

The Spirit of Science

Course: Management Theory & Sociology Fall Semester

What is Sociology?

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What?



- Sociology is the systematic study of human behavior in society, culture & their relationships on the group level
- For example, differences in
 - Gender
 - Race & Ethnicity
 - Class
 - Status







Social Psychology



- A different focus than Sociology
- Using a different research method & approaches
- Focusing more on individual level, including individual attitude & feelings







Sociology vs Social Psychology



 Multiple husbands & wives vs. a single husband & wife

Sociology studies "why" certain cultures accept, but others are not

Social
Psychology
studies individual
attitude & feelings
within each or the
marriages







Anthropology



- Focuses on how humans have changes over time
 - Traditions
 - Tastes & Perspectives
 - Beliefs

Archeology: studies the traditional vs. modern







Sociology



- What are the "ingredients" for the ideal society?
 - Equal treatment or different treatment?

- How would the culture be passed on to the next generations?
 - Food
 - beliefs







Current Approaches on Sociology



- Macro Sociology
 - Studying society as the whole
 - Analysis of social systems

- Micro Sociology
 - Studying small group behavior
 - Everyday human behavior & interaction
 - Importance of social status & social roles







Fields of Sociology [examples]



- Globalization
- Race & ethnicity
- Religion
- Family
- Education
- Work & Organization
- Health Issues
- Demography

How consumer goods connect people

Capital flows & people flows







Theories in Sociology



Many recognized theories

Conflict theory
Functional theory
Feminist theory
Critical theory
Labeling theory
Game theory

Symbolic Interaction theory Socio Biological theory Social Exchange theory Social Phenomenology Structural-Strain theory Chaos theory

From math = nonlinear systems of social complexity







Sociology in Education



- Purpose is to shape policies, practices & outcomes
- Socialization into "hierarchy" or "order" of
 - Gender
 - Status
 - Class
 - Racial
 - Position





Sociology in Education (2)



Functional theory

- Moral education as the basis for solidarity to glue together
- Promoting social control
- Symbolic interaction theory
 - Interactions during schooling & outcomes
 - Students vs. teachers/lecturers
 - Across gender, race, ethnicity
 - Creating certain expectation from all parties







Sociology in Education (3)



- Conflict theory
 - Workers vs. Owners
 - Reproduction of hierarchy & inequality in society
- Therefore, education affects gender/race stratification
 - Curriculums are products of dominant worldviews & beliefs
 - Education reproduces power domination,
 oppression & inequality in society







Sociology in Industry/Work



- "work" = carrying out tasks
 - Involves expenditures of mental & physical efforts to produce goods and services to cater human needs
- Traditional culture
 - Food gathering & food production
 - Carpentry, stonemasonry, ship-building
- Modern culture
 - People work in much wider variations of occupations







Sociology in Industry/Work (2)



 Occupation/job = work that is done in exchange for regular wages/salaries

- Work has become the basis of economy
 - Work shapes the country's economic systems of either socialism, capitalism or mixed economy

Influences life & all parts of society







Sociology in Industry/Work (3)



- Socialist theory = Karl Marx
 - Examine work condition in factories during the industrial revolution looking at the transition of independent craftsmanship to working for a boss ("alienating" & "de-skilling")
- Max Weber = development of new types of authority in modern organization



Sociology in Industry/Work (4)



- Work vs. social inequality
 - Differences of working hours across countries
 - Employment vs. social structure vs. behaviors?

- Economic System = social structures
 - Macro: USA & global economic changes in technology leads to changes in demography
 - Micro: quantity of supply/demand, work/family balance, self-identity





Management Theory & Sociology



- This class focuses only the sociology in industry, work & organization
 - Attempting to understand the group interactions
 - in organizations & across organizations
 - Provided the organizational structure, hierarchy, divisions of tasks, divisions of responsibilities, chains of commands, etc.
 - To achieve GROUP SYNERGY in organization & across organizations
 Working together, cooperation,

joint ventures, subcontracting, pluralism instead of creating the atmosphere of exclusiveness





Group Synergy



- Traditional Model on Diversity
 - Age, race, gender, disability, nationality, political association, lifestyle, pay level

- Inclusive Model on Diversity
 - Race, gender, lifestyle, pay level, function,
 competency, income, parent, language, work style,
 military experience, position, nationality, personality







 The aggregate of the actual or potential resources, which are linked to possessions of a durable network of individuals within the institutionalized relationships of mutual acquaintainces or recognition

 Personal characteristics must support the group behaviors to target the value created for organizations









- Social capital is tied into individual's position, job or occupation
 - This is called the FAVORABLE network position
 - Others are calling it the social networking
 - This is the durable networking!









