

PRELIMINARIES TO SESSIONS 9 AND 10

In sessions 9 and 10 we will re-estimate parts of Fujiwara, 2015, Voting Technology, Political Responsiveness, and Infant Health: Evidence from Brazil, *Econometrica*, 83(2): 423–464.

As a preparation for session 9, please read the study by Fujiwara (2015) in advance and pay special attention to the following issues:

Background 1. How do elections work in general in Brazil? What about compulsory voting? What are the different administrative levels involved?

2. How does the new technology help particularly poor people in voting?

Empirical strategy 1. Why is a threshold of 40,500 registered voters chosen?

2. What is the role of table 2 for the general strategy?

3. Why are we jumping on the state level in section 3?

4. What is the identifying assumption in section 3?

Empirical model(s) 1. What are the crucial assumptions of the Regression Discontinuity Design (RDD)?

2. What are we estimating with equation (2) and what role does h play?

3. In what sense does the RDD give only local identification? What about external validity?

4. What is the empirical model for the state level estimation? Is there anything special about it?

Results 1. What are the main results of the paper?

2. Why is the paper important? What is the beauty of this empirical approach?

Arguing the case 1. What are the main steps in the paper to make the case?

2. What is the story that Fujiwara pushes?