#### Behavioral Social Choice Theory

DIMACS Tutorial Social Choice & Computer Science

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University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

### Multi-Year Interdisciplinary Effort

- Collaborators:
  - Adams (& Karcher), Grofman, Kantor, Kim, Marley, Tsetlin
- Past NSF SBR 9730076, Duke B-School
- Past UIUC Research Board
- Book forthcoming with Cambridge University Press

## Criteria for a Unified Theory of Decision Making

(Inspired by Luce and Suppes, Handbook of Math Psych, 1965)

- ✓ Treat individual & group decision making in a unified way
- ✓ Reconcile normative & descriptive work
- ✓ Integrate & compare competing normative benchmarks
- ✓ Reconcile theory & data
- ✓ Encompass & integrate multiple choice, rating and ranking paradigms
- ✓ Integrate & compare multiple representations of preference, utilities & choices
- Develop dynamic models as extensions of static models
- ✓ Systematically incorporate statistics as a scientific decision making apparatus

### Today:



- Statistical Sampling and Inference
- Why no Cycles? (General Value Restriction)
- Behavioral Social Choice Analysis of STV



## Majority rule:

#### Majority Winner

- Candidate who is ranked ahead of any other candidate by more than 50%
  - Candidate who beats any other candidate in pairwise competition

# Condorcet Paradox a.k.a. Majority Cycles



ABC 1 person

BCA 1 person

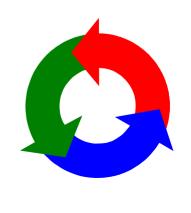
CAB 1 person

Democratic Decision Making at Risk!?!

A is majority preferred to B

B is majority preferred to C

C is majority preferred to A





Probability of a Cycle: Pr(m, n)
Based on Sampling from a Uniform Distribution on Linear Orders
("Impartial Culture")\*

number of alternatives (m)	3	5	7	9	11	limit
3	.056	.069	.075	.078	.080	.088
4	.111	.139	.150	.156	.160	.176
5	.160	.200	.215			.251
6	.202					.315
limit	≈1.00	≈1.00	≈1.00	≈1.00	≈1.00	≈1.00

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### Shepsle & Bonchek (1997)

"In general, then, we cannot rely on the method of majority rule to produce a coherent sense of what the group 'wants', especially if there are no institutional mechanisms for keeping participation restricted (thereby keeping *n* small) or weeding out some of the alternatives (thereby keeping m small)."

# Drawing Random Samples from Realistic Distributions

What happens if we interview 20 randomly drawn voters from the 1996 ANES?

Do they display cyclical majorities?

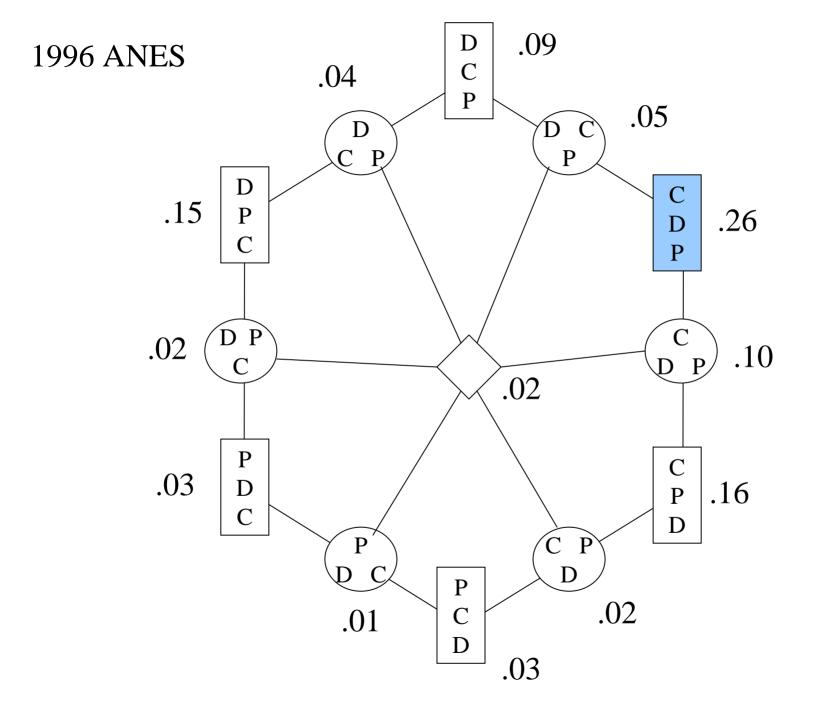
Do they display the correct majority preference order?

For a while I assume that
Individual Preferences
are WEAK ORDERS
over three choice alternatives

