



Transparency and surveillance as conflict management

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ENTWINED

WTO Public Forum, September 2012

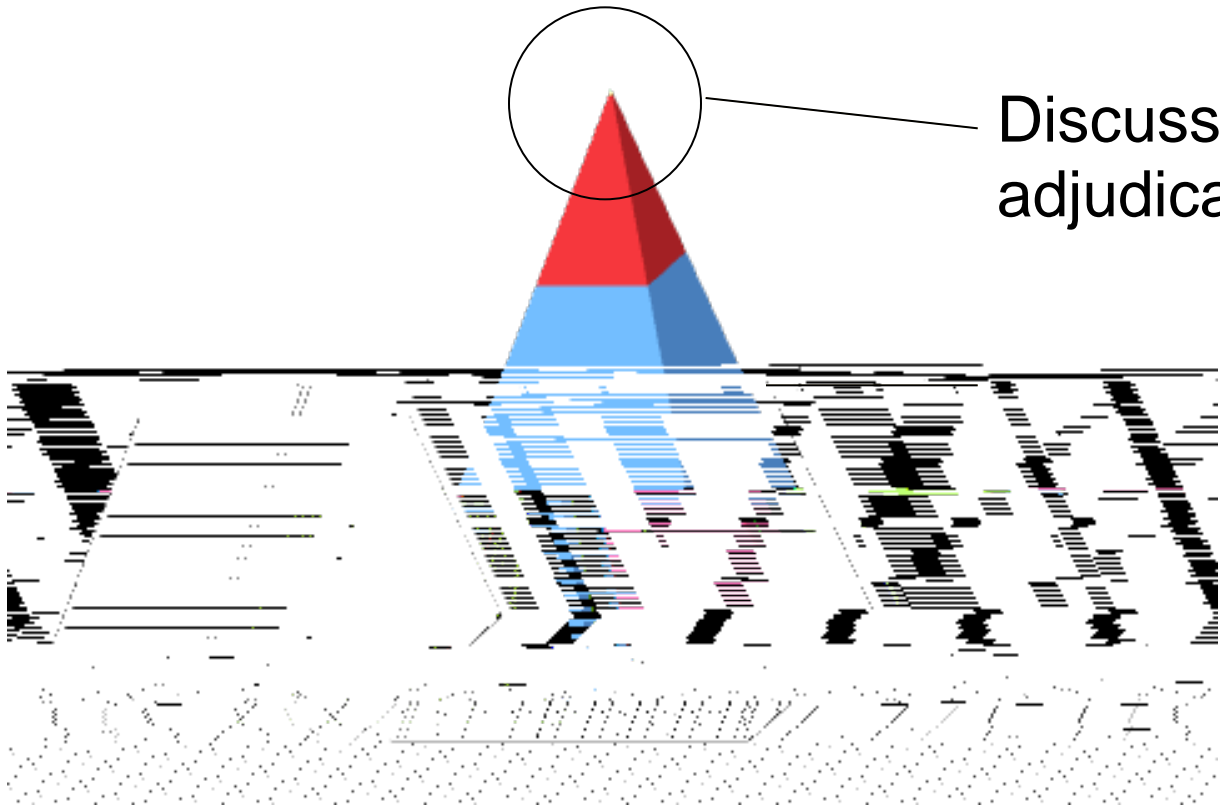
What explains disputes pattern?

Agreements invoked in disputes, 2005-11

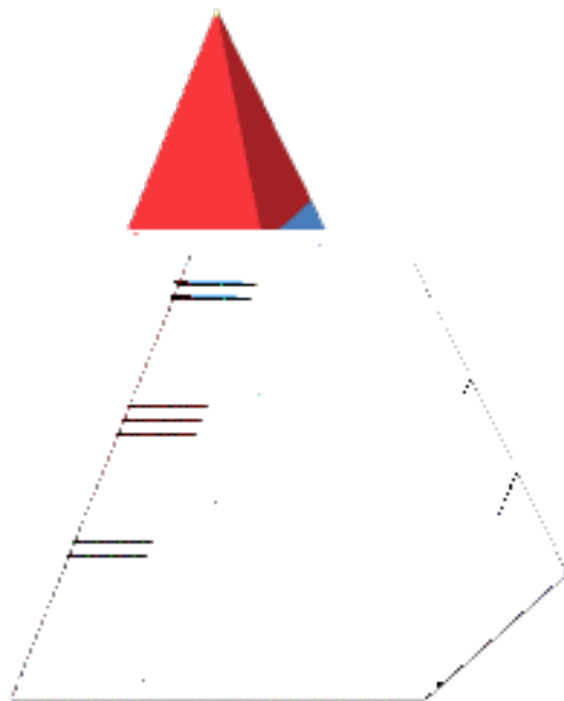
- ! **AD 31**
- ! **SCM 27**
- !

Institutional design matters

!



Discussion and adjudication



Same pyramid in other committees?

- ! No “STC” in SPS 12:2, TBT 13:1
- ! Similar language: Agriculture 18:6, ASCM 25:8, and ILP 4; also TPR questions; RTA TM
- ! Standard Item 2 on 14 0 0 -0.00007874014 71.99999

How big are other pyramids?

- ! Counting less precise than SPS/TBT
 - “ Notification can be late, or incomplete
 - “ Members differ hugely in ability to ask questions
 - “ Databases differ on Q&A
- ! Hard to estimate universe of conflict
 - “ Number of issues actually raised may be a smaller share of of potential issues
 - “ Relation to disputes also hard to estimate



Empirical focus on environment

- ! Clearly a source of conflict, which could get worse
- ! Obligations under many WTO agreements
- ! CTE database tracks notification; not discussed in CTE
- ! Hard to cross-reference notifications against questions to assess institutional design dimension

Notification, STC, and disputes

| Straight to Dispute | | |
|---------------------|--|--|
| | | |



Why the differences between committees and processes?

- ! Notification an acceptance that a thing can be characterized in WTO terms
- ! Discussion [with capital-based experts] helps resolve ambiguity