# Issues With Archiving and Interpreting Data

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# Why should we care about data?



We use cookies







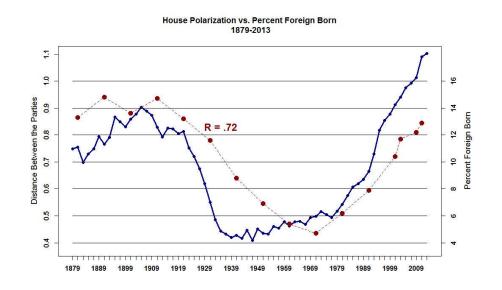
# "Critical Questions For Big Data" - Boyd

- -What is big data?
- -Is data truly objective?
- -Does more data = better?
- -Context matters
- -Is certain data use ethical?
- -The digital divide



#### "We Are All Social Scientists Now" - Grimmer

- -How do we make use of this data?
- -Need to collaborate with social scientists for their expertise in causal inference



### "Data Cleaning" - Chu

	col1	col2	col3	col4	col5			col1	col2	col3	col4	col5
0	2	5.0	3.0	6	6 NaN	mean()	0	2.0	5.0	3.0	6.0	7.0
1	9	NaN	9.0	0	7.0		1	9.0	11.0	9.0	0.0	7.0
2	19	17.0	NaN	9	NaN		2	19.0	17.0	6.0	9.0	7.0

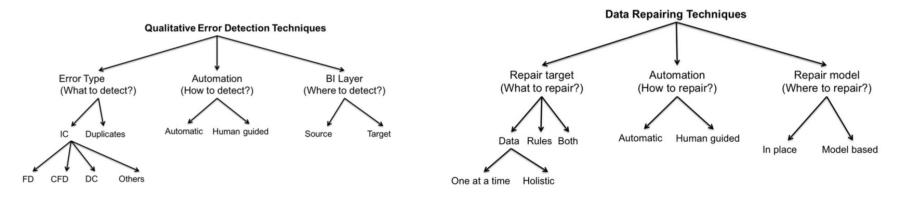
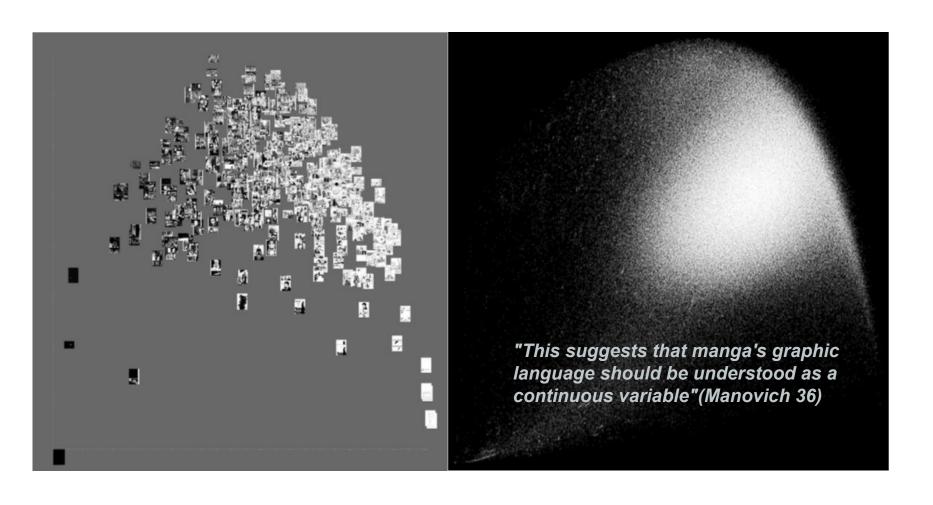


Figure 1: Classification of qualitative error detection techniques.

Figure 2: Classification of data repairing techniques.

# "How to Compare One Million Images" / Dr. Lev Manovich





# "Archive Fever" /Jacques Derrida

- "The citizens who . . . held and signified political power were considered to possess the right to make or represent the law. On account of their publicly recognized authority, it is at their home, in that place which is their house . . . that official documents are filed . . . It is thus, in this domiciliation, in this house arrest, that archives take place."
- An archive = a privileged space
- new media technologies structure our capacity for thought and communication

### "Defining Data for Humanists" / Trevor Owens

- What is Data \*To a Humanist\*?
  - Data as Constructed Artifacts
  - Data as Interpretable Texts
  - Data as Processable Information

#### **Conclusions:**

- Possibility of overcoming the preexisting bias
  - Manovich; Derrida;
- Make use of big data
  - Grimmer; Owens

"You can measure anything in textual form - with a measurement error. The question is whether that error matters" - Nan Z. Da

#### Does the error matter?

- Yes: Chu; Boyd
- We agree

#### **Work Cited**

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