Business School

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE LAW & ECONOMICS OF ELECTIONS

ASSA EARLY CAREER RESEARCH AWARD: PANEL B

Richard Holden

S E

UNSW B S

E IE F A K

- Gerrymandering
- Political geography and “compactness”
- Incumbent reelection rate
- Future directions

GE A DE I G

I A A EG F
GE A DE E

- What is the optimal strategy?
- What are the implications for representation of different groups (party, race, gender,…)?
- How can or do regulations/constraints interact?
- You cannot regulate what you don’t understand

I A A EG

W de - e d e : *a a a*

Pack: f e a fe d c

Crack: ead e e a e e e e e a d c /

T a a a fe d c e a

U de a c d / a e a?

F ed a a d H de (*A a E R* , 2008)

HE B E

A

n (B , 1962)

A

-

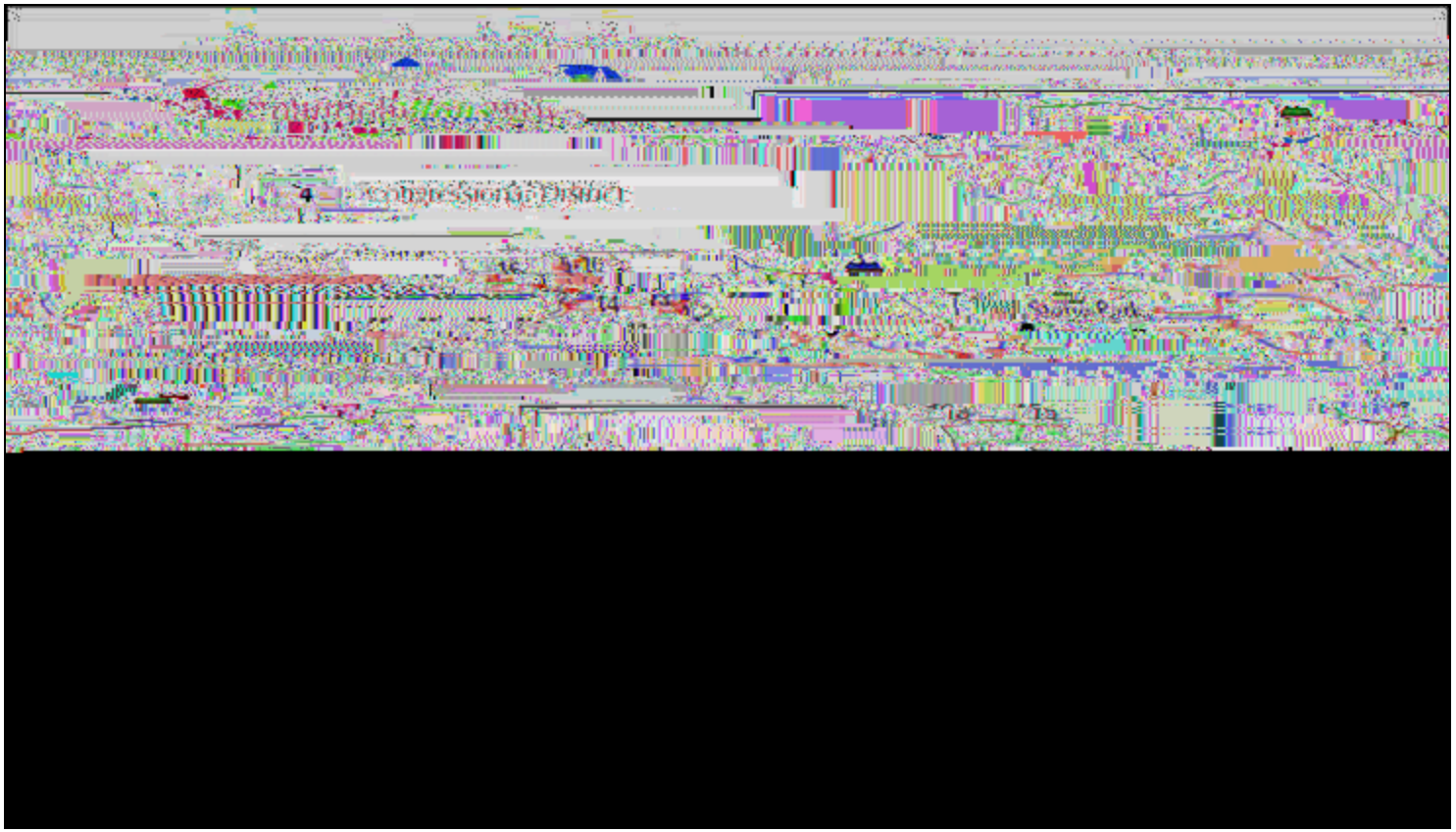
(*Total Posi i Pol a*

Freq enc F nc ions)

A CHI G ICE I I

- Voters in the tails of the distribution v likely to vote one way or the other
