

Stanford Department of Mathematics Colloquium

MATHEMATICS OF VOTING AND SOCIAL CHOICE

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Abstract

Mathematics has been used to understand the source of voting problems probably since the work of the mathematician J.C Borda back in 1770. While progress has been made, so many puzzles remain – enough so that one should worry whether election outcomes really reflect the views of the voters. In this talk, which assumes no expertise in the area, it will be shown how mathematics explains a wide number of problems including Arrow’s famous result, all of those voting paradoxes, and how extensions of these ideas provide insight into concerns ranging from engineering to multiscale analysis issues.

Thursday, Dec. 4,
4:15 p.m.
Bldg. 380, Room 380-W.

<http://math.stanford.edu/coll/0809/>