UPDATED & REVISED CITIZEN AND GOVERNMENT IDEOLOGY MEASURES THROUGH 2004

Microsoft Excel file 'ideo6004.xls' contains revised and updated values of the citizen and government ideology measures through 2004; 'ideo6004.dta' is a Stata 8.0 data set containing the same data. Values are included for all fifty American states beginning in 1960.

Variable labels are as follows:
statename: state name
state: 2-digit numerical code for states (alphabetical order)
year: year
inst6004: government ideology measure
citi6004: citizen ideology measure

As a test to determine whether the data in your file are accurate, you might calculate the mean and sum of each variable over all cases; they should be as follows:

Variable	Mean	Sum
inst6004	48.320526	108721.1807
citi6004	46.625347	104907.0305

To prevent confusion about data sources, please refer to these citizen ideology data as the "*revised 1960-2004 citizen ideology series*" and to these government ideology data as the "*revised 1960-2004 government ideology series*," citing the original article for a description of the measurement methodology.

Updated Citizen Ideology Scores

For 28 states, the 1960-2002 scores for the updated version and the previous version of our citizen ideology series are identical. For 22 states, there are some slight differences. For 19 of these 22 states, the differences between the old and new versions (for common 1960-2002 period) are trivial. Indeed, the within-state correlations between the old and new series for these 19 states range from .997 to .999. For three states (Alabama, South Dakota, and West Virginia) however, the differences were slightly greater. These differences arise from several different sources.

1. We re-estimated missing values for state party delegations using the regression estimation procedure described in our unpublished supplement to the original (1998) AJPS article. Even if we were to retain the identical specifications for our predictive regression models for this update, the expansion of the dataset to 2004 would naturally lead to slightly different (but in most cases improved) predictions for missing state party delegations. This likely explains the trivial differences between our old and updated series for the vast majority of states where differences are observed.

2. By updating our dataset to reflect the 2004 elections we are able to improve upon our

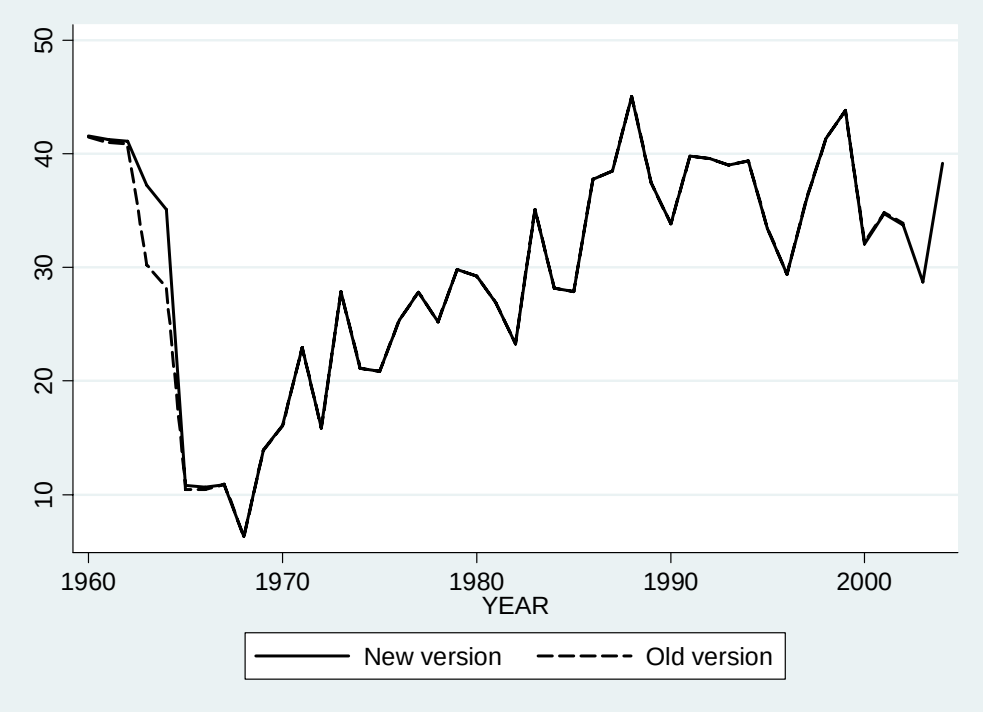
estimates of voter support for incumbent Senators who faced re-election in 2004 (their vote shares were previously extrapolated for the 1999-2002 period). This leads to slight differences in the final citizen ideology scores for some states during the 1999-2002 period.

3. For two states (SD and WV), we needed to change the specifications of the predictive regression models to estimate missing state party ideology scores. This is the most important reason why the updated scores for these two states exhibit larger differences from the previous scores.

