案例: 意见领袖与智能穿戴设备扩散

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概述

我们通过案例来阐述如何使用社会网络分析研究健康管理。所有分析过程均通过R语言实现。

本案例源自市场营销中的常用场景:

新产品在初期扩散较为缓慢的时候,是否可能借助意见领袖的口碑来促进产品的扩散?

接下来,我们将通过论文导读与R语言实现两个部分了解中心性在市场营销中的具体应用。

问题背景

2012年谷歌眼镜的亮相,被称作"智能穿戴设备元年"。在智能手机的创新空间逐步收窄和市场增量接近饱和的情况下,智能穿戴设备作为智能终端产业下一个热点已被市场广泛认同。

智能穿戴设备可以用作:

- 慢性病管理
- 生活与运动习惯监测

而今智能手环、智能手表等产品已经非常丰富,然而大多数产品的销售状况并不理想。在市场营销中,为了促进新产品的扩散,企业可能采用"product seeding program",亦即:

选取意见领袖作为"种子客户",免费向其提供新产品,以期这些"种子客户"能够通过口碑效应,促进新产品的扩散。

然而, 社会网络中的哪些客户是"意见领袖"呢?

我们求诸节点中心性。

研究思路

对于任意行动者i,购买智能穿戴设备的决策受到两个途径的影响:

- 大众传播: 例如广告等途径, 其特点是具有全局效果 (可以近似认为广告覆盖了所有目标人群)
- 口碑传播: 通过个体之间传播, 其特点是具有局部效果 (每个人只受其家人朋友的影响)

因此,如果第t-1期末行动者i尚未购买智能穿戴设备,那么他在第i期购买智能穿戴设备的概率是:

$$\text{prob}_{it} = 1 - (1 - p) \times (1 - q)^{mit},$$

其中:

- p: 创新系数, 用以刻画大众传播
- q: 模仿系数, 用以刻画口碑传播
- m_{it} : 在第t-1期末,与行动者i直接相连的行动者中,已经购买了智能穿戴设备的数量

如果行动者i在第t期购买了智能穿戴设备,则记作 $y_{it}=1$; 否则,记作记作 $y_{it}=0$ 。所以,每期的销售量为:

$$\mathrm{sales}_t = \sum_i y_{it}.$$

进一步,考虑到货币的时间价值,可以通过折现率r来计算企业通过销售智能穿戴设备获得的收益净现值:

$$ext{npv} = \sum_t rac{ ext{sales}_t}{(1+r)^t}.$$

正常产品扩散情形

我们首先搭建仿真模型,以模拟该新型智能穿戴设备在投放市场之后的扩散过程。

创建并初始化社会网络

```
rm(list = ls())
suppressMessages(library(igraph))
suppressMessages(library(ggplot2))
suppressMessages(library(dplyr))
suppressMessages(library(tidyr))
set. seed (123)
# create a graph
n <- 5000
g \leftarrow \text{random. graph. game} (n = n, p = 0.002)
# set parameters
setattr <- function(g, seeds = NULL) {</pre>
    # set vertex attributes
    V(g) $adopted <- 0
    if (length(seeds) > 0) {
      # seeds
      V(g)$adopted[seeds] <- 1</pre>
    # set graph attributes
    graph attr(g, "adopters") <- list(sum(V(g) $adopted))</pre>
    # return the graph
    return(g)
```

新产品扩散机制

智能穿戴设备的扩散过程中:

