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# Altruism, reputation, and collective collapse of cooperation in a simple model

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**Andrzej Jarynowski**

Smoluchowski Institute of Physics, Jagiellonian University in Cracow

P. Gawroński, K. Kułakowski

Faculty of Physics and Applied Computer Science, University of Science  
Technology (AGH) in Cracow

- Motivation
- Introduction to model
- Set of cases with constant altruism
- Set of cases with changing altruism
- Conclusion and sociological analyse

- The Prisoner's Dilemma (PD) is a canonical example of game, where mutual cooperation is not profitable for an individual player and simultaneously it is profitable for a society
- Two archetypes of players:
  - Homo Economicus - a creature who is rational and purely self-regarding
  - Homo Sociologicus - a creature who follows prevailing social norms

Conditions for a Social Norm to Exist:

Let  $R$  be a *behavioral rule* for situations of type  $S$ , where  $S$  can be represented as a mixed-motive game. We say that  $R$  is a social norm in a population  $P$  if there exists a sufficiently large subset  $P_{cf}$  of  $P$  such that, for each individual  $i \in P_{cf}$ :

- *Contingency*:  $i$  knows that a rule  $R$  exists and applies to situations of type  $S$ ;
- *Conditional preference*:  $i$  prefers to conform to  $R$  in situations of type  $S$  on the condition that:
  - (a) *Empirical expectations*:  $i$  believes that a sufficiently large subset of  $P$  conforms to  $R$  in situations of type  $S$ ;
  - (b) *Normative expectations*:  $i$  believes that a sufficiently large subset of  $P$  expects  $i$  to conform to  $R$  in situations of type  $S$ ;
  - (b') *Normative expectations with sanctions*:  $i$  believes that a sufficiently large subset of  $P$  expects  $i$  to conform to  $R$  in situations of type  $S$ , prefers  $i$  to conform, and may sanction behavior.

- Social change and norm's change
- Interest in dynamics of social process rather than final stage
- Toy model with only few assumptions: society characterized with reputation and altruism

Each of two identical players has two different strategies: to cooperate (C) with the other or to defect (D) from cooperation. The probability that  $i$  cooperates with  $j$  depends on level of:

- Reputation  $W$  of co-player
- Altruism  $\varepsilon$  of player  $i$ , as a measure of her/his willingness to cooperate with others or to defect.

$$P(i,j) = W_j(i) + \varepsilon_i$$

If  $P(i,j) > 1$  is set 1, otherwise if  $P(i,j) < 0$  then 0.

Reputation  $W$ - is in range of  $[0, 1]$

Altruism  $\varepsilon$ - is in range of  $[-1/2, 1/2]$

Main rule:

- Reputation of player increase (decrease) if he cooperates (defects);
- Altruism of player increase (decrease) if co-player cooperates (defects);

Speed of change is defined by  $x_w/x_\varepsilon$  as a percentage change of reputation / altruism.

$$(C) \quad \varepsilon := (0.5 - \varepsilon)x_\varepsilon + \varepsilon$$

$$(D) \quad \varepsilon := \varepsilon + (-0.5 - \varepsilon)x_\varepsilon$$

$$(C) \quad W := (1 - W)x_w + W$$

$$(D) \quad W := W - Wx_w$$

There is 100 (sometimes 1000) players in game with some initial conditions  $W$  and  $\varepsilon$ . Network is implemented as a fully connected graph, square lattice or Erdős–Rényi graph.

$W$  and  $\varepsilon$  are random unitary distributed in range of:

$$[\langle W \rangle - d; \langle W \rangle + d]$$

$$[\langle \varepsilon \rangle - d; \langle \varepsilon \rangle + d]$$

where  $d$  is a half of whole range

For example:

- if  $d=0$   $W$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) is exactly the same for all players
- if  $d=0,5$  distribution is established on whole range and mean value is exactly in the middle



# Model

Parameters	Model descriptions	Observations
$x_W=0,5$ and $\varepsilon=const$	Reputation changes in „bisection” way and altruism is constant	Mutual choices exist and create symmetric coexisting frequencies curves
$x_W=W'$ and $\varepsilon=const$	$W'$ is reputation of co-player, so player's reputation change as quickly as $W'$	Symmetry broken – cooperation is more common, unstable final state
$x_W=0,5$ and $x_\varepsilon=0,5$	Reputation and altruism changes in „bisection” way the same time	All players choose only one strategy, and the initial state is divided into two attractors
$x_W=0,5$ and $x_\varepsilon=\{0,5;0\}$	Altruism changes only in some cases: CC (goes up) and CD (goes down)	Symmetry broken – cooperation is more common, non-full negative state
$W_j(i)$	Individual vision of agent's $W$	System slows down
E-R or lattice	Agents on special networks	Spatial correlations appear

Possible mutual choices:

R- both cooperate

S- co-player defects when a player has cooperated

T- player defects when the co-player has cooperated

P- both defect

# $x_w=0,5$ and $\varepsilon=\text{const}$

$x_w=0,5$   
and  
 $\varepsilon=\text{const}$

Reputation changes  
in „bisection” way  
and altruism is  
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Mutual choices exist  
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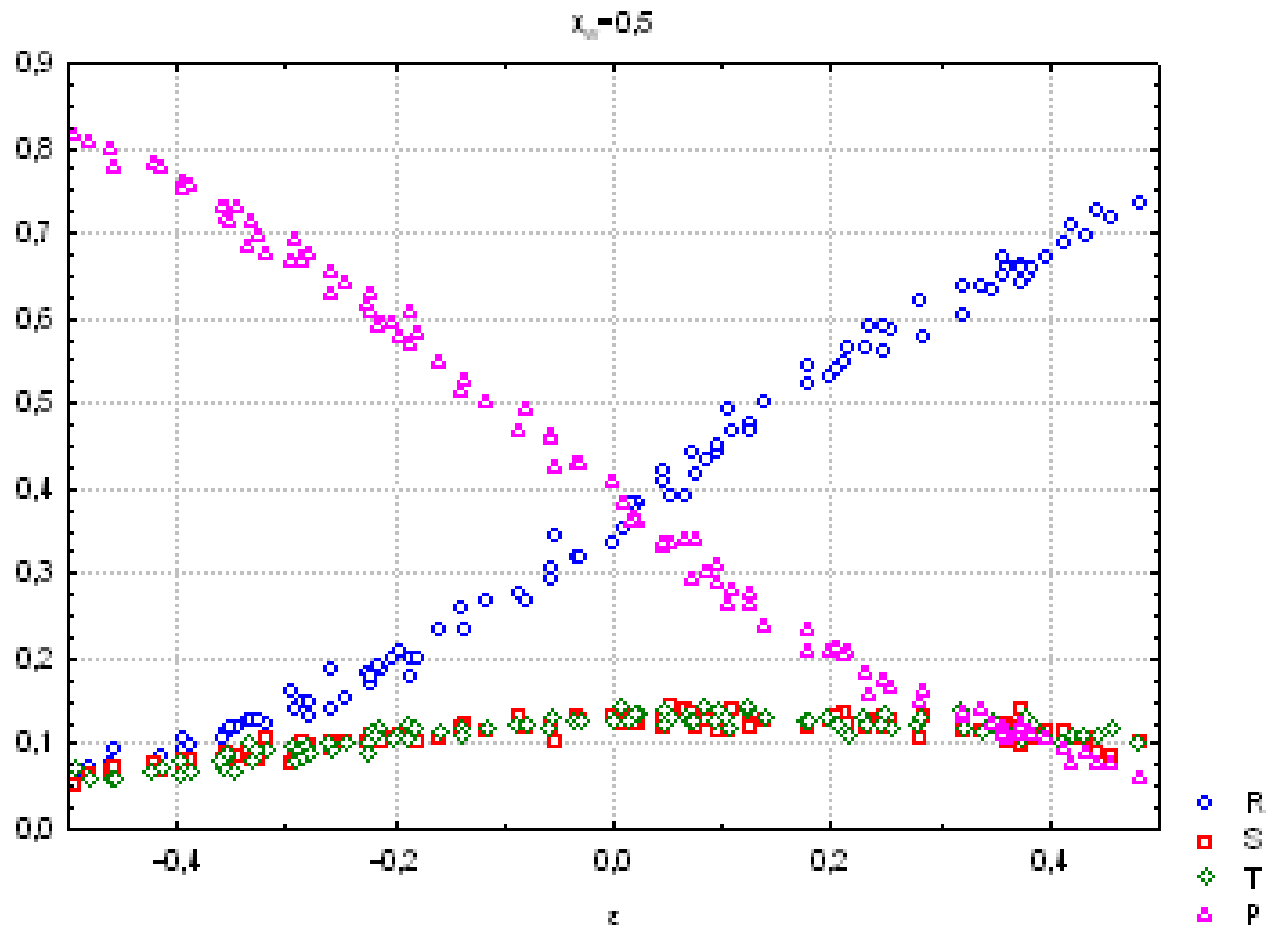
# $x_w=0,5$ and $\varepsilon=\text{const}$

Evolution simplify to:

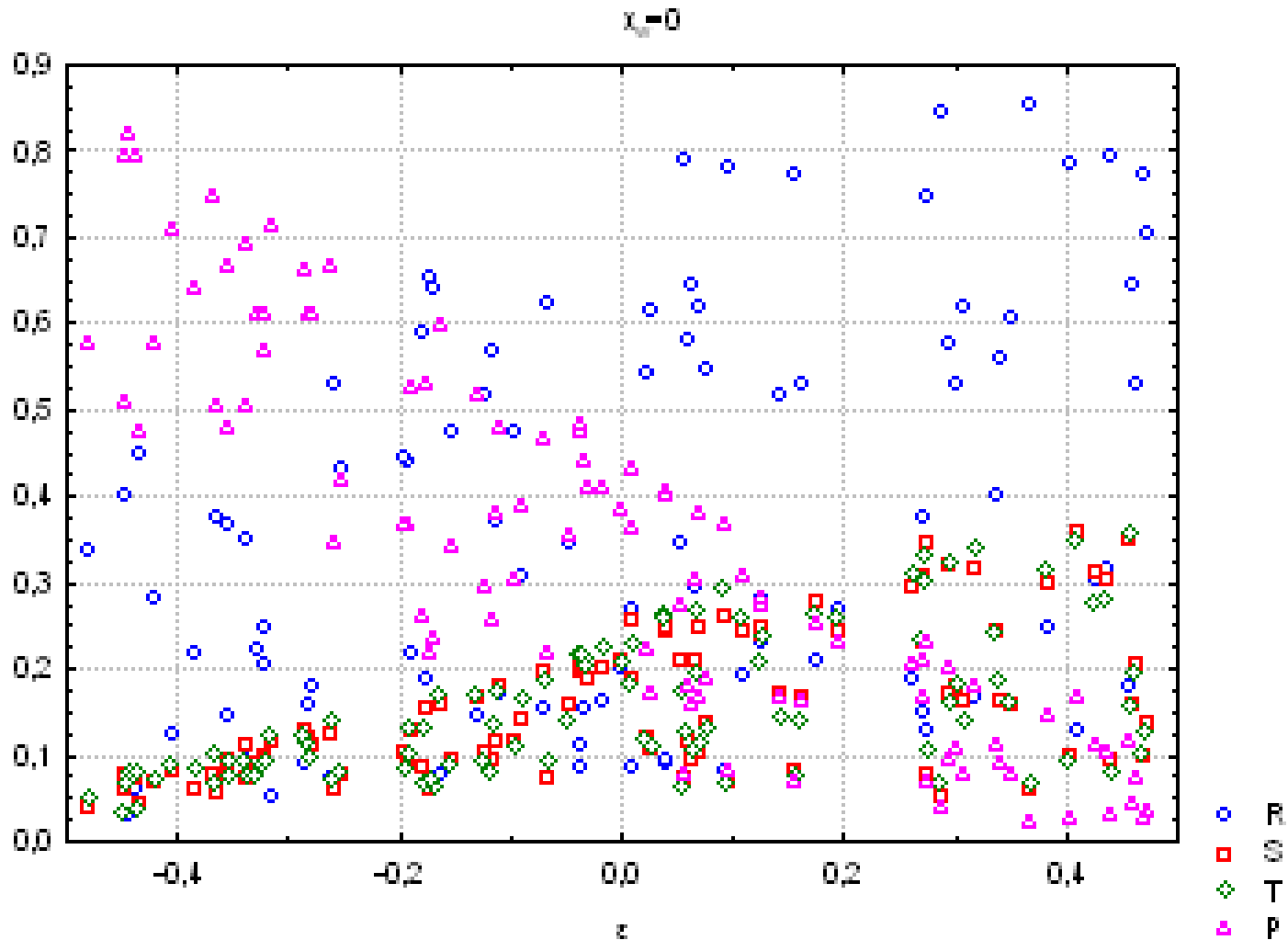
(C)  $W := (1-W)x_w + W$

(D)  $W := W - Wx_w$

Frequencies  
of mutual  
choices for  
 $10^5$  MC  
steps



Absolutly simplified



$$\varepsilon = \text{const}, x_w = z \cdot W'$$

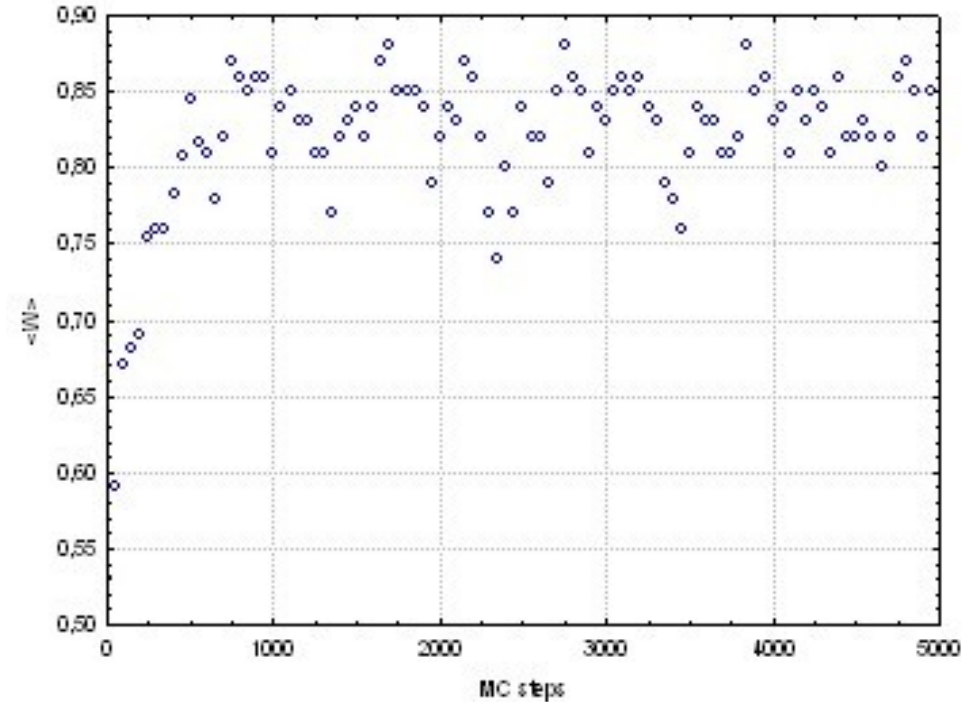
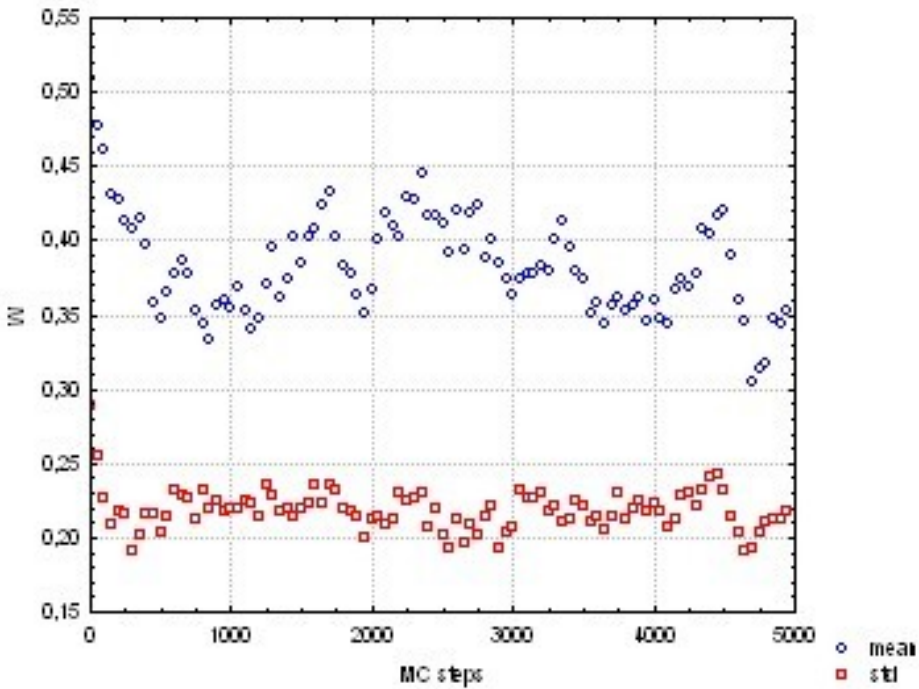
$x_w = W'$   
and  
 $\varepsilon = \text{const}$

$W'$  is reputation of co-player, so player's reputation change as quickly as  $W'$

Symmetry broken – cooperation is more common, unstable final state

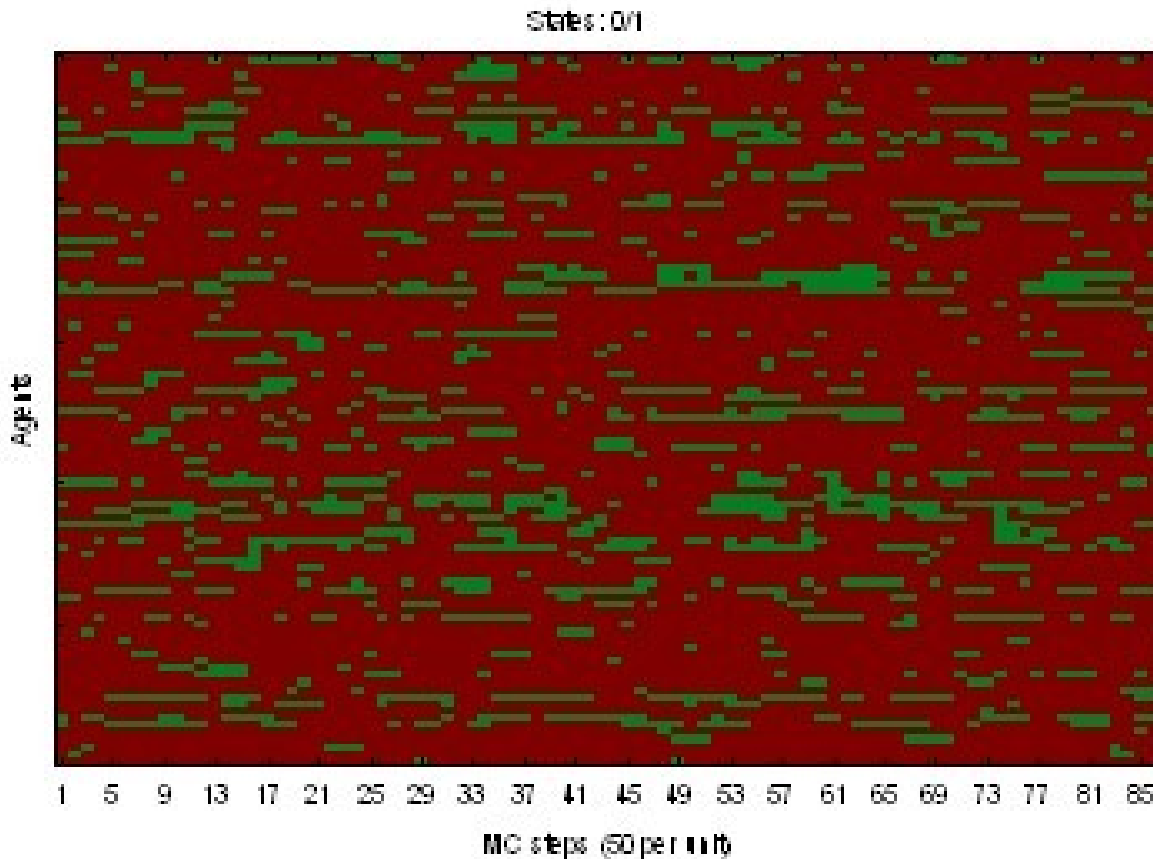
$$\varepsilon = \text{const}, \quad x_w = z \cdot W'$$

$x_w = z \cdot W'$  where  $W'$  is reputation of co-player, and  $z$  is additional parameter of speed of change



