Universität Konstanz

Societal Differentiation in Policy-Networks: Governing Climate Change in Germany

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Berlin, 2. 04. 2019

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„Bringing Society Back in“ to Policy Network Studies

Recent Policy Network Studies concentrate to much on the micro and meso level of analysis
Need for a macro perspective: Modern societies as assemblages of complex systems

The Policy Network of German Climate Policy

A study within the framework of the COMPON research network
Explanation of data collection

Application of the differentiation approach

Aggregation of individual organizations into organization types ("Species")
Analysis of cooperation relations, exchange of information and reputation for influence.

Conclusion

Summary and outlook

Bringing Society Back in: Gehry versus „Plattenbau“

Problem

Microfoundation of macro processes often led to economical models at micro level
However, modern societies should think as an assemblage of complex systems

Embeddedness of policy processes in structures of societal differentiation (cleavages, subsystemic and sectoral differentiation at macro level)

Varieties of differentation

- Segmentary differentiation: Isolated homogenous fragments
- Stratificatory differentiation: Positions in a hierarchy of status
- Functional differentiation: Roles, positions and orientations in a division of labor
- Institutional differentiation: Roles and positions in rule structures
- Relational Differentiation: Roles and positions in relational structures

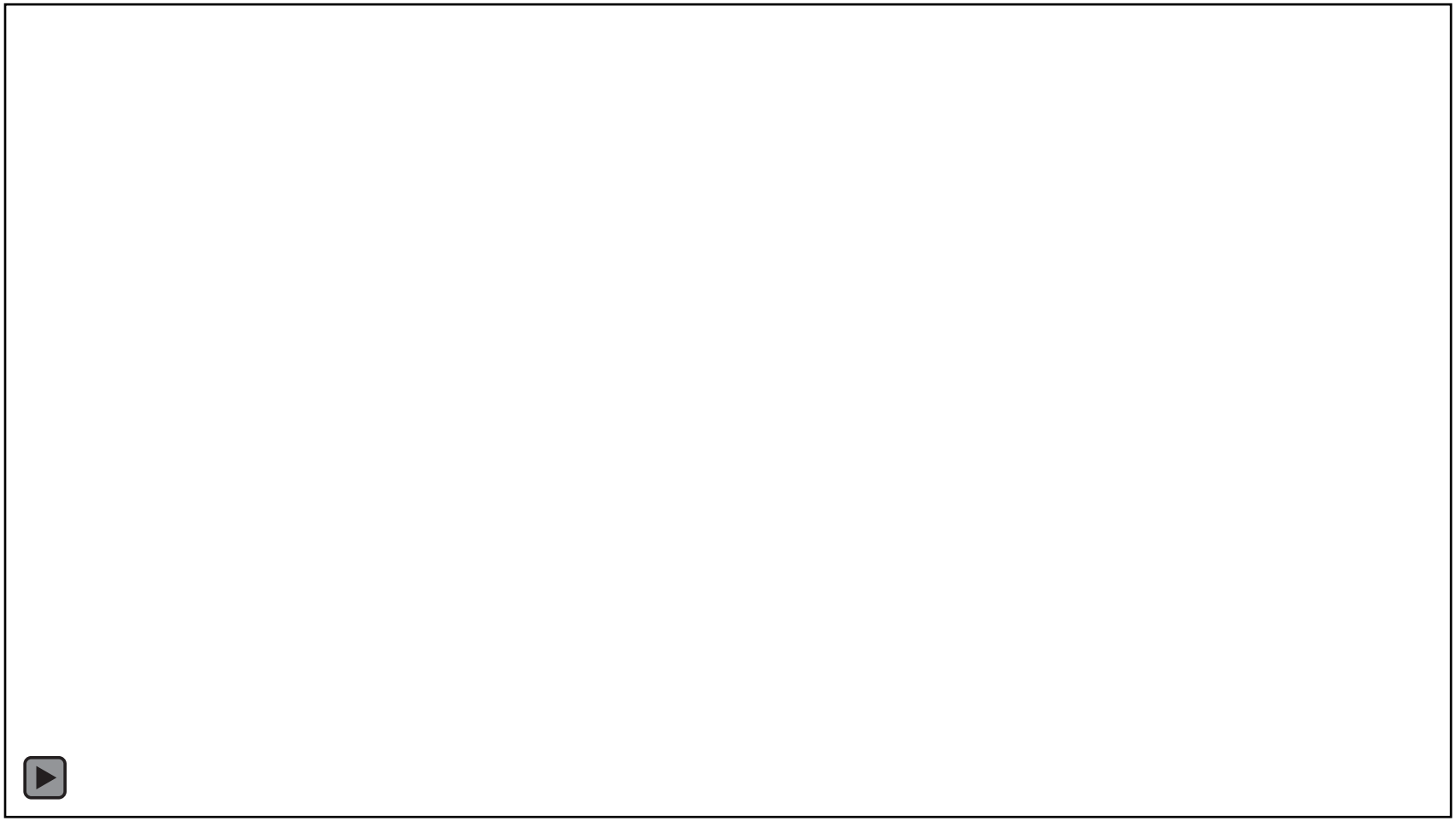
Society as a complex system

Not historical sequences, but simultaneity of heterogenous structures

Many metaphors to think such structures:

- Overlay, entanglement, nesting, interpenetration, assemblage
- Interdependence, networking, linking, concatenation

Gehry versus Parthenon



Hillary Clinton at her farwell speech 02/2013

[president] Truman and [secr. of state] Acheson were building the Parthenon with classical geometry and clear lines. The pillars were a handful of big institutions and alliances dominated by major powers.

