

# Finding Criminal Groups in Suspect Networks Using a Steiner Tree Approach

**Fredy Troncoso<sup>a</sup>**   Richard Weber<sup>b</sup>   Alex Barrales-Araneda<sup>a</sup>

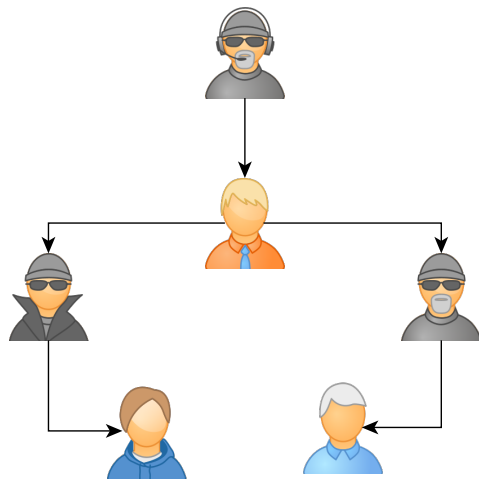
<sup>a</sup>Departamento de Ingeniería Industrial, Universidad del Bío-Bío

<sup>b</sup>Departamento de Ingeniería Industrial, Universidad de Chile

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- ① Introduction
- ② Background
  - Node-Weighted Steiner Tree problem
- ③ A new model based on Steiner trees
  - Steiner tree rational association model
- ④ Results
  - The Public Prosecutor's Office of Chile Dataset
- ⑤ Conclusions and Future Work

- 1 A criminal group is defined as a structured group formed by two or more people that is characterized by serious criminal activity over time, with high internal cohesion and a hierarchical and specialized structure[2]
- 2 The structure of a criminal group is given by the relationships between its members and is fundamental for the success of its operations.[1]



- 1 The STP in graphs is a combinatorial optimization problem that has been widely used in network design, integrated circuit design, localization problems, machine learning, systems biology, and bioinformatics[3].
- 2 The STP seeks a tree that interconnects a set of nodes  $S$  called terminals at a minimum cost.

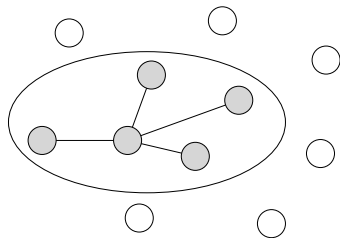
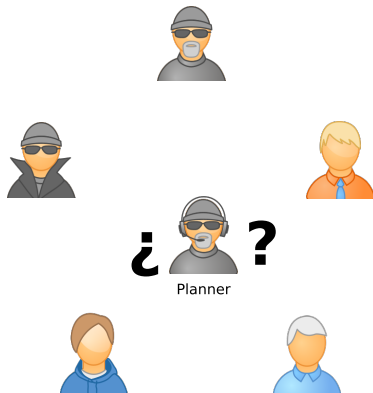


Figure: Figure ?  $|S| = 4$

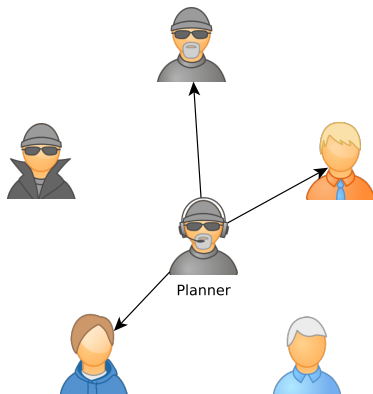
# Steiner tree rational association model (StRAM)

- 1 The search for association can be seen as the process by which a criminal planner  $s$  plans a group crime by choosing other criminals.



# Steiner tree rational association model (StRAM)

- 1 The search for association can be seen as the process by which a criminal planner  $s$  plans a group crime by choosing other criminals.
- 2 The planner is rational and chooses criminals with the criminal skills that guarantee that the crime is carried out with the maximum utility.



# Steiner tree rational association model (StRAM)

- 1 Criminal skills are represented by the criminal propensity  $pcg$  and trustworthiness through social distance between individuals  $d_{ij}$
- 2 The social distance between two individuals is represented by a value between 0 and 1, where 1 represents the maximum distance between them.

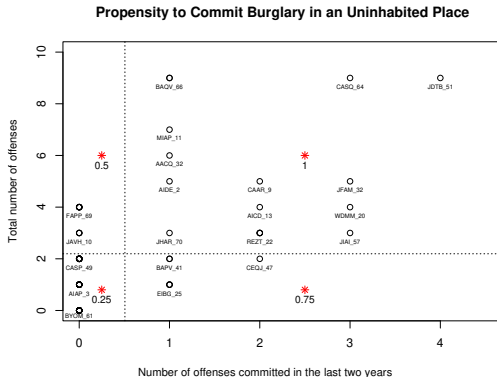


Figure: PCG values for network of 77 suspects

## Objective function

- Utility function of a crime planner

$$\max U = \frac{\sum_{i \in N} pcg_i y_i}{pcg_{max} - pcg_s} - \frac{\sum_{(i,j) \in A} d_{ij} x_{ij}}{d_{max}}$$

