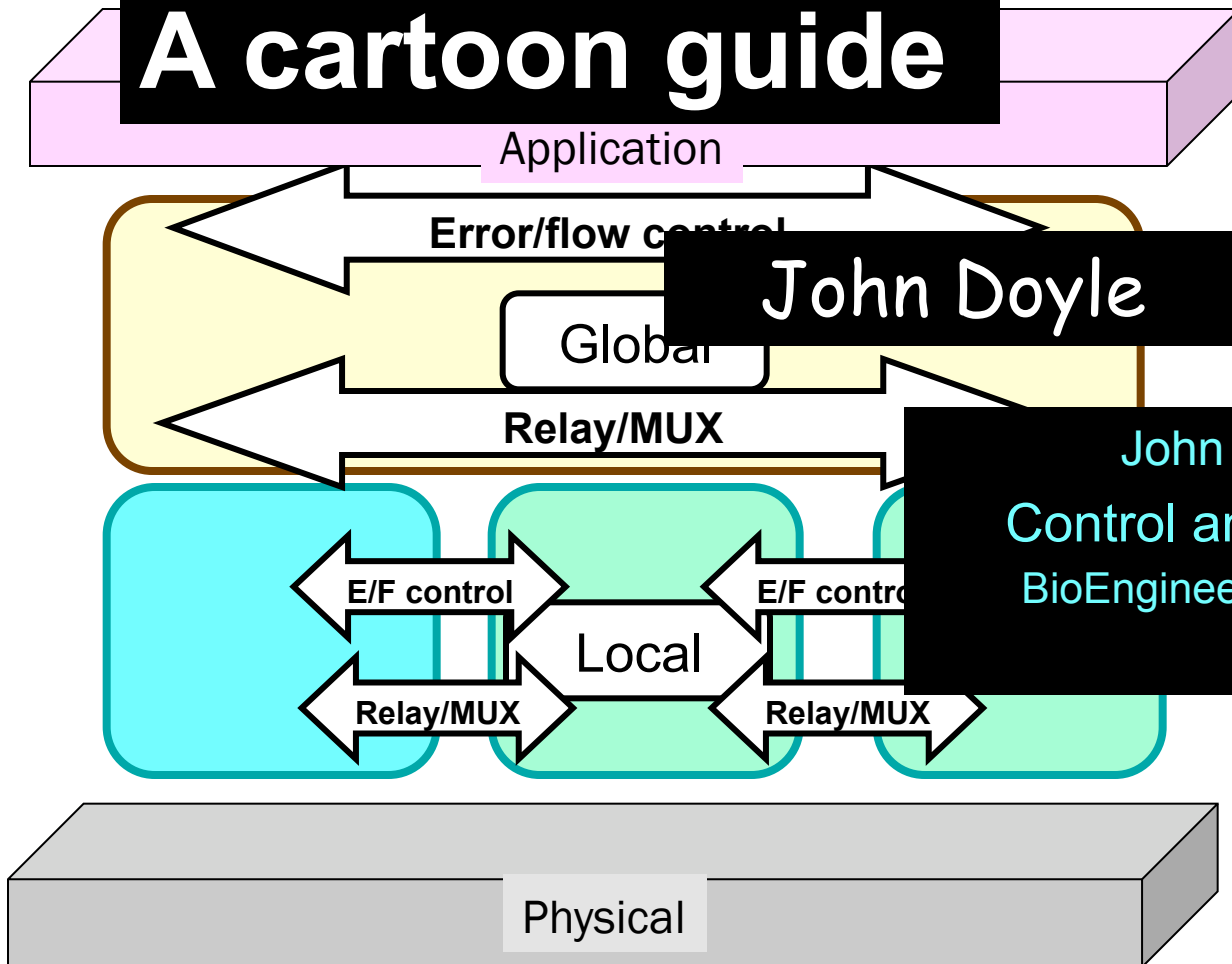


# Complex Network Architecture: A cartoon guide



John Doyle

John G. Braun Professor  
Control and Dynamical Systems  
BioEngineering, Electrical Engineering  
Caltech

Reactions

**Flow**

Protein level

Reactions

**Flow**

RNA level

**Flow**

DNA level

# Outline

- Not merely “complexity, networks, abstraction, recursion, modularity,…”
- But very specific forms of these that are needed for networks
- Emphasize fundamentals
- Illustrate with case studies and cartoons:
  - Internet versus bacterial biosphere
  - Operating systems
  - Global brain architecture
  - Smartgrid and cyberphysical

# Next steps?

- New course this term? (CDS 213?)
- Flesh out details
- Integrated theory: control, comms, computing, thermo/statmech, optimization, games, etc
- Motivated by very generic network challenges

# Network Math and Engineering (NetME) Challenges

- Predictive modeling, simulation, and analysis of complex systems in technology and nature
- Theoretical foundation for design of network architectures
- Balance rigor/relevance, integrative/coherent
- Model/simulate is critical but limited
  - Predicting rare but catastrophic events
  - Design, not merely analysis
  - Managing complexity and uncertainty

# NetME as a discipline?

- Variety of existing networks to understand and challenges in designing new ones
- NetX = networking of domain X
  - NetOS = Internet
  - NetBio = systems biology
  - NetGrid = smartgrid
  - ...
- Claim: There is a universal “net” subject that will enable NetX for many different X.
- Q: How much of each “X” do we need to know.

