**IM Agenda**

**Project**: 23-056

**Current Stage**: Analysis (all data have been collected).

**Deadline**: Ph.D. Dissertation, Journal Article (4/30/2023）

**Background & Aim**:

Disinformation dissemination impacts party reputation that matters for reelection chances. Recent societal developments and the advent of social media and networked communication altered its reputational cost and lowered the bar of its spread.

This project use regression to investigate the relationship between the dependent variable “party dissemination of disinformation domestically” and explanatory variables like “political polarization”, “electoral system”, and etc.

The client develops a reputational cost theory of disinformation dissemination and uses this regression to test it. Specifically, the client wants to test hypotheses like countries with high  
political polarization and media fractionalization incentivize politicians to use disinformation.

**Discussion Points**:

1. For the dependent variable “party dissemination of disinformation domestically”, it seems the original data is 5-point Likert scale data.

--Curious why the client convert it to [-5, 5].

2. The client uses cross-sectional time series data from the Digital Society Project, V-Dem and V-Party from 2000-2021. Some datasets are between the years 2000-2021 and some starts from 2016.

--better to ask client to present some details of the datasets. She also mentions Unit of Analysis: country-year. Not clear what it is.

3. The client mentions different ways of analyzing the data, for example, panel corrected SEs vs clustered SEs, fixed effects, MICE for dealing with missing data, and etc. She wants to know which one fits best. This might be her main question.

--fixed effect here means linear mixed model?

4. She mentions that she wants to address the following question:

“Politicians in democracies should care about reputation for re-election chances. So why risk it by disseminating disinformation?”

--I feel this question is not related to the project description.