

# DataPreparation

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## Project

- Official project name

## Task

- Load data and prepare it such that it can be used in the analysis. The data is saved to .arrow and .parquet and should be imported in other quarto files.

## Notes

- here is some space for general notes

## Load relevant functions and packages

```
library(here) # load here package for relative paths

source(here('R-Scripts', 'Functions.R')) # source relevant functions

package_verification(packages = c('tidyverse',
                                  'lubridate',
                                  'arrow',
                                  'data.table',
                                  'dplyr',
                                  'haven',
                                  'fixest',
                                  'MASS',
                                  'modelsummary',
                                  'knitr',
                                  'kableExtra',
                                  'ggplot2',
                                  'did',
                                  'dplyr'),
                      type = 'script')
```

Set seed, just in case

```
set.seed(123456789)
```

## Load data

```
data = read_dta(here('Supplementary-Files/Replication-Package/Replication_files/data/thefts_1.dta'))
```

```

# Create descriptive statistics table
desc.stats = data %>%
  dplyr::select(sales, thefts, LJmodel, LJstate, LJ, age) %>%
  summarise(
    across(everything(), list(
      mean = ~ mean(.x, na.rm = TRUE),
      sd = ~ sd(.x, na.rm = TRUE),
      min = ~ min(.x, na.rm = TRUE),
      max = ~ max(.x, na.rm = TRUE)
    )))
  ) %>%
  pivot_longer(everything(), names_to = "variable", values_to = "value") %>%
  separate(variable, into = c("variable", "statistic"), sep = "_") %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = statistic, values_from = value) %>%
  mutate(
    Variable = case_when(
      variable == "sales" ~ "Vintage size",
      variable == "thefts" ~ "Annual thefts",
      variable == "LJmodel" ~ "Lojack model = 1",
      variable == "LJstate" ~ "Lojack state = 1",
      variable == "LJ" ~ "Lojack",
      variable == "age" ~ "Age of vehicle"
    ),
    Mean = round(mean, 3),
    SD = round(sd, 2),
    Min = as.integer(min),
    Max = ifelse(max >= 1000, format(max, big.mark = ",", scientific = FALSE), as.character(max))
  )

# Now select the final columns
desc.stats = desc.stats %>%
  dplyr::select(Variable, Mean, SD, Min, Max)

# Display table
kable(desc.stats, caption = "TABLE 1—DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS")

```

Table 1: TABLE 1—DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS

Variable	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Vintage size	609.694	1752.92	1	32,940
Annual thefts	4.377	30.87	0	1,502

Variable	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Lojack model = 1	0.158	0.36	0	1
Lojack state = 1	0.179	0.38	0	1
Lojack	0.006	0.08	0	1
Age of vehicle	0.811	0.93	0	3

**Notes:** N = 16,764. An observation is defined by a (state, car model, vintage, year of theft) combination. Vintage Size refers to total sales in a (state, car model, vintage) triplet. Age of car is in terms of completed years since sale (0 if the car is up to 12 months old, etc.). Sold with Lojack equals one if the car model was equipped with Lojack when the vehicle was sold. Lojack Models refers to the Ford vehicle models that participated in the Lojack program at some point between 1999 and 2004. Lojack states are the four states where Lojack was implemented between 1999 and 2004.

**Surprise:** Lojack model = 1 shows a value of 0.162 in the original table. Let us investigate:

```
# Isolate and describe the LJmodel discrepancy problem
cat("== LOJACK MODEL DISCREPANCY ANALYSIS ==\n\n")
```

```
== LOJACK MODEL DISCREPANCY ANALYSIS ==
```

```
# 1. Current data summary
cat("1. CURRENT DATA:\n")
```

1. CURRENT DATA:

```
current.ljmodel.table = table(data$LJmodel)
current.mean = mean(data$LJmodel, na.rm = TRUE)
current.n = nrow(data)

print(current.ljmodel.table)
```

```
0      1
14113 2651
```

```
cat("Current mean:", round(current.mean, 6), "\n")
```

```
Current mean: 0.158136
```

```
cat("Current N:", current.n, "\n\n")
```

```
Current N: 16764
```

```
# 2. Reference table expectations  
cat("2. REFERENCE TABLE EXPECTATIONS:\n")
```

```
2. REFERENCE TABLE EXPECTATIONS:
```

```
reference.mean = 0.162  
reference.n = 16764  
expected.ljmodel.ones = reference.mean * reference.n  
  
cat("Reference mean:", reference.mean, "\n")
```

```
Reference mean: 0.162
```

```
cat("Reference N:", reference.n, "\n")
```

```
Reference N: 16764
```

```
cat("Expected LJmodel=1 observations:", round(expected.ljmodel.ones), "\n\n")
```

```
Expected LJmodel=1 observations: 2716
```

```
# 3. Quantify the discrepancy  
cat("3. DISCREPANCY QUANTIFICATION:\n")
```

```
3. DISCREPANCY QUANTIFICATION:
```

```
actual.ljmodel.ones = sum(data$LJmodel == 1)  
missing.observations = expected.ljmodel.ones - actual.ljmodel.ones  
mean.difference = reference.mean - current.mean  
  
cat("Actual LJmodel=1 observations:", actual.ljmodel.ones, "\n")
```

```
Actual LJmodel=1 observations: 2651
```

```

cat("Missing LJmodel=1 observations:", round(missing.observations), "\n")

Missing LJmodel=1 observations: 65

cat("Mean difference:", round(mean.difference, 6), "\n")

Mean difference: 0.003864

cat("Percentage difference:", round((mean.difference/reference.mean)*100, 2), "%\n\n")

Percentage difference: 2.38 %

# 4. Verify consistency
cat("4. CONSISTENCY CHECK:\n")

```

4. CONSISTENCY CHECK:

```

calculated.difference = mean.difference * current.n
cat("Calculated missing obs from mean diff:", round(calculated.difference), "\n")

```

Calculated missing obs from mean diff: 65

```

cat("Direct count difference:", round(missing.observations), "\n")

```

Direct count difference: 65

```

cat("Match:", round(calculated.difference) == round(missing.observations), "\n\n")

