

## Exercises

- *Less extreme.* Consider the negative influence model. We assumed that opinions are uniformly distributed in  $[0, 1]$ . Instead, assume that this range is narrower, and that opinions are now drawn from  $[0.5 - X, 0.5 + X]$ ,  $0 < X \leq 0.5$ , so that the baseline model uses  $X = 0.5$ . How do smaller values of  $X$  affect tendency of the population toward polarization?
- *Ignore them unless they're trouble.* In the negative influence model, we assumed that any agents not being positively influenced were negatively influenced. However, we could also assume a hybrid model in which moderate differences were ignored and only strong differences compelled negative influence. Implement this. How does it affect the resulting opinion dynamics?
- *That's just, like, your opinion, man.* The models of opinion dynamics we have seen have very simple models of individual opinions and beliefs, as well as how those opinions change through social influence. What do you think one or two important questions are about how beliefs and opinions change through social influence? How might a model be constructed to answer that question(s). How would such a model differ from the ones we have seen?