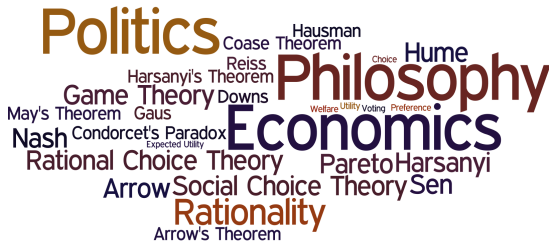


PHPE 400

Individual and Group Decision Making

Eric Pacuit
University of Maryland
pacuit.org



Collective decision making

Voter 1



P



P



Voter 2



P



P



Voter 3



P



P



$\vdots$

Voter N

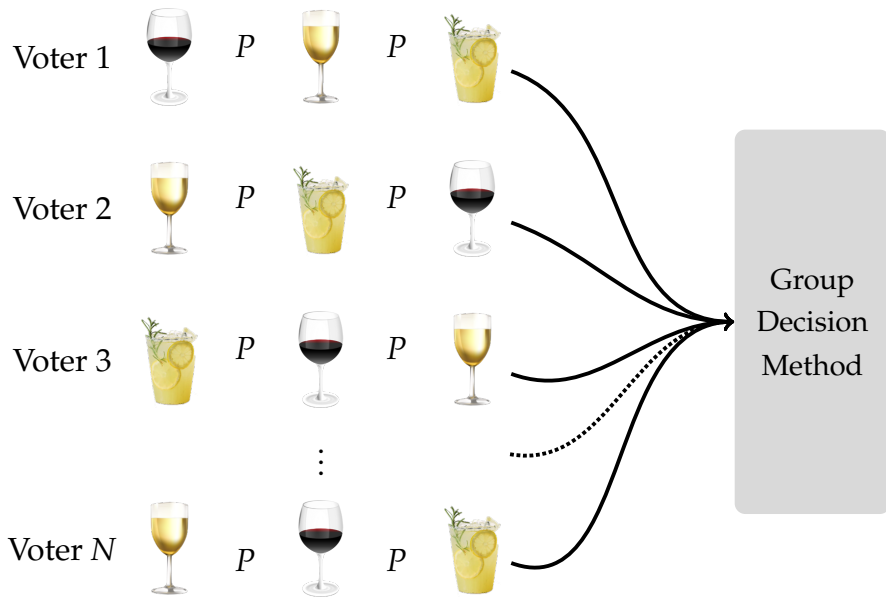


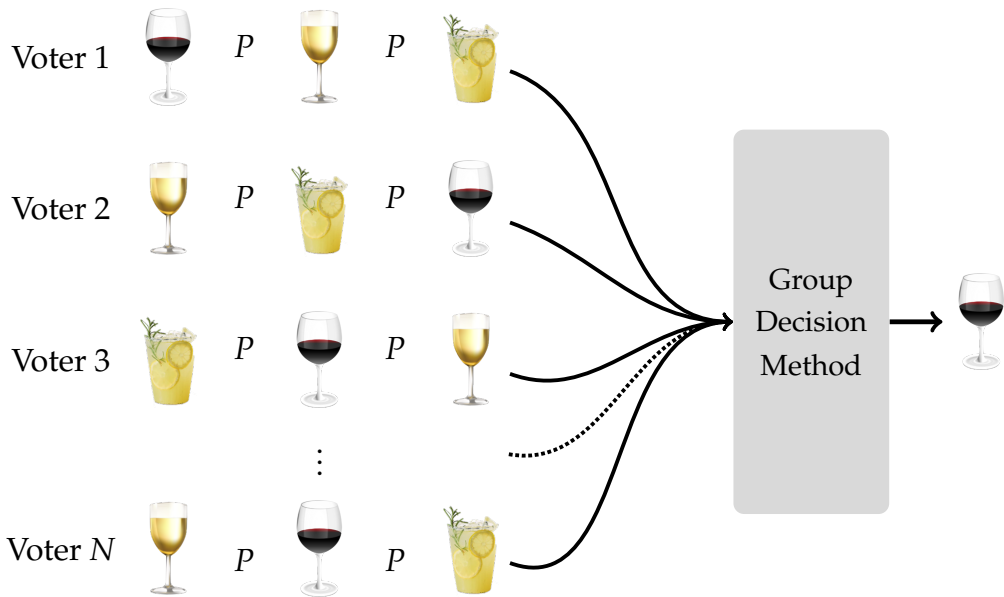
P

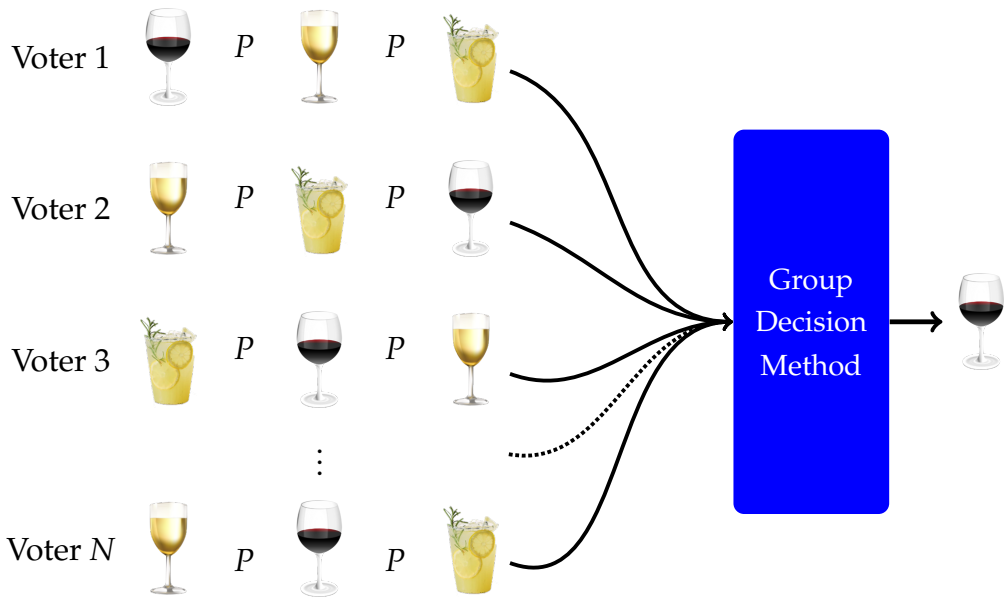


P







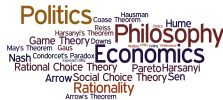


Which candidate *should* be chosen?



40	35	25
t	r	k
k	k	r
r	t	t

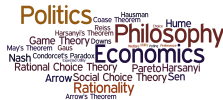
Which candidate *should* be chosen?



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t	r	k
k	k	r
r	t	t

- No candidate is the **majority winner**.
No candidate has a **majority** of 1st place votes.

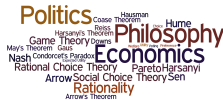
Which candidate *should* be chosen?



40	35	25
t	r	k
k	k	r
r	t	t

- ▶ No candidate is the **majority winner**.
No candidate has a **majority** of 1st place votes.
- ▶ Candidate t ?

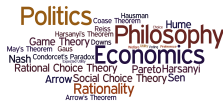
Which candidate *should* be chosen?



40	35	25
t	r	k
k	k	r
r	t	t

- ▶ No candidate is the **majority winner**.
No candidate has a **majority** of 1st place votes.
- ▶ Candidate t ?
- ▶ Candidate r ?

Which candidate *should* be chosen?



