



Re-enacting the STS Chilean Community

Scientific collaboration, Institutional cleavages
and early institutionalization in the
post-transitional Chile

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4th September, 2019. 4S 2019 - New Orleans, USA

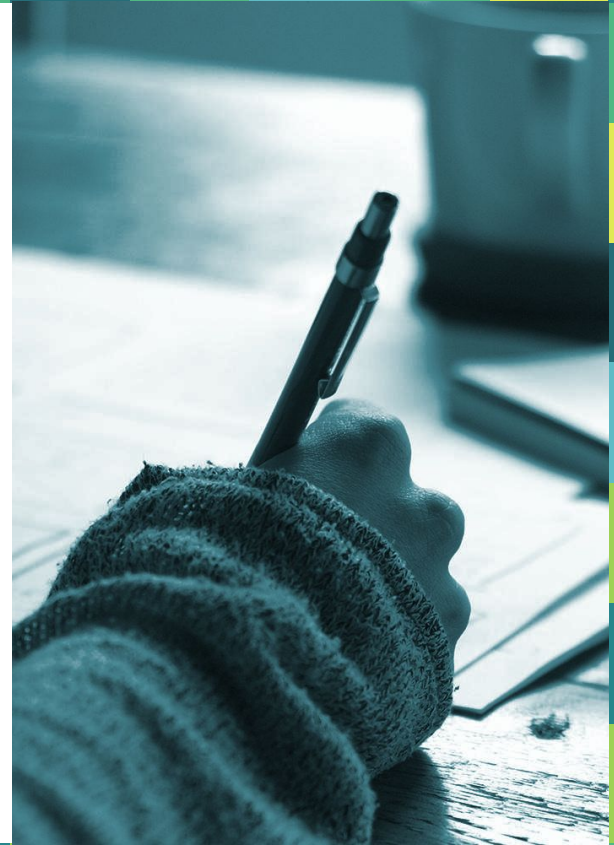
2019

1992



Structure

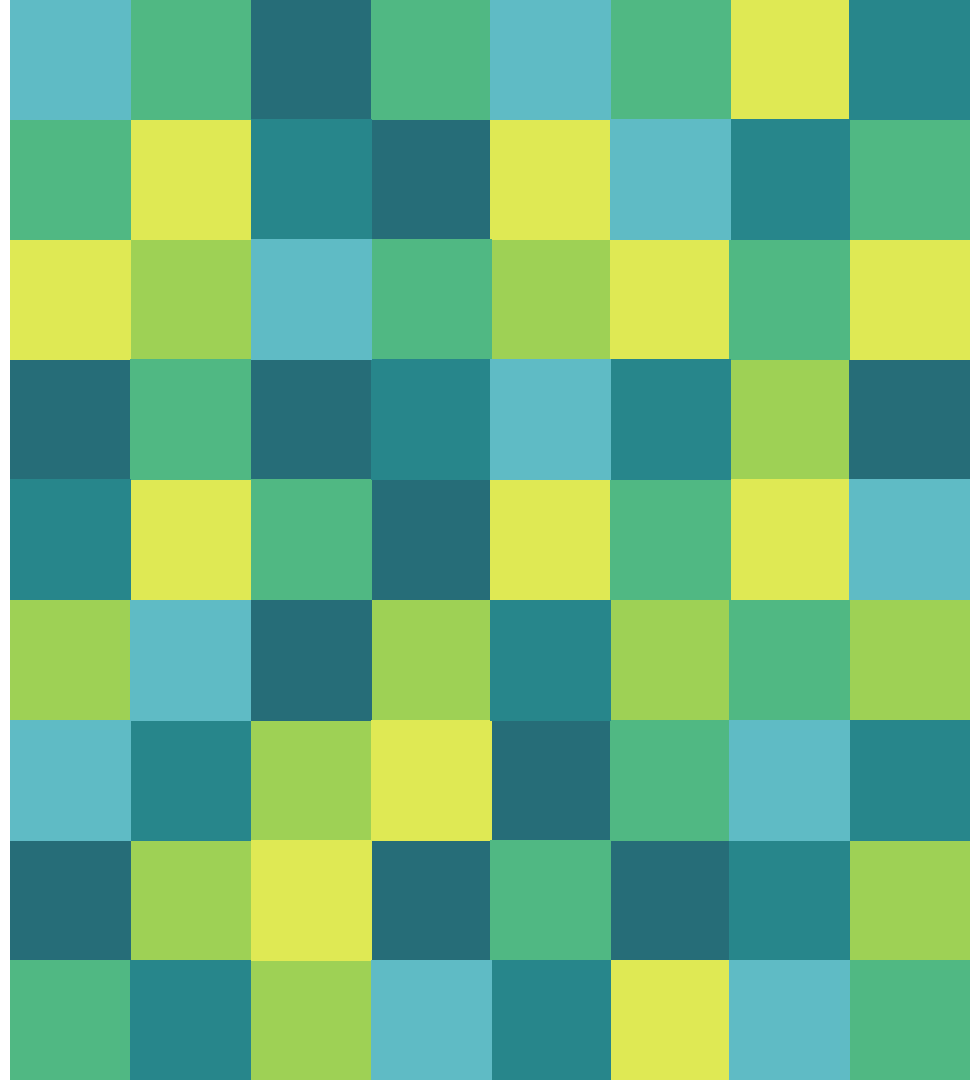
1. Background
2. Foreground
3. Inbetweeners
4. Oscillations



