Social Science and Severe Weather Research
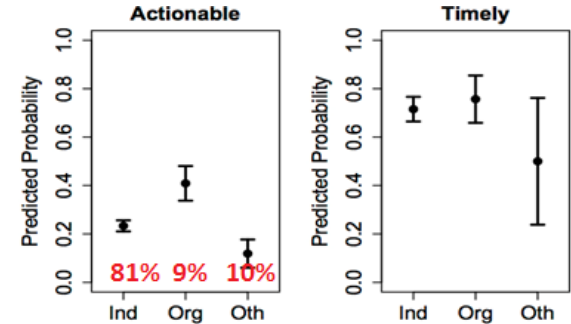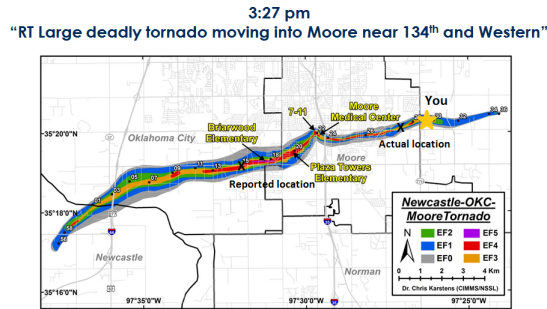
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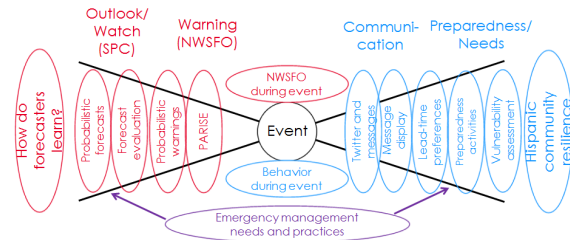
Strategy

What question do we want to answer?
What data are needed?
What disciplines are needed?
Collaborate with right people

NSSL interactions with social science

Collaborators: Geography, political science, psychology, expertise, social anthropology, adult education, broadcast journalism, communication

Example-Twitter and Tornadoes
Imagine you're in 20 May's path

3:27 pm
"RT Large deadly tornado moving into Moore near 134th and Western"

Sampled 5000 tweets for event
Determined if verifiable, accurate, actionable, timely
Looked at source (individual, orgs) and weather "enthusiasts"

What we learned and will do
Weather organizations such as NWS provide more timely and actionable information on twitter

Want to test impact of message "grammar" on twitter flow (e.g., what, where, when)