



Revitalizing America

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Backstory: A Historical Precedent

In 1900 CE, a great mathematician named David Hilbert put together a program of 23 open questions he wanted the field to focus on (while he also added Q's as time went on).

Being influential as he was, Hilbert's well-organized challenge captivated a generation of up & coming thinkers and mathematicians-- focusing their well placed attention on the most pressing problems of their time.

Among the inspired of the next-generation was Alan Turing. His work product not only was critical to resolving one of these problems, but it also was the cornerstone to the (digital) computing revolution at the heart of 20th Century advancement: culminating in trillions of dollars of valuable resources that power our World today.

We recognize that this story exemplifies a general truth: the fundamental method of Progress is humans beings asking the right questions and then getting the right people to work on them together in the right way...



Problem: Today's "Method" of Solving Problems

Juxtaposed against this triumphant story-- *and having seen the same things discussed for 20+ years without meaningful improvement* -- I came to realize our model of doing politics is broken. Driving this troubling conclusion was recognizing that we have an antiquated approach to problem solving which is not capable of dealing with the scale, complexity & pace of this 21st Century. As some examples supporting this claim:

- 1) **We aren't solving problems in the right way:** understanding that based on their interdependence, because there's 1 World, they need to be solved "all together"
- 2) **We constantly change what problems we're working on:** rather than well focusing resources until a problem is solved, our methodology is instead chaotic & reactive
- 3) **There's no cumulative approach:** instead of a glacier getting smarter over time, we instead are living in/as an etch-o-sketch of ephemeral ideas (a wasteful redundancy)
- 4) **We aren't well channeling the power of our best & brightest:** there isn't a well organized fixture for the at-large intelligentsia (while running for office is scary)
- 5) **We aren't specifying our solutions in a well-defined enough language:** most simply engage in the process of "checking the boxes" of a vague party platform (it's not a coherent & actionable set of laws/policies ready for implementation).



Tabula Rasa Solution: Politics Made From Scratch

I briefly ran for the 2018 United States Congress as an independently-minded Democrat (hint: it didn't work out!). Through an unorthodox approach (inspired by Hilbert), I developed a novel vision for the future of politics—specifically, a more advanced methodology for solving problems of the public space in the modern era.

The Revitalizing America Program, the cornerstone of our “platform”, proposes a set of fundamental problems we need to solve as soon as possible. RA's ambitious mission is to produce an end-to-end detailed “American Playbook”—an ever-updating *library of law* of answers to each of these problems— and more generally, to create, grow and tend to a well-organized, non-partisan, & open-source fixture for America's intelligentsia.



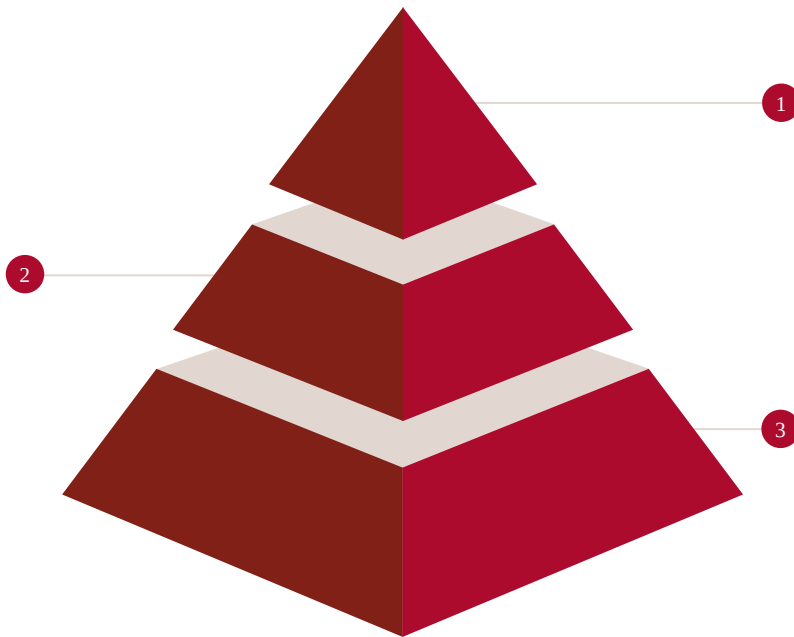
ADH: technology entrepreneur, investor, & lawyer from Central NJ. Managing Partner of Hartford Lab.



Revitalizing America Initiative: Open-Sourcing Politics

Scalable

Well-defined solutions fuel a growing library of law, serving as America's North Star and the basis of a smarter politics.



