Milestone Six and a Half

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Abstract

Campbell et al. (2019) which details two separate experiments which suggest that individuals think of politicians with local roots and that exibit behavioral localism more highly. I was able to replicate the entire article with the exceptions of table 1 and figure 2 because they visuals relating to methodology and not the results themselves. I will be conducting an extension which includes the use of stan_glm instead of lm as well as look at certain subgroups based upon location and party identification. I hope to find cool things:)

Contents

1 Introduction

Alice Notes + as.factor(region))plm())plm(y ~ x, data = mydata, within = "region") no stan_glm for conjoint study, hetergeneouos effects, conjoint balance, effect of other attributes compared to one we care about,

sgtan_glm(voting ~ region*local_thing, data=data)

1, stan glm for study 1 2, look at party effects for study 1 3, look at population effects for study 2

Campbell et al. (2019) aims to answer the driving question of, "Why do politicians with strong local roots receive more electoral support?" by running and analyzing two separate studies. The first study uses a "paired profiles factorial vignette design" by asking subjects to rate hypothetical members of Parliament. The hypothetical members have varying levels of local roots as well as varying levels of "behavioral localism"—their track record of constituency service and if they act more so as a trustee or delegate. In the second study, subjects again considered hypothetical members of Parliament with varying levels of local roots. How, the subjects also received information on their political preferences and partisan loyalties. The first study depicted that the additional information swayed rankings, but local roots still seemed to have an association. The second study agreed with these results stating that, "even if voters are provided with a rich array of information about politicians' behavior and ideological positioning, the effect of local roots remained positive and notable." The remainder of the article discusses the nuances of these results within the frame of the driving question.

Using R, I replicated Campbell et al. (2019). The original code can be found in the *The Journal of Politics* Dataverse.[1] All of my code for this paper including the extension is available in my Github repository.[2]

2 Literature Review

Due to Campbell et al. (2019) being a very recent article, published May 6, 2019, there has not been any follow-up scholarly work on the topic even from the authors themselves. Nevertheless, Campbell et al. (2019) builds off of a rich history of the "friends and neighbors" effect which was first coined by Key (1949). Other noteable works include Bowler, Donovan, and Snipp. (1993) and Garand (1988) which highlight the United States and Arzheimer and Evans (2012) as well as Arzheimer and Evans (2014) which highlight Britain. These two articles are particularly important due to Campbell et al. (2019) dealing with the "friends and neighbors" effect in the United Kingdom. These are just a couple of the noteable works. Of course, more in way of an actual review is to come.

3 Extension

I have already been able to replicate all of the results from *Why Friends and Neighbors? Explaining the Electoral Appeal of Local Roots* Campbell et al. (2019) by Rosie Campbell, Philip Cowley, Nick Vivyan, and Markus Wagner in the *The Journal of Politics*. The next step is to improve upon their methods and make suggests as to what to do next. My thoughts are below:

1. Use stan_glm instead of lm for study 1
2. Look at heterogeneous effects for study 1
3. Look at population effects for study 2

