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Spatial and Temporal Heterogeneity in Founding Patterns

Abstract

A growing body of literature suggests that populations of organizations are not homogeneous, but instead comprise distinct subentities. Firms are highly dependent on their immediate institutional and competitive environments. The present paper further explores this issue by focusing on the spatial and temporal sources of industry heterogeneity. Our goal is threefold. First, we explore founding rates as a function of spatial density, arguing that density-dependent processes occur along a geographic gradient ranging from proximate, to neighboring, to more distant contexts. Second, we show how multiple, local evolutionary clocks shape such entrepreneurial activity. Third, we provide evidence on how diffusion processes are directly affected by social contagion, with new organizational forms spreading through movements of individuals. Results from data on the Dutch accounting industry corroborate these patterns of heterogeneity.

Keywords

density-dependence, spatial and temporal heterogeneity, social contagion, industry evolution

Disciplines

Business Administration, Management, and Operations

Spatial and Temporal Dimensions of Heterogeneity in Founding Patterns

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Theory

In their efforts to uncover ~~To explain~~ evolutionary processes at the organizational level, population ecology typically has focused on the level of the population or sector ~~to the population to which a single organization belongs~~. A population comprises organizations sharing a common form, strategy or template, making them respond in similar ways to environmental forces (Hawley, 1950). It is dependent upon distinct combinations of resources ~~supporting them~~. Each one of which ~~of these combinations of resources~~ constitutes a different niche, i.e., namely a set of “social, economic and political conditions that can sustain the functioning of organizations that embody the form”¹ (Hannan & Carroll, 1992: 28). As a consequence, given their interdependence in performance, organizations sharing these conditions ~~elements~~ are more prone to develop competition.

Population ecologists trace this interdependence to processes of legitimation and competition ~~that shape the vital rates of a given population~~. ~~From this perspective~~, an organization obtains legitimation the very moment it is considered to possess a genetic code socially organized (Meyer & Rower, 1977). When a new organizational form appears ~~on the market~~ it generally lacks this legitimization~~recognition~~. For instance, customers and suppliers need to be taught and guided, employees instructed about the production process and ~~the institutional~~ while the environment in general is subject to time compression diseconomies before it ~~needs time to~~ becomes aware of the new form's presence ~~of these new organizations~~ (Carroll & Hannan, 2000). The effect of this process

over time is to stimulate the founding of new organizations thus gradually augmenting the sheer number of peer firms present. ~~and then to increase the density of the population.~~

On the other hand, competition ~~inside a population~~ originates from the growing number of potential bilateral competitors (Hannan & Freeman, 1987). More precisely, “the action of all on the common supply gives rise to a reciprocal relation between each unit and all the others, if only from the fact that what one gets reduces by that amount what the others can obtain ... without these elements of indirection, that is unless units affect one other through affecting a common limited of supply, competition does not exist” (Hawley, 1950: 202). Competition – which stems from the growing presence of multiple organizations – has a negative impact on the survival rate of incumbents, thus ~~so~~ decreasing the density of the population (Hannan & Freeman, 1989). The analysis of these processes has been largely restricted to regional or ~~conducted by focusing on the~~ national populations thus disregarding unobserved heterogeneity. ~~assuming the latter as a homogeneous entity.~~

Starting with Carroll & Wade (1991), the spatial dimension has been the object of increasing attention. In their study of the American brewing industry, Carroll & Wade found the strongest effects on founding at local level and advance the hypothesis that competition operates at a different level for foundings than for mortality. Geographical location has been investigated as a source of heterogeneity among organizations within a given population ever since. In particular, two streams of research have developed, one mainly focused on manufacturing industries, to other on service industries. It is worth

¹ A form is the group of skills that permit organizations to transform inputs into output (Hannan & Freeman, 1977).

noting that, depending on the nature of the industry, processes of legitimation and competition may unfold at different levels.

