

#### Ethics of quantification or quantification of ethics?

Andrea Saltelli, Centre for the Study of the Sciences and the Humanities, SVT - University of Bergen (UIB) and Open Evidence Research, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), Barcelona.

Annual symposium of the Centre for the Study of the Sciences and the Humanities (SVT): Ethics of quantification, Bergen, December 6, 2019.



#### Where to find this talk: www.andreasaltelli.eu

#### Andrea **Saltelli**

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#### Tweets by @AndreaSaltelli



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#### YouTube @YouTube



Jul 26, 2019

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Saltelli

## Crisis of science



Reflexes on the use of science to inform human affairs



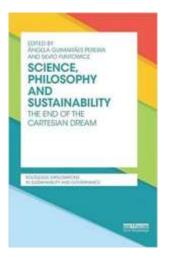
Reflexes on our understanding of technoscience



What role does quantification play in all that



Ethics of quantification



Crisis of science



Futures Volume 91, August 2017, Pages 5-11



#### What is science's crisis really about?

Andrea Saltelli <sup>a, b</sup> <sup>∧</sup> <sup>∞</sup>, Silvio Funtowicz <sup>a</sup>

#### Reflexes on the use of science to inform human affairs



Futures Volume 91, August 2017, Pages 62-71





Futures Volume 104, December 2018, Pages 85-90



Original research article

What is wrong with evidence based policy, and how can it be improved?

Andrea Saltelli <sup>a, b, c</sup> or a, Mario Giampietro <sup>a, c, d</sup>

Why science's crisis should not become a political battling ground

Andrea, Saltelli 🖾

#### Reflexes on our understanding of technoscience

ANDREA SALTELLI Save science from itself

COMMENT · 21 MAY 2019

### Views from a continent in flux

Carlos Moedas, Isabelle Vernos <sup>100</sup>, Stephan Kuster <sup>100</sup>, Helga Nowotny <sup>100</sup>, Andrea Saltelli <sup>100</sup>, Alina Mungiu-Pippidi <sup>100</sup>, Jan Wouter Vasbinder <sup>100</sup>, Daniel R. Brooks & Patrick Cunningham <sup>100</sup>

Journal Pre-proof

Technoscience, policy and the new media. Nexus

or vortex?

PII:	S0016-3287(19)30353-2
DOI:	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.futures.2019.102491
Reference:	JFTR 102491



11re

International journal of science

#### What role does quantification play in all that



Environmental Modelling & Software Volume 114, April 2019, Pages 29-39





Comment Open Access Published: 27 August 2019

#### Why so many published sensitivity analyses are false: A systematic review of sensitivity analysis practices

Andrea Saltelli <sup>a, b</sup> <sup>A</sup> <sup>⊠</sup>, Ksenia Aleksankina <sup>c</sup>, William Becker <sup>d</sup>, Pamela Fennell <sup>e</sup>, Federico Ferretti <sup>d</sup>, Niels Holst <sup>f</sup>, Sushan Li <sup>g</sup>, Qiongli Wu <sup>h</sup>

# A short comment on statistical versus mathematical modelling

Andrea Saltelli 🗠



A. Saltelli (Guest post): What can we learn from the debate on statistical significance?

Planet on November 22, 2019 by Menti



#### Professor Andrea Saltelli

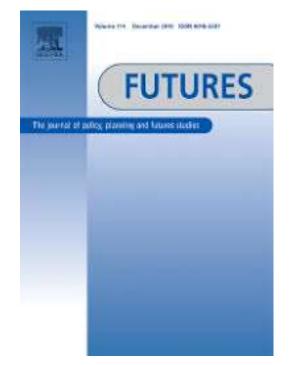
Centre for the Study of the Sciences and the Humanities (SVT), University of Bergen (UIB, Norway),

Open Evidence Research, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), Barcelona



### Ethics of quantification

Ethics of quantification or quantification of ethics? Andrea Saltelli, 2020?





# Crisis in science? Surely you must be joking



Futures Volume 91, August 2017, Pages 5-11



### What is science's crisis really about?

Andrea Saltelli <sup>a, b</sup> ペ ⊠, Silvio Funtowicz <sup>a</sup>



Futures Volume 104, December 2018, Pages 85-90





### Silvio Funtowicz

# Why science's crisis should not become a political battling ground

Andrea, Saltelli 🖾

Failed replications, entire subfields going bad, fraudulent peer reviews, predatory publishers, perverse metrics, statistics on trial …



Brow





The Economic Journal, 127 (October), F236–F265. Doi: 10.1111/ecoj.12461 © 2017 Royal Economic Society. Published by John Wiley & Sons, 9600 Carsington Road, Oxford OX4 2DQ, UK and 350 Main Street, Malden, MA 02148, USA.

G OPEN ACCESS

ESSAY

June 21, 2017

#### Why Most Clinical Research Is Not Useful

John P. A. Ioannidis 🖾

Published: June 21, 2016 • https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002049

THE POWER OF BIAS IN ECONOMICS RESEARCH\*

John P. A. Ioannidis, T. D. Stanley and Hristos Doucouliagos

October 27, 2017

... misleading science advice, institutions on denial, a new breed of science wars

Check for updates

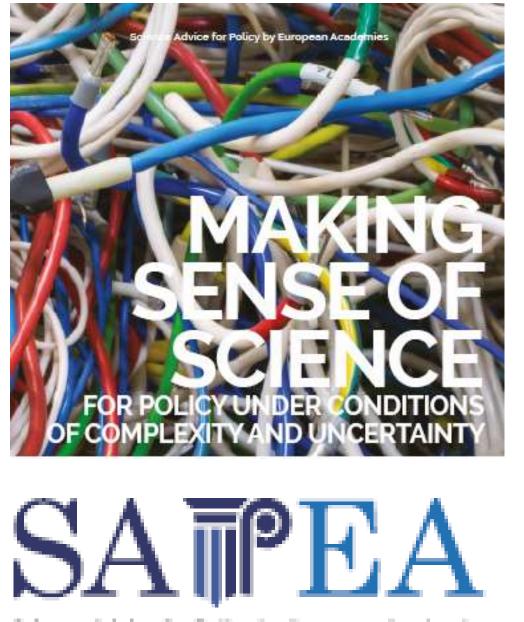
# Opinion: Is science really facing a reproducibility crisis, and do we need it to?

