

# Package ‘econet’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Estimation of Parameter-Dependent Network Centrality Measures

**Version** 1.0.0.1

## Description

Provides methods for estimating parameter-dependent network centrality measures with linear-in-means models. Both non linear least squares and maximum likelihood estimators are implemented. The methods allow for both link and node heterogeneity in network effects, endogenous network formation and the presence of unconnected nodes. The routines also compare the explanatory power of parameter-dependent network centrality measures with those of standard measures of network centrality. Benefits and features of the 'econet' package are illustrated using data from Battaglini and Patacchini (2018) and Battaglini, Patacchini, and Leone Sciabolazza (2020). For additional details, see the vignette [doi:10.18637/jss.v102.i08](https://doi.org/10.18637/jss.v102.i08).

**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0)

**Imports** bbmle, igraph, intergraph, formula.tools, Matrix, MASS,  
minpack.lm, sna, spatstat.utils, stats, utils, plyr, dplyr,  
parallel, doParallel, progressr, foreach

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**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.2

**Suggests** testthat, R.rsp

**VignetteBuilder** R.rsp

**NeedsCompilation** no

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a_db_alumni	<i>Dataset from Battaglini, Patacchini (2018)</i>
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### Description

Dataset from Battaglini, Patacchini (2018)

### Usage

```
data("a_db_alumni")
```

### Format

an object of class `data.frame` with 2176 rows and 48 columns

**id** unique congressman id.

**PAC** PAC contributions to a member of Congress (in US dollars).

**isolate** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the congressman did not graduate from the same institution within eight years with any other congressman.

**S1-S65** list of school dummies. Each one refers to a different school. The dummy takes value one if the congressman attended the given school.

**S\_other** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the congressman attended any other school not previously listed.

**party** dummy variable taking value 1 if the congressman is a Democrat, and 0 if the congressman is a Republican.

**gender** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the congressman is female.

**nchair** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the congressman is a chair of at least one committee.

**sen** number of consecutive years in the House of Representatives.

**margin\_b** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the election margin of victory is less than 5%.

- dw** distance to the center in terms of ideology measured using the absolute value of the first dimension of the dw-nominate score created by McCarty et al. (1997).
- majority** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the member of Congress is a member of the party holding the majority of the seats in the House of Representatives.
- relcom** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the congressman is member of a powerful committee (Appropriations, Budget, Rules and Ways and Means).
- time** categorical variable. It takes 1 if the record refers to the 109th congress, 2 if the record refers to the 110th congress, 3 if the record refers to the 111th congress, 4 if the record refers to the 112th congress, 5 if the record refers to the 113th congress.
- weights** for each congressman  $i$ , the value is equal to the inverse of the variance of PAC contributions received by all congressmen in  $i$ 's State of election.

## References

- Battaglini M., E. Patacchini (2018), "Influencing Connected Legislators", Journal of Political Economy, forthcoming.
- McCarty, N. M., K. T. Poole, and H. Rosenthal (1997), "Income redistribution and the realignment of American politics", AEIpress.

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a_G_alumni_111	<i>Column-normalized adjacency matrix representing the alumni network of the 111th U.S. Congress.</i>
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## Description

Column-normalized adjacency matrix representing the alumni network of the 111th U.S. Congress.

## Usage

```
data("a_G_alumni_111")
```

## Format

an object of class `Matrix` with 426 rows and 426 columns

## References

- Battaglini M., E. Patacchini (2018), "Influencing Connected Legislators", Journal of Political Economy, forthcoming.

boot

*boot: Bootstrap residuals with cross-sectional dependence***Description**

boot: Bootstrap residuals with cross-sectional dependence

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'econet'
boot(
  object,
  hypothesis = c("lim", "het", "het_l", "het_r", "par", "par_split_with",
    "par_split_btw", "par_split_with_btw"),
  group = NULL,
  niter,
  weights = FALSE,
  delta = NULL,
  na.rm = FALSE,
  parallel = FALSE,
  cl,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

