Values and Wars:
The Level of Modernization and Causation of Conflicts

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Research questions:

- Which features of actors (the warring parties, the third parties) determine involvement in a conflict?

- Does the difference in societal values between countries determine their involvement in a conflict?

Theoretical framework:

- Theory of modernization
- Theory of rational choice

Theories to test

- Democratic peace theory
- The clash of civilizations

Datasets used for analysis:

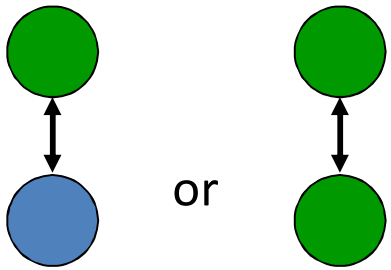
- World Values Survey
- UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset
- ICPSR International Conflict Behavior Dataset

Variables:

- Dependent - involvement in the conflict (yes/no) and in mediation (yes/no)
- Independent - Index of post-materialist values, feeling of happiness, variables on neighbors and political actions
- Control variables - the characteristics of actors (economic, political structure, etc.)

The hypotheses:

- Countries or third parties are more likely to be involved in conflict if they do not share similar values



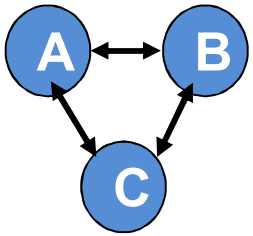
- Countries or third parts are involved in a conflict with other if they have different characteristics, such as economic, political structure, etc

Conflict is a dyadic relation.

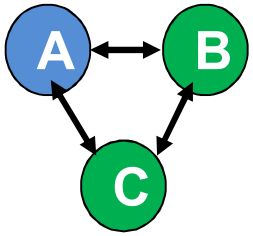
There are two conflict actors and third parts.

Actors involved in conflict are not independent but interrelated.

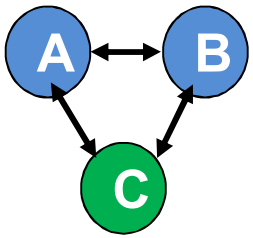
Several potential forms of triad



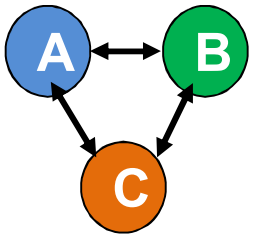
Actors A , B and C in the same attribute category



Actors B and C in the same attribute category, actor A in another



Actors A and B in the same attribute category, actor C in another



Actors A, B and C in different attribute categories

The standard regression analysis is not applicable in the case of network data, because network data are not independent.

INSTEAD WE HAVE TO USE:

- **Quadratic Assignment Procedure** (QAP) which is analogous to regression analysis for network data
- **Exponential Random Graph model** (ERGM) which is a simulation model for estimating parameters

Statistical Analysis of Social Networks

Comparing multiple networks: **Quadratic Assignment Procedure**

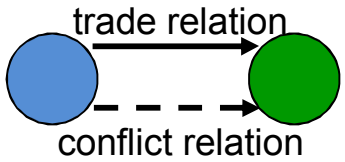
The substantive question is how one set of relations (or dyadic attributes) relates to another.

For example:

Are friendship relations correlated with joint membership in a club?

Our example :

Do trade relations correlate with involvement in conflict relations?



(http://www.soc.duke.edu/~jmoody77/s884/notes/stochasticNets.ppt)

Statistical Analysis of Social Networks

Modeling Social Networks parametrically:

Exponential Random Graph models (ERGM)

The purpose of **ERGM** is to describe parsimoniously the local selection forces that shape the global structure of a network. **ERGM** may be used to simulate new random realizations of networks that retain the essential properties of the original.

For example:

Distrust in management predicts gossip.

Our example:

Absense or low level of trade relations predicts conflict relations.

(Michael Beckman Exponential Random Graph Models;
Christian Steglich & Marijtje van Duijn Interdependence revisited
Exponential random graph models)