# Network analysis of social distance



# What is network analysis

- Statistical analyses typically assume that actors are independent
  - Therefore, changing attributes of one respondent can only change outcome of one respondent
    - or, if child A revises for their maths exam, it won't improve the score of child B or C.
- Network analysis assumes an interdependency of actors
  - Therefore, changing an attribute for one respondents can influence outcomes for others
    - or, if children B and C are swap stickers, then A and B also swapping will increase chances for A and C swapping
  - Social connections can have influence over our outcomes, whilst the connections of our connections can be important



http://www2.ucsc.edu/whorulesamerica/power/corporate\_community.html

http://www.orgnet.com/hijackers.html

http://www.cmu.edu/joss/content/articles/volume1/Freeman.html

http://www.thenetworkthinkers.com/2012/10/2012-political-book-network.html

Network data can also come from secondary surveys:

Occupational networks (red to violet for low to high CAMSIS, grouped into 7). (see <u>www.camsis.stir.ac.uk/sonocs</u>)





1991

Exemplar Geller households from TV series *Friends* (1991-97)











1993

1995





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1997



## Abstracting network data from surveys

		Gym	Running	Football	Golf	Swimming	•••
Man's sports	Gym		658	31	113	1,595	
	Running	997		33	63	1,113	
	Football	766	417		64	2,384	
	Golf	866	375	18		1084	
	Swimming	1,639	758	41	167		

#### Women's sports

## No. of male-female partners

### performing different sports

Note: 6,927 couples with 65k combinations across 24 sports Source: Understanding Society, 2010.

## Abstracting network data from surveys

		Gym	Running	Football	Golf	Swimming	••••
Man's sports	Gym		1.23	.89	1.00	1.28	
	Running	1.13		1.16	.65	1.07	
	Football	1.02	1.10		.78	1.12	
	Golf	1.02	.86	.60		1.08	
	Swimming	1.24	1.13	.98	.89		

#### Woman's sports

Representation levels of male-female partners performing different sports

Note: 6,927 couples with 65k combinations across 24 sports Source: Understanding Society, 2010.



Is Britain Pulling Apart? May 2013







Is Britain Pulling Apart? May 2013





## Some conclusions

- New avenues for research by exploring social networks between social units via secondary survey data
  - Comparative research options over time and countries
  - Emerging, very large surveys (e.g. Understanding Society) should address low numbers of connections
- Is Britain Pulling Apart?
  - Probably not (in occupational network patterns)
  - Maybe (in leisure patterns)
  - Certainly (in political patterns)
- Forthcoming priorities
  - Exploring systematic specifications for network structures as appropriate to the application area
  - Longitudinal profiles on individuals and their characterisation in networks (e.g. contagion by new household members)
- Secondary data is fairly easy to formulate for these analyses (see appendix - also at www.camsis.stir.ac.uk/sonocs)

- \*\*\*\*\*Exporting only those linkages which are above the expected values
- \*\*create frequency dataset
- capture drop freq
- gen freq = 1
- collapse (count) freq, by(hocc wocc)
- list in 1/20
- \*\*\*\*\*Find total for each category
- capture drop tot
- egen tot=sum(freq)
- summarize tot
- \*\*\*\*\*\*\*Find totals for men and women
- capture drop nhocc
- capture drop nwocc
- egen nhocc=sum(freq), by(hocc)
- egen nwocc=sum(freq), by(wocc)
- list hocc wocc freq nhocc nwocc in 1/20
- \*\*\*\*Find percentage for each category for men and women
- capture drop phocc
- capture drop pwocc
- gen phocc=nhocc/tot

- gen pwocc=nwocc/tot
- summarize
- list hocc wocc freq phocc pwocc in 1/20
- \*\*\*\*\*\*Calculate expected numbers of women
- capture drop ewocc
- gen ewocc=pwocc\*nhocc
- Summarize
- list hocc wocc ewocc freq nhocc nwocc in 1/20
- \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*
   create expectation surplus
- capture drop value
- gen value=freq/ewocc
- \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*
  label variables
- label variable tot "total number in sample"
- label variable nhocc "total number of males in occupation"
- label variable nwocc "total number of females in occupation"
- label variable phocc "percentage of men in occupation"
- label variable pwocc "percentage of women in occupation"
- label variable ewocc "expected number of partnerships"
- label variable value "Proportions of expected relationships"