- Best way to use your strongest supporters is to neutralize your strongest opponents
- Use them as the pivotal voter in some district, not right/left of the median in many districts

D E I AC A HA E ?



C AC E

F E I I G EA E

- Area of circumscribing figures (rectangle, circle, hexagon,)
- Perimeter length
- Ratio of perimeter length to area of circumscribing figure--call this *
- One minus square root of (*)
- One divided by square root of (*)
- 100 times (*)
- Ratio of district population to area of convex hull of a district
- Ratio of reflexive to non-reflexive interior angles in a district
- Median price of petrol divided by age of oldest citizen in a district…

E I I G EA E

a

N a a

e a c e

a a d a de

Wa be ab e c a e Ve a d Te a

A : c ac e e e a e f a *a*

a ca c a e e d c c a a

ea e

A ACH

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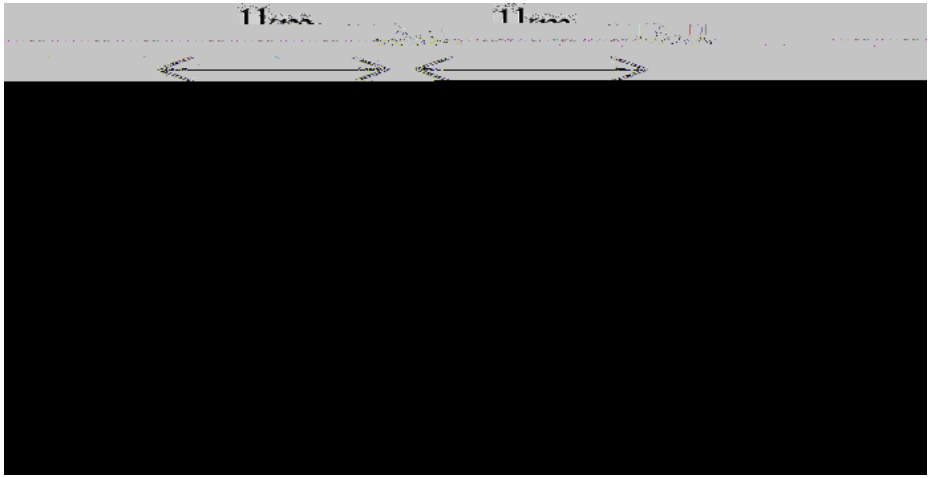
A :

