Codebook for Replication Data for:

'Partisan Dealignment and Personal Vote-Seeking in Parliamentary Behaviour', *Political Studies*. Forthcoming.

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Summary

This data set lists all MPs who sat in the UK House of Commons between the 1964 and 2017 general elections, with data on their electoral context and private members' bill proposals, as well as some parliament-level information. Each row corresponds to an MP-parliament pair.

Citation

Users of the data are requested to cite the following paper, which contains the research for which this data was collected, which was funded by a Nuffield College/Economic and Social Research Council Doctoral Studentship.

- Fleming, Thomas G. Forthcoming. 'Partisan Dealignment and Personal Vote-Seeking in Parliamentary Behaviour'. *Political Studies*.

Variables

Parliament-Level

Name	*Description*	*Source*
yr	Year of general election for parliament.	-
mn	Month of general election for parliament.	
GE_date	Date of general election for parliament.	
first_session_date	Opening date of parliament's first session.	Butler & Butler (2011) and Parliament website.
dissolution_date	Date on which parliament was dissolved.	
sitting_days	Total Commons sitting days in parliament.	
partisanship_verystrong	% of voters with "very strong" party id.	British Election Study
partisanship_fairlystrong	% of voters with "fairly strong" party id.	
partisanship_notverystrong	% of voters with "not very strong" party id.	
party_polarisation	Polarisation, measured as absolute difference between the Conservative and Labour parties' scores on the Lowe et al. (2011) log scaling of the Manifesto Project's Right-Left measure.	Volkens et al. (2019)
labour_logrile	Labour and Conservative parties' scores on Lowe et al's log scaling of the Manifesto Project's Right-Left measure.	
conservative_logrile		

MP-Level

Name	*Description*	*Source*
constituency	MP's constituency.	
nation	Country into which that constituency falls.	
party	MP's party affiliation (at election).	
votes	Number of votes won by MP at election.	Constituency-Level Elections Archive (Kollman et al. 2017), cleaned extensively using successive editions of the *Times Guide to the House of Commons*.
votes_margin	Difference between number of votes won by MP and by second-placed candidate.	
voteshare	Share of votes won by MP at election.	
voteshare_margin	Difference between vote share of MP and of second-placed candidate.	
challenger	Party affiliation of second-placed candidate.	
volatility	Constituency-level electoral volatility, calculated as the Pedersen Index (Pedersen 1979).	Largely based on cleaned Kollman et al. (2017) data, but using notional results for affected constituencies at elections following boundary reviews (BBC/ITN 1983; Rallings and Thrasher 1995; Denver, Rallings and Thrasher 2004; Rallings and Thrasher 2007).[1]
MP	Unique identifier for each MP.	-
name	MP's name.	
born	MP's year of birth.	
sex	MP's sex.	
first_elected	Year in which MP was first elected.	
service_gap	Any gap(s) in service since first election.	
retired	Whether MP stood down at next election.	Successive editions of the *Times Guide to House of Commons*.
elected_at_GE	Whether MP was elected at general or by-election.	
by_election_out	Indicates year MP entered this parliament at a by-election, if relevant.	
by_election_in	Indicates year MP left this parliament at a by-election, if relevant.	

party_switch1	Date on which MP first switched party during the parliament, if relevant.	Butler and Butler (2011) and Priddy (2017). Excludes suspensions of the whip that were subsequently restored.[2]
new_party1	First party to which MP switched during the parliament, if relevant.	
party_switch2	Date on which MP second switched party during the parliament, if relevant.	
new_party2	Second party to which MP switched during the parliament, if relevant.	
gov	Indicator of whether MP's party was in government or opposition.	-
minister whip PPS speakers	Indicators of years in which MP was either a (shadow) minister, party whip, parliamentary private secretary, or (deputy) speaker. Where they held multiple offices simultaneously, only the most senior is indicated.	Successive editions of *Dod's Parliamentary Companion*, checked against Butler and Butler (2011).
careerist	Binary indicator of O'Grady's (2019) coding of MPs being careerist.	Replication data for O'Grady (2019).
PMBs.ballot	Number of private members' bills proposed through ballot procedure.	Various sources: see Fleming (2020).
PMBs.presentation	Number of private members' bills proposed through presentation procedure.	
PMBs.tenminute.permitted	Number of private members' bills proposed through ten minute procedure, where leave to introduce the bill was granted.	
PMBs.tenminute.negatived	Number of private members' bills proposed through ten minute procedure, where leave to introduce the bill was not granted.	
PMBs.total	Total private members' bills proposed.	

[1] No notional results are available for the review preceding the February 1974 general election, so I only calculate volatility for seats with high continuity, defined as an overlap of 90% between the previous and new constituency, according to data from Butler and Kavanagh (1974). For the 1992 general election, I compare Liberal Democrat candidates to 1987 Alliance candidates. A small review prior to the 1992 election affected only three seats – I use the estimated change in the vote provided by Butler and Kavanagh (1992).

[2] Where either source provides only a month rather than a specific date, I record the first date of that month.

NB: This dataset contains a number of variables generated by other authors (e.g. O'Grady 2019). They are included solely to facilitate replication of the results from this paper. Anyone wishing to use those variables in other work should access them from the original source, so that those authors can track use of their own data.

References

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