

# When do we actually need **causal inference**?

A journey to the center of data science.

**Sean J. Taylor**

# When do we actually need causal inference?

## Part 1: Always

Any model which does not capture a causal relationship could only tell us something useful by pure coincidence.

## Part 2: Never

Causal inference is a tool to tell us what can be estimated and how to do so. In practical settings, this can be determined by other, far simpler means.