Leadership Change in Dictatorships, 1946-2008
Leadership Change in Dictatorships, leader-year format, 1946-2008
Ruling Coalitions in Dictatorships, 1946-2008

Codebook

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Citation

We ask the users of these datasets to cite them as:

> Milan Svolik. 2012. *The Politics of Authoritarian Rule*. New York: Cambridge University Pres.

This data extends and revises on an earlier dataset constructed with the research assistance of Seden Akcinaroglu. Michael Martin provided invaluable research assistance.

Authoritarian Leaders

Periods of dictatorship come from the "Authoritarian Spells, 1946 – 2008" dataset. Please see the codebook for that dataset for coding rules concerning the identification of regime types and authoritarian spells; see also Chapter 2 in the *Politics of Authoritarian Rule.*

Ruling Coalitions

A *ruling-coalition* consists of an uninterrupted succession in office of politically affiliated authoritarian leaders. These were identified using the variable "**pol_aff**" decribed below (see the STATA code file "create ruling coalition data from leader data.do"). See also Chapter 2 in the *Politics of Authoritarian Rule.*

Variables in the "Leadership Change in Dictatorships, 1946-2008" and "Leadership Change in Dictatorships, country-year format, 1946-2008"datasets

leadid   Leadership spell identifier from Goemans et al. (2005); additional identification numbers were assigned when new leaders were added

ccode   Country code from the Correlates of War (2005)

cabb   Country name abbreviation from the Correlates of War (2005)

leader   The name of the effective chief executive (differs from the nominal chief
                     executive in a few cases)

                     Example: In the Dominican Republic, Héctor Trujillo was the nominal
                     chief executive between 1952 and 1960 but actual power clearly resided
                     with his brother Rafael Trujillo. Trujillo is therefore coded as the effective
                     chief executive during the period.

startdate   The date of the leader's entry into office. I use Goemans et al. (2005)
                     whenever possible and collect additional information from historical
                     newspapers when a revision or an addition was needed.

enddate   The date of the leader's exit from office. I use Goemans et al. (2005)
                     whenever possible and collect additional information from historical
                     newspapers when a revision or an addition was needed.

censoring   An indicator of right-censoring:

                     0   if the leader continues in office beyond **enddate;**
                     1   if the leader leaves office on **enddate.**

consecutive   An indicator of whether the current leader entered into office immediately
                     after the preceding leader:

                     .   if the current leader is the first recorded leader for a country;
                     0   if the current leader does not enter into office immediately after the
                              preceding leader;
                     1   if the current leader enters into office immediately after the
                              preceding leader (a few ad hoc exceptions are made when there
                              was a gap of a few days, typically due to procedural issues).

entry   The manner by which the leader assumed office:

- civil war: the previous leader left office due to a civil war and the current
  leader either won the civil war or was installed as a leader by a peace
  conference or settlement;
- consensus: the leader was chosen consensually by a collective; typically in
  communist dictatorships and military juntas;
- coup: the leader came to power after an elite or military-led conspiracy
  deposed the previous leader by threating or using force;

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- elections: the leader won a general election;
- foreign: the leader was installed by a foreign intervention;
- independence: the leader entered office after a war of independence;
- interim: the leader assumed office for an explicitly stated temporary period and obeyed it; typically when
  - the previous leader leaves office due to natural causes, resigns, or is assassinated and the new leader is the constitutionally mandated successor *and* resigns at the end of the constitutionally mandated period;
  - the previous leader is forced out of office in a coup or revolution and the new leader is designated (often for idiosyncratic reasons) as a temporary successor *and* resigns from office within a year ;
- revolt: the leader participated in a mass protest, uprising, or riot that replaced the previous leader;
- succession: the leader succeeded the previous leader due to a customary or institutionalized dynastic succession;
- other: a residual category for entries into office that do not fit into any of the above.

exit   The manner by which the leader left office (coded as missing if the leader's tenure is right-censored):

- assassination: the leader was killed in an event that was not an organized attempt to replace him in power (and therefore does not qualify as a coup or revolt);
- civil war: the leader left office due to a civil war;
- consensus: the leader left office by a consensual collective decision; typically at the end of his term in communist dictatorships and military juntas;
- coup: the leader was deposed by an elite or military-led conspiracy that involved the threat or use of force;
- elections: the leader ran for re-election but lost;
- foreign: the leader was forced out of office as a result of a foreign intervention or interstate war;
- interim: the leader assumed office for an explicitly stated temporary period and obeyed it when he left; typically when
  - the previous leader left office due to natural causes, resigned, or was assassinated and the current leader was the constitutionally mandated successor *and* resigned at the end of the constitutionally mandated period;
  - the previous leader was forced out of office in a coup or revolution and the new leader was designated (often for idiosyncratic reasons) as a temporary successor *and* resigned from office within a year ;
  - this category also includes various rotation agreements as long as the mandated period in office has been explicitly stated and obeyed;

