

# A VALUE SENSITIVE ABM OF THE REFUGEE CRISIS IN THE NETHERLANDS

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## ABSTRACT

We develop an agent based model to characterize the wellbeing of newcomers (i.e. asylum seeking refugees) in the context of asylum logistics using Schwartz's theory of values as a decision procedure. The model produces recommendations for decision-makers with respect to avoiding catastrophic outcomes related newcomer wellbeing and the public opinion and maximizing these outcomes. We conduct analysis to show that while a relatively simple set of conditions is necessary to avoid catastrophic outcomes, these conditions are insufficient to maximize newcomer wellbeing and public opinion. Furthermore, the conditions that maximize one outcome (newcomer wellbeing or public opinion) do so at the expense of the other outcome. The result is a platform for decision-makers to understand tradeoffs in Schwartz Value related policies for government and non-government organizations.

**Keywords:** agent-based model, simulation and policy, humanitarian logistics, refugee crisis, Schwartz values

## 1 INTRODUCTION

A peaceful protest in Syria amidst the Arab Spring escalated into a civil war in which both state and armed non-state actors targeted civilian populations. Protracted conflict, the collapse of health infrastructure, barrel bombings, and political persecution prompted forced migration resulting in 1.6 million being displaced people from Syria (Hatton 2017, Unhcr 2010). An influx of refugees, like this, is logistically problematic for both government and non-government organizations (NGO) responsible for refugees (Papadaki 2017).

Throughout the remainder of this paper we use the word *newcomer* in place of the word "refugee" for its political neutrality and because the word "refugee" denotes a specific legal status.

Here, we present an agent based model to characterize the wellbeing of newcomers in the context of the refugee crisis asylum logistics using Schwartz's theory of values as a decision procedure and wellbeing operationalization. The model produces policy relevant insights for decision-makers with respect to avoiding catastrophic outcomes related to newcomer well-being and the public opinion and maximizing these outcomes.

Our model shows that a relatively simple set of conditions is necessary to avoid catastrophic outcomes related to newcomer wellbeing and public opinion of newcomers. These simple conditions are: (1) the presence of a NGO within cities and (2) an understanding of the brands of activities in which newcomers will participate. In addition, these conditions are necessary but insufficient to maximize newcomer wellbeing and public opinion. Furthermore, the Schwartz values (discussed in depth in Section 2) of the government organization that is responsible for making the asylum decision (IND) are different depending on which outcome (newcomer wellbeing vs. public opinion) is maximized.

The remainder of the paper is as follows. First we provide background knowledge needed to understand our model and we review related research. Next, we present the model and identify its assumptions and limitations. Then, we define and answer four policy relevant research questions for decision-makers. Finally, we discuss the limitations of our model and analysis, summarize our contributions and provide direction for future work.

## **2 BACKGROUND AND RELATED WORK**

**Asylum Background:** Our model includes the Dutch asylum procedure. The key actors within the procedure are newcomers, COA, IND, and NGO. Figure 1 shows an overview of a simplified asylum procedure. The asylum procedure consists of housing newcomers as they move through the varying stages of the legal procedure; it proceeds as follows. Before obtaining a formal AS status, a newcomer who applies for refugee status has legal status EDP. The newcomer receives a health examination and registers as an asylum seeker at the Central Reception Location (COL). After two days, the newcomer is sent to a Process Reception Location (POL) facility where their legal status changes to AS and they begin the general asylum procedure. After an intake interview in the POL, IND repatriates newcomers from designated safe countries. If the newcomer appeals the decision or IND requires more time to decide, the newcomer is transferred to the Asylum Seeker Center (AZC) for the extended asylum procedure. Their accommodation and care is managed by COA, who provides a weekly allowance of 50 euro. COA tightly controls movement in and out of the AZC, and residents must report regularly (Bakker, Cheung, and Phillimore 2016). NGOs support newcomers both during and after the process by providing information, resources and organizing activities (VluchtelingenWerk 2016).

The general asylum procedure lasts from four to eight days. If refugee status is granted, an asylum seeker receives a residence permit, TR status, for five years. Then, the COA supplies the newcomer with social housing nearby the AZC, which are typically in rural zones. With refugee status, one can receive social security benefits, enroll in a university, and work. They are then obligated to undergo an integration course on Dutch language and culture. After passing the exam, they are then qualified to apply to become a permanent Dutch resident (Bakker, Cheung, and Phillimore 2016). A more detailed discussion of the general Dutch asylum procedure is provided in (Wozny 2018).

**Schwartz Values Background:** While the Dutch asylum procedure provides the logistical structure of the model it is complemented with Schwartz Values for the asylum seekers and key actors. Schwartz Values are abstract drivers of behavior that are necessary to cope with the human condition, composed of biological

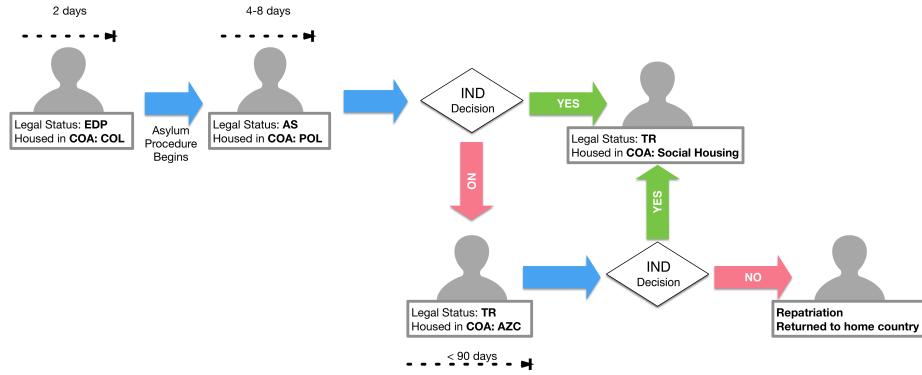


Figure 1: The general Dutch asylum procedure.