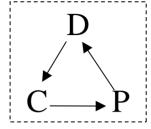
There are 13 possible weak orders

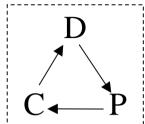
There are 27 different

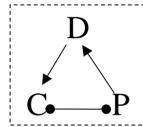
possible majority preference relations

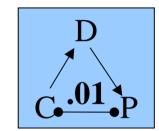


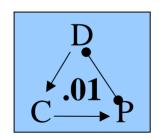
#### **Intransitivities**

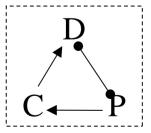


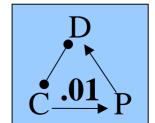


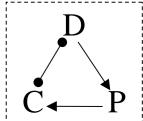


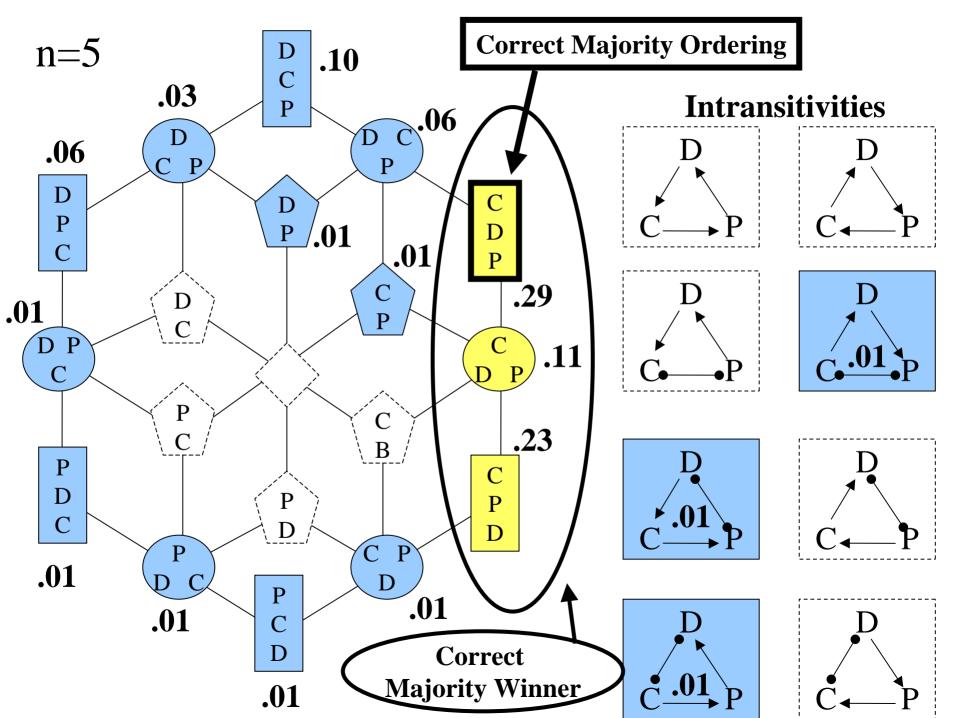


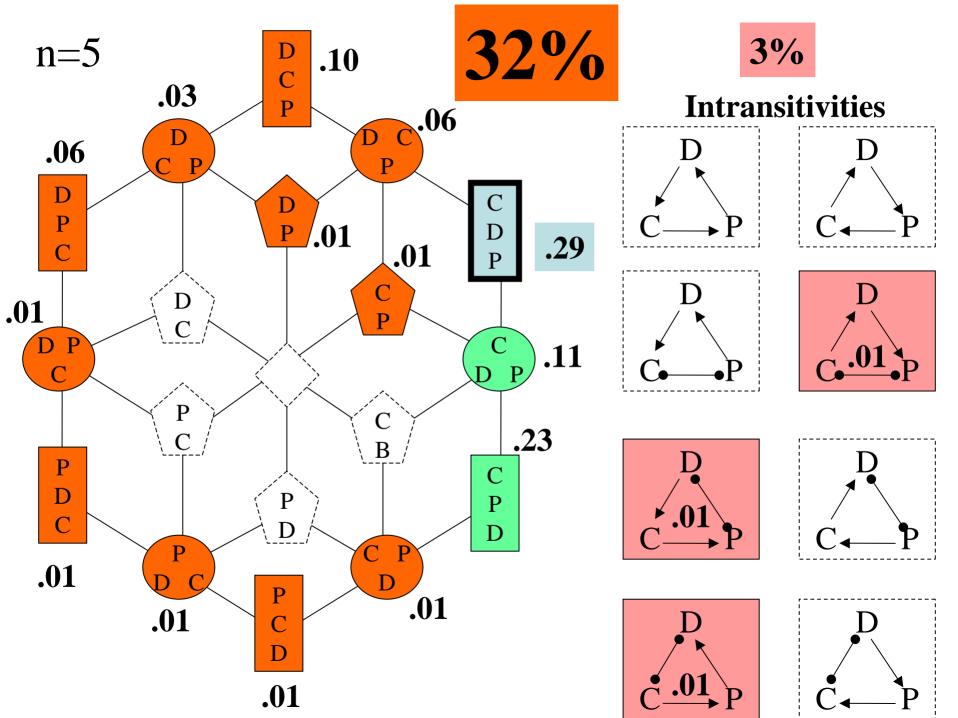


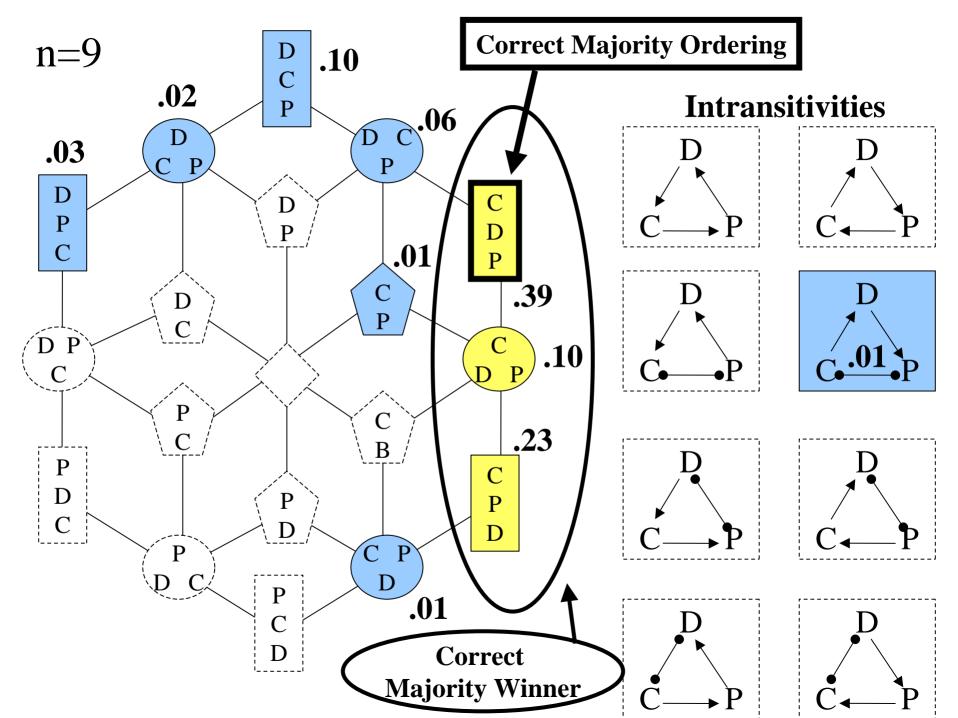


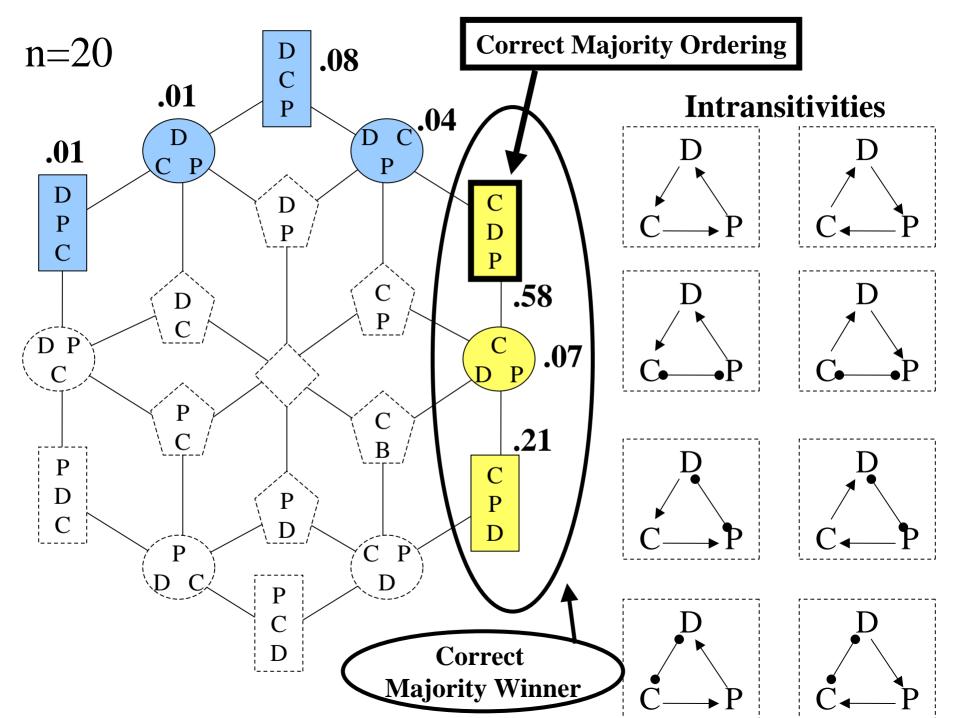


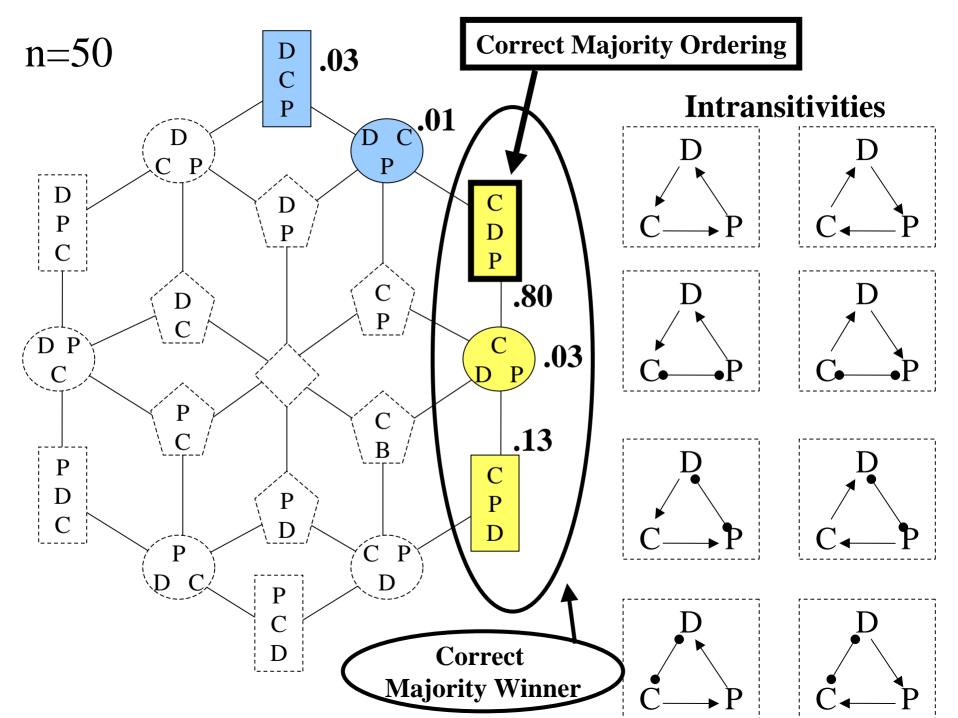


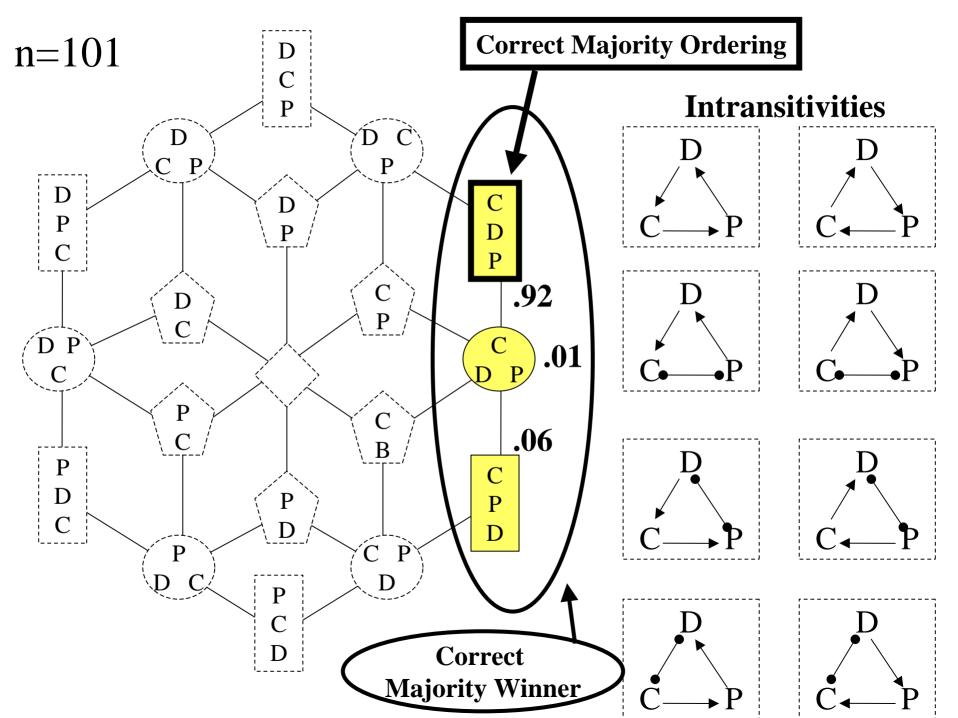


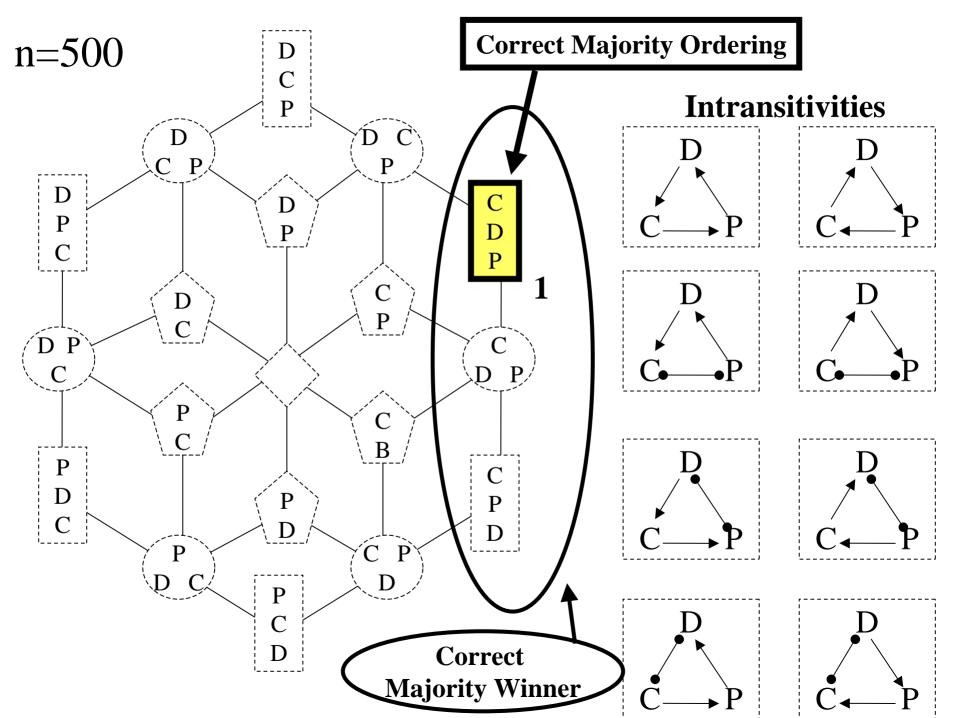




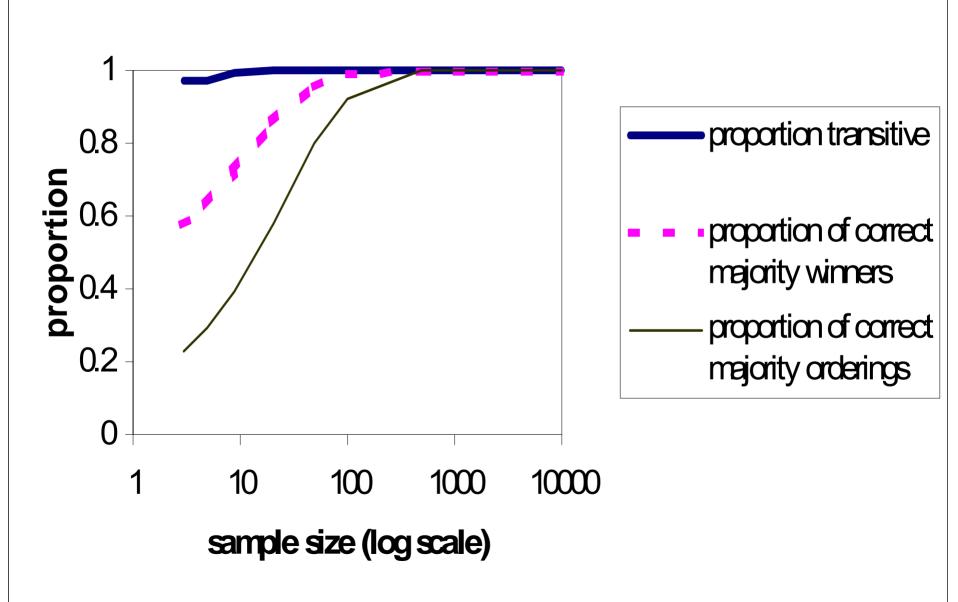


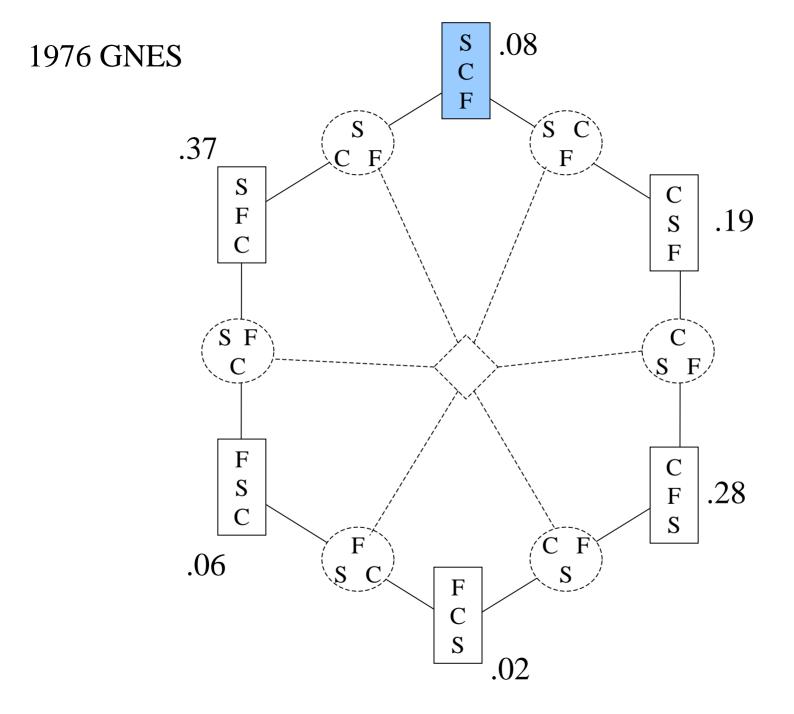


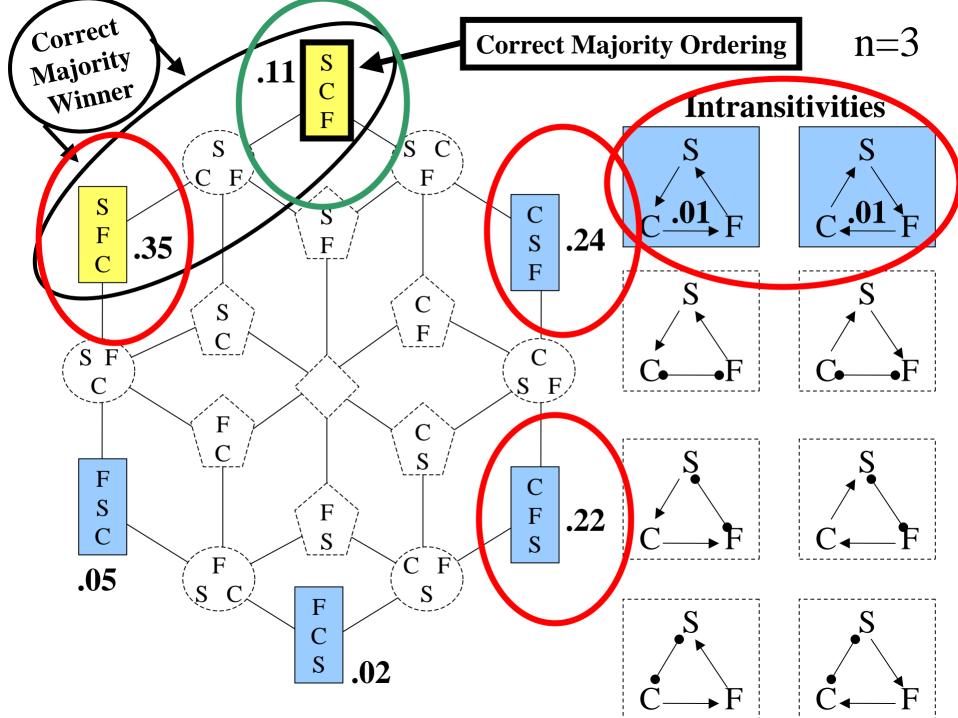


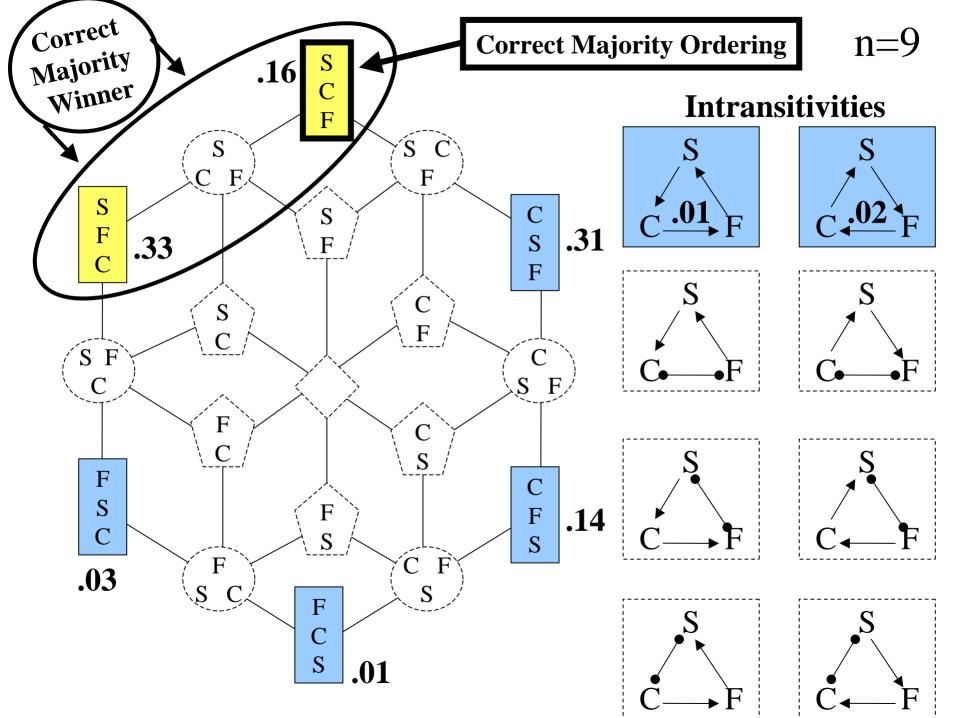


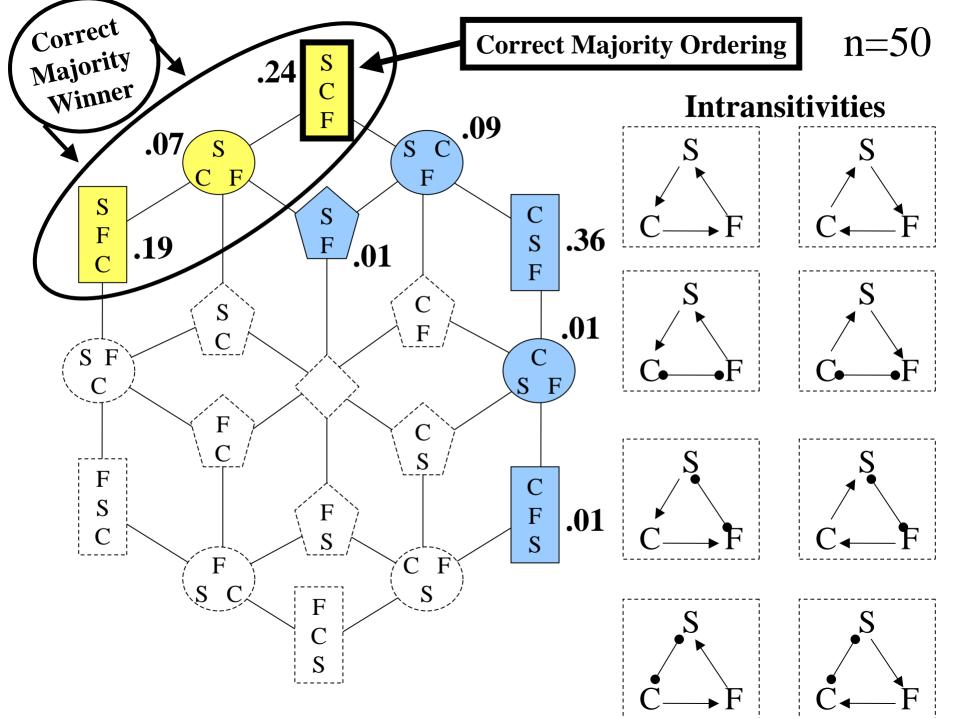
#### **1996 ANES**

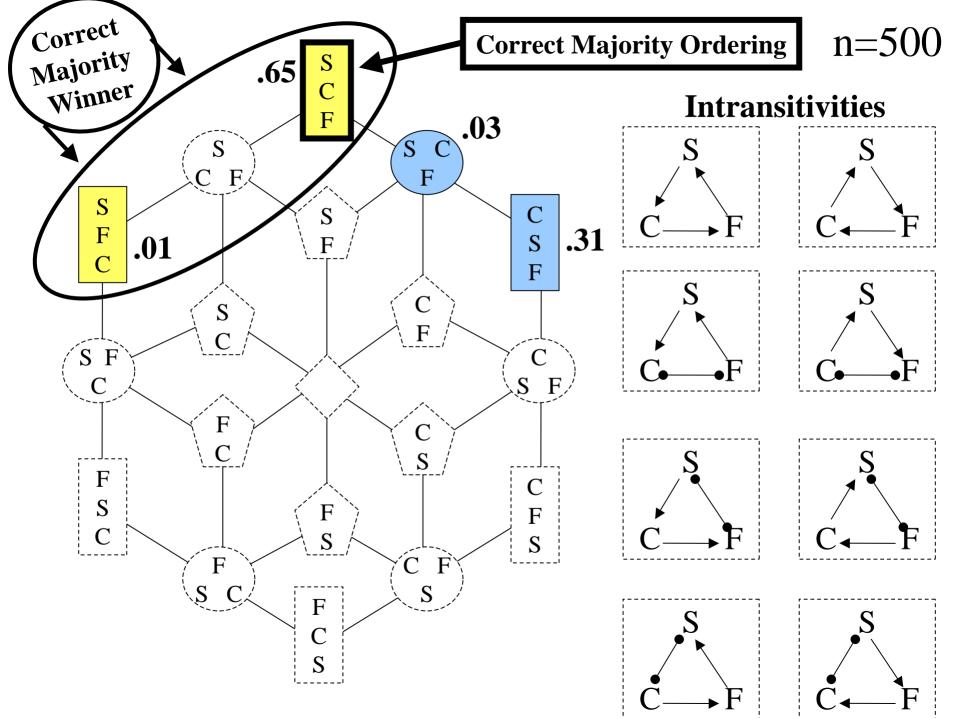


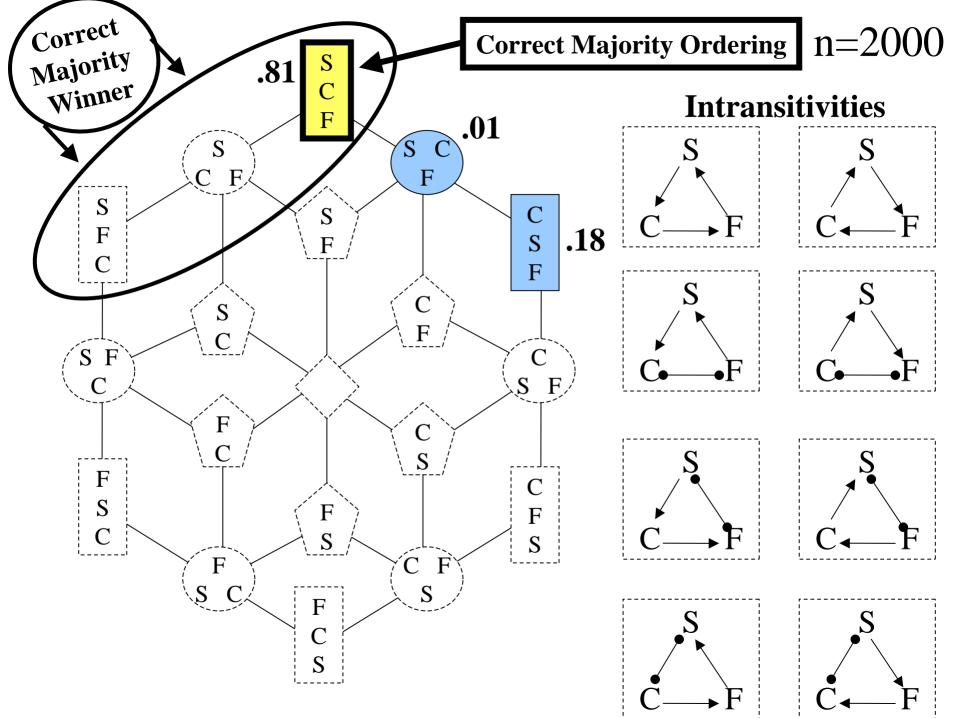


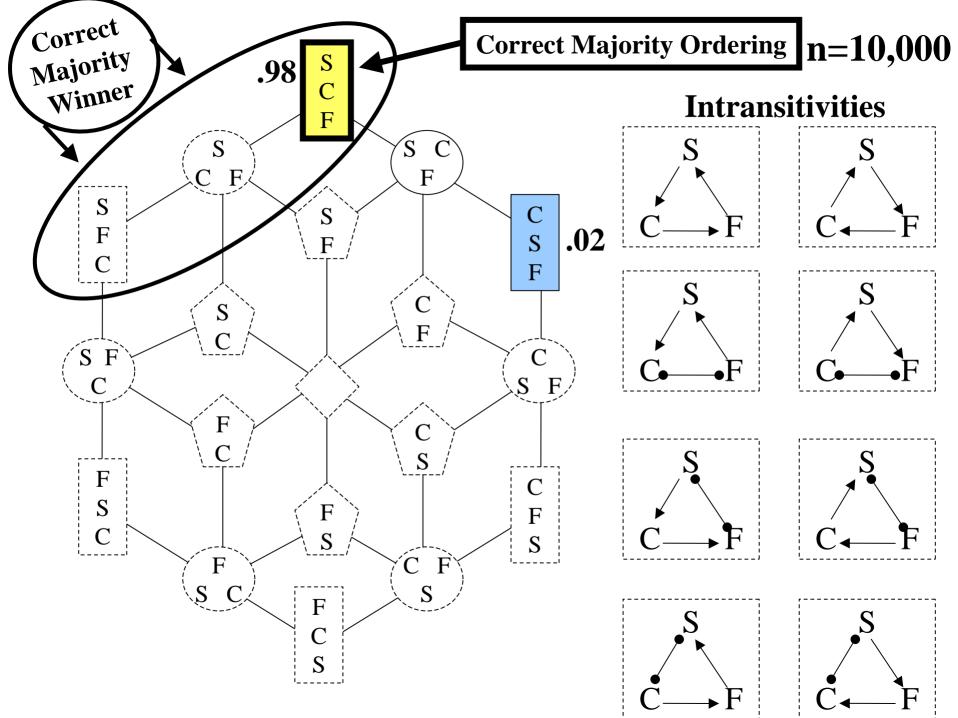




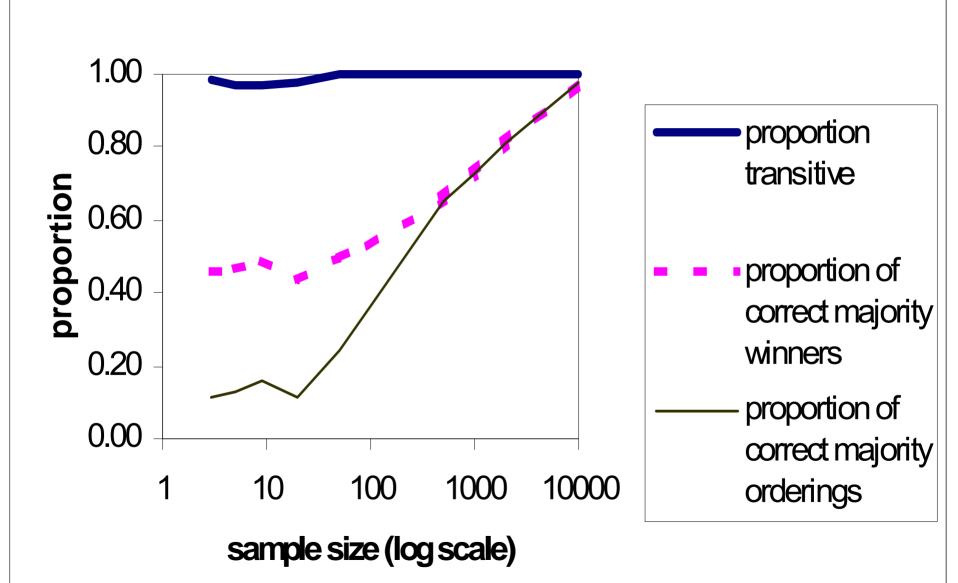


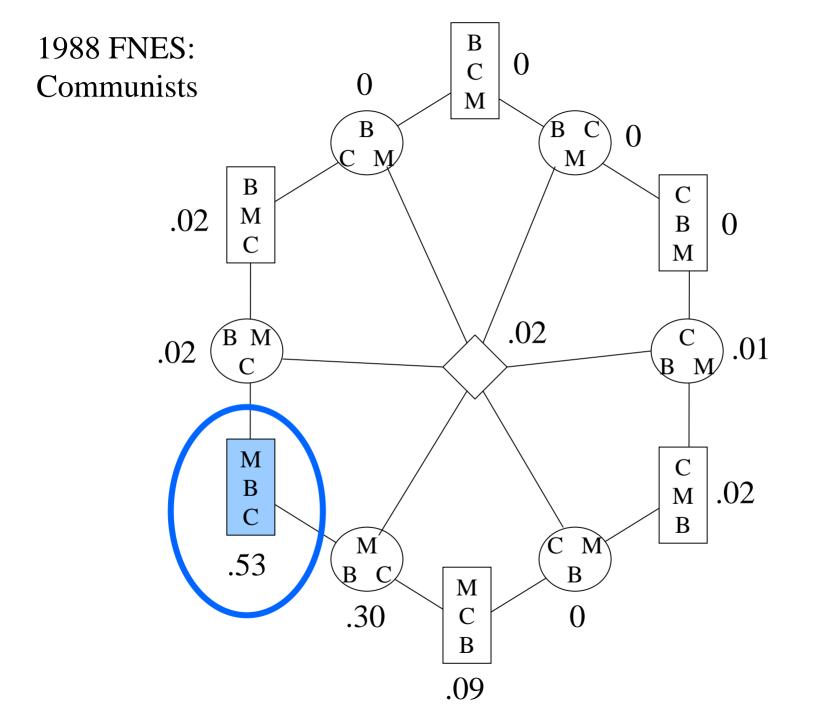


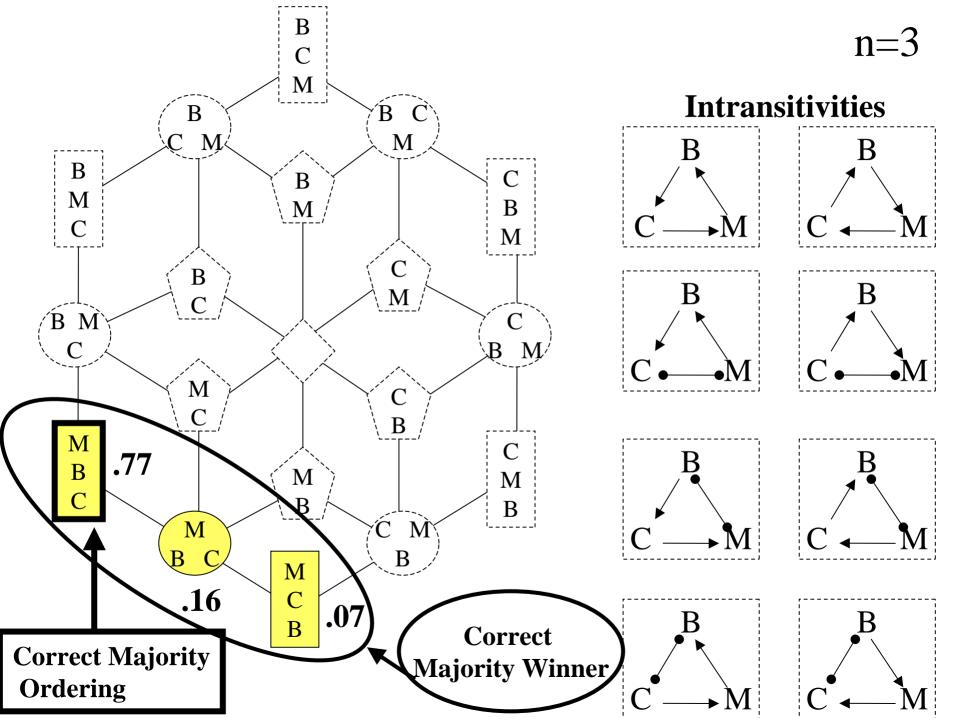


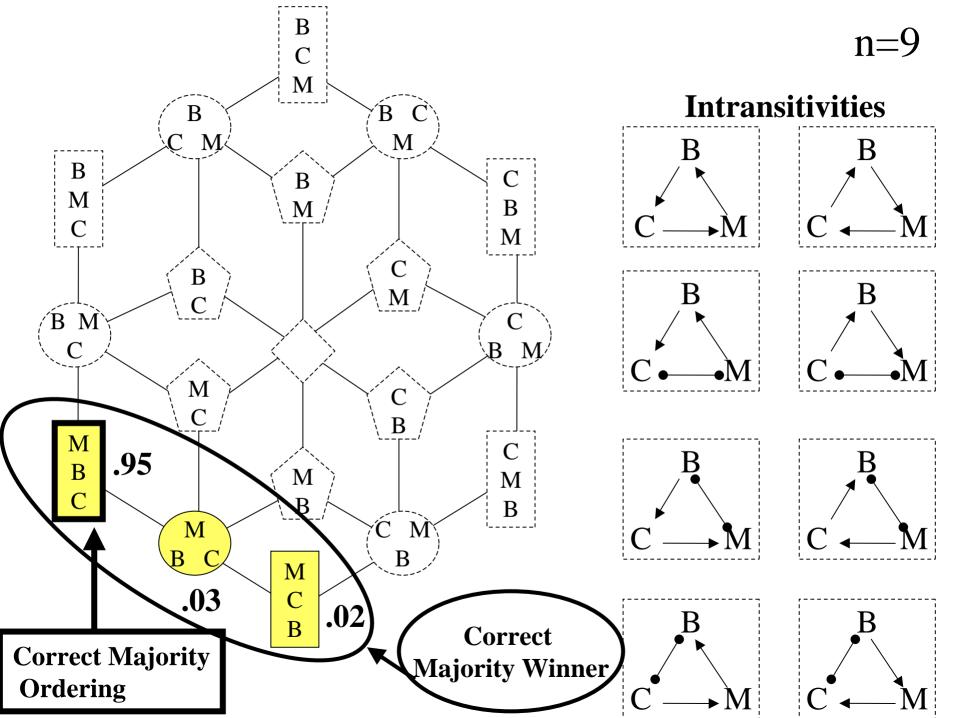


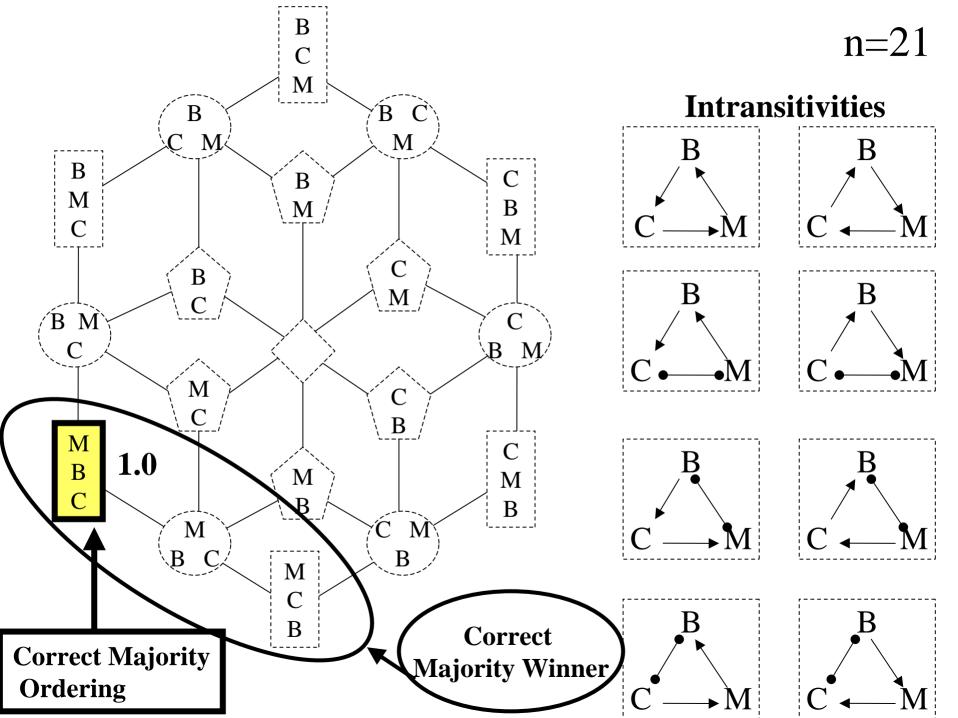
#### 1976 Germany



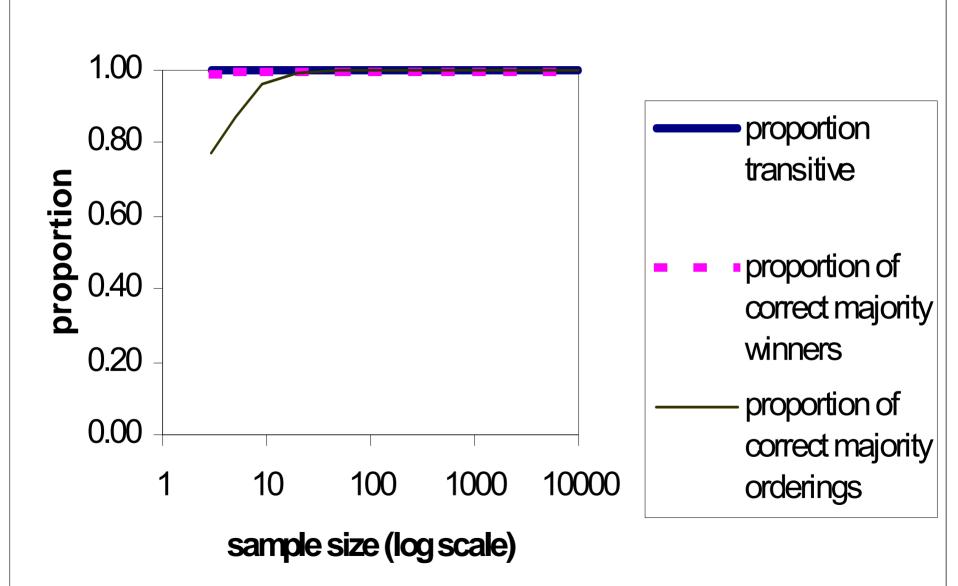




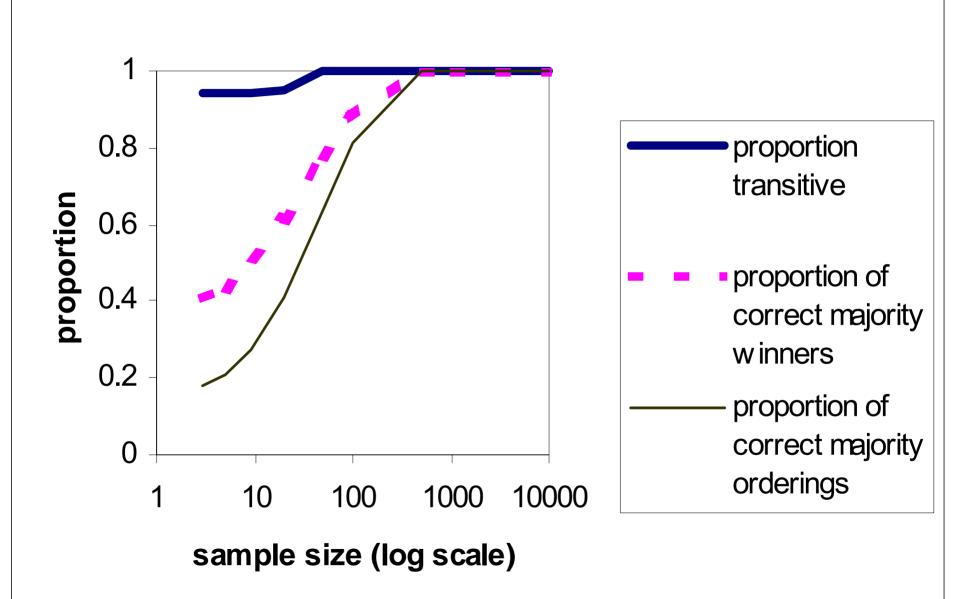


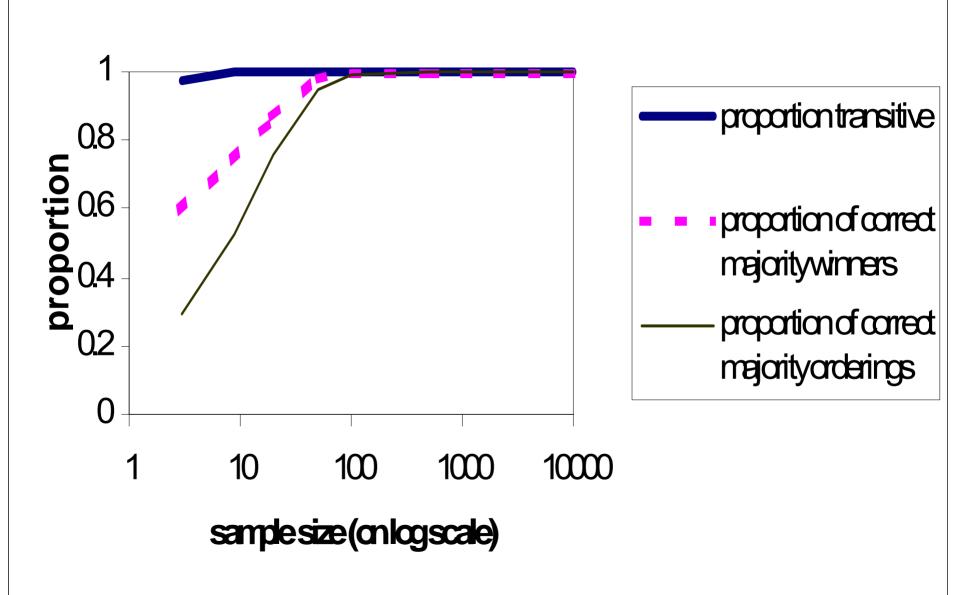


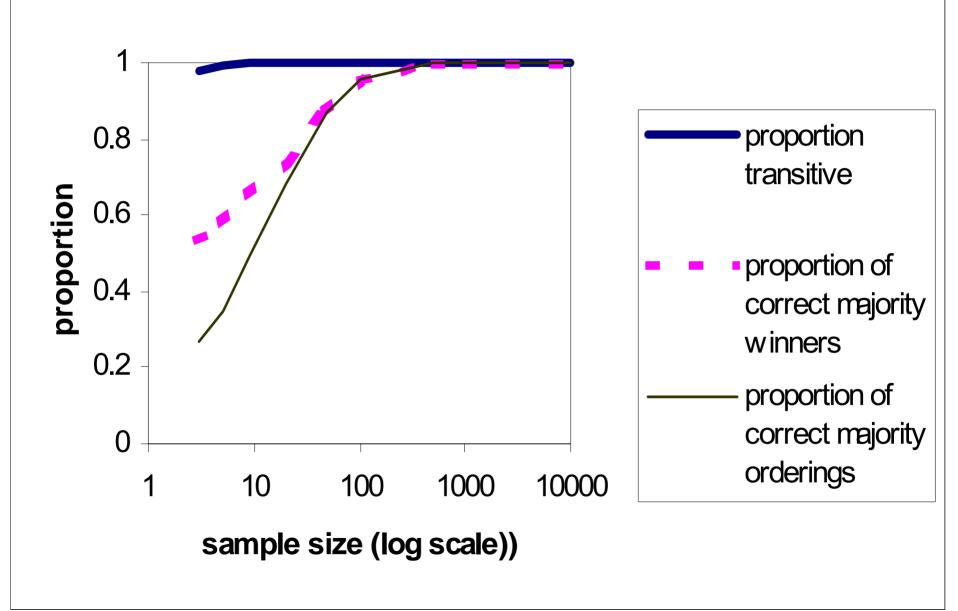
### 1988 France: Communists

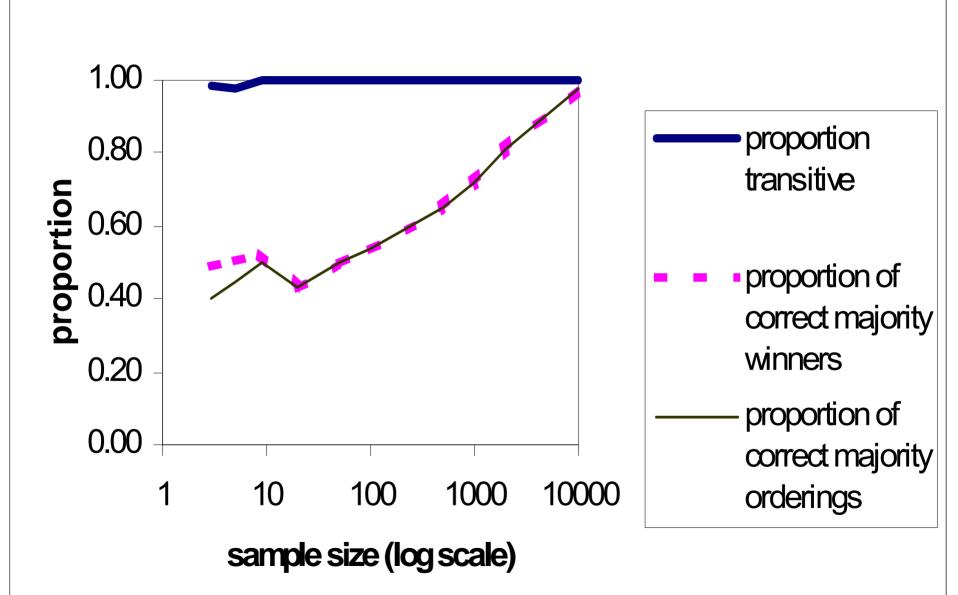


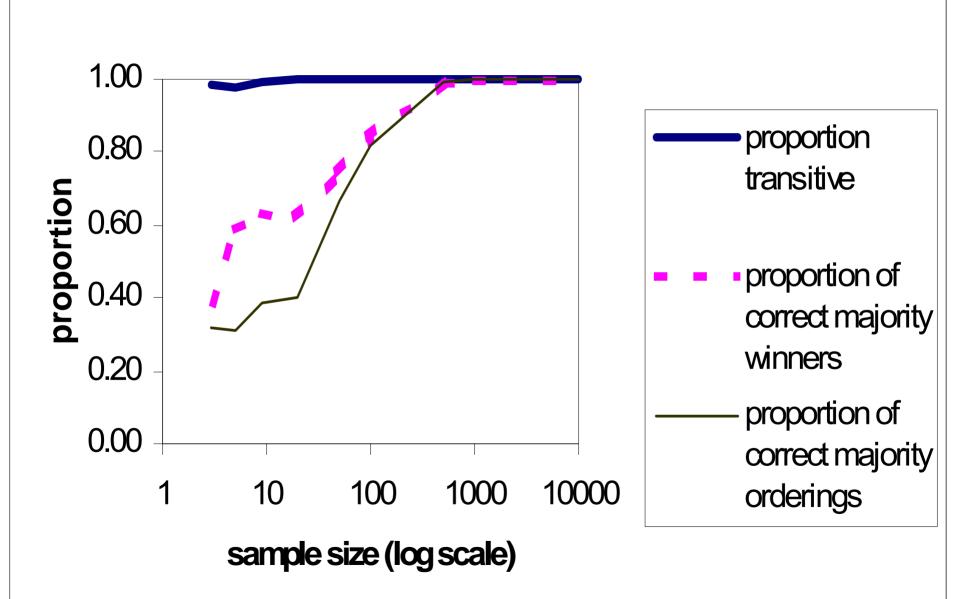
#### **1992 ANES**



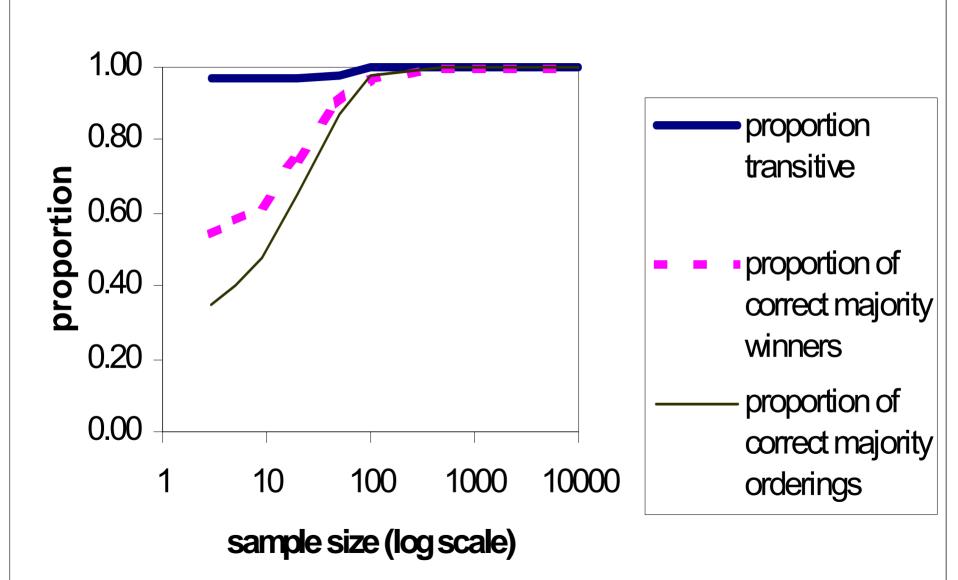




