# Social network intervention to promote physical activity in youth

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BSI Day 2017, Berg en Dal





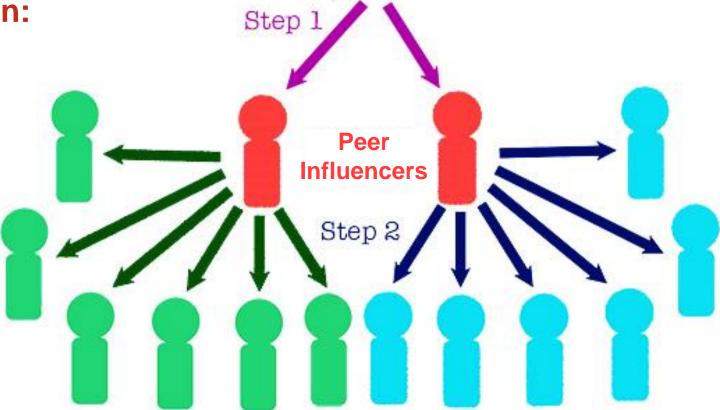
# my movez 🐎

- Promoting a healthy lifestyle for children and adolescents.
- Focus on physical activity



# Social network intervention:







# **MyMovez Wearable lab**



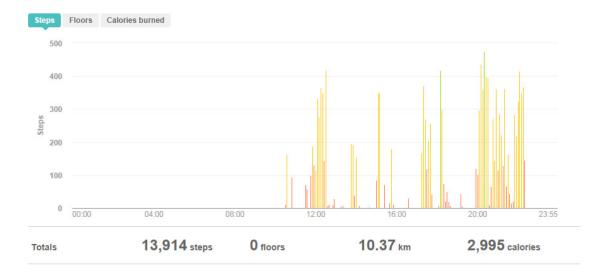




### **Fitbit Flex**









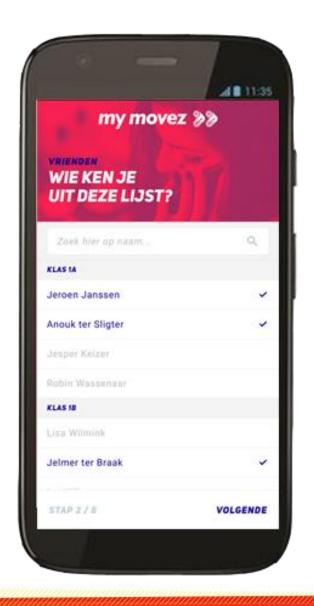
Communication with Fitbit and server







- Communication with Fitbit and server
- Assessment of social network
  - Friendship nominations





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- Questionnaires (e.g. Daily food intake)





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- Social platform (Social Buzz)





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- Social platform (Social Buzz)
- Pictures (experience sampling)





- Communication with Fitbit and server
- Assessment of social network
  - Friendship nominations
- Questionnaires (e.g. Daily food intake)
- Social platform (social Buzz)
- Pictures (e.g. media exposure or food)
- GPS coordinates (cycling)





- Communication with Fitbit and server
- Assessment of social network
  - Friendship nominations
- Questionnaires (e.g. Daily food intake)
- Social platform (social Buzz)
- Pictures (e.g. media exposure or food)
- GPS coordinates (cycling)
- Objective measure of social network
  - We termed this the beacon network

