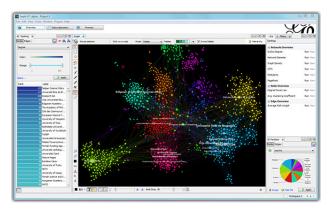
# Network Formation Models for Dynamic Network Data

Chih-Sheng Hsieh

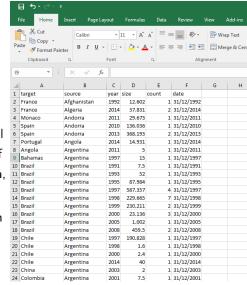
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- Gephi https://gephi.org/ (need Java 7 or 8 during installation: also pay attention to whether your OS is 32-bit or 64-bit).
- tutorial: https://gephi.org/users/tutorial-visualization/

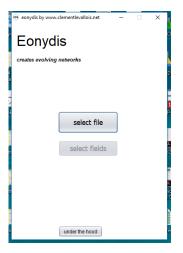


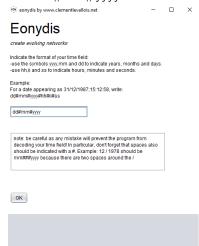
- We use the cross-border
   Merger & acquisition (M&A)
   data from 1984 to 2014 as an illustrating example.
- We are interested in observing the evolving pattern in the cross border M&A network.
   See which countries are central and the growing importance of certain countries such as China, India, Brazil, Russia, etc.
- Potentially the similar idea can be applied to internal trade data, international migration data, or smuggle data.



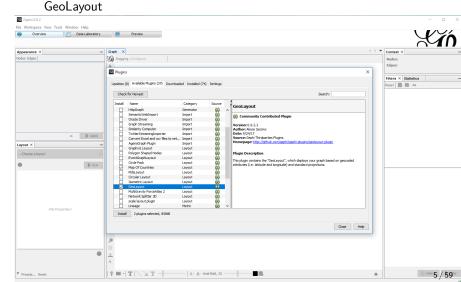


- First step: transforming the excel file into GEXF file by eonydis
- Be sure to set the time format as dd#mm#yyyy

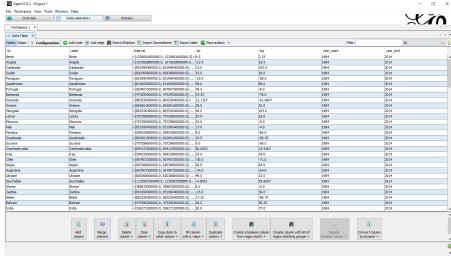




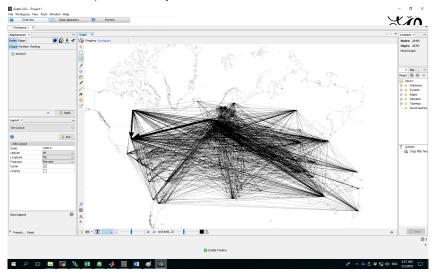
• Second step: update Gephi and add two plug-ins: Map of countries,



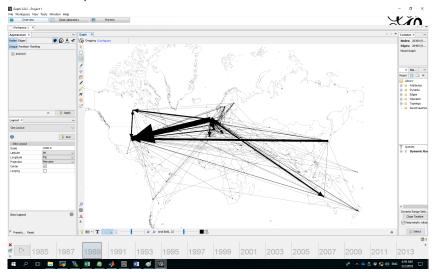
 Third step: load the GEXF file into Gephi and add latitude and longitude information of each country from a separated excel file



• Fourth step: choose Layout to show the network



• Fifth step: enable time line



# Spatial dynamic panel data (SDPD) model

Lee and Yu (2010) specify the SDPD model as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{gt} = & \lambda \overline{W}_{gt} Y_{gt} + \rho Y_{g,t-1} + \mu \overline{W}_{g,t-1} Y_{g,t-1} + X_{gt} \beta_1 + \overline{W}_{gt} X_{gt} \beta_2 \\ & + \tau_g + I_g \alpha_{gt} + U_{gt}, \quad g = 1, 2, \cdots, G, \ t = 1, 2, \cdots, T. \end{aligned}$$

- ullet  $\lambda$  captures the contemporary peer effect.
- ullet ho captures the time persistence effect on outcome.
- $\bullet$   $\mu$  captures the temporal peer effect.
- $\tau_g = (\tau_1, \cdots, \tau_{n_g})'$  is the  $n_g \times 1$  individual effect
- ullet  $\alpha_{gt}$  is the group-time effect for group g at time t
- When  $W_{gt}$  is endogenously formed, estimates of  $\lambda$ ,  $\mu$  and other coefficients will be biased.

# A general dynamic network formation model

$$\begin{split} &P(W_{gt}|Z_{gt},M_{gt},W_{g,t-1},Y_{g,t-1},\Gamma)\\ &=\prod_{i=1}^{n_g}\prod_{i\neq j}^{n_g}\left(\frac{\exp(\psi_{ijgt})}{1+\exp(\psi_{ijgt})}\right)^{I(w_{ijgt}=1)}\left(\frac{1}{1+\exp(\psi_{ijgt})}\right)^{I(w_{ijgt}=0)}, \end{split}$$

#### where

$$\psi_{ijgt} = \underbrace{\gamma_0 + c'_{igt}\gamma_1 + c'_{jgt}\gamma_2 + c'_{ijgt}\gamma_3}_{\text{direct and homophily effects from obs. chara.}} + \underbrace{\gamma_4 w_{ijg,t-1} + \gamma_5 r_{ijg,t-1}}_{\text{persistence and transitivity}}$$

+ 
$$\gamma_6 y_{ig,t-1} + \gamma_7 y_{jg,t-1} + \gamma_8 |y_{ig,t-1} - y_{jg,t-1}|$$
 +  $\sum_{p_1=1}^{p_1} \delta_{p_1} |z_{ip_1g,t} - z_{jp_1g,t}|$  direct and homophily effects from activity outcomes unobserved homophily

$$+\underbrace{\sum_{p_2=1}^{\bar{p}_2} \xi_{p_2} m_{ip_2gt}}_{p_2=1} + \underbrace{\sum_{p_2=1}^{\bar{p}_2} \zeta_{p_2} m_{jp_2gt}}_{p_2=1}.$$

unobserved degree heterogeneity

References

# Combining the SDPD model and the dynamic network formation model

 The SDPD model and the dynamic network formation model are connected by specifying the correlation structure between  $U_{gt}$  and  $Z_{gt}$  and  $M_{gt}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} U_{gt} &= Z_{nt} \kappa_1 + M_{gt} \kappa_2 + V_{gt}, \\ &= H_{gt} \kappa + V_{gt} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_v^2 I_{n_g}). \end{aligned}$$

The Selection-Corrected (SC)-SDPD model is

$$\begin{split} Y_{gt} = & \lambda \overline{W}_{gt} Y_{gt} + \rho Y_{g,t-1} + \mu \overline{W}_{g,t-1} Y_{g,t-1} + X_{gt} \beta_1 + \overline{W}_{gt} X_{gt} \beta_2 \\ & + H_{gt} \kappa + \tau_g + I_g \alpha_{gt} + V_{gt}. \end{split}$$

•  $H_{gt}\kappa$ : linear control function for the endogenous  $W_{gt}$ , or time-varying individual effects in the SDPD model.

