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NATURAL RESOURCES, ORGANIZATIONS & RURAL-URBAN TRADE

IMPLICATIONS FOR PEACE NEGOTIATION

Prepared for the USIP Conference:
“Economic Dimensions of Peace Negotiation,” 24 February 2011

Panel 3: Negotiating Peace in Resource-Rich Regions

Shift in Research Focus

Early 2000s

- “Resource curse,” “Greed and grievance”
- Effects of “conflict resources”

More Recently

- Organizational behavior
- Global/ transnational economic networks



I. Intro



II. Organizations



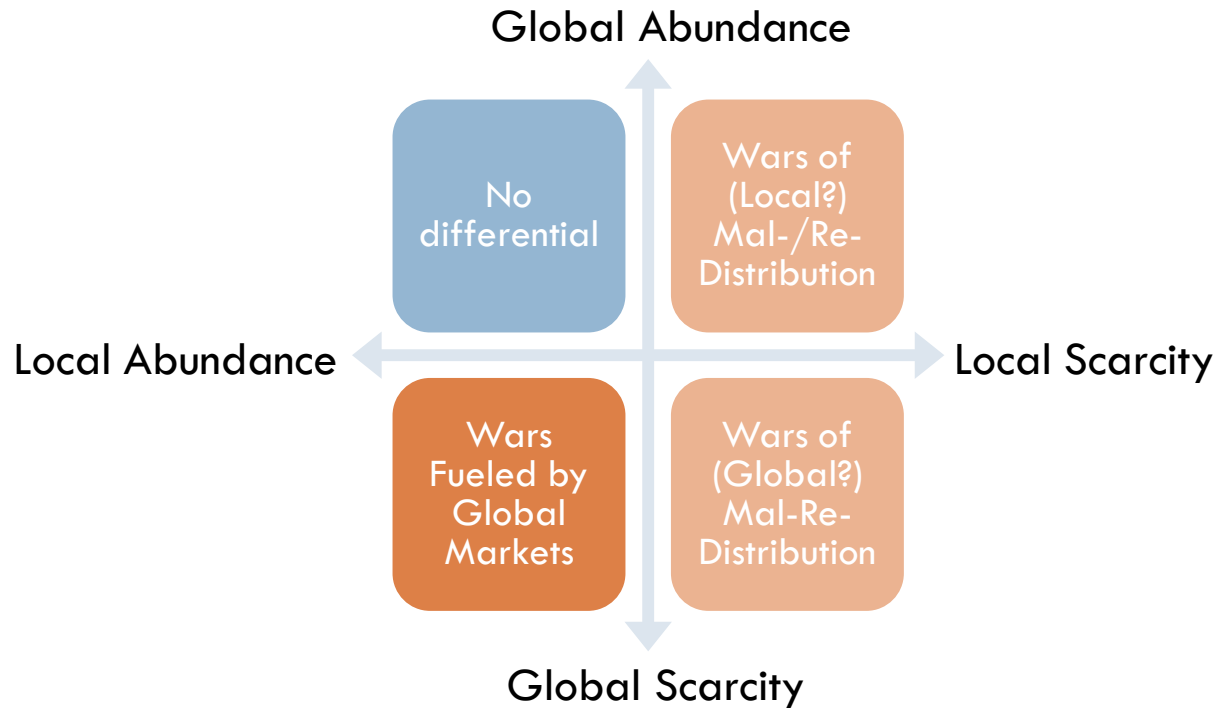
III. Trade Networks



IV. Conclusion

Conceptualizing Resource Scarcity

- To what extent is this dichotomy useful for peacebuilders?
- Makes more sense to think of relative scarcity *between spatial scales*