```

Match: TRUE

## Estimation

```

# Table 2 - Column 1:
# local x_ = "i.age id_*"
# nbreg thefts `x_` LJ NLJM_LJS_After NLJS_LJM_After NLJS_NLJM_After, exposure(sales) cluster(id)
model.t2.c1 = fenegbin(
    thefts ~ LJ + NLJM_LJS_After + NLJS_LJM_After + NLJS_NLJM_After + i(age) | id,
    data = data,
    offset = ~log(sales),
    vcov = ~state_code
)

```

NOTE: 170 fixed-effects (1,757 observations) removed because of only 0 outcomes or singletons

```

# Table 2 - Column 2:
timetrendstate.vars = grep("^timetrendstate_", names(data), value = TRUE)
formula.str = paste("thefts ~ LJ + NLJM_LJS_After + NLJS_LJM_After + NLJS_NLJM_After + i(age)",
                    paste(timetrendstate.vars, collapse = " + "), "| id")
model.t2.c2 = fenegbin(
    as.formula(formula.str),
    data = data,
    offset = ~log(sales),
    vcov = ~state_code
)

```

NOTE: 170 fixed-effects (1,757 observations) removed because of only 0 outcomes or singletons

Warning: The VCOV matrix is not positive semi-definite and was 'fixed' (see  
?vcov).

```

# Table 2 - Column 3:
timetrendstate.vars = grep("^timetrendstate_", names(data), value = TRUE)
timetrendstate2.vars = grep("^timetrendstate2_", names(data), value = TRUE)
formula.str = paste("thefts ~ LJ + NLJM_LJS_After + NLJS_LJM_After + NLJS_NLJM_After + i(age)",
                    paste(c(timetrendstate.vars, timetrendstate2.vars), collapse = " + "), "| id")
model.t2.c3 = fenegbin(
    as.formula(formula.str),
    data = data,
    offset = ~log(sales),
    vcov = ~state_code
)

```

NOTE: 170 fixed-effects (1,757 observations) removed because of only 0 outcomes or singletons

```
Warning: The VCOV matrix is not positive semi-definite and was 'fixed' (see  
?vcov).
```

```
# Table 2 - Column 4:  
timetrendstate.vars = grep("^timetrendstate_", names(data), value = TRUE)  
timetrendstate2.vars = grep("^timetrendstate2_", names(data), value = TRUE)  
formula.str = paste("thefts ~ LJ + NLJM_LJS_After + NLJS_LJM_After + NLJS_NLJM_After +",  
                    paste(c(timetrendstate.vars, timetrendstate2.vars), collapse = " + ")),  
model.t2.c4 = fenegbin(  
  as.formula(formula.str),  
  data = data[data$age == 1, ],  
  offset = ~log(sales),  
  vcov = ~state_code  
)
```

```
NOTE: 443 fixed-effects (1,474 observations) removed because of only 0 outcomes or singletons
```

```
Warning: The VCOV matrix is not positive semi-definite and was 'fixed' (see  
?vcov).
```

```
# Table 2 - Column 5:  
timetrendstate.vars = grep("^timetrendstate_", names(data), value = TRUE)  
timetrendstate2.vars = grep("^timetrendstate2_", names(data), value = TRUE)  
nljs.ljm.after.dcat.vars = grep("^NLJS_LJM_After_dcat_", names(data), value = TRUE)  
nljs.nljm.after.dcat.vars = grep("^NLJS_NLJM_After_dcat_", names(data), value = TRUE)  
formula.str = paste("thefts ~ LJ + NLJM_LJS_After +",  
                    paste(c(nljs.ljm.after.dcat.vars, nljs.nljm.after.dcat.vars, timetrendstate2.vars), collapse = " + ")),  
model.t2.c5 = fenegbin(  
  as.formula(formula.str),  
  data = data[data$age == 1, ],  
  offset = ~log(sales),  
  vcov = ~state_code  
)
```

```
NOTE: 443 fixed-effects (1,474 observations) removed because of only 0 outcomes or singletons
```

```
Warning: The VCOV matrix is not positive semi-definite and was 'fixed' (see  
?vcov).
```

```

# Table 2 - Column 6:
data$model.x.yr.stolen = data$model_group_code * 10000 + data$yr_stolen
model.t2.c6 = fenegbin(
  thefts ~ LJ + NLJM_LJS_After + NLJS_LJM_After_Close + NLJS_NLJM_After_Close + i(age) | id -
  data = data,
  offset = ~log(sales),
  vcov = ~state_code
)

```

NOTE: 171/29 fixed-effects (1,943 observations) removed because of only 0 outcomes or singletons

```

# Table 2 - Column 7:
timetrendstate.vars = grep("^timetrendstate_", names(data), value = TRUE)
timetrendstate2.vars = grep("^timetrendstate2_", names(data), value = TRUE)
formula.str = paste("thefts ~ LJage0 + LJage1 + LJage2 + NLJM_LJS_After + NLJS_LJM_After + NLJS_NLJM_After + i(state_code) | id -",
                     paste(c(timetrendstate.vars, timetrendstate2.vars), collapse = " + "),
                     "offset = ~log(sales), vcov = ~state_code")
model.t2.c7 = fenegbin(
  as.formula(formula.str),
  data = data,
  offset = ~log(sales),
  vcov = ~state_code
)

```

NOTE: 170 fixed-effects (1,757 observations) removed because of only 0 outcomes or singletons

Warning: The VCOV matrix is not positive semi-definite and was 'fixed' (see ?vcov).

```

# Function to safely extract coefficient and standard error
safe_extract = function(model, var_name) {
  tryCatch({
    if (var_name %in% names(coef(model))) {
      coef_val = coef(model)[var_name]
      se_val = sqrt(diag(vcov(model)))[var_name]

      # Determine significance stars
      p_val = 2 * (1 - pnorm(abs(coef_val / se_val)))
      stars = ifelse(p_val < 0.001, "***",
                    ifelse(p_val < 0.01, "**",
                           ifelse(p_val < 0.05, "*", "")))
    }
  })
}