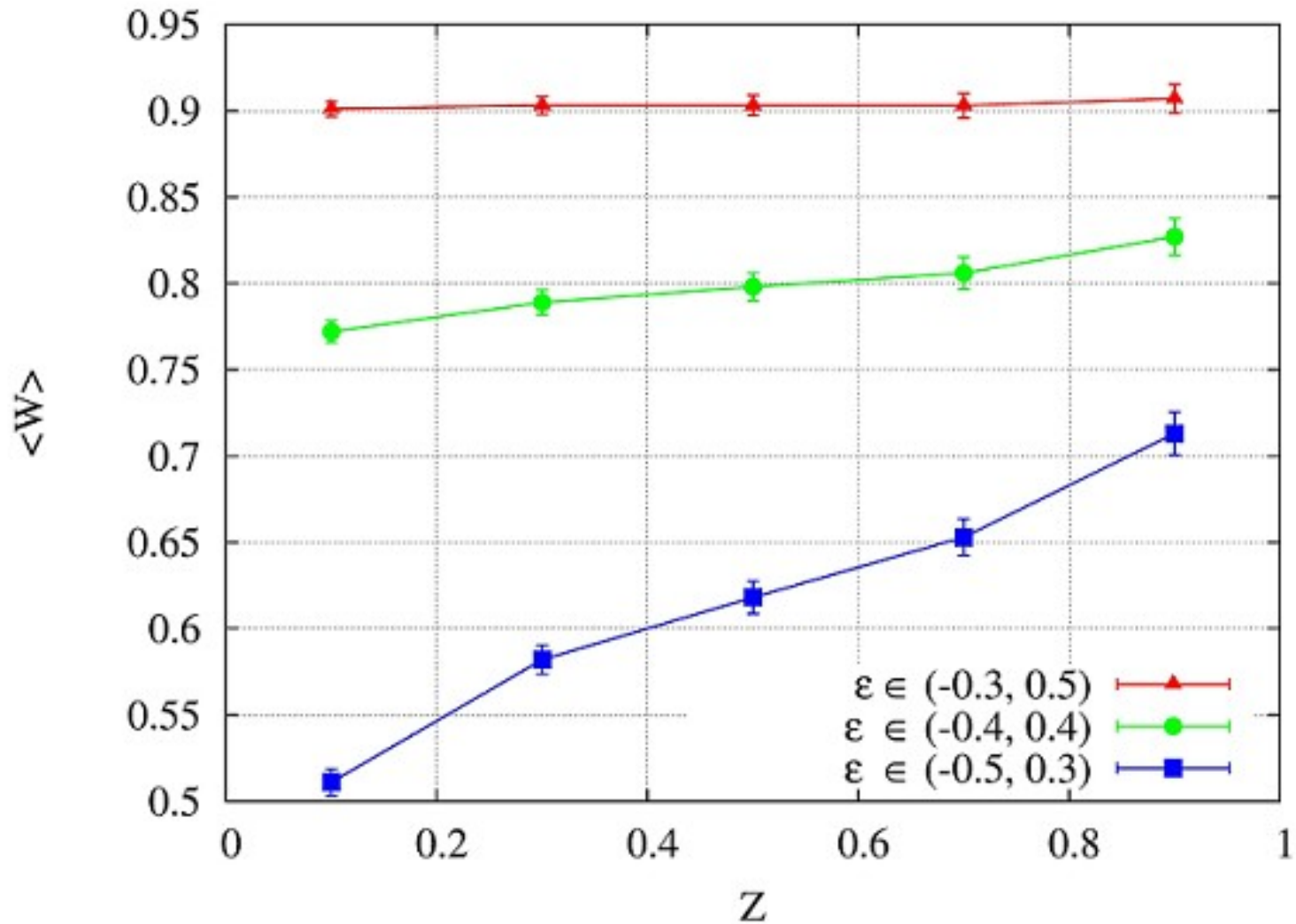
Oscillation of mean reputation in time for  $z=0,5$  (left) and  $z=1$  (right)

Spontaneous transitions between reputation's states (0/1) for  $z=1$ . „Positive” state 1 dominates.





$$\varepsilon = \text{const}, x_w = z \cdot W'$$



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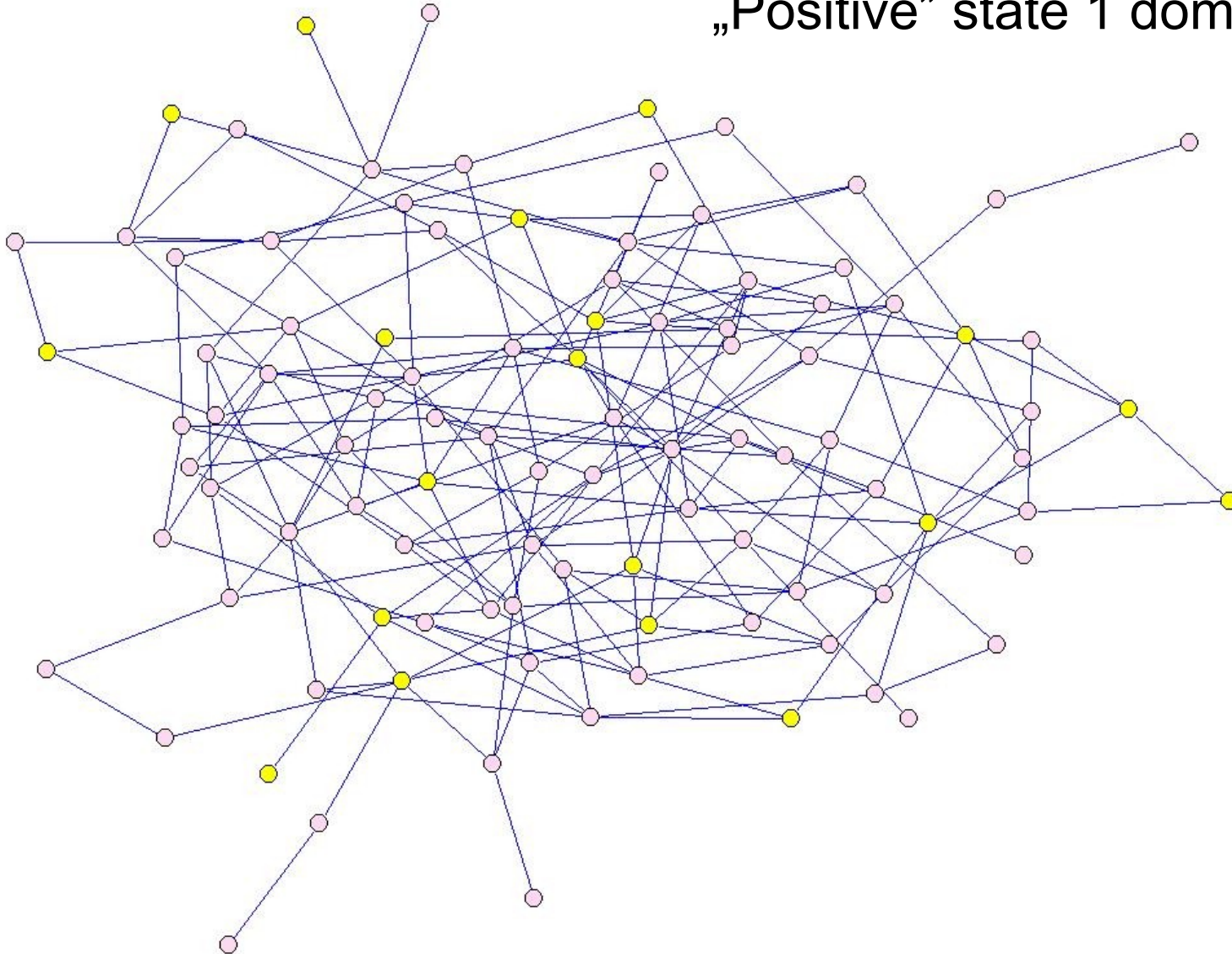
E-R or lattice

Agents on special networks

Spatial correlations appear

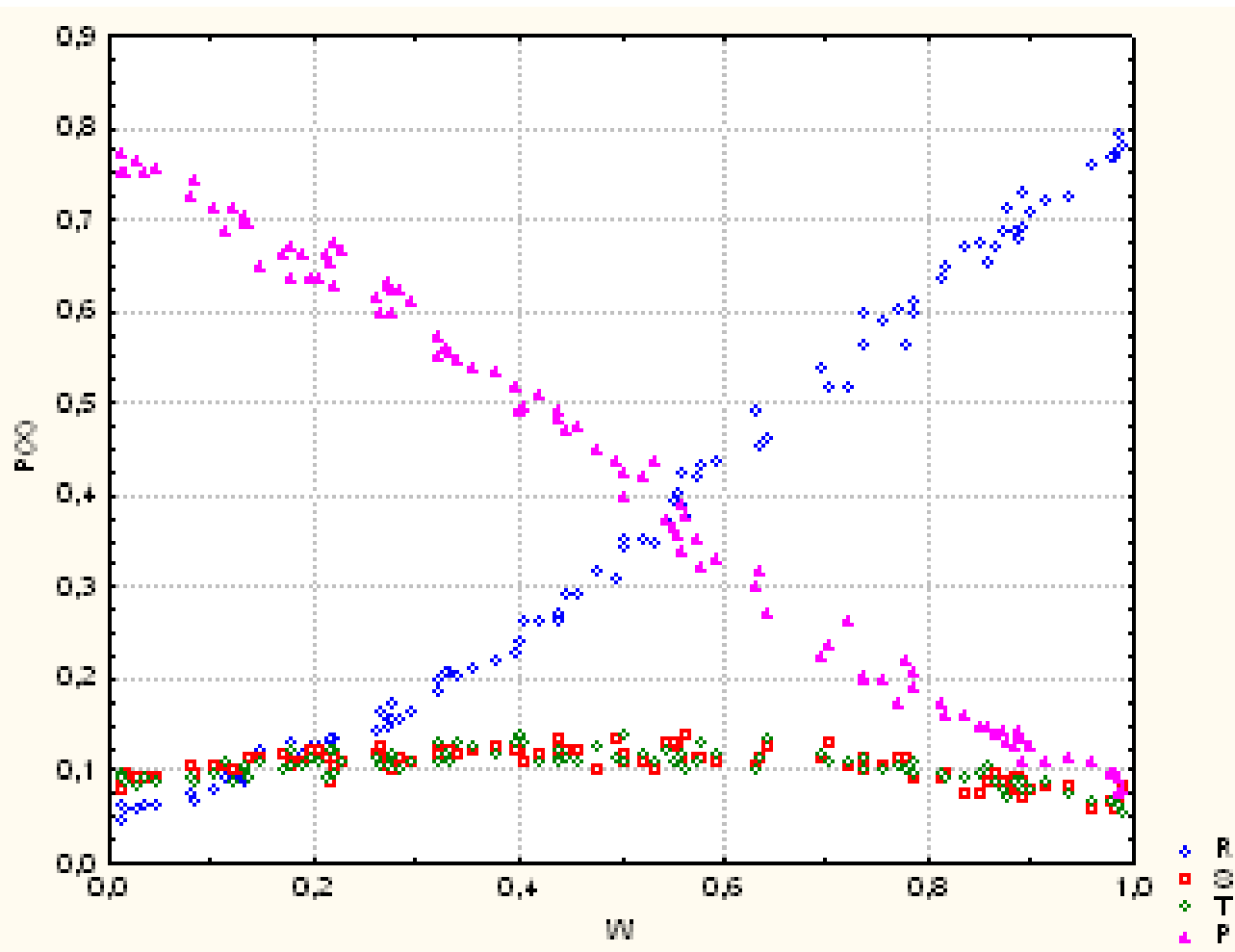
„Positive” state 1 dominates

(by pajek)



