

Decision Support and Operation Design for Mission-Critical Applications

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Medical Diagnosis and Treatment

- When to rely on automation
 - Algorithmic recommendations
- Trust and Explainability



Medical Triage

Adapted from DARPA ITM

Small Unit Triage



<https://www.afsoc.af.mil/News/Photos/Igphoto/200186890>
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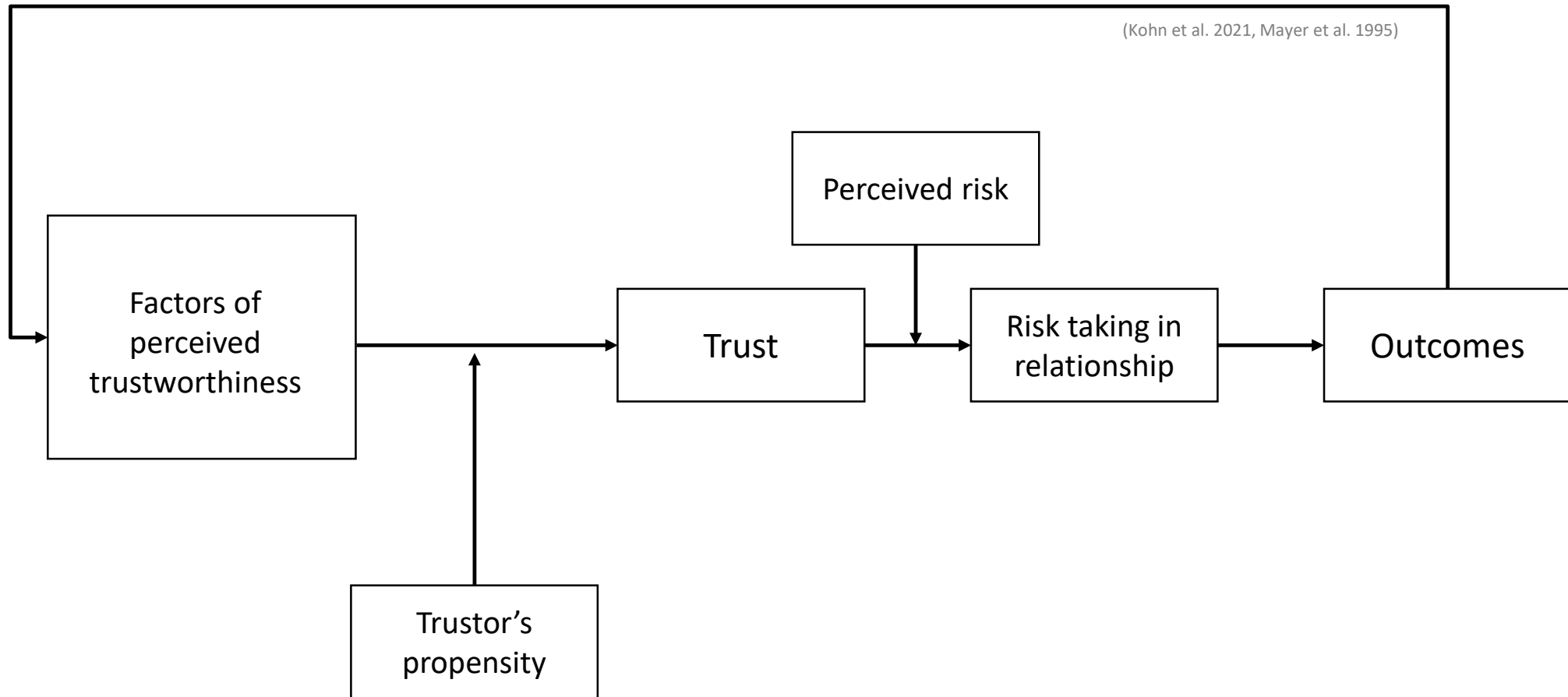
Triage for Mass Casualty



By JOI MARK D. FARAM, USN - [1], Public Domain,
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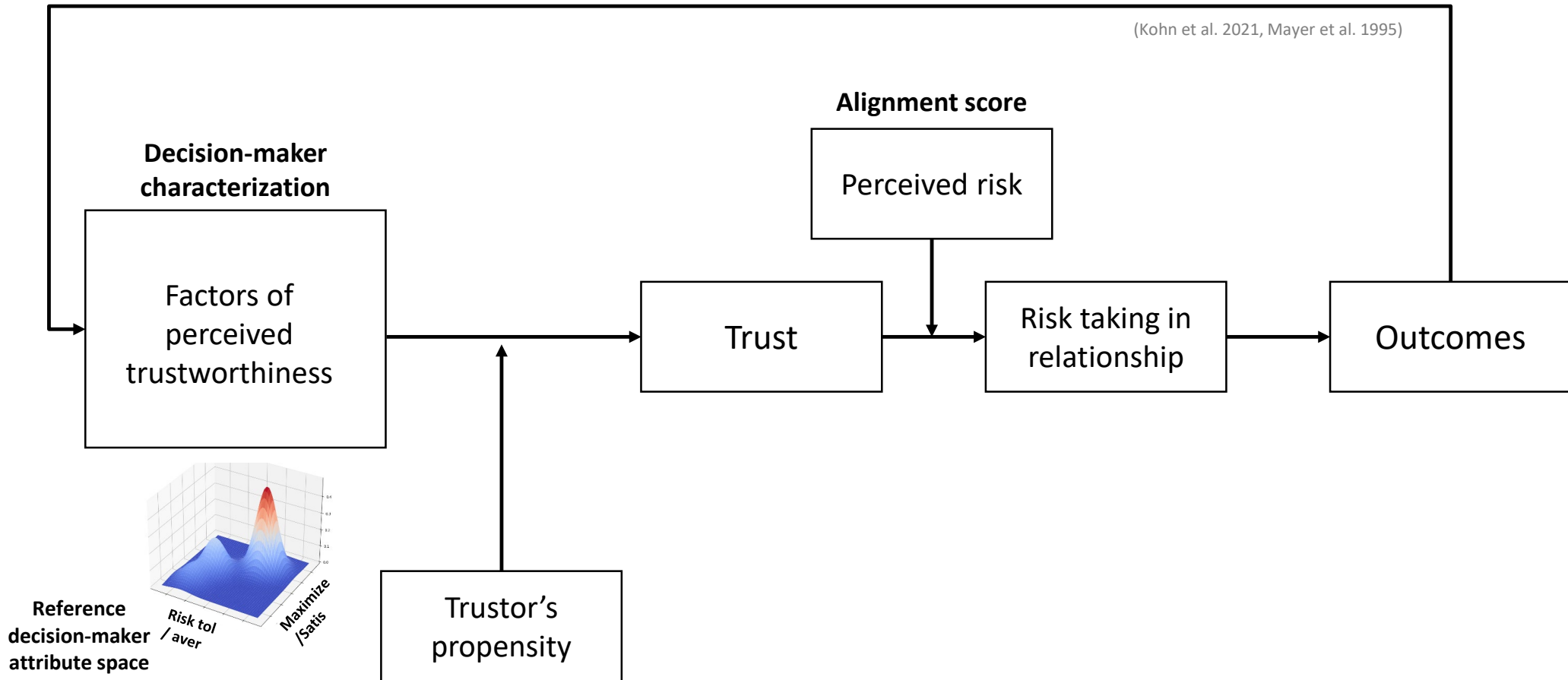


Trust: “the willingness of a party to be **vulnerable to the actions of another** party based on the expectation that the other will perform a particular action important to the trustor, **irrespective of the ability to monitor or control that other party.**” Mayer et al. 1995





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Soldier-Robot Teaming

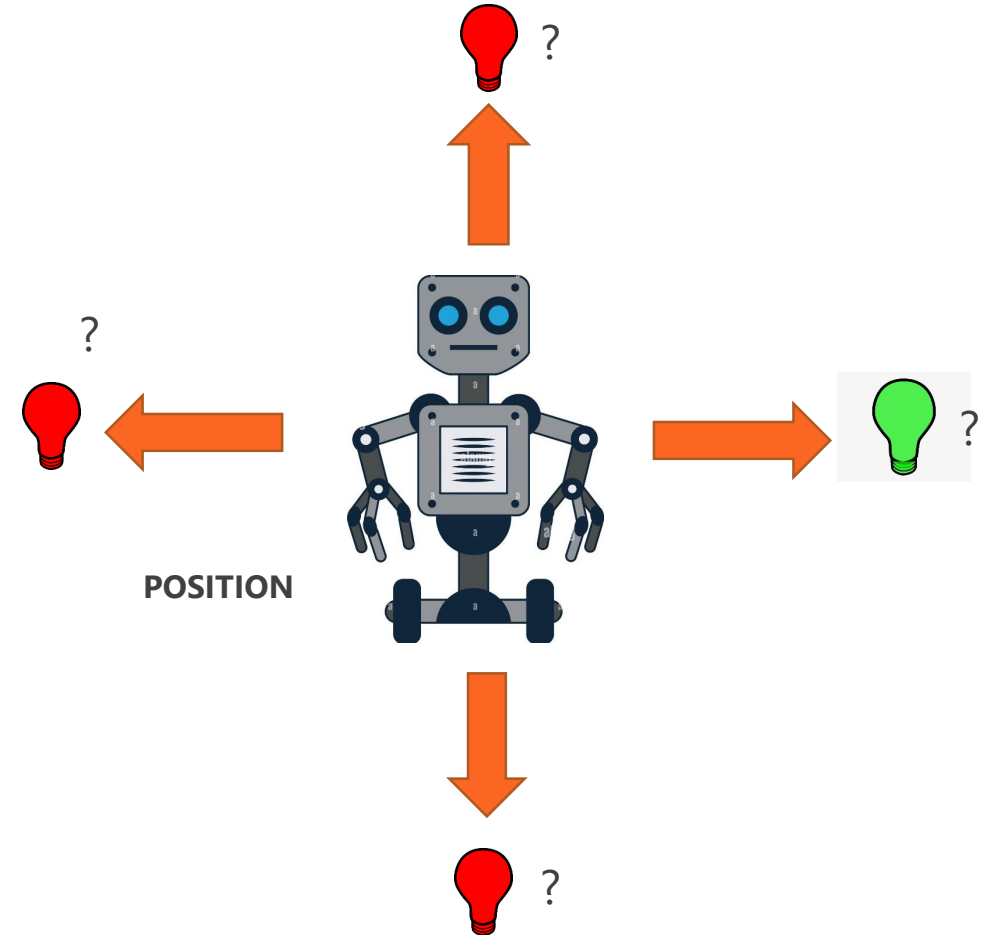
- Teaming in face of a dynamic adversary
- Target search and location in hazardous environments
- Task assignment and optimal resource allocation
- Information fusion in the battlefield

