

# Multiwinner Voting with Admissible Sets

by

**Varad Pimpalkhute**

affiliated with

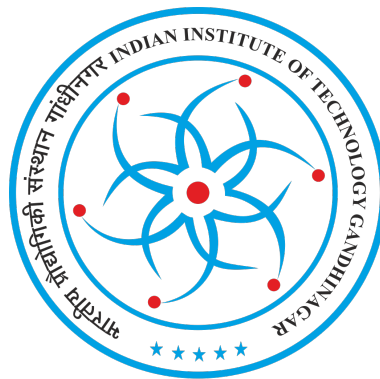
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**Dr. Neeldhara Misra**



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# SRIP 2019 Report on Multiwinner Voting with Admissible Sets

**Neeldhara Misra** 

Assistant Professor  
Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar  
neeldhara.m@iitgn.ac.in  
neeldhara.com

**Varad A. Pimpalkhute** 

Indian Institute of Information Technology, Nagpur  
Project Advisor : Dr. Neeldhara Misra  
pimpalkhutevarad@gmail.com  
varad@pimpalkhute

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## Abstract

We will consider the problem of multiwinner voting, in which the task is to identify a winning subset of candidates based on a collection of votes that express preferences over all available alternatives. Most literature on multiwinner voting focuses on restricting the size of the output committee. In recent work, [16] consider the problem of finding winning subsets that satisfy additional desirable properties, which they formalize using the notion of *admissible sets*. In our work, we propose to continue this line of study: specifically, we will consider algorithmic questions along the lines of approximation and restricted domains given the existing hardness results in the literature.

**Keywords and phrases** Computational Social Choice, Approval Ballots, Multiwinner Voting, Dichotomous Preferences

## 1 Introduction

Approval based multiwinner voting aims to select a subset of candidates, often called committee (or winners), from a class of admissible sets (subsets of candidates) based on the approval ballots of voters. Approval ballots are used in a wide range of areas such as recommendation systems, political elections, etc. Till now, most of the research in approval based multiwinner voting dealt with selecting a committee of cardinality exactly  $k$ . [3, 6] Such voting rules are called  $k$ -committee selection rules. The setting is quite practical in scenarios where the number of winning candidates is predefined. But, the relation between the candidates is ignored while determining the winners of the committee. For example, if there is a bad relation between two candidates but both are very highly approved by the voters, then the performance of the selected committee can go a notch down because of the irreconcilable relation between the two candidates. In this report, we present multiwinner rules with admissible sets being represented with respect to a graph where candidates are considered as vertices, and edges indicate the relations between candidates.

Let  $C$  be a set of candidates. In our setting, we are additionally given a graph  $G = (C, A)$ . The goal is to find a committee that has some combinatorial property, e.g., the subgraph induced by the committee is connected, is an independent set, etc. When the combinatorial property is “the subgraph induced by the committee excludes all candidates with bad relation”, we have the independent committee selection rule. In this selection rule, we have to consider all the candidates without any edge between them, i.e., we define a bad relation between two candidates as an edge between those two nodes. We first investigate the question of how efficiently an optimal committee can be calculated in this setting, i.e., the complexity of the

54 winner determination problem. We particularly focus on approval voting (AV), net-approval  
 55 voting (NAV), proportional approval voting (PAV), Chamberlin-Courant approval voting  
 56 (CCAV), satisfaction approval voting (SAV), and net-SAV (NSAV) in our setting 1, aiming to  
 57 reveal how different combinatorial restrictions on admissible sets shape the complexity of  
 58 winner determination for these rules.

59 We first studied the universal admissible sets, i.e., every subset of candidates is an  
 60 admissible set. Then, we study connected admissible sets, i.e., subsets that induce connected  
 61 graphs, and bounded radius admissible sets, i.e., subsets that induce graphs of bounded  
 62 radius. In this two cases, winner determination is NP hard for NSAV and NAV, and polynomial-  
 63 time solvable for other rules. Moreover, we also study independent admissible sets, i.e., the  
 64 selected committee should induce an independent set in the associated graph  $G = (C, A)$ . For  
 65 PAV and CCAV, the NP-hardness even holds when the associated graph is a path (in this case  
 66 there is more than one vote). Else, it is NP Hard for even a single vote. This results have  
 67 been presented by Yang et al. in their recent studies. [16] We show FPT results using Steiner  
 68 Tree of the associated graph for connected graph property.

