

Productivity Hurts Innovation

or Only Diamond Can Cut Diamond in Science

Lingfei Wu

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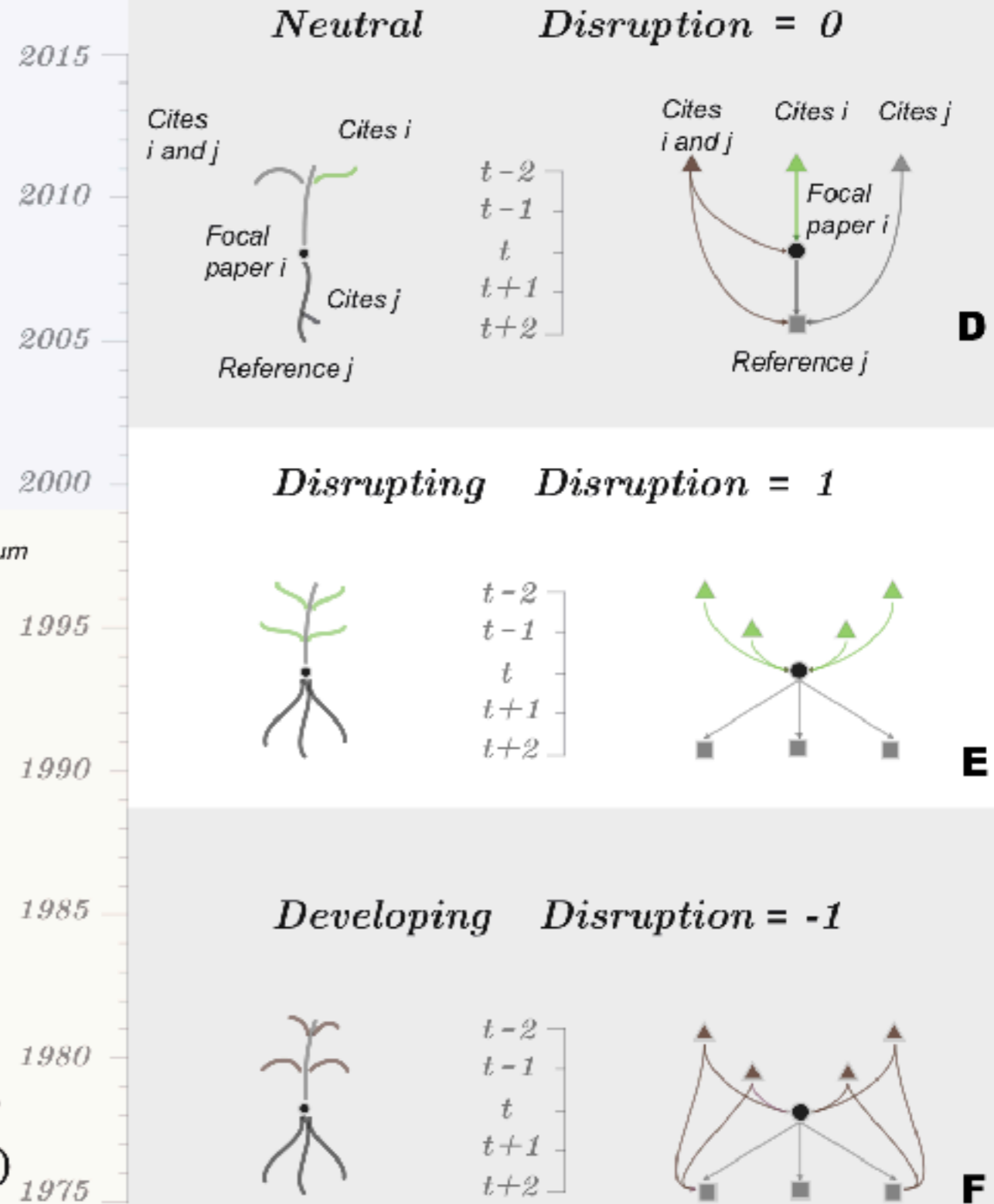
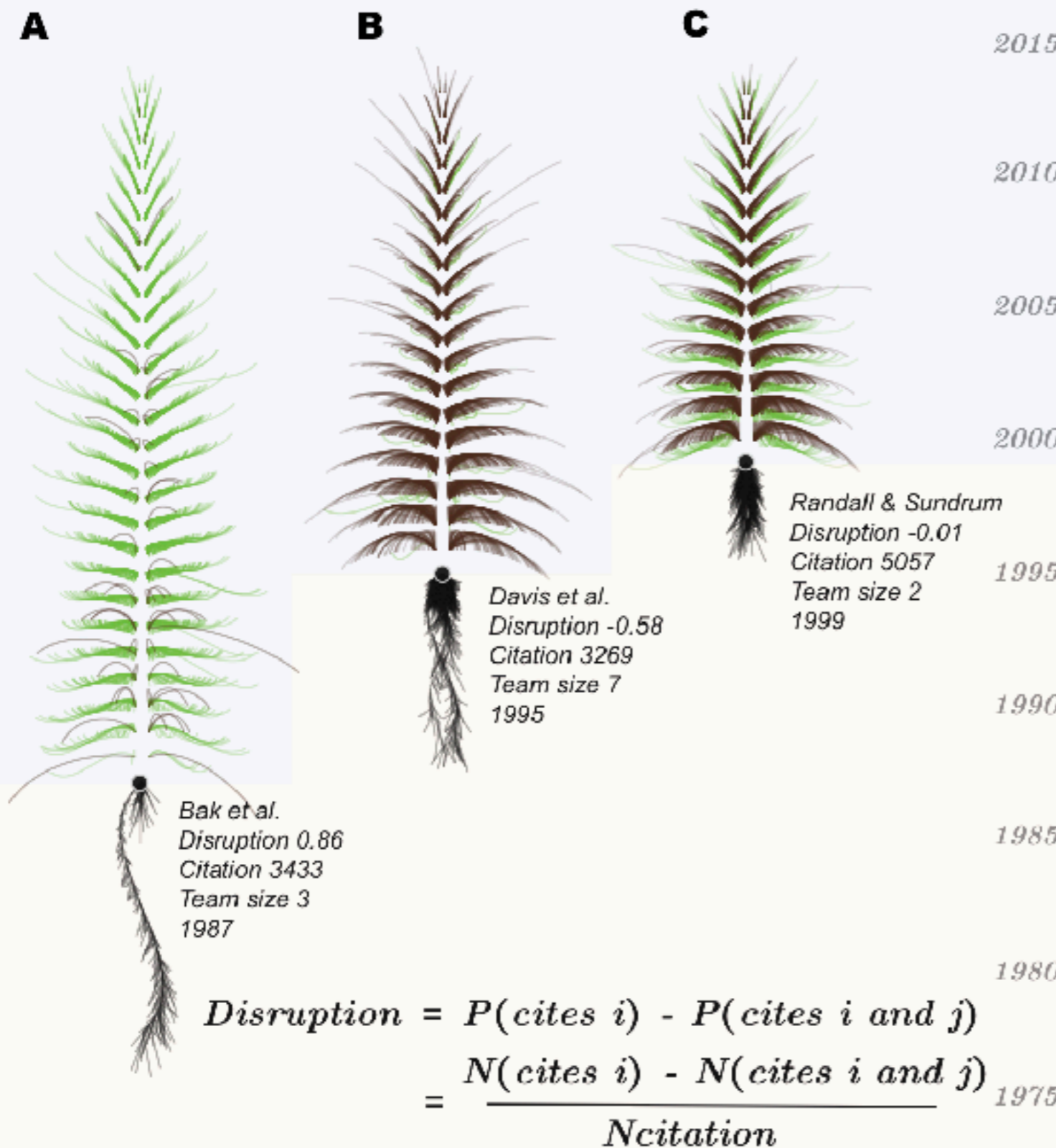
Measure Innovation



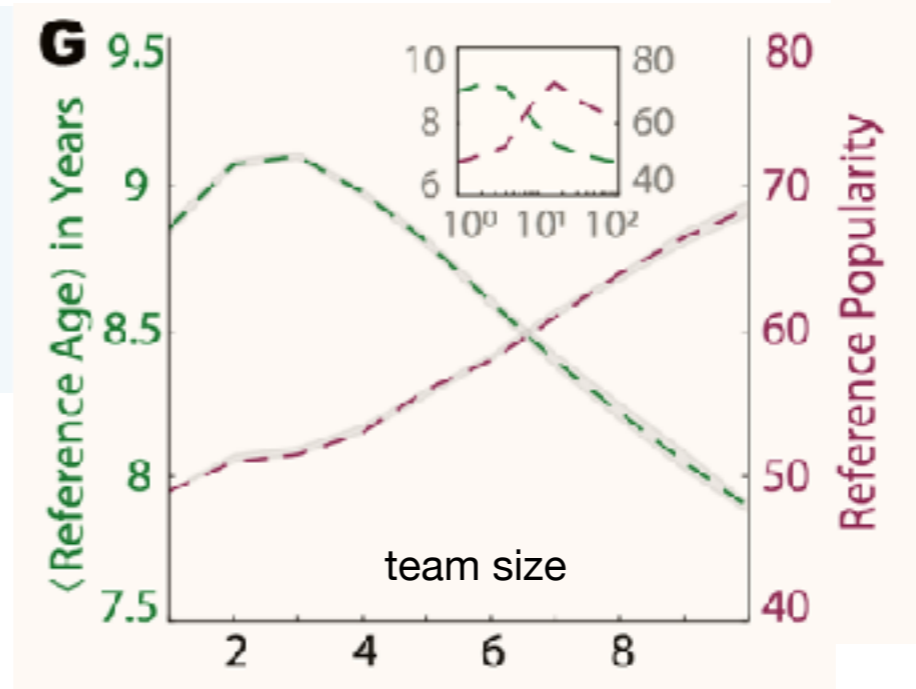
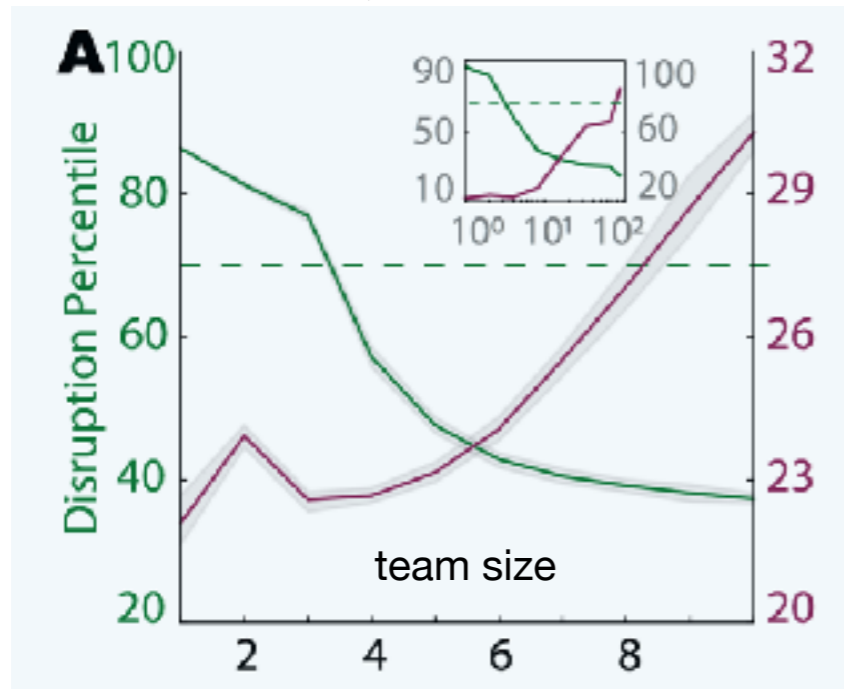
Overshadows the past and create new directions