1.

Background

National transformations of
Science in Chile after 1990



Chilean Science and Tech in 1990

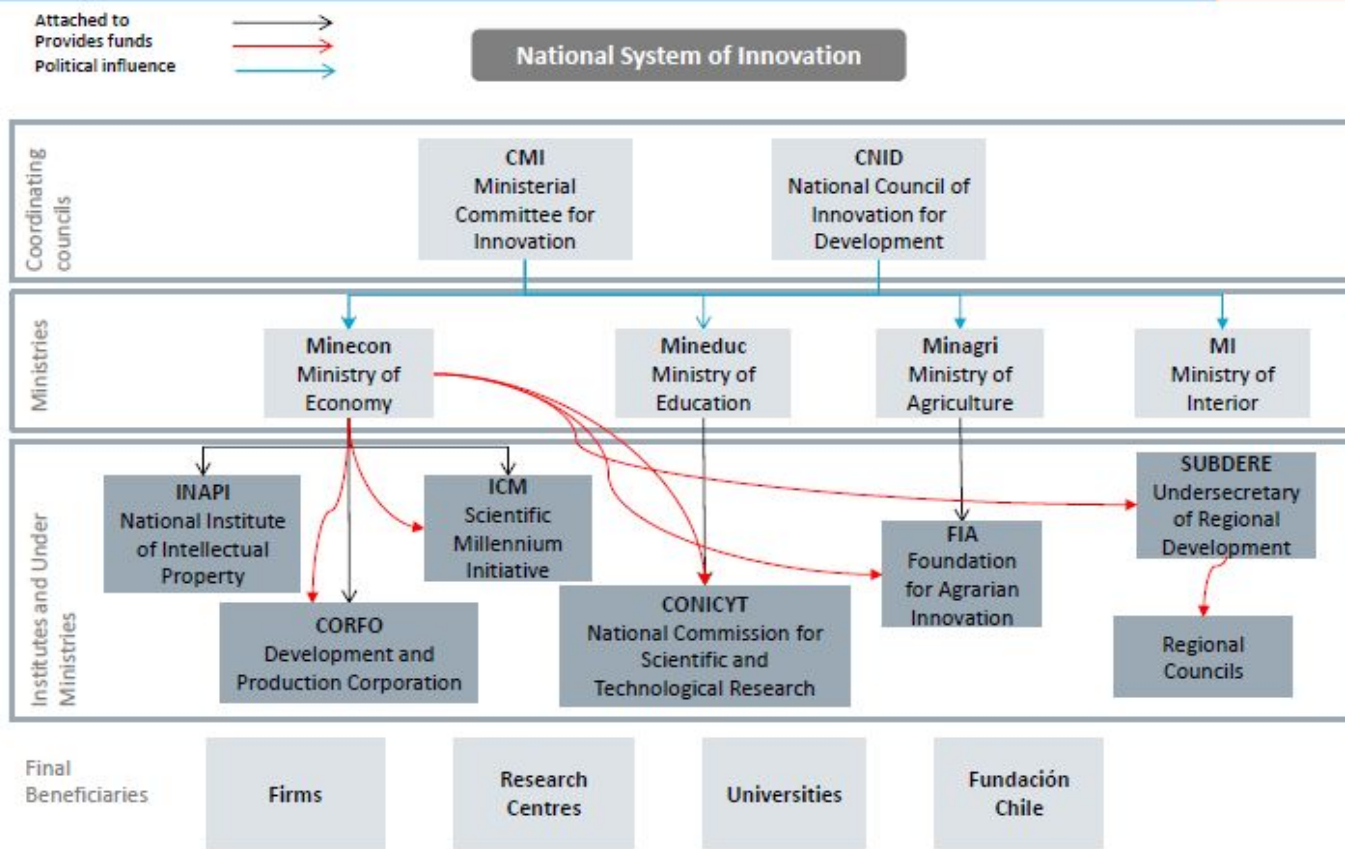
Natural resources (minery, agriculture and fishery) economy-based.

