

# Heuristic Learning from Test Scores and Human Capital Decisions

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\*I would like to thank the CBS for providing access to the data I use in this study

## Do Students Update Ability Beliefs Heuristically?

- ▶ Test scores affect human capital investment decisions by providing ability signals
  - ▶ Prior literature focused on rational learning from test scores; No attention to heuristics
  - ▶ Left-digit bias might imply a discontinuity in the perception of signals at round scores
- Study the impact of crossing 600 in the Psychometric Entrance Test (PET)
- *Empirical strategy*: RDD
  - *In the short term*: 30% increase in applications to CS and EE programs in universities
  - *In the long term*: 20% increase in CS degrees; 10% increase in employment in tech firms; 5% increase in annual income (about 7K NIS annually)

# (Partial) Review of Related Literature

## Test scores affects human capital decisions

- ▶ Avery et al. (2018) [*major*]
- ▶ Goodman (2016); Diamond and Persson (2017); Bond et al. (2018) [*enrollment*]
- ▶ Stinebrickner and Stinebrickner (2012); Arcidiacono et al. (2016); Avery et al. (2017) [*completion*]

## Heterogeneity in the response to signals:

- ▶ Ahn et al. (2019); Owen (2021a); Coffman et al. (2021); McEwan et al. (2021) [*women respond more*]
- ▶ Bestenbostel (2021); Owen (2021b) [*no gender heterogeneity*]
- ▶ Graetz et al. (2020) [*low-SES individuals respond more*]

## Heuristic interpretation of test scores:

- ▶ Goodman et al. (2020) document a decrease in SAT retaking rate above round score cutoffs

# Outline

Background & Data

Empirical Strategy

The Impact of Crossing 600 in the PET

- Impact on Applications

- Mechanisms – Bagrut Outcomes and PET Retake

- Impact on Long-Term Outcomes

Conclusion

## Administrative database (Israeli CBS)

- ▶ *Data*: PET scores, university applications, degrees (colleges and universities), labor market, demographics, Bagrut; Available until 2018
- ▶ *The Psychometric Entrance Test (PET)*:
  - Normalized test scores; Approximately  $\sim \mathcal{N}(550, 100)$   
Score distribution
  - Differences in testing regularities between Jews and Arabs (also among Jews, by gender/age)  
Testing, by population group
- ▶ *Sample*: All individuals who participated in their first PET between 1995–2008  
[wo/w Arabs]

# Outcome Variables

- ▶ *Main Outcomes*: CS and EE applications
  - Very selective fields in terms of PET scores, and futural labor market outcomes  
*Elite fields*
  - Admission decisions are based on a weighted average of the PET score and the mean composite score in the Bagrut
  - Very low rate of acceptance to CS/EE programs with PET of 600  
*Acceptance rate*
  - Conditional admission chances are continuous at 600  
*Conditional acceptance rate*
  - Individuals with 600 (in the first test) usually retake before applying  
*Share retaking*
  
- ▶ *Long Term Outcomes*: Enrollment, Degree Attainment, Employment, Income

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## Identification Based on a Heuristic

- ▶ The left-digit bias is the tendency of humans to judge the difference between 600 and 599 to be larger than that between 601 and 600

*Evidence:* consumers' decisions (Lacetera et al., 2012); experts' decisions (Olenski et al., 2020); *Response to high-stakes test scores* (Goodman et al., 2020)

- ▶ Implies a discontinuity in the perception of scores at 600
- Allows RDD under the assumption that the potential outcomes are continuous at 600
  - Admission chances are continuous at 600 (was shown)
  - Density of observations is smooth at 600 (was shown)
  - Pre-determined outcomes are continuous at 600 (soon)



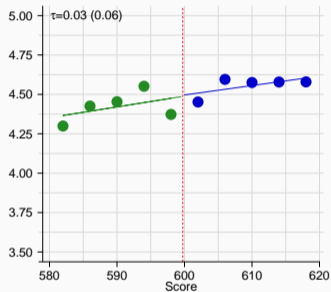
## Main Estimation – Local Linear RD

- ▶  $Score_i$  is the *first* score of subject  $i$
- ▶ Bandwidth of 20: observations within  $Score_i \in [580, 619]$
- ▶  $Above600_i$  is an indicator for  $Score_i \in [600, 619]$
- ▶  $R_i$  is a continuous variable with the value  $Score_i - 600$

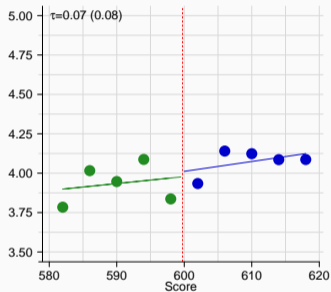
Then, estimate:

$$Y_i = \alpha + \tau \cdot Above600_i + \beta_l \cdot R_i + (\beta_r - \beta_l) \cdot Above600_i \cdot R_i + \varepsilon_i$$

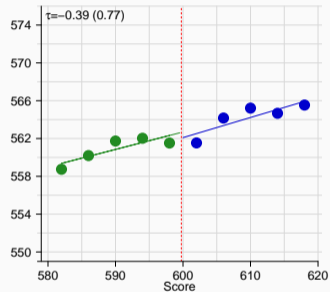
# The “Impact” of Crossing 600 on Predicted Outcomes



(a) Predicted CS



(b) Predicted EE



(c) Predicted Score

- ▶ No discontinuous change in covariates ([Table](#)) and in predicted outcomes (based on covariates) at 600

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- Impact on Applications

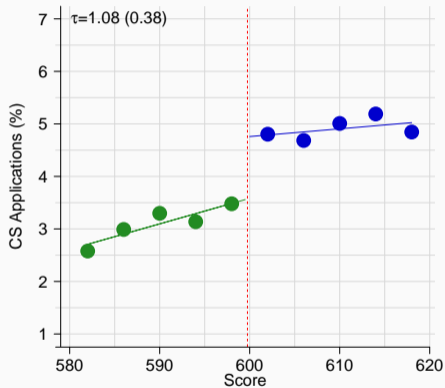
- Mechanisms – Bagrut Outcomes and PET Retake