l a a ce: , ,

C e g: 9 □ □ □

HE I

A I E E A E



N e a =24

M a = 1,2,5 , 3,5,6

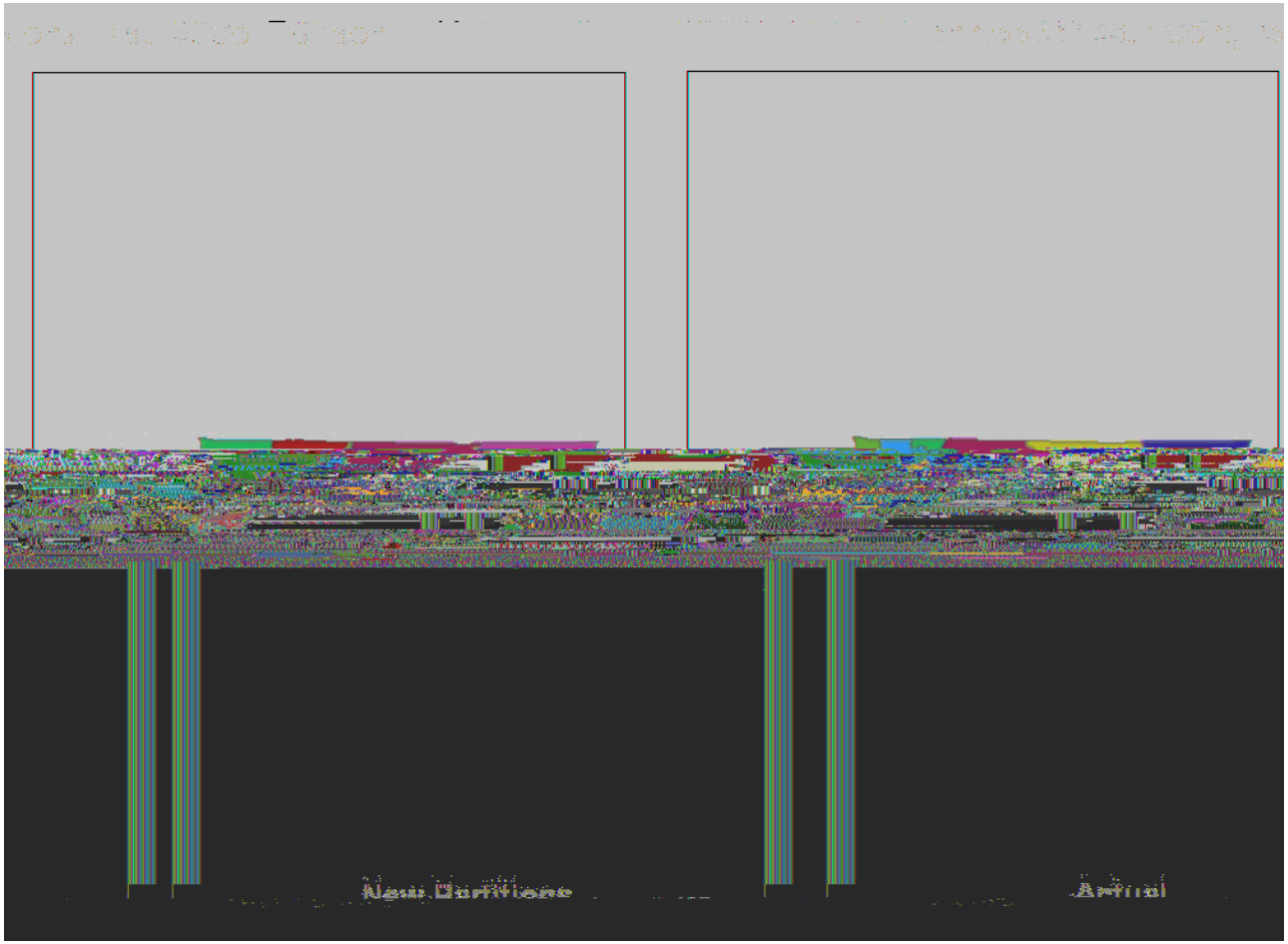
De a =16

RPI=24/16=3/2

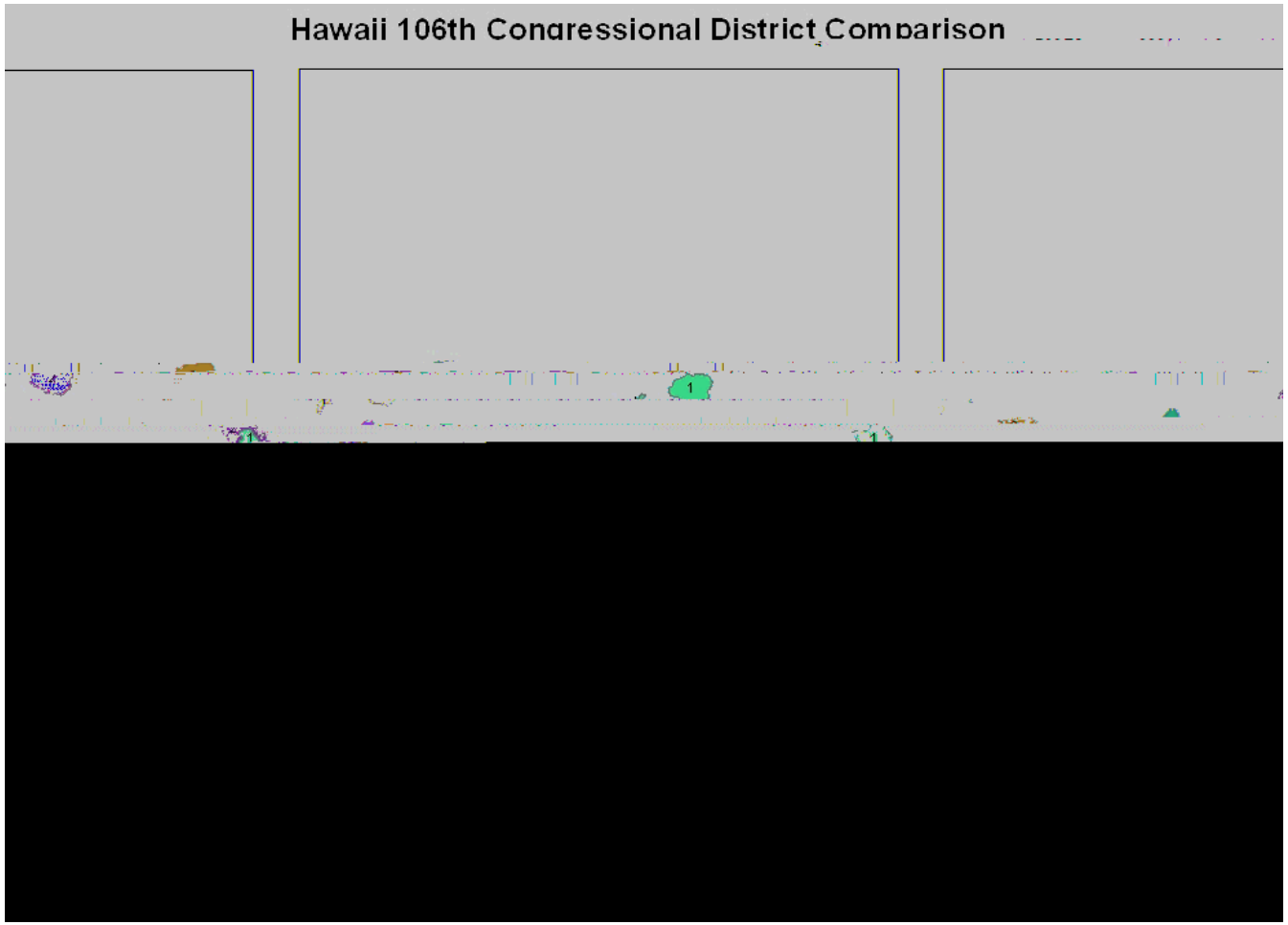
C I G HE I

- Minimum partition problem is NP-Hard
- CA: n=53, census tracts=6,800
- Number of possible districting plans CA=78.4x1059,351
- Even in a small state number of plans great than number of atoms in the visible universe

