

Bayesian Inference & Statistical Reasoning Blunders

Statistics for Data Science

CSE357 - Fall 2021



Bayes Rule

$$P(A|B) = (P(B|A)P(A)) / P(B)$$

GOAL: Relate $P(A_i|B)$ to $P(B|A_i)$,

for all $i = 1 \dots k$, where $A_1 \dots A_k$ partition Ω

Let's try:

$$(1) P(A_i|B) = P(A_i B) / P(B)$$

$$(2) P(A_i B) / P(B) = P(B|A_i) P(A_i) / P(B), \text{ by multiplication rule}$$

but in practice, we might not know $P(B)$

$$(3) P(B|A_i) P(A_i) / P(B) = P(B|A_i) P(A_i) / \left(\sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i) P(A_i) \right), \text{ by law of total probability}$$

Law of Total Probability

$$P(B) = \sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i) P(A_i)$$

Bayes Rule

$$P(A|B) = (P(B|A)P(A)) / P(B)$$

GOAL: Relate $P(A_i|B)$ to $P(B|A_i)$,

for all $i = 1 \dots k$, where $A_1 \dots A_k$ partition Ω

Let's try:

$$(1) \quad P(A_i|B) = P(A_i B) / P(B)$$

$$(2) \quad P(A_i B) / P(B) = P(B|A_i) P(A_i) / P(B), \text{ by multiplication rule}$$

but in practice, we might not know $P(B)$

$$(3) \quad P(B|A_i) P(A_i) / P(B) = P(B|A_i) P(A_i) / \left(\sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i) P(A_i) \right), \text{ by law of total probability}$$

Bayes Rule

(in practice):

$$P(A_i|B) = \frac{P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}$$

Law of Total Probability

$$P(B) = \sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i)P(A_i)$$

Bayes Inference

$$P(A_i|B) = \frac{P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}$$

Inference, in general, comes in 3 forms:

1. **Point Estimation** -- finding a "best guess" for the value of a particular parameter. (e.g. mean)
2. **Confidence Sets** -- describing some range (interval) in which a parameter is likely to fall. (e.g. 95% CI of mean; "set": multivariate version of "interval")
3. **Hypothesis Testing** -- Given null hypothesis, does data provide enough evidence to reject? (e.g. t-test for difference in means)

Bayes Rule

likelihood *prior*

$$P(A_i|B) = \frac{P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}$$

posterior

marginalization

Bayes Inference

Inference, in general, comes in 3 forms:

1. **Point Estimation** -- finding a "best guess" for the value of a particular parameter. (e.g. mean)
2. **Confidence Sets** -- describing some range (interval) in which a parameter is likely to fall. (e.g. 95% CI of mean; "set": multivariate version of "interval")
3. **Hypothesis Testing** -- Given null hypothesis, does data provide enough evidence to reject? (e.g. t-test for difference in means)

likelihood *prior*

$$P(A_i|B) = \frac{P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}$$

posterior

marginalization

Bayes Inference

Inference, in general, comes in 3 forms:

1. **Point Estimation** -- finding a "best guess" for the value of a particular parameter. (e.g. mean)
2. **Confidence Sets** -- describing some range (interval) in which a parameter is likely to fall. (e.g. 95% CI of mean; "set": multivariate version of "interval")
3. **Hypothesis Testing** -- Given null hypothesis, does data provide enough evidence to reject? (e.g. t-test for difference in means)

Consider that A is a parameter for a distribution. Bayesian Inference allows us to have a **prior** belief about what A is.

likelihood

prior

$$P(A_i|B) = \frac{P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}$$

posterior

marginalization

Bayes Inference

Point-Estimation:

Point = A discrete variable (i.e. a class)

likelihood *prior*

$$P(A_i|B) = \frac{P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}$$

posterior

marginalization

Bayes Inference

Point-Estimation:

Point = A discrete variable (i.e. a class)

Bayes classifier: choose the class most likely according to $P(y|X)$. (y is a class label)

