

COST Action IC1205 on Computational Social Choice: STSM Report

Applicant: Dr Marcel AUSLOOS

Home institution: GRAPES, Liege

Home country: Belgium

Host: Prof. Krzysztof Kulakowski,

Host institution: AGH University of Science and Technology, Krakow

Host country: Poland

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STSM Research Topic: First Name Choices

We discussed matters related to the possibility of using internet and various approaches data retrieval on first names. A major question concerns the accuracy of such social data in a web of global cultural and historic information, exploiting the Resource Description Framework technology. The quantity of data points and the crosschecking of errors were discussed.

We had long discussions on quantitative aspects, through exploring common sense assumptions about model simulation, dimensionality tracking, with, e.g., application to social systems. It was concluded that we could consider to submit a proposal for a COST Action on the subjects of interest, next February.

We finalized our work leading to a manuscript, intended for Physica A.

I also presented an informal seminar, and had some social activity.

I had the pleasure to be introduced to researchers from Prof. Kulakowski's group, in particular to Dr. Malgorzata Krawczyk and Mr. Mateusz Pomorski. Later in the week, I was introduced among other researchers to Prof. Z. Burda and to Prof. K. Malarz. Interactions with students and younger colleagues were programmed. A few occurred spontaneously.

Beside, we discussed qualitative and quantitative aspects in data analysis, like how the extraction of information from which networks of agents in organizations can be constructed to describe behavior bearing on cheating and on honesty, and subsequent social power attempts. Heuristic models to explain their constitutive processes through observation of (likely unusual or unexpected) empirical laws were also discussed, aiming for future collaborative aspects. Reference to Schopenhauer work came in the discussion.

Therefore, this STSM has allowed me to foster some collaboration with Prof. Kulakowski and some of his colleagues. My stay in Krakow has hopefully allowed to integrate statistical physics ideas or approaches of complexity questions into social data and network analysis, including theoretical aspects. I have enjoyed my stay; I expect to keep contact with several colleagues. Therefore, I consider the STSM as having quite successful.