Daniele Fanelli

PNAS March 12, 2018. 201708272; published ahead of print March 12, 2018. https://doi.org/10.1073 /pnas.1708272114



"The new "science is in crisis" narrative is not only empirically unsupported, but also quite obviously counterproductive"



Science Advice for Policy by European Academies

# tion translat in St t



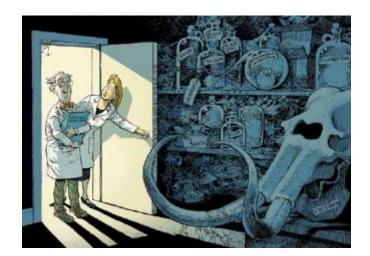
Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM)

# Scientific Advice

Research and

Group of Oxef Scientific Advisors Scientific Opinion No.7, Sep. 2019

Independent Independent Expert I Report The crisis is methodological, epistemological, ethical and metaphysical



COMMENT · 20 MARCH 2019

### Scientists rise up against statistical significance

Valentin Amrhein, Sander Greenland, Blake McShane and more than 800 signatories call for an end to hyped claims and the dismissal of possibly crucial effects.

Valentin Amrhein 🖾, Sander Greenland & Blake McShane



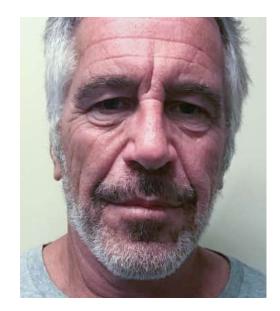
Statistical wars? See the discussion on the blogs of Deborah Mayo https://errorstatistics.com/

and

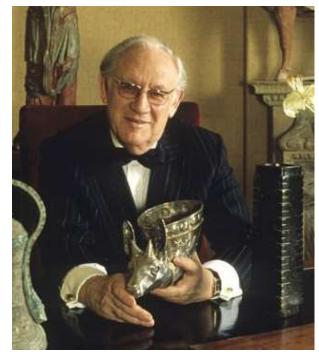
Andrew Gelman <u>https://statmodeling.stat.colum</u> <u>bia.edu/</u>







Jeffrey Epstein & paedophilia



Sackler family & opioids

#### How Rich Donors Like Epstein (and Others) **Undermine Science**

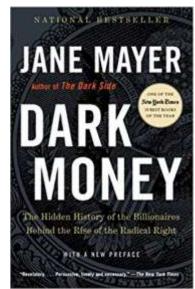
ADAM ROGERS

SCIENCE

09.15.2019 07:00 AM WIRED



#### Koch brothers & climate



### Powerful drivers, the crisis will be worse before it can be better

Downloaded from http://rsos.royalsocietypublishing.org/ on September 23, 2016

#### ROYAL SOCIETY OPEN SCIENCE

rsos.royalsocietypublishing.org



**Cite this article:** Smaldino PE, McElreath R. 2016 The natural selection of bad science. *R. Soc. open sci.* **3**: 160384. http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rsos.160384

Received: 1 June 2016 Accepted: 17 August 2016

# The natural selection of bad science

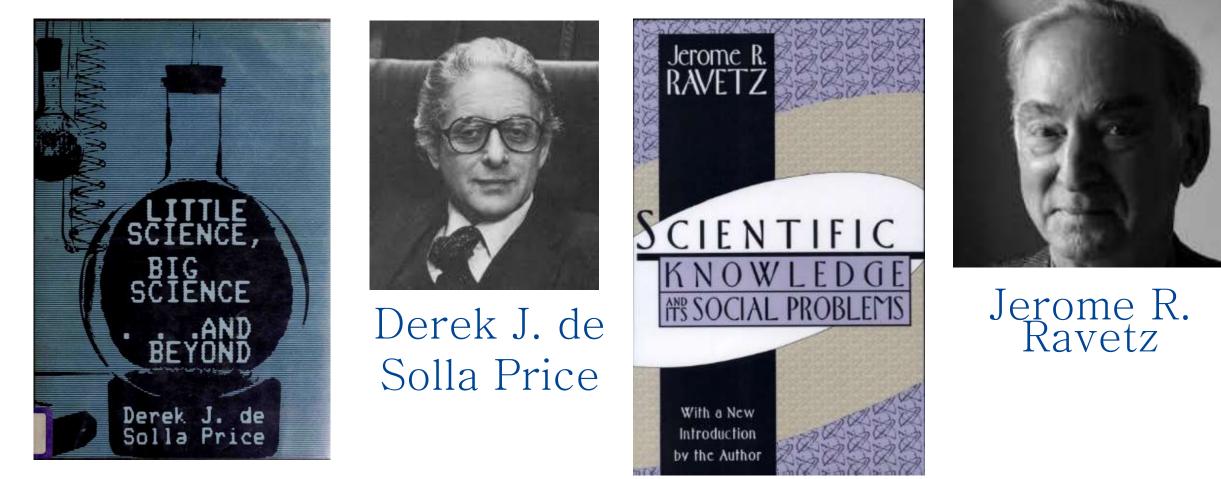
#### Paul E. Smaldino<sup>1</sup> and Richard McElreath<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Cognitive and Information Sciences, University of California, Merced, CA 95343, USA <sup>2</sup>Department of Human Behavior, Ecology, and Culture, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany

Desci (2000) PES, 0000-0002-7133-5620; RME, 0000-0002-0387-5377

Poor research design and data analysis encourage false-positive findings. Such poor methods persist despite perennial calls for improvement, suggesting that they result from something more than just misunderstanding. The persistence of poor methods results partly from incentives that favour them, leading to the natural selection of bad science. This dynamic requires no conscious strategizing—no deliberate cheating nor loafing by scientists, only that publication is a principal factor for

### The crisis was predicted



de Solla Price, D.J., **1963**, Little science big science, Columbia University Press; Ravetz, J., **1971**, Scientific Knowledge and its Social Problems, Oxford University Press.



# Reflexes on the use

# of science in policy

# Evidence-based policy: received wisdom

### Sociotechnical Imaginaries

SHEILA JASANOFF & SANG-HYUN KIM

Sociotechnical Imaginaries and the Fabrication of Power



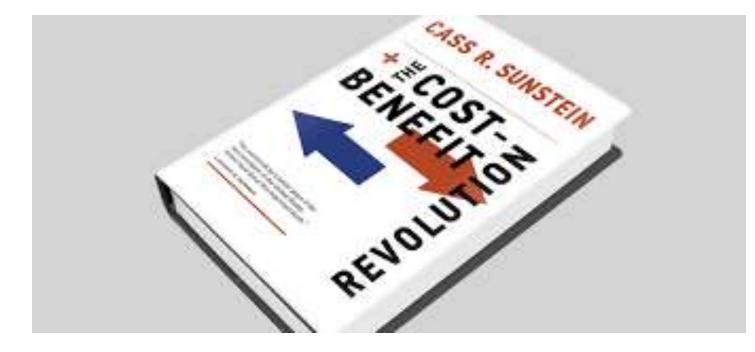
#### Sheila Jasanoff

DREAMSCAPES of MODERNITY

Sociotechnical Imaginaries and the Fabrication of Power

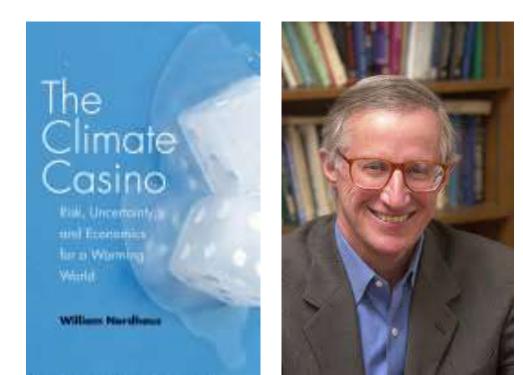
"Often, immersion in the facts makes value disagreements feel much less relevant" (Cass Sunstein, winner of the 2018 Holberg Prize)





One of the winner of **Nobel prize** for economics 2018 is **Willem Nordhaus**, for his work on the economics of climate change.

