

The Waisman Laboratory  
for Brain Imaging and Behavior

University of Wisconsin  
**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

# Random Walks in the Permutation Group

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# Abstract

The permutation test is an often used test procedure in brain imaging. Unfortunately, generating every possible permutation for large-scale brain image datasets such as HCP and ADNI with thousands images is not practical. Many previous attempts at speeding up the permutation test rely on various approximation strategies such as estimating the tail distribution with known parametric distributions. In this study, we show how to rapidly accelerate the permutation test without any type of approximate strategies by exploiting the underlying topological structure of the permutation group via random walks. The method is applied to large number of magnetic resonance images in two applications: (1) localizing the male and female differences and (2) localizing the regions of high genetic heritability in the sulcal and gyral graph patterns of the human cortical brain. The talk is based on [arXiv:1812.06696](https://arxiv.org/abs/1812.06696).

# Acknowledgement

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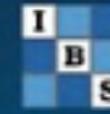
Full day course  
**Topological and Object  
Oriented Data Analysis in  
International Biometric  
Conference (IBC2020)  
COEX Seoul, Korea**

**Sunday July 5, 2020**

OODA: Steve Marron (UNC)

TDA: Yuan Wang (USC)

Computation: Moo K. Chung  
(UW-Madison)



**2020 IBC**

The 30th International Biometric Conference  
July 5-10, 2020, Seoul, Korea



# BRAIN NETWORK ANALYSIS



Moo K. CHUNG

Date: August 31, 2019

Publisher: Cambridge  
University Press

One chapter deals with  
TDA based network  
analysis

# TDA MATLAB Codes, Data & Talk Slides

[www.stat.wisc.edu/~mchung/TDA](http://www.stat.wisc.edu/~mchung/TDA)

# What is permutation test?

$$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$$

$$\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$$

$$(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = (x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

$$\pi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \in \mathbb{S}_{m+n}$$

Permutation group of order  $m+n$

$$p\text{-value} = \frac{1}{(m+n)!} \sum_{\pi \in \mathbb{S}_{m+n}} \mathcal{I}\left(f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \geq f(\pi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}))\right)$$

# History of permutation test

Fisher 1935, The Design of Experiment

$$\binom{8}{4} = 70$$

Thompson et al. 2001, Nature Neuroscience

$$\binom{40}{20} = 1.34 \cdot 10^{11}$$

*Supercomputer for  
1 million permutations*

Nichols et al. 2002, Human Brain Mapping

4279 citations

$$\binom{6}{3} = 20$$

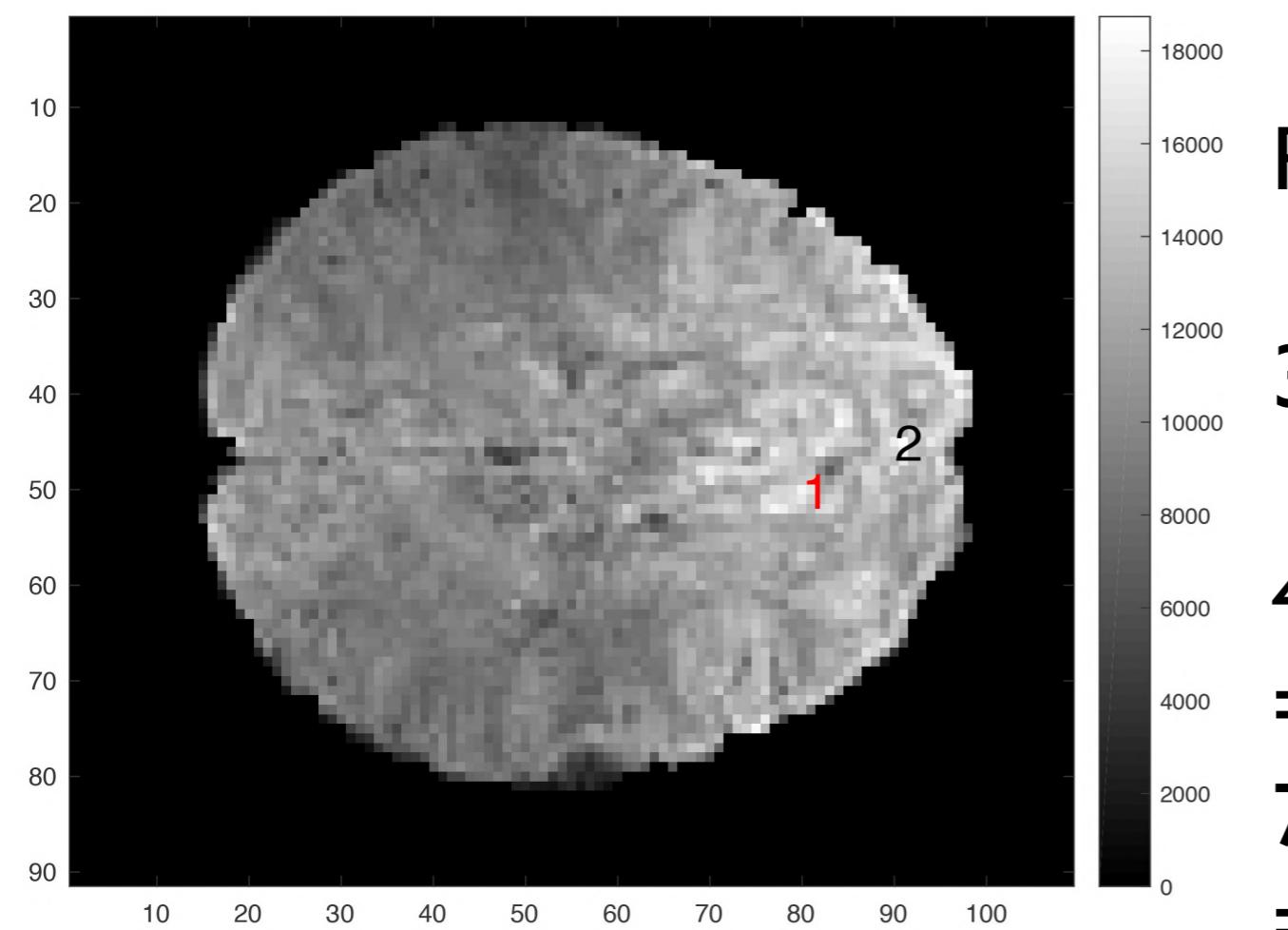
# Previous method:

## Exact topological inference

Chung et al. 2017 Information Processing in Medical Imaging

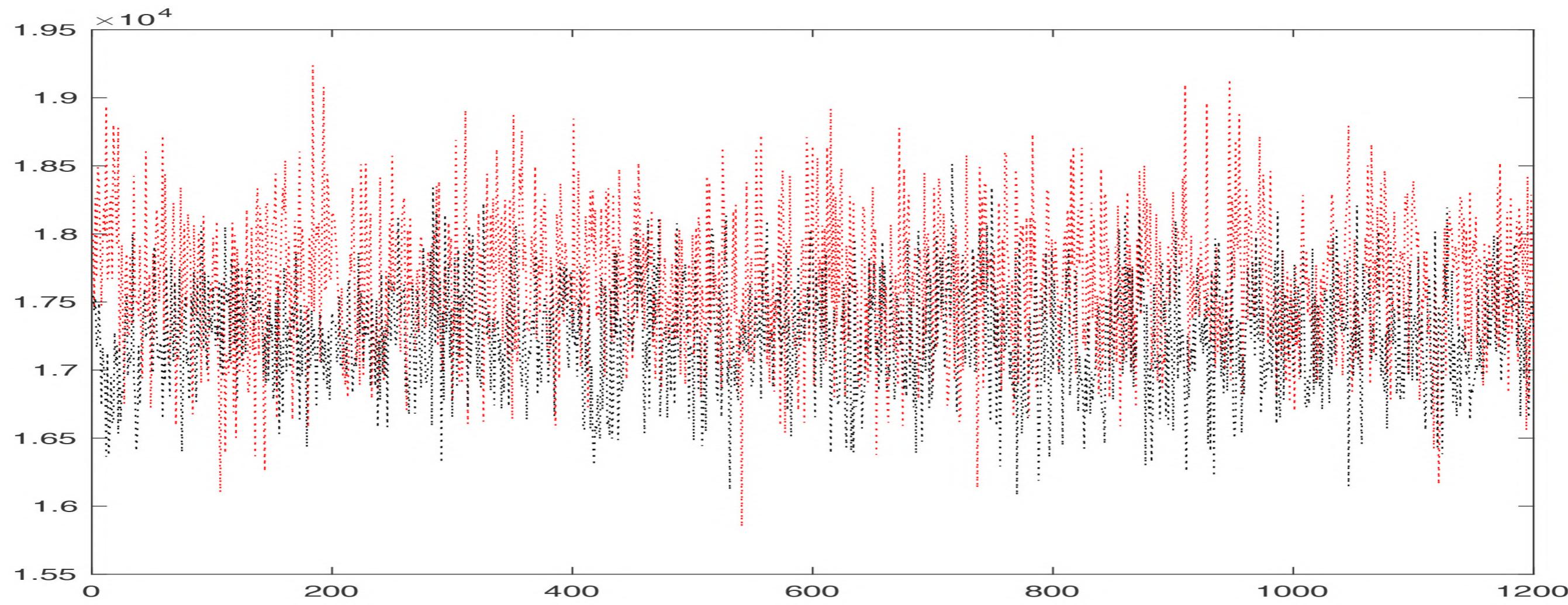
Chung et al. 2018 MICCAI

Chung et al. 2019 Network Neuroscience

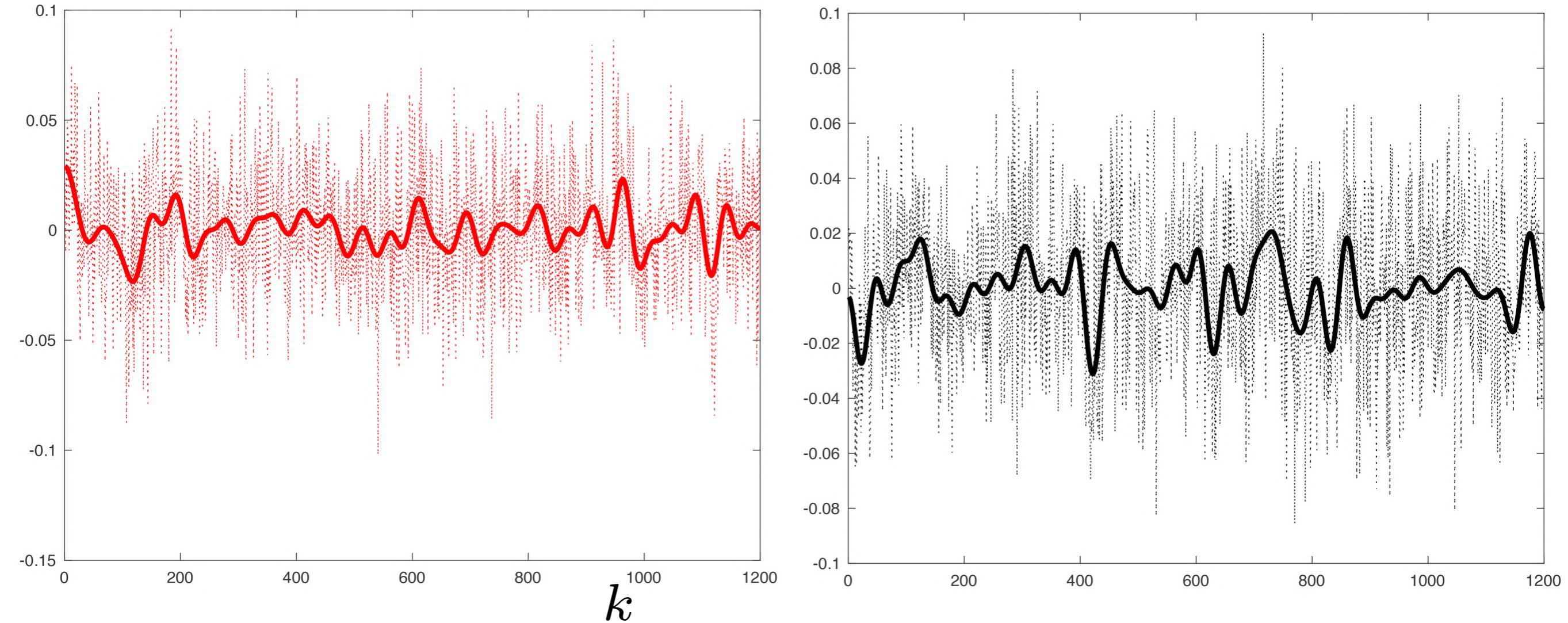


Resting-state functional-MRI at  
1200 time measured over 14min  
33 seconds.

