A Paternal Age Effect on Leftism is Detectable with Continuous Measurements

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Abstract

Previously, we showed that there is a paternal age effect on leftism (increasing leftism with increasing age of father when born), using a binary classification based on three items regarding Black Lives Matter, LGBT, and feminism [1]. The primary limitation of that study was the use of the binary measurement. In this paper, we show that the same effect is detectable with a new, near-Gaussian measurement of leftism. The correlation between this measurement and paternal age was $r = 0.12$ ($p < 0.001$). This measurement has high reliability (Cronbach's alpha = 0.93) which far outperforms the commonly used Wilson-Patterson Conservatism Scale (alpha = 0.71) [2] as well as high validity (leftism *d* for Republicans and Democrats was 2.31, $p < 0.001$).

Introduction

In a previous article, we showed that there is a paternal age effect on leftism (increasing leftism with increasing age of father when born), using a binary classification based on three items regarding Black Lives Matter, LGBT, and feminism [1]. As explained in the introduction of that article, this is indicative of mutational pressure increasing the incidence rate of leftism in the population. Furthermore, we showed, with the same binary measurement of leftism, that older fathers and their wives were not more likely to be leftist than younger fathers and their wives.

The primary limitation of that study was the use of the binary measurement. Binary variables can be problematic for a number of reasons [3]. Dichotomization at the mean can often lead to a reduction in effect sizes, occurrence of spurious significant main effects or interactions, risks of overlooking nonlinear effects, and problems in comparing and aggregating findings across studies.

In this article, we update our measurement to be continuous, and show that the paternal age effect is in fact present under the continuous metric. Our measurement is near-Gaussian, has high reliability (measured as Cronbach's alpha), high validity (measured as its ability to predict party alignment), and outperforms the commonly used Wilson-Patterson Conservatism Scale on these metrics.

Methods

The continuous metric mirrors the binary metric in that it centers around three topics: LGBT, feminism, and race ideology. These dimensions are hypothesized to be common to empire decline, and covary due to being the result of mutational pressure on the same genes. Each question was on a Likert scale with the following answer choices: Strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, and strongly agree.
The questions were as follows:

G1. Is LGBT good?
G2. Homosexual behavior is fine when it is private and chaste.
G3. There is nothing wrong with public depictions of homosexual relationships.
G4. I support gay marriage.
G5. There is nothing wrong with attending a gay orgy.
G6. Children should be taught about gay sex in sex education classes.

F1. Is feminism good?
F2. The country would be better if women couldn't vote. (-1)
F3. Women should try to be married by the age of 25. (-1)
F4. The government should help ensure sexual equality by making sure women are not discriminated against in private hiring.
F5. Women should hold the majority of the positions of power in society.
F6. Marriage is oppressive for women, and monogamy should be moved away from.

