



Data science and neuroinformatics

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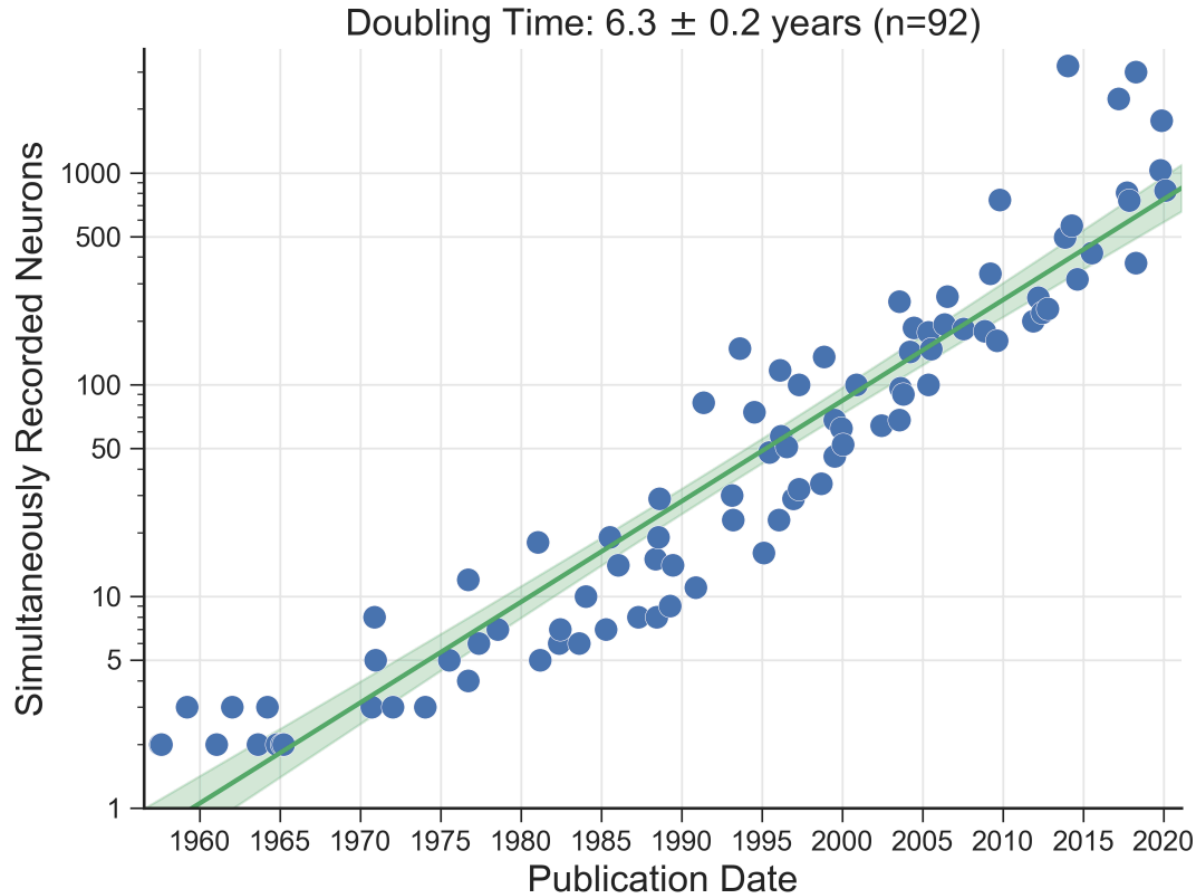
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Outline

- > **Why do we need data science?**
- > **What is data science?**
- > **How did we get here? A historical perspective**
- > **Data science in practice**
- > **Intellectual infrastructure**
- > **This session**



Stevenson and Kording (2011); Updated July 2020



N=1,200; Completed



Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development Study

N=10,000; Ongoing



N=10,000; Ongoing



N=100,000; Ongoing

Data science?

- > **All of the things that need to be in place for us to be able to analyze and understand all that data**
 - Computational infrastructure
 - Statistical analysis techniques
 - Software
 - ...