69 We would like to further restrict the structure of the underlying graph imposed on the  
 70 candidates by working with preferences from restricted domains. We explore a number of  
 71 domain restrictions for dichotomous preferences that build on the same intuition as the  
 72 concepts of single-peakedness and single-crossingness. We analyze the relationships among  
 73 these restricted preference domains, and discuss the complexity of detecting whether a  
 74 given dichotomous profile belongs to one of these domains. We also discuss the algorithmic  
 75 complexity for the various voting rules under some of these domain restrictions. We would  
 76 also like to extend this study to the model where votes are expressed as rankings, rather than  
 77 as approval ballots, over the set of candidates.

## 78 **2 Literature Review**

79 The work of Yang and Wang [16] discusses approval-based multiwinner voting to select a  
 80 set of candidates from a collection of subsets which they refer to as “admissible sets”. This  
 81 generalizes the typical setting in which the problem is studied, which addresses the question  
 82 of finding committees of size  $k$ , which can be viewed as the setting where every set of size  
 83  $k$  is admissible while others are not. The drawback of the default setting is that it does  
 84 not account for the relation between the candidates while selecting them. The admissible  
 85 sets setting allows us to encode a richer set of constraints on the winning committees. In  
 86 particular, the study in [16] represents the election as a graph in which the vertices are taken  
 87 as candidates and the edges represent the relationship between them, and admissible sets  
 88 are vertex subsets that might be required to induce certain graph properties (such as being  
 89 independent or being connected).

90 The main question addressed is the complexity of winner determination when the com-  
 91 mittees are required to belong to the family of admissible sets. The authors also consider  
 92 issues of strategyproofness of various multiwinner rules in this setting. The scoring rules  
 93 which have been used for analysing the multiwinner voting are: Approval Voting (AV), Net  
 94 Approval Voting (NAV), Proportional Approval Voting (PAV), Chamberlin-Courant Approval  
 95 voting (CCAV), Satisfaction Approval Voting (SAV), and Net SAV (NSAV). Further, the graph  
 96 properties used to encode admissible sets that are used in the paper are the following:

- 97 ■ Universal: All graphs are included. No relation between the candidates is taken into  
 98 consideration, also no limit on the number of candidates being selected.

- 99 ■ Fixed-size: All graphs containing only  $k$  vertices. Used for analysis in some of the previous
- 100 works. Again, no relation between the candidates is taken into consideration.
- 101 ■ Independent: All graphs without edges. When there is an incompatible relation between
- 102 two candidates.
- 103 ■ Connected: All graphs connected by edges. Exactly opposite of Independent property.
- 104 ■ Bounded Radius: All graphs whose radius is at most  $d$ . There is at least one vertex in the
- 105 graph which is at a minimum distance  $d'$  from the rest of the vertices. This property can
- 106 be used to solve the example taken in the introduction section of the paper.

## 107 2.1 Related Work

108 Multiwinner voting is a classical topic that is widely addressed in the literature, while the  
 109 notion of a graph associated with the candidates of an election (or voters in an election) is  
 110 also considered in many situations. The following is a brief summary of related work.

- 111 ■ N. Talmon : In this paper, the author has studied a generalization of proportional rep-
- 112 resentation of CCAV to select a  $k$ -sized committee [15]. The paper discusses about the
- 113 relation between each voter and how it can affect the final result. A graph is used for
- 114 showing the relation between the voters with each vertex representing a voter.
- 115 ■ Aziz et al. (2015) : In this paper, the authors have discussed three rules for multi-winner
- 116 approval voting namely: PAV, SAV, RAV [3]. They have used fixed size set of approval
- 117 ballots for winner determination. Further, they have also analysed strategyproofness for
- 118 AV under the same restrictions on the admissible sets.
- 119 ■ Betzler et al. : Proof for winner determination using CCAV multiwinner rule is NP-Hard is
- 120 discussed in this paper [4]. They further try to find methods by which the problem can
- 121 be solved effectively. They consider minimizing the maximal misinterpretation.
- 122 ■ D. Marc Kilgour : In this paper, a subclass of multi winner elections, variable number of
- 123 winners (VNW) elections is discussed [13]. Many methods of counting approval ballots
- 124 appropriate to VNW elections are reviewed and illustrated in this paper.
- 125 ■ Faliszewski et al. : An approval based multiwinner model of election was considered in
- 126 this paper, in which universal admissible set was taken for winner determination [11].
- 127 ■ Bredereck et al. : This paper discusses a performance-based measure of the quality of
- 128 the committee [5]. They have considered some restrictions on the candidates, without
- 129 qualifying for which, the candidate won't be able to be a part of any winning committee
- 130 for the election regardless of her individual performance amongst the voters.
- 131 ■ Celis et al. : In this paper, it is discussed that while selecting a committee, if candidates
- 132 have some special attributes, there arises a need for optimizing a multiwinner voting rule,
- 133 as the voting rule may under or over represent in its selection [6].
- 134 ■ Aziz et al. : This paper answers one of the 'future problems' for the fixed admissible set
- 135 property. This paper discusses the proportionality property (an axiom) named 'justified
- 136 representation' [1]. This axiom states that if a large enough group of voters exhibits
- 137 agreement by supporting the same candidate, then at least one voter in this group has an
- 138 approved candidate in the winning committee.

