

Voting in Two-Crossing Elections

Andrei Constantinescu
Roger Wattenhofer

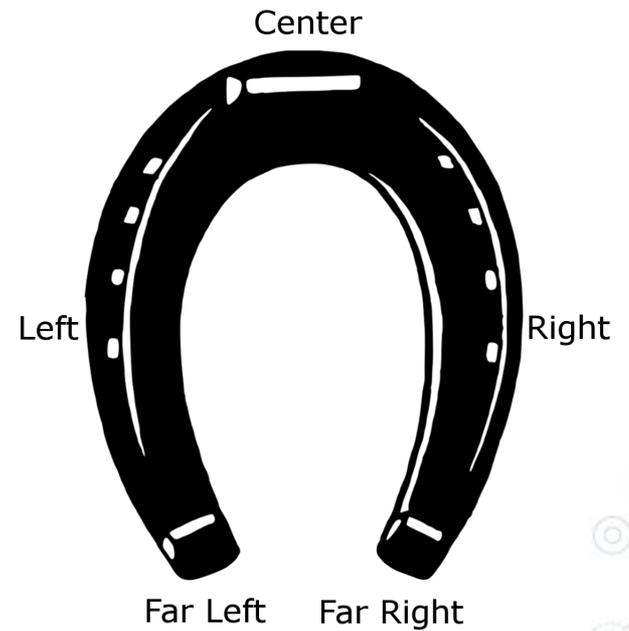


Distributed Computing Group
ETH zürich

1.

Motivation

The Horseshoe Theory

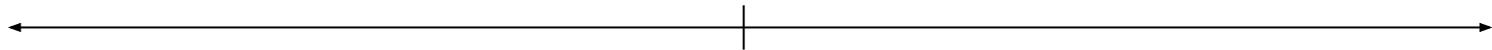


Left-Right Spectrum

Candidate c located at $x(c)$; voter v has ideal point $x(v)$.
Preference by Euclidean distance

Left-Right Spectrum

Left



Right

Candidate c located at $x(c)$; voter v has ideal point $x(v)$.
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Left-Right Spectrum

Candidates: c_1, \dots, c_M ;

Left

Right

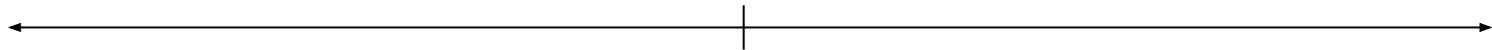


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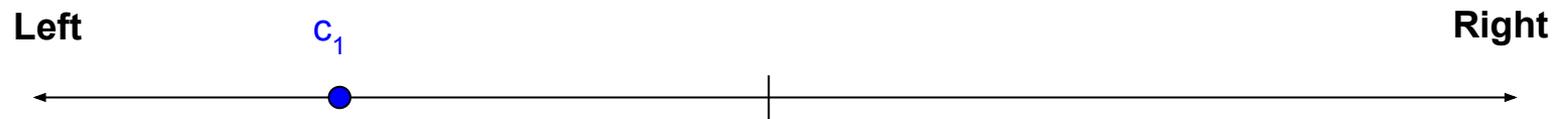
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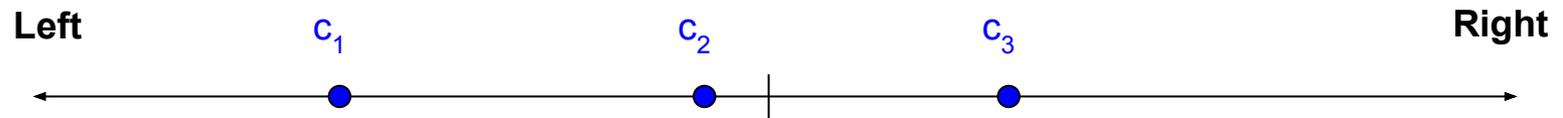


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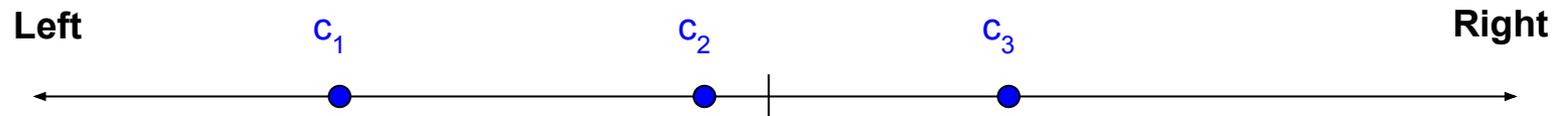


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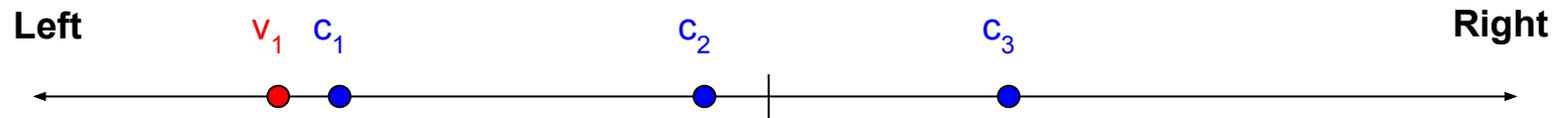


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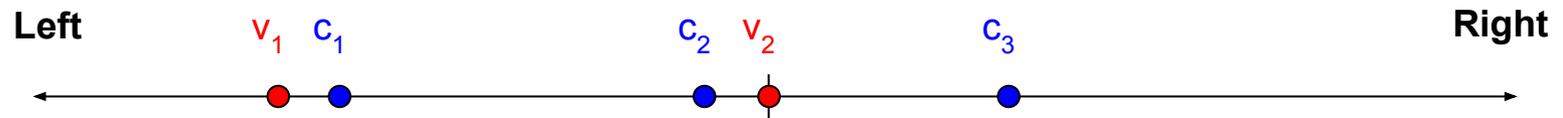


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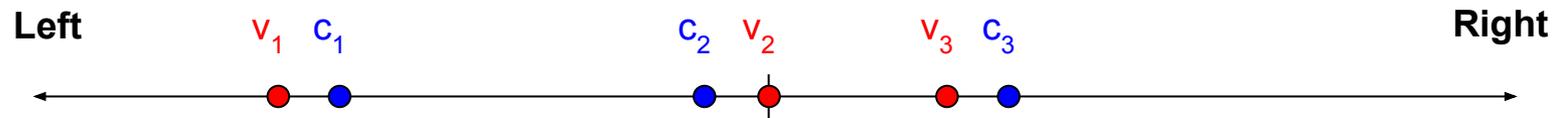


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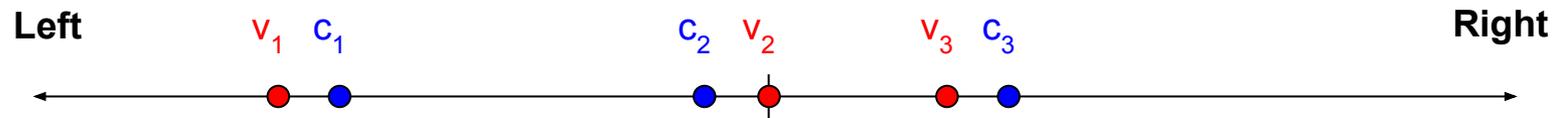


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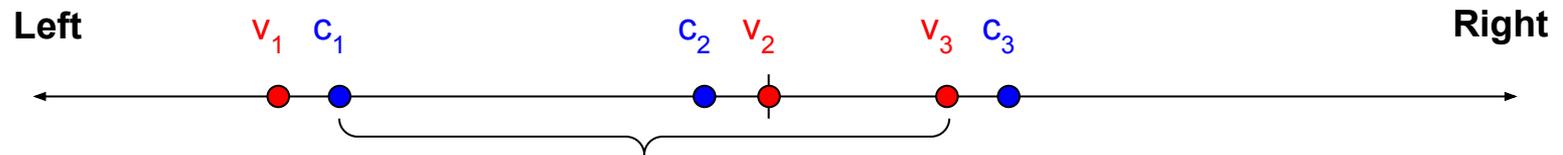
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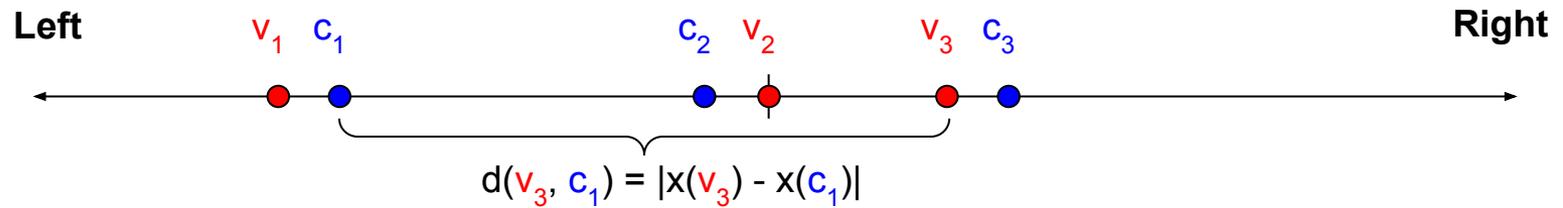
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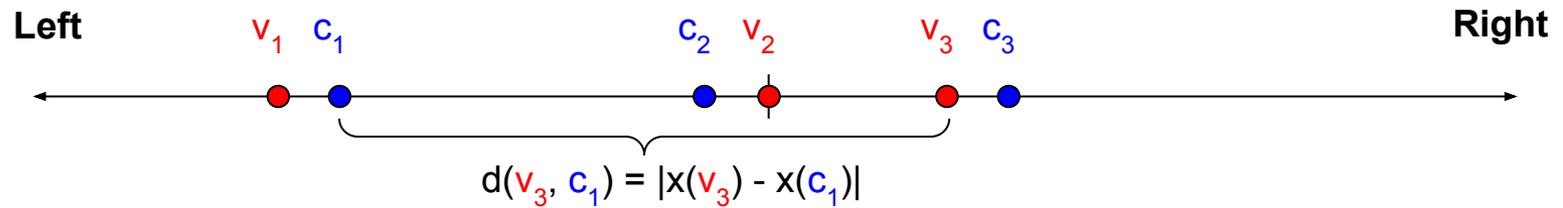


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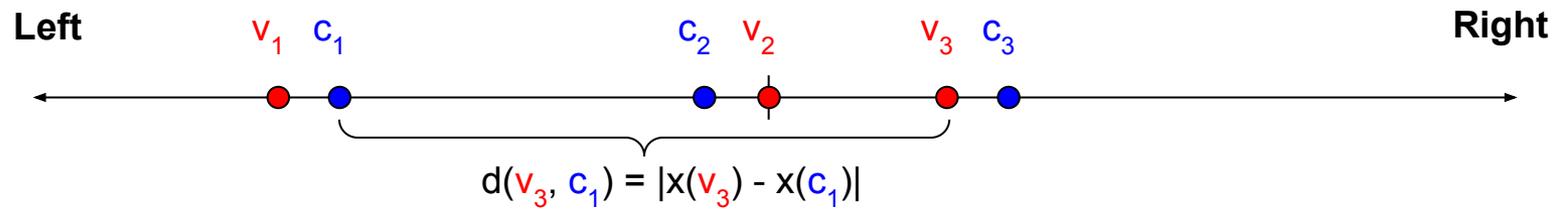


Candidate c located at $x(c)$; voter v has ideal point $x(v)$.

Preference by Euclidean distance $\rightarrow v_i : c_j > c_k$

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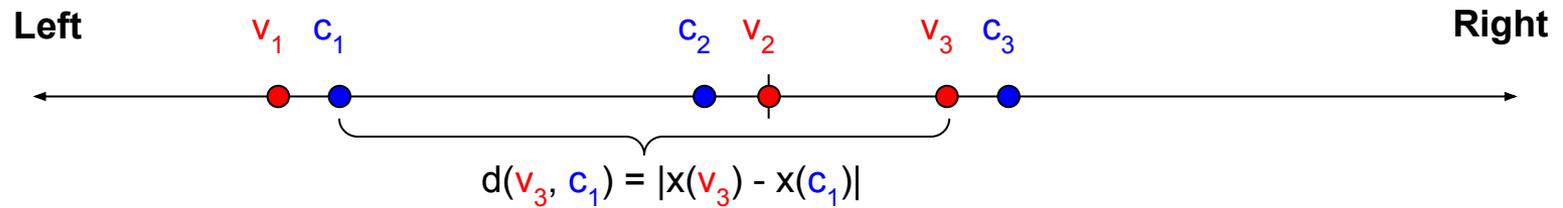


Candidate c located at $x(c)$; voter v has ideal point $x(v)$.

Preference by Euclidean distance $\rightarrow v_i : c_j > c_k$ iff $d(v_i, c_j) < d(v_i, c_k)$.

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i.e.