40	35	25
t	r	k
k	k	r
r	t	t

- ▶ No candidate is the **majority winner**.
No candidate has a **majority** of 1st place votes.
- ▶ Candidate t ?
- ▶ Candidate r ?
- ▶ Candidate k ?

Voters Rankings

1

a b c d

2

b a d c

3

b d a c

4

d c a b

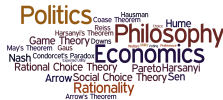
Voting
Method

Winning Set

Plurality, Borda Count, Antiplurality/Veto; Coombs; (Strict/Weak) Nanson; Baldwin, Plurality with Runoff; Instant Runoff Voting; Copeland $_{\alpha}$; Bucklin; Minimax; Beat Path; Split Cycle; Stable Voting; Ranked Pairs; River; GETCHA; GOCHA; Kemeny; Dodgson Method; Young's Method; Approval Voting; Majority Judgment; Cumulative Voting; Range/Score Voting; . . .

https://pref-voting.readthedocs.io/en/latest/collective_decision_procedures.html

Notation

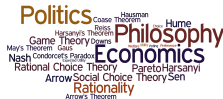


- ▶ V is a finite set of voters (assume that $V = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$)
- ▶ X is a (typically finite) set of alternatives, or candidates
- ▶ An election **profile** is a record of the **ballot** submitted by each voter, where a ballot can be any of the following:
 - ▶ A selected candidate
 - ▶ A ranking of the candidates
 - ▶ Scores/grades assigned to each candidate