# Cost benefit analysis to the year 2100



# Critical voices



### Ulrich Beck (1944 –2015)

# Ulrich Beck Risk Society

Towards a New Modernity

\$

#### 1992 (1986)

Chapter 7 Science beyond truth and enlightenment

- "The differentiation and complexification of the sciences transforms it into a "self service shops for financially well endowed customers in need of arguments."

 "It is not uncommon for political programs to be decided in advance simply by the choice of what expert representatives are included in the circle of advisers."

→ The technique is never neutral

EVIDENCE. ARGUMENT.& PERSUASION IN THE POLICY PROCESS GIANDOMENICC MAJONE

"The technique is never neutral" https://arxiv.org/ftp/arxiv/papers/1712/1712.06457.pdf

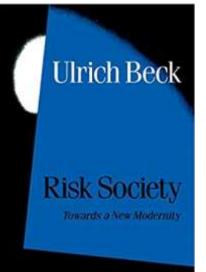
Majone: "In any area of public policy the choice of instruments, far from being a technical exercise that can be safely delegated to the experts, reflects as in a microcosm all the political, moral, and cultural dimensions of policy-making"

# Chapter 7 Science beyond truth and enlightenment

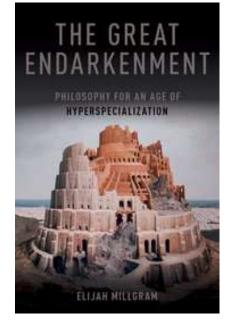
- Feudalization of cognitive practices

"In developed civilizations, scientific cognitive practice becomes an *implicit, objectivized manipulation of latently political variables, hidden behind the pretence of elective decision not subject to justification.*"

➔ On transforming a political problem into a technical one







Elijah Millgram: warns against "procedural utopia", a machinery to take the right decision based on a set of logical rules and methods.

### A Cartesian dream?

EDITED BY **ÅNGELA GUIMARÄES PEREIRA** AND SILVIO FUNTOWICZ SCIENCE, PHILOSOPHY AND SUSTAINABILITY THE END OF THE CARTESIAN DREAM POUTLEDGE EXPLORATIONS 4 SUSTAINABILITY AND COVEDNANCE

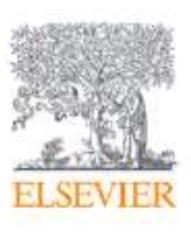
<<[…] rhetoric clamour [surrounds] 'expected utility', 'decision theory', 'life cycle assessment', 'ecosystem services' 'sound scientific decisions' and 'evidence-based policy'



Andrew Stirling

Each technique routinely delivers its answers with formidable levels of precision. Yet the resulting impression of accuracy is deeply misplaced >>

https://steps-centre.org/blog/how-politics-closes-down-uncertainty/



Futures Volume 91, August 2017, Pages 62-71



Original research article

# What is wrong with evidence based policy, and how can it be improved?

Andrea Saltelli <sup>a, b, c</sup> 🎘 🖾, Mario Giampietro <sup>a, c, d</sup>

## Highlights

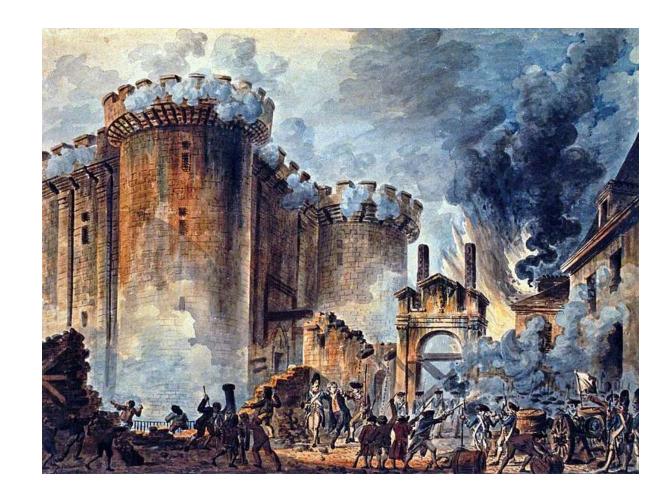
 The closure of any issue in a pre-established frame used for quantification may correspond to normative and political

stances.

- The use of mathematical modelling and indicators conveys a spurious impression of precision, prediction and control.
- Better styles of evidence based policy should flag the existence of 'uncomfortable knowledge' usually avoided in policy discussions.

"Uncomfortable knowledge" can be used as a gauge of an institution's health (Silvio Funtowicz and Jerome R. Ravetz, EMERGENT COMPLEX SYSTEMS, Futures 1994 26(6) 568–582)

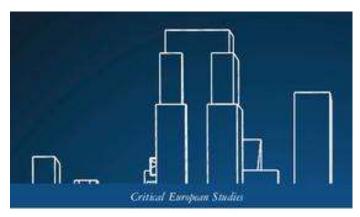




## Science and lobbying

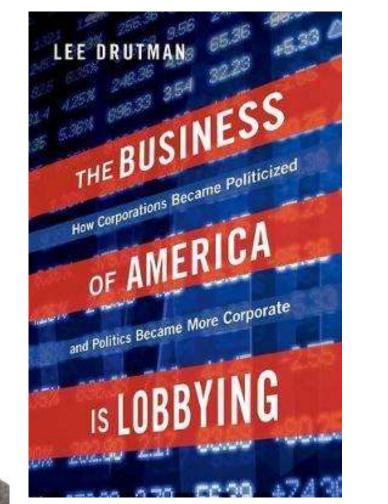
Power asymmetries in the framing of issues: those who have the deepest pockets marshal the best evidence → Instrumental use of quantification to obfuscate