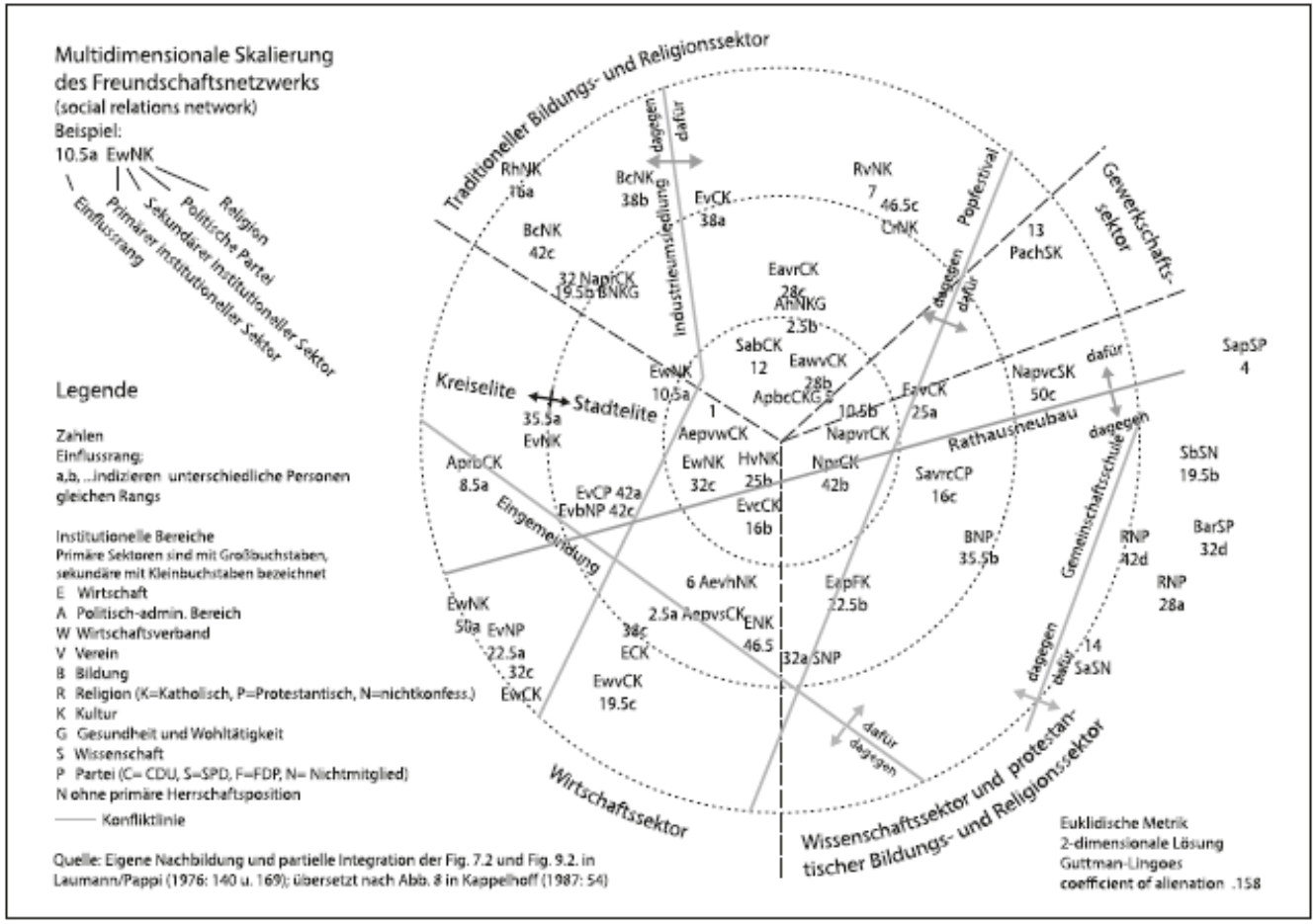
…. we do need a new architecture for this new world; more Frank Gehry than formal Greek. (…) Where once a few strong columns could hold up the weight of the world, today we need a dynamic mix of materials and structures..”

Hillary Clinton at her farwell speech 02/2013

Gehry versus „Formal Greek and Plattenbau“

A Gehry type classic with multiple structures of differenciation is Laumann &Pappi‘s „Networks of Collective Action“

Abbildung 2



Quelle: Eigene Nachbildung und partielle Integration der Fig. 7.2 und Fig. 9.2. in Laumann/Pappi (1976: 140 u. 169); übersetzt nach Abb. 8 in Kappelhoff (1987: 54)

Laumann, Edward O./Pappi, Franz U.: Networks of Collective Action 329

Schneider, V., 2019: "Laumann/Pappi (1976): Networks of Collective Action", in Holzer, B. und Stegbauer, C., Schlüsselwerke der Netzwerkforschung, Wiesbaden: Springer, S. 325-330.

The German Climate Policy Network
A Study in the Framework of COMPON

COMPON: Comparing climate policy networks in a dozen of countries

Two types of network analysis

One-Mode Networks

- Data collection by standardized surveys based on organization lists: Questions are related to relations, preferences, and organizational attributes

Two-Mode Networks

- Discourse Network Analysis based on qualitative content analysis, mostly media analysis

Data collection in Germany between 8-2011 and 10-2012

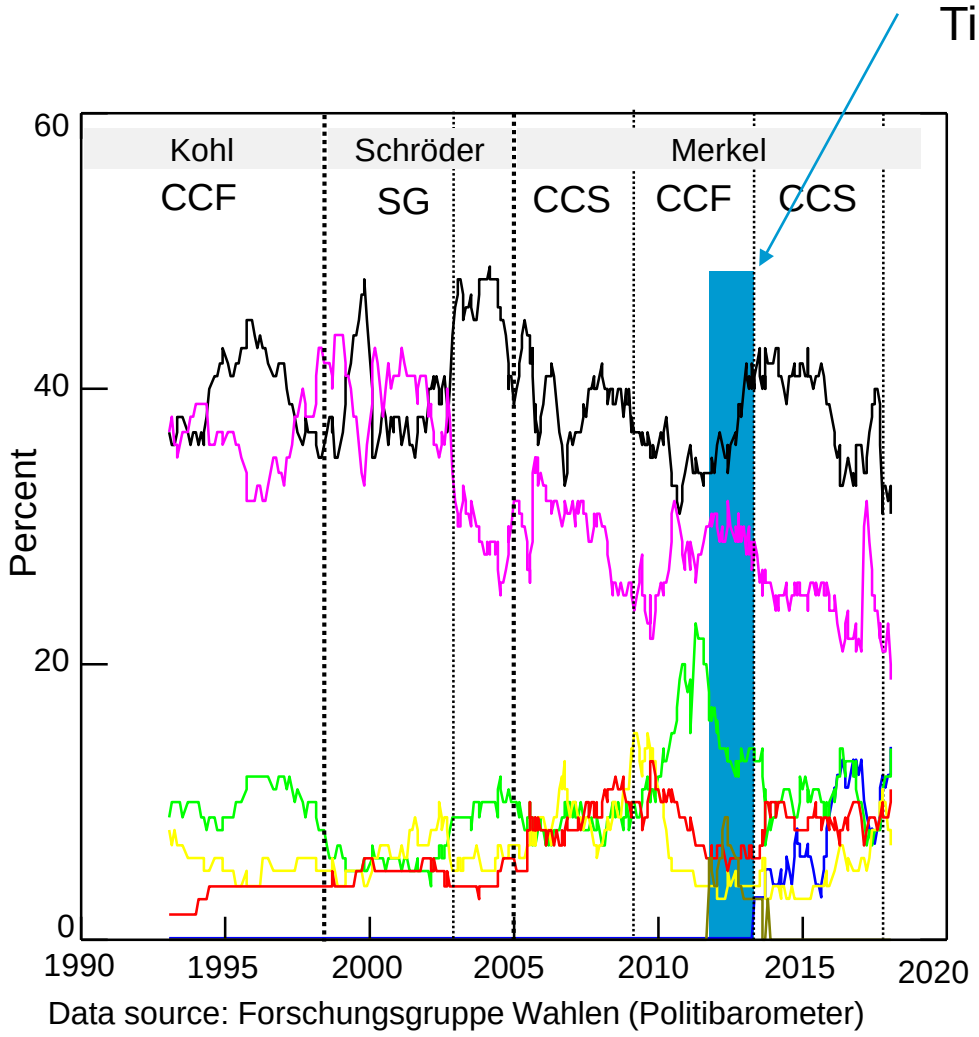
70 National organisations as targets

22 EU & International Organizations

50 interviews with national ORGs

Data collection supported by U.S. NSF on U Minnesota (J Broadbent)

