

April, May, June, July 1983 (ICPSR 8172 to 8177)
 American National Election Study, 1984: Continuous Monitoring, January 11-June 19 (ICPSR 8298)
 Annual Housing Survey, [United States], SMSA Files: 1980, 1982 (ICPSR 8257) (ICPSR 8310)
 Annual Survey of Governments, 1982: Employment Statistics (ICPSR 8286)
 Census of Governments, 1982: Governmental Organization File (ICPSR 8268)
 Census of Urban Crime, 1970 (ICPSR 8275)
 Chicago Lawyers Survey, 1975 (ICPSR 8218)
 Cost of Living in the United States, 1917-1919 (ICPSR 8299)
 Cost of Providing Transportation and In-Home Services to the Elderly, 1982-1983 (ICPSR 8309)
 Current Population Survey: Annual Demographic File, 1984 (ICPSR 8300)
 Effectiveness of Police Response: Denver, 1982 (ICPSR 8217)
 Euro-Barometer 20: Aid to Developing Nations, October 1983 (ICPSR 8234)
 Family Time Use: An Eleven-State Urban/Rural Comparison, 1978 (ICPSR 8240)
 Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), 1982-1983: Faculty Compensation (ICPSR 8289)
 Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), 1982: Fall Enrollment (ICPSR 8292)
 Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), 1982: Financial Statistics (ICPSR 8290)
 Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), 1983-1984: Institutional Characteristics (ICPSR 8291)
 Juvenile Detention and Correctional Facility Census, 1982 (ICPSR 8205)
 National Jail Census, 1983 (ICPSR 8203)
 National Survey of the Aged [United States], 1957 (ICPSR 7686)
 Police Use of Deadly Force, 1970-1979 (ICPSR 9018)
 Prosecutor's Management Information System (PROMIS), St. Louis, 1979 and Rhode Island, 1979 (ICPSR 8225) (ICPSR 8288)
 Reactions to Crime in Atlanta and Chicago, 1979-1980 (ICPSR 8215)
 Roster of United States Congressional Officeholders and Biographical

Characteristics of Members of the United States Congress, 1789-1984 Merged Data (ICPSR 7803)
 State Legislative Conference Committees, 1975-1979 (ICPSR 8312)
 Uniform Crime Reports, 1980-1982: Police Employee (LEOKA) Data [parts 8 and 12] (ICPSR 9028)
 United Nations Roll Call Data, 1946-1981 [30th and 31st Plenary Sessions] (ICPSR 5512)
 United States Congressional Roll Call Voting Records, 1789-1983 [98th Congress: House of Representatives, Senate] (ICPSR 0004)
 1980 Census [United States]: Summary Tape File 3B (ICPSR 8318)

OTHER OVERSEAS DATA SETS RECEIVED

ESRC Data Archive, University of Essex
 Heath, A.F., Jowell, R.M. and Curtice, J.K. British Election Study 1983 (ESRC Study No. 2005).
Data and Program Library Service, University of Wisconsin
 US Bureau of the Census, Occupational Changes in a Generation: Replicate Master File, 1962 and 1973.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

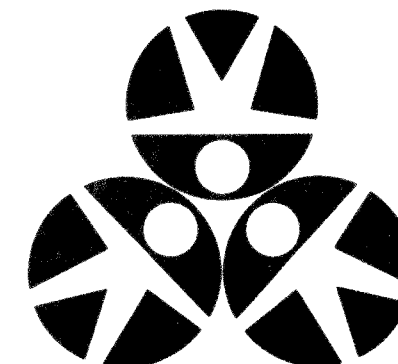
Contributions from readers are encouraged and reports on the use of data supplied through ACSPRI would be of particular interest. Contributions and enquiries about ACSPRI should be addressed to:

Dr Roger Jones
 Social Science Data Archives
 Australian National University
 GPO Box 4
 CANBERRA CITY A.C.T. 2601

ACSPRI newsletter

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NEW ACSPRI MEMBERS

We are happy to extend a welcome to two new members of ACSPRI:

- . The Queensland Institute of Technology, currently represented by Dr. P. Crowe, of the Communication Department.
- . The Bureau of Labour Market Research, represented by Mr Ian McRae, of the Sectoral Studies Branch.

We look forward to a fruitful relationship between ACSPRI and these two new members, as we enjoy with all members of ACSPRI.

BIRTH OF A BULLETIN

For some time now the SSDA has been wanting to expand its network of contacts in the social science research community. After four years of operation we are still not as widely known as we should be. As such, there has been a limit on the sources of potential deposits, the number of researchers accessing data from our holdings, and the spread of the whole idea of data reanalysis.

As a first step in raising our profile it was decided to contact all known social science departments in universities and CAEs in Australia, and to send them an information paper, known as the SSDA Bulletin, on an irregular but frequent basis for departmental circulation. SSDA Bulletin No.1 went out to over 400 addresses in November, 1984. The mailing list also includes 25 university departments in New Zealand and a few places outside the original university/college sector scope.

The SSDA Bulletins will perform three main functions. First, they allow the SSDA to maintain a high profile in those institutions most likely to use our services. Second, they allow us to focus our publicity on specific data sets that may otherwise be unseen by interested parties. And finally, they provide a first contact point with people who know nothing of the SSDA but who, once hearing of us, may prove to be potential depositors or users.

Accompanying SSDA Bulletin No.1 was an optional set of questions on interested staff, research areas, and general inquiries. From the response we had, which was small in percentage terms but nevertheless substantial, it was obvious that we reached many people who had not heard of the SSDA, and who were very interested in some of its services such as buying a Data Catalogue, learning more about ACSPRI, or just asking for information on specific research areas. All of this suggests that such comprehensive coverage of social science academics is well worthwhile.

