

Coordinated sampling: Theory, method and application at Insee

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- 2 The method we used before
- 3 The general method
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1 Introduction

- Each year, the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE) conducts a lot of surveys of firms.
- The aim of negative coordination is to focus on firms that have not recently been sampled while getting unbiased samples.
- Negative coordination enables to reduce the response burden of the smallest firms, the biggest ones are systematically sampled in most surveys.



1 Introduction

The method used by INSEE is based on random numbers given to the units. Each unit is given a random number once for all. After that, these numbers are transformed for coordination.

To simplify, we suppose that all the surveys are based on the same population of firms.



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2 The method we used before

The first method we used to apply at INSEE enables to coordinate samples two by two.

Samples of firms are often selected by stratified simple random sampling.

The population of firms $U = \{1, \dots, k, \dots, N\}$ is divided into nonoverlapping subpopulations called strata and denoted $U_1, \dots, U_h, \dots, U_H$.

Such a partition is made thanks to well-known features of the firms (activity, headcount, location,...).



2 The method we used before

First of all, each unit k is given a permanent random number ω_k that is a realization of a random variable Ω_k with a uniform distribution on $[0,1[$. $\Omega_1, \Omega_2, \dots, \Omega_N$ are N independent random variables.

Unit	Random number	Stratum for the first survey
A	0,02	1
B	0,62	1
C	0,10	1
D	0,18	1
E	0,04	1
F	0,66	1
I	0,42	2
J	0,10	2
K	0,28	2
L	0,35	2
M	0,08	2
N	0,44	2

2 The method we used before

For the first survey, we select the units that correspond to the smallest random numbers ω_k within each stratum.

Unit	Random number	Stratum for the first survey	First selection
A	0,02	1	Yes
E	0,04	1	Yes
C	0,10	1	Yes
D	0,18	1	No
B	0,62	1	No
F	0,66	1	No
M	0,08	2	Yes
J	0,10	2	Yes
K	0,28	2	Yes
L	0,35	2	Yes
I	0,42	2	No
N	0,44	2	No

2 The method we used before

After that, we switch the random numbers within each stratum in order to select the second sample.

Unit	Random number	Stratum for the first survey	First selection
A	0,02	1	Yes
E	0,04	1	Yes
C	0,10	1	Yes
D	0,18	1	No
B	0,62	1	No
F	0,66	1	No
M	0,08	2	Yes
J	0,10	2	Yes
K	0,28	2	Yes
L	0,35	2	Yes
I	0,42	2	No
N	0,44	2	No



Unit	Random number	Stratum for the first survey	First selection
A	0,66	1	Yes
E	0,62	1	Yes
C	0,18	1	Yes
D	0,10	1	No
B	0,04	1	No
F	0,02	1	No
M	0,44	2	Yes
J	0,42	2	Yes
K	0,35	2	Yes
L	0,28	2	Yes
I	0,10	2	No
N	0,08	2	No



Measuring understanding

2 The method we used before

We select the second sample by the same way: within each stratum, we select the units that correspond to the smallest random numbers.

Unit	Random number	Stratum for the first survey	First selection	Stratum for the second survey	Second selection
B	0,04	1	No	1	Yes
I	0,10	2	No	1	Yes
L	0,28	1	Yes	1	Yes
E	0,62	1	Yes	1	No
A	0,66	1	Yes	1	No
F	0,02	1	No	2	Yes
N	0,08	2	No	2	Yes
D	0,10	1	No	2	Yes
C	0,18	1	Yes	2	Yes
K	0,35	2	Yes	2	No
J	0,42	2	Yes	2	No
M	0,44	2	Yes	2	No

Coordination enables to select in priority the units that have not been selected before.

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3 The general method

Such a method enables to coordinate samples two by two. We would like to generalize it to coordinate as many samples as we want.

In particular, we would like to weight the samples according to the burden of the surveys, which is impossible with the current method.

3.1 Generalization of the current method

Instead of switching the random numbers within each stratum, we would like to apply a function g that enables the units that have not been sampled yet to be selected.

The current method is a particular case insofar as we apply a permutation to the random numbers.

Unit	Random number	Stratum for the first survey	First selection	Transformation of the random number
A	0,02	1	Yes	$g(0,02)$
E	0,04	1	Yes	$g(0,04)$
C	0,10	1	Yes	$g(0,10)$
D	0,18	1	No	$g(0,18)$
B	0,62	1	No	$g(0,62)$
F	0,66	1	No	$g(0,66)$
M	0,08	2	Yes	$g(0,08)$
J	0,10	2	Yes	$g(0,10)$
K	0,28	2	Yes	$g(0,28)$
L	0,35	2	Yes	$g(0,35)$
I	0,42	2	No	$g(0,42)$

3.1 Generalization of the current method

Let us consider a list of T surveys, S_t is the sample selected for the survey t .

Let $U = \{1, \dots, k, \dots, N\}$ be the population of firms.

Each unit k is given a permanent random number ω_k that is a realization of a random variable Ω_k with a uniform distribution on $[0,1[$. $\Omega_1, \Omega_2, \dots, \Omega_N$ are N independent random variables.

3.1 Generalization of the current method

For the survey t , we would like to define a coordination function $g_{k,t}$ for each unit k .

Such a function is expected to encourage the selection of k if it has not recently been selected.

