# Comparison of Vector Voting Rules and Their Relation to Simple Majority Voting 

Zhuorong Mao *<br>Project Advisor: Charles R. Johnson ${ }^{\dagger} \ddagger$


#### Abstract

Introduced here are examples of what we call "vector voting rules": social preference orderings deduced from vectors naturally associated with the group preference matrix. These include higher-order Borda Rules, $B_{p}, p=1,2, \ldots$, and the Perron Rule (P). We study the properties of these transitive rules and compare them with Simple Majority Voting (SMV). Even when SMV is transitive, it can yield results different from $B_{1}, B_{2}, \ldots$ and P , and through simulation, we compile statistics about how often these differ. We also give a new condition (2/3+ majorities) that is (just) sufficient for SMV to be transitive and then quantify the frequency of transitivity for graded failures of this hypothesis.


Keywords: Vector Voting; Borda; Perron; Simple Majority Voting.
AMS Classification: 91B12 91B14 15B48

## 1 Introduction

We consider many voters, each of whom has a strictly transitive preference ordering over several alternatives. These may be summarized in a group preference matrix with nonnegative integer entries. The outcome of most traditional voting rules may be deduced from this matrix, and some (weakly) transitive ones result from vectors linear algebraically calculated from it ("vector voting rules"). For example, the classic Borda rule, $B_{1}$, is just the ordering consistent with its row sum vector. Here, we first introduce some natural additional vector voting rules $B_{p}$, consistent with the row sum vector of the $p$-th power, $p=2,3, \ldots$., "the higher order Borda rules", and Perron (P), the positive right eigenvector associated with the spectral radius. The former encode information about individual preferences over alternatives highly ranked by other voters, and P is a limiting case. (See also some work of D. Saari [13][14][15] that may be viewed linear algebraically.) In Section 2, we give some necessary background, formal definitions, and examples. In Section 3, we study some properties of $B_{p}, p=1,2, \ldots$, and P and examine how frequently, and at which powers, different $B_{p}$ and P yield different results from the same data. There is remarkable stability. In Section 4, we give a new numerical condition ( $2 / 3+$ majorities, first noticed by Johnson some time ago) under which simple majority voting (SMV, also deduced from the group preference matrix, but not a vector voting rule) yields transitive results and quantify the number of group preference matrices that give intransitive results when the condition fails. This condition is quite distinct from single-peaked preferences [2]. In Section 5, SMV is compared with $B_{1}, B_{2}$, and P. Surprisingly,

[^0]our simulation shows that SMV, even when transitive, can give different results from $B_{1}, B_{2}$, and P .

## 2 Background

Each of our individuals is assumed to have a transitive individual preference ordering (IPO), without indifference between any two alternatives.

For a set of $k$ alternatives $A=\left\{a_{1}, a_{2}, \ldots, a_{k}\right\}$, an IPO can be any permutation of A. The order of alternatives in an IPO gives the preference of the individual from the most preferred to the least.

For a set of k alternatives $\mathrm{A}=\left\{a_{1}, a_{2}, \ldots, a_{k}\right\}$, an individual $v$ 's preference matrix on A , denoted as $I_{v}(A)$, has entries $r_{i j} \in\{0,1\}, i \in\{1, . ., k\}, j \in\{1, . ., k\}, r_{i j}+r_{j i}=1 . r_{i j}$ takes values:

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
1 \Longleftrightarrow a_{i} P_{v} a_{j}, i \neq j \\
0 \Longleftrightarrow a_{j} P_{v} a_{i}, i \neq j \\
0, \text { if } i=j
\end{array}\right.
$$

This notation, $a_{i} P_{v} a_{j}$, is read as $a_{i}$ is preferred to $a_{j}$ by individual $v . I_{v}(A)$ contains exactly the same information as $v$ 's IPO. The IPO can be deduced from $I_{v}(A)$.

This 0,1 individual preference matrix is referred to as the fuzzy preference relations in the literature. The fuzzy preference relation was first proposed by Blin (1974) to use fuzzy theory in group decision-making and was further discussed by Tanino (1988), among many others [3][16].

