

Obtaining Party Positions on Immigration from Party Manifestos

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Why Manifestos

- Specific issue domain: immigration
 - linked to research question
- Data over time
- Retrospective
- Tied to elections

Data & Methods

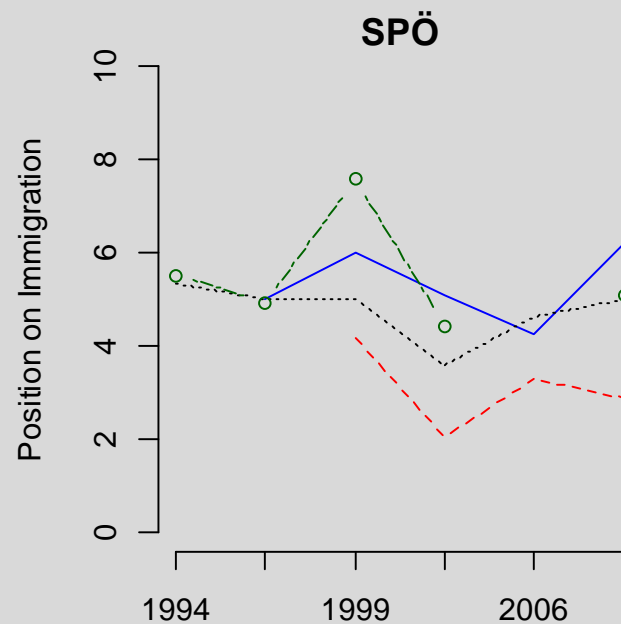
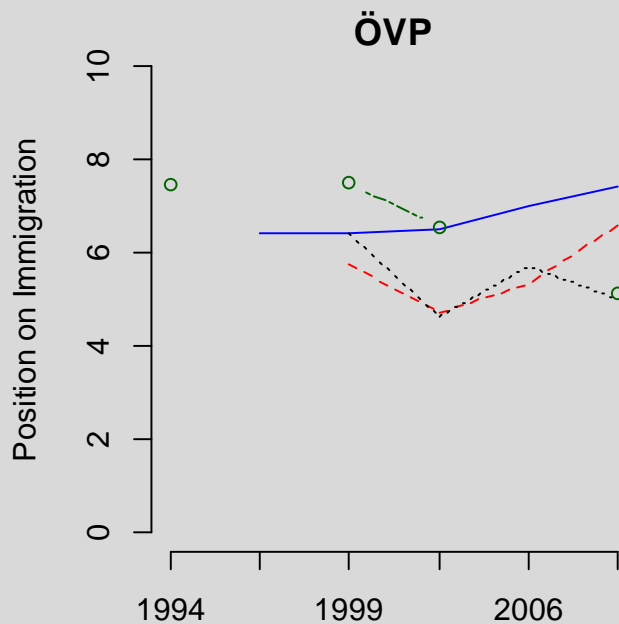
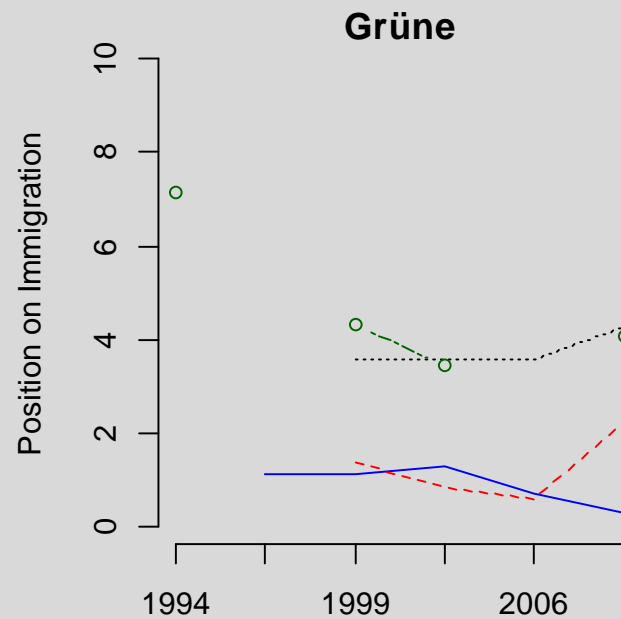
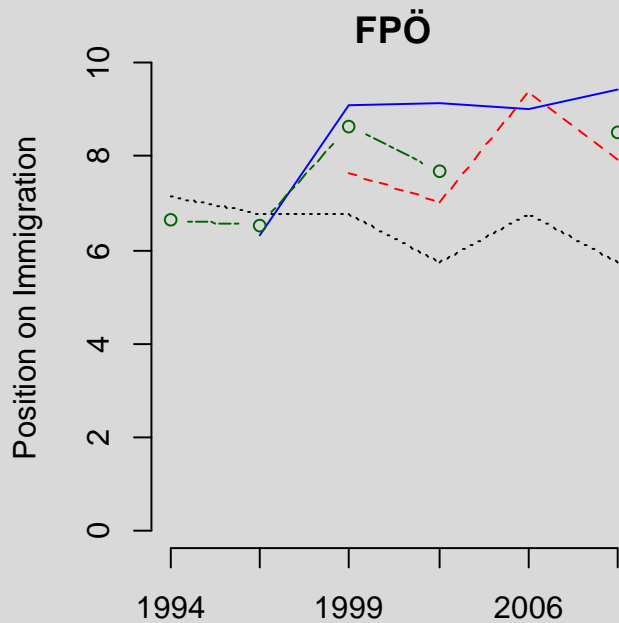
- Party manifestos: relevant sections
 - AT, BE, CH, ES, IE, NL, UK
- Manual coding: conventional codebook
- Manual coding: checklist
- Dictionary coding: Yoshikoder
- Wordscores: JFreq, Austin in R
- Pooled expert data: moving average