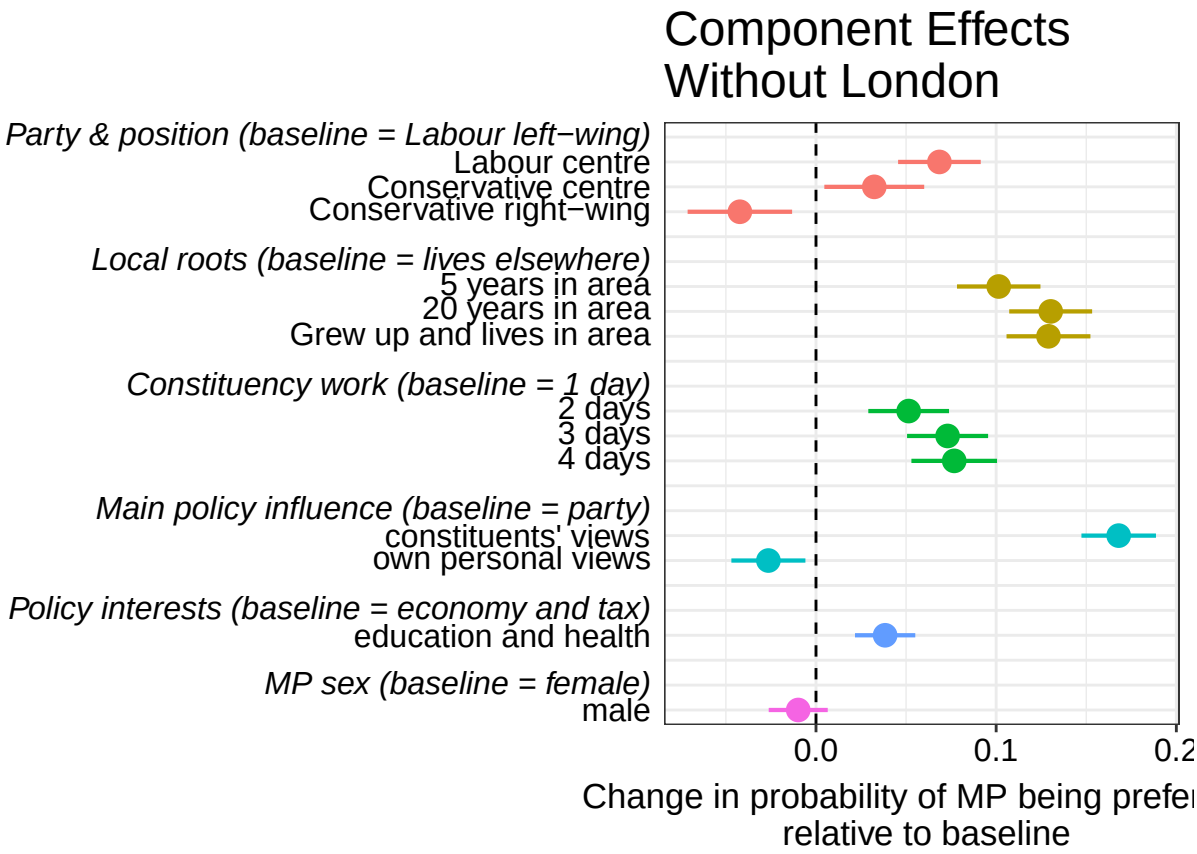
% Table created by stargazer v.5.2.2 by Marek Hlavac, Harvard University. E-mail: hlavac at fas.harvard.edu
% Date and time: Sat, Apr 18, 2020 - 23:46:31

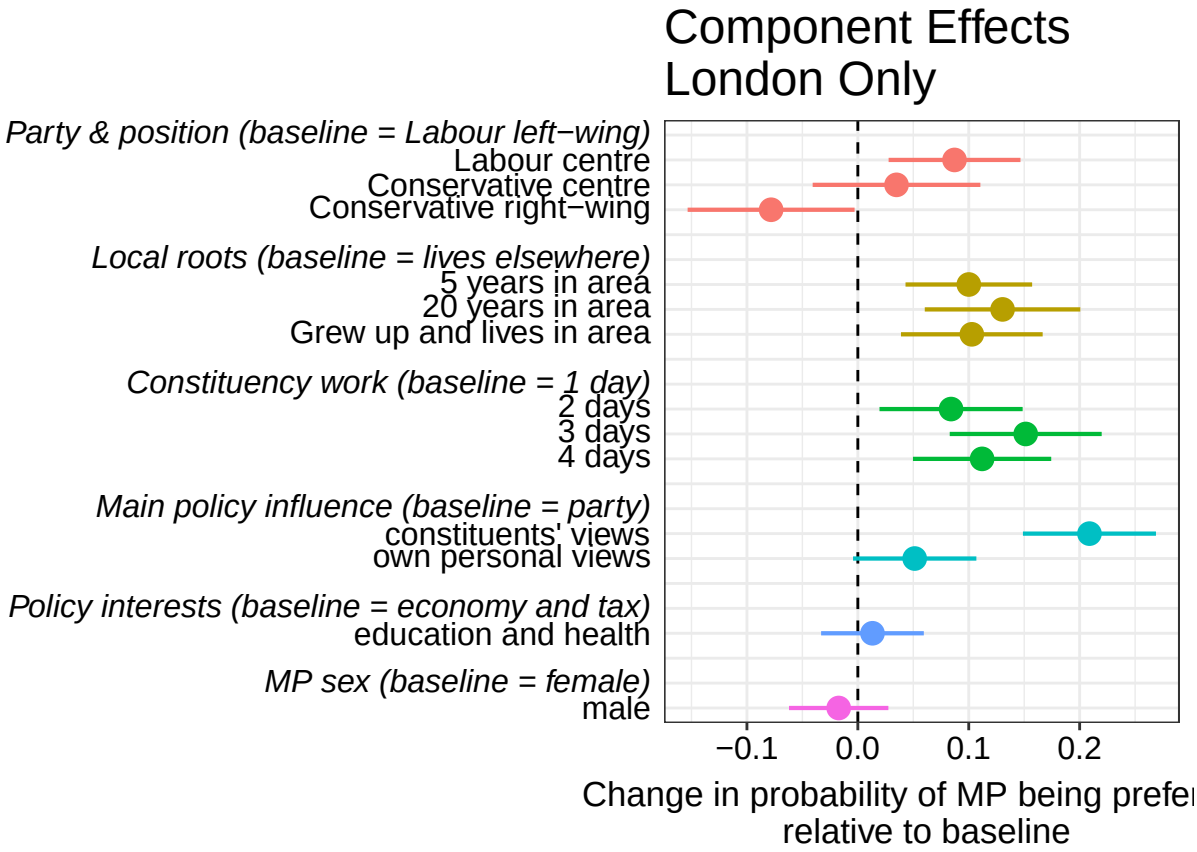
Table 1: Model depicting Heterogeneous Effects

