

The Importance of Place in Collaborative Inter-Organizational Networks

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Proximity

- Proximity predicts the likelihood of a communication tie (Monge & Contractor, 2003)



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CHC
Community Health Councils, Inc.

ABOUT CHC | POLICY AREAS | PRESS & PUBLICATIONS | ACTION CENTER | OTHER RESOURCES

Welcome to CHC

Community Health Councils (CHC) is a non-profit community-based health promotion, advocacy and policy organization. CHC was established in 1992 in response to the growing healthcare crisis. Our mission is to improve health and increase access to quality healthcare for uninsured, under-resourced and underserved populations.

Preserve the healthcare safety net

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Collaboratives

- CHC convenes 3 collaborative coalitions working on health care access and utility:
 - local (city/county)
 - state
 - national

Proximity Within Coalitions

H1: Organizations that are geographically closer to each other will be more likely to a) communicate, and b) collaborate.

Proximity Across Coalitions

H2: Coalitions working in smaller geographic regions will have higher network levels of a) communication and b) collaboration.

Jurisdiction of Coalitions

H3: Homophily

- Organizations working in the same level jurisdiction as each other will be more likely to a) communicate , and b) collaborate.

H4: Concordance with mission

- Organizations working at the same level jurisdiction as the whole collaborative will be more likely to a) communicate, and b) collaborate.

Methods

- Network survey conducted online using roster method
- Network questions
 - Communication
 - Collaboration
- Attributes
 - Actor variable: jurisdiction
 - Dyad variable: distance (km)

Analysis

- Quadratic assignment procedure (QAP)
- Network density
- Blockmodeling

Results: Data

	Local	State	National
Nodes (#)	28	49	32
Response rate	57%	78%	43%
Average Distance (km)	24	326	1881

H1: Proximity Within Coalitions

QAP Correlations with Distance

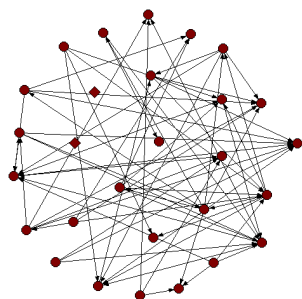
	Local	State	National
Communication	-0.03*	-0.09**	-0.02
Collaboration	-0.03*	-0.09**	-0.09**

* $p < .05$; ** $p < .01$

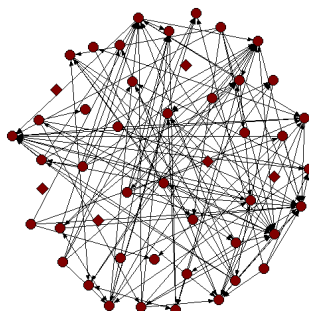
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Communication

