

Explanation of Cleaning and Estimation Options

Data Source

Select source

REDCap API

Upload file

Cleaning options (network size adjustments)

- Fix underreported network size**
Occasionally participants report a personal network size (degree) smaller than the number of recruits they actually brought into the study. For example, if someone recruited 3 peers but reported a network size of 2, this is underreported. *Fix underreport* replaces such underreported cases with the observed value from the recruitment tree (out-degree + 1 for non-seeds; out-degree for seeds).
- Impute median for NA and 0**
If a participant reports their network size as `NA` (missing) or `0`, the value is invalid for weighting because RDS estimators depend on network size. This option replaces `NA` or `0` with a user-specified value, **median of the current network size distribution** (recommended).
- Set cap**
Sometimes individuals report extremely large network sizes (e.g., 500), which can disproportionately affect estimates. *Set cap* limits reported values at a user-specified maximum (often the 75th percentile of the distribution is recommended). This reduces the influence of outliers while preserving most of the data.

Layout

Only Layered (Tidy wave) is available.

Reduce overlap with small jitter

Jitter amount (x-axis) 0.15

Show edges

Edge opacity 0.60

Estimation methods (weights and hidden size)

- Gile's Successive Sampling (SS) Weights**
In Respondent-Driven Sampling (RDS), participants with larger personal networks are more likely to be sampled. Gile's SS estimator corrects for this by modeling recruitment as successive draws *without replacement* from a finite population. The inclusion probability for each participant depends on:
 - Their reported personal network size
 - The total sample size
 - The assumed prior population size in that region `N` (user-specified)
Weights are the inverse of these inclusion probabilities, allowing less biased population estimates.
- SSPSE (Successive Sampling Population Size Estimation)**
SSPSE builds on the same successive sampling model but aims to estimate the *total hidden population size*. It compares the observed distribution of reported network sizes with expected distributions under different candidate population sizes. Using Bayesian inference, SSPSE generates a **posterior distribution** for the population size, summarized by mean, median, mode, and credible intervals. The output includes both a summary table (prior vs posterior) and a posterior density plot. RDS adjustment and SSPSE could only be applied at site-level, ideally with sample sizes >200 for stable estimation (<100 not recommended).

REDCap RDS Tree Automata

Upload CSV/TSV/XLSX



Drag and drop file here

Limit 200MB per file • CSV, TSV, XLSX

[Browse files](#)



msmdata app trial.xlsx 1.7MB



Preview

	couponcode	id	image_codecoupon	h0_1	h0_2	h0_3	h0_4	h0_5	h0_5b	h0_6	h0_7	h0_8	h0_8b	h0_9__0	h0_9__1	h0_9__2	h0_9__
0	None	11	None	30	0	30	0	0	None	0	1	0	None	1	0	0	
1	None	12	1710937881198.jpg	18	0	216	0	0	None	0	1	3	None	1	1	0	
2	150100	13	None	35	0	150	0	0	None	0	1	0	None	0	1	1	
3	150101	14	None	35	0	11	0	0	None	0	1	3	None	1	1	1	
4	150102	15	None	35	0	45	0	0	None	0	1	0	None	1	0	0	

Incoming coupon field

couponcode



Seed field

seed.id



Network size field

h3_14



Recruitment out fields

outpon1 x outpon2 x outpon3 x



Use this uploaded file

Add site-level recruitment

Leading digits length for site code

2

Site prefix digits (e.g., 150):

15

Site name (e.g., Site A):

Dakar

Focus on seed (optional)

<All seeds>

Full Recruitment (Layered · Tidy)

Underreported count: 79

Underreported coupon IDs: 150505, 350106, 150155, 250370, 350101, 250325, 250471, 150291, 250100, 350133, 250246, 150611, 150145, 150248, 150121, 250320, 150212, 250192, 250616, 150255, 150104, 350137, 250702, 150157, 150211, 150405, 250380, 150119, 150178, 350205, 150506, 150536, 250129, 250466, 250439, 150118, 150612, 150166, 250478, 150146, 250552, 150394, 250108, 250326, 250216, 150606, 350417, 250589, 250130, 350554, 150421, 250665, 350345, 250263, 250610, 350327, 150273, 150332, 150338, 350163, 350193, 150218, 150334, 150512, 150158, 350187, 150177, 150142, 250559, 250178, 150651, 150274, 150472, 250804, 250398, 250114, 150167, 250660

