

Abstract

Synchronization of many coupled oscillators is a generic issue in a wide variety of natural situations (e.g. pacemaker cells in the heart). We introduce a map model for the study of such problems. Issues addressed include the effects of oscillation frequency diversity, noise, and network topology, especially community structure.

The Model

-Discrete time, t

-Phase of oscillator i at time $t = \theta_t^i$

$$\theta_{t+1}^i = \omega^i + \theta_t^i + K \sum_{j=1}^N A_{ij} \sin(\theta_t^j - \theta_t^i) + \eta_t^i$$

ω^i = natural freq. of i^{th} osc., PDF $g(\omega)$

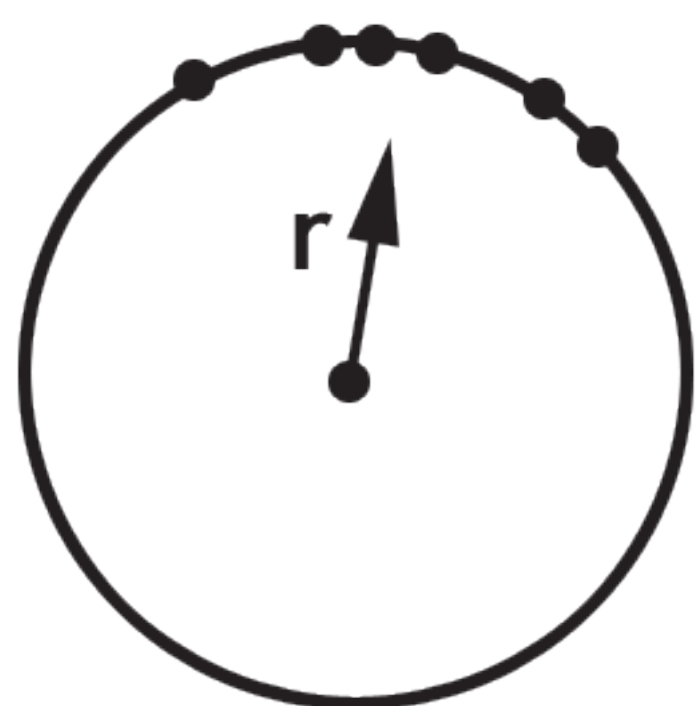
K = coupling factor

A = connectivity matrix

N = number of oscillators $\gg 1$

η_t^i = random noise, PDF $P(\eta)$

-Order Parameter r :