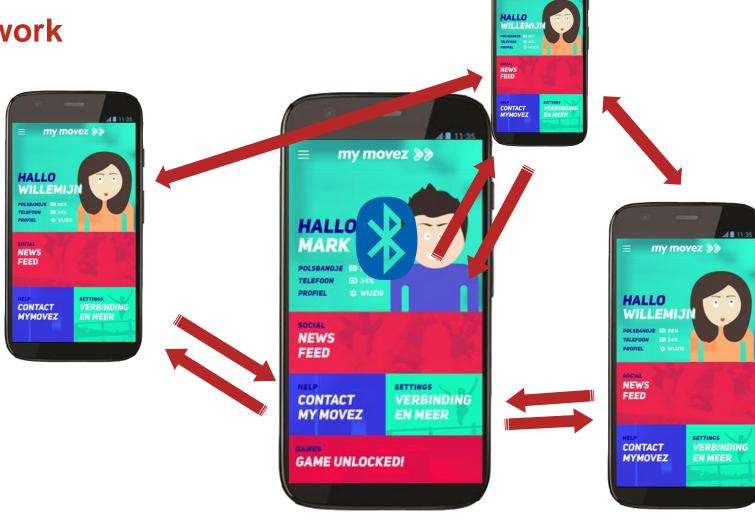








#### **Beacon network**





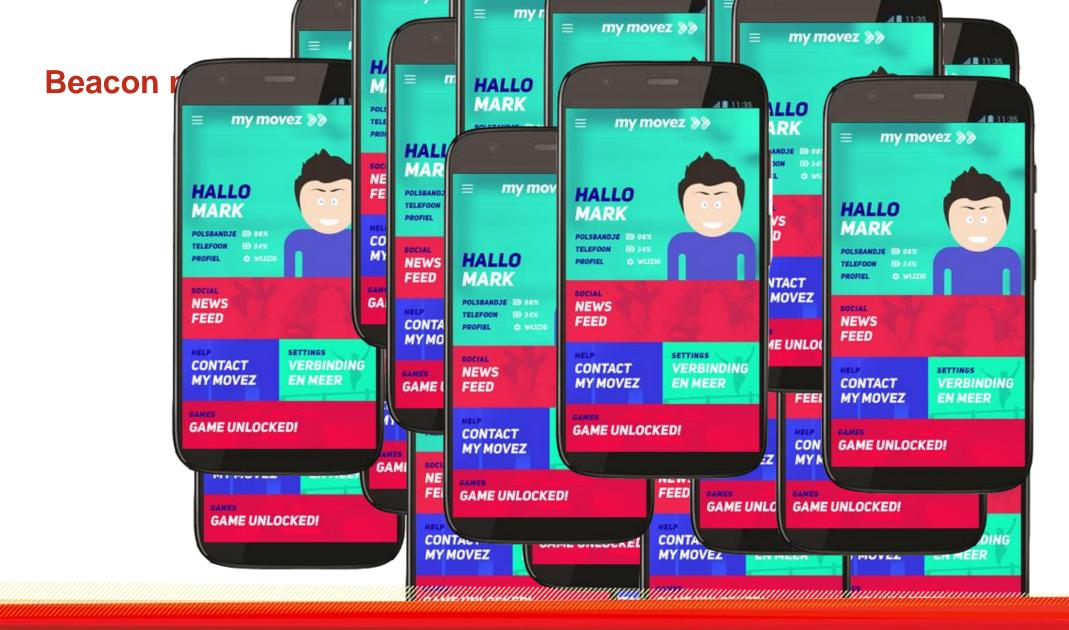
#### **Beacon network**













# **Study 1: Together is more active?**

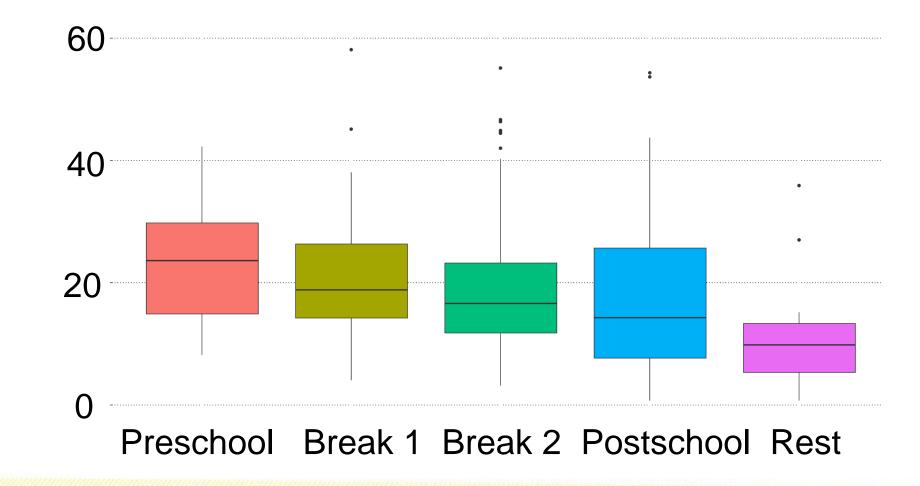




Hour before school Break 1 Break 2 Hour after school Rest of the day



# Time points

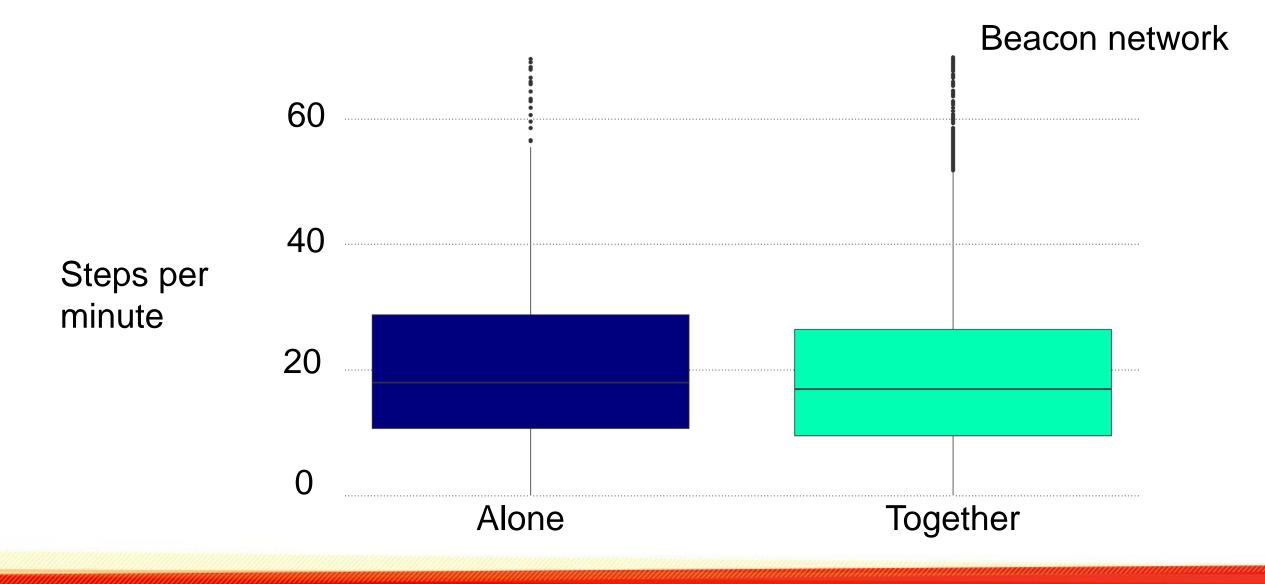




Steps per

minute

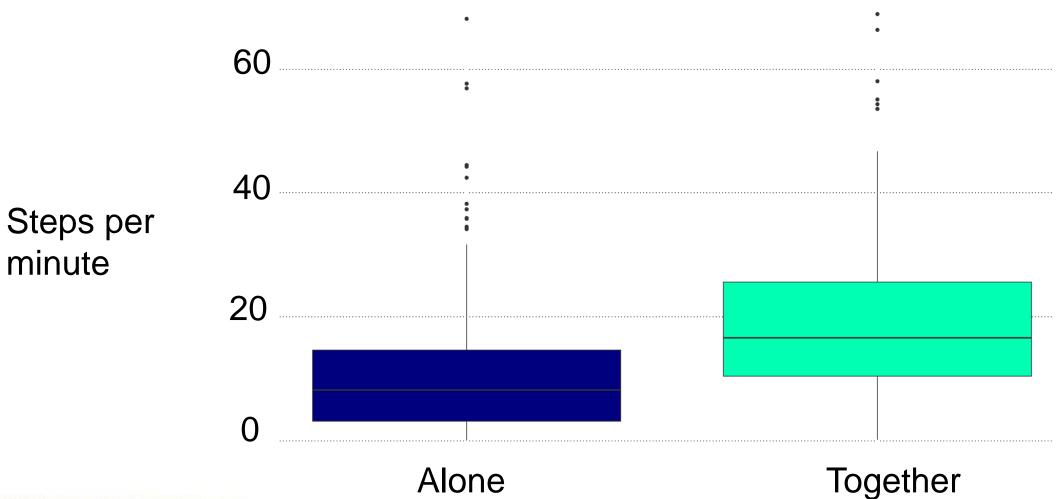








