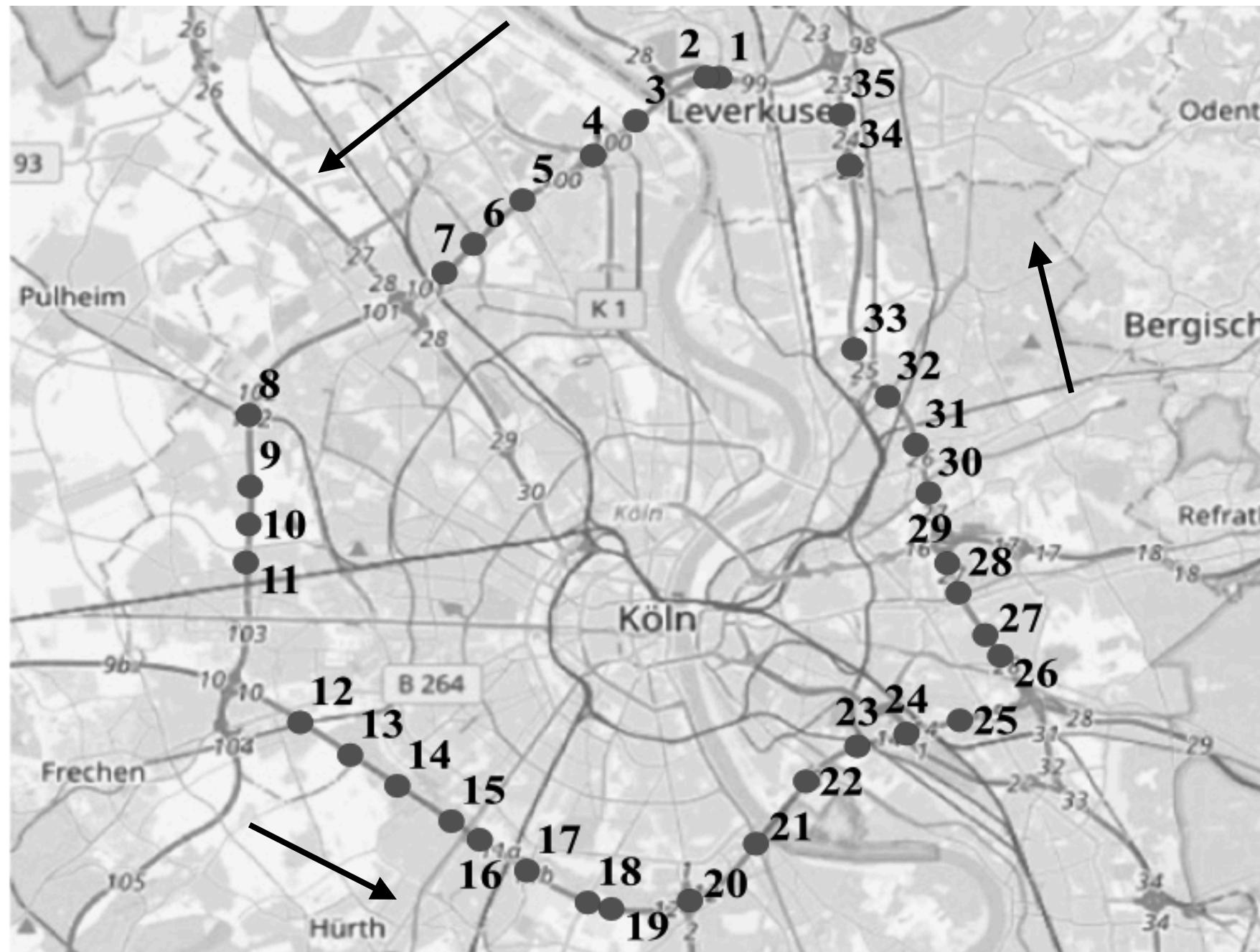


- **quasi-stationary time series of traffic flow and velocity**
- **flow and velocity in rush hours**



- **different traffic behaviors on workdays and weekends**

Datasets



- loop data detected at **35 sections** of Cologne orbital motorway
- resolution of time: **one minute**
- **combine data of multiple lanes to one effective lane** at one minute
- combined flow (number of vehicles at unit time) in one minute

$$q_k(t) = \sum_l q_{kl}(t)$$

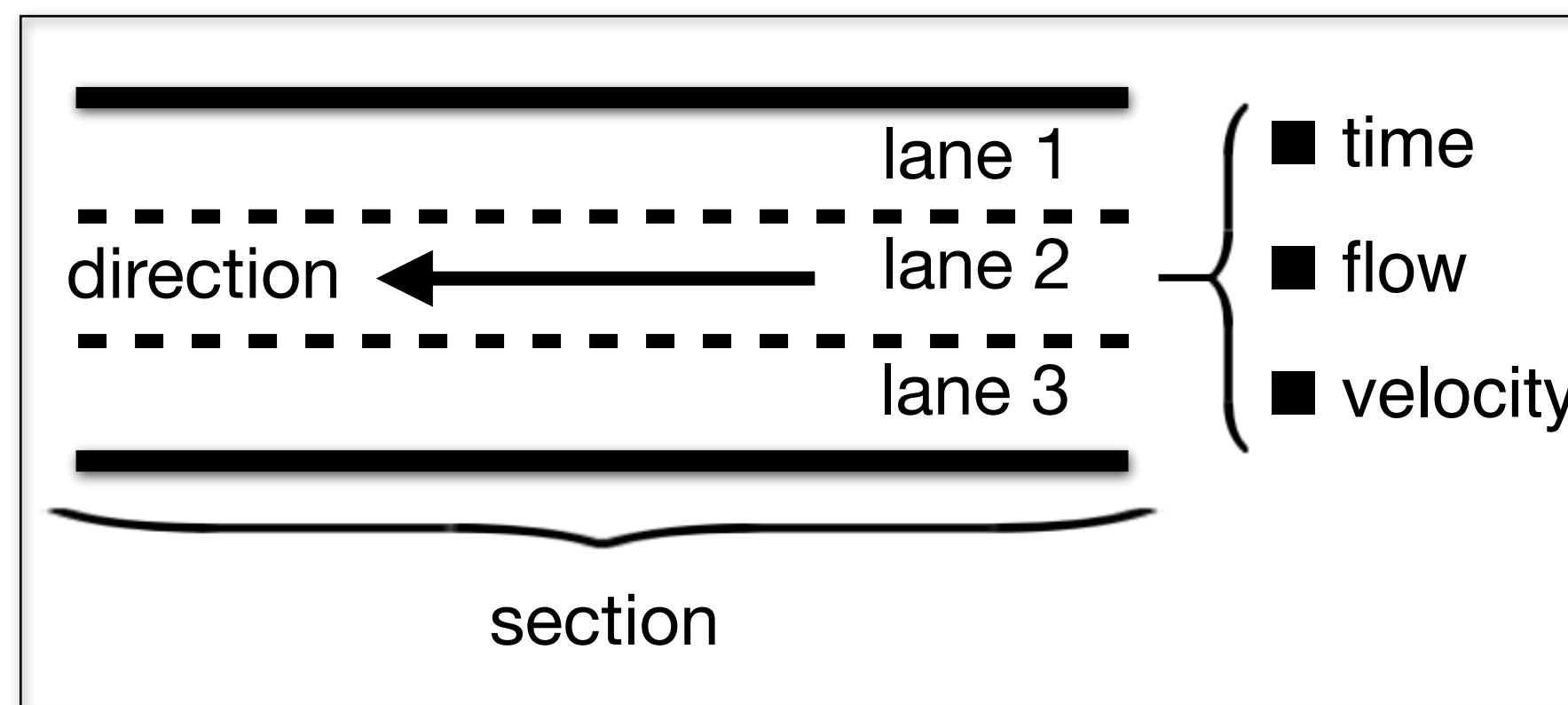
- density: number of vehicles at unit length

$$\rho_{kl}(t) = \frac{q_{kl}(t)}{v_{kl}(t)}$$

- combined velocity in one minute

$$v_k(t) = \frac{q_k(t)}{\sum_l \rho_{kl}(t)}$$

- **combine data of one minute to 15 minutes**
- Each data point is for **one section** in a time interval of **15 minutes**