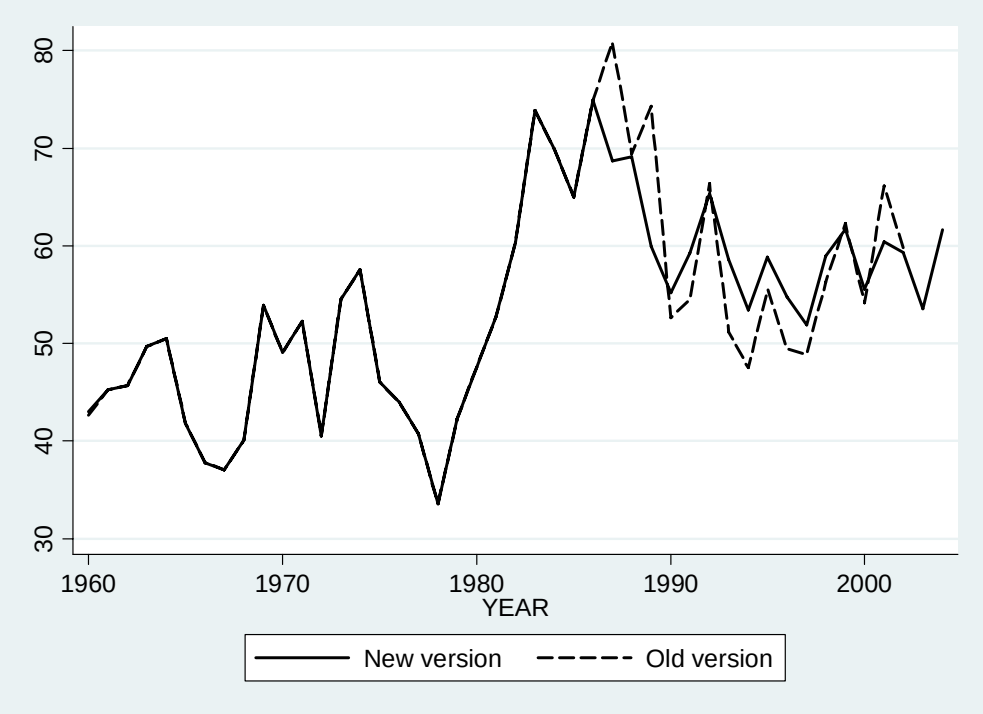
4. For one state (AL), we revised our estimates for the vote shares for the 1962 House election. This was an odd election in that all of Alabama's representatives were elected at-large. Below, we provide a more detailed comparison of the differences between the old and new citizen ideology scores in the three states that exhibited the largest changes due to our revision.

Below, we provide a more detailed comparison of the differences between the old and new citizen ideology scores in the three states that exhibited the largest changes due to our revision.

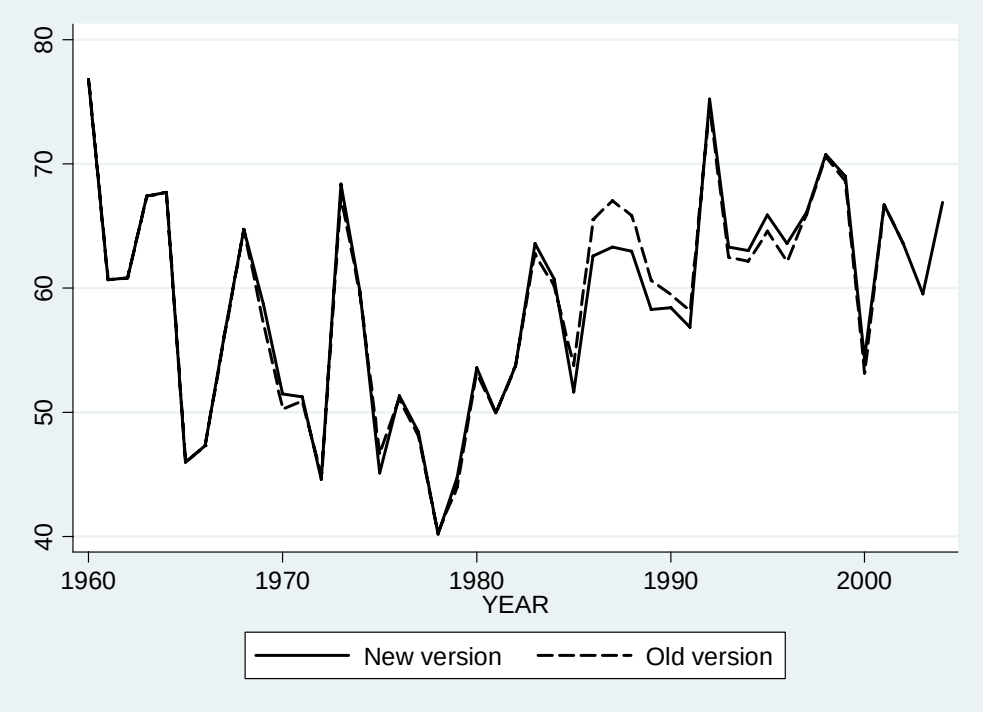
ALABAMA (r=.989)



SOUTH DAKOTA (r=.948)



WEST VIRGINIA (r=.991)



Updated Government Ideology Scores

Beginning with the second update and revision of our government ideology measures (1960-1999), we have relied on state government party control data (party representation in state legislature, party of governor) collected and provided by Carl Klarner, Department of Political Science, at Indiana State University. These data are discussed in the following article:

Klarner, Carl. 2003. "Measurement of Partisan Balance of State Government." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 3 (Fall 2003): 309-19.

