

# CS102: Big Data

Tools and Techniques, Discoveries and  
Pitfalls

Spring 2017

Ethan Chan, Lisa Wang

*Python and Pandas;*

*Correlation and Causation; Privacy*

# Announcements

- HW2 SQL due this Sunday
  - Use single quotes ‘’ for SQL assignment, and not double quotes “”
  - `1.0 * NUMSUCCESS / NUMTOTAL`
- If still on the waitlist, speak to me after class

# Now that you've learnt Python...



# Welcome to Slithereen House



# Learning Goals

- Data Operations / Plotting in Python
- Data Operations in Pandas package
- Determine Correlation
- Determine if Causation
- Privacy

# SQL vs Python

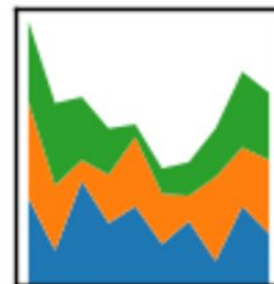
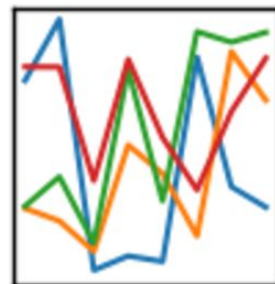
Python offers more complex functionality

- Data exploration and manipulation a lot easier
- Packages such as pandas and scipy for data analysis
- Plotting

Use SQL for simple operations on large databases.  
Use Python for more complex analyses.

# pandas

$$y_{it} = \beta' x_{it} + \mu_i + \epsilon_{it}$$



- Open source library for data analysis written in Python language
- Stores tabular (relational) data in **Data Frames**

# INITIALIZING A PANDAS DATAFRAME

Python's **PANDAS** library.

```
import pandas as pd
```

PANDAS stores tabular (relational) data in *Data Frames*.

```
tips = pd.read_csv("data.csv")
```



# SELECT - SQL vs Pandas comparison

```
SELECT total_bill, tip, smoker, time
FROM tips
LIMIT 5;
```

With pandas, column selection is done by passing a list of column names to your DataFrame:

```
In [6]: tips[['total_bill', 'tip', 'smoker', 'time']].head(5)
Out[6]:
```

	total_bill	tip	smoker	time
0	16.99	1.01	No	Dinner
1	10.34	1.66	No	Dinner
2	21.01	3.50	No	Dinner
3	23.68	3.31	No	Dinner
4	24.59	3.61	No	Dinner

source: pandas website

# WHERE - SQL vs Python Comparison

```
-- tips of more than $5.00 at Dinner meals
SELECT *
FROM tips
WHERE time = 'Dinner' AND tip > 5.00;
```

```
# tips of more than $5.00 at Dinner meals
In [11]: tips[(tips['time'] == 'Dinner') & (tips['tip'] > 5.0)]
Out[11]:
```

	total_bill	tip	sex	smoker	day	time	size
23	39.42	7.58	Male	No	Sat	Dinner	4
44	30.40	5.60	Male	No	Sun	Dinner	4
47	32.40	6.00	Male	No	Sun	Dinner	4
52	34.81	5.20	Female	No	Sun	Dinner	4
59	48.27	6.73	Male	No	Sat	Dinner	4

source: pandas website

# GROUP BY - SQL vs Python Comparison

```
SELECT sex, count(*)
FROM tips
GROUP BY sex;
/*
Female      87
Male        157
*/
```

The pandas equivalent would be:

```
In [17]: tips.groupby('sex').size()
Out[17]:
sex
Female      87
Male        157
dtype: int64
```

source: pandas website

# JOINING - SQL vs Python Comparison

## SQL QUERY

Select \*

From CityTemps, TempsRegions

Where CityTemps.state = TempsRegions.state

```
join = CityTemps.merge(TempsRegions, on='state')
```

# Useful Links

- 10 minute intro to Pandas
  - <http://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/10min.html#min>
- Pandas vs SQL comparison
  - [http://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/comparison\\_with\\_sql.html](http://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/comparison_with_sql.html)
- Cheatsheet
  - [https://github.com/pandas-dev/pandas/blob/master/doc/cheatsheet/Pandas\\_Cheat\\_Sheet.pdf](https://github.com/pandas-dev/pandas/blob/master/doc/cheatsheet/Pandas_Cheat_Sheet.pdf)

# In Class Demo

# In Class Demo

- Download the **\*updated\*** zipped file on the course website and startup the notebook “2\_Data-Operations”