For the survey t , the population of firms $U = \{1, \dots, k, \dots, N\}$ is divided into nonoverlapping subpopulations $U_{1,t}, \dots, U_{h,t}, \dots, U_{H,t}$.



3.1 Generalization of the current method

Within stratum $U_{h,t}$, we would like to apply simple random sampling (with the fixed size $n_{h,t}$) with the values $g_{k,t}(\omega_k)$, $k \in U_{h,t}$.

Let us suppose that the converted numbers $g_{k,t}(\omega_k)$, $k \in U_{h,t}$ are independent realizations of a uniform distribution on $[0,1[$.

Then we just have to select the $n_{h,t}$ units that correspond to the $n_{h,t}$ smallest values $g_{k,t}(\omega_k)$, $k \in U_{h,t}$ to apply simple random sampling.

3.1 Generalization of the current method

The random numbers $(\omega_k)_{k \in U}$ are independent realizations of a uniform distribution on $[0,1[$.

Consequently, in order to have the converted numbers $(g_{k,t}(\omega_k))_{k \in U}$ be independent realizations of a uniform on $[0,1[$, a coordination function $g_{k,t}$ is expected to save the uniform distribution on $[0,1[$.



3.1 Generalization of the current method

In the following part, we demonstrate that it is possible to define a coordination function $g_{k,t}$ that enables the unit k to be selected in priority if it has not recently been sampled.

3.2 Estimation of the response burden

We denote:

- $\gamma_{k,t}$: the response burden of the unit k for the survey t
- $\omega = (\omega_k)_{k \in U}$: the vector of the random numbers of the firms
- $I_{k,t}(\omega)$: the sample membership indicator of the unit k for the survey t

3.2 Estimation of the response burden

$$I_{k,t}(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k \in S_t \\ 0 & \text{if not} \end{cases}$$

The selection of the unit k in the sample S_t depends on the value $g_{k,t}(\omega_k)$ but also on all the values $(g_{i,t}(\omega_i))_{i \neq k}$ insofar as we sort the values $g_{i,t}(\omega_i)$ to select the sample.

3.2 Estimation of the response burden

We denote:

- $\gamma_{k,t}(\omega) = \gamma_{k,t} \cdot I_{k,t}(\omega)$ the effective response burden of the unit k
- $\Gamma_{k,t}(\omega) = \sum_{u \leq t} \gamma_{k,u} \cdot I_{k,u}(\omega)$ the cumulative response burden of the unit k

$\gamma_{k,t}(\omega)$ and $\Gamma_{k,t}(\omega)$ are both random variables that depend on ω .

3.2 Estimation of the response burden

Before selecting the sample t , we can know to what extent the unit k has been requested in the past surveys by looking at its cumulative response burden $\Gamma_{k,t-1}(\omega)$: The lower it is, the less the unit has been requested in the past.

The coordination function $g_{k,t}$ must enable the unit k to be selected if it has not recently been sampled.



3.2 Estimation of the response burden

As seen previously, the unit k is more likely to be selected if the value $g_{k,t}(\omega_k)$ is low. Consequently, the lower the cumulative response burden is, the lower the value $g_{k,t}(\omega_k)$ must be.

In other words, we would like to have the following property:

$$\Gamma_{k,t-1}(\omega_1) < \Gamma_{k,t-1}(\omega_2) \implies g_{k,t}(\omega_{k,1}) < g_{k,t}(\omega_{k,2})$$

where $\omega_{k,i} (i = 1, 2)$ is the k th component of the vector ω_i

3.2 Estimation of the response burden

The cumulative response burden $\Gamma_{k,t-1}(\omega)$ is not easy to handle:

- It depends on all the random numbers $\omega = (\omega_k)_{k \in U}$ because of the sample membership indicators $I_{k,m}(\omega)$, $m \in \{1, \dots, t-1\}$.
- Its form is not easy to manipulate.

3.2 Estimation of the response burden

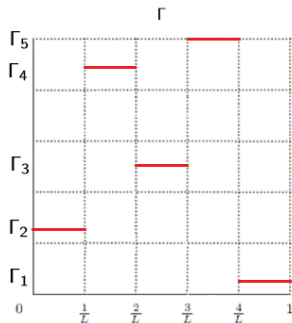
We can demonstrate that it is possible to approximate $I_{k,m}(\omega)$ by a constant piecewise function $I'_{k,m}(\omega_k)$ that only depends on the k th component of ω .

Then the cumulative response burden $\Gamma_{k,t-1}(\omega)$ can be estimated by a constant piecewise function $\Gamma'_{k,t-1}(\omega_k) = \sum_{u \leq t-1} \gamma_{k,u} \cdot I'_{k,u}(\omega_k)$ that only depends on ω_k .

3.2 Estimation of the response burden

We have to divide the interval $[0,1[$ into sub intervals in order to define the constant piecewise function $\Gamma'_{k,t-1}$.

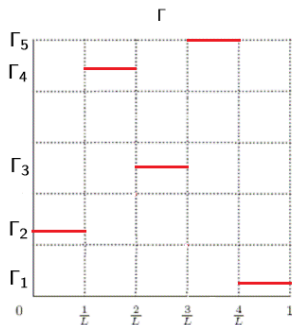
We decide to divide the interval $[0,1[$ into L (≥ 100) sub intervals of equal length, $[\frac{l-1}{L}, \frac{l}{L}[$, $l = 1, \dots, L$



3.3 Formulation of a coordination function

To simplify, labels k and t will be omitted.