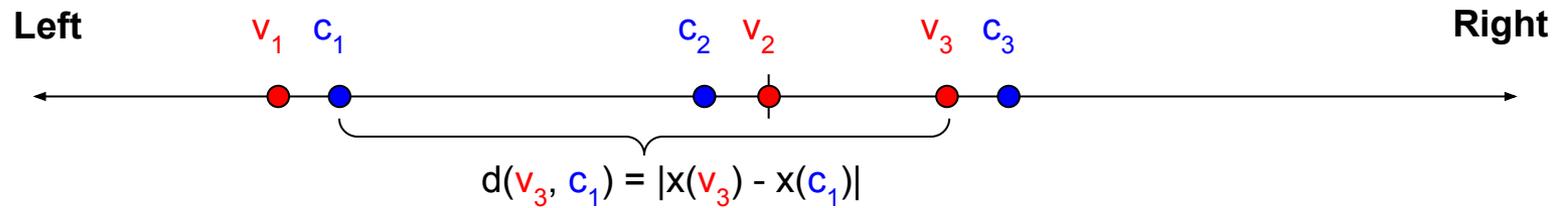
$$v_1 : c_1 > c_2 > c_3$$

$$v_2 : c_2 > c_3 > c_1$$

$$v_3 : c_3 > c_2 > c_1$$

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Majority Tournament

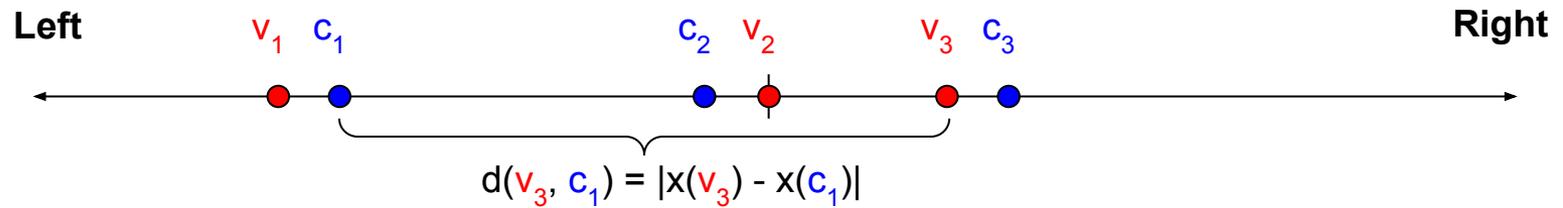
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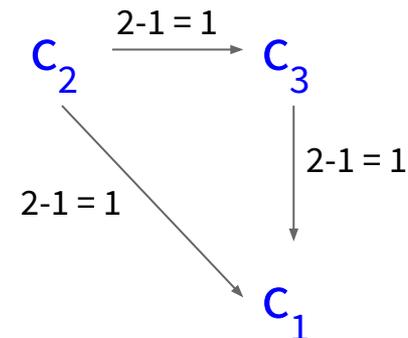
i.e.

$$v_1: c_1 > c_2 > c_3$$

$$v_2: c_2 > c_3 > c_1$$

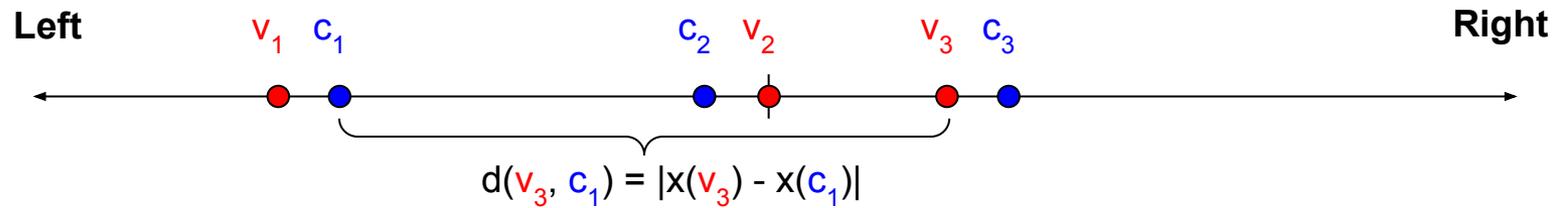
$$v_3: c_3 > c_2 > c_1$$

Majority Tournament



Left-Right Spectrum

Candidates: c_1, \dots, c_M ; Voters: v_1, \dots, v_N .



Candidate c located at $x(c)$; voter v has ideal point $x(v)$.

Preference by Euclidean distance $\rightarrow v_i: c_j > c_k$ iff $d(v_i, c_j) < d(v_i, c_k)$.

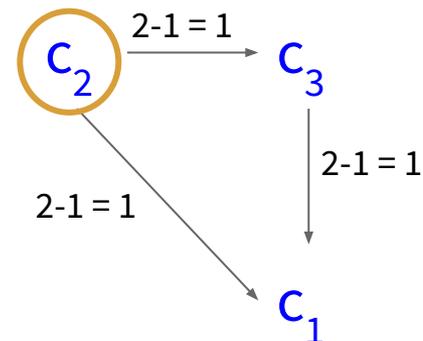
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Majority Tournament



Horseshoe Spectrum



Horseshoe Spectrum

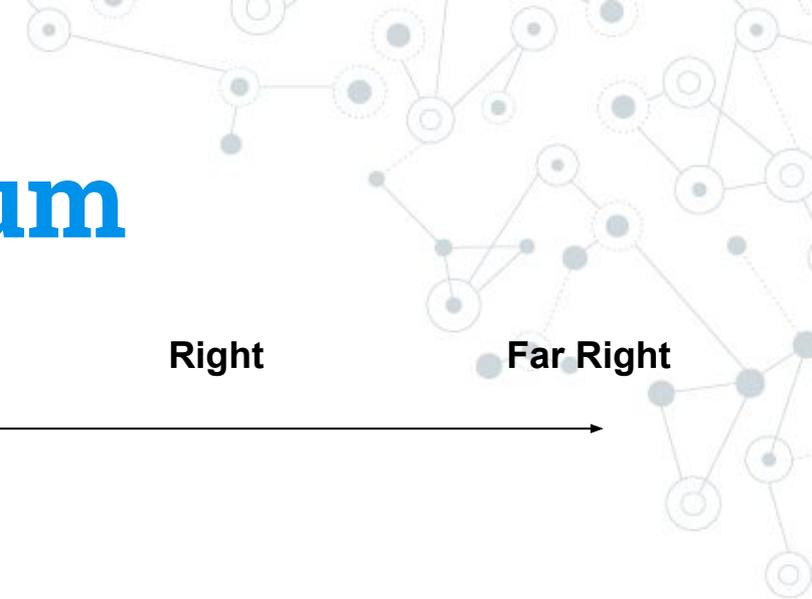
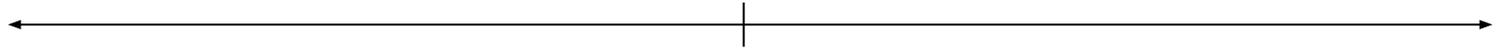
Far Left

Left

Center

Right

Far Right



Horseshoe Spectrum

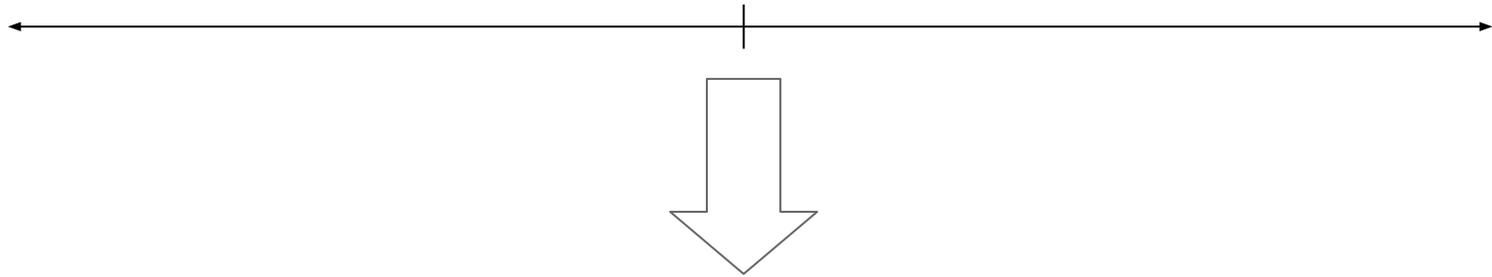
Far Left

Left

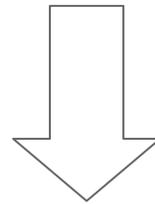
Center

Right

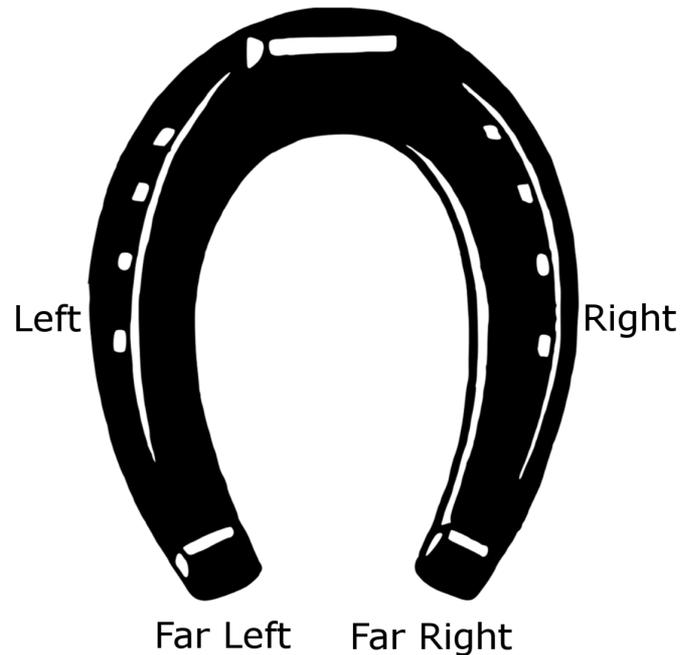
Far Right



Horseshoe Spectrum



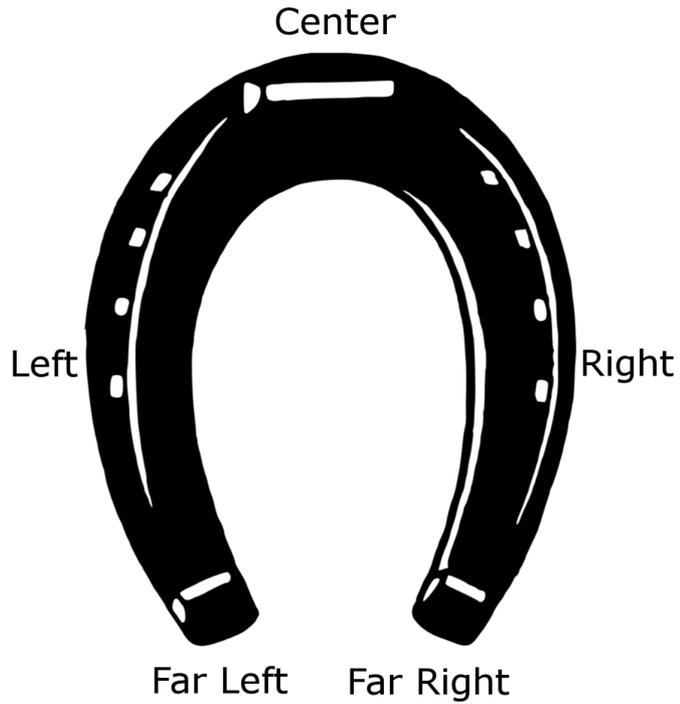
Center



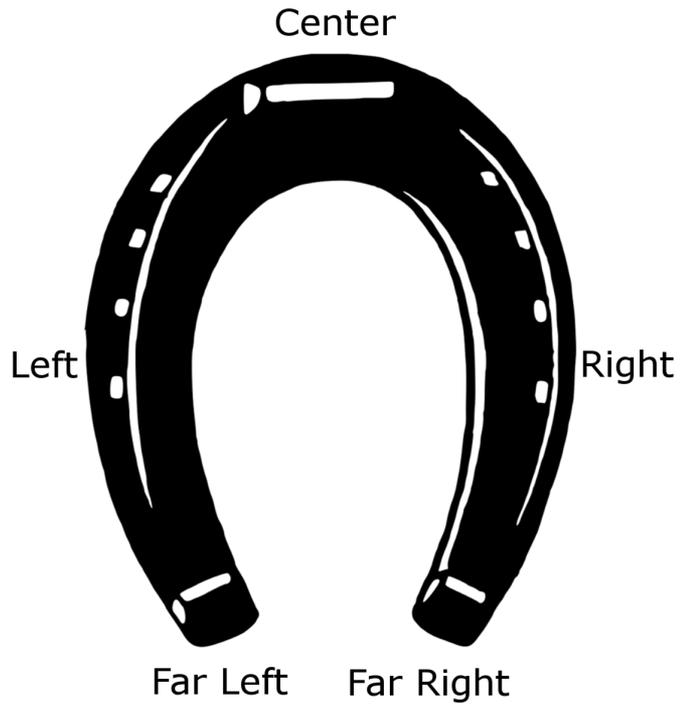
Horseshoe Spectrum



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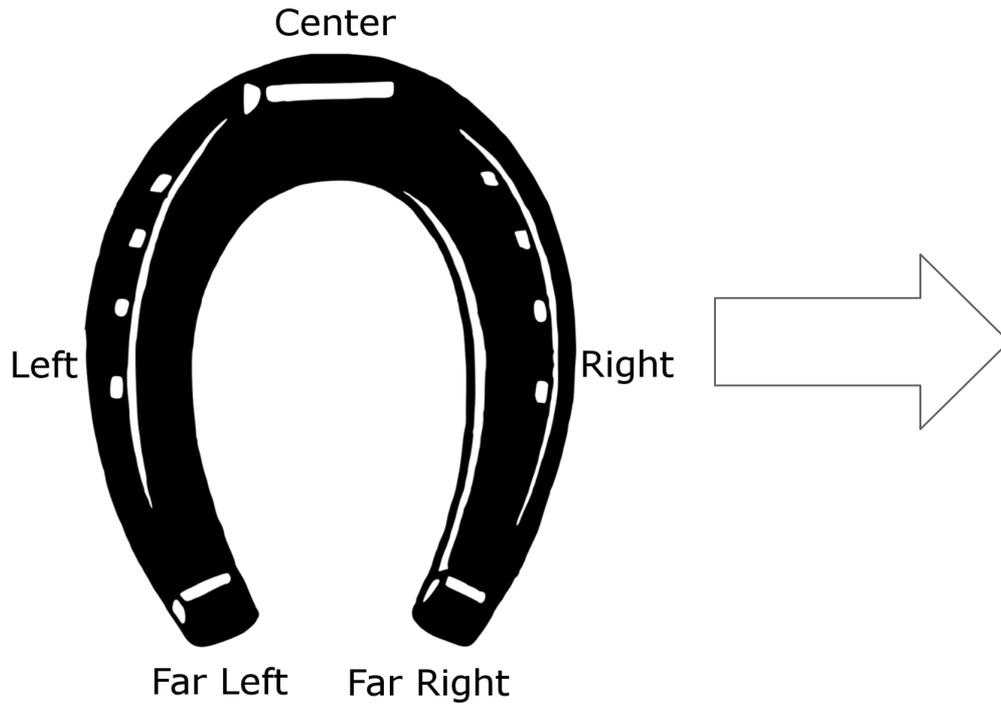


