



Workshop 1: What is Data Science?

Wharton Analytics Fellows x WUDAC

Spring 2018

Roadmap

- I. Sign-in & Icebreaker
- II. Purpose of Data Science
- III. Breaking Down “Big Data”
- IV. Machine Learning
- V. Bootcamp Outline

Sign-in here: goo.gl/umnhnG

Icebreaker

Purpose of Data Science

What will data science allow you to do?



- What do scurvy and predicting stock prices have in common?
- Answer questions, make decisions, understand hidden relationships

Nearly every field is pivoting to focus on data



- Data literacy is increasingly expected for not only analytics roles, but also management roles with a strategic focus
- People have always done this, but we increasingly have the tools to do this on a larger/more integrated scale

Source: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/louiscolumbus/2017/05/13/ibm-predicts-demand-for-data-scientists-will-soar-28-by-2020/#249f50087e3b>

Careers in data science fall under a variety of titles

Data Analytics Consulting

- Shorter term projects with a variety of client companies
- Focus on applying existing algorithms to clients' data to answer targeted questions



Data Scientist

- Similar to data analytics consulting, but within one company
- Apply existing algorithms to company data, sometimes develop and refine algorithms to company-specific needs
- Design own questions and “experiments”

facebook

Quora

UBER

Quantitative Researcher

- Often used as job title in financial field
- Working with alternative datasets to give investment recommendations
- Building systematic portfolios/trading strategies based on price data



Data Engineer

- Focus on data cleaning, manipulation, and storage
- Possibly more knowledge of database design and computer science



Breaking Down “Big Data”

Big Data is (unfortunately) still a huge buzzword, but...

Big data is watching you – and it wants your vote

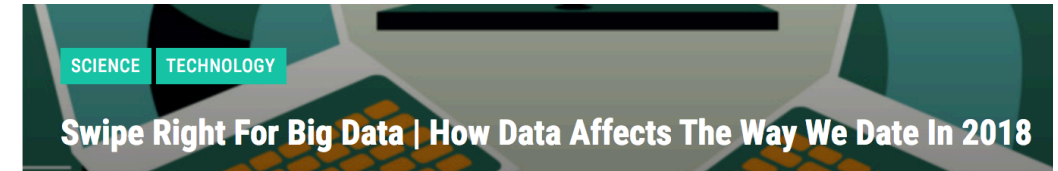
The Cambridge Analytica row shows politics moving in a disturbing direction

Jamie Bartlett

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[HOME](#) » [BIG DATA](#)

[BIG DATA SPECIAL REPORT](#)



Wikibon trip report from Big Data Silicon Valley:
Big data lives!

Is Big Data a threat to free democratic choice?

MAR 21, 2018 @ 10:31 PM

762

[The Little Black Book](#)

How Cambridge Analytica Used Big Sleaze To Mine Big Data

BRIEF

**Big Data the 'new gold rush,'
report predicts**

Big Data in Space

What *is* “Big Data”, and why do we care now?

Because of:

- ① Increased computational power
- ② Increased collection of data

We now can:

- ① Run machine learning algorithms that were theoretically useful, but not feasible in practice, ex. random forest
- ② Use large amounts of data that contain information about behaviors not previously tracked, and feed data-intensive algorithms to find patterns

What is “Big Data”, and why do we care now?



Volume: Quantity of data available for analysis

- Gigabytes
- Terabytes
- Petabytes



Variety: Types of data available for analysis

- Structured (financial metrics, demographic data, etc.)
- Unstructured (conversational transcripts, social media, etc.)



Velocity: How quickly data is available for analysis

- Real Time
- Near-Real Time
- Batch



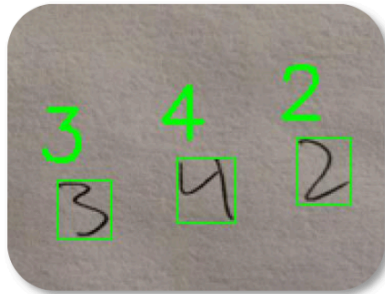
Source: <https://github.com/ntlind/Principles of AI and ML/blob/master/Principles%20of%20AI%20%26%20ML%20vD.pdf>

Machine Learning

Machine learning is teaching computers to find patterns in data on their own.

