Detecting influential beliefs in large-scale surveys

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Large-scale surveys

Cross-sectional **Omnibus** Social Surveys Focusing on Social Behavior, Attitudes, and Values

Large-scale surveys

Cross-sectional **Omnibus** Social Surveys Focusing on Social Behavior, Attitudes, and Values

- No single research goal
- · Variety of topics and modules

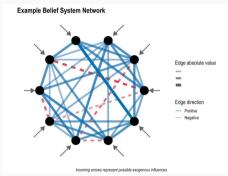








Belief systems

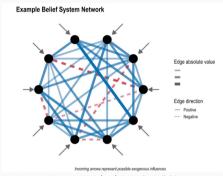


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Personality and Social Psychology Review

Beliefs = **evaluations** or **cognitive** aspects of attitudes

Belief systems



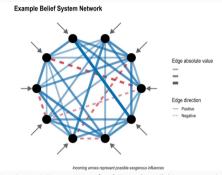
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Belief System Networks = the interrelationships of beliefs relevant to politics

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Connectionist framework ⇒ **Network Flow**



Motivating example - European Social Survey

- Round 9, 2018/2019
- 30 European countries
- Attitude towards national government



Motivating example

Govermental Performance

Satisfaction with **Economy**Satisfaction with **Democracy**State of **Healthcare**State of **Education**

Political Trust

Parliament Legal system Police Politicians Political parties

Representation & Fairness

Systems allows people to have a say
Systems allows people to have influence
Gov. decisions are transparent
Gov. takes into account interests of all
System gives a fair chance to all

Analytical strategy

Unique Variable Analysis (Christensen, Garrido & Golino, 2020)

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Weighted topological overlap (wTO, Zhang & Horvath, 2005) on partial correlation matrix

Estimate Gaussian Graphical Model

graphical LASSO regularization, extended BIC for model selection

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Estimate Gaussian Graphical Model

graphical LASSO regularization, extended BIC for model selection

Split the sample & test network differences.

Integrated Value of Influence (IVI)

(Salvaty, Ramialson & Currie, 2020)

UVA - Redundancy analysis

Govermental Performance

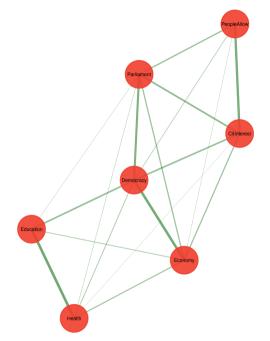
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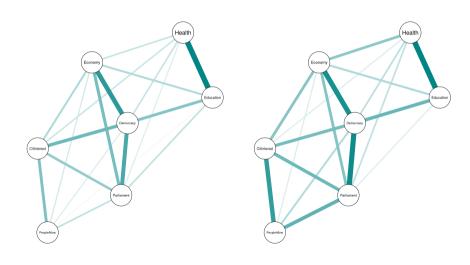
Political Trust

Parliament
Legal system
Police
Politicians
Political parties

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IVI (Salvaty, Ramialson & Currie, 2020)

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IVI (Salvaty, Ramialson & Currie, 2020)

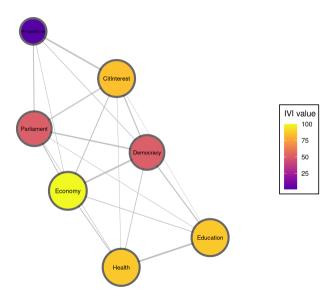
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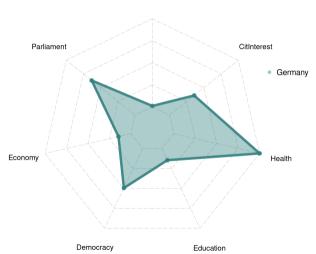
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Scaled $IVI \in [0, 100]$

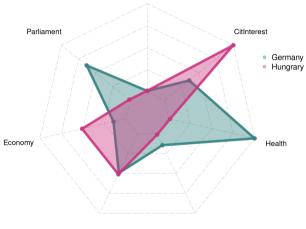
Belief Network IVI - Complete ESS R9 dataset







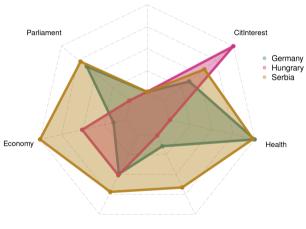




Democracy

Education

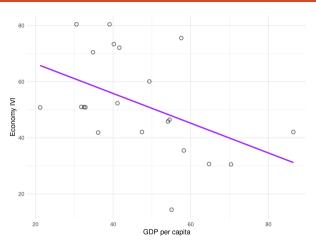




Democracy

Education

GDP per capita vs Economy IVI



$$r = -0.429$$
 $p = 0.02$

