

Further Comments on TR03-078

Our previous comments need some qualification: the "majority problem" in the literature asks for either the output of a majority element or a declaration that "no majority exists". When n is even, this is slightly different from the model discussed in our technical report, in which it is assumed that there is a majority. Thus, the open problem mentioned in (i) of Section 5 of our technical report was immediately implied by the result of Saks and Werman's 1991 Combinatorica paper only for the case of odd n. In the case of even n, our open problem (i) was solved in the paper (mentioned in our previous comments) by Martin Aigner's paper in Discrete Applied Mathematics. Again, we thank Professor Ugo Vaccaro for pointing out these finer distinctions in the models and their implications.