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KICK-OFF MEETING

Innovation in data analysis-
Knowledge graph and policy
learning models

Andrea Nuzzolese (CNR ISTC)
Giovanni Cerulli (CNR IRCrES)

Rome, November 25, 2022



FOSSR

Fostering Open Science in Social Science Research
Innovative tools and services to investigate economic and societal change



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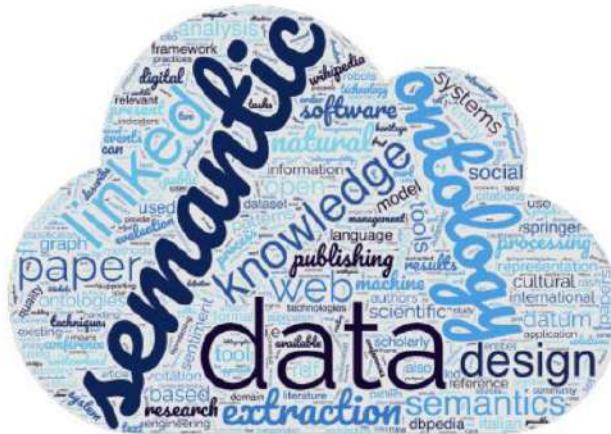


Who we are



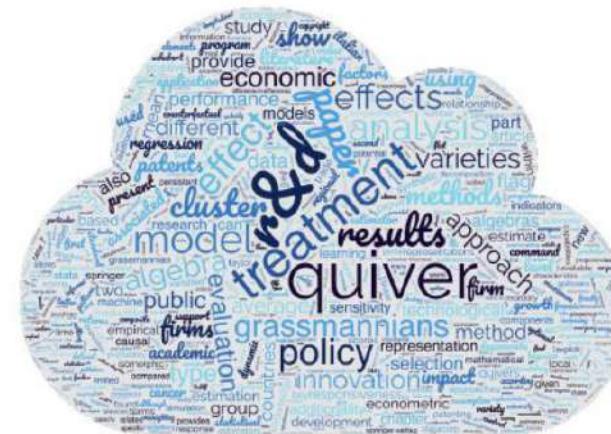
Andrea Giovanni Nuzzolese

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Co-head of STLab



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Creating the FOSSR Knowledge Graph



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Context and aim

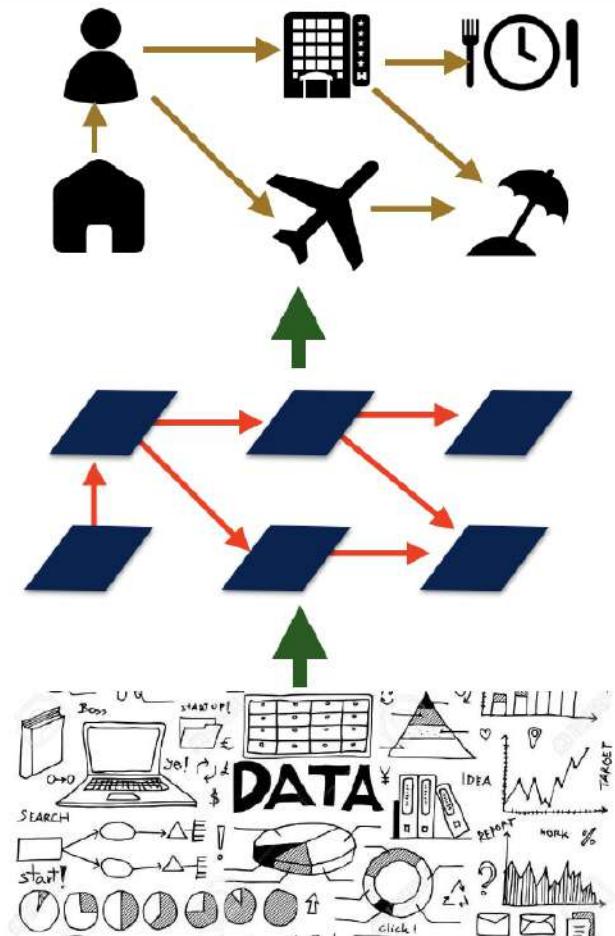
(Social) Scientists create knowledge as a *soup* of heterogeneous research artefacts

FOSSR aims at making such a soup meaningful, machine-readable, interoperable, and FAIR



All we need is a Knowledge Graph!