Data Science: an Action Plan for Expanding the Technical Areas of the Field of Statistics

William S. Cleveland

Statistics Research, Bell Laboratories, 600 Mountain Avenue, Murray Hill NJ07974, USA

E-mail: wsc@research.bell-labs.com

- **(25%) Multidisciplinary Investigations:** data analysis collaborations in a collection of subject matter areas.
- **(20%) Models and Methods for Data:** statistical models; methods of model building; methods of estimation and distribution based on probabilistic inference.
- **(15%) Computing with Data:** hardware systems; software systems; computational algorithms.
- **(15%) Pedagogy:** curriculum planning and approaches to teaching for elementary school, secondary school, college, graduate school, continuing education, and corporate training.
- **(5%) Tool Evaluation:** surveys of tools in use in practice, surveys of perceived needs for new tools, and studies of the processes for developing new tools.
- **(20%) Theory:** foundations of data science; general approaches to models and methods, computing with data, teaching, and tool evaluation; mathematical investigations of models and methods, computing with data, teaching, and evaluation.

20 years of data science!

50 Years of Data Science

David Donoho

THE FUTURE OF DATA ANALYSIS¹

BY JOHN W. TUKEY

Princeton University and Bell Telephone Laboratories

1962



Meanwhile, in Silicon Valley (ca. 2010)

“I was at LinkedIn building the data team, and Jeff Hammerbacher [co-founder of Cloudera] was bustling at Facebook’s data team, and we would collaborate and compare notes sometimes. One of the things we realized was that we didn’t know what to call ourselves, ... Do you call yourself an analyst? It feels too Wall Street. A research scientist or statistician? Feels too academic, ... But because I was working at LinkedIn, I just tested all the job titles we could think of to see which one would get the most interest from job applicants. Turns out that everybody wanted to be a data scientist, so we’re like, OK, that is what we will call ourselves.”

DJ Patil (<https://observer.com/2019/11/data-scientist-inventor-dj-patil-interview-linkedin-job-market-trend/>)

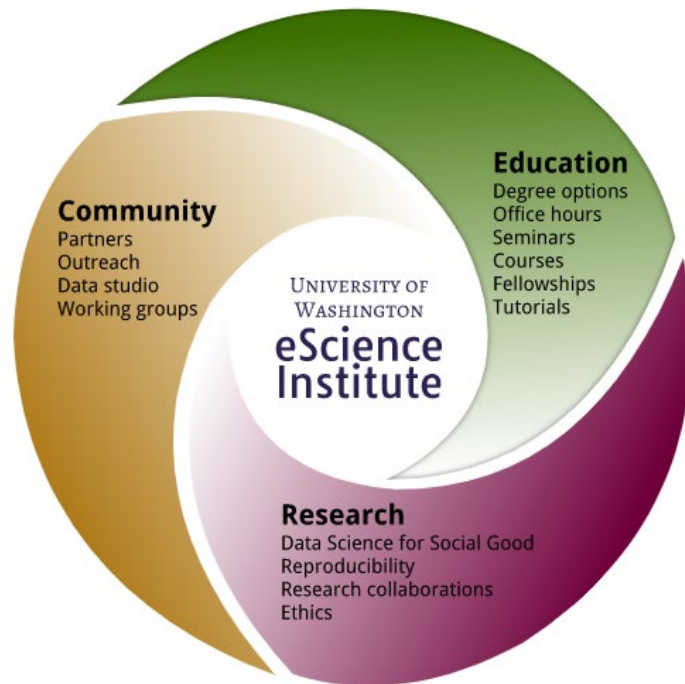
So, what is data science?

- > Not really a scientific discipline?
- > Not really a profession?
- => An engagement with the practice of data analysis

- > Crosses disciplinary boundaries
- > Crosses sectors



Data science in practice



Data science \neq computer science

Data science \neq statistics

Brain data science \subseteq Neuroinformatics

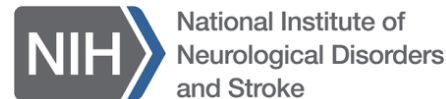
Intellectual infrastructure

- People
- Ideas
- Communities



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- > **Statistics and machine learning**
 - > **Software engineering**
 - > **Open-source software**
 - > **Communities of practice**
-
- **Eva Dyer (GA Tech)**
 - **Mackenzie Mathis (EPFL)**
 - **Franco Pestilli (UT Austin)**

Thanks!



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