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Article

2021

Accepted version

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How to cite

LANNOY, Séverine et al. What is binge drinking? Insights from a network perspective. In: Addictive behaviors, 2021, vol. 117, p. 106848. doi: 10.1016/j.addbeh.2021.106848

This publication URL: <https://archive-ouverte.unige.ch/unige:161327>

Publication DOI: [10.1016/j.addbeh.2021.106848](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addbeh.2021.106848)

What is binge drinking?

Insights from network analyses

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Word count: 3,570

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Abstract

This study aimed to delineate the specific characteristics of binge drinking habits by capitalizing on data-driven network analysis. Such an approach allowed us to consider binge drinking as a network system of interacting elements, thus identifying the key variables involved in this phenomenon. A total of 1,455 university students with excessive drinking habits were included in this study. We assessed the most critical features of binge drinking (i.e., the consumption of more than six alcohol units per occasion, drunkenness frequency, consumption speed), together with alcohol use and more general alcohol-related components of dysfunction and harm. All variables were considered in the network analysis. Centrality analysis identified drunkenness frequency as the most influential variable in the entire network. Community detection analysis showed three distinct subnetworks related to alcohol use, drunkenness, and dysfunction/harm components. Drunkenness frequency and blackout occurrence emerged as core bridge items in the binge drinking network. Drunkenness is recognized as the hallmark feature of binge drinking.

Keywords: risky single occasion drinking; binge drinking; network analysis; conceptualization; evaluation.

1. Introduction

Binge drinking is a pattern of episodic alcohol use characterized by strong alcohol intake during a short period. Previous research revealed that this habit is associated with risky behaviors in the short term (e.g., unsafe sexual practices, reckless driving; Hingson, Zha, & White, 2017) but that it might also foster the emergence of alcohol use disorder in the long run (Bonomo, Bowes, Coffey, Carlin, & Patton, 2004). Numerous studies have identified its deleterious consequences, showing disrupted brain activity (Cservenka & Brumback, 2017; Maurage, Petit, & Campanella, 2013), impaired cognitive functioning (particularly for memory and executive functions; Carbia, López-Caneda, Corral, & Cadaveira, 2018), and altered affective processing (Lannoy et al., 2021). Nevertheless, contradictory results have also been observed (e.g., absence of executive deficits among binge drinkers; Bø, Billieux, Gjerde, Eilertsen, & Landrø, 2017; Hartley, Elsabagh, & File, 2004) and may be related to important interstudy variations in binge drinking criteria. Indeed, the absence of a consensual binge drinking definition currently compromises comparisons among existing studies as well as replication efforts. Moreover, various terms have been used to refer to similar habits, including binge drinking (see Courtney & Polich, 2009 for a review), hazardous drinking (Babor & Higgins-Biddle, 2001), heavy drinking (NIAAA, 2004), and risky single occasion drinking (Gmel, Kuntsche, & Rehm, 2011). In this paper, we systematically use “binge drinking” to characterize this behavior, as it is the most frequently used term to date (e.g., Kuntsche, Kuntsche, Thrul, & Gmel, 2017).

Regarding the definition of binge drinking, two main strategies have been used in previous studies to identify binge drinkers: quantitative alcohol consumption variables [e.g., using the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) score or proposing minimum consumption intensity/frequency thresholds; NIAAA, 2004] or qualitative analysis of the drinking pattern (e.g., involving specific drinking characteristics such as drunkenness; Townshend & Duka, 2002).