## 139 3 Preliminaries

140 An election is a tuple  $E = (C, V)$  where  $C$  is a set of candidates and  $V$  is a multiset of votes,  
 141 each of which is a subset of  $C$ . For a vote  $v \in V$  and a candidate  $c \in C$ , we say  $v$  approves  $c$  if  
 142 and only if  $c \in v$ . Let  $2^C$  be the power set of  $C$ . A multiwinner rule  $\phi$  is a function that assigns

143 to each election  $(C, V)$  a subset  $\phi(C, V) \in A_C$ , where  $A_C \subseteq 2^C$  is the co-domain and each  
 144 element of  $A_C$  is called an admissible set. The elements in  $\phi(C, V)$  are called the winners of  
 145  $(C, V)$  with respect to  $\phi$ .

■ **Table 1** Scoring Functions

| multiwinner rules                             | scoring functions $f(v, w)$                                  |
|---|--|
| Approval Voting (AV)                          | $ v \cap w $   |
| Proportional Approval Voting (PAV)            | $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{ v \cap w }$             |
| Chamberlin-Courant Approval Voting (CCAV) [7] | 1 if $v \cap w \neq \phi$<br>0 if $v \cap w = \phi$          |
| Satisfaction Approval Voting (SAV)            | $\frac{ v \cap w }{ v }$                                     |
| Net-SAV (NSAV)                                | $\frac{ v \cap w }{ v } - \frac{ v \setminus w }{ C  -  v }$ |
| Net-Approval (NAV)                            | $ v \cap w  -  v \setminus w $                               |

146 Consider the multiwinner voting rules defined based on the scoring function  $f: 2^C \times 2^C \rightarrow$   
 147  $\mathbb{R}$ . For a subset  $C' \subseteq C$ , the score of  $C'$  in  $(C, V)$ , with respect to  $f$  in  $\sum_{v \in V} f(v, C')$ . The  
 148 multiwinner rule  $\phi$  selects an admissible set  $C' \in A_C$  maximizing  $\sum_{v \in V} f(v, C')$ . Table 1  
 149 summarizes some of the well known multiwinner rules and their scoring functions. As  
 150 the number of admissible sets can be exponential in the number of candidates, a compact  
 151 representation based on graph property has been proposed by Yang et al. [16] A graph  
 152 property  $\mathcal{G}$  is a class of graphs. Fixing a graph property  $\mathcal{G}$ , the class of admissible sets  $A_C^{\mathcal{G}}$   
 153 consists of all  $C' \subseteq C$  such that  $G|_{C'} \in \mathcal{G}$ , where  $G|_{C'}$  is the subgraph induced by  $C'$ . Graph  
 154 properties studied are as follows:

- 155 1. **Universal** This property consists of all graphs, i.e., every subset of  $C$  is an admissible set.
- 156 2. **Fixed-sized** This is so far the most widely studied property. Particularly, it consists of all  
 157 graphs of exactly  $k$  vertices.
- 158 3. **Independent** The property consists of all graphs without edges. In some cases, there may  
 159 exist irreconcilable conflicts between two candidates, thus, an edge between such two  
 160 candidates indicates the existence of an irreconcilable conflict between them.
- 161 4. **Connected** This property consists of all connected graphs. Different from the independent  
 162 property, the edge between two candidates can be a positive indication (e.g., an edge  
 163 means that they can cooperate efficiently, or they can communicate directly).
- 164 5. **Bounded Radius** This property consists of all graphs with radius at most  $d$ , where  $d$  is  
 165 a constant. The distance between two vertices is the length of a shortest path between  
 166 them.