Improving Coordination and Cooperation in Heterogeneous Crowds of Soldiers and Robots (Analytic Framework for AI/AA)



Multi-Armed Bandits for Target Search

- 1 Limited information of the environment. Position in the space and past positions and signals acquired. Actions in different positions have different consequences.
- 2 The decision maker can guide the agent in different directions, but some directions can get the agent closer to the target.
- 3 The closeness to the target is inferred from signal detection that is acquired in each step.
- 4 The target position is unknown and signals are subject to noise and random variations. Learn the target location by accumulating historical information.



Multi-Armed Bandits for Target Search

1

Limited information of the environment. Position in the space and past positions and signals acquired. Actions in different positions have different consequences. **CONTEXT/STATE**

2

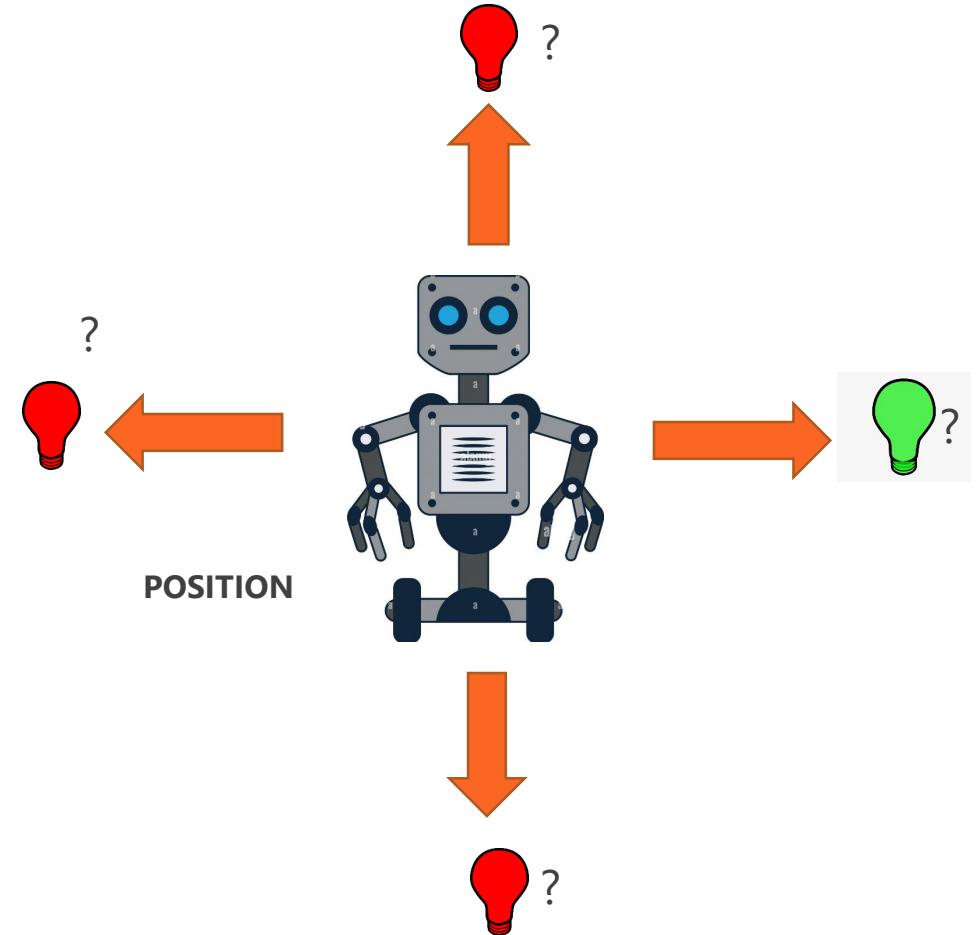
The decision maker can guide the agent in different directions, but some directions can get the agent closer to the target. **ARMS**

3

The closeness to the target is inferred from signal detection that is acquired in each step. **REWARDS**

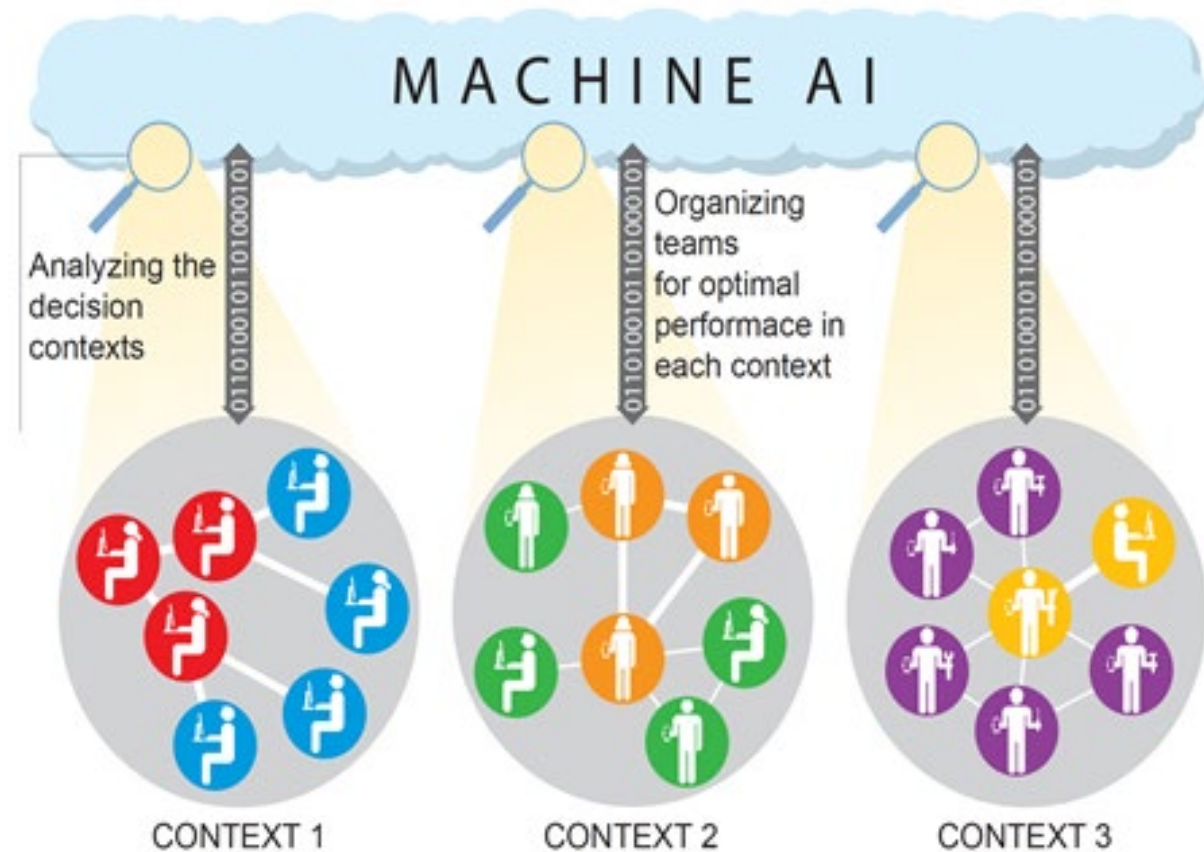
4

The target position is unknown and signals are subject to noise and random variations. Learn the target location by accumulating historical information. **EXPLORATION-EXPLOITATION TRADE-OFF**



Human-Agent Teaming in Mission Critical Applications

- How to combine complementary capabilities of humans and autonomous agents?
 - Soldier-Robot Teaming
 - Self-driving cars
- How to determine and adapt team size and structure?



