

*Workshop on New frontiers of Robotics -
Interdep. Research Center "E. Piaggio"
June 21-22, 2012 - Pisa (Italy)*

BOOLEAN CONSENSUS FOR SOCIETIES OF ROBOTS

Adriano Fagiolini



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WHAT IS IT?

- *A society is a collection of individuals with different levels of autonomy, hierarchical organization and interaction.*



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WHAT IS IT?

- *A society is a collection of individuals with different levels of autonomy, hierarchical organization and interaction.*
- A “Society of Robots” (SoR) is a complex system made of:
 - *Many,*
 - *Fast/Slow,*
 - *Different,*
 - *Autonomous,*
 - *Uncoordinated,*
 - *(Fairly) Competing through rules,*
 - *Joining in and quitting at will,*
 - *Mostly well-behaved... robots.*



IMPOSSIBLE?

- Societies in nature



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IMPOSSIBLE?

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- Societies of artificial systems

- A modern car is much more of a robot than a simple machine!



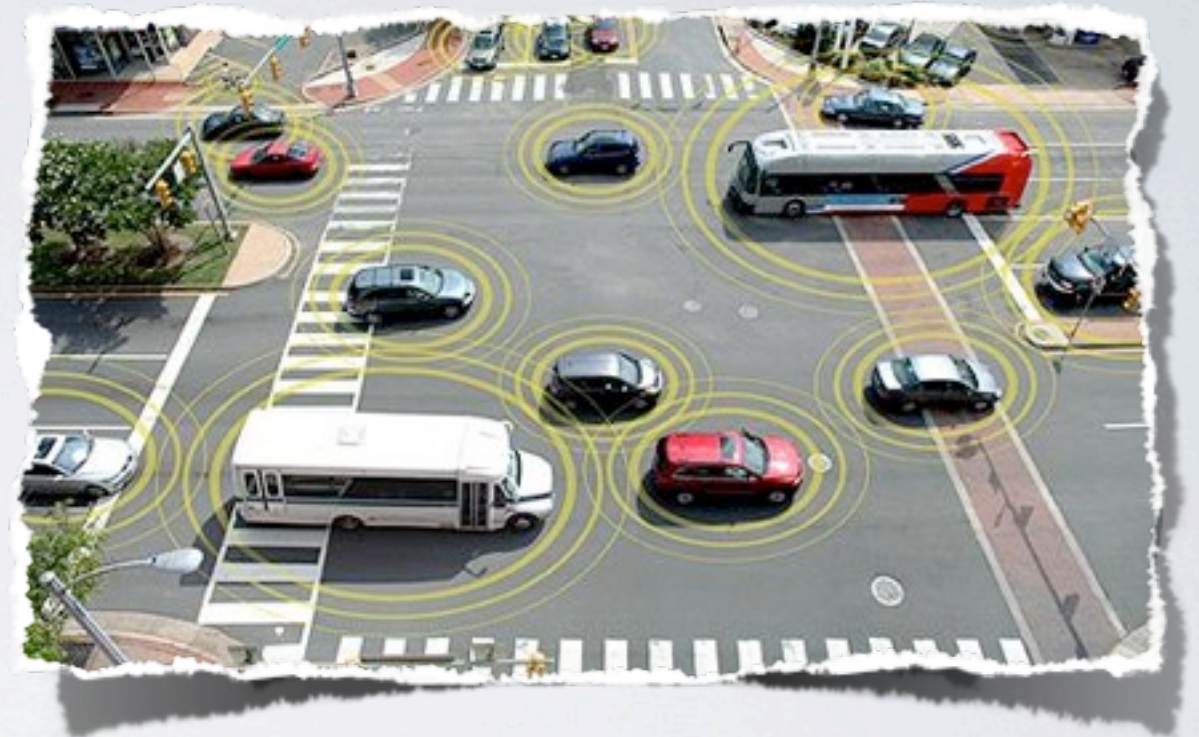
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- Streets with cars following driving rules are indeed SoR:



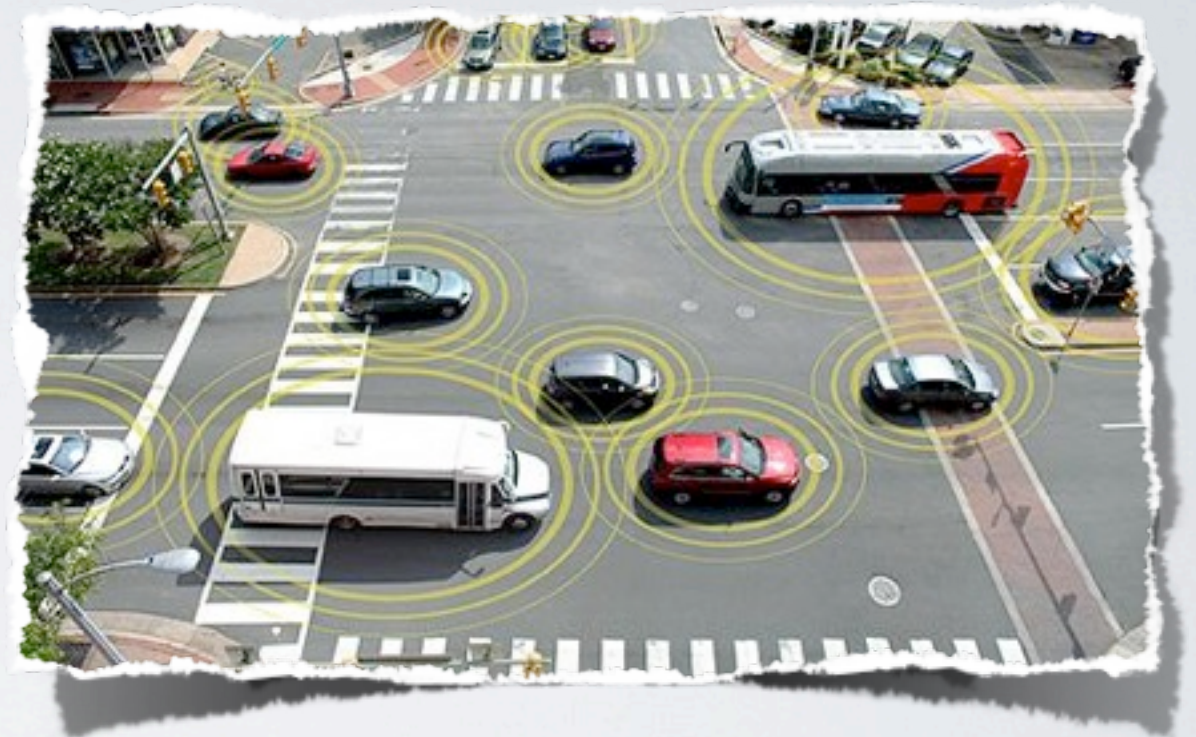
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- Streets with cars following driving rules are indeed SoR:

*Many, *Fast/Slow, *Different,
*Autonomous, *Uncoordinated,
*Competing, *Joining in and quitting at will,
*Mostly well-behaved ...*except for few jerks*



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WHY DO WE NEED A SOR?

- From industrial robots to service robots, ... and finally to *robots everywhere*.



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- almost completely specified operating conditions (closed and obstacle-free spaces)
- limited Robot-Robot Interaction (ad-hoc solutions with few identical copies of robots)



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- A robot must be rethought of as a *physical entity embedded in a full-fledge society*, interacting through social rules, not jeopardizing others' efforts.



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MANY CHALLENGES

- How do we specify social robots' behavior?
 - *Models / Formal languages*



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 - *Species classification [Martini, Egerstedt, Bicchi]*
 - *Logical function learning by observations*



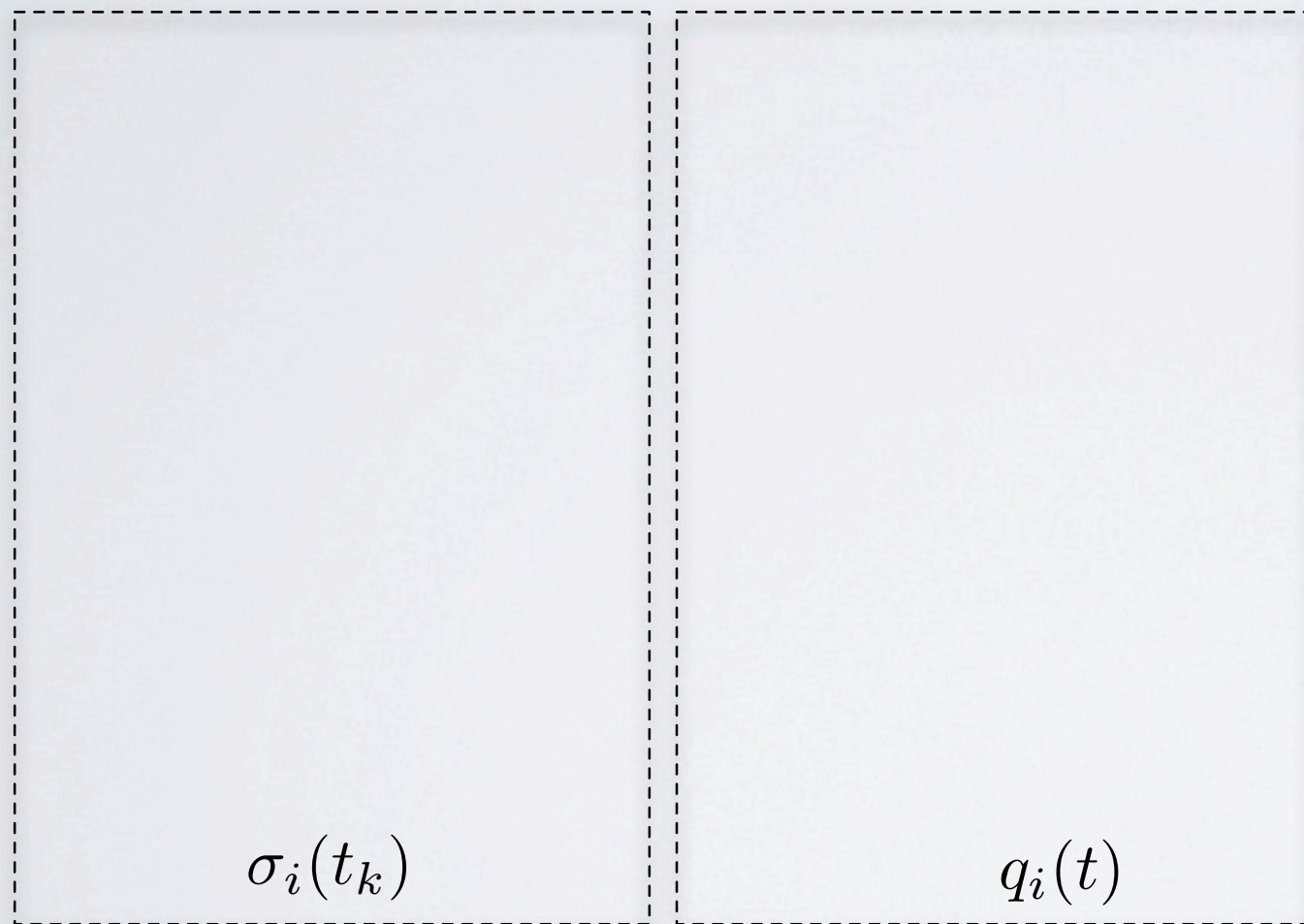
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- How do robots authenticate and establish trust relations? [Dini]



