The Workshop on the Frontiers of Statistical Analysis and Formal Theory of Political Science

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Abstracts

堀内勇作(Dartmouth College, with John M. Carey)

Compulsory Voting and Income Inequality

What difference does it make if more, or fewer, people vote? What difference would it make if the state makes people vote? These questions are central both to normative debates about the rights and duties of citizens in a democracy and to contemporary policy debates in a variety of countries over what actions states should take to encourage electoral participation. To address them, this paper focuses on the phenomenon of compulsory voting - legal requirements that compel citizens to vote in elections. Specifically, by focusing on a rare case of abolishing compulsory voting in Venezuela, we show that not forcing people to vote yielded a more unequal distribution of income. Our evidence supports Arend Lijphart's claim, forcefully advanced in his 1996 presidential address to the American Political Science Association, that compulsory voting can offset class bias in turnout and, in turn, contribute to the equality of influence.

籠谷公司 (神戸大学)

Trust in Tripwires: Costly Signaling and Extended Deterrence in the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty

Contemporary alliance theory offers ``pure" mechanisms of extended deterrence. Defenders can expend resources \textit{ex ante} to demonstrate resolve (``sunk costs") or incur contingent costs \textit{ex post} to generate commitment (``tying hands"). Deterrence in practice is more convoluted, however, as defenders deploy forces that are

both costly and inadequate for defense. Moderate deployments can commit a state to intervene, but mobility hinders the credibility of tripwires. Alternately, states can signal resolve by \(\frac{1}{2}\) they allocate finite military resources. Moderate deployments also allow defenders to exploit alliance goods. We investigate these logics in the context of the U.S.-Japan Security treaty, where official pacifism helps to limit endogeneity. Analysis of extended deterrence failures (1953-2001) suggests that American leaders convey priorities through \(\frac{1}{2}\) textit\(\frac{1}{2}\) disproportionate\(\frac{1}{2}\) shifts in spending on military personnel. Contrary to conventional wisdom, the size and cost of a detachment has little effect on deterrence outcomes. Instead, deterrence seems to depend on the emphasis on Japanese security within the larger U.S. budget.

小島真一(神戸大学)

A Signaling Model of Delegation

This paper presents a model of delegation in parliamentary democracy. In this model, I assume governmental parties receive some signals from bureaucrats, which indicate the preferences and the capacity for policy implementation. However, bureaucrats also have incentives to fake these properties or not to send any signals. This model has derived two different outcomes. First, If bureaucratic capacity is low and there is preference heterogeneity, bureaucrats send a signal implying their properties and governmental parties delegate the authority to bureaucrats. Second, if the preference of high capacity bureaucrats is far from threshold or that of low capacity bureaucrats is near it, they do not send any signals and governmental parties will delegate.

田中大樹・竹井彩華・白川裕求・名取良太(関西大学)

Designing and improving the Database for Comparative Political Research

By the development of information technology, it came to be easily and quickly obtained the data that anyone wanted. Even though, huge amounts of Japanese electoral data were scattered in each prefecture, inaccurate and were not digitized. A researcher of Japanese politics and comparative politices had to spare much time in collecting and arranging of the data rather than analyzing. We feel this situation was so terrible. Hence, we designed and improved the database system for comparative political research. In order to provide the data with high accuracy, we needed to pay attention not only digitization of the paper media, but also cleaning up of data many times. We made a system for efficiency improvement of work, and focused on proper organizational management. We made "User-friendly interface". It is possible to search and download the Japanese electoral data (e.g., municipal level data of The House of Representatives, The House of Councilors, prefectural governor and prefectural assembly) easily from our database system. Needless to say, it will be open access system. It will bring about promotion in Japanese political research and comparative political research. In this debriefing session, we will report the process for 5 years to be improved. And so, we will set up an opportunity for testing our system actually.

福元健太郎 (学習院大学)

Vote by Name: Familiar Family Names Help Candidates

This study argues that ciizens cast a ballot for a candidate just because they know his or her family name. In Japan, this mechanism is important. First, Japanese call family names first (e.g. "Ono Yoko" instead of "Yoko Ono"). Second, in the campaign, shouting candidate's family name is the major tactics. The electoral system of the House of Councilors from 1947 to 1980 has the two tiers, the national and prefectural districts. I calculate "standardized vote share" by dividing the vote share of a national district candidate in each municipality by his or her vote share in the nation. I regress standardized vote shares on the dummy variable whether he or she finds any candidate in the prefecture district who shares the same family name with him or her. When I analyze data of 1980, I find the coefficient is thirty percent and significant.

辻陽 (近畿大学)

The effect of "Ainori" coalition, the comparison between UH elections and prefectural governors' elections

I will compare Japanese Upper House (the House of Councillors) elections with prefectural governors' elections in this presentation. There is a difference on parties' tactics between UH elections and governors' elections. In UH elections, each party chooses to adopt the one candidate or not. Meanwhile, in governors' elections, the party has one more option, that is, to support the same candidate with others in governors' elections, which is so often called "Ainori" coalition. I'd like to focus on UH elections in which magnitude of electoral district is one. What are the characteristics of UH elections? How many votes have the parties participating in "Ainori" coalition lost in the governors' elections compared to the UH elections? I'm going to try to answer these questions.