Non-Partisan

Regardless of the party in charge, our politics is only as effective as our finalized solutions to fundamental problems.

Necessary

The scale, complexity, and interdependence of our problems requires a well organized fixture for the public intelligentsia.



23 Fundamental Problems Posed (and updated!)

In light of the existing climate, the following questions seemed all the more underappreciated: **“Where are we going as a Nation? How are we going to get there?”** The Revitalizing America Program was developed in order to produce the meaningful landscape of answers to both of these questions.

We’ve composed a list of (1) Domestic + (2) International matters that range from modernizing education to universal healthcare to addressing climate change to nuclear weapons to AI to criminal justice reform to scientific, technological and economic revitalization in America.

The 2.0 version of the program can be found [here](#).



RA’s Mission: generate an end-to-end detailed playbook illuminating our strategic Paths and Points for the 1st half of this 21st Century.



Why do we need a language for politics?

What does it mean to “answer” a question or to “solve” a problem? Specifically, it means to generate a map or graph which traverses ‘A to Z’, where “A” is the relevant initial condition (t_0) of the problem, and where “Z” is the proposed solution (i.e. the end configuration). This data structure, a finite DAG, is built of well-defined enough *paths* (chains of sufficient conditions) & *points* (packages of necessary conditions); going from “A to Z”.

But, why is this necessary? I think we struggle with mutual understanding by lack of a commonly transparent language (English by itself is insufficient!). This is incredibly burdensome when it comes to collaboration, efficiency of resources, and productivity.

As the example originating this insight: “Are you for universal healthcare?” When asked that question at a panel event, I realized the proper response (while “Y!”) was “which one?” because there actually is a double infinity invoked by the question: making it incredibly ill-defined, and impossible to expect to coherently discuss ideas towards building solutions.

The 1st infinity is the “which Z_n problem?” That is, by “universal healthcare” do you mean this solution or that solution or that solution-- out of an infinity of possible Z’s (different points)! **The 2nd infinity** exists in the form of “which paths ($p_n - p_n$) are you proposing?” to arrive at your preferred Z_n from the A_* initial conditions that we share?

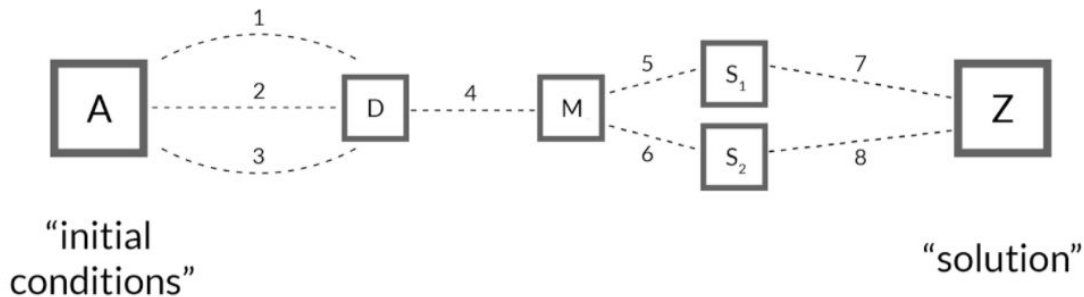


A Language For Politics: Of Paths & Points

Solution Structure (the language): a map or graph for implementation. As repurposed from the field of computer science, a proposed “acceptable solution” is simply the finite well-defined enough (e.g. reasonable person standard) Directed Acyclic Graph or DAG built of paths (chains of sufficient conditions) & points (packages of necessary conditions). It’s serves as a pictorial representation everyone can understand.

Paths: 1,2,3,4 ... = (ordered) chains of **sufficient** conditions

Points: “A-Z” ... = packages of **necessary** conditions





The Revitalizing America Incubator

[Hartford Lab](#) looks to develop a dedicated RA incubator in the spirit of Y-Combinator.

One of the objectives of the RA operation would be to grow & manage the open source *Library of Law* that is the cumulative of the RA program (in the spirit of Wikipedia or Github).

This would function as a new kind of think tank (law building team) committed to the RA methodology.



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An Original Project by Hartford Lab

Hartford Lab architects, advises, incubates & invests in technology companies.

Over the years, we've provided a broad array of business development services to entities ranging from pre-funded to publicly traded.

Today we engage in cutting edge research & development (in theoretical capacities and along frontier technologies), investigate & work on matters of public interest, found our own tech ventures, and (angel) invest in early-stage startups.

We like to remind ourselves that *the future is built* and that the 1st time happens once.

We find purpose in trying to play our small part.



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