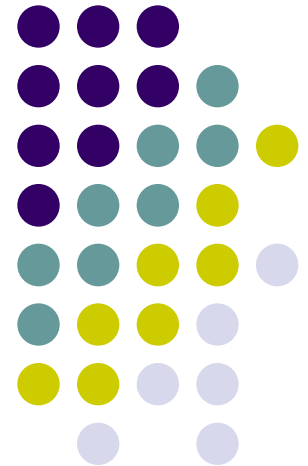
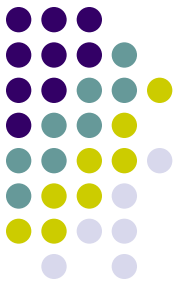


Polimetrics

The Core Party Theory &
The Veto Players Theory:
Lab Class



Things to learn: Core Party



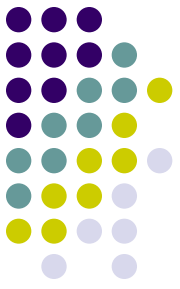
1. How to identify median lines, cycle-set and the core party using CyberSenate

Examples: Core Party



EXAMPLE: 1) create a five Party scenario. You have: Party A controlling 30 seats, Party B 25, Party C 20, Party D 20, Party D 15; 2) arrange spatially the parties so that you have a (structural stable) core party; 3) arrange spatially the parties so that you have a cycle-set

Italy after 2013 elections



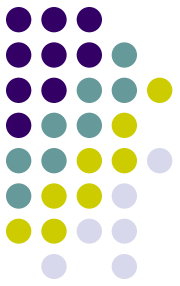
On 24 April, the just re-elected head of state, Giorgio Napolitano, then nominated **Enrico Letta**, the deputy PD leader, as formateur

At the end, Letta formed a **majority government** together with the People of Freedom (PdL) and Civic Choice (SC) parties

Some facts:

- it took 61 days to form the Letta Cabinet, a number that increases to 128 days if we include the days that had passed since the previous government's resignation. This **crisis has been one of the longest** in the history of Italian politics
- Overall, the Letta Cabinet lasted **only 227 days**, well below the average duration of Italian cabinets during the Second Republic

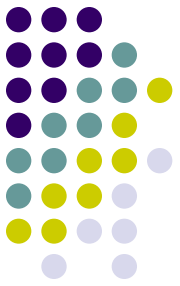
Italy after 2013 elections



Thus, Letta Cabinet was characterized not only by a **long delay in cabinet formation** but also by a **relatively short life**

Can we explain such political results using the core party theory?