# NetME now

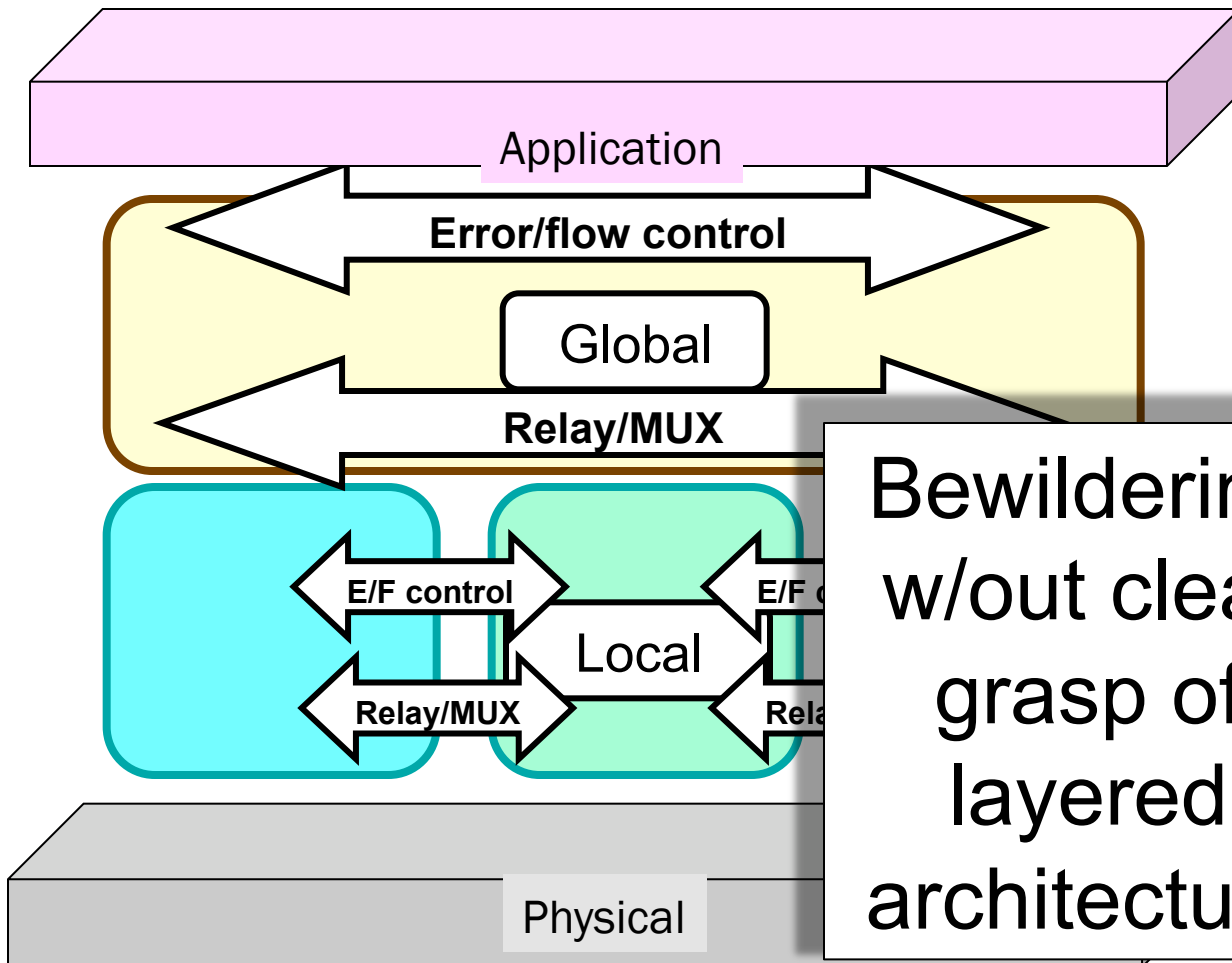
- The foundations are fragmented into various “systems” subjects that need unification
- Available case studies are mixes of accident, history, and necessity, so extracting lessons learned is subtle
- Our strategy: Blend theory and “natural history”
  - Theory: math to unify/extend the fragments
  - Natural history: “enlightened” case studies
  - Teaching: better approaches to “Xes”
  - Need  $\cap$  and extension, not just  $\cup$
- Keep chasing “architecture”

# 213 logistics

- P/F only
- Units are flexible and individual
- No universal requirements
- Can focus on case studies or theory or whatever
- Hope to integrate with S. Low course and smartgrid
- No universal text but suggestions for those focusing on case studies

Huge range of dynamics

- Spatial
- Temporal



Bewildering  
w/out clear  
grasp of  
layered  
architecture

Reactions

**Flow**

**Protein level**

Reactions

**Flow**

**RNA level**

Reactions

**Flow**

**DNA level**

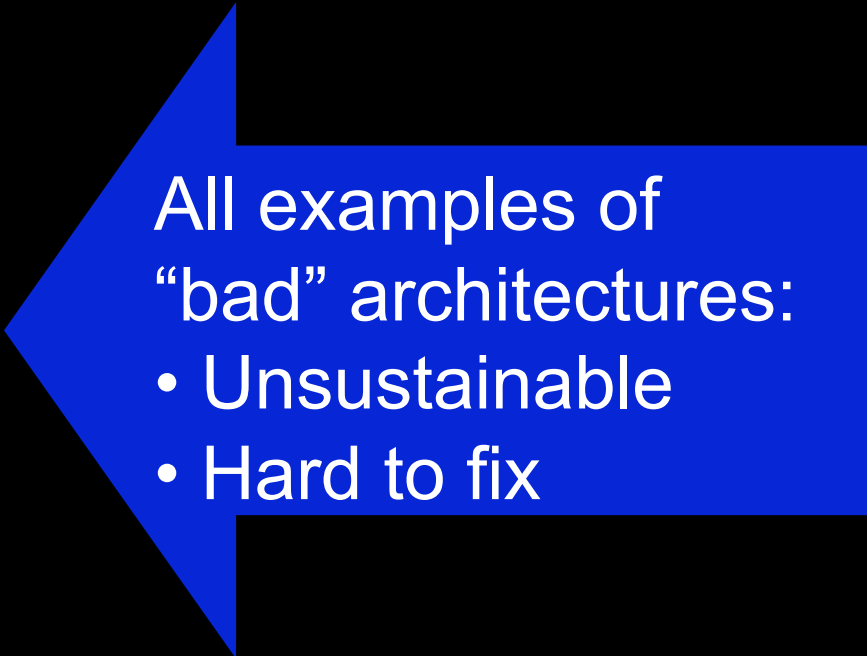


# “Architecture”

- Most persistent, ubiquitous, and global features of organization
- Constrains what is possible for good or bad
- Platform that enables (or prevents) innovation, sustainability, etc,
- Internet, biology, energy, manufacturing, transportation, water, food, waste, law, etc
- Existing architectures are unsustainable
- Theoretical foundation is fragmented, incoherent, incomplete

# Infrastructure networks?

- Power
- Transportation
- Water
- Waste
- Food
- Healthcare
- Finance



All examples of  
“bad” architectures:

- Unsustainable
- Hard to fix

Where do we look for “good” examples?

## Informative case studies in architecture

- Internet and related technology (OS)
- Systems biology (particularly, bacterial biosphere)
- System medicine and physiology
- Ecosystems (e.g. So Cal wildfire ecology)
- Aerospace systems
- Electronic Design Autom. (Platform Based Design)
  
- Multiscale physics (turbulence, stat mech)
- Misc: buildings/cities, Lego, clothing/fashion, barter/  
markets/money/finance, social/political

# Important Influences We Hope to Include in This Course

- There increasingly many researchers/authors with increasingly coherent thinking about architecture
- Remarkably convergence across many fields
- Different language and domains so translation is difficult
- We'll have a few central case studies (primarily Internet and biology) but try to connect with some others

# Primary focus for this course

- **Biology/Medicine** (Savageau, G&K, Mattick, Csete, Arkin, Alon, Caporale, de Duve, Exerc Physio, Acute Care, etc...)
- **Internet** (Kelly/Low, Willinger, Clark, Wroclawski, Day, Chang, Alderson, etc)

## Other Influences We Hope to Include in This Course

- **Architecture** (Alexander, Salingeros,...)
- **Aerospace** (many, Maier is a good book)
- **Philosophy/History** (Fox Keller, Jablonka&Lamb)
- **Physics/ecology** (Carlson)
- **Management** (Baldwin,...)
- **Resilience/Safety/Security Engineering/Economics** (Wood, Anderson, Leveson, ...)
- **Platform Based Design**: Alberto S-V, Lee, ...

