



Wageningen School  
of Social Sciences

WASS PhD workshop

# **Big Data Analytics for Agricultural Economics Research**

Wednesday October 5<sup>th</sup> 2016

Prof dr Joshua Woodard

Cornell University  
Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management

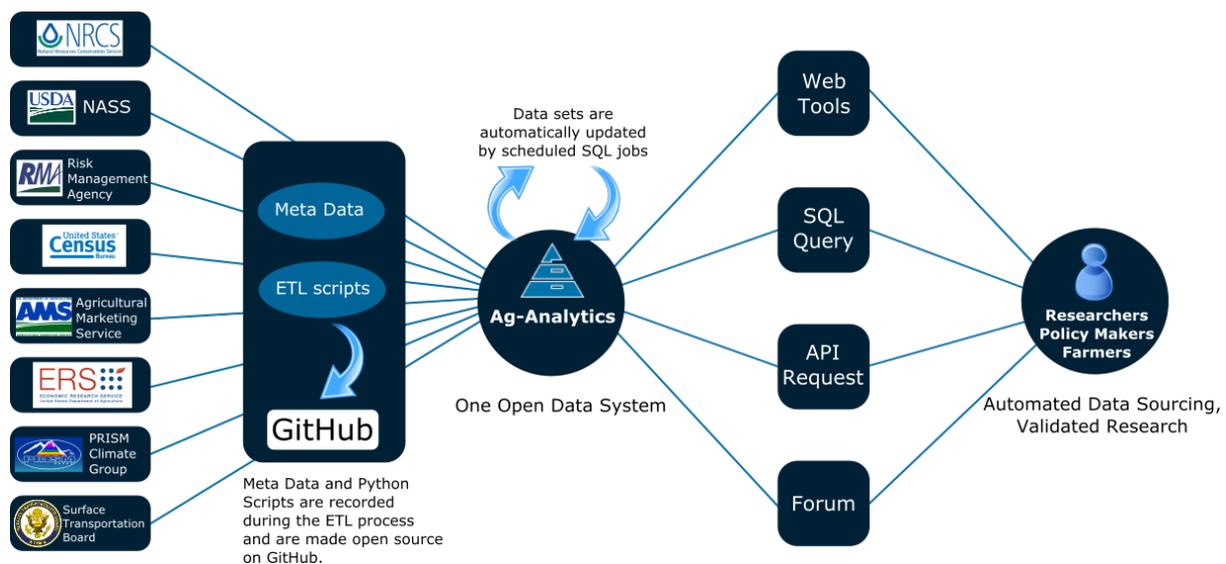
**Registration deadline:  
September 28, 2016**

Workshop organised by the Business Economics group (BEC) and  
Information Technology (INF) in collaboration with Wageningen School of  
Social Sciences (WASS)

**Wageningen University**

## Introduction

The purpose of the workshop will be to provide training and also conduct hands on use-cases using the Ag-Analytics platform ([ag-analytics.org](http://ag-analytics.org)), focussing on integration and warehousing of large publicly available research data for broad communities of researchers, and use of big data platforms in research. Much of the data researchers routinely use in agricultural and environmental finance and related fields are often publicly available; however the form in which they are distributed leads to great inefficiencies in data sourcing and processing which can be greatly improved. The goal of the workshop will be to familiarize attendees with working with such large datasets for economic analysis using the Ag-Analytics open data/open source platform. Use of such systems for disseminating, documenting, and automating the processing of such data used in research can lead to more transparency, better routes for validation, and more credible research. Development and adoption of such systems and data resources is evolving quickly in social science research, particularly in the economics, natural resource, environmental, and agricultural finance spheres.



## Assumed prior knowledge

Experience with programming in Matlab is assumed (a free Matlab course can be followed here: <https://www.coursera.org/learn/matlab>). No specific prior theoretical knowledge is assumed, although a keen interest and aspiration to gain insight in big data analytics is expected. The workshop is especially relevant for all (WASS) PhDs and fellows whose projects deal with data analysis and modelling of various sources of environmental and economic risk or more broadly with a farm management and data analytics perspective.

## Outline

The one-day workshop will consist of a mix of theory (lectures) and applications (PC practicals for hands-on experience in Matlab):

9:15 – 9:30	Welcome
9:30 – 11:00	Lecture
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 – 12:30	Lecture
13:30 – 13:15	Lunch
13:30 – 15:15	Practical session
15:15 – 15:30	Coffee break
15:30 – 16:30	Practical session
16:30	Wrap-up

## Course fees and maximum number of participants

For WASS PhD's there is a fee of €50; for all other participants and for staff members (fellows/post docs), the fee is €100. Participation in the course includes course materials, drinks and lunch. The maximum number of course participants is 30.

## ECTS

For the workshop 0.3 credits can be granted.

## Location

The workshop will be held in **C77**, building “De Leeuwenborch”, Hollandseweg 1 in Wageningen, The Netherlands.

## Registration

Registration is possible electronically via the WASS courses page:

<http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/PhD-Programme/Graduate-Schools/Wageningen-School-of-Social-Sciences/Courses/Registration.htm>.

Please make sure that you provide the most recent contact details so that in case of any changes you will be notified promptly. After your internet registration you will receive a short notification that your name has been registered. At least one week before the

course you will receive a confirmation about the location and the schedule. WASS will also send an invoice to the address indicated in the registration form. Please e-mail to [Marcella.Haan@wur.nl](mailto:Marcella.Haan@wur.nl) in case you have not received the second confirmation one week before the course.

## **Cancellations**

Cancellations may be made free of charge until 1 week before the start of the course (28/09/2016). A cancellation fee of 100 % applies if participants cancel the course after this deadline. The organisers have a right to cancel the course not later than 1 week before the course starts. The participants will be notified of any changes at their e-mail addresses.

## **Further information**

Further information can be requested from the course coordinator:  
Yann de Mey ([yann.demey@wur.nl](mailto:yann.demey@wur.nl)), Business Economics (BEC)

For details about the logistics, accommodation, registration, fees, study materials, etc. please contact:

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