Example 1. $A=\left\{a_{1}, a_{2}, a_{3}\right\}$. The IPO for individual $v$ on $A=\left(\begin{array}{l}a_{1} \\ a_{3} \\ a_{2}\end{array}\right)$. By definition, $a_{1} P_{v} a_{3}$, $a_{1} P_{v} a_{2}$, and $a_{3} P_{v} a_{2}$. So the $I_{v}(A)=\left(\begin{array}{lll}0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0\end{array}\right)$.

If there are $m$ individuals, the group preference matrix on $A$ is $G(A)=\sum_{v=1}^{m} I_{v}(A)$. It has entries $n_{i j} \in \mathbb{Z}$, indicating the number of voters in this group who prefers $a_{i}$ to $a_{j}$. Given a $G(A)$, we can read the group's preference between any two alternatives right off the matrix. $a_{i} P a_{j} \Longleftrightarrow\left(n_{i j}>n_{j i}\right), i \neq j$. The two statements equivalently mean the group prefers $a_{i}$ to $a_{j} . a_{i} I a_{j} \Longleftrightarrow\left(n_{i j}=n_{j i}=\frac{m}{2}\right)$, which means the group is indifferent between alternative $a_{i}$ and $a_{j}$.

Definition 1. $G(A)$ is transitive if for $\forall i, j, k,\left(a_{i} P a_{j}\right.$ and $\left.a_{j} P a_{k}\right)$ implies $\left(a_{i} P a_{k}\right)$, and for $\forall i, j, k,\left(a_{i} I a_{j}\right.$ and $\left.a_{j} I a_{k}\right)$ implies $\left(a_{i} I a_{k}\right)$.

Definition 2. $G(A)$ satisfies hypothesis $H_{t}, t \in\left[\frac{1}{2}, 1\right]$, if $\min _{i, j \in\{1, \ldots, k\}, i \neq j}\left[\frac{\max \left\{n_{i j}, n_{j i}\right\}}{m}\right]=t$. Thus, $t$ is determined by the "minimum majority" presented in $G(A)$.

Minimum majority will be an important parameter in our SMV transitivity condition (section 4).

Below we define voting rules considered in this work. We see them as functions that take a set of IPO's via the group matrix $G(A)$ to a social preference relation.

Voting Rule 1. : Simple Majority Voting (Condorcet Method)
A winner under Simple Majority Voting is an alternative that has a majority of votes under pairwise comparison with each of the other alternatives. That is, with some $G(A), a_{i}$ is the simple majority winner if $n_{i j}>n_{j i}$, for $\forall j \neq i$.

There are IPO's for which a Simple Majority winner (also may be called a Condorcet winner) does not exist. It is possible that the group has a cyclic preference so that no alternative wins the majority votes under all pairwise comparisons. This situation is referred to as the Condorcet Paradox[5][4].

Even if there is a Condorcet winner, SMV may also yield intransitive results. Transitivity is one of the many focuses of studies of SMV. Black (1948) proposed and used the concept of single-peaked preference as a condition ("Black's condition") for transitivity[2]. This condition was also generalized later by Arrow to the "single-peakedness condition", also referred to as the "Arrow-Black's condition"[1]. Jamison (1975) studied transitivity empirically by surveying students on real-world subjects[9]. Gehrlein (1990) calculated the probability of transitivity given the impartial anonymous culture condition (IAC) with a small number of voters and four alternatives[7]. Raffaelli and Marsili (2005) calculated the probability of transitivity with an infinite number of voters given both non-interacting population and interacting population assumptions[11]. Durand (2003) compared the restrictiveness of three conditions for transitivity in Simple Majority Voting, including Black's condition, single-peakedness condition, and Ward's condition[6]. It concluded that under three alternatives, Ward's condition is less restrictive.