- 行动者之间是相互沟通和影响的
- 影响模式由以上公式刻画

```
iteration \leftarrow function(g, p = 0.1, q = 0.01) {
    # Number of vertices
    N <- vcount (g)
    # find non-adopters
    non adopters \langle -as. vector(V(g)[V(g) \$adopted == 0])
    # get the adjacency matrix
    adjacencymat <- as_adjacency_matrix(g, sparse = TRUE)</pre>
    # extract relevant adjacency matrix
    na adjacency <- adjacencymat[non adopters, , drop = FALSE]</pre>
    # remove the large matrix object
    rm(adjacencymat)
    # initialize the number of adopters
    nums_adopted <- unlist(g$adopters)</pre>
    # initialize the number of periods in which continuous zero adopttion occurs
    num test <- 0
    # iterate over all none-adopted vertices
    while (length(non adopters) != 0 && num test < 10) {
        # adopted judge
        # number of i's acquaintances who have adopted the good by time t
        mit <- as.vector(na_adjacency %*% V(g)$adopted)
        pit \langle -1 - (1 - p) * (1 - q) \hat{mit}
        flag <- runif(length(non_adopters)) < pit</pre>
        # update the adopted status
        flagid <- non_adopters[which(flag == TRUE)]</pre>
        if (length(flagid)) {
            V(g)[flagid]$adopted <- TRUE
        }
        # update the non-adopters id
        nonflagid <- which(flag == FALSE)</pre>
        non_adopters <- non_adopters[flag == FALSE]</pre>
        # update the relevant adjacency matrix
        na_adjacency <- na_adjacency[nonflagid, , drop = FALSE]</pre>
        # update the number of new adopters
        nums_adopted <- c(nums_adopted, sum(flag))</pre>
        # update the number of periods in which continuous zero adopttion occurs
        if (sum(flag) == 0) {
            num test <- num test + 1
        }else {
            num test \leftarrow 0
    # store as a graph attribute
    graph attr(g, "adopters") <- list(nums adopted)</pre>
    # return the graph
    return(g)
```

根据新产品扩散过程,我们可以计算对应的净现值(net present value, NPV)。

```
# create a function to calculate the NPV

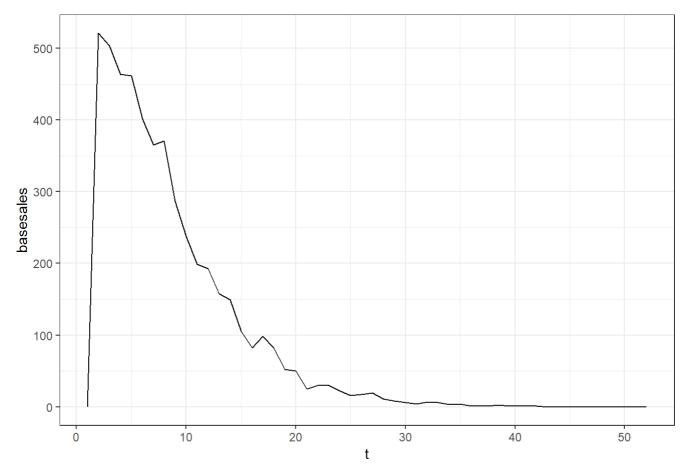
npv <- function(sales, discount.rate = 0.05) {
    # calculate npv

npv <- sum(sales / (1 + discount.rate) ^ (1:length(sales)))
    return(npv)
}</pre>
```

新产品销售量

我们根据以上仿真模型,计算该智能穿戴设备的销售量。

```
# base model
# set attributes
g. base <- setattr(g)
# diffusion process
g. base <- iteration(g. base)
# obtain the sales
sales. base <- graph_attr(g. base, "adopters")[[1]]
sales. base <- data. frame(t = 1:length(sales. base), basesales = sales. base)
# plot the sales
ggplot(sales. base, aes(x = t, y = basesales)) + geom_line() + labs(caption = "Sales over periods for t he new wearable device") + theme_bw()</pre>
```



Sales over periods for the new wearable device

同时可以看到,总销售量为4999。

净现值

考虑到货币的时间价值(2017年的1000元比2018年的1000元人民币更值钱:通货膨胀),我们计算销售额的净现值。

```
# print the results
npv. base <- npv(sales. base$basesales)
npvvec <- data. frame(npv. base = npv. base)
npvvec</pre>
```

```
## npv. base
## 1 3443
```

