
Contents

Foreword	v
Preface	vii
Acknowledgements	ix
Note on Statistical Notation	xvi

Chapter 1 The Theory and Practice of Longitudinal Studies

1.1 Definitions	1
1.2 The Stages of a Longitudinal Study	2
1.2.1 Sampling	2
1.2.2 Measurement	3
1.2.3 Statistical Models and Analysis	3
1.2.4 Time Scales	4
1.2.5 Developmental Standards or Norms	5
1.2.6 Data Processing	5
1.3 Practical Considerations in Longitudinal Surveys	6
1.3.1 Overall Planning and Organization	6
1.3.2 Tracing and Gaining Co-operation	8
1.3.3 Piloting and Quality Control	10
1.3.4 Checking, Coding and Documentation	11
1.3.5 Staffing	11
1.3.6 Confidentiality and Informed Consent	12
References	13

Chapter 2 Sampling and Design

2.1 Defining a Population	14
2.1.1 The Age-Time Plane	15
2.1.2 Cross-sectional and Longitudinal Designs	17
2.1.3 Superpopulations	18
2.1.4 Formal Designs	18
2.1.5 Geographical Limits	19

2.2 Sampling Designs	20
2.2.1 Simple Random Sampling	20
2.2.2 Stratified Sampling	21
2.2.3 Multi-stage and Cluster Sampling	24
2.2.4 Complex Statistics from Complex Samples	25
2.3 Sample Size Requirements	26
2.3.1 Significance Testing	27
2.3.2 Specifying the Required Precision	28
2.3.3 The Precision of Percentile Estimates	29
2.4 Sampling with Respect to Age	30
2.4.1 A Fixed Number of Occasions	31
2.4.2 Sampling for Percentile Standards	34
2.4.3 Seasonal Variations	37
2.5 Some Problems of Design and Inference	40
2.5.1 Randomized Experiments	40
2.5.2 Quasi-experimental and Observational Studies	42
2.6 Non-response Bias	44
2.7 Repeated response and Context Bias	46
2.8 Secondary Sampling	47

Chapter 3 The Choice of Measurement Scales over Time

3.1 Types of Measurement Scales	51
3.2 Measurement Standardization and Transformation	52
3.3 Age-specific Measurements	55
3.4 Age Scale Transformations	59
3.5 Developmental Scales	61
3.6 Maturity Scales	62
3.6.1 Age Prediction Methods	63
3.6.2 Scaling Methods	64
3.6.3 Sampling Considerations	68
3.6.4 Other Applications	69
References	70

Chapter 4 The Analysis of Models for Time Related Measurements

4.1 Fitting Growth Curves to Individual Records	71
4.1.1 Single Repeated Measurements: An Historical Survey	73
4.1.2 Allometry and the Study of Shape	82
4.2 Growth Curve Models for Samples of Individuals	89
4.2.1 Polynomial Growth Curves	90

	Contents	xiii
4.2.2 Multivariate Models	91	
4.2.3 Variable Occasion Times	96	
4.2.4 Missing Data	97	
4.2.5 Successive Difference Methods	98	
4.2.6 Group Differences	99	
4.2.7 Non-Parametric Methods	102	
4.2.8 Further Considerations on Growth Curve Models	104	
Appendix 4.1 Estimation and Testing for Polynomial Growth Curves	105	
Appendix 4.2 Estimation and Testing in the Growth Curve Model with Missing Data	110	
References	112	

Chapter 5
The Analysis of Models for Relating Measurements at Different Occasions

5.1 Two Occasion Models	118
5.1.1 Regression to the Mean	119
5.1.2 Differences Between Groups	121
5.1.3 Matching	126
5.1.4 Time Reversed and Functional Relationship Models	126
5.1.5 Cross-Lagged Panel Correlations	127
5.2 Measurement Errors	129
5.3 Models for More than Two Occasions	137
5.4 Relationships between Multiple Dependent Variables at Different Occasions	142
5.5 More General Models for Relating Measurements at Different Occasions	147
5.6 Models for Discrete Data	148
5.6.1 Log-linear Models	151
5.6.2 Log-linear Path Analysis Models: Recursive Systems	153
5.6.3 Log-linear Path Analysis Models: Non-recursive Systems	155
5.6.4 Growth Curve Type Models	157
5.6.5 Ordered Dependent Variables	159
5.6.6 Measurement Error	160
5.6.7 Further Considerations	160
5.7 Event Data	161
5.8 Retrospective Data	162
Appendix 5.1 A Model for the Analysis of Longitudinal Categorical Data	164
References	167

**Chapter 6
Population Standards or Norms**

6.1	Defining the Population	171
6.2	Types of Measurement	174
6.3	Age Changes and Time Trends	175
6.4	Longitudinal Standards for Two Occasions	177
6.5	Longitudinal Standards for Several Occasions	178
6.6	Standards for Discrete Measurements	178
6.6.1	Cross-sectional Standards	179
6.6.2	Longitudinal Standards	180
6.7	Conditional Standards	180
6.8	Bivariate Standards	181
References		185

**Chapter 7
Data Processing**

7.1	General Purpose Survey Analysis Programs	187
7.2	Data Checking	188
7.3	Transformations of Measurements	189
7.4	Variability of Occasion Times	190
7.5	Creating and Updating the Data File	192
7.6	Output and Analysis	193
References		194
Index		195