

## Lesson Plan: Key Activities

Introductions: Who am I? Who are you?

Review Prelearning: What have we learned so far?

Discussion: What is(n't) data?

How can data analysis go wrong? (20 -25min)

Interactive Review: Menti

Discussion: Principles of GDPR

What's your definition of ethics? (20 - 25min)

Individual: Read through some ethical questions and case studies

What's your interpretation of these ethical case studies? (20 - 25min)

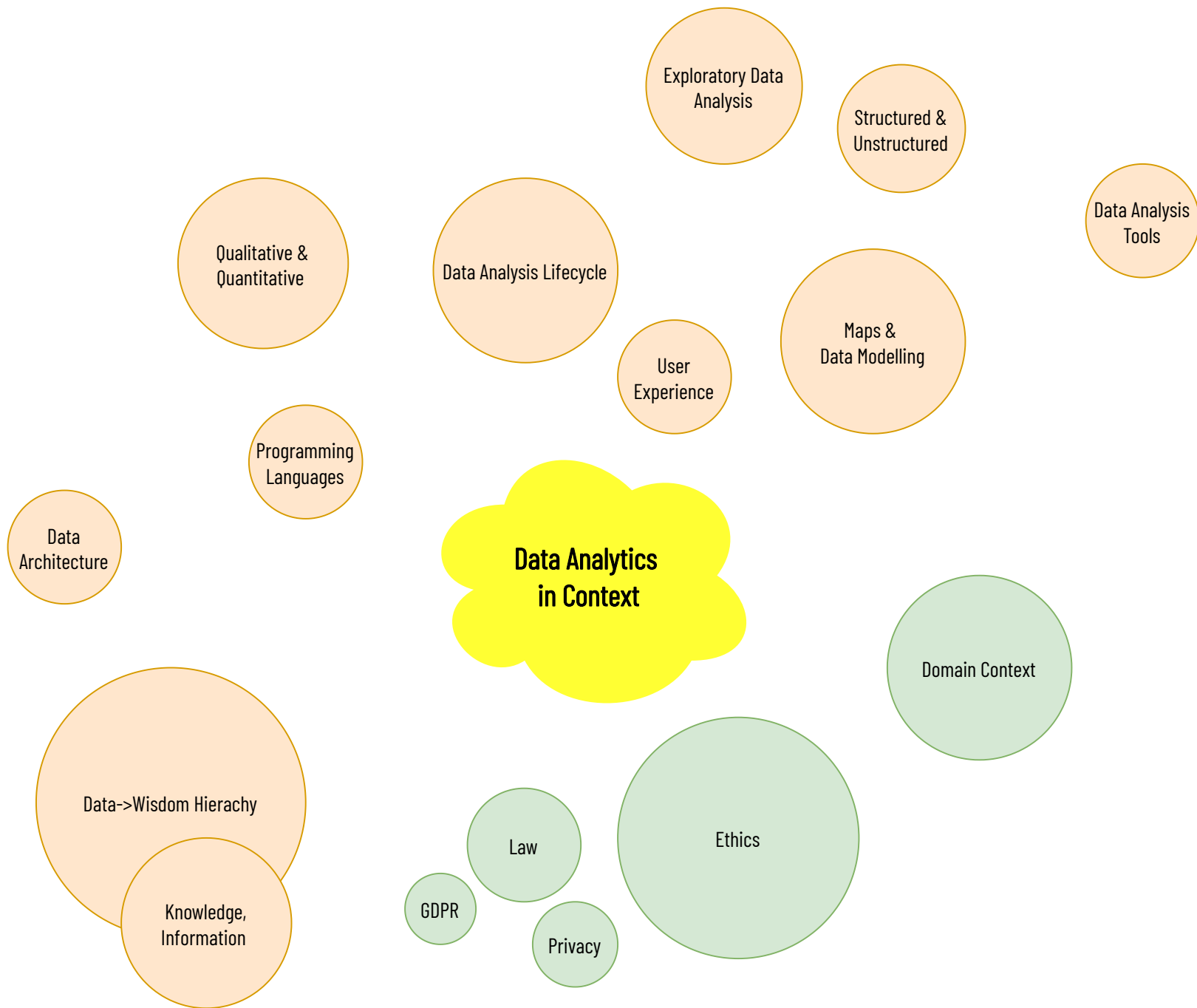
Summary: What ethical rules should a data scientist follow? (10-15 min)