### Sylvain Laurens





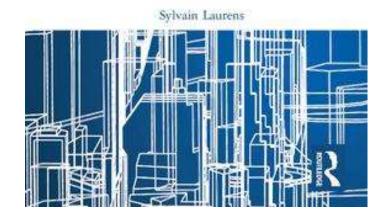




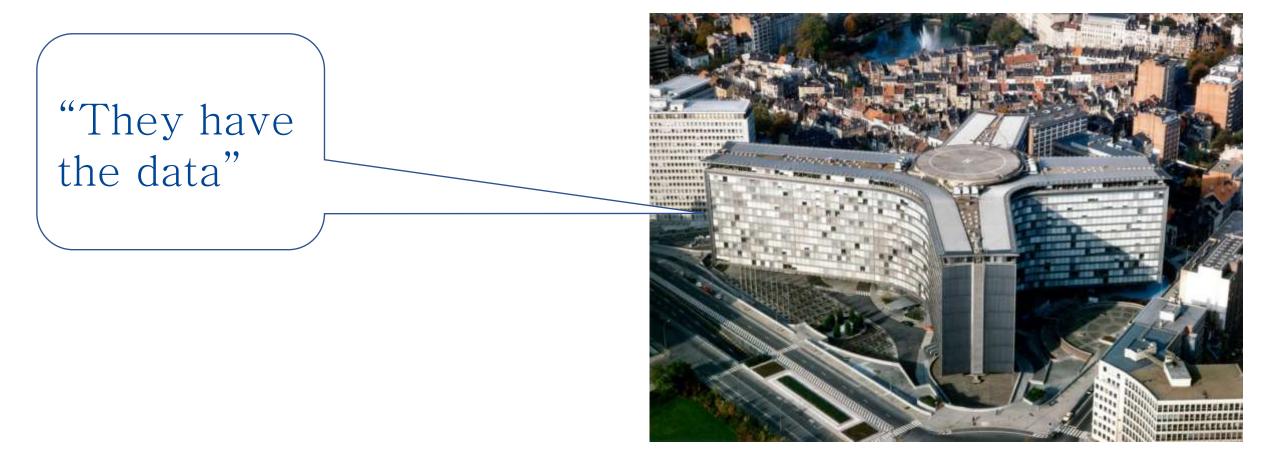
#### Lee Drutman

#### LOBBYISTS AND BUREAUCRATS IN BRUSSELS

CAPITALISM'S BROKERS



For both scholars a salient aspect of this power is lobbyists' access to more and better disseminated knowledge/science:





# Reflexes on science and technoscience

## Luhmann to interpret the present: new or old?

### https://doi.org/10.1016/j.futures.2019.102491



Andrea Saltelli and Paul-Marie Boulanger, Technoscience, policy and the new media. Nexus or vortex?, Futures, 2020,



#### Paul-Marie Boulanger

Science is mediatized, commoditized and politicized; what happened?

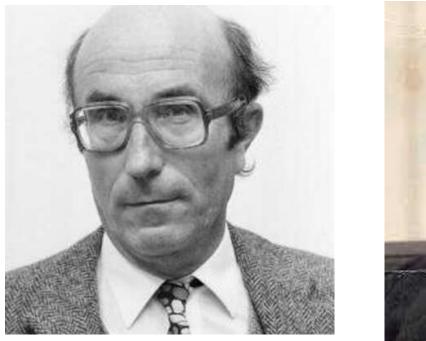
- the structural coupling between different systems
- the capacity of these systems to 'irritate' and 'resonate with' one another,
- the capacity of one system to grow at the expenses of others

Moeller, H. G. Luhmann explained. Open Court Publishing Company, 2006.



Niklas Luhmann

## Luhmann: Humans as compulsive communicators Mumford: Human as compulsive adopters of technology



Niklas Luhmann



Lewis Mumford



## Could this be avoided?

#### Courtesy of Mario Giampietro



**COMMENT** • 21 MAY 2019

## Views from a continent in flux

*Nature* asked nine leading Europeans to pick their top priority for science at this pivotal point. Love, money, and trust got most votes.

Carlos Moedas, Isabelle Vernos <sup>™</sup>, Stephan Kuster <sup>™</sup>, Helga Nowotny <sup>™</sup>, Andrea Saltelli <sup>™</sup>, Alina Mungiu-Pippidi <sup>™</sup>, Jan Wouter Vasbinder <sup>™</sup>, Daniel R. Brooks & Patrick Cunningham <sup>™</sup>

All that matters operates simultaneously in science, technology, economics, law and policy Battles are fought where science, ideology and special interests collide Social media imprint unprecedented reach and acceleration

Science to inform policy decisions versus science lending a veil of rationality to the same decisions

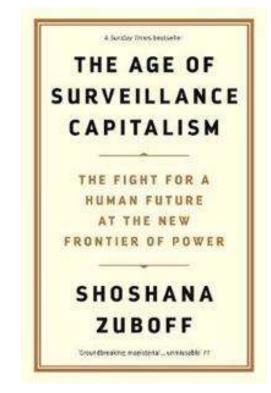
Science as a source of emancipation versus science as the currency of lobbies

Prudent science and technology are at odds with their use for corporate or military interests.

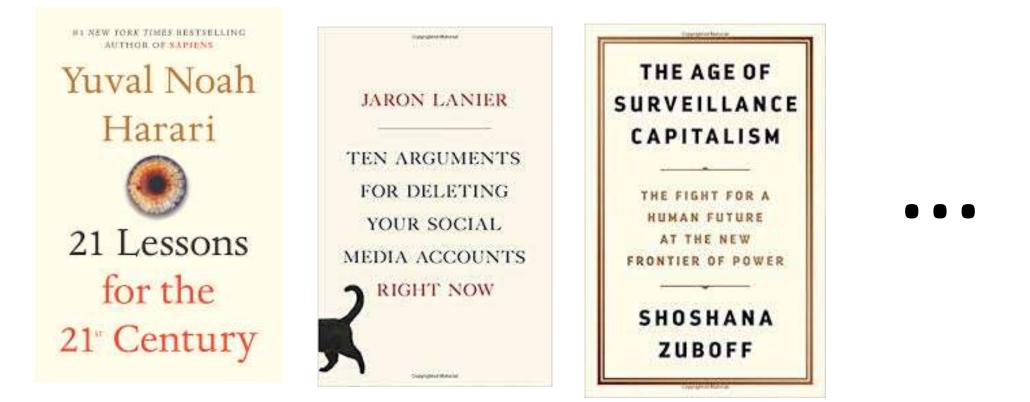
Artificial intelligence & big data foster inequality and power asymmetries in platform and surveillance capitalism



Shoshana Zuboff



Fake news and post truth are the result of an *apprenti sorcier* technoscience escaped to our control



## The powerful agents of post-truth

### Jaron Lanier



## Poisonous algorithms to stoke hatred and division

Yuval Noah Harari, Homo Deus 2015 & 21 Lessons for the 21st Century, 2018.