Adapting Team Structure to Context

- Individual level attributes
 - Ability level
 - Social perceptiveness
 - Cognitive style diversity
 - Diversity
 - Skill diversity
 - Cognitive style diversity
 - Identity diversity
 - Functional diversity
 - Personality traits
- Group size
- Incentives / nature of the task
- Social Influence
- Distribution of information
- Aggregation mechanism



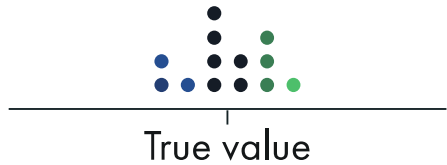
When Social Influence Promotes Wisdom of Crowds (Context-Dependent Framework)

Estimation context

μ : Systematic bias σ : Dispersion

θ : True value

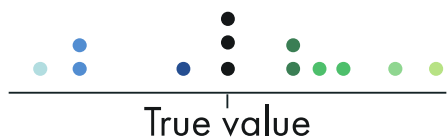
↓ Systematic bias ↓ Dispersion



↑ Systematic bias ↓ Dispersion



↓ Systematic bias ↑ Dispersion

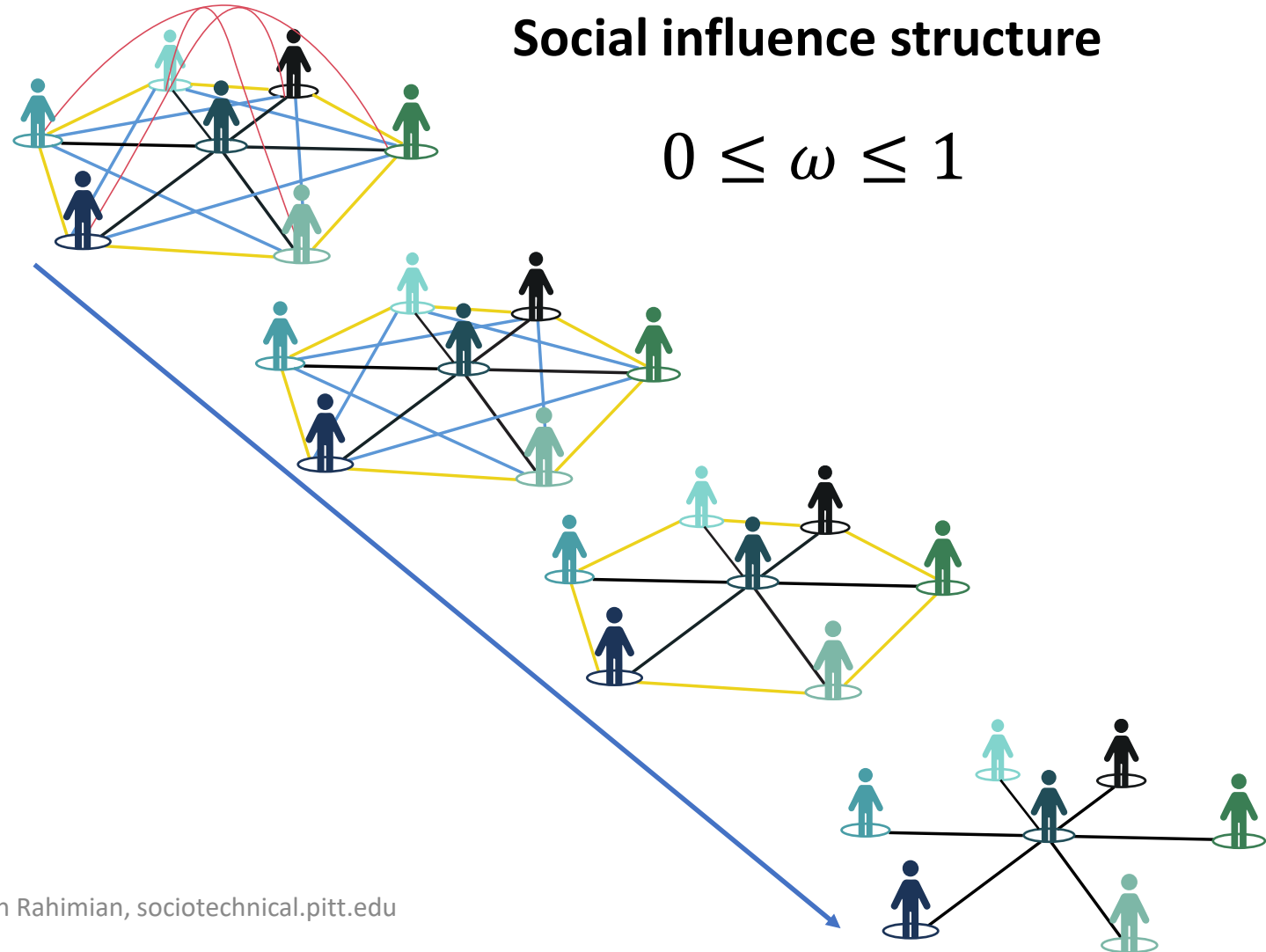


↑ Systematic bias ↑ Dispersion



Social influence structure

$$0 \leq \omega \leq 1$$



Context-dependent Framework

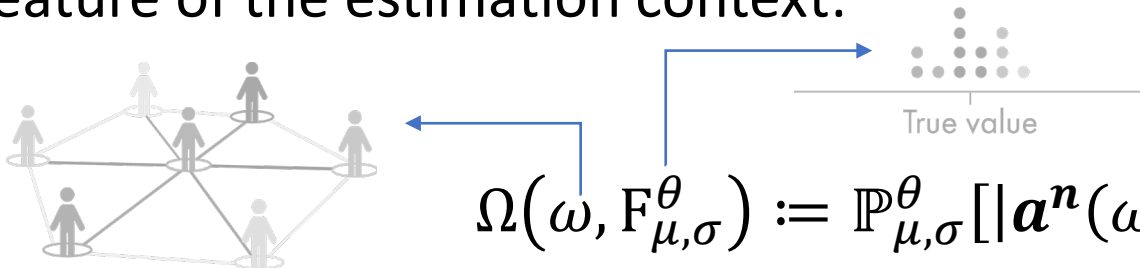
Each agent is endowed with an independent and identically distributed initial estimate: \mathbf{a}_i

Collective estimate:
$$\mathbf{a}^n(\omega) = \omega \mathbf{a}_1 + (1 - \omega) \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{a}_i$$

$\mathbf{a}^n(0)$ collective estimate generated by decentralized influence structure.

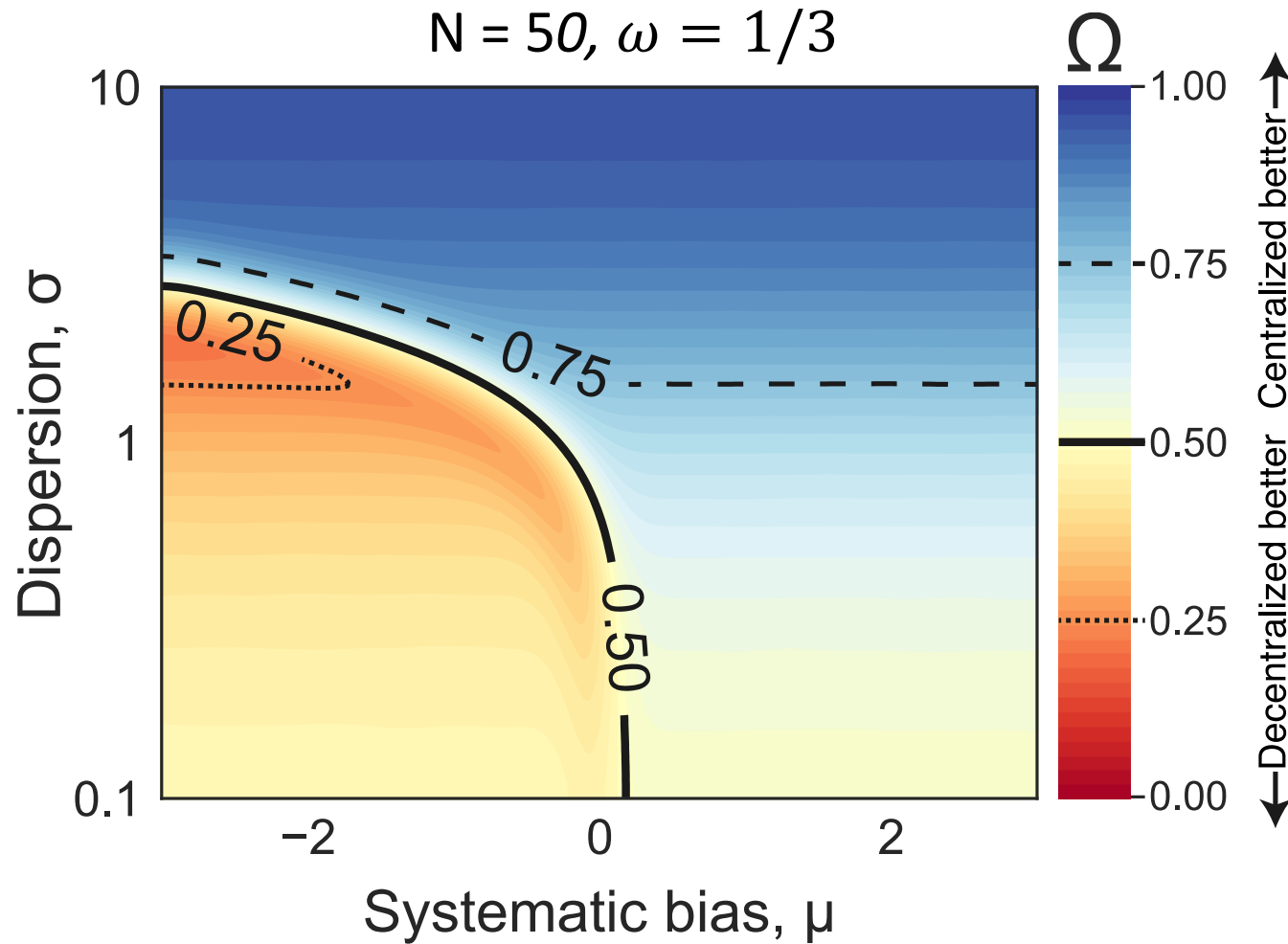
$\mathbf{a}^n(\omega), \omega > 0$ collective estimate generated by a centralized influence structure.