# $x_\varepsilon \neq 0$ and $x_W = 0$

Group of cases with changing altruism starts with the simplest case  $x_W = 0$



# $x_\varepsilon \neq 0$ and $x_w = 0,5$

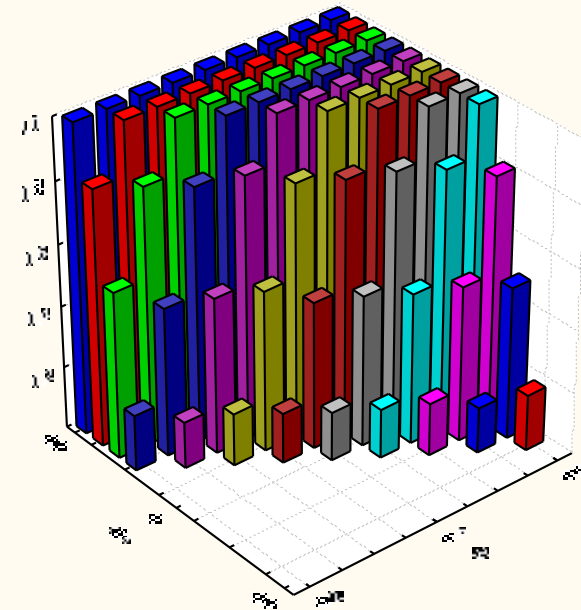
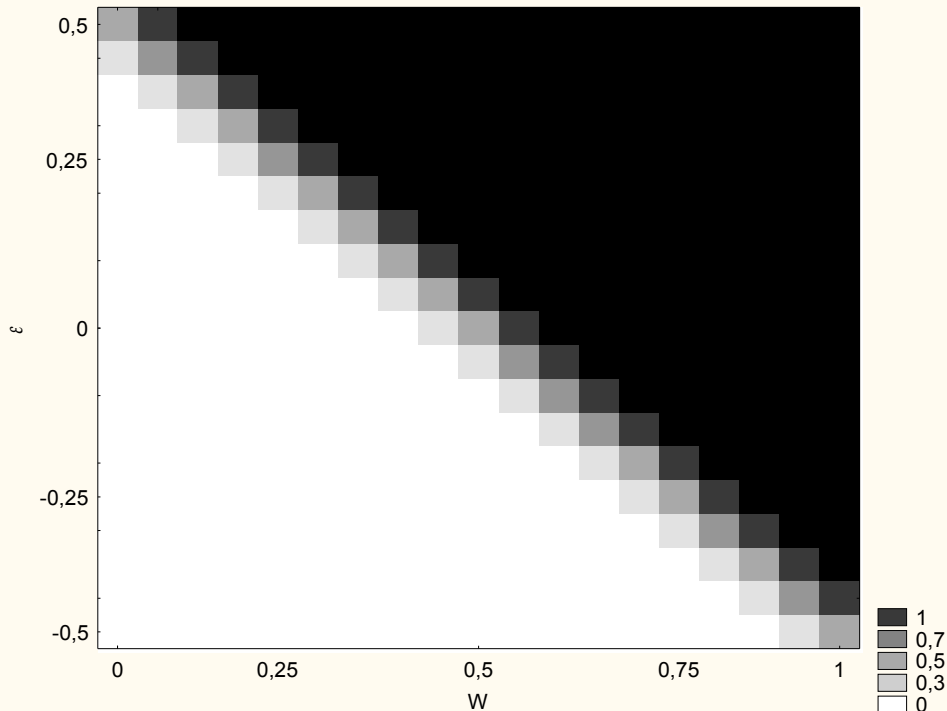
$x_w = 0,5$   
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Reputation and  
altruism changes in  
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same time

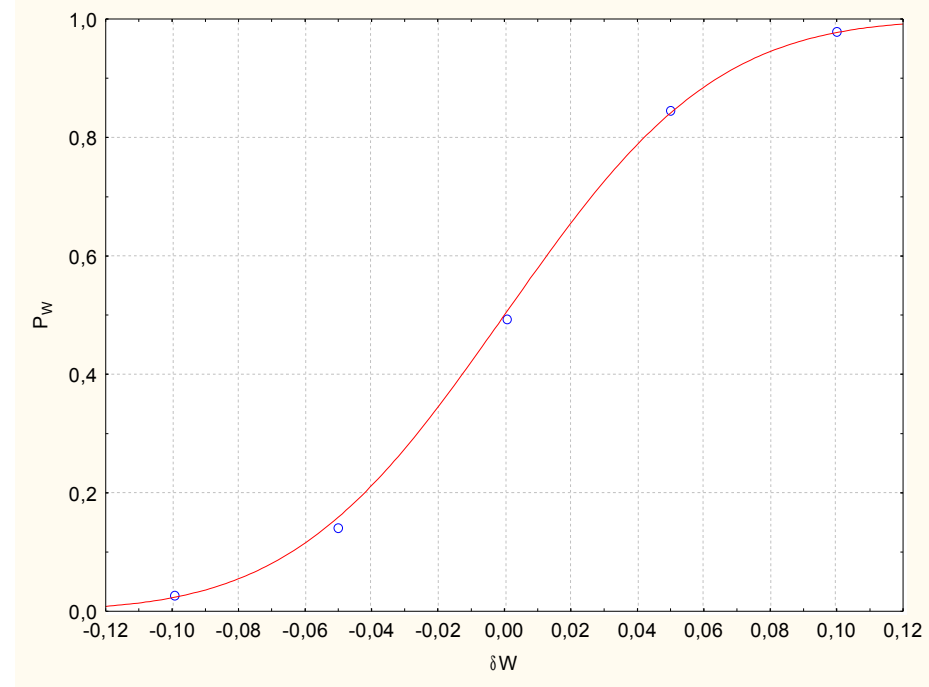
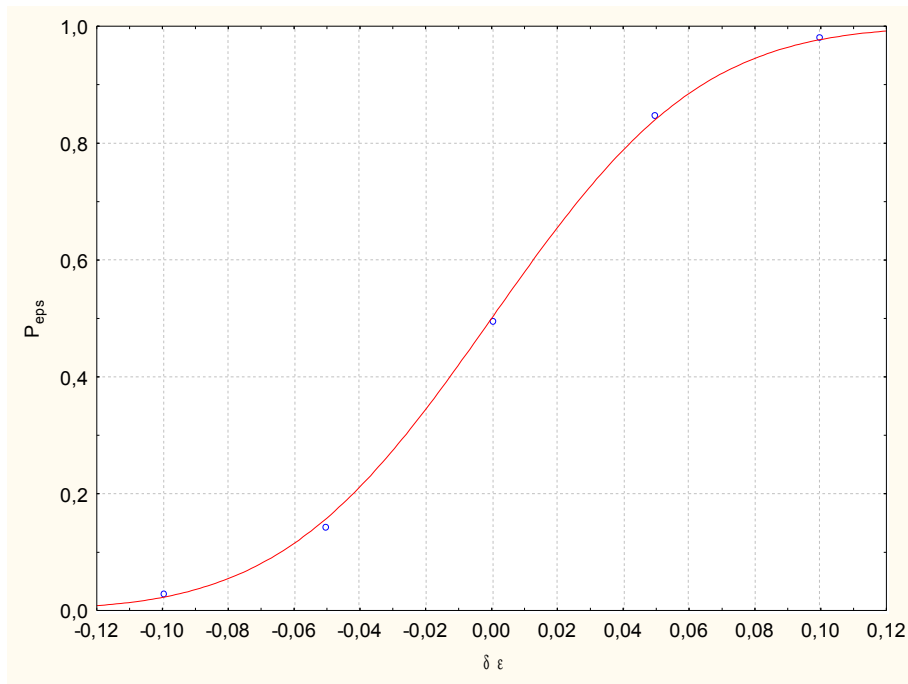
All players choose  
only one strategy, and  
the initial state is  
divided into two  
attractors

# $x_\varepsilon \neq 0$ and $x_W = 0,5$

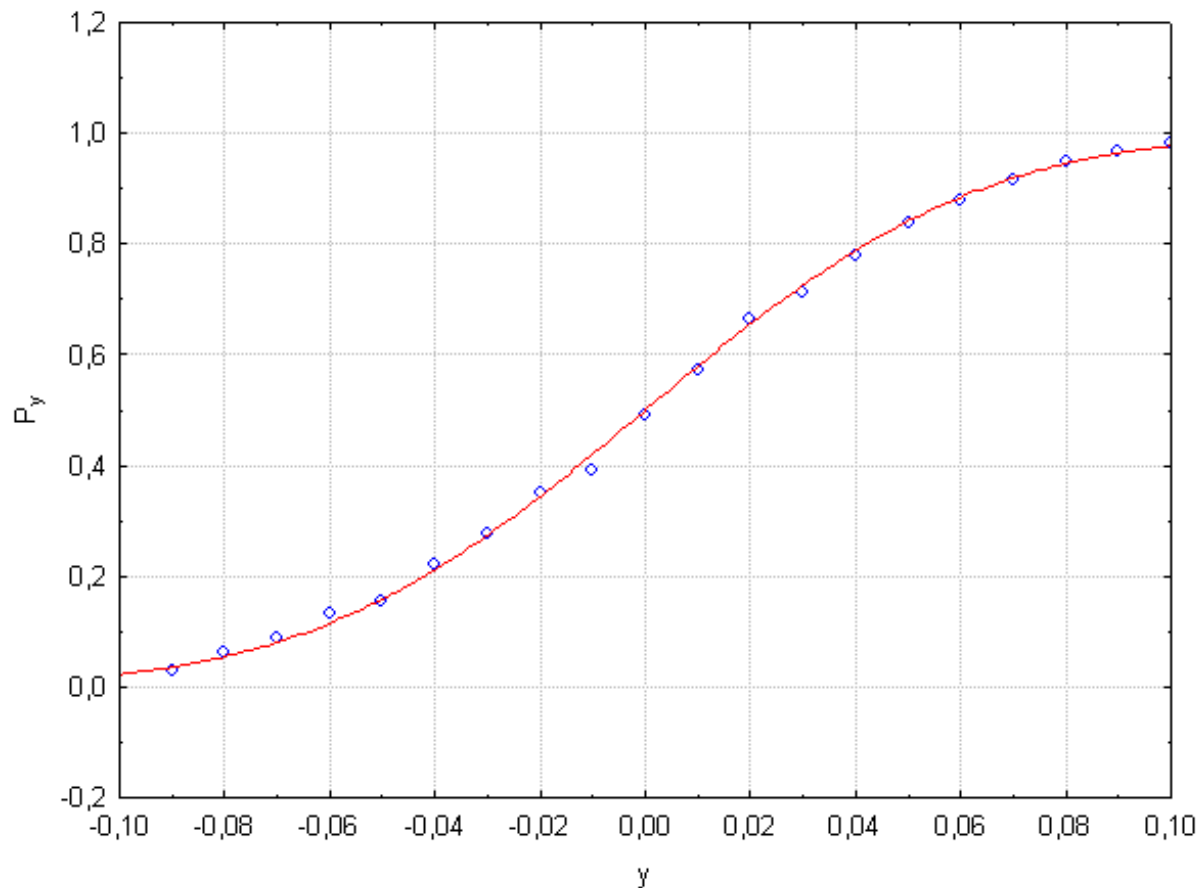
Let consider case where both  $x_W$  and  $x_\varepsilon$  are non-zero. For simplicity, let assume that both are equal to  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Because of both parameters change we cannot present characteristics graphs from previous paragraphs where we could draw strategies versus constant vector of initial states  $W$  and  $\varepsilon$ .



