

Web Social Science: Concepts, Data and Tools for Social Scientists in the Digital Age

Robert Ackland

ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF



 Download

 Read Online

#1403168 in Books SAGE Publications Ltd 2013-06-26 2013-06-17Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.21 x .51 x 6.14l, .75 #File Name: 1849204829224 pages | File size: 57.Mb

Robert Ackland : Web Social Science: Concepts, Data and Tools for Social Scientists in the Digital Age before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Web Social Science: Concepts, Data and Tools for Social Scientists in the Digital Age:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. SolidBy Luke MansilloRobert Ackland provides a solid account of methods and theoretical concepts used in internet and network research. It is a well written introductory text to the area.

"Although written simply enough to be accessible to undergraduates, accomplished scholars are likely to appreciate it too. Reading it taught me quite a lot about a subject I thought I knew rather well." - Paul Vogt, Illinois State University
"This book brings the art and science of building and applying innovative online research tools to students and faculty across the social sciences." - William H. Dutton, University of Oxford
A comprehensive guide to the theory and practice of web Social Science. This book demonstrates how the web is being used to collect social research data, such as online surveys and interviews, as well as digital trace data from social media environments, such as Facebook and Twitter. It also illuminates how the advent of the web has led to traditional social science concepts and approaches being combined with those from other scientific disciplines, leading to new insights into social, political and economic behaviour. Situating social sciences in the digital age, this book aids: understanding of the fundamental changes to society, politics and the economy that have resulted from the advent of the web choice of appropriate data, tools and research methods for conducting research using web data learning how web data are providing new insights into long-standing social science research questions appreciation of how social science can facilitate an understanding of life in the digital age It is ideal for students and researchers across the social sciences, as well as those from information science, computer science and engineering who want to learn about how social scientists are thinking about and researching the web.

Ackland's Web Social Science is unique in being specifically designed for social science researchers. Although written simply enough to be accessible to undergraduates, accomplished scholars are likely to appreciate it too. Reading it taught me quite a lot about a subject I thought I knew rather well.--Paul Vogt (02/26/2014)A rare and timely entry to the growing body of quantitative Internet research. While most other works on the topic are written by and for scientists, this book represents a social science approach that is more accessible and applicable, with more attention to preparation, processing and interpretation of real-world data. Though primarily for readers in social science, business studies, policy analysts, and alike, the book blends traditional social science and emerging web science into a unique handbook of Internet research.--Jonathan J. H. Zhu (02/26/2014)Brings the art and science of building and applying innovative online research tools to students and faculty across the social sciences.--William H. Dutton (02/26/2014)Provides excellent chapters on how to study the Web from a social science research perspective. Although there are many books on theorizing the Internet and the Web, few tackle hands-on research issues. This two-part book (divided into a methods section and example studies) covers a wide range of research designs, tools and data types from many different social science perspectives (psychology, sociology, media studies, political studies and network science among others). Highly recommended for social science studies that want to use the Web to study social phenomena (the Web as a tool) and media studies that focus on the Web itself as a research object.--Maurice Vergeer (02/26/2014)This book combines the technical terms with the social science perspective and some important topics in daily life related to private life, organisational, political and economic activities. It is appropriate for scientists and students in different areas - social, engineering, economic - every area that uses web for informing, promoting, exerting social influence and conducting studies.--Stanislava Yordanova Stoyanova (02/17/2014)The benefit-and the challenge- of this ambitious volume is that the author considers not only how web data are providing new insights into existing social science research questions, but also how social science can contribute to an understanding of life in the digital era...Overall, Ackland has much to offer researchers seeking to conduct Web social science research: in both the methods section and a section composed of concrete, useful examples, he examines varied research designs, tools and data types from diverse social science perspectives. Summing Up: Recommended. Graduate students and research/faculty.--A.I. PiperAs a relative novice to web-based social research, I have been searching for a book that explains the concepts and different methodologies in accessible language; gives examples demonstrating the practical application of web methods; and does not neglect academic rigour and ethics. This one ticks all those boxes...Ackland's book is comprehensive and, despite the technical topic, easy to read and understand. The book is particularly valuable for those new to web social science, while it will serve as a handy reference for those with experience in the field.--Christine Bertram, research fellow at the Institute for Employment StudiesAckland's Web Social Science is unique in being specifically designed for social science researchers. Although written simply enough to be accessible to undergraduates, accomplished scholars are likely to appreciate it too. Reading it taught me quite a lot about a subject I thought I knew rather well.--Paul Vogt (02/26/2014)This book combines the technical terms with the social science perspective and some important topics in daily life related to private life, organisational, political and economic activities. It is appropriate for scientists and students in different areas - social, engineering, economic - every area that uses web for informing, promoting, exerting social influence and conducting studies.--Stanislava Yordanova Stoyanova (02/17/2014)An innovative book that is helpful for understanding new research questions on the impact of online networks and Internet use. This book can easily convince the reader of the importance of Internet-related research topics [and] it is a textbook that all students in social sciences would be able to read.--Thierry Penard Acklands Web Social Science is unique in being specifically designed for social science researchers. Although written simply enough to be accessible to undergraduates, accomplished scholars are likely to appreciate it too. Reading it taught me quite a lot about a subject I thought I knew rather well. (Paul Vogt 2014-02-26)A rare and timely entry to

