

# Manipulation

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- 1 Strategy-proofness
- 2 Manipulation
- 3 Some manipulable rules

# Strategy-proofness

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- Assume  $\succ$  is a preference profile so that  $\succ_i$  is the true preferences of voter  $i$ .
- A voting rule  $F$  is **strategy-proof** if for every preference profile  $\succ' = (\succ_{-i}, \succ'_i)$ , it is not the case that  $F(\succ') \succ_i F(\succ)$

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- Yes, but not very satisfactory!

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- **Strategy-proof:** No voter has an incentive to misreport true preferences.
- **Onto:** Every alternative can win under some preference profile.
- **Non-dictatorial:** There is no voter  $i$  such that  $F(\succ)$  is always the top alternative for voter  $i$ .

# Gibbard-Satterthwaite

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- *dictatorial*: there exists a single fixed voter whose most-preferred alternative is chosen for every profile;
- *imposing*: there is at least one alternative that does not win under any profile;
- *manipulable* (i.e., not strategyproof).

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- *manipulable* (i.e., not strategyproof).

The first two properties are not acceptable in most voting settings.  
So, we need to assume that the voters have an incentive to misreport true preferences.

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- Maybe the rule is manipulable, but it is NP-hard to find a successful manipulation.  
For once NP-hardness can be good!!

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- The problem belongs to NP provided  $F$  is computable in polynomial time.
- For plurality, this problem is computationally trivial:
- The only sensible manipulation is to put  $a$  as your most preferred candidate!

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  - **Responsive**: the candidate with the largest score wins (in the voting under the joint profile)
  - **Monotone**: for any two preference orders  $P$  and  $P'$  and for any candidate  $a$ , if for each voter  $i$ ,  $\{b \mid a P b\} \subseteq \{b \mid a P' b\}$ , then  $S(P, a) \leq S(P', a)$ .

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Determine whether a candidate  $b$  can be placed in the next lower position (independent of remaining choices) without preventing  $c$  from winning.

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Determine whether a candidate  $b$  can be placed in the next lower position (independent of remaining choices) without preventing  $c$  from winning.  
If so, place  $b$  in the next position, otherwise terminate claiming that order does not exist.

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## Theorem

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- If Greedy-Manipulation succeeds, it constructs a preference order that guarantees that under the joint profile  $c$  wins.
- Assume that such an order exists and that Greedy-Manipulation terminates without providing an ordering. Let us reach a contradiction.

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- Consider any completion  $P$  of the preference order started by G-Man that places  $u$  in the first unassigned place.

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- By initialization  $S(P, c) \geq S(P', c)$ .
- So,  $S(P, c) \geq S(P, u)$ .
- But G-Man did not assign  $u$ , so  $S(P, c) < S(P, u)$  and we get the contradiction.

# Manipulable rules by Greedy

## Corollary

*For any voting rule  $F$  satisfying the BTT conditions, and for which the scoring rule can be computed in polynomial time  $G$ -Man solves the  $F$ -MANIPULATION problem in polynomial time.*

By monotonicity, it should be possible to compute the score of the alternative ranked "first" among a set of unranked alternatives

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- **Plurality is polynomial time manipulable.**

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- Both, Copeland vote and the score can be computed in polynomial time.
- Copeland is polynomial time manipulable.

# Maximin

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  - $Score(x) = \min_y n_{x \succsim y}$
  - elect  $x^*$  with the maximum score
- Working in a similar way, Maximin is polynomial time manipulable.

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- In each round, the alternative with the least plurality votes is eliminated.
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- STV-Manipulation is NP-hard (Bartholdi III, Social Choice and Welfare, 1991)