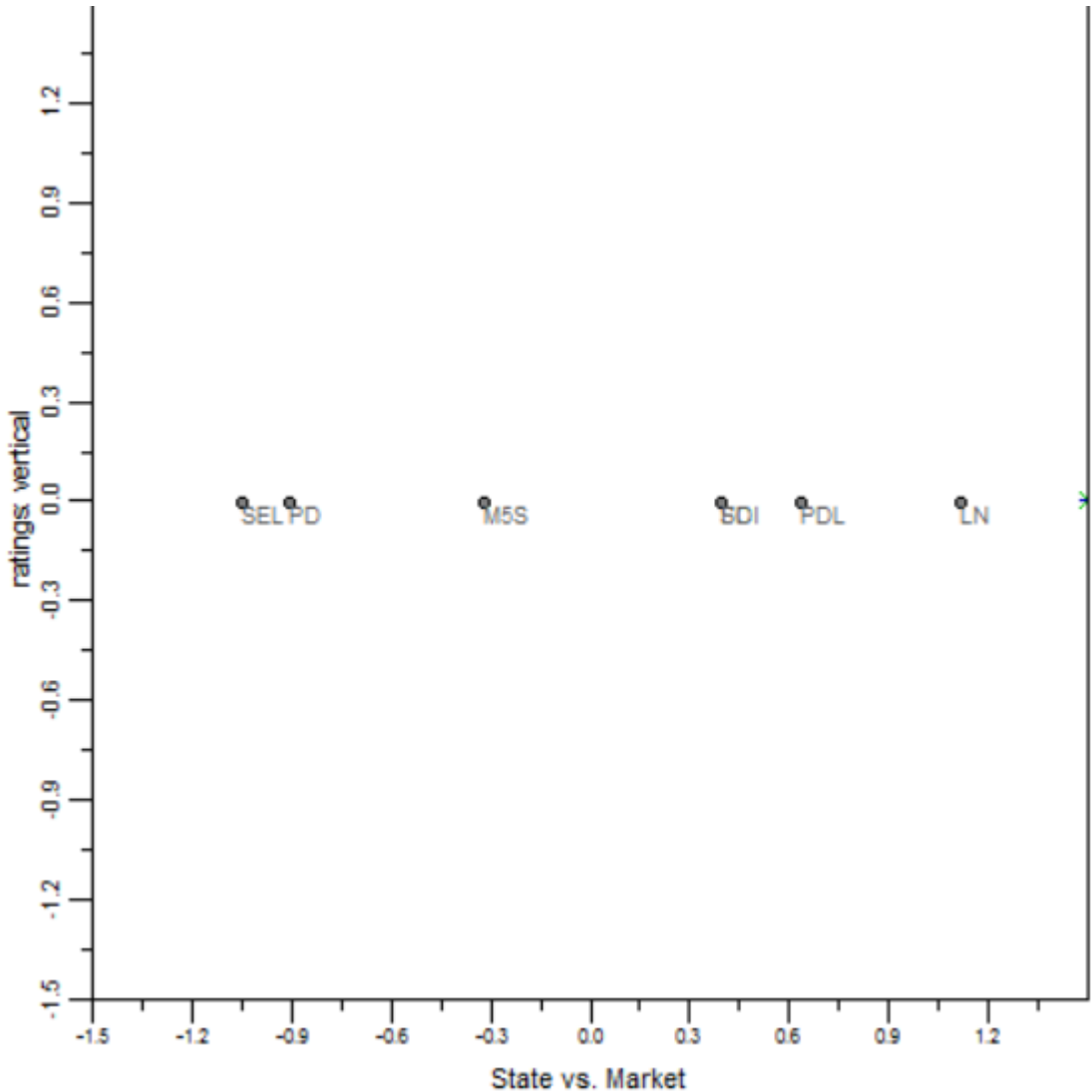
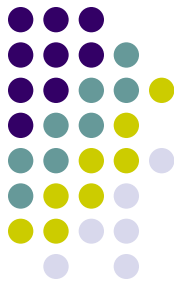
Italy after 2013 elections: the space