Horseshoe Spectrum



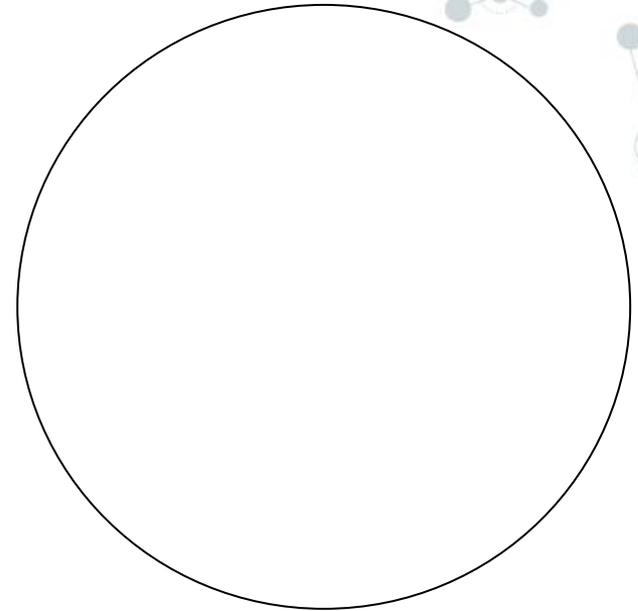
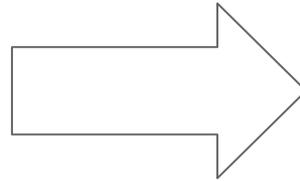
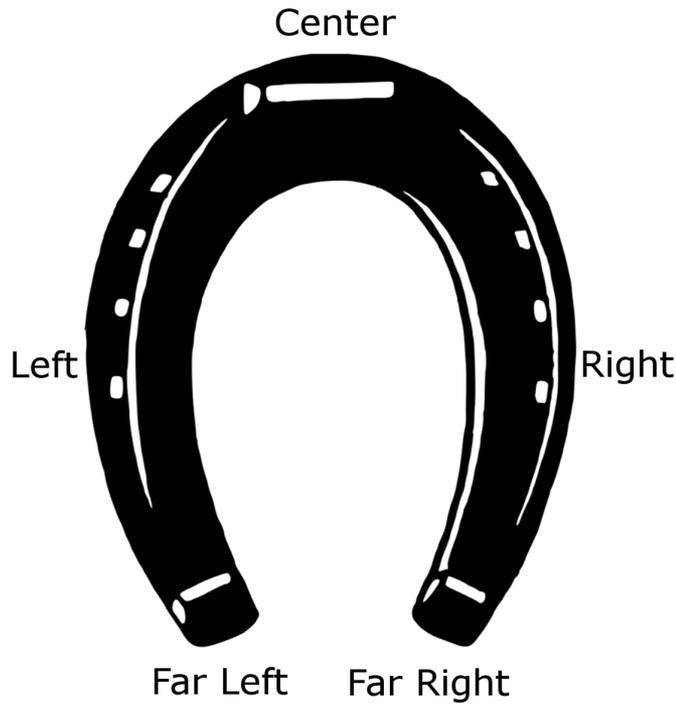
"Unholy Alliance"

Horseshoe Spectrum



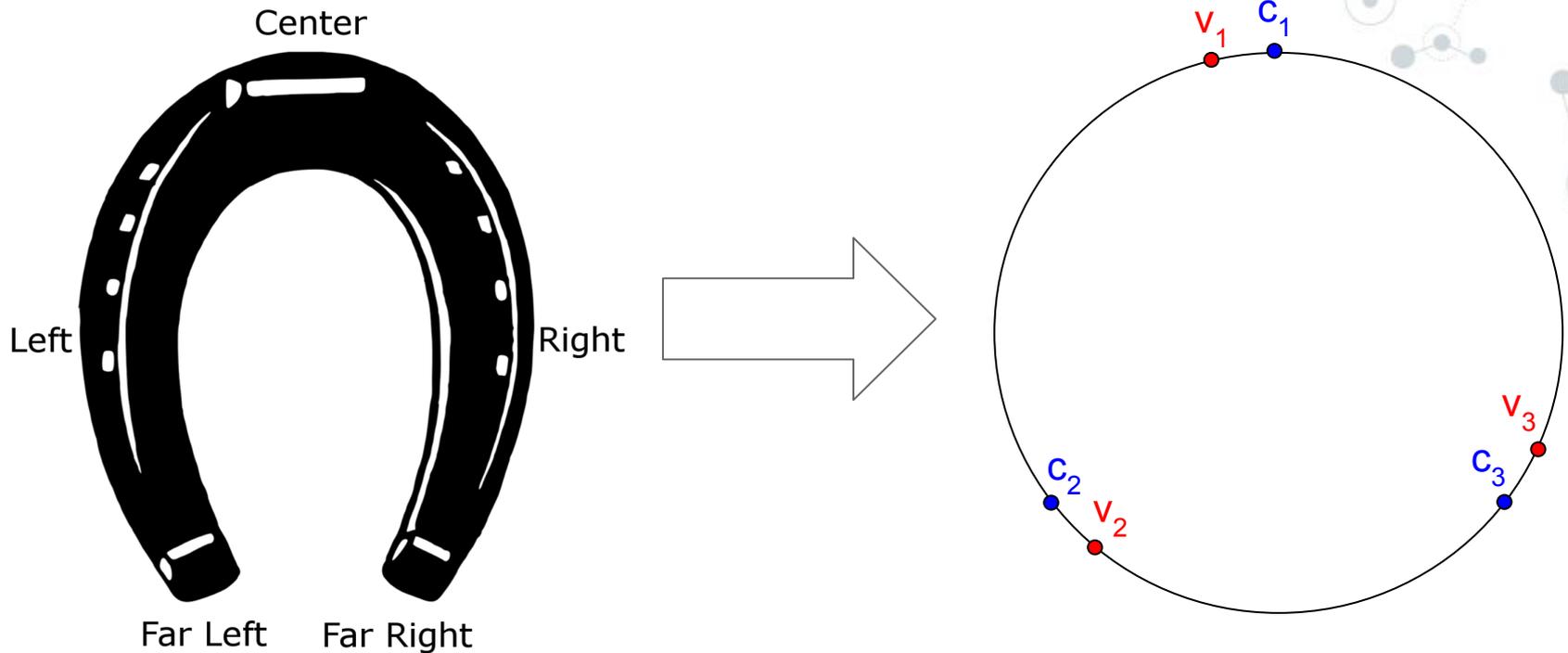
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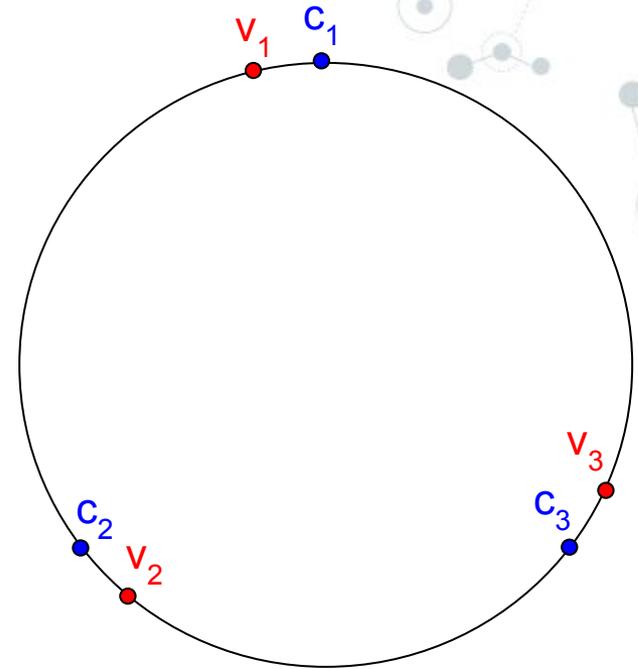
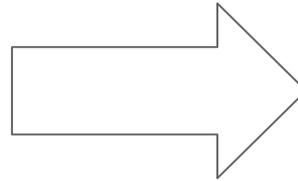
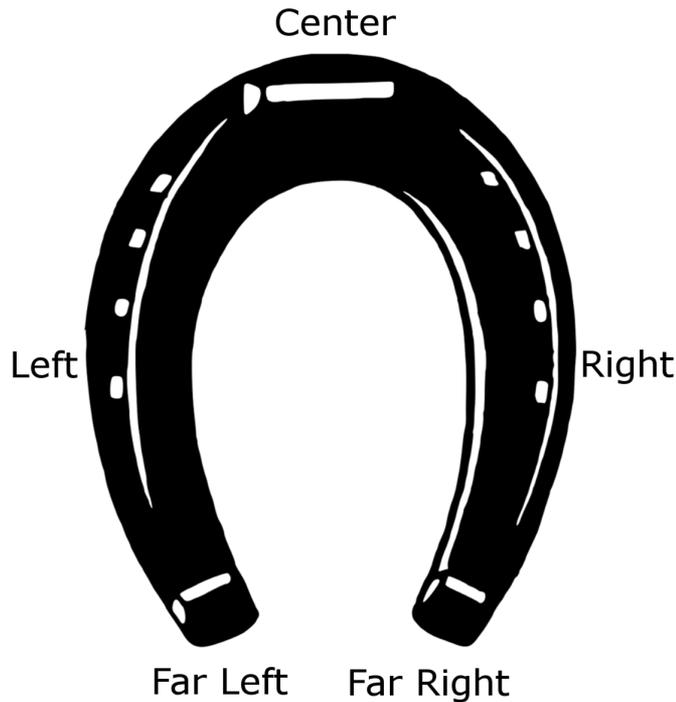
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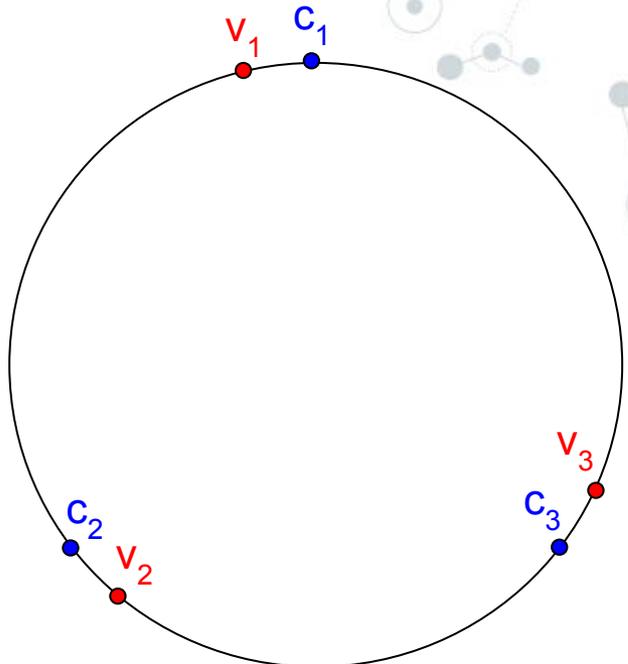
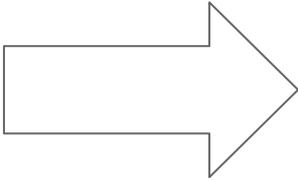
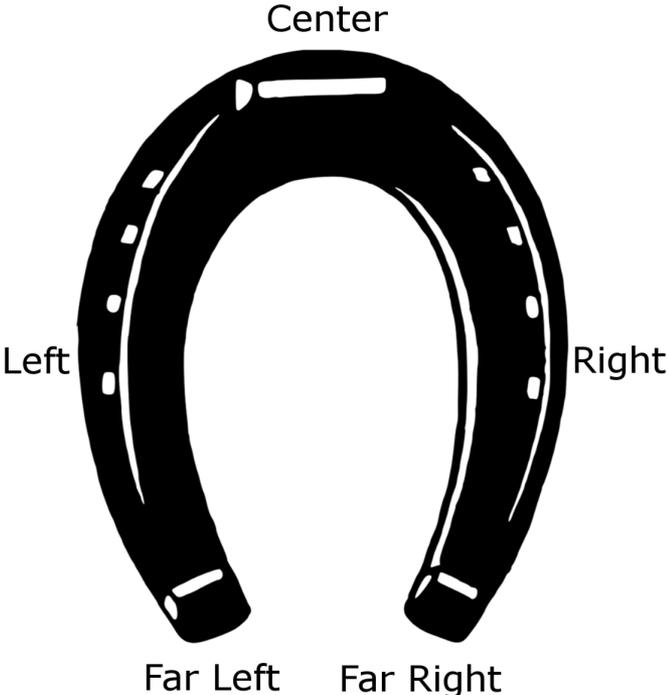
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$$V_1 : C_1 > C_2 > C_3$$

