Codebook

This codebook describes the datasets of roll call votes in the German state parliaments 1988-2011 and the House of Commons 2001-2015 used in:

Bräuninger/Müller/Stecker. 2016. Modeling preferences using roll call votes in parliamentary systems, Political Analysis (forthcoming).

1. Replication data set for German state parliaments

File name: `bms_replic_germany.dta`

variable name	variable label	description
country	state	Name of German state (string variable)
ccode	ID state	German state ID
ppg	party group	Abbreviation of party name (string variable)
ppg1	ID party group	Party ID
termnum	number of term	ID for term
cterm	number of term (state)	ID for term (state-specific)
abst0	ID vote	ID for vote
gover	government party	1 Governing party 0 Opposition party
init	initiator	1 Party sponsored the motion voted upon 0 Not
init_reg	initiator gov	1 Motion is sponsored by government / governing parties 2 Motion is sponsored by opposition parties 3 Motion is co-sponsored by parties from government and opposition
init_right	initiator right PPG	1 Motion is sponsored by anti-system party 0 Motion is sponsored by other party
vote_ppg	vote(PPG)	1 Aye 4 Nay 7 Abstention
unanimity_ppg	unanimity	1 Unanimous vote 0 Not unanimous vote Note: Measure refers to the party level (i.e. deviations at the individual level are not considered) and is based on the vote of those parties that participated in the vote.
haushalt_finanzen	budget-related motion	1 Motion is related to the budget 0 Other

2. Replication data set for British House of Commons

File name: `bms_replic_uk.dta`

variable name	variable label	description
ID	ID for all votes	ID for vote
term	start of term	Beginning of term (parliament in British parlance)
date	date of division	Date at which division took place (YYYY-MM-DD)
vote_no	official number of division (per session)	Official ID for division Source: Official Hansards of the House of Commons
ppg_c	ppg code	Party ID
vote_ppg	voting behavior of ppg	1 Aye 2 Nay 3 Split vote
div_dec	decision in division	1 Question agreed to 0 Question negatived Note: Parliamentary decision as determined by the Speaker of the House. Source: Official Hansards of the House of Commons
gov_sponsor	motions sponsored by government	1 Motion is sponsored by government / governing parties 0 Motion is sponsored by opposition parties
sponsor_ppg_c	sponsoring ppg_c	1 Party sponsored the motion voted upon 0 Not
total_aye	total Ayes (Public Whip)	Total number of Ayes (source: publicwhip.org)
total_no	total Noes (Public Whip)	Total number of Noes (source: publicwhip.org)
total_mis	total unattended (Public Whip)	Total number of non-attending MPs Source: publicwhip.org
att_rate	attendance rate (perc MPs voting/all MPs)	Attendance rate at a vote (in percent)
unanimity	unanimity of those ppgs voting	1 Unanimous vote 0 Not unanimous vote Note: Measure refers to the party level (i.e. deviations at the individual level are not considered) and is based on the vote of those parties that participated in the vote.
privatememb_dy	private member bills (Fridays)	1 Private members' business 0 Other motion Note: Determined on the basis of the topical orders of the Official Hansards of the House of Commons.
freevote	freevote	1 Free vote 0 Whipped vote Source: Priddy, Sarah. 2015. Free votes in the House of Commons since 1997. No. SN04793 in "Commons Briefing papers". London: House of Commons Library.

Note: The dataset contains 3260 divisions out of all 3272 divisions that have been held in the period of investigation. 12 divisions have been discarded as www.publicwhip.org [accessed 1 Jun 2015] did not contain any information on voting behavior.