## Computational-Based Approaches to Critical Infrastructure Research



#### Mr Cameron Frederick Atkinson

- <sup>1</sup> School of Social Sciences, University of Tasmania, Tasmania 7005, Australia
- <sup>2</sup> Natural Hazards Research Australia, PO Box 116, Carlton South, VIC 3053, Australia
- <sup>3</sup>Disaster Resilience Research Group, University of Tasmania, Tasmania 7005, Australia

# Python, Machine Learning, and Computational-Based Approaches to Critical Infrastructure Research.

Computational-based approaches to conducting research have been shown to increase the speed, transparency, repeatability, and rigor of social science research. Contemporary research has applied these new techniques to systematic literature reviews.

### **Computational Social Science**

CSS 'leverages the capacity to collect and analyze data with an unprecedented breadth, depth and scale' (Lazer et al., 2009).

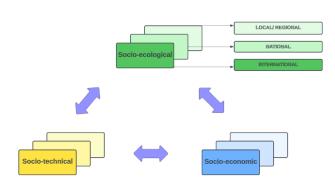
The primary CSS methods employed today can be categorised into five areas: Automated information extraction; Social network analysis (SNA); Geospatial analysis (socio-GIS or social GIS); Complexity modelling; Social simulation models.

#### Systematic Literature Review Applications – Gathering information

- Non-conventional or 'grey literature' is routinely one of the most difficult literatures to methodically gather for use in a systematic review
- Web-scraping, also known as 'Web Harvesting', 'Web Data Extraction' and 'Screen Scraping', is defined as, 'a procedure of automatic web data extraction instead of manually copying it.
- Programmable Search Engines and Python constructed interfaces
  offer a cheap, transparent, and repeatable means to effortlessly
  gather grey literature for use in a systematic literature review.

### Systematic Literature Review Applications – Data Extraction & Synthesis

 New approaches that utilise Generative Artificial Intelligence infused chatbots to converse with PDFs to extract data for use in reviews. New methods that utilise Topic Modelling approaches to synthesise data extracted during a review.



#### **Automating Systematic Literature Reviews with AI and MLTs**

Currently in review is a manuscript that proposes a data repository for organising policy documents pertaining to critical infrastructures. It was uncovered during a SLR (infused with AL and MLTs) into Transportation Infrastructure Resilience & Sustainability.

#### **Publications:**

**Atkinson. C. 2023-** Cheap, Quick, and Rigorous: Artificial Intelligence and the Systematic Literature Review. *Social Science Computer Review* 

**Atkinson. C. 2023-** Cheap, Rigorous, and Transparent: How Webscraping with Python can Improve Collecting Grey Literature for Systematic Literature Reviews. *The Grey Journal* 

**Atkinson. C. 2023-** ChatGPT and computational-based research: benefits, drawbacks, and machine learning applications. *Disc Al* 

**Atkinson. C. 2024-** Generative Artificial Intelligence, Python, and Gathering Grey Literature for a Systematic Literature Review with Google's Programmable Search Engine. *Research Square- Preprint* 



#### **Further information**

For additional information scan the QR code or contact: Persons Cameron Atkinson, PhD Candidate, University of Tasmania Cameron.Atkinson@utas.edu.au