Different from the SMV, the following three voting rules are what we called the vector voting rules. They map $G(A)$ to the social order using magnitudes of the entries of a positive vector deduced in a natural linear algebraic way from $G(A)$.

First, for convenience, we denote the i-th row sum of $G(A)$ as $R S_{i}=\sum_{j=1}^{k} n_{i j}$.
Voting Rule 2. : Borda's Rule
For an individual, each alternative is assigned a number of counts equal to the number of alternatives it is preferred to. The winner is the alternative with the largest total counts of points summing over all individuals. That is, $a_{i}$ is the Borda winner for some $G(A)$ if $R S_{i} \geq R S_{q}$, for all $q \in\{1, \ldots, k\} . a_{i} P_{\text {Borda }} a_{j} \Longleftrightarrow R S_{i}>R S_{j} ; a_{i} I_{\text {Borda }} a_{j} \Longleftrightarrow R S_{i}=R S_{j}$. $a_{i} P_{\text {Borda }} a_{j}$ means, under Borda's Rule, $a_{i}$ is ranked higher than $a_{j}$ in the social preference ordering. $a_{i} I_{\text {Borda }} a_{j}$ means Borda gives a tie between $a_{i}$ and $a_{j}$ in the social preference ordering.

In a matrix transformation context, Borda's rule right multiplies $G(A)$ with a vector of ones and uses the entries' magnitudes of the resulting positive vector to determine the social preference ordering.

## Voting Rule 3. : $p$-th Higher-order Borda

First order Borda $\left(B_{1}\right)$ refers to the classic Borda Rule in which the group preference ordering depends on the row sums of $G(A)$. p-th order Borda $\left(B_{p}\right)$ takes the row sums of $(G(A))^{p}$. That is, $a_{i}$ is the $B_{p}$ winner if the row sum of the $i$-th row of $(G(A))^{p}$ is the greatest among all row sums of $(G(A))^{p}$.
$B_{1}$ only counts the number of times alternative $i$ is preferred to other alternatives in individual preference orderings. $B_{2}$ weights the counts by first-order row sums of the other alternatives, so beating more popular alternatives counts for more.

Now, we extend the previous row sum notation and denote the $i$-th row sum of the $p$-th order Borda as $R S_{i}^{p} . R S_{i}^{1}=\sum_{j=1}^{k} n_{i j}$.
By matrix multiplication, $R S_{i}^{2}=\sum_{j=1}^{k} n_{i j} * R S_{j}^{1} ; R S_{i}^{p}=\sum_{j=1}^{k} n_{i j} * R S_{j}^{p-1}$.
Similarly, $B_{p}$ right multiplies $(G(A))^{p}$ with a vector of ones to produce a positive vector, which entries are used to determine the social order.

Voting Rule 4. : Perron Rule
Under the Perron voting rule, the group preference ordering is determined by the magnitudes of the entries of the right Perron vector of $G(A)$. If the $i$-th entry of the Perron vector has the greatest magnitude, $a_{i}$ is the winner. Since $G(A)$ is nonnegative by definition, entries of its Perron vector are all nonnegative.

The row sum vector of $(G(A))^{p}$, with increasing power $p$, converges to the Perron vector of $G(A)$. So, the group preference ordering under higher-order Borda converges to that under the Perron voting rule. Increasing order Borda is equivalent to the process of the Power Method used to approximate Perron using $[1]_{k-b y-1}$ as the initial approximation [8] [10] [12] . Perron can therefore be considered as the Borda of infinite order.

## 3 Different order Borda Rules and the Perron Rule

We look at Borda and Perron together because of their intrinsic convergence relationship. We are curious about how frequently $B_{1}$ would be the same as Perron, so looking at only $B_{1}$ suffices; and if not, the ordering would converge at which power.

In the following simulation, we fix the number of alternatives at five and generate preference orderings for each of the $m$ number of voters. So, in each simulation, we have $m$ zero-one matrices $I_{A}$ representing $m$ individual preference orderings on $A=\left[a_{1}, a_{2}, a_{3}, a_{4}, a_{5}\right]$. When we sum them, we have a group preference matrix $G(A)$. We calculate $B_{1}, B_{2}, \ldots, B_{10}$, and Perron based on $G(A)$ and observe their group preference orderings sequentially.

