

Annotated Bibliography

Jazelle Saligumba

2025-09-09

METHODS

The source defines a step-by-step guide to scrape Amazon reviews in R, which will be extremely helpful for my plan to scrape Amazon reviews, such as avoiding bot detection—that the author takes care to dedicate a section towards. I will be using this source as a reference for my project.

[Vignette: Scraping Amazon Reviews in R](#)

Similar to the above source, this source is also extremely helpful for my plan to scrape Sephora reviews, as it provides a detailed guide on how to scrape product pages.

[Scraping the product page of Sephora | by Yelena Nevel | Medium](#)

This research article highlights that even ‘verified reviews’ on Amazon, indicating that the presence of fake reviews can significantly impact consumer behavior.

[Misinformation and Mistrust: The Equilibrium Effects of Fake Reviews on Amazon.com | NBER](#)

CONTEMPORARY ECONOMIC CONTEXT

Since I want to ground my project with direct comparisons to more formally recognized recessions, I will be using the big four recession indicators.

[big four recession indicators](#)

HISTORICAL/SOCIOLOGICAL/CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL CONTEXT

Published in 2022, author Danzinger in Forbes summarizes modern economic patterns and numbers:

[With the recession coming, lipstick sales rise](#)

Sociologist and economist Juliet Schor first conceptualized the ‘Lipstick Index’ in her book

The Overspent American (1998) - Juliet Schor (Chapter 3, pg. 49)

Published by the American Psychological Association, the 2012 paper interrogates Schor’s text:

[Mating, Spending, and the Lipstick Effect | Journal of Personality and Social Psychology | Texas](#)

DATA SOURCES

The Sephora website is one of the main data sources of this project which contains variables:

[Sephora website](#)

Similarly, the Amazon website is another main data source to record similar variables as Sephora:

[Amazon website](#)

By the Federal Reserve, FRED records the monthly unemployment numbers in the United States, as well as:

[Unemployment Rate](#)