

Last time: Banzhaf Power.

①

Example: [4:3,2,1]

We computed that the Banzhaf Power Distribution

is given by $\beta_1 = \frac{3}{5}$, $\beta_2 = \frac{1}{5}$, $\beta_3 = \frac{1}{5}$.

In other words, this method of measuring power says that P_2 and P_3 have equal amounts of power, while P_1 has 3 times as much power as either one of P_2 or P_3 .

We also looked at a U.S. Senate example, [51:49,48,3], and the Banzhaf Power Distribution is here equally divided: P_1, P_2, P_3 all have the same power.

Today we will learn about a different method to measure power: Shapley - Shubik Power.

② It will sometimes give the same answer as the Banzhaf Power does, but in general will be different.

The feature that distinguishes Shapley-Shubik Power from Banzhaf Power is the ordering of coalitions. This is not something we cared about before.

Let's look at the senate, $[51:49,48,3]$.

Here are the "sequential coalitions":

$\langle P_1, P_2, P_3 \rangle$

$\langle P_1, P_3, P_2 \rangle$

$\langle P_2, P_1, P_3 \rangle$

$\langle P_2, P_3, P_1 \rangle$

$\langle P_3, P_1, P_2 \rangle$

$\langle P_3, P_2, P_1 \rangle$

The notation $\langle P_1, P_2, P_3 \rangle$ is similar to (3)

$\{P_1, P_2, P_3\}$, but now order matters. So

$\langle P_1, P_2, P_3 \rangle$ means P_1 goes first, P_2 goes second, and P_3 goes last.

More formally, a sequential coalition is an *ordered* list of the players. The order of players is from left to right. The list contains all players.

In $[51:49, 48, 3]$ above, there were a total of 6 sequential coalitions. How many are there in a general weighted voting system with N players?

Let's count how many ways we can order the players P_1, P_2, \dots, P_N . We first look at the possibilities of which player goes first. There are of course N possibilities. However, after a first player is chosen, there are now

④ only $N-1$ possibilities to be second place in line, since we can choose from all players, except the one that is already first. Then for third place we will have $N-2$ choices, and so forth.

Thus the number of sequential coalitions is equal to

$$N! \stackrel{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{definition.}}}{=} N \times (N-1) \times (N-2) \times (N-3) \times \dots \times 2 \times 1.$$

In our example, of the senate, there were $3=N$ players, and

$$3! = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6$$

was the number of sequential coalitions we counted.

The number $N!$ is called the factorial of N and appears everywhere in Mathematics (and in life!).