Feature of the estimation context:

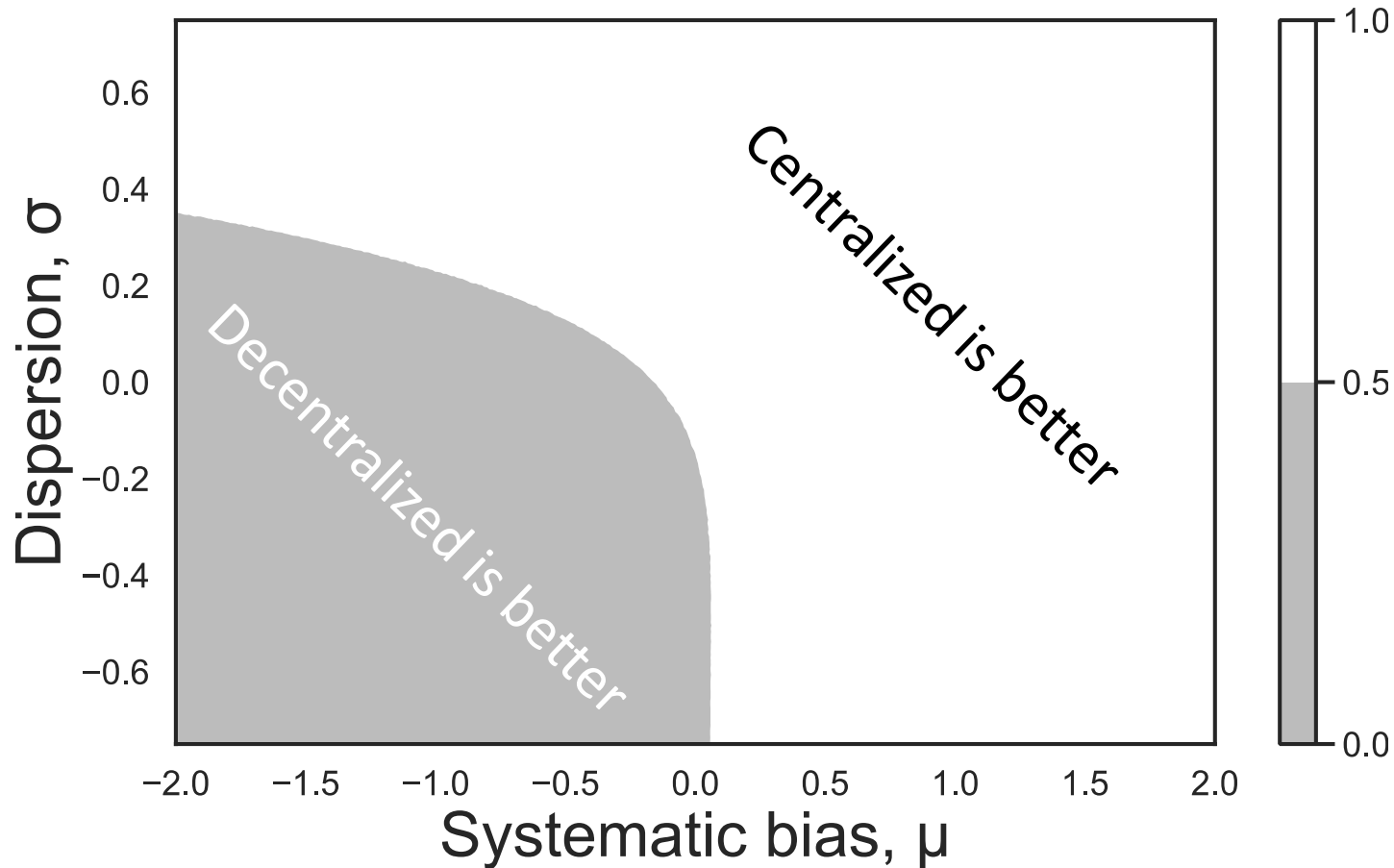


$$\Omega(\omega, F_{\mu, \sigma}^{\theta}) := \mathbb{P}_{\mu, \sigma}^{\theta} [|\mathbf{a}^n(\omega) - \theta| < |\mathbf{a}^n(0) - \theta|]$$

