



CCS 2025
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CLIMATE-INDUCED DELAY PROPAGATION IN RAIL NETWORKS AS A NON-MARKOVIAN PROCESS

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COMPLEX MULTILAYER NETWORKS

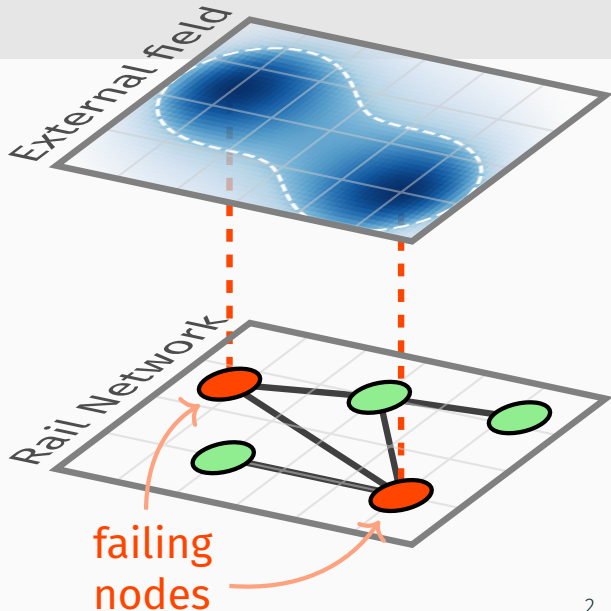
FRAMEWORK

3 ingredients for this soup:

- Infrastructure: complex topology embedded in space
- Dynamical model
- External climate stressors

Research Question

Interaction between human-made systems and natural external stressors.



MODEL THE SYSTEM PERTURBATIONS

Non-Markovian *propagation*
model with *generation* and
absorption processes

$$\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{t} + \mathbf{1}) = \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{t})\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{t}) + \beta\mathbf{g} - \gamma\mathbf{c}$$

$\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{t}) \rightarrow$ *perturbation state* vector
defined at each node/edge

Real world application:

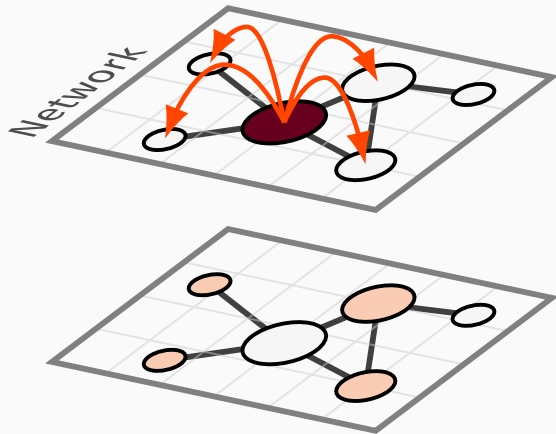
- 🕒 *Delay propagation on a*
- 🚆 *railway system influenced by*
- ☁️ *rainfalls*

MODEL – DIFFUSION PROCESS

The diffusion process ruled by the **network topology**

$$\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{t} + 1) = \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{t})\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{t}) + \beta\mathbf{g} - \gamma\mathbf{c}$$

$\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{t})$ transfer probability



MODEL – GENERATION PROCESS

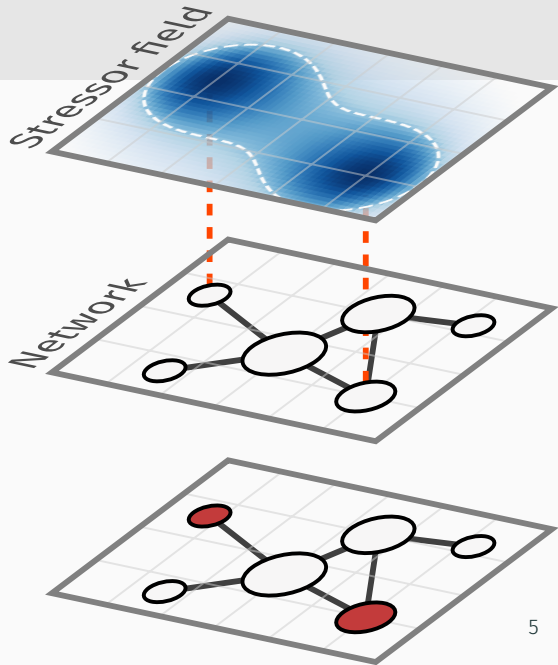
The generation process ruled by the **external stressor field** (rain)

$$\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{t} + \mathbf{1}) = \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{t})\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{t}) + \beta\mathbf{g} - \gamma\mathbf{c}$$
$$\mathbf{g} = (\mathcal{W}(\mathbf{t}) \odot \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{t}))\mathbf{1}$$

