What happened?
What happened?
What happened?
What happened?
Recall

_The Ballot_ introduced the Basic Human Problem:
Recall

*The Ballot* introduced the Basic Human Problem:

How can one say something informative about a group when the individuals in the group are all different?
Recall

An *Election* is an example of such a problem.
Recall

An *Election* is an example of such a problem.

**Electorate**
Models

Two models to explain a U. S Presidential Election:

- The Electoral College Model
- The States Model
The Electoral College Model

\[ N = 538, \text{ vote for one} \]
The States Model

$N = 50$, weighted ballots
Question

What is the official name of our country?
The States Model

In a presidential election in The United States the *group* consists of the 50 states.
The States Model

In a presidential election in The United States the *group* consists of the 50 states.

The *ballot* is not one-state, one-vote. The ballot is a weighted ballot as determined by the *Electoral College*. 
The Electoral College

The Electoral College is a *process*, not a thing. The process has four steps.
The Electoral College is a process, not a thing. The process has four steps.

The Electoral College

The Electoral College is a process, not a thing. The process has four steps.

- Electors Day  19 December 2016
The Electoral College

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- Electors Day  19 December 2016
- Submission Day  28 December 2016
The Electoral College

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- Electors Day  19 December 2016
- Submission Day  28 December 2016
- Decision Day  6 January 2017
The Electoral College

The Electoral College is a *process*, not a thing. The process has four steps.

- Electors Day   19 December 2016
- Submission Day   28 December 2016
- Decision Day   6 January 2017

Inauguration Day   20 January 2017
A Presidential Election

The national popular vote is irrelevant.
The President of the United States is not elected directly by the popular vote, but is elected by a majority vote of the Electors as specified by the U. S. Constitution, Article II, Section 1 and amended by Amendment XII (ratified in 1804) and Amendment XXIII (ratified in 1961).
The Electoral College

The Electoral College consists of a slate of electors from each state in the U.S. For each state the number of electors equals the number of members of Congress—the number of representatives in the House plus two senators. Further, Amendment XXIII allows the District of Columbia a slate of three electors.
Apportionment of the U.S. House of Representatives
Based on the 2010 Census

Change from 2000 to 2010
- State gaining 4 seats in the House
- State gaining 2 seats in the House
- State gaining 1 seat in the House
- No change
- State losing 1 seat in the House
- State losing 2 seats in the House

Total U.S. Representatives: 435
Numbers represent reapportioned totals of U.S. Representatives.
The Presidential Election.

In each state except Maine and Nebraska, the electoral slate is awarded to the plurality winner of the state’s popular vote, known as “winner take all.”

When you cast a vote for candidate X in a presidential election, you are casting a vote for X’s slate of electors in your state.
The Presidential Election.

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When you cast a vote for candidate X in a presidential election, you are casting a vote for X’s slate of electors in your state.

A potential problem is the “faithless elector.” See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Faithless_elector for details.

For current law about electors see http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/electors.html#restrictions.
The Presidential Election.

In Maine (1972) and Nebraska (1992), two electoral votes go to the statewide plurality winner. The remaining electoral votes are distributed to the plurality winner of each congressional district.
The Presidential Election.

In the 2008 election in Nebraska, Barack Obama received 1 electoral vote and John McCain 4 electoral votes. McCain won statewide (hence the 2 senatorial electoral votes) and 2 of the 3 congressional districts. Obama won in 1 congressional district, hence was awarded 1 electoral vote.
The Presidential Election.

In the 2008 election in Nebraska, Barack Obama received 1 electoral vote and John McCain 4 electoral votes. McCain won statewide (hence the 2 senatorial electoral votes) and 2 of the 3 congressional districts. Obama won in 1 congressional district, hence was awarded 1 electoral vote.

