Updating the *Party Government* data set[‡]

Public Release Version 2.0

Codebook for "Data Set 3: Government Partisanship"

September 15, 2016

Katsunori Seki[§]   Laron K. Williams[¶]

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1 Overview

This codebook describes the process used to generate the government partisanship data ("Data Set 3: Government Partisanship") used in *Updating the Party Government Data Set* (Seki and Williams 2014). This version (Version 2.0) of the data set includes information about governments by the end of December 31, 2014 if *Political Data Yearbook* of *European Journal of Political Research* has coverage.

1.1 Location

The SW dataset can be found in the following locations:

- Personal website: faculty.missouri.edu/ williamslaro/data
- Harvard Dataverse: dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/laronwilliams

1.2 Citation

Please use the following citation if you use or reference the Seki-Williams update to the *Party Government* dataset:

Katsunori Seki and Laron K. Williams (2014). "Updating the *Party Government* Data Set." *Electoral Studies*. 34: 270-279.

1.3 Acknowledgements

This project would not be possible without the helpful research assistance of Jessica Anderson, Rachel Dicke, Colton Heffington, Jonathan Martin, Tyson Mererdith, Brandon Park, Krisztina Pusok and Murat Yildirim. We also thank Osnat Akirav, Cantay Caliskan, Martial Foucault, Indridi H. Indridason, Michael T. Koch, Moritz Osnabrügge, Jason M. Smith, Zeynep Somer-Topcu, and Guy D. Whitten for their invaluable comments on various versions of this data collection.

1.4 Missing MARPOR Data

The Manifesto Research on Political Representation (MARPOR) data is missing for some elections completely (especially for Israel and Japan) and some government parties. Table 1 shows the elections in the government data set that lack MARPOR data for all of the parties for that election. As you can see, some countries are not in the MARPOR data set at all, while the elections immediately following WWII and the latest elections are the most likely to be completely missing.

Table 2 shows a few prominent government parties that lacked MARPOR data (not including independents or non-partisans) as well as the overall percentage of government-controlled seats that have missing MARPOR data. These are not government parties that merely lacked data because none of the parties for that election were coded (such as in Table 1), but parties whose

Table 1: Elections Containing Government Data but Not MARPOR Data

Country	Election
Austria	1945, 2013
Belgium	1939, 2014
Bulgaria	2014
Cyprus	1976, 1981, 1985, 1991
France	1945, 1946 (June)
Greece	1946, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1956, 1958, 1961, 1963, 1964
Iceland	1942
Israel	2003, 2006, 2009, 2013
Japan	1946, 1947, 1949, 1952, 1953, 1955, 1958, 2014
Latvia	2011, 2014
Malta	1962, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1987, 1992, 2003, 2008, 2013
New Zealand	2014
Norway	2013
Portugal	1979, 1980
Slovenia	2014
Sri Lanka	1989-present
Sweden	2014
Switzerland	1943
Turkey	1946

manifestos were not coded for that election. Oftentimes they are splinter parties, independents, or personalistic parties that did not offer manifestos.

From this we can see some notable governments where we lack MARPOR data for a significant portion of the government parties. For example, Bulgaria #11, Czech Republic #4, and Italy #62 have over half of the government party percentage missing data. For these governments, one should be cautious about using the partisanship variables since they do not accurately reflect the weighted government position. Since missing data are most common for recent elections, there is a chance the MARPOR will add data for those parties in future releases. At future releases, we will fill in these values if available.

Each party's share of the government seats, p_i, takes into account the availability of MARPOR data. First calculate each party's number of seats with available MARPOR data for that election, s_i. This is either the number of parliamentary seats controlled by that party (if MARPOR data are available), or 0 (if MARPOR data are not available). To calculate p_i, we use the following:

$$p_i = \frac{s_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{N} s_i} \tag{1}$$

Calculating the government partisanship including these parties with missing data would require making assumptions (such as a value of *partisanship* of 0) that are not reasonable. For example, consider the Greek government with a `govtseq` value of 58 shown in Table 3. This case

