**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.

**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VARIABLE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>ORIGIN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOC</td>
<td>Document ID</td>
<td>recode (repnum, story)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHASE</td>
<td>Phase of Study</td>
<td>investigator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REPNUM</td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STORY</td>
<td>Story Number</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>Story Date</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECTION</td>
<td>Section</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAGE</td>
<td>Page Number</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAGEONE</td>
<td>Section and Page</td>
<td>recode (section, page)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAGEONE2</td>
<td>Section and Page</td>
<td>recode (pageone, type2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORDS</td>
<td>Number of Words</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDLINE</td>
<td>Representative in Headline</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BYLINE</td>
<td>Reporter’s Name</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATELINE</td>
<td>Story's Origin</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHOTO</td>
<td>Representative in Photo</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEADPHOT</td>
<td>Rep in Headline or Photo</td>
<td>recode (hdline, photo)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TYPE</td>
<td>Story Type</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TYPE2</td>
<td>Story Type</td>
<td>recode (type)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWSOPIN</td>
<td>News or Opinion</td>
<td>recode (type)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABOUT</td>
<td>Main Subject of Story</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENTRAL</td>
<td>Centrality of Representative</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENTRAL2</td>
<td>Centrality (Inverse)</td>
<td>recode (central)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENT</td>
<td>Centrality</td>
<td>recode (central)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LISTONLY</td>
<td>Representative Only in List</td>
<td>recode (type, central)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VALENCE</td>
<td>Valence from Rep's Perspective</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST</td>
<td>Information in List</td>
<td>original data</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LISTREP   List Mentions Representative  recode (list, listonly, type)
ISSUEA    Most Prominent Issue  original data
ISSUEB    Second Prominent Issue  original data
ISSUEC    Third Prominent Issue  original data
ISSUEA1   Most Prominent Issue -- Collapsed  recode (issueba)
ISSUEPT   Position Taking Issue  recode (issueba, bill)
ABORTN    Mentions Abortion Policy  original data
DEFICIT   Mentions Proposal to Reduce Deficit  original data
CRIME     Mentions Proposal to Control Crime  original data
GAYS      Mentions Proposal About Gays in Military  original data
GUNS      Mentions Proposal to Regulate Guns  original data
CONTRACT  Mentions Contract with America  original data
HEALTH    Mentions Health Care Reform  original data
NAFTA     Mentions NAFTA  original data
ISSUEMEN  Number of Issues Mentioned (of 7)  recode (abortn to nafta, but not contract)
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)
COMACT4   Committee Member Acts  recode (comact3)
PTYLDR    Party Leader  original data
CAULDR    Caucus Leader  original data
LDRACTS   Leader Acts  recode (comldr, subldr, ptyldr, cauldr, coalitn)
LAWACTS   Law Making Activities  recode (intro, comact4, ldracts)
PROBLEM   Representative Discusses Problem  original data
SOLUTION  Representative Proposes Solution  original data
VIEWS     Representative Offers Views  original data
INTRO     Representative Introduces Bill  original data
ENDORSE   Representative Endorses Bill  original data
HEARING   Representative in Committee Hearing  original data
MARKUP    Representative in Committee Markup  original data
COALITN   Representative Builds Coalition  original data
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 (rcvote, 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 Offers Rep's Explanation for Position original data
EXPLAN2 Offers Rep's Explanation for Position recode (explan)
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)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Origin of Variables</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>R. Douglas Arnold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONTHYR3</td>
<td>Four Month Periods</td>
<td>recode (date)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONE25TH</td>
<td>One 25th of case</td>
<td>please ignore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONE24TH</td>
<td>One 24th of case</td>
<td>please ignore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRIMDATE</td>
<td>Primary Date</td>
<td>investigator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRIMLS60</td>
<td>Sixty Days Before Primary Date</td>
<td>recode (primdate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>REPCOMP</td>
<td>Rep Name -- Comp Paper</td>
<td>recode (repnum)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPAPR</td>
<td>Any competing paper</td>
<td>investigator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPAP2</td>
<td>Competing paper</td>
<td>recode (compapr)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>