Codebook

This codebook accompanies the manuscript, "Bridging Spatial and Saliency Theory: Party Size and Issue Selection," its online appendix, and the R scripts provided through Dataverse. All variables mentioned and used in both documents are listed and explained below. The format is as follows: variable name in dataset, followed by any necessary description of variable. I list all the variables that required to replicate the results presented in the paper as well as in the online appendix. Variables are described in order of appearance in the file "data_bsas.csv".

- `country`: country name as reported in the 2014 Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES).
- `party`: party name in English.
- `issue`: issue category as reported in CHES (for corresponding survey question in the 2014 European Election Study (EES), see Table B.2 in the online appendix).
- `chespty`: unique party identifier.
- `ptyfam.cmp`: party family designations as in the Comparative Manifesto Project (CMP, 2017a release).
- `civlib`—`stint`: issue dummies.
- `major`: dummy variable taking the value 1 if a party obtained, on average, at least 13% of seats in national legislative elections between 2000 and 2014, and 0 otherwise.
- `minor`: dummy variable taking the value 1 if a party *did not obtain*, on average, at least 13% of seats in national legislative elections between 2000 and 2014, and 0 otherwise.
- `salience_ches`: ordinal measure of party emphasis on an issue in a given country, constructed using data on issues considered important for the party by experts in CHES.
- `salience_cmp`: proportion of sentences devoted to each issue by the party in its manifesto, as recorded in the CMP. CMP coded quasi-sentences were assigned to issues as follows: civil liberties (per201, per605), state intervention in the economy (per401–407, per409, p411–415), redistribution (per503), same sex marriage (per603–604), environmental protection (per416, per501), restrictions on immigration (per601_2, per602_2), taxes versus public spending (per505–507), EU integration (per108, per110).
- `lrgen`: position of the party in 2014 in terms of its overall ideological stance, as reported in CHES.
- `partyext`: positional extremism of the party on each issue, measured by the difference between the party's position on an issue (according to CHES) and that of the mean voter in its country (according to the EES).

- `supporterext`: issue extremism of the party's core supporters on each issue, measured by the absolute difference between the mean self-placement of core party supporters and the mean voter on that issue (as recorded in the EES).
- `supportersd`: disagreement among the party's core supporters on each issue, measured by the standard deviation of the mean self-placement of core supporters on the issue (as recorded in the EES).
- `supporterdist`: distinctiveness of the party's core supporters' preferences on each issue, measured by the absolute difference between the mean self-placement of core party supporters and those of all other parties in the same country (as recorded in the EES).
- `govt_allyrs`: whether the party has post-war experience of office (i.e. held a ministerial portfolio).
- `partner_emph_ches`: mean emphasis placed on each issue by the party's coalition partners (if any), where issue emphasis is measured using data from CHES. Only coalition partners as of 1 January 2014 (if the party is in government at this time), or any pre-electoral coalition partners in the most recent election preceding this date, are considered (see Table B.3 in the online appendix).
- `partner_emph_cmp`: mean emphasis placed on each issue by the party's coalition partners (if any), where issue emphasis is measured using data from the CMP. Coalition partners identified as above.
- `fam_emph_ches`: mean emphasis placed on each issue by other parties in the same party family, where party family designations are taken from the CMP.
- `niche.flex`: dummy variable taking the value 1 if the party was identified as niche by either Meguid (2005, 2008) or Adams et al. (2006), and 0 otherwise.
- `mst.flex`: dummy variable taking the value 1 if the party was identified as mainstream by either Meguid (2005, 2008) or Adams et al. (2006), and 0 otherwise.
- `bopla`: measure of the degree to which the formal structure of the party is dominated by the party leadership, available from the Integrated Party Organization Dataset (IPOD) constructed by Giger and Schumacher (2015).
- `yearsinoffice`: proportion of years a party has been in office since its foundation, as reported in the IPOD.
- `bischofn2`: continuous measure of party nicheness developed by Bischof (2017).
- `meyern`: continuous measure of party nicheness developed by Meyer and Miller (2015).

- `hst_avgXX`: mean seat share obtained by the party between the years 19XX/20XX and 2014. See "hist_seats.csv" for information on each party's historical electoral performance, compiled using the Comparative Political Data Set, the Parliaments and Governments database (Parlgov) and the Parties and Elections in Europe website maintained by Wolfram Nordsieck.
- `edate14`: date of election most proximate to 1 January 2014.
- `seats14`: seat share received by the party in the election most proximate to 1 January 2014 in its country.
- `edate95`: date of election most proximate to 1 January 1995.
- `seats95`: seat share received by the party in the election most proximate to 1 January 1995.
- `supporterno`: number of respondents to the EES who are core supporters of the party, defined as either (i) strong or weak partisans with high political interest, or (ii) strong partisans with moderate political interest. For more information on how EES responses were used to classify respondents to these categories, see discussion in Section 3 of the paper.
- `supporterext_r1`: issue extremism of the party's core supporters on each issue, where all EES respondents who are strong partisans with at least moderate political interest are considered core supporters of a party.
- `supportersd_r1`: disagreement among the party's core supporters on each issue, where all EES respondents who are strong partisans with at least moderate political interest are considered core supporters of a party.
- `supporterext_r2`: issue extremism of the party's core supporters on each issue, where all EES respondents who are partisans with at least moderate political interest are considered core supporters of a party.
- `supportersd_r2`: disagreement among the party's core supporters on each issue, where all EES respondents who are partisans with at least moderate political interest are considered core supporters of a party.
- `supporterext_r3`: issue extremism of the party's core supporters on each issue, where all EES respondents who are strong partisans are considered core supporters of a party.
- `supportersd_r3`: disagreement among the party's core supporters on each issue, where all EES respondents who are strong partisans are considered core supporters of a party.
- `supporterext_r4`: issue extremism of the party's core supporters on each issue, where all EES respondents who are partisans are considered core supporters of a party.

- `supportersd_r4`: disagreement among the party's core supporters on each issue, where all EES respondents who are partisans are considered core supporters of a party.
- `oldmajor`: mean seat share obtained by the party between the years 1990 and 2000. See "hist_seats.csv" for information on each party's historical electoral performance.
- `hst_t0`: seat share obtained by the party in the most recent election preceding 1 January 2014.
- `hst_t1`: seat share obtained by the party in the second most recent election preceding 1 January 2014.