object	an object of class econet obtained using 'NLLS' estimation.
hypothesis	string. One of c("lim", "het", "het_l", "het_r", "par", "par_split_with", "par_split_btw", "par_split_with_btw").
group	NULL or vector of positive integers specifying the indices for resampling within groups.
niter	number of required iterations.
weights	logical. It is TRUE if the object object was estimated using weights, and FALSE otherwise. Default FALSE.
delta	Default is NULL. It has to be a number between zero (included) and one (excluded). When used, econet performs a constrained NLLS estimation. In this case, the estimated peer effect parameter, taken in absolute value, is forced to be higher than zero and lower than the spectral radius of G. Specifically, delta is a penalizing factor, decreasing the goodness of fit of the NLLS estimation, when the peer effect parameter approaches one of the two bounds. Observe that very high values of delta may cause NLLS estimation not to converge.
na.rm	logical. Should missing values (including NaN) be removed?
parallel	logical. It is TRUE if the user wants to make use of parallelization. Default is FALSE. Observe that this option is still in its beta version and it has been tested only for the Windows platform.



```

# Warning: this may take a very long time to run.
# Decrease the number of iterations to reduce runtime.
# If you run econet on a Windows platform, you can try to set the
# argument parallel = TRUE. However note that this option is still
# in its beta version.
boot_lim_estimate <- boot(object = lim_model_B, hypothesis = "lim",
                          group = NULL, niter = 10, weights = FALSE)
boot_lim_estimate

```

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db\_alumni\_test      *Dataset from Battaglini, Patacchini (2018)*

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### Description

Dataset from Battaglini, Patacchini (2018)

### Usage

```
data("db_alumni_test")
```

### Format

Data set for runtime executions. An object of class `data.frame` with 42 rows and 48 columns

**id** unique congressman id.

**PAC** PAC contributions to a member of Congress (in US dollars).

**isolate** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the congressman did not graduate from the same institution within eight years with any other congressman.

**S1-S65** list of school dummies. Each one refers to a different school. The dummy takes value one if the congressman attended the given school.

**S\_other** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the congressman attended any other school not previously listed.

**party** dummy variable taking value 1 if the congressman is a Democrat, and 0 if the congressman is a Republican.

**gender** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the congressman is female.

**nchair** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the congressman is a chair of at least one committee.

**sen** number of consecutive years in the House of Representatives.

**margin\_b** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the election margin of victory is less than 5%.

**dw** distance to the center in terms of ideology measured using the absolute value of the first dimension of the dw-nominate score created by McCarty et al. (1997).

**majority** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the member of Congress is a member of the party holding the majority of the seats in the House of Representatives.

**relcom** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the congressman is member of a powerful committee (Appropriations, Budget, Rules and Ways and Means).

**time** categorical variable. It takes 1 if the record refers to the 109th congress, 2 if the record refers to the 110th congress, 3 if the record refers to the 111th congress, 4 if the record refers to the 112th congress, 5 if the record refers to the 113th congress.

**weights** for each congressman  $i$ , the value is equal to the inverse of the variance of PAC contributions received by all congressmen in  $i$ 's State of election.

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 db\_cosponsor

*Dataset from Battaglini, Leone Sciabolazza, Patacchini (2018)*


---

### Description

Dataset from Battaglini, Leone Sciabolazza, Patacchini (2018)

### Usage

```
data("db_cosponsor")
```

### Format

an object of class `data.frame` with 2176 rows and 48 columns

**id** unique congressman id.

**time** categorical variable. It takes 1 if the record refers to the 109th congress, 2 if the record refers to the 110th congress, 3 if the record refers to the 111th congress, 4 if the record refers to the 112th congress, 5 if the record refers to the 113th congress.

**party** dummy variable taking value 1 if the congressman is a Democrat, and 0 if the congressman is a Republican.

**gender** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the congressman is female.

**nchair** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the congressman is a chair of at least one committee.

**margin** election Margin of Victory of the member of Congress.

**dw** distance to the center in terms of ideology measured using the absolute value of the first dimension of the dw-nominate score created by McCarty et al. (1997).

**les** weighted average of the following the number of a congressman's sponsored bill that were introduced, received any action in committee and beyond committee, passed the House, and became law. It differentially weights commemorative, substantive and significant legislation. Created by Volden C. and Wiseman A. E. (2014).

**majority** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the member of Congress is a member of the party holding the majority of the seats in the House of Representatives.

**state\_leg** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the member of Congress served in state legislature.

**state\_leg\_prof** Squire's (1992) index of state professionalism relative to Congress.

**speaker** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the member of Congress is speaker of the House.

**seniority** number of consecutive years in the House of Representatives.

**maj\_leader** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the member of Congress is member of the majority party leadership, as reported by the Almanac of American Politics.

**min\_leader** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the member of Congress is member of the minority party leadership, as reported by the Almanac of American Politics.

**nowhite** dummy variable taking value of 1 if the member of Congress is Afro-American or Latino, and 0 otherwise.

**H.102-251** list of committee dummies. Each one refers to a different committee. The dummy takes value of 1 if the congressman served in the given committee.