Small teams, large teams, two kinds of science

Funk & Owen-Smith, 2016



Small teams, large teams, two kinds of science



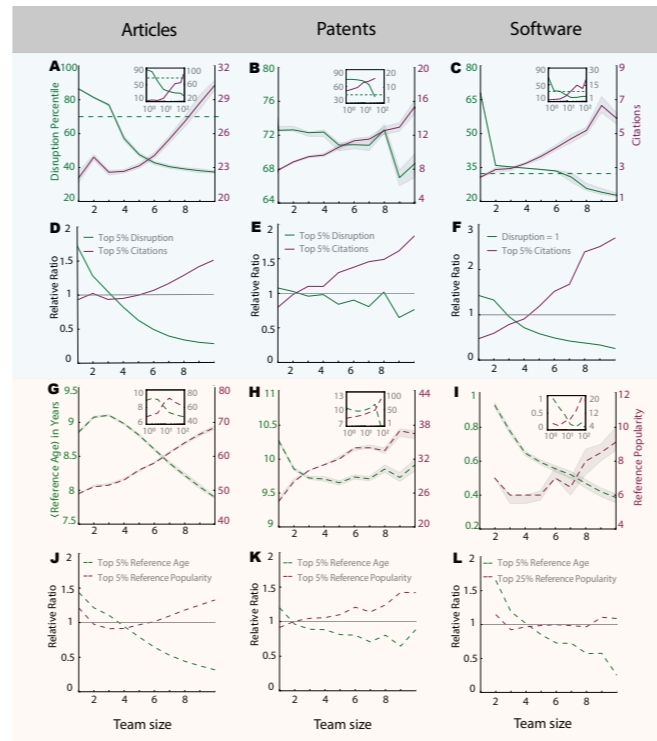
44 million articles
100 years



5 million patents
40 years



16 million software 3



Wu, L., Wang, D., & Evans, J. A. (2017). Large Teams Have Developed Science and Technology; Small Teams Have Disrupted It. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1709.02445*.

Team roles: brain innovate, muscle produce

Team clock: innovation takes time

Team age: young innovators

Team connection: innovation by disconnection

Team roles: brain innovate, muscle produce

Identify "brains" and "muscles" (ground-truth)

PNAS paper

Contribution text

Summary

2010

History of biological metal utilization inferred through phylogenomic analysis of protein structures

Christopher L. Dupont, Andrew Butcher, Ruben E. Valas, Philip E. Bourne and Gustavo Caetano-Anollés

C.L.D., P.E.B., and G.C.-A. designed research; C.L.D., R.E.V., and G.C.-A. performed research; A.B. contributed new reagents/analytic tools; C.L.D., R.E.V., P.E.B., and G.C.-A. analyzed data; and C.L.D., P.E.B., and G.C.-A. wrote the paper.

team size = 5
N brain = 3
N muscle = 2
Brain ratio = 0.6

2006

Genome sequence of *Synechococcus* CC9311: Insights into adaptation to a coastal environment

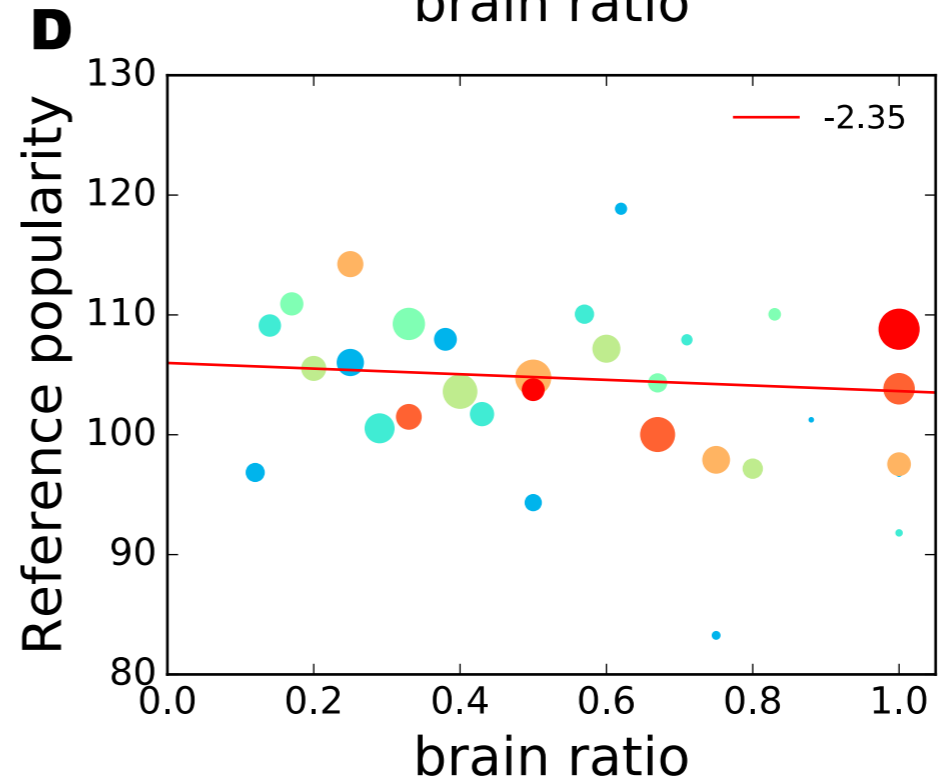
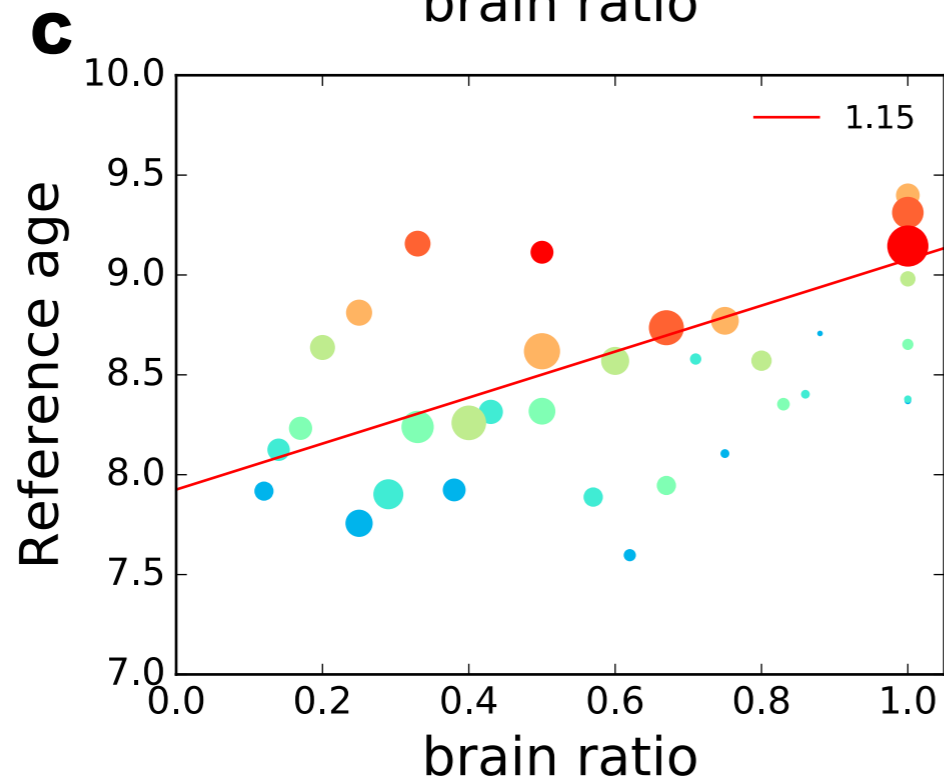
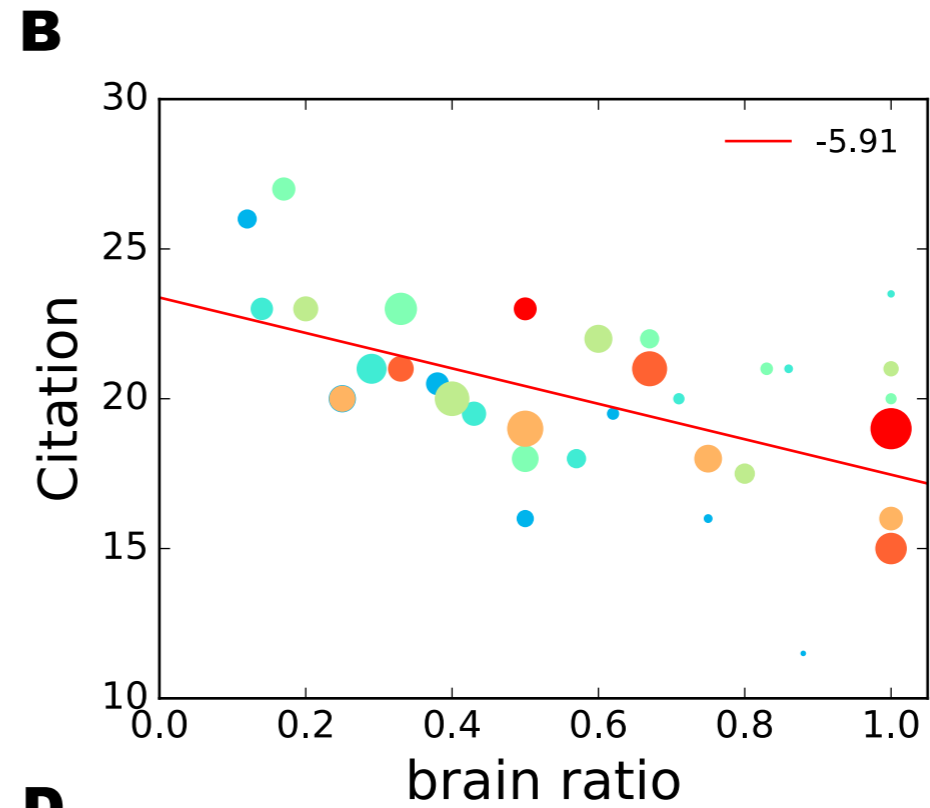
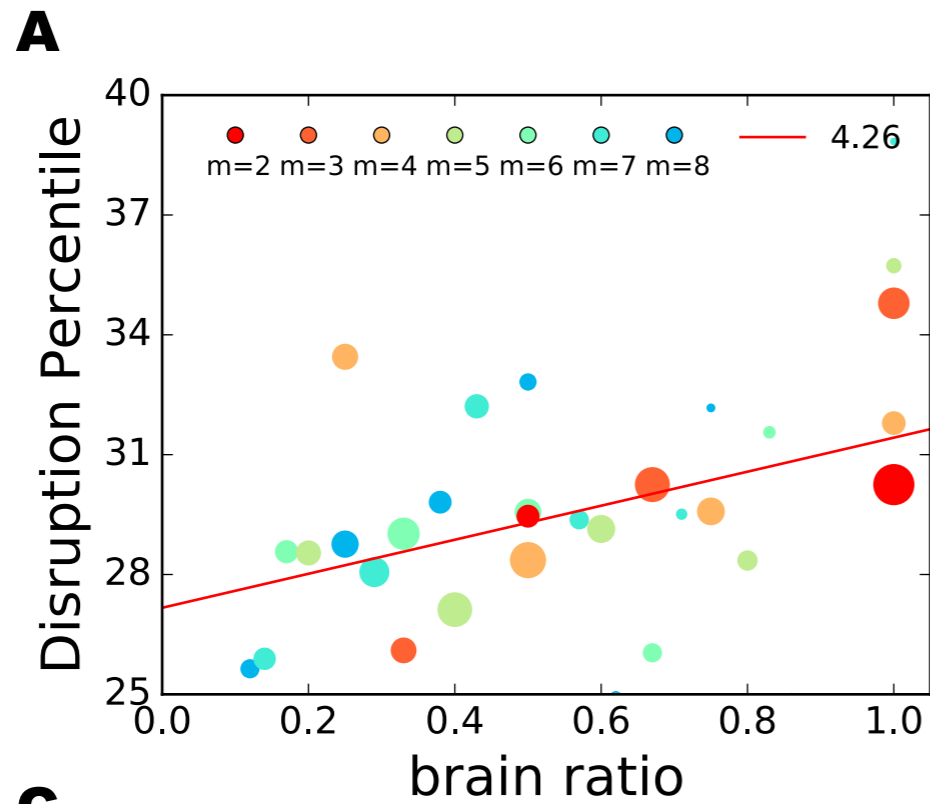
Brian Palenik, Qinghu Ren, Chris L. Dupont, Garry S. Myers, John F. Heidelberg, Jonathan H. Badger, Ramana Madupu, William C. Nelson, Lauren M. Brinkac, Robert J. Dodson, A. Scott Durkin, Sean C. Daugherty, Stephen A. Sullivan, Hoda Khouri, Yasmin Mohamoud, Rebecca Halpin and Ian T. Paulsen