# Correlation and Causation



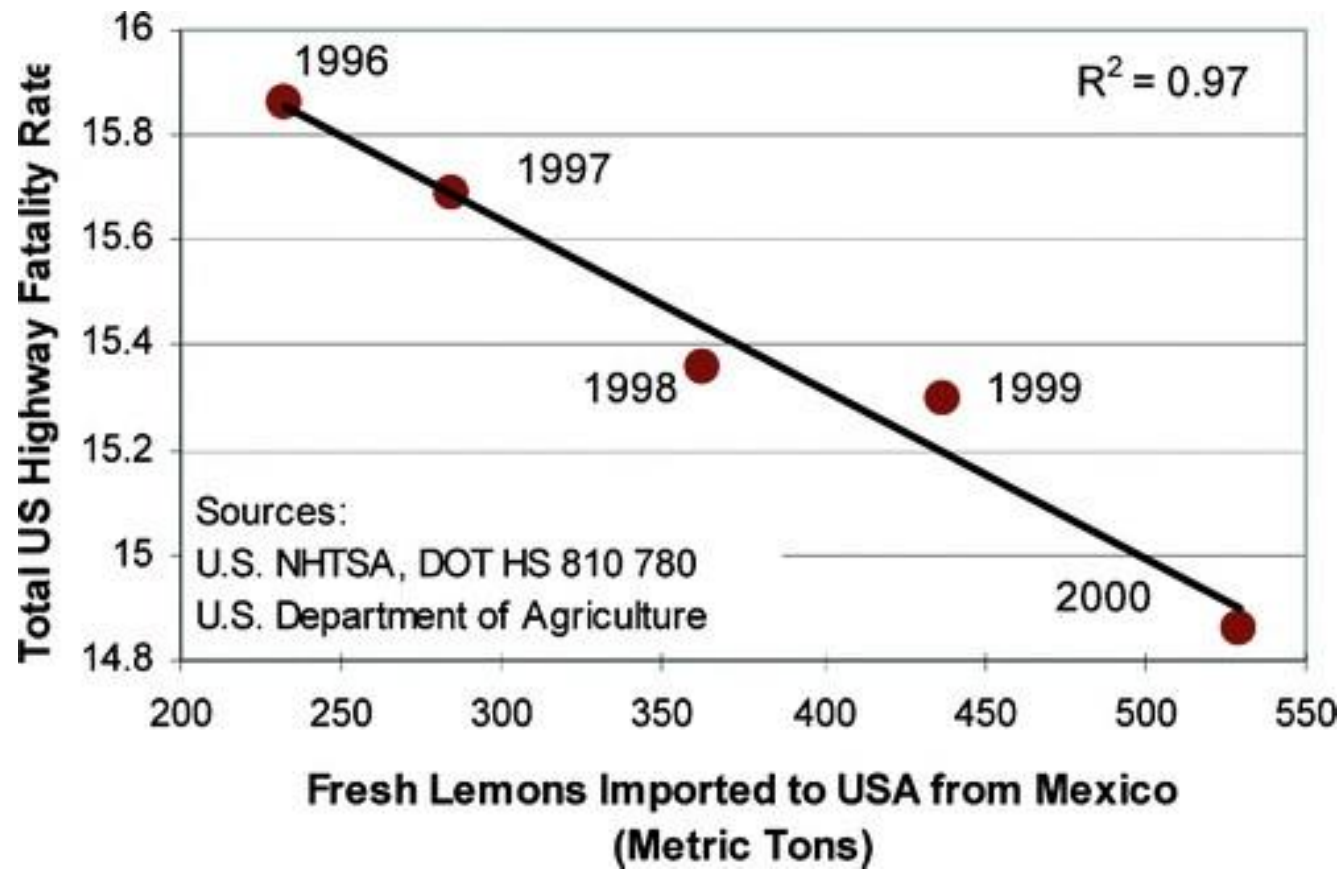
# Correlation and Causation

## Correlation

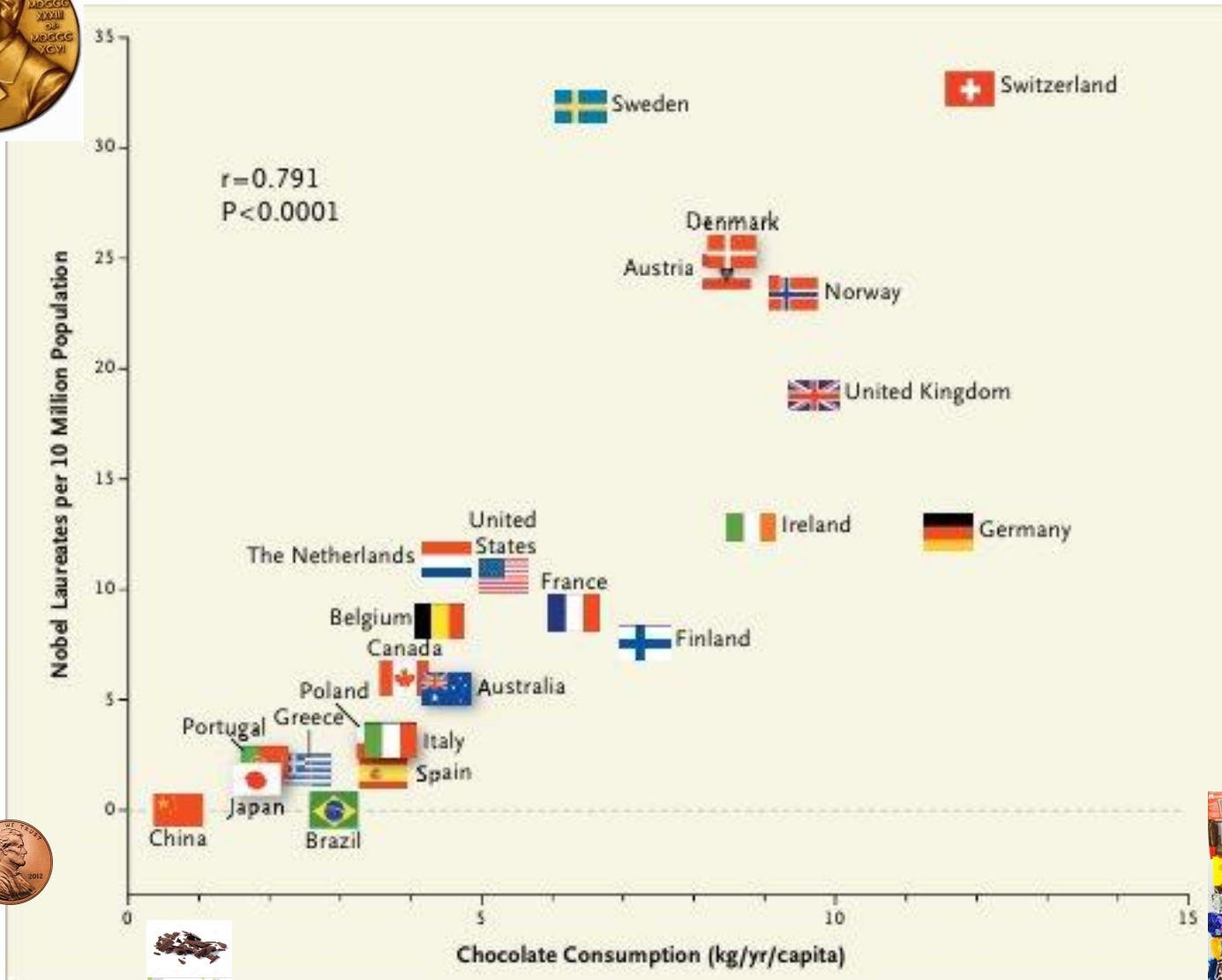
Values of  $X$  and  $Y$  tend to happen to at the same time

## Causation

$X$ 's value tends to influence  $Y$ 's value



source: <http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/ci700332k>



**Figure 1.** Correlation between Countries' Annual Per Capita Chocolate Consumption and the Number of Nobel Laureates per 10 Million Population.