Table 2: Prominent Government Parties Missing MARPOR Data

Country	Election	Government	Name	Seats	% Missing
Belgium	1946	4, 5	KPB	23	21.1
Bulgaria	2013	11	KB	84	70.0
Czech Republic	1996	4	US	31	51.6
Israel	1949	1, 2, 3	URF	16	36.1
		1, 2, 3	SEPH	5	36.1
		1, 2, 3	PROG	5	36.1
	1951	4	URF	15	25.0
		5, 6, 7	HMIZ	8	17.7
		5, 6, 7	PROG	4	17.7
		5, 6, 7	MIZR	2	17.7
	1988	34	PZI	5	13.6
	1996	42	Gesher	5	16.1
Italy	1996	56	UDR	27	20.7
		56	SDI	9	20.7
	1996	57, 58	PDCI	35	19.7
		57, 58	UDEUR	27	19.7
	2008	62	FI	276	82.1
Latvia	1993	2	TPA	4	10
	1995	5	TB-LNNK	22	33.8
		6	TB-LNNK	22	46.8
	2006	18	V	21	48.8
Lithuania	2004	12	PDP	11	18.6
Macedonia	1998	4, 5, 6, 7, 8	DPA	11	15.1
	2002	9, 10, 11	DUI	16	22.5
	2006	12	DPA	11	31.7
		12	NSDP	7	31.7
New Zealand	1993	23	UF	7	14.0
Poland	2001	13	SDPL	32	16.0
Romania	2008	19	UNPR	17	10.4
		20	UNPR	33	14.5
	2012	22	PNL	100	36.6
Slovakia	1992	5	APR	10	21.7
Slovenia	2011	15	ZaAB	10	21.7
Turkey	1961	11, 13	YTP	65	43.6
		11, 13	CKMP	54	43.6

illustrates the difference between the percentage of government seats that each party controls and the percentage that we use to calculate the partisanship values (p_i). Since LAOS is missing data for that election, it has 0 non-missing seats and its value of p is 0. It is not a part of the calculated government partisanship values and PASOK and ND make up the rest of the percentages. Keep in mind that the following government is a caretaker government, so one might consider recoding these as missing values.

Table 3: Greek Government #58: Calculation of Non-Missing Government Seats

	Party Code	Seats (s_i)	Non-Missing Seats	% of Government Seats (p_i)	% of Non-Missing Government Seats
PASOK	34313	160	160	60.5	64.6
ND	34511	91	91	33.2	35.4
LAOS	34710	15	0	6.3	0
Total		266	251	100	100

1.5 Weighting

Since the unit of analysis of the datasets created in the Stata do files ("Governments–Time Dimension.do", "Generate Government Party Data Set–Version 2.0.dta", and "Generate Government Partisanship–Version 2.do") is the government/time period, incorporating those variables in a data set requires some additional work to avoid including duplicate observations. In short, there are sometimes multiple governments per year, so some decisions need to be made about how to appropriately combine the multiple observations into a single year. We have elected to do the following:

1. If one government has missing data for the year, instead of having missing data for the entire year, we put the available data for the entire year. For example, assume that there are two governments for that year, Government A and Government B, but Government B has missing data. We use the partisanship values for Government A for that year.

2. If multiple governments have available data throughout a year, we weight the two governments by the percentage of the year that the governments lasted. For example, if Government A occupies January 1 through March 31 (90-91 days, depending on the Leap Year) and Government B lasts from April 1 through December 31 (275 days), then the partisanship variables for that year will be weighted 24.7% by Government A and 75.3% by Government B.

To get an idea of what sort of weighting occurs at each year, we include the number of governments within the year (`govinyear`) and the percentage of governments with completely missing data (`percgovmiss`), both described below.

1.6 Data Availability

Only those countries that have Seki-Williams government composition data *and* MARPOR data are found in the annual government partisanship dataset. We have listed the last government for each country for which we have both data in Table 4. For the vast majority of countries, we have both data sources for up until the last election (for prominent exceptions, see Israel and Japan). These countries have observations in the dataset through 2014, though there may be some missing values following the most recent election (if MARPOR has not coded it yet). Other countries—such as Sri Lanka–only have data from 1947-1978, and so they only appear in the annual dataset for those years.