References

#### The likelihood function

• Let  $\theta = (\lambda, \rho, \mu, \beta', \kappa', \sigma_v^2)'$ . The likelihood function of  $Y_{gt}$ , conditional on  $(W_{gt}, Y_{g,t-1}, W_{g,t-1}, H_{gt})$ , is,

$$\begin{split} &P(Y_{gt}|W_{gt},Y_{g,t-1},W_{g,t-1},H_{gt},\theta,\tau_g,\alpha_{gt})\\ &=(2\pi)^{-\frac{n_g}{2}}\cdot(\sigma_v^2)^{-\frac{n_g}{2}}\cdot|S_{gt}(\lambda)|\cdot\exp\left(-\frac{V_{gt}V_{gt}}{2\sigma_v^2}\right), \end{split}$$

for  $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$  and  $g = 1, 2, \dots, G$ .

• Assume the initial period  $Y_{g0}$  and  $W_{g0}$  are exogenously given, the joint likelihood function of  $\{Y_{gt}\}$  and  $\{W_{gt}\}$ , conditional upon  $\{H_{gt}\}$ , can be written as

$$P(\{Y_{gt}\}, \{W_{gt}\}|\{H_{gt}\}, \{\alpha_{gt}\}, \tau_{g}, \theta, \Gamma) = \prod_{g=1}^{G} \prod_{t=1}^{T} P(Y_{gt}|W_{gt}, Y_{g,t-1}, W_{g,t-1}, H_{gt}, \theta, \tau_{g}, \alpha_{gt}) P(W_{gt}|H_{gt}, Y_{g,t-1}, \Gamma).$$

# Bayesian estimation – the prior and posterior distributions

• We impose the following priors  $\pi(\cdot)$  for  $\theta$ ,  $\Gamma$ ,  $\tau_g$  and  $\{\alpha_{gt}\}$ :

$$\begin{split} & \gamma \sim \mathcal{N}_{6+2\bar{l}_1+\bar{l}_2}(\gamma_o,\,G_o), \;\; \Phi = (\delta',\xi',\zeta')' \sim \mathcal{N}_{\bar{p}}(\Phi_0,P_0), \;\; \lambda \sim \textit{U}(-1,1) \\ & \rho | \lambda \sim \textit{U}(-1+|\lambda|,1-|\lambda|), \mu | \rho, \lambda \sim \textit{U}(-1+|\lambda|+|\rho|,1-|\lambda|-|\rho|), \\ & \beta \sim \mathcal{N}_{2\textit{k}}(\beta_0,B_0), \;\; \kappa \sim \mathcal{N}_{\bar{p}}(\kappa_0,K_0), \;\; \sigma_v^2 \sim \mathcal{I}\mathcal{G}\left(\frac{a}{2},\frac{b}{2}\right). \\ & \tau_g \sim \mathcal{N}_{\textit{ng}}(\tau_0,E_0), \alpha_{\textit{gt}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\alpha_0,F_0), \;\; g = 1,2,\cdots,\textit{G}, \;\; t = 1,2,\cdots,\textit{T}. \end{split}$$

By Bayes' theorem, the posterior distribution of parameters is,

$$P(\theta, \Gamma, \{\tau_g\}, \{\alpha_{gt}\}, \{H_{gt}\}| \{Y_{gt}\}, \{W_{gt}\}) \propto \pi(\theta) \times \pi(\Gamma) \times \pi(\{\tau_g\})$$
$$\times \pi(\{\alpha_{gt}\}) \times P(\{H_{gt}\}|\Gamma) \times P(\{Y_{gt}\}, \{W_{gt}\}| \{H_{gt}\}, \{\alpha_{gt}\}, \tau_g, \theta, \Gamma).$$

# An overview of the MCMC algorithm

- Step 1: sample  $h_{ig1}$  from  $P(h_{ig1}|Y_{g1},W_{g1},h_{-i,g1},h_{ig2},\Gamma,\Psi,\beta,\kappa,\sigma_v^2,\tau_g)$
- Step 2: sample  $h_{igt}$  from  $P(h_{igt}|Y_{gt},W_{gt},h_{ig,t+1},h_{-i,gt},h_{ig,t-1},\Gamma,\Psi,\beta,\kappa,\sigma_v^2,\tau_g,\alpha_{gt})$
- Step 3: sample  $h_{igT}$  from  $P(h_{igT}|Y_{gT},W_{gT},h_{ig,T-1},\Gamma,\Psi,\beta,\kappa,\sigma_v^2,\tau_g,\alpha_{gT})$
- Step 4: sample  $\Gamma$  from  $P(\Gamma | \{W_{gt}\}, \{H_{gt}\})$
- Step 5: sample  $\kappa$  from  $P(\kappa | \{Y_{gt}\}, \{W_{gt}\}, \{H_{gt}\}, \Psi, \beta, \{\tau_g\}, \{\alpha_{gt}\}, \sigma_v^2)$
- Step 6: sample  $\Psi = (\lambda, \rho, \mu)$  from  $P(\Psi | \{Y_{gt}\}, \{W_{gt}\}, \{H_{gt}\}, \beta, \kappa, \sigma_{v}^{2}, \{\tau_{g}\}, \{\alpha_{gt}\}).$
- Step 7: sample  $\beta$  from  $P(\beta | \{Y_{gt}\}, \{W_{gt}\}, \{H_{gt}\}, \Psi, \kappa, \sigma_v^2, \{\tau_g\}, \{\alpha_{gt}\})$
- Step 8: sample  $\sigma_v^2$  from  $P(\sigma_v^2 | \{Y_{gt}\}, \{W_{gt}\}, \{H_{gt}\}, \Psi, \beta, \kappa, \{\tau_g\}, \{\alpha_{gt}\})$
- $\bullet \ \ \mathsf{Step 9: \ sample} \ \ \tau_{\mathsf{g}} \ \mathsf{from} \ \ P(\tau_{\mathsf{g}}|\{Y_{\mathsf{g}t}\},\{W_{\mathsf{g}t}\},\{H_{\mathsf{g}t}\},\Psi,\beta,\kappa,\sigma_{\mathsf{v}}^2,\{\alpha_{\mathsf{g}t}\})$
- Step 10: sample  $\alpha_{gt}$  from  $P(\alpha_{gt}|Y_{gt},W_{gt},H_{gt},\Psi,\beta,\kappa,\sigma_v^2,\tau_g)$

