Annotated Bibliography: Rural Election Administration

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This annotated bibliography surveys key works on election administration in rural contexts. Entries include abstracts where available and personal annotations noting relevance to ongoing research.

Annotated Bibliography

Beck, Nathaniel and Jonathan N. Katz (1995). "What to Do (and Not to Do) with Time-Series Cross-Section Data." In: *American Political Science Review* 89.3, pp. 634–647

Abstract: *We examine some issues in the estimation of time-series cross-section models, calling into question the conclusions of many published studies, particularly in the field of comparative political economy. We show that the generalized least squares approach of Parks produces standard errors that lead to extreme overconfidence, often underestimating variability by 50% or more. We also provide an alternative estimator of the standard errors that is correct when the error structures show complications found in this type of model. Monte Carlo analysis shows that these "panel-corrected standard errors" perform well. The utility of our approach is demonstrated via a reanalysis of one "social democratic corporatist" model.*

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Lamport, Leslie (1994). *LaTeX: A Document Preparation System*. 2nd ed. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley.

Riker, William H. and Peter C. Ordeshook (1968). "A Theory of the Calculus of Voting." In: *American Political Science Review* 62.1, pp. 25–42

Annotation: Formalizes the individual decision to vote as $R = PB - C + D$, where P is the probability of casting the decisive vote, B the differential benefit between outcomes, C the cost of voting, and D the consumption value of the act itself. The positive D-term is what lets rational-choice models accommodate observed turnout; it is also where most of the subsequent theoretical debate concentrates. Still the point of departure for formal work on turnout.

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Shannon, Claude E. (1948). "A Mathematical Theory of Communication." In: *Bell System Technical Journal* 27.3, pp. 379–423

Abstract: *The recent development of various methods of modulation such as PCM and PPM which exchange bandwidth for signal-to-noise ratio has intensified the interest in a general theory of communication. A basis for such a theory is contained in the important papers of Nyquist and Hartley on this subject. In the present paper we will extend the theory to include a number of new factors, in particular the effect of noise in the channel, and the savings possible due to the statistical structure of the original message and due to the nature of the final destination of the information.*

Annotation: Founding text of information theory. The source-coding and channel-coding theorems articulated here remain the backbone of modern telecommunications and data compression, and Shannon's probabilistic framing of information underpins much later work in statistical inference and machine learning. The two-part structure (discrete vs. continuous channels) still shapes how the subject is taught.

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