On the one hand, binge drinking was initially framed by the 5/4 measure (Wechsler & Nelson, 2001)—that is, a binge drinking episode consisting of the consumption of at least four (for women) or five (for men) alcohol units on a single occasion. The National Institute for Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA, 2004) then amended the criterion for the 5/4 measure by including the need to reach a blood alcohol concentration level of at least 0.08 gr/dl during a single drinking episode. However, this proposal did not consider binge drinking frequency. As the neurotoxic effects of alcohol are related to this factor, other works have used the frequency of binge drinking episodes as the primary dependent variable (e.g., Henges & Marczynski, 2012). In Europe, this definition has been adapted to the quantity of pure ethanol contained in one drink (10 gr in most European countries versus 14 gr of ethanol in the US). The most commonly used European threshold is thus the consumption of six or more alcohol units on one occasion (e.g., ESPAD, 2015; Hanewinkel et al., 2012), as assessed by the AUDIT. Recent research further suggests that considering six or more alcohol units on one occasion (for women) and seven or more alcohol units (for men) allowed for a reliable capture of binge drinking (Cortés-Tomás, Giménez-Costa, Motos-Sellés, & Sancerni-Beitia, 2017; Motos-Sellés, Cortés-Tomás, & Giménez-Costa, 2020), especially with a binge drinking frequency from 5 to 12 times in

1 the last six months. Despite these improvements, the validity of this quantity criterion has
2 been criticized, notably because it relates to neither alcohol-related problems nor to
3 functional impairment associated with binge drinking (Pearson, Kirouac, & Witkiewitz,
4 2016). Indeed, this quantitative evaluation merges the drinking consequences in a
5 common outcome, which hampers emphasis on the specificities of the drinking pattern,
6 especially those related to intense acute alcohol intoxication (e.g., blackout, alcohol-
7 related injuries).

8 On the other hand, a different approach has been developed to focus on more
9 qualitative binge drinking characteristics (Townshend & Duka, 2002), i.e., by computing a
10 binge drinking score based on consumption speed and drunkenness frequency. Cut-off
11 scores have also been suggested to identify binge drinkers, these cut-offs being primarily
12 based on the selection of the lowest and highest 33.3% of a sample of 245 young adults
13 (Townshend & Duka, 2005). Although the use of this score has spread (e.g., Bø et al.,
14 2017; Czapla et al., 2015; Kessler, Pajak, Harkin, & Jones, 2013), criticisms have also
15 been raised regarding the validity of this index. Indeed, it has been shown that it poorly
16 predicted harmful drinking patterns (Lake et al., 2015). Moreover, the consideration of
17 higher versus lower binge drinking scores is highly dependent on the sample, which may
18 lead to poor comparisons between research results (Bø, Aker, Billieux, & Landrø, 2016).

19 The absence of a consensual evaluation of binge drinking thus still strongly thwarts
20 the development of this research field. Several conceptual works have tackled this issue
21 and proposed updated definitions of binge drinking patterns. In particular, Maurage et al.
22 (2020) have recently identified, relying on the above-mentioned definitions, six critical
23 variables that should be considered in the operationalization and measurement of binge

1 drinking: physiological symptoms (blood alcohol concentration level), psychological
2 symptoms (self-reported drunkenness symptoms such as motor difficulties or memory
3 loss), the ratio between binge drinking episodes and other drinking occasions (overall
4 alcohol use), the frequency of binge drinking, the consumption speed, and the alternation
5 between alcohol intoxications and withdrawal episodes. However, research still needs to
6 evaluate how these distinct variables cohere together and their respective importance in
7 binge drinking.

8 One of the key issues hampering the outcome of a definition might be related to
9 the fact that current analytic approaches have simplified the binge drinking habit by tallying
10 all its distinct constitutive features to achieve a sum score as index of binge drinking.
11 However, such approaches do not allow consideration of the distinct features of binge
12 drinking (e.g., morning drinking and memory loss should be differentially related to binge
13 drinking) and their potential interaction (e.g., the frequency of drunkenness episodes may
14 foster speed consumption and vice versa). Notably, this conceptual paucity is at odds with
15 contemporary views of mental disorders, which emphasize the critical need to focus on
16 the links between the components assumedly involved in mental disorders rather than on
17 the component per se (Borsboom, 2017). To address this possibility, in the current study,
18 we relied on network analytical framework to visualize and unfold the intricate
19 relationships among the core features of binge drinking.

