

# Stability of a distributed generation network using the Kuramoto models

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## Summary



- In the near future, a major source of concern for the continuity of service of the Power System will be the Distributed Generation (DG).

A Distributed Generation system is a set of small, heterogeneous, independent, interconnected power plants phase-synchronized to oscillate at the same frequency; otherwise a blackout may occur.

- In order to study this problem we analyze the phase stability of a small size distributed generation grid (the network), by means of a modified Kuramoto Model.

- In our model, contrarily to the standard Kuramoto model (SKM), the strength of the couplings is randomly chosen and allowed to vary; couplings are considered as power from generators (following Filatrella 2008) .

- Although the network undergoes several synchronization losses, it is able to quickly resynchronize. Useful hints for distributed generation grid design are given.

Moreover, we note that the word **synchronization** should be intended as a synonym for **inter-dependency**.

## Some examples



### *Oscillators able to synchronize their rhythmic features:*

#### **Circadian rhythms**

Many living organisms synchronize to the day-night cycle.

#### **Electrical generators**

All of the generators producing power on a power grid must be synchronized to one another.

#### **Josephson junction arrays**

Josephson junctions form systems of oscillators that have been found theoretically to exhibit synchronization.

#### **Heart, intestinal muscles, neurons**

The muscles in your heart, for example, must all be synchronized to create a coherent beat.

#### **Fireflies**

Certain species of fireflies have been found to synchronize, turning on and off at the same time.

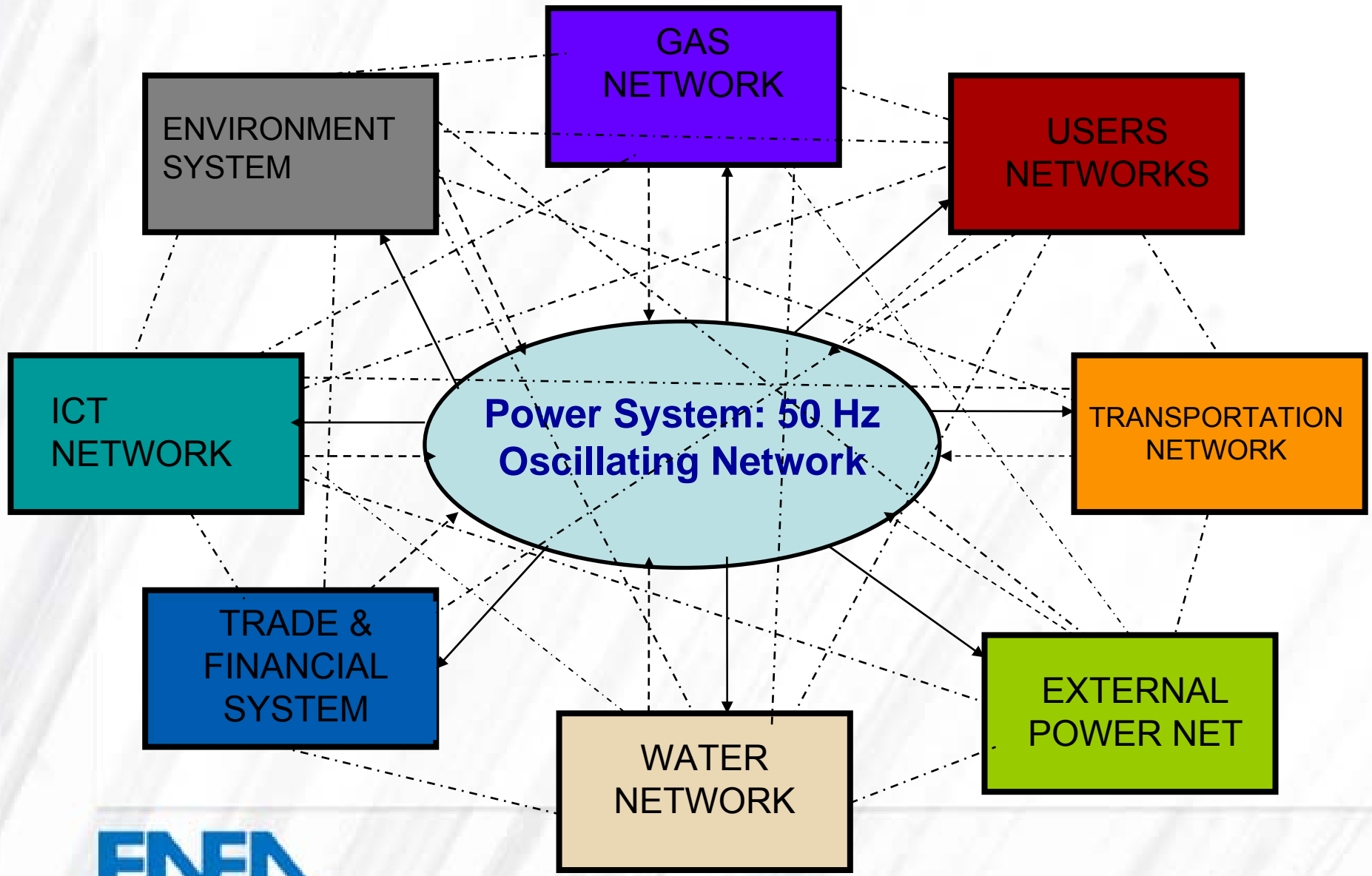
#### **Walking pace**

#### **Metronomes**

#### **Stock market boom / crash**



# Motivation and Relevance



# Motivation and Relevance: Sync & Dependence

Node  $i$  depends from node  $h$ . Generally, node  $i$  is synchronized with node  $h$  if:

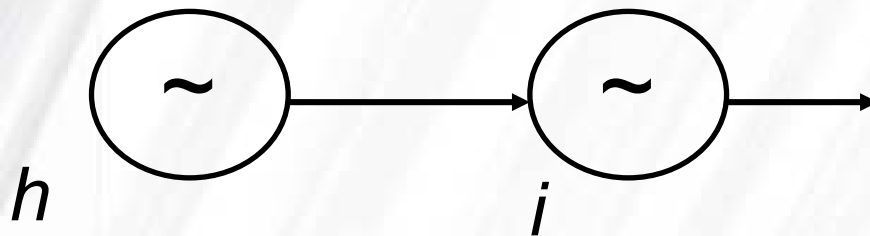
$$\Theta(F_i) = G(\Theta(F_h)) + \text{const}$$

or

$$|F_i| = G(|F_h|) + \text{const}$$

Special case:  $G$  is the identity:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} |\theta_i(t) - \theta_h(t)| = \text{const}$$



$$R_{hj} = 1$$

Choerent state /  
Full Dependence

Semi-choerent state /  
Weak Dependence

$$R_{hj} = 0$$

Non-choerent state/  
Independence

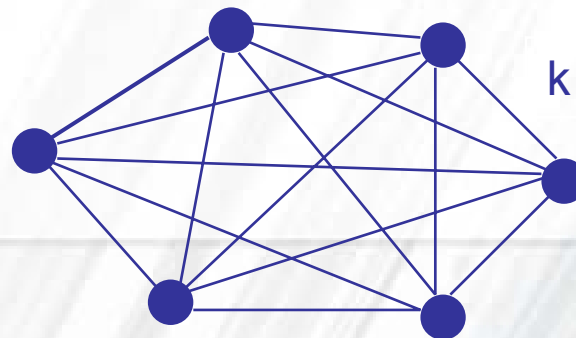
## The Kuramoto Equation (SKM)



$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i + \frac{K}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \sin(\theta_j - \theta_i) \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$

Kuramoto showed that for  $K < k_c$  oscillators remain unsynchronized in phase, while for  $K > k_c$  they synchronize .

