Vote buying revisited

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(joint work with Wolter Pieters)

Why is vote buying bad?

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To express one's preference for a candidate or for a proposed resolution of an issue.
– dictionary.com

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■ What about election promises?

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- ■ What about election promises?
- ■ ...

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■ Does vote buying always interfere?

■ What about election promises?

■ ...

■ Where is the boundary between the two?

Examine issue from influencer's point of view.

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Two ways to influence voters:

1. enticement
   reward, seduce

2. coercement
   threaten

Illustrations of acceptable and unacceptable conduct:

acceptable enticement promising to lower taxes

unacceptable enticement paying a voter to vote for you

acceptable coercion claiming the others to be far worse

unacceptable coercion threats of physical violence

Examples of incentives for rewards:

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- *handout*
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- *theme park*
  district with most votes gets a theme park
- *tax rebate*
  upon election, everyone gets 100,- tax refund
- *mensa*
  upon election, disabled child prodigies get 100,-

■ based on previous research...

- based on previous research...
- guided by examples...

methodology

- based on previous research...

- guided by examples...

- keeping in mind the distinction between coercion and enticement & acceptable and unacceptable...

- based on previous research...

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- analyse from a vote buyer's point of view.

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- analyse from a vote buyer's point of view.
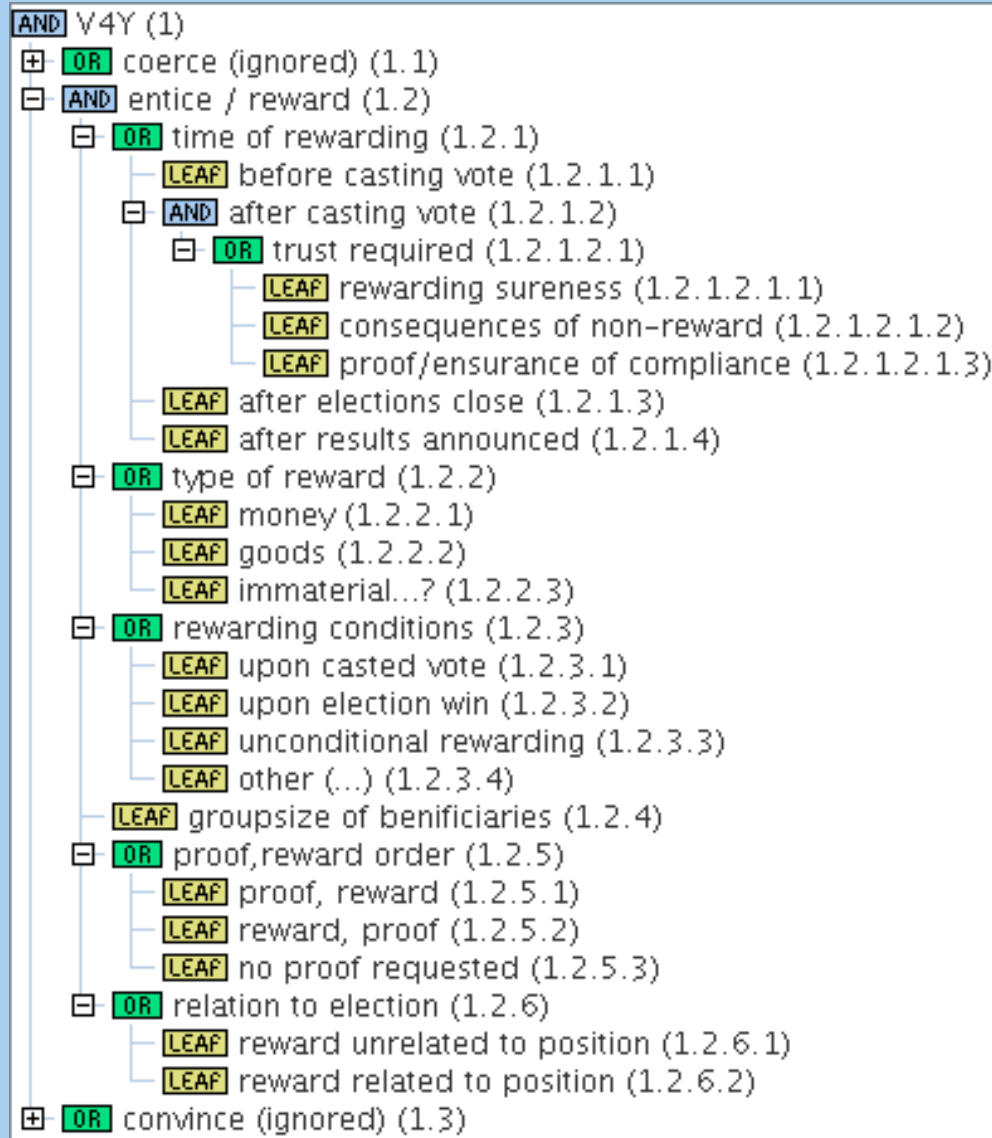
Approach: adopt attack trees!