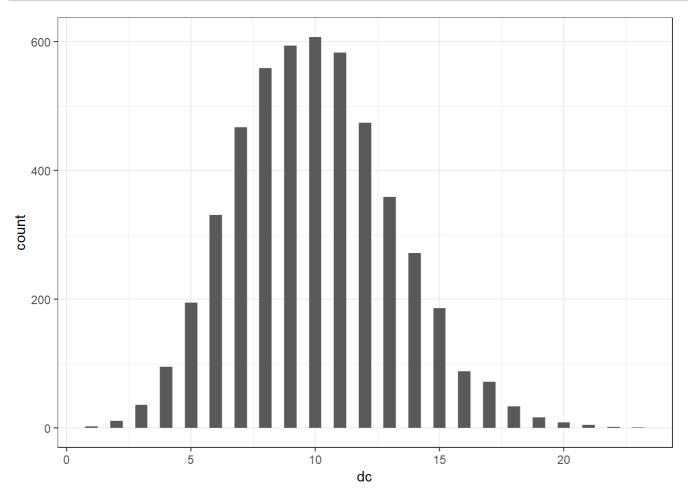
营销策略及结果

我们依次考虑四种营销策略。

度中心性

首先,我们计算节点的度中心性,并绘制度中心性的分布图。

```
# calculate degree centrality
dc <- degree(g)
# distribution of dc
data.frame(dc = dc) %>% ggplot(aes(x = dc)) + geom_histogram(binwidth = 0.5) + theme_bw()
```



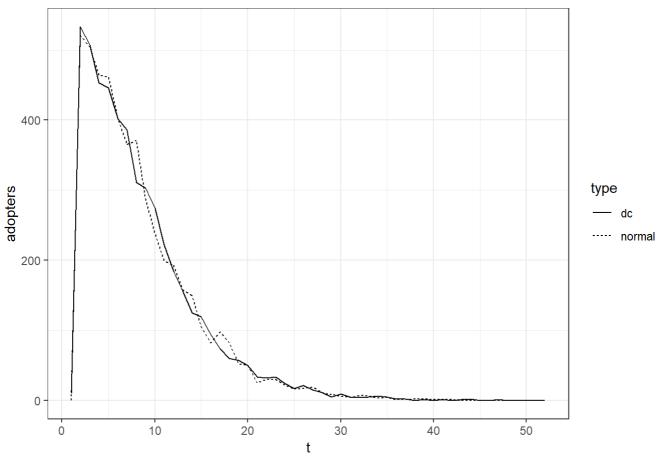
进而,我们选取10个度中心性最大的行动者(即消费者)作为"种子客户",免费向其提供智能穿戴产品。

```
# select 2/1000 actors as seeds
seedsize <- n * 0.002
seeds.dc <- order(dc, decreasing = T)[1:seedsize]
# print the dc of these seeds
dc[seeds.dc]</pre>
```

```
## [1] 23 22 22 21 21 21 21 21 20 20
```

可以看到,以上"种子客户"的度 (未归一化)都大约在20左右。

```
# set attributes
g.dc <- setattr(g, seeds = seeds.dc)</pre>
# diffusion process
g.dc <- iteration(g.dc)
# obtain the sales
sales.dc <- graph_attr(g.dc, "adopters")[[1]]</pre>
# create a data frame
t <- 1:max(length(sales.base$basesales), length(sales.dc))
# adding zeros
addzeros <- function(x, tmax) {
  if (length(x) < tmax) {
    # adding zeros
    x \leftarrow c(x, rep(0, tmax - length(x)))
  # return
  return(x)
# apply for two vectors
illust.dat <- data.frame(t, normal = addzeros(sales.base$basesales, length(t)), dc = addzeros(sales.d
c, length(t)))
illust.dat <- gather(illust.dat, "type", "adopters", 2:3)
# plot the results
ggplot(illust.dat, aes(x = t, y = adopters, linetype = type)) + geom_line() + labs(caption = "Sales ov = type)) + geom_line() + labs(caption = type)) + geom_line() + labs(caption = type))
er periods for the new wearable device") + theme bw()
```



Sales over periods for the new wearable device

可以看到,总销售量为5000。

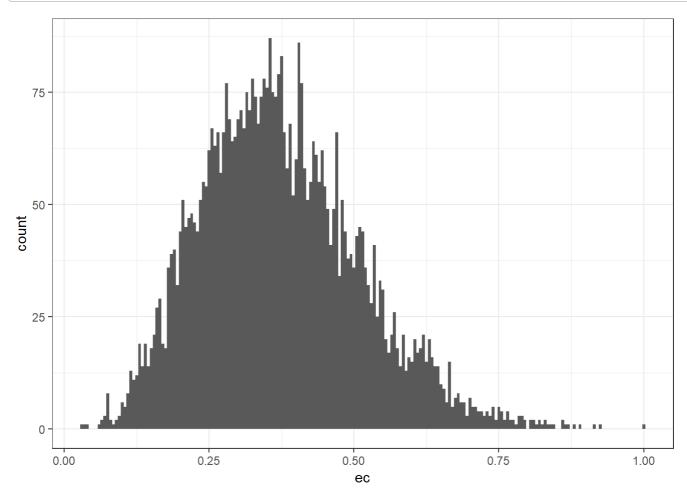
```
# calculate and compare NPV
npv.dc <- npv(sales.dc)
npvvec <- cbind(npvvec, npv.dc)
npvvec</pre>
```

```
## npv.base npv.dc
## 1 3443 3446
```