- <u>natural:</u> the leader left office due to sickness or death;
- <u>no contest:</u> a leader who was eligible to serve for another term if re-elected chose not to run for re-election;
- <u>resignation:</u> a leader voluntarily left office, typically to retire;
- <u>revolt:</u> the leader was forced out of office by a mass protest, uprising, strike, or riot (revolts among military units that led to the exit of a leader were coded as a revolt instead of coup if they involved mass public participation);
- <u>stepdown:</u> the leader left office due to events resulting in a transition to democracy;
- <u>term limit:</u> the leader left office because he was constitutionally prevented from serving for another term;
- <u>other:</u> a residual category for exits from office that do not fit into any of the above.

cen   An indicator of whether the leader's entry into office occurred according to written or customary rules:

0   if the leader's entry into office did not occur according to written or customary rules. Typically involves an entry by a coup, revolt, foreign intervention, civil war, and interim periods following exits by a coup, revolt, foreign intervention, or civil war;

1   if the leader's entry into office occurred according to written or customary rules. Typically involves an entry by an election, consensus, and interim periods following exits by an election or consensus.

cex   An indicator of whether the leader's exit from office occurred according to written or customary rules:

.   if the leader's tenure is right-censored;

0   if the leader's exit from office did not occur according to written or customary rules. Typically involves an exit by a coup, revolt, stepdown, assassination, foreign intervention, or civil war;

1   if the leader's exit from office occurred according to written or customary rules. Typically involves an exit by election, consensus, orresignation.

milentry   An indicator of whether the military overtly participated in the leader's entry into office:

0   no;

1   yes.

milexit   An indicator of whether the military overtly participated in the leader's exit from office:

.   if the leader's tenure is right-censored;
0   no;
1   yes.

ventry   An indicator of whether the leader's entry into office involved violence:

0   no;
1   yes.

vexit   An indicator of whether the leader's exit from office involved violence:

.   if the leader's tenure is right-censored;
0   no;
1   yes.

baathist   An indicator of whether the leader was associated with a Baathist party:

0   no;
1   yes.

communist   An indicator of whether the leader was associated with a communist party:

0   no;
1   yes.

birth   year of the birth; primarily from www.wikipedia.org and [www.rulers.org.](http://www.rulers.org)

death   year of the death (. if alive as of 2008); primarily from www.wikipedia.org and [www.rulers.org.](http://www.rulers.org)

pol_aff   The leader's political relationship to the previous leader prior to assuming office:

- regime: the leader has explicitly stated his pro-government position prior to assuming office, typically by being a member of the government, a member of the legislature from a governing party, or a member of the ruling family;
  - o Soldiers are coded as "regime" if they held a government position or were explicitly adopting a political position favoring the government against the opposition (e.g. member of the junta, government, or high military leadership);
  - o Members of royal and ruling families are coded as "regime" unless they were openly in the opposition;

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- o Leaders of pre-independence governments are coded as "regime."
- opposition: the leader has explicitly stated his anti-government position prior to assuming office, typically by being an opposition candidate in an election, a member of the legislature from a party that opposes the government, a guerrilla;
  - o Soldiers are coded as "opposition" if they explicitly adopted a political position opposing the government (e.g. a decommissioned general running as an opposition candidate or starting an insurgency).
- unaffiliated: the leader has not unambiguously stated his support or opposition to the government prior to assuming office, typically a member of the military who has not publicly stated his position prior to intervening or interim leader who was previously a member of the judiciary;
- independence: a leader of an independence movement.

inst_aff_1
inst_aff_2
inst_aff_3   The leader's three most significant institutional affiliations prior to assuming office from among the following alternatives:

- government: a member of the government;
- guerilla: a participant in an guerilla or independence movement
- judiciary: a member of the judiciary;
- legislature: a member of the legislature;
- military: a member of the military;
- opposition: an opposition candidate or party member;
- party: regime party member
- royal: a member of the royal or ruling family (a relative of the ruler);
- other: a residual category.

year   Current year (in the leader-year format dataset)

Bibliography

Goemans, Hein, Kristian Skrede Gleditsch, and Giacomo Chiozza. 2005. "Archigos: A Data Set of Political Leaders." Dataset.