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# An Exponential Family of Probability Distributions for Directed Graphs

PAUL W. HOLLAND and SAMUEL LEINHARDT\*

Directed graph (or digraph) data arise in many fields, especially in contemporary research on structures of social relationships. We describe an exponential family of distributions that can be used for analyzing such data. A substantive rationale for the general model is presented, and several special cases are discussed along with some possible substantive interpretations. A computational algorithm based on iterative scaling procedures for use in fitting data is described, as are the results of a pilot simulation study. An example using previously reported empirical data is worked out in detail. An extension to multiple relationship data is discussed briefly.

**KEY WORDS:** Random digraphs; Networks; Sociometry; Generalized iterative scaling.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

A directed graph or "digraph" (Harary, Norman, and Cartwright 1965) is specified by a (finite) set of points, or nodes, which we shall index by  $1, 2, \dots, g$ , ( $g$  = total number of nodes) and a set of directed lines, or edges, that connect certain pairs of these nodes. We assume that there are no edges that connect a node to itself and that there is at most one edge connecting any two distinct nodes in a given direction. Figure 1 illustrates a digraph with five nodes ( $g = 5$ ) and nine directed edges.

Directed graphs arise in many fields, but the applications that motivate our work are studies of social networks in anthropology, sociology, social psychology, and related disciplines (Leinhardt 1977; Holland and Leinhardt 1979b). In these applications, the nodes usually represent people, and the directed edges represent directed relationships that can obtain between these people.

For example, some of the earliest quantitative research on social networks was done by Moreno (1934), who called his studies of the friendship patterns obtaining between group members "sociometric" studies. In this case there is a directed edge from node  $i$  to node  $j$  if individual  $i$  says that individual  $j$  is a friend. If we interpret Figure 1 as the digraph of friendship in a group of five people, then person 1 says that persons 2 and 5 are his or her friends, while person 2 says that person 3 is a friend, and so on.

The sociometric studies of Moreno have been generalized in a variety of ways; we use the term *sociometric* to refer to any study of the structure of social relationships, regardless whether the nodes represent people or other social actors such as corporations, government agencies, and other institutional entities. The many different kinds of scientific questions that are of interest in sociometric studies range from identifying patterns of regularities among the friendship choices in the original Moreno studies to relating communication patterns to the output of work groups. The key element of such studies is their focus on the *pattern of relationships* between the actors rather than on the *distribution of attributes* possessed by the actors. Sociometric studies have become quite common in the sociological, social psychological, anthropological, and educational literatures. Examples of the substantive concerns of recent sociometric studies include political, economic, and social elites (Moore 1979; Laumann and Pappi 1976; Alba and Moore 1978), scientific elites (Breiger 1976; Friedkin 1978; Burt 1980), interorganizational connections (Aldrich 1977; Galaskiewicz and Marsden 1978; Fennema and Schijf 1979), community structure (Freeman 1968; Fischer et al. 1977), ethnography (Wolfe 1978), acquaintance (de Sola Pool and Kochen 1978), job opportunities (Granovetter 1974; Boorman 1975), mental health (Burns 1974; Tolsdorf 1976), family organization (Bott 1971; Noble 1970), racial integration (Schofield and Sager 1977), political processes (Barnes 1969), diffusion of innovations (Rogers 1979), and mainstreaming or the integration of educable mentally retarded children in normal classrooms (Ballard et al. 1977). Leinhardt (1977) contains a selection of earlier studies, while Holland and Leinhardt (1979a) consists of reports of more recent research. The journal *Social Networks* regularly publishes research in this area.

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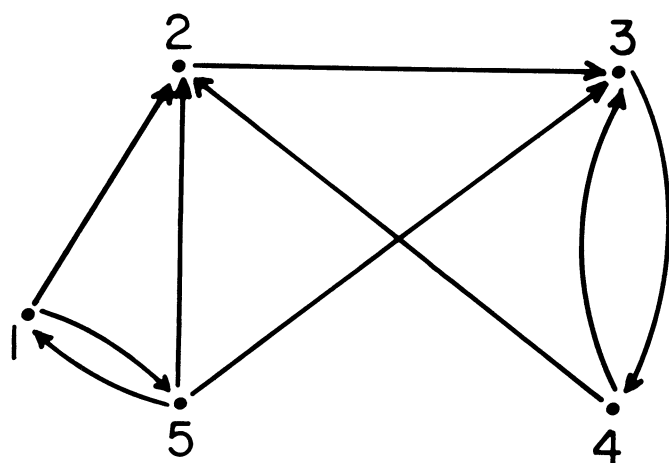


Figure 1. Digraph With Five Nodes and Nine Directed Edges

With all the substantive variety that is present in contemporary social network research, it is surprising to discover that there is a paucity of statistical tools available. The aim of this paper is to begin to fill this gap by providing a simple, yet flexible, family of probability distributions that can be used to analyze certain types of digraph data. In our opinion the most important aspect of the model we present is that it allows for the *simultaneous* estimation of parameters that measure both the amount of *reciprocation* of directed edges between nodes (i.e., our parameter  $\rho$ ) and the amount of *differential attractiveness* exhibited by each node (i.e., our parameter  $\beta_j$ ). Furthermore, these parameters are directly comparable across digraphs that differ in the number of nodes and directed edges they contain.

In the discussion that follows we use the phrase “*i* relates to *j*” as shorthand for the more ponderous “*i* stands in the given relationship to *j*”; similarly, we use the terms *relation* and *relationship* interchangeably. While diagrams like Figure 1 are sometimes useful, for most analytic purposes the adjacency matrix of the digraph is more convenient. This is the  $g$ -by- $g$  matrix of indicator variables,  $X$ , defined by

$$X_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \text{ relates to } j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We will always set  $X_{ii} = 0$  by convention. The adjacency matrix for Figure 1 is given in Figure 2.

	1	2	3	4	5	$X_{i+}$
1	0	1	0	0	1	2
2	0	0	1	0	0	1
3	0	0	0	1	0	1
4	0	1	1	0	0	2
5	1	1	1	0	0	3
$X_{+j}$	1	3	3	1	1	$9 = X_{++}$

Figure 2. The Adjacency Matrix for Figure 1

In their applied substantive contexts social networks are complex social phenomena that exist over time and encompass actors who may be free to enter and leave the network at will and who do not necessarily share identical attributes. Social network research has exhibited the usual historical trend of developing procedures for analyzing more and more realistic situations. The currently available methods are typically based on deterministic models, and stochastic models are only just becoming available for many important applications. To locate our contribution in the context of social network analysis, we propose the following classification of digraph data. The scheme reflects, in varying degrees, the types of complications that obtain in real social network data.

- Single relationship data.* A single relationship observed on a set of nodes at a single point in time (e.g., “friendship” in a given school classroom observed during one week in November).
- Time series data.* There may be more than one point in time at which the relation on the set of nodes is observed (e.g., friendship in a school classroom observed on the first Monday of September, October, November, and December).
- Covariates.* There may be information about nodal attributes in addition to the relationship information (e.g., in a classroom study we may also observe each student’s sex, race, etc., as well as his or her friendships).
- Valued relationship.* Some types of relationships exist in varying degrees or strengths rather than in an all-or-none fashion (e.g., children may be asked to rate the intensity of their friendship with each child in a classroom).
- Multiple relationships.* There may be more than one type of relationship studied on the same set of nodes (e.g., the relationship of friendship and the relationship of team membership<sup>1</sup>).

There are other complications that can arise, but the preceding list illustrates those that are important to the study of social networks (Davis and Leinhardt 1972). In other applied contexts, such as physics (Kinderman and Snell 1980) or sample surveys (Frank 1978), other complications may prove to be of greater relevance. Since the present work derives its motivation from social network research, we concern ourselves with developing an approach that facilitates the incorporation of the complications characterized by cases (b) through (e). We focus here on a fundamental framework, a family of parametric probability models that are appropriate for case (a), single relationship data. In Section 5 we briefly consider an extension to the multivariate case of several adjacency matrices defined on the same set of nodes, case (e).

There is a small amount of recent work that is related

<sup>1</sup> We will include symmetric relations as a special case of directed relations. In this case  $X_{ij} = X_{ji}$  for all  $i, j$ .

to the approach we take here. For example, in Holland and Leinhardt (1977a,b) we proposed a class of stochastic process models that could serve as the basis for extending the work reported here to case (b), time series data. Wasserman (1977, 1979, 1980) and Galaskiewicz and Wasserman (1979) developed that work further. Sørensen and Hallinan (1976) and Hallinan (1978) reported related methodological and empirical research. Recently, Fienberg and Wasserman (1979, 1981) also considered probability models for social network data, using ideas that are closely related to ours. They studied cases (c) and (e), covariates and multiple relationships. Case (d), *valued relations*, was recently studied using analysis of variance models by Warner, Kenny, and Stoto (1979) and Kenny and Nasby (1980).

Although the literature contains little on the problem of fitting and estimating parametric probability models for digraph data, there is an extensive body of work on the analysis of social network data. This literature falls roughly into three types—tests of randomness, pattern detection, and measures of structure.

Examples of tests of randomness include the work of Katz (1951) on the distribution of the number of isolates in a random digraph, White's (1977) work on the random distribution of zero blocks in an adjacency matrix, and Holland and Leinhardt's (1978) work on the distribution of triads in a random graph. Examples of pattern detection methods include the many clique-finding algorithms (Nosanchuk 1963; Alba 1973; Roistacher 1974), block-modeling procedures (White, Boorman, and Breiger 1976; and Boorman and White 1976; Arabie, Boorman, and Levitt 1978; Light and Mullins 1979) and spatial representations of digraphs (Levine 1972). Measures of structure are exemplified by structural measures of balance (Harary, Norman, and Cartwright 1965), connectivity (Luce 1950; Barnes 1966; Doreian 1974) and centrality (Moxley and Moxley 1974; Freeman 1977, 1979). Reviews of all three of these topics can be found in Burt (1980) and Leik and Meeker (1975).

## 2. THE $p_i$ DISTRIBUTION

We base our model on two empirical observations that have been made repeatedly in studies of social networks—from friendship among individuals to interlocks among the directors of corporations. To state these two observations precisely, we need to develop more notation. Let  $M$  denote the number of pairs  $\{i, j\}$  for which  $X_{ij} = X_{ji} = 1$ . Then  $M$  may be computed as

$$M = \sum_{i < j} X_{ij} X_{ji} . \quad (1)$$

Thus  $M$  is the number of reciprocated or symmetric or mutual relationships in  $X$ .<sup>2</sup> The *in-degree* of node  $j$  is

$$X_{+j} = \sum_{i=1}^g X_{ij} , \quad (2)$$

so that  $X_{+j}$  is the number of nodes  $i$  for which  $X_{ij} = 1$ . The in-degrees  $\{X_{+j}\}$  form a set of numbers with mean,  $\bar{X}$ , and variance,  $V(\text{in})$ , defined by

$$\bar{X} = \left( \sum_{j=1}^g X_{+j} \right) / g = X_{++} / g \quad (3)$$

and

$$V(\text{in}) = \left( \sum_{j=1}^g (X_{+j} - \bar{X})^2 \right) / g , \quad (4)$$

respectively. The *out-degree* of node  $i$  is

$$X_{i+} = \sum_{j=1}^g X_{ij} . \quad (5)$$

The mean of the out-degrees is also  $\bar{X}$ , and their variance,  $V(\text{out})$ , is defined in obvious analogy to (4).

In the earliest sociometric studies, Moreno (1934) found that  $M$  and  $V(\text{in})$  usually exceeded their "chance" expected values. To Moreno, empirical sociometric data always seemed to exhibit a "surplus" of mutual relationships, while some individual group members always managed to attract a "surplus" of choices (Moreno and Jennings 1938). Moreno posited a simple null model for  $X$  in which all adjacency matrices with out-degrees agreeing with those in the data are equally likely. We denote this probability distribution by conditioning on  $\{X_{i+}\}$ . The chance expectations of  $M$  and  $V(\text{in})$  under this null distribution may be shown to be

$$E(M \mid \{X_{i+}\}) = (g\bar{X}^2 / (2(g-1))) - (gV(\text{out}) / (2(g-1)^2)) \quad (6)$$

and

$$E(V(\text{in}) \mid \{X_{i+}\}) = \bar{X} - (\bar{X}^2 / (g-1)) - ((g-2)V(\text{out}) / (g-1)^2). \quad (7)$$

The purpose of comparing  $M$  and  $V(\text{in})$  to (6) and (7) (and other similar types of comparisons) is to show that the digraph's observed edges are *not* distributed randomly and that, in fact, they exhibit expected nonrandom behavior. From intuition and substantive theoretical consideration, many social relationships can be expected to be reciprocated (see Newcomb 1979; Jones and Gerard 1967; Davis 1968), and in these cases we would expect  $X$  to exhibit nonrandomness by having a value for  $M$  larger than the expected value given by (6). Other types of social relationships, (e.g., "power") can be expected to be nonreciprocated (French 1956; Friedell 1967), and in such cases we would expect  $M$  to be smaller than (6). Similarly, from intuition, it should not be surprising that nodes are differentially attractive and that some are involved in more relational ties than are others (Hopkins 1964). This leads to an expectation about the distribution of in-degrees—in Moreno's (1934) terms there will be "stars" (nodes that attract many relations) and "iso-

<sup>2</sup> Moreno (1934) tends to use the term *mutuality*. Davis (1977) employs *symmetry*. In Katz and Powell (1955) and Katz, Tagiuri, and Wilson (1958), they are used interchangeably. We use *reciprocity*.

lates'' (nodes that attract no relations).<sup>3</sup> This will result in large values of  $V(\text{in})$  that are larger than the expected value given in (7).

From these empirical observations and substantive theoretical predictions, we wanted to construct a family of distributions for  $X$  with parameters that allow us to control the probability of observing different values of  $M$  and  $\{X_{+j}\}$ . Exponential families of distributions are natural choices to consider for this purpose, since they explicitly tie sufficient statistics to parameters. To be more precise, let  $G$  denote the set of all  $g$ -by- $g$  adjacency matrices so that  $X$  may be thought of as a random matrix taking values in  $G$  (see Katz and Powell 1955). Let  $x$  denote a generic point of  $G$ ; then let  $p_1(x)$  be the probability function<sup>4</sup> on  $G$  given by

$$p_1(x) = P(X = x) \\ = \exp\{\rho m + \theta x_{++} + \sum_i \alpha_i x_{i+} + \sum_j \beta_j x_{+j}\} \quad (8) \\ \times K(\rho, \theta, \{\alpha_i\}, \{\beta_j\})$$

where  $m$ ,  $x_{++}$ ,  $x_{i+}$ , and  $x_{+j}$  are the values of  $M$ ,  $X_{++}$ ,  $X_{i+}$ , and  $X_{+j}$  computed from  $x$ . In (8),  $\rho$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\alpha_i$ , and  $\beta_j$  are parameters with  $\alpha_i$  and  $\beta_j$  subject to the identifying constraint  $\alpha_+ = \beta_+ = 0$ . These parameters control the probability of observing  $X$  with specific values of  $M$ ,  $X_{+j}$ , and  $X_{i+}$ . The function  $K(\rho, \theta, \{\alpha_i\}, \{\beta_j\})$  in (8) is a normalizing constant that insures that  $p_1(x)$  sums to 1 over all  $x$  in  $G$ . Generally speaking, one can always get this far with an exponential family, but unless  $K$  can be computed explicitly, little more can be done. Fortunately, there is a simple derivation of (8) from basic assumptions that leads to a formula for  $K$  as well as to a deeper understanding of the model. We shall develop (8) from this alternative point of view before we proceed further.

## 2.1 Derivation of the $p_1$ Distribution

We first decompose  $X$  into its  $\binom{g}{2}$  dyads or pairs,  $D_{ij} = (X_{ij}, X_{ji})$  for  $i < j$ . The distribution of  $X$  may be specified by giving the joint distribution of the pairs,  $D_{12}$ ,  $D_{13}$ , and so on. To describe the joint distribution of the  $\{D_{ij}\}$ , we first assume that the  $D_{ij}$  are all statistically independent. This independence assumption means that  $p_1$  cannot express tendencies toward transitivity, cliquing, hierarchy, and so on, other than those already implied by tendencies toward reciprocation and differential attraction. In this sense,  $p_1$  is essentially a null model that is more realistic than models that do not express tendencies toward reciprocation and differential attraction. However, in Holland and Leinhardt (1978) we present empirical evidence

that the assumption of dyad independence may be satisfied in a substantial number of groups studied by social network analysts. Thus in addition to providing a null model, the  $p_1$  family of distributions may also provide adequate models for representing certain types of empirical data. Finally, we point out that it appears to be difficult to relax the independence assumption and to retain the tractability of the model.

Having assumed that the  $\{D_{ij}\}$  are independent, we need only specify the distribution of each  $D_{ij}$ ,  $i < j$ , in order to completely specify the distribution of  $X$ . This is done by specifying values of  $m_{ij}$ ,  $a_{ij}$ , and  $n_{ij}$  where

$$m_{ij} = P(D_{ij} = (1,1)) \quad i < j, \quad (9)$$

$$a_{ij} = P(D_{ij} = (1,0)) \quad i \neq j, \quad (10)$$

$$n_{ij} = P(D_{ij} = (0,0)) \quad i < j, \quad (11)$$

and

$$m_{ij} + a_{ij} + a_{ji} + n_{ij} = 1, \quad \text{for all } i < j. \quad (12)$$

In (9)  $m_{ij}$  is the probability that the dyad  $i, j$  is a mutual or reciprocated pair; in (10)  $a_{ij}$  is the probability that the dyad  $i, j$  is an asymmetric or nonreciprocated pair; in (11)  $n_{ij}$  is the probability that the dyad  $i, j$  is a null pair. The probability distribution of  $X$  may be expressed in the following way:

$$P(X = x) \\ = \prod_{i < j} m_{ij}^{x_{ij}x_{ji}} \prod_{i \neq j} a_{ij}^{x_{ij}(1-x_{ji})} \prod_{i < j} n_{ij}^{(1-x_{ij})(1-x_{ji})}. \quad (13)$$

This may be reexpressed as follows to emphasize the exponential form of (13):

$$P(X = x) = \exp\left\{\sum_{i < j} \rho_{ij} x_{ij} x_{ji} + \sum_{i \neq j} \theta_{ij} x_{ij}\right\} \prod_{i < j} n_{ij}, \quad (14)$$

where

$$\rho_{ij} = \log_e((m_{ij}n_{ij})/(a_{ij}a_{ji})) \quad i < j \quad (15)$$

and

$$\theta_{ij} = \log_e(a_{ij}/n_{ij}); \quad i \neq j \quad (16)$$

and in (16) we interpret  $n_{ji} = n_{ij}$  for  $i > j$ . The exponential or "natural" parameters,  $\rho_{ij}$  and  $\theta_{ij}$ , are equivalent to the original set of parameters  $m_{ij}$ ,  $a_{ij}$ , and  $n_{ij}$  when these are subjected to the constraint specified by (12).

The parameter,  $\rho_{ij}$ , is a log-odds ratio, and a little algebra reveals that it gives the log of the increase in the odds that  $X_{ij} = 1$  due to  $X_{ji} = 1$ , that is,

$$\exp(\rho_{ij}) = \frac{P(X_{ij} = 1 | X_{ji} = 1)}{P(X_{ij} = 0 | X_{ji} = 1)} \bigg/ \frac{P(X_{ij} = 1 | X_{ji} = 0)}{P(X_{ij} = 0 | X_{ji} = 0)}. \quad (17)$$

Thus  $\rho_{ij}$  measures the "force of reciprocation" in the sense that if  $\rho_{ij}$  is positive and if  $X_{ji} = 1$ , then we are more likely to also observe that  $X_{ij} = 1$ .