- $\lim | \theta_i(t) - \theta_j(t) | = const , t \rightarrow \infty$
- $N$  is the number of oscillators (the nodes)
- $\omega_i$  is the nominal frequency of the oscillator  $i$
- $K$  is the coupling strength, a fixed and constant scalar in the SKM
- all-to-all couplings



The network

# The Kuramoto Equation (SKM)

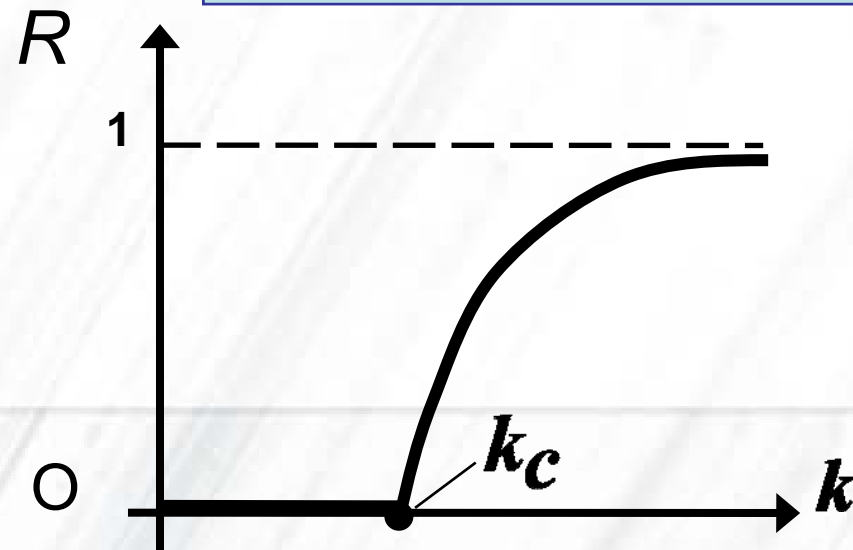
- $R$  is the “order parameter”; ranges between 0 and 1 It can be regarded as a measure of the quality of synchronization
- Considering two nodes  $i$  and  $h$   $R_{ih}$  can be a measure of their inter-dependence
- $k_c$  is the critical coupling value

$$R = \left| \frac{K}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N e^{j\theta_i} \right|$$

The order parameter

( here j is the imaginary number )

The bifourcation diagram

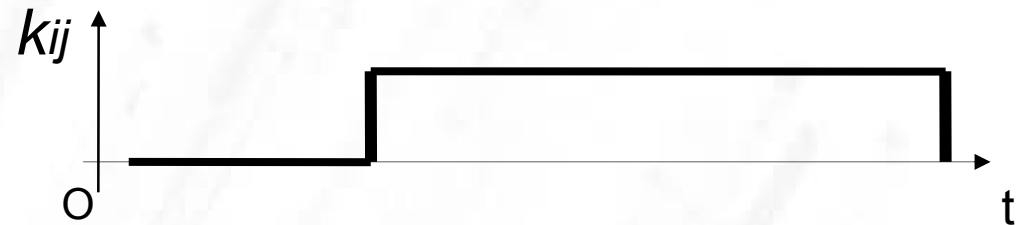


# The Modified Kuramoto Equation (MKM)



We modify the SKM introducing an adjacency matrix  $\mathbf{K}$  connecting nodes. Its randomly chosen entry  $K_{ij}$  represents the **variable** coupling strength between nodes as a function of time (4):

$$\mathbf{K} = K_m \begin{pmatrix} K_{11} & \dots & K_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ K_{n1} & \dots & K_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$



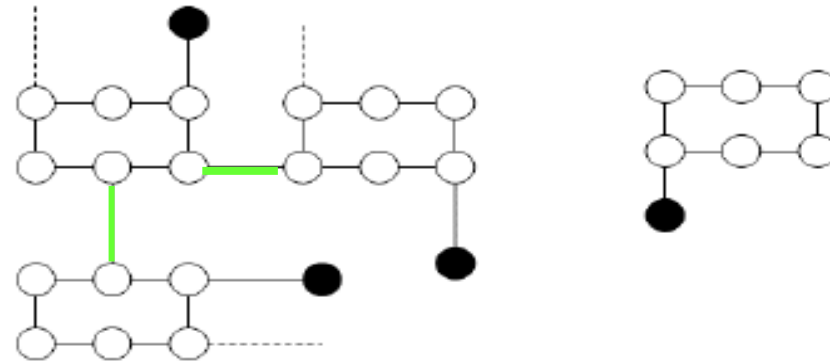
$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i + K_m \sum_{j=1}^N K_{ij} \sin(\theta_j - \theta_i) \quad i = 1, \dots, N \quad (4)$$

$$K = (P_{max} \Omega) / I$$

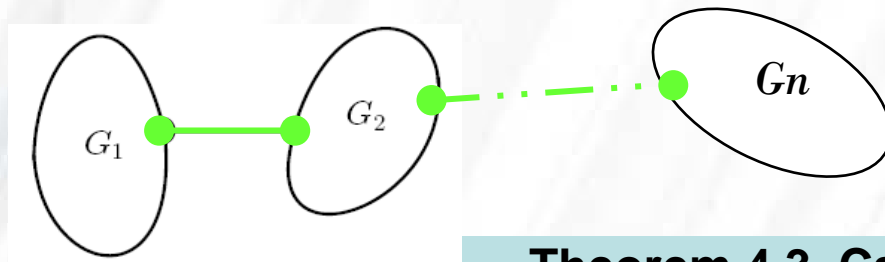
( Filatrella, Eur. Phys. J. B , 2008 )



# Modified Kuramoto Model: the Grid Topology



**Fig. 1** On the left side the block topology of the oscillators /generators, with the dissipating node. On the right side, a single block. This is the network used for the simulations whose results are the object of the present work.



**Theorem 4.3, Canale and Monzon, 2007**

**If networks  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are “almost” synchronized, also *the resulting network*  $G = \{ G_1 \cup G_2 \dots \cup G_n \}$  is “almost” synchronized.**

# Results: low couplings

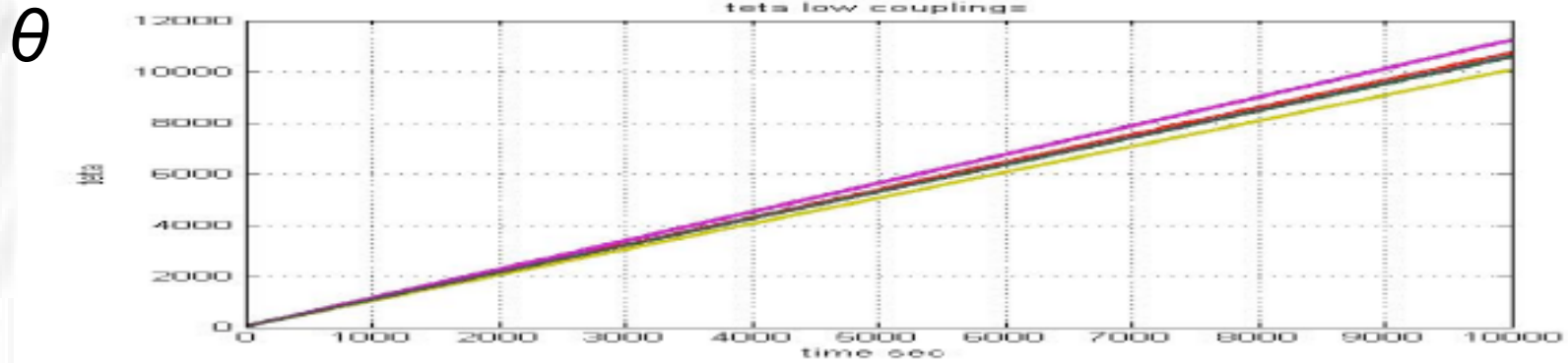


Fig. 2 Phases with low coupling ( $K_m = 0.1$ ).