## Gaussian cumulative distribution fit to probability of all cooperating



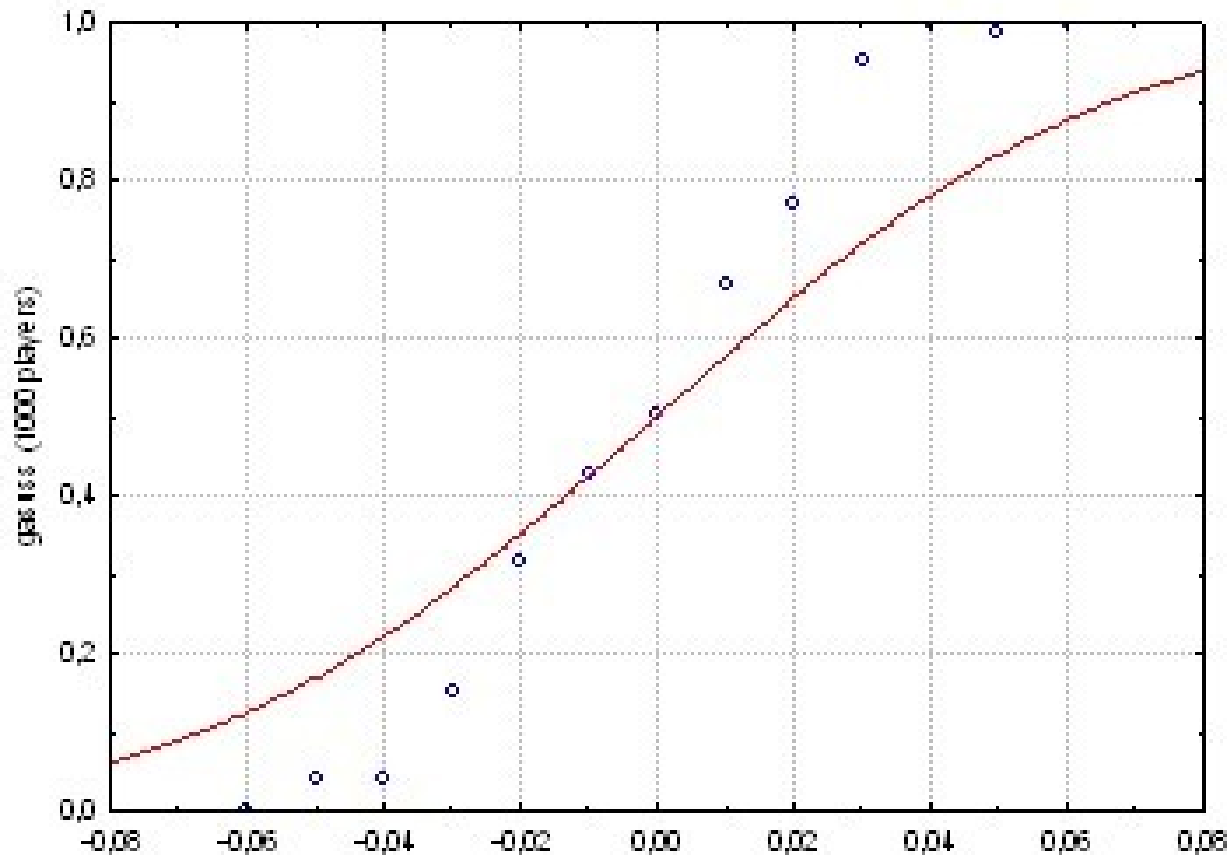
Stochastic condition:  $1/2 - 3\sigma < (W + \varepsilon) < 1/2 + 3\sigma$ , where  $\sigma$  is a standard deviation of fitted CDF.



$$y = W + \varepsilon - 1/2$$

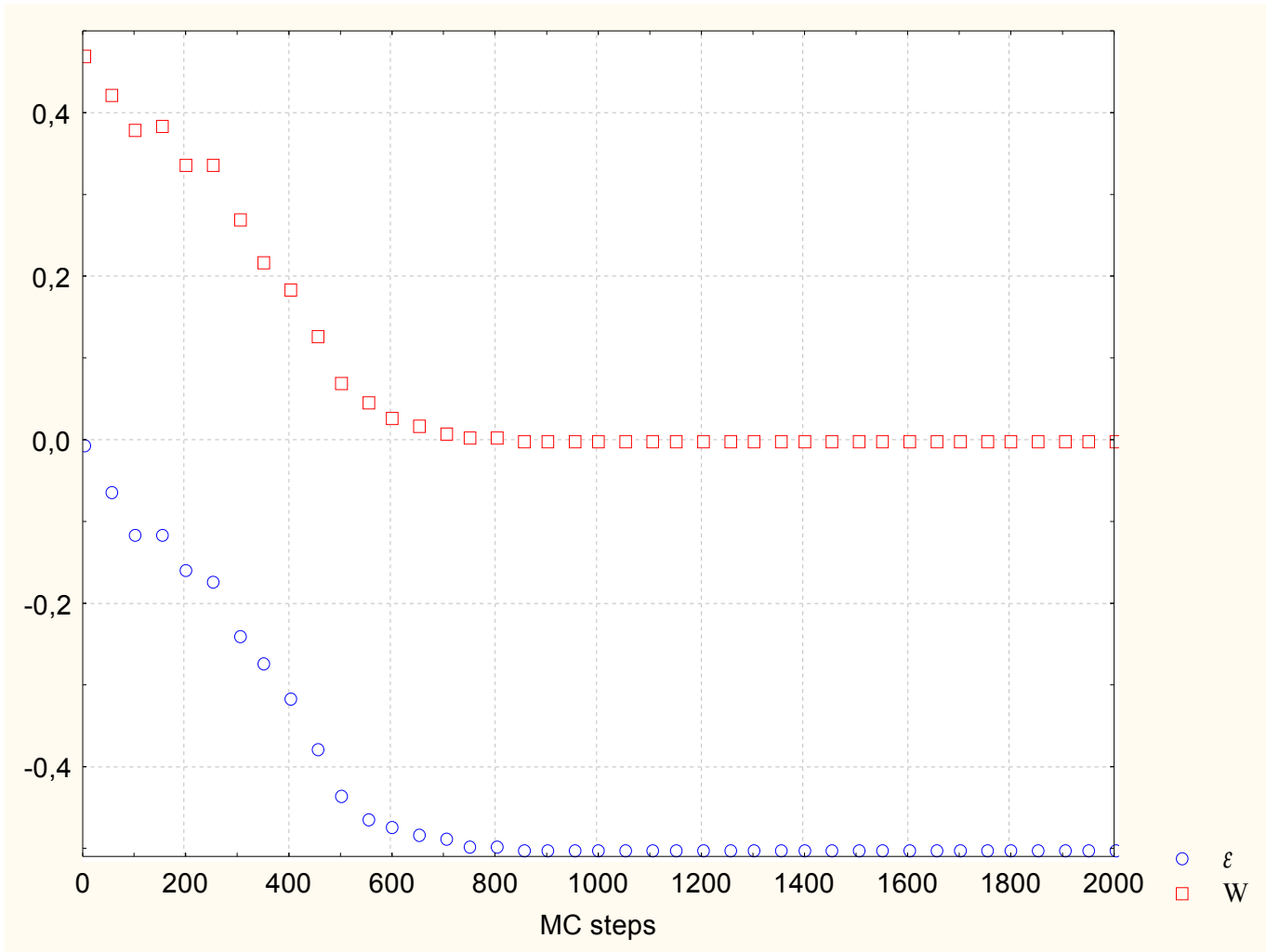


## Size effect

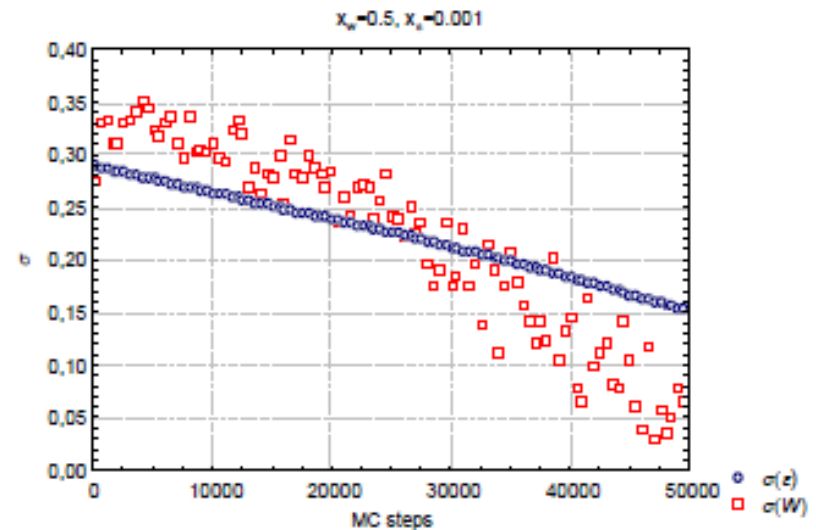
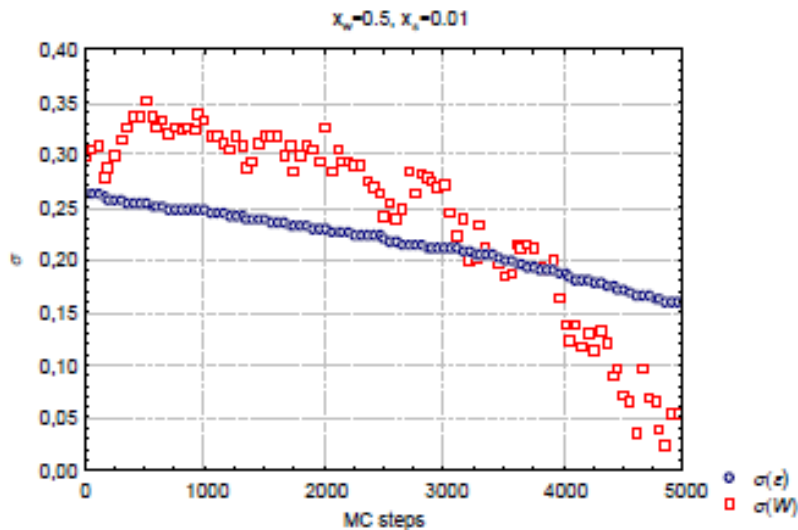
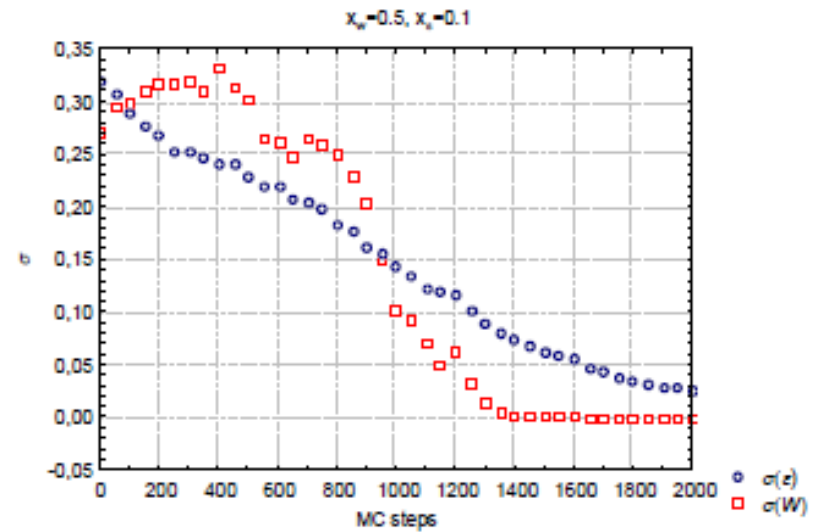
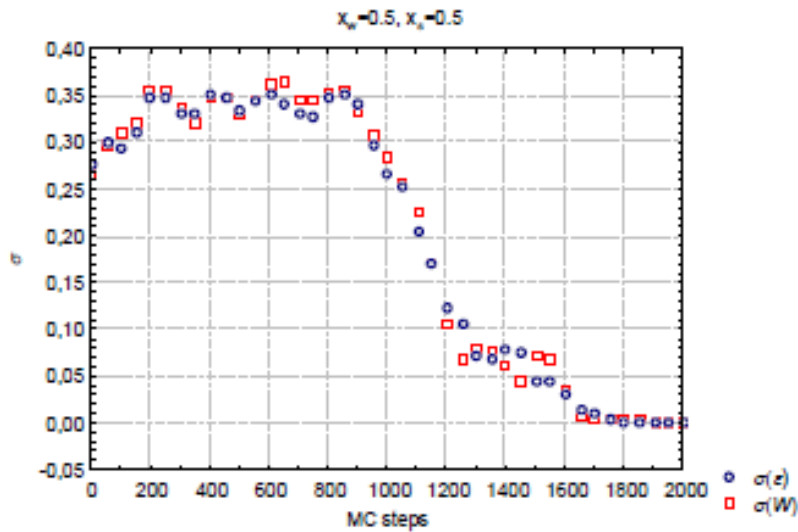