A flip at power $p$ refers to an ordering change comparing $B_{p}$ with $B_{(p-1)}$. The power of the last flip, $p_{\text {final }}$, means that the last change of ordering occurs from $B_{\left(p_{\text {final }}-1\right)}$ to $B_{p_{\text {final }}}$, and $B_{f}$ ordering is the same ordering as Perron for all $f \geq p_{\text {final }}$.

For each $m$, we ran 1000 simulations each as described above.
Each individual preference is generated as follows:

1. For four of the five alternatives, we draw a number from normal distribution $\mathcal{N}\left(\mu=1, \sigma^{2}=\right.$ 4). For the other alternative, we draw from $\mathcal{N}\left(\mu=1.5, \sigma^{2}=4\right)$.
2. Based on the magnitude of the number sampled for each alternative, we construct the preference ordering of the five alternatives.
This construction allows uncertainty among the alternatives with some intrinsic advantage added to one of them so that individuals wouldn't be indifferent between all alternatives.

### 3.1 Flips in the order of Borda

For our 99000 simulated cases over varying number of voters from 10 to 990 , we observed that flips, if there are any, all start at power $=2$. This suggests that if $B_{1}$ and $B_{2}$ yield the same ordering, it is highly likely that $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{3}$, and up to Perron would all yield the same ordering. In this case, looking at only the $B_{1}$ and $B_{2}$ would be sufficient. Another thing to


Figure 1: $p_{\text {final }}$ distribution over cases with varying number of voters from 10-990
notice is that all flips observed happen consecutively. This suggests that if flips stop at some power $p$, we can boldly assume that all the following $\mathrm{B} q$, where $q \geq p$, would all yield the same ordering as the Perron ordering. In other words, the ordering converges to Perron at power $p$.

When powering, most matrices have $B_{p}$ ordering converges to Perron ordering fairly quickly. Out of all the cases with $p_{\text {final }} \geq 2$, the percentage of cases with $p_{\text {final }}=\mathrm{n}$ is plotted in Fig. 1. Greater the $p_{\text {final }}$, slower $B_{p}$ converges to Perron. The $\% p_{\text {final }} \geq 7$ is only $0.33 \%$. The observed highest flip occurs at power $=9\left(p_{\text {final }}=9\right.$, see example 2$)$.
Example 2. Consider $G(A)=\left(\begin{array}{ccccc}0 & 76 & 73 & 68 & 71 \\ 84 & 0 & 71 & 65 & 69 \\ 87 & 89 & 0 & 83 & 78 \\ 92 & 95 & 77 & 0 & 77 \\ 89 & 91 & 82 & 83 & 0\end{array}\right)$. Its $B_{1}, \ldots, B_{10}$, and Perron orderings are:
$B_{1}:[1,2,3,4,5], B_{2}:[2,1,3,4,5], B_{3}:[1,2,3,4,5], B_{4}:[2,1,3,4,5]$, $B_{5}:[1,2,3,4,5], B_{6}:[2,1,3,4,5], B_{7}:[1,2,3,4,5], B_{8}:[2,1,3,4,5]$, $B_{9}:[1,2,3,4,5], B_{10}:[1,2,3,4,5]$, Perron : [1, 2, 3, 4, 5], where "5" indicates the alternative is most preferred, and " 1 " indicates the alternative is the least preferred by the group. Position $i$ corresponds to alternative i. There are flips in powers [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]. The positions of the $a_{1}$ and $a_{2}$ oscillate.