# Nominated network







60



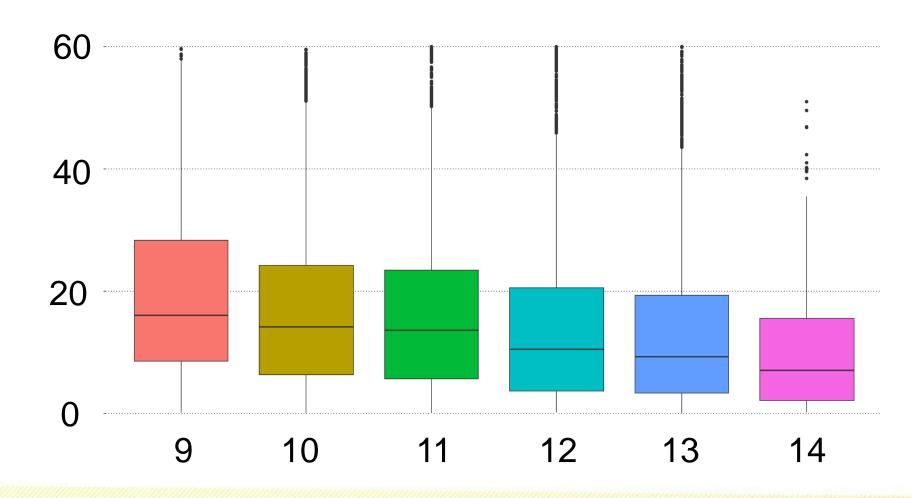
Boys





Girls







#### Study 1

- Youngsters are more active when they are together with classmates, but what about friends?
- And are the youngsters more active because they are together, or are they together because they are active?

#### Study 2

- Social network approach
- Understand how similarity in physical activity among friends occurs

