

Figure 1. Adoptions of BAG between 2009 and 2011. From left to right: 1. July 1st 2009; First BAG deadline, 2. July 1st 2010; A year after the 1st BAG deadline, 3. December 1st 2010; A month before the second BAG deadline, 4. January 1st 2011; Second BAG deadline.

RESEARCH QUESTION

How do innovations in public government spread?

More specifically:

“How can we explain differences in the timing and spacing of the adoption of BAG in Dutch municipalities between 2008 and 2011?”

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

The effect we find is small and not significant.

With regard to the question how innovations spread in public government, this means that innovative neighbors do not matter.

Looking for alternative explanations for the spread of innovations is necessary.

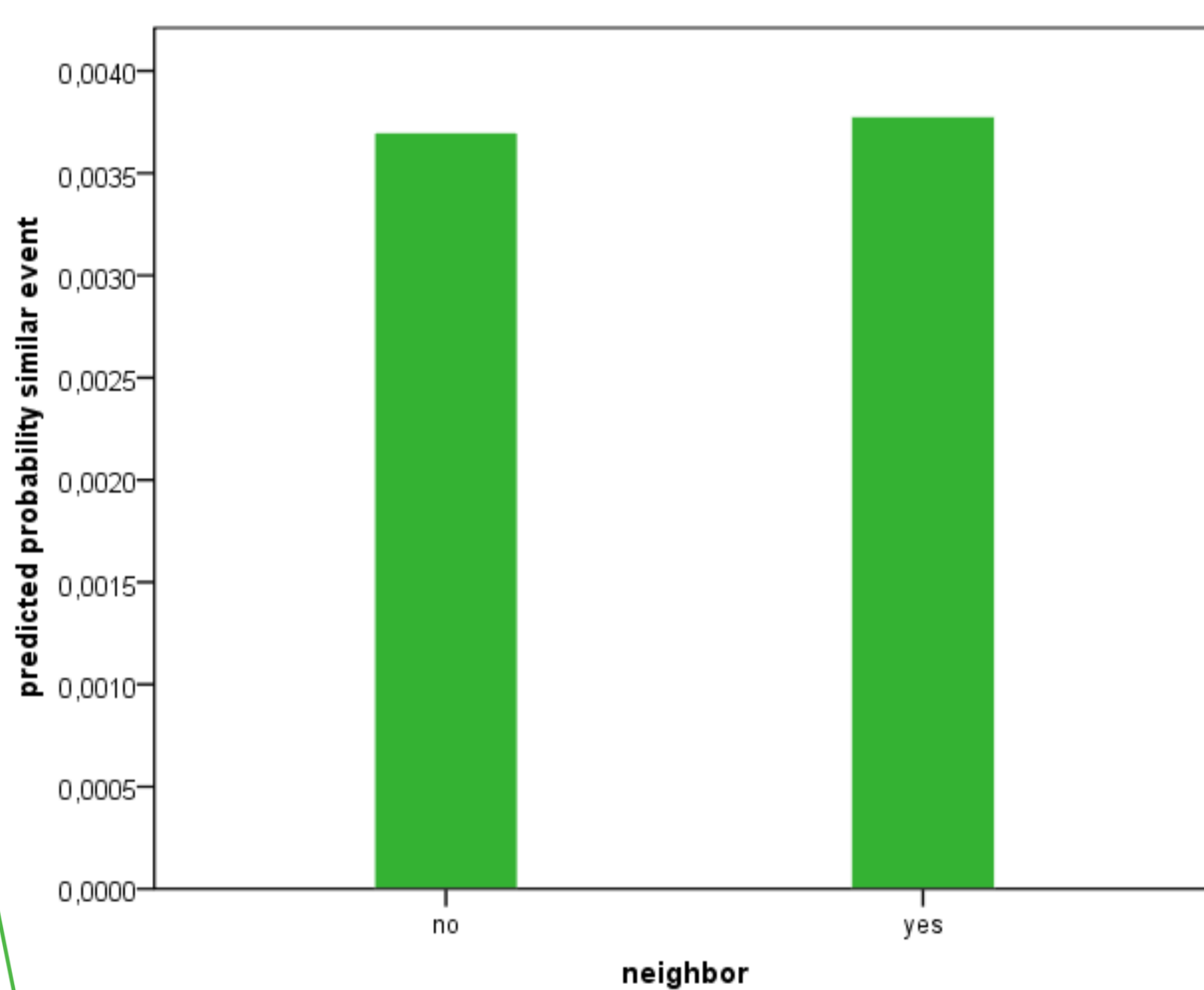


Figure 5. The predicted probability for a similar event dependent on being neighbors.

