

The background features a gradient from light green at the top to dark blue at the bottom. On the left side, there are several circular and semi-circular patterns. A prominent one is a large arc with a scale from 140 to 260 in increments of 10. Other circles contain curved lines and arrows, suggesting motion or cycles. The overall aesthetic is technical and futuristic.

# CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

# DEBATE OVER REPRESENTATION

- The more representatives you have in Congress the more powerful you are
- The Virginia Plan (Large state plan)
  - Called for:
    - 3 branches of government
    - A bicameral legislature
      - Both houses have number of representatives based on population
  - Supported by large states

# DEBATE OVER REPRESENTATION

- New Jersey Plan (Small state plan)
  - Called for
    - 3 branches of government
    - A unicameral legislature with each state getting 1 vote (equal representation for each state)
  - Supported by smaller states

# DEBATE OVER REPRESENTATION

- The Great Compromise
  - Created a bicameral Congress
    - Senate – equal representation
    - House of Representatives – representation based on population

# 3/5 COMPROMISE

- Slaves would be counted as 3/5ths of their actual numbers

# COMMERCE AND SLAVE TRADE COMPROMISE

- The North felt that Congress should control trade and also that they should put an end to slave trading.
- The South was wary of Congress regulating trade and, of course, wanted slave trade to continue because of their need for laborers on plantations.
- Compromise: Congress would be allowed to fairly control trade and the South would be allowed to continue trading slaves for 20 more years.

# ELECTORAL COLLEGE

- Presidential Election Process
- During the debate, some delegates felt that a direct popular election would lead to each state's choosing their favorite and no one would win with popular majority to govern the entire country.
- Other delegates felt that giving Congress the power to select the president would deny the people their right to choose.
- The compromise was to set up an Electoral College system that allowed voters to vote for electors, who would then cast their votes for candidates,
- System described in Article II, section 1 of the Constitution.

# POST CONVENTION

- → After the convention, a woman asked Benjamin Franklin: "Well Doctor, what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?" He responded, "A republic, if you can keep it!"
- SIDE NOTE: "Democracy" was a dirty word to many of our Founders!