

The analysis of voter transitions in the
Bavarian state election 2018 using data from
different sources:
a teaching research project conducted by three
Bavarian universities

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Abstract

The rise of right-wing parties in many European countries has increased interest in voter transitions, both among researchers and the public. The estimation of voter transitions between two consecutive parliamentary elections is in most cases based on survey data of individuals. There, many sampling problems occur, e.g. non response or wrong answers (recall bias). Therefore aggregated data, i.e. results of many districts are used as an alternative (ecological inference). However, problems like the well known ecological fallacy, occur. Therefore, we developed so-called hybrid models, which combine aggregate and individual data. This approach is presented including first results from the regional election in Bavaria from 2018. We compare our results with those of other institutes.

Our research is embedded in our teaching: we conducted a series of interdisciplinary seminars (political science and statistics) and surveys done by students (exit polls in three areas and a computer aided telephone survey). In the second part of the talk, I will present and discuss our experiences with the teaching part of the project.