needs, social interaction protocols, and the individual requirements for group survival and health. The ten Schwartz Values are presented in inner circle of Figure 2 (Schwartz 2012). The placement of Schwartz Values in Figure 2 corresponds to their correlation. Any two Schwartz Value Quadrants (SVQs) opposite one another on the circle undermine each other's satisfaction. This reflects how the SVQs differ on two axes, the individual versus social dimension and the gain-approach versus loss-avoidance dimension. The four SVQs are defined as: (1) **Self-Enhancement** values strengthen an individual's condition and focus on loss-avoidance (inverse of Self-Transcendence); (2) **Openness-to-Change** values imply an accommodation and pursuit of variance in terms of individual experience (inverse of Conservation); (3) **Self-Transcendence** values place wellbeing of others above the wellbeing of the individual (inverse of Self-Enhancement); and (4) **Conservation** values reinforce the status quo in a social manner that is focused on loss-avoidance (inverse of Openness-to-Change).

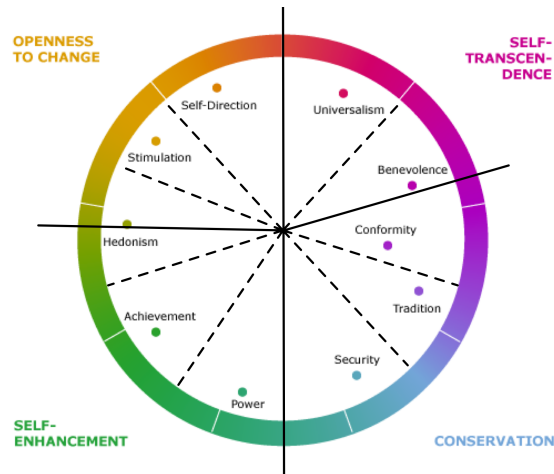


Figure 2: Circle of Schwartz's Theory of Values broken into quadrants.

**Related Research:** A number of operations research, modeling, analysis and simulation research is related to our model. These include humanitarian logistics efforts on disaster response and recovery. In particular much of this research is focused on necessary inventory management and routing problems (Perez, Holguín-Veras, Mitchell, and Sharkey 2010). These models rely on a top-down, system-oriented, optimization rather than a bottom-up investigation of heterogenous agents (Beamon and Kotleba 2006, El-Anwar, El-Rayes, and Elnashai 2009, Falasca and Zobel 2012). However, several ABMs have been developed to model bottom-up dynamics related to newcomers. Collins and Frydenlund built an ABM which models group formation during long distance movement. The model is a theoretical exploration that characterizes the process of

flight from conflict as a payoff variable which slows down movement but increases security (Collins and Frydenlund 2016). Groen developed an ABM that simulates flight from violent conflict through a strictly movement oriented lens (Groen 2016). Similarly, Herbert et al. used a geo-spatially explicit ABM to predict flight destinations following violent conflict (Hébert, Perez, and Harati 2018). Unlike the previously mentioned movement models, which focused on movement within a single or small cluster of states, Hattle, Yang and Zeng applied a similar methodology to migration into Europe (Hatton 2017). Crooks and Hailegiorgis have developed a number of agent-based models of the spread of cholera within and between refugee camps (Crooks and Hailegiorgis 2014, Hailegiorgis and Crooks 2012). Anderson et al. have developed a health focused ABM that includes both newcomers and the institutions responsible for their care (Anderson, Chaturvedi, and Cibulskis 2007). The model includes weighted set of desires in a manner similar to the inclusion values in our model. However, our model implements values in a manner more consistent with the established Schwartz’s theory of values (Wozny 2018).

### 3 MODEL

Our model characterizes the wellbeing of newcomers in the context of asylum logistics using Schwartz’s theory of values as a decision procedure and wellbeing operationalization. Here we review how Schwartz Values are implemented in the model, manifested by different agent entities and then operationalized into a measure of wellbeing. A complete Overview, Design concepts, and Details (ODD) Protocol description of the model is available at (Wozny 2018).

#### 3.1 Schwartz Value Quadrants (SVQs)

The agents in our model have the four Schwartz Value quadrants described in Section 2: Conservation, Self-Enhancement, Self-Transcendence, and Openness-to-Change. Each Schwartz Value Quadrant (SVQ) is ascribed a satisfaction threshold between  $[0,100]$  indicating its importance to the agent. In addition agents have an amount associated with each SVQ. However, this amount decays uniformly over time. SVQs are satisfied by performing SVQ acts (activities for newcomers, actions for institutional agents) which increment the agent’s amount associated with the SVQ. An agent’s SVQ is satisfied when the amount is  $\geq$  than the satisfaction threshold. The increment amount of a SVQ act is  $100 - \text{SVQ threshold}$ . Thus, SVQs with higher satisfaction thresholds require the agent to take more SVQ acts for two reasons: (1) more acts need to be taken because of the high SVQ threshold and (2) the high SVQ threshold imposes a small increment amount for each act taken. When given an opportunity to choose what act to take an agent chooses the act that once taken will minimize the distance between the most deficient SVQ and the SVQ threshold. An example of this is shown in Figure 3.