Several studies have concentrated on manufacturing industries. In their paper on the European automobile firms Hannan et al. (1995) found that legitimation tends to flow across countries, whereas competition occurs locally. The study provided the first empirical support for the theoretical proposition that density dependent processes operate at different level of analysis. Torres (1995) obtained similar results for the UK automobile industry. Still with respect to the European automobile firms, more recently Hannan (1997), investigating the motives for the late resurgence of density in mature populations, has shown the non-proportionality of density dependence with time. Relying on this study, Wezel (2000) has reached similar conclusions for the UK motorcycle industry. However, Carroll et al. (1997) did not find support for the multilevel density dependence theory for the US automobile industry. By shifting the level of analysis to a single country (US), processes of legitimation and competition proved to be unexpectedly stronger at state level. Differences in technology were recalled to explain these results.

On the other side, recent studies have tried to explore the same issues inside service industries. In his study of rural cooperative banks in Italy, Lomi (1995) showed how different segments of the population respond heterogeneously to competitive and institutional processes. These results support differences in strength between estimates based on local versus those relying on non-local specifications of density. While no real “difference in legitimation was found across models based on local and non-local specification of density, competition is seven times stronger at the regional than at the national level” (1995: 137). Yet, expressly investigating multi-level density-dependence

processes, Lomi (2000) in his study on the Danish commercial banks in the period 1846-1989, found weak support to this theory. In particular, he showed that for the city of Copenhagen the founding rate of commercial banks decreases as national density increases. He then concluded “this result is not consistent with the claim that legitimation tends to operate on a broader scope than competition and indicates the need for a more detailed understanding of the specific *kind* of legitimation that might be driving density dependence...” (2000: 455). In a similar vein, Greve (2000) has emphasized that what mattered for the evolution of the population within each area is local density. The effect of densities tends to be stronger at local than non-local level. Evidence on spatial density dependence was offered for the Tokyo banking industry and the spatial reach of this effect was found to be limited (Greve, 2000: 21). Consistently with these findings we hypothesize:

H1: In service industries density-dependence processes tend to operate at local level

This is particularly relevant in service industries where the client-firm relationship – especially for small, individual firms – is local². As Porter (1980) suggests, such industries are often fragmented, namely no single firm has a dominating position, entry barriers are low and differentiated services are offered. For this reason, the nature of the service industries leads us to exclude the competing hypothesis that density-dependence processes operate at national level. Yet, this does not necessarily exclude processes of social influence operating at an intermediate level.

In this respect, research on social contagion provides both the theoretical underpinnings and the empirical support to explore this influence. In their seminal work on the diffusion of tetracycline Coleman et al. (1966) suggested the central role played by phenomena of social contagion among doctors. The spreading of innovation was indeed fostered by proximity among adopters. In a later re-examination of the data originally analyzed by Coleman et al. and relying on a different methodological approach, Strang & Tuma (1991) were able to show the contemporaneous influence of both social contagion and structural equivalence. By the same token, in studying spatial diffusion of Swedish trade unions, Hedstrom (1994) found that mobilization processes across the country were highly contagious. In particular, “spatial properties and network densities are likely to influence considerably both the speed of a mobilization process and the success of a movement in organizing the relevant population” (1994: 1176). In his study on the diffusion of a market position in the US radio broadcasting Greve (1996) argued that the adoption of a particular strategy can spread contagiously among organizations. One the main findings of the paper is that “a strong baseline contagion effect was in operation in the spread of the Soft AC format and the stations with relatively low inertia were likely adopters of the format” (1996: 52). With respect to the diffusion of innovation, Rogers (1995) maintained that its adoption depends on the perceived number of actors who have already adopted the same innovation. Processes of diffusion can be stimulated by social interactions among these actors, especially when such interactions are based on trust and mutuality. In light of the foregoing discussion, we hypothesize:

² “A major cause of the problem lies in the nature of professional practice. By very definition, professional work requires customization and the need to adapt the practice to the special, individualized needs of a

H2: In service industries neighboring areas have a positive influence on the founding rate in the focal area

Should H1 be supported, we believe that some interesting strategic implications might be derived. Shifting the level of analysis from the population to the sub-population allows us not only to treat the former as a spatially heterogeneous entity, but also to address issues of temporally heterogeneity at the same level. In particular, the combined examination of the spatial and temporal dimensions seems to be critical first to establish the timing of entry and then to estimate the survival rate of a new organization.

