Origin of Variables in the First and Second Data Sets

Congress, the Press, and Political Accountability
R. Douglas Arnold

This table reports the origin for each variable in the first and second data sets. There are three types of variables.

- 1. **Original data** (68 variables) refers to the information that my assistants coded from 9,125 newspaper articles. See "Coding Newspaper Articles in the First and Second Data Sets" for the precise coding instructions that my assistants followed.
- 2. **Process generated** (3 variables) and **investigator** (6 variables) refers to information that was added by the database system or by the principal investigator.
- 3. **Recode** (48 variables) refers to variables that are based on one or more original variables.

original data

CAUTION. The principal investigator and his assistants have taken great care in creating the original data. He is reasonably comfortable about the accuracy and reliability of these variables. Users should be more cautious in using the recoded data. I have created these for my own use and I have not been as careful about documenting each variable or deleting variables that had problems.

VARIABLE	DESCRIPTION	ORIGIN

DOC	Document ID	recode (repnum, story)
PHASE	Phase of Study	investigator
REPNUM	Representative	original data
STORY	Story Number	original data
DATE	Story Date	original data
SECTION	Section	original data
PAGE	Page Number	original data
PAGEONE	Section and Page	recode (section, page)
PAGEONE2	Section and Page	recode (pageone, type2)
WORDS	Number of Words	original data
HDLINE	Representative in Headline	original data
BYLINE	Reporter's Name	original data
DATELINE	Story's Origin	original data
PHOTO	Representative in Photo	original data
HEADPHOT	Rep in Headline or Photo	recode (hdline, photo)
TYPE	Story Type	original data
TYPE2	Story Type	recode (type)
NEWSOPIN	News or Opinion	recode (type)
ABOUT	Main Subject of Story	original data
CENTRAL	Centrality of Representative	original data
CENTRAL2	Centrality (Inverse)	recode (central)
CENT	Centrality	recode (central)
LISTONLY	Representative Only in List	recode (type, central)
VALENCE	Valence from Rep's Perspective	original data

Information in List

LIST

LISTREP	List Mentions Representative	recode (list, listonly, type)
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ISSUEAMost Prominent Issueoriginal dataISSUEBSecond Prominent Issueoriginal dataISSUECThird Prominent Issueoriginal dataISSUEA1Most Prominent Issue -- Collapsedrecode (issuea)ISSUEPTPosition Taking Issuerecode (issuea, bill)

Mentions Abortion Policy original data **ABORTN** Mentions Proposal to Reduce Deficit original data **DEFICIT** Mentions Proposal to Control Crime original data CRIME **GAYS** Mentions Proposal About Gays in Military original data Mentions Proposal to Regulate Guns original data **GUNS CONTRCT** Mentions Contract with America original data Mentions Health Care Reform original data **HEALTH** Mentions NAFTA original data **NAFTA**

ISSUEMEN Number of Issues Mentioned (of 7) recode (abortn to nafta, but not contrct)

ROLEA Representative's Principal Role in Story original data ROLEB Secondary Role original data

CASEWORK Casework for Individual Constituents recode (rolea, roleb)
VISIT Visit Constituency recode (rolea, roleb)
CANDIDAT Candidate in Electoral Contest recode (rolea, roleb)

GEOAGT Local Agent original data
GEOPROT Local Protector original data

GEOBOTH Local Advocate recode (geoagt, geoprot)

GRPAGT Group Agent original data
GENAGT General Agent original data
COMLDR Committee Leader original data
SUBLDR Subcommittee Leader original data
COMMEM Committee Member original data

COMM Committee Member or Leader recode (comldr, subldr, commem)

COMACT Committee Member or Leader recode (comldr, subldr, commem)

COMACT2 Committee Member recode (type, comact, hearing, markup)

COMACT3 Committee Member recode (type, comact, hearing, markup)

COMACT4Committee Member Actsrecode (comact3)PTYLDRParty Leaderoriginal dataCAULDRCaucus Leaderoriginal data

