Replication Guidelines

"Mapping the Political Contours of the Regulatory State"

SOFTWARE

- Tested on: macOS 15.5 with R 4.4.0 (2024-04-24)
- R packages are managed by renv
  - Running 'Rscript master.R' will automatically restore (i.e., install/align) the exact package versions listed in renv.lock into a project-local library (see lines 16-17 of master.R). No prior installs required.
  - (optional) renv can be installed manually in R: run 'install.packages("renv")'
- Runtime for master.R is approximately one hour

PRIMARY REPLICATION FILE

1. master.R - replicate tables, and figures in manuscript

RENV FILES (to restore R package versions)

1. renv.lock - contains information about each R package
2. renv - folder with additional renv files, e.g. activate.R

ADDITIONAL CODE FILES (located in "code" folder)

1. preamble_oira.R - convert raw XML data on OIRA review activity to CSV format
2. preamble_ua.R - convert raw XML data on Unified Agenda (UA) entries to CSV format
3. preamble_merge.R - merge OIRA and Unified Agenda data
4. preamble_fed_reg_api.R - collect final rules from Federal Register API
5. stan_models.R - stan code for static and dynamic models
6. ideal_point_estimation.R - code to estimate ideal points

DATA FILES (located in "data" folder)

1. ua_data - folder of Unified Agenda files that includes:
   - raw XML files
   - CSV files converted from XML files
   - ua_data_final_rules.RData - dataset of *final* rules from combined UA CSV files
   - ua_data_all_rules.RData - dataset of all rules from combined UA CSV files

- agencycodes.csv - dataset of agency names

2. oira_data - folder of OIRA files that includes:
   - raw XML files
   - oira_data.RData - RData version of XML files
   - oira_data.csv - CSV version of recoded and combined OIRA XML files
3. estimation_data.csv
4. static_stan_model_estimates.RData - raw output from static stan model
5. dynamic_stan_model_estimates.RData - raw output from dynamic stan model
6. dynamic_estimates.csv - CSV version of estimates
7. voteview_s112.csv - member names and party affiliation from 112th Senate (voteview.com)
8. voteview_s112_votes.csv - member votes from 112th Senate (voteview.com)
9. final_rules_from_api.csv - final rule counts in Federal Register
10. merged_ideal_points.csv - department ideal points from other studies merged with current study (merge completed by hand coding)
11. rcl_ideal_points_merged.csv - agency ideal points merged with Richardson et al ideal points
12. comments_handcoded.csv - hand-coded comments used in validation test in Appendix E

RESULTS FILES (located in "results" folder)

1. figure1.pdf - ideal points plotted by agency administration
2. figure2.pdf - bar plot
3. figure3.pdf - heat map
4. figure4.pdf - dynamic trends
5. figureA1.pdf - correlation plot (sample size and credible interval)
6. figureA2.pdf - correlation plot (Richardson estimates)
7. figureA3.pdf - correlation plots (other measures)
8. table1.tex - biggest shifts (how the numbers were calculated)
9. table2.tex - ideological distance and regulatory productivity
10. appendix_table.tex - agency names
11. tableA1.tex - supplementary appendix, review rates by agency
12. tableA2.tex - supplementary appendix, ranking of department ideology
13. tableA3.csv - supplementary appendix, validation check