# Research Methodology

Method of Data Collection





# Why need data?

- In a research, data is needed for
  - Discovering new knowledge
  - Testing a proposed solution, such as algorithm, tool, model, etc.
  - Comparing purpose
  - Etc.

## Where do data come from?

- Data can come from
  - Database, exist corpus
  - On Internet (by crawling)
  - Survey, questionnaires, interview
  - Experimentation
- Existing data (most) is required to
  - Pass through a pre-processing step (before can be used)
    - ➤ Cleaning, filtering, correcting
    - ➤ Translating (meaning or languages)

# An Important Question to ask

- What you must ask yourself
  - Will the data answer my research question?
- To answer that
  - You must first decide
    - ➤ What your research question(s) is/are?
  - Then, you need to decide
    - ➤ What data/variables are needed to scientifically answer the question?

## Data Collection Choice

- If we are starting from scratch, how do we collect/find data?
  - Primary data: data you collect
  - Secondary data: data someone else has collected
- If data exist in secondary form
  - Then use them to the extent as you can (keeping in mind limitations)
- But if it does not, and you are able to find primary data
  - Then you choose a data collection method



# Data Types

- In general, the data can be
  - Primary data
  - Secondary data
- In IT field (mostly in the machine learning model research work)
  - Learning/Training data
  - Testing data

# Primary Data – Limitations

- Do you have the time and money for
  - Designing your collection instrument?
  - Selecting your population or sample?
  - Pretesting/piloting the instrument to work out sources of bias?
  - Administration of the instrument?
  - Entry/collation of data?

# **Examples of Sources of Primary Data**

- These are examples of sources of primary data
  - Surveys
  - Focus groups
  - Questionnaires
  - Personal interviews
  - Observational study
  - Experiments
  - Ground truth process

# Secondary Data – Limitations

- When was it collected? For how long?
  - May be out of date for
    - ➤ What you want to analyze
  - May not have been collected long enough for
    - ➤ Detecting trends (a general direction developing or changing)
- Is the dataset complete?
  - There may be missing information on some observations
  - Unless such missing info. is caught and corrected
  - Or analysis will be biased

# Secondary Data – Limitations

- Are the data consistent/reliable?
  - Did variables drop out over time?
  - Did variables change in definition over time?
- Is the information exactly what you need?
  - In some cases, may have to use "proxy variables"
    - > Variables that may approximate something you really wanted to measure

# Secondary Data – Advantages

- No need to reinvent the wheel
  - If someone has already found the data, take advantage of it
- It will save you money
  - Even if you have to pay for access
    - ➤ It is often cheaper in terms of money than collecting your own data
- It will save you time
  - Primary data collection is very time consuming

# Secondary Data – Advantages

- It may be very accurate
  - When especially a government agency has collected the data
    Incredible amounts of time & money went into it (probably highly accurate)
- It has great exploratory value
  - Exploring research questions and formulating hypothesis to test

# Examples of Sources of Secondary Data

- These are examples of sources of secondary data
  - Hospital, clinic, school nurse records
  - Vital statistics birth, death certificates
  - Private and foundation databases
  - Surveillance data from state government programs/organization
  - Etc.

# 3) Data Collection Approaches

# Rules for Collecting Data

- Use multiple data collection methods
- Use available data, but need to know
  - How did the measures are defined?
  - How did the data are collected and cleaned?
  - How accurate the data is?
  - Does it require cleaning?

# Rules for Collecting Data

- It must collect original data
  - Be sensitive to burden (trouble) on others
  - Establish procedures and follow them (protocol)
  - Maintain accurate records of definitions and coding
  - Verify accuracy of coding, data input

### Data Collection Methods

#### **Obtrusive**

- Directly obtain information from those being evaluated
  - ➤e.g. interviews, surveys, focus groups

#### Unobtrusive

- Do not collect information directly from evaluation
  - ➤e.g. document analysis, Google Earth, observation at a distance
- There are 2 types of data collection approach
  - Structured Approach
  - Semi-structured Approach

# Structured Approach

- All data collected in the same way
- Important for multi-site and cluster evaluations (can compare)
- Important to make comparisons with alternate sites
- When does structured approach use?
  - Need to make comparisons across different sites or interventions
  - Know what needs to be measured
  - Need to address extent questions
  - Have a large sample or population
  - Need to show results numerically

# Semi-Structured Approach

- Not collected in the same way every time
- More open and fluid (no fixed shape)
- Not follow a rigid (fixed) script
  - may ask for more detail
  - people can tell what they want in their own way
- When does semi-structured approach use?
  - Conduct exploratory work
  - Seek to understand unexpected results, themes, and/or issues
  - Need narratives or stories
  - Want in-depth, rich, "backstage" information

## Characteristics of Good Measures

- 4 components to express characteristics of good measures
  - Is the measure relevance?
  - Is the measure credibility?
  - Is the measure validity?
  - Is the measure reliability?

# Relevance and Credibility

#### Relevance

- Does the measure capture what matters?
- Do not measure what is easy instead of what is needed

#### Credibility

- Is the measure believable?
- Will it be viewed as a reasonable and appropriate way to capture the information sought?

# Validity and Reliability

#### Internal Validity

• How well does the measure capture what it is supposed to?