B.P. and I.T.P. designed research; R.M., W.C.N., L.M.B., R.J.D., A.S.D., S.C.D., S.A.S., H.K., Y.M., and R.H. performed research; B.P., Q.R., C.L.D., G.S.M., J.F.H., J.H.B., and I.T.P. analyzed data; and B.P. and I.T.P. wrote the paper.

team size = 17
N brain = 2
N muscle = 15
Brain ratio = 0.1

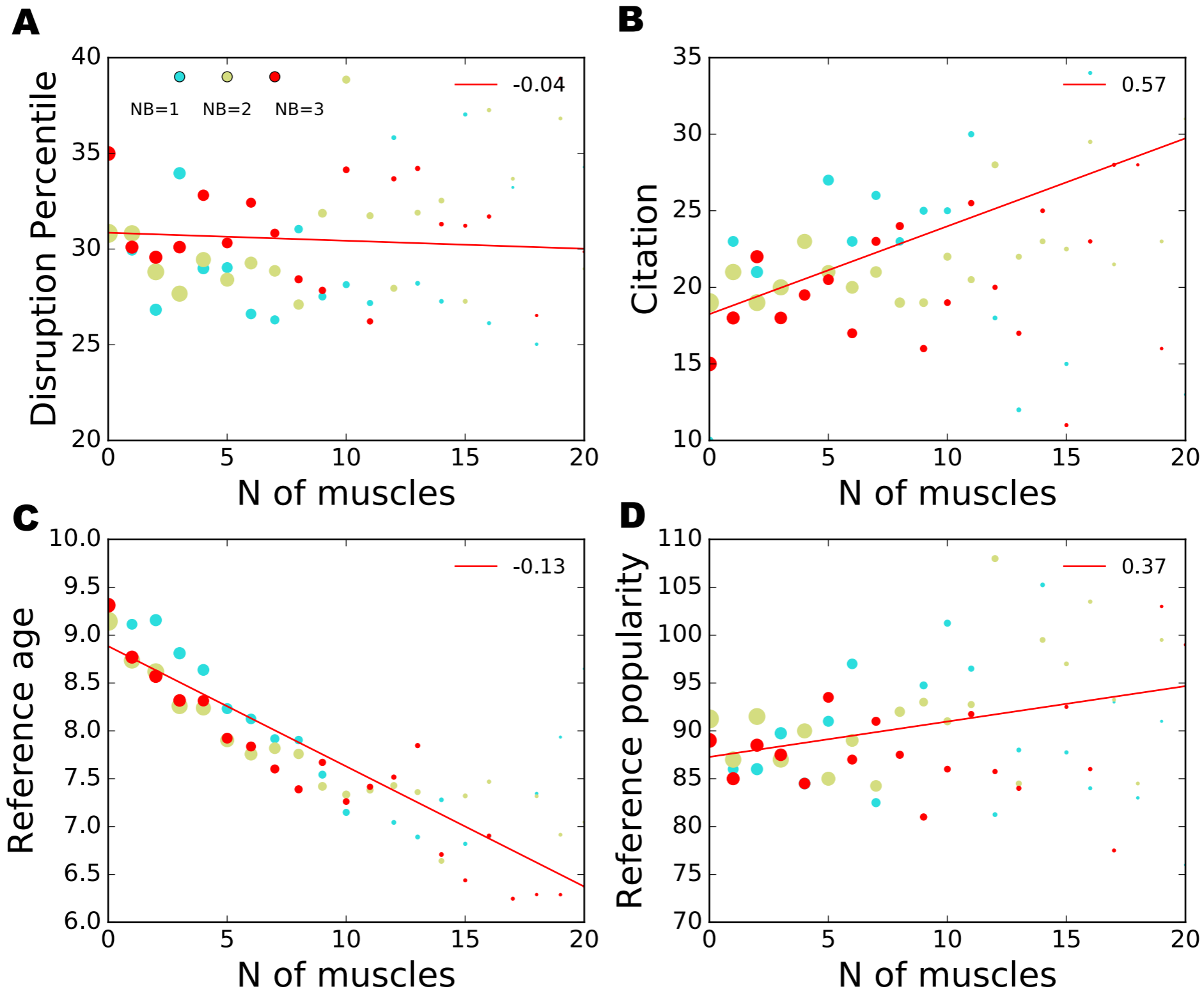
More brains (PNAS):

Draw upon older, smaller ideas -> more disruptive and less impactful



Additional increase of muscles (PNAS)

Chase newer, more popular ideas -> less disruptive and more impactful



Identify "brains" and "muscles" (estimation)

PNAS paper

Contribution text

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5
12
30

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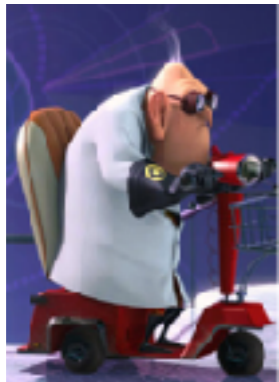
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14
13

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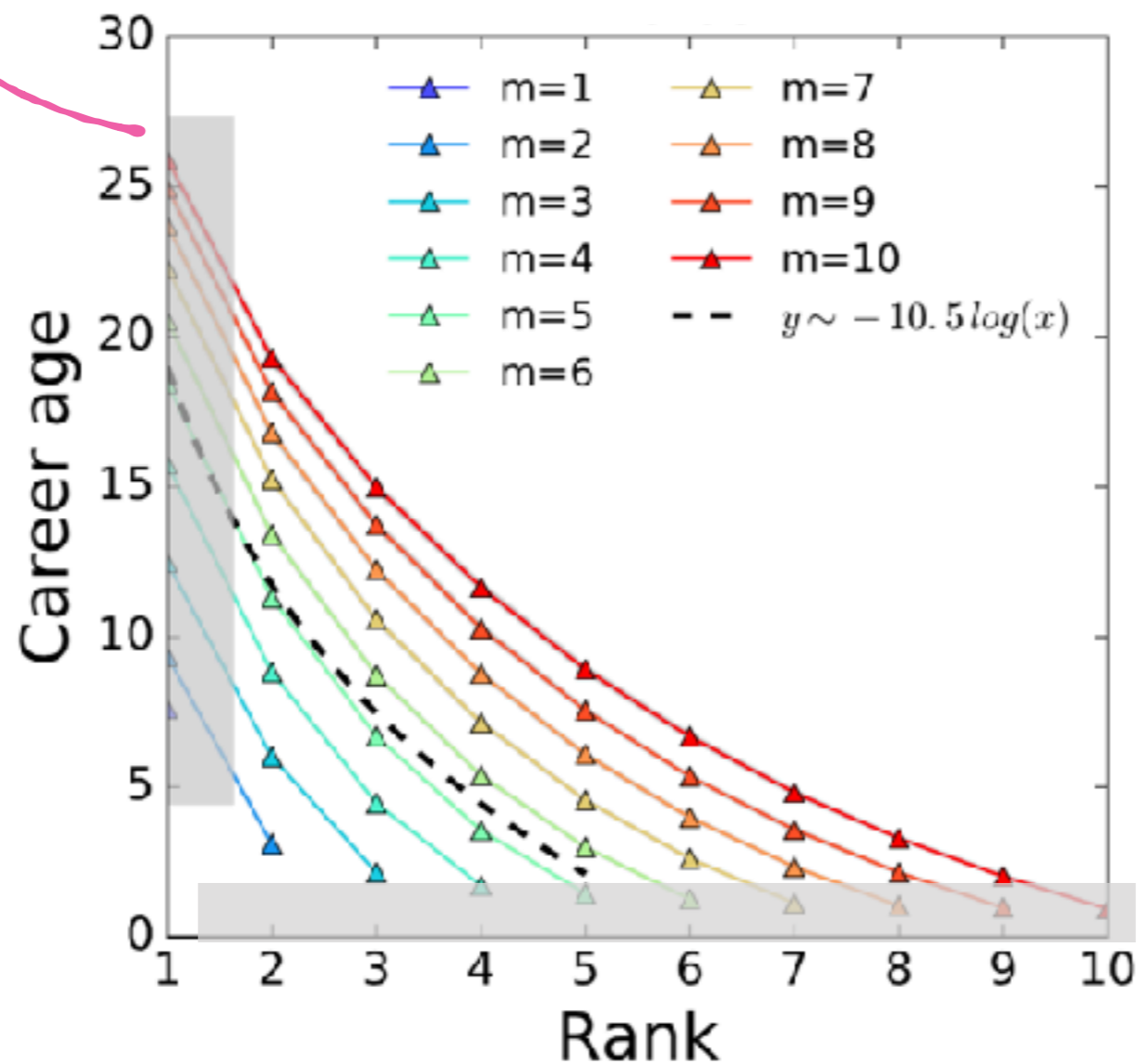
team size = 17
N brain = 2
N muscle = 15
Brain ratio = 0.1

Identify "brains" and "muscles" (estimation)