20 The network approach, initiated in psychiatry and psychopathology (e.g.,
21 Borsboom, Cramer, Schmittmann, Epskamp, & Waldorp, 2011; Schmittmann et al., 2013),
22 has been recently applied to a wide range of domains (see Contreras, Nieto, Valiente,
23 Espinosa, & Vazquez, 2019; Fried & Cramer, 2017 for reviews). Network analyses

1 elucidate associations between nodes (psychiatric symptoms; Contreras et al., 2019),
2 therefore allowing disorders to be visualized as network systems of interacting elements.
3 We believe that viewing the variables related to binge drinking together with alcohol use
4 and alcohol-related dysfunction/harms as interacting nodes can provide a radical new lens
5 on these intricate relationships. As it constitutes the widest and easiest way to currently
6 assess alcohol consumption, we particularly focused on self-reported variables of alcohol
7 consumption. We had two main research questions. First, what are the central features of
8 binge drinking in the network (that is, the most important variables to describe binge
9 drinking)? It is worth noting that highly influential nodes are hypothesized to drive the
10 instigation and maintenance of the network system (Borgatti, 2005). Second, are there
11 separate subnetworks related to the specific alcohol consumption characteristics shown
12 by binge drinkers, and if so, what are the variables that connect them? Accordingly, we
13 tested whether the distinct nodes cohere as a unitary binge drinking network or instead
14 constitute distinct subnetworks. We then explored the associations between alcohol-
15 related variables to reveal the connections among binge drinking features. The
16 combination of these analyses may thus offer viable heuristics in the identification of
17 potent binge drinking variables and constitute a pivotal phase in the identification of targets
18 ripe for evaluation, prevention, and intervention programs.

20 **2. Material and Methods**

21 *2.1. Participants*

1 A total of 4,198 French-speaking participants (UCLouvain; Belgium) were recruited
2 through an online questionnaire sent by email to all university students. In this sample, we
3 considered all participants aged between 18 and 30 years old ($n=4,073$) and captured
4 excessive drinkers by selecting people who drank six or more alcohol units on one
5 occasion at least once a month during the last 6 months ($n=2,289$). This consumption
6 criterion currently constitutes the most recognized binge drinking variable in both
7 experimental and epidemiological research (e.g., Archie, Zangeneh Kazemi, & Akhtar-
8 Danesh, 2012; Poulton, Mackenzie, Harrington, Borg, & Hester, 2016). Finally, we
9 excluded participants with missing data, leading to a final sample of 1,455 participants
10 (52.4% women; mean age = 20.79 ± 2.36). All participants gave online consent before
11 starting the survey and their anonymity was guaranteed (no personal data were collected,
12 including Internet protocol addresses). The study protocol was approved by the local
13 ethical committee and data collection was conducted in accordance with the Declaration
14 of Helsinki.

16 2.2. Procedure and Measures

17 The online survey (Qualtrics LLC, Provo, USA) assessed sociodemographic (age,
18 gender, study year, and living environment) and alcohol consumption (an alcohol dose
19 containing 10 gr of pure ethanol in Belgium) variables by using French-validated
20 questionnaires. The AUDIT was first administered (Gache et al., 2005), measuring alcohol
21 use (items 1-3) and alcohol-related problems (items 4-10) (see Table 1). To be consistent
22 with the harmful dysfunction model of alcohol use disorder (Wakefield & Schmitz, 2015),
23 we used the terminology of alcohol-related dysfunction/harm components to refer to the

1 last seven AUDIT items. Binge drinking was then assessed with additional items
2 (Townshend & Duka, 2002) that measured consumption speed (i.e., number of drinks per
3 hour from one drink in 3 hours to seven drinks per hour), the number of times participants
4 had been drunk or completely drunk, and the percentage of drunkenness in the last 6
5 months (i.e., self-reported open answers). According to previous research on acute
6 alcohol consumption (Gilbertson et al., 2009; Hoffman & Nixon, 2015), we aimed to
7 identify two subjective levels of drunkenness, related to distinct behavioral and subjective
8 consequences, by asking the following questions: (1) How many times have you been
9 *drunk* in the past 6 months? (being drunk refers to loss of coordination, impaired self-
10 control, nausea, or inability to speak clearly), (2) How many times have you been
11 *completely drunk* in the past 6 months? (being completely drunk refers to loss of
12 consciousness, vomiting, inability to remember what happened, or alcoholic coma). The
13 de-identified data have been made available via the Open Science Framework (OSF) at
14 <https://osf.io/vmf83/>.

