
WELCOME TO GA!

ORIENTATION



MEET YOUR INSTRUCTORS



ABOUT ME

- PhD in EE (learning and control in systems with uncertainty), MS in Statistics
- Researcher at IBM Watson
- Chief Technology Officer at a Data Science Healthcare startup
- Love to travel, hike and take photos

Hi!

STUDENT SERVICES

StudentServicesLA@generalassemb.ly

STUDENT-FACING SUPPORT

**PAYMENTS
+
LOGISTICS**

**CAMPUS
+
TOOLS**

**COURSE
COMPLETION
STATUS**



ABOUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S MISSION IS
TO BUILD OUR COMMUNITY BY
TRANSFORMING MILLIONS OF
THINKERS INTO **CREATORS.****

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS A GLOBAL
COMMUNITY OF INDIVIDUALS
EMPOWERED TO PURSUE THE
WORK WE LOVE.**

ALL YOU CAN LEARN BUFFET

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Supplement and focus your learning during and after the course with a \$150 credit for 1 year from your start date

STUDENT DISCOUNTS

Our students and alumni get free or discounted access to software and services from many vendors

GA COMMUNITY

Expand your network at GA events, Meet-ups, and continue to collaborate and network with your classmates

TOOLS

A close-up photograph of a person's hands interacting with a laptop. The left hand is pointing at the screen, while the right hand is positioned near the keyboard. The laptop screen shows a code editor with a dark background and colorful syntax-highlighted text, likely JavaScript or a similar programming language. A blue water bottle is visible in the background, and another laptop is partially visible on the left. The word "TOOLS" is overlaid in large white letters at the top left.

FEEDBACK / SUPPORT

- Access to Instructional Team: office hours, in class support
- Exit Tickets
- Mid-Course Feedback
- End of Course Feedback



Exit Tickets

Welcome to Today's Exit Ticket

This survey is designed to help your instructor succeed as the GA team is understand how you felt about the lesson and how effective the instruction was today. Your honest feedback will help you improve your learning experience in real time.

* Required



Please, write your full name. *

Course/Cohort # *

What's the lesson number? *

If you're not sure, please check with your instructor or TL.

What was the topic of the lesson? *

If you're not sure, please check with your instructor or TL.

My instructional team was effective in helping me achieve the learning objectives for this lesson. *

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Not Effective ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ Highly Effective

The lesson agenda was well-organized and facilitates time management for each activity. *

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Do Not Agree ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ Strongly Agree

I feel prepared to continue practicing this skill outside of class. *

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Do Not Agree ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ Strongly Agree





You've been added to the **generalassembly-studio** organization!



Here are some quick tips for a first-time organization member.

- Use the switch context button in the upper left corner of this page to switch between your personal context (**malloryjacobson**) and organizations you are a member of.
- After you switch contexts you'll see an organization-focused dashboard that lists out organization repositories and activities.



defunkt -



Welcome to GitHub! What's next? (15 days ago)