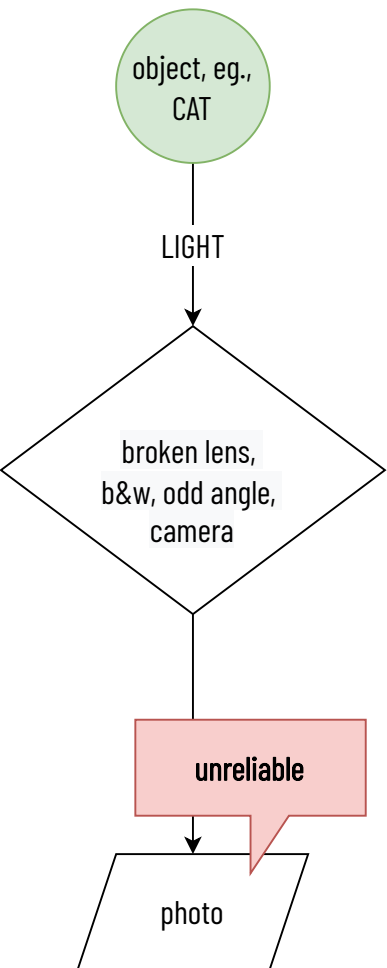
# Data Analytics in Context

**[safeguarding@decoded.com](mailto:safeguarding@decoded.com)**

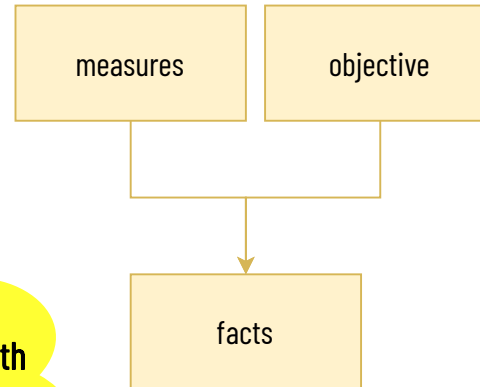
wellbeing: stress, overwhelmed

**emotional**, technical, educational



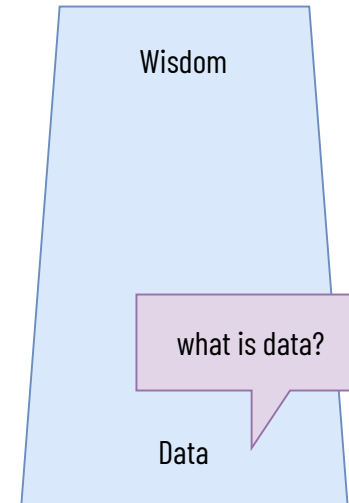


Can something be both objective & unreliable?



why do we care?

What is(n't) Data?



(wisely)  
action-guiding  
reasons

Knowledge,  
Information

data  
alone isnt  
informative

or worse: *wrong*



theory of animal consciousness:  
we are only consciously aware of  
failure

things just working =  
not consciously aware

Does the failure matter?

What does success/fail mean?

What system is failing?

Do you have the right  
problem in mind?

How can data analysis go wrong?

Data cleaning

Are your techniques  
appropriate?

Privacy & Control

Are you following law &  
governance?

what precedes all problems?  
**A FAILURE**

Q. What causes a  
problem?

Are you asking the  
right question?

Do you have a plan?