Statistic	Mean	St. Dev.
X.Intercept.	−0.370	0.128
localtreatLocal.roots	0.230	0.178
behtreatConst..focus	1.400	0.096
behtreatWestmin..focus	−0.002	0.098
agegrp25.49	−0.131	0.131
agegrp50.64	−0.030	0.139
agegrp65.	0.077	0.143
localtreatLocal.roots.behtreatConst..focus	−0.314	0.134
localtreatLocal.roots.behtreatWestmin..focus	−0.227	0.137
localtreatLocal.roots.agegrp25.49	0.422	0.181
localtreatLocal.roots.agegrp50.64	0.761	0.192
localtreatLocal.roots.agegrp65.	0.717	0.197
sigma	1.983	0.019

Comparing this table to table 2 of Campbell et al. (2019), there is not a change in regards to the treatment, but there is a notable difference specifically with the treatment having a greater effect on older people.

[1] https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataset.xhtml?persistentId=doi:10.7910/DVN/C15VOD
[2] https://github.com/SamuelLowry/why_friends_and_neighbors_replication_paper.git


Component Effects
Without London
Party & position (baseline = Labour left−wing)
Labour centre
Conservative centre
Conservative right−wing
Local roots (baseline = lives elsewhere)
5 years in area
20 years in area
Grew up and lives in area
Constituency work (baseline = 1 day)
2 days
3 days
4 days
Main policy influence (baseline = party)
constituents' views
own personal views
Policy interests (baseline = economy and tax)
education and health
MP sex (baseline = female)
male
0.0
0.1
0.2
Change in probability of MP being prefe
relative to baseline



I also wanted to look at the urban/rural divide, so I compared London, the only completely urban region within the UK with the rest of the UK regions. These tables appear to be almost identical and can be compared to figure 3 of Campbell et al. (2019).

These extensions hopefully better the article as a whole and clarify its implications.

4 References

Arzheimer, Kai, and Jocelyn Evans. 2012. "Geolocation and Voting: Candidate-Voter Distance Effects on Party Choice in the 2010 Uk General Election in England." Political Geography. 31 (5): 301–10.

———. 2014. "Candidate Geolocation and Voter Choice in the 2013 English County Council Elections." Research; Politics. 1 (2): 1–9.

Bowler, Shaun, Todd Donovan, and Joseph Snipp. 1993. "Local Sources of Information and Voter Choice in State Elections." American Politics Quarterly. 21 (4): 473–89.

Campbell, Rosie, Philip Cowley, Nick Vivyan, and Markus Wagner. 2019. "Why Friends and Neighbors? Explaining the Electoral Appeal of Local Roots." The Journal of Politics. 81(3), 937-951.

Garand, James. 1988. "Localism and Regionalism in Presidential Elections: Is There a Home State or Regional Advantage." Western Political Quarterly. 41 (1): 85–103.

Key, Valdimer. 1949. "Southern Politics." New York: Knopf.

A Appendix of Replicated Graphics

I was able to replicate table 2, figure 1, and figure 3. I was unable to replicate table 1 and figure 2 because they were not data related. They were merely visualizations displaying content about methods and experimental design. Table 1 depicts written descriptions of the hypothetical Members of Parliament present to subject. Figure 2 depicts a screenshot of the survey.

