Quantitative Approaches to Longitudinal Research: Reading list and internet references


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Summary:

This document contains a reading list with references for conducting longitudinal research in the social sciences, and information on a number of relevant internet resources.

In the associated talk, we outline the leading methods of longitudinal data analysis that are commonly used in social science research in the UK. We discuss some of the motivations for, and issues in, conducting longitudinal research. We then run through a series of techniques of longitudinal data analysis, in each case describing the methodology and illustrating with examples from contemporary survey datasets. The methods discussed are: Repeated Cross-sections; Panel Datasets; Cohort Datasets; Event History Datasets; and (briefly) Time Series methods.
Part I: References:

Introductions to Longitudinal Research Strategies:


Maxim, P. S. 1999. *Quantitative Research Methods in the Social Sciences*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (*This general text covers advanced techniques of data analysis and design, but has a useful short section pp155-162 discussing problems with longitudinal survey designs*).


Ruspini, E. 2002. *An Introduction to Longitudinal Research*. London: Taylor and Francis. (*This text has a few weaknesses, but overall it does a decent job of introducing longitudinal survey research at a non-specialist level*).


Detailed Longitudinal Methods guidance


Gilbert, G.N. 1993. *Analyzing Tabular Data: Loglinear and logistic models for social researchers*. London: UCL Press. (It is often forgotten that simple forms of longitudinal have long been amenable to loglinear modelling approaches. Gilbert’s book remains one of the best available introductions, whilst Hagenaars – below - covers these topics in much more depth).


Greenacre, M. and Jorg Blasius. 1994. *Correspondence Analysis in the Social Sciences: Recent developments and applications*. London: Academic Press. (Correspondence Analysis is a widely used technique for describing data relationships that is particularly popular in France. In part 3 of this edited book, examples are given of how longitudinal event history and panel data formats can be analysed with correspondence analysis techniques).


Vermunt, J. K. 1997. IEM: A general program for the analysis of categorical data. Tilburg, Netherlands: Tilburg University. (IEM is a very powerful freeware for analysing categorical data, some forms of which are easily adapted to event history).

Selected Research Examples:


Part II: Selected Internet resources:

Guides to access to longitudinal datasets:

ISER Keeping Track project: http://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/ulsc/projects/ldr4ss/
UK Data Archive: http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/
Economic and Social Data Service: http://www.esds.ac.uk/ (see esp. ‘ESDS Longitudinal’)
UK Question Bank: http://qb.soc.surrey.ac.uk/

Major Longitudinal Data Resources :

British Household Panel Study: http://iserwww.essex.ac.uk/ulsc/bhps/
NCDS and BCS: http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/Cohort/Ncds2000/mainncds00.htm
UK Census : http://census.data-archive.ac.uk/
ESDS International (with macro-economic time series’) : http://www.esds.ac.uk/international/access/
PSID : http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/
ECHP : http://www.forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/dsis/echpanel/home (limited website)
LIS : http://www.lisproject.org/
CHER / PACO : http://www.ceps.lu/CherPaco/CherPaco.htm

Teaching and Learning Materials:

Research Capacity Building Network : http://www.cf.ac.uk/socsi/capacity/
Research Methods Programme: http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/methods/
UK Longitudinal Studies Research Centre (Essex): http://www.irc.essex.ac.uk/ulsc/
Stirling University Longitudinal Studies Seminars: http://www.lss.stir.ac.uk
SOSIG (see eg ‘internet for social statistics’): http://sosig.ac.uk/
Population Studies Centre, University of Western Ontario, Longitudinal side (includes links to teaching materials, sociology course on longitudinal research): http://www.ssc.uwo.ca/sociology/longitudinal/

Research Projects of Interest:

PISA (cross-national repeated cross-section educational research) : http://www.pisa.oecd.org/
CAMSIS (Occupational information over time): http://www.cf.ac.uk/socsi/CAMSIS/
EuroPanel Users Network: http://epunet.essex.ac.uk/