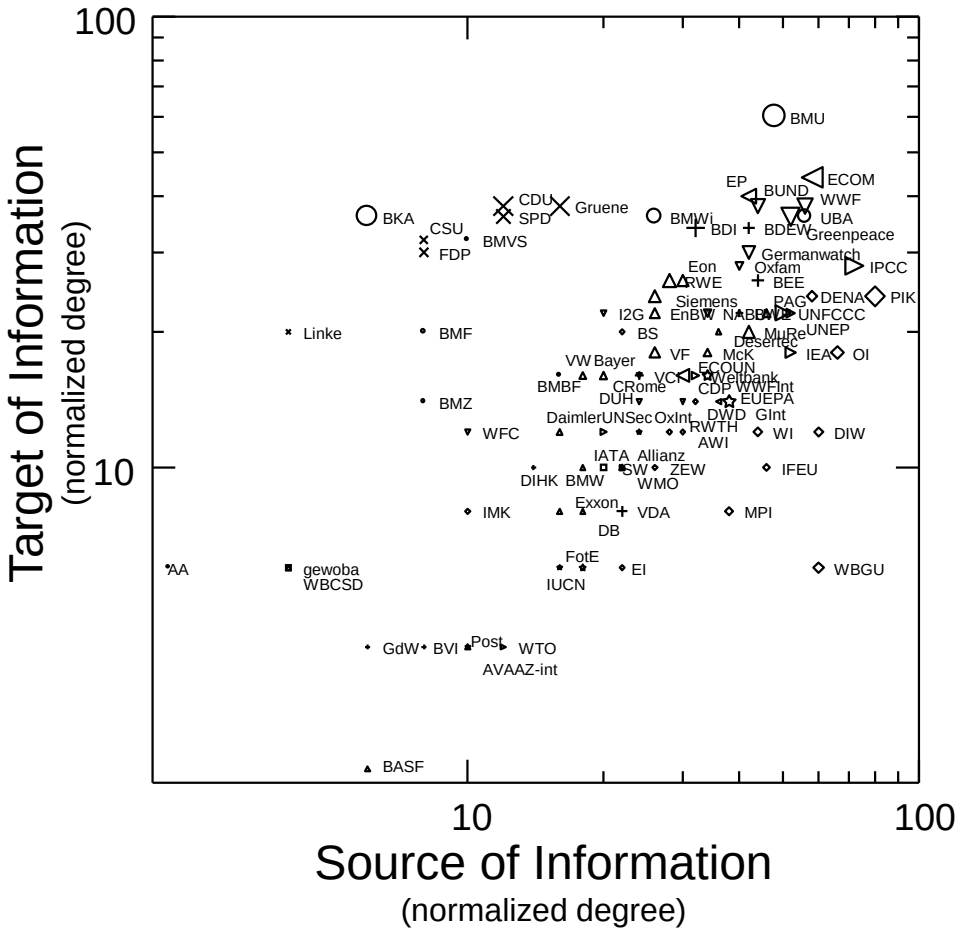
Political Mood in German Polls



Data source: Forschungsgruppe Wahlen (Politibarometer)

Data Source: http://www.forschungsgruppe.de/Umfragen/Politbarometer/Langzeitentwicklung_-_Themen_im_Ueberblick/Politik_I/

German Network in Climate Policy-Making (2011/2012)



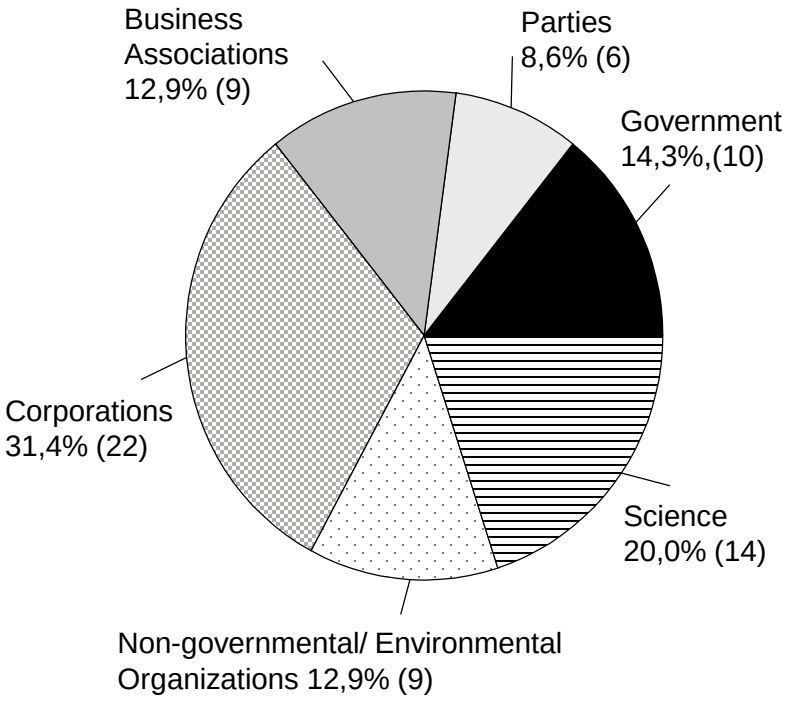
Type of actor

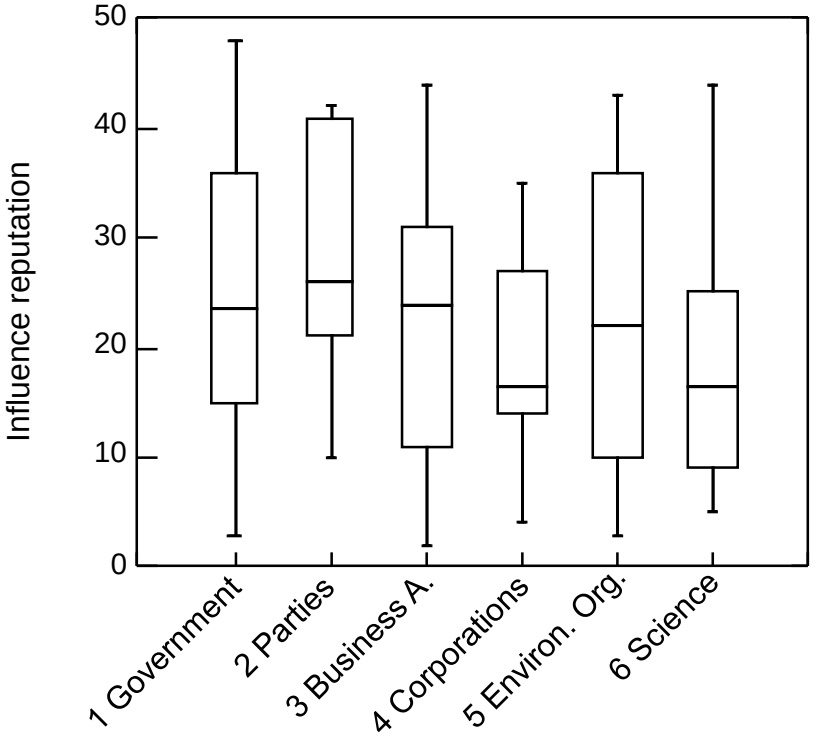
- ○ Gov. Org.
- ✕ Pol. Party
- ＋ Business Assoc.
- △ Large Firm
- ▽ Nat. Civil Soc. Org.
- ◁ EU Govt. Org.
- ▷ Int. Gov. Org.
- □ EU & Int. Business Assoc.
- ◇ Science & Think Tanks
- ☆ EU & Int. Non-Gov. Org.