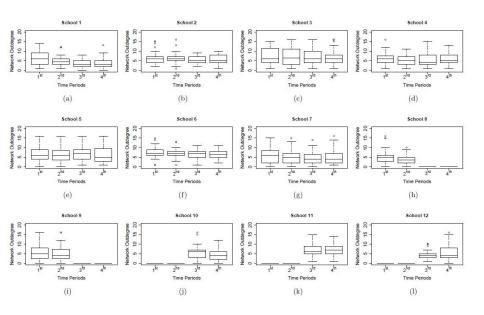
Table: Simulation Result (I)

		Sample I: m=50,G=20,T=5									
		Full-	-D2	Full	-D1	Unobs.	homo.	Unobs	. Deg.	SD	PD
Para.	DGP	mean	s.d.	mean	s.d.	mean	s.d.	mean	s.d.	mean	s.d.
λ	0.3000	0.3027	0.0083	0.3712	0.0284	0.3446	0.0206	0.2184	0.0375	0.4288	0.0264
ρ	0.2000	0.1959	0.0094	0.2733	0.0272	0.2877	0.0149	0.1396	0.0199	0.4515	0.0163
μ	-0.1000	-0.0969	0.0087	-0.1128	0.0168	-0.1270	0.0216	-0.1091	0.0429	-0.1142	0.0172
$\beta_1$	1.0000	1.0029	0.0102	1.0329	0.0143	1.0358	0.0155	0.9905	0.0192	1.0483	0.0152
$\beta_2$	1.0000	0.9940	0.0209	0.9263	0.0423	0.9725	0.0393	1.0695	0.0537	0.8749	0.0443
κ <sub>11</sub>	1.2000	1.1271	0.1182	0.5782	0.3727	1.0767	0.0985	-	-	-	-
κ <sub>12</sub>	0.4000	0.4072	0.2294	-	-	0.7030	0.2131	-	-	-	-
κ <sub>21</sub>	1.0000	0.9958	0.0628	1.1321	0.0659	-	-	0.5647	0.0590	-	-
κ22	0.5000	0.5310	0.0822	-	-	-	-	0.5610	0.0813	-	-
$\gamma_0$	-1.0000	-0.9532	0.1005	-1.6506	0.1725	0.4960	0.1445	-3.5724	0.1638	-	-
$\gamma_1$	0.5000	0.5072	0.0689	0.4284	0.1099	0.4357	0.0959	0.3935	0.0780	-	-
$\gamma_2$	0.5000	0.5072	0.0166	0.4485	0.0184	0.4132	0.0205	0.3932	0.0191	-	-
$\gamma_3$	0.5000	0.5096	0.0172	0.4477	0.0169	0.4171	0.0196	0.3952	0.0180	-	-
$\gamma_4$	0.5000	0.5106	0.0701	0.6677	0.1234	1.0132	0.0943	0.7445	0.0823	-	-
$\gamma_6$	0.3000	0.3127	0.0115	0.2615	0.0132	0.3714	0.0178	0.2513	0.0180	-	-
$\gamma_7$	0.3000	0.3033	0.0147	0.2372	0.0121	0.3349	0.0208	0.2236	0.0150	-	-
$\gamma_8$	-1.0000	-1.0143	0.0250	-0.4629	0.0180	-0.7176	0.0338	-0.7836	0.0279	-	-
$\delta_1$	-2.0000	-1.9337	0.0989	-2.1208	0.1738	-2.0375	0.1164	-	-	-	-
$\delta_2$	-1.0000	-1.1998	0.1261	-	-	-1.8668	0.0814	-	-	-	-
ξ1	1.0000	1.0026	0.0614	1.0551	0.0538	-	-	0.9015	0.0488	-	-
$\xi_1$ $\xi_1$ $\xi_2$	0.5000	0.4923	0.0780	0.9321	0.0505	-	-	0.5850	0.0915	-	-
ξ2	0.7000	0.7017	0.0758	-	-	-	-	0.8514	0.0894	-	-
$\zeta_2$	1.0000	1.0079	0.0460	-	-	-	-	0.9729	0.1110	-	-
$\sigma_{\nu}^{2}$	1.0000	0.9754	0.0537	1.7936	0.2763	1.8903	0.1024	3.2030	0.1026	3.9850	0.1381
AICM		3968.8	303.30	6320.5	636.10	5185.1	478.90	5420.2	599.10	-	-

Note: This Monte Carlo study contains 100 repetitions. The mean and standard deviation of the point estimates across repetitions are reported. The column "Two dimensions" refers to the true model that generates the artificial data, which has latent variables in two dimensions. The column "One dimension" refers to the model that has only one-dimensional latent variable. The column "Unobs. Dego," refers to the alternative network formation model for unobserved degree heterogeneity. The column "SDPD" refers to the SDPD model which neglects endogenous network formation.

Gephi

- The data set comes from the project Luminous Shine and Dark Shadow: The Duality of Late Adolescents to Early Adults' Friendship Networks conducted by the Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica, Taiwan between 2008 and 2011.
- The project conducted surveys in 12 high school classes in southern Taiwan, and consists of two questionnaires:
  - Network questionnaire collects information on students' friend and foe nominations; collected 3 times each semester; A total of 18 waves.
  - General questionnaire collects information about students' family background, academic performance, experience of school life, and so on; Collected twice each year.
- After matching the two, we obtain a panel data of 12 classes (networks) in 4 time snapshots.



### **Empirical Study**

- The main dependent variable in outcome equation: student's academic performance in terms of percentile ranking.
- We investigate 4 types of networks: friendship, foe, study mate, and cram-school mate, all of which are time-varying.
- We control an array of individual characteristics in the SDPD outcome equation, including gender, age, height, weight, and family background, such as number of siblings, parents' education levels, parents' current job status, and whether parents were fighting recently or whether family was in financial hardship or not.
- In the network formation model, we control many dynamic features, such as the previous friendship link, previous academic ranking, and whether individuals share common friends or enemies previously.