#### 3.2 Agents

The agents within our model have different purposes, different attributes and different acts available to them. However, each type of agent has the same two possible classes of acts: (1) obligatory acts and (2) SVQ acts. Obligatory acts are those that must be completed by the agent when required. SVQ acts reflect opportunities for the agent to satisfy their SVQs. A summary of the obligatory and SVQ acts each entity can take are described in Table 1.

**Newcomers:** Within our model newcomers navigate the general Dutch asylum process shown in Figure 1. This process is initiated through the obligatory newcomer agent *activity* IND Interview. During the IND Interview *activity*, the newcomer’s documentation-quality increases. This represents the newcomer gathering documents to prove their case. Once the interview takes place the legal status of the newcomer

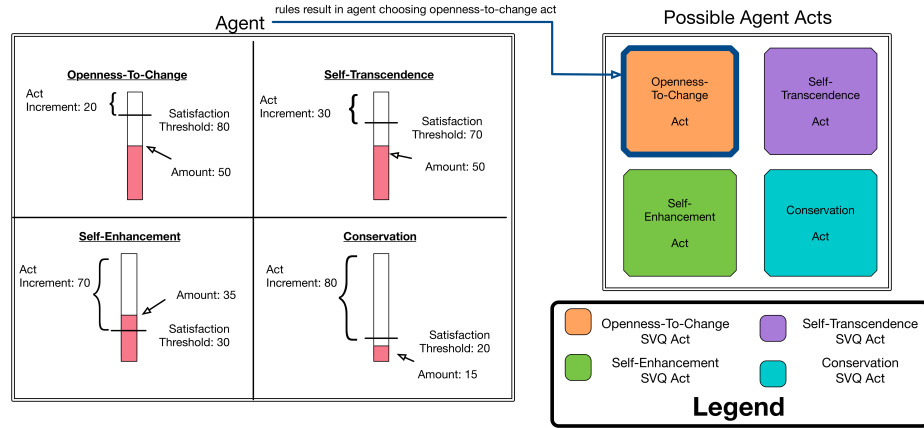


Figure 3: Implementation of Schwartz Value Quadrants (SVQs) within the model.

Table 1: Agent Obligatory and SVQ Acts

Agent	SVQ / Obligatory	Name	Prerequisite
<b>Newcomer</b>	Obligatory	IND Interview	Legal Status: EDP & Paired w/ IND conducting Interview Newcomer
	Obligatory	Doctor	Health < 30
	Conservation	Language Class	Legal Status: TR
	Self-Enhancement	Work	Legal Status: TR, AS
	Self-Enhancement	Study	Legal Status: TR, AS
	Self-Enhancement	Crime	Legal Status: TR, AS & 40 < Health < 50 & Wellbeing < 5
	Openness-To-Change	Football	Legal Status: TR, AS
	Self-Transcendence	Volunteer	NGO present
	Determined by NGO	Custom Activity	NGO present
<b>COA</b>	Obligatory	Checkin Newcomer	Paired w/ Accommodation Change of Newcomer
	Obligatory	Construct Accommodation	None
	Conservation	Segregate	None
	Self-Enhancement	Improve Facilities	None
	Openness-To-Change	Adjust Staff	None
	Self-Transcendence	Invest	None
<b>IND</b>	Obligatory	Interview Newcomer	Paired w/ Newcomer Participating in IND Interview
	Obligatory	Decide Newcomer	Paired w/ Legal Status Change of Newcomer
	Conservation	Raise Threshold	None
	Self-Enhancement	Issue Statement	None
	Openness-To-Change	Lower Threshold	None
	Self-Transcendence	Adjust Staff	None
<b>NGO</b>	Conservation	Fundraise	NGO present
	Self-Enhancement	Marketing Campaign	NGO present
	Openness-To-Change	Custom Activities	NGO present
	Self-Transcendence	Prioritize	NGO present

is determined based on the actions of the IND government institutional agent. It is important to note that acts of newcomer agents in our model are *activities* and the acts of institutional agents, COA, NGOs and IND are *actions*. The distinction between acts is made to contrast the fixed set of *institutional actions* and the *changing set of newcomer activities*. While both SVQ actions and SVQ activities satisfy SVQs, only newcomer activities have a certain weekly frequency such that the set of possible activities is temporally variable. Once a newcomer completes their interview s/he can participate in SVQ activities.

The activities are made available by either the COA or the NGO, they include: (1) Custom Activities developed by the NGO, (2) Volunteer (requires NGO to be present), (3) Language Class (requires newcomer to be legal status TR), (4) Football, (5) Work and (6) Study. The values satisfied by these activities are shown in Table 1. Newcomers also have a health attribute. The value of a newcomer's health ranges between [0,100] and is randomly distributed upon agent initialization. It represents the physical health of the newcomer and decays a rate that depends on wellbeing (described next) and the health of the building in which the resident resides. Building health reflects a combination of the cleanness of the building and the extent to which

the building is maintained. All activities, except for crime, require the newcomer to have a certain level of health for participation. Newcomers can improve their health by either participating in the Football activity or taking part in the obligatory activity of going to the doctor. The model obligates newcomers to go to the doctor when their health falls below a critically low threshold. Newcomer wellbeing pertains to mental health. We operationalize wellbeing as: 100 - the average amount that a newcomer's four SVQs are not satisfied. Thus newcomer wellbeing is measured in a [0,100] range where 0 reflects no value satisfaction in any SVQ and 100 reflects complete value satisfaction in all SVQs. Upon initialization newcomers are initialized with SVQ thresholds and SVQ amounts. Both the SVQ thresholds and the SVQ amounts are randomly distributed. As a result when considering the entire newcomer population one SVQ is not more important than another.