t

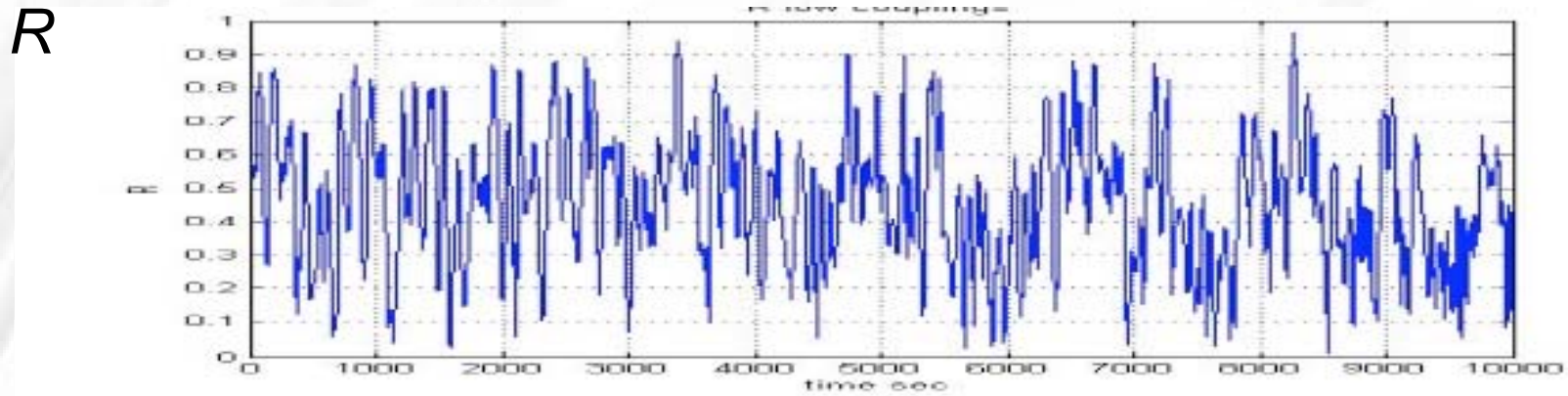


Fig. 3 Order parameter  $R$  with low coupling ( $K_m = 0.1$ ).

t

# Results: high couplings

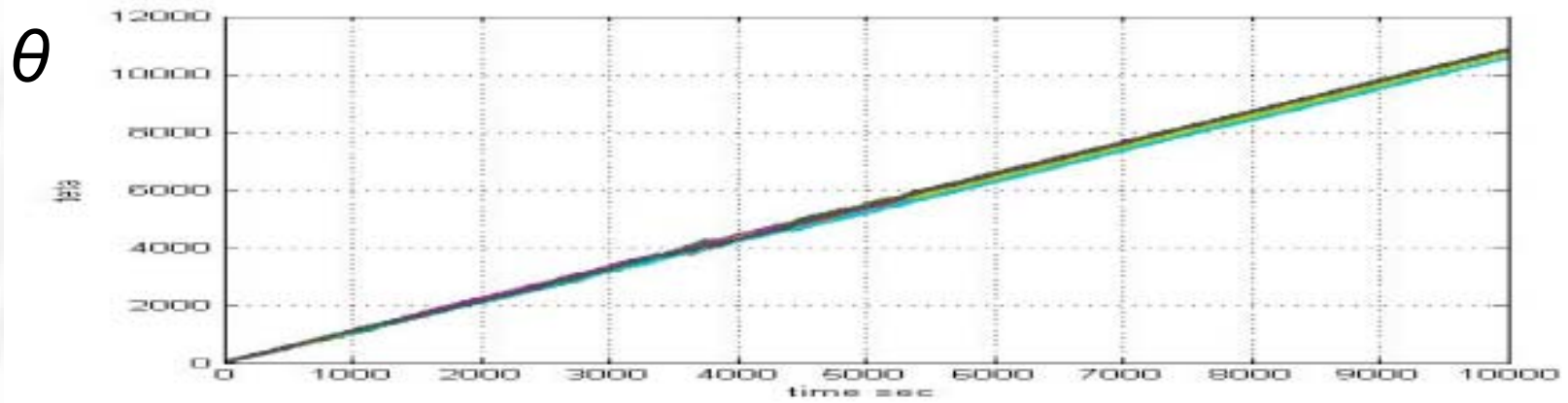


Fig. 4 Phases with high coupling ( $K_m = 400$ ).

t

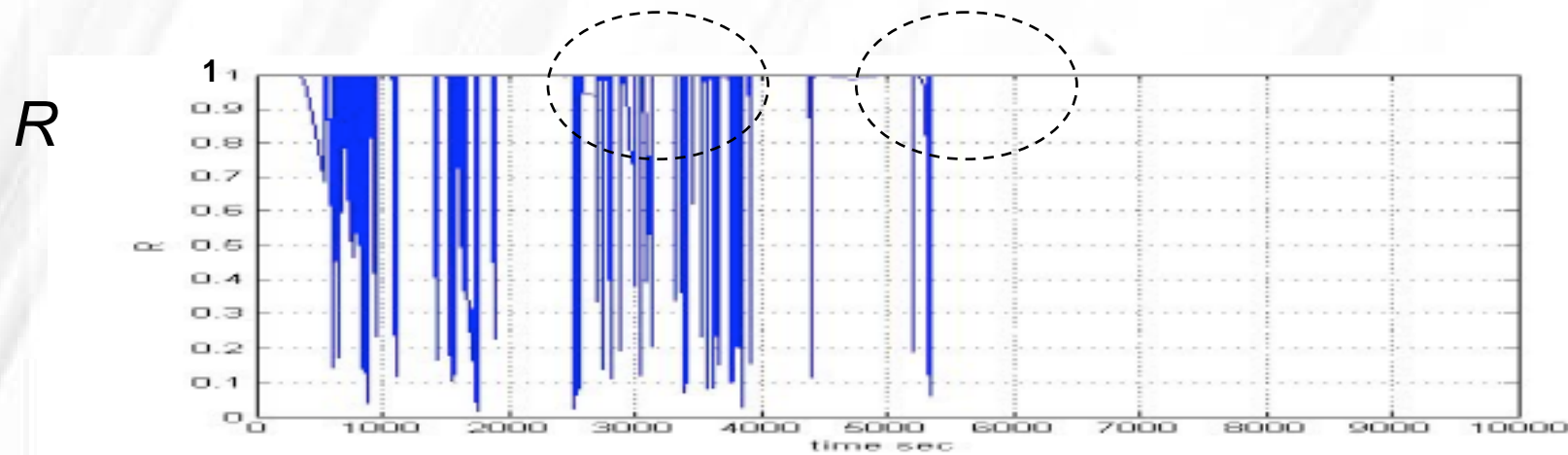


Fig. 5 Order parameter  $R$  with high coupling ( $K_m = 400$ ).