Table 3: Variable Definition and Summary Statistics

0.3980

0.4597

0.4082

0.2344

0.14740.0305

0.1795

0.1048

0.4043

8.0853

10.9713

0.2248

0.3848

0.1389

0.0571

2nd period

0.7604

0.3980 0.1882

0.4082

0.2542

0.1721

0.1721

0.1048

0.4102

10.7433

0.2248

0.5154

0.3430

0.1933

0.0974

0.0483

1.5180

0.1967

0.3019 0.4597

0.2327

0.2105

0.0693

0.0305

0.0111

0.2133

166.7036 8.3042

58.3416

0.0471

17.3130

0.1357

0.0388

0.3019

0.1154

9

361

3rd period

1.4839

0.2903

0.2285

0.1989

0.0645

0.0215

0.0215

0.0054

0.2608

167.7312 8.3510

59.4991

0.0349

17.0860

0.1586

0.0269

0.3265

0.1304

10

372

Sd

26,6620

0.4932

0.7786

0.3914

0.4545

0.4204

0.3997

0.2460

0.1453

0.1453

0.4396

11.7241

0.1839

0.6469

0.3658

0.1620

0.1077

0.0661

4th period

S.d.

26,3881

0.4932

0.7786

0.3914

0.4545

0.4204

0.3997

0.2259

0.1696

0.1153

0.0732

0.4425

8.4681

11.7543

0.2216

0.6444

0.3416

0.1361

0.0796

0.0368

Min

1.2195

0.0000

0.0000

0.0000

0.0000

0.0000

0.0000

0.0000

0.0000

0.0000

0.0000

0.0000

146,0000

35,0000

0.0000

15.0000

0.0000

0.0000

0.0070

0.0000

Max

98.7805

1.0000

1.0000

1.0000

1.0000

1.0000

1.0000

1.0000

1.0000

1.0000

1.0000

1.0000

193,0000

98.0000

1.0000

20.0000

1.0000

1.0000

0.5172

0.2930

Mean

56.1251

0.5860

1.4839

0.1882

0.2903

0.2285

0.1989

0.0538

0.0296

0.0134

0.0054

0.2661

167.8145

59.9556

0.0457

18.0887

0.1344

0.0188

0.3201

0.1136

10

372

1st period

1.5180 0.7604

0.1967

0.3019

0.2327 0.4231

0.2105

0.0582

0.0332

0.0111

0.2050

166.5208

58.0928

0.0471

16.3352 0.4900

0.1801

0.04430.2061

0,3009

0.0955

9

361

Variable	Definition	Mean	S.d.	Mean	S.d.	Mean	
Ranking	Student's percentile ranking	52.8438	27.6137	54.1561	27.1148	54.1868	
Male	Dummy of male student	0.5485	0.4983	0.5485	0.4983	0.5860	

able	Definition		Mean	S.d.	Mean	S.d.	Mea
i de la companya de l	Salah Carrier Carrier	2001 - 100 A	- 400 - 100 -	ritorio Administra no	100 Conference Co	Victor Manager	100 1100

Sibling

Fehl

Fehh

Mehl

Mehh

Funemp Fretired

Mumemp Mretired

Housewife

Height

Weight

Divorce

Lessmoney

Parentfight

Network density

Clustering coefficient

Number of schools

Number of students

Age

Number of siblings

Dummy of father's education lower than high school

Dummy of father's education higher than high school

Dummy of mother's education lower than high school

Dummy of mother's education higher than high school

Dummy of father being unemployed

Dummy of mother being umemployed

Dummy of father being retired

Dummy of monther being retired

Dummy of monther being housewife

Dummy of patents being divorced

Student's age

Student's height, measured by centimeter

Student's weight, measured by kilogram

Dummy of family in financial hardship

A measure of network connectedness

A measure of network transitivity

Dummy of parents have more conflicts or fights

# Our empirical specification

- With a short panel, we only include group-time effect.
- We compare the following empirical specifications:
  - static spatial model with exogenous networks
  - SDPD model with exogenous networks
  - selection corrected SDPD model with dynamic and endogenous networks, with  $\bar{p}_1$  and  $\bar{p}_2$  of different dimensions.
- We adopt the Akaike information criterion Monte Carlo (AICM) in Raftery et al. (2007) to select the dimension of  $z_{igt}$ 's and  $m_{igt}$ 's: the model with  $\bar{p}_1 = 2$  and  $\bar{p}_2 = 2$  is selected.

References

Table: Estimation Results of Peer Effects on Academic Performance Under SAR and SDPD Models with Exogenous Friendship Networks

	(I)	(11)	(III)	(IV)
$\lambda$	0.299***	0.255***	0.121***	0.107***
	(0.043)	(0.047)	(0.029)	(0.035)
ρ	-	-	0.794***	0.793***
			(0.017)	(0.018)
$\mu$	-	-	0.008	0.005
			(0.028)	(0.031)
Own and Contextual Effects	No	Yes	No	Yes
Group-Time Effect	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
$\sigma^2$	646.167	641.468	210.606	209.470
	(29.382)	(29.154)	(9.583)	(9.519)

Note: Column (I): cross-sectional SAR model without contextual effects. Column (II): cross-sectional SAR model with contextual effects. Column (III): SDPD model without contextual effects. Column (IV): SDPD model with contextual effects. The asterisks \*\*\*(\*\*,\*) indicates that its 99% (95%, 90%) highest posterior density range does not cover zero.

Table: Estimation Results of Peer Effects on Academic Performance from Other Relationship Networks

		C. 1 .	C   1   1   1
	Enemy	Study mate	Cram school mate
$\lambda$	-0.060	0.115***	0.065*
	(0.074)	(0.032)	(0.038)
ho	0.810***	0.798***	0.809***
	(0.018)	(0.018)	(0.019)
$\mu$	-0.017	-0.006	-0.020
	(0.024)	0.017	(0.020)
Own and Contextual Effects	Yes	Yes	Yes
Group-Time Effect	Yes	Yes	Yes
$\sigma^2$	213.594	210.3244	212.523
	(9.800)	(9.605)	(9.705)

Note: The asterisks \*\*\* (\*\*,\*) indicates that its 99%(95%,90%) highest posterior density range does not cover zero.