Rankings

SAND COUNTY						
MAYOR 市長	1 1st Choice 第一選擇	2 2nd Choice 第二選擇	3 3rd Choice 第三選擇	4 4th Choice 第四選擇	5 5th Choice 第五選擇	6 6th Choice 第六選擇
ELLEN LEE ZHOU / 李麗晨 Behavioral Health Clinician 行為健康臨床治療師	● ¹	● ²	● ³	● ⁴	● ⁵	● ⁶
LONDON N. BREED / 倫敦·布里德 Mayor of San Francisco 三藩市市長	● ¹	● ²	● ³	● ⁴	● ⁵	● ⁶
JOEL VENTRESCA / 喬爾·范崔斯卡 Retired Airport Analyst 退休機場分析師	● ¹	● ²	● ³	● ⁴	● ⁵	● ⁶
WILMA PANG / 彭德慧 Retired Music Professor 退休音樂教授	● ¹	● ²	● ³	● ⁴	● ⁵	● ⁶
ROBERT L. JORDAN, JR. / 小羅伯特·L·喬丹 Preacher 傳教士	● ¹	● ²	● ³	● ⁴	● ⁵	● ⁶
PAUL YBARRA ROBERTSON / 保羅·伊巴拉·羅伯森 Small Business Owner 小企業業主	● ¹	● ²	● ³	● ⁴	● ⁵	● ⁶
	● ¹	● ²	● ³	● ⁴	● ⁵	● ⁶

Rankings



Let X be a set of candidates and V a set of voters.

A **ranking** of X is a strict linear order P on X : a relation $P \subseteq X \times X$ satisfying the following conditions for all $x, y, z \in X$:

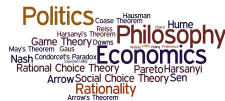
asymmetry: if $x P y$ then *not* $y P x$;

transitivity: if $x P y$ and $y P z$, then $x P z$;

weak completeness: if $x \neq y$, then $x P y$ or $y P x$.

Let $L(X)$ be the set of all strict linear orders on X .

Profiles



A **profile** for X is a function $\mathbf{P}$ assigning to $i \in V$ a linear order $\mathbf{P}_i$ on X .

So, $a \mathbf{P}_i b$ means that voter i ranks a above b , or that i strictly prefers candidate a to b .

Example: let $V = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}$ and $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$ and consider the following profile $\mathbf{P}$,

v_1	v_2	v_3	v_4
a	a	b	c
b	c	a	b
c	b	c	a

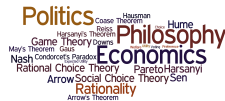
E.g., $a \mathbf{P}_{v_2} c, b \mathbf{P}_{v_4} a, a \mathbf{P}_{v_1} b, \dots$

Anonymous Profiles



2	5	3	5
<i>a</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>
<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>
<i>c</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>a</i>

(Linear) Profiles



v_1	v_2	v_3	v_4	v_5	v_6	v_7	v_8	v_9	v_{10}	v_{11}	v_{12}	v_{13}	v_{14}	v_{15}
b	b	b	b	b	b	b	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	b	b	b
a	a	a	a	a	a	a	b	b	b	b	b	c	c	c

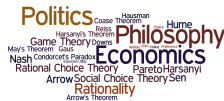
(Linear) Anonymous Profile



v_1	v_2	v_3	v_4	v_5	v_6	v_7	v_8	v_9	v_{10}	v_{11}	v_{12}	v_{13}	v_{14}	v_{15}
b	b	b	b	b	b	b	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	b	b	b
a	a	a	a	a	a	a	b	b	b	b	b	c	c	c

7	5	3
b	a	a
c	c	b
a	b	c

Important Distinction

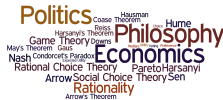


1	1	1
a	a	d
b	c	a
c	d	b
d	b	c

Do all of the voters rank a and b in the same way?

Do all of the voters rank a and b in the same *position*?

Important Distinction



1	1	1
<i>a</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>d</i>
<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>a</i>
<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>b</i>
<i>d</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>

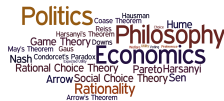
Do all of the voters rank *a* and *b* in the same way?

Yes: All of the voters rank *a* above *b*.

Do all of the voters rank *a* and *b* in the same *position*?

No: The first group ranks *a* in first-place and *b* in second-place, the second group ranks *a* in first-place and *b* is last place, and the third group ranks *a* is second-place and *b* in third-place.

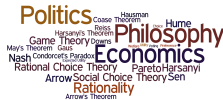
Voting Method



A **voting method** is a function that assigns a set of candidates (the winning set) to a profile.