The parameter,  $\theta_{ij}$ , is a log-odds. Again, a little algebra shows that

$$\exp(\theta_{ij}) = P(X_{ij} = 1 | X_{ji} = 0) / P(X_{ij} = 0 | X_{ji} = 0). \quad (18)$$

<sup>3</sup> Strictly speaking, one can only expect literal isolates when choice volume is small.

<sup>4</sup> We denote the probability function in (8) by  $p_1(x)$  to emphasize our view that it is the first or simplest family of distributions on digraphs that might be considered for social network data. This is because it expresses the two elementary social tendencies of reciprocation and differential attraction.

Thus  $\theta_{ij}$  measures the probability of an asymmetric dyad between  $i$  and  $j$ , given that  $X_{ji} = 0$ .

As it stands, the distribution in (14) is not the same as that given as  $p_1(\cdot)$  in (8). In fact, (14) is a more general family of distributions for  $X$  than (8) is, but it has too many parameters to be useful for many statistical purposes. To obtain (8) from (14), we impose restrictions on  $\rho_{ij}$  and  $\theta_{ij}$ . We set

$$\rho_{ij} = \rho \quad \text{for all } i < j, \quad (19)$$

and

$$\theta_{ij} = \theta + \alpha_i + \beta_j \quad \text{for all } i \neq j, \quad (20)$$

where

$$\alpha_+ = \beta_+ = 0.$$

Assumptions (19) and (20) lead to the following formula for  $p_1(x)$ :

$$p_1(x) = \exp\{\rho m + \theta x_{++} + \sum_i \alpha_i x_{i+} + \sum_j \beta_j x_{+j}\} \times \prod_{i < j} n_{ij}, \quad (21)$$

where the  $n_{ij}$  are functions of the parameters  $\rho$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\{\alpha_i\}$ , and  $\{\beta_j\}$ , given in (24) and (25).

The restriction (19) has the interpretation that the “force of the reciprocation” is independent of the nodes involved. With this restriction,  $\rho$  may be interpreted as the average tendency toward reciprocation for all pairs of nodes. It is natural to consider weakening restriction (19) when generalizing  $p_1(\cdot)$ . We will not pursue this here. Restriction (20) implies that the probability that  $X_{ij} = 1$  given  $X_{ji} = 0$  (as measured by the odds in (18)) is the product of a factor for node  $i$  and another factor for node  $j$ . It is analogous to logit models in more standard statistical problems involving binary data (Cox 1970).

It is also useful to solve for  $m_{ij}$ ,  $a_{ij}$ , and  $n_{ij}$  in terms of the exponential parameters. This yields

$$m_{ij} = \exp\{\rho + 2\theta + \alpha_i + \alpha_j + \beta_i + \beta_j\}/k_{ij}, \quad (22)$$

$$a_{ij} = \exp\{\theta + \alpha_i + \beta_j\}/k_{ij}, \quad (23)$$

$$n_{ij} = 1/k_{ij}, \quad (24)$$

where

$$k_{ij} = 1 + e^{\theta + \alpha_i + \beta_j} + e^{\theta + \alpha_j + \beta_i} + e^{\rho + 2\theta + \alpha_i + \alpha_j + \beta_i + \beta_j}. \quad (25)$$

Equations (24) and (25) express  $n_{ij}$  explicitly as a function of the exponential parameters and may be used to derive a formula for  $K(\cdot)$  in (8).

We have already discussed one possible interpretation of the parameter  $\rho$  in  $p_1(\cdot)$ . Possible interpretations of the other parameters,  $\theta$ ,  $\alpha_i$ , and  $\beta_j$ , follow. If we set  $\rho$ ,  $\{\alpha_i\}$ , and  $\{\beta_j\}$  all equal to zero, then the resulting distribution on  $G$  is equivalent to assuming that the  $X_{ij}$  are all independent and identically distributed (iid) indicator variables with  $p = P(X_{ij} = 1)$  and  $\theta = \log_e(p/(1 - p))$ . In this

Table 1: Selected Special Cases of  $p_1$

Parameter Values	Interpretation
$\rho = \theta = \alpha_i = \beta_j = 0$	: The uniform distribution over $G$ in which all digraphs are equally likely.
$\rho = \alpha_i = \beta_j = 0$	: $X_{ij}$ are iid, $\theta = \log_e(p/(1 - p))$ .
$\alpha_i = \beta_j = 0$	: $D_{ij}$ are iid; $m_{ij} = m$ , $a_{ij} = a$ , $n_{ij} = n$ and $m + 2a + n = 1$ .
$\rho = \beta_j = 0$	: $X_{ij}$ are iid in each row of $X$ ; $\theta + \alpha_i = \log_e(p/(1 - p_i))$ .
$\rho = \alpha_i = 0$	: $X_{ij}$ are iid in each column of $X$ ; $\theta + \beta_j = \log_e(p/(1 - p_j))$ .
$\rho = 0$	: $X_{ij}$ are independent; logit of $p_{ij}$ is additive.
$\rho = \infty$	: $X_{ij} = X_{ji}$ and the graph is symmetric.
$\rho = -\infty$	: $X_{ij}X_{ji} = 0$ and the digraph is asymmetric.

sense,  $\theta$  governs the density of ones in  $X$  or edges in the digraph. Therefore, we refer to  $\theta$  as a *density parameter*.<sup>5</sup> If we let  $\theta$  and  $\{\alpha_i\}$  be nonzero (but keep  $\rho$  and  $\{\beta_j\}$  zero), then the resulting distribution on  $G$  is equivalent to assuming that the  $X_{ij}$  are iid in each row of  $X$  with a common  $p_i = P(X_{ij} = 1)$ . In this case,  $\theta + \alpha_i = \log_e(p_i/(1 - p_i))$ , so that  $\alpha_i$  governs differences in the distributions of the out-degrees of  $X$ . Hence we may call  $\alpha_i$  a *productivity parameter* since, if  $\alpha_i$  is large and positive, node  $i$  will tend to have a relatively large out-degree or will appear to “produce” relational ties (see Duck 1977). If  $\alpha_i$  is large and negative, then node  $i$  will produce relatively few ties and  $X_{i+}$  will tend to be zero or small. If we allow  $\theta$  and  $\beta_j$  to be nonzero (but keep  $\rho$  and  $\alpha_i$  zero), then the resulting distribution on  $G$  is equivalent to assuming that the  $X_{ij}$  are iid in each column of  $X$  with common  $p_j = P(X_{ij} = 1)$ . In this case,  $\theta + \beta_j = \log_e(p_j/(1 - p_j))$ , so that  $\beta_j$  governs differences in the distributions of the in-degrees,  $X_{+j}$ . Hence we may call  $\beta_j$  an *attractiveness parameter* since, if  $\beta_j$  is large and positive, node  $j$  will tend to have a large in-degree or will appear to “attract” relational ties (see Berscheid and Walster 1977; Huston 1974). If  $\beta_j$  is large and negative, then node  $j$  will attract few ties and  $X_{+j}$  will tend to be zero or small.

In the preceding discussion we indicated how setting various exponential parameters of  $p_1$  to zero corresponds to easily interpreted distributions on  $G$ . We summarize these and other special cases of  $p_1$  in Table 1.

## 2.2 Simulated Digraphs From the $p_1$ Distribution

To provide an informal feeling for the types of digraphs that the  $p_1$  distribution will generate, we present in Figure 3 four simulated adjacency matrices for four different sets of parameter combinations. It is easy to simulate random digraphs from  $p_1(x)$  because the  $D_{ij} = (X_{ij}, X_{ji})$  are independent. We used the following procedure. For specified values of  $\rho$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\{\alpha_i\}$ , and  $\{\beta_j\}$ , calculate  $m_{ij}$ ,  $a_{ij}$ , and  $n_{ij}$  from (22), (23), and (24). A pseudorandom number

<sup>5</sup> This is similar to Loomis and Proctor’s (1951) notion of “gross expansiveness” in the affective sociometric context. The term *density* seems more context free.

## a. Matrices

Case 1											
$X_{ij}$											$X_{+j}$
0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0		3
0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1		3
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0		2
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		1
1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0		5
0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0		4
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1
1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0		5
0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		3
0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0		4
$X_{i+}$	2	3	3	5	4	2	6	3	2	1	$31 = X_{++}$

Case 2											
$X_{ij}$											$X_{+j}$
0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		2
1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		3
0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0		3
1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		3
1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0		7
1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0		5
0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		2
1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0		3
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1
0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		2
$X_{i+}$	5	7	5	3	3	2	4	1	1	0	$31 = X_{++}$

Case 3											
$X_{ij}$											$X_{+j}$
0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0		4
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1		5
0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0		4
1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		3
0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0		5
1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		2
1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		4
1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0		3
0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		2
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
$X_{i+}$	5	5	5	1	5	3	5	1	1	1	$32 = X_{++}$

Case 4											
$X_{ij}$											$X_{+j}$
0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0		3
1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		3
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1
1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0		5
0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0		3
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1		3
0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0		3
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		4
1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0		4
$X_{i+}$	5	6	5	5	4	0	3	0	1	1	$30 = X_{++}$

## b. Parameter values and summary statistics

Case	$\theta$	$\rho$	$\alpha_j$	$\beta_j$									
1	-.69	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	-.90	0	0	1.5,	1.5,	1.5,	0,	0,	0,	0,	-1.5,	-1.5,	-1.5
3	-1.67	2	0	1.5,	1.5,	1.5,	0,	0,	0,	0,	-1.5,	-1.5,	-1.5
4	-0.42	-2	0	1.5,	1.5,	1.5,	0,	0,	0,	0,	-1.5,	-1.5,	-1.5

Case	$\bar{X}$	M	$E(M   X_{i+})$	$V(in)$	$E(V(in)   X_{i+})$
1	3.1	4	5.20	2.09	1.85
2	3.1	6	5.17	4.29	1.78
3	3.2	11	5.56	3.56	1.85
4	3.0	2	4.91	4.80	1.86

Figure 3. Four Examples of Digraphs Simulated From the  $p_1$  Distribution

from the uniform distribution is then used to simulate one of the four events:  $D_{ij} = (1,1), (1,0), (0,1),$  or  $(0,0)$ . Repeat this operation independently for all  $g(g-1)/2$  dyads,  $D_{ij}$ , and  $X$  is thereby simulated.

In Figure 3 all four cases have been chosen to make  $E(\bar{X}) = 3.0$ , a commonly observed value in empirical data (see, e.g., Bjerstedt 1956). The parameter combinations are chosen to emphasize different features of the  $p_1$  distribution.

In case 1 all parameters except  $\theta$  are set to zero. The observed values of  $M$  and  $V(\text{in})$  for this case are near their expected values, given  $X_{i+}$ , because  $\rho = 0$  and  $\beta_j = 0$ .

In case 2 there is differential attraction, with nodes 1, 2, and 3 being the most highly attractive, and nodes 8, 9, and 10 the least. Here  $\rho = 0$ , and therefore  $M$  is near its null expected value. Since  $\beta_j \neq 0$  the digraph exhibits differential attraction, and therefore  $V(\text{in})$  exceeds its null expectation by more than a factor of two.

Case 3 has  $\rho = 2$  and the same set of nonzero  $\beta_j$  as in case 2. Thus both reciprocity and differential attraction are present. Here both  $M$  and  $V(\text{in})$  exceed their null expected values by nearly factors of two.

Case 4 is the same as case 3 except that  $\rho = -2$ , so there is a tendency away from reciprocation. Here  $M$  is less than half its null expected value, while  $V(\text{in})$  exceeds its null expected value by more than a factor of two.

Although these four examples do not exhaust the possibilities, they illustrate how, by varying the values of the parameters of the  $p_1$  distribution, we are able to independently vary tendencies toward reciprocation and differential attraction. Any structural features that may be detected in these simulated digraphs are either implied by tendencies towards reciprocation and differential attraction or are accidents of chance. Similar remarks are in order when structural features are observed in empirical data that fit a  $p_1$  model.

### 3. ESTIMATION AND TESTING USING THE $p_1$ DISTRIBUTION

In order to use  $p_1(x)$  for data analysis, we need to be able to estimate the parameters of  $p_1(x)$ , that is, the vector

$$\pi = (\rho, \theta, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_g, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_g). \quad (26)$$

Since  $\alpha_+ = \beta_+ = 0$ ,  $\pi$  ranges over a  $(2g)$ -dimensional space. We shall denote the maximum likelihood estimates (MLE) of these parameters by  $\hat{\pi}$  or  $\hat{\rho}, \hat{\theta}, \hat{\alpha}_i,$  and  $\hat{\beta}_j$ .

If  $X$  is the observed adjacency matrix, then the likelihood function is

$$p_1(X) = \exp\{\rho M + \theta X_{++} + \sum_i \alpha_i X_{i+} + \sum_j \beta_j X_{+j}\} \prod_{i < j} c_{ij} \quad (27)$$

where

$$c_{ij} = (1 + e^{\theta + \alpha_i + \beta_j} + e^{\theta + \alpha_j + \beta_i} + e^{\rho + 2\theta + \alpha_i + \alpha_j + \beta_i + \beta_j})^{-1}.$$

Since  $p_1$  is an exponential family, the likelihood equations, found by differentiating (27) with respect to the parameters and setting the resulting system equal to zero, must have the form "sufficient statistics equal their expected values." Thus the likelihood equations that are needed to find the MLE of  $\pi$  are

$$M = E_\pi(M) = \sum_{i < j} m_{ij}, \quad (28)$$

$$X_{i+} = E_\pi(X_{i+}) = \sum_j (m_{ij} + a_{ij}), \quad i = 1, \dots, g, \quad (29)$$

$$X_{+j} = E_\pi(X_{+j}) = \sum_i (m_{ij} + a_{ij}), \quad j = 1, \dots, g. \quad (30)$$

Note that in (29) and (30) we have expanded the definitions of  $m_{ij}$  and  $a_{ij}$ . For  $i > j$  we set  $m_{ij} = m_{ji}$  and let  $m_{ii} = 0$ . We also set  $a_{ii} = 0$  and expand  $n_{ij}$  to a full  $g$ -by- $g$  matrix by setting  $n_{ij} = n_{ji}$  for  $i < j$  and  $n_{ii} = 0$ . Thus  $(m_{ij})$ ,  $(a_{ij})$ , and  $(n_{ij})$  are all  $g$ -by- $g$  matrices with zero main diagonals;  $(m_{ij})$  and  $(n_{ij})$  are also symmetric. These conventions simplify the subsequent discussion.

The MLE of  $\pi$  is the solution to the system (28), (29), and (30).

There are two approaches that are commonly used to solve such systems—one *direct* and one *indirect*. The direct approach, exemplified by Newton-method iterations, Fisher's method of scoring, and various weighted least squares iterations, sets up an iterative system of approximations to  $\hat{\pi}$ . The indirect approach sets up an iterative system of approximations to  $\hat{m}_{ij}$ ,  $\hat{a}_{ij}$ , and  $\hat{n}_{ij}$  (defined by (22), (23), (24), with  $\hat{\pi}$  substituted for  $\pi$ ). For this problem, generalized iterative scaling, described and analyzed by Darroch and Ratcliff (1972), is the natural candidate for the indirect approach.

There are two main drawbacks to the direct approach here. First, there are, potentially, a large number of parameters— $2g$ —and this will result in large matrices ( $2g$  by  $2g$ ) and the need for careful numerical methods in the iterations. Second, it is easy to have cases in which one or more of the  $\hat{\beta}_j = -\infty$  (e.g., if  $X_{+j} = 0$ ). This situation causes nonconvergence in Newton-method and related approaches unless they have special adjustments to deal with it.

The indirect approach—generalized iterative scaling—suffers from neither of these two drawbacks. The largest matrices that arise are  $g$  by  $g$ , and the computations done on them are simple row and column multiplications. When  $\hat{\beta}_j = -\infty$ , the corresponding  $\hat{m}_{ij}$  or  $\hat{a}_{ij}$  are zero, and iterative scaling automatically adjusts for this. We used a version of iterative scaling to estimate  $\hat{\pi}$  and will describe the algorithm here.

#### 3.1 An Iterative Scaling Algorithm<sup>6</sup>

We have tried several variants of iterative scaling for fitting the  $p_1$  distribution to data. The following algorithm

<sup>6</sup> FORTRAN code for these algorithms is available from the authors. The code was developed on a DEC-20 machine. Other algorithms have been developed since this work was initiated (e.g., Fienberg and Wasserman 1979).



was suggested to us by Y. Wang. It is quite simple and can be shown to converge to the MLE by using the methods described by Darroch and Ratcliff (1972).

Let  $(m_{ij}^{(n)})$ ,  $(a_{ij}^{(n)})$ , and  $(n_{ij}^{(n)})$  be the  $n$ th iterates in a sequence of approximations to the MLE's,  $(\hat{m}_{ij})$ ,  $(\hat{a}_{ij})$ , and  $(\hat{n}_{ij})$ . We begin with initial values  $(m_{ij}^{(0)})$ ,  $(a_{ij}^{(0)})$ , and  $(n_{ij}^{(0)})$ , which satisfy (22), (23), and (24) for some set of values  $\theta^{(0)}$ ,  $\rho^{(0)}$ ,  $\{\alpha_i^{(0)}\}$ ,  $\{\beta_j^{(0)}\}$ . For example, if we set  $m_{ij}^{(0)} = a_{ij}^{(0)} = n_{ij}^{(0)} = .25$  for all  $i \neq j$ , and  $m_{ii}^{(0)} = a_{ii}^{(0)} = n_{ii}^{(0)} = 0$ , then these initial values satisfy (22), (23), and (24), with  $\theta^{(0)} = \rho^{(0)} = \alpha_i^{(0)} = \beta_j^{(0)} = 0$ . The iterations proceed in cycles of four steps, which we call the row step, the column step, the mutual step, and the normalizing step, respectively.

