Codebook for the replication data of "Assessing the Conservative Nature of the Supreme Court of Japan via Ideal Point Estimation of Justices"

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This file explains the overview of the CSV files included in the paper's replication materials and the variables therein.

voting_records.csv

This file contains the main data of this paper—that is, human-coded justices' positions in non-unanimous cases. The meanings of the variables are as follows:

filename: Case ID number, derived from the names of PDF files downloaded from the official court database in Japan. You can access the decision text of each case at https://www.courts.go.jp/app/hanrei_jp/detail2?id=[filename].
date: The date of the judgment or decision.
author: A dummy variable indicating that the case was coded solely by the author. See Appendices A.3 and C.6 for relevant information.

The remaining columns, which are headed by the justices' names in Japanese, consist of dummy variables that take the value one if the justice took the minority side in the case and zero if the justice took the majority side.

I apologize for the inconvenience caused to readers who cannot read Japanese; I kept the variable names in Japanese because replacing them with English would require complicated modifications in the replication codes. Please refer to justice_data.csv if you want to identify justices' names in English.

case_data.csv

This file includes detailed information about cases. The information was extracted from the official database of the courts in Japan, and the variables correspond to the tables

displayed at https://www.courts.go.jp/app/hanrei_jp/detail2?id=[V1] (thus, all contents in this file are in Japanese). Only V1, V2, and V3 are used in this study, but I provide the other variables just for reference.

V1: Case ID number, which can be linked to "filename" in voting_records.csv.
V2: Official case code.
V3: Case name.
V4: The date of the judgment or decision in the Japanese calendar.
V5: Court to which the case was assigned.
V6: The type of the case (judgment or decision).
V7: Results.
V8: Page number in the official casebooks.
V9: Court of the original judgment or decision.
V10: Official case code of the original judgment or decision.
V11: The date of the original judgment or decision in the Japanese calendar.
V12: Primary issues.
V13: Summary.
V14: Related laws and their article numbers.

justice_data.csv

This file includes information about the justices. The variables are defined as follows:

name: Name of the justice in Japanese.
english: Name of the justice in English.
begin: Start date of the justice's tenure.
end: End date of the justice's tenure.
career: Previous career of the justice, categorized as follows: 1 = lower court judge, 2 = attorney, 3 = prosecutor, 4 = senior bureaucrat, and 5 = law scholar.
chief: A dummy variable indicating whether the justice served as the Chief Justice.
Yamamoto: Yamamoto's (1994) assessment of the justice's ideological position: L = liberal and C = conservative.
Tokyoso: The justice's position in the Tokyo-to Kyoso case: m = majority opinion, c = concurring opinion, and d = dissenting opinion.
Zennorin: The justice's position in the Zennorin Keishokuho case: m = majority opinion,

c = concurring opinion, and d = dissenting opinion.
Hayakawa: The justice's rank according to Hayakawa (1978).
Osawa: The justice's rank according to Osawa (1978).
Bushimata: The justice's score in Bushimata (1980).
lib: The number of cases in which the justice took a liberal position, according to Itoh's (2010) coding.
con: The number of cases in which the justice took a conservative position, according to Itoh's (2010) coding.

Please refer to the paper's reference list for the bibliography information.

court_opinion_data.csv

This file contains pre-coded data of justices' opinions in cases that were coded by legal experts and the author. It includes the same variables as voting_records.csv except for "author." However, the interpretation of the dummy variables in the columns named after justices differs from those in voting_records.csv. In this file, zero indicates that the justice wrote a concurring or dissenting opinion in the case, whereas one indicates that the justice did not.

coding_data_1.csv, coding_data_2.csv, and coding_data_3.csv

These files contain the coding results from Coders #1, #2, and #3, respectively. The meanings of "filename" and "date" are the same as in voting_records.csv. For the columns with justice names as headings, zero indicates that the coder considered the justice to be on the majority side, while one indicates that the coder considered the justice to be on the minority side. For further details, see Appendices A.2 and A.3.