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# Exploring Inverse Probability Weighting For Causal Inference by Using Different Methods of Sensitivity Analysis.

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# Agenda

- Project background
- Goal
- Sensitivity Analysis Part I
- Sensitivity Analysis Part II
- Conclusion



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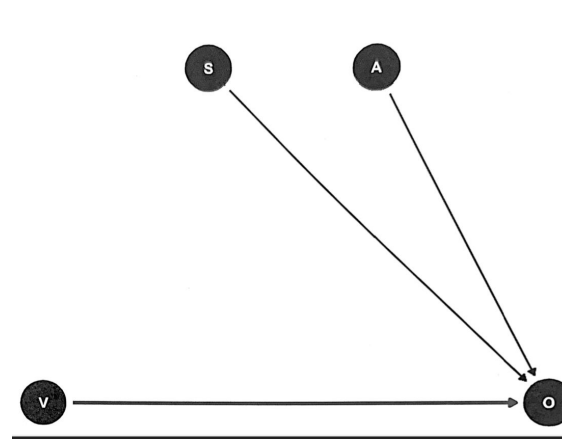
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# How getting a new vaccine affects whether or not a person gets a disease in the future?

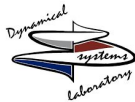
## 1. Simulating the Randomized Control Trial (RCT)

Causal Relationships



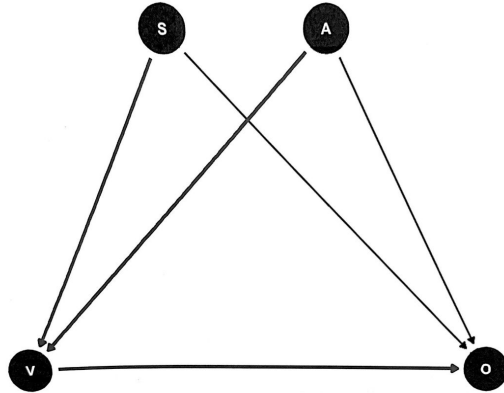
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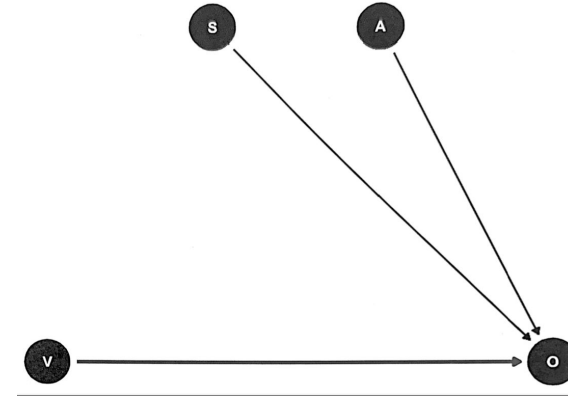


# Goal: Implement Sensitivity Analysis

Observational  
Analysis



RCT



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# Sensitivity Analysis - Classic Nloptr

1. We weight the outcome by the inverse probability of getting a vaccine.
2. Optimization of weights - Sensitivity Analysis for Hidden Bias → using constrained optimization

$$CE(0) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{1}(v_i = 0) \cdot y_i \cdot w_i}{\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{1}(v_i = 0)}$$

$$w_i = \frac{a_i}{\hat{p}(v_i | x_i)}$$



```

1 #Observational Analysis
2
3 dgf_obs <- function(){
4   #1.Get sex and age
5   # 1 = Female
6   # 2 = Male
7   sex <- sample(c(1, 0), 1, prob = c(0.505, 0.495)) #1 means we want to sample one thing
8   age <- 100 * rbeta(1, shape1=2, shape2=5)
9
10  #2. Treatment depends on age and sex
11  #--TREATMENT--
12  # 1 = "EHD"
13  # 2 = "CHD"
14
15  mu_EHD <- (-0.2 * sex) + (0.025 * age) + rnorm(1, 0, 0.1)
16  p_EHD <- 1/(1 + exp(-mu_EHD)) #turns it into a probability
17  if(p_EHD >= 0.5){
18    treatment <- 1
19  } else{
20    treatment <- 0
21  }
22  #3.Observed outcome
23  mu <- (0.3 * sex) + (-0.01 * age) + (0.2 * treatment) #whats the prob that you survived
24  p <- 1/(1 + exp(-mu))
25  if(p > 0.5){ #
26    status <- 1 #"survived"
27  } else {
28    status <- 0 #"did not survive"
29  }
30
31  #Output
32  out <- data.frame(
33    sex = sex,
34    age = age,
35    treatment = treatment,
36    status = status
37  )
38
39  return(out)
40