- Impact on Long-Term Outcomes

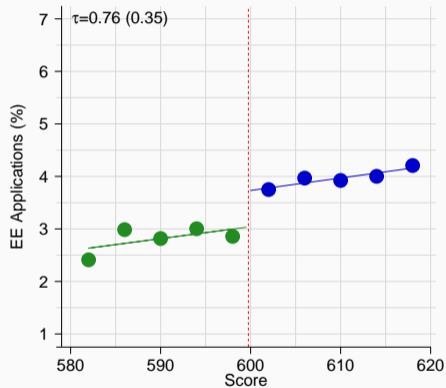
Conclusion

# Crossing 600 and University Applications

Within Three Years After the Test



(a) Computer Sciences (CS)



(b) Electrical Engineering (EE)

► CS and EE applications increase by 30% and 25%

Full distribution

Alternative Outcomes

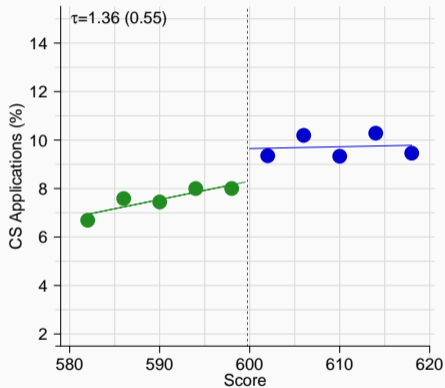
Alternative Specifications

Alternative cutoffs (placebo)

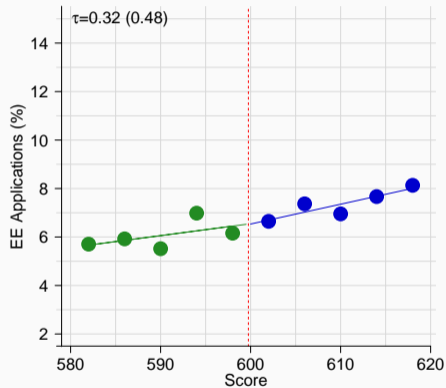
Using all tests

# Crossing 600 and University Applications

Ever



(a) Computer Sciences (CS)



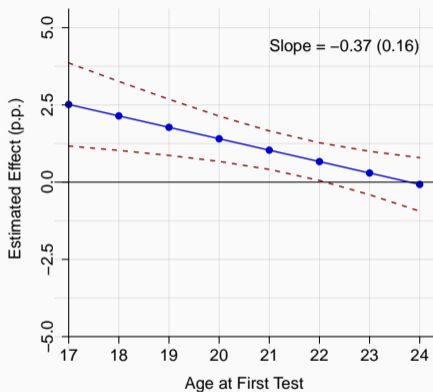
(b) Electrical Engineering (EE)

► The increase in CS applications persists (20%) and the increase in EE applications dissipates

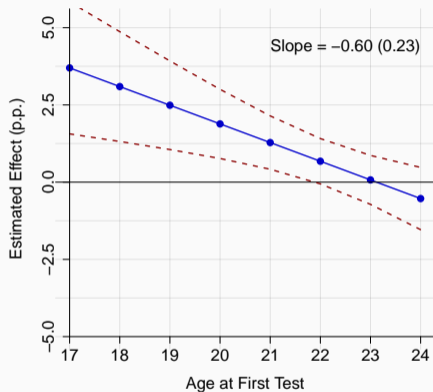
After high school

Effects on Arabs

# Heterogeneity of the Impact of Crossing 600 on CS Applications, by Age



(a) Within three years



(b) Ever

- ▶ The effect is driven by the younger test-takers (consistent with learning on ability mechanism)

## Heterogeneity by Gender and SES, Younger Test-takers (21 and Below)

By Gender	Men ( $N = 10,971$ )		Women ( $N = 18,832$ )	
	Mean	Est. Effect	Mean	Est. Effect
Within three years	5.165	1.758* (0.994)	2.403	1.285** (0.502)
Ever	15.777	2.917* (1.489)	5.641	1.262* (0.723)
By SES: <i>parental_years_of_education</i> > 12 (Both Parents)	Low ( $N = 13,276$ )		High ( $N = 16,527$ )	
	Mean	Est. Effect	Mean	Est. Effect
Within three years	3.043	1.438** (0.716)	3.699	1.617** (0.659)
Ever	8.432	1.417 (1.045)	10.026	2.588*** (0.996)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

- ▶ Similar (relative) increase among men/women and low/high SES test-takers

## Summary – Main Results

### **Crossing 600 in the first PET increases CS & EE applications:**

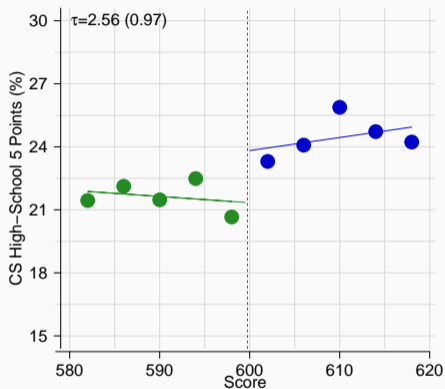
- ▶ CS: ↑ 1.1p.p. (30%) within three years; ↑ 1.4p.p. (20%) ever
- ▶ EE: ↑ 0.8p.p. (25%) within three years; no persistent increase
- ▶ Driven by the younger test-takers (ages 17-21)
- ▶ Similar effects for men and women, low and high SES

### → **Open Questions:**

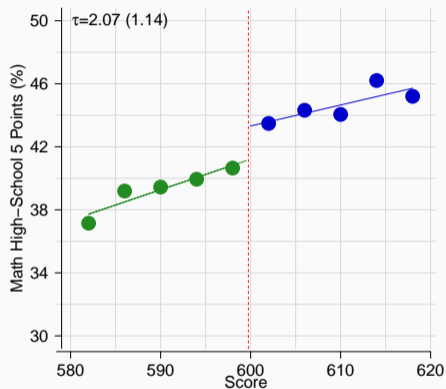
1. What are the effects on admission-related outcomes (PET and Bagrut)?
2. What are the long-term implications (degrees and labor market)?  
[Focus on the younger test-takers, 21 and below]



