GV103: Introduction to International Relations

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Systemic Forces

Introduction

- Two goals for this lecture
    - Discuss how strong hegemons foster peace
    - Evaluate implications for high fatality wars

A Model of Bargaining in Shadow of Intervention

- Everything the same as in previous lecture, except
    - If a war occurs, H must decide whether to assist D
    - If H does not, w_b the same as before
    - If H does, $w_m = \dfrac{e_C m_C}{e_C m_C + e_D m_D + e_H m_H}$

Outcomes	u_C	u_D	u_H
peace	x	$1-x$	$\iota(1-x)$
bilateral war	$w_b - c_C$	$1 - w_b - c_D$	$\iota(1-w_b)$
multilateral war	$w_m - c_C$	$1 - w_m - c_D$	$\iota(1-w_m) - c_H$

Analysis

- Weak hegemon
  - If war occurs, would not intervene
  - Anticipating this, C sets $x = \overline{x}_b$ iff $\phi > \hat{\phi}_b$
  - Where $\hat{\phi}_b \equiv \dfrac{c_C + c_D}{\overline{w}_b - \underline{w}_b + c_C + c_D}$
  - Exists when $c_H \geq \iota(\underline{w}_b - \underline{w}_m)$

- Strong hegemon
  - If war occurs, would intervene
  - Anticipating this, C sets $x = \overline{x}_m$ iff $\phi > \hat{\phi}_m$
  - Where $\hat{\phi}_m \equiv \dfrac{c_C + c_D}{\overline{w}_m - \underline{w}_m + c_C + c_D}$
  - Exists when $c_H < \iota(\underline{w}_b - \underline{w}_m)$

Data

- Observations: int'l system from 1821 to 2001 (5 year blocs)

- y: number of wars that began in that 5 year bloc
  - Includes interstate, extrastate, and civil wars
  - For some models, no exclusion based on fatalities
  - For others, only count wars with $>10,000$ fatalities

- xs: strongest state's share of m (top two, top three)

Results

	# of Wars of (All)		# of High Fatality Wars	
Top Two	$+^*$		$-^*$	
Top Three		$+^*$		$-^*$