

NOTES FOR THE BOOK, *PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS: THE POWER TO PREDICT WHO WILL CLICK, BUY, LIE, OR DIE* — REVISED AND UPDATED EDITION

This document provides citations and comments pertaining to the book's chapters.

Rather than clicking, many URLs below that span multiple lines must be copied to your browser, and extraneous spaces manually removed.

For more information about the book, see the book's website:

www.thepredictionbook.com.

For this book's primary list of additional reading and other learning resources, see its "Hands-On Guide: Resources for Further Learning," located at the end of the book itself (also published online as an article: <http://bit.ly/1OHGggC>).

INTRODUCTION: The Prediction Effect

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- Alexander Furnas, "It's Not All about You: What Privacy Advocates Don't Get about Data Tracking on the Web," *The Atlantic*, March 15, 2012. www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2012/03/its-not-all-about-you-what-privacy-advocates-dont-get-about-data-tracking-on-the-web/254533/.

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Eric Schmidt on facial recognition and privacy:

- Bianca Bosker, “Facial Recognition: The One Technology Google Is Holding Back,” *Huffington Post*, June 1, 2011. www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/06/01/facial-recognition-google_n_869583.html.

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- Michal Kosinski, David Stillwell and Thore Graepel, “Private traits and attributes are predictable from digital records of human behavior,” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS)*, Vol. 110, No. 15, April 9, 2013. www.pnas.org/content/110/15/5802.abstract.
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- "Minority office report: Warning over software now being used by bosses that predicts if you're going to steal from the firm, have a nervous breakdown and even have an office affair." <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2956766/Minority-office-report-Warning-software-used-bosses-predicts-going-steal-firm-nervous-breakdown-office-affair.html>.
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Even Chuck Norris protests government data collection, as the IRS collects taxpayer data from social media:

- Chuck Norris, “IRS Now Robo-audits Your Spending,” *Ammoland*, April 9, 2013. www.ammoland.com/2013/04/irs-now-robo-audits-your-spending/.

Should Data Science Become a Profession and Self-regulate?:

- KDNuggets Webcast/Debate: “Should Data Science Become a Profession and Self-regulate?” KDNuggets, April 10, 2013. www.kdnuggets.com/2013/04/webcast-debate-should-data-science-become-a-profession-self-regulate.html.

Special Sidebar on Automatic Suspect Discovery:

For context, here is the complete albeit limited extent of my own prior direct involvement in government intelligence work. Besides many miscellaneous interactions with government and industry workers as a consultant and the founder of the Predictive Analytics World conference series, which includes the annual PAW Government event, I worked directly on only one project in government intelligence. While at a startup company around 2002/2003, I served as the project supervisor for a CIA-funded project to develop a prototype system that automatically groups email addresses into "cliques," according to how often they email one another, and then characterizes the topic areas discussed in each group's communications by way of frequent keywords in email subject lines. The pilot system was tested only on the startup company's own internal email system, and all employees were notified of such. The groups and associated email conversation topics automatically inferred and output by the system were intuitively compelling, e.g., the holiday party organizers were successfully designated as such. Beyond that project, most of the startup company's work applied analytics to network intrusion detection systems (i.e., to detect hackers and viruses). The email-grouping system was part of the Email Mining Toolkit described in the following research papers (I was erroneously left off the publications' author lists despite my involvement, writing contributions, and, specifically, that I designed and drew Figure 1 in them both, and Figure 2 in the latter):

- Salvatore J. Stolfo, Shlomo Hershkop, Chia-Wei Hu, Wei-Jen Li, Olivier Nimeskern, and Ke Wang, *Behavior-based Modeling and its Application to Email Analysis*. Columbia University modified September 4, 2011.
<http://ids.cs.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/TOIT-EMT.pdf>.
- Salvatore J. Stolfo, Shlomo Hershkop, Ke Wang, Wei-Jen Li, Olivier Nimeskern, and Chia-Wei Hu, *Behavior Profiling of Email*. Columbia University modified September 4, 2011.
<http://ids.cs.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/nsf-nij-emt.pdf>.