*The row step:* For all  $i \neq j$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} m_{ij}^{(n+1)} &= m_{ij}^{(n)} (F_i^{(n)} F_j^{(n)})^{1/2} \\ a_{ij}^{(n+1)} &= a_{ij}^{(n)} (F_i^{(n)} K^{(n)})^{1/2} \\ n_{ij}^{(n+1)} &= n_{ij}^{(n)} K^{(n)}, \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

where

$$F_i^{(n)} = X_{i+} / (m_{i+}^{(n)} + a_{i+}^{(n)}) \quad (32)$$

$$K^{(n)} = (g(g-1) - X_{++}) / (a_{++}^{(n)} + n_{++}^{(n)}). \quad (33)$$

*The column step:* For all  $i \neq j$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} m_{ij}^{(n+2)} &= m_{ij}^{(n+1)} (G_i^{(n+1)} G_j^{(n+1)})^{1/2} \\ a_{ij}^{(n+2)} &= a_{ij}^{(n+1)} (G_j^{(n+1)} K^{(n+1)})^{1/2} \\ n_{ij}^{(n+2)} &= n_{ij}^{(n+1)} K^{(n+1)}, \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

where

$$G_j^{(n+1)} = X_{+j} / (m_{+j}^{(n+1)} + a_{+j}^{(n+1)}) \quad (35)$$

and

$$K^{(n+1)} = (g(g-1) - X_{++}) / (a_{++}^{(n+1)} + n_{++}^{(n+1)}). \quad (36)$$

*The mutual step:* For all  $i \neq j$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} m_{ij}^{(n+3)} &= m_{ij}^{(n+2)} H^{(n+2)} \\ a_{ij}^{(n+3)} &= a_{ij}^{(n+2)} L^{(n+2)} \\ n_{ij}^{(n+3)} &= n_{ij}^{(n+2)} L^{(n+2)}, \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

where

$$H^{(n+2)} = M / (\frac{1}{2} m_{++}^{(n+2)}) \quad (38)$$

and

$$L^{(n+2)} = \left[ \binom{g}{2} - M \right] / \left[ \binom{g}{2} - (\frac{1}{2} m_{++}^{(n+2)}) \right]. \quad (39)$$

*The normalizing step:* For all  $i \neq j$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} m_{ij}^{(n+4)} &= m_{ij}^{(n+3)} / R_{ij}^{(n+3)} \\ a_{ij}^{(n+4)} &= a_{ij}^{(n+3)} / R_{ij}^{(n+3)} \\ n_{ij}^{(n+4)} &= n_{ij}^{(n+3)} / R_{ij}^{(n+3)}, \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

where

$$R_{ij}^{(n+3)} = m_{ij}^{(n+3)} + a_{ij}^{(n+3)} + a_{ji}^{(n+3)} + n_{ij}^{(n+3)}. \quad (41)$$

The full algorithm consists of chaining together these four steps into a single cycle and repeating the cycle until convergence. The output of the normalizing step is used as the initial values for the row step in the next cycle. Our experience with the algorithm suggests that it is a practical way to fit the  $p_1$  distribution to adjacency matrices for which  $g$  is as large as 60. We have had no experience with fitting larger matrices, but we do not expect that they would create problems beyond the obvious ones involved with storage and machine time.

The algorithm just described fits the full  $p_1$  distribution. However, we are also interested in fitting submodels of  $p_1$  (e.g., those described in Sec. 2) to data. For example, the submodel of  $p_1$  for which  $\rho = 0$  is important for testing hypotheses about  $\rho$ . It may be estimated by maximum likelihood in a number of ways. One way is to leave out the mutual step in the algorithm just described. We can then obtain the MLE's of  $m_{ij}$ ,  $a_{ij}$ , and  $n_{ij}$  for  $p_1$  with  $\rho = 0$ . We have also used the following algorithm for fitting the  $\rho = 0$  case. Let.

$$p_{ij} = m_{ij} + a_{ij} = P(X_{ij} = 1) \quad (42)$$

and

$$q_{ij} = 1 - p_{ij} = P(X_{ij} = 0). \quad (43)$$

When  $\rho = 0$ , the  $X_{ij}$  are independent and  $p_{ij}$  satisfies

$$\log_e(p_{ij}/q_{ij}) = \theta + \alpha_i + \beta_j, \quad i \neq j. \quad (44)$$

The likelihood equations for this submodel of  $p_1$  may be expressed in terms of the  $p_{ij}$ . They are

$$X_{i+} = p_{i+}, \quad i = 1, \dots, g \quad (45)$$

$$X_{+j} = p_{+j}, \quad j = 1, \dots, g. \quad (46)$$

The algorithm creates a sequence of iterates,  $p_{ij}^{(n)}$  and  $q_{ij}^{(n)}$ , that converge to  $\hat{p}_{ij}$  and  $\hat{q}_{ij}$ . There are three steps to each cycle of this algorithm: a row step, a column step and a normalizing step.

*The row step:* For all  $i \neq j$ ,

$$p_{ij}^{(n+1)} = p_{ij}^{(n)} (X_{i+}/p_{i+}^{(n)}) \quad (47)$$

$$q_{ij}^{(n+1)} = q_{ij}^{(n)} ((g-1) - X_{i+})/q_{i+}^{(n)}. \quad (48)$$

*The column step:* For all  $i \neq j$ ,

$$p_{ij}^{(n+2)} = p_{ij}^{(n+1)} (X_{+j}/p_{+j}^{(n+1)}) \quad (49)$$

$$q_{ij}^{(n+2)} = q_{ij}^{(n+1)} ((g-1) - X_{+j})/q_{+j}^{(n+1)}. \quad (50)$$

*The normalizing step:* For all  $i \neq j$ ,

$$p_{ij}^{(n+3)} = p_{ij}^{(n+2)} / R_{ij}^{(n+2)} \quad (51)$$

$$q_{ij}^{(n+3)} = q_{ij}^{(n+2)} / R_{ij}^{(n+2)}, \quad (52)$$

where

$$R_{ij}^{(n+2)} = p_{ij}^{(n+2)} + q_{ij}^{(n+2)}. \quad (53)$$

This algorithm is related to the usual iterative scaling algorithm used to fit the model of “no three-factor interaction” to a three-way contingency table. The initial values for this algorithm for fitting  $p_1$  with  $\rho = 0$  are  $p_{ij}^{(0)} = q_{ij}^{(0)} = .50$ .

Another important submodel of  $p_1$  requiring iterative methods for its estimation by maximum likelihood sets  $\beta_j = 0, j = 1, \dots, g$ . This submodel can be estimated by dropping the column step from the first algorithm described before, and using  $m_{ij}^{(0)} = a_{ij}^{(0)} = n_{ij}^{(0)} = .25$  as the initial values.

Those submodels of  $p_1(x)$  described in Section 2, in which  $\rho = 0$  and either  $\alpha_i = 0$  or  $\beta_j = 0$ , do not need iterative methods for their estimation. For example, if  $\rho = 0$  and  $\beta_j = 0$  but  $\theta$  and  $\alpha$  are free to vary, then the MLE of  $p_i = P(X_{ij} = 1)$  is

$$\hat{p}_i = X_{i+}/(g - 1). \quad (54)$$

Under this model,  $\hat{m}_{ij}$ ,  $\hat{a}_{ij}$ , and  $\hat{n}_{ij}$  may be computed directly from (54).

### 3.2 Testing Hypotheses Within the $p_1$ Distribution

The algorithms just described may be used to obtain MLE's of  $m_{ij}$ ,  $a_{ij}$ , and  $n_{ij}$  for the full  $p_1$  distribution and for various submodels that we defined by setting certain parameter values to zero. These submodels correspond to hypotheses within the  $p_1$  distribution that have interesting substantive interpretations. We will consider these hypotheses

$$H_0: \rho = 0, \{\beta_j = 0\}; \theta, \{\alpha_i\} \text{ unconstrained}, \quad (55)$$

$$H_1: \rho = 0; \theta, \{\alpha_i\}, \{\beta_j\} \text{ unconstrained}, \quad (56)$$

$$H_2: \{\beta_j = 0\}; \theta, \rho, \{\alpha_i\} \text{ unconstrained}, \quad (57)$$

$$H_3: \theta, \rho, \{\alpha_i\}, \{\beta_j\} \text{ all unconstrained}. \quad (58)$$

The hypothesis  $H_3$  corresponds to the full  $p_1$  distribution with no constraints on the parameter values. In  $H_0$ , only  $\theta$  and the  $\{\alpha_i\}$  are unconstrained.  $H_0$  corresponds to the assumption that each node produces directed edges at random and that there are no tendencies for reciprocation ( $\rho = 0$ ), nor is any node more attractive than any other ( $\beta_j = 0$ ).  $H_1$  extends  $H_0$  to allow the nodes to be differentially attractive, while  $H_2$  extends  $H_0$  to allow a tendency toward (or away from) reciprocation.

Tests for reciprocation have previously been based on testing  $H_2$  against  $H_0$ . This is implicit, for example, in the work of Katz and Wilson (1956). This approach assumes that the attractiveness parameters,  $\beta_j$ , are all zero. For example, the procedure of comparing  $M$  to  $E(M | \{X_{i+}\})$  from (6) may be justified by the fact that the uniformly most powerful unbiased test of  $H_0$  against  $H_2$  may be shown to be based on the conditional distribution of  $M$  given  $\{X_{i+}\}$  under  $H_0$  (see Lehmann 1959, p. 134). Assuming the relevant normal approximations hold, this is the same as comparing  $M$  to  $E(M | \{X_{i+}\})$  and rejecting  $H_0$  for  $H_2$  if this difference is large compared to the con-

ditional standard deviation of  $M$  given  $\{X_{i+}\}$  under  $H_0$ . See Katz and Wilson (1956) for this variance calculation.

The problem with the procedure just outlined is that in many applications there is often evidence that  $\beta_j \neq 0$ . Thus to test for reciprocation within the  $p_1$  distribution, it is more natural to test  $H_1$  against  $H_3$ . An important use of the  $p_1$  distribution is to allow us to form the likelihood ratio test for  $H_1$  against  $H_3$ . The MLE's of  $m_{ij}$ ,  $a_{ij}$ , and  $n_{ij}$  may be easily computed under either  $H_1$  or  $H_3$  by the algorithms just described. If  $\hat{m}_{ij}$ ,  $\hat{a}_{ij}$ , and  $\hat{n}_{ij}$  are the MLE's under  $H_3$  and  $m_{ij}^*$ ,  $a_{ij}^*$ ,  $n_{ij}^*$  are MLE's under  $H_1$ , then the usual log-likelihood ratio (LLR) statistic for this problem is

$$\text{LLR} = -2 \log_e(\lambda) = L_m + L_a + L_n, \quad (59)$$

where  $\lambda$  denotes the likelihood ratio and,

$$\begin{aligned} L_m &= 2 \sum_{i < j} X_{ij} X_{ji} \log_e \left( \frac{\hat{m}_{ij}}{m_{ij}^*} \right), \\ L_a &= 2 \sum_{i \neq j} X_{ij} (1 - X_{ji}) \log_e \left( \frac{\hat{a}_{ij}}{a_{ij}^*} \right), \\ L_n &= 2 \sum_{i < j} (1 - X_{ij})(1 - X_{ji}) \log_e \left( \frac{\hat{n}_{ij}}{n_{ij}^*} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (60)$$

The reference distribution of LLR from (59) might be expected to be chi squared on one degree of freedom, but the standard theory does not apply in this case. The relevant “sample size” is  $g(g - 1)$ , which will be large in many applications, but there are  $2g - 1$  nuisance parameters,  $\theta, \{\alpha_i\}, \{\beta_j\}$ , that are being estimated and they may affect the null distribution of LLR under  $H_1$ . We have not explored the theoretical analysis of this distribution problem but have performed a small pilot simulation study<sup>7</sup> (1,000 replications per case) to see if the chi-squared distribution on one degree of freedom is plausible. Table 2 summarizes these preliminary simulation results. There are eight sets of parameter values used in the simulation; these are described in Table 2a. In cases A-10 and B-10,  $g = 10$ , in A-20 and B-20,  $g = 20$ , in A-30 and B-30,  $g = 30$ , in A-40 and B-40,  $g = 40$ . In the A cases all parameters except  $\theta$  are zero. In order to examine the effect of differential attractions on the distribution of LLR for the B cases,  $\rho$  and  $\alpha_i$  were set to zero, but the  $\beta_j$  are not all zero.

Although this pilot study is too small to give definitive results (because of the small number of parameter sets studied, i.e., 8), some useful conclusions and conjectures can be drawn from it. First of all, there is consistent evidence across the eight cases for a modest bias in the use of the one-degree-of-freedom chi-squared distribution for the likelihood ratio test of  $H_1$  against  $H_3$ . All of the

<sup>7</sup> Our procedure employed a FORTRAN coded algorithm, RANGEN, to generate random graphs from  $p_1$  as described in Section 2. The code uses the FORTRAN-20 uniform random number generator (RAN) as implemented on the DEC-20 computer.

means exceed one, with an average mean of 1.17. All of the eight variances exceed two, with an average variance of 2.87. All of the eight medians equal or exceed the chi-squared values of .45, with average median value .52. Fifteen of the sixteen obtained percentage values equal or exceed the corresponding chi-squared values. The average of the obtained percentages for the nominal 5 percent chi-squared point is 7.25 percent. The average for the 10 percent point is 12.50 percent. All of this is consistent with the hypothesis that the correct reference distribution for this likelihood ratio test has a slightly heavier upper tail than the chi-squared distribution with one degree of freedom. The degree of this bias, however, appears to vary somewhat across the eight cases studied. It is never so large as to make the use of the chi-squared distribution seriously suspect, and it appears to become smaller as  $g$  increases. In Section 4 we investigate an empirical digraph and obtain a value for the LLR statistic of 30.4 for  $g = 18$ . These pilot simulation results suggest that this value is highly significant.

Two important dimensions are varied in this simulation study—the number of nodes,  $g$ , and the values of the “nuisance” parameters  $\beta_j$ . We expected that as  $g$  increased, the agreement with the chi-squared distribution would improve. As mentioned previously, this seems to be true. If the means for the  $A$ - $g$  and  $B$ - $g$  cases are averaged, we obtain values of 1.33, 1.18, 1.15, and 1.03 as  $g$  varies from 10 to 40—an apparent tendency to approach the chi-squared values of one as  $g$  increases. A similar trend can be observed in the other  $A$ ,  $B$ - $g$  averages displayed in Table 2b. To study the effect of varying values of the nuisance parameters, we averaged the entries in Table 2b separately from the  $A$  cases and the  $B$  cases. These values are also given in Table 2b. There is a slight tendency for the  $A$  cases to be more in agreement with the chi-squared results than are the  $B$  cases. This suggests that the values of the nuisance parameters do have a modest effect on the distribution of the likelihood ratio statistic.

These results, while based on a pilot study, are reassuring, and although more detailed simulation studies and theoretical analyses need to be carried out, we do not anticipate any surprises. We intend to report the results of a more extensive simulation study elsewhere. Our main conclusion from this pilot study is that the chi-squared distribution on one degree of freedom is adequate for crude evaluations of the significance levels of the likelihood ratio test of  $H_1$  against  $H_3$ .

Other likelihood ratio tests of hypotheses within  $p_1$  may be constructed: for example, a test of  $\{\beta_j = 0\}$  that does not also assume that  $\rho = 0$  is obtained by forming the likelihood ratio statistic for testing  $H_2$  against  $H_3$ . We have not explored the behavior of this test statistic to see if the chi-squared distribution on  $g - 1$  degrees of freedom is a reasonable approximation to its distribution under  $H_2$ . More research is needed to clarify the use of likelihood tests in these circumstances.

**Table 2. Summary of Pilot Simulations of the Log-likelihood Ratio Statistic (LLR) for Testing  $H_1$  Versus  $H_3$  in 8 Cases of the Null Hypothesis (1,000 replications for each case)**

<i>a. Parameter Values for Simulation Cases<sup>a</sup></i>					
Case	$g$	$\theta$	$\rho$	$\alpha$	$\beta$
A-10	10	-.693	0	0	0
A-20	20	-1.674	0	0	0
A-30	30	-2.159	0	0	0
A-40	40	-2.485	0	0	0
B-10	10	-.906	0	0	$\begin{cases} 1.5 & \text{for } 1 \leq j \leq 3 \\ 0 & \text{for } 3 < j < 8 \\ -1.5 & \text{for } 8 \leq j \leq 10 \end{cases}$
B-20	20	-2.100	0	0	$\begin{cases} 1.5 & \text{for } 1 \leq j \leq 6 \\ 0 & \text{for } 6 < j < 15 \\ -1.5 & \text{for } 15 \leq j \leq 20 \end{cases}$
B-30	30	-2.647	0	0	$\begin{cases} 1.5 & \text{for } 1 \leq j \leq 9 \\ 0 & \text{for } 9 < j < 22 \\ -1.5 & \text{for } 22 \leq j \leq 30 \end{cases}$
B-40	40	-3.001	0	0	$\begin{cases} 1.5 & \text{for } 1 \leq j \leq 12 \\ 0 & \text{for } 12 < j < 29 \\ -1.5 & \text{for } 29 \leq j \leq 40 \end{cases}$
<i>b. Summary Statistics for Simulated Values of the Likelihood Ratio Statistic</i>					
Case	Mean	Variance	Median	% $\geq 3.84$	% $\geq 2.71$
Chi-squared 1 df	1	2	.45	5	10
A-10	1.26	3.06	.57	10	14
A-20	1.15	2.42	.59	6	11
A-30	1.14	2.78	.51	7	12
A-40	1.04	2.17	.45	6	11
B-10	1.39	4.65	.56	11	16
B-20	1.21	3.01	.51	8	14
B-30	1.16	2.69	.53	6	12
B-40	1.01	2.14	.45	4	10
Overall Average	1.17	2.87	.52	7.25	12.50
A-average	1.15	2.61	.53	7.25	12.00
B-average	1.19	3.12	.51	7.25	13.00
A, B-10 average	1.33	3.86	.57	10.5	15.0
A, B-20 average	1.18	2.72	.55	7.0	12.5
A, B-30 average	1.15	2.74	.52	6.5	12.0
A, B-40 average	1.03	2.16	.45	5.0	10.5

<sup>a</sup> Values of  $\theta$  are chosen so that the expected value of  $\bar{X}$  is three.

### 3.3 Testing the Fit of the $p_1$ Distribution

We have two suggestions for ascertaining whether an observed adjacency matrix  $X$  is well represented by the  $p_1$  distribution. The first is the time-honored study of residuals, while the second uses approximate test statistics that we developed elsewhere (Holland and Leinhardt 1975a,b and 1978). In the example in Section 4 we will illustrate how the fitted  $p_1$  distribution can be used for residual analysis. In the remainder of this section we discuss how the tests proposed in Holland and Leinhardt (1975 and 1978) can be used to provide goodness-of-fit tests of  $p_1$ .

The natural way to test the fit of an exponential family of distributions is to embed it in a larger family of distributions and perform the corresponding tests. For example, let  $p_2(x)$  be a new probability distribution over  $G$  having the form

$$p_2(x) = \exp\{\delta Z(x) + \rho m + \theta x_{++} + \sum_i \alpha_i x_{i+} + \sum_j \beta_j x_{+j}\} \times k_2(\delta, \rho, \theta, \{\alpha_i\}, \{\beta_j\}), \quad (61)$$

where everything in (61) is just like  $p_1$  in (8), except that  $\delta$  is a new parameter and  $Z(x)$  is a new sufficient statistic (or real-valued function of the matrix  $x$ ). The  $p_2$  distribution contains the  $p_1$  distribution as a special case, and thus the natural goodness-of-fit test of  $p_1$  is the test of  $\delta = 0$  in  $p_2$  (where all the other parameters in  $p_2$  are allowed to vary freely).

