Determining Key Contributors to Feelings of Insecurity for Public Transportation Users

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Anatomy of Network Graphs

- Element of a system [Node] represented as a circle
- Interaction between two elements [Edge] represented as a line or arrow connecting respective nodes
- Level of influence of a connection [Weight] represented as the thickness of the edge connecting two nodes

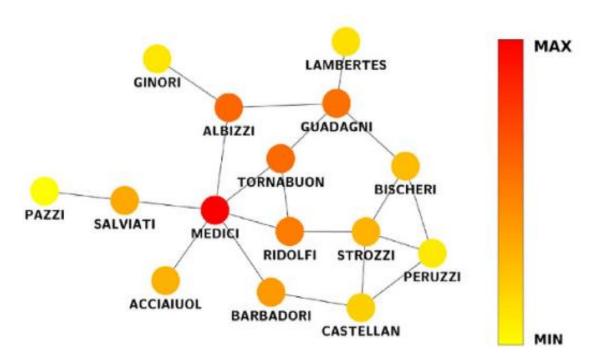


Figure: Florentine Marriages (Alvarez-Socorro, 2015 DOI: 10.1038/srep17095)

Anatomy of Network Matrices

- Columns [j] represent in-coming influence
- Rows [i] represent outgoing influence
- Number in [ij] represents the weight of influence that node I has on node j

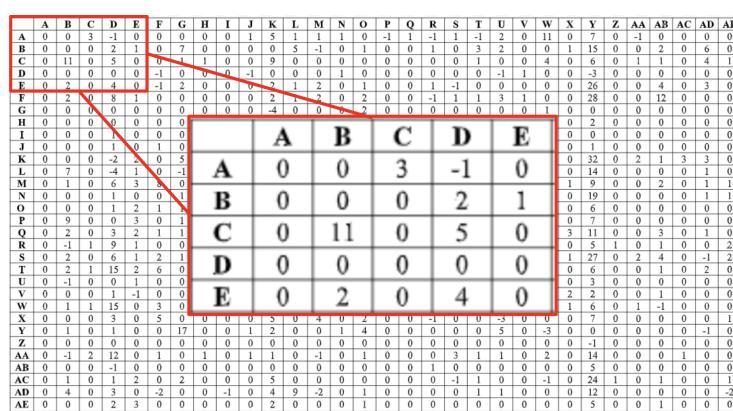


Figure: Weighted Adjacency Matrix

Centrality Measures

- Different metrics that can be used on a network to determine which elements are most influential to the state of the system
- Identifying most influential elements is extremely important in driving the system to a desired state

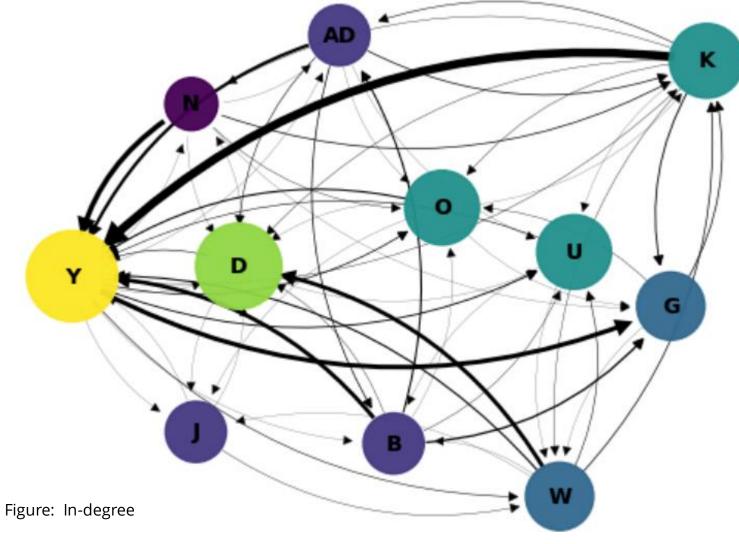
Types of Centrality Measures

- Degree Centrality
 - Two sub-types: In-Degree, Out-Degree
 - Identifies node with most connections as the most influential
 - Used in transportation networks and computer networks
- Eigen-Centrality
 - Identifies node connected to the most influential nodes as the most influential
 - Used in Epidemiology, webpage ranking, and network security

