Codebook for Measuring Congressional Partisanship and Its Consequences

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This document provides the names, descriptions, coding and source for the variables used in the analyses.

MeasuringCongressionalPartisanship_LSQ_CongressionalTermData.dta

Variable	Description	Coding	Source
congress	Congressional term	114/115	Voteview
chamber	House or Senate string variable	House/Senate	Voteview
icpsr	Unique ICPSR identifier for member		Voteview
state_icpsr	State ICPSR identifier for member		Voteview
district_code	House member's district code		Voteview
state_abbrev	State abbreviation		Voteview
party_code	Member's political party	100 = Democrat; 200 = Republican; 328 = Independent	Voteview
bioname	Member's name		Voteview
bioguide_id	Unique bioguide identifier for member		Voteview
born	Year born	Numeric variable [1929,1984]	Voteview
nominate_dim1	DW-NOMINATE (1st dimension)	Coding details at www.voteview.com	Voteview
lugar_center	Lugar Center Bipartisanship Score	Numerical variable [-2.03, 3.167]	Lugar Center
districtpartisanship	Presidential candidate's two-party vote share in the previous election	Numeric variable [0.26, 0.97]	Cook Political Report
party_leader	Dichotomous measure for whether member is a party leader (top 2 in Senate, top 3 in House)	0 = No; 1 = Yes	US House; US Senate
committee_chair	Dichotomous measure for whether member is a committee chair	0 = No; 1 = Yes	US House; US Senate
ranking_member	Dichotomous measure of whether member is a ranking member	0 = No; 1 = Yes	US House; US Senate
partisantweets	# of partisan tweets sent by MC	Numeric variable [0, 8002]	Gelman and Wilson
totaltweets	# of total tweets sent by MC	Numeric variable [0, 28501]	Gelman and Wilson
negtweets	% of partisan tweets that are negative	[0,1]	Gelman and Wilson

negpartisantweets	% of tweets that are partisan and negative	[0,1]	Gelman and Wilson
majority	Dichotomous measure for whether member is in majority party.	0 = minority; 1 = majority	Center for Effective Lawmaking
elected	Year Elected	Numeric range [1964, 2018]	Center for Effective Lawmaking
omit	Members who did not tweet enough or whose tweets were not collected	0 = keep; 1 = omit	Gelman and Wilson
partisan_total	% of partisan tweets sent by MC	[0,1]	Gelman and Wilson
neg_part	% of partisan tweets that are negative	[0,1]	Gelman and Wilson
neg_part_total	% of tweets that are partisan and negative	[0,1]	Gelman and Wilson
ideologue	Absolute value of nominate_dim1	Coding details at www.voteview.com	Voteview
senate	Numerical variable for chamber	0 = House; 1 = Senate	Voteview
weighted_partisan	Weighed partisanship measure based on tweeting frequency	Numeric variable [0, 0.57]	Gelman and Wilson
Age	Age as of 2017	2017 - Born	Voteview
terms_served	Calculated by subtracting year congressional term starts from the elected variable and dividing by 2. This variable is rounded.	Numerical variable [0, 27]	Center for Effective Lawmaking
rep94	Dichotomous measure for whether Republican was elected in 1994	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Center for Effective Lawmaking
dem06	Dichotomous measure for whether Democrat was elected in 2006	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Center for Effective Lawmaking
dem08	Dichotomous measure for whether Republican was elected in 2008	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Center for Effective Lawmaking
rep10	Dichotomous measure for whether Republican was elected in 2010	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Center for Effective Lawmaking
cong115	Dichotomous measure for whether Congress = 115	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Voteview
republican	Dichotomous measure for whether member is a Republican	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Voteview

leadership	Dichotomous measure for whether member is a party leader, committee chair, or ranking member	0 = No; 1 = Yes	US House; US Senate
partymeddist2	Member's ideological distance from party median (using DW-NOMINATE scores)	Numeric variable [-0.342, 0.468]	Voteview

MeasuringCongressionalPartisanship_LSQ_AnnualData.dta

Variable	**Description**	**Coding**	**Source**
congress	Congressional term	114/115	Voteview
year	Year	2015-2018	Voteview
chamber	House or Senate string variable	House/Senate	Voteview
icpsr	Unique ICPSR identifier for member		Voteview
state_icpsr	State ICPSR identifier for member		Voteview
district_code	House member's district code		Voteview
state_abbrev	State abbreviation		Voteview
party_code	Member's political party	100 = Democrat; 200 = Republican; 328 = Independent	Voteview
bioname	Member's name		Voteview
presidential_support	Presidential Support Score, as calculated by *Congressional Quarterly*	Numeric variable [0,100]	CQ
party_unity_support	Member's Party Unity Voting Score, as calculated by *Congressional Quarterly*	Numeric variable [47,100]	CQ
bioguide_id	Unique bioguide identifier for member		Voteview
born	Year member was born	Numeric variable [1929,1984]	Voteview
nominate_dim1	DW-NOMINATE (1st dimension)	Coding details at www.voteview.com	Voteview
districtpartisanship	Presidential candidate's two-party vote share in the previous election	Numeric variable [0.26, 0.97]	Cook Political Report

