
Emergent Coordination in Distributed Sensor Networks

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Networks are different

- Claim: Bottom-up approaches give more substance to discussions than generic top-down approaches
- This presentation studies a very special application field of network technologies in a very special manner
- However, it can be claimed that *all fields are special*
- Real semantics is domain-area specific, and also the ways of coding that semantics should differ
- This presentation gives an example of what can be reached when a *distributed network of measurement sensors* is modeled in a bottom-up way rather than applying centralized strategies



About semantics

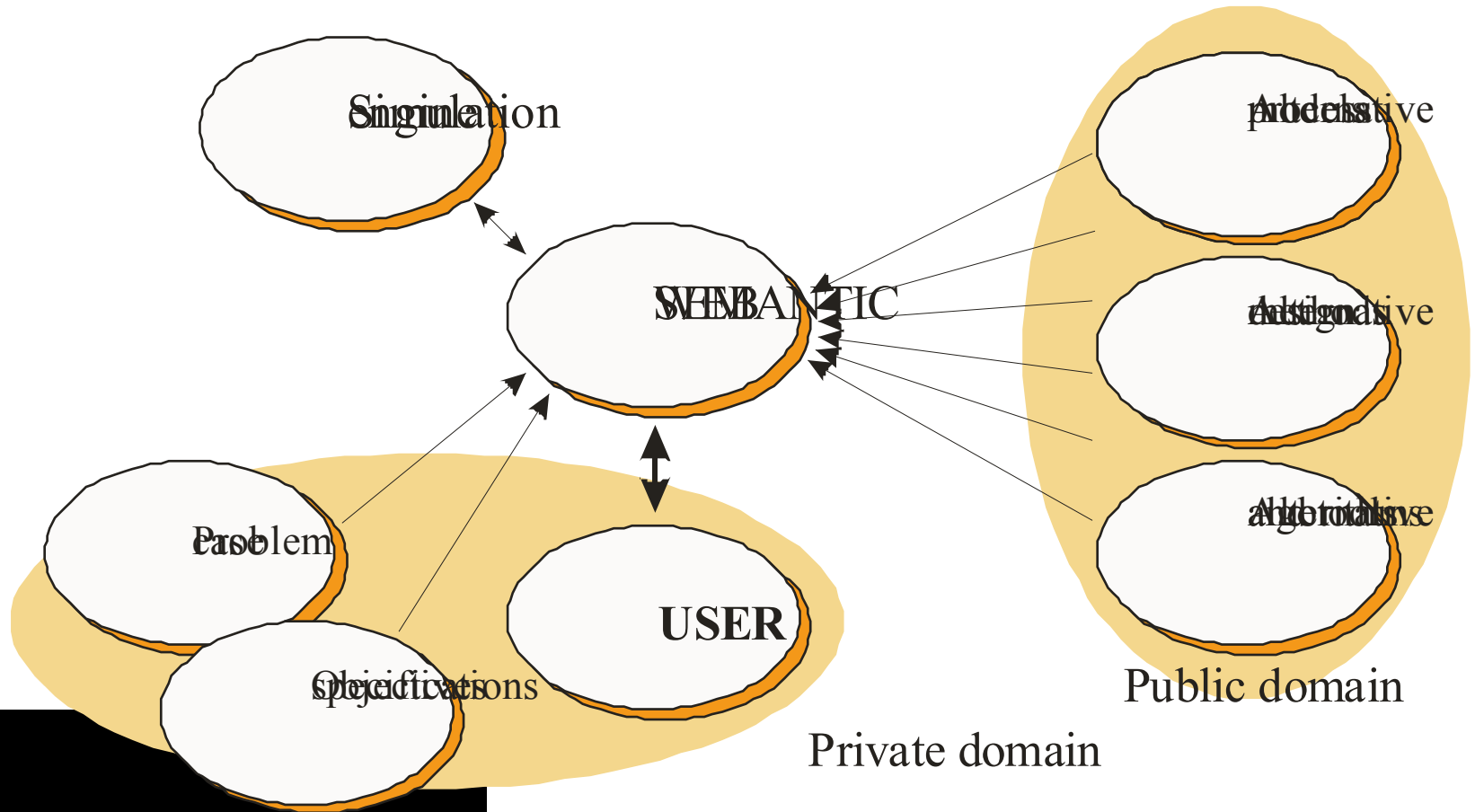
- Traditionally in Semantic Web (“Wisdom Web”) field knowledge is explicitly coded as rules
- Remember the experiences with Expert Systems!
- To reach savings with coding efforts, rather than implementing *ontologies* one can implement *epistemologies*
- To reach autonomous behaviors that are beyond what has explicitly been coded, some level of “understanding” is necessary: The *meaning* or *semantics* has to be captured
- If behaviors can be evaluated in numerical form, semantics can sometimes be formalized

