

# Package ‘multinets’

May 9, 2026

**Title** Multilevel Networks Analysis

**Version** 0.2.2

**Description** Analyze multilevel networks as described in Lazega et al (2008)  [<doi:10.1016/j.socnet.2008.02.001>](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socnet.2008.02.001) and in Lazega and Snijders (2016, ISBN:978-3-319-24520-1). The package was developed essentially as an extension to ‘igraph’.

**License** GPL-3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**Depends** R (>= 3.4.0)

**Imports** igraph, Rcpp

**Suggests** sand, statnet, data.table, testthat, igraphdata

**ByteCompile** true

**RoxygenNote** 6.1.1

**URL** <https://github.com/neylsoncrepalde/multinets>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/neylsoncrepalde/multinets/issues>

**LinkingTo** Rcpp

**NeedsCompilation** yes

**Author** Neylson Crepalde [aut, cre]

**Maintainer** Neylson Crepalde <neylsoncrepalde@gmail.com>

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2019-12-14 17:20:03 UTC

## Contents

extract_highlevel . . . . .	2
extract_lowlevel . . . . .	3
extract_mesolevel . . . . .	4
is_multilevel . . . . .	5

layout_multilevel . . . . .	6
linked_sim . . . . .	7
mode_transformation . . . . .	8
set_color_multilevel . . . . .	9
set_shape_multilevel . . . . .	10

<b>Index</b>	<b>11</b>
--------------	-----------

---

extract_highlevel	<i>Extract the high level of a multilevel network</i>
-------------------	---

---

### Description

Extract one of the three levels of a multilevel network. `extract_highlevel` will extract the higher level vertices and the edges between them, `extract_lowlevel` will extract the lower level vertices and the edges between them. On the other hand, `extract_mesolevel` will extract all the vertices but only the edges between vertices from different levels.

### Usage

```
extract_highlevel(x)
```

### Arguments

`x` a graph object. Must be a multilevel network.

### Value

`extract_highlevel` and `extract_lowlevel` return a 1-mode network. All the vertices in the selected level and the edges between them. `extract_mesolevel` returns a bipartite (2-mode) network. All the vertices are kept. Only edges between vertices of different levels are kept. This is what the literature also calls an *affiliation* network.

### Author(s)

Neylson Crepalde, <neylsoncrepalde@gmail.com>

### Examples

```
organizations <- extract_highlevel(linked_sim)
individuals <- extract_lowlevel(linked_sim)
affiliations <- extract_mesolevel(linked_sim)
```

---

extract_lowlevel	<i>Extract the low level of a multilevel network</i>
------------------	--

---

### Description

Extract one of the three levels of a multilevel network. `extract_highlevel` will extract the higher level vertices and the edges between them, `extract_lowlevel` will extract the lower level vertices and the edges between them. On the other hand, `extract_mesolevel` will extract all the vertices but only the edges between vertices from different levels.

### Usage

```
extract_lowlevel(x)
```

### Arguments

`x` a graph object. Must be a multilevel network.

### Value

`extract_highlevel` and `extract_lowlevel` return a 1-mode network. All the vertices in the selected level and the edges between them. `extract_mesolevel` returns a bipartite (2-mode) network. All the vertices are kept. Only edges between vertices of different levels are kept. This is what the literature also calls an *affiliation* network.

### Author(s)

Neylson Crepalde, <neylsoncrepalde@gmail.com>

### Examples

```
organizations <- extract_highlevel(linked_sim)
individuals <- extract_lowlevel(linked_sim)
affiliations <- extract_mesolevel(linked_sim)
```

---

extract_mesolevel	<i>Extract the meso level of a multilevel network</i>
-------------------	---

---

### Description

Extract one of the three levels of a multilevel network. `extract_highlevel` will extract the higher level vertices and the edges between them, `extract_lowlevel` will extract the lower level vertices and the edges between them. On the other hand, `extract_mesolevel` will extract all the vertices but only the edges between vertices from different levels.

### Usage

```
extract_mesolevel(x)
```

### Arguments

`x` a graph object. Must be a multilevel network.

