

BIG Data

Beate Schmittmann

Dean, College of Liberal Arts and
Sciences



Welcome

Data Data Data Data

Big data from an LAS perspective

- Iowa State University's most academically diverse college
 - Home to statistics, mathematics, computer science departments
 - Astrophysics, particle physics, climate science, bioinformatics
- Focus on interdisciplinary research

Why are we here?

- Data beyond research
- The applications
- The implications
- Your responsibility



Beyond research

- Using data to improve student performance
 - Predict, identify and mitigate risk
- Combining behavioral and instructional data to improve pedagogy
 - Interactive testing and digital content delivery



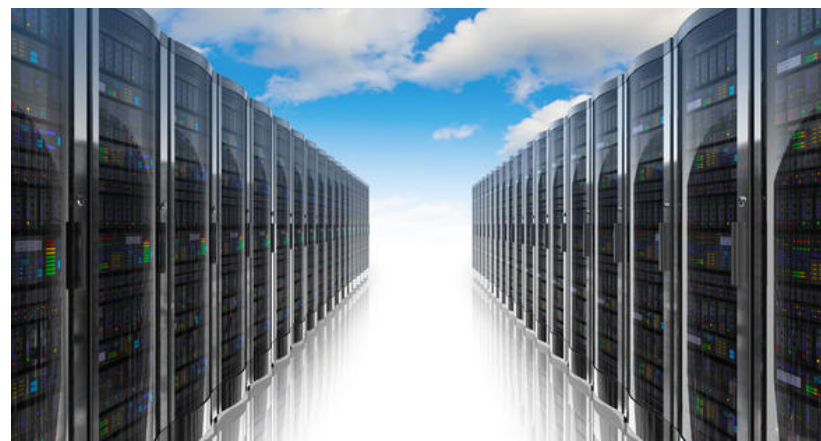
Applications of data

- Access to data
- Storing data is easy and cheap
- Experimental design has transformed
- National Science Foundation funding

2.5 Quintillion (exa)
bytes/day

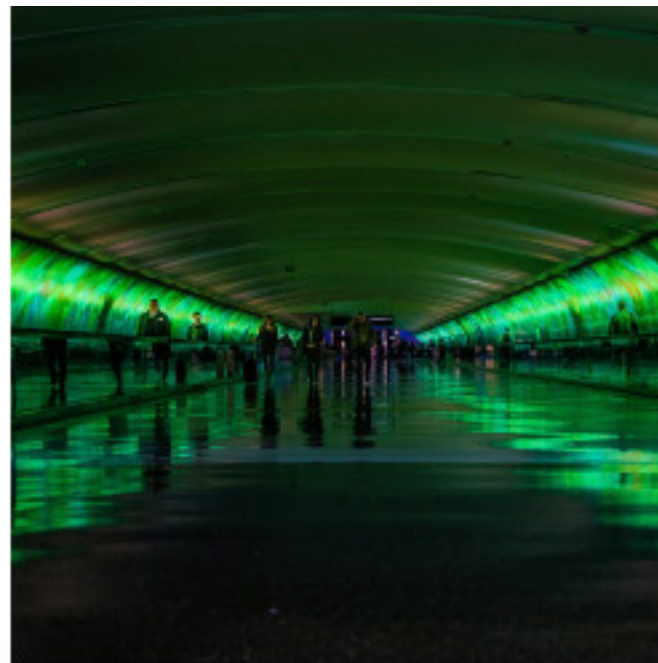
The implications

- Data-driven decisions
 - Algorithms vs. humans
- Storing the data
 - Who is responsible?
 - What type of security is required?
 - How do you ensure integrity?



The implications

- Accessing the data
 - How/should this be regulated?
 - What are the political implications?
 - Who should have access?



The implications

- The bigger the data, the bigger the breach
- Balance risk with cost efficiencies
- Need more people who can process and analyze petabytes of data



The ethics

- How is data used?
 - Location
 - Financial
 - Health
 - Behavioral
 - Travel
 - Internet usage
 - Phone records
 - Educational



How will you manage big data?

- You are the new leaders in research
 - How will you use data?
 - How will you protect data?
 - How will you balance access with security and privacy?
 - How will you influence data-usage policies?





*Enjoy the event and our
beautiful campus.*