Let us suppose that $L = 5$ and the constant piecewise approximation Γ' has the following form:
(to simplify, we suppose that all the values of Γ' are not the same).



3.3 Formulation of a coordination function

Let P^Γ be the probability distribution of the cumulative response burden Γ defined as :

For any interval I included in \mathbb{R} , $P^\Gamma(I) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} P[\Gamma^{-1}(I)]$.

Let F_Γ be the distribution function of the burden Γ .

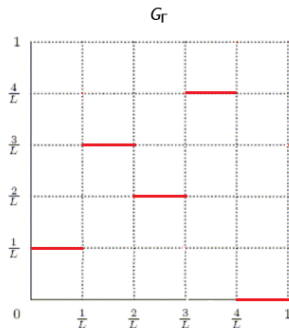
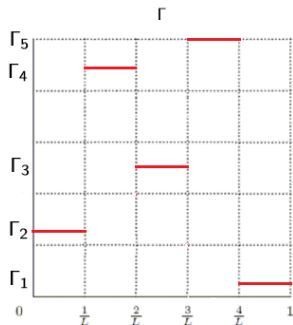
Let us define $G_\Gamma = F_\Gamma(\Gamma)$. Then we have:

$$G_\Gamma(\omega) = P^\Gamma([-\infty, \Gamma(\omega)]) = P[\Gamma^{-1}[-\infty, \Gamma(\omega)]]$$

$G_\Gamma(\omega)$ corresponds to the probability that a unit of the population has a burden lower than $\Gamma(\omega)$



3.3 Formulation of a coordination function



It is possible to calculate the values of G_Γ thanks to Γ .

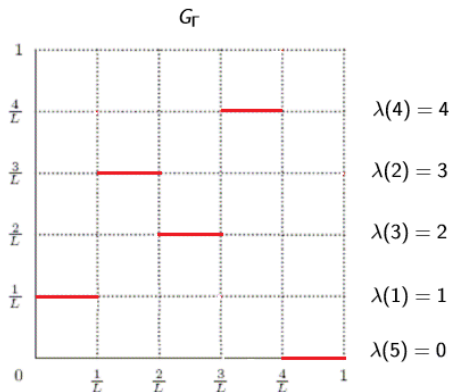
Indeed, $G_\Gamma(\omega)$ corresponds to the probability that a unit has a burden lower than $\Gamma(\omega)$.

We have to look at the intervals that correspond to such units on the graph of Γ : $G_\Gamma(\omega)$ is equal to the sum of the lengths of these intervals.

3.3 Formulation of a coordination function

All the intervals $[\frac{l-1}{L}, \frac{l}{L}[$ have the same length of $\frac{1}{L}$. As a result, on the interval $[\frac{l-1}{L}, \frac{l}{L}[$, the value of G_{Γ} that we denote $G_{\Gamma}(l)$ is a multiple of $\frac{1}{L}$: we denote $G_{\Gamma}(l) = \frac{\lambda(l)}{L}$.

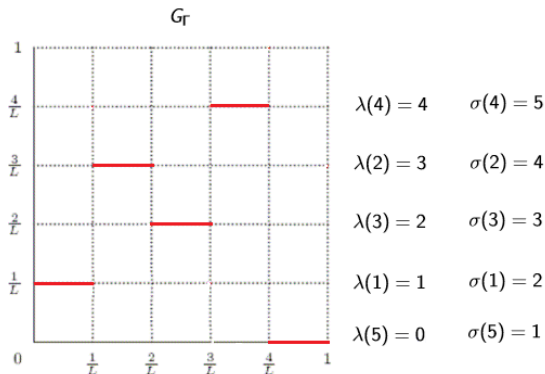
$\lambda(l)$ corresponds to the rank (between 0 and $L - 1$) of the value $G_{\Gamma}(l)$.



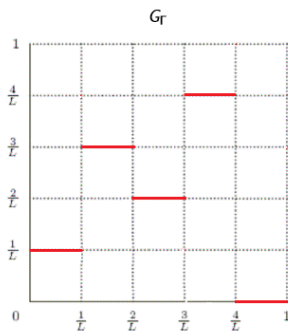
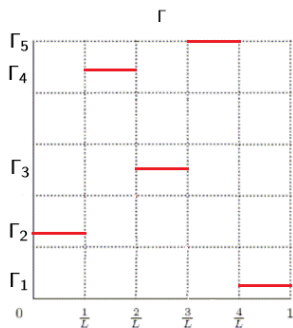
3.3 Formulation of a coordination function

We supposed that all the values of Γ (so are the values of G_{Γ}) are not the same.