**weights** for each congressman  $i$ , the value is equal to the inverse of the variance of LES of all congressmen in  $i$ 's State of election.

## References

Battaglini M., V. Leone Sciabolazza, E. Patacchini (2018), "Effectiveness of Connected Legislators", Mimeo.

McCarty, N. M., K. T. Poole, and H. Rosenthal (1997), "Income redistribution and the realignment of American politics", AEIpress.

Squire, P. (1992), "Legislative professionalization and membership diversity in state legislatures", *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 17(1) 69-79.

Volden, C., and A. E. Wiseman (2014), "Legislative Effectiveness in the United States Congress The Lawmakers", Cambridge University Press.

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G\_alumni\_111

*Column-normalized adjacency matrix representing the alumni network of the 111th U.S. Congress.*

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## Description

Column-normalized adjacency matrix representing the alumni network of the 111th U.S. Congress.

## Usage

```
data("G_alumni_111")
```

## Format

an object of class `Matrix` with 426 rows and 426 columns

## References

Battaglini M., V. Leone Sciabolazza, E. Patacchini (2018), "Effectiveness of Connected Legislators", Mimeo.

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G_cosponsor_111	<i>Column-normalized adjacency matrix representing the cosponsorship network of the 111th U.S. Congress.</i>
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**Description**

Column-normalized adjacency matrix representing the cosponsorship network of the 111th U.S. Congress.

**Usage**

```
data("G_cosponsor_111")
```

**Format**

an object of class `Matrix` with 439 rows and 439 columns

**References**

Battaglini M., V. Leone Sciabolazza, E. Patacchini (2018), "Effectiveness of Connected Legislators", Mimeo.

---

G_model_A_test	<i>Column-normalized adjacency matrix representing a subsample of the alumni network of the 111th U.S. Congress.</i>
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**Description**

Column-normalized adjacency matrix representing a subsample of the alumni network of the 111th U.S. Congress.

**Usage**

```
data("G_model_A_test")
```

**Format**

Data set for runtime executions. An object of class `Matrix` with 42 rows and 42 columns

**References**

Battaglini M., E. Patacchini (2018), "Influencing Connected Legislators", *Journal of Political Economy*, forthcoming.

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horse_race	<i>Compare the explanatory power of parameter.dependent network centrality measures with those of standard measures of network centrality.</i>
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### Description

Compare the explanatory power of parameter.dependent network centrality measures with those of standard measures of network centrality.

### Usage

```
horse_race(
  formula = formula(),
  centralities = c("indegree", "outdegree", "degree", "betweenness", "incloseness",
    "outcloseness", "closeness", "eigenvector"),
  directed = FALSE,
  weighted = FALSE,
  normalization = FALSE,
  data = list(),
  unobservables = list(),
  G = list(),
  model = c("model_A", "model_B"),
  estimation = c("NLLS", "MLE"),
  endogeneity = FALSE,
  first_step = NULL,
  exclusion_restriction = NULL,
  start.val = NULL,
  to_weight = NULL,
  time_fixed_effect = NULL,
  ind_fixed_effect = NULL,
  mle_controls = NULL,
  kappa = NULL,
  delta = NULL
)
```

### Arguments

formula	an object of class formula: a symbolic description of the model to be fitted. The constant (i.e. intercept) and the autoregressive parameter needs not to be specified.
centralities	at least one of c("indegree", "outdegree", "degree", "betweenness", "incloseness", "outcloseness", "closeness", "eigenvector").
directed	logical. TRUE if the social network is directed, FALSE otherwise.
weighted	logical. TRUE if the social network is weighted, FALSE otherwise.
normalization	Default is NULL. Alternatively, it can be set to c("bygraph", "bycomponent", "bymaxcomponent", "bymaxgraph"). See details.