Create a repository

Tell us about yourself

Browse interesting repositories

Follow @github on Twitter

#dat-sm-18

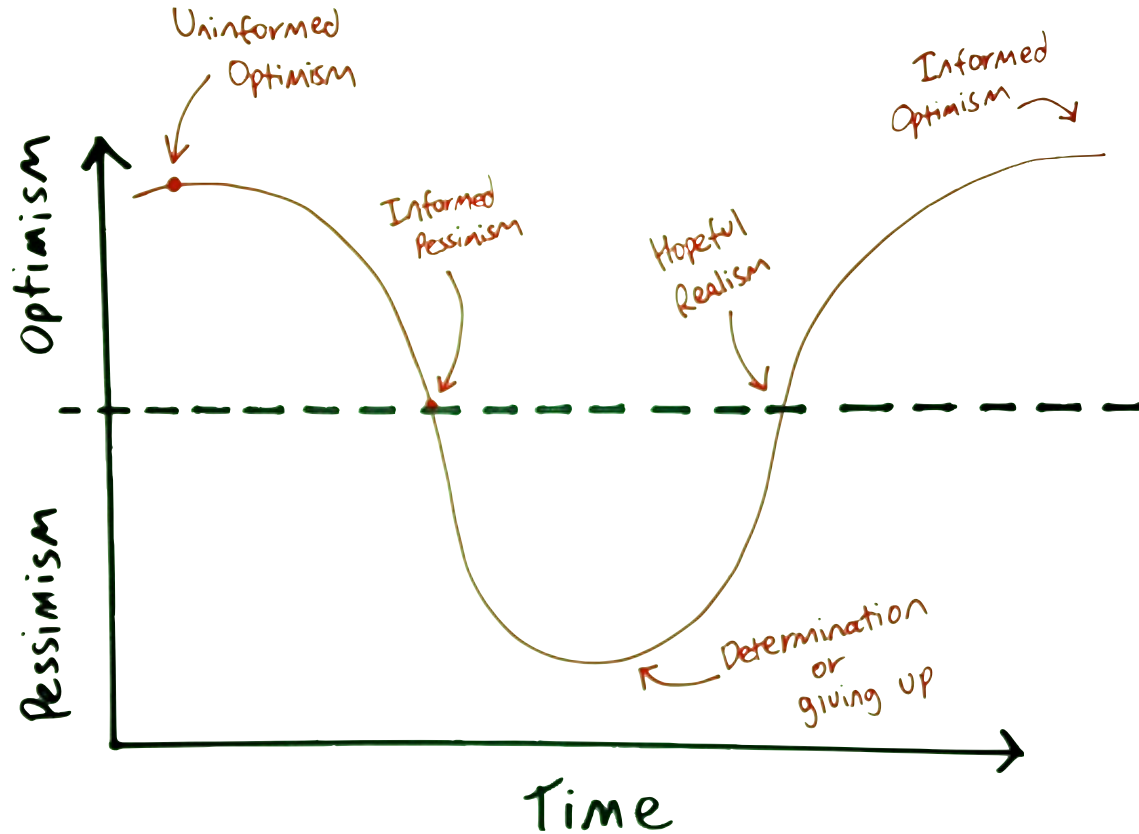


Slack preferred over email for quick questions

ROAD TO SUCCESS



EMOTIONAL CYCLE OF CHANGE

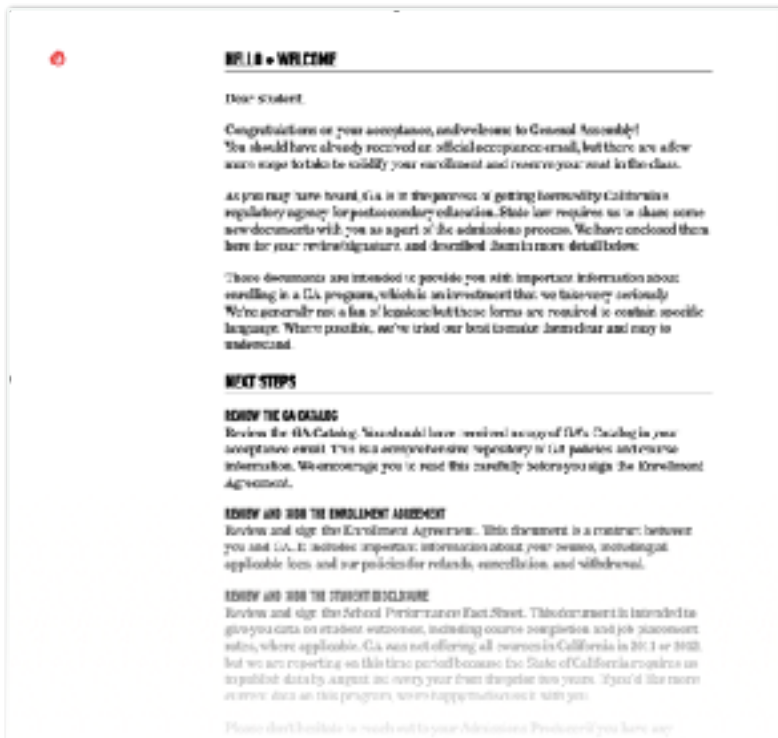


Don't Forget

Have you signed your enrollment agreement?