167 For a graph property  $\mathcal{G}$  and a multiwinner rule  $\phi_f$ , the following problem is studied:

**Winner Determination With Restricted Admissible Sets (WD- $(\mathcal{G}, \phi_f)$ )**

**Input:** An election  $(C, V)$ , a graph  $G = (C, A)$ , and a rational number  $r$ .

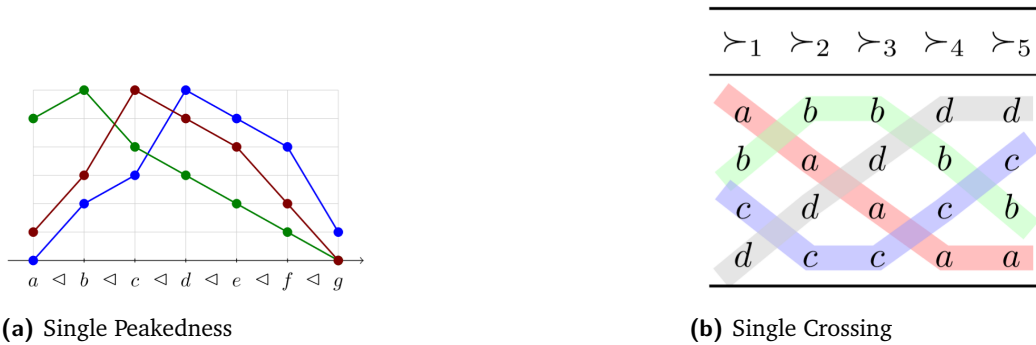
**Question:**  $\exists w \in A_C^{\mathcal{G}}$  such that  $\sum_{v \in V} f(v, w) \geq r$ ?

168

## 6 Multiwinner Voting with Admissible Sets

169 Let  $C = c_1, c_2, \dots, c_m$  be a finite set of candidates. A partial order  $\succ$  over  $C$  is a reflexive,  
 170 antisymmetric and transitive binary relation on  $C$ ; a partial order  $\succ$  is said to be total if for  
 171 each  $c, d \in C$  we have  $c \succ d$  or  $d \succ c$ . A partial order  $\succ$  over  $C$  is a dichotomous weak order  
 172 if  $C$  can be partitioned in to two disjoint sets  $C^+$  and  $C^-$  (one of which may be empty) so  
 173 that  $c \succ d$  for each  $c \in C^+, d \in C^-$  and the candidates within  $C^+$  and  $C^-$  are in comparable  
 174 under  $\succ$ .

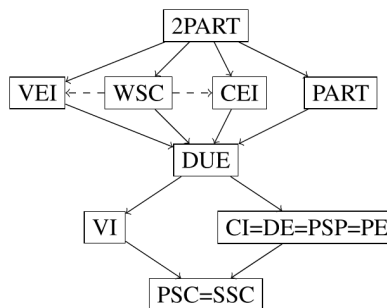
175 An approval vote on  $C$  is an arbitrary subset of  $C$ . We say that an approval vote  $v$  is trivial  
 176 if  $v = \emptyset$  or  $v = C$ . A dichotomous profile  $P = v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  is a list of  $n$  approval votes; we will  
 177 refer to  $v_i$  as the vote of voter  $i$ . Therefore,  $\bar{v}_i = C \setminus v_i$



■ **Figure 1** Preferences in Restricted Domain [10]

178 Let  $\triangleleft$  be a total order over  $C$ . A total order  $\succ$  over  $C$  is said to be single-peaked with  
 179 respect to  $\triangleleft$  if for any triple of candidates  $a, b, c \in C$  with  $a \triangleleft b \triangleleft c$  or  $c \triangleleft b \triangleleft a$  it holds that  
 180  $a \succ b$  implies  $b \succ c$ . A profile  $P$  of total orders over  $C$  is said to be single-peaked if there  
 181 exists a total order  $\triangleleft$  over  $C$  such that all orders in  $P$  are single-peaked with respect to  $\triangleleft$

182 A profile  $P = (\succ_1, \succ_2, \dots, \succ_n)$  of total orders over  $C$  is said to be single-crossing with  
 183 respect to the given order of votes if for every pair of candidates  $a, b \in C$  such that  $a \succ_1 b$  all  
 184 votes where  $a$  is preferred to  $b$  precede all votes where  $b$  is preferred to  $a$ .  $P$  is single-crossing  
 185 if the votes in  $P$  can be permuted so that it becomes single-crossing with respect to the  
 186 resulting order of votes.



■ **Figure 2** Relation between notions of structures [9]

187 Few dichotomous constraints need to introduced first before indulging further. Most of  
 188 these constraints can be divided into two basic groups: those that are based on ordering  
 189 voters and/or candidates on the line and requiring the votes to respect this order (this  
 190 includes VEI, VI, CEI, CI, DE, and DUE), and those that are based on viewing votes as weak

191 orders and asking if there is a single-peaked / single-crossing / 1Euclidean profile of total  
 192 orders that refines the given profile (this includes PSP, PSC, and PE)

