

1. Brenner

- ✓ Social property relations: the structuring structure, vertical and horizontal conflicts
- ✓ Rules for reproduction: What do I need to get what I want? (Recall Wright)
- Causal sequence of neo-Smithian Marxism: trade → capitalist strategies for reproduction by individual economic actors (merchants et al) → install capitalist property relations in each productive unit → tendency to specialize, accumulate, innovate → modern economic growth
- History is nothing other than human action; people making decisions under conditions that they do not choose – the principle(s) behind it can't be pre-determined in theory
- Alternative sequence: form of social property relations → rules for reproduction of individual economic actors → long-term pattern of economic development/non-development

2. Wood

- Explanatory primacy of class – Why?
- Problem of begging the question of history – assuming the existence of what needs to be explained + bringing in a *deus ex machina* to explain it (i.e., ideology, race, demography)
- “Laws of Motion” = the endogenous logic of a process, not a natural law

3. Why does this matter?

- Eurocentrism debates (provincializing capitalism provincializes Europe)
- Post-structuralism debates (power is neither dyadic nor repressive)
- Race and gender debates (capitalist motivations for their reproduction or not)
- Marxism's existentialist moment (“...the ‘philosophical crisis’ is the particular expression of a social crisis...”)