

# POL 345: Quantitative Analysis and Politics

## Precept 4 (Week 5)

In this precept, you will learn the following new materials:

- Generating a blank plot using the `type = "n"` argument in the `plot()` command.
- Plotting state abbreviations using `text()`

## Predicting U.S. Presidential Elections

We return to the analysis of the 2008 presidential election begun with the precept questions. We rely on the file `e08.RData`, which is available on Blackboard as well as the variables created in the precept questions to conduct the analysis.

1. Using the poll predictions created from the precept questions, generate a scatter plot where the x-axis is the poll prediction and the y-axis is the actual election result. Plot the state abbreviations as the plot characters. Add the 45 degree line and the regression line to the plot. Finally, add a legend to distinguish the lines.
2. The U.S. presidential election is based on the electoral college system. Based on the poll predictions you obtained for each state, allocate electoral college votes to each candidate. How well did the polls do in terms of the total number of electoral college votes? Also, produce the list of states where the winner was incorrectly predicted.