<code>data</code>	an object of class <code>data.frame</code> containing the variables in the model. If data are longitudinal, observations must be ordered by time period and then by individual.
<code>unobservables</code>	a numeric vector used to obtain an unbiased estimate of the parameter-dependent centrality when the network is endogenous. See details.
<code>G</code>	an object of class <code>Matrix</code> representing the social network. Row and column names must be specified and match the order of the observations in <code>data</code> .
<code>model</code>	string. One of <code>c("model_A", "model_B")</code> . See details.
<code>estimation</code>	string. One of <code>c("NLLS", "MLE")</code> . They are used to implement respectively a non-linear least square and a maximum likelihood estimator.
<code>endogeneity</code>	logical. Default is <code>FALSE</code> . If <code>TRUE</code> , <code>net_dep</code> implements a two-step correction procedure to control for the endogeneity of the network.
<code>first_step</code>	Default is <code>NULL</code> . If <code>endogeneity = TRUE</code> , it requires to specify one of <code>c("standard", "fe", "shortest", "coauthors", "degree")</code> . See details.
<code>exclusion_restriction</code>	an object of class <code>Matrix</code> representing the exogenous matrix used to instrument the endogenous social network, if <code>unobservables</code> is non- <code>NULL</code> . Row and column names must be specified and match the order of the observations in <code>data</code> .
<code>start.val</code>	an optional list containing the starting values for the estimations. Object names must match the names provided in <code>formula</code> . It is also required to specify the value of both the constant and the decay parameter(s).
<code>to_weight</code>	an optional vector of weights to be used in the fitting process to indicate that different observations have different variances. Should be <code>NULL</code> or a numeric vector. If non- <code>NULL</code> , weighted non-linear least squares (if <code>estimation = "NLLS"</code> ) or weighted maximum likelihood (if <code>estimation = "MLE"</code> ) is estimated.
<code>time_fixed_effect</code>	an optional string. It indicates the name of the time index used in <code>formula</code> . It is used for models with longitudinal data.
<code>ind_fixed_effect</code>	an optional string. Default is <code>NULL</code> . It indicates the name of the individual index contained in the data. If provided, individual fixed effects are automatically added to the <code>formula</code> of the main equation. If <code>endogeneity = TRUE</code> , the field <code>first_step</code> is overridden, and automatically set equal to <code>"fe"</code> . It is used for models with longitudinal data.
<code>mle_controls</code>	a list allowing the user to set upper and lower bounds for control variables in MLE estimation and the variance for the ML estimator. See details.
<code>kappa</code>	a normalization level with default equals 1 used in MLE estimation.
<code>delta</code>	Default is <code>NULL</code> . To be used when <code>estimation = "NLLS"</code> . It has to be a number between zero (included) and one (excluded). When used, <code>econet</code> performs a constrained NLLS estimation. In this case, the estimated peer effect parameter, taken in absolute value, is forced to be higher than zero and lower than the spectral radius of <code>G</code> . Specifically, <code>delta</code> is a penalizing factor, decreasing the goodness of fit of the NLLS estimation, when the peer effect parameter approaches one of the two bounds. Observe that very high values of <code>delta</code> may cause NLLS estimation not to converge.

## Details

A number of different normalization are available to the user:

- `bygraph` and `bycomponent` are used to divide *degree* and *closeness* centrality by  $n - 1$ , and *betweenness* centrality by  $(n - 1) * (n - 2)$  if `directed = TRUE`, or by  $(n - 1) * (n - 2)/2$  if `directed = FALSE`. In the former case (i.e. `bygraph`),  $n$  is equal to the number of nodes in the network. In the latter case (i.e. `bycomponent`),  $n$  is equal to the number of nodes of the component in which the node is embedded.
- `bymaxgraph` and `bymaxcomponent` are used to divide *degree*, *betweenness* and *closeness* centrality by the maximum value of the centrality of the network (`bymaxgraph`) or component (`bymaxcomponent`) in which the node is embedded.

If the network is endogenous, the user is required to run separately `net_dep` and extract from the resulting object the vector of unobservables necessary for obtaining an unbiased estimate of the parameter-dependent centrality. This vector can be passed through the argument `unobservables`. If `endogeneity = TRUE`, a two-step estimation is implemented to control for network endogeneity. The argument `first_step` is used to control for the specification of the first-step model, e.g.:

- `first_step = "standard"` is used when agents' connection are predicted by the differences in their characteristics (i.e. those on the right hand side of formula), and an `exclusion_restriction`: i.e., their connections in a different network.
- `first_step = "fe"` adds individual fixed effects to the standard model, as in Graham (2017).
- `first_step = "shortest"` adds to the standard model, the shortest distance between  $i$  and  $j$ , excluding the link between  $i$  and  $j$  itself, as in Fafchamps et al (2010).
- `first_step = "coauthor"` adds to the standard model, the number of shared connections between  $i$  and  $j$ , as in Graham (2015).
- `first_step = "degree"` adds to the standard model, the difference in the degree centrality of  $i$  and  $j$ .

For additional details, see the vignette (doi:10.18637/jss.v102.i08).