Jaron Lanier, 2018 Ten Arguments for Deleting Your Social Media Accounts Right Now

https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/aug/23/russian-trolls-spread-vaccinemisinformation-on-twitter "Have you seen those zombies who roam the streets with their faces glued to their smartphones? Do you think they control the technology, or does the technology control them?"

> Yuval Noah Harari



Yuval Harari, 21 Lessons for the 21st Century, 2018, Jonathan Cape publisher; for autopoietic technology see also W. Brian Arthur, 2010, The Nature of Technology, Free Press.



From deepfake to Cambridge Analytica, to algorithmic abuse the scope for damage has expanded

## Deepfake videos 'double in nine months'

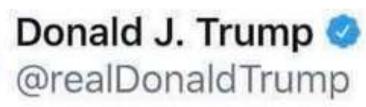


Rory Cellan-Jones Technology correspondent @BBCRoryCJ



③ 7 October 2019





Trump & the Russian intelligence excel at exploiting the new technologies for soft warfare

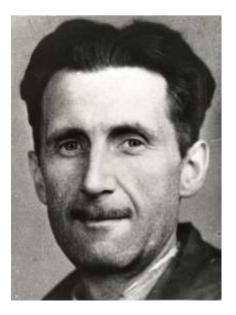
# Twitter released 9 million tweets from one Russian troll farm. Here's what we learned.

The massive data dump reveals how trolls disrupt and destabilize local and global politics.

By Aja Romano | @ajaromano | Oct 19, 2018, 12:40pm EDT



Whose dystopia: Huxley or Orwell?



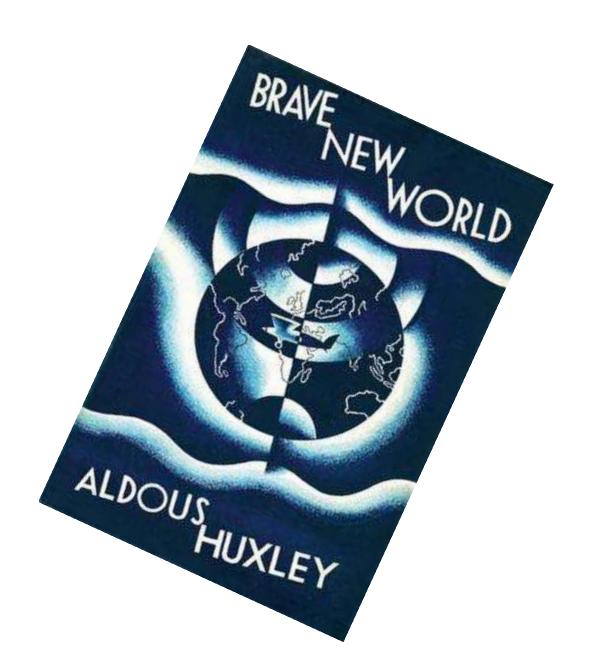
George Orwell

1949; a regimented society, Big Brother in charge of an omnipresent surveillance & propaganda machine



## Aldous Huxley

1932; a regimented world where drug takes care of consent

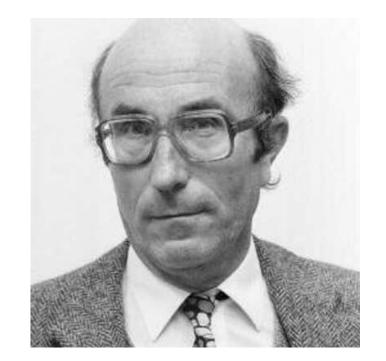


## What shall thus happen now?

## Collapse of trust?

'System trust', is social system theory:

"The reduction of complexity [made possible by generalized media of communication as money, power and truth] assumes trust on the part of those who are expecting such reduction and of those who are supposed to accept it once it is accomplished"



Niklas Luhmann

N. Luhmann, Trust and Power. Polity Press, 2017.

"[System trust thus permits] the bank to lend more money than it possess,

- the state to issue more commands than it can enforce using the police,
- that more information is divulged in professional advice than could be backed up empirically or logically"

N. Luhmann, Trust and Power. Polity Press, 2017.



Niklas Luhmann

'The essential fiduciary status' of science:

 Trust in science is necessary for the general society to support it
Mutual trust within science for it to function



Jerome R. Ravetz

## Techno-spit scenario?

An affluent super-technological and possibly trans-human/immortal minority, versus a useless and distracted majority left glued to its mobile phones and tablets

Y. N. Harari, Homo Deus: a brief history of tomorrow. Harvill Secker, 2016.

J. R. Lent, The patterning instinct: a cultural history of humanity's search for meaning. Prometheus Books, 2017.



THE MILLION COPY RESTSELLER

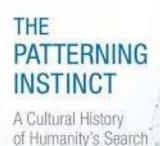
Yuval Noah Harari

A Brief History of Tomorrow

Deus

'Hono Deus will shock you, It will entertain you, will make you think in ways you had not thought before' DANIEL KAHNEMAN

JEREMY



for Meaning

As inequality grows, so does the political influence of the rich, The Economist, July 21<sup>st</sup> 2018.



# What is the role of quantification?

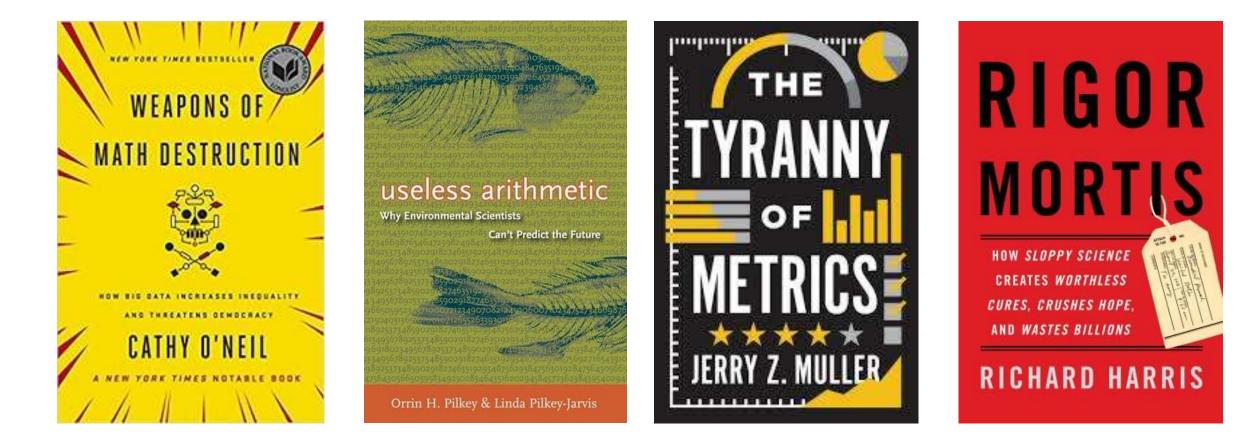
"What qualities are specific to rankings, or indicators, or models, or algorithms?"



