Package 'SafeVote'

July 21, 2025

```
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Author Clark Thomborson [cre, aut] (ORCID:
     <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4147-7898>)
Maintainer Clark Thomborson <c.thomborson@auckland.ac.nz>
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```

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.print method for summary object

Description

.print method for summary object

```
.print.summary.SafeVote(x, ...)
```

summary.SafeVote

Arguments

x, ... undocumented

Value

undocumented

.summary.SafeVote

summarises vote-totals for subsequent printing

Description

summarises vote-totals for subsequent printing

Usage

```
.summary.SafeVote(object, larger.wins = TRUE, reorder = TRUE)
```

Arguments

object vector of total votes per candidate

larger.wins TRUE if candidates are "voted in" rather than voted-out

reorder TRUE if output data.frame columns should be in rank-order

Value

a data.frame with three columns and nc+1 rows, where nc is the number of candidates. The first column contains candidate names and a final entry named "Sum". The second column contains vote totals. The third column is a vector of chars which indicate whether the candidate has been elected. The data.frame has four named attributes carrying election parameters.

TODO: refactor into a modern dialect of R, perhaps by defining a constructor for an election_info S3 object with a summary method and a print method

a3_hil 5

a3_hil

Tideman a3_hil

Description

This data is one of 87 sets of ballots from the Tideman data collection, as curated by The Center for Range Voting.

This set of ballots was collected in 1987 by Nicolaus Tideman, with support from NSF grant SES86-18328. "The data are records of ballots from elections of British organizations (mostly trade unions using PR-STV or IRV voting) in which the voters ranked the candidates. The data were gathered under a stipulation that the organizations involved would remain anonymous."

The ballots were encoded in David Hill's format, and have been converted to the preference-vector format of this package. The archival file A4.HIL at rangevoting.org contains eight blank ballot papers (1, 616, 619, 620, 685, 686, 687, 688) which we have retained. This set may be counted by 'stv(a3 hil,nseats=attr(a3 hil,"nseats"))'.

Usage

data(a3_hil)

Format

A data frame with attribute "nseats" = 7, consisting of 989 observations and 15 candidates.

a4_hil

Tideman a4_hil

Description

This data is one of 87 sets of ballots from the Tideman data collection, as curated by The Center for Range Voting. The ballots were archived in David Hill's format, and have been converted to the preference-vector format of this package.

This set of ballots was collected in 1987 by Nicolaus Tideman, with support from NSF grant SES86-18328. "The data are records of ballots from elections of British organizations (mostly trade unions using PR-STV or IRV voting) in which the voters ranked the candidates. The data were gathered under a stipulation that the organizations involved would remain anonymous."

Usage

data(a4_hil)

Format

A data frame with attribute "nseats" = 2, consisting of 43 observations and 14 candidates.

6 a53_hil

a53_hil

Tideman a53_hil

Description

This data is one of 87 sets of ballots from the Tideman data collection, as curated by The Center for Range Voting.

This set of ballots was collected in 1988 by Nicolaus Tideman, with support from NSF grant SES86-18328. "The data are records of ballots from elections of British organizations (mostly trade unions using PR-STV or IRV voting) in which the voters ranked the candidates. The data were gathered under a stipulation that the organizations involved would remain anonymous."

The ballots were encoded in David Hill's format, and have been converted to the preference-vector format of this package. Candidates have been renamed to letters of the alphabet, for ease of comparison with Table 3 of Tideman (2000). Note: the DOI for this article is 10.1023/A:1005082925477, with an embedded colon which isn't handled by the usual DOI-to-URL conversions.

As noted in this table, it is a very close race between candidates D, F, and B in the final rounds of a Meek count of 'a53_hil'.

Tideman's implementation of Meek's method excludes B (on 59.02 votes), then elects D in the final round (on 88.33 votes) with a margin of 0.95 votes ahead of F (on 87.38 votes).

In v1.0, 'stv(a53.hil,quota.hare=TRUE)' excludes F (on 56.418 votes), then elects D in the final round (on 79.705 votes) with a winning margin of 0.747 votes ahead of B (on 78.958 votes). The result of the election is the same but the vote counts and winning margins differ significantly; so we conclude that 'stv(quota.hare=TRUE)' in SafeVote v1.0 is *not* a reliable proxy for Tideman's implementation of Meek's algorithm.

Future researchers may wish to adjust the quota calculation of 'vote.stv()' so that it is no longer biased upward by a "fuzz" of 0.001, to see if this change significantly reduces the discrepancies with Tideman's implementation of Meek.

It would be unreasonable to expect an exact replication of results from two different implementations of an STV method. We leave it to future researchers to develop a formal specification, so that it would be possible to verify the correctness of an implementation. We also leave it to future researchers to develop a set of test cases with appropriate levels of tolerance for the vagaries of floating-point roundoff in optimised (or even unoptimised!) compilations of the same code on different computing systems. We suggest that 'a53_hil' be included in any such test set.

We note in passing that B.A. Wichmann, in "Checking two STV programs", Voting Matters 11, 2000, discussed the cross-validation exercise he conducted between the ERBS implementation of its voting rules and the Church of England's implementation of its voting rules. In both cases, he discovered ambiguities in the specification as well as defects in the implementation.

Usage

data(a53_hil)

Format

A data frame with attribute "nseats" = 4, consisting of 460 observations and 10 candidates.

approval 7

approval

Count votes using the approval method

Description

See https://arxiv.org/abs/2102.05801

Usage

```
approval(votes, nseats = 1, fsep = "\t", quiet = FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

```
votes, nseats, fsep, quiet, ... undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

as.SafeRankExpt

as.SafeRankExpt()

Description

