

## Blockmodeling geopolitical interventions

Antonio A. Casilli Wolfgang Doerner Mohamed Oubenal Patrycja Rozbicka

07 July, 2009 – University of Ljubljana QMSS2 – Social Network Analysis using Pajek

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- Introduction
- Data collection and treatement
- Results
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- Carl Von Clausewitz (1932) famously said 'war is a *continuation* of state policy by other means'.
- White House military analyst Michael E. O'Hanlon (07/05/09) maintains that humanitarian intervention can be the continuation of war by other means
- > Assumption: We can detect geopolitical hotspots where interventions by hegemonic countries can either take the form of armed conflict or of humanitarian intervention

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# RQ: Do humanitarian and military interventions display the same structural signature?

- H1: the most attacked are also the biggest recipients of foreign aid
- H2: the biggest attackers are also the biggest donors
- H3: we should be able to detect differences in the attackers/donors behaviour

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- Description of the two datasets
  - OECD 2009 Development Co-operation Report
  - UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset v.4-2009
- Data preparation
  - Coding
  - Loops
  - Converting in .net

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Vertices	Indegree donation	ns	Vertices	Indegree conflic
AF	15		AF	14.9
NI	13		IZ	8.3
VM	13		PS	1.1
MZ	12		CR	0.9
SU	12		UG	0.6
ET	11		CG	0.6
PS	11		RW	0.6
TZ	11		РК	0.5
IZ	10		IN	0.3
СН	10		ET	0.3
RI	10		AG	0.3

Comparison of top 12 foreign aid recipients and target countries in armed conflicts by indegree.





'Donation network' – size of vertices dependent on the amount of foreign aid (major recipients: IZ-Iraq, AF-Afghanistan, NI-Nigeria)

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'Conflict network' – size of vertices refers to the the indegree value of attacks

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Kneighborhood of Afghanistan in 'Conflict network'







- H1: the most attacked actually receive the biggest
  amount of foreign aid
- H2: among the donors, we can isolate "big hitters" both in term of military and of humanitarian interventions
- H3: regular equivalence: three types of actors:
  - Passive countries (target/receivers)
  - Active coutries
    - Multi-attackers/donors (center)
    - Mono-attackers/donors (peripheral crown

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#### Summary of results

- H1 was not completely validated (number of donations *vs.* amount of foreign aid), but we still might detect a structural signature via the validation of H2 and H3
- Geopolitical balances are shaped by "multi-attackers" who implement both humanitarian and military interventions on "target countries" and are backed by "mono-attackers"

### Limitations of the study

- "Donations" data set do not take into account major emergent players (China, Russia, India)
- 2-mode vs. 1-mode network?
- Coding of internal conflicts (loops)



### Thank you!