Data Mining for Potential Voter Fraud

Findings and Recommendations

Simpatico
software systems
Does voter fraud exist?

- Most studies don’t look for fraud
- No government agency is looking for voter fraud
- Getting data from all 50 states is very difficult

❖ If you do not search for it, you will not find it
Challenges to looking for voter fraud

- Some states deny access to data
- Some states make access to data cost prohibitive
- States do not provide all of the same data elements

◆ The variability in access, quality, cost and data provided impedes the ability to examine voter activity between states
The wide variability in cost of voter data
Finding: Indicators of potential voter fraud

- Every state showed a percentage of duplicate voting
- Approximately 8,500 pairs of duplicate votes among 21 states
- Approximately 200 couples voted together in two different states

- We extrapolate that there would be 40,000 duplicate votes if data from every state were available
Voting twice is a felony

- Up to 5 years in prison
- Up to a $10,000 fine
- These pairs of votes are either:
  - One person voting twice
  - One person voting properly and the matched vote is a case of impersonation
  - Some form of clerical error
Methodology

- We matched potential duplicate votes based on full first and last names and full dates of birth. We allowed for variability in middle names by using ‘fuzzy matching’.
- Potential matches were then screened by a commercial database vendor with access to financial data including full Social Security numbers.
- Only pairs of votes where the social security numbers matched are counted as high-confidence matches.
Is a sample of 8,500 duplicate votes meaningful?

- Millions of fraudulent votes not needed for huge impact
- George W. Bush became president by 537 votes in Florida for an election where 5,825,043 votes were cast
  - Those 537 votes represented .0000921 of the Florida vote

- Roughly 2,200 duplicate voters cast a ballot in the 2016 presidential election in Florida, four times Bush’s margin of victory in 2000
These votes can impact state and local elections

- More than 200 duplicate votes cast in Orlando
Focus: Can a fake voter cast a ballot?

- Finding: Yes, In Rhode Island
  - Confirmed by Rhode Island Secretary of State Gorbea
  - No Social Security number, no driver’s license
  - Utility bill accepted as proof of identity for Voter ID card
JOHN JACOB JINGLEHEIMER  
20 ALTIERI WAY UNIT 3  
WARWICK RI 02880  

ACCOUNT NUMBER  67XXX.XXX  
DATE OF ISSUE  Jul 13, 2017  

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**ACCOUNT BALANCE**

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To avoid late payment charges of 1.25%, $55.00 must be received by Aug 02, 2017.

**SUMMARY OF CURRENT CHARGES**

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Save time and money! Sign up for paperless billing and receive a $0.34 credit on your monthly bill. Visit our website to enroll today.

▷ What is the Energy Efficiency Charge on my bill? This charge funds Energy Efficiency programs that can help consumers lower their energy usage and bills, improve comfort in their homes or businesses, and lower pollutants and carbon emissions in our communities. To learn how to take advantage of these programs and your eligibility, please call 1-866-903-2011 or visit www.ngrid.com/ri-eec.

★ WILL WE BE ABLE TO REACH YOU DURING A POWER OUTAGE? During a power outage, phones with a direct link to a local phone line are able to operate. Phones that are not directly linked (for example, wireless phones with answering machines) need electricity to make/receive calls. If you would like to register another phone number, such as a cell phone, as your account’s primary phone number, please go to www.naturalgrid.com/myaccount to update your information. For further assistance, please call 1-800-386-6337.
Focus: How many voters cannot be identified by their data?

- 30.7% of 2016 votes in Rhode Island were cast by voters with no identifying information in voter registration database
- Impossible for State to maintain these voters
- At least RI’s Voter ID law requires positive ID to vote

It is vitally important to know how many voters in each state cannot be identified by their data
Conclusion: Sample results indicate significant issues

- Data is not standardized between states
- Poor data quality in some states
- Lack of transparency – data not available from some states
- Indicators of potentially fraudulent votes
- Ineffective oversight in some states
- Lack of mechanism to enforce federal election integrity
Recommendation: More analysis is needed

- Analyze the other 29 states for duplicate voting
- Look for duplicate voting in federal primaries
- Determine votes made from non-residential addresses
- Analyze potentially fraudulent votes by registration type
- Use federal databases to help determine eligibility to vote
Most importantly

- Our elections infrastructure is susceptible to hacking
- Most of the USA’s 3,000+ counties are responsible for their own elections infrastructure
- Voting machines have been proven readily hacked
- State and county responses are not commensurate with the seriousness of this problem which impacts local, state and federal elections
Summary

• Analysis indicates a high likelihood voter fraud. There is likely much more to be found
• Results are verifiable and re-creatable
• A comprehensive, data-driven understanding of our country’s voting integrity does not exist
• This is not a red issue or a blue issue