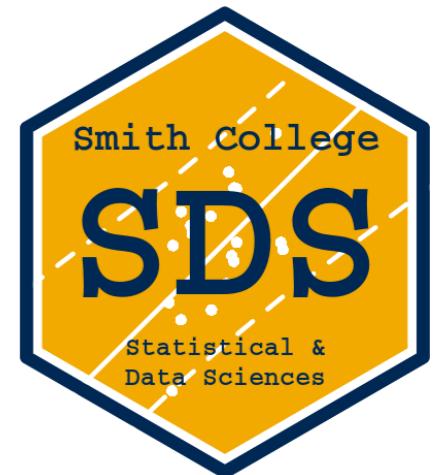
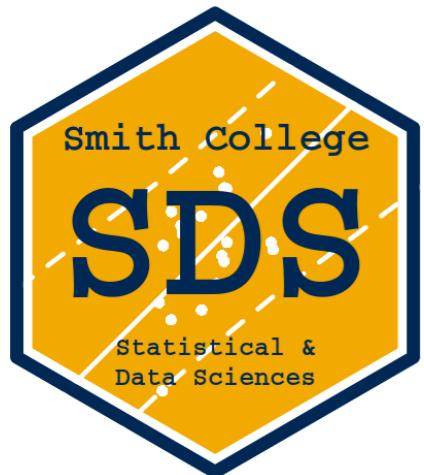


# Statistical inference via data science: A "tidy" approach



**Albert Y. Kim**  
**Joint Math Meetings**  
**Denver CO, USA**  
**January 18, 2020**

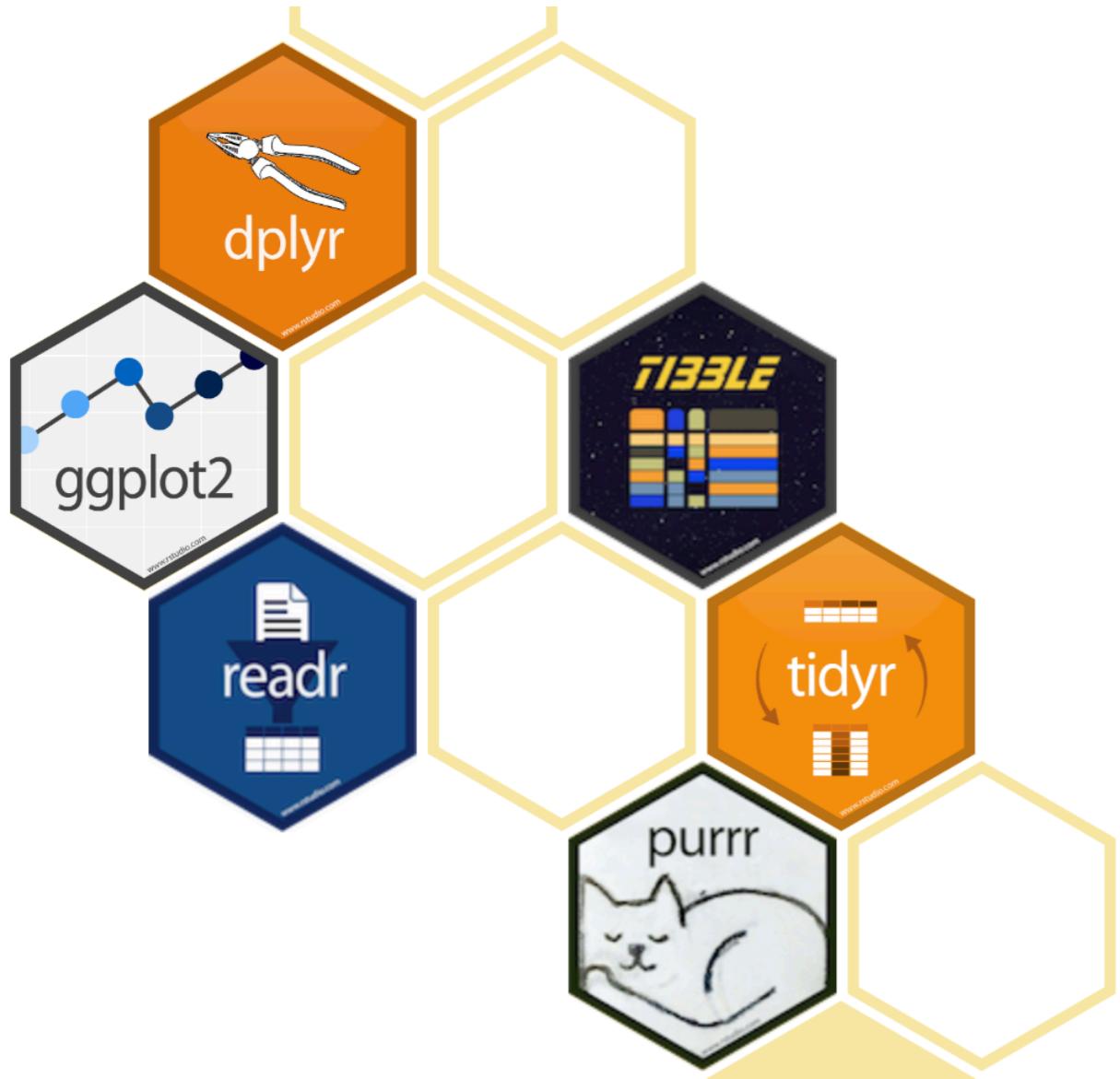


Slides available at [twitter.com/rudeboybert](https://twitter.com/rudeboybert)



Statistical inference **via**  
data science...

