

# Making Votes Count

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Strategic Coordination in the  
World's Electoral Systems



GARY W. COX

Political Economy  
of Institutions and Decisions  
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出版者:Cambridge University Press

出版时间:1997-3-28

装帧:Paperback

isbn:9780521585279

Popular elections are at the heart of representative democracy. Thus, understanding the laws and practices that govern such elections is essential to understanding modern democracy. In this book, Cox views electoral laws as posing a variety of coordination problems that political forces must solve. Coordination problems - and with them the necessity of negotiating withdrawals, strategic voting, and other species of strategic coordination - arise in all electoral systems. This book employs a unified game-theoretic model to study strategic coordination worldwide and that relies primarily on constituency-level rather than national aggregate data in testing theoretical propositions about the effects of electoral laws. This book also considers not just what happens when political forces succeed in solving the coordination problems inherent in the electoral system they face but also what happens when they fail.

## 作者介绍:

Gary W. Cox is a professor of political science at the University of California, San Diego. In addition to numerous articles in the areas of legislative and electoral politics, he is author of *The Efficient Secret* (winner of the Samuel H. Beer dissertation prize in 1983), coauthor of *Legislative Leviathan* (winner of the Richard F. Fenno Prize in 1993), and author of *Making Votes Count: Strategic Coordination in the World's Electoral Systems* (1997), which was awarded APSA's awards for the best book in political science (Woodrow Wilson Foundation Award), the best book in comparative politics (Gregory Luebbert Prize), and for the best book in political economy. His latest book, *Elbridge Gerry's Salamander*, analyzes the political consequences of the reapportionment revolution in the United States. Cox is a former Guggenheim Fellow and was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1996.

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## 标签

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## 评论

PE Core

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coordination problem, strategic voting and strategic contributing; interaction btw social cleavages and electoral system. formal theory

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how Duverger's law may fail

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非常好的一部著作，在现代政治研究的文献里也算的上是必读书目的一类著作。作者从迪维尔热定律的最基本的讨论开始，逐渐将这个框架拓展到M+1法则，从这一点来说，真的是思路非常清晰，理论框架也非常的有力。在Cox这里，思考怎样解决选民和政治家的coordination

problem是他写作此书的出发点，相较很多一开始上来鬼画符一样的搞一两个简单的博弈困境，然后直接切入不同的选举制度下可能的问题的学者不同，Cox此书的写作风格也是很值得学习的。尤其是，Cox在全书很多的篇幅讨论了日本的SNTV制度，这也是此书在日本政治研究里享有很大的名誉的重要原因。Cox事实上是很懂日本政治的，这在上一代的学者里也是出类拔萃之辈

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