# The Impact of Crossing 600 on Bagrut Outcomes



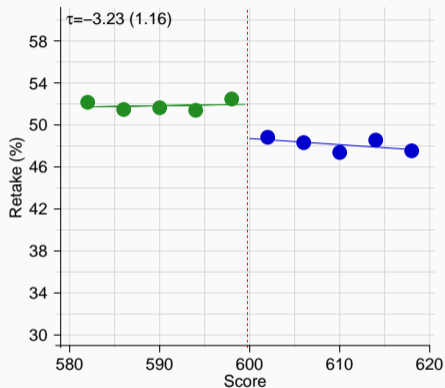
(a) 5 Points in Computer Sciences



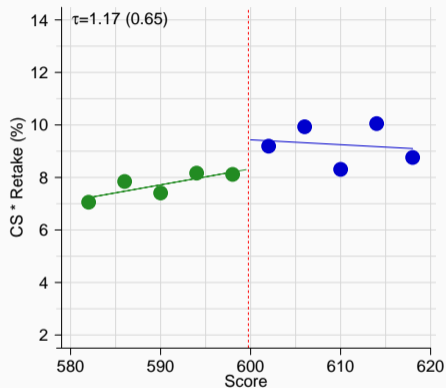
(b) 5 Points in Math

► Individuals who score just above 600 improve high-school outcomes in scientific programs

# The Impact of Crossing 600 on PET Retake



(a) Retake



(b) CS application \* Retake

- ▶ Before applying to CS, individuals who score just above 600 retake the PET *and massively improve their PET scores*
- ▶ The average effect of crossing 600 on retaking is negative (Goodman et al., 2020)

## Estimating Long-Term Effects – Local Randomization Approach

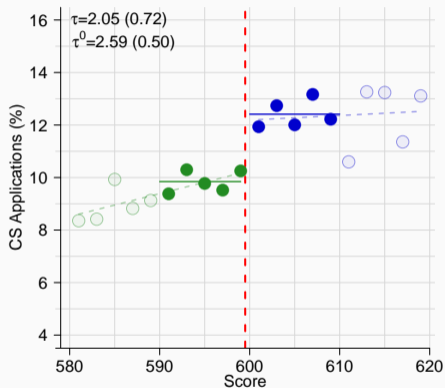
- ▶ Study the effects on *degrees*, *employment* and *income*
- ▶ To increase precision, I use an *additional* specification:

$$Y_i = \alpha^0 + \tau^0 \cdot \text{Above600}_i + \varepsilon_i^0 \quad \text{within}[590 : 609]$$

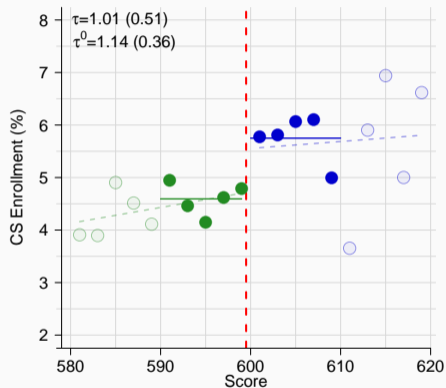
- ▶ To support the validity of this specification:
  - Point estimates are not sensitive to specification
  - Controlling for *quantitative and Hebrew* PET scores (only excluding English) and other characteristics does not change the results
  - Falsification tests yield small and mostly insignificant results

Table

# The Impact of Crossing 600 on CS Studies



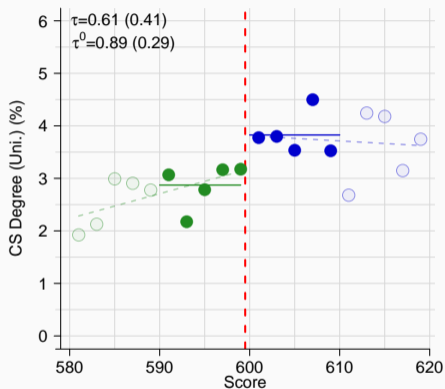
(a) CS Application



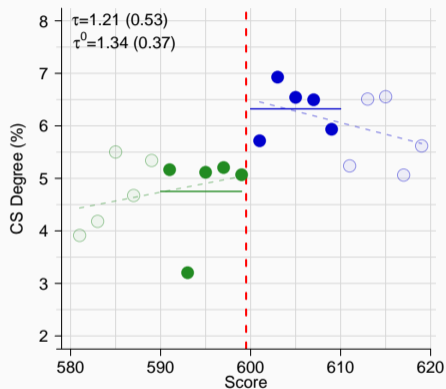
(b) CS Enrollment

- ▶ CS enrollment increase by 22-25%

# The Impact of Crossing 600 on CS Studies



(c) CS Degree

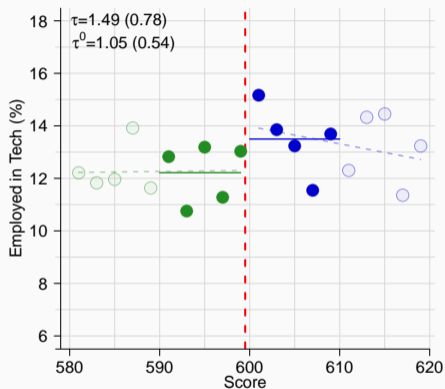


(d) CS Degree, including colleges

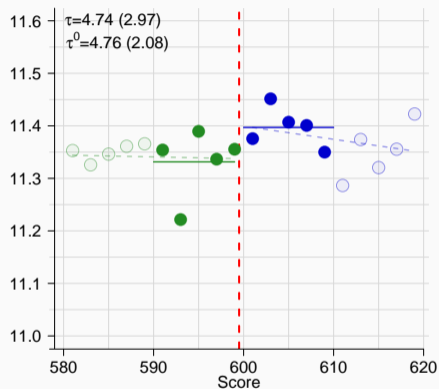
- ▶ CS degree attainment increase by 22-30%; Driven by a change in the preferred *field* (not institution)

Table

# The Impact of Crossing 600 on Labor Market Outcomes



(a) Employed in Tech



(b) Log Income \* 100

- Tech employment increase by 8-12%; Annual income increase by 5% (7K NIS)