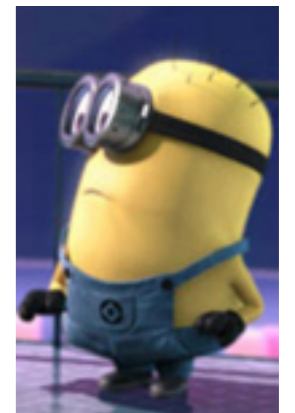
Brain



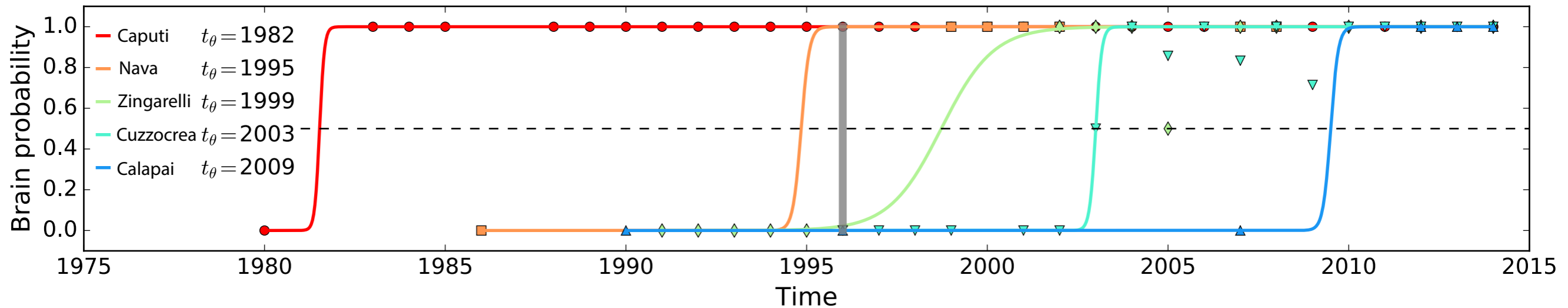
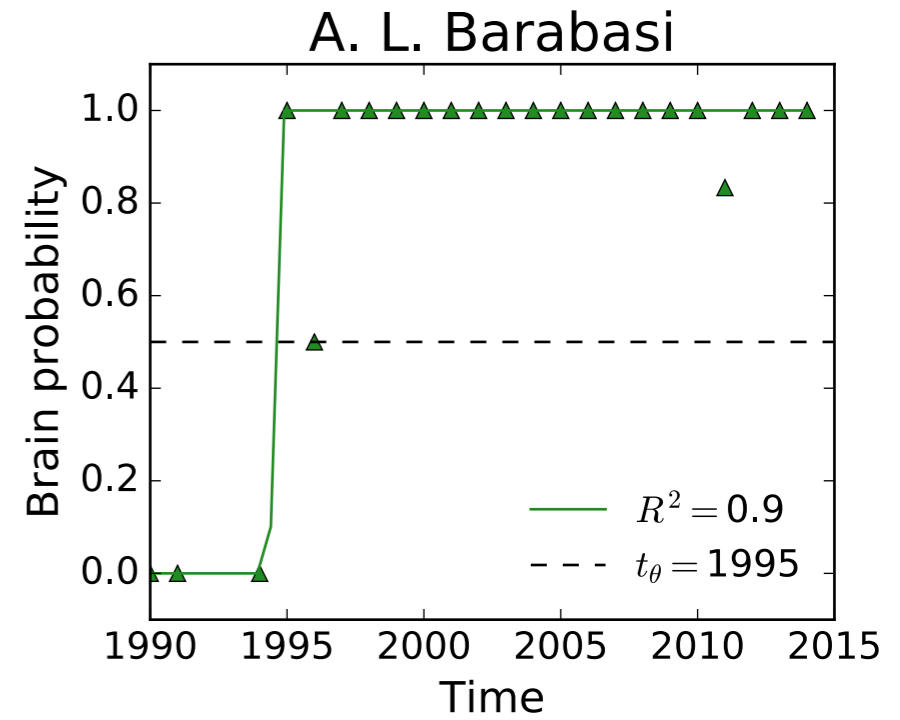
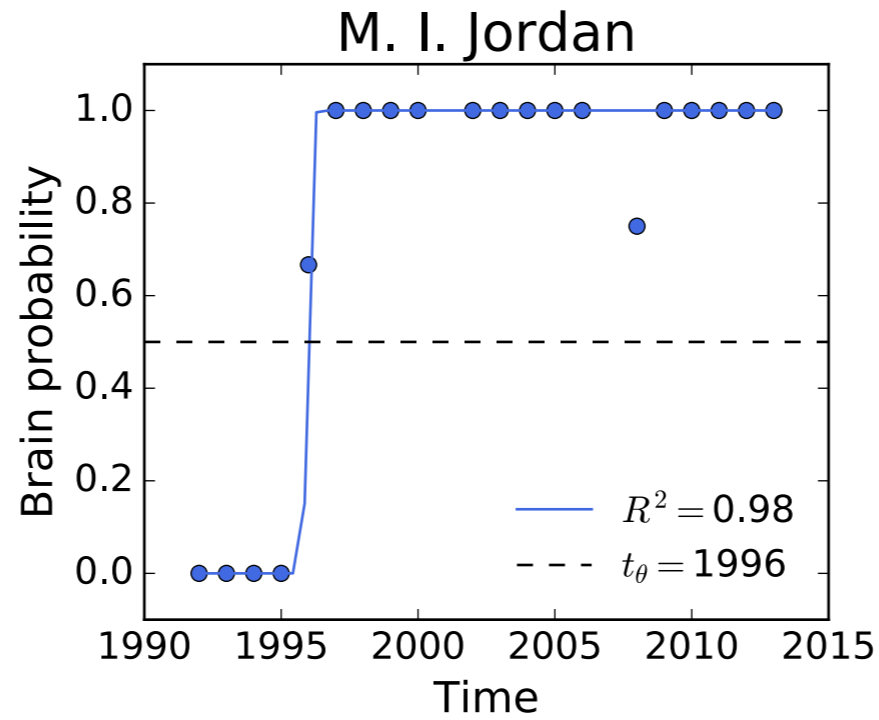
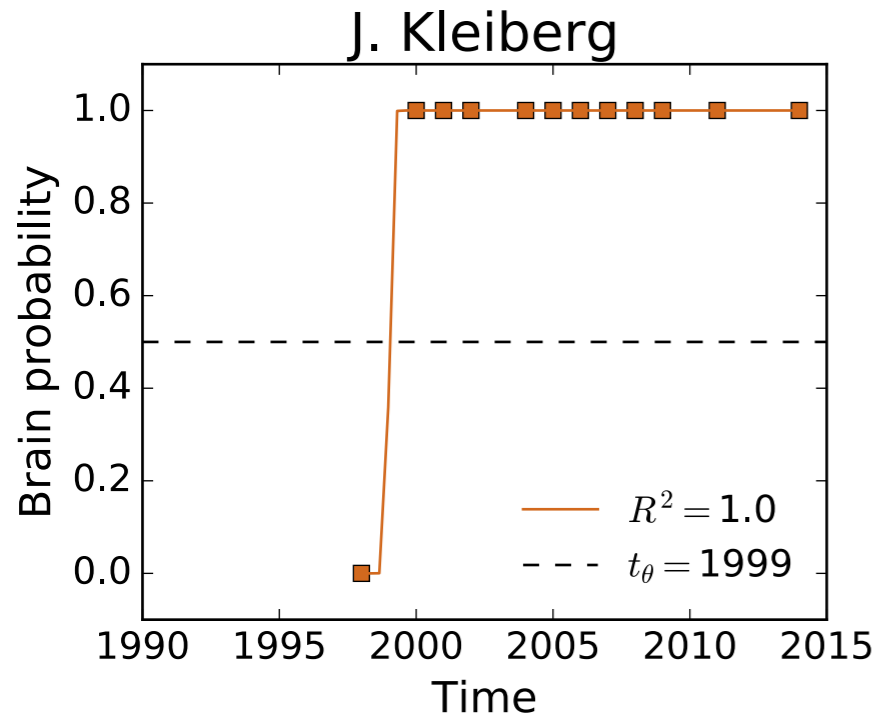
Career age composition of WOS papers



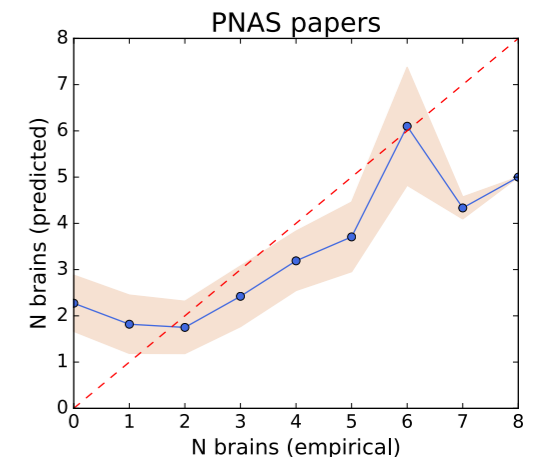
Muscle



Identify "brains" and "muscles" (estimation)