```
as.SafeRankExpt()
```

Usage

```
as.SafeRankExpt(df)
```

Arguments

df

data.frame object

Value

a SafeRankExpt object, or stop() if df fails some sanity checks

```
assemble.args.for.check.score undocumented internal method
```

undocumented internal method

Usage

```
assemble.args.for.check.score(x, max.score = NULL, ...)
```

Arguments

```
x, max.score, ... undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

```
assemble. args. for. check. stv \\ undocumented\ internal\ method
```

Description

undocumented internal method

Usage

```
assemble.args.for.check.stv(x, equal.ranking = FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

```
x, equal.ranking, ... undocumented
```

Value

backwards.tiebreak 9

backwards.tiebreak

Undocumented internal method

Description

Undocumented internal method

Usage

```
backwards.tiebreak(prefs, icans, elim = TRUE)
```

Arguments

prefs undocumented icans undocumented elim undocumented

check.nseats

parameter-checking method for nseats (internal)

Description

parameter-checking method for nseats (internal)

Usage

```
check.nseats(
  nseats = NULL,
  ncandidates,
  default = 1,
  mcan = NULL,
  complete.ranking = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

nseats initially-specified number of seats to be filled in an election

ncandidates the number of candidates standing for election

default the return value of this function when nseats=NULL

mcan a deprecated name for nseats

complete.ranking

when TRUE, the return value is in 1..ncandidates When FALSE, the return value

is in 1..ncandidates-1 (for backwards compatibility)

Value

a valid non-NULL value for the number of seats to be filled

10 check.votes

check.ranking

check the validity of a partial ranking

Description

check the validity of a partial ranking

Usage

```
check.ranking(r)
```

Arguments

r

a numeric vector

Value

a partial ranking of the elements of 'r', using 'ties.method="min"'

check.votes

undocumented internal method

Description

undocumented internal method

Usage

```
check.votes(x, ..., quiet = FALSE)
```

Arguments

```
x, quiet, ... undocumented
```

Value

check.votes.approval 11

```
{\tt check.votes.approval} \quad \textit{undocumented internal method}
```

Description

undocumented internal method

Usage

```
check.votes.approval(record, ...)
```

Arguments

```
record, ... undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

```
check.votes.condorcet undocumented internal method
```

Description

undocumented internal method

Usage

```
check.votes.condorcet(record, ...)
```

Arguments

```
record, ... undocumented
```

Value

12 check.votes.score

```
check.votes.plurality undocumented internal method
```

Description

undocumented internal method

Usage

```
check.votes.plurality(record, ...)
```

Arguments

```
record, ... undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

check.votes.score

undocumented internal method

Description

undocumented internal method

Usage

```
check.votes.score(record, max.score, ...)
```

Arguments

```
record, max.score, ... undocumented
```

Value

check.votes.stv 13

check.votes.stv

undocumented internal method

Description

undocumented internal method

Usage

```
check.votes.stv(record, equal.ranking = FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

```
record, equal.ranking, ... undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

```
check.votes.tworound.runoff
```

undocumented internal method

Description

undocumented internal method

Usage

```
check.votes.tworound.runoff(record, ...)
```

Arguments

```
record, ... undocumented
```

Value

combineRankings

the least upper bound on a pair of rankings

Description

the least upper bound on a pair of rankings

Usage

```
combineRankings(r1, r2)
```

Arguments

r1, r2

numeric vectors

Value

the most complete (but possibly partial) ranking which is consistent with both r1 and r2. Uses 'ties.method="min"

Examples

```
combineRankings(c(3,1,2), c(2,1,3))
```

completeRankingTable

internal method to analyse the partial results of an stv() ballot count, to discover a complete ranking of all candidates. The ranking may depend on the value of nseats, because this affects how votes are transferred.

Description

internal method to analyse the partial results of an stv() ballot count, to discover a complete ranking of all candidates. The ranking may depend on the value of nseats, because this affects how votes are transferred.

Usage

```
completeRankingTable(object, quiet, verbose)
```

Arguments

object partial results

quiet TRUE to suppress console output verbose TRUE to produce diagnostic output

condorcet 15

Value

data.frame with columns TotalRank, Margin, Candidate, Elected, SafeRank

condorcet Count votes using the Condorcet voting method.

Description

The Condorcet method elects the candidate who wins a majority of the ranked vote in every head to head election against each of the other candidates. A Condorcet winner is a candidate who beats all other candidates in pairwise comparisons. Analogously, a Condorcet loser is a candidate who loses against all other candidates. Neither Condorcet winner nor loser might exist.

Usage

```
condorcet(
  votes,
  runoff = FALSE,
  nseats = 1,
  safety = 1,
  fsep = "\t",
  quiet = FALSE,
   ...
)
```

Arguments

votes	A matrix or data.frame containing the votes. Rows correspond to the votes, columns correspond to the candidates. If 'votes' is a character string, it is interpreted as a file name from which the votes are to be read. See below.
runoff	Logical. If TRUE and no Condorcet winner exists, the election goes into a run-off, see below.
nseats	the number of seats to be filled in this election
safety	Parameter for a clustering heuristic on a total ranking of the candidates. Conjecture: the default of '1.0' ensures a separation of one s.d. between clusters, when 'votes' are i.u.d. permutations on the candidates.
fsep	If 'votes' is a file name, this argument gives the column separator in the file.
quiet	If TRUE no output is printed.
	Undocumented intent (preserved from legacy code)

16 correct.ranking

Details

If the runoff argument is set to 'TRUE' and no Condorcet winner exists, two or more candidates with the most pairwise wins are selected and the method is applied to such subset. If more than two candidates are in such run-off, the selection is performed repeatedly, until either a winner is selected or no more selection is possible.