Supervised

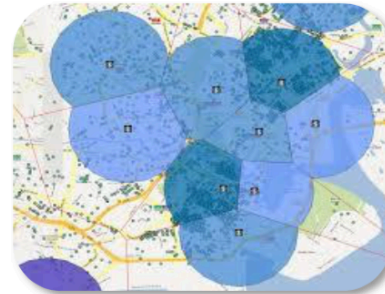
Generate predictions by training on **labeled datasets**



Handwriting Recognition

Unsupervised

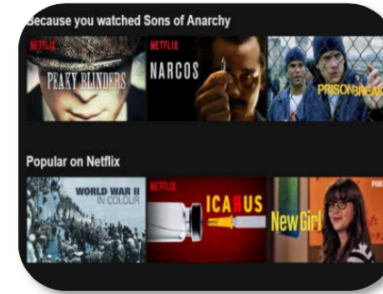
Expose and **visualize** hidden relationships and anomalies in **unlabeled datasets**



Geospatial Market Segmentation

Semi-Supervised

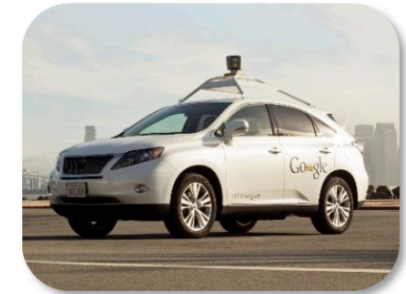
Generate predictions using a **small amount of labeled data** within a larger pool of unlabeled data



Interactive Recommendations

Reinforcement

Create an agent capable of taking environmental actions to **maximize utility** over time



Self-Driving Vehicles

Importantly, what can't it do (yet)?

- ① Machine learning requires **lots of data** – usually, more data/cleaner data will give you better results than a more complex algorithm

“We don’t have better algorithms than anyone else; we just have more data.” – Peter Norvig, Google

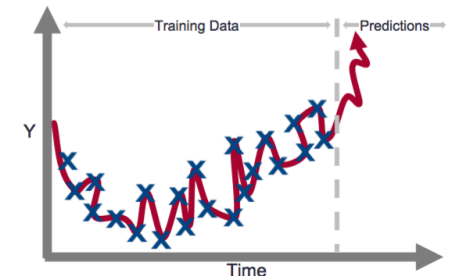
- ② Machine learning can only observe what patterns seem to exist in the provided data: it’s positive, not normative.

Twitter taught Microsoft’s AI chatbot to be a racist asshole in less than a day

By [James Vincent](#) | [@jjvincent](#) | Mar 24, 2016, 6:43am EDT

- ③ There’s always a danger of overfitting to the provided data.

Overfitting (High Variance)

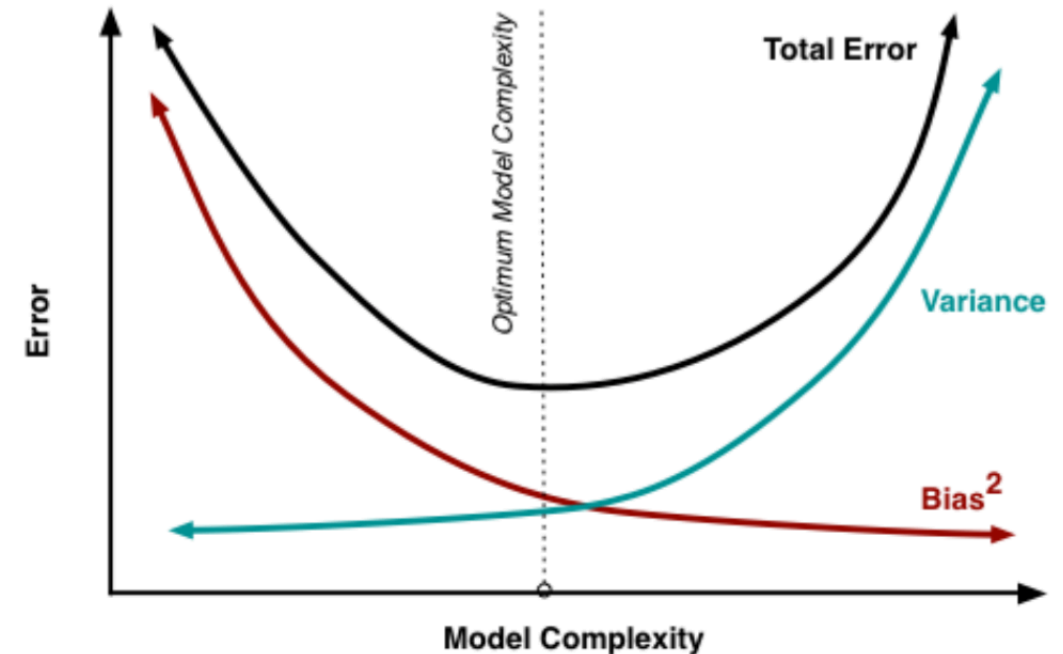


Different algorithms have different pros and cons – understanding how/when to use an appropriate algorithm is essential.

