When do we actually need causal inference?

A journey to the center of data science.

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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.