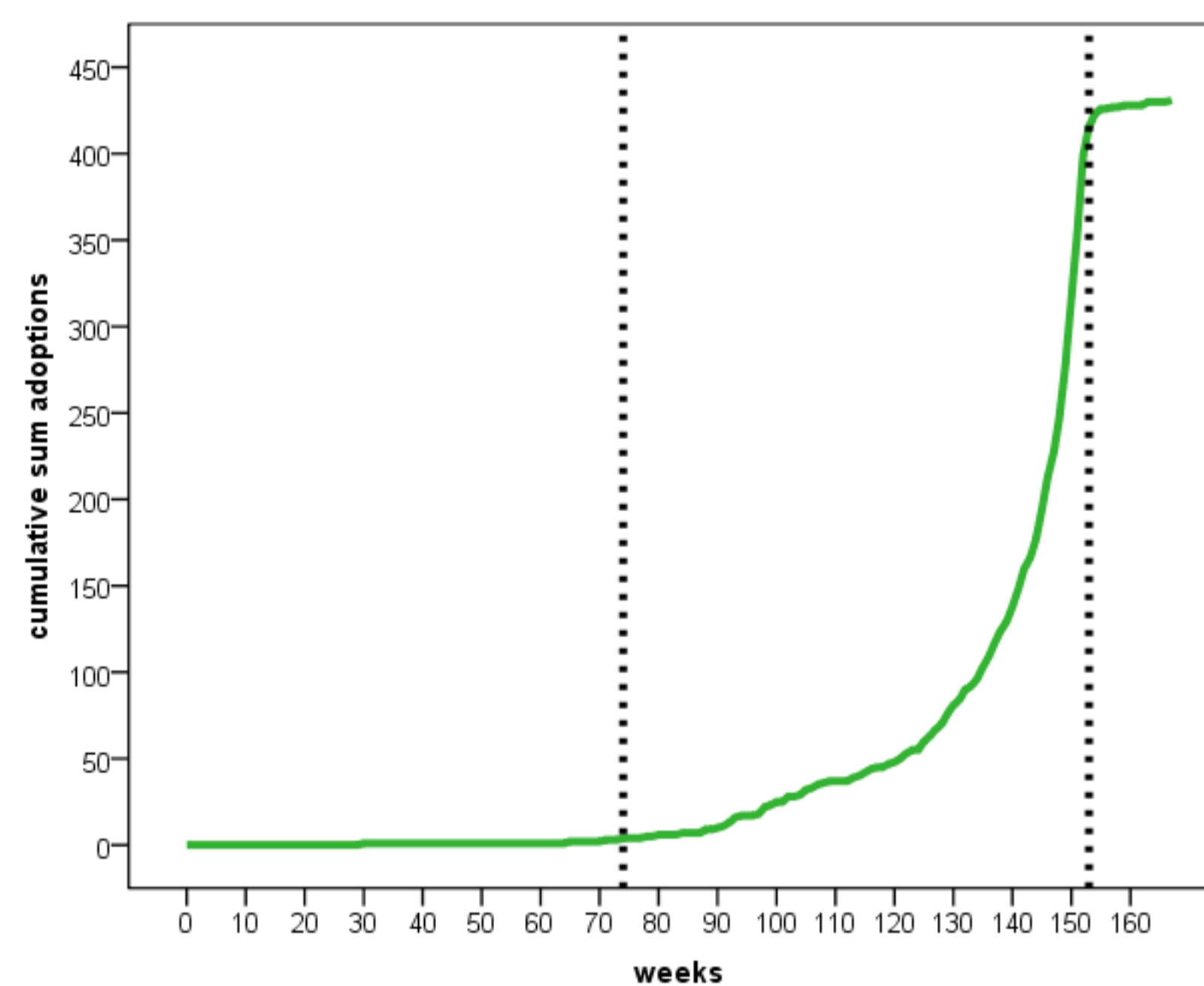


Figure 2. The cumulative distribution of adoptions of BAG for 431 municipalities in the Netherlands between the introduction of BAG legislation in 2008, and the last adoption in 2011.