Correlation Matrices—methods

$K \times T$ data matrix, rows: sections, columns: time

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} G_1(1) & G_1(2) & \dots & G_1(T) \\ G_2(1) & G_2(2) & \dots & G_2(T) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ G_K(1) & G_K(2) & \dots & G_K(T) \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} T = 96 \\ K = 35 \end{array}$$

normalize $G_k(t)$ to zero mean and unit variance

$$M_k(t) = \frac{G_k(t) - \langle G_k(t) \rangle_K}{\sqrt{\langle G_k(t)^2 \rangle_K - \langle G_k(t) \rangle_K^2}}$$

$K \times T$ normalized data matrix

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} M_1(1) & M_1(2) & \dots & M_1(T) \\ M_2(1) & M_2(2) & \dots & M_2(T) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ M_K(1) & M_K(2) & \dots & M_K(T) \end{bmatrix}$$

$T \times T$ temporal correlation matrix

$$D = \frac{1}{K} M^\dagger M$$

normalize $G_k(t)$ to zero mean

$$A_k(t) = G_k(t) - \langle G_k(t) \rangle_K$$

$T \times T$ temporal covariance matrix

$$\Sigma = \frac{1}{K} A^\dagger A$$

spectrum decomposition

$$\Sigma = \sum_{t=1}^T \Theta_t V(t) V^\dagger(t)$$

reduced-rank covariance matrix

$$\tilde{\Sigma} = \sum_{t=a}^b \Theta_t V(t) V^\dagger(t)$$

diagonal matrix of the square roots of the diagonal elements in $\tilde{\Sigma}$

$$\tilde{\sigma} = \text{diag}(\tilde{\sigma}_1, \dots, \tilde{\sigma}_T)$$

reduced-rank correlation matrix

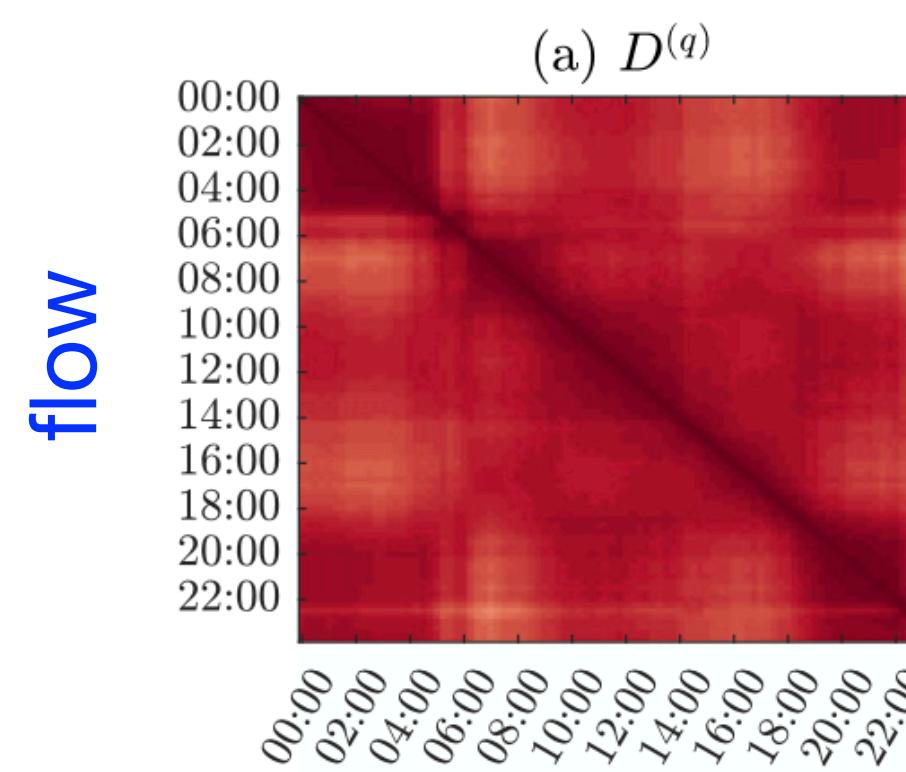
$$\tilde{D} = \tilde{\sigma}^{-1} \tilde{\Sigma} \tilde{\sigma}^{-1}$$

