

# How has the Brazilian Amazon been constructed as a problem - presidential speeches and transnational politics since 1985

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*We need to protect the Amazon from foreign interests.*

*We need to exploit the Amazon's natural resources.*

*We need to provide better living standards for the people in the Amazon.*

*We need to preserve the Amazon as a standing ecosystem.*

```
knitr::include_graphics("amazon_basin.jpeg")
```



## Question

*How the Brazilian Amazon has been constructed as a problem in transnational presidential speeches since 1985?*

## Data and methods

- Dataset containing all 6130 official speeches by presidents since 1985
- Subset of 2014 “amazonian statements”
- Location
- Hand-coding and supervised machine learning
- Can you think of some limitations with this?

knitr::include\_graphics("figure1pic.png")

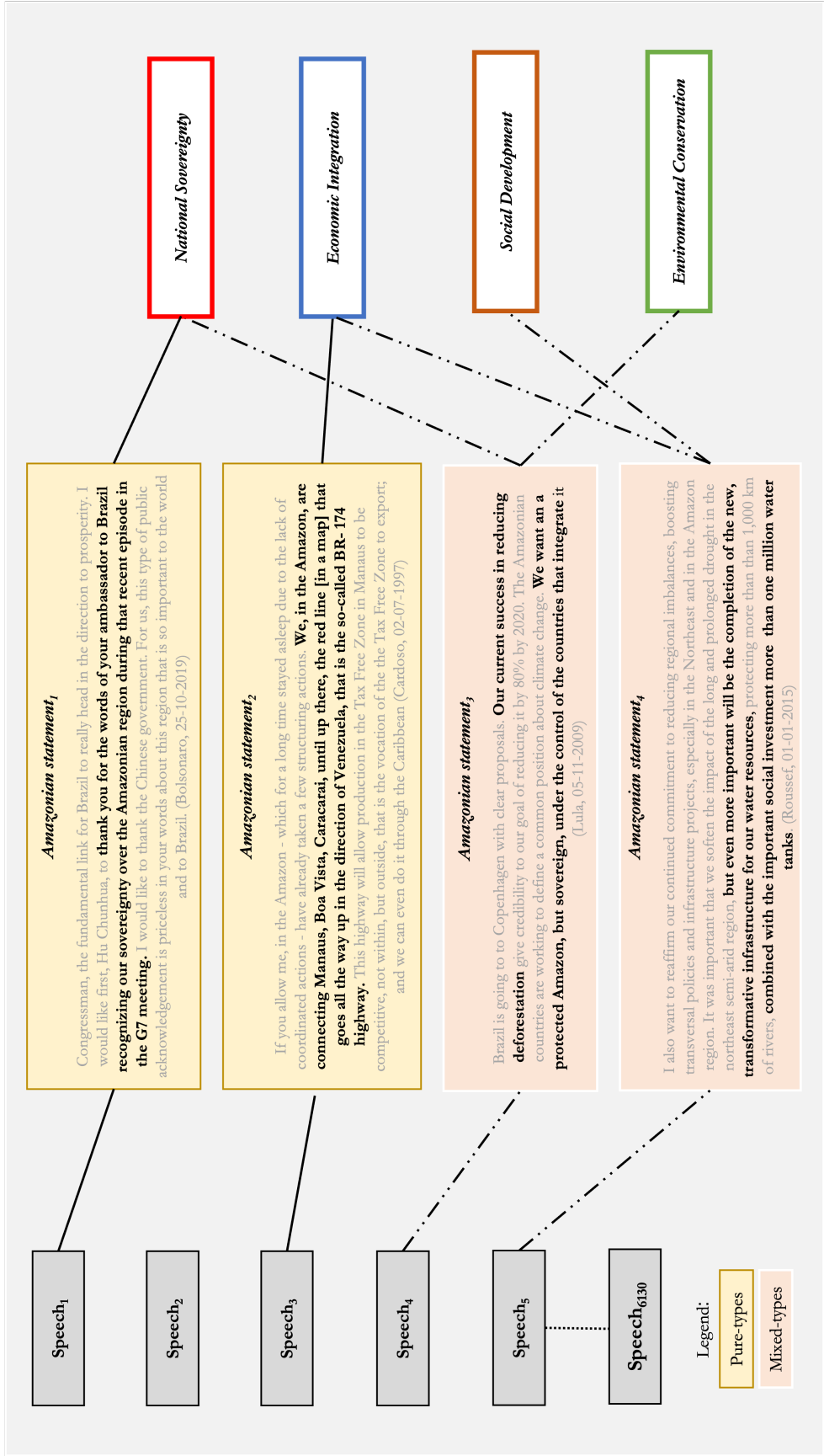


Figure 2: Operationalization of problem-constructions

## A simple logistic regression

Why do we use a logistic model and not a linear one here?

```
ama_model <- dplyr::left_join(ama_mx, amazon_def_year, by = "year") #merge
ama_model <- dplyr::left_join(ama_model, AAI, by = "year") #merge
ama_model <- filter(ama_model, location_cat != "Non Identified",
                    mx_cat != "Other Mixed-types") %>%
  mutate(con_vs_all = ifelse(mx_cat == "Pure Environmental Conservation", 1, 0),
         EI_vs_all = ifelse(mx_cat == "Pure Economic Integration", 1, 0),
         SD_vs_all = ifelse(mx_cat == "Pure Social Development", 1, 0),
         sov_vs_all = ifelse(mx_cat == "Pure National Sovereignty", 1, 0))
#model
model_logit_con <- glm(con_vs_all ~ km_to_manaus + election_year + def_year + AAI,
                      family=binomial(link = "logit"), data = ama_model)
summary(model_logit_con)
```

```
##
## Call:
## glm(formula = con_vs_all ~ km_to_manaus + election_year + def_year +
##      AAI, family = binomial(link = "logit"), data = ama_model)
##
## Deviance Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -1.3118  -0.5825  -0.5130  -0.4377   2.3245
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
## (Intercept) -1.71845866  0.19066729  -9.013 < 0.0000000000000002 ***
## km_to_manaus  0.00011555  0.00002145   5.386  0.0000000719 ***
## election_year  0.28790781  0.15665954   1.838   0.066093 .
## def_year     -0.03173895  0.01129821  -2.809   0.004966 **
## AAI           0.00038679  0.00010404   3.718   0.000201 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## (Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)
##
##      Null deviance: 1549.3  on 1841  degrees of freedom
## Residual deviance: 1497.3  on 1837  degrees of freedom
## AIC: 1507.3
##
## Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 4
```

Need an easy publication table?

```
con_model <- stargazer::stargazer(model_logit_con, header = FALSE)
```

Table 1:

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>
	con_vs_all
km_to_manaus	0.0001*** (0.00002)
election_year	0.288* (0.157)
def_year	-0.032*** (0.011)
AAI	0.0004*** (0.0001)
Constant	-1.718*** (0.191)
Observations	1,842
Log Likelihood	-748.648
Akaike Inf. Crit.	1,507.296

Note: \*p<0.1; \*\*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.01

What are log-odds

## What about time effects?

Does time matter?

```
ols <- plm::plm(con_vs_all ~ km_to_manaus + election_year + def_year + AAI,  
               data = ama_model, model = "pooling", index = c("year"))  
fixed <- plm::plm(con_vs_all ~ km_to_manaus + election_year + def_year + AAI,  