# An Hour of Running May Add Seven Hours to your life - [NYTimes](#) April 12th 2017



## Implications

### **Expected life expectancy in USA**

78.74 years

### **To live till 80..**

need to run  $1.26 * 365 * 24 / 7$

**= 1576 hours!!!**

### **Exercise pattern**

Run one hour a week for 30 years

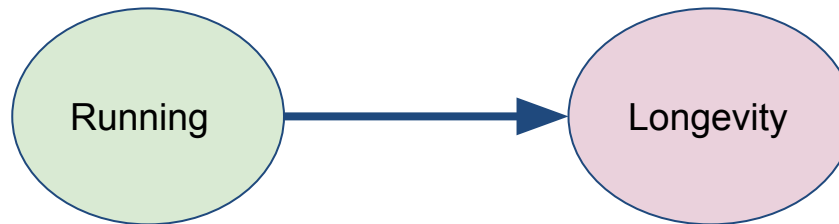
Run 2 hours a week for 15 years

Run 3 hours a week for 10 years

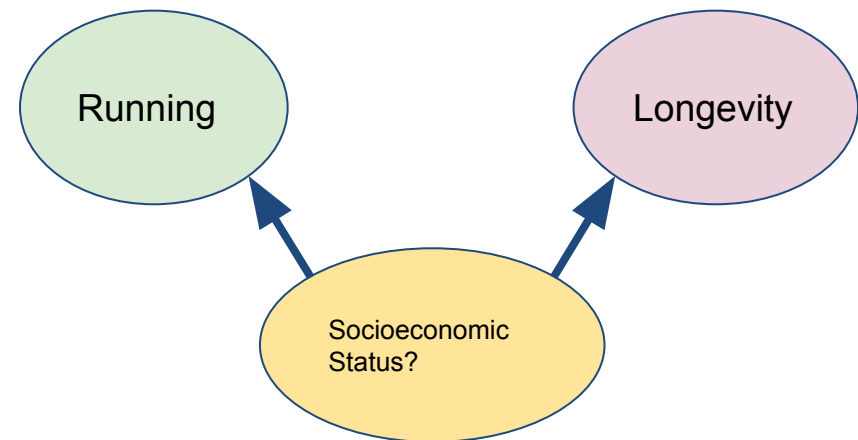
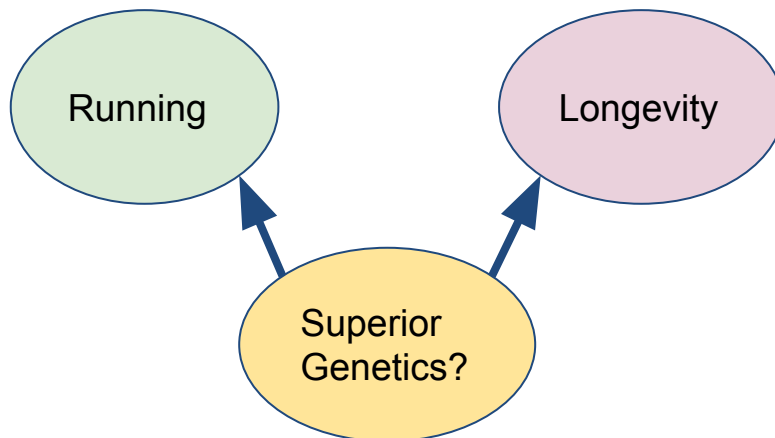
# NYTimes article analysis

- Title itself already implies some causation

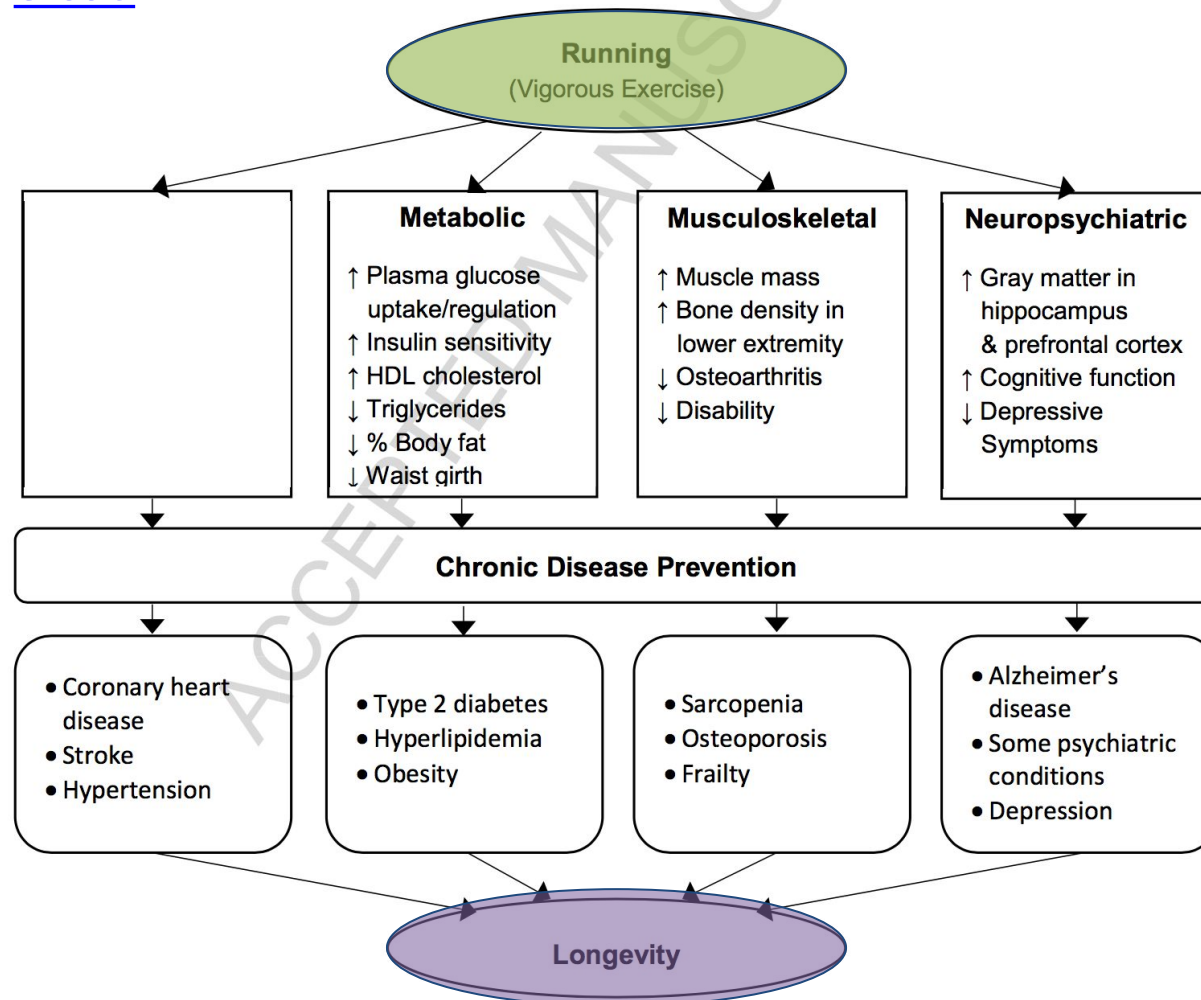
1 hour of running -> 7 hours additional life