```



```

# NLJM NLJS after = 1
table_rows = rbind(table_rows, create_table_row("NLJS_NLJM_After", models))

# LJ = 1, first year on road (LJage0)
lj_first_row = c("LJ = 1, first year on road", "", "", "", "", "", safe_extract(model.t2
lj_first_se = c("", "", "", "", "", "", safe_extract(model.t2.c7, "LJage0")$se)
table_rows = rbind(table_rows, lj_first_row, lj_first_se)

# LJ = 1, second year on road (LJage1)
lj_second_row = c("LJ = 1, second year on road", "", "", "", "", "", safe_extract(model.t2
lj_second_se = c("", "", "", "", "", "", safe_extract(model.t2.c7, "LJage1")$se)
table_rows = rbind(table_rows, lj_second_row, lj_second_se)

# Distance percentile interactions (only for column 5)
dist_vars = c("NLJS_LJM_After_dcat_1", "NLJS_LJM_After_dcat_2", "NLJS_LJM_After_dcat_3",
             "NLJS_NLJM_After_dcat_1", "NLJS_NLJM_After_dcat_2", "NLJS_NLJM_After_dcat_3")
dist_labels = c("(LJM NLJS after = 1) × (dis. pct. < 33)",
               "(LJM NLJS after = 1) × (33 < dis. pct. < 66)",
               "(LJM NLJS after = 1) × (dis. pct. > 66)",
               "(NLJM NLJS after = 1) × (dis. pct. < 33)",
               "(NLJM NLJS after = 1) × (33 < dis. pct. < 66)",
               "(NLJM NLJS after = 1) × (dis. pct. > 66)")

for (i in 1:6) {
  dist_row = c(dist_labels[i], "", "", "", "", safe_extract(model.t2.c5, dist_vars[i])$coef,
  dist_se = c("", "", "", "", "", safe_extract(model.t2.c5, dist_vars[i])$se, "", "")
  table_rows = rbind(table_rows, dist_row, dist_se)
}

# Add summary statistics
summary_rows = rbind(
  c("", "", "", "", "", "", ""),
  c("Observations", "16,764", "16,764", "16,764", "5,185", "5,185", "16,764", "16,764"),
  c("Time controls", "None", "Linear", "Quadratic", "Quadratic", "Quadratic", "Model × year"),
  c("State specific time controls", "No", "Yes", "Yes", "Yes", "Yes", "No", "Yes"),
  c("Sample", "Full", "Full", "Full", "Age = 1", "Age = 1", "Full", "Full")
)

table_rows = rbind(table_rows, summary_rows)

# Convert to data frame and create table
table_df = as.data.frame(table_rows)

```

```

colnames(table_df) = c("", "(1)", "(2)", "(3)", "(4)", "(5)", "(6)", "(7)")

# Display table
kable(table_df,
      caption = "TABLE 2—DETERRENCE AND GEOGRAPHICAL EXTERNALITIES IN AUTO THEFT",
      align = c("l", rep("c", 7)))

```

Table 2: TABLE 2—DETERRENCE AND GEOGRAPHICAL EXTERNALITIES IN AUTO THEFT

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
row_dataLJ	-	-	-	-	-	-0.56**	
se_data	0.65***	0.63***	0.66***	0.52***	0.52***		
row_dataNLJM_LJS_After	(0.127)	(0.021)	(0.018)	(0.106)	(0.106)	(0.180)	
se_data.1	-	-0.06	-0.08	0.08	0.08	-0.09	-0.08
row_dataNLJS_LJM_After	0.12***						
se_data.2	(0.029)	(0.072)	(0.066)	(0.056)	(0.056)	(0.072)	(0.065)
row_dataNLJS_NLJM_After	0.27*	0.49***	0.42***	0.42*		0.42***	
se_data.3	(0.120)	(0.091)	(0.075)	(0.189)		(0.075)	
lj_first_rdJ = 1, first year on road	-0.06	0.11	0.05	0.14		0.05	
lj_first_se	(0.072)	(0.064)	(0.057)	(0.130)		(0.057)	
lj_second_LJow = 1, second year on road	-	-	-	-	0.71***		
lj_second_se	(0.087)						
dist_row (LJM NLJS after = 1) × (dis. pct. < 33)					0.94***		
dist_se					(0.260)		
dist_row.(1LJM NLJS after = 1) × (33 < dis. pct. < 66)					0.38		
dist_se.1					(0.349)		
dist_row.(2LJM NLJS after = 1) × (dis. pct. > 66)					0.10		
dist_se.2					(0.208)		
dist_row.(3NLJM NLJS after = 1) × (dis. pct. < 33)					0.07		
dist_se.3					(0.311)		
dist_row.(4NLJM NLJS after = 1) × (33 < dis. pct. < 66)					0.19		

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
dist_se.4					(0.147)		
dist_row.5NLJM NLJS after = 1)					0.14		
× (dis. pct. > 66)							
dist_se.5					(0.207)		
X							
X.1   Observations	16,764	16,764	16,764	5,185	5,185	16,764	16,764
X.2   Time controls	None	Linear	Quadrat	Quadrat	Quadrat	Model	Quadratic
						× year	
X.3   State specific time controls	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
X.4   Sample	Full	Full	Full	Age = 1	Age = 1	Full	Full