Vote buying

Classification
- methodology
- attack tree
- results of AT

The targets

Conclusions

```
AND V4Y (1)
  ⊞ OR coerce (ignored) (1.1)
  ⊟ AND entice / reward (1.2)
      ⊟ OR time of rewarding (1.2.1)
          ─ LEAF before casting vote (1.2.1.1)
          ⊟ AND after casting vote (1.2.1.2)
              ⊟ OR trust required (1.2.1.2.1)
                  ─ LEAF rewarding sureness (1.2.1.2.1.1)
                  ─ LEAF consequences of non-reward (1.2.1.2.1.2)
                  ─ LEAF proof/ensurance of compliance (1.2.1.2.1.3)
          ─ LEAF after elections close (1.2.1.3)
          ─ LEAF after results announced (1.2.1.4)
      ⊟ OR type of reward (1.2.2)
          ─ LEAF money (1.2.2.1)
          ─ LEAF goods (1.2.2.2)
          ─ LEAF immaterial...? (1.2.2.3)
      ⊟ OR rewarding conditions (1.2.3)
          ─ LEAF upon casted vote (1.2.3.1)
          ─ LEAF upon election win (1.2.3.2)
          ─ LEAF unconditional rewarding (1.2.3.3)
          ─ LEAF other (...) (1.2.3.4)
      ─ LEAF groupsize of benificiaries (1.2.4)
      ⊟ OR proof,reward order (1.2.5)
          ─ LEAF proof, reward (1.2.5.1)
          ─ LEAF reward, proof (1.2.5.2)
          ─ LEAF no proof requested (1.2.5.3)
      ⊟ OR relation to election (1.2.6)
          ─ LEAF reward unrelated to position (1.2.6.1)
          ─ LEAF reward related to position (1.2.6.2)
  ⊞ OR convince (ignored) (1.3)
```

Derived dimensions:

■ type of compliance

Derived dimensions:

- type of compliance
- time of rewarding

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- type of compliance
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Derived dimensions:

- type of compliance
- time of rewarding
- type of reward
- rewarding conditions

Derived dimensions:

- type of compliance
- time of rewarding
- type of reward
- rewarding conditions
- group size

Derived dimensions:

- type of compliance
- time of rewarding
- type of reward
- rewarding conditions
- group size
- proof of compliance

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- reward dependent on election