### 3.2 Flip Occurrences and the number of voters

Here, we extend the range of the number of voters to 10-99000. It is typical not to have flips when the number of voters $(m)$ is not too small $(\geq 20)$. Starting from $m=20$, the percentage of having no flips, $\% F_{\text {none }}$, is already greater than $60 \%$ and continues to increase at a high rate. When m reaches $170, \% F_{\text {none }}$ reaches $88 \%$, while its increase rate drops significantly. Then, the percentage of having no flips converges to $93 \%$ with slight fluctuations when $m$ passes 9000 . The percentage of having no or only one flip converges to $96 \%$. This result means that with many voters, classic Borda Rule suffices at $93 \%$ of the time, and $B_{2}$ suffices at $96 \%$, which means $B_{2}$ captures almost all the information of the individual preferences.

Since having only one flip is the second most frequent case besides having no flip, we study its change with varying numbers of voters as well.


Figure 2: One-flip cases frequency at varying m

Fig. 2 shows the frequency of having only one flip drop exponentially when the number of voters increases. This can be explained. By simulation, the primary reason for having one flip is the presence of tie(s) between two or more row sums in $B_{1}$. Once a tie occurs in $B_{1}$, it is hard to preserve it after powering, thus, causing the ordering to flip from $B_{1}$ to $B_{2}$. When the number of voters increases, it is less likely to have identical row sums between rows, making the probability of having one ordering flip drop. Fig. 3 shows the high portion of the one-flip cases caused by tie(s) in $B_{1}$. We can see that when the number of voters is small, the percentage is close to 1 , which means row sum ties cause almost all cases of a single flip. When the number of voters increases to 1000 , the percentage is still above 0.5 .

Another thing to notice is that when the number of voters increases, the number of oneflip cases not due to ties in $B_{1}$ increases. However, this increase does not compensate for the decrease in tie occurrence, resulting in the overall decreasing trend of one-flip cases out of all the simulations.

## 4 Simple Majority Voting (SMV)

The several Borda Rules and the Perron rule use magnitude of entries to determine group preference order, so by design, they naturally yield transitive orderings. However, for Simple Majority Voting, transitivity may not hold.

Thus, we propose a condition under which Simple Majority Voting would yield transitive results.

Theorem 1. For a $G(A)=\sum_{v=1}^{m} I_{v}(A)$, such that:

1) $G(A)$ satisfies $H_{\frac{2}{3}}$;
2) for each triple $a_{i}, a_{j}$, $a_{l}$ with relationship $n_{i j} \geq \frac{2}{3} m$ and $n_{j l} \geq \frac{2}{3} m$, either $n_{i j}>\frac{2}{3} m$ or $n_{j l}>\frac{2}{3} m$;


Figure 3: Portion of one-flip cases cause by tie in $B_{1}$
3) $I_{v}(A)$ is transitive, for $\forall v \in\{1, \ldots, m\}$; $G(A)$ is transitive.

Proof. In the preference relation given by $G(A)$ on $A$, consider three distinct alternatives $a_{i}, a_{j}, a_{l}$. Suppose $a_{i} P a_{j}$ and $a_{j} P a_{l}$. Per hypothesis, $n_{i j} \geq \frac{2}{3} m$ and $n_{j l} \geq \frac{2}{3} m$, with at least one inequality strict. Intersection of these 2 sets of voters implies that $n_{i l}>\frac{1}{3}$. But the prevailing hypothesis then insures that $n_{i l} \geq \frac{2}{3} m$ on that the relation $G(A)$ is transitive on $a_{i}, a_{j}$, and $a_{l}$, since $G(A)$ is transitive on any triple, it follows that $G(A)$ is transitive.

Notice that we have proved if the minimum majority of some group preference matrix, $G(A)$, is at least $\frac{2}{3}$, transitivity under SMV follows (assuming other conditions are satisfied). We call this the " $2 / 3+$ majorities" condition.