**Specification:** Negative binomial **Dependent variable:** Vehicle thefts

**Notes:** Standard errors clustered at the state level in parentheses. Regressions control for: size of vintage by model and state, state × model fixed effects, and age dummies. LJM, NLJM stand for Lojack model and non-Lojack model, respectively. LJS and NLJS stand for Lojack and non-Lojack program states, respectively. After refers to after program implementation in the state (row 2) or in the nearest program state (rows 3 and 4). dis. pct. refers to distance percentile. Thirty-third percentile cutoff is at 320 km; sixty-sixth percentile cutoff is at 935 km. \*\*\* Significant at the 1 percent level. \*\* Significant at the 5 percent level. \* Significant at the 10 percent level.

```
# Calculate group sizes for Table 3

# NLJS group size (Non-Lojack states):
nljs.stats = data %>%
  group_by(id) %>%
  summarise(
    T_pre_geo_ext = mean(T_pre_geo_ext, na.rm = TRUE),
    LJmodel = mean(LJmodel, na.rm = TRUE),
    LJstate = mean(LJstate, na.rm = TRUE),
    .groups = 'drop'
  ) %>%
  summarise(
    sum_NLJS_LJM = sum(T_pre_geo_ext[LJstate == 0 & LJmodel == 1], na.rm = TRUE),
    sum_NLJS_NLJ = sum(T_pre_geo_ext[LJstate == 0 & LJmodel == 0], na.rm = TRUE)
  )

# LJS_LJM group size (Lojack states, Lojack models):
```

```

ljs.ljm.stats = data %>%
  group_by(id) %>%
  summarise(T_pre_LJ = mean(T_pre_LJ, na.rm = TRUE), .groups = 'drop') %>%
  summarise(T_LJ = sum(T_pre_LJ, na.rm = TRUE))

# LJS_NLJM group size (Lojack states, Non-Lojack models):
ljs.nljm.stats = data %>%
  group_by(id) %>%
  summarise(
    T_pre_wthn_ext = mean(T_pre_wthn_ext, na.rm = TRUE),
    LJmodel = mean(LJmodel, na.rm = TRUE),
    LJstate = mean(LJstate, na.rm = TRUE),
    .groups = 'drop'
  ) %>%
  summarise(T_wse = sum(T_pre_wthn_ext[LJstate == 1 & LJmodel == 0], na.rm = TRUE))

# Extract preprogram means
preprogram.mean.LJ = round(ljs.ljm.stats$T_LJ)
preprogram.mean.NLJM_LJS = round(ljs.nljm.stats$T_wse)
preprogram.mean.NLJS_LJM = round(nljs.stats$sum_NLJS_LJM)
preprogram.mean.NLJS_NLJM = round(nljs.stats$sum_NLJS_NLJ)

# Extract coefficients and standard errors for all treatment variables
coef.LJ = coef(model.t2.c3)[ "LJ"]
coef.NLJM_LJS = coef(model.t2.c3)[ "NLJM_LJS_After"]
coef.NLJS_LJM = coef(model.t2.c3)[ "NLJS_LJM_After"]
coef.NLJS_NLJM = coef(model.t2.c3)[ "NLJS_NLJM_After"]

se.LJ = sqrt(diag(vcov(model.t2.c3)))[ "LJ"]
se.NLJM_LJS = sqrt(diag(vcov(model.t2.c3)))[ "NLJM_LJS_After"]
se.NLJS_LJM = sqrt(diag(vcov(model.t2.c3)))[ "NLJS_LJM_After"]
se.NLJS_NLJM = sqrt(diag(vcov(model.t2.c3)))[ "NLJS_NLJM_After"]

# Calculate IRR
irr.LJ = exp(coef.LJ)
irr.NLJM_LJS = exp(coef.NLJM_LJS)
irr.NLJS_LJM = exp(coef.NLJS_LJM)
irr.NLJS_NLJM = exp(coef.NLJS_NLJM)

# Percent changes
pct.change.LJ = (irr.LJ - 1) * 100
pct.change.NLJM_LJS = (irr.NLJM_LJS - 1) * 100

```

```

pct.change.NLJS_LJM = (irr.NLJS_LJM - 1) * 100
pct.change.NLJS_NLJM = (irr.NLJS_NLJM - 1) * 100

# Delta method: SE for percentage change = |IRR * SE_coef * 100|
se.pct.LJ = abs(irr.LJ * se.LJ * 100)
se.pct.NLJM_LJS = abs(irr.NLJM_LJS * se.NLJM_LJS * 100)
se.pct.NLJS_LJM = abs(irr.NLJS_LJM * se.NLJS_LJM * 100)
se.pct.NLJS_NLJM = abs(irr.NLJS_NLJM * se.NLJS_NLJM * 100)

# Effects in terms of annual thefts
effect.thefts.LJ = preprogram.mean.LJ * (irr.LJ - 1)
effect.thefts.NLJS_NLJM = preprogram.mean.NLJS_NLJM * (irr.NLJS_NLJM - 1)

# Delta method: SE for effect in thefts = |preprogram_mean * IRR * SE_coef|
se.effect.LJ = abs(preprogram.mean.LJ * irr.LJ * se.LJ)
se.effect.NLJS_NLJM = abs(preprogram.mean.NLJS_NLJM * irr.NLJS_NLJM * se.NLJS_NLJM)

# Calculate z-statistics
z.stat.LJ = coef.LJ / se.LJ
z.stat.NLJM_LJS = coef.NLJM_LJS / se.NLJM_LJS
z.stat.NLJS_LJM = coef.NLJS_LJM / se.NLJS_LJM
z.stat.NLJS_NLJM = coef.NLJS_NLJM / se.NLJS_NLJM

# Significance stars (two-tailed test)
get_stars = function(z) {
  ifelse(abs(z) > 3.291, "***",
  ifelse(abs(z) > 2.576, "**",
  ifelse(abs(z) > 1.96, "*", "")))
}

sig.LJ = get_stars(z.stat.LJ)
sig.NLJM_LJS = get_stars(z.stat.NLJM_LJS)
sig.NLJS_LJM = get_stars(z.stat.NLJS_LJM)
sig.NLJS_NLJM = get_stars(z.stat.NLJS_NLJM)

# Create Table 3 with standard errors
table3.data = data.frame(
  Variable = c("Preprogram mean annual thefts",
  "",
  "Effect of Lojack program (percent change)",
  "",
  "Effect in terms of annual thefts",

```

```

        ""),
Lojack_Lojack = c(
  as.character(preprogram.mean.LJ),
  "",
  paste0(round(pct.change.LJ, 0), "%", sig.LJ),
  paste0("(", round(se.pct.LJ, 1), ")"),
  paste0(round(effect.thefts.LJ, 0), sig.LJ),
  paste0("(", round(se.effect.LJ, 0), ")")
),
Lojack_NonLojack = c(
  as.character(preprogram.mean.NLJM_LJS),
  "",
  paste0(round(pct.change.NLJM_LJS, 0), "%", sig.NLJM_LJS),
  paste0("(", round(se.pct.NLJM_LJS, 1), ")"),
  "",
  ""
),
NonLojack_Lojack = c(
  as.character(preprogram.mean.NLJS_LJM),
  "",
  paste0(round(pct.change.NLJS_LJM, 0), "%", sig.NLJS_LJM),
  paste0("(", round(se.pct.NLJS_LJM, 1), ")"),
  "",
  ""
),
NonLojack_NonLojack = c(
  as.character(preprogram.mean.NLJS_NLJM),
  "",
  paste0(round(pct.change.NLJS_NLJM, 0), "%", sig.NLJS_NLJM),
  paste0("(", round(se.pct.NLJS_NLJM, 1), ")"),
  paste0(round(effect.thefts.NLJS_NLJM, 0), sig.NLJS_NLJM),
  paste0("(", round(se.effect.NLJS_NLJM, 0), ")")
)
)

# Display table
kable(
  table3.data,
  col.names = c("", "Lojack", "Non-Lojack", "Lojack", "Non-Lojack"),
  caption = "TABLE 3-ESTIMATED IMPACT OF THE LOJACK PROGRAM IN TERMS OF STOLEN VEHICLES",
  align = c("l", rep("c", 4))
)