What's your (strategic)  
objective?

Bias

Are you being ethical?

Context for  
Historical Data

Do you have the right  
background  
knowledge?

Are you communicating  
the results well (in line  
with strategic  
objectives)?

are you resolving the same  
problem?

What's your technical  
objective? (eg., mean())

Are you drawing the  
most appropriate  
conclusions?

A bright yellow, multi-lobed cloud-like shape with a soft, irregular outline.

**BREAK**

A bright yellow rounded rectangular button with a thin black border.

**RAISE HAND**

**The UK GDPR sets out seven key principles:**

- Lawfulness, fairness and transparency
- Purpose limitation
- Data minimisation
- Accuracy
- Storage limitation
- Integrity and confidentiality (security)
- Accountability

Managing:  
command, judging

suppose I ask a person to  
account for themselves?

what are **they** going to do?

Person who  
is held to account

What is it?

Why do we care?

**What is Accountability?**

Responsibility

Consequences

Provide an explanation/justification,  
ie., an account of your behaviour

holding a person to account requires  
them to provide a reasonable explanation  
of their behaviour/actions, etc.

& then some consequences?

What problems are there  
in data science,  
with holding  
any *decision-making process*  
to account?

Who's the person  
making the  
decision?

Eg., there is no person.

Eg., AI says  
NO BANK LOAN

## Group Defintions

Ethics is about how our morals guides our actions

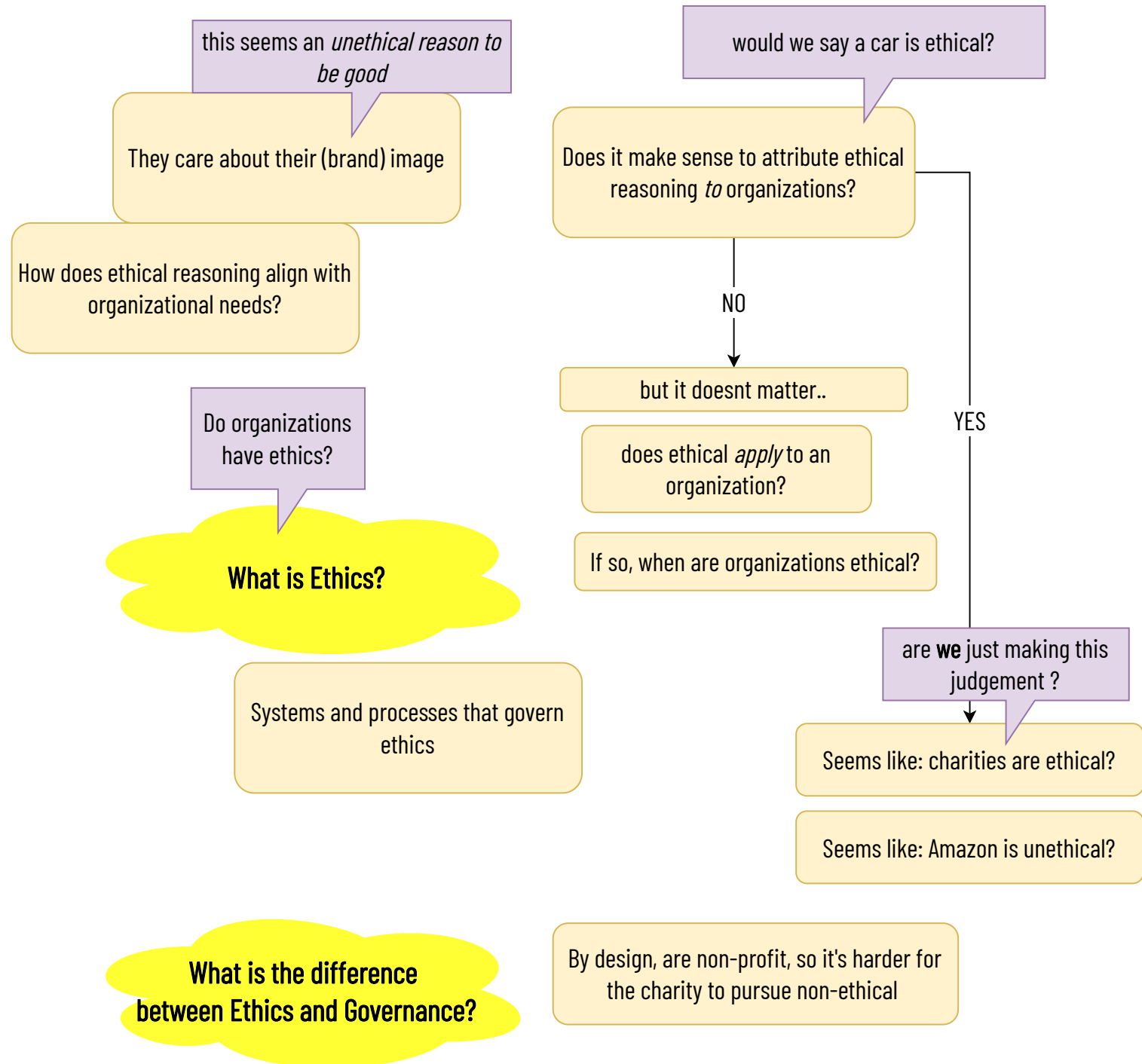
A framework of rules to guide people to make decisions that are beneficial to the most people.