#### Reliability

- A measure's precision and stability
  - Extent to which the same result would be obtained with repeated trials

# Triangulation to Increase Accuracy of Data

- Triangulation of methods
  - Collection of same information using different methods
- Triangulation of sources
  - Collection of same information from a variety of sources
- Triangulation of evaluators
  - Collection of same information from more than one evaluator



# Digitization and Indexation of Khmer Ancient Documents – Palm Leaf

Existing Digitized Data: EFEO



# Digitization and Indexation of Khmer Ancient Documents – Palm Leaf

• Existing Digitized Data: Buddhist Institute



# Digitization and Indexation of Khmer Ancient Documents – Palm Leaf

Digitization Campaign









# Romanization of Khmer: Automatic Latin-To-Khmer-Based Text Conversion

• Training Data: Student list, Facebook comments, Dictionary

Nº	ID	Name in English	Name in Khme
1	e20140009	ANG SOPHEAK	អាង សុភ័ក្រ
2	e20140014	BLANG VIBOL	ប្លង់ វិបុល
3	e20140048	CHEATH SIEVPHYGN	ជាតិ សៀវភិញ
4	e20140049	CHEM BUN HONG	ចែម ប៊ុនហុង
5	e20130061	CHHAT BUNSREYLY	ឆាត ប៊ុនស្រីលី
6	e20140058	CHHEANG VANNY RATANAK	ឈាង វាំន្ទីរគន:
7	e20140062	CHHENG RATANA	ឆេង រកនា
8	e20140066	CHHIENG MENGKEA	ឈៀង ម៉េងគា
9	e20140070	CHHIM SOVAN RITH	ឈីម សុវណ្ណរិទ្ធ
10	e20140078	CHHORN BUNCHHUONG	ននប៉ុនឈួង
11	e20140096	CHIM SOPHEAKTRA	ជីម សុភក្ត្រ័ត្រា
12	e20140099	CHIV NENG	ជីវ ណេង
13	e20140074	CHOEB VANNARY	ជីប វណ្ណារី
14	e20130119	CHOU SEAKNY	ជូ សៀកនី
15	e20151107	DANH THI HONG HOA	យ័ញ្ញ ធី ហុង ហ្វា

# Romanian-English Machine Translation

#### Data from News website



Source: Machine Translation, KAING Hour

# Travel Recommendation System



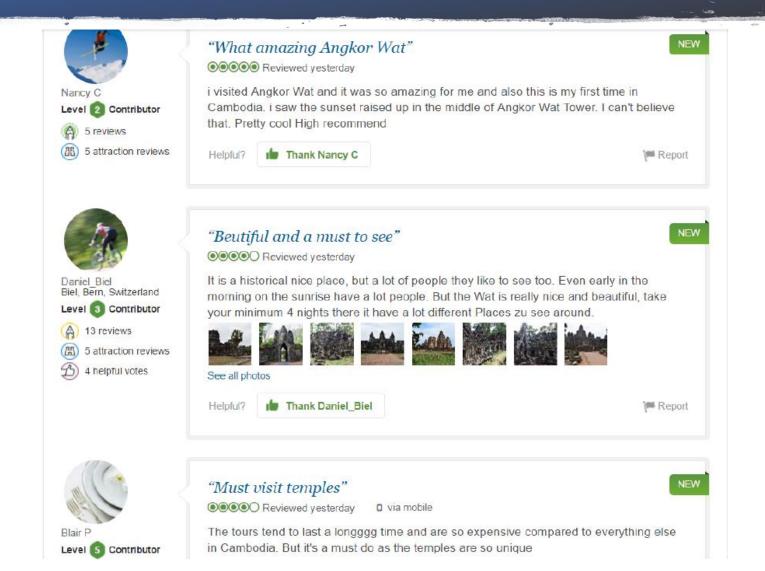
#### Asia > Cambodia > Siem Reap Province > Siem Reap > Things to do in Siem Reap > Angkor Wat

#### **Angkor Wat**

●●●● 32,259 reviews #1 of 179 things to do in Siem Reap

Overview Tours & Tickets Reviews (32,260) Q&A (166) Location

# Travel Recommendation System

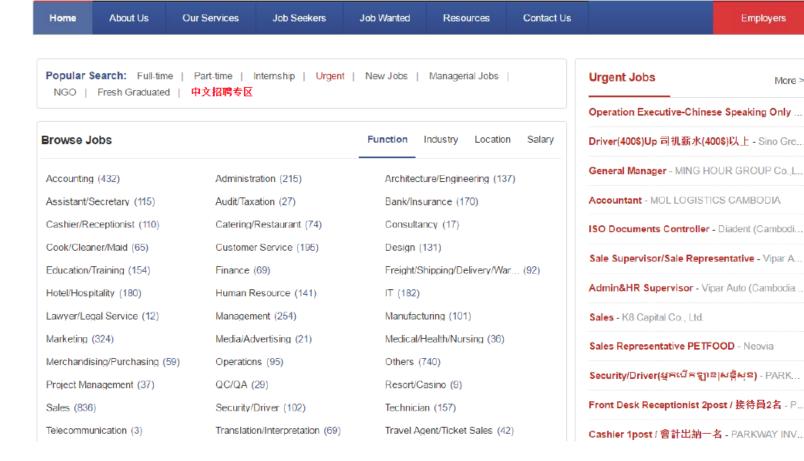


# Right Job, Right Person Application



#### May consider buying data

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# Right Job, Right Person Application