16 2.3. Statistical Analyses

17 2.3.1. Preliminary analyses and sample description

18 To support the exclusion of participants with missing data, we performed
19 comparisons between students with no missing data and students with missing data on
20 demographic and alcohol-related variables (supplementary analyses available on the
21 OSF at <https://osf.io/vmf83/>). Descriptive statistics were also performed on personal and
22 alcohol-related variables.

2.3.2. Network analyses

The R code for network analysis has been made available on the OSF (<https://osf/vmd83/>).

Network estimation. We estimated the network by using a Gaussian graphical model (Epskamp, Borsboom, & Fried, 2018) with a nonparanormal transformation (Liu, Han, Yuan, Lafferty, & Wasserman, 2012). In this network, edges signify conditional independence relationships among nodes (i.e., alcohol-related variables), while controlling for the effects of all other nodes (Epskamp & Fried, 2016). Blue lines represent positive associations between nodes, whereas red lines represent negative associations. The accuracy and stability of our network estimates were tested (Epskamp et al., 2018) and results were interpreted according to the model's accuracy check.

Expected influence centrality. To quantify the importance of each node in the entire network, we computed expected influence centrality (Robinaugh, Millner, & McNally, 2016). The expected influence of a node is the sum of the edge weights incident to a given node, including positive and negative values. Higher expected influence values indicate greater centrality (i.e., greater importance in the network). We performed bootstrap difference tests to investigate whether some nodes were significantly more important than others for expected influence centrality (Epskamp et al., 2018).

Community detection. As in prior network research (e.g., Bernstein, Heeren, & McNally, 2019; Heeren, Bernstein, & McNally, 2018) we tested whether the different variables cohere as one or multiple subnetworks. To do so, we implemented the spinglass algorithm, a modularity-based community detection algorithm suitable for uncovering the structure of relatively small networks with negative edge values (Traag & Bruggeman,

2009). This analysis allows identification of the number of edges in groups of nodes through the modularity (i.e., the number of edges within groups minus the expected number of edges in a comparable network shaped by randomly positioned edges; Newman, 2006).

Bridge expected influence. As in previous studies (Blanchard et al., 2021; Bernstein, Heeren, & McNally, 2019), we identified important nodes that serve as bridges (connections) between the resultant subnetworks by computing the bridge expected influence. This index is the sum of the edge weights connecting a given node to all nodes in the other subnetworks. It allows identification of nodes that, when activated, are most likely to activate nearby subnetworks (Jones, Ma, & McNally, 2019). Bootstrap difference tests were performed to compare nodes for bridge expected influence (Epskamp et al., 2018).

3. Results

3.1. Sample Description

Results are described in Table 1. Preliminary analyses supported the reliability of including the subsample of participants with no missing data in the current study. No differences were observed between this sample and that observed for participants with missing data (see OSF for supplementary analyses: <https://osf/vmd83/>).

3.2. Network Analyses

Network estimation and expected influence centrality. The resulting Gaussian graphical model is depicted in Figure 1. To determine the importance of each node, we investigated whether nodes significantly differ in node expected influence centrality (Figure 2). Results showed that being drunk had the highest centrality in the network (1.50), followed by the consumption of six or more alcohol units on one occasion (1.20), the inability to remember what happened during drinking episodes (1.00), and being completely drunk (1.00). These last three nodes did not differ significantly.