One additional activity that is also always available to newcomers is Crime. Crime fulfills the Self-Enhancement SVQ. It can occur when: (1) the newcomer is very unsatisfied with respect to the Self-Enhancement SVQ and (2) the newcomer's wellbeing is extremely low (i.e. 5). Even under these circumstances the newcomer does not necessarily participate in a Crime SVQ activity. A random distribution is also sampled to determine if the newcomer will choose to participate. The result is that crime is a very rare occurrence that is only manifested by newcomer's under specific circumstances. However, when a crime does occur it reduces the city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers. It is important to note that the Volunteer activity, which requires the presence of an NGO, increases the city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers.

**IND:** The IND agent is responsible for updating the legal-status of a newcomer according to the newcomer's documentation-quality. The IND does this through two obligatory actions. The first obligatory action is Interview Newcomer which is coupled with the obligatory newcomer activity, IND Interview. IND's second obligatory action is to: (1) initially decide on a newcomer's asylum case or (2) decide on an appeal to a newcomer's case. IND has distinct thresholds for initial and appeal decisions. In both cases when the IND makes a decision it compares a newcomer's documentation-quality to a threshold such that positive decisions occur if the threshold is exceeded. IND's SVQ actions can influence the parameters of this process. IND's Conservation SVQ Action, Raise Threshold, increases the threshold on newcomer documentation-quality. This results in newcomers who possess sufficient documentation of their need for asylum being denied entry into the country. This type of IND decision error is referred to as a *false negative* because it is a result which incorrectly indicates that sufficient documentation quality for a newcomer is absent. When an IND false negative (FN) decision occurs the city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers decreases. IND's Self-Transcendent SVQ Action, Lower Threshold, works in exactly the opposite manner. Lower Threshold decreases the threshold on documentation quality resulting in IND false positive (FP) decision errors: a result which incorrectly indicates that insufficient documentation quality for a newcomer is present. When an IND FP decision error occurs the city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers decreases too. The remaining IND SVQ actions also relate to the decision process. The IND Openness-To-Change SVQ action, Increase Staff, provides additional staff at the IND which decreases the number of days a newcomer spends in the COA:COL, COA:POL and COA:AZC facilities waiting to receive a decision from IND. The IND Self-Enhancement SVQ action, Issue Statement, reflects a press release from the government dissuading newcomers to come to the country. In the model this reduces the overall number of newcomers in the population.

**COA:** COA is an institutional agent responsible for housing newcomers in the COL, POL, AZC and social housing depending upon where the newcomer is in the general asylum process. The COA also maintains the health of each of these buildings and staffs the buildings with workers. Both of the COA obligatory actions are related to managing accommodations of newcomers. The first obligatory capacity management action is to Check-in newcomers into their appropriate housing. The second obligatory action is to Construct Accommodation. This reflects COA building additional housing facilities for newcomers when its current housing supply is at capacity. COA's Conservation SVQ action is Segregate which separates newcomers who

have yet to receive a final IND decision. When performing a Segregate action COA sends newcomers with poor document quality to housing locations with worse building health and newcomers with high document quality to housing locations with better building health. Recall a housing location's building health impacts the health of the newcomers that reside in it. COA's Self-Transcendence SVQ action is Invest. A COA Invest SVQ provides a voucher to newcomers enabling them to travel to other cities to participate in a SVQ activity that better meets their SVQ needs. The COA Openness-To-Change SVQ action is Adjust Staff. COA Adjust Staff increases the staff in housing locations to ensure that newcomers are carefully monitored. More careful monitoring within a COA ensures that when travel vouchers are provided all newcomers receive one. In addition, careful monitoring ensures that newcomers whose health falls below the critical threshold visit the doctor. The Self-Enhancement SVQ action for COA is Improve Facilities. An Improve Facilities action results in COA repairing and providing maintenance to the COL, POL, AZC and social housing. The repairs and maintenance improve the health of these buildings which improves the health of the newcomers residing in them. Recall, COA also provides the following activities for newcomers depending on their legal status: (1) Language Class, (2) Football, (3) Work and (4) Study. These activities are scheduled on specific days of the week and that schedule does not change based on the SVQ needs of the newcomers.

**NGO:** NGO is a non-government institutional agent that supports newcomers through the development and scheduling of activities, raising funds from the public, and influencing the public. Unlike the other agents in our model, an NGO agent is not required to be present in cities and does not have any obligatory actions. The Conservation SVQ Action for a NGO is Fundraise. Fundraise converts the city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers into funds for the NGO to use in the future. The opposite of the Fundraise SVQ action for a NGO is the Self-Enhancement SVQ action Marketing Campaign. When performing a marketing campaign a NGO converts funds into the city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers. The final two SVQ actions for a NGO are related to developing and scheduling newcomer activities. The Self-Transcendence SVQ action for a NGO is Custom Activities. When performing a Custom Activities action a NGO identifies the most unsatisfied SVQ among the newcomers in the city and develops an activity to satisfy it. Initially, the Custom Activity is scheduled for one session on a random day of the week. Every time a Custom Activity is developed the funds of the NGOs are decreased. If a NGO does not have sufficient funds it cannot perform a Custom Activity action. The Openness-To-Change SVQ action for a NGO is Prioritize which adjusts the scheduling of Custom Activities in the city to best meet the current SVQ needs of the population. For example, suppose a NGO has a Custom Activity satisfying the Openness-To-Change SVQ and a Custom Activity satisfying Conservation held two days a week. However, the most unsatisfied SVQ of the majority of newcomers in the city is the Conservation SVQ. In this scenario, the NGO Prioritize SVQ action would decrease the number of days the Openness-To-Change Custom Activity is scheduled and increase the number of days the Conservation SVQ is scheduled.

