### Projectpart3

June 11, 2023

### 1 PS 88 Project Part 3 - Due 12/14 at 11:59pm

The goal of the final part of the project is to extend the analysis of one of the replication papers, or any other data set we have worked on in any of the labs or class examples. (If you want to work with a different data set that will probably be fine too, but check with the instructors first.)

Regardless of dataset you start with, the goal is to provide new theoretical insights by introducing some new data and running some new analysis.

The parameters here will be much looser; the only concrete requirements are that you (1) do at least one merging of different data frames, and (2) run at least two new regressions and create at least two visualizations (histograms, scatterplots, line plots, etc), some of which involve the "new" variables you merged in.

On the second part, here are some ideas of what doing new analysis might entail, some of which will work better than others depending on what data you start with: - Run the analysis with a different dependent variable - Run the analysis with a different independent variable - Run the analysis on a subset of the data, where we might expect the causal effect to be different - Add a control variable to the regression that might help control for some confounding variable

See the relevant Piazza posts for some pointers to potentially useful data sources and tips for merging them properly.

In terms of formatting, add as many code/mardown cells as you need below. We provide some general guidance about how much writing/coding to do, but you don't necessarily need to worry if yours is a bit shorter or longer. Feel free to check with us if you are unsure!

A final hint: you may want to complete step 1 last, or at least after you have done the main analysis in steps 2 and 3.

### 1.1 Step 1: Theory

What is the theoretical question or causal relationship you aim to explore with your analysis? What relationships did you expect to see in the data? (5-10 sentences)

The Conscription of Wealth: Mass Warfare and the Demand for Progressive Taxation by Kenneth Scheve and David Stasavage (2010) showed how progressive taxation rose after WW1 and concluded that mass mobilization for warfare caused increasing demands in progressive taxation. Through this analysis, we want to analyze how progressive taxation is influenced during periods of relative peace – when there is no mass mobilizing warfare. What factor – other than mobilization for war – causes fluctuation in high income tax rates over time? In order to answer this question we needed

data from more countries. However, the data available to us is regarding inheritance tax rates not progressive tax rates.

Hence, throughout this analysis, the first question we ask ourselves is: Given our data, can we use inheritance tax rates as a proxy for all taxation?

If the answer to the above question is yes, then: Is ideology the reason behind the decline of tax rates post 1950?

We expect the answer to the latter question to be affirmative. Most importantly, in accordance with common conception of political ideologies, we expect our analysis to show us a positive relationship between left executive and high tax rates.

### 1.2 Step 2: Merging

Load up the data files you plan to use, and merge them together. Explain what you are doing at each step of the process. Do some checks with .shape to see that the merge works as expected. Depending on what you are working with, this will probably take around 10 lines of code, and 1-2 sentences explaining each step.

```
[1]: # Run this cell to import the packages
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import seaborn as sns
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import statsmodels.formula.api as smf
%matplotlib inline
plt.rcParams['figure.figsize'] = (16,8)
plt.rcParams['figure.dpi'] = 150
sns.set()
pd.set_option('display.max_columns', None)
```

### Part 1: Importing Data

We will first import the data from *The Conscription of Wealth: Mass Warfare and the Demand for Progressive Taxation* (Scheve and Stasavage 2010) under the name ss\_2010, then data from *Replication Materials for 'Democracy, War, and Wealth Lessons from Two Centuries of Inheritance Taxation* (Scheve, Kenneth, David Stasavage 2012) under the name ss\_2012.

```
[2]: data_string = "data/Scheve_Stasavage_IO_2010_CoWreplicationdata.csv"
ss_2010 = pd.read_csv(data_string)
ss_2010.head()
```

```
[2]:
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                                               enfranchised2 enfrachisement3
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[3]: data_string = "data/Scheve_Stasavage_APSR_2012_inheritannual.csv"
     ss_2012 = pd.read_csv(data_string)
     ss_2012.head()
[3]:
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              0.120703
                             0.019956
                                                1
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```

Below is information about the new data.

