Fundraising Events and Non-Ideological Donation Motivations

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Replication ReadMe File

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This README file covers the contents of the replication materials and how to replicate each Figure and Analysis included in the paper. In the primary folder of the Replication materials, there is one document, two main scripts and four folders, the latter named "Scripts", "Data", "Output" and "Results." We describe each below.

Files in Main Directory

There are three stand-alone files alongside the four folders in the main directory, one document and two scripts. The two scripts will run the entirety of the Replication if called:

1. **Fig2TabA10A11.do** - This script runs STATA code to produce Figure 2 in the paper, as well as Tables A10 and A11 in the appendix. It produces a log saved in the Output Folder. It takes as input the data file "analysis_data3.rds" (described in "Data" below).

2. **LogFileProductionScript.R** - This script begins a log, then calls "GoverningScript.R" in the Scripts folder (described below), which in turn runs all R scripts for the Replication. This script then closes the log, and saves it in the Output Folder.

In addition to these two scripts, the main directory holds one document, **Codebook.txt**. This codebook describes each variable included in each data set that is used in the Replication Materials.

Scripts Folder

This folder contains the R scripts that analyze our data and produce the figures and tables in the paper. Each script corresponds to one figure or table. We list them below and include the data files that each requires.

1. **GoverningScript.R** - This master script runs all other R scripts in the Scripts folder, except for "withindonorsims.R".

2. **withindonorsims.R** - This script produces the simulated data used in "Fig1Script.R" to create "Fig1Panel2.png."

3. **Fig1Script.R** - This script produces both panels of Figure 1 in the main part of the paper. It takes as inputs "acrossanalysisset.rds" and "withinanalysisset.rds" (described in "Data" below) and produces "Fig1Panel1.png" and "Fig1Panel2.png".

4. **FigA1Script.R** - This script produces Figure A1 in the Appendix. It takes as inputs the four data files of the form"XX_assembled_candidates.rds" (described in "Data" below, where XX is the state abbreviation) and produces "FigA1.png".

5. **FigA2Script.R** - This script produces Figure A2 in the Appendix. It takes as inputs the four data files of the form"XXstatecontribs.rds" (described in "Data" below, where XX is the state abbreviation) and produces "FigA2.png".

6. **FigA3A4Script.R** - This script produces Figures A3 and A4 in the Appendix. It takes as input the data file "analysis_data3.rds" (described in "Data" below).

7. **FigA5A6Script.R** - This script produces Figures A5 and A6 in the Appendix. It takes as input the data files "events_mi.rds" and "events_oh.rds" (described in "Data" below).

8. **FigA7A8A9Script.R** - This script produces Figures A7, A8, and A9 in the Appendix. It takes as input the data file "acrossanalysisset.rds" (described in "Data" below).

9. **FigA11Script.R** - This script produces Figure A11 in the Appendix. It takes as input the data file "analysis_data2.rds" (described in "Data" below).

10. **FigA12Script.R** - This script produces Figure A12 in the Appendix. It takes as input the data file "FigureA12_data.rds" (described in "Data" below).

11. **FigA13A14Script.R** - This script produces Figures A13 and A14 in the Appendix. It takes as inputs the three data files of the form "XXpredictdata.rds" (described in "Data" below, where XX is the state abbreviation) and the three data files of the form "FECpredictdataXXXX" (described in "Data" below, where XXXX is the election year).

12. **Tab2A13Script.R** - This script produces Table 2 in the main paper as well as Table A13 in the Appendix. It takes as input the data file "analysis_data2.rds" (described in "Data" below).

13. **Tab3A19A20Script.R** - This script produces Table 3 in the main paper as well as Tables A19 and A20 in the Appendix. It takes as input the data file "analysis_data2.rds" (described in "Data" below).

14. **TabA5A6Script.R** - This script produces Tables A5 and A6 in the Appendix. It takes as input the data file "descriptive_donation_data.rds" (described in "Data" below).

15. **TabA7A8Script.R** - This script produces Tables A7 and A8 in the Appendix. It takes as input the data file "descripcontribswgender.rds" (described in "Data" below).

16. **TabA9Script.R** - This script produces Table A9 in the Appendix. It takes as input the data file "descriptive_donation_data.rds" (described in "Data" below).

17. **TabA12Script.R** - This script produces Table A12 in the Appendix. It takes as inputs "acrossanalysisset.rds" and "withinanalysisset.rds" (described in "Data" below).

18. **TabA14-A18FigA10Script.R** - This script produces Tables A14, A15, A16, A17, and A18 in the Appendix, as well as Figure A10 in the same. It takes as input the data file "analysis_data2.rds" (described in "Data" below).

Data Folder

This folder contains the datasets that we analyze to produce our figures and tables. We list them below, describing what each contains and the scripts where they are used.