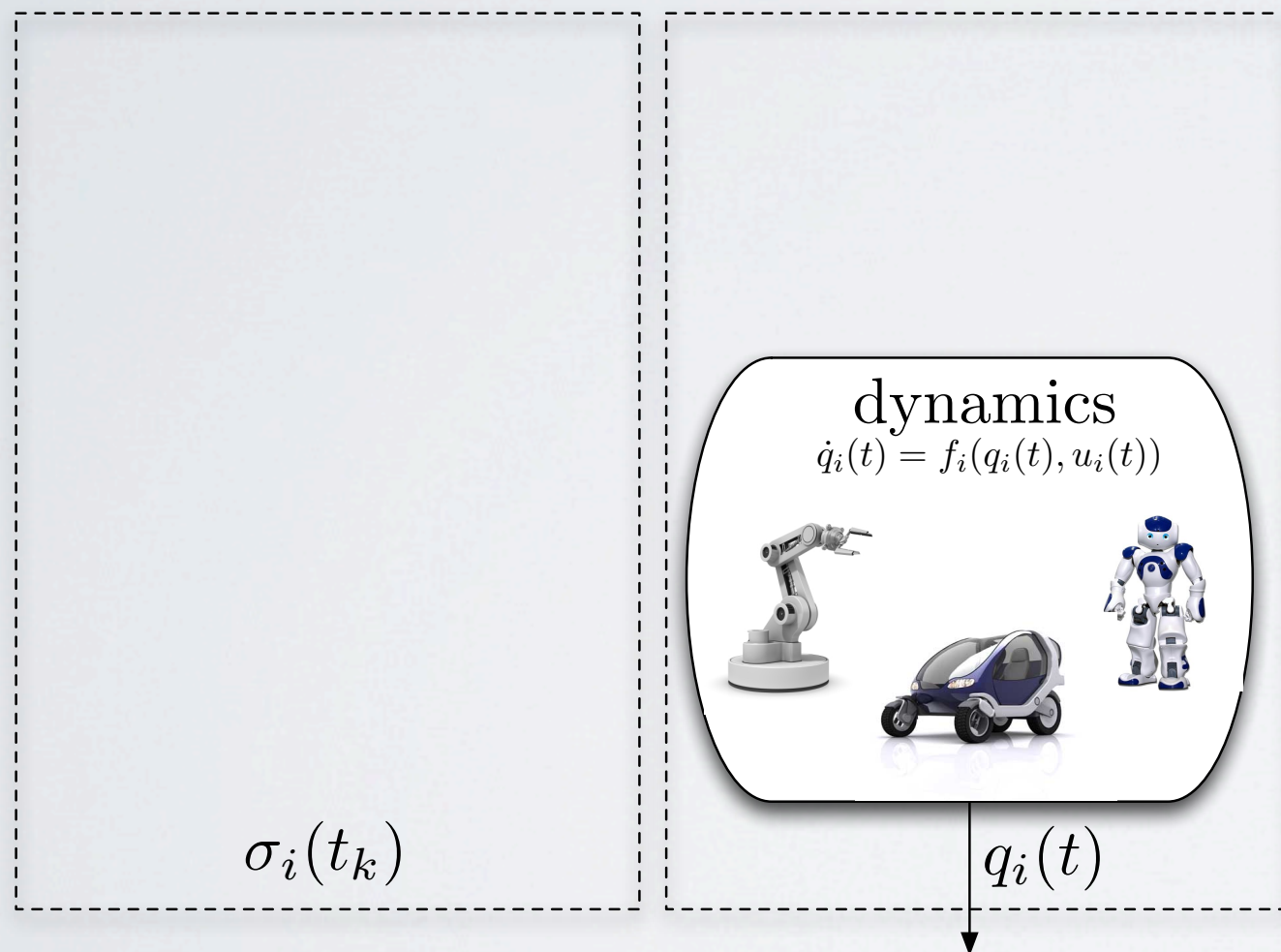
SOCIAL ROBOTS' MODELING

- a social robot is a hybrid system



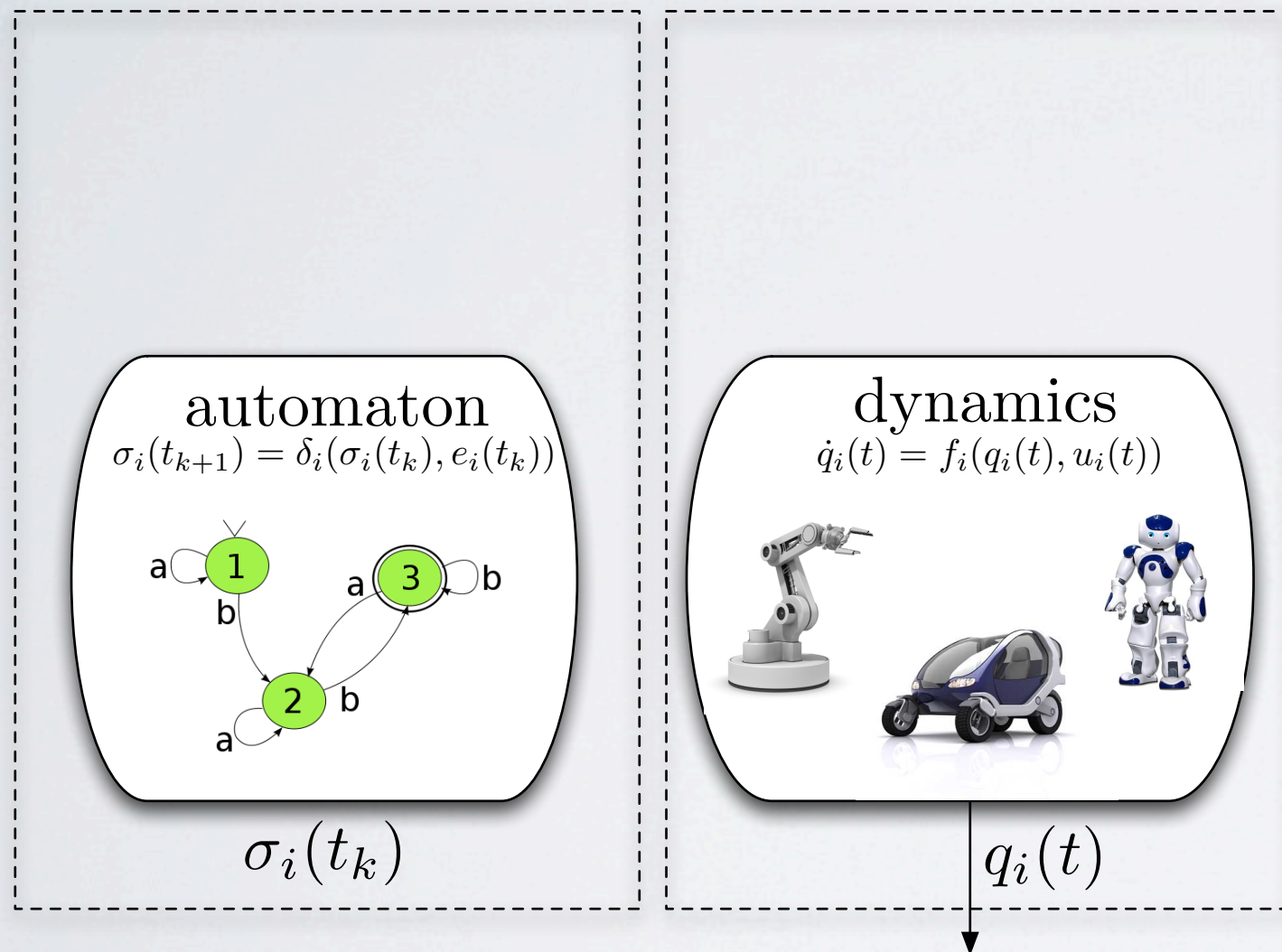
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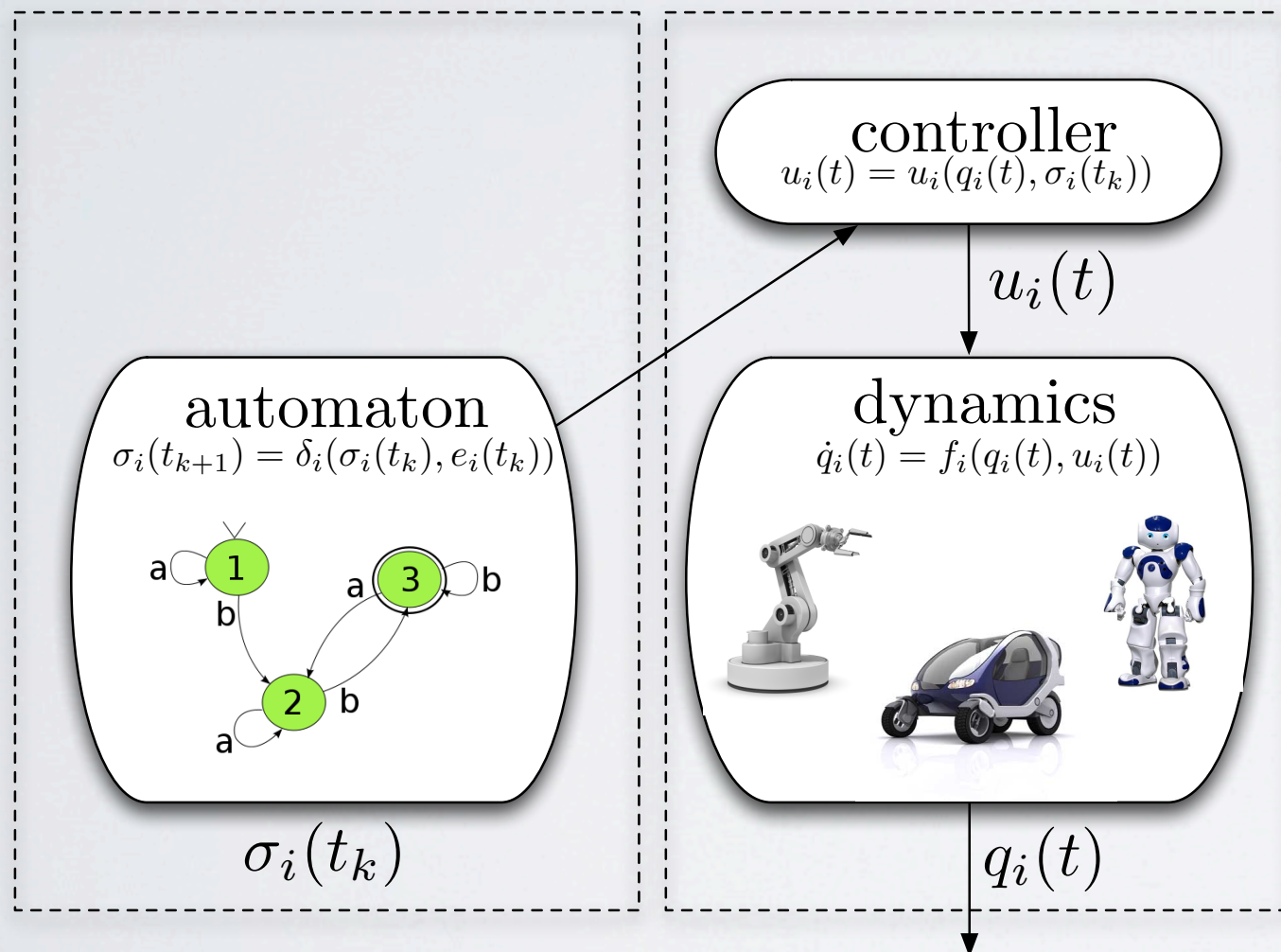
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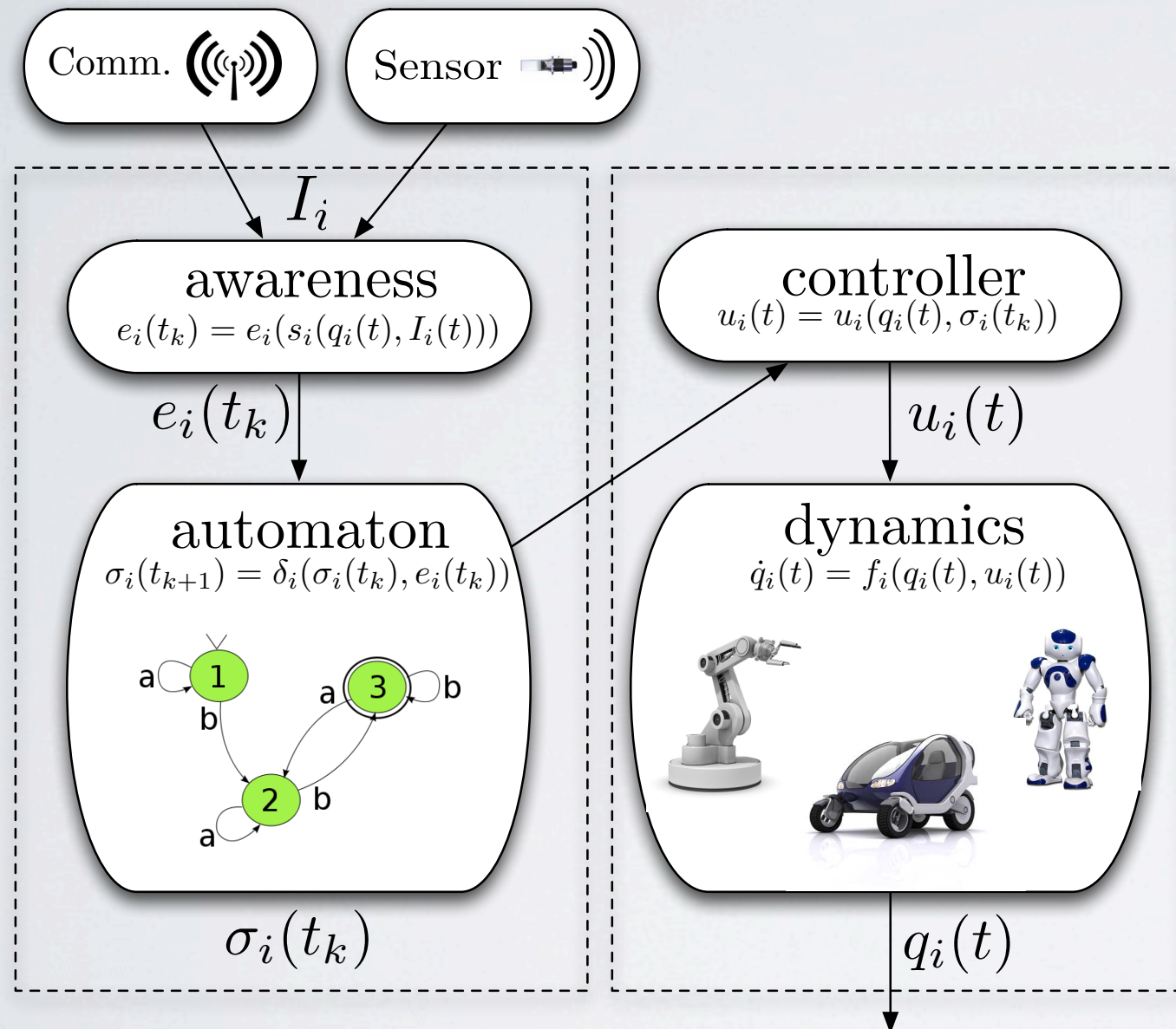
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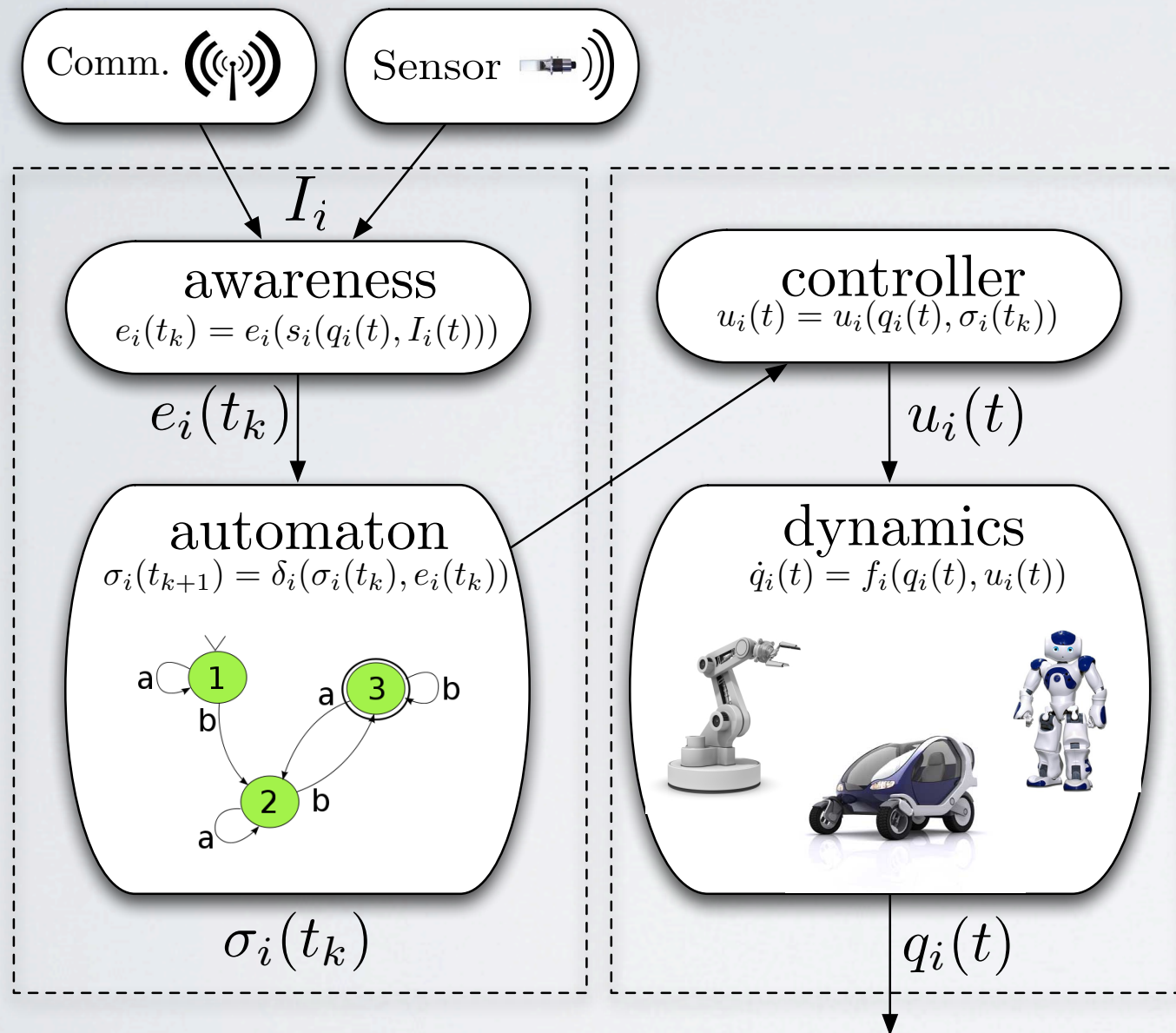