#### Similarity in physical activity







#### **Selection**

**%** 

Do youngsters select friends based on physical activity levels?



	T1	T2	Т3	
Youngster A	Active	Active	Active	friends
Youngster B	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	non-friends
Youngster C	Active	Active	Active	



#### Influence



Do youngsters select friends based on physical activity levels?

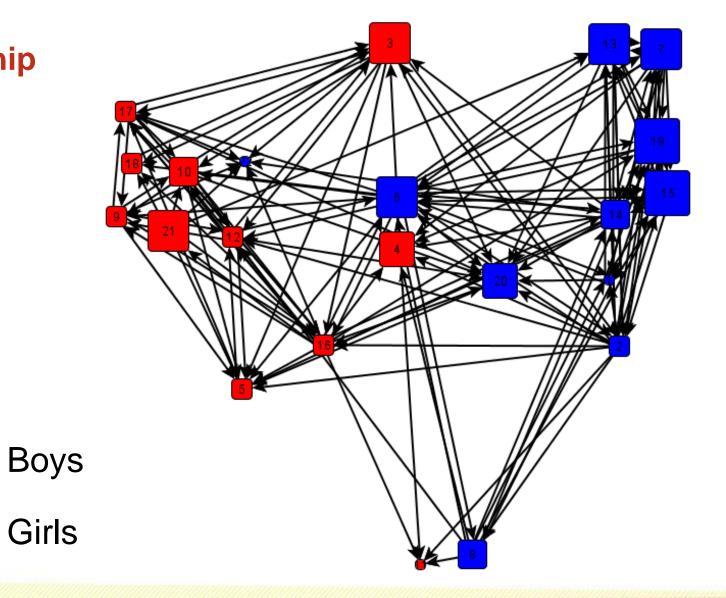
Do youngsters influence the amount of physical activity of friends?