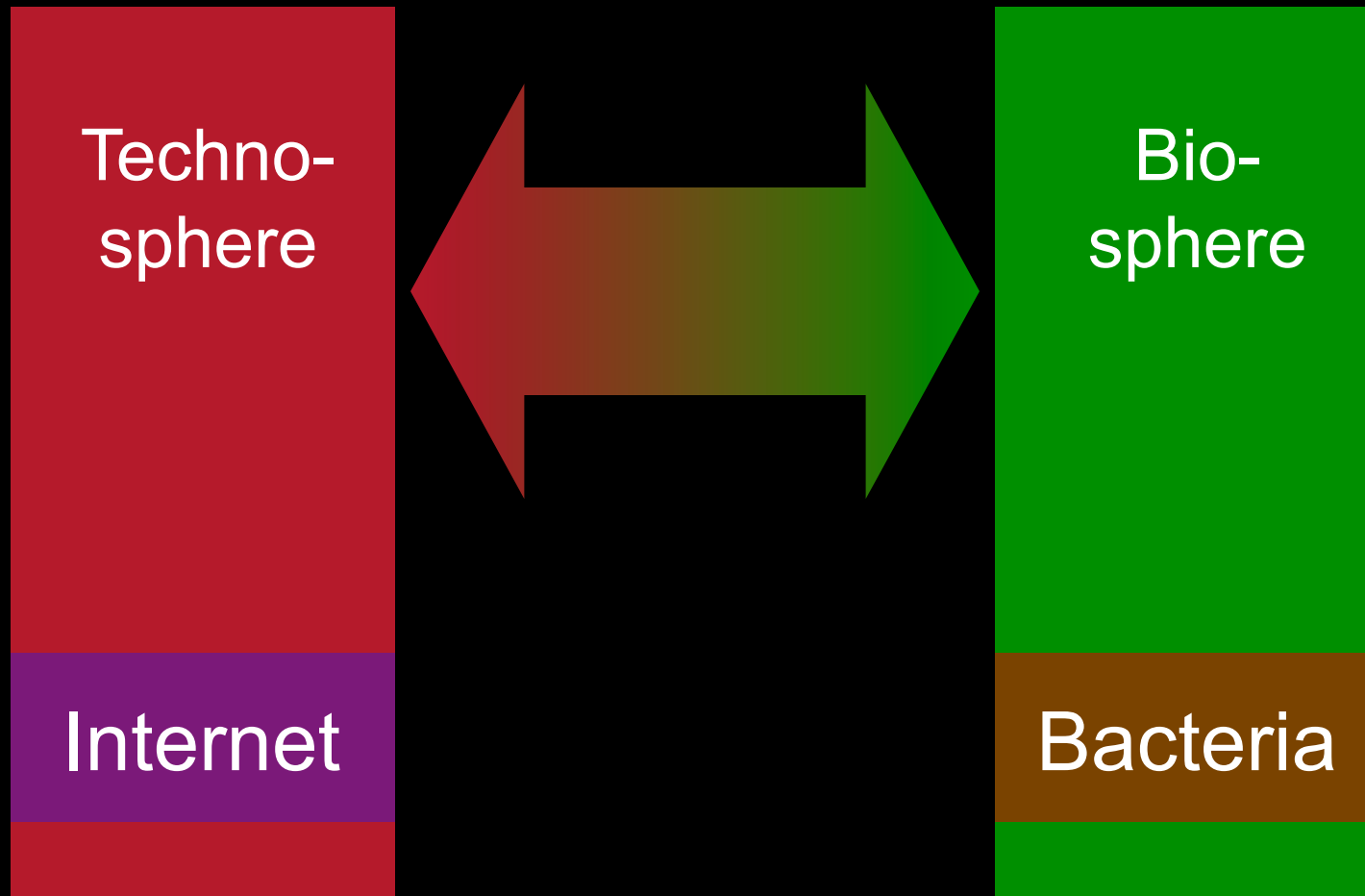
- Successful architectures
- Robust, evolvable
- Universal, foundational
- Accessible, familiar
- Unresolved challenges
- New theoretical frameworks
- Boringly retro?