416 subjects  
= 131 Monozygotic (MZ) twins  
77 Dizygotic (DZ) twins  
= **2GB  $\times$  416 = 832GB data**



# Cosine Series Representation

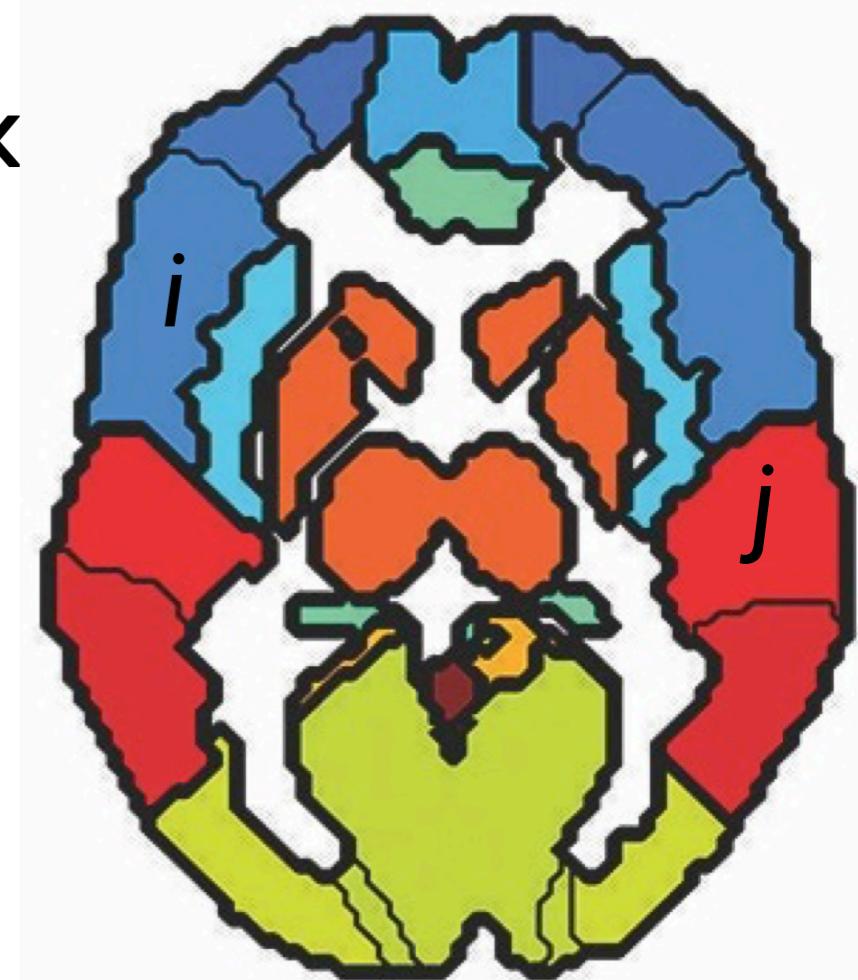
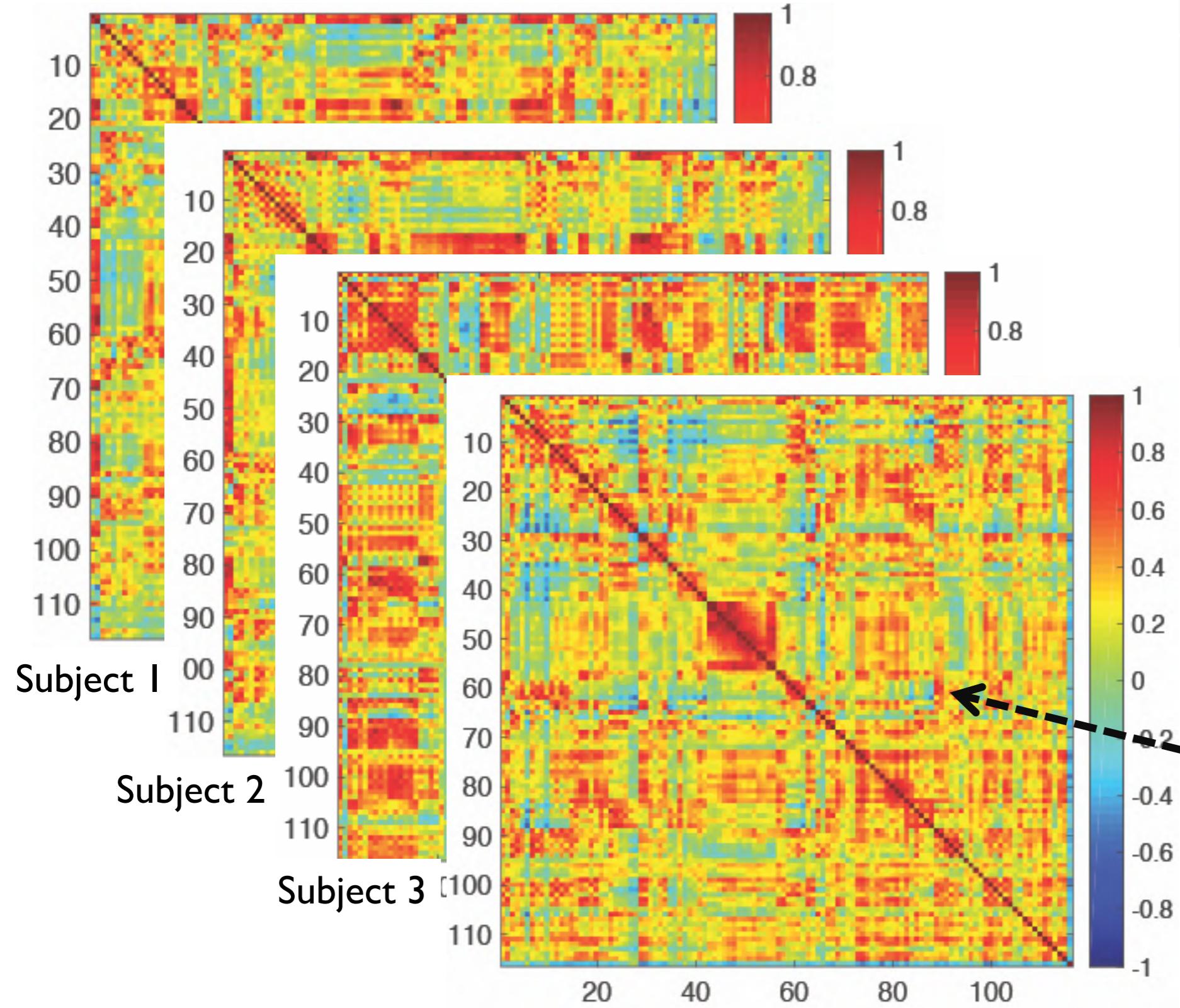


$$\zeta_i(t) = \sum_{l=0} d_{li} \psi_l(t), \quad t \in [0, 1]$$

$$\psi_0(t) = 1, \quad \psi_l(t) = \sqrt{2} \cos(l\pi t)$$

120 features  $\longrightarrow \mathbf{d}_i = (d_{0i}, d_{1i}, \dots, d_{ki})$

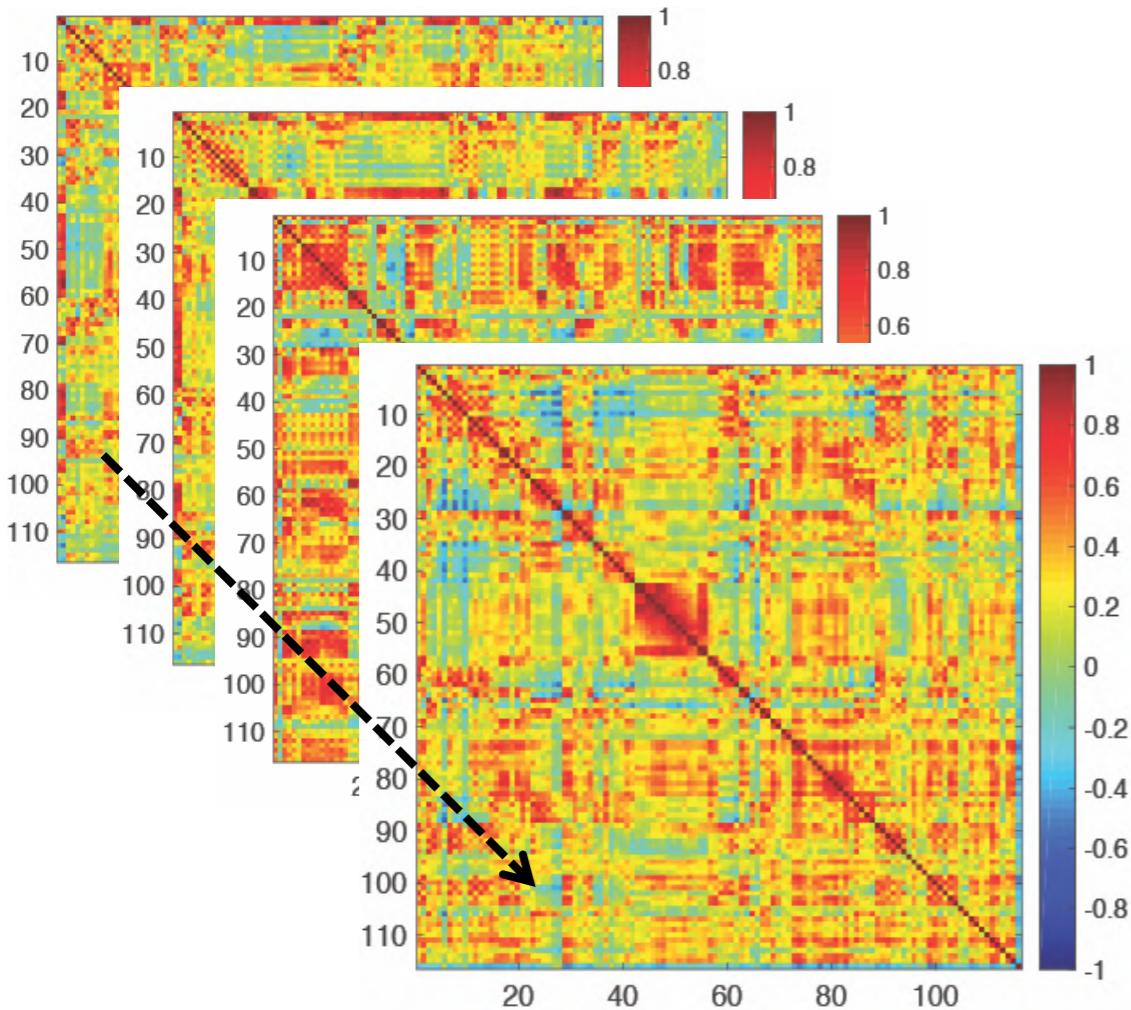
# Subject level brain connectivity matrix



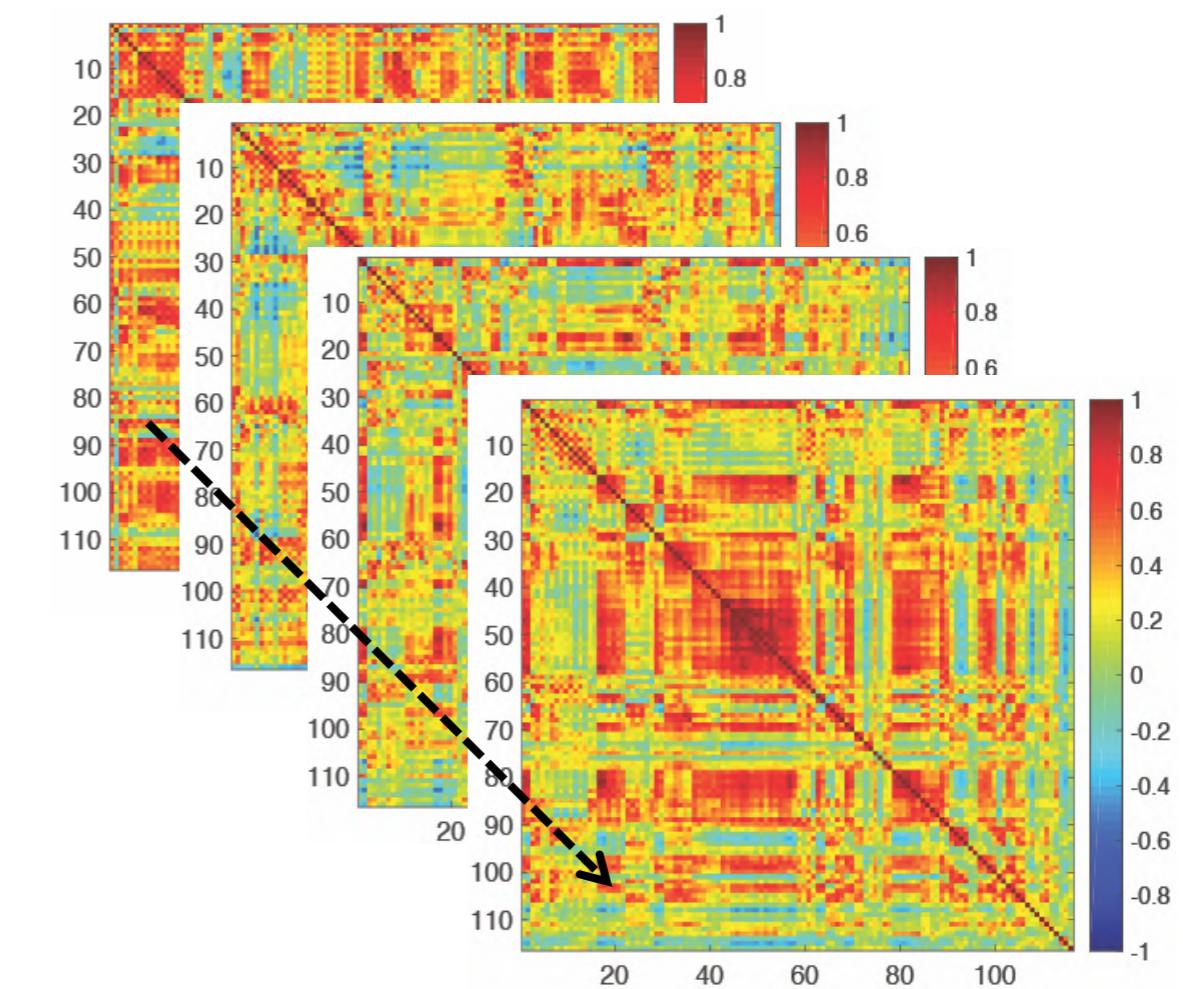
$$c_{ij} = \text{corr}(\mathbf{d}_i, \mathbf{d}_j)$$

