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Food Security and Sustainability

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Spatiotemporal twitter analysis of the Venezuelan food crisis

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Social media from countries with limits to free speech is often the most reliable source of event occurrence and is a reliable alternative form of journalism. Spatiotemporal analysis of location-based social media data allows new ways to describe events. Almost 37,000 Spanish geo-tagged Tweets from the city of Caracas, Venezuela were used to observe reactions to the food shortage crisis within each of the city's five municipalities. The number of Tweets over time is explored. The hypotheses of whether certain Tweets are particular to a municipality location that is tested using multinomial naive Bayes, logistic regression and k-nearest neighbor machine learning classifiers.

Biography

Laura H Kahn is currently pursuing her Masters in Data Science from Indiana University with a passion for using data to reduce hunger and poverty using technology. She has volunteered with various local hunger alleviations non-profit groups.

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