Key themes and summary of issues —Inference and model purpose



Inference vs. prediction, or both?

Fitting everything available (SDM).

But also: dredging across

multiple models.

Depends on what your aim is? Do you want a good map, or do you care about what's driving the distribution?

Absence of well specified a priori hypotheses: "let's test this too!" (Multiple models)

- Problem occurs when we cast exploratory work as confirmatory: "the same behavior can be either EDA or p-hacking depending on how it is reported." (Jebb et al.)
- "EDA as CDA" breaks the cardinal rule that a result cannot be discovered and validated using the same data." (Jebb et al.)
- "Current practices with many journals that all but required a deductive approach have led to authors

positioning papers as de-ductive even when the underlying research was not." (Woo et al. 2017)

Inference: Confirmatory vs. Exploratory Analysis

Jebb, A. T., Parrigon, S., Woo, S. E. (2017) Exploratory data analysis as a foundation of inductive research. Human Resource Management Review. 27, 265–276.

Woo, S. E., O'Boyle, E. H., Spector, P. E. (2017) Best practices in developing, conducting, and evaluating inductive research. *Human Resource Management Review*. **27**, 255–264.

Key themes and summary of issues

- Bayesianism as Remedy?

 Bayesian methods have been argued as a cure to QRPs, particularly p-hacking problems:

" many of us believe that other ways of summarizing the data, such as Bayes factors or other posterior summaries based on clearly articulated model assumptions, are preferable to P values" (Benjamin et al. 2018)

- Bayesian confidence intervals and Bayes factors are equally susciple and invalidated to the same degree by "p-hacking" practices as their frequentist inference equivalents. (Simonsohn 2014).
- Jury's not out, but QAECO discussion group findings lend weight to Bayesian methods being susceptible to Researcher Degrees of Freedom

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