Inferential Analysis of the Supreme Court Citation Network

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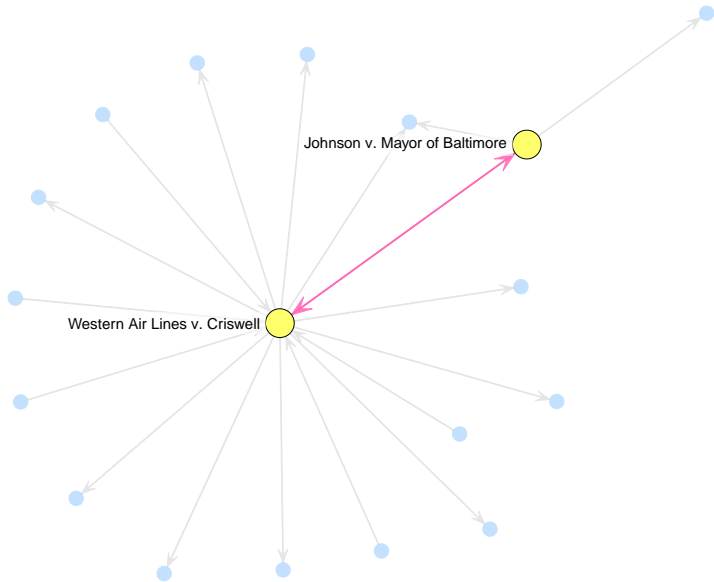**Pennsylvania State University**

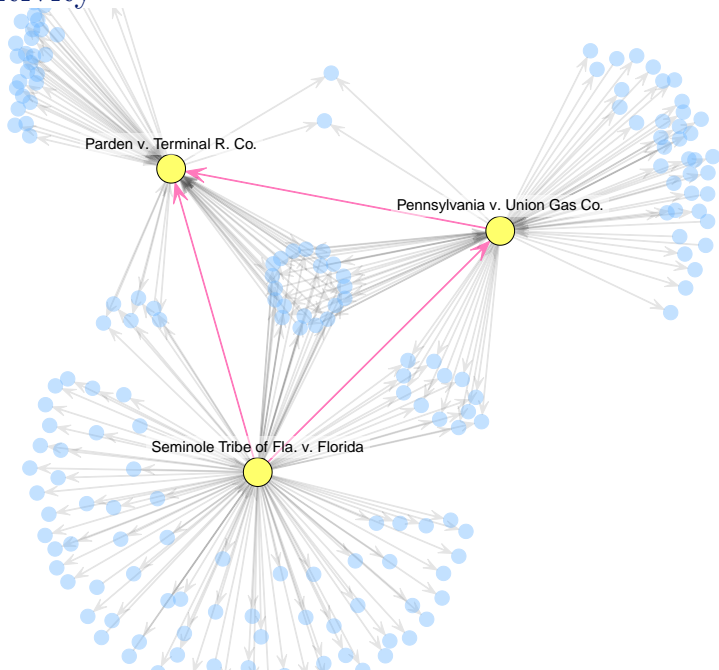January 3, 2018

Captivating Story/Anecdote

Two Limitations in Case-Level Analysis

1. **Theoretical:** Cannot learn about relational processes

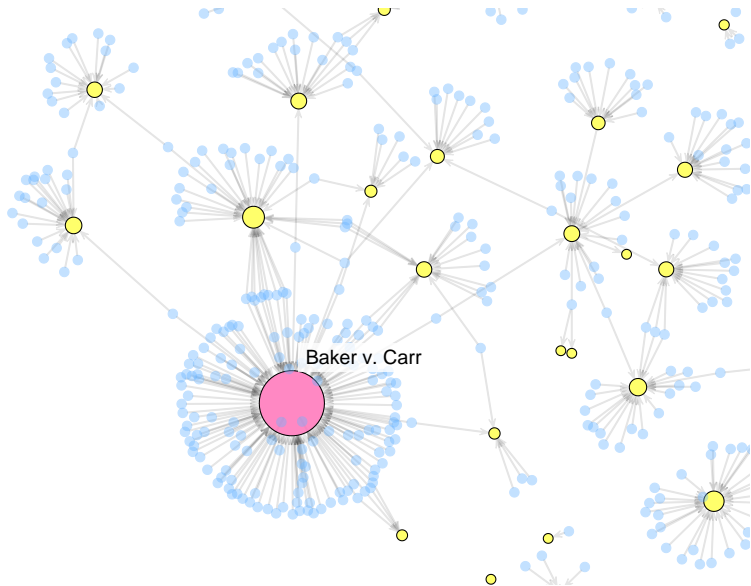2. **Methodological:** Risk bias from omitted structure
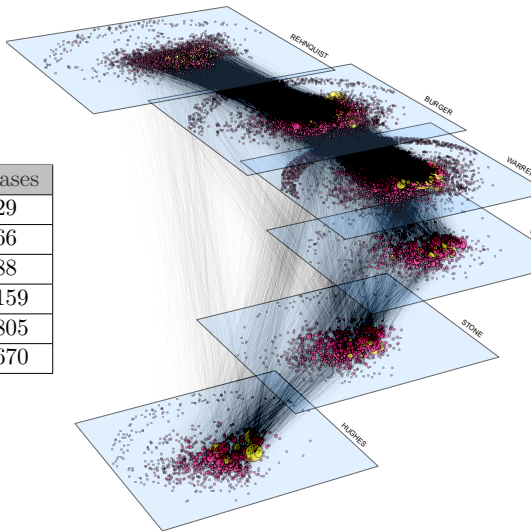
Reciprocity
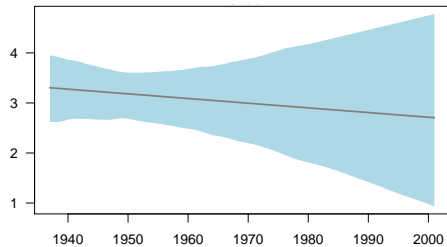
Transitivity