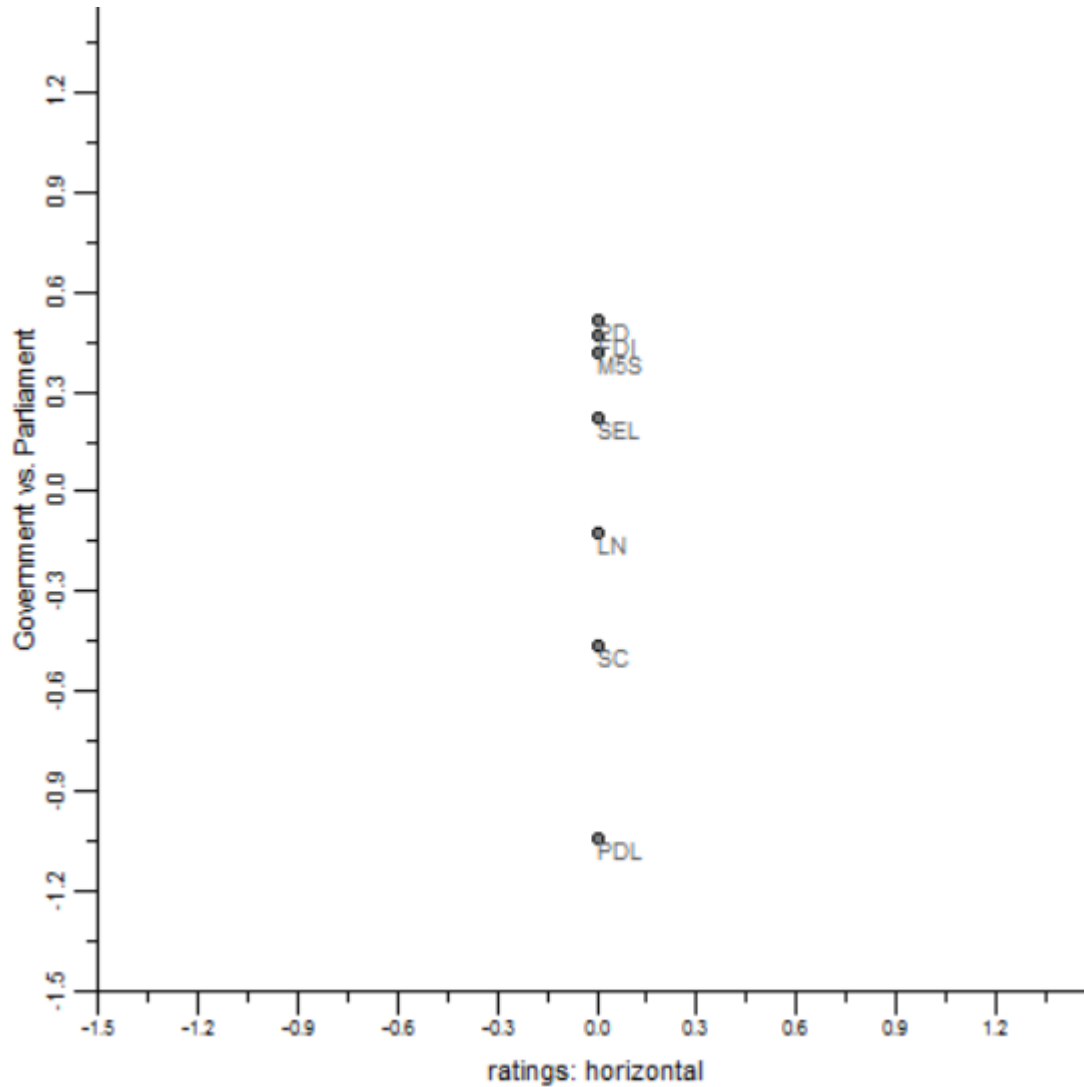
The relevant policy space during the Letta cabinet

How to estimate such space? CMP approach (more on this later...)