β generation rate

$\mathcal{W}(\mathbf{t})$ e.g. trains traversing each link

$\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{t})$ e.g. amount of rain experienced at each link



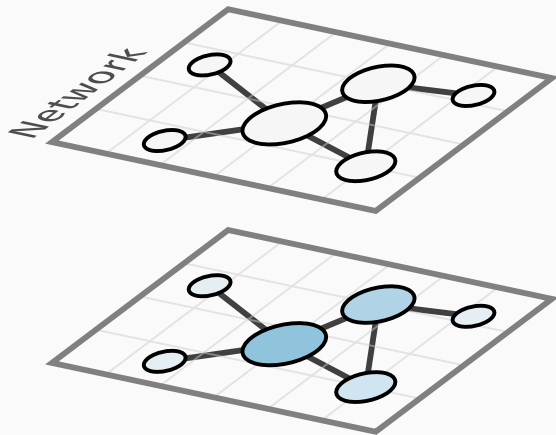
MODEL – ABSORPTION PROCESS

The absorption process ruled by the **local capacity** to absorb delays

$$\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{t} + \mathbf{1}) = \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{t})\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{t}) + \beta\mathbf{g} - \gamma\mathbf{c}$$

γ absorption rate

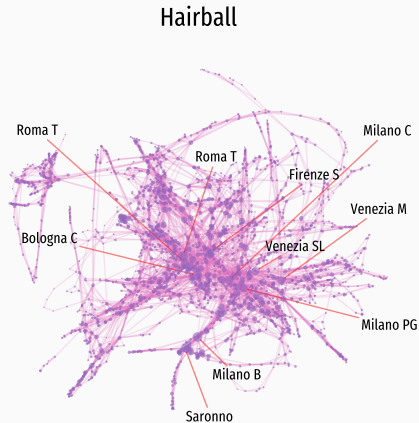
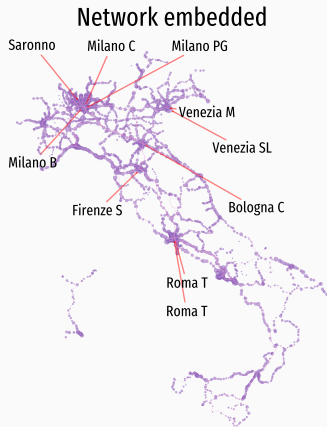
$\mathbf{c}$ station capacity





DATA — NETWORK

- Network of stations connected by direct trains.
- Shapes and locations from OpenStreetMap

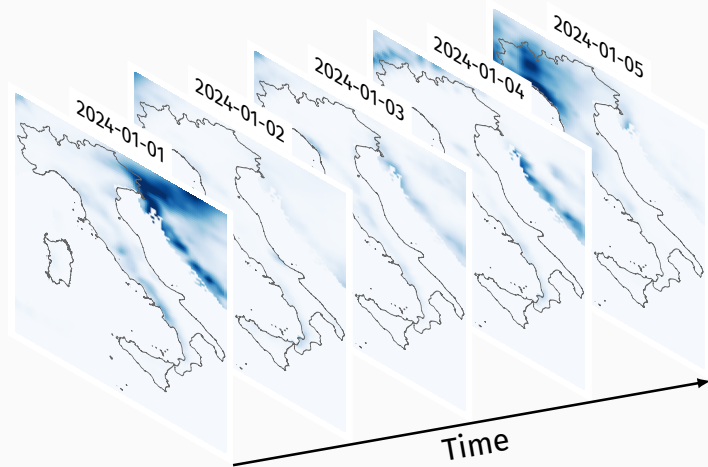


Not a Ridiculogram since not published in *Nature* nor *Science*

DATA — STRESSOR

Historical weather variables
(*hourly*; ERA5@Copernicus)

