Milestone 6

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4/03/2020

Contents

1 Results

1.1 Section 3.1: Website Content

1.1.1 Figure 1: County Government Website Availability by Province

```
##
##         Anhui       Beijing     Chongqing        Fujian         Gansu
##    0.000000000    0.000000000    0.000000000    0.011904762    0.058139535
##      Guangdong        Guangxi       Guizhou        Hainan         Hebei
##    0.000000000    0.036697248    0.011363636    0.000000000    0.011627907
##   Heilongjiang          Henan         Hubei         Hunan Inner Mongolia
##    0.022727273    0.006289308    0.019417476    0.016260163    0.049019608
##        Jiangsu        Jiangxi         Jilin       Liaoning        Ningxia
##    0.018691589    0.000000000    0.000000000    0.040000000    0.047619048
##        Qinghai        Shaanxi       Shandong       Shanghai         Shanxi
##    0.023255814    0.000000000    0.007142857    0.000000000    0.033613445
##        Sichuan        Tianjin          Tibet       Xinjiang         Yunnan
```

```
##    0.027624309    0.000000000    0.418918919    0.039215686    0.007751938
##       Zhejiang
##    0.000000000
```

1.2 Section 4.1: Topics

1.2.1 Table 1: LDA topics and OGI Requirements

```
## [1] "OGI: administrative rules and regulations"
```

```
## [1] "business taxation"     "regulations and forms"
```

```
## [1] "OGI: economic development plans"
```

```
## [1] "new socialist countryside" "economic development"
## [3] "regional development"      "agriculture"
## [5] "development"
```

```
## [1] "OGI: statistical information"
```

```
## [1] "government statistics"
```

```
## [1] "OGI: budgets and financial accounts"
```

```
## [1] "fiscal administration"
```

```
## [1] "OGI: procurement standards"
```

```
## [1] "public procurement and tenders"
```

```
## [1] "OGI: administrative licensing"
```

```
## [1] "government approval process"
```

```
## [1] "OGI: major construction projects"
```

```
## [1] "development projects and construction"
## [2] "construction"
```

```
## [1] "OGI: land acquisition and housing demolition"
```

```
## [1] "land rights and housing"
```

```
## [1] "OGI: poverty alleviation, education, health care, social security, employment"
```

```
## [1] "health and nutrition"       "health and social security"
## [3] "education"                  "public employment"
```

```
## [1] "OGI: emergency management plans"
```

```
## [1] "emergency response"
```

```
## [1] "OGI: environment, product quality and supervision"
```

```
## [1] "controls on food and drug production"
```

```
## [1] "OGI: other"
```

```
##  [1] "family planning"                    "local government office"
##  [3] "information openness"               "investment information"
##  [5] "workplace safety"                   "traffic and transportation"
##  [7] "government committees and leaders"  "media"
##  [9] "community government organizations" "surnames"
## [11] "Xinhua news"                        "cultural activities and channels"
## [13] "prosperous government"              "building civilized publics"
## [15] "student sports competitions"        "government openness"
## [17] "government services"                "CCP members and committees"
## [19] "government oversight"
```

1.3 Section 5.1: Measuring Tenure

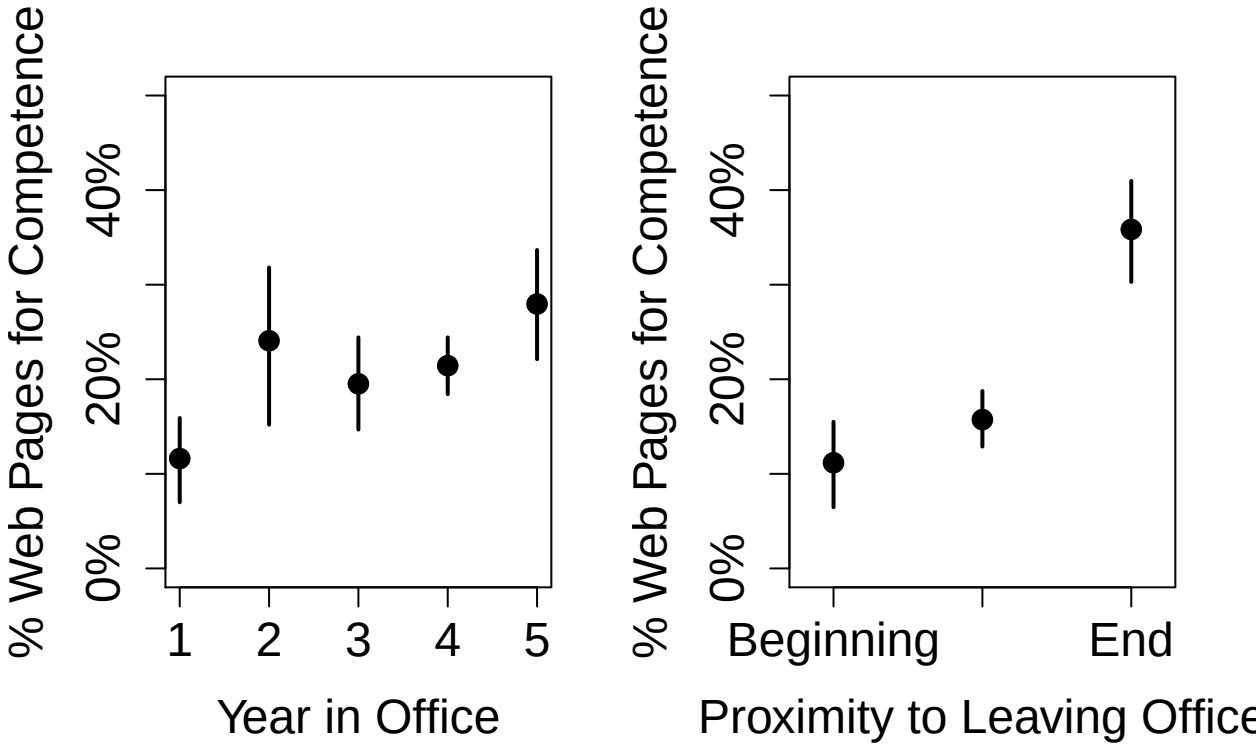
1.3.1 Table 2: Distribution of Year in office

