Social Network Analysis

By: Danny Cohen

What is Social Network Analysis (SNA)?

- Mapping/measuring of relationships between people, groups, etc.
- Depicts people or things as nodes in a network
- Links between nodes are the relationships or flows
- Provides visual and/or mathematical analysis of relationships
- Based primarily in graph theory

Commonly Analyzed Networks

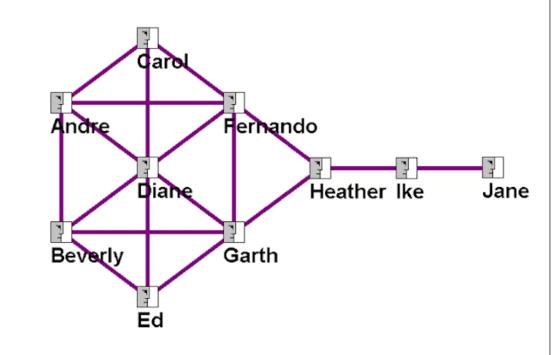
- Social media
 - User behavior
 - Spam bot filters
 - Current events research
 - Meme popularity
- Family trees
- Disease transmission
- Friendship/collaboration graphs

Who Uses SNA and Why?

- Business Entities
 - Advertising purposes
 - Market research
- Researchers
 - History
 - Economics
 - Political Science
- Governments
 - Terror Prevention
 - Profiling

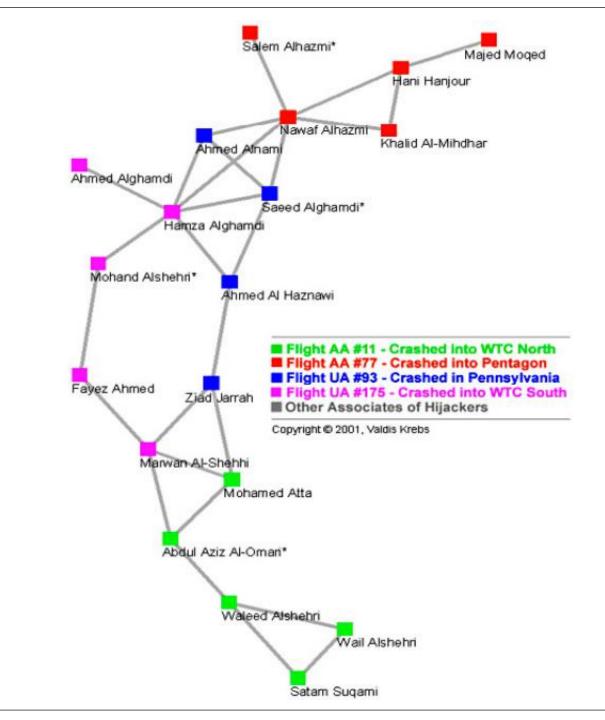
How It Works

- Degree Centrality
- Betweenness Centrality
- Closeness Centrality
- Network Centralization
- Network Reach
- Network Integration
- Geodesics



Case Study: Mapping Network of Terrorist Cells

- 2002 study done by Valdis E. Krebs
- SNA of 9/11 hijackers' known contacts
- Sought to use publicly verified information
- Revealed information about organizational patterns of terrorist cells
- "I was amazed at how sparse the network was and how distant many of the hijackers on the same team were from each other" (Krebs).



Programs and Toolkits

- <u>http://www.onasurveys.com/</u>
- Netdraw
- Proximity
- InFlow
- Pajeck
- More found at: kstoolkit.org/Social+Network+Analysis

Works Cited

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