As a result, there is a permutation σ on $\{1,2,3,\dots,L\}$ that verifies:
 $\lambda(l) = \sigma(l) - 1$



3.3 Formulation of a coordination function



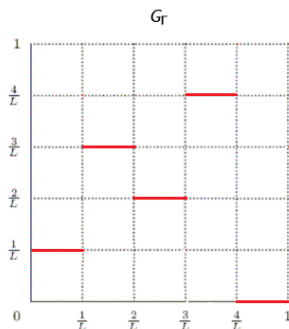
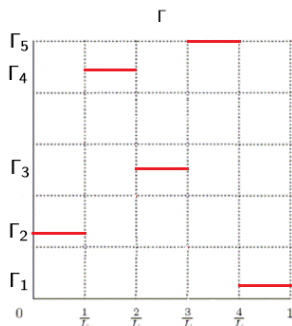
The function G_Γ has interesting properties:

- $G_\Gamma([0, 1[) \subset [0, 1[$
- G_Γ verifies the property: $\Gamma(\omega_1) < \Gamma(\omega_2) \implies G_\Gamma(\omega_1) < G_\Gamma(\omega_2)$



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Measuring. understanding

3.3 Formulation of a coordination function



G_Γ can't be a coordination function insofar as it doesn't save the uniform distribution on $[0, 1[$. Indeed, it only has L distinct values. We would like to transform G_Γ into a coordination function.

3.3 Formulation of a coordination function

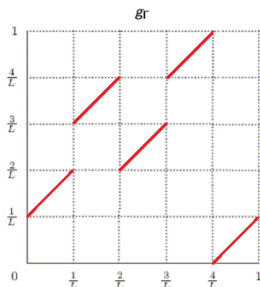
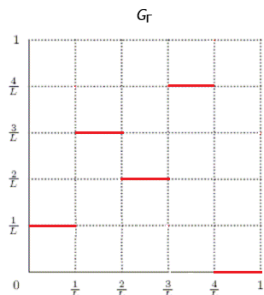
We replace every level of G_{Γ} with a linear function with a slope of 1.

On the interval $[\frac{l-1}{L}, \frac{l}{L}[$, we define g_{Γ} as :

$$g_{\Gamma}(\omega) = G_{\Gamma}(l) + (\omega - \frac{l-1}{L}) = \frac{\sigma(l)-1}{L} + (\omega - \frac{l-1}{L})$$

Then, we have:

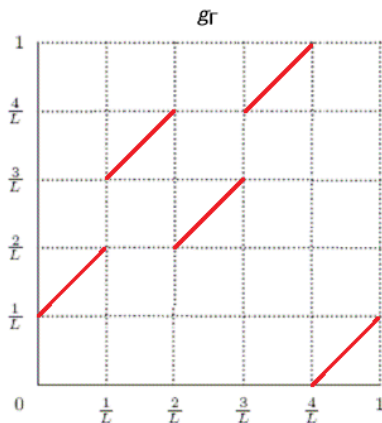
$$g_{\Gamma}(\frac{l-1}{L}) = G_{\Gamma}(l) = \frac{\sigma(l)-1}{L} \quad \text{and} \quad g_{\Gamma}(\frac{l}{L}) = G_{\Gamma}(l) + \frac{1}{L} = \frac{\sigma(l)-1}{L} + \frac{1}{L}$$



3.3 Formulation of a coordination function

The coordination function g_{Γ} is totally based on a permutation σ on $\{1,2,3,\dots,L\}$. It is defined as:

$$\forall \omega \in \left[\frac{l-1}{L}; \frac{l}{L}[, g_{\sigma}(\omega) = \frac{\sigma(l)-1}{L} + \left(\omega - \frac{l-1}{L}\right)$$



3.4 Sample selection

First sample S_1 :

We initialize the cumulative response burden of each unit k with zero:

$$\forall k \in U, \Gamma_{k,0}(\omega_k) = 0$$

There is no coordination to realize. Within stratum $U_{h,1}$, we select the $n_{h,1}$ units that correspond to the $n_{h,1}$ smallest random numbers ω_k , $k \in U_{h,1}$.

It is a particular case of coordination with $g_{k,1} = Id$ for every unit k .

The expected cumulative response burden that only depends on ω_k is

$$\Gamma'_{k,1}(\omega_k) = \gamma_{k,1} I'_{k,1}(\omega_k).$$



3.4 Sample selection

Second sample S_2 :

We formulate a coordination function $g_{k,2}$ based on the constant piecewise function $\Gamma'_{k,1}$ in order to select the second sample S_2 .

Within stratum $U_{h,2}$, we select the $n_{h,2}$ units that correspond to the $n_{h,2}$ smallest values $g_{k,2}(\omega_k)$, $k \in U_{h,2}$.

The expected cumulative response burden is

$$\Gamma'_{k,2}(\omega_k) = \Gamma'_{k,1}(\omega_k) + \gamma_{k,2} \cdot I'_{k,2}(\omega_k).$$

3.4 Sample selection

Sample S_t :

More generally, we formulate a coordination function $g_{k,t}$ based on the constant piecewise function $\Gamma'_{k,t-1}$.

Within stratum $U_{h,t}$, we select the $n_{h,t}$ units that correspond to the $n_{h,t}$ smallest values $g_{k,t}(\omega_k)$, $k \in U_{h,t}$.

The expected cumulative response burden is

$$\Gamma'_{k,t}(\omega_k) = \Gamma'_{k,t-1}(\omega_k) + \gamma_{k,t} \cdot I'_{k,t}(\omega_k).$$

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4 Results of simulation

We realized a simulation of coordinated sampling. We considered a population of length 100. We successively selected 20 samples by simple random sampling.

Every sample but the third has a length of 25. The third has a length of 50.

The response burden γ is equal to 1 for every unit and for every sample but the third.

For the third sample, the response burden γ is equal to 3.



