Data is the new gold, but efficiently mining it requires a philosophy of data

In line with the above views, an article in Scientific Data Updates [3] spearheaded a more focused view on open data in the social sciences and humanities, in conjunction with open reviews and open dialogs.

Many tend to think about strategies for "mining data" in this digital age and may less focus on the humanities side of the trend. Therefore, many significant costs associated with the shift might be miscalculated or, even worse, totally ignored [4]. Ignorance of the social costs will be more than just a huge cost to humankind's development. It may well represent a lack of intellectual humility and a total ignorance of our own weaknesses [5].

Fixing the problem won't be easy, but humans' sharpened focus on an emerging philosophy of data might give us some clue about where we will be heading for. This philosophy of data will be critically important as we have already been entering uncharted waters of the explosive digital space. It might provide humans with badly needed survival skills.

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