Table 2

% Table created by stargazer v.5.2.2 by Marek Hlavac, Harvard University. E-mail: hlavac at fas.harvard.edu
% Date and time: Sat, Apr 18, 2020 - 23:46:33

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Intercept	-0.412^{***}	-0.661^{***}	-0.412^{***}	-0.664^{***}
	(0.057)	(0.128)	(0.057)	(0.125)
Local roots	0.755^{***}	0.759^{***}	0.755^{***}	0.758^{***}
	(0.080)	(0.080)	(0.080)	(0.080)
Behavioral localism information	0.683^{***}	0.691^{***}		
	(0.078)	(0.079)		
Behavioral localism: High (vs. no info)			1.395^{***}	1.402^{***}
			(0.098)	(0.098)
Behavioral localism: Low (vs. no info)			-0.007	-0.0002
			(0.085)	(0.086)
Local roots X Behavioral info.	-0.253^{**}	-0.257^{**}		
	(0.110)	(0.110)		
Local roots X High behavioral localism			-0.311^{**}	-0.311^{**}
			(0.140)	(0.139)
Local roots X Low behavioral localism			-0.233^{*}	-0.238^{**}
			(0.119)	(0.119)
Controls for voter characteristics?	No	Yes	No	Yes
Observations	5,203	5,203	5,203	5,203
R^2	0.036	0.046	0.107	0.116
Adjusted R^2	0.036	0.044	0.106	0.114
Note:				*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Figure 1

