Backlash Against Foreign Interference: Experimental Evidence on Reactions to Fake News
Codebook

June 9, 2020

1 Variables and Survey Instruments

Variables are ordered according to their column in the dataset (`data.csv`). With the exception of computed variables, the order follows the question order in the survey.

Variable Name	Description and Translated Question	Original Question
group	Experimental group	
	<01> Group 1	
	<02> Group 2	
	<03> Group 3	
education	Education level.	
	What is your highest academic qualification?	請問您最高的學歷是什麼？
	<01> Illiterate	<01> 不識字及未入學
	<02> Elementary school	<02> 小學
	<03> Junior high school	<03> 國、初中
	<04> High school	<04> 高中、職
	<05> Specialist / Tech Degree	<05> 專科
	<06> University	<06> 大學
	<07> Graduate school and above	<07> 研究所及以上
	<99> Refuse to answer	<99> 拒答
gender	Gender.	
	Gender:	性別：
	<01> Male	<01> 男性
	<00> Female	<00> 女性
yofb	Year of birth (Minguo calendar).	
	What year were you born in?	請問您是民國哪一年出生的
	____ (continuous variable)	____ 年
	<99> Refuse to answer	<99> 拒答

age	Participant's age (computed variable).

income   Monthly income.

What is the total monthly income of your family? (including income other than salary, such as rent, dividends, etc.)

    <01> 28,000 yuan or less
    <02> 280001-39000 yuan
    <03> 39001 - 49000 yuan
    <04> 49001 - 59000 yuan
    <05> 59001 - 69000 yuan
    <06> 69001 - 80000 yuan
    <07> 80001 - 93000 yuan
    <08> 93001 - 111000 yuan
    <09> 111001 - 141000 yuan
    <10> 141001 yuan or more
    <98> don't know / refuse to answer

請問您家庭每個月總收入大約是多少？（包含薪資以外的其他收入，如房租、股利等）

    <01> 28000 元以下
    <02> 280001~39000 元
    <03> 39001~49000 元
    <04> 49001~59000 元
    <05> 59001~69000 元
    <06> 69001~80000 元
    <07> 80001~93000 元
    <08> 93001~111000 元
    <09> 111001~141000 元
    <10> 141001 元以上
    <98> 不知道 / 拒答

nat_id   National identity.

In our society, some people say that they are "Taiwanese." Some people say that they are "Chinese." Some people say that they are all both. Do you think that you are "Taiwanese", "Chinese", or both?

    <01> Taiwanese
    <02> both
    <03> Chinese
    <98> don't know / refuse to answer

在我們社會上，有人說自己是「臺灣人」，也有人說自己是「中國人」，也有人說都是。請問您認爲您自己是「臺灣人」、「中國人」，或者都是？

    <01> 臺灣人
    <02> 都是
    <03> 中國人
    <98> 不知道 / 拒答

party_id	Party identification.	在目前國內的政黨中，請問您認為您比較支持哪一個政黨？
	Among the current political parties in the country, which political party do you support? (Chosen parties shown only)	<01> 國民黨
	<01> Kuomintang	<02> 民進黨
	<02> Democratic Progressive Party	<03> 新黨
	<03> New Party	<04> 親民黨
	<04> People First Party	<20> 綠黨
	<20> Green Party	<21> 時代力量
	<21> New Power Party	<23> 社民黨
	<23> Social Democratic Party	<36> 基進黨
	<36> Taiwan Statebuilding Party	<37> 台灣民眾黨
	<37> Taiwan People's Party	<94> 選人不選黨
	<94> I choose people not parties	<95> 都支持
	<95> Support all	<96> 都不支持
	<96> Support none	<97> 看情形
	<97> Depends on the situation	<98> 無意見／拒答
	<98> no opinion / refuse to answer	

pan_green	Participant supports Pan-Green party (computed variable).	
	<01> Yes	
	<00> No	