Community detection analysis. Three distinct subnetworks were identified in the binge drinking network (Figure 1): the first relates to alcohol use (questions 1 to 3 of the AUDIT) and consumption speed, the second includes variables related to drunkenness (being drunk, completely drunk, and percentage of drunkenness), and the third relates to dysfunction/harm components (AUDIT 4-10).

Bridge expected influence. Three nodes were identified as bridge items, i.e., serving as connections between the different subnetworks (i.e., alcohol use, drunkenness, and dysfunction/harm): being drunk, the inability to remember what happened during drinking episodes (i.e., AUDIT 8), and being completely drunk (bridge expected influence values of 0.65, 0.65, and 0.58, respectively; see Figure 3). Results thus underlined these variables as consolidating associations among all alcohol variables in the binge drinking network.

4. Discussion

1 In this study, we capitalized on existing binge drinking definitions to identify the constitutive
2 features of binge drinking via network analysis. This data-driven approach has recently
3 brought important benefits to the conceptualization of mental disorders (Borsboom, 2017).
4 Given the absence of a consistent and commonly accepted definition of binge drinking,
5 the application of network analysis to binge drinking habits may further clarify this field.
6 We simultaneously considered classic self-reported approaches to binge drinking
7 measures, namely those based on global alcohol-related components (i.e., alcohol
8 consumption frequency/intensity and consequences) and those based on specific binge
9 drinking variables (i.e., consumption of six or more alcohol units, drunkenness, and
10 consumption speed). We selected a sample of excessive drinkers among university
11 students, according to dominant binge drinking criteria (i.e., drinking six or more alcohol
12 units on one occasion, at least once a month) to reliably identify the core features of binge
13 drinking and improve its definition. Overall, our results showed the importance of
14 subjective feelings and consequences of alcohol intoxication (drunkenness and blackout
15 features) and provided a modest support for the six-unit threshold to define binge drinking.

16 In particular, we found that the network of binge drinking includes three distinct
17 subnetworks: alcohol use, drunkenness, and dysfunction/harm components. Perhaps the
18 most striking result was that drunkenness frequency emerged as the most influential node
19 in both the entire network (i.e., expected influence) and in connecting the different
20 communities together (i.e., bridge expected influence). This observation is at odds with
21 previous binge drinking research (e.g., epidemiological studies; Johnson, Lee, Vinson, &
22 Seale, 2013; Kanny, Liu, Brewer, & Lu, 2013), which mainly focused on the quantitative
23 definition of binge drinking. However, it reinforces consideration of more qualitative

1 aspects as proposed by Townshend and Duka (2002), who stated that binge drinking
2 should not be defined according to alcohol consumption quantity/frequency, but rather to
3 its specific features when compared with other alcohol consumption patterns. According
4 to this proposal, binge drinking consists in intensive alcohol drinking to rapidly reach
5 drunkenness. Drunkenness seeking has been largely shown in young people (Kuntsche
6 et al., 2011; Morean et al., 2014). Here, drunkenness is clearly identified as the most
7 important binge drinking feature. This result is likewise supported by the observed
8 associations between being drunk and dysfunction/harm components (see Figure 1). The
9 only component not related to drunkenness was “morning drinking”, which is consistent
10 with the assumption that binge drinking is not an indicator of severe alcohol use disorder
11 (Baggio, Dupuis, Iglesias, & Daeppen, 2015; Rolland & Naassila, 2017) and contributes
12 to counter previous concerns regarding the lack of construct validity of binge drinking
13 definitions and the doubts related to its distinction from other excessive consumption
14 patterns (Pearson et al., 2016). Specifically, regarding dysfunction/harm components, the
15 inability to remember what happened during drinking episodes was identified as both a
16 bridge item and a central node. This finding supports the proposal that blackouts constitute
17 a specific consequence of drunkenness and a core variable in binge drinking (e.g.,
18 Labhart, Livingston, Engels, & Kuntsche, 2018; Wombacher, Matig, Sheff, & Scott, 2019)
19 and dovetails with the appearance of cognitive and cerebral impairments (Hermens &
20 Lagopoulos, 2018).