...constructed: There is no more need for a “center”



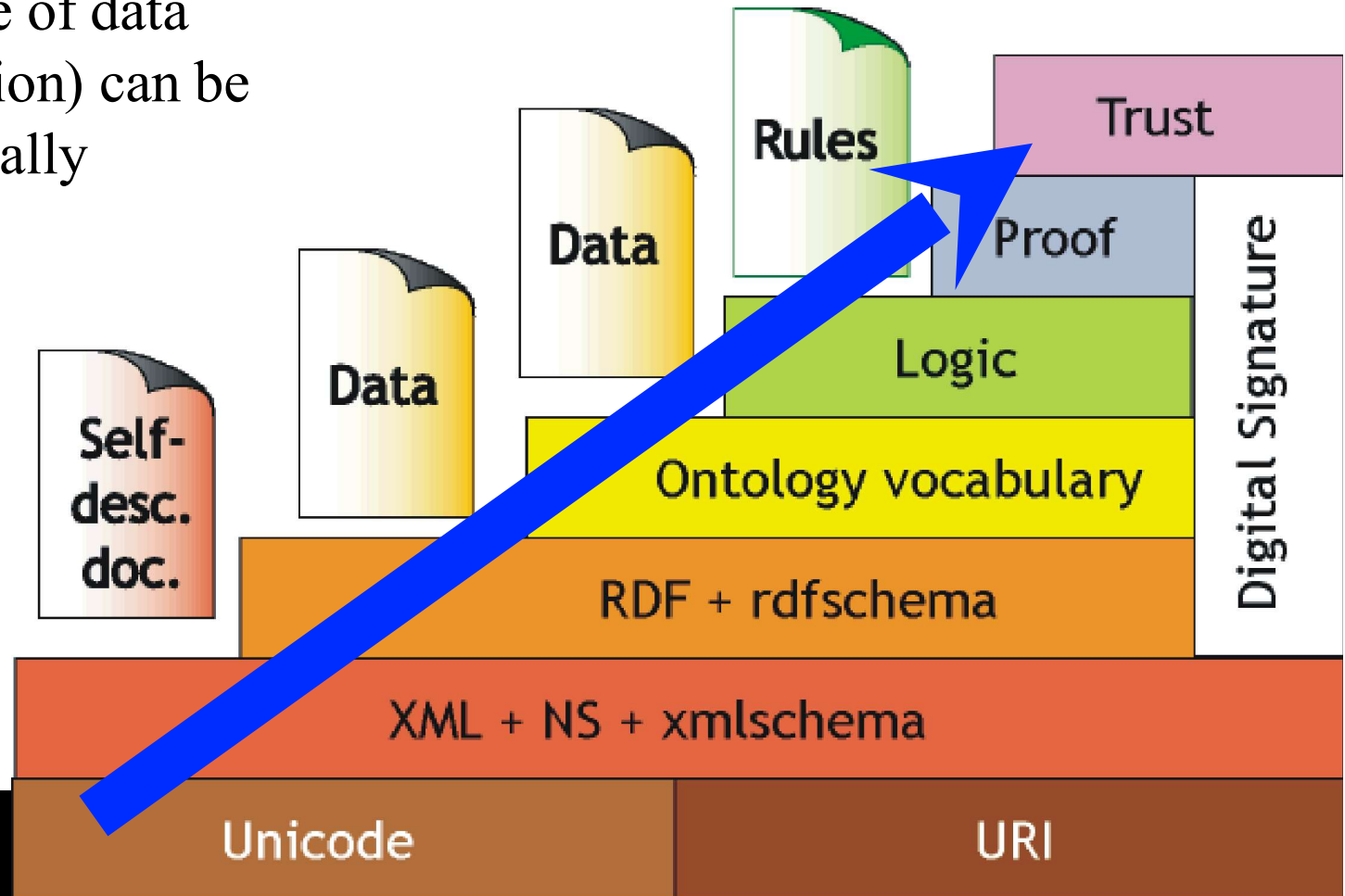
Formalized semantics: Larger visions

- Remember "Semantic Web Kick-Off"



From data directly to knowledge

- Relevance of data (information) can be automatically evaluated



Capturing semantics

- The challenge of semantics is huge; only a subset can be attacked here
- Only study *naturalistic* and *contextual* semantics
- Meaning of a variable is determined to which observations it is connected to, and to which other variables it is connected to: How the variable is affected by its environment, and how it affects its environment
- In concrete terms, this kind of semantics is revealed by *correlations* among entities
- Does this sound too simple? – Not when boosted with modern tools!