### **3.3 Parameters**

A number of parameters enable users to explore different scenarios within our model. The model allows the user to specify: (1) if NGOs will be present in the cities, (2) if the activities developed by NGOs during the Custom Activity SVQ action will be branded as activities newcomers will participate in and (3) if the activities developed by NGOs during the Custom Activity SVQ action will be developed with an understanding of the most unsatisfied SVQ of the newcomers within the city or simply assigned a SVQ at random. The first parameter is self-explanatory. The latter two parameters require additional explanation and reflect the level of understanding an NGO has of newcomers.

The branding of Custom Activities parameter reflects the dissonance that is possible between a host country and newcomers from a different country. For example, the NGO may offer newcomers a Custom Activity satisfying Openness-To-Change in the form of a jewelry making class. However, even if the activity satisfies

an unsatisfied SVQ for a newcomer, she may not participate in the class because of native cultural norms which require jewelry to be hidden by females under their garments. A developed Custom Activity in the form of rugby may suffer the same fate because the newcomers are only familiar with football (i.e. American soccer).

The understanding of the most unsatisfied SVQ of newcomers within a city parameter reflects the NGO understanding how, in terms of SVQs, newcomers are unsatisfied. This understanding effects how a NGO develops and schedules Custom Activities to satisfy these needs. If a NGO understands the most unsatisfied SVQ of a newcomer then Custom Activities are always developed to satisfy the most unsatisfied SVQ and Prioritize schedules those Custom Activities so that they help the most newcomers in a given time period. If a NGO does not understand the most unsatisfied SVQ of a newcomer then Custom Activities and Prioritize scheduling are done at random.

Along with these parameters the model enables users to specify the initial city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers and explore different value parameterizations for the COA, NGO (if present) and IND. An overview of these parameters and the aforementioned parameters are shown in Table 3. Recall, each of the four values (Conservation, Self-Enhancement, Openness-to-Change and Self-Transcendence) are put on a [0-100] scale. In addition we apply the restriction that modifications in Conservation alter Openness-to-Change and that modifications in Self-Enhancement alter Self-Transcendence. Recall, from Section 2 this constraint is part of the Schwartz's theory of values.

Table 2: Model parameters

Parameter	Prerequisite	Value
NGO Present In Cities	None	True / False
NGO Custom Activities Branded Towards Newcomers	NGO Present	True / False
NGO Understands Newcomer SVQs for Custom Activities & Prioritization	NGO Present	True / False
Initial Public Opinion in Cities	None	[0-100]
COA Conservation	None	[20-80]
COA Self-Enhancement	None	[20-80]
COA Openness To Change	None	100-COA Conservation
COA Self-Transcendence	None	100-COA Self-Enhancement
NGO Conservation	NGO Present	[20-80]
NGO Self-Enhancement	NGO Present	[20-80]
NGO Openness To Change	NGO Present	100-NGO Conservation
NGO Self-Transcendence	NGO Present	100-NGO Self-Enhancement
IND Conservation	None	[20-80]
IND Self-Enhancement	None	[20-80]
IND Openness To Change	None	100 - IND Conservation
IND Self-Transcendence	None	100 - IND Self-Enhancement

### 3.4 Model Execution

Given a parameterization model execution occurs through a series of time steps. In each step newcomers first identify any obligatory acts that are required in the time step. If any of these exist then the newcomer participates in the obligatory act and does not participate in any SVQ activities for the given time step. If no obligatory acts need to be taken then the newcomer identifies all SVQ activities that can be taken. This depends on the schedule of activities for the day, the health of the newcomer, the legal status of the newcomer, if the newcomer has been given a travel voucher by COA and if a NGO is present in their city.

Next, COA and IND take any obligatory acts that are required in the time step. It is important to note that this does not preclude COA and IND from taking a SVQ action later in the time step. Then, all agents (newcomers, COA, NGO and IND) identify their most unsatisfied SVQ and identifies the SVQ act which minimizes the difference between their unsatisfied values given their SVQ satisfaction thresholds. For a newcomer, the available SVQ acts are those s/he identified as possible actions in the previous step.



Finally, the agent takes the SVQ act and updates its state variables. When an agent takes a SVQ act, the act directly effects other agents within the model. A visualization of these direct effects on two outcomes in the model: (1) newcomer wellbeing and (2) city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers is shown in Figure 4. Not shown in Figure 4 are indirect effects that also occur within the model with respect to these two outcomes. Direct and indirect effects of acts on other outcomes are also not shown in Figure 4. Model execution terminates after 1,000 time steps. This reflects a sufficient period of time for the model to enter a "steady state" where direct and indirect effects of the model parameters on the agents and the effects of the agents actions on one another have stabilized.

