

# Fast and Optimal Countermeasure Selection for Attack Defence Trees

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**RISK16 workshop** 

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### Risk context: ÉpStan





#### Monitor the quality of the educational system of secondary school

### Risk context: ÉpStan





psei	ıdonym	
	persona	al data
results		results

**Attack Tree** 





#### **Attack Tree**





#### Attack Defence Tree





#### Defences





**Optimal countermeasure selection** 



RISK	add	remove
Probability [ link test results ] × Impact [ link test results ]	defence	defence
COST Sum of costs of implemented defences		₽

#### **OPTIMISATION PROBLEM**

Which countermeasures reduce risk best at the lowest cost?

Naïve algorithm



**Brute-force:** Try out all combinations of selecting counter-measures



Naïve algorithm



**Problem:** Needs  $2^n$  iterations for *n* counter-measures

 $3,32 \cdot 10^{35}$  iterations for **118** counter-measures (unfeasible to compute)

 $1,10 \cdot 10^{12}$  iterations for **40** counter-measures (**13 days** with 1 iteration per millisecond)

### Improved algorithm



- Subsequent choices will:
- Increase number of defences
- Reduce risk

Once a defence becomes unprofitable, it will remain unprofitable.

→ Can skip all further combinations



### **Improved algorithm: Performance**



	random attack- defence tree	ÉpStan use-case
Naïve brute-force		54,2 seconds
Brute-force with data structure	$4 \cdot 10^{15}$ years	0,92 seconds
Branch and bound	15 minutes	0,36 seconds
	(81 attacks, 90 defences, 7290 effectiveness values)	(81 attacks, 16 defences, 58 effectiveness values)



Thank you.

predict prioritise prevent TRESPASS

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