	T1	T2	Т3	
Youngster A	Active	Active	Active	friends
Youngster B	Moderate	Active	Active	non-friends
Youngster C	Moderate	Inactive	Inactive	



# **Friendship**



- □ inactive
- active





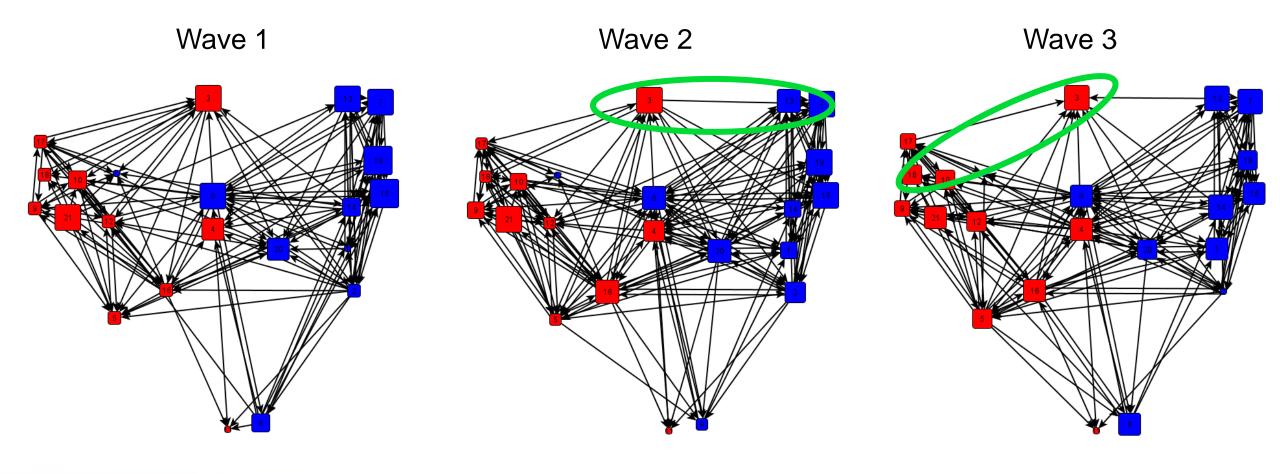
#### Social network of a class over time

Wave 1 Wave 2 Wave 3





#### Social network of a class over time





#### Social network of a class over time

Wave 1 Wave 2 Wave 3



<b>Network effects</b>		SE	t	p	
- outdegree (density)		-1.6205	(0.3644)	-4.4470	<.001
- reciprocity		0.9664	(0.1112)	8.6906	<.001
- transitive triplets		0.1900	(0.0187)	10.1604	<.001
- 3-cycles		-0.0670	(0.0333)	-2.0120	.044
<ul> <li>indegree - popularity (sqrt)</li> </ul>		-0.2351	(0.0929)	-2.5307	.011
<ul> <li>outdegree - activity (sqrt)</li> </ul>		0.3655	(0.1195)	3.0585	.002
<ul> <li>out-out degree^(1/2) assortativity</li> </ul>		-0.1169	(0.0435)	-2,6874	<.001
- Alter		-0.0112	(0.0465)	.2409	.809
- Ego		-0.1303	(0.0451)	2.8891	.004
<ul> <li>Similarity</li> </ul>	[Selection effect!]	0.7313	(0.3519)	2.0261	.042
<ul> <li>Same sex</li> </ul>		0.7365	(0.0964)	7.6400	<.001
<b>Behavior effects</b>					
<ul> <li>Linear shape</li> </ul>		0.1634	(0.0746)	2.1903	.029
<ul> <li>Quadratic shape</li> </ul>		-0.0424	(0.0677)	6263	.53
<ul> <li>Total similarity</li> </ul>	[Influence effect!]	0.0302	(0.1348)	.2240	.82
<ul> <li>Effect from sex</li> </ul>		-0.2420	(0.1391)	1.7398	.08





#### **Network effects**

- Similarity

[Selection effect!]