Although research in strategic management has tried to delve into this fundamental issue, in general the focus has been placed on first mover-related advantages. Porter (1980), for instance, has emphasized how the cost of entry into a strategic group is affected by the timing of entry³, which is contingent on both the type of industry and the specific phase of its life cycle. Several authors have underscored that timing of market entry is correlated with firms' subsequent performance (Hofer & Sandberg, 1987; Sandberg, 1986). Strong empirical association has been found between order of market entry and market share. Abell (1980), Porter (1980) and Thompson & Strickland (1987) have pointed out how pioneering entrants are more likely to enjoy sustainable long-term advantages. Similarly, Lieberman & Montgomery (1988) have argued that a first mover advantage may be achieved by spatial preemption, namely trying to occupy new and profitable niches before other entrants.

local clientele" (Maister, 1993: 330).

³ By timing of entry we mean the foundation of a new firm. We use this terminology to be consistent with literature in strategic management.

However, this literature does seem to account for the contemporaneous effect of spatial and temporal heterogeneity on the timing of entry. On the contrary, we believe that valuable insight might stem from looking at local clocks to decide *when* and *where* to enter. So long as density dependence processes tend to be essentially local, the very same processes might start at different points in time, varying from area to area. Thus, a newly founded organization is more or less likely to survive depending on whether the sub-population to which it ends up belonging is going through a phase of legitimation or competition. Since temporal heterogeneity implies age differences among sub-populations, any entry decision, particularly in fragmented industries, should be made in light of the type of phase a sub-population is experiencing at a given point in time. Therefore, we hypothesize:

H3: In service industries there is an inverse U-shaped relationship between local age and founding rate in the focal area

Data

The data used in the paper cover the entire population of Dutch accounting firms during the period 1880-1986 (Pennings et al., 1998). Since the first firm was founded in 1880 there is no problem of “left-truncation”. Data were collected with one- to five-year intervals. Therefore, we observe foundings within those time intervals. The complete industry comprised 2646 firms over the 106-year period. However, firms founded between 1986 and 1990 were not included in the analysis because they could not be identified as either right-censored or as having dissolved.

To explore the impact of both the temporal and spatial dimensions on the founding rate, following Lee & Pennings (2000) we divided the overall population of accounting firms into 11 sub-populations – each corresponding to a different province. In particular, we assume the latter to represent a distinct selection environment where processes of legitimation and competition take place.

Data mostly consist of individual firms. Given their small size, firms tend to operate at local (province) level and their critical resources (essentially, clients) tend to be local as well. This is particularly relevant in service industries where the client-firm relationship – especially for small, individual firms – is more likely to be local (Maister, 1993). As already pointed out, the Dutch accounting industry shares many of the features of what Porter (1980) defines as fragmented industries where no single firm has a dominating position, entry barriers are low and services are differentiated.

Variables

In our model the independent variables refer to spatial density dependence, social contagion and temporal heterogeneity. With respect to spatial density dependence, we tested our first hypothesis (H1) by creating two variables, density (dpr) and density squared (dpr2), to account for processes of legitimation and competition at the province level. As to our second hypothesis (H2), social contagion was measured by a variable – *neard* – consisting of the sum of the density of neighboring provinces and capturing processes of influence spilling over from these areas. We also squared the same variable – *neard2* – to verify the non-linear effect of this influence.

Our third hypothesis (H3) on the influence of temporal heterogeneity among different sub-populations was tested by including in the model a variable – agep – for the age of the industry at the province level. A square term – agep2 – was also created to test the curvilinear effect of local clocks on the processes of legitimation and competition at the same level.

