Addressing Majoritarianism

The Second Square Root Rule

For any two-tier structure, the weighted decision rule in the council that minimizes the Mean Majority Deficit assigns to each member of the council a weight proportional to the square root of the population of her constituency and fixes the quota at just over half the total weight.

Recap for Two -Tiered Systems

To achieve equitability

▶ The power of each representative in the council should be proportional to the square root of the population of her constituency

To minimize MMD in a weighted system

▶ Assign a weight proportional to the square root of the population of the constituency, and set the quota just over half the total

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Claim: As the number of voters in a weighted system increases, the proportion of weight is approximately equal to the proportion of power

This provides a way to address concerns about equitability and majoritarianism simultaneously