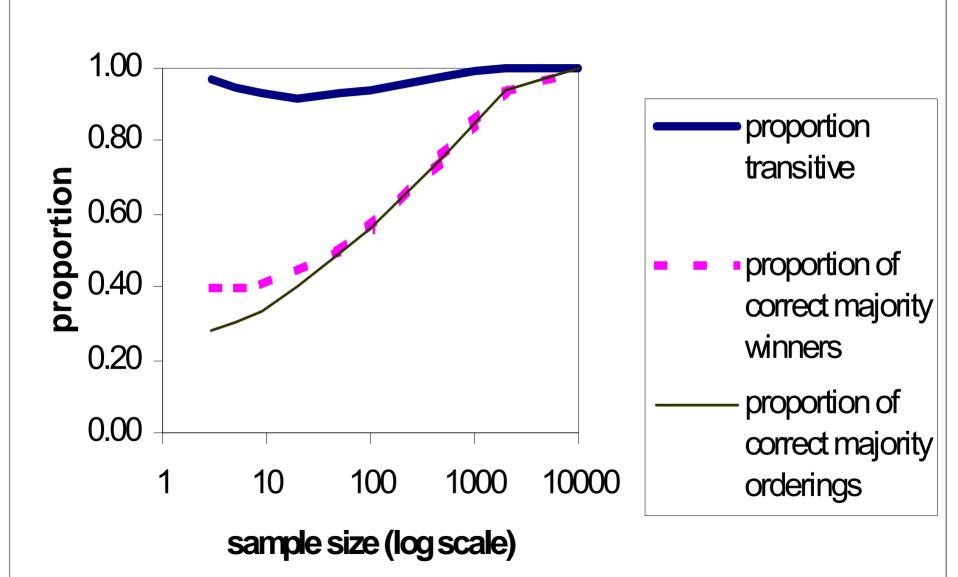




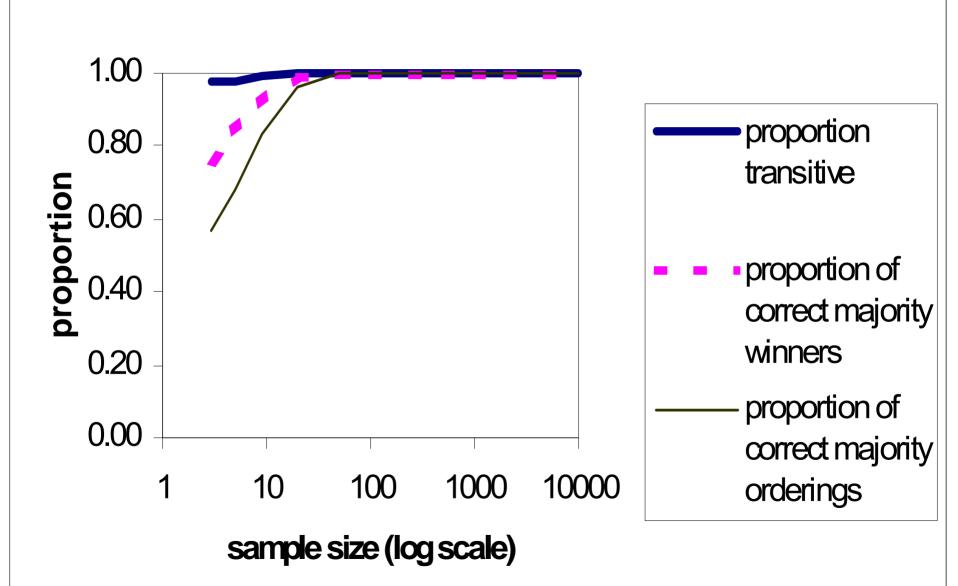
### 1988 French Presidential Election



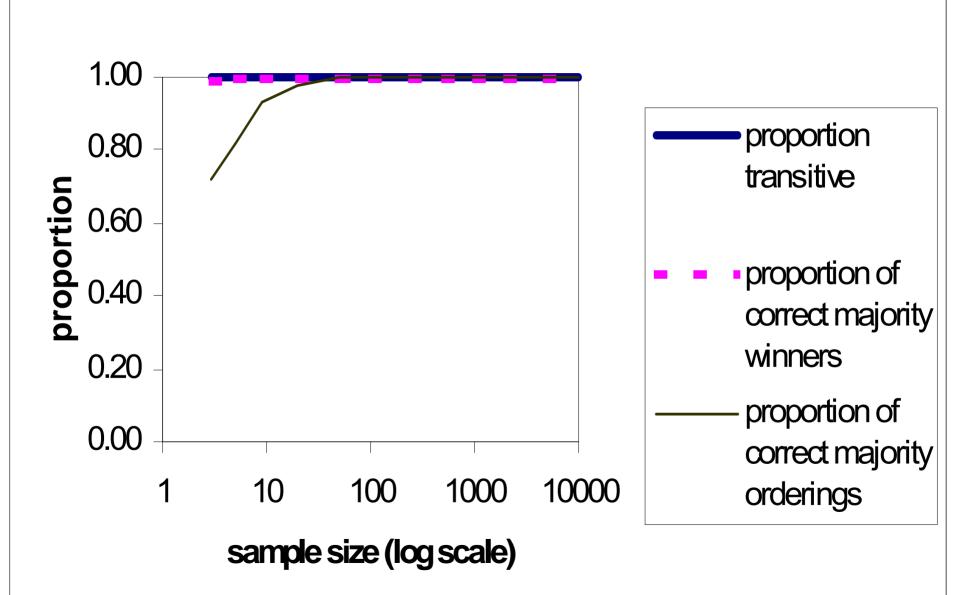
### 1988 France: Middle Class



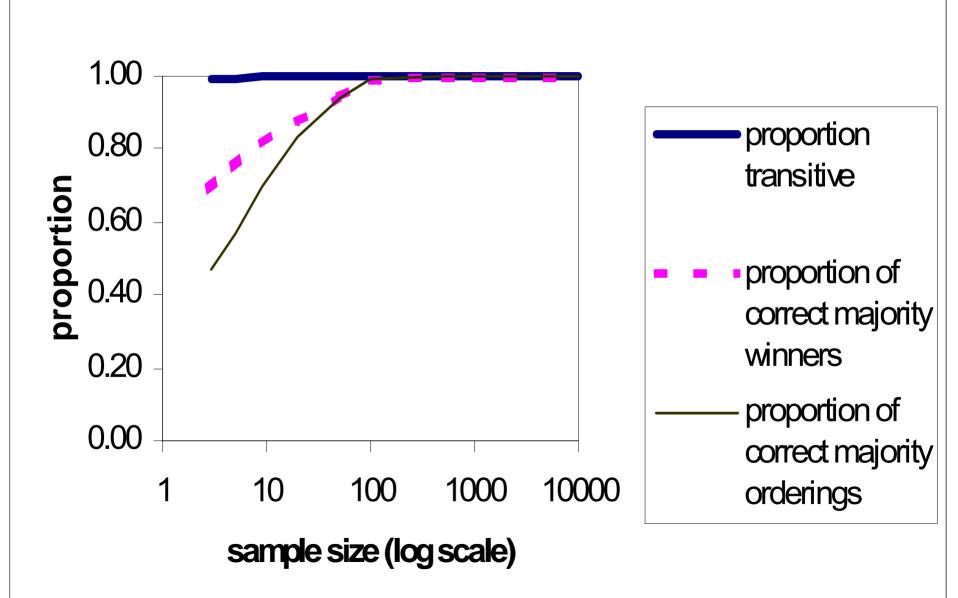
# 1988 France: Working Class



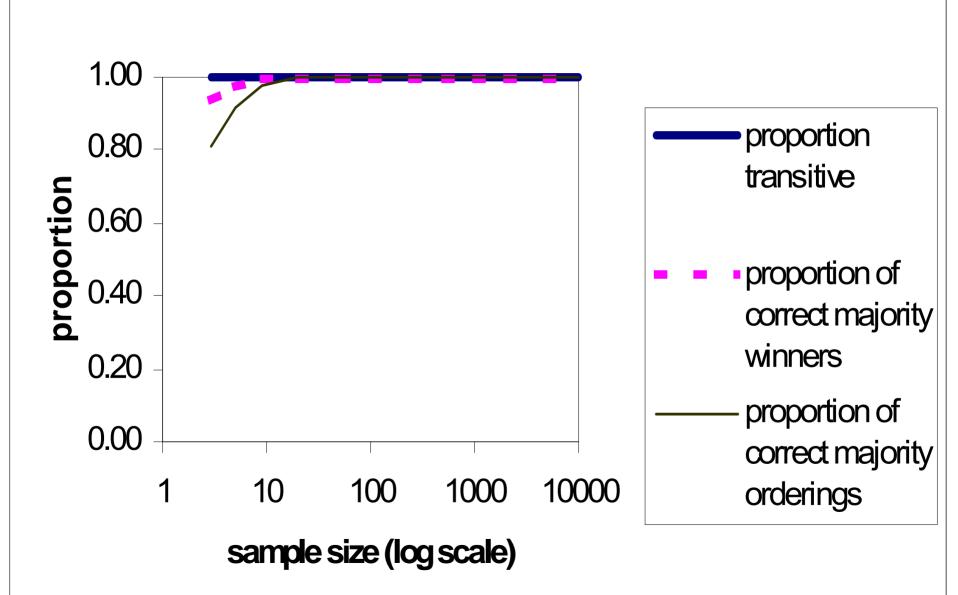
## 1988 France: Left



# 1988 France: Right



## 1988 France: UDF



#### **Correct Majority Preference**

### Sampling

Population — > Sample (Committee)

Majority Preference:  $a \times b \times c$  Correct:  $a \times b \times c$ 

Incorrect: any other

#### <u>Inference</u>

Sample (Survey) Population

Majority Preference:  $a \times b \times c$  Correct:  $a \times b \times c$ 

Incorrect: any other

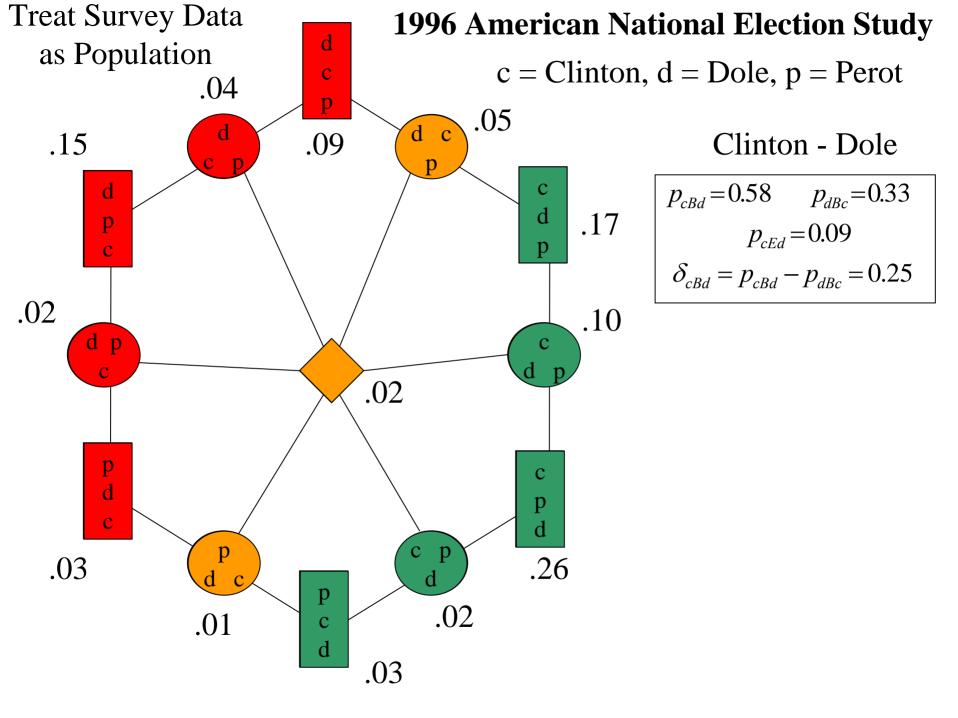
Look both at the probability of cycles and the probability of incorrect majority relations

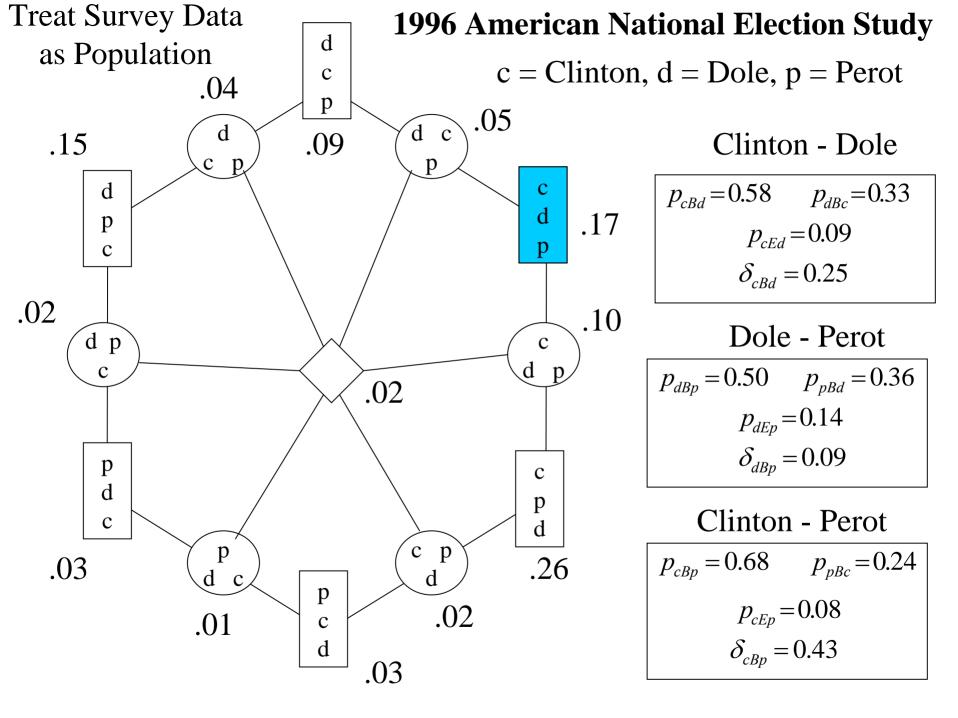
#### **Impartial Culture**

Sampling

Population — Sample (Committee)

Majority Preference:  $a \sim b \sim c$  Probability of cycles?





# Pairwise comparison (sampling)

$$Err(N, \delta, \theta = 0) = F_{Bin} \left( \left\lfloor \frac{N}{2} \right\rfloor, N, \frac{1+\delta}{2} \right)$$

$$Err(N = 100, \delta = 0.1, \theta)$$

$$0.2$$

$$0.18$$

$$0.16$$

$$0.14$$

$$0.12$$

$$0.08$$

$$0.08$$

$$0.04$$

$$N - Sample Size
$$0.04$$

$$N - Sample Size
$$0.02$$

$$0.04$$

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Probability of incorrect majority relation between a and b in the Sample

So, for pairwise comparison (sampling):

Larger sample size (N) Strength of Larger pairwise margin ( $\delta$ ) majority preferences (Properties of binomial distribution) Smaller probability of Error ( $Err(N, \delta)$ )