Correlation Matrices—decomposition of matrices

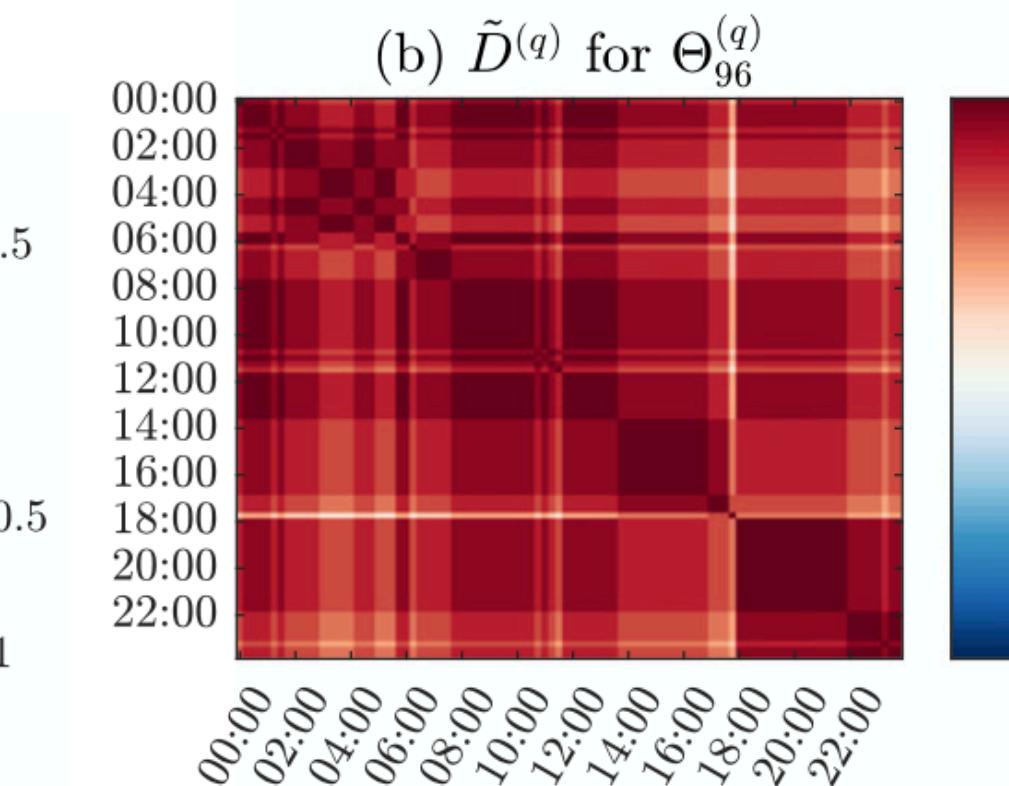
$$D = \frac{1}{K} M^\dagger M$$

$$\tilde{D} = \tilde{\sigma}^{-1} \tilde{\Sigma} \tilde{\sigma}^{-1}$$

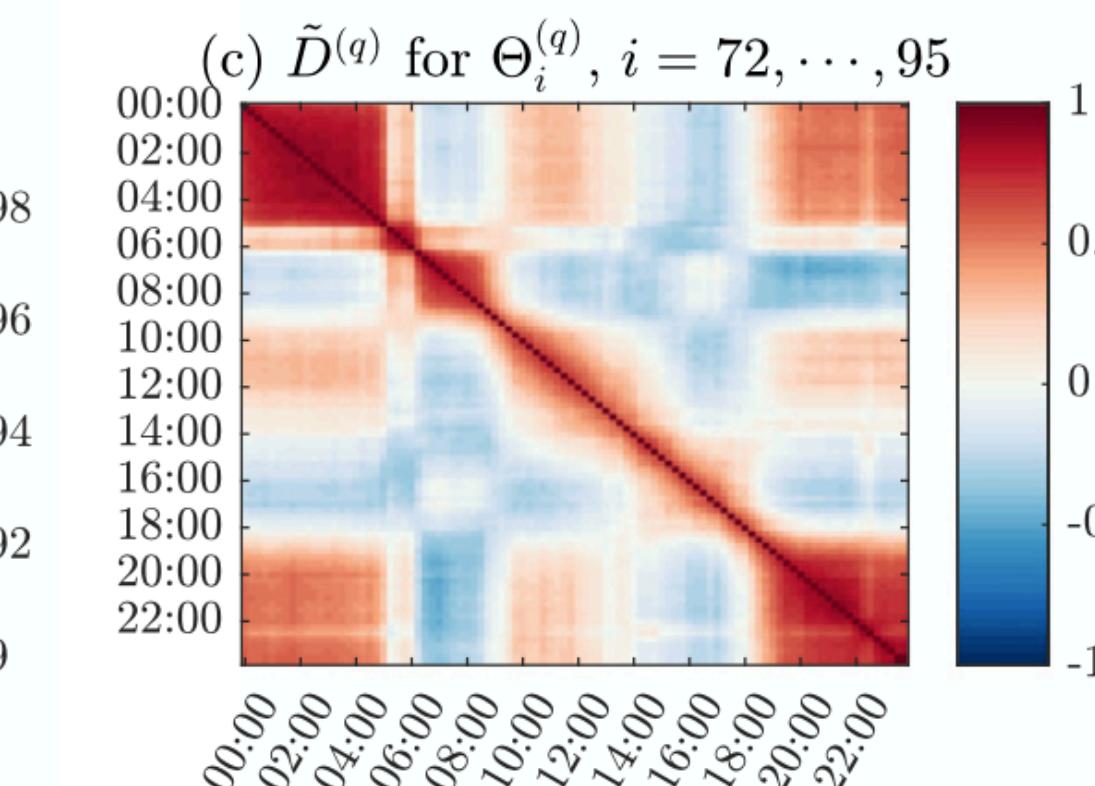
all eigenvalues



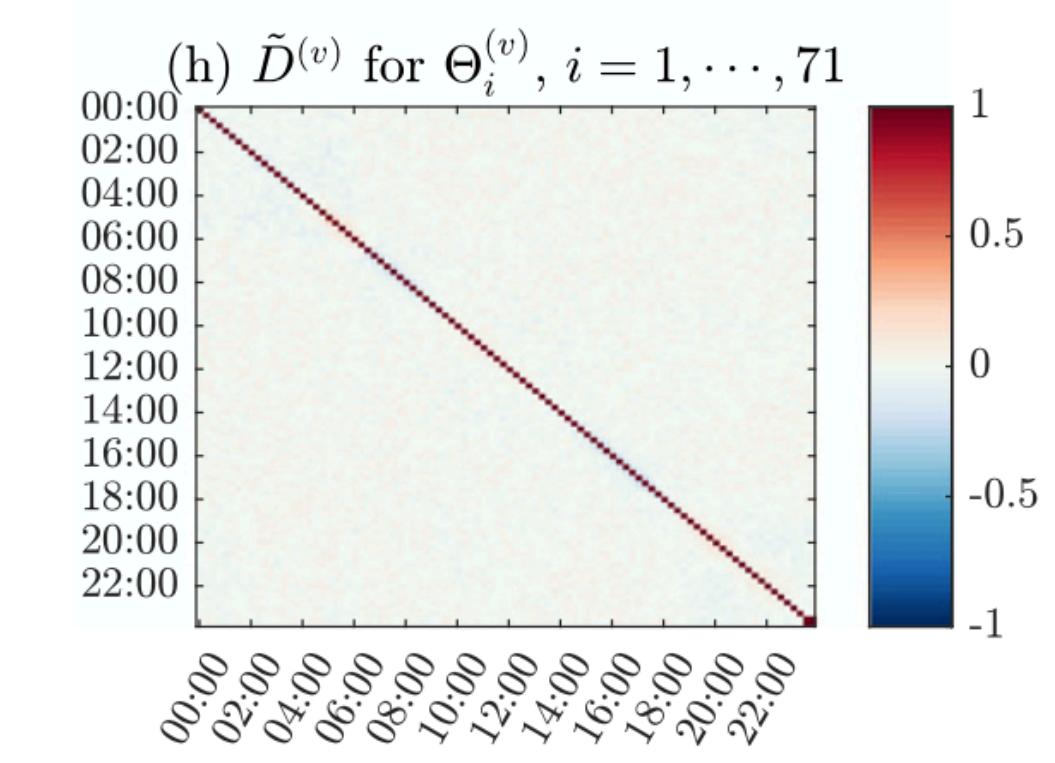