- 193 1. **2-partition (2PART):** We say that  $P$  satisfies 2PART if  $P$  contains only two distinct votes  
 194  $v, v'$ , and  $v \cap v' = \phi, v \cup v' = C$ .
- 195 2. **Voter Extremal Interval (VEI):** We say that  $P$  satisfies VEI if the voters in  $P$  can be  
 196 reordered so that for every candidate  $c$  the voters that approve  $c$  form a prefix or a  
 197 suffix of the ordering. Equivalently, both the voters who approve  $c$  and the voters who  
 198 disapprove  $c$  form an interval of that ordering.
- 199 3. **Voter Interval (VI):** We say that  $P$  satisfies VI if the voters in  $P$  can be reordered so that  
 200 for every candidate  $c$  the voters that approve  $c$  form an interval of that ordering.
- 201 4. **Candidate Extremal Interval (CEI):** We say that  $P$  satisfies CEI if candidates in  $C$  can be  
 202 ordered so that each of the sets  $v_i$  forms a prefix or a suffix of that ordering. Equivalently,  
 203 both  $\bar{v}_i$  and  $v_i$  form an interval of that ordering.
- 204 5. **Candidate Interval (CI):** We say that  $P$  satisfies CI if candidates in  $C$  can be ordered so  
 205 that each of the sets  $v_i$  forms an interval of that ordering.
- 206 6. **Weakly single-crossing (WSC):** We say that  $P$  satisfies WSC if the voters in  $P$  can be  
 207 reordered so that for each pair of candidates  $a, b, c \in C$  it holds that each of the vote sets  
 208  $V_1 = v_i : a \in v_i, b \notin v_i, V_2 = v_i : a \notin v_i, b \in v_i, V_3 = v \in P : v \notin V_1 \cup V_2$  forms an interval  
 209 of this ordering, with  $V_3$  appearing between  $V_1$  and  $V_2$ .

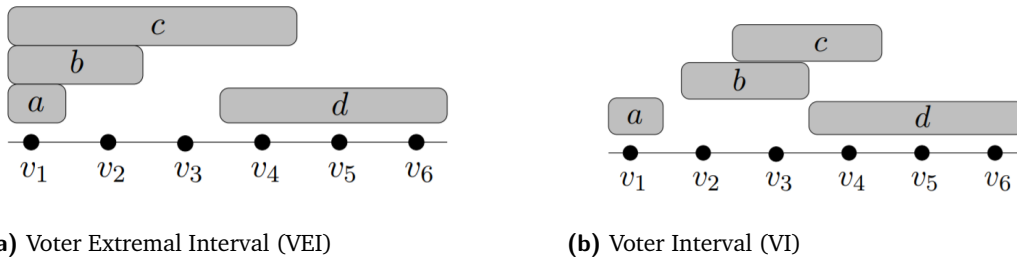


Figure 3 When Voters are embedded on real axis [9]

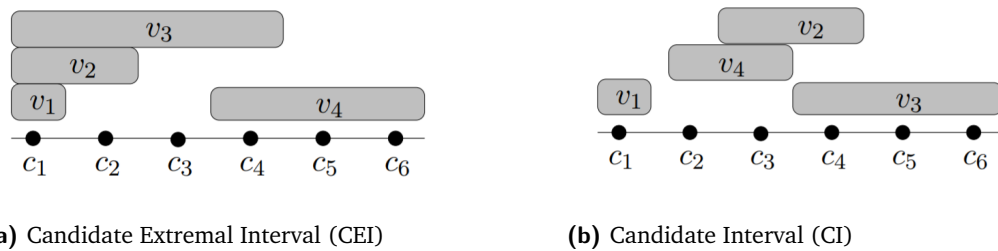


Figure 4 When Candidates are embedded on real axis [9]

## 4 Theorems and Lemmas

210 It is known that for fixed-sized admissible sets, winner determination for PAV and CCAV is  
 211 NP-hard [3, 4] while the for the rest, it is polynomial time solvable. Winner determination is  
 212 polynomial time solvable for all multiwinner rules for universal admissible sets [6, 2, 16].  
 213



214 Below are some of the theorems which have been studied by Yang et al. in their  
215 paper "Multiwinner Voting with Restricted Admissible Sets" [16].

216 ► **Theorem 1.** For  $\mathcal{G}$  being the universal property and  $\phi_f \in AV, PAV, CCAV, SAV, NSAV, NAV,$   
217  $WD-(\mathcal{G}, \phi_f)$  is a polynomial time solvable [16].