The input data votes is structured the same way as for the stv method: Row 'i' contains the preferences of voter 'i' numbered '1; 2; : : ; r; 0; 0; 0; 0', in some order, while equal preferences are allowed. The columns correspond to the candidates. The dimnames of the columns are the names of the candidates; if these are not supplied then the candidates are lettered 'A, B, C, ...'. If the dataset contains missing values (NA), they are replaced by zeros.

If a ballot has equally-ranked candidates, its rankings are tested for validity: for each preference i which does not have any duplicate, there are exactly i-1 preferences j with 0 < j < i. If any ballot 'x' fails this validity test, it is automatically corrected (aka "converted") into a valid ballot using 'x <- rank(x, ties.method = "min")', and a warning is issued.

This method also computes a Borda ranking of all candidates, using tournament-style scoring. This ranking is "fuzzed" into a 'safeRank', with approximately 1 s.d. of fuzz when 'safety=1.0' and voter preferences are i.u.d. A warning is thrown if a 'safeRank' violates the (extended) Condorcet principle: that Candidate i is more highly ranked than Candidate j only if a majority of voters agree with this.

Value

Object of class 'SafeVote.condorcet'

Examples

```
{
data(food_election)
condorcet(food_election)
}
```

correct.ranking

Amend ballots with equal or incomplete preferences

Description

The 'correct.ranking' function returns a modified set of ballots. Its argument 'partial' determines if ballots are partially set to '0' ('TRUE'), or if it is a complete re-ranking, as allowed when 'equal.ranking = TRUE'. It can be used by calling it explicitly. It is called by 'stv' if 'equal.ranking = TRUE' or 'invalid.partial = TRUE'. It is also called from within the 'condorcet' function with the default value ('FALSE') for 'partial', i.e. interpreting any '0' as a last= preference.

```
correct.ranking(votes, partial = FALSE, quiet = FALSE)
```

dublin_west 17

Arguments

votes original contents of ballot box

partial if 'FALSE' (default), each ballot is interpreted, if possible, as a complete (but

not necessarily total) ranking of the candidates. If 'TRUE', a ballot will contain

a '0' on unranked candidates.

quiet suppress diagnostics

Value

corrected ballots

dublin_west

Dublin West

Description

Dataset containing ranked votes for the Dublin West constituency in 2002, Ireland.

Usage

```
data(dublin_west)
```

Format

A data frame with 29988 observations and 9 candidates. Each record corresponds to one ballot with candidates being ranked between 1 and 9 with zeros allowed.

See Also

Wikipedia

election.info

prints the basic results of an election

Description

prints the basic results of an election

Usage

```
election.info(x)
```

Arguments

x basic election results, as named attributes of an R structure or object

18 extractRank

Value

data.frame: an invisible copy of the printed results

TODO: refactor into a modern dialect of R, e.g. defining a constructor for an election_info S3 object with a print method

extractMargins

extract margins from the results of a ballot count

Description

extract margins from the results of a ballot count

Usage

```
extractMargins(marginNames, crRanks, cr)
```

Arguments

marginNames list of colnames of the margins in our SafeRank result

crRanks ranks of candidates, not necessarily total
cr structure returned by a ballot-counting method

Margins are adjusted for tied candidates, such that candidates within a tie group have margins indicative of their relative strengths. Extremely small margins are

indicative of floating-point roundoff errors.

Value

named list of margins

extractRank

Extract a ranking vector by name from the results of a ballot count

Description

Extract a ranking vector by name from the results of a ballot count

Usage

```
extractRank(rankMethod, cr)
```

Arguments

rankMethod "safeRank", "elected", or "rank"

cr structure returned by a ballot-counting method

food_election 19

Value

a numeric ranking vector, in order of colnames(cr\$data)

food_election

Food Election

Description

Sample data for testing SafeVote

Usage

```
data(food_election)
```

Format

A data frame with 20 observations and 5 candidates (Oranges, Pears, Chocolate, Strawberries, Sweets). Each record corresponds to one ballot with ranking for each of the candidates.

forwards.tiebreak

Undocumented internal method

Description

Undocumented internal method

Usage

```
forwards.tiebreak(prefs, icans, elim = TRUE)
```

Arguments

prefs	undocumented
icans	undocumented
elim	undocumented

20 image.SafeVote.stv

```
image.SafeVote.condorcet
```

The image function visualizes the joint distribution of two preferences (if 'all.pref=FALSE') given 'xpref' and 'ypref', as well as the marginal distribution of all preferences (if 'all.pref=TRUE'). The joint distribution can be shown as proportions (if 'proportion=TRUE') or raw vote counts (if 'proportion=FALSE').

Description

The image function visualizes the joint distribution of two preferences (if 'all.pref=FALSE') given 'xpref' and 'ypref', as well as the marginal distribution of all preferences (if 'all.pref=TRUE'). The joint distribution can be shown as proportions (if 'proportion=TRUE') or raw vote counts (if 'proportion=FALSE').

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeVote.condorcet'
image(x, ...)
```

Arguments

x object of type SafeVote.condorcet

... See arguments for image.SafeVote.stv, especially 'xpref', 'ypref', 'all.pref' and 'proportion'.

Value

image object, with side-effect in RStudio Plots pane

image.SafeVote.stv

visualisation of joint and marginal distributions in STV preferences

Description

visualisation of joint and marginal distributions in STV preferences

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeVote.stv'
image(x, xpref = 2, ypref = 1, all.pref = FALSE, proportion = TRUE, ...)
```

ims_approval 21

Arguments

Х	STV results to be visualised
xpref, ypref	candidates shown in a joint distribution plot
all.pref	plot the joint distribution of two preferences (if 'all.pref=FALSE') or the marginal distribution of all preferences (if 'all.pref=TRUE').
proportion	The joint distribution can be shown either as proportions (if 'proportion=TRUE') or raw vote counts (if 'proportion=FALSE').
•••	args passed to fields::image.plot()

Value

image object, with side-effect in RStudio Plots pane

Description

Modified version of ims_election, for use in approval voting.