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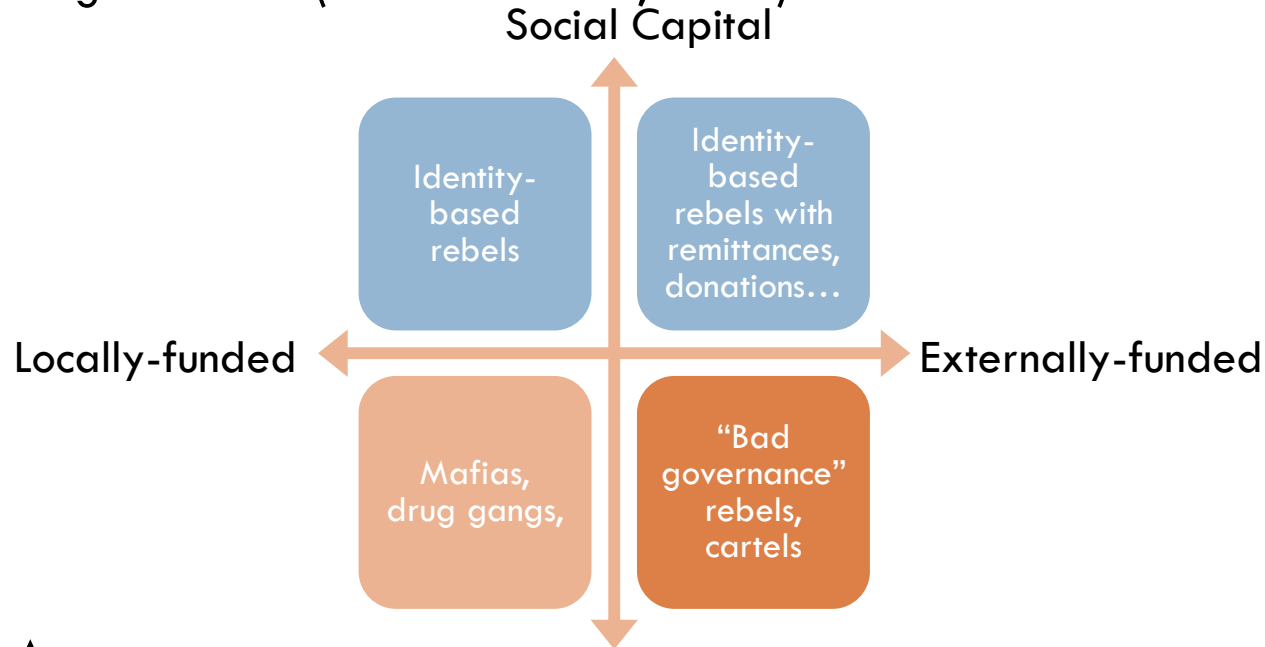
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Resource-Rich Regions: What's Peculiar Here?

- Rebel organizations (after Weinstein, 2007)



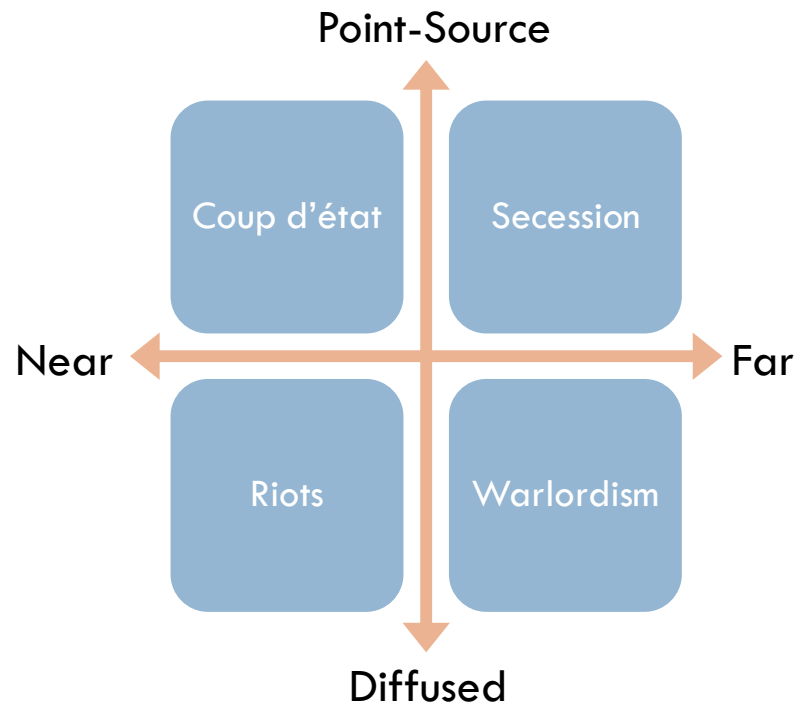
- Take-Away:
 - Much more holistic approach required: matching import and export markets
- Caveat:
 - There is still a lot of unexplained variation within this category

Organizational Structure & Geography

A few different frameworks:

- Le Billon's (2001) geographic model:

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Le Billon, Philippe. 2001. The Political Ecology of War: Natural Resources and Armed Conflicts. *Political Geography* 20: 561-584.



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Other Ways of Skinning a Tiger

□ **Collective Action Resources** versus **Individual Action Resources**

- Implication: Groups funded by resources requiring collective action may be more amenable to elite-elite negotiation

□ **Lootable** versus **Obstructable** Resources

- Implication: Groups funded by obstructable resources may be more susceptible to incentives for good governance (win-wins)

□ **Top-Down** versus **Bottom-up** financing

- Another manifestation of the collective action requirement?