Urban population growing.
Increasing of higher education enrollment, health facilities and transportation infrastructure

New regimes of governance
(Modernization of State)



1.1 Chile: Institutional map of the innovation system



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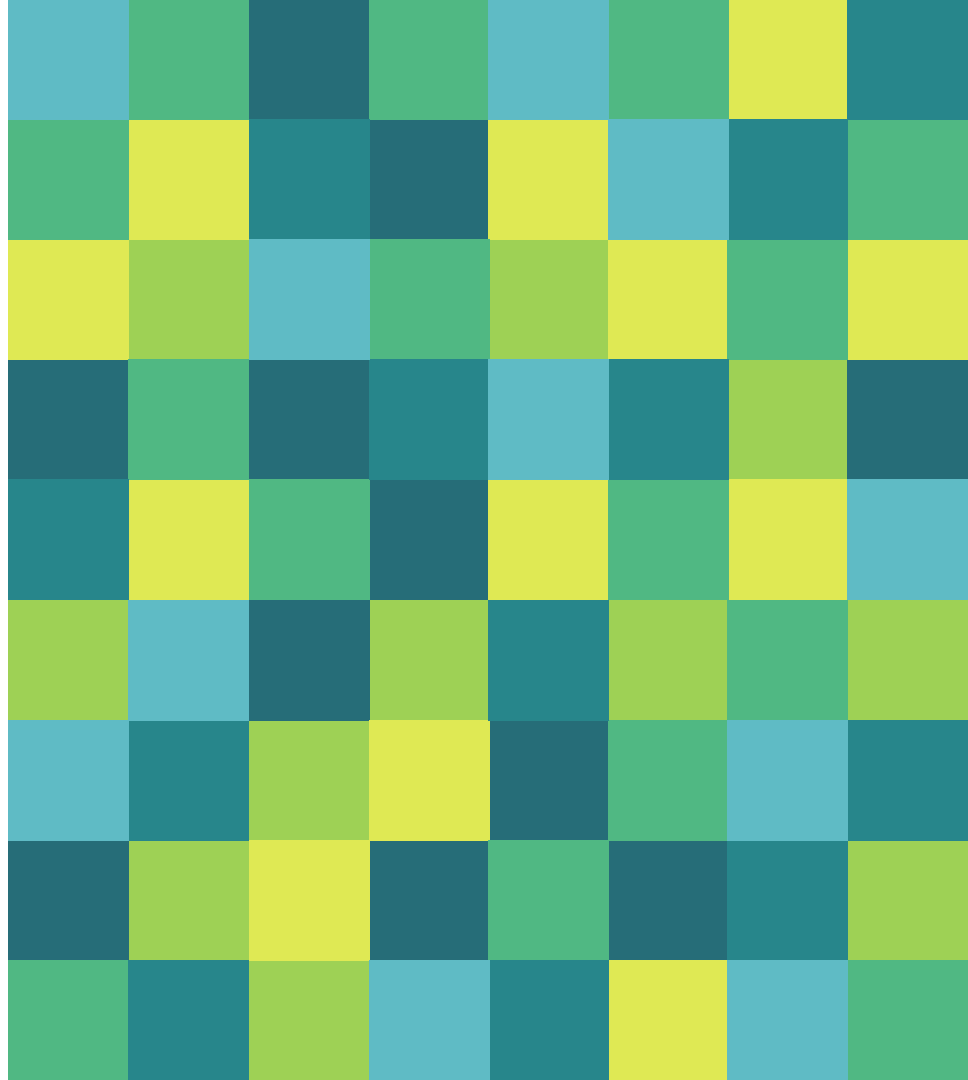
Science in Chile was always like “What the scientist were talking about, because was their problem”