**Correlation of  
Fourier  
coefficients**

# Correlation (group) of correlation (subject)



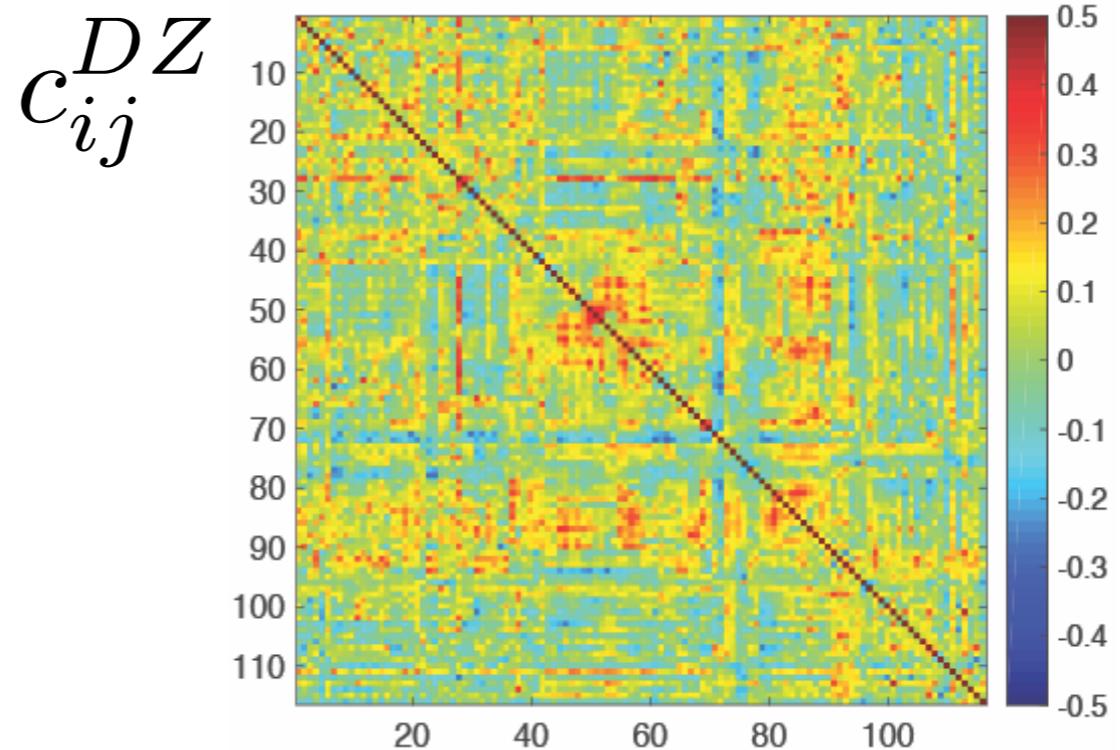
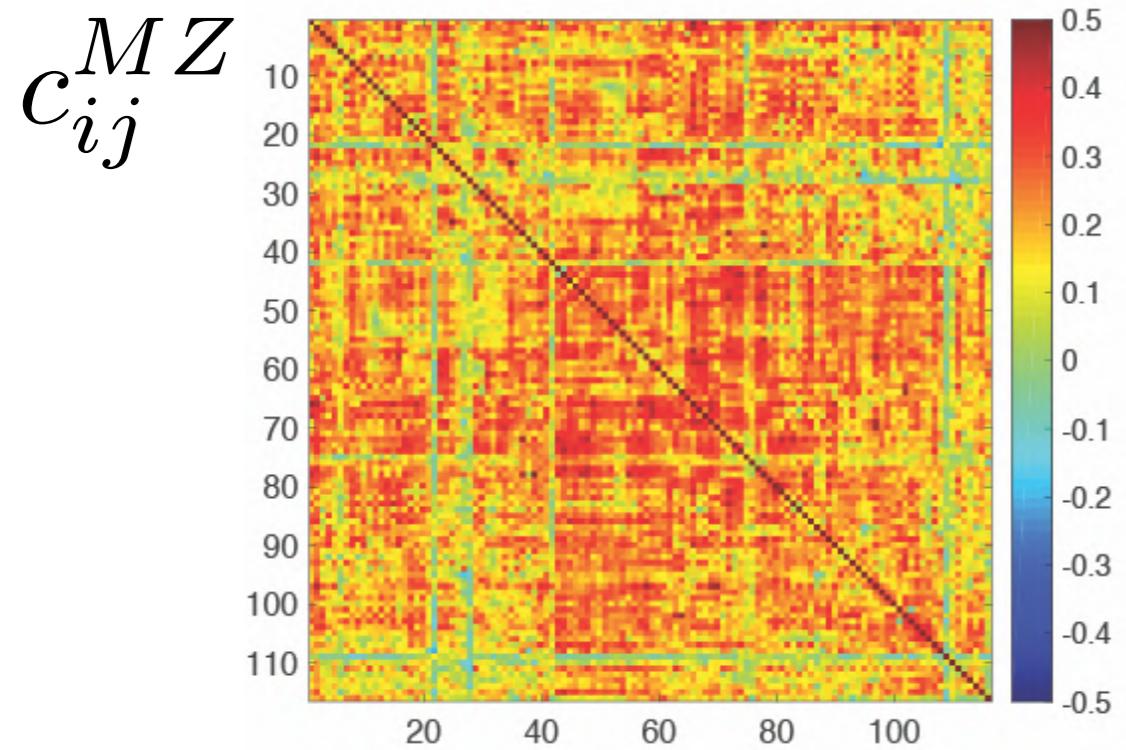
$$\mathbf{c}_{ij}^1 = (c_{ij}^{11}, \dots, c_{ij}^{1m})$$



$$\mathbf{c}_{ij}^2 = (c_{ij}^{21}, \dots, c_{ij}^{2m})$$

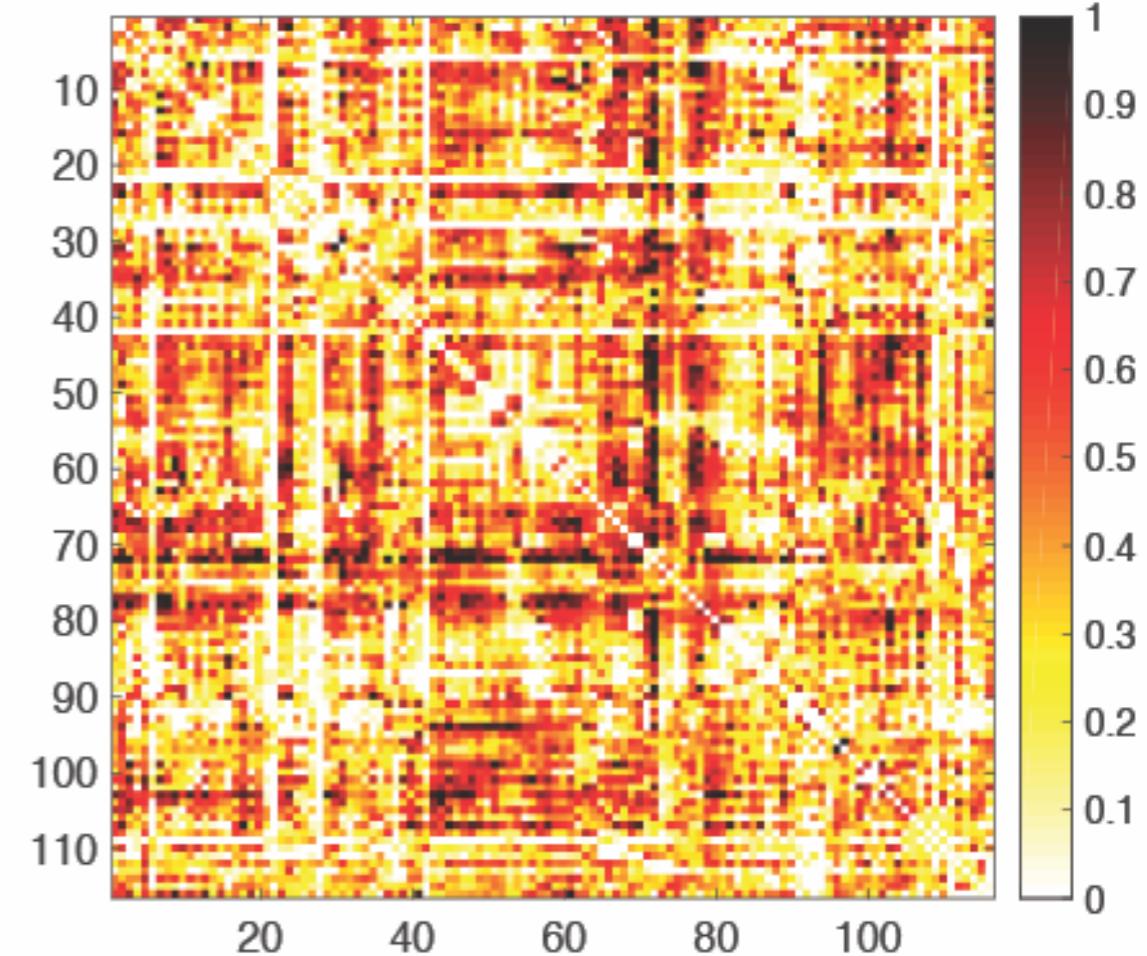
$$c_{ij}^{MZ} = \text{corr}(\mathbf{c}_{ij}^1, \mathbf{c}_{ij}^2)$$