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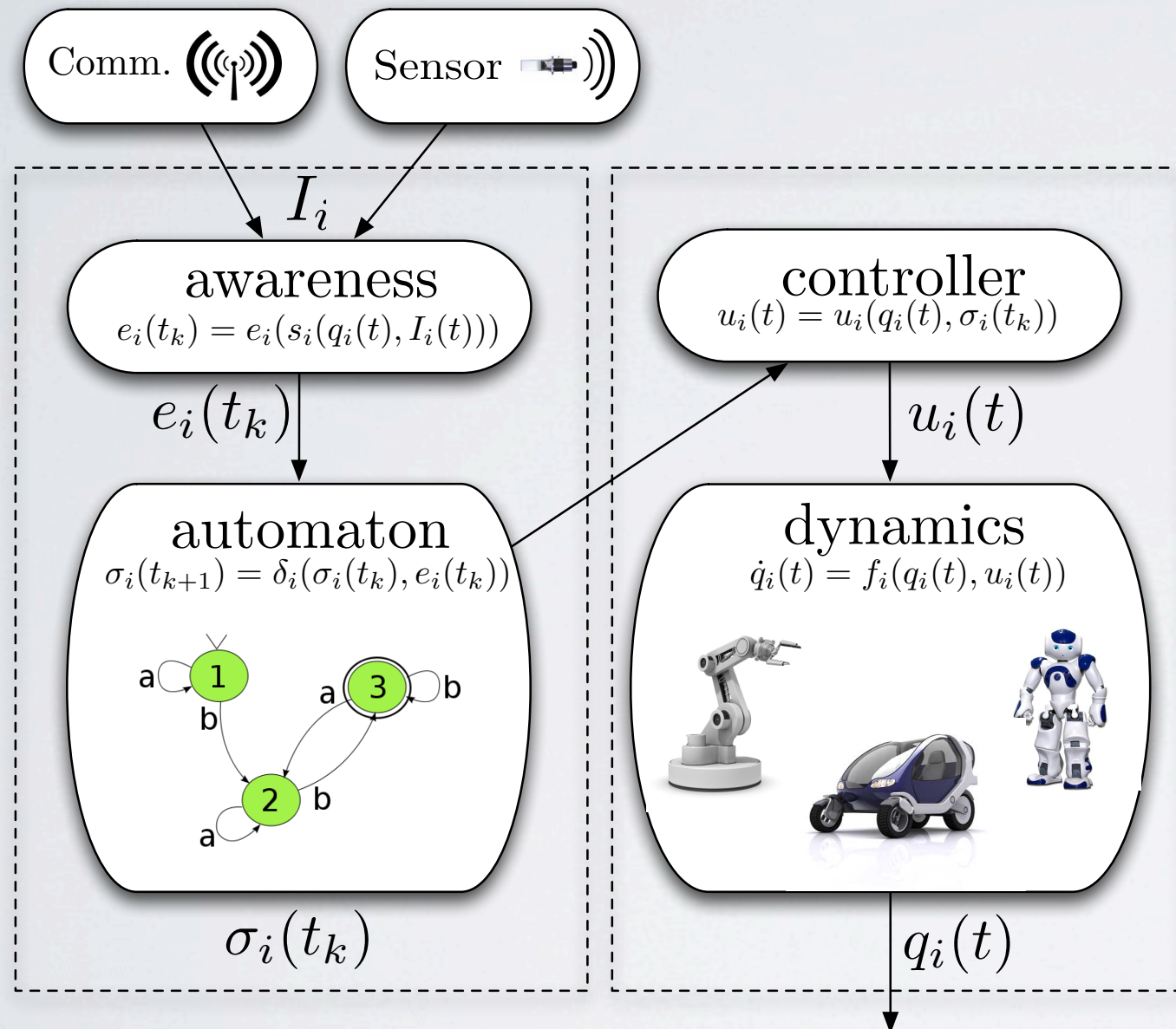


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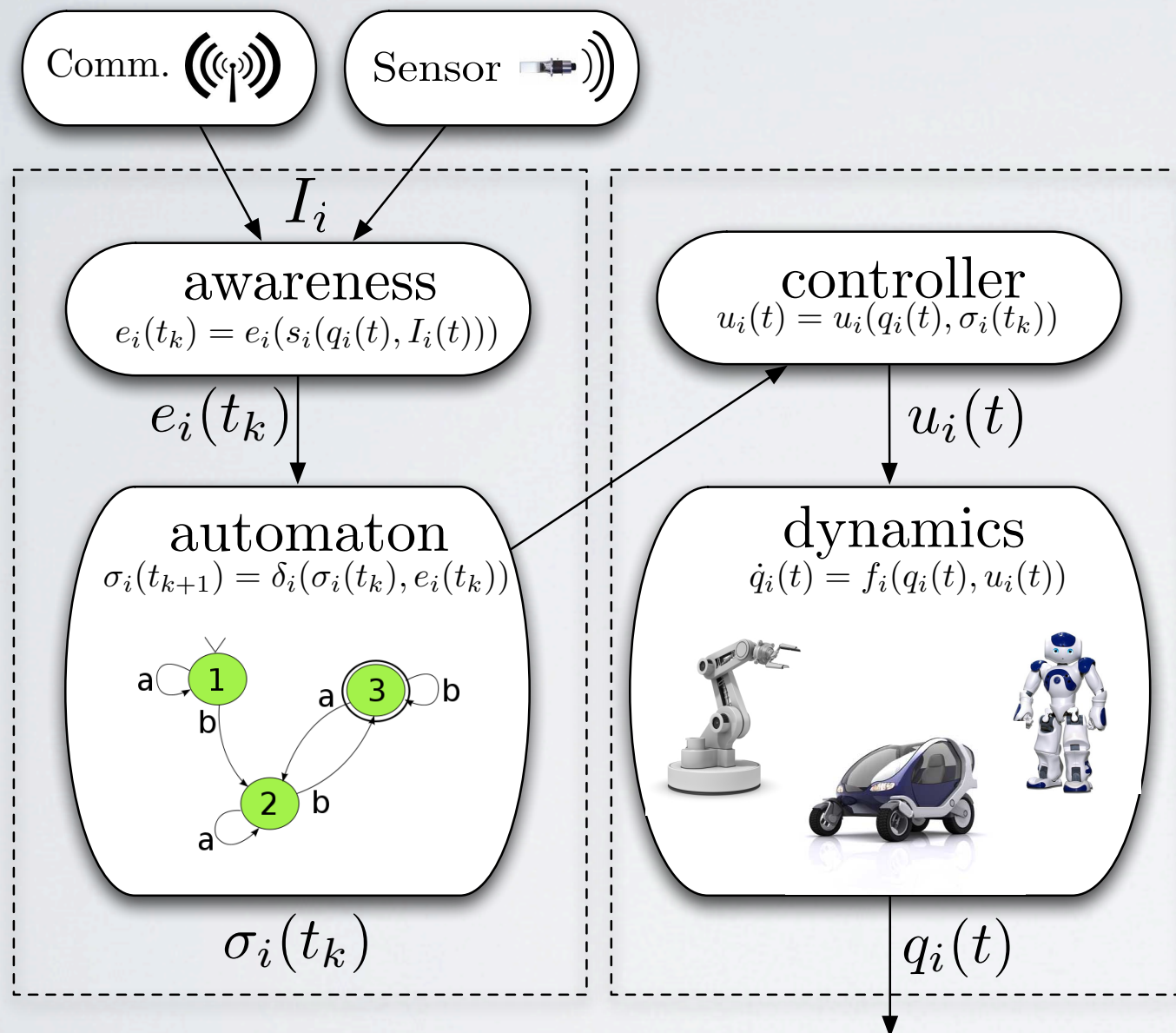


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SOCIAL ROBOTS' MODELING

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- natural-like specification language
- makers are only required to adhere to standard spec. protocols
- an entire SoR can be described as a computer program:
 - complex behaviors by few keywords and a grammar
 - composability, reusability, ...



SOCIETY AGREEMENT

- Global information reconstruction by consensus algorithms



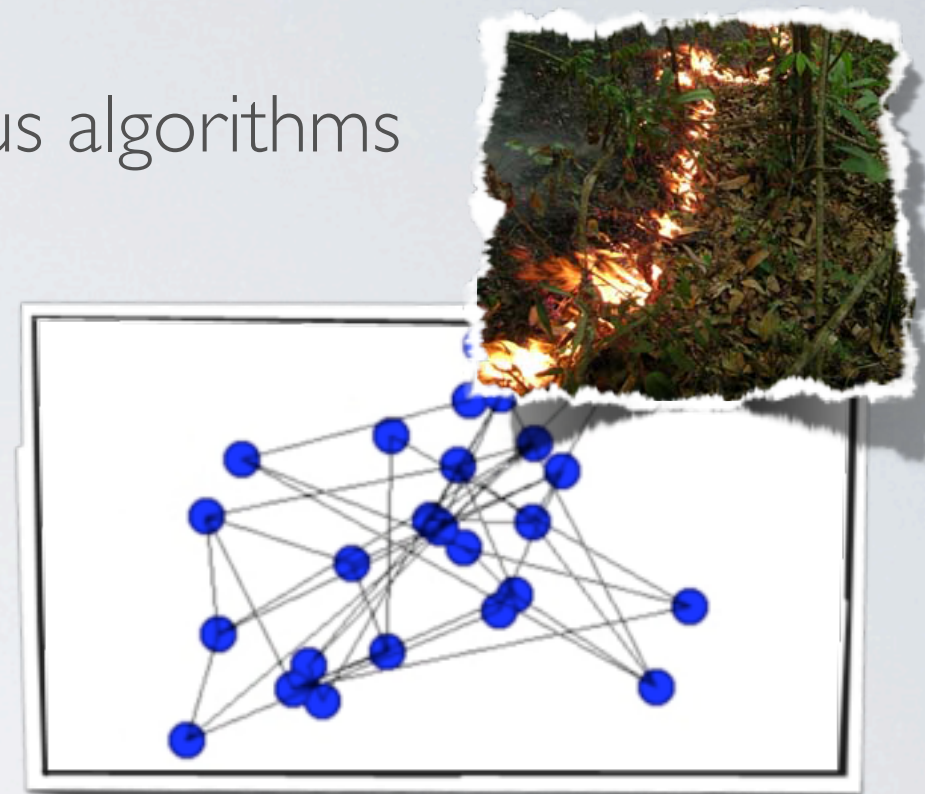
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SOCIETY AGREEMENT

- Global information reconstruction by consensus algorithms
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$$x_i(t + 1) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_{i,j} (x_j(t) - x_i(t))$$



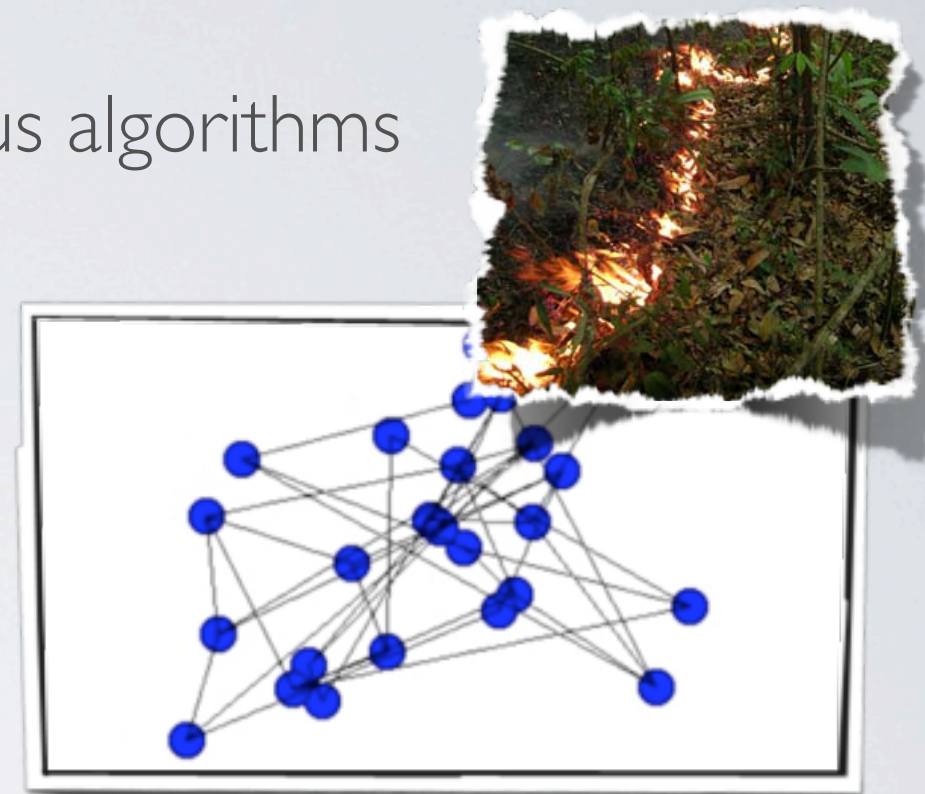
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$$\dot{q}_i = -k(q_i - C_{\mathcal{V}_i}(q_i))$$