These data are available at the SPPQ journal datasets website:
http://www.ipsr.ku.edu/SPPQ/journal_datasets.shtml

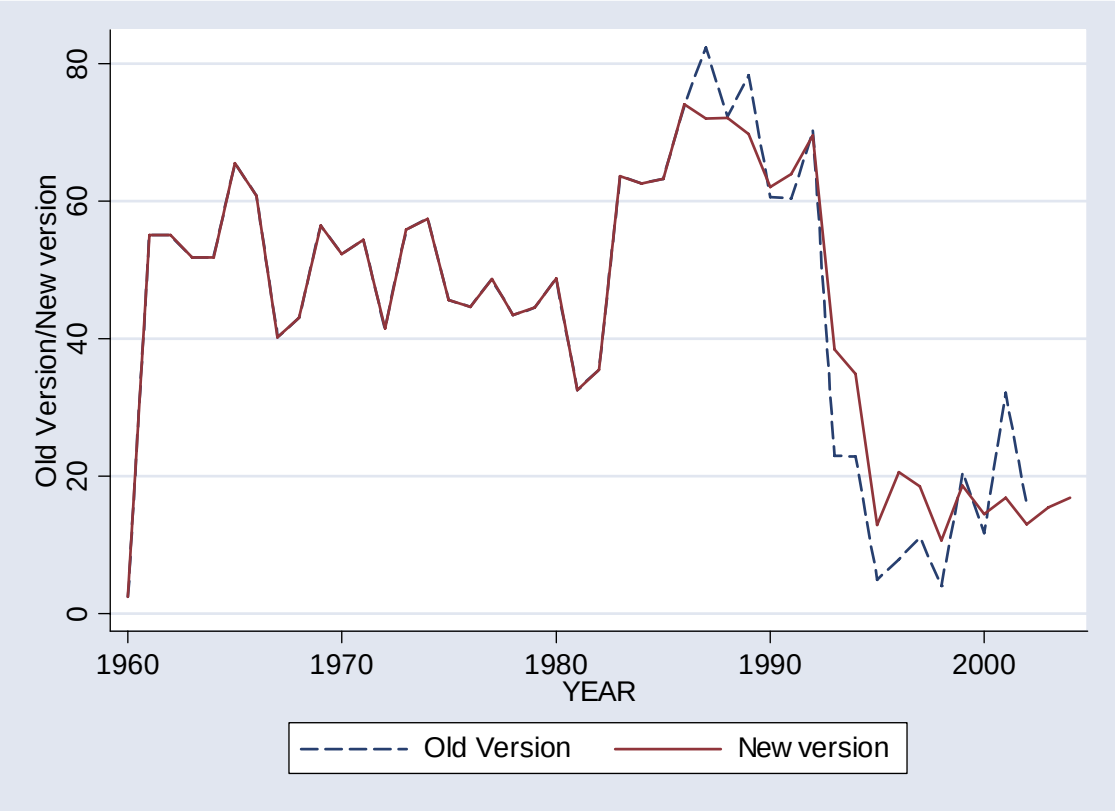
The Klarner data allow us to make a few revisions to our measure, which we feel result in an improvement in our measure of government ideology. These changes have been reflected in our updated measures beginning with the third revision (1960-1999) to our measures.

- The data allow us to correct several errors in the party control data from our previous sources.
- Prior to the mid-1970's, Minnesota had a nonpartisan state legislature. Rather than coding these years as missing values, we now use seat shares for the Democratic Farmer-Labor caucus and the Conservative caucus as surrogates for Democratic and Republican seat shares.
- In years in which a governor is replaced mid-term by a governor of the opposite party, our new government ideology measure takes into account the proportion of the time the two parties controlled the governorship. In particular, in such years, the term "[ID:GOV_s,t]" in equation 2 of the *AJPS* article is replaced by "[(p_R) (ID:REPGOV_s,t) + (p_D)(ID:DEMGOV_s,t)]" where ID:REPGOV is the Republican governor's ideology, ID:DEMGOV is the Democratic governor's ideology, p_R is the proportion of the year in which the governor was a Republican, and p_D is the proportion of the year in which the governor was a Democrat.

For 44 states, the 1960-2002 scores for the updated version and the previous version of our government ideology series are identical. For 6 states (NE, NM, ND, OK, VT WV), there are some slight differences. For 5 of these 6 states, the differences between the old and new versions (for common 1960-2002 period) are trivial. Indeed, the within-state correlations between the old and new series for these 5 states range from .995 to .999. For one state (ND) however, the differences were slightly greater. These differences arise from the re-estimation of party ideology scores for missing party delegations (described above).

Below, we provide a more detailed comparison of the differences between the old and new government ideology scores for North Dakota.

North Dakota (r = .9727)



Inquiries about the updated measures should be directed to Richard Fording, Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0027 (rford@.uky.edu).