[Juan Felipe Espinosa, Interview on 2018 by
Nicolas Sanhueza](#)

2.

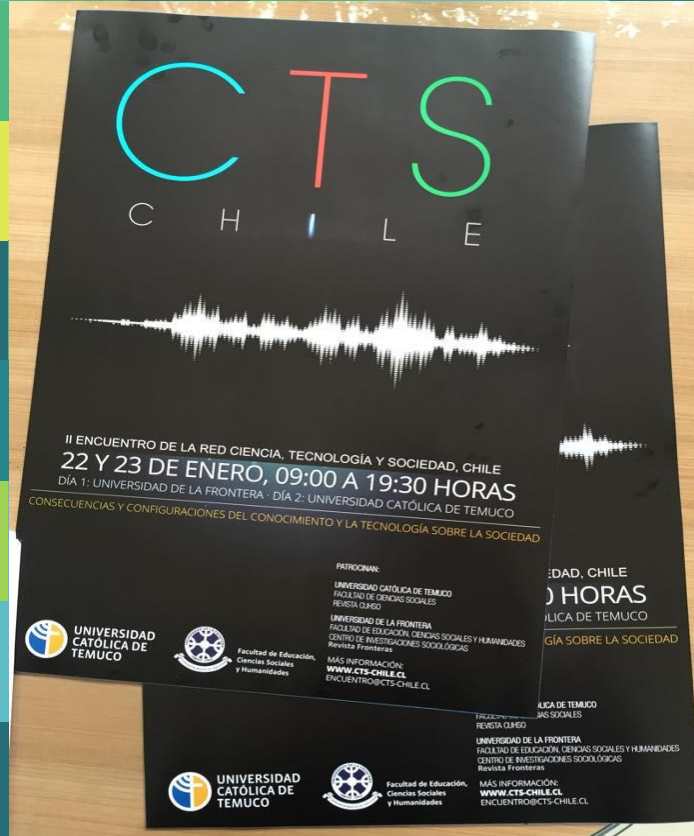
Foreground

The CTS-Chile Network origins



Spaces and places

Chilean centralization has an unbalance between the places where knowledge is created (Santiago, the centre) and where science and technique is happening in extraction and production (Regions, the periphery)



A Story of STS in Chile

Socio-Technical Geographies from the End of the World



Origin

STS in Chile has isolated precursors, as its geographical location.

After dictatorship some engineers (as Maria Teresa Santander and Claudio Gutierrez), Physician (as Yuri Carvajal) and Sociologist (as Jorge Gibert and Claudio Ramos) beings specific interest related to CTS,

Only internal communities emerge, with limited association due to epistemic, political and economic constraints.



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When they meet, they (senior scholars) make these questions: “Why not STS?, What currently there is (in Chile)?”