The author's Newsweek op-ed on NSA bulk data collection:

- Eric Siegel, “A Rogue Liberal: Halting NSA Bulk Data Collection Compromises Intelligence,” *Newsweek*, November 28, 2015.
www.predictiveanalyticsworld.com/patimes/a-rogue-liberal-halting-nsa-bulk-data-collection-compromises-intelligence/6882/.

The NSA's Utah Data Center is the U.S.'s largest data center for surveillance:

- James Bamford, “The NSA is Building the Country’s Biggest Spy Center (Watch What You Say),” *Wired Online*, March 15, 2012.
www.wired.com/2012/03/ff_nsadatacenter/.

The NSA is the world’s largest employer of Ph.D. mathematicians:

- Matt Bedan, “*Echelon’s Effect: The Obsolescence of the U.S. Foreign Intelligence Legal Regime*,” *Federal Communications Law Journal*, Vol. 59, Iss.2, Article 7, 425 (2007).
www.wanttoknow.info/articles/echelon_ukusa_unconstitutional.pdf.

Mission and Executive Order for the NSA:

- National Security Agency Central Security Service Mission Statement. <https://www.nsa.gov/about/mission/index.shtml>.
- National Archives, Federal Register, Executive Order 12333—United States intelligence activities. The provisions of Executive Order 12333 of Dec. 4, 1981, appear at 46 FR 59941, 3 CFR, 1981 Comp., p. 200, unless otherwise noted. www.archives.gov/federal-register/codification/executive-order/12333.html.

Two primary resources as backstory on the Edward Snowden disclosures:

- Glenn Greenwald, *No Place To Hide: Edward Snowden, the NSA and the U.S. Surveillance State* (Metropolitan Books, 2014).
- Luke Harding, *The Snowden Files: The Inside Story of the World's Most Wanted Man* (Vintage Books, 2014).

General treatises on privacy in the age of the Internet and data collection by both corporations and government agencies:

- Robert Scheer, *They Know Everything About You: How Data-Colling Corporations and Snooping Government Agencies are Destroying Democracy* (Nations Books, 2015).
- Frank Pasquale, *The Black Box Society: The Secret Algorithms That Control Money and Information* (President and Fellows of Harvard College, 2015).
- Adam Tanner, *What Stays in Vegas: The World of Personal Data—Lifblood of Big Business—and the End of Privacy as We Know It* (PublicAffairs, 2014).

The move towards increased government data collection and the debate around it pre-dated Snowden:

- Alex Howard, “Predictive analytics and data sharing raise civil liberties concerns,” O’Reilly Radar Online, April 11, 2013. <http://radar.oreilly.com/2013/04/predictive-big-data-analytics-privacy.html>.

Pattern that predicts an attack by Lashkar-e-Taiba:

- Neal Ungerleider, “A Computer Program That Predicts Terrorist Attacks,” Co.EXIST. www.fastcoexist.com/1680540/a-computer-program-that-predicts-terrorist-attacks.
- A. Mannes, J. Shakarian, A. Sliva, and V. S. Subrahmanian, “A Computationally-Enabled Analysis of Lashkar-e-Taiba Attacks in Jammu & Kashmir,” Laboratory for Computational Cultural Dynamics, July 1, 2011. https://lccd-content.umiacs.umd.edu/main/papers/let_eisic_camera.pdf.

NSA bulk data collection was, in fact, publicly revealed years before Snowden, in 2006:

- Leslie Cauley, “NSA has massive database of American phone calls,” *USA TODAY*, May 11, 2006. http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/washington/2006-05-10-nsa_x.htm.

Support for the presumption that the NSA has worked with PA and will continue to do so:

NSA Data Scientist job posting on LinkedIn:

- "The relevant experience must involve data mining, informatics, data science, programming, computational algorithms, information retrieval (i.e., organizing and structuring data), statistical analysis, machine learning, artificial intelligence, software engineering, and/or systems design and analysis."
www.linkedin.com/jobs2/view/18725605
- NSA Job Description, Data Scientist, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, Occupational Group: 1550, Computer Science.
https://www.nsa.gov/psp/applyonline/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM.HRS_CE.GBL?Page=HRS_CE_JOB_DTL&Action=A&JobOpeningId=1049497&SiteId=1&PostingSeq=1.

