README file for
The Behavioralist Goes to School: Leveraging Behavioral Economics to Improve Educational Performance

Steven D. Levitt, John A. List, Susanne Neckermann, and Sally Sadoff

This folder contains the data and analysis do-files to replicate the tables of "the Behavioralist Goes to School: Leveraging Behavioral Economics to Improve Educational Performance."

Data

The input folder in this directory contains the dataset used for the analysis of this project: all_BGS_data.dta. See the table on the next page for all variables included in this dataset. All personally identifiable information has been deidentified to protect the privacy of the students. Every student has been given a unique ID. Note that students can participate in two sessions and therefore the same ID can appear twice in the dataset. School names and classrooms have also been deidentified.

Replicating the tables

We include one do-file that runs through all other do-files necessary to replicate all tables. This do-file is located in the main directory and is named: run_analysis.do. The src folder contains all do-files and ado-files to recreate the tables. The output folder contains all tex files corresponding to the tables produced by the do-files in the src folder (after running all the do-files). The pdf_output folder contains "tables_of_paper.tex", which combines all tables in one file that is ready to compile.

run_analysis.do   Changing the global "repository" to the local location of this directory will allow you to run all programs necessary to replicate the tables. First, an empty output folder will be created in this directory. Then, all do-files will be run. Lastly, this do-file will compile the tables_of_paper.tex document in the output_pdf folder, creating the tables_of_paper.pdf which includes all tables in the paper.

All included do-files

table3_balance_Bloom.do	table4_balance_CH.do	table5_balance_CPS.do
table6_immediate_rewards.do	table7_delayed_rewards.do	table8_treatment_by_age.do
table9_treatment_by_subject.do	table10_treatment_by_gender.do	table11_future_test_scores.do
appendix_table1.do	appendix_table2.do	appendix_table3.do

All included ado-files

balancelabel.ado	compute_design.ado	loclabel.ado
stars.ado		

Table 1: Variable list

Variable name	Description
id	Student ID masked
district	School District
session	Session
school	Schoolname masked
grade	Gradelevel
school_grade	Schoolname and gradelevel combination
class	Classroom Bloom district masked
treatment	Treatment
treatment_full_name	Full name of treatment
past_treatment	Treatment during earlier session
future_treatment	Treatment during future session
subject	Subject of the treatment test
subject_fall	Subject of the treatment test during fall for CPS
subject_winter	Subject of the treatment test during winter for CPS
current_score_t	Standardized test score on treated test
baseline	Standardized test score on previous test
baseline_sq	Standardized test score on previous test squared
baseline_cub	Standardized test score on previous test cubed
missing_baseline	Missing baseline test score indicator
subsequent_test_score	Standardized test score on next test
std_rd_fall	Standardized reading test score fall
std_mt_fall	Standardized math test score fall
std_rd_winter	Standardized reading test score winter
std_mt_winter	Standardized math test score winter
std_rd_spring	Standardized reading test score spring
std_mt_spring	Standardized math test score spring
std_rd_spring_previous_year	Standardized reading test score spring previous year
std_mt_spring_previous_year	Standardized math test score spring previous year
rd_ss_fall	Scaled Score reading test fall
mt_ss_fall	Scaled Score math test fall
rd_ss_winter	Scaled Score reading test winter
mt_ss_winter	Scaled Score math test winter
rd_ss_spring	Scaled Score reading test spring
mt_ss_spring	Scaled Score math test spring
rd_ss_spring_previous_year	Scaled Score reading test spring previous year
mt_ss_spring_previous_year	Scaled Score math test spring previous year
test_date	Date of test
rd_test_date_fall	Reading test date fall
mt_test_date_fall	Math test date fall
rd_test_date_winter	Reading test date winter
mt_test_date_winter	Math test date winter
gender_code	Gender
iep	Individualized Education Plan
lunch	Price Lunch
race_code	Race/Etnicity
ar_treatment	Treatment received during a previous experiment other study

finished_on_time	Student finished test on time indicator. We only constructed this measure for the CPS district. We looked at the earliest test date in a classroom and selected the classrooms where most people finished the test at this date. The students who did finish on the earliest date are marked as finished on time, students with later dates are marked as not finished on time.
IDH	Treatment indicator: Delayed Financial High
IDLH	Treatment indicator: Delayed Finanical Loss
IDLT	Treatment indicator: Delayed Non-Financial Loss
IDT	Treatment indicator: Delayed Non-Financial
INF	Treatment indicator: Financial Low
INT	Treatment indicator: Non-Financial
INH	Treatment indicator: Financial High
INLH	Treatment indicator: Financial Loss
INLT	Treatment indicator: Non-Financial Loss
NS	Treatment indicator: No Statement Control
INC	Treatment indicator: Statement Control
CSM	Treatment indicator: Statement Control Comparison
IDC	Treatment indicator: Delatyed Statement Control
C	Treatment indicator: Control (CSM, IDC, INC, NS)
free_reduced	lunch==Free/Reduced
lunch_no_unknown	lunch==No/Unknown
female	gender_code==F
male	gender_code==M
gender_unknown	gender_code==Unknown
iep_no	iep==N
iep_unknown	iep==Unknown
iep_yes	iep==Y
black	race_code==Black
hispanic	race_code==Hispanic
other_race	race_code==Other
unknown_race	race_code==Unknown