Modeling of correlations

- Assume that u is the vector containing the measurements
- The correlations are captured by the correlation matrix

$$E\{uu^T\} \approx \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k uu^T$$

- The correlation matrix can be decomposed as

$$E\{uu^T\} = \Phi^{-1}\Lambda\Phi$$

- Here, Φ contains the eigenvectors and Λ the eigenvalues on its diagonal
- The eigenvalues reveal how much variation is distributed in the corresponding eigenvector



PCA and subspace identification

- Measurements can be compressed by projecting the data onto the n most significant (orthonormal) eigenvectors
- Assume these eigenvectors are collected in ϕ
- The *latent variables* are found as

$$x(u) = \phi^T u$$

- This is known as *principal component analysis* PCA
- Principal component regression where noise hopefully is filtered is then given as

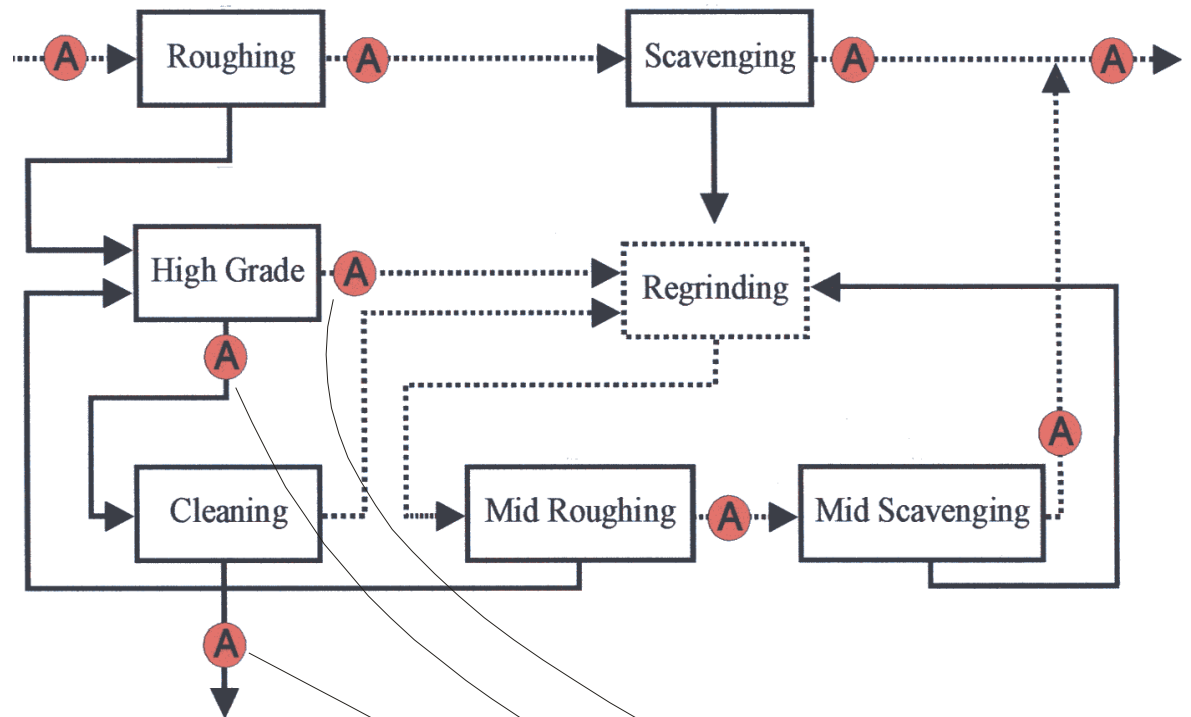
$$\hat{u} = \phi x(u)$$

, one has *subspace identification*



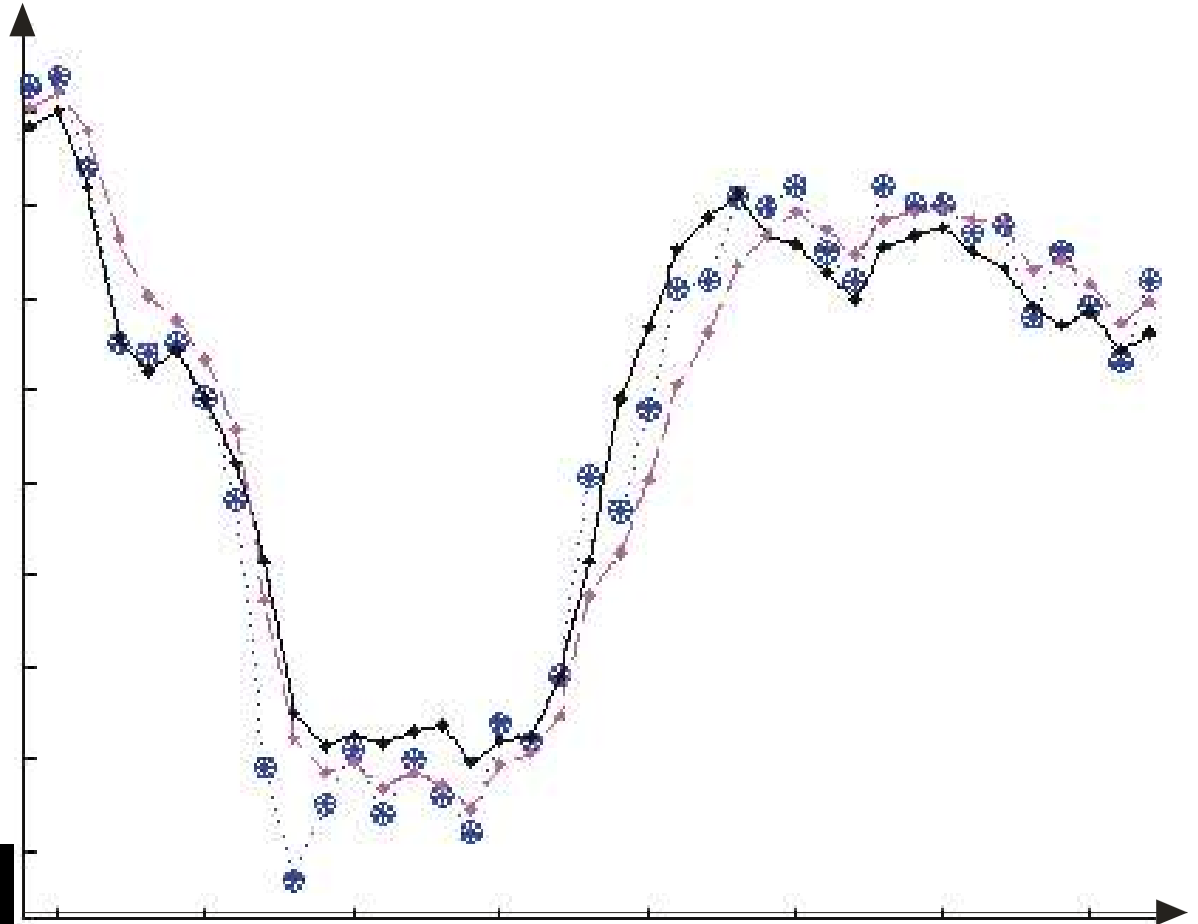
Experiment

- Pyhäsalmi Mine zinc flotation circuit
- Measurements using X-ray analyzer
- Noisy data can be enhanced if dependencies (correlations) are modeled



”Good results”

- Measurements utilize causal dependencies among data
- However, the process is very time variant