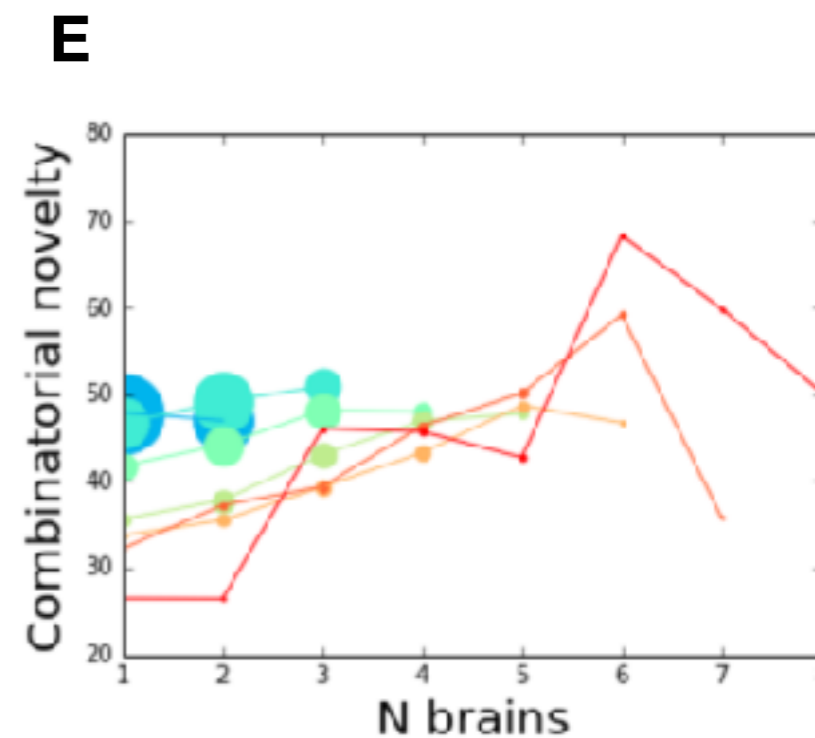
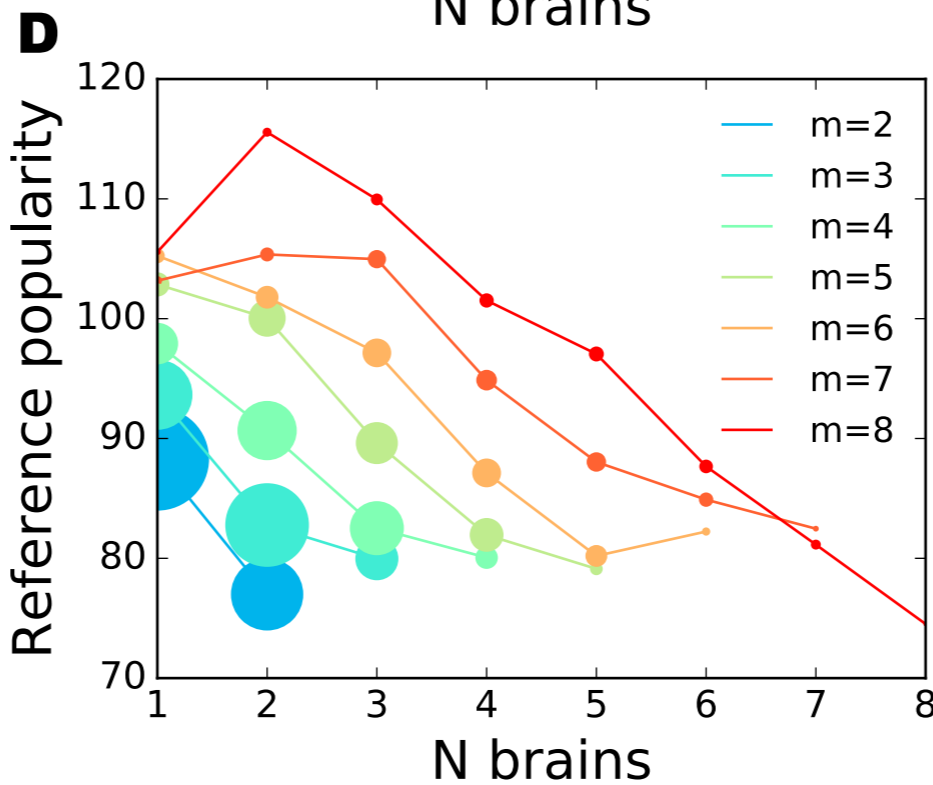
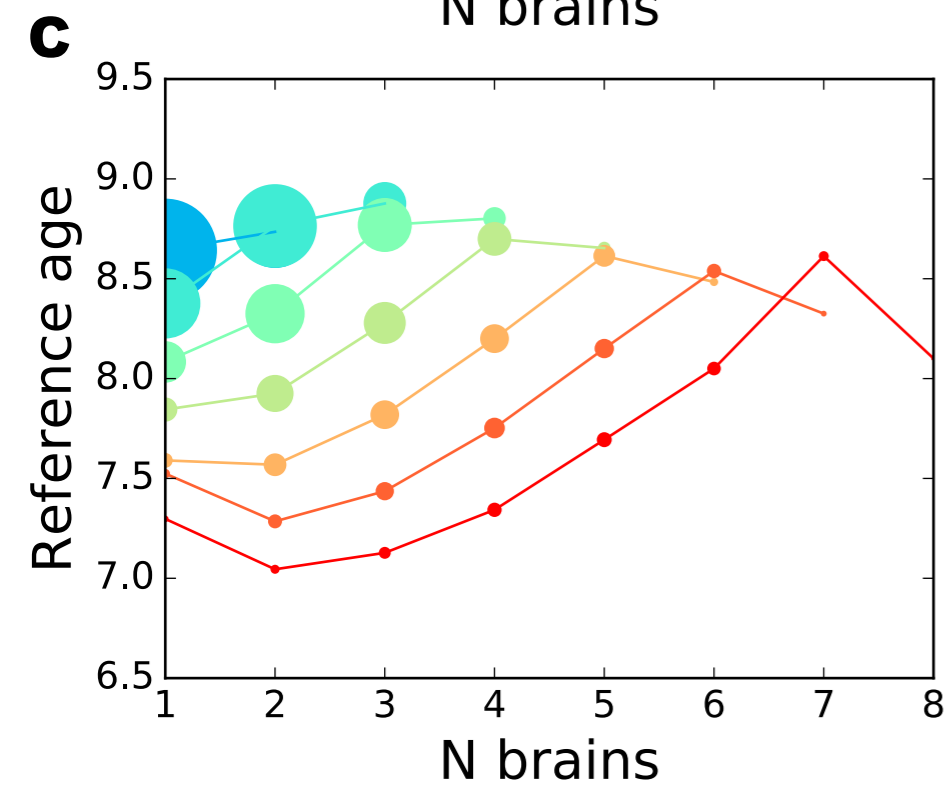
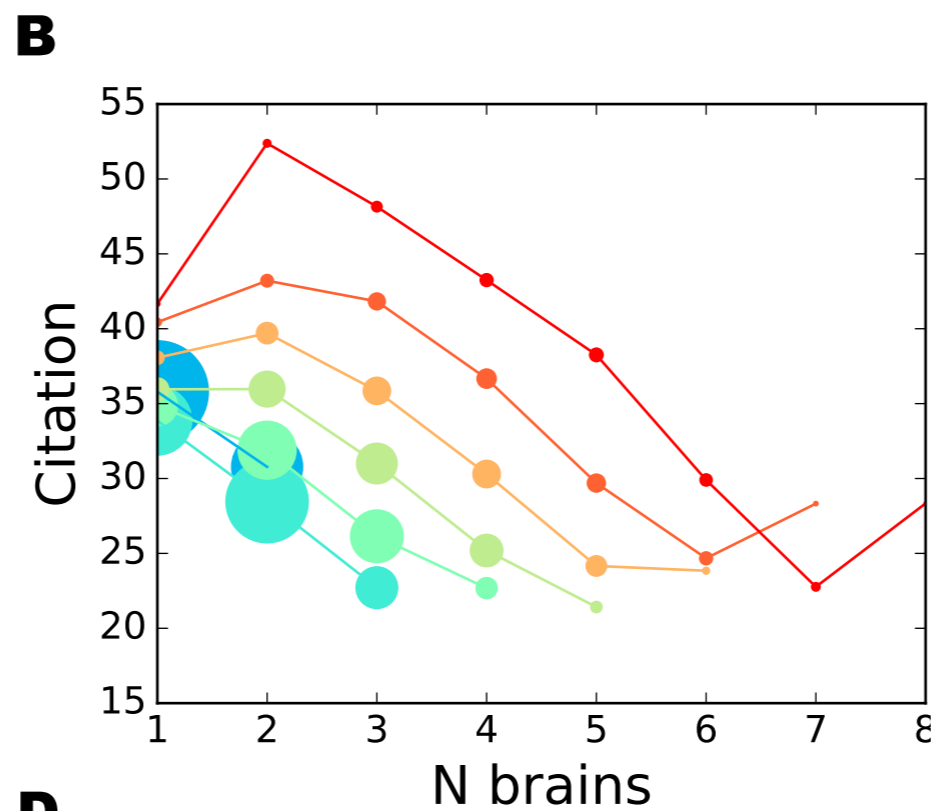
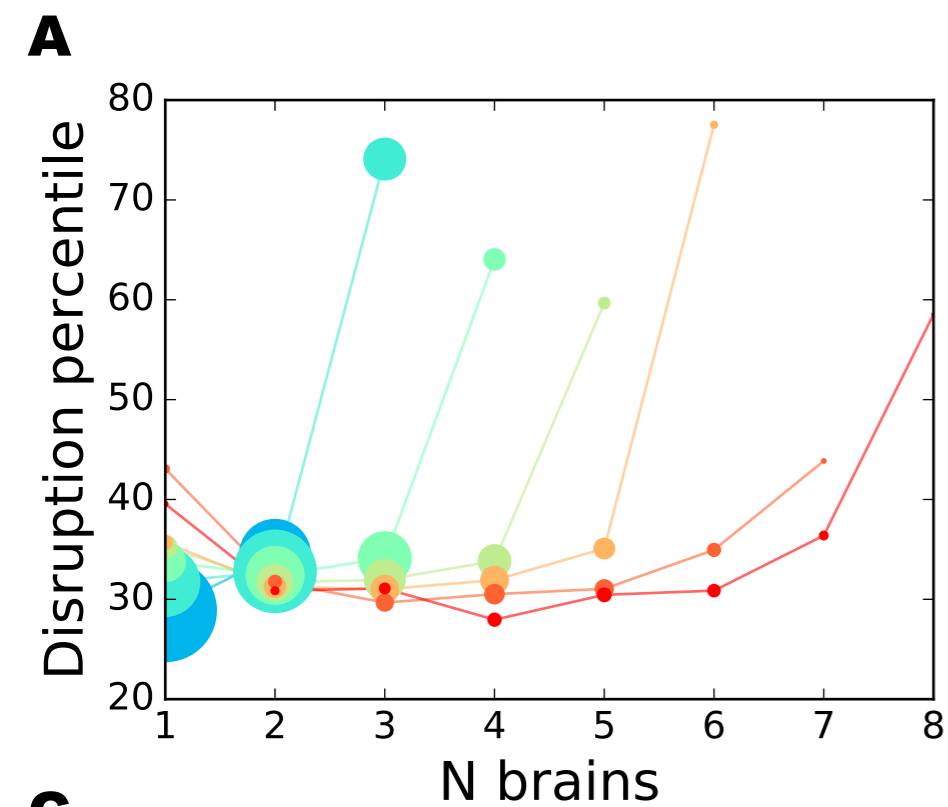


Cuzzocrea, S., Zingarelli, B., Calapai, G., Nava, F., & Caputi, A. P. (1996).
Zymosan-activated plasma induces paw oedema by nitric oxide and prostaglandin production.
Life Sciences, 60(3), 215-220.



More brains (WOS):

Draw upon older, smaller ideas -> more disruptive and less impactful



Evidence for a Collective Intelligence Factor in the Performance of Human Groups

Anita Williams Woolley,^{1*} Christopher F. Chabris,^{2,3} Alex Pentland,^{3,4}
Nada Hashmi,^{3,5} Thomas W. Malone^{3,5}

Psychologists have repeatedly shown that a single statistical factor—often called “general intelligence”—emerges from the correlations among people’s performance on a wide variety of cognitive tasks. But no one has systematically examined whether a similar kind of “collective intelligence” exists for groups of people. In two studies with 699 people, working in groups of two to five, we find converging evidence of a general collective intelligence factor that explains a group’s performance on a wide variety of tasks. This “c factor” is not strongly correlated with the average or maximum individual intelligence of group members but is correlated with the average social sensitivity of group members, the equality in distribution of conversational turn-taking, and the proportion of females in the group.

✓

Balanced conversational turn-taking ?



“Would you stop interrupting me while I am interrupting you ?”

— Churchill in *Darkest Hour*

Balanced conversational turn-taking in Science ?



DESPICABLE
ME
IN THEATERS
JULY 09, 2010
IN EYE-POPPING 3D

“So, how’s your data looking?”