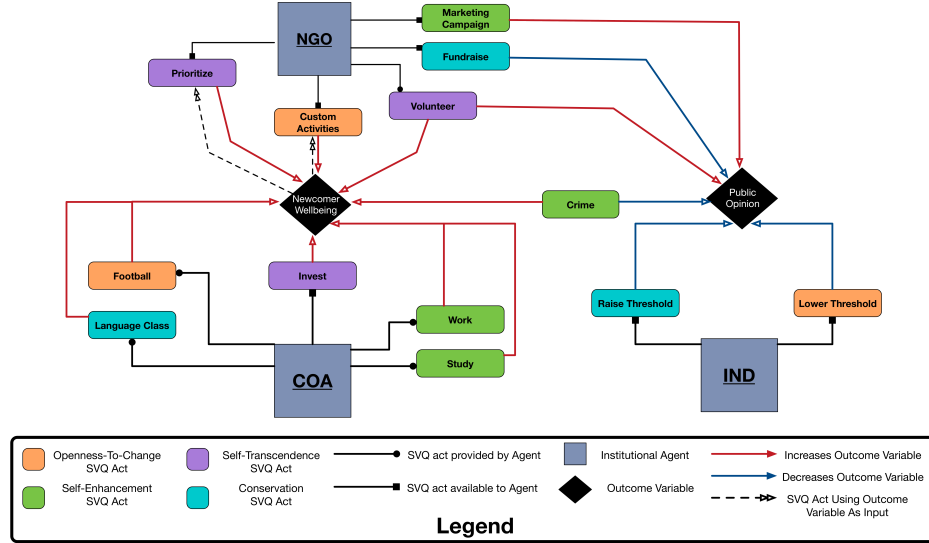


Figure 4: Direct effects on newcomer wellbeing and public opinion of management of newcomers.

#### 4 MODEL ANALYSIS

To identify the conditions in the simulation that have the biggest effect on the two outcomes shown in Figure 4 we use a technique designed for analyzing agent-based models (Gore, Lynch, and Kavak 2017). We provide an overview of this analysis technique here, but it is described in more detail in (Gore, Reynolds Jr, Kamensky, Diallo, and Padilla 2015). The technique utilizes a structured approach to capture data throughout execution (i.e., records a trace of the execution) and uses the data to automatically generate conditions pertaining to the input parameters (Gore, Diallo, Lynch, and Padilla 2017).

These generated conditions may be compound meaning that conditions are combined together by logical operations. The conditions are used to quantify the extent to which combinations of agent and model characteristics cause an outcome of interest. Our use of the term cause refers to model inputs that manifest an outcome of interest (i.e. newcomer wellbeing or city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers). This is similar to the use of the term in statistics (Cox 1992) as opposed to the use of the term cause in philosophy of science as described in (Bunge 2017).

We employ this technique to explore four research questions: (1-2) what conditions minimize and maximize newcomer wellbeing and (3-4) what conditions maximize and minimize city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers. The term minimize reflects an outcome where the value is 0 and the term maximize reflects an outcome where the value is 100.

The extent to which each generated condition causes an outcome is quantified by two measures: correlation and coverage. These measures are aggregated into a single score called suspiciousness. The name sus-

piciousness originated in the field of statistical debugging in software engineering because it was used to automatically localize faults in computer programs. The formulas for each measure are provided in (Diallo, Gore, Lynch, and Padilla 2016).

The correlation measure captures the likelihood that, given the condition, the identified outcome (i.e. newcomer wellbeing = 100) occurs. The coverage measure is the percentage of all cases in which the identified outcome occurs (i.e. newcomer wellbeing = 100) that exhibit the specified condition. The suspiciousness measure combines and balances the correlation and the coverage measures using the harmonic mean.

The correlation and coverage measure each have a maximum value of 1.0 and a minimum value of 0.0. A suspiciousness value of 1.0 means that the condition is only true in cases in which the identified outcome occurs and the condition is true in all cases in which the identified outcome occurs. The existence of such a condition is not guaranteed. However, conditions with higher suspiciousness scores will provide more separation between the identified outcome and other related outcomes (i.e. newcomer wellbeing  $\leq 65$ ) than conditions with lower suspiciousness scores. Our approach scores each condition generated using the data captured during a sweep of the parameters in Table 3.

Table 3: Research Questions & Associated Conditions w/ Highest Suspiciousness Scores