**Proof.** For AV, PAV, CCAV, SAV voting rules, the the set C of all candidates is always an optimal committee, as there is no such negative score. So, for these rules we need only to check if the score of C is at least r. Now we consider NSAV. For each candidate c, we define

$$g(c) = \sum_{v \in V, c \in v} \frac{1}{|v|} - \sum_{v \in V, c \notin v} \frac{1}{|C| - |v|}$$

218 Let  $C' = \{c \in C \mid g(c) > 0\}$ . If  $C' \neq \emptyset$ , we return Yes if and only if the score of  $C'$  is at least r.  
219 Otherwise, we return Yes if and only if there is a candidate c such that  $g(c) \geq r$ . ◀

220 For connected admissible sets, we also obtain polynomial time solvability results for CCAV,  
221 PAV, AV, and SAV, but obtain NP-hardness results for NAV and NSAV even if there is only one  
222 vote. This is because that for the first four rules, adding a candidate to a committee never  
223 decreases the score of the committee. Hence, there must be an optimal committee which  
224 induces a connected component. However, this is not the case for NAV and NSAV. This is  
225 so because we need to take care of the negative score that might arise in some cases so as  
226 to make the graph a connected graph, i.e., whose role is to connect the candidates with the  
227 positive scores.

228 ► **Theorem 2.** For  $\mathcal{G}$  being the connected property and  $\phi_f \in NAV, NSAV, WD-(\mathcal{G}, \phi_f)$  is NP-hard,  
229 even if there is only one vote [16].

#### RESTRICTED EXACT COVER BY 3-SETS (RX3C) [12]

**Input:** A finite set  $U = u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{3k}$  and a collection  $S = s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{3k}$  of 3-subsets of U s.t. every  $u \in U$  occurs in exactly three subsets of S.

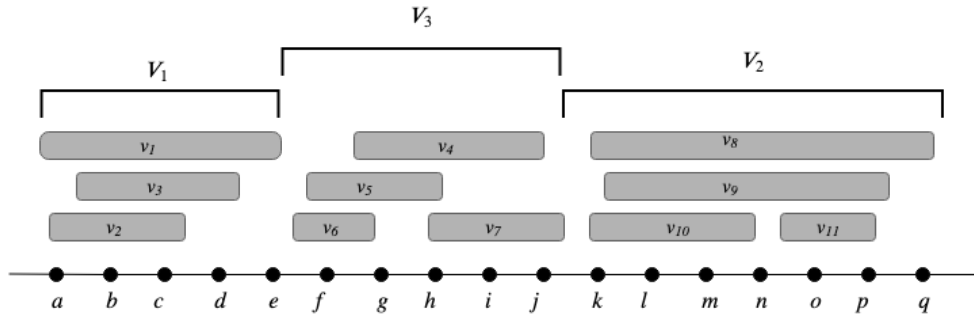
**Question:**  $\exists S' \subseteq S$  such that  $|S'| = k$  and every  $u \in U$  occurs in exactly one subset of  $S'$ ?

230

231 **Proof.** First, we will give construction of the instance. Given an RX3C instance (U,S)  
232 where  $|U| = |S| = 3k$ , we create an instance of  $WD-(\mathcal{G}, \phi_f)$  as follows. For each  $u \in U$ , we  
233 create a candidate  $c(u)$ . For each  $s \in S$ , we create a candidate  $c(s)$ . Let  $C(U) = \{c(u) \mid u \in U\}$ ,  
234  $C(S) = \{c(s) \mid s \in S\}$ . In addition, we also introduce a candidate  $b$ . Hence,  $C = C(U) \cup C(S) \cup b$ . In  
235 the graph  $G = (C, A)$ , we create an edge between  $b$  and every  $c(s)$ , where  $s \in S$ . Additionally,  
236 for every  $c(s)$ ,  $s \in S$ , and every  $c(u)$ ,  $u \in U$ , we create an edge between them if and only if  
237  $u \in s$ . Moreover, we create one vote  $v$  which approves all candidates in  $C(U)$  and disapproves  
238 all other candidates, i.e.,  $v = C(U)$ . Finally, we set  $r = 2k - 1$ .

239 Now we assume that there is an exact 3-set cover  $S' \subseteq S$ . Let  $w = \{c(s) \mid s \in S' \cup C(U)\} \cup b$ .  
240 Therefore, size of the admissible set  $|w| = 4k - 1$ . Also, w induces a connected graph in G.  
241 NAV Score will be  $|v \cap w| - |w \setminus v|$ , which is equal to  $(3k - (2k + 1)) = r$ . Now we prove the  
242 correctness for the opposite direction. Now we assume the score of the committee  $w$  to be  
243 at least r, i.e.,  $2k - 1$ . Let  $x = |w \cap C(U)|$  and  $y = |w \cap C(S)|$ . Now, we assume that  $b$  is in  
244 the winning committee  $w$ . We will prove this using contradiction. Let us assume that  $b \notin w$ .  
245 Therefore, to make the graph a connected subgraph, it should satisfy  $y > \frac{x-1}{2}$ . Hence, the