COMPAC DI IC



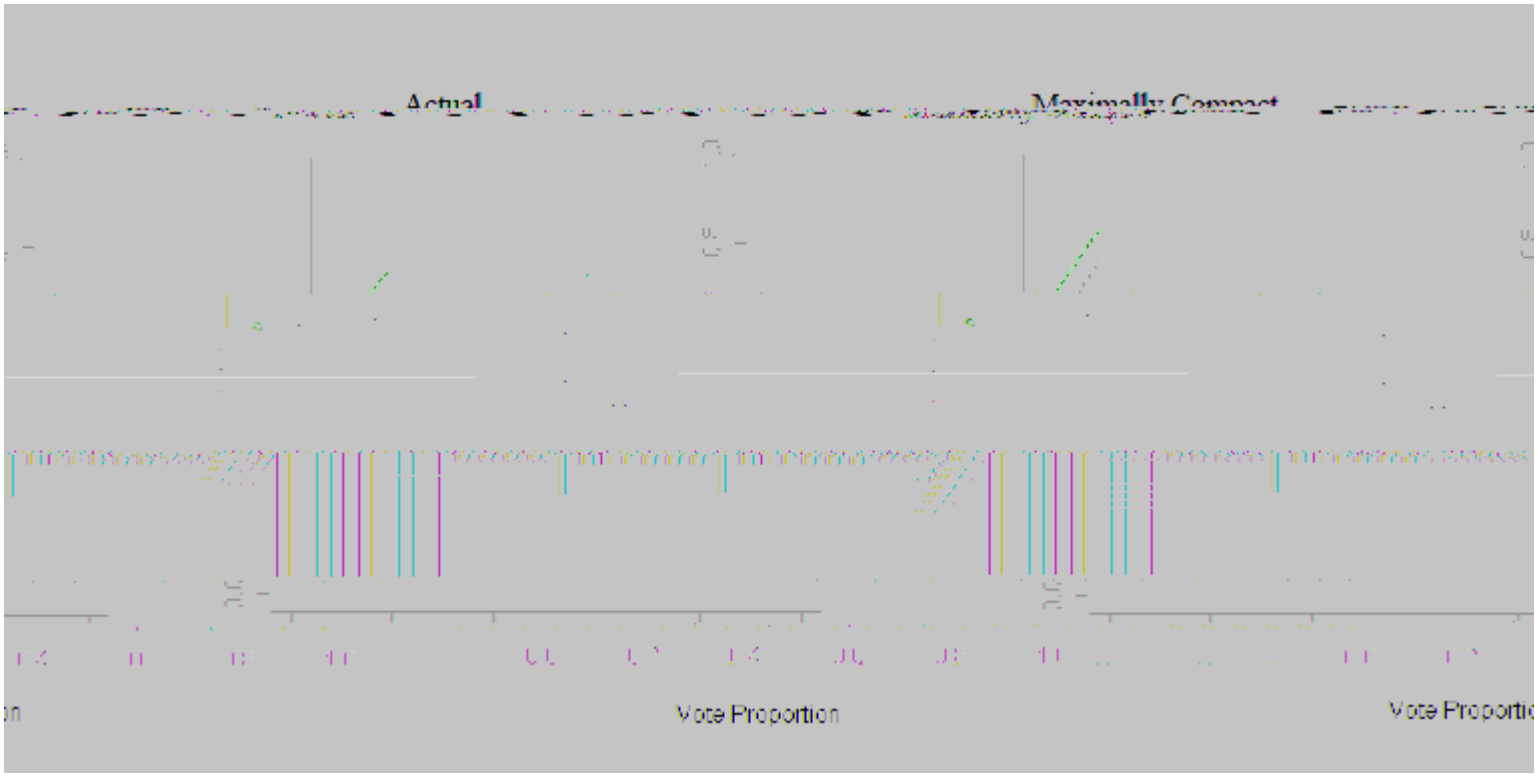
COMPAC DI IC



E EC I