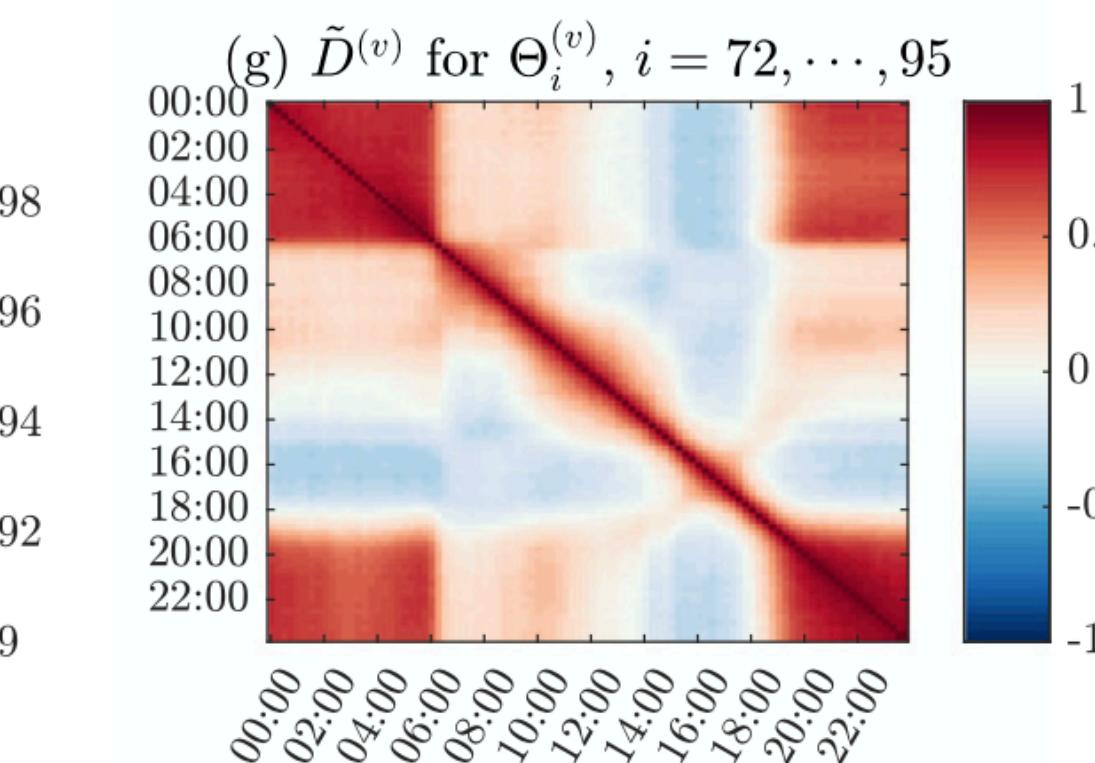
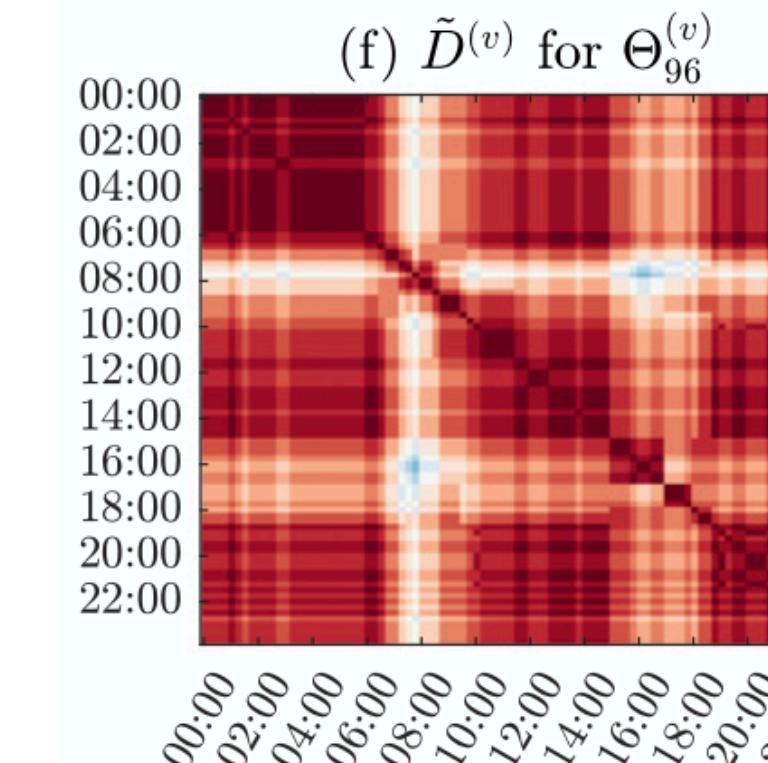
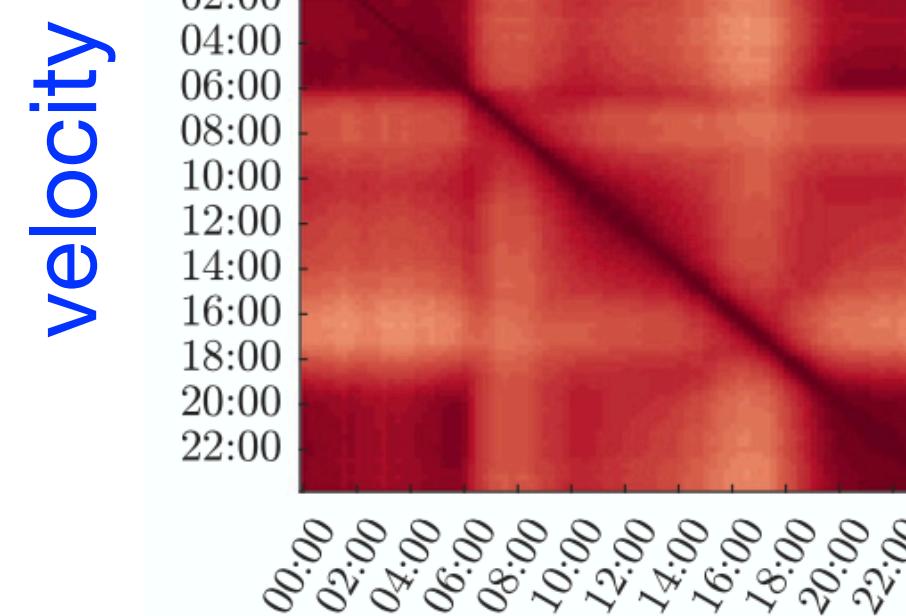
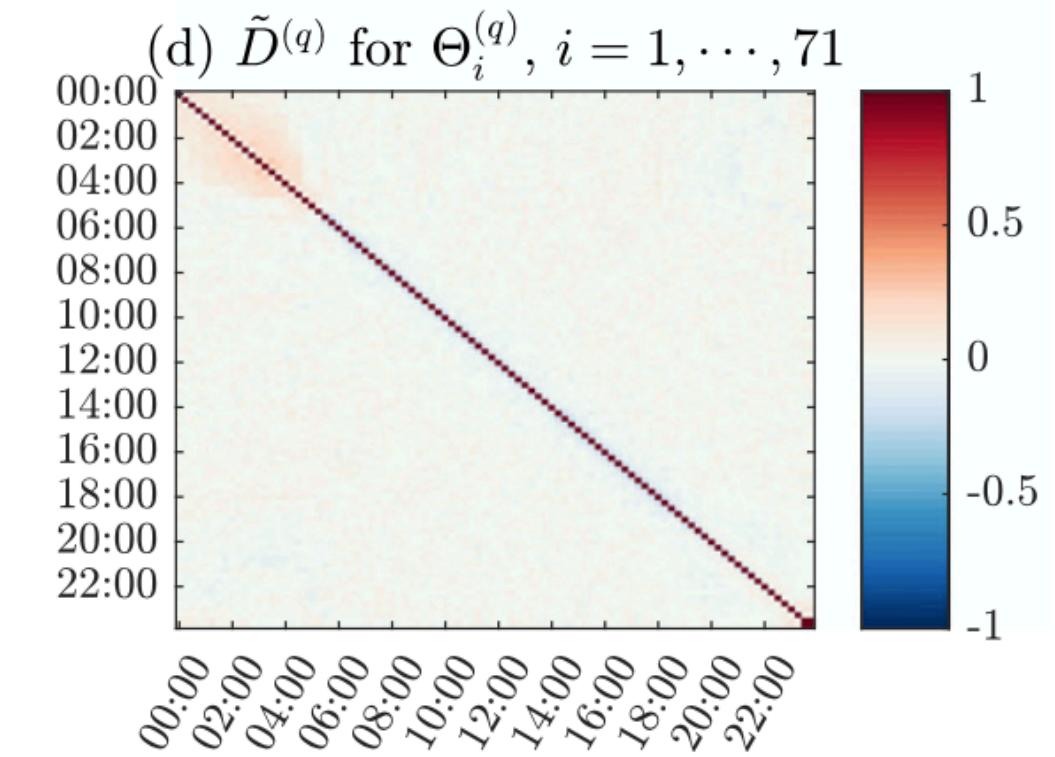
largest eigenvalue



middle eigenvalues



small eigenvalues



What kind of information each reduced-correlation matrix contains?