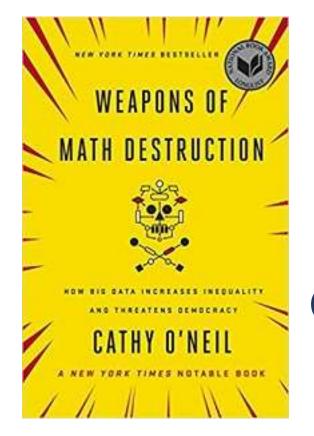
E. Popp Berman

Popp Berman, E. & Hirschman, D. The Sociology of Quantification: Where Are We Now? Contemp. Sociol. 47, 257–266 (2018).

## Algorithms, models, metrics, statistics



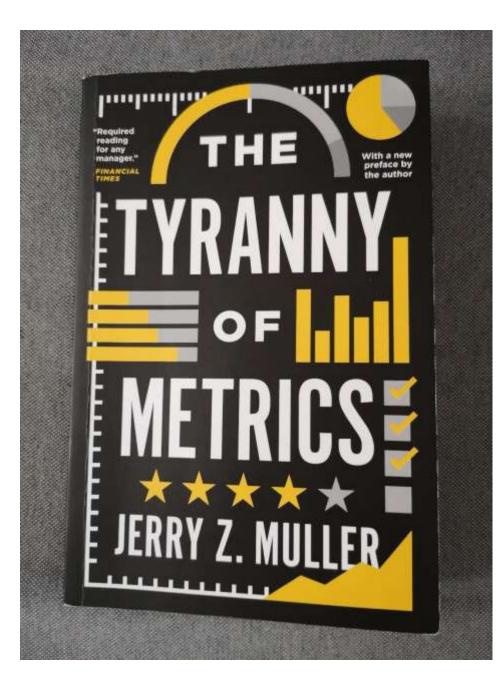
Common root causes?





## Cathy O'Neil

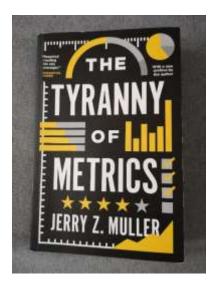
Algorithms taking decisions about hiring and careers; adjudicating the custody of minors; approving or denying credits; choosing which neighbourhoods to patrol; whom to free on parole, and more



# The case against metrics

J. Z. Muller, The tyranny of metrics. Princeton University Press, 2018. Metric fixation, or the irresistible pressure to measure performance

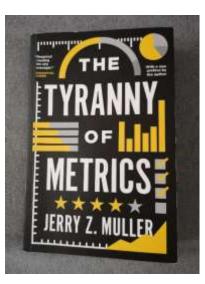
A wealth of case studies from education to war to medicine to foreign aid..



## Critiques of metrics

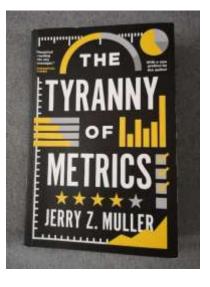
From the left: metric fixation promotes deskilling; "The calculative is the enemy of the imaginative"

From the right (Friedrich Hayek): metric fixation reproduces features of the soviet system (See Alain Supiot)



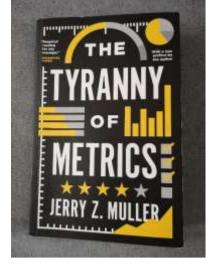
## Critiques of metrics

An epistemological critique: metrics privilege abstract and formulaic knowledge against practical and tacit knowledge (Michael Polanyi)



(Greek concept of metis)

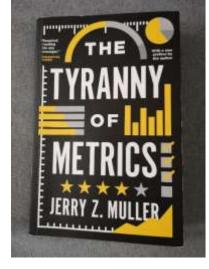
## Unintended consequences: a litany (1)



- Goal displacement
- Short termism
- Diminishing utility

- Rewarding luck
- Discouraging cooperation and common purpose

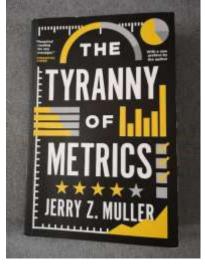
## Unintended consequences: a litany (2)



- Rule cascade
- Discouraging risk taking Time waste
- Discouraging innovation •
- Degrading work
- Loss of productivity

## A concluding remark

Considering all of the above keep in mind at every step that "the best use of metrics may be not to use it at all"





# Ethics of quantification or quantification of ethics?

Ethics of quantification or quantification of ethics?

Andrea Saltelli, 2020?



#### Theodore M. Porter

# TRUSTIN NUBERS

The Pursuit

of Objectivity

in Science and

**Public Life** 

**Alain Supiot** 

La Gouvernance par les nombres

Cours au Collège de France (2012-2014)



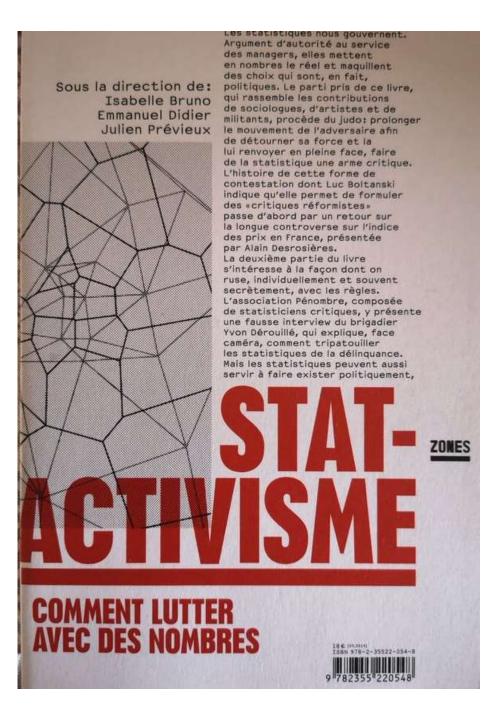
POIDS ET HESURE

Can we learn something from sociology of numbers?

From law?

## Do we need a movement of resistance?

I. Bruno, E. Didier, and J. Prévieux, Statactivisme. Comment lutter avec des nombres. Paris: Zones, La Découverte, 2014



How to be a "statactiviste"? 1. Deconstruct existing metrics, including using irony (Pierre Bourdieu, *Les héritiers*)



How to be a "statactiviste"? 2. Gaming metrics (statistical judo) – use Goodhart's law to your advantage – or make the ruse public

• Police statistics in NY



How to be a "statactiviste"? 3. Bring to the surface what is hidden / unsaid/ excluded – new social classes, marginalization, minorities:

• 'Creative class' or 'precarious intellectuals'?



