* Global inequality
* Problem: individual country characteristics vs. diffusion
  + World Polity Theory: https://worldpolity.wordpress.com/world-society-theory-resources/
    - Good because it moves away from just individual country characteristics
    - But too much focus on global isomorphism rather than patterns of similarity and difference
  + Dependency theory and world-system theory
  + Colonial legacy: Acemoglu, Matthew Lange, Andrew Walder (communist transitions)
  + War and state formation: Tilly, Centeno, Hoffman

McAdam,Doug,and Dieter Rucht.1993. “The Cross-National Diffusion of Movement Ideas.” Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science 528:56– 74.

* Problem: too much focus on strict causal models
  + Country-level analysis will always be constrained by overdetermination due to limited N
* Solution: it’s ok to look for patterns without causal identification
  + Also, much to be gained from detailed examination of specific between-country or regional linkages
    - E.g. rise of the Republic of Letters and scientific societies in Western Europe during Scientific Revolution
    - E.g. Atlantic Crossing
    - E.g. technology sharing: Britain to Meiji Japan, Japan to colonial Korea, postwar South Korea to Bangladesh textile industry
    - E.g. military contact ((e.g. Napoleon, European ships in East Asia): Tilly, Centeno)
* Problem: focus on income levels as dependent variable has too much path dependence
  + Lots of literature showing long-term persistence of income levels
  + Path dependence due to accumulation (i.e. temporal autocorrelation)
* Solution: look at growth *patterns* instead
  + By standardizing growth rates, removes effect of previous levels (also, income levels are added as control variable)
  + Analytically, important to move beyond just levels of income and look at the variation in types of growth
    - Peter Evans, Atul Kohli, Sandbrook, Kerala (Desai)
    - Communist-style heavy industry approach
    - Import-substitution in Latin America (w/ ECLA) vs. export-oriented mode in East Asia
* Problem: rethinking geography and regional patterns
  + Regional groupings are a helpful shortcut
    - Many actors do it: researchers, international institutions, states, firms
  + But there are many interesting cases of patterns that are not geographically linked
    - E.g. Anglophone countries
    - Esping-Anderson Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism
  + Thus, we hold ourselves back if we always focus on just geography to easily
* Problem: previous linguistic data (Ethnologue) too coarse
  + Only gives common nodes
  + Potential danger from manual intervention
* Solution: Use new Ruhlen phonemic dataset
  + Get continuous linguistic distances
    - Mention problem with genetic/linguistic papers
  + Less danger from manual intervention