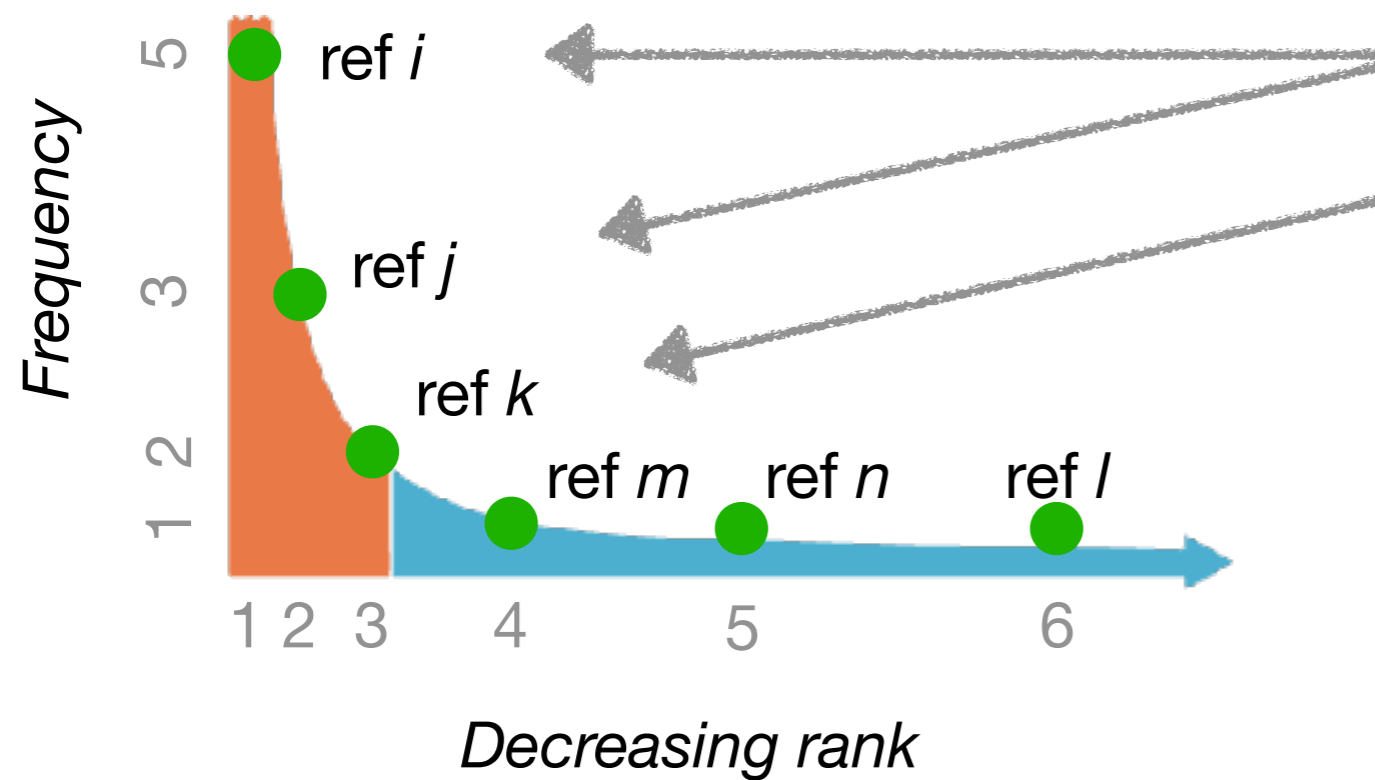
Brain

Muscle

Quantify knowledge stock exchange

Tom's knowledge stock

(all references in the whole career)



