Condorcet Relaxation In Spatial Voting



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Condorcet criterion

Voters V — multiset in a metric space (X, d)**Goal**: reach joint a decision — a point in X. **Rule**: $v \in V$ "prefer" p over q if $d(p, v) \leq d(q, v)$



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No Condorcet winner!

 β - relaxation parameter





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β-plurality point for *V*: $p \in X$ s.t. $\forall q \in X$, at least $\frac{|V|}{2}$ voters "β-prefer" *p* over *q*.



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 $\begin{array}{l} \beta \text{-plurality point for } V: \\ p \in X \text{ s.t. } \forall q \in X, \text{ at least } \frac{|V|}{2} \text{ voters } ``\beta \text{-prefer'' } p \text{ over } q. \\ & \quad [\text{Aronov, de Berg, Gudmundsson, and Horton, SoCG'20}] \end{array}$



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I SPEND MY/FREE TIME

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Example: $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$



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Given a metric space (X, d), what β should we expect?



What is the **amount of relaxation** needed in order to reach a stable decision for any set of voters V in X?

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Aronov et al. (2020):

 $\blacktriangleright \ \beta^*_{(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_2)} \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}: \text{ When } V \text{ is an equilateral triangle, } \beta_{(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_2)}(V) \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$



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Our results:

▶ Spatial voting:
$$\beta^*_{(\mathbb{R}^d, \|\cdot\|_2)} > 0.557 \rightarrow \text{constant!}$$

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 $\blacktriangleright\,$ Also, there exist a metric space with $\beta^*_{({\sf X},d)} \leq \frac{1}{2}$

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Theorem 1: β^* is at least $\sqrt{2}-1$

Theorem 2: β^* is at most $\frac{1}{2}$

$$\Rightarrow \beta^* \in [\sqrt{2} - 1, \frac{1}{2}]$$

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Metric space: C cycle of length 1, shortest path distance.



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Metric space: C cycle of length 1, shortest path distance.

Assume $\beta > \frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{2}} q = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\alpha}{2}$ $\frac{\frac{1}{6} - \frac{\alpha}{2}}{\frac{1}{6} - \frac{\alpha}{2}} < \beta \cdot (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)$ $v_2 = \frac{1}{3}$ $\beta \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3} - \alpha\right) > \frac{1}{6} + \frac{\alpha}{2}$ $v_3 = \frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{5}{6}$ $= \alpha \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$ $v_1 = 0$

*Actually, for this metric space $\beta^*_{(X,d)} = \frac{1}{2}$

We show:

• $\beta^* \in [\sqrt{2} - 1, \frac{1}{2}]$ • $\beta^*_{(\mathbb{R}^d, \|\cdot\|_2)} \in (0.557, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}]$ Main open question: closing these two gaps.

We show:

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$$\beta^*_{(\mathbb{R}^d, \|\cdot\|_2)} \in (0.557, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}]$$

Main open question: closing these two gaps.

Conjecture:	Why? The equilateral triangle is probably the worst
$\triangleright \ \beta^* = \frac{1}{2}$	case example.
$\blacktriangleright \ \beta^*_{(\mathbb{R}^d, \ \cdot\ _2)} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \text{ for } d \geq 2$	A plurality point must "win" $\frac{2}{3}$ of the votes:



Conclusion: If indeed $\beta^*_{(\mathbb{R}^d, \|\cdot\|_2)} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \approx 0.866$ then the amount of "compromise" that we need to make in order to find a "winner" is relatively small.



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Thank You!