`total_precipitation_land`



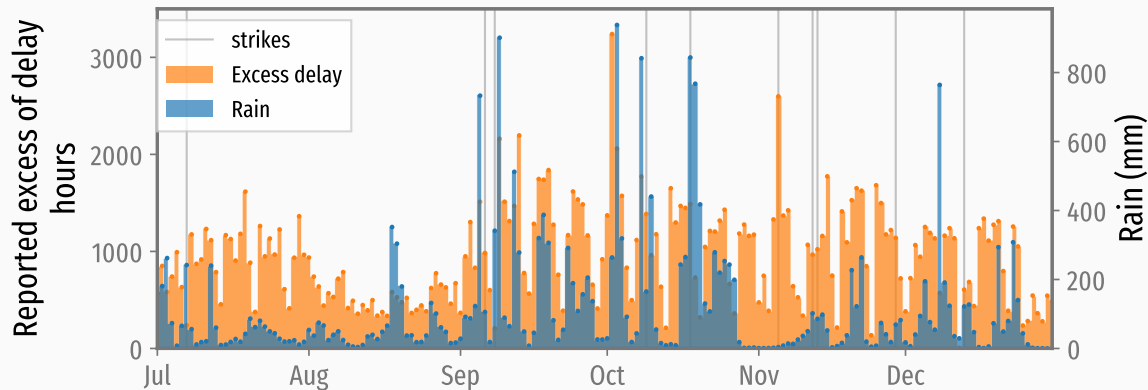
DATA — REAL WORLD

- All trains (2020-2024) from the major Italian railway operator
- Arrival/departure scheduled and real time

DEPARTURES

DESTINAZIONE DESTINATION	ORARIO TIME	RITARDO DELAY	INFORMAZIONE INFORMATION
TORINO P.N.	13:45	200'	RMA
BOLZANO	16:15	55'	RMA
MILANO C.LE	16:20	55'	RMA
MILANO C.LE	16:30	45'	RMA
BOLZANO	16:45	35'	RMA
TORINO P.N.	17:00	15'	RMA
FIUMICINO A.	17:05		RMA
LATINA	17:06		RMA
CASSINO	17:07		RMA
MILANO C.LE	17:10	15'	RMA
FIRENZE SMN	17:12		RMA
GROSSETO	17:12		RMA
FROSINONE	17:14		RMA

DELAYS ORIGINATE FROM MULTIPLE SOURCES



Cumulated daily delay vs. rainfalls → multiple sources of delay

RESULTS



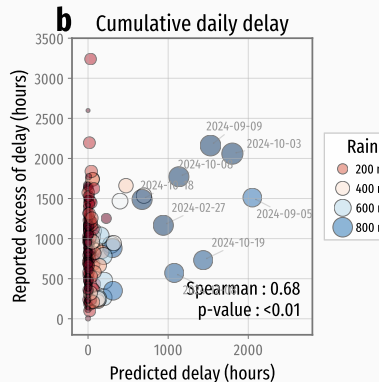
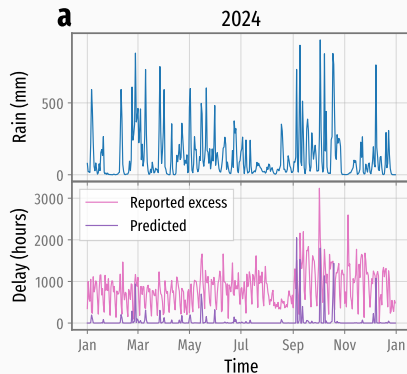
PARAMETER INFERENCE

- Learning set: 2021-2023.