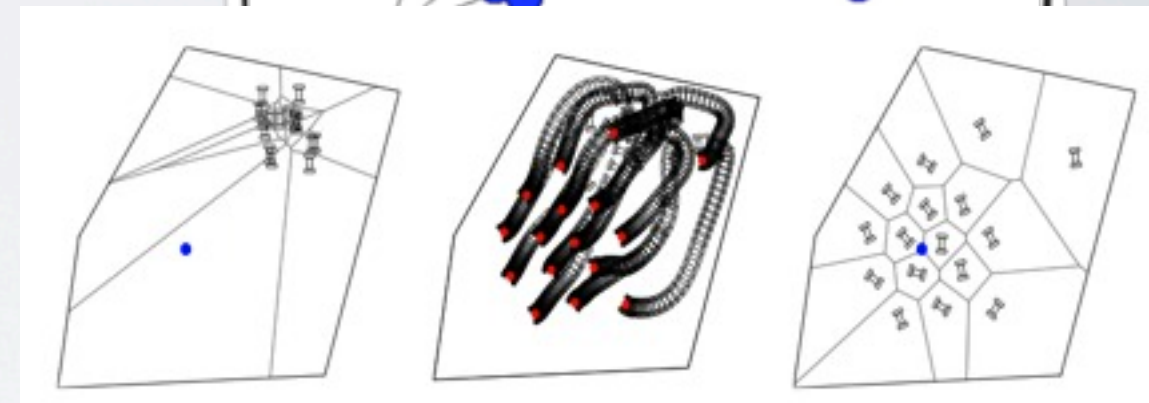
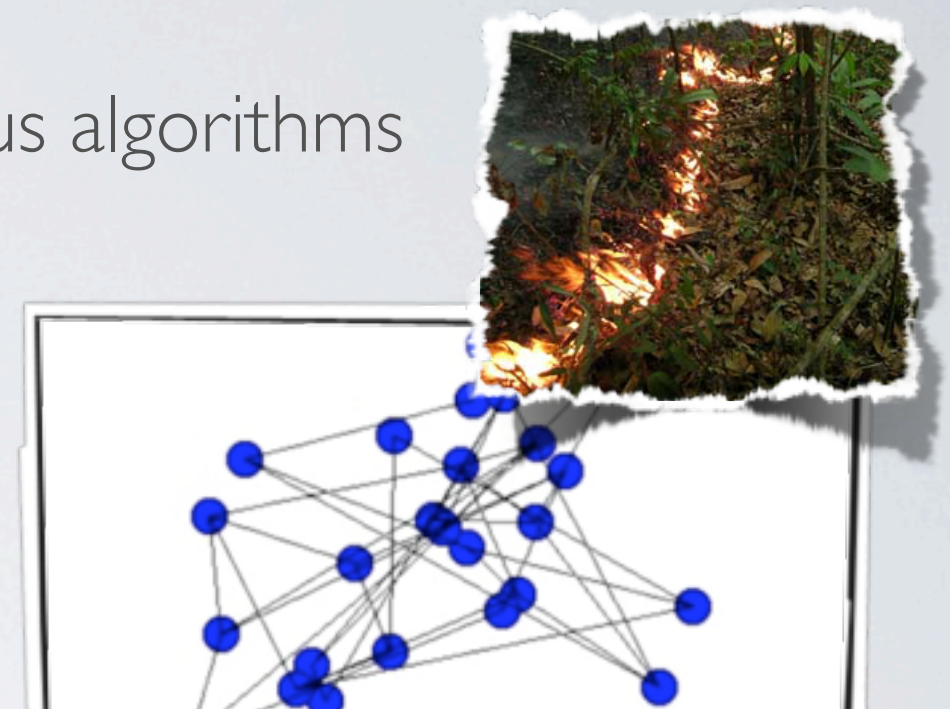
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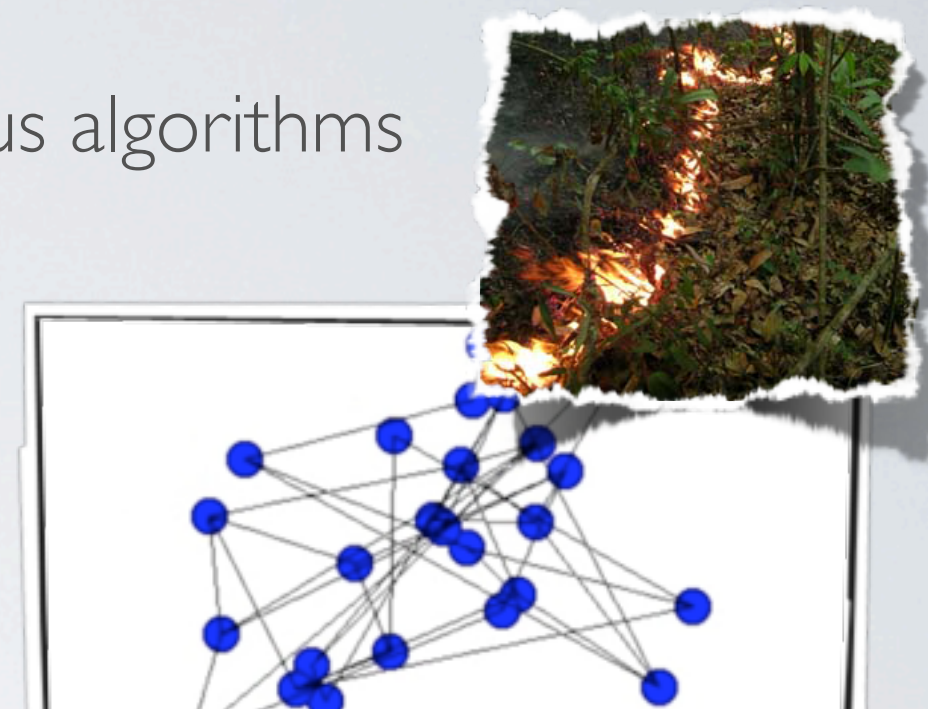
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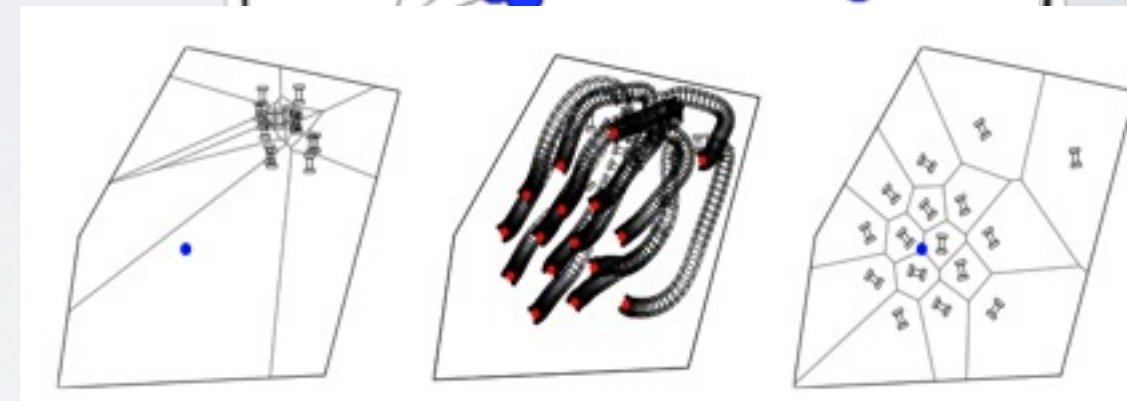
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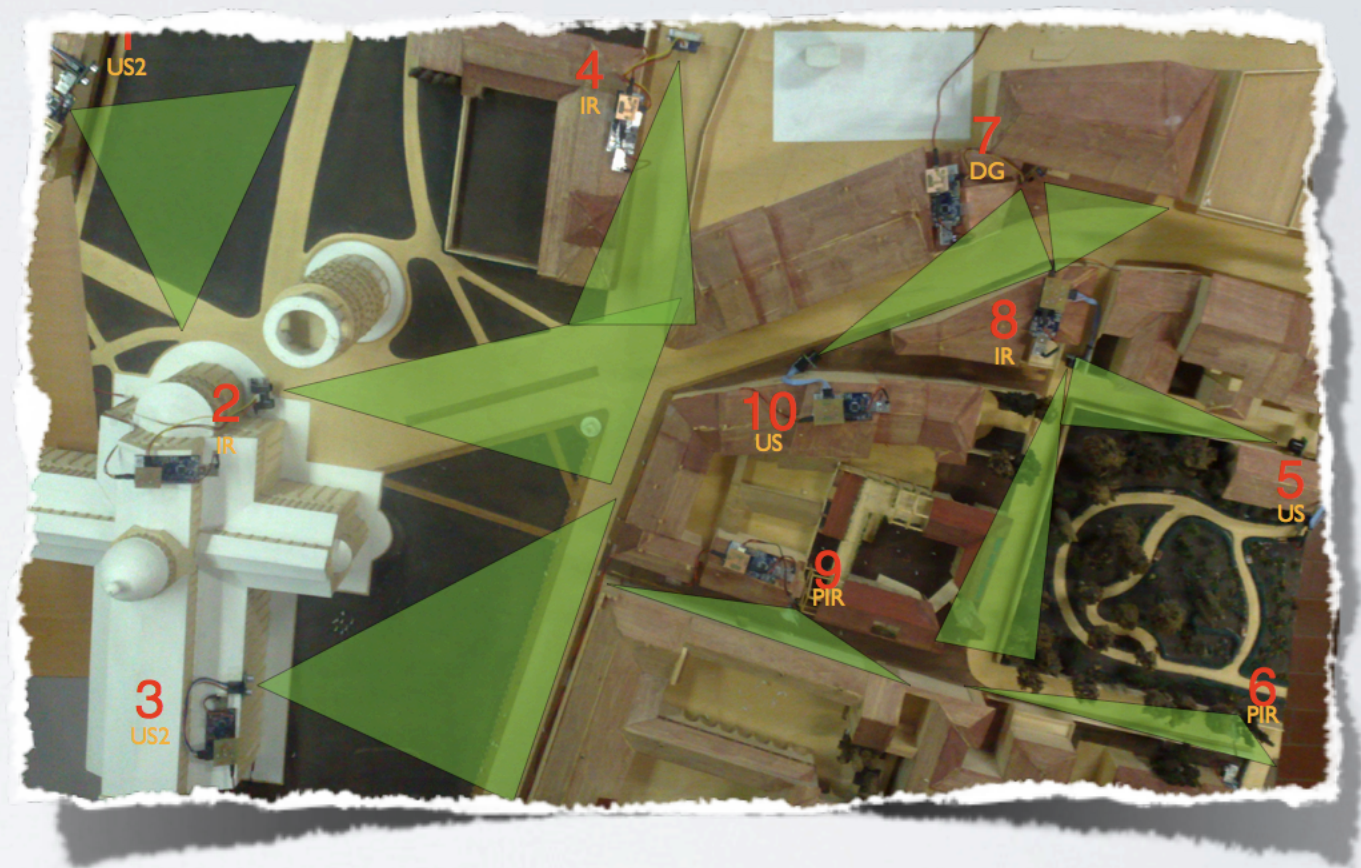
- *Nonlinear set-valued iterative strategies* can solve other important problems:
 - Clock synchronization from confidence intervals [Marzullo, CASE'09],
 - Geographical chart reconstruction from partial/uncertain aerial snapshots, ...



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INTRUSION / ATTACK DETECTION

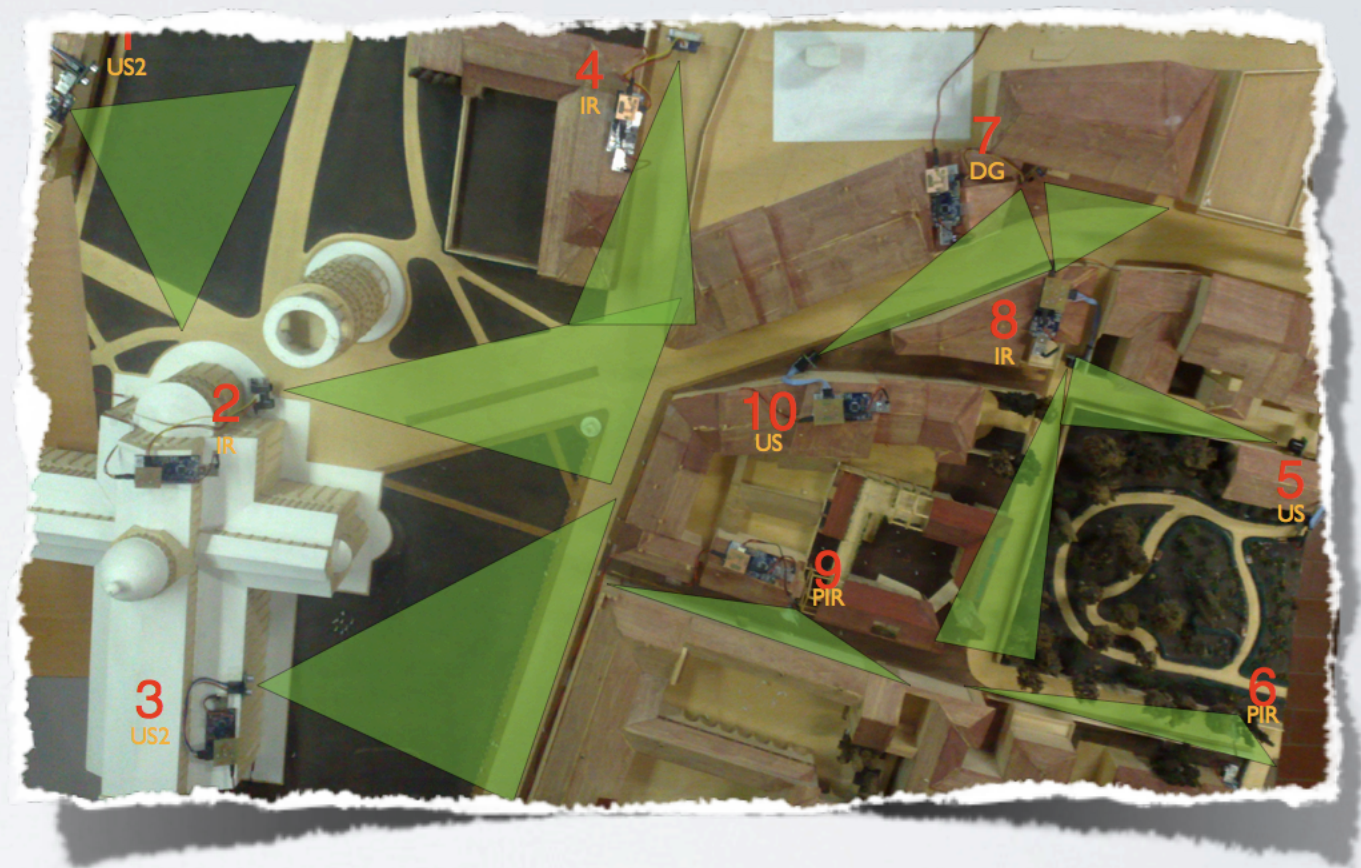
- *Effective intrusion reaction requires global, consistent reconstruction of suspicious people / objects presence.*



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- *Effective intrusion reaction requires global, consistent reconstruction of suspicious people / objects presence.*
- a complex environment
- binary input events
 $u_j \in \mathbb{B}$



