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Dr. Flachs's website

Flachs, A., Raturi, A., Low, M., Miller, V., Norton, J., Redmond, C., & Thomas, H. (2024). Digital tools for local farmers: Thinking with spreadsheets in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. *Culture, Agriculture, Food and Environment*, *46*(1), 36-47. https://doi.org/10.1111/cuag.12316

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

C&AFE

Digital tools for local farmers: Thinking with spreadsheets in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic

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Abstract

With the emergence of social distancing, the shutdown of schools and restaurants, and increased anxieties about in-person farmers markets in early 2020, local farmers and food distributors quickly pivoted to digital tools to manage their farms and connect with buyers. In this paper, we explore the role of a seemingly simple digital tool in shaping alternative agrarian relations during the pandemic-induced local food boom: the spreadsheet. Through interviews with farmers and food distributors across urban, periurban, and rural landscapes in the United States (U.S.), we show how spreadsheets and other digital tools have helped farmers manage demand during the COVID-19 pandemic while also presupposing costs, benefits, and efficiencies for these alternative agricultural food spaces. Ultimately, many local farmers found themselves pursuing goals of simplicity, labor efficiency, and expansion-oriented growth as they made sense of their farm data. Reflecting on these values, and the spreadsheet data underlying them, became a point of tension for farmers who place a high importance on diversification, stability, and interpersonal interactions. By attending to how these data are tracked, we gain deeper insights into how farmers and other stakeholders think about agrarian futures: who does the work, what gets planted, who's buying, and who benefits.

KEYWORDS

critical data studies, digital agriculture, local food systems, US Midwest

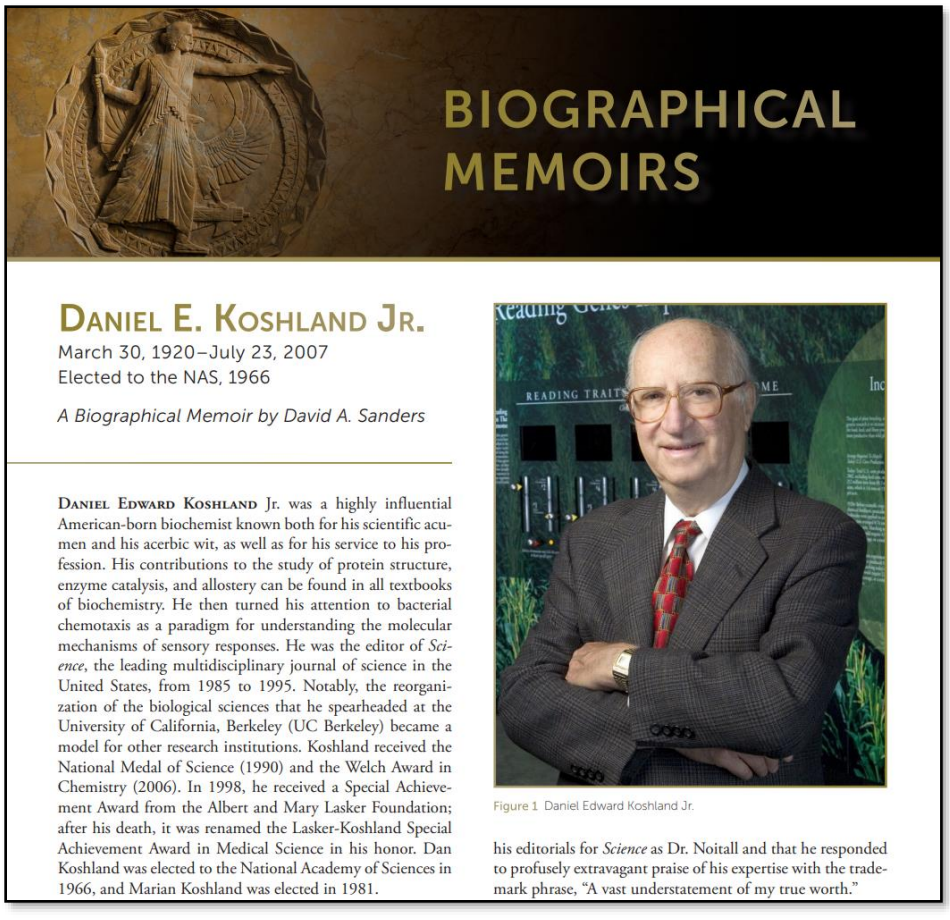
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Sanders, D. (2024). *Daniel E. Koshland Jr., A Biographical Memoir by David Sanders.* United States National Academy of Sciences. https://www.nasonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Koshland-Daniel-E.pdf



BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIRS

DANIEL E. KOSHLAND JR.

March 30, 1920–July 23, 2007
Elected to the NAS, 1966

A Biographical Memoir by David A. Sanders

DANIEL EDWARD KOSHLAND Jr. was a highly influential American-born biochemist known both for his scientific acumen and his acerbic wit, as well as for his service to his profession. His contributions to the study of protein structure, enzyme catalysis, and allostery can be found in all textbooks of biochemistry. He then turned his attention to bacterial chemotaxis as a paradigm for understanding the molecular mechanisms of sensory responses. He was the editor of *Science*, the leading multidisciplinary journal of science in the United States, from 1985 to 1995. Notably, the reorganization of the biological sciences that he spearheaded at the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley) became a model for other research institutions. Koshland received the National Medal of Science (1990) and the Welch Award in Chemistry (2006). In 1998, he received a Special Achievement Award from the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation; after his death, it was renamed the Lasker-Koshland Special Achievement Award in Medical Science in his honor. Dan Koshland was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1966, and Marian Koshland was elected in 1981.

Figure 1 Daniel Edward Koshland Jr.

his editorials for *Science* as Dr. Noitall and that he responded to profusely extravagant praise of his expertise with the trademark phrase, "A vast understatement of my true worth."

Hyesun Choung

Brian Lamb School of Communication



Dr. Choung's website

Choung, H., David, P., & Ling, T. (2024). Acceptance of AI-powered facial recognition technology in surveillance scenarios: Role of trust, security, and privacy perceptions. *Technology in Society, 79*, 102721. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.techsoc.2024.102721

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Acceptance of AI-powered facial recognition technology in surveillance scenarios: Role of trust, security, and privacy perceptions

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ABSTRACT

The study examines the roles of various layers of trust, as well as privacy and security concerns, in shaping the acceptance of AI-powered facial recognition technology (FRT) in three surveillance scenarios—public spaces, hospitals, and schools. Based on survey data from 575 U S. participants, we found that the context in which FRT is deployed shapes people's perceptions and acceptance of the technology. People perceived greater safety gains in schools and greater privacy risks in public spaces. Trust in officials, familiarity with FRT, and perceived security benefits positively predicted acceptance, while distrust and perceived privacy risks negatively predicted acceptance. These findings offer insights for stakeholders of FRT, policymakers, and organizations that seek to implement AI-powered surveillance, emphasizing the need to address public trust and privacy concerns.