- What is the favorable network position?
- Why is this position favorable?
- What benefits do actors accrue in these positions?









- The FAVORABLE network position, or the social networking, or the durable networking is about;
 - Finding jobs?
 - Finding schools?
 - Finding places to visit?
 - Finding places to hang-out?
 - Finding hotels?
 - Finding cars?
 - Finding anything in life?









- The FAVORABLE network position, or the social networking, or the durable networking lead to
 - Finding better jobs & faster
 - Promoted early
 - Close deals quickly
 - Receive higher performance evaluations
 - Receive larger bonuses
 - Enhance the performance of others







Social Network Theory



- The understanding about Social Network Theory is borrowed from physics & computer science courses, which are later used in sociology, operation management & operation research courses
 - Strong ties vs. weak ties
 - Triadic closure
 - Local bridge







Strong Ties vs Weak Ties





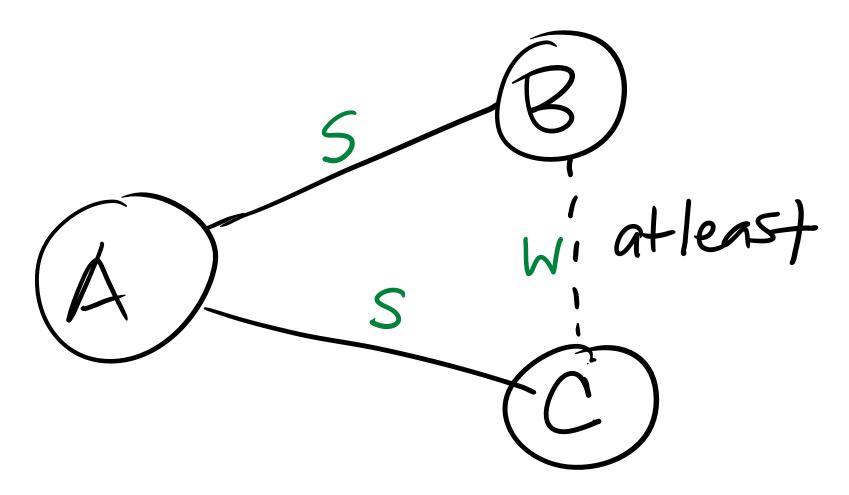






Triadic Closure





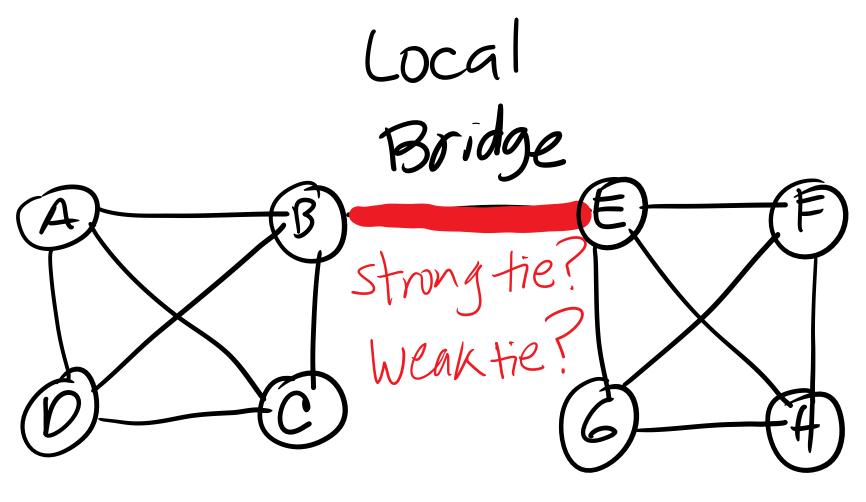






Local Bridge 1

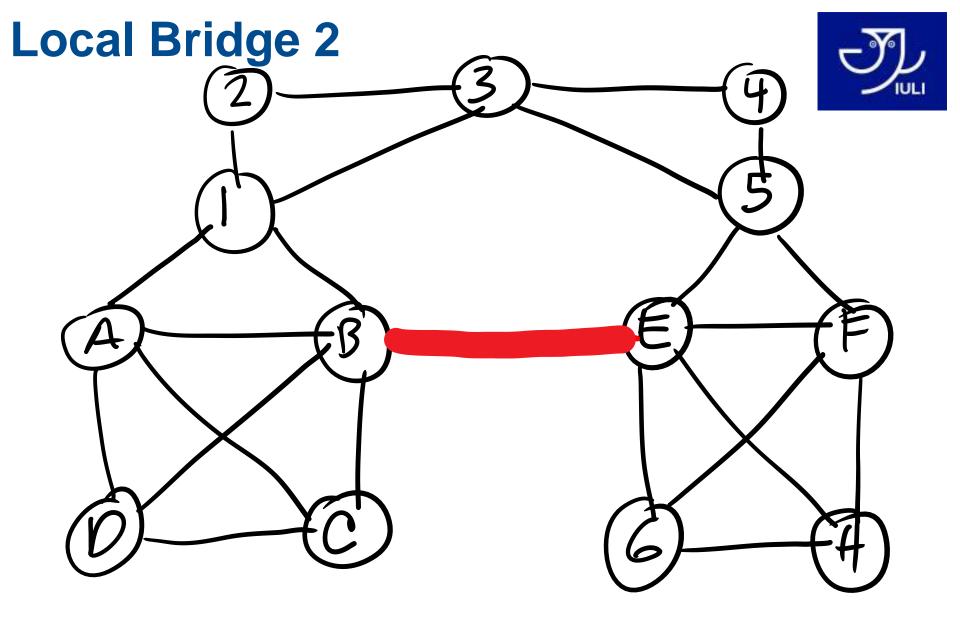








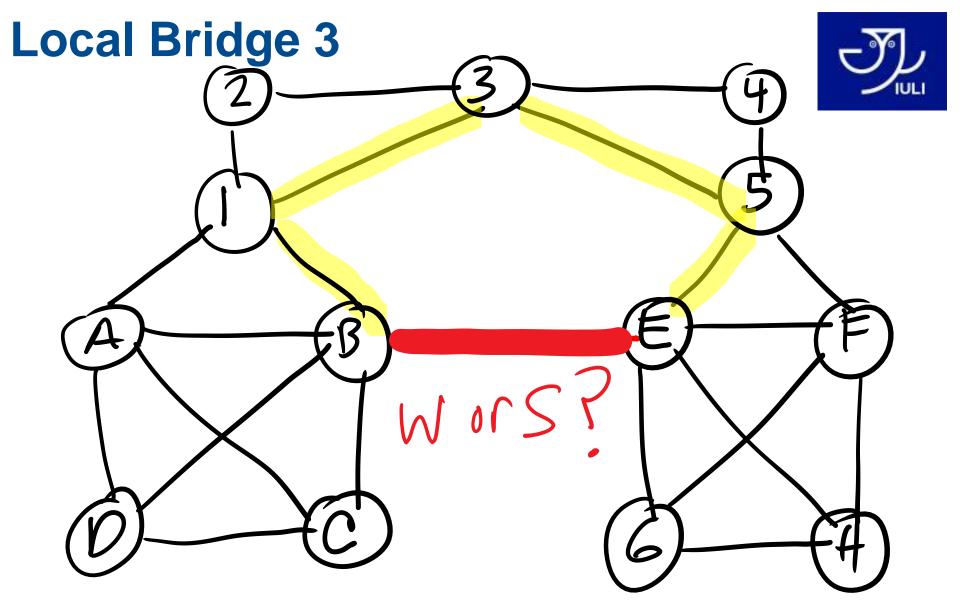












How big is the span of the local bridge?







Local Bridge 4



- The local bridge has a strong tie or weak tie?
 - Based on the illustration, the local bridge has to be a relatively weak tie

- But....
 - It becomes the sources of novel information
 - It fills-in structural holes
 - It serves the grapevines communication channels (the "back-door" in most organizations)



