

# How To Think Like A Social Scientist

## 156A: Russian Politics and Government

Week 2

17/1/2018

# Social Sciences $\neq$ History

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- Social Research = *Input  $\rightarrow$  Mechanism  $\rightarrow$  Output*

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- ③ Look if your output changed

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  - social scientists cannot “change the input”
- What they usually do?
  - look for a proper comparison unit / group

# Some examples

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  - (Germany, 21 VS France, 21)

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  - Why did Russia fail to democratize?
  - Alternative?

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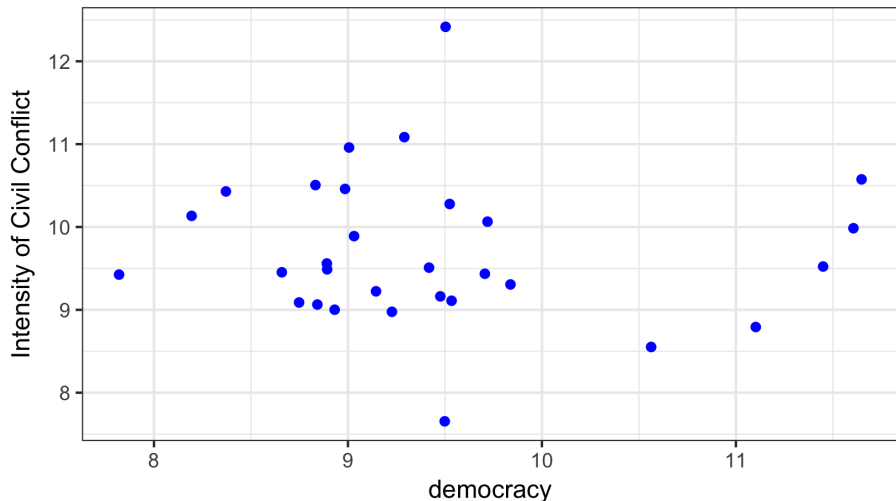
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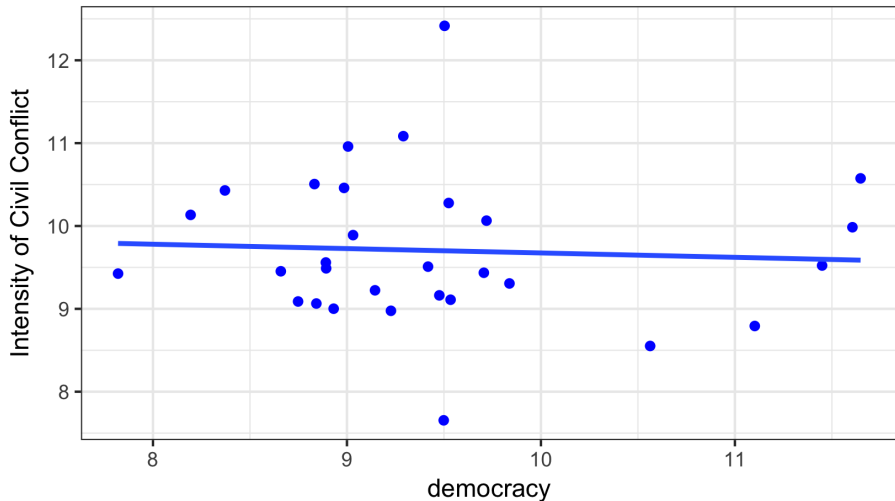
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  - input 2: how to measure mountains?

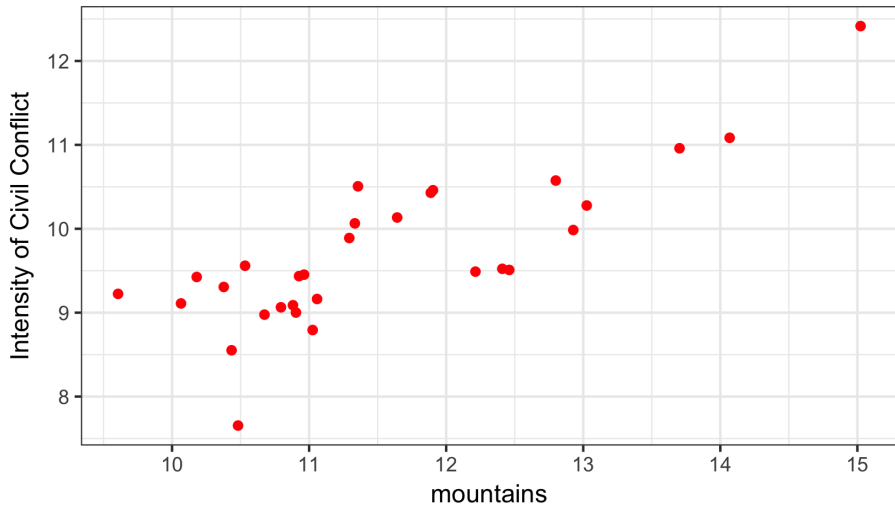
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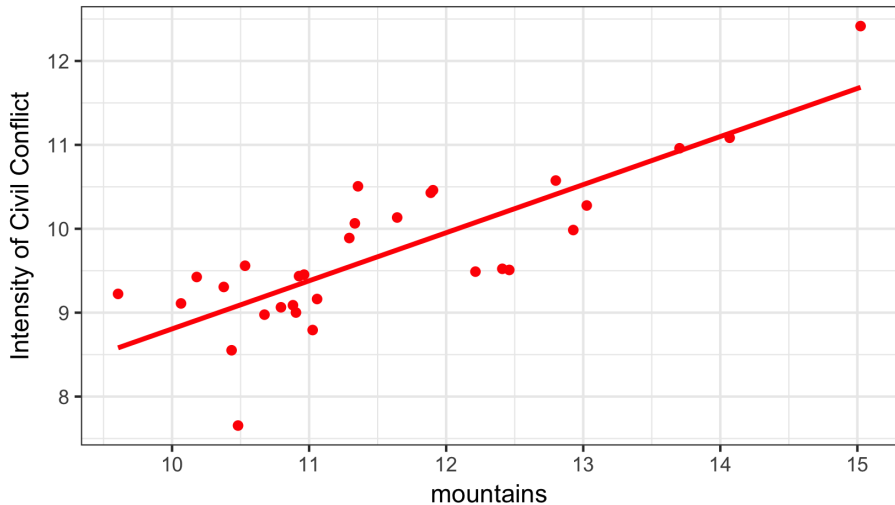


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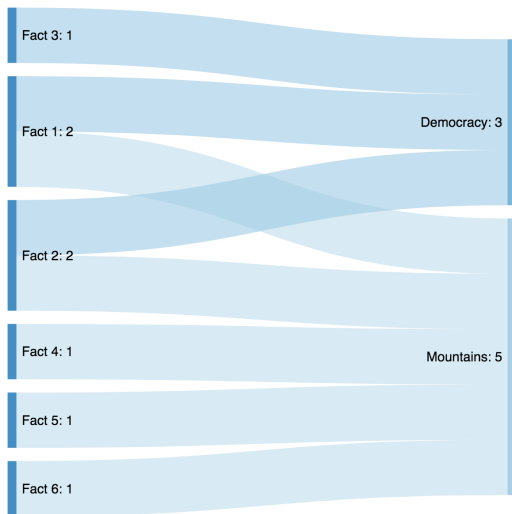




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# Qualitative Approach: List of facts



# Next Steps

- Theories?

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- Readings

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- Data / Facts

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- Data / Facts
- Readings / Lecture Notes

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- Theories?
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- Huge amount of outside data