特征向量中心性

首先,我们计算节点的特征向量中心性,并绘制特征向量中心性的分布图。

```
# calculate eigenvector centrality
ec <- eigen_centrality(g, scale = T)$vector
# distribution of ec
data.frame(ec = ec) %>% ggplot(aes(x = ec)) + geom_histogram(binwidth = 5e-3) + theme_bw()
```

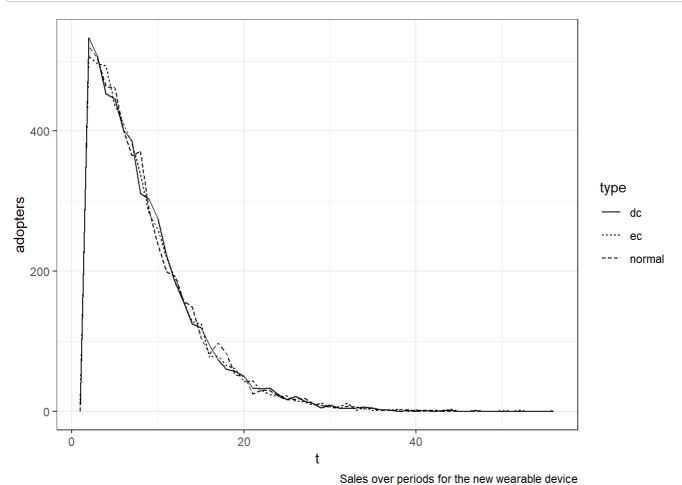


进而,我们选取10个特征向量中心性最大的行动者(即消费者)作为"种子客户",免费向其提供智能穿戴产品。

```
# select 2/1000 actors as seeds
seeds.ec <- order(ec, decreasing = T)[1:seedsize]
# print the cc of these seeds
ec[seeds.ec]</pre>
```

```
## [1] 1.000 0.926 0.915 0.889 0.878 0.872 0.866 0.862 0.861 0.845
```

```
# set attributes
g.ec <- setattr(g, seeds = seeds.ec)</pre>
# diffusion process
g.ec <- iteration(g.ec)
# obtain the sales
sales.ec <- graph_attr(g.ec, "adopters")[[1]]</pre>
# create a data frame
t <- 1:max(length(sales.base$basesales), length(sales.dc), length(sales.ec))
# adding zeros
addzeros <- function(x, tmax) {
 if (length(x) < tmax) {
    # adding zeros
    x \leftarrow c(x, rep(0, tmax - length(x)))
  # return
  return(x)
# apply for two vectors
illust.dat <- data.frame(t,
                         normal = addzeros(sales.base$basesales, length(t)),
                         dc = addzeros(sales.dc, length(t)),
                         ec = addzeros(sales.ec, length(t)))
illust.dat <- gather(illust.dat, "type", "adopters", 2:4)
# plot the results
ggplot(illust.dat, aes(x = t, y = adopters, linetype = type)) + geom_line() + labs(caption = "Sales ov
er periods for the new wearable device") + theme_bw()
```



可以看到,总销售量为5000。

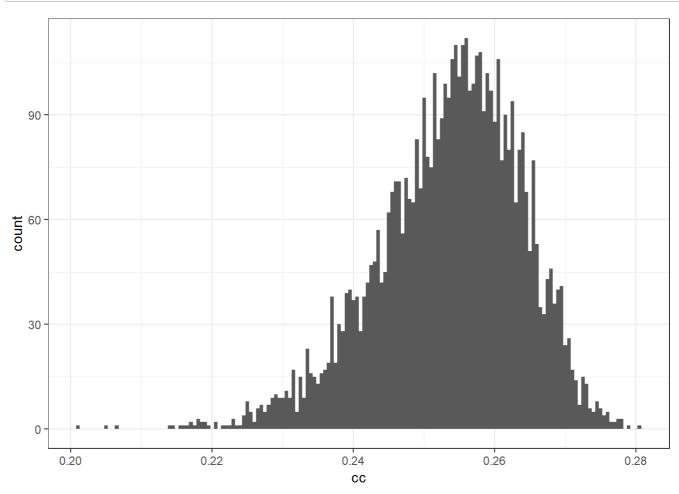
```
# calculate and compare NPV
npv.ec <- npv(sales.ec)
npvvec <- cbind(npvvec, npv.ec)
npvvec</pre>
```

```
## npv.base npv.dc npv.ec
## 1 3443 3446 3442
```

