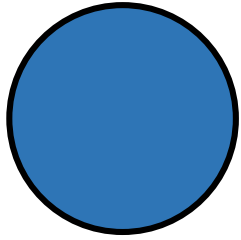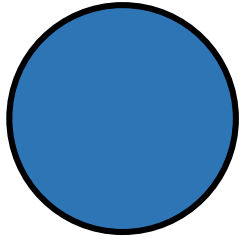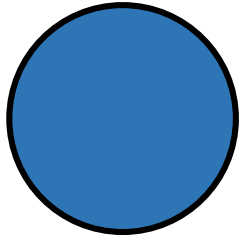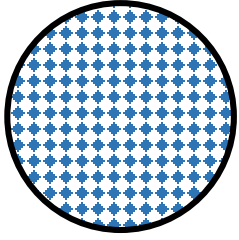A population of individuals

one individual
(or actor, or agent, or node)

Ego
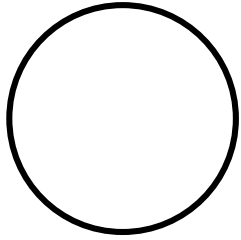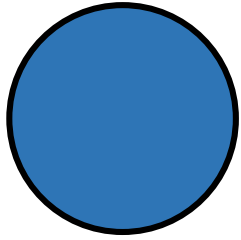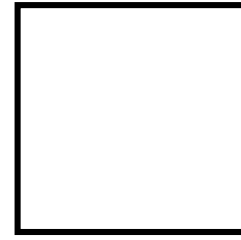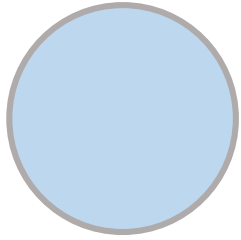
Ego characteristics
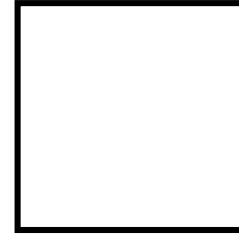
Ego characteristics

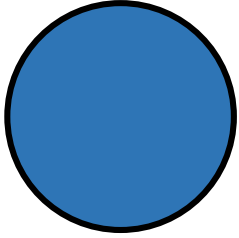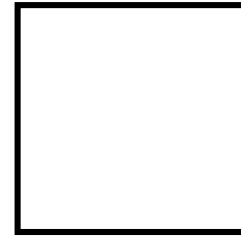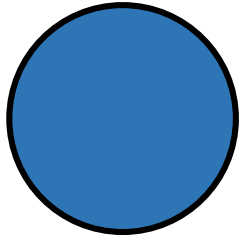Ego characteristics

ego *i*

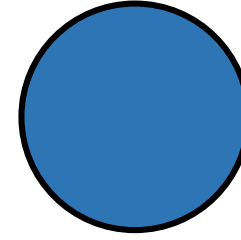Ego characteristics

ego *j*

Ego characteristics

Ego

Alter

Dyad

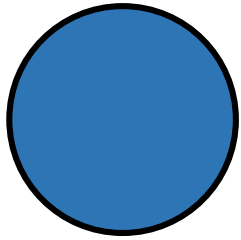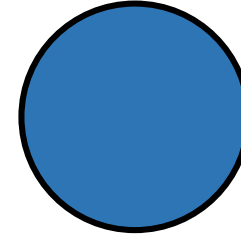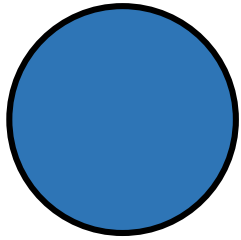Dyad

Dyad characteristic: similarity
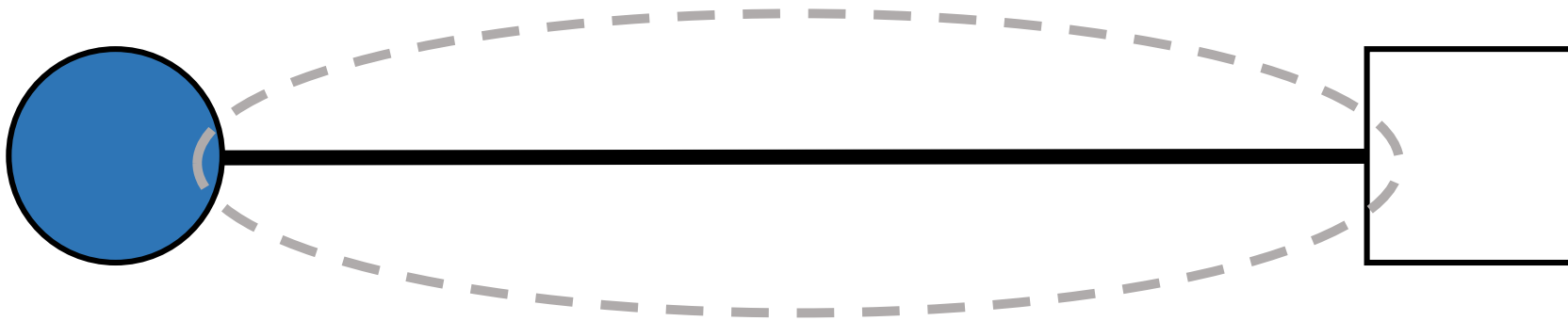
Dyad characteristic: similarity