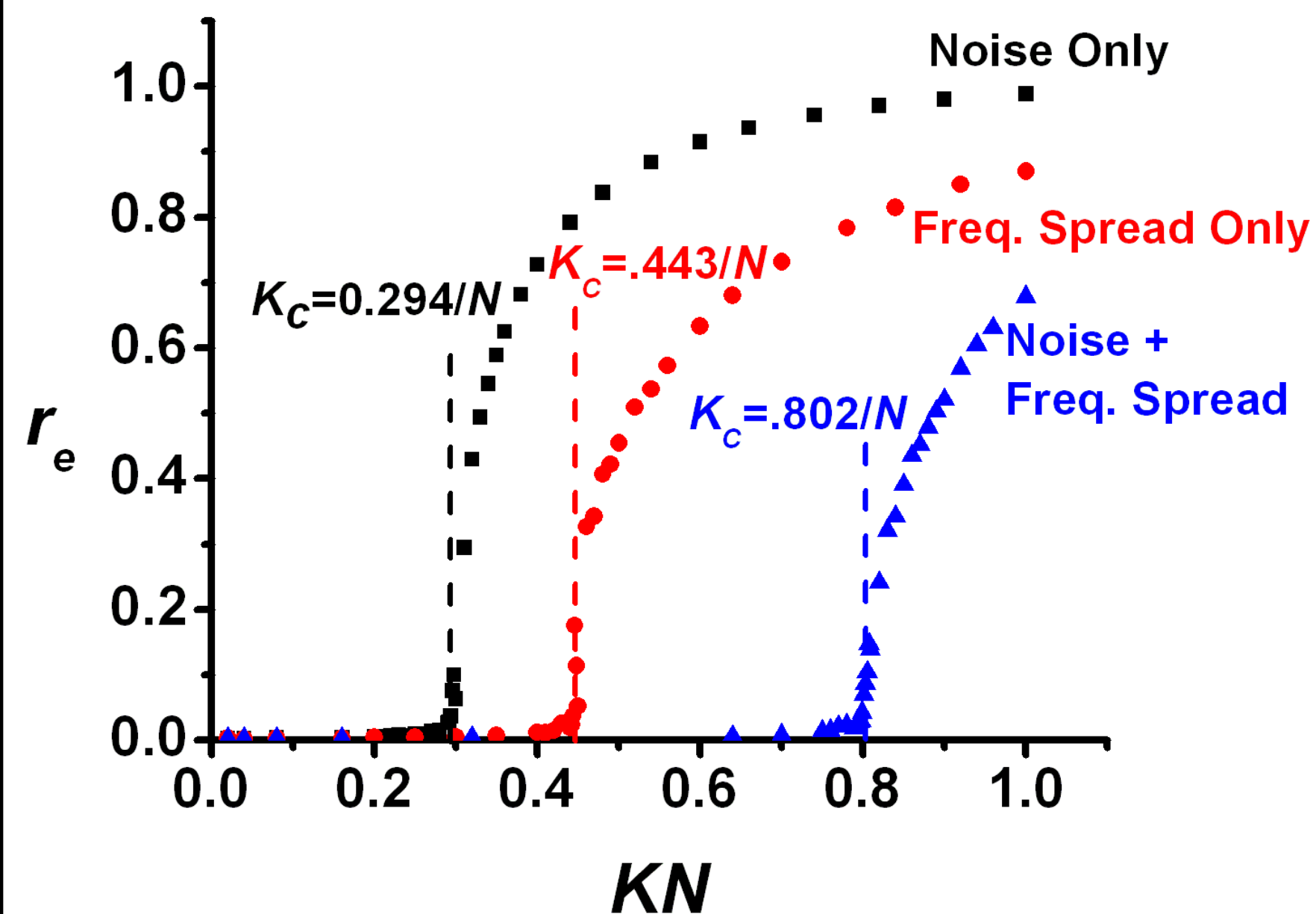


$$r_t = \frac{1}{N} \left| \sum_{j=1}^N e^{i\theta_t^j} \right|$$

Equilibrium r vs. K

-Global coupling: $A_{ij}=1$ for all i, j

-Equilibrium r , $r_e = r_t$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$

