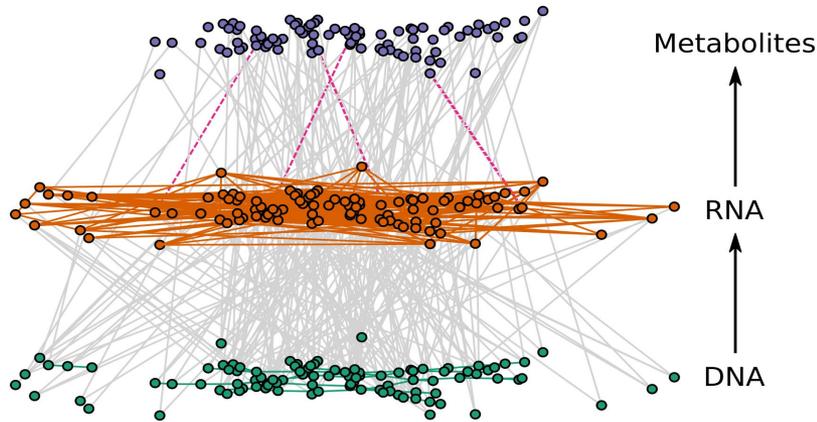


Lecture 0: Introduction to Applied Research in Health Data Science

CSCI6410/4148 & EPAH6410

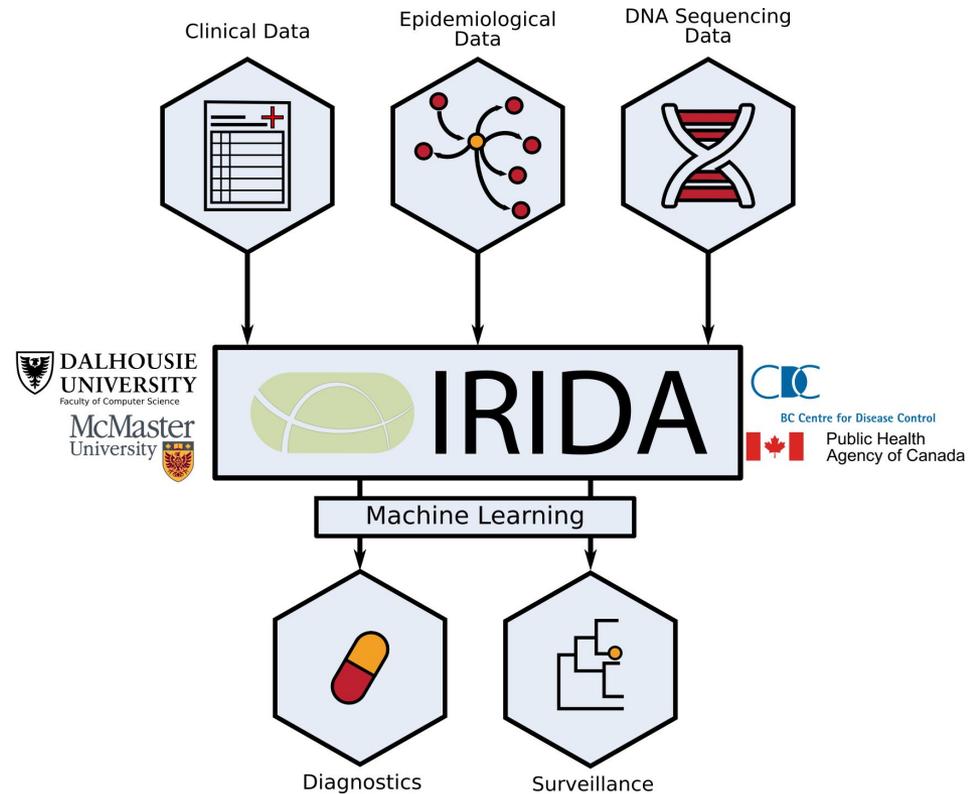
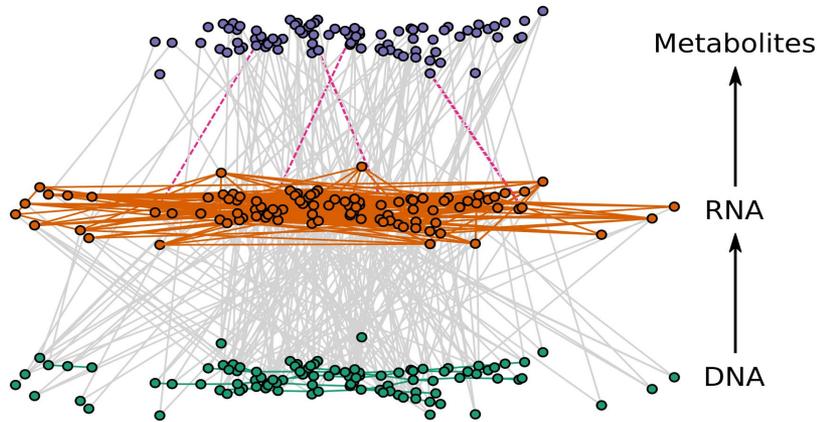
Finlay Maguire (finlay.maguire@dal.ca)

Why am I teaching this course?



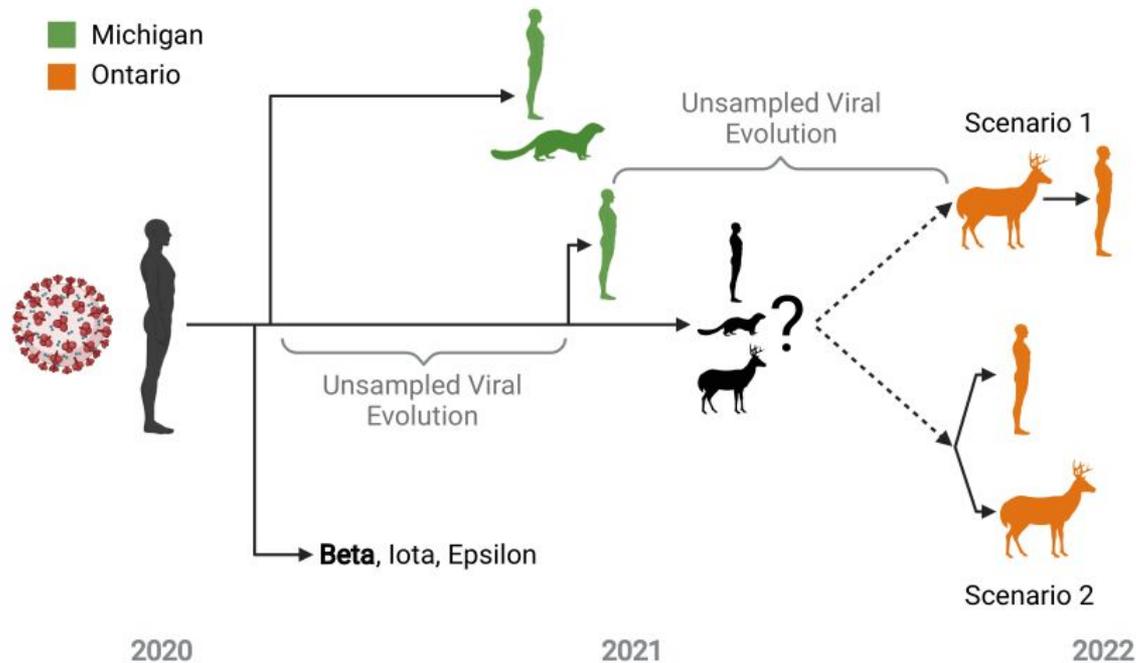
- **PhD (Bioinformatics):** using large noisy datasets to understand how microbial systems and mechanisms evolve.

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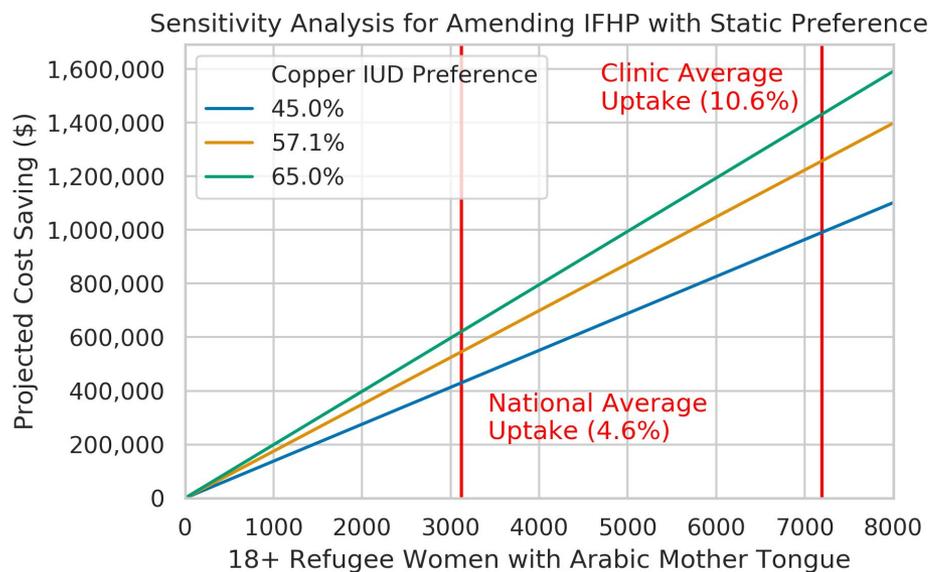
- **PhD (Bioinformatics)**: using large noisy datasets to understand how microbial systems and mechanisms evolve.
- **Postdoc (Genomic Epidemiology)**: using large noisy datasets to better diagnose, track and predict infectious diseases.

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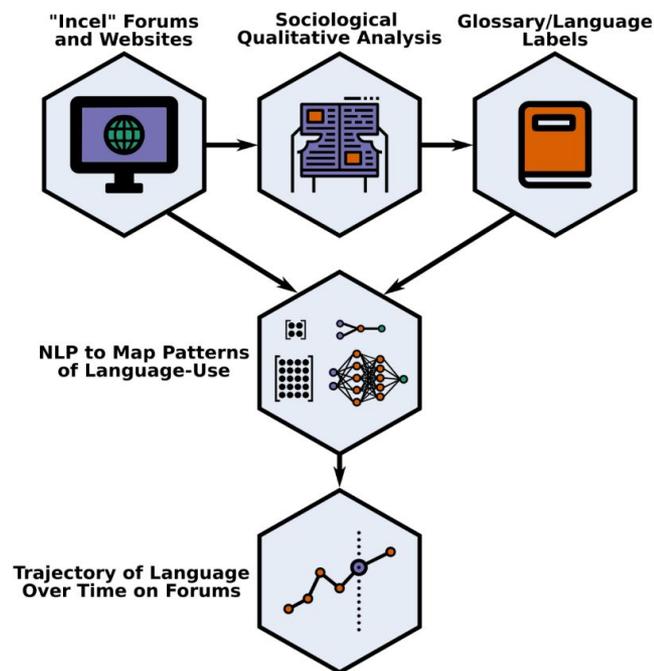


- **Research group:** using large noisy datasets:
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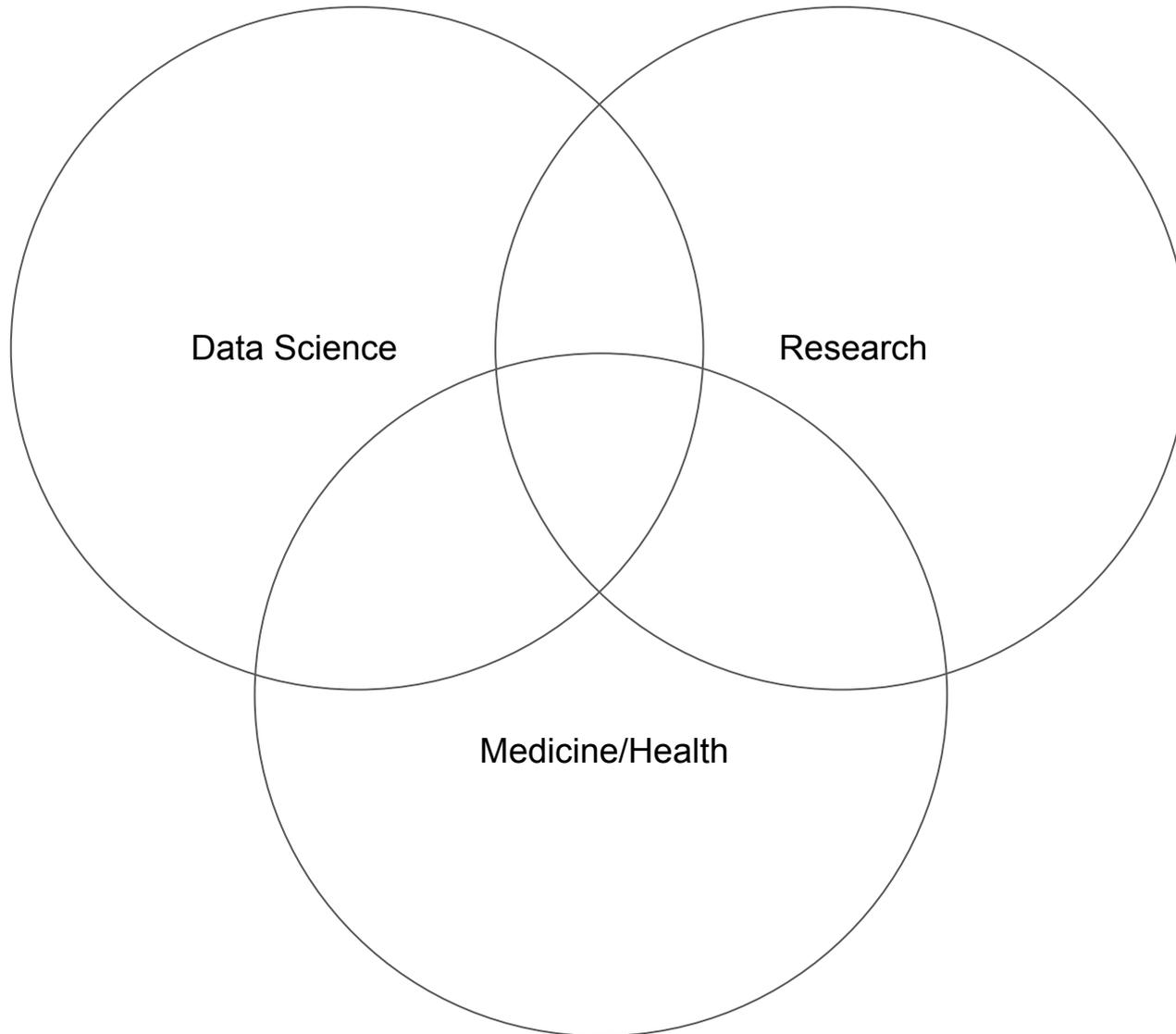
Modelling "Incel" Online Radicalisation via NLP



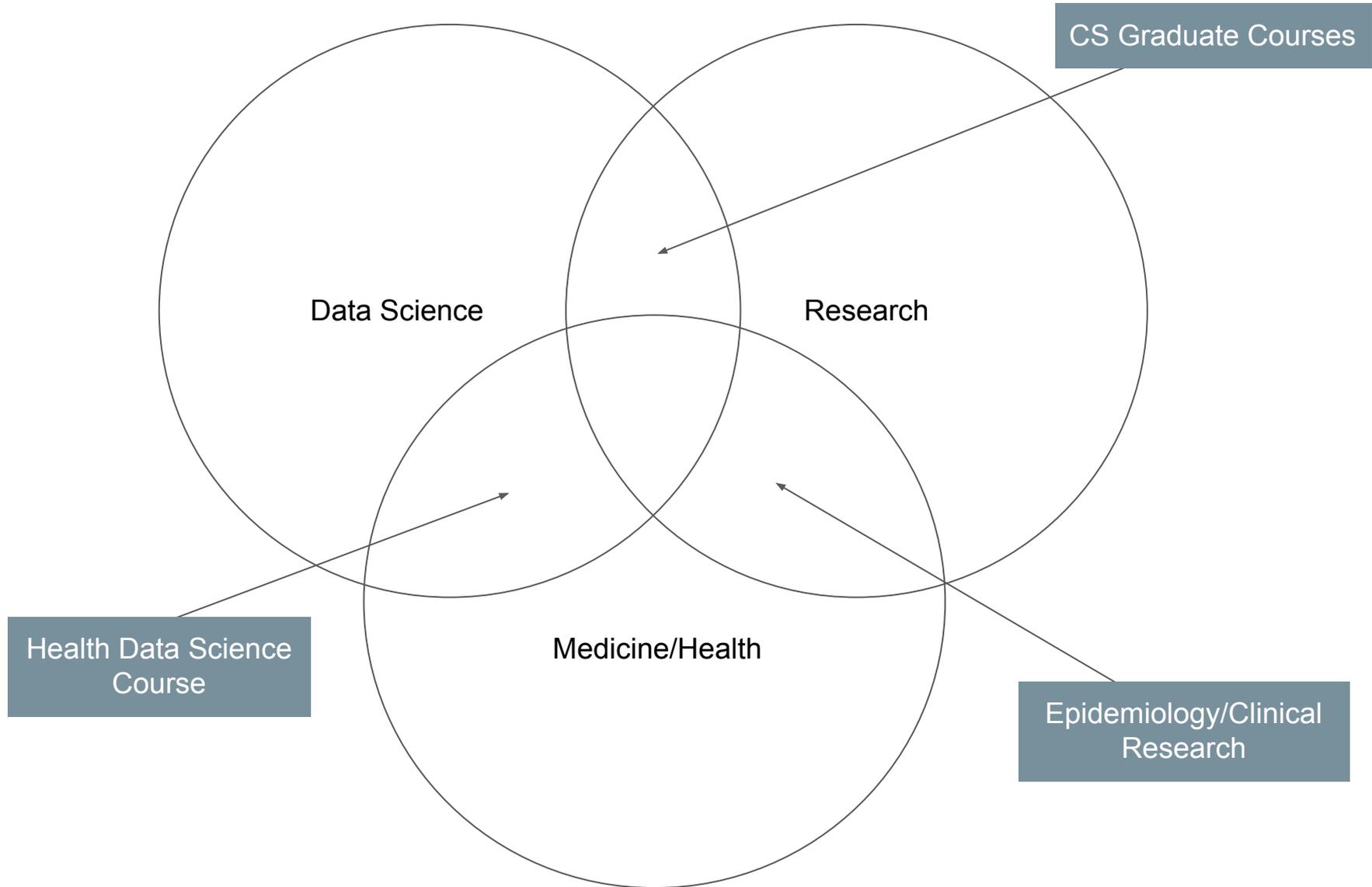
- **Research group:** using large noisy datasets:
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 - Collaborations on socially/health focused problems: **refugee health, incel radicalisation, health inequality**

