A2 FAQ

Part 1.

When it asks us for parties that have been allied with each other for 30% of elections in a country, do we just count parliamentary elections or do we include both parliamentary and European Parliament elections?

You should count all election types.

Does the output have to have parties allied with all other parties of their leader or just the parties allied with the head party? For example, if there is an alliance where 3 is the head and 1 and 2 are allies of 3: then do we list (1,2), (1,3), (2,3) OR (1,3), (2,3)?

You should list (1,2), (1,3), (2,3)

Q2]
"past 20 years":
Current year included, back to, and including, the year 20 years ago.

If a country had no cabinets in the last 20 years (1996-2016), then do all parties in that country count as committed parties?

No. Also, reminder, the last 20 years do NOT end in 2016.

It says we should output the "name of a committed party's family if exists". However, a single party can have multiple families. What should we do in the case where a committed party has multiple families?
There are parties with multiple family strings in. Should we have two tuples with the same party_id for each family?
question 2, it says that there can be no duplicates. However, it asks us to report the party Family. Some parties have multiple family names (for example, party with id 2264.

Report all combinations. **Do not have duplicate tuples** in your answers. Duplicate means that the value of all attributes are identical

Q3]
"Duplicates? Countries and party families can be included more than once with different party names."
"also requires for us to output the "name of the family of a party", but doesn't specify what we should do when a party has multiple families (like the Quebec Bloc with an id of 448)."

Include all possible results, **without duplicate tuples** in your final answer.

"what if the satisfied party doesn't have party family? Do we keep that party and make the family value null? Or we don't choose that party?"

Family is reported as null.

"If an election is won by an alliance of say, 3 parties. In the average, do we count this election as being won by 3 parties or just 1 party?"

An election is won by the party with the most valid_votes.

"What do we do about parties who do not have any votes listed but are ostensibly coalition leaders? In election_results it seems to be the case that parties that are coalition leaders (or sometimes randomly) have no vote count, seat count, or are otherwise void of data that would complete all seats/votes in that election."

For winning parties you strictly care about the valid votes they have received (if recorded).

"Should we include parties that do not appear in the "election_result" table (i.e have not not participated in an election) in the result?"
No
"When calculating the average number of winning elections of parties of the same country, do we count the number of parties registered in the party table for each country, or the parties that appear in the election_result table (ie have participated in an election of a country)."
"I wanted to confirm that the parties we look at for the average, excludes parties who have never participated in at least one election?"

We care about the outcome of elections. In each outcome, participating parties got a vote share. Based on that vote share, we can get winners of the elections.
Given winners of the elections, we can calculate election wins per party (all parties). A party may win multiple elections over time or none at all.
Parties belong to a country. Given the number of wins of each party in a country, we take the average of those wins.

I've read the replies on this thread but I am still unsure, is the winning party anyone who is in the alliance that won or the party that was represented by a PM?

Winning party is the party with the largest share of valid votes.

What do we do about parties who do not have any votes listed but are ostensibly coalition leaders? In election_results it seems to be the case that parties that are coalition leaders (or

sometimes randomly) have no vote count, seat count, or are otherwise void of data that would complete all seats/votes in that election.

For winning parties you strictly care about the valid votes they have received (if recorded).

Q4]

To calculate the percent of valid votes that a party received, for the denominator part, should we use the attribute votes_valid in table election directly or should we sum up votes in table election over all parties?

You can use 'election.votes_valid'.

"If votes_valid is NULL, should we sum up the votes of each party in that election and use that instead?"

No.

"In Part 1, it states "If there is more than one election in the same country in the same year, use the average (across those elections) of the percent of valid votes that a party received".
Say there are 2 elections in a given year. Say in the first election Party A gets 100 of the 200 valid votes, and in the second election, Party A gets 20 of the 100 valid votes.
Then should we use (120 votes / 300 votes) = 40% in our output, or should we use (50% + 20%) / 2 = 35% in stead?"

Average of the vote percentage, i.e., (50% + 20%) / 2

"What do we do if the election.votes_valid = NULL? Should we sum the votes from each party to find the %?"

Ignore nulls. Voting is invalid and is not used in winning calculation.

"Also what do we do with parties that have no vote number? "
Ignore such cases.

"I noticed that some election's votes_valid is null, but the election_result's votes value for that election is not null. What do we do in this case? Do we ignore this election?

Ignore Nulls

Q5]
"Should we round the participation ratio (for example to two decimal places) or leave it as is?"
"The participationRatio is not in percentage form or rounded to 2 decimals. Is this the expected format for our solutions?"

