



Democracy

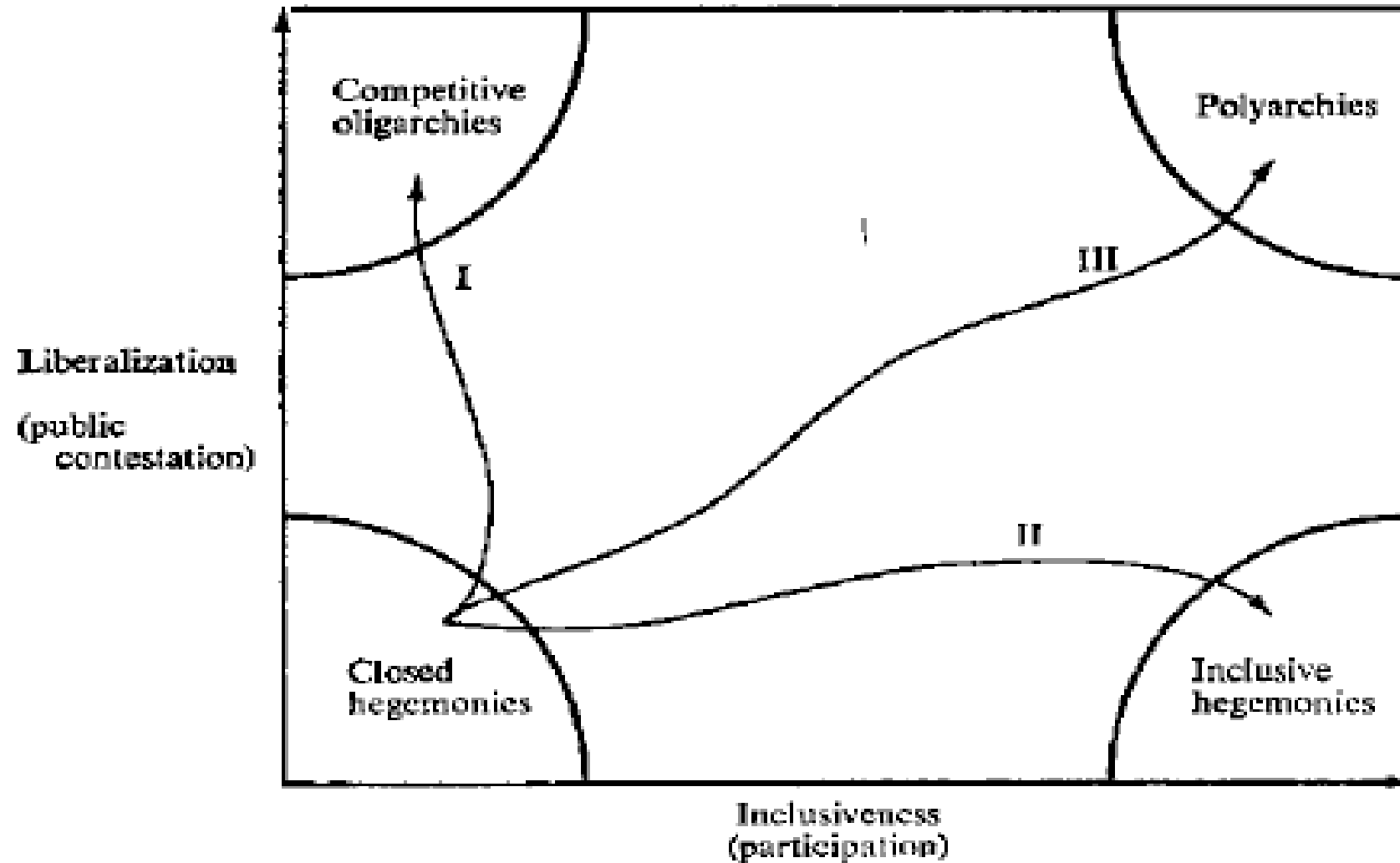
4/20/2015

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Definition of Democracy

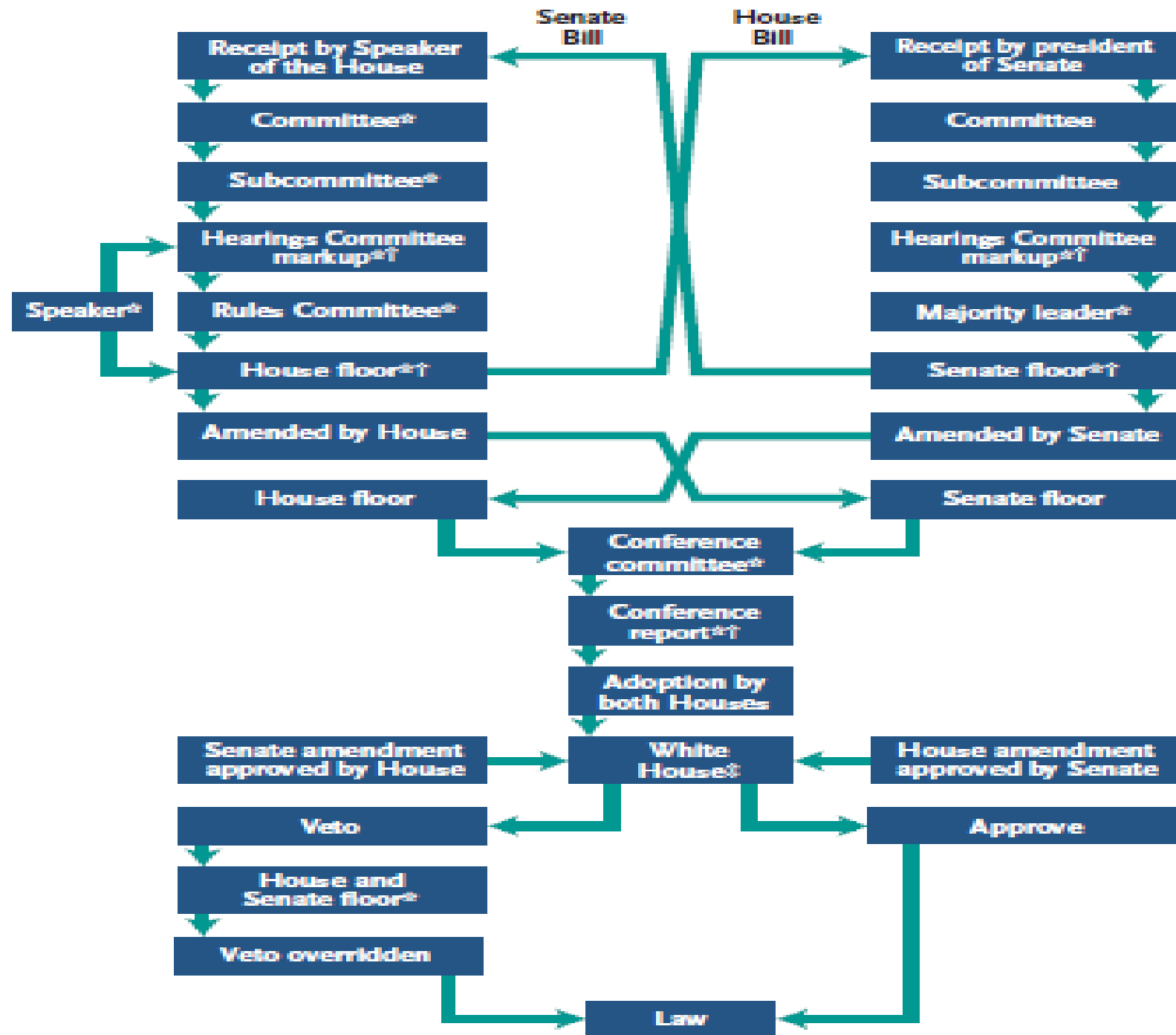
- ▶ Minimalist/operational Definition by Schumpeter: the democratic method is that institutional arrangement for arriving at political decisions in which individuals acquire the power to decide by means of a competitive struggle for the people's vote (Schumpeter 2003:269)
- ▶ Extended definition by Dahl: Effective participation; Voting equality; Enlightened understanding; Control of the agenda; Inclusion of adults

Dahl: Polyarchy



What Democracy is not:

- ▶ Democracy will not necessarily bring in it wake economic growth
- ▶ Democracies are not necessarily more efficiently administratively
- ▶ Democracy will not necessarily bring social consensus and political harmony
- ▶ Democracy will not necessarily bring free market



Two forms of accountability

- ▶ Vertical accountability: citizens voice their political demands to public officials or denounce them for wrong doing through free and fair elections, freedom of speech, etc.
- ▶ Horizontal accountability: depends on the existence of state agencies that are legally empowered--and factually willing and able--to take actions ranging from routine oversight to criminal sanctions or impeachment in relation to possibly unlawful actions or omissions by other agents or agencies of the state

Two forms of accountability

- ▶ Democracy: rule not only for, but also from and by those who are members of a given polity
- ▶ Republicanism: govern by the most talented for the common good; virtuous rulers should subject themselves to the law no less and even more than ordinary citizens
- ▶ Liberalism: rule based on social contracts; personal freedom and rights can not be violated

Other decision making mechanisms of modern state:

- ▶ Bureaucracy as a decision making mechanism
- ▶ Expertise-centered decision making
- ▶ Political negotiation between interest groups
- ▶ Quasi-market arrangement