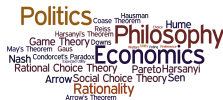
Formally, a voting method is $F : L(X)^V \rightarrow \wp(X) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$, where $L(X)^V$ is the set of profiles of linear orders over X .

Majoritarianism



When there are only **two** candidates a and b , then all (reasonable) voting methods give the same results:

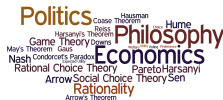
Majoritarianism



When there are only **two** candidates a and b , then all (reasonable) voting methods give the same results:

Majority Rule: a is the winner if more than $1/2$ of the voters rank a above b , b is the winner if more than $1/2$ of votes rank b above a , otherwise a and b are tied.

Majoritarianism



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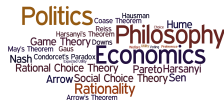
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When there are only two options, can we argue that majority rule is the *best* procedure?

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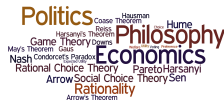
Yes. We will look at two arguments: A procedural justification and an epistemic justification.

Majoritarianism



What about when there are *more than* two candidates, can we still argue that majority rule is the “best” procedure?

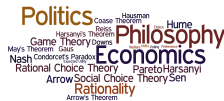
Majoritarianism



What about when there are *more than* two candidates, can we still argue that majority rule is the “best” procedure?

Results are more mixed: Consider our previous definition of majority rule....

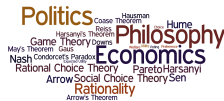
Majoritarianism



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Majoritarianism

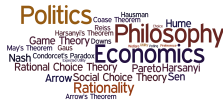


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Results are more mixed: Consider our previous definition of majority rule....we only defined it between two options! Can we generalize for $|X| > 2$?

The problem is that with more than 2 candidates, there may not be any candidate that is ranked first by more than half of the voters.

Positional scoring rules



A **scoring rule** each voter submits a ranking of the candidates. Based on the ranking, each voter assigns a *score* to each candidate. The candidate's overall score is the sum of the scores assigned to the candidate by each voter. Then, the candidate(s) with the greatest overall score is(are) the winner(s).

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- **Plurality:** Each voter assigns a score of 1 to the candidate ranked in first place and 0 to all other candidates.
- **Borda:** If there are n candidates, then each voter assigns a score of $n - 1$ to the candidate in first place, $n - 2$ to the candidate in 2nd place, $\dots$, and 0 to the candidate in last place.

7	5	4	3
a	b	d	c
b	c	b	d
c	d	c	a
d	a	a	b

	7	5	4	3
1	a	b	d	c
0	b	c	b	d
0	c	d	c	a
0	d	a	a	b

Plurality winner(s): a

Plurality score of a :	$1 * 7$	+	$0 * 0$	+	$0 * 3$	+	$0 * 9$	=	7
Plurality score of b :	$1 * 5$	+	$0 * 11$	+	$0 * 0$	+	$0 * 3$	=	5
Plurality score of c :	$1 * 4$	+	$0 * 5$	+	$0 * 11$	+	$0 * 0$	=	4
Plurality score of d :	$1 * 3$	+	$0 * 3$	+	$0 * 5$	+	$0 * 7$	=	3

	7	5	4	3
3	a	b	d	c
2	b	c	b	d
1	c	d	c	a
0	d	a	a	b

Borda winner(s): b

Borda score of a :	$3 * 7$	+	$2 * 0$	+	$1 * 3$	+	$0 * 9$	=	24
Borda score of b :	$3 * 5$	+	$2 * 11$	+	$1 * 0$	+	$0 * 3$	=	37
Borda score of c :	$3 * 4$	+	$2 * 5$	+	$1 * 11$	+	$0 * 0$	=	33
Borda score of d :	$3 * 3$	+	$2 * 3$	+	$1 * 5$	+	$0 * 7$	=	20

1	2	2
x	y	y
y	x	x

Who are the Borda winners? y

1	2	2
x	y	y
a_1	x	x
a_2	a_1	a_1
a_3	a_2	a_2
y	a_3	a_3

Who are the Borda winners?

1	2	2
x	y	y
a_1	x	x
a_2	a_1	a_1
a_3	a_2	a_2
y	a_3	a_3

Who are the Borda winners? x and y

1	2	2
x	y	y
a_1	x	x
a_2	a_1	a_1
a_3	a_2	a_2
a_4	a_3	a_3
y	a_4	a_4

Who are the Borda winners?

1	2	2
x	y	y
a_1	x	x
a_2	a_1	a_1
a_3	a_2	a_2
a_4	a_3	a_3
y	a_4	a_4

Who are the Borda winners? x ,
but a majority of voters prefer y over x .