SSDA Bulletin No.2 was released in February and SSDA Bulletin No.3 is already in the pipeline. We would be very interested in the comments of newsletter readers about both the content of the Bulletins and the reactions of your colleagues to them. Please address any suggestions to Mr Ralph Cullen at the SSDA, or call him on (062) 49 3809.

ACSPRI SUMMER PROGRAM

The first ACSPRI Summer Program in Quantitative Social Science Methods got under way at Monash University on 2nd February with 90 students attending 110 mainstream course units during the two week period of the Program. Following introductory computing courses on the weekend, what The Two Ronnies would call 'a packed program' began each morning at 8.30 a.m. with an hour of Maths for Social Scientists (John Pidgeon and Peter Jones), with the methods courses in four sessions per day from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m or whenever we could tear the highly motivated participants away from the terminals.

The introductory stream attracted 20 participants, for the two week course Data Analysis with SPSS. Paul Whiteley, here from Bristol University just for the Program and with 12 years experience of similar teaching in the Essex Summer School, led the class of budding analysts through the processes of data definition and variable manipulation, univariate and bivariate analyses and statistics and briefly into analysis of variance and regression. The class showed its appreciation of Paul's fortitude and patience with a presentation of Australian wine. We look forward to a longer return visit from Paul next year.

A further 40 participants in the first week were divided between courses on Multiple Regression Techniques (Bob Cushing), Sample Design (Greg Feeney), Exploratory Data Analysis (Don McNeil) and Multi-dimensional Scaling (Henry Law). Half of them stayed on for the second week and joined 30 new arrivals for courses on Structural Equation Models (Trevor Williams), Log-linear Modelling (Michael Adena), Questionnaire Design and Non-sampling Error (Brian O'Toole), Causal Modelling with Contingency Tables (Richard Volpato) or a repeat performance by the (almost) indefatigable Bob Cushing of the very popular regression course. With the exception of the survey design courses, a 50-50 lecture - computer laboratory format was used giving participants the

opportunity to experience applications at first hand.

Evening activities centred on Mannix college, with well attended plenary sessions on Tuesday and Thursday of each week and social gatherings on Sundays (bar) and Wednesdays (barbecue).

The success of the first Program clearly indicates the need for this type of Program in Australia and planning for the second ACSPRI Summer Program in Sydney in February 1986 will begin shortly.

Finally, on behalf of ACSPRI I would like to thank all the teaching staff who contributed so much time and effort to all aspects of the Program; John Hamilton, Rhona Miller and the other staff of the computing services group of the Faculty of Economics and Politics at Monash University for maintaining VAX3 and its associated peripherals and programs throughout the two week program without a single hitch. And to Joy Pratt, on behalf of all the staff, our thanks for your cheerful and highly efficient administrative support - and a decent cup of coffee every morning! And to all the participants, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

Roger Jones Secretary-Treasurer ACSPRI

ICPSR SUMMER PROGRAM 1985

The next ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research will take place in two sessions in mid-1985. Lectures and workshops in Session 1 are set down for July 1-26 while Session 2 will run from July 29 to August 23. Additionally some short-term workshops will be conducted in selected topic areas.

Basic mathematical, research design and computing lectures will be supported by a wide selection of specific workshop topics in quantitative methods. These topics include:

- . LISREL Models with Unmeasured Variables - examining linear structural equation models with and without latent variables.
- . Categorical Data Analysis - including linear probability; linear discriminant, probit, and logit models; and contingency table analysis.
- . Robust Methods of Statistical Estimation - Jackknife and Bootstrap resampling.
- . Event History Analysis.
- . Introduction to Statistics.
- . Linear Models, Causal Modelling and Time Series.
- . Substantively Oriented Courses - applications of methods in particular areas: Ageing, Crime and Criminal Justice, Historical Analysis, Asian American Research, and American Electoral Research.
- . Areas other than linear models: Applied Multivariate Analysis, Dimensional Analysis, and Measurement and Design of Social Research.
- . Mathematical Models of International Relations - applications of Markov chains, stochastic diffusion models, simulation, utility theory, and game theory.

Short course topics include LISREL Models, log-linear analysis, ARIMA (Box-Jenkins) Models, the US Bureau of the Census Survey of Income and Program Participation, current Microcomputer Applications, Utilisation of Surveys and Polling Data, and Innovations in Telephone Surveys. Lecture series will include Modelling Social Phenomena, Implications of Sample Design for Data Analysis (especially in relation to secondary analysis of survey data), and various mathematical topics such as algebra, set theory, matrix algebra, probability and calculus.

For more details on the program, contact Dr Roger Jones at the SSDA (062 494400).

ICPSR MICRONEWS

ACSPRI Newsletter No.9 introduced readers to the availability of the newsletter ICPSR MicroNews. Since then two further issues have been released.

Volume 1, No.2 (February 1984) contains a review of Apple's Macintosh Personal Computer by Gregory Marks, including a detailed comparison with the IBM PC. Also included is a review of the statistical package SYSTAT by Peter Joftis, a description of the Zenith Z-150 model, and details of the ABC statistical package for microcomputers from ICPSR.

Volume 1, No.3 (August 1984) contains an overview of the current microcomputer hardware marketplace by Gregory Marks, a review of the FYI3000 Database Management System for Text by Michael Lougee, and three product announcements by Susan Wyman: MINITAB Data Analysis for Micros, SPSS/PC for the IBM PC, and Enable, a single system which integrates wordprocessing, spreadsheet, graphics, database management, and telecommunications.