## Value

A list of two objects:

- A list of estimates, each one setting the decay parameter to zero, and adding one of the centralities to the specification of formula. The last object adds to formula all the selected centralities and the decay parameter is set different from zero.
- An object of class `data.frame` containing the computed centrality measures.
- A list of first-step estimations used to correct the effect of centrality measures when the network is endogenous.

## References

Battaglini M., V. Leone Sciabolazza, E. Patacchini, S. Peng (2020), "Econet: An R package for the Estimation of parameter-dependent centrality measures", Mimeo.



```
summary(horse_model_test)                                phi = 16.13035695))
```

---

net_dep	<i>Implement a number of modifications to the linear-in-means model to obtain different weighted versions of Katz-Bonacich centrality.</i>
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---

## Description

Implement a number of modifications to the linear-in-means model to obtain different weighted versions of Katz-Bonacich centrality.

## Usage

```
net_dep(
  formula = formula(),
  data = list(),
  G = list(),
  model = c("model_A", "model_B"),
  estimation = c("NLLS", "MLE"),
  hypothesis = c("lim", "het", "het_l", "het_r", "par", "par_split_with",
    "par_split_btw", "par_split_with_btw"),
  endogeneity = FALSE,
  correction = NULL,
  first_step = NULL,
  z = NULL,
  formula_first_step = NULL,
  exclusion_restriction = NULL,
  start.val = NULL,
  to_weight = NULL,
  time_fixed_effect = NULL,
  ind_fixed_effect = NULL,
  mle_controls = NULL,
  kappa = NULL,
  delta = NULL
)
```

## Arguments

formula	an object of class <code>formula</code> : a symbolic description of the model to be fitted. The constant (i.e. intercept) and the autoregressive parameter needs not to be specified.
data	an object of class <code>data.frame</code> containing the variables in the model. If data are longitudinal, observations must be ordered by time period and then by individual.
G	an object of class <code>Matrix</code> representing the social network. Row and column names must be specified and match the order of the observations in <code>data</code> .

model	string. One of c("model_A", "model_B"). See details.
estimation	string. One of c("NLLS", "MLE"). They are used to implement respectively a non-linear least square and a Maximum Likelihood estimator.
hypothesis	string. One of c("lim", "het", "het_l", "het_r", "par", "par_split_with", "par_split_btw", "par_split_with_btw"). See details.
endogeneity	logical. Default is FALSE. If TRUE, net_dep implements a two-step correction procedure to control for the endogeneity of the network.
correction	Default is NULL. If endogeneity = TRUE, it is required to specify if the main regression should use an instrumental variable ("iv") or Heckman ("heckman") approach.
first_step	Default is NULL. If endogeneity = TRUE, it requires to specify one of c("standard", "fe", "shortest", "coauthors", "degree"). See details.
z	numeric vector. It specifies the source of heterogeneity for peer effects when hypothesis is equal to "het", "het_l", or "het_r". Alternatively, it specifies the groups in which the network should be partitioned when hypothesis is equal to "par", "par_split_with", "par_split_btw", or "par_split_with_btw"). See details.
formula_first_step	an optional object of class formula. If provided, it is used to implement the first step of the estimation when endogeneity = TRUE. The name of the dependent variable must be the same used in the field formula.
exclusion_restriction	an object of class Matrix representing the exogenous matrix used to instrument the endogenous social network, if endogeneity = TRUE. Row and column names must be specified and match the order of the observations in data.
start.val	an optional list containing the starting values for the estimations. Object names must match the names provided in formula. It is also required to specify the value of both the constant and the decay parameter(s). See details.
to_weight	an optional vector of weights to be used in the fitting process to indicate that different observations have different variances. Should be NULL or a numeric vector. If non-NULL, it can be used to fit a weighted non-linear least squares (estimation = "NLLS").
time_fixed_effect	an optional string. It indicates the name of the time index used in formula. It is used for models with longitudinal data.
ind_fixed_effect	an optional string. Default is NULL. It indicates the name of the individual index contained in the data. If provided, individual fixed effects are automatically added to the formula of the main equation. If endogeneity = TRUE, the field first_step is overridden, and automatically set equal to "fe". It is used for models with longitudinal data. Observe that inclusion of individual fixed effects is in its beta version. When estimation == "MLE", net_dep is guaranteed to work only if hypothesis == "lim".
mle_controls	a list allowing the user to set upper and lower bounds for control variables in MLE estimation and the variance for the ML estimator. See details.

kappa	a normalization level with default equals 1 used in MLE estimation.
delta	Default is NULL. To be used when estimation = "NLLS". It has to be a number between zero (included) and one (excluded). When used, econet performs a constrained NLLS estimation. In this case, the estimated peer effect parameter, taken in absolute value, is forced to be between the spectral radius of G and its opposite value. Specifically, delta is a penalizing factor, decreasing the goodness of fit of the NLLS estimation, when the peer effect parameter approaches one of the two bounds. Observe that very high values of delta may cause NLLS estimation not to converge.

