

Tis a Far, Far Butter Place

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This paper gives an unbelievably detailed history of margarine in America. Why then, do you ask, is the title about butter? Well, who ever heard of a far, far margarine place? I mean, come on; you have to give the author some poetic license. Otherwise every paper would read like stereo instructions. And who ever reads stereo instructions? Anyway, the paper is about butter...I mean margarine!

Key words: butter, margarine, silliness

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1. Introduction

Although it has been around for over a century, margarine was not always the preferred tablespread in the United States. In 1930, per capita consumption of margarine was only 2.6 pounds (vs. 17.6 pounds of butter). Times have changed for the better, though (if you're a margarine manufacturer, that is). Today, per capita consumption of margarine in the United States is 8.3 pounds (including vegetable oil spreads) whereas butter consumption is down to about 4.2 pounds. Furthermore, as shown in Figure 1, it is always butter, not margarine, that is traded off¹ against guns. This leads to the announcement of our result.²

THEOREM 1. *In a reverse dictionary, ($\mathit{marg} \succ \mathit{butt} \wedge \mathit{arin} \succ \mathit{er}$). Moreover, continuous reading of a compact subset of the dictionary attains the minimum of patience at the moment of giving up.*

The proof will be given in the e-companion to this paper.

2. Motivation

Margarine or butter? According to the website of the National Association of Margarine Manufacturers (2005a), "Despite the recommendations of health professionals and leading health organiza-