

# Representing Data to Improve Policy Recommendation on Corruption

Prathamesh Chavan and Alma Cantu School of Computing, Newcastle University



https://github.com/Pat6133/PolicyRed

# INTRODUCTION

- Corruption in the UK may not be that prominent but it has always been a controversial topic for the parliament.
- One of the major reasons for this is the unclear donations to the political parties both in power and the opposition.[1]
- Donations coming from corporate are discouraged but donations coming from individuals are not paid much attention to [2].
- We develop dashboards [3] to analyze trends in past donation information of political parties and gain insights into the UK as a whole and the city of London.

# **AIM & CHALLENGES**

#### Aim:

This study aims to use data visualization techniques to help make better data-driven decisions for policy recommendations for the scope of financial crime or the budgets of law enforcement agencies.

# **Challenges:**

- 1. How the number and value of donations changed over time for each party, was there any specific pattern for the donations?
- 2. What was the location from which the donations were made?
- 3. What were the sources of donations for each party, did the distribution of the source change at any time?
- 4. Were there any key discrepancies prior to or during key democratic events such as the general elections or the Brexit referendum for each party?

# DATA



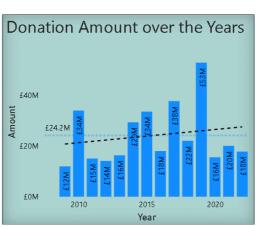
In collaboration with the research charity Spotlight on Corruption, the data used in this project is from the public electoral commission database. The dataset contains around 50 thousand entries from 2009 to 2022 with the amount and method of donation, type of donor, and the party it was donated to.

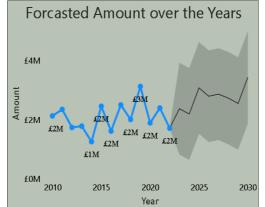
# **METHODOLOGY**

# **Temporal Visualization**

We use bar charts and line charts [4] to represent the value of donations over the years to each party.

We also use the forecast analysis method to see the trend for upcoming years

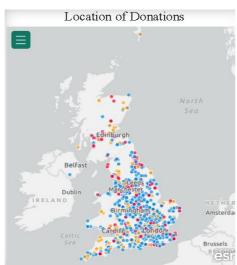




This visualization helps us to find if there were any changes in the amount of donations with respect to the reigning and opposition party over the time.

#### **Geospatial Visualization**

We use the ArcGis and the map feature [4] to map the postal codes from which the donation was made to the respective party and the value of the donation from it.

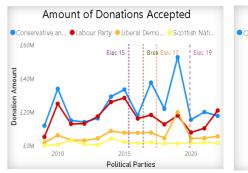


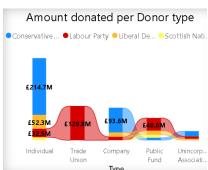


This visualization helps us in determining whether there is a location bias toward the donations to any specific party and if there were multiple donations from the same location.

# **Comparative Visualization**

We provided a comparative study [5] on major political parties with respect to the amount of donation, the method of donation and type of donation.

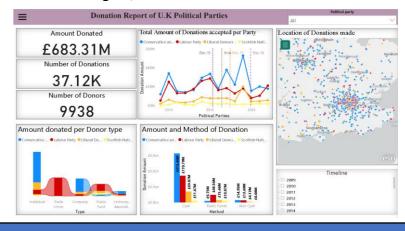




We also highlight the important dates to analyze the changes during that period.

# **RESULTS**

Interactive dashboards have been created for each category: overview, political parties, and the City of London. These dashboards allow users to navigate, filter and drill down for more detailed insights.



# **REFERENCES**

[1] 'Almost half of UK political donations come from private wealthy "super-donors", new research finds', Department of Economics, The University of Warwick.

https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/economics/news/2022/11/almost\_half\_of\_uk\_political\_donations\_come\_from\_private\_wealthy\_super\_donors\_new\_research\_finds/ (accessed Jun. 09, 2023).

[2] Acker, D, Orujov, A & Simpson, H 2018, 'Political donations and political risk in the UK: Evidence from a closely fought election', *Journal of Banking and Finance*, vol. 92, pp. 146-167. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbankfin.2018.05.009

[3] Dilla, Janvrin, D. J., & Raschke, R. (2010). Interactive Data Visualization: New Directions for Accounting Information Systems Research. The Journal of Information Systems., 24(2). https://doi.org/info:doi/

[4] 'The Starter Guide to Data Visualizations'. https://www.klipfolio.com/blog/starter-guide-to-datavisualizations (accessed Jun. 05, 2023)

[5] Hinterberger, H. (2009). Comparative Visualization. In: LIU, L., ÖZSU, M.T. (eds) Encyclopedia of Database Systems. Springer, Boston, MA. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-0-387-39940-9\_1385