Making Slides using `Rmd`

output to html and pdf

Your Name
April 1, 2021

Prologue

Schedule

Today

- Welcome, check in, admin, and survey
- Research basics: *Why are we here?* *MHE*: Preface & Ch. 1
- Our class: *What are we doing?*
- R: Part of our *how* in this class: Install and basics.

Upcoming

- Learn more R.
- Review metrics and building intution for causality and inference.
- Build momentum.

Long run

Goal: Deepen understandings/intuitions for causality and inference.

FAQ$_2$: What is the ideal experiment for this setting?

Describing the *ideal experiment* helps us formulate

- the exact causal question(s)
- the dimensions we want to manipulate
- the factors we need to hold constant

🚧 These *ideal experiments* are generally hypothetical, but if you can't describe the ideal, it will probably be hard to come up with data and plausible research designs in real life.

Angrist and Pischke call questions without ideal experiments *fundamentally unanswerable questions* (FUQs).

FAQ_2: What is the ideal experiment for this setting?

Examples of potentially answerable questions...

- **The effect of education on wages:** Randomize scholarships or incentives to remain in school.
- **Democracy and development:** Arbitrarily assign institutional types to countries as they receive independence.
- **Environmental cleanups:** Ask EPA to randomly clean toxic sites.
- **Gun laws:** Randomly assign gun restrictions to jurisdictions.

Examples of challenging questions to answer (potentially unanswerable?)...

- How does gender affect eventual career paths?
- What role does race play in one's wages?

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