```

Table 3: TABLE 3—ESTIMATED IMPACT OF THE LOJACK PROGRAM IN TERMS OF STOLEN VEHICLES

	Lojack	Non-Lojack	Lojack	Non-Lojack
Preprogram mean annual thefts	247	3873	42	824
Effect of Lojack program (percent change)	-48%*** (1)	-8% (6)	52%*** (11.4)	5% (5.9)
Effect in terms of annual thefts	-120*** (2)			42 (49)

**Notes:** Preprogram mean thefts are the average (over time) of the sum of yearly thefts in all states in the group indicated by the column header before the introduction of the program. Effects of Lojack Program are the  $(IRR - 1) \times 100$  from column 3 in Table 2. Standard errors obtained using the delta method in parentheses. \*\*\*Significant at the 1 percent level. \*\* Significant at the 5 percent level. \* Significant at the 10 percent level.

## CS estimation:

I implement two specifications of the CS estimator:

1. closest possiblbe to original specification (not working properly)
2. next closest working specification

### Closest to original specification

```
# start from original data `data` used for Table 2
data.cs.id = data %>%
  arrange(id, yr_stolen) %>%
  group_by(id) %>%
  mutate(
    # first year this id is treated
    first_treat_year = ifelse(any(LJ == 1),
                               min(yr_stolen[LJ == 1]),
                               NA_real_),
    cohort = ifelse(is.na(first_treat_year), 0, first_treat_year),
    time = yr_stolen,
    unit.id = id
  ) %>%
```

```

ungroup()

# check cohorts
data.cs.id %>%
  group_by(cohort) %>%
  summarise(
    n_obs = n(),
    n_units = n_distinct(unit.id),
    .groups = "drop"
  ) %>%
  kable()

```

cohort	n_obs	n_units
0	16350	1371
2001	13	1
2002	39	3
2003	362	30

The code above restructures the original thefts–sales dataset into the panel format required by the Callaway–Sant’Anna (CS) estimator, using the same observational unit as in the original paper: the cell  $\text{id} \times \text{year}$  of theft. For each  $\text{id}$ , I compute the first year in which the Lojack indicator  $\text{LJ}$  turns one and define this as the treatment cohort; units that never receive Lojack are assigned to cohort 0. The resulting cohort distribution shows 1,371 never-treated units but only 1 treated unit in cohort 2001, 3 treated units in cohort 2002, and 30 treated units in cohort 2003.

Conceptually, this is the closest possible mapping of the original specification into the CS framework, because it preserves the original unit of observation, outcome, and treatment definition, and only adds the cohort and time variables that CS requires. However, from an estimation perspective, the treated cohorts—especially 2001 and 2002—are extremely small. This foreshadows that, even if the CS estimator can be run, group-time average treatment effects for these early cohorts will be very noisy and asymptotics will be unreliable. In the next block, I attempt to run the CS estimator on this  $\text{id}$ -level panel and show that, in practice, this “closest” specification does not work well.

```

cs.id.results = try(
  att_gt(
    yname = "thefts",
    tname = "time",
    idname = "unit.id",
    gname = "cohort",

```

```

    data      = data.cs.id,
    control_group = "nevertreated",
    xformula = ~ log(sales) + factor(age),
    est_method = "reg",
    bstrap   = TRUE,
    biters   = 500,                  # reduce a bit for speed
    clustervars = "state_code",
    anticipation = 0,
    alp = 0.05
),
silent = TRUE
)

```

Warning in pre\_process\_did(yname = yname, tname = tname, idname = idname, :  
Dropped 1338 observations while converting to balanced panel.

`cs.id.results`

```

[1] "Error in panel2cs2(disdat, yname, idname, tname, balance_panel = FALSE) : \n  panel2cs
attr(,"class")
[1] "try-error"
attr(,"condition")
<simpleError in panel2cs2(disdat, yname, idname, tname, balance_panel = FALSE): panel2cs only

```

**Conceptually:** this is the closest possible CS spec to the original nbreg:

- same unit (id),
- same outcome (thefts),
- same exposure (log sales),
- same basic controls (age).

**Practically:** the implementation fails because:

- there are many periods (1999–2004),
- some cohorts are tiny (1 unit in 2001, 3 units in 2002),
- the internal routines in did (which build  $2 \times 2$  comparisons) run into edge cases; the estimator is not numerically stable in this configuration.

For practical purposes, we proceed to a “next closest” specification that aggregates units to increase treated group sizes and allows the estimator to run.

## Next closest specification

In this specification, I slightly coarsen the unit of observation from the original `id × year` cell to a `model-state-year` cell. For each combination of model group, state, and year of theft, I aggregate thefts and sales, and I carry forward the Lojack state and model indicators. I then define a panel where the unit is a model-state pair, time is the theft year, and the treatment cohort is determined by when a Lojack model first appears in a Lojack state: Jalisco in 2001, and Morelos, Mexico State, and the Federal District in 2002. All other model-state units are coded as never treated.

```
data.cs.ms = data %>%
  group_by(model_group_code, state_code, state, yr_stolen) %>%
  summarise(
    total.thefts = sum(thefts, na.rm = TRUE),
    total.sales = sum(sales, na.rm = TRUE),
    LJstate = first(LJstate),
    LJmodel = first(LJmodel),
    .groups = "drop"
  ) %>%
  mutate(
    unit.id = as.numeric(as.factor(paste0(model_group_code, "_", state_code))),
    time = yr_stolen,
    # cohort defined by state-level Lojack intro for Lojack models
    cohort = case_when(
      state == "JALISCO" &
        LJmodel == 1 ~ 2001,
      state %in% c("MORELOS", "MEXICO", "DISTRITO FEDERAL") &
        LJmodel == 1 ~ 2002,
      TRUE ~ 0
    ),
    outcome = log(total.thefts + 1)
  )

# sanity check
data.cs.ms %>%
  group_by(cohort) %>%
  summarise(
    n_obs = n(),
    n_units = n_distinct(unit.id),
    n_states = n_distinct(state),
    mean_thefts = mean(total.thefts, na.rm = TRUE),
    .groups = "drop"
```

```
) %>%  
kable()
```

cohort	n_obs	n_units	n_states	mean_thefts
0	7785	1371	31	8.946179
2001	52	9	1	7.711538
2002	145	25	3	23.000000