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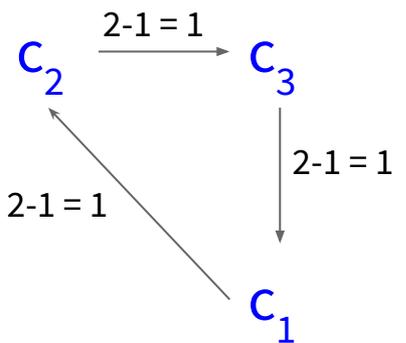
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Horseshoe Spectrum

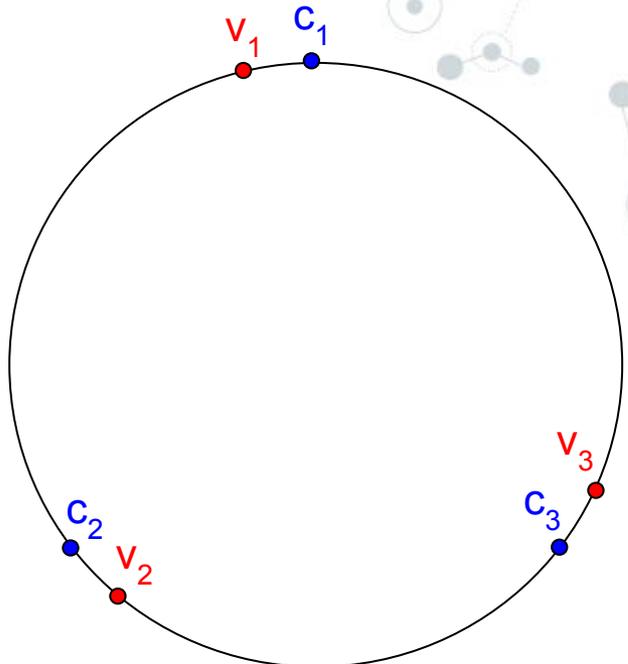
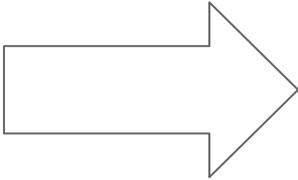
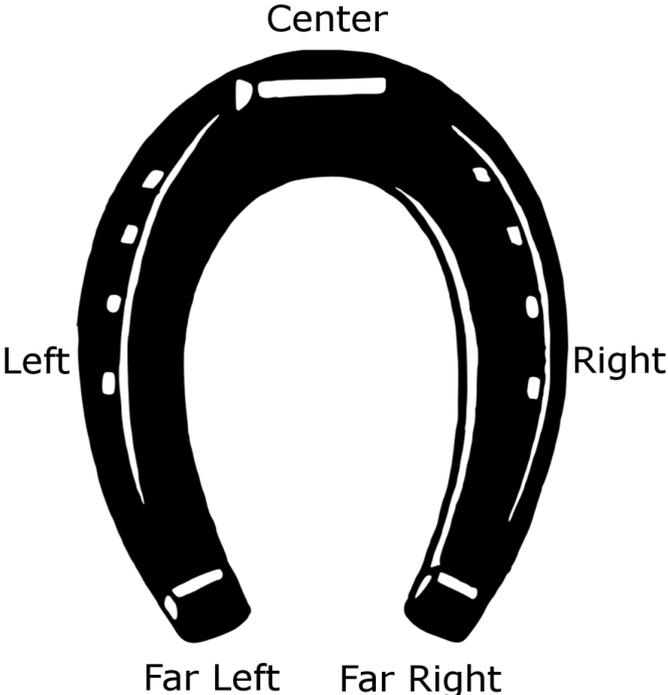


"Unholy Alliance"

- $V_1 : C_1 > C_2 > C_3$
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- $V_3 : C_3 > C_1 > C_2$

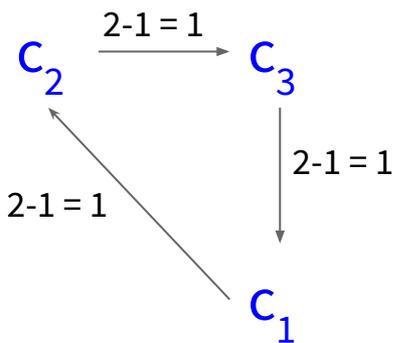


Horseshoe Spectrum



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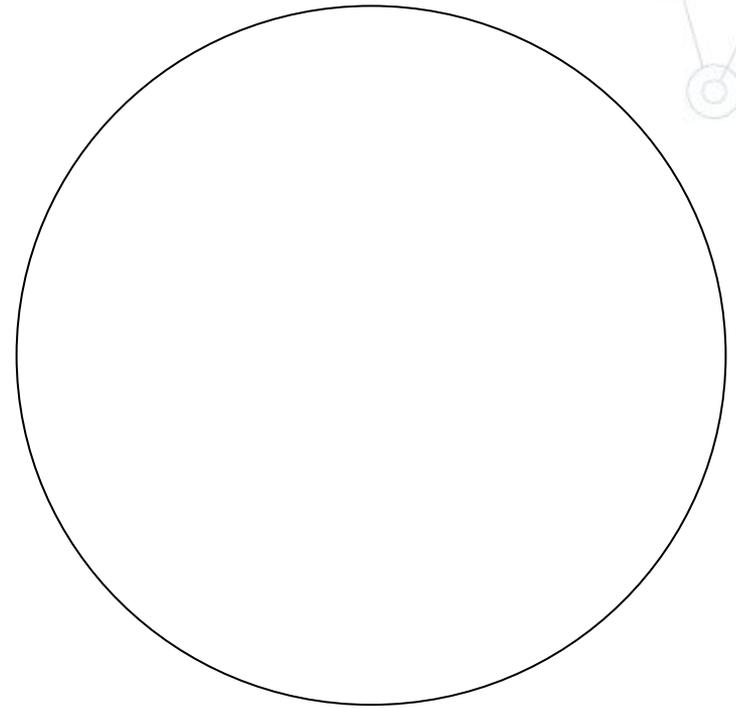
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A More General Property

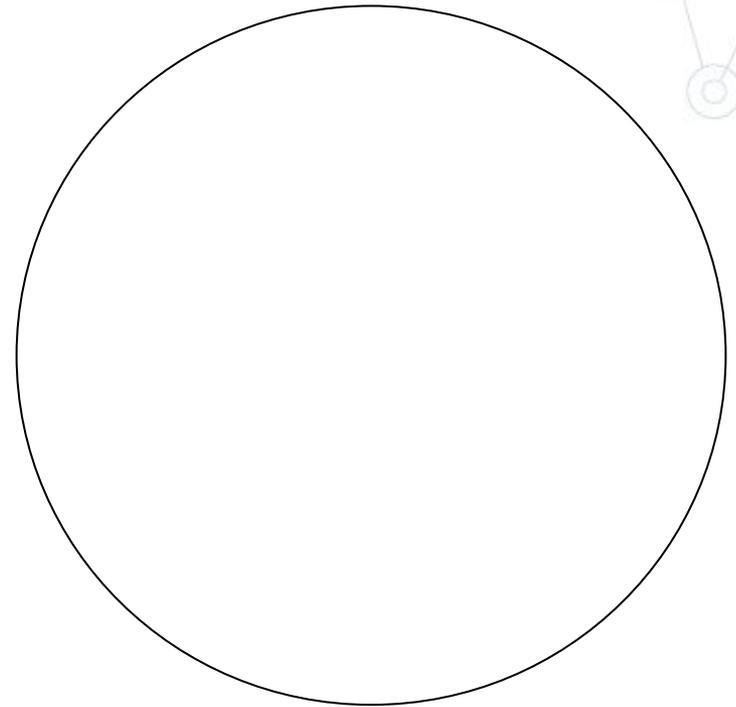


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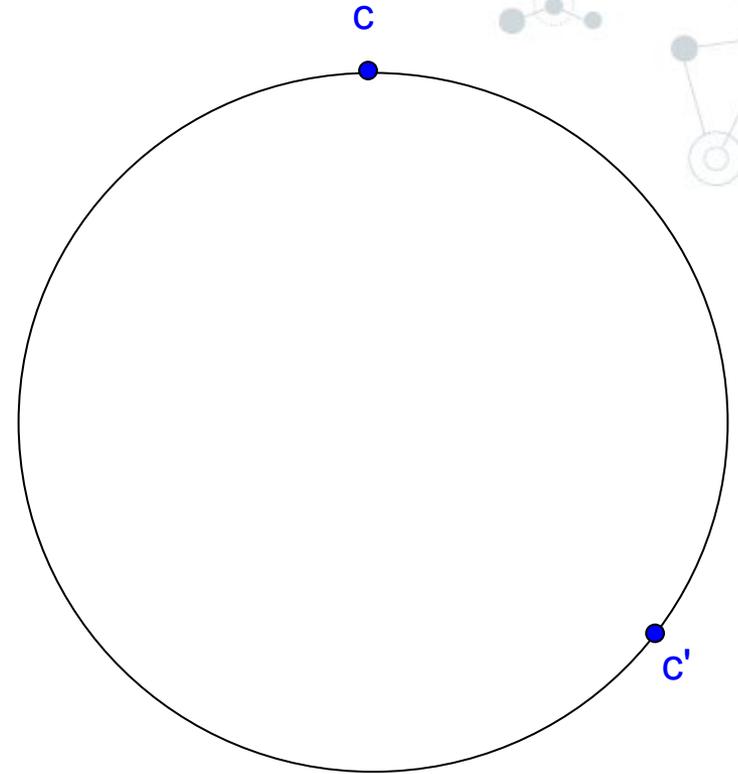
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Consider candidates c and c' .



