

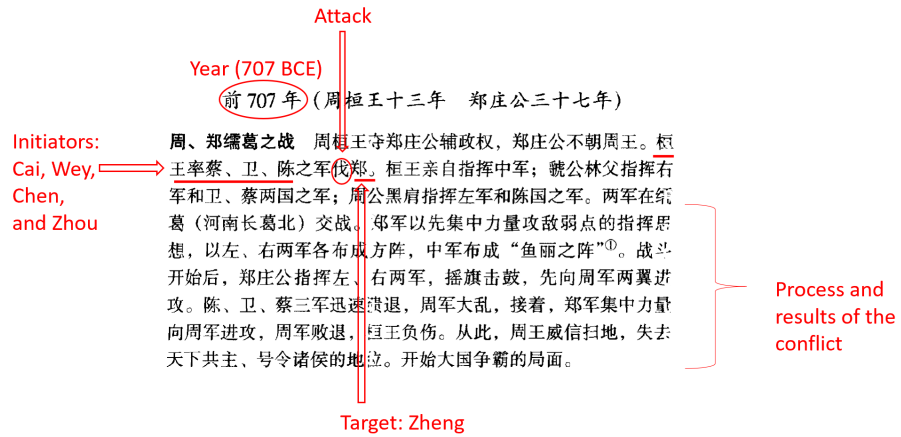
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1 Coding Examples

Coding Example: Chronology of Wars in China Through Successive Dynasties



Coding Example: Zuo Commentary



2 Terminologies

Terminologies

“Ancient China”: I use the word “ancient China” to refer to “an era within the geographical confines of modern China that was the cradle of Chinese culture and civilization (Zhao, 2015, p. 51).”

“Feudal system”: the concept of feudalism was created to depict European phenomena, and it imposes inaccuracies when applied to the Chinese context. I fully acknowledge that there is a debate on whether it is appropriate to use the term “feudalism” to describe the political and economic system of the Western Zhou.

3 Alternative Models Using Leaders’ Tenure

Table A1: Conditional Logit Models: Directed-Dyad-Year as Unit of Analysis

	(1) Model 1	(2) Model 2	(3) Model 3
Years since death of initiator	0.014*** (0.003)	0.014*** (0.003)	0.012*** (0.003)
Years since death of target	0.004 (0.003)	0.003 (0.003)	0.002 (0.003)
State capacity of initiator		0.025 (0.096)	0.022 (0.094)
State capacity of target		0.194+ (0.099)	0.185+ (0.096)
Y(t-1)			0.445** (0.156)
t	-0.113*** (0.016)	-0.113*** (0.016)	-0.110*** (0.017)
t ²	0.001*** (0.000)	0.001*** (0.000)	0.001*** (0.000)
t ³	-0.000* (0.000)	-0.000* (0.000)	-0.000* (0.000)
Observations	46332	46332	46185
Clusters	147	147	147

Standard errors in parentheses

+ $p < 0.10$, * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

4 Robustness Checks

4.1 Cluster Standard Errors at Different Levels

Table A2: Conditional Logit Models: Directed-Dyad as Unit of Analysis

	(1) Model 1	(2) Model 2	(3) Model 3	(4) Model 4
Death of initiator	-1.447*** (0.317)	-1.526*** (0.318)	-1.526*** (0.316)	-1.558*** (0.316)
Death of target	-0.173 (0.210)	-0.232 (0.215)	-0.230 (0.215)	-0.254 (0.212)
State capacity of initiator			0.207* (0.083)	0.192* (0.080)
State capacity of target			0.005 (0.081)	0.002 (0.079)
Y(t-1)				0.661*** (0.126)
t		-0.111*** (0.016)	-0.110*** (0.016)	-0.107*** (0.016)
t^2		0.001*** (0.000)	0.001*** (0.000)	0.001*** (0.000)
t^3		-0.000* (0.000)	-0.000* (0.000)	-0.000* (0.000)
Dyad FE	YES	YES	YES	YES
Observations	52588	52588	52418	52418
Clusters	85	85	85	85

Standard errors in parentheses, clustered by dyad.