And us: “Well, now there is; Now we are many more and, now there is”

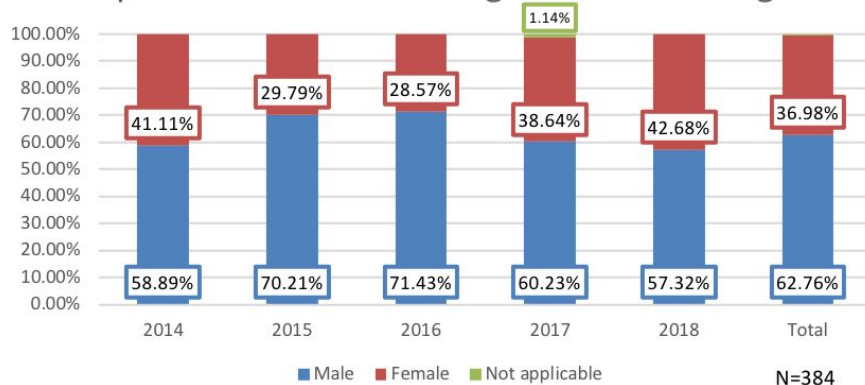
[Cecilia Ibarra, Interview in 2018 by Nicolas Sanhueza](#)

Participation and community

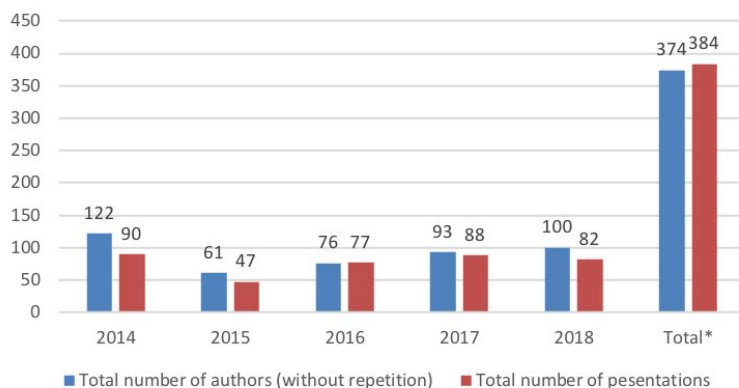
Six meetings since 2014 are convocating chilean researchers in national territory.

Presentations oscillate between 50 to 90 papers, with close to 120 participants (36% woman, in average until 2018)