Distributed PCA

- It has been recognized that the system with

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -Ax + Bu$$

where

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = -Av + x$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = -\lambda A + \lambda xx^T$$

$$\frac{dB}{dt} = -\lambda B + \lambda xu^T$$

and, finally,

$$\hat{u} = B^T v$$

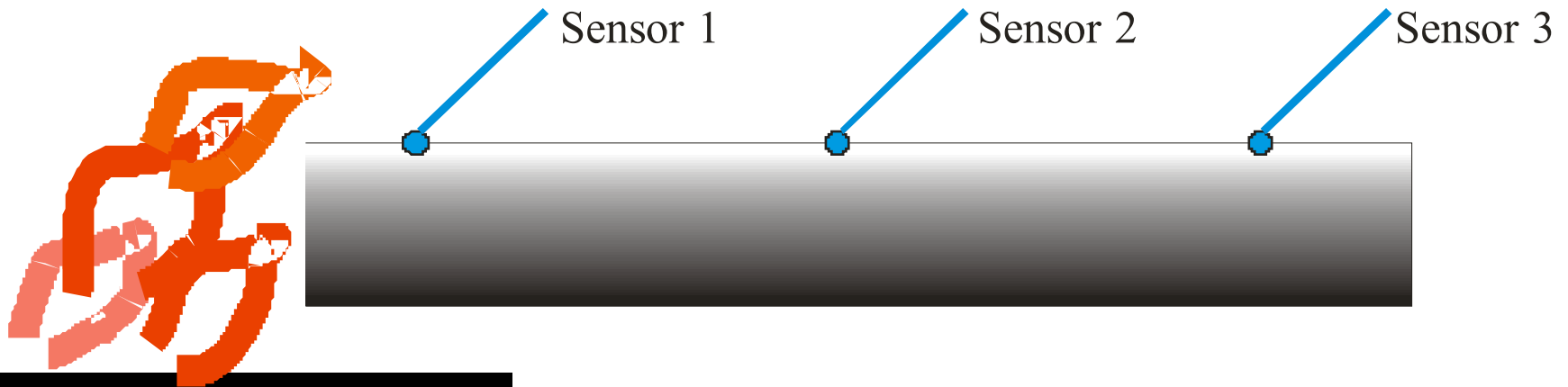
can be distributed among sensors; sensor states and state changes are