## **Simplest case studies**

Internet

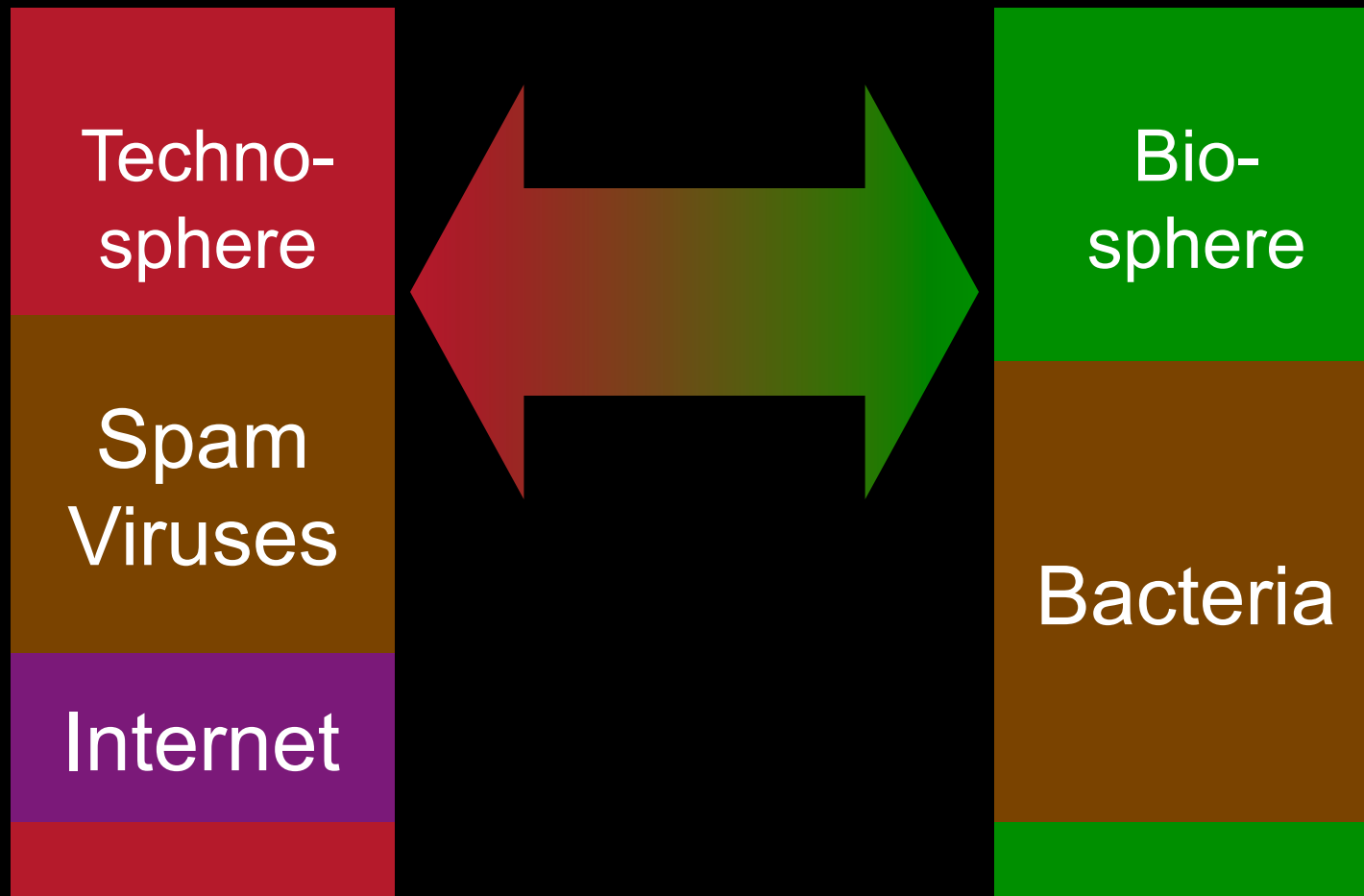
Bacteria

- Universal, foundational





- Universal, foundational



Two lines of research:

1. Patch the existing Internet architecture so it handles its new roles



Techno-  
sphere

Internet

- Real time
- Control *over* (not just of) networks
- Action in the physical world
- Human collaborators and adversaries
- Net-centric *everything*

# Modern theory and the Internet





## Levels of understanding

Verbal/cartoon
Data and statistics
Modeling and simulation
Analysis
Synthesis

## Topics

Traffic
Topology
Control and dynamics
Layering
Architecture

# Recent progress (1995-)

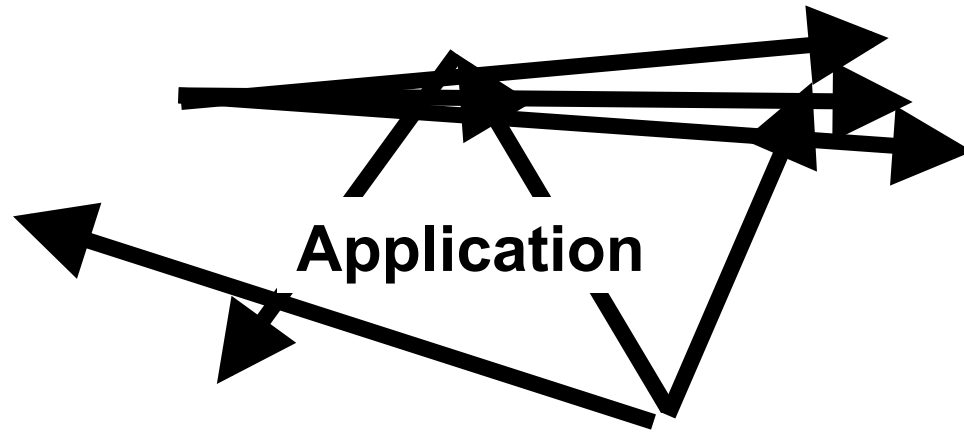
	Traffic	Topology	C&D	Layering	Architect.
Cartoon					?
Data/stat					
Mod/sim					
Analysis					
Synthesis					

# Recent progress

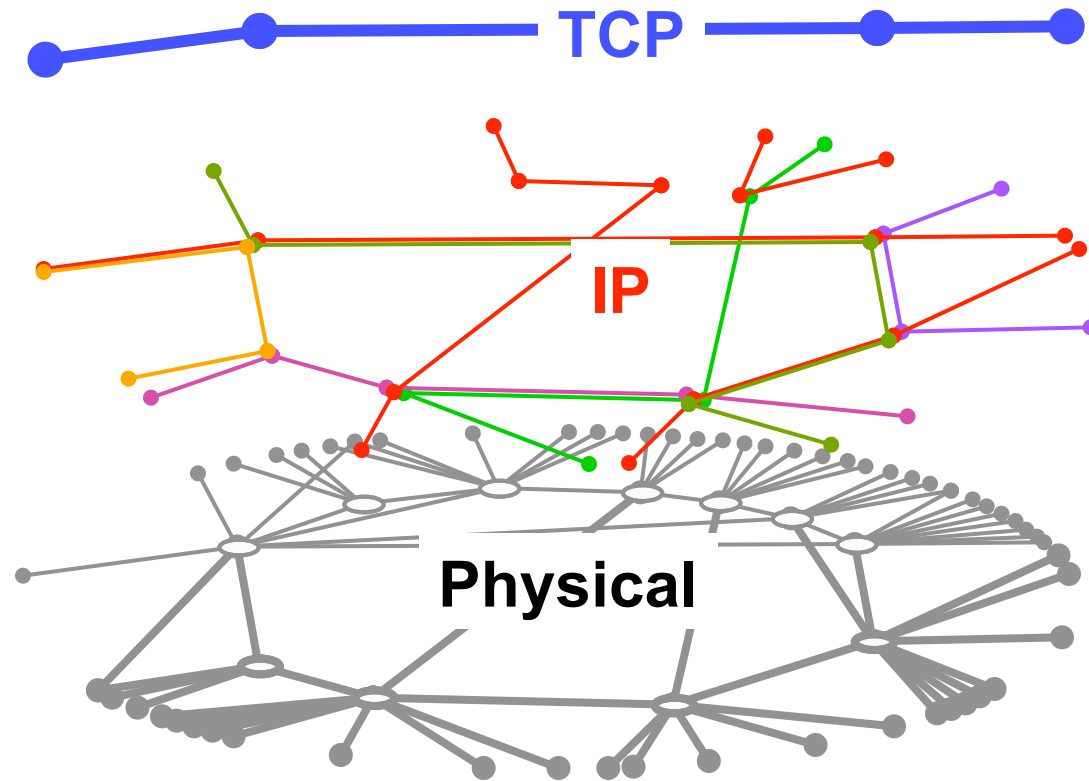
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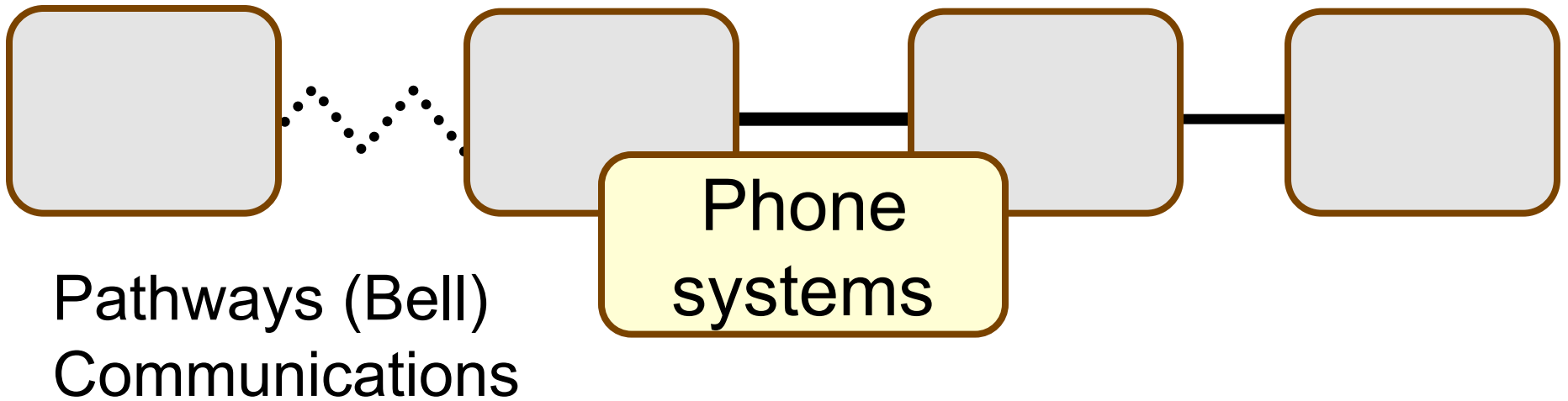


Architecture  
is *not* graph  
topology.