# What is the tidyverse?



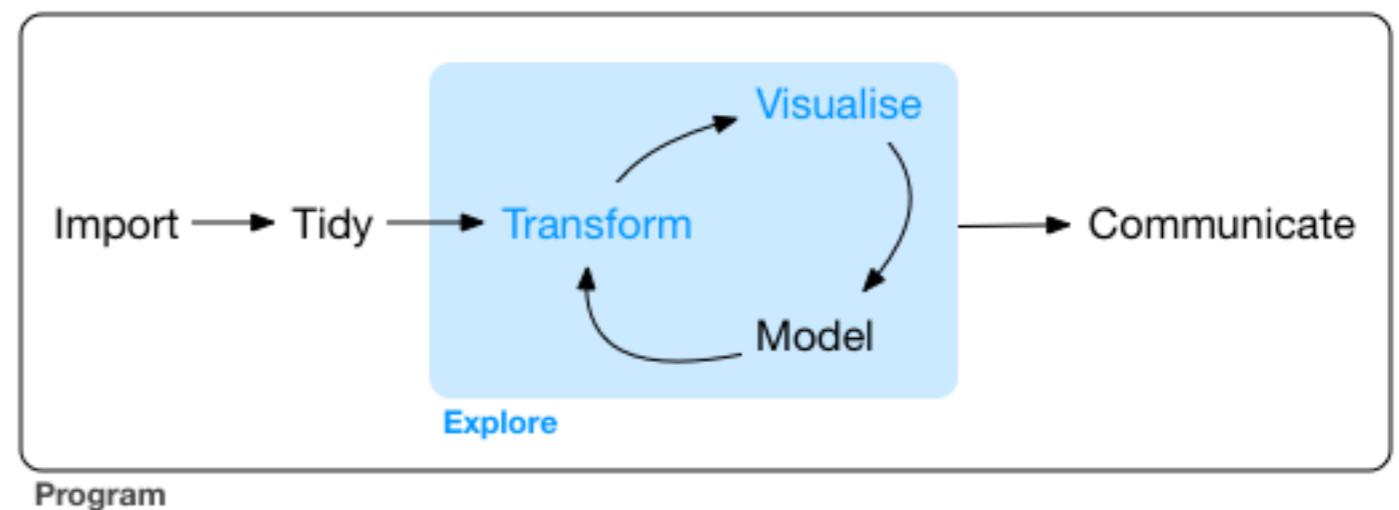
R packages for data science

The tidyverse is an **opinionated collection of R packages** designed for data science. All packages share an underlying design philosophy, grammar, and data structures.

# Why use the tidyverse?

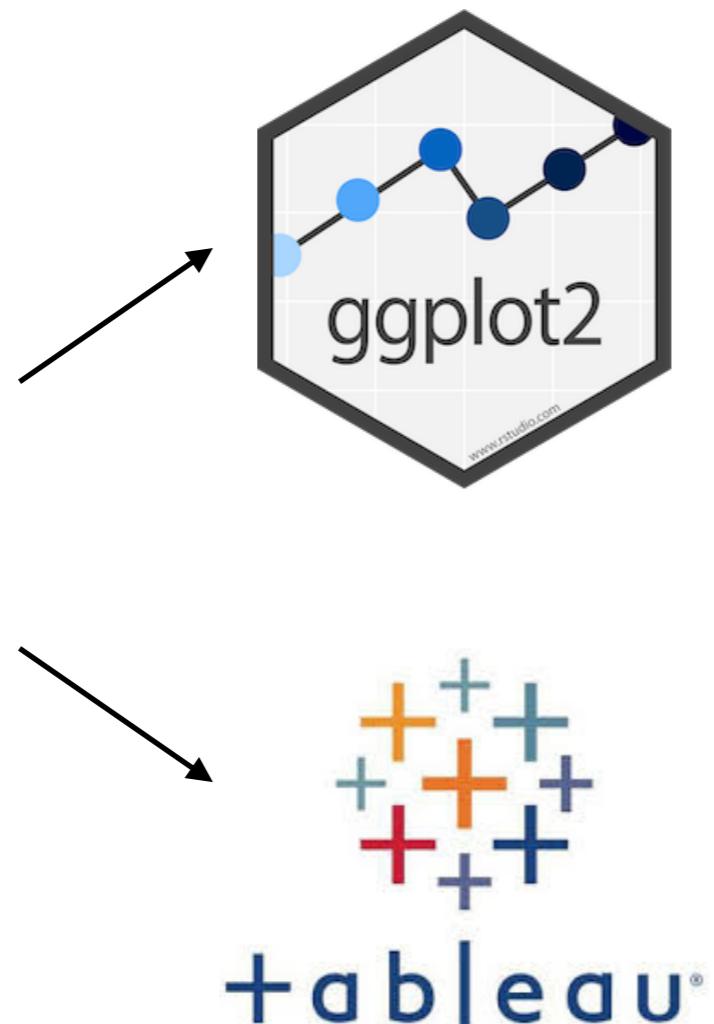
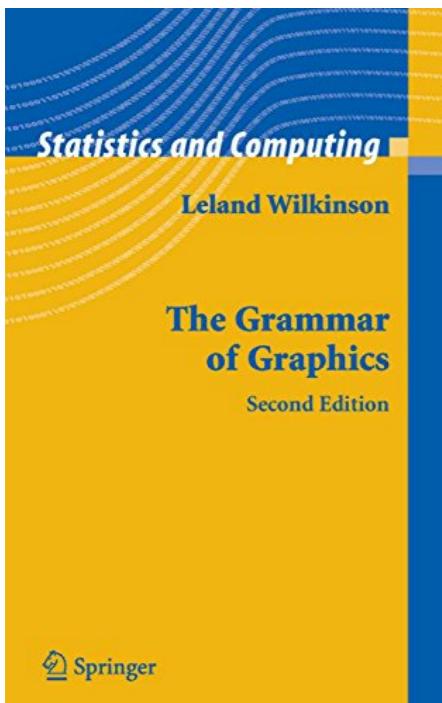
1. It encourages students to “play the whole game”
2. It’s transferable
3. It bridges the gap between tools for *learning* statistics & tools for *doing* statistics

# 1. It encourages students to “play the whole game”



- Emphasize exploratory data analysis (EDA)
- “To (data) wrangle or not to wrangle? That is the question”
- IMO to do no data wrangling betrays true nature of the work