4 Results of simulation

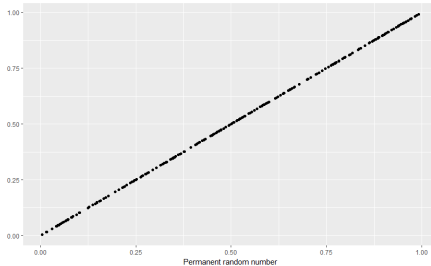
Such a case is very simple insofar as there is no strata and all the units have the same coordination function and the same cumulative response burden.

We will analyze the coordination function g_t , the expected sample membership indicator $\mathbb{E}[I_{k,t}(\Omega) | \Omega_k = \omega_k]$, the expected cumulative response burden and the real sample membership indicator for the first four samples and the sample 20.

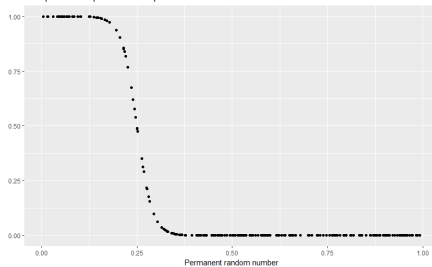


First sample S_1

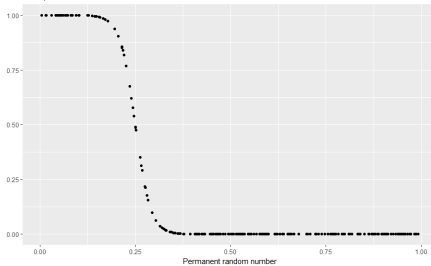
1. Coordination function - S_1



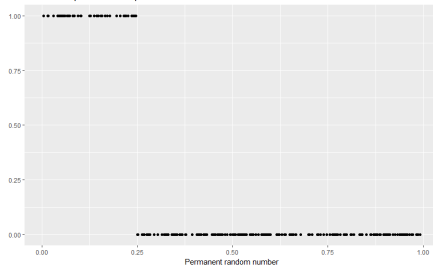
2. Expected sample membership - S_1



3. Expected cumulative burden - S_1

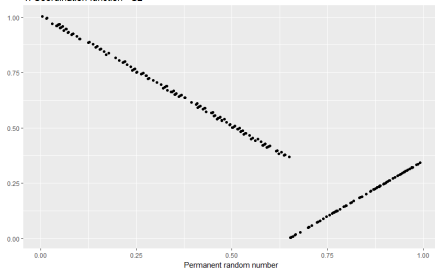


4. Real sample membership - S_1

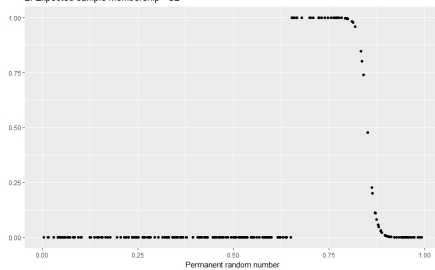


Second sample S_2

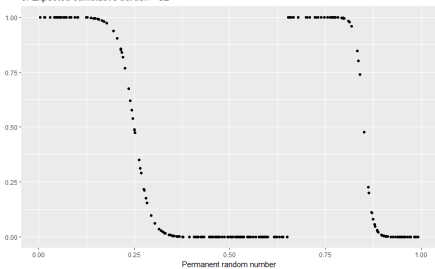
1. Coordination function - S_2



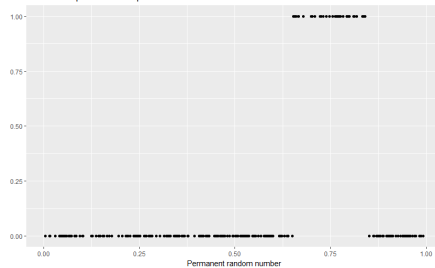
2. Expected sample membership - S_2



3. Expected cumulative burden - S_2

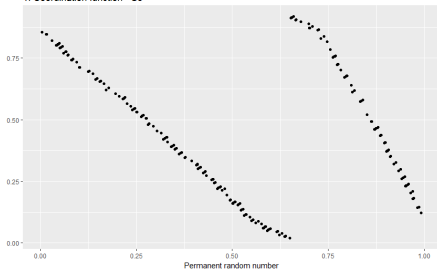


4. Real sample membership - S_2

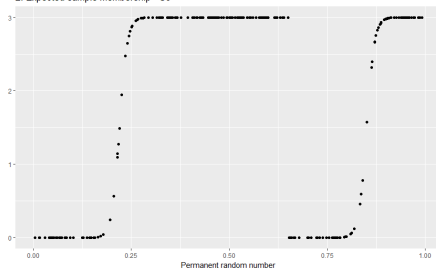


Third sample S_3

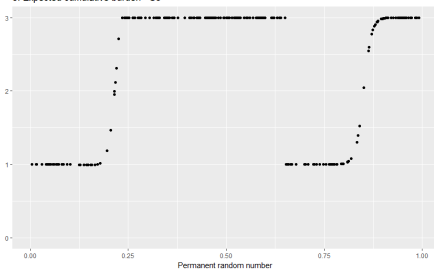
1. Coordination function - S_3



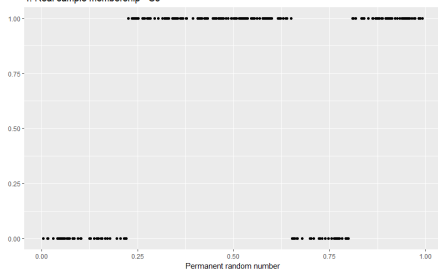
2. Expected sample membership - S_3



3. Expected cumulative burden - S_3

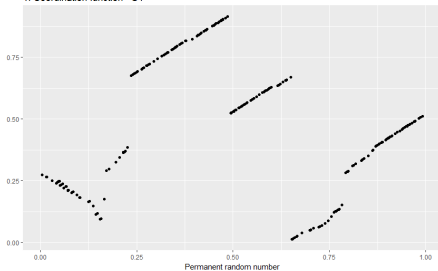


4. Real sample membership - S_3

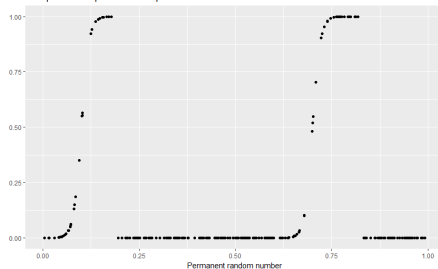


Fourth sample S_4

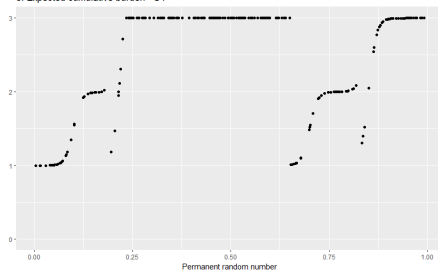
1. Coordination function - S_4



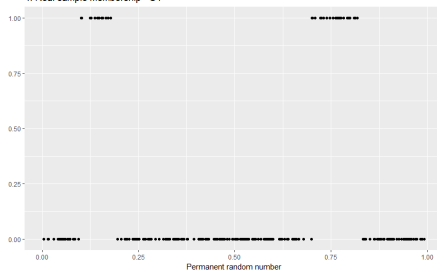