246 score of the winning committee  $w$  will be  $x - y \leq \frac{3k+1}{2}$  which is less than  $2k - 1$ . Thus, our  
 247 assumption is wrong.  $b$  is in  $w$ . To make the graph a connected graph,  $y \geq \frac{x}{3}$ . Therefore,  
 248 score of  $w$  is  $x - y - 1 \leq \frac{2x}{3} - 1$ . If  $x = 3k$ , score will be at most  $2k - 1$ . Therefore, to have a  
 249 winner determination,  $x = C(U)$  and  $y = C(S)$ . ◀



■ Figure 5 Weakly Single Crossing (WSC)

250 ▶ **Theorem 3.** For  $\mathcal{G}$  being class of graphs with radius at most 2 and  $\phi_f \in \text{NAV, NSAV, WD-}(\mathcal{G},$   
 251  $\phi_f)$  is NP-hard, even if there is only one vote [16].

252 **Proof.** In the  $\text{WD-}(\mathcal{G}, \phi_f)$  instance constructed in the proof of Theorem 2, every optimal  
 253 committee includes  $b$  and  $k$  candidates in  $C(S)$  to connect the candidates in  $C(U)$ . The  
 254 induced subgraph has radius 2. This directly gives us the above result. ◀

255 ▶ **Theorem 4.** For  $\mathcal{G}$  being class of graphs with radius at most  $d$  and  $\phi_f \in \text{AV, PAV, SAV, CCAV,}$   
 256  $\text{WD-}(\mathcal{G}, \phi_f)$  is polynomial-time solvable [16].

257 ▶ **Theorem 5.** For  $\mathcal{G}$  being the independent property and  $\phi_f \in \text{PAV, CCAV, WD-}(\mathcal{G}, \phi_f)$  is  
 258 NP-hard, even if the associated graph is a path and every voter approves only two candidates  
 259 [16].

**ALMOST 2-SAT**

**Input:** A set  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$  of Boolean variables, a set  $CL = \{cl_1, cl_2, \dots, cl_n, l\}$  of clauses each of which consists of exactly two literals of variables in  $X$ , and a positive integer  $l$ .

**Question:** Is there a truth assignment  $\delta : X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  which satisfies at least  $l$  clauses in  $CL$ ? Here, a clause  $cl \in CL$  is satisfied by  $\delta$  if there exists a literal  $x \in cl$  such that  $\delta(x) = 1$  or a literal  $\bar{x} \in cl$  such that  $\delta(x) = 0$

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261 **Proof.** Let  $X = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m$  and  $cl_1, cl_2, \dots, cl_n, l$  be an instance of the ALMOST 2-SAT  
 262 problem. Construction is done as follows. For each  $x \in X$ , we create two candidates  $c(x)$  and  
 263  $c(\bar{x})$ . Also, we introduce additional  $m - 1$  dummy candidates  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{m-1}$ . For every  $x_i \in X$ ,  
 264  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , there is an edge between  $c(x_i)$  and  $c(\bar{x}_i)$ . In addition, for every  $c_i, 1 \leq i \leq m - 1$ ,  
 265 there is an edge between  $c_i$  and  $c(x_i)$ , and an edge between  $c_i$  and  $c(\bar{x}_{i+1})$ . For each  $cl \in$   
 266  $CL$ , we create three votes  $v(cl, 1), v(cl, 2)$  and  $v(cl, 3)$ . The votes are as follows:  $v(cl, 1)$  and

267  $v(cl, 2)$  are the same and they approve  $c(y)$  for every literal  $y \in cl$  and  $v(cl, 3)$  approves  $c(\bar{y})$   
 268 for every literal  $y \in cl$ . Also, set  $r = \frac{3}{2} \cdot (l + n)$

First, we assume that there exists at least  $l$  clauses in  $CL$ . Let  $CL'$  be the set of all clauses that are satisfied by  $\delta$ , thus,  $|CL'| \geq l$ . Therefore,  $w$  is a set of candidates such that they follow the independent property, The set  $w$  can be represented as follows:

$$w = \{c(x) \mid x \in X, \delta(x) = 1\} \cup \{c(\bar{x}) \mid x \in X, \delta(x) = 0\}$$