Technologies invented by the NSA include capabilities for “data mining” and to “discover patterns”:

- National Security Agency 2014 Technology Catalog, NSA Technology Transfer Program (TTP), V2.0, July 2014.
www.nsa.gov/research/_files/tech_transfers/nsa_technology_transfer_program.pdf

Overview of NSA big data capabilities includes machine learning:

- Michael Hickins, “How the NSA Could Get So Smart So Fast. Modern Computing Is Helping Companies and Governments Accurately Parse Vast Amounts of Data in a Matter of Minutes,” *The Wall Street Journal*, June 12, 2013.
www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424127887324049504578541271020665666
- Kurt Marko, “The NSA and Big Data: What IT Can Learn,” *InformationWeek*, July 1, 2013.
<http://reports.informationweek.com/abstract/81/11055/Business-Intelligence-and-Information-Management/the-nsa-and-big-data-what-it-can-learn-.html>.

Total Information Awareness, created in part to "find patterns" and apply data mining, is now nominally defunct, but its legacy continues at the NSA (predictive modeling is also specifically mentioned in the third citation):

- John Markoff, "THREATS AND RESPONSES: INTELLIGENCE; Pentagon Plans a Computer System That Would Peek at Personal Data of Americans," *New York Times*, November 9, 2002.
www.nytimes.com/2002/11/09/us/threats-responses-intelligence-pentagon-plans-computer-system-that-would-peek.html.
- Shane Harris, "Giving In to the Surveillance State," *The New York Times*, August 22, 2012.
www.nytimes.com/2012/08/23/opinion/whos-watching-the-nsa-watchers.html?_r=0.
- Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency's Information Awareness Office Report to Congress regarding the Terrorism Information Awareness Program. In response to Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003, Pub. L. No. 108-7, Division M, § 111(b), May 20, 2003.
https://epic.org/privacy/profiling/tia/may03_report.pdf.

Palantir's intelligence software, purchased by the NSA, provides machine learning capabilities. Peter Thiel, cofounder of PayPal, later cofounded Palantir with the intent to implement PayPal's fraud detection methods within counterterrorism software:

- Shane Harris, "Palantir Technologies spots patterns to solve crimes and track terrorists," *Wired.co.uk*, July 31, 2012.
www.wired.co.uk/magazine/archive/2012/09/features/joining-the-dots/viewall.
- Matt Burns, "Leaked Palantir Doc Reveals Uses, Specific Functions and Key Clients," *Tech Crunch Online*, January 11, 2015. <http://techcrunch.com/2015/01/11/leaked-palantir-doc-reveals-uses-specific-functions-and-key-clients/>.
- Shane Harris, "Killer App. Have a bunch of Silicon Valley geeks at Palantir Technologies figured out how to stop terrorists?" *Washingtonian*, January 31, 2012.
www.washingtonian.com/articles/people/killer-app/.
- Kevin Simler, "Palantir: So What Is It You Guys Do?" *The Palantir Blog*, December 4, 2007 [blog post].
<https://www.palantir.com/2007/12/what-do-we-do/>.

- Quora Question: “How important is machine learning to what Palantir is doing?” Matt Gordon and Anirvan Mukherjee, *Quora*, May 24, 2014. www.quora.com/How-important-is-machine-learning-to-what-Palantir-is-doing.

Regarding efforts to use data mining to "hunt for terrorists..., Cognito sells software to the NSA that the company says can find patterns in massive amounts of data, such as lists of telephone calling records.”:

- Arshad Mohammed and Sara Kehaulani Goo, “Government Increasingly Turning to Data Mining,” *The Washington Post*, June 15, 2006. www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/06/14/AR2006061402063.html.

