

Tbilisi 2022 Abstract Submission

Title

Contre-degustation Olympiades du Vin According to Borda

I want to submit an abstract for:

Conference Presentation

Corresponding Author

Neal Hulkower

E-Mail Corresponding Author

nhulkower@yahoo.com

Affiliation

McMinnville, Oregon, USA

Keywords

wine tasting, decision procedures, Borda Count, Contre-degustation Olympiades du Vin, Chardonnay, Pinot noir, distortion analysis

Research Question

How much did each judge's points influence the rankings of wines in the Contre-degustation Olympiades du Vin?
How does using the Borda Count change the rankings?

Methods

Distortion analysis based on points assigned.
Converting points to rankings and using the Borda Count to aggregate.

Results

Significant distortion was found giving some judges disproportionate influence on the outcome. Borda ranking differed from the ranking based on points for both red and white wines.

Abstract

The Olympiades Gault-Millau du Vin was held in secrecy outside of Paris in 1979. Terry Roberts reported in the New York Times: "California took first, second and four of the top 10 places in the chardonnay section, relegating some of the more renowned white Burgundies of France to secondary status." Furthermore, several red wines, mostly Pinot noirs, from outside France did very well. Unhappy with the outcome, Robert Drouhin, owner of Maison Joseph Drouhin in Beaune, organized the Contre-degustation Olympiades du Vin which was held in Beaune on 8 January 1980.

The whites were evaluated by Jacques Puisais, Jean Hugel, Max Leglise, J.-P. Morot-Gaudry, Georges Pertuiset, Steven Spurrier, Christopher Tatham MW, Harry Waugh MW, and Jon Winroth. The reds were judged by Louis-Régis Affre, Robert Barton-Clegg, Phillippe Bourguignon, Georges Duboeuf, Odette Kahn, Franz Keller, Jean Lameloise, Piero Sattanino, Serge Tonneau, and Rebecca Wassermann. Each panel tasted 6 wines selected by Drouhin and 6 from outside France that had ranked high in its category in the Olympiades and assigned points from 0 to 100 as follows: "a rating of 1 for visual impressions (intensity, tonality, charm of color), a rating of 3 for olfactory impressions (intensity, finesse, frankness of aromas or of the bouquet), a rating of 5 for the impressions in the mouth (balance of flavors and sensations, tactile, fullness, finesse, elegance, purity, persistence in the mouth), a rating of 1 for the overall harmony of the wine." ("Après les Olympiades," Gault-Millau Magazine, February 1980, No. 130)

A distortion analysis based on the points assigned by each judge to each wine was performed by as follows. The

magnitude of the influence on the average of the points for each judge for each wine was calculated by dividing the points, p_{ij} , judge i assigned to wine j , by the minimum of the points given by all judges:

$$RW_{\{i,j\}} = \frac{p_{ij}}{\min(p_{ij})}, \quad i = 1 \text{ to } 9 \text{ for whites, } 1 \text{ to } 10 \text{ for reds, } \forall j$$

For example, for the whites, one judge gave the 1976 Puligny-Montrachet, 98 points which is 1.96 times the 50 points assigned by another. For the reds, a judge gave the 1978 Chevaliers Pinot noir, 0 points so each of the other judge's influence on the average was infinitely greater with one judge who gave 55 points exerting the most influence.

The overall distortion factors for the white and red tastings were calculated by dividing each judge's total points ($TP_{\{i\}}$) assigned to all the wines by the smallest $TP_{\{i\}}$:

$$RW_{\{i\}} = \frac{\sum_j p_{ij}}{\min_i(TP_{\{i\}})} = \frac{TP_{\{i\}}}{\min_i(TP_{\{i\}})}, \quad i = 1 \text{ to } 9 \text{ for whites, } 1 \text{ to } 10 \text{ for reds}$$

For the whites, one judge assigned a total of 879 points to the 12 wines, the most of any judge and 1.25 times greater than the judge who only gave a total of 702 points. For the reds, the dispersion is much larger with one judge awarding the most points, a total of 868, 1.74 times greater than the judge who only assigned a total of 499 points.

To use the Borda Count, the averages of points assigned by the judges were converted to rankings. For the white wines, Borda reversed the order of wines ranked second and third, and eleventh and twelfth by the averages. This put two California Chardonnays in the top two places and one in last place. For the red wines, Borda reversed the order of the two Burgundies in third and fourth place and breaks a tie in fifth place moving an Australian Pinot noir to sixth place behind a Burgundy. The difference in rankings is traced to the distortion caused by the wide spread of points awarded by the judges compared to the constant difference in the Borda Scores between non-tied adjacent alternatives.

Wine Rank by Borda Rank by Points

1976 Napa Valley Chardonnay Trefethen Vineyards 1 1
 1975 Napa Valley Chardonnay Freemark Abbey 2 3
 1976 Puligny-Montrachet ler Cru Joseph Drouhin 3 2
 1978 Puligny-Montrachet ler Cru Joseph Drouhin 4 4
 1978 Beaune Clos des Mouches Joseph Drouhin 5 5
 1977 Napa Valley Chardonnay Robert Mondavi 6 6
 1977 Pinot Chardonnay Tyrrell's 7 7
 1978 Chassagne-Montrachet ler Cru 1978 Joseph Drouhin 8 8
 1978 Meursault ler Cru Joseph Drouhin 9 9
 1976 Beaune Clos des Mouches Joseph Drouhin 10 10
 1978 Pinot bianco del Collio (Frioul) Schiopetto 11 12
 1977 Napa Valley Chardonnay Spring Mountain Vineyards 12 11

Wine Rank by Borda Rank by Points

1959 Chambolle-Musigny Joseph Drouhin 1 1
 1975 South Block Reserve Pinot noir The Eyrie Vineyards 2 2
 1978 Beaune Clos des Mouches Joseph Drouhin 3 4
 1961 Chamberlin Clos de Beze Joseph Drouhin 4 3
 1976 Vosne-Romanee ler Cru Joseph Drouhin 5 5 (tie)
 1976 Pinot Noir Tyrrell's 6 5(tie)
 1964 Aloxe-Corton Joseph Drouhin 7 7
 1978 Côte de Beaune Villages Joseph Drouhin 8 8
 1975 California Pinot Noir Hoffman Mountain Ranch 9 9
 1978 Dole Sang de l'Enfer Valais Adrien Mathier 10 10
 1976 Naoussa Boutaris 11 11
 1978 Chevaliers Pinot noir Valais Mathier et Kuchler 12 12

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