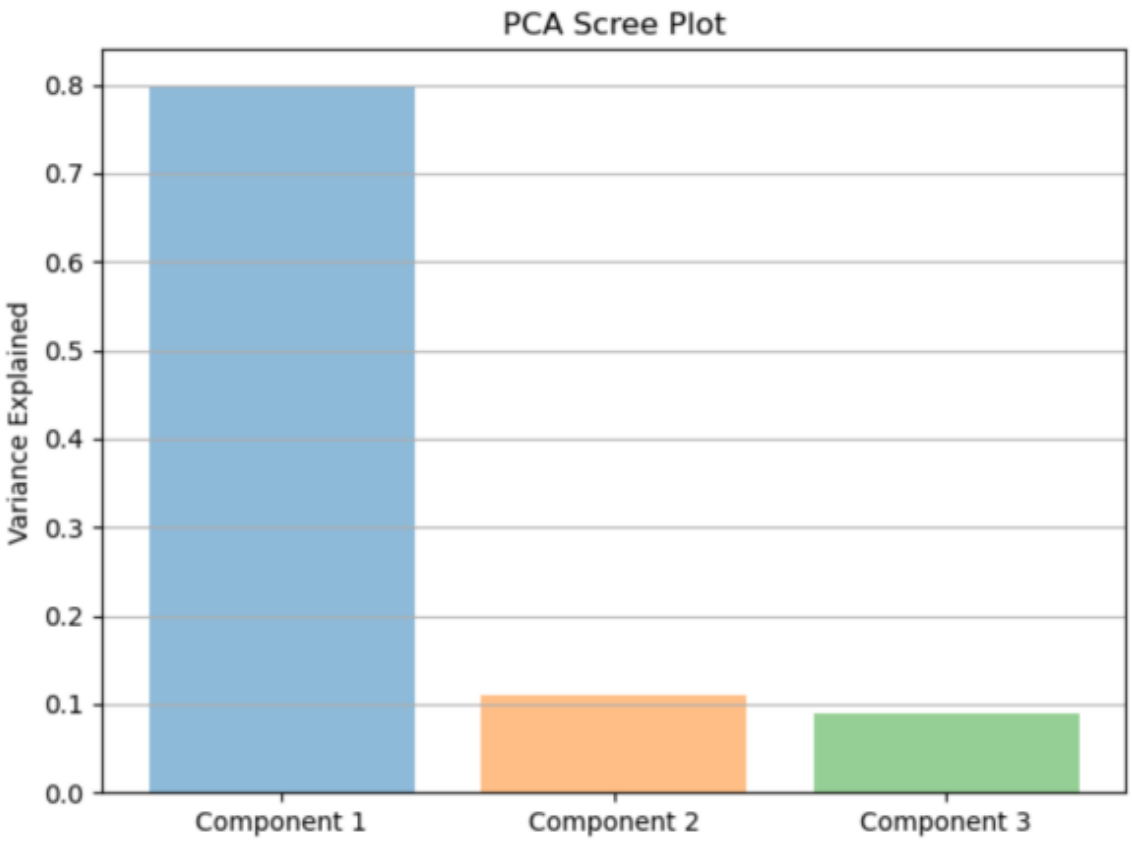
R1. Is Black Lives Matter a good organization?
R2. Europe would be best if it remained all white. (-1)
R3. Immigration policy should be strict and heavily meritorious. (-1)
R4. The government should ensure racial equality by prohibiting racial discrimination in private business dealings such as hiring.
R5. Black people deserve reparations for the legacy of slavery.
R6. I support open borders.

The questions were intended to get “harder” as they progressed in each category, meaning woker people tend to be the only ones to agree to the later questions, while a greater percent of respondents would agree with earlier questions.

Also, items F2, F3, R2, and R3 were reversed.

By pre-hoc design, the three factors were summed and a general factor was derived by varimax factor analysis on these sums. We achieved factor loadings of 0.88, 0.87, and 0.78 for race, feminism, and gay respectively. Cronbach’s alpha for the three sums was 0.86, which is far over the typical significance threshold of 0.70. In contrast, Wilson-Patterson conservatism has had alphas as low as 0.71 [2]. Computing alpha over all the sums yielded a value of 0.93.

We also performed PCA as an alternative factor analysis method. We found one component explains 80% of variance, strongly indicating the appropriateness of a one factor solution. The PCA factor correlated with the varimax factor at r = 0.96. For the analyses in this paper, we used the varimax factor because it was slightly more Gaussian, with a Q-Q plot r^2 of 0.992 vs. 0.986 for PCA.



Scree plot for principal component analysis of Gay sum, Race sum, and Feminism sum.

These statistics suggest that the measurement has high reliability. We also have evidence of high validity in that it predicts party and wingness well.