Viewing copies are held at the SSDA. For personal copies write to:

The ICPSR MicroNews,
Institute for Social Research
Rm 4258-D, 426 Thompson St,
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248, U.S.A.

ICPSR GUIDE

The ICPSR Guide to Resources and Services, 1984-1985, the official catalogue of the data holdings of ICPSR, was released in late 1984. The SSDA has some hardcopy editions of the Guide, and can also supply a copy on magnetic tape. Interested researchers should contact the SSDA.

MICROCOMPUTERS - SOFTWARE INFOABC

ABC, a statistical package for microcomputers from ICPSR, is designed to do basic statistical analysis in a small, user-friendly environment. It was developed to make data analysis software easy to use for students, teachers and researchers with straightforward needs, in fact, anyone who needs simple statistical analyses performed on an occasional basis.

ABC is menu-oriented and completely interactive with immediate error feedback, and was written specifically for VDU terminals. Procedures include simple correlation and regression, descriptive statistics and cross-tabulation. Recoding, re-arranging, collapsing or combining values can be done within and across variables, and new variables can be created from existing ones using arithmetic operations.

Data may be entered with the ABC data entry system, or may be read from existing card-image forms, in the form of SPSS data-definition control cards with accompanying data, in OSIRIS format, or in ASCII files from microcomputer software such as Condor, Lotus 123, dBase II, and Super Calc. Utility software for downloading data from mainframes is included.

ABC runs on IBM PC and any "IBM-compatible" microcomputer, that is any using the MS-DOS operating system (1.0 or 2.0) and the 8088 or 8086 microprocessor. Two versions are available on microcomputers, one requiring 256K of RAM (capacity of 200 variables and 750 values), and one requiring 512K of RAM (capacity of 1000 variables and 4000 values).

A demonstration version of ABC is available for \$US30 which comes with full documentation and functions only with a supplied data file. Further information can be obtained from:

Consortium Software
426 Thompson Street, Room 4250
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106-1248 USA

Note: Special reduced fees are available for members of ICPSR. Interested persons may wish to co-ordinate their activities through the ACSPRI Secretariat.

1981-82 INCOME AND HOUSING SURVEY

The latest unit record data file release from the ABS contains data collected in the 1981-82 Income and Housing Survey. The survey contains information on income both on a last financial year basis (in respect of 1981-82) and on a current basis, details of housing occupancy and costs and some aspects of trade qualifications, life insurance and superannuation.

Questions were asked in respect of income received from each of the following sources: wages or salary; own business, farm, profession, etc.; share in a partnership; government cash benefits, superannuation; workers' and road traffic accident compensation; interest, dividends, rent, etc.; and other sources such as from a trust or will, maintenance or alimony. Income from each of these sources is given in single dollar amounts, and total annual income in 1981-82 and total current income derived. Where respondents could not supply precise details of annual income from some sources, income was derived from other known sources or imputed from a similar source from other respondents with similar characteristics. All such imputations are flagged.

Housing questions covered the type of dwelling, the number of bedrooms, year occupied and nature of occupancy, whether previously occupied, if first dwelling purchased in Australia, and whether an owner or purchaser of any other dwelling. Current weekly mortgage, rent and rates payments and the frequency of payments are also included.

Respondents with trade qualifications were asked about their field of trade, year qualified, current use of trade skills and reasons for non-use of trade skills.

Persons covered by life insurance maturing at age 60 or over were asked about cost of cover, who pays and age at which cover matures. Those aged 60 or over receiving money from such cover provided information on payments received.

Persons belonging to a superannuation scheme were asked about the type of arrangement and amount of weekly contributions. Those who had left a superannuation scheme were asked about age when left and the amount of any lump sum payments received.

Demographic variables include age, country of birth, year of arrival in Australia, family relationship, area of residence, sex, age left school and qualifications, current employment status, number of jobs, occupation, industry, hours worked in all jobs and in main job, weeks worked in 1981-82, times unemployed and weeks looking for work.

The data file contains two different record types - one for persons and one for income units - sorted by household, then family, then income unit, then record type - income unit record and then associated person records. There are 20117 income unit records and 31723 person records, each 400 characters in length although income unit records are padded with 231 filler blanks. All records contain household, family and income unit numbers allowing aggregation to family or household level data.

For further details of the data file write for documentation to the Director, Social Surveys and Standards Section, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen A.C.T. 2616 or ring Bill Burmester on Canberra (062) 52 6569. Order forms are included in an ABS Information Paper Cat. No. 6543.0.

For SPSS or SPSS-X users, the SSDA has obtained a copy of the TPL descriptor file from the ABS and is producing an SPSS program file containing DATA LIST, VARIABLE LABELS and VALUE LABELS for the data. Copies will be generally available for \$25.00 plus tape cost and

post and packing. Ring Canberra (062) 49 4400.

OTHER ABS UNIT RECORD FILE RELEASES

National Energy Survey

In June 1983 the ABS conducted a survey throughout Australia to obtain information relating to the numbers and types of selected domestic appliances held by households. Details were also sought from the relevant energy supplying authorities on the consumption of electricity and reticulated gas by households for the most recent 12 month period available. Results of the survey have been released through two publications:

National Energy Survey; Household Appliances, Facilities and Insulation, Australia, June 1983 (8212.0).

National Energy Survey: Household Energy Consumption, Australia, 1982-83 (8213.0).

For each State a magnetic tape file is now available containing data for each household in the sample for the National Energy Survey (see Cat. No. 8215.0). Each record of this file contains information relating to one household.