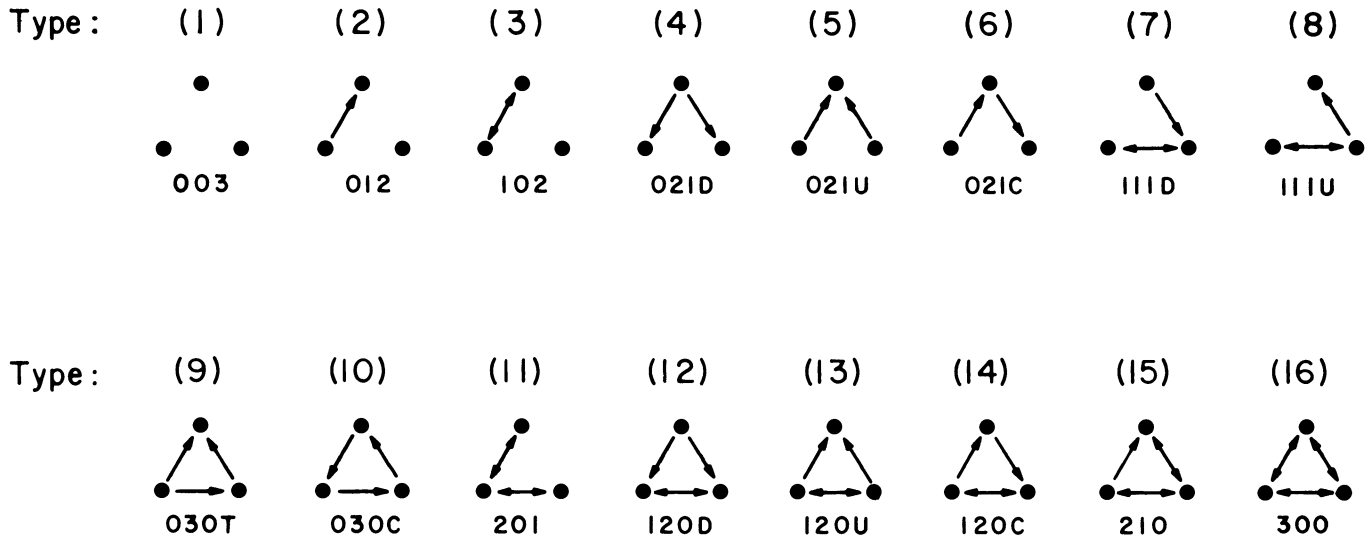
The form of  $p_2$  depends on the function  $Z(x)$ . The choice of  $Z(x)$  depends on the type of departure from  $p_1$  that the analyst wishes to be able to detect. There are several considerations in choosing  $Z(x)$ . For example, any choice of  $Z(x)$  that can be expressed as a linear combination of  $m$ ,  $\{x_{i+}\}$ , and  $\{x_{+j}\}$  will yield a family,  $p_2$ , that would be identical to  $p_1$ . Another consideration in the choice of  $Z(x)$  is the tractability of the resulting  $p_2$  distribution. We have not succeeded in finding a function  $Z(x)$  that leads to a tractable  $p_2$  and that uses information from  $x$  that is more complicated than the dyads,  $D_{ij}$ . Nonetheless, formulating goodness-of-fit tests of  $p_1$  in terms of embedding  $p_1$  in a larger family is useful because, regardless of what

$Z(x)$  is, the form of the uniformly most powerful unbiased (UMPU) test of  $\delta = 0$  is easy to describe. From Lehmann (1959, p. 134) it follows that the UMPU test of  $\delta = 0$  against  $\delta \neq 0$  is based on the conditional distribution of  $Z(x)$  given  $M$ ,  $\{X_{i+}\}$ , and  $\{X_{+j}\}$ , under the uniform distribution over  $G$ . Thus if  $Z(x)$  has an approximate normal conditional distribution given  $M$ ,  $\{X_{i+}\}$ , and  $\{X_{+j}\}$ , then the UMPU test of  $\delta = 0$  will reject if

$$\tau = \frac{Z(x) - e}{s} \quad (62)$$

is extreme, where  $e$  is the conditional mean and  $s$  is the conditional standard deviation of  $Z(x)$ , given  $M$ ,  $\{X_{i+}\}$ , and  $\{X_{+j}\}$ . Thus in order to obtain a goodness-of-fit test of  $p_1$ , we need to find a  $Z(x)$  that reflects the types of departures from  $p_1$  that interest us and for which the conditional distribution of  $Z(x)$ , given  $M$ ,  $\{X_{i+}\}$ , and  $\{X_{+j}\}$ , is adequately represented by a normal approximation.

In Holland and Leinhardt (1975 and 1978) we have discussed tests of the form given in (62) where  $Z(x)$  is a function of the "triad census" of  $x$ . The triad census of  $x$  is defined as follows. Each of the  $\binom{6}{3}$  distinct triples of nodes defines a triad of the original digraph. There are 16 possible nonisomorphic triads of a digraph. These are displayed in Figure 4. The triad census of  $x$  is the 16 vector whose  $i$ th entry gives the number of triples of nodes of  $x$  of the  $i$ th triad type. We have suggested using linear combinations of the counts in a triad census as possible choices for  $Z(x)$  because they reflect information



\* Triad isomorphism classes are coded by three digits. The first digit indicates the number of reciprocated or mutual pairs (M), the second the number of asymmetric pairs (A), and the third the number of null pairs or pairs without ties (N). Trailing letters distinguish among classes that differ because of orientations of asymmetric pairs. See Holland and Leinhardt (1970).

Figure 4. The 16 Triad Isomorphism Classes for a Digraph\*

in  $x$  that goes beyond the dyads. Furthermore, because linear combinations of triad counts are sums, it is relatively easy to calculate means, variances, and covariances. Finally, normal approximations are plausible when the triad frequencies are large. In Holland and Leinhardt (1970) we considered test statistics of the form

$$\tau(w) = \frac{w'T - w'\mu}{\sqrt{w'\Sigma w}} \quad (63)$$

where  $T$  is the 16 vector of triad counts of  $x$  and  $w$  is a weighting vector. In earlier reports we used weighting vectors that yielded  $w'T$  equal to the number of intransitivities in  $x$  (i.e.,  $i, j, k$  form an *intransitivity* if  $X_{ij} = 1$ ,  $X_{jk} = 1$  but  $X_{ik} = 0$ ). We call this test statistic  $\tau(\text{intran})$  (Holland and Leinhardt 1971, 1972). In Holland and Leinhardt (1970)  $\mu$  and  $\Sigma$  were the conditional mean vector and covariance matrix of  $T$  given  $M$  and  $\bar{X}$ . In Holland and Leinhardt (1975) we proposed a method that can be used to obtain approximate values for the conditional mean vector and covariance matrix of  $T$  given  $M$ ,  $\bar{X}$ ,  $V(\text{in})$ ,  $V(\text{out})$ , and the correlation of  $(X_{i+}, X_{+i})$  or  $COR(\text{out}, \text{in})$ . While this method is approximate and does not go all the way to the full conditioning of  $T$  on  $M$ ,  $\{X_{i+}\}$ , and  $\{X_{+j}\}$ , it appears to be a useful step in the right direction.

In Holland and Leinhardt (1978) we proposed the test statistic  $\tau^2(\text{max})$  defined by

$$\tau^2(\text{max}) = \max_w \tau^2(w) \quad (64)$$

where  $\tau(w)$  is defined in (63). This test statistic may also be used to test  $p_1$ . Instead of loading all the discriminating power of the test in one direction, as  $\tau(w)$  does (i.e., that defined by the weighting vector),  $\tau^2(\text{max})$  is able to detect any sufficiently large departure from  $p_1$  that may be expressed as linear combinations of triad counts. The null distribution for  $\tau^2(\text{max})$  is chi-squared distributed if the conditional asymptotic normality of  $T$  holds. The degrees of freedom for  $\tau^2(\text{max})$  depend on the level of conditioning. If  $\mu$  and  $\Sigma$  used in (63) are the conditional moments of  $T$  given  $M$ ,  $\bar{X}$ ,  $V(\text{in})$ ,  $V(\text{out})$ , and  $COR(\text{out}, \text{in})$ , then the degrees of freedom for  $\tau^2(\text{max})$  are  $16 - 1 - 5 = 10$ .

At present,  $\tau(w)$  and  $\tau^2(\text{max})$  are the only tools we know of for formally testing the goodness of fit of the unrestricted  $p_1$  distribution to an observed adjacency matrix. Further research is necessary to substantiate and refine our suggestion to use  $\tau(w)$  and  $\tau^2(\text{max})$  in this way. In Section 4 we illustrate the use of  $\tau(w)$  and  $\tau^2(\text{max})$  to test the fit of  $p_1$  to an empirical example.

#### 4. AN EMPIRICAL EXAMPLE

Figure 5 gives the adjacency matrix for friendship data originally gathered by Sampson (1969) in a study of the interpersonal ties among 18 members of a monastery. The matrix in Figure 5 is taken from White, Boorman, and Breiger (1976), who rearranged the rows and columns of  $X$  to emphasize blocks of high and low edge density. The out-degrees in Figure 5 are all three or four because

White, Boorman, and Breiger used only the top three friendship choices of a complete ranking in which ties were allowed. We have not investigated whether varying the number of top choices alters the conclusions of the analysis.

Table 3 gives some summary information computed from the matrix in Figure 5. It is evident that reciprocation is high— $M$  is nearly three times its null expected value. The in-degree distribution does not seem to be markedly different from the chance prediction because  $V(\text{in})$  is only 1.2 times its null expected value. The test statistic  $\tau(\text{intran})$  is significantly negative ( $-4.92$ ), indicating a tendency toward a transitive structure. Since there is statistical evidence for both reciprocation and transitivity, we would expect to see a reasonable level of cliquing in these data. This supports the division of these data into blocks found by White, Boorman, and Breiger. The large value of  $\tau^2(\text{max})$ , 38.37, suggests that  $p_1$  does not fit this set of data well. The ratio  $(\tau(\text{intrans}))^2/\tau^2(\text{max})$  is .63, indicating that the tendency towards transitivity and reciprocation accounts for most of the structure detected by  $\tau^2(\text{max})$ . (See Holland and Leinhardt 1971; Davis and Leinhardt 1972; Leinhardt 1972 for discussions of transitivity and cliquing.)

Table 4 gives the fitted expected values of  $X_{ij}$  under the  $p_1$  distribution, that is,  $\hat{p}_{ij} = \hat{m}_{ij} + \hat{a}_{ij}$ , for the adjacency matrix in Figure 5.

Table 5 gives the residuals,  $r_{ij} = X_{ij} - \hat{p}_{ij}$ ,  $i \neq j$ . In Table 6 we have formed the distribution of the nonzero residuals from Table 5. The left-most column of Table 6 gives the tenths digit for the residuals. These range from 9 down to  $-.47$  since the residuals range from .94 down to  $-.47$ . The second column of Table 6 gives the number of residuals with the specified tenths digit, and the third column gives the corresponding percentage. The bulk of the residuals are negative, corresponding to the fact that  $X$  has more zeros than positive values. Six of the positive residuals are .90 or larger. Figure 6 contains coded residuals in which all those .70 or larger are coded “+,” those  $-.70$  or smaller are coded “-” (there are none in this example), and all those between .69 and  $-.69$  are left blank. These coded residuals may be interpreted as “unexpected” ties (for +) and “unexpected” nonties (for -). They are unexpected in the sense that they are not what the  $p_1$  distribution would predict based on the observed in- and out-degrees and reciprocation. Most of the relational ties in this example are “unexpected” because of the clean-cut pattern of cliquing. The six most unexpected ties (i.e., residuals .90 or greater) are (6,7), (6,11), (7,4), (11,12), (13,14), and (14,12). Except for

Table 3. Some Summary Information for Adjacency Matrix in Figure 5

$g$	$\bar{X}$	$V$ (out)	$V$ (in)	$M$	$E(V(\text{in}) X_{i+})$	$E(M X_{i+})$	$\tau(\text{intran})$	$\tau^2(\text{max})$
18	3.11	.099	2.99	15	2.54	5.12	-4.92	38.37

		$X_{ij}$																		$X_{i+}$
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
1		0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
2		0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
3		0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
4		0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
5		0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
6		0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
7		0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
8		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
9		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
10		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
11		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
12		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
13		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
14		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
15		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
16		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	4
17		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3
18		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	3
$X_{+j}$		0	6	4	2	4	2	2	6	4	6	2	2	5	1	2	3	2	3	$56 = X_{++}$

Figure 5. Adjacency Matrix From Sampson (1969) As Presented in White, Boorman, and Breiger (1976). Dashed Lines Indicate High and Low Tie-Density Blocks Found by White et al. Left-most Column and Upper-most Row Are the Indices of  $i$  and  $j$ , Respectively

(6,11), these are all “within-block ties” from the point of view of the blocks identified by White, Boorman, and Breiger (1976), and except for (13, 14) these are all non-reciprocated ties. These support the block structure found by White et al.

Table 7 gives the parameter estimates of  $\rho$ ,  $\alpha_i$ , and  $\beta_j$  for these data. The value of  $\hat{\rho} = 3.10$  means that the odds ratio in (17) is 22.2, indicating a 22-fold increase in the odds that  $X_{ij} = 1$  when  $X_{ji} = 1$  over the value obtained when  $X_{ji} = 0$ .

Table 4. Fitted Expected Values of  $X_{ij}$  From Figure 5 for the  $p_1$  Distribution<sup>a</sup>

	$\hat{\rho}_{ij} \times 100$																		$\hat{\rho}_{i+}$
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
1	0	47	29	12	29	12	12	47	29	47	12	12	38	05	12	16	12	20	4
2	0	0	23	12	23	12	12	33	23	33	12	12	28	06	12	19	12	18	3
3	0	33	0	12	22	12	12	33	22	33	12	12	28	06	12	18	12	17	3
4	0	34	22	0	22	10	10	34	22	34	10	10	28	05	10	16	10	16	3
5	0	33	22	12	0	12	12	33	22	33	12	12	28	06	12	18	12	17	3
6	0	34	22	10	22	0	10	34	22	34	10	10	28	05	10	16	10	16	3
7	0	34	22	10	22	10	0	34	22	34	10	10	28	05	10	16	10	16	3
8	0	33	23	12	23	12	12	0	23	33	12	12	28	06	12	19	12	18	3
9	0	33	22	12	22	12	12	33	0	33	12	12	28	06	12	18	12	17	3
10	0	33	23	12	23	12	12	33	23	0	12	12	28	06	12	19	12	18	3
11	0	34	22	10	22	10	10	34	22	34	0	10	28	05	10	16	10	16	3
12	0	34	22	10	22	10	10	34	22	34	10	0	28	05	10	16	10	16	3
13	0	33	23	12	23	12	12	33	23	33	12	12	0	06	12	19	12	18	3
14	0	35	21	09	21	09	09	35	21	35	09	09	28	0	09	14	09	15	3
15	0	34	22	10	22	10	10	34	22	34	10	10	28	05	0	16	10	16	3
16	0	43	30	15	30	15	15	43	30	43	15	15	36	08	15	0	15	23	4
17	0	34	22	10	22	10	10	34	22	34	10	10	28	05	10	16	0	16	3
18	0	33	22	11	22	11	11	33	22	33	11	11	27	05	11	18	11	0	3
$\hat{\rho}_{+j}$	0	6	4	2	4	2	2	6	4	6	2	2	5	1	2	3	2	3	$56 = \hat{\rho}_{++}$

<sup>a</sup> The decimal points have been left off the entries in the body of the table. The marginal totals have not been so altered.

Table 5. Residuals,  $r_{ij} = X_{ij} - \hat{p}_{ij}$ , From Figure 5 and Table 4, Multiplied by 100

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	0	53	71	-12	71	-12	-12	-47	-29	-47	-12	-12	-38	-5	88	-16	-12	-20
2	0	0	77	-12	77	88	-12	-33	-23	-33	-12	-12	-28	-6	-12	-19	-12	-18
3	0	67	0	-12	-22	-12	88	67	-22	-33	-12	-12	-28	-6	-12	-18	-12	-17
4	0	66	78	0	78	-10	-10	-34	-22	-34	-10	-10	-28	-5	-10	-16	-10	-16
5	0	67	-22	88	0	88	-12	-33	-22	-33	-12	-12	-28	-6	-12	-18	-12	-17
6	0	66	-22	-10	-22	0	90	-34	-22	-34	90	-10	-28	-5	-10	-16	-10	-16
7	0	-34	78	90	78	-10	0	-34	-22	-34	-10	-10	-28	-5	-10	-16	-10	-16
8	0	-33	-23	-12	-23	-12	-12	0	77	67	-12	-12	72	-6	-12	-19	-12	-18
9	0	-33	-22	-12	-22	-12	-12	67	0	-33	88	-12	-28	-6	-12	82	-12	-17
10	0	-33	-23	-12	-23	-12	-12	67	77	0	-12	-12	72	-6	-12	-19	-12	-18
11	0	-34	-22	-10	-22	-10	-10	66	78	-34	0	90	-28	-5	-10	-16	-10	-16
12	0	-34	-22	-10	-22	-10	-10	66	-22	66	-10	0	72	-5	-10	-16	-10	-16
13	0	-33	-23	-12	-23	-12	-12	67	-23	67	-12	-12	0	94	-12	-19	-12	-18
14	0	-35	-21	-9	-21	-9	-9	-35	-21	65	-9	91	72	0	-9	-14	-9	-15
15	0	66	-22	-10	-22	-10	-10	-34	-22	-34	-10	-10	72	-5	0	-16	-10	84
16	0	-43	-30	-15	-30	-15	-15	-43	70	-43	-15	-15	-36	-8	85	0	85	77
17	0	-34	-22	-10	-22	-10	-10	-34	-22	66	-10	-10	-28	-5	-10	84	0	84
18	0	-33	-22	-11	-22	-11	-11	-33	-22	67	-11	-11	-27	-5	-11	82	89	0

This estimate of  $\rho$  assumes the  $\{\alpha_i\}$  and the  $\{\beta_j\}$  are not equal to zero. It can be contrasted with an alternative estimate, which assumes the  $\{\alpha_i\}$  and  $\{\beta_j\}$  equal zero. This alternative estimate derives from Davis's (1977) suggestion that one could summarize an adjacency matrix  $X$  by forming the 2-by-2 table of the frequencies of the pairs

of nodes  $D_{ij} = (X_{ij}, X_{ji})$  for  $i \neq j$ . His table has the form

$X_{ij}$	$X_{ji}$		Total
	1	0	
1	$2M$	$A$	$X_{++}$
0	$A$	$2N$	$g(g-1) - X_{++}$
Total	$X_{++}$	$g(g-1) - X_{++}$	$g(g-1)$

(65)

where  $M$ , as before, is the number of reciprocated pairs,  $A$  is the number of nonreciprocated pairs, and  $N = \binom{g}{2} - M - A$  is the number of null pairs. Davis proposing contingency table measures of association to obtain measures of particular structural effects for digraph data. His proposed measure of reciprocation is a monotonic function of the log-cross-product ratio in the 2-by-2 table in (65), that is,

$$\hat{\rho} = \log_e(4MN/A^2). \quad (66)$$

We have denoted this by  $\hat{\rho}$  because, under the submodel of  $p_1$  that assumes that  $\{\alpha_i\} = \{\beta_j\} = 0$ ,  $\hat{\rho}$  is the MLE of

Table 6. Distribution of Residuals in Table 5

Tenths Digit	Frequency	Percent
9	6	2%
8	14	5
7	18	6
6	17	6
5	1	0
4	—	—
3	—	—
2	—	—
1	—	—
0	—	—
-0	22	8
-1	126	44
-2	48	17
-3	32	11
-4	5	2
	289	101%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	0	+	+															+
2		0	+	+	+													
3			0			+												
4			+	0	+													
5				+	0	+												
6						0	+			+								
7			+	+	+	0												
8								0	+			+						
9								0		+								+
10								+	0			+						
11								+		0	+							
12											0	+						
13													0	+				
14												+	+	0				
15															0		+	
16								+							+	0	+	+
17															+	0	+	
18															+	+	0	

Codes

+ =  $r_{ij} \geq .70$ .