                 data = ama_model, model = "within", index = c("year"))  
random <- plm::plm(con_vs_all ~ km_to_manaus + election_year + def_year + AAI,  
                  data = ama_model, model = "random", index = c("year"))  
summary(ols)
```

```
## Pooling Model
```

```
##
```

```
## Call:
```

```
## plm::plm(formula = con_vs_all ~ km_to_manaus + election_year +
```

```
##       def_year + AAI, data = ama_model, model = "pooling", index = c("year"))
```

```
##
```

```
## Unbalanced Panel: n = 37, T = 1-138, N = 1842
```

```
##
## Residuals:
##      Min.      1st Qu.      Median      3rd Qu.      Max.
## -0.470289 -0.158090 -0.126625 -0.082295  0.953062
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate      Std. Error t-value      Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)  0.1429802958  0.0235559575   6.0698 0.000000001552 ***
## km_to_manaus  0.0000178431  0.0000032303   5.5237 0.000000037934 ***
## election_year  0.0359069945  0.0199552120   1.7994  0.0721228 .
## def_year     -0.0033476666  0.0012965902  -2.5819  0.0099026 **
## AAI          0.0000552053  0.0000146958   3.7565  0.0001776 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Total Sum of Squares:    233.24
## Residual Sum of Squares: 226.09
## R-Squared:    0.030665
## Adj. R-Squared: 0.028555
## F-statistic: 14.5286 on 4 and 1837 DF, p-value: 0.0000000001099
```

```
summary(fixed)
```

```
## Oneway (individual) effect Within Model
##
## Call:
## plm::plm(formula = con_vs_all ~ km_to_manaus + election_year +
##      def_year + AAI, data = ama_model, model = "within", index = c("year"))
##
## Unbalanced Panel: n = 37, T = 1-138, N = 1842
##
## Residuals:
##      Min.      1st Qu.      Median      3rd Qu.      Max.
## -0.729676 -0.166751 -0.117960 -0.045981  0.970345
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate      Std. Error t-value      Pr(>|t|)
## km_to_manaus  0.0000152831  0.0000033197   4.6037 0.000004441 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Total Sum of Squares:    220.46
## Residual Sum of Squares: 217.9
## R-Squared:    0.011612
## Adj. R-Squared: -0.0086599
## F-statistic: 21.194 on 1 and 1804 DF, p-value: 0.0000044405
```

```
summary(random)
```

```
## Oneway (individual) effect Random Effect Model
##      (Swamy-Arora's transformation)
##
## Call:
```

```

## plm::plm(formula = con_vs_all ~ km_to_manaus + election_year +
##   def_year + AAI, data = ama_model, model = "random", index = c("year"))
##
## Unbalanced Panel: n = 37, T = 1-138, N = 1842
##
## Effects:
##               var   std.dev share
## idiosyncratic 0.120789 0.347547 0.981
## individual    0.002288 0.047836 0.019
## theta:
##   Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
## 0.00934 0.26150 0.35206 0.33835 0.42343 0.47400
##
## Residuals:
##   Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
## -0.46769 -0.16706 -0.12348 -0.00009 -0.07395  0.95696
##
## Coefficients:
##               Estimate   Std. Error z-value   Pr(>|z|)
## (Intercept)  0.1648304527  0.0331734180  4.9688 0.0000006739 ***
## km_to_manaus  0.0000166369  0.0000032727  5.0835 0.0000003706 ***
## election_year  0.0271240068  0.0298012337  0.9102  0.36274
## def_year      -0.0044176296  0.0018997506 -2.3254  0.02005 *
## AAI           0.0000516826  0.0000220758  2.3411  0.01922 *
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Total Sum of Squares:    228.22
## Residual Sum of Squares: 223.14
## R-Squared:    0.022236
## Adj. R-Squared: 0.020107
## Chisq: 38.5979 on 4 DF, p-value: 0.000000084344