Now we prove the necessity of $\frac{2}{3}$ to ensure transitivity:
We replace the $\frac{2}{3}$ in the statement with x and prove by contradiction.
Consider an arbitrary triple $a_{i}, a_{j}, a_{k}$ with $n_{i j} \geq x m$ and $n_{j k} \geq x m . \frac{1}{2}<x<\frac{2}{3}$, so that $n_{i j}>n_{j i}$ and $n_{j k}>n_{k j}$, so $a_{i} P a_{j}$ and $a_{j} P a_{k}$. Suppose $n_{i j}>x m$, then, more than $(2 x-1) m$ of $I_{A}$ have $r_{i j}=1=r_{j k}$ and $r_{i j}=0=r_{k j}$. By transitivity of individual, more than $(2 x-1) m$ of $I_{A}$ have $r_{i k}>r_{k i}$.

That is, $n_{i k}>(2 x-1) m, n_{k i}<m-(2 x-1) m=2 m-2 x m$. We can find a $n_{k i} \in \mathbb{N}^{+}$, such that $x m \leq n_{k i}<m-(2 x-1) m$. By definition, $x m \in \mathbb{Z}$, and so is $m-(2 x-1) m$. Thus, $m-(2 x-1) m \geq x m+1$.

| MM | $[.50, .52)$ | $[.52, .54)$ | $[.54, .56)$ | $[.56, .58)$ | $[.58, .60)$ | $[.62, .64)$ | $[.64, .66)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Transitivity Freq. | 0.76530004 | 0.94875158 | 0.99401423 | 0.99965243 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Table 1: SMV Transitivity Frequency with Minimum Majority in each interval

That is,

$$
\begin{align*}
& m-2 x m+m \geq x m+1  \tag{1}\\
& \frac{2}{3}-x \geq \frac{1}{3 m} \tag{2}
\end{align*}
$$

Since $\frac{1}{2} \leq x<\frac{2}{3}$, let $\epsilon=\frac{2}{3}-x, \epsilon>0$. By Archimedian Property, there exists an $N \in \mathbb{N}$, such that $\frac{1}{N}<\epsilon$. Thus, we can always find such $m$ so that $n_{k i}$ can be greater than $x m$, and $a_{k} P a_{i}$, making $G(A)$ intransitive.

Thus, for $\frac{1}{2} \leq x<\frac{2}{3}$, if some $m$ and $x$ satisfy $m-(2 x-1) m \geq x m+1$, group preference ordering can intransitive. $\frac{2}{3}$ in the statement is therefore necessary to ensure transitivity in any case of $m$. If $x=\frac{2}{3}$, the left-hand side of (2) equals zero, and (2) cannot be satisfied for any $m \in \mathbb{N}^{+}$.

For a fixed pair of $m$ and $x$, the number of cases of intransitivity for an arbitrary triple depends on how many cases of $n_{k i} \in \mathbb{N}^{+}$we can find, such that $x m \leq n_{k i}<m-(2 x-1) m$.

Set $k \in \mathbb{N}^{+}$,

$$
\begin{align*}
x m+k= & m-(2 x-1) m  \tag{3}\\
& k=2 m-3 x m \tag{4}
\end{align*}
$$

Thus, there are $(2 m-3 x m)$ possible intransitive cases for an arbitrary triple. There are $\binom{k}{3}$ triples in total. Therefore, given $m$ and $x$, we can find $\binom{k}{3} \times(2 m-3 x m) G(A)$ 's that give intransitive group orderings.

With simulation, we found that the frequency of SMV yielding transitive results increases with the minimum majority (MM) when fixing the number of voters $m$. This result is in line with the previous representation of the number of possible intransitive cases.

We consider five alternatives, each assigned to a uniform distribution $\mathcal{U}(0+i, 10+i)$. We sample from each distribution and order alternatives based on the magnitude of sampled values. Minimum majority levels are controlled by changing the values of $i$. An alternative with a bigger $i$ would have a higher probability to be the choice of majority. A greater difference in $i$ between alternatives would result in a higher MM.

Table 1 gives results for $m=51$. Odd numbers avoid ties between two alternatives. When MM falls in the interval $[.50, .52$ ), the transitivity frequency is 0.765 . This number increases to 1 when MM gets closer to $\frac{2}{3}$.

