

Social Choice

Political Science 225
North Dakota State University

Cycling

Group decision-making procedures do not always lead to stable social choices!

- Bargaining: divide the dollar game

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Group decision-making procedures do not always lead to stable social choices!

- Bargaining: divide the dollar game
- Condorcet's Paradox
 - Complete preferences
 - Transitive preferences

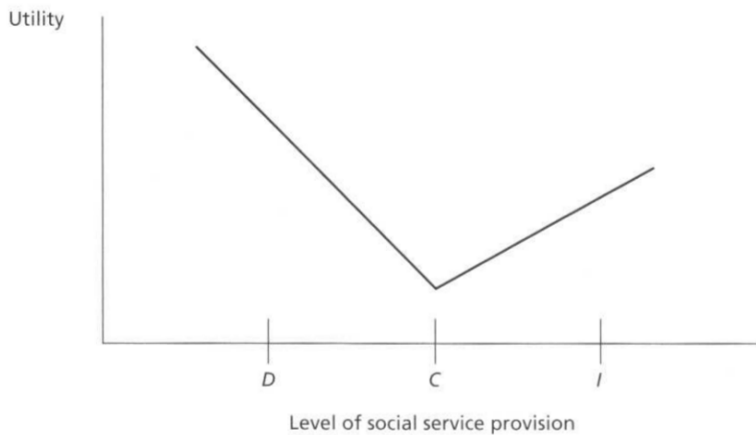
Legislator	Pref. Rank		
	1st	2nd	3rd
A	X	Y	Z
B	Z	X	Y
C	Y	Z	X

Agenda Control

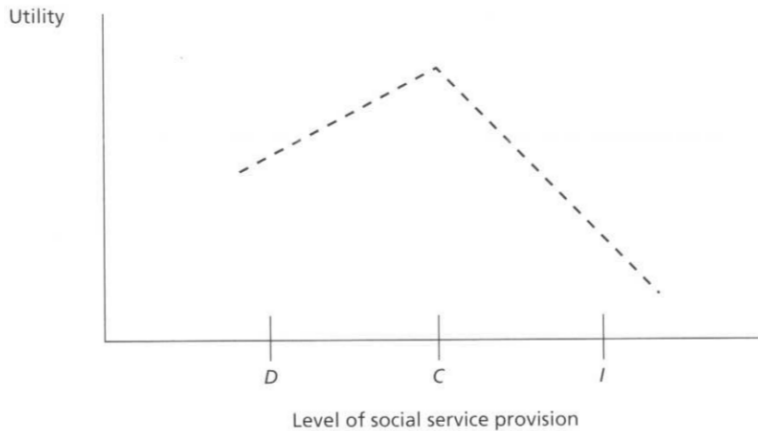
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- Agenda: Pit Y vs Z, then winner against X
- Sincere voting
- Strategic voting

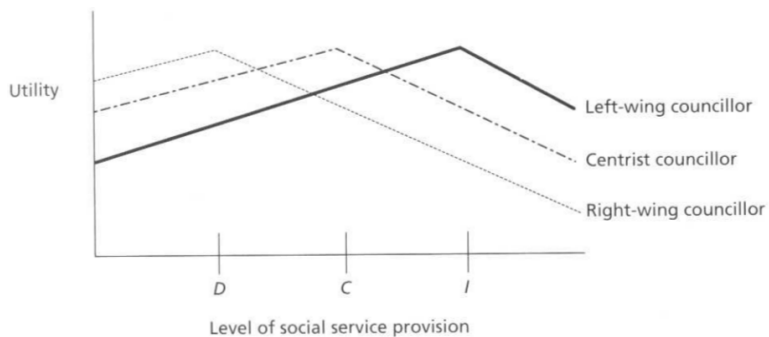
The Median Voter Theorem



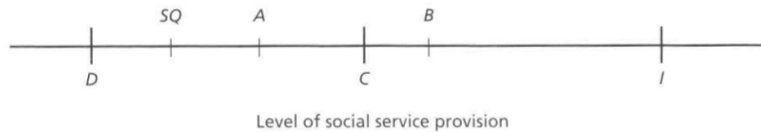
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Key Variables in Presidential Government

- Does the president have exclusive bill introduction powers?
 - Can legislature amend presidential bills?
 - Is exclusive introduction limited to certain issue areas?