Smaller probability of Error ( $Err(N, \delta)$ )
Higher confidence

Let us move from pairs of candidates to the majority preference relation over all candidates

## Upper and lower bounds on the joint event

$$P(A \otimes B) \leq P(A)$$

	$\overline{A}$	A
В	$\overline{A} \ ^{\wp}\!\!\!/B$	$A \space{10pt}{\space}{10pt}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}$
$\overline{B}$	$\overline{A} \overset{\mathfrak{M}}{\smile} \overline{B}$	$A  vert^{m} \overline{B}$

## Upper and lower bounds on the joint event

$$P(A \otimes B) \leq P(A)$$

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$$P(A \otimes B) \leq P(B)$$

	$\overline{A}$	A
В	$\overline{A} \overset{\mathbb{W}}{\triangleright} B$	$A \ensuremath{\heartsuit} B$
$\overline{B}$	$\overline{A}~^{igotimes}\overline{B}$	A  ot B

#### Upper and lower bounds on the joint event

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$$P(A \otimes B) \leq P(A)$$

	$\overline{A}$	A
B	$\overline{A} \overset{\mathbb{W}}{\triangleright} B$	$A  ^{igotimes} B$
$\overline{B}$	$\overline{A} \overset{\mathfrak{W}}{\mathcal{B}}$	$A \overset{\mathfrak{M}}{\smile} \overline{B}$

$$1-P(\overline{A})-P(\overline{B}) \leq P(A \otimes B)$$

$$A = A_1 \otimes A_2 \otimes \dots \otimes A_K$$

$$P(\overline{A}_i) = Err_i$$

$$Err = \max_i (Err_i)$$

$$1-K*Err \leq P(A) \leq 1-Err$$



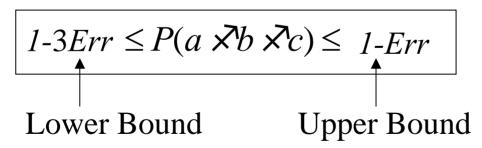
Err is small - P(A) (confidence) is high, Err is high - P(A) (confidence) is small

### Application of bounds to the majority relations

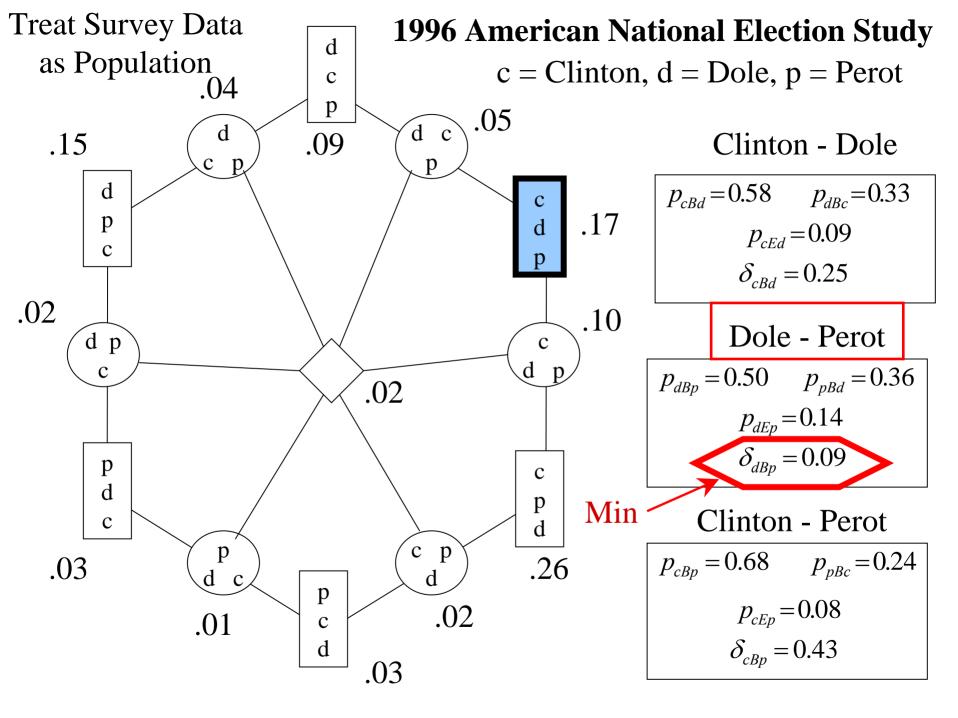
In <u>Population</u> majority preference relation is  $a \times b \times c$ 