- Possible confounding variables?



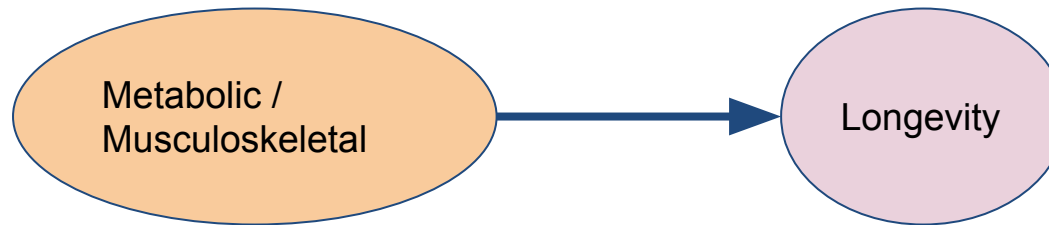
## Actual study [cited](#)



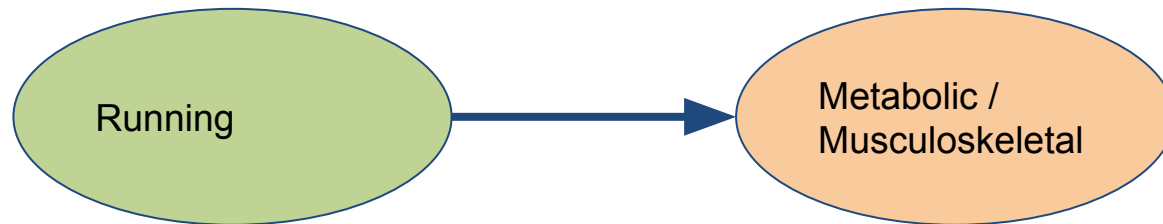
psychiatric conditions.

**Figure 3 – Potential Mechanistic Pathway Between Running/Vigorous Exercise and Increased Longevity.** An up arrow (↑) indicates an increase and a down arrow (↓) indicates a decrease.

Some previous study concluded that some health statistics are correlated with longer life spans



New study determines that running improves a bunch of body health statistics



Therefore, they conclude that running improves longevity





# I Fooled Millions Into Thinking Chocolate Helps Weight Loss. Here's How.

## Need a 'sweeter' way to lose muffin top? Eat chocolates!

Mar 31, 2:37 pm

Recommend



London, Mar 31 (ANI): A new research has revealed that chocolate can aid weight loss when combined with a low-carb diet.

Johannes Bohannon, research director of the nonprofit Institute of Diet and Health, said that what is important is the specific combination of foods in your diet when trying to shed those extra pounds, the

Daily Express reported.

Bohannon added that just lowering the proportion of carbohydrates is not a reliable weight loss intervention because it has different physiological effect depending on the bioactive compounds in your diet.

Chocolate is a rich source of bioactive compounds, particularly a group of molecules called flavonoids, plant compounds associated with several positive health impacts.

The German researchers divided volunteers aged 19 to 67 into three groups to find out whether consuming chocolate in combination with dietary interventions has no effect or it makes such diets even more effective in the right dose.

One group followed a strict low-carbohydrate diet, another group followed the low-carbohydrate



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Home > Life & Style > Health > Chocolate accelerates weight loss: Research claims it lowers



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Blood pressure breakthrough: Job every six months could

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Ban can high

## Chocolate accelerates weight loss: Research claims it lowers cholesterol and aids sleep

CAN you indulge your sweet tooth and lose weight? If it's chocolate that you crave than the answer seems to be yes.

By SARAH BARNES

PUBLISHED: 10:31, Mon, Mar 30, 2015 | UPDATED: 20:28, Sat, Apr 4, 2015

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Chocolate can aid weight loss when combined with a low-carb diet, study claims

Log  
Regi  
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London

28 May 2015

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Boss, Kangana Ranaut Rejected That Fairness Cream Ad Nearly Two Years Ago

Meet Tapas B Teenager Who Exams This Y

## Excellent News: Chocolate Can Help You Lose Weight!

ANI

Posted: 31/03/2015 16:21 IST | Updated: 31/03/2015 16:21 IST



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A new research has revealed that chocolate can aid weight loss when combined with a low-carb diet.

