

Quantitative Summary Instructions

Due March 29, 2017, in class, on paper

PPPA 8022
Spring 2017

The goal of this assignment is to motivate you to do sufficient data work in a timely fashion, leaving you time to reflect on your results as you write up your final paper. Data work is time-consuming, and it can be easy to put all your time into this part of the project. This frequently comes at the cost, however, of writing without reflection, which can often negate even the best data work.

To get sufficient early work done, I'm asking you to turn in some evidence that you've made progress on the data portion of your analysis.

Evidence that you've made progress on the data portion of the paper could be

- replicating the main results table
- replicating the summary statistics table
- or any other evidence of substantial progress on the data work

To make sure I can understand the context for what you hand in, please write a brief (page or less) introduction to the topic and any estimating equations that you're using.

Note that to give good feedback, I need enough context to interpret the results. For example, if you turn in a summary statistics table without any text, I can look at whether the means and numbers of observations look reasonable. I can't assess whether the table is consistent with any specific claim you're trying to make.

The more you hand in, the better feedback I can give you. So, for example, if you wanted to hand in more text that explains the tables, I'm happy to read what you turn in, up to the page limit cap on this paper.

Furthermore, it's particularly helpful – both here and in your final tables – to format your tables so we can directly compare your calculations with the authors' original calculations.

If you run into trouble with the data, and can't provide any of the above in time, hand in a description of what you've done and the problems you ran into. Because the goal of this assignment is to motivate timely work, neither your interests nor mine are served by giving extensions.