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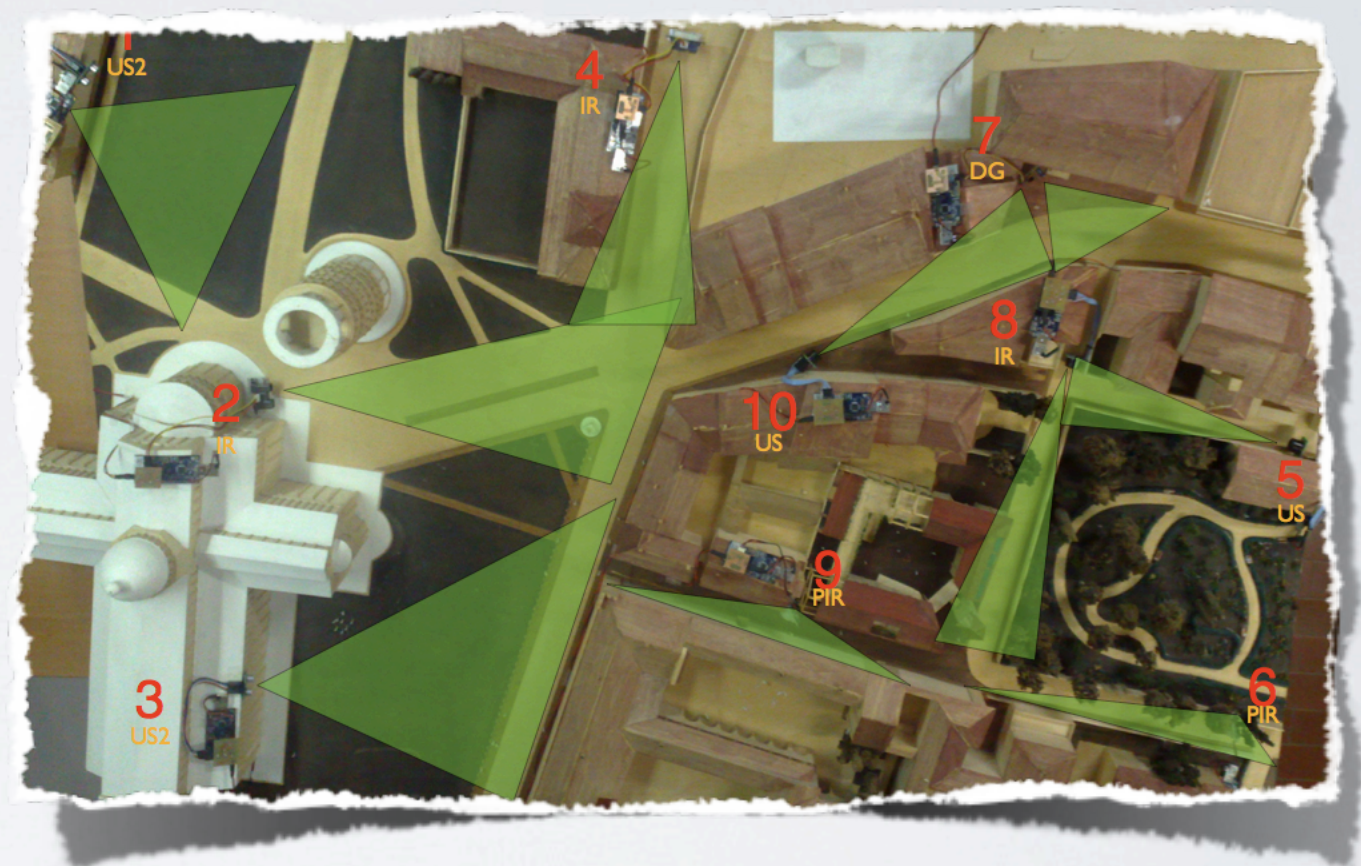
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- guards with limited visibility and communication

- binary alarm states



$$X_i = (0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1)$$



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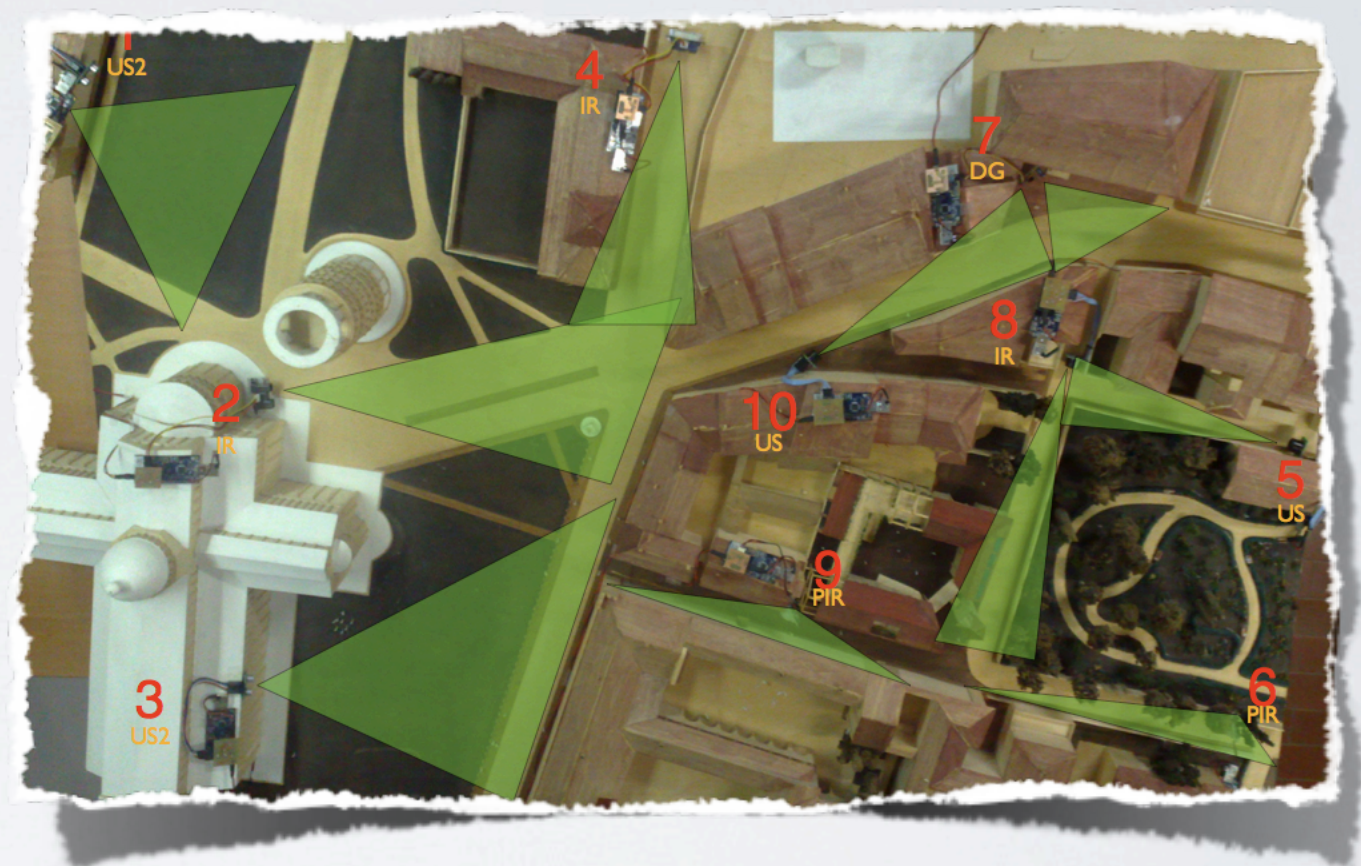
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- *only neighbor-to-neighbor interaction is possible!*



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A GENERAL SHARED FRAMEWORK

- (centralized) decisions depending on binary input events

$$\begin{cases} y_1 = f_1(u_1, \dots, u_m), \\ \dots \\ y_p = f_p(u_1, \dots, u_m), \\ u_j, y_i \in \mathbb{B} = \{0, 1\} \end{cases}$$



A GENERAL SHARED FRAMEWORK

- (centralized) decisions depending on binary input events
 - partial input visibility
 - limited communication
 - a binary vector state
- $$\begin{cases} y_1 = f_1(u_1, \dots, u_m), \\ \dots \\ y_p = f_p(u_1, \dots, u_m), \\ u_j, y_i \in \mathbb{B} = \{0, 1\} \end{cases}$$
- $$V_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if agent } i \text{ "sees" } u_j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
- $$C_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1 & i \text{ can receive a message from } j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
- $$X_i = (x_{i,1}, \dots, x_{i,p})$$



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Logical Consensus Problem: Given visibility and adjacency matrices, $V = \{V_{i,j}\}$ and $C = \{C_{i,j}\}$, design a distributed protocol of the form

$$X(t+1) = F(X(t), u(t))$$

converging to the consensus state $\mathbf{1}_n f(u_1, \dots, u_m)$, from any $X(0)$.



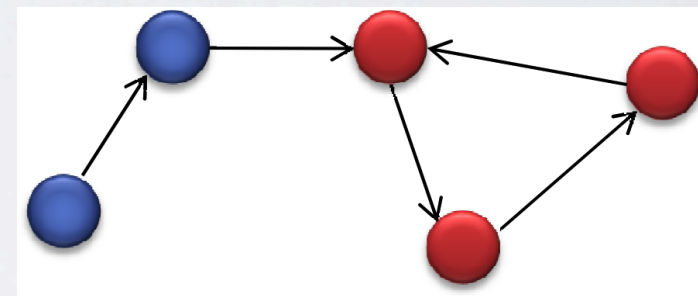
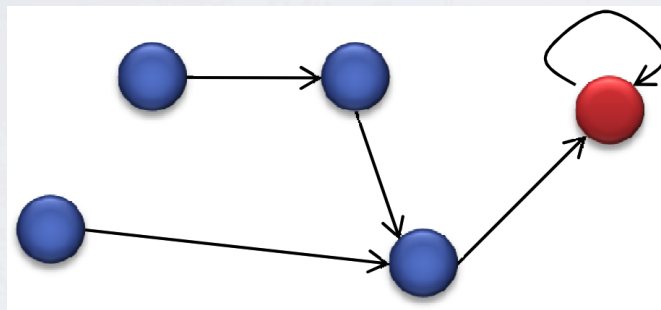
LOGICAL ITERATIONS

- Traditional approaches do not apply to logical maps $F : \mathbb{B}^n \times \mathbb{B}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{B}^n$, but tools for the convergence of automata are of use [Robert'74-'83].



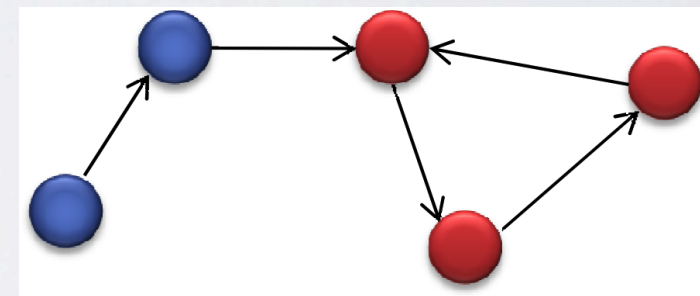
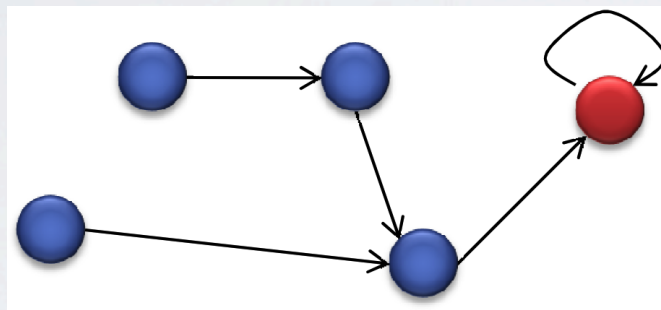
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- the incidence matrix of a logical map F is a binary matrix $B(F) = \{b_{i,j}\}$ ($b_{i,j} = 1$ if the j -th element of $F(x)$ depends on the i -th element of x)

$$F(x) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \\ \neg x_3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow B(F) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



LOGICAL ITERATIONS - GLOBAL CONVERGENCE

- the eigenvalues of a binary matrix A are all the scalars

$$\lambda \in \mathbb{B} \text{ s.t. } \exists x \in \mathbb{B}^n \text{ s.t. } Ax = \lambda x$$



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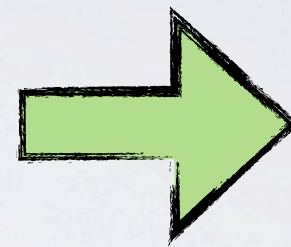


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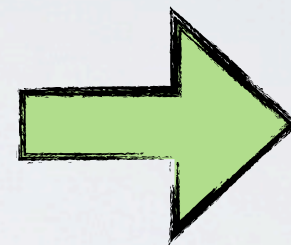


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- its spectral radius $\rho(A)$ is the biggest eigenvalue
- $\rho(A) = 0 \iff A$ is similar to a strictly lower/upper matrix

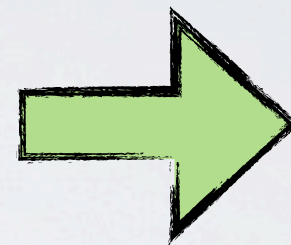


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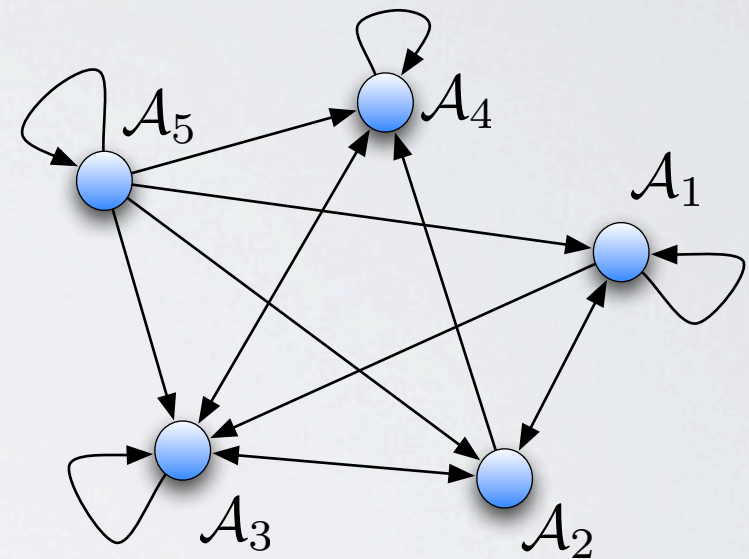
Theorem: A logical iterative system $x^+ = F(x)$ globally converges in finite time to its unique equilibrium if $\rho(B(F)) = 0$



WHEN IS CONSENSUS FEASIBLE?