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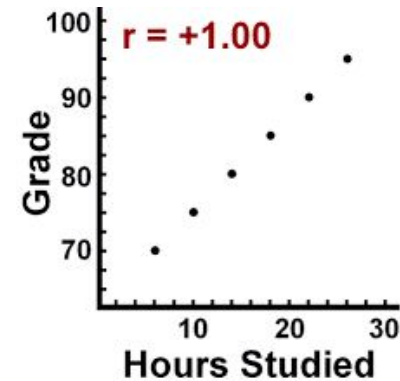


# Correlation

## Positive Correlation

X increases, Y Increases

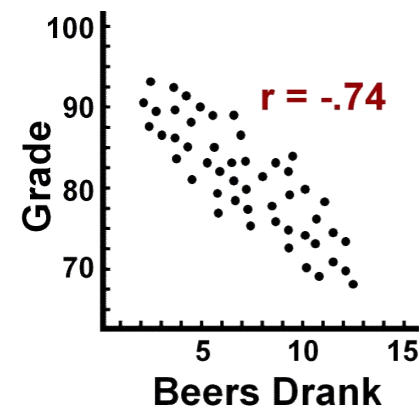
Y increases, X increases



## Negative Correlation

X increases, Y decreases

Y increases, X decreases

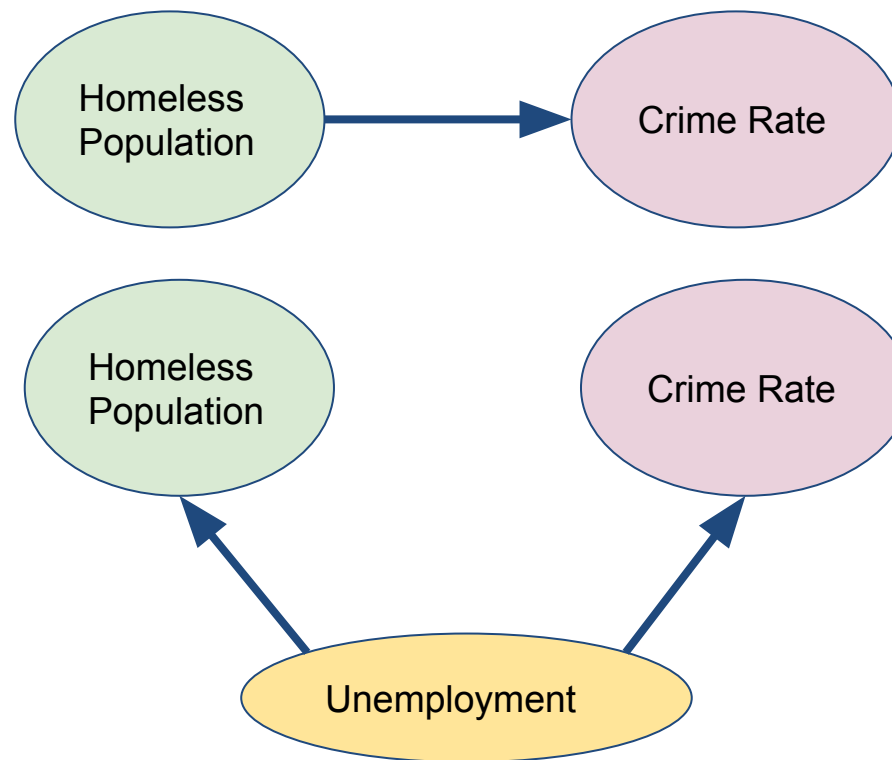


<http://www.oxford-review.com/understanding-research-the-direction-of-a-correlation/>

Find one example where  
correlation does not imply  
causation.  
*(dicuss in groups of 2-3)*