t

# Results: high couplings

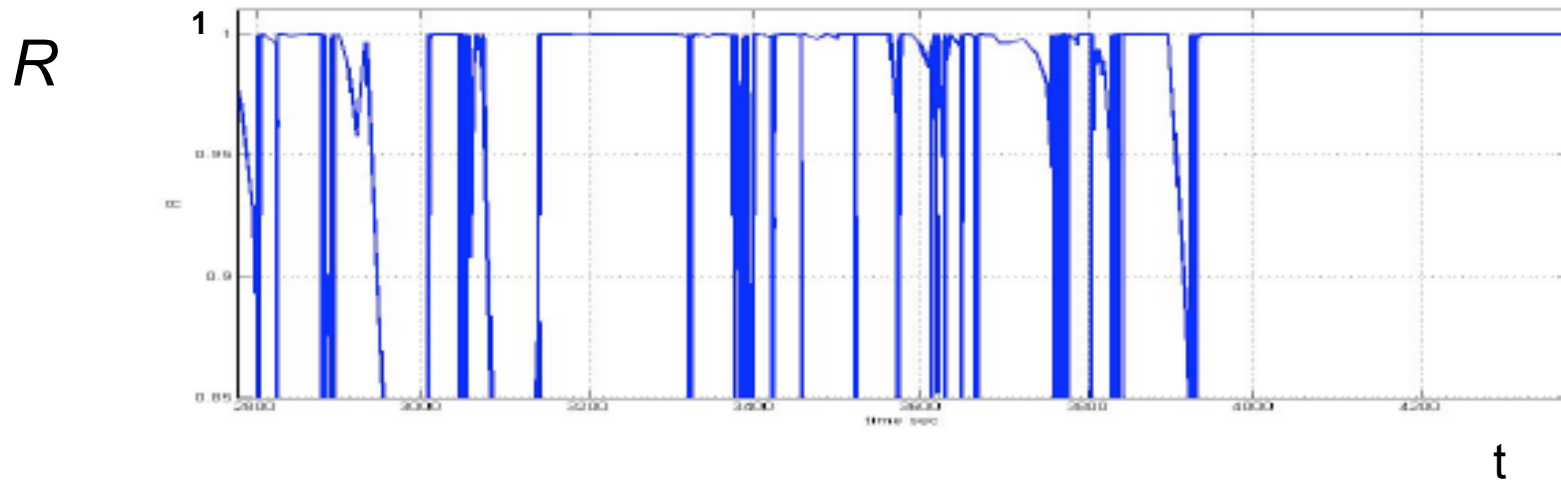


Fig. 7 Enlargement of Fig. 5, (between 3500 and 4000 s).

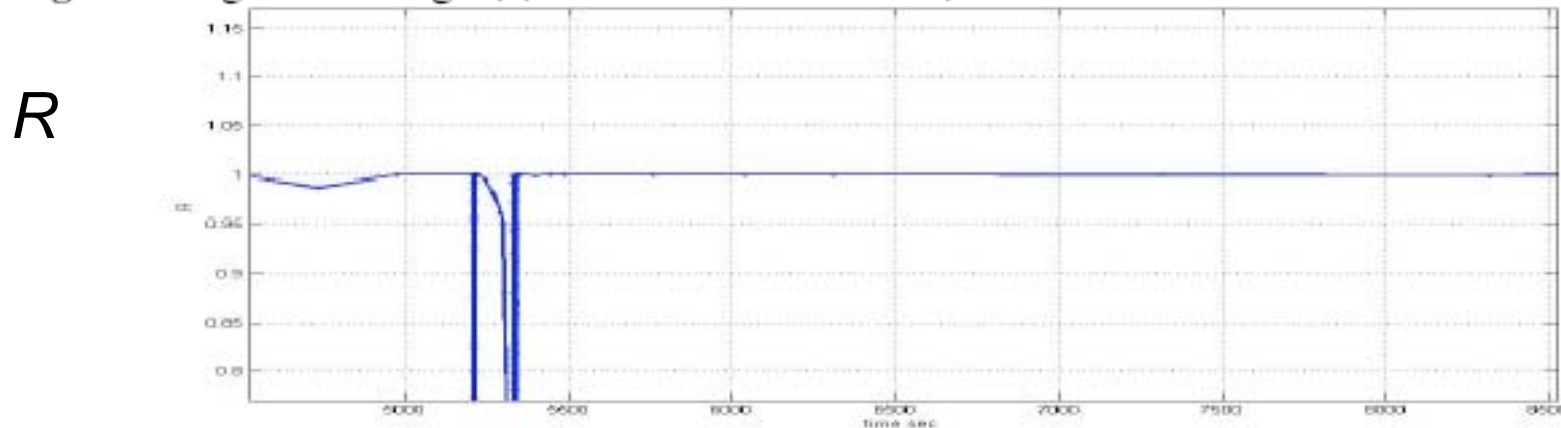


Fig. 6 Enlargement of Fig. 5.  $t > 5000$  s. high coupling.

