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Geography : Landscape, Regional and Urban Planning

Fox, Charles, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK

Data Science for Transport

A Self-Study Guide with Computer Exercises

- Introduces data science for students of transport studies, geography and the geosciences, as well as transport professionals
- The only book to integrate the whole stack of transport data analysis
- Addresses a range of aspects, from setting up practical database software and scraping web data, to Bayesian analysis, dashboard visualization, big data, and privacy ethics
- Comes with an easy-to-use software installer that sets up the complete software stack to run the Python, GIS, machine learning, and big data examples

The quantity, diversity and availability of transport data is increasing rapidly, requiringnew skills in the management and interrogation of data and databases. Recent yearshave seen a new wave of 'big data', 'Data Science', and 'smart cities' changing theworld, with the Harvard Business Review describing Data Science as the "sexiest job ofthe 21st century". Transportation professionals and researchers need to be able to usedata and databases in order to establish quantitative, empirical facts, and to validateand challenge their mathematical models, whose axioms have traditionally often beenassumed rather than rigorously tested against data. This book takes a highly practicalapproach to learning about Data Science tools and their application to investigatingtransport issues. The focus is principally on practical, professional work with real dataand tools, including business and ethical issues. "Transport modeling practice was developed in a data poor world, and many of our current techniques and skills are building on that sparsity. In a new data rich world, the required tools are different and the ethical questions around data and privacy are definitely different. I am not sure whether current professionals have these skills; and I am certainly not convinced that our current transport modeling tools will survive in a data rich environment. This is an exciting time to be a data scientist in the transport field.

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