
Foreword

This collection of research articles on *Inverse Projection Techniques* is the first volume of a new series of Demographic Research Monographs published by Springer-Verlag. This volume was edited by Dr. Elisabetta Barbi, a research scientist at the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, and Professors Salvatore Bertino and Eugenio Sonnino, both at the University of Rome “La Sapienza”. The series of Demographic Research Monographs is under the editorial supervision of the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. Prof. James W. Vaupel, Founding Director of the Institute, is Editor-in-Chief. He is advised by an Editorial Board that currently consists of Prof. Jan M. Hoem, Executive Director of the Max Planck Institute; Dr. Jutta Gampe, Head of the Office of Statistical and Information Sciences at the Institute; Dr. Andres Vikat, Deputy Head of the Research Program on Fertility and Family Dynamics; Prof. Bernard Jeune, Head of the Department of Public Health at the University of Southern Denmark, and Dr. Barbi. Additional members of the Editorial Board will be appointed as needed to review manuscripts submitted for possible publication. The current manuscript was reviewed and accepted by James Vaupel, Jutta Gampe and Elisabetta Barbi, based on advice from an international group of referees.

The Demographic Research Monographs series can be considered the successor to the series called Odense Monographs on Population Aging, edited by Bernard Jeune and James Vaupel. The volumes in this now-terminated series were first published as hardcover books by an academic publisher, the Odense University Press, and subsequently made available online at www.demogr.mpg.de/books/odense. The nine Odense Monographs on Population Aging include two collections of research articles that focus on specific subjects on the frontier of demographic research, three volumes by senior researchers that present pathbreaking findings, a review of research on a topic of emerging interest, a presentation of a new method for analysis of demo-

graphic data, an outstanding doctoral dissertation, and a unique collection of important demographic data on non-human species.

The new series of Demographic Research Monographs will continue this mix, with books that are often under 200 pages in length, that have a clear focus, and that significantly advance demographic knowledge. Research related to population aging will continue to be a prime focus on the new series, but not the only one. The new series will embrace all of demography, broadly defined. As indicated by the current volume, an important subject will be historical demography. We also plan to highlight research on fertility and family dynamics, especially in Europe. Mathematical demography is the core of the population sciences and we will strive to foster monographs that use mathematics and statistics to further develop the theories and methods of demography. Biodemography is a small but rapidly growing and particularly innovative branch of demography: we will seize opportunities to publish monographs at the intersection of biology and demography, pertaining both to humans and to other species, and including demographic research with ties to such fields as epidemiology, genetics, evolutionary biology, life-history biology, experimental demography, and paleodemography.

Each volume in the Demographic Research Monograph series will have a substantial link to the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. In the case of this first volume, the senior editor, Dr. Elisabetta Barbi, is a research scientist at the Institute. The forthcoming second volume, *The Late-Life Legacy of Very-Early Life*, is written by Dr. Gabriele Doblhammer, who is a senior research scientist at the Institute. The third volume, *Supercentenarians*, is the outgrowth of four research workshops organized by the Max Planck Institute. And the fourth volume, tentatively entitled *To Long Life!?*, by Prof. Bernard Jeune, is a revised and updated version of a book that was originally published in Danish: the Max Planck Institute is supporting the additional work for this book.

As well as being published as hardcover books by Springer-Verlag, this and the following volumes of the Max Planck series of Demographic Research Monographs will subsequently be available online at www.demogr.mpg.de/books/drm. The online versions may include color graphs, supplemental analyses, databases and other ancillary or enhanced material. Parallel publication online and in print is a significant innovation that will make this monograph series particularly useful to scholars and students around the world.

James W. Vaupel
Editor-in-Chief