If a Telephone Network Needs an Infrastructure, Why Not a Service-Delivery Network?

Eugene Bardach
Goldman School of Public Policy
UC Berkeley

Communications, Transportation, TV

- Networks with infrastructures
 - Hardware and software
- Why not service-delivery networks?
 - And regulation networks?

Analogies within Human Services

- Agents are institutions and individuals within them
- "Hardware" is therefore "soft"
 - Expectations and perceptions
 - Financial and monetary incentives
 - Power and authority and influence
 - Agents' competencies and capacities
 - Others from future research

Architectural Variables

- Formal characteristics: nodes, linkages, pointcentrality, holes, subnetworks, edges, multiplexity...
- Non-architectural variables
 - Expectations and perceptions
 - Financial and monetary incentives
 - Power and authority and influence
 - Agents' competencies and capacities

Correlation Without Causation?

- Centralization as a cause?
- What is causality about anyway?
 - "Necessary and sufficient conditions"?
 - Direct and indirect?
 - Spurious?
 - Proxy?
- Centralization as "force multiplier"
 - Architecture interacts with non-architecture
 - Little independent effect?

Process Dynamics

- Feedback loops
 - E.g., trust leads to trust
- Emergent features. E.g.:
 - Success leads to success, leads to more resources, leads to attack strategies, leads to vulnerability
 - Matching efforts lead to better search strategies and shrinking pool of plausible targets
 - Groupware, collective self-awareness

Integrating Hierarchies and Networks

- "Governance"? Provan and Kenis, 2008
 - Lead agencies
 - Network Administrative Organizations (NAO)
- Incident Command System (ICS)
 - Exotic Newcastle Disease (END), Moynihan, 2006
- "Network" with two tiers: infrastructure has dual potential; context evokes appropriate dynamic
- Semantic issue. "Collaborative" or "Interagency Collaborative Capacity (ICC)"

Summary and Conclusion

- Network conception too simple
- Analogy with communications network: add "infrastructure"
 - Add non- "architecture" variables
 - Add process dynamics
 - Integrate with other collective production arrangements (hierarchies, markets)