Dwelling details include type of dwelling (separate house, semi-detached, multi-storey flats/units, other); material of outer walls; and type of insulation in the roof and walls. Facilities and appliances include major domestic appliances; water heating facilities; room heating, air-conditioning and swimming pools.

Energy consumption is given in terms of annual consumption in megajoules of electricity and reticulated gas by households for the most recent 12 month period available. (Reticulated gas consumption is not available for Tasmania).

Other variables are geographic region, which comprises 26 regions within the six states; and household composition

i.e. the number of children (aged fourteen years and under) and adults resident at the time of interview. The file also contains sample weights assigned to each household.

S.A. Alcohol Consumption Patterns

As noted briefly in the last Newsletter, the SSDA has made enquiries concerning the release of a unit record file for the October 1983 State Supplementary Survey (S.A.) on Alcohol Consumption Patterns (Cat. No. 4304.4). Submissions were made from a number of organisations, and all were considered in the selection of variables for release. The Deputy Commonwealth Statistician advises that a proposal to seek approval to proceed with work for the preparation of a unit record tape is in the hands of the Australian Statistician, and we now await reports of further developments.

Forthcoming Releases

- Household Expenditure Survey, 1984, to be released mid-1986. See Information Paper, Cat. No. 6527.0.

- Australian Health Survey, 1983, to be released late 1985. See publications 4348.0 and forthcoming 4318.0, 4321.0, 4324.0 and 4325.0.

- Crime Victims Survey, 1983, to be released late 1985. See publications 4505.0 and forthcoming 4506.0.

ABS CATALOGUE OF PUBLICATIONS

The ABS "Catalogue of Publications 1985" (Cat. No. 1101.0) contains a list of ABS publications currently available or planned for 1985, together with a brief description of the contents of these publications. The Catalogue includes ABS publications released up to the end of December 1984, and those expected to be released during 1985. It also includes information available in other than published form, that is on magnetic tape, on microfiche and through the special returns service for foreign trade statistics.

Single copies of the Catalogue are provided free; a charge may be made for requests involving multiple copies. To obtain a copy contact the Information Services section of the ABS office in your state.

RECENT ABS PUBLICATIONS

Family Formation and Dissolution, 1982
 (Cat. No. 4411.0)

This publication examines patterns of family formation and dissolution, when people marry, separate, divorce or become widowed and when they remarry and who are more likely to experience these events in their lives. Events are considered in an historical context and the data presented are drawn from a diversity of ABS sources including the 1982 Families Survey and several of the Population Censuses conducted between 1881 and 1981.

This publication replaces 'Australian Families: Profiles and Perspectives 1982' (4409.0). Copies of the publication are expected to be available in March 1985 at \$2.40 per copy posted (\$2.60 overseas).

Social Indicators Australia No.4, 1984
 (Cat. No. 4101.0)

This publication has just been released. It continues the development of the ABS's Social Indicators series as a national social report for Australia. It presents statistical information relating to a number of areas of concern such as health, education, income and working life. The statistics attempt to describe social conditions in Australia and to monitor changes in these conditions over time.

This edition of Social Indicators is essentially an update of the previous issue. However, there have been a few additions including a new chapter on welfare and an analysis in the working file chapter of the increase in the labour force participation of married women over the last decade or so.

Social Indicators No.4 has 337 pages of information presented in an attractive format of easy to read text, colour graphs and supporting tables, and where possible, time series to aid understanding of the data. Comprehensive source references aid in the search for more detailed data on specific aspects. Copies are available from government bookshops or any ABS office at \$21.50 per copy.

Both of these ABS Publications can be obtained by writing to:

Collector of Public Moneys
 Information Services
 Australian Bureau of Statistics
 PO Box 10
 BELCONNEN, A.C.T. 2616

BLMR LONGITUDINAL SURVEY

The Australian Longitudinal Survey (ALS), being conducted by the Bureau of Labour Market Research, aims to improve understanding of the labour market experience of young people, especially the long-term unemployed. The survey will provide data on family background, education, labour market experience, income and housing.

The field work for the first wave was completed in November, 1984. From a sample of 4998, 83% provided a complete response, a high percentage in comparison with similar British studies. Also, methods of tracing non-respondents are being reviewed.

A detailed description of the survey can be found in BLMR Conference Paper 44, with regular progress reports given in the BLMR's regular Bulletin of Labour Market Research. Currently in production are a report and three technical papers describing the sample design, questionnaire design and public use data tape from the survey.

As the survey will provide a rich data source for policy research on the unemployed, the BLMR is committed to providing public access to this data set and to encouraging its use for research.

Documentation of this data file is currently being prepared by BLMR for release through the SSDA, probably after April, 1985. The file will contain all the data collected in the ALS, edited to maintain the anonymity of all respondents.

The contact for ALS information is Mr Ian McRae (062 459261), who is also the BLMR's ACPRI representative.

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS SCALES

Due to regular requests from many researchers, Professor Frank Jones of the Research School of Social Sciences, ANU, has put together some documentation in order to make the ANU occupational status scales more accessible. This documentation allows users to take census data from the 1970s and 1980s and convert ABS codes into ANU status scales.

Details of these scales can be found in Leonard Broom et al., Investigating Social Mobility, Departmental Monograph No.1, Department of Sociology, Research School of Social Sciences, the Australian National University (copies available from BIBLIOTECH, at the ANU).

Two files are available, one providing a link between 1971 ABS codes and the ANU scales, the other listing the 1981, 1976 and 1971 versions of the ABS codes, allowing conversion of later census codes to those in 1971. These files have been deposited for release through the SSDA. They are currently being documented and will be available soon.