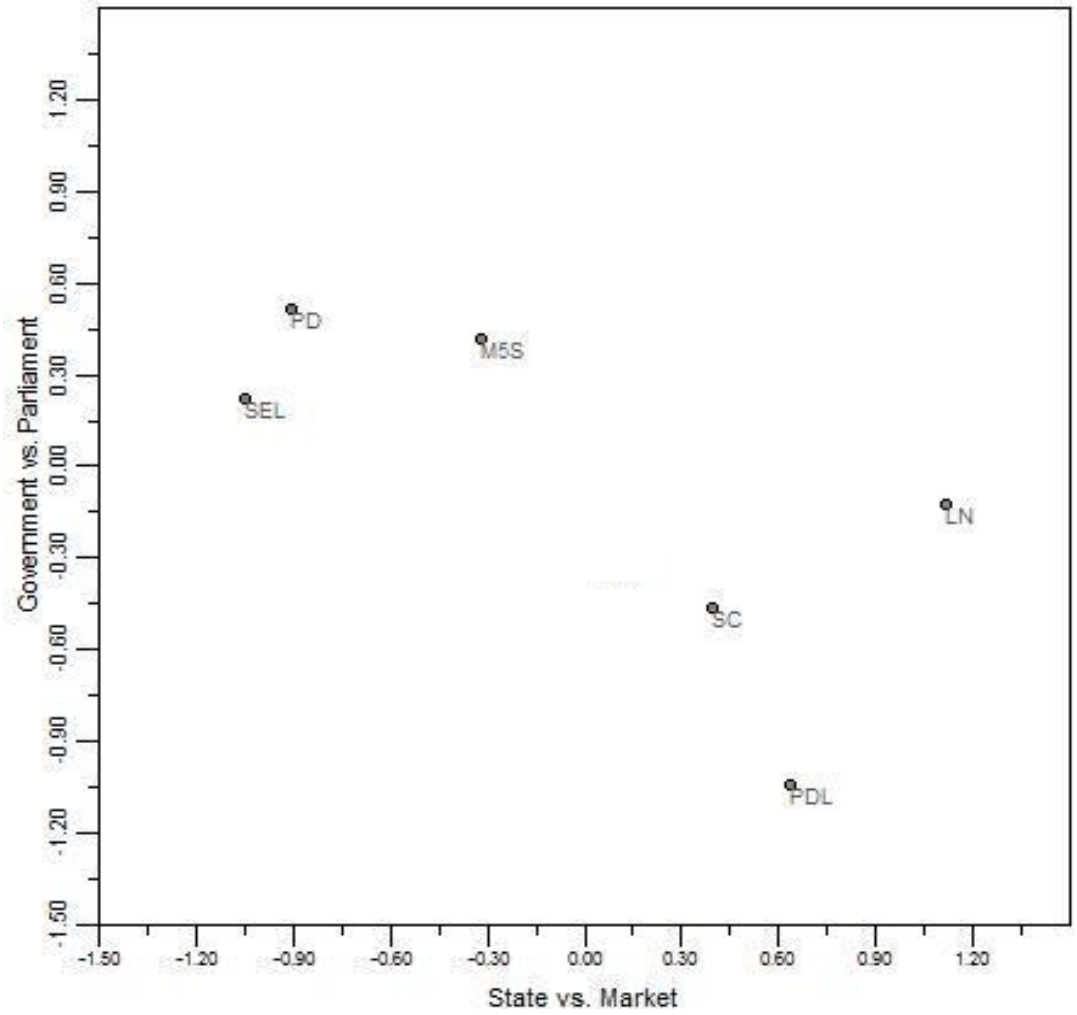
Letta 2013 (Senate: April 2013)



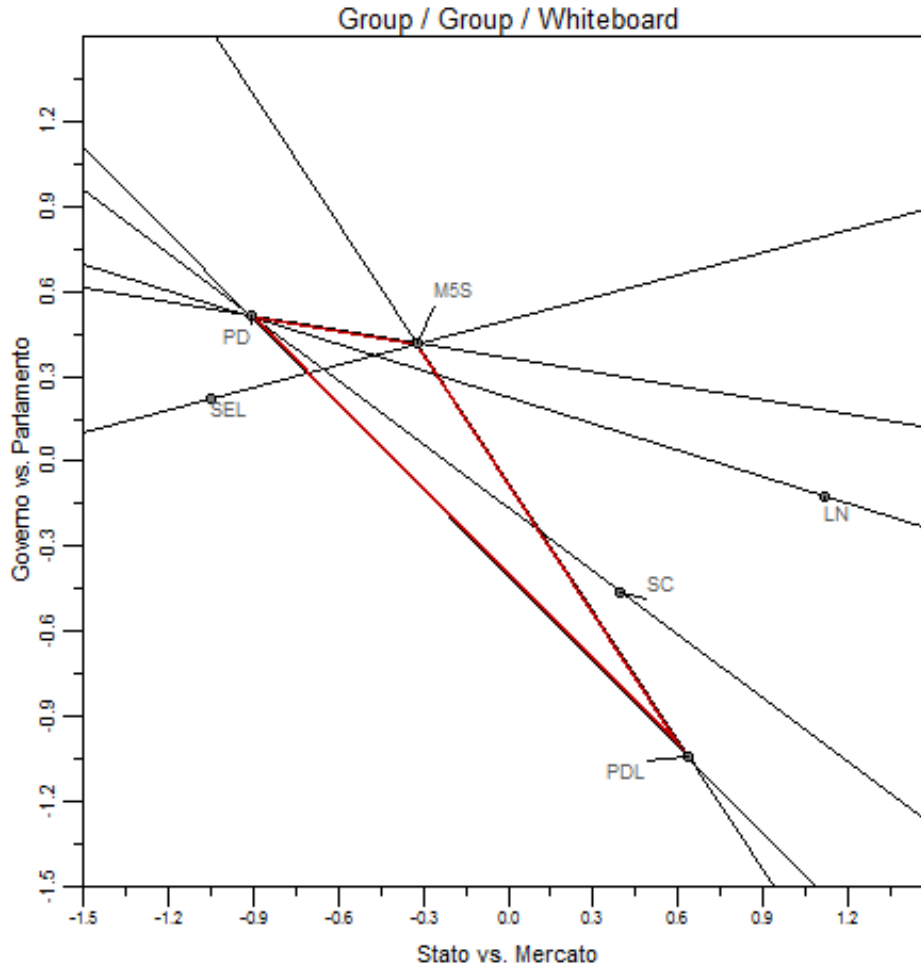
Letta cabinet (Senate: April 2013)