0 = main diagonal

Figure 6. Coded Residuals From Table 5 ( $X_{ii} = 0$  by convention)

$\rho$ . When the  $\alpha_i$  and  $\beta_j$  differ from zero,  $\hat{\rho}$  may be a misleading measure of reciprocation because it ignores differential attraction among the nodes. Indeed, in the case at hand  $\hat{\rho} = 2.30$ , corresponding to an odds ratio of 10.0. Thus, while these two estimates of  $\rho$  both indicate a large value for this parameter, the difference between them illustrates the effect of simultaneously estimating  $\rho$ ,  $\{\alpha_i\}$ , and  $\{\beta_j\}$ .

In Table 7 we have estimated  $\beta_1$  as  $-\infty$  because this is the required value for  $p_{+1} = X_{+1} = 0$ . The other  $\hat{\beta}_j$  have been parameterized so that they sum to zero. In this example, there is a near-monotonic relationship between  $\hat{\beta}_j$  and  $X_{+j}$ . The exception to monotonicity occurs in the estimate of  $\beta$  for node 16. Although node 16 and node 18 both receive three choices,  $\hat{\beta}_{16} = -.25$ , while  $\hat{\beta}_{18} = 0$ . Thus an estimate of the relative attractiveness of nodes 16 and 18 assuming  $\rho = 0$  would imply no difference between the two individuals, while an estimate assuming  $\rho \neq 0$  implies that node 18 is more attractive than node 16. In other empirical situations the divergence from monotonicity may be more extreme. Comparison of the  $\alpha_i$  with the  $X_{i+}$  indicates that these are definitely not monotonically related.

These results and those for  $\hat{\rho}$  and  $\hat{\rho}$  illustrate the importance of  $p_1$ . Fitting  $p_1$  to data involves the simultaneous estimation of  $\rho$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\{\alpha_i\}$ , and  $\{\beta_j\}$ . Earlier analyses have at best estimated analogs of  $\rho$  and  $\{\beta_j\}$  separately. This implicitly assumes that the nonestimated parameters are all zero. The differences we have observed in this empirical example suggest that assuming that parameter values equal zero may be misleading.

The value of the log-likelihood ratio statistic for the test of  $\rho = 0$  (i.e.,  $H_1$  versus  $H_3$  in Section 3, Eqs. 56 and 58) is  $LLR = 30.41$ . When referred to the chi-squared distribution with one degree of freedom, this is statistically significant at the usual levels, as mentioned earlier in the simulation study of Section 3. This supports rejection of  $H_1$  and gives inferential support to the previously indicated evidence of high reciprocation in these data.

Table 8 gives the triad census for this example along with the approximate expected values of the triad census conditional on  $\bar{X}$ ,  $M$ ,  $V(out)$ ,  $V(in)$ , and  $COR(out, in)$ . The value of  $\tau^2(max)$  is 38.37. This value exceeds the .005 cut-off level of the chi-squared distribution on 10 degrees of freedom. Thus, although the agreement between the observed and expected triad frequencies looks remark-

Table 8. Triad Census for Data in Figure 5 With Expected Values Conditional on  $g$ ,  $\bar{X}$ ,  $M$ ,  $V(in)$ ,  $V(out)$ , and  $COR(out, in)$

Triad Type <sup>a</sup>	Triad Census (O)	Expected Value (E)	O-E
003	293	307.82	-14.82
012	257	231.16	25.84
102	155	140.53	14.47
021D	7	9.99	-2.99
021U	13	17.35	-4.35
021C	20	23.64	-3.64
111D	27	38.71	-11.71
111U	13	21.05	-8.05
030T	3	2.66	.34
030C	1	.62	.36
201	9	14.42	-5.42
120D	7	1.98	5.02
120U	1	1.00	.00
120C	3	2.48	.52
210	5	2.37	2.63
300	2	.23	1.77

<sup>a</sup> See Figure 4 for this code.

ably good, the discrepancy is statistically significant. This demonstrates the difficulty encountered in performing "eyeball" analyses of surpluses and deficits of triads. Given the large value of  $\tau^2(intrans)$ —that is, 24.21 out of a maximum of 38.37—most of the discrepancies between the observed and expected values in Table 8 are associated with the single degree of freedom given by intransitivity. This is especially hard to "eyeball" because it corresponds to a specific linear combination of the triad frequencies.

## 5. A GENERALIZATION

We have developed the  $p_1$  distribution for data on a single relationship observed at one point in time, case (a) of Section 1. Although such data represent by far the most common kind of data studied by social network analysts (Davis and Leinhardt 1972), probably the next most common form consists of one-time observations of multiple relationships, case (e) of Section 1. Together with the increase in theoretical richness that multiple relationship data provide (see, e.g., White, Boorman, and Breiger 1976; and Boorman and White 1976), the frequency with which these data are collected would indicate that extending  $p_1$  to the multiple relationship case is a natural next step. Because of its importance, the straightforwardness of its development, and the way in which it illustrates the utility of  $p_1$ , we briefly discuss such an extension here. Of course, extensions of  $p_1$  that incorporate other complications, such as those represented by cases (b) through (d) of Section 1, are also important for social network analysis, but their development here is precluded by space limitations.

### 5.1 Multiple Relationship Digraph Data

Suppose that two different adjacency matrices are observed for the same set of nodes; denote them  $x$  and  $y$ ,

Table 7. Estimates of  $\rho$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\alpha_i$ , and  $\beta_j$  for Data in Figure 4 ( $\hat{\rho} = 3.14$ ,  $\hat{\theta} = -2.50$ )

$i$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
$\hat{\alpha}$	1.15	-.73	-.30	.22	-.30	.22	.22	-.73	-.30
$\hat{\beta}$	$-\infty$	1.25	.49	-.62	.49	-.62	-.62	1.25	.49
$i$	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
$\hat{\alpha}$	-.73	.22	.22	-.53	.49	.22	.48	.22	-.05
$\hat{\beta}$	1.25	-.62	-.62	.89	-1.53	-.62	-.25	-.62	.00



respectively. Then  $x$  and  $y$  are both  $g$ -by- $g$  zero-one matrices and their rows and columns are in correspondence (i.e.,  $x_{ij}$  and  $y_{ij}$  refer to two different relationships between the same two nodes,  $i$  and  $j$ ). There are many examples of multiple relationship (or multiple generator) data in social network research. For example, in studies of friendship it is common to collect information on "dislike" as well as "like." In Sampson's (1969) study of the social relationships among members of a monastery, he reports data on no less than eight different types of relationships. In this section we shall be content to generalize  $p_1(x)$  to the "bivariate" case of two adjacency matrices,  $x$  and  $y$ , since this illustrates the essential features of the general case and allows us to address an important substantive issue, the correlation of  $x$  and  $y$ .

Suppose, to begin, that  $X$  and  $Y$  are two random  $g$ -by- $g$  adjacency matrices that are statistically independent and that both have  $p_1$  distributions with possibly different parameter values. The joint distribution of  $X$  and  $Y$  is thus

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = x, Y = y) &= p_1(x)p_1(y) \\ &= \exp\{\rho_1 M(x) + \rho_2 M(y) \\ &\quad + \theta_1 x_{++} + \theta_2 y_{++} \\ &\quad + \sum_i \alpha_{i1} x_{i+} + \sum_i \alpha_{i2} y_{i+} \\ &\quad + \sum_j \beta_{j1} x_{+j} + \sum_j \beta_{j2} y_{+j}\} \times k \end{aligned} \quad (67)$$

where  $k$  is the product of the two normalizing constants and  $M(x)$  and  $M(y)$  are the numbers of mutual or reciprocated pairs in  $x$  and  $y$ , respectively.<sup>8</sup> Even this simple distribution illustrates an important consideration in the analysis of multivariate digraph data. If we set  $\beta_{j1} = \beta_{j2}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, g$  so that the attractiveness parameters are the same for the two random digraphs, then, if the  $\beta_j$  vary widely, the entries in  $X$  and  $Y$  will exhibit an apparent positive correlation. This is because a node that has a high  $\beta_{j1}$  will have a high  $\beta_{j2}$  and will tend to attract relational ties of both types,  $X$  and  $Y$ . The apparent correlation between  $X$  and  $Y$  that is due to similar parameter values is analogous to similar statistical artifacts in other settings—the ecological correlation fallacy, for example.

To introduce a "true" correlation between  $X$  and  $Y$ , it is convenient to proceed as we did for  $p_1(x)$  by considering the pairs  $(i, j)$ . We may decompose  $X, Y$  into  $\binom{g}{2}$  vectors

$$D_{ij}^{(2)} = (X_{ij}, X_{ji}, Y_{ij}, Y_{ji}) \quad (68)$$

where  $i < j$ .

In (68)  $D_{ij}^{(2)}$  has a superscript two to remind us that it

is the two-relation analog of  $D_{ij}$  defined in Section 2.  $D_{ij}^{(2)}$  can have any of 16 possible values. It may happen that the relationships  $X$  and  $Y$  are mutually exclusive in the sense that  $X_{ij} = 1$  implies that  $Y_{ij} = 0$  and  $X_{ij} = 0$  implies that  $Y_{ij} = 1$ . For example, *like* and *dislike* will often have this property in classroom sociometric studies of friendship. In the case of mutually exclusive relations,  $D_{ij}^{(2)}$  has zero probability of taking on certain values (such as  $(1, 1, 1, 1)$ ).

To generalize  $p_1(x)$  to the case of two relationships, we first assume that the vectors  $D_{ij}^{(2)}$  are all independent, as we did for  $D_{ij}$  in the theoretical development of  $p_1(x)$ . Then, to specify the joint distribution of  $X$  and  $Y$ , we need only specify the values of the 16 probabilities that  $D_{ij}^{(2)}$  takes on its 16 possible values. We let

$$q_{ij}(t, u, v, w) = P(D_{ij}^{(2)} = (t, u, v, w)) \quad (69)$$

for  $i < j$  and  $t, u, v, w = 0, 1$ . We also set

$$\begin{aligned} I_{ij}(x, y; t, u, v, w) \\ = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_{ij} = t, x_{ji} = u, y_{ij} = v, y_{ji} = w \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (70)$$

for  $i < j$  and  $t, u, v, w = 0, 1$ ,  $x$  and  $y \in G$ . The  $I_{ij}(\cdot)$  functions may be expressed in terms of products of  $x_{ij}$ ,  $1 - x_{ij}$ ,  $x_{ji}$ , and so on. For example,

$$I_{ij}(x, y; 1, 1, 1, 1) = x_{ij}x_{ji}y_{ij}y_{ji}. \quad (71)$$

The joint probability distribution of  $(X, Y)$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = x, Y = y) \\ = \prod_{i < j} \prod_{t, u, v, w = 0, 1} q_{ij}(t, u, v, w) I_{ij}(x, y; t, u, v, w). \end{aligned} \quad (72)$$

Equation (72) is the bivariate version of (13) in the development of the univariate case in Section 2. We may reexpress (72) in the following way that emphasizes its exponential form:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = x, Y = y) \\ = \exp\left\{ \sum_{i \neq j} \theta_{1ij} x_{ij} + \sum_{i \neq j} \theta_{2ij} y_{ij} \right. \\ + \sum_{i < j} \rho_{1ij} x_{ij} x_{ji} + \sum_{i < j} \rho_{2ij} y_{ij} y_{ji} \\ + \sum_{i \neq 1} \theta_{12ij} x_{ij} y_{ij} + \sum_{i \neq j} \rho_{12ij} x_{ij} y_{ji} \\ + \sum_{i \neq j} \psi_{1ij} x_{ij} x_{ji} y_{ij} + \sum_{i \neq j} \psi_{2ij} x_{ij} y_{ij} y_{ji} \\ + \sum_{i < j} \psi_{12ij} x_{ij} x_{ji} y_{ij} y_{ji} \left. \right\} \\ \times \prod_{i < j} q_{ij}(0, 0, 0, 0). \end{aligned} \quad (73)$$

In (73) the  $\theta$ 's,  $\rho$ 's, and  $\psi$ 's are the logs of products and ratios of the  $q_{ij}$ 's.

Just as we simplified (14) to (21) by placing restrictions on  $\rho_{ij}$  and  $\theta_{ij}$ , so too can we simplify (73) by placing restrictions on the  $\theta$ 's,  $\rho$ 's, and  $\psi$ 's. For example, a potentially useful model for  $(X, Y)$  that introduces true cor-

<sup>8</sup> Producing random matrices from a bivariate  $p_1$  distribution proceeds along lines similar to those described earlier for the univariate case. We have developed a FORTRAN routine on a DEC-20 computer that produces pairs of random adjacency matrices from a bivariate  $p_1$  distribution with specified parameter values.

relation between  $X$  and  $Y$  (in 67) without going to the full parameterization in (73) is obtained by making the following restrictions:

$$\theta_{1ij} = \theta_1 + \alpha_{i1} + \beta_{j1} \quad (74)$$

$$\theta_{2ij} = \theta_2 + \alpha_{i2} + \beta_{j2} \quad (75)$$

$$\rho_{1ij} = \rho_1; \rho_{2ij} = \rho_2 \quad (76)$$

$$\rho_{12ij} = \rho_{12}; \theta_{12ij} = \theta_{12} \quad (77)$$

$$\psi_{1ij} = \psi_{2ij} = \psi_{12ij} = 0. \quad (78)$$

The resulting bivariate distribution for  $(X, Y)$  has the following exponential form:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = x, Y = y) &= p_1(x, y) \\ &= \exp\{\rho_1 M(x) + \rho_2 M(y) + \theta_1 x_{++} + \theta_2 y_{++} \\ &\quad + \sum_i \alpha_{i1} x_{i+} + \sum_i \alpha_{i2} y_{i+} \\ &\quad + \sum_j \beta_{j1} x_{+j} + \sum_j \beta_{j2} y_{+j} \\ &\quad + \rho_{12} R(x, y) + \theta_{12} C(x, y)\} \times K, \end{aligned} \quad (79)$$

where  $M(x) = \sum_{i < j} x_{ij} x_{ji}$ ,  $M(y) = \sum_{i < j} y_{ij} y_{ji}$  and  $R(x, y) = \sum_{i < j} x_{ij} y_{ji}$ ,  $C(x, y) = \sum_{i \neq j} x_{ij} y_{ij}$ , and  $K$  in (79) is the normalizing constant. We denoted the distribution in (79) by  $p_1(x, y)$  because it is a bivariate version of  $p_1$  in the sense that if  $\rho_{12} = \theta_{12} = 0$ , then  $p_1(x, y) = p_1(x) p_1(y)$  as given in (67). Thus a submodel of  $p_1(x, y)$  is the case of independent  $X$  and  $Y$  where each follows the  $p_1$  distribution. This leads naturally to tests of correlation between  $X$  and  $Y$  that are not confounded by the artifactual correlation introduced by the  $\beta$ 's that was described earlier (see Hubert and Baker 1978; and Katz and Powell 1953).

The substantive importance of tests of correlation between digraphs rests on the fact that social network analysts typically assume or hypothesize that the structural properties of one social relationship have implications for the properties of another. Thus Homans (1950), for example, argues that affective ties and interactional ties are positively associated. An investigator of this proposition could proceed by studying the correlation of a group's digraph of friendship relations with its digraph of interaction. Similarly, one might study the proposition that liking and influence are inversely related (French 1956; and Hopkins 1964) by studying the correlation between a group's digraph of friendship relations and its digraph of influence relations.

## 6. CONCLUDING REMARKS

We believe that the study of statistical models for digraph data is an important area for future statistical research. This paper has concentrated on introducing an approach that is useful for applications in the study of social networks. With these beginnings, it is likely that

related problems can be identified in other fields of application and that eventually a consistent statistical methodology for analyzing relationship data will be developed, one that possesses the flexibility and completeness of methods that currently exist for analyzing attribute data.

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Holland and Leinhardt have long been among the most innovative and most productive researchers in the field of social network analysis. I and my colleagues were gratified to have some aspects of the empirical findings derived from our network theory supported rather strikingly in their accompanying article pioneering new approaches to binary matrices. At the same time we were surprised, given our theoretical goals, at the awkwardness of certain aspects of Holland and Leinhardt's approach.

In the "empirical example" section of their paper, Holland and Leinhardt's  $p_1$  distribution provides a null model of an idealized structure. A null model for social networks should be well defined, plausible, and clearly capable of rejection in applications where definite structure exists. The  $p_1$  model fulfills these criteria admirably, as demonstrated in Holland and Leinhardt's Section 4. On the other hand, if one's goal is an explicit model of social structure, a modeling context that goes beyond the null hypothesis is required. Some specific directions are provided below.

It seems anomalous to generate predictions for square binary arrays from a statistical framework that in the given instance is unable to predict any one of the possible array events with a "probability" over one-half (see Holland and Leinhardt's Table 4). As the authors point out, "most of the [observed] relational ties in this example are 'unexpected,'" in the sense that the 38 *residuals* greater than +.70 are a subset of the 56 observed data ties. (Each residual greater than +.70 results, of course, from matching an observed value of "1" with a predicted value less than .30). I have no doubt that the Holland-Leinhardt stance on what is interesting will pay off in drawing generalizations across the enormous array of square binary matrices. But I do not see why a sociologist, theorist or field worker, is much concerned for social network analysis unless it leads to models of *explicit* social structure.

This brings me to my second point. Their pioneering development of statistical tools leads Holland and Leinhardt away from a focus on *patterns* of relationships and toward a framework within which a structure of persons and relations is decomposed into a heap of pairs, which I argue is inappropriate for social networks. Indeed, the frequent collaborator with Holland and Leinhardt in past

publications, the sociologist James A. Davis, writes in his survey article on the previous Davis-Holland-Leinhardt studies of his "regret [over] our slide from global structure to microanalysis. . . I wish we had been able to move upward to say things about groups as a whole instead of retreating to a perspective from which a *triad* looks as large and complicated as intergalactic space" (Davis 1979, p. 60).

Put these points together: Holland and Leinhardt's goal is not to replicate entries in the network proper (the interior cell values and the structure of present and absent ties), and no attempt is made to discern an overall contextual pattern. I now illustrate that simultaneous reversal of these two weaknesses (from my point of view) can yield results.

Blockmodel analysis "requires the aggregation of a population's members into distinct sets, termed *blocks*, such that each set is treated homogeneously across all networks simultaneously" (Breiger 1979, p. 23). From this perspective, the basic point is that each of the nine submatrices resulting from our three-block partition should be internally homogeneous if the blockmodel analysis makes sense. Provisionally adopting Holland and Leinhardt's  $p_1$  model as a characterization of a homogeneous structure, I will therefore apply their model separately to *each* of the nine submatrices identified in White, Boorman, and Breiger (1976, p. 750) and reported in Holland and Leinhardt's Figure 5. If the  $p_1$  model fits the *full* matrix poorly, but fits each of the blocked submatrices well, then the improvement in fit is due to the explicit structure uncovered by the blockmodel. (Such improvement should not be confused with a "test" of the blockmodel; see the last paragraph of this Comment.) The underlying "principle of internal homogeneity" as a criterion for assessing the fit of a simultaneous partition of the rows and columns of a square array is proposed in Breiger (1981) and is implemented there in log-linear models for counted data in social mobility tables.