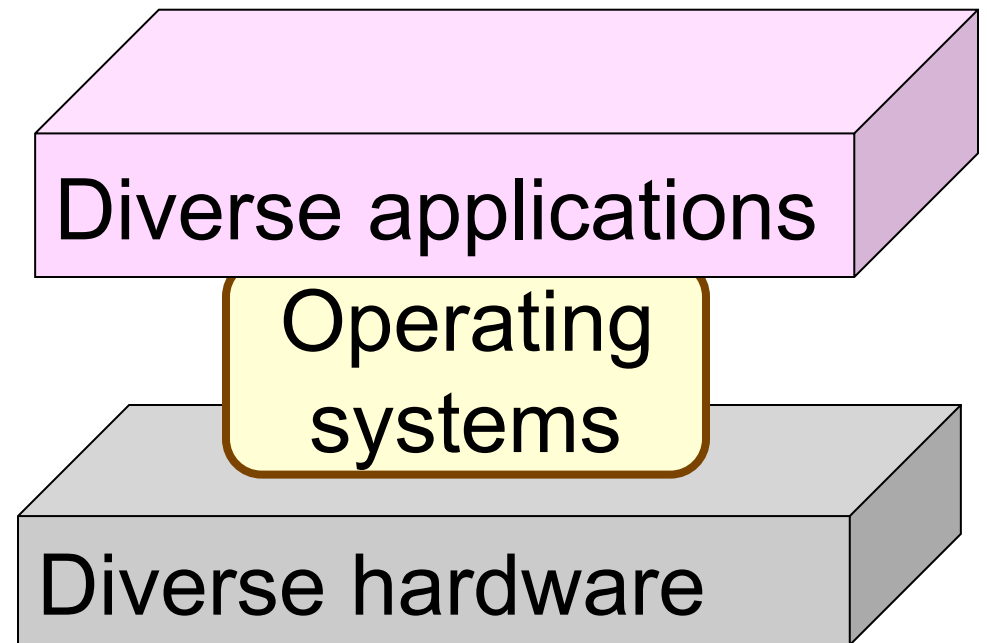
Architecture  
facilitates  
arbitrary  
graphs.





Layers (Net)  
Computer

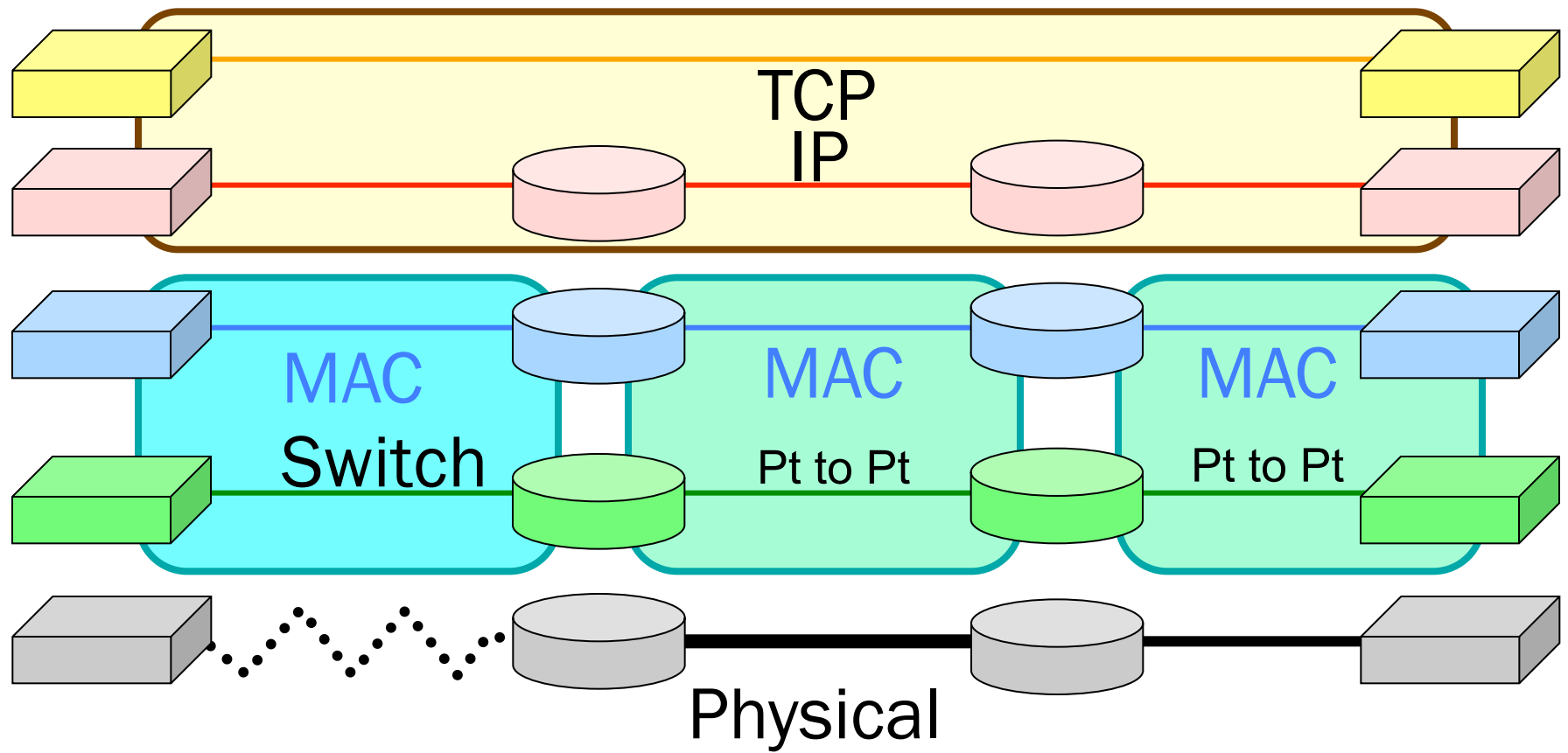
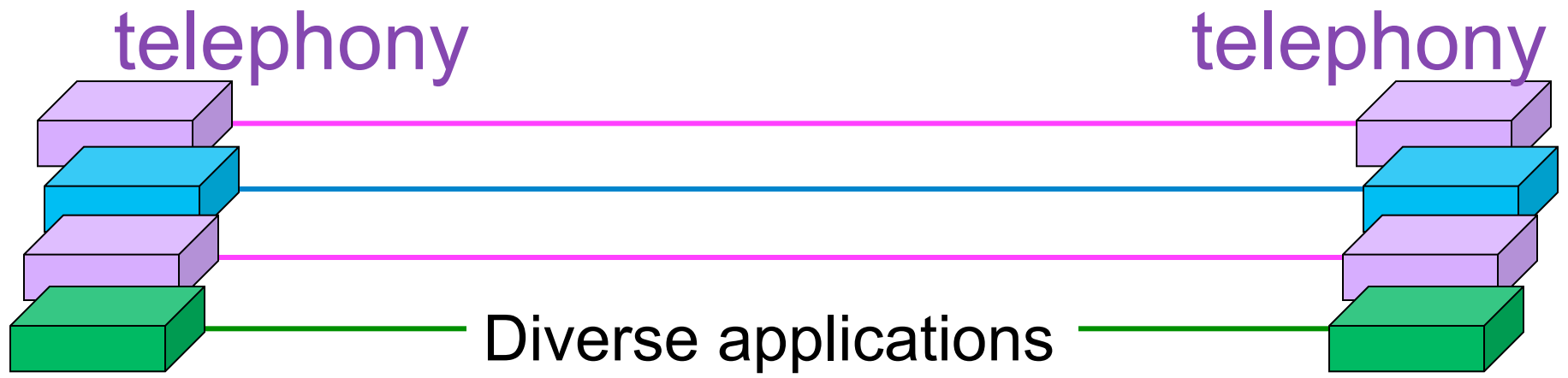
Ancient network  
architecture:  
“Bell-heads  
versus  
Net-heads”