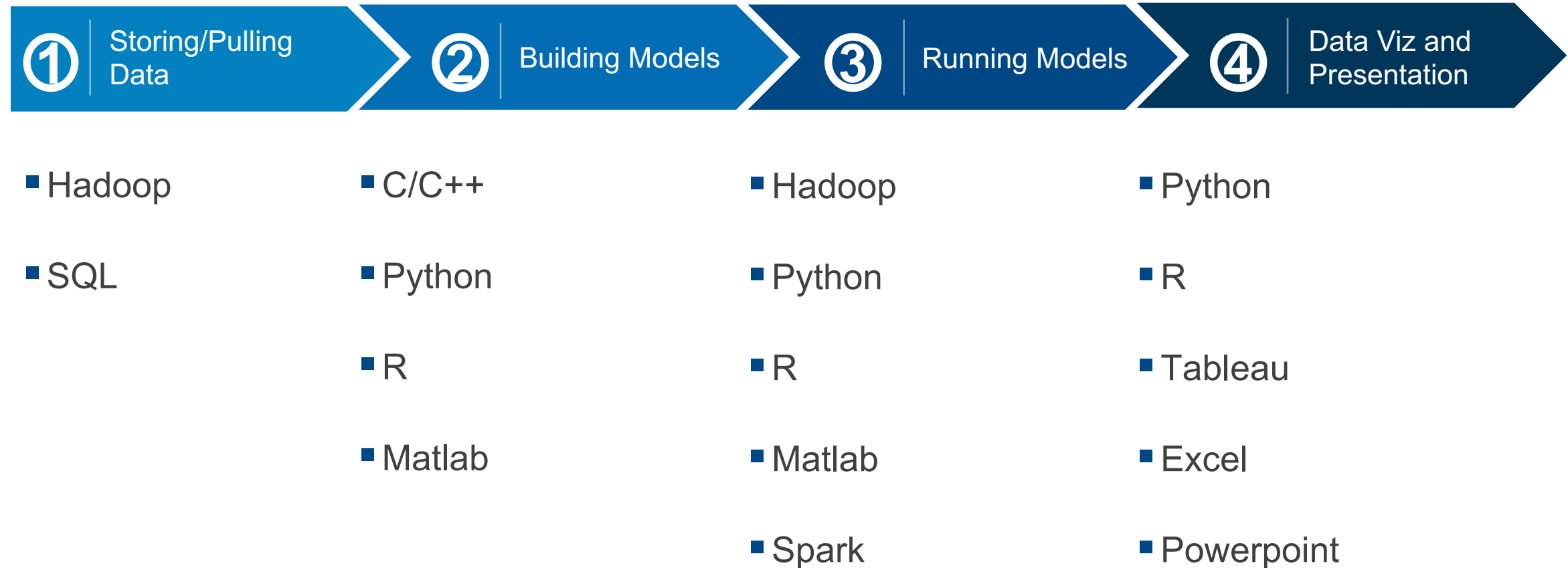
For a given problem, pick the right algorithms...

... to optimize the bias-variance trade-off

Supervised		Semi-Supervised
Regression	Classification	Clustering
Linear Regression	Logistic Regression	K-Nearest Neighbors
Multivariate Linear Reg.	Multinomial Logistic Reg.	HCA
Random Forests		PCA
Gradient Boosted Machines		LLE
Support Vector Machines		t-SNE
Multi-Layer Neural Networks		LDA
Recurrent Neural Networks		DBSCAN
Convolutional Neural Networks		Autoencoders
...	



Data science requires familiarity with a variety of tools.



Where to start - R or Python?

Purpose	
R focuses on better, user friendly data analysis, statistics and graphical models.	Python emphasizes productivity and code readability.
Used By?	
R has been used primarily in academics and research. However, R is rapidly expanding into the enterprise market. <i>"The closer you are to statistics, research and data science, the more you might prefer R."</i>	Python is used by programmers that want to delve into data analysis or apply statistical techniques, and by developers that turn to data science. <i>"The closer you are to working in an engineering environment, the more you might prefer Python."</i>

Source: <https://www.datacamp.com/community/tutorials/r-or-python-for-data-analysis>

Bootcamp Outline