Codifying and justifying morals so that people are treated in a way that they are happy with.

good ethics in data is applying moral principles during the data life cycle, ensuring maximising value by minimising exposure

A framework of rules to guide people to make decisions that are **beneficial** (to the most people).

Codifying and justifying morals so that people are treated **fairly** (in a way that they are happy with).



is a collection of people a person?

problem: free speech rights to companies, well if so, then they can spend as much as they like on political speech

are we just being nice and tolerant?

Is ethics subjective?

YES?

NO

Eg., amazon is very effective at allocating resources, but may use "invasive" data collections

WHY?  
People disagree and seem to come to no common view point

BUT..  
Maybe we have underlying objective principles that are commonly agreed

Eg.  
principle of self-defence  
self-defence is justified in some cases

Variations on the *objective* principle are *tastes*?

US: stand-your-ground  
(self defence *easy* justification)

UK: difficult  
(self defence *hard* justification)

(wiki): Ethics or moral philosophy  
"involves systematizing, defending, and recommending concepts of right and wrong behavior"



**Ethical questions**

- 1. If a self-driving car hits a pedestrian, who should be held legally or morally responsible?
- 2. Should insurance premiums be based on characteristics such as age or gender, if those characteristics can be used to accurately predict likelihood of accidents?
- 3. Should people have the right to have accurate information about their past (criminal/employment/social history) forgotten and removed from data stores?
- 4. Should you have any rights over data collected about you in public (e.g. CCTV footage)?
- 5. Can the use of autonomous military drones ever be justified?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-35902104>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-47638916>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-41996422>

**What do you think about these ethical questions and case-studies?**

**Case Study 01: Education**

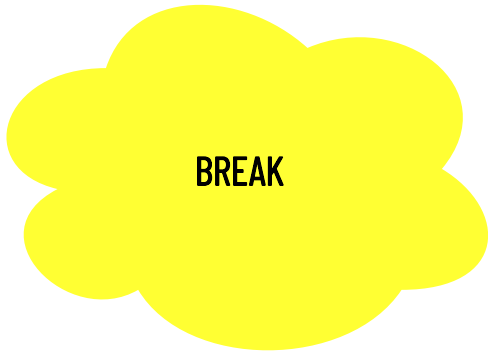
Alcuna Academia is a not-for-profit trust that runs a number of private schools in South West England. They have been approached by Zenitrex Analytics, a US-based startup on a mission to ‘disrupt the education industry and bring learning into the 21st Century’. Zenitrex Analytics proposes installing a series of ‘tracking stations’ around the schools administered by the trust. These would track student movement and attendance around the schools through both manual student sign-in at particular locations and automated tracking of WiFi-enabled devices. The data collected would be used in a series of predictive models designed to identify potential discipline problems - such as truancy, poor attendance, or even bullying amongst the student population. These models would form a key part of an early-warning system, alerting the school staff to developing problems.

