Replication of

Seeking Opportunity in the Knowledge Economy: Moving Places, Moving Politics?

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Data

Original

- The construction of our novel *Opportunity Index* is based on a collection of 17 indicators from different sources. Details can be found in Table A.1 of the Supplementary Material. The file `indicators_public.RData` contains all 11 indicators that we are allowed to make public. 6 of the indicators are proprietary and may be requested from Prognos here.
- We then merge the index with a restricted-use version of the *German Socio-Economic Panel* (SOEP v.37), which includes more fine-grained information on respondents' place of residence. The key feature for our analysis is the availability of NUTS-3 regional level information.

  Note that the SOEP data is not included in the folder `data_original`. To obtain the data, researchers have to request it from the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin) here. For the restricted-use version, an additional application is needed and the data can only be accessed in the respective data rooms. Full replication is therefore only possible with such a data access.
- The sub-folders `shapes` and `cross-walks` include additional utilities needed to run the code.

Created

- `opportunity_KE_by_krs.csv`: Final opportunity index variables at the NUTS-3 regional level to fully replicate our main analysis.
- `4_plots_movers_bysociodemographics.csv` and `4_plots_updownmovers_bysociodemographics.csv`: Data to replicate Figures 4a and 4b, respectively.
- `5_models_main_NUTS3_opportunityvsanymove.csv`: Data to replicate Figure 5.

Code

The entire code can be executed using two master files: `A_master_STATA.do` for the scripts in STATA and `B_master_R.R` for the scripts in R. To avoid having to set individual paths, open the R code through `opportunity.Rproj` provided in the mother folder of the replication package.

Data Preparation

- `1_opportunity_index.R`: Constructs the Opportunity Index, our main independent variable, along with figures and tables for visualization, validation, and sensitivity. The output produced and included in the main body of the paper are Figures 1-3 and Tables 1-2.
- `2_datamerge_soepregio.do`: Merges all relevant variables from the SOEP data.
- `3_dataprep.R`: Modifies the SOEP data, merges it with the Opportunity Index at the NUTS-3 and LMR level, and applies the final sample selection.

Main Analysis and Plots

- `4_plots.R`: Calculates the probability of moves and moving direction by different socio-economic characteristics and produces Figures 4a and 4b.
- `5_models_main_NUTS3.R`: Runs the main models and produces Figure 5 as well as a plot on the distribution of the treatment (Supplementary Material Figure C.2).

Robustness, Heterogeneity, and Mechanisms

- `6_models_rob-het.R`: Runs the robustness and heterogeneity analyses of the paper.
- `7a_models_mechanisms.R`, `7b_models_mechanisms_PC1.R`, and `7c_models_mechanisms_PC2.R`: These three files analyze the symmetry of effects and micro-level mechanisms regarding individuals' adaptation and behavior to an opportunity move, using the entire index as well as the two index components separately.
- `8_models_main_LMR.R`: Replicates our main analyses at the LMR level.

Output

Due to parts of the data used being proprietary, the replication package also includes all tables and figures in the respective folders.