

On the Need for a Replication Journal

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Strict: Redo previous study to check validity

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Broad: Redo previous study with new data selection or new approach

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Not only empirical studies, but also experiments and simulations

Publishing in the age of Internet

A journal article is

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- a historical record of the research frontier

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Replication provides validation, esp. when code and data are missing

How common are replications?

STEM: Very

Social Sciences: Rare

Humanities: Non-existent

STEM: Short papers, quick pre-publication refereeing, focus on post-publication replication

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Humanities: Long papers, lengthy refereeing, little data, narratives, case studies

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Social Sciences: In between

Humanities: Long papers, lengthy refereeing, little data, narratives, case studies

What about economics?

Lengthy refereeing

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Complex, long, yet incomplete papers

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Costly replication, not happening before or after

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Little culture of sharing code and data

The **sharing** culture problem

Importance of dataset discovery or creation

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Large fix cost of coding

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Fear of being overtaken (long time to publication)

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Few datasets are cited properly

The **replication** culture problem

Very few replication studies are published

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Editors do not care

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Implicated authors despise them

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Negative incentive

Editors do not like to have their decisions doubted

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They ask implicated authors to referee despite pleas

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They ask implicated authors to referee despite pleas
Implicated authors feel singled out unfairly, do retaliate

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Case studies in paper

What to do?

Few even try replication

Few even try replication

Data and code sharing not really working

Few even try replication

Data and code sharing not really working

Need incentives for more replication

Few even try replication

Data and code sharing not really working

Need incentives for more replication

→ **replication journal**

Safe haven for replications

Safe haven for replications
Publication credit

Safe haven for replications

Publication credit

Create culture of replication and replication publication

Safe haven for replications

Publication credit

Create culture of replication and replication publication

Create data and code archive

Safe haven for replications

Publication credit

Create culture of replication and replication publication

Create data and code archive

Have more confidence in policy implications

Overcome negative attitude

Overcome negative attitude
Authoritative editors

Overcome negative attitude
Authoritative editors
Strong procedures

Overcome negative attitude
Authoritative editors
Strong procedures
Avoid undue harassment

1 managing editor, 4 field editors

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- 1 Empirical microeconomic studies

1 managing editor, 4 field editors

- 1 Empirical microeconomic studies
- 2 Empirical macroeconomic studies

1 managing editor, 4 field editors

- 1 Empirical microeconomic studies
- 2 Empirical macroeconomic studies
- 3 Simulation studies

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- 2 Empirical macroeconomic studies
- 3 Simulation studies
- 4 Experiments (RCT and lab)

Managing editor: allocates papers to field editors

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Field editor: corresponds with authors and referees, prepares decision file

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Other field editors: vote on file

Managing editor: allocates papers to field editors

Field editor: corresponds with authors and referees, prepares decision file

Other field editors: vote on file

Managing editor: records votes, finalizes article

1 Importance of replicated study

- 1 Importance of replicated study
- 2 Replication failure

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- 3 Improvement to original study

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- 4 Making code and data available

- 1 Importance of replicated study
- 2 Replication failure
- 3 Improvement to original study
- 4 Making code and data available
- 5 Lack of previous replication

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- 5 Lack of previous replication
- 6 Code and data previously not available

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- 2 Replication failure
- 3 Improvement to original study
- 4 Making code and data available
- 5 Lack of previous replication
- 6 Code and data previously not available
- 7 Difficulty of replication

Will it work?

Find editors

Find editors → ?

Find editors → ?
Find host

Find editors → ?

Find host → easy

Find editors → ?

Find host → easy

Find replicators

Find editors → ?

Find host → easy

Find replicators → they are lurking

Find editors → ?

Find host → easy

Find replicators → they are lurking

Find referees

Find editors → ?

Find host → easy

Find replicators → they are lurking

Find referees → they seem willing

Find editors → ?

Find host → easy

Find replicators → they are lurking

Find referees → they seem willing

Find acceptance

Find editors → ?

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