



universität
wien

Survey Data and Multilevel Modeling - Advances on the First and Second Level

Lucas Leemann, PhD

Monday, **January 22nd 2018**, 5:00 p.m.

Hörsaal 10, Rathausstraße 19, 1010 Vienna

Multilevel regression with post-stratification (MrP) has become quickly a standard approach in public opinion research. Lucas Leemann first presents two distinct motivations for using MrP and also touches on questions of representativity of polling data. He then shows two challenges when employing MrP. The first challenge emerges on the individual level since we hardly ever have the correct data to include all relevant individual level predictors. To overcome this first level problem Lucas Leemann presents MrsP (MrP's better half) who relies on a synthetic joint distribution. In applying MrP or MrsP we then often also face a second challenge on the context level - which variables do we include and how do we shield our model from over-fitting? Here, he shows what machine learning models can add and compare them to baseline models.

Lucas Leemann is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Zurich. He is also an associate editor for the British Journal of Political Science. His research centers around democratic institutions, representation, and data science. He focuses on representation and political institutions that enable representation, as well as on survey methodology and on ways to use non-probability based samples.