Overview of course

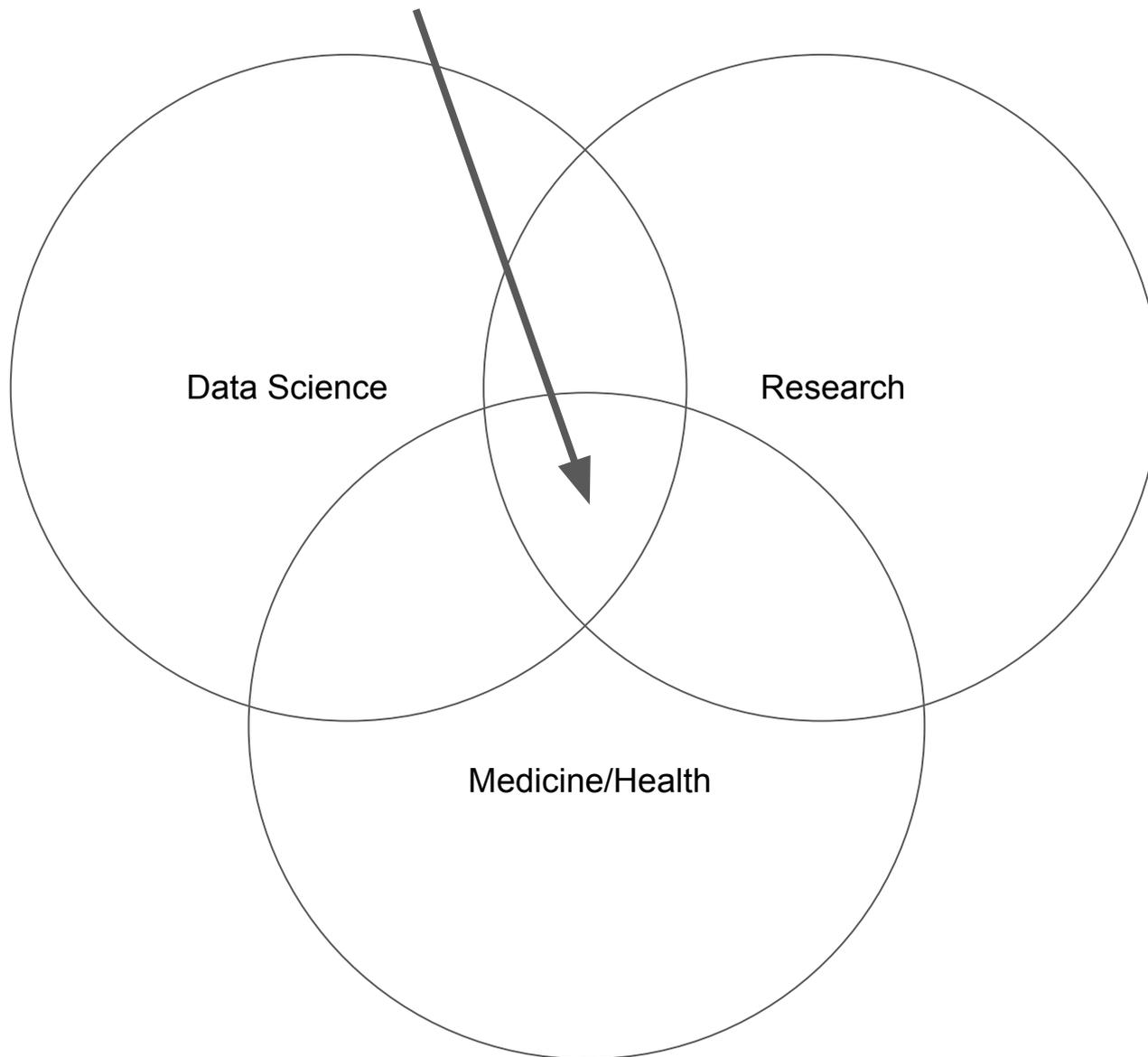
Applied Research in Health Data Science



Applied Research in Health Data Science



Applied Research in Health Data Science



Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the **4 principal sources and data types** of medical data:
 - a. longitudinal databases (tabular)
 - b. electronic medical records (structured, semi-structured, and unstructured text)
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6. Combine these skills to develop high-quality collaborative health data science **research proposals**

What is not covered in this course

- **Breadth/depth** of each data science method: *each could be multiple graduate CS courses*

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- **Breadth/depth** of medical research: *again could be a whole PhD program*
- True **messiness** of real data: *provide tools but experience is invaluable*
- Some important forms of medical data (e.g., genomics): *see next year's **genomic medicine** course if interested.*

Course Structure

Overview of data types & analysis methods:

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```
dens <- density(data, n = npts)
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dy <- dens$y
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       ylab)
if(orientati == yst)
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<https://www.coursera.org/learn/r-programming>

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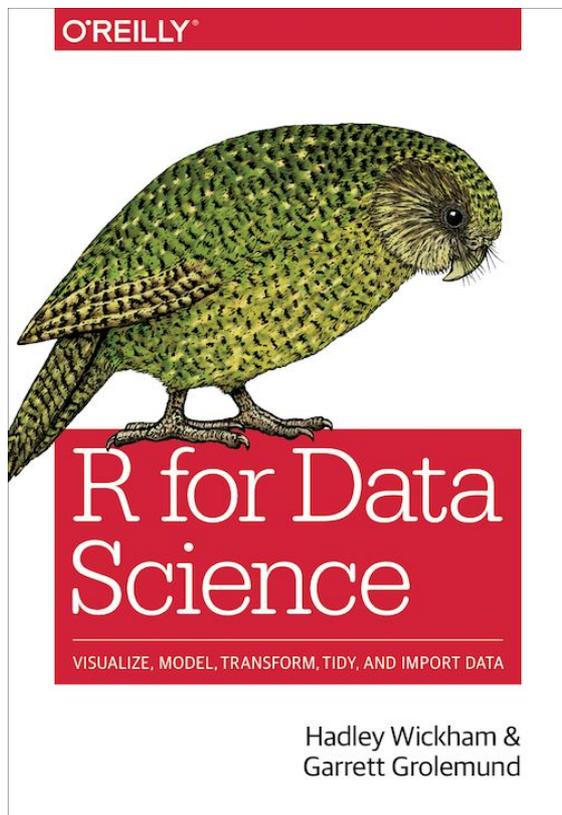
- **Class** (Wednesday/Friday)

Assessment:

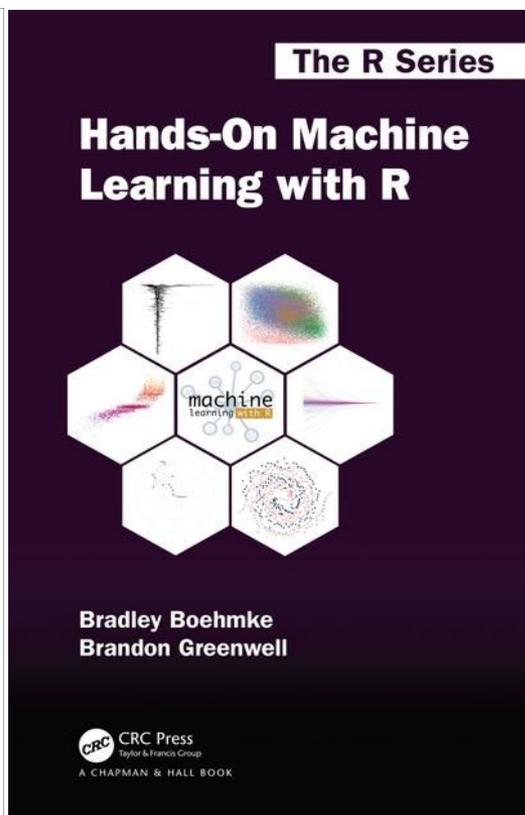
Presentation **last full week of class** (20%)

Submitted **final day of class** (20%)

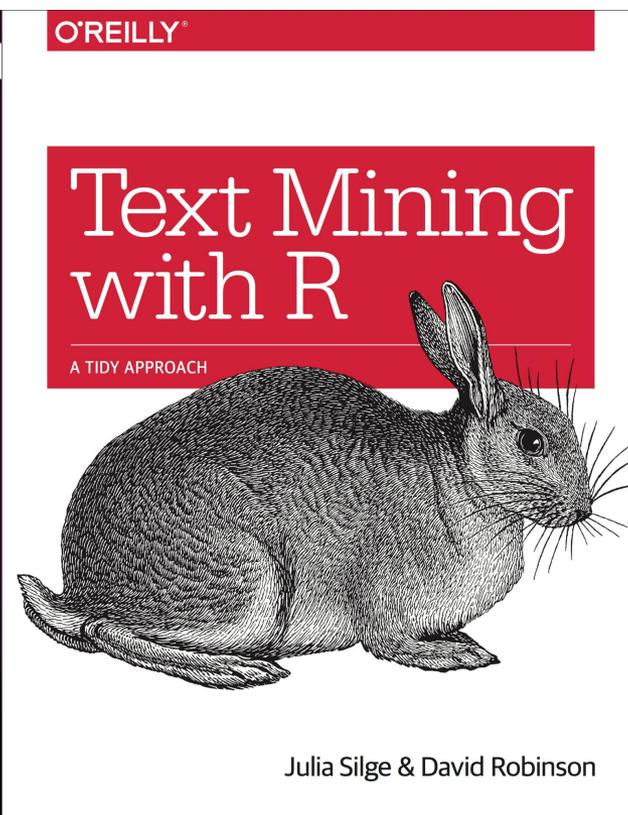
Course Materials



<https://r4ds.had.co.nz/>



<https://bradleyboehmke.github.io/HOML/>



<https://www.tidytextmining.com/>

Course Website



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the course website. It features the Dalhousie University logo on the left, followed by the course title "CSC164.10/CSC14.148/EPAH64.10: Applied Research in Health Data Science" and the semester "Summer 2022-2023". To the right of the title is a navigation menu with links for HOME, SCHEDULE, LECTURES, PRACTICALS, PROPOSAL, and LITERATURE. Below the navigation bar, the page title "CSC164.10/CSC14.148/EPAH64.10: Applied Research in Health Data Science / Summer 2022-2023" is displayed. The main content area is titled "Course Description" and contains a paragraph of text. Below this is a section titled "2023 Course Details" which includes a bulleted list of information.

Dalhousie University
CSC164.10/CSC14.148/EPAH64.10: Applied Research in Health Data Science
Summer 2022-2023

HOME SCHEDULE LECTURES PRACTICALS PROPOSAL LITERATURE

CSC164.10/CSC14.148/EPAH64.10: Applied Research in Health Data Science /
Summer 2022-2023

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the application of data science methods to health data within interdisciplinary research contexts. Students will be introduced to the main types of health data and their principal analysis methods while developing key research skills specific to effectively working at the intersection of medicine and computer science. This will encompass developing technical skills in the robust/reproducible analysis of data from medical databases, radiological imaging, electronic medical records, and physiological time-series data. Students will also gain specific training in developing interdisciplinary health data science research proposals including key considerations such as research ethics, data legislation, knowledge translation, and effective collaboration.

2023 Course Details

- M/W/F: 1305-1455 (May 8th to June 19th), 1201 Mona Campbell Building
- Office: 4239 Mona Campbell Building, Studley Campus
- Office Hours: Wednesday 1500-1600 (following synchronous session)
- Email: finlay.maguire@dal.ca
- [Syllabus](#)

https://maguire-lab.github.io/health_data_science_research_2023/

Course Website



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the course website. On the left is the Dalhousie University logo, a hexagon containing a grid with a red cross. To its right, the text reads "Dalhousie University" in a small font, followed by "Applied Research in Health Data Science" in a larger, bold font, and "Summer 2021-2022" in a smaller font below it. The navigation bar contains several menu items with icons: HOME (house icon), SCHEDULE (calendar icon), LECTURES (megaphone icon), PRACTICALS (flask icon), PROPOSAL (document icon), and LITERATURE (book icon). Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb "Applied Research in Health Data Science / Summer 2021-2022" is displayed. A yellow box titled "Updates" contains a single bullet point: "New Lecture is up: Lecture 0 - Introduction to health data science [slides]".

https://maguire-lab.github.io/health_data_science_research/

[Course Home](#) [Content](#) [Discussions](#) [Assessments](#) ▾ [My Tools](#) ▾ [Help](#) ▾ [Course Admin](#)



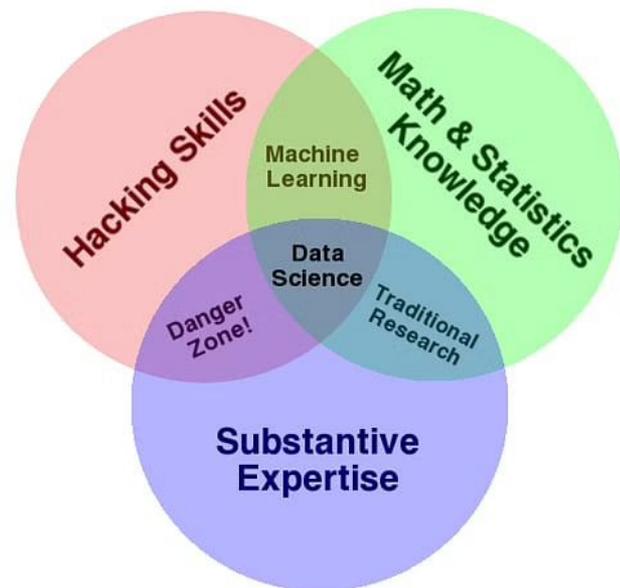
A banner image featuring a close-up of a tree trunk with green foliage in the background. Overlaid on the image is the text "CSCI4148 CSCI6410 EPAH6410 - Applied Res. Health Data Sci - Sec: 01 - 2022/2023 Summer" in a white, sans-serif font.

[Grades/Submissions:](#)

<https://dal.brightspace.com/d2l/home/221757>

What is ~~health~~ data science?

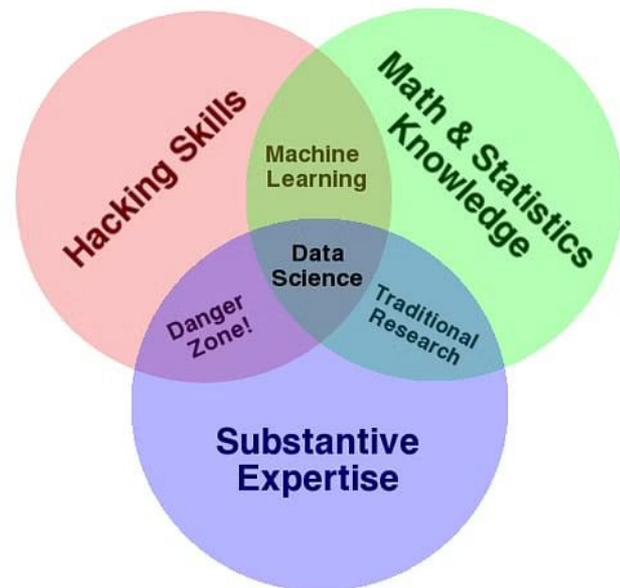
Data Science: *Using Data to Better Understand Things in the Real World*



<http://drewconway.com/zia/2013/3/26/the-data-science-venn-diagram>

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A range of partial and totally overlapping terms:

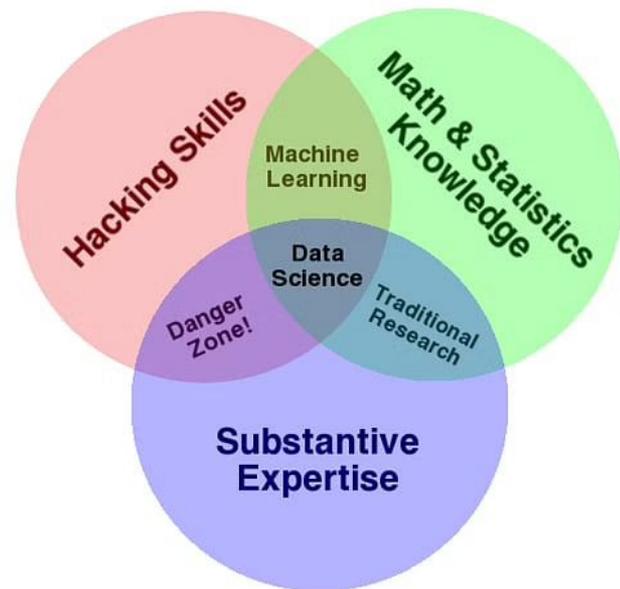


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Data Science: *Using Data to Better Understand Things in the Real World*

A range of partial and totally overlapping terms:

- Data Analytics
- Data Engineering
- Data Mining
- {Health,Bio,Medical}Informatics
- Database Analysis
- Business Intelligence
- Epidemiology
- Statistics
- Machine Learning
- Pattern Recognition
- Predictive Analytics
- Quantitative Researcher
- Scientist
- Analyst



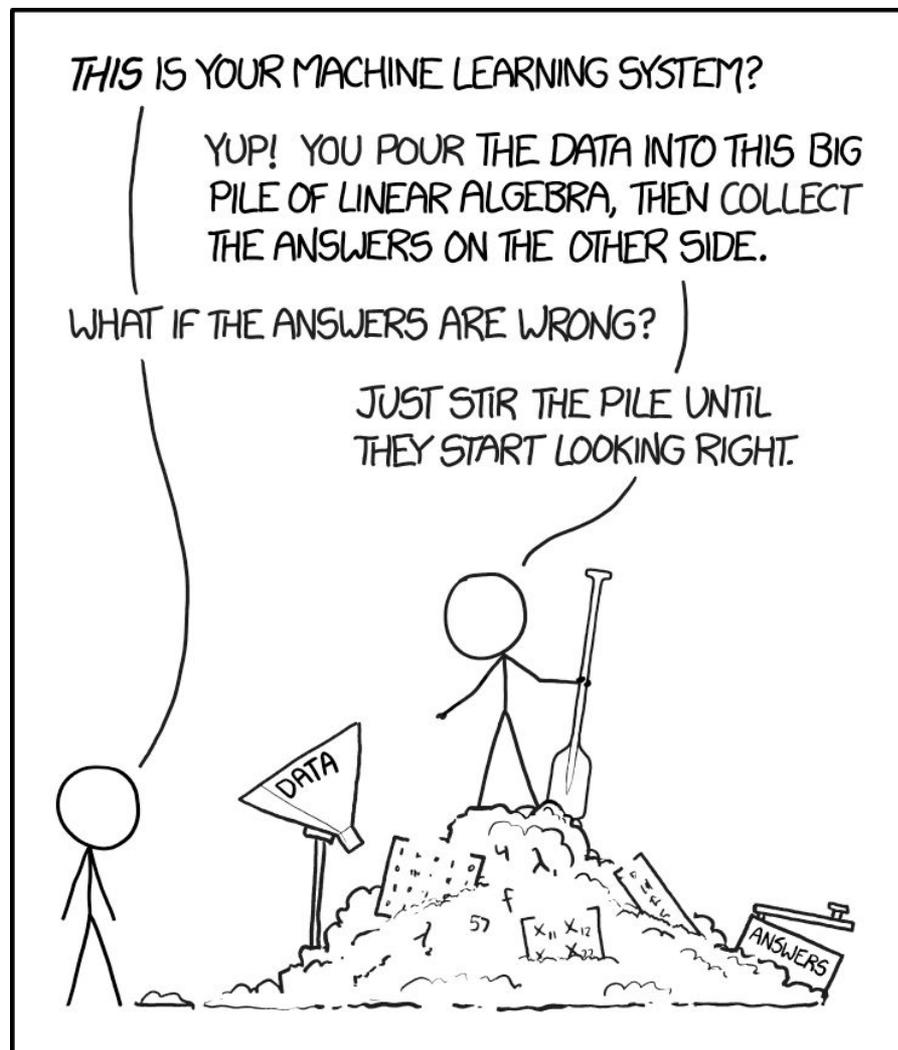
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So, it is just statistics?