# Recent progress (1995-)

	Traffic	Topology	C&D	Layering	Architect.
Cartoon					
Data/stat					
Mod/sim					
Analysis					
Synthesis					





# Theoretical framework: Constraints that deconstrain

**Applications  
Deconstrained**

$$\min_x \left\{ \int \left( \|R\tilde{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{c}\|^2 + \|R\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{c}\|^2 \right) dt \right\}$$
$$\left| \begin{array}{l} \tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \arg \max_v L(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{p}), \quad \dot{\mathbf{p}} = R\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{c} \\ \Rightarrow x_s = \arg \max_v L_s(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{p}) \end{array} \right.$$

**Resources  
Deconstrained**

Enormous progress

- Layering as optimization decomposition
- Optimal control
- Robust control
- Game theory
- Network coding

Theoretical  
framework:  
Constraints that  
deconstrain

Enormous progress

- Layering as optimization
- Optimal control
- Robust control
- Game theory
- Network coding

- Many robustness issues left unaddressed
- Secure, verifiable, manageable, maintainable, etc
- Architecture/policy, not part of control/dynamics
- How to expand the theory?

# Cyber-Physical Theories?

- Thermodynamics
  - Communications
  - Control
  - Computation
- 
- Same robustness issues still unaddressed
  - Architecture/policy, not part of any of these
  - Each assumes an architecture a priori
  - How to expand the theory?

# Cyber

- Thermodynamics
- Communications
- Control
- Computation

Internet

# Physical

- Thermodynamics
- Communications
- Control
- Computation

Bacteria

Case studies motivate integration

# Cyber

- Thermodynamics
- Communications
- Control
- Computation

# Physical

- Thermodynamics
- Communications
- Control
- Computation

Promising unifications

A start but more is needed

Two lines of research:

1. Patch the existing Internet architecture
2. **Fundamentally rethink network architecture**







Techno-  
sphere

Internet

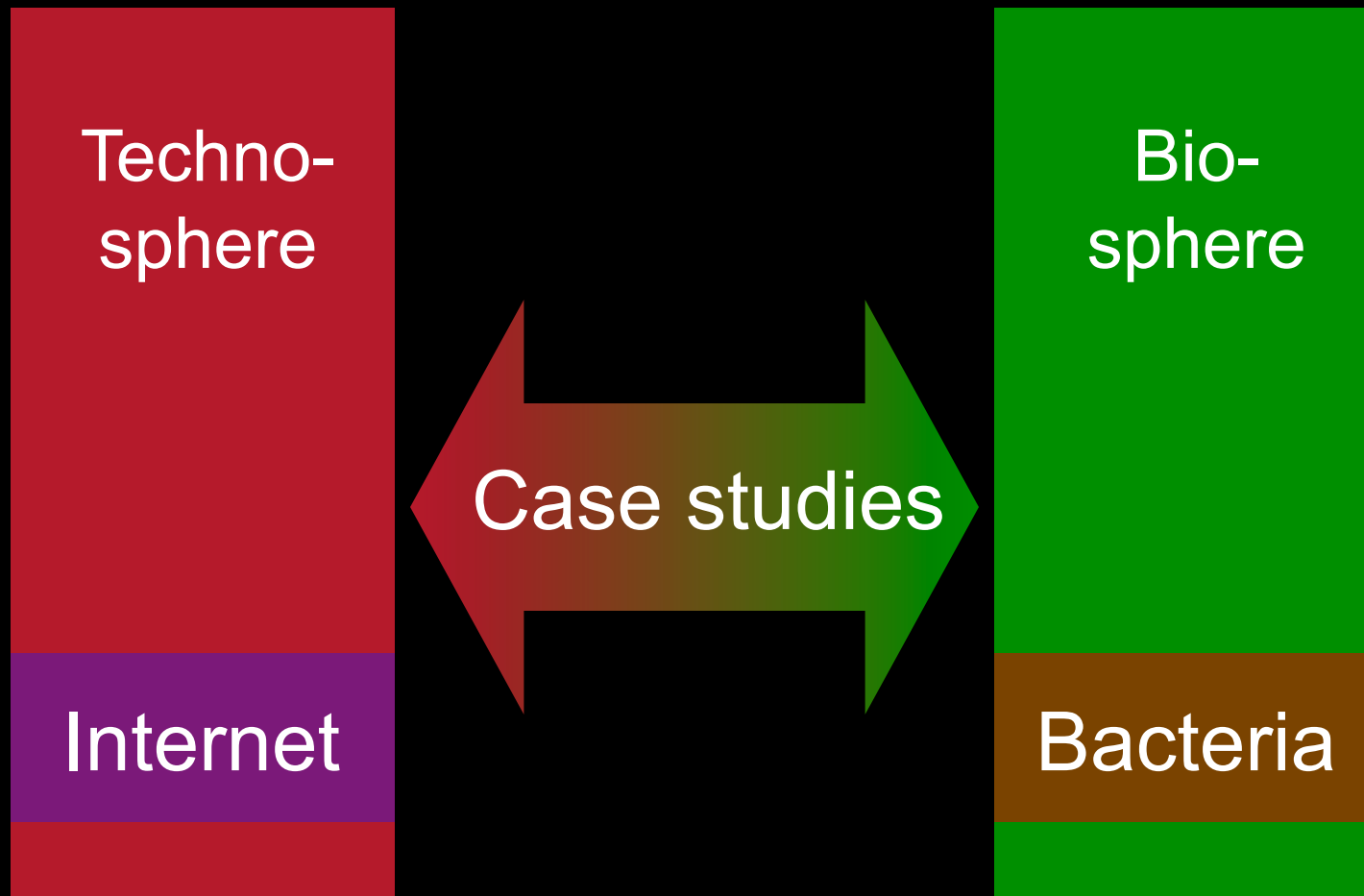


# Architecture?

	Traffic	Topology	C&D	Layering	Architect.
Cartoon					?
Data/stat					
Mod/sim					
Analysis					
Synthesis					