party_leader	Dichotomous measure for whether member is a party leader (top 2 in Senate, top 3 in House)	0 = No; 1 = Yes	US House; US Senate
committee_chair	Dichotomous measure for whether member is a committee chair	0 = No; 1 = Yes	US House; US Senate
ranking_member	Dichotomous measure of whether member is a ranking member	0 = No; 1 = Yes	US House; US Senate
majority	Dichotomous measure for whether member is in majority party.	0 = minority; 1 = majority	Center for Effective Lawmaking
elected	Year Elected	Numeric range [1964, 2018]	Center for Effective Lawmaking
senate	Numerical variable for chamber	0 = House; 1 = Senate	Voteview
age	Age as of 2017	2017 - Born	Voteview
terms_served	Calculated by subtracting year congressional term starts from the elected variable and dividing by 2. This variable is rounded.	Numerical variable [0, 27]	Center for Effective Lawmaking
rep94	Dichotomous measure for whether Republican was elected in 1994	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Center for Effective Lawmaking
dem06	Dichotomous measure for whether Democrat was elected in 2006	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Center for Effective Lawmaking
dem08	Dichotomous measure for whether Republican was elected in 2008	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Center for Effective Lawmaking
rep10	Dichotomous measure for whether Republican was elected in 2010	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Center for Effective Lawmaking
cong115	Dichotomous measure for whether Congress = 115	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Voteview
republican	Dichotomous measure for whether member is a Republican	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Voteview
leadership	Dichotomous measure for whether member is	0 = No; 1 = Yes	US House; US Senate

	a party leader, committee chair, or ranking member		
totaltweets	# of total tweets sent by MC	# of total tweets sent by MC	Gelman and Wilson
partisantweets	# of partisan tweets sent by MC	# of partisan tweets sent by MC	Gelman and Wilson
recipientcfscore	Estimated ideology of candidate/recipient based on donations received.	Numeric variable [-1.72,1.43]	DIME
partisan_total	% of partisan tweets sent by MC (partisantweets/ totaltweets)	Numeric variable [0,1]	Gelman and Wilson
omit	MCs who posted less than 25 times per year or whose data was not collected	0 = keep; 1 = omit	Gelman and Wilson
weighted_partisan	Weighed partisanship measure based on tweeting frequency	Numeric variable [0,0.81]	Gelman and Wilson
unfolded_partisan	partisan_total*-1 if MC is not in president's party	Numeric variable [-1,0.86]	Gelman and Wilson
unfolded_weighted	weighted_partisan*-1 if MC is not in president's party	Numeric variable [-0.81,0.63]	Gelman and Wilson
nonpresparty_leader	Dichotomous variable for whether MC is a party leader and in the party opposite the president	0 = No; 1 = Yes	US House; US Senate
presparty_leader	Dichotomous variable for whether MC is a party leader and in the same party as the president	0 = No; 1 = Yes	US House; US Senate
presparty_committeeleader	Dichotomous variable for whether MC is a committee leader and in the same party as the president	0 = No; 1 = Yes	US House; US Senate
nonpresparty_committeeleader	Dichotomous variable for whether MC is a committee leader and	0 = No; 1 = Yes	US House; US Senate

	in the party opposite the president		
Trump_CF	Donald Trump's CFscore	1.29	DIME
Obama_CF	Barack Obama's CFscore	-1.16	DIME
pres_dist	Absolute ideological distance from the president (using CFscores)	Numeric variable [0, 3.01]	DIME
pres_party	Dichotomous variable for whether an MC is a member of president's party	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Voteview
partymeddist	Absolute ideological distance from party median (based on DW-NOMINATE)	Numeric variable [0,0.47]	Voteview
dist_part	Unfolded district partisanship measure	Numeric variable [-0.938, 0.967]	Cook Political Report

partisanevents_LSQ.data

Variable	Description	Coding	Source
date	Date during 114th & 115th Congresses	Stata Date	Gelman and Wilson
partisantweet	# of partisan tweets sent by MCs	Numeric variable [8,2684]	Gelman and Wilson
totaltweets	# of tweets sent by MCs	Numeric variable [185,5562]	Gelman and Wilson
partisan_event	Dichotomous variable for whether a partisan event (as defined in Table 1 and footnote 23) occurred	0 = No; 1 = Yes	Gelman and Wilson
partisan_total	% of tweets that are partisan (partisantweet/totaltweets)	Numeric variable [0.16, 0.58]	Gelman and Wilson

partyaccounts_LSQ.dta

Variable	Description	Coding	Source
account	Twitter account handle		Gelman and Wilson
partisantweet	# of partisan tweets sent by MCs	Numeric variable [8,2684]	Gelman and Wilson
totaltweets	# of tweets sent by MCs	Numeric variable [185,5562]	Gelman and Wilson

congress	Congressional term	114/115	Gelman and Wilson
partisan_total	% of tweets that are partisan (partisantweet/totaltweets)	Numeric variable [0.16, 0.58]	Gelman and Wilson

Sources:

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CQ:
Congressional Quarterly. Congress Collection – Party Unity Votes: 2015-2018. https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/cq-press-library-database-collections#congress

Congressional Quarterly. Congress Collection – Presidential Support Scores: 2015-2018. https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/cq-press-library-database-collections#congress

DIME:
Bonica, Adam. Database on Ideology, Money in Politics, and Elections: 1980-2018 Election Cycles. [Computer file]
https://web.stanford.edu/~bonica/data.html. [Last Accessed: December 22, 2020]

Gelman and Wilson:
Gelman and Wilson collected members of Congress's tweets from 2015 through 2018 and classified them as partisan or not using a neural network. The code to replicate the neural network is available in the replication files. Twitter's terms of service do not allow sharing of tweet data at the scale we have collected. However, we have provided files of tweet id's and their coding as partisan or not.

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