

Analysis of Campaign Contribution Network in 2008 Taiwanese Legislator Election

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Abstract

The relationships between business groups and politicians has long been considered as one of the most important issues in modern representative politics. Different business groups may have common interests in fields that are dominated by political conflicts, therefore would like to invest in politicians who can solve the conflicts. When two business groups invest in the same politician, a tie between the two business groups is formed. In this talk we study mechanisms behind the tie formation by analyzing the campaign contribution data collected during the 2008 Taiwanese legislator election. Our analysis is divided into three parts. In the first part we conduct a simulation experiment to study structural properties of the campaign contribution network. In the second part we propose a regression analysis to identify key factors behind the tie formation between business groups. In the third part we apply a community detection technique to explore organizational information across the campaign contribution network (This is a joint research work with Dr. Zon-Rong Lee, Liang-Cheng Huang and Professor Jing-Shiang Hwang).