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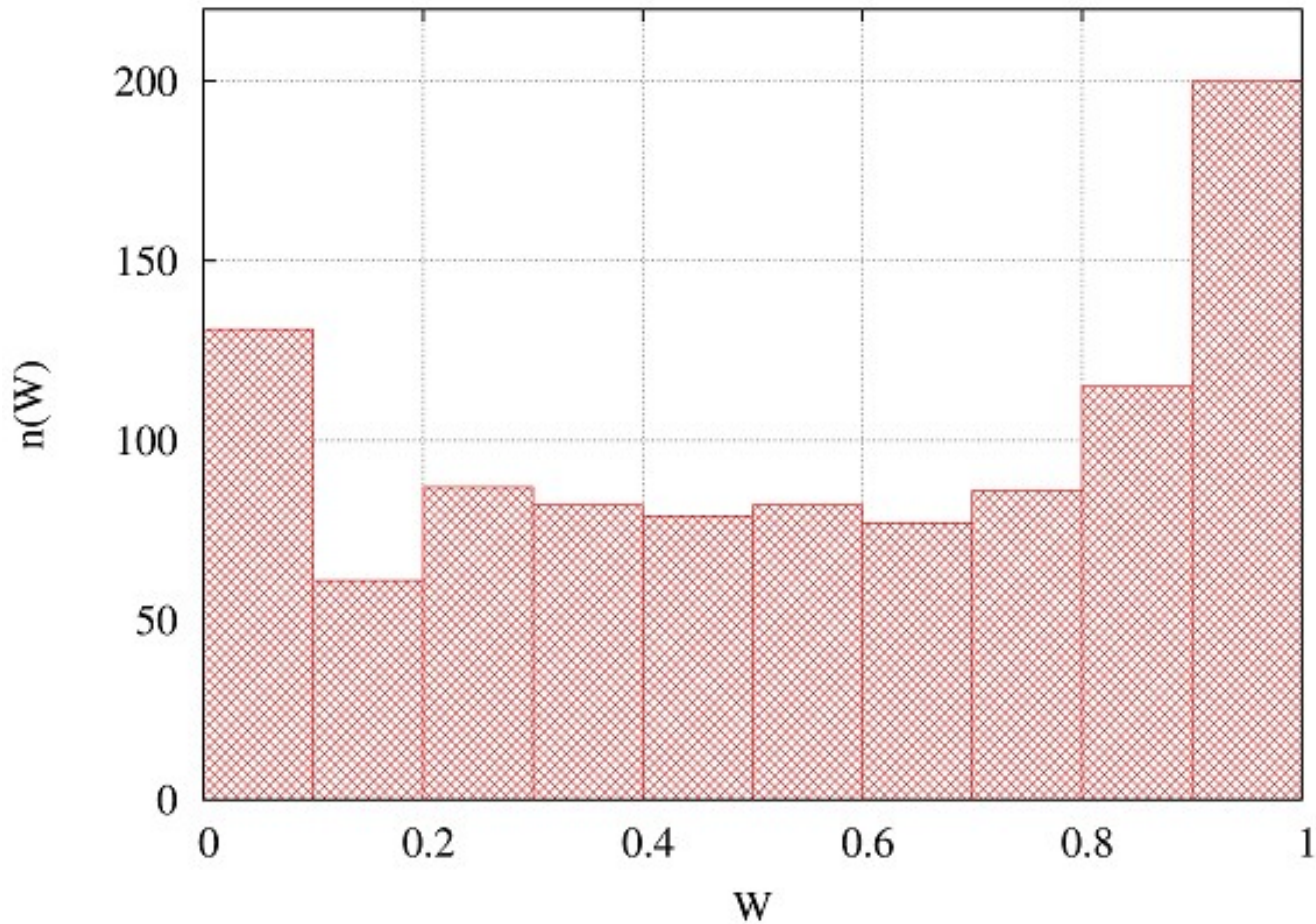
## Convergence to final state



## Convergence to final state: different velocities

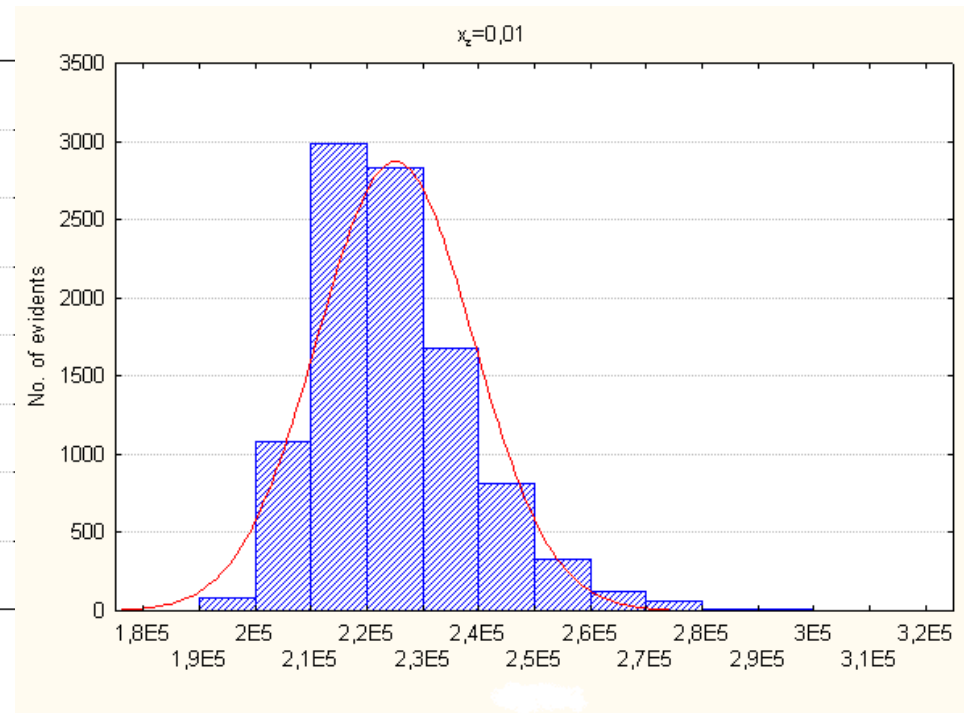
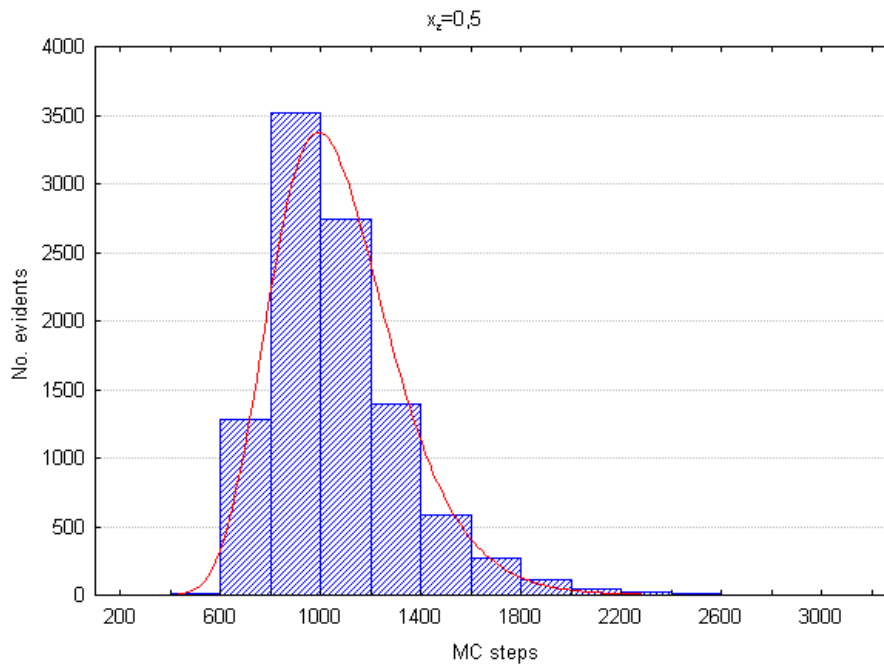