Table

## Summary – Long Term Effects

- ▶ ↑ 22-30% in CS degrees in universities
- ▶ Driven by a change in the preferred field, mostly from social sciences and semi-medical studies
- ▶ ↑ 8-12% on employment in tech
- ▶ ↑ 4.5-5% income; Implying huge marginal returns (200-300%)

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# Conclusion

## Main Findings:

- ▶ Significant increase in CS & EE applications above a round score (600) in the first PET
- ▶ Driven by the younger test-takers; Men and women
- ▶ *In the long term*: Increase in the attainment of CS degrees; Increase in employment in tech industry; Income gains

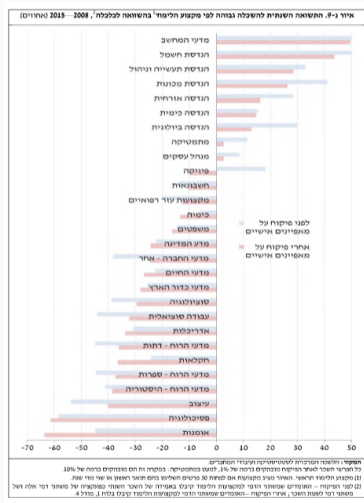
## Takeaways:

- ▶ Ability signals could influence young adults' human capital decisions
- ▶ Heuristics are central in interpreting signals (grading policy?)
- ▶ Huge labor-market returns for the students on the margin of *applying* to CS programs

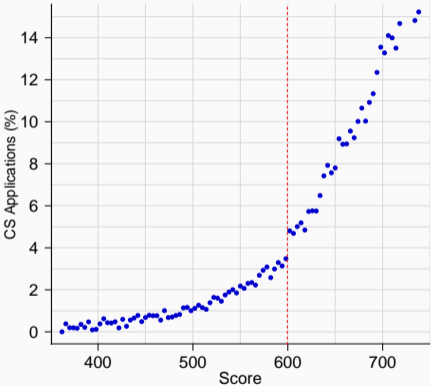
## Most Common Fields of Study in Universities in Israel

	Q. Score (50-15)	Total Score (200-800)	Tech (%)	Females (%)	Father Educ. (years)
Electrical Engineering	132.9	651.9	41.9	14.8	15.0
Computer Sciences	131.1	648.6	30.7	30.2	15.0
Economics	123.5	610.6	11.1	46.0	14.2
Law	123.0	636.8	3.2	60.2	14.8
Biology	120.3	613.0	14.2	73.3	14.7
Psychology	119.4	619.9	7.3	80.3	14.7
Management	113.8	564.8	15.5	60.0	13.7
Politics	109.8	572.0	8.4	62.6	14.1
Social Work	108.3	554.6	1.5	92.6	13.6
Sociology	106.0	545.8	7.4	86.9	13.5
Humanities	102.4	514.6	6.9	72.2	13.2
Nursery	101.5	495.7	0.5	79.4	12.8
Social Sciences	88.7	422.3	4.6	80.0	11.5

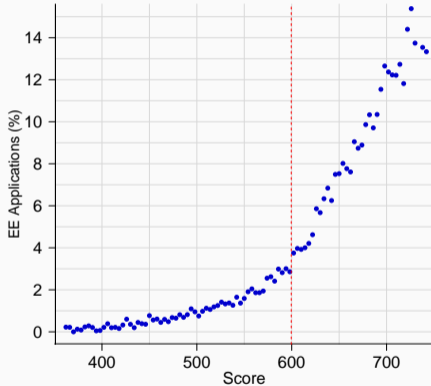
# Returns to Field of Study (Achdut et al., 2018)



