

TITLE: Voting, Deliberation and Truth

Abstract: There are various ways to reach a group decision on a yes-no question. One way is to vote and decide what the majority votes for. This procedure receives some epistemological support from the Condorcet Jury Theorem. Alternatively, the group members may prefer to deliberate and will eventually reach a decision that everybody endorses -- a consensus. In this talk we introduce a Bayesian model for non-strategic deliberation, study some of its epistemic properties and finally give a comparison between the truth tracking properties of this deliberation process and majority voting.