Formal and Informal Diplomatic Networks in the Asia Pacific

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Background

This is the first step in a project that seeks to understand the formation of different types of diplomatic communication ties, and how these ties are related to each other.

Motivation

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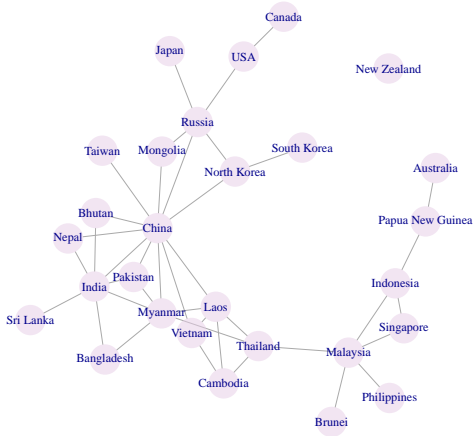
What are the systematic patterns in how these two tracks of diplomacy relate to each other?

Expectation

Track one and track two diplomatic ties should be mutually reinforcing.

Empirical Approach

The body of diplomatic communications that takes place between states is a network.

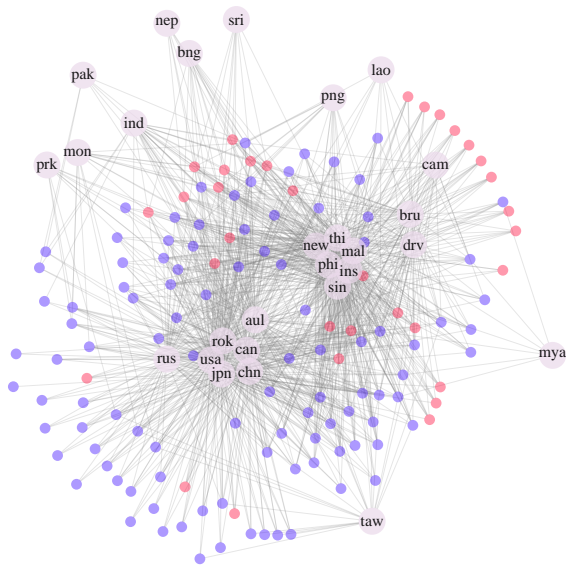# Measuring the Diplomatic Network

Data source: Dialogue and Research Monitor

Documents track one and track two meetings in the Asia Pacific region from 1993-2008.
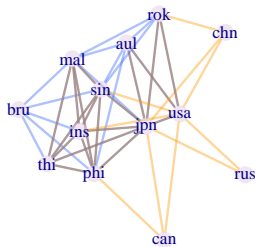
Illustration of the DRM Data

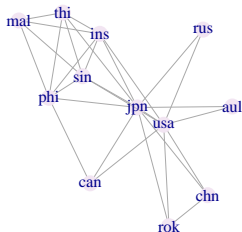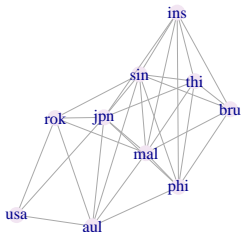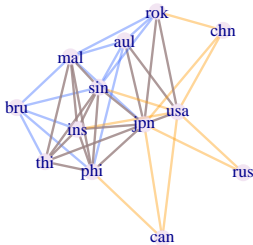| Basic Information			Issues			Participants			
Dialogue	Track	Year	Econ	Sec	...	CAN	CHN	JPN	...
Fifth Hokkaido Conf...	2	93	1	1		1	1	1	
South-East Asian...	2	97	0	1		0	1	1	
⋮			⋮			⋮			

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I use a cross-track structural effect as a measure of cross-track mutual reinforcement.

Results

Model for Track One and Track Two Diplomacy

Param.	Track One		Track Two		Cross Track		
	Est.	SE	Est.	SE	Param.	Est.	SE
Edge	**-15.31***	**7.53**	-12.48	8.05	Alignment	**2.23***	**0.90**
Alt-Star (2)	1.29	1.95	-0.35	1.11			
Alt-Triangle (4)	0.50	0.64	0.32	0.40			
Alt-2-Path (4)	-0.19	0.50	-0.01	0.24			
Middle Power	1.69	2.40	-0.48	0.61			
Super Power	-1.73	2.92	1.10	1.08			
ASEAN/CSCAP	-0.37	2.72	3.23	7.51			
Joint-ASEAN/CSCAP	12.19	16.19	-1.40	7.55			
Total Trade (Log)	0.81	0.54	**0.73***	**0.35**			

*Indicates approximate Wald test statistic greater than 2 or less than -2.

Model converged so convergence statistics not presented.

Results from goodness-of-fit tests are satisfactory.

Discussion

The results indicate that the two diplomatic networks are indeed mutually reinforcing.

Questions or Comments?

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