WORKBOOK IN COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Herbert A. Asher, Bradley M. Richardson and Herbert F. Weisberg: Political Participation. An ISSC Workbook in Comparative Analysis, Campus Verlag, Frankfurt, 1984.

The International Social Science Council (ISSC) and UNESCO commissioned a set of four "Workbooks in Comparative

Analysis", based on the training given at ISSC Summer Schools, where graduate students and younger staff learn research methodology on an international level, using comparative data from around the world. One of these workbooks, "Political Participation", is now available through the SSDA and is reviewed below by Professor Don Aitken:

This is the workbook that accompanies a teaching package in comparative data analysis based on carefully selected datasets. The workbook contains a mini-codebook for each of the eight national studies from which the datasets on political participation were obtained, plus several chapters leading the student (very quickly!) through the relevant literature and the appropriate statistical techniques to employ. There are suggestions about the interesting work that might be done (for those who have no ideas they want to test themselves), and some exercises which allow an orderly progress through the book.

Australia is one of the nations, and the 1967 political attitudes survey is the course. I take it that the 1967 survey was used because the 1969 survey (a much better source for the editors' purpose) has not been prepared to the ICPSR's exacting class 1 standard. Nonetheless, 1969 would have been a better choice, since it was in fact a post-election survey, and contained a good deal about participation in the electoral process. The 1967 survey was deliberately held in a non-election period, though it is described in the workbook as 'post-election'. The editors seem unaware of Australia's use of the compulsory voting mechanism, so it is perhaps just as well that there is no measure of turnout for Australia!

In general, the workbook seems excellent for its purpose. My only serious worry is that the editor's concern to get students to compare (which I support) means that they appear to downplay the non-behavioural, institutional and cultural aspects of comparative analysis. What a student is to do when he or she comes across a 'difference' is not clear. Perhaps I am asking too much, but I would have wished for a clear

statement that in this kind of work one should move between the data and non-behavioural evidence very frequently indeed.

DON AITKIN

LISREL TEXT AVAILABLE

Saris, Willem E. L. Henk Stronkhorst Causal Modelling in Non-experimental Research - An Introduction to the LISREL Approach Amsterdam: Sociometric Research Foundation, 1984.

This book was used as the recommended text for the LISREL course given in the ACPRI Summer Program.

"It is very much LISREL oriented, but an excellent intermediate level text" (Trevor Williams)

"It is the best introductory text on Linear Structural Equation Modelling which I have seen" (Paul Whiteley)

To quote from the cover of the book:

"Analysis of variance has become a major tool for causal analyses in experimental research. Covariance structure analysis is increasingly taking this place in the nonexperimental sciences. Apart from the data analysis itself, the specification of models plays a very important role in this approach. This book introduces both aspects of covariance structure analysis. In doing so an effort is made to link up the older path analysis approach with the new and more powerful LISREL approach.

All of the relevant aspects of the approach are covered at an introductory level. The prior level of mathematical or statistical knowledge is very limited (knowledge of some descriptive statistics is convenient, but no matrix algebra is required). The procedures are illustrated by concrete data analyses using the LISREL computer program, but the text does not depend on the use of this particular program".

A handful of copies are still available for sale from the SSDA at \$20 a copy.

INFORMATION SOURCES

CLIRS Databases (Modified from a report in ADDA Newsletter No.11, Jan/Feb 1985)

CLIRS (Computerised Legal Information Retrieval Service) officially launches as a commercial operation shortly, and plans to have 37 databases running within a short time. It has 20 mounted already - including some very large ones. A pilot scheme is already operating with a number of trial users.

The major databases on the system will be those of interest to the legal profession, such as those involving NSW and Victorian Acts, Commonwealth Law Reports, NSW Law Reports, Victorian reports, NSW and Victorian unreported judgements, and NSW Court Practice Notes (to mention just a selection).

Other databases will include a bulletin board, an electronic bookshop, directories to office-bearers in organisations, planning appeal decisions, Local Government Reports, the NSW Law Society Journal and the Australian Law Librarians Group newsletter.

All these databases will be publicly available, with users to be charged on a sliding scale. Small users (an hour per month or less) will pay a fee of \$50 a month plus \$100 per hour for connect time. Large users (eight hours or more a month) will pay \$85 a connect hour and no monthly fee.

For more information write to CLIRS, Box 3668, GPO Sydney, NSW 2001

FAMILY Database

The Institute of Family Studies' Family Information Centre has developed FAMILY, a bibliographic database of Australian literature on family studies. It was launched as a public access file in September 1984.

ACSPRI Newsletter

FAMILY Database now contains over 1500 indexed documents comprising books, research reports, government documents, conferences, papers in edited collections, working papers, journal articles, statistical publications, theses, and some unpublished papers of merit.

Online access is available through AUSINET. A printed document is also available (January 1985), with updates being printed quarterly. If readers would like to contribute to the database or find out more about it, contact the Editor, FAMILY Database, Institute of Family Studies, 766 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000.

Criminology Database (As reported in Information Bulletin of Australian Criminology)

The Australian Institute of Criminology has established a national clearinghouse of criminological information, and as part of its function the library maintains a computerised data base CINCH (Computerised Information from National Criminological Holdings). There are currently 6000 journal citations and 1200 monograph citations on CINCH including material indexed up to September 1978 for journal articles and 1979 for monographs. Requests for bibliographies derived from the CINCH data base should be directed to the Information Services Librarian at the Institute.

Ageing Research Network Directory (The following article is extracted from SWRC Newsletter, No.14.)

This new directory of 130 pages is intended to be a reference source for researchers and others interested in the field of ageing in Australia as well as documenting the current state of research.

