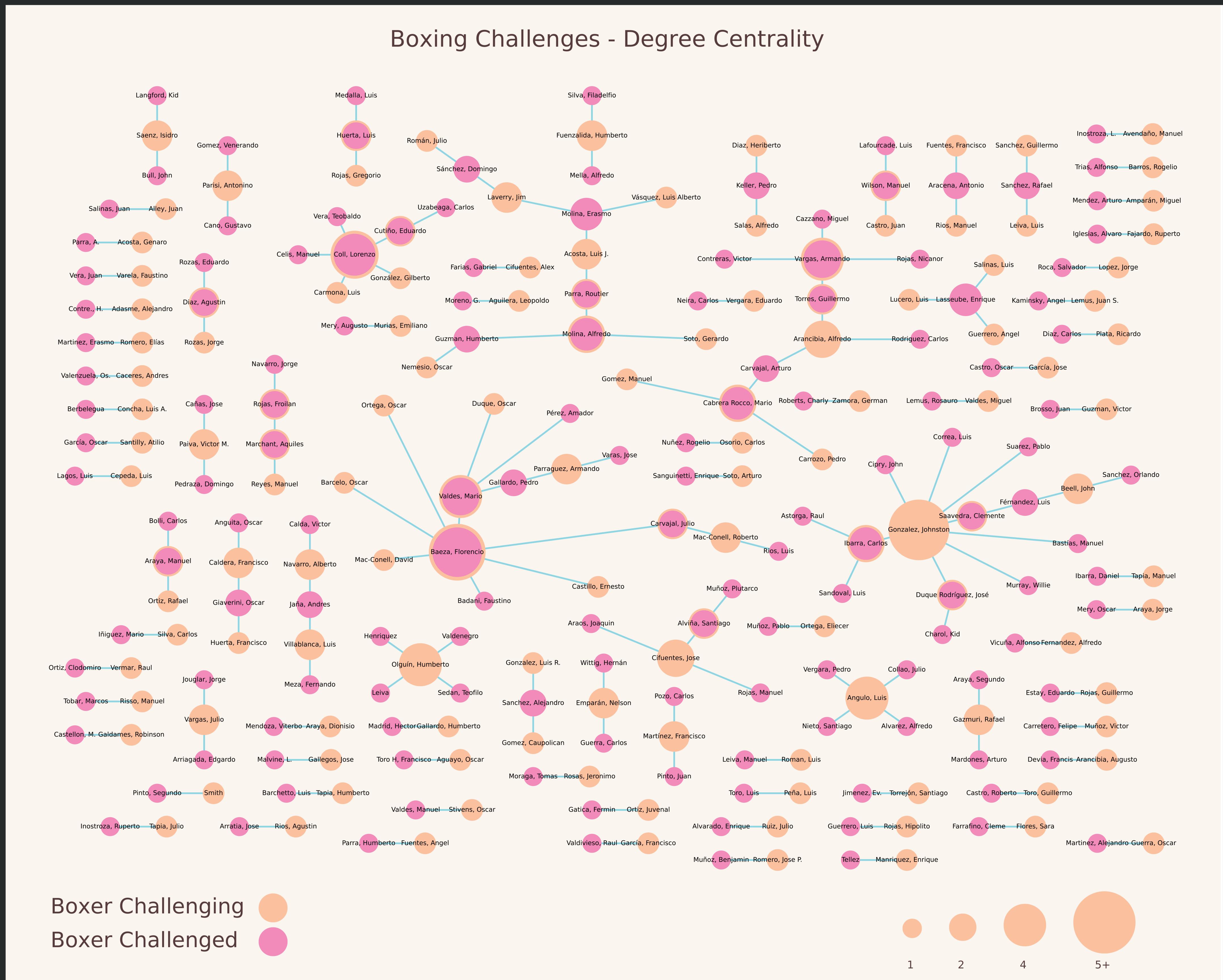


Clinching Through the Press

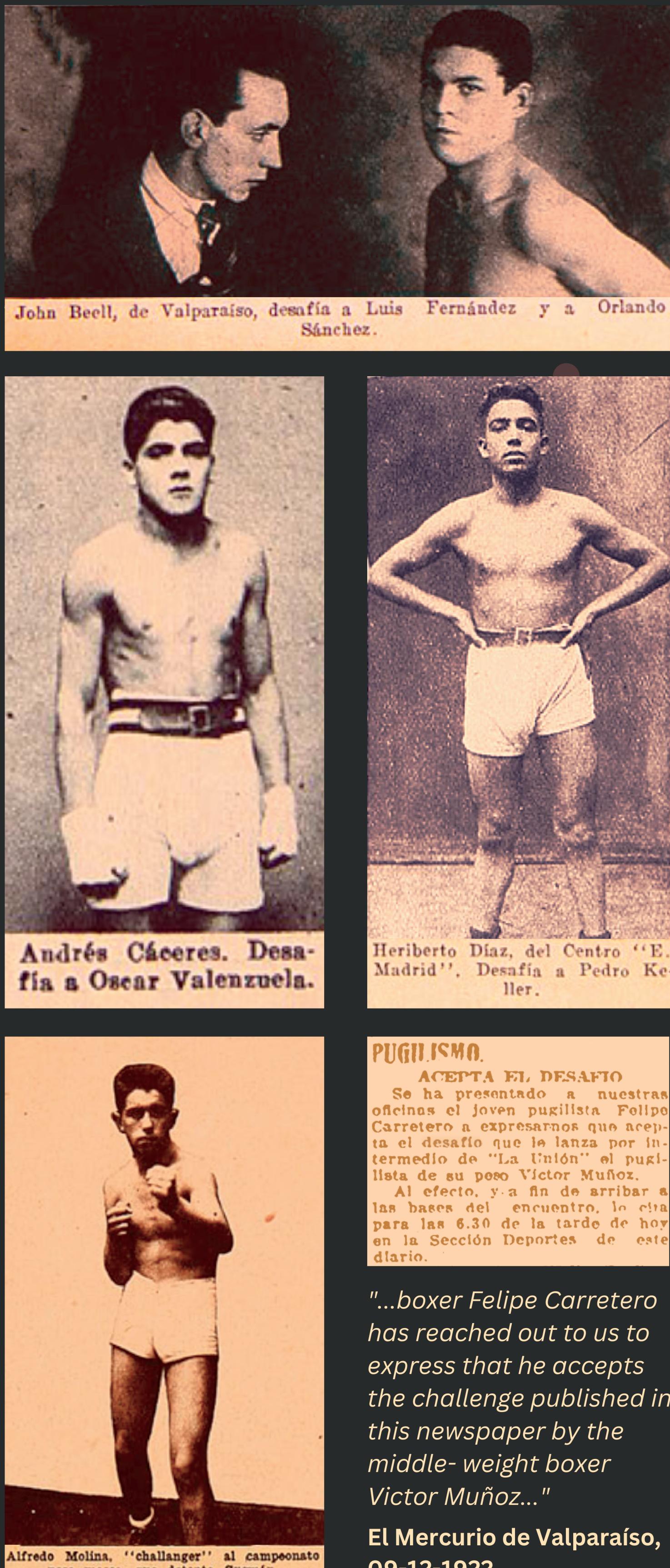
A Network Analysis of Public Boxing Challenges in Central Chile, 1920–1930



This graph shows the network of public boxing challenges in Santiago and nearby cities during the 1920s. The size of the nodes reflects the *degree centrality* of each boxer, both when a boxer is challenging and when is challenged by another fighter. Analyzing the centrality of nodes is one of the most common ways to measure the relevance of particular actors within a network.



Hernán Adasme | hadasme@gmu.edu
Department of History and Art History



Background

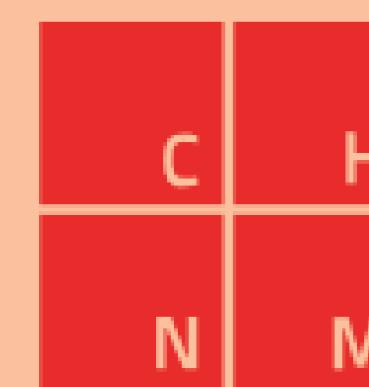
The 1920s witnessed an explosion of boxing spectacles in Chile's major cities. Publishing a boxing challenge was amateur boxers' most common way to set a fight. Sporting magazines and newspapers operated as brokers between boxers, allowing them to challenge each other, sign contracts, and promote fights. With no boxing governing bodies, boxers would arrange the fighting conditions freely. The press stopped publishing challenges in the early 1930s as amateur and professional boxing governing entities gained control over the activity.

Sources

The analysis draws on a database containing 178 challenges taken from digitized newspapers and sporting magazines.



github.com/hernanzo/boxing_challenges



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