## Inheritance

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- How should one split the $\$ 100$ ?


## Two Methods

Two Methods:

- Equal division


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- Both parties get \$50


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- Proportional Division
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- Parties get the proportion of what they claimed to the sums of all claims
- Resolution depends on social customs


## Fair Division

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- Want to split some goods fairly among some people


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- People may have different levels of entitlement
- Can divide inheritance, chores, business profits, Berlin, cake,


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- Problem:


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- equitable: $u_{i}\left(X_{i}\right)=u_{j}\left(X_{j}\right)$
- Pareto optimal: no other division would make someone else better off without making someone else worse off
- Problem: Someone getting everything, and everyone else getting nothing, is Pareto optimal


## Three Wives

A rule in the Talmud:

- Man is married to three women


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- If estate worth is 200 , the wives receive $50,75,75$ (???)
- Is there a coherent rule that outlines these cases?
- Solved by game theorists in 1985


## Equal Division of Contested Sums

- Trying to fairly divide amongst two people


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- Idea:
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- Idea:
- Give everyone their uncontested amounts
- Split contested amount in half


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- Two parties are trying to split 100


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- Two parties are trying to split 100
- Party A claims 100


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- Two parties are trying to split 100
- Party A claims 100
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- Party A claims 100
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- Using equal division of contested sums, how much does each party receive?


## Equal Division of Contested Sums

- Two parties are trying to split 100
- Party A claims 100
- Party B claims 50
- Using equal division of contested sums, how much does each party receive?
- A receives 75
- B receives 25


## Equal Division of Contested Sums

- Two parties are trying to split inheritance


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- If estate is worth 125 , how much does each party receive?


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- If estate is worth 200, how much does each party receive?


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- If estate is worth 200, how much does each party receive?
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- $B$ receives 150


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- If estate worth is 200 , the wives receive $50,75,75$
- The allotment of any two wives is split using the above rule! (three things to check in each case)
- Need method for when there are more than two parties


## Algorithm

Want algorithm for the equal division of contested sums between $n$ claims

- Order claims from lowest to highest (from 1 to $n$ )


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- Proceed until everyone has half of their claim


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- Give $n$ money until their loss equals $n-1$ 's loss (loss is money owed minus money given)


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- Give $n-1$ and $n$ money until their loss equals $n-2$ 's loss


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- Give $n$ money until their loss equals $n-1$ 's loss (loss is money owed minus money given)
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- Proceed until all losses are equal


## Equal Division of Contested Sums

- Suppose the estate is worth 550


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- How much do the parties receive using the algorithm?


## Equal Division of Contested Sums

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- How much do the parties receive using the algorithm?
- $83 \frac{1}{3}, 183 \frac{1}{3}$, and $283 \frac{1}{3}$