Research Question	Condition	Suspiciousness	Correlation	Coverage
1: Minimize Newcomer Wellbeing Newcomer Wellbeing = 0	NGO Present In Cities = False <b>OR</b> (NGO Present In Cities = True <b>AND</b> NGO Custom Activities Branded Towards Newcomers = False)	1.00	1.00	1.00
2: Maximize Newcomer Wellbeing Newcomer Wellbeing =100	NGO Present In Cities = True <b>AND</b> NGO Custom Activities Branded Towards Newcomers <b>AND</b> NGO Understands Newcomer SVQs for Custom Activities & Prioritization = True <b>AND</b> Initial Public Opinion in Cities > 80 <b>AND</b> NGO Openness-To-Change > 70 <b>AND</b> NGO Conservation < 30 <b>AND</b> NGO Self-Transcendence > 70 <b>AND</b> NGO Self-Enhancement < 30 <b>AND</b> COA Openness-To-Change > 70 <b>AND</b> COA Conservation < 30 <b>AND</b> COA Self-Transcendence > COA Self-Enhancement <b>AND</b> IND Openness-To-Change > 70 <b>AND</b> IND Conservation < 30 <b>AND</b> IND Self-Transcendence > 70 <b>AND</b> IND Self-Enhancement < 30	0.85	1.00	0.74
3: Minimize Public Opinion Public Opinion = 0	NGO Present In Cities = False <b>OR</b> (NGO Present In Cities = True <b>AND</b> NGO Custom Activities Branded Towards Newcomers = False)	1.00	1.00	1.00
4: Maximize Public Opinion Public Opinion =100	NGO Present In Cities = True <b>AND</b> NGO Custom Activities Branded Towards Newcomers <b>AND</b> NGO Understands Newcomer SVQs for Custom Activities & Prioritization = True <b>AND</b> Initial Public Opinion in Cities > 80 <b>AND</b> NGO Openness-To-Change > 70 <b>AND</b> NGO Conservation < 30 <b>AND</b> NGO Self-Transcendence > 70 <b>AND</b> NGO Self-Enhancement < 30 <b>AND</b> COA Openness-To-Change > 70 <b>AND</b> COA Conservation < 30 <b>AND</b> COA Self-Transcendence > COA Self-Enhancement <b>AND</b> IND Openness-To-Change = IND Conservation <b>AND</b> IND Self-Transcendence = IND Self-Enhancement	0.91	1.00	0.83

**Analysis of Research Question #1:** The purpose of this question is to identify those conditions that create a worst case scenario with respect to newcomer wellbeing so the identified conditions can be avoided by decision-makers. The compound condition with the top suspiciousness score is shown in Table 5. The correlation and coverage scores of the condition are also shown.

The worst case for newcomer wellbeing (i.e. 0) occurs when either: (1) no NGO is present in cities or (2) a NGO is present but the Custom Activities provided by the NGO are not branded towards newcomers. Recall, this latter condition means that even though the NGO is developing Custom Activities, newcomers are not interested in participating in them. As a result, the NGO SVQ actions Custom Activities and Prioritize

have no effect on newcomer wellbeing. It is important to note that the NGO understanding of newcomer SVQs in generating Custom Activities and Prioritization does not appear in these conditions. Thus the recommendation of our model to decision makers is: it is more important for NGOs to develop Custom Activities that newcomers will participate in, even if those activities are developed without a understanding of unsatisfied newcomer SVQs.

**Analysis of Research Question #2:** The purpose of this question is to identify those conditions that create a best case scenario with respect to newcomer wellbeing so decision makers can pursue the identified conditions. The compound condition with the top suspiciousness score is shown in Table 5. The correlation and coverage score of the conditions are also shown in the table.

The results show that maximum newcomer wellbeing is produced through a more subtle set of conditions than those that avoid minimum newcomer wellbeing. While the presence of a NGO in cities and an understanding of the Custom Activities that newcomers will participate in is required to maximize newcomer wellbeing; these conditions alone are not sufficient. Maximum newcomer wellbeing also requires: (1) high initial resident public-opinion of the management of newcomers in the city, (2) an understanding of unsatisfied newcomer SVQs for Custom Activities and Prioritization and (3) COAs, NGOs and INDs that are higher in Self-Transcendence and Openness-to-Change SVQs than Conservation and Self-Enhancement SVQs.

There are several important takeaways for decision-makers from the results of this analysis. The first is that while it is not important for NGOs to understand the SVQ needs of newcomers to avoid the minimum wellbeing, to provide maximum well being NGOs must understand these needs. Similarly, while the initial city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers can be disregarded if the goal is to avoid the minimum newcomer wellbeing, it is a necessary for city residents' to have a high opinion of the management of newcomers to produce maximum newcomer wellbeing.

Both of these conditions optimize the actions of NGOs in orthogonal ways to maximize their impact on newcomer wellbeing. Understanding the value needs of newcomers enables NGOs to develop Custom Activities that newcomers will participate in which satisfy their most unmet SVQ. The presence of cities with high public opinion of newcomers creates an environment for NGOs to effectively Fundraise and then convert those funds into several different Custom Activities operating on a dynamic schedule via Prioritize to address the most unmet SVQ of newcomers at any given time.

A NGO with SVQs that are higher in Self-Transcendence and Openness-To-Change than Self-Enhancement and Conservation is also required to support this environment. As mentioned since public opinion is initially high sporadic Fundraise SVQ actions are still effective and Marketing Campaign SVQs actions are unnecessary. Instead, the bulk of the actions are spent on developing Custom Activities and dynamically scheduling them via Prioritize so the SVQ needs of newcomers are met.

The described environment also requires a COA with values that are higher in Self-Transcendence and Openness-to-Change SVQs than Self-Enhancement and Conservation. A COA with the described SVQs more often: (1) provides vouchers to newcomers to travel to cities with activities that best satisfy their unmet SVQs (2) and employs sufficient staff to ensure newcomers receive the vouchers than the Segregate or Improve Facilities SVQ actions. It is important to note that this analysis ignores the costs COA incurs throughout the execution of model. This omission and considerations related to it are discussed further in Section 5. In addition it is noteworthy that there is more balance in the COA Self-Transcendence and Self-Enhancement SVQs than the COA Openness-To-Change and Conservation SVQs. This occurs because when COA semi-regularly performs an Improve Facilities SVQ action (Self-Enhancement) it provides living accommodations which benefit the health of newcomers. These actions keep newcomers sufficiently healthy to participate SVQ activities in this environment which promote wellbeing.