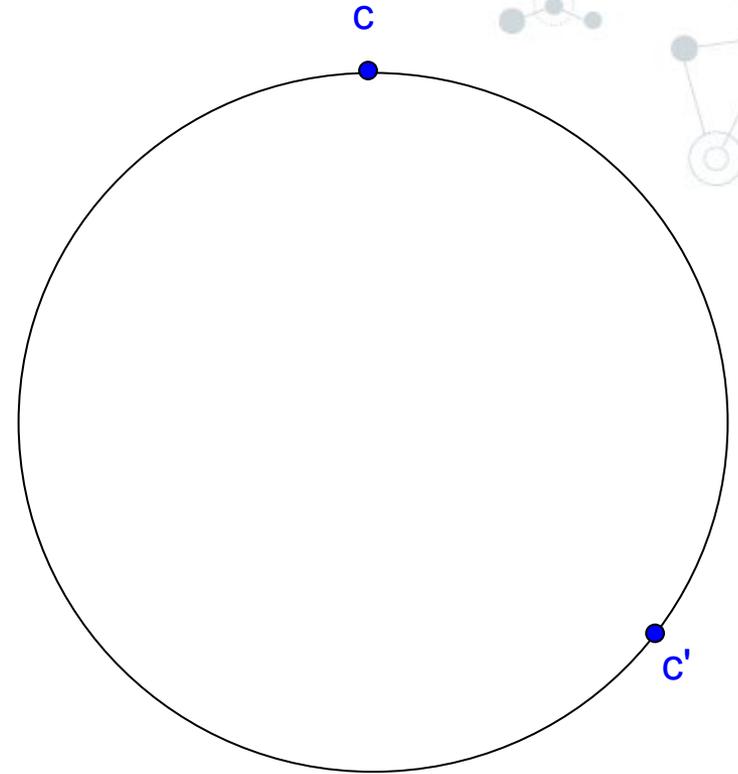
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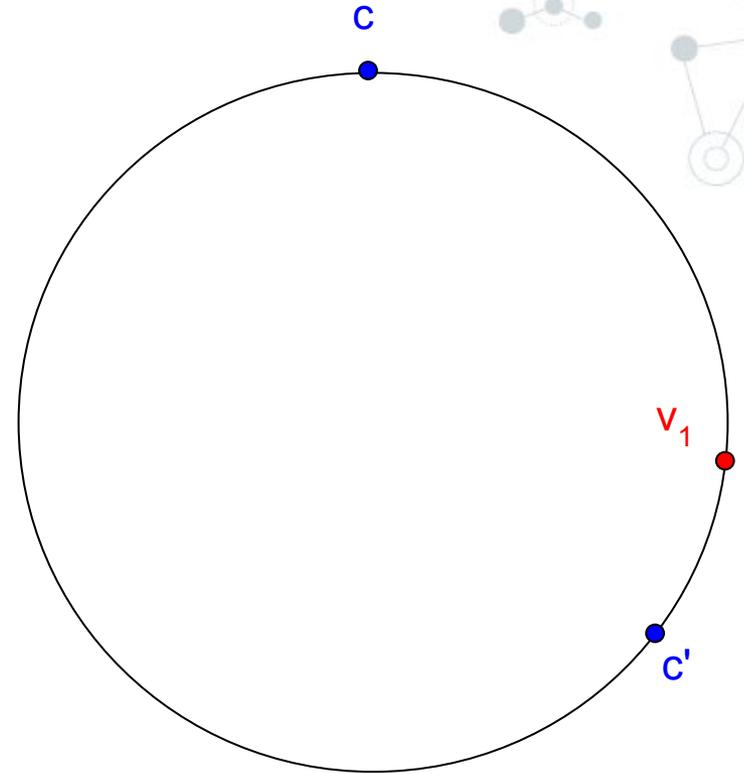
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Consider candidates c and c' .
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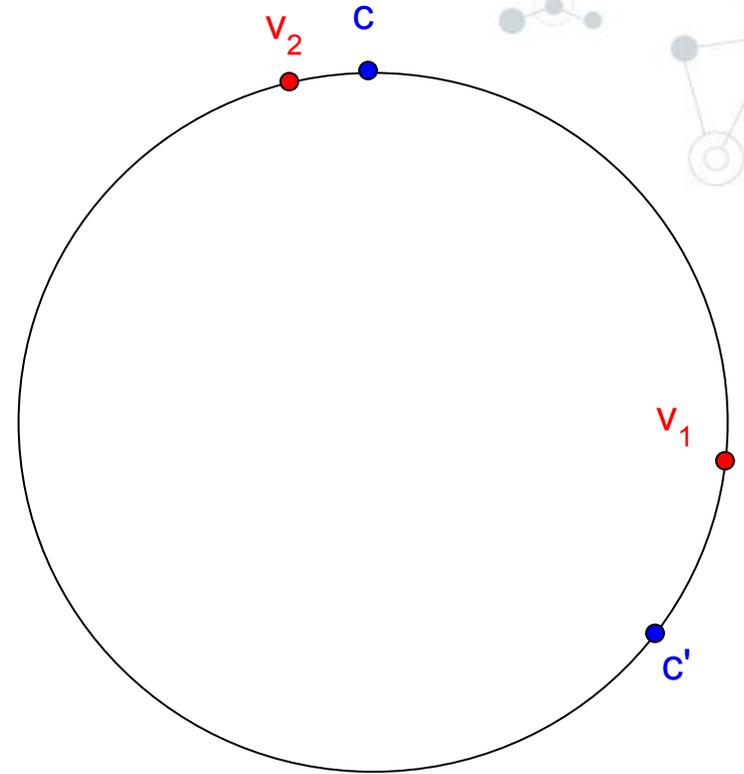
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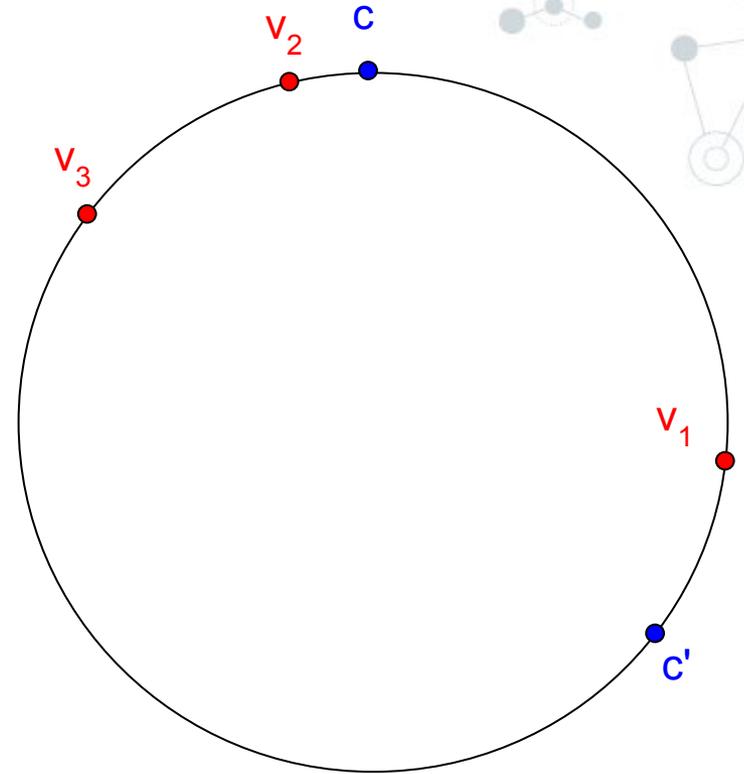
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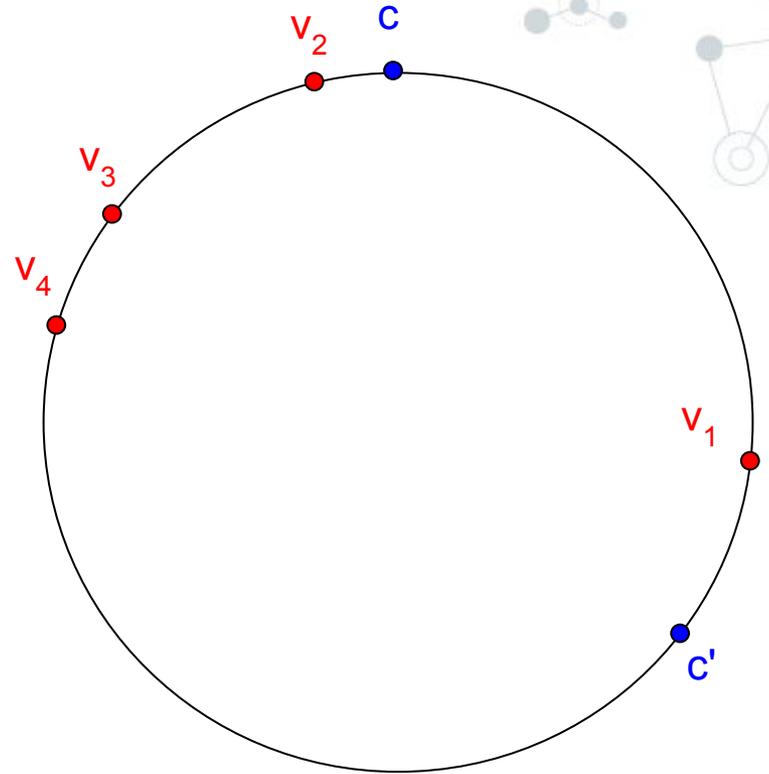
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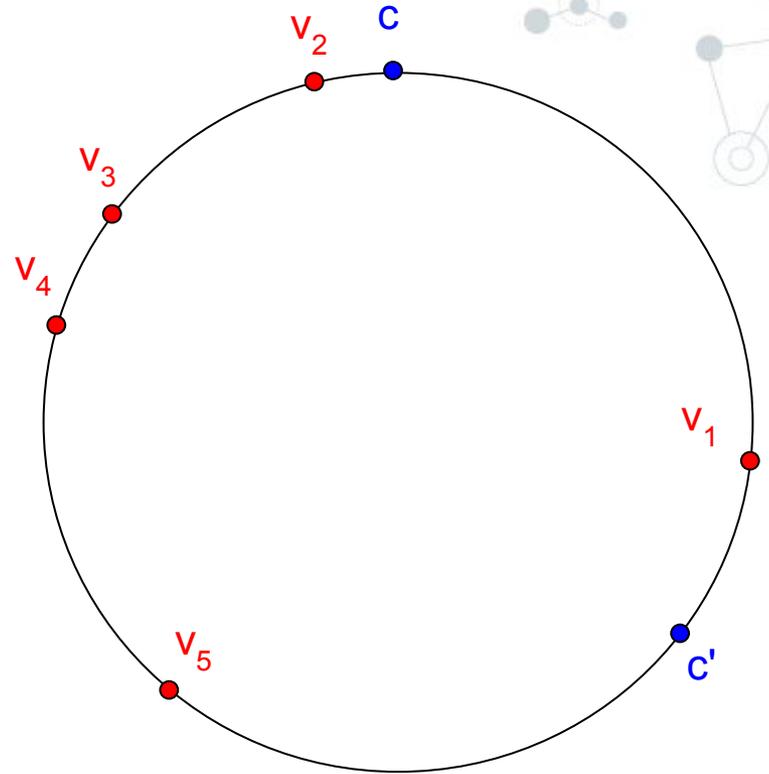
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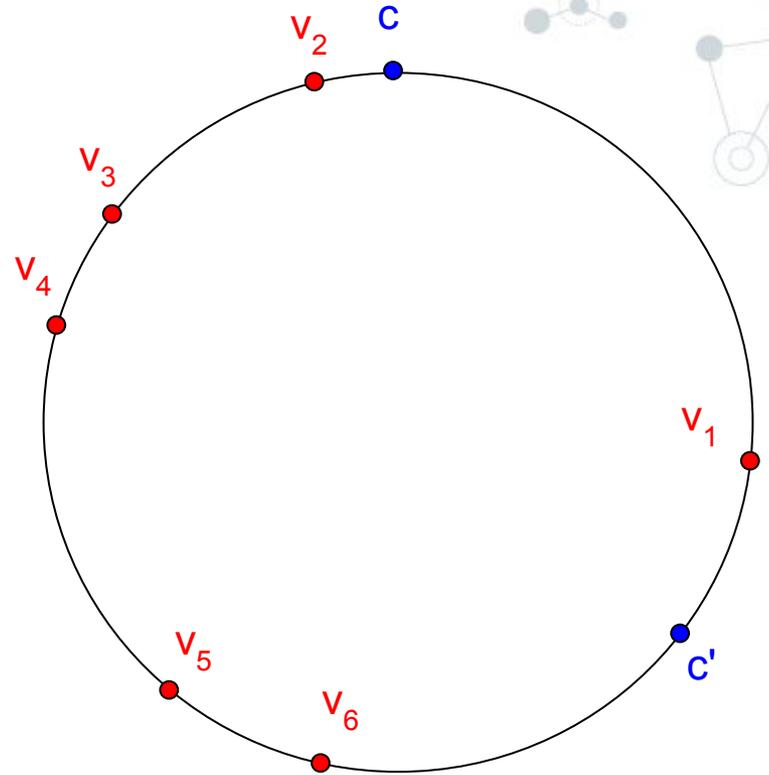
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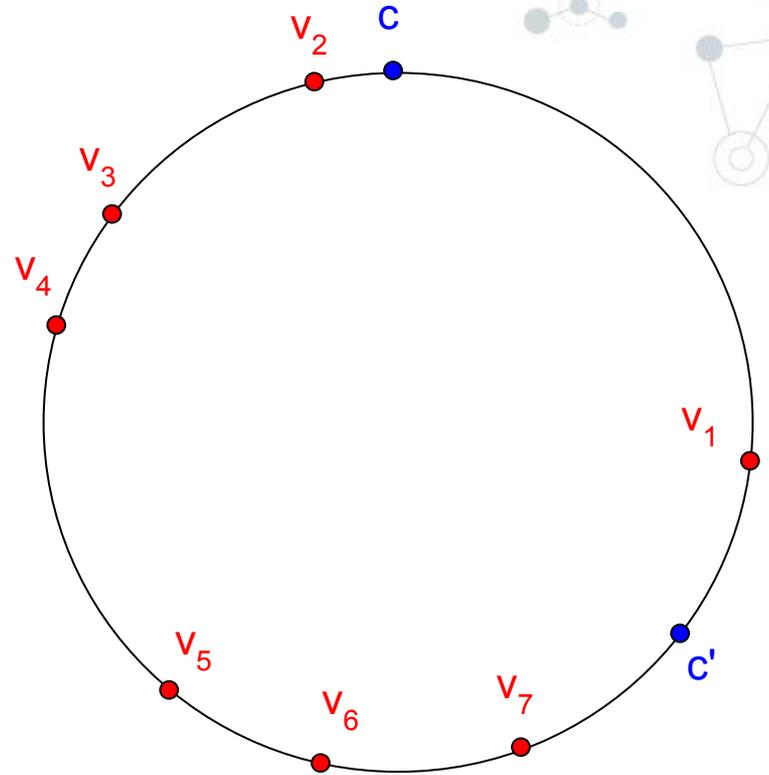
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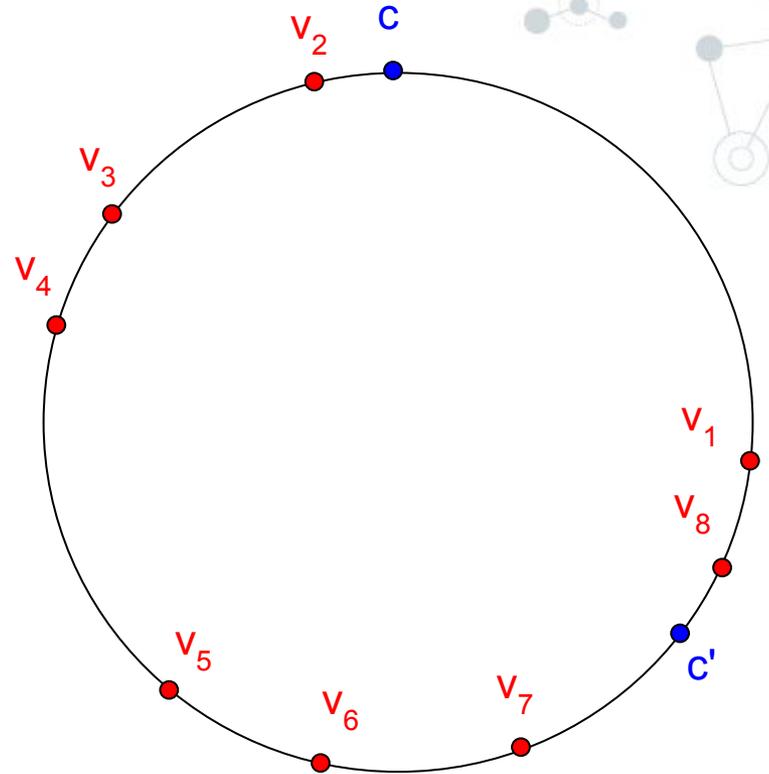
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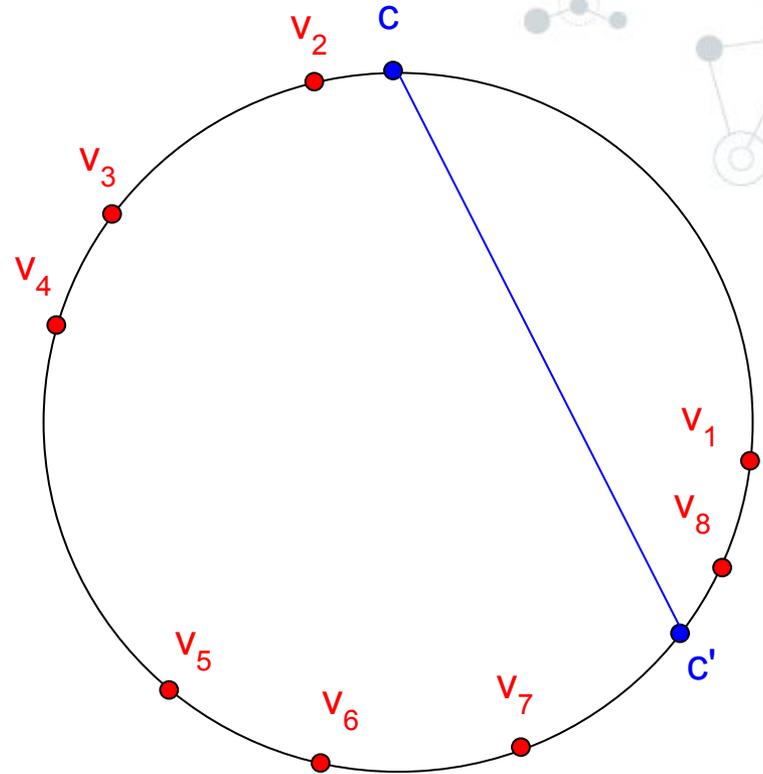
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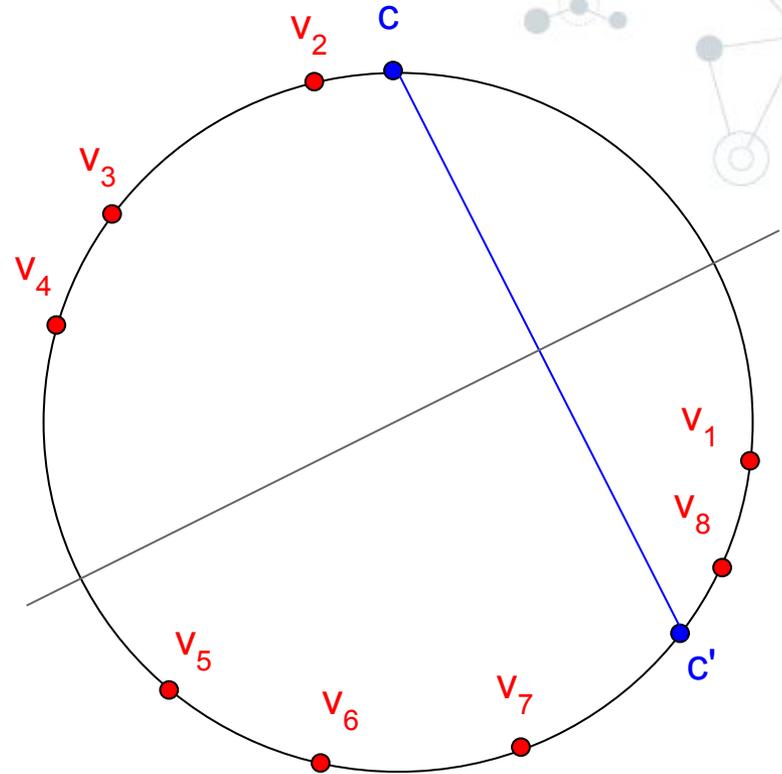
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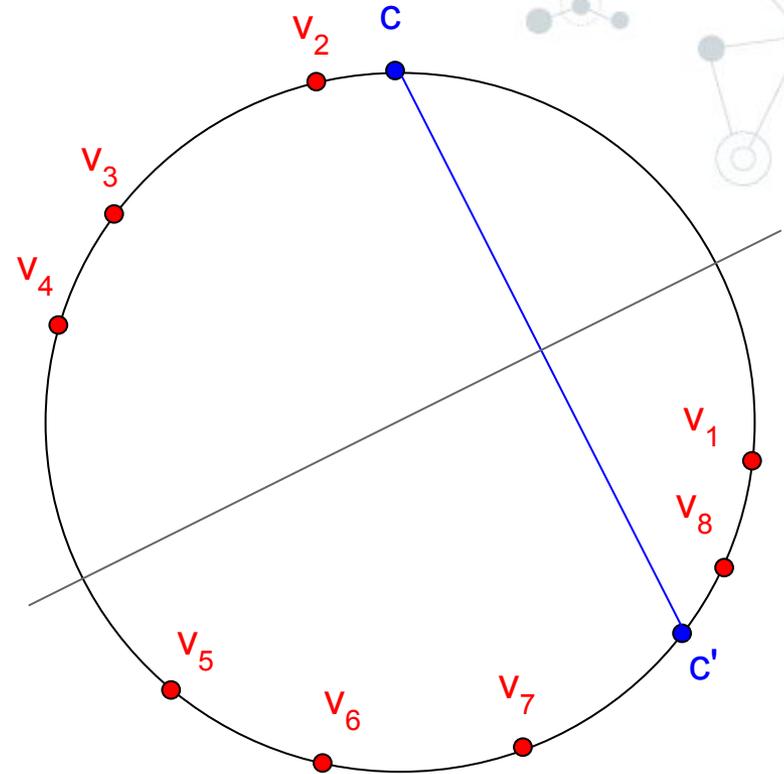
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A More General Property