After an initial trial period with the schools connected to the trust, Zenimax Analytics plans to offer this service as a product to other institutions of various types. For their participation in this scheme, Alcuna Academia would receive a one-time payment, free installation of the tracking stations, and a two-year free subscription to the data collection and prediction services.

**Case Study 02: Human Resources**

Palanquin Employment is a recruitment agency that wants to streamline the hiring process. Initially based in South Africa, they now have offices across the Southern Hemisphere and have recently begun expanding into North America. Over the forty years that Palanquin has been operating, they have collected a vast amount of information - in various formats - on job applications and the success of candidates. Using this information, Palanquin intends to build predictive models to automatically assess candidates against job descriptions and recommend them for interview only if they are predicted to succeed. Job applicants will be assessed based on written materials, skills-based challenges, and video submissions; this data will be used to predict employee success, attitude, and culture fit, leading to a final accept/reject decision.

Palanquin calculates that the use of this service - after initial setup costs - will significantly reduce expenses, enabling the company to rely on automated systems and radically reduce the number of internal staff. Additionally, the curated high-quality applicant datasets could potentially provide a second revenue stream, with access sold to research institutes and other recruitment agencies.

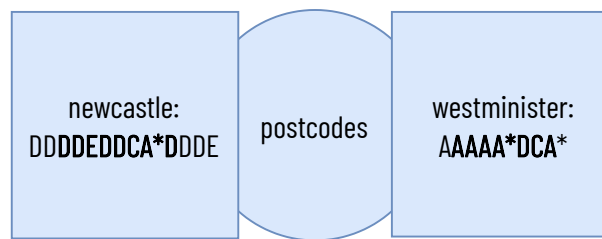


Eg., A COVID case.

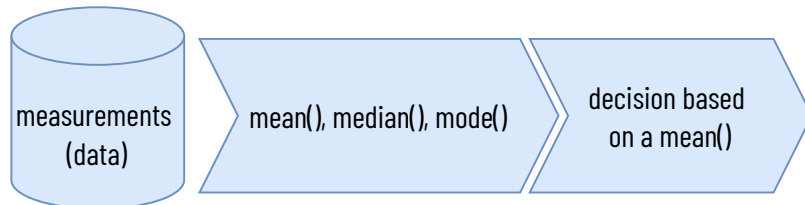
During COVID the government used an "algorithm" to determine a grade.

This algorithm knocked a person down three grades, despite A\* performance – due to **POST CODE**.

Using teacher predictions, A\* -> D -> A\*



How can data science go wrong?



prepared data is *where* the intelligence lies

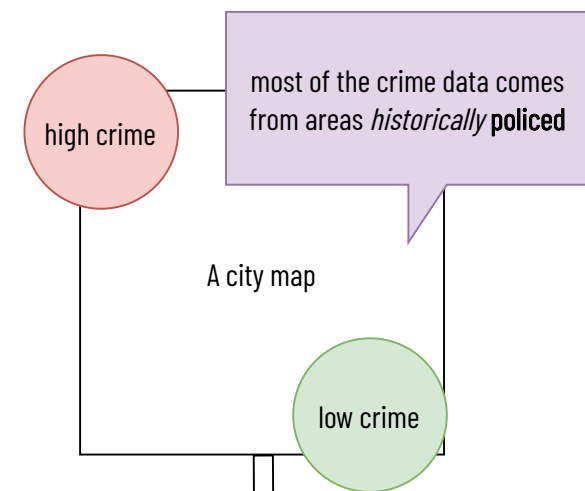
when should we use automation vs. assistance?