```

## Sensitivity analysis

```

68
69 #predict weather you got treatment based on age and sex | gives us a probability
70 p <- predict(treatment_model, newdata = data_set, type = "response")
71 summary(p)
72
73
74 propensity <- 1/p #inverse prob
75
76 summary(propensity)
77
78 #---weighting by inverse p-----
79
80 #you got the treatment
81
82 t_1 <- as.numeric(data_set$treatment ==1)
83
84 Y_1 <- sum(data_set$status * propensity * t_1) / sum(t_1 * propensity)
85
86 #you didn't get treatment
87
88 t_0 <- as.numeric(data_set$treatment ==0)
89 Y_0 <- sum(data_set$status * propensity * t_0) / sum(t_0 * propensity)
90
91
92 Y_1 - Y_0
93

```



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# Sensitivity Analysis with Genetic Optimizer

- Goal
  - Conduct sensitivity analysis to give confidence to the treatment effect
- Approach
  - Implement Genetic Algorithm (GA) to characterize the impact of receiving a vaccine on health outcomes for a sample of observations from a simulated RCT
  - Bootstrap the observation sample to determine the minimum G parameter with an estimated treatment effect of 0 with a 95% confidence interval



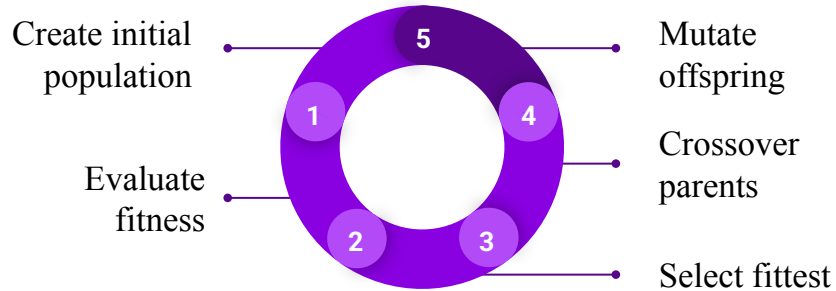
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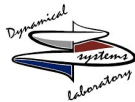
# Genetic Algorithm Overview

- Adaptive heuristic search algorithm based on evolutionary concepts of natural selection
- High dimensional search space
- Uses exploration and exploitation to find optimal solutions
- Operators
  - Selection
  - Crossover
  - Mutation



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# Optimizer Details

## Crossover

```
crossover <- function(X, Y, crossover_rate, G){  
  p <- matrix(runif(length(X), 0, 1), nrow = nrow(X), ncol = ncol(X))  
  doCross <- matrix((p < crossover_rate), nrow = nrow(X), ncol = ncol(X))  
  gamma <- matrix(runif(length(X), 0, 1), nrow = nrow(X), ncol = ncol(X))  
  crosses <- gamma * (X - Y) + X  
  Z <- X  
  Z <- ifelse(doCross, crosses, Z)  
  Z <- ifelse(Z > G, G, Z)  
  Z <- ifelse(Z < (1/G), (1/G), Z)  
  return(Z)  
}
```

## Parameters

```
pop_size <- 1000  
crossover_rate <- 0.5  
mutation_rate <- 0.01  
iters <- 500  
epochs <- 50  
fitness_record <- rep(NA, epochs)  
population <- create_population(  
  pop_size, boot_data, G)
```

## Mutate

```
mutate <- function(offspring, mutation_rate = 0.01, G){  
  p <- matrix(runif(length(offspring), 0, 1), nrow = nrow(offspring),  
    ncol = ncol(offspring))  
  
  m <- matrix(runif(length(offspring), 1/G, G), nrow = nrow(offspring),  
    ncol = ncol(offspring))  
  
  offspring <- ifelse(p < mutation_rate, m, offspring)  
  return(offspring)  
}
```



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# Results

- Sample size of 5000 observations
- At  $G = 1.1$  the estimated treatment effect contained 0 with 95% confidence interval

```
> G
[1] 1.1
> ci
      97.5%      2.5%
-0.02542591  0.38630772
```



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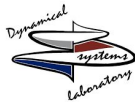
# Conclusion

- Sensitivity Analysis with Nloptr
  - Some next steps: Run more trials using a different optimizer
- Sensitivity Analysis with Genetic Operator
  - A low G value ( $G = 1.1$ ) indicates that the vaccine model is weak and is sensitive to potential hidden biases which caused the results of the experiment to be impacted by a small change



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# Thank you!

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