# Results: high couplings

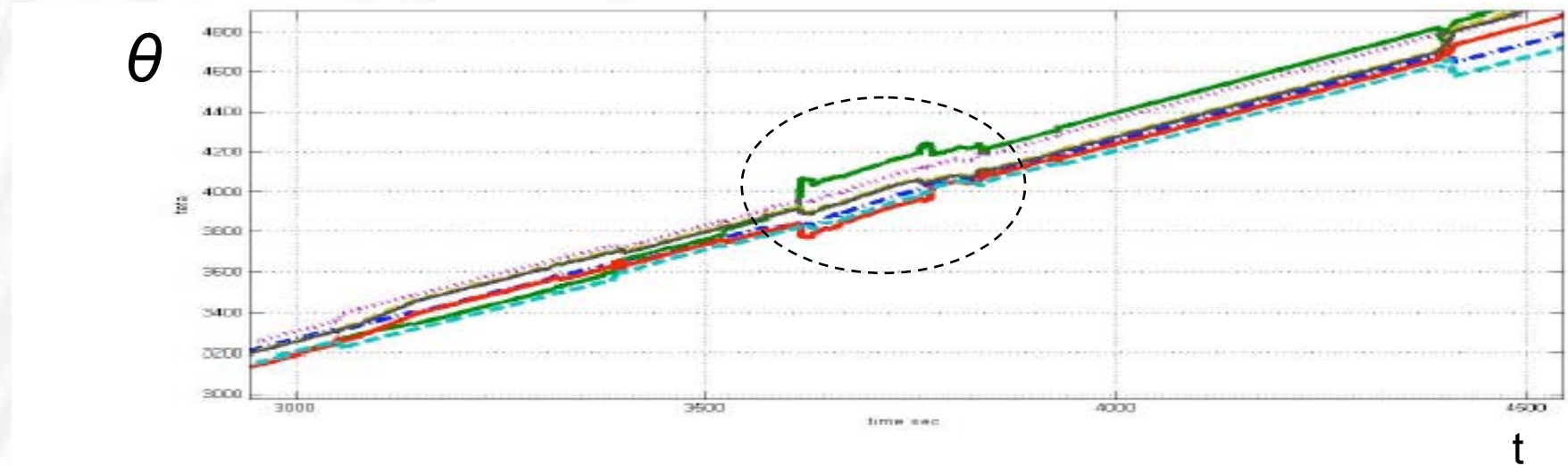
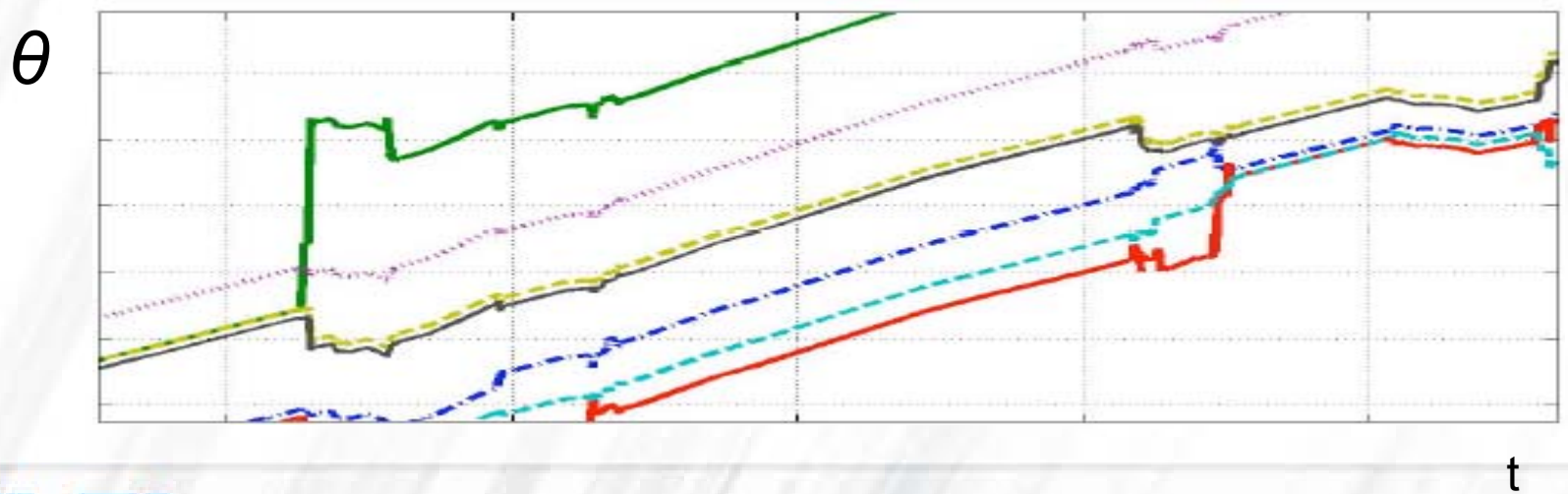


Fig. 8 Phases synchronization crisis (enlargement between 3500 and 4000 s) for  $K_m = 400$ .





# Rising-time

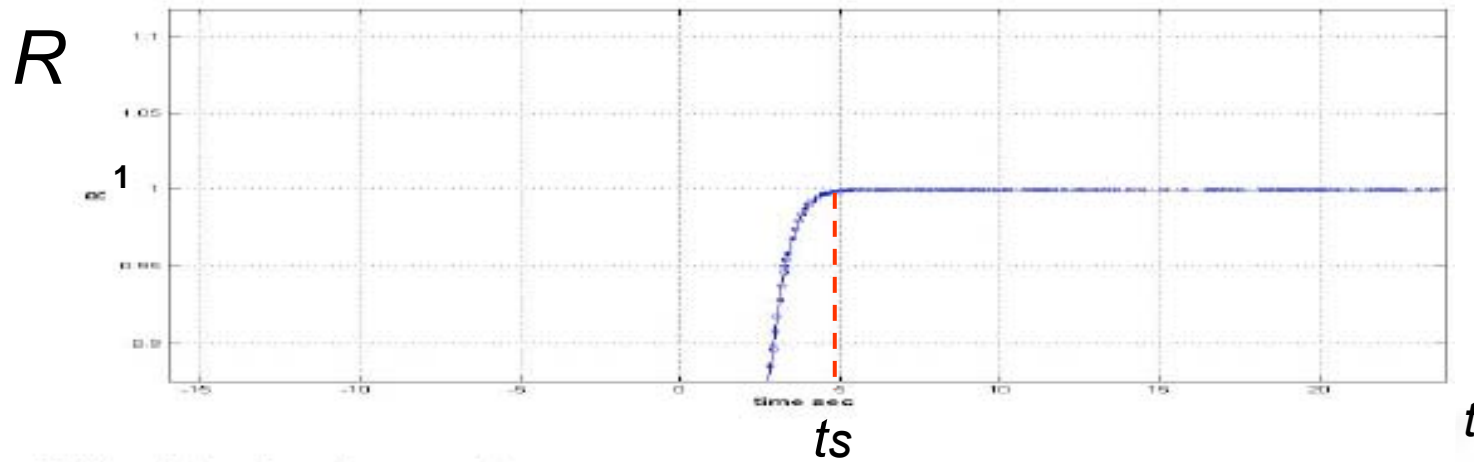


Fig. 10 The rising time, for  $K_m = 4$ .