Drawing from Pennings et al. (1998) several control variables were also included in the model to control for changes in the environment at national level. In particular, two dummies were created for the occurrence of World War I (1914-1918) and World War II (1941-1946). Since Indonesia's independence was supposed to have a persistent effect due to the shrinkage of the market, we used a dummy taking the value of 1 if year > 1949, 0 otherwise. The government regulation of 1929, in the wake of the Great Depression, was presumed to have its impact during 1929 and 1931 (1 if year \geq 1929 and \leq 1931, 0 otherwise). Another institutional event was the emergence of a single association that represented the collective interests of all Dutch accounting firms, NivRA, which was established in 1966 (1 if year > 1966, 0 otherwise).

The industry also experienced two regulatory changes in 1971 and 1984. In the former case, the Act on Annual Financial Statements of Enterprises required annual audits. In the latter, definitive guidelines for auditing were promulgated and enforced by NivRa in collaboration with the Dutch Ministry of Justice. Both regulations significantly heightened the demand for audit services. Two variables were then used, namely d971 (1 if year > 1971) and d984 (1 if year > 1984). Since a new firm may be found or even disappear when two firms merge together or one firm is acquired by another firm, a

control variable – M&A – for all mergers and acquisitions occurring at national level throughout the entire period was included.

Finally, to control for differences at the province level, on the one hand we used the number of inhabitants in each province – inhab – to capture diversity in growth opportunities. On the other hand, we controlled for unobserved heterogeneity by including fixed effect for each of the 11 provinces.

Model and method of analysis

One of the peculiarities of investigating the process of founding inside a population is linked to methodological issues. As by definition an organization does not exist before its birth, competencies and skills at firm level are not measured by independent variables. Thus, the industry represents the appropriate unit of analysis. In particular, to study the founding of Dutch accounting firms our model includes as independent variables the density within neighboring provinces [B and B²], the density per year within each province [N and N²], age of the industry at province level [T and T²] and a vector **z** that contains controls measured at different level of aggregation. The model is of the log-quadratic type:

$$h(t) = \exp (\alpha_1 N_{t-1} + \alpha_2 N_{t-1}^2 + \beta_1 B_{t-1} + \beta_2 B_{t-1}^2 + \gamma_1 T_{t-1} + \gamma_2 T_{t-1}^2 + \mathbf{z}_t' \theta)$$

[a]⁴

⁴ Consistently with our hypotheses, we expect α_1 and α_2 to have positive and a negative signs respectively to capture processes of legitimation and competition at local level (H1), β_1 to have a positive sign (H2) – though we do not have any specific expectation for the sign of β_2 – and γ_1 and γ_2 to have a positive and negative sign to capture both the linear and the inverse U-shaped relationship between local age and founding rate in the focal area (H3).

As suggested by Hannan and Freeman (1989), the birth of new firms in a population can be modeled as an entry process. If we imagine that the cumulated number of founding in the industry at time t can be expressed by $Y(t)$, the stochastic process of entry can be defined as $\{Y(t) / t \leq 0\}$. The baseline parameter is represented by the rate of arrival at the state $y+1$ at time t . The latter could be described as a rate of transition:

$$h_y(t) = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} [\Pr\{Y(t+\Delta t) - Y(t) = 1 \mid Y(t) = y\}] / \Delta t$$

[b]

The Poisson regression offered the most appropriate solution for studying dependent variables taking integer values. For this reason, in the past it was the usual tool for considering these processes. This model is continuous and assumes that the rate of arrival is independent of the preceding pattern: if the rate at which the organizations enter the industry follows a distribution of Poisson type, the rate of entry $y+1$ at time t is assumed to be constant, $h_y(t) = h$. Yet, if the arrival rate is dependent on density the model in its pure formulation is not appropriate. Thus, it is necessary to specify the covariates upon which the parameter h may be dependent. Since h has been constrained not to take any negative value, it is usual to define h as an exponential function of x variables:

$$h_t = h(\mathbf{x}_t) = \exp(\mathbf{x}_t' \boldsymbol{\pi})$$

[c]

Such a model implies that the arrival rate within the population not only follows a Poisson distribution, but also this probability law:

$$\Pr(Y = y | \mathbf{x}) = [e^{-\lambda(\mathbf{x}_t)} - \lambda(\mathbf{x}_t)^y] / y!$$

[d]