Naive Bayes classifier: Assumes all predictors are independent given y .

$$P(Y = y|A = a, B = b, C = c) = p(y|a)p(y|b)p(y|c)$$

likelihood *prior*

$$P(A_i|B) = \frac{P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}$$

posterior

marginalization

Bayes Inference

Point-Estimation:

Point = A discrete variable (i.e. a class)

Bayes classifier: choose the class most likely according to $P(y|X)$. (y is a class label)

Naive Bayes classifier: Assumes all predictors are independent given y .

$$P(Y = y|A = a, B = b, C = c) = p(y|a)p(y|b)p(y|c)$$

$$P(y|X) = \prod_{i=1}^m P(y|X_i)$$

likelihood *prior*

$$P(A_i|B) = \frac{P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}$$

posterior

marginalization

Bayes Inference

$$P(y|X) = \prod_{i=1}^m P(y|X_i)$$

$$P(y|X) \propto P(y, X_1, \dots, X_m) \propto P(y) \prod_{i=1}^m P(X_i|y)$$

likelihood *prior*

$$P(A_i|B) = \frac{P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}$$

posterior

marginalization

Maximum a Posteriori (MAP): Pick the class with the maximum posterior probability:

$$\hat{y} = \arg \max_y$$

$$P(y) \prod_{i=1}^m P(X_i|y)$$

unnormalized posterior

$$P(y | X)$$

Bayes Inference

$$P(y|X) = \prod_{i=1}^m P(y|X_i)$$

Will be constant, so can ignore.

$$P(y|X) \propto P(y, X_1, \dots, X_m) \propto P(y) \prod_{i=1}^m P(X_i|y)$$

likelihood *prior*

$$P(A_i|B) = \frac{P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^k P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}$$

posterior

marginalization

Maximum a Posteriori (MAP): Pick the class with the maximum posterior probability:

$$\hat{y} = \mathop{\text{arg max}}_y$$

$$P(y) \prod_{i=1}^m P(X_i|y)$$

unnormalized posterior

$$P(y | X)$$

Gaussian Naïve Bayes

Maximum a Posteriori (MAP): Pick the class with the maximum posterior probability:

$$\hat{y} = \arg \max_y$$

$$P(y) \prod_{i=1}^m P(X_i|y)$$

unnormalized posterior

$$P(y | X)$$

Assume $P(X|Y)$ is *Normal* (Y is still discrete)

Gaussian Naïve Bayes

Maximum a Posteriori (MAP): Pick the class with the maximum posterior probability:

$$\hat{y} = \arg \max_y$$

$$P(y) \prod_{i=1}^m P(X_i|y)$$

unnormalized posterior

$$P(y | X)$$

Assume $P(X|Y)$ is *Normal* (Y is still discrete)

Then, to "train" the model, need $P(y)$, $P(X|Y)$ (i.e. find values for the Gaussian X , given y):

1. Estimate the prior: $P(Y = k)$;

$$\pi_k = \text{count}(Y = k) / \text{Count}(Y = *)$$

Gaussian Naïve Bayes

Maximum a Posteriori (MAP): Pick the class with the maximum posterior probability:

$$\hat{y} = \arg \max_y$$

$$P(y) \prod_{i=1}^m P(X_i|y)$$

unnormalized posterior

$$P(y | X)$$

Assume $P(X|Y)$ is *Normal* (Y is still discrete)

Then, to "train" the model, need $P(y)$, $P(X|Y)$ (i.e. find values for the Gaussian X , given y):

1. Estimate the prior: $P(Y = k)$;
 $\pi_k = \text{count}(Y = k) / \text{Count}(Y = *)$
2. Use MLE to find parameters of likelihood $P(X|Y)$:
 μ, σ , for each class of Y . (the "class conditional distribution")

Gaussian Naïve Bayes



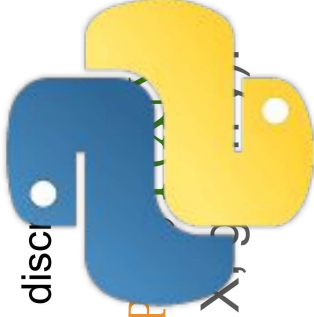
MAP: Pick the class with the highest probability:

$$\hat{y} = \arg \max_y$$

$$P(y) \prod_{i=1}^m P(X_i|y)$$

unnormalized posterior

$$P(y | X)$$



Assume X_i is **Normal** (Y is still discrete). To build a model, need **parameters** of the Gaussian $X_i|y$.

