

Coding of personalized school class data sets

Social Network Analysis, VT2024

The personalized school class data sets you receive were collected as part of Andrea Knecht's PhD study at Utrecht University. They consist of information about first-year students in Dutch secondary schools (aged 12-13) in the school year 2003-04. The data were obtained as sociocentric networks within the school class boundary. The study is longitudinal with four measurement points, but you receive data only for one wave of data (November/December 2003, the second of the four waves). Any missing data have been recoded by the teacher to simplify the analyses.

Christian Steglich, 21 February 2024

Network variables

The personal data sets contain the following dyad-level variables:

- fri** is an adjacency matrix of **friendship** nominations (0=no friendship, 1=friendship). Students were asked to nominate up to twelve friends from their school class.
- hob** is an incidence matrix for a two-mode network connecting students to their self-reported **leisure activities**
 - MM = making music
 - LM = listening to music
 - SH = shopping
 - SP = doing sports
 - CG = playing computer games
 - OU = going out
 - GO = gossip with friends
 - TV = watching television
 - DR = drawing / sketching
 - RE = reading

Actor-level variables

The personal data sets contain the following individual-level variables:

- fem** contains **gender** information (0=male, 1=female)
- sch** contains information about **school attitude** (a scale constructed from how students reacted to the items "coming too late to school" (inverse coded), "playing truant" (inverse coded), "paying attention in class", "always doing the homework"; on a 5-point scale ranging from 1='I find it very stupid' to 5='I find it very good if someone does this'.

Literature

- Knecht, A. B. (2004). *Network and actor attributes in early adolescence*. Data Archiving and Networked Services (DANS). <https://doi.org/10.17026/dans-z9b-h2bp>
- Knecht, A. B. (2008). *Friendship selection and friends' influence. Dynamics of networks and actor attributes in early adolescence*. PhD dissertation. Utrecht University.