Makerere University

CoCIS / SoCIT

B.Sc. Computer Science

BIT 2207 Research Methodology

Detecting structure in voters' preferences

A concept paper

Abdul Kizza Ntale	15/U/11561/EVE
Harold Turyasingura	10/U/11447/EVE
Peter Rutabingwa	15/U/12443/EVE
Williams Kakooza	15/U/20165/EVE

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INTRODUCTION

Humans are creatures of habit and pattern. This is observable in many aspects of the human society. Decision making is

Background

Harold Hotelling makes an observation on the stability of a competitive situation, that competitors will tend to sell similar product at a similar price point, and in close proximity. His observation follows the single-peaked preference model that defines a general tendency of populations to make decisions with a median distribution of choice.

Voting being a decision making process should therefore too follow a similar model. Supposing that voting does follow a predictable model, it should therefore be possible to predict the outcome of an election with a certain degree of confidence. In this way, we can then be able to make better decisions.

In the real world though, this median distribution might not appear as smoothly or at all, but we can have approximations to the model that we might still be able to use to make better decisions.

Problem Statement

Using computers to allow a group of people to make better joint-decisions.

Aim and Objectives

Aim

Specific Objectives

Scope

Significance

METHODOLOGY

REFERENCES