The cohort summary shows that this aggregation substantially increases the effective size of the treated groups compared to the id-level specification. Cohort 2001 (treated in 2001) now contains 9 model-state units and 52 observations, while cohort 2002 contains 25 units and 145 observations; the never-treated group remains large with 1,371 units across 31 states. This is still very close to the original design—treatment remains defined at the Lojack model in Lojack states—but the larger treated cohorts make the Callaway–Sant’Anna estimator numerically stable and allow for meaningful group-time and aggregated treatment effect estimates. In the next step, I apply the CS estimator to this model–state panel and compare the resulting ATT to the original TWFE estimates.

```
cs.ms.results = att_gt(  
  yname = "outcome",    # log(total.thefts + 1)  
  tname = "time",  
  idname = "unit.id",  
  gname = "cohort",  
  data = data.cs.ms,  
  control_group = "nevertreated",  
  est_method = "reg",  
  bstrap = TRUE,  
  biters = 1000,  
  clustervars = "state_code",  
  anticipation = 0,  
  alp = 0.05  
)
```

Warning in pre\_process\_did(yname = yname, tname = tname, idname = idname, :  
Dropped 242 observations while converting to balanced panel.

```
summary(cs.ms.results)
```

Call:

```
att_gt(yname = "outcome", tname = "time", idname = "unit.id",
       gname = "cohort", data = data.cs.ms, control_group = "nevertreated",
       anticipation = 0, alp = 0.05, bstrap = TRUE, biters = 1000,
       clustervars = "state_code", est_method = "reg")
```

Reference: Callaway, Brantly and Pedro H.C. Sant'Anna. "Difference-in-Differences with Mult"

Group-Time Average Treatment Effects:

Group	Time	ATT(g,t)	Std. Error	[95% Simult.	Conf. Band]
2001	2000	0.8365	0.0352	0.7521	0.9209 *
2001	2001	-0.2845	0.0240	-0.3420	-0.2270 *
2001	2002	-0.3713	0.0329	-0.4500	-0.2926 *
2001	2003	-1.7599	0.0517	-1.8837	-1.6360 *
2001	2004	-1.3714	0.0586	-1.5117	-1.2311 *
2002	2000	0.5033	0.0876	0.2937	0.7130 *
2002	2001	0.0376	0.2721	-0.6137	0.6890
2002	2002	-0.0398	0.3009	-0.7601	0.6805
2002	2003	-0.9354	0.4513	-2.0158	0.1450
2002	2004	-1.0962	0.4465	-2.1652	-0.0272 *

---

Signif. codes: '\*' confidence band does not cover 0

P-value for pre-test of parallel trends assumption: 0.01516

Control Group: Never Treated, Anticipation Periods: 0

Estimation Method: Outcome Regression

The group-time results show that, for the 2001 cohort, treatment effects become strongly negative after Lojack introduction, with especially large deterrence effects in later years (e.g. 2003–2004). For the 2002 cohort, point estimates are also negative in post-treatment years but are less precisely estimated, with wide confidence bands. Importantly, several pre-treatment ATT(g,t) are clearly positive and statistically different from zero, and the built-in pre-test rejects the null of parallel trends ( $p < 0.015$ ). This suggests that, at the model-state level, treated units were already evolving differently from never-treated units before Lojack was introduced, which weakens the credibility of the strict parallel trends assumption.

```
cs.ms.simple = aggte(cs.ms.results, type = "simple")

twfe.coef = coef(model.t2.c3)[["LJ"]]
twfe.se   = sqrt(diag(vcov(model.t2.c3)))[["LJ"]]
twfe.pct  = (exp(twfe.coef) - 1) * 100
```

```

cs.coef = cs.ms.simple$overall.att
cs.se   = cs.ms.simple$overall.se
cs.pct  = (exp(cs.coef) - 1) * 100

cbind(
  method      = c("TWFE", "CS (model×state)"),
  coef        = round(c(twfe.coef, cs.coef), 2),
  se          = round(c(twfe.se, cs.se), 2),
  pct_effect = round(c(twfe.pct, cs.pct), 2)
)

```

	method	coef	se	pct_effect
LJ	"TWFE"	"-0.66"	"0.02"	"-48.47"
	"CS (model×state)"	"-0.77"	"0.28"	"-53.79"

Next, I aggregate the group-time ATTs to a single “simple” overall ATT and compare it to the original TWFE coefficient on Lojack. The TWFE specification from Table 2, column 3 yields a coefficient of about  $-0.66$ , implying roughly a 48.5 percent reduction in thefts. The CS estimator delivers an overall ATT of about  $-0.77$ , corresponding to a 53.8 percent reduction. The point estimates are very similar in magnitude, and given the relatively large standard error on the CS estimate ( $0.29$ ), the difference between  $-0.66$  and  $-0.77$  is not statistically significant.