# 2.a) It transfers: Data visualization



**Salesforce closes \$15.7B Tableau deal**

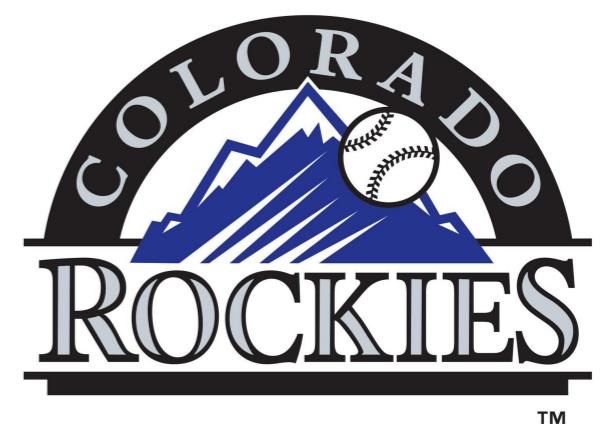
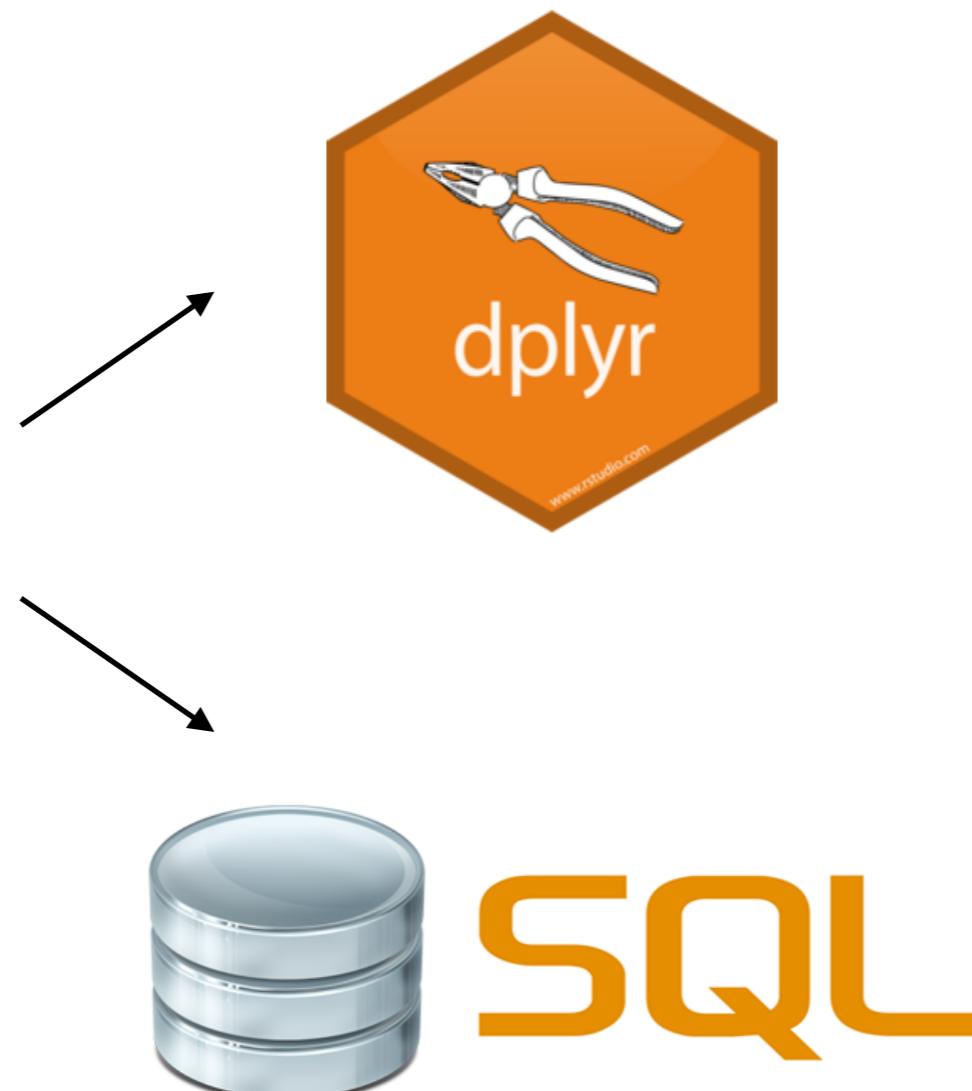
Ron Miller @ron\_miller 7:44 am MDT • August 1, 2019

Comment



## 2.b) It transfers: Data wrangling

Normal forms &  
database  
normalization



3. It bridges the gap between tools for *learning* statistics & tools for *doing* statistics

## tidyverse design principle #4: Design for humans



**David Robinson**

*Data Scientist at Stack Overflow, works in R and Python.*

### Teach the tidyverse to beginners

A few years ago, I wrote a post [Don't teach built-in plotting to beginners \(teach ggplot2\)](#). I argued that ggplot2 was not an advanced approach meant for experts, but rather a suitable introduction to data visualization.

*Many teachers suggest I'm overestimating their students: "No, see, my students are beginners...". If I push the point, they might insist I'm not understanding just how much of a beginner these students are, and emphasize they're looking to keep it simple and teach the basics, and that that students can get to the advanced methods later....*