Usage

```
data(ims_approval)
```

Format

A data frame with 620 observations and 10 candidates (names were made up). Each record corresponds to one ballot, with 0 indicating disapproval of a candidate and 1 indicating approval.

ims_election	IMS Election			
--------------	--------------	--	--	--

Description

Datasets containing anonymized votes for a past Council election of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS). The dataset ims_election is the original dataset used with single transferable vote, where candidate names have been changed.

```
data(ims_election)
```

ims_score

Format

A data frame with 620 observations and 10 candidates (names were made up). Each record corresponds to one ballot. The IMS Council voting is done using the STV method, and thus the ims_election dataset contains ballots with candidates being ranked between 1 and 10 with zeros allowed.

ims_plurality

IMS Plurality

Description

Modified version of ims_election, for use in plurality voting.

Usage

```
data(ims_plurality)
```

Format

A data frame with 620 observations and 10 candidates (names were made up). Each record corresponds to one ballot, with 1 against the voter's most-preferred candidate and 0 against all other candidates.

ims_score

IMS Score

Description

Modified version of ims_election, for use in score voting.

Usage

```
data(ims_score)
```

Format

A data frame with 620 observations and 10 candidates (names were made up). Each record corresponds to one ballot, with higher values indicating the more-preferred candidates.

ims_stv 23

ims_stv

IMS STV

Description

Copy of ims_election, included for backwards compatibility.

Usage

```
data(ims_election)
```

Format

A data frame with 620 observations and 10 candidates (names were made up). Each record corresponds to one ballot. The IMS Council voting is done using the STV method, and thus the ims_election dataset contains ballots with candidates being ranked between 1 and 10 with zeros allowed.

invalid.votes

Extracts the invalid votes member (if any) from the result of a count

Description

This method was added Jan 2022 – it was named in a warning message but had apparently either never been implemented, or had been "lost" through versioning.

Usage

```
invalid.votes(x)
```

Arguments

Х

value returned by stv, condorcet, approval, plurality, or score

Value

matrix with one column per candidate and one row per invalid ballot

24 is.valid.vote

is.SafeRankExpt

is.SafeRankExpt()

Description

```
is.SafeRankExpt()
```

Usage

```
is.SafeRankExpt(x)
```

Arguments

х

object of unknown class

Value

TRUE if x is a valid SafeRankExpt object

is.valid.vote

undocumented internal method

Description

undocumented internal method

Usage

```
is.valid.vote(x, method, ...)
```

Arguments

```
x, method, ... undocumented
```

Value

loserMargin 25

loserMargin

Find a loser and their margin of victory

Description

Find a loser and their margin of victory

Usage

```
loserMargin(votes)
```

Arguments

votes

cleaned ballots

Value

length-2 vector: the index of a losing candidate, and their margin of loss (0 if a tie, NA if no winners)

new_SafeRankExpt

Constructor for the results of a SafeRank experiment

Description

Constructor for the results of a SafeRank experiment

```
new_SafeRankExpt(
  rankNames = list(),
  marginNames = list(),
  countMethod = character(0),
  rankMethod = character(0),
  datasetName = character(0),
  experimentalMethod = character(0),
  countArgs = list(),
  nseats = integer(0),
  otherFactors = list(),
  unitFactors = list()
```

26 ordered.preferences

Arguments

rankNames colnames for per-candidate ranks

marginNames colnames for per-candidate margins

countMethod secondary factor: counting method e.g. "stv"

rankMethod secondary factor: ranking method e.g. "elected"

datasetName secondary factor: name of the dataset of ballots

experimentalMethod

secondary factor: name of the method which simulated these elections e.g. "test-

Fraction"

countArgs secondary factor: args passed to countMethod

nseats secondary factor: number of seats to be filled

otherFactors other secondary factors, e.g. parameters to experimentalMethod

unitFactors per-unit factors derived from PRNG of the experimental harness, e.g describing

the ballots randomly deleted during testDeletions

Value

object of class SafeRankExpt

ordered.preferences

Undocumented internal method

Description

Undocumented internal method

Usage

ordered.preferences(vmat)

Arguments

vmat undocumented

ordered.tiebreak 27

ordered.tiebreak

Undocumented internal method

Description

Undocumented internal method

Usage

```
ordered.tiebreak(vmat, seed = NULL)
```

Arguments

vmat undocumented seed undocumented

plot.SafeRankExpt

plot() method for the result of an experiment with varying numbers of ballots

Description

The "adjusted rank" of a candidate is their ranking r plus their scaled "winning margin". The scaled margin is $e^{-cx/\sqrt{n}}$, where x is the adjusted margin (i.e. the number of votes by which this candidate is ahead of the next-weaker candidate, adjusted for the number of ballots n and the number of seats s), and c>0 is the margin-scaling parameter 'cMargin'.