```
[4]: data_string = "data/Scheve_Stasavage_APSR_2012_Readme.txt"
    ss_2012_description = open(data_string).readlines()
    for i in ss_2012_description:
        print(i)
```

Replication archive for "Democracy, War, and Wealth: Lessons from Two Centuries of Inheritance Taxation"

Kenneth Scheve and David Stasavage

American Political Science Review, forthcoming (February 2012)

October 12 2011

Included files:

Scheve\_Stasavage\_APSR\_2012\_Readme This file describes contents of replication archive.

Scheve\_Stasavage\_APSR\_2012\_inheritannual.dta This is the 1816-2000 annual dataset in Stata format needed to replicate the main analyses of the paper.

Scheve\_Stasavage\_APSR\_2012\_SSinheritanceRep.do This is the Stata do file that replicates all the main analyses of the paper including Figures 1 and 2;

Tables 2, 3, and 5; and Appendix Tables A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4, A-5, A-6, A-7, A-8; and selected further analyses discussed in the text.

Scheve\_Stasavage\_APSR\_2012\_SSinheritanceRep.log This is a log file reporting the output generated by SSinheritanceRep.do

twocenturies\_oct11.pdf Final draft of paper with electronic appendix [[Archive
note: only Appendix is included in archive -Scheve\_Stasavage\_APSR\_2012\_OnlineAppendix.pdf]]

Variable definitions and sources:

These are all included in the text and electronic appendix of the paper.

Variable key for inheritannual.dta

ccode Numeric country code

name Country name

year Year

topitaxrate2 Top Rate as defined in paper

himobpopyear2p War Mobilization as defined in paper

himobpopyearp War Mobilization recoded with 5% threshold as discussed in robustness checks

wwi\_iihighmob3 War Mobilization coded qualitatively as discussed in robustness checks

mobpophifatwar War Mobilization coding mobilization continuously for high fatality war years as discussed in robustness checks

mobpophifatwar2 War Mobilization coding mobilization continuously for high fatality war years as discussed in robustness checks but with alternative treatment of years for which COW mobilization data is missing

unisuffrage Universal Male Suffrage as defined in paper

democracy Competitive Elections as defined in paper

directelec Direct Elections as defined in paper

secret Secret Ballot as defined in paper

electorate25 Electorate 25 as defined in paper

electorate50 Electorate 50 as defined in paper

electorate75 Electorate 75 as defined in paper
noupper No Upper as defined in paper
leftexec2 Left Executive as defined in paper
gdppc Gross domestic product per capita
rgdppc Gross domestic product (real) per capita as defined in paper
independence Dummy variable indicating country was independent
occupied Dummy variable indicating country was occupied
Neightopitax2 Value of topitaxrate2 in neighboring countries
Rmilexbadjdol Military Expenditures as defined in paper
milexbadjdol Military Expenditures in current dollars
hdecadec Indicator variable for half decades

### Part 2: Merging the Dataframes

In order to merge the two dataframes together, we need to gather more information about them.

<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'> RangeIndex: 2929 entries, 0 to 2928 Data columns (total 27 columns):

#	Column	Non-Null Count	Dtype
0	ccode	2929 non-null	int64
1	name	2929 non-null	object
2	year	2929 non-null	int64
3	topitaxrate2	2808 non-null	float64
4	himobpopyear2p	2800 non-null	float64
5	himobpopyearp	2800 non-null	float64
6	wwi_iihighmob3	2929 non-null	int64
7	${\tt mobpophifatwar}$	2929 non-null	float64
8	mobpophifatwar2	2922 non-null	float64
9	${\tt unisuffrage}$	2929 non-null	int64
10	democracy	2929 non-null	int64
11	directelec	2797 non-null	float64
12	secret	2797 non-null	float64
13	electorate75	2929 non-null	int64
14	electorate50	2929 non-null	int64
15	electorate25	2929 non-null	int64
16	noupper	2797 non-null	float64
17	leftexec2	2929 non-null	float64
18	gdppc	1932 non-null	float64
19	rgdppc	2591 non-null	float64
20	independence	2929 non-null	int64
21	occupied	2929 non-null	int64
22	Neightopitax2	2714 non-null	float64
23	Rmilexbadjdol	2331 non-null	float64
24	milexbadjdol	2331 non-null	float64
25	hdecadec	2929 non-null	int64
26	decadec	2879 non-null	float64
dtyp	es: float64(15),	int64(11), objec	t(1)

dtypes: float64(15), int64(11), object(1)

memory usage: 618.0+ KB

<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'> RangeIndex: 1248 entries, 0 to 1247 Data columns (total 45 columns):

#	Column	Non-Null Count	Dtype
0	country	1248 non-null	object
1	ccode	1248 non-null	int64
2	year	1248 non-null	int64
3	enfranchised1	476 non-null	float64
4	enfranchised2	150 non-null	float64
5	enfrachisement3	139 non-null	float64
6	inctaxshrn	248 non-null	float64
7	hifatwaryear	1248 non-null	int64
8	wwi_iihighmob2	1248 non-null	int64

