

Big data (02-02)

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Soc 596: Computational Social Science



- ▶ 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)

Big data → repurposed data

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- ▶ 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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- ▶ 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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