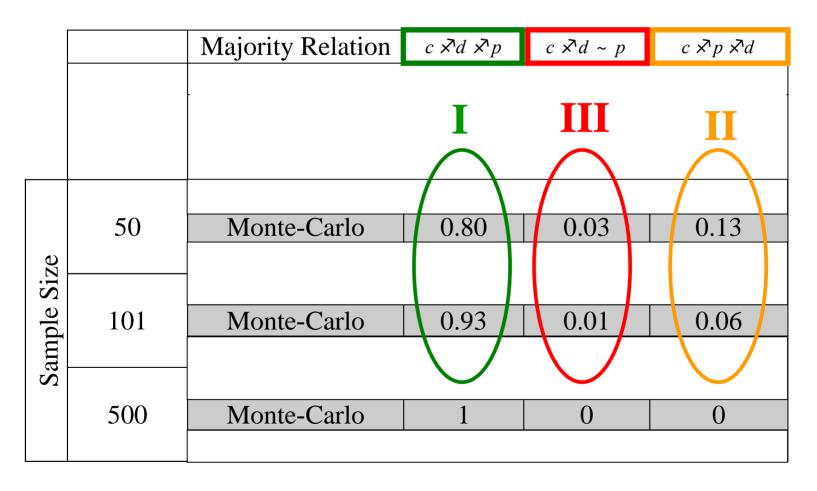
#### In the Sample:

- 1) Compute Err(a,b); Err(b,c); Err(a,c) $Err(a,b) = 1 - P(a \times b)$
- 2) Find  $Err=\max(Err(a,b); Err(b,c); Err(a,c))$
- 3) Apply Bounds (in our case number of pairs K=3):



Let us compare bounds with the results of Monte-Carlo Simulations





Clinton definitely is unique majority winner; uncertainty Dole-Perot

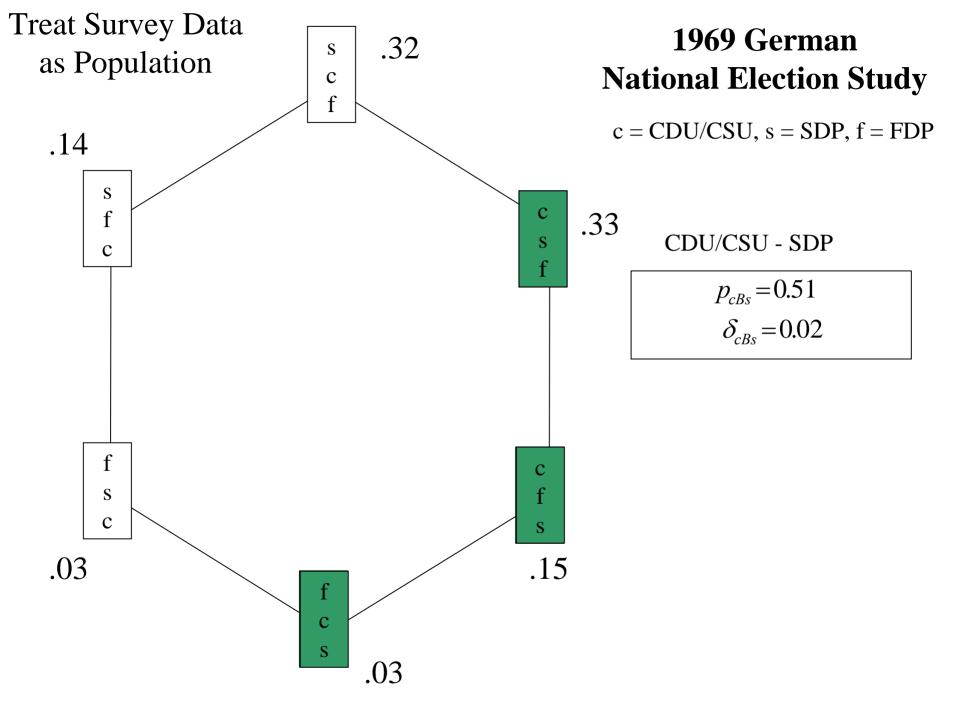
		Majority Relation	<i>c</i> ≯ <i>d</i> ≯ <i>p</i>	$c \nearrow d \sim p$	$c \nearrow p \nearrow d$
	Upper Bound		$P(d \nearrow p)$	$P(p \sim d)$	$P(p \nearrow d)$
	Formulae	Lower Bound	$(1 - P(c \times^{1} p)) -$	$P(d \sim p) - (1 - P(c \nearrow p)) - (1 - P(c \nearrow d))$	
e e	50	Monte-Carlo	0.80	0.03	0.13
Sample Size	101	Monte-Carlo	0.93	0.01	0.06
S	500	Monte-Carlo	1	0	0

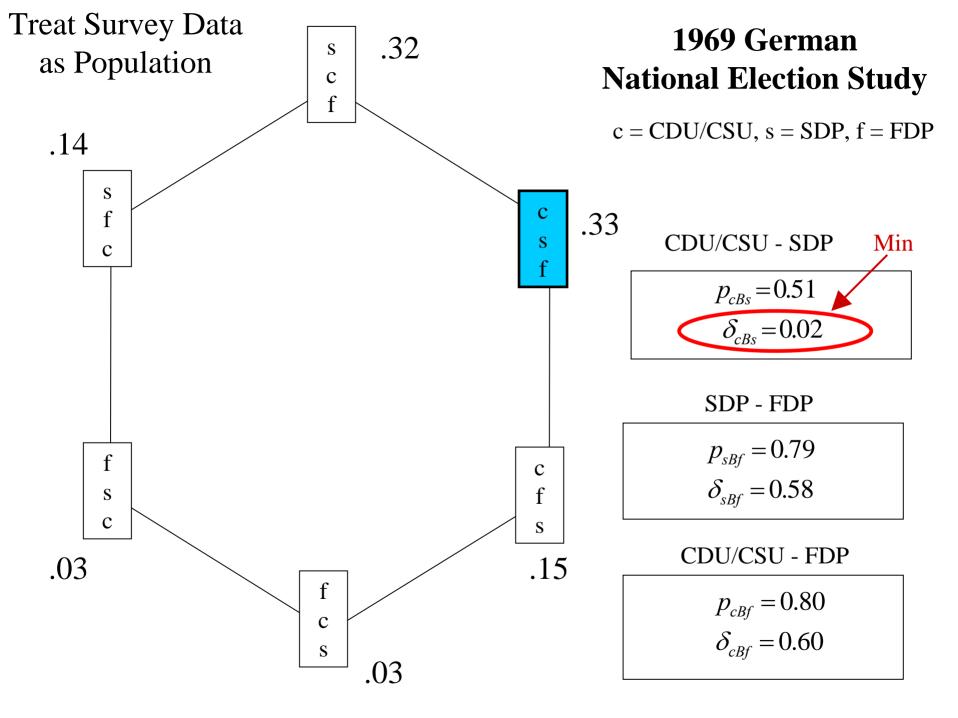
		Majority Relation	$c \nearrow d \nearrow p$	$c \nearrow d \sim p$	$c \nearrow p \nearrow d$
		Upper Bound	$P(d \nearrow p)$	$P(p \sim d)$	$P(p \nearrow d)$
	Formulae	Lower Bound	$ P(d \nearrow p) - (1 - P(c \nearrow p)) - $	$P(d \sim p) - (1 - P(c \nearrow p)) -$	$P(p \nearrow d) - (1 - P(c \nearrow p)) -$
			$(1 - P(c \nearrow d))$	$(1 - P(c \nearrow d))$	$(1 - P(c \nearrow d))$
		Upper Bound	0.841	0.034	0.125
	50	Monte-Carlo	0.80	0.03	0.13
Ze		Lower Bound	0.807	0.000	0.091
Size	101	Upper Bound	0.930	0.013	0.057
ple		Monte-Carlo	0.93	0.01	0.06
Sample		Lower Bound	0.926	0.009	0.053
Si	500	Upper Bound	1.000	6.08E-05	3.15E-04
		Monte-Carlo	1	0	0
		Lower Bound	1.000	6.08E-05	3.15E-04

		Majority Relation	<i>c</i> ≯ <i>d</i> ≯ <i>p</i>	$c \nearrow d \sim p$	$c \nearrow p \nearrow d$
		Upper Bound	$P(d \nearrow p)$	$P(p \sim d)$	$P(p \nearrow d)$
	Formulae	Lower Bound	$P(d \nearrow p) - (1 - P(c \nearrow p)) -$	$P(d \sim p) - (1 - P(c \nearrow p)) -$	$P(p \nearrow d) - (1 - P(c \nearrow p)) -$
			$(1 - P(c \nearrow d))$	$(1 - P(c \nearrow d))$	$(1 - P(c \nearrow d))$
		Upper Bound	0.841	0.034	0.125
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		Monte-Carlo	1	0	0
		Lower Bound	1.000	6.08E-05	3.15E-04

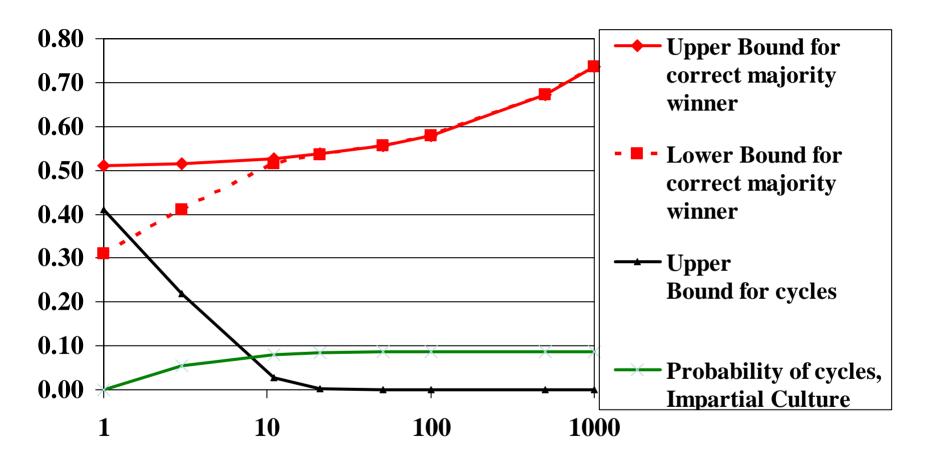
		Majority Relation	$c \nearrow d \nearrow p$	$c \nearrow d \sim p$	$c \nearrow p \nearrow d$
		Upper Bound	$P(d \nearrow p)$	$P(p \sim d)$	$P(p \nearrow d)$
	Formulae	Lower Bound	$P(d \nearrow p) - (1 - P(c \nearrow p)) -$		$P(p \nearrow d) - (1 - P(c \nearrow p)) -$
			$(1-P(c \times d))$	$(1-P(c \nearrow d))$	$(1-P(c \nearrow d))$
		Upper Bound	0.841	0.034	0.125
Size	50	Monte-Carlo	0.80	0.03	0.13
		Lower Bound	0.807	0.000	0.091
	101	Upper Bound	0.930	0.013	0.057
ple		Monte-Carlo	0.93	0.01	0.06
Sample		Lower Bound	0.926	0.009	0.053
	500	Upper Bound	1.000	6.08E-05	3.15E-04
		Monte-Carlo	1	0	0
		Lower Bound	1.000	6.08E-05	3.15E-04

One more example, compare with Impartial Culture





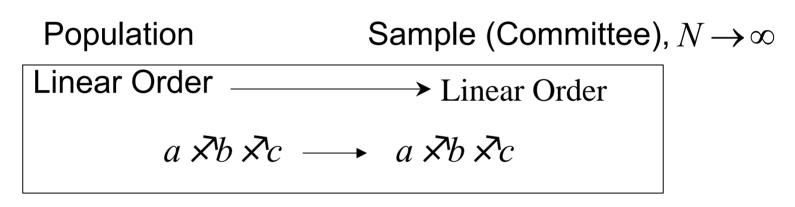
# Probabilities of majority preference relations for GNES 1969 data and impartial culture (odd sample sizes)

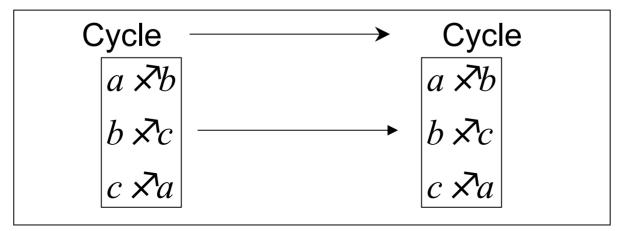


Huge potential for incorrect majority relation

#### **Conclusions from Sampling**

 Whenever the population has an asymmetric majority preference relation (i.e. all pairwise margins are nonzero) we recover it in the sample with probability close to 1 for large sample size





#### **Conclusions from Sampling**

- Whenever the population has an asymmetric majority preference relation (i.e. all pairwise margins are nonzero) we recover it in the sample with probability close to 1 for large sample size
- In particular, if majority preference relation in the population is linear order, probability of cycles in the sample approaches zero for large samples
- If property of Moderate Stochastic Transitivity with Strict Inequalities holds in the population, the second most probable majority preference relation in the sample is a linear order (of course, incorrect one).

Now let us move to the Inference Framework

#### Inference of pairwise majority preference relation

#### Sample (Survey/Committee)



$$\left\{egin{aligned} N_{aBb}\ N_{bBa} \end{aligned}
ight\}\!D$$

$$N_{aBb} > N_{bBa} \Leftrightarrow a \nearrow_s b$$

#### **Population**



$$p_{aBb}|D?$$
  $p_{bBa}|D?$ 

$$p_{bRa}|D?$$

$$P((a \times_p b) | D)?$$

$$P((a \times_p b) | D) = P((p_{aBb} > p_{bBa}) | D)$$

Apply Bayesian Inference

#### **Bayesian Inference**

Sample (Survey/Committee)

**Population** 

$$P((a \times_p^{\uparrow} b) | D)$$
?

#### Beta-distribution:

$$P((a \times_{p}^{\uparrow} b) \mid D) = F_{\beta} \left( \frac{1}{2}, N_{bBa} + \alpha_{bBa}, N_{aBb} + \alpha_{aBb} \right)$$

 $\alpha_{aBb}, \alpha_{bBa}$  - Prior parameters (prior Information)

No prior Information:  $\alpha_{aBb} = 1$ ,  $\alpha_{bBa} = 1$ .

Paired Comparison + Method of Bounds = Analysis of Survey Data Treat survey data as a sample

## 1988 FNES, 961 respondents

m=Mitterand, b=Barre, c=Chirac, l=Lajoinie, p=Le Pen

	x=m,					
$N_{xBy}$	<i>y=b</i> 538			648		

538 respondents prefer Mitterand to Barre

Treat survey data as a sample

### 1988 FNES, 961 respondents

m=Mitterand, b=Barre, c=Chirac, l=Lajoinie, p=Le Pen

x,y	x=m, $y=b$	x=m, $y=c$	x=m, $y=l$	x=m $y=p$	x=b $y=c$	x=b, $y=l$	x=b $y=p$	x=c $y=l$	x=c $y=p$	x=l $y=p$
$N_{xBy}$										
$N_{yBx}$	328	318	55	153	246	173	104	248	103	271

#### 328 respondents prefer Barre to Mitterand

538>328, so Mitterand is preferred to Barre by majority in the survey

Treat survey data as a sample

### 1988 FNES, 961 respondents

m=Mitterand, b=Barre, c=Chirac, l=Lajoinie, p=Le Pen

x,y	x=m	x=m,	x=m,	x=m	x=b	x=b,	x=b	x=c	x=c	x=l
	y=b	y=c	y=l	<i>y=p</i>	y=c	y=l	<i>y=p</i>	y=l	<i>y</i> = <i>p</i>	<i>y=p</i>
$N_{xBy}$	538	546	786	734	442	648	764	577	720	483
$N_{yBx}$	328	318	55	153	246	173	104	248	103	271
Probability of incorrect inference	3.8E -13	3.2E -15	3.7E -167	3.5E -92	2.8E -14	8.2E -66	2.1E -125	1.9E -31	3.0E -115	4.0E -15

Maximal probability of Error. Confidence is high.

### **1988 FNES**

m=Mitterand, b=Barre, c=Chirac, l=Lajoinie, p=Le Pen

Most Probable ty Preference			
Ranking	m ×b ×c ×1 ×p	b≯m≯c≯l≯p	Any other
Upper Bound	1.0 - 3.8E-13	3.8E-13	2.8E-14
Lower Bound	1.0 - 4.2E-13	3.5E-13	

1988 FNES

m=Mitterand, b=Barre, c=Chirac, l=Lajoinie, p=Le Pen

Most Probable ty Preference			nd Most Proba Preference R	
Ranking	m ×b ×c ×1 ×p	b≯m×c×l×p	Any other	
Upper Bound	1.0 - 3.8E-13	3.8E-13	2.8E-14	
Lower Bound	1.0 - 4.2E-13	3.5E-13		

Bounds allow precise mapping of all majority relations in the sample

### **Key Questions:**

- \* most probable majority relation
- \* probability of correct majority relation
- \* second most probable majority relation
- \* probability of cycles

Correct
Close to 1
MSTwSI
Close to 0

The only case when majority preference relations in the population and in the sample do not coincide with probability close to 1 for large samples is if some alternatives are majority tied.

(e.g. Impartial Culture)

- We have developed an approach for assessment of probabilities of possible majority preference relations both in sampling and inference frameworks.
- We have shown that the only case when majority preference relations in the population and in the sample do not coincide with probability close to one for large samples is if some alternatives are majority tied.
- We have demonstrated that cycles are second-order problem compared to the problem of finding correct majority preference relation.
- We have proven that if the property of Moderate Stochastic Transitivity with Strict Inequalities holds, then second most probable majority relation in the sample is transitive.

