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European Society of Historical Demography

The European Society of Historical Demography is pleased to invite you to the webinar:

Flexible and structural statistical modelling of anthropometric data: A new methodological perspective for historical demography

Marek Brabec
The Czech Academy of Sciences. (Czech Republic).
Discussant: Eric Schneider, (London School of Economics and Political Science, UK).

Tuesday, 17 September at 15:00 CEST via Zoom

Summary:

Marek Brabec is a research statistician at the department of Statistical Modelling, Institute of Computer Science, The Czech Academy of Sciences in Praha, Czech Republic. He obtained his PhD from the Department of Statistics at Iowa State University, USA. His work focuses on statistical modeling of non-standard, complex problems from Biomedical fields, Natural Sciences, Historical research and Technology. He is interested mainly in semi-parametric statistical modeling (e.g. in penalized splines from both classical and Bayesian perspectives), random-effect models, generalized additive models (GAM), their dynamical and spatial aspects (using parsimonious and computationally efficient approaches based e.g. on Markovian assumptions and hence sparsity). He has been interested also in a general state-space approach to the time series problems and in non-standard decision-theoretical problems. In addition to the research and publication activity, he has been involved in several large-scale projects with industrial partners which led e.g. to implementing statistical models in current energy-related legislative.

Biography:

We will present several modelling approaches to historical, anthropometric and related data based on various ideas of modern semiparametric regression. They include both static and dynamical models for uncovering a priori unknown but regularized relationships of interest in historical demography and beyond. Different models will be illustrated on complex research problems and data from historical research, stressing the underlying idea that the statistical modeling should come to the data and their specific features, not vice versa.