Do not round your participation ratio. participationRatio is of type real.

1. votes_cast (because we are talking about participation in elections, which is also defined in
the question as "ratio of votes cast to number of citizens eligible to vote".
2. yes, for *all* years within this range, it must be monotonically-non-decreasing to be included
in the answer. Your results depend on the instances in your database.

It will be ignored when calculating ratio.

- only use votes_cast for calculating the participation ratio.
- when votes_cast is null, then the participation ratio will also be null, and will be ignored

Q6]

 Null values will be ignored. Create ranges only for values of left_right within 0 and 10.

Part 2.
electionSequence:

[0: january, 1: march, 2: june, 3: october]
and cabinets being created on the following dates:
[0: january, 1: february, 2: march, 3: april, 4: june, 5: september]
Would the output look like:
elections: [0, 0, 1, 1, 2, 2]
cabinets: [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]"

The output from this example will be:
elections: [0, 0, 1, 1, 2, 2]
cabinets: [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

similarPolititians:
How do we calculate the similarity score when there are two attributes to compare (similarity between comments and similarity between descriptions)? Do we sum these two similarity scores together and check if it's above the threshold? Do we use the average? Do we check if both are above the threshold? Or some other way?

You should concatenate the comments and descriptions and find the similarities (two versions, different sequence per version), then compares each concatenation to a threshold. If either sequence has a similarity equal or above the threshold, it is accepted.

Should our result include the original provided politician as well? Also how should we handle order/duplicates for our result?

please only return OTHER presidents similar to your input as specified (do not return your input). Similar presidents can be returned unordered.

Feedback error on Markus:
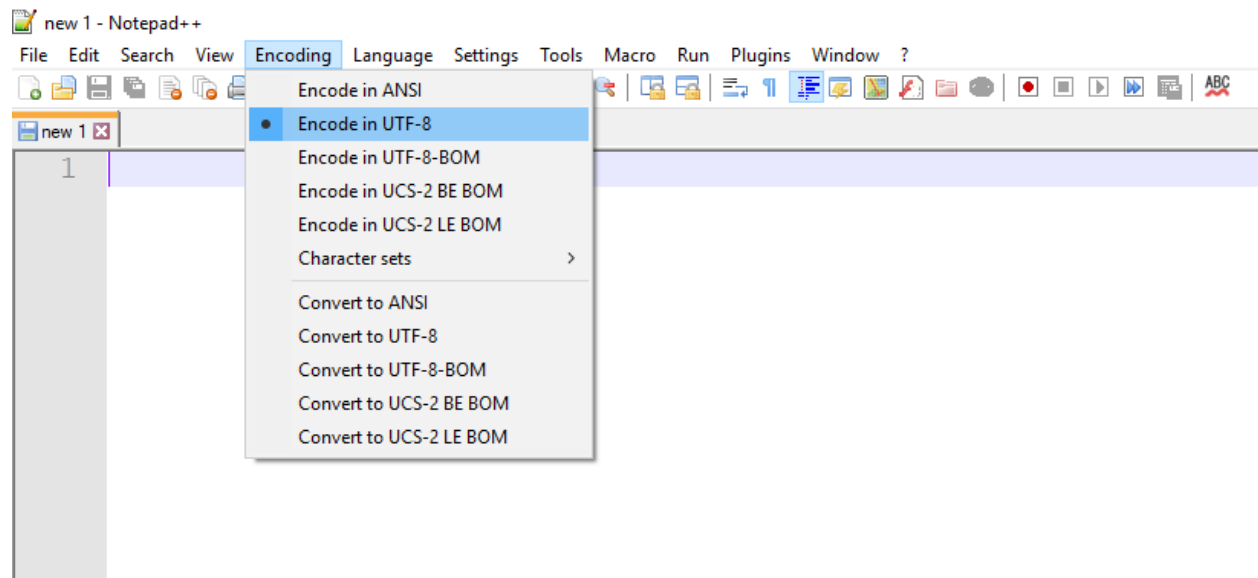*"Feedback: 'ascii' codec can't encode character '\ufeff' in position 0: ordinal not in range(128)"*

Changing encode in windows or mac for this error to UTF-8 :

In Mac check the following link :
https://www.google.com/search?q=how+to+change+encoding+in+mac+textedit&rlz=1C1CHBF_enCA768CA768&oq=how+to+change+encode+in+mac+&aqs=chrome.2.69i57j0l5.15549j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8#kpvalbx=1

In Windows:
Like the following picture, change the encoding and then save you file:

In Linux check the following link:
https://www.tecmint.com/convert-files-to-utf-8-encoding-in-linux/