Popularity and Activity

Baker v. Carr

Citation TERGM

Data

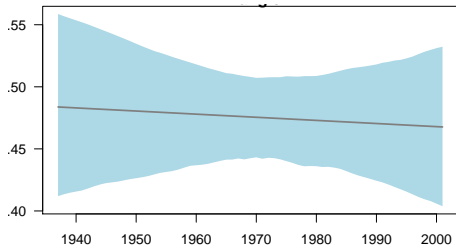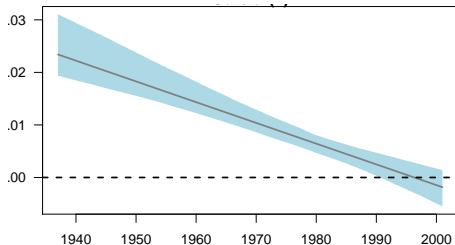|	Terms	Cases
CE Hughes*	1937 - 1941	629
HF Stone	1942 - 1946	766
FM Vinson	1946 - 1953	788
E Warren	1954 - 1969	2159
WE Burger	1970 - 1986	2805
W Rehnquist**	1987 - 2001	1670

Model Specification

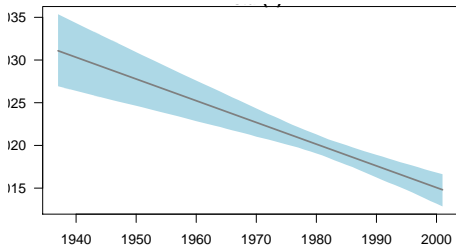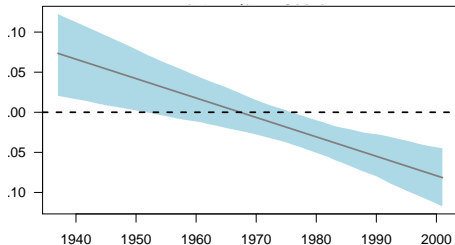# Results: Dependence

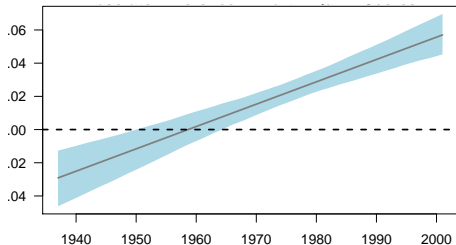

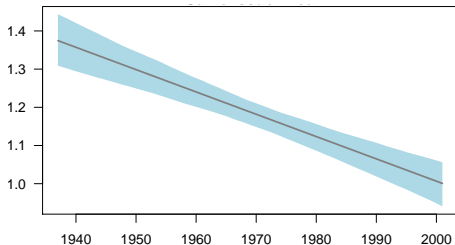Reciprocity

Transitivity
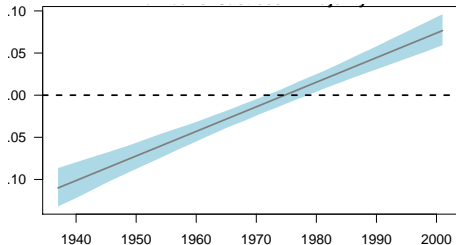
Activity

Popularity

Results: Covariates

MQ Score Difference

Ideological Breadth

Same Issue

Majority Size

Predictive Performance

	Independent Model		Full Model	
	mean	range	mean	range
precision	0.5499	(0.5384, 0.5619)	0.8605	(0.8526, 0.8666)
recall	0.0827	(0.0811, 0.0843)	0.5858	(0.5817, 0.5891)
F1 score	0.1438	(0.141, 0.1463)	0.6971	(0.6941, 0.7008)

Conclusion