"A graph of data intended to accumulate and convey knowledge of the real world, whose nodes represent entities of interest and whose edges represent potentially different relations between these entities."
(Hogan et al. 2022)



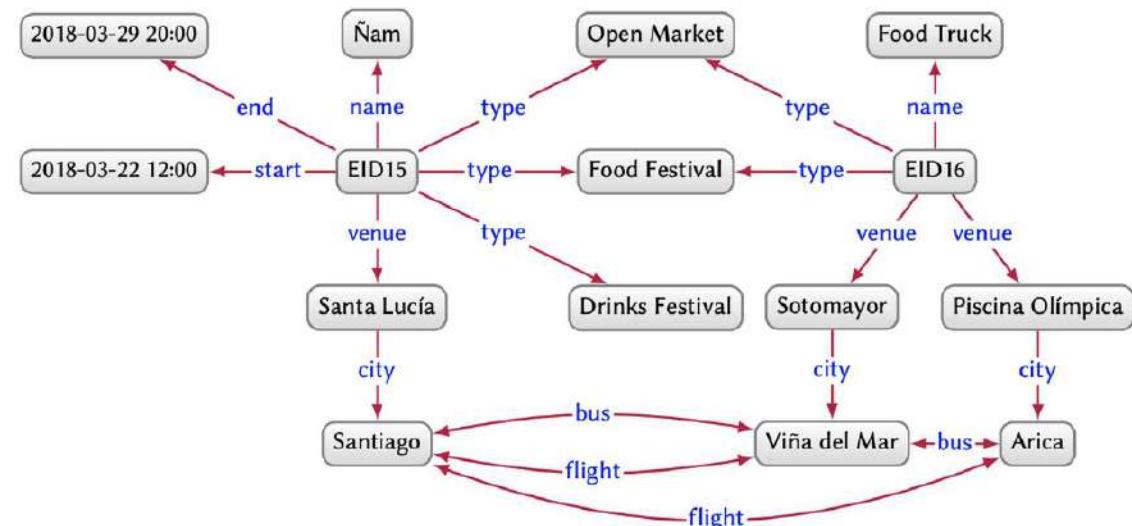
A KG is more than a simple graph

Knowledge in a KG is modelled according to a formal semantics, i.e. an ontology, that enables automatic (symbolic) reasoning

Nodes are Web resources, they can be accessed, queried, retrieved on the Web

Different KGs can be *explicitly* linked for interoperability, knowledge augmentation, data fusion, etc.

A KG is a symbolic layer that enables artificial and human agents to interact at Newell's *knowledge level*





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Creating a knowledge graph is complex

A common schema for describing the domain needs to be defined and agreed on

- Knowledge engineering, ontology learning

Interoperability with other pertinent KGs and schemata must be ensured, e.g. DDI, Schema.org, SPAR ontologies, FRBR, foundational ontologies, etc.