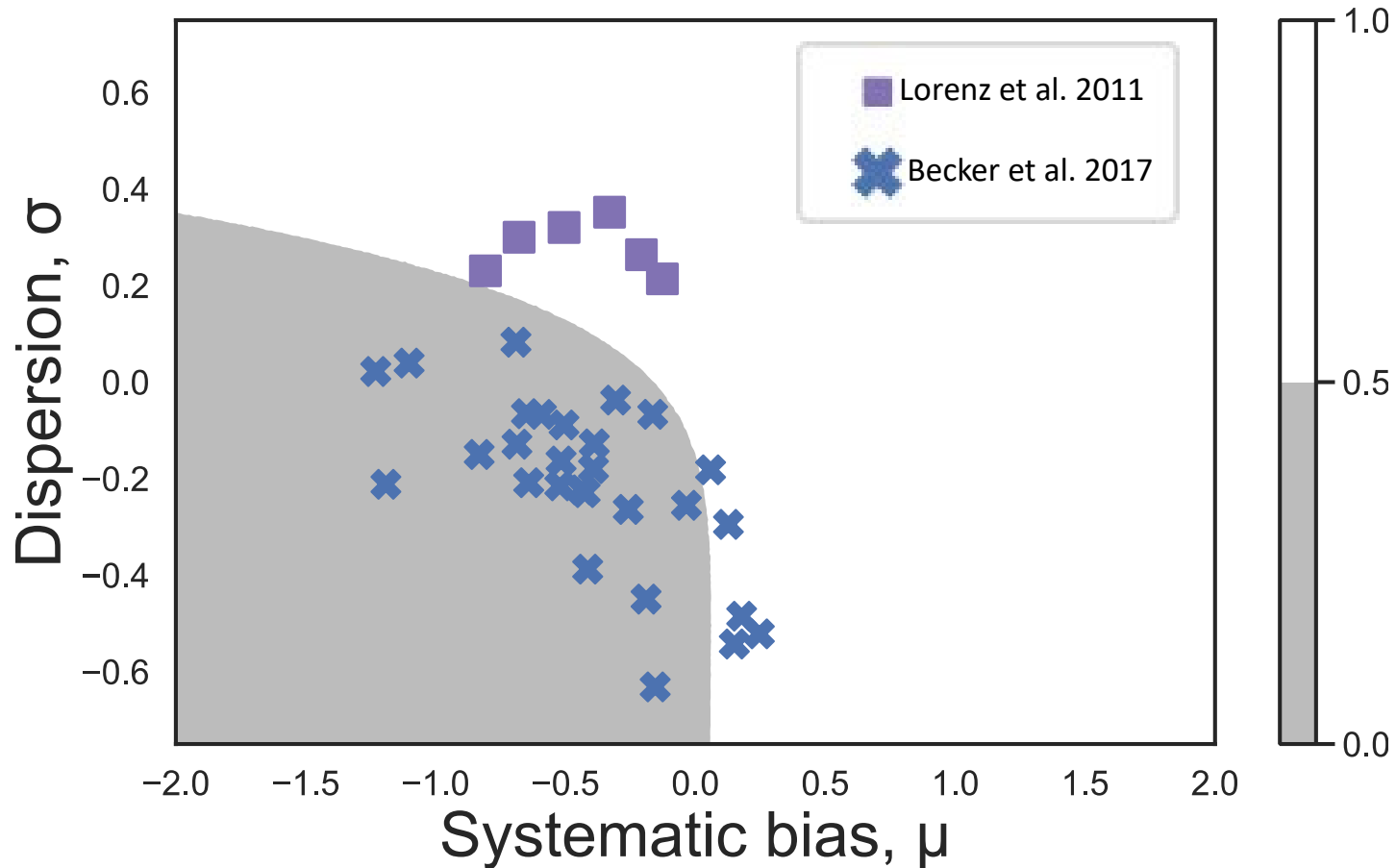
Simulation Results



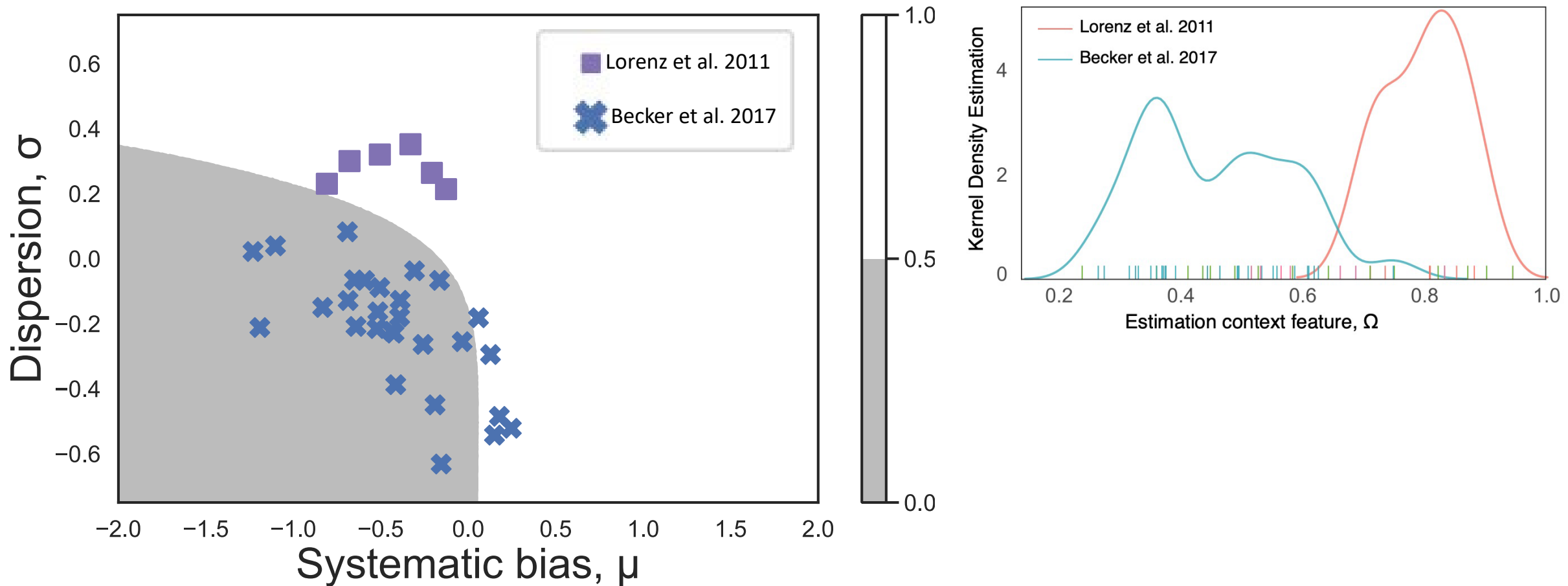
Empirical Results: prior work



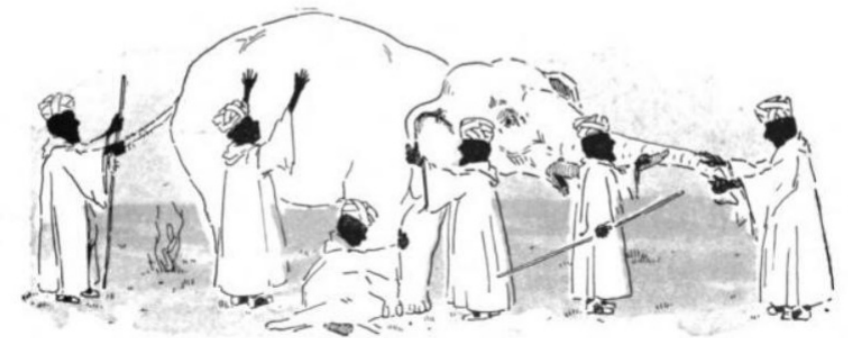
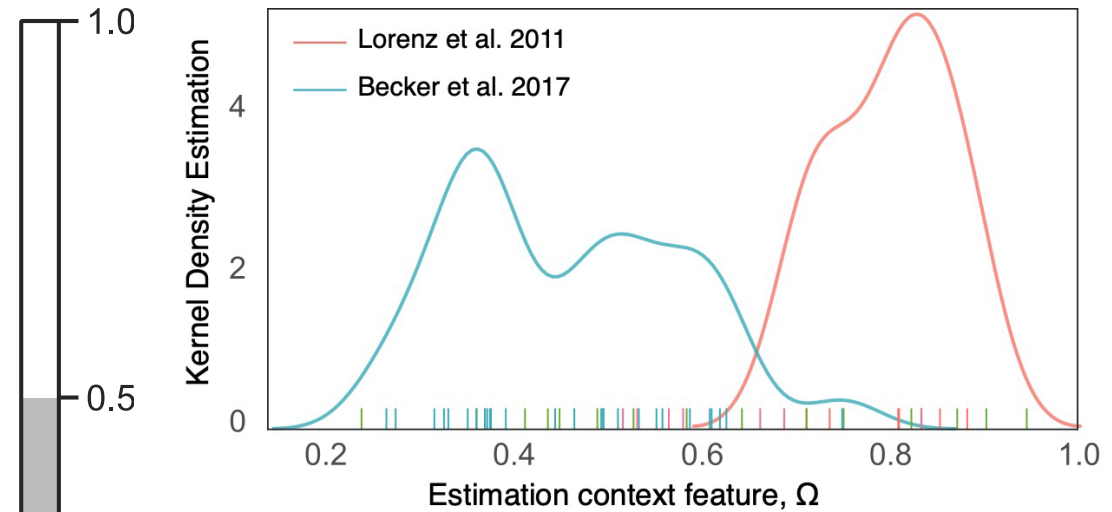
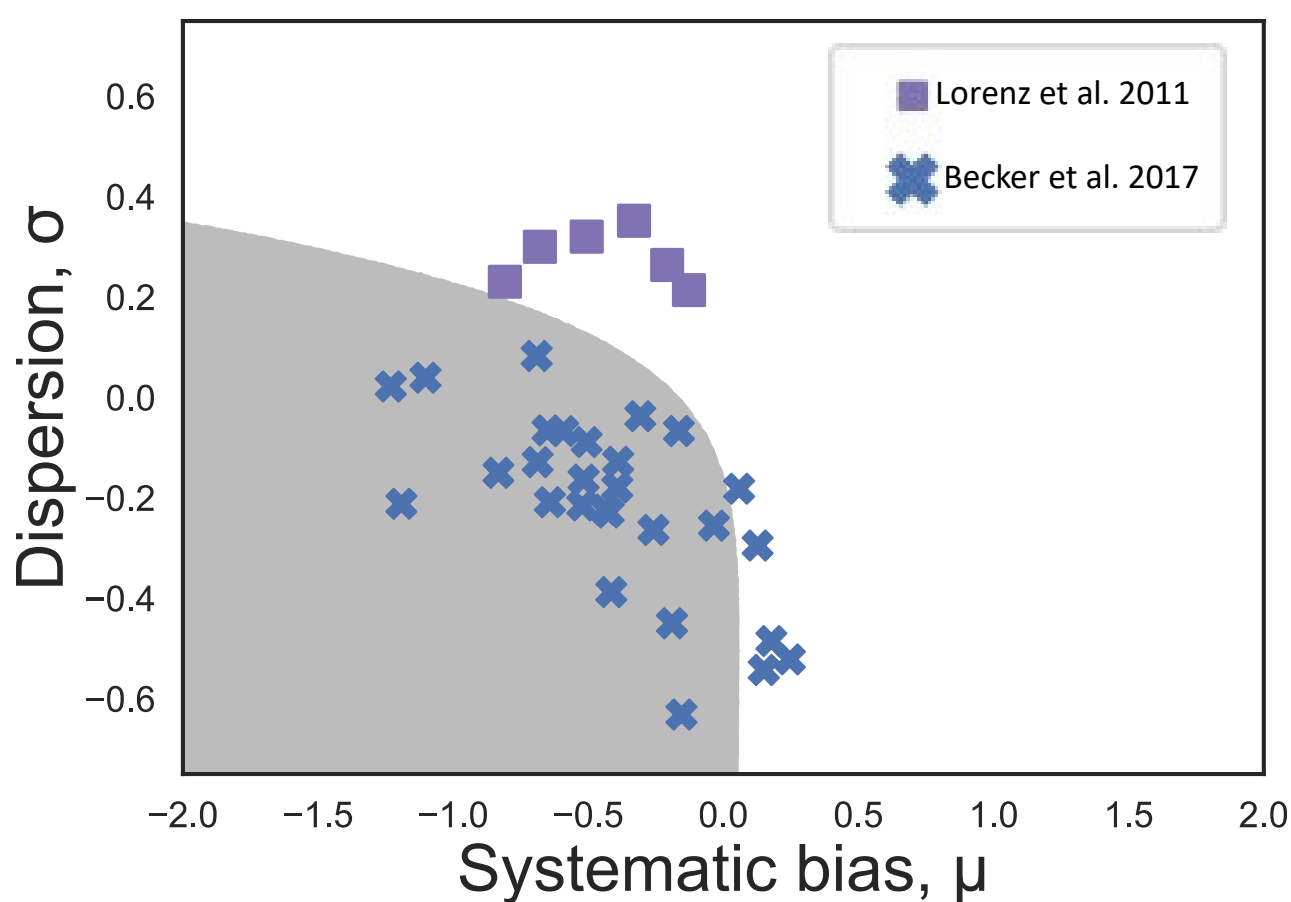
Empirical Results: prior work



Empirical results: prior work



Empirical results: prior work



Can collective accuracy be improved by algorithmically rewiring social networks' structure without knowledge of the ground truth?

$$(c - \theta)^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (s_i - \theta)^2 - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (s_i - c)^2$$

Crowd Error =

How far is the crowd from the "truth," as a collective

Average Error

How far each of us individually is from the "truth" on average

- **Diversity**

How different each of us are from one another on average

θ = "truth"