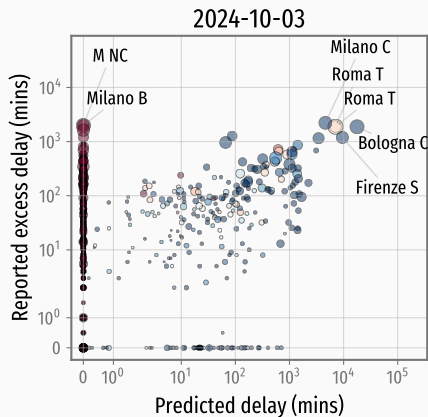
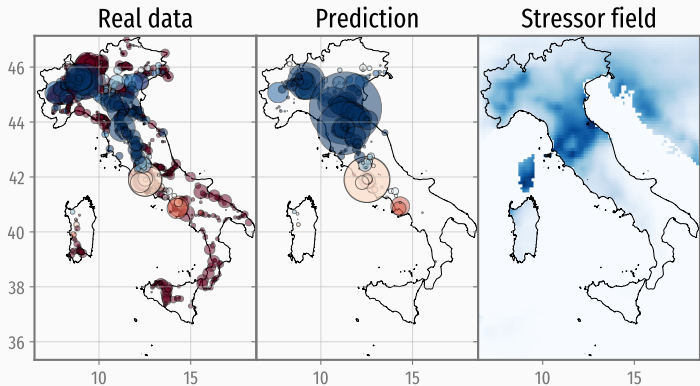
- Validation set: 2024

We can predict delay distribution in rainy (blue) days.

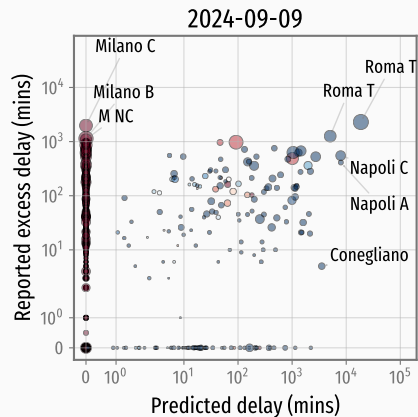
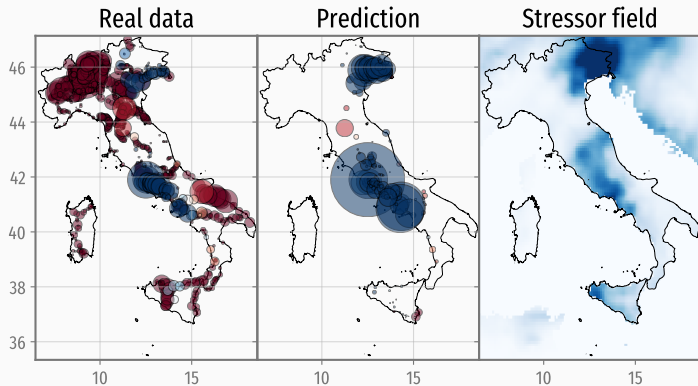
Spearman: 0.68



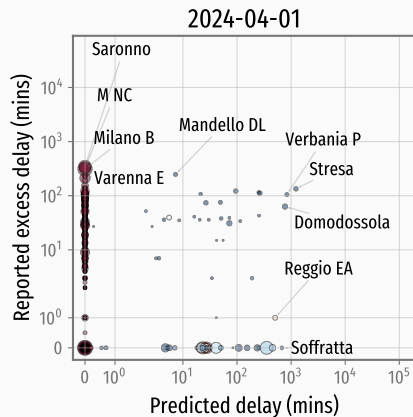
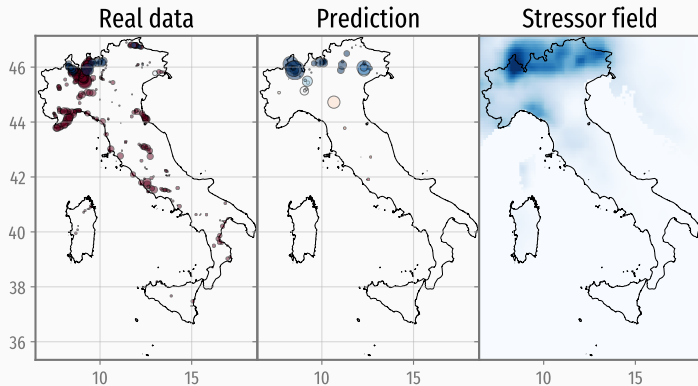
2024-10-03



2024-09-09



2024-04-01



PHASE SPACE — SYSTEM RESILIENCE

System response from a continuous external stressor field.