Table: Estimation Results of Peer Effects on Academic Performance Under SDPD Model with Dynamic Friendship Network Formation

	(I)	(II)	(III)
	One dimension	Two dimensions	Three dimensions
$\overline{\lambda}$	0.103***	0.094***	0.097***
	(0.033)	(0.035)	(0.033)
ho	0.791***	0.789***	0.789***
	(0.019)	(0.018)	(0.018)
$\mu$	0.006	0.003	0.011
	(0.031)	(0.032)	(0.032)
Own and Contextual Effects	Yes	Yes	Yes
Group-Time Effect	Yes	Yes	Yes
Endog. Network Formation	Yes	Yes	Yes
$\sigma^2$	209.888	208.712	210.789
	(9.657)	(9.667)	(9.692)
AICM	21344	17729	18696

56.832

79.092

39.759

se(AICM)

Table: Estimation Results of Network Formation

	(I)	(II)	(III)
	One dimension	Two dimensions	Three dimensions
Constant	-0.748***	1.078***	3.045***
Same gender	(0.183) 1.503***	(0.124) 1.877***	(0.179) 2.476***
ourne genue.	(0.076)	(0.083)	(0.099)
Lessmoney (i,t)	-0.223***	-0.309***	-0.050
	(0.100)	(0.094)	(0.085)
Lessmoney (j,t)	-0.070	-0.108	0.062
	(0.058)	(0.089)	(80.0)
Parentfight (i,t)	-0.271	-0.036	-0.380
	(0.166)	(0.129)	(0.160)
Partenfight (j,t)	-0.111	-0.666****	-1.142****
	(0.120)	(0.167)	(0.153)
Friend (t-1)	2.968***	3.367***	3.934***
	(0.046)	(0.057)	(0.072)
Common friend (t-1)	0.204***	0.295***	0.320***
	(0.015)	(0.019)	(0.016)
Common enemy (t-1)	0.344	0.770***	1.275***
	(0.215)	(0.221)	(0.254)
Acad. ranking (i,t-1)	0.000	0.000	-0.006****
	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)
Acad. ranking (j,t-1)	0.003***	0.004***	0.002***
	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)
Diff. of ranking (t-1)	-0.007***	-0.005***	-0.010****
	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)

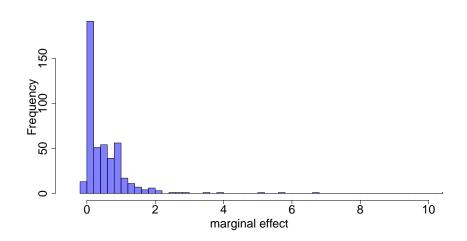
# A summary of empirical results

- We get positive and significant contemporary peer effect from the static spatial model, the SDPD model, and the full model.
- The static model tends to over-estimate  $\lambda$ .
- There is some bias correction on  $\lambda$  when the dimension of  $z_{igt}$ 's and  $m_{igt}$ 's increase to 2.
- For network formation
  - Homophily effect strongly exists in gender dimension
  - Students make less friends when family is in financial hardship
  - Positive and significant effect from previous friendship link
  - Transitivity from common friends and enemies matter
  - Direct and homophily effect from the lagged academic ranking matters
  - Unobserved homophily and degree heterogeneity matter

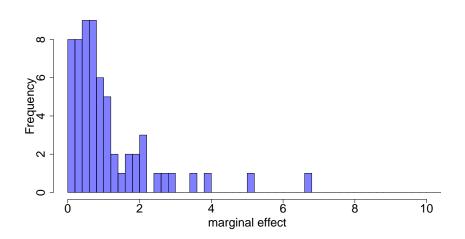
#### Counter-factual simulation

- Following the empirical framework of this paper, we study a policy scenario that government (or school) agencies provide financial assistance to students' families which are in financial hardships.
- From empirical results, we find the dummy variable "family in financial hardship" has significant negative effects on both student's friendship formation (-0.309 for sender & -0.108 for receiver) and academic performance (-2.504).
- We expect that the financial releasing policy (program) will help students to improve their social networking and school academic performance.
- We pay attention to the multiplier effect generated by this policy through network interactions.

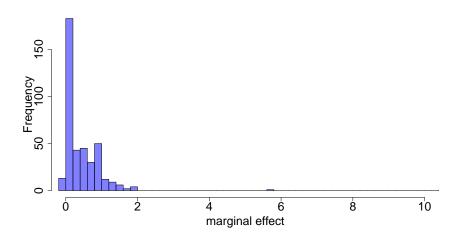
# Counter-factual simulation of removing family financial hardship on students' friendship formation – the whole sample



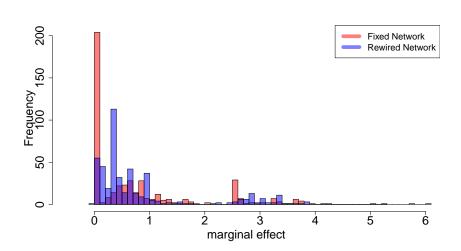
# Counter-factual simulation of removing family financial hardship on students' friendship formation – the treated group



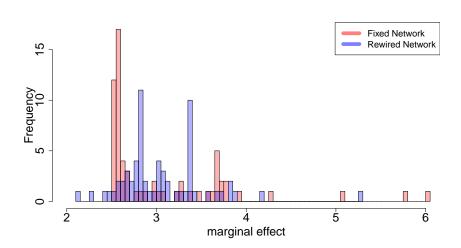
# Counter-factual simulation (continue) – the untreated group



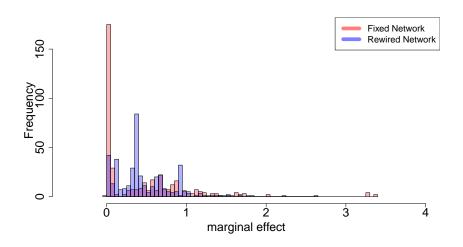
# Counter-factual simulation of removing family financial hardship on child's academic performance – the whole sample



# Counter-factual simulation of removing family financial hardship on child's academic performance – the treated group



# Counter-factual simulation (continue) – the untreated group



- Applications of stochastic actor-based model (Snijders, 1996, 2001; Snijders et al., 2007) can be found in
  - ① Statistics (e.g., Greenan, 2014),
  - 2 Psychology (e.g., Giletta et al., 2012),
  - Medicine (e.g., Gesell et al., 2012),
  - Public health (e.g., Valente et al., 2010),
  - 5 Sociology (e.g., Knecht et al., 2010),
  - Marketing (e.g., Godinho et al., 2014) study the social influence on iPhone 3G adoption using mobile data from Europe.
  - Multidisciplinary study (e.g., Lewis et al. (2012)): analyze the coevolution of friendship formation and shared tastes among friends using Facebook data.
- Snijders manages a website SIENA to promote the stochastic actor-based model

- We observe network g and several behavioral outcomes  $(y_1, y_2, \cdots, y_H)$  at two or more discrete points in time (say  $t_1 < t_2 < \cdots < t_M$ ), and they are treated as *snapshots* from a continuous process.
- The model assumes that between any two discrete time points,  $t_m$  and  $t_{m+1}$ , there are "micro" steps at stochastically determined moments that individuals have chances to change their network ties or behaviors.
- Changes of state variables,  $z = (g, y_1, \dots, y_H)$ , are assumed to follow a continuous Markov process.
- The changes of network tie and behavior made by an individual are conditionally independent of each other, given the current state of the process.
- Each individual can make one and only one change at a time. Also, one and only one individual can make decision at a time.