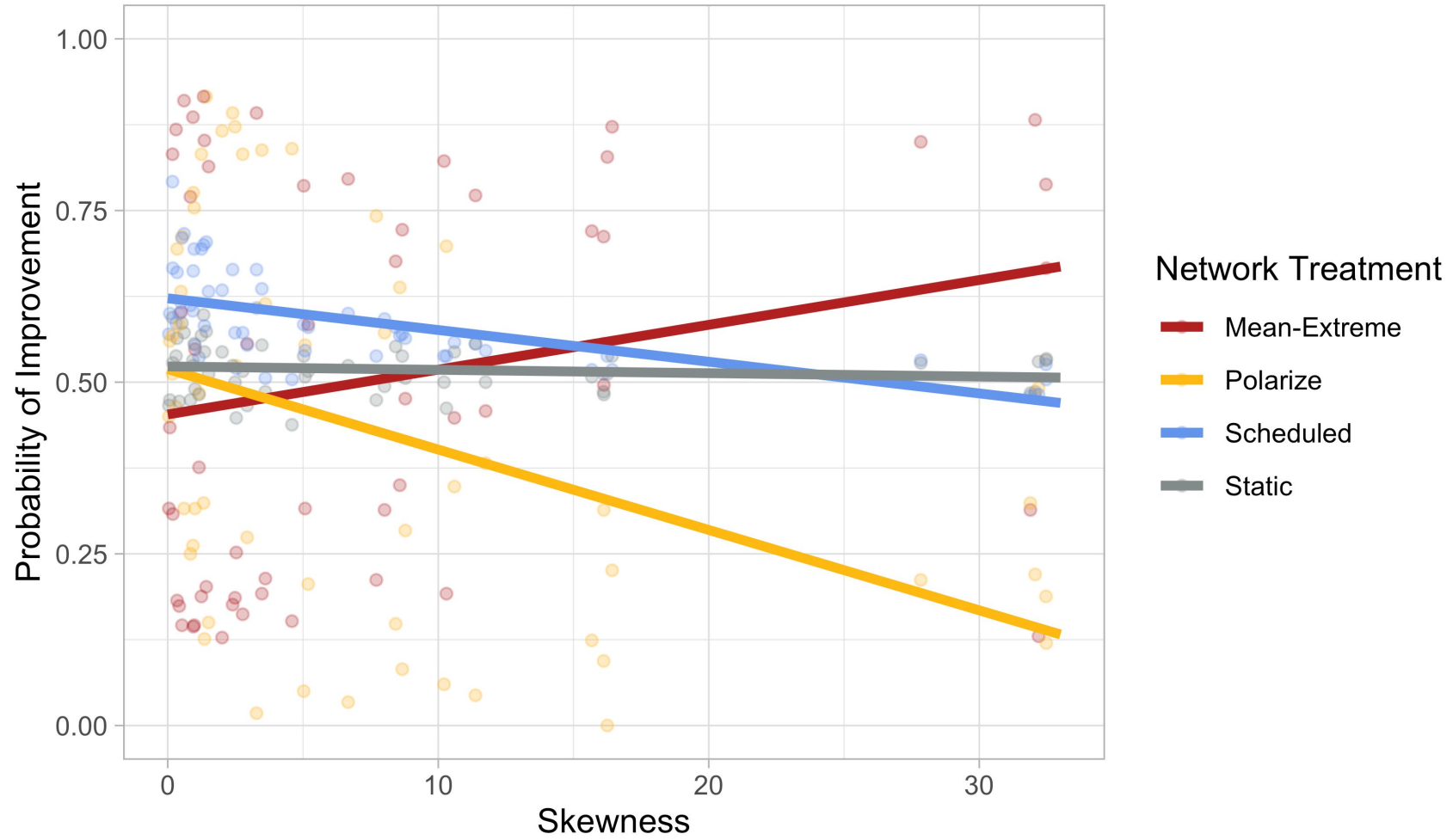
s_i = individual i 's prediction

c = crowd prediction

$(c - \theta)$ = crowd error

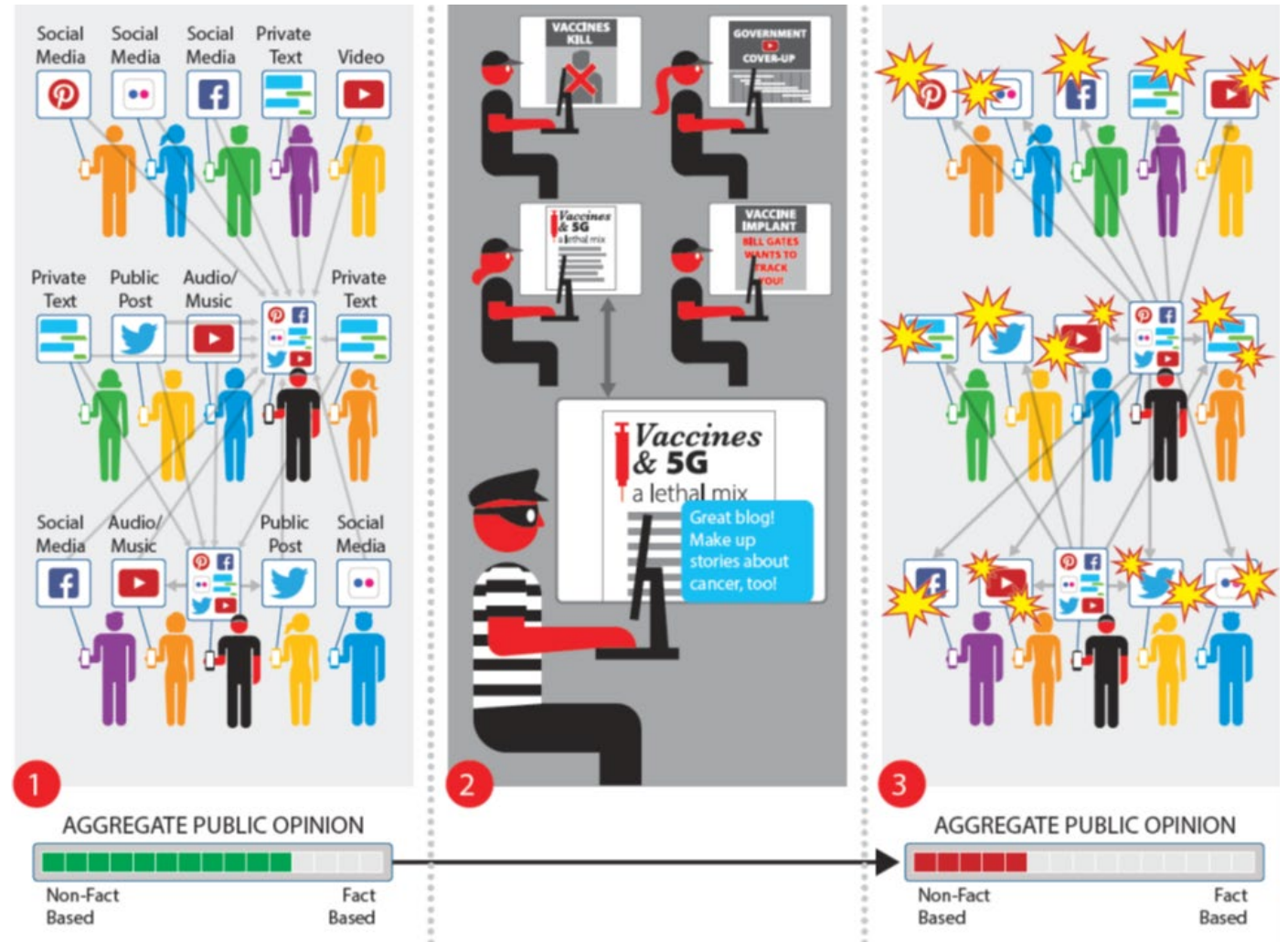
$(s_i - c)$ = i 's squared error (from crowd)

$(s_i - \theta)$ = i 's squared error (from truth)



