

University of Helsinki
Research Seminar in Statistics
Wednesday 28.9.2016 at 16-18

Risto Lehtonen (HY): Paradigm shift in survey statistics?

Abstract: Survey statistics represents a sub-area of statistical science specialized in methodologies for survey taking from real populations and statistical inference based on the collected data. Survey statistics is not (and has never been) a coherent scientific construction but constitutes of competing methodologies and inferential approaches. In earlier times survey statistics was quite isolated from mainstream statistics and the fundamental scientific struggles took place in research communities within the discipline. Later, survey statistics become more integrated to mainstream statistics and was affected by input from that side. This process is on-going and takes place in both directions. Today, the most visible drivers challenging both survey statistics and statistical science in general are those taking place in the rapidly evolving technology and data infrastructures, often called data deluge or big data. I will discuss the past and future of survey statistics in the framework of scientific revolutions sometimes phrased as paradigm shifts.