ors



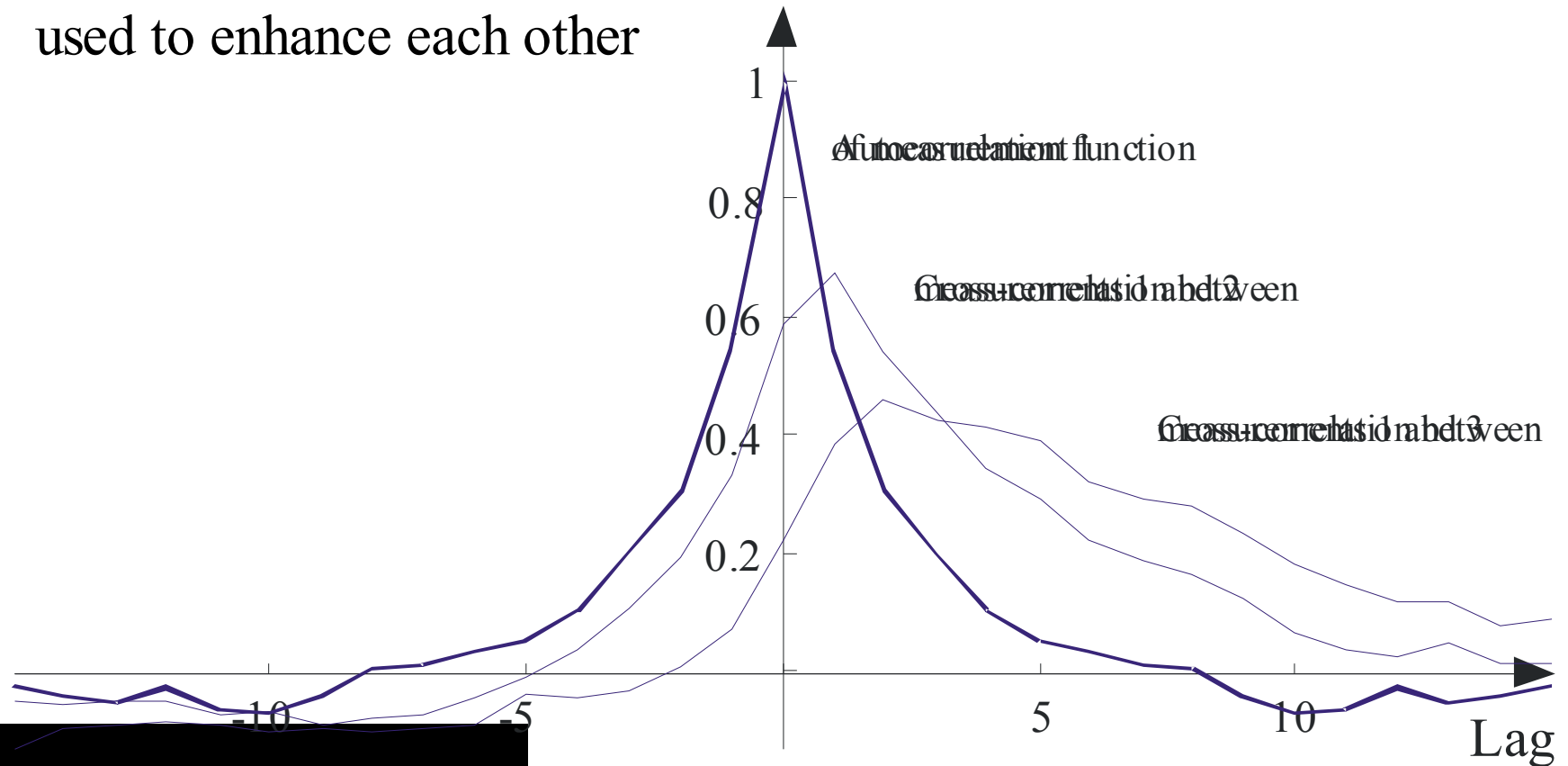
Simulation: Heat transfer

- Typical processes are infinite-dimensional
- How to determine the process state appropriately?
- How to enhance the measurements?