# For Sampling... Theorem (3 candidates) Conjecture(> 3 candidates):

Impartial Culture
maximizes the probability of
majority cycles among
Cultures of Indifference

$$(p_{aBb} = p_{bBc} = p_{aBc} = 1/2)$$

## Sampling/Inference Framework

- Majority Rule
- All Positional Voting Methods (Scoring Rules), including Plurality and Borda
- Approval Voting

### Inference: Social Welfare Orders

SSCW	{a, b}		{b, c}		{a, c}		{a, b, c}	
Voting Metho d	Pref ere nce	Con fide nce	Pref ere nce	Con fide nce	Pref ere nce	Con fide nce	Pref ere nce	Con fide nce
AV	a>b	98.53%	c>b	96.46%	a>c	62.24%	a>c>b	57.23%
Plur	a>b	99.55%	c>p	96.93%	a>c	77.43%	a>c>b	73.91%
AntiPlur	a>b	86.00%	c>b	98.56%	c>a	86.75%	c>a>b	71.31%
Maj	a>b	99.37%	c>b	95.08%	c>a	70 84%	c>a>h	65.29%
Borda	a>b	97.70%	c>b	99.29%	c>a	53.62%	c>a>b	50.61%

# Inference: Social Welfare Orders from Approval Voting Data via SIM

TIMS C	{a, b}		{b, c}		{a, c}		{a, b, c}	
Voting Method	Pref	Conf	Pref	Conf	Pref	Conf	Pref	Conf
AV	b>a	100%	c>b	97.37%	c>a	100.00%	c>b>a	97.37%
Plurality	b>a	98.36%	c>b	79.21%	c>a	99.83%	c>b>a	77.40%
Anti- plurality	b>a	100%	c>b	98.43%	c>a	100.00%	c>b>a	98.43%
Borda	b>a	100%	c>b	98.02%	c>a	100.00%	c>b>a	98.02%

# Inference: Social Welfare Orders from Approval Voting Data via SIM

SJDM	{a, b}		{b, c}		{a, c}		{a, b, c}	
Voting Method	Pref	Conf	Pref	Conf	Pref	Conf	Pref	Conf
AV	b>a	60.61%	b>c	98.62%	a>c	97.34%	b>a>c	56.58%
Plurality	b>a	61.35%	b>c	99.19%	a>c	98.50%	b>a>c	59.04%
Anti- plurality	a~b	50.00%	c>b	63.01%	c>a	63.01%	c>a~b	0.00%
Borda	b>a	55.37%	b>c	78.18%	a>c	73.89%	b>a>c	7.44%

# Inference: Social Welfare Orders from Approval Voting Data via SIM

MAA	{a, b}		{b, c}		{a, c}		{a, b, c}	
Voting Method	Pref	Conf	Pref	Conf	Pref	Conf	Pref	Conf
AV	b>a	100%	b>c	100%	c>a	100%	b>c>a	100%
Plurality	b>a	100%	b>c	100%	c>a	100%	b>c>a	100%
Anti- plurality	b>a	100%	c>b	99.37%	c>a	100%	c>b>a	99.37%
Borda	b>a	100%	b>c	100%	c>a	100%	b>c>a	100%

## Today:



- Statistical Sampling and Inference
- Why no Cycles? (General Value Restriction)
- Behavioral Social Choice Analysis of STV

### General Concept of Majority Rule, Lack of Empirical Evidence for Cycles

### Last Time: Defined Majority Rule for

- Random/Deterministic Utility Models
- Probability/Frequency Distributions over Binary Preference Relations

### No Majority Cycles in

- 1969, 1972, 1976 GNES
- 1968, 1980, 1992, 1996 ANES
- 1988 FNES
- 7 Approval Voting elections (model based)



### Model Dependence of Majority Rule Outcomes

A "preferred" to B iff Score A > Score B + Threshold

ANES	Threshold	SWO
1968	0,, 96	Nixon Humphrey Wallace
ANES	Threshold	SWO
1992	0,, 99	Clinton Bush Perot

<b>Threshold</b> 0,, 29	SWO Carter Reagan Anderson
30,, 99	Reagan Carter Anderson
Threshold 0,, 49 85,, 99 50,,84	SWO Clinton Dole Perot  Dole Clinton Perot
	0,, 29  30,, 99 <b>Threshold</b> 0,, 49 85,, 99

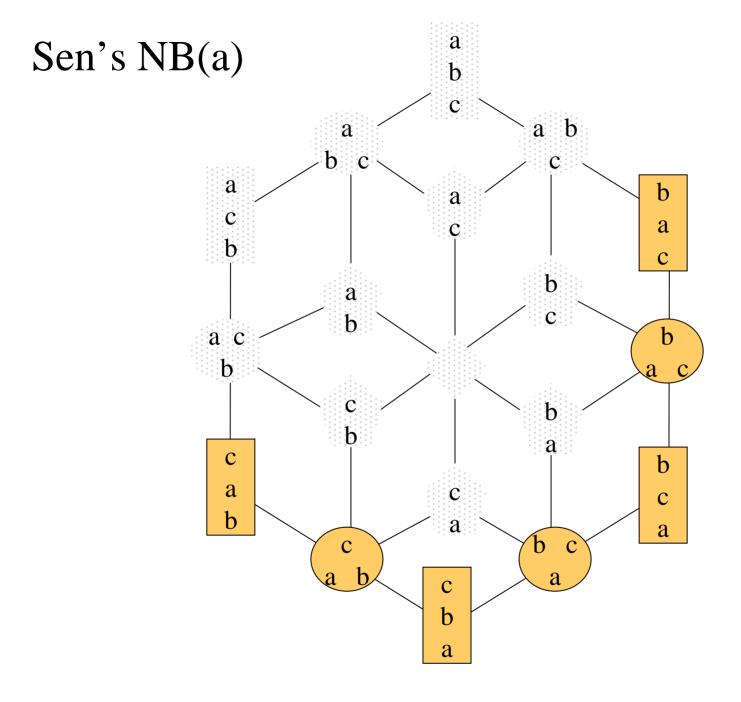
Let's forget about sampling... Instead...

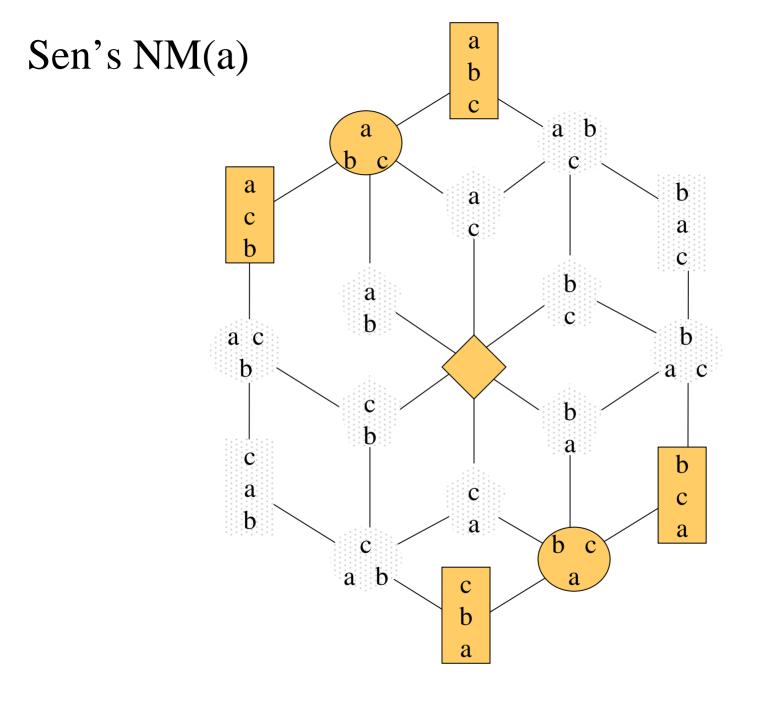
# A way out of Arrow's Impossibility: Domain Restriction Conditions to eliminate Cycles

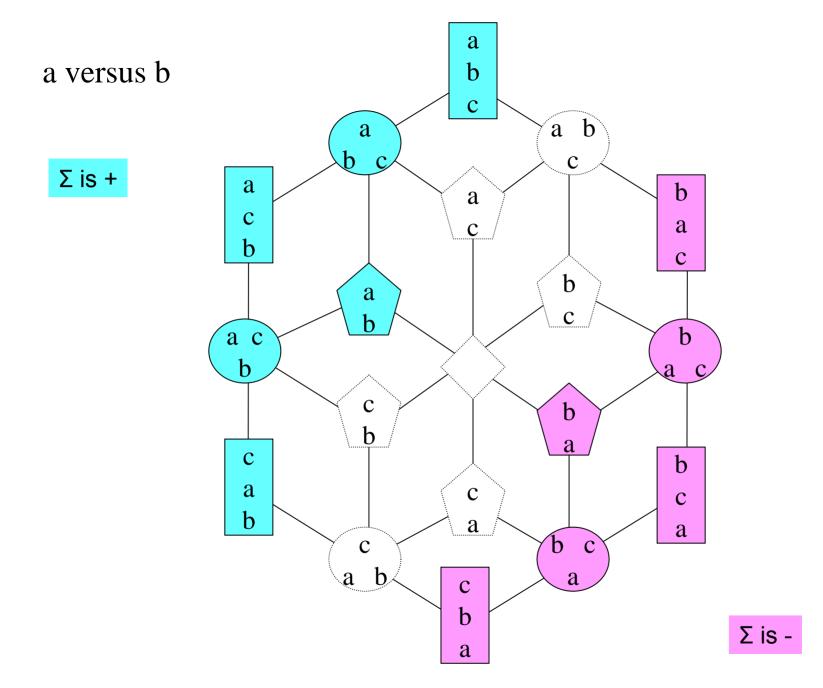
• Black's (1958) "single-peakedness"

Sen's (1966, 1970) "value restriction"
 Never best, Never Middle, Never Worst









a Σ is + b a versus c C a a b a c a b C b a c b b a c b a  $\mathsf{c}$ b b a C b a cc b a a c b a c b a Σis-

a b b versus c C a Σ is + b c a b a c a b C b a b b a c b C b a c b a cC b a a c b a c b

a

Σis-

**Definition 1.2.5** Consider a probability  $\mathbb{P}$  on  $\Pi$ . We define a weak majority preference relation  $\succeq$  and a strict majority preference relation  $\succ$  through

$$c \gtrsim d \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{P}_{cd} \ge \mathbb{P}_{dc} \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{P}_{cd} \ge \frac{1}{2}$$
, (1.3)

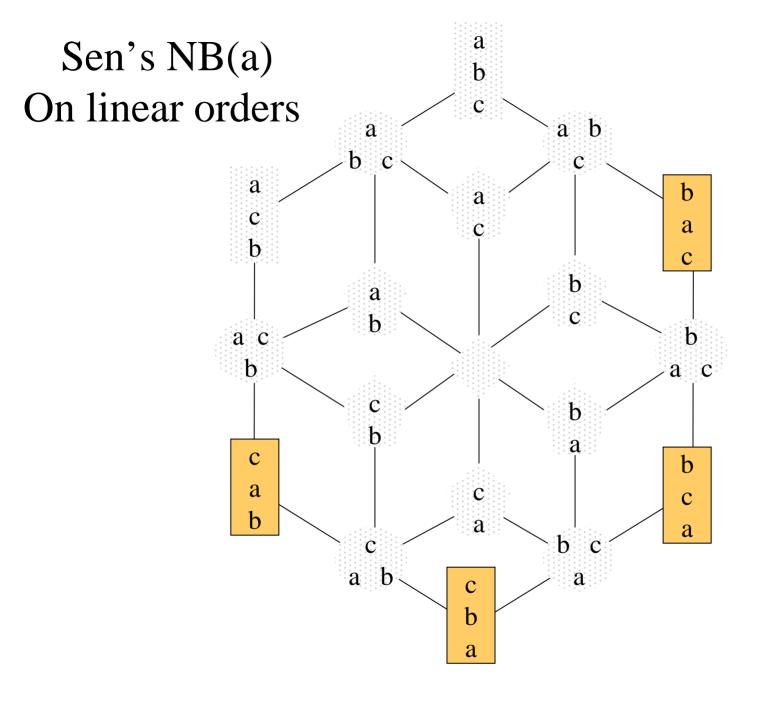
$$c \succ d \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{P}_{cd} > \mathbb{P}_{dc} \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{P}_{cd} > \frac{1}{2}$$
. (1.4)

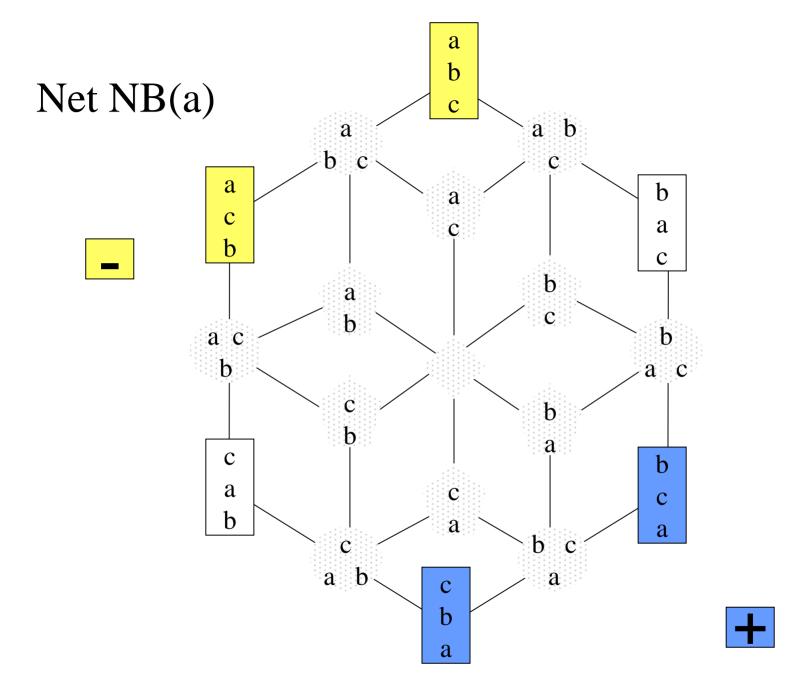
**Definition 1.2.12** Given P on  $\Pi$  as before, for any triple  $\{c, d, e\} \subseteq C$ ,

$$P$$
 satisfies  $NW(c) \Leftrightarrow P_{edc} \leq 0 \& P_{dec} \leq 0$ ,  
 $P$  satisfies  $NM(c) \Leftrightarrow P_{ecd} \leq 0 \& P_{dec} \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow P_{ecd} = 0$ ,  
 $P$  satisfies  $NB(c) \Leftrightarrow P_{edc} \leq 0 \& P_{ced} \leq 0$ .

- P satisfies NW(c) ⇒ NP satisfies NW(c), but not conversely,
- • P satisfies NB(c) ⇒ NP satisfies NB(c), but not conversely,
- P satisfies NM(c) ⇒ NP satisfies NM(c), but not conversely.

Clearly, domain restrictions imply distributional restrictions, but the converse does not generally hold.





**Definition 1.2.14** Given  $N^p$  on  $\Pi$  as before,  $\pi \in \Pi$  has a net preference majority if and only if

$$MP(\pi) > \sum_{\substack{\pi' \in \Pi - \{\pi\}, \\ NP(\pi') > 0}} MP(\pi').$$
 (1.5)

Similarly, for any triple  $\{c, d, e\} \subseteq C$ , cde has a marginal net preference majority if and only if

$$M_{cde} > \sum_{\substack{\pi' \in \{ced, dee, eed, ede\}, \\ M_{\pi'} > 0}} M_{\pi'}.$$

**Theorem 1.2.15** The weak majority preference relation  $\succeq$  defined in Definition 1.2.5 is transitive if and only if for each triple  $\{c, d, e\} \subseteq C$  at least one of the following two conditions holds:

 NP is marginally value restricted on {c,d,e} and, in addition, if at least one net preference is nonzero then the following implication is true (with possible relabelings):

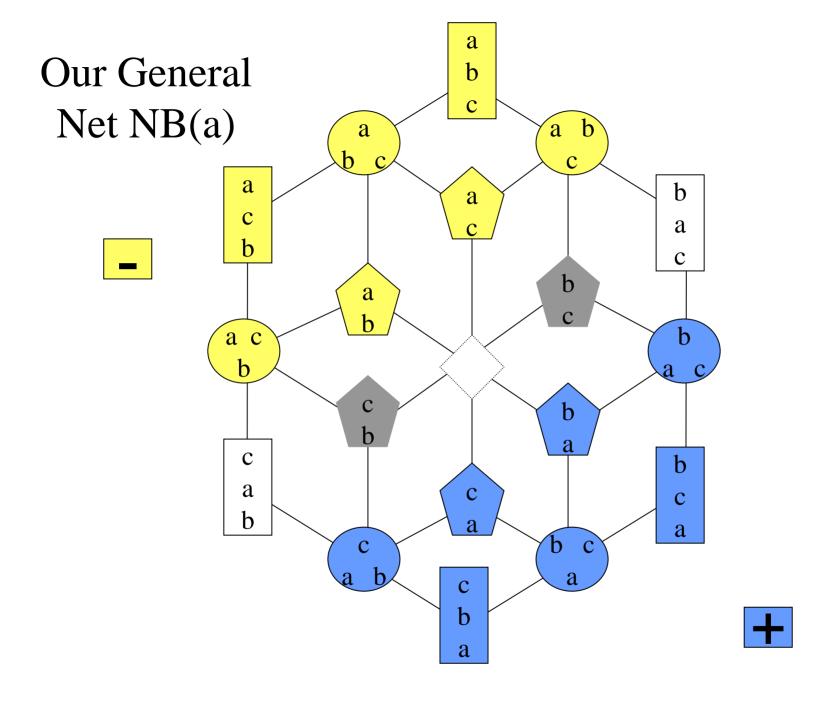
$$N_{cde} = 0 \Rightarrow N_{dee} \neq N_{ced}$$
.

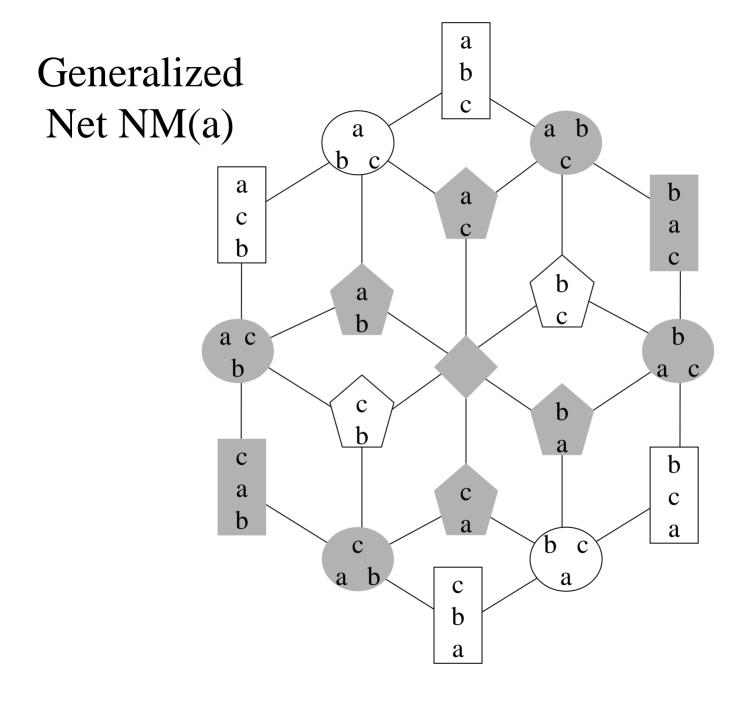
- 2. ∃π<sub>0</sub> ∈ {cde, ced, dce, dec, ecd, edc} such that π<sub>0</sub> has a marginal net preference majority.
  Similarly, the strict majority preference relation > is transitive if and only if for each triple {c, d, e} ⊆ C at least one of the following two conditions holds:
  - M is marginally value restricted on {c,d,e}.
  - 2.  $\exists \pi_0 \in \{cde, ced, dce, dec, ecd, edc\}$  such that  $\pi_0$  has a marginal net preference majority.