## 5 Comparison of $B_{p}$, Perron, and SMV

As mentioned above, transitivity is an intrinsic property of $B_{p}$ 's and Perron but not of SMV. So, we are curious, under cases where SMV yields transitive ordering, whether this order would be the same as that under $B_{p}$ 's or the Perron.

It is not frequent that SMV yields transitive outcomes based on previous simulation setups where we generate individual preferences and sum them into a $G(A)$. Thus, We directly generate $G(A)$ here for simulation efficiency.

We fix the number of alternatives at 5 . Each $n_{i j}, \mathrm{j}>\mathrm{i}$, is sampled from a uniform distribution $\mathcal{U}$ (lower bound $\times$ \#voters, \#voters). Here, we introduce a parameter - majority lower bound (lb) - for the uniform distribution. Each $n_{j i}=\#$ voters- $n_{i j}$. For $1>\mathrm{lb}>0.5$, each
entry in the upper triangle of $G(A)$ would be greater than its corresponding entry in the lower triangle. By definition, the SMV ordering would be $a_{1} P a_{2} P a_{3} P a_{4} P a_{5}$, which is transitive. This ordering is equivalent to the other possible orderings, so we do not lose generality by fixing the ordering to $a_{1} P a_{2} P a_{3} P a_{4} P a_{5}$ and simulating in percentage (\%).

Fig. 4 graphs the frequency of occurrence of each event over increasing lb from 0.5 to 0.98 . For each lb, we run $10^{5}$ trials. We observe that even if SMV gives a transitive result, the result may still differ from $B_{1}, B_{2}$, or Perron. A lower bound around 0.68 seems to be a turning point for all the curves to be flatter.

The percentage of (\%) $B_{1}, B_{2}$, and Perron all different from SMV is zero over all simulation trials, so at least one of the three agrees with SMV. However, $B_{1}$, Perron, and transitive SMV can all yield different results from each other.

With an increasing majority lower bound, Perron, $B_{1}$, and SMV gradually converge to yield the same result. However, $B_{2}$ seems to be different at $20 \%$ from all the others, even when lb passes 0.9 . The inclusion of row sums $R S^{1}$ as weights in $B_{2}$ is what leads to this divergence (see example 3).

Example 3. Consider $G(A)=\left(\begin{array}{ccccc}0 & 91 & 99 & 94 & 91 \\ 9 & 0 & 93 & 97 & 91 \\ 1 & 7 & 0 & 93 & 90 \\ 6 & 3 & 7 & 0 & 98 \\ 9 & 9 & 10 & 2 & 0\end{array}\right)$. Its Perron vector is $\left(\begin{array}{c}0.81 \\ 0.49 \\ 0.26 \\ 0.17 \\ 0.12\end{array}\right)$. $B_{1}$ vector $=\left(\begin{array}{c}375 \\ 290 \\ 191 \\ 114 \\ 30\end{array}\right) . B_{2}$ vector $=\left(\begin{array}{c}58745 \\ 34926 \\ 15707 \\ 7397 \\ 8123\end{array}\right)$. The minimum majority is 91 . There is a clear preference of $a_{1} P a_{2} P a_{3} P a_{4} P a_{5}$ under $S M V, B_{1}$, and Perron. However, under $B_{2}, a_{5} P a_{4}$. The lower triangle entries in the 5th row have greater values than those in the 4th. With the other alternatives having large majority values, alternative 5 beats 4 via significant weights even when 98 out of 100 voters prefer alternative 4 to 5 .

This example suggests we must be cautious in choosing $B_{2}$ as a voting rule when the minimum majority value is large.