- How frequent an individual i has an opportunity to make a change in a time period  $t_m \leq t \leq t_{m+1}$  is determined by a Possion process with the parameter given by a rate function,  $\lambda_i$ . (for simplicity, we may assume  $\lambda_i = \lambda$  in practice.)
- The core of the model is a micro-mechanism which depends on individual utility functions.

For network 
$$f_i^{[g]}(\beta^{[g]}, z) = \sum_k \beta_k^{[g]} s_{ik}^{[g]}(z)$$
  
For behavior  $f_i^{[y_h]}(\beta^{[y_h]}, z) = \sum_k \beta_k^{[y_h]} s_{ik}^{[y_h]}(z)$  for  $h = 1, \dots, H$ 

• Proper  $s_{i\nu}^{[g]}(z)$  and  $s_{i\nu}^{[y_h]}(z)$  are chosen to capture homophily and social influence.

- The objective function measures individual utility with a given configuration of network and behaviors, which is a sum of a evaluation function  $f_i(\beta,z)$  and a stochastic error term from the extreme type-I distribution.
- ullet The probability of individual i going to some new state z is given by

$$\frac{\exp(f_i(\beta, z))}{\sum_{z \in \mathcal{C}} \exp(f_i(\beta, z'))}$$

 To capture the effect of social influence, one can use the "average similarity effect" (López-Pintado, 2008; Young, 2009)

$$s_i^{[y_h]}(z) = g_{i+,t-1}^{-1} \sum_{i \neq i} g_{ij,t-1} (sim_{ij}^{[y_{h,t}]} - \widehat{sim}^{[y_{h,t}]}),$$

where  $sim_{ij}^{[y_{h,t}]} - \widehat{sim}^{[y_{h,t}]}$  is the centralized similarity score with  $sim_{ij}^{[y_{h,t}]} = \frac{\max_{ik} |y_{hi,t} - y_{hi,t}| - |y_{hi,t} - y_{hj,t}|}{\max_{ij} |y_{hi,t} - y_{hj,t}|}$  and  $\widehat{sim}^{[y_{h,t}]}$  is the mean of similarity scores.

#### The Stochastic Actor-Based Model for Network and Behavior Dynamics

• Similarly, we capture homophily from certain behavior variable  $y_h$  by the "similarity effect"

$$s_i^{[g]}(z) = \sum_{j \neq i} g_{ij,t} (sim_{ij}^{[y_{h,t-1}]} - \widehat{sim}^{[y_{h,t-1}]})$$

- To prevent the identification problem due to simultaneity, we follow Snijders et al. (2007) and exploit the time order of the variables based on the concept of causality.
- Homophily is reflected by a "later" change in network tie, which follows an "earlier" configuration of behavior; whereas peer influence is reflected by a "later" change in behavior following an "earlier" configuration of network ties.

#### The Stochastic Actor-Based Model for Network and Behavior Dynamics

Spatial dynamic panel data model

- Estimation of the stochastic actor-based model can be done by maximum likelihood, method of Moments, or Bayesian MCMC.
- For the method of moments, estimation works as follows:
  - Starts from a given set of initial parameter values in the rate and objective functions.
  - Between any two network observations, we simulate individual changes in network ties and behaviors.
  - The parameter estimates are determined by searching for values under which simulated and observed sample moments resemble each other most closely.
- Model relies on substantial variations of network links and behaviors between observations to identify parameters in the rate and utility functions.

### Empirical Example (I)

Teenage Friends and Lifestyle Study (incorporated in RSiena as an illustrating example)

- R script file can be downloaded from https://www.stats.ox.ac.uk/~snijders/siena/
- data description (http: //www.stats.ox.ac.uk/~snijders/siena/s50\_data.htm)
- two study objects: friendship network and drinking behavior.
- we like to study how network evolves over time and how it affects (and being affected) by drinking behavior.
- 50 girls and 3 sample waves.

### Empirical Example (II): Hu, Hsieh, and Jia (2014) Introduction

This empirical example is based on my working paper: Network Based Targeting: The Effectiveness of Peer Influence within Social Networks

- Mobile phones have been widely adopted worldwide. In 2014, approximately 4 billion people, more than half of the world's population, were using mobile phones.
- People use mobile phones to connect to the world and, more importantly, to others. These changes present wireless carriers and researchers with a great opportunity to study consumer behaviors, their social networks, and ultimately the interplay between the two.
- Previous marketing studies have used mobile data; however, most studies have only used the information about consumer characteristics and their customerships with the carriers, such as choices on plans and services. Information on customers' connections (networks) is not used.

### Empirical Example (II): Hu, Hsieh, and Jia (2014) Introduction

- In this paper, we take full advantage of a rich mobile database from a carrier in China. We simultaneously consider how consumers' networks evolve and how their behaviors change.
- The main challenge of analyzing such a dataset is to distinguish the effect of peer influence from the effect of homophily.
- Peer influence is an expression of an individual's conformity (Young, 2009). If peer influence is strong, an individual is inclined to adopt a behavior similar to that of his/her peers, particularly when the behavior is exhibited by many of those peers.
- In this study, we focus on how peer adoption affects individuals' decisions; specifically, we examine how peer influence affects the likelihood of an individual adopting a Samsung Note II mobile phone, Samsung high-end mobile phone, and Samsung brand mobile phone.