Correlation Matrices—roles of eigenvalues

reduced-rank data matrix

$$\tilde{A} = \sum_{t=a}^b S_t U(t) V^\dagger(t)$$

reduced-rank covariance matrix can be derived from reduced-rank data matrix

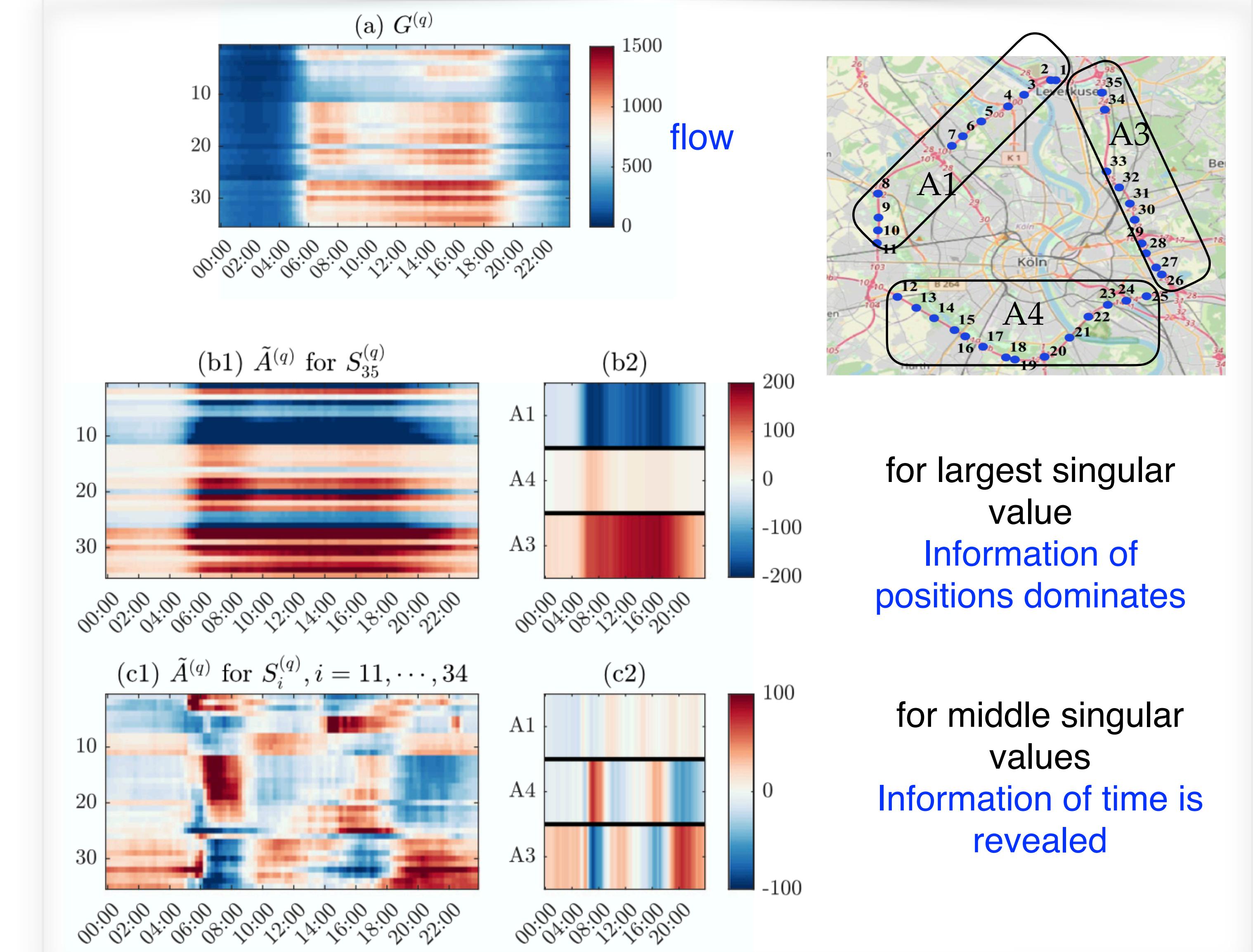
$$\tilde{\Sigma} = \sum_{t=a}^b \Theta_t V(t) V^\dagger(t) = \frac{1}{K} \tilde{A}^\dagger \tilde{A}$$

where each eigenvalue corresponds to a singular value

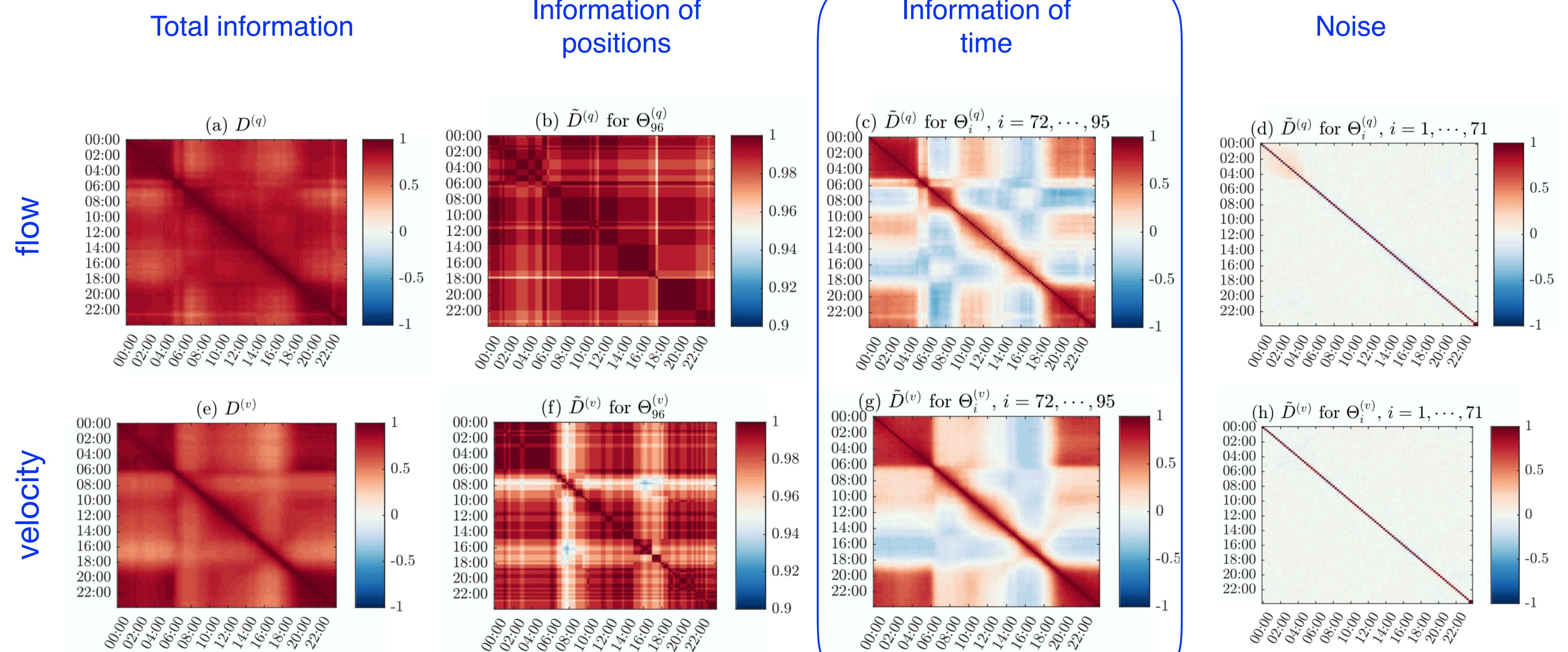
$$S_t = \sqrt{K \Theta_t}$$

information of reduced-correlation matrix can be traced back to the information of reduced-rank data matrix