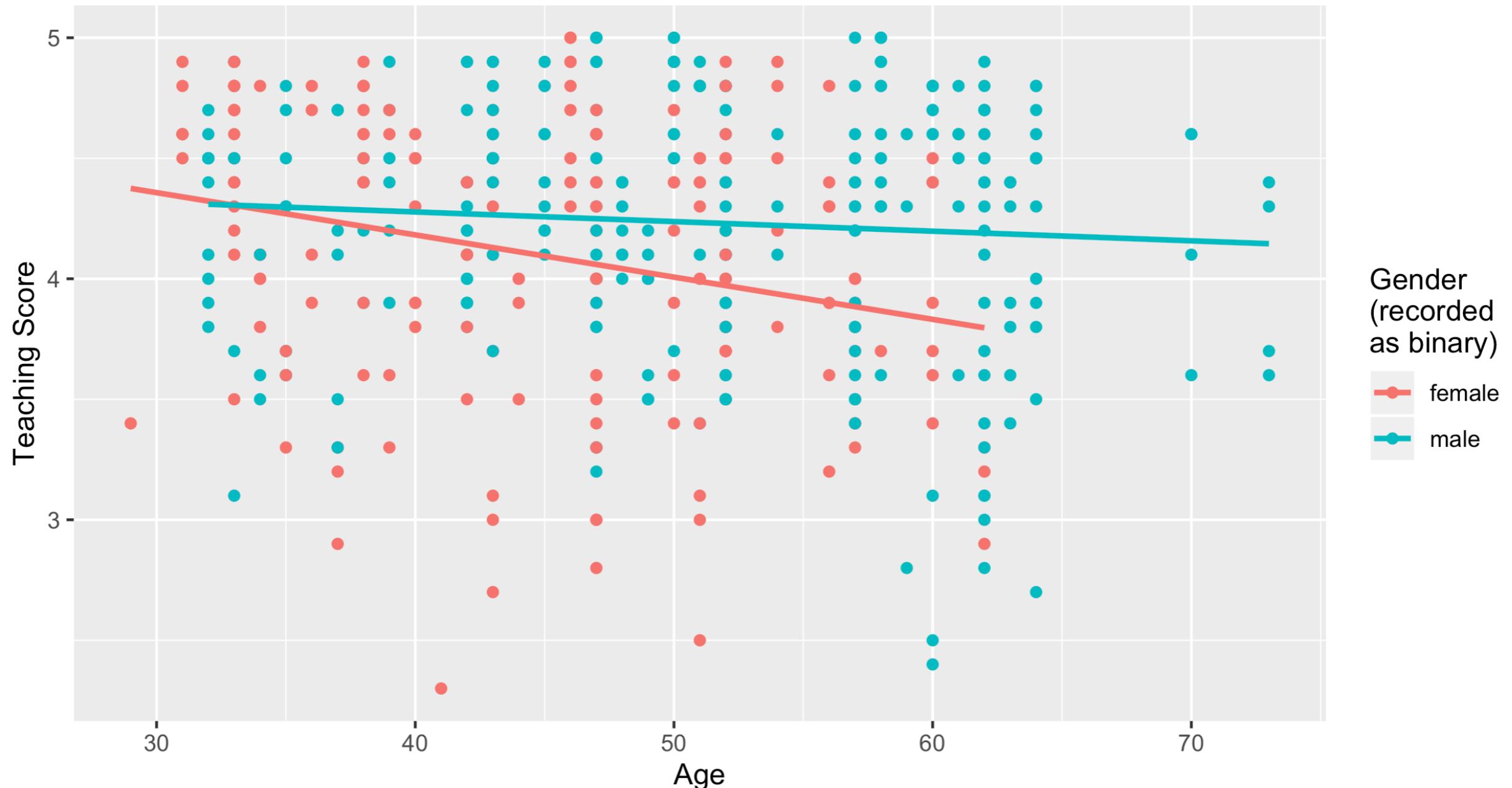


# Using the tidyverse in intro stats for:

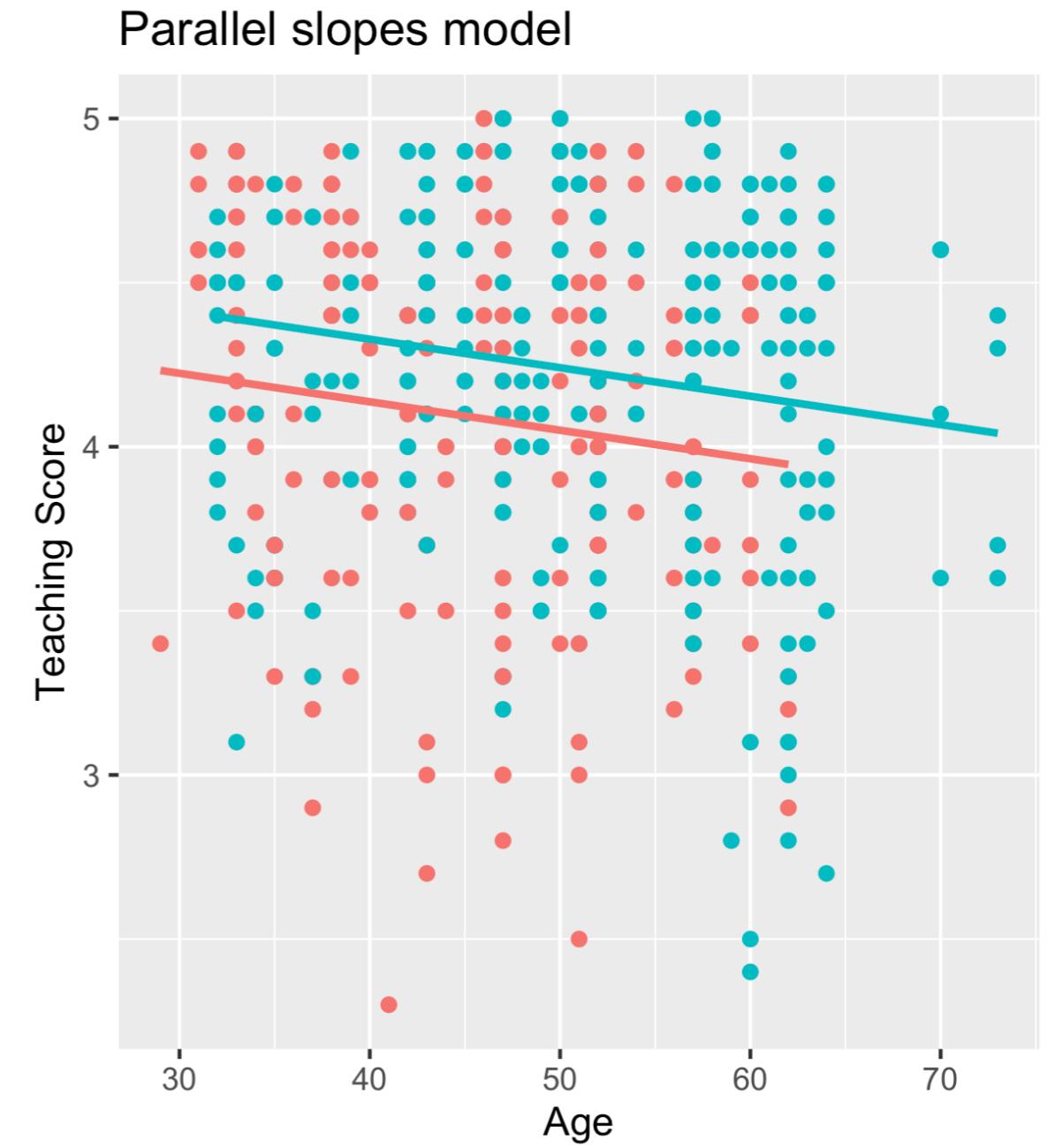
