

# Supplementary Materials for Multiple Ideal Points: Revealed Preferences in Different Domains

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## A Derivation of the prior on the concentration parameter $\phi$

Our goal is to select a prior for  $\phi$  such that the induced prior on  $\theta = \frac{\Gamma(K)\Gamma(\phi+1)}{\Gamma(K+\phi)}$ , the probability that any legislator is a stayer, follows a uniform distribution on the unit interval. The density of such prior must satisfy  $p(\phi) = \left| \frac{d\theta}{d\phi} \right|$ , and has support on the  $[0, \infty)$  interval. Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{d\theta}{d\phi} \right| &= \Gamma(K) \left| \frac{\Gamma'(\phi+1)}{\Gamma(K+1)} - \frac{\Gamma(\phi+1)\Gamma'(\phi+K)}{[\Gamma(\phi+K)]^2} \right| \\ &= \Gamma(K) \frac{\Gamma(\phi+1)}{\Gamma(\phi+K)} \left| \frac{\Gamma'(\phi+1)}{\Gamma(\phi+1)} - \frac{\Gamma'(\phi+K)}{\Gamma(\phi+K)} \right| \\ &= \Gamma(K) \frac{\Gamma(\phi+1)}{\Gamma(\phi+K)} \{ \psi(\phi+K) - \psi(\phi+1) \} \\ &= \Gamma(K) \frac{\Gamma(\phi+1)}{\Gamma(\phi+K)} \left\{ \sum_{k=0}^{K-2} \frac{1}{\phi+k+1} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\psi(\cdot) = \frac{\Gamma'(\cdot)}{\Gamma(\cdot)}$  denotes the digamma function. Note that, for  $K = 2$ , the prior reduces to  $p(\phi) = (\phi+1)^{-2}$ , a (shifted) Pareto distribution. Figure 1 shows the shape of this prior distribution for two different values of  $K$ . Note that the prior tends to concentrate more around zero for higher values of  $K$ . It is also worthwhile noting that, while this is a proper, it is heavy tailed. Indeed, since  $\Gamma(\phi+1)/\Gamma(\phi+K) = 1/Q_{K-1}(\phi)$ , where  $Q_{K-1}$  is a polynomial of degree  $K-1$ , this prior has only  $K-2$  finite moments.

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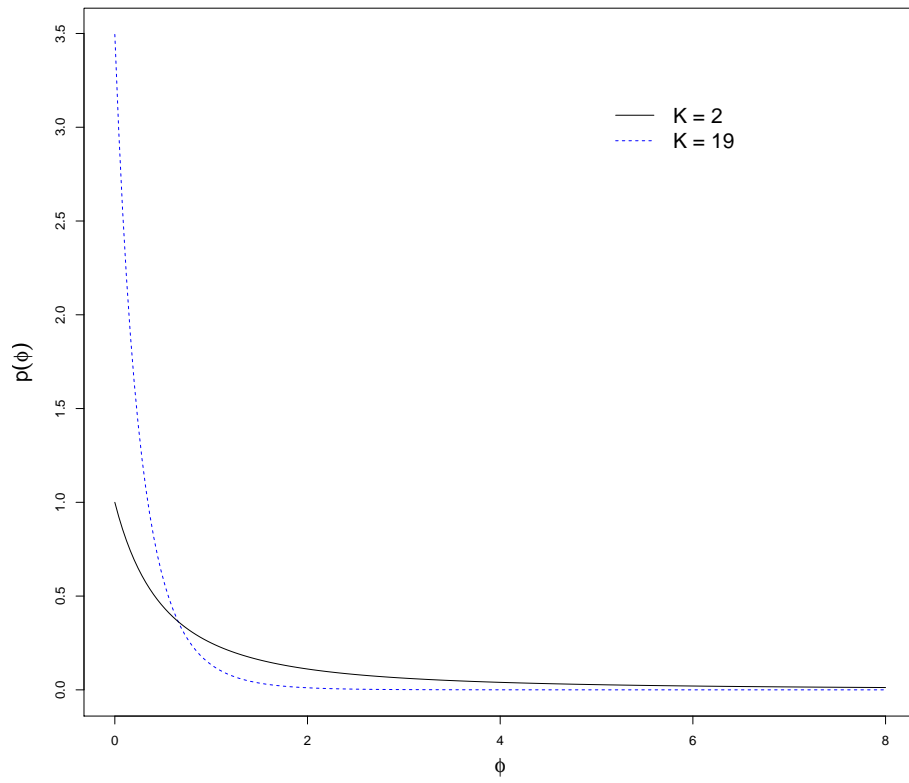


Figure 1: Prior distribution for the concentration parameter  $\phi$  for various values of  $K$ .

## B Number of Votes by Vote-Type, U.S. House of Representatives

Table 1: Frequency of PAP major topic recorded votes by House. Source: Policy Agendas Project

House Number	Macroeconomics	Civil Rights	Health	Agriculture	Labor and Employment	Education	Environment	Energy	Transportation	Law and Crime	Housing	Banking and Finance	Defense	Science	International Affairs	Government Operations	Public Lands
97	81	16	16	31	20	9	36	22	39	31	14	28	112	29	46	190	62
98	40	20	30	38	28	32	30	19	25	26	21	33	123	31	51	209	65
99	62	12	20	43	15	11	28	9	42	32	26	23	124	13	91	224	47
100	33	41	30	17	17	11	21	16	38	36	32	25	156	27	88	230	76
101	45	32	16	29	20	25	33	10	32	30	12	33	96	16	85	243	66
102	36	16	26	11	35	22	11	10	31	42	23	52	94	38	67	259	100
103	58	37	30	17	43	48	21	12	40	89	20	30	86	46	59	305	108
104	106	45	32	36	41	18	63	33	46	87	25	54	113	36	87	343	77
105	53	49	31	32	17	48	31	8	28	66	27	49	75	16	137	366	74
106	71	26	72	40	18	55	45	11	29	100	14	56	89	40	93	295	101
107	72	36	49	17	28	41	18	24	36	56	10	43	94	14	78	276	36
108	99	33	88	24	36	31	13	30	49	55	9	67	153	17	119	250	78
109	54	66	49	39	22	46	20	55	41	78	22	66	148	25	139	227	44
110	69	57	97	47	44	116	49	89	61	68	91	131	205	43	105	407	131
111	47	36	79	29	28	110	50	45	64	71	27	168	148	49	78	440	126
112	98	31	87	40	33	27	146	163	63	55	33	103	215	28	34	295	105
113	57	14	64	48	20	36	98	125	38	46	16	88	155	27	35	197	99
114	41	43	80	18	20	40	130	88	58	43	12	118	172	40	52	215	81