THEORY

Innovation depends on:

- The motivation to innovate
- The strength of obstacles against innovation
- The availability of resources

A neighboring municipality can function as a resource: A municipality is expected to adopt BAG earlier if a neighboring municipality has already adopted BAG.

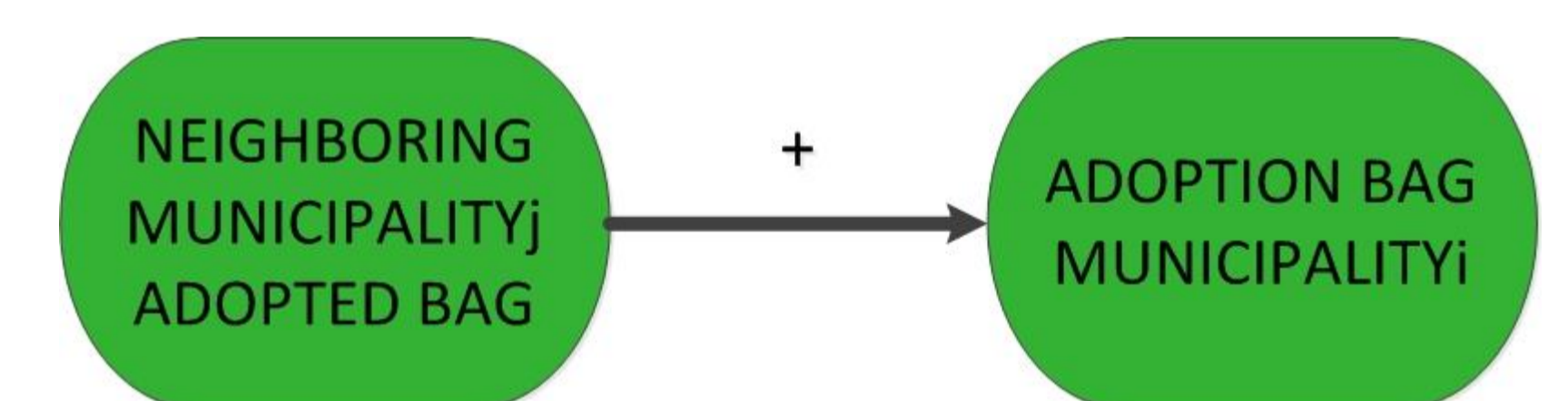


Figure 3. Outline of the above hypothesis.

DATA & ANALYSIS

To test our hypotheses we use ‘dyad-week event history analysis’.

To test the above hypothesis we use the following logistic regression formula:

$$\text{SIMILAR EVENT} = \text{INTERCEPT} + b * \text{NEIGHBOR} + e$$

| municipality i | municipality j | week | neighbor | event i | event j | similar event |
|----------------|----------------|------|----------|---------|---------|---------------|
| Enschede | Haaksbergen | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Enschede | Haaksbergen | 140 | yes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Enschede | Haaksbergen | 141 | yes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Enschede | Haaksbergen | 142 | yes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Enschede | Haaksbergen | 143 | yes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Enschede | Haaksbergen | 144 | yes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Enschede | Haaksbergen | 145 | yes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Enschede | Haaksbergen | 146 | yes | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Enschede | Hardenberg | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Enschede | Hardenberg | 140 | no | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Enschede | Hardenberg | 141 | no | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Enschede | Hardenberg | 142 | no | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Enschede | Hardenberg | 143 | no | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Enschede | Hardenberg | 144 | no | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Enschede | Hardenberg | 145 | no | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Enschede | Hardenberg | 146 | no | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Enschede | Hengelo | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Enschede | Hengelo | 140 | yes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Enschede | Hengelo | 141 | yes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Enschede | Hengelo | 142 | yes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Enschede | Hengelo | 143 | yes | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Enschede | Hengelo | 144 | yes | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Enschede | Hengelo | 145 | yes | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Enschede | Hengelo | 146 | yes | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Figure 4. Factual small sample from our data.