A FISA court document requesting authorization for additional data collection describes two "major tools" for applying analytics to metadata: The first is the chaining of linked phone numbers, and the second is redacted, with PA being a possibility. On page 10, after discussing chaining linked phone numbers. The second major tool analysts can use with an archive of collected metadata is [redacted phrases of perhaps one or two substantive sentences].”:

- Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court document, "Memorandum of Law in Support of Application for Certain Tangible Things for Investigations to Protect against International Terrorism." Exhibit C, Docket Number: BR: 06-05, 1871(c) (2), July 2009. www.aclu.org/files/section215/12122013/2006.5.23%20Govt.%20Memo.%20of%20Law.pdf.

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- Dr. William Forrest Crain (Technical Chair), “The Global War on Terrorism: Analytical Support, Tools, and Metrics of Assessment (Unclassified),” Military Operations Research Society Workshop, US Naval War College, August 11, 2005. <http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a442451.pdf>.
- William M. Arkin, “Telephone Records are just the Tip of NSA’s Iceberg,” *Global Research*, May 14, 2006.

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- The DARPA Information Awareness Office (IAO) Announcement, The DARPA Information Awareness Office (IAO), August 2, 2002.
<http://web.archive.org/web/20020802012150/http://www.darpa.mil/iao>.

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- John Markoff, "Taking Spying to Higher Level, Agencies Look for More Way to Mine Data," *The New York Times*, February 25, 2006.
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- Alex Salkever, "NSA Patents Analysis and Visualization," KDnuggets.com Post, September 26, 2015.
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NSA-patented Renoir tool enables data mining:

- National Security Agency Technology Transfer Program Technology Catalog, March 2015.
https://www.nsa.gov/research/_files/tech_transfers/nsa_technology_transfer_program.pdf.

The FBI applies PA to assign terrorism "risk scores" to suspects:

- Martin H. Bosworth, "FBI Uses Data Brokers, "Risk Scores" To Hunt Terrorists," *Consumer Affairs*, July 11, 2007.
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- Ellen Nakashima, "FBI Plans Initiative To Profile Terrorists," *The Washington Post*, July 11, 2007.
www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/07/10/AR2007071001871.html.

U.S. Armed Forces conduct research to analytically predict terrorist attacks:

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- Manilio Allegra, "Where High-accuracy Wireless Location is (and isn't) Headed in 2014," *Directions Magazine*, January 13, 2014. www.directionsmag.com/entry/where-high-accuracy-wireless-location-is-and-isnt-headed-in-2014/377368.

The NSA is positioned to apply face recognition, which can provide further individual-level data for both suspects and non-suspects, and also itself requires capabilities in machine learning to execute:

- James Risen and Laura Poitras, "N.S.A. Collecting Millions of Faces From Web Images," *The New York Times*, May 31, 2014. http://www.nytimes.com/2014/06/01/us/nsa-collecting-millions-of-faces-from-web-images.html?_r=0.

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- Adam Mazmanian, "What the NSA Can't do with Your Data (probably)," *FCW Online*, June 12, 2013. www.predictiveanalyticsworld.com/patimes/what-the-nsa-cant-do-with-your-data-probably/.
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- John Eligon and Timothy Williams, “Police Program Aims to Pinpoint Those Most Likely to Commit Crimes,” *The New York Times*, September 24, 2015. www.nytimes.com/2015/09/25/us/police-program-aims-to-pinpoint-those-most-likely-to-commit-crimes.html?_r=0.
- Justin Jouvenal, “The New Way Police are Surveilling You: Calculating Your Threat ‘Score’,” *The Washington Post*, January 10, 2016. https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/public-safety/the-new-way-police-are-surveilling-you-calculating-your-threat-score/2016/01/10/e42bccac-8e15-11e5-baf4-bdf37355da0c_story.html.

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- The United States Department of Justice, National Security Division 15-1061, Office of Public Affairs Press Release, *Joint Statement by the Department of Justice and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence on the Declassification of the Renewal of Collection Under Section 215 of the USA Patriot Act as Amended by the USA Freedom Act*, August 28, 2015.
www.justice.gov/opa/pr/joint-statement-department-justice-and-office-director-national-intelligence-declassificati-1.