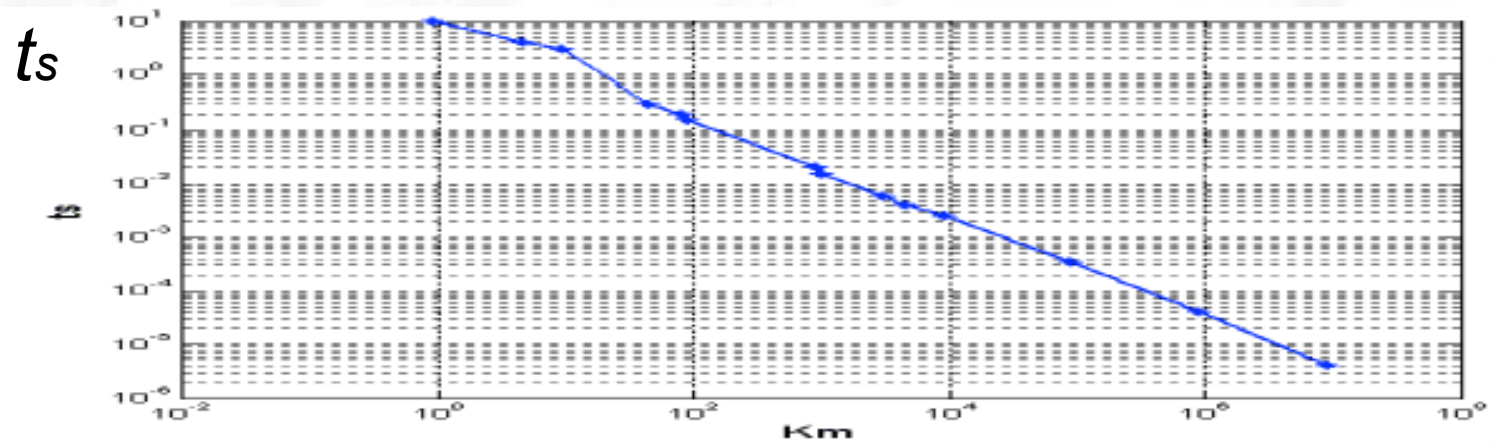


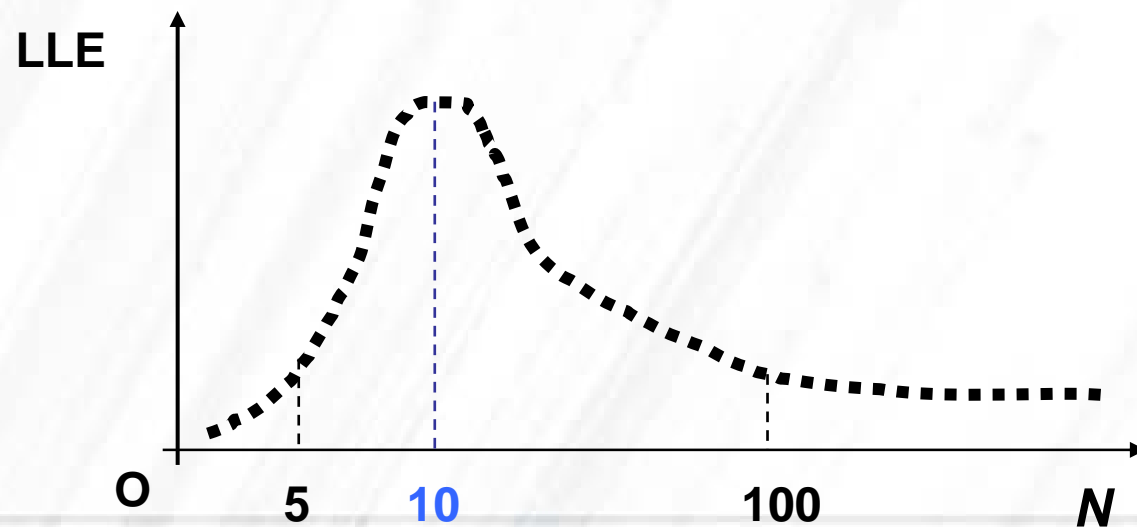
Fig. 11 The power law: rising-time  $t_s$  vs. max. coupling amplitude  $K_m$  (log-log plot).

$K_m$

## Network set size



The strongest phase chaos (low coupling case) occurs when the number of nodes in the network is about 10 (Popovych, *Phy. Rev. E*, 2005 ).



# Order parameter: randomness, chaos and regularity

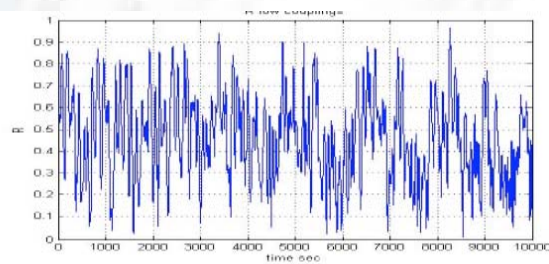
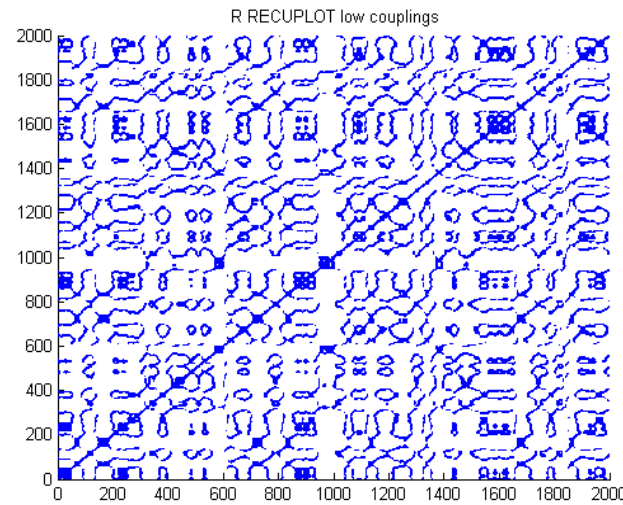
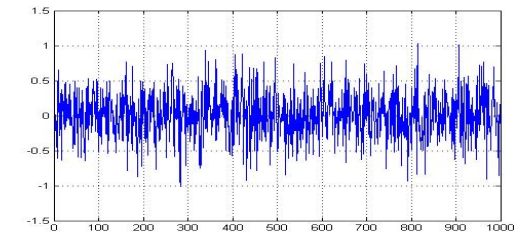


Fig. 3 Order parameter R with low coupling ( $K_m = 0.1$ ).

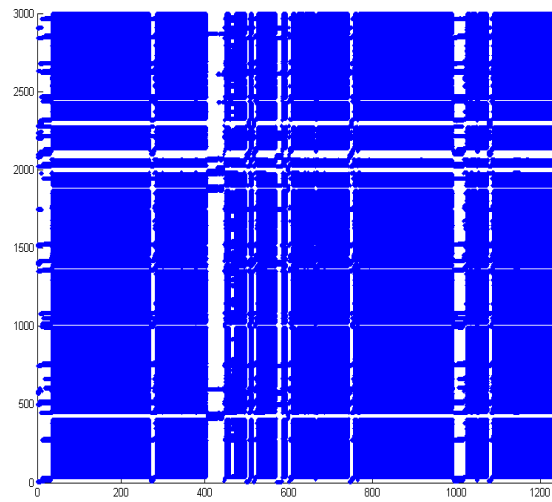
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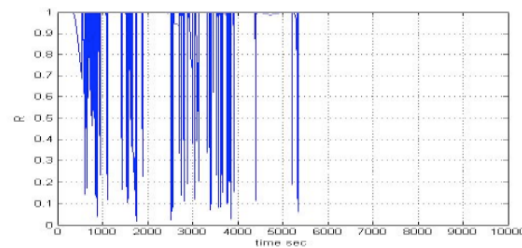
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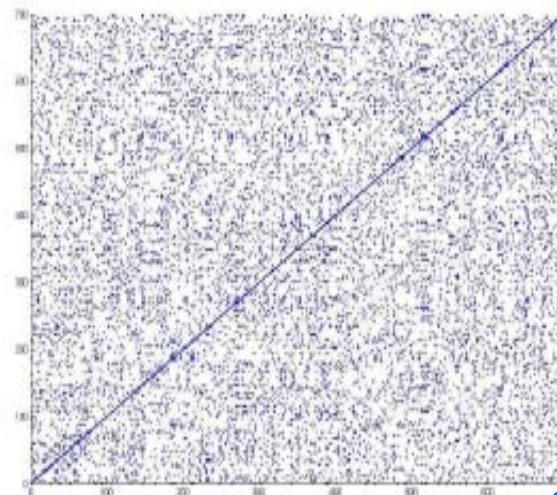
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**a**



**a**



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Fig. 5 Order parameter R with high coupling ( $K_m = 400$ ).