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeRankExpt'
plot(
  х,
  facetWrap = FALSE,
  nResults = NA,
  anBallots = 0,
  cMargin = 1,
  xlab = "Ballots",
 ylab = "Adjusted Rank",
  title = NULL,
  subtitle = "(default)",
  line = TRUE,
  boxPlot = FALSE,
 boxPlotCutInterval = 10,
 pointSize = 1,
)
```

28 plot.SafeRankExpt

Arguments

x object containing experimental results

facetWrap TRUE provides per-candidate scatterplots

nResults number of candidates whose results are plotted (omitting the least-favoured can-

didates first)

anBallots, cMargin

parameters in the rank-adjustment formula

xlab, ylab axis labels

title overall title for the plot. Default: NULL

subtitle subtitle for the plot. Default: value of nSeats and any non-zero rank-adjustment

parameters

1ine TRUE will connect points with lines, and will disable jitter

boxPlot TRUE for a boxplot, rather than the default xy-scatter

boxPlotCutInterval

parameter of boxplot, default 10

pointSize diameter of points

... params for generic plot()

Details

The default value of 'cMargin=1.0' draws visual attention to candidates with a very small winning margin, as their adjusted rank is very near to r+1. Candidates with anything more than a small winning margin have only a small rank adjustment, due to the exponential scaling.

A scaling linear in s/n is applied to margins when 'anBallots>0'. Such a linear scaling may be a helpful way to visualise the winning margins in STV elections because the margin of victory for an elected candidate is typically not much larger than the quota of n/(s+1) (Droop) or n/s (Hare). The linear scaling factor is as/n, where a is the value of 'anBallots', s is the number of seats, and n is the number of ballots. For plotting on the (inverted) adjusted rank scale, the linearly-scaled margin is added to the candidate's rank. Note that the linearly-scaled margins are zero when a=0, and thus have no effect on the adjusted rank. You might want to increase the value of 'anBallots', starting from 1.0, until the winning candidate's adjusted rank is 1.0 when all ballots are counted, then confirm that the adjusted ranks of other candidates are still congruent with their ranking (i.e. that the rank-adjustment is less than 1 in all cases except perhaps on an initial transient with small numbers of ballots).

When both 'anBallots' and 'cMargins' are non-zero, the ranks are adjusted with both exponentially-scaled margins and linearly-scaled margins. The resulting plot would be difficult to interpret in a valid way.

Todo: Accept a list of SafeVoteExpt objects.

Todo: Multiple counts with the same number of ballots could be summarised with a box-and-whisker graphic, rather than a set of jittered points.

Todo: Consider developing a linear scaling that is appropriate for plotting stochastic experimental data derived from Condorcet elections.

plot.Safe Vote.stv 29

Value

graphics object, with side-effect in RStudio Plots pane

```
plot.SafeVote.stv
```

plot() method for the result of an stv() ballot-count

Description

The 'plot' function shows the evolution of the total score for each candidate as well as the quota.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeVote.stv'
plot(x, xlab = "Count", ylab = "Preferences", point.size = 2, ...)
```

Arguments

```
x stv resultsxlab, ylab axis labels
```

point.size diameter of elected/eliminated points

... params for generic plot()

Value

graphics object, with side-effect in RStudio's Plots pane

plurality

Count votes using the plurality method

Description

See https://arxiv.org/abs/2102.05801

Usage

```
plurality(votes, nseats = 1, fsep = "\t", quiet = FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

```
votes, nseats, fsep, quiet, ... undocumented
```

Value

prepare.votes

Coerce input 'data' into a matrix

Description

Coerce input 'data' into a matrix

Usage

```
prepare.votes(data, fsep = "\n")
```

Arguments

data possibly a .csv file, possibly an R object

fsep separation character for .csv e.g. tab or comma

Value

a matrix with one row per ballot, one column per candidate, with named rows and columns

```
print.summary.SafeRankExpt
```

Print method for summary.SafeRankExpt

Description

Print method for summary.SafeRankExpt

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.SafeRankExpt' print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

x experimental results... args for generic print()

Value

invisible(x), with side-effects to console

print method for summary object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.SafeVote.approval' print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

```
x, ... undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

```
print.summary.Safe Vote.condorcet\\print\ method\ for\ summary.Safe\ Vote.condorcet
```

Description

print method for summary.SafeVote.condorcet

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.SafeVote.condorcet' print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

```
x object of type summary.SafeVote.condorcet... parameters passed to generic print
```

Value

```
textual description of 'x'
```

```
print. summary. Safe Vote. plurality \\ print\ method\ for\ summary\ of\ plurality\ object
```

print method for summary of plurality object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.SafeVote.plurality' print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

```
x, ... undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

Description

print method for summary.score object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.SafeVote.score' print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

```
x, ... undocumented
```

Value

print() method for a summary() of a SafeVote result

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.SafeVote.stv' print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

x election results

... args to be passed to kable()

Value

no return value, called for side-effect of printing to console

```
rbind_SafeRankExpt add a row to a SafeRankExpt object
```

Description

add a row to a SafeRankExpt object

Usage

```
rbind_SafeRankExpt(object, row)
```

Arguments

object prior results of experimentation

row new observations

Value

SafeRankExpt object with an additional row

34 remove.candidate

readHil

read a set of ballots in .HIL format

Description

rangevoting.org/TidemanData.html: The data are in a format developed by David Hill. The first line contains the number of candidates and the number to be elected. (Many but not all elections were multi-winner.) In subsequent lines that represent ballot papers, the first number is always 1. (The format was designed for a counting program that treats the first number as the number of instances of the ordering of the candidates on the line.) Next on these lines is a sequence of numbers representing a voter's reported ranking: The number of the candidate ranked first, the number of the candidate ranked second, and so on. The end of the reported ranking is signaled by a zero. A zero at the beginning of the ranking is a signal that the list of ballot papers has ended. Next come the names of the candidates, each in parentheses, as required by the counting program, and finally the name of the election.

Usage

```
readHil(filnm, quiet = FALSE)
```

Arguments

filnm name of a file in .HIL format quiet suppress diagnostic output

Value

a matrix with one row per ballot, one column per candidate, with named rows and columns, and with attributes "nseats" and "ename"

remove.candidate

Remove a candidate, amending ballot papers as required

Description

Remove a candidate, amending ballot papers as required

Usage

