Updating the *Party Government* data set[‡]

Public Release Version 2

Codebook for "Data Set 2: Ministers"

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1 Overview

This codebook offers the list of variables and their definition of "Data Set 2: Ministers" in *Updating the Party Government Data Set* (Seki and Williams 2014). This version (Version 2.0) of the data set includes information about governments by the end of December 31, 2014 if *Political Data Yearbook* of *European Journal of Political Research* has coverage. There are two data sets: one corresponds to the electronic version of the ministers data contained in WKB (2000) and the other represents the available ministers data from the *European Journal of Political Research* (1991-2014).

1.1 Location

The SW dataset can be found in the following locations:

- Personal website: faculty.missouri.edu/ williamslaro/data
- Harvard Dataverse: dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/laronwilliams

1.2 Citation

Please use the following citation if you use or reference the Seki-Williams update to the *Party Government* dataset:

Katsunori Seki and Laron K. Williams (2014). "Updating the *Party Government* Data Set." *Electoral Studies*. 34: 270-279.

1.3 Acknowledgements

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2 List of Variables: WKB Ministers (1945-1990s)

Overview

The unit of analysis is the government/portfolio/minister. This means that there may be multiple ministers in a portfolio for a given government. Likewise, there are new observations if there is a new government.

- `ccode`: Country code from the Correlates of War Project (Table 1).

Table 1: List of Countries and Country Codes

country	ccode	country	ccode	country	ccode
Australia	900	Greece	350	Norway	385
Austria	305	Guyana	110	Pakistan	770
Bangladesh	771	Hungary	310	Poland	290
Belgium	211	Iceland	395	Portugal	235
Botswana	571	India	750	Romania	360
Bulgaria	355	Ireland	205	Slovakia	317
Canada	20	Israel	666	Slovenia	349
Croatia	344	Italy	325	South Africa I	560
Cyprus	352	Jamaica	51	South Africa II	560
Czech Republic	316	Japan	740	South Africa III	560
Czechoslovakia	315	Latvia	367	Spain	230
Denmark	390	Lithuania	368	Sri Lanka	780
Estonia	366	Luxembourg	212	Sweden	380
Finland	375	Macedonia	343	Switzerland	225
France IV	220	Malta	338	Turkey	640
France V	220	Namibia	565	USA	2
Germany	255	Netherlands	210		
Great Britain	200	New Zealand	920		

- `govtseq`: Each new government gets the next value in this sequence. A government represents any administration formed after an election, and continues in the absence of a change in PM, or change in party composition of cabinet (i.e., parties moving in or out, but not changes in the cabinet composition of government parties), or resignation of government within the electoral cycle (even if it is replaced by the exact same parties and PM it is still a government change). See Woldendorp, et al. (2000, 10) for the original definition of a government.

- `portfolio`: This is the broad categorization of the different portfolios from Woldendorp, et al. (2000). Multiple country-specific ministries can be in this broad categorization. For example, the Social Affairs category for Belgium's 36th government (lasting from March 13, 1992 to June 22, 1995) contains four ministers in WKB: Moureaux, Willockx, Smet and Onkelinx. These four ministers controlled different portfolios within the Social Affairs category: Ph. Moureaux was the Minister of Social Affairs, of Family Policy, and of the Disabled, F. Willockx was the Minister of Pensions, M. Smet was the Minister of Employment and Work, and L. Onkelinx was the Minister of Health, of Environment and of Social Integration.

- `lastname`, `firstname`, `gender` These variables contain all of the personal information that was available for these ministers, including their lastnames and initials for the first name, as well as the minister's gender.

- `party`, `cmp`: These variables provide the abbreviations for the parties and the party codes from the Comparative Manifestos Project (CMP). If there is not data for that party or if the minister is non-partisan or not affiliated with a party, then "cmp" is coded as missing.

- `multipleministers`: This variable is coded 1 if there are multiple ministers in same broad category for that government.
- `startyear`, `startmonth`, `startday`: The start of the government's tenure is the date of investiture (majority support in parliament), or the first day of the parliamentary session (if no investiture vote is required). This typically occurs when there is a single-party majority.
- `ts_start`, `ts_end`: Since the start and end dates for individual ministers' tenures are not available in the original Woldendorp, et al. (2000) data set, these variables reflect the tenure dates for the governments (denoted by "govtseq").
- `duration`: The duration of government is the difference between investiture dates for two governments. Keep in mind that the "end" date of a government is the day before the start date of the next government (possibly after an election), so adjustments might have to be made if one wants to predict government duration.

3 List of Variables: Detailed Minister Summary (Seki-Williams 1991-2014)

Overview

The unit of analysis is similar to the unit of analysis in the WKB data, with one important distinction. If the minister controls multiple portfolios, then those portfolios are all listed in the "portfolio" column, as long as they all have the same beginning and end dates. If a minister controls a portfolio for a different tenure than another portfolio, then there will be a different observation for that additional portfolio.

For the most part, the variables are described in a similar manner as above, with the following exceptions:

- `minister_id`: This is a unique identifier for the minister. We generate this identifier by leveraging the information from name, gender, birthyear and party.
- `birthyear`: This is another piece of personal information that is available in the *European Journal of Political Research* issues of the *Political Data Yearbook* but not the Woldendorp, et al. (2000) data set.
- `portfolio`: As opposed to the more general categorizations provided by the Woldendorp, et al. (2000) data set, *portfolio* provides the exact name of the ministry given by the *European Journal of Political Research*. For example, instead of being "Social Affairs" (WKB), the portfolio will be called "Minister of Social Affairs and Public Health" (EJPR).
- `mts_start`, `mts_end`: These represent the minister's start and end date for that portfolio during that government. The minister's start date is either a) the date of that government's tenure, or b) the minister's date of replacement. The end date is either a) the end of that government's tenure (one day earlier than the installation of the next government), or b) the minister's date of replacement. If the ministers are replaced during the government's tenure, the previous minister's end date is simply the next minister's start date minus one day.

  Interim and acting ministers are not included in the data set since they do not have full administrative duties.

  For those ministers requiring legislative approval (such as the US), the actual confirmation date is provided for the value of `mts_start`.
- `died`: Coded 1 if the minister died in office (on the day designated by `mts_end`).