Everything I knew about protests was wrong

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About

Philosophy, Peace Studies & Conflict Resolution, Development
- not computational

Bafokeng / RBA   - not academic

Anthropology, Sociology   - did not anticipate coding ante hoc
Theories of protest

Multitude of protests

Understood as signal of social distress, desperation // emancipatory potential

Urban

Conflicting

Desperation (Income poverty, unemployment // Deprivation //

Delivery (Services, Governance) // Democracy // Diplomas //

Demographics (Gender, Age, Foreigners) // Designation //
Data

Case studies

Media data

Administrative data

    Police Data (IRIS)

    Very good and very bad
Methods (1 of 3)

Combining and cleaning

Script to extract crowd sizes

Reading and theming

Coding (manual classification)

Keyword Modelling (ontology)
Methods (2 of 3)

Basics of machine learning

Labeled data // Classification task // No free lunch

Train, test (validation)

Scoring

Allocating to municipalities
Methods (3 of 3)

Additional data: Statistics South Africa // Cogta // Auditor-General Reports

Municipal frames

Count vs Count per capita vs “General Propensity”

Regressions
Results (Descriptive)

Frequency
Timeline
Types of protest
Tumult
Crowd-size
Rurality
Overall counts

- Provincial boundaries
- Count of protests:
  - Below 250
  - 250 - 500
  - 500 - 1,000
  - 1,000 - 5,000
  - 5,000 - 6,564
Per Capita (Labour-related)
Results (Regressions)

Rejects:

Single-factor theories

Role of foreigners (resource strain, etc) // Services // Informality // Poverty

Corroborates:

Inequality // Unemployment // Political disaffection //

Demographic-education profile
Resources

Free courses, online (Edx, Datacamp, Coursera, FastAI, Youtube)

Free software and platforms (Open office, Python IDEs, QGIS, IEEE, Github)

Summary video (of me, sorry): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YwwEsajZpRU
Responses

Please answer three questions at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LDBSD9S