GA Catalog:

- ✓ Attendance Policy
- ✓ Cancellation/Withdrawal
- ✓ Tuition Payments
- ✓ Homework + Projects (80%)
- ✓ Letter of Completion





GA Graduation Requirements

ASSIGNMENTS

**(COMPLETE 80% OF
WORK/LABS)**

ATTENDANCE

**(MISS NO MORE THAN
2 CLASSES)**

FINAL PROJECT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PARTICIPATION + FEEDBACK



Our Grads



BUILD YOUR NETWORK

It's not just about altruism, your network is your most valuable asset. Alumni have started companies together and recruited other alumni to join their teams



ACCESS TO OUR ALUMNI COMMUNITY

You're part of the alumni community forever



OFFICIAL LETTER OF COMPLETION

Sent to your inbox via email after the course is completed. *important if you're being reimbursed by your business



PERKS! DISCOUNTS OFF CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS, TUITION CREDIT

We can't wait to have you back on campus

HOW TO SUCCEED

- Ask
- Share
- Do
- Do
- Do

ASK AWAY!



WELCOME TO DATA SCIENCE

Naumaan Nayyar

Chief Technology Officer, Vivace Systems

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTIONS

WELCOME TO DATA SCIENCE

INTRODUCTIONS

- Who are you?
- Tell us about yourself
- Share your professional experiences
- What do you expect to get out of this course?

WELCOME TO DATA SCIENCE

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Describe the roles and components of a successful learning environment
- Define data science and the data science workflow
- Setup your development environment and review python basics

DATA SCIENCE

PRE-WORK

PRE-WORK REVIEW

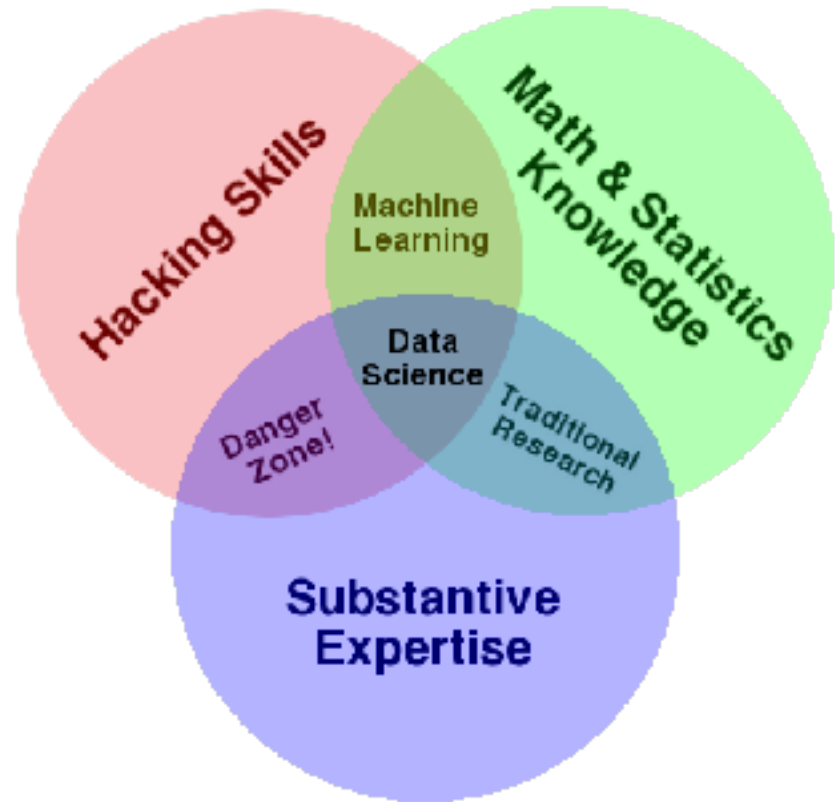
- Define basic data types used in object-oriented programming
- Recall the Python syntax for lists, dictionaries, and functions
- Create files and navigate directories using the command line interface

INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS DATA SCIENCE?

