Guide to Code Used in to Kline and Tartari (2015)

The code for the paper "Bounding the Labor Supply Responses to a Randomized Welfare Experiment: A Revealed Preference Approach" is contained in the zipped file "AER_Code.zip". Unzipping this file provides this guide as well as several files and sub-directories. Specifically, the sub-directory "BGH" is pre-populated with BGH's file meandifs.ado. The sub-directory "MDRC" is empty, it needs to be populated by the user with MDRC's Public Use Files. The remaining sub-directories, namely, "Logs", "Graphs", and "DerivedData" are populated at run time. The directory "AER_Code" also contains several Stata .do files and one Matlab .m file. These files produce the tables and figures appearing in the paper and in the Online Appendix, as summarized in the next page. In this guide we refer to the collection of .do files as to the Stata Code and to the collection of Matlab .m files as to the Matlab Code.

The MDRC's Public Use Files

We cannot provide the data we use because MDRC requires an application process for researcher who wish to gain access to the public use version of the Jobs First data. In these notes and associated files, we provide computer code that allows a user to replicate our results given access to these data. Specifically, the Stata code assumes that the sub-directory MDRC contains the file "ctadmrec.dta", the main administrative-file from the Jobs First Experiment. We obtained this file by following the application process described at http://www.mdrc.org/available-public-use-files#bookmark4 and then converting to Stata dataset format the MDRC's file "ctadmrec.sas7bdat".

Using the Stata Code

The Stata Code is run from within the directory AER_Code. It develops off a master file, "Master-File.do", which declares global variables and paths, performs some data manipulations, then calls the .do files that create figures and tables (see the summary in the next page for details). As .log and .pdf files are created they are saved in, respectively, the "Logs" and "Graphs" sub-directories. As .dta and .txt files are created they are saved in the sub-directory "DerivedData". The .txt files serve as inputs to the Matlab Code.

Using the Matlab Code

The Matlab Code is also run from within the directory AER_Code. It consists of the file "Bounds.m". For this file to run successfully the sub-directory "DerivedData" must be pre-populated with the files Table4_mat.txt, TableA6a_mat.txt, TableA6b_mat.txt, and TableA8_mat.txt (produced by the Stata Code, see above). Given these hardcoded input files, the Matlab Code creates tables (see the summary in the next page for details). As .txt files are created by the Matlab Code they are saved in the sub-directory "Logs".

Table/Figure	File(s) Creating It	File(s) Being Created
Table 1	n.a.	n.a
Table 2	MeanSampleCharacteristics.do	Table2.log
Table 3	n.a.	n.a.
Table 4	DistributionOverStates.do (with whichFPL="nextsizeup" and whichthreshold="FPL") DistributionOverStates_programs.do	Table4.log, Table4_mat.txt
Table 5	Bounds.m (with adj=1)	Table5.txt
Table 6	AnticipationTest.do	Table6.log
Table A1	GrantInferredSizekidcount.do	TableA1.log
Table A2	MeanPostRAOutcomes.do MeanPostRAOutcomes_programs.do	TableA2.log
Table A3	n.a	n.a.
Table A4	n.a	n.a.
Table A5	DistributionOverStates0p.do	TableA5.log
Table A6	DistributionOverStates.do (with whichFPL="exactsize" or "twosizesup" and whichthreshold="FPL") DistributionOverStates_programs.do	TableA6a.log TableA6a_mat.txt TableA6b.log TableA6b_mat.txt
Table A7	Bounds.m (with adj=0 or adj=2)	TableA7a.txt, TableA7b.txt
Table A8	DistributionOverStates.do (with whichFPL="nextsizeup" and whichthreshold="FPL_split2perc") DistributionOverStates_programs.do	TableA8.log TableA8_mat.txt
Table A9	AnticipationTest.do (with fb="14")	TableA9.log
Figure 1	n.a	n.a.
Figure 2	NetIncomeAccountingFSTaxes.do	Figure2.pdf
Figure 3	DistrQEarnings.do	Figure3.pdf
Figure 4	CDFQEarnings.do CDFQEarnings_programs.do	Figure4.log Figure4_all.pdf Figure4_g0.pdf Figure4_g1.pdf
Figure 5	n.a	n.a.
Figure 6	n.a	n.a.
Figure A1	n.a	n.a.