Peer Review codecheck

Corey Christopherson
Zack Garcia
Richard Todd
Thomas Winegarden

Repo: https://github.com/zacharyfgarcia/brodeur-heintz-wilson-wright-replication-project

Who checked what, and how?

Zack checked the knitted output of the R markdown file paper.rmd to see how the outputs would match that of the original paper.

Richard attempted to replicate the analysis from the cloned repository. He noted package dependency issues with gssr, kableExtra and stargazer. He also checked the licenses and citations used.

Corey investigated an issue with the 'processx' package that prevented knitting of the final document on some software configurations.

Do the generated outputs match the ones in the paper in the target group's repo?

The group was able to generate a plot (figure 3) almost identical to the one from the original paper. As for the next two figures, the generated numerical outputs were very close to those in the original paper as well, though the presentation was a bit different (tabular vs line by line outputs). The group included the file of the original figures in the actual output which made comparison easy and was much appreciated.

Are the differences relevant or not?

The differences between the generated outputs and the original paper's figures were irrelevant and mostly attributed to likely differences in rounding. The main findings around which variables correlated with happiness significantly were replicated with perfect accuracy and all trends were made visible.

Are used pieces of software and data properly CITED and with suitable LICENSES?

Yes. All academic papers, research items, and data sources are properly cited. The repository also includes an MIT license. In common with the practice of this course, packages are not afforded full academic-style citations.

Are open formats (text-based) included?

All files were .md, .rmd, or .txt except for one output of the paper.rmd to .docx in the analysis folder. I'm not sure whether that will be in the final submission, but .docx isn't a totally open format.

Is data and software FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable and repeatable)?

The package 'gssr' is called in the paper.Rmd (the library loaded and function used) and is not called out in the README.md dependencies, it is also not available on CRAN. Running the script also requires other packages not called-out in the README: kableExtra and stargazer.

The package 'processx' is not called out in the paper.Rmd document or in the README.md document, although it is required by the kableExtra package to properly Knit the paper.Rmd document for users with active anti-virus software.