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 - Can the legislature override a veto?
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Key Variables in Presidential Government

- Does the president have exclusive bill introduction powers?
 - Can legislature amend presidential bills?
 - Is exclusive introduction limited to certain issue areas?
- Can the president veto legislation?
 - Can the legislature override a veto?
 - Does the president have a partial veto?
- Does the president have decree power?

A Spatial Model of Presidential Powers

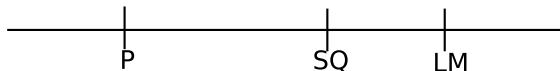
- The president and legislators have ideal points in a one-dimensional space
- They prefer policies that are closer to their ideal points to those that are further away
- Bill proposals are represented as points in the space
- Bills require a plurality to pass in the legislature and veto overrides require a supermajority
- Legislators are never absent
- Policy starts at some status quo point

Exclusive Introduction, No Amendments

- 1 President submits bill
- 2 Legislature votes on bill vs status quo

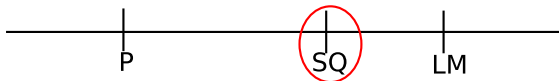
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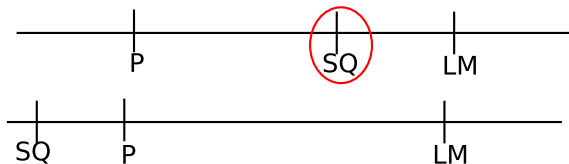
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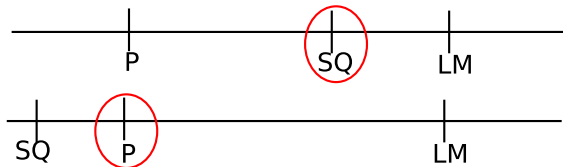
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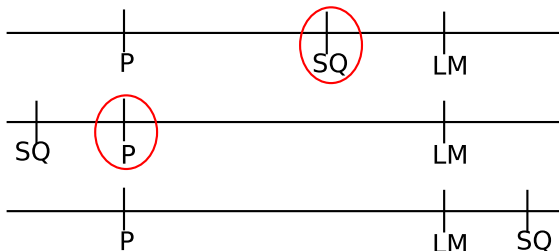
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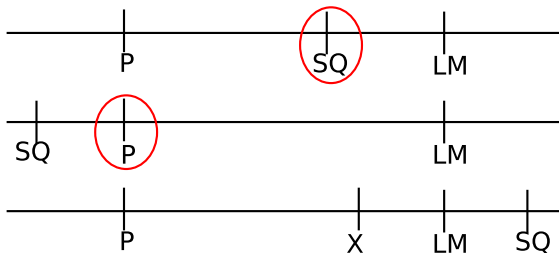
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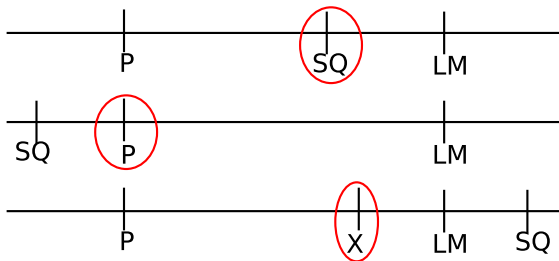
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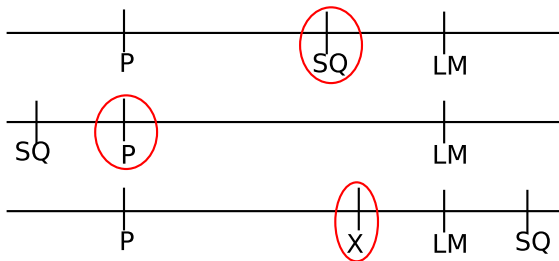
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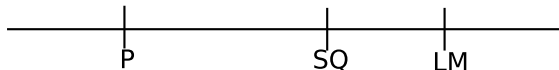
Conclusion: president checked by legislature