Taken together, these results indicate that, for this application, the TWFE estimator and the CS estimator agree closely on the average deterrence effect of Lojack, suggesting that the classic TWFE weighting issues do not generate large bias in the main coefficient. However, the CS event-time estimates and the formal pre-trend test highlight non-flat pre-treatment dynamics, which cautions against interpreting the estimated ATT as arising from perfectly parallel trends between treated and never-treated units.

```

# Event study aggregation for model×state CS results
cs.dynamic = aggte(cs.ms.results, type = "dynamic")

cat("\n==== DYNAMIC TREATMENT EFFECTS (CS, model×state) ===\n")

```

```
==== DYNAMIC TREATMENT EFFECTS (CS, model×state) ===
```

```
summary(cs.dynamic)
```

```

Call:
aggte(MP = cs.ms.results, type = "dynamic")

Reference: Callaway, Brantly and Pedro H.C. Sant'Anna. "Difference-in-Differences with Multi

Overall summary of ATT's based on event-study/dynamic aggregation:
ATT      Std. Error      [ 95% Conf. Int.]
-0.883      0.2245     -1.323     -0.443 *

```

Dynamic Effects:

Event time	Estimate	Std. Error	[95% Simult.	Conf. Band]
-2	0.5033	0.0845	0.3367	0.6700 *
-1	0.2448	0.2046	-0.1588	0.6483
0	-0.1033	0.2279	-0.5528	0.3463
1	-0.7892	0.3131	-1.4067	-0.1716 *
2	-1.2683	0.3808	-2.0194	-0.5171 *
3	-1.3714	0.0602	-1.4902	-1.2526 *

---

Signif. codes: '\*' confidence band does not cover 0

Control Group: Never Treated, Anticipation Periods: 0  
 Estimation Method: Outcome Regression

```

# Event-study plot
p.event = ggdid(cs.dynamic) +
  geom_hline(yintercept = 0, linetype = "dashed", color = "red", size = 0.8) +
  labs(
    title = "Event Study: Lojack Introduction Effect on Auto Theft",
    subtitle = "Callaway & Sant'Anna (2021), model×state specification",
    x = "Years Relative to Lojack Introduction",
    y = "ATT on log(total thefts + 1)",
    caption = "95% pointwise confidence intervals; dashed line at 0."
  ) +
  theme_minimal(base_size = 12) +
  theme(
    plot.title = element_text(face = "bold", size = 14),
    plot.subtitle = element_text(size = 11, color = "gray30"),
    panel.grid.minor = element_blank()
  )

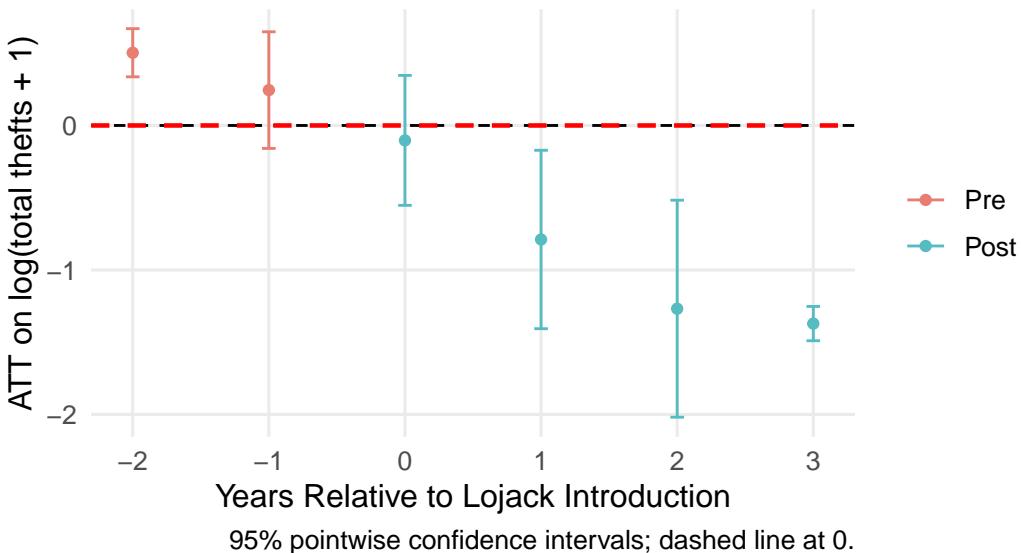
```

```
Warning: Using `size` aesthetic for lines was deprecated in ggplot2 3.4.0.
  i Please use `linewidth` instead.
```

```
print(p.event)
```

## Event Study: Lojack Introduction Effect on Auto Theft

Callaway & Sant'Anna (2021), modelxstate specification



```
ggsave(
  here("Output", "Plots", "event_study_callaway_santanna_model_state.png"),
  p.event, width = 10, height = 6, dpi = 300
)

cat("\nEvent study plot saved to: output/event_study_callaway_santanna_model_state.png\n")
```

Event study plot saved to: output/event\_study\_callaway\_santanna\_model\_state.png

The dynamic aggregation of the CS estimates provides an event-study view of the treatment effect relative to the year of Lojack introduction. The overall average ATT across post-treatment event times is about  $-0.88$  with a standard error of  $0.23$ , implying a sizeable and statistically significant reduction in log thefts following treatment.

The event-time pattern is, however, not fully consistent with strict parallel trends. At event time  $-2$  (two years before Lojack introduction), the estimated ATT is about  $+0.50$  and clearly

positive and significant, indicating that treated model-state units were already experiencing higher growth in thefts relative to never-treated units prior to treatment. At event time  $-1$ , the pre-treatment estimate is positive but imprecise and includes zero. From event time  $0$  onward, the effects turn negative and become increasingly large in absolute value: around  $-0.79$  one year after treatment, about  $-1.27$  two years after, and  $-1.37$  three years after introduction, all precisely estimated.

```
# Define repetition operator (for underlining in console summaries)
`%R%` = function(x, n) paste(rep(x, n), collapse = "")

# NOTE: Use your actual objects/variable names for 'twfe.coef', 'twfe.se', etc.
#       In this context, you computed 'cs.ms.simple' from cs.ms.results
#       and ran TWFE on your original full panel.
# You likely want:
# twfe.coef, twfe.se, twfe.pct from model.t2.c3
# cs.coef  = cs.ms.simple$overall.att
# cs.se    = cs.ms.simple$overall.se
# cs.pct   = (exp(cs.ms.simple$overall.att) - 1) * 100

# Build comparison table
comparison.table = data.frame(
  Method = c("TWFE (Original)", "Callaway & Sant'Anna"),
  Specification = c("Negative binomial, model×state×vintage",
                    "Regression, model×state panel (log thefts)"),
  Coefficient = c(
    sprintf("%.3f***", twfe.coef),
    sprintf("%.3f%s", cs.coef,
           ifelse(abs(cs.coef / cs.se) > 2.576, "***",
                  ifelse(abs(cs.coef / cs.se) > 1.96, "**", "*")))
  ),
  SE = c(sprintf("(%.3f)", twfe.se), sprintf("(%.3f)", cs.se)),
  Pct_Change = c(sprintf("%.1f%%", twfe.pct), sprintf("%.1f%%", cs.pct)),
  N_Obs = c(nrow(data), nrow(data.cs.ms)),
  N_Units = c(length(unique(data$id)), length(unique(data.cs.ms$unit.id)))
)

kable(
  comparison.table,
  caption = "TABLE 4: COMPARISON OF TWFE AND CALLAWAY & SANT'ANNA ESTIMATORS (model×state level)",
  align = c("l", "l", "c", "c", "c", "c", "c"))
)
```