# MZ- and DZ-twin correlation difference

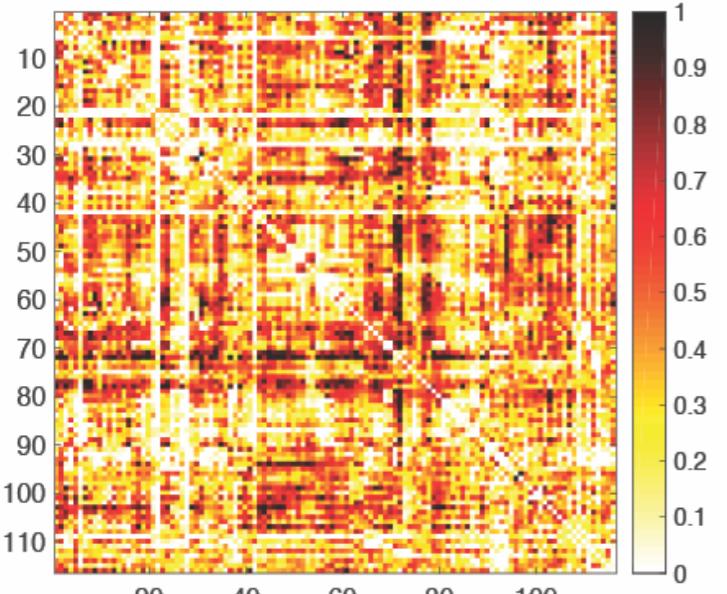


$$h_{ij} = 2(c_{ij}^{MZ} - c_{ij}^{DZ})$$

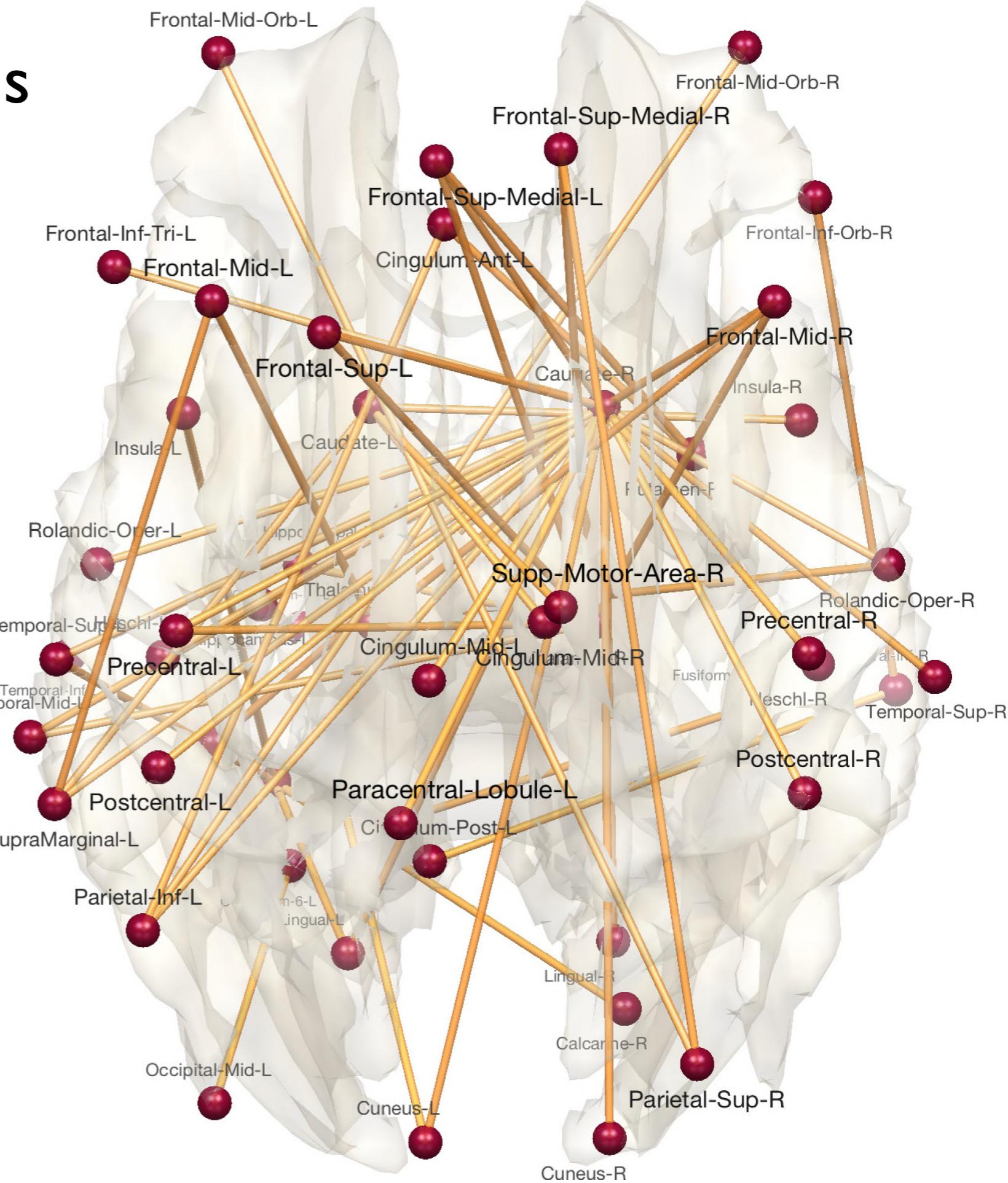
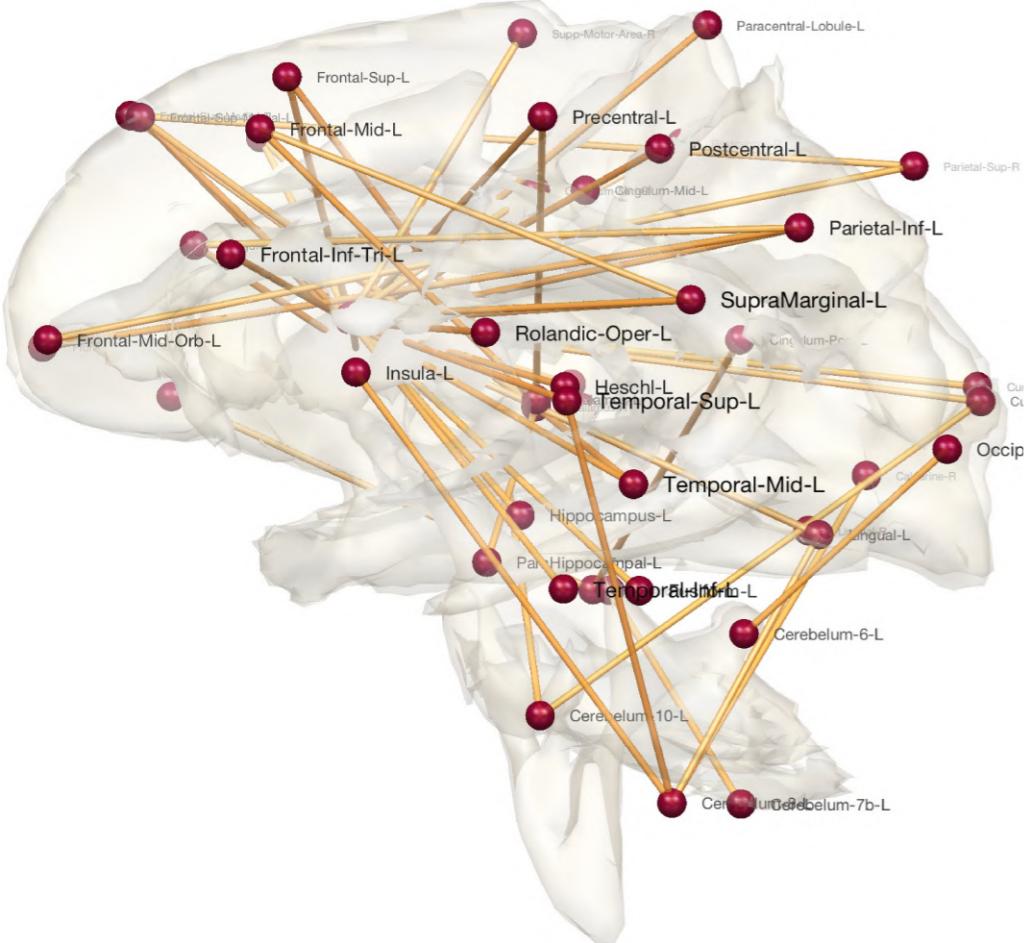
Heritability index = amount  
of genetic contribution  
(MZ- and DZ-twins)



# Heritable brain regions

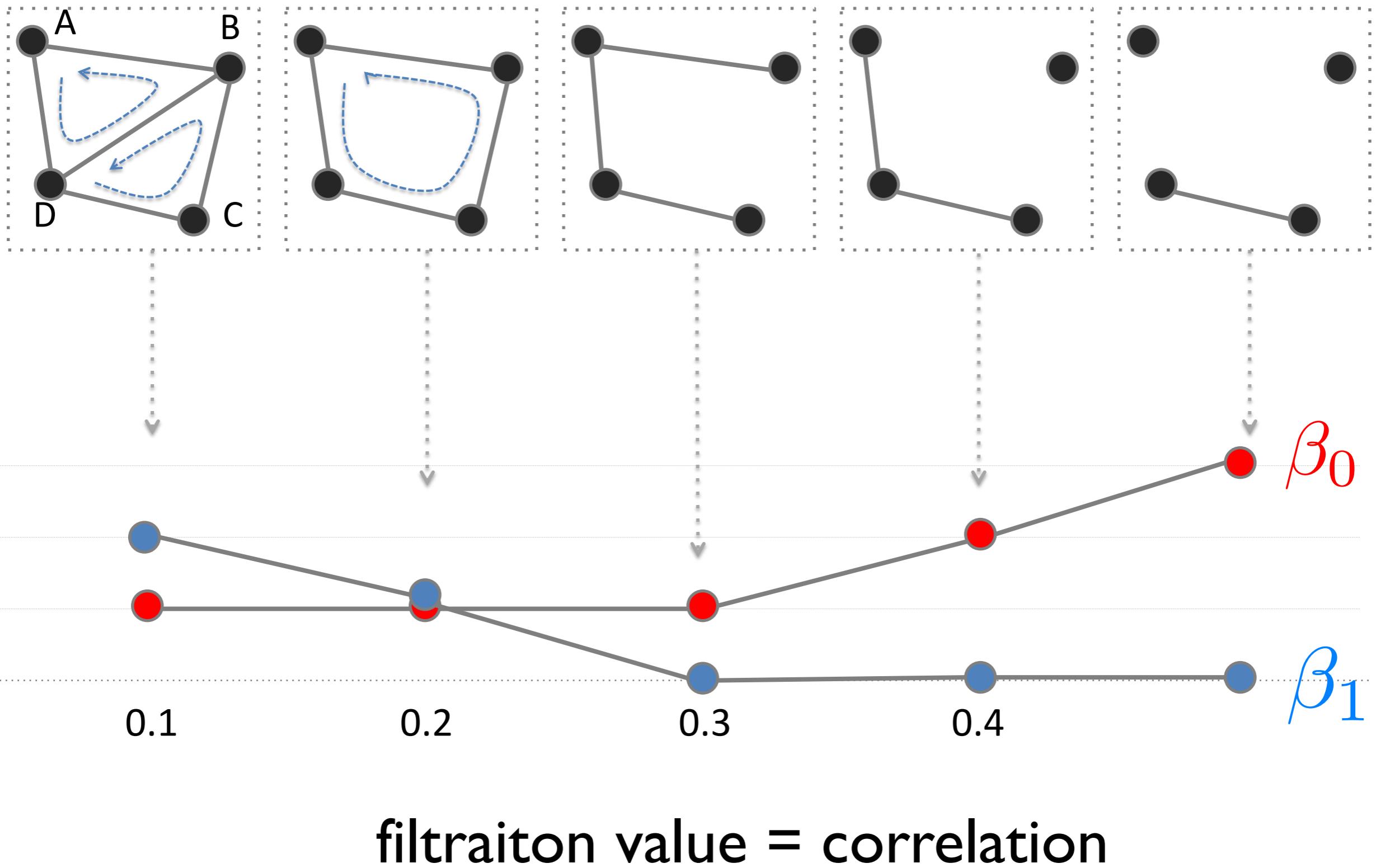


$$h_{ij} \geq 1$$



Statistical significance?

# Betti-plots



Theorem I.  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  are monotone over graph filtration.

Monotonicity of  $\beta_0$ : Deletion of edge increases the the number of connected components by at most 1.  $\beta_0$  increases by 0 or 1.

Monotonicity of  $\beta_1$ : Euler characteristic:

$$\chi = \beta_0 - \beta_1 = p - q$$

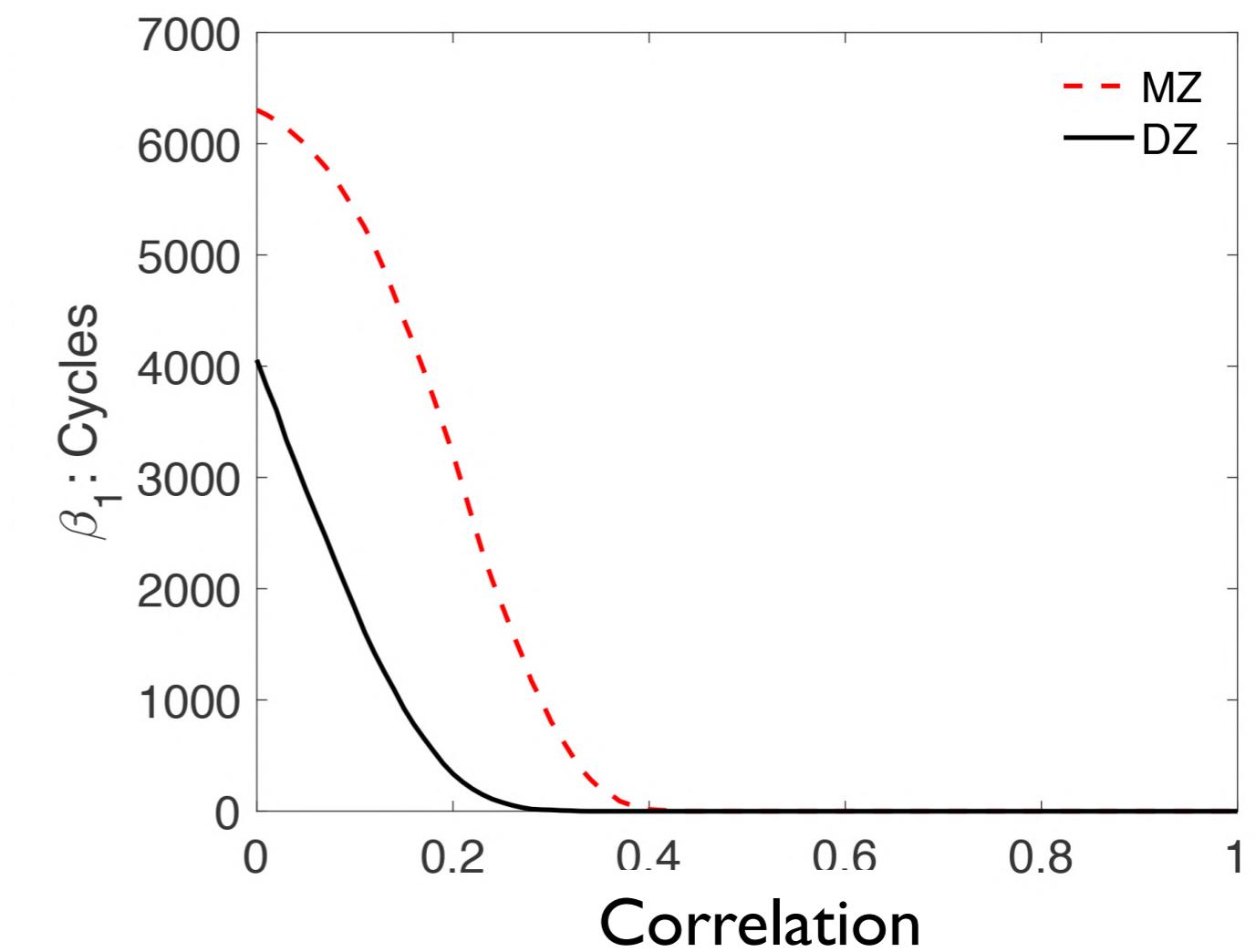
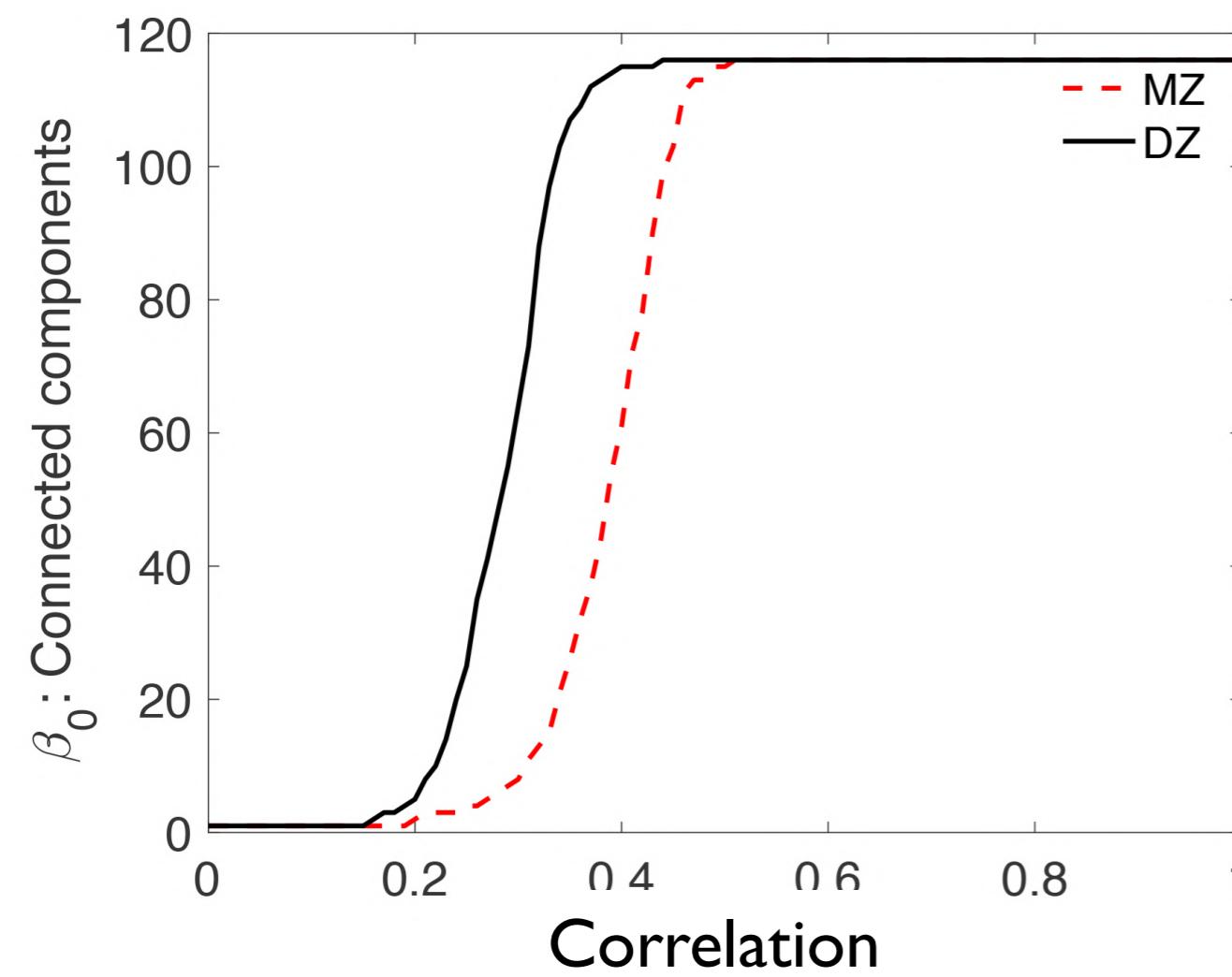
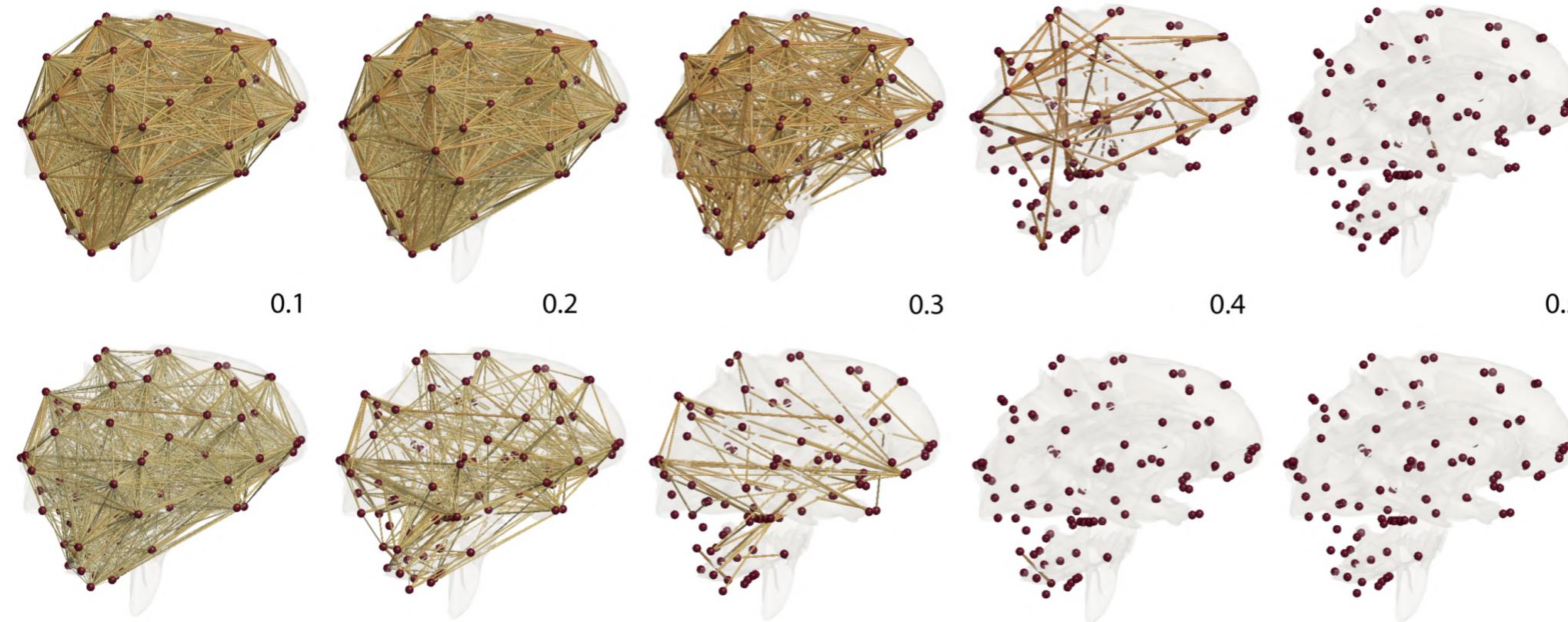
↑      ↑  
nodes    edges

$$\beta_1 = \beta_0 - p + q$$

↑      ↑      ↑      ↑  
-1, 0    0, +1    fixed    -1



# Betti-plots on graph filtration

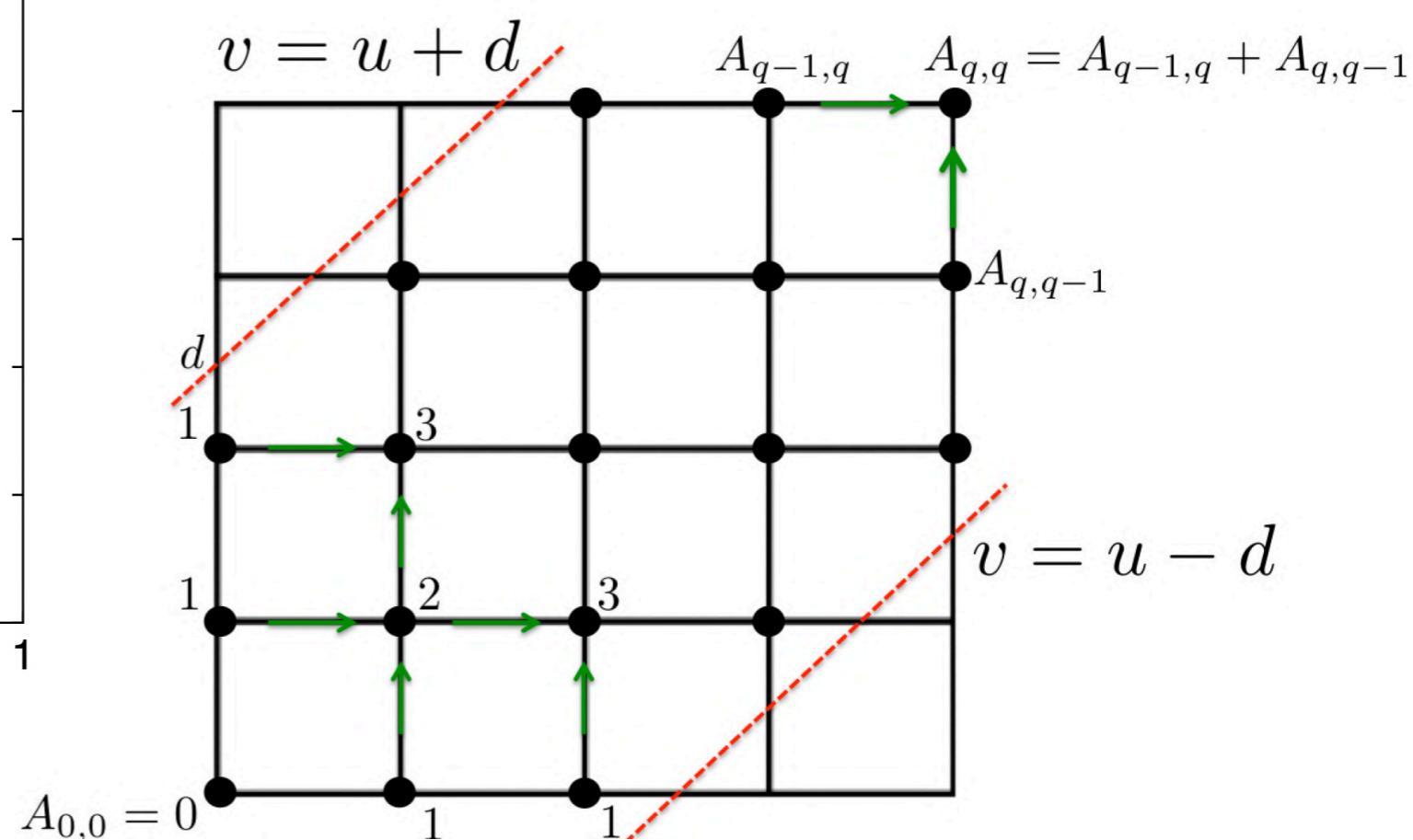
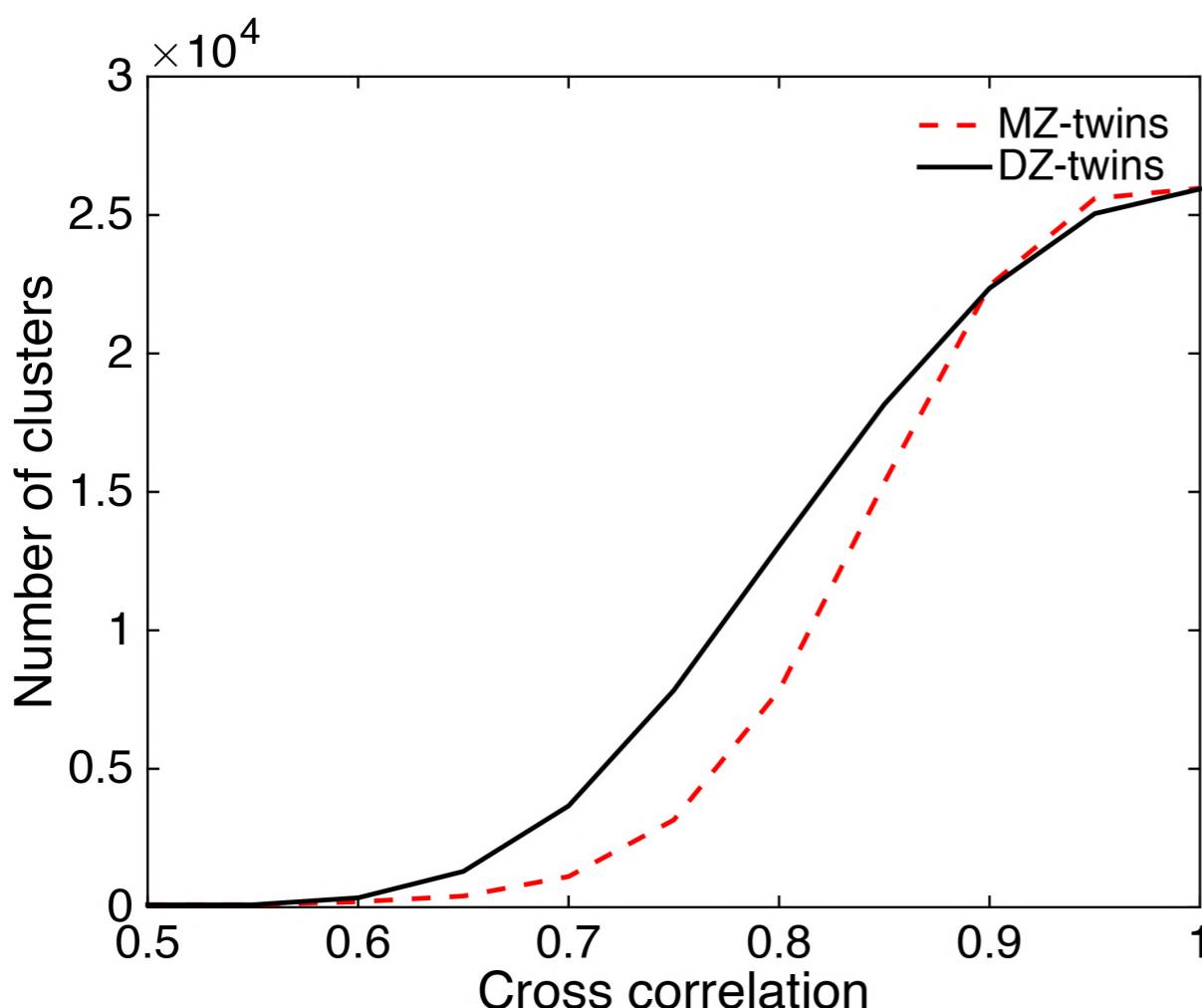