# University Applications, by First PET Score

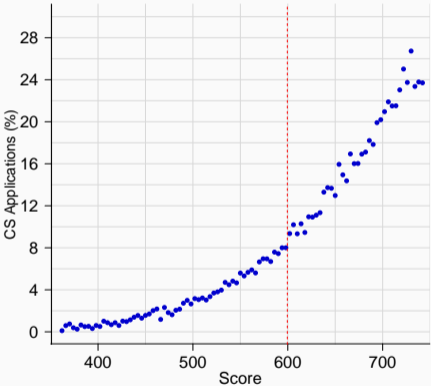


(a) CS applications, within three years

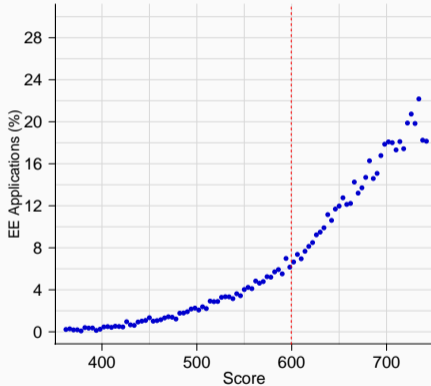


(b) EE applications, within three years

# University Applications, by First PET Score

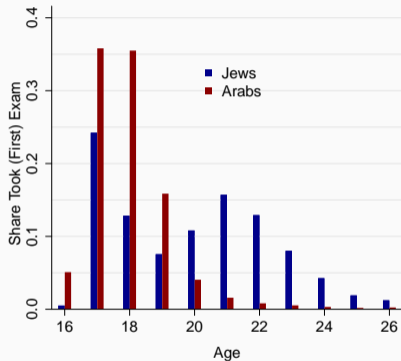


(a) CS applications

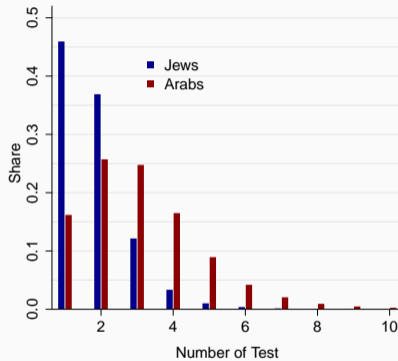


(b) EE applications

# Testing in the PET, by Population Group



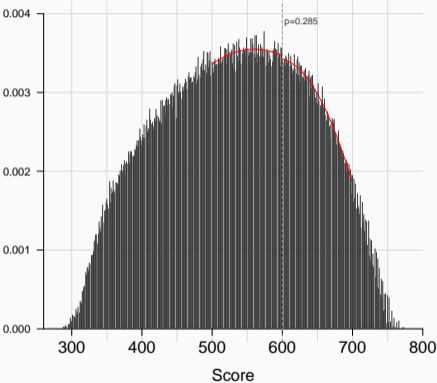
(a) Age at First Test



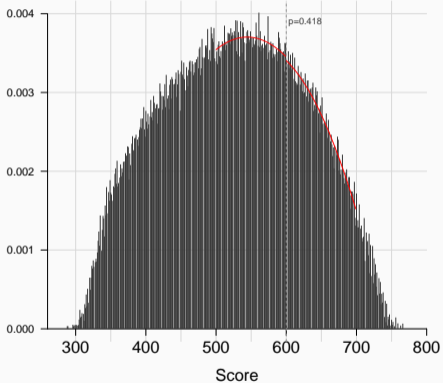
(b) Number of Tests

► Note: The average (first) PET score is about 400 for Arabs and about 550 for Jews