pan_blue	Participant supports Pan-Blue party (computed variable).	
	<01> Yes	
	<00> No	

seen_rumor	Participant has seen rumor.	
	Have you seen this news story before?	請問您有沒有看過這個訊息？
	<01> Yes	<01> 有
	<00> No	<00> 沒有

seen_rebuttal	Participant has seen rebuttal.	
	Have you seen the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs before?	請問您有沒有看過這份外交部的聲明？
	<01> Yes	<01> 有
	<00> No	<00> 沒有

credibility	Credibility of rumor.
	Do you think the news story claiming that the Taiwan government intends to lease part of Taiping Island to the US military is credible? If 1 means you completely disbelieve, 7 means you find it very credible. Please indicate from 1 to 7 whether you believe "the Taiwan government intends to lease part of Taiping Island to the US military."
	_____ (ordinal variable)

您認為台灣政府打算將太平島一部分租借給美軍使用的消息可不可信？如果 1 代表您覺完全不可信，7 代表非常可信，請您從 1 至 7 表示您覺得「台灣政府打算將太平島一部分租借給美軍使用」的可信程度。

app_dpp	Approval DPP
	If 1 means dislike very much, and 7 means very much like, how much would you give the DPP between 1 and 7?
	_____ (ordinal variable)
	<98> don't know / refuse to answer

如果 1 表示非常不喜歡，7 表示非常喜歡。請問在 1 到 7 之間，您會給民進黨多少？

_____
<98> 不知道 / 拒答

app_kmt	Approval KMT
	If 1 means dislike very much, and 7 means very much like, how much would you give the KMT between 1 and 7?
	_____ (ordinal variable)
	<98> don't know / refuse to answer

如果 1 表示非常不喜歡，7 表示非常喜歡。請問在 1 到 7 之間，您會給國民黨多少？

_____
<98> 不知道 / 拒答

app_main	Approval mainland government
	How much will you give to the Chinese mainland government? (1 means dislike very much, 7 means very much like.)
	_____ (ordinal variable)
	<98> don't know / refuse to answer

那您會給中國大陸政府多少？（1 表示非常不喜歡，7 表示非常喜歡。）

_____
<98> 不知道 / 拒答

app_usa	Approval mainland government	

How much will you give to the US government? (1 means dislike very much, 7 means very much like.)

那您會給美國政府多少？(1 表示非常不喜歡，7 表示非常喜歡。)

_____ (ordinal variable)

<98> don't know / refuse to answer

_____

<98> 不知道 / 拒答

app_indep	Approval independence

There are several different views on the relationship between Taiwan and the mainland. What is your preference?

關於臺灣和大陸的關係，有下面幾種不同的看法。請問您比較偏向那一種？

<01> Unify as soon as possible

<02> Maintain the status quo and move towards unification

<03> Always maintain the status quo

<04> Maintain the status quo, and then decide whether to separate or unify

<05> Maintain the status quo and move towards independence

<06> Declare independence as soon as possible

<98> don't know / refuse to answer

<01> 儘快統一
<02> 維持現狀，以後走向統一
<03> 永遠維持現狀
<04> 維持現狀，看情形再決定獨立或統一
<05> 維持現狀，以後走向獨立
<06> 儘快宣布獨立
<98> 不知道 / 拒答

view_main1	Effect of rumors on views of mainland

If the mainland government spreads fake news in Taiwan to criticize the Taiwanese government, will this affect your views on the mainland?

如果大陸政府在臺灣傳播假新聞批評臺灣政府，這會影響您對大陸的看法嗎？

<01> No effect

<02> Negative effect

<03> Positive effect

<98> don't know / refuse to answer

<01> 沒有影響
<02> 負面影響
<03> 積極影響
<98> 不知道 / 拒答

`view_twgov`	Effect of rumors on views of Taiwanese government	

If the mainland government spreads false news in Taiwan to criticize the Taiwanese government, will this affect your views on the Taiwan government?

