



North West
Doctoral Training Centre



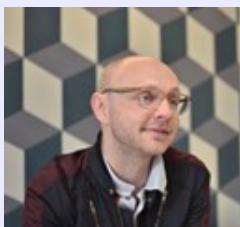
MNW Interdisciplinary NWDTC PGR Conference

Method, measurement and the problem of scale

Tuesday 21 June 2016, 12pm-4.45pm

The University of Manchester, Cordingley Lecture Theatre

12.00 - 12.30pm	Welcome	
12.30 - 1.00pm	Scales in music: symmetry and asymmetry	Dr Kenneth Smith (Liverpool)
1.00 - 1.30pm	The challenges of merging survey data with big data	Professor Rachel Gibson (Manchester)
1.30 - 2.00pm	Design and analysis of longitudinal studies: the impact of correlation scale	Professor Peter Diggle (Lancaster)
2.00 - 2.30pm	Interactive problem focussed session	
2.30 - 2.45pm	Break	
2.45 - 3.15pm	Getting big information from small data	Dr Thomas House (Manchester)
3.15 - 3.45pm	Scale: History and the collapse of time	Dr Andrew Redden (Liverpool)
3.45 - 4.45pm	Roundtable	



Dr Kenneth Smith
(Liverpool)



Professor Rachel
Gibson
(Manchester)



Dr Andrew Redden
(Liverpool)



Dr Thomas House
(Manchester)



Professor Peter
Diggle (Lancaster)

Book at <http://tinyurl.com/theproblemofscale>



Scale is a problem that researchers of all kinds, whether they turn their analytical attention to the big or the small, the present or the past, grapple with as a feature of what they study. Scale poses problems in terms of methodological approaches and techniques (how do we cope with data on a very large or very small scale?), but scale and scales/scaling are also concepts/tools we employ to address those problems. While scale has gained renewed visibility through discussions of the potentials and pitfalls of working with Big Data and digital devices, it is an issue which is closely tied to age-old debates on measurement and representation – how do you build scales that capture or allow us to better understand the character of social phenomena of all kinds? How do you make sense of the scales social actors employ to make sense of and manage the world? Increasingly, researchers also have to think about what might be involved in scaling up or scaling down, i.e. in moving between scales, and what constitutes the appropriate level for social inquiry.

The purpose of this workshop, aimed at DTC students but open to all, is to bring together leading researchers working across different fields of inquiry, each with significant international expertise in the social science and arts and humanities, to discuss and reflect upon the problem of scale in a variety of its contemporary forms and ways of productively and creatively engaging with it.

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