# PET Total Score Distribution

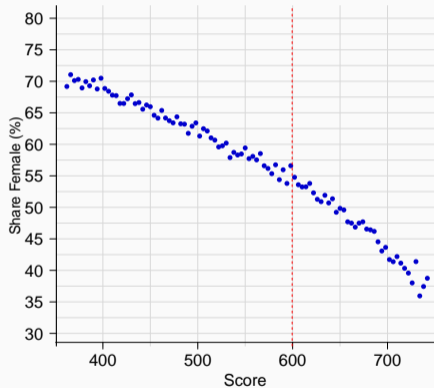


(a) All Tests

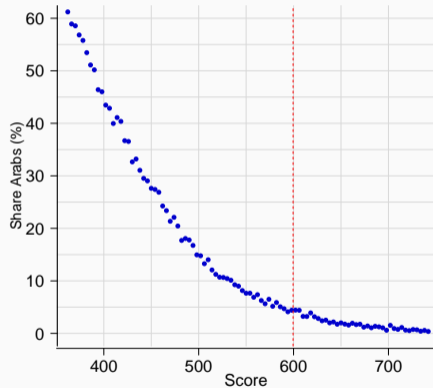


(b) First Tests

# Background Covariates and PET Score



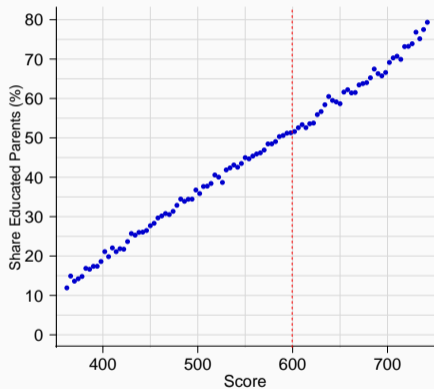
(a) Female share



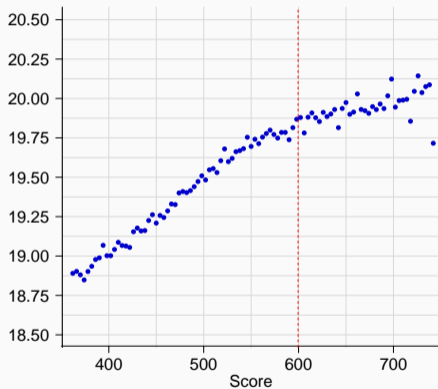
(b) Arab share



# Background Covariates and PET Score

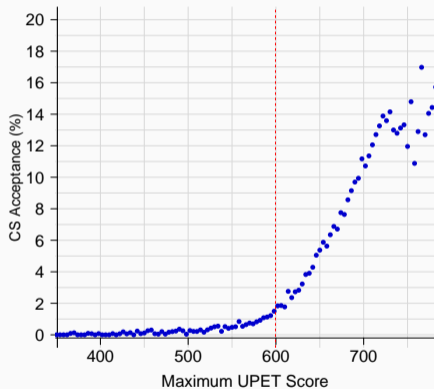


(c) Educated Parents

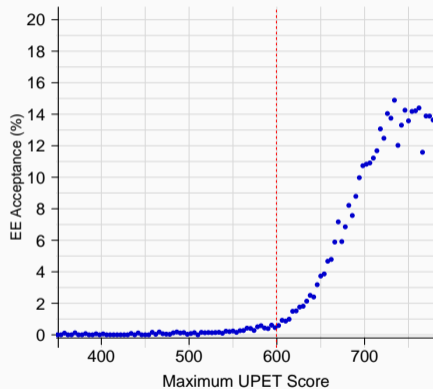


(d) Age

# Continuous Unconditional Acceptance Rate

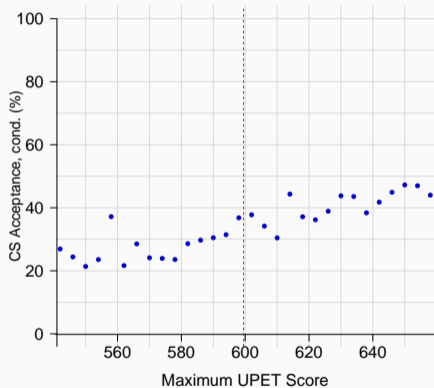


(a) Computer Sciences

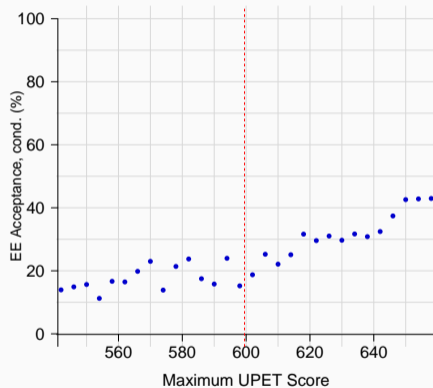


(b) Electrical Engineering

# Continuous Conditional Acceptance Rate

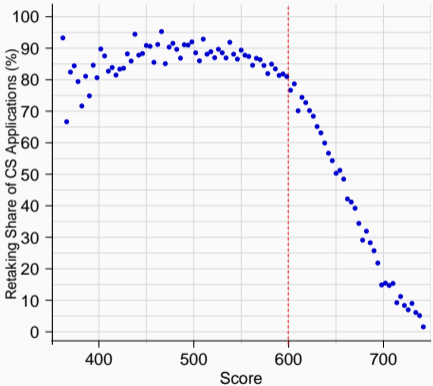


(a) Computer Sciences

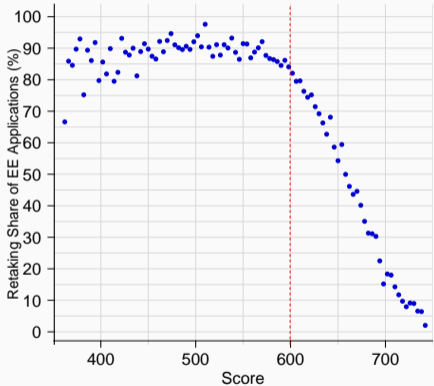


(b) Electrical Engineering

# Share Retaking The PET Among CS Applicants



(a) Computer Sciences



(b) Electrical Engineering

## “Impact” of Crossing 600 on Pre-determined Outcomes (I)

Outcome	Full Sample ( $N = 44,075$ )		Jews ( $N = 42,147$ )	
	Mean	Est. Effect	Mean	Est. Effect
Age	19.797	-0.020 (0.047)	19.919	-0.009 (0.048)
Male Share (%)	44.336	1.288 (0.944)	44.026	1.385 (0.965)
Arab Share (%)	4.868	0.535 (0.391)	0.000	- -
Non-Religious School (%)	82.487	0.558 (0.727)	81.595	0.486 (0.757)
Born in Israel (%)	83.959	-0.543 (0.696)	83.251	-0.632 (0.723)
Both Parents Born in Israel (%)	42.890	0.989 (0.940)	40.280	0.713 (0.954)
Parental Income > 250K NIS (%)	53.947	-0.633 (0.944)	54.839	-0.578 (0.964)
Educated Parents (%)	50.456	0.182 (0.948)	51.427	-0.058 (0.970)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

## “Impact” of Crossing 600 on Pre-determined Outcomes (II)

Outcome	Full Sample ( $N = 44,075$ )		Jews ( $N = 42,147$ )	
	Mean	Est. Effect	Mean	Est. Effect
Test's Year	2003.399	-0.062 (0.065)	2003.360	-0.019 (0.066)
Test's Month	7.368	-0.044 (0.066)	7.365	-0.030 (0.068)
PET Quantitative Score	117.01	-0.065 (0.174)	116.773	-0.098 (0.177)
Applied to EE in Locality (%)	5.504	-0.033 (0.034)	5.563	-0.039 (0.035)
Applied to CS in Locality (%)	7.086	-0.056 (0.041)	7.138	-0.061 (0.043)
Educated Parents in Locality (%)	45.806	-0.575** (0.264)	47.232	-0.459* (0.243)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

# The Impact of Crossing 600 on University Applications

Outcome	Full Sample ( $N = 44,075$ )		Jews ( $N = 42,147$ )	
	Mean	Est. Effect	Mean	Est. Effect
<b>A. Within Three Years</b>				
CS (%)	3.801	1.366*** (0.402)	3.104	1.083*** (0.383)
EE (%)	3.229	0.707** (0.359)	2.792	0.762** (0.348)
<b>B. Ever</b>				
CS (%)	8.330	1.890*** (0.558)	7.516	1.364** (0.548)
EE	6.505	0.422 (0.485)	6.005	0.322 (0.482)
<b>C. After High-School</b>				
CS (%)	7.810	1.534*** (0.536)	7.100	1.079** (0.527)
EE (%)	5.670	-0.114 (0.448)	5.249	-0.203 (0.444)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

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# Mechanisms – Heterogeneity of the Effects

A. Relative Quantitative Score				
	Low ( $N = 7,426$ )		Medium-High ( $N = 22,385$ )	
Outcome:	Mean (1)	Estimate (2)	Mean (3)	Estimate (4)
CS	3.446	1.066 (0.959)	11.225	2.269** (0.895)
Retake	43.327	-5.168** (2.308)	54.627	-2.719** (1.323)
CS * Retake	2.828	0.190 (0.819)	9.272	1.416* (0.810)

B. Predicted Retake Rate				
	Low ( $N = 7,453$ )		Medium-High ( $N = 22,358$ )	
Outcome:	Mean (1)	Estimate (2)	Mean (3)	Estimate (4)
CS	3.351	0.841 (0.922)	11.249	2.511*** (0.91)
Retake	29.544	-4.137** (2.053)	59.117	-2.756** (1.322)
CS * Retake	1.753	0.181 (0.667)	9.617	1.563* (0.834)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

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## Effects on CS & EE Applications – By Specification

	Linear	Linear+Controls	Triangular Kernel	Quadratic
<b>A. CS</b>				
20	1.083*** (0.383)	1.057*** (0.382)	1.062*** (0.411)	1.021* (0.580)
30	1.143*** (0.314)	1.128*** (0.311)	1.077*** (0.337)	0.994** (0.469)
Optimal (15)	1.010** (0.474)			
<b>B. EE</b>				
20	0.762** (0.348)	0.717** (0.341)	0.868** (0.366)	0.995* (0.512)
30	0.406 (0.287)	0.357 (0.280)	0.645** (0.304)	1.006** (0.420)
Optimal (16)	0.909** (0.416)			

## Effect on Applications (More Outcomes)

Outcome	Full Sample ( $N = 44,075$ )		Jews ( $N = 42,147$ )	
	Mean	Est. Effect	Mean	Est. Effect
Any (%)	40.277	0.430 (0.939)	38.606	0.356 (0.956)
STEM (%)	19.682	1.776** (0.786)	18.007	1.738** (0.784)
Non-STEM (%)	20.595	-1.345* (0.773)	20.599	-1.383* (0.790)
Predicted Income (1,000 NIS)	206.281	4.703*** (1.688)	203.737	4.217*** (1.741)
CS, Top Choice	1.920	0.703** (0.298)	1.584	0.527* (0.285)
CS, Elite University	2.333	0.919*** (0.320)	1.688	0.663** (0.290)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