## Details

Agent's parameter-dependent centrality is obtained as a function of

- the agent's characteristics and the performance of its socially connected peers, as in Battaglini, Leone Sciabolazza, Patacchini (2020), if model = "model\_B";
- the performance of its socially connected peers, as in Battaglini, Patacchini (2018), if model = "model\_A".

Peer effects are assumed to be homogenous if hypothesis = "lim". They are assumed to be heterogeneous by setting:

- hypothesis = "het", when peers' performance is susceptible to agent's characteristics and model = "model\_A".
- hypothesis = "het\_l", when peers' performance is susceptible to agent's characteristics and model = "model\_B".
- hypothesis = "het\_r", when agent's performance is susceptible to peers' characteristics and model = "model\_B".
- hypothesis = "par", when model = "model\_B", if the network is formed by interactions between and within two different groups.
- hypothesis = "par\_split\_with", when model = "model\_B", if the network is formed by interactions between and within two different groups, and interactions within each group are different from the other.
- hypothesis = "par\_split\_btw", when model = "model\_B", if the network is formed by interactions between and within two different groups, and interactions between groups are different according to their direction.
- hypothesis = "par\_split\_with\_btw", when model = "model\_B", if the network is formed by interactions between and within two different groups, interactions within each group are different from the other, and interactions between groups are different according to their direction.

When hypothesis is equal to "het", "het\_l", or "het\_r", the argument z is used to specify the source of heterogeneity: i.e. the attribute affecting the ability of the agent to influence or be influenced by peers. When hypothesis is equal to "par", "par\_split\_with", "par\_split\_btw", or "par\_split\_with\_btw" the argument "z" is used to partition observations in two groups: e.g. the generic element  $i$  of vector z takes the value 1 if agent  $i$  is member of the first group, and it takes 2 otherwise.

If `endogeneity = TRUE`, a two-step estimation is implemented to control for network endogeneity. The argument `first_step` is used to control for the specification of the first-step model, e.g.:

- `first_step = "standard"` is used when agents' connection are predicted by the differences in their characteristics (i.e. those on the right hand side of formula), and an `exclusion_restriction`: i.e., their connections in a different network.
- `first_step = "fe"` adds to the standard model, individual fixed effects, as in Graham (2017).
- `first_step = "shortest"` adds to the standard model, the shortest distance between  $i$  and  $j$ , excluding the link between  $i$  and  $j$  itself, as in Fafchamps et al (2010).
- `first_step = "coauthor"` adds to the standard model, the number of shared connections between  $i$  and  $j$ , as in Graham (2015).
- `first_step = "degree"` adds to the standard model, the difference in the degree centrality of  $i$  and  $j$ .

The argument `start.val` is used to specify starting estimates. This can be done with a named list. If a factor is present, a value for each treatment contrast must be provided. Labels of treatment contrasts must be assigned following R model design standards: e.g., a number is appended to contrast names as in `contrasts()`.

The starting value referring to the intercept (constant) must be labelled as "alpha". The label(s) for decay parameter(s) must be:

- "phi", if `hypothesis="lim"` or `hypothesis="het"`
- "theta\_0", "theta\_1", if `hypothesis="het_1"`
- "eta\_0", "eta\_1", if `hypothesis="het_r"`
- "phi\_within", "phi\_between", if `hypothesis="par"`
- "phi\_within\_0", "phi\_within\_1", "phi\_between", if `hypothesis="par_split_with"`
- "phi\_within", "phi\_between\_0", "phi\_between\_1", if `hypothesis="par_split_bt看"`
- "phi\_within\_0", "phi\_within\_1", "phi\_between\_0", "phi\_between\_1", if `hypothesis="par_split_with_bt看"`

The interaction term when `hypothesis="het"` must be labelled "gamma". The label to be used for unobservables when `endogeneity = TRUE` is "unobservables". When `estimation = "MLE"`, it is required to set also the starting value for the variance of the ML estimator. This should be labelled as "sigma".

The argument `mle_controls` takes a list of two objects. The first is a named numeric vector used to set upper and lower bounds for control variables. The second object is a vector used to set upper (first value) and lower (second value) bounds for the variance of the Maximum Likelihood estimator.