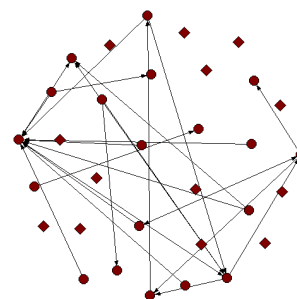
Local



State

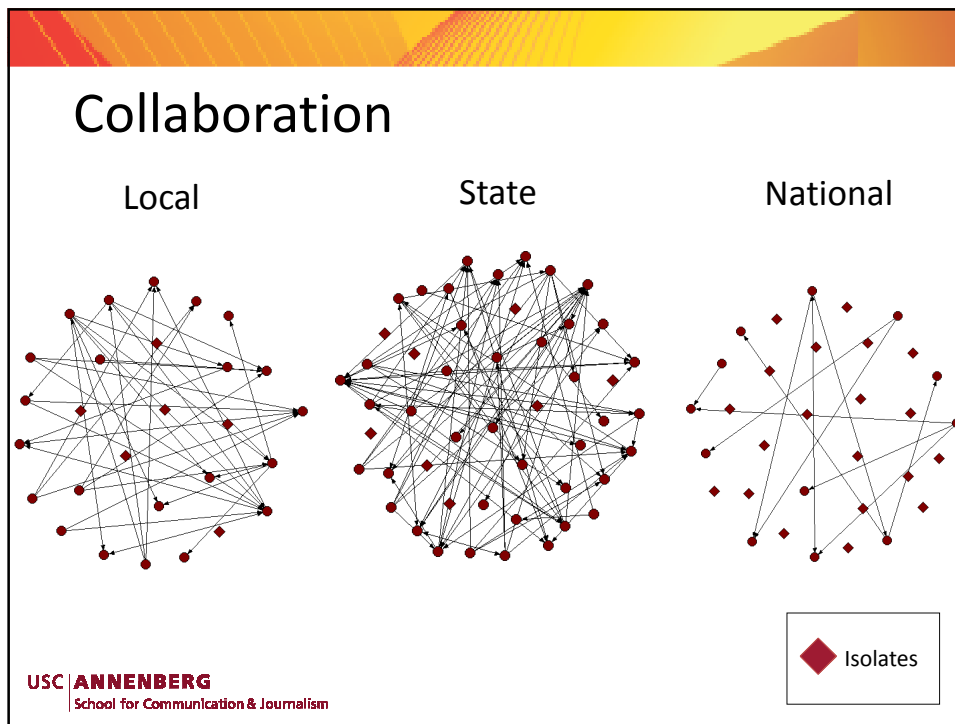


National



 Isolates

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H2: Proximity Across Coalitions

Network Density

	Local	State	National
Communication	0.09	0.06	0.03
Collaboration	0.05	0.04	0.01

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Jurisdiction

Coalition Focus

	Local	State	National
% Local	71%	65%	0%
% State	29%	35%	94%
% National	0%	0%	6%

H3 and H4: Communication by Jurisdiction

Local			National		
	County	State		State	National
County	0	0	State	0	1
State	1	1	National	1	1

State		
	County	State
County	0	1
State	0	1

H3: Homophily by Jurisdiction

Local			National		
	County	State		State	National
County	0	0	State	0	1
State	1	1	National	1	1

State		
	County	State
County	0	1
State	0	1

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H4: Concordance with Mission

Local			National		
	County	State		State	National
County	0	0	State	0	1
State	1	1	National	1	1

State		
	County	State
County	0	1
State	0	1

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H3 and H4: Collaboration by Jurisdiction

	Local	
	County	State
County	0	0
State	1	1

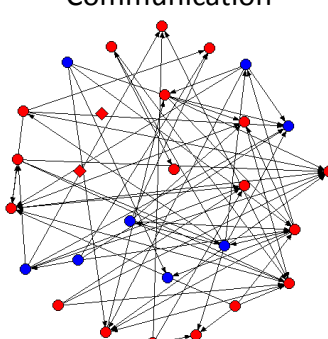
	National	
	State	National
State	0	1
National	1	1

	State	
	County	State
County	0	1
State	1	1

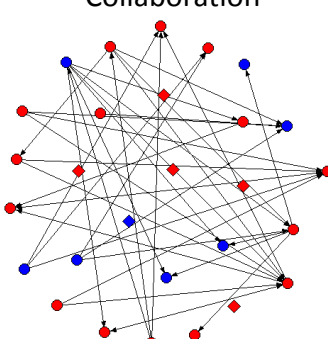
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Local