# Exact topological inference

Theorem 2.

$$D_q = \sup_{1 \leq j \leq q} |\beta_i(G_{\lambda_j}^1) - \beta_i(G_{\lambda_j}^2)|$$

$$P(D_q \geq d) = 1 - \frac{A_{q,q}}{\binom{2q}{q}}$$



$$\lim_{q \rightarrow \infty} P\left(D_q / \sqrt{2q} \geq d\right) = 2 \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{i-1} e^{-2i^2 d^2}$$

New approach

Rapid acceleration  
via slow random  
walks

*Chung et al. 2019 [arXiv:1812.06696](#)*

## Random walk on the permutation group

$$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}, \underset{\text{red circle}}{x_i}, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_m)$$

transpose  $i$ -th and  $j$ -th data

$$\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{j-1}, \underset{\text{red circle}}{y_j}, y_{j+1}, \dots, y_n)$$



$$\pi_{ij}(\mathbf{x}) = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}, \underset{\text{red circle}}{y_j}, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_m)$$

$$\pi_{ij}(\mathbf{y}) = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{j-1}, \underset{\text{red circle}}{x_i}, y_{j+1}, \dots, y_n)$$

# Online computation of statistic over transposition

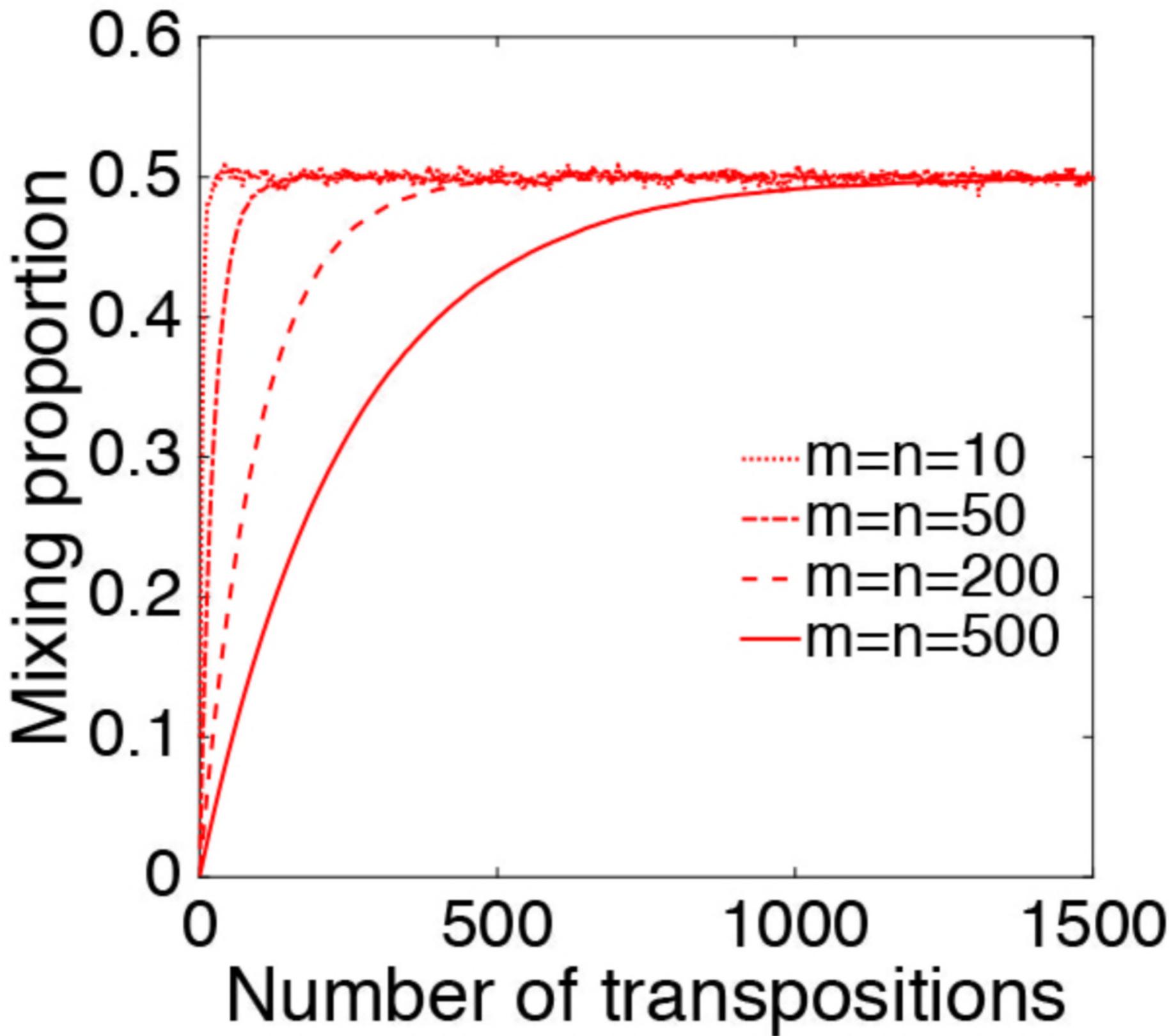
$$f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \xrightarrow{\text{-----}} f(\pi_{ij}(\mathbf{x}), \pi_{ij}(\mathbf{y}))$$

Theorem 3. If the test statistic is algebraic, there exists a function  $g$  such that

$$f(\pi_{ij}(\mathbf{x}), \pi_{ij}(\mathbf{y})) = g(f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}), x_i, y_i)$$

where computational complexity of  $g$  is constant.

Theorem 4. Any permutation in  $S_{m+n}$  can be reachable by a sequence of walks.



# Online computation

$$\mu(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m x_k \quad \text{Transpose } i\text{-th and } j\text{-th} \quad \mu(\mathbf{y}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^n y_k$$

$\longleftrightarrow$

$$m\mu(\pi_{ij}(\mathbf{x})) = m\mu(\mathbf{x}) + y_j - x_i \quad \mathcal{O}(2)$$
$$\mathcal{O}(n)$$

Transpose  
 $i$ -th and  $j$ -th

$$\sigma^2(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{m-1} \sum_{k=1}^m (x_k - \mu(\mathbf{x}))^2$$
$$\sigma^2(\mathbf{y}) = \frac{1}{m-1} \sum_{k=1}^n (y_k - \mu(\mathbf{y}))^2 \quad \mathcal{O}(3m+2)$$
$$(m-1)\sigma^2(\pi_{ij}(\mathbf{x})) = \mathcal{O}(9)$$

$$(m-1)\sigma^2(\mathbf{x}) + \left( (m\mu(\mathbf{x}))^2 - (m\mu(\pi_{ij}(\mathbf{x})))^2 \right) / m + y_j^2 - x_i^2$$

# Computational Complexity

$$T(\pi_{ij}(\mathbf{x}), \pi_{ij}(\mathbf{y})) = \frac{\left( \frac{\nu(\pi_{ij}(\mathbf{x}))}{m} - \frac{\nu(\pi_{ij}(\mathbf{y}))}{n} \right)}{\sqrt{\frac{\omega^2(\pi_{ij}(\mathbf{x}))+\omega^2(\pi_{ij}(\mathbf{y}))}{m+n-2} \left( \frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{n} \right)}}$$

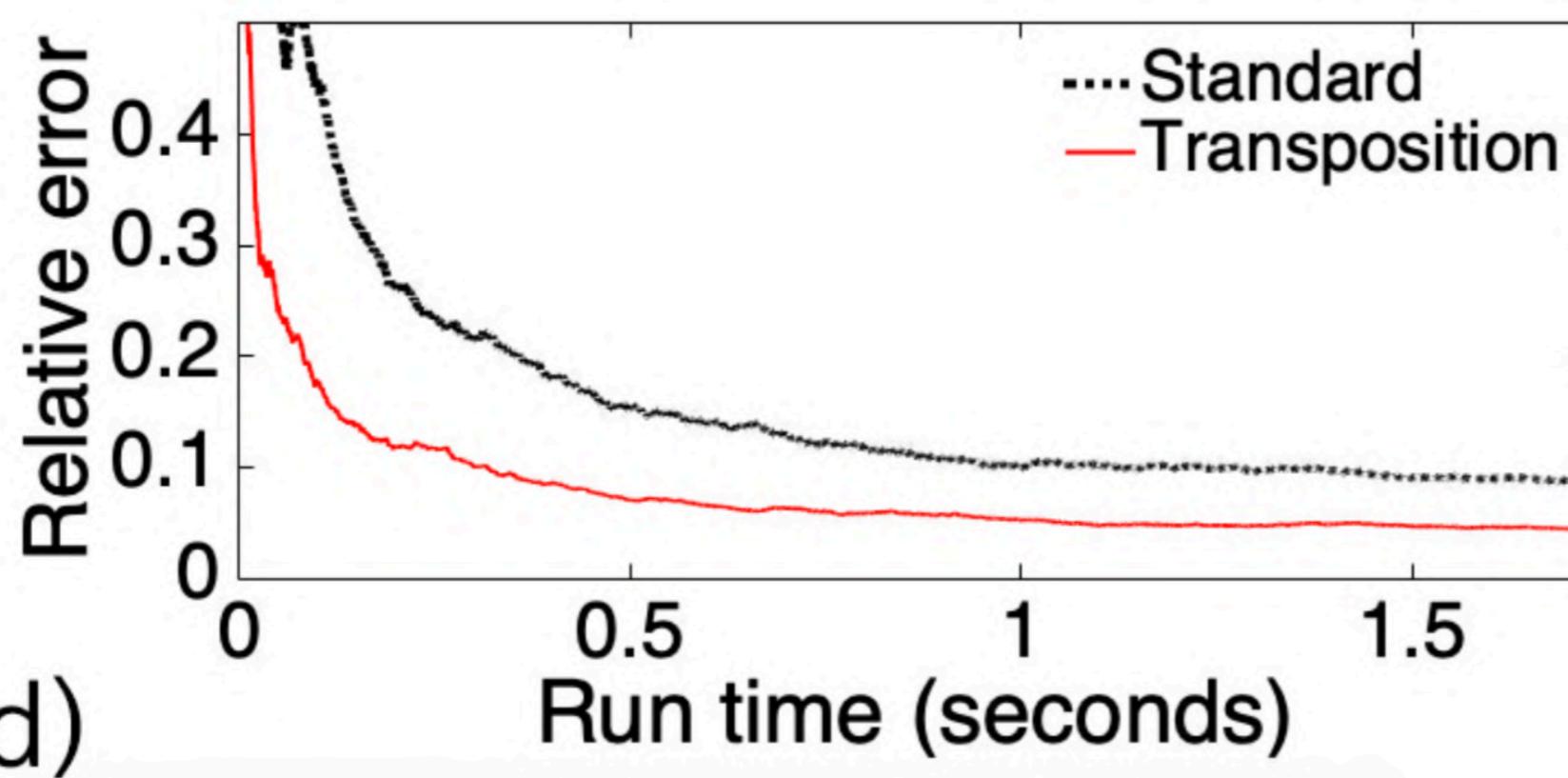
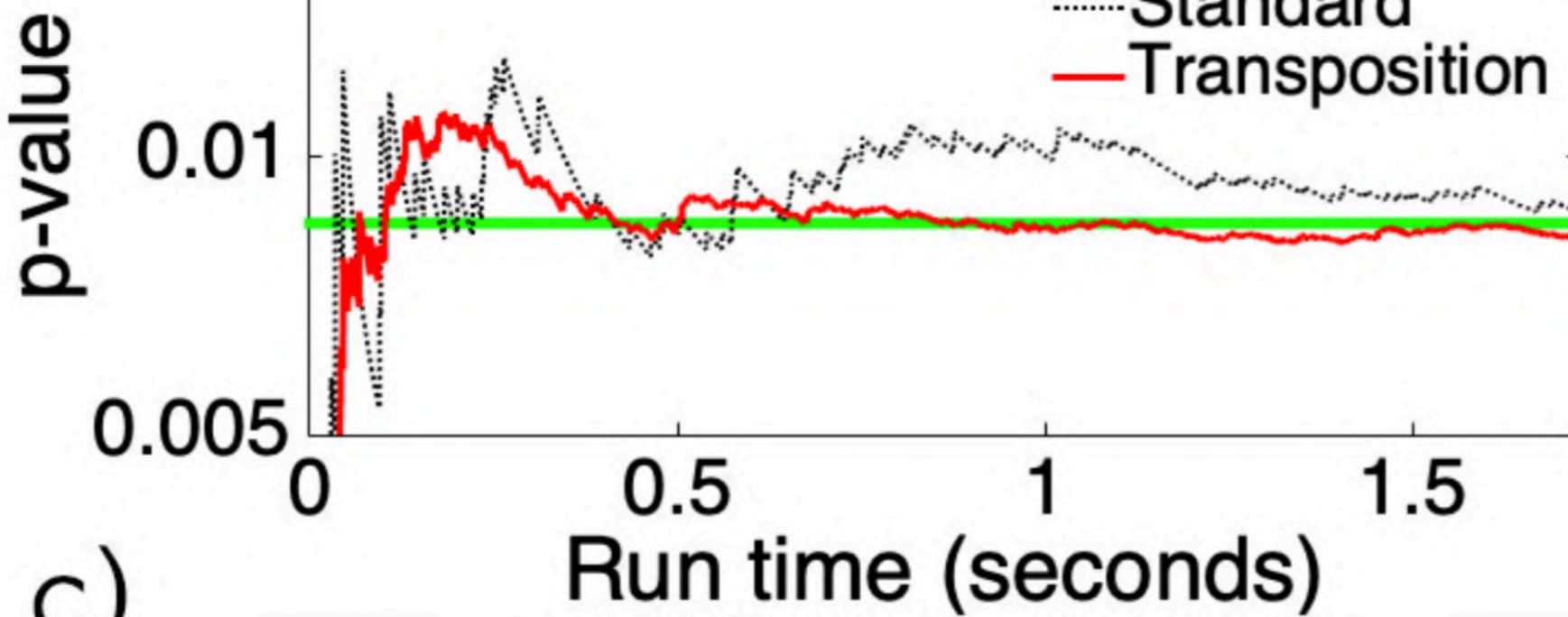
T-stat computation per permutation  
Standard method:  $\mathcal{O}(4m+4n+20)$   
Our approach:  $\mathcal{O}(35)$