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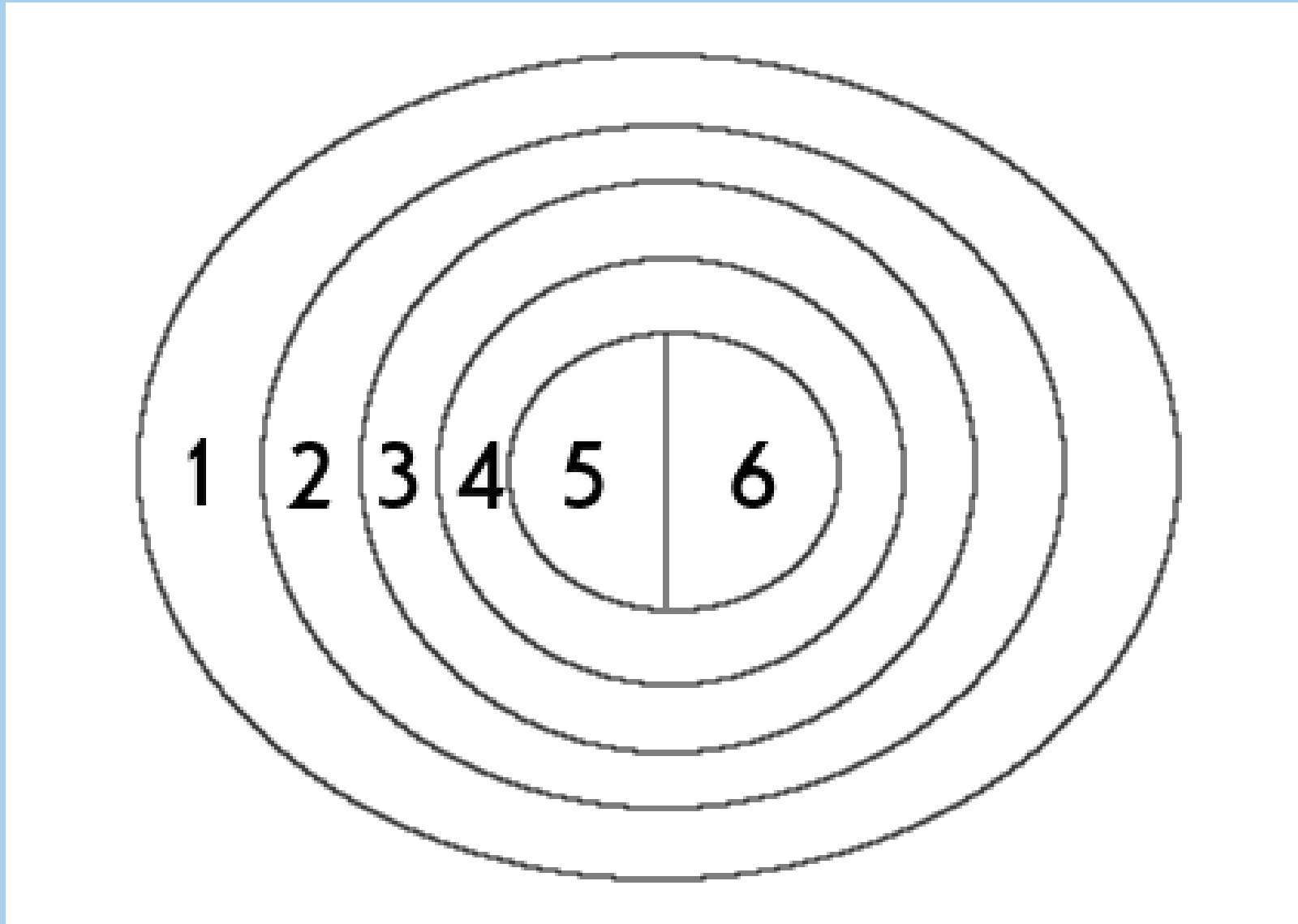Abuse of attack tree methodology revenges itself.

Vote buying

Classification

The targets
● classification
● characteristics

Conclusions

Voter characteristics w.r.t vote buying:

■ accepts reward

Kit# characteristics

Voter characteristics w.r.t vote buying:

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- initial preference

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■ aware of attempt

Voter characteristics w.r.t vote buying:

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- initial preference
- aware of attempt
- targetted

Voter characteristics w.r.t vote buying:

- accepts reward

- initial preference

- aware of attempt

- targetted

- vote cast

concluding

Vote buying...

- ... depends on many different issues
- ... can be hard to distinguish from election promises
- ... can be targetted at influencing groups

In short: vote buying $\neq$ money in exchange for proof of compliance

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- . . . depends on many different issues
- . . . can be hard to distinguish from election promises
- . . . can be targetted at influencing groups

In short: vote buying $\neq$ money in exchange for proof of compliance

Thank you for your attention
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