Consider candidates c and c' .
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	V_1	V_2	V_3	V_4	V_5	V_6	V_7	V_8
$c > c'$	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0

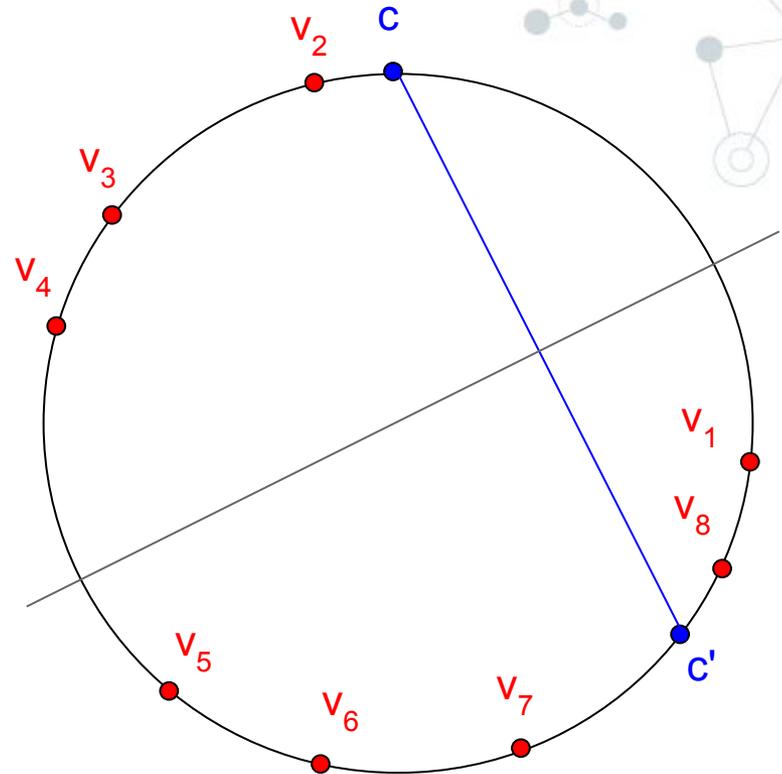


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	V_1	V_2	V_3	V_4	V_5	V_6	V_7	V_8
$c > c'$	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0

Voters preferring c to c'
form a "circular" interval!

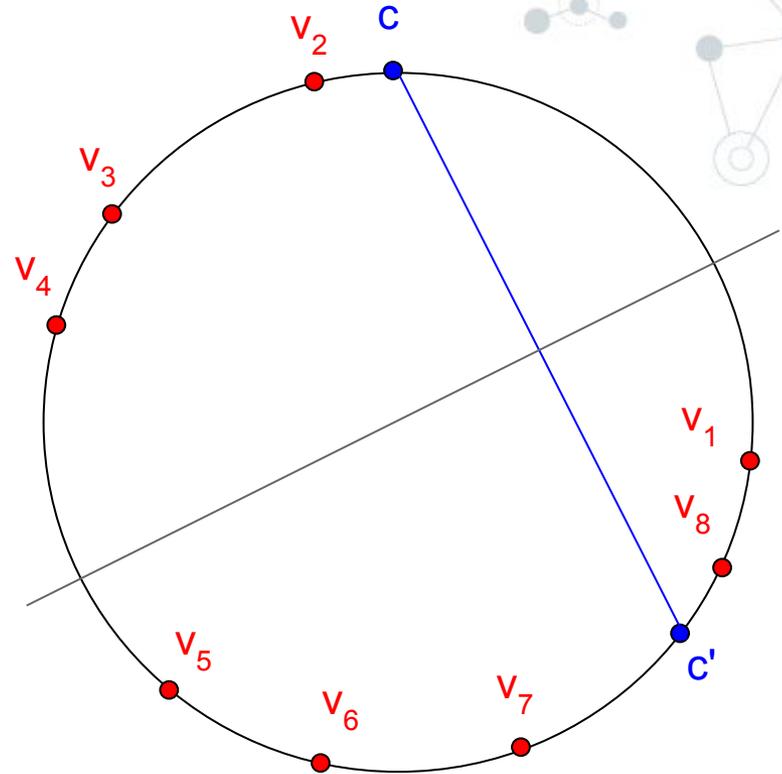


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Consider candidates c and c' .
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	V_1	V_2	V_3	V_4	V_5	V_6	V_7	V_8
$c > c'$	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
$c' > c$	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1

Voters preferring c to c'
form a "circular" interval!



