Tradeoffs in Electronic E2E Voting Systems

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E2E System Tradeoffs

- Accessibility

- Usability

- Public Adoption

- Write-Ins

Accessibility

- Electronic systems have the potential for accessibility

- Paper based systems suffer from traditional issues with accessibility and paper

- In general, E2E systems are not very accessible

Usability

- E2E systems in general are challenged with usability issues
  - How many seniors, low income or high school drop outs have used E2E systems in studies?

- Electronic and Paper based systems are equally challenged here
  - No advantage on either side

Public Adoption

- All E2E systems suffer from public adoption issues
  - Try explaining E2E to a non-technical group

- Paper may have a slight advantage here because of it's tangible nature and familiar interface

Write-Ins

- Can voters easily write-in a candidate's name and verify it?
  - I don't know if either has an advantage here, but this is a really good question

Summary

- Electronic E2E systems have an advantage for accessibility

- Electronic E2E systems may have a slight advantage for usability

- Paper based systems may have an advantage in public adoption

Summary

- With respect to accessibility, usability and public adoption MUCH research is needed

- Several prototypes have been developed
  - The technology is not the issue

- E2E systems provide awesome properties, but if they are not usable, then what good are they?

Thank You

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