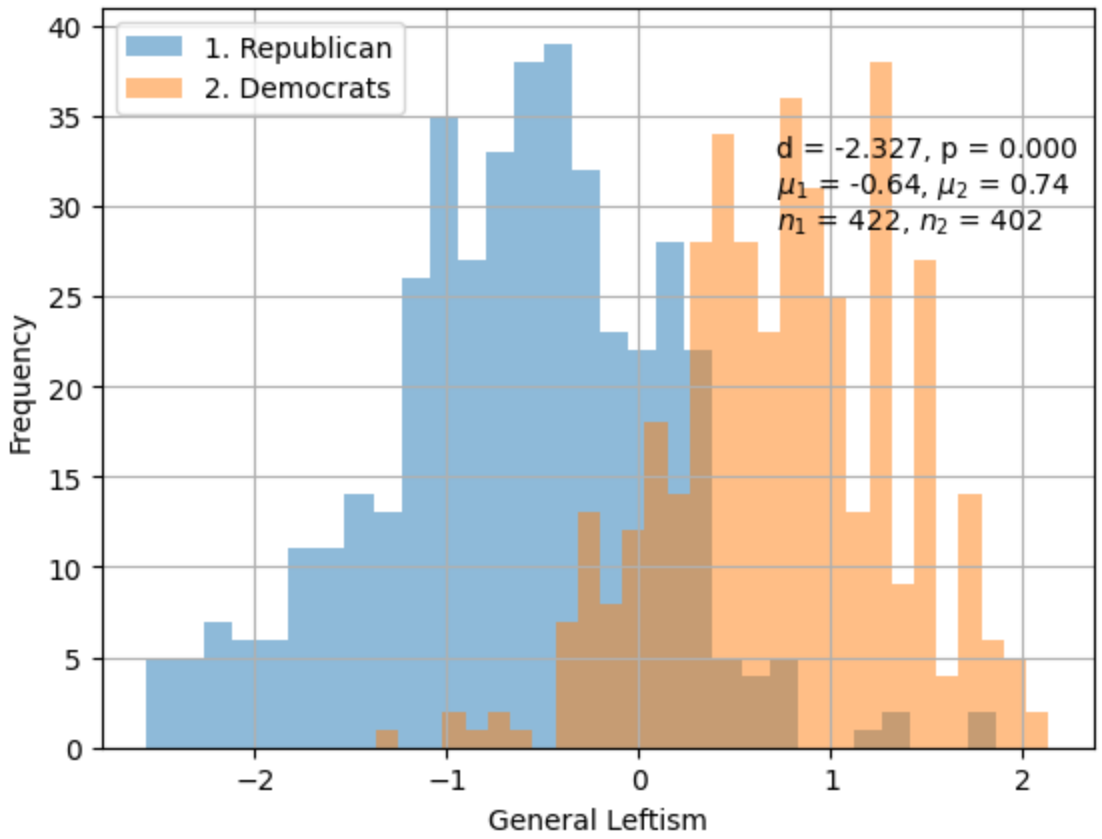


Figure 1. General Leftism and Party

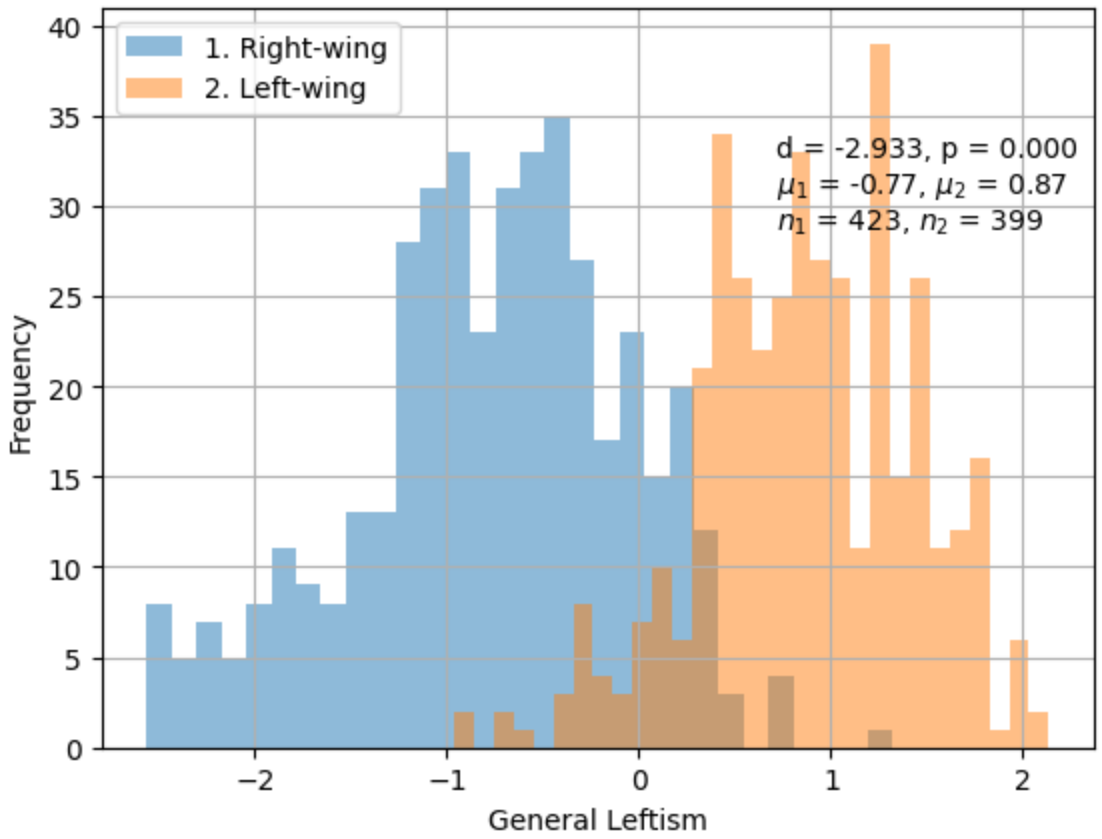


Figure 2. General Leftism and Wingness

Those under -1 SD General Leftism are more than 90% likely to be right-wing and Republican, and same for those above 1 SD General Leftism.

Finally, the distribution of General Leftism was nearly gaussian. We had trouble at the tails, but it was accurate up to the 98th percentile.