- 1.
2. Fundamentally rethink network architecture



# Biology versus the Internet

## Similarities

- Evolvable architecture
- Robust yet fragile
- Constraints/deconstrain
- Layering, modularity
- Hourglass with bowties
- Feedback
- Dynamic, stochastic
- Distributed/decentralized
- *Not* scale-free, edge-of-chaos, self-organized criticality, etc

## Differences

- Metabolism
- Materials and energy
- Autocatalytic feedback
- Feedback complexity
- Development and regeneration
- >4B years of evolution
- How the parts work?

# Biology versus the Internet

## Similarities

- Evolvable architecture
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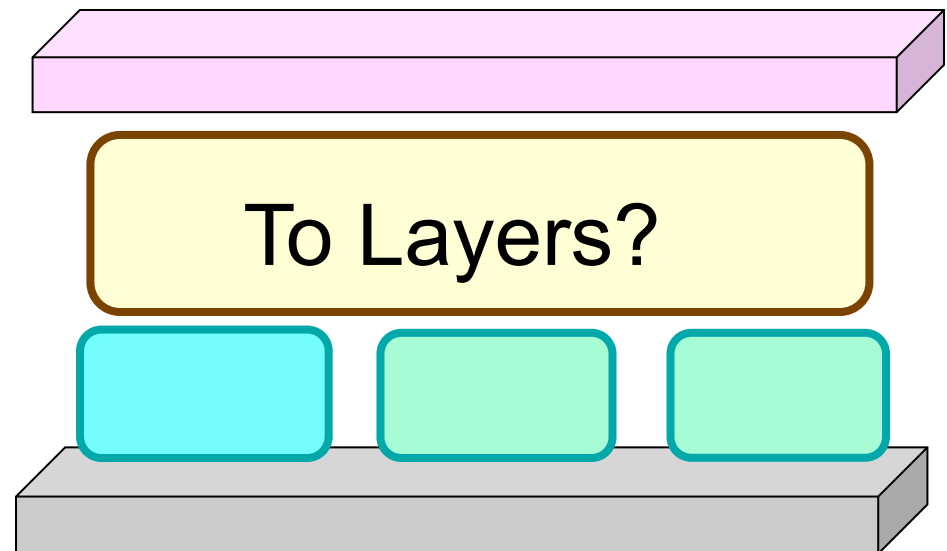
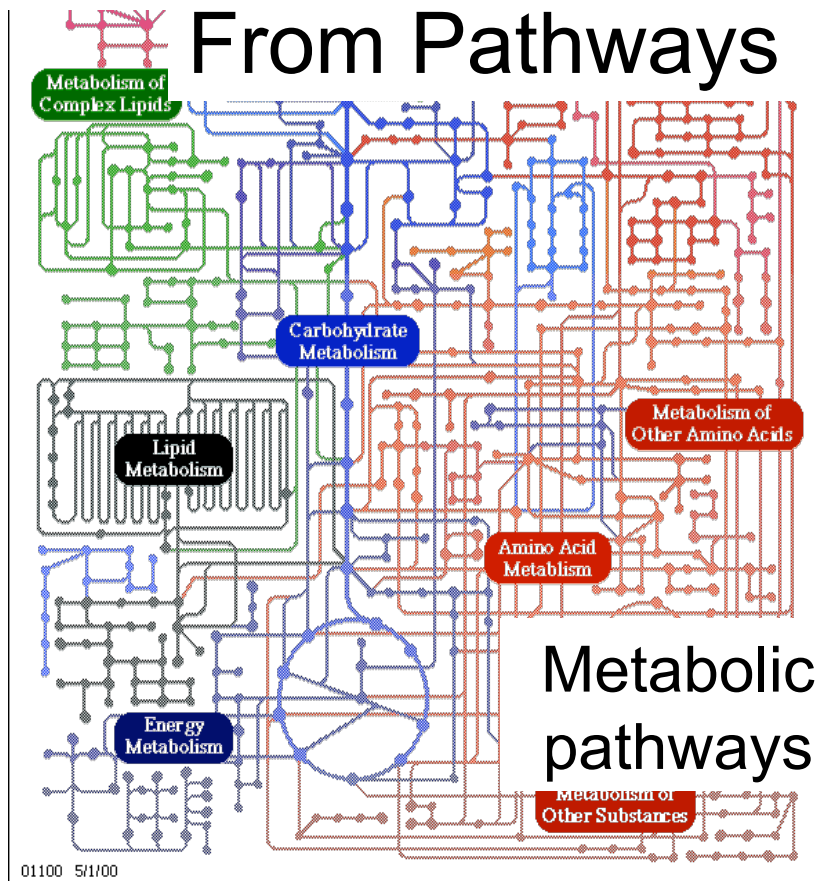
- **Metabolism**
- **Materials and energy**
- Autocatalytic feedback
- Feedback complexity
- Development and regeneration
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Focus on  
bacterial biosphere