    <01> No effect
    <02> Negative effect
    <03> Positive effect
    <98> don't know / refuse to answer

如果大陸政府在臺灣傳播假新聞批評臺灣政府，這會影響您對臺灣政府的看法嗎？

    <01> 沒有影響
    <02> 負面影響
    <03> 積極影響
    <98> 不知道／拒答

`view_main2` — Effect of rumors on views of mainland

If the mainland government spreads fake news in Taiwan to criticize the Taiwanese government, will this affect your views on the mainland?

    <01> Yes
    <00> No

如果大陸政府在臺灣傳播假新聞，這會影響您對大陸的看法嗎？

    <01> 會
    <00> 不會

`view_main_text` — Reasoning for answer to `view_main2`

Please explain the reason.

    _____ (character variable)

請說明原因

    _____

`topic` — Topic of `view_main_text` (computed variable). See Coding Rules.

Please explain the reason.

    <01> Autonomy
    <02> Political System
    <03> Social Cohesion
    <04> Distrust Mainland
    <05> Negative Prior
    <06> Personal Skill
    <07> General Distrust
    <99> Other

`low_effort` — Participant completed survey faster than 90% of all participants (computed variable)

    <01> Yes
    <00> No

2 Coding Rules

Here, we describe the coding rules we applied to classify `view_main_text` into topics. Because reasons given differed strongly between those participants who said rumors could influence their views of the Mainland and those participants who said rumors could not influence their views of the mainland, we applied independent coding schemes for the two cases. When the participant expressed reasons that fell into more than one category, we assigned the first category mentioned.

<01> **Autonomy.** Participant answered "Yes" for `view_main2` and voices concerns about Taiwan's political autonomy as evidenced by the participant expressing one or more of the below sentiments:

- Fake news / rumors are an act of aggression or (reunification) war
- Mainland aims to control Taiwan
- China is the enemy
- China attempts to influence Taiwan

<02> **Political System.** Participant answered "Yes" for `view_main2` and voices concerns about Taiwan's domestic political system as evidenced by the participant expressing one or more of the below sentiments:

- Fake news / rumors may negatively affect democracy, freedom, human rights, rule of law
- Fake news / rumors may negatively affect views of Taiwanese government
- China is anti-democratic

<03> **Social Cohesion.** Participant answered "Yes" for `view_main2` and voices concerns about Taiwan's social cohesion as evidenced by the participant expressing one or more of the below sentiments:

- Fake news / rumors may cause social unrest or chaos
- Fake news / rumors may disturb people or cause split among the people
- Fake news / rumors may affect public opinion

<04> **Distrust Mainland.** Participant answered "Yes" for `view_main2` and indicates increased distrust of the mainland as evidenced by the participant expressing one or more of the below sentiments:

- China cannot be trusted or believed
- China has bad intentions

<05> **Negative Prior.** Participant answered "No" for `view_main2` and indicates that opinion of the mainland will not change because they already have a very negative opinion as evidenced by the participant expressing one or more of the below sentiments:

- They already do not believe the mainland / distrust the mainland
- They already have a bad opinion of mainland / their opinion cannot get worse
- The Chinese government is what it is

<06> **Personal Skill.** Participant answered "No" for `view_main2` and indicates their personal skill allows them to distinguish true and false news as evidenced by the participant expressing one or more of the below sentiments:

- They will use their own judgment to ascertain the truth of news items
- They will consult several sources
- They are able to judge reality
- Their personal experience allows them distinguish true from false

<07> **General Distrust.** Participant answered "No" for `view_main2` and indicates general distrust of media leads them to not be affected by rumors as evidenced by the participant expressing one or more of the below sentiments:

- Taiwan or Taiwanese government is also responsible for fake news.
- Generally distrusts the media
- They do not consume news media
- They questions what is fake news

<99> **Other.** Any responses that do not fit into the above categories. For instance, non-sensical answers, ambiguous answers, unique reasons that are mentioned by few other participants.