### Value

`extract_highlevel` and `extract_lowlevel` return a 1-mode network. All the vertices in the selected level and the edges between them. `extract_mesolevel` returns a bipartite (2-mode) network. All the vertices are kept. Only edges between vertices of different levels are kept. This is what the literature also calls an *affiliation* network.

### Author(s)

Neylson Crepalde, <neylsoncrepalde@gmail.com>

### Examples

```
organizations <- extract_highlevel(linked_sim)
individuals <- extract_lowlevel(linked_sim)
affiliations <- extract_mesolevel(linked_sim)
```

---

`is_multilevel`*Check whether a graph is multilevel*

---

**Description**

Checks whether a network (a graph) is multilevel according to the *linked design* proposed by Lazega et al (2008).

**Usage**

```
is_multilevel(x)
```

**Arguments**

`x`                    A graph object.

**Details**

A multilevel network can be defined as a network with two kinds of vertex and two kinds of edges: Vertices on the lower level are, usually, individuals. Vertices on the higher level are, usually, organizations, collectivities or other kinds of social joint structures. The first kind of edges are those between the vertices of the higher level and between the vertices of the lower level. The second kind of edges are those between the vertices of different levels (affiliation ties).

Put another way, a multilevel network is a bipartite network (2-mode) that has ties between nodes on both levels.

**Author(s)**

Neylson Crepalde, <neylsoncrepalde@gmail.com>

**References**

Lazega, E., Jourda, M. T., Mounier, L., & Stofer, R. (2008). Catching up with big fish in the big pond? Multi-level network analysis through linked design. *Social Networks*, 30(2), 159-176.

Lazega, E. and Snijders, Tom A.B. (eds) (2016), *Multilevel Network Analysis for the Social Sciences: Theory, Methods and Applications*, Springer, Methodos Series.

**See Also**

[is\\_bipartite](#)

**Examples**

```
is_multilevel(linked_sim)
```

---

layout\_multilevel      *Layout for multilevel networks*

---

**Description**

Set layout coordinates for multilevel networks from a chosen algorithm

**Usage**

```
layout_multilevel(x, layout = igraph::layout_with_fr)
```

**Arguments**

x	a graph object. Must be a multilevel network.
layout	The chosen layout algorithm. A function layout of the 'igraph' package without parentheses. Default set to 'Fruchterman-Reingold'.

**Details**

In order to facilitate the visualization of multilevel networks, higher level nodes are set in the upper part of the plane and the lower level nodes are set in the lower part of the plane.

**Value**

A two- or three-column matrix, each row giving the coordinates of a vertex, according to the ids of the vertex ids.

**Author(s)**

Neylson Crepalde, <neylsoncrepalde@gmail.com>

**See Also**

[layout\\_](#)

**Examples**

```
# Check if the network is multilevel
is_multilevel(linked_sim)

# Generate the layout (x,y) coordinates
l <- layout_multilevel(linked_sim)

# Plot the graph using the layout
plot(linked_sim, layout = l)

# Using Kamada Kawai algorithm
l.kk <- layout_multilevel(linked_sim, layout = igraph::layout_with_kk)
```

```
# Plot the graph with the new layout  
plot(linked_sim, layout = l.kk)
```

---

linked_sim	<i>A simulated multilevel network</i>
------------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

A simulated multilevel network following the "linked design" as proposed by Lazega et al (2008).

**Usage**

```
linked_sim  
linked_sim_matrix  
linked_sim_type
```

**Format**

linked\_sim is a graph object with 150 vertices and 600 edges. There is one vertex attribute "type" defining to which level each vertex belongs. FALSE means lower level and TRUE means higher level.

linked\_sim\_matrix is a matrix object that contains the adjacency matrix for the simulated network.

linked\_sim\_type is a logical vector containing each vertex type.

**Author(s)**

Neylson Crepalde, <neylsoncrepalde@gmail.com>

**Source**

Elaborated by the author.

**References**

Lazega, E., Jourda, M. T., Mounier, L., & Stofer, R. (2008). Catching up with big fish in the big pond? Multi-level network analysis through linked design. *Social Networks*, 30(2), 159-176.