```
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     topratep
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     himobpopyearp
                       1136 non-null
                                         float64
                                         float64
13
     himobpopyear2p
                       1136 non-null
14
     leftseatshp
                       1049 non-null
                                         float64
15
     gdppcp
                       1126 non-null
                                         float64
16
     ratiop
                       959 non-null
                                         float64
17
     topratepl1
                       1188 non-null
                                         float64
18
     wwihighmobaft
                       1248 non-null
                                         int64
     year3
                       248 non-null
19
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     topdum
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dtypes: float64(15), int64(29), object(1)
```

memory usage: 438.9+ KB

### [8]: (None, None)

The primary key for both dataframes is the country code (ccode) and year. Common features about countries between the two dataframes are country names and war mobilization (himobpopyear2p and himobpopyearp). Hence, we will merge our dataframes on country code, year, country name, himobpopyear2p, himobpopyearp. In order to merge on these features, however, we must first standardize how country names are formatted and the name of the columns.

The country names in the new data are written in all lower case letters. Below, we transform

country names in the data from the 2010 paper to all lower case.

```
[9]: ss_2010["country"] = ss_2010["country"].str.lower()
```

The column names for country names in both dataframes are different. We need to match the column names in order to merge on country names. Below, we rename the column name in the ss 2012 dataframe from name to country.

```
[10]: ss_2012 = ss_2012.rename(columns = {"name": "country"})
```

Below, we merge the two dataframes. We do an outer join in order to encompass all data.

[11]:		country	ccode	year	enfr	anchised1	enfranc	hised	.2 enfrac	hiseme	nt3	\
	0	usa	2	1850		NaN	44.	20000	1	j	NaN	
	1	usa	2	1851		NaN	44.	20000	1	]	NaN	
	2	usa	2	1852		NaN	44.	90000	2	]	NaN	
	3	usa	2	1853		NaN	44.	90000	2	j	NaN	
	4	usa	2	1854		NaN	44.	90000	2	]	NaN	
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	3200	finland	375	2000		NaN		Na			NaN	
	3201	germany	255	2000		NaN		Na			NaN	
	3202	switzerland	225	2000		NaN		Na			NaN	
	3203	new zealand	920	2000		NaN		Na	.N	]	NaN	
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	0	inctaxshrn NaN	hifatwa	.ryear 0.0	WW1_	iihighmob2 0.0		8.0	0.0	toprat	ep .0	\
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	2	NaN		0.0		0.0		8.0	0.0		.0	
	3	NaN		0.0		0.0		8.0	0.0		.0	
	4	NaN		0.0		0.0		8.0	0.0		.0	
				0.0						V	. 0	
	3199	 NaN	•••	NaN		 NaN		NaN	 NaN	N	aN	
	3200	NaN		NaN		NaN		NaN	NaN		aN	
	3201	NaN		NaN		NaN		NaN	NaN		aN	
	3202	NaN		NaN		NaN		NaN	NaN	N	aN	
	3203	NaN		NaN		NaN		NaN	NaN	N	aN	
		himobpopyear	p himo	bpopye	ar2p	leftseats	hp gd	ррср	ratiop	· \		
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	1	0.	0		0.0	0	.0 1.86	7650	0.019820			
	2	0.	0		0.0	0	.0 1.90	4639	0.017458	;		

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3202	0.		0.0	Na		NaN	
3203	0.	0 (	0.0	Na	N NaN	NaN	
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2	0.0	0.0	NaN	0.0	0.0	)	0.0
3	0.0	0.0	NaN	0.0	0.0	)	0.0
4	0.0	0.0	NaN	0.0	0.0	)	0.0
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3201	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	I :	NaN
3202	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	I :	NaN
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0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	`
1	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	
2	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	
3	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	
4	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	
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3199	NaN	NaN		NaN	NaN	NaN	
3200	NaN	NaN		NaN	NaN	NaN	
3201	NaN	NaN		NaN	NaN	NaN	
3202	NaN	NaN		NaN	NaN	NaN	
3203	NaN	NaN		NaN	NaN	NaN	
	_Idecadec_14	_Idecadec_15	_Idec	adec_16	_Idecadec_17	′_Idecadec_1	8 \
0	0.0	_		0.0	0.0		
1	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.	0
2	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.	0
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3199	0	.0 1	.0	1.0	1.0	1.0		
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0	1.0	1.0		1.0	0.0	0.000000	109.0	
1	1.0	1.0		1.0	0.0	0.000000	108.0	
2	1.0	1.0		1.0	0.0	0.000000	110.0	
3	1.0	1.0		1.0	0.0	0.000000	122.0	
4	1.0	1.0		1.0	0.0	0.000000	131.0	
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3201	1.0	1.0		1.0	0.0	1.000000	NaN	
3202	1.0	1.0		1.0	1.0	0.285714	NaN	
3203	1.0	1.0		1.0	1.0	1.000000	NaN	
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0	1805.916382	1.0	0.0		NaN		227995	
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2	NaN	1.0			NaN		227754	
3	NaN	1.0			NaN		247673	
4	NaN	1.0	0.0		NaN	0.2	284719	
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3199	18773.570310	1.0	0.0		20.000000		301402	
3200	19770.363280	1.0			30.000000		746300	
3201	18943.515630	1.0			22.428572		358764	
3202	22474.859380	1.0			28.000000		398834	
3203	16245.660160	1.0	0.0		0.000000	0.3	384631	
	milexbadjdol	hdecadec de	cadec_y					
0	0.020951	7.0	3.0					
1	0.017308	8.0	4.0					
2	0.020707	8.0	4.0					
3	0.022518	8.0	4.0					
4	0.022310	8.0	4.0					
	0.020133	0.0	4.0					
 3199	20.488001	37.0	18.0					
3200	1.560000	37.0	18.0					
3201	27.924000	37.0	18.0					
3201	2.924000	37.0	18.0					
3202	0.804000	37.0	18.0					
5205	0.004000	57.0	10.0					

[3204 rows x 67 columns]

### 1.3 Step 3: Analysis

Perform you new analysis. Interpret any graphs or regression output. How do the results change compared to the original paper/lab? This will probably take about 10-15 lines of code, and again provide 1-2 sentences explaining why you are doing what you do and explaining the results.

### Part 1

# Progressive Tax Rate vs. Inheritance Tax Rate: Can Inheritance Tax Rate be a Proxy to Taxation Policy in General?

Our original paper analyzed the effect of mass mobilization for war on progressive tax rate. However, the new data we imported analyzes inheritance tax. So, firstly we want to analyze how inheretance tax rate and progressive tax rate changed over time on the same plot.

However, data on progressive tax rate only exists for countries from the first paper. Hence, in order to do a true comparison – for this first part – we will limit our dataframe to the countries that are common in both papers.

