The Promise and Perils of Big Data and AI for Migration

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Message from the Guest Editors

Migration and human mobility studies have experienced an unprecedent era of accessibility to data and availability of sophisticated methods to produce insights. Specifically, big data (BD) and artificial intelligence (AI) provide a wide range of empirical and theoretical inputs to understand how and why people move and what the consequences of this social event are. These new attempts to use BD and AI to understand human mobility and migration are promising and pioneering steps for migration research.

This Special Issue covers a wide range of topics that investigate the advance of BD and AI as a means to better understand various aspects of migration. These topics within the migration framework include (but are not necessary limited to): harnessing BD for migration and human mobility; case studies utilizing different BD sources (mobile phone, internet based, social media, remote sensing, financial big data, etc.) and/or AI techniques; developing indicators, predictive analytics, and forecasting with BD and AI methodologies; improving gaps in migration statistics with BD and/or AI techniques; bias in AI; humanitarian use of BD and AI; conceptual and legal aspects.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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