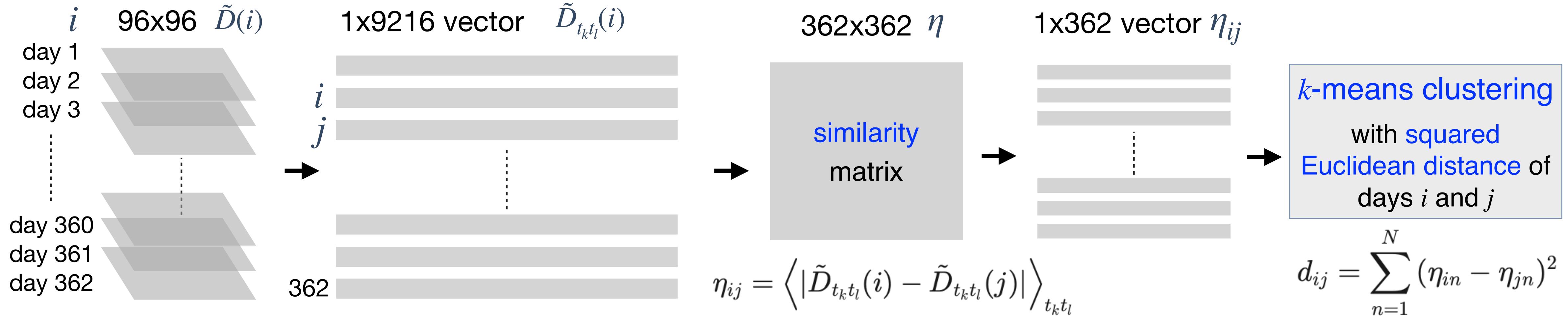
$$\tilde{D} \rightarrow \tilde{\Sigma} \rightarrow \tilde{A}$$



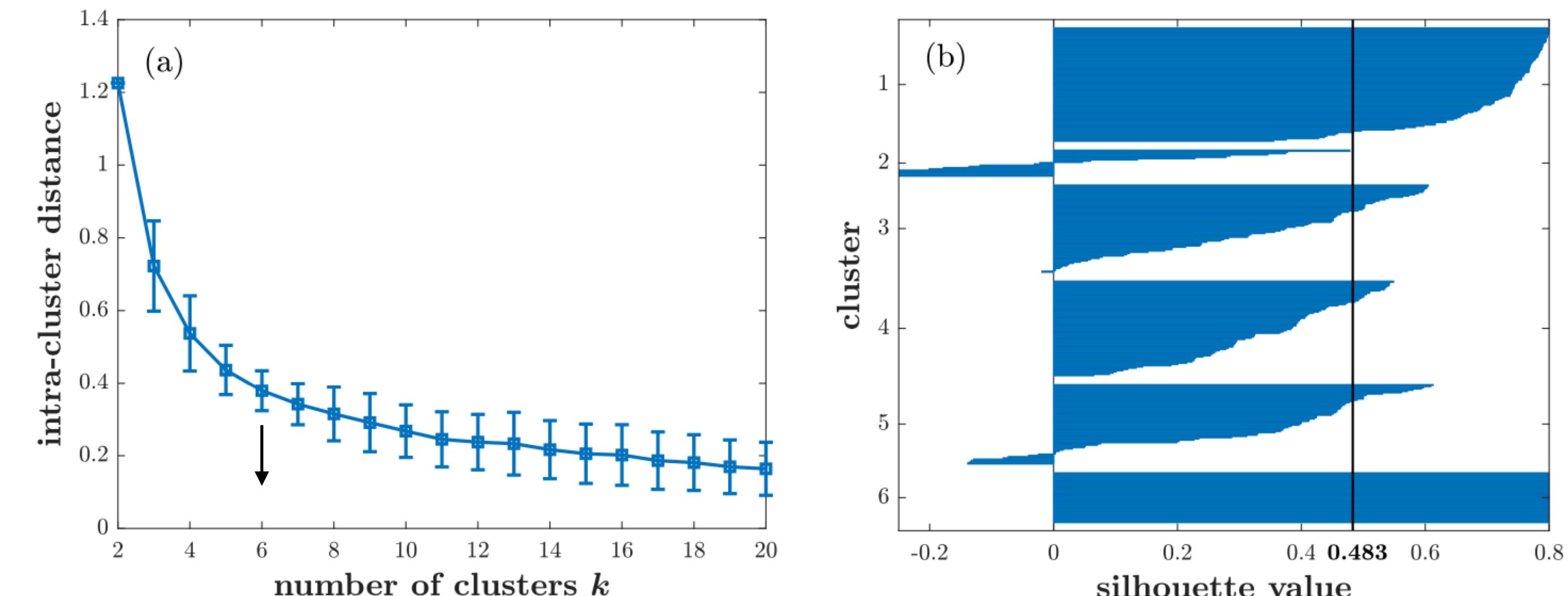
Correlation Matrices—decomposition of matrices



