

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## I TOOLS

### 1 Introduction

The Analytical Study of Politics. Theory and Models. Theoretical Assumptions. Individual Rationality. Preferences. Utility. Empirics. Summary. Review Questions.

### 2 Decision Making in a Unidimensional Space

Concept of Unidimensional Space. Utility Function: Preferences and Properties of the Function. Decision Process: the Concept of Win Set. Median Voter Theorem. Examining the Assumptions behind the Median Voter Theorem: Single-Peakedness and Cyclical Majorities. Sincere and Strategic Voting. Summary. Review Questions.

### 3 Decision Making in a Multidimensional Space

Representation of Preferences on a Multidimensional Space. Symmetrical and Non-symmetrical Indifference Curves. Separable and Nonseparable Preferences. Voting in a Two-dimensional Space with Separable Preferences. The Concept of Spatial Symmetry. The Improbability of Symmetry: Chaos' Theorem. Solutions to Majority Cycling: Institutions. Summary. Review Questions.

### 4 Elections

Contemporary Democracy as Representative Democracy. The Initial Model: The Outcome of Complete Convergence. Ideological Candidates, Informational Uncertainty and Partial Convergence. The Concept of Reputation and Elections as an Iterated Game. Entry Threat by a Third Candidates. Reputation and Moving Costs. Endogenizing the Number of Candidates. Summary. Review Questions.

### 5 Electoral System (1). Structure

The Vote. Candidates. District Magnitude. Complex District. Electoral Formulas. Majoritarian Formulas. Proportional Representation. Complex Districts and Adjustment Systems. Electoral Threshold. Summary. Review Questions.

### 6 Electoral System (2). Consequences

Duverger's Law. The Strategic Effect. Coordination in Single-

Member Single-Ballot Districts. Coordination in Multimember Districts. Coordination in Single-Member Two-Rounds Systems. The Mechanical Effect. Duverger's Law, Electoral Districts and National Parties. Summary. Review Questions.

**7 Parties and Party Systems**

The Coordination of Candidates and the Emergence of Parties. The Emergence of Party Organizations. A Description of Party Systems. Theories of Party System Formation. The Emergence of Party Systems in Industrial Democracies. Political Mobilization. The Choice of Electoral Systems. Stability, Volatility and Long-run Change. Summary. Review Questions.

**8 Formation of Party Systems**

Party Systems in Advanced Democracies. Initial Conditions. Electoral Mobilization along Religious Issues. Socialist Mobilization. Strategic Responses: Choosing Electoral Laws. Summary. Review Questions

**9 Party Systems in Spain**

Left-Right Cleavage. Preference Intensity and Vote Stability. Religion and Class. Summary. Review Questions.

**10 Electoral Institutions, Party Systems and Performance**

Types of Governments. The Problem of Representation. The Problem of Governace. Government Formation. Coalition Theory. Cabinet Duration. Allocation of Portfolios. Summary. Review Questions.