Table 4: Last Government with Both Seki-Williams Government Composition and MARPOR Data Available

Country	Gov't #	Start	End	Country	Gov't #	Start	End
Australia	37	18sep2013	31dec2014	Japan	57	24dec2014	31dec2014
Austria	29	02dec2008	16dec2013	Latvia	19	02nov2010	25oct2011
Belgium	46	06dec2011	27may2014	Lithuania	17	27jul2014	31dec2014
Bulgaria	12	06aug2014	07nov2014	Luxembourg	21	04dec2013	31dec2014
Canada	27	18may2011	31dec2014	Macedonia	11	17dec2004	26aug2006
Croatia	10	23dec2011	31dec2014	Malta	9	08sep1998	15apr2003
Cyprus	20	12mar2014	31dec2014	Netherlands	31	05nov2012	31dec2014
Czech Republic	15	29jan2014	31dec2014	New Zealand	31	14dec2011	08oct2014
Denmark	37	03feb2014	31dec2014	Norway	30	20oct2009	16oct2013
Estonia	14	26mar2014	31dec2014	Poland	20	22sep2014	31dec2014
Finland	55	26sep2014	31dec2014	Portugal	19	21jun2011	31dec2014
France	68	31mar2014	31dec2014	Romania	24	17dec2014	31dec2014
Germany	31	17dec2013	31dec2014	Slovakia	12	04apr2012	31dec2014
Great Britain	24	19may2010	31dec2014	Slovenia	15	31may2014	18sep2014
Greece	61	22feb2014	31dec2014	Spain	12	20dec2011	31dec2014
Hungary	11	04may2014	31dec2014	Sri Lanka	17	06feb1978	18feb1989
Iceland	30	23may2013	31dec2014	Sweden	29	05oct2010	03oct2014
Ireland	25	09mar2011	31dec2014	Switzerland	72	03dec2014	31dec2014
Israel	52	02nov2002	27feb2003	Turkey	42	14mar2003	05sep2007
Italy	68	22feb2014	31dec2014	USA	36	20jan2013	31dec2014

2 Description of Variables

2.1 Identifier Variables

We include a variety of variables that identify the observations and increase the dataset's compatibility with other commonly-used cross-national datasets.

- `ccode`: *Correlates of War* country code

- `ts`: Year in annual `Stata` time series format

- `govinyear`: number of different governments within that year. For those years that experience government changes, the values of this variable will be greater than 1.

- `percgovmiss`: percentage of governments in that year that have completely missing MARPOR data.

- `cow`: *Correlates of War* country code.

- `imf`: IMF's *International Financial Statistics* country code.

- `wdi`: World Bank's *World Development Indicators* country code.

- `marpor`: Comparative Manifesto Project (Version 2016a) country code.

2.2 Partisanship Variables

We include three measures of partisanship based on the ideological complexion of government and parliament, or *CPG* (see *Codebook 1: Governments* for more detail). Though the values of the original variable range from 1 (representing right-wing dominance) to 5 (representing left-wing dominance), there may be observations with non-integer values. These are the observations that are weighted based on the time each government lasts through the calendar year.

- `cpg_wkb2000`: this version provides an exact copy of the `cpg` variable found in the Woldendorp et al. (2000) volume (and is thus only available until the mid-1990s).

- `cpg_wkb2011`: this version provides an exact copy of the `cpg` variable found in the Woldendorp et al. (2011) update.

- `cpg_sw2014`: this version is the Seki and Williams update, and includes a series of adjustments and corrections (these are outlined in the codebook). This variable is available for every government in the dataset.

We create annual government and PM partisanship values for the following MARPOR variables: `rile`, `planeco`, `markeco`, `welfare`, `intpeace`, `per101` - `per706`. Note that the Stata code that generates the annual dataset can easily be modified to include additional MARPOR measures or user-generated variables (such as those below).

We create three composite measures that have been used by other scholars in their analyses:

- `ecopos`: `per401` + `per402` + `per407` + `per414` - (`per403` + `per404` + `per405` + `per406` + `412`). This is a composite pragmatic economic issue domain.

  Tavits, Margit (2007). "Principle vs. Pragmatism: Policy Shifts and Political Competition" *American Journal of Political Science* 51.1: 151-165.

- `econ4`: this is a composite measure of all the categories in the "400" domain representing Economics. Higher values represent parties that emphasize the economy more in their manifestos.

  Williams, Laron K., Katsunori Seki and Guy D. Whitten (2016). "You've Got Some Explaining to Do: The Influence of Economic Conditions and Spatial Competition on Party Strategy." *Political Science Research and Methods*. 4.1: 47-63.

- `hawk`: `per104` - `per105` - `per106`. Whitten and Williams (2011) use this as a measure of governments' preference for international involvement, as it represents statements in favor of the military minus statements against the military and in favor of peace; low values represent "doves" and high values represent "hawks".

  Whitten, Guy D. and Laron K. Williams (2011). "Buttery Guns and Welfare Hawks: The Politics of Defense Spending in Advanced Industrial Democracies." *American Journal of Political Science*. 55.1: 117-134.