How to be a "statactiviste"? 4. Measure something different

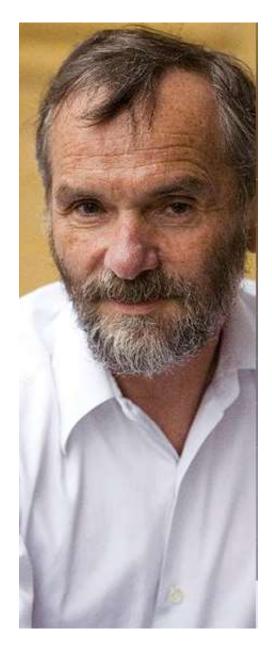
- Suicides at France Telecom;
- BIP 40, a new French measure of poverty/inequality

Argument d'Autorité au service des managers, elles mettant an appropriate in reast and managing san choix qui nort, an fait, Sous la direction de: politiques. Le parti pris de ce fur dui rassanble las contributions Isabelle Bruno de une internets, d'artistes et de Emmanuel Didler allitants, procede de judist projunge Julien Prévieux to movement de radvariaire ann de détourner as force et la ful remumper an plaine face, fairs de la statistique une area critique. L'histoire de cette forme de contestation don't Luc Boltanesi Indigue qu'elle permet de formuler des «critiques réformistes» sassa d'abord per un retour sur la longue controverse sur l'indice det prix en france, présentée par Alain Dearcelères. La deuxière partie du llure stintéresse à la façon dont on runs, individualization at anyonet secrétement, avec les régles. L'association Pénnebra, composée de statisticiens critiques, y présente une fausse interview du brigadier Your Dernullé, pui explique, Face camera, connent tripatouller les statistiques de la délinquence Rais les statistiques peuvent aussi servir à faire exister politiquement

#### Important:

"Quantification should not be abandoned to the advantage of exalting qualities, singularities, and the incommensurable. Such an abandon would be a tactical error"





An indictment of the Total Market and the normative uses of economic quantification **Alain Supiot** 

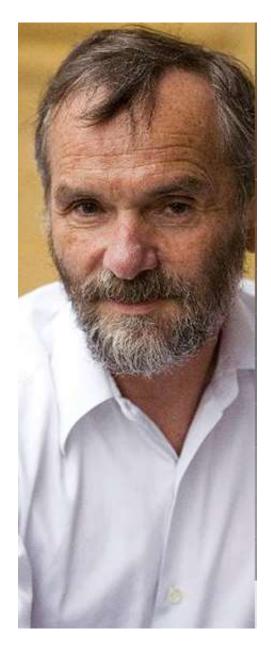
La Gouvernance par les nombres

Cours au Collège de France (2012-2014)

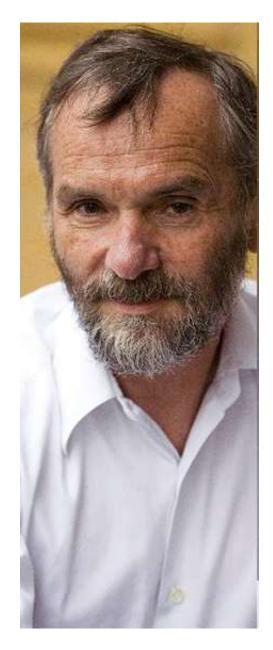


<u>https://www.college-de-</u> <u>france.fr/site/en-alain-</u> <u>supiot/Governance-by-Numbers-</u> <u>Introduction.htm</u>

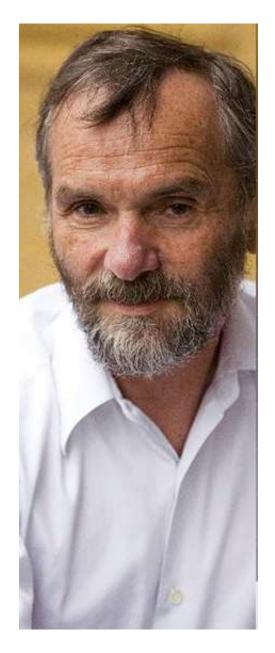
POIDS ET MESURES



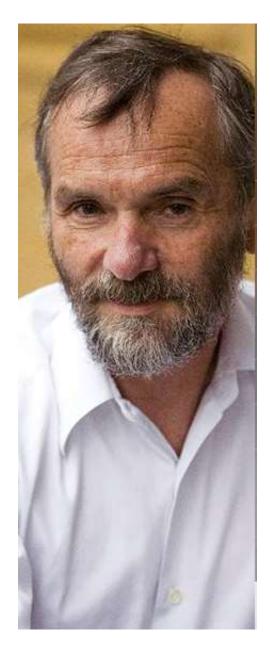
...we have entered the era of the cybernetic imaginary, which revives the West's age-old dream of grounding social harmony in calculations



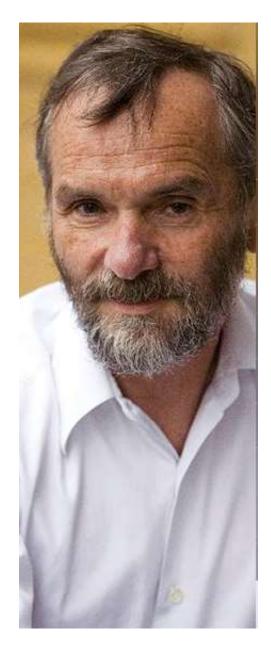
...In this passage from the mechanical (Taylorian) imaginary to the cybernetic lies the origin of multiple interconnected crises



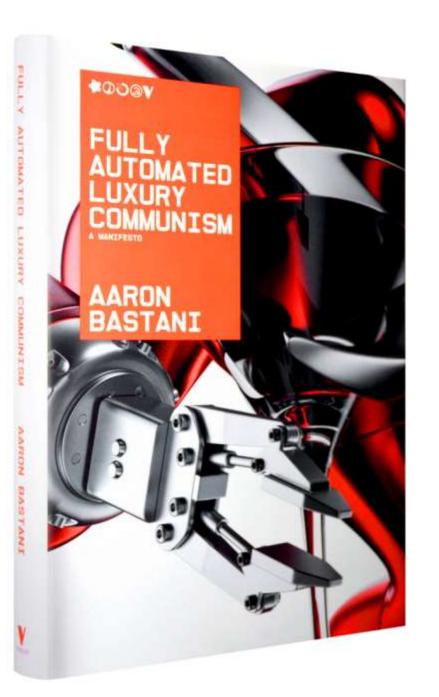
Repudiating the goal of governing by just laws, this new discourse advocates in its stead the attainment of measurable objectives ...