Table 2: Distribution of Year in office
Based on sample of 100 counties

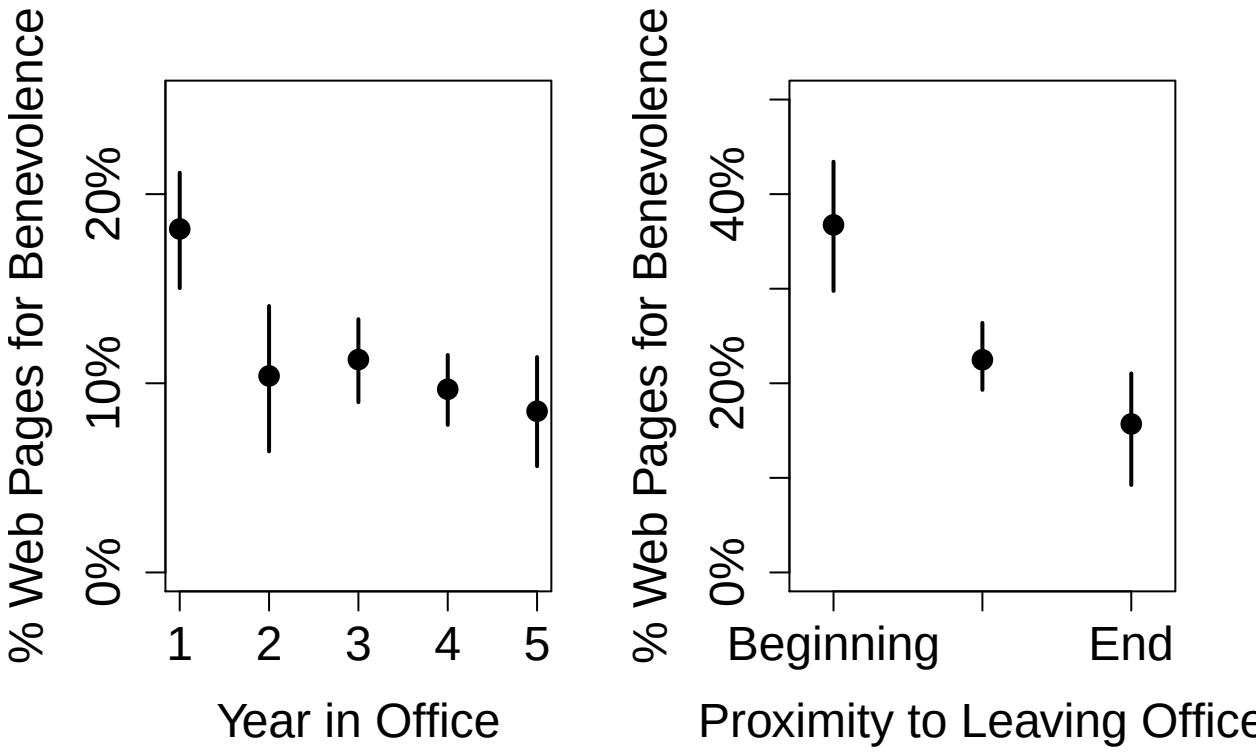
Years in Office	Stayed in Same Position	Promoted	Retired or Demoted	Number of Counties
1	100%	0%	0%	21
2	69%	25%	6%	16
3	59%	24%	18%	17
4	25%	50%	25%	8
5	0%	83%	17%	6
6	0%	67%	33%	3