Gender percentage of first authors in presentations according to each meeting



Total number of authors and presentations



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6

National meetings until 2019

250

Individual participants. 55 of them active members

+400

Papers and topics presented

Making things/ideas together

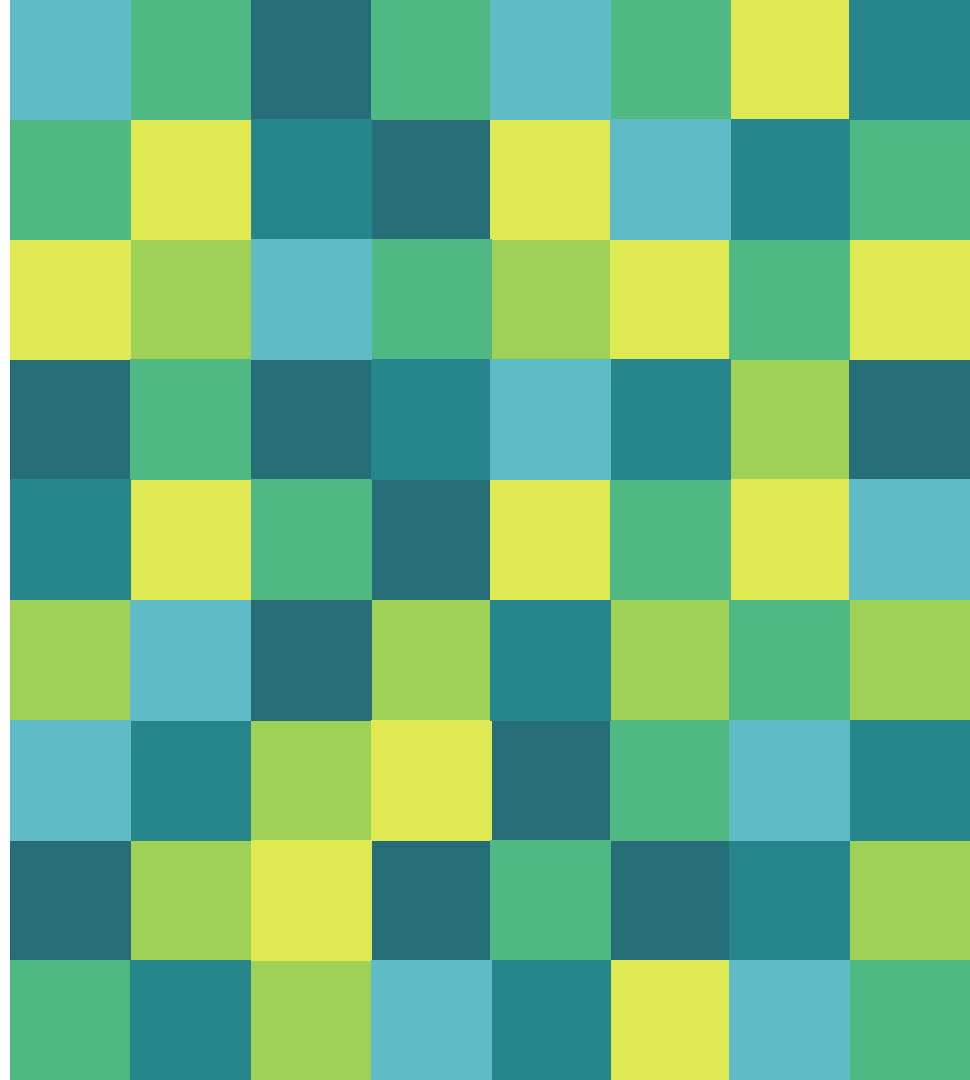
All the events cover a broad range of topics and disciplines. According to the information of panels and discussion groups of each event, the most prominent topics are:

Sci-Fi, Scientist community, Territories, Innovations and Controversies, Art-Science and Technology, Political and Legal Challenges to STI, ST Communication, STEM education, Gender & Science, Scientific institutionality, STS History, Knowledge Politics, STS Philosophy, Appropriation and technological use, Environment and Sustainability, Methodology, Infrastructures, Health Technologies and Identities.

3.

In betweeneers

Motivations, Achievements and
Institutionalization



Network Ontology

Associations and ecologies
configure the interactions of this
community of practice





Principles on institutional governance

Deliberation

Deliberation in the network happens through an assembly. But a relevant characteristic is the dynamism of leadership and grassroots initiatives in CTS-Chile had the possibility to enact more organically.

Platform

"To be a platform to spread and collaborate on specific initiatives and interventions, with an interdisciplinary perspective, to thrive socio-technical controversies of public interest".

[\(Gloria Baigorrotegui, 2018\)](#)

Volunteering

CTS-Chile has an individual adscription, without any representative position. In that way, the community is a caring, voluntary, informal and scholars-based network

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“That encounter with that world (Global STS literature) is an important condition” (to become part of this community)

[Juan Felipe Espinosa, Interview on 2018 by
Nicolas Sanhueza](#)

Local tensions on governance

Institutionalization

Maintenance and management are challenging for horizontal organizations. Also, dynamism of members makes commitment dilute over one or two cycles, in particular when decision-making became difficult.