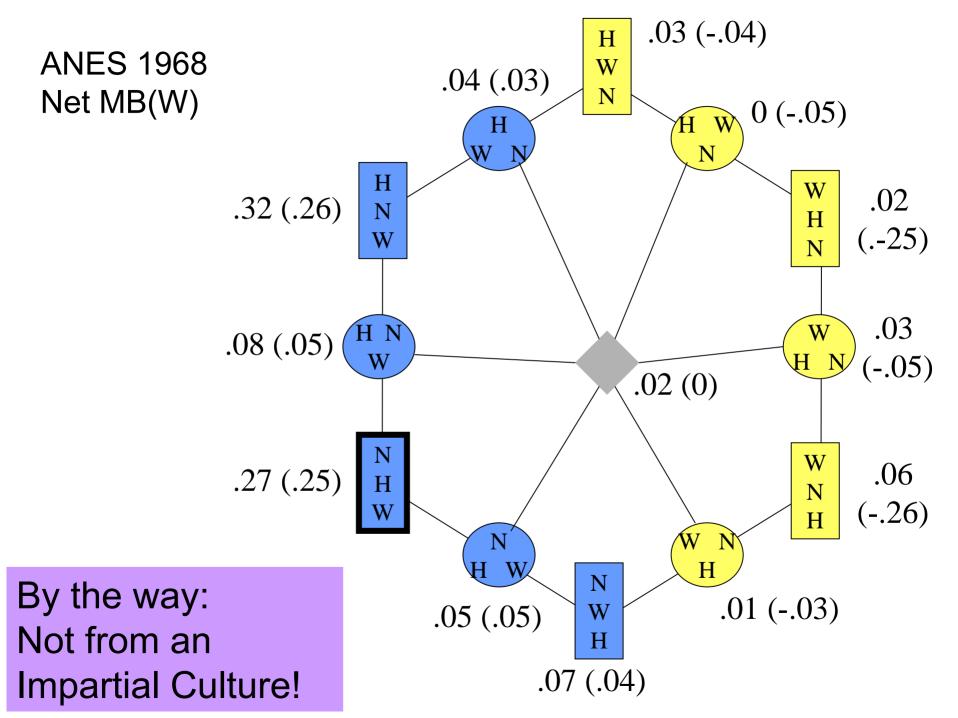
#### Net never best of a

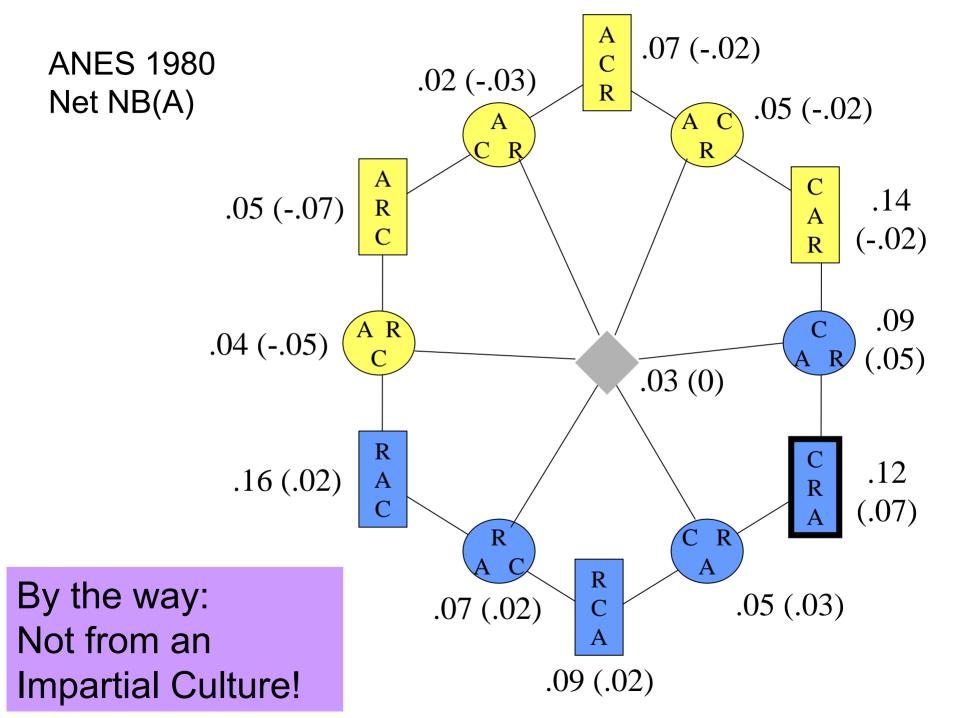
The marginal net preference probabilities derived on a triple  $\{a, b, c\} \subseteq C$  satisfy net never middle of a, denoted as NM(a), if the following equalities hold:

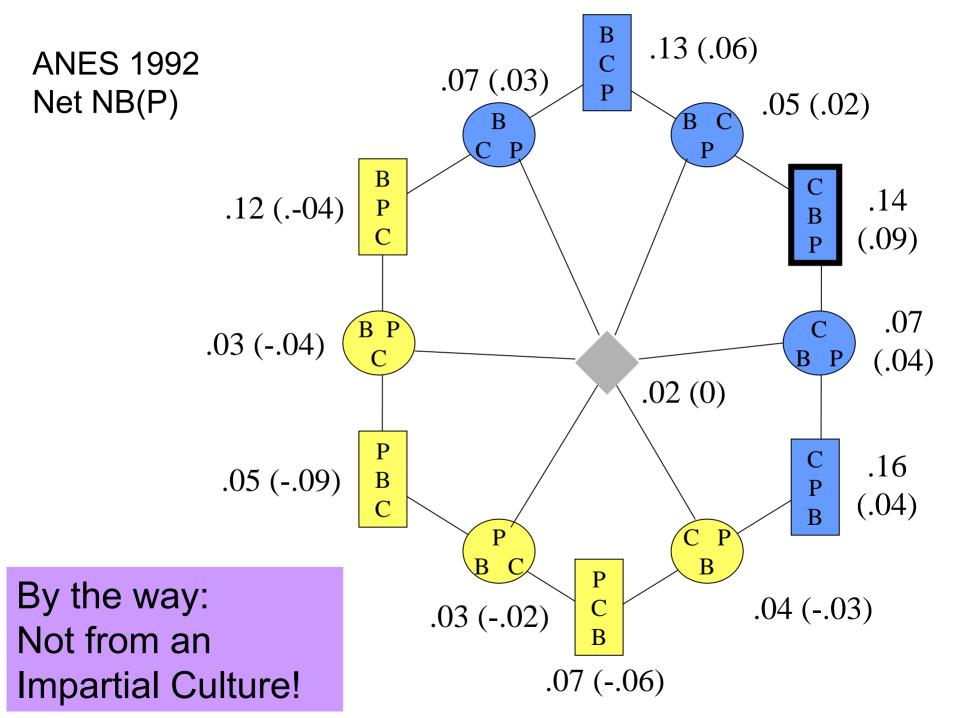
$$NP\begin{pmatrix} b \\ a \\ c \end{pmatrix} = NP\begin{pmatrix} b \\ a c \end{pmatrix} = NP\begin{pmatrix} c \\ a b \end{pmatrix} = NP\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = NP\begin{pmatrix} a \\ c \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= NP\begin{pmatrix} a \\ > b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = NP\begin{pmatrix} a \\ > c \\ b \end{pmatrix} = NP\begin{pmatrix} a \\ > c \\ c \end{pmatrix} = NP\begin{pmatrix} a \\ > c \\ c \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

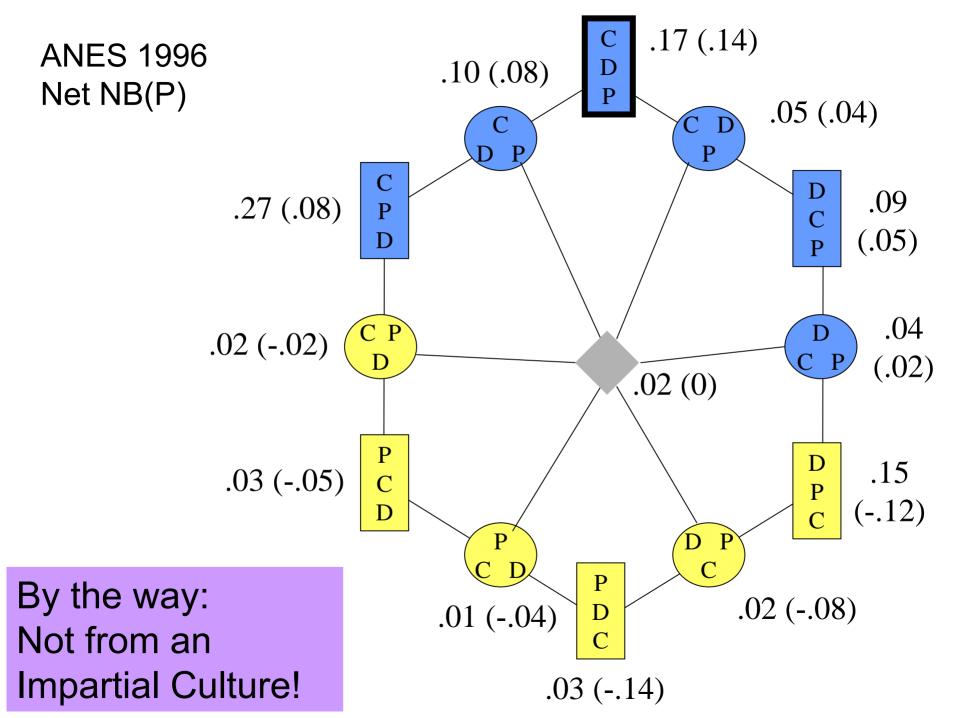






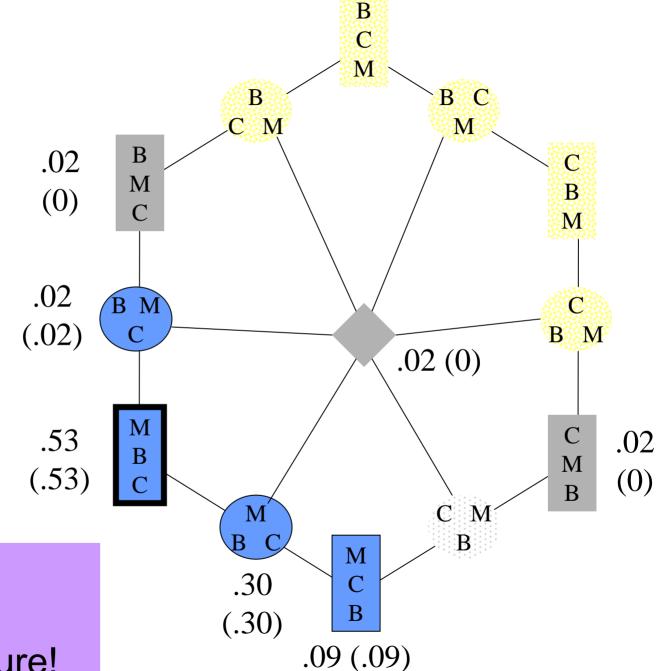








Sen's NW(M)



By the way: Not from an Impartial Culture! **Definition 2.3.7** Given net preference probabilities  $N^B$  as before, a binary (preference) relation B over  $\{x, y, z\}$  has a net preference majority (among all members of a set B of binary relations) on  $\{x, y, z\}$  if and only if

$$M^{\mathcal{B}}(B) > \sum_{\substack{B' \in \mathcal{B} - \{B\} \\ M^{\mathcal{B}}(B') > 0}} M^{\mathcal{B}}(B').$$
 (2.30)

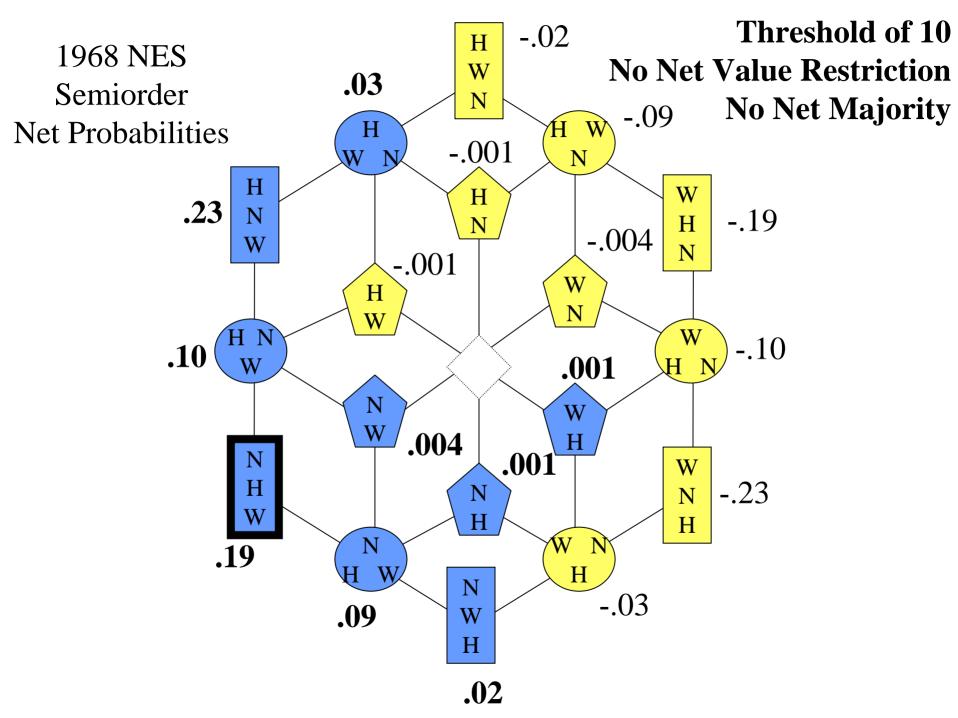
**Theorem 2.3.8** Given a net probability distribution NP over all asymmetric binary relations over  $\{a,b,c\}$ , neither net value restriction of NP nor net majority of a binary relation is necessary for  $\succeq$  and/or  $\succ$  to be transitive.

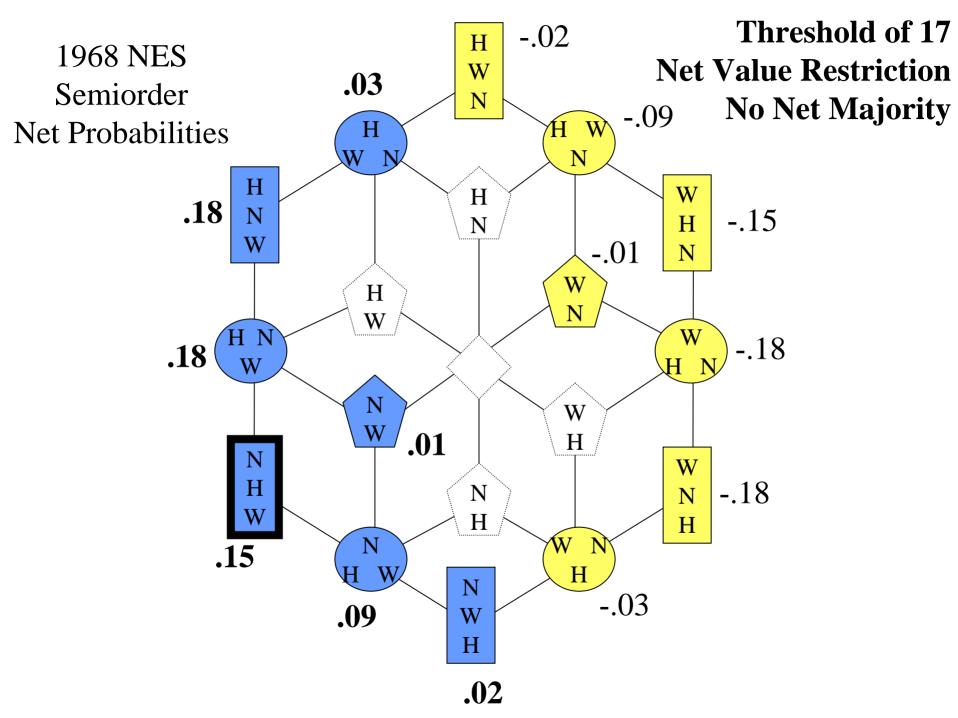
**Theorem 2.3.9** Let NP be a net preference probability over asymmetric binary relations, as before.

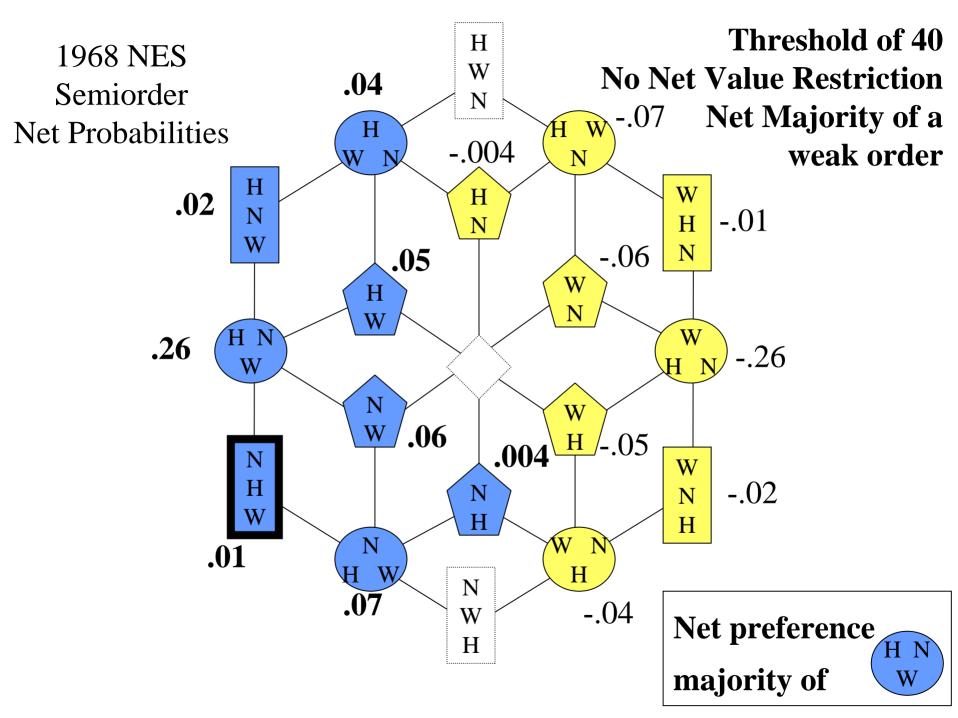
- Sufficiency of Net value restriction for transitive strict majority: if net value restriction of NP holds then the strict majority preference relation > , as defined in Definition 2.1.3, is transitive. However,
- ii) Insufficiency of net value restriction for transitive weak majority: if net value restriction of № holds then the weak majority preference relation ≥, as defined in Definition 2.1.3, need not be transitive.

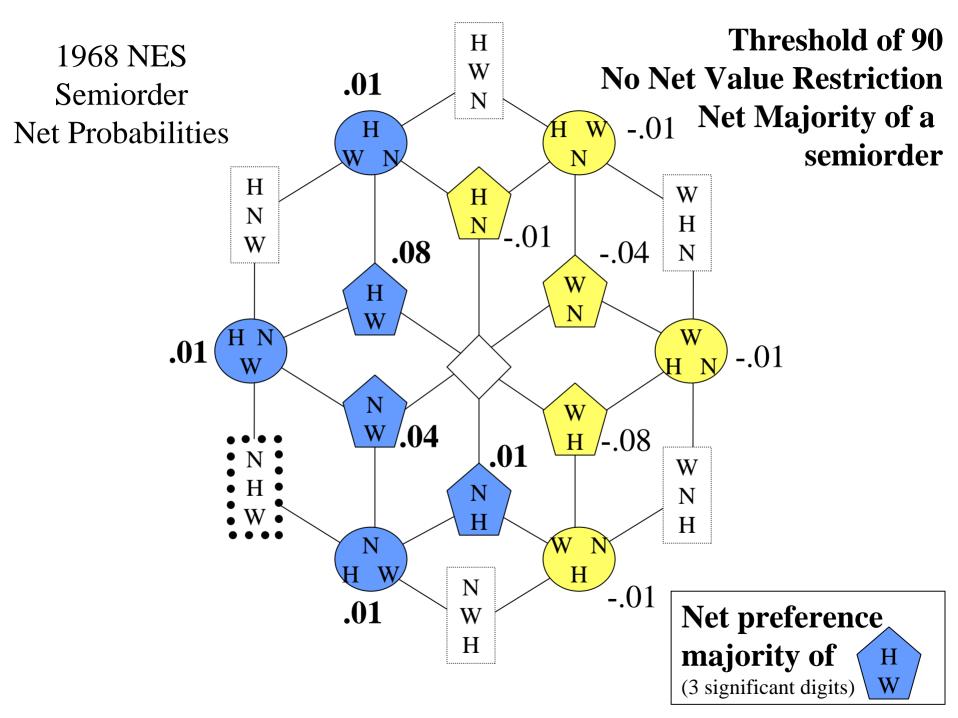
**Theorem 2.3.10** Let N be a net preference probability over asymmetric binary relations on three elements.

