

Modeling the Dynamics of Network Formation and Evolution

DRW_Ljubljana2004.doc
Douglas R. White, Feb 2004

Ljubljana June Workshop on
*Dynamics of groups and institutions:
Their emergence, co-evolution and environment*

Funded and Hosted by the Santa Fe Institute
and the Slovenian Academy of Sciences

Outline

Predictive cohesion theory, network maturation, pump dynamics and other principles of network dynamics are examined as offering integrated modeling approaches to time-series network studies of the emergence of groups and institutions.

Six specific network modeling projects were examined to compare common and different dynamical principles in network formation and evolution.

These comprise the substantive sections of the paper:

- 1 Dynamics of Empire in Agrarian Systems 0-2000CE: Turchin's Metaethnic Frontier
- 2 European Trading Network and Polity Dynamics 1150-1480
- 3 Economic and Political Hegemons in the World Trading System 1200-2000
- 4 The Differential Synchronies of National Economies (*input-output analyses*)
- 5 InterOrganizational Networks and Innovation Pumps in Biotech: 1988-2000
- 6 Foreign Investment networks in Eastern Europe and elsewhere

In presenting conclusions, it was decided to concentrate on one of these studies, #2. The slide presentation is found at <http://eclectic.ss.uci.edu/~drwhite/Civ/> ([live link](#))

Concluding sections draw out generalizations concerning:

- 1 Predictive Cohesion: Network Maturation and Group/Institutional Emergence
- 2 Fields and Organizations: Bundling, Organization and Cross-Linkage
- 3 Pump Dynamics and Co-Evolution with Systems Environments: Commodity chains, Capital Liquidity, Innovation
- 4 Dynamical Model and Empirical testing in historical and organizational contexts, including agent modeling of minimal ring cohesion.