1. **acrossanalysisset.rds** - This data set contains 1,093,771 observations, across three states (KY, MI, and OH). Each observation is an unique donation to a state-level candidate in one of the three states, matched to a donor cluster responsible for at least 2 donations across the time period of our analysis. It is used in **Fig1Script.R** to produce Panel 1 of Figure 1. It is also used in **TabA12Script.R** to inform Table A12 in the Appendix.

2. **analysis_data2.rds** - This data set is at the candidacy level. In our analyses, a candidacy represents a specific politician, running for a specific office, in a specific election year. This particular data set is used in creating Tables 2 and 3 in the main paper, Figures A10 and A11 in the Appendix, and Tables A13-A21 in the same.

3. **analysis_data3.csv** - This data set contains 3,574,507 donations given to candidates in our sample states during our sample years. It is used to produce Figure 2 in the main paper, as well as Figures A3 and A4 in the Appendix and Tables A10 and A11 in the same.

4. **descripcontribswgender.rds** - This data set contains the over 3 million total donations across four states (KY, MI, OH, and WV) that we use in various parts of the paper, but unlike "descriptive_donation_data.rds", it also contains imputed gender for the candidacies. We use this data set to analyze the probability that an individual donation stems from an event, as well as the probability that a particular candidacy holds any events at all, results we produce in Tables A7 and A8, respectively, in the Appendix.

5. **descriptive_donation_data.rds** - This data set contains the over 3 million total donations across four states (KY, MI, OH, and WV) that we use in various parts of the paper. We use this data set to compute the various descriptive tables and figures in our paper, including Tables A5 and A6.

6. **events_mi.rds** - This dataset contains information on individual events held for political candidates in Michigan. Each observation is a particular event, and contains the number of donors attending the event, the total amount collected from the event, as well as other information about the event itself. We use this file to produce Figures A5 and the first panel of A6 in the Appendix.

7. **events_oh.rds** - This dataset contains information on individual events held for political candidates in Ohio. Here, each observation is a particular event held on a particular date by a particular candidacy. We use this file to produce the second panel of A6 in the Appendix.

8. **FECpredictdataXXXX.rds** - For each of three election years (where XXXX denotes one of 2012, 2014, or 2016), this file contains all donations to politicians running for either the United States House of Representatives or the United States Senate. Each row represents a single donation from an individual donor to an individual politician running in one particular election contest. This data is used in the prediction exercise that makes up the final section of the Appendix, and aids in producing Figure A13.

9. **FigureA11.RData** - This data set contains the results of the *exact* seeded process that produced Figure A11 in the Appendix. This can be used to produce "FigureA11Exact.pdf."

10. **FigureA12_data.rds** - This data set is at the candidacy level. In our analyses, a candidacy represents a specific politician, running for a specific office, in a specific election year. This particular data set is used in showing the full process in creation of Figure A12.

11. **FigureA12.RData** - This data set contains the results of the *exact* seeded process that produced Figure A12 in the Appendix. This can be used to produce "FigureA12Exact.pdf."

12. **XX_assembled_candidates.rds** - For each of our four states (where XX denotes the standard state abbreviation), this file contains each candidate that enters into our overall data set for that state. Every row represents one candidacy, i.e. a particular politician running for a particular office in a particular election. These datasets are compiled to produce Figure A1.

13. **XXpredictdata.rds** - For each of three states (where XX denotes the standard state abbreviation for KY, MI, and OH), this file contains each donation that enters into our overall data set for that state that also contains all the information we need for our prediction exercise. Every row represents one donation, i.e. a particular donor giving to a particular politician running for a particular office in a particular election. These datasets are used separately, as well as compiled and used together, in our prediction exercise at the end of the Appendix. They help to produce Figure A13.

14. **XXstatecontribs.rds** - For each of our four states (where XX denotes the standard state abbreviation), this file contains each contribution that enters into our overall data set for that state. Every row represents one contribution, i.e. a particular instance of a donor giving to a particular politician running for a particular office in a particular election.

15. **withinanalysisset.rds** - This data set contains 586,004 observations, across three states (KY, MI, and OH). Each observation is an unique donation to a state-level candidate in one of the three states, matched to a donor cluster responsible for at least 2 non-event donations and one event donation across the time period of our analysis. It is used in **Fig1Script.R** to produce Panel 2 of Figure 1. It is also used in **TabA12Script.R** to inform Table A12 in the Appendix.

16. **withindonorsimdf1.rds - within donorsimdf1001.rds** - 6 data sets that together serve as a simulated baseline for within-donor behavior. They are used in **Fig1Script.R** to produce Panel 2 of Figure 1.

Output Folder

Upon download, this folder contains two log files, one each from running the "Fig2TabA10A11.do" file in the master directory, and one from running the "LogFileProductionScript.R" script in the same. These log files show that the replication materials run smoothly, replicating the analyses, figures, and graphs from the paper and the appendix. If you replicate the paper by running the aforementioned scripts, these files will be overwritten with your own log files.