- Knowledge reconciliation, disambiguation and linking

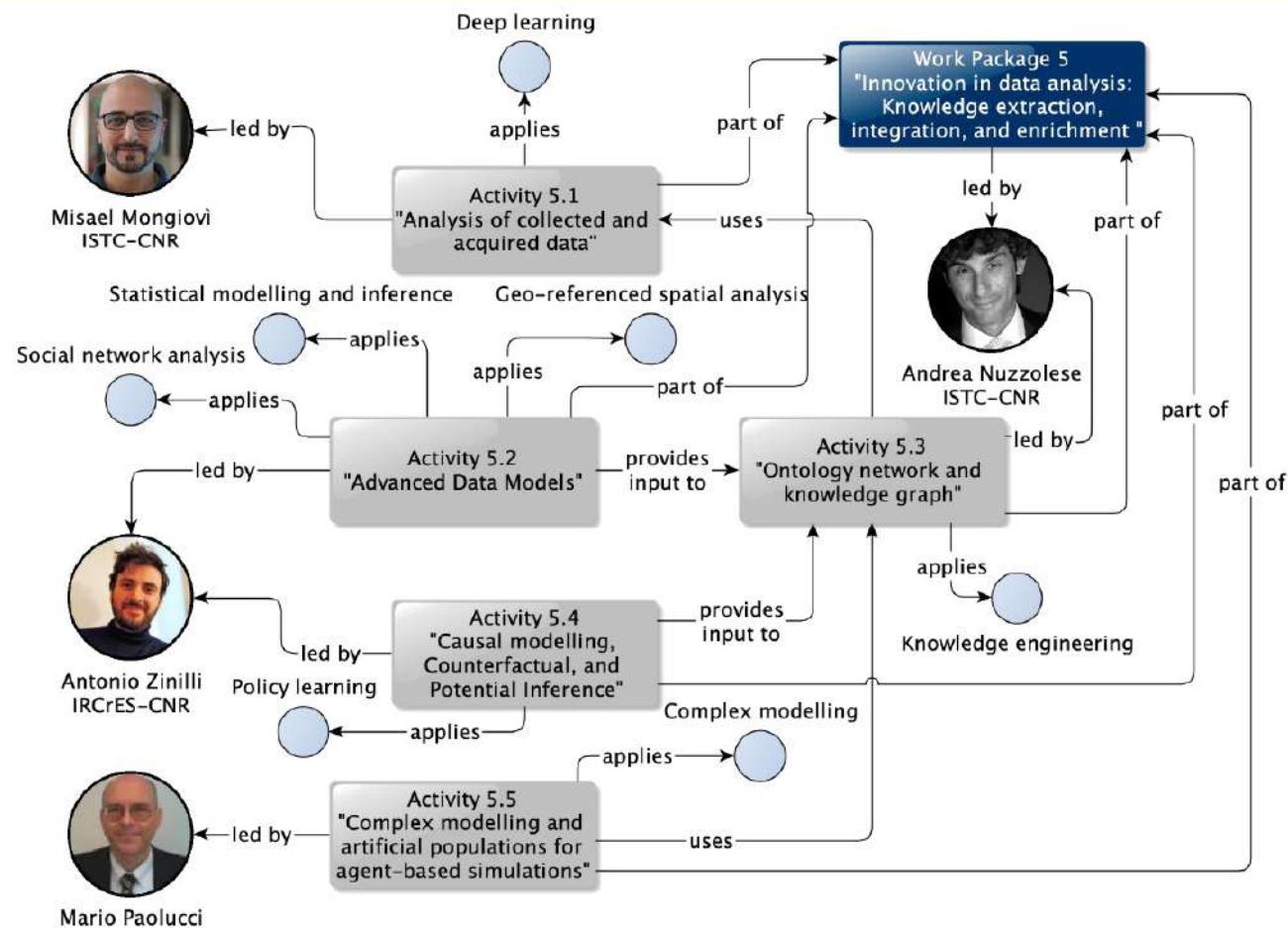
Knowledge has to be mined from a variety of sources with different semantics and granularities

- Statistical modelling and inference, Causal probabilistic modelling, Deep learning, etc.

Facts from real world have to be detected and used for enriching the KG with new knowledge

- Agent-based simulation, complex modelling, etc.

Building the KG for the Social Sciences in FOSSR





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Policy learning models



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What is policy learning?