Study Details and the "No-Duh" Node

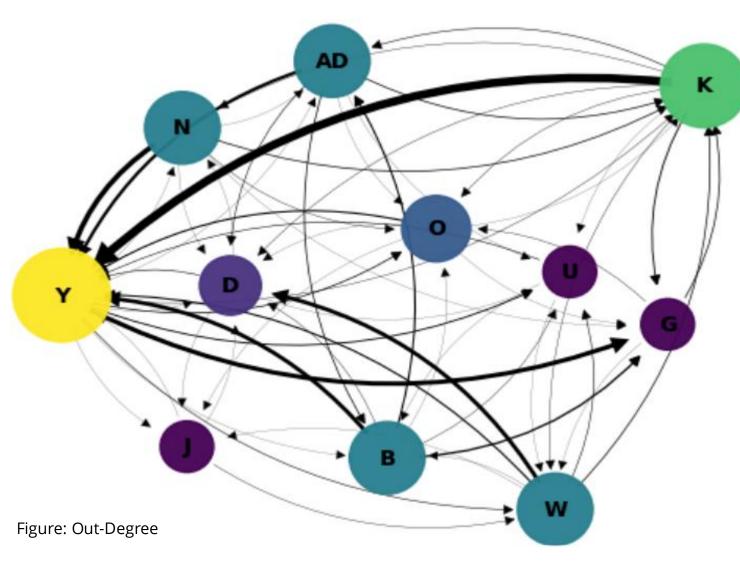
- Analyzing factors that impact rider perceptions of insecurity when using public transportation
 - Want to identify influencers of perceptions
 - Aim to find leverage point to reduce feelings of insecurity and increase ridership
- Focus of study is a component of social system and is included in the network
 - Analytical bias is introduced since outcome is part of the model
 - Node Y is our "No-Duh" Node, the concept we are measuring, and represents "Feelings of Insecurity".
 - Want to find the greatest influencer of Node Y

In-degree Centrality



- Node D shows greatest incoming influence having inbound connections from 8 nodes
- This shows that Node D is the most dependent in the system and receives the most influence from other nodes

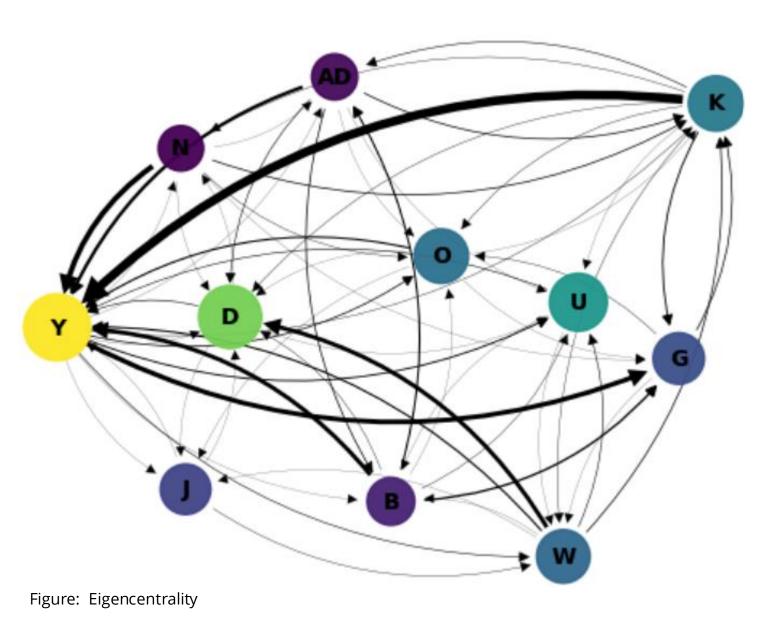
Out-degree Centrality



- Node K has greatest outbound influence with outbound connections to 6 nodes
- Shows Node K is most independent in the system and influences the most nodes
- Heaviest connection weight in the system is from Node K to Node Y

Eigencentrality

- Node D has the most connections to other highly influential nodes within the system
- Numerically, Node K has 2nd highest Eigencentrality and is also connected to other influential nodes



J K N O U W Shortage Exclusion | Transport | Operation |

Figure: Node table for ego graphs

Conclusions and Future Considerations

- Centrality for Node D stems from connection to Node K and Node Y.
- Node K has more influence over other nodes and its strongest connection is with Node Y.
- Node K 3rd most Eigencentric in the system but should be considered the most influential element in the system.
- Continued research will involve
 - Sensitivity analysis of the data
 - Exploration of other analytical methods
 - Search for a "Rule-of-Thumb" for similar studies

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