First time citing
in collaboration x

Importance of
collaboration I_x

Tom & Summer, 2009

$$(5+3)/(5+3+2) = 0.8$$

Tom & Rachel, 2010

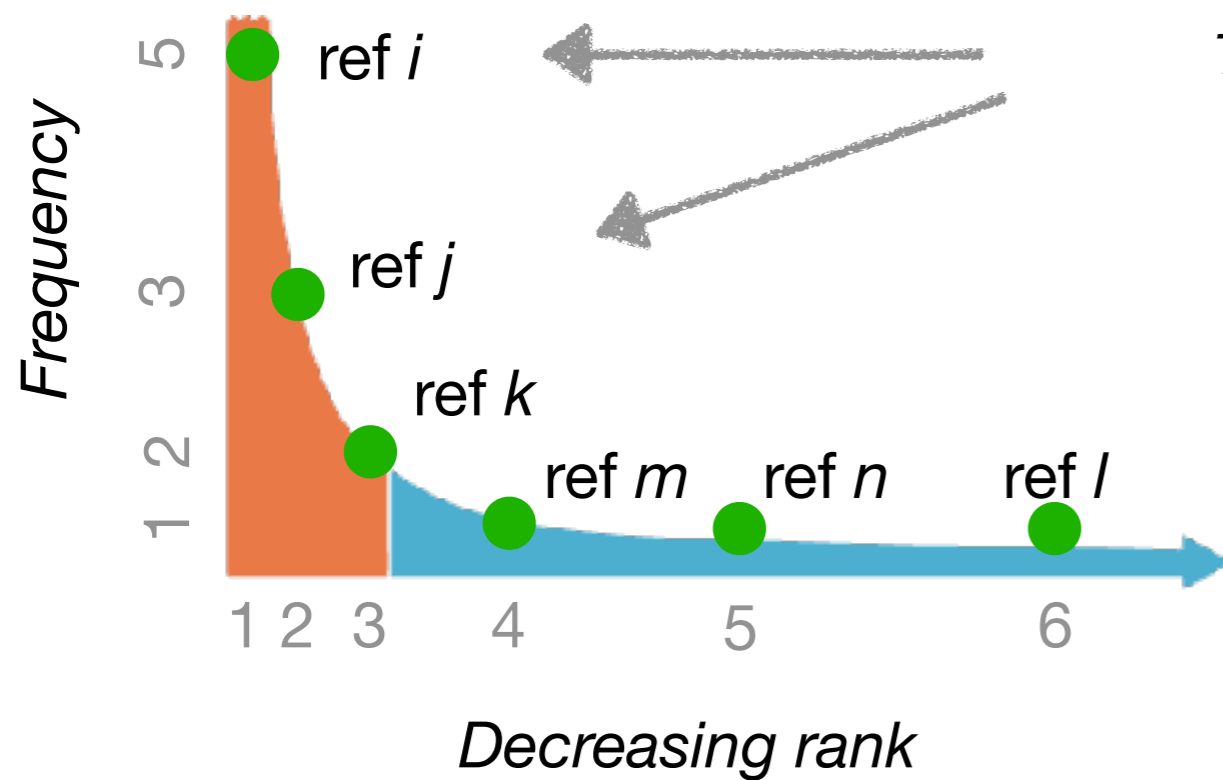
$$2/(5+3+2) = 0.2$$

Core references: $\{i, j, k\}$
cited twice or more, 18%

Strategic references: $\{m, n, l\}$
only cited once, 72%

Quantify knowledge stock exchange

Tom's knowledge stock



First time citing
in collaboration *x*

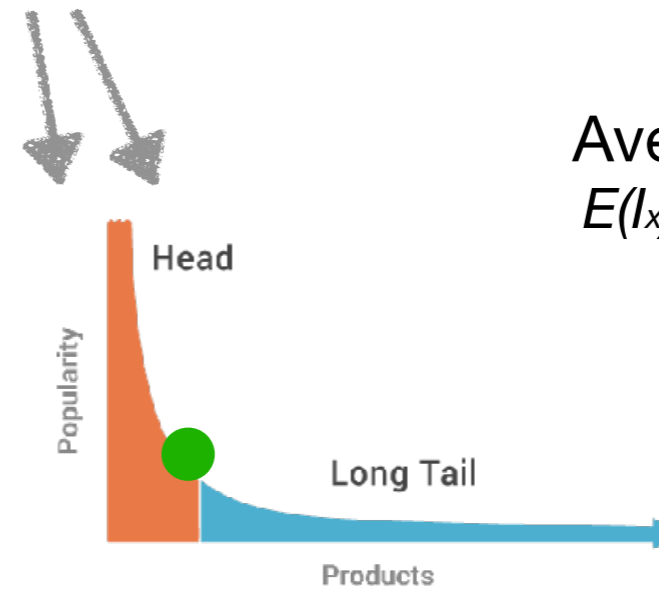
Tom & Summer, 2009

Importance of
collaboration I_x

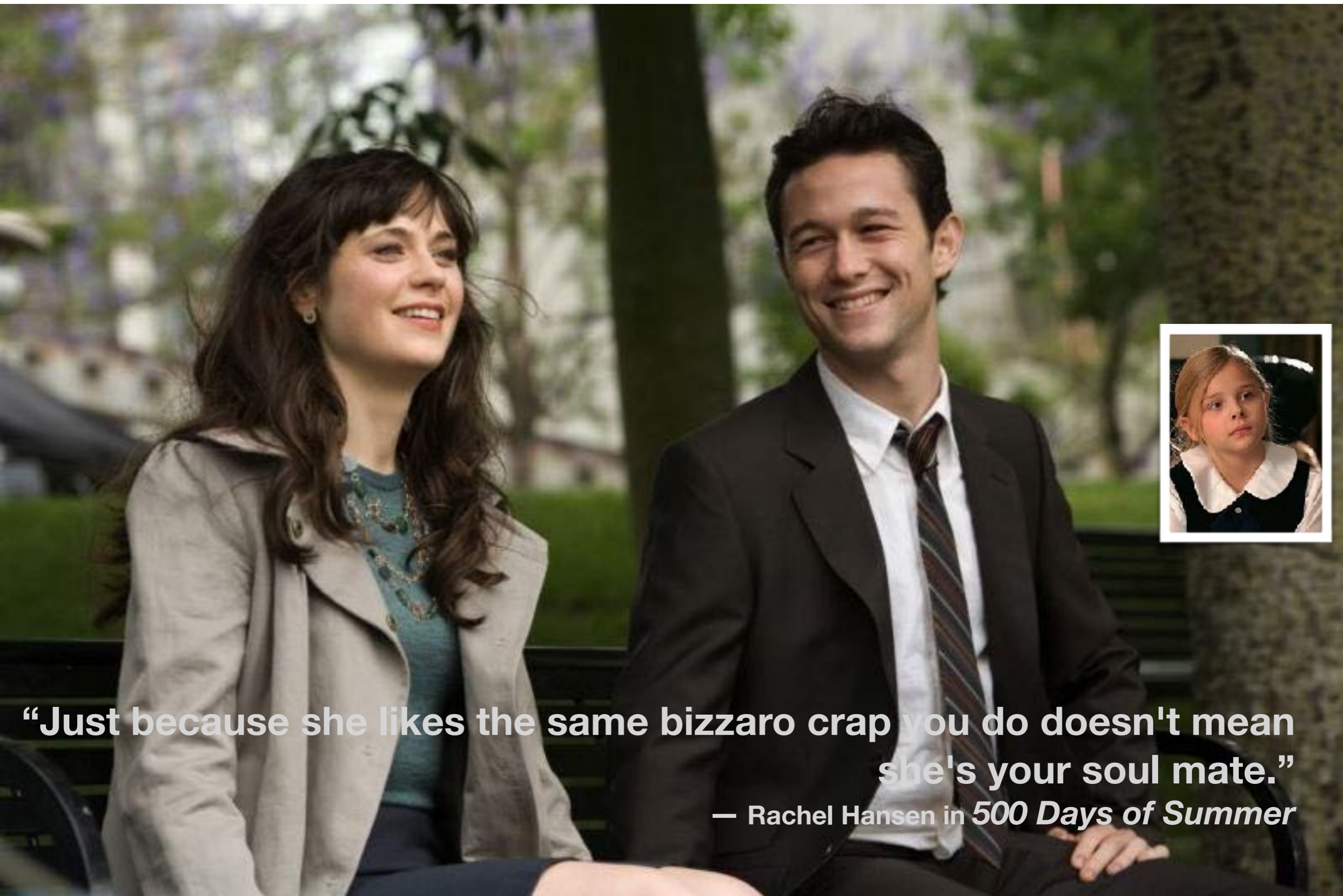
$$I_x \text{ Tom} = 0.8$$

$$I_x \text{ Summer} = 0.1$$

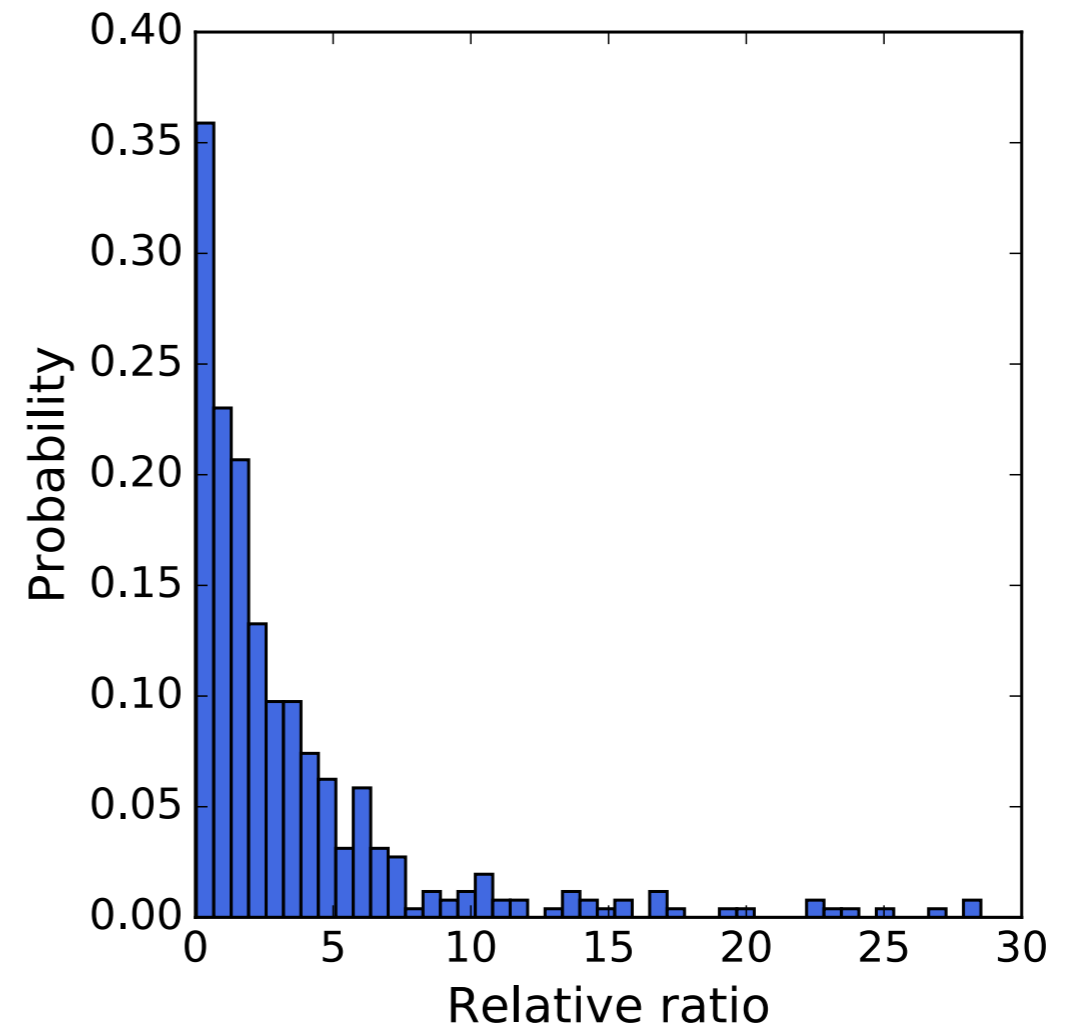
Average importance:
 $E(I_x) = (0.8+0.1)/2=0.45$



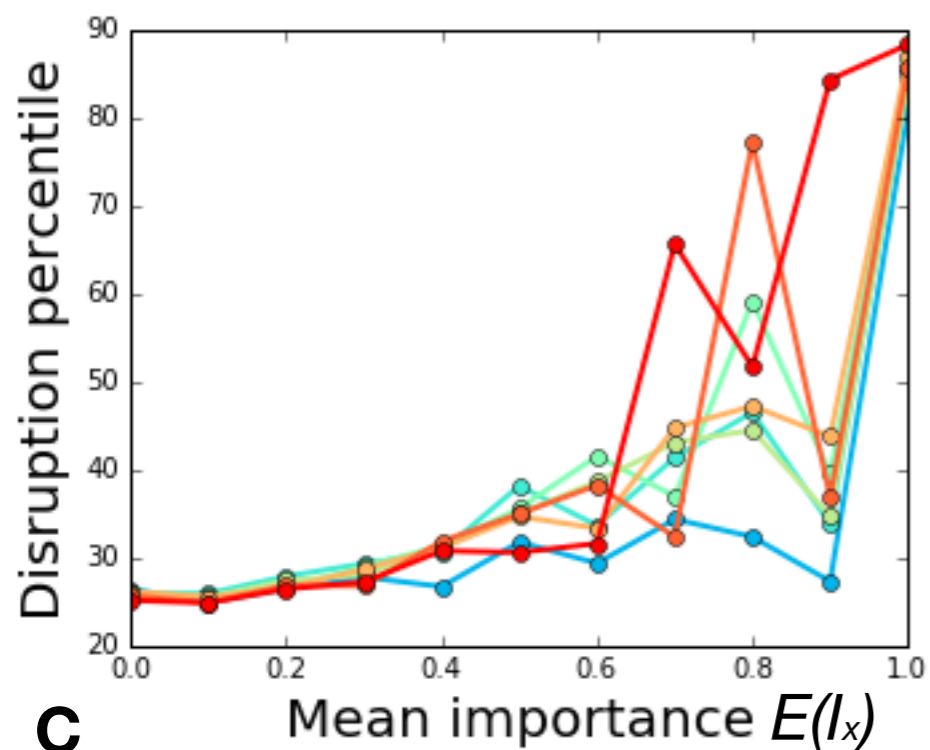
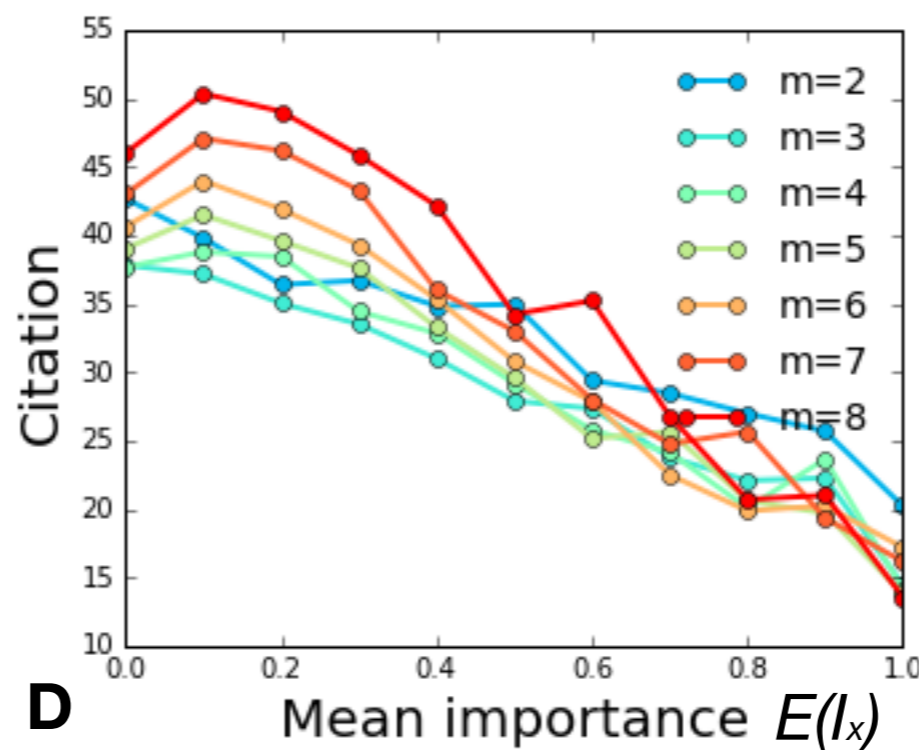
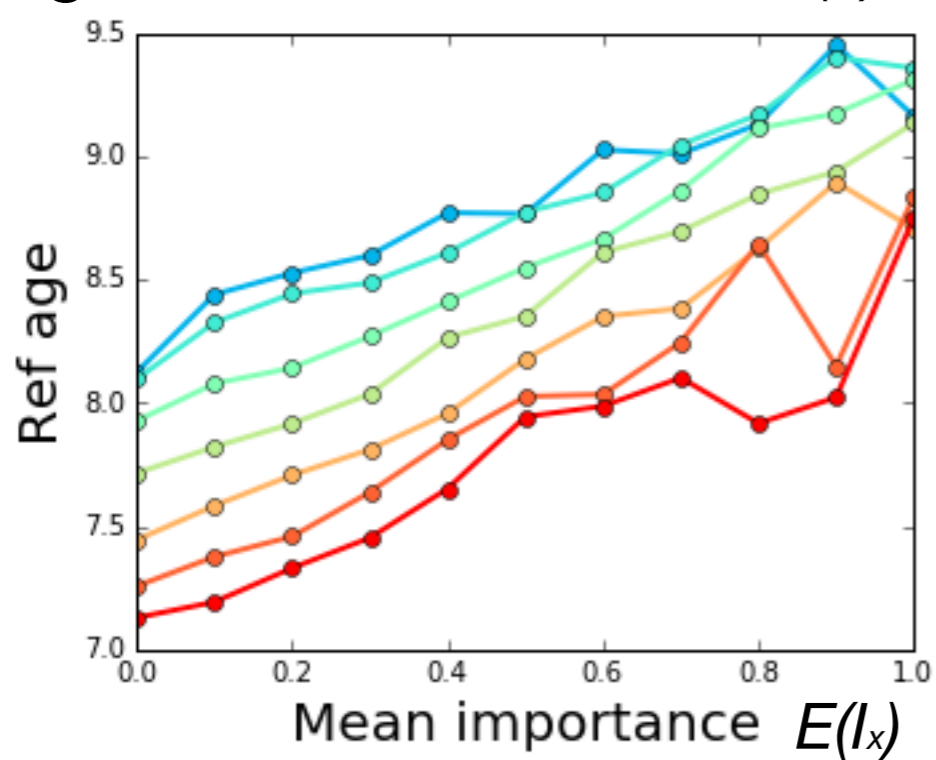
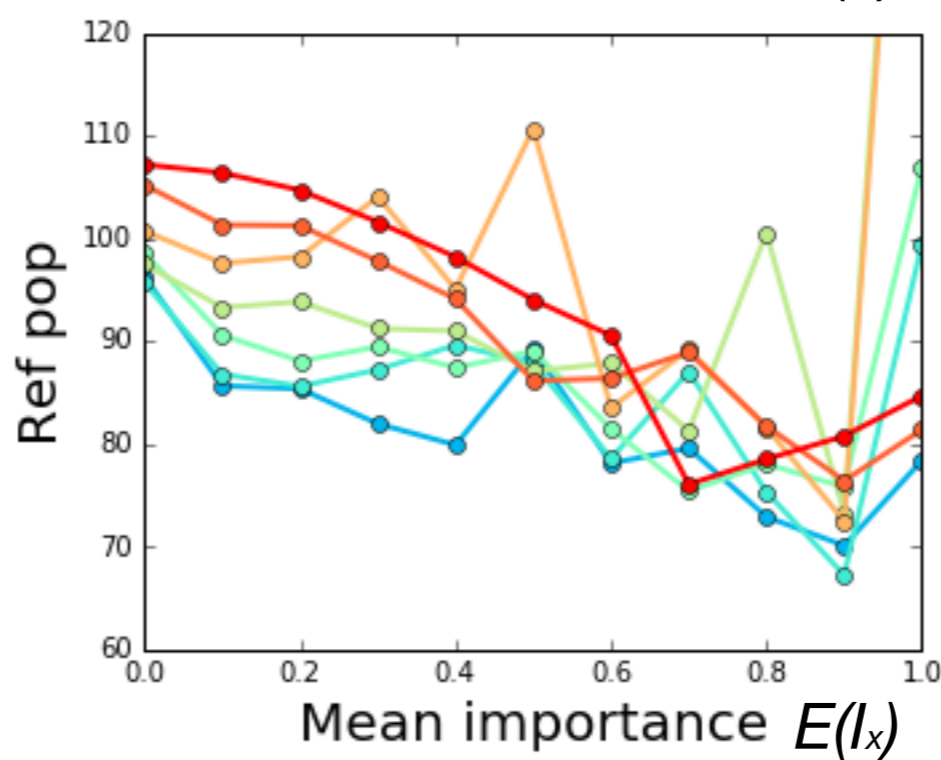
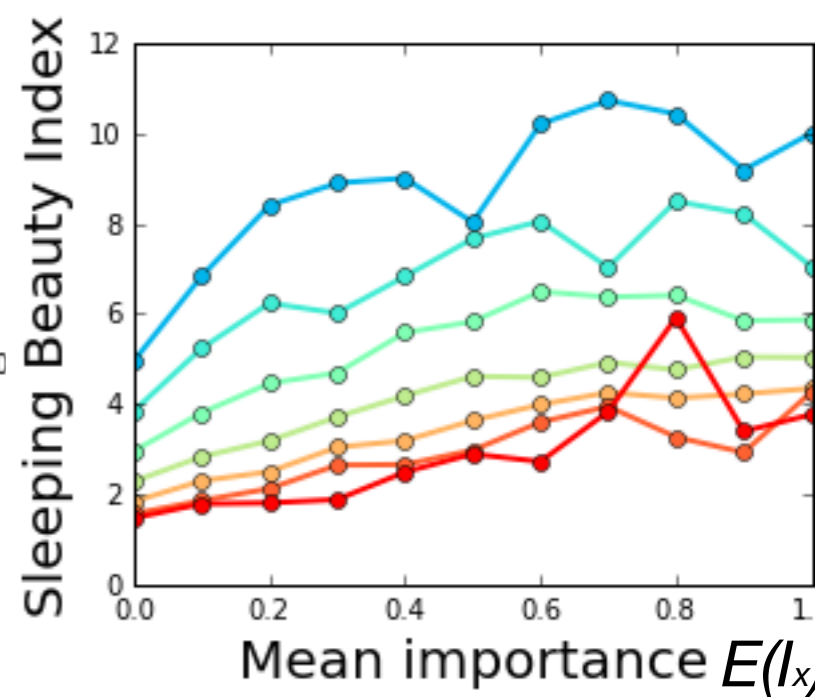
Summer's knowledge stock