## Initial dynamics



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## Relaxation time



# $x_\varepsilon \neq 0$ , individual $W$

$x_W = 0,5$   
and  
 $x_\varepsilon = 0,5$

Reputation and  
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„bisection” way the  
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All players choose  
only one strategy, and  
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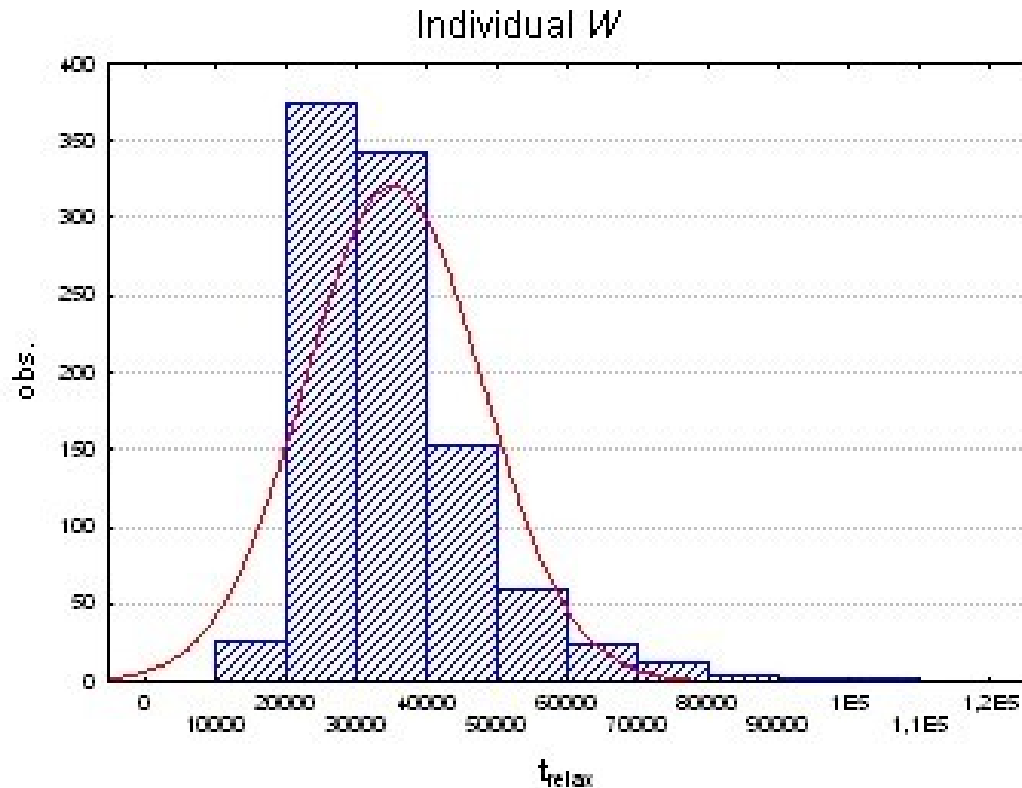
$W_j(i)$

Individual vision of agent's  $W$

System slows down

# $x_\varepsilon \neq 0$ , individual $W$

Let repeat, that reputation can be individual (every player  $i$  has his own vision of all  $N-1$  other players)



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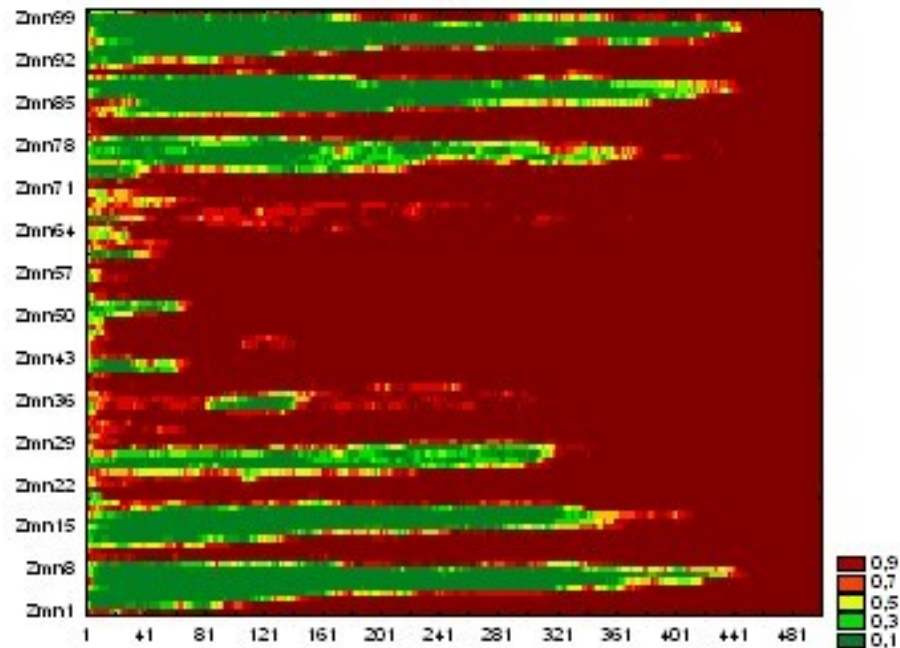
Agents on special networks