Data Science (& Machine Learning): re-branded statistics

Pitfalls (can be):

- Less rigorous/principled
- Prone to reinventing the wheel



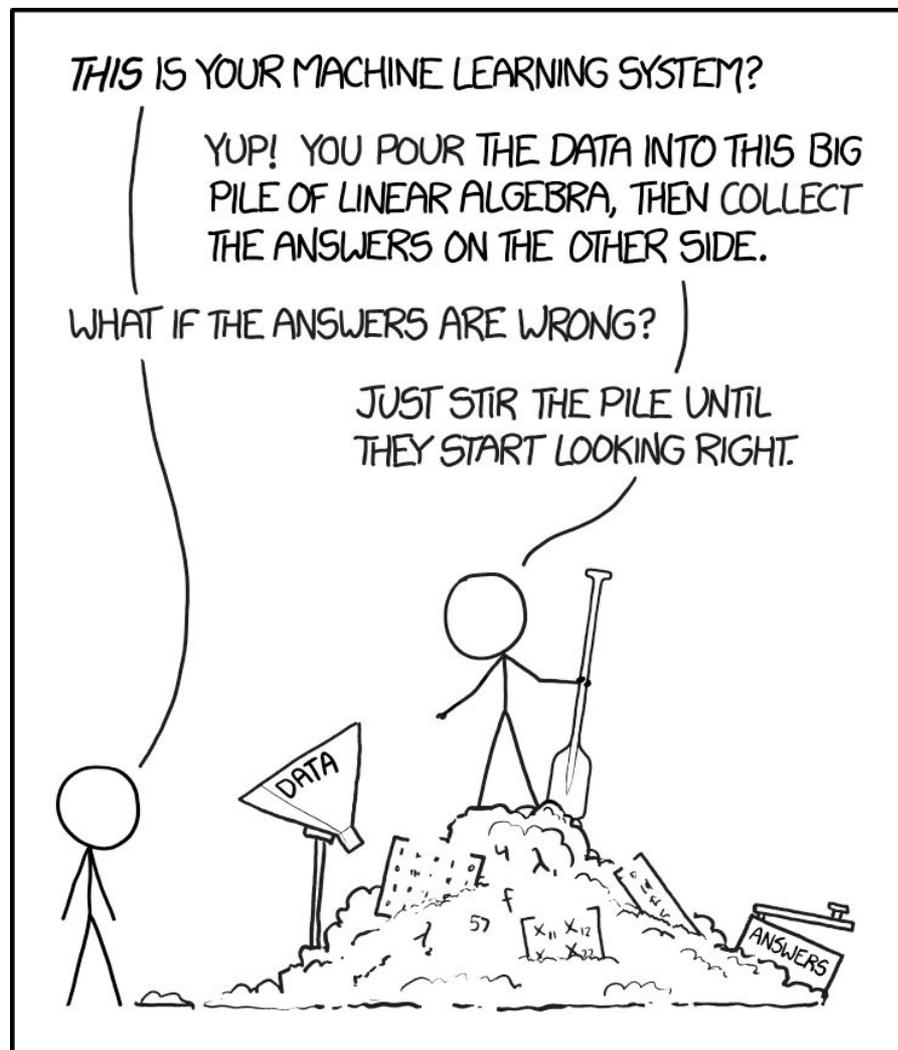
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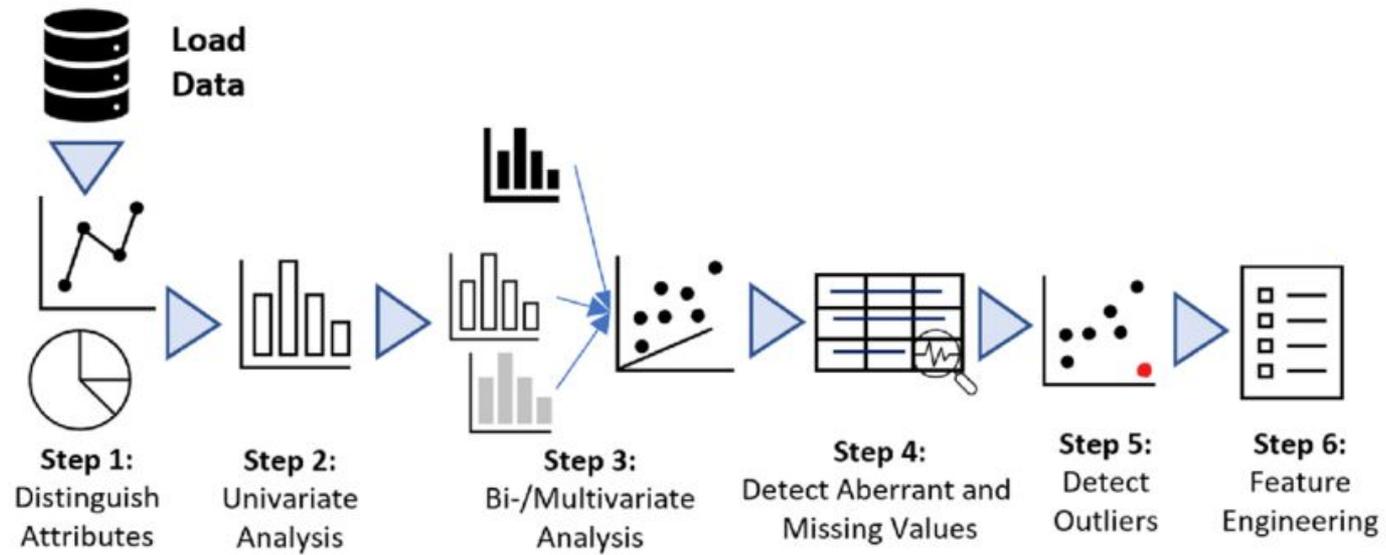
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Benefits (can be):

- More flexible
- Less prescriptive/intimidating



Data science centers exploratory data analysis

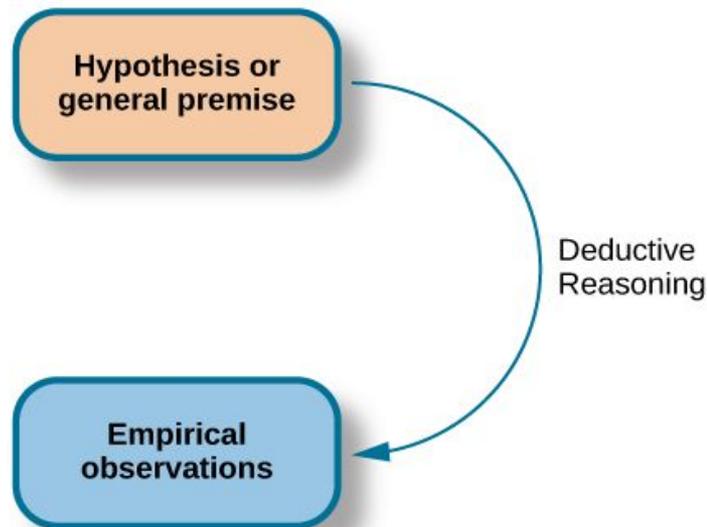


Data science supports inductive approaches

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Deductive:

- “Condition X, causes Y”
- Collect data
- Perform frequentist statistical test
- Reject or confirm null hypothesis



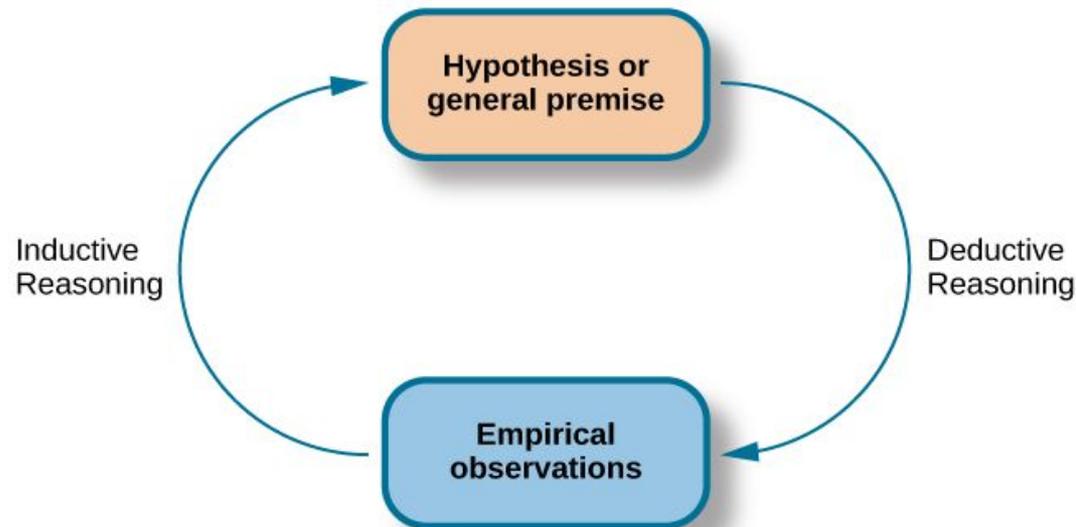
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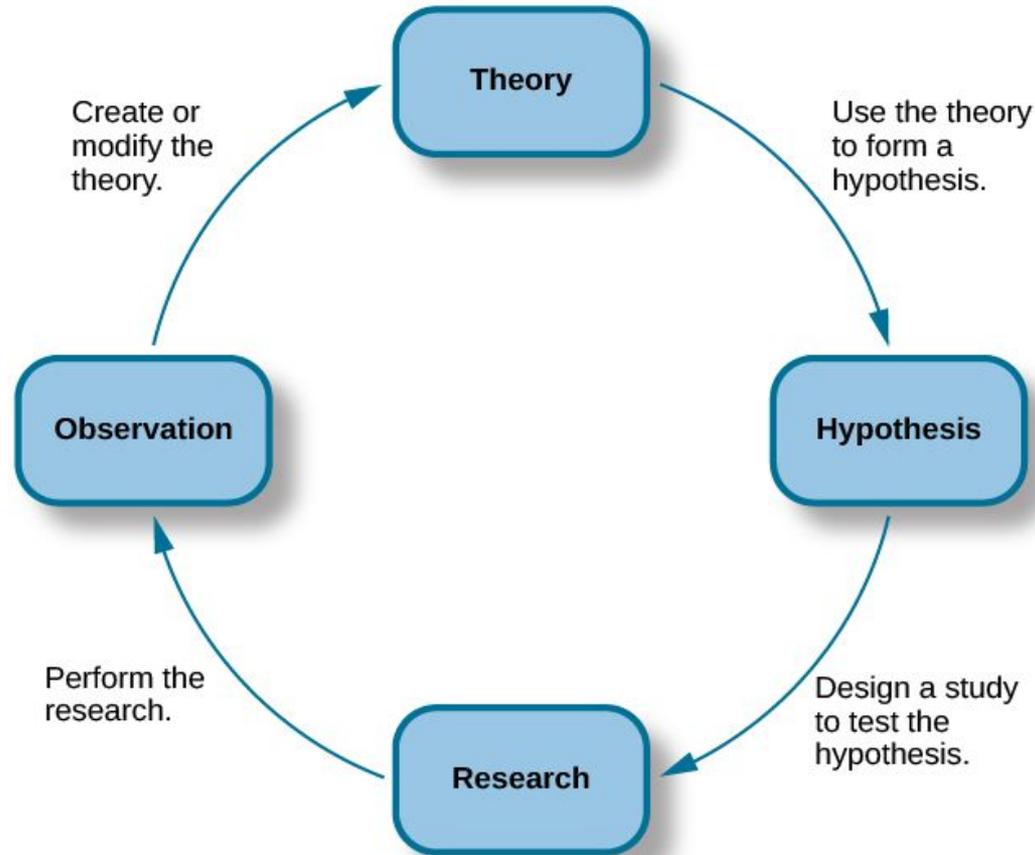
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Inductive:

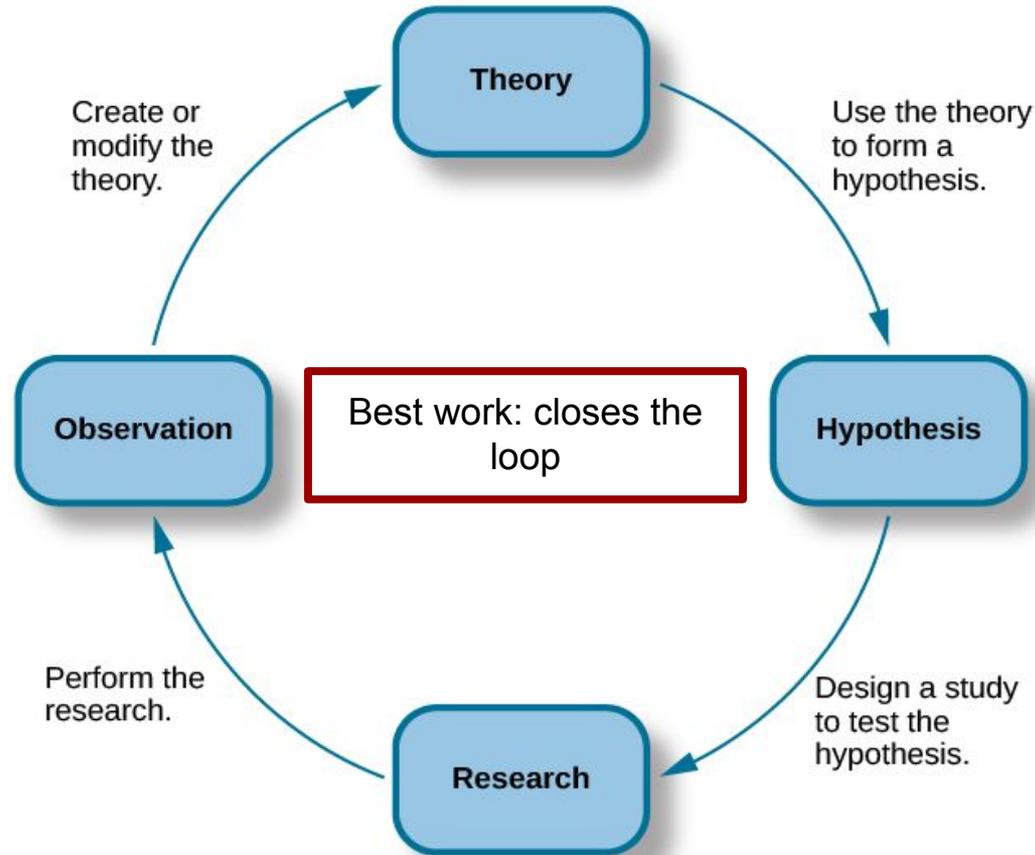
- Collect data
- Identify patterns in the data
- Observe X and Y seem connected somehow
- Quantify strength of association