# ··· law is subjugated to a computation of utility



··· This leaves no option open to populations or countries than to ride roughshod over social legislation, and pledge allegiance to those stronger than they are





EVGENY MOROZOV

#### DIGITAL SOCIALISM?

The Calculation Debate in the Age of Big Data

The debate rages on …

## Ethics of quantification or quantification of ethics?



## Also in the paper:

What issues for an ethics of quantification? -Trust (Porter, legitimacy, the OECD PISA example)

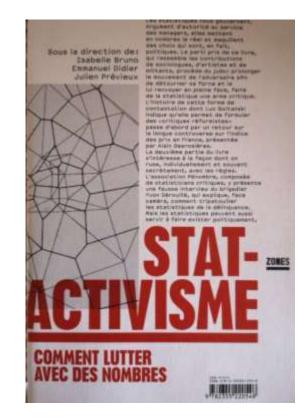


Ethics of quantification or quantification of ethics?

Andrea Saltelli, 2020?



### What issues for an ethics of quantification? -Defence against abuse (statactivism)



Ethics of quantification or quantification of ethics?

Andrea Saltelli, 2020?



### What issues for an ethics of quantification? -Consequentialism (Ecological Footprint)





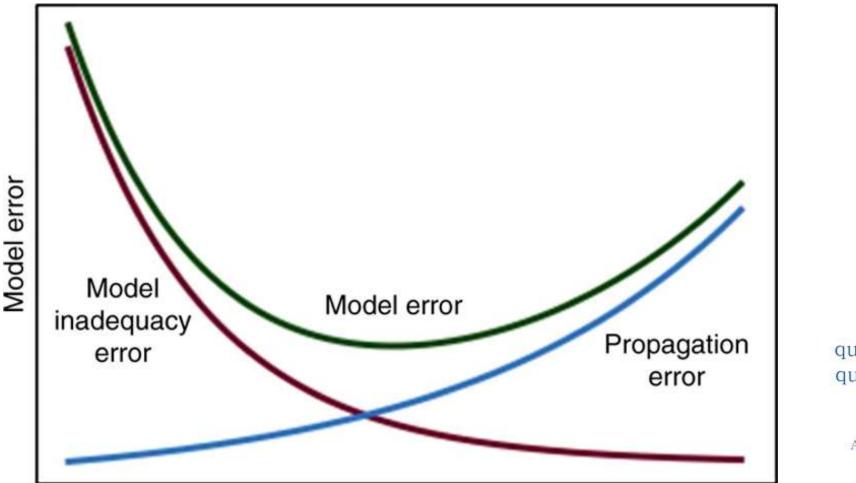
Ethics of quantification or quantification of ethics?



Andrea Saltelli, 2020?

#### Mathis Wackernagel

### What issues for an ethics of quantification? -Optimism/Hubris



Model complexity

Ethics of quantification or quantification of ethics?

Andrea Saltelli, 2020?



What issues for an ethics of quantification? -Purported neutrality of the technique (Beck, Majone, Funtowicz and Ravetz; Romer, Reinert…)

> Ethics of quantification or quantification of ethics?



Andrea Saltelli, 2020?

What issues for an ethics of quantification? -Quality of a quantitative research  $\rightarrow$ "relational validity", how it corresponds tp its context and purpose Ethics of



Issues • For authors • Statistics .

quantification or quantification of ethics?

Andrea Saltelli, 2020?

Support of the local loc FUTURES

Home > 22 (3), 6

#### **Different Modelling Purposes** PDF

Bruce Edmonds<sup>a</sup>, Christophe Le Page<sup>b</sup>, Mike Bithell<sup>c</sup>, Edmund Chattoe-Brown<sup>d</sup>, Volker Grimm<sup>e</sup>, Ruth Meyer<sup>f</sup>, Sales<sup>g</sup>, Paul Ormerod<sup>h</sup>, Hilton Root<sup>i</sup> and Flaminio Squazzoni<sup>j</sup>

#### What recipes for an ethics of quantification?

-Use tools such as NUSAP and sensitivity auditing to tame hubris, to make quantifications interpretable, conveyable in plain English, and context/purpose specific NUSAP

Assessment (qualitative judgement on quantification)

Numeral, Unit, Spread

OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

SILVIO O. FUNTOWICZ AND JEROME R. RAVETZ

THEORY AND DECISION LIBRARY

SERIES A: PHILOSOPHY AND METHODOLOGY

UNCERTAINTY AND QUALITY IN SCIENCE FOR POLICY

KLUWER ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS

Pedigree (qualitative assessment of mode of production and anticipated use)



Universiteit Utrecht

#### **Example Pedigree matrix parameter strength**

Code	Proxy	Empirical	Theoretical basis	Method	Validation	
4	Exact measure	Large sample direct mmts	Well established theory	Best available practice	Compared with indep. mmts of same variable	
3	Good fit or measure	Small sample direct mmts	Accepted theory partial in nature	Reliable method commonly accepted	Compared with indep. mmts of closely related variable	Jeroen
2	Well correlated	Modeled/derived data	Partial theory limited consensus on reliability	Acceptable method limited consensus on reliability	Compared with mmts not independent	van der Sluijs
1	Weak correlation	Educated guesses / rule of thumb est	Preliminary theory	Preliminary methods unknown reliability	Weak / indirect validation	
0	Not clearly related	Crude speculation	Crude speculation	No discernible rigour	No validation	
		152		ł	nttp://ww	w.nusap.net/



Copernicus Institute 

## Sensitivity Auditing

#### What do I make of your latinorum? Sensitivity auditing of mathematical modelling

## Saltelli, A., Guimarães Pereira, Â., Van der Sluijs, J.P. and Funtowicz, S.



Ângela Guimarães Pereira

## The rules of sensitivity auditing

- 1. Check against rhetorical use of mathematical modelling;
- 2. Adopt an "assumption hunting" attitude; focus on unearthing possibly implicit assumptions;
- 3. Check if uncertainty been instrumentally inflated or deflated.

4. Find sensitive assumptions before these find you; do your SA before publishing;

5. Aim for transparency; Show all the data;

- 6. Do the right sums, not just the sums right;
- 7. Perform a proper global sensitivity analysis.

#### What recipes for an ethics of quantification?

#### -Improve existing disciplinary arrangements



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#### AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION RELEASES STATEMENT ON STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND P-VALUES

Provides Principles to Improve the Conduct and Interpretation of Quantitative

Science March 7, 2016

Wasserstein, R.L. and Lazar, N.A., 2016. 'The ASA's statement on p-values: context, process, and purpose', The American Statistician, Volume 70, 2016 - Issue 2, Pages 129-133.

What recipes would be offered by an ethics of quantification?

-Conquer a license not-toquantify



# The End

