Synthetic Controls: Theory, Methods, and Applications
Special Issue to Appear in
Journal of the American Statistical Association (Theory and Methods)
Call for papers

Introduction. Synthetic controls have become widely applied to the evaluation of policy interventions and treatment effects with observational data. Much of the recent widespread adoption of these methods among practitioners and policy-makers has outpaced the development of theoretical results justifying their correct use and limitations. Foundational work on synthetic controls as well as carefully designed extensions are needed to guide and facilitate empirical practice.

Call for Papers. The Journal of the American Statistical Association (Theory and Methods) is planning a special issue on synthetic control methods, which will include both invited and submitted contributions from leading scholars working on different methodological and practical aspects of these methods. The issue will collect top-quality papers on a variety of topics on synthetic control methods, ranging from basic statistical theory for identification, estimation and inference, to methodologically innovative and carefully executed applications. This special issue aims to bring together scholars from a variety of disciplines employing the synthetic control methodology and encourage further interdisciplinary work in this area.

- Submission deadline: December 15, 2019.
- Guest Editors:
  - Alberto Abadie (MIT): abadie@mit.edu
  - Matias D. Cattaneo (Princeton University): cattaneo@princeton.edu

For more information, please contact the guest editors directly. Papers should be submitted using JASA’s official submission website (https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jasa) and should include a cover letter describing precisely how the manuscript fits into and contributes to the synthetic control literature. When submitting please make sure to select “Synthetic Control Methods” under “Type” of paper (you will need to scroll down to find that option), which will direct your submission to this special issue. Manuscripts submitted to this special issue will undergo the same review process as regular JASA (T&M) submissions and will be held to the same quality standards.