21 Moreover, although the six-unit threshold is supported in the expected influence
22 centrality (as were the inability to remember and being completely drunk), results of the
23 network analysis question the usefulness of this widely used threshold. This cut-off is

1 currently considered standard in most binge drinking research (ESPAD, 2015), yet some
2 studies rather combine consumption speed and frequency of binge drinking episodes to
3 offer a reliable definition (Lopez-Caneda et al., 2013; Poulton et al., 2016). However, the
4 six-unit threshold does not appear to be dominant in the current binge drinking network.
5 Indeed, our results supported the importance of the quantity of alcohol use (i.e., to reach
6 drunkenness episodes) but not the cut-off of six drinks, even in a subsample of
7 participants selected according to this criterion. This observation, together with the lack of
8 support for the consumption speed variable, underlines the need to adjust currently used
9 operationalization and measurement of binge-drinking pattern. Another finding that may
10 appear surprising is the negative association between the frequency and quantity items
11 of the AUDIT. This may, in fact, be related to the binge drinking population and reflect the
12 tendency to drink intensively but irregularly (not frequently).

13 The results of this study invite to the incorporation of subjective drunkenness states
14 in the definition and assessment of binge drinking. Future studies should replicate the
15 present results in different samples and offer support through temporal network analyses
16 of intensive longitudinal designs and instantaneous evaluations of alcohol consumption
17 (e.g., Ecological Sampling Methods; Aalbers et al., 2019). Studies should further elucidate
18 the relations between binge drinking and drunkenness (e.g., respective influences of
19 drunkenness/abstinence cycle and drunkenness intensity), as well as the role played by
20 drinking frequency (e.g., regarding cognitive and brain dysfunctions). Importantly, as this
21 study focused on self-reported measures, the evaluation of drunkenness remains
22 subjective and should be improved in further research. An interesting perspective could
23 be to rely on objective measures of binge drinking (evaluation of Blood Alcohol

Concentration; Maurage et al., 2020). Future studies are necessary to test the relevance of distinguishing the subjective states of being drunk and completely drunk.

On the other hand, the data-driven analysis conducted here allows refinement of the binge drinking definition. More precisely, our findings suggest that (1) a tailored approach that focuses on binge drinking specificities is better than a quantitative perspective that focuses merely on global alcohol consumption, (2) drunkenness is a core feature of binge drinking and blackout is a central consequence of this habit, and (3) the consumption of more than six alcohol units on one occasion appears to be an insufficient index to define binge drinking. For a more accurate and consistent binge drinking definition, our results thus call for consideration of drunkenness features together with alcohol use frequency and intensity. Drunkenness is identified as a core variable in the binge drinking network; combining it with more quantitative alcohol use variables will be necessary to define specific thresholds in order to characterize binge drinking according to age, gender, potential confounders (e.g., tolerance to alcohol effects; Sarala et al., 2019), and specific consequences (i.e., inability to remember). One way to go further in this direction could be to revise the initial proposal made by Townshend and Duka (2002) by offering a binge drinking score that considers drunkenness and alcohol use frequency/quantity and is weighted according to the strength values identified in the binge drinking network. Previous studies have indeed supported the predictive validity of weighting psychological symptoms on the basis of centrality values in network analysis (Boschloo, van Borkulo, Borsboom, Schoevers, 2016), and this approach could be particularly useful to offer a revised binge drinking score.

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1 **Table 1.** Descriptive characteristics of the sample (n=1,455).