Cross-sectional, c. 2003

	Expert	Manual	Checklist
Manual	0.82		
Checklist	0.78	0.87	
Wordscores	0.57	0.65	0.51
Dictionary	0.24	0.31	0.55

- Consistent ranking
- Manual/Wordscores: anti-immigrant
- Checklist: pro-immigrant

Austria, 1994—2008

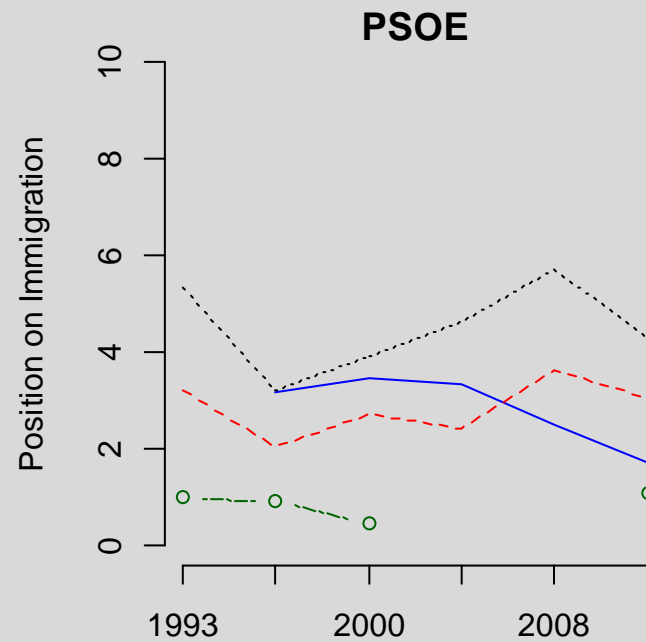
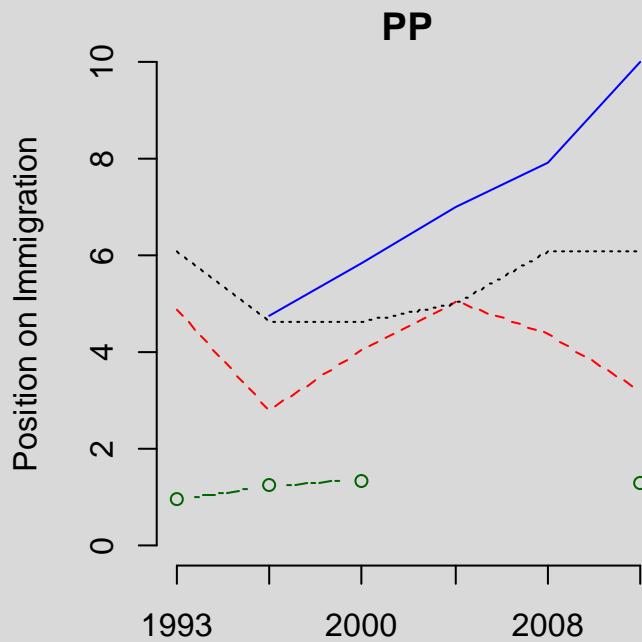
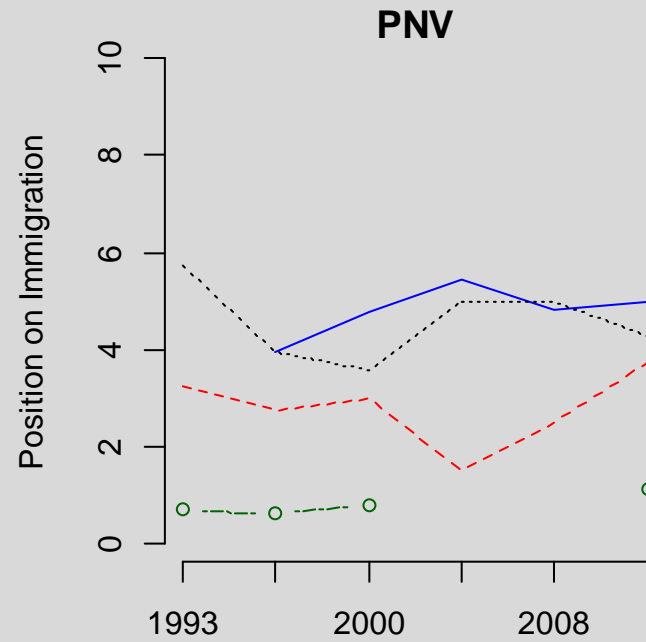
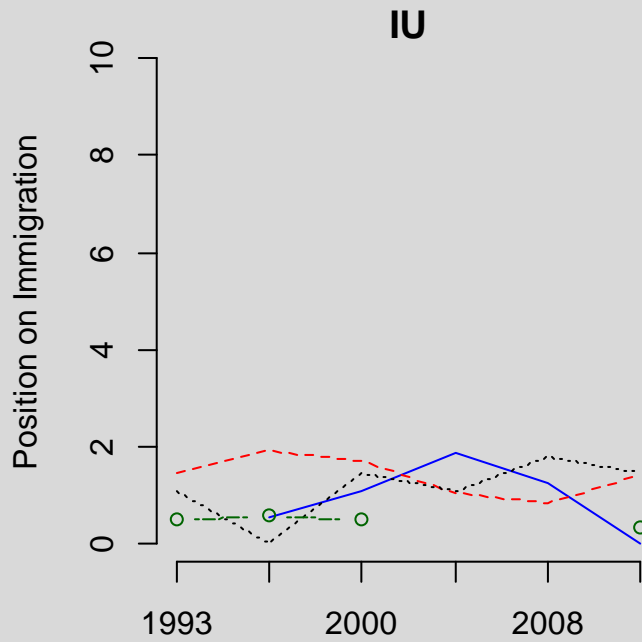