Assistance: provide a human being with information using AI

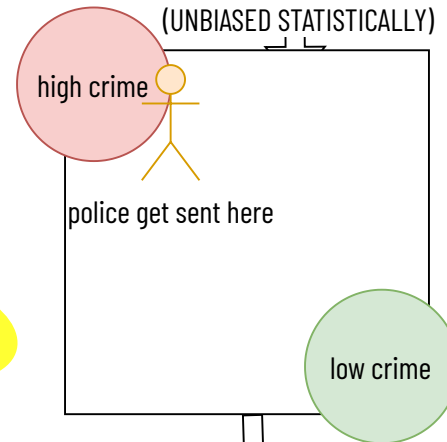
Automation: replace a human being with AI

Augmentation: part of the decision is AI, part of it is human

What principles should govern data science?

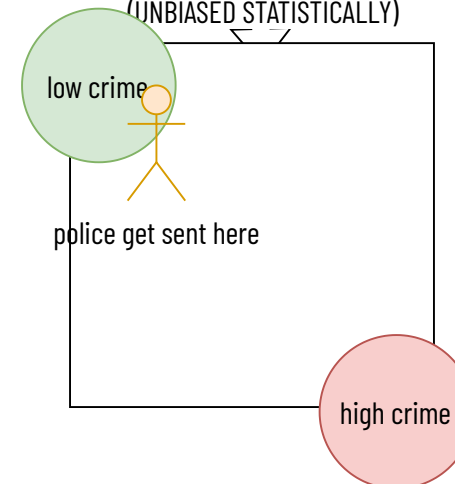


STATISTICALLY ACCURATE  
(UNBIASED STATISTICALLY)

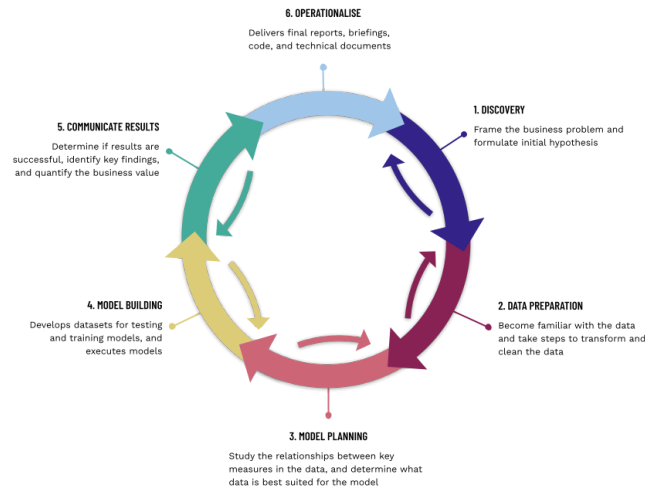


what areas (eg., in the US) have *historically* been *highly* **policed**?  
ethnic minorities, black

STATISTICALLY ACCURATE  
(UNBIASED STATISTICALLY)



does a contemporary police force need to be racist, for its decisions to be racist?



- Relevant stakeholders are often ignored/neglected
- Cleaning & transforming data always involves some data loss
- The choice of modelling techniques can cause issues (e.g. black-box options)
- The training of models and the data selected can result in biased results
- 'Successful' is a fascinating term: to who? Measured how?
- Legal requirements around anonymisation/preservation of records

**How will a data scientist behave at every stage of the lifecycle in order to avoid/support the issues we've discussed?**

1. Complete the workshop reflection activity
2. Complete the **online practice**
3. Schedule a **mentor call**
4. *Complete any outstanding projects/assessments*



## Data Analytics in Context

6 weeks from launch day to set up mentor call

Feel free to reach out.