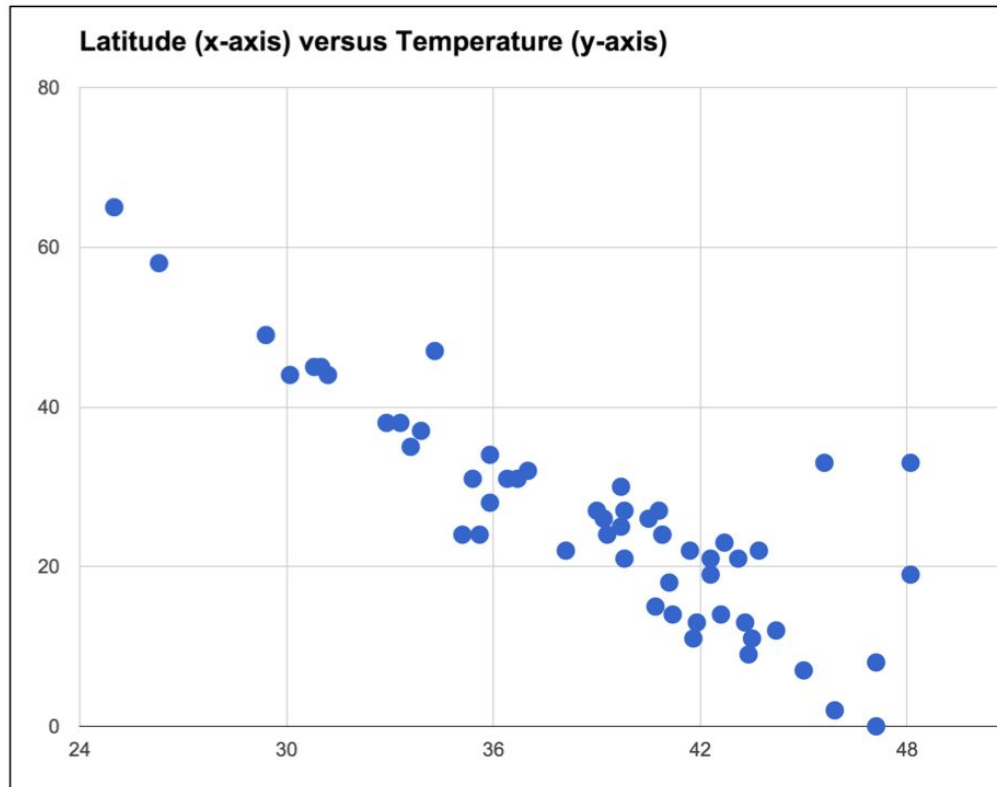
# Confounding Variables

Correlation can be result of causation from a hidden **confounding variable**



# Determining Correlation

X and Y both ordered: scatterplot

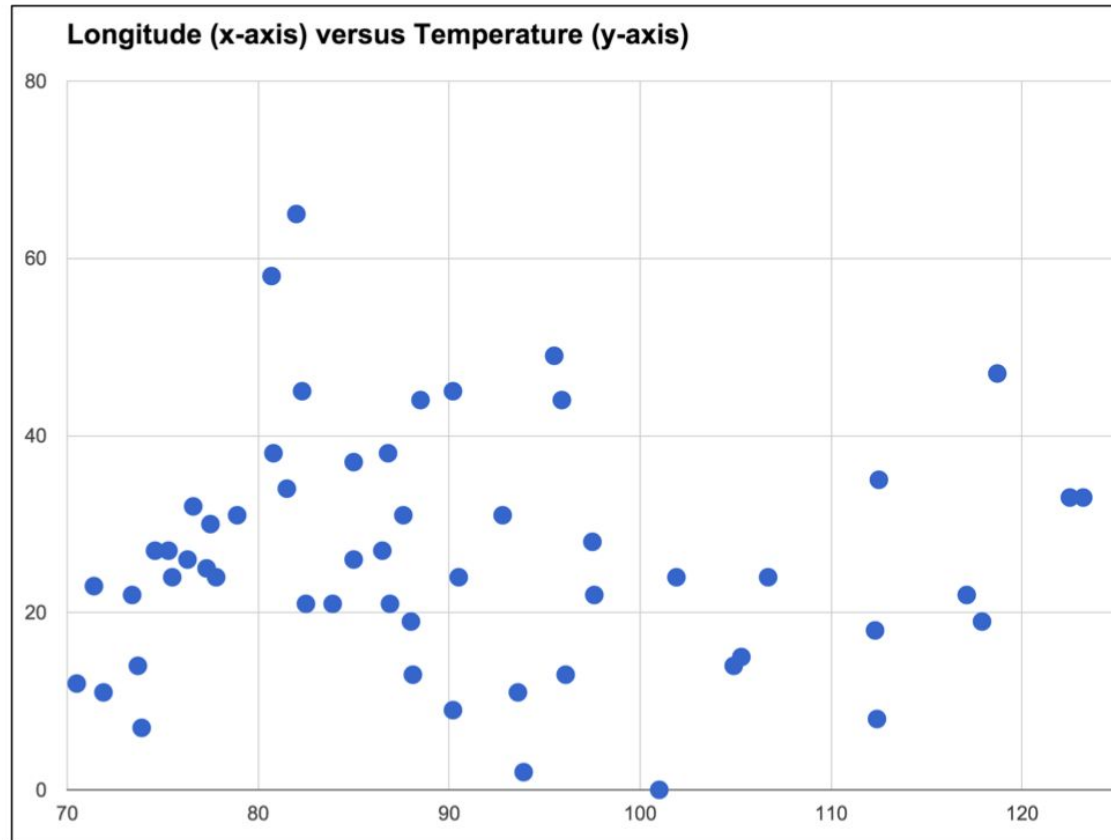


Note: Will cover strength of correlation in ML Regression Lecture

source: Professor Widom's slides

# Determining Correlation

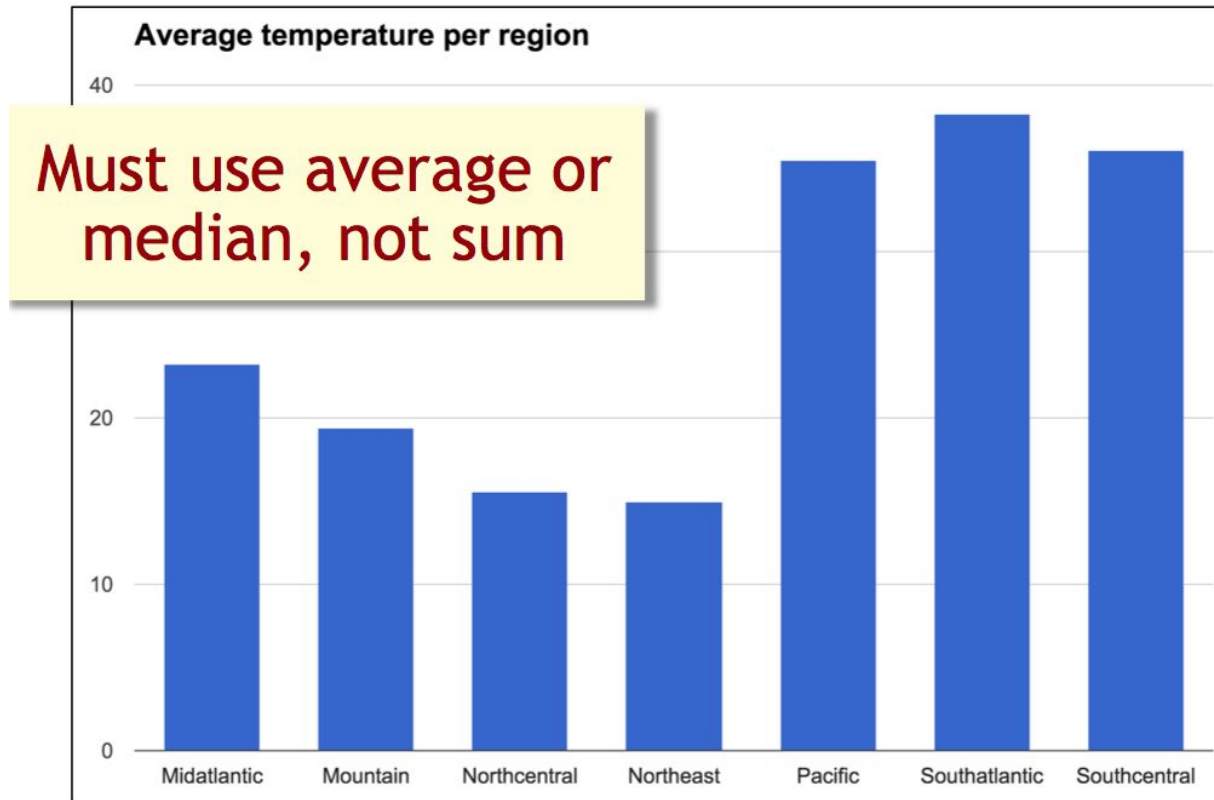
X and Y both ordered: scatterplot



source: Professor Widom's slides

# Determining Correlation

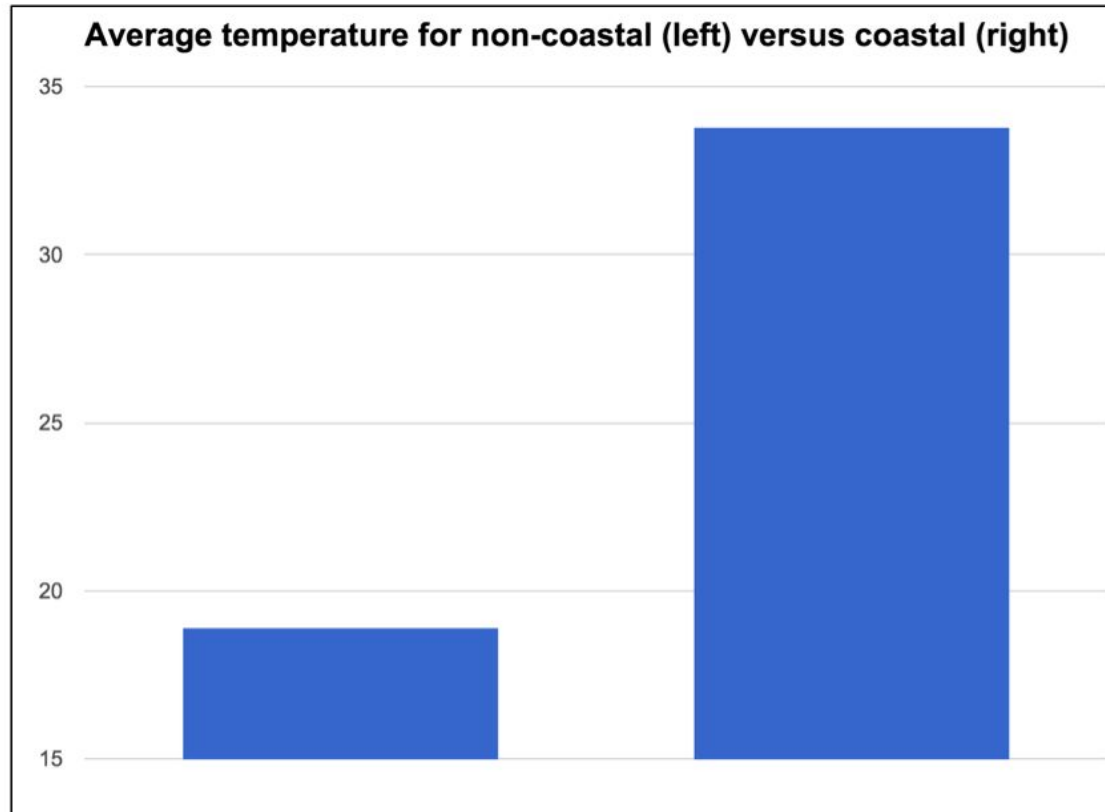
X categorical, Y ordered: bar graph



