

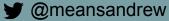
JUNE 2, 1:50 P.M. – 2:50 P.M.

DATA MINING FOR SOCIAL IMPACT



ANDREW MEANS

Cofounder, The Impact Lab Associate Director, Center for Data Science and Public Policy, University of Chicago





DAVID HENDERSON

Director of Analytics, Family Independence Initiative

@david_henderson/ @fiinational



MARK LATONERO

Fellow, Data & Society Research Director, USC Annenberg Center on Communication Leadership & Policy



ROB ACKER

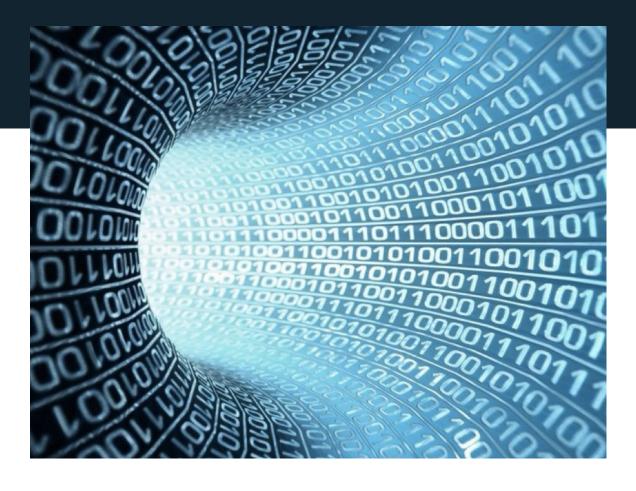
CEO, Salesforce.org





WHAT IS DATA?





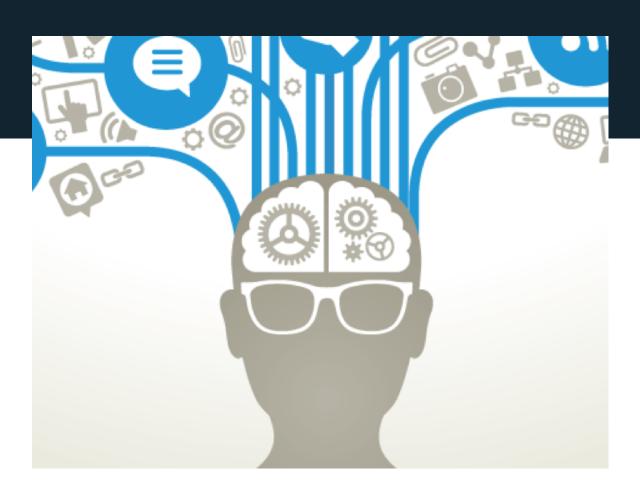
A tunnel of 1s and 0s





A world of 1s and 0s





Whatever this is







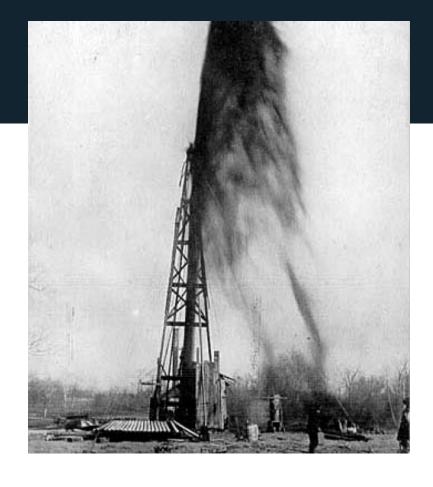


And apparently it's BIG



WHAT IS DATA?





Data is a raw resource



DATA IS WHEN EXPERIENCES, THOUGHTS, MOVEMENT, PLACES, IDEAS, INTERACTIONS, AND MORE ARE *CAPTURED* AND *STORED*.



WHAT IS DATA MINING?

❖ Data mining incorporates the many methods and tools one can use to extract value from the raw resource of data.



THE ROLE OF PREDICTION



PREDICTION vs CAUSATION

The Rain Dance

The Umbrella



PREDICTION vs CAUSATION

Causal Tools

- Regression Analysis
- Randomized Control Trials
- Grounded in the Social Sciences

Predictive Tools

- Random Forests
- Machine Learning
- Drawn from the Computer Sciences

THE LINE BETWEEN CAUSATION AND PREDICTION IS BLURRING.



PREDICTION vs BEST PRACTICES

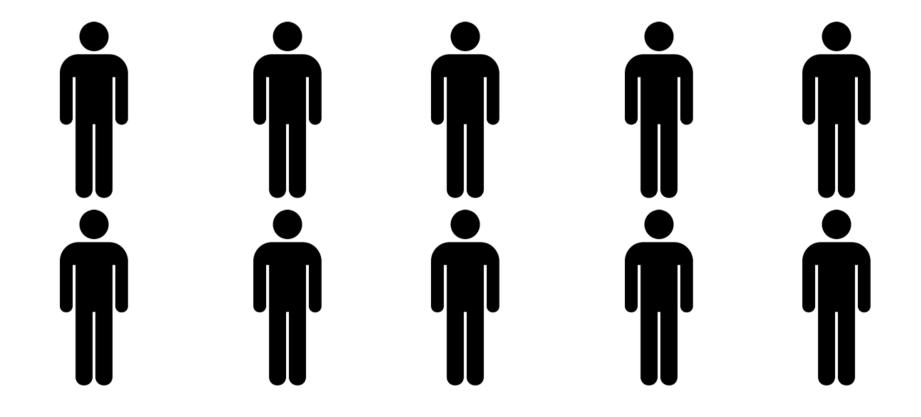
Best Practice

- Generally drawn from the academic literature
- Extrapolated from Randomized Control Trials
- Level of granularity is the program
- Hard to differentiate between similar programs