Fitted values obtained from applying Holland and Leinhardt's  $p_1$  model separately to each of the nine blocked submatrices are reported in the accompanying Table 1. Treating only those entires greater than .50 in Table 1 as predictions of ties, one obtains the binarized fitted values of the accompanying Table 2. Comparing these with the observed data (Holland and Leinhardt's Figure 5), the

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Table 1. Fitted Expected Values From the Model Described in the Text<sup>a</sup>

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	$\hat{p}_{i+}$
1	0	84	65	29	65	29	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	4
2	0	0	78	48	81	45	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
3	0	78	0	23	58	19	23	50	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
4	0	88	69	0	73	33	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
5	0	91	76	46	0	41	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
6	0	72	44	17	50	0	17	50	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
7	0	88	69	37	73	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	77	22	43	77	22	0	0	0	0	3
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	71	0	48	8	18	48	8	0	100	0	0	3
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	89	53	0	21	41	76	21	0	0	0	0	3
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	83	45	65	0	29	65	13	0	0	0	0	3
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	85	46	69	16	0	69	16	0	0	0	0	3
13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	89	53	76	21	41	0	21	0	0	0	0	3
14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	83	45	65	13	29	65	0	0	0	0	0	3
15	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	58	0	0	30	0	0	1	1	99	3
16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	15	0	0	6	0	99	0	100	100	4
17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	58	0	0	30	0	0	100	0	100	3
18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	58	0	0	30	0	1	99	100	0	3
$\hat{p}_{+j}$	0	6	4	2	4	2	2	6	4	6	2	2	5	1	2	3	2	3	56 = $\hat{p}_{++}$

<sup>a</sup> The decimal points have been left off the entries in the body of the table. The marginals have not been so altered.

reader will find 22 errors of prediction: 8 cells predicted to be "1" are actually "0," and 14 cell predictions err conversely.

The reader may compare these predictions directly with those of Holland and Leinhardt (their Table 4). To aid intuition, I report (in Table 3 of this Comment) Holland and Leinhardt's predicted values above and below .30 (of which 56 are greater than .30; no predicted value is greater than .50; my choice of .30 is arbitrary, but the reader may experiment with other choices). Treating only those entries greater than .30 in Table 3 as predictions of ties, the reader will find 74 errors of prediction (37 cells predicted to be "1" are actually "0," and 37 cell predictions err conversely). What is more, Table 3 emphasizes the patterning of ties predicted from Holland

and Leinhardt's model. Of these 56 cells with the highest expected values, 51 appear in just three columns (each column consisting entirely of fitted values above .30, except for self-choices), and 33 of these correspond to the observed absence of ties. The contrast of Tables 2 and 3 suggests the implications of a model of definite structure.

Narrowing the gap between a "suggestion" such as this one and a rigorous statistical procedure is a goal that Holland and Leinhardt's paper advances. Clearly, several entire submatrices in the accompanying Table 1 are fitted exactly under the model, which (even apart from this fact) exhibits fewer degrees of freedom than Holland and Leinhardt's  $p_1$  model applied to the full matrix. I am not prepared to assess the goodness of fit of the model for the blocked data. The model illustrated here (Table

Table 2. Fitted Expected Values Greater Than .50 in Table 1 of This Comment<sup>a</sup>

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
2	0	0	1	0	1	[0]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	1	0	0	[1]	0	[0]	[0]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	1	[1]	[0]	0	[0]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	1	0	0	0	0	[0]	0	0	0	0	[0]	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	[1]	1	[0]	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	[0]	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	[0]	[1]	0	[0]	[1]	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	[1]	1	0	0	0	[0]	0	0	0	0
14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	[1]	0	1	0	[0]	1	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	[1]	0	0	[0]	0	0	0	0	1
16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0

<sup>a</sup> Errors of prediction (compare the observed data in Holland and Leinhardt's Figure 5) are enclosed in square brackets.

Table 3. Fitted Expected Values Greater Than .30 in Table 4 of Holland and Leinhardt<sup>a</sup>

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	0	1	[0]	0	[0]	0	0	[1]	0	[1]	0	0	[1]	0	[0]	0	0	0
2	0	0	[0]	0	[0]	[0]	0	[1]	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	1	0	0	0	0	[0]	1	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	1	[0]	0	[0]	0	0	[1]	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	1	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[1]	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	1	0	0	0	0	[0]	[1]	0	[1]	[0]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	[1]	[0]	[0]	[0]	0	0	[1]	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	0	[0]	1	0	0	[0]	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	[1]	[0]	0	0	0	0	[0]	0	0
10	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	1	[0]	0	0	0	[0]	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	1	[0]	[1]	0	[0]	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	[0]	0	0	0	0	0
13	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	[0]	0	0	0	0
14	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	[1]	0	1	0	[0]	[0]	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	[1]	0	[1]	0	0	[0]	0	0	0	0	[0]
16	0	[1]	[1]	0	[1]	0	0	[1]	1	[1]	0	0	[1]	0	[0]	0	[0]	[0]
17	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	[1]	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	[0]	0	[0]
18	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	0	[1]	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	[0]	[0]	0

<sup>a</sup> Errors of prediction (compare the observed data in Holland and Leinhardt's Figure 5) are enclosed in square brackets.

1) appears to be a natural generalization of the Holland-Leinhardt model that may prove useful in the analysis of matrices whose rows and columns have been partitioned, and where homogeneity of structure is hypothesized to be confined *within* the resulting submatrices. (The reader's attention is also called to the similarly motivated but distinct work of Fienberg and Wasserman in their important paper, 1979, Sec. 6.) The major technical considerations raised by these observations notwithstanding, there is also a crucial substantive point to be made. Despite the utility of measures of deviation from a well-defined null structure, sociological analysis is most in need of *explicit* models of the *overall* structures of observed populations.

One further main theoretical issue deserves recognition. Structural equivalence, an algebraic homomorphism concept rather than a labeling of each node with a derived statistical measure, is needed to provide an overall structural perspective and complement local concepts such as cliques. Holland and Leinhardt seem to me to be so literal about adopting standard parametric techniques that they confound any possibility of introducing such ideas (cf. White 1977). None of their techniques seem to have any relation to the semigroup-algebraic side of our theory-based analysis of multiple networks (Boorman and White 1976, Breiger and Pattison 1978, Mandel 1978, Pattison 1980). Nonetheless, this paper by Holland and Leinhardt constitutes a major contribution to the development of

statistical models for digraph data, and will serve as an enduring foundation for future work.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Statistical approaches for modeling social network data have been distinguished primarily by their absence from much of the social network research literature. Holland and Leinhardt's work in this area is a notable exception, and thus it is a special pleasure for us to comment on the present paper. We believe that Holland and Leinhardt's development of exponential family models for directed graph data is a major advance that will rapidly be applied in a variety of substantive areas.

In February 1978 we first attempted to develop statistical methods for a class of log-linear models for the analysis of a social network brought to us by a Minnesota colleague, J. Galaskiewicz. We accomplished little until we had an opportunity to read an early version of Holland and Leinhardt's paper. Our progress immediately accelerated, and their exponential family of probability distributions and bivariate generalizations have served as a basis for much of our subsequent work with the Galaskiewicz data (Fienberg and Wasserman 1980, 1981; Fienberg, Meyer, and Wasserman 1981). Here we describe additional results and observations regarding Holland and Leinhardt's  $p_1$  model, which help link their work to the extensive literature on log-linear models for contingency table analysis. The order of presentation of our comments parallels that of their paper. We restrict our comments to results for single relation data and refer the interested reader to Fienberg, Meyer, and Wasserman (1981) for a partial treatment of multivariate  $p_1$ -like models applied to the Galaskiewicz data, which involve three relations.

## 2. FITTING THE $p_1$ -DISTRIBUTION

Holland and Leinhardt present a version of generalized iterative scaling (Darroch and Ratcliff 1972)—GIS—for solving the likelihood equations for the parameters of  $p_1$ . While GIS is known to converge, Holland and Leinhardt provide us with no information on how rapidly convergence takes place in practice, and specifically for the example of Section 4. Many authors (e.g., see Fienberg 1980) have observed that the presence of fractional pow-

ers of the GIS adjustment factors (i.e., the powers of  $\frac{1}{2}$  in (31) and (34) tends to make convergence excruciatingly slow relative to the standard iterative scaling procedure; however, there is no guarantee that an alteration to GIS to speed up convergence will "work" in general (i.e., converge *or* maximize the likelihood). Thus it is sometimes profitable to explore alternative versions of GIS and generate alternative data representations that allow the use of simpler and perhaps more rapidly converging versions of iterative scaling algorithms.

Our approach to this problem has been to begin with an alternative notation that is evocative of that used in the analysis of multidimensional contingency tables. Rather than working directly with  $x$ , we define a new array,  $y$ , with elements

$$y_{ijkl} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } D_{ij} = (x_{ij}, x_{ji}) = (k, l) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Note that  $y_{iikl}$  is defined to be equal to zero and that  $y_{ijkl} = y_{jilk}$ . Thus we need only consider one "triangle" of  $y$ , in which  $i > j$ . By retaining all  $g^2 \cdot 2^2$  cells in the array, however, we are able to express the sufficient statistics for the parameters of  $p_1$  given by (27) as margins of  $y$ :

$$\frac{1}{2}y_{++++} = M, \quad \text{number of mutuals,}$$

$$y_{i+1+} = x_{i+}, \quad \text{out-degree of node } i,$$

$$y_{+j1+} = x_{+j}, \quad \text{in-degree of node } j,$$

$$y_{++1+} = x_{++}, \quad \text{total number of choices.}$$

Through the use of the redundant representation of the full  $y$  array, one can show that fitting  $p_1$  to the  $x$  array is equivalent to fitting the "no three-factor" interaction log-linear model to the incomplete four-dimensional array,  $y$ . Technical details are given in Meyer (1980). Thus we can fit  $p_1$  to the data by using standard iterative scaling applied to  $y$  (Fienberg and Wasserman 1981).

The no three-factor interaction log-linear model, in the common notation of Fienberg (1980) and others, simultaneously fits the following margins of  $y$  to a four-way array of estimated probabilities:

$$[12] \quad [13] \quad [24] \quad [14] \quad [23] \quad [34].$$

The [12] margin must be included in any iterative scaling algorithm to ensure that the fitted values satisfy the constraints on the dyadic probabilities, (12). By exploiting

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the symmetries in  $y$ , we can straightforwardly reexpress the remaining two-way margins as linear combinations of [12] and the sufficient statistics,  $y_{++1+}$ ,  $\{y_{i+1+}\}$ , and  $\{y_{+j1+}\}$ . We compare the convergence of the standard iterative scaling algorithm with Holland and Leinhardt's algorithm on the Sampson data in a later section.

The submodels described by Holland and Leinhardt as special cases of  $p_1$  and listed in their Table 1 are all related to equivalent log-linear models for  $y$ , and thus they too can be fit by using standard iterative scaling computer programs (see Fienberg and Wasserman 1981 for further details). For example, fitting the version of  $p_1$  with  $\rho = 0$  is equivalent to fitting the model given by [12] [13] [24] [14] [23] to  $y$ , and fitting the version of  $p_1$  with  $\{\beta_j = 0\}$  is equivalent to fitting the model given by [12] [13] [24] [34].

### 3. ASYMPTOTICS FOR TESTS WITHIN $p_1$

A noteworthy feature of Holland and Leinhardt's work is their pilot Monte Carlo study of the "small-sample" distribution of likelihood ratio test statistics for comparing hypotheses within  $p_1$ ; for example, testing for  $\rho = 0$  by testing  $H_1$  against  $H_3$ . The usual asymptotic chi-squared distributions associated with such tests are based on a *fixed* parametric structure and let the sample sizes tend to infinity. Such an asymptotic setup is inapplicable in the present context because the sample size is  $g(g-1)$ , which is a function of  $g$ , the number of nodes. But as we let  $g$  grow (so that the sample size can get large), we get a sequence of probability structures whose dimensions are also growing as a function of  $g$ ; that is, there are  $2g$  parameters for  $p_1$  and  $2g-1$  for  $p_1$  with  $\rho = 0$ .

For the test of  $\rho = 0$  using  $H_1$  against  $H_3$ , the special large sparse asymptotics of Haberman (1977) appear, at least on the surface, to be applicable since the difference in dimensionality is fixed; that is, the difference equals one. In this case, Haberman's results suggest the use of the standard  $\chi^2_1$  approximation to the null distribution under  $H_1$  for large samples. The Holland and Leinhardt simulation provides some support for this conjecture. The approach to this asymptotic distribution as  $g$  increases in their simulation appears to be from the direction of distributions with slightly heavier upper tails than  $\chi^2_1$ .

For similar likelihood ratio tests of  $\{\alpha_i = 0\}$  or  $\{\beta_j = 0\}$ , for example,  $H_2$  against  $H_3$ , Haberman's results are inapplicable as the difference in dimensionality,  $g-1$ , increases with the sample size. All may not be lost here, since the dimensionality is of order the square root of the sample size,  $g(g-1)$ , but new asymptotic expansions for such situations need to be developed. Even if the resulting asymptotic null distribution as  $g$  tends to infinity is not  $\chi^2_{g-1}$ , normal approximations similar to those developed by Koehler (1977) are likely to be applicable.

### 4. TESTING THE FIT OF $p_1$

To check on the fit of  $p_1$ , Holland and Leinhardt suggest using a probability distribution  $p_2$  that contains  $p_1$

as a special case. One approach to developing such distributions or models is to search for more complicated log-linear models for  $y$ , which contain all six two-factor effects, and hence  $p_1$ . These models should be substantively interesting and conceivably provide a better fit than  $p_1$ .

One such model could be based on the notion of differential reciprocity. Rather than setting the dyadic reciprocity effects equal to a constant as with  $p_1$  in (19), we could take

$$\rho_{ij} = \rho + \rho_i + \rho_j, \quad i > j,$$

where the  $\{\rho_i\}$  are normalized to sum to zero. This model allows the effect of reciprocity to depend in a linear manner on the two actors in a dyad. It can be shown that fitting this model of differential reciprocity to the  $x$  array is equivalent to fitting the following log-linear model to the  $y$  array:

$$[12] \quad [134] \quad [234].$$

There is no closed-form solution available for fitting estimated probabilities under this model to the  $y$  array, and thus some form of iterative solution, such as iterative scaling, is required.

Unfortunately, there are no other standard log-linear models that can be fit to  $y$  that contain  $p_1$  as a special case. For example, one model, mentioned by Holland and Leinhardt, replaces  $\alpha_i + \beta_j + \theta$  by  $\theta_{ij}$  where  $\theta_{ij} \neq \theta_{ji}$ . This model corresponds to fitting the log-linear model to  $y$  specified by

$$[123] \quad [124] \quad [34].$$

The sufficient statistics [123] and [124] are the margins of each  $2 \times 2$  subtable of  $y$ . Because they consist of  $0-1$  entries, however, the margins completely determine the interior of the  $2 \times 2$  tables, and thus this model is equivalent to the saturated model for the  $y$  array.

If we denote this model of differential reciprocity by

$$H_4: \theta, \rho, \{\alpha_i\}, \{\beta_i\}, \{\rho_i\} \quad \text{all unconstrained,}$$

then a test for the adequacy of  $p_1$  can be based on testing  $H_3$  (i.e.,  $p_1$ ) against  $H_4$ . The corresponding likelihood ratio statistic has  $g-1$  degrees of freedom, and our earlier discussion about possible asymptotic distributions for tests of  $\{\alpha_i = 0\}$  or  $\{\beta_j = 0\}$  is relevant here as well.

Holland and Leinhardt's approach to testing the fit of  $p_1$  is to develop  $p_2$  with a single additional parameter,  $\delta$ , yielding a new sufficient statistic,  $z(x)$ . Then they suggest using a normal approximation to the null distribution of the test statistic  $\tau$  in (62). The version of  $\tau$  that they use in practice is based on the triad census of  $x$ . The null distribution is developed using a series of approximations (see Holland and Leinhardt 1978), only some of which are made completely explicit in this paper. For example, they recognize but choose to ignore dependencies in the triad counts, and they do not use  $\mu$  and  $\Sigma$ , the conditional moments of  $\tau$  given  $M$ ,  $\{X_{i+}\}$ , and  $\{X_{+j}\}$ . Instead, they approximate  $\mu$  and  $\Sigma$  by the conditional moments of  $\tau$



given  $M$ ,  $\bar{X}$ ,  $V(\text{in})$ ,  $V(\text{out})$ , and  $COR(\text{out}, \text{in})$ . The effects of such approximations on the distribution of  $\tau$  are very unclear (see Wasserman 1977 for a discussion of these conditional distributions). Finally, Holland and Leinhardt suggest that the asymptotic distribution of their statistic  $\tau^2(\text{max})$ , given in (64), is  $\chi_{10}^2$ . This appears to be based on a further assumption, not discussed either in the present paper or in Holland and Leinhardt (1978), regarding the nonzero eigenvalues of the conditional covariance matrix. Given the problematic nature of many of these assumptions, we would be extremely cautious in using the suggested  $\chi_{10}^2$  reference distribution, even as an approximation. While Holland and Leinhardt's work on the distribution of  $\tau^2(\text{max})$  demonstrates a very high level of technical virtuosity, clearly further work needs to be done.

## 5. THE EXAMPLE

In our earlier discussion of fitting  $p_1$ , we discussed three different algorithms: (a) Holland and Leinhardt's, (b) an alternative generalized iterative scaling algorithm without the powers of  $\frac{1}{2}$ , (c) regular iterative scaling applied to  $y$ . The speed of convergence of all three algorithms is illustrated in our Figure 1, using as the conver-

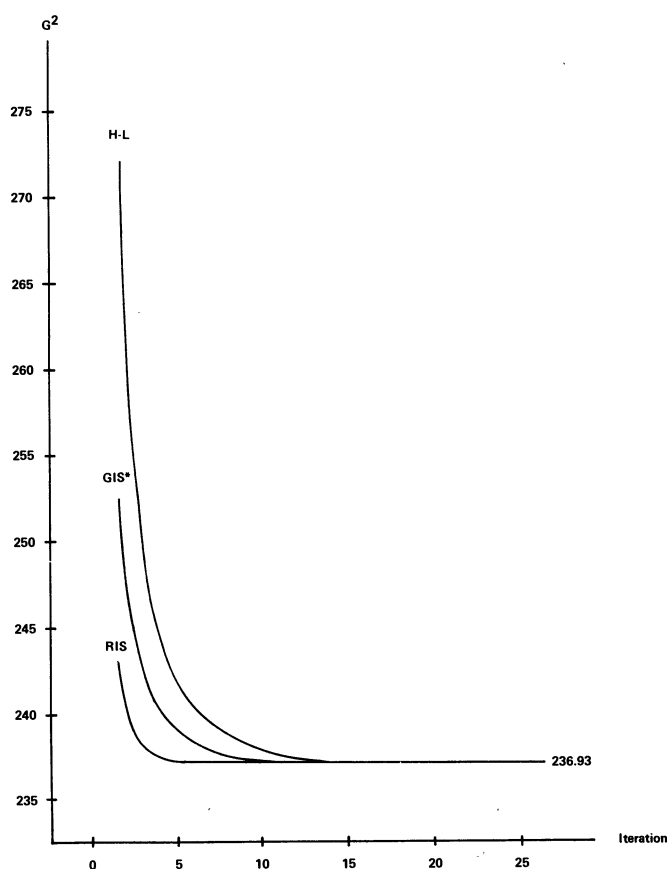


Figure 1. Comparison of the Rates of Convergence for Various Algorithms Applied to Sampson's Data: H-L = Holland-Leinhardt Algorithm; GIS\* = Generalized Iterative Scaling Algorithm Without Powers of  $1/2$ ; RIS = Regular Iterative Scaling Algorithm

gence criterion the likelihood ratio statistic of  $p_1$  against unrestricted alternatives, referred to here as  $G^2$ . In this example, regular iterative scaling applied to  $y$  was far superior to our version of generalized iterative scaling without the powers of  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and GIS without the powers of  $\frac{1}{2}$  was in turn superior to Holland and Leinhardt's GIS algorithm. These results are in accord with our experience in applying such algorithms to other problems.

