Bachelor Thesis Notes

Contents

1. Introduction
- Koch Industries example (2016 elections)
  - ‣ use opensecrets data
- sections in thesis
- literature & methods used

2. Literature Review / Institutional Settings

2.1. Money in politics literature (economics and political science)
- Stratmann, 2005 - Money in Politics

2.2. Causal effect of campaign money on representatives' voting decisions.

3. Methodology

3.1. Strattman paper vs. mine

3.2. Data

3.2.1. types of data
1. sources
2. (cleaning?)

3.3. Models
1. Robustness Checks

4. Results

4.1. discuss differences with Strattman due to difference in legislation
1. Discussion
2. Conclusion

Tables to replicate

Replicate Strattmann table with the following data out of 725, 557 are vote repeaters, 6 votes 23 mind changers, out of 557 96 people voted + on all bills, out of 557 71 voted on all bills, out of 557 find how many voted + and then from vote changers (then mark which bill) 5 + 2 person voted + and then on 6 bills find how many voted and then + from vote changers (then mark which bill) 5 + 16 persons voted and then + on the bills

data cleaning problems

- merging names of diff sources (rollcall, financial, not uniform names)
- added ID column (and used fuzzyjoin & stringdist)
- stringsim/ fuzzy matching(choose the best option)
- clean_strings for removing accents, special symbols in names

Model

- 3 OLS models
- time and state fixed effects (state,i.e. oil & political leaning)
- DW Sentiment index?

Questions for Professors when reviewing methodology

- is there a bias i am creating because i am using the general sample and then just the subsample that will distort my results (never select based on outcome)
- control for party