The Directory is the result of an October 1983 meeting at the National Research Institute of Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine in Melbourne (the Publishers of the Directory) at which a loose-knit Research Network was mooted as desirable for discussion about

information sharing and issues in carrying out research.

Recently completed and planned projects are included as well as synopses of those underway, their principal researchers, funding and expected timetables. Listed separately are categorised Research Units, government and Statutory bodies which carry out ageing research as a whole or part of their brief, and individual researchers. Available from:

National Research Institute of
Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine,
Mount Royal Hospital,
PARKVILLE, Victoria 3052

CONFERENCESIFDO/IASSIST

International Conference, May 20-24, 1985, Amsterdam. Theme: "Public Access to Public Data". This conference was advertised in ACPRI Newsletter No.10. See that for details or contact Dr Roger Jones at the SSDA (062 494400).

ICDBHSS/85

Conference on Data Bases in the Social Sciences, June 22-24, 1985, Iowa, U.S.A. "ICDBHSS/85 will bring together several hundred participants from around the world to share information about creating, using and maintaining data bases in the humanities and social sciences. The conference will include presentations, demonstrations, vendor displays, and ample opportunities for informal discussions. Audio-visual and computing equipment will be available for presenters and participants. The registration fee is \$US125". (IASSIST Quarterly, Vol.8, No.3, Fall 1984). Details from Thomas F. Moberg, ICDBHSS/85 Conference, Grinnell College, P.O. Box 805, Grinnell, Iowa, U.S.A. 50112-0810.

Expert Systems

First International Expert Systems Meeting, July 2-4, 1985, London. Further information from Conference

Organiser, "Expert Systems", Besselsleigh Road, Abingdon, Oxford, OX13, 6LG, England. Telephone (0865) 730 275, Telex: 837704.

International Statistical Institute

Centenary Session International Statistical Institute, 45th Session, August 12-22, 1985, Amsterdam. Details of this conference can be found in the European Political Data Newsletter, No.53, December 1984, a viewing copy of which is available at the SSDA. That article includes a provisional scientific program, details of invited and contributed papers, participation entitlement and registration fees. Correspondence should be addressed to: 45th Session/151 1985 c/- Organisatie Bureau Amsterdam by Europaplein, NL-1078 GZ AMSTERDAM, The Netherlands. Telephone: (20) 44 08 07/Telex: 13499 RAICO nl.

Economic History Congress, 1986

The Ninth International Economic History Congress, August 24-29, 1986, Bern, Switzerland. Topics will include: mountain economies and societies, urban decline in the late middle ages and early modern times; the emergence of a world economy; multinational enterprise; the 1930s depression and its relevance for the contemporary world; international productivity comparisons and problems of measurement; long-term changes in nutrition and standards of living; trade structures of 15th-19th centuries; credit in the Middle Ages; oil in the world economy; origins and development of public participation in private enterprise; technical education and social mobility; economic and social history of the ancient world. Further details will be released as they come to hand.

Microcomputers in Libraries, 1986

The Second International Conference on the Application of Micro-computers in Information, Documentation and Libraries will be held in Baden-Baden, West Germany, on March 17 to 21, 1986. Conference language will be English.

The Conference will be organised by Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Dokumentation e.V. (DGD), Westendstrasse 19, D-6000 Frankfurt am Main 1.

ESRC DATA ARCHIVES NEWS

The following book reviews were taken from the "ESRC Data Archive Bulletin", No.29, September, 1984:

Introduction to Causal Analysis, by Ottar Hellevik (George Allen and Unwin, London, 1984) 240pp.

Ottar Hellevik's book, sub-titled 'Exploring Survey Data by Crosstabulation', is intended to provide a fresh perspective upon multivariate analysis by means of crosstabulations in the 'classic manner of Stouffer and Lazarsfeld'. It emphasises the benefits to be gained from the use of simplified causal diagrams and the analysis of percentage differences in tables, by comparison with more elaborate statistical procedures.

It is the author's intention to '... introduce students to how they may go about constructing causal models, how the implications of the assumptions made in the model can be deduced and how the empirical analysis is to be performed'. The main types of problems faced when interpreting such results are also discussed. The book was written based on introductory courses given at Scandinavian universities and at Harvard University and contains a summary in each chapter, a glossary and a number of problems which aid the reader in testing comprehension of the procedures outlined.

Data Construction in Social Surveys, by Nicolas Bateson (George Allen and Unwin, 1984) 176pp.

The author of this book, volume 10 in the contemporary Social Research Series, has many years' experience in survey research, in particular in the Social Survey Division of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, Britain's leading large-scale social

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survey organisation. The book is concerned with an area somewhat neglected in the literature, namely the basis on which data are classified and the categories in terms of which data are collected.

The author claims that his book is neither a 'technical handbook nor compendium of classification schemes ...'. It is rather an overall treatment of the classification process, an answer to the basic questions 'what is survey data?', 'what are good data?', and 'how do we recognise them?'; the book is divided into two sections, Part One dealing with 'The Quality of Survey Data', covering data construction, basic concepts and the validation of survey data, and Part Two entitled 'Towards a Theory of Data Construction', covering process validation, design of the data matrix and data construction process and the approach to measurement error.

It is designed for practising survey researchers, users of survey data and for students of social science, who encounter reports of surveys and need to understand the problems intrinsic to survey data.

Handbook of Survey Research edited by Peter H. Rossi, James D. Wright and Andy B. Anderson (Academic Press, London, 1983).