C E FAC A

CA E EC I
C E FAC A



E EC I
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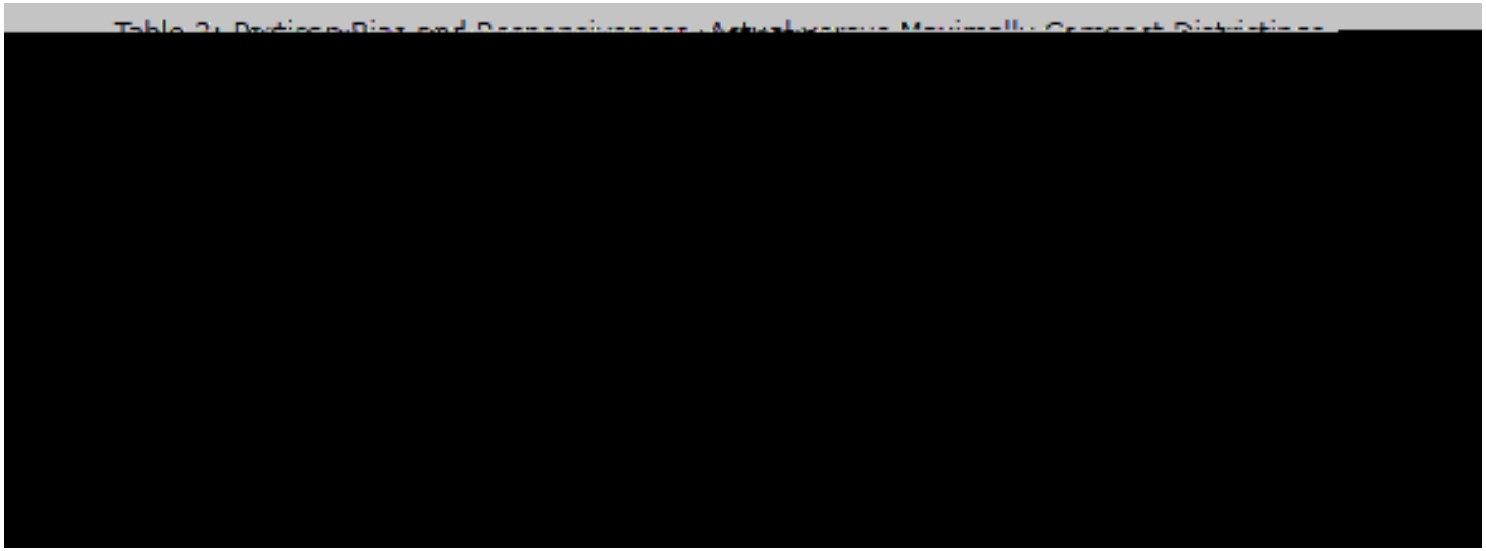
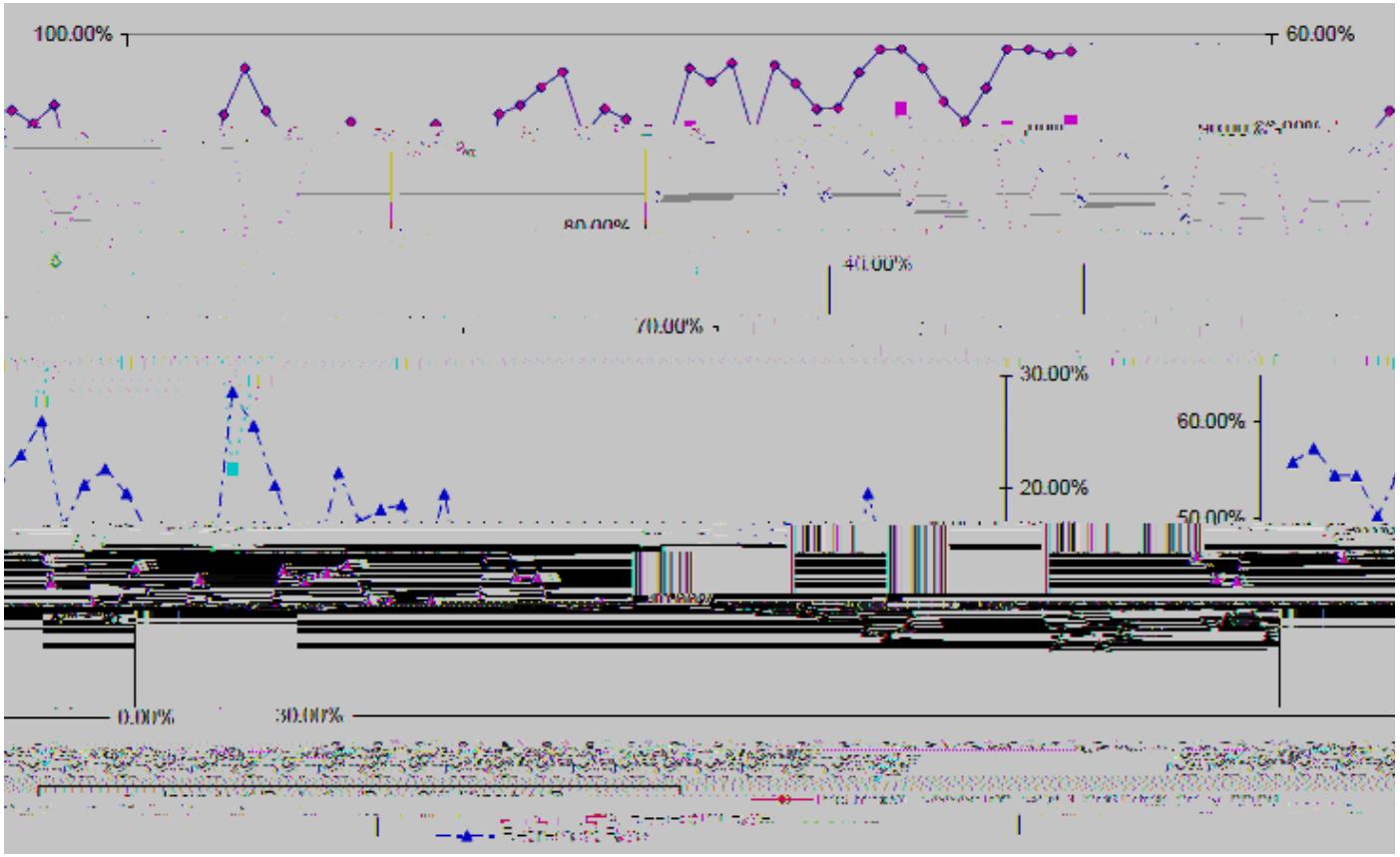