接近中心性

首先,我们计算节点的接近中心性,并绘制接近中心性的分布图。

```
# calculate closeness centrality
cc <- closeness(g, normalized = T)
# distribution of cc
data.frame(cc = cc) %>% ggplot(aes(x = cc)) + geom_histogram(binwidth = 5e-4) + theme_bw()
```

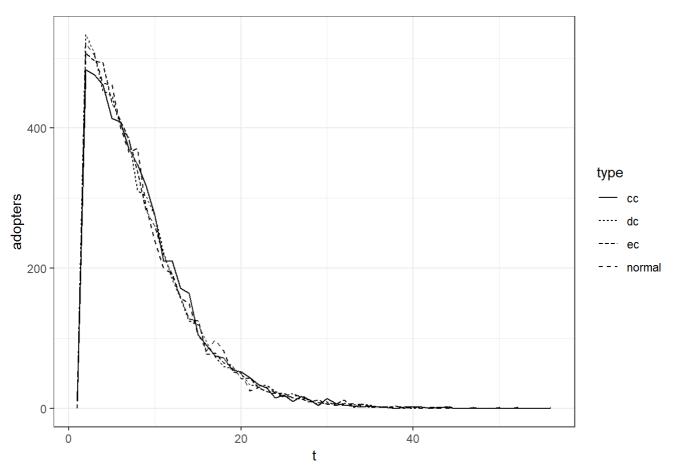


进而,我们选取10个接近中心性最大的行动者(即消费者)作为"种子客户",免费向其提供智能穿戴产品。

```
# select 2/1000 actors as seeds
seeds.cc <- order(cc, decreasing = T)[1:seedsize]
# print the cc of these seeds
cc[seeds.cc]</pre>
```

```
## [1] 0.280 0.279 0.278 0.278 0.278 0.278 0.277 0.277 0.277 0.277
```

```
# set attributes
g.cc <- setattr(g, seeds = seeds.cc)</pre>
# diffusion process
g.cc <- iteration(g.cc)
# obtain the sales
sales.cc <- graph_attr(g.cc, "adopters")[[1]]</pre>
# create a data frame
t <- 1:max(length(sales.base$basesales), length(sales.dc), length(sales.ec), length(sales.cc))
# adding zeros
addzeros <- function(x, tmax) {
 if (length(x) < tmax) {
    # adding zeros
    x \leftarrow c(x, rep(0, tmax - length(x)))
  # return
  return(x)
# apply for two vectors
illust.dat <- data.frame(t,
                         normal = addzeros(sales.base$basesales, length(t)),
                         dc = addzeros(sales.dc, length(t)),
                         ec = addzeros(sales.ec, length(t)),
                         cc = addzeros(sales.cc, length(t)))
illust.dat <- gather(illust.dat, "type", "adopters", 2:5)
# plot the results
ggplot(illust.dat, aes(x = t, y = adopters, linetype = type)) + geom_line() + labs(caption = "Sales ov
er periods for the new wearable device") + theme_bw()
```