2. Expected sample membership - S_4



3. Expected cumulative burden - S_4

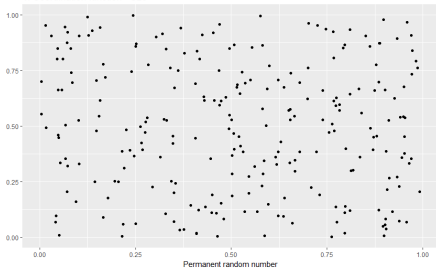


4. Real sample membership - S_4

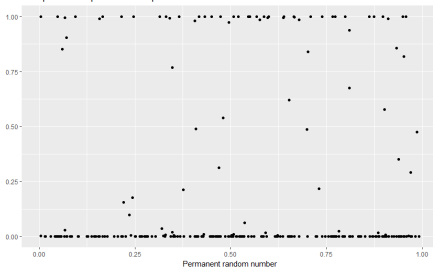


Twentieth sample S_{20}

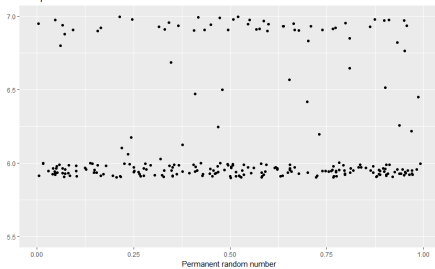
1. Coordination function - S_{20}



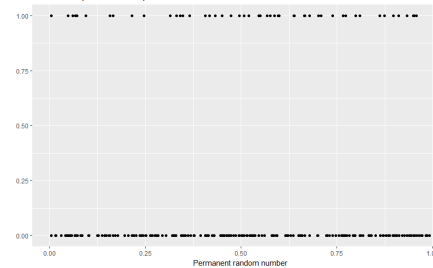
2. Expected sample membership - S_{20}



3. Expected cumulative burden - S_{20}



4. Real sample membership - S_{20}



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5 Algorithm for coordinated sampling

There are two principal steps to select a sample S_t using negative coordination. First, we calculate the cumulative response burden of each unit k . Secondly, we calculate the coordination function $g_{k,t}$.

5 Algorithm for coordinated sampling

Calculation of $\Gamma'_{k,t-1}$

For each sample S_m , $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, t-1\}$, a coordination table exists with the following columns:

- the ID of the unit
- the stratum $U_{h,m}$ the unit belongs to
- the size $N_{h,m}$ of the stratum
- the size of the sample $n_{h,m}$
- the L values of the permutation $\sigma_{k,m}$

	sigma 1	sigma 2	sigma 3	ID	Nh	nech	Stratum
1	96	97	100	000325175	1540	26	3212Z00E
2	80	81	84	005420021	734	110	4669B11E
3	96	97	100	005450093	17182	252	4778C00E

5 Algorithm for coordinated sampling

Thanks to the L values of the permutation $\sigma_{k,m}$, we calculate the L values of the function $I'_{k,m}$.

Then we concatenate the t-1 coordination tables. Then, for the unit k, we calculate the sum $\sum_{m \leq t-1} \gamma_{k,m} \cdot I'_{k,m}(\omega_k)$ to estimate the cumulative response burden $\Gamma_{k,t-1}$.