Fix underreported networksize

Percentiles of reported_networksize

	reported_networksize
0%	0
25%	3
50%	6
75%	15
100%	450

Impute NA and 0

Imputation value for NA/0

7.00

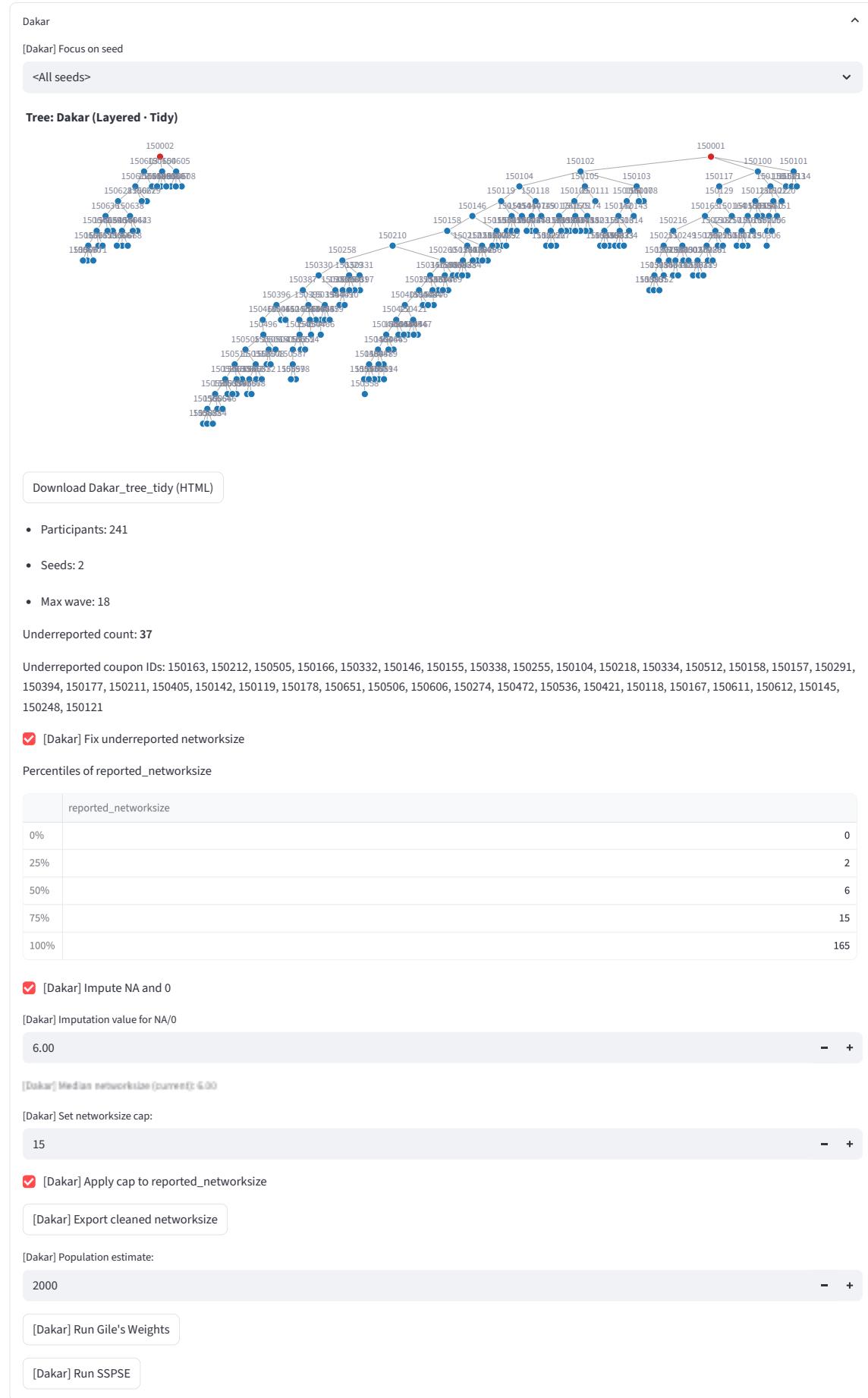
Median networksize (current): 7.00

Set networksize cap:

1

Apply cap to reported_networksize

Site-Level Trees



[Delete Dakar](#)

Generate Research Report

- Include Full-Tree section in report
- Include Site-level sections in report (if available)
- Compute Weights & SSPSE during report generation (if not previously saved)

[Generate PDF Report](#)

⚠ Note: SS-PSE and Gile's SS weights are **not recommended** for full pooled datasets. For valid estimation, these methods should be applied at the **site level**, not the combined dataset.

[Model Fit Guide \(Good vs Bad\)](#)