Dyad characteristic: similarity

Dyad characteristic: similarity

Relation
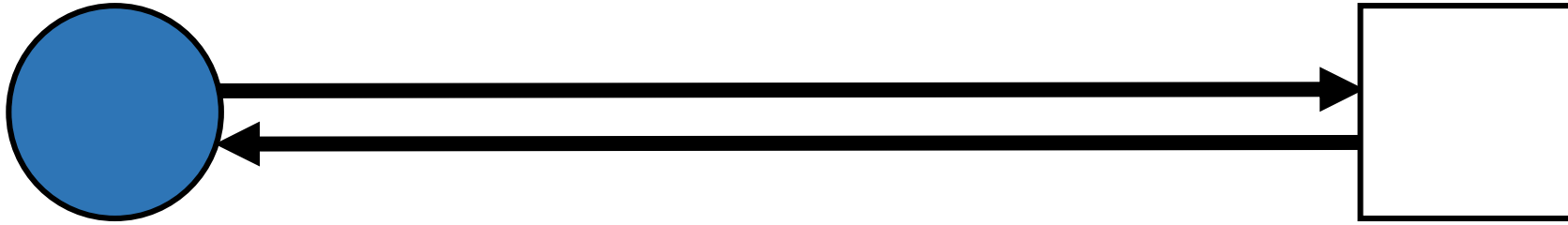
Relation
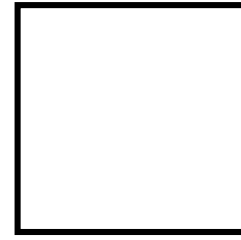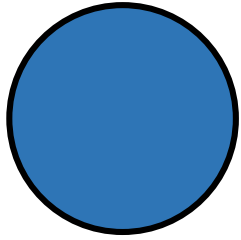
undirected relation

directed relation (or tie, or arc)
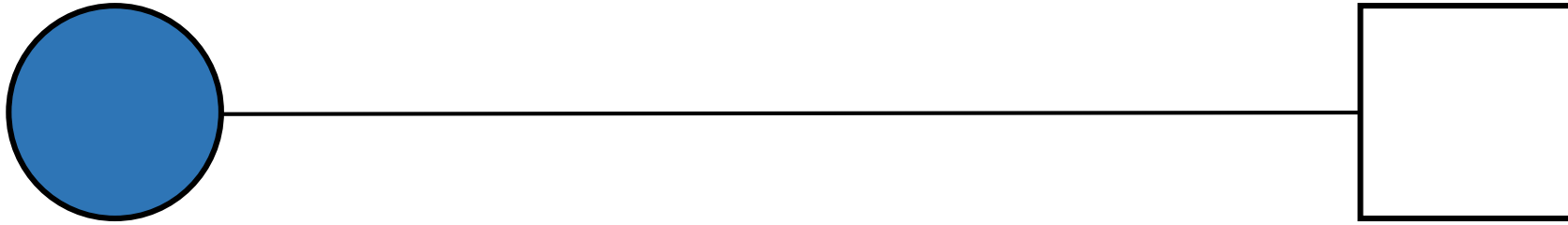
One dyad, two directed relations

Binary relation (**yes**/no)

Binary relation (yes/**no**)

ordinal relation
(**very weak**, weak,
strong, very strong)

ordinal relation
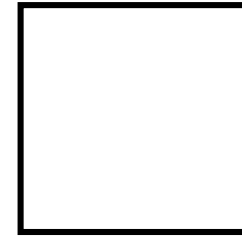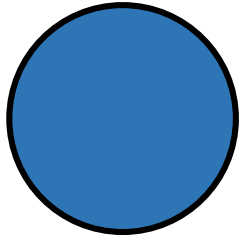(very weak, **weak**,
strong, very strong)

ordinal relation
(very weak, weak,
strong, very strong)

ordinal relation
(very weak, weak,
strong, **very strong**)

Homophily: it is more likely to observe a positive relation between two people who are similar (share defining characteristics) than between people who are different.

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