```
remove.candidate(votes, can, quiet = TRUE)
```

Arguments

votes ballot box

can candidate to be removed quiet suppress diagnostics

score 35

Value

amended ballot box

score

Count votes using the score (or range) method.

Description

See https://arxiv.org/abs/2102.05801

Usage

```
score(
  votes,
  nseats = 1,
  max.score = NULL,
  larger.wins = TRUE,
  fsep = "\t",
  quiet = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

```
votes, nseats, \max. score, larger.wins, fsep, quiet, ... undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

solveTiebreak

Undocumented internal method, renamed from 'solve.tiebreak' to avoid confusion with generic solve()

Description

Undocumented internal method, renamed from 'solve.tiebreak' to avoid confusion with generic solve()

```
solveTiebreak(method, prefs, icans, ordered.ranking = NULL, elim = TRUE)
```

36 stv

Arguments

```
method undocumented
prefs undocumented
icans undocumented
ordered.ranking
undocumented
elim undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

stv

Count preferential ballots using an STV method

Description

The 'votes' parameter is as described in condorcet() with the following additional semantics.

```
stv(
  votes,
 nseats = NULL,
 eps = 0.001,
  equal.ranking = FALSE,
  fsep = "\t",
  ties = c("f", "b"),
  quota.hare = FALSE,
  constant.quota = FALSE,
 win.by.elim = TRUE,
  group.nseats = NULL,
 group.members = NULL,
  complete.ranking = FALSE,
  invalid.partial = FALSE,
  verbose = FALSE,
  seed = NULL,
  quiet = FALSE,
  digits = 3,
 backwards.compatible = FALSE,
  safety = 1,
)
```

stv 37

Arguments

votes an array with one column per candidate and one row per ballot, as described in

condorcet()

nseats the number of seats to be filled in this election

eps fuzz-factor when comparing fractional votes. The default of 0.001 is preserved

from the legacy code, injecting substantial validity hazards into the codebase. We have not attempted to mitigate any of these hazards in 'SafeVote v1.0.0'. We prefer instead to retain backwards-compatibility with the legacy code in 'vote_2.3-2' in the knowledge that, even if these hazards were adequately addressed, the resulting code is unlikely to be reliable at replicating the results of any other implementation of any of the many variants of "STV" counting methods. Please see the description of the 'a53_hil' dataset in this package for some preliminary findings on the magnitude of the vote-count-variances which may be injected by differing implementations of broadly-similar "STV" count-

ing methods.

equal.ranking if 'TRUE', equal preferences are allowed.

fsep column-separator for output

ties vector of tie-breaking methods: "f" for forward, "b" for backward

quota.hare 'TRUE' if Hare quota, 'FALSE' if Droop quota (default)

constant.quota 'TRUE' if quota is held constant. Over-rides 'quota.hare'. Default is 'FALSE'

win.by.elim 'TRUE' (default) if the quota is waived when there are no more candidates than

vacant seats. Note: there is no lower limit when the quota is waived, so a candi-

date may be elected on zero votes.

group.nseats number of seats reserved to members of a group

group.members vector of members of the group with reserved seats

complete.ranking

is 'TRUE' by default. This parameter is retained solely for backwards compatibility with vote::stv(). It has no effect on elections in which 'nseats' is

explicitly specified in the call to stv().

invalid.partial

'TRUE' if ballots which do not specify a complete ranking of candidates are informal (aka "invalid") *i.e.* ignored (with a warning). Default is 'FALSE'.

verbose 'TRUE' for diagnostic output

seed integer seed for tie-breaking. Warning: if non-'NULL', the PRNG for R is re-

seeded prior to *every* random tie-break among the possibly-elected candidates. We have preserved this functionality in this branch to allow regression against the legacy codebase of vote::stv(). In stv() the default value for seed is 'NULL' rather than the legacy value of 1234, to mitigate the validity hazard of

PRNG reseedings during a stochastic experiment.

quiet 'TRUE' to suppress console output

digits number of significant digits in the output table

backwards.compatible

'TRUE' to regress against vote2_3.2 by disabling \$margins, \$fuzz, \$rankingTable,

\$safeRank

38 stv

number of standard deviations on vote-counts, when producing a safeRank by clustering near-ties in a complete ranking

undocumented intent (preserved from legacy code)

Details

By default the preferences are not allowed to contain duplicates per ballot. However, if the argument 'equal.ranking' is set to 'TRUE', ballots are allowed to have the same ranking for multiple candidates. The desired format is such that for each preference i that does not have any duplicate, there must be exactly i - 1 preferences i with i - 1 preferences i with i For example, valid ordered preferences are '1; 1; 3; 4; ...', or '1; 2; 3; 3; 3; 6; ...', but NOT '1; 1; 2; 3; ...', or NOT '1; 2; 3; 3; 3; 5; 6; ...'. If the data contain such invalid votes, they are automatically corrected and a warning is issued by calling the 'correct.ranking' function.

If equal ranking is not allowed ('equal.ranking = FALSE'), the argument 'invalid.partial' can be used to make ballots containing duplicates or gaps partially valid. If it is 'TRUE', a ballot is considered valid up to a preference that is in normal case not allowed. For example, ballots '1; 2; 3; 4; 4; 6' or '1; 2; 3; 5; 6; 7' would be both converted into '1; 2; 3; 0; 0; 0', because the ballots contain valid ranking only up to the third preference.