Variable	Value	
Demographic measures		
Age (<i>mean, SD</i>)		20.79 (2.36)
Gender ratio (<i>percentage; female/male</i>)		52.4/ 47.6
Study years (<i>percentage</i>)		
First university year		35.8
Second university year		13.9
Third university year		14.1
Fourth university year		18.9
Fifth university year		14.1
Higher than fifth university year ¹		3.3
Living environment (<i>percentage</i>)		
Alone		4.8
With parents		30.8
With other people outside university campus		8.5
With other people at university campus		50.2
With partner		4.6
Other		1.0
Alcohol consumption measures	Range	Mean (SD)
Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT)	3 – 34	13.94 (5.91)
1. Drinking frequency	1 – 4	2.90 (0.68)
2. Drinking intensity	0 – 4	1.91 (1.35)
3. Drinking more than six alcohol units	2 – 4	2.77 (0.64)
4. Inability to stop drinking	0 – 4	0.92 (1.14)
5. Inability to do what is expected	0 – 4	1.31 (1.11)
6. Drinking in the morning	0 – 4	0.12 (0.44)
7. Guiltiness	0 – 4	1.12 (0.93)
8. Inability to remember	0 – 4	1.19 (1.03)
9. Injuries	0 – 4	1.11 (1.59)
10. Worries of relatives or a doctor	0 – 4	0.58 (1.34)
Consumption speed	0.33 – 7	2.81 (1.27)
Number of times drunk (last 6 months)	0 – 140	12.67 (18.12)
Number of times completely drunk (last 6 months)	0 – 130	4.13 (10.43)
Percentage of drunkenness (last 6 months)	0 – 100	14.23 (18.08)

2 Note. ¹ Higher than fifth university year comprised people still affiliated with the university because of
3 enrolment in a complementary Master or PhD program.

Figure Captions

Figure 1. Figure 1 depicts three distinct clusters: alcohol consumption in red, drunkenness in yellow, and dysfunction/harm components in blue. Blue lines indicate positive relationships between nodes, whereas red lines indicate negative relationships. The thickness of the lines represents the strength of the association between nodes. Drunk = frequency of episodes in which participants have been drunk in the last 6 months, C_Drunk = frequency of episodes in which participants have been completely drunk in the last 6 months, P_Drunk = percentage of drunkenness episodes in the last 6 months. For a description of AUDIT items, see Table 1.

Figure 2. Figure 2 depicts expected influence centrality. Bootstrapped estimates are shown on the diagonal and comparisons between nodes on each part of the diagonal. Dark cases mean significant differences between two nodes (at the .05 level). Drunk = frequency of episodes in which participants have been drunk in the last 6 months, C_Drunk = frequency of episodes in which participants have been completely drunk in the last 6 months, P_Drunk = percentage of drunkenness episodes in the last 6 months. For a description of AUDIT items, see Table 1.

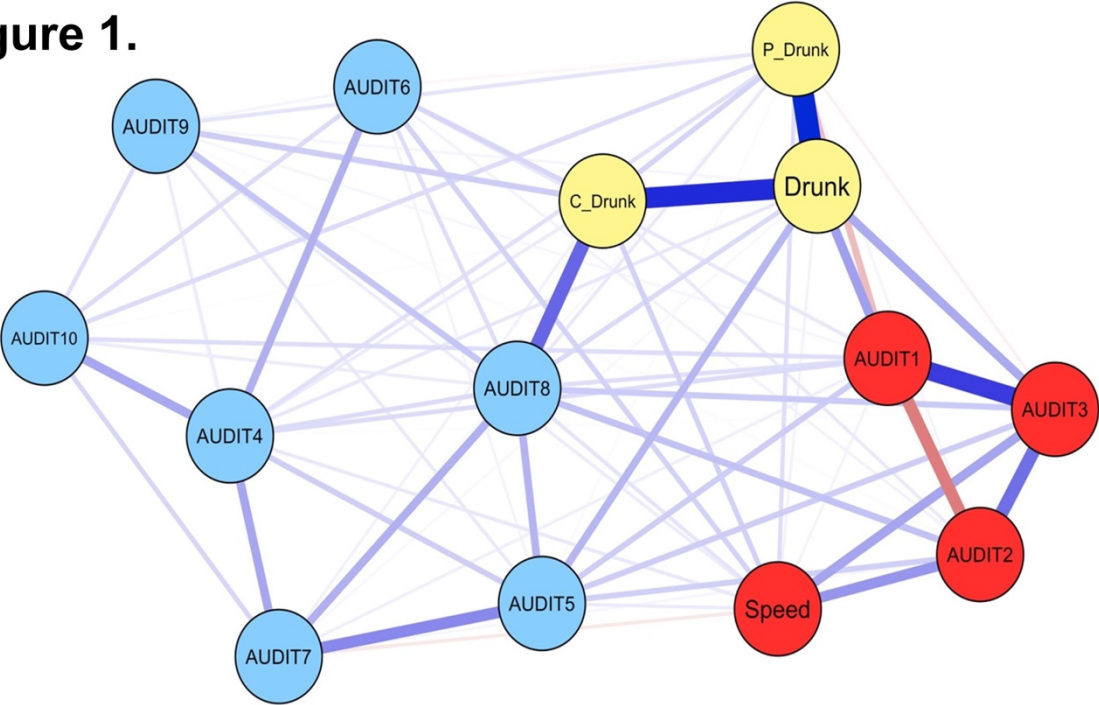
Figure 3. Figure 3 depicts bridge expected influence. Bootstrapped estimates are shown on the diagonal and comparisons between nodes on each part of the diagonal. Dark cases mean significant differences between two nodes (at the .05 level). Drunk = frequency of

