

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910437925903321
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Titolo	The local information dynamics of distributed computation in complex systems // Joseph T. Lizier
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Springer, 2013
ISBN	1-283-91154-X 3-642-32952-7
Edizione	[1st ed. 2013.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (248 p.)
Collana	Springer theses, , 2190-5053
Disciplina	004 004.36
Soggetti	Communication of technical information Entropy
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Computation in complex systems -- Information storage -- Information transfer -- Information modifications -- Information dynamics in networks and phase transitions -- Coherent information structure in complex computation -- Information transfer in biological and bio-inspired systems -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	The nature of distributed computation in complex systems has often been described in terms of memory, communication and processing. This thesis presents a complete information-theoretic framework to quantify these operations on information (i.e. information storage, transfer and modification), and in particular their dynamics in space and time. The framework is applied to cellular automata, and delivers important insights into the fundamental nature of distributed computation and the dynamics of complex systems (e.g. that gliders are dominant information transfer agents). Applications to several important network models, including random Boolean networks, suggest that the capability for information storage and coherent transfer are maximized near the critical regime in certain order-chaos phase transitions. Further applications to study and design information structure in the contexts of computational neuroscience and guided self-organization underline the practical utility of the techniques

presented here. .