1. Estimate the prior: $P(Y = k)$;
 $\pi_k = \text{count}(Y = k) / \text{Count}(Y = *)$
2. Use MLE to find parameters of likelihood $P(X|Y)$:
 μ, σ , for each class of Y . (the “class conditional distribution”)

Statistical Reasoning Blunders

Case Study: COVID-19

Statistical Reasoning Blunders

Case Study: COVID-19

- Base rate fallacy: effect on false-positive and false-negatives
- Availability heuristic: Effect on evaluation of people/groups
- Causal Confounds: Understanding case/death rates
- Measurement Bias/Confounds: Relation of Twitter to Real World

Base Rate Fallacy

Effect on false-positive and false-negatives

Sensitivity: $\frac{|\text{True Positives}|}{|\text{Actual Positives}|}$: $P(\text{test}=\text{True} \mid \text{disease}=\text{True})$

Specificity: $\frac{|\text{True Negatives}|}{|\text{Actual Negatives}|}$: $P(\text{test}=\text{False} \mid \text{disease}=\text{False})$



(plot source: NYT U.S. Coronavirus Data)

Base Rate Fallacy

Effect on false-positive and false-negatives

The test has a true positive



(plot source: NYT U.S. Coronavirus Data)

Base Rate Fallacy

Effect on false-positive and false-negatives

Sensitivity: $\frac{|\text{True Positives}|}{|\text{Actual Positives}|}$: $P(\text{test}=\text{True} \mid \text{disease}=\text{True})$

Specificity: $\frac{|\text{True Negatives}|}{|\text{Actual Negatives}|}$: $P(\text{test}=\text{False} \mid \text{disease}=\text{False})$

$P(\text{disease} = \text{True} \mid \text{test} = \text{True})$



(plot source: NYT U.S. Coronavirus Data)

Base Rate Fallacy

Effect on false-positive and false-negatives

Sensitivity: $|\text{True Positives}| / |\text{Actual Positives}| : P(\text{test}=\text{True} \mid \text{disease}=\text{True})$

Specificity: $|\text{True Negatives}| / |\text{Actual Negatives}| : P(\text{test}=\text{False} \mid \text{disease}=\text{False})$

Precision (PPV): $|\text{True Positives}| / |\text{Predicted Positive}| : P(\text{disease} = \text{True} \mid \text{test} = \text{True})$



(plot source: NYT U.S. Coronavirus Data)

