Analytics to understand coups d'état occurrence in U.S.A.

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Abstract
My research question is why hasn't there been a coup d'état in the United States of America, USA? By analyzing a large dataset of 122 countries and over 2000 coup attempts, I try to understand analytically what can cause a coup d'état to occur in the USA. I combine the semi-parametric and extreme bounds data analysis techniques to effectively make a conclusion that democracy and GDP/capita play a big role in success or fail of a coup d'état and how this plays out for my research.

Introduction
Probably few people know about the only post-independence coup d'état reported in USA history, the morning of November 10th, 1898 in Wilmington, North Carolina. For all the strikes, violence, gangs’ and cartels’ gruesome attacks and a president’s assassination, it is surprising, generally, that the North Carolina massacre is the only coups d'état reported to have occurred on USA soil. United States has zero coup attempts in the last 60 years compared to the rest of the world.

Preliminary research
Motivates and justifies choice of data set
Global Economic index agencies, United Nations security agency reports, etc. report on global stability and the relationship to business environment for sustainable future. Coup d'état is frequently discussed especially when it comes to Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East. I am highly interested in global investments and risk management. Stability is a key factor on the return of any investment. My choice of coup d'état data set is because it is collected over time and can be historically verified and linked to my research and most of the data is quantifiable by days to success or failure, fatality rate etc. key indicators of a coup d'état analysis are economic, political, military and social.

Exploratory results
A coup attempt is defined as successful if the coup master mind seize and hold power for at least seven days (Powell & Thyne 2011:252)

Methodology
- I will apply the theories of determinants of coups and the predictive nature of coups from one time period to the next using the Cox model
- I will use the semi-parametric analysis or the survival analysis which indicate the importance of time until the event’s occurrence.
- I will apply the extreme bounds analysis of coup determinants(Becker’s 1966)

The variables of the models under sensitivity analysis
- Political regime - with a range from -9 to 9 denoting a situation of full autocracy and 9 describing democratic regime.
- Political right - captures the status of democracy and freedom in the country
- Coup trap - capture the importance of the present regimes durability of its political survival
- Ethnic war - obtained from the state failure problem set on internal wars and governments.

Results
Fig. 2 shows successful and unsuccessful coups (1950-2010)
Fig. 3 regression estimates using the survival model.

Conclusion
- A coup is less likely to be perpetrated in a democratic country like USA.
- Countries with alliances expose themselves to risk of coup
- GDP/capita and high military spending reduce the risk of a coup.

All the above results show that USA is unlikely to experience a coup in the near future. However, the question is, will this stability only last as long as the economy and the military might still stand strong?

References
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