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Rural-Urban Trade Networks

- Value of the good will determine the importance of rural-urban trade
- When rural-urban trade matter, 2 factors may come into play:
 - ▣ The structure of the system of cities
 - ▣ The social structure of trade networks



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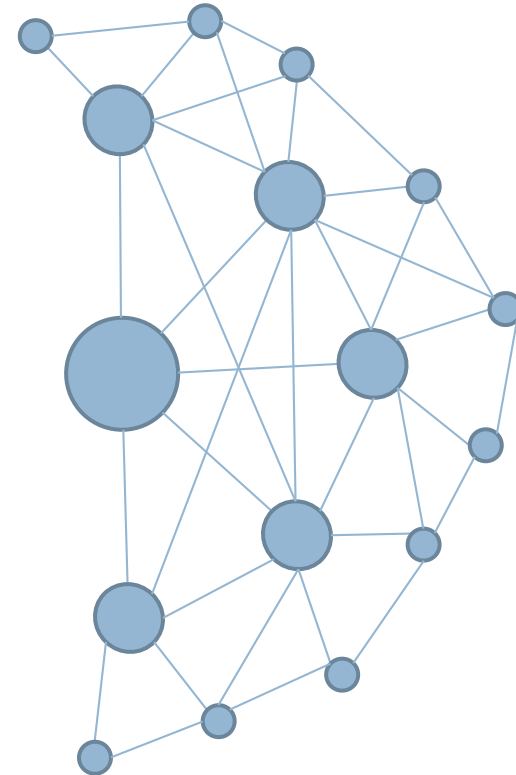
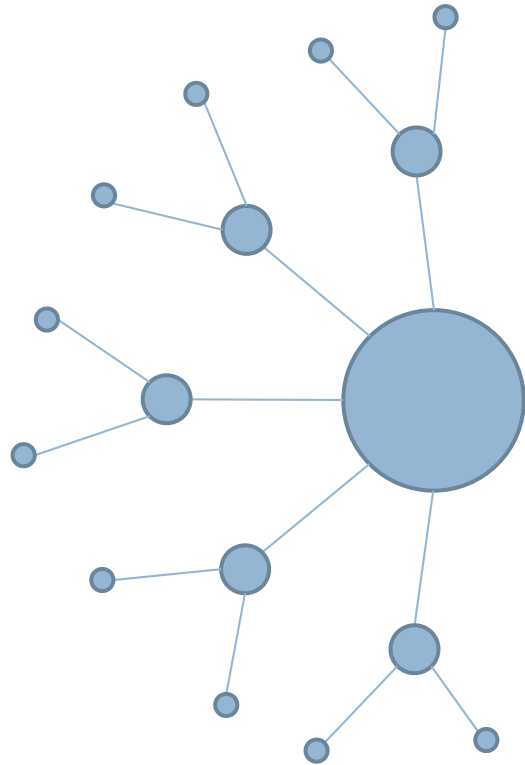


III. Trade Networks



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Mono-polar and Multi-polar City Systems



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II. Organizations

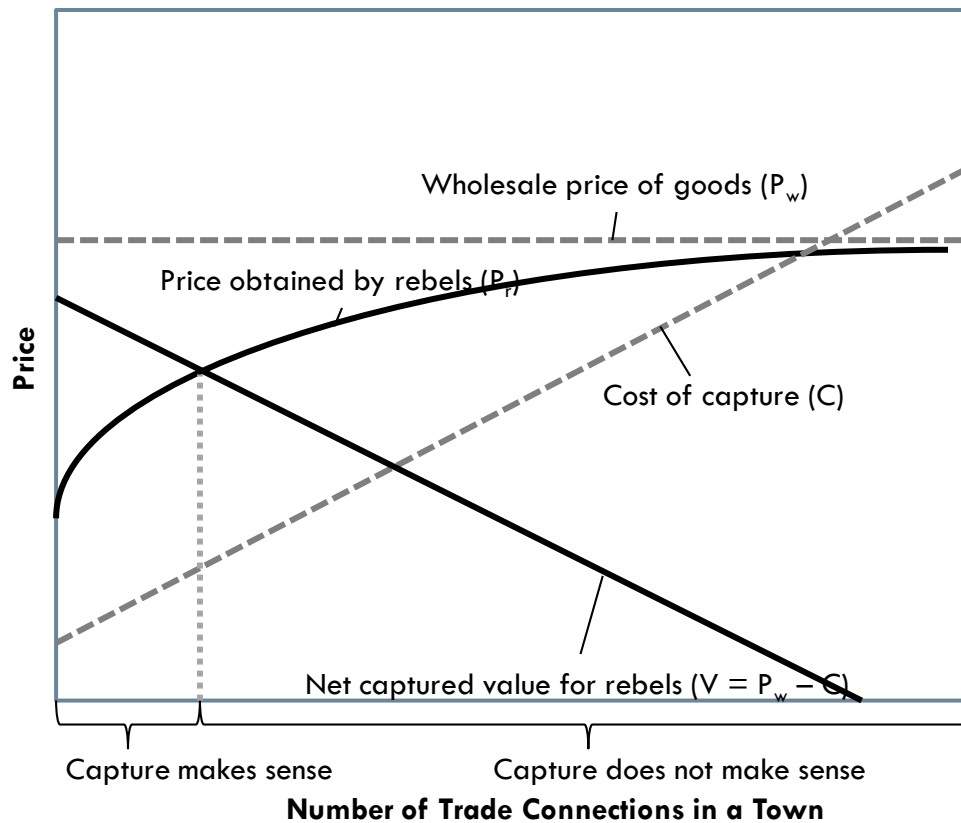


III. Trade Networks



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Cities as Targets of Rebel Movements