WHAT IS DATA SCIENCE?

- ▶ Knowledge vs data
- ▶ A set of tools and techniques for data
- ▶ Interdisciplinary problem-solving
- ▶ Application of scientific techniques to practical problems



WHAT IS DATA SCIENCE?

- Data Science
- Software Engineering
- Machine Learning (or Statistics... ?)

“...better statisticians than your average programmer and they’re better programmers than your average statistician”

WHO USES DATA SCIENCE?

NETFLIX

amazon.com[®]

Google



 **FiveThirtyEight**



WHO USES DATA SCIENCE?

► How does your company or industry use data science?

WHAT ARE THE ROLES IN DATA SCIENCE?

► Data Science involves a variety of skill sets, not just one.

Business	ML / Big Data	Math / OR	Programming	Statistics
Product Development	Unstructured Data	Optimization	Systems Administration	Visualization
Business	Structured Data	Math	Back End Programming	Temporal Statistics
	Machine Learning	Graphical Models	Front End Programming	Surveys and Marketing
	Big and Distributed Data	Bayesian / Monte Carlo Statistics		Spatial Statistics
		Algorithms		Science
		Simulation		Data Manipulation
				Classical Statistics

QUIZ

DATA SCIENCE BASELINE

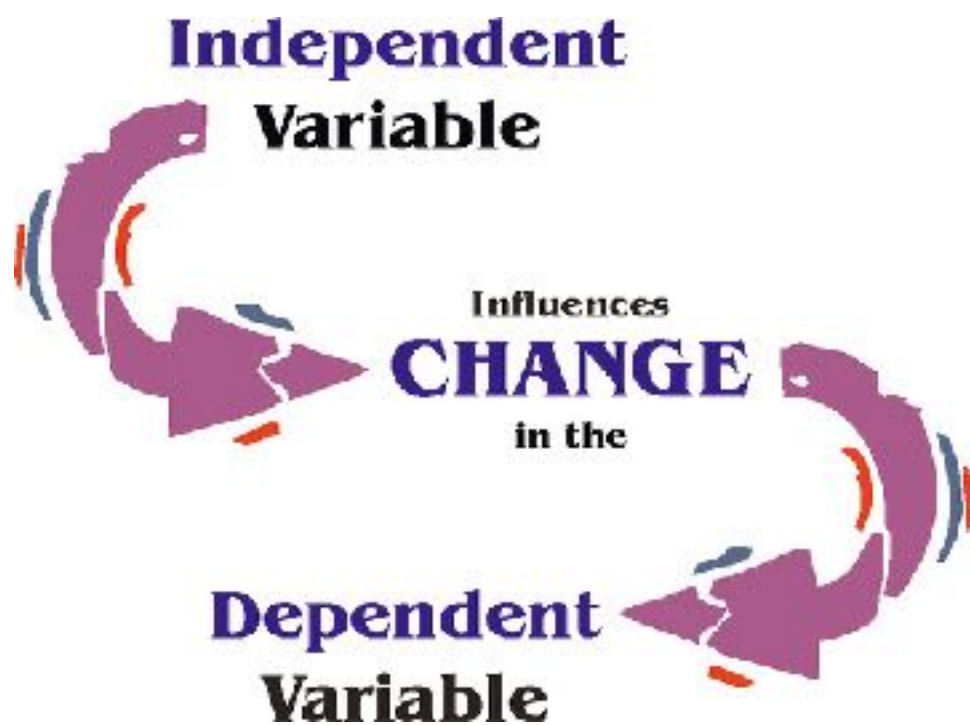
ACTIVITY: DATA SCIENCE BASELINE QUIZ



DIRECTIONS (10 minutes)

1. Form groups of three.
2. Answer the following questions.
 - a. True or False: Gender (coded male=0, female=1) is a continuous variable.
 - b. Define the following:
 - i. Independent variable (Predictor)
 - ii. Dependent variable (Outcome)
 - iii. Covariate
 - c. Draw a normal distribution
 - d. True or False: Linear regression is an unsupervised learning algorithm.
 - e. What is a hypothesis test?

