

NO. E2006013

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in China: Construction of MHTS Panel D

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Statistical Matching for Longitudinal Data of Rural Households in China:  
Construction of MHTS Panel Data Set and Estimation of Attrition BiasHisatoshi Hoken[1], Tetsuji Senda[2], Yoshiro Matsuda[3],  
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NO. E2006013 October 18, 2006

**Abstract:**

This paper has examined the results of data matching of RCFPO (*Rural China Fixed Point Observations*) and the structures and characteristics of a new panel database termed MHTS (*Minor sets of High-quality Time Series*). The reliability of original ID number of RCFPO ascribed to each household must be questioned since the ID number is often mismanaged. In order to check the accuracy of the original ID and the continuity of RCFPO, we have developed data matching methods and construct new panel databases. Our studies have also demonstrated that a large number of spurious continuities of panel survey appear to exist in the original ID with the advent of time. Moreover, in order to test sample attrition biases of MHTS panel data sets, we have conducted the estimations on attrition probit and the BGLW test both by utilizing the entire sample and by village. The results indicate that it is highly probable that the attrition of sample households on MHTS data sets may produce an estimation bias. Therefore, close inspections and econometric adjustments are strongly recommended in order to reduce the bias of estimations for MHTS data sets.

**Keywords** attrition, panel data, statistical matching, rural household**JEL classifications** C42, C81, O12

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