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Editorial: Hidden order behind cooperation in social systems

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Editorial on the Research Topic

Hidden order behind cooperation in social systems

Navigating the complexities of mobility and interaction, an agent's decision to cooperate or not can undergo evolutionary changes over time. Even though individuals are inherently selfish, cooperation behavior remains prevalent and serves as a crucial component of prosocial behavior. Quantitative analysis of cooperation behavior is of both theoretical and practical significance in modern science, with fields such as psychology, sociology, and economics emphasizing this research.

The global 2019-nCoV pandemic has once again highlighted the importance of analyzing virus transmission, prompting countries worldwide to focus on this Research Topic. To aid decision-making teams in implementing preventive measures, research into dynamic models for infectious diseases can aid in understanding transmission processes. Preventive vaccination is a fundamental and highly effective control measure for reducing transmission of infectious diseases and mortality rates. Under a voluntary vaccination scheme, the decision to vaccinate or not becomes an individual game decision, taking into account social environments, economic conditions, potential risks associated with vaccination, and other individuals' vaccination decisions. Understanding the cooperative phenomenon of egotism in disease propagation systems remains a major challenge.

As we live and cooperate within a complex and variable network of relationships, intricate interactions between individuals give rise to highly complex population dynamics. Complex network theory serves as a primary and effective tool for exploring these complex and interactive systems, offering a fresh perspective for studying evolutionary games in nature. This Research Topic in Frontiers in Physics aims to welcome contributions on cooperation behavior, encouraging papers that use network tools to provide meaningful references and insights into comprehending the rules and reasons behind social dilemmas. These findings have inspired the conception of the Research Topic, "Hidden Order Behind Cooperation in Social Systems." Within this Research Topic, Vasiliauskaite et al. investigated the impact of temporal changes at the individual and social levels on cooperation patterns in social networks. They discovered that temporal variation and synchrony can enhance or suppress cooperation in nontrivial ways, depending on parameter values. Zhang et al. employed an evolutionary game method to examine the cooperation behavior between government and banks. Wang et al. analyzed the impact of Wuhan's COVID-19 lockdown on the growth enterprise market in China, shedding light on the significance of digital inclusive finance for mitigating regional risks and financing issues. Chang's research on an SIR rumor propagation model with an interaction mechanism on WeChat networks provides significant insights for controlling the spread of rumors in WeChat

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groups. Chen et al. examined the searching behavior of Sino-U.S. relations in China based on complex network analysis, offering a new perspective for analyzing the time series characteristics of Sino-U.S. relations.

Based on the contributions of these papers, it is evident that this research topic is highly valuable for understanding social systems. We hope that the theoretical models and practical applications presented in this research will encourage further exploration and development of cooperation in social systems.

Author contributions

All authors listed have made a substantial, direct, and intellectual contribution to the work and approved it for publication.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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