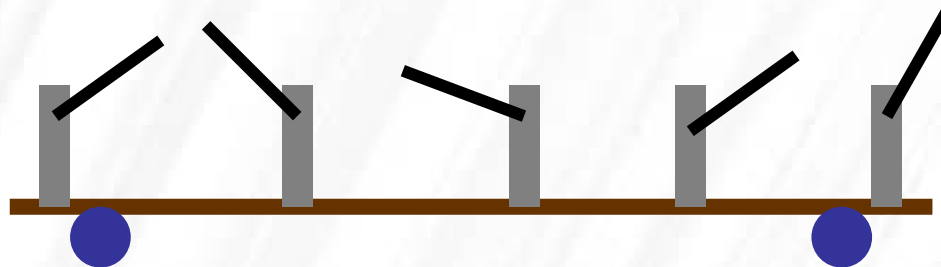
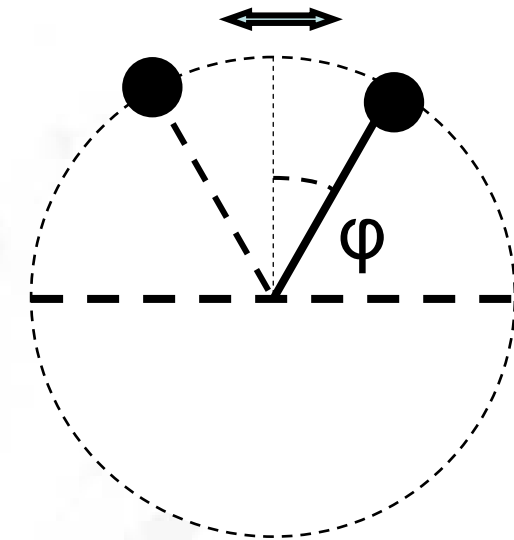
## Conclusions

- The Kuramoto modified model is an appropriate tool to numerically study the DG stability
- Voltage of transmission lines should be kept high
- The DG grid seems robust with respect to significant perturbations
- The order parameter is able to describe the QoS ( and the inter-dependencies )
- DG grid size must be very small ( $N < 5$ ) or large ( $N > 20$ )
- Proper topology of DG microgrids must be attentively considered

### Future researches:

- use the MKM to study much larger and realistic DG grids
- evaluate the impact of grid topology on the phase stability

# Metronomes





THANK YOU



## Cardell-Ilic distributed generation



$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \tilde{\mathbf{K}}\boldsymbol{\omega} + \dot{\mathbf{p}}$$

$$\dot{x}_i = \sum_j a_{ij}x_j - \sum_j \tilde{k}_{ij}\omega_j + \dot{p}_i \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$

Only for the state variables regarding the phase. Setting:

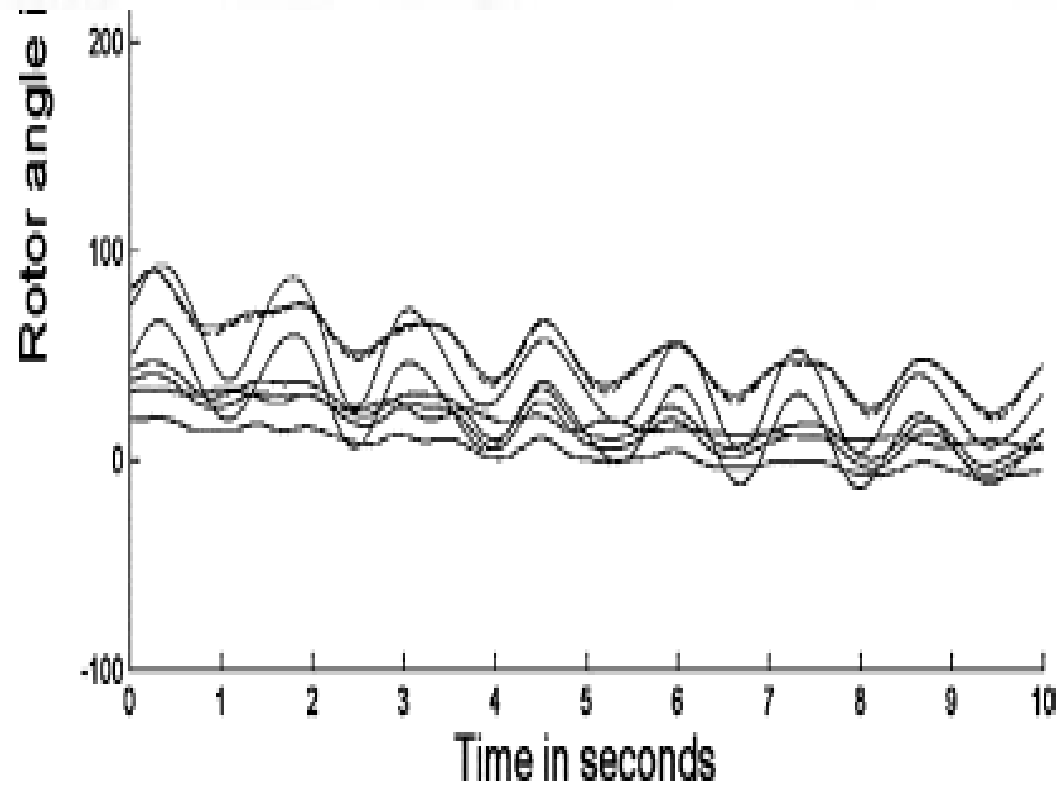
$$\dot{\theta}_i = x_i$$

$$\dot{p}_i = -\frac{\Omega_0}{I_i} p_i^{max} \sum_j \sin(\theta_j - \theta_i) \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$

where  $I_i$  is the inertial moment,  $\Omega_0$  the nominal system frequency and  $p_i^{max}$  is the maximum power of the  $i^{th}$  generator. We derive that:

$$\sum_j a_{ij}\dot{\theta}_j = \sum_j \tilde{k}_{ij}\omega_j + \frac{\Omega_0}{I_i} p_i^{max} \sum_j \sin(\theta_j - \theta_i) \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$

# Synchrony



## AN EXAMPLE

**5000 Lorenz systems:**

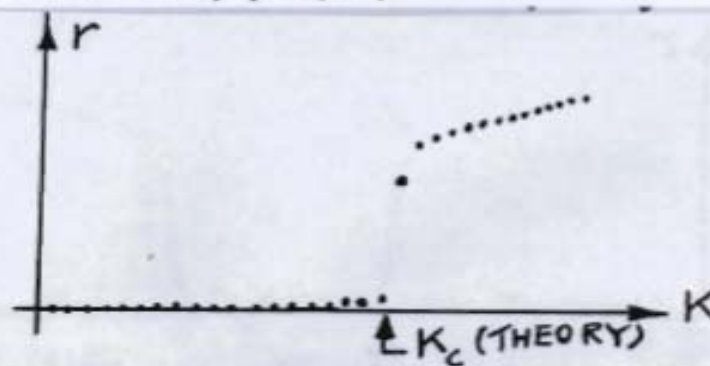
$$\dot{x}_i = 10(y_i - z_i) - k \sum_j A_{ij} x_j$$