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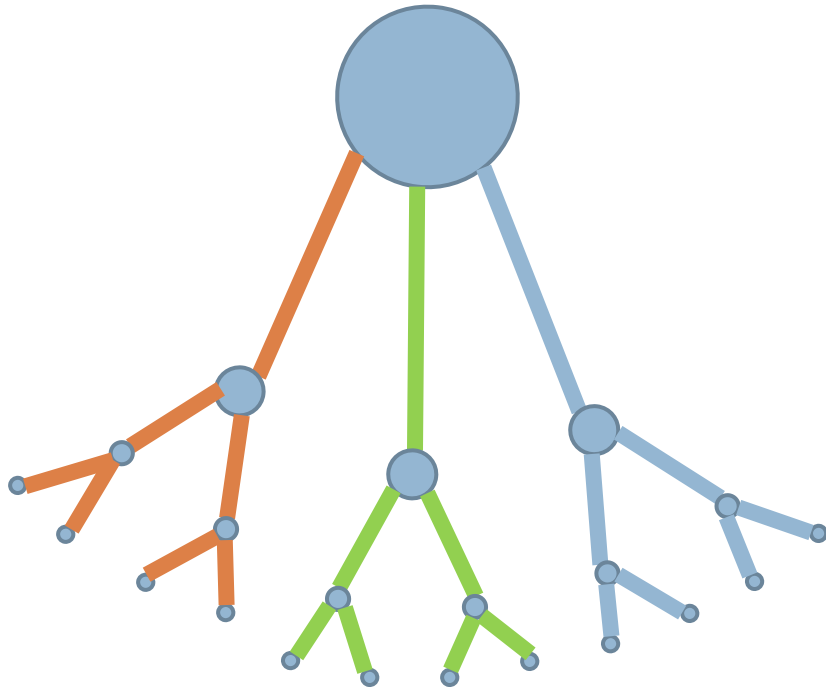
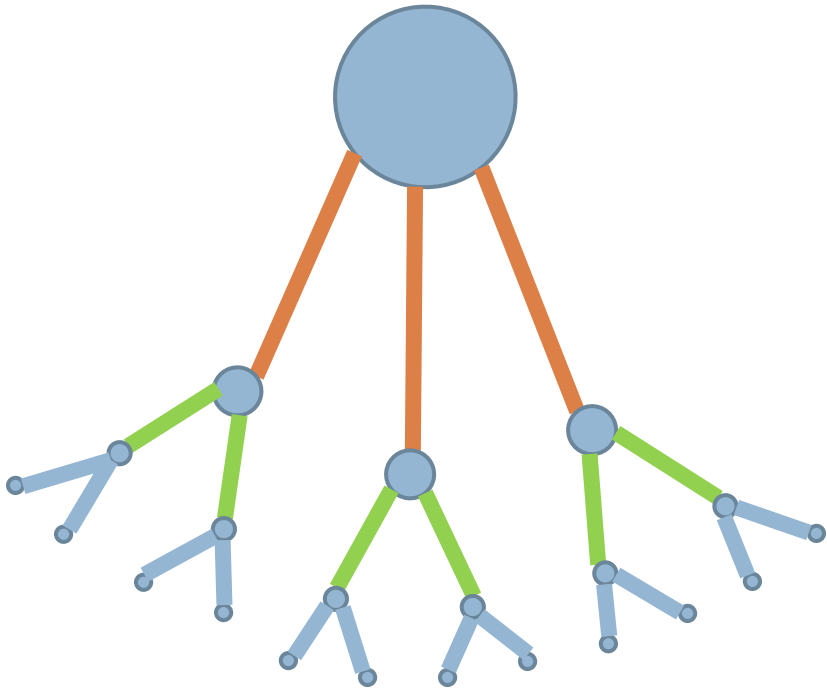


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Social Structure and Rural-Urban Trade Patterns

Trade with Horizontal Cleavages

Trade with Vertical Cleavages



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Final Thoughts

- Negotiations should think carefully about addressing the “underlying” issue(s)
 - ▣ Counter anti-rebel bias
 - ▣ Conflict dynamic may have changed, however
- Allow for interventionist trade policy in post-war states
 - ▣ Upstream and downstream linkages
 - ▣ Local industry key to establishing economic governance post-conflict



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