A Solution to the Ecological Inference Problem



GARY KING

Reconstructing Individual Behavior from Aggregate Data

# **A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem**

**Jicheng Xie** 

# A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem:

**Solution to the Ecological Inference Problem** ,1997 Cf http dx doi org 10 3886 ICPSR01132 v1 A Solution to the *Ecological Inference Problem* Gary King, 2013-09-20 This book provides a solution to the ecological inference problem which has plagued users of statistical methods for over seventy five years How can researchers reliably infer individual level behavior from aggregate ecological data In political science this question arises when individual level surveys are unavailable for instance local or comparative electoral politics unreliable racial politics insufficient political geography or infeasible political history This ecological inference problem also confronts researchers in numerous areas of major significance in public policy and other academic disciplines ranging from epidemiology and marketing to sociology and quantitative history Although many have attempted to make such cross level inferences scholars agree that all existing methods yield very inaccurate conclusions about the world In this volume Gary King lays out a unique and reliable solution to this venerable problem King begins with a qualitative overview readable even by those without a statistical background He then unifies the apparently diverse findings in the methodological literature so that only one aggregation problem remains to be solved He then presents his solution as well as empirical evaluations of the solution that include over 16 000 comparisons of his estimates from real aggregate data to the known individual level answer The method works in practice King's solution to the ecological inference problem will enable empirical researchers to investigate substantive questions that have heretofore proved unanswerable and move forward fields of inquiry in which progress has been stifled by this problem Handbook of Political Methodology Janet M. Box-Steffensmeier, Henry E. Brady, David Collier, 2008 Political methodology has changed dramatically over the past thirty years and many new methods and techniques have been developed Both the Political Methodology Society and the Qualitative Multi Methods Section of the American Political Science Association have engaged in ongoing research and training programs that have advanced quantitative and qualitative methodology The Oxford Handbook of Political Methodology presents and synthesizes these developments The Handbook provides comprehensive overviews of diverse methodological approaches with an emphasis on three major themes First specific methodological tools should be at the service of improved conceptualization comprehension of meaning measurement and data collection They should increase analysts leverage in reasoning about causal relationships and evaluating them empirically by contributing to powerful research designs Second the authors explore the many different ways of addressing these tasks through case studies and large n designs with both quantitative and qualitative data and via techniques ranging from statistical modelling to process tracing Finally techniques can cut across traditional methodological boundaries and can be useful for many different kinds of researchers Many of the authors thus explore how their methods can inform and be used by scholars engaged in diverse branches of methodology A Statistical Guide for the Ethically Perplexed Lawrence Hubert, Howard Wainer, 2012-09-25 For disciplines concerned with human well being such as medicine psychology and law

statistics must be used in accordance with standards for ethical practice A Statistical Guide for the Ethically Perplexed illustrates the proper use of probabilistic and statistical reasoning in the behavioral social and biomedical sciences Designed to be consulted when learning formal statistical techniques the text describes common instances of both correct and false statistical and probabilistic reasoning Lauded for their contributions to statistics psychology and psychometrics the authors make statistical methods relevant to readers day to day lives by including real historical situations that demonstrate the role of statistics in reasoning and decision making The historical vignettes encompass the English case of Sally Clark breast cancer screening risk and gambling the Federal Rules of Evidence high stakes testing regulatory issues in medicine difficulties with observational studies ethics in human experiments health statistics and much more In addition to these topics seven U S Supreme Court decisions reflect the influence of statistical and psychometric reasoning and interpretation misinterpretation Exploring the intersection of ethics and statistics this comprehensive guide assists readers in becoming critical and ethical consumers and producers of statistical reasoning and analyses It will help them reason correctly and use Numerical Issues in Statistical Computing for the Social Scientist Micah Altman, Jeff statistics in an ethical manner Gill, Michael P. McDonald, 2004-02-15 At last a social scientist's guide through the pitfalls of modern statistical computing Addressing the current deficiency in the literature on statistical methods as they apply to the social and behavioral sciences Numerical Issues in Statistical Computing for the Social Scientist seeks to provide readers with a unique practical guidebook to the numerical methods underlying computerized statistical calculations specific to these fields The authors demonstrate that knowledge of these numerical methods and how they are used in statistical packages is essential for making accurate inferences With the aid of key contributors from both the social and behavioral sciences the authors have assembled a rich set of interrelated chapters designed to guide empirical social scientists through the potential minefield of modern statistical computing Uniquely accessible and abounding in modern day tools tricks and advice the text successfully bridges the gap between the current level of social science methodology and the more sophisticated technical coverage usually associated with the statistical field Highlights include A focus on problems occurring in maximum likelihood estimation Integrated examples of statistical computing using software packages such as the SAS Gauss Splus R Stata LIMDEP SPSS WinBUGS and MATLAB A guide to choosing accurate statistical packages Discussions of a multitude of computationally intensive statistical approaches such as ecological inference Markov chain Monte Carlo and spatial regression analysis Emphasis on specific numerical problems statistical procedures and their applications in the field Replications and re analysis of published social science research using innovative numerical methods Key numerical estimation issues along with the means of avoiding common pitfalls A related Web site includes test data for use in demonstrating numerical problems code for applying the original methods described in the book and an online bibliography of Web resources for the statistical computation Designed as an independent research tool a professional reference or a classroom supplement the book presents a well thought out