Process of improving program **welfare** achievements by re-iterating similar policies over time

Optimal treatment assignment

Policymakers can **optimally fine-tune the treatment assignment** of a prospective policy using the results from an RCT or observational study. Assignment rules depends on the **class of policies** considered (here we focus on threshold-based and linear-combination policies)

Maximizing constrained welfare

The policymaker hardly manage to reach the best solution (**unconstrained maximum welfare**) because of institutional/economic contains of various sort





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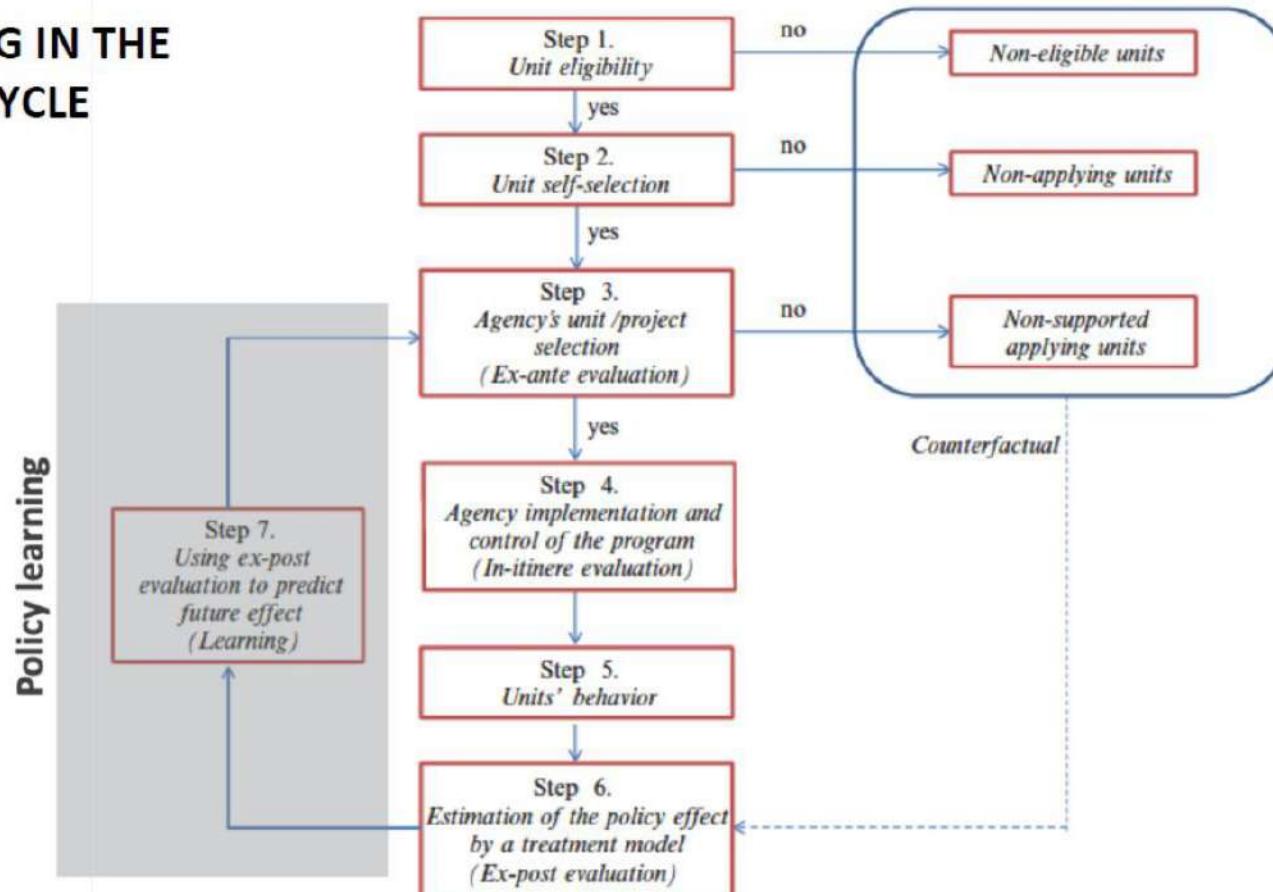


