

Many Labs 2

Investigating Variation in Replicability across Sample and Setting

Richard Klein
LIP/PC2S
Université Grenoble Alpes

2019-02-09 (updated: 2019-02-09)

Many Labs 2

Replication Crisis

Replication Crisis

Theoretical concern

Replication Crisis

Theoretical concern

Open access, freely.

Essay

Why Most Published Research Findings Are False

John P. A. Ioannidis

Journal of Personality and Social Psychology
2011, Vol. 100, No. 3, 407–425

© 2011 American Psychological Association
0022-3514/11/\$12.00 DOI: 10.1037/a0021524

Feeling the Future: Experimental Evidence for Anomalous Retroactive Influences on Cognition and Affect

Daryl J. Bem
Cornell University

False-Positive Psychology: Undisclosed Flexibility in Data Collection and Analysis Allows Presenting Anything as Significant

Joseph P. Simmons¹, Leif D. Nelson², and Uri Simonsohn¹

¹The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and ²Haas School of Business, University of California, Berkeley

Replication Crisis

Evidence of a problem

- Reproducibility Project: Psychology (OSC, 2015)
 - ~40/100 replicated
- Social Sciences Replication Project (Camerer et al., 2018)
 - 13/21 replicated
- Multiple large-scale Registered Reports

Replication Crisis

Addressing the problem

Replication Crisis

Addressing the problem

- Many potential causes for replication failures
 - False positives
 - Incompetent replicators
 - Contextual differences
 - Etc.

Replication Crisis

Addressing the problem

- Many potential causes for replication failures
 - False positives
 - Incompetent replicators
 - Contextual differences
 - Etc.
- Solution depends on the cause

Replication Crisis

Addressing the problem

- Many potential causes for replication failures
 - False positives
 - Incompetent replicators
 - Contextual differences
 - Etc.
- Solution depends on the cause
- What should we expect of replications? What does replication "look like"? (statistically, practically)

Replication Crisis

Addressing the problem

- Many potential causes for replication failures
 - False positives
 - Incompetent replicators
 - Contextual differences
 - Etc.
- Solution depends on the cause
- What should we expect of replications? What does replication "look like"? (statistically, practically)
- Ex: How much variability should we expect if we repeat the same study many times?

Many Labs Projects

Large collaborations of researchers replicating the same findings. Each project examines a different aspect of replication.

Many Labs Projects

Large collaborations of researchers replicating the same findings. Each project examines a different aspect of replication.

- 5 "Many Labs" projects completed or in-progress.

Many Labs Projects

Large collaborations of researchers replicating the same findings. Each project examines a different aspect of replication.

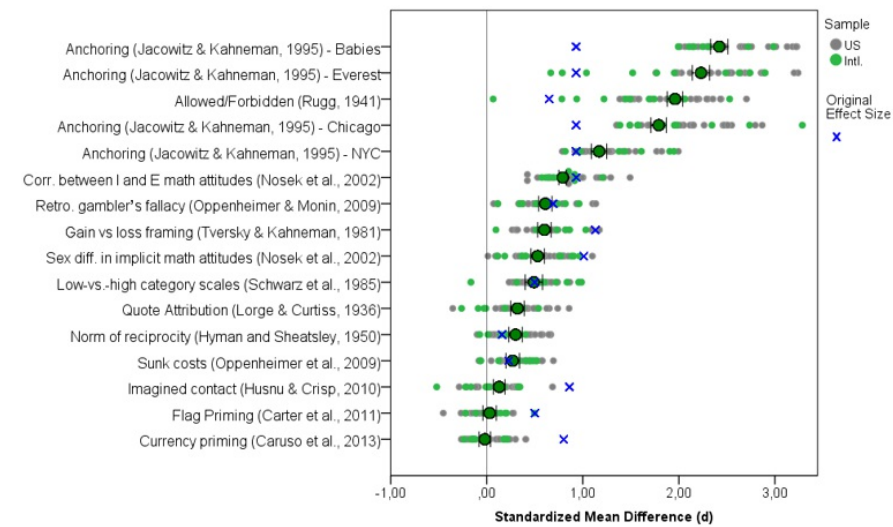
- 5 "Many Labs" projects completed or in-progress.
- I'm presenting Many Labs 2 (December)

Many Labs Projects

Large collaborations of researchers replicating the same findings. Each project examines a different aspect of replication.

- 5 "Many Labs" projects completed or in-progress.
- I'm presenting Many Labs 2 (December)
- Same thing as Many Labs 1 (2014), but much bigger.

Many Labs Projects



Many Labs 2

- **Goal:** Replicate many different studies all around the world and compare if they vary based on the sample of data collection.

Many Labs 2

- **Goal:** Replicate many different studies all around the world and compare if they vary based on the sample of data collection.
- Replicated 28 studies

Many Labs 2

- **Goal:** Replicate many different studies all around the world and compare if they vary based on the sample of data collection.
- Replicated 28 studies
 - Selected for impact, diversity of content, possibility for variation across sites (more at osf.io/8cd4r/)

Many Labs 2

- **Goal:** Replicate many different studies all around the world and compare if they vary based on the sample of data collection.
- Replicated 28 studies
 - Selected for impact, diversity of content, possibility for variation across sites (more at osf.io/8cd4r/)
 - Split across two study "packages" due to length

Many Labs 2

- **Goal:** Replicate many different studies all around the world and compare if they vary based on the sample of data collection.
- Replicated 28 studies
 - Selected for impact, diversity of content, possibility for variation across sites (more at osf.io/8cd4r/)
 - Split across two study "packages" due to length
 - Computerized in Qualtrics

Many Labs 2

- **Goal:** Replicate many different studies all around the world and compare if they vary based on the sample of data collection.
- Replicated 28 studies
 - Selected for impact, diversity of content, possibility for variation across sites (more at osf.io/8cd4r/)
 - Split across two study "packages" due to length
 - Computerized in Qualtrics
 - Randomized study order, presented back-to-back

Many Labs 1 Map (2014)



Many Labs 2 Map (2018)



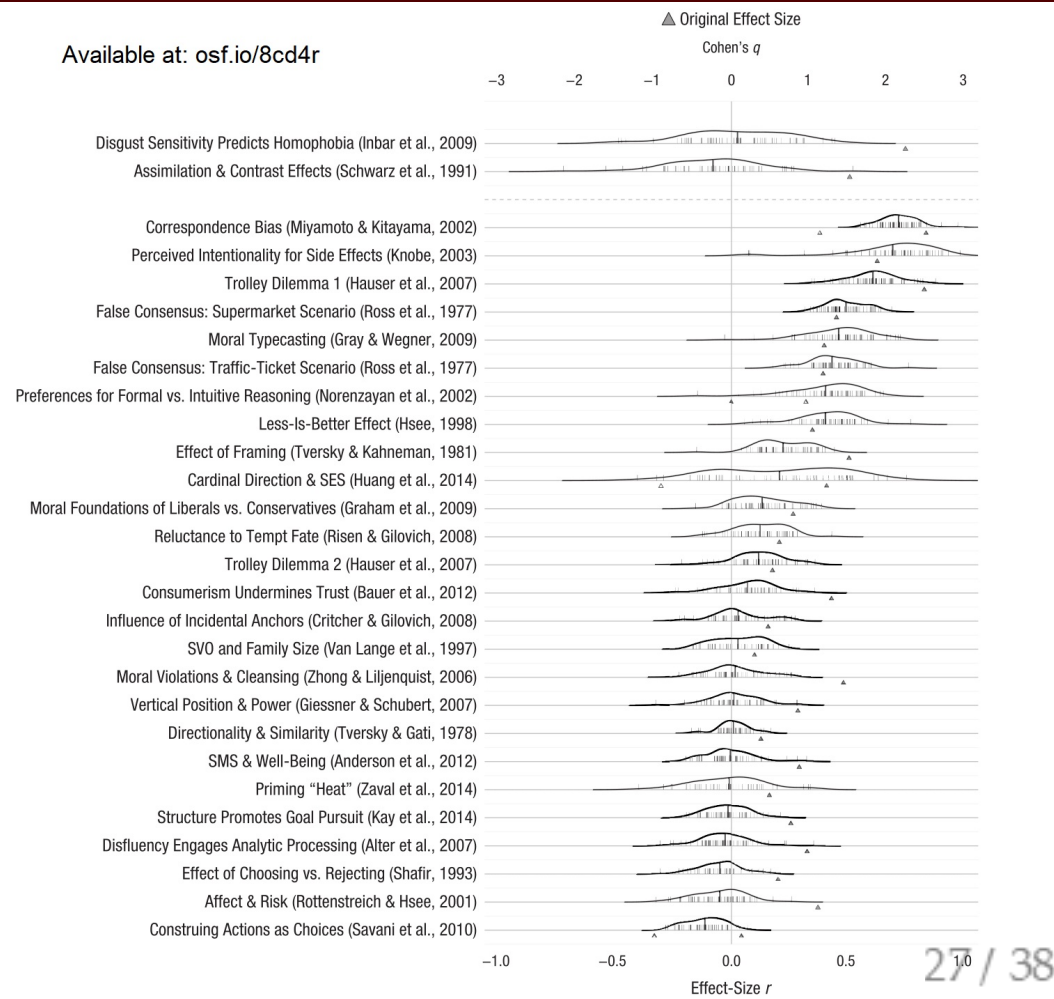
Many Labs 2

- 125 samples
- 36 countries
- 16 languages
- 15,305 participants



Results

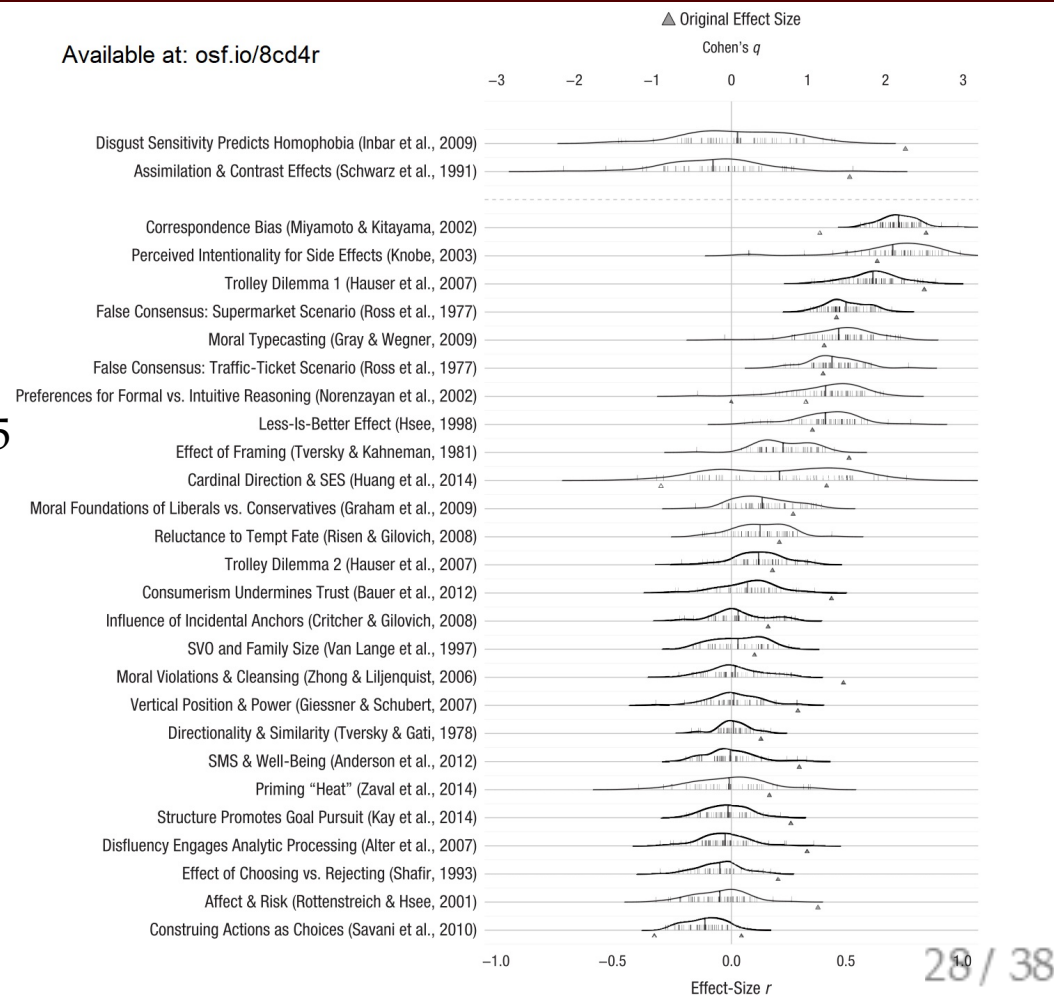
Available at: osf.io/8cd4r



Results

- 14/28 successful
- 21/28 smaller effect
- Med. original $d = 0.60$
- Med. replication $d = 0.15$

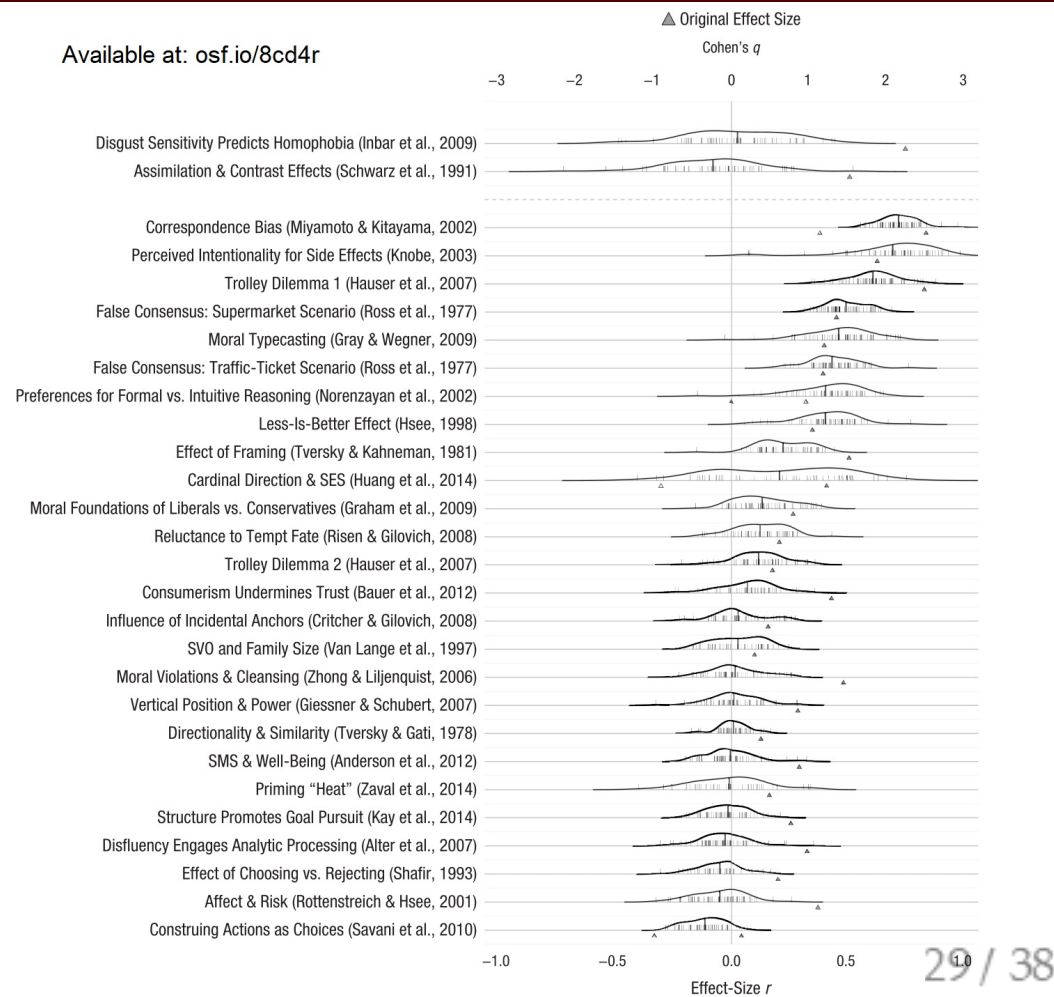
Available at: osf.io/8cd4r



Heterogeneity

- 11/28 $Q < .001$
 - Sig. variability

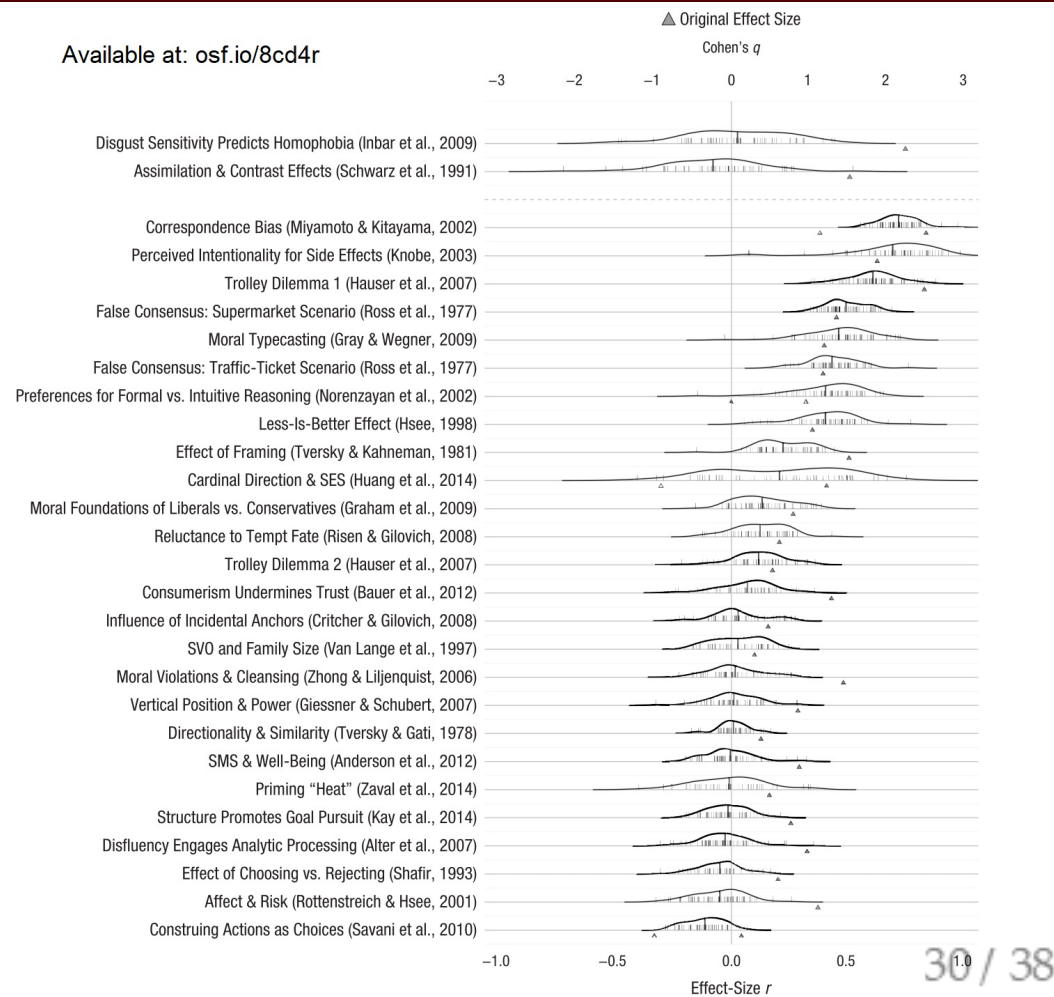
Available at: osf.io/8cd4r



Heterogeneity

- 11/28 $Q < .001$
 - Sig. variability
- HOWEVER:
 - 26/28 $\text{Tau} \leq 0.1$
 - Often 0

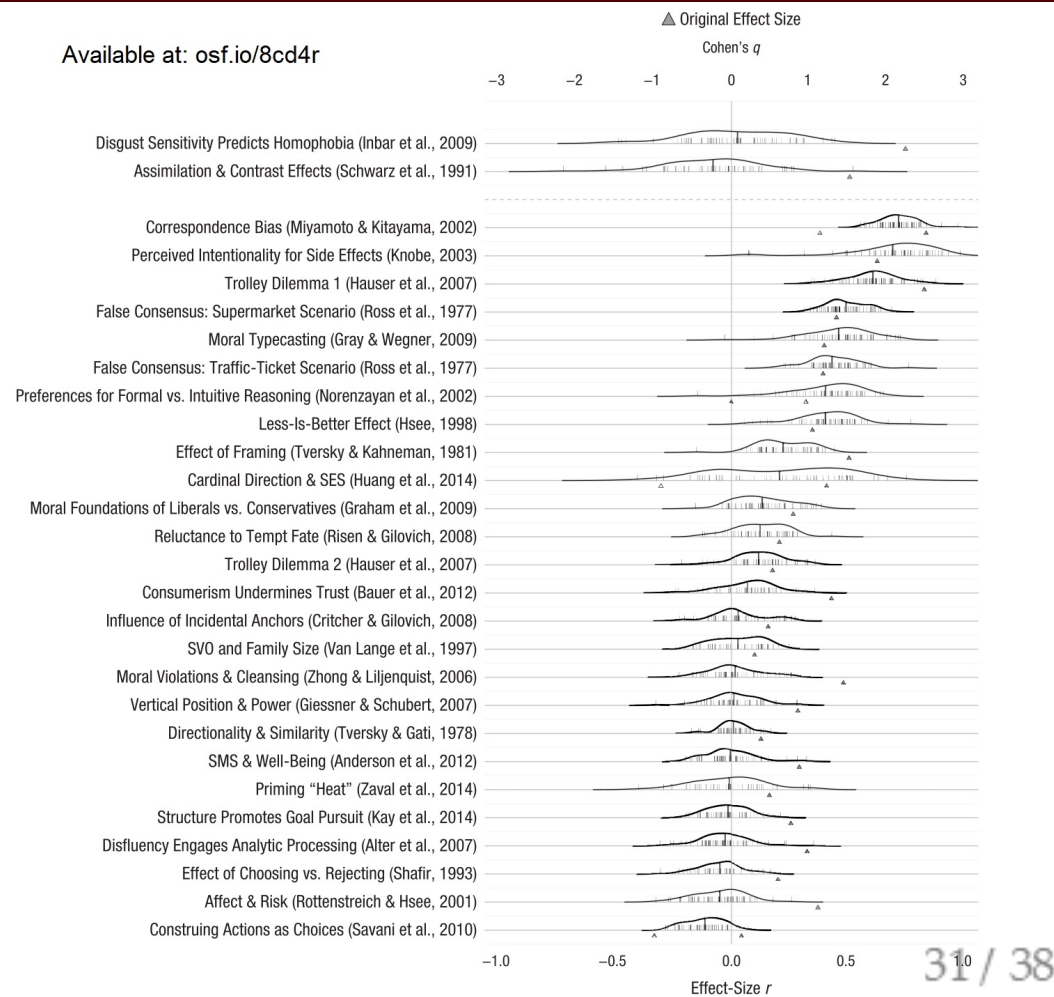
Available at: osf.io/8cd4r



Heterogeneity

- 11/28 $Q < .001$
 - Sig. variability
- HOWEVER:
 - 26/28 $\text{Tau} \leq 0.1$
 - Often 0
- Mostly sampling error
 - $N = \sim 80$ per site

Available at: osf.io/8cd4r



Discussion

Discussion

- Low variation across sample/context
 - Despite translation, culture, population differences

Discussion

- Low variation across sample/context
 - Despite translation, culture, population differences
 - Not reasonable to assume sample moderators; test empirically

Discussion

- Low variation across sample/context
 - Despite translation, culture, population differences
 - Not reasonable to assume sample moderators; test empirically
- Replication rate aligns with other projects
 - Is this meaningful?

Discussion

- Low variation across sample/context
 - Despite translation, culture, population differences
 - Not reasonable to assume sample moderators; test empirically
- Replication rate aligns with other projects
 - Is this meaningful?
- Many studies replicate robustly (and robust replicability is a feasible goal)
 - Failed replications \neq false positive

Discussion

- Low variation across sample/context
 - Despite translation, culture, population differences
 - Not reasonable to assume sample moderators; test empirically
- Replication rate aligns with other projects
 - Is this meaningful?
- Many studies replicate robustly (and robust replicability is a feasible goal)
 - Failed replications \neq false positive
- Open data: <https://osf.io/8cd4r/>
 - CC0, free use (any purpose)
 - We barely scratched surface

Thanks!

Special thanks to co-leads Fred Hasselman, Michelangelo Vianello, and Brian Nosek + 186 other co-authors.

Great time to get involved (cos.io/about/news/)

@raklein3
raklein22@gmail.com



financed by
IDEX Université Grenoble Alpes