269 Observe that for every clause  $cl \in CL'$ , either both literals in  $cl$  are true or exactly one of  
 270 them is true with respect to  $\delta$ . Due to the construction, in the former case, both approved  
 271 candidates of  $v(cl, 1)$  and  $v(cl, 2)$  are in  $w$ , and none of the approved candidates of  $v(cl, 3)$   
 272 is in  $w$ . Therefore, the score for them will be  $f(v(cl, 1)) = f(v(cl, 2)) = \frac{3}{2}$ . If exactly one of  
 273 them is true, then the score will be  $f(v(cl, 1)) = f(v(cl, 2)) = f(v(cl, 3)) = 1$ . In both cases,  
 274 we have the total score of the satisfied clause to be 3. Now, we will consider clauses which  
 275 are not satisfied by the truth assignment  $\delta$ ,  $cl \in CL \setminus CL'$ , therefore, both the candidates are  
 276 approved by  $v(cl, 3)$ . Score will be  $\frac{3}{2}$ . Now, the election score is:

$$\begin{aligned} 277 \sum_{v \in V} f(v, w) &= \sum_{cl \in CL'} \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \leq 3} f(v(cl, i), w) \right) + \sum_{cl \in CL \setminus CL'} \left( \sum_{1 \leq i \leq 3} f(v(cl, i), w) \right) \\ 278 &= 3 \cdot |CL'| + \frac{3}{2} \cdot |CL \setminus CL'| \geq \frac{3}{2} (l + n) = r \end{aligned}$$

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280  
 281 The proof in reverse direction is as follows. There won't be any dummy candidates now.  
 282 We know that the candidates are independent and we know  $r$ . Therefore, it holds exactly  
 283 one of  $c(i)$  and  $c(\bar{i})$ . If let's say, the winning committee satisfies  $l'$  clauses, then the score of  
 284 the election will be  $\frac{3}{2}(l' + n)$ . But, this should be at least greater than or equal to  $r$ , which is  
 285 equal to  $\frac{3}{2}(l + n)$ . Therefore,  $l'$  equals  $l$ , i.e., it should satisfy  $l$  clauses. ◀

## 286 5 Our Contributions (Discussion)

287 It is known that for connected admissible sets, winner determination for NAV and NSAV is  
 288 NP Hard, even if there is only one voter. [16] We show that winner determination for NAV  
 289 and NSAV is polynomial time solvable if we restrict the size of the voter to atmost  $k$ .

290 **Lemma 1:** For  $\mathcal{G}$  being the connected property and  $\phi_f \in \text{NAV, NSAV, WD-}(\mathcal{G}, \phi_f)$  is  
 291 polynomial time solvable in  $2^k 3^k \text{poly}(n)$ , for one vote of size at most  $k$ .

292 **Construction:** The winner determination function will select the maximum NAV score  
 293 for the election. This will be possible when the candidates included in the admissible set  
 294 from the voter set are maximised and those not in the voter set are minimized. The graph has  
 295 connected property, so we need to select an admissible set such that it is a connected graph.  
 296 Thus, we will need to choose minimal number of candidates to make  $|w \cap v|$  a connected  
 297 graph. This can be achieved by using Steiner Trees. The dynamic programming algorithm for  
 298 Steiner trees can be implemented with running time  $3^{|k|} n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$  [8].

299 Though the voting rule is polynomial time solvable in  $6^k \text{poly}(n)$  for one voter, it can be  
 300 seen that in case of multiple voters, it gives a time complexity of  $\mathcal{O}(c^{nk})$ . Thus, it can be  
 301 seen it is not a very efficient algorithm in case of multiple votes. We can also notice that the  
 302 restricted preferences cannot be imposed on graph. Thus, a need for efficient algorithms  
 303 becomes essential.

## 6 Conclusion

We have thus studied multiwinner voting with different admissible sets by representation using graph properties. We also tried imposing various restricted preferences on the graph. We studied the winner determination complexity for different voting rules on various graph properties. After that, we tried to improve the known results for winner determination complexity of NAV/NSAV Voting rules on the connected graph property by restricting the size of the vote to at-most  $k$ . We were able to make the winner complexity to be solvable in polynomial time  $\mathcal{O}(6^k \text{poly}(n))$  for one vote.

Further, we tried to make it solvable in polynomial time for  $n$  voters for NAV/NSAV voting rules on a connected graph. We can try exploring reduction to Red Blue Dominating Sets to try to prove that the above it  $W$ -Hard solvable. It is very interesting to see that once we are able to make the voting rule polynomial solvable for  $n$  voters, we can try imposing restricted preferences in dichotomous domains such as VEI, CEI or WSC on the given candidate or voter sets. Further, we can explore the strategyproofness results for the restricted admissible sets. We plan to further pursue this in two major directions: the first is by restricting the structure of the underlying graph imposed on the candidates, and the second is by working with preferences from restricted domains. We would also like to extend this study to the model where votes are expressed as rankings, rather than as approval ballots, over the set of candidates.

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