

Temporal Validity

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- Operations in lower-dim space (synthesize theory etc)
- Project back up into the high-dimensional space of social reality

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- Sample of white male Twitter users in 2015, sent them messages with bots
- Varied status and group identity
- What is the theory?
 - Social pressure exists?
 - Social pressure from high-status in-group members is more effective?
 - The accounts who were treated by Bot C sent a few hundred fewer racial slurs in October 2015 than the accounts not treated by any bot?

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- "Rate of Change" of a system; "Knowledge Decay Parameter"

Empirical Knowledge Aggregation and “Concept Drift”

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- “Temporal validity” is related to “concept drift”: changing relationship between a construct and the data that exist
- Need rich, high-latency data to detect and ameliorate concept drift within the same dataset — impossible for nearly any social science question

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- “XXXX (2015) find that using Facebook increases political knowledge, but YYYY (2022) find the opposite. Future research will adjudicate which is correct”

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- Scale of the system/social science

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- For fast-moving systems, we want to ask *why* something is or *what it does*
- Pragmatic limit may in fact be *what is*; the method is Quantitative Description

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- Evidentiary chain is only as strong as its weakest link

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Thank You!

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References
