

Big Data and Social Science

A Practical Guide to Methods and Tools

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This classroom-tested text shows how to integrate new ideas and methodologies about economic and social measurement into research and the workplace. It covers social science research principles as well as current analytic and computer tools. Grounded in the study of real-world social and economic problems, the book teaches students how to identify and capture the appropriate data, apply data science models and tools, and recognize associated errors and limitations from a social science perspective.

KEY FEATURES

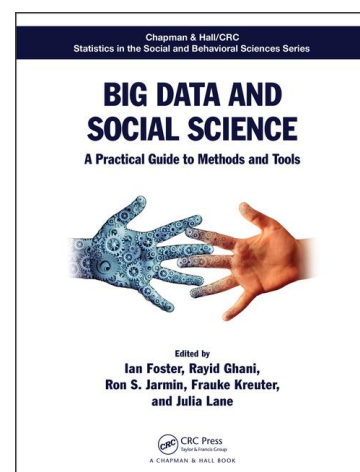
- Takes an accessible, hands-on approach to handling big data in the social sciences
- Presents all the key big data tools in a non-intimidating way to social and data scientists while not neglecting research questions and purposes
- Illustrates social science and data science principles through real-world applications
- Links computer science concepts to real social science research
- Promotes good scientific practice
- Provides data and code as well as programming exercises on GitHub

SELECTED CONTENTS

Introduction. Capture and Curation: Working with Web Data and APIs. Record Linkage. Databases. Programming with Big Data. Modeling and Analysis: Machine Learning. Text Analysis. Networks: The Basics. Inference and Ethics: Information Visualization. Errors and Inference. Privacy and Confidentiality. Workbooks. Bibliography.

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