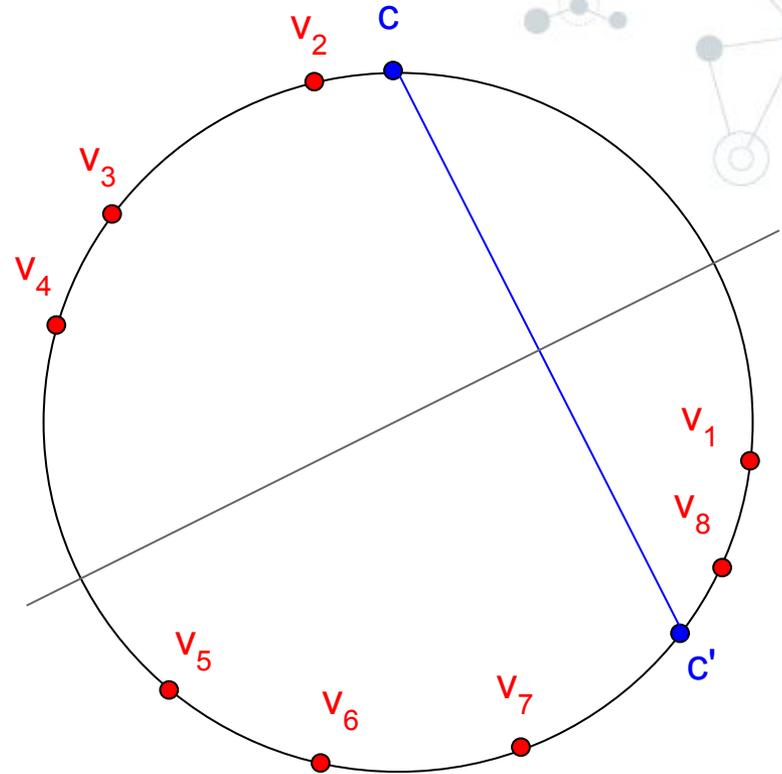
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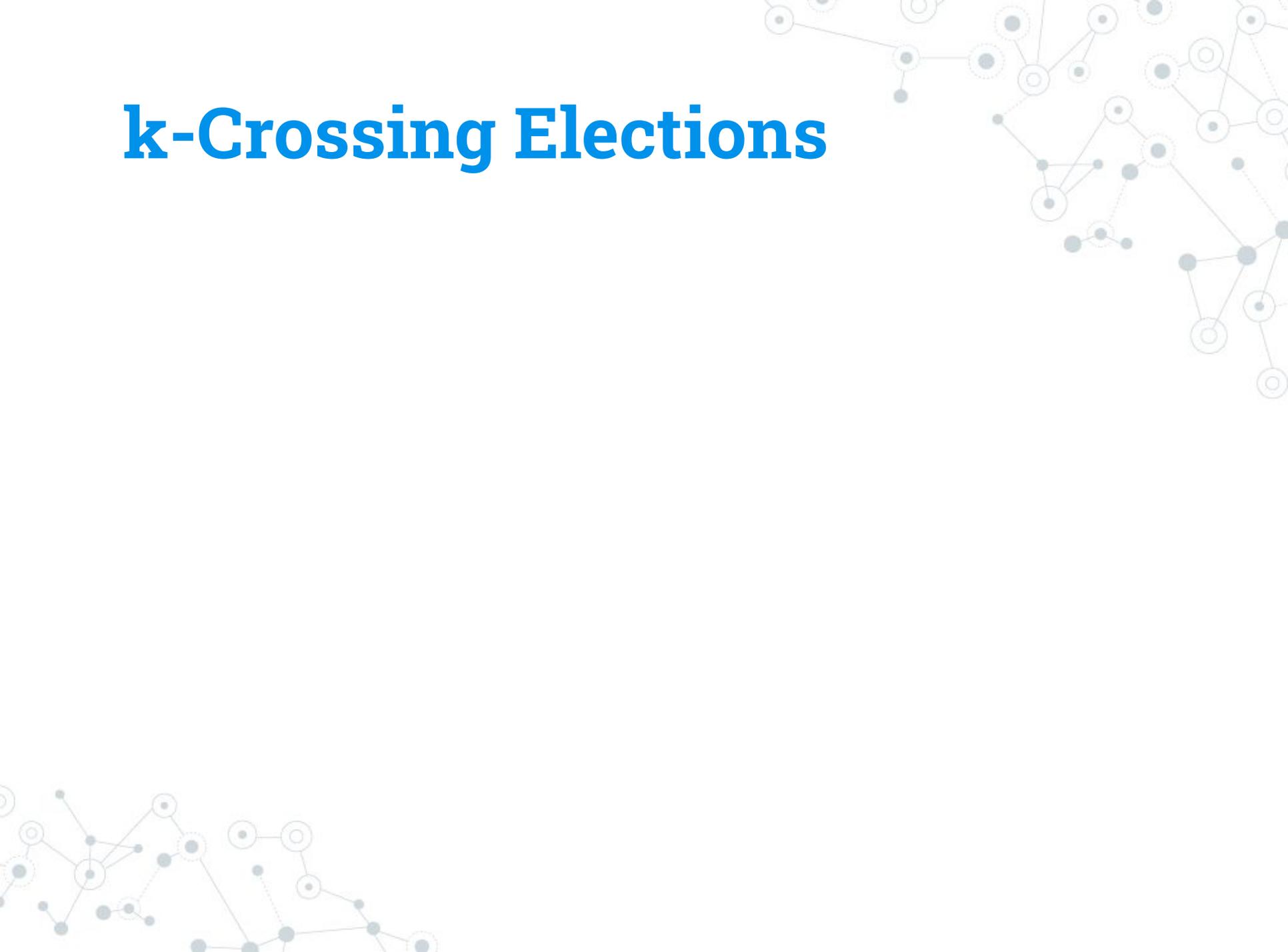
	V_1	V_2	V_3	V_4	V_5	V_6	V_7	V_8
$c > c'$	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
$c' > c$	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1

Voters preferring c to c'
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\Leftrightarrow At most 2 switches per row.



k-Crossing Elections



k-Crossing Elections

An election is *k-crossing* if voters can be reordered such that preference between any two candidates c, c' changes at most k times as we sweep through the voters in order:

k-Crossing Elections

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$$V_2 : C_3 > C_2 > C_1$$

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	V_1	V_2	V_3	V_4
$C_1 > C_2$	1	0	0	1
$C_2 > C_3$	1	0	1	0
$C_1 > C_3$	1	0	0	0

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	V_1	V_2	V_3	V_4
$C_1 > C_2$	1	0	0	1
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$C_1 > C_3$	1	0	0	0

	V_1	V_3	V_2	V_4
$C_1 > C_2$	1	0	0	1
$C_2 > C_3$	1	1	0	0
$C_1 > C_3$	1	0	0	0



2.

Recognition

Using the Consecutive Ones Problem



Recognition



Recognition

Deciding whether an election is k -crossing.



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- ◎ Single-crossing: *poly-time*
[Elkind et al., 2012; Bredereck et al., 2013].

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◎ Two-crossing: *poly-time*

Reduction to consecutive ones (**this paper**).

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Deciding whether an election is k -crossing.

◎ Single-crossing: *poly-time*

[Elkind et al., 2012; Bredereck et al., 2013].

◎ Two-crossing: *poly-time*

Reduction to consecutive ones (**this paper**).

◎ k -crossing: *open*

We conjecture NP-complete for $k \geq 4$.

Recognition for Two-Crossing



Recognition for Two-Crossing

Given candidates c_1, \dots, c_M and voters v_1, \dots, v_N

Recognition for Two-Crossing

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Given candidates c_1, \dots, c_M and voters v_1, \dots, v_N , build matrix with rows indexed by pairs (c_i, c_j) with $i < j$

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Given candidates c_1, \dots, c_M and voters v_1, \dots, v_N , build matrix with rows indexed by pairs (c_i, c_j) with $i < j$ and columns indexed by voters v_k .

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	v_1	v_2	v_3	v_4
$c_1 > c_2$				
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Given candidates c_1, \dots, c_M and voters v_1, \dots, v_N , build matrix with rows indexed by pairs (c_i, c_j) with $i < j$ and columns indexed by voters v_k . Put a 1 at row (c_i, c_j) , column v_k , iff v_k prefers c_i to c_j .

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$c_2 > c_3$	1	0	1	0
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Then, check whether columns can be permuted s.t. 1s in each row form a continuous **circular** run.

	v_1	v_2	v_3	v_4
$c_1 > c_2$	1	0	0	1
$c_2 > c_3$	1	0	1	0
$c_1 > c_3$	1	0	0	0

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$c_2 > c_3$	1	0	1	0
$c_1 > c_3$	1	0	0	0

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$c_1 > c_3$	1	0	0	0

	v_1	v_3	v_2	v_4
$c_1 > c_2$	1	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	1
$c_2 > c_3$	1	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	0
$c_1 > c_3$	1	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	0

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Given candidates c_1, \dots, c_M and voters v_1, \dots, v_N , build matrix with rows indexed by pairs (c_i, c_j) with $i < j$ and columns indexed by voters v_k . Put a 1 at row (c_i, c_j) , column v_k , iff v_k prefers c_i to c_j .

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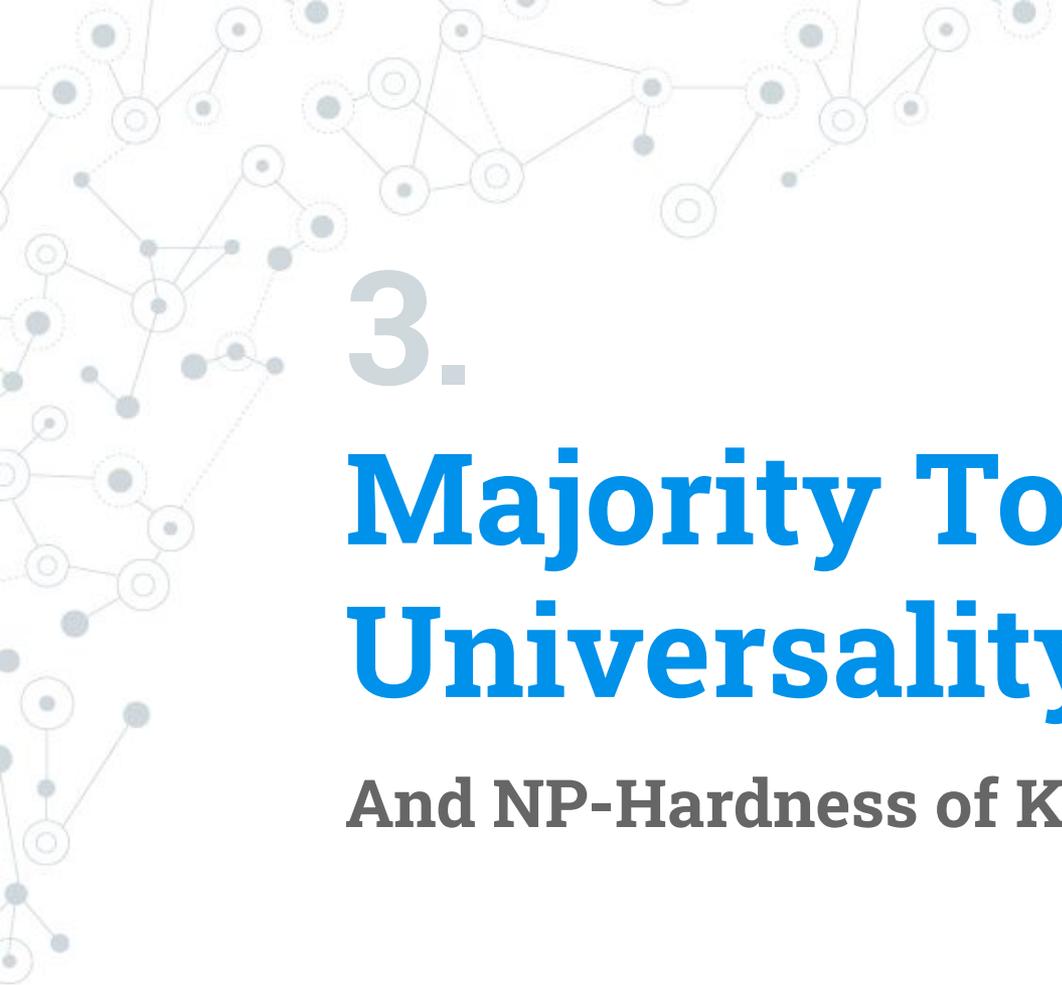
$$V_3 : c_2 > c_3 > c_1$$

$$V_4 : c_3 > c_1 > c_2$$

$O(NM^2)$

	v_1	v_2	v_3	v_4
$c_1 > c_2$	1	0	0	1
$c_2 > c_3$	1	0	1	0
$c_1 > c_3$	1	0	0	0

	v_1	v_3	v_2	v_4
$c_1 > c_2$	1	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	1
$c_2 > c_3$	1	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	0
$c_1 > c_3$	1	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	0



3.

Majority Tournament Universality

And NP-Hardness of Kemeny

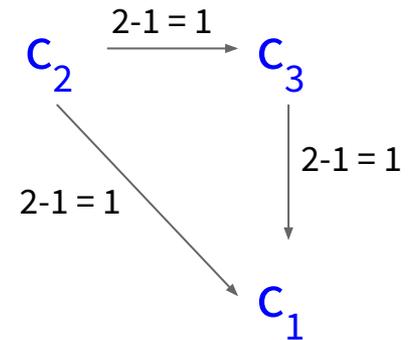


Weighted Majority Tournament

Two-crossing: also any (weighted) tournament can be obtained!

Weighted Majority Tournament

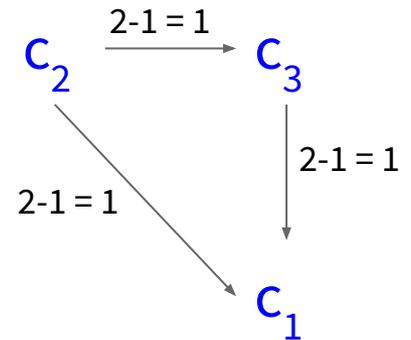
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Weighted Majority Tournament

Single-crossing: tournament is transitive.

Two-crossing: also any (weighted) tournament can be obtained!



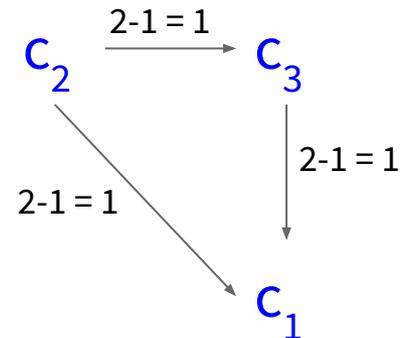
Weighted Majority Tournament

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General elections: any (weighted) tournament can be obtained.

[McGarvey, 1953; Debord, 1987]



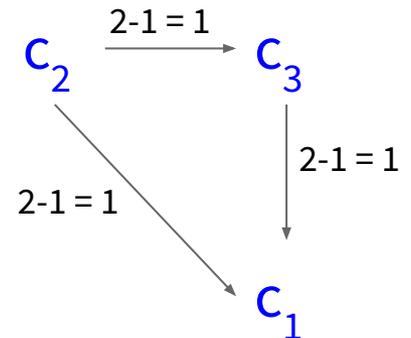
Weighted Majority Tournament

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Proof



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Construct the “**Double-BubbleSort**” profile.

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e.g. $M = 4$ candidates.

