

# Betfair\_UKPolitics

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## About

I am interested in *UK Political Betting*. so, I regularly get odds from all Betfair's "UK Politics" Markets, i.e. all the sub-branches of [this page](#).

This Project if about Getting, Cleaning, and Exploratory Analysis of those odds.

## Preparing Data

### Getting List of Betfair UK Politics Markets

*Get\_list\_of\_Betfair\_UKPolitics\_Markets.R* recursively retrieves a list of all the market that [this page](#) is a parent or grandparent of.

As the markets don't appear (or disappear) everyday, I only run the following (commented out) chunk once or twice a week.

```
# root_dir <- getwd()
# setwd("./Codes/")
# source("Get_list_of_Betfair_UKPolitics_Markets.R")
# setwd(root_dir)
```

The output file looks like:

```
list_of_markets<-
  read.csv(
    "./raw_data/list_of_Betfair_UKPolitics_Markets.txt",
    header = FALSE)
head(list_of_markets)

##                                                    V1
## 1 http://www.betfair.com/exchange/politics/market?id=1.114293290
## 2 http://www.betfair.com/exchange/politics/market?id=1.115851511
## 3 http://www.betfair.com/exchange/politics/market?id=1.115852011
## 4 http://www.betfair.com/exchange/politics/market?id=1.115852043
## 5 http://www.betfair.com/exchange/politics/market?id=1.115852058
## 6 http://www.betfair.com/exchange/politics/market?id=1.115852158
```

```
num_markets <- dim(list_of_markets)[1]
```

There are 689 unique UK-Politics markets on Betfair.

### Getting Odds

A c# project goes through all 689 markets, parses HTMLs, extracts usefull bits, and appends them to the existing *Betfair\_UKPolitics\_odds.csv* file.

the output looks like:

```
head(read.table("./raw_data/Betfair_UKPolitics_odds.csv", sep = "\t"))
```

```
##          V1  V2          V3  V4 V5
## 1 Argyll and Bute - Winner back Liberal Democrat 1.16 20
## 2 Argyll and Bute - Winner back Liberal Democrat 3.50 15
## 3 Argyll and Bute - Winner back      Conservative 3.50 15
## 4 Argyll and Bute - Winner back      Labour 1.56 10
## 5 Argyll and Bute - Winner back      Labour 2.76 45
## 6 Argyll and Bute - Winner back      SNP 1.10 50
```

```
## V6
## 1 06/01/2015 17:15:42
## 2 06/01/2015 17:15:42
## 3 06/01/2015 17:15:42
## 4 06/01/2015 17:15:42
## 5 06/01/2015 17:15:42
## 6 06/01/2015 17:15:42
```

## Cleaning Market Names

```
root_dir <- getwd()
setwd("./Codes/")
source("Clean_UKPolitics_Odds_Data_Market_Names_Tests_Before_Cleaning.R")
```

```
## [1] "2015 Prime Minister after Cameron - Prime Minister after Cameron"
## [2] "2015 UK General Election - Electoral Bias?"
## [3] "2015 UK General Election - Most Seats"
## [4] "2015 UK General Election - Next Government"
## [5] "2015 UK General Election - Overall Majority"
## [6] "2015 UK General Election - Party Leaders"
## [7] "2015 UK General Election - Prime Minister After General Election"
## [8] "2015 UK General Election - Two General Elections 2015?"
## [9] "2015 UK General Election - Voter Turnout"
## [10] "Cabinet Exit Dates - Chancellor"
## [11] "Cabinet Exit Dates - Prime Minister"
## [12] "England - Most Seats England"
## [13] "Leader Exit Dates - David Cameron"
## [14] "Leader Exit Dates - Ed Miliband"
## [15] "Leader Exit Dates - Nick Clegg"
## [16] "Next Party Leaders - Next Conservative Leader"
## [17] "Next Party Leaders - Next Labour Leader"
## [18] "Next Party Leaders - Next Liberal Democrat Leader"
## [19] "Next Prime Minister - Next Prime Minister"
## [20] "Next UK General Election - Most Seats"
## [21] "Next UK General Election - Most Seats "
## [22] "Next UK General Election - Overall Majority"
## [23] "Next UK General Election - Overall Majority "
## [24] "Next UK General Election - UKIP Seats"
## [25] "Next UK General Election - UKIP Seats "
## [26] "Northern Ireland - Most Seats Northern Ireland"
## [27] "Prime Minister after Cameron - Prime Minister after Cameron"
## [28] "Scotland - Most Seats Scotland"
## [29] "UK Seat Totals - Conservative Seats Total"
## [30] "UK Seat Totals - Conservative Under/Over"
## [31] "UK Seat Totals - Green U/O 0.5 Seats"
## [32] "UK Seat Totals - Green U/O 1.5 Seats"
## [33] "UK Seat Totals - Labour Seats Total"
## [34] "UK Seat Totals - Labour Under/Over"
## [35] "UK Seat Totals - Lib Dem Seats Total"
## [36] "UK Seat Totals - Lib Dem Under/Over"
## [37] "UK Seat Totals - SNP Seats Total"
## [38] "UK Seat Totals - SNP U/O 11.5 Seats"
```

```
## [39] "UK Seat Totals - SNP U/O 25.5 Seats"  
## [40] "UK Seat Totals - SNP U/O 35.5 Seats"  
## [41] "UK Seat Totals - UKIP Seats Total"  
## [42] "UK Seat Totals - UKIP Seats Total 2"  
## [43] "UK Seat Totals - UKIP U/O 2.5 Seats"  
## [44] "UK Seat Totals - UKIP U/O 5.5 Seats"  
## [45] "Wales - Most Seats Wales"  
## [46] "Wales - Plaid Cymru Under/Over"
```

```
setwd(root_dir)
```