ACTIVITY: DATA SCIENCE BASELINE QUIZ



I am what is
The default, the status quo
I am already accepted, can only be rejected
The burden of proof is on the alternative
I am the null hypothesis

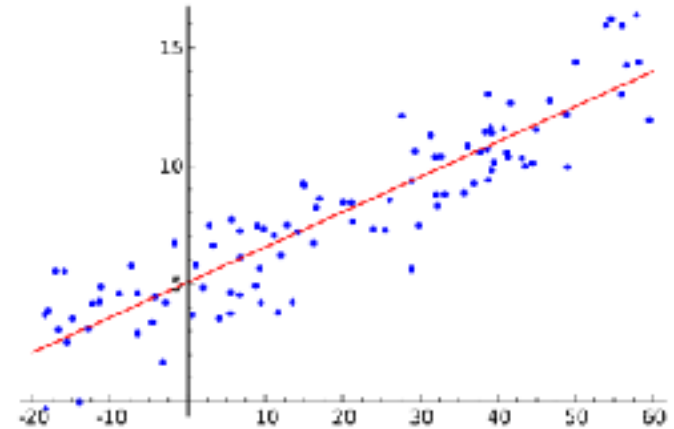


EXAMPLE

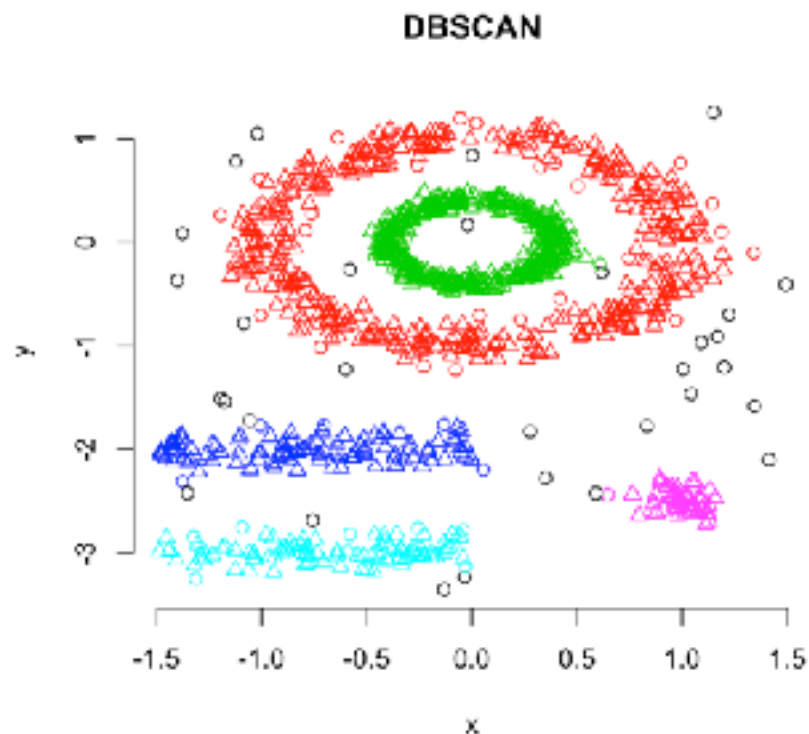
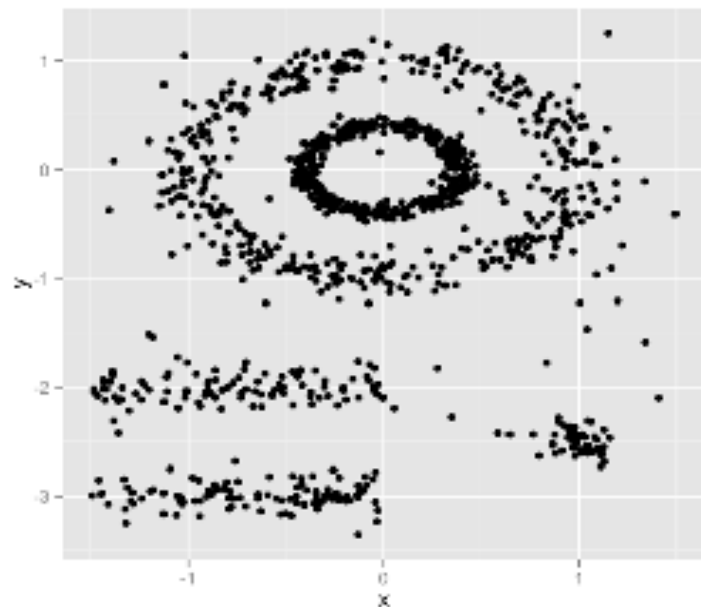
**THINGS YOU WILL BE ABLE TO
DO**

