

ing-situation, disability, etc. However, some dimensions of long-term care have been neglected in this volume and should be added in the next edition. This is a detailed analysis of professional care services, the situation of the professional carers, and the impact of socio-economic inequality. Moreover, a short introduction to the main home care approaches presented in the appendix would facilitate a better understanding of the role of cash allowances in the context of further public support structures and provide an overview of them.

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Hynek Jeřábek and Petr Soukup (eds.):
Advanced Lazarsfeldian Methodology
Prague, 2008: Karolinum Press, Charles University, 248 pp.

This book introduces the methodological innovations of one of the best empirical sociologists of the 20th century – Paul Lazarsfeld. It consists of two parts and nine chapters. The first part describes Lazarsfeld's theoretical concepts, the methodological innovations that are based on them, and the advanced statistical techniques that are frequently used in contemporary social data analysis such as multilevel modelling and latent class analysis. The second part

of the book presents selected empirical applications based on Lazarsfeld's methodology. Some of the chapters introduce readers to unorthodox uses of Lazarsfeld's methodology. The empirical data used in this part of the book originated in Lazarsfeld's own research or in studies on the contemporary Czech population.

In Chapter 1, Hynek Jeřábek describes the logic of Lazarsfeld's methodology and the importance of the methodology importance for contemporary social science research and data analysis. Readers are acquainted with each methodological innovation made by Lazarsfeld and how this helped empirical sociological research to become a part of sociology as an academic discipline. Latent structure analysis, which is highlighted here as his most important methodological innovation, was elaborated into latent class analysis in the 1980s. Readers are also introduced to Lazarsfeld's analysis of contingency tables, developed as a log-linear analysis in the 1970s. The chapter then goes on to explain contextual analysis (the building block of hierarchical linear models), followed by panel analysis, focus interviews and focus groups, and the combination of quantitative and qualitative approaches that Lazarsfeld advocated.

The subsequent chapters select different methodological innovations and describe them in full. In Chapter 2, Michal Osuský writes about social network analysis and presents an empirical analysis of students at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University in Prague. The analysis reveals how roles and positions in a social network among small groups of students can be identified when data on simple question 'Who do you know?' are available. Since, in some respects, these findings are similar to Jacob Moreno's sociometric studies in the 1950s, the difference between this type of analysis and sociometric analysis ought to have been discussed by the author. The chapter also lacks a general discussion of social network analysis and a theoretical

explanation of the findings on social networks produced by such analysis.

Petr Soukup (Chapter 3) shows how Lazarsfeld's original contextual analysis evolved into multilevel analysis, which is very popular nowadays. Particularly in the case of panel data, social researchers are working with highly correlated data. Soukup argues that, nowadays, there is a solution to this problem in the form of multilevel (mixed/hierarchical) models. He explains the logic of these models and how they analyse data using the multilevel models, and shows the extent to which the results of multilevel analysis provide us with richer information compared to standard regression models. In the fourth chapter Julia Häuberer describes different forms of latent class analysis (LCA) as tools for analysing discrete variables that can be regarded as indicators of 'hidden' (latent) groups/classes of respondents (in the case of LC-cluster analysis), variables (LC-factor analysis) or relationships between variables (LC-regression models) in a given population.

Hynek Jeřábek (Chapter 5) analyses a possible combination of selected Lazarsfeldian methodological approaches that could provide a more complete understanding of social processes, and argues in favour of combining all types of methodological approaches in order to better understand social reality in sociological descriptions. Ondřej Veis introduces panel analysis as a research strategy for the analysis of change and relates this approach to electronic data collection (Chapter 6). Hynek Jeřábek, Eva

Veisová and Robert Chung (Chapter 7) outline Lazarsfeld's methodological principles and describe a case of communication research carried out on people's responses to the events of 11 September 2001. They also demonstrate the use of international online survey data, including a non-representative sample of the Czech population, in the context of Lazarsfeld's methodological propositions. Chapter 8, by Jiří Remr, introduces evaluation research and discusses the validity of information with the help of an empirical case of attitude measurement. The last chapter, by Hynek Jeřábek, presents a Czech opinion leadership scale that was constructed as a 'personality-strength scale'.

In sum, this is a good monograph on various aspects of Paul Lazarsfeld's methodology, with well-researched conclusions, a useful biographical profile, and an adequate presentation of Lazarsfeld's conceptual and methodological innovations. The book does have some weaknesses. What is missing, for instance, is a detailed description of the design and collection of panel data; one of Lazarsfeld's best known methodological innovations. But the strong points of *Advanced Lazarsfeldian Methodology* further include the up-to-date discussions of latent class analysis, multilevel modelling, social network analysis, evaluation research and advanced scale techniques, which make it a welcome addition to the Czech market for books on social data analysis.

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