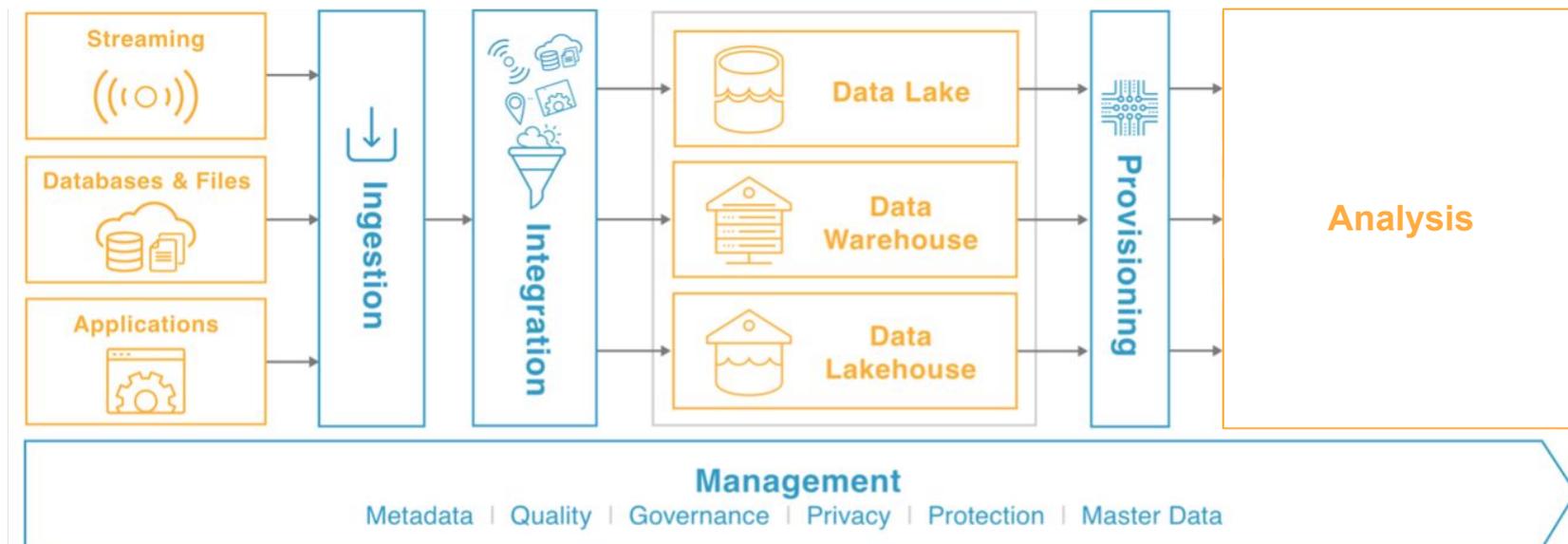
Data science is more realistic



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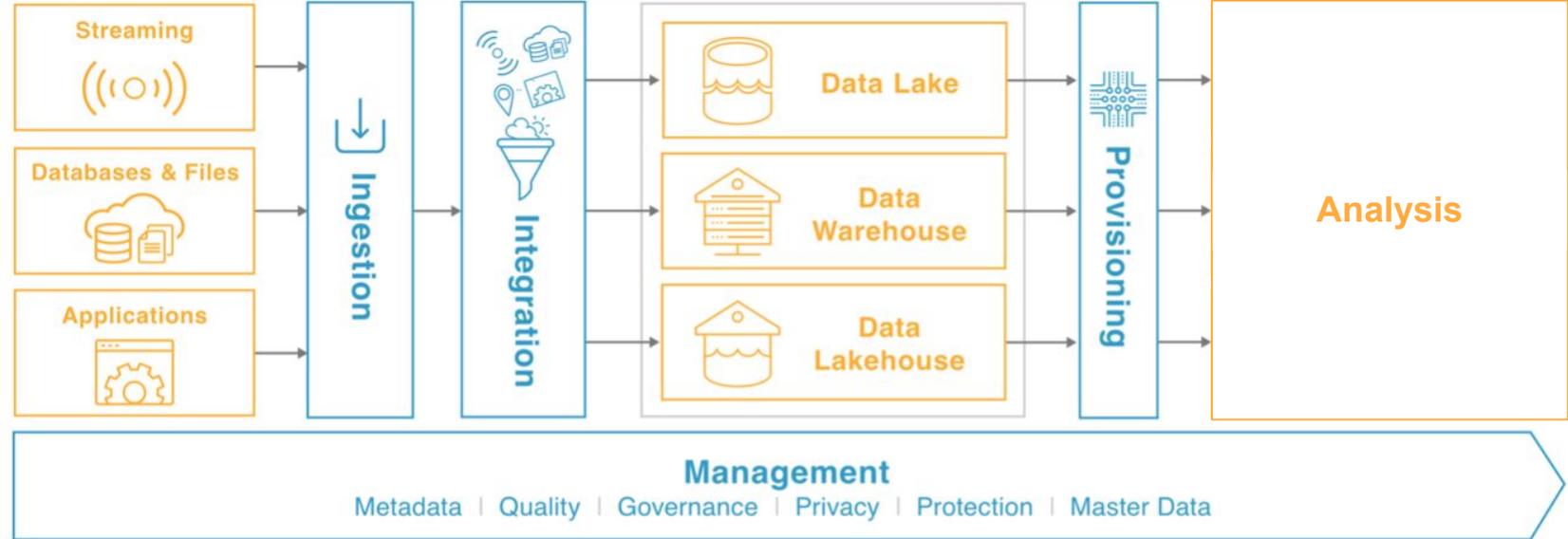


Data science is integrated into a data ecosystem



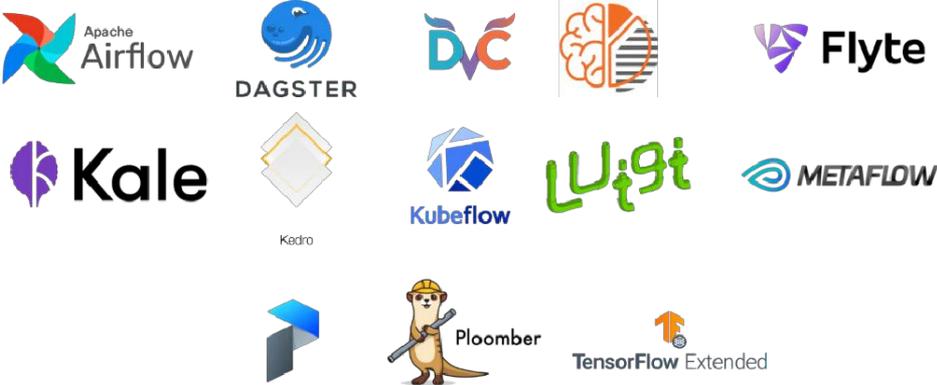
<https://www.2ndwatch.com/blog/what-is-a-data-pipeline-and-how-to-build-one/>

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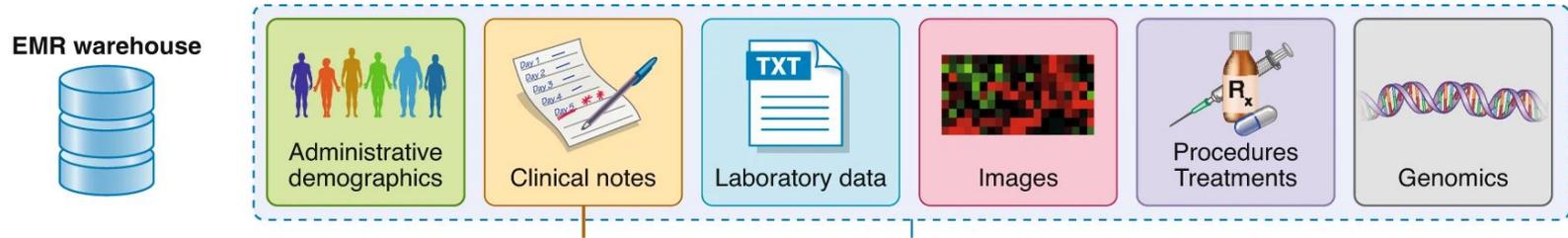
Some Open-Source Orchestration Tools:



<https://ploomber.io/blog/survey/>

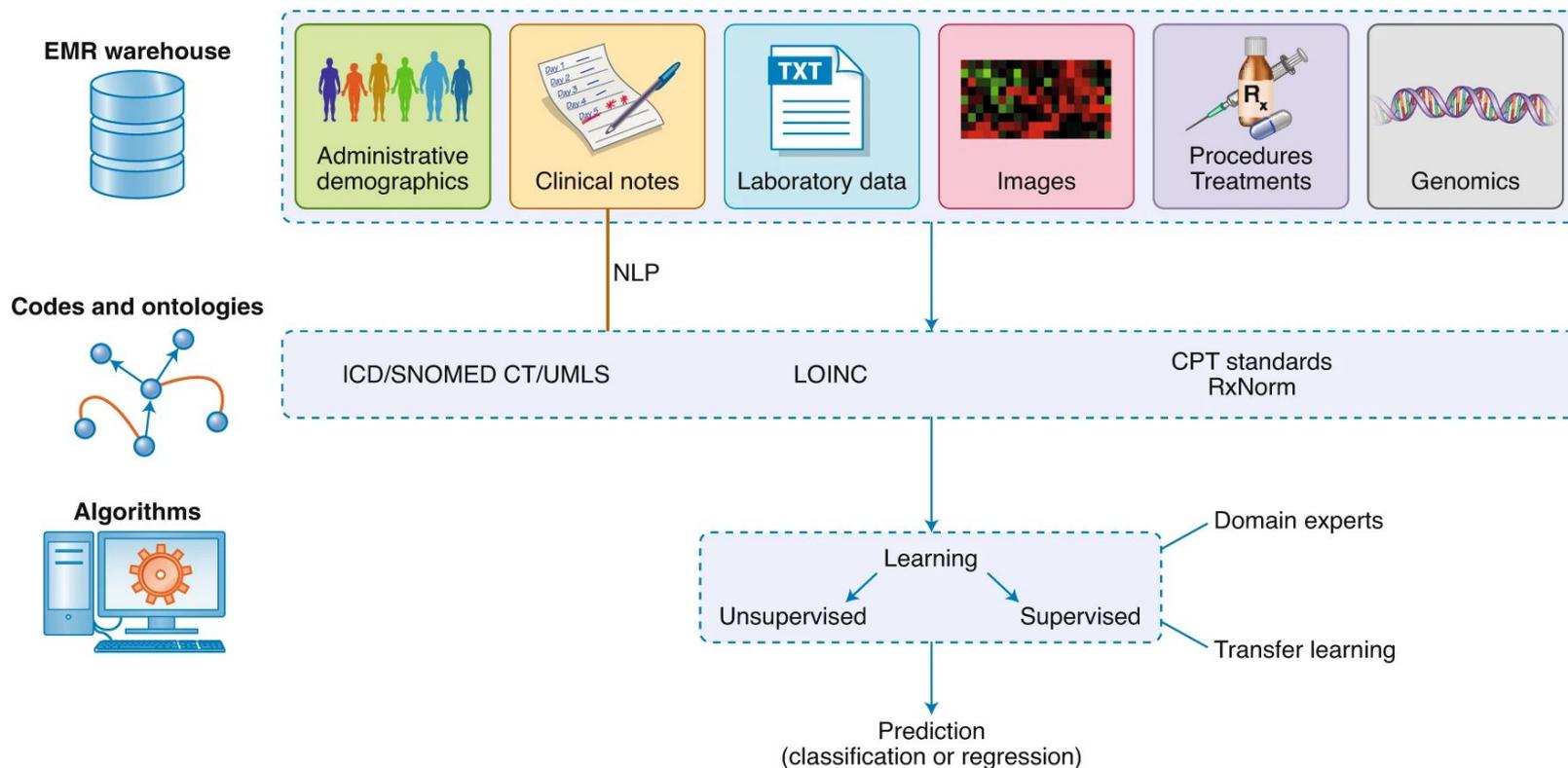
OK, what is **Health** Data Science?

Data Science applied to Health Data



Why “health data” instead of “medical data”: health encompasses medical (**contentious**)

Data Science applied to Health Data



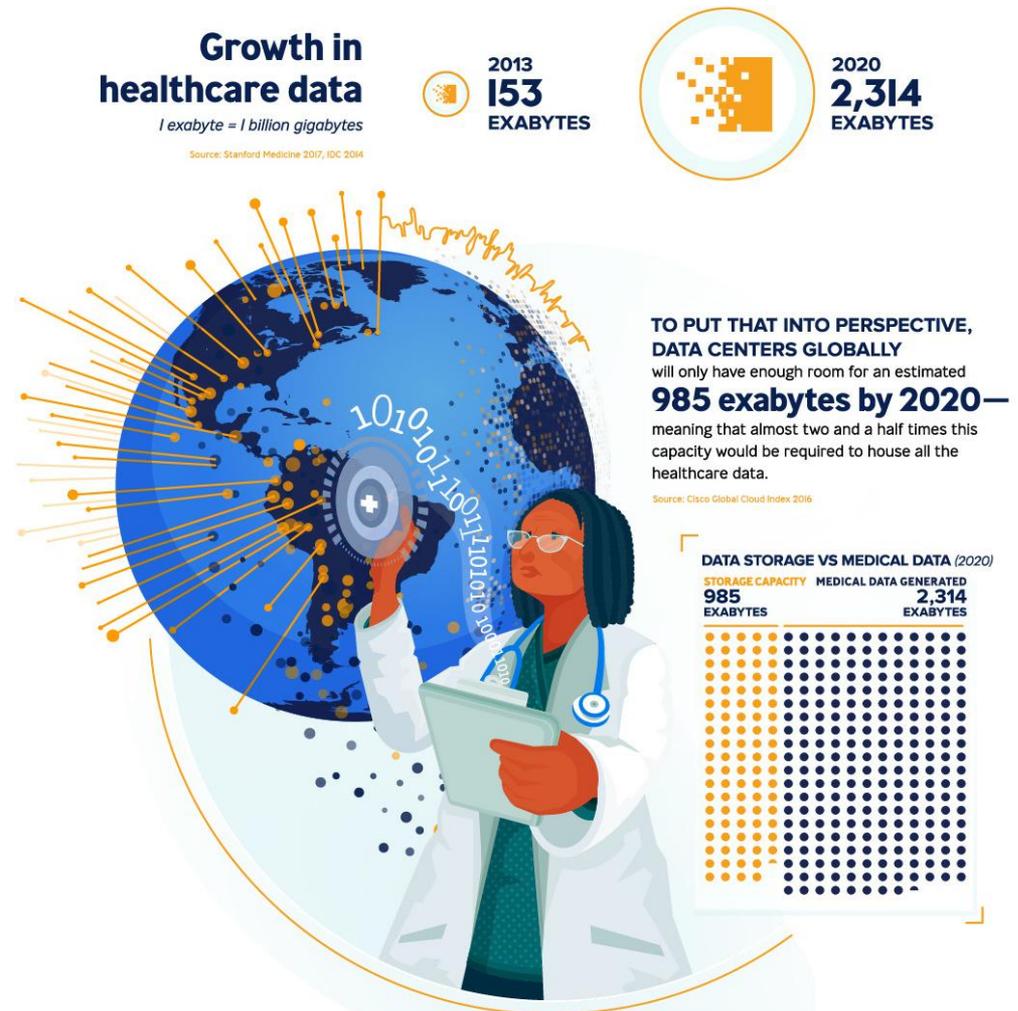
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41588-020-0698-y/figures/2>

Why “health data” instead of “medical data”: health encompasses medical (**contentious**)

Opportunity of Health Data Science

Benefits (and pitfalls!) of data science in general combined with:

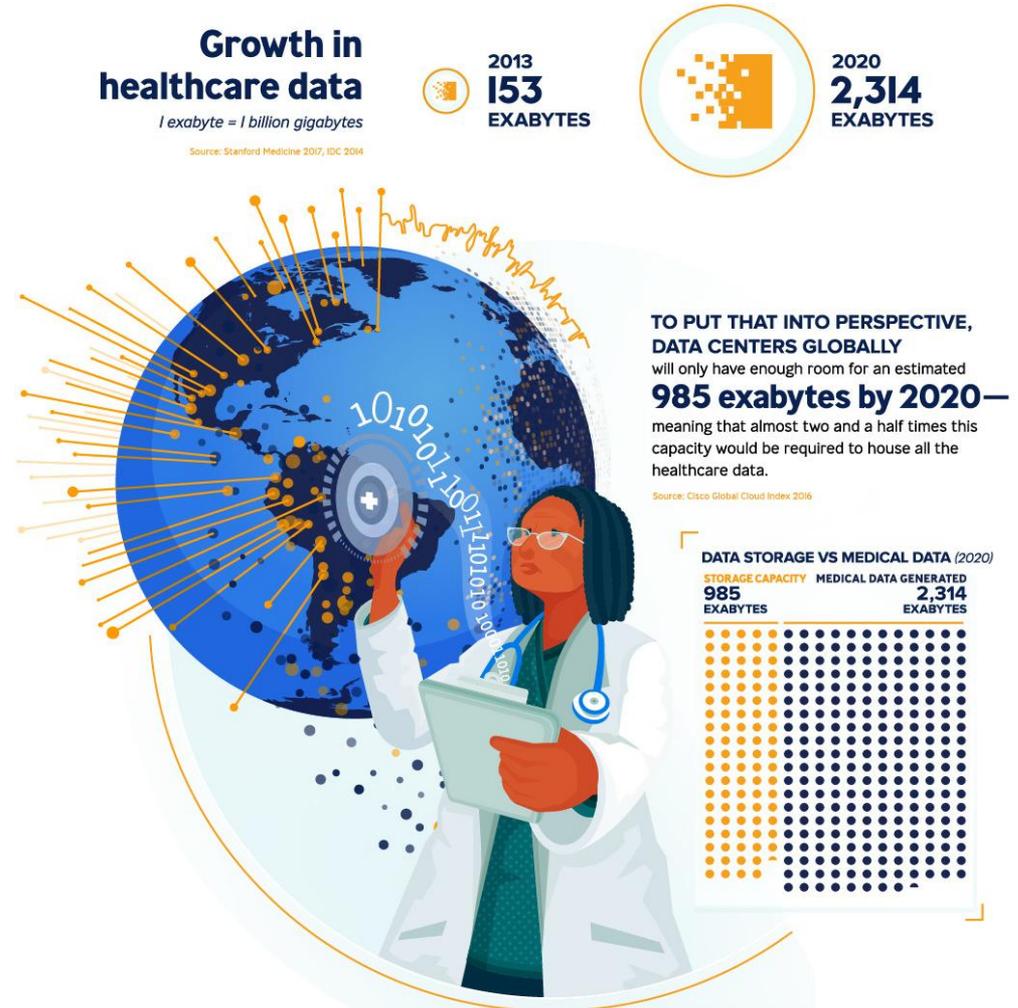
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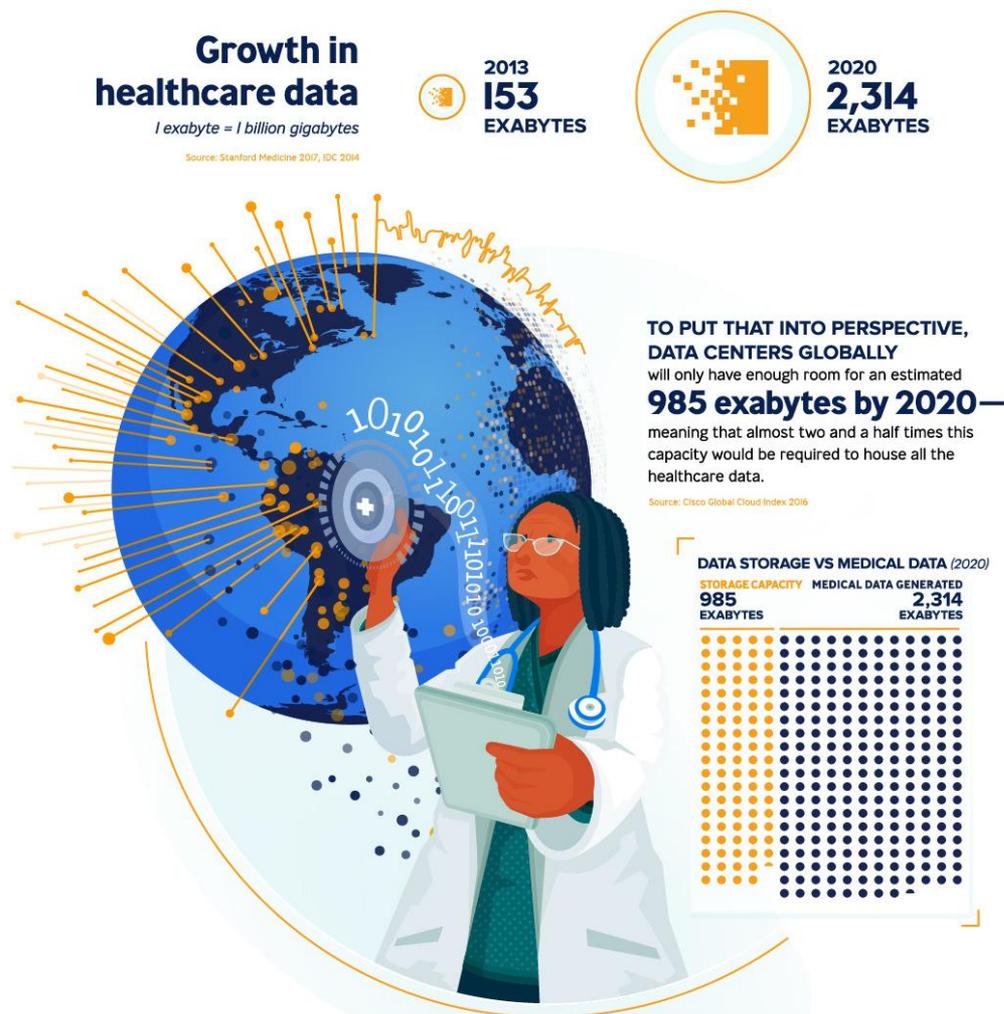
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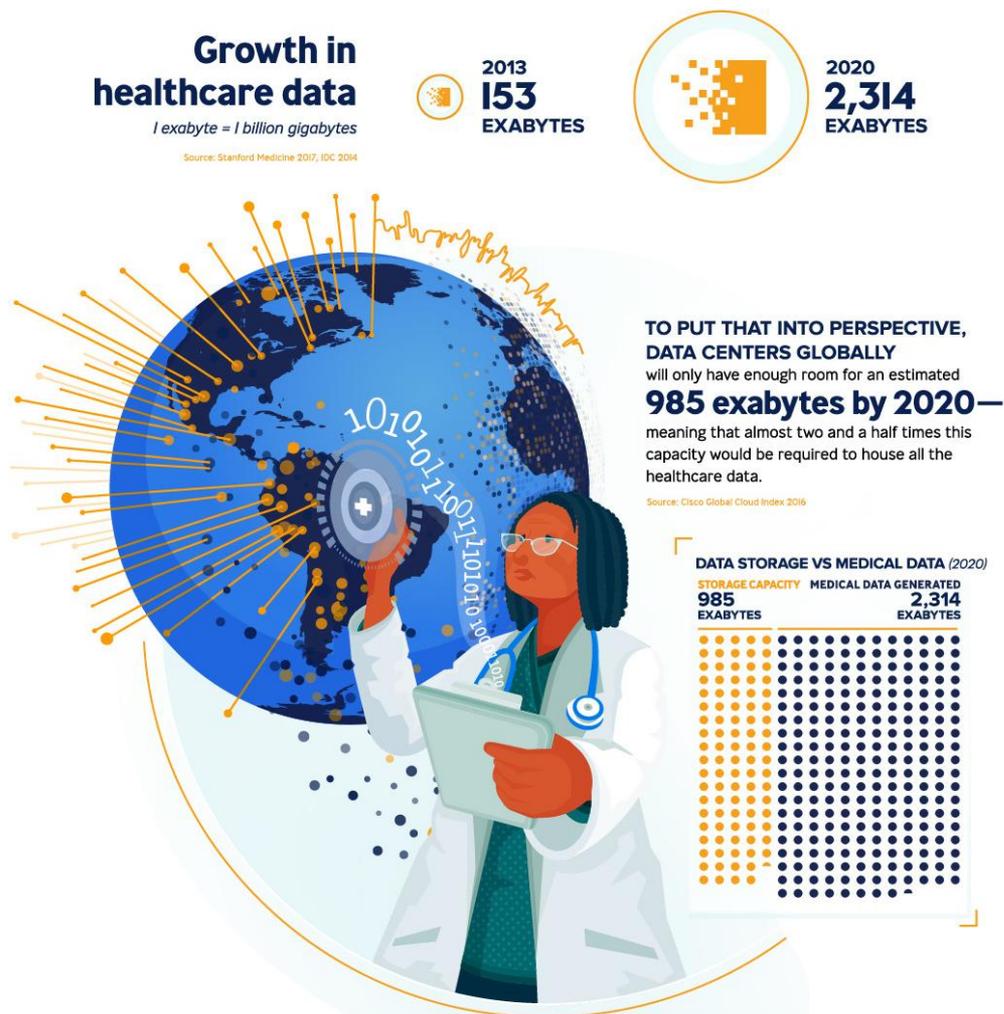
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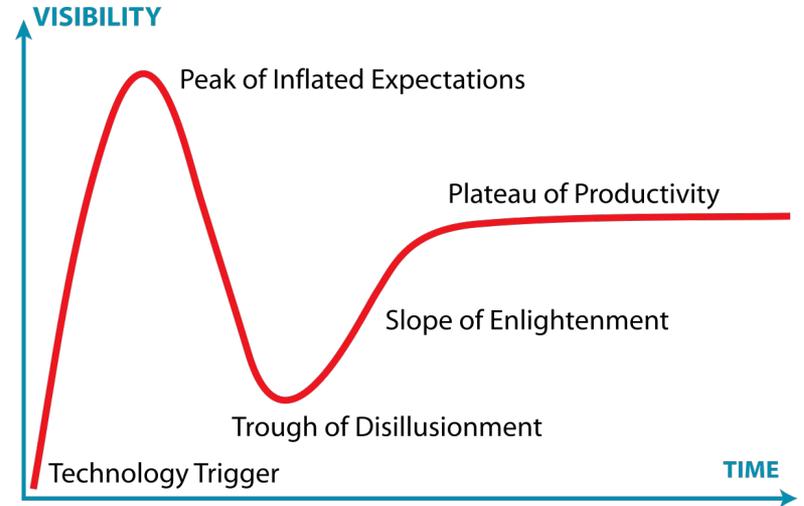
Benefits (and pitfalls!) of data science in general combined with:

- Huge amounts of health data
- Many **interesting** and **important problems**
- Many domain experts desperate for data-related help with these problems
- Relative few skilled data science practitioners



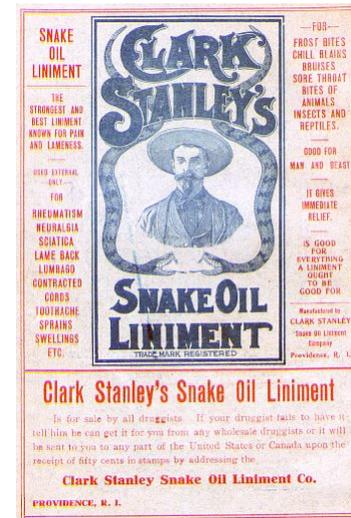
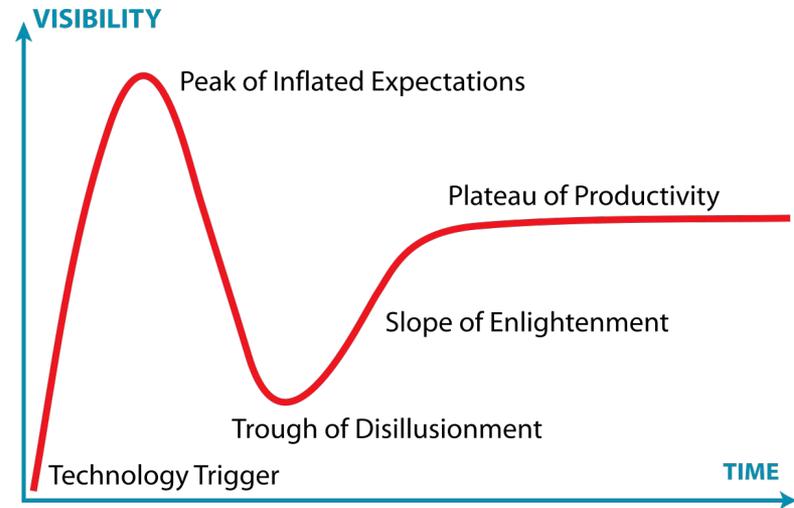
(Some) Challenges of Health Data Science

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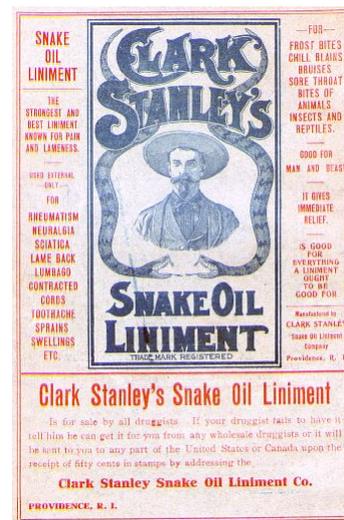
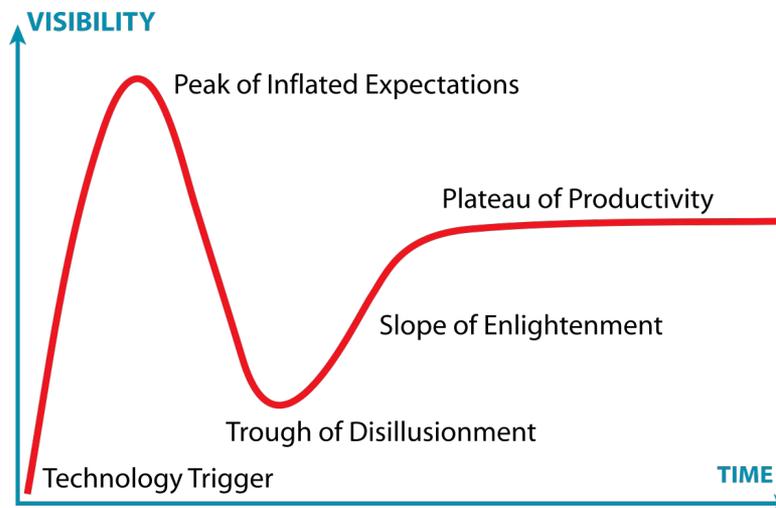
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- Lots of grifters
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- Contextual/Metadata quality issues

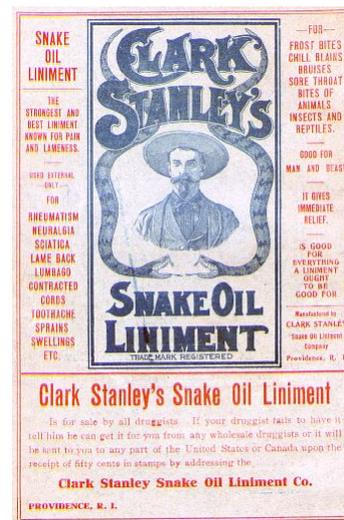
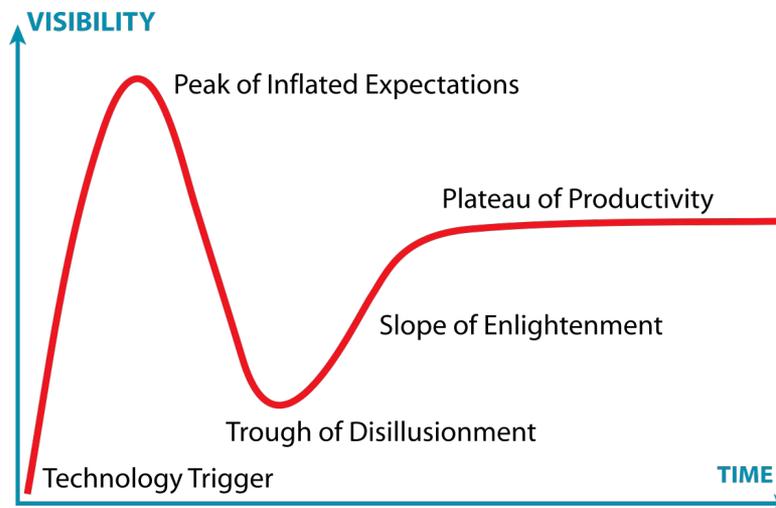


<https://www.r-bloggers.com/2019/08/new-course-learn-advanced-data-cleaning-in-r/>

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/94/Gartner_Hype_Cycle.svg
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Clark_Stanley%27s_Snake_Oil_Liniment.png

(Some) Challenges of Health Data Science

- Lots of hype
- Lots of grifters
- Data quality issues
- Contextual/Metadata quality issues
- Influence of US health system
- Ethical pitfalls
- Treatment to the mean