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Construct the “**Double-BubbleSort**” profile.

e.g. $M = 4$ candidates.

v_1	v_2
1	2
2	1
3	3
4	4

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v_1	v_2	v_3
1	2	2
2	1	3
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v_1	v_2	v_3	v_4
1	2	2	2
2	1	3	3
3	3	1	4
4	4	4	1

Proof

Construct the “**Double-BubbleSort**” profile.

e.g. $M = 4$ candidates.

v_1	v_2	v_3	v_4	v_5
1	2	2	2	3
2	1	3	3	2
3	3	1	4	4
4	4	4	1	1

Proof

Construct the “**Double-BubbleSort**” profile.

e.g. $M = 4$ candidates.

v_1	v_2	v_3	v_4	v_5	v_6
1	2	2	2	3	3
2	1	3	3	2	4
3	3	1	4	4	2
4	4	4	1	1	1

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Construct the “**Double-BubbleSort**” profile.

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v_1	v_2	v_3	v_4	v_5	v_6	v_7
1	2	2	2	3	3	4
2	1	3	3	2	4	3
3	3	1	4	4	2	2
4	4	4	1	1	1	1

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v_1	v_2	v_3	v_4	v_5	v_6	v_7	v_8
1	2	2	2	3	3	4	4
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3	3	1	4	4	2	2	1
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2	1	3	3	2	4	3	3	1
3	3	1	4	4	2	2	1	3
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3	3	1	4	4	2	2	1	3	3
4	4	4	1	1	1	1	2	2	2

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2	1	3	3	2	4	3	3	1	4	4
3	3	1	4	4	2	2	1	3	3	2
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2	1	3	3	2	4	3	3	1	4	4	2
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2	1	3	3	2	4	3	3	1	4	4	2	2
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This profile is two-crossing!

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2	1	3	3	2	4	3	3	1	4	4	2	2
3	3	1	4	4	2	2	1	3	3	2	4	3
4	4	4	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	4

$$1 \xrightarrow{1} 3$$

This profile is two-crossing!

Proof

Construct the “**Double-BubbleSort**” profile.

e.g. $M = 4$ candidates.

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}
1	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	1	1	1	1
2	1	3	3	2	4	3	3	1	4	4	2	2
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3	3	1	4	4	2	2	1	3	3	2	4	3
4	4	4	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	4

v

$1 \xrightarrow{1} 3$

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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}
1	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	1	1	1	1
2	1	3	3	2	4	3	3	1	4	4	2	2
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v'

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3	3	1	4	4	2	2	1	3	3	2	4	3
4	4	4	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	4

v

v'

$1 \xrightarrow{3} 3$

This profile is two-crossing!

Consequences: NP-hardness



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Thus, NP-hardness results carry over to two-crossing:

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- ◎ **Kemeny and Slater are NP-hard.**

Consequences: NP-hardness

Thus, NP-hardness results carry over to two-crossing:

- ◎ **Kemeny and Slater are NP-hard.**
- ◎ Banks, Minimal Extending Set, Tournament Equilibrium Set and Ranked Pairs also NP-hard.



4.

Young's Rule

Using Total Unimodularity



Young's Rule



Young's Rule

The Young score of candidate c is the least number of voters that need to be removed to make c a Condorcet winner.

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© NP-hard in general:

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© Two-crossing: **scores in poly-time (this paper).**

Young's Rule

The natural LP does not have integer vertices.

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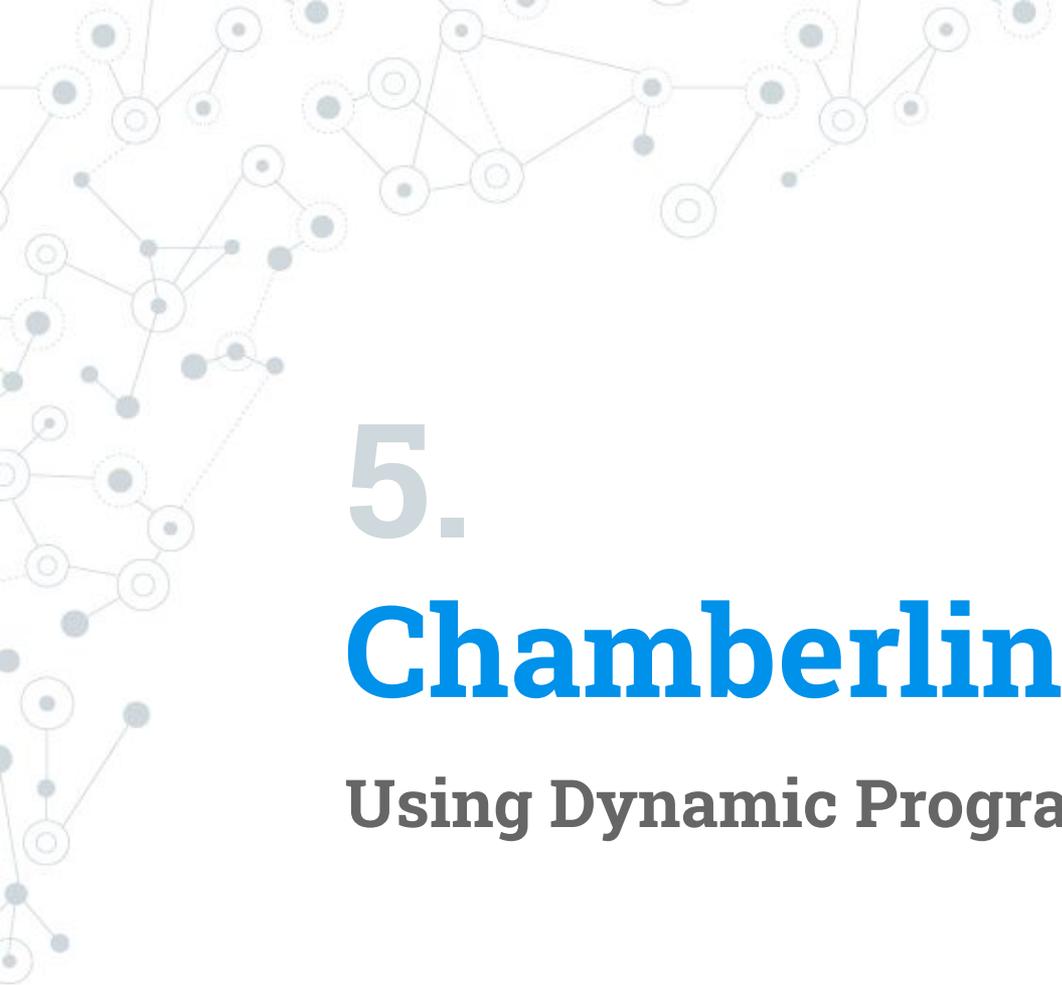
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By reducing to negative weight cycle detection we further **improve the running time to $O((n + m^2)n^{3/2} \log n)$.**



5.

Chamberlin-Courant Rule

Using Dynamic Programming



Representation



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In an election we need to select a committee of K candidates to best represent the electorate.

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v_1 : **Blue** > **Yellow** > **Red** > **Pink** > **Green**

v_2 : **Yellow** > **Green** > **Red** > **Pink** > **Blue**

v_3 : **Green** > **Red** > **Blue** > **Pink** > **Yellow**

Representation

In an election we need to select a committee of K candidates to best represent the electorate.

e.g. $K = 2$

v_1 : Blue > Yellow > Red > Pink > Green

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Q: How to compare K -committees?

The Chamberlin-Courant Rule



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v_1	: Blue	>	Yellow	>	Red	>	Pink	>	Green
	<i>0</i>		<i>1</i>		<i>5</i>		<i>8</i>		<i>9</i>
v_2	: Yellow	>	Green	>	Red	>	Pink	>	Blue
	<i>0</i>		<i>3</i>		<i>3</i>		<i>4</i>		<i>8</i>
v_3	: Green	>	Red	>	Blue	>	Pink	>	Yellow
	<i>0</i>		<i>1</i>		<i>1</i>		<i>2</i>		<i>3</i>

The Chamberlin-Courant Rule

Voters specify their *dissatisfaction* with each candidate.

Pick the K-committee that **minimizes** the total/maximum dissatisfaction.

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v_1 :	Blue	> Yellow	> Red	> Pink	> Green
	<i>0</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>8</i>
v_2 :	Yellow	> Green	> Red	> Pink	> Blue
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v_3	:	>	>	>	>	² Pink	>	³ Yellow

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Total = **3** (Utilitarian-CC) - **in this talk.**

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Total = **3** (Utilitarian-CC) - **in this talk.**

Maximum = **2** (Egalitarian-CC) [Betzler et al.; 2013]

Hardness of CC



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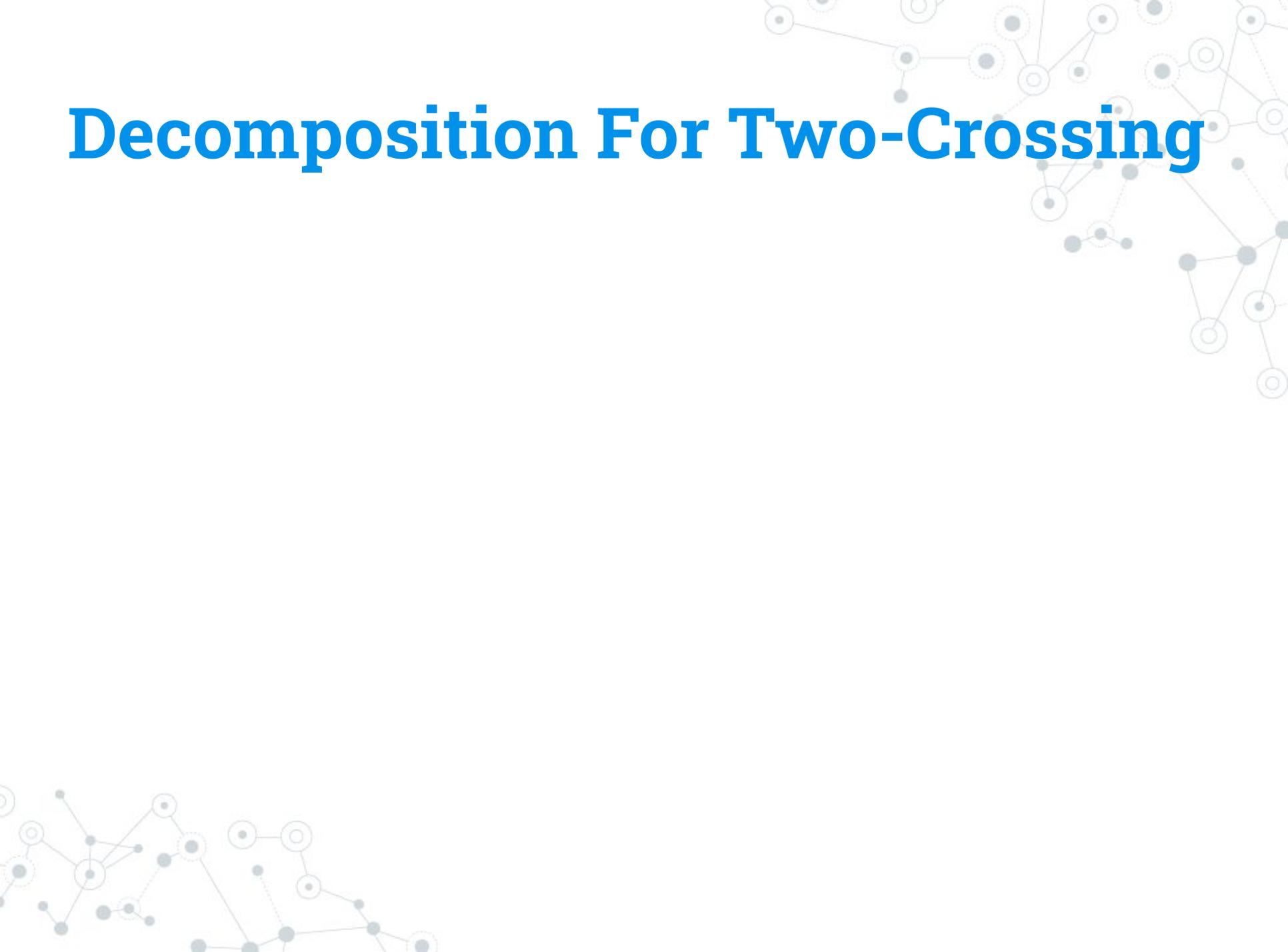
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v	v_1	v_2	v_3	v_4	v_5	v_6	v_7	v_8
$r(v)$	B	R	R	Y	R	P	P	G

Decomposition For Two-Crossing



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V_1	V_2	V_3	V_4	V_5	V_6	V_7	V_8	V_9	V_{10}
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G	B	O	B	P	P	Y

B splits

V_4
O

Decomposition For Two-Crossing

V_1	V_2	V_3	V_4	V_5	V_6	V_7	V_8	V_9	V_{10}
G	R	B	O	B	R	P	P	R	Y

R splits

V_1	V_3	V_4	V_5	V_7	V_8	V_{10}
G	B	O	B	P	P	Y

B splits

V_4
O

There exists a decomposable optimal committee!

Future Directions



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1. Try two-crossing on PrefLib.

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A decorative network diagram in the top right corner, consisting of various sized nodes (some solid, some hollow) connected by thin lines, forming a complex, interconnected structure.

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 4. Hardness of Young's rule for three-crossing.
 5. Three-crossing and above in general?
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Hope you enjoyed!

