

ESCALATION OF GREAT POWER DISPUTES:
DETERRENCE VERSUS STRUCTURAL REALISM, 1816-1984

(ICPSR 6355)

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DATA COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Paul Huth, Christopher Gelpi, and D. Scott Bennett

ESCALATION OF GREAT POWER DISPUTES: DETERRENCE VERSUS
STRUCTURAL REALISM, 1816-1984 (ICPSR 6355)

SUMMARY: The purpose of this study was to test the relative explanatory power of two theoretical approaches--deterrence theory and structural realism--in predicting dispute escalation among "Great Powers" from 1816 to 1984. The Great Powers during this time period are identified as Great Britain, France, Russia/Soviet Union, Austria-Hungary, Prussia/Germany, Italy, the United States, Japan, and China. A Great Power deterrence encounter is defined by the explicit verbal threat of force or the movement and buildup of military forces in preparation for armed conflict by a challenging Great Power and a counterthreat by the defending Great Power. Variables measure dispute escalation, system uncertainty, risk propensity, balance of conventional military capabilities of challenger and defender, defender's possession of second-strike nuclear capability, interests at stake for challenger and defender, past behavior of challenger and defender, and current dispute involvement of challenger and defender.

UNIVERSE: Deterrence encounters involving Great Powers during the period 1816-1984.

NOTE: Data for this study were extracted in part from CORRELATES OF WAR PROJECT: INTERNATIONAL AND CIVIL WAR DATA, 1816-1992 (ICPSR 9905) and POLITY DATA: PERSISTENCE AND CHANGE IN POLITICAL SYSTEMS, 1800-1971 (ICPSR 5010). For a more detailed description of the current dataset, users may consult the related publications listed below.

EXTENT OF COLLECTION: 2 data files + machine-readable documentation (text) + SAS data definition statements + SPSS data definition statements

EXTENT OF PROCESSING: CONCHK.PR/ DDEF.ICPSR/ MDATA.PR/ REFORM.DOC/
UNDOCCHK.PR

DATA FORMAT: Logical Record Length with SAS and SPSS data definition statements and SPSS Export File

Part 1: Deterrence Final
Equation Data
File Structure: rectangular
Cases: 97
Variables: 31
Record Length: 243
Records Per Case: 1

Part 4: Deterrence
Variables Data
File Structure: rectangular
Cases: 97
Variables: 36
Record Length: 289
Records Per Case: 1

Parts 2 and 5: SAS Data
Definition Statements
Record Length: 80

Parts 3 and 6: SPSS
Export Files
Record Length: 80

RELATED PUBLICATIONS:

Huth, Paul, Christopher Gelpi, and D. Scott Bennett. "The Escalation of Great Power Militarized Disputes: Testing Rational Deterrence Theory and Structural Realism." AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE REVIEW 87 (1993), 609-623.

Huth, Paul, D. Scott Bennett, and Christopher Gelpi. "System Uncertainty, Risk Propensity, and International Conflict Among the Great Powers." JOURNAL OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION 36 (1992), 478-517.

NOTE: Items added or changed by ICPSR indicated by < >.

Deterrence and System Structure Project Variable List

Variable / File list prepared by Scott Bennett, 5/25/94

Paper: Paul Huth, Christopher Gelpi, and D. Scott Bennett. 1993. "The Escalation of Great Power Militarized Disputes: Testing Rational Deterrence Theory and Structural Realism." American Political Science Review 87: 609-623.

This <dataset> contains several files relevant to the dispute escalation / deterrence failure paper in APSR, September 1993, by Huth, Gelpi, and Bennett.

Note: much of the data in these files comes directly from data compiled and used in: Huth, Paul, D. Scott Bennett, and Christopher Gelpi. 1992. "System Uncertainty, Risk Propensity, and International Conflict Among the Great Powers." Journal of Conflict Resolution 36:478-517.

1. <CB6355> Is this file, with documentation info <and ICPSR prepared introductory material>.
2. <DA6355.P1> Flat text (ASCII) file containing the variables directly relevant to the final equations presented in the APSR article. Variables are presented as <1 record (line)>

per case. Variables are separated by spaces. The unit of analysis (each case) is a deterrence encounter.
-- Number of variables: 31.
-- Number of cases: 97.
-- The variables can be read in the following order:

Record 1: year ccodech ccodetgp dispnum ccodemini outcome risk23pm rinukes
chint defint dispbof chothdis riiothdis riwhimp chwhimp nuncp1
nuncp2 runcp13 runcp23 numgppcs ncluspcs diffstp diffclp natacp
wpole wpolersk numrsk diffrrsk nclusrsk natacrsk diffclrs.