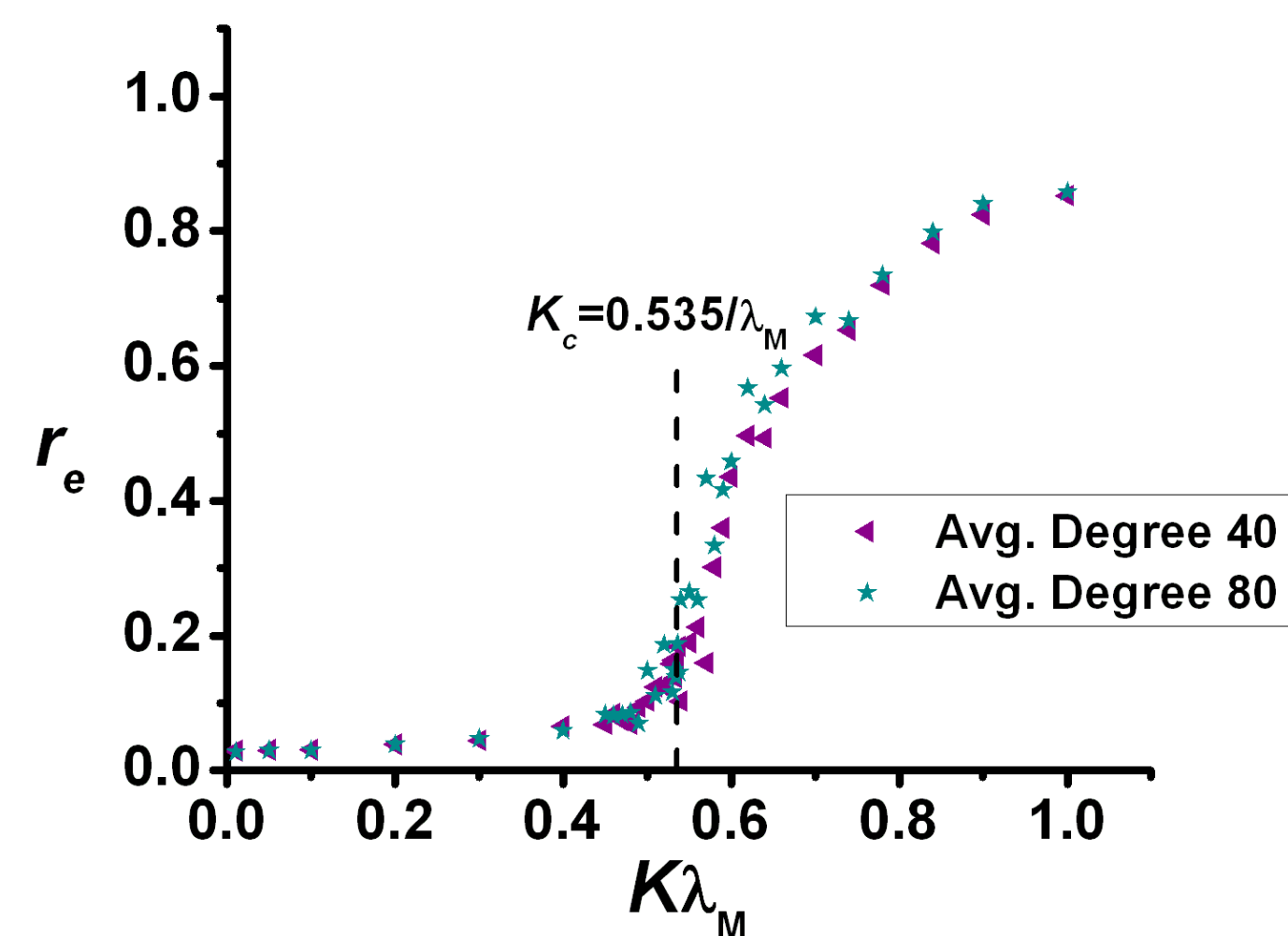


Vertical dashed lines = theoretical K_c

Gaussian $P(\eta)$ & Lorentzian $g(\omega)$

$\eta_{rms} = \pi/6$; $(\Delta \omega)_{rms} = 0.2$; $N = 10^5$

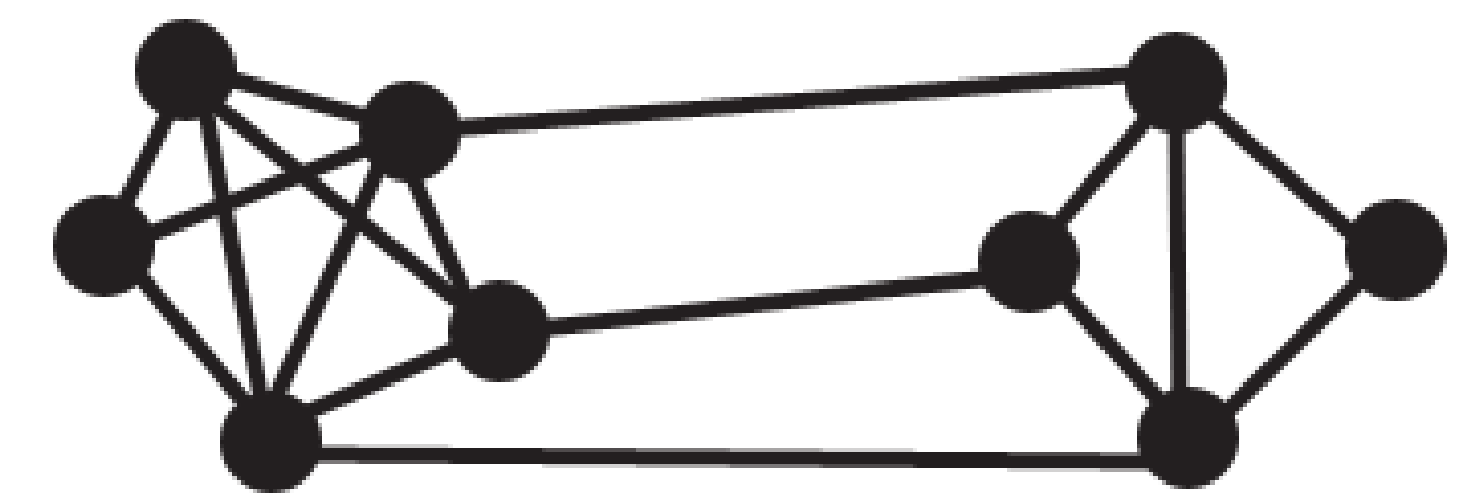
-Non-globally connected networks: K_c scales as $1/\lambda_M$, the largest eigenvalue of the network connectivity matrix A , rather than as $1/N$.