For the data collected for this paper the year represents the unit of interval. Since data were collected at different time intervals (Pennings et al., 1998), this probability law is supposed to capture the flow of entry into a given population in each of those intervals. Under the assumption that the process of foundings follows a Poisson distribution the main problem to be dealt with is represented by *overdispersion*, which may emerge when the variance of the data is constrained to be equal to the mean. Although this problem does not affect the coefficient estimates, however, standard errors might be underestimated and therefore chi-squared values overestimated (Allison, 1999). A common solution to this problem is to use a different model, more precisely a negative binomial regression. It is worth noting that a negative binomial model is nothing but a generalization of the Poisson. The only difference is given by the inclusion of a disturbance term inside the [c] in order to correct for overdispersion:

$$h_t = h(x_t) = \exp(\mathbf{x}_t' \boldsymbol{\pi}) + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_t$$

[f]

The underlying assumption of the model is that the dependent variable Y follows a Poisson distribution with expected value h_t , conditional on the error term $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_t$. Finally the value of $\exp \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_t$ is supposed to follow a standard gamma distribution.

Since the empirical specification followed in the model does not account for all possible factors determining the founding of a new firm over the observed period, it is

necessary to control for those factors not contemplated in the model. Therefore, to correct for the bias resulting from omitted explanatory variables at the province level, we included fixed effects for each of the 11 provinces in our model (Allison, 1999). Moreover, the entry at a given time interval is not completely unrelated to the time of entry in previous periods. To deal with auto-correlation in time series of event counts we used the Generalized Least Squares Estimation method (Carroll & Hannan, 2000). This estimation procedure has become very popular in the last years among researchers that need to consider nonlinear regression models for count response data (for a deep discussion, see Barron, 1992). The value of the estimates has been obtained using this method inside SAS version 8.0.

Results

In this section we show the results of the models we estimated to test our hypotheses. The first model in Table 1 tests the classical population ecology hypothesis of density dependence processes at national level. Whereas the first order effect of density measuring legitimation is highly significant, the second order effect measuring competition is in the expected direction but non-significant at .05 level.

Insert Table 1

In light of these results, the second model tests H1 that in service industry density dependence processes operate at local level. The value of the Log Likelihood in model 2 clearly shows that the model with the variables measuring legitimation (dpr) and

competition (dpr2) fits the data better at province than at national level ($\chi^2[L_2 | L_1] = 30.38$ with p-value $<.0001$ for 2 degree of freedom). The results strongly support our hypothesis on spatial density dependence in service industry. In particular, each 1-unit increase in the national density increases the probability of founding of a new firm in the focal province by approximately 1% ($\exp 0.0097$). By contrast, each 1-unit increase in the density at the province level raises the probability of founding a new firm by more than six times ($\exp 0.0625 = 6.5\%$).

The non-significance of dtot2 suggests that, consistently with previous work (Lomi, 1995; Carroll et al., 1997), competition is primarily local. As legitimation at national level – though weaker than at province level – is significant, we decided to explore whether social contagion molded of evolution of each sub-population. Although the sign of the coefficient of neard in model 3 is in the expected direction, the effect is significant only at .10 level. Since the dynamics of this effect might not be linear, drawing from Greve (2000), we estimated a model with a quadratic term for the sum of the density of neighboring provinces (neard2). Not only does model 4 fit better the data ($\chi^2[L_4 | L_3] = 22.96$ with p-value $<.0001$ for 1 degree of freedom), but both the coefficient estimates for neard and neard2 are strongly significant. Nevertheless, the effect of local density dependence remains highly significant and the magnitude of dpr and dpr2 is much larger than neard and neard2. This can be intuitively understood by looking at Exhibit 1. All the numeric values used to plot the graph have been generated from the coefficient estimates of the variables in model 4 in Table 1. Based on these estimates, the multiplier of the founding rate for dpr and dpr2 reach its maximum when the sub-population's density is at 75. At that value the founding rate increases more than 11 times the rate when $N=0$. This

finding confirms the importance of the legitimation process for each sub-population. The value of the multiplier of the founding rate reaches its maximum at $\lambda^*=11.8$. This result is consistent with Hannan' and Carroll's (1992) study on Manhattan Banks where $\lambda^*=10$. Evidence suggesting how local density dependence effects tend to dominate over those due to social contagion is given by the difference in magnitude between the value of the multiplier of the founding rate for dpr and neard. In particular, in the latter case the maximum is reached at value $\lambda^*= 4.8$ that is less than half that found at the sub-population level. The results of the analysis only partly support H2.

