**Coalition Summary – Dec 20, 2002.**

**Summary of Variables**

The data is drawn from four sources:

1. the Ministry of the Interior's official list of candidates for 2002 (to determine official candidates);
2. the Green party list of candidates for 2002 (to determine coalition agreements between the Greens and Socialists);
3. the Ministry of Interior's list of official results for 1997 and 2002;
4. and Le Figaro's database for official results in 1993.

**riding :** indicates the circonscription by district number and then riding number, for ex (02-04);
**col2002 :** indicates whether the riding was an official Green-Socialist coalition riding;
**multi :** indicates whether the candidate is a coalition Green or Socialist candidate, or neither;
**g_incum**: indicates Green incumbency;
**s_incum**: indicates Socialist incumbency;
**olfet_in:** indicates Other Left incumbency;
**conf1997**: indicates configuration of candidates in 1997 (Socialist, Green, both, neither);
**vote97_g**: the percentage of the Green vote in 1997;
**vote97_s**: the percentage of the Socialist vote in 1997;
**g_can97:** dummy indicating a Green candidate in 1997;
**so_can97:** dummy indicating a Socialist candidate in 1997
**dmmcand:** dummy indicating whether there was a single candidate (whether Green or Socialist);
**candidat**: the official candidate in 2002 (Green or Socialist);
**win_part**: the winning party in 1997, defined as Socialist, Green, other left or right;
**aggreg**: the aggregate of the green and socialist vote
**ratio**: Socialist vote divided by the aggregate (set to 0.5 if there was only one Green or Socialist candidate).
**ratio_sq**: the square of the ratio measure.
**soc_sq:** the square of the Socialist vote in 2002.
**gr_sq:** the square of the Green vote in 2002.
**winnabil**: a dummy variable indicating the winnability of the riding. Riding is defined as winnable if it was not won by the Greens or Socialists in the last election, but one of the coalition partners was within 10% of the winner in the second round in 1997;
**sec_rd**: indicates the candidate in the second round in 1997 (Socialist, Green, both, neither, first-round victory);
**sr_diff:** indicates the difference between the winner and the closest party in the second round;
**green_li:** dummy variable indicating if the Green candidate was official, based on the Green list;
**cand_97:** Indicates whether the riding had a Green or Socialist candidate or both in 1997;

**win_97:** a dummy variable indicating the winnability of the riding in 1997. Riding is defined as winnable if it was not won by the Greens or Socialists in the last election, but one of the coalition partners was within 10% of the winner in the second round in 1993;
**w_part93:** the winning party in 1993, defined as Socialist, Green, other left or right;
**vote93_g:** the percentage of the Green vote in 1993;
**vote93_s:** the percentage of the Socialist vote in 1993;

**Most recent results and conclusions**

**Soc Vote and Soc Vote Sq – Nov 29 –** both socialist vote in 1997 and socialist vote squared are significant in measuring the probability of a socialist coalition candidate agaisnt no coalition candidate (and vice versa). Accordingly, when mapped, the data demonstrate a curvilinear relationship between coalitions and socialist vote. However, when this is matched against the actual cases of the socialist vote in 1997, it is found that the overwhelming majority of the coalitions occur beyond the cut-point in the curve.

**Incumbents, Soc Vote and Soc Vote Sq – Nov 29** – this analysis contains measures of incumbency of Greens, Socialists and Other Left candidates, as well as socialist vote and socialist vote squared. As in the previous analysis, socialist vote and socialist vote squared, along with the Other Left and Socialist Incumbent measures are significant in predicting the probability of a socialist coalition candidate against no coalition candidate.

**Incumbents, Vote and No_Cand – Dec 2 –** This analysis contains measures of Socialist and Green vote in 1997, Socialist, Green and Other Left incumbency, and whether Green and Socialist candidates ran in 1997. As with other analysis, all the variables except for Green incumbency are significant in predicting the probability of a socialist coalition candidate against no coalition candidate.

**Dec 2 – Socialist Votes and Incumbents –** This is the same as the previous preceding file , except that the Green and Socialist candidates in 1997 are excluded. The results explain the probability of socialist coalition candidate more significantly.

**General Conclusions**

I think we have come to the following general conclusions:

1.) There is not an accurate predictor of the probability of a Green coalition candidate;
2.) Socialist coalition candidacies are positively related to incumbency, and negatively related to socialist vote in 1997;
3.) a possible explanation of the dynamics of the coalitions is that the socialists are interested in predicting their incumbents, and spread their coalitions across these individuals. In return, they give the Greens a disproportionate number of coalition ridings;
4.) this dynamic is probably driven by the consequences faced by the socialists if they do not make a sufficient number of deals; namely, not winning the twenty or thirty marginal seats required to form a government.