the growing body of quantitative Internet research. While most other works on the topic are written by and for scientists, this book represents a social science approach that is more accessible and applicable, with more attention to preparation, processing and interpretation of real-world data. Though primarily for readers in social science, business studies, policy analysts, and alike, the book blends traditional social science and emerging web science into a unique handbook of Internet research. (Jonathan J. H. Zhu 2014-02-26) Brings the art and science of building and applying innovative online research tools to students and faculty across the social sciences. (William H. Dutton 2014-02-26) Provides excellent chapters on how to study the Web from a social science research perspective. Although there are many books on theorizing the Internet and the Web, few tackle hands-on research issues. This two-part book (divided into a methods section and example studies) covers a wide range of research designs, tools and data types from many different social science perspectives (psychology, sociology, media studies, political studies and network science among others). Highly recommended for social science studies that want to use the Web to study social phenomena (the Web as a tool) and media studies that focus on the Web itself as a research object. (Maurice Vergeer 2014-02-26) This book combines the technical terms with the social science perspective and some important topics in daily life related to private life, organisational, political and economic activities. It is appropriate for scientists and students in different areas social, engineering, economic every area that uses web for informing, promoting, exerting social influence and conducting studies. (Stanislava Yordanova Stoyanova 2014-02-17) The benefit-and the challenge- of this ambitious volume is that the author considers not only how web data are providing new insights into existing social science research questions, but also how social science can contribute to an understanding of life in the digital era... Overall, Ackland has much to offer researchers seeking to conduct Web social science research: in both the methods section and a section composed of concrete, useful examples, he examines varied research designs, tools and data types from diverse social science perspectives. Summing Up: Recommended. Graduate students and research/faculty. (A.I. Piper) As a relative novice to web-based social research, I have been searching for a book that explains the concepts and different methodologies in accessible language; gives examples demonstrating the practical application of web methods; and does not neglect academic rigour and ethics. This one ticks all those boxes Acklands book is comprehensive and, despite the technical topic, easy to read and understand. The book is particularly valuable for those new to web social science, while it will serve as a handy reference for those with experience in the field. (Christine Bertram, research fellow at the Institute for Employment Studies) An innovative book that is helpful for understanding new research questions on the impact of online networks and Internet use. This book can easily convince the reader of the importance of Internet-related research topics [and] it is a textbook that all students in social sciences would be able to read. (Thierry Penard) About the Author Assoc. Prof. Robert Ackland has a joint appointment in the School of Sociology and the Australian Centre for Applied Social Research Methods (AusCen) at the Australian National University (ANU). He was awarded his PhD in economics from the ANU in 2001, and he has been researching online social and organisational networks since 2002. He leads the Virtual Observatory for the Study of Online Networks Lab (<http://voson.anu.edu.au>) which was established in 2005 and is advancing the social science of the Internet by conducting research, developing research tools, and providing research training. Robert established the Social Science of the Internet specialisation in the ANUs Master of Social Research in 2008, and his book *Web Social Science: Concepts, Data and Tools for Social Scientists in the Digital Age* (SAGE) was published in July 2013. He created the VOSON software for hyperlink network construction and analysis, which has been publicly available since 2006 and is used by researchers worldwide.