```
[12]: common_countries = merged_table[(merged_table["country"]).isin(["usa",_
        "canada", "uk", "france",

¬"sweden", "japan"])]
      common_countries.head()
[12]:
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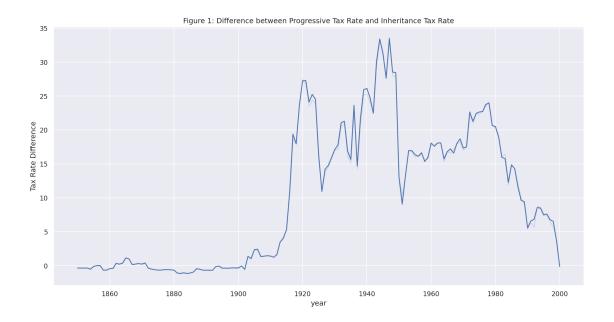
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     We will add a column to common_countries that is the difference between Progressive Tax Rate
     (topratep) and Inheritance Tax Rate (topitaxrate2).
[13]: common_countries["difference_in_tax_rates"] = common_countries["topratep"] -__

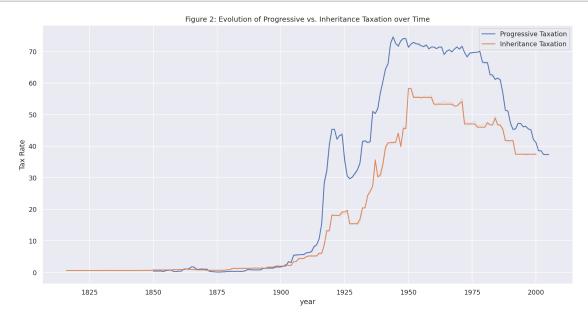
→common countries["topitaxrate2"]

