

Big Data Benefits and Challenges

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Methodolgy

- New approaches relate to data mining, text analysis, machine learning
- Analysis of network data
- Summarize + visualise large and complex data
- Replicability and reproducibility of results
- Correlation is not causation
- Big Data Big Problems?
 - Increased noise in the data
 - Hypothesis testing
 - Model articulation, model testing and model selection
 - Meta-analysis across heterogeneous data
 - Identifying false positives and false negatives
 - Validity of generalisation (overfitting of models)



Quality

- Start from users' needs
- Revisit conceptualisation of information needs
- Analyse according to different quality dimensions
- Take multitude of data sources to observe differences
- Reliability of data source
- De-mystify big data



Legal Frameworks / Ethical issues

- Data protection and privacy law
- New developments might require new approaches
 - Enable/empower individuals to manage their data
- Enablers for access to data (Agreements, legislation)
- Review of statistical domain legislation
- Contradicting regulations
- Balance between legislation and non-legislative agreements (code of practice)
- Secure data processing and assure anonymised outputs



Commonalities

- Data sources very similar
- Opportunities for standardisation and harmonisation
 - Methodology
 - Algorithms and software (open)
 - Statistical products
 - Quality assessment
 - Skills
 - Ethical principles
 - Recommendations for legal approach
 - IT infrastructures
 - Common use
 - Best practice and guidelines for planning and implementation
 - Communication of statistics
- Analysis of country specific situations necessary