This comparison of the three algorithms is for illustrative purposes only and is certainly not complete. We have not directly examined the number of operations performed, the extent of central memory and storage used, execution time, and so on. Note that the  $y$  array is much larger than the  $x$  array, and thus our approach, which requires a *single* large array, could rapidly exhaust the storage capacity of even the largest computers as  $g$  increases.

The likelihood ratio statistic for testing  $H_3$  against  $H_4$  ( $\rho_1 = \rho_2 = \dots = \rho_g = 0$ ) for Sampson's network is the difference in  $G^2$ 's for the two models:  $\Delta G^2 = 236.93 - 205.96 = 30.97$ . If  $\chi_{17}^2$  is used as an approximate reference distribution, the significance level for this test is  $p \approx .02$ , partially indicative of lack of fit for  $p_1$ . We see that in addition to tendencies toward *general* reciprocity and transitivity, there is evidence that the monks enter into reciprocal relationships at *different* rates.

In their discussion of the example, Holland and Leinhardt note the alternative estimate of  $\rho$  suggested by Davis (1968). Davis's  $2 \times 2$  table in (68) is similar to the  $2 \times 2$  *intra*class contingency table that often arises in genetics applications such as twins studies (e.g., see Plackett 1974, pp. 122–123; and Altham 1971). Perhaps specializations of  $p_1$ , using nodal characteristics as in Fienberg and Wasserman (1981), may have some application to this completely different class of practical problems.

Finally, as Holland and Leinhardt note, the version of the Sampson data that they analyze in Section 4 involves only one of eight different relations in the original study. These relations are of two kinds; positive feelings—like, esteem, influence, and praise; and negative feelings—antagonism, disesteem, negative influence, and blame. How similar are the four positive relations? Are the negative relations antithetical to the positive? Earlier analyses of this group of 17 monks indicated that the individuals can be placed into three subgroups: “loyal opposition,” “young Turks,” and “outcasts.” Once we control for membership in these subgroups, are there any individual differences? A complete analysis of these data, using the multivariate versions of  $p_1$  in Section 5 of Holland and Leinhardt and the methods and models in Fienberg, Meyer, and Wasserman (1981), may yield answers to such questions.

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There is a considerable lack of appropriate statistical models and methods for the analysis of data from social networks and other kinds of empirical graphs, and there also are many examples of untraditional kinds of data in graphs. Examples of different kinds of data and further details can be found in the surveys by Frank (1980a,b). In their article, Holland and Leinhardt (hereafter referred to as HL) suggest a statistical model of exponential type for adjacency data in a digraph and give methods for estimation and testing that provide an important contribution to statistical graph theory.

Since about 1960 there has been an increasing interest in statistical methods based on the so-called log-linear models developed for the analysis of contingency tables and the so-called logit models used for the analysis of latent structure in psychometric data. The HL model extends the applicability of the exponential models to a new kind of data, and their model will probably soon be referred to as one of the standard illustrations of exponential models. The general theory of estimation and testing that has been developed for the exponential models is one of the great achievements of modern statistical theory. This attractive theory makes the models easy to apply, and they have gained widespread use. In a recent book by Andersen (1980), the exponential models are taken as a basis for a general introduction to statistical model building and analysis in the social sciences. Since the HL model fits into this general framework, it will probably stimulate more statisticians to work with statistical graph problems.

An exponential model that is closely related to the HL model was suggested by Bradley and Terry (1952) for the analysis of data from paired comparisons. Assume that  $g$  alternatives are compared pairwise by  $n$  individuals. Each individual compares every pair of alternatives and announces which one is preferred. Assume that the individuals have a common probability  $a_{ij}$  of preferring alternative  $i$  to alternative  $j$ . Assume further that all comparisons are independent, and let  $X_{ij}$  be the number of individuals expressing a preference for alternative  $i$  over alternative  $j$ . For  $i \neq j$ ,  $X_{ij} + X_{ji} = n$ , and for  $i = j$ , we set  $X_{ii} = 0$ . The Bradley/Terry model assumes that the  $g$  alternatives are characterized by parameters  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_g$ , so that

$$\log(a_{ij}/a_{ji}) = \varphi_i - \varphi_j. \quad (1)$$

The parameters  $\varphi_i$  are only determined up to an additive constant and can be constrained by  $\sum \varphi_i = 0$ . Andersen (1980, Theorem 8.1) shows that the Bradley/Terry model is exponential. For  $n = 1$ , the data matrix  $X = (X_{ij})$  is the adjacency matrix of a tournament, that is, an asymmetric complete digraph, and the Bradley/Terry model is the same as the HL model (13) with  $m_{ij} = n_{ij} = 0$  and

$$a_{ij} = e^{\varphi_i} / (e^{\varphi_i} + e^{\varphi_j}), \quad (2)$$

but it is not a version of the HL model (21).

Note that the exponential or "natural" parameters  $\varphi_{ij}$  and  $\theta_{ij}$  defined by (15) and (16) in HL can be considered to be the canonical parameters in the terminology of Andersen (1980, p. 20) only if  $m_{ij}$ ,  $a_{ij}$ ,  $a_{ji}$ , and  $n_{ij}$  are all positive. Since the canonical parameters are fundamental for the theory, it is of interest to investigate what will happen if some of the probabilities are set to zero. We will briefly consider some such cases.

For a tournament, all dyads have single arcs, and therefore  $m_{ij} = n_{ij} = 0$ . A tournament, for instance, corresponds to paired comparisons that cannot fail or result in a tie. An examination of (13) in HL reveals that

$$P(X = x) = \exp \sum_{i \neq j} \theta_{ij} x_{ij}, \quad (3)$$

where

$$\theta_{ij} = \log a_{ij}, \quad i \neq j. \quad (4)$$

Now, the  $x_{ij}$  are linearly dependent ( $x_{ij} + x_{ji} = 1$  for  $i < j$ ), and  $\theta_{ij}$  are not canonical parameters. In this case we find that

$$P(X = x) = (\exp \sum_{i < j} \varphi_{ij} x_{ij}) / \prod_{i < j} (1 + e^{\varphi_{ij}}), \quad (5)$$

where

$$\varphi_{ij} = \theta_{ij} - \theta_{ji} = \log(a_{ij}/a_{ji}), \quad i < j \quad (6)$$

are the canonical parameters.

If the paired comparisons can fail but cannot result in a tie, we can use an asymmetric digraph to describe the results. For an asymmetric digraph with  $m_{ij} = 0$  and  $a_{ij}$ ,  $a_{ji}$ ,  $n_{ij} > 0$ , it follows that

$$P(X = x) = (\exp \sum_{i \neq j} \theta_{ij} x_{ij}) / \prod_{i < j} (1 + e^{\theta_{ij}} + e^{\theta_{ji}}), \quad (7)$$

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where

$$\theta_{ij} = \log(a_{ij}/n_{ij}), \quad i \neq j \quad (8)$$

are the canonical parameters.

If the paired comparisons cannot fail and ties are allowed, we can use the specification  $n_{ij} = 0$  and  $m_{ij}, a_{ij}, a_{ji} > 0$ . This leads to

$$P(X = x) = \exp\left(\sum_{i \neq j} \theta_{ij} x_{ij} + \sum_{i < j} \rho_{ij} x_{ij} x_{ji}\right), \quad (9)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_{ij} &= \log a_{ij}, \quad i \neq j \\ \rho_{ij} &= \log(m_{ij}/a_{ij}a_{ji}), \quad i < j. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Formula (10) is the same as (15) and (16) in HL if  $\log 0$  is formally interpreted as 0. But these  $\theta_{ij}$  and  $\rho_{ij}$  are not canonical, because their coefficients in (9) satisfy the linear relationship  $x_{ij}x_{ji} = x_{ij} + x_{ji} - 1$ . By substituting this into (9), we obtain

$$P(X = x) = \left(\exp \sum_{i \neq j} \varphi_{ij} x_{ij}\right) / \prod_{i < j} (e^{\varphi_{ij} + \varphi_{ji}} + e^{\varphi_{ij}} + e^{\varphi_{ji}}), \quad (11)$$

where

$$\varphi_{ij} = \log(m_{ij}/a_{ji}), \quad i \neq j \quad (12)$$

are the canonical parameters.

A model used by Kousgaard (1976) for paired com-

parisons with ties can be specified by (13) in HL with

$$\begin{aligned} m_{ij} &= e^{\xi} / (e^{\varphi_i - \varphi_j} + e^{\varphi_j - \varphi_i} + e^{\xi}), \quad i < j \\ a_{ij} &= e^{\varphi_i - \varphi_j} / (e^{\varphi_i - \varphi_j} + e^{\varphi_j - \varphi_i} + e^{\xi}), \quad i \neq j \\ n_{ij} &= 0, \quad i < j \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where  $\varphi_i$  are parameters characterizing the alternatives and  $\xi$  is a tie parameter. This model, like the Bradley/Terry model, does not fit into the HL model (21).

The present discussion seems to indicate that one should search for an exponential model for adjacency data in digraphs that is more general than the HL, Bradley/Terry, and Kousgaard models, so that it would be possible to test any of these models against an appropriate specification of a general model. An attempt to link the HL model with the Bradley/Terry and Kousgaard models might also be of some help for the rather frustrating task of trying to find an appropriate  $Z$  in formula (61) of HL.

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SHELBY J. HABERMAN\*

Since Holland and Leinhardt's  $p_1$  model is an example of an exponential response model, results of Haberman (1977) can be used to obtain some information regarding the asymptotic results suggested by the authors. The arguments required are very similar to those used in Haberman (1977) to discuss the Rasch (1960) model.

In the corresponding Rasch model, an educational test is given to  $g$  subjects. Each subject  $i$  has responses  $X_{ij}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq h$ , with the  $X_{ij}$  independent 0-1 random variables. The probability that  $X_{ij} = 1$  is  $[1 + \exp - (\theta + \alpha_i + \beta_j)]^{-1}$ , where  $\sum \alpha_i = \sum \beta_j = 0$ . If  $X_{ij} = 1$  corresponds to a correct answer, then  $\alpha_i$  is a measure of the relative ability of subject  $i$  and  $\beta_j$  is a measure of the relative easiness of item  $j$ . Consider the unique maximum likelihood estimates  $\hat{\theta}$  of  $\theta$ ,  $\hat{\alpha}_i$  of  $\alpha_i$ , and  $\hat{\beta}_j$  of  $\beta_j$ . For simplicity, assume that as  $g \rightarrow \infty$  and  $h \rightarrow \infty$ , it remains true for some positive  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  that  $|\theta| < a$ ,  $|\alpha_i| < a$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq g$ ,  $|\beta_j| < a$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq h$ , and  $b < g/h < c$ . By Haberman (1977),  $\hat{\theta} - \theta$ ,  $\max_{1 \leq i \leq g} |\hat{\alpha}_i - \alpha_i|$ , and  $\max_{1 \leq j \leq h} |\hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j|$  all converge in probability to 0. For some constants  $\sigma_i > 0$  and  $\tau_j > 0$  (dependent on  $g$ ),  $(\hat{\alpha}_i - \alpha_i)/\sigma_i$  and  $(\hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j)/\tau_j$  converge in distribution to the standard normal. Unfortunately, no normalizing constant  $\omega > 0$  generally exists such that  $(\hat{\theta} - \theta)/\omega$  has asymptotic distribution  $N(0, 1)$ . To see the difficulty, let  $\alpha_i = \beta_j = 0$  and  $\theta \neq 0$ . Let  $p \neq \frac{1}{2}$  be the probability that  $x_{ij} = 1$ , and assume  $g = h$ . Given Haberman (1977), elementary applications of fixed point theorems and Taylor's theorem show that  $\hat{\theta}$  may be approximated to terms of order less than  $g^{-1}$  by

$$\theta + \sigma^{-1} Y_{..} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^{-2} g^{-1} (1 - 2p) \times \sum_{i=1}^g (Y_{i.}^2 + Y_{i.}^2 - Y_{..}^2),$$

where  $\sigma = p(1 - p)Y_{ij} = X_{ij} - p$ ,  $Y_{i.} = g^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^g Y_{ij}$ ,  $Y_{.j} = g^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^g Y_{ij}$ , and  $Y_{..} = g^{-2} \sum_{i=1}^g \sum_{j=1}^g Y_{ij}$ . Thus  $g\sigma^{1/2}(\hat{\theta} - \theta)$  converges in distribution to  $N(-\sigma^{-1/2}(1 - 2p), 1)$ .

The situation in the Holland-Leinhardt model is very similar, for their model under  $\rho = 0$  is mathematically equivalent to the incomplete Rasch model with  $g = h$  and  $X_{ii}$  unobserved. Only minor modifications in arguments in Haberman (1977) are required for the following conclusions. Let  $|\theta| < a$ ,  $|\rho| < a$ ,  $|\alpha_i| < a$ , and  $|\beta_j| < a$  for some constant  $a > 0$ . As  $g \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $|\hat{\theta} - \theta|$ ,  $|\hat{\rho} - \rho|$ ,  $\max_{1 \leq i \leq g} |\hat{\alpha}_i - \alpha_i|$ , and  $\max_{1 \leq j \leq g} |\hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j|$  all converge in probability to 0. For some  $\sigma_i > 0$  and  $\tau_j > 0$ ,  $(\hat{\alpha}_i - \alpha_i)/\sigma_i$  and  $(\hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j)/\tau_j$  converge in distribution to  $N(0, 1)$ . Unfortunately,  $\theta$  and  $\hat{\rho}$  are not asymptotically unbiased; that is, no  $\omega > 0$  or  $\lambda > 0$  generally exist such that  $(\hat{\theta} - \theta)/\omega$  or  $(\hat{\rho} - \rho)/\lambda$  converges in distribution to  $N(0, 1)$ . Thus the estimation picture is a mixed one. In the case of parameters such as  $\alpha_i$  or  $\alpha_i - \alpha_{i'}$ ,  $i \neq i'$ , approximate confidence intervals based on the normal approximation are available, with estimated asymptotic standard deviations derivable as in ordinary log-linear models. In the case of a parameter such as  $\rho$ , maximum likelihood estimation does not lead to entirely satisfactory results.

The problem of estimation of  $\rho$  is difficult to solve in a practical fashion. In principle, a possible approach is through conditional maximum likelihood estimation given the totals  $X_{i+}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq g$ , and  $X_{+j}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq g$ . In this way only one parameter remains, so that there is good hope for an asymptotically normal estimate. Unfortunately, formidable practical and theoretical problems are present. To examine these issues, let  $E(\rho)$  be the conditional expectation of  $M$  given  $\rho$ ,  $X_{i+}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq g$ , and  $X_{+j}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq g$ , and let  $V(\rho)$  be the corresponding conditional variance of  $M$ . Let  $\rho^*$  be the conditional maximum likelihood estimate of  $\rho$ . By trivial changes in arguments based on Haberman (1977, Condition 2), one finds that  $[V(\rho)]^{1/2}(\rho^* - \rho)$  converges in distribution to  $N(0, 1)$  if  $[V(\rho)]^{-1} |V(\rho') - V(\rho)| \rightarrow 0$  whenever  $|\rho' - \rho|^2 V(\rho)$  is bounded above as  $g \rightarrow \infty$ . Under this condition  $V(\rho^*)/V(\rho)$  converges in probability to 1, so that approximate confidence intervals for  $\rho$  can be constructed. The theoretical problem is demonstration that  $[V(\rho)]^{-1}[V(\rho') - V(\rho)]$  does approach 0 under the required conditions. At this time, I do not know how to accomplish this task. The practical problem is that of computation of  $\rho^*$ . One must be able to evaluate  $E(\rho)$  and  $V(\rho)$  to accomplish this task through the Newton-Raphson algorithm. These computations are very difficult since large summations are needed over sets which are themselves hard to enumerate. Thus conditional estimation of  $\rho$  is far from a simple matter.

Similar situations exist with respect to testing. The LLR test for  $\rho = 0$  does not appear to result in a test statistic with an asymptotic  $\chi^2$  distribution under the null hypothesis. The authors may well be right that the  $\chi^2$

Similar situations exist with respect to testing. The LLR test for  $\rho = 0$  does not appear to result in a test statistic with an asymptotic  $\chi^2$  distribution under the null hypothesis. The authors may well be right that the  $\chi^2$

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approximation holds tolerably well, but confirmation of the claim would be bolstered by examination of parameters which are less regularly distributed. Presumably, a conditional likelihood ratio test results in a well-distributed chi-squared statistic, but the claim is difficult to prove and the test is difficult to implement.

Conditional tests have also attracted the authors. Note the conditional tests of fit for the  $p_1$  distribution and for  $H_0$  versus  $H_2$ . Unfortunately, only the proposed test of  $H_0$  versus  $H_2$  leads to a relatively easily computed test statistic. The theoretical difficulties are comparable to those encountered in conditional maximum likelihood estimation of  $\rho$ ; for example, in the test statistic  $\tau$ , one must show that the variance of  $Z$  is sufficiently stable for small  $\delta$ . Again, such a demonstration is difficult. Practical problems of complex summations arise except in the test of  $H_0$  against  $H_2$ .

The problems of unconditional inference are particu-

larly disappointing given the ease of computation of regular maximum likelihood estimates, either by the author's algorithms or the Newton-Raphson algorithm for log-linear models. One reservation can be expressed concerning the author's algorithm for the  $p_1$  model. Iterative proportional fitting models are available which involve no square roots. Why are they not preferable?

In all, Holland and Leinhardt have written a most challenging paper. Solution of the difficult problems they raise would provide a major advance in statistical theory and practice.

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It is especially gratifying to have had such excellent discussants. Their collective comments extend and clarify our results, pose new problems to solve, and urge us (and, we hope, others, too) on to complete the research program that lies ahead. We are very grateful to them for the care, thought, and effort that went into their contributions. We will try to respond to some of the points each raises. Since Breiger is the most critical of our work, we begin with his remarks.

At the general level Breiger feels that our “development of statistical tools” has led us “away from a focus on *patterns* of relationships.” In support of this claim he asserts that “Holland and Leinhardt’s goal is not to replicate entries in . . . the interior cell values and the structure of present and absent ties.” In view of our lack of a “model for *explicit* social structure” Breiger sees little in our work to interest a sociologist—either theorist or field worker! We completely disagree with this stance. We believe that Breiger’s position is perfectly analogous to criticizing the use of probit models in drug bioassay on the grounds that these models fail to explicitly predict exactly which rats will and will not develop tumors at LD-50. We don’t believe that this is a useful criticism of either bioassay or sociometry. In our opinion, it is of questionable value to make up a complex and detailed explanation of why each zero or one in a sociomatrix appears where it does. Such an approach ignores the fact that noise and uncertainty, at many levels, are always associated with sociometric data—just like any other data. Our strategy is to disentangle pattern and noise by constructing models that allow both to be characterized explicitly. We fail to understand why either theoretical or empirical sociologists should view this approach as unproductive.

At the specific level Breiger finds it anomalous that the  $p_1$  distribution is unable to predict any of the ones in Figure 5 with a probability over .5. This phenomenon occurs because (a) the overall choice density is low (.183) and (b) the  $p_1$  distribution does *not* fit this particular set of data well. However, the residuals from  $p_1$  clearly highlight the structure in these data that is not explained by  $p_1$ . It is exactly this type of residual analysis that improves ad hoc searching for patterns in noisy data.