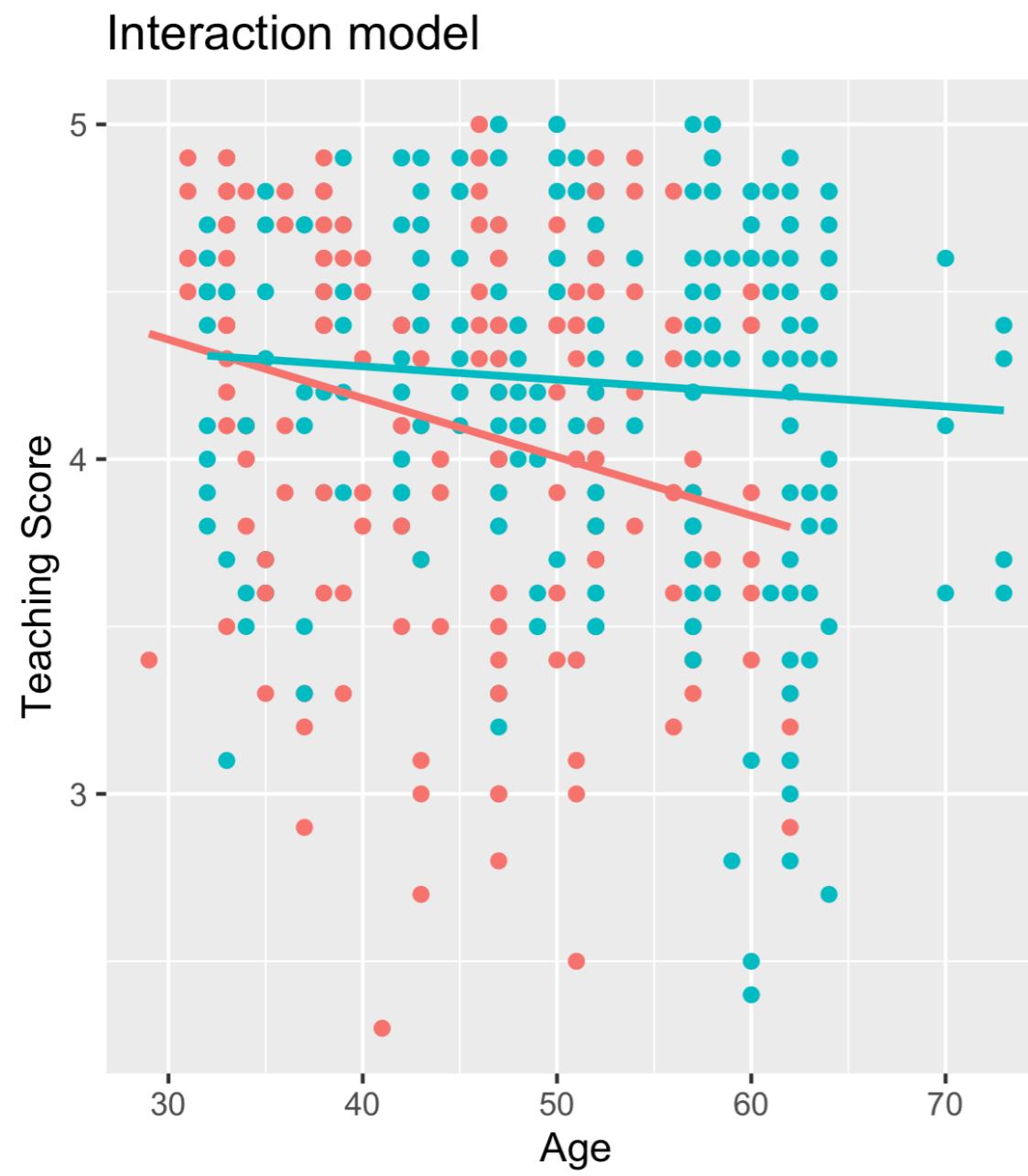
1. Statistical modeling
2. Statistical inference