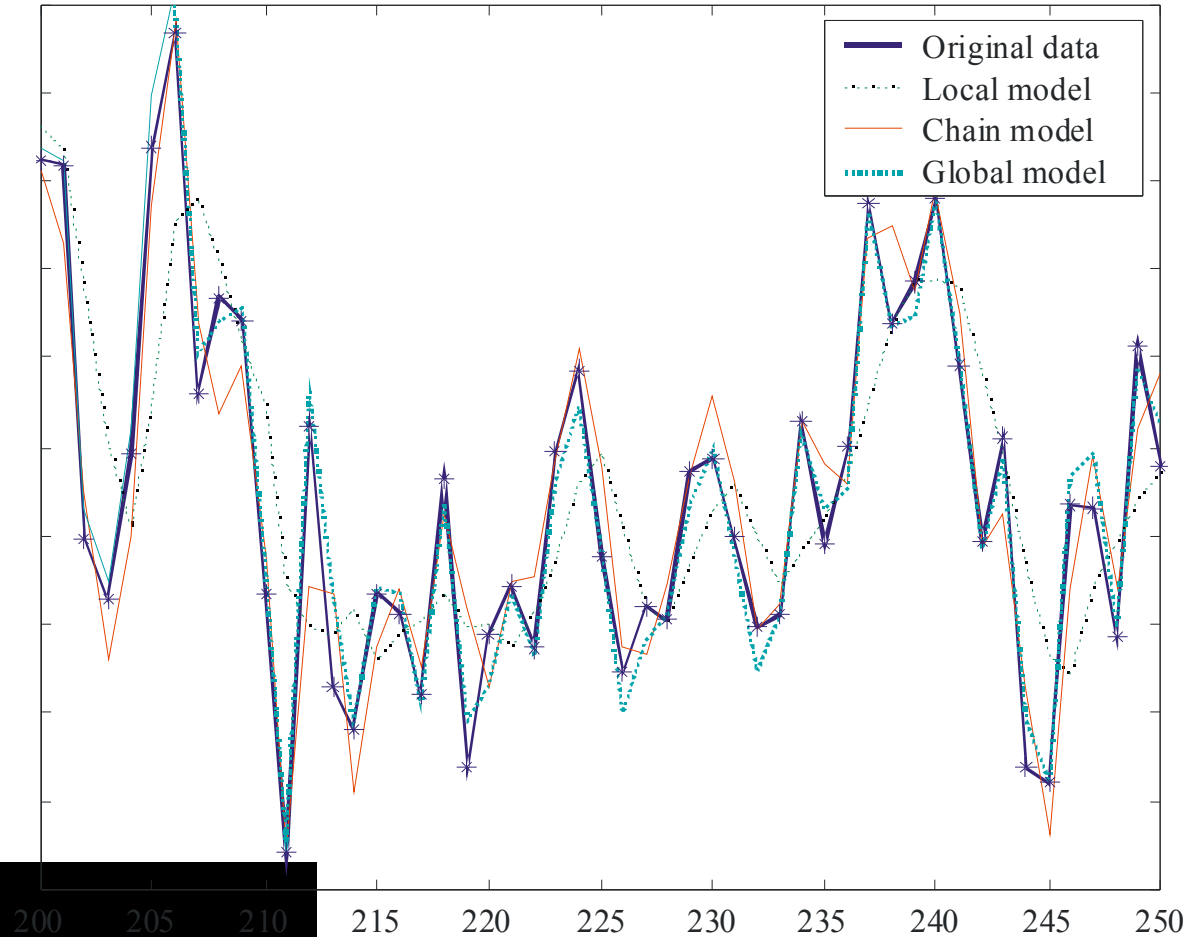


Correlations between measurements

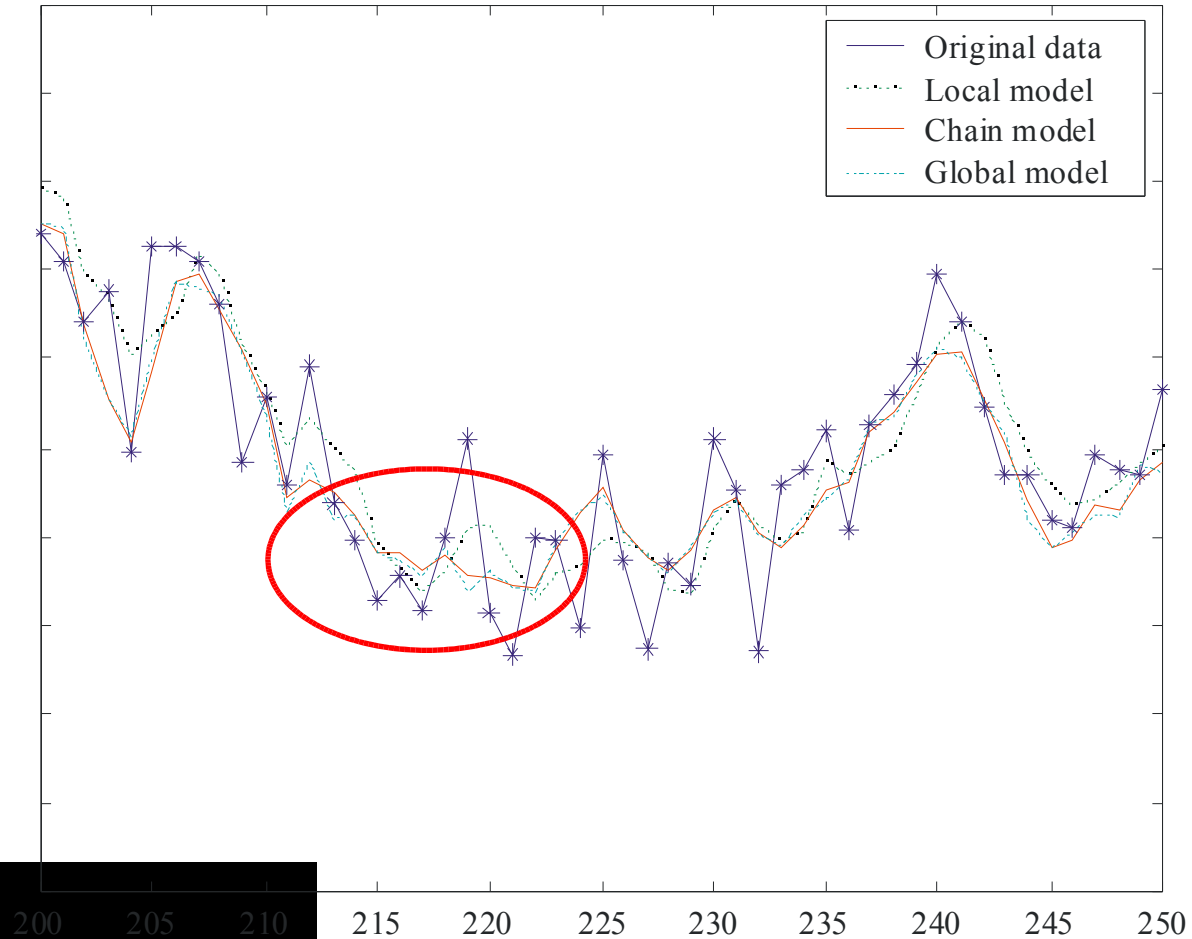
- The measurements can be used to enhance each other