SIMPLE LINEAR REGRESSION

- ▶ Def: Explanation of a continuous variable given a series of independent variables
- ▶ The simplest version is just a line of best fit:
 $y = mx + b$
- ▶ Explain the relationship between **x** and **y** using the starting point **b** and the power in explanation **m**.

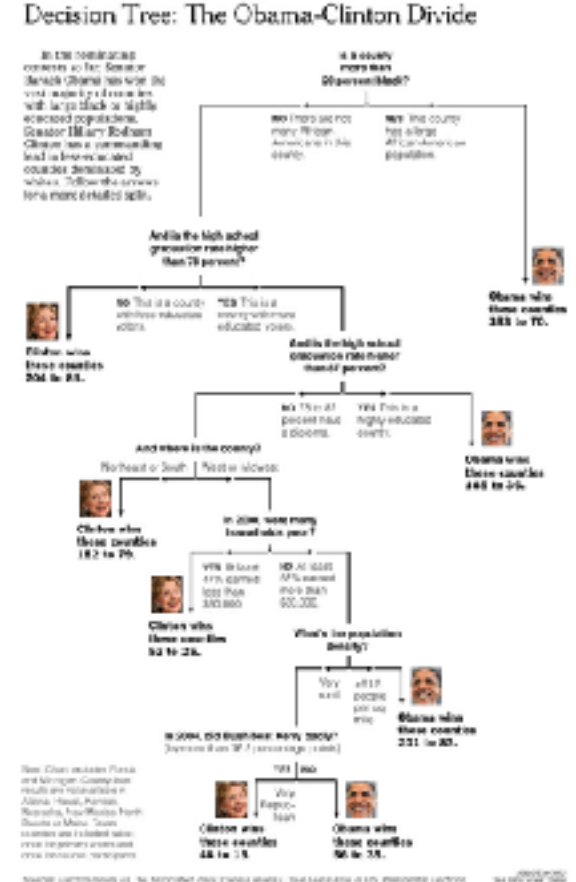


CLUSTERING: Density-Based



INTUITION BEHIND DECISION TREES

- ▶ Decision trees are like the game “20 questions”. They make decision by answering a series of questions, most often binary questions (yes or no).
- ▶ We want the smallest set of questions to get to the right answer.
- ▶ Each questions should reduce the search space as much as possible.



INTRODUCTION

THE DATA SCIENCE WORKFLOW

OVERVIEW OF THE DATA SCIENCE WORKFLOW

- A methodology for doing Data Science
- Similar to the scientific method
- Helps produce ? and ? results

OVERVIEW OF THE DATA SCIENCE WORKFLOW

- A methodology for doing Data Science
- Similar to the scientific method
- Helps produce *reliable* and *reproducible* results
 - *Reliable*: Accurate findings
 - *Reproducible*: Others can follow your steps and get the same results

OVERVIEW OF THE DATA SCIENCE WORKFLOW

The steps:

1. Identify the problem
2. Acquire the data
3. Parse the data
4. Mine the data
5. Refine the data
6. Build a data model
7. Present the results



OVERVIEW OF THE DATA SCIENCE WORKFLOW



IDENTIFY THE PROBLEM

- ☐ Identify business/product objectives
- ☐ Identify and hypothesize goals and criteria for success
- ☐ Create a set of questions for identifying correct data set