# EDA to Motivate Statistical Modeling

Teaching evals for 463 UT Austin courses (taught by 94 pros)

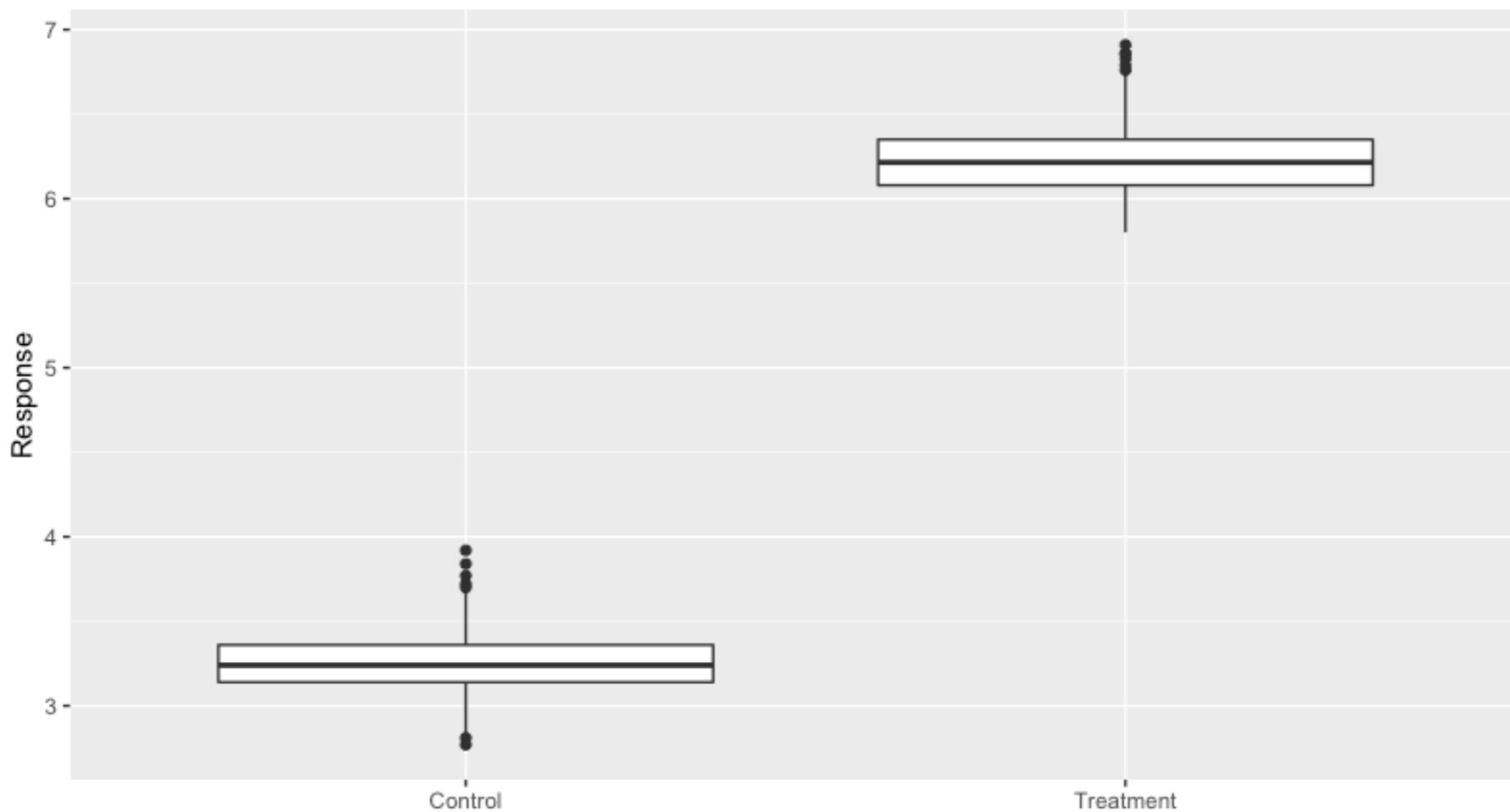


# EDA to Motivate Model Selection



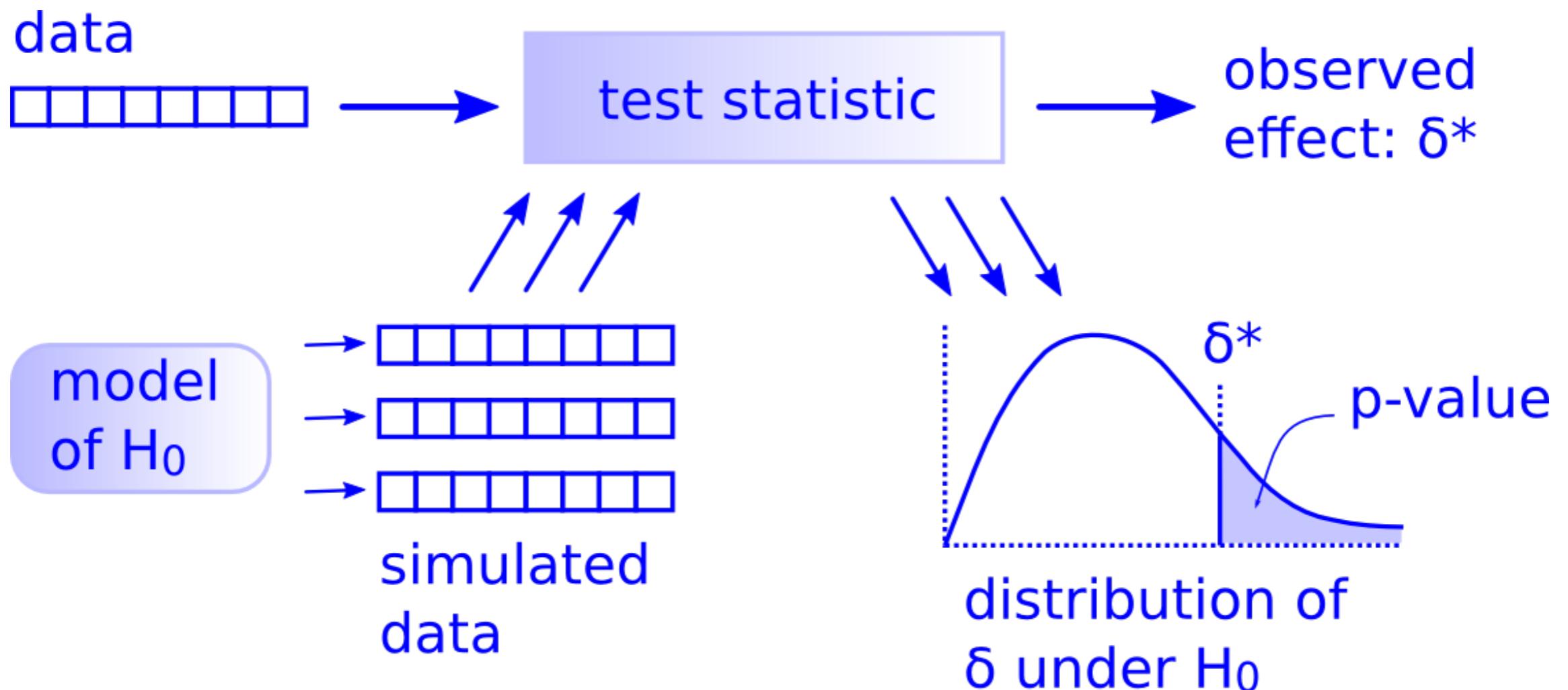
# EDA to Motivate Statistical Inference

A “you don’t need no PhD in Statistics” moment:

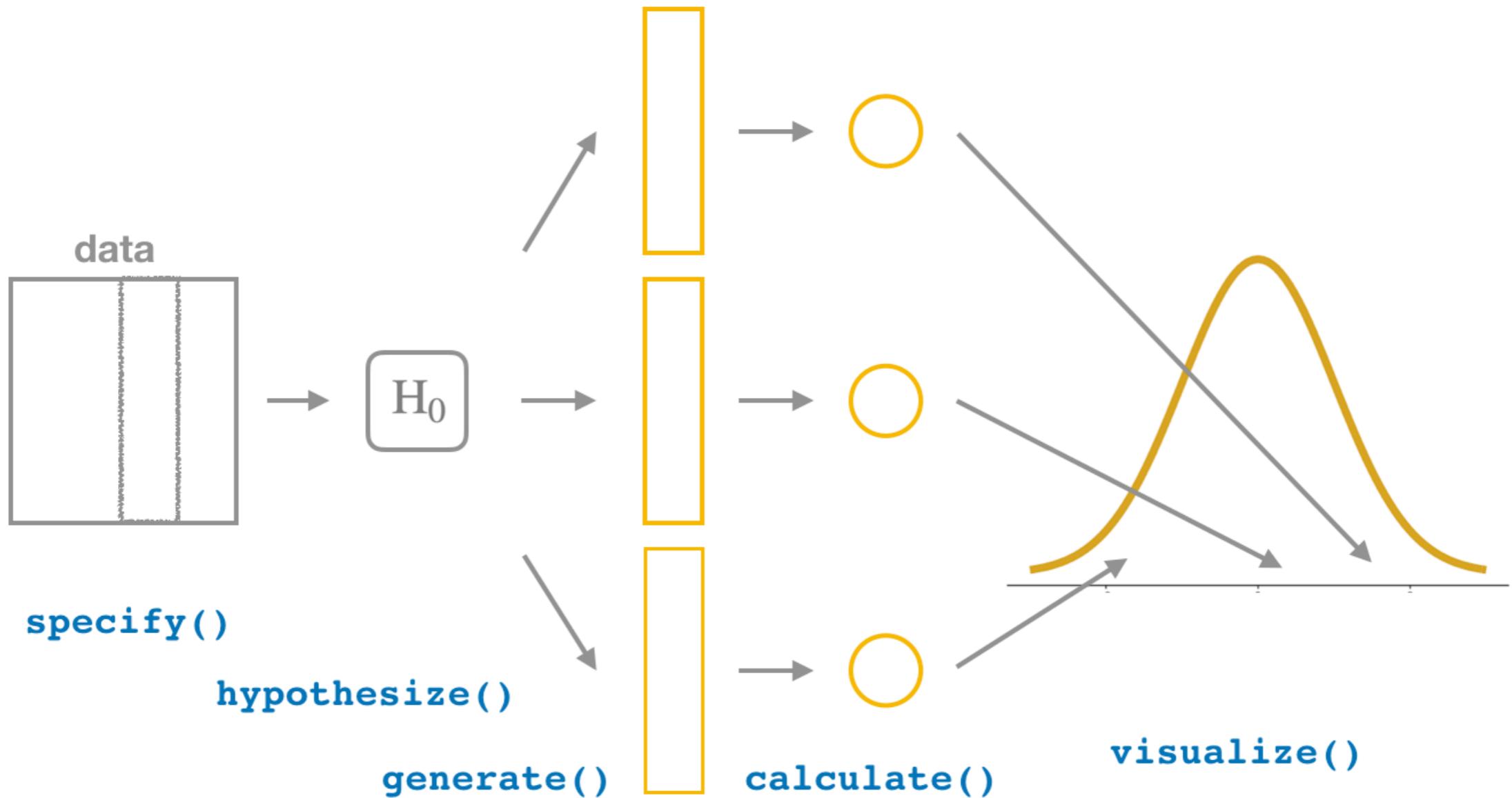


Versus just saying: “The p-value is 0!”

