Colonial/Dependency Contiguity v3.0
Documentation
10/31/2003

Overview

Version 3.0 of the Correlates of War Colonial/Dependency Contiguity data identifies all contiguity relationships between states in the international system from 1816 through 2002 which involve colonies or dependencies. That is, if two dependencies of two states are contiguous, or if one state is contiguous to a dependency of another, the data set reports a contiguity relationship between the two main states (with appropriate codes identifying the relevant dependent entity/entities).

Citation

In any papers or publications that utilize this data set, users are asked to give the version number and cite the data set, as follows:

> Correlates of War 2 Project. *Colonial/Dependency Contiguity Data, 1816-2002*. Version 3.0.

Format and Variables

The data file has a non-directed format in order to prevent asymmetries from accidentally being introduced into the data set. It is written in comma-separated-variable (CSV) format, and the variable names are given in the first record in the file. The variables in the data set are as follows.

CCode1	COW state number (country code) for the lower numbered state in the dyad (see system membership data set for identification).
Depend1	Entity number of the colony/possession of CCode1 involved in this relationship, if any (see entity list for identification). If no dependency is involved in this relationship (i.e., this relationship is involves the state [ccode1] directly), a "0" is listed.
CType	Type of contiguity, 1-5.
CCode2	COW state number (country code) for the higher numbered state in the dyad.
Depend2	Entity number of the colony/possession of CCode2 involved in this relationship, if any. If no dependency is involved in this relationship (i.e., this relationship is involves the state [ccode2] directly), a "0" is listed.
BegYear	Beginning year of this contiguity relationship.
EndYear	Final year of this contiguity relationship.
Version	Version number of the dataset.

Contiguity Types are as follows:

1	Separated by a land or river border
2	Separated by 12 miles of water or less
3	Separated by 24 miles of water or less
4	Separated by 150 miles of water or less
5	Separated by 400 miles of water or less

Dyads not listed in the data set are not contiguous via colonies/possessions. Note that any particular state-state pair may have several different colonial/dependency relationships if one or both states have multiple colonies/dependencies. In these cases, one dyadic relationship will be set up for each interaction between states/dependencies that fall within the 400 mile range.

Understanding the data

Because states may have dependencies involved in their contiguity records, or not, an examination of a few lines may be helpful for interpreting data.

Example 1:

CCode1	Depend1	CType	CCode2	Depend2	BegYear	EndYear	Version
2	3	1	20		1920	1958	3

In example 1, state 2 is contiguous to state 20 via a dependency of state 1. The dependency of state 1 is entity 3. The relationship between entity 3 and ccode 20 is of type 1. This relationship lasts from 1920 through 1958.

Example 2:

CCode1	Depend1	CType	CCode2	Depend2	BegYear	EndYear	Version
850		5	900	9001	1958	2002	3

In example 2, state 850 does not have a dependency involved in the relationship, but state 900 does. In this case, state 850 is contiguous to state 900 via a dependency of state 900, namely entity 9001. The relationship between entity 9001 and ccode 850 is of type 5.

Example 3:

CCode1	Depend1	CType	CCode2	Depend2	BegYear	EndYear	Version
2	5	4	200	1062	1969	2002	3

In example 3, both states have dependencies involved in the relationship. In this case, state 2's dependency, entity 5, is contiguous to entity 1062, a dependency of 200. The relationship between entity 1062 and entity 5 is of type 4.

Version History

The v3.0 update of the colonial/possession contiguity data set builds upon the 1993 version originally compiled by Phil Schafer for the Correlates of War project at the University of Michigan. For this release, we have examined all contiguity relationships that were ongoing as of 1993, examined changes in the status of various possessions (e.g. Hong Kong, Macau) during the period, and converted the data set to a nondirected dyad format.

The 1993 version included an update and correction of the earlier COW contiguity dataset (circa 1970), and added the 400 mile contiguity relationship.

Errors and Anomalies

Every effort has been made to identify and correct errors in this data set, but some anomalies may have escaped our attention. If you detect something suspicious or questionable in this data set please contact the Correlates of War 2 project at cow2@psu.edu. A quick response to your message cannot be guaranteed, but your input will not be ignored and will help us with the future development of this data set.