Legislative Introduction or Amendment, No Veto

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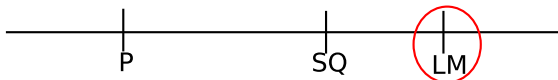
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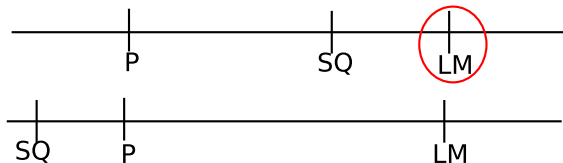
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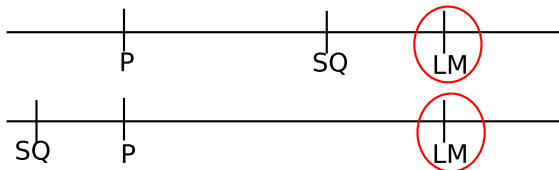
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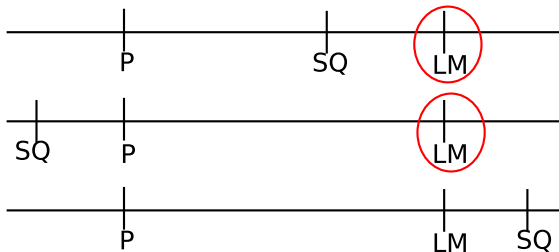
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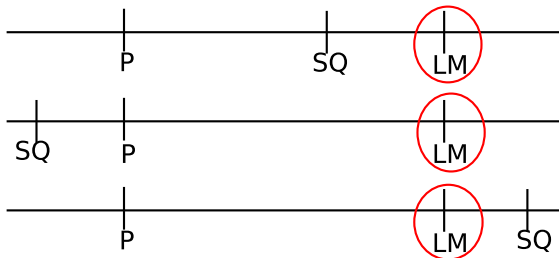
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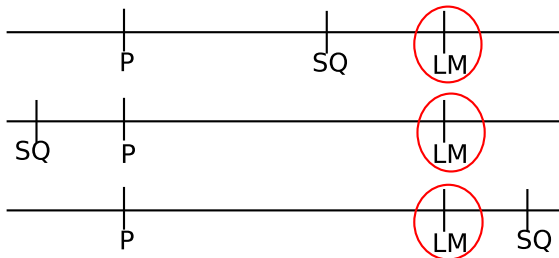
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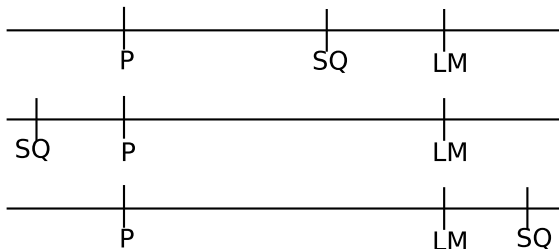
Conclusion: president impotent