Names in `mle_controls` must be equal to those used in `start.val`. For additional details, see the vignette (doi:10.18637/jss.v102.i08).

## Value

A list of three objects: i) Estimates of the main regression; ii) The vector of agents' parameter-dependent centrality; iii) Estimates of the first-step regression (if `endogeneity = TRUE`)

## References

- Battaglini M., E. Patacchini (2018), "Influencing Connected Legislators," *Journal of Political Economy*, 126(6): 2277-2322.
- Battaglini M., V. Leone Sciabolazza, E. Patacchini (2020), "Effectiveness of Connected Legislators," *American Journal of Political Science*, forthcoming.
- Battaglini M., V. Leone Sciabolazza, E. Patacchini, S. Peng (2020), "Econet: An R package for the Estimation of parameter-dependent centrality measures", Mimeo.
- Fafchamps, M., M. J. Leij and S. Goyal (2010), "Matching and network effects," *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 8(1): 203-231.
- Graham B. (2015), "Methods of identification in social networks," *Annual Review of Economics*, 7, 465 - 485.
- Graham B. (2017), "An econometric model of network formation with degree heterogeneity," *Econometrica* 85 (4), 1033 - 1063.

## Examples

```
# Model A

# Load data
data("a_db_alumni")
data("a_G_alumni_111")
db_model_A <- a_db_alumni
G_model_A <- a_G_alumni_111
are_factors <- c("party", "gender", "nchair", "isolate")
db_model_A[are_factors] <- lapply(db_model_A[are_factors] ,factor)
db_model_A$PAC <- db_model_A$PAC/1e+06

# Specify formula
f_model_A <- formula("PAC ~ gender + party + nchair + isolate")

# Specify starting values
starting <- c(alpha = 0.47325,
             beta_gender1 = -0.26991,
             beta_party1 = 0.55883,
             beta_nchair1 = -0.17409,
             beta_isolate1 = 0.18813,
             phi = 0.21440)

# Fit Linear-in-means model
lim_model_A <- net_dep(formula = f_model_A, data = db_model_A,
                      G = G_model_A, model = "model_A", estimation = "NLLS",
                      hypothesis = "lim", start.val = starting)

summary(lim_model_A)
lim_model_A$centrality

# Test Heterogeneity

# Heterogeneous factor
z <- as.numeric(as.character(db_model_A$gender))
```

```
# Specify formula
f_het_model_A <- formula("PAC ~ party + nchair + isolate")

# Specify starting values
starting <- c(alpha = 0.44835,
              beta_party1 = 0.56004,
              beta_nchair1 = -0.16349,
              beta_isolate1 = 0.21011,
              beta_z = -0.26015,
              phi = 0.34212,
              gamma = -0.49960)

# Fit model
het_model_A <- net_dep(formula = f_het_model_A, data = db_model_A,
                      G = G_model_A, model = "model_A", estimation = "NLLS",
                      hypothesis = "het", z = z, start.val = starting)

summary(het_model_A)
het_model_A$centrality

# Model B

# Load data
data("db_cosponsor")
data("G_alumni_111")
db_model_B <- db_cosponsor
G_model_B <- G_cosponsor_111
G_exclusion_restriction <- G_alumni_111
are_factors <- c("party", "gender", "nchair")
db_model_B[are_factors] <- lapply(db_model_B[are_factors], factor)

# Specify formula
f_model_B <- formula("les ~ gender + party + nchair")

# Specify starting values
starting <- c(alpha = 0.23952,
              beta_gender1 = -0.22024,
              beta_party1 = 0.42947,
              beta_nchair1 = 3.09615,
              phi = 0.40038,
              unobservables = 0.07714)

# Fit Linear-in-means model
lim_model_B <- net_dep(formula = f_model_B, data = db_model_B,
                      G = G_model_B, model = "model_B", estimation = "NLLS",
                      hypothesis = "lim", endogeneity = TRUE,
                      correction = "heckman", first_step = "standard",
                      exclusion_restriction = G_exclusion_restriction,
                      start.val = starting)

summary(lim_model_B)
lim_model_B$centrality
```

```
summary(lim_model_B, print = "first.step")

# Test Heterogeneity

# Heterogeneous factor (node -level)
z <- as.numeric(as.character(db_model_B$gender))

# Specify formula
f_het_model_B <- formula("les ~ party + nchair")

# Specify starting values
starting <- c(alpha = 0.23952,
              beta_party1 = 0.42947,
              beta_nchair1 = 3.09615,
              beta_z = -0.12749,
              theta_0 = 0.42588,
              theta_1 = 0.08007)

# Fit model
het_model_B_l <- net_dep(formula = f_het_model_B,
                        data = db_model_B,
                        G = G_model_B, model = "model_B", estimation = "NLLS",
                        hypothesis = "het_l", z = z, start.val = starting)

# Store and print results
summary(het_model_B_l)
het_model_B_l$centrality

# Specify starting values
starting <- c(alpha = 0.04717,
              beta_party1 = 0.51713,
              beta_nchair1 = 3.12683,
              beta_z = 0.01975,
              eta_0 = 1.02789,
              eta_1 = 2.71825)

# Fit model
het_model_B_r <- net_dep(formula = f_het_model_B,
                        data = db_model_B,
                        G = G_model_B, model = "model_B", estimation = "NLLS",
                        hypothesis = "het_r", z = z, start.val = starting)

# Store and print results
summary(het_model_B_r)
het_model_B_r$centrality

# Heterogeneous factor (edge -level)
z <- as.numeric(as.character(db_model_B$party))

# Specify starting values
starting <- c(alpha = 0.242486,
              beta_gender1 = -0.229895,
              beta_party1 = 0.42848,
```

```

      beta_nchair1 = 3.0959,
      phi_within  = 0.396371,
      phi_between = 0.414135)

# Fit model
party_model_B <- net_dep(formula = f_model_B, data = db_model_B,
                        G = G_model_B, model = "model_B",
                        estimation = "NLLS", hypothesis = "par",
                        z = z, start.val = starting)

# Store and print results
summary(party_model_B)
party_model_B$centrality

# WARNING, This toy example is provided only for runtime execution.
# Please refer to previous examples for sensible calculations.
data("db_alumni_test")
data("G_model_A_test")
db_model_A <- db_alumni_test
G_model_A <- G_model_A_test
f_model_A <- formula("les ~ dw")
lim_model_A_test <- net_dep(formula = f_model_A, data = db_model_A,
                          G = G_model_A, model = "model_A", estimation = "NLLS",
                          hypothesis = "lim", start.val = c(alpha = 0.09030594,
                                                            beta_dw = 1.21401940,
                                                            phi = 1.47140647))

summary(lim_model_A_test)