$$\dot{y}_i = \rho_i x_i - y_i - x_i z_i$$

$$\dot{z}_i = -\frac{8}{3} z_i + x_i y_i$$

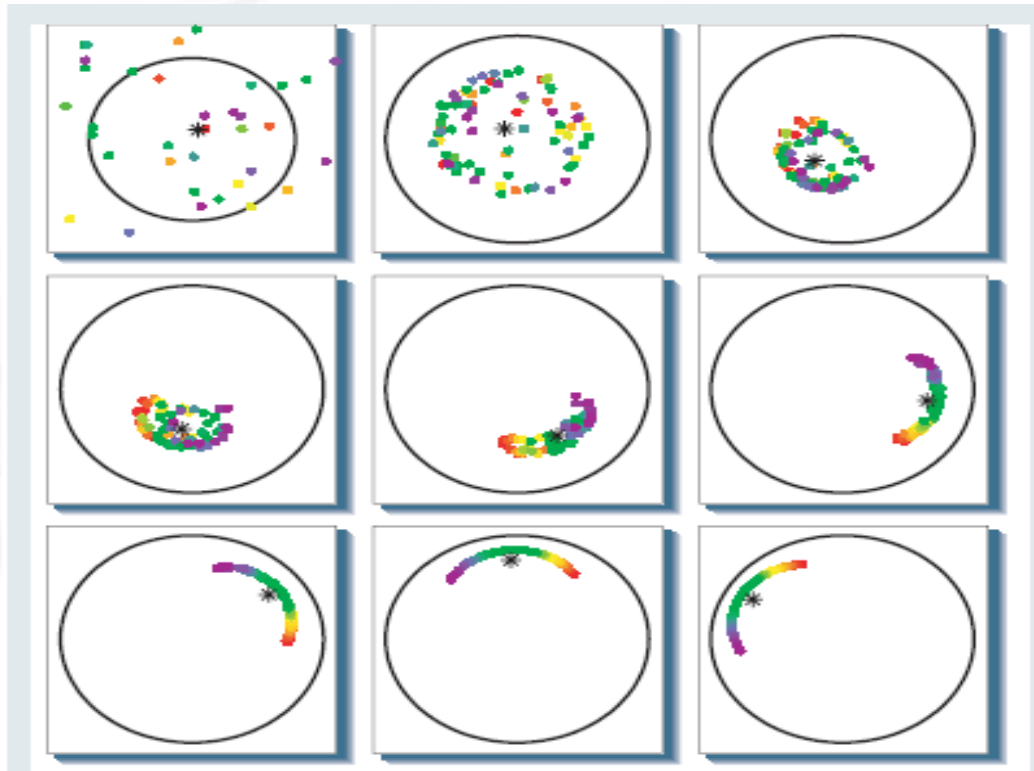
$\rho_i$  chosen from [28,51] : mostly chaotic

**Network:**  $N=5000$ ;  $\rho(d) \propto d^{-2.5}$ ,  $d \geq 100$



**References:** Restrepo, Ott, Hunt, Physica D (2006)

[Ott, So, Barreto, Antonsen, Physica D(2002)]



**Steven H. Strogatz**

NATURE | VOL 410 | 8 MARCH 2001 |

**Figure 2** Spontaneous synchronization in a network of limit-cycle oscillators with distributed natural frequencies. The state of each oscillator is represented geometrically as a dot in the complex plane. The amplitude and phase of the oscillation correspond to the radius and angle of the dot in polar coordinates. Colours code the oscillators' natural frequencies, running from slowest (red) to fastest (violet). In the absence of coupling, each oscillator would settle onto its limit cycle (circle) and rotate at its natural frequency. However, here all the oscillators are also pulled towards the mean field that they generate collectively (shown as an asterisk at the centre of the population). Time increases from left to right, and from top to bottom. Starting from a random initial condition, the oscillators self-organize by collapsing their amplitudes; then they sort their phases so that the fastest oscillators are in the lead. Ultimately they all rotate as a synchronized pack, with locked amplitudes and phases. The governing equations describe a mean-field model of a laser array<sup>23</sup>. (Simulation provided by R. Oliva.)

# Order parameter: randomness, chaos and regularity

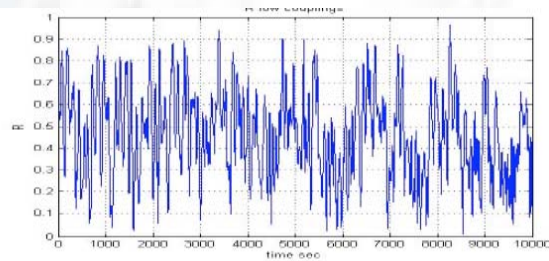
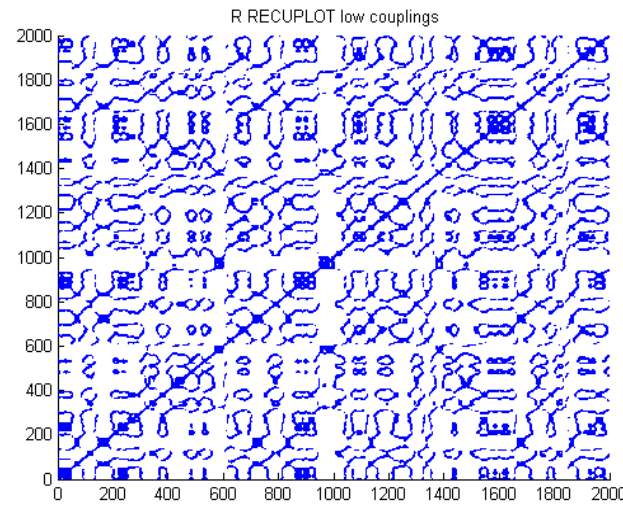
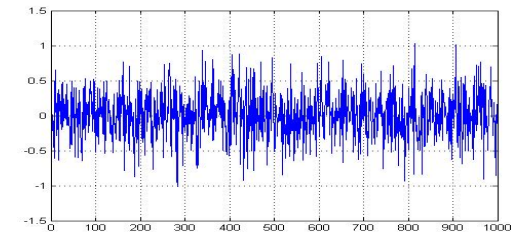


Fig. 3 Order parameter R with low coupling ( $K_m = 0.1$ ).

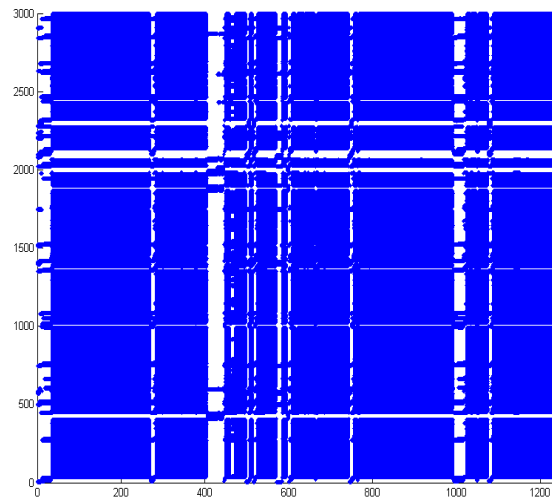
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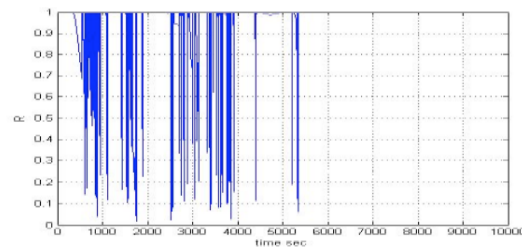
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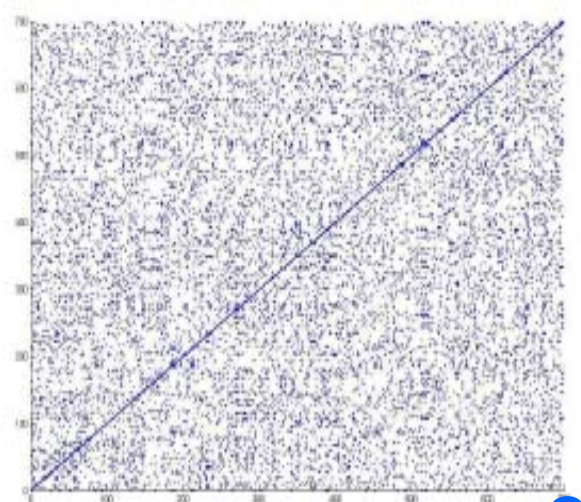
**c**



**a**



**a**



**c**

Fig. 5 Order parameter R with high coupling ( $K_m = 400$ ).

$$q = H(\varepsilon - \|R(m) - R(h)\|)$$