     /tmp/ipykernel_25/374309041.py:1: SettingWithCopyWarning:
     A value is trying to be set on a copy of a slice from a DataFrame.
     Try using .loc[row_indexer,col_indexer] = value instead
     See the caveats in the documentation: https://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-
     docs/stable/user_guide/indexing.html#returning-a-view-versus-a-copy
       common countries["difference in tax rates"] = common countries["topratep"] -
     common_countries["topitaxrate2"]
[14]: common_countries["topratep"] - common_countries["topitaxrate2"]
[14]: 0
              0.0
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      2218
              NaN
      2499
              NaN
      2514
              NaN
      2609
              {\tt NaN}
      2618
              NaN
      Length: 1363, dtype: float64
[15]: sns.lineplot(x = "year", y= "difference_in_tax_rates", data = common_countries,__
       ⇔ci = False)
      plt.title("Figure 1: Difference between Progressive Tax Rate and Inheritance
```

→Tax Rate")

plt.ylabel("Tax Rate Difference");





The evolution of progressive and inheritance tax rates follows a similar trend. However, figure 1 shows that the difference between tax rates rise post WW1. This indicates that the inheritance tax rate isn't as affected by mass mobilization for warfare during WW1. To test if the causative relationship between mass mobilization for warfare and progressive tax rate exists between mass mobilization for warfare and inheritance tax, we will perform regression.

Below, we replicate a version of the regression we did in part 2 of the project in order to continue the above comparison between progressive tax rate and inheritance tax rate.

The dependent variable is top tax rate and independent variables are mobilization for war, male universal suffrage, proportion of left seats, GDP per capita, revenue to GDP, democracy, direct election, left executive and military expenditure.

```
[17]: smf.ols('topratep ~ wwihighmobaft + munsuff + leftseatshp + gdppcp + ratiop +