source: Professor Widom's slides

# Determining Correlation

X categorical, Y ordered: bar graph



source: Professor Widom's slides

# Determining Causation

- Hill's Criteria
- Running experiments and testing statistical significance



# Hill's Criteria

(Useful guidelines for investigating causality in epidemiological studies)

Strength - of correlation between X and Y

Consistency - of correlation across different datasets

Specificity - no other likely explanation for correlation

Temporality - Y occurs after X

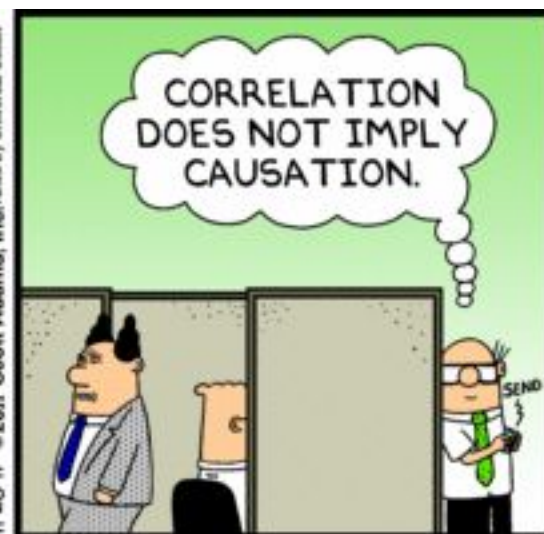
Plausibility - there's a reason for causation