```

---

 quantify

*quantify: quantification of marginal effects in linear-in-means models.*


---

## Description

quantify: quantification of marginal effects in linear-in-means models.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'econet'
quantify(object, ...)
```

## Arguments

object	first object in the list of outcomes returned by net_dep (available only if the argument model is set to "model_B").
...	other arguments

## Details

quantify returns marginal effects for net\_dep objects when model = "model\_B" and hypothesis = "lim". For additional details, see the vignette (doi:10.18637/jss.v102.i08).

**Value**

an object of class `data.frame` listing direct and indirect variable effects (mean, standard deviation, max, min).

**See Also**

[net\\_dep](#)

**Examples**

```
# Load data
data("db_cosponsor")
data("G_alumni_111")
db_model_B <- db_cosponsor
G_model_B <- G_cosponsor_111
G_exclusion_restriction <- G_alumni_111
are_factors <- c("party", "gender", "nchair")
db_model_B[are_factors] <- lapply(db_model_B[are_factors], factor)

# Specify formula
f_model_B <- formula("les ~gender + party + nchair")

# Specify starting values
starting <- c(alpha = 0.23952,
             beta_gender1 = -0.22024,
             beta_party1 = 0.42947,
             beta_nchair1 = 3.09615,
             phi = 0.40038,
             unobservables = 0.07714)

# Fit Linear-in-means model
lim_model_B <- net_dep(formula = f_model_B, data = db_model_B,
                     G = G_model_B, model = "model_B", estimation = "NLLS",
                     hypothesis = "lim", endogeneity = TRUE, correction = "heckman",
                     first_step = "standard",
                     exclusion_restriction = G_exclusion_restriction,
                     start.val = starting)

quantify(lim_model_B)

# WARNING, This toy example is provided only for runtime execution.
# Please refer to previous examples for sensible calculations.
data("db_alumni_test")
data("G_model_A_test")
db_model <- db_alumni_test
G_model <- G_model_A_test
f_model <- formula("les ~ dw")
lim_model_test <- net_dep(formula = f_model, data = db_model,
                        G = G_model, model = "model_B", estimation = "NLLS",
                        hypothesis = "lim", start.val = c(alpha = 0.4553039,
                                                         beta_dw = -0.7514903,
                                                         phi = 1.6170539))

quantify(lim_model_test)
```

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