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Effects of heterogeneous convergence rate on consensus in opinion dynamics

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## Highlights

- A modified Deffuant model involving a heterogeneous convergence rate is proposed.
- The decrease of the convergence rate is favorable to decreasing the confidence threshold for the population to always reach complete consensus.
- There exists optimal tunable parameter resulting in the minimal bounded confidence threshold.
- Within a certain confidence range, decreasing the convergence rate might reduce the relaxation time.

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