README FILE

The Democratization of Credit and the Rise in Consumer Bankruptcies

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Overview of replication files

The supporting files are related to material discussed in four different parts of the mauscript:

1. Motivating data in Section 2.
2. Numerical Simulations in Section 5
3. Empirical results based on the SCF in Sections 6 & 7.
4. Auxiliary empirical results based on data from the Board of Governors in Section 6.

Here we briefly describe how each of these can be replicated.

1. Motivating data in Section 2

Several of the figures we report here draw on material reported in other papers. The source of these figures is reported in the paper. There are two exceptions to this: Figure 2 Panels (a) and (b). These figures are based on keyword searches in ProQuest and Google Scholar. Further details are given in the Online Appendix Section 2.1.

1. Numerical Simulations in Section 5

These figures are numerical examples of our theoretical model. We include two different MATLAB files that can be used to construct the three figures. The files are: Symmetric\_Info\_REStud.m and Imperfect\_Info\_REStud.m.

1. Empirical results based on the SCF in Section 6 & 7

These results are based on publicly available SCF data. Details on the data construction are given in various sections of the online appendix. We also include several STATA files that were used to generate the tables.

Table 2: Credit Card Interest Rates, SCF See file: cc\_intrate.do

Table 3: Percent of Households with Bank Credit Card See file: ccard\_byincome

Table 4: Characteristics of Bank Card Holders, SCF See file:exist\_new\_ccholders.do

Table 5: Delinquency Rates, SCF See file:exist\_new\_ccholders.do

Figure 7: Histogram of Interest Rates See excel file

Figure 8: Contract Variety, Panel c See ccdebt\_cdf1983\_2004.do

1. Auxiliary empirical results based on data from the Board of Governors in Section 6.

Figure 8, Panels (a) and (b) are based on data from the Board of Governors. A detailed description of how the underlying data is in the online appendix Section 5.1. The final data used for these plots is reported in the excel file titled: BoardData\_InterestRates\_2015.xls