```



## The Amazon multi-level game: talking to the people inside

Can you see the relationship?

```
# other models
model_logit_ei <- glm(EI_vs_all ~ km_to_manaus + election_year + def_year + AAI,
  family=binomial(link = "logit"), data = ama_model)
model_logit_sd <- glm(SD_vs_all ~ km_to_manaus + election_year + def_year + AAI,
  family=binomial(link = "logit"), data = ama_model)
model_logit_sov <- glm(sovs_vs_all ~ km_to_manaus + election_year + def_year + AAI,
  family=binomial(link = "logit"), data = ama_model)

#Plot model
ama_model$"Environmental Conservation" = predict(model_logit_con, ama_model, type = "response")
ama_model$"Economic Integration" = predict(model_logit_ei, ama_model, type = "response")
ama_model$"Social Development" = predict(model_logit_sd, ama_model, type = "response")
ama_model$"National Sovereignty" = predict(model_logit_sov, ama_model, type = "response")
plot_loc <- ama_model %>% gather(key=p_c, value = pred, 22:25)
plot_loc$p_c <- factor(plot_loc$p_c, levels = c("Economic Integration",
  "Environmental Conservation",
  "Social Development",
  "National Sovereignty"))

ggplot(plot_loc, aes(x = km_to_manaus, y=pred, color=p_c)) +
  geom_jitter(alpha=1, size=1) +
  geom_smooth(size = .5, se=FALSE) +
  scale_y_continuous(labels = percent_format()) +
  labs(x = "Distance from the Amazon (km)",
    y = "",
    title = "Predicted probability of each problem-construction as a function of distance from the Amazon",
    caption = "Curves in the plots are estimated using loess method.") +
  theme(text = element_text(size=11, family="Times"),
    panel.background = element_rect("white", "black", .5, "solid"),
    panel.grid.major = element_line(color = "grey", linewidth = 0.2,
      linetype = "solid"),
    axis.text = element_text(color = "black", size = 11),
    title = element_text(color = "black", size = 12, face = "bold"),
    legend.title = element_blank(),
    plot.subtitle = element_text(color = "black", size = 11, face = "plain"),
    legend.position = "none") +
  facet_wrap(~p_c, ncol=2)
```

