

Political Science 406: Lab 4: Natural Experiments, Part 1

Due on May 3, 2024

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Problem 1

Evaluate a Natural Experiment

Consider the following published natural experiment: Jens Hainmueller and Dominik Hangartner, 2013, “Who Gets a Swiss Passport? A Natural Experiment in Immigrant Discrimination.” *American Political Science Review* 107 (Feb.): 159-87. What kind of natural experiment is it? What are the key assumptions for a causal inference in a natural experiment of this kind? (State them in terms of the potential outcomes framework.) What evidence is provided in the article for those assumptions, and how good is it? On the basis of your answers to these questions, how credible do you think the natural experiment is as a whole?