# “There is only one test”



# infer package for “tidy” statistical inference



# Ex: infer–ring the mean year of all 🇺🇸 pennies

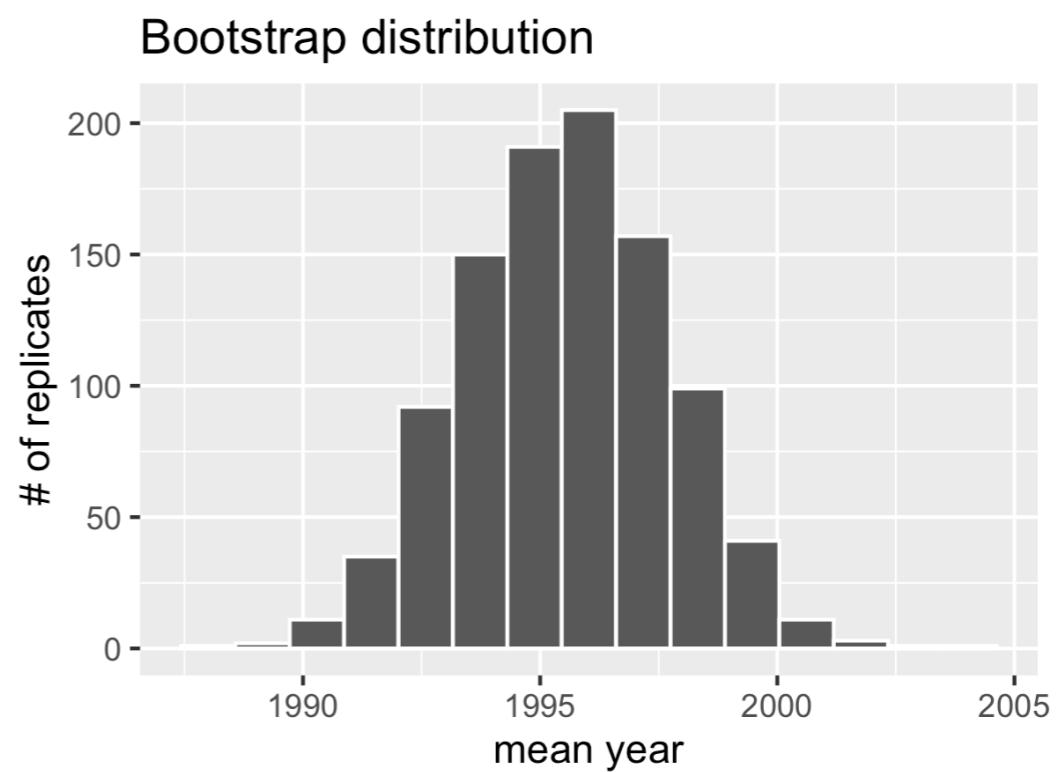


```
> library(moderndive)
> pennies_sample
# A tibble: 50 × 2
  ID    year
  <int> <dbl>
1 1     2002
2 2     1986
3 3     2017
4 4     1988
5 5     2008
6 6     1983
7 7     2008
8 8     1996
9 9     2004
10 10    2000
# ... with 40 more rows
```

Using bootstrap resampling with replacement:

```
library(tidyverse)
library(infer)

pennies_sample %>%
  specify(response = year) %>%
  generate(reps = 1000) %>%
  calculate(stat = "mean")
```



# How to make room for the tidyverse

In my opinion:

- Drop (combinatorics-based) probability theory
- De-emphasize  $\chi^2$  tests & ANOVA as much as feasible given upstream consequences
- Lean on “There is only one test” framework
- Drop asymptotic theory in favor of simulation based inference: bootstrap & permutation tests

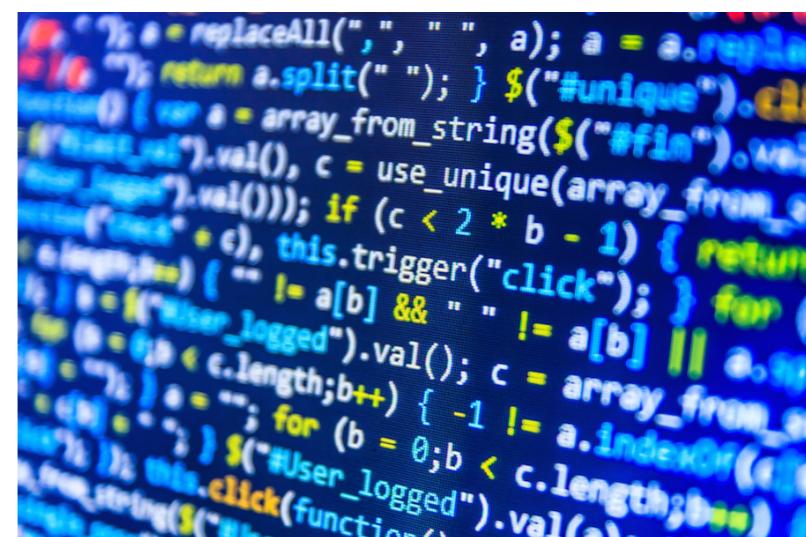
# Guiding Paper

“Mere Renovation is Too Little Too Late: We Need to Rethink Our Undergraduate Curriculum from the Ground Up” by [Cobb \(2015\)](#)

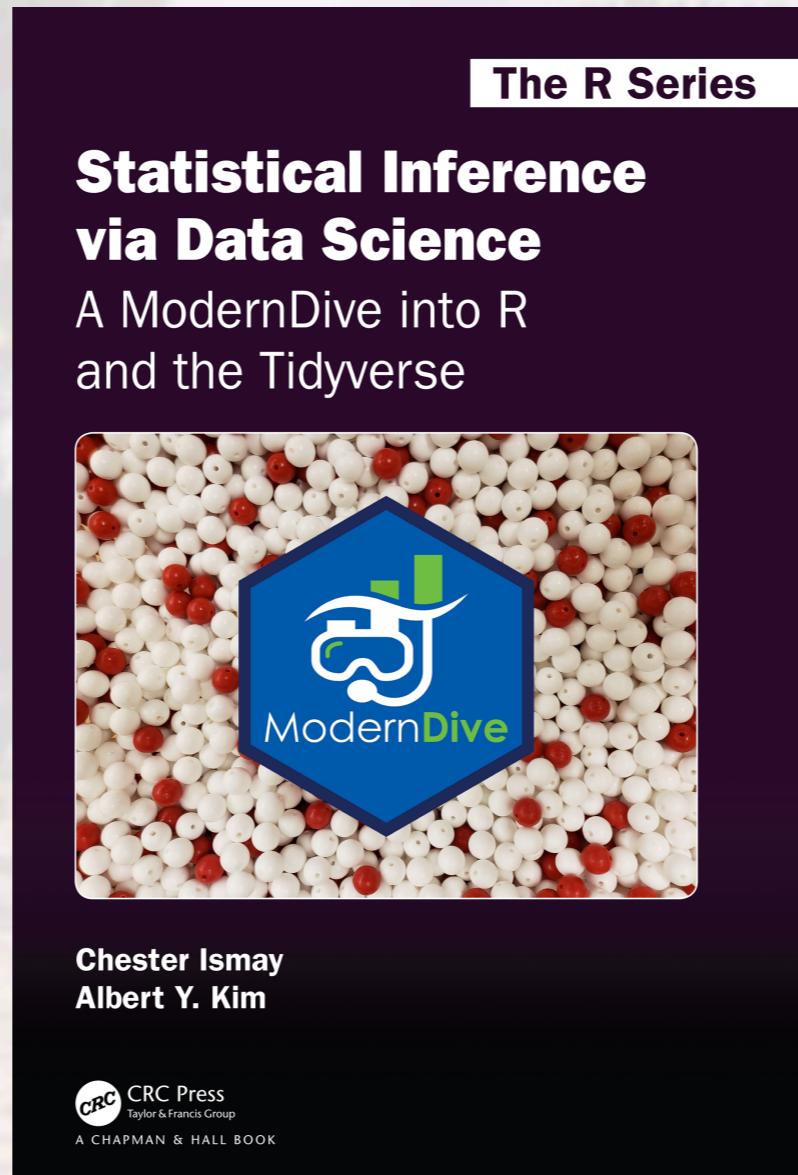
- Make fundamental concepts accessible
- Minimize prerequisites to research
- Replace “mathematics” with “computation” as the *engine of statistics*