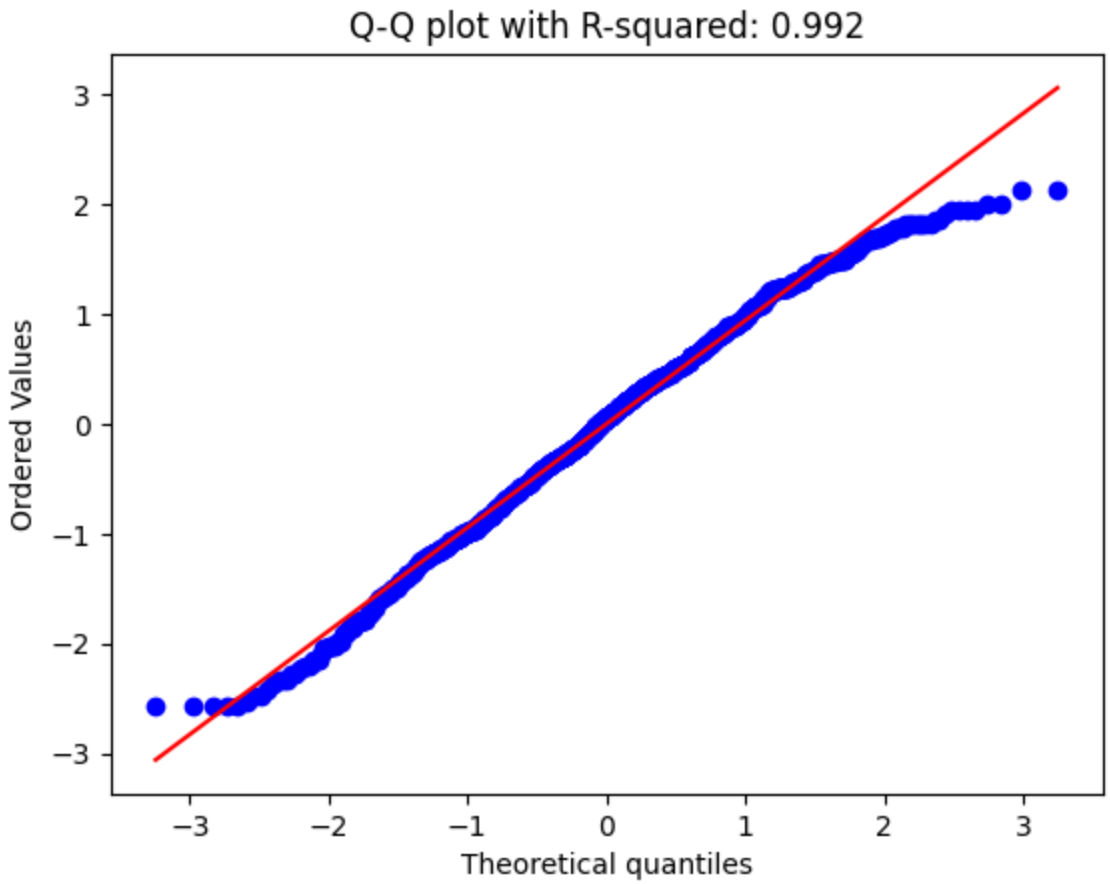


Figure 3. Q-Q Plot of General Leftism

Results

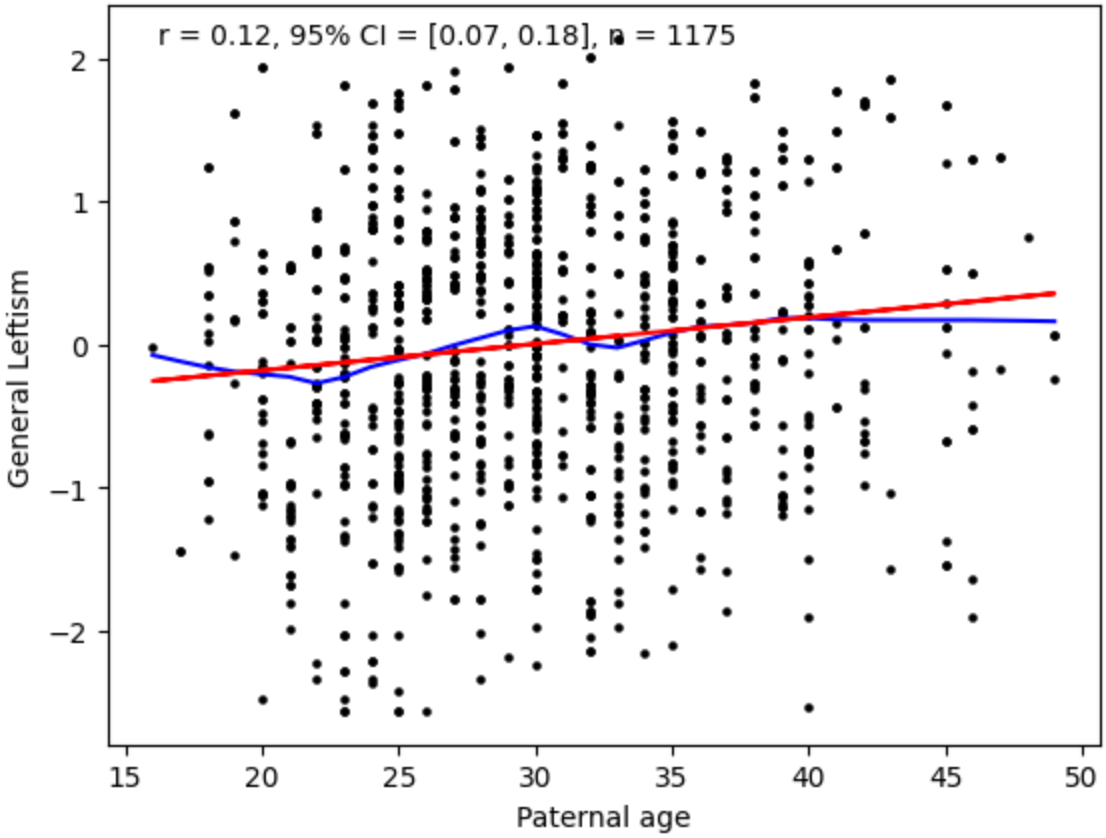


Figure 4. Leftism and Paternal Age

In this data, we cut off the tails of paternal age (>2.5 SD), but this did not change the results. The full data will be publicly available on the author's Github if you wish to verify this.