Influence reputation

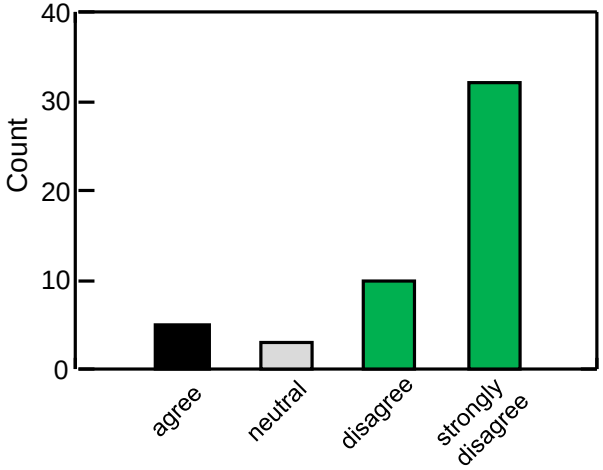
- ○ 2,0
- ○ 1,5
- ○ 1,0
- ○ 0,5
- · 0,0

Power Shares of Policy Actors

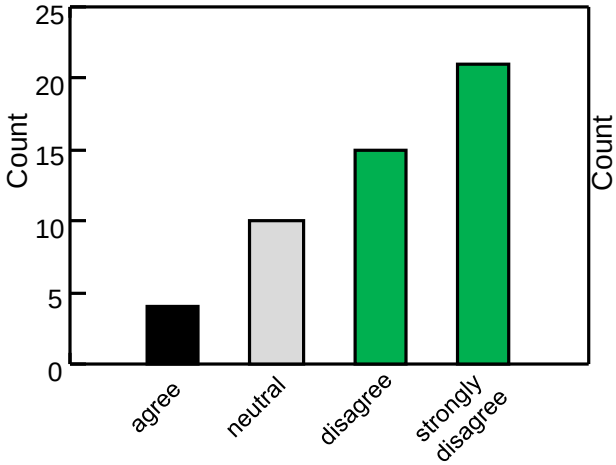




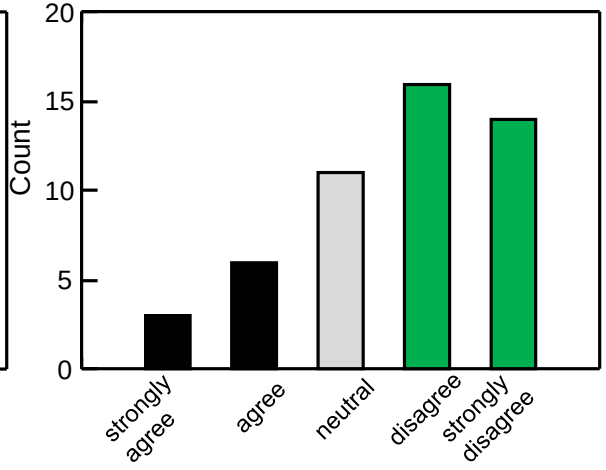
Policy Preferences



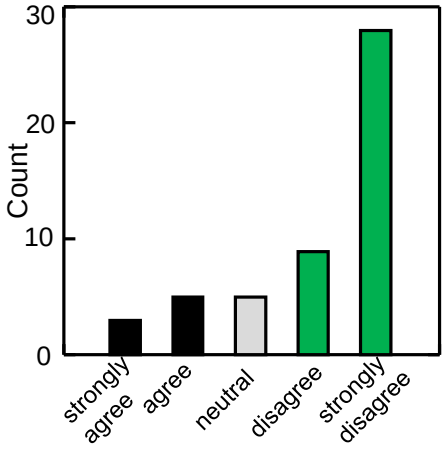
Govt puts too much effort into reducing GHG emission



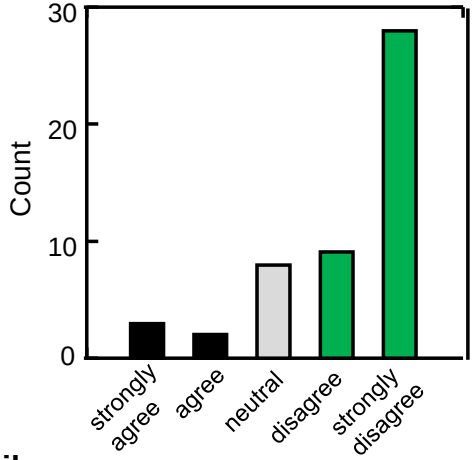
GHG-emission has negative impacts on the German economy



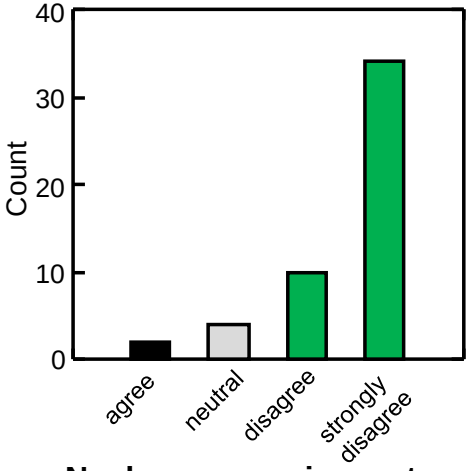
Energy security more important than GHG reduction



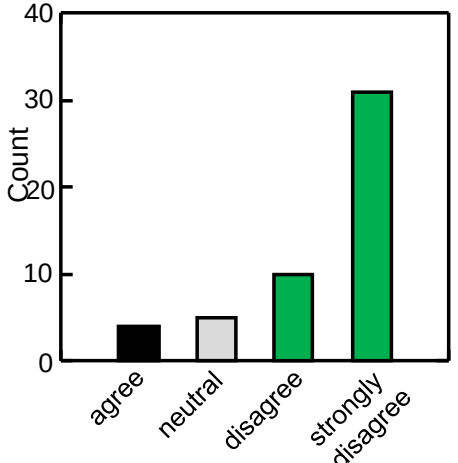
To reduce GHG by 40% until 2020 is too ambitious