1 episodes in which participants have been drunk in the last 6 months, C_Drunk = frequency
2 of episodes in which participants have been completely drunk in the last 6 months,
3 P_Drunk = percentage of drunkenness episodes in the last 6 months. For a description of
4 AUDIT items, see Table 1.

5

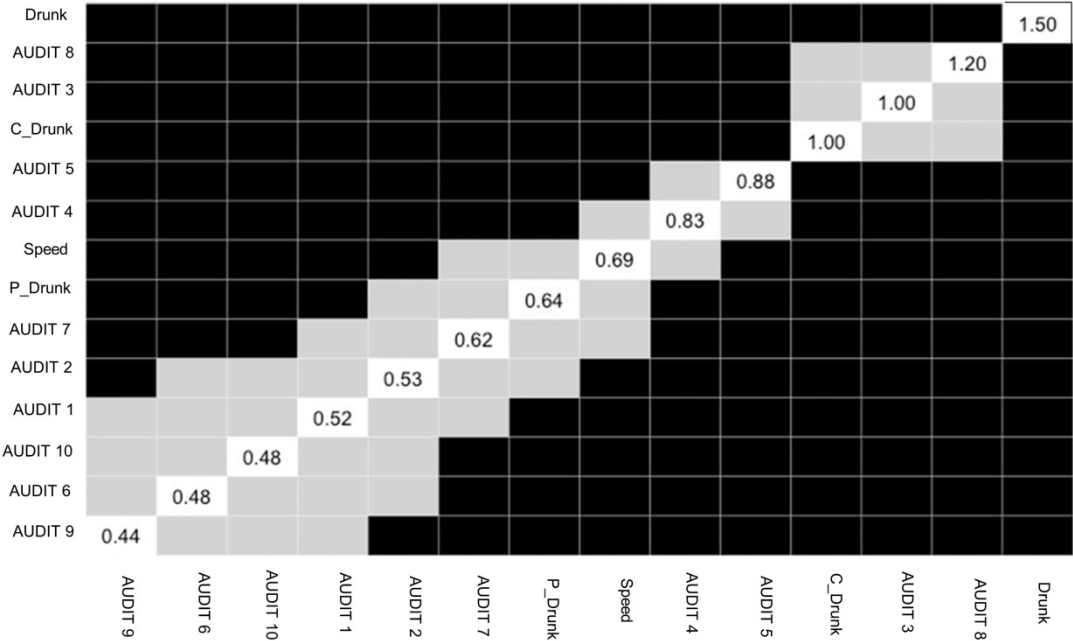
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Figure 1.



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Figure 2.



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Figure 3.