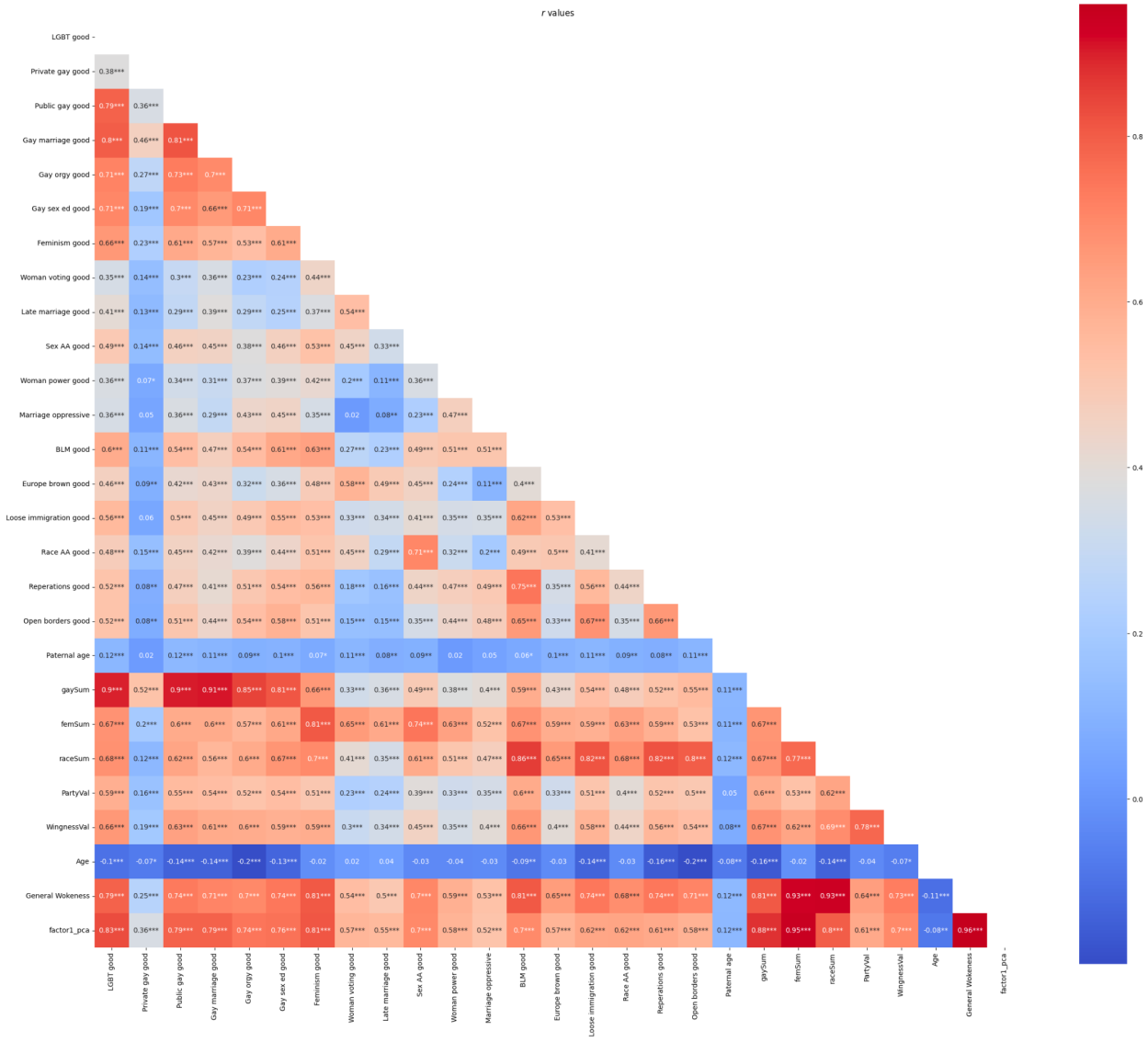


Figure 5. Correlation matrix for everything.