Letta cabinet (Senate: April 2013)

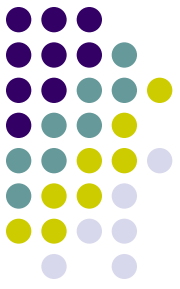


Core Party in action: Letta cabinet



Which implications?

Implications

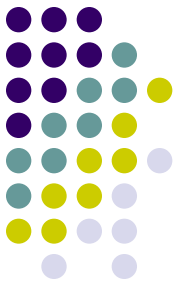


1. No core-party: **long delay in cabinet formation + cabinet instability**
2. As long as they delimit the cycle set, the PD, M5S, and PdL are the **dominant parties** in this scenario and therefore can be expected to play a prominent role in the coalition-building dynamic
3. PD and M5S were actually **spatially close to each other**, but M5S refused any involvement in the cabinet with PD (i.e., not interested in short-term policy gains: that is, **other factors** beyond policy gains can matter!)

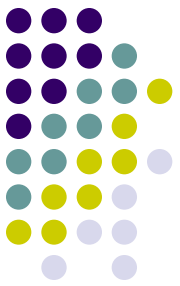
P.S. do you want to learn more about the Italian 2013 political situation?
Curini, L. & A. Ceron (2014). The Letta Cabinet(s) Government Formation and (In)stability in Times of Crisis: a Spatial Approach, in Amie Krepel & Carlo Fusaro (eds.), *Italian Politics: Still Waiting for the Transformation*, 143-159

Things to learn: Veto Players

1. How to identify a win-set using CyberSenate
2. How to identify a veto-player



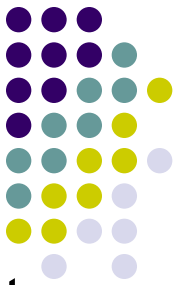
Examples: Veto Players



EXAMPLE A: 1) create a five VPs scenario; 2) make sure that the $W(SQ)$ is not empty; 3) change the preferences of two party so that those two parties weight the horizontal dimension twice as salient compared to the vertical one; 4) compared graphically such scenario to the situation where all parties weight the two dimensions equally

EXAMPLE B: 1) create a five VPs scenario; 2) make sure that the $W(SQ)$ is not empty (but very small); 3) change the preferences of two party so that those two parties present a city-block metric; 4) compared graphically such scenario to the situation where all parties present Euclidean metric

Examples: Veto Players



EXAMPLE C: go back to the previous example of the Letta cabinet and assume that the status-quo is located at $(0, 0)$. Which are the implications you can derive from such situations with respect to the actual Italian cabinet at that time (i.e., PD-SC-PDL veto players)