Prediction

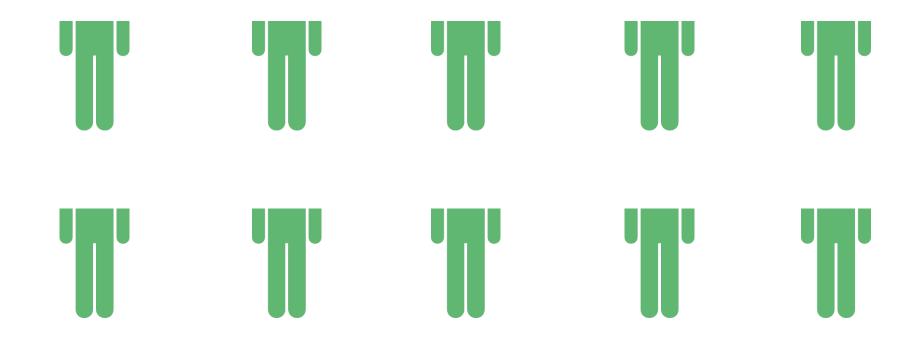
- Created from a variety of data sources
- Models can be designed for each program
- Level of granularity is the individual
- Allows for programs that might appear quite similar to be differentiated

THE BEST PRACTICE PROGRAM



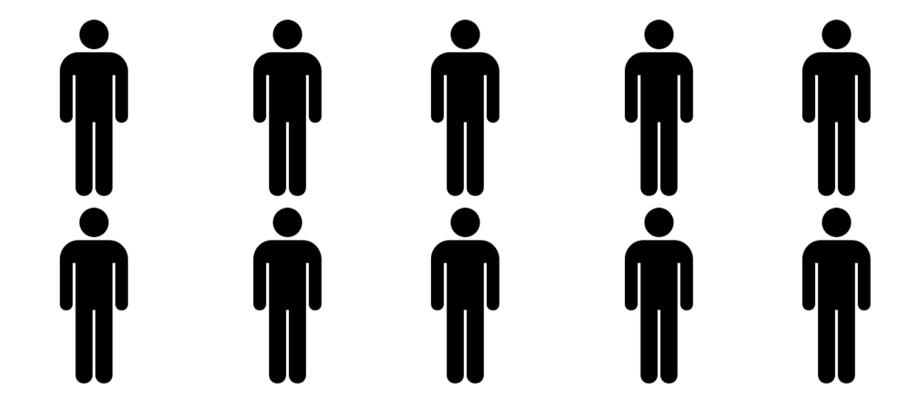


THE BEST PRACTICE PROGRAM



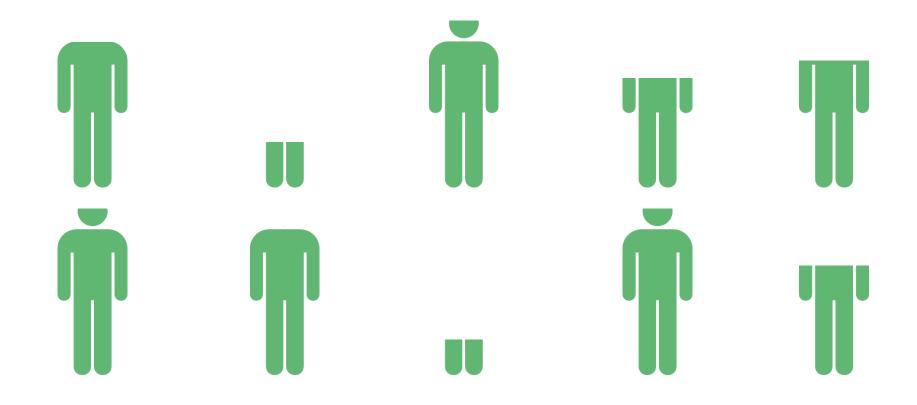


THE PREDICTIVE PROGRAM





THE PREDICTIVE PROGRAM





QUESTIONS WHERE PREDICTION IS USEFUL

- If 500 people applied for my program and I can only enroll 250, who should I let in?
- Who should I apply more resources towards in order to achieve our goal?
- Where should I allocate resources to help the highest number of people?
- Who in my program would have succeeded anyway?
- What interventions should I give someone to maximize outcomes?



BEST PRACTICES ARE IMPORTANT BUT THEY ARE NOT PREDICTIVE



DATA MINING HAS THE POTENTIAL TO DRAMATICALLY CHANGE HOW THE SOCIAL SECTOR WORKS.

