China Multigenerational Panel Datasets Workshop, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, January 6-8, 2016

Instructor(s):

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The workshop will feature the China Multigenerational Panel Dataset-Shuangcheng (CMGPD-SC), the release of which is nearing completion. The CMGPD-SC provides longitudinal individual, household, and community information on the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of a resettled population living in Shuangcheng, a county in present-day Heilongjiang Province of Northeastern China, for the period from 1866 to 1913. The dataset includes some 1.3 million annual observations of over 100,000 unique individuals descended from families who were relocated to Shuangcheng in the early 19th century. These families were divided into 3 categories based on their place of origin: metropolitan bannermen, rural bannermen, and floating bannermen.

The CMGPD-SC, like the already released China Multigenerational Panel Dataset-Liaoning (CMGPD-LN - ICPSR 27063), is a valuable data source for studying longitudinal as well as multi-generational social and demographic processes. The population categories had salient differences in social origins and land entitlements, and landholding data are available at a number of time periods, thus the CMGPD-SC is especially suitable to the study of stratification processes. The CMGPD-SC has many of the same strengths as the CMGPD-LN and is formatted identically, so that programs written for the CMGPD-LN should run with minimal modification. The CMGPD-SC is nevertheless likely to be of interest to additional users because it has some features not available in the CMGPD-LN, including linked records of household landholding, registered ethnicity, and better registration of unmarried daughters. The CMGPD-SC also covers a recently settled region, thus its villages are much more heterogeneous in terms of surname than Liaoning.

The workshop will also discuss the CMGPD-LN, focusing on commonalities and differences between CMGPD-SC and CMGPD-LN. Moreover, the two datasets are formatted and organized identically, and differ only in the presence or absence of particular variables, thus participants primarily interested in the CMGPD-LN will learn much from discussion of the CMGPD-SC.

The workshop is intended to allow interested researchers to assess the suitability of the CMGPD for their research topics, and provide current users with additional insight into key features that may affect their use of the data or their interpretation of results. No prior quantitative training or knowledge of Chinese history is required. The workshop will not provide instruction in quantitative analysis or data management, and anyone seeking such training should go elsewhere.

At the workshop, sessions will introduce the background and context of the populations covered by the data, review the key features, outline its strengths and limitations, and assess its suitability for the study of a variety of topics in demography, sociology, and economics. Particular emphasis will be on the longitudinal and multi-generational features of the data. The workshop will provide examples of how the data may be manipulated to take advantage of longitudinal and kinship linkage to produce variables for specific research applications.
Specific topics to be covered include:

- Unique features of the CMGPD
- Limitations to be aware of when considering use of the CMGPD
- Comparison with other historical population databases
- Background, context and characteristics of the populations covered in the CMGPD
- Assessment of prospects for use of the CMGPD to conduct research on specific topics in demography, sociology, economics and other disciplines
- Detailed examples of applications that take advantage of the unique properties of the data, especially its multi-generational coverage, and its detail on networks of kin living in the same or other households. These examples will provide code to manipulate the data and produce needed variables
- Participants who have already downloaded the data and started working with it will have an opportunity to ask questions.

**Fee:** The workshop is free, but space is limited.

**Prerequisites:** There are no prerequisites for this workshop.

**Eligibility:** Participants should be graduate students, postdocs, faculty, or researchers. Advanced undergraduates who are planning to go on to graduate school will also be considered.

**Application:** Apply using the Summer Program Portal (by clicking on the "Registration" tab at the top of this page) to provide your information and select the course. Upload a current **curriculum vita** along with a **brief cover letter** describing:

- research interests relevant to the CMGPD;
- relevant prior coursework or research experience;
- Students should also upload a brief letter from their advisor, on university letterhead, that confirms that they are enrolled and in good standing. The letter should include the advisor’s contact information.

**Deadline:** Applications will be considered on a rolling basis, and will receive responses. Applications for travel awards will be considered until available funds are fully committed, after which applicants will only be considered for acceptance.

**Travel awards:** Admitted graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and junior faculty/researchers will be considered for one of a limited number of awards to help with travel and lodging costs (up to a maximum of $1250 US). If funds remain, senior scholars will be considered. State in your **cover letter** that you wish to be considered for a travel award.