Coherence - consistent with related theories

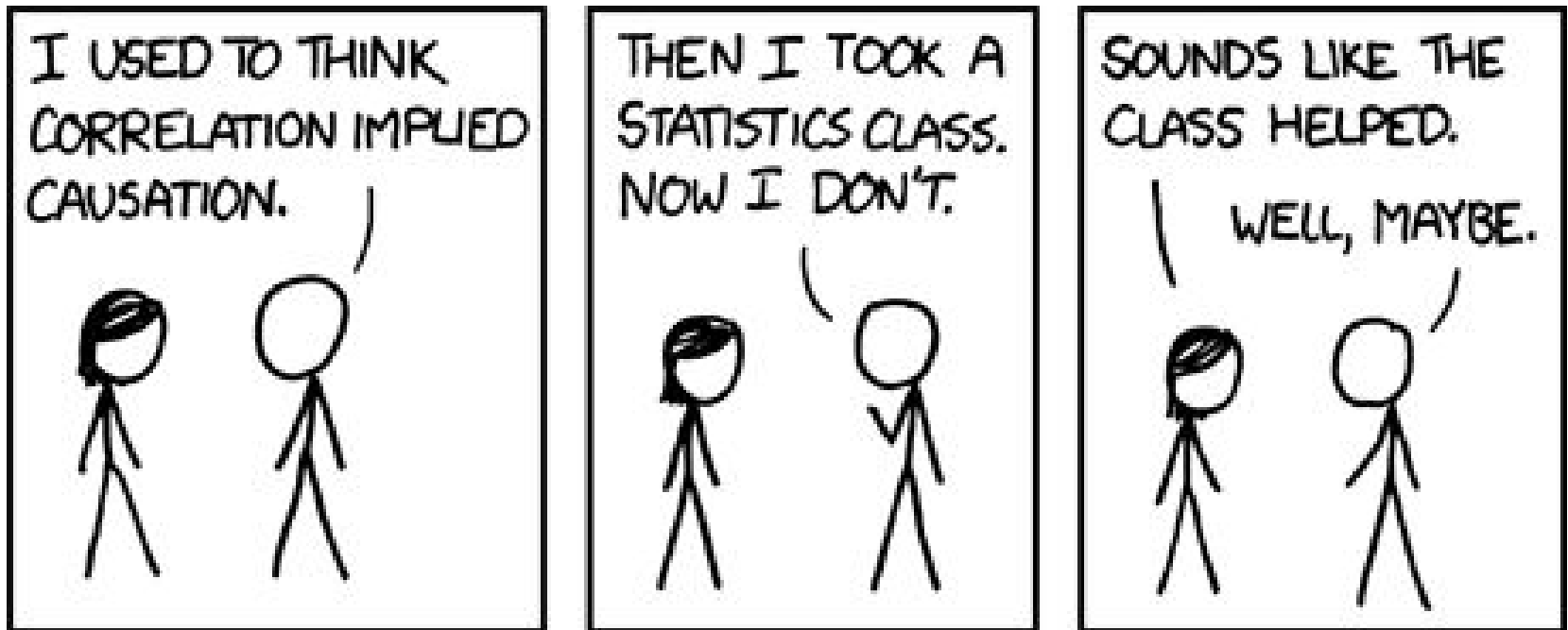
# Experimental Validation

## Determine if X causes Y

- a. Experimental group
- b. Control group
- c. Ensure no distinctions between 2 groups
  - i. If there is, more complicated measures work
- d. Determine if there is a statistical significant difference between experimental and control (*not the focus of this class*)



# Correlation vs Causation



# Privacy

# Privacy

- Individual data collected covertly
- Data collected legally, used questionably
- Individuals identified from “anonymous” data
- Invisible Opt in

# Individual Data Collected Covertly

- National Security Agency collecting phone records and internet traffic of most Americans
  - Revealed by whistleblower Edward Snowden
  - NSA argued “metadata” does not invade privacy  
But easy to detect medical conditions, psychological conditions, criminal activity
  - Since ruled illegal

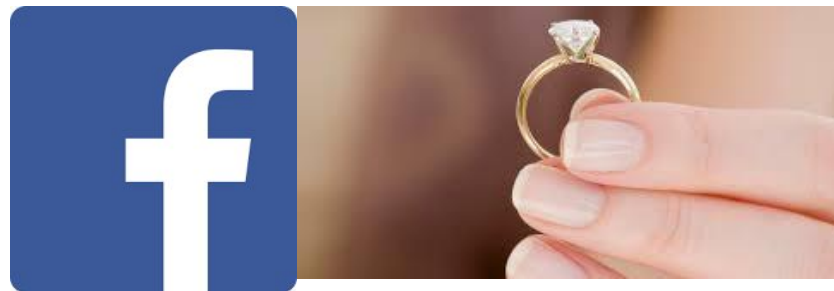


# Data Collected Legally, Used Unethically?

- Target Figuring out teen girl was pregnant



- Facebook “Beacon” Diamond Engagement Ring
  - Facebook publicly posted that a person just bought a diamond ring, ruining the surprise



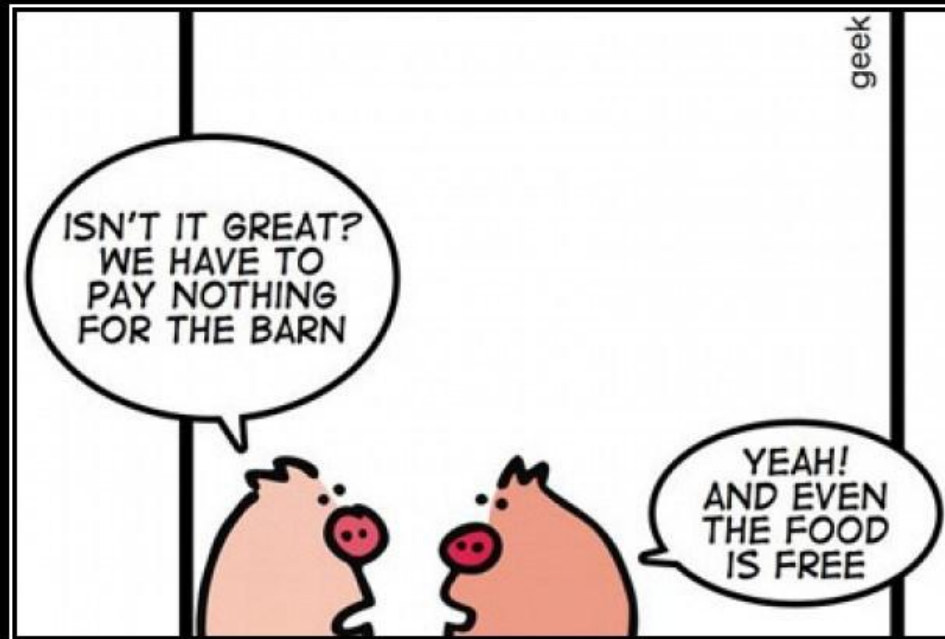


# Deducing Individual Data

- Boston Mayor Health Record's Identified
  - Easy to identify a person 5-digit zip + gender + date of birth uniquely identifies 87% of U.S. population
- Netflix users identified
  - Researchers were able to identify targets matching netflix reviews with data from IMDb.
  - If you knew a few movies a subscriber rented in a time period

**NETFLIX**

# Invisible Opt In



## FACEBOOK AND YOU

If you're not paying for it, you're not the customer. You're the product being sold.

# Invisible Opt In

**Cookies** are small files stored on a user's computer to hold data specific to a user and website

Can track you across the web, you have cookies turned by default



# 1984 Big Brother? Or...



**Keith Lowell Jensen**

@keithlowell

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What Orwell failed to predict is that we'd buy the cameras ourselves, and that our biggest fear would be that nobody was watching.

RETWEETS

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8:42 AM - 20 Jun 2013

 19

 863

 1.1K

# End