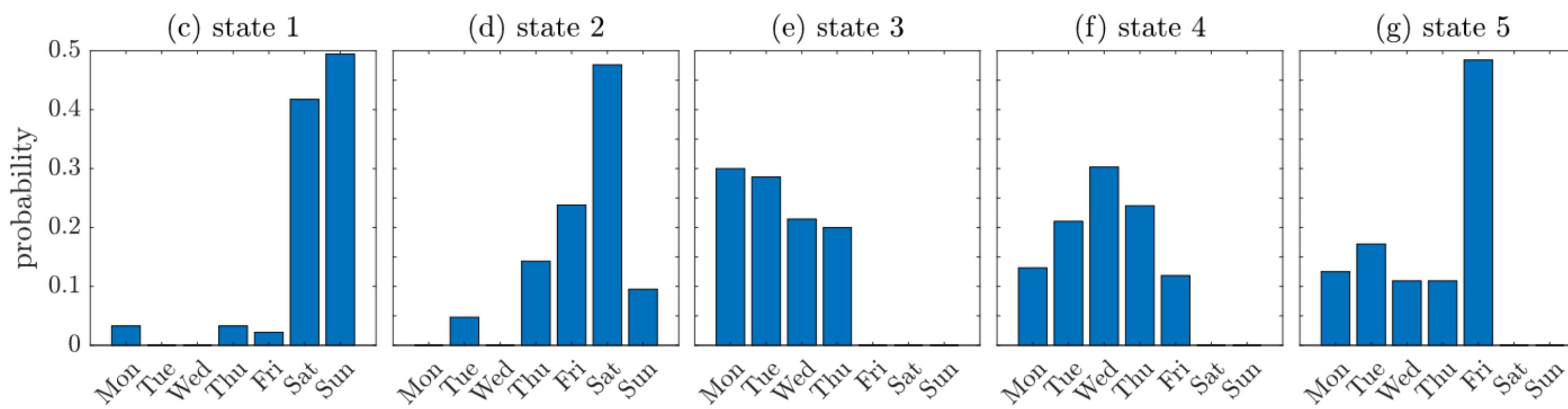
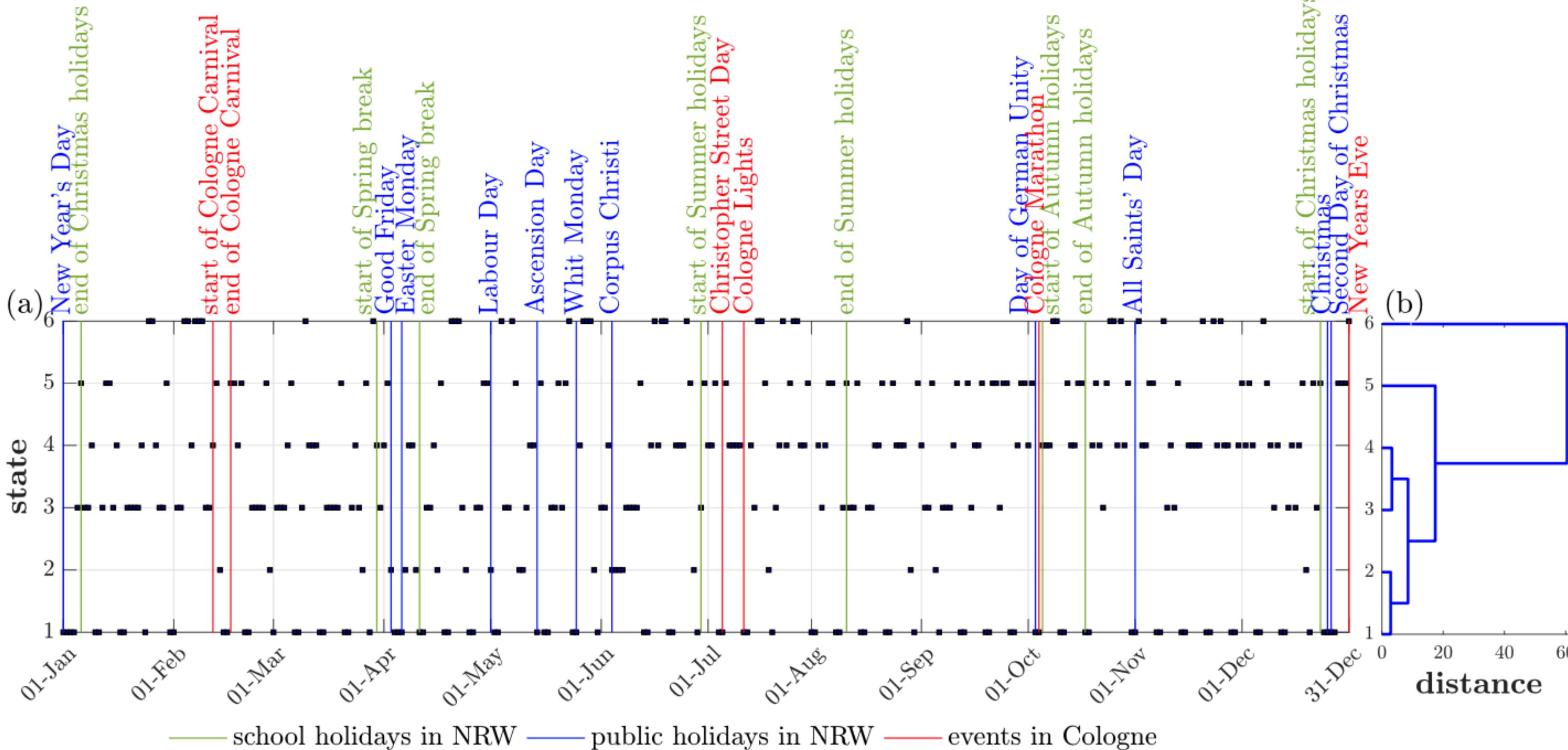
Clustering – method and validation



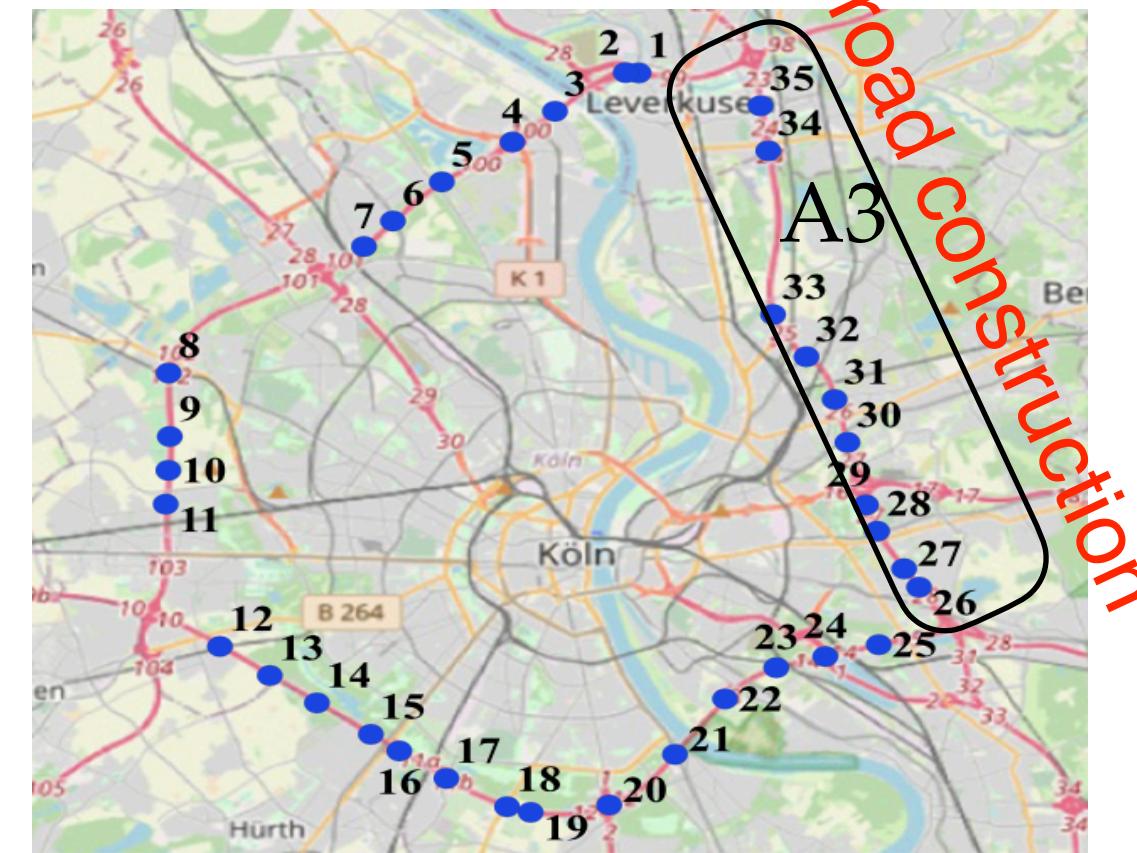
- ◆ determine number of clusters:
 - given a k , run 500 times of k -means clustering
 - obtain 500 averaged intra-cluster distances
 - obtain a mean value and a standard deviation
 - find the k corresponding to the minimal standard deviation
- ◆ with the best k , perform k -means clustering
- ◆ validate the consistency within clusters by silhouette values