+ $p < 0.10$, * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

4.2 Rare Event Logit Models

Table A3: Rare Event Logit Models

	(1) Model 1	(2) Model 2	(3) Model 3	(4) Model 4
Death of initiator	-1.357*** (0.349)	-1.445*** (0.343)	-1.452*** (0.338)	-1.498*** (0.337)
Death of target	-0.150 (0.200)	-0.217 (0.206)	-0.224 (0.210)	-0.257 (0.210)
State capacity of initiator			0.240*** (0.046)	0.220*** (0.042)
State capacity of target			0.050 (0.034)	0.044 (0.032)
Y(t-1)				0.862*** (0.151)
t		-0.125*** (0.017)	-0.118*** (0.017)	-0.114*** (0.017)
t ²		0.001*** (0.000)	0.001*** (0.000)	0.001*** (0.000)
t ³		-0.000* (0.000)	-0.000* (0.000)	-0.000* (0.000)
Observations	69798	69798	69550	69550
Clusters	248	248	248	248

Standard errors in parentheses, clustered by directed-dyad

+ $p < 0.10$, * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

4.3 Linear Models

Table A4: Linear Models

	(1) Model 1	(2) Model 2	(3) Model 3	(4) Model 4
Death of initiator	-0.008*** (0.001)	-0.009*** (0.001)	-0.009*** (0.001)	-0.009*** (0.001)
Death of target	-0.001 (0.002)	-0.002 (0.002)	-0.002 (0.002)	-0.002 (0.002)
State capacity of initiator			-0.000 (0.001)	-0.000 (0.001)
State capacity of target			0.001 (0.001)	0.001 (0.001)
Y(t-1)				0.087*** (0.016)
t		-0.001*** (0.000)	-0.001*** (0.000)	-0.001*** (0.000)
t^2		0.000*** (0.000)	0.000*** (0.000)	0.000*** (0.000)
t^3		-0.000*** (0.000)	-0.000*** (0.000)	-0.000*** (0.000)
Directed-dyad FE	YES	YES	YES	YES
Observations	69798	69798	69798	69550
Clusters	248	248	248	248

Standard errors in parentheses, clustered by directed-dyad

+ $p < 0.10$, * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

4.4 Include Network Centrality Measures

Table A5: Conditional Logit Models: with Network Centrality Measures

	(1) Model 1	(2) Model 2
Death of initiator	-1.592*** (0.339)	-1.605*** (0.338)
Death of target	-0.222 (0.213)	-0.231 (0.213)
State capacity of initiator	-0.009 (0.093)	-0.055 (0.085)
State capacity of target	0.246* (0.096)	0.105 (0.108)
Initiator betweenness centrality	0.007+ (0.004)	
Target betweenness centrality	-0.009** (0.003)	
Initiator eigenvector centrality		3.915*** (0.634)
Target eigenvector centrality		2.394*** (0.582)
Y(t-1)	0.467** (0.155)	0.412** (0.155)
t	-0.109*** (0.017)	-0.105*** (0.017)
t ²	0.001*** (0.000)	0.001** (0.000)
t ³	-0.000* (0.000)	-0.000* (0.000)
Directed-dyad FE	YES	YES
Observations	46185	46185
Clusters	147	147

Standard errors in parentheses, clustered by directed-dyad

+ $p < 0.10$, * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

4.5 Exclude Periods of Qin's Unification War

Table A6: Conditional Logit Models: Exclude Periods of Qin's Unification War

	(1) Model 1	(2) Model 2	(3) Model 3	(4) Model 4
Death of initiator	-1.458*** (0.341)	-1.551*** (0.338)	-1.552*** (0.339)	-1.584*** (0.340)
Death of target	-0.135 (0.208)	-0.192 (0.214)	-0.191 (0.214)	-0.208 (0.213)
State capacity of initiator			0.002 (0.098)	-0.004 (0.095)
State capacity of target			0.195* (0.098)	0.184+ (0.095)
Y(t-1)				0.483** (0.158)
t		-0.111*** (0.016)	-0.110*** (0.016)	-0.108*** (0.017)
t ²		0.001*** (0.000)	0.001*** (0.000)	0.001*** (0.000)
t ³		-0.000* (0.000)	-0.000* (0.000)	-0.000* (0.000)
Directed-dyad FE	YES	YES	YES	YES
Observations	45942	45942	45942	45795
Clusters	147	147	147	147