democracy + directelec + leftexec2 + Rmilexbadjdol',

data=common_countries).fit().summary()
```

## [17]: <class 'statsmodels.iolib.summary.Summary'>

# OLS Regression Results

	topratep	R-squared	:		0.799
	OLS	Adj. R-sq	uared:		0.796
L€	east Squares	F-statist	ic:		311.9
Mon,	20 Dec 2021	Prob (F-s	tatistic):	2.3	19e-239
	05:41:04	Log-Likel	ihood:	-	-2940.7
ns:	717	AIC:			5901.
	707	BIC:			5947.
	9				
e:	nonrobust				
coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	
-9.3850	2.578	-3.640	0.000	-14.447	
34.3237	1.474	23.286	0.000	31.430	
-4.7294	1.547	-3.057	0.002	-7.767	
0.1674	0.048	3.477	0.001	0.073	
0.3818	0.189	2.025	0.043	0.012	
155.3097	7.013	22.145	0.000	141.540	
	Mon, ns: coef -9.3850 34.3237 -4.7294 0.1674 0.3818	OLS Least Squares Mon, 20 Dec 2021 05:41:04 ns: 717 707 9 e: nonrobust  coef std err  -9.3850 2.578 34.3237 1.474 -4.7294 1.547 0.1674 0.048 0.3818 0.189	OLS Adj. R-sq Least Squares F-statist Mon, 20 Dec 2021 Prob (F-s 05:41:04 Log-Likel ns: 717 AIC: 707 BIC: 9 e: nonrobust  coef std err t  -9.3850 2.578 -3.640  34.3237 1.474 23.286  -4.7294 1.547 -3.057  0.1674 0.048 3.477  0.3818 0.189 2.025	OLS Adj. R-squared: Least Squares F-statistic: Mon, 20 Dec 2021 Prob (F-statistic): 05:41:04 Log-Likelihood: 15: 717 AIC: 707 BIC: 9 16: nonrobust  coef std err t P> t   -9.3850 2.578 -3.640 0.000  34.3237 1.474 23.286 0.000  -4.7294 1.547 -3.057 0.002  0.1674 0.048 3.477 0.001  0.3818 0.189 2.025 0.043	OLS Adj. R-squared: Least Squares F-statistic: Mon, 20 Dec 2021 Prob (F-statistic): 2.3 05:41:04 Log-Likelihood: The statistic of the statisti

democracy	12.7495	1.976	6.452	0.000	8.870	
16.629						
directelec	-5.4082	3.033	-1.783	0.075	-11.364	
0.547						
leftexec2	10.7669	2.309	4.663	0.000	6.233	
15.301						
Rmilexbadjdol	0.0335	0.016	2.149	0.032	0.003	
0.064						
===========				========	.=======	
Omnibus:		12.093	Durbin-Wa	atson:		0.215
Prob(Omnibus):		0.002	Jarque-B	era (JB):		19.756
Skew:		-0.077	Prob(JB)	:	5.	13e-05
Kurtosis:		3.798	Cond. No			629.
===========			.=======		.=======	

### Notes:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

11 11 11

Below we perform the same regression as above, but we change our dependent variable to inheritance tax rate.

[18]: <class 'statsmodels.iolib.summary.Summary'>

### OLS Regression Results

=========						======
Dep. Variable:	t	opitaxrate2	R-squared	.:		0.647
Model:		OLS	Adj. R-sq	uared:		0.642
Method:	Le	ast Squares	F-statist	ic:		143.9
Date:	Mon,	20 Dec 2021	Prob (F-s	tatistic):	2.	66e-153
Time:		05:41:04	Log-Likel	ihood:		-3023.1
No. Observations	:	717	AIC:			6066.
Df Residuals:		707	BIC:			6112.
Df Model:		9				
Covariance Type:		nonrobust				
=======================================	=======			=======		=======
=						
	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	
0.975]						
-						
Intercept	-8.4916	2.892	-2.936	0.003	-14.170	

Omnibus: Prob(Omnibus): Skew: Kurtosis:		21.798 0.000 0.415 3.287	Durbin-Waller Jarque-Barob (JB) Cond. No	era (JB): :		0.195 23.033 9.96e-06 629.
Rmilexbadjdol 0.248	0.2135	0.018	12.195	0.000	0.179	======
leftexec2 12.489	7.4035	2.590	2.858	0.004	2.318	
directelec 3.530	-3.1514	3.403	-0.926	0.355	-9.833	
democracy	10.3884	2.217	4.686	0.000	6.036	
0.478 ratiop 131.828	116.3816	7.868	14.793	0.000	100.935	
0.475 gdppcp	0.0625	0.212	0.296	0.768	-0.353	
-6.038 leftseatshp	0.3692	0.054	6.834	0.000	0.263	
17.305 munsuff	-9.4453	1.736	-5.442	0.000	-12.853	
-2.813 wwihighmobaft	14.0586	1.654	8.502	0.000	10.812	

#### Notes:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

11 11 11

Apart from mass mobilization for warfare, most of the other features have similar coefficients (within each others' standard deviation) for both regressions. Hence, we can assume that for the second half of the 20th century inheritance taxation is a sufficient proxy in understanding the evolution of tax rates.

### Part 2

### Political Ideology and Taxation

We want to analyze if a decrease in leftist ideology in the second part of the 20th century (fueled by Cold War) can be associated with the stagnation and decrease in high income and inheritance tax rates.

Reminder: we are using inheritance tax rates as a proxy to all high income tax rates.

Below, we create a new dataframe called post\_1950 that includes data on all countries in the merged\_table for years after 1950 (1950 included).

```
[19]: post_1950 = merged_table[merged_table["year"]>1949]
      post_1950.head()
[19]:
                   ccode year
                                 enfranchised1 enfranchised2 enfrachisement3
          country
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           rgdppc independence occupied Neightopitax2 Rmilexbadjdol \
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102 10315.544920
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                                                              148.476364
103 10612.608400
                            1.0
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                                                              152.814163
104 10359.108400
                                                     54.0
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                                                              131.127624
    milexbadjdol hdecadec decadec y
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        14.559000
                       27.0
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        33.397999
102
       47.852001
                       28.0
                                  14.0
103
       49.621010
                       28.0
                                  14.0
104
       42.785999
                       28.0
                                  14.0
```

The below code is to analyze the different values for leftexec2.

italy

japan

korea

norway

sweden switzerland

uk

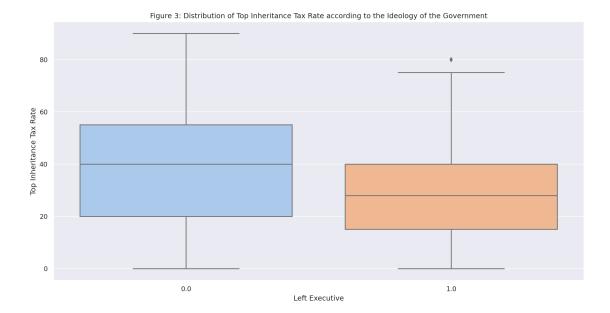
usa

netherlands

new zealand

[20]: pd.crosstab(post\_1950["country"], post\_1950["leftexec2"]) [20]: leftexec2 0.000000 0.142857 0.285714 1.000000 country australia austria belgium canada denmark finland france germany ireland 

Switzerland is the only country with nonbinary values attached to leftexec 2. In order to avoid any errors that might have happened during data entry and in order to make the figure below easier to read, we will remove Switzerland from our analysis.



The box plots show that the median tax rate is 10 points lower for left-wing governments compared to right wing governments. They illustrate that in general right executives are associated with high tax rates. This finding contradicts common belief. We will further analyze it with the regression below.

In the regression below, top inheritance tax rate is our dependent variable and left executive is our main independent variable. We use war mobilization, GDP per Capita and military expenditure as control variables.