Insert Exhibit 1

Whereas all these models have been estimated to test whether spatial dimension may be seen as a source of heterogeneity among sub-populations, in model 5 we included two new variables – agep and agep2 – to test the temporal dimension of this heterogeneity (H3). Adding these components of diversity among sub-populations improves significantly the fit of the model ($\chi^2[L_5 | L_4] = 33.4$ with p-value $<.0001$ for 2 degree of freedom). In particular, for each 1-year increase in the age of the sub-population the number of new founding raises by 3.7% (exp 0.0369). The effect of sub-population's age on founding tends to increase till age of 32 years ($-0.0369/2*(-0.0552)$), after which it starts to decline. Therefore, H3 is confirmed. Finally, the coefficient estimates for the control variables in model 5 – the model with the best fit – are largely consistent with those in Pennings et al. (1998).

Conclusions

The purpose of the paper was to demonstrate how heterogeneity within a given population can be ascribed to the contemporaneous influence of the spatial and temporal dimensions. Starting with Carroll & Wade (1991) some recent contributions have investigated the lack of homogeneity among organizations facing distinct selection environments inside the same industry. To date the most promising stream of research is that related to the multilevel density dependence theory. Following this theory, legitimation and competition are supposed to operate at different levels of analysis: the former tends to flow across borders, whereas the latter occurs locally. Although these results seem to be robust when different countries are compared, the same does not entirely hold true when the level of analysis is shifted to a single country. Moreover, most of the findings refer to manufacturing industries (Hannan et al., 1995; Hannan, 1997; Torres, 1995). On the contrary, for service industries results are more controversial (Greve, 2000; Lomi, 2000).

In spite of the growing importance of service industries in modern economy, less attention has been drawn to their examination relative to the manufacturing ones. At a deeper analysis, the very same nature of service industries may partly explain some of the inconsistencies in the results observed in the literature. As already pointed out, professional works build their survival on the customization of their products (Maister, 1993). This circumstance, along with the fragmented nature of these industries (Porter, 1980), suggests the importance of examining processes of legitimation and competition at a less aggregate level than the industry as a whole.

The results of our analysis of the Dutch accounting industry, during the period 1880-1986, clearly confirm spatial density dependence theory (Greve, 2000). More precisely, they are consistent with the hypothesis of spatial heterogeneity among sub-populations. Yet, our findings emphasize the role played by temporal heterogeneity in shaping the dynamics of density dependence processes at the sub-population level. In particular, we demonstrate how several distinct clocks can be identified within the same population. This circumstance seems to have interesting implications from a strategic standpoint.

In this respect, it is worth noting that a service industry is less likely to experience the stages of the life cycle typical of many manufacturing industries (Klepper, 1997). While the services offered by a single firm may become obsolete over time, the industry is less likely to face the same problem. This can be partly ascribed to the fact that the demand for auditing services remains relatively stable over time. Moreover, technological advancement – one of the most critical sources of obsolescence in many manufacturing industries – seems to be less relevant in several service industries. Finally, the lack of a dominant design and the limited availability of economies of scale induce service industries to be fragmented (Porter, 1980).

Therefore we argue that, if the evolution of a service industry does entirely conform to the pattern of the industry life cycle and processes of legitimation and competition tend to be essentially local, any entry decision should be made in light of the type of phase a sub-population is experiencing at a given point in time. Our results suggest that a newly founded organization is more or less likely to survive depending on

whether the sub-population to which it may end up belonging is going through a phase of legitimation or competition.

