

Voter Model with stubborn vertices. (A random walk exercise in disguise)

Hint – remember the graphical representation and time reversal. (there could be other ways)

1. Let G be the segment $[1, n]$. i.e. $G=(V, E)$, $V=\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, $E=\{(1, 2), (2, 3), \dots, (n-1, n)\}$.
Assume we put two “stubborn agents” at the endpoints. The agent at 1 always thinks “0”, and the agent at n always thinks “1” (they never change their opinions). The rest of the vertices start with iid $\frac{1}{2}$ 0-1 opinions. Let $\eta_t(k)$ denote the opinion of vertex k at time t .
Find $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(\eta_t(k) = 1)$? Does this depend on the initial distribution?
2. Let $G=(V, E)$ be some finite, connected graph. Let O, Z be two distinct vertices in V .
Put stubborn agents in O (always 1) and in Z (always 0).
What can you say about $f(v) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(\eta_t(v) = 1)$?
What if there were 3 stubborn vertices with 3 different opinions 1, 2, 3?
3. What about $G=Z$ and a (single) stubborn agent at the origin. (and iid $\frac{1}{2}$ everywhere else). What is $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(\eta_t(k) = 1)$?
4. What about when $G=Z^{\wedge 3}$ and there is a stubborn agent at the origin? (and everything else iid $\frac{1}{2}$)

Bootstrap Percolation

In Bootstrap percolation with parameter r , each site has a color in {black, white}, and every time step (discrete time) every vertex that has at least r black neighbors is colored black.

(see <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/BootstrapPercolation.html> for some examples with $r=2$ on the square grid)

Let $P(G, p, r)$ be the probability that when starting with an initial configuration where every vertex is black with probability p , iid between vertices, every site will be eventually black.

Let $p_c(G, r) = \inf \{p : P(G, p, r) > 0\}$

0. Prove that every vertex eventually fixates.
1. Find an infinite connected, finite degrees graph G , and some p, r so that $0 < P(G, p, r) < 1$ (i.e. not 0 or 1).
2. (riddle): For an $n \times n$ board (e.g. uncolored chessboard), what is the minimal number of squares that can be colored black so that eventually the whole board is black.
3. Prove that $p_c(Z^{\wedge 2}, 2) = 0$ (Hint show that a large box of blacks has a positive probability to take over the world)
Remark: Actually, much more precise statements are known. For an $L \times L$ grid, the right critical probability is of order $c/\log L$, c is known, and even more, see <https://www.math.ubc.ca/~holroyd/boot/>
4. Prove that $p_c(Z^{\wedge 2}, 3) = 1$.
5. Prove that $p_c(T_3, 2) = 1/2$, where T_3 is the 3-regular tree.