### Predicted probability of each problem–construction as a function of dis

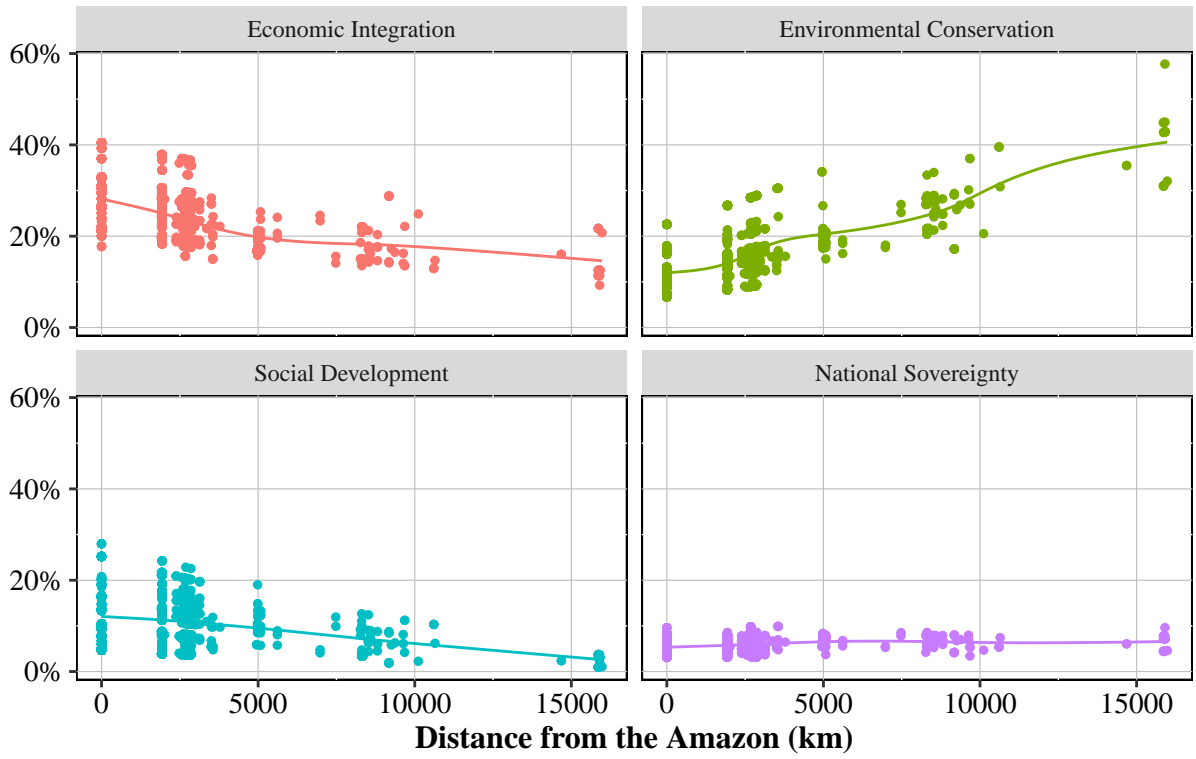


Figure 3: Logistic Regression predicted values

## The Amazon multi-level game: boasting policy outside

Why should we divide distances to Manaus?

```
ama_model$thousand_km<- ama_model$km_to_manaus/1000
model_logit_con2 <- glm(con_vs_all ~ thousand_km + election_year + def_year + AAI,
  family=binomial(link = "logit"), data = ama_model)
model_logit_ei2 <- glm(EI_vs_all ~ thousand_km + election_year + def_year + AAI,
  family=binomial(link = "logit"), data = ama_model)
model_logit_sd2 <- glm(SD_vs_all ~ thousand_km + election_year + def_year + AAI,
  family=binomial(link = "logit"), data = ama_model)
model_logit_sov2 <- glm(sovs_vs_all ~ thousand_km + election_year + def_year + AAI,
  family=binomial(link = "logit"), data = ama_model)
md <- stargazer::stargazer(model_logit_con2, model_logit_ei2, model_logit_sd2,
  model_logit_sov2, digits = 6, header = FALSE,
  dep.var.labels = c("Conservation", "Economic Integration",
    "Social Development", "Sovereignty"),
  covariate.labels = c("Distance from the Amazon in 1000s of km",
    "Election year", "Yearly Deforestation",
    "Yearly Inflation"), no.space = TRUE,
  title = "Logistic Regression Models")
```

Table 2: Logistic Regression Models

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>		
	Conservation	Economic Integration	Social Development
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Distance from the Amazon in 1000s of km	0.115554*** (0.021453)	−0.056590** (0.023979)	−0.101285** (0.039849)
Election year	0.287908* (0.156660)	−0.022328 (0.132762)	0.328917* (0.171163)
Yearly Deforestation	−0.031739*** (0.011298)	0.040870*** (0.008404)	−0.072349*** (0.013232)
Yearly Inflation	0.000387*** (0.000104)	−0.000231** (0.000104)	−0.000205 (0.000151)
Constant	−1.718459*** (0.190667)	−1.568837*** (0.159988)	−0.909845*** (0.213791)
Observations	1,842	1,842	1,842
Log Likelihood	−748.648200	−1,022.790000	−620.264400
Akaike Inf. Crit.	1,507.296000	2,055.579000	1,250.529000

*Note:*

\*p&lt;0.1; \*\*p&lt;0.0