## 6 Conclusion

We expand the classic Borda Rule into a series of vector voting rules. In such a series, by running experiments, we found that $B_{p}$ ordering converges to the limit-Perron ordering- very quickly. We also notice that all changes in ordering happen consecutively and start at $B_{2}$. This provides guidance for how many $B_{p}$ 's we need to look at to know the orderings of the entire series of Borda. When the number of voters is large, the series converges at the start $93 \%$ of the time and converges no later than $B_{2}$ at $96 \%$ of the time. In other words, when there are many voters, looking at the classic Borda $\left(B_{1}\right)$ and the $B_{2}$ is generally enough. We then compared Simple Majority Voting (SMV) with $B_{1}, B_{2}$, and Perron. When SMV is forced to be transitive (via $2 / 3+$ majority), it could still give different orderings and winners from $B_{1}, B_{2}$, or Perron. We also noticed that when there is a significant majority (minimum majority $>0.92$ ), $B_{1}$, Perron, and SMV will agree. However, $B_{2}$ would still disagree around $20 \%$ of the time.


Figure 4: Compare $B_{1}, B_{2}$, Perron to SMV

## References

[1] Kenneth J. Arrow, (1951, 2nd ed., 1963, 3rd ed., 2012). Social Choice and Individual Values, Yale University Press. ISBN 0300179316
[2] Duncan Black (1948-02-01). "On the Rationale of Group Decision-making". Journal of Political Economy. 56 (1): 23-34. doi:10.1086/256633. ISSN 0022-3808. S2CID 153953456
[3] J.M. Blin (1974). "Fuzzy Relations in Group Decision Theory", Journal of Cybernetics, 4:2, 17-22, DOI: 10.1080/01969727408546063
[4] Jean-Antoine-Nicolas de Caritat Condorcet, Fiona Sommerlad and Iain Mclean (1989). The Political Theory of Condorcet. University of Oxford Faculty of Social Studies.
[5] Marquis de Condorcet (1785). Essai sur l'application de l'analyse à la probabilité des décisions rendues à la pluralité des voix (PNG) (in French)
[6] Sylvain Durand (2003). "Finding sharper distinctions for conditions of transitivity of the majority method". Discrete Applied Mathematics, vol. 131, pp. 577-595. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0166218X02002433
[7] W.V. Gehrlein (1990). "Probability calculations for transitivity of simple majority rule with anonymous voters". Public Choice 66, 253-259. https://doi.org/10.1007/BF00125777
[8] Horn, R., Johnson, C. (1985). Matrix Analysis. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi:10.1017/CBO9780511810817
[9] Dean T. Jamison, (1975). "The Probability of Intransitive Majority Rule: An Empirical Study". Public Choice, vol. 23, pp. 87-94. JSTOR, http://www.jstor.org/stable/30022831.
[10] Richard von Mises and H. Pollaczek-Geiringer (1929), Praktische Verfahren der Gleichungsauflösung, ZAMM - Zeitschrift für Angewandte Mathematik und Mechanik 9, 152164.
[11] Giacomo Raffaelli and Matteo Marsili(2005). "Statistical mechanics model for the emergence of consensus". American Physical Society, vol.72, pp.016114. https://link.aps.org/doi/10.1103/PhysRevE.72.016114
[12] Y. Saad (1992). Numerical Methods for Large Eigenvalue Problems. Manchester, UK: Manchester University Press, 86-87.
[13] Donald G. Saari (1994).Geometry of voting, Studies in Economic Theory, vol. 3, SpringerVerlag, Berlin
[14] Donald G. Saari(2000). Mathematical structure of voting paradoxes. I. Pairwise votes, Econom. Theory 15 , no. 1, 1-53.
[15] Donald G. Saari and Fabrice Valognes (1998). Geometry, voting, and paradoxes, Math. Mag. 71, no. 4, 243-259.
[16] T. Tanino (1988). "Fuzzy Preference Relations in Group Decision Making". In: Kacprzyk, J., Roubens, M. (eds) Non-Conventional Preference Relations in Decision Making. Lecture Notes in Economics and Mathematical Systems, vol 301. Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-51711-2_4


[^0]:    *Email: zmao@wm.edu
    ${ }^{\dagger}$ Department of Mathematics, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795.
    ${ }^{\ddagger}$ Email: crjohn@wm.edu. The work of this author was supported in part by National Science Foundation grant DMS-0751964.

