

# DATA ANALYSIS PHASES



# Common Problem Types

1<sup>o</sup>

## Make predictions

- use data to predict what may happen in the future

2<sup>o</sup>

## Categorizing things

- assigning information to different groups based on common features

3<sup>o</sup>

## Spotting something unusual

- identify data that is different from the norm

4<sup>o</sup>

## Identifying themes

- groups information into broader concepts

5<sup>o</sup>

## Discovering connections

- find similar challenges faced by different entities and then combine data and insights to address them

6<sup>o</sup>

## Find Patterns

- analyze patterns by using historical data to understand what happened in the past and may happen again.

**S**pecific → specific and significant  
**M**easurable → quantified  
**A**ction-oriented → encourage change  
**R**elevant → important questions  
**T**ime-bound → specify the time to study

How to make highly effective questions

+

make fairness questions

↳ don't make assumptions

DONT'S

- vague questions
- closed - ended questions ( yes or no)
- leading questions

Project: on budget home lab

Overall business goal: buy the best cost efficiency server

Data sources: internet and reviews

## Questions:

- What kind of data do you use to get information about the servers?
- How many server options are you analyzing right now?
- What could make you make a decision about which one to buy?
- What is the maximum amount of time you are willing to wait before making a decision?
- Can you order these factors from most to least important for your choice: server price, server reliability, server power, famous brand pieces

- Quantitative data: things you can measure
  - ex: amount of money spent, time, etc
- Qualitative data: things that can't be measured
  - ex: color, favorite food, etc.

## REPORT

- static data
- historical data
- send periodically
- Pre-clean data
- need more maintenance

## DASHBOARD

- dynamic, live data
- low maintenance
- can be confusing
- need to be designed first

## Types of Dashboards

- strategic → long term goals, highest level of metrics
- Operational → short term tracking
- Analytical → contain details used by the data analysts

## SMALL DATA × BIG DATA

- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| - short time period      | ◦ - long time period         |
| - simple to use, collect | ◦ - broken in smaller pieces |
| - spreadsheets           | ◦ - SQL                      |

## STRUCTURED THINKING

- recognizing the problem, and identifying options

## PROBLEM DOMAIN

- The area of analysis
- Everything affected by the problem

• **Deliverables** → what will be delivered as a result of the project in the end

• **Reports** → what and how often you will communicate with stakeholders, what info you will communicate

## SCOPE OF WORK

- The work you gonna be performing

• **Milestones** → determines when a part of the project is completed

• **Timeline** → map how long each step of the project should take

## CONTEXT

- Who
- What
- Where
- When
- Why
- How

Questions used to contextualize data