In 2016 in Maine, Hillary Clinton is projected 3 electoral votes and Donald Trump 1 electoral vote. In Nebraska Trump is projected all 5 of Nebraska’s electoral votes.
The Electoral College

The President and Vice-President are elected by separate ballots in the College. The winner for each is determined by majority vote (currently 270 of 538).
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If no presidential candidate wins in the Electoral College by majority vote, then the decision is made in the House of Representatives with each state having one vote with a 2/3 quorum.
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If no presidential candidate wins in the Electoral College by majority vote, then the decision is made in the House of Representatives with each state having one vote with a 2/3 quorum.

If no vice-presidential candidate wins in the Electoral College by majority vote, then the decision is made in the Senate by majority vote with a 2/3 quorum.
The 2016 Presidential Election

The popular vote:

Hillary Clinton: 61039678 47.8%
Donald Trump: 60371193 47.3%

14 November 2016
The 2016 Presidential Election

The popular vote:

Hillary Clinton: 60839922 47.8%
Donald Trump: 60265858 47.3%

The Electoral College vote (projected):

Hillary Clinton: 232
Donald Trump: 306

12 November 2016
On five occasions in U. S. history the new president did not receive a plurality of the popular vote.

1. John Quincy Adams vs. Andrew Jackson   1824
2. Rutherford B. Hayes vs. Samuel Tilden   1876
3. Benjamin Harrison vs. Grover Cleveland   1888
5. Donald Trump vs. Hillary Clinton   2016
## 1824

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Popular Vote</th>
<th>Electoral Vote</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Jackson (TN)</td>
<td>D-R</td>
<td>153544</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Quincy Adams (MA)</td>
<td>D-R</td>
<td>108740</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Crawford (GA)</td>
<td>D-R</td>
<td>46618</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Clay (KY)</td>
<td>D-R</td>
<td>47136</td>
<td>37</td>
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D-R = Democratic-Republican
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<tr>
<td>Rutherford B. Hayes (OH)</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>4,034,142</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel J. Tilden (NY)</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>4,286,808</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Cooper (NY)</td>
<td>Greenback</td>
<td>83,726</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
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<td>----------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benjamin Harrison (IN)</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>5,443,633</td>
<td>233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grover Cleveland (NY)</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>5,538,163</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinton Fisk (NJ)</td>
<td>Prohibition</td>
<td>250,017</td>
<td>---</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alson Streeter (IL)</td>
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<td>George W. Bush (TX)</td>
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The Electoral College

On two occasions in U. S. history no presidential candidate received a majority of the Electoral College votes: 1800 and 1824.
1800: The Election

There were four candidates for President in the 1800 election: Thomas Jefferson, Aaron Burr (as Jefferson’s running mate), John Adams, and Charles C. Pinkney (as John Adams’s running mate).

Each elector casted two votes. The Electoral College voted Jefferson 73, Burr 73, Adams 65, Pinkney 64, and John Jay 1.

At this time in U.S. history, the majority winner of the Electoral College was elected President and the majority second place finisher was elected Vice-President.
1800: The Chaos

Since there was no majority winner in the Electoral Collage, the decision was sent to the House with the candidate list Jefferson and Burr. The tie between Jefferson and Burr lasted for 35 rounds of balloting. Finally to break the deadlock, Alexander Hamilton lobbied on behalf of his political archrival Jefferson and finally Jefferson was elected on the 36th ballot.
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This constitutional flaw was corrected by the ratification of Amendment XII in which the elections for President and Vice-President were done separately and in each vote an elector cast only one vote.
1800: The Chaos

The Tumultuous Election of 1800, America’s First Presidential Campaign

A MAGNIFICENT CATASTROPHE

EDWARD J. LARSON

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Summer for the Gods
### 1824: The Election

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D-R means Democratic-Republican

Since no candidate got a majority in the Electoral College, the top three got sent to the House where each state got one vote. The results were John Quincy Adams 13, Andrew Jackson 7, William Crawford 4.
Two good web sites about the Electoral College:

https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/about.html

http://www.history.com/topics/electoral-college
Apportionment

How the Electoral College, Congressional Apportionment, and the Presidential Election are all related:

http://www.thirty-thousand.org/pages/Neubauer-Zeitlin.htm
Thank You

And That’s How It Happens