堤英敬 (香川大学)

参院選における政党投票-候補者投票

参院選の選挙区は半数から三分の二が定数1であり、複数定数区においても、各政党が一人しか候補者を擁立しないことは珍しくなかった。これにより、同士討ちの発生が回避されることから、各政党の候補者は候補者投票よりも政党投票を追求する可能性が考えられる。しかし、選挙区内で党内競争が存在しなかったとしても、候補者が(政党ではなく)自らへの投票を追求する可能性がなくなるわけではない。先行研究では、党内競争が存在しなくても、選挙基盤が脆弱な候補者ほど選挙区における活動を活発に行うことが明らかにされている。また、複数定数区では(候補者は一人であったとしても)潜在的なライバルが存在することから、やはり候補者投票を増やそうとの動機が発生するであろう。本報告では、候補者による「地盤」の構築を候補者投票追求の結果と捉え、参院選における政党投票と候補者投票のバランスについて検討を行う。

岸本一男 (筑波大学)

Existence of an equilibrium for the two-dimensional three-firms location problem with rotationally symmetric density

Shaked (1975) proved the non-existence of three parties Nash equilibrium on the plane when the payoff of each party is the numbers of votes it gained. In this paper, it is proved that his non-existence result is no more valid if its payoff is the rank of numbers it gained rather than the number of votes itself.

三輪洋文(東京大学)

Soft News De-ideologize Politics: Evidence from the Ideology-Dissolving Country, Japan

Many scholars suggest that news media, including soft news, promote polarization in the United States, where ideology is said to be getting more important among both political elites and citizens. Then, how about in countries where ideology is dissolving? I examine the case of Japan and argue that news media play an important role there as well, but in the opposite direction. Seeing ideology as a relatively hard-to-use heuristic, I hypothesize that softening of political information from late 1980s has caused the decline of ideology among the Japanese electorate. To test this hypothesis, I use three opinion poll's data, create treatment and outcome variables in different ways, and make causal inference using inverse probability weighting. The result shows that ideology becomes less meaningful for voters who get soft political information. I also confirm that this result is robust to omitted variables.

森田果 (東北大学)

Voting behavior in shareholders' meeting: a unique survey data of Japanese listed corporations

Shareholders' meeting of stock corporation is a voting mechanism which determines fundamental policies of corporation. The Commercial Law Center [Shojihomu] has been engaging in a unique survey of shareholders' meeting of Japanese listed corporations for over 40 years. The survey asks each corporation questions about management of shareholders' meeting, such as what measures it is employing in order to solicit shareholders' voting. The return rate of the survey is about 75% out of about 2400 listed corporations, which shows how valuable the information is for the answering corporations. We construct a panel dataset from the survey responses of 2011, 2012, and (hopefully) 2013. Shareholders of listed corporations are not identical, consisting of individuals, institutional investors, other corporations, and foreign investors, and have various incentive to vote. We analyze many aspects of the voting behavior in shareholders' meetings. Among others, we show the factors which influence voter turnout.

梅田道生 (東京大学)

Asymmetrical Incumbency and the Electoral Balancing Effect in the Japanese Lower House Election

This paper examines the incumbency effect in the Japanese House of Representatives by utilizing a natural experimental mechanism within its mixed-member electoral system. More specifically, I utilize the mechanism that assigns different incumbency statuses to the districts with the same partisan vote-share balance, if they belong to different regional proportional representation (PR) districts. Based on the design, I demonstrate that Japanese voters have asymmetrical "electoral balancing" preference between the governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the largest opposition, the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ). During the 2000s they were less likely vote for the DPJ in the PR tier if they had DPJ (zombie) incumbents in their districts, but the phenomenon was not observed if they had LDP incumbents. These results suggest the complex balancing concern of the voters after the long-term LDP dominance in Japanese politics, in accordance with the implication of Horiuchi & Umeda (2013).

山本鉄平(MIT)

Causal Inference with Conjoint Analysis

Survey experiments are a core tool for causal inference. Yet, the design of classical survey experiments prevents them from identifying which components of a multidimensional treatment are influential. Here, we show how conjoint analysis, an experimental design yet to be widely applied in political science, enables researchers to estimate the causal effects of multiple treatment components and assess several causal hypotheses simultaneously. In conjoint analysis, respondents score a set of alternatives, where each has randomly varied attributes. We undertake a formal identification analysis to integrate conjoint analysis with the potential outcomes framework for causal inference. We propose a new causal estimand and show that it can be nonparametrically identified and easily estimated from conjoint data using a fully randomized design. The analysis enables us to propose diagnostic checks for the identification assumptions. We

then demonstrate the value of these techniques through empirical applications to voter decision-making and attitudes toward immigrants.