- *Can every robot be reached by every input?*

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, V_j = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



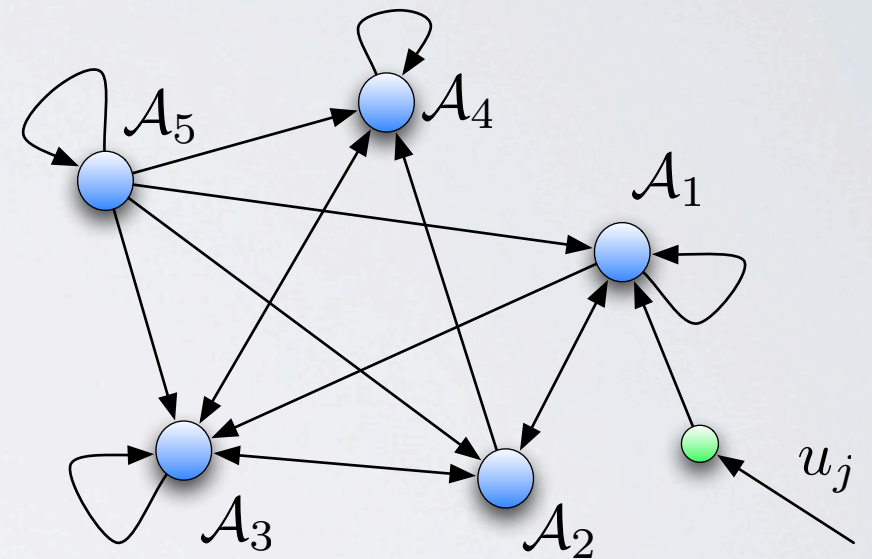
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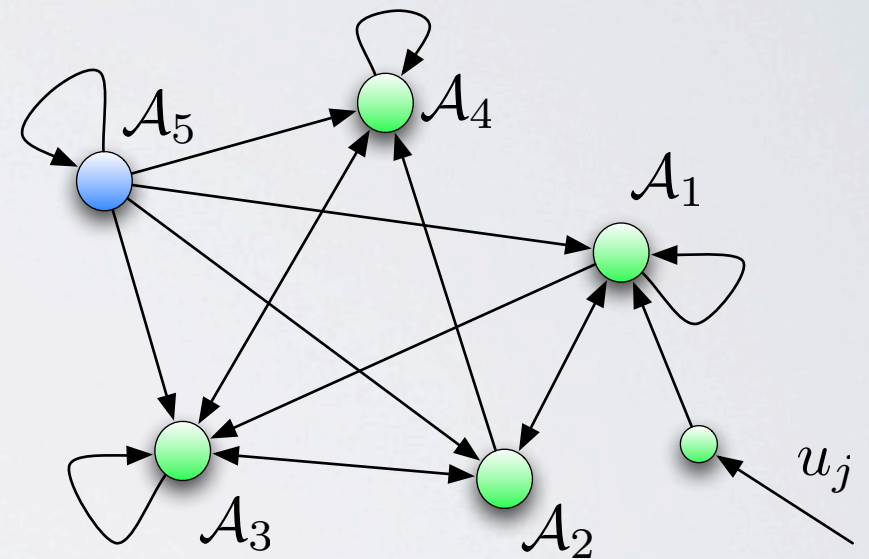
- introducing a *binary reachability matrix*

$$R_j = (V_j \ C V_j \ C^2 V_j \ \dots \ C^{n-1} V_j)$$

$$\text{span}(R_j) = \{i \mid I_j(n-1) = 1\}$$

$$I_j = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} C^k V_j = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} R_j(:, i)$$

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad V_j = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



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$\text{span}(R_j) = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$
consensus is unfeasible!

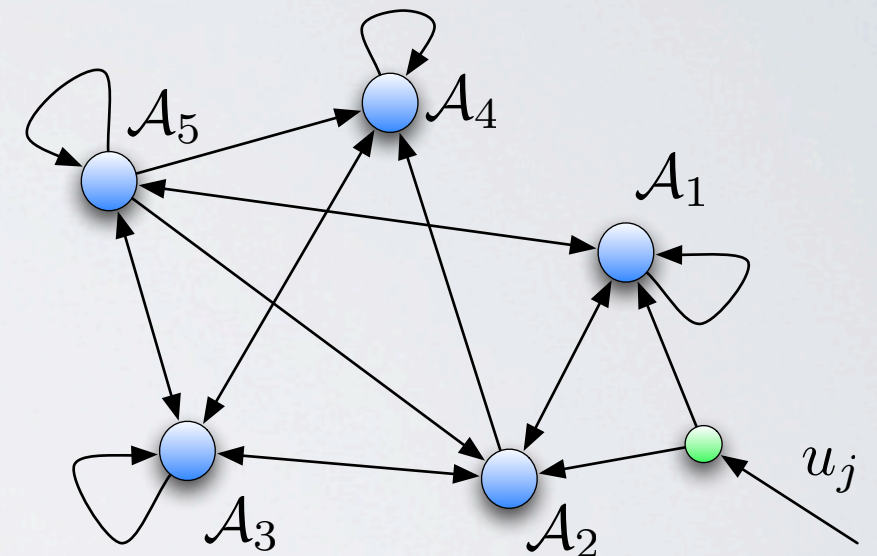


DESIGN OF LOGICAL LINEAR CONSENSUS

- *What is the best way to propagate every input?*

Modified Example

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad V_j = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

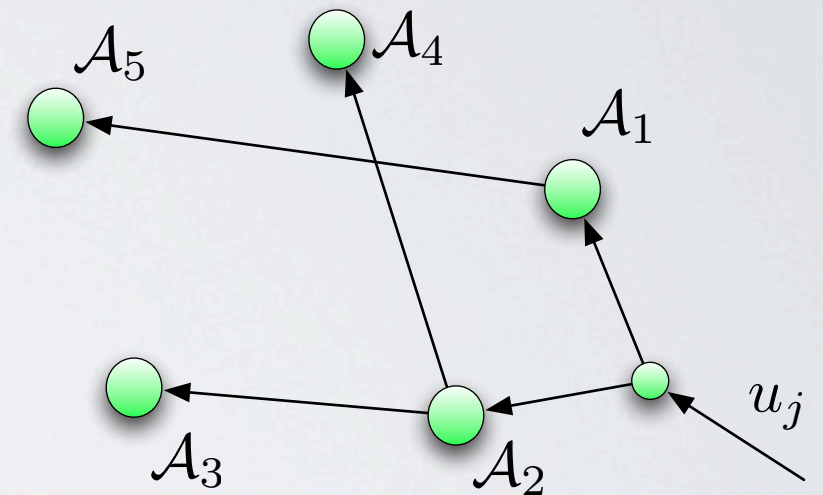


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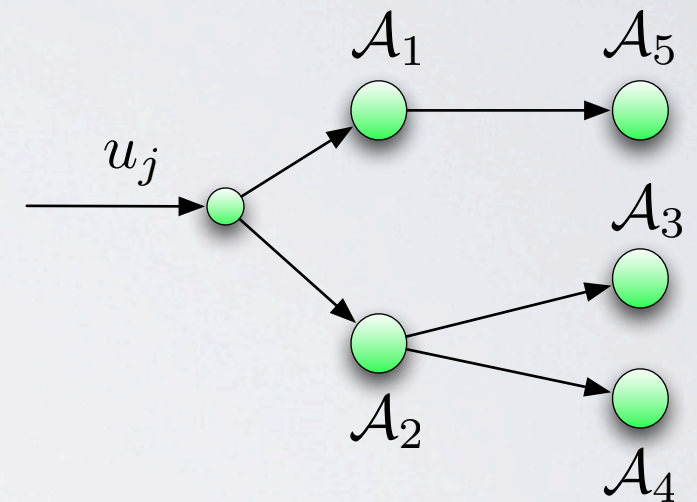


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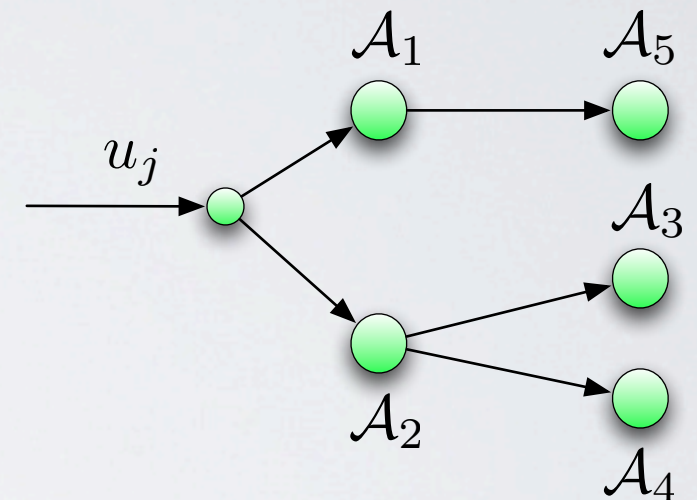


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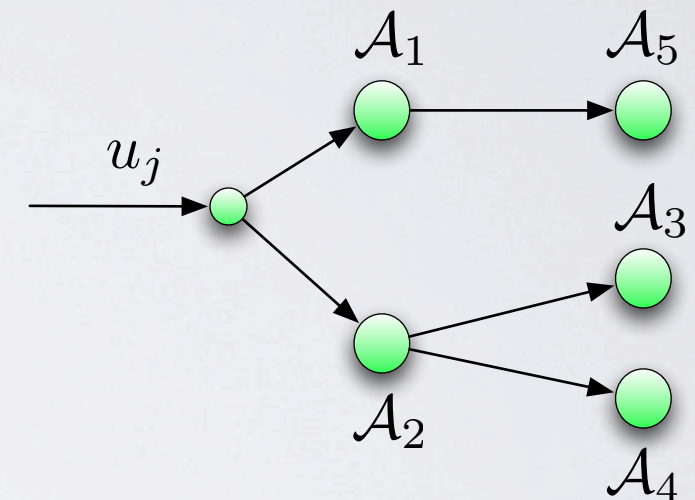
DESIGN OF LOGICAL LINEAR CONSENSUS

- *What is the best way to propagate every input?*

- Let C_j^* be the adjacency matrix of the j -th Input Propagation Spanning Tree (IPST)

Modified Example

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Theorem: A logical linear iterative system

$$x^+ = C_j^* x + V_j u_j$$

- is (C, V_j) compliant $(B(F_j(x, u_j)) \leq (C|V_j))$,
- globally converges to the consensus equilibrium $\mathbf{1}_n u_j$,
- is optimal in terms of time and messages exchanged.

Proof: F_j is globally convergent as $\rho(B(F_j)) = 0$, and $\mathbf{1}_n u_j$ is an equilibrium by construction.

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CONSENSUS WITH ROBOT FAILURE

- spontaneous malfunctioning
- robots' selfishness (*unfairly trying to gain resource access*)
- malicious reprogramming



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$$x_i(t + 1) = F_i(x(t), u_j(t)) \oplus d_i$$

• disjunctive or

• binary disturbance

operating condition	d_i
correct agent	0
inverted agent	1
stuck on 0	$F_i(x, u_j)$
stuck on 1	$\neg F_i(x, u_j)$



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- linear consensus rule $F_i = C_j^*(i, :) x + V_j(i) u_j$ with e.g. $d_1 \neq 0$
reaches a state such as

$$\bar{x} = (u_j \oplus d_1, u_j, u_j \oplus d_1, u_j, u_j \oplus d_1)^T \neq \mathbf{1}_n u_j,$$



ROBUST LOGICAL CONSENSUS

- bounded number of faults among every robot's neighbors (γ)



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ROBUST LOGICAL CONSENSUS

- bounded number of faults among every robot's neighbors (γ)
- Byzantine behaviors can be tolerated with $2\gamma + 1$ neighbors

$$x_i(t+1) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \text{card}(S_0(t)) > \text{card}(S_1(t)), \\ 1 & \text{if } \text{card}(S_0(t)) < \text{card}(S_1(t)), \end{cases}$$

$$S_z(t) = \{h \mid C_{i,h} = 1, x_h(t) = z\}$$



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- a binary reachability matrix and IPST with multiplicity r

$$R_j^r(C, V_j) = \left(I_j^{(1)} \ I_j^{(2)} \ \cdots \ I_j^{(n)} \right),$$

$$I_j^{(k)}(i) = \begin{cases} V_j(i) & k = 1, \\ I_j^{(k-1)}(i) & k > 1, \text{card}(K_i^k) < r, \\ 1 & k > 1, \text{card}(K_i^k) \geq r, \end{cases}$$

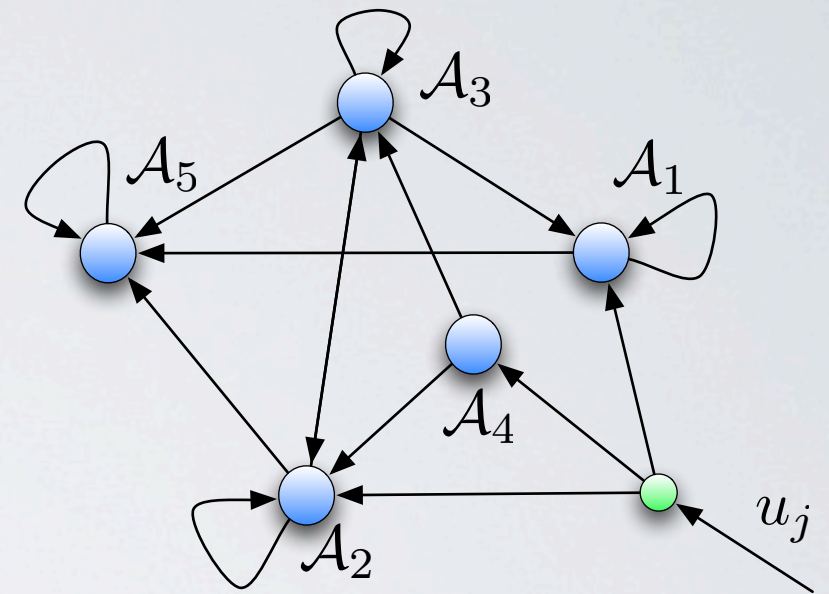
$$K_i^k = \{h \mid C(i, h) I_j^{(k-1)}(h) = 1\}$$



ROBUST LOGICAL CONSENSUS: AN EXAMPLE

- Consider the following system with $\gamma = 1$ possible failures

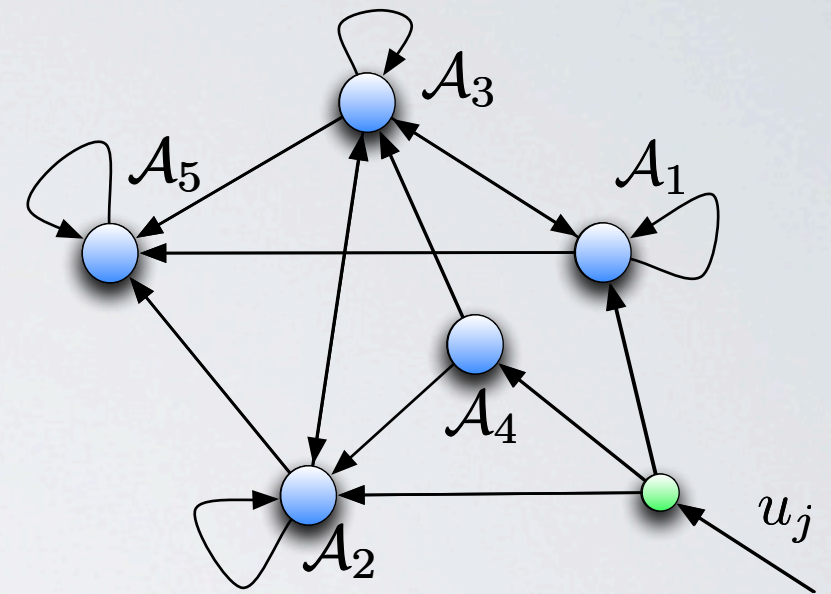
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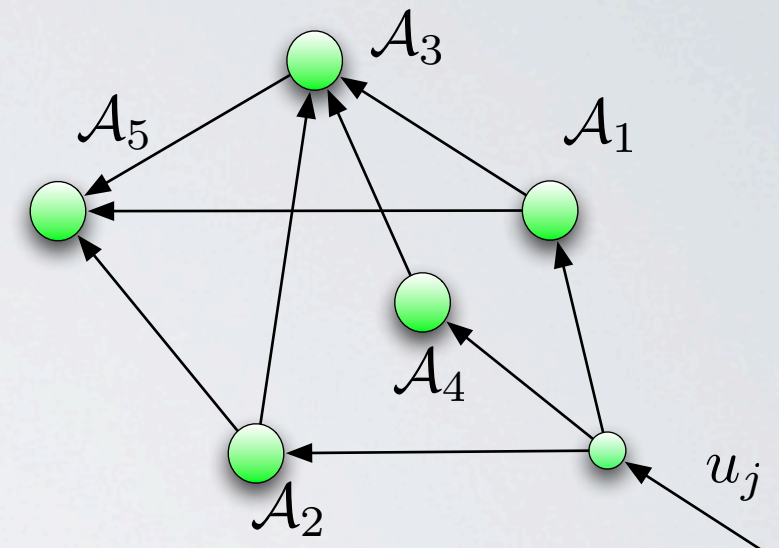
- The pair (C, V_j) is 3-reachable!