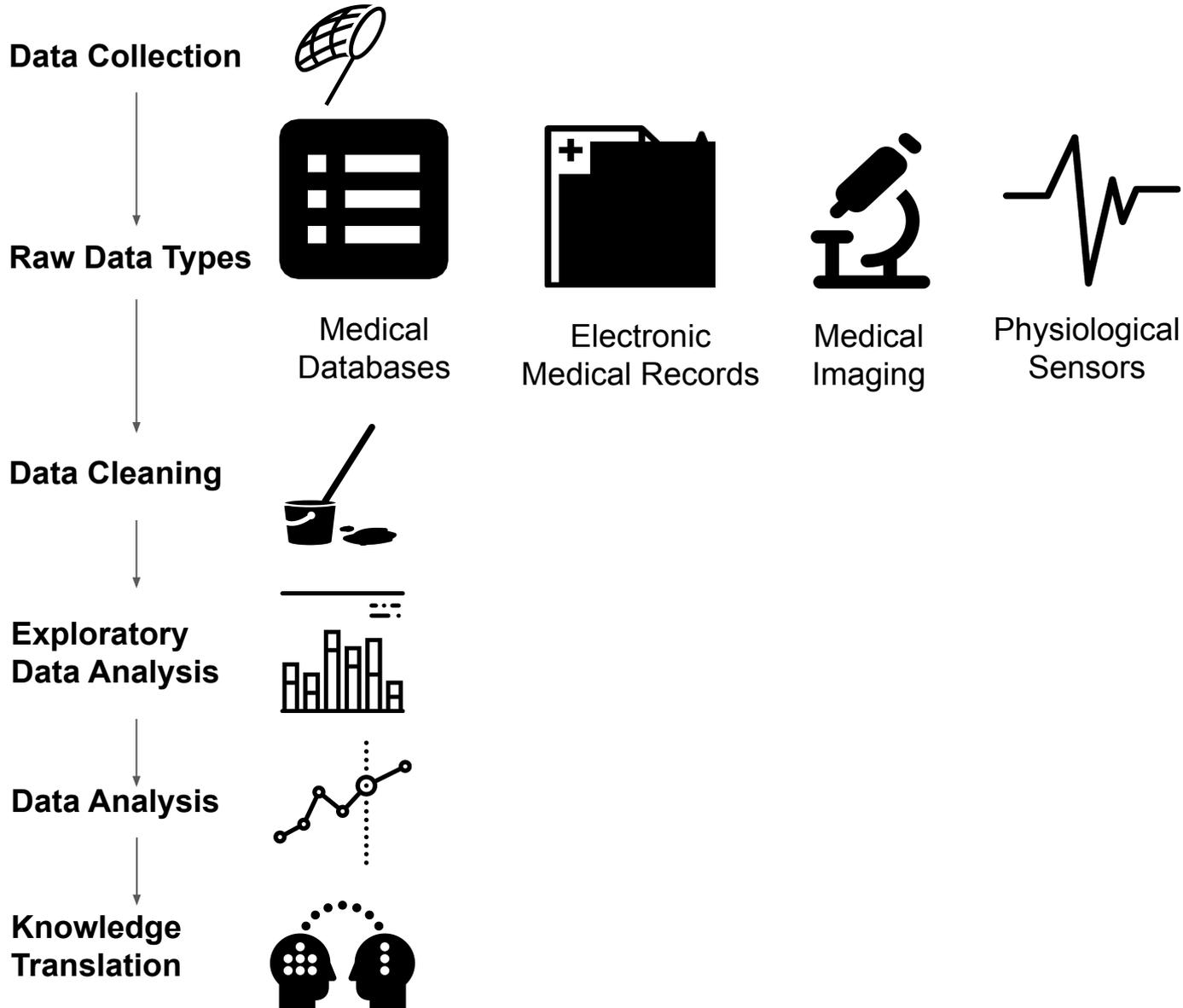


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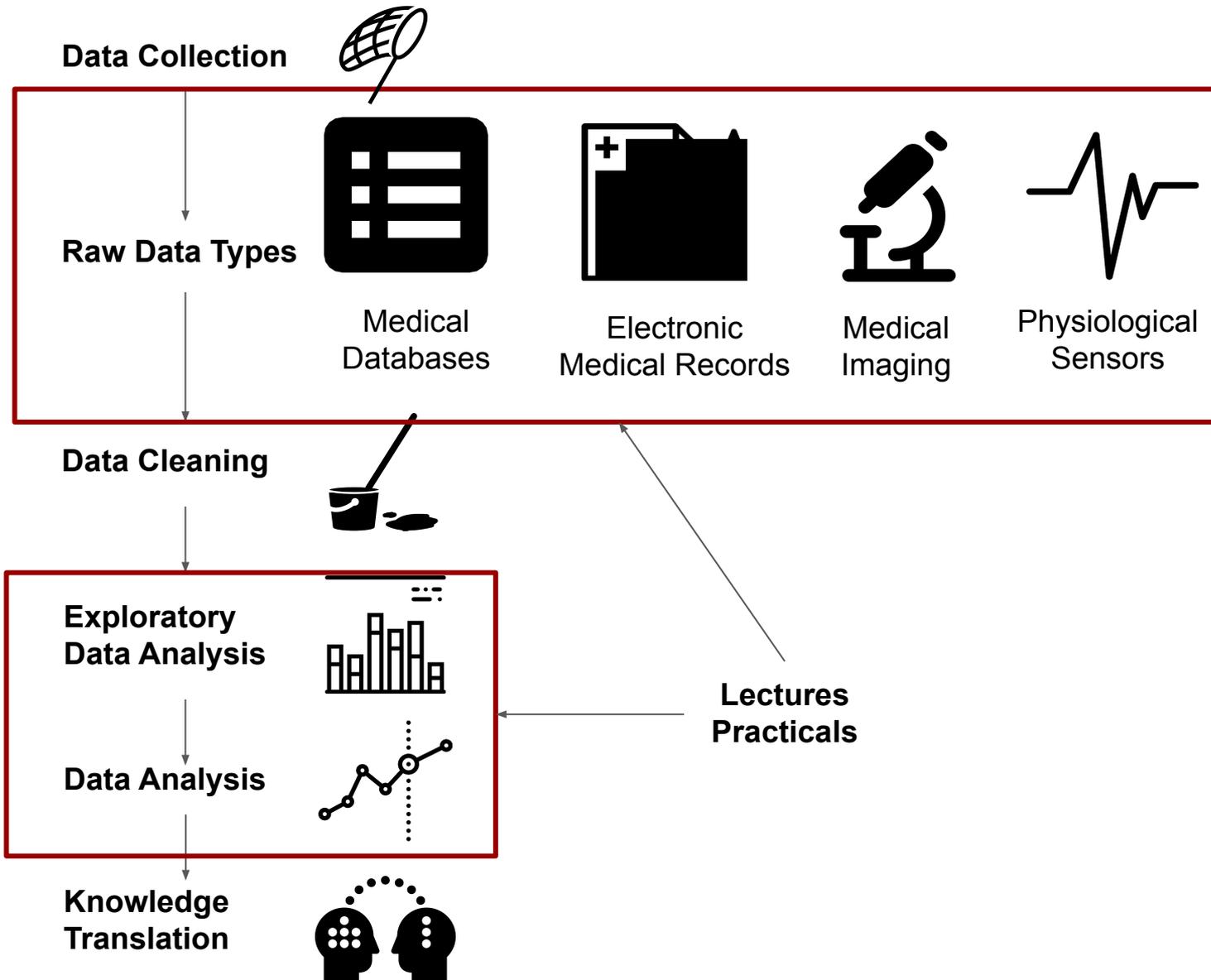
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What parts of health data science will this course cover?

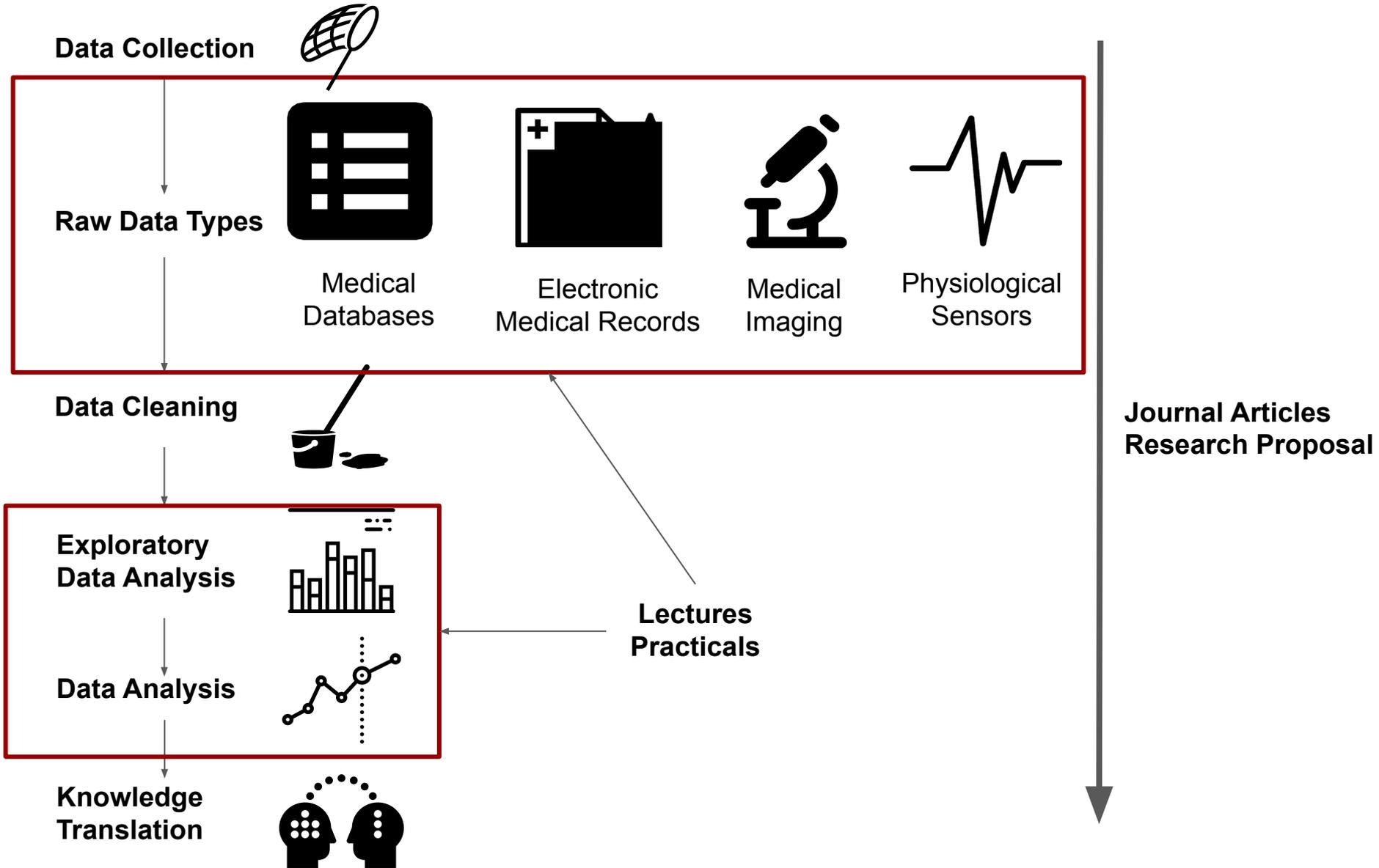
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What parts of health data science will this course cover?



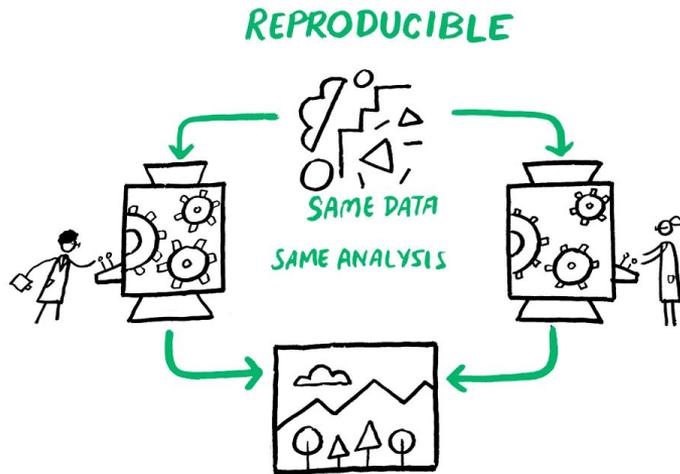
Let's take a 5 minute break!

Tools for Reproducible Health Data Science

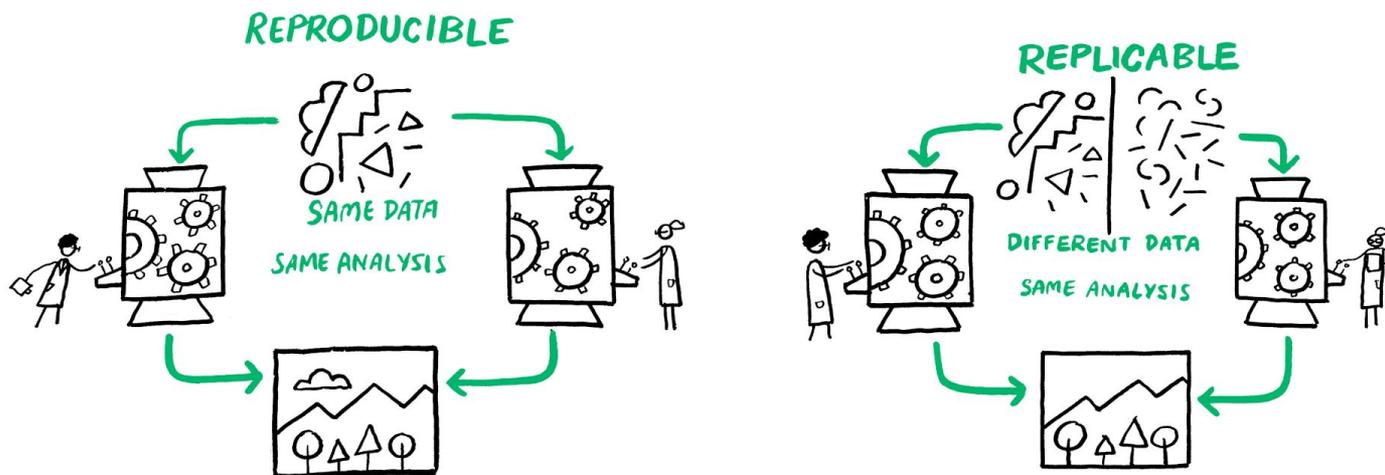
Rstudio, Rmarkdown, Git

Why do we care about reproducibility?

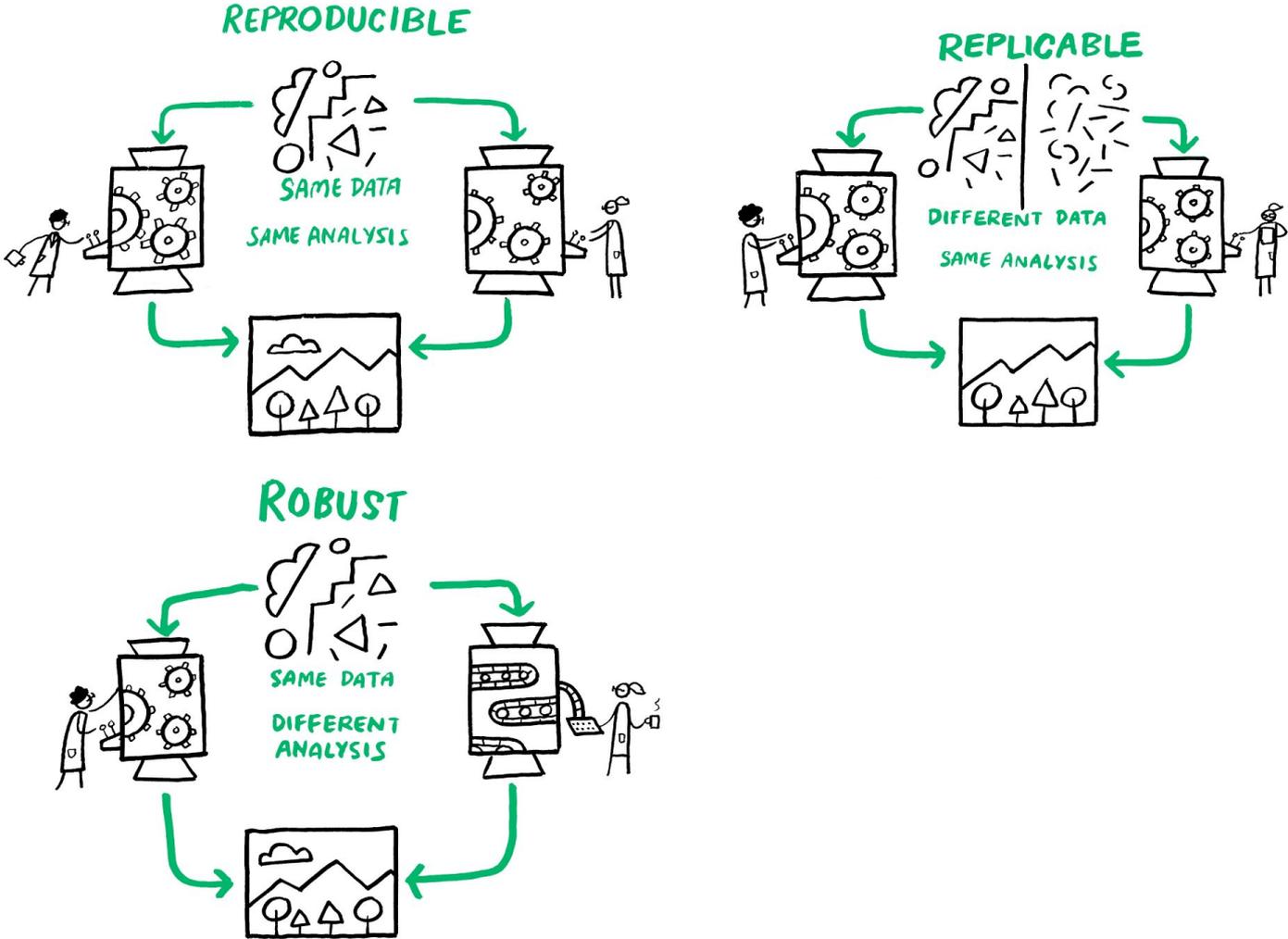
Reproducibility should be the bare minimum



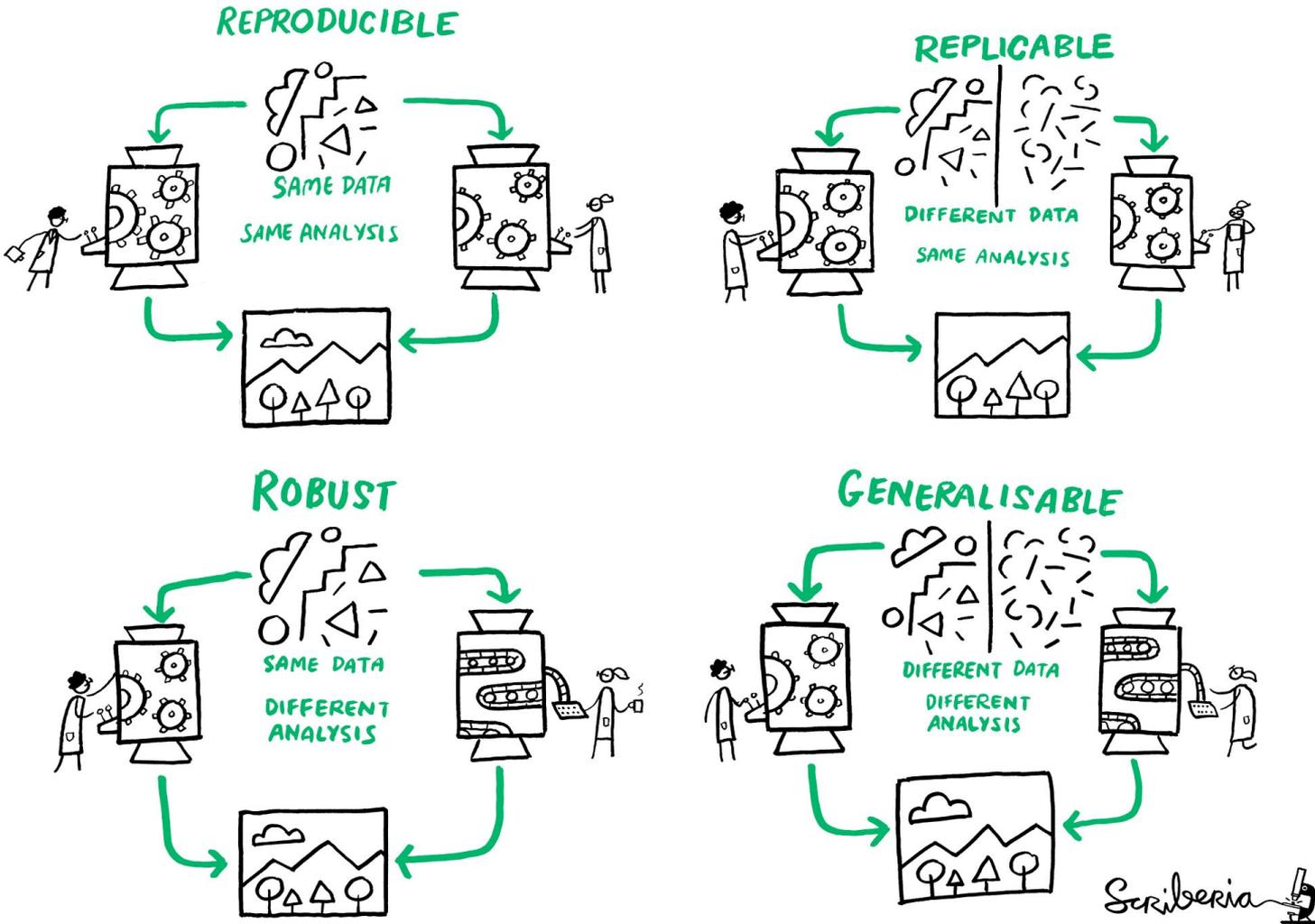
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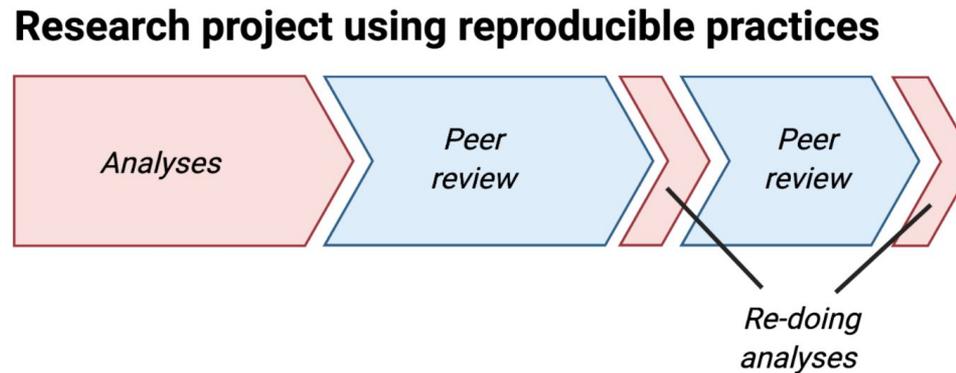
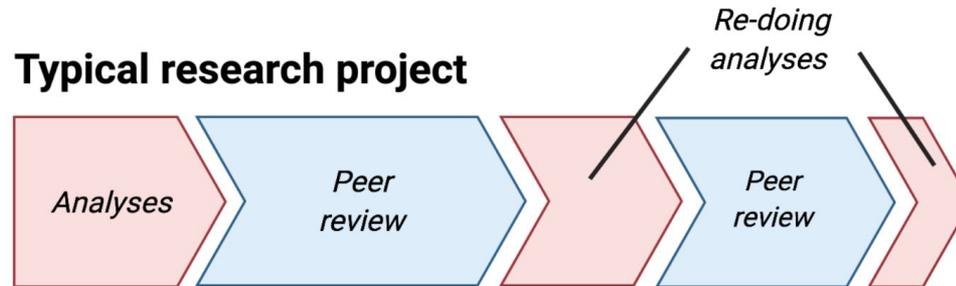
Reproducibility should be the bare minimum



