

Challenging Elections? (2019)

Prepared by:

Joseph Malkevitch
Mathematics Department
York College (CUNY)
Jamaica, NY 11451

email:

malkevitch@york.cuny.edu

web page:

<http://york.cuny.edu>

Below are sample elections which "challenge" various appealing methods to yield the result that seems sensible, though without more "context" sometimes it is hard to know what makes an election outcome "sensible."

In some of the elections all the candidates are ranked but there are no ties. In others there are ties, but all the candidates are ranked. In yet others, there are candidates who some voters chose not to rank.

Election 0:

18 votes: A>D>E>C>B

12 votes: B>E>D>C>A

10 votes: C>B>E>D>A

9 votes: D>C>E>B>A

4 votes: E>B>D>C>A

2 votes: E>C>D>B>A

Election 1:

46 votes: A

03 votes: A>B

25 votes: C>B

23 votes: D>B

Election 2

45 votes: A>B

30 votes: B

25 votes: C

Election 3 a

46 votes: A

03 votes: A>B

25 votes: C>B

23 votes: D>B

Election 3 b

46 votes: A

03 votes: A>B

25: votes C>B

23: D>B

03 votes: E

Election 4

3 votes: B>C>A

2 votes: B>A>C

3 votes: C>A>B

2 votes: C>B>A

3 votes: A>B>C

2 votes: A>C>B

Election 5

101 votes: A > B > C > D > E > F > G

101 votes: B > A = C > D > E > F > G

101 votes: C > B = D > A = E > F > G

050 votes: D > C = E > B = F > A = G

099 votes: E > D = F > C = G > B > A

099 votes: F > E = G > D > C > B > A

099 votes: G > F > E > D > C > B > A

Election 6

49 votes: A > B

03 votes: B > A > C

10 votes: D > B > C

38 votes: E > F > C

05 votes: G > D > H

Election 7

51 votes: A>B>C>D

49 votes: B>C>D>A

Election 8:

51 votes: A>B>C>D

49 votes: B>C>D>A

1 vote: C>B>D>A

1 vote: D>B>C>A

Election 9:

52 votes: A>B>C>D

49 votes: B>C>D>A

1 vote: C>B>D>A

1 vote: D>B>C>A

Things to think about.

1. When a candidate is not ranked is the reason that the person did not know anything about that candidate or that the voter did not choose to vote for this candidate so as not to give "assistance" to that candidate?

2. How should one do the calculation of counting ballots to determine if X beats Y in a two-way race if for some ballot X or Y does not appear?