Capstone

Project Proposal

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Project 1 - Voting Behavior

Goal

Look into the relationship between major sources of funding from special interest groups and voting behaviors in Congress.

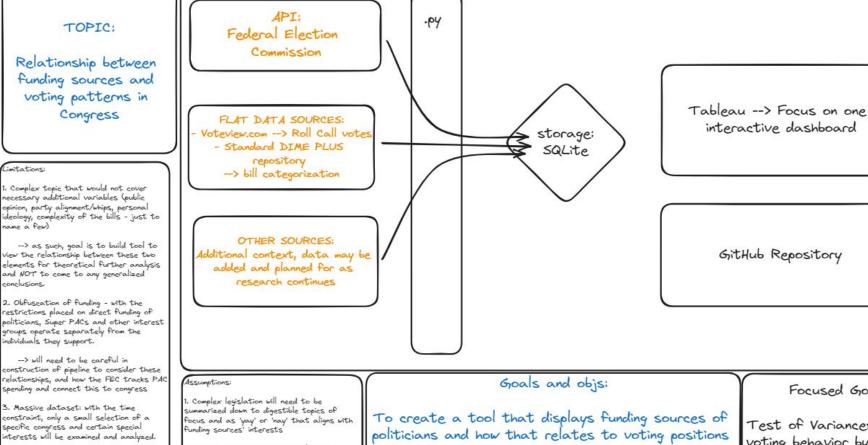
Datasets

- Federal Election Commission API (millions of possible rows)
- Voteview flat files on roll calls (largest of three - 586665 x 6)
- DIME PLUS flat file on legislation analysis (3182 x 33)

Approach

 Focus on data collection funnel of big data into summarized data for analysis

- Testing for variances among voting behavior
 - Do congresspeople funded by the same interest groups act the same?
 As expected by single interest group?



3. Massive dataset: with the time constraint, only a small selection of a specific congress and certain special interests will be examined and analyzed.

--> goal is for backend to be documented in a way for anyone to pick up and apply for different funding/interest groups, in a different time period

To create a tool that displays funding sources of politicians and how that relates to voting positions

(but cannot be used for sweeping generalizations of motive due to complexity! Only digestible summary of information and potential correlations)

Focused Goal:

Test of Variances among voting behavior by funding committees (and additional groupings)

Project 2 - US Wages and Unions

Goals

Look into the relationship between US wages by industry and occupation, and the influence of union membership and strike initiatives.

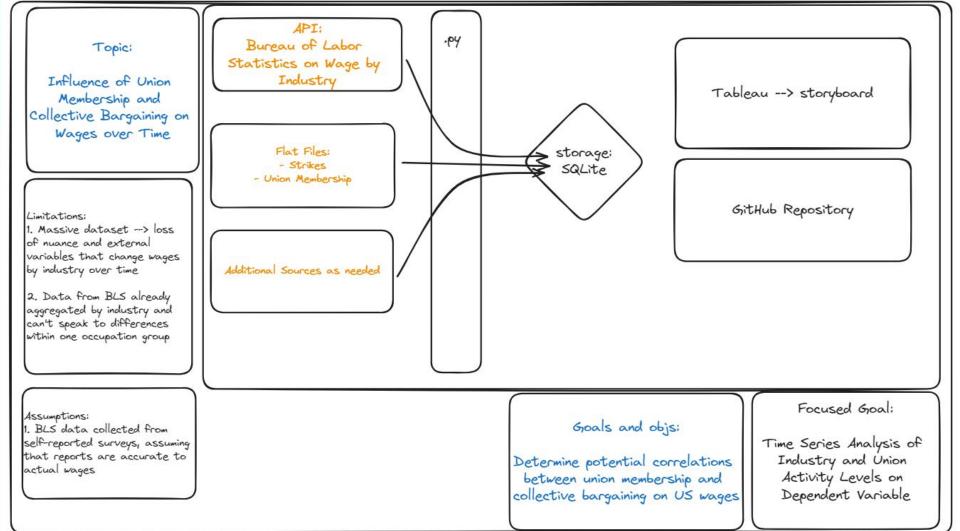
Datasets

- Bureau of Labor Statistics API (millions of possible rows)
- Strike actions (by year) flat file (35000 x 15)
- Union membership (by year) flat file $(7,500 \times 5)$

Approach

- Time series analysis
 - Comparing industries with strong union presence or notable action to those without

 Additional focus on data collection of large dataset from API into summarizable data



Thanks!

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