OVERVIEW OF THE DATA SCIENCE WORKFLOW



ACQUIRE THE DATA

- ☐ Identify the “right” data set(s)
- ☐ Import data and set up local or remote data structure
- ☐ Determine most appropriate tools to work with data

OVERVIEW OF THE DATA SCIENCE WORKFLOW



PARSE THE DATA

- ☐ Read any documentation provided with the data
- ☐ Perform exploratory data analysis
- ☐ Verify the quality of the data

OVERVIEW OF THE DATA SCIENCE WORKFLOW



MINE THE DATA

- ☐ Determine sampling methodology and sample data
- ☐ Format, clean, slice, and combine data in Python
- ☐ Create necessary derived columns from the data (new data)

OVERVIEW OF THE DATA SCIENCE WORKFLOW



REFINE THE DATA

- ☐ Identify trends and outliers
- ☐ Apply descriptive and inferential statistics
- ☐ Document and transform data

OVERVIEW OF THE DATA SCIENCE WORKFLOW



BUILD A DATA MODEL

- ☐ Select appropriate model
- ☐ Build model
- ☐ Evaluate and refine model

1. Problem identification 2. Data collection 3. Data cleaning 4. Data exploration 5. Feature engineering 6. Model selection 7. Model training 8. Model evaluation 9. Model deployment 10. Model monitoring

OVERVIEW OF THE DATA SCIENCE WORKFLOW



PRESENT THE RESULTS

- ☐ Summarize findings with narrative, storytelling techniques
- ☐ Present limitations and assumptions of your analysis
- ☐ Identify follow up problems and questions for future analysis

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE

- ▶ **Problem Statement:** “Using Planet Express customer data from January 3001-3005, determine how likely previous customers are to request a repeat delivery using demographic information (profession, company size, location) and previous delivery data (days since last delivery, number of total deliveries).”



- ▶ We can use the Data Science workflow to work through this problem.

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: IDENTIFY THE PROBLEM

- ▶ Identify the business/product objectives.
- ▶ Identify and hypothesize goals and criteria for success.
- ▶ Create a set of questions to help you identify the correct data set.

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: ACQUIRE THE DATA

- ▶ Ideal data vs. data that is available
- ▶ Learn about limitations of the data.
- ▶ What data is available for this example?
- ▶ What kind of questions might we want to ask about the data?

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: ACQUIRE THE DATA

- ▶ Questions to ask about the data

- ▶ Is there enough data?

- ▶ Does it appropriately align with the question/problem statement?

- ▶ Can the dataset be trusted? How was it collected?

- ▶ Is this dataset aggregated? Can we use the aggregation or do we need to get it pre-aggregated?

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: PARSE THE DATA

- ▶ Secondary data = we didn't directly collect it ourselves
- ▶ Example data dictionary

Variable	Description	Type of Variable
Profession	Title of the account owner	Categorical
Company Size	1- small, 2- medium, 3- large	Categorical
Location	Planet of the company	Categorical
Days Since Last Delivery	Integer	Continuous
Number of Deliveries	Integer	Continuous

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: PARSE THE DATA

- ▶ Questions to ask while parsing

- ▶ Is there documentation for the data? Is there a data dictionary?
- ▶ What kind of filtering, sorting, or simple visualizations can help understand the data?
- ▶ What information is contained in the data?
- ▶ What data types are the variables?
- ▶ Are there outliers? Are there trends?

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: MINE THE DATA

- Think about sampling
- Get to know the data
- Explore outliers
- Address missing values
- Derive new variables (i.e. columns)

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: MINE THE DATA

- Common steps while mining the data
 - Sample the data with appropriate methodology
 - Explore outliers and null values
 - Format and clean the data
 - Determine how to address missing values
 - Format and combine data; aggregate and derive new columns

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: REFINE THE DATA

- ▶ Use statistics and visualization to identify trends
- ▶ Example of basic statistics

Variable	Mean (STD) or Frequency (%)
Number of Deliveries	50.0 (10)
Earth	50 (10%)
Amphibios 9	100 (20%)
Bogad	100 (20%)
Colgate 8	100 (20%)
Other	150 (30%)

