**The Effect of Election Proximity on Government Responsiveness and Citizens' Participation: Evidence from English Local Elections**

Data Publication Notes

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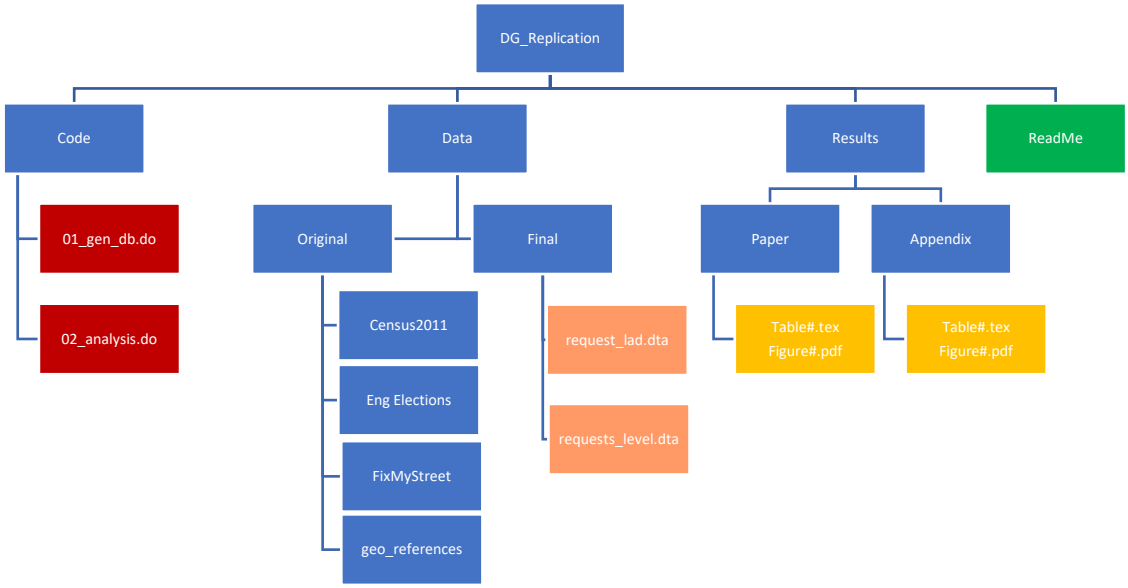
## A. General organization of the folder

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**Data**: This folder is divided into two subfolders, called Original and Final.

- **Original** contains four subfolders in which the original datasets are organized.
    - **census2011**: contains census 2011 characteristics at the lower layer super output areas (LSOA) level organized in 11 separate .csv files. These are age, education, ethnic status, household size, marital status, population density, religion, number of residents, sex ratio, social grade. Each of these files contains one line per LSOA.
    - **Eng Elections**: contains English local elections data from 2007 to 2015, organized in one .xlsx file per election year. In each file, the sheet of interest is the one named "Authority Turnout etc.", which contains Local Authority District (LAD) level electoral information (turnout, number of contested seats and wards, vote share of each party). Each line corresponds to a LAD.
    - **FixMyStreet**: contains files obtained from the platform Fix My Street. Those are:

        - fms_lsoa_dbfV2: data on requests submitted to the platform FixMyStreet from 2007 to 2015 containing latitude and longitude of each request mapped to the corresponding LAD. Each line corresponds to a request.
        - success: data on the time the local government took to respond to each request sent to FixMyStreet from 2007 to 2016. Each line corresponds to a request.
    - **geo_references**: contains geographic references files.
        - "PCD11_OA11_LSOA11_MSOA11_LAD11_EW_LU" in .csv and .xml format. The file includes the correspondence between each LSOA and each LAD in England.
        - "england_lad_2011" in .dbf, .prj, .shp, .shx is the shapefile of English LADS used to produce heatmaps of the local authority districts.
- **Final** contains two files which are used for analyses.
    - **request_level.dta**: is used to plot Figure 2.
    - **request_lad.dta**: is used for all the rest of the analysis.

**Code**: this folder contains all the dofiles used for replication.

- **01_gen_db**: is the dofile importing the original and generating the final databases.
- **02_analysis**: runs all the analyses contained in the paper and online appendix.

**Results**: is the folder containing the output of the analyses generated in "02_analysis.do". It is divided into two subfolders.

- **Paper** is the folder containing the source files generated by 02_analysis.do, Part I for the tables and figures in the paper.
- **Appendix** is the folder containing the source files generated by 02_analysis.do, Part II for the tables and figures in the online appendix.

B. Specific commands

To run the dofile, you will need to install the following commands using *ssc install*:

- balancetable
- carryforward
- coefplot
- eststo
- estpost
- esttab
- labvars
- interflex
- shp2dta
- spmap
- xtpattern
- winsor
- zscore
- reghdf
- outreg2
- To reproduce the figures using the same graphic, use the scheme plotplainblind (*set scheme plotplainblind*)

C. Datasets' origins

- Data on census characteristics 2011 at the LSOA level were downloaded from Nemis – official labour market statistics, folder "2011 super output areas - lower layer": https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/query/select/getdatasetbygeog.asp?cat=8&geogtype=298
- Data on English local elections were downloaded from the website of the electoral commission: https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/who-we-are-and-what-we-do/elections-and-referendums/past-elections-and-referendums
- Data on requests and response time by the local government were obtained from FixMyStreet. We then reverse-geocoded the location of each request to the corresponding LSOA using GIS.
- Geographic data on the correspondence between LSOA and LAD were downloaded from https://data.gov.uk/dataset/ec39697d-e7f4-4419-a146-0b9c9c15ee06/output-area-to-lsoa-to-msoa-to-local-authority-district-december-2017-lookup-with-area-classifications-in-great-britain
- Shapefiles for the English local authority districts are obtained from the UK Data Services Census website: https://borders.ukdataservice.ac.uk/easy_download_data.html?data=England_lad_2011

D. Notes on the identifiers used in the databases

- *panelvar*: identifier for the local authority district (LAD)
- *authority_code*: identifies the census code of the LAD
- *authority_name*: identifies the census name of the LAD.
- *district_type*: identifies which of the four types of English districts the LAD is.
- *date_monthly*: monthly date (from February 2007 to March 2016)
- *year*: identifies the year
- *election_year*: dummy for whether the LAD has local elections that year.

E. Contact:

If you have any question regarding this data publication, please contact Gemma Dipoppa or Guy Grossman by email at gemmad@sas.upenn.edu, ggros@sas.upenn.edu.