5 Algorithm for coordinated sampling

Calculation of $g_{k,t}$

We create a matrix with the following columns:

- the random number ω_k
- the stratum $U_{h,t}$
- the size $N_{h,t}$ of the stratum
- the size of the sample $n_{h,t}$
- the L values of the function $\Gamma'_{k,t-1}$ we estimated before

	ω_k	$U_{h,t}$	$N_{h,t}$	$n_{h,t}$	$\Gamma'_{k,t-1}(1)$	$\Gamma'_{k,t-1}(2)$	$\Gamma'_{k,t-1}(3)$
1	0,66	1	500	250	0,29	0,70	0,54
2	0,35	1	500	250	0,08	0,82	0,24
3	0,08	2	300	150	0,49	0,31	0,12

measuring the impact of coordinated sampling

5 Algorithm for coordinated sampling

We replace the line $[\Gamma'_{k,t-1}(1) \ \Gamma'_{k,t-1}(2) \ \dots \ \Gamma'_{k,t-1}(L)]$ with the line that contains the rank of each value $\Gamma'_{k,t-1}(l)$. Such a line corresponds to the different values of $\sigma_{k,t}(l)$.

	ω_k	$U_{h,t}$	$N_{h,t}$	$n_{h,t}$	$\Gamma'_{k,t-1}(1)$	$\Gamma'_{k,t-1}(2)$	$\Gamma'_{k,t-1}(3)$
1	0,66	1	500	250	0,29	0,70	0,54
2	0,35	1	500	250	0,08	0,82	0,24
3	0,08	2	300	150	0,49	0,31	0,12



	ω_k	$U_{h,t}$	$N_{h,t}$	$n_{h,t}$	$\Gamma'_{k,t-1}(1)$	$\Gamma'_{k,t-1}(2)$	$\Gamma'_{k,t-1}(3)$
1	0,66	1	500	250	1	3	2
2	0,35	1	500	250	1	3	2
3	0,08	2	300	150	3	2	1

5 Algorithm for coordinated sampling

Then we calculate the value $g_{k,t}(\omega_k)$ thanks to the definition:

$$\forall \omega \in \left[\frac{l-1}{L}; \frac{l}{L}\right], g_{k,t}(\omega) = \frac{\sigma_{k,t}(l)-1}{L} + \left(\omega - \frac{l-1}{L}\right)$$

Then we select the sample S_t depending on the values $(g_{k,t}(\omega_k))_{k \in U}$.

Finally, we create a coordination table that contains the ID of the unit, the stratum $U_{h,t}$ it belongs to, the size $N_{h,t}$ of the stratum, the size of the sample $n_{h,t}$ and the L values of the permutation $\sigma_{k,t}$ that corresponds to the coordination function $g_{k,t}$.



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6 Conclusion

- We have used coordination to select samples of firms for five years.
- The aim of negative coordination is to reduce the burden of the firms while getting unbiased samples.
- The general method of coordination enables to coordinate as many samples as we want. What is more, it is possible to weight the samples according to the burden of the surveys.



Emmanuel Gros, Ronan Le Gleut

Sample coordination and response burden for business surveys: methodology and practice of the procedure implemented at Insee

The Unit Problem and Other Current Topics in Business Survey Methodology, page 139, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2018



Fabien Guggemos, Olivier Sautory

Sampling coordination of business surveys conducted by insee

Proceedings of the Fourth International Conference of Establishment Surveys, 2012

Thank you for your attention !

Appendix: Property of a coordination function

The random numbers $(\omega_k)_{k \in U}$ are independent realizations of a uniform distribution on $[0,1[$.

Consequently, in order to have the converted numbers $(g_{k,t}(\omega_k))_{k \in U}$ be independent realizations of a uniform on $[0,1[$, a coordination function $g_{k,t}$ is expected to save the uniform distribution on $[0,1[$:

if P is the uniform distribution on $[0,1[$ then $P^{g_{k,t}}$ is the uniform distribution too.

For any interval $I=[a,b[$ included in $[0,1[$,

$$P^{g_{k,t}}(I) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} P[g_{k,t}^{-1}(I)] = P(I) = b - a.$$



Appendix: Estimation of the response burden

The best approximation (within the meaning of the L_2 norm) of the sample membership indicator $I_{k,m}(\omega)$ of unit k that only depends on ω_k is the conditional expectation:

$$I'_{k,m}(\omega_k) = \mathbb{E} [I_{k,m}(\Omega) | \Omega_k = \omega_k] = P(k \in S_m | \Omega_k = \omega_k)$$

Appendix: Estimation of the response burden

If we suppose that coordination functions are bijectives then we have:

$$I'_{k,m}(\omega_k) = P(k \in S_m | \Omega_k = \omega_k) = P(k \in S_m | g_{k,m}(\Omega_k) = g_{k,m}(\omega_k))$$

$I'_{k,m}(\omega_k)$ can be seen as a function of $g_{k,m}(\omega_k)$ that we denote $b_{k,m}$.

$$I'_{k,m}(\omega_k) = b_{k,m}(g_{k,m}(\omega_k)) \text{ where } b_{k,m}(x) = P(k \in S_m | g_{k,m}(\Omega_k) = x)$$

Appendix: Estimation of the response burden

$(g_{k,m}(\Omega_k))_{k \in U}$ are N independent realizations of the uniform distribution on $[0,1[$. As a result, $b_{k,m}(x)$ corresponds to the probability of the following event:

Among the $N-1$ values $g_{i,m}(\Omega_i)$ ($i \neq k$), there are at most $n-1$ values that are below x .

