

Assignment of bachelor's thesis

Title: Hiding Leaders in Covert Networks: A Computational

Complexity Perspective

Student: Patrik Drbal

Supervisor: Ing. Šimon Schierreich

Study program: Informatics

Branch / specialization: Computer Science 2021

Department: Department of Theoretical Computer Science

Validity:

Instructions

Covert networks are social networks often consisting of criminals or other harmful users. When reducing criminal activities, we can try to detect the most influential users in such networks. Leaders of such networks, as expected, try to hide from being seen, e.g., by introducing new connections. Waniek et al. [1] showed that the problem of hiding the leader is NP-complete for multiple centrality measures. This line of research was followed by other authors [2,3]. In this work, we survey the computational complexity of the problem variants studied in the literature and try to derive new complexity and algorithmic results for various structural restrictions of covert networks using the framework of parameterized complexity [4].

References

[1] Marcin Waniek, Tomasz P. Michalak, Talal Rahwan, and Michael Wooldridge. 2017. On the Construction of Covert Networks. In Proceedings of the 16th Conference on Autonomous Agents and MultiAgent Systems (AAMAS '17). International Foundation for Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems, Richland, SC, 1341–1349.

[2] Palash Dey and Sourav Medya. 2019. Covert Networks: How Hard is It to Hide? In Proceedings of the 18th International Conference on Autonomous Agents and MultiAgent Systems (AAMAS '19). International Foundation for Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems, Richland, SC, 628–637.

[3] Palash Dey and Sourav Medya. 2020. Manipulating Node Similarity Measures in Networks. In Proceedings of the 19th International Conference on Autonomous Agents and MultiAgent Systems (AAMAS '20). International Foundation for Autonomous Agents



and Multiagent Systems, Richland, SC, 321–329.

[4] Marek Cygan, Fedor V. Fomin, Łukasz Kowalik, Daniel Lokshtanov, Dániel Marx, Marcin Pilipczuk, Michał Pilipczuk, and Saket Saurabh. 2015. Parameterized Algorithms. Springer, Cham. ISBN: 978-3-319-21274-6