By default, ties in the STV algorithm are resolved using the forwards tie-breaking method, see Newland and Briton (Section 5.2.5). Argument 'ties' can be set to "b" in order to use the backwards tie-breaking method, see O'Neill (2004). In addition, both methods are complemented by the following "ordered" method: Prior to the STV election candidates are ordered by the number of first preferences. Equal ranks are resolved by moving to the number of second preferences, then third and so on. Remaining ties are broken by random draws. Such complete ordering is used to break any tie that cannot be resolved by the forwards or backwards method. If there is at least one tie during the processing, the output contains a row indicating in which count a tie-break happened (see the 'ties' element in the Value section for an explanation of the symbols).

The ordered tiebreaking described above can be analysed from outside of the 'stv' function by using the 'ordered.tiebreak' function for viewing the a-priori ordering (the highest number is the best and lowest is the worst). Such ranking is produced by comparing candidates along the columns of the matrix returned by 'ordered.preferences'.

Value

object of class 'vote.stv'. Note: the winning margins in this object are valid for the elected candidates and their (total) ranking, but must be adjusted within tiegroups to be valid for the candidates' (possibly partial) safeRank.

Examples

```
data(food_election)
stv(food_election, safety = 0.0)
stv(food_election, nseats = 2)
```

```
summary. SafeRankExpt \quad \textit{summary method for SafeRankExpt}
```

Description

summary method for SafeRankExpt

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeRankExpt'
summary(object, ...)
```

Arguments

```
object experimental results to be summarised ... args for generic summary()
```

Value

summary.SafeRankExpt object

```
summary.SafeVote.approval summary method for approval results
```

Description

summary method for approval results

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeVote.approval'
summary(object, ...)
```

Arguments

```
object, ... undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

```
summary.SafeVote.condorcet
```

Summary method for condorcet() results

Description

Summary method for condorcet() results

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeVote.condorcet'
summary(object, ...)
```

Arguments

```
object of type SafeVote.condorcet
... undocumented, currently unused
```

Value

data.frame object

```
summary. Safe Vote. plurality \\ summary \ method \ for \ plurality \ object
```

Description

summary method for plurality object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeVote.plurality'
summary(object, ...)
```

Arguments

```
object, ... undocumented
```

Value

descriptive dataframe

```
summary.SafeVote.score
```

summary method for score object

Description

summary method for score object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeVote.score'
summary(object, ...)
```

Arguments

```
object, ... undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

```
summary. \, Safe Vote. \, stv \quad \textit{summary() method for a Safe Vote result}
```

Description

summary() method for a SafeVote result

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeVote.stv'
summary(object, ..., digits = 3)
```

Arguments

```
object undocumented, legacy code
... undocumented
digits undocumented
```

Value

data.frame summarising 'object', for use by 'print' method

42 testAdditions

sumOfVotes

internal method, computes column-sums

Description

Renamed from 'sum.votes' to avoid confusion with the generic sum()

Usage

```
sumOfVotes(votes)
```

Arguments

votes

ballots are rows, candidates are columns

Value

vector of votes for each candidate

testAdditions

Test the sensitivity of a result to tactical voting.

Description

Ballots are added until a specified number of simulated elections ('arep') have been held. If a 'favoured' candidate is specified, then the ballot-box is stuffed with ballots awarding first-preference to this candidate. Alternatively, a 'tacticalBallot' may be specified. If both 'favoured' and 'tacticalBallot' are 'NULL', then a random candidate is selected as the favoured one.

Usage

```
testAdditions(
  votes,
  ainc = 1,
  arep = NULL,
  favoured = NULL,
  tacticalBallot = NULL,
  rankMethod = "safeRank",
  countMethod = "stv",
  countArgs = list(),
  exptName = NULL,
  equiet = FALSE,
  everbose = FALSE
)
```

testDeletions 43

Arguments

votes A set of ballots, as in vote_2.3.2

ainc Number of ballots to be added in each step

arep Maximum number of ballot-stuffed elections to run

favoured Name of the candidate being "plumped". If 'NULL', a random candidate is se-

lected from among the candidates not initially top-ranked. All other candidates are fully-ranked at random, with an identical ballot paper being stuffed multiple times. An integer value for 'favoured' is interpreted as an index into the

candidate names.

tacticalBallot A ballot paper i.e. a vector of length 'ncol(ballots)'. If this argument is non-

'NULL', it takes precedence over 'favoured' when the ballot box is being stuffed.

rankMethod "safeRank" (default), "elected", or "rank". "rank" is a total ranking of the can-

didates, with ties broken at random. "elected" assigns rank=1 to elected candi-

dates, rank=2 for eliminated candidates.

countMethod "stv" (default) or "condorcet"

countArgs List of args to be passed to countMethod (in addition to votes)

exptName stem-name of experimental units e.g. "E". If 'NULL', then a 3-character string

of capital letters is chosen at random.

equiet 'TRUE' to suppress all experimental output

everbose 'TRUE' to produce diagnostic output from the experiment

Value

A matrix of experimental results, of dimension n by 2m+1, where n is the number of elections and m is the number of candidates. The first column is named "nBallots". Other columns indicate the ranking of the eponymous candidate, and their margin over the next-lower-ranked candidate.

Examples

```
data(food_election)
testAdditions(food_election, arep = 2, favoured = "Strawberries",
    countArgs = list(safety = 0))
```

testDeletions

Assess the safety of a preliminary result for an election

Description

Ballots are deleted at random from the ballot-box, with election results computed once per 'dinc' ballot-deletions. The experiment terminates after a specified number of ballots have been deleted, or a specified number of ballot-counts have occurred. Note: these ballot-counts are correlated. Use testFraction() to experiment with independently-drawn samples from the ballot-box.