Transition to renewable energy is too costly

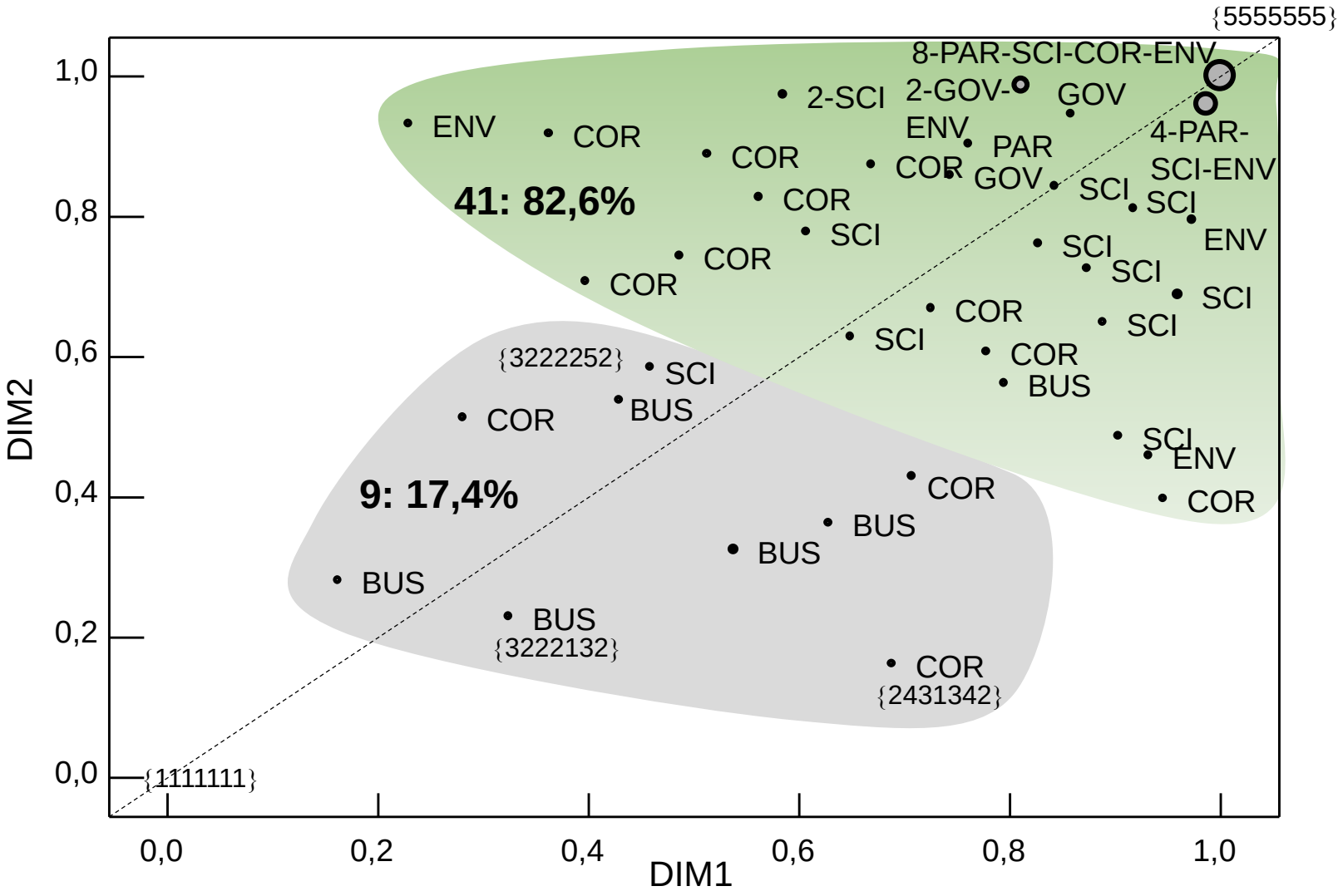


Nuclear energy is most Realistic alternative to fossile fuels

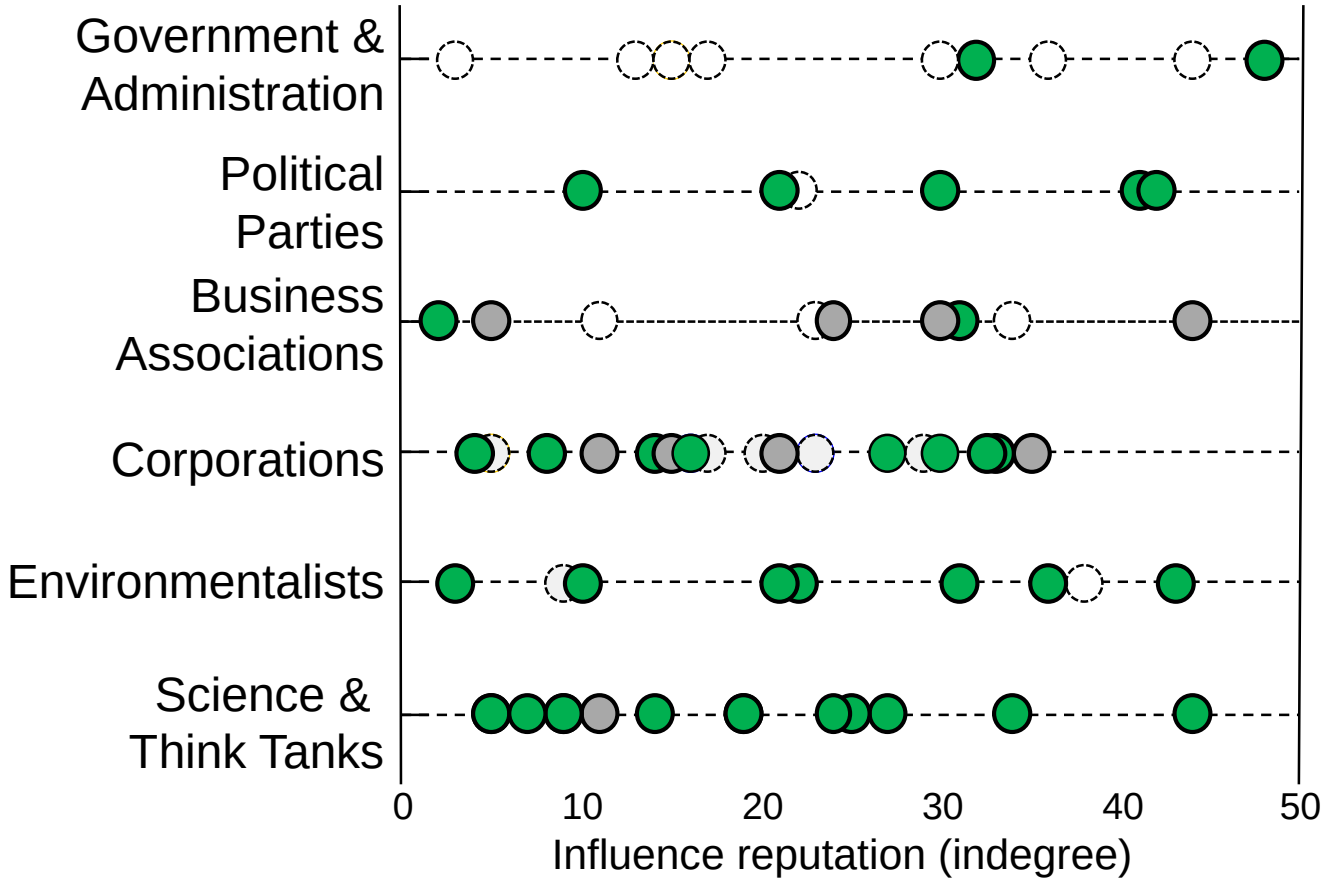


Getting 18% renewable sources by 2020 is too ambitious

Two coalitions: Partial Ordering of Policy Positions



Types of actors, influence, and policy preferences



Legend

Policy Positions

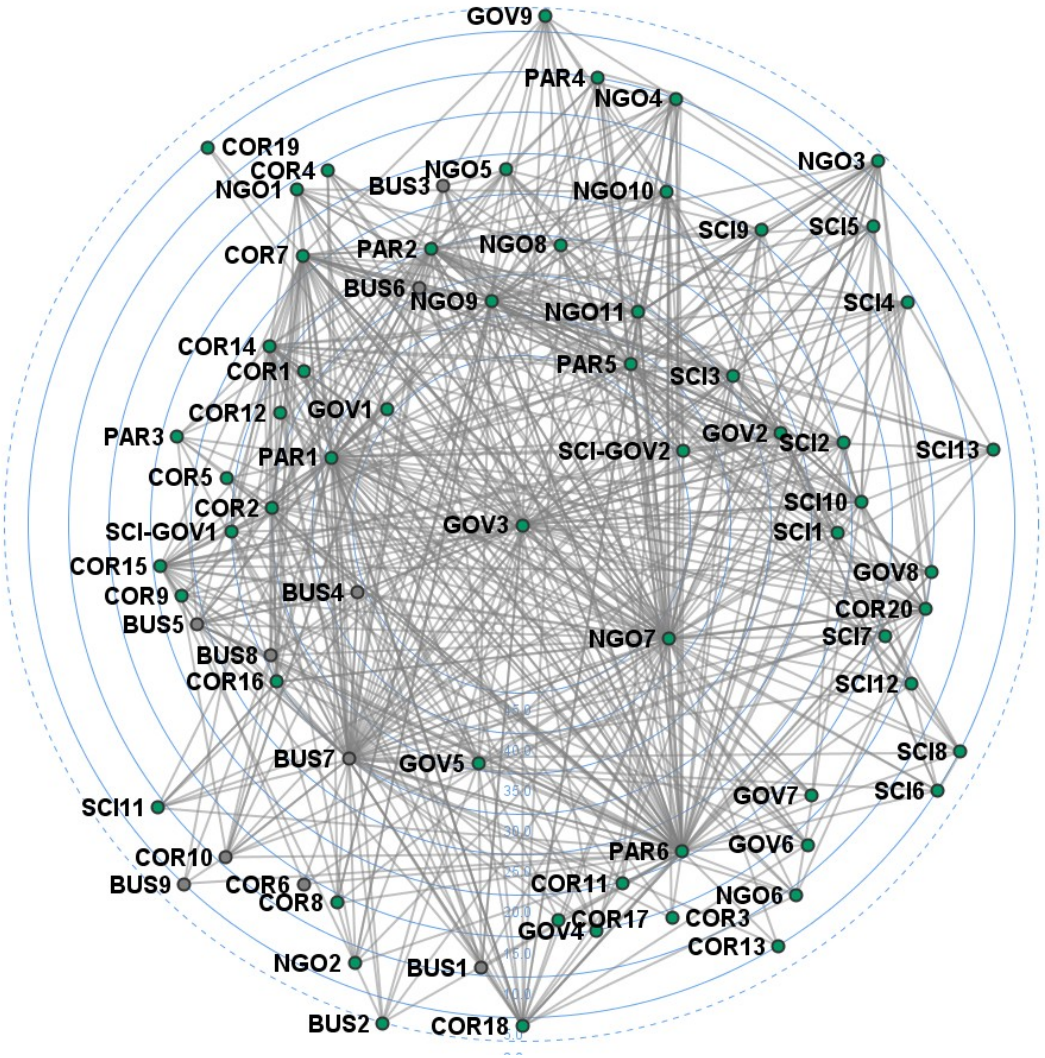
Pro Green (2)

