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Quantification of Indifference Responses from Business Surveys with Mixed Data

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Abstract

This paper deals with the evaluation of business survey data that contain quantified planned or expected changes as well as no change or indifference responses. Interpreting the data as the outcome of a two-stage sampling process, we develop a model that takes account of the mixed quantitative and qualitative information of the sample. The model explains firms' response behavior and generates maximum likelihood estimates that correct for the selection bias.