Base Rate Fallacy

Effect on false-positive and false-negatives

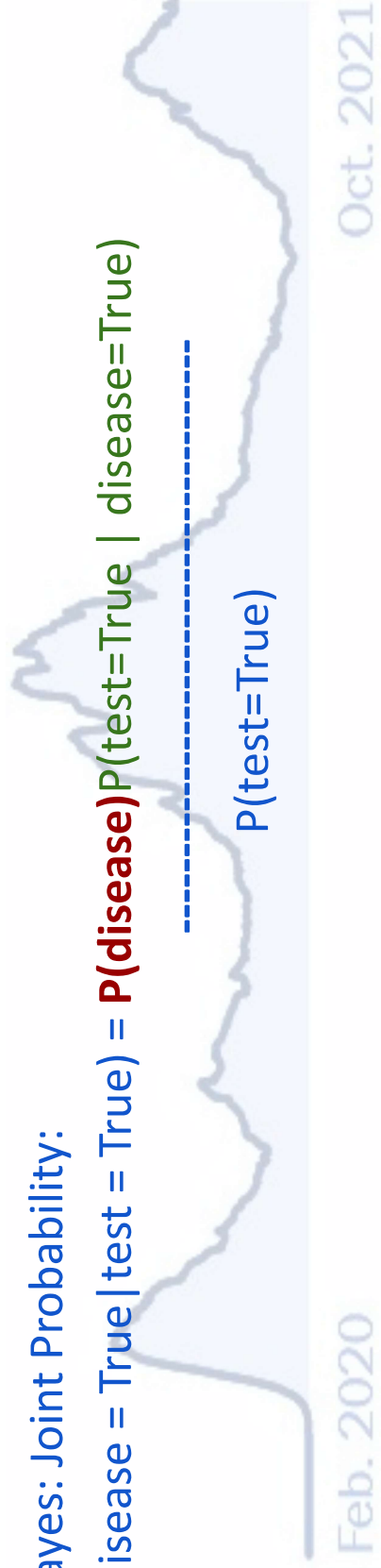
Sensitivity: $| \text{True Positives} | / | \text{Actual Positives} | : P(\text{test}=\text{True} \mid \text{disease}=\text{True})$

Specificity: $| \text{True Negatives} | / | \text{Actual Negatives} | : P(\text{test}=\text{False} \mid \text{disease}=\text{False})$

Precision (PPV): $| \text{True Positives} | / | \text{Predicted Positive} | : P(\text{disease} = \text{True} \mid \text{test} = \text{True})$

Using Bayes: Joint Probability:

$$P(\text{disease} = \text{True} \mid \text{test} = \text{True}) = P(\text{disease})P(\text{test}=\text{True} \mid \text{disease}=\text{True})$$



(plot source: NYT U.S. Coronavirus Data)

Linda is 31 years old, single, outspoken, and very bright. She majored in philosophy. As a student, she was deeply concerned with issues of discrimination and social justice, and also participated in anti-nuclear demonstrations. Which is more probable?