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- The pair (C, V_j) is 3-reachable!

$$\begin{cases} x_1(t+1) = u_j(t), \\ x_2(t+1) = u_j(t), \\ x_3(t+1) = x_1(t)x_2(t) + x_1(t)x_4(t) + x_2(t)x_4(t), \\ x_4(t+1) = u_j(t), \\ x_5(t+1) = x_1(t)x_2(t) + x_1(t)x_3(t) + x_2(t)x_3(t). \end{cases}$$



NONLINEAR LOGICAL CONSENSUS CONVERGENCE

Majority rule



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NONLINEAR LOGICAL CONSENSUS CONVERGENCE

Theorem: Given a $(2\gamma + 1)$ -reachable pair (C, V_j) the nonlinear logical system

$$\begin{cases} x(t+1) &= F^*(x(t), u_j(t)), \\ x(0) &= x^0, \end{cases}$$

with

$$F_i^* : \mathbb{B}^n \times \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$$

$$(x, u_j) \mapsto \begin{cases} u_j & \text{if } V_j(i) = 1, \\ \sum_{H \in S_i^*} \prod_{h \in H} x_h & \text{if } V_j(i) = 0, \end{cases}$$

Majority rule

- is (C, V_j) -compliant, and
- globally converges in finite time to $\bar{x}_i = u_j$ for all correct i .

Proof: F_j is globally convergent as $\rho(B(F_j)) = 0$, and $\mathbf{1}_n u_j$ is an equilibrium by construction.



DYNAMICS OF CONTINUOUS SETS

$$X(t + 1) = F(X(t)) \quad F : P(\mathcal{X})^n \rightarrow P(\mathcal{X})^n$$



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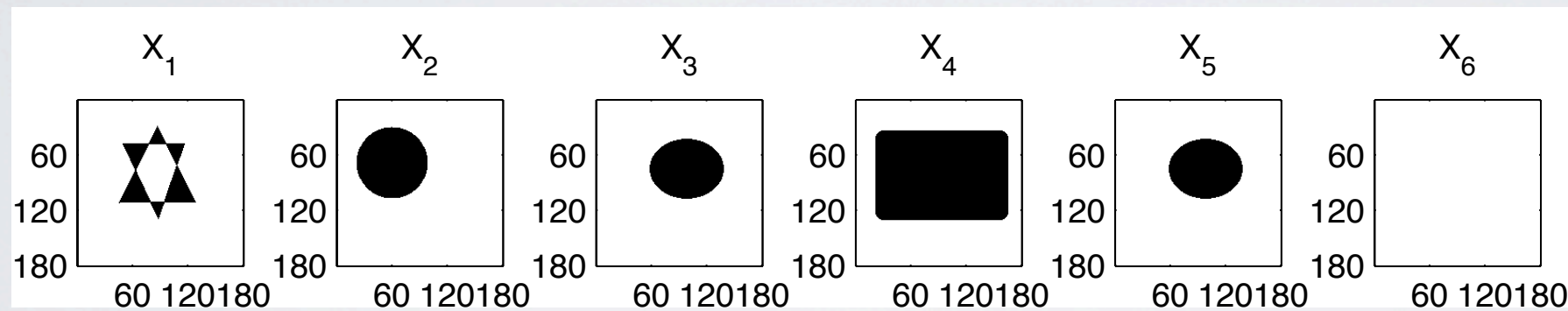
- *Can we have complex behaviors, such as accumulation points, chaotic behaviors, when the domain \mathcal{X} is infinite?*



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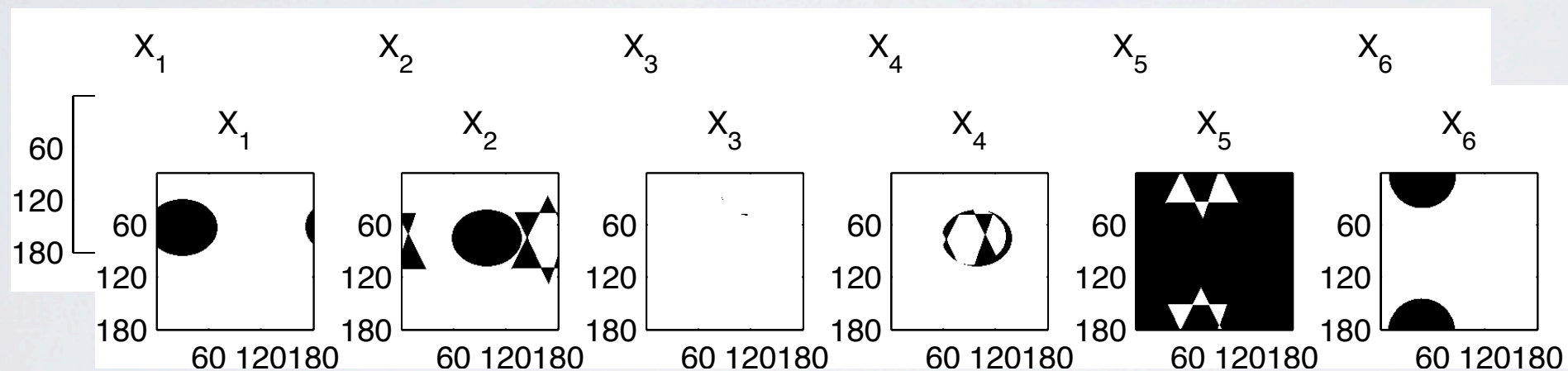
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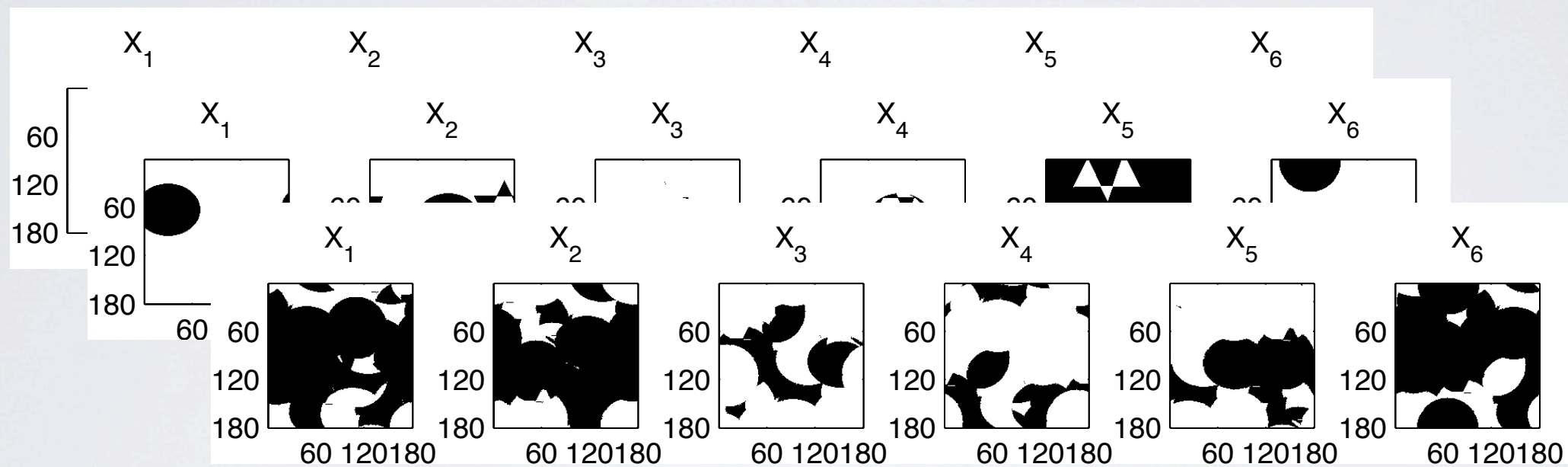
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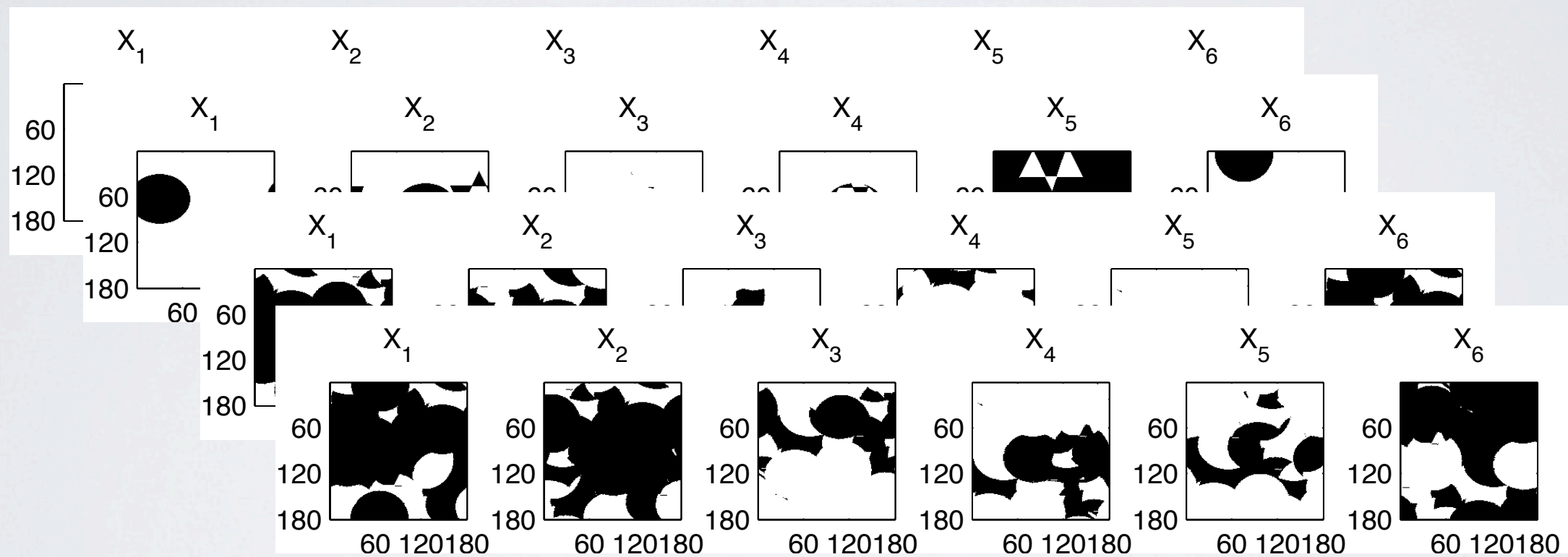
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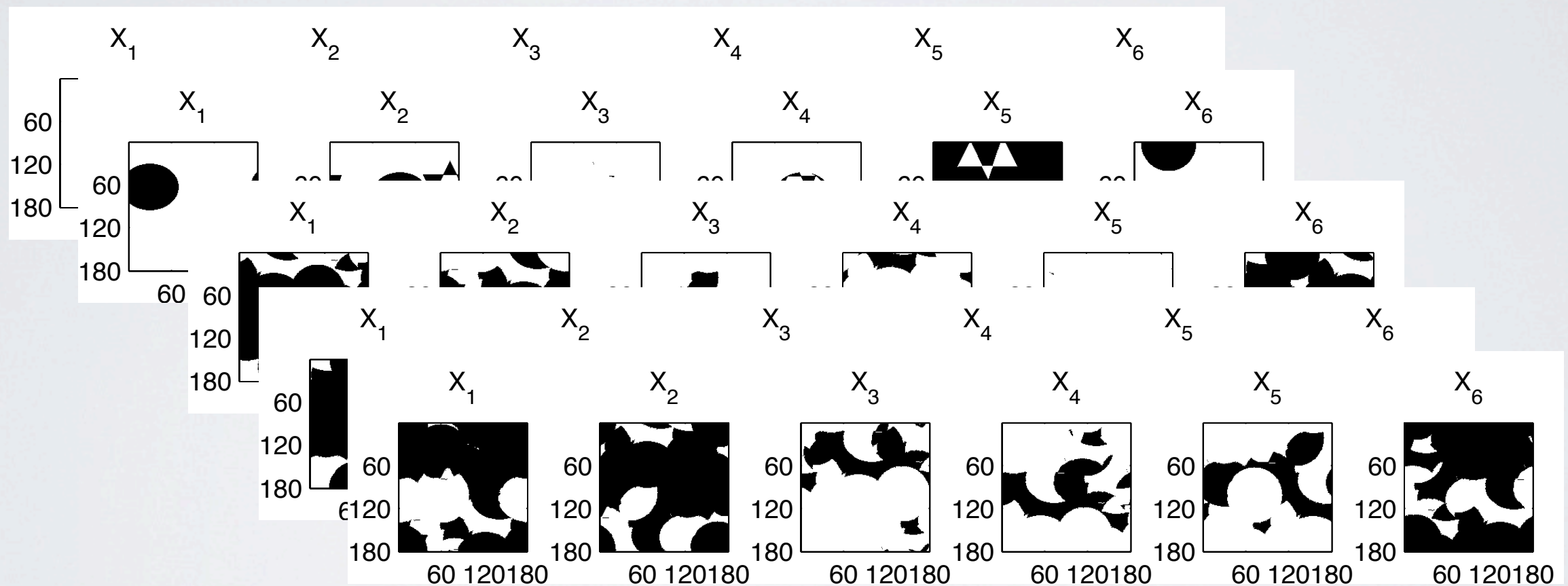
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- *Establishing consensus on set-valued data may be much more difficult*



