

Recent contributions to the application of mixed models with a focus on cross national surveys.

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Mixed models – also termed multi-level models, hierarchical linear models, nested models, random coefficient or random-effects models – became the default method of analysis in many fields of applied statistics. Complex survey and experimental designs together with a rising awareness for appropriate statistical analysis increased the need for methods that can deal with repeated measurements and hierarchical data structures, situations where we observe some dependencies between observations.

This talk focuses on issues that arise from the analysis of cross-national surveys that are typically hierarchical data sets with explanatory variables at different levels of aggregation and a low to medium number of units at country level. In my research I am especially interested in the impact of national context on individual level characteristics.

I will discuss recent results and suggestions on the selection of the random effects structure, on how to deal with low number of groups, and on the choice of the estimation procedure.