

Reading list to accompany Canazei2020 lecture

Distributional comparisons for ordinal data

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The lecture is based on the following papers:

Jenkins, S.P. 2019a. Better off? Distributional comparisons for ordinal data about personal well-being, *New Zealand Economic Papers*, online ahead of print.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00779954.2019.1697729> (Open Access)

Jenkins, S.P. 2019b. Inequality comparisons with ordinal data. IZA Discussion Paper 12811. Bonn: IZA. <http://ftp.iza.org/dp12811>

The 2019a paper is a review of the field, also providing empirical illustrations. The 2019b paper provides a dominance result for Cowell-Flachaire inequality indices.

Time permitting, I shall also illustrate my Stata program *ineqord*, used for the calculations in these two papers. Stata users can obtain the program by entering `ssc describe ineqord` at the Stata prompt and then following the on-screen instructions to install it. Once the program is installed, type `help ineqord`.

Additional reading (selected)

Economists' interest in this area was kick-started by Allison and Foster who focused on inequality as polarisation, providing indices and dominance results. (See also Dutta and Foster, who cover similar ground.) Abdul Naga & Yalcin, and Apouey, provide families of polarisation indices. Cowell & Flachaire derive inequality indices using a different approach. Gravel et al. provide dominance results relating to the concept of Hammond transfers. In my papers, I use Saigo et al.'s procedure, as implemented by Van Kerm, to derive standard errors for indices.

Abdul Naga, R. and Yalcin, T. 2008. Inequality measurement for ordered response health data. *Journal of Health Economics*, 27: 1614–1625.

Allison, R.A. and Foster, J.E. 2004. Measuring health inequality using qualitative data. *Journal of Health Economics*, 23: 505–524.

Apouey, B. 2007. Measuring health polarization with self-assessed health data. *Health Economics*, 16: 875–894.

Blair, J., and Lacy, M. 2000. Statistics of ordinal variation. *Sociological Methods and Research*, 28: 251–280.

Bond, T. N. and Lang, K. 2019. The sad truth about happiness scales. *Journal of Political Economy*, 127: 1629–1640.

Cowell, F.A. and Flachaire, E. 2017. Inequality with ordinal data. *Economica*, 84: 290–321.

Dutta, I. and Foster, J.E. 2013. Inequality of happiness in the US: 1972–2010. *Review of Income and Wealth*, 59: 393–415.

Gravel, N., Magdalou, B., and Moyes, P. 2015. Ranking distributions of an ordinal attribute, working paper. <https://halshs.archives-ouvertes.fr/halshs-01082996v2> Revised version: 21 November 2019.

Saigo, H., Shao, J., and Sitter, R. R. 2001. A repeated half-sample bootstrap and balanced repeated replications for randomly imputed data. *Survey Methodology*, 27: 189–196.

Van Kerm, P. (2013). 'RHSBSAMPLE: Stata module for repeated half-sample bootstrap sampling', Statistical Software Components S457697, Boston College Department of Economics, revised 17 Nov 2013. `ssc describe rhsbsample`