Retrieving True Preference under Authoritarianism

Using a national public opinion survey dataset, this paper figures out the survey respondents who are exaggerating their support for an authoritarian government and replaces their ‘falsified’ preferences with ‘true’ responses. First, a set of latent profile analyses is conducted to identify the preference-falsifying sub-population. Then their answers to a political question are treated as non-responses. Second, assuming missing at random, the non-responses are replaced by 20 different estimated values with multiple imputations. Finally, pooling the imputation results, a prediction model for an individual-level ‘true support for the government’ is obtained.