SET-VALUED BOOLEAN DYNAMICS

- A Boolean Algebra (BA) is $(\underbrace{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}}_{\text{domain}}, \underbrace{\wedge}_{\text{meet}}, \underbrace{\vee}_{\text{join}}, \underbrace{\neg}_{\text{complement}}, \underbrace{0}_{\text{null}}, \underbrace{1}_{\text{unity}})$

$$a \vee (b \vee c) = (a \vee b) \vee c, a \wedge (b \wedge c) = (a \wedge b) \wedge c \text{ (associativity)}$$

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Theorem: A Boolean dynamic system $X(t+1) = F(X(t))$, defined over an n -dimensional vector space $P(\mathcal{X})^n$ can be *simulated* by a suitable 2^n -dimensional logical iteration system

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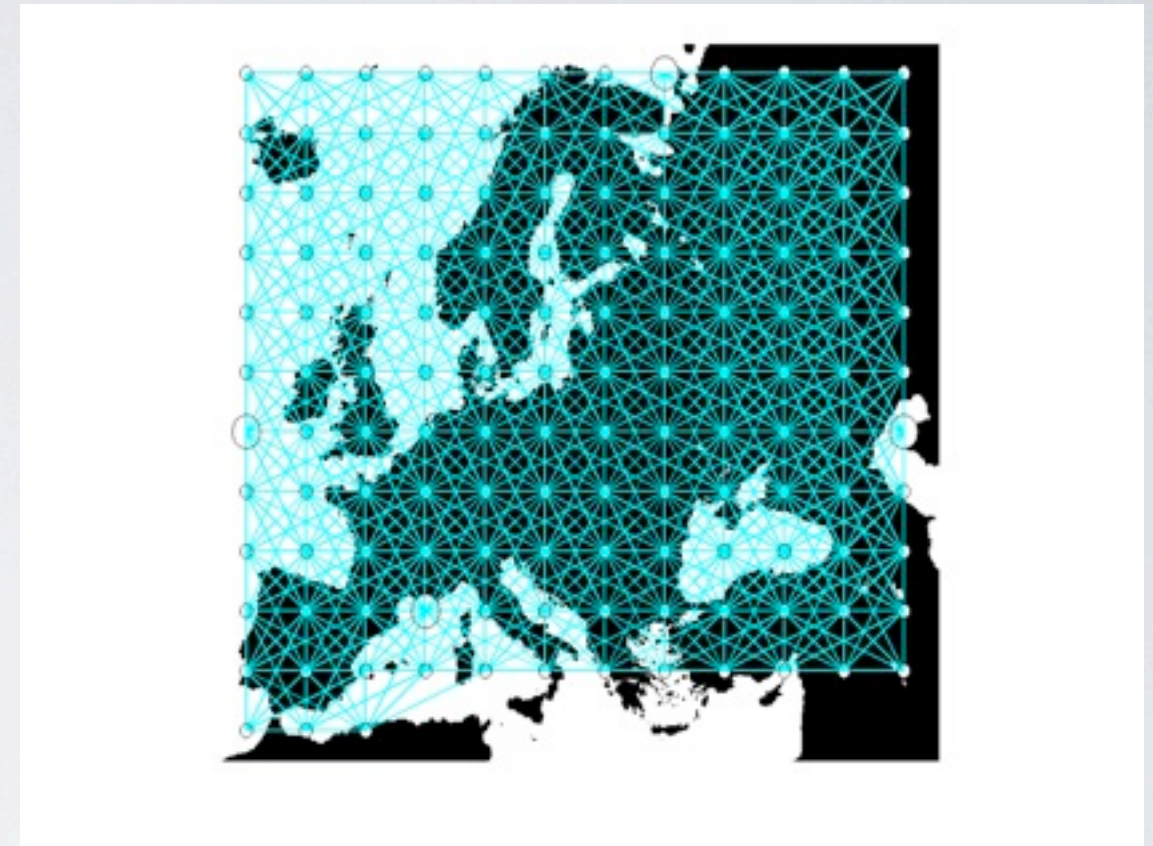
- Implications:*
- F may possess only equilibria or cycles
 - convergence study of \tilde{f} allows us to conclude also on F



GEOGRAPHICAL CHART ESTIMATION

- A large landscape environment
- Many robots with partial and noisy snapshots

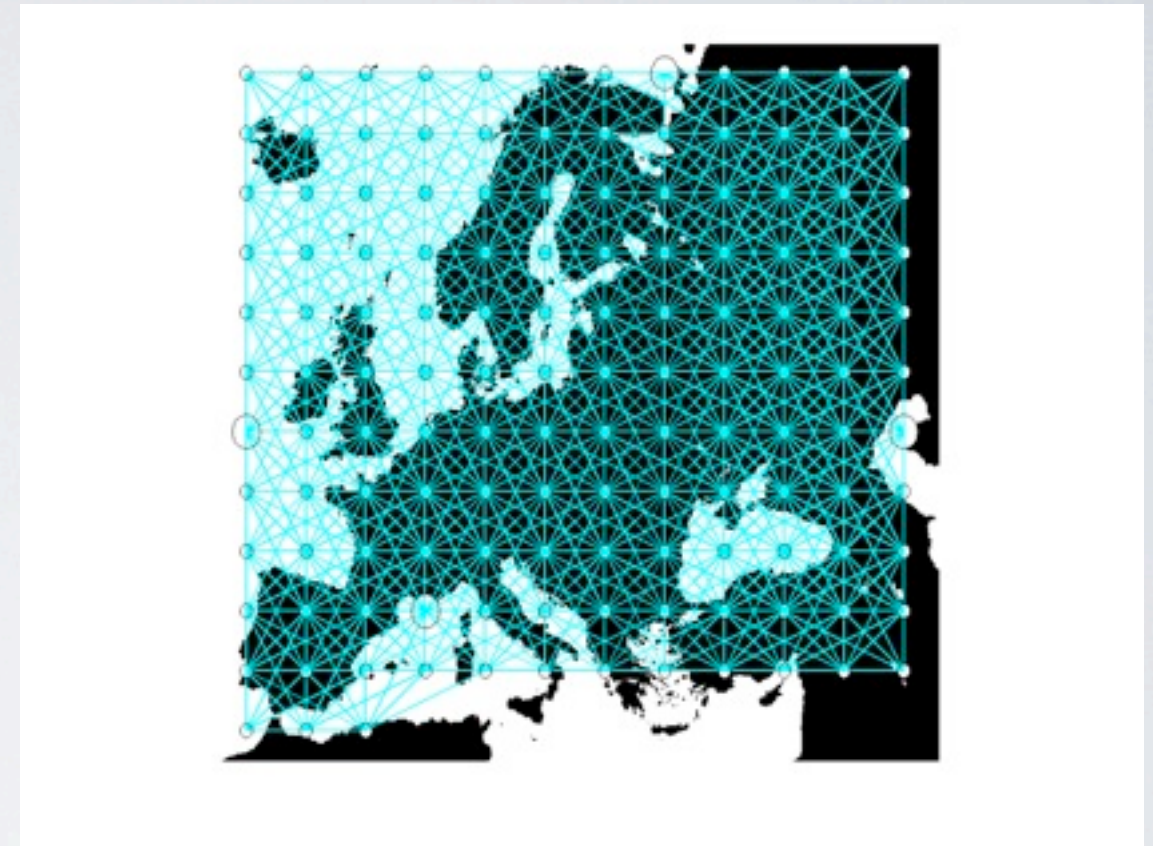
$$X_i(0) = (I_i(0), V_i(0))$$



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$$X_i(0) = (I_i(0), V_i(0))$$



- A global, consistent chart must be reconstructed only by local interaction

$$\begin{cases} I_i(t+1) &= \bigcup_{H \in S_{\gamma+1}(C_i)} \bigcap_{h \in H} (V_h(t) \cap I_h(t)) , \\ V_i(t+1) &= \bigcup_{H \in S_{\gamma+1}(C_i)} \bigcap_{h \in H} V_h(t) . \end{cases}$$

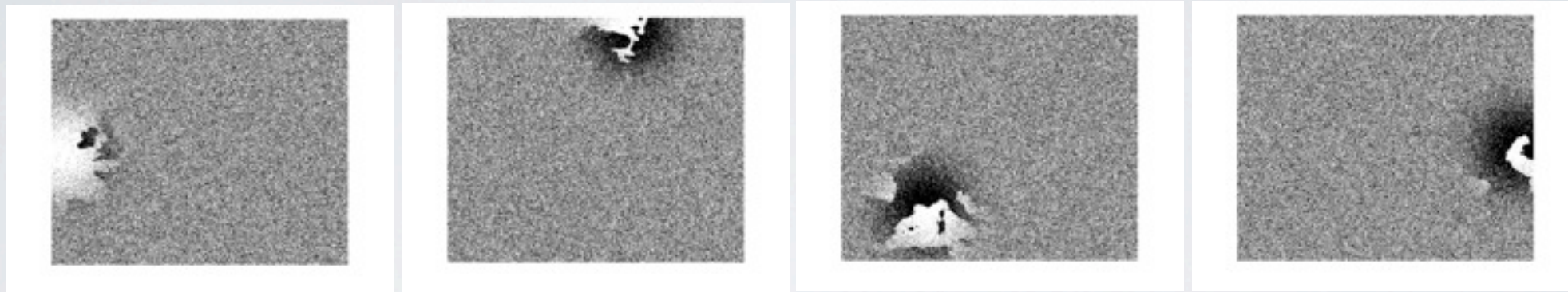
- Under suitable visibility and connectivity conditions, the image of the landscape is the unique equilibrium.



GEOGRAPHICAL CHART: SIMULATION

- Evolution of some robots' states

$t = 0$



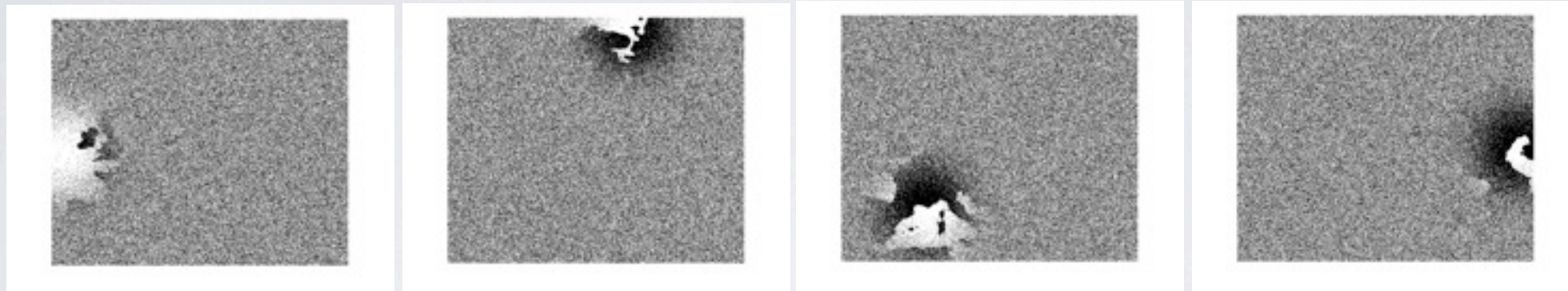
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GEOGRAPHICAL CHART: SIMULATION

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$t = 0$



$t = 2$



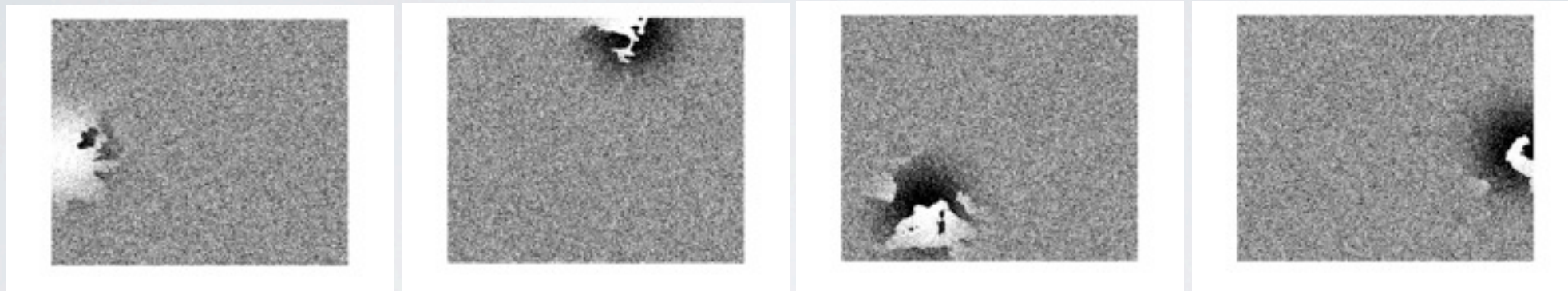
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GEOGRAPHICAL CHART: SIMULATION

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$t = 0$



$t = 2$



$t = 5$



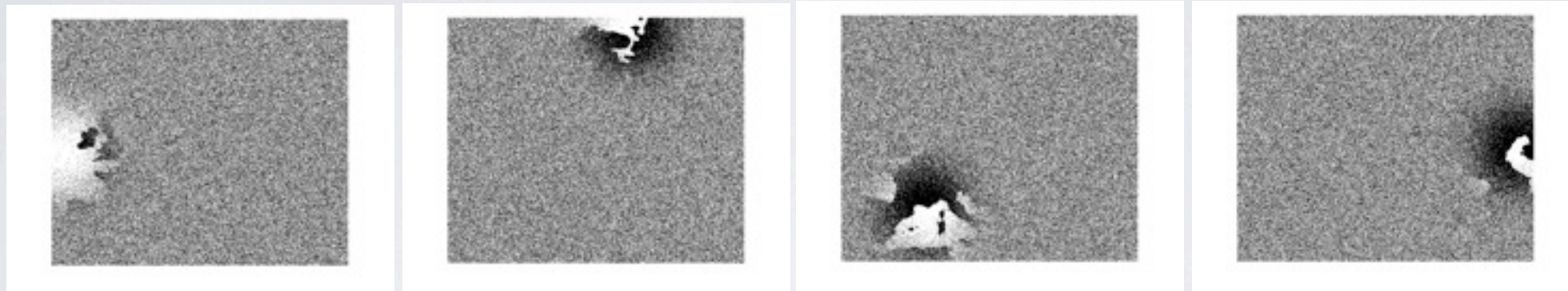
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GEOGRAPHICAL CHART: SIMULATION

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$t = 0$



$t = 11$

$t = 2$



$t = 5$



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BOOLEAN CONSENSUS FOR SOCIETIES OF ROBOTS

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