# Simulation

$$x_1, \dots, x_m \sim N(0, 1)$$

$$y_1, \dots, y_n \sim 0.1 + N(0, 1)$$

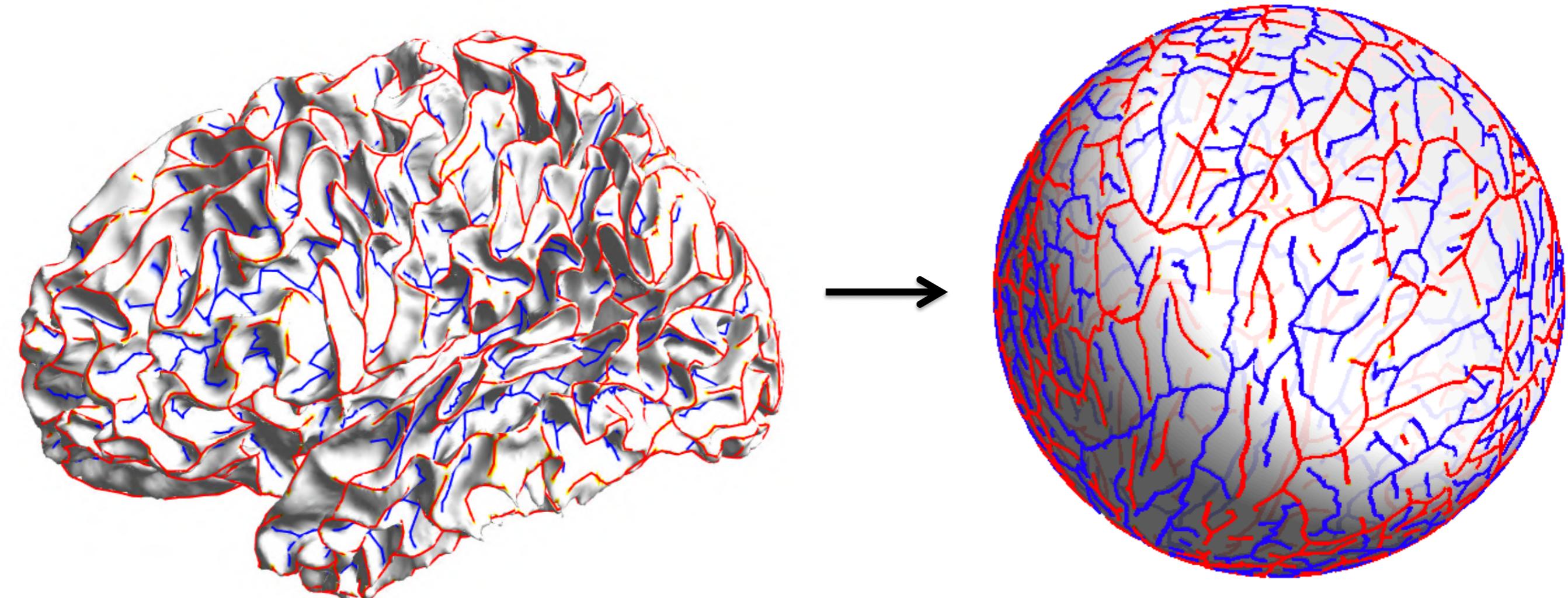
$$m=n=100$$



Sulcal and gyral  
graphs on brain  
cortical surface

Sulci = mountain regions of the brain (**red**)

Gyri = valley regions of the brain (**blue**)

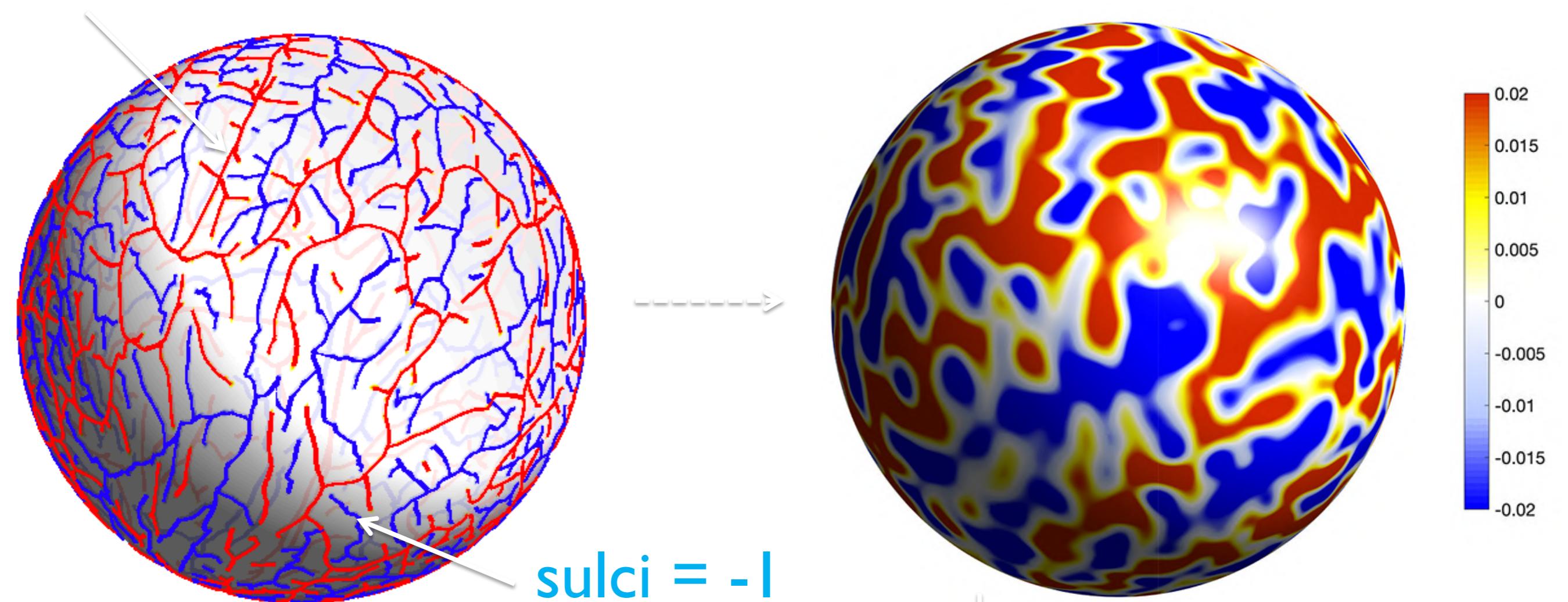


White matter  
surface

Sulcal/gyral graphs  
on manifold

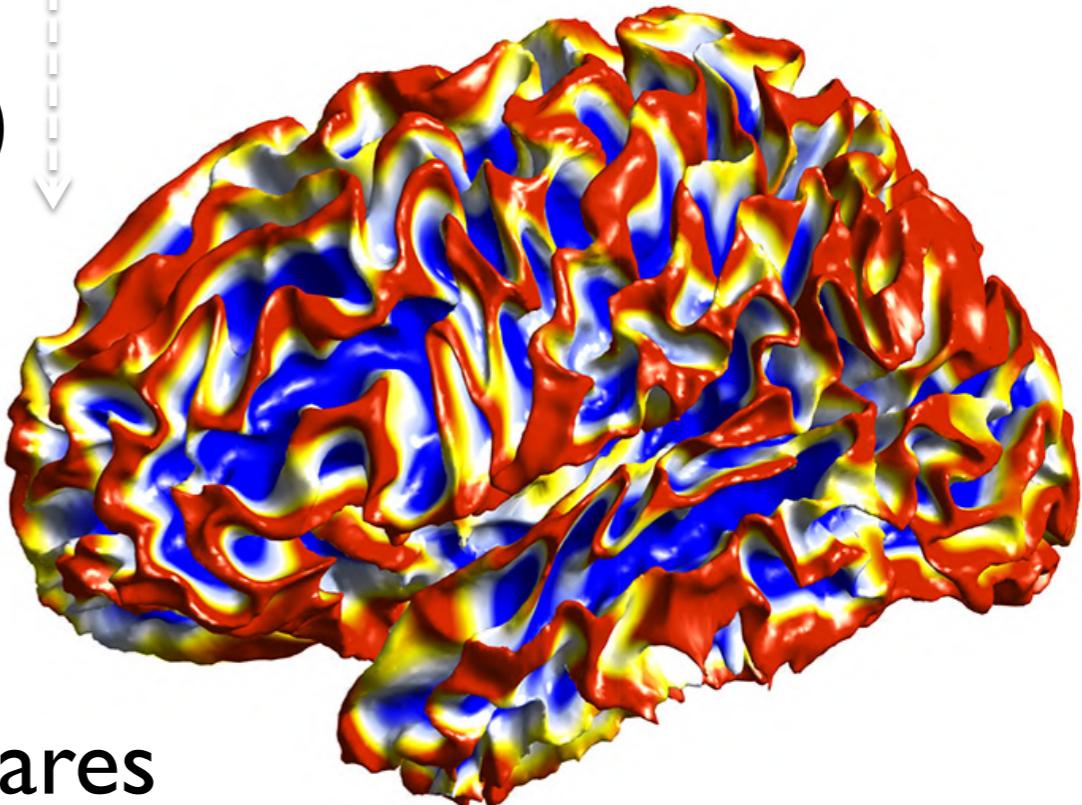
**gyri=+1**

# Heat kernel smoothing (Chung et al. 2007 IEEE TMI)



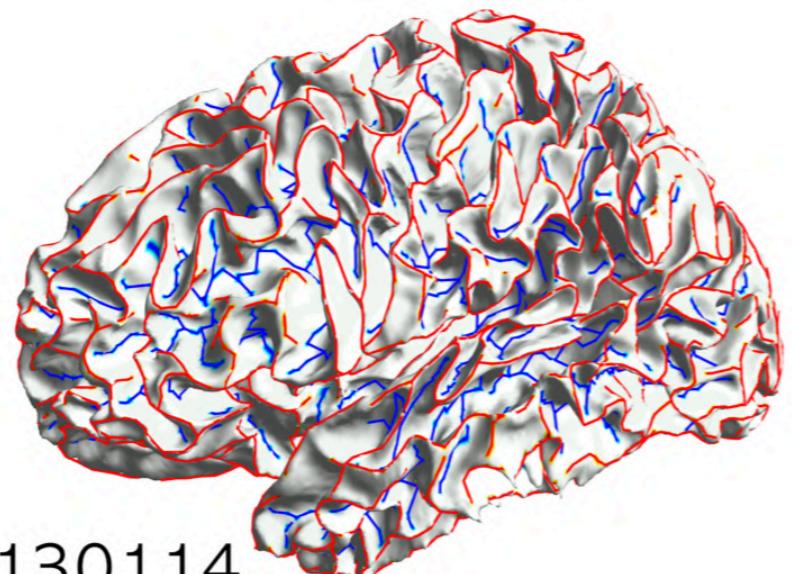
$$\frac{dg(p, t)}{dt} = \Delta_p g(p, t) \quad g(p, t = 0) = f(p)$$