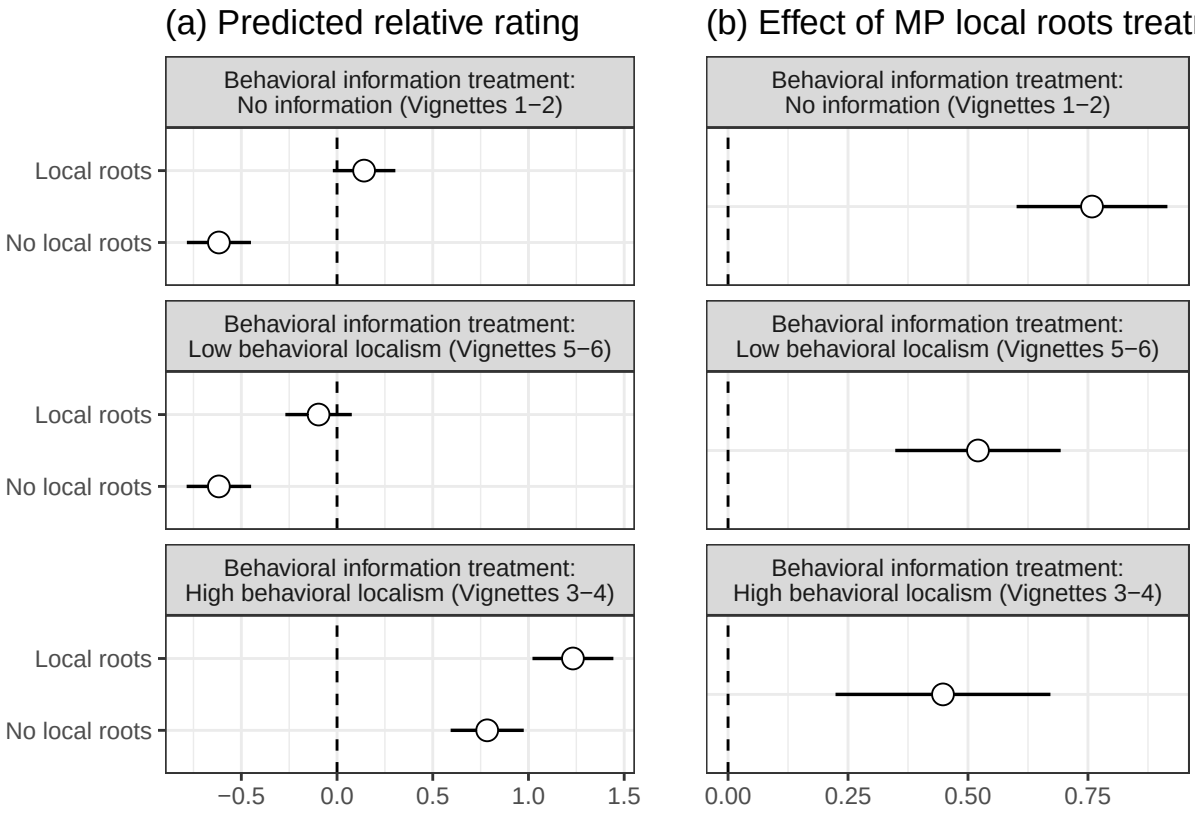
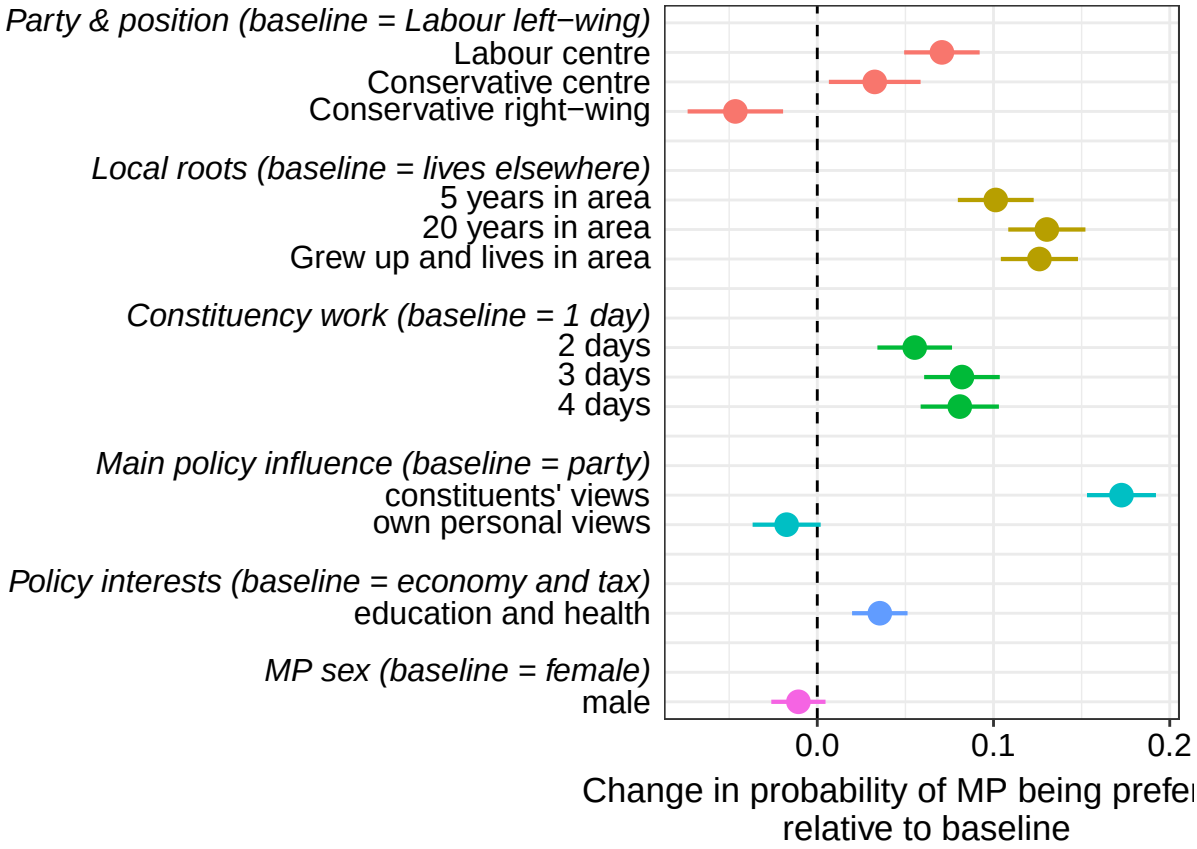

(a) Predicted relative rating
(b) Effect of MP local roots treatr
Behavioral information treatment:
No information (Vignettes 1−2)
Behavioral information treatment:
Low behavioral localism (Vignettes 5−6)
Behavioral information treatment:
High behavioral localism (Vignettes 3−4)
Local roots
No local roots
−0.5
0.0
0.5
1.0
1.5
0.00
0.25
0.50
0.75

Figure 3


Party & position (baseline = Labour left−wing)
Labour centre
Conservative centre
Conservative right−wing
Local roots (baseline = lives elsewhere)
5 years in area
20 years in area
Grew up and lives in area
Constituency work (baseline = 1 day)
2 days
3 days
4 days
Main policy influence (baseline = party)
constituents' views
own personal views
Policy interests (baseline = economy and tax)
education and health
MP sex (baseline = female)
male
0.0
0.1
0.2
Change in probability of MP being prefe
relative to baseline