1. Linda is a bank teller.
2. Linda is a bank teller and vaccinated.

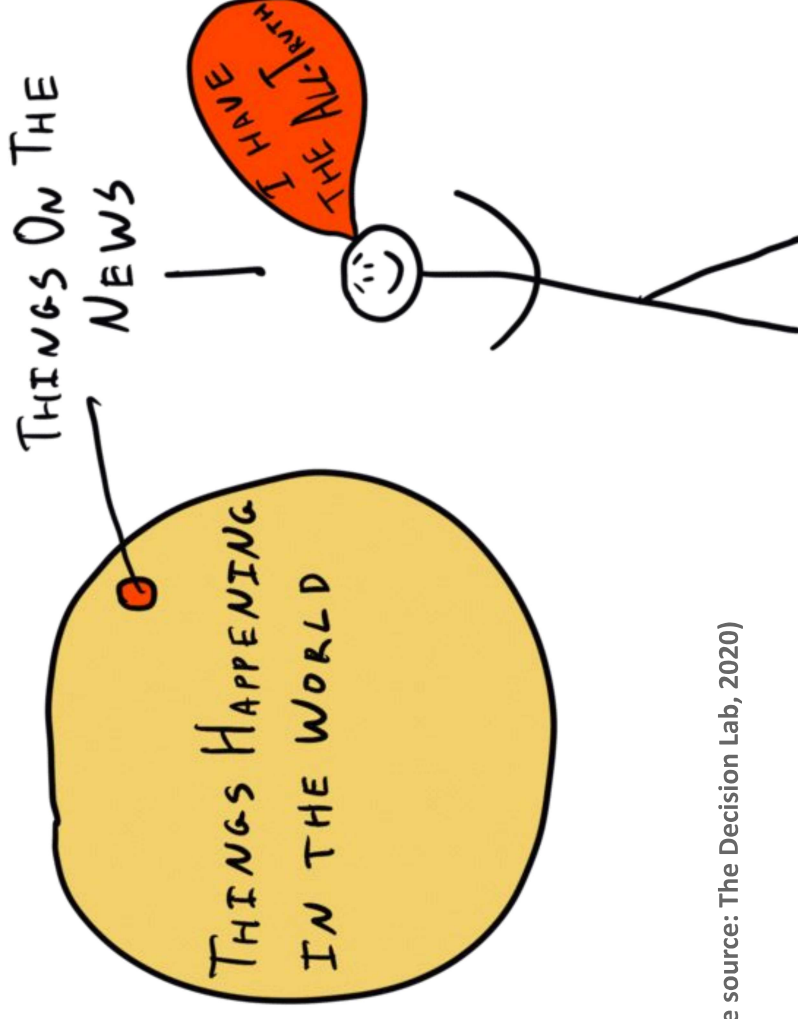
Availability heuristic

Effect on evaluation of people/groups

(image source: The Decision Lab, 2020)

Availability heuristic

Effect on evaluation of people/groups



(image source: The Decision Lab, 2020)

Availability heuristic

Effect on evaluation of people/groups

Linda is 31 years old, single, outspoken, and very bright. She majored in philosophy. As a student, she was deeply concerned with issues of discrimination and social justice, and also participated in anti-nuclear demonstrations. Which is more probable?

1. Linda is a bank teller.
2. Linda is a bank teller and is active in the feminist movement.

Causal Confounds

Understanding case/death rates

Case Rates:

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/us/covid-cases.html>

Role of Excess Deaths:

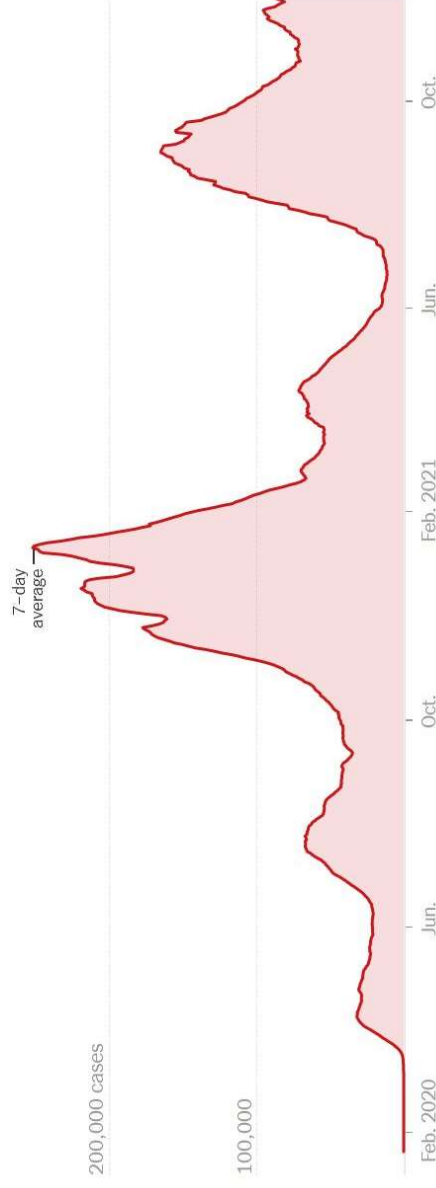
<https://www.economist.com/graphic-detail/coronavirus-excess-deaths-tracker>

Causal Confounds

US Cases

All time

Last 90 days



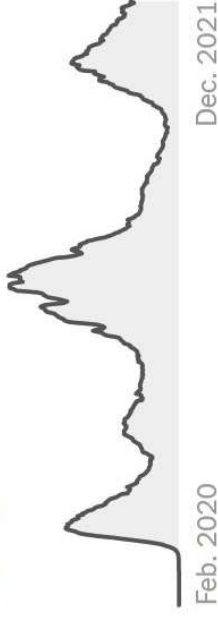
Tests



Hospitalized



Deaths



Causal Confounds

US Cases

All time