44 testDeletions

Usage

```
testDeletions(
  votes,
  countMethod = "stv",
  countArgs = list(),
  dstart = NULL,
  dinc = NULL,
  dlimit = NULL,
  drep = NULL,
  rankMethod = "safeRank",
  exptName = NULL,
  equiet = FALSE,
  everbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

votes A set of ballots, as in vote_2.3.2 countMethod "stv" (default) or "condorcet"

countArgs List of args to be passed to 'countMethod' (in addition to 'votes')

dstart Number of ballots in the first ballot-count (selected at random from 'votes',

without replacement)

dinc Number of ballots to be deleted in subsequent steps

dlimit Maximum number of ballots to delete (in addition to 'dstart')

drep Maximum number of elections (required if 'dinc=0')

rankMethod "safeRank" (default), "elected", or "rank". "rank" is a total ranking of the can-

didates, with ties broken at random. "elected" assigns rank=1 to elected candi-

dates, rank=2 for eliminated candidates.

exptName stem-name of experimental units e.g. "E". If 'NULL', then a 3-character string

of capital letters is chosen at random.

equiet TRUE to suppress all experimental output

everbose TRUE to produce diagnostic output from the experiment

Value

'SafeRankExpt' object, describing this experiment and its results

Examples

```
data(food_election)
testDeletions(food_election)
testDeletions(food_election, countMethod="stv",
    countArgs=list(complete.ranking=TRUE))
```

testFraction 45

	_		
test	⊦ra	ct i	on

Bootstrapping experiment, with fractional counts of a ballot box.

Description

Starting from some number ('astart') of randomly-selected ballots, an increasingly-large collection of randomly-selected ballots are counted. The ballots are chosen independently without replacement for each experimental unit; if you want to count decreasingly-sized portions of a single sample of ballots, use testDeletions().

Usage

```
testFraction(
  votes = NULL,
  astart = NULL,
  ainc = NULL,
  arep = NULL,
  trep = NULL,
  rankMethod = "safeRank",
  countMethod = "stv",
  countArgs = list(),
  exptName = NULL,
  equiet = FALSE,
  everbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

votes	A numeric matrix: one row per ballot, one column per candidate
astart	Starting number of ballots (min 2)
ainc	Number of ballots to be added in each step. Must be non-negative.
arep	Number of repetitions of the test on each step. Required to be non-'NULL' if 'ainc=0' && is.null(trep)'.
trep	Limit on the total number of simulated elections. Required to be non-'NULL' if 'ainc=0 && is.null(arep)'.
rankMethod	"safeRank" (default), "elected", or "rank". "rank" is a total ranking of the candidates, with ties broken at random. "elected" assigns rank=1 to elected candidates, rank=2 for eliminated candidates.
countMethod	countMethod "stv" (default) or "condorcet"
countArgs	List of args to be passed to 'countMethod' (in addition to 'votes')
exptName	stem-name of experimental units $e.g.$ "E". If 'NULL', then a 3-character string of capital letters is chosen at random.
equiet	'TRUE' to suppress all experimental output
everbose	'TRUE' to produce diagnostic output from the experiment

46 uk_labour_2010

Value

SafeRankExpt object of experimental results.

Examples

translate.ties

Undocumented internal method from original code

Description

Undocumented internal method from original code

Usage

```
translate.ties(ties, method)
```

Arguments

ties undocumented

method 'f' for forward, 'b' for backward

Value

undocumented

uk_labour_2010

UK Labour Party Leader 2010

Description

These are the ballots cast by Labour MPs and MEPs in an election of their party's leader in 2010, as published by the Manchester Guardian. The names of the electors have been suppressed in this file, but are available at rangevoting.org, along with extensive commentary on the election.

Usage

```
data(uk_labour_2010)
```

Format

A data frame with 266 observations and 5 candidates.

view 47

view

generic view() for classes defined in this package

Description

```
generic view() for classes defined in this package
```

Usage

```
view(object, ...)
```

Arguments

```
object election object to be viewed
... additional parameters, passed to formattable::formattable()
```

Value

html-formatted object, with side-effect in RStudio's Viewer pane

```
view.SafeVote.approval
```

view method for approval object

Description

view method for approval object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeVote.approval'
view(object, ...)
```

Arguments

```
object, ... undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

```
view.SafeVote.condorcet
```

view method for SafeVote.condorcet

Description

view method for SafeVote.condorcet

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeVote.condorcet'
view(object, ...)
```

Arguments

```
object of type SafeVote.condorcet ... see view.SafeVote.approval
```

Value

view object

```
view.SafeVote.plurality
```

view method for plurality object

Description

view method for plurality object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeVote.plurality'
view(object, ...)
```

Arguments

```
object, ... undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

view.SafeVote.score 49

view.SafeVote.score vie

view method for score object

Description

view method for score object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeVote.score'
view(object, ...)
```

Arguments

```
object, ... undocumented
```

Value

undocumented

view.SafeVote.stv

view method for the result of an stv() ballot-count

Description

view method for the result of an stv() ballot-count

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SafeVote.stv'
view(object, ...)
```

Arguments

```
object object to be viewed
```

... additional parameters, passed to formattable::formattable()

Value

html-formatted object

50 yale_ballots

winnerMargin

Find a winner and their margin of victory

Description

Find a winner and their margin of victory

Usage

```
winnerMargin(votes)
```

Arguments

votes

cleaned ballots

Value

length-2 vector: the index of a winning candidate, and their margin of victory (0 if a tie, NA if no losers)

yale_ballots

Yale Faculty Senate 2016

Description

This data follows the structure of a 2016 Yale Faculty Senate election, with candidate names anonymised and permuted. Imported to SafeVote from STV v1.0.2, after applying the 'STV::cleanBallots' method to remove the ten empty rows.

Usage

```
data(yale_ballots)
```

Format

A data frame with 479 observations and 44 candidates.

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