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: REFINE THE DATA

- Descriptive stats help refine by
 - Identifying trends and outliers
 - Deciding how to deal with outliers
 - Applying descriptive and inferential statistics
 - Determining visualization techniques for different data types
 - Transforming data

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: CREATE A DATA MODEL

- ▶ Select a model based upon the outcome
- ▶ Example model statement: “We completed a logistic regression using Statsmodels v. XX. We calculated the probability of a customer placing another order with Planet Express.”
- ▶ Steps for model building

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: CREATE A DATA MODEL

- ▶ The steps for model building are
 - ▶ Select the appropriate model
 - ▶ Build the model
 - ▶ Evaluate and refine the model
 - ▶ Predict outcomes and action items

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: PRESENT THE RESULTS

- ▶ You have to effectively communicate your results for them to matter!
- ▶ Ranges from a simple email to a complex web graphic.
- ▶ Make sure to consider your audience.
- ▶ A presentation for fellow data scientists will be drastically different from a presentation for an executive.

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: PRESENT THE RESULTS

- ▶ Key factors of a good presentation include
 - ▶ Summarize findings with narrative and storytelling techniques
 - ▶ Refine your visualizations for broader comprehension
 - ▶ Present both limitations and assumptions
 - ▶ Determine the integrity of your analyses
 - ▶ Consider the degree of disclosure for various stakeholders
 - ▶ Test and evaluate the effectiveness of your presentation beforehand

FUTURAMA EXAMPLE: PRESENT THE RESULTS

- ▶ Example presentations and infographics
 - ▶ [512 Paths to the White House](#)
 - ▶ [Who Old Are You?](#)
 - ▶ [2015 NFL Predictions](#)

GUIDED PRACTICE

DATA SCIENCE WORK FLOW

ACTIVITY: DATA SCIENCE WORKFLOW (TIME PERMITTING)



EXERCISE

DIRECTIONS (25 minutes)

1. Divide into 4 groups, each located at a whiteboard.
2. **IDENTIFY:** Each group should develop 1 research question they would like to know about their classmates. Create a hypothesis to your question. Don't share your question yet! (5 minutes)
3. **ACQUIRE:** Rotate from group to group to collect data for your hypothesis. Have other students write or tally their answers on the whiteboard. (10 minutes)
4. **PRESENT:** Communicate the results of your analysis to the class. (10 minutes)
 - a. Create a narrative to summarize your findings.
 - b. Provide a basic visualization for easy comprehension.
 - c. Choose one student to present for the group.

DELIVERABLE

Presentation of the results

DEMO

ENVIRONMENT SETUP

DEV ENVIRONMENT SETUP

- Brief intro of tools
- Environment setup
 - Create a Github account
 - Install Python 2.7 and Anaconda
 - Practice Python syntax, Terminal commands, and Pandas
- iPython Notebook test and Python review

DEV ENVIRONMENT SETUP

- ▶ Test your new setup using the lesson 1 starter code available at / *lessons/lesson-01/code/starter-code/* in the Github repo
- ▶ Ask your classmates and instructor for help if you have problems!

CONCLUSION

REVIEW

CONCLUSION

- ▶ You should now be able to answer the following questions:
 - ▶ What is Data Science?
 - ▶ What is the Data Science workflow?
 - ▶ How can you have a successful learning experience at GA?

DATA SCIENCE

BEFORE NEXT CLASS

BEFORE NEXT CLASS

- ▶ Complete Learn Python the Hard Way through Exercise 35, or as far as you have time
 - ▶ Remember the Python syntax for lists, dictionaries, and functions
- ▶ Create files and navigate through the CLI. GA Tutorial
- ▶ Go through Learn Pandas (up to Lesson 3)

RESOURCES

- Python quick reference
- Probability and Statistics refresher

WELCOME TO DATA SCIENCE

Q & A

WELCOME TO DATA SCIENCE

EXIT TICKET

DON'T FORGET TO FILL OUT YOUR EXIT TICKET