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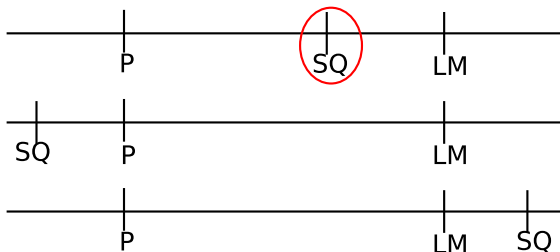
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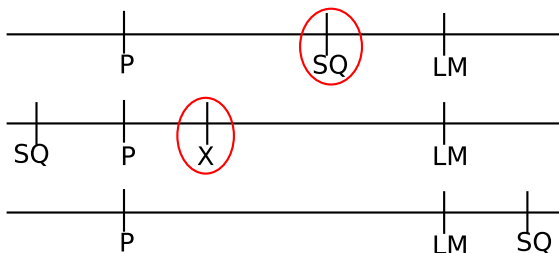
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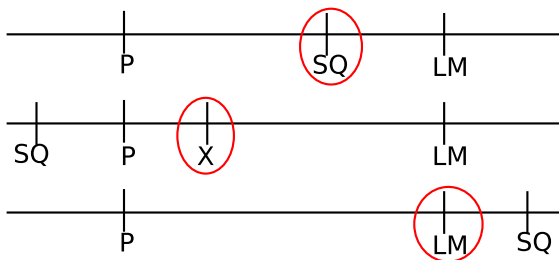
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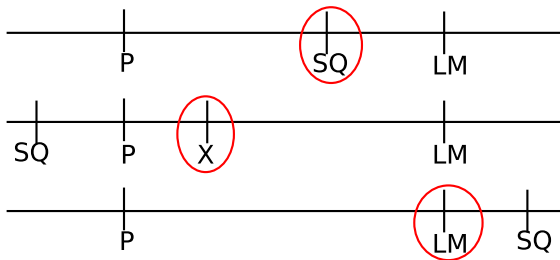
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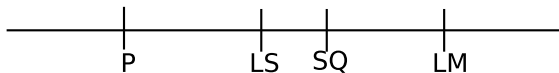
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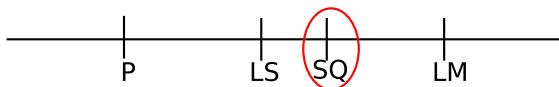
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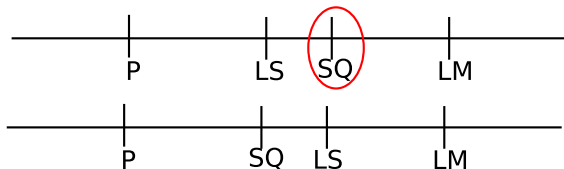
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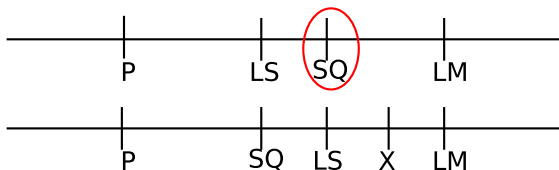
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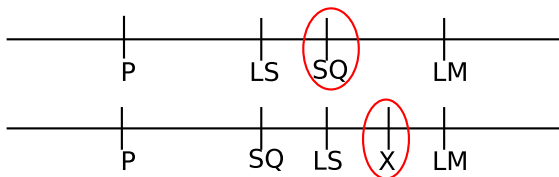
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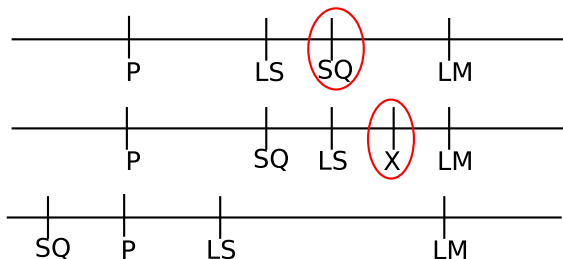
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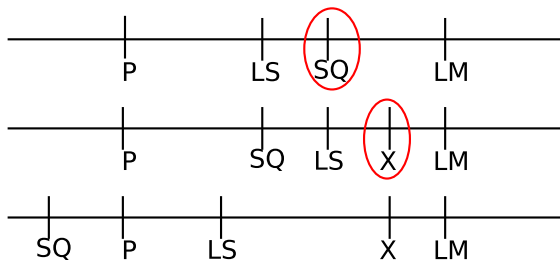
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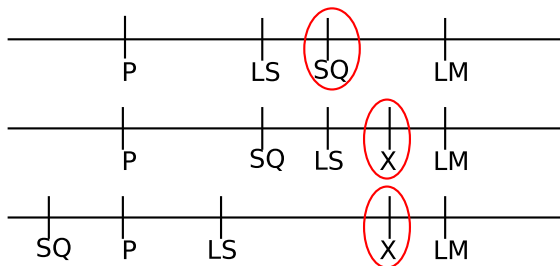
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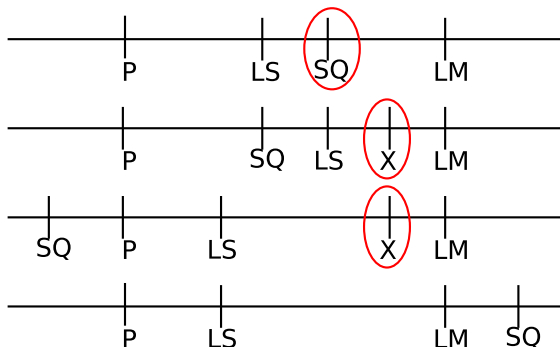
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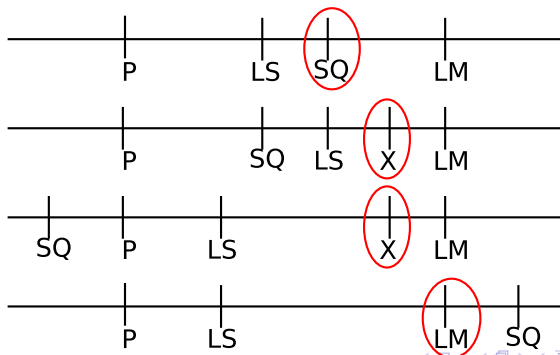
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Arrow's Theorem

- Group transitivity
- Non-dictatorship
- Universal Admissibility
- Unanimity
- Independence from Irrelevant Alternatives