treatment of a complex and multifaceted field **Ecological Inference** Gary King, Martin A. Tanner, Ori Rosen, 2004-09-13 Drawing upon the recent explosion of research in the field a diverse group of scholars surveys the latest strategies for solving ecological inference problems the process of trying to infer individual behavior from aggregate data The uncertainties and information lost in aggregation make ecological inference one of the most difficult areas of statistical inference but these inferences are required in many academic fields as well as by legislatures and the Courts in redistricting marketing research by business and policy analysis by governments This wide ranging collection of essays offers many fresh and important contributions to the study of ecological inference International Encyclopedia of Human Geography, 2009-07-16 The International Encyclopedia of Human Geography provides an authoritative and comprehensive source of information on the discipline of human geography and its constituent and related subject areas The encyclopedia includes over 1 000 detailed entries on philosophy and theory key concepts methods and practices biographies of notable geographers and geographical thought and praxis in different parts of the world This groundbreaking project covers every field of human geography and the discipline s relationships to other disciplines and is global in scope involving an international set of contributors Given its broad inclusive scope and unique online accessibility it is anticipated that the International Encyclopedia of Human Geography will become the major reference work for the discipline over the coming decades The Encyclopedia will be available in both limited edition print and online via ScienceDirect featuring extensive browsing searching and internal cross referencing between articles in the work plus dynamic linking to journal articles and abstract databases making navigation flexible and easy For more information pricing options and availability visit http info sciencedirect com content books ref works coming Available online on ScienceDirect and in limited edition print format Broad interdisciplinary coverage across human geography Philosophy Methods People Social Cultural Political Economic Development Health Cartography Urban Historical Regional Comprehensive and unique the first of its kind in human geography Polling America Richard L. Clark, Kelly N. Foster, Samuel J. Best, Benjamin Radcliff, 2020-08-04 This work provides an authoritative overview of the composition of public opinion in America the methodologies by which public opinion is measured and the importance of polling to U S politics policy and culture This revised edition is a comprehensive resource for understanding all aspects of public opinion polling in the United States including major and emerging theories and concepts historical and current methodologies political journalistic and corporate uses landmark events and developments in the history of polling and influential people and organizations The encyclopedia also illuminates how public opinion polling has become important in shaping the trajectory of American society and the views that Americans have about themselves and their fellow citizens Specific big picture topics explored include how data mining of internet and social media usage trends has shaped modern political and business advertising campaigns the impact of politically partisan media outlets on public opinion and attitudes of various sectors of the American electorate about diverse topics including gun control abortion immigration marijuana

legalization and the nation s two main political parties 
A Companion to Political Geography John A. Agnew, Katharyne Mitchell, Gerard Toal, 2008-04-15 A Companion to Political Geography presents students and researchers with a substantial survey of this active and vibrant field Introduces the best thinking in contemporary political geography Contributions written by scholars whose work has helped to shape the discipline Includes work at the cutting edge of the field Covers the latest theoretical developments 
Defining the Spatial Scale in Modern Regional Analysis Esteban Fernández Vázquez, Fernando Rubiera Morollón, 2013-01-11 This book explores different approaches to defining the concept of region depending on the specific question that needs to be answered While the typical administrative spatial data division fits certain research questions well in many cases defining regions in a different way is fundamental in order to obtain significant empirical evidence The book is divided into three parts The first part is dedicated to a methodological discussion of the concept of region and the different potential approaches from different perspectives The problem of having sufficient information to define different regional units is always present This justifies the second part of the book which focuses on the techniques of ecological inference applied to estimating disaggregated data from observable aggregates Finally the book closes by presenting several applications that are in line with the functional areas definition in regional analysis

Whispering the Secrets of Language: An Psychological Journey through A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem

In a digitally-driven earth where monitors reign supreme and instant conversation drowns out the subtleties of language, the profound strategies and mental subtleties concealed within words usually move unheard. However, located within the pages of **A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem** a fascinating literary treasure pulsing with fresh feelings, lies an exceptional journey waiting to be undertaken. Penned by a talented wordsmith, that marvelous opus invites readers on an introspective journey, softly unraveling the veiled truths and profound influence resonating within ab muscles fabric of every word. Within the emotional depths with this poignant evaluation, we will embark upon a heartfelt exploration of the book is primary styles, dissect their charming publishing model, and succumb to the effective resonance it evokes serious within the recesses of readers hearts.

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#### **Table of Contents A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem**

- 1. Understanding the eBook A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
  - The Rise of Digital Reading A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
  - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
- 2. Identifying A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
  - Exploring Different Genres
  - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
  - Determining Your Reading Goals
- 3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
  - Popular eBook Platforms
  - Features to Look for in an A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
  - User-Friendly Interface
- 4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
  - Personalized Recommendations

- A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem User Reviews and Ratings
- A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem and Bestseller Lists
- 5. Accessing A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem Free and Paid eBooks
  - A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem Public Domain eBooks
  - A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem eBook Subscription Services
  - A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem Budget-Friendly Options
- 6. Navigating A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem eBook Formats
  - ∘ ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
  - A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem Compatibility with Devices
  - A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem Enhanced eBook Features
- 7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
  - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
  - Highlighting and Note-Taking A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
  - Interactive Elements A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
- 8. Staying Engaged with A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
  - o Joining Online Reading Communities
  - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
  - Following Authors and Publishers A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
- 9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
  - Benefits of a Digital Library
  - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
- 10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
  - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
  - Minimizing Distractions
  - Managing Screen Time
- 11. Cultivating a Reading Routine A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
  - Setting Reading Goals A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
  - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
- 12. Sourcing Reliable Information of A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem
  - Fact-Checking eBook Content of A Solution To The Ecological Inference Problem

- Distinguishing Credible Sources
- 13. Promoting Lifelong Learning
  - Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
  - Exploring Educational eBooks
- 14. Embracing eBook Trends
  - Integration of Multimedia Elements
  - Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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