Reproducibility should be the bare minimum



Makes your own life easier



 @dsquintana

oliviergimenez.github.io/reproducible-science-workshop

What do we need to do to have reproducible research?

Reproducibility checklist

- Don't do anything by hand (even "one-off" tasks)

Reproducibility checklist

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- Script every interaction with data:
 - Data collection
 - Moving data on your computer
 - Formatting datasets
 - Cleaning data
 - Exploratory data analysis
 - Main analyses
 - Report generation

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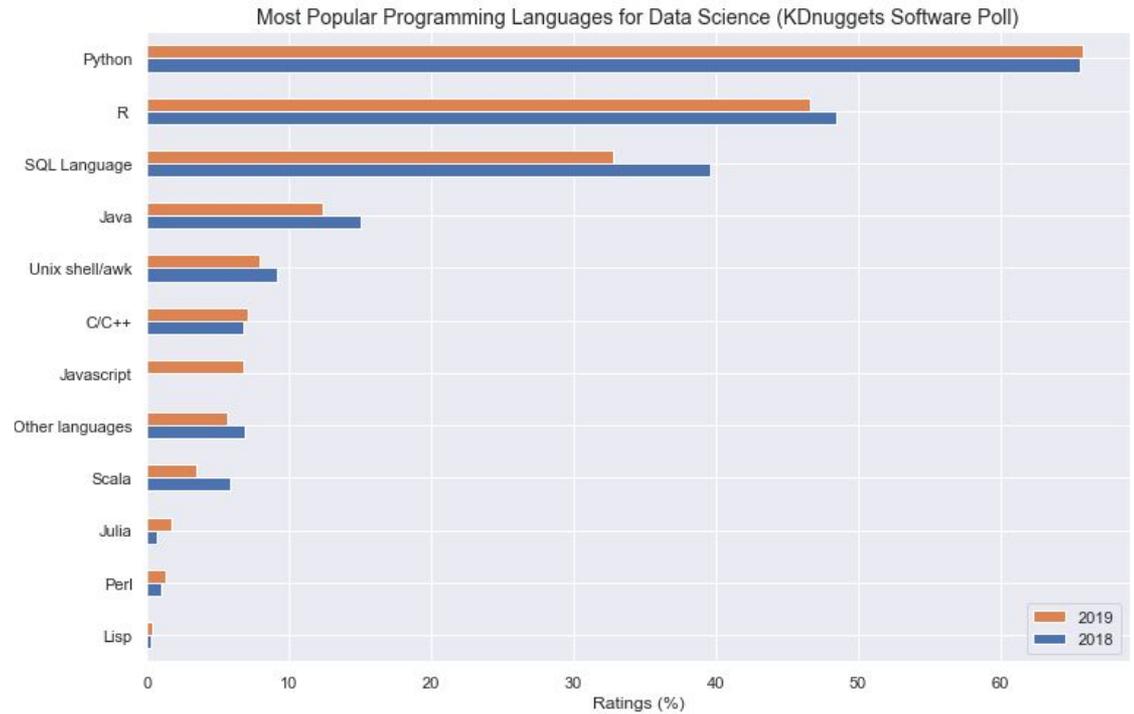
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- Version control all data, code, and documentation
- Use a random seed
- Keep track of the exact version of every library/program you use

How do we actually do these things?

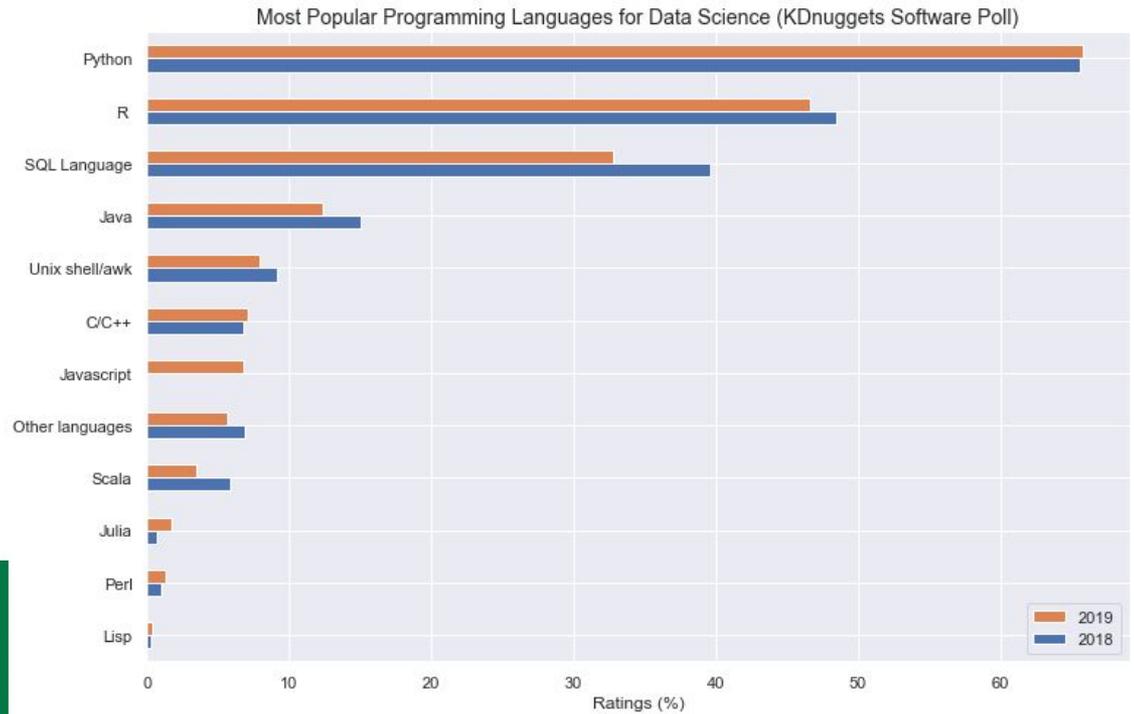
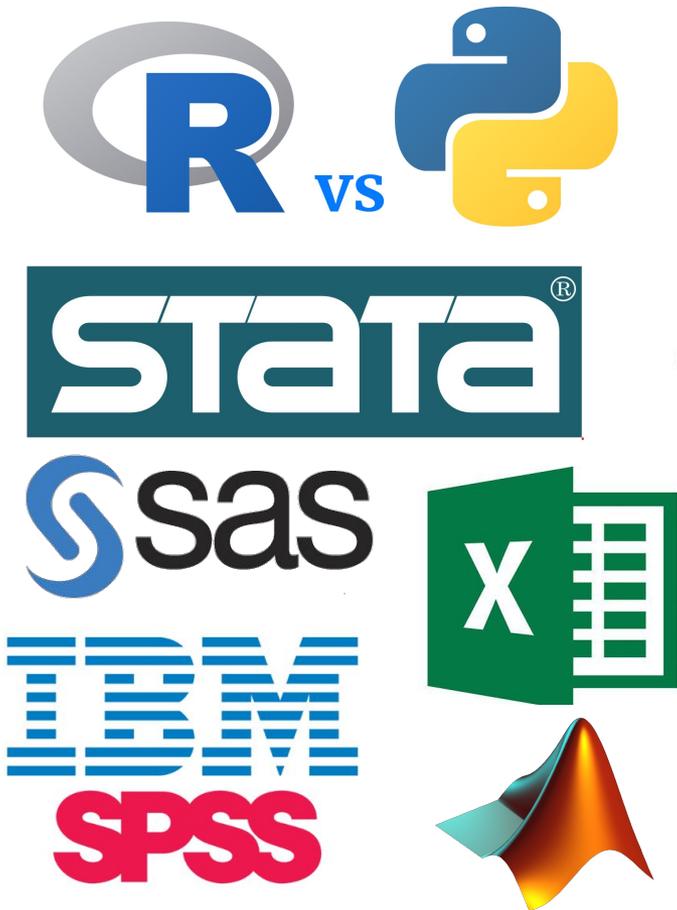
Choose a language that makes it easy to do most/all of your analysis

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<https://www.kdnuggets.com/2019/05/poll-top-data-science-machine-learning-platforms.html>

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Use a data science focused IDE: Rstudio

The screenshot displays the RStudio interface with the following components:

- Source Editor:** Contains R code for loading packages, creating a 'daily' dataset, and plotting the number of flights per weekday.
- Environment:** Shows the 'daily' dataset with 365 observations and 3 variables.
- Console:** Shows the execution of the R code, including the output of the 'daily' dataset and the 'head()' function.
- Plots:** Displays a boxplot titled 'Number of 2013 New York Flights Each Weekday' showing the distribution of flights for each day of the week.

```
1 library(nycflights13) ## package containing flights dataset
2 library(lubridate)
3 library(dplyr)
4 library(ggplot2)
5
6 head(flights, n = 3)
7 daily <- flights %>%
8   mutate(date = make_date(year, month, day)) %>%
9   count(date) %>%
10  mutate(wday = wday(date, label = TRUE))
11 head(daily, n = 3)
12 ggplot(daily, aes(wday, n)) +
13   geom_boxplot(outlier.colour = "hotpink") +
14   labs(x = "Weekday", y = "Flights",
15        subtitle = "Number of 2013 New York Flights Each Weekday")
16
```

Console Output:

```
# A tibble: 3 x 19
  year month day dep_time sched_dep_time dep_delay arr_time sched_arr_time arr_delay carrier
  <int> <int> <int> <int> <int> <dbl> <int> <int> <dbl> <chr>
1 2013 1 1 517 515 2 830 819 11 UA
2 2013 1 1 533 529 4 850 830 20 UA
3 2013 1 1 542 540 2 923 850 33 AA
# ... with 9 more variables: flight <int>, tailnum <chr>, origin <chr>, dest <chr>, air_time <dbl>,
# distance <dbl>, hour <dbl>, minute <dbl>, time_hour <dtm>
> daily <- flights %>%
+   mutate(date = make_date(year, month, day)) %>%
+   count(date) %>%
+   mutate(wday = wday(date, label = TRUE))
> head(daily, n = 3)
# A tibble: 3 x 3
  date           n wday
  <date> <int> <ord>
1 2013-01-01 842 Tue
2 2013-01-02 943 Wed
3 2013-01-03 914 Thu
> ggplot(daily, aes(wday, n)) +
+   geom_boxplot(outlier.colour = "hotpink") +
+   labs(x = "Weekday", y = "Flights",
+        subtitle = "Number of 2013 New York Flights Each Weekday")
>
```

Boxplot Data Summary:

Weekday	Min	Q1	Median	Q3	Max
Sun	720	890	900	910	990
Mon	910	960	970	980	990
Tue	760	940	950	960	990
Wed	720	940	950	960	990
Thu	740	940	950	960	990
Fri	820	940	950	960	990
Sat	680	730	750	770	860

set.seed()
sessionInfo()

Use notebooks to document analyses: Rmarkdown

The screenshot displays the RStudio interface with an R Markdown notebook open. The notebook content is as follows:

```
1 ---
2 title: "Viridis Notebook"
3 output: html_notebook
4 ---
5
6 ```{r include = FALSE}
7 library(viridis)
8 ```
9
10 The code below demonstrates two color palettes in the
11 [viridis](https://github.com/sjmgarnier/viridis) package. Each
12 plot displays a contour map of the Maunga Whau volcano in
13 Auckland, New Zealand.
14
15 ## Viridis colors
16
17 ```{r}
18 image(volcano, col = viridis(200))
19 ```
```

The notebook is rendered into HTML, showing the title "Viridis Notebook" and the text: "The code below demonstrates two color palettes in the [viridis](https://github.com/sjmgarnier/viridis) package. Each plot displays a contour map of the Maunga Whau volcano in Auckland, New Zealand."

The first plot, titled "Viridis colors", shows a contour map of the Maunga Whau volcano using the viridis color palette. The plot is a square with axes ranging from 0.0 to 1.0. The color scale transitions from dark purple at the edges to bright yellow in the center, representing the volcano's elevation.

The second plot, titled "Magma colors", shows the same contour map but using the magma color palette. The color scale transitions from dark purple at the edges to bright yellow in the center, representing the volcano's elevation.

Use notebooks to document analyses: Rmarkdown

settings). Therefore, from this time onward, case counts are likely underestimated and the sequenced virus diversity is not necessarily representative of the virus circulating in the overall population.

BC AB SK MB ON QC NS NB NL

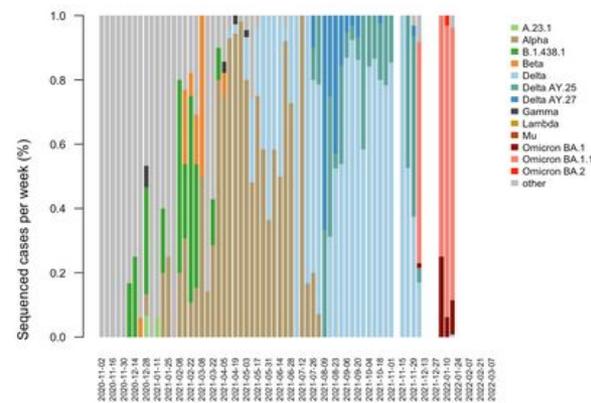
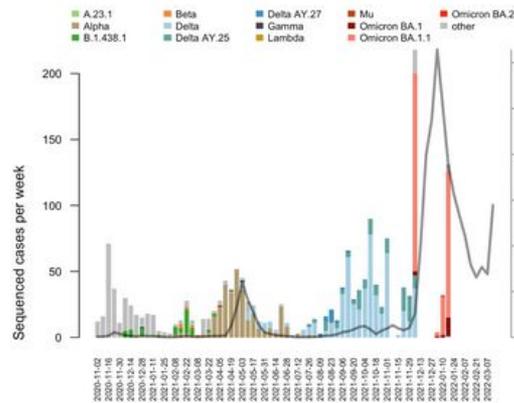
Nova Scotia

Additional up-to-date COVID data for this province can be found here:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/204d6ed723244dfbb763ca3f913c5cad>

Hide

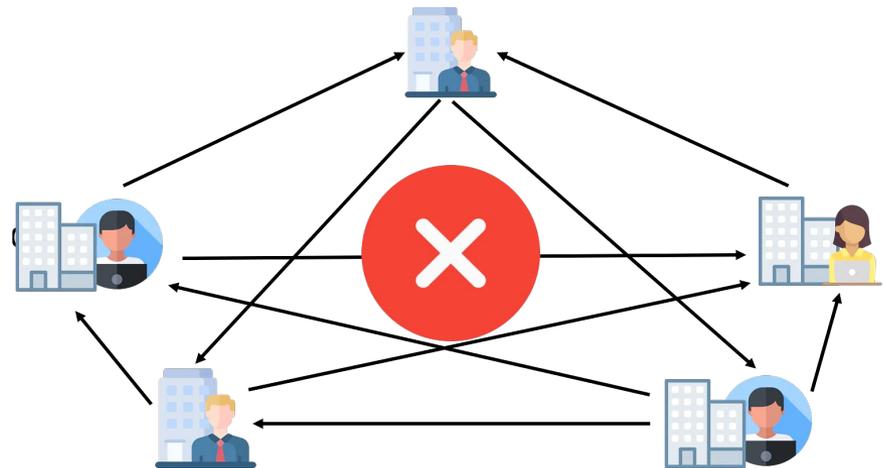
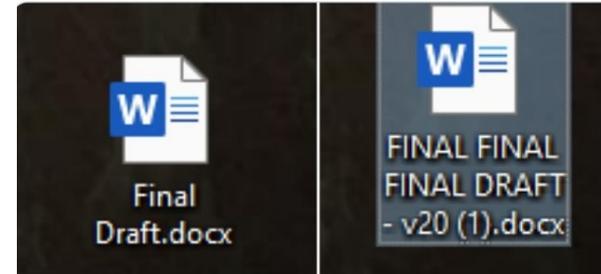
```
plot.variants(region='Nova Scotia')
plot.variants(region='Nova Scotia', scaled=T)
```



<https://covarr-net.github.io/duotang/duotang.html#>

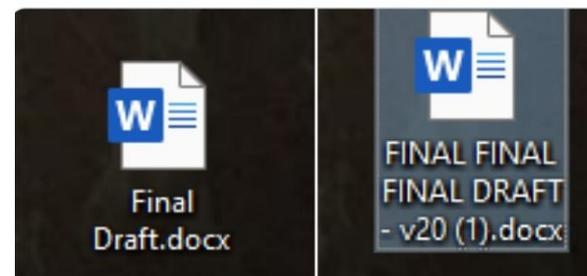
Use standard version control systems

- Ever had a nightmare of versioning even when just you?
- Add more people and the chaos grows exponentially!