An IND with the similar SVQs to a NGO and a COA also help maximize newcomer wellbeing. An IND that is high in the Openness-to-Change and Self-Transcendence SVQs are well staffed and lenient in terms of the quality of documentation that is required during the asylum procedure. The result is that the length of the asylum procedure is extremely because of the high number of staff members and the relative infrequency of a second decision from IND even being needed. These conditions lower the occupancy rate at the COA: COL, COA:POL and COA:AZC which results in better building health at these locations and thus better health for newcomers. Recall, better health enables newcomers to participate in more activities to satisfy their unmet SVQs which promote wellbeing. However, in Section 4 where we discuss Research Question #4 it is noted that maximizing newcomer wellbeing in this manner comes at a cost to public opinion.

**Analysis of Research Question #3:** The purpose of this question is similar to Research Question #1: to identify those conditions that create a worst case scenario with respect to residents in cities with newcomers so the situation can be avoided. The compound condition with the top suspiciousness score is shown in Table 5. These results match the results for Research Question #1: the same conditions that produce extremely low newcomer wellbeing, produce extremely low public opinion from residents in cities. These two outcomes are indirectly coupled in our model through the newcomer SVQ activity Crime. As the wellbeing of newcomer's begins to approach zero newcomers begin to choose the SVQ Self-Enhancement activity Crime more frequently. When a newcomer crime occurs the public opinion of newcomers in the city is halved. Thus, those conditions that create minimal newcomer wellbeing, maximize the rate at which newcomer's participate in the SVQ activity Crime which results in the lowest city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers. It is noteworthy that the initial city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers does not appear in the conditions identified for this research question (Research Question #3). The recommendation of our model to decision makers it that it is important to encourage NGOs to come to cities with newcomers even if city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers is very low.

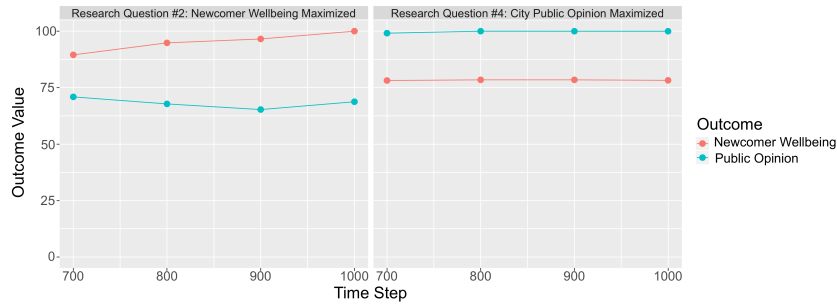


Figure 5: The final 300 time steps of simulation runs for Research Questions #2 (left) and #4 (right).

**Analysis of Research Question #4:** The purpose of this question is similar to Research Question #2: to identify those conditions that create a best case scenario with respect to residents in cities and newcomers. The compound condition with the top suspiciousness score is shown in Table 5. These match the conditions that yield extremely high newcomer wellbeing in Research Question #2 with one important distinction: to maximize public opinion an IND that is balanced in Conservation/Openness-to-Change and Self-enhancement/Self-transcendence SVQs is needed. This balanced IND is not overly strict or overly lenient with respect to newcomer documentation quality.

Recall, the IND needed to maximize newcomer wellbeing was lenient. The leniency of that IND created a significant number of FP decision errors. Each FP decision error reduced city residents' public-opinion of the management of newcomers. The balanced IND in Research Question #4 generates very few FP or FN decision errors. In comparison with Research Question #2 there is not a decrease in public opinion due to the IND decision errors but in Research Question #4 newcomers do a longer duration stay with higher occupancy in the COA:COL, COA:POL and COA:AZC living accommodations. The higher occupancy and

longer stay decreases building health, which decreases newcomer health which reduces the extent to which newcomers can participate in activities which satisfy their unmet SVQs.

The identified conditions maximize public opinion at the expense of newcomer wellbeing. Figure 5 shows the difference in outcomes between the two runs parameterized by the conditions identified in Research Question #2 versus #4. Given the generality of the identified conditions many other runs are possible for each research question. However, Figure 5 illustrates the tradeoff that is made between the two outcomes.

## 5 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

In this paper we described and analyzed an agent based model to characterize the wellbeing of newcomers in the context of asylum logistics using Schwartz's theory of values as a decision procedure and wellbeing operationalization. The model produces policy relevant insights for decision-makers with respect to avoiding catastrophic outcomes related newcomer well-being and the public opinion and maximizing these outcomes. Analysis of the model elucidates that a relatively simple set of conditions is necessary to avoid catastrophic outcomes but is insufficient to maximize the outcomes. Further analysis highlights that the conditions that maximize one outcome (newcomer wellbeing or public opinion) do so at the expense of the other outcome. Specifically the Schwartz values of the government organization responsible for making the asylum decision (IND) are different depending on which outcome (newcomer wellbeing vs. public opinion) is maximized. When newcomer wellbeing is maximized the IND frequently takes actions which satisfy the Openness-To-Change and Self-Transcendence Schwartz Value Quadrants and rarely takes actions which satisfy the Conservation and Self-Enhancement Schwartz Value Quadrants. However, when public opinion is maximized the IND performs actions with the same frequency across all four Schwartz Value Quadrants. The results do not take into account the costs incurred by the government organizations during the asylum seeking process. This is an opportunity for future analysis. In addition, social networks among newcomers and other sociological theories (i.e learning, goals, and norms) need to be added to the model so it is a closer match to reality. A roadmap of future work to address these deficiencies is available in (Wozny 2018).

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