## Decision variables

$$y_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{Si } i \in N \text{ se encuentra en la banda} \\ 0 & \text{En otro caso} \end{cases}$$

$$x_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{Si } (i,j) \in A \text{ se encuentra en el árbol} \\ 0 & \text{En otro caso} \end{cases}$$

$$f_{ij} = \text{Flujo a través del arco } (i,j) \in A$$



## Restricciones

- Asignación de vértices:

$$\sum_{i \in N} x_{ij} = y_j \quad \forall j \in N \setminus \{s\} \quad (1)$$

- Conservación de flujo:

$$\sum_{i \in N} f_{ij} - \sum_{i \in N} f_{ji} = y_j \quad \forall j \in N \setminus \{s\} \quad (2)$$

- Asociación del Flujo:

$$f_{ij} \leq (|N| - 1)x_{ij} \quad \forall (i, j) \in A \quad (3)$$

- Propensión máxima:

$$\sum_{i \in N} pcg_i y_i \leq \varphi pcg_{max} \quad (4)$$

- Dominio de las Variables:

$$f_{ij} \geq 0 \quad \forall (i, j) \in A \quad (5)$$

$$x_{ij} \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall (i, j) \in A \quad (6)$$

$$y_i \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall i \in N \quad (7)$$

## The Public Prosecutor's Office of Chile Dataset

- The criminal network was provided by the criminal analysis unit of the Public Prosecutor's Office of Chile.
- The database consists of 1,666 crimes and 77 suspects.

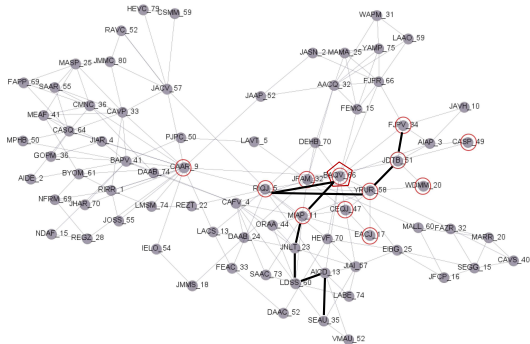


Figure: The network of 77 suspects.

# The Public Prosecutor's Office of Chile Dataset

## Results

- 1 R1
- 2 R2
- 3 R3

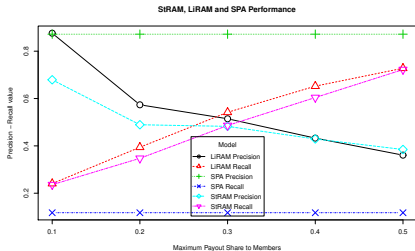


Figure: Precision and Recall to StRAM, LiRAM and SPA.

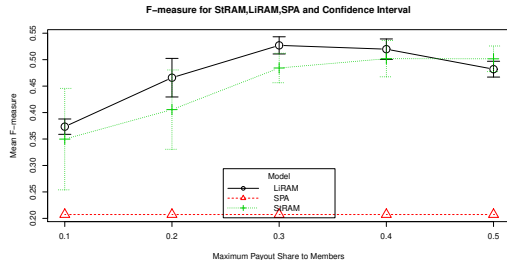


Figure: F-measure to StRAM, LiRAM and SPA

## Results

- ① R1
- ② R2
- ③ R3
- ④ R4
- ⑤ R5

**Table:** Results to statistical tests for different values of  $\varphi$ .

| Results to Statistical Tests            |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Maximum Payout Share to Members P-value |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| Test                                    | $\varphi = 0.1$ | $\varphi = 0.2$ | $\varphi = 0.3$ | $\varphi = 0.4$ | $\varphi = 0.5$ |
| Shapiro-Wilk (LiRAM data)               | 0.0000000034111 | 0.0021649       | 0.0027877       | 0.0117392       | 0.2396275       |
| Shapiro-Wilk (StRAM data)               | 0.02501584      | 0.00374289      | 0.00201161      | 0.04011305      | 0.00056471      |
| Levene                                  | 0.00006102      | 0.1438          | 0.05163         | 0.03224         | 0.03611         |
| Kruskal-Wallis                          | 0.8504          | 0.4327          | 0.07577         | 0.6481          | 0.2407          |

## Conclusions

- ① C1.
- ② C2.
- ③ C3.
- ④ C4.

## Future Work

- ① FW1.
- ② FW2.
- ③ FW3.
- ④ FW4.

- [1] Carles Ortola Boscà. Así son las redes terroristas más eficientes según las matemáticas. *Global strategy reports*, 1(53), 2020.
- [2] Frank E. Hagan. “organized crime” and “organized crime”: Indeterminate problems of definition. *Trends Organ Crim*, 9:127–137, 2006.
- [3] Ivana Ljubić. Solving steiner trees: Recent advances, challenges, and perspectives. *Networks*, 77(2):177–204, 2021.

- FONDEF project ID20I10230ANID
- The Criminal Analysis Unit of the Public Prosecutor's Office of Región del Biobío-Chile
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