“Just because she likes the same bizzaro crap you do doesn't mean she's your soul mate.”
— Rachel Hansen in *500 Days of Summer*

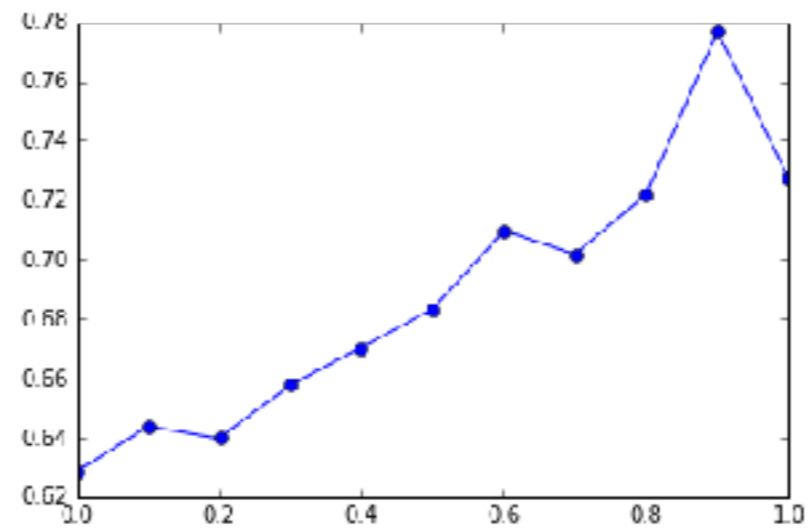


Yes. We select 405 scholars, who after becoming “brains”, involved in two different types of collaboration in the same year, with the other author either muscle (only contributed one paper ever) or brain, and calculate k . For 70% cases $k > 1$, 30% cases otherwise. The mean value of k is 3.8 - **a brains is almost four times more likely to affect other brains' mind in the long term than a muscle.**

A**B****C****D****E**

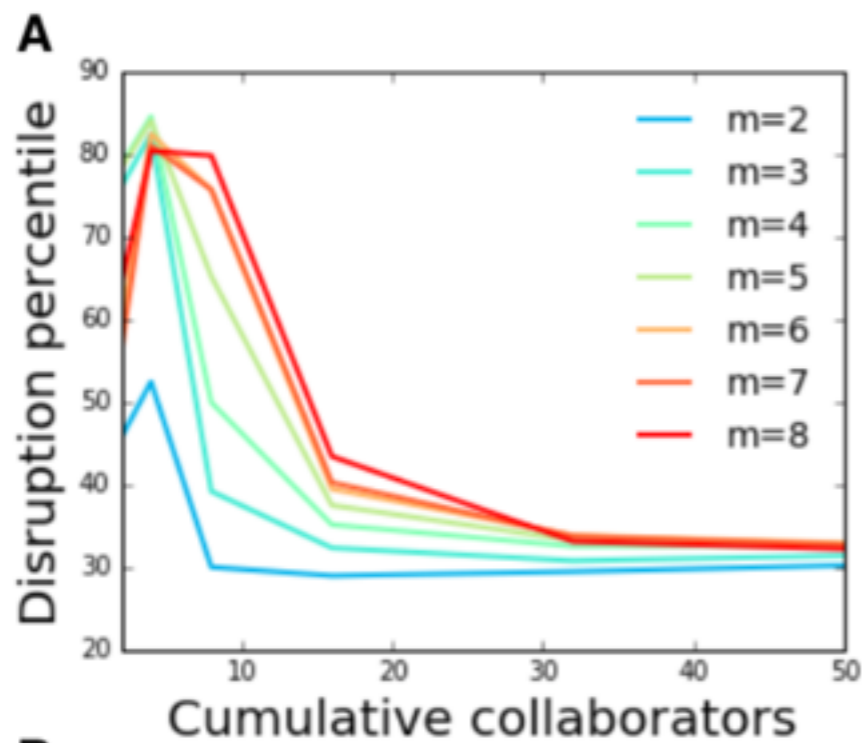
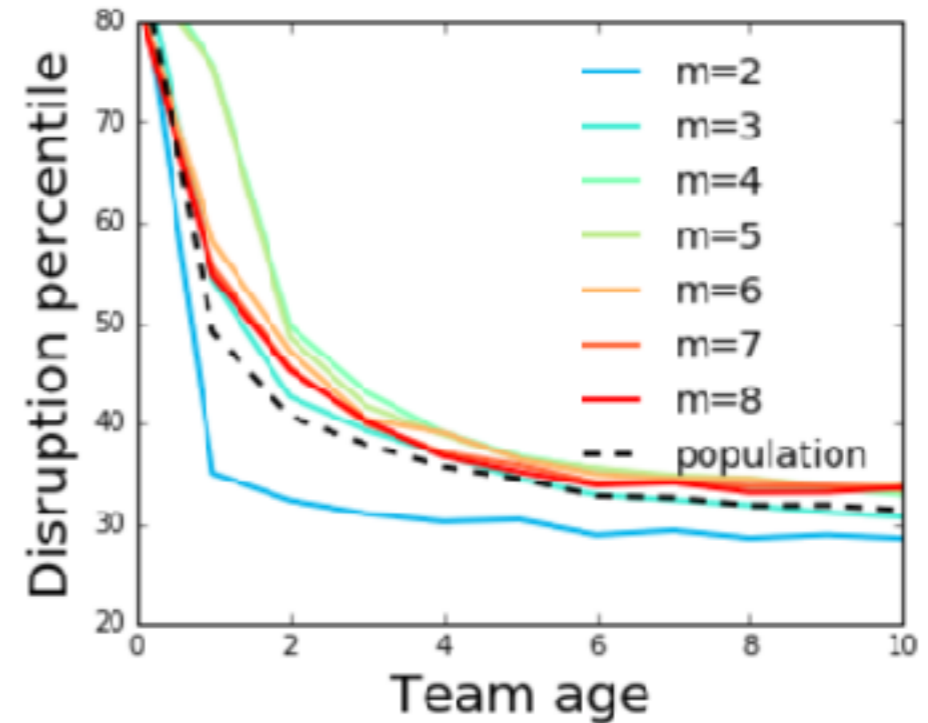
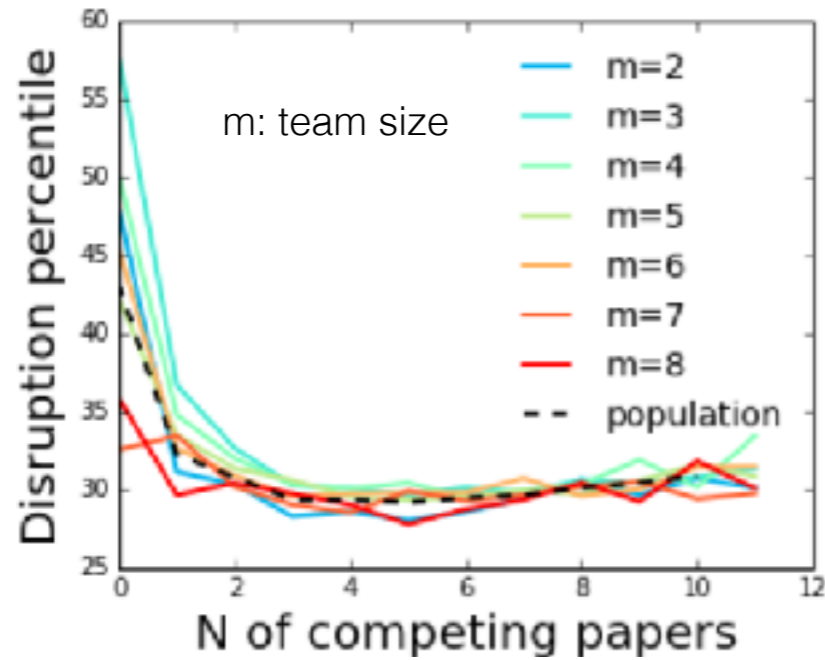
Multiple brain
experience as **brain**

The reproduction of team structures



Multiple brain experience as **muscle**

Team clock: innovation takes time



Team age: young innovators

Team connection: innovation by disconnection