Published as part of the Quantitative Studies in Social Relations Series, this handbook is an introduction to current theory and practice of sample survey research. It was designed for both the student who desires to master these topics and the practising survey researcher who needs a source that codifies, rationalises and presents existing theory and practice. The central topics covered are those arising from what the editors identify as the three basic technical developments which have come together to constitute the core of the sample survey method: the sampling of non-institutionalised human population, the art of asking questions and multivariate analysis. The book also covers the use of survey data for the basic and applied purposes.

A listing of the topic of the chapters, each written by an experienced practitioner or theorist in the area, will give a better idea of the overall coverage of the book: sample surveys; history, current practice and future prospects; sampling theory; measurement; management of survey organisations; applied sampling; questionnaire construction and item writing; measurement; theory and techniques; response effects; data collection; planning and management; mail and other self-administered questionnaires; computers in survey research; missing data; applications of the general linear model in survey data; analysing qualitative data; causal modelling and survey research; surveys as social indicators; problems in monitoring trends.

Although written for an American market (most of the examples and references are American), the book is comprehensive enough and general enough to have much of value in its 755 pages for other readers as well.

AUSTRALIAN DATA AVAILABLE

Additions to SSDA holdings are listed below. Please note that some of these carry a special access condition, or "Access Category", which should be interpreted as follows:

A: the depositor wishes to be informed (by the Archives) of use being made of the data, in order to comment on that use and make contact with colleagues of similar interests.

B: the depositor wishes to be informed of each request to use the data, in order to give or withhold permission.

E: there is an embargo period; no access at all is permitted until after the date specified.

S: there are special access conditions, peculiar to the data set in question.

Traffic Authority of N.S.W. Drinking Drivers and Random Testing, Wave 1, Sydney, November 1982 (SSDA Study No. 328).

Traffic Authority of N.S.W. Drinking drivers and Random Breath Testing, Wave 2, Sydney, May, 1983 (SSDA Study No. 329).

These surveys examine the beliefs and attitudes held by motorists in relation to drinking, drink-driving and New South Wales driving regulations. Of particular interest are the reactions of the young, especially males, whose contribution to alcohol-related fatalities is of deep concern. The first wave was conducted just prior to the introduction of random breath-testing in New South Wales, and the second wave some months after its introduction.

Variables include drinking habits of respondent and friends, drinking locations, pressures from others for respondent to drink and drive, drink-driving of respondent and friends, alternatives to drink-driving, perceived affects of alcohol on driving ability, knowledge of drink-driving laws, and acquaintance with anyone penalised for drink-driving. Opinions were sought on the causes of serious accidents, wearing of seat belts, safe amounts of alcohol prior to drinking, the seriousness of drink-driving, and the use of the breathalyser, radar speed checks and random breath testing. Demographic variables are sex, age, driving status, level of driving qualification, marital status and level of education.

Dept. of Territories and Local Government Australian Electoral Divisions, 1984 and Census 1981 CD Codes (SSDA Study No. 331)

This file contains Collection District (CD) codes for the 1981 Census of Population and Housing with allocations linked to the latest available Australian Electoral Divisions (1984). Census 1981 CD codes were originally allocated to Australian Electoral Divisions from the 1977 redistribution (1980 in Western Australia). Details of the earlier distribution can be found in

SSDA Census Series publication CEN81.FED. Variables are State, Census Division and Sub-division, CD, 1981 LGA, 1984 AED number, and 1981 AED number.

Tourism Department (Tasmania) Tasmanian Visitor Survey, 1978 (SSDA Study No. 332) and Tasmanian Visitor Survey, 1981 (SSDA Study No. 333).

The primary objective of these studies was to estimate the volume of visitor travel to Tasmania and to obtain information on certain aspects of tourist travel. Topics covered include: main purpose for travel, factor which prompted visitor to choose Tasmania; length of stay; nights spent in accommodation; main form of transport within the State; expenditure in Tasmania; number of previous visits; and, participation in selected activities. Background variables include age, sex, employment, income, postcode (Australian visitors) or country (overseas visitors) of home address, purpose of travel, date, and, mode and point of departure.

Edgar, D.E., Family Formation Study - Stage 1, 1980-81 (SSDA Study No. 334).

This study is the first stage of a longitudinal panel study of family formation patterns and processes. The aim is to identify those factors which influence decisions to leave the family of origin home, to establish permanent adult sexual relationships, to marry or not to marry, to have children or not to have children; to detect changes in the above processes; and to examine these trends in the Australian context of the eighties.

Major attitudinal variables included occupational satisfaction and relation to family life; living at home and relationship with parents; leaving home and reasons; partnering, marriage and other social contacts; having children including when, how many, good and bad points, social pressures, family planning, childcare and choosing not to have any; child-based issues such as adoption, artificial insemination and abortion; other issues such as marriage, divorce, sex roles, religious beliefs.

Respondent characteristics included details of members of current household and interrelationships; mobility between dwellings, especially during childhood; family of origin structure (brothers and sisters); details of parents such as ethnicity, religion, education, occupation, changes in parental personnel; education level and qualifications; occupation, including school leaving age, first job, latest job, number of job changes and partner's occupation; marital status, partners and sexual experience; other social relationships; number and ages of children; religious observance; club membership; income and benefits; type of dwelling and household goods; use of media; language problems; life pressures, plans and best and worst times.

Brain, P. et al Evaluation of the Employment Initiatives Program in Victoria, 1983 to 1984 (SSDA Study No. 335).

The purpose of this survey is to evaluate the Employment Initiatives Program (EIP) in terms of its labour market economic and social aspects. The Program was a short-term job creation scheme set up by the Victorian Government in 1982.