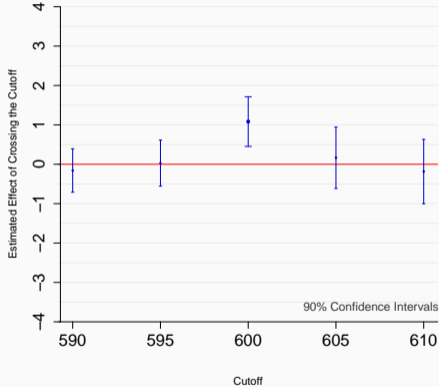
## Effect of Crossing 600 on Applications (All Tests)

Outcome	Full Sample ( $N = 69,336$ )		Jews ( $N = 60,911$ )	
	Mean	Est. Effect	Mean	Est. Effect
CS	5.990	1.033*** (0.386)	3.946	0.915*** (0.348)
EE	4.647	0.699** (0.333)	3.221	0.710** (0.307)
Any	51.820	0.432 (0.757)	46.285	0.259 (0.811)
Predicted Income	224.899	3.653*** (1.268)	218.485	3.940*** (1.402)

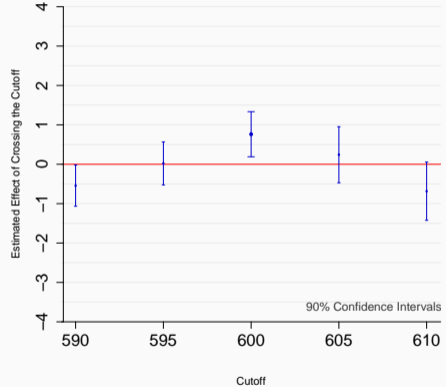
\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

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# Effects on CS & EE Applications – Alternative Cutoffs



(a) CS applications



(b) EE applications

## Effects on CS & EE Applications, Sample of Arabs

	CS		EE	
	Three years	Any	Three years	Any
<b>A. Above 600</b>				
	5.667 (3.537)	11.157*** (4.004)	-1.568 (2.976)	1.246 (3.356)
<i>N</i> = 1,808				
Mean	17.465	24.291	11.791	16.312
<b>B. Above 500</b>				
	2.166* (1.221)	1.264 (1.469)	-0.588 (1.086)	-1.142 (1.280)
<i>N</i> = 6,972				
Mean	5.983	4.118	9.298	6.630

Numbers represent percentage points; \*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

## Heterogeneity of the Impact by Age, Estimation

$$Y_i = \theta + \theta^a \cdot \text{Age}_i^* + \delta \cdot \text{Above600}_i + \delta^a \cdot \text{Age}_i^* \cdot \text{Above600}_i + \\ \gamma_l \cdot R_i + \gamma_l^a \cdot \text{Age}_i^* \cdot R_i + (\gamma_r - \gamma_l) \cdot \text{Above600}_i \cdot R_i + \\ (\gamma_r^a - \gamma_l^a) \cdot \text{Age}_i^* \cdot \text{Above600}_i \cdot R_i + \varepsilon_i^1$$

Where  $\text{Age}^* = \text{Age} - 18$

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## Heterogeneity of the Effect of Crossing 600, by Age, Three Groups Estimation

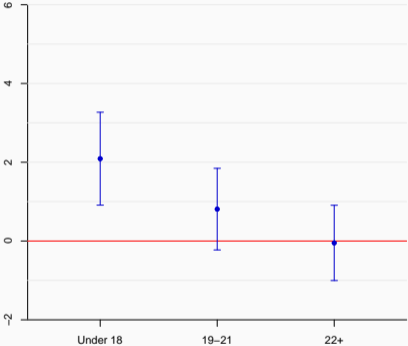
By Age	Age < 22 (N = 29,676)		Age ≥ 22 (N = 12,475)	
	Mean	Est. Effect	Mean	Est. Effect
Within three years	3.441	1.500*** (0.483)	2.386	-0.048 (0.581)
Ever	9.496	2.011*** (0.724)	3.119	-0.303 (0.639)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

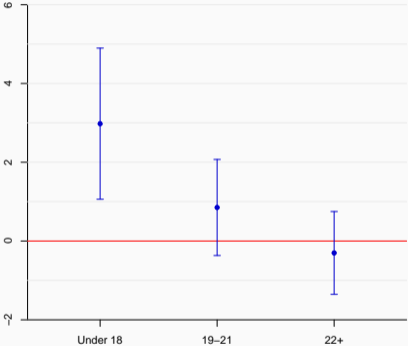
Three groups (17-18, 19-21, 22+)

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# Heterogeneity of the Effects, by Age, Three Groups Estimation



(a) CS, within three years



(b) CS, ever



## The Impact of Crossing 600 on Bagrut Outcomes

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Outcome	Ages 21 and Below ( $N = 29,803$ )	
	Mean	Est. Effect
5 Points CS (%)	21.568	2.584*** (0.966)
5 Points Math (%)	39.252	2.069* (1.142)
Total Points > 30 (%)	24.600	1.887* (1.012)
Mean Composite Score	99.690	0.140 (0.187)

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\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

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## The Impact of Crossing 600 on PET Retake

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Outcome	Jews, 21 and Below ( $N = 29,803$ )	
	Mean	Est. Effect
Retake (%)	51.830	-3.233*** (1.155)
Retake * CS (%)	7.682	1.174* (0.649)
Maximum PET Score > 640 (%)	33.760	-1.176 (1.106)
Maximum PET Score > 640 * CS (%)	5.995	0.977* (0.585)

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\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

Heterogeneity

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# The Impact on Degree Attainment

Outcome	Main ( $N = 29,803$ )		Secondary ( $N = 15,461$ )	
	Mean	Est. Effect	Mean	Est. Effect
<b>A. CS Programs</b>				
Enrollment (%)	4.396	1.007** (0.512)	4.605	1.138*** (0.356)
Degree (%)	2.721	0.614 (0.415)	2.948	0.882*** (0.291)
Degree, Inc. Colleges. (%)	4.783	1.211** (0.528)	4.924	1.344*** (0.370)
<b>B. All Programs</b>				
STEM Degree (%)	30.443	1.519 (1.077)	31.152	2.076*** (0.751)
Non-STEM Degree (%)	55.252	-1.830 (1.150)	55.364	-1.640** (0.801)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

