Gov 2002: Introduction

Fall 2023

Matthew Blackwell

Gov 2002 (Harvard)

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    - Machine learning

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  - Machine learning, deep learning

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    - Understanding your tools will make you better at your craft.
- You should never have to abandon a project because "you don't know how to do it."

Being asked a question about a method you don’t understand in a job talk.

Goals of this course

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Overall goal: be empowered to learn any new method with relative ease.

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- Understand the goals and logistics of the course
- Understand the basic definition of probability

1/ Course Details

Staff

- Instructor: Matthew Blackwell

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- Teaching Fellow: Mitsuru Mukaigawara

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- Course Assistant: Noah Dasanaike

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- Computing:
    - We'll assume knowledge of R Math Prefresher.

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    - This can be painful, but it is **completely normal**
- Success in academia is a mix of: luck, creativity, knowledge, and **consistent hard work**
    - Becoming “fluent” in methods will pay off in the long (and short) run

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- Office hours: ask even more questions.

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- Other good book referenced on syllabus.

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- Make sure R, RStudio, and rmarkdown are all updated and work.

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- Probability $\rightarrow$ Inference $\rightarrow$ Regression

2/ Overview of Probability and Statistics

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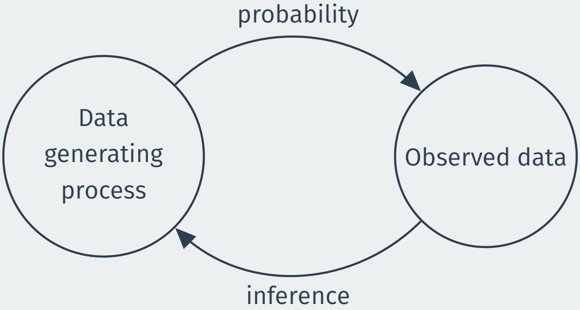

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- Probability to the rescue!