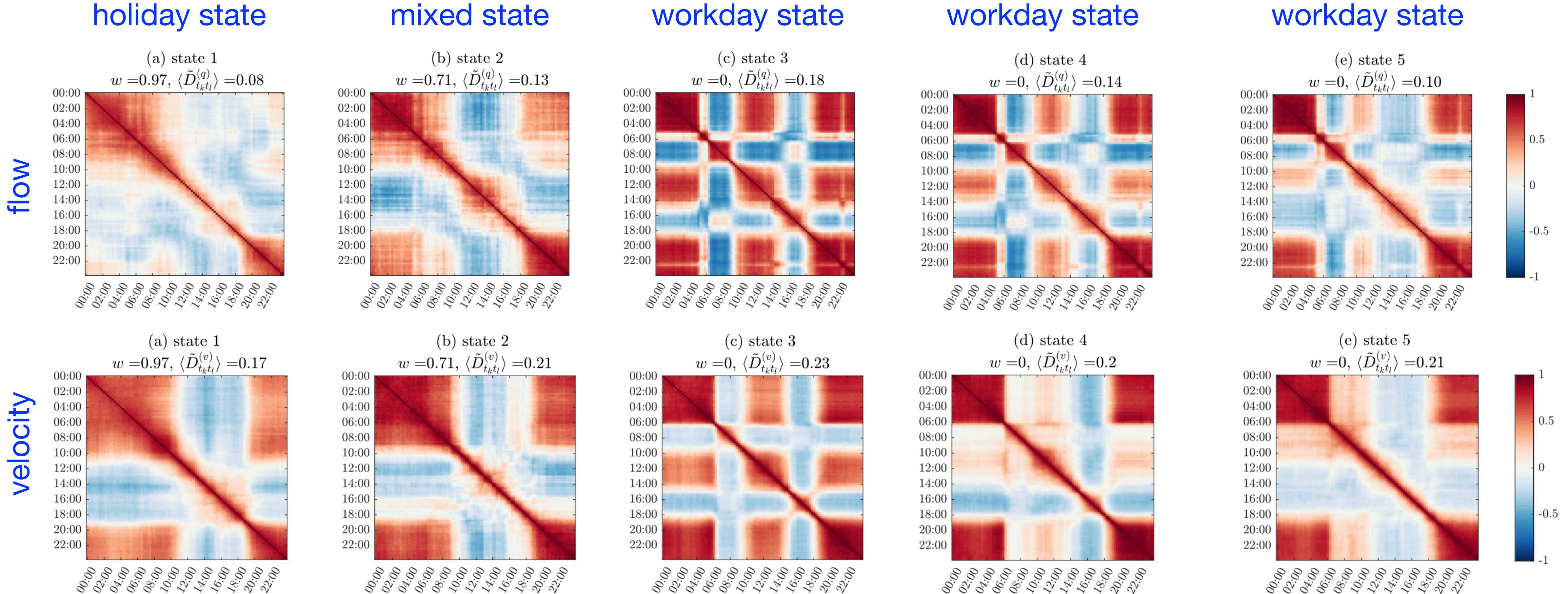
Quasi-stationary states—evolution of states with time



- state 1: almost for **holidays**
- state 2: both **workdays** and **holidays**
- states 3,4,5: only for **workdays**



Quasi-stationary states – correlation structures



■ **strongly positive correlation** between two time points:

a free (congested) flow at a time is more likely to be followed by a free (congested) flow at another time

■ **strongly negative correlation** between two time points:

a free (congested) flow at a time is more likely to be followed by a congested (free) flow at another time

Quasi-stationary states—Mapping five states onto traffic states

critical velocity

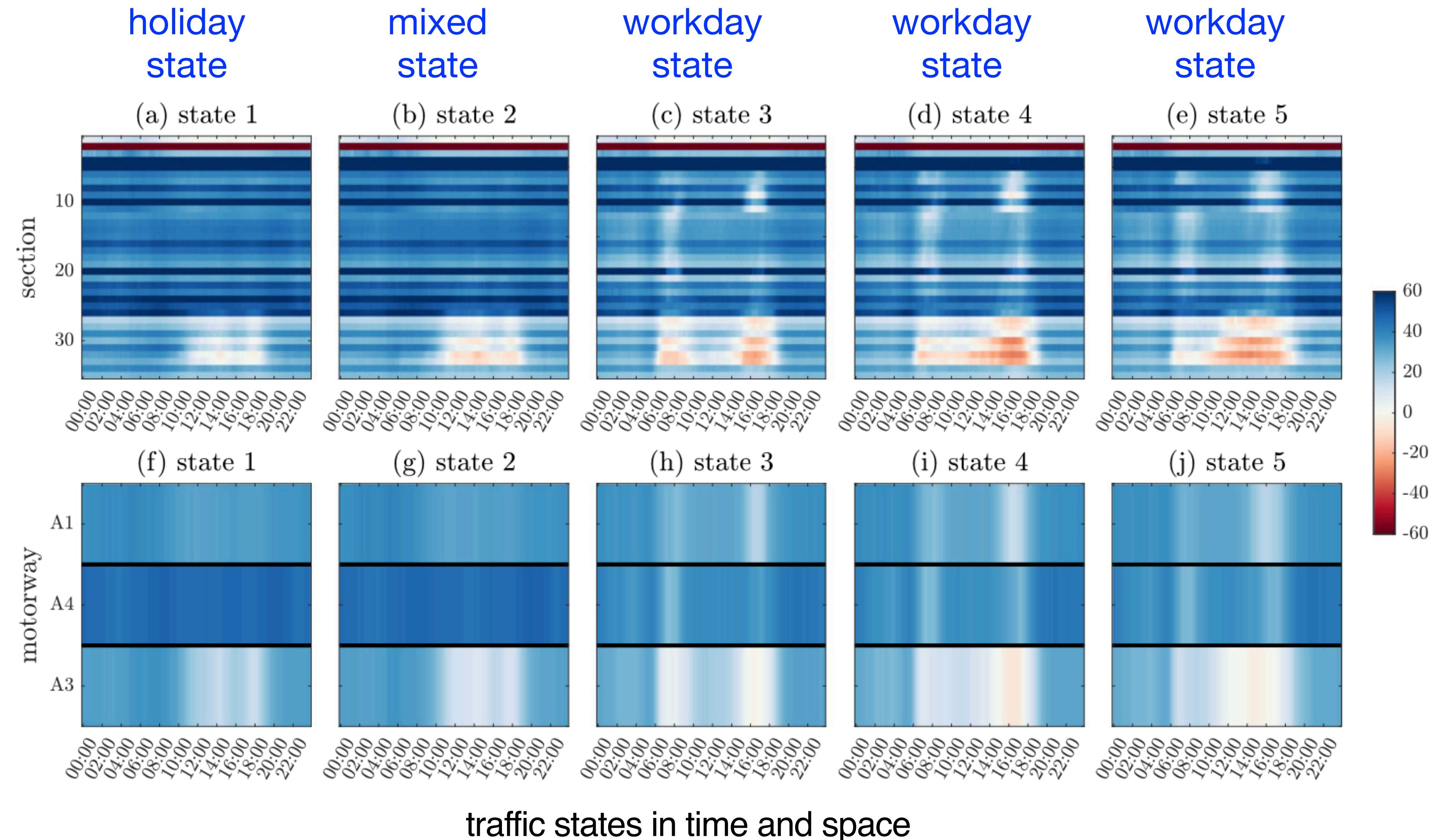
$$v_i^{(0)}(t) = \frac{q_{i,\max}^{\text{(free)}}(t)}{\rho_{i,\max}^{\text{(free)}}(t)}$$

traffic state quantified by

$$\Delta v_i(t) = v_i(t) - v_i^{(0)}(t)$$

$$\Delta v_i(t) \geq 0 \quad \text{free state}$$

$\Delta v_i(t) < 0$ congested state



Conclusions

- Found distinct structural features depending on time, i.e., the rich non-Markovian features of traffic, in the reduced-rank correlation matrix of traffic flows
- Identified five quasi-stationary states by k-means clustering
- The five states present three types: the holiday state (state 1), the workday states (states 3–5) and a mixed state of holidays and workdays (state 2)
- Revealed free or congested states in both space and time by mapping the five quasi-stationary states onto traffic states
- Our study provides a proof of concept and a basis for further study in traffic systems.

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