Codebook

Understanding Interaction Models

Electoral Institutions, Ethnic Heterogeneity and African Party Systems

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DATA

The data is based on 62 elections in 34 African countries between 1980 and 2000. The codebook is for two datasets:

- STATA_mozaffar.dta
- golder1.dta

COUNTRY

Name of country. The countries included are Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tomé et Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia,Zimbabwe.

STATA_mozaffar.dta

AVEMAGNITUDE

Average district magnitude.

CONCENTRATION

This is an index of ethnopolitical group concentration adapted from the Minorities at Risk (Phase III) dataset: 0 = widely dispersed, 1 = primarily urban or minority in one region, 2 = majority in one region, dispersed in others, 3 = concentrated in one region. The index is calculated for each group by multiplying its concentration code by its share of the ethnopolitcally relevant population. Sum these numbers to get the concentration score for each country.

ELECPARTIES

Effective number of electoral parties.

ELF

Ethno-Linguistic Fractionalization Index.

LOGMAG10_ELFLMAG

This is $ELF * LOGMAG10$

FRAGMENTATION

This is a measure of ethnopolitical group fragmentation based on the share of the politicized population that belongs to each ethnopolitical group or subgroup. This index combines three levels of inclusiveness by including all undivided top and middle-level groups and all lowest-level groups. It includes all groups that are potentially politically relevant at the national level, while excluding groups that have not been politicized. This is a description taken directly from Mozaffar et al. (2003). I do not know what the units of measurement are exactly.

FRAGMENTATION_CONCENTRATION

This is $FRAGMENTATION * CONCENTRATION$.

FRAGMENTATION2

This is $FRAGMENTATION^2$.

FRAG2_CONC

This is $FRAGMENTATION2 * CONCENTRATION$.

LEGPARTIES

The effective number of legislative parties.

LOGMAG

This is the natural log of the average district magnitude.

LOGMAG_CONC

This is $LOGMAG * CONCENTRATION$.

LOGMAG_FRAG

This is $LOGMAG * FRAGMENTATION$.

LOGMAG_FRAG_CONCENTRATION

This is $LOGMAG * FRAGMENTATION * CONCENTRATION$.

LOGMAG10

This is the log of average district magnitude in base 10. This is NOT the natural log.

LOGMAG10_CONC

This is $LOGMAG10 * CONCENTRATION$.

LOGMAG10_FRAG

This is $LOGMAG10 * FRAGMENTATION$.

LOGMAG10_FRAG_CONC

This is $LOGMAG10 * FRAGMENTATION * CONCENTRATION$.

LOGMAG10_FRAG2_CONC

This is $LOGMAG10 * FRAGMENTATION2 * CONC$.

PREGB

Politically relevant ethnic group B count. I don't know what this means.

PRESCANDIDATE

Effective number of presidential candidates.

PROXIMITY

Measure of temporal proximity between presidential and legislative elections.

PROX_PRESCANDIDATE

This is $PROX * ENPRES$.

golder1.dta

AVEMAGNITUDE_NYU

Average district magnitude in the lowest electoral tier. This is calculated as the total number of seats allocated in the lowest tier divided by the total number of districts in that tier.

DICTATOR_NYU

Classification of political regimes as democracies and dictatorships. Transition years are coded as the regime that exists (0 Democracy, 1 Dictatorship) as of December 31st in that year. A regime is considered a dictatorship if the chief executive is not elected, the legislature is not elected, there is no more than one party, or there has been no alternation in power (Przeworski et al. 2000, Przeworski et al. 1996). In other words, a regime is democratic if those who govern are selected through contested elections. Variable not included in original dataset.

DISTRICT_NYU

Number of electoral districts or constituencies in the lowest electoral tier for the lower house of the legislature.

ELECPARTIES_NYU

The effective number of electoral parties is based on $\frac{1}{\sum v_i^2}$, where v_i is the percentage of the vote received by the i^{th} party (Laakso & Taagepera 1979). This basic formula is corrected to better take account of the 'other' category in official election statistics by using the least component method of bounds (Taagepera 1997). The method of bounds requires calculating the effective number of parties treating the 'other' category as a single party (smallest effective number of parties), then recalculating the effective number of parties as if every vote in the 'other' category belonged to a different party (largest effective number of parties), and taking the mean.

LEGPARTIES_NYU

The effective number of legislative parties is based on $\frac{1}{\sum s_i^2}$, where s_i is the percentage of the seats won by the i^{th} party (Laakso & Taagepera 1979). This basic formula is corrected to better take account of the 'other' category in official election statistics by using the least component method

of bounds (Taagepera 1997).

LOGMAG_NYU

This is the natural log of $AVEMAGNITUDE_NYU$.

LOGMAG_CONC_NYU

This is $LOGMAG_NYU * CONCENTRATION$.

LOGMAG_FRAG_NYU

This is $LOGMAG_NYU * FRAGMENTATION$.

LOGMAG_FRAG_CONC_NYU

This is $LOGMAG_NYU * FRAGMENTATION * CONCENTRATION$.

PRESCANDIDATE_NYU

Effective number of presidential candidates is calculated as $\frac{1}{\sum v_i^2}$, where v_i is the percentage of the vote received by the i^{th} candidate. 'Others' are treated as a single candidate.

PROXIMITY_NYU

A continuous variable from 0 to 1 measuring the proximity of presidential and legislative elections. Legislative and presidential elections that are held concurrently are coded as 1. If legislative elections are midterm elections or if the regime has no direct presidential elections, then PROXIMITY is coded 0. The proximity variable is constructed as $2 * |\frac{L_t - P_{t-1}}{P_{t+1} - P_{t-1}} - 1/2|$, where L_t is the year of the legislative election, P_{t-1} is the year of the previous presidential election, and P_{t+1} is the year of the next presidential election. The more proximal the non-concurrent elections, the higher the PROXIMITY score.

SEATS_NYU

Total number of seats in the lower house of the legislature during the election year. Changes in the number of seats are shown for the first election in which they are used.

UPPERSEATS_NYU

Total number of seats allocated in upper tiers above the district level.

UPPERTIER_NYU

Percentage of seats allocated in electoral districts above the lowest tier. The percentage of upper tier seats is calculated as the total number of seats allocated in electoral tiers above the district level divided by the total number of elected seats in the legislature.

YEAR_NYU

Year of legislative election.

References

Laakso, Markku & Rein Taagepera. 1979. "Effective Number of Parties: A Measure with Application to Western Europe." *Comparative Political Studies* 12:3–27.

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