2025 Texas Methods Meeting at the University of Houston, February 21 – 22

Hosts:	Hobby School for Public Affairs, Department of Political Science
Organizers:	Pablo Pinto (*ppinto@central.uh.edu*), Scott Basinger (*sjbasinger@uh.edu*)
Meeting locations:	Albertus Room (catered meals, coffee break, poster session), Bates Hall
	Heritage Room (paper sessions), Bates Hall
Parking location:	Elgin Street Garage
Dinner location:	TBD

Friday, Feb. 21

Set-up and Early Arrival: 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Regular Arrival & Barbecue & Opening Comments: 12:00 – 12:55 PM

Paper session 1: Large Language Models, 1:00 PM – 2:10 PM

Patrick Brandt, UT Dallas, "Introducing the ConfliBERT Family of Language Models for Political Science"

Connor Jerzak, UT Austin, "Scaling Laws for Expert and LLM Annotations"

Discussant: Sunny Yang, Northeastern University

Paper session 2: Election Applications, 2:15 PM – 3:25 PM

R. Michael Alvarez, CalTech, "Prebunking Election Rumors: Artificial Intelligence Assisted Interventions Increase Confidence in American Elections"

Juan-Pablo Micozzi, ITAM, "Party Monitors and Election Integrity Evidence from Argentina"

Discussant: Jae-Hee Jung, University of Houston

Poster session, 3:30 – 4:40 PM

Amanda Austin, University of Houston, "An Experimental Comparison of AI-Enabled Semi-Structured Interviews and Fixed Surveys: Response Patterns, Quality, and Representation"

Ransi Clark, "Solutions to the temporal sparsity of electoral data: Applications in destruction"

Andrés Cruz, University of Texas Austin, "Toward more informative robustness checks"

Shiladitya Kumar, University of Houston, "The Effect of Political Competition on Candidate Nomination Strategies: Evidence from India"

Songeun Emily Lee, “Measuring Voter Preferences for Female Candidates Using Machine Learning”

Mitchell Linegar, CalTech, “Using Compositions of LLM Functions to Extract Data from Unstructured Corpuses”

Yu-hsien Sung, University of North Texas, “Analyzing Campaign Messages of U.S. District Attorneys”

Agustin Vallejo and Maria Perez Arguelles, “Bracing for the Storm: Ideal and Actual Natural Disaster Preparedness in Texas”

Amanda Weiss, Yale University, “Sensitive Content Causes Resentment Not Attrition in Survey Experiments”

Paper session 3: Legislative Applications, 4:45 PM – 5:55 PM

Seo Eun Yang, Northeastern University, “Unveiling Policy Preferences: Leveraging Knowledge Graph Embeddings for Insights into International and Legislative Co-Sponsorship Networks”

Michael Kistner, University of Houston, “Measuring Partisanship and Representation in Online Congressional Communication”

Discussant: Boris Shor, University of Houston

Dinner & Reception: 6:30 PM

Saturday, Feb. 22

Early arrival and Breakfast Tacos, 8:00 – 8:45 AM

Paper session 4: Experimental Methods, 8:50 – 10:00 AM

Gustavo Diaz, Northwestern University, “Balancing Precision and Retention in Experimental Design”

Trent Ollerenshaw, University of Houston, “Repeated Measure Designs are Superior for (Most) Experimental Survey Research Applications”

Discussant: Yuki Atsusaka, University of Houston

Paper session 5: Measuring and Estimating, 10:05 – 11:15 AM

Matthew Tyler, Rice University, “Sharp Bounds for Public Opinion Estimation with Acquiescence Bias”

Max Goplerud, UT Austin, “Assessing Robustness of Post-Estimation Quantities of Interest”

Discussant: Scott Cook, Texas A&M University

Paper session 6: More Electoral Applications, 11:20 AM - 12:30 PM

William O'Brochta, Texas Lutheran University, "Determining Politicians' Electorally-Relevant Caste Membership"

Yuki Atsusaka, University of Houston, "When Does Ranked-Choice Voting Reduce Polarization?"

Discussant: Gustavo Diaz, Northwestern University