Introduction Handling total non-response Swiss Households Panel Conclusion

Dealing with non-response in survey data: on the usage of weights

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- We want to test a theory on a population
- But we can only reach a sample of the population
- Hypothesis testing allows to escape from sampling hazard
- But is our sample representative of the population studied?



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- Sampling: generally complex, at random is assumed
- Surveying: some individuals don't respond
- ▶ Randomly?
- Intuitively no: health problems, family difficulties, problems at work,
- Database manager check if marginal distributions differ
- If significative differences are found, weights are provided



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Motivation

Is it mandatory to use weights?

- Do the results really change in my analysis?
- It is bad if I don't use weights?
- Is it worst to use weights than not?



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Scope of this presentation

- Is it important to use weights?
- Discussing side effects of weighting
- Assessing the advisability of weighting
- An example :usage of weights in the SHP
- ▶ Bonus :-)



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Handling total non-response Swiss Households Panel Conclusion Motivation Scope of this presentation

Type of non-response

Total non-response
Partial non-response



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Estimating population descriptive statistics Estimating covariable effects

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In the context of weighting it is useful to distinguish two purposes of estimation

To estimate population descriptive statistics
To estimate covariable effects



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Estimating population descriptive statistics Estimating covariable effects

Outline

Handling total non-response

Estimating population descriptive statistics Estimating covariable effects



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- Now we estimate this rate with the PSID survey
- PSID: Panel Study of Income Dynamics, started in 1967
- This survey purposefully overrepresented low-income households
- ► Value of the poverty rate without weighting: 26%
- Value of the poverty rate with weighting: 12%



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Estimating population descriptive statistics Estimating covariable effects

The conclusion is more nuanced

Model $Y = \beta X + e$

- Weights correct for representativness of the sample
- Weights correct for heteroskedasticity
 ⇒ Weights allows to achieve more precise estimates
- Weights can be a function of independant variables
 Introduce linear dependency of X in the model
- ► Weights can be a function of the dependant variable ⇒ Introduce a correlation of X with e
- Traditional softwares assumed a straightforward random sampling plan



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 - 1.1. YES: use weights
 - 3.1.2 NO: you probably shoul use weights, but be careful and set out your arguments.



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Computation of the weights

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Swiss Households Panel

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- Survey permanent resident households and individuals
 From 1999 to 2020 (and more?)
- Simple panel data, but will become rotative
- Main goal: to observe social change, especially in life conditions, in Switzerland
- Largest longitudinal survey in social sciences in Switzerland
- Is part of the Cross-National Equivalent File (CNEF)
 Age limit: 14 years old



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► The SHP1 data for the years 1999 through 2011

- The SHP2 data for the years 2004 through 2011
- ▶ The SHP biographical data for 5,560 SHP1 individuals



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Weighting variables available

weight2011 <- contains(c("weight", "PSM"), and = T, data = shp2011)</pre>

##		Description
##	wp11t1p	PSMI-PSMII transversal individual weight inflating to size of CH-population
##	wp11t1s	PSMI-PSMII transversal individual weight keeping sample size
##	wp11lp1p	PSMI longitudinal individual weight inflating to size of CH-population in 1999
##	wp11lp1s	PSMI longitudinal individual weight keeping sample size
##	wp11l1p	PSMI-PSMII longitudinal individual weight inflating to size of CH-population in 2004
##	wp11l1s	PSMI-PSMII longitudinal individual weight keeping sample size



Weighting variables available: meaning

wp11t1p	PSMI-PSMII transversal individual weight <i>representative of the 2011 14yo+</i> <i>CH-population</i> inflating to size of 14yo+ CH-population
wp11t1s	PSMI-PSMII transversal individual weight <i>representative of the 2011 14yo+</i> <i>CH-population</i> keeping sample size <i>of individuals who responded in 2011</i>
wp11lp1p	PSMI longitudinal individual weight <i>representative of the 1999 14yo+</i> <i>CH-population</i> inflating to size of 14yo+ CH-population in 1999
wp11lp1s	PSMI longitudinal individual weight representative of the 1999 CH-population keeping sample size of individuals from 1999 still here in 2011
wp11l1p	$\label{eq:psml-PSMl-PSMl} PSMl-PSMl longitudinal individual weight representative of the 2004 14yo+ CH-population inflating to size of 14yo+ CH-population in 2004$
wp11l1s	PSMI-PSMII longitudinal individual weight <i>representative of the 2004 14yo+CH-population</i> keeping sample size <i>of individuals from 1999 or 2004 still here</i> 2011



in

Quick look into the 1999 wave

```
shp1999$weip99ts <- wvar(shp1999$weip99ts)
shp1999w <- shp1999
weighting(shp1999w) <- "weip99ts"
nindividual(shp1999)</pre>
```