Communication



Collaboration

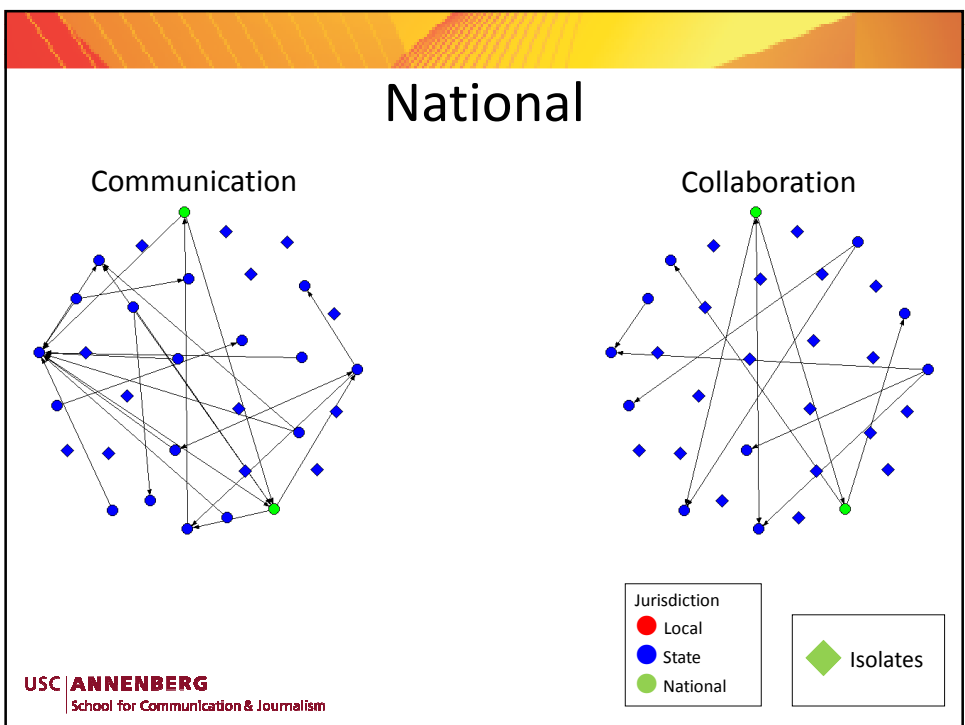
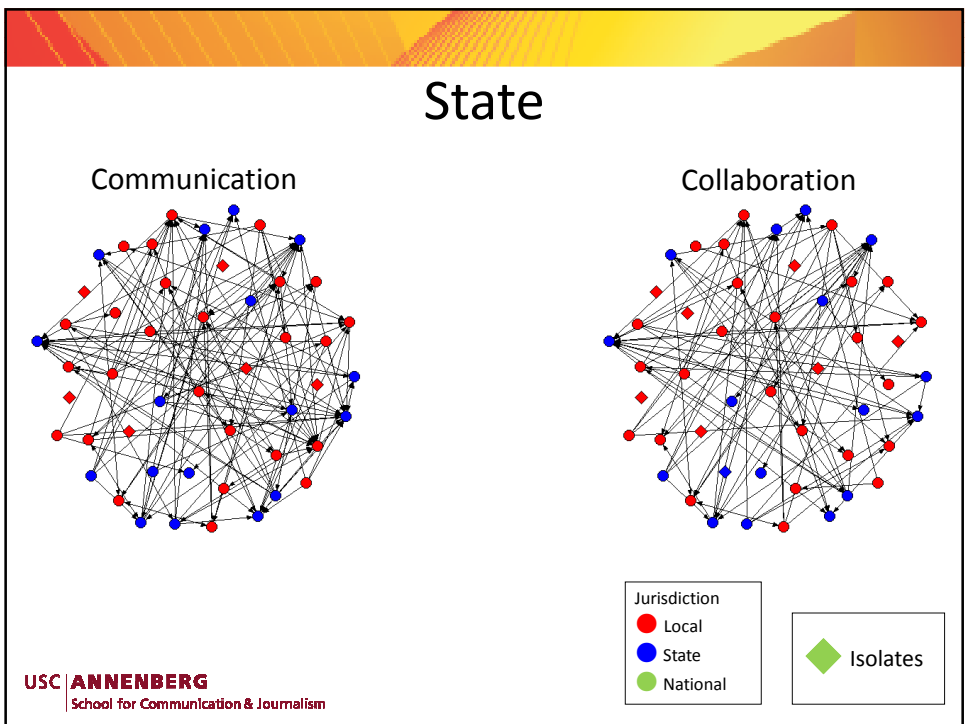


Jurisdiction

- Local
- State
- National

◆ Isolates

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Conclusions

- Proximity matters at both the dyadic and global level for network coalitions
- Jurisdiction does not seem to be as important a factor in determining communication and collaboration relationships

Limitations and Future Research

- Response rate
- Self-report
- Differences in the way that the coalitions are run
- Longitudinal

Implications

- Proximity at the dyadic level is most important for coalitions working at larger distances
- The geographic structure of the coalitions relates to communication and collaboration
- Need to theorize about proximity effects on multiple levels

Thank You