Standard errors in parentheses, clustered by directed-dyad

+ $p < 0.10$, * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

4.6 Take Out a State One by One

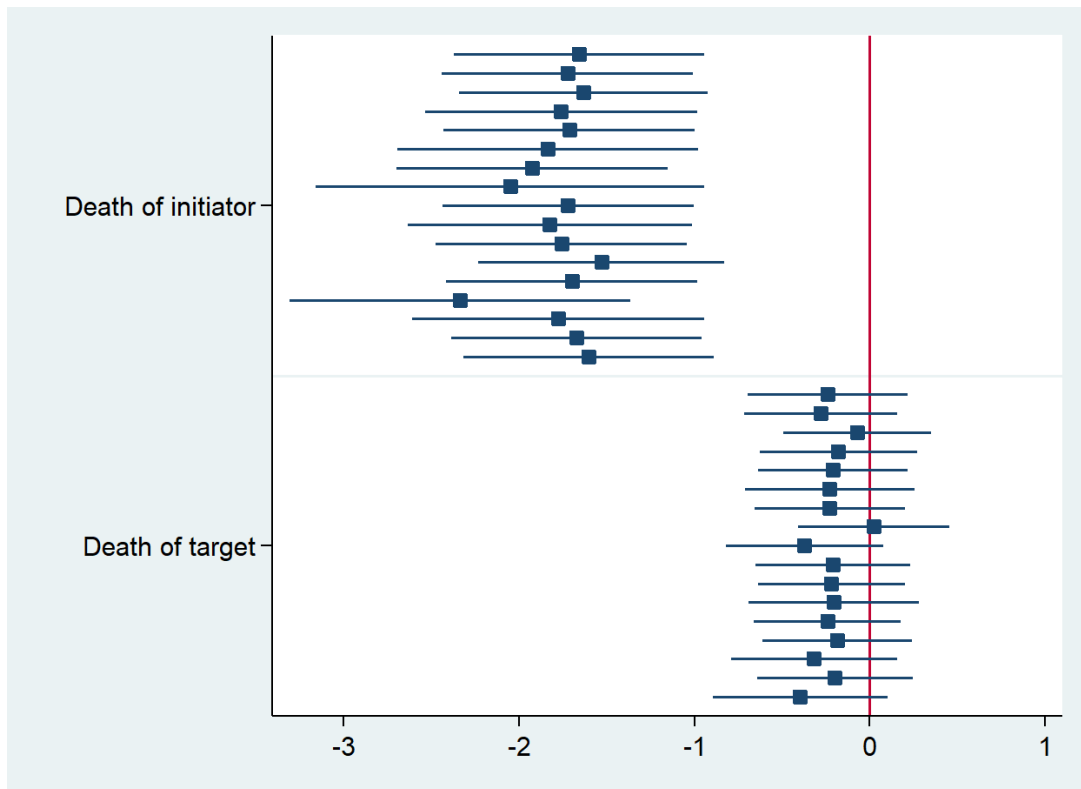


Figure A1: Coefficient Plots of Leaders' Natural Death: Take Out a State from the Sample One by One

5 Placebo Tests

Table A7: Conditional Logit Models table

	(1) Model 1	(2) Model 2	(3) Model 3
Death of initiator (t-1)	-0.261 (0.226)		
Death of target (t-1)	-0.135 (0.206)		
Death of initiator (t-2)		0.144 (0.207)	
Death of target (t-2)		-0.118 (0.199)	
Death of initiator (t+1)			0.167 (0.164)
Death of target leader(t+1)			0.227 (0.179)
t	-0.113*** (0.017)	-0.115*** (0.017)	-0.116*** (0.020)
t ²	0.001*** (0.000)	0.001*** (0.000)	0.001** (0.000)
t ³	-0.000* (0.000)	-0.000* (0.000)	-0.000* (0.000)
Directed-dyad FE	YES	YES	YES
Observations	46185	46038	46185
Clusters	147	147	147

Standard errors in parentheses, clustered by directed-dyad.

+ $p < 0.10$, * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

6 External Validity

Table A8: Leadership Turnover and the Onset of Militarized Interstate Disputes

	(1) Logit	(2) Conditional Logit	(3) Linear Fixed Effects	(4) Linear Random Effects
Death of initiator	-0.470* (0.227)	-0.673** (0.223)	-0.002*** (0.000)	-0.002*** (0.000)
Death of target	0.196 (0.171)	0.171 (0.179)	0.000 (0.001)	0.001 (0.001)
Democracy of initiator	-0.312** (0.098)	-0.354* (0.145)	-0.001* (0.000)	-0.001*** (0.000)
Democracy of target	-0.154 (0.107)	-0.300* (0.141)	-0.000 (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)
Y(t-1)	5.178*** (0.075)	1.495*** (0.085)	0.165*** (0.011)	0.200*** (0.012)
t	-1.198** (0.441)	-0.493 (0.501)	-0.002 (0.001)	-0.003* (0.001)
t ²	0.000** (0.000)	0.000 (0.000)	0.000 (0.000)	0.000* (0.000)
Constant	1192.535** (436.111)		2.095 (1.346)	2.917* (1.284)
Observations	936874	36099	936874	936874
Clusters	23008	697	23008	23008

Robust Standard errors in parentheses, clustered at the directed-dyad level

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

“Death of target” is automatically dropped out of the logit model because of perfect prediction

“t³” is automatically dropped out of the models because of multicollinearity

References

Zhao, Dingxin. (2015). *The confucian-legalist state: A new theory of chinese history*.
Oxford University Press.