Replication Procedure

This document details the steps that led to the results in tables 1 to 4 in "Individuals in Securitization: Explaining US Presidents' Choice to (De)Securitize North Korea." The operational codes and leadership traits of Bill Clinton and George W. Bush were ascertained via an automated at-a-distance content analysis using *Profiler Plus* (https://profilerplus.org; see Levine and Young 2014). I sourced the verbal material from the American Presidency Project database (https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu) within specific timeframes (see bullet points below). For the operational code analysis, I adjusted grammatical subjects in the texts that referred to the self in meaning but did not do so grammatically. For example, 'the United States' was changed to 'our nation' so that the Verbs in Context System (see Schafer and Walker 2006) could recognize that the president was speaking about the self, not other actors. Following the steps below will reproduce my results. However, it must be considered that I used version 7.3.18 of *Profiler Plus*. Another version may generate deviating results. Furthermore, the coding schemes underlying the automated leadership trait analysis (LTA) and operational code analysis (OCA) on *Profiler Plus* may be altered in the future.

- I converted each word document containing the material from a specific timeframe into a UTF-8 text file. This resulted in the following text files:
    - LTA Clinton (16/5-7/10/1994)
    - LTA Bush (11/9/2001-28/1/2002)
    - OCA Clinton (4/4-19/4/1994)
    - OCA Clinton (6/7-18/7/1994)
    - OCA Clinton (3/10-17/10/1994)
    - OCA Bush (17/7-26/7/2001)
    - OCA Bush (15/10-28/10/2001)
    - OCA Bush (14/1-28/1/2002)

- Following the submission of the UTF-8 files to Profiler Plus, I received an email for each text file including the results of the analysis. LTA scores do not require any additional calculations. OCA results provide the final scores for P-1, P-2, I-1, and I-2, but they may also be calculated using the formulas available at https://www.psycldataset.com/faq/. This is required if the analyst would like to know the other operational code beliefs as well. Because I only reported the four beliefs mentioned above in my article, this step may not be necessary for the replication of my results. However, because I wanted to see the other beliefs too, I calculated all scores via an Excel sheet with the embedded formulas (see file "OCA formulas with scores.xlsx").[1]

- To further interpret the two presidents' distrust and beliefs, I compared them to a norming group of other US presidents, ranging from Theodore Roosevelt to Donald Trump but excluding Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. The scores for each of these presidents were taken from https://www.psycldataset.com (see file "Norming group including z-score calculations.xlsx"). I calculated the z-scores using the formula $z = (x - \mu) / \sigma$. More details can be found in the Excel sheet.

[1] This information is relevant because it explains why the raw scores used for the calculation of the z-scores have more decimals than the P-1, P-2, I-1, and I-2 scores in the Profiler Plus results received via email.

References

Levine, Nick, and Michael Young. 2014. “Leadership Trait Analysis and Threat Assessment with Profiler Plus.” Proceedings of ILC 2014 on 8th International Lisp Conference, Montreal, QC, Canada—August 14–17, 2014. Association for Computing Machinery.

Schafer, Mark, and Joshua E. Lambert. 2022. “Psychological Characteristics of Leaders (PsyCL): A New Data Set.” *Foreign Policy Analysis* 18 (2): 1–11.

Schafer, Mark, and Stephen G. Walker. 2006. “Operational Code Analysis at a Distance: The Verbs in Context System of Content Analysis.” In *Beliefs and Leadership in World Politics: Methods and Applications of Operational Code Analysis*, edited by Mark Schafer and Stephen G. Walker, 25–53. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.