Replicating *Web of Power* (Bai et al., 2022)

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Table I   Summary Statistics

Sample	Hunan counties 1850-1864			All counties, 1820-1910		
	Obs.	Mean	Std. dev.	Obs.	Mean	Std. dev.
Number of soldier deaths by year	1,125	26.21	145.75			
Number of soldier deaths during 1854-64 (1K)	1,125	0.37	1.20	149,786	0.02	0.27
Elite connections, baseline networks (weighted)	1,125	1.23	2.53	149,786	0.68	2.02
Elite connections per capita, baseline networks (weighted)	1,125	4.46	7.53	149,786	2.92	9.28
Number of national-level offices				149,786	0.09	0.54
ln area	1,125	7.84	0.48	149,786	7.40	0.89
ln population	1,125	12.14	0.62	149,786	12.08	1.02
ln rice suitability	1,125	1.63	0.10	149,786	1.34	0.32
ln wheat suitability	1,125	1.61	0.06	149,786	1.56	0.30
Main river dummy	1,125	0.40	0.49	149,786	0.42	0.49
Distance to the Grand Cannal	1,125	8.74	1.22	149,786	7.06	5.56
ln urban population	1,125	8.53	1.48	149,786	7.70	2.76
Prefecture capital	1,125	0.28	0.51	149,786	0.14	0.35
ln number of Jinshi	1,125	1.11	1.07	149,786	1.46	1.23
ln quotas for the entry-level exam	1,125	2.63	0.36	149,786	2.50	0.84
Distance to Nanjing	1,125	8.64	1.26	149,786	9.12	4.74
Along the route of Taipings during 1950-53	1,125	0.12	0.33	149,786	0.04	0.19

Table II   The Effect of Elite Connections on Soldier Deaths: DD Estimates

Dependent variable	ln(Soldier deaths + 1)									
Connection measured by	$\sum_{n=1}^{N_c} \frac{1}{d_{c,n}}$						N_c			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Baseline Connections	0.214***	0.201***	0.212***	0.213***			0.146***	0.147***		
	(0.058)	(0.060)	(0.058)	(0.059)			(0.042)	(0.042)		
Baseline Connections per capita					0.061***	0.056**			0.047***	0.044**
					(0.022)	(0.023)			(0.017)	(0.017)
Year FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
County FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Geographic-Economic Controls		Y	Y	Y		Y		Y		Y
Political Controls			Y	Y		Y		Y		Y
War Controls				Y		Y		Y		Y
Observations	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125
R-Squared	0.452	0.467	0.477	0.478	0.447	0.475	0.452	0.477	0.449	0.476

Table III   The Effect of Elite Connections on Soldier Deaths: Type of Links

Effects of Expanded Networks & Specific Types of Links

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Expanded network × post	0.183***			
	(0.038)			
Blood, marriage, and friends × post		0.178***		
		(0.043)		
Provincial-level exam connections × post			0.200**	
			(0.095)	
National-level eam connections × post				0.680**
				(0.282)
County FE	Y	Y	Y	Y
Year FE	Y	Y	Y	Y
Controls × post	Y	Y	Y	Y
Pref × year FE	Y	Y	Y	Y
Observations	1,110	1,110	1,110	1,110
R-Squared	0.671	0.667	0.664	0.665

Effects of Clan Relations

	(5)	(6)	(7)
Same-surname baseline connections $\times$ post	0.223***	0.249***	0.214***
	(0.067)	(0.073)	(0.061)
Diff-surname baseline connections $\times$ post		0.056***	
		(0.017)	
County FE	Y	Y	Y
Year FE	Y	Y	Y
Controls $\times$ post	Y	Y	
Pref $\times$ year FE	Y	Y	
Year $\times$ surname FE	Y	Y	Y
County $\times$ surname FE	Y	Y	Y
Year $\times$ county FE			Y
Observations	48,495	48,495	48,480
R-Squared	0.473	0.478	0.616

Table IV   The Effect of Elite Connections on Soldier Deaths: Placebo Networks

Sample	Hunan					
	OLS estimates			IV estimates		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Baseline connections × Post				0.329**	0.323**	0.330**
				(0.137)	(0.140)	(0.143)
National-level exam connections × Post	0.725**	0.756**	0.727**			
	(0.316)	(0.335)	(0.316)			
Placebo connections I × Post	-0.028		0.146	-0.303		-0.079
	(0.254)		(0.537)	(0.329)		(0.535)
Placebo connections II × Post		-0.085	-0.179		-0.278	-0.231
		(0.192)	(0.422)		(0.253)	(0.408)
Year FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
County FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Controls × Post	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Pref × year FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Observations	1,095	1,095	1,095	1,095	1,095	1,095
R-Squared	0.638	0.638	0.638	0.102	0.102	0.102

Sample	Huai region				
	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Baseline connections × Post	0.029				
	(0.036)				
National-level exam connections × Post		0.047	0.030	0.048	0.028
		(0.052)	(0.056)	(0.053)	(0.054)
Placebo connections I × Post			0.021		0.106
			(0.047)		(0.097)
Placebo connections II × Post				-0.001	-0.115
				(0.050)	(0.106)
Year FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
County FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Controls × Post	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Pref × year FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Observations	1,995	1,995	1,995	1,995	1,995
R-Squared	0.561	0.561	0.561	0.561	0.561

Table V   The Effect of Elite Connections on Elite Power: DD and DDD Estimates

Specification	DID				DDD	
Sample	Hunan		Non-Hunan		All	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Baseline connections × 1854-1910	0.053***	0.054***	0.009	0.011	0.009	0.011
	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.012)	(0.011)	(0.012)	(0.011)
Baseline Connections × Hunan × 1854-1910					0.044***	0.049***
					(0.012)	(0.013)
Hunan × 1854-1910					0.094	0.082
					(0.058)	(0.063)
County FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Year FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Controls × 1854-1910		Y		Y		Y
Observations	6,825	6,825	142,961	142,961	149,786	149,786
R-Squared	0.338	0.357	0.388	0.388	0.383	0.384

Table VI The Power Effect: The Role of Soldier Deaths

Dependent variable	National-level offices (mean: 0.093)					
Methods	OLS			IV		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Baseline connections × Hunan × 1854-1910	0.049***		-0.011			
	(0.013)		(0.015)			
Soldier Deaths$_{1854-64}$× 1854-1910		0.421***	0.427***	0.383***	0.387***	0.368***
		(0.091)	(0.097)	(0.077)	(0.093)	(0.044)
Natl-level exam connections × Hunan × 1854-1910					0.018	
					(0.076)	
Other connections × Hunan × 1854-1910						0.008
						(0.035)
Baseline connections × 1854-1910	0.011	0.010	0.011			
	(0.011)	(0.011)	(0.011)			
Natl-level exam connections × 1854-1910				0.006	0.007	0.007
				(0.020)	(0.022)	(0.022)
Other connections × 1854-1910				0.022	0.019	0.019
				(0.030)	(0.040)	(0.040)
Hunan × 1854-1910	0.082	-0.018	-0.008	-0.020	-0.024	-0.022
	(0.063)	(0.029)	(0.032)	(0.040)	(0.038)	(0.037)
County FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Year FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Controls × 1854-1910	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y
Observations	149,786	149,786	149,786	149,786	149,786	149,786
R-Squared	0.384	0.392	0.392	0.019	0.019	0.019
First-stage F-test				55750.5	104969.5	63510.2
Overidentification test p-value				0.81		

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