File A contains details about all of the EIP projects. Topics include: region, funding information; number of jobs funded; whether the project proposes to recruit employees from any particular disadvantaged groups and if so what group(s); costs of the project; functional area (general community development, health, education, etc.); nature of work and training; and, classification of target labour.

File B contains basic details of the participants employed on EIP projects. Topics include: extent of EIP support for position; age; sex; marital status; whether participant has dependent children; type of EIP position; duration of employment; source of EIP recruitment; country of birth; length of residence in Australia; whether the participant has a disability; whether the participant is Aboriginal; number of hours worked, gross wages and amount of tax paid for

last week; and, information on Commonwealth subsidies.

File C contains responses from the interviewees. Topics covered include: employment history; details of EIP recruitment; details about the time employed on EIP project and attitudes to the experience; details of current workforce status for the employed, the unemployed and those not in the workforce; financial and personal history, and, overall impressions of the EIP project. Background variables include sex, date of birth, place of birth, whether first language is English, disabilities or illnesses that prevent the respondent from doing certain kinds of work, education information, and employment history.

File D contains responses from respondents (File C) who were reinterviewed. Topics covered include: the date that employment on the EIP program ended and the reasons; details on current workforce status for the employed, the unemployed and for those not in the workforce; details of labour market experience after EIP project and before the respondent's current activity; information about financial circumstances; and, the respondent's general impressions about the EIP job creation program.

Calder, Rosemary et al Older People at Home in Melbourne and Adelaide, 1981 (SSDA Study No. 336)

This survey provides basic information on the physical, social and economic circumstances of older people living at home, and includes significant additional information on persons caring for handicapped older people at home.

The Older Persons file includes questions on: the extent to which support services are available to, and used by them; the extent of family and neighbourhood support available; the level of satisfaction with existing services, and whether services are being provided to those most in need, according to health, financial and social circumstances; community support services considered to be both necessary

and desirable to assist them to maintain an active and independent life; priority placed on particular forms of assistance; lifestyle; and, the extent of integration within the community and whether they wished to be more actively involved in community activities.

The Carers file includes questions on: community services available to and those used by the persons in their care; services needed in the community to assist the elderly; satisfaction with providing care; effect on lifestyle; and, financial assistance for and needs of people providing care.

ICPSR ADDITIONS TO HOLDINGS

The following titles have been extracted from the ICPSR Bulletins dated October 1984 and January 1985. For further information contact the SSDA.

Adult Criminal Careers, Michigan: 1974-1977 (ICPSR 8279)
 Annual Housing Survey, 1981 (United States): National Core File (ICPSR 8231)
 Annual Housing Survey, 1981 (United States): National File (ICPSR 8232)
 Annual Housing Survey, 1981 (United States): SMSA Files (ICPSR 8285)
 Attitudes of American State Legislators, 1975 (ICPSR 8161)
 CBS News/The New York Times National Surveys, 1983 (ICPSR 8243)
 Census of Population, 1940 (United States): Public Use Microdata Sample (ICPSR 8236)
 Census of Population, 1950 (United States): Public Use Microdata Sample (ICPSR 8251)
 Consumer Expenditure Survey, 1980-1981 (ICPSR 8235)
 County and City Data Book (United States), 1983 (ICPSR 8256)
 Current Population Survey, March 1981: After-Tax Money Income Estimates (ICPSR 8269)
 Current Population Survey, March/April 1982 Match Files: Alimony and Child Support (ICPSR 8267)
 Current Population Survey, January 1983 (ICPSR 8266)
 Current Population Survey, April 1983

(ICPSR 8265)
 General Social Survey Cumulative File, 1972-1982 (ICPSR 9010)
 General Social Survey Cumulative File, 1972-1984 (ICPSR 8294)
 High School and Beyond, 1980: Sophomore Cohort First Follow-up (1982) (ICPSR 8297)
 High School and Beyond, 1980: Senior Cohort First Follow-up (1982) (ICPSR 8297)
 International Almanac of Electoral History, 1981 (ICPSR 8247)
 Judicial Selection and Judicial Administration Innovations in the United States, 1970-1979 (ICPSR 8252)
 Media Access to the Presidency: 1974-1977 (ICPSR 8253)
 National Crime Surveys, National Sample 1982-1983 (ICPSR 7635)
 National Longitudinal Survey of Labor Market Experience: Young Men 1981, Young Women 1980, and Youth 1982 (ICPSR 7610)
 Offender Based Transaction Statistics (OBTS), 1981 (ICPSR 8277)
 Prosecutor's Management and Information System (PROMIS), New Orleans, 1979 (ICPSR 8219)
 Specific Deterrent Effects of Arrest for Domestic Assault: Minneapolis 1981-1982 (ICPSR 8250)
 Survey of Public Interest Group Members, 1982 (ICPSR 8284)
 Uniform Crime Reports, 1980-1982 (ICPSR 9028)
 Voting Scores for Members of the United States Congress, 1945-1982 (ICPSR 7645)
 1980 Census (United States): Census Software Package (CENSPAC) [Version 3.2 with STF4 Data Dictionaries] (ICPSR 7789)
 1980 Census (United States): Master Area Reference File (MARF)2 (ICPSR 8258)
 1980 Census (United States): Public Use Microdata Sample (B Sample): 1/1000 Sample (ICPSR 8211)
 1980 Census (United States): Public Use Microdata Sample (C Sample): 1/1000 Sample (ICPSR 8212)
 1980 Census (United States): Summary Tape File 4A (ICPSR 8282)
 1980 Census (United States): Summary Tape File 4B Extract (ICPSR 8229)
 ABC News/Washington Post Polls of Public Opinion on Current Social and Political Issues: January, February,