$$t = \frac{(\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_2) - (\mu_1 - \mu_2)}{S_{\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_2}} = \frac{\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_2}{S_{\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_2}}$$

$$S_{\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_2} = \sqrt{\frac{(N_1 - 1)s_1^2 + (N_2 - 1)s_2^2}{N_1 + N_2 - 2} \left[ \frac{1}{N_1} + \frac{1}{N_2} \right]}$$



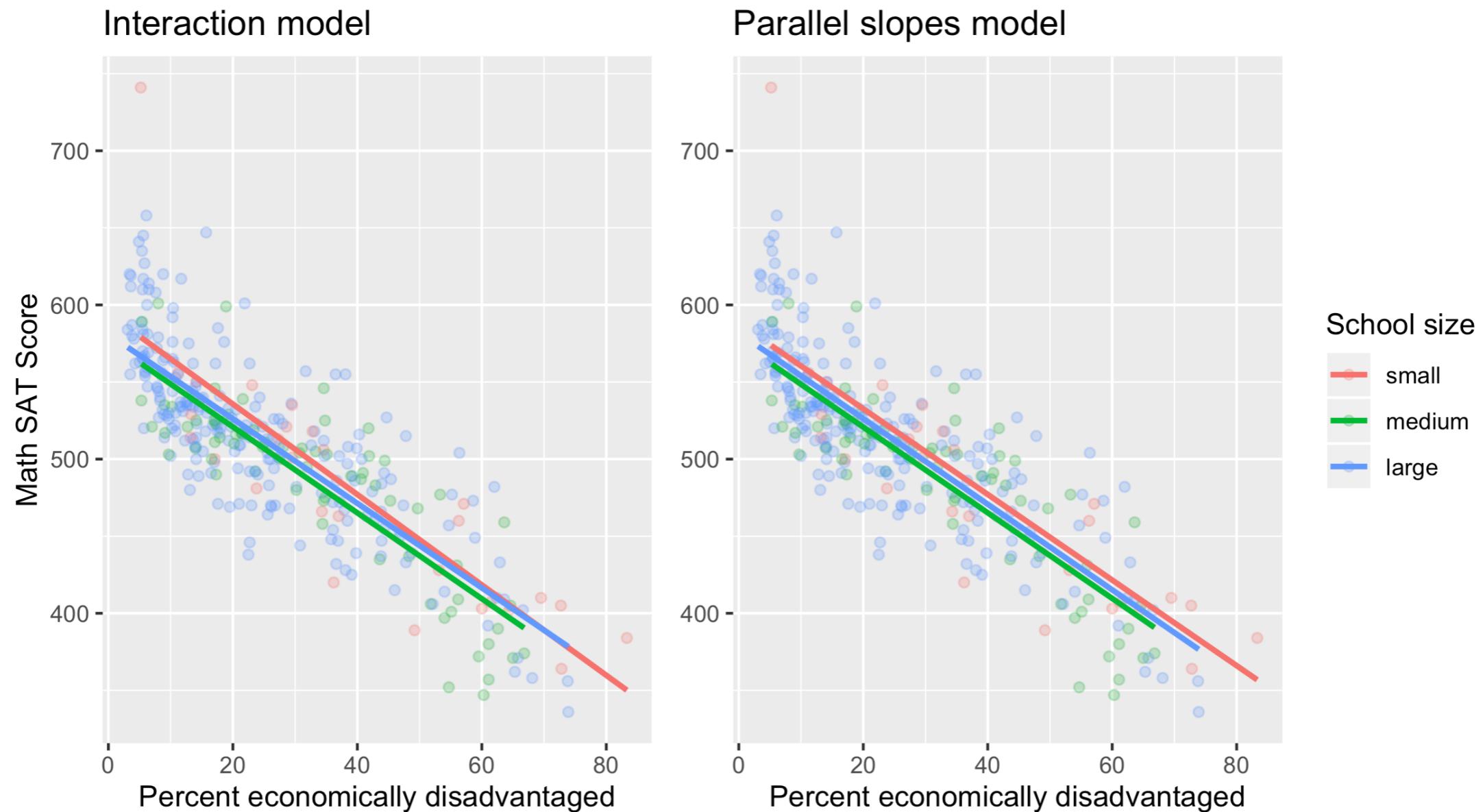
# For more info check out:



- Available free online at [moderndive.com](http://moderndive.com)
- Print copies now on sale at Taylor & Francis booth & CRC Press website: Use discount code ASA18
- Slides available at [twitter.com/rudeboybert](https://twitter.com/rudeboybert)

# EDA to Motivate Model Selection

2017 Massachusetts Public High School Data



# infer-ring the mean year of all 🇺🇸 pennies using bootstrap resampling with replacement

Collect a sample of 50 pennies  
(is sampling representative?)



```
> library(moderndive)
> pennies_sample
# A tibble: 50 x 2
  ID    year
  <int> <dbl>
1     1 2002
2     2 1986
3     3 2017
4     4 1988
5     5 2008
6     6 1983
7     7 2008
8     8 1996
9     9 2004
10   10 2000
# ... with 40 more rows
```

Then generate 1000 resamples with replacement of size 50, compute mean for each.



```
library(tidyverse)
library(infer)

pennies_sample %>%
  specify(response = year) %>%
  generate(reps = 1000) %>%
  calculate(stat = "mean")
```

Then visualize. In what range do “most” values lie? →