# Robustness, Secondary Estimation, Degree Attainment

Bandwidth	No Controls	With Controls
<b>A. CS Enrollment</b>		
10	1.138*** (0.356)	1.135*** (0.360)
5	1.472*** (0.509)	1.368*** (0.505)
<b>B. CS Degree</b>		
10	0.882*** (0.291)	0.801*** (0.295)
5	0.797* (0.414)	0.716* (0.413)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

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# Optimal Bandwidths, by Polynomial Fit Order, CS Studies

Order	0	1	2	3
<b>A. CS Enrollment</b>				
Uniform Kernel	1.151** (0.517) 6	1.173* (0.615) 18	1.215* (0.626) 37	1.474** (0.717) 47
Triangular Kernel	1.073** (0.511) 10	1.096* (0.561) 26	1.364** (0.663) 37	1.399* (0.818) 42
<b>B. CS Degree</b>				
Uniform Kernel	0.533 (0.386) 6	0.624 (0.505) 18	0.594 (0.568) 30	0.765 (0.589) 48
Triangular Kernel	0.591 (0.424) 9	0.568 (0.457) 28	0.626 (0.516) 43	0.706 (0.590) 54

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

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# Robustness, Secondary Estimation, Labor Market

Bandwidth	No Controls	With Controls
<b>A. Employed in Tech (%)</b>		
10	1.054* (0.540)	1.359** (0.543)
5	1.886** (0.779)	1.777** (0.765)
<b>B. Log Annual Income * 100</b>		
10	4.755** (2.076)	4.358** (2.206)
5	4.340 (2.923)	4.459 (2.825)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

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# The Impact on Labor Market Outcomes

Outcome	Main ( $N = 29,803$ )		Secondary ( $N = 15,461$ )	
	Mean	Est. Effect	Mean	Est. Effect
Employment	85.585	0.927 (0.818)	85.390	0.182 (0.567)
Employment in Tech (%)	12.370	1.487* (0.780)	12.400	1.054* (0.540)
Annual Income (1,000 NIS)	140.703	6.164 (4.868)	140.758	6.809** (3.376)
Log Annual Income * 100	1134.753	4.738 (2.974)	1134.353	4.755** (2.076)
Rank Annual Income * 100	45.751	1.640** (0.745)	45.539	1.236** (0.518)
An. Salaried Inc. (1,000 NIS)	136.031	7.356 (4.762)	135.403	7.237** (3.301)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

# Optimal Bandwidths, by Order of the Polynomial Fit, Labor Market

Order	0	1	2	3
<b>A. Employed in Tech (%)</b>				
Uniform Kernel	1.231* 0.740 9	0.989 0.755 28	1.994* 1.075 29	1.588 1.111 47
Triangular Kernel	1.256* 0.703 14	1.233* 0.742 36	2.241** 1.098 32	2.699** 1.301 39
<b>B. Log Annual Income * 100</b>				
Uniform Kernel	5.725** (2.546) 10	4.448 (3.553) 19	3.100 (3.980) 31	3.399 (4.369) 42
Triangular Kernel	4.859* (2.894) 12	4.588 (3.413) 25	5.574 (3.592) 45	5.214 (4.854) 40

[ \*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

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## Effects on Long Term Outcomes (Jews, 22 and Above)

Outcome	Main ( $N = 12,343$ )		Secondary ( $N = 6,414$ )	
	Mean	Est. Effect	Mean	Est. Effect
<b>A. Degrees</b>				
CS Degree	0.568	-0.159 (0.266)	0.585	-0.080 (0.184)
CD Degree, Any Inst.	2.840	-0.350 (0.600)	2.957	-0.401 (0.409)
<b>B. Labor Market</b>				
Employment in Tech	7.178	0.357 (0.955)	7.548	0.880 (0.677)
Log(Income)	11.923	0.001 (0.045)	11.903	-0.003 (0.031)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

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## Long Term Impact, Heterogeneity

A. By Gender	Men ( $N = 10,971$ )		Women ( $N = 18,785$ )	
	Mean (1)	Est. Effect (2)	Mean (3)	Est. Effect (4)
Outcome				
CS Degree, Inc. Colleges	8.316	2.125*** (0.771)	3.012	0.720** (0.366)
Log Annual Income * 100	1121.173	6.813* (3.883)	1141.026	4.263* (2.409)
B. By SES (Parental Education Above 12 Years)	Low ( $N = 6,879$ )		High ( $N = 8,586$ )	
	Mean (1)	Est. Effect (2)	Mean (3)	Est. Effect (4)
Outcome				
CS Degree, Inc. Colleges	4.819	1.053* (0.543)	5.009	1.573*** (0.504)
Log Annual Income * 100	1140.406	-0.013 (2.992)	1129.397	8.688*** (2.870)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

# Falsification Tests, Secondary Estimation

Bandwidth	10 ( $N = 15,465$ )		5 ( $N = 7,692$ )	
	Mean	Estimate	Mean	Estimate
Age	18.679	0.006 (0.026)	18.698	-0.022 (0.037)
Male Share	163.949	-1.754** (0.776)	165.125	-1.912* (1.103)
Non-Religious School (%)	80.176	-0.409 (0.644)	79.926	-0.650 (0.927)
Born in Israel (%)	80.674	0.116 (0.634)	80.851	-0.952 (0.914)
Both Parents Born in Israel (%)	38.462	0.982 (0.784)	38.298	0.330 (1.118)
Parental Income > 250K	56.959	1.420* (0.795)	56.660	0.139 (1.139)
Educated Parents	55.262	0.521 (0.799)	55.851	-0.774 (1.142)
Test's Year	2002.492	0.025 (0.057)	2002.490	0.004 (0.081)
Test's Month	8.010	-0.010 (0.054)	7.950	0.001 (0.077)
Share Applied to CS in Locality (%)	7.245	0.001 (0.034)	7.278	-0.067 (0.049)
Share Educated Parents in Locality (%)	46.993	0.132 (0.198)	47.186	-0.355 (0.286)

\*  $p < 0.1$  \*\*  $p < 0.05$  \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$

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