Big data (02-02)

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- ► Observing behavior
- Asking questions
- ► Running experiments
- ► Mass collaboration

What is big data?

Ambiguity makes a big tent

Big data:

- Volume
- Velocity
- Variety

Definition originates from business (Gartner)

 $\mathsf{Big}\ \mathsf{data} \to \mathsf{repurposed}\ \mathsf{data}$

Big data \rightarrow repurposed data

- good things
- bad things

Problems with the chapter:

- ▶ not all observed behavior is repurposed data, but most is
- ▶ this is kind of residual category (not surveys, not experiments, not mass collaboration)

General advice:

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- ▶ Imagine the ideal data. How does your data compare?
- ▶ Understand the data generating process (sometimes require reverse engineering goals of data creators)
- ▶ Remember big data is not all of computational social science



Readymades



Custommades

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