

## Primer on Voting Math

### User Scales

Left leaning (X) – up to  $+100 * Y$   
Right leaning (X) – up to  $+100 * Y$   
Pure centrist (X) – 0

where X is user scale position before the vote and Y is the user scale multiplier.

### Voting Scale

Rational (X) – score of  $+2 * Y$   
Debatable (X) – score of  $+1 * Y$   
Neutral (X) – score of 0  
Biased (X) – score of  $-1 * Y$   
Shill (X) – score of  $-2 * Y$

where X is the raw score and Y is the post raw score multiplier.

Popularity (i.e. ranking on the page) is determined by the total number of votes for a post, not the aggregate raw scores. Raw scores are aggregated by post, and displayed below the vote tally.

### Bias

Blog source is either Left Biased or Right Biased, displayed visually. (Note: a blog may be left or right, but may shift over time – I still haven't figured out how to handle that. I believe that the blog would first rise to the top of the list, and then move to the other side, but that will not account for blog entries brought in by users. Those could be set by the user, but misinterpretations will occur that we cannot adjust for. Gaming will also occur, as people on far sides of the political spectrum add blogs from the opposite end just to piss the blog owner off. We could correct this in several ways:

- 1) Provide a spec of javascript that the blog owner embeds in their index page designating left or right;
- 2) Use voter weighting to determine left or right (i.e. if the blog gets a certain number of positive votes from left leaning users and a certain amount of negative votes from right leaning users, then it is a "lefty," and visa versa);
- 3) Allow user to determine (for new blogs) and let the community check it "misclassified" if they like

Looking for thoughts here.

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### Blog Source Rankings

$\Sigma((\text{Popularity} * \text{Raw Score})/Z)$  equals blog ranking score. Z equals the blog ranking divisor. Sources are ranked from highest to lowest, based on blog ranking score.

### Actions

- For each positive (+) vote a user makes, their user scale gets moved the voted number of points (from voting scale) to the side they vote
- For each positive (+) vote a user makes to the side they are weighted to (from user scale), the vote is discounted 0.5% for each 1.0% they are weighted to their side
- For each negative (-) vote a user makes to the opposite of the side they are weighted to (from user scale), the vote is discounted 0.5% for each 1.0% they are weighted to their side