Module C4 – Discovering Pathways with Sequence Analysis

Overview

Purpose
Sequence Analysis is a method for studying life pathways, such as occupational careers or criminal paths, which often comprise a series of activities or circumstances. This course builds on statistical knowledge to examine regularities in sequenced or ordered social phenomena that reveal insights into these pathways.

Learning objectives
On completing this module, participants will have an understanding of:

1. Statistical techniques and strategies for examining patterns in sequenced or ordered data of social phenomena.
2. Methods to describe and visualize sequence data.
3. Different approaches to sequence comparison.
4. Sequence grouping and other applications.

Who should attend, and module pre-requisites
Participants should be familiar with basic multivariate analysis techniques (e.g. linear regression, factor analysis, cluster analysis). Working knowledge of Stata is desirable.

Topics covered

Introduction: longitudinal data and sequence analysis in the social sciences
- Motivation – sequence analysis in the social sciences
- Definitions and concepts: categorical sequences, sequence similarity, sequence alignment

Longitudinal data management and sequence description
- Longitudinal data management in Stata
- Describing and visualizing sequences in Stata

Sequence comparison
- Sequence comparison using optimal matching in Stata
- Discussion of alternative dissimilarity measures for sequence comparison
- Sequence grouping
- Discussion of applications of grouped data

Registration
Price: $660 (student discount 25%)
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