

CS-234

Technologies for
Democratic society

Fall 2021

Week 8

Randomness in democracy

Examples:

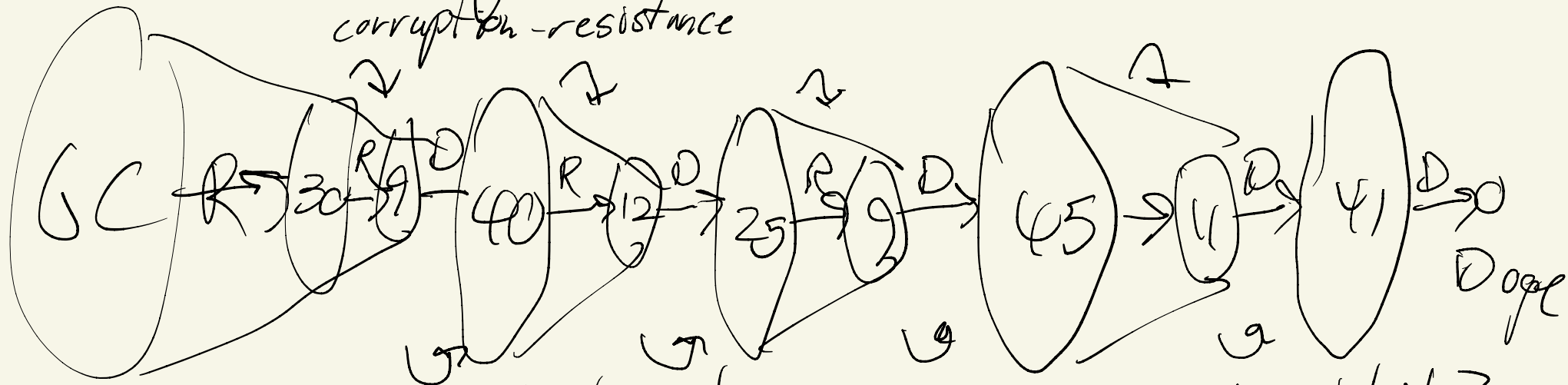
- Juries - trial by jury (sortition)
 - avoid biases (either for or against)
 - corruption, insider decisions, etc.
- Randomness in voting
 - Condorcet cycles
 - exact ties
 - STV: transferring over-quota ballots
 - risk-limiting audits - verify results

History

Sortition-based selection

- Athenian democracy
 - Magistrate positions - randomly assigned - 1 year
 - No expertise, high learning curve
- Venetian Roga selection 1268 - 1797

corruption-resistance



merit-based

merit ratchet?

Competence meter

$\frac{1}{2}$

$\frac{2}{3}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{5}{6}$

$\frac{9}{10}$

Sortition-based deliberative assemblies

("mini-publics" or citizens' assemblies, ...)

- Deliberative polling
 - Sortition-based group selection
(diverse, representative)
 - introduce topic, ask initial opinions
 - deliberation: information/presentations by experts
contrasting opinions/positions
self exploration/education
discussion (moderated)
 - ask final opinions