How to Evaluate SS-PSE Model Fit

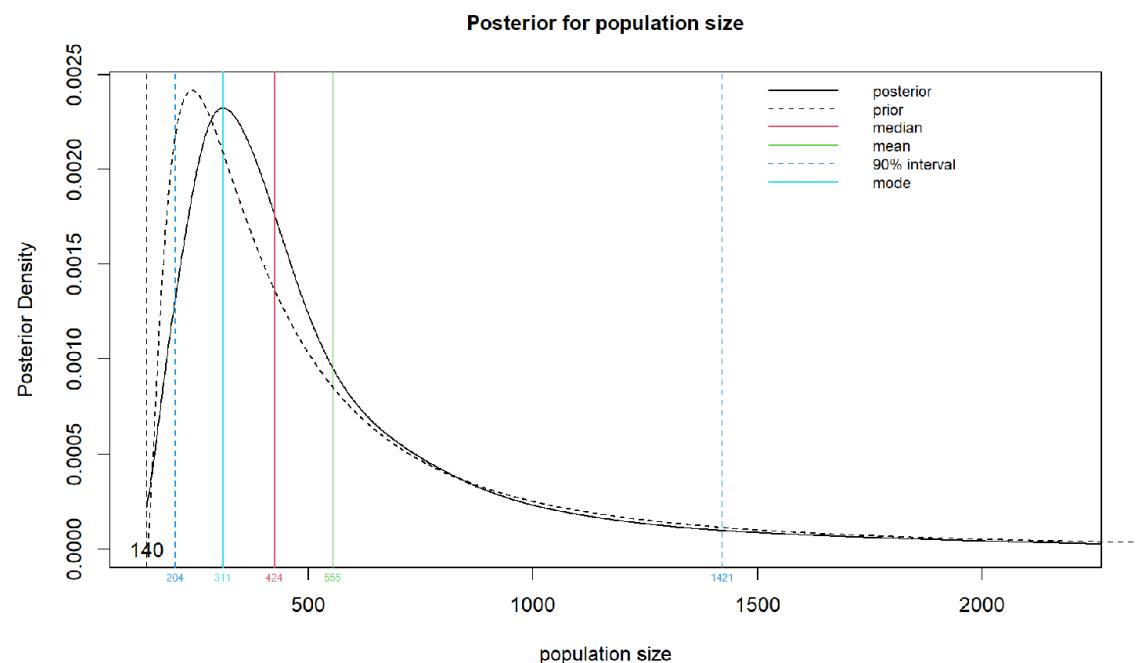
The figures below explain how to evaluate whether the **posterior** (solid curve) and **prior** (dashed curve) indicate a *good* or *bad* SS-PSE model fit.

A good model fit should show:

- ✓ Prior and posterior curves overlap **moderately**
- ✓ Posterior is **not wildly different** from prior
- ✓ Posterior median stays within the high-density posterior region
- ✓ Posterior mode shifts *somewhat*, but not drastically
- ✗ Posterior should **NOT** completely ignore the prior
- ✗ Posterior should **NOT** be many orders of magnitude away

If the curves diverge strongly → **your prior assumption is likely incorrect**, and you should adjust the median prior and rerun SS-PSE.

✓ Example of GOOD fit (GUA_MT)



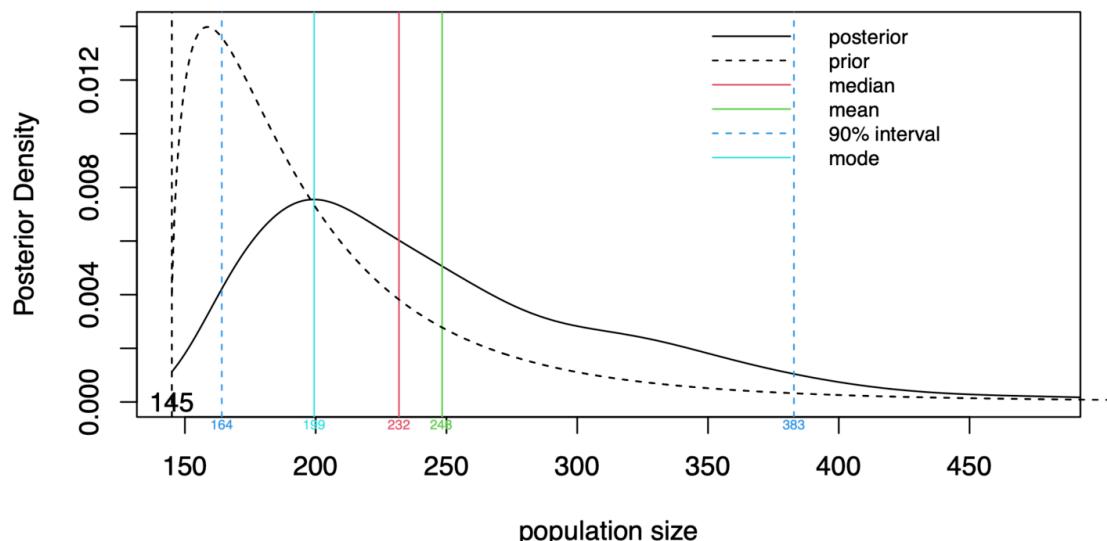
Good fit example: Prior and posterior curves overlap well.

Why this is a GOOD fit?

- Posterior curve shifts but **still overlaps** with the prior.
- Prior information meaningfully contributes to the posterior.
- Sample visibility and recruitment patterns are consistent with the prior belief.

✖ Example of POOR fit (GUA_UDI)

Posterior for population size



Why this is a BAD fit?

- Prior (dashed) and posterior (solid) almost do not overlap.
- Posterior strongly diverges → the median prior is likely incorrect.
- The sample's visibility and recruitment dynamics contradict prior belief.

✖ In this case, adjust your prior and rerun SS-PSE
Aim for a curve that moderately overlaps with the prior
(similar to the GOOD example above).