3. <SP6355.EXP1> SPSS export (portable) file containing the final data for the variables used in the article. These are the same variables that appear in "<DA6355.P1>" but in SPSS export format instead.

4. <SP6355.P1> Flat command file with SPSS commands to read in the raw data from <DA6355.P1>.

5. <DA6355.P2> Flat text (ASCII) file containing 1) the final variables for the APSR data set, 2) intermediate and preliminary variables, and 3) variables used for sensitivity analysis. Data is variables are separated by spaces. Data is written as <1 record (line)> per case. The unit of analysis (each case) is a deterrence encounter.
-- Number of variables: 36.
-- Number of cases: 97.
-- The variables can be read in the following order (A listing of variable labels is included later in this document):

Record 1: YEAR RISK23PM RIOTHDIS RUNCP23 NUMGPPCS CCCLPCS NATACP NUMRSK
CCODECH RINUKES RIWHIMP UNCP1 DIFFRSK
CCODETGP CHINT CHWHIMP UNCP2 NCLUSRSK
DISPNUM DEFINT NUNCP1 CCSTPCS NCLUSPCS ATACPCS WPOLE NATACRSK
CCODEMIN DISPBOF NUNCP2 DIFFSTP WPOLERSK DIFFCLRS
OUTCOME CHOTHDIS RUNCP13 DIFFCLP.

6. <SP6355.EXP2> SPSS export (portable) file containing the bigger/master version of the final data set. This is the same data as in <DA6355.P2>, but in SPSS export file format.

7. <SP6355.P1> Flat command file with SPSS commands to read in the raw data for the big data file <DA6355.P2>.

Variable names and labels for variables in the <DA6355.P1> and <DA6355.P2> data files.

Note 1: Variables included in the <SP6355.EXP1> and <DA6355.P1> data files are marked with a "*".

Note 2: In the variable labels below, the target of the challenge (the deterrer) is sometimes referred to as the "target", sometimes as the "defender", and sometimes as the "rival" in the labels. This derives from the terminology of the previous (JCR 9/92) paper on dispute initiation, where the defender was a rival state. Here these other terms are interchangeable with "defender," "detererrer," or "target of the challenge."

Name	Label
* YEAR	year
* CCODECH	Challengers country code
* CCODETGP	Targets country code
* DISPNUM	Number of this dispute in our datafile.
* CCODEMIN	Minor power target country code
* OUTCOME	Deterrence failure (1) or success (0).
* RISK23PM	Chall. risk acc. due to 2 of 3 factors, 3 yr. MA
* RINUKES	This country has nuclear weapons in this year.
* CHINT	Challenger interests
* DEFINT	Defender interests
* DISPBOF	BOF of Chall, Def, supporters on list, disctd by distance.
* CHOTHDIS	Chall other dispute involvement
* RIOTHDIS	Defender other dispute involvement
* RIWHIMP	rival previous back down
* CHWHIMP	challenger previous back down
UNCP1	REGR FACTOR SCORE 1 FOR ANALYSIS 1 [uncert factor 1]
UNCP2	REGR FACTOR SCORE 2 FOR ANALYSIS 1 [uncert factor 2]
* NUNCP1	System Uncertainty factor 1, final (transformed) version
* NUNCP2	system uncertainty factor 2, final (transformed) version
* RUNCP13	Uncertainty 1 * 3yr MA Risk
* RUNCP23	Uncertainty 2 * 3yr MA Risk
CCSTPCS	Conc. of Cap. across states, PCS GP coding
* NUMGPPCS	Number of Great Powers in year, PCS coding
* NCLUSPCS	Number of clusters in system, PCS GP coding
CCCLPCS	Conc. of Cap. across clusters, PCS GP coding
ATACPCS	Average tightness across clusters, PCS GP Coding
* DIFFSTP	Diffusion of capabilities across states, final.
* DIFFCLP	Diffusion of capabilities across clusters, final.
* NATACP	Avg tightness across clusters, final.
* WPOLE	Waltz polarity (bipolar/multipolar)
* WPOLERSK	Waltz polarity * risk
* NUMRSK	Number of states * risk
* DIFFRSK	Diffusion of capabilities states * risk
* NCLUSRSK	# of clusters * risk
* NATACRSK	Avg tightness across clusters * risk
* DIFFCLRS	Diffusion of capabilities clusters * risk.