```
[22]: smf.ols('topitaxrate2 ~ leftexec2 + himobpopyear2p + himobpopyearp + gdppc +<sub>□</sub> ⇔Rmilexbadjdol', data=post_1950).fit().summary()
```

[22]: <class 'statsmodels.iolib.summary.Summary'>

### OLS Regression Results

=======================================	.=========		=========
Dep. Variable:	topitaxrate2	R-squared:	0.168
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.164
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	40.54
Date:	Mon, 20 Dec 2021	<pre>Prob (F-statistic):</pre>	5.85e-31
Time:	05:41:05	Log-Likelihood:	-3565.0
No. Observations:	806	AIC:	7140.
Df Residuals:	801	BIC:	7163.
Df Model:	4		
Covariance Type:	nonrobust		

==

0 0753	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	
0.975]						
Intercept 40.625	38.7046	0.978	39.559	0.000	36.784	
leftexec2 -4.738	-7.7443	1.532	-5.056	0.000	-10.751	
himobpopyear2p 28.646	14.4378	7.238	1.995	0.046	0.230	
himobpopyearp 3.7e-14	1.966e-14	8.84e-15	2.223	0.027	2.3e-15	
gdppc 3.37e-07	-4.673e-08	1.96e-07	-0.239	0.811	-4.31e-07	
Rmilexbadjdol 0.236	0.1976	0.020	10.012	0.000	0.159	
 Omnibus:	=========	======================================	======= Durbin-Wat	======= taon:	========	0.771
Prob(Omnibus):		0.000				34.975
Skew:		0.381	- ·	Lu (0D).	2	54e-08
Kurtosis:		2.322	Cond. No.			46e+23
=========						=====

#### Notes:

The above regression also illustrates a clear negative association between left executive and top tax rates for the period after 1950.

### 1.4 Step 4: Conclusion

What did you learn form this exercise? How would you extend or modify your analysis if you had more time/data available? (5-10 sentences)

When we first embarked on this analysis, we believed that the decline in high income and inheritance tax rates in the second half of 20th century would be strongly associated with the decline of leftist ideology. However, our analysis showed that, contrary to common belief, left executives were associated with lower high income tax rates.

However, we believe that our data is insufficient to actually conclude that there is a negative causation between left leaning governments and high income taxation. There is simply too many confounding variables and the dataset is limited to the same kind of countries.

As of know, our analysis doesn't contradict any of the findings in the original paper. On the contrary, it reinforces them.

<sup>[1]</sup> Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

<sup>[2]</sup> The smallest eigenvalue is 1.58e-32. This might indicate that there are strong multicollinearity problems or that the design matrix is singular.

However, we want to truly understand how taxation is influenced in times of no mass mobilization. Hence, if we had more time and resources we would extend our analysis to all countries. We would gather data on progressive tax rates, type of regime, ideology of government, gdp per capita, military expenditure, tax revenue per capita on all countries around the world starting from 1950 to 2020. We understand that the cold war and the existence of communist regimes might make it impossible to find this data. However, we should expand our dataset.

Finally, this exercise showed us the importance of performing qualitative research alongside quantitative research. During this post WW2 period, it would be interesting to more deeply analyze the particular moments that led to policy decisions in certain countries to cut down high income taxation. Was it due to lobbying groups? Domestic pressure? Change in political party? All of these questions can be answered substantively thorough qualitative research on certain case studies.

[]: