

Political budget cycles with informed voters: evidence from Italy

Replication package readme

This package allows the replication of the paper “Political budget cycles with informed voters: evidence from Italy”, by Luca Repetto, forthcoming in the Economic Journal (2017). For information on data sources, please see Data_description.pdf. Please refer to the paper for details on the construction of the datasets below.

1. Data

The folder Data contains the full datasets. See variable labels for a description.

- Data_final.dta is a panel of data for the years 1999-2012 and contains data on balance sheet quantities, election results, mayor and town characteristics, newspaper readership. This is the main dataset used in the paper.
- Data_reelection.dta is a dataset at the municipal-election year level used to construct Table 8.
- The folder Maps contains the map used for Figure 9 in the Appendix.
- The folder Media_coverage contains Google Trends and Factiva data (used for figures 1 and 2).

2. Do files

- Software used: STATA 15. Additional user-written commands used: estout; esttab; spmap; xtivreg2; ivreg2. Graphs schemes: sol.
- Run Estimation/Master_estimation.do setting all switches to 1 to generate all estimation tables in the paper plus Figures 5, 6, 7.
- For Tables 11 and 12, run Descriptive_graphs/Descriptives.do.
- To generate figures and graphs, run Descriptive_graphs/Graphs.do

3. Folder “Results”

- This folder contains all tables and figures in the paper, generated as the output of running all the above .do files. A Latex file, results.tex, is also provided to collect all results in one place.

If you have problems replicating any of the results, you find errors or inconsistencies, or if you have questions, please contact me at luca.repetto@nek.uu.se.