Spatial correlations appear

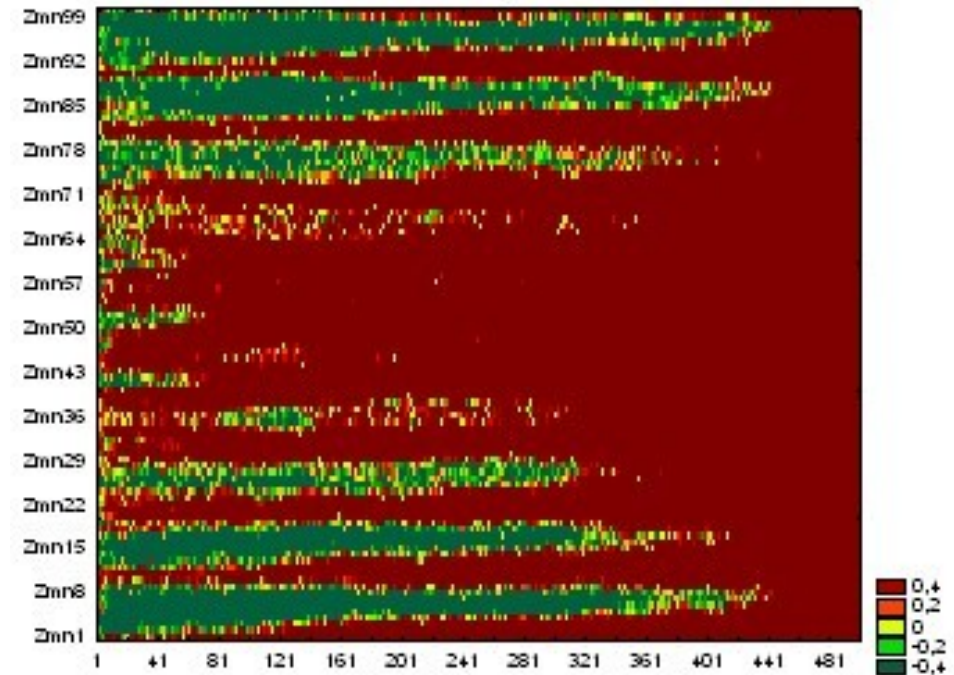


# $x_\varepsilon \neq 0$ , square lattice

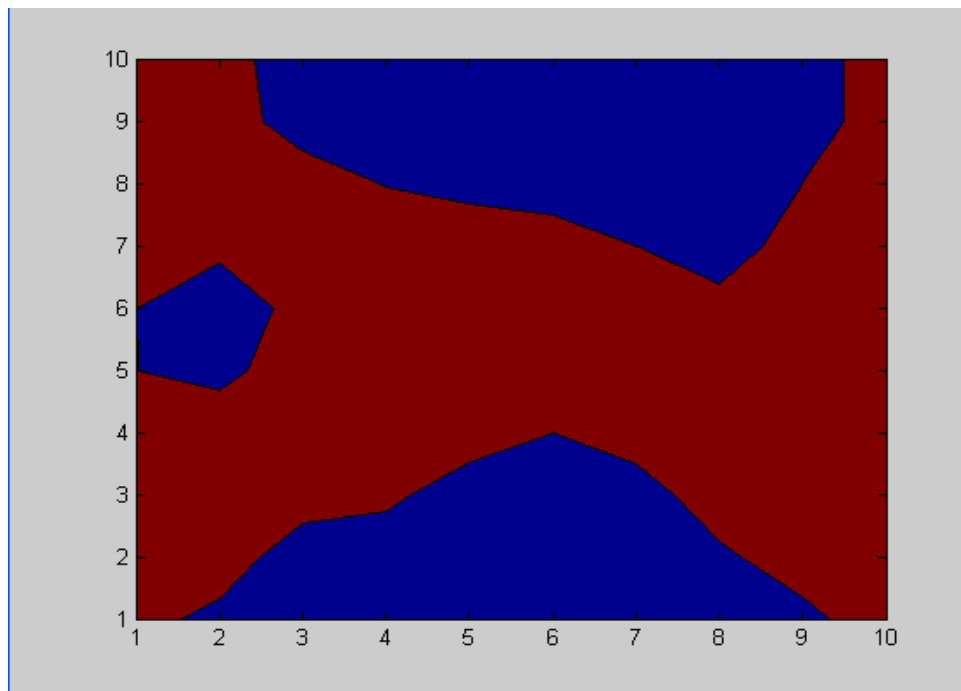
lattice square,  $W$



lattice square,  $s$

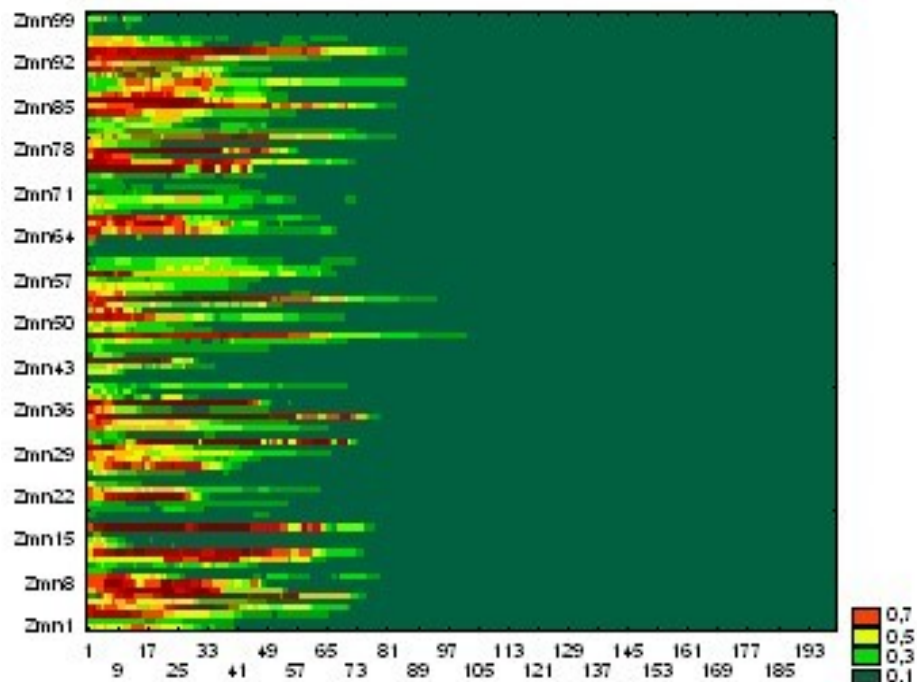


# $x_\varepsilon \neq 0$ , square lattice

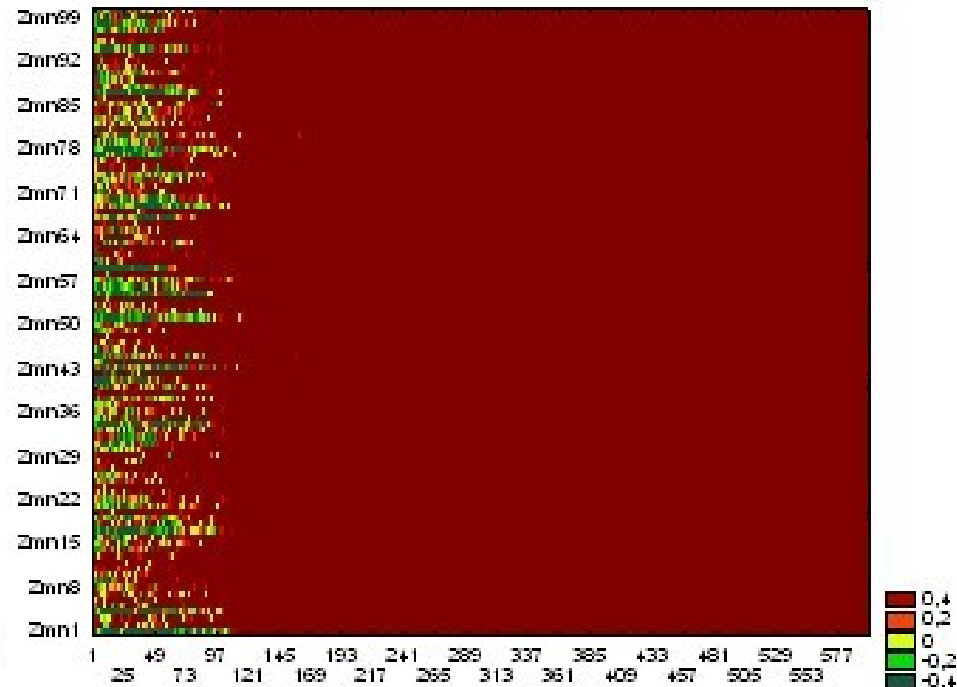


Erdős–Rényi network model with  $\langle k \rangle = 4$  (proportional to lattice)

E-R net,  $\langle k \rangle = 4$ ,  $W$



E-R net,  $\langle k \rangle = 4$ ,  $s$



$x_w = 0,5$   
and  
 $x_\varepsilon = \{0,5;0\}$

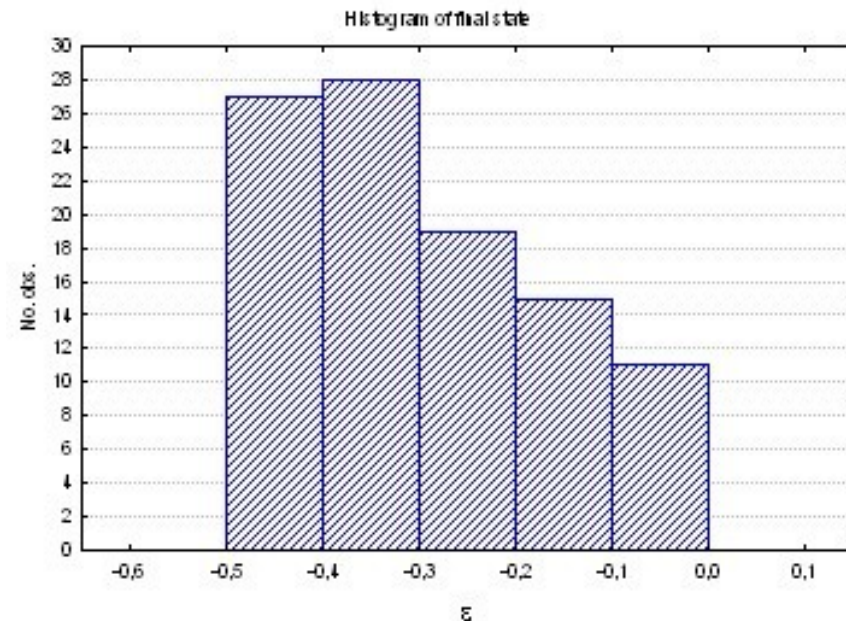
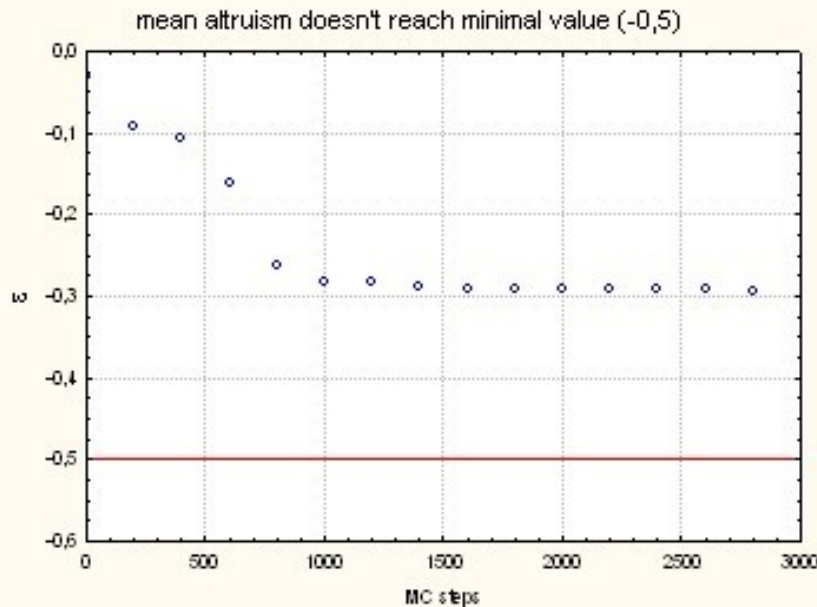
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CC (goes up) and  
CD (goes down)

Symmetry broken –  
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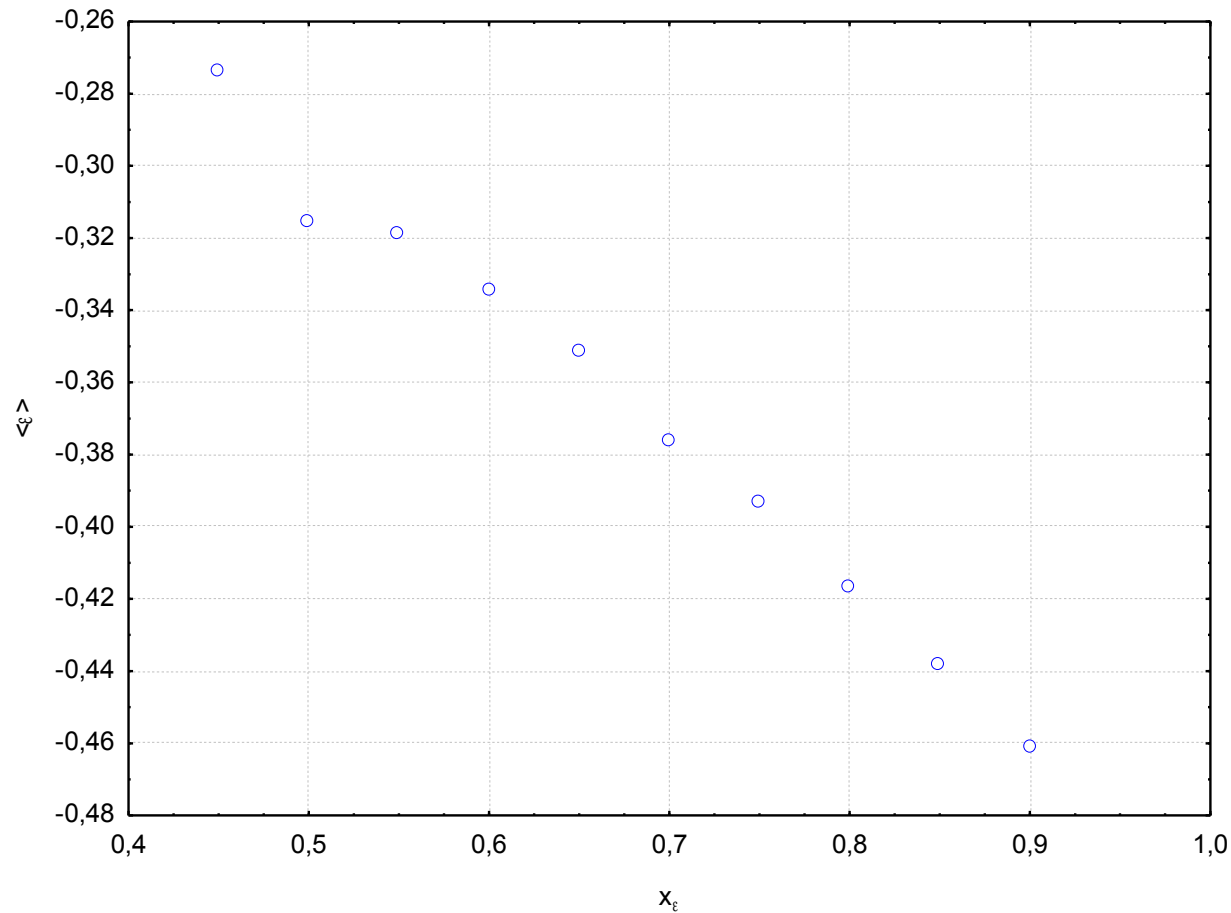
# $x_\varepsilon \neq 0$ , conditional change

Let altruism change only in some cases (not after every game):

- mutual respect of two agents expressed by their cooperation enhances their selfevaluation, what in turn reinforces their willingness to cooperate;
- a cooperating agent is humiliated when meets a defection, what reduces his willingness to cooperate.



## Final „negative” state depends on $x_\varepsilon$



However, probability of ending in „positive” state is around 0,66

# Conclusions

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- Once the altruism is allowed to evolve, in long time limit the simulated players adopt one strategy, the same for the whole population.
- Direction of the process is closer to real situation rather than the stationary state in the long time limit



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# Conclusions

- Once the altruism is allowed to evolve, in long time limit the simulated players adopt one strategy, the same for the whole population.
- Dynamics of the process is closer to real situation rather than the stationary state in the long time limit
- Sociotechnics and system controlling
- If symmetry of final state is broken – cooperation state is promoted! (social norm works)

**Thank You for Your attention!**