0.7313

**SE** (0.3519)

2.0261

.042

#### **Behavior effects**

- Total similarity

[Influence effect!]

0.0302

(0.1348)

.2240

.82





#### Study 2

- There is similarity within friends
- Without intervention, friends do not influence the physical activity of friends

#### Study 3

- Pilot study: mobile social network intervention
- Based on the intervention by Crystal, but mobile



#### Appetite

Volume 103, 1 August 2016, Pages 294-301



A social network-based intervention stimulating peer influence on children's self-reported water consumption: A randomized control trial

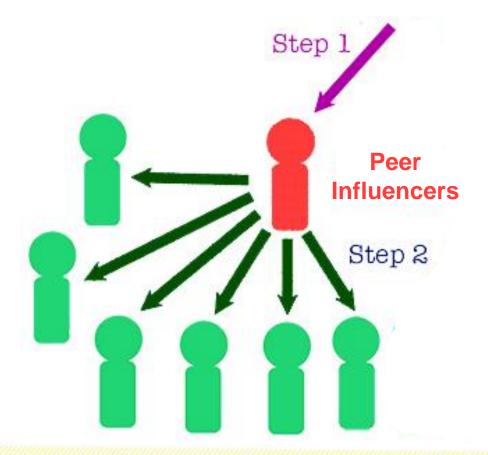
Crystal R. Smit™A, Rebecca N.H. de Leeuw, Kirsten E. Bevelander, William J. Burk, Moniek Buijzen





#### **Pilot study**



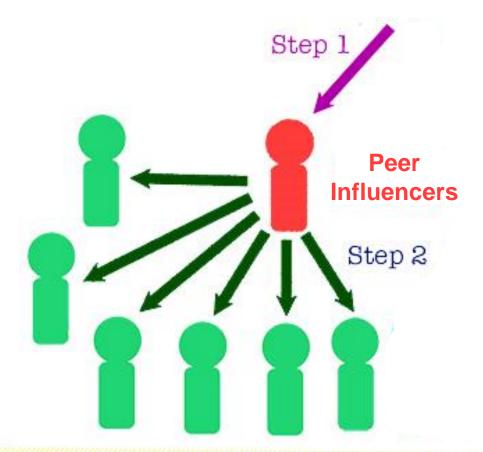


- One secondary school
  - 5 intervention classes
  - 6 control classes
- Baseline (Nov 2016)
  - assess network and determine PI's
- Intervention (Dec 2016)
  - Approach and train Pl's at day 1
- 28 influencers: 15% per class (gender matched)



### **Pilot study**





- Who to choose as a peer influencer?
  - Centrality
    - Indegree
    - Betweenness
    - Closeness
- How to persuade and train the peer influencers





Pretest to match the language of the target audience: Captains

Provide information and fun facts to the peer influencers







Train the peer influencer how (s)he can influence the physical activity of friends

Ask for their personal strategies and preferences [Self determination]





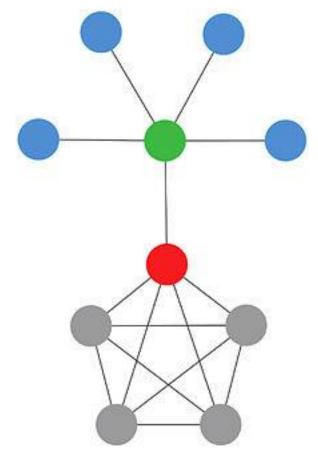
Create commitment by asking whether they accept the role of team captain













November → December



## Take home message

- When youngsters are together with classmates, they are more physically active than when they are alone.
- There is similarity in physical activity of friends, caused by selection effects.
- We still have a lot of work to do!

#### **Contact information**

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