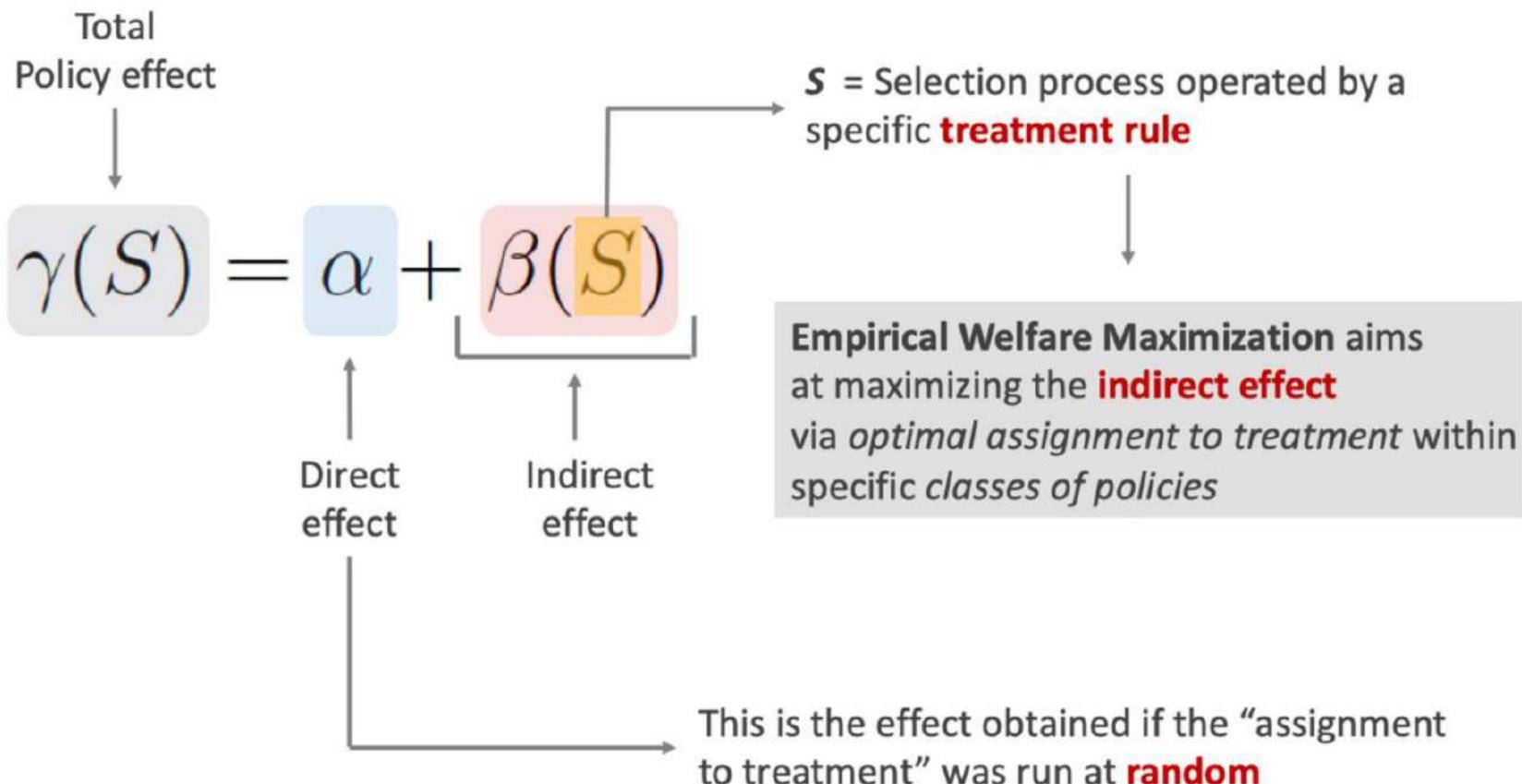
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LEARNING IN THE POLICY CYCLE







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POLICY LEARNING

- CONstrained POLICY WELFARE MAXIMIZATION
- OPTIMAL TARGETING OF POLICY BENEFICIARIES
- OPTIMAL EX-ANTE PREDICTION OF POLICY EFFECTS
- MACHINE-LEARNING BASED EFFECT PREDICTION