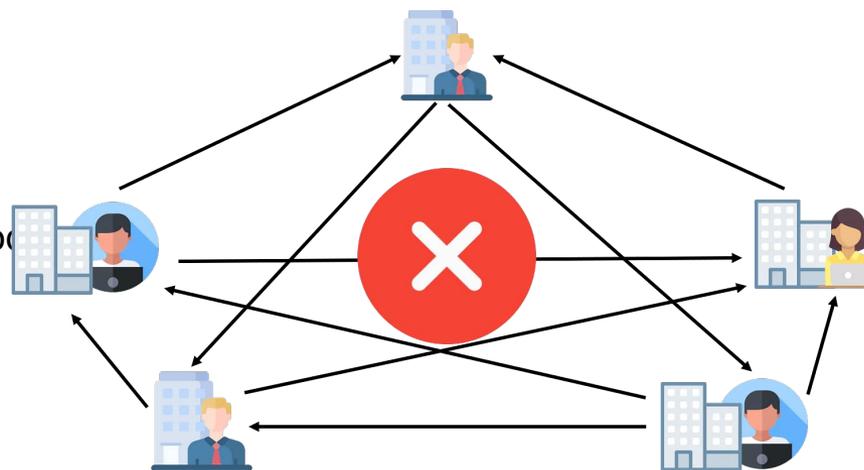
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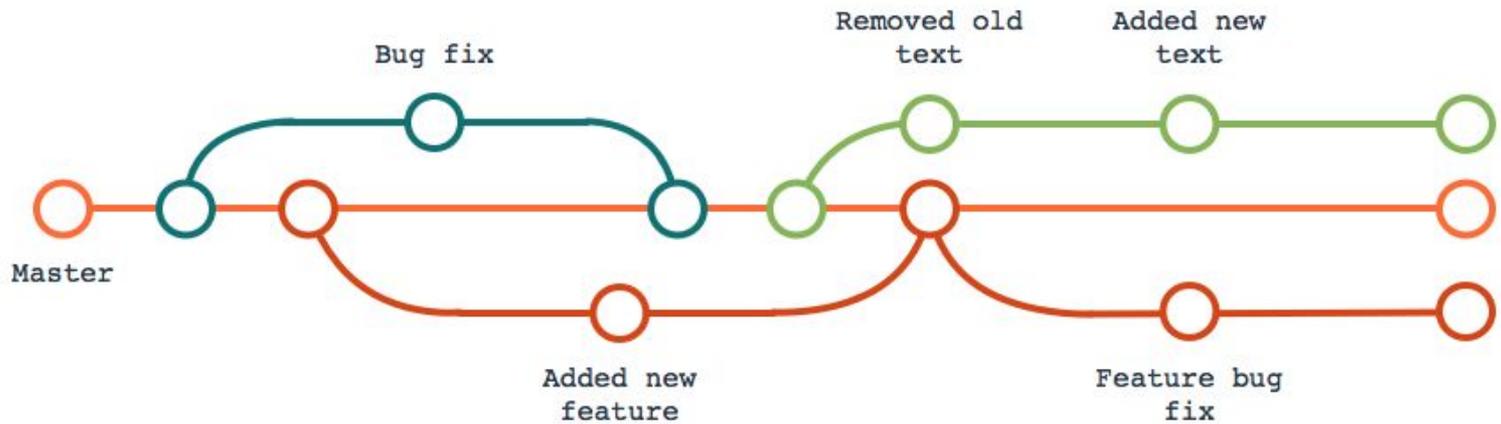


Version control let's you:

- Revert mistakes
- Acts as a comprehensive backup
- Let's you maintain multiple versions of your analysis
- Let's you compare different versions of your code
- Track down the who/what broke the analysis
- Work out why you did something in the past
- Build on someone else's work
- Share your own work
- Experiment without risk

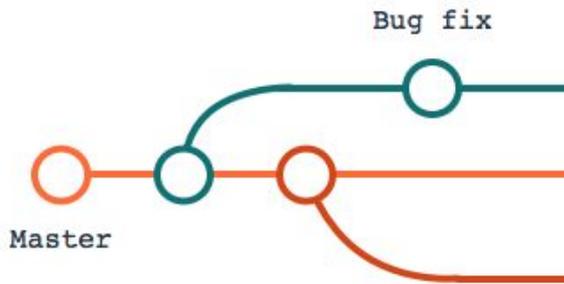


Git Version Control



- Most popular
- Decentralised
- Designed for
- GitLab/GitHub Services

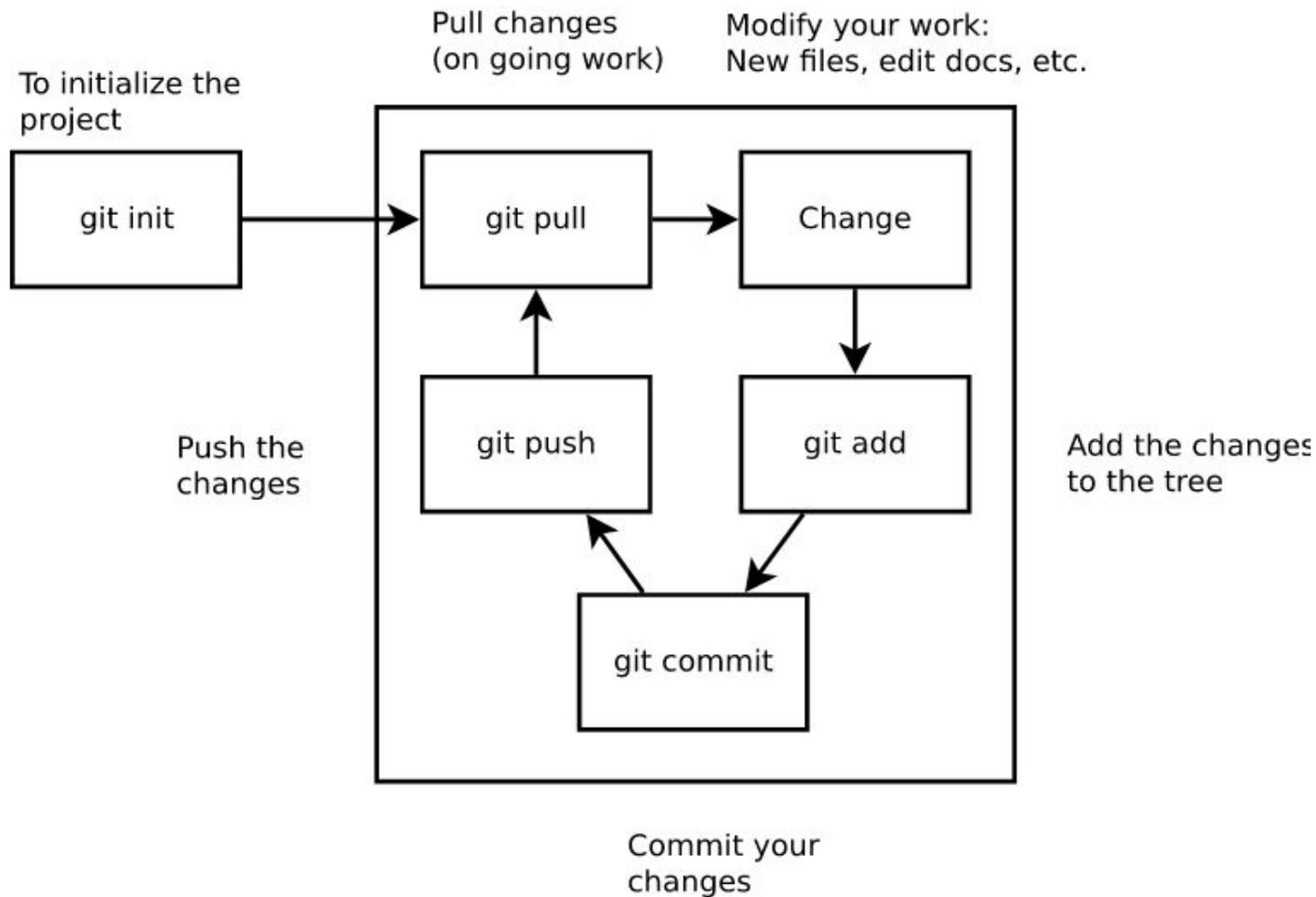
Git Version Control



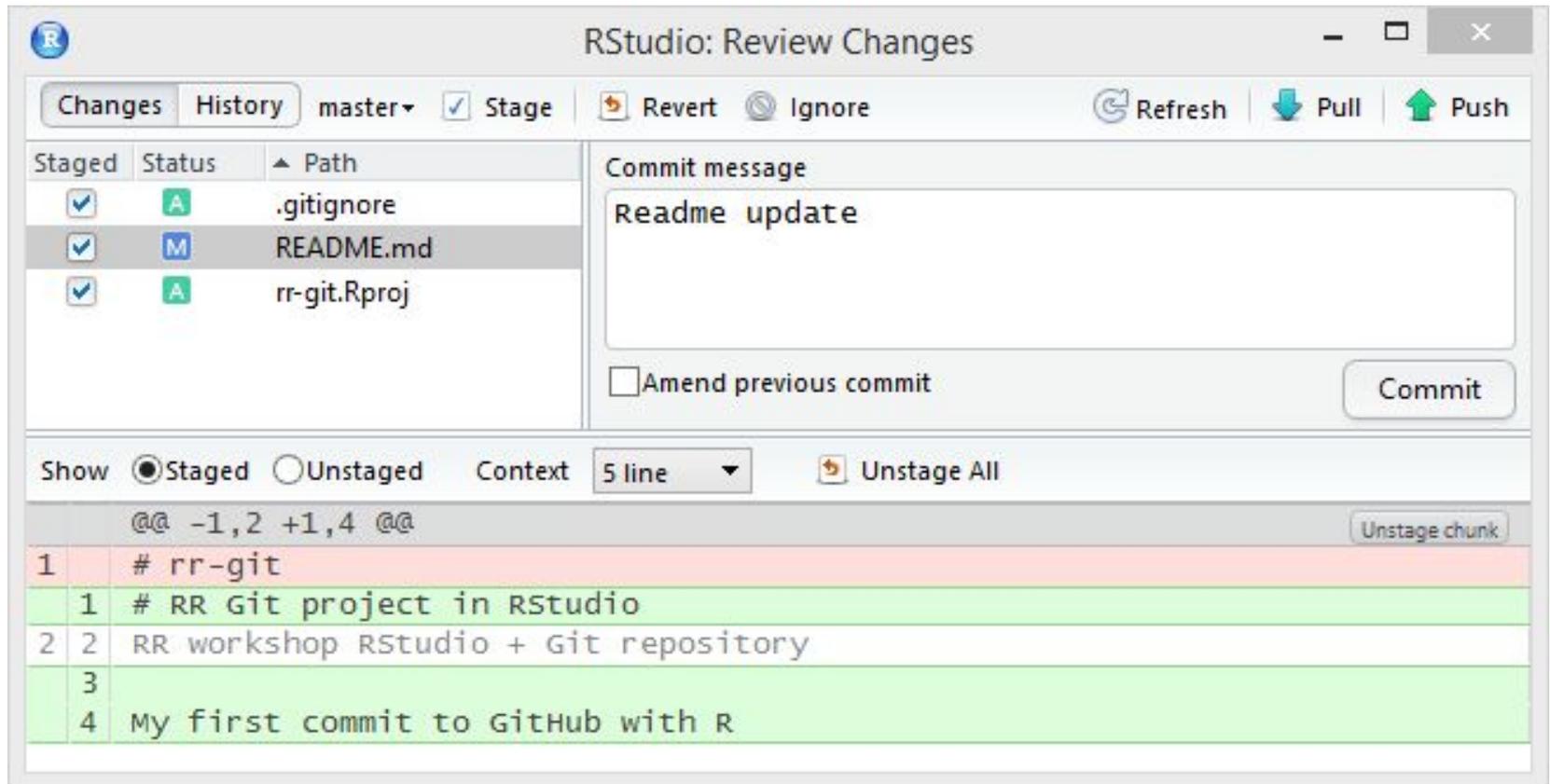
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Git Workflow



Git is integrated into Rstudio!



The screenshot shows the RStudio 'Review Changes' window. At the top, there are tabs for 'Changes' and 'History', and a dropdown menu set to 'master'. Below this are buttons for 'Stage', 'Revert', and 'Ignore', along with 'Refresh', 'Pull', and 'Push' icons. The main area is divided into two panes. The left pane shows a table of staged files:

Staged	Status	Path
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A	.gitignore
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M	README.md
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A	rr-git.Rproj

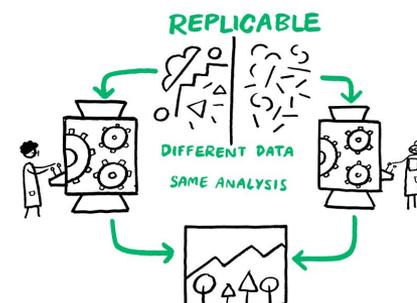
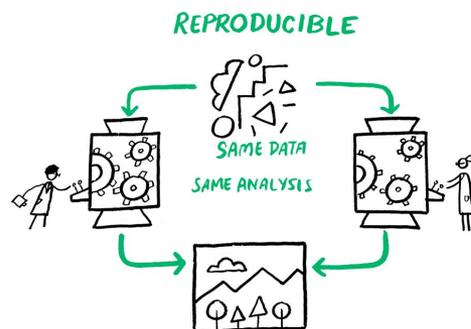
The right pane is for the 'Commit message', containing a text box with 'Readme update' and an 'Amend previous commit' checkbox. A 'Commit' button is at the bottom right. Below the panes, there are controls for 'Show' (radio buttons for 'Staged' and 'Unstaged'), 'Context' (a dropdown set to '5 line'), and 'Unstage All'. A diff view shows the changes to README.md:

```
@@ -1,2 +1,4 @@
1 # rr-git
1 # RR Git project in RStudio
2 2 RR workshop RStudio + Git repository
3
4 My first commit to GitHub with R
```

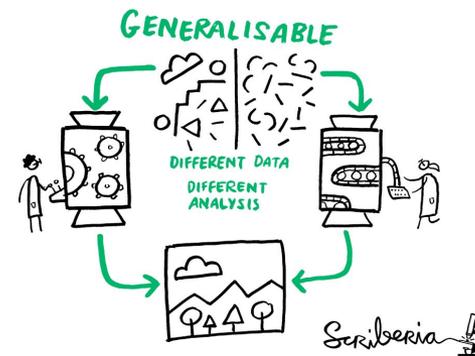
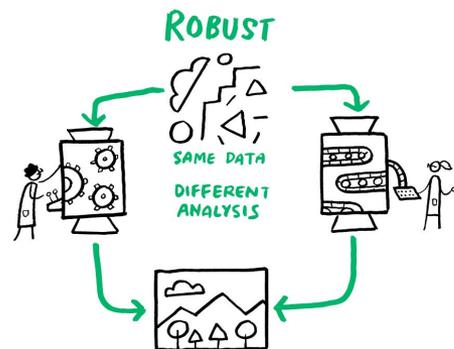
An 'Unstage chunk' button is visible on the right side of the diff view.

Combine Git+Rmd Notebooks for Reproducibility

1. Add analysis to notebook
2. Add changes to git
3. Find out you made a mistake
4. Revert changes



1. Share notebook with collaborator
2. They make changes
3. You make changes
4. Merge changes into single analysis



Summary

- Overview of course: Database/EMR/Imaging/Signal
- Main assessments: practicals, journal article presentations, research proposal
- Data science is statistics with an EDA/Inductive/Data-focused Spin
- Health Data Science is a massive and growing area with lots of opportunity and challenges
- R is a powerful and useful tool for health data science
- Reproducibility is vital to good ~~health-data~~ science
- Rstudio, Rmarkdown notebooks and Git based version control facilitate that reproducibility

Friday's Practical

- Will go over the practical use of R, Rstudio, Rmd Notebooks, Git
- Try and install rstudio, git, and rmarkdown beforehand.
- 1st practical will not contribute to your course grade

Wednesday's Journal Articles

- **Reproducibility in machine learning for health research:
Still a ways to go**

[Matthew B. A. McDermott](#) [Shirly Wang](#) [Nikki Marinsek](#) [Rajesh Ranganath](#) [Luca Foschini](#) [Marzyeh Ghassemi](#)

Science Translational Medicine • 24 Mar 2021 • Vol 13, Issue 586 • [DOI: 10.1126/scitranslmed.abb1655](https://doi.org/10.1126/scitranslmed.abb1655)

- **A Beginner's Guide to Conducting Reproducible
Research**

[Jesse M. Alston](#), [Jessica A. Rick](#) First published: 15 January 2021 <https://doi.org/10.1002/bes2.1801>