$\langle \eta^2 \rangle = \pi/6$; $\langle (\Delta \omega)^2 \rangle = 0.1$; $N = 10^3$

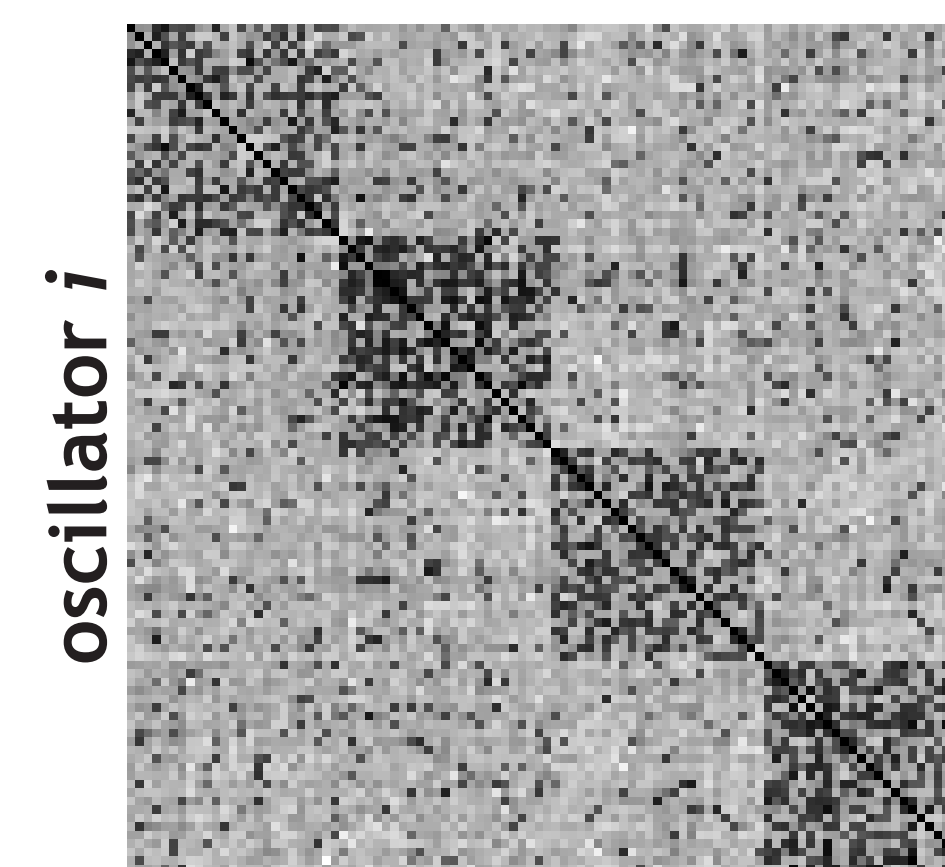
Community Structure

-More connections between members of the same community than members of different communities.



-We observe that members of the same community are more synchronized to each other than to members of different communities.

-Example: four-community network, with $N = 100$. Matrix of the time-averaged distances between oscillator phases:



darker color
means smaller
distance

oscillator j

Avg. intra-community degree: 12

Avg. inter-community degree: 6

-We have investigated how the distance matrix can be used to discover communities when they are unknown.