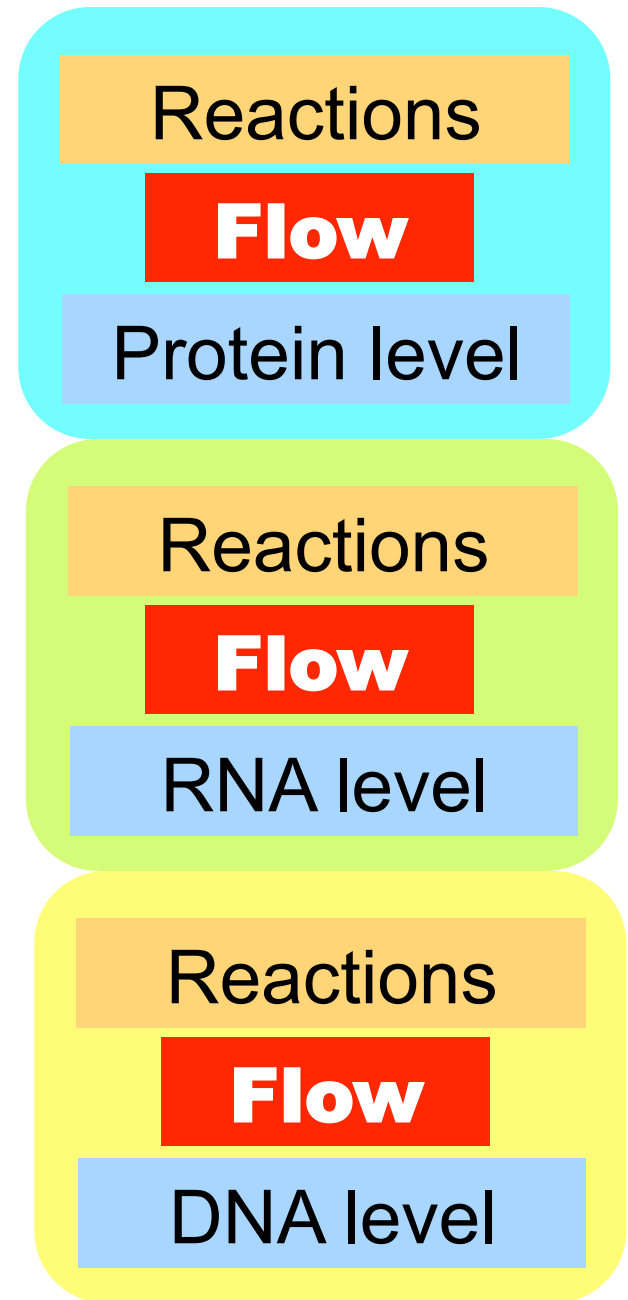
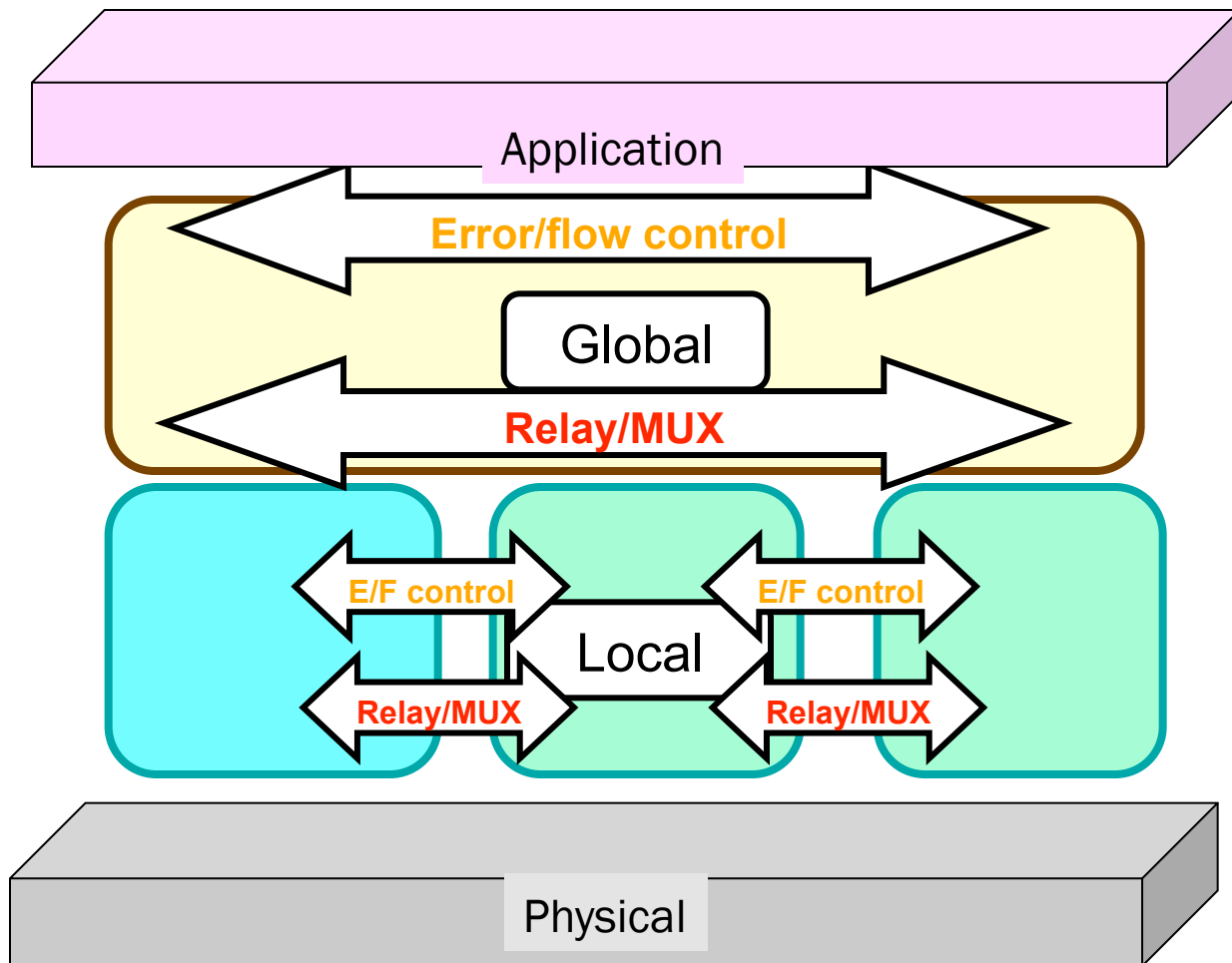
“Central dogma”



Network architecture?



# Recursive control structure



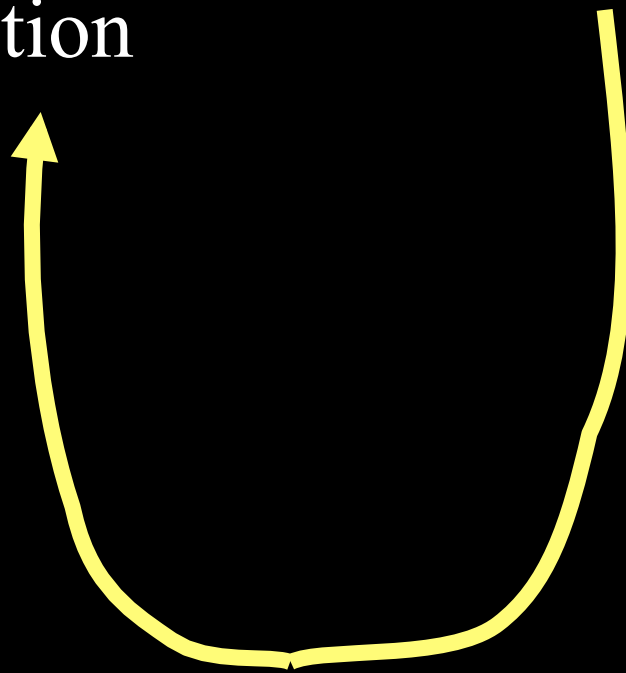
# In the real (vs virtual) world

What matters:

- Action

What doesn't:

- Data
- Information
- Computation
- Learning
- Decision
- ...



Two lines of research:

1. Patch the existing Internet architecture
2. **Fundamentally rethink network architecture**



Techno-  
sphere

Internet

