

Readings for “Big Data in Sociological Research”

Files are in the download box for this course:

<https://www.unitn.it/drss/srs/336/course-materials>

Course instructor: Prof. Michael Shalev

If you have any questions, please contact me at michael.shalev@gmail.com

FIRST MEETING (17.11.20)

Essential reading (filename: 1_Annual Review of Sociology--Intro to Big Data.pdf)

Lazer, David and Jason Radford. 2017. “Data Ex Machina: Introduction to Big Data.” *Annual Review of Sociology* 43(1):19-39, DOI:10.1146/annurev-soc-060116-053457.

Optional reading (filename: 1_Rotman-Shalev_Location data & mass protests (2020).pdf)

Rotman, Assaf and Michael Shalev. 2020. “Using Location Data from Mobile Phones to Study Participation in Mass Protests.” *Sociological Methods & Research*, DOI: 10.1177/0049124120914926.

SECOND MEETING (24.11.20)

Choose one article from either of the following two topics, which you will present in class.

NOTE:

(1) If you are interested in more than one article, of course you are encouraged to read more ☺

(2) If you prefer, you can look for a different article on one of these two general topics. But in that case please ask the instructor to approve your choice at least two weeks before the class.

Topic 1: How big data can be used to address a specific question of interest to sociologists

Goldberg, Amir, et al. 2016. “Fitting in or Standing Out? The Tradeoffs of Structural and Cultural Embeddedness.” *American Sociological Review* 81(6):1190-222.

Filename: 2.1_Culture and networks in individual attainment.pdf

Ferrara, Emilio. 2020. “What Types of Covid-19 Conspiracies Are Populated by Twitter Bots?” *First Monday*, <https://firstmonday.org/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/10633>.

Filename: 2.1_Diffusion of Covid conspiracies on Twitter.pdf

Dave, Dhaval M., et al. 2020. “Black Lives Matter Protests, Social Distancing, and Covid-19.” National Bureau of Economic Research, <https://www.nber.org/papers/w27408>

Filename: 2.1_Whether Black Lives protests spread Covid.pdf

Brown, Phillip and Manuel Souto-Otero. 2018. “The End of the Credential Society? An Analysis of the Relationship between Education and the Labour Market Using Big Data.” *Journal of Education Policy* 35(1):95-118, 10.1080/02680939.2018.1549752.

Filename: 2.1_Whether credentials sort people into jobs.pdf

Topic 2: How big data can be a source of some type of empirical indicator of use to sociologists

Won, Donghyeon, Zachary C. Steinert-Threlkeld, and Jungseock Joo. 2017. "Protest Activity Detection and Perceived Violence Estimation from Social Media Images." Proceedings of the 2017 ACM on Multimedia Conference - MM '17.

Filename: 2.2_Generating data on protest violence & emotions.pdf

Gebu, T., et al. 2017. "Using Deep Learning and Google Street View to Estimate the Demographic Makeup of Neighborhoods across the United States." *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 114(50):13108-13.

Filename: 2.2_Google StreetView for local demographics & voting (USA).pdf

Suel, E., et al. 2019. "Measuring Social, Environmental and Health Inequalities Using Deep Learning and Street Imagery." *Sci Rep* 9(1):6229.

Filename: 2.2_Google StreetView for multiple indicators (UK).pdf

Levy Abitbol, Jacob, Eric Fleury, and Márton Karsai. 2019. "Optimal Proxy Selection for Socioeconomic Status Inference on Twitter." *Complexity* 2019:1-15.

Filename: 2.2_SES indicators of Twitter users.pdf