Breiger’s quote from Davis on our “slide from global structure to microanalysis” is unfortunate because it re-

fers to earlier work only peripherally related to  $p_1$ . Furthermore, this criticism simply ignores the fact that the parameters of  $p_1$  are global— $\rho$ , for example, is an average reciprocation parameter for the whole network. Breiger’s view to the contrary notwithstanding, we are interested in the *essential* global patterns of network structure, but we are also interested in searching for *stable* patterns in noisy data. Models like  $p_1$  are small, but important, first steps in achieving these goals.

Although we disagree with Breiger’s overall evaluation of the potential substantive utility of  $p_1$ , we are very much attracted to his “principle of internal homogeneity.” We believe it is the key to understanding the relationship between the apparently deterministic blockmodels that he seems to prefer and statistical models like  $p_1$  that we have introduced. We do not mean to imply by our comments or research activities that one approach dominates the other. Indeed, we are convinced that both approaches have their uses and it is important that they be brought closer together. We disagree, however, with the way that Breiger uses the  $p_1$  distribution to formalize the homogeneity principle. We offer the following alternative formulation that is based on the notion that a blockmodel has explained a set of sociometric data if within each submatrix of the partitioned sociomatrix the position of the ones and zeros is random. More formally, let the  $g$  nodes be partitioned into mutually exclusive and exhaustive blocks  $B_1, \dots, B_c$ . A stochastic  $g \times g$  adjacency matrix  $X$  will be said to satisfy a blockmodel with respect to  $\{B_i\}$  if, given the blocks, the entries in  $X$  are independent and, for all  $i \in B_k, j \in B_l$ , the  $X_{ij}$  are identically distributed with

$$\pi_{kl} = P(X_{ij} = 1). \quad (\text{R.1})$$

The implied distribution of the matrix  $X$  may be shown to be

$$P(X = x | B_1, \dots, B_c) = \exp\left\{\sum_{k,l} \theta_{kl} x_{++}(k, l)\right\} K(\{\theta_{kl}\}), \quad (\text{R.2})$$

where

$$\theta_{kl} = \log\left(\frac{\pi_{kl}}{1 - \pi_{kl}}\right) \quad \text{for } k, l = 1, \dots, c$$

and

$$x_{++}(k, l) = \sum_{i \in B_k} \sum_{j \in B_l} x_{ij}.$$

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We believe that this is a potentially fruitful stochastic formulation of Breiger's homogeneity principle and, in fact, reveals that his principle is exactly the same sort of assumption that is made in "latent structure" models of various types. In this case the blocks are the latent structure to be discovered. One must carefully distinguish between (a) the probability model given in (R.2) in which the blocks are assumed known, and (b) a data analytic result in which the block structure and the block density parameters have been estimated simultaneously from the data. It is an interesting and difficult problem to give satisfactory simultaneous estimates of the  $\pi$ 's and the latent blocks. In our opinion, current blockmodeling techniques ignore the subtleties implicit in this estimation.

If we regard the blocks in Figure 5 as given, then the choice density in each submatrix is the MLE of the corresponding  $\pi_{kl}$ . These are given in Table R.1. These estimates can be used to predict the in-degree distribution and the number of mutuals that would obtain if (R.2) held with the  $\pi_{kl}$  given by Table R.1. The relevant equations are

$$E(M \mid \{B_i\}, \{\pi_{kl}\}) = \sum_k \binom{|B_k|}{2} \pi_{kk}^2 + \sum_{k < l} |B_k| |B_l| \pi_{kl} \pi_{lk} \quad (\text{R.3})$$

$$E(X_{+j} \mid \{B_i\}, \{\pi_{kl}\}) = (|B_l| - 1) \pi_{ll} + \sum_{k \neq l} |B_k| \pi_{kl} \quad (\text{R.4})$$

for  $j \in B_l$ , and where  $|B_k|$  denotes the size of block  $B_k$ .

The estimated values for (R.4) are given in the last row of Table R.1 and the estimated value for (R.3) is 11.90. This is a little smaller than the observed value of 15 for  $M$ . This example illustrates the general phenomenon that the fewer the number of blocks, the harder it is for a blockmodel to predict the in-degree distribution and the value of  $M$ . The column of zeros in Figure 5 stands out as a clear set of "outliers" with respect to the blockmodel found by White, Boorman, and Breiger (1976). To pursue this example, and the models it implies, would require another paper, which we leave for another time.

We find it interesting that Breiger in effect rejects the utility of  $p_1$ , then proceeds to apply it to data. Nonetheless, his provisional use of  $p_1$  to characterize "internal homogeneity" is, in our view, incorrect because  $p_1$  can produce very inhomogeneous probabilities as exhibited in his Table 1. However, if  $p_1$  fits the main diagonal sub-

matrices of the sociomatrix substantially better when  $\rho$ ,  $\{\alpha_i\}$ , and  $\{\beta_i\}$  are all allowed to be nonzero than when they are all fixed at zero, then we think this is strong evidence that the blocks are *not* internally homogeneous. In such a case we would argue that the blockmodel failed to fit the data. This seems to contradict the position taken by Breiger.

We do agree with Breiger's final point that it is still unclear how to relate stochastic models like  $p_1$  or the stochastic blockmodel given in (R.2) to the semigroups of relations that play a role in the blockmodels of White and his coworkers. We believe that exploration of this relationship is important because of the very special nature of the "product of two relations" that White and his coworkers use to generate these semigroups. Since there is no obvious reason why the "logical product" is the logical choice, new and potentially more useful definitions of this product are possible outcomes of such an investigation.

Frank discusses models in which the values of  $m_{ij}$  and/or  $n_{ij}$  are zero because of structural constraints. We agree that these are important cases to consider, not only the single generator examples mentioned by Frank, but also multiple generator examples such as the "mutually exclusive generator case" mentioned in Section 5 of our article. Our only disagreement is with Frank's comment that the Bradley/Terry and the Kousgaard models are *not* versions of  $p_1$ . Both of these models are limiting cases of  $p_1$  in the following senses. If we set  $\rho = -t^2$ ,  $\theta = t$ ,  $\alpha_i = \phi_i$ ,  $\beta_i = 0$ , and let  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $m_{ij}$  and  $n_{ij}$  both go to zero and the  $a_{ij}$  converge to the values given in Frank's equation (2). On the other hand, if we set  $\rho = \xi - t$ ,  $\theta = t$ ,  $\alpha_i = \phi_i$ ,  $\beta_i = -\phi_i$ , and let  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $n_{ij}$  goes to zero and  $m_{ij}$  and  $a_{ij}$  converge to the values given in Frank's equation (13). This type of limiting process is implicit in the last two entries of our Table 1. Of course, by pointing out that these models are limits of the  $p_1$  family, we do not mean to imply that one should avoid exploiting the structure of these special cases. Contrary to Frank's suggestion, though, since the Bradley/Terry and Kousgaard models are contained within the  $p_1$  family, linking these three models will not solve the difficult problem of finding a  $Z$  for our formula (61).

We are indebted to Haberman for his analysis of the asymptotic behavior of the MLE's of the parameters of  $p_1$ . It is especially pleasing to discover that the results of his paper, Haberman (1977), can be applied or extended to cover our case. We agree with him that models such as  $p_1$  and the Rasch model for educational tests raise important problems in mathematical statistics. For example, Haberman's analysis suggests that even though the MLE of  $\rho$ ,  $\hat{\rho}$ , converges to  $\rho$  as  $g \rightarrow \infty$ , the distribution of  $\hat{\rho}$  can be centered at a value that differs from  $\rho$  by an amount that is of the same order of magnitude as the variability in  $\hat{\rho}$  (even though both the bias and variability are going to zero). This is not what normally happens in simple statistical problems where the bias is typically of order  $n^{-1}$  and the variability is typically of order  $n^{-1/2}$ .

Table R.1. Parameter Estimates for Stochastic Blockmodel Given in (R.1)

	$B_1$	$B_2$	$B_3$
$B_1$	$\hat{\pi}_{11} = .452$	$\hat{\pi}_{12} = .041$	$\hat{\pi}_{13} = .036$
$B_2$	$\hat{\pi}_{21} = .000$	$\hat{\pi}_{22} = .476$	$\hat{\pi}_{23} = .036$
$B_3$	$\hat{\pi}_{31} = .036$	$\hat{\pi}_{32} = .143$	$\hat{\pi}_{33} = .667$
$E(X_{+j})$	2.86	3.72	2.51
$ B_1  = 7$	$ B_2  = 7$	$ B_3  = 4$	



**Table R.2. Mean, Standard Deviation, and Standardized Values of  $\hat{\rho}$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$  for  $g = 20, 30$ , and  $40$  (500 replications,  $\rho = 2, \beta_1 = 2$ )**

		20	30	40
Average	$\hat{\rho}$	2.278	2.171	2.121
	$s_{\hat{\rho}}$	.504	.267	.203
Stzd.	$\hat{\rho}$	.552	.642	.597
Average	$\hat{\beta}_1$	2.311	2.188	2.137
	$s_{\hat{\beta}_1}$	.683	.495	.418
Stzd.	$\hat{\beta}_1$	.455	.380	.328

Thus, as Haberman points out, the bias cannot be ignored in constructing confidence intervals for  $\rho$ . Furthermore, the situation for  $\rho$  is different from that for the  $\alpha$ 's and  $\beta$ 's, which should be more well behaved. To illustrate this we did a small Monte Carlo experiment in which  $\rho$  and  $\beta_1$  were both given the nonnull value of 2.0,  $E(X_{++}/g(g-1))$  was set to .3,  $g$  was set to 20, 30, and 40, and 500 replications were made for each value of  $g$ .

Quantile plots of  $\hat{\rho}$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$  indicated that the distributions of the estimates were roughly Gaussian, as expected. Consequently, we standardized by subtracting two from the average estimate and divided by the sample standard deviation. Results appear in Table R.2. We focus on the standardized values. The standardized averages of  $\hat{\rho}$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$  do differ. The standardized average estimate of  $\beta_1$  is less than the standardized average estimate of  $\rho$  in each case and, while the bias in the estimate of  $\rho$  seems to be unrelated to  $g$ , the estimate of  $\beta_1$  appears to trend downward with increasing  $g$ . The standardized average bias of  $\hat{\rho}$  averages .597 across the three cases supporting the conjecture that the bias of  $\hat{\rho}$  is of the same order of magnitude as the variability.

Haberman conjectures that the likelihood ratio test of  $\rho = 0$  (i.e., the test of  $H_3$  versus  $H_1$ ) does not have an approximate chi-squared distribution on one degree of freedom under  $H_1$ . We think that the extent of agreement with the chi-squared distribution that is displayed in Table 2 is not accidental. It suggests to us that, at least under some conditions on the values of the nuisance parameters, the chi-squared approximation is correct. We are currently exploring a wider range of parameter values in a simulation study to see where the result breaks down.

The contributions of Fienberg and Wasserman to the analysis of digraph data are important and move us closer to our mutual goal of a coherent statistical methodology for such data. Their observation that the standard fitting procedures for multiway contingency tables can be used without change to fit  $p_1$  is a major breakthrough. It makes the statistical approach to network analysis accessible to a large group of investigators. Furthermore, by formulating  $p_1$  in terms of standard log-linear models, they were led to the "differential reciprocity model" as an easily computed extension of  $p_1$ . This is an important extension with many useful empirical applications. Their papers show how the statistical approach can be applied to a variety of types of digraph data and are well worth reading.

In their discussion of the test statistics  $\tau$  and  $\tau^2(\max)$ , Fienberg and Wasserman raise a number of cautions with which we generally agree. The procedures are approximate and their connection to  $p_1$  is not completely clear. Nonetheless, we are of the opinion that a highly significant  $\tau^2(\max)$  value is a strong signal that  $p_1$  does not fit the data. To investigate this we performed a small study of  $\tau^2(\max)$  under  $p_1$  for various sets of parameter values. If  $\tau^2(\max)$  provides a reasonable test statistic for  $p_1$ , then sociomatrices generated by  $p_1$  ought to produce "nullish"

**Table R.3. Parameter Values Used for Stimulation Study of  $\tau^2(\max)$**

Case	Name	$\theta$	$\rho$	$\{\alpha_i\}$	$\{\beta_j\}$
1	Null	-.847	0	0	0
2	Ro	-1.185	1	0	0
3	Al	-.852	0	.2 .2 .1 .1 .1 -.1 -.1 -.1 -.2 -.2	0
4	Be	-.905	0	0	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5
5	Ro-Be	-1.242	1	0	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5
6	AB+Cor-10	-.947	0	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5
	AB+Cor-20	-.952	0	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5
	AB+Cor-30	-.954	0	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5
	AB+Cor-40	-.955	0	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5
7	AB-Cor-10	-.978	0	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	-.9 -.9 -.5 -.1 -.1 .5 .5 .5 .5 .5
	AB-Cor-20	-.971	0	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	-.9 -.9 -.5 -.1 -.1 .5 .5 .5 .5 .5
	AB-Cor-30	-.968	0	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	-.9 -.9 -.5 -.1 -.1 .5 .5 .5 .5 .5
	AB-Cor-40	-.967	0	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	-.9 -.9 -.5 -.1 -.1 .5 .5 .5 .5 .5
8	RAB+Cor-10	-1.314	1	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5
	RAB+Cor-20	-1.320	1	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5
	RAB+Cor-30	-1.322	1	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5
	RAB+Cor-40	-1.323	1	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5
9	RAB-Cor-10	-1.273	1	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	-.9 -.9 -.5 -.1 -.1 .5 .5 .5 .5 .5
	RAB-Cor-20	-1.268	1	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	-.9 -.9 -.5 -.1 -.1 .5 .5 .5 .5 .5
	RAB-Cor-30	-1.266	1	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	-.9 -.9 -.5 -.1 -.1 .5 .5 .5 .5 .5
	RAB-Cor-40	-1.266	1	.9 .9 .5 .1 .1 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5 -.5	-.9 -.9 -.5 -.1 -.1 .5 .5 .5 .5 .5

NOTE: Nonzero parameter values for  $\{\alpha_i\}$  and  $\{\beta_j\}$  are given for the case  $g = 10$ . The values are increased proportionately for  $g = 20, 30$ , and 40.

values of  $\tau^2(\max)$  with respect to the  $\chi_{10}^2$  distribution. The parameter values for the simulation cases appear in Table R.3.

To facilitate discussing the results we have presented them in Table R.4 as ratios by dividing obtained values by the reference distribution values. We used nine sets of parameter values and ran 1,000 replications for each of four values of  $g$  while maintaining  $E(X_{++}/g(g-1))$

*Table R.4. Ratio of Simulation Results to Those Predicted by Chi Squared on 10 df for  $\tau^2(\max)$  Under Various Choices of  $\rho$ ,  $\beta_1$*

Case	Mean	Var	Median	% > 16.0	% > 18.3	% > 23.2
Null-10	.93	1.29	.90	.8	1.0	2.0
1. Null-20	1.01	1.20	.99	1.1	1.4	2.0
Null-30	1.00	1.07	1.00	1.0	1.2	1.0
Null-40	1.01	1.08	.98	1.0	1.2	2.0
Ro-10	.98	1.47	.92	1.2	1.4	3.0
2. Ro-20	.99	1.21	.97	1.0	1.2	2.0
Ro-30	.98	1.00	1.00	1.0	1.0	1.0
Ro-40	1.00	1.04	1.00	1.0	1.2	1.0
AI-10	.95	1.54	.93	.9	1.2	2.0
3. AI-20	1.03	1.24	.99	1.3	1.2	2.0
AI-30	1.02	1.11	1.03	1.2	1.2	2.0
AI-40	1.02	1.16	1.00	1.2	1.4	2.0
Be-10	1.00	1.74	.99	1.2	1.6	3.0
4. Be-20	1.12	2.01	1.14	2.0	2.4	5.0
Be-30	1.30	2.46	1.24	2.6	3.8	8.0
Be-40	1.39	2.56	1.35	3.3	4.6	9.0
Ro-Be-10	1.06	1.79	1.00	1.4	1.6	3.0
5. Ro-Be-20	1.19	1.74	1.14	2.1	2.8	5.0
Ro-Be-30	1.29	2.55	1.21	2.5	3.4	8.0
Ro-Be-40	1.41	2.70	1.35	3.1	4.6	12.0
AB+Cor-10	1.16	2.14	1.09	1.9	2.4	6.0
6. AB+Cor-20	1.43	3.19	1.36	3.2	4.6	11.0
AB+Cor-30	1.82	7.14	1.63	4.7	7.4	23.0
AB+Cor-40	2.26	8.83	2.10	6.6	11.2	38.0
AB-Cor-10	1.02	1.82	.95	1.3	1.6	3.0
7. AB-Cor-20	1.37	3.66	1.28	2.9	4.2	10.0
AB-Cor-30	1.81	5.19	1.69	4.9	7.8	23.0
AB-Cor-40	2.46	11.00	2.24	6.9	11.8	43.0
RAB+Cor-10	1.21	2.43	1.12	2.2	3.0	7.0
8. RAB+Cor-20	1.43	2.82	1.38	3.4	4.8	12.0
RAB+Cor-30	1.92	6.41	1.80	5.4	8.6	26.0
RAB+Cor-40	2.56	11.21	2.33	7.0	12.4	47.0
RAB-Cor-10	1.04	1.76	.98	1.2	1.6	4.0
9. RAB-Cor-20	1.32	2.46	1.26	2.7	3.8	9.0
RAB-Cor-30	1.64	4.63	1.52	4.2	6.6	18.0
RAB-Cor-40	2.27	9.82	2.07	6.3	10.8	37.0

NOTE: The last three columns refer to the 10, 5, and 1% points.

at .3. If nullish values of  $\tau^2(\max)$  were generated, then the entries in Table R.4 ought to all be around one. In cases 1, 2, 3, and 4 the results for the mean and median of  $\tau^2(\max)$  are quite good. The variances seem a bit inflated, and in case 4 the variance apparently gets worse with increasing  $g$ . Case 4 was designed to be extreme and seems to suggest that the approximation deteriorates as the variation in parameter values increases. Case 5 has two nonzero parameter sets, and again, while the mean and median are relatively well behaved, the variation seems to increase with  $g$ . The situation seems to deteriorate further when we make the situation more complex. In cases 6 and 7,  $\{\alpha_i\}$  and  $\{\beta_i\}$  are positively and negatively correlated, respectively, with  $\rho = 0$ . In these two cases all the results diverge from  $\chi_{10}^2$  as  $g$  increases. The pattern seems roughly the same when, in cases 8 and 9, we replicate the parameter values of cases 6 and 7 but set  $\rho = 1$  so that all parameters have nonzero values.

As a test statistic,  $\tau^2(\max)$  doesn't behave quite as nicely as we would like. In fact, it seems to return increasingly larger values as complexity and  $g$  increase, even though no triadic structure is present. While these results clearly support the caution that Fienberg and Wasserman advise, in the absence of a clearly preferable alternative, these results support the conservative use of  $\tau^2(\max)$  as a test for  $p_1$ .

Finally, Fienberg, Wasserman, and Haberman are all mildly critical of our algorithm for fitting  $p_1$ . Our only defense here is that when we began this research several years ago we needed to be able to fit  $p_1$  by some method and we found one that worked. Now that we have had a chance to fit  $p_1$  to numerous data sets, the question of improving the algorithm arises, and it is good news that there are several to choose from. With apologies to the U.S. motto, when it comes to algorithms, *ex uno plura*. Needless to say, our own experience has not revealed any substantial savings in overall computing costs when one non-Newton method or another is used to fit  $p_1$  to data.

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