1.4 Section 5.2: Descriptive Results

1.4.1 Figure 2: Proportion of web pages with content focused on competence by year in office...



1.4.2 Figure 3: Proportion of web pages with content focused on belevolence by year in office. . .



1.5 Section 5.3: Predictive Inference

1.5.1 Table 3: Regression Results: Competence

% Table created by stargazer v.5.2.2 by Marek Hlavac, Harvard University. E-mail: hlavac at fas.harvard.edu
% Date and time: Fri, Apr 03, 2020 - 15:02:00

	Dependent variable: Competence					
Beginning Tenure	0.043	0.050	0.049	0.062	−0.046	−0.052
	(0.043)	(0.048)	(0.049)	(0.057)	(0.069)	(0.071)
End Tenure	0.146***	0.139**	0.135**	0.150**	0.160**	0.184*
	(0.052)	(0.054)	(0.059)	(0.063)	(0.073)	(0.092)
Constant	0.161***	0.195***	0.188***	0.248*	0.431	0.460
	(0.025)	(0.049)	(0.052)	(0.124)	(0.291)	(0.303)
Resource controls	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Peer controls	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Prefecture controls	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ability controls	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Career paths controls	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
Observations	71	70	70	68	48	48
Note:						*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

1.5.2 Table 4: Regression Results: Benevolence

% Table created by stargazer v.5.2.2 by Marek Hlavac, Harvard University. E-mail: hlavac at fas.harvard.edu
% Date and time: Fri, Apr 03, 2020 - 15:02:01

	Dependent variable: Benevolence					
Beginning Tenure	0.071	0.101**	0.099*	0.126**	0.154	0.179*
	(0.046)	(0.050)	(0.051)	(0.061)	(0.095)	(0.095)
End Tenure	−0.003	0.028	0.035	0.040	0.029	−0.074
	(0.056)	(0.057)	(0.062)	(0.068)	(0.101)	(0.123)
Constant	0.188***	0.152***	0.155***	0.085	0.179	0.051
	(0.028)	(0.052)	(0.055)	(0.132)	(0.401)	(0.405)
Resource controls	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Peer controls	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Prefecture controls	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ability controls	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Career paths controls	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
Observations	71	70	70	68	48	48
Note:						*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

2 Not replicated

2.1 Section 3.1: Website Content

2.1.1 Figure 1

I have not replicated the figure 1, a map of the various provinces in China and the availability of county government websites in them. This is because this was a manual step in the construction of the paper. I have replicated the data that was used as a basis for that map.

2.2 Section 4.1: Topics

2.2.1 Table 1

I have generated the underlying data for the table. I have not transferred it into the same table form as outlined in the paper.

2.3 Section 5.3: Predictive Inference

2.3.1 Table 3: Regression Results: Competence

Replicated the table, except positioning the constant at the bottom of the table

2.3.2 Table 4: Regression Results: Benevolence

Same as above

3 Proposed extension

I am interested to look into the variance of these results between different provinces in China. I think it would be fascinating to understand whether the observed effect holds true throughout the country. The author of the paper wants to contribute to the discussion around the internet in authoritarian regimes. At the same time, I am not convinced that she actually does. This is because the suggested signalling may very well be caused by cultural differences, arther than the nature of the regime. Understanding whether regional variances in China exist would help us evaluate the strength of this competing hypothesis to explain the observations.

In addition, i want to see whether this observations varies by gender of the official, education level or gdp of the county If there is any significant deviance across these coefficients, it would give potency to other competing hypothesis than that of an authoritarian regime. It might suggest that gender, education level or the wealth of a a county are more decisive in determining the self-portrayal of officials than their tenure. The reason this and the above is relevant, is because the author suggests that it is primarily an internal signalling function that these websites and the emphasis on certain factors serve. The link between tenure and the promotional expectations relate to that. proving that it is in fact not tenure, but one of the other factors that have nothing to do with the career path of the individuals within the party, would weaken that connection.

This endevour is constrained by the data available in the dataverse associated to the replication paper. Only the pre-selected sample of 100 contains all variables relevant for the analysis on a county level. Therefore a sub-division of that data by provinces will leave us with very small sample sizes. Similarly, the sample only contains 4 female mayors, 1 person with education level 6, 4 people with education level 5, 3 people with education levle 2 and 2 people with education level 0.

The other part of my extension will be around challenging the data selection process conducted in the paper. It seems very surprising that the author has sub-selected 100 of the 2,787 counties with website, and we immediately dismiss another ~30 in our regressions because of data inavailability and subsequentyl another ~20 as our regressions get more ambitious. The absence of any website from Tibet is furthermore conspicuous. The way by which I seek to challenge this is to compare the observed characteristics of the sample, to what we would expect in repeated sampling from the underlying population in terms of frequency of different provinces and in terms of data availability. This will allow us do deduct how representative the sample actually is for the underlying population. Significant deviances will have us question the validity of the sampling procedure and as a result the conclusions drawn by the author based on that sample.