Austria, 1995–2008

	1995	1999	2002	2006	2008
Manual		0.96	0.83	0.97	0.87
Checklist	1.00	0.91	0.72	0.99	0.95
Dictionary	-0.64	-0.26	0.38	0.41	-0.87
Wordscores	0.99	0.96	0.82	Ref.	0.82

- Consistent ranking
- Variation: \approx 4 points

Spain, 1993—2011



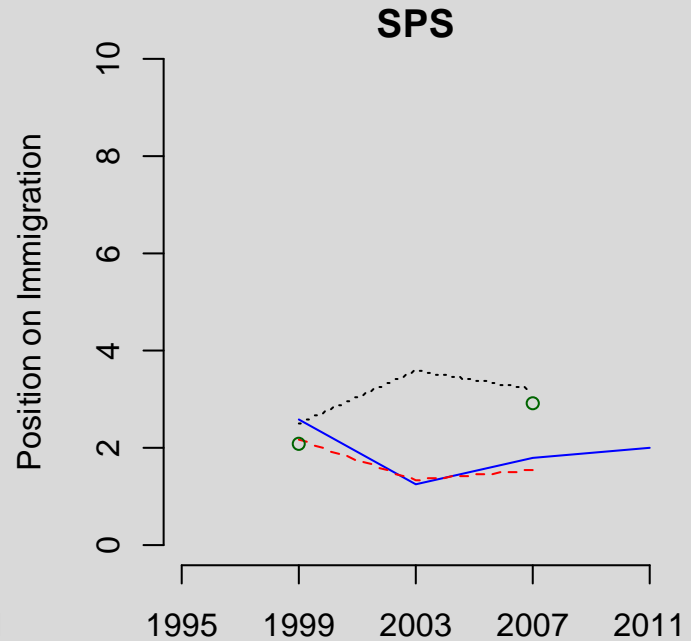
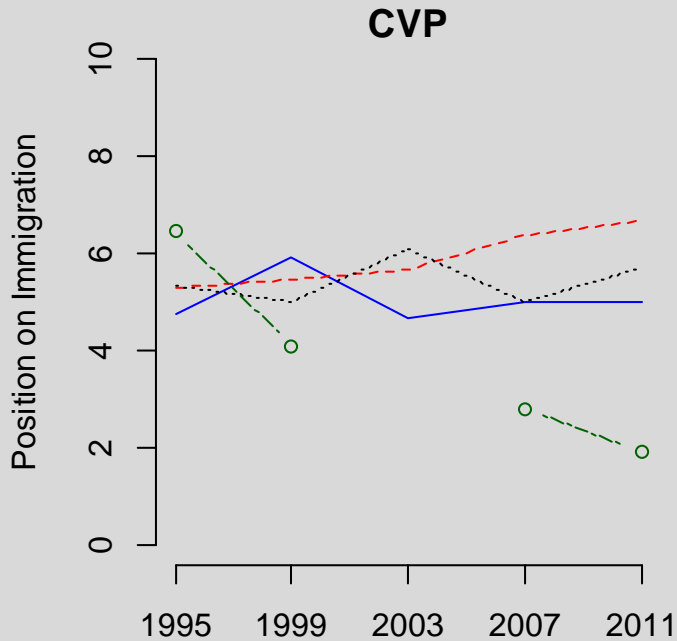
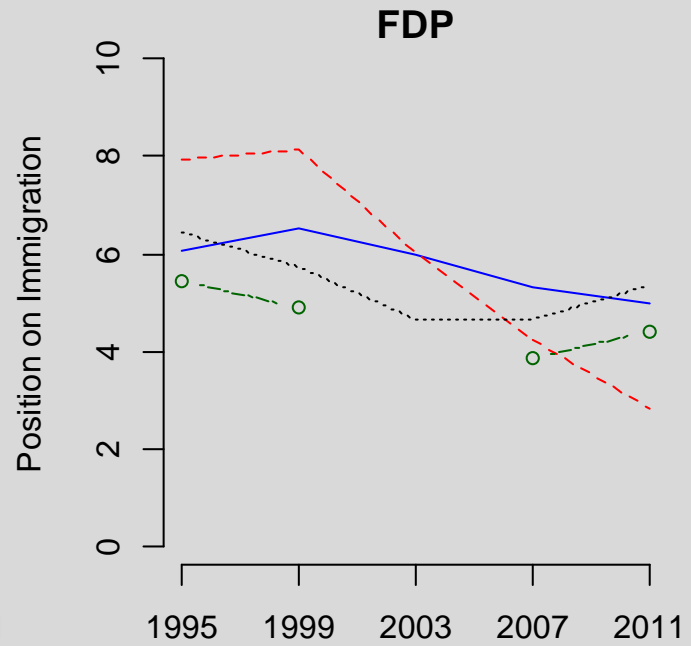
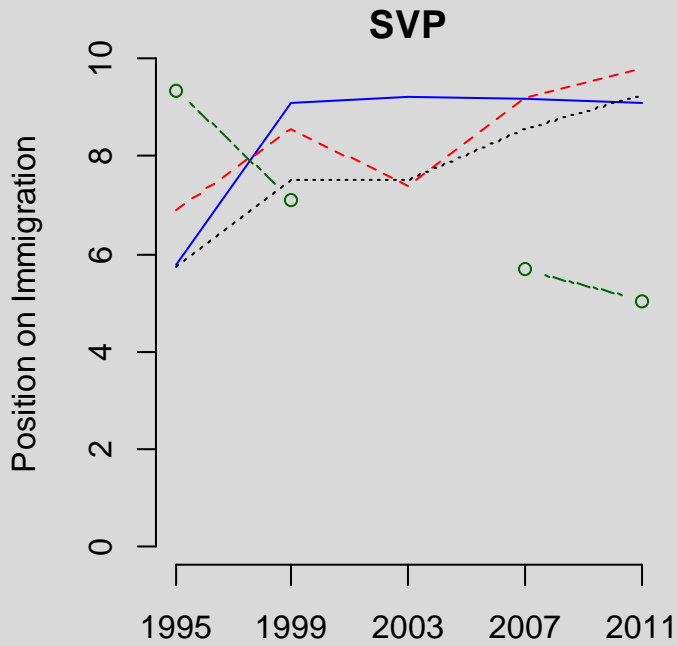
Expert – Manual – Checklist – Wordscores

Spain, 1996–2011

	1996	2000	2004	2008	2011
Manual	0.71	0.87	0.78	0.70	0.38
Checklist	1.00	0.93	0.93	0.68	0.88
Dictionary	0.48	0.48	0.50		0.31
Wordscores	0.70	0.77	Ref.		0.74

- PP 2011: probably not that extreme
- Consistent ranking
- Variation: high, low for IU

Switzerland, 1995–2011



Expert – Manual – Checklist – Wordscores

Switzerland, 1995–2011

	1995	1999	2003	2007	2011
Manual	0.99	0.96	0.96	0.97	0.73
Checklist	0.98	0.96	0.90	0.98	1.00
Dictionary	-0.04	0.42	0.87	0.19	-0.09
Wordscores	0.81	0.92	Ref.	0.93	0.88

- Consistent ranking
- Variation: ≈ 2 points

Conclusion

- High correlations
 - Manual coding, checklist, Wordscores
 - Consistent over time
- Poor performance: automatic dictionary
- Consistent ranking
- Lack of mention for specific issues
- Future: UK & France, reliability, errors