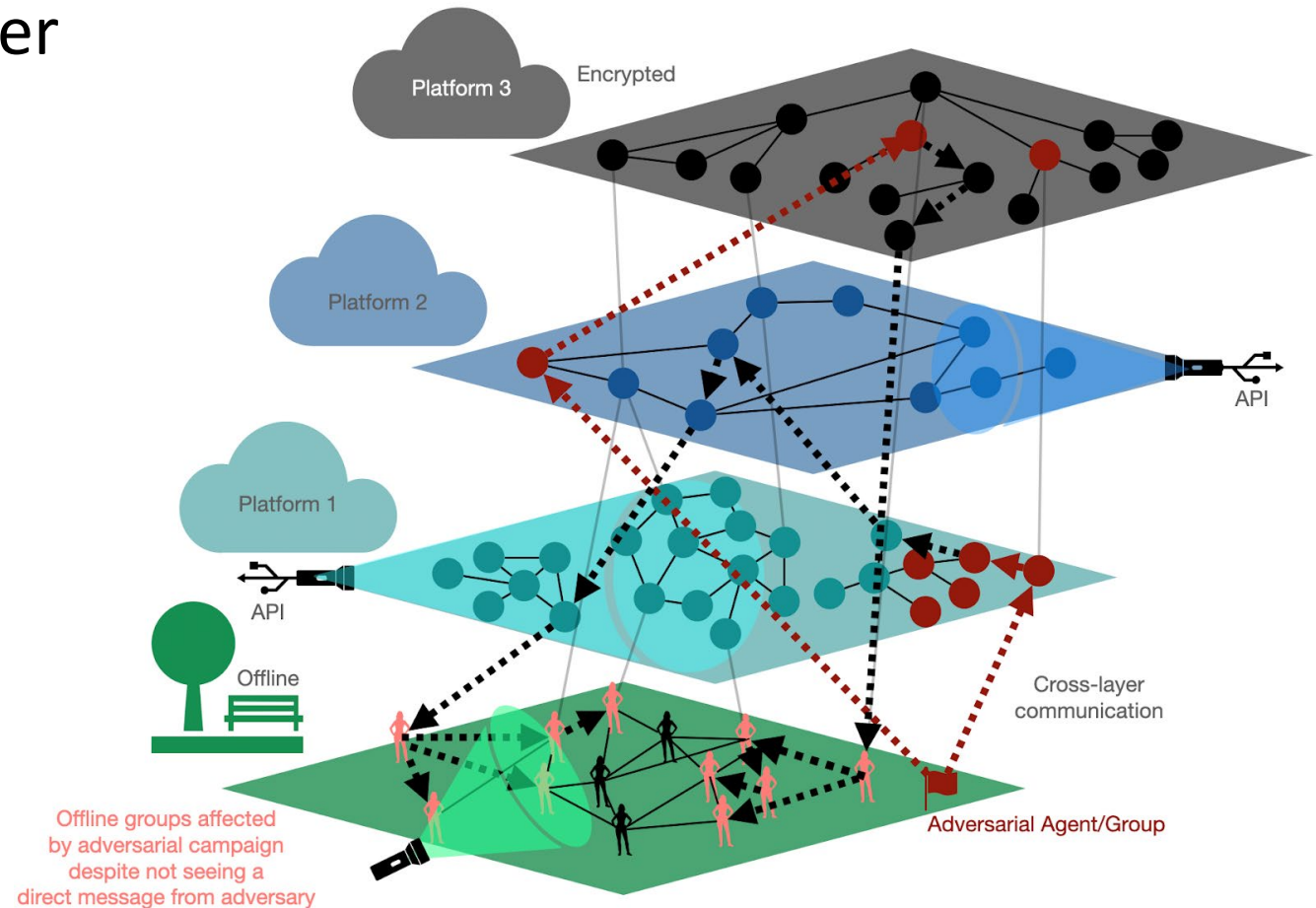
Operation Design in Mission-Critical Applications

- Adversarial information operations
 - U.S. bioweapon
 - AIDS (1980s)
 - Ebola (2014)
 - COVID (2019)
 - Ukraine (2022-)



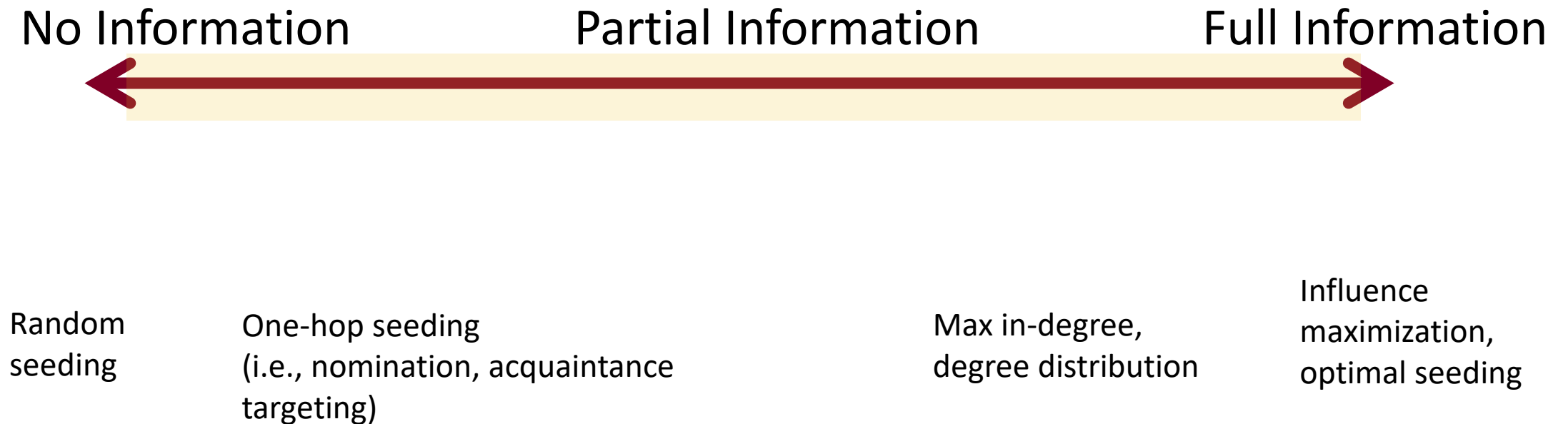
Adversarial information operations

- Spreading faster and farther
 - Newspapers
 - Broadcast
 - Social media
 - Multimedia messaging
 - Online and offline