I C BE EE EC I

H E F E
EE EC I A E



GE A DE I G DID I ?

B a a e a de e e a a e , e a e b d ffe e d f ea A e ca de c ac . C e a e ec e a e f e 2000 d f ed c e e e ea c e e f a e e a e ec U ed S a e , ed c a ce a ea ...B a a e a de c ea a e e ec da f e e e a e b d e a e a . *P (2002)*

A d e a a be ee e e b e c face da -- S c a Sec ef , ea ca e, ed ca , c a e c a e, e e -- a d e , f a e a da e a de c ac ee ab e e e a e add e e e b e a ea . W a e ? C ea , e a d c a e bee e a de ed A e ca... a b a f e b e . *T L. F , T S N D C , N T , N 11, 2005*.

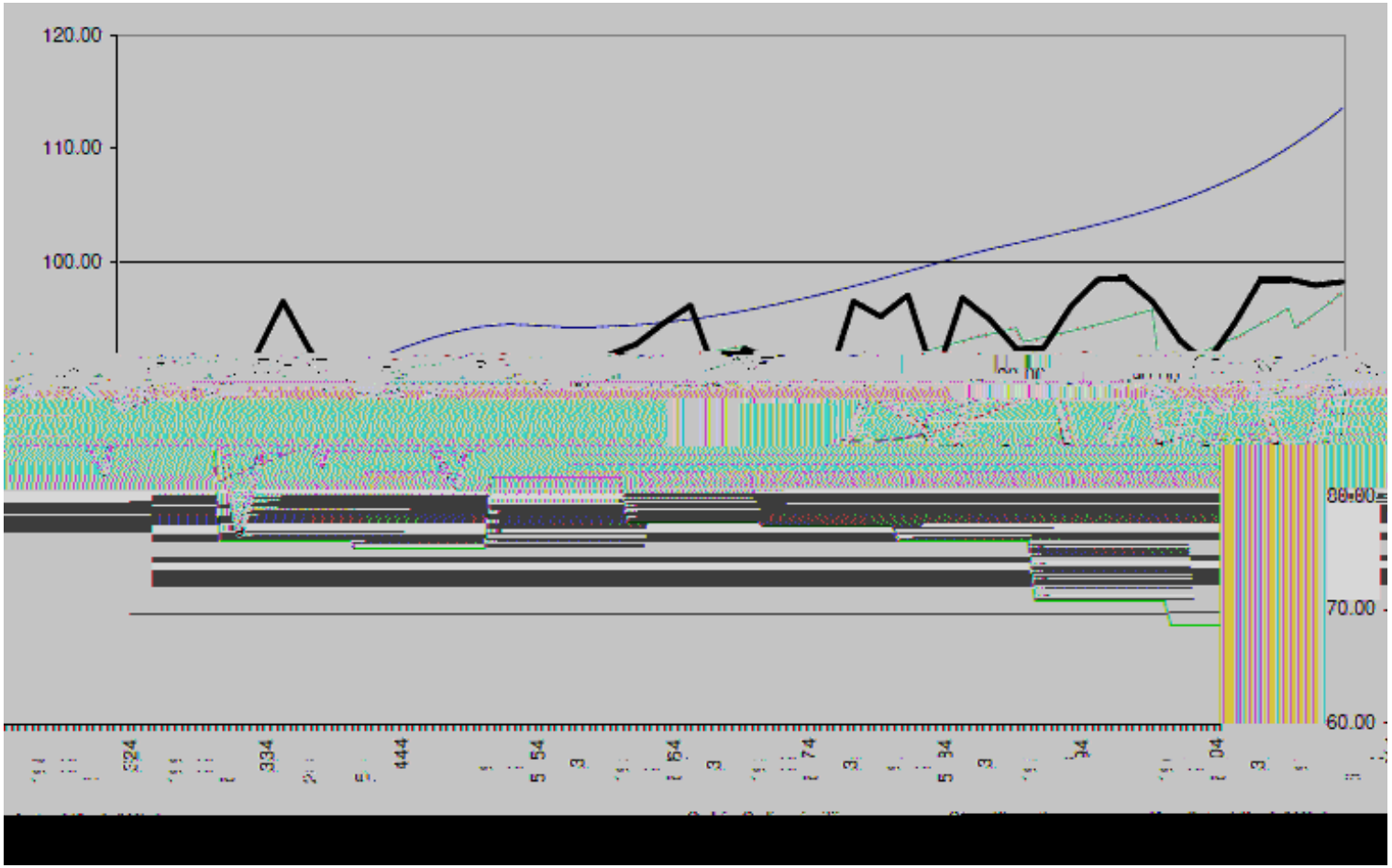
A EF FAC

Red c a e (e e a) e e 10 ea a d
e e 10 ea af e e dece a ce

M e , ed a, e c a e a e e

S , f a f e b e f c e da a (c b c e
- de a) - a- -(f-c f

HE E IDE CE



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IF HA HE HA ?

- Polarization? (McCarty-Poole-Rosenthal say no)
- Political geography? (Glaeser)
- Money in politics?
- Media?
- Two-sided matching?

C E A D F E

DI EC I

C E A D F E
DI EC I

P ca e a ee ed c (e. . C e -R dde)

A c ed c (e. . F f e d-H -I a)

V e

Te fa c e e e e f

Pa a a: a e a d a e (e. . H de -
H e, *J a P* *E* 2014)

J HE ? C I G
A DE C AC EA ?

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A

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14 A

A : ,

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