Figure 5 shows all of the correlation coefficients between everything in the data. One star means $p < 0.05$, two means $p < 0.01$, and three means $p < 0.001$.

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                            OLS Regression Results
==============================================================================
Dep. Variable:        General Leftism   R-squared:                       0.025
Model:                            OLS   Adj. R-squared:                  0.022
Method:                 Least Squares   F-statistic:                     9.479
Date:                Fri, 17 Nov 2023   Prob (F-statistic):           3.45e-06
Time:                        22:11:55   Log-Likelihood:                -1585.1
No. Observations:                1175   AIC:                             3178.
Df Residuals:                    1171   BIC:                             3198.
Df Model:                           3
Covariance Type:                  HC3
==============================================================================
                 coef    std err          z      P>|z|      [0.025      0.975]
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
const          -1.527e-16      0.027  -5.59e-15      1.000      -0.053       0.053
Paternal_age_n     0.1104      0.028      3.911      0.000       0.055       0.166
Age_n             -0.0901      0.027     -3.386      0.001      -0.142      -0.038
Interaction_n     -0.0065      0.027     -0.239      0.811      -0.059       0.047
==============================================================================
Omnibus:                       16.939   Durbin-Watson:                   0.994
Prob(Omnibus):                  0.000   Jarque-Bera (JB):               15.798
Skew:                          -0.241   Prob(JB):                     0.000371
Kurtosis:                       2.699   Cond. No.                         1.15
==============================================================================

Notes:
[1] Standard Errors are heteroscedasticity robust (HC3)
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Figure 6. Multiple Regression with Paternal age, participant age, on General Leftism. All normalized.

Figure 6 shows that the paternal age effect is present across father birth years. It is predicted by mutational load theory that age as well as paternal age will both independently predict general leftism. Age allows one to estimate the base mutational load of an individual's generation while paternal age allows one to estimate the expected deviation from that mean. We find that in the multiple regression model, the correlation of leftim with paternal age decreased by less than 0.01, vindicating this prediction.

Conclusion

Based on the results, we conclude that there is compelling evidence for a paternal age effect for leftism. The next step is molecular confirmation. Studies which confirm the role of de novo mutation in being more leftist than parents, as well as studies which show increasing polygenic scores for leftism associated traits like openness and individualizing through time can molecularly confirm the role of mutational load and genetics more generally in the rise of leftism.

The decline of asabiyyah [5] seems to be a general feature of empire decline. We propose that the mechanism of asabiyyah decline is in fact mutational load increasing leftism in a population,

potentially alongside immigrant gene flow. Further quantitative studies investigating the universality of the rise of features of leftism like feminism (decreased fertility, increased female driven sexual selection), homosexuality, and mass immigration of foreigners can further confirm this view. It may even happen in animals, especially social mammals with similar patriarchal societies to humans like lions, chimpanzees, gorillas, and wolves. An interesting, though expensive and time consuming experiment, could be to take one of these species and give them great wealth in an area over many generations. We might expect them to begin by defending their wealthy territory from outsiders. Over the generations, free from selective pressures, we would expect to see the decline of fertility and increases in female driven sexual selection, with decreases in the ability and drive for males to dominate the females. We might expect to see the ability to defend the territory weaken; gene flow from outsiders increases. And perhaps homosexual behavior would increase as well. This could be done most easily with wolves, because they can reproduce the fastest among the animals listed (2 year generations) and they are found outside of Africa, in Western nations. Just 20 years would be enough to simulate 10 generations, which is 250 years for humans, approximately the time since the American and French Revolutions. An experiment of similar reach, the aim of which is to domesticate foxes, has been run for the last 60 years in Siberia, with good results [4], so this is not unprecedented.

References

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