- Sufficiency of Net majority of a strict weak order.
   B has a net majority then ≥ and > are transitive. However,
- ii) Insufficiency of Net Majority of an asymmetric binary relation more General than a strict weak order: if a semiorder, interval order, strict partial order, or more general asymmetric binary relation, B', has a net majority then neither ∑, nor > need be transitive.









Theoretical primitives	Basic quantities	Conditions	Relationship to transitivity of ≻	
Weak	tallies	NB, NM, NW	sufficient	
orders	omines	of [Gär01, Sen66, Sen70]	but not necessary	
Linear orders		NetNB, NetNM, NetNW,	necessary	
	net tallies	net preference majority	and	
		of [GH78, FG86a]	sufficient	
Probabilities on		NetNB, NetNM, NetNW,	necessary	
linear orders	net probabilities	net preference majority	and	
micae orders		of Chapter 1	sufficient	
		generalized	sufficient	
		NetNB, NetNM, NetNW,	but not	
Probabilities on	net probabilities	net majority (weak order)	necessary	
partial orders	net probabilities			
		net majority (partial order)	not sufficient	
		of Chapter 2		

ANES	Threshold	swo
		Clinton
1992	0,, 99	Bush
		Perot

1992 ANES: The majority preference relation is  $C \succ B \succ P$ , for every value of  $\epsilon$ , with  $0 \le \epsilon < 100$ . Despite there being consistent transitivity of majority preferences across all threshold values, and despite the majority preference relation itself being robust as well, net value restriction holds only for thresholds of zero and 1. Furthermore, there is never any ordering with a net preference majority.



Near Net Value Restriction

# Today:



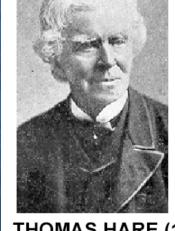
- Statistical Sampling and Inference
- Why no Cycles? (General Value Restriction)
- Behavioral Social Choice Analysis of STV

## American Psychological Association Presidential Elections

- Alternative Vote
- A.k.a. Instant Runoff Voting

Single Seat Special Case of

- Single Transferable Vote
- A.k.a. Hare System



THOMAS HARE (1806—91)

Charles Dodgson, a.k.a. Lewis Carroll

### APA Elections: AV/STV



- Ballots: Partial/Full Rankings of 5 Candidates
- For m many seats, N many voters

Droop Quota = N/(m+1) + 1

Example: 1 seat, 100 voters, Droop Quota = 51

- Need Droop Quota of "First Rank" votes to win a seat
- Can't fill all seats by Droop Quota?

(→ "Instant Runoff")

Elimination by smallest # first rank votes

Transfer to next on ballot

# Seats: 1

# Ballots Counted: 17911

		1s Co		2n Co		3r Coi		41 Co		5th Count
	Candidate A	2599		2999	400	3877	878			
	Candidate B	2412		2834	422					
	Candidate C	4243		4632	389	5362	730	6920	1558	
	Candidate D	1855								
✓	Candidate E	6802		7260	458	7980	720	9735	1755	
1					186		506		564	
	Exhausted Ballots		.,	186		692		1256		
	Totals	17	911	1	7911	17	7911	17	911	

<sup>✓</sup> Elected

# Seats: 1

# Ballots Counted: 17911

		1s Cor		2r Co	nd unt	3rd Cou		41 Co	th unt	th unt
	Candidate A	2599		2999	400	3877	878			
	Candidate B	2412		2834	422		/			
	Candidate C	4243	,	4632	389	5362	730	6920	1558	
	Candidate D	1855								
✓	Candidate E	6802		7260	458	7980	720	9735	1755	
	Exhausted Ballots			186	186	692	506	1256	564	
	Totals	17	911	1	7911	17	911	17	911	

<sup>✓</sup> Elected

# Seats: 1

# Ballots Counted: 17911

		1st Count	2nd Count	3rd Count	4th Count	5th Count
	Candidate A	2599	2999	878 3877		
	Candidate B	2412	2834 2834			
•	Candidate C	4243	389 4632	730 5362	6920 1558	
✓	Candidate E	6802	7260	720 7980	9735	
	Exhausted Ballots		186	506 692	564 1256	
	Totals	17911	17911	17911	17911	

<sup>✓</sup> Elected

# Seats: 1

# Ballots Counted: 17911

		1st Count	2nd Count	3rd Count	4th Count	5th Count
	Candidate A	2599	400 2999	878 3877		
	Candidate C	4243	389 4632	5362 730	1558 6920	
✓	Candidate E	6802	458 7260	720 7980	1755 9735	
			186	506	564	I
	Exhausted Ballots		186	692	1256	
	Totals	17911	17911	17911	17911	

<sup>✓</sup> Elected

# Seats: 1

# Ballots Counted: 17911

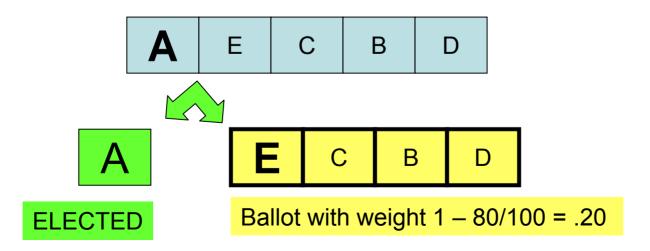
		1st 2nd Count Count		3rd Count	4th Count	5th Count
	Candidate C	4243	389 4632	730 5362	1558 6920	
✓	Candidate E	6802	7260 458	720 7980	9735	
	Exhausted Ballots		186	506 692	564 1256	
	Totals	17911	17911	17911	17911	

<sup>✓</sup> Elected

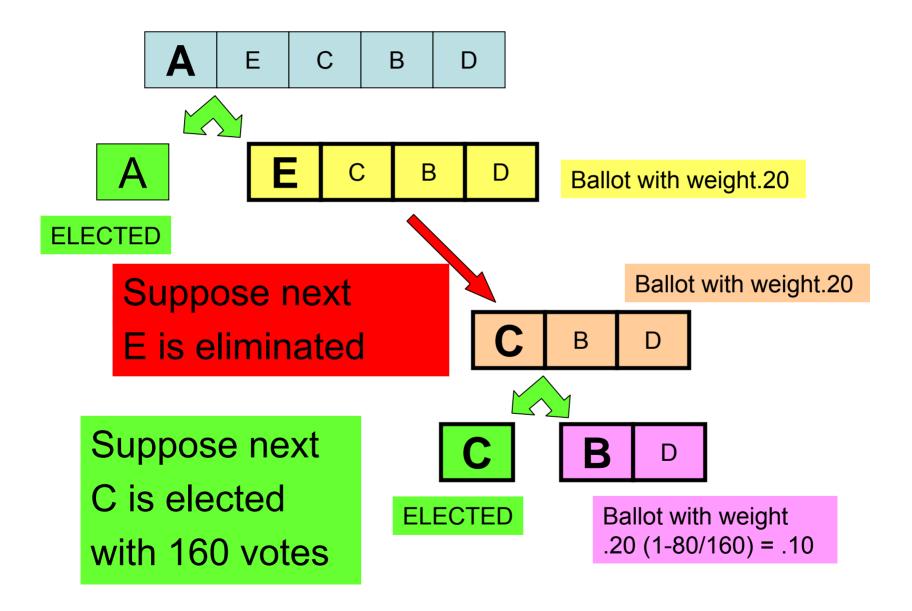
#### **Multi-Seat Elections Transfer Procedure:**

### Suppose:

- Droop Quota = 80
- Candidate A received 100 first rank votes (including possible transfers from eliminated or already elected candidates)
- Find each ballot with A at first place and transfer:



#### **Multi-Seat Elections Transfer Procedure:**





# **APA Data**







- 1998-2001 Presidential Elections
- Partial Rankings on 5 Candidates
- N: 18,723; 18,398; 20,239; 17,911







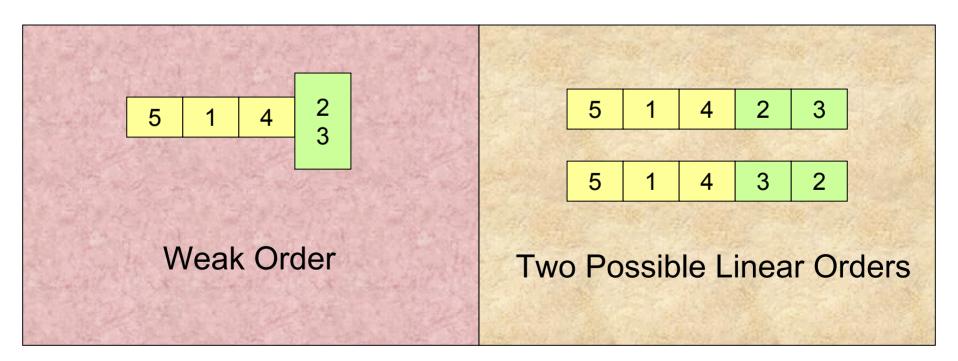


## Two Methods of Analysis:



5 | 1 | 4

Partial Ranking



## Two Methods of Analysis:

- Translate partial rankings into weak orders
- Compute social welfare functions: Majority, Borda, & plurality
- Bootstrap:
   Repeatedly (500 times)
   sample (w. replacement)
   of same sample size from
   original data & recompute
   social welfare functions

- Statistically infer modelbased linear order probabilities from ballots
- Compute social welfare functions based on linear order probabilities
- Repeatedly (500 times)
  sample (w.replacement)
  of same sample size from
  original data & reestimate
  model based predicted
  frequencies & social
  welfare functions

## Two Methods of Analysis:

- Weak order based analysis
- Omitted candidates are treated as "tied at the bottom of the preference"
- Bootstrap confidence
- No statistical test

- Linear order based analysis
- All ballots are assumed to originate from linear order
- Size-Independent Model of partial ranking data
- Bootstrap confidence
- Statistical test

### Condorcet and Arrow Revisited

Weak Order Analysis
Majority Preference:

1998: 32145

1999: 43215

2000: 52134

2001: 53124

Linear Order Analysis
Majority Preference:

1998: 32415

1999: 43215

2000: 52134

2001: 51324

Bootstrapped Confidence **bold > 95%** 

#### NO CYCLES

Majority preferences are linear orders in all 4 data sets by both methods of analysis



### Condorcet versus Borda

Majority / Borda:

1998: 32145 / 32145

1999: 43215 / 43<u>12</u>5

2000: 52134 / 52134

2001: 53124 / 53124

Majority / Borda:

1998: 32415 / 32415

1999: 43215 / 43215

2000: 52134 / 52134

2001: 51324 / 51324

Bootstrapped Confidence **bold > 95%** 

(almost) NO DISAGREEMENT!

Majority orders and Borda orders

are virtually identical by both methods of analysis



# Plurality Scoring rule:

- 1st ranked candidate gets 1 point,
- other candidates get 0 points.

# STV versus Majority, Borda, Plurality: Weak Order Based Analysis

	STV		Borda	Plurality
1998	3 31 315 3512	32145	32145	3 <u>5124</u>
1999	4 43 431 4312	43215	43 <u>12</u> 5	43 <u>152</u>
2000	5 52 523 5321	52134	52134	5 <u>321</u> 4
2001	5 53 531 5312	53124	53124	53124



### STV versus Majority, Borda, Plurality: Linear Order Based Analysis

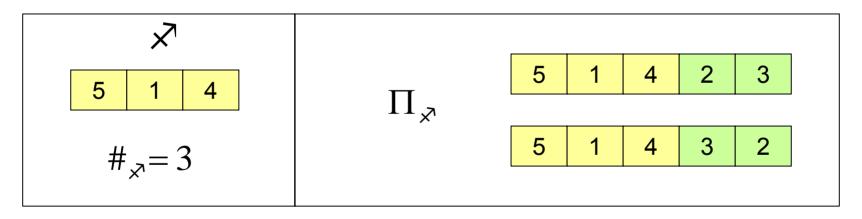
	STV		Borda	Plurality
1998	3 31 315 3512	32415	32415	3 <u>5124</u>
1999	4 34 431 4315	43215	43215	43 <u>152</u>
2000	5 52 523 5321	52134	52134	5 <u>321</u> 4
2001	5 53 531 5312	51324	51324	53124



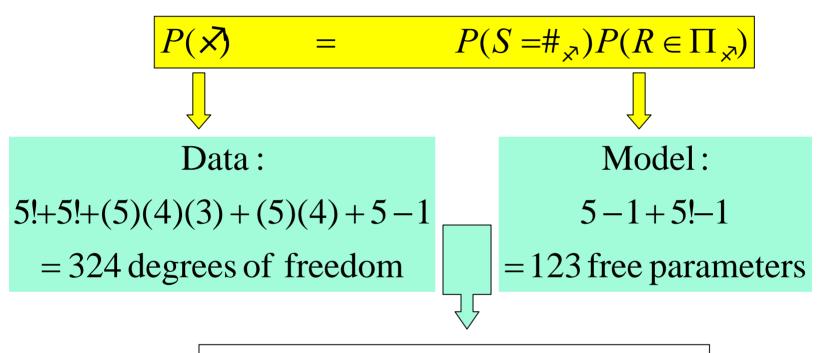
★ Partial ranking

 $\#_{\nearrow}$ : Number of objects that are ranked in  $\nearrow$ 

 $\Pi_{\varkappa}$ : Set of complete rankings that start with  $\varkappa$ 



$$P(X) = P(S = \#_{X})P(R \in \Pi_{X})$$



- 2 Log Likelihood Ratio (G<sup>2</sup>)

SIM against Multinomial:

324-123 = 301 degrees of freedom

	Ν	Multi LnLik	Model LnLik	G- Square
1998	18723	-702	-1108	811
1999	18298	-720	-1163	885
2000	20239	-722	-1593	1743
2001	17911	-723	-1292	1138

	Ν	Multi LnLik	Model LnLik	G- Square	Agresti D
1998	18723	-702	-1108	811	.07
1999	18298	-720	-1163	885	.08
2000	20239	-722	-1593	1743	.10
2001	17911	-723	-1292	1138	.09

	Z	Multi LnLik	Model LnLik	G- Square	Agresti D	R- Sqre
1998	18723	-702	-1108	811	.07	96%
1999	18298	-720	-1163	885	.08	93%
2000	20239	-722	-1593	1743	.10	92%
2001	17911	-723	-1292	1138	.09	93%

# Model Fit: Size-Independent Model (for Size > 1 only)

	Z	Multi LnLik	Model LnLik	G- Square	Agresti D	R- Sqre
1998	18723	-702	-950	494	.07	99%
1999	18298	-720	-999	558	.07	98%
2000	20239	-722	-1400	1356	.09	97%
2001	17911	-723	-993	541	.07	99%

# Hybrid Model Based Analysis:

- Fit size-independent model to partial rankings with # > 1
- Use estimated parameters to predict partial rankings for all #
- Choose P(S=1) as big as possible without over predicting any # = 1 partial rankings
- Treat all remaining # = 1 partial rankings as weak orders
- Compute social welfare outcomes

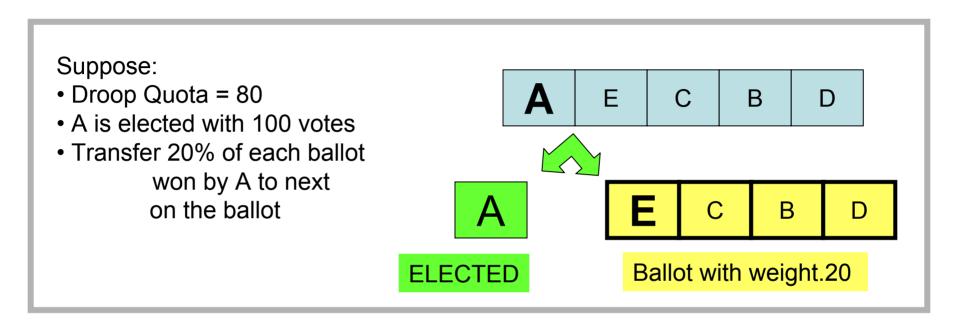
	STV		Majority	Borda	Plurality
All partial rankings		<b>31</b> <i>3512</i>	32145	32145	3 <u>5124</u>
Partial rankings #4 or #5	3 312	31 3125	32415	32415	3 <u>1524</u>
Complete rankings	3 312	31 3125	32415	32415	3 <u>1524</u>
Size-independent model	<b>3</b> 312	32 3512	32415	32415	3 <u>5124</u>
Hybrid model	<b>3</b> 312	32 3512	32415	32 <u>14</u> 5	3 <u>5124</u>

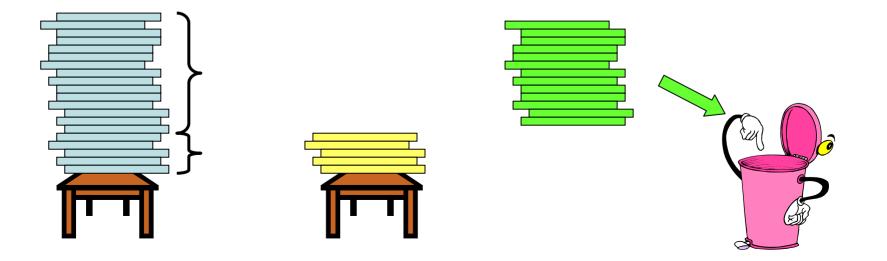
	STV		Majority	Borda	Plurality	
All partial rankings	4 431	<b>43</b> <i>4315</i>	43215	43 <u>12</u> 5	43 <u>152</u>	
Partial rankings #4 or #5	4 431	43 4312	43215	43215	43 <u>152</u>	
Complete rankings	4 431	43 4312	43215	43215	43 <u>152</u>	
Size-independent model	4 431	34 4315	43215	43215	43 <u>152</u>	
Hybrid model	4 431	34 4315	43215	43215	43 <u>152</u>	

	STV		Majority	Borda	Plurality	
All partial rankings	5 523	<b>52</b> 5321	52134	52134	5 <u>321</u> 4	
Partial rankings #4 or #5	5 523	52 5231	52134	52134	5 <u>231</u> 4	
Complete rankings	5 523	52 5231	52134	52134	5 <u>321</u> 4	
Size-independent model	5 523	<b>52</b> 5321	52134	52134	5 <u>321</u> 4	
Hybrid model	5 523	<b>52</b> 5321	52134	52134	5 <u>321</u> 4	

	STV		Majority	Borda	da Plurality	
All partial rankings	5 531	53 5312	53124	53124	53124	
Partial rankings #4 or #5		53 5312	51324	51324	5 <u>31</u> 24	
Complete rankings		53 5312	51324	51324	5 <u>31</u> 24	
Size-independent model	5 531	53 5312	51324	51324	5 <u>31</u> 24	
Hybrid model	5 531	51 <b>5312</b>	51324	5 <u>31</u> 24	5 <u>31</u> 24	

### Hand Tallies (& some Computer Tallies):





# Monte Carlo Simulation of Probabilistic Tallies (100,000 repetitions)

- Can only affect multi-seat case
- 1998: very slight chance of "incorrect" outcomes for 4 seats
- 1999: matches deterministic tally throughout
- 2001: matches deterministic tally throughout
- 2000: matches deterministic tally for full set of partial ranking ballots

### Monte Carlo Simulation of Probabilistic Tallies

If voters are required to rank at least 4 of the 5 candidates, 2000 election, 3-seat case:

{5,2,1} 2.8% versus {5,2,3} 97.2%

If voters are required to rank all 5 candidates, 2000 election, 3-seat case:

{5,2,1} 44.4%

versus

{5,2,3} 55.5%

### **Behavioral Social Choice**

- Practical and Theoretical Challenge of Impartial Culture
- Limited Relevance of Majority Cycles:
  - Model Dependence vs. Cycles
  - Erroneous Assessment outweighs Cycles (sampling)
  - Generalized Domain Restrictions (Distributional Restrictions)
- Empirical Congruence among Condorcet & Borda (& Plurality winner)
- Sampling/Inference Framework
  - (Condorcet's) Majority
  - Borda, Plurality and other Scoring Rules
  - Approval Voting
- Testable models to reconstruct preferences from incomplete data