Sales over periods for the new wearable device

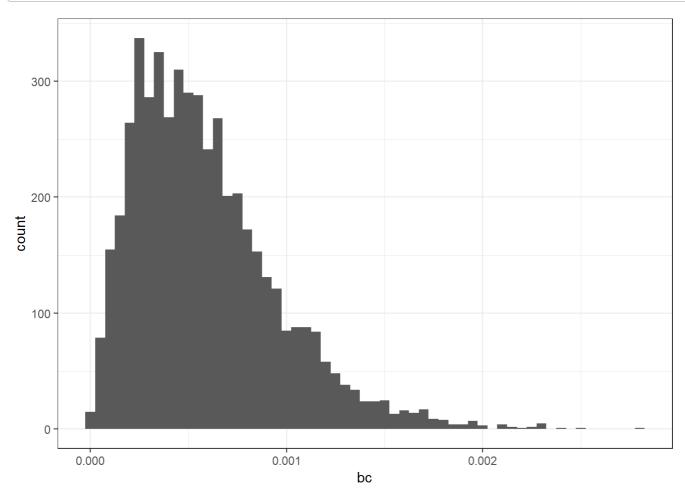
```
# calculate and compare NPV
npv.cc <- npv(sales.cc)
npvvec <- cbind(npvvec, npv.cc)
npvvec</pre>
```

```
## npv.base npv.dc npv.ec npv.cc
## 1 3443 3446 3442 3417
```

中介中心性

首先,我们计算节点的中介中心性,并绘制中介中心性的分布图。

```
# calculate betweenness centrality
bc <- betweenness(g, normalized = T)
# distribution of bc
data.frame(bc = bc) %>% ggplot(aes(x = bc)) + geom_histogram(binwidth = 5e-5) + theme_bw()
```

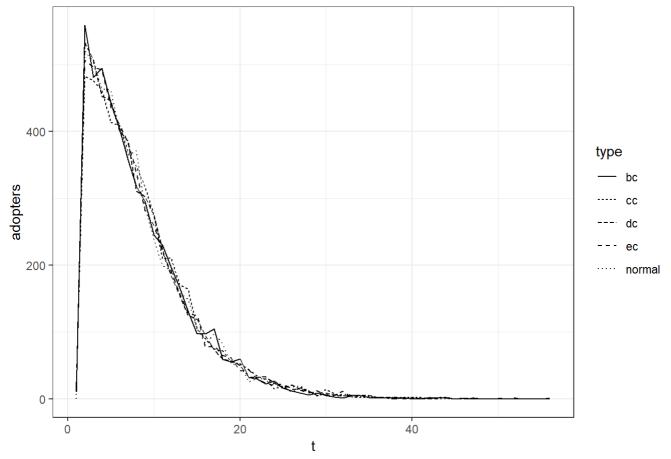


进而,我们选取10个中介中心性最大的行动者(即消费者)作为"种子客户",免费向其提供智能穿戴产品。

```
# select 2/1000 actors as seeds
seeds.bc <- order(bc, decreasing = T)[1:seedsize]
# print the bc of these seeds
bc[seeds.bc]</pre>
```

```
## [1] 0.00279 0.00250 0.00242 0.00231 0.00231 0.00230 0.00229 0.00229
## [9] 0.00227 0.00224
```

```
# set attributes
g.bc <- setattr(g, seeds = seeds.bc)</pre>
# diffusion process
g. bc <- iteration(g. bc)
# obtain the sales
sales.bc <- graph_attr(g.bc, "adopters")[[1]]</pre>
# create a data frame
t <- 1:max(length(sales.base$basesales), length(sales.dc), length(sales.ec), length(sales.cc), length
(sales.bc))
# adding zeros
addzeros <- function(x, tmax) {
  if (length(x) < tmax) {
    # adding zeros
    x \leftarrow c(x, rep(0, tmax - length(x)))
  # return
  return(x)
# apply for two vectors
illust.dat <- data.frame(t,
                            normal = addzeros(sales.base$basesales, length(t)),
                            dc = addzeros(sales.dc, length(t)),
                            ec = addzeros(sales.ec, length(t)),
                            cc = addzeros(sales.cc, length(t)),
                            bc = addzeros(sales.bc, length(t)))
illust.dat <- gather(illust.dat, "type", "adopters", 2:6)
# plot the results
ggplot(illust.dat, aes(x = t, y = adopters, linetype = type)) + geom_line() + labs(caption = "Sales ov = type)) + geom_line() + labs(caption = type)) + geom_line() + labs(caption = type))
er periods for the new wearable device") + theme bw()
```



Sales over periods for the new wearable device

可以看到,总销售量为5000。

最后,我们可以比较四种策略下的销售额净现值。

```
# calculate and compare NPV

npv.bc <- npv(sales.bc)

npvvec <- cbind(npvvec, npv.bc)

npvvec
```

```
## npv.base npv.dc npv.ec npv.cc npv.bc
## 1 3443 3446 3442 3417 3460
```