The findings of this paper might complement literature on first-mover advantage. Whereas several studies have stressed how pioneering entrants are more prone to enjoy sustainable long-term advantages (Abell, 1980; Lieberman & Montgomery, 1988; Thompson & Strickland, 1987), the latter might be available to later entrants so long as density at the sub-population level is still growing – which means that competition for scarce resources has not started as yet. Furthermore, several studies have emphasized that organizations benefit economically from being located in efficient positions. Different mechanisms can determine positive co-location externalities: economies of information and communications arising from social relations (Scherer, 1984), an extended division of labor, common labor markets and knowledge spillovers (Saxenian, 1994). All these factors presumably enhance the survival chance of firms in these locations. However, in strategic terms, with competition increasing over time the probability of a firm to survive is contingent on the timing of entry into the sub-population.

Despite evident limitations, the multilevel analysis conducted in this paper has shown how restricting the examination of evolutionary processes to the national population may obscure that the latter are often better observed at a lower level. This seems to be particularly important in service industries for the reasons explained before. In our opinion, one of the most interesting implications of the present analysis is the attempt to identify the drivers of macro-evolutionary processes with micro-decisions. The overall spectrum of these decisions – entry, competition or collaboration – cannot be fully

captured by simply looking at foundings. Thus, a multi-level analysis seems to be promising for studying mortality rates within populations.

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Table 1. Maximum likelihood estimates of Negative Binomial models of the founding rate of Dutch Accounting Firms 1880-1986[•].

Variables	Model 1	Model2	Model3	Model4	Model5
Constant	-5.1286* (.3257)	-3.8056* (.3150)	-2.6147* (.2589)	-2.6367* (.2272)	-3.8112* (.2843)
Inhab	-0.0001* (.0000)	-0.0001* (.0000)	-0.0001* (.0000)	-0.0001* (.0000)	-0.0001 (.0000)
WWI	0.1274 (.5407)	-.0095 (.5054)	-.3146 (.3428)	-0.2923 (.4456)	-.2951 (.4599)
D929	-1.4212 (.2955)	-1.3260* (.2736)	-0.6804 (.5265)	-1.2137* (.3157)	-1.5362* (.3251)
WWII	-1.6711* (.3244)	-1.6333* (.3159)	-1.7079* (.5541)	-1.1047* (.3155)	-1.2786* (.4147)
D966	3.8458* (.7328)	3.7343* (.6664)	3.3467* (.4223)	2.0628* (.7290)	2.1309* (.6469)
Indo	.6719 (.6040)	.2784 (.5986)	.8223* (.2124)	1.0793 (.5988)	1.0495 (.7330)
D971	-2.1765* (.6474)	-2.1170* (.5666)	-1.6707* (.3661)	-1.3304* (.6258)	-1.0664* (.5263)
D984	-1.0468* (.3204)	-0.8864* (.3242)	-1.0312* (.3594)	-1.2318* (.3941)	-0.9576* (.3712)
M&A	-0.0155 (.00283)	-0.0122 (.0277)	-0.0183 (.0118)	-0.0023 (.0332)	-0.0105 (.0251)
Dtot	.0268* (.0061)	.0097* (.0047)			
Dtot2 (in hundreds)	-0.0041 (.0022)	0.0002 (.0018)			
Dpr		0.0625* (.0074)	0.0833* (.0114)	.0654* (.0076)	.0371* (.00118)
Dpr2 (in hundreds)		-.0434* (.0051)	-0.0542* (.0085)	-.0436* (.0056)	.0270* (.0073)
Neard			.0131* (.0023)	.0213** (.0041)	.0237* (.0041)

[•] p<.05 Standard Errors in parentheses.

Neard2(in hundreds)				-0.0074*	-0.0081*
				(.0015)	(.0015)
Agep					0.0369*
					(.0183)
Agep2(in hundreds)	.4505**				-0.0552*
	(.1112)				(.0727)
Alpha (Dispersion)	.8868*	.7825*	.9076*	.9121*	.8424*
	(.0959)	(.088)	(.1009)	(.0994)	(0.0921)
Log Likelihood	3992.21	4007.39	3973.07	3984.56	4001.09

Exhibit 1 Multiplier of the Founding rate Dpr vs Dnear