[1] 12931

```
nindividual(shp1999w)
```

[1] 7799

```
nindividual(shp1999w)/nindividual(shp1999) * 100
```

[1] 60.31



Quick look into the 2011 wave – cross-sectional setting

```
shp2011$wp11t1s <- wvar(shp2011$wp11t1s)
shp2011w <- shp2011
weighting(shp2011w) <- "wp11t1s"
nindividual(shp2011)
## [1] 11178
nindividual(shp2011w)
## [1] 7459
nindividual(shp2011w)/nindividual(shp2011) * 100</pre>
```

[1] 66.73



Quick look into the 2011 wave – longitudinal setting, from 1999

```
shp2011$wp11lp1s <- wvar(shp2011$wp11lp1s)
shp2011wl1999 <- shp2011
weighting(shp2011wl1999) <- "wp11lp1s"
nindividual(shp2011wl1999)</pre>
```

[1] 3988

nindividual(shp2011wl1999)/nindividual(shp2011) * 100

[1] 35.68



Quick look into the 2011 wave – longitudinal setting, from 2004

```
shp2011$wp1111s <- wvar(shp2011$wp1111s)
shp2011w12004 <- shp2011
weighting(shp2011w12004) <- "wp1111s"
nindividual(shp2011w12004)</pre>
```

[1] 6345

nindividual(shp2011wl2004)/nindividual(shp2011) * 100

[1] 56.76



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Swiss Households Panel Computation of the weights



Rousseaux E. - Dealing with non-response in survey data: on the usage of weights - May 23, 2013 - 29/45

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- PSM1 and PSM2 are stratified according to main geographical areas (NUTS II)
- The sampling is only proportional to the number of households per geographical area
- It doesn't consider the average number of people in household per geographical area
- Sampling was performed on 3 709 215 households for PSM1, 3 436 873 for PSM2



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- Method: CATI, landline and mobile phones.
- Possible bias coming from the database used for sampling:
 - Duplicates
 - Under-coverage
 - >>> Over-coverage



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Computation of the weights

About 6 steps by weighting variable, but the two mains are:
1. Adjustment for non-response by segmentation analysis
2. Adjustment on margins of: age, sex, nationality, civil status, and 7 major geographical regions (NUTS II)



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- 1. If non-response is random within a group, then non-response biais is insignificant
- So we look for homogeneous groups which efficiently predict non-response
- For this purpose, segmentation by CHAID method is performed
- Variables used: from registers, from the interview mode, from previous waves
- Adjustment applied for a respondent is the inverse rate of non-response of its group



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Fist step: segmentation analysis

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split1	split2	split3	split4	split5	split6	rhg
		SWISS=0	APPART=0 (157) 39.6%			1
		(762) 33.0%	APPART=1 (605) 31.4%			2
		SWISS=1 (4890) 44.5%	MARIE=0 (1491) 38.1%	REV_1=0 (1050) 41.3%	agevo_2=0 (665) 46.0%	3 4 5
					agevo_2=1	6
	FORM_SUP= 0 (5652) 42.8%				(385) 32.8%	7
				REV_1=1 (441) 30.7%		8
			MARIE=1 (3399) 47.3%	NO_KID=0 (1534) 51.5%	LOY_1=0 (1281) 49.6%	9 10 11 12 13 14 15
					LOY 1=1 (253) 61.1%	16
agevo_1=0 (8387) 45.9%				NO_KID=1 (1865) 44.1%	agevo_5=0 (770) 39.5%	17 18 19 20 21 22
					agevo_5=1 (1095) 47.1%	23 24 25 26 27 28 29

Figure: Segmentation for longitudinal weights, individuals, wave 2006 (extract), (Graf 2008)

1. -0- données vague 1 sans pondération

2. - D- données vague 1 & pondération longitudinale vague courante wp\$\$LP1

3. -o- données vague courante & pond. longitudinale vague courante wp\$\$LP1



P99I01: satisfaction de la situation financière

Figure: Diagnostic method used for longitudinal weights, (Graf 2010)

Key points Perspectives

Outline

Introduction

Handling total non-response

Swiss Households Panel

Conclusion



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Outline

Conclusion Key points Perspectives



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- Descriptive statistics: weighting is mandatory
- Estimating effects: a diagnostic step must be performed
- But in most cases weights have to be used
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On the theoretical point of view

- Better understand side effects of weighting
- Summarizing diagnostic tests to perform before running into analysis
- Providing a practical guide for helping user to handle weights
- May look for someone with a statistical background for writing this working paper



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- Run statistical analysis through methods provided by the survey package instead of native R methods
- Allow to better describe the survey design
- ▶ For objects of class "WeightingVariable", allow to specify
 - ». Variables involved in the computation of the weights
 - Individuals concerned (14yo-F, miss no one wave,)
 - Make the sample representative to which population (year 1999)
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For the Dataset R package

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Thank you for your attention

Any question?



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