Lazega, E. and Snijders, Tom A.B. (eds) (2016), *Multilevel Network Analysis for the Social Sciences: Theory, Methods and Applications*, Springer, Methodos Series.

---

mode\_transformation    *2-mode to 1-mode transformation*

---

### Description

This function is a wrapper to the [bipartite\\_projection](#) function from the 'igraph' package. It transforms a bipartite (2-mode) network to two 1-mode networks. It is recommended to use it as an analysis tool for a bipartite network that was obtained from [extract\\_mesolevel](#).

### Usage

```
mode_transformation(x, which = c("both", "high", "low"))
```

### Arguments

x	a bipartite graph object. Data must be bipartite and must not be multilevel
which	one of "both", "high" or "low". High indicates to do the transformation to the higher level. Low indicates to do the transformation to the lower level. Both returns a list with both networks.

### Details

The function counts 1 edge when two vertices of the higher level share a vertex of the lower level and 1 edge when two vertices of the lower level are affiliated to the same vertex in the higher level.

### Value

If which is set to "both" (default), returns a list with two generated networks. If which is set to "high" or "low", returns a graph object.

### Author(s)

Neylson Crepalde, <neylsoncrepalde@gmail.com>

### Examples

```
# First, extract the mesolevel of the multilevel network
affiliation <- extract_mesolevel(linked_sim)

# To obtain both transformed networks
transformed <- mode_transformation(affiliation)

# To obtain just one transformed network
high_transformed <- mode_transformation(affiliation, which = "high")
```

---

set\_color\_multilevel *Set colors for levels of a multilevel network*

---

### Description

Set vertices and edges colors for a multilevel network. Default set to blue (higher level) and red (lower level).

### Usage

```
set_color_multilevel(x, color.true = "blue", color.false = "red",  
  V.alpha = 0.7, E.alpha = 0.7)
```

### Arguments

x	a graph object. Must be a multilevel network.
color.true	a character. The color to be chosen for the higher level (attribute type set to TRUE).
color.false	a character. The color to be chosen for the lower level (attribute type set to FALSE).
V.alpha	numeric. The factor modifying the opacity alpha for the vertices; typically in [0,1].
E.alpha	numeric. The factor modifying the opacity alpha for the edges; typically in [0,1].

### Value

A graph object. A multilevel network with an added color vertex attribute vector and a color edge attribute vector.

### Author(s)

Neylson Crepalde, <neylsoncrepalde@gmail.com>

### Examples

```
# Check whether a graph is multilevel  
is_multilevel(linked_sim)  
  
# Set the colors for each level  
linked_sim <- set_color_multilevel(linked_sim)
```

---

set\_shape\_multilevel *Set shapes for levels of a multilevel network*

---

**Description**

Set vertices shapes for a multilevel network. Default set to "square" (higher level) and "circle" (lower level).

**Usage**

```
set_shape_multilevel(x, shape.true = "square", shape.false = "circle")
```

**Arguments**

x	a graph object. Must be a multilevel network.
shape.true	a character. The shape to be chosen for the higher level (attribute type set to TRUE).
shape.false	a character. The shape to be chosen for the lower level (attribute type set to FALSE).

**Value**

A graph object. A multilevel network with an added shape vertex attribute vector.

**Author(s)**

Neylson Crepalde, <neylsoncrepalde@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
# Check whether a graph is multilevel
is_multilevel(linked_sim)

# Set the shapes for each level
linked_sim <- set_shape_multilevel(linked_sim)
```

# Index

## \* datasets

- linked\_sim, 7
- bipartite\_projection, 8
- extract\_highlevel, 2
- extract\_lowlevel, 3
- extract\_mesolevel, 4, 8
- is\_bipartite, 5
- is\_multilevel, 5
- layout\_, 6
- layout\_multilevel, 6
- linked\_sim, 7
- linked\_sim\_matrix(linked\_sim), 7
- linked\_sim\_type(linked\_sim), 7
- mode\_transformation, 8
- set\_color\_multilevel, 9
- set\_shape\_multilevel, 10