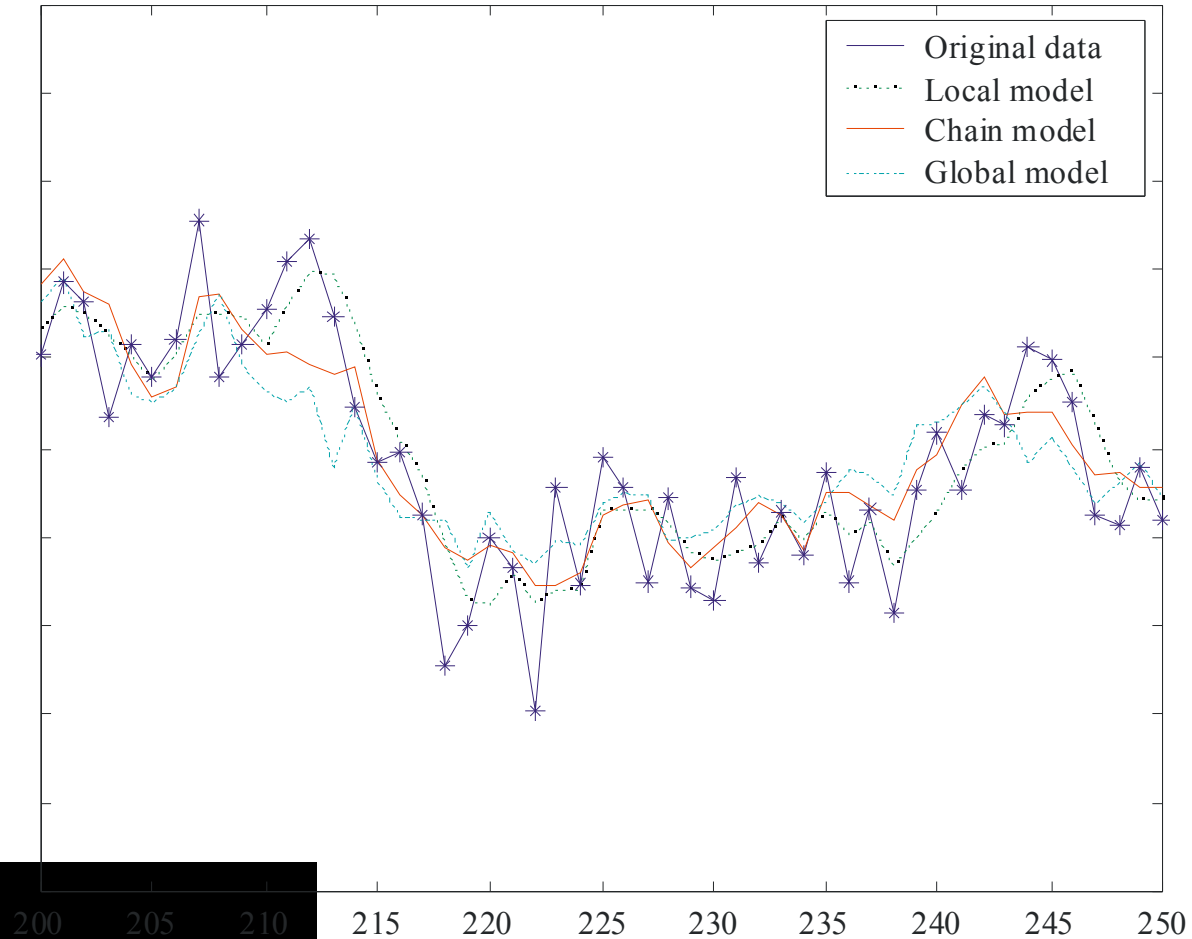
Measurements: First sensor



Measurements: Middle sensor



Measurements: Last sensor



Experiences

- If sensors are fully connected, "trivial" (distributed) principal component regression functionality is obtained
 - More interesting results are reached if the network is not fully connected ("chain" structure above)
 - Incomplete, localized information results in *better* estimates
 - The local models are low-dimensional: Only appropriate information is present, resulting in fast adaptation, and enhanced robustness
 - As compared to mainstream approaches to distributed sensors, now one has overlapping "fuzzy" clusters of sensors
 - There does not exist global-level optimality criterion – distributed
- ... not only practical interest