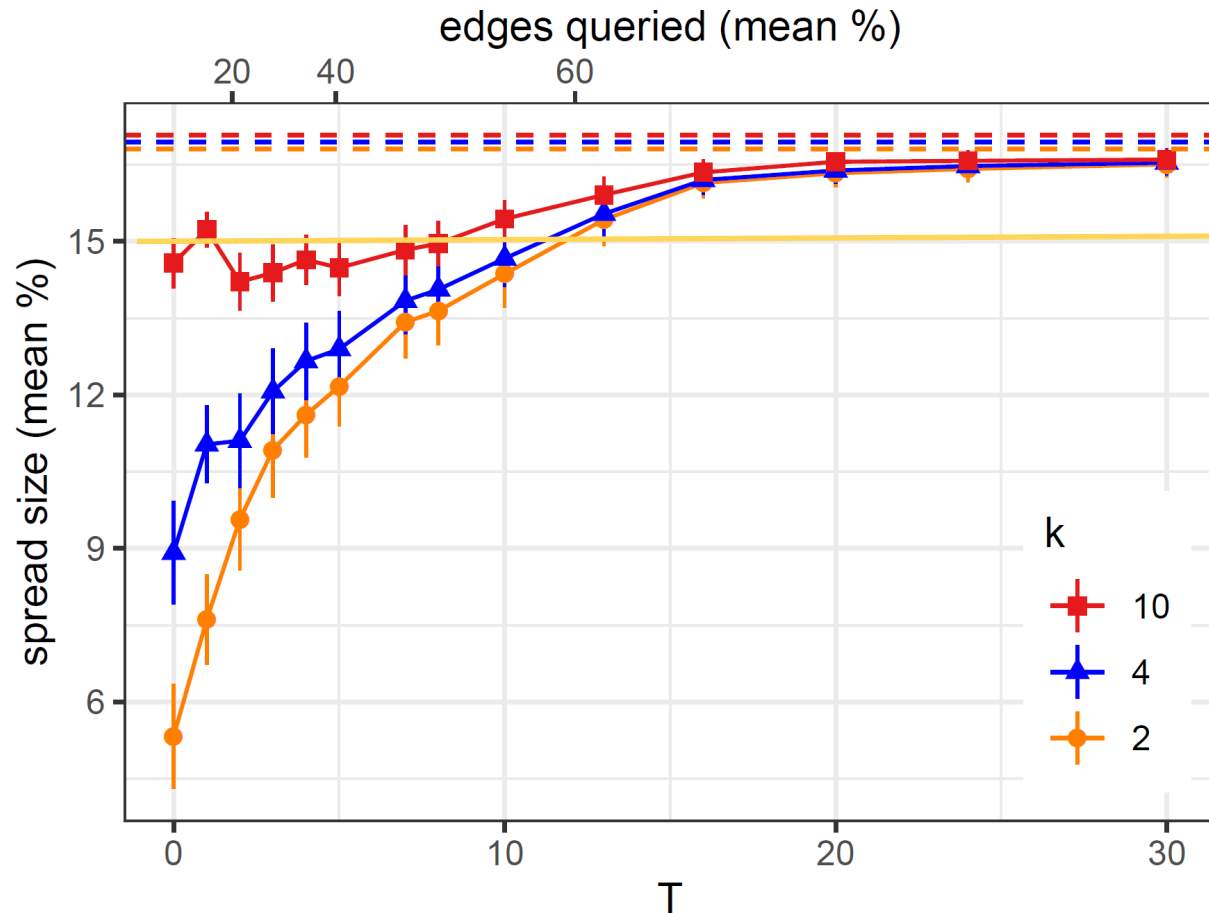


Data collection & intervention design

- Large-scale, limited-information & resource-constrained environments

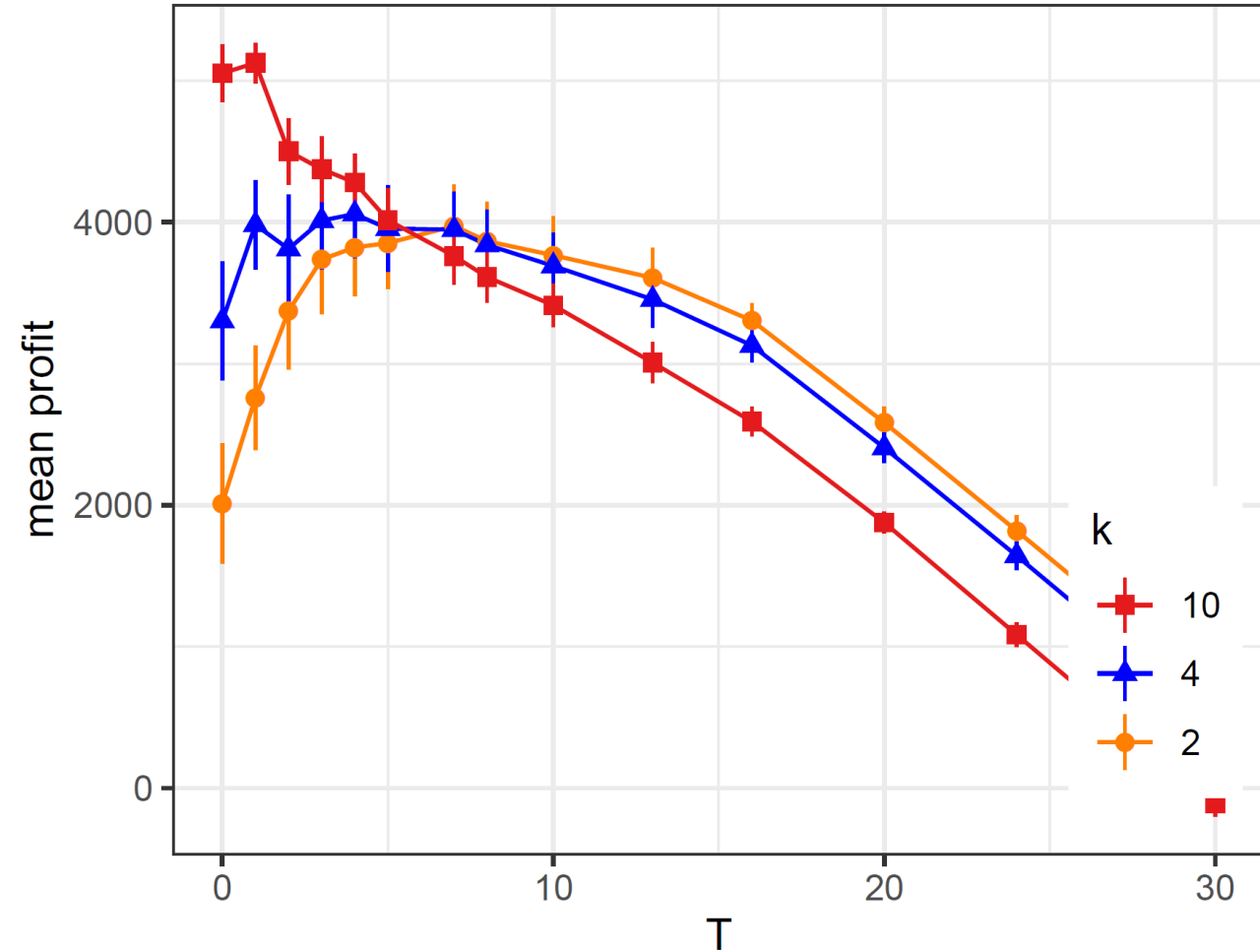


Trading off seed nodes for more queries



We can seed less nodes with more queries keeping the performance fixed (at 15%)

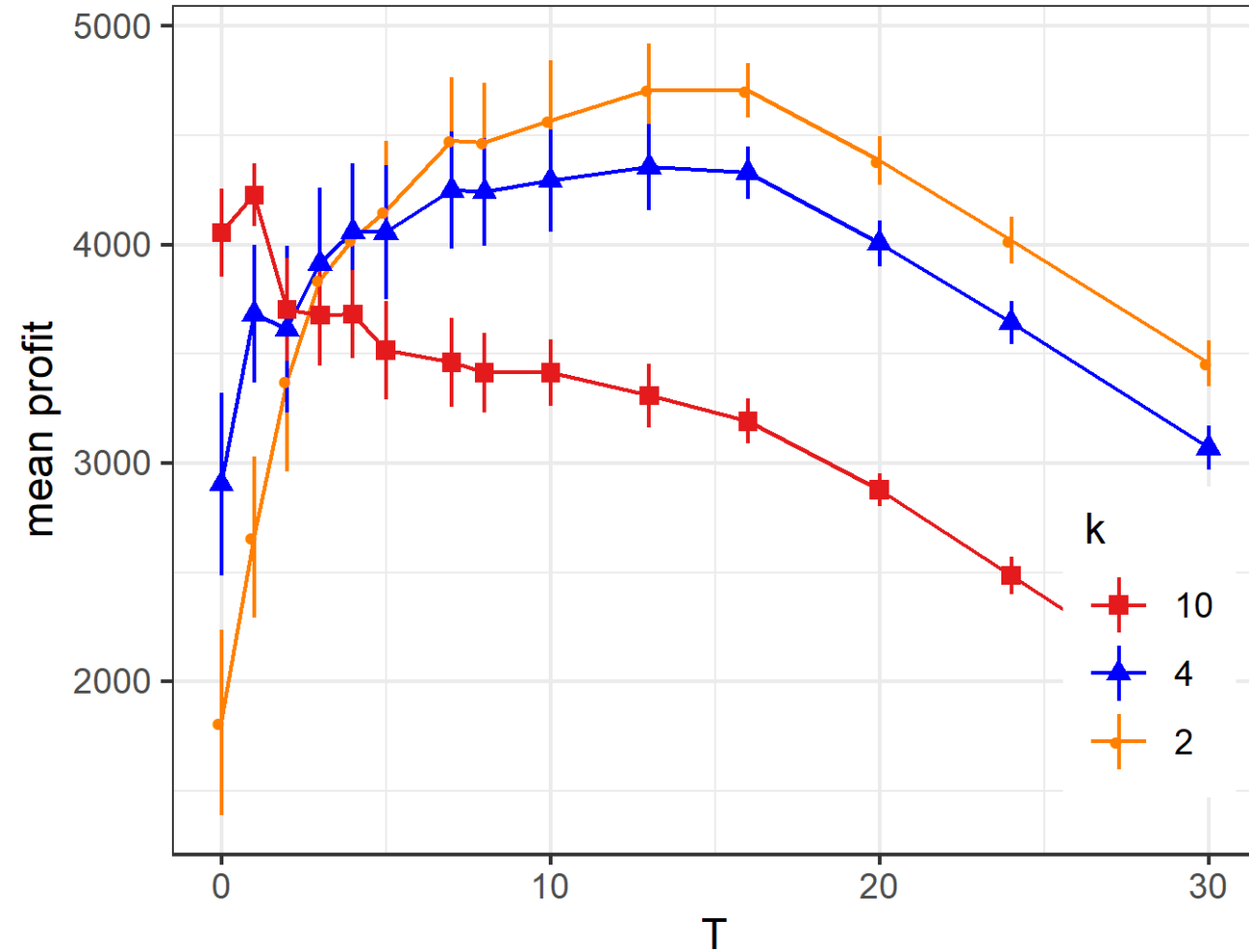
More seeds or more network data?



- Edge queries

- unit revenue per adopter
- $C_S = 100$, cost per seed
- $C_T = 200$, cost per query iteration
- Seeds half the cost of query iteration
- More, random seeds is better

More seeds or more network data?



- Edge queries

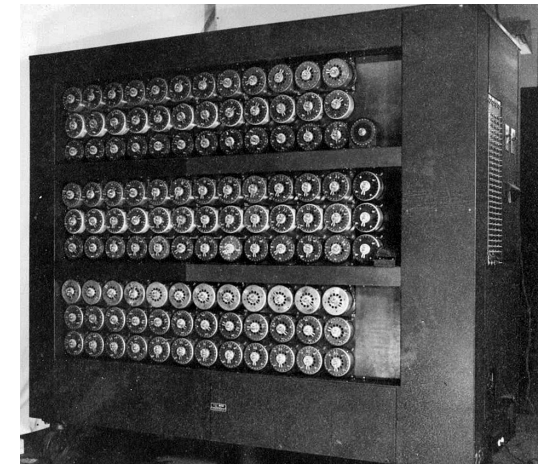
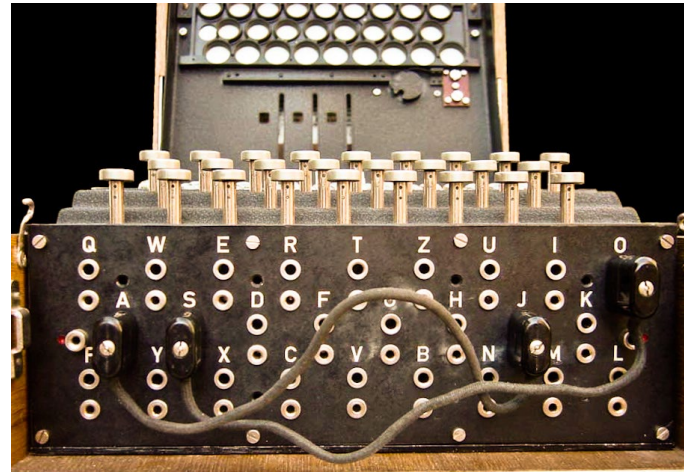
- If seeds are each twice as costly as query iterations

- $C_S = 200, C_T = 100$

- We should query the network, but incompletely

Hiding information acquisition resources

- Trading off performance for security
- Forward-looking value of information
- Differential privacy



Thanks! - Q&A

Please reach out!

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