In other words, the event $(k \in S_m | g_{k,m}(\Omega_k) = x)$ equates to the following event:

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N be N independent realizations of the uniform distribution on $[0,1[$, the n th random variable $X_{(n)}$ is higher than x



Appendix: Estimation of the response burden

What is more, it is a well known fact that $X_{(n)}$ has a beta distribution with the parameters n and $N-n+1$. Then we have:

$$b_{k,m}(x) = 1 - P(X_{(n)} \leq x) = 1 - \frac{1}{B(n, N-n+1)} \int_0^x u^{n-1} (1-u)^{N-n} du$$

$$\text{where } B(n, N-n+1) = \frac{(n-1)!(N-n)!}{N!}$$

If we know the coordination functions $g_{k,1}, \dots, g_{k,t-1}$ for the surveys $1, \dots, t-1$ then we can calculate

$l'_{k,1}(\omega_k) = b_{k,1}(g_{k,1}(\omega_k)), \dots, l'_{k,t-1}(\omega_k) = b_{k,t-1}(g_{k,t-1}(\omega_k))$ thanks to the beta distribution.

Appendix: Estimation of the response burden

There are three steps to build an constant piecewise function that estimates $I'_{k,m}(\omega_k) = b_{k,m}(g_{k,m}(\omega_k))$.

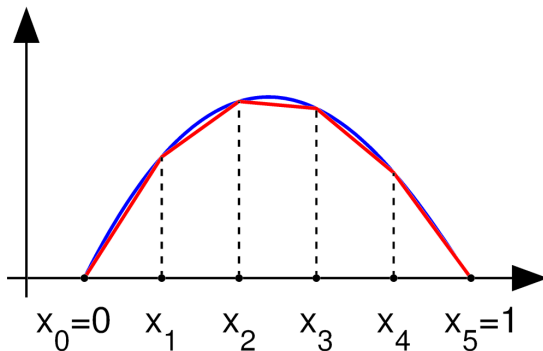
- The interval $[0,1[$ will be divided into L (that is supposed to be an integer greater than 100) sub intervals of equal length, $[\frac{l-1}{L}, \frac{l}{L}[$, $l = 1, \dots, L$

Appendix: Estimation of the response burden

- We replace the function $b_{k,m}$ with a linear piecewise function $\tilde{b}_{k,m}$ on each interval $[\frac{l-1}{L}, \frac{l}{L}[$

$$\forall x \in [\frac{l-1}{L}; \frac{l}{L}[, b_{k,m}^{\sim}(x) = L \cdot (b_{k,m}(\frac{l}{L}) - b_{k,m}(\frac{l-1}{L})) \cdot (x - \frac{l-1}{L}) + b_{k,m}(\frac{l-1}{L})$$

We notice that $b_{k,m}(\frac{l-1}{L}) = b_{k,m}^{\sim}(\frac{l-1}{L})$ and $b_{k,m}(\frac{l}{L}) = b_{k,m}^{\sim}(\frac{l}{L})$



- On each interval $[\frac{l-1}{L}, \frac{l}{L}[$, we approximate $I'_{k,m}(\omega_k) = b_{k,m}(g_{k,m}(\omega_k))$ by the mean value of the function $\tilde{b}_{k,m} \circ g_{k,m}$

$$\beta_{k,m}(l) = \frac{1}{1/L} \cdot \int_{\frac{l-1}{L}}^{\frac{l}{L}} \tilde{b}_{k,m}(g_{k,m}(\omega)) d\omega$$

The function $\beta_{k,m}$ defined as:

$$\forall \omega \in [\frac{l-1}{L}; \frac{l}{L}[, \beta_{k,m}(\omega) = \beta_{k,m}(l)$$

is a constant piecewise estimation of the function $I'_{k,m}(\omega_k)$.

As a result, $\Gamma'_{k,t-1}(\omega_k) = \sum_{u \leq t-1} \gamma_{k,u} \cdot \beta_{k,u}(\omega_k)$ is a constant piecewise estimation of $\Gamma_{k,t-1}(\omega)$.

Appendix: Coordinated sampling with different types of units

ID of the firm	Random number of the firm
A	0,75
C	0,06
G	0,82
H	0,55
I	0,32
J	0,03
K	0,67

Population for the survey $t-1$

ID of the firm	Random number of the firm
A	0,75
B	0,23
C	0,06
D	0,36
E	0,12
F	0,47
G	0,82
H	0,55
I	0,32

Population for the survey t

ID of the firm	Random number of the firm
A	0,75
C	0,06
G	0,82
H	0,55
I	0,32

Coordination table for the survey $t-1$

Appendix: Coordinated sampling with different types of units

ID of the local firm	Random number of the local firm
A-2	0,11
A-3	0,79
C-1	0,36
C-2	0,40
D-1	0,23
D-2	0,60
D-3	0,03

Population for the survey $t-1$

ID of the firm	ID of the principal local firm	Random number of the firm
A	A-3	0,79
B	B-1	0,33
C	C-2	0,40
D	D-1	0,23
E	E-1	0,86

Population for the survey t

ID of the principal local firm	Random number
A-3	0,79
C-2	0,40
D-1	0,23

Coordination table for the survey $t-1$