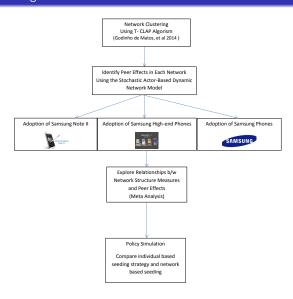
# Empirical Example (II): Hu, Hsieh, and Jia (2014) Introduction

- Homophily (Lazarsfeld et al., 1954) is based on the observation that individuals who behave similarly tend to associate with each other.
- In this study, connections (associations) between customers are built based on their call detailed record (CDR).
- Our longitudinal data gives us chances to distinguish these two effects.
- we apply the stochastic actor-based dynamic network model (Snijders, 1996; 2001; Snijders et al., 2007) to analyze such a dataset. The model explains the co-evolution of networks and behaviors based on observations at several time snapshots.

### Empirical Example (II): Hu, Hsieh, and Jia (2014) Introduction

- As peer influence may not exist for every networks, we further ask the following question: under what circumstances (i.e., network structures) is peer influence effective?
- There are numbers of theoretical predictions in the sociological and economic literature, e.g., Coleman (1988) stressed that presence of network closures, i.e., cohesive ties, promote peer influences. On the other hand, Burt (1992) argued that more brokerage opportunities, i.e., less network closures, are beneficial for peer influences to take place.
- In this paper, we provide an empirical investigation on various network structures to see which structures can facilitate peer influences on phone adoptions.

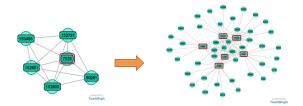
# Empirical Example (II): Hu, Hsieh, and Jia (2014) Roadmap of our investigation



# Empirical Example (II): Hu, Hsieh, and Jia (2014) What we are doing in this study - Stage 1

#### Network Construction -

- All Samsung Note II adopters as initial "seeds."
- Two layer snowball sampling from initial seeds (Chen et al., 2013)
- The resulting snowball networks might be overlapped.
- We use the modified T-CLAP algorithm (Godinho de Matos et al., 2014) to partition the network sample so that the resulting network samples maintain high relevance but with a controlled overlapping rate.



References

### Empirical Example (II): Hu, Hsieh, and Jia (2014) What we are doing in this study - Stage 2

#### Peer influence estimation -

- It is hard to distinguish between social influence and homophily (Bramoulle et al., 2009; Shalizi and Thomas 2011; Hsieh and Lee 2015) using cross-sectional data.
- Aral et al. (2009) proposed an approach using propensity score matching. But it is designed for one single large online network and doesn't fit our purpose.
- We propose to use the Stochastic Actor-Based Model for Network and Behavior Dynamics (Snijders 1996, 2001, 2007).
- The model estimates the co-evolution of network formation and individual behaviors using longitudinal network information.

# Empirical Example (II): Hu, Hsieh, and Jia (2014) What we are doing in this study - Stage 3

Meta regression of network structure measures on peer influences -

- Average customer characteristics are controlled. In addition, we also include the following network structure characteristics:
  - Clustering coefficient
  - Network structure entropy based on degree and eigenvector centralities.
  - Standard deviation of edge numbers across time
  - Minimum and maximum eigenvalue of adjacency matrix
  - Epidemic threshold and assortativity
- Moreover, to prevent high correlations between network structure measures affect meta regression outcomes, we conduct a factor analysis based on all of the network measures of interest and identify three orthogonal factors that separately capture the major variations in the network measures – they can be categorized into network cohesiveness, network heterogeneity, and spectrum of network matrices.

# Empirical Example (II): Hu, Hsieh, and Jia (2014) Summary of Findings

- About peer influence and homophily
  - From 313 individual social networks in the data, we identify 34.6% of the networks exhibit social influence for Samsung Note II adoption, 34.4% for Samsung high-end phone adoption and 26.7% for Samsung brand adoption.
  - Overall, we didn't find homophily driven by the adoption of the products. People don't get connected because they use the same phone.
- About network structure and peer influence
  - Two characteristics of network structure can be used to predict the
    effectiveness of peer influence within a network: 1. network
    cohesiveness (i.e., clustering coefficient and assortativity) and 2.
    the heterogeneity (i.e., entropy and epidemic threshold) and
    dynamics of the network.

### Empirical Example (II): Hu, Hsieh, and Jia (2014) Results - Peer Influence

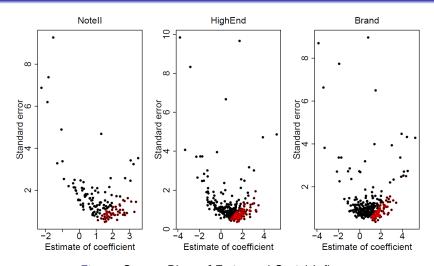


Figure: Scatter Plots of Estimated Social Influence

References

### Empirical Example (II): Hu, Hsieh, and Jia (2014) Results - Homophily

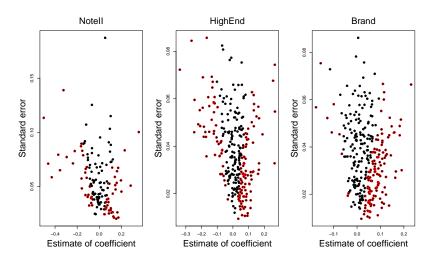


Figure: Scatter Plots of Estimated Homophily

# Table: Summary Statistics of the Variables Used in the Meta-Regressions

	Note II		Hig	High End		Brand	
	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean	Std. Dev.	
Peer Influence							
Significance	0.346	0.477	0.344	0.476	0.267	0.442	
Magnitude	1.110	1.530	0.838	1.434	0.895	1.366	
Demography							
Sex ratio	0.654	0.097	0.643	0.084	0.644	0.082	
Age	38.250	2.156	38.139	2.178	38.208	2.000	
Tenure	38.518	6.531	33.213	6.633	37.405	6.375	
Network Measures							
Clustering coefficient	0.442	0.100	0.422	0.105	0.423	0.104	
Assortativity	0.062	0.133	0.025	0.143	0.021	0.144	
Degc. entropy	4.768	0.383	4.742	0.378	4.727	0.376	
Eigc. entropy	4.486	0.502	4.444	0.495	4.423	0.490	
Sd of edge number	162.255	212.506	130.358	196.678	115.455	178.009	
Minimum eigenvalue	6.253	4.229	5.935	3.902	5.862	3.878	
Maximum eigenvalue	22.722	26.638	20.969	24.667	20.450	24.406	
	0.042	0.025	0.047	0.026	0.048	0.026	

Note: Degc. stands for degree centrality. Eigc. stands for eigenvector centrality.