LDRACTS Leader Acts recode (comldr, subldr, ptyldr, cauldr, coalitn)

LAWACTS Law Making Activities recode (intro, comact4, ldracts)

Representative Discusses Problem original data **PROBLEM** Representative Proposes Solution original data **SOLUTION** Representative Offers Views original data **VIEWS INTRO** Representative Introduces Bill original data **ENDORSE** Representatve Endorses Bill original data Representative in Committee Hearing original data **HEARING** Representative in Committee Markup original data **MARKUP** Representative Builds Coalition original data **COALITN**

ACTION Law-Making Activities recode (endorse, hearing, markup, coalitn)

POSITION Position Taking recode (views, endorse, ptaking)

POSIT2	Representative Takes Position	recode (position)
PTAKING	Representative Takes Position	original data
PTAKING2	Representative Takes Position	recode (ptaking)
RCVOTE	Roll Call Vote	recode (ptaking)
RCVTYPE	Roll Call Vote Mentioned	recode (revote, type2, listonly)
BILL	Subject of Bill	original data
KEYVOTE	One of 30 Key Votes	recode (bill)
MAJVOTE	One of 9 Major Votes	recode (bill)
POLCONF	Story Reveals Basic Policy Conflict	original data
EXPLAN		original data
	Offers Rep's Explanation for Position	recode (explan)
EXPLAN2	Offers Rep's Explanation for Position	
CRITICON	Representative Criticized For	original data
CRITICBY	Representative Criticized By	original data
CRITIC	Any Criticism of Representative?	recode (criticon)
CRITIC1	Any Criticism	recode (critic)
RATKDFND	Representative Attacks/Defends Congress	original data
REPETHC	Ethical Problem of Representative	original data
CONETHC	Ethical Problem of Congress	original data
ETHCLINK	Rep's Connection to Ethical Problem	original data
PTYSUPP	Portrayed as Party Supporter or Opponent?	original data
PTYLINK	Who Portrays Rep as Party Supporter?	original data
PRESSUPP	Portrayed as Presidential Supporter?	original data
PRESLINK	Who Portrays Rep as Presidential Supporter?	original data
IDEOL	Portrayed in Ideological Terms?	original data
IDEOLINK	Who Portrays Rep in Ideological Terms?	original data
STAGE	Stage of Representative's 1994 Campaign	original data
STAGE2	Stage of Representative's 1994 Campaign	recode (stage)
CAMPAGN	Focus of Campaign Coverage	original data
CAMPAGN1	Campaign Coverage	recode (campagn)
CONTEST	Contested Election (n=21)	investigator
CHALCENT	Centrality of Challenger	original data
CHALVAL	Valence from Challenger's Perspective	original data
CATKDFND	Challenger Attacks/Defends Congress	original data
REPMEN	Number of Mentions of Representative	original data
CHALMEN	Number of Mentions of Challenger	original data
CHALMEN1	Any Mentions of Challenger	recode (chalmen)
CODERNUM	Coder Number	process generated
ENTRDATE	Date Information Entered into System	process generated
ID	Unique Case ID	process generated
SELECT	Story Selected By	investigator
DUPPAIRS	Number of Times Story Coded	investigator
WKDAY	Weekday of Story	recode (date)
WEEK	Week of Story	recode (date)
MONTH	Month of Story	recode (date)
YEAR	Year of Story	recode (date)
MONTHYR	Month and Year of Story	recode (date)
MONTHYR2	Year and Month of Story	recode (date)
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MONTHYR3	Four Month Periods	recode (date)
ONE25TH	One 25th of case	please ignore
ONE24TH	One 24th of case	please ignore
PRIMDATE	Primary Date	investigator
PRIMLS60	Sixty Days Before Primary Date	recode (primdate)
REPCOMP	Rep Name Comp Paper	recode (repnum)
COMPAPR	Any competing paper	investigator
COMPAP2	Competing paper	recode (compapr)