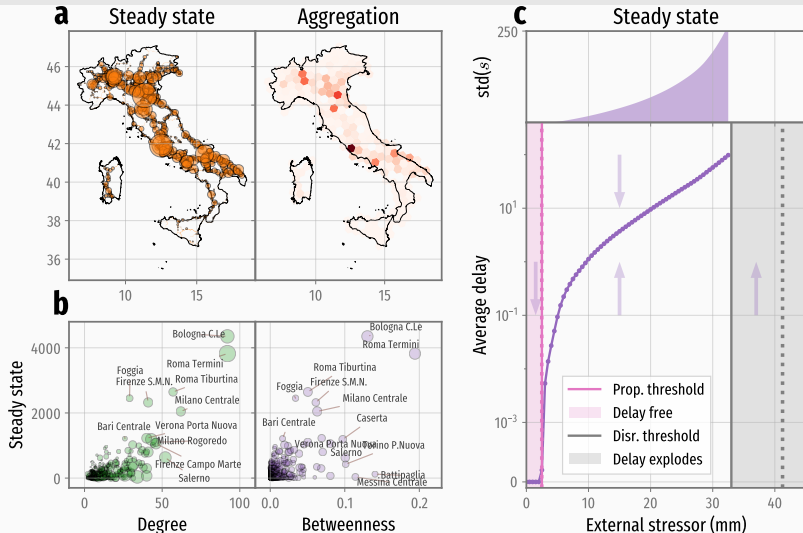
- Delay absorbed below a **propagation threshold**

$$\beta g_i < \gamma c_i \quad \forall i$$

- System collapse above a **disruption threshold**

$$\langle \beta g \rangle > \langle \gamma c \rangle$$

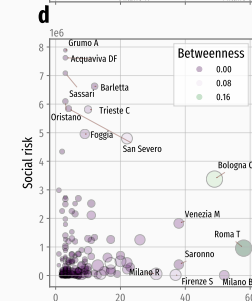
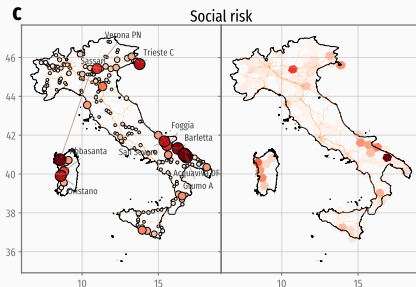
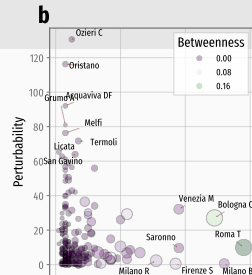
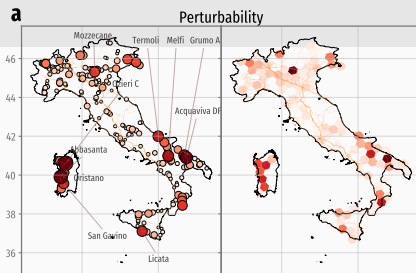
- Endemic delay in-between (dynamical equilibrium)



PERTURBABILITY AND SOCIAL RISK

Perturbability: station ability to influence the network
Total delay experienced by the network after initial stress around a station.

Social risk: perturbability weighted by the *social cost* (population affected)



? QUESTIONS?

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Joint work with:



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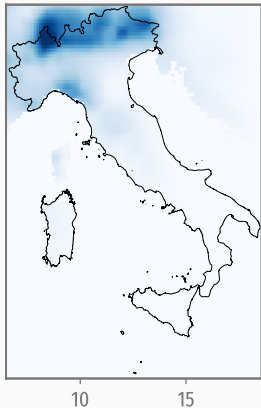
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COMPLEX MULTILAYER NETWORKS

- Model of *propagation+generation+absorption* of perturbations
- Interaction between external stressor (e.g. climate variables) and dynamics
- Prediction of *complete system failure* at high values of the external stressor
- *Perturbability centrality* and *social risk*

Aknowledgements: FIS project no. FIS00000158 (CUP C53C23000660001). INFN (LINCOLN).

PERTURBABILITY AND SOCIAL RISK

Stressor field



What happened in
2024-04-01 🐟?

Stressor field *perpendicular* to
the *system perturbability*.