Clustering coefficient	1							
Assortativity	0.578***	1						
Degc. entropy	-0.102	0.365***	1					
Eigc. entropy	-0.220***	0.194***	0.833***	1				
S.d. of edge number	-0.219***	0.0968	0.421***	0.529***	1			
Minimum eigenvalue	0.0191	-0.0650	-0.0927	-0.0311	0.0562	1		
Maximum eigenvalue	0.00493	-0.0717	-0.0796	-0.0270	0.0388	0.947***	1	
Epidemic threshold	-0.347***	-0.438***	-0.570***	-0.692***	-0.416***	-0.0236	-0.0202	1
. 0.05	. 0 01	. 0	001					

<sup>\*</sup> *p* < 0.05, \*\* *p* < 0.01, \* \* \* *p* < 0.001

	Factor-1	Factor-2	Factor-3	Uniqueness
Clustering coefficient			0.9288	0.1091
Assortativity			0.8144	0.2416
Degc. entropy	0.8756			0.2179
Eigc. entropy	0.9439			0.1041
S.D. of edge number	0.7100			0.4523
Minimum eigenvalue		0.9854		0.0287
Maximum eigenvalue		0.9837		0.0321
Epidemic threshold	-0.7496			0.2179

### Empirical Example (II): Hu, Hsieh, and Jia (2014) Meta Regression Analysis

- Binary probit model for the indicator of significance
- Random effect meta regression model for the magnitude of estimated social influence

$$y_i|\theta_i \sim N(\theta_i, \sigma_i^2)$$
, where  $\theta_i \sim N(\mathbf{x}_i\beta, \tau_i^2)$ ,

so equivalently the model can be rewritten as

$$y_i = \mathbf{x}_i \beta + u_i + \epsilon_i$$
, where  $u_i \sim N(0, \tau^2)$  and  $\epsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma_i^2)$ .

To estimate, we use the weighted least square (WLS) method with the unknown between-network variance  $\tau^2$  estimated by the restricted maximum likelihood (REML) method.

 We include averages of customers' age, sex, and tenure in regressions as controls of demographic backgrounds.

#### Table: Meta-regression of Peer Influence – Separated Regressions

	Samsun	g Notell	Samsung HighEnd		Samsung Brand		
	significance	magnitude	significance	magnitude	significance	magnitude	
Clustering	0.566	0.405	2.978**	2.578**	4.493***	3.657***	
coefficient	(0.48, 0.010)	(0.58, 0.004)	(3.69, 0.076)	(5.29, 0.120)	(4.91, 0.113)	(8.23, 0.212)	
Assortativity	1.155	-0.303	2.098***	1.168**	3.748***	2.006***	
	(1.40, 0.020)	(-0.62, 0.004)	(3.75, 0.077)	(3.45, 0.073)	(5.90, 0.148)	(6.49, 0.152)	
Degc.	1.061***	-0.020	1.141***	0.293***	1.515***	0.387***	
entropy	(3.60, 0.081)	(-0.14, 0.002)	(5.28, 0.116)	(2.62, 0.058)	(6.40, 0.168)	(3.43, 0.068)	
Eigc.	0.995**	0.216+	1.007**	0.418**	1.089***	0.376***	
entropy	(4.14, 0.108)	(1.78, 0.023)	(5.81, 0.136)	(4.75, 0.105)	(5.70, 0.142)	(4.21, 0.086)	
S.d. of edge	0.00236***	0.00197***	0.00104*	0.00166***	0.00126**	0.00186***	
number	(3.70, 0.087)	(5.79, 0.193)	(2.49, 0.055)	(5.93, 0.139)	(2.72, 0.057)	(5.37, 0.117)	
Minimum	-0.0129	-0.000583	0.0105	0.0105	-0.0275	-0.00362	
eigenvalue	(-0.50, 0.011)	(-0.04, 0.002)	(0.54, 0.039)	(0.85, 0.038)	(-1.20, 0.040)	(-0.26, 0.031)	
Maximum	-0.00228	-0.000686	0.00195	0.001	-0.00545	-0.00178	
eigenvalue	(-0.55, 0.011)	(-0.28, 0.002)	(0.63, 0.040)	(0.50, 0.036)	(-1.44, 0.042)	(-0.78, 0.033	
Epidemic	-22.13**	-10.87***	-32.15***	-15.64***	-36.62***	-14.08***	
threshold	(-3.89, 0.109)	(-3.90, 0.098)	(-6.71, 0.201)	(-8.87, 0.241)	(-6.65, 0.221)	(-8.47, 0.221)	
Observations	1/	147		296		300	

Table: Meta-regression of Peer Influence – Three Factors

	Samsung Notell		Samsung	HighEnd	Samsung Brand	
	significance	magnitude	significance	magnitude	significance	magnitude
Sex_ratio	-1.874	0.698	-3.504***	-0.246	-1.410	0.128
	(-1.48)	(0.86)	(-3.43)	(-0.40)	(-1.24)	(0.21)
Age	0.0414	0.00437	-0.0950*	-0.0535*	-0.156**	-0.0674**
	(0.73)	(0.14)	(-2.43)	(-2.26)	(-3.20)	(-2.97)
Tenure	0.0144	-0.0198 <sup>+</sup>	0.00886	-0.0189**	0.00215	-0.00259
	(0.77)	(-1.94)	(0.70)	(-2.62)	(0.15)	(-0.34)
Factor-1	0.535***	0.155*	0.530***	0.229***	0.664***	0.170***
	(4.41)	(2.47)	(5.82)	(5.20)	(6.11)	(3.88)
Factor-2	-0.00723	0.0328	0.0808	0.0698	-0.0842	0.0143
	(-0.07)	(0.56)	(1.02)	(1.58)	(-0.86)	(0.30)
Factor-3	0.121	0.00830	0.421***	0.235***	0.683***	0.347***
	(0.90)	(0.11)	(4.39)	(4.70)	(5.86)	(7.51)
Constant	-1.462	1.600	5.002**	3.892***	5.871**	3.489***
	(-0.71)	(1.47)	(3.28)	(4.49)	(2.99)	(4.10)
Observations	147	147	296	296	300	300
$\tau^2$	-	0.00	=	0.00	=	0.00
$R^2$	0.126	0.030	0.188	0.187	0.279	0.251

Note: t statistics in parentheses. The variable significance is examined using a binary Probit model. The variable magnitude is examined using the (random) mixed-effect meta-regression model. The estimates of between-network variance,  $\tau^2$ , are zero for all three cases. The pseudo (adjusted)  $R^2$  values are reported for the dependent variable of significance (magnitude).  $^+p < 0.10$ ,  $^*p < 0.05$ ,  $^**p < 0.01$ ,  $^***p < 0.01$ .

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