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- Jennifer Steinhauer and Jonathan Weisman, "U.S. Surveillance in Place Since 9/11 Is Sharply Limited," *The New York Times*, June 2, 2015.
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The National Research Council of the Academy of Sciences argues that no technology can achieve the same effect in lieu of bulk data and recommends the NSA to predictively target surveillance, "to monitor trends or patterns in communications that might lead to intelligence insights":

- National Research Council of the National Academies, *Bulk Collection of Signals Intelligence*, (National Academies Press 2015).
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- National Security Agency Director Michael Rogers Senate Select Intelligence Committee testimony on Intelligence and Cybersecurity Issues on September 24, 2015, *C-SPAN*, September 24, 2015. www.c-span.org/video/?328309-1/hearing-cybersecurity.

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- Spencer Ackerman, "Technology offers no magic solutions to bulk data collection issues, says panel," *The Guardian*, January 15, 2015.
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- Patrick Condren, "European Court of Justice's AG Rules 'Safe Harbour' Invalid Impacting Global Use Data," *icrunchdata News*, October 6, 2015.
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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tyPL_sN776k (see content around 3:20).
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- USA Freedom Act, Wikipedia.com.
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- Michael Brenner, “The NSA’s Second Coming,” *The Huffington Post*, June 8, 2015.
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- Lauren Walker, “NSA to Destroy Data Collected From Mass Phone Surveillance,” *Newsweek*, July 27, 2015.
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- Peter Baker and David E. Sanger, “Why the N.S.A. Isn’t Howling Over Restrictions,” *The New York Times*, May 1, 2015. www.nytimes.com/2015/05/02/us/politics/giving-in-a-little-on-national-security-agency-data-collection.html.
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- Mattathias Schwartz, “The Whole Haystack: The N.S.A. claims it needs access to all our phone records. But is that the best way to catch a terrorist?” *The New Yorker*, January 26, 2015.
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- John Wilbanks, “Is Too Much Privacy Bad For Your Health?” *Part 4 of the TED Radio Hour episode The End of Privacy*, NPR Radio, January 31, 2014. www.npr.org/2014/01/31/265700003/is-too-much-privacy-bad-for-your-health.
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Further Reading on Vast Search (final portion of Chapter 3):

NOTE: *Vast search and statistical significance are fundamental yet elusive and far-reaching topics—if you are considering diving into the following citations for more depth on these issues and the statistical methods that address them, I suggest reading all of this book's Chapters 3 and 4 first, since they provide the broader perspective and framework within which to understand the more technical aspects.*

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Here is where to read more on *target shuffling*, the simulation-based method employed to reassess the significance of the "orange lemons" claim. Target shuffling was also the method John Elder employed to gauge the system integrity of his stock market prediction system described in Chapter 1. It validated the system's robustness, informing the decisions to deploy it, keep it running for years, and eventually to shut it down:

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- “HBO Teaches You How to Avoid Bad Science,” *Predictive Analytics Times*, July 7, 2016 (includes HBO’s “Last Week Tonight with John Oliver” video).

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More on the tribulations of p-values - "If you observe a P value close to 0.05, your false discovery rate will not be 5%. It will be at least 30% and it could easily be 80% for small studies.":

- David Colquhoun, “On the hazards of significance testing. Part 2: the false discovery rate, or how not to make a fool of yourself with *P* values,” DC’s Improbably Science [Blog Post], March 24, 2014. www.dscience.net/2014/03/24/on-the-hazards-of-significance-testing-part-2-the-false-discovery-rate-or-how-not-to-make-a-fool-of-yourself-with-p-values/.

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<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/272330.php>.

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CHAPTER 4: The Machine That Learns: A Look inside Chase's Prediction of Mortgage Risk (*modeling*)

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CHAPTER 7: Persuasion by the Numbers: How Telenor, U.S. Bank, and the Obama Campaign Engineered Influence (*uplift*)

This chapter benefited greatly from valuable interviews with Patrick Surry, Nicholas Radcliffe, and Neil Skilling.

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