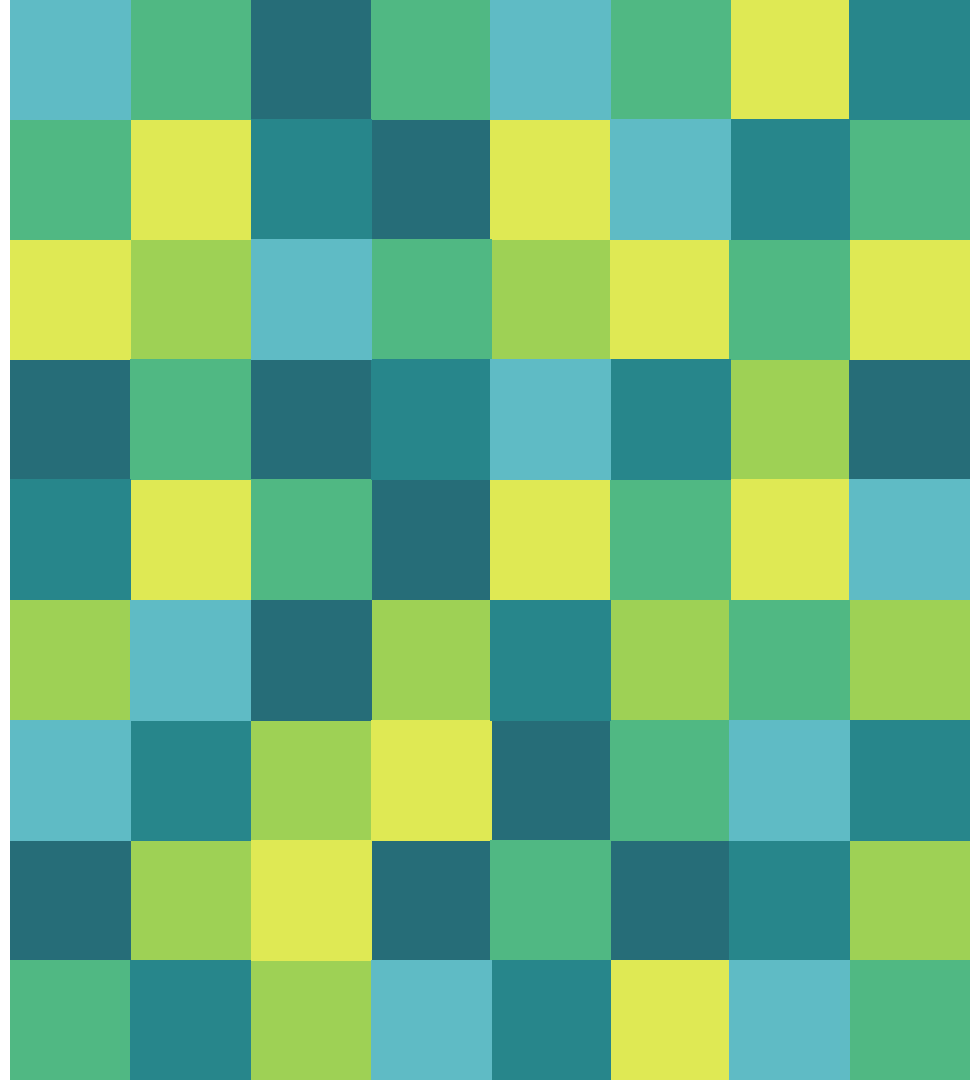
Organicness

Lack of explicit hierarchies facilitates to younger or enthusiast members to engage deeply in organization. New ideas and innovations are quickly adopted, as well as encouraged. Capability to react to environmental and contextual changes is quicker higher.

4.

Oscillations

On the possible futures of a
community of practice



Challenges

Empower local knowledge

Several practices of this community of practices require nurturing and mentorship for publication and outreach. In addition, enact non-academic participants and careers is relevant to the future of the network

Establish methods of continuity

Long-term engagement is exceptional. Some methods of engagements happens thought program institutionalization, experimental venues and practices and, impact in local problems (in policy, design and artistic ways)

Innovating STS

Mestizo Knowledge: Mixing Identities
from/above the Existence of Chilean
STS



Conclusion

From the end to the world, Chilean STS emerges looking local affairs with global perspectives. A transborder community it's growing in the fast in the last years, creating connections than extend physical or digital interactions develop, in our terms, it own sociotechnical geography.

Tell a story (and pursue futures from there) require posicionate the tellers of these fortunes. Any future movement, displacement or travels challenge us to identify included and excluded. Our perspective is that CTS-Chile futures should be collective and public, as the motto of the network. Tell a story is a way to re-territorialized the locus, offering new (intellectual, political, academic) places to explore.

Thanks!

Any questions?

You can find me at

- [@NicoSanhuezaro](#)
- [@ppseguel](#)
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