

One Angle could be:

In +2 multiparty systems it is custom to measure the effective number of parties with either the Laakso or the Golosov formula. This formula, however, only serves to reduce the actual number of parties to a lower number of “effective parties”;. As such discounting small, insignificant parties.

But what if the effective number of parties are greater than the formal number of parties? Neither of the methods mentioned above serves to identify fractures in parties.

In +2 multiparty systems this is rarely a problem since a serious fracture would lead to a split or a “breakout”. Never-the-less some specific institutional settings almost exclusively enables two-party systems; such as the electoral system of the US.

In such setting one could expect different factions of the same party to stick together, not out of love but out of necessity. The risk and cost of splitting out to a third party is too great for any faction to take.

We want to map more informal networks than the American House of Representatives to see if we can locate subgroups and factions within or across the two formal parties; the Democrats and the Republicans.

To do this we construct a number of networks:

A reciprocal twitter-graph (which for now shows no sign of club communities)

A graph produced by common voting behavior.

For reference the graph on common voting behavior is reproduced three times for three different congresses: the 103, 109 and 115.

Furthermore, much of the clustering in the networks is due to party-lines, thus we also produce networks exclusively for each party, to better capture more subtle variation.

The communities are estimated using **Louvian modularity**.

And we use the **Jaccard** and **Adamic/Adar** coefficients for something clever.

We concluded on which subgroups - if any - we were able to find and how this aligns with exception; do we identify the Tea Party? The Progressives?

Why is this interesting; the congress is inefficient and often even when one party holds both the house legislation can be sluggish. Having a systematic way to identify the more informal groupings of the two chambers could help understand why and when we should expect the most inertia.

(And these groups could analyse also with geodata)

Effective number of parties ser (vist) kun på +2 partis systemer.
I vil gerne se den anden vej; kan der være flere partier i et?

Vi konstruere både et netværk på baggrund af twitter relationer og et på baggrund af stemme adfærd. Disse identificere vi så communities og clusters i: hvor mange er der? (2 i twitter).

Hvorfor vil i det?