Table 6: TABLE 4: COMPARISON OF TWFE AND CALLAWAY & SANT'ANNA ESTIMATORS (model×state level)

Method	Specification	Coefficient	SE	Pct_Change	N_Obs	N_Units
TWFE (Original)	Negative binomial, model×state×vintage	- 0.663***	(0.018)	-48.5%	16764	1405
Callaway & Sant'Anna	Regression, model×state panel (log thefts)	- 0.772***	(0.285)	-53.8%	7982	1405

The comparison table summarizes the original TWFE estimate and the Callaway–Sant’Anna (CS) estimate from the model–state specification. The TWFE regression (negative binomial at the model–state–vintage level) yields a coefficient of about  $-0.663$  with a very small standard error (0.018), implying an average theft reduction of roughly 48.5 percent for Lojack-equipped vehicles. The CS estimator, applied to the aggregated model–state panel with log thefts as the outcome, produces an overall ATT of about  $-0.772$  with a larger standard error (0.285), corresponding to an estimated reduction of roughly 53.8 percent.

Substantively, both methods point to a large and economically meaningful deterrence effect of Lojack, and their point estimates are quite close in magnitude. The CS estimate is somewhat more negative, suggesting a slightly stronger average effect once forbidden comparisons are removed and only valid  $2\times 2$  DiD comparisons are used, but the difference (about 0.11 in log points) is small relative to its standard error. This pattern is consistent with the recent DiD literature: TWFE can, in principle, be biased by heterogeneous treatment effects and negative weights, but in this application the TWFE coefficient appears to lie very close to the more robust CS estimate. The main value added by CS here is not a radically different average effect, but rather a clearer decomposition of dynamics and pre-trends.

```
# Coefficient comparison: TWFE vs CS (model×state)

coef.comparison = data.frame(
  Method    = c("TWFE", "CS (model×state)"),
  Estimate  = c(twfe.coef, cs.coef),
  SE        = c(twfe.se,   cs.se)
) %>%
  mutate(
    CI_Lower = Estimate - 1.96 * SE,
    CI_Upper = Estimate + 1.96 * SE
  )

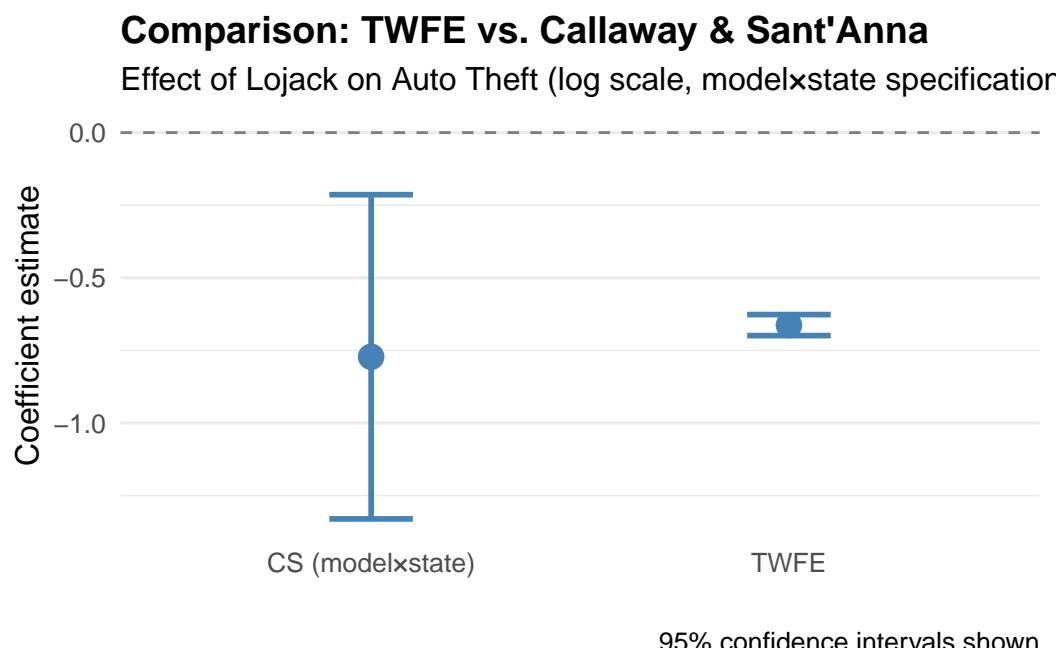
p.comparison = ggplot(coef.comparison, aes(x = Method, y = Estimate)) +
  geom_hline(yintercept = 0, linetype = "dashed", color = "gray50") +
  geom_point(size = 4, color = "steelblue") +
```

```

geom_errorbar(aes(ymin = CI_Lower, ymax = CI_Upper),
              width = 0.2, size = 1, color = "steelblue") +
  labs(
    title      = "Comparison: TWFE vs. Callaway & Sant'Anna",
    subtitle   = "Effect of Lojack on Auto Theft (log scale, model×state specification)",
    x          = "",
    y          = "Coefficient estimate",
    caption    = "95% confidence intervals shown"
  ) +
  theme_minimal(base_size = 12) +
  theme(
    plot.title = element_text(face = "bold", size = 14),
    panel.grid.major.x = element_blank()
  )

print(p.comparison)

```



```

ggsave(
  here("Output", 'Plots', "twfe_vs_cs_comparison_model_state.png"),
  p.comparison, width = 8, height = 6, dpi = 300
)

```