$$g(p, t) = \sum_{l=0}^{100} \sum_{m=-l}^l f_{lm} e^{-l(l+1)t} Y_{lm}(p)$$

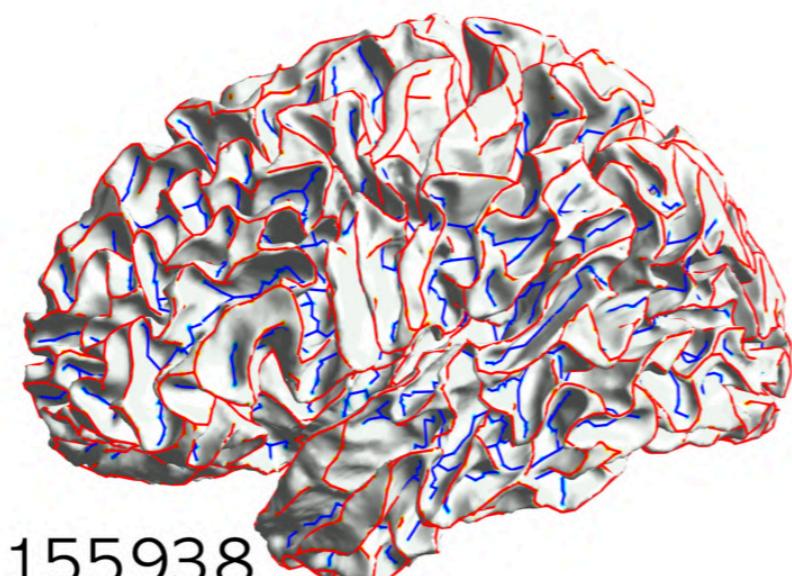
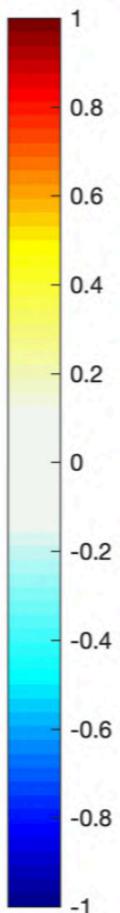
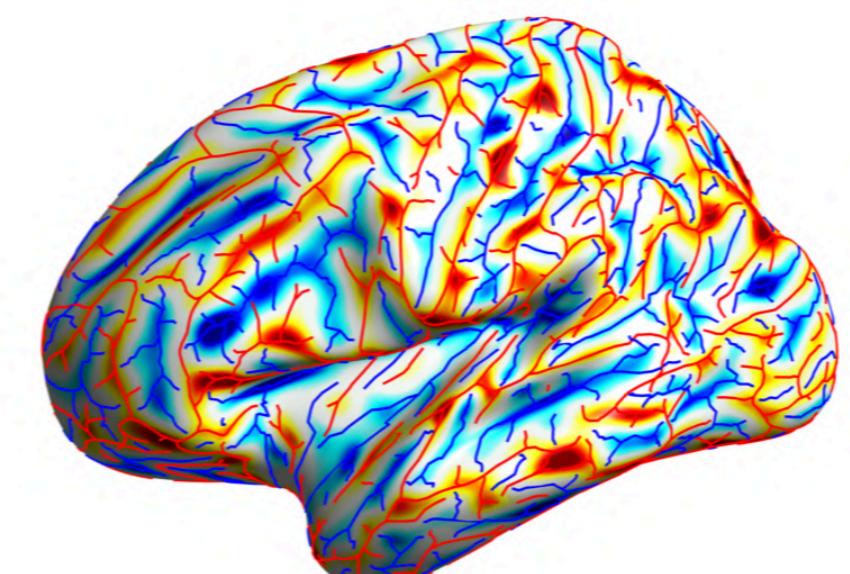
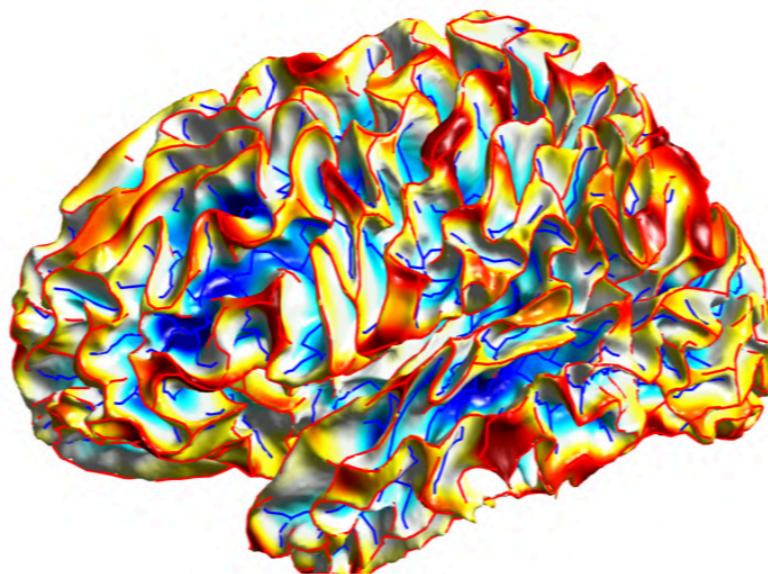


10201 parameters estimated via least squares

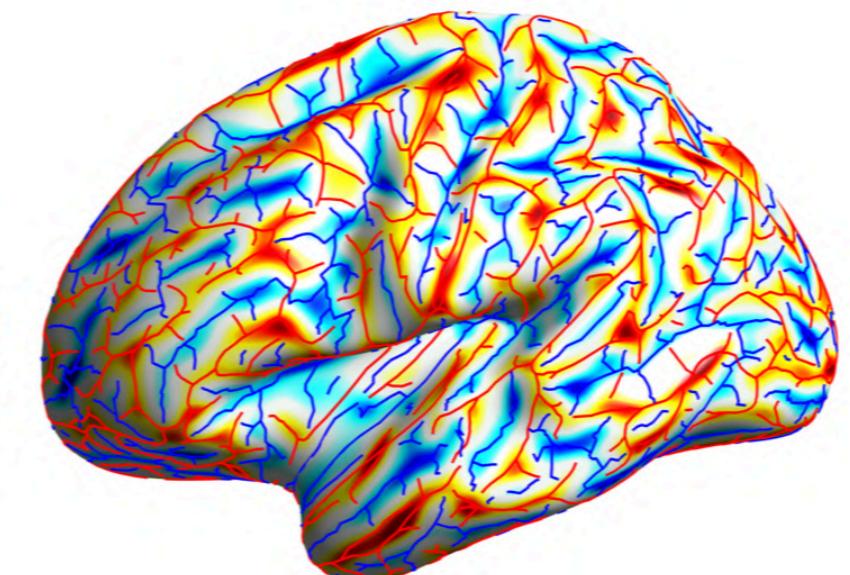
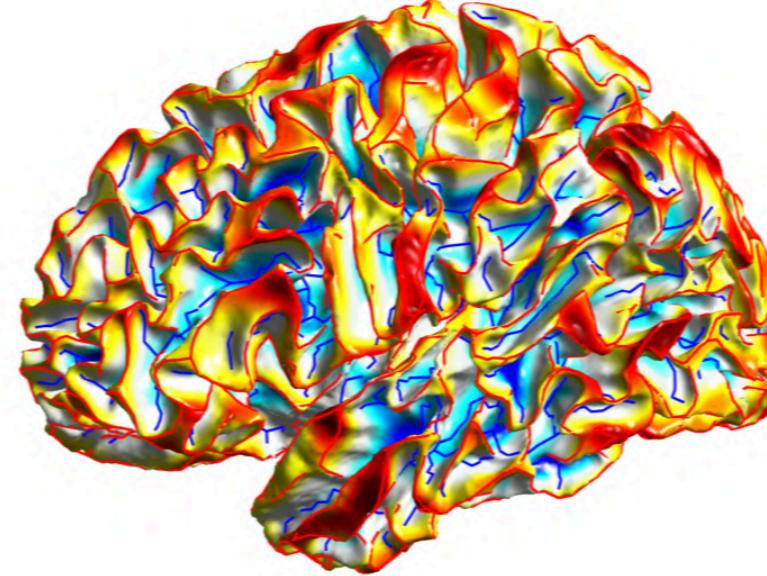
# Heat kernel smoothing



130114



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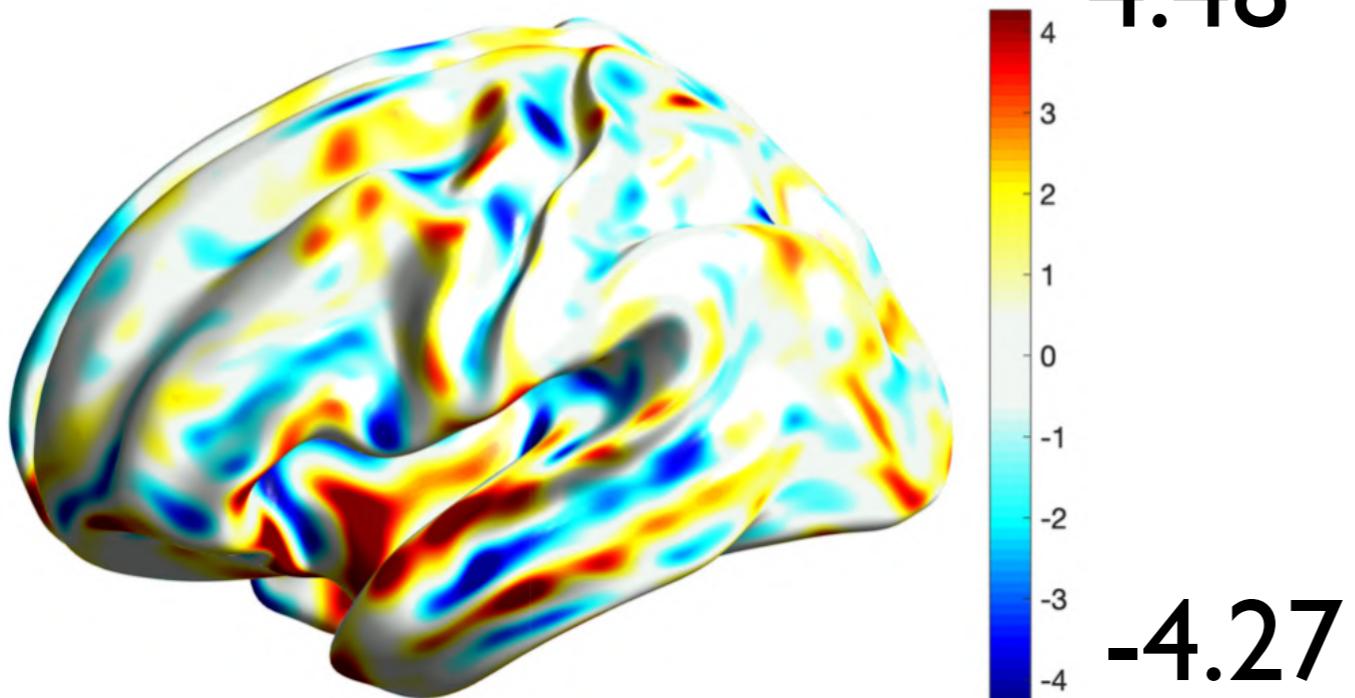
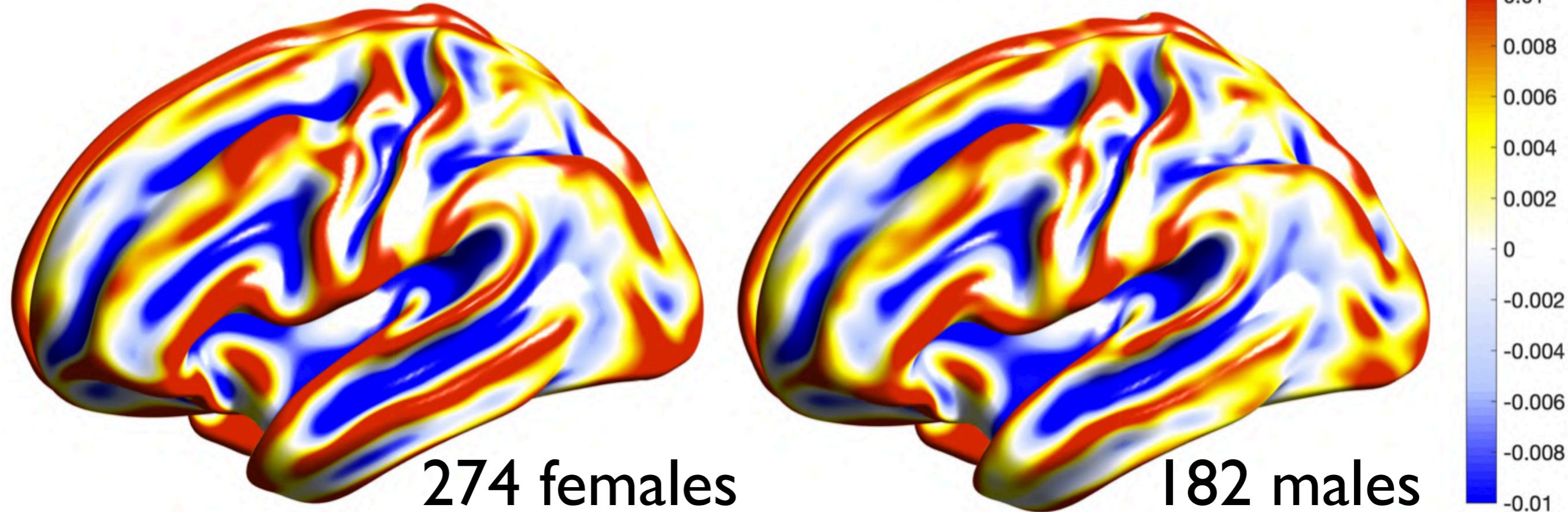


Sulcal/gyral graphs

Heat kernel smoothing

Surface flattening

# Group mean differences



t-statistic (thresholds at  
corrected pvalue of 0.05)

Our method: **40min.**  
Standard methods: **18 days**



Thank you!

Question? [mkchung@wisc.edu](mailto:mkchung@wisc.edu)