Contra (1)

N.A.

(1) Agreement
(2) Disagreement
with positions (average with respect to 7 items)

Relátions of cooperation and advice in the German Policy Network



Differentiation structures that have so far been separated must be thought together!

Major Structures of differentiation

Functional differentiation

Politics, Economy, Science, Education, Law, etc.

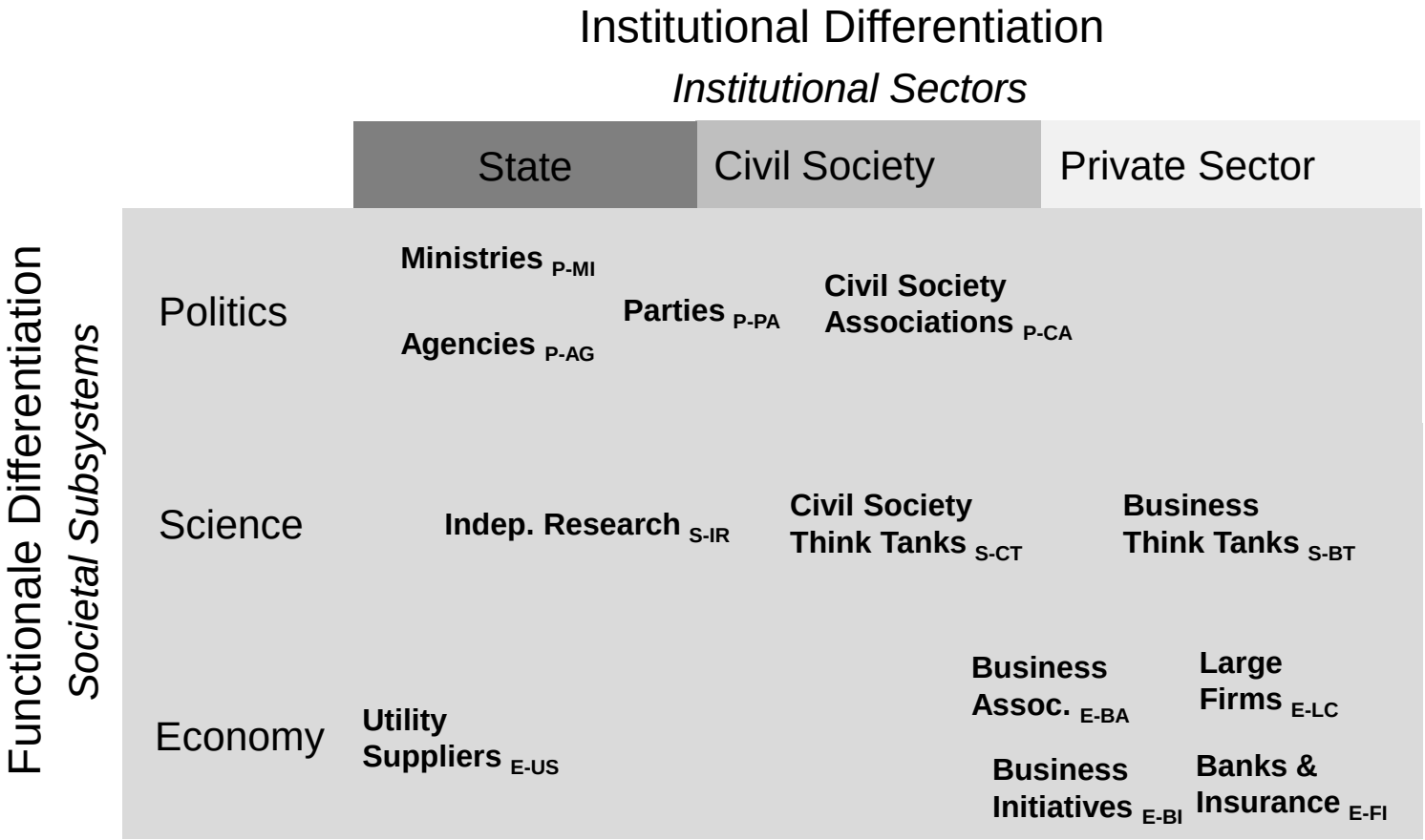
Institutional Differentiation (in a Governance Perspective)

Hierarchy, Network, Market

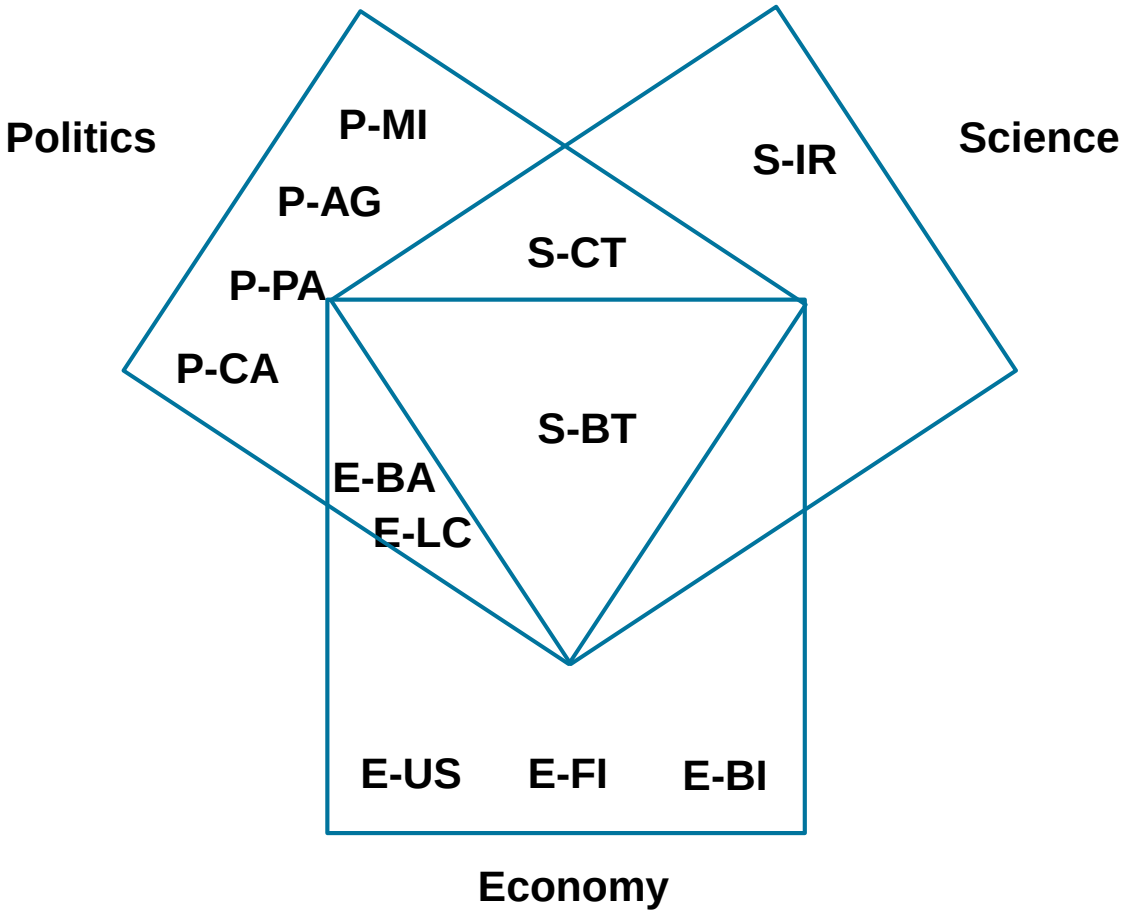
Public property, mixed property, private property

Civil society, Private sector, State

Functional and institutional differentiation and their organizational ecologies



Assemblage and Nestedness of Subsystems: „Verschränkung“ of Systems



Policy-Actors: Functional subsystems and their organizational ecologies

Politics

Ministries P-MI
BuKA
BMU
BMVBS
BMWi
BMBF
BMF
BMZ
AA

Agencies with Research capacities P-AG
UBA
WBGU
Dena
DWD

Parteien P-PA
CDU
SPD
FDP
Die Linke
Die Grünen
CSU

Civil Society Assoc. P-CA
CDP
WFC
Oxfam
DUH
Dt. Club of Rome
Greenpeace
Germanwatch
WWF
NABU
BUND

Science

Indep. Acad. Research S-IR
DIW/CPI
ZEW
MPI
IMK
ifeu
PIK
RWTH Aachen
AWI

Civil Society Think Tanks S-CT
Öko-Institut
Böll Stiftung
Wuppertal Institut
Ecologic Institute

Business hink Tanks S-BT
Prognos AG
Mc Kinsey

Economy

Business Assoc. E-BA
DIHK
BVI
BWE
BDI
VCI
BEE
VDA
BDEW
GdW

Utility Suppliers E-US
RWE AG
Vattenfall
EnBW
Eon
Post

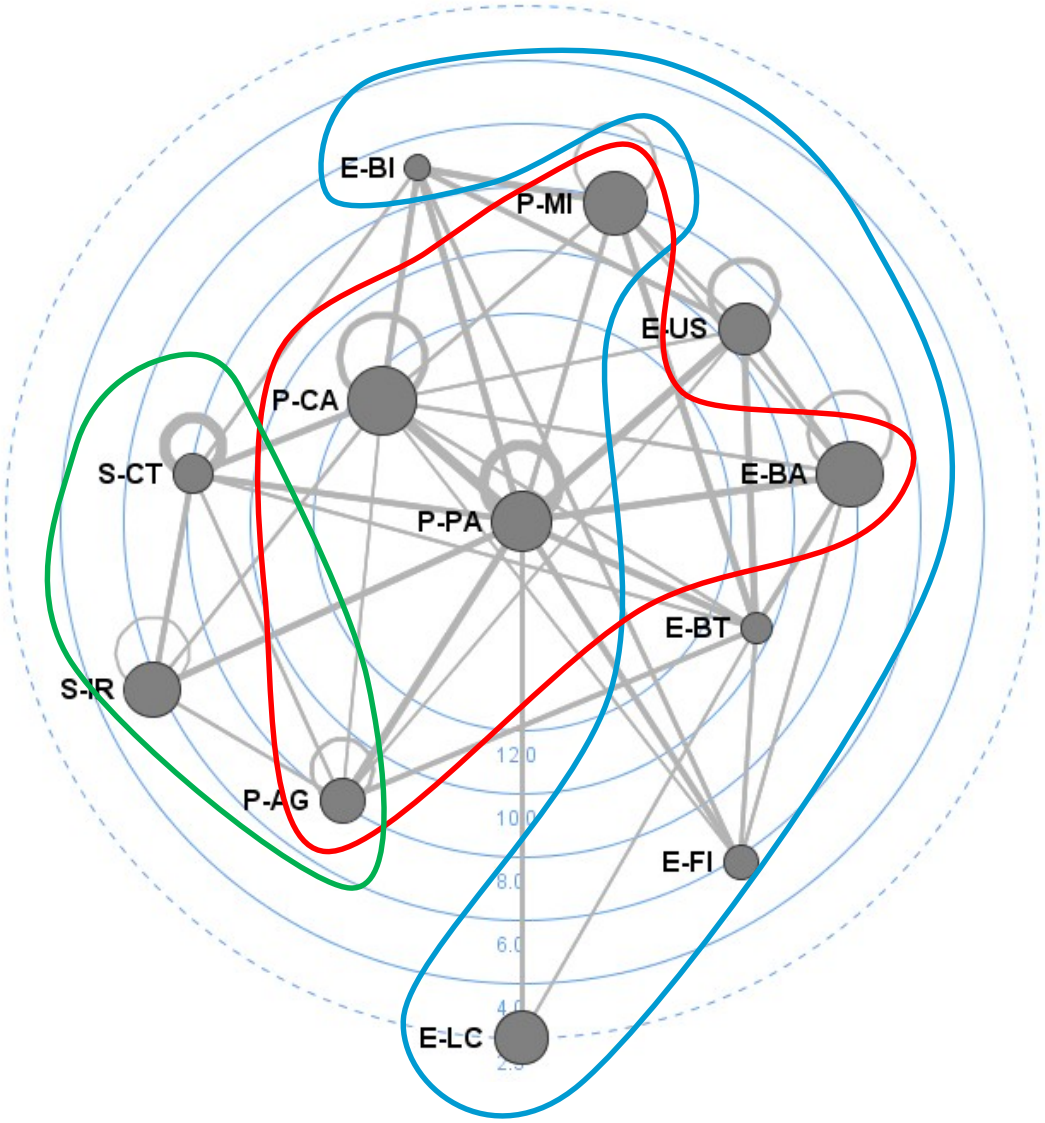
Business Initiatives E-BI
Desertec
Initiative2Grad

Large Firms E-LC
Siemens
BMW
Solarworld
Exxon Mobil
VW
gewoba
Bayer
Daimler Chrysler
BASF

Banks & Insurance E-FI
Allianz
Deutsche Bank
Munich Re

Cooperation and advice relationships

Block-Densities (<0.19)



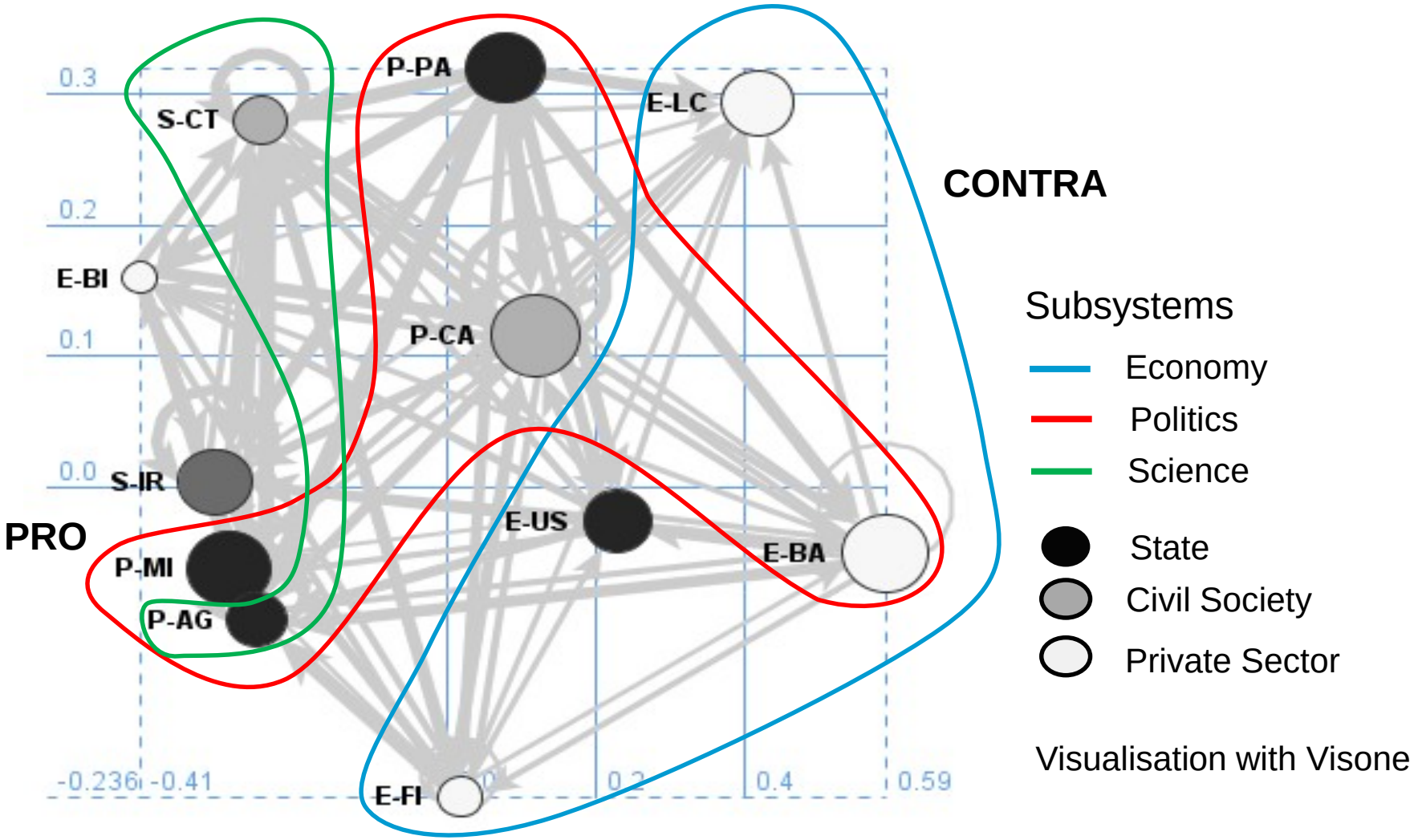
Subsystems

- Economy
- Politics
- Science

Union of the cooperation and advice relationships; symmetrical (max); node position = degree centrality; node size = influence reputation

Visualisation by Visone

Issue Positions (7 Issues) and Information Exchange



MDS of aggregated policy positions of the different organization types (= group average); node size corresponds to the influence reputation of the blocks; metric solution (Euclidean distance); stress = 0.100; edge width = block density; edges = information exchange relationships

IV.

Conclusion and outlook

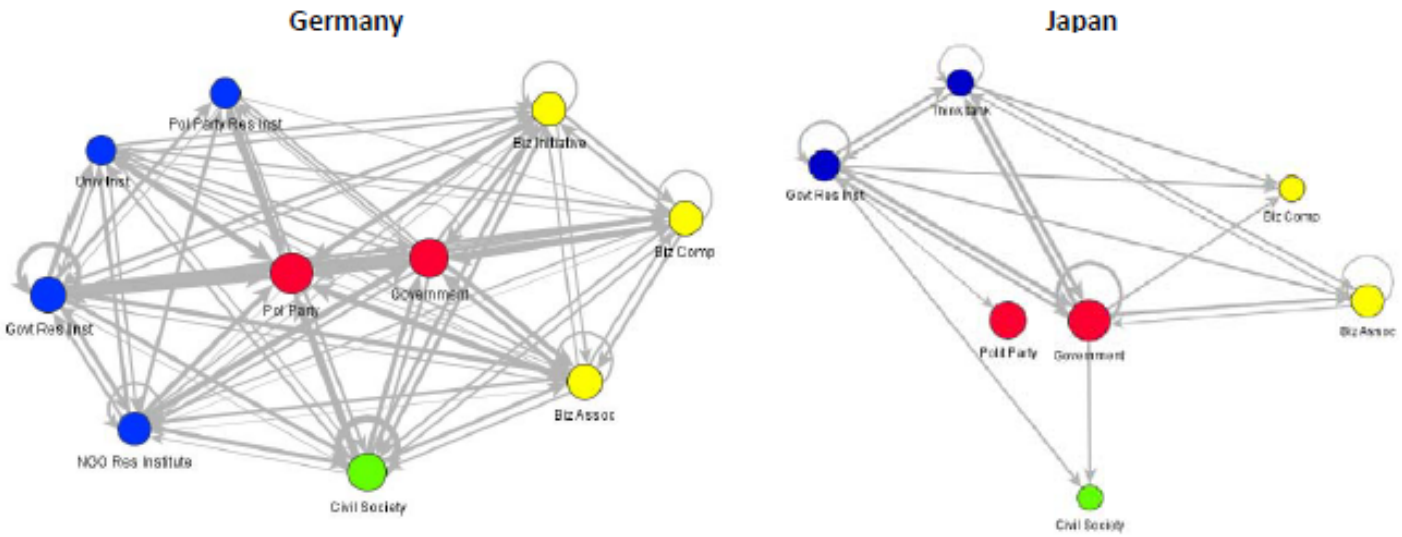
The embedding of organizational policy networks in macro-social structures must be taken into account.

The effect of the macrostructures can be observed in the various configurations of network relationships

The knowledge gained from national case studies is limited. It only becomes interesting when very different national configurations are compared.

See DE – JP - comparison

Figure 6: Scientific Information Exchange at Organizational and Systems Level



Network relations: Science information "source" and "destination" (combined)
Size of Nodes: Mean of the Reputation Score. Width of ties: Ties shown more than overall density in each country

Graphs produced with *visone* Version 2.17

7

K. Satoh, M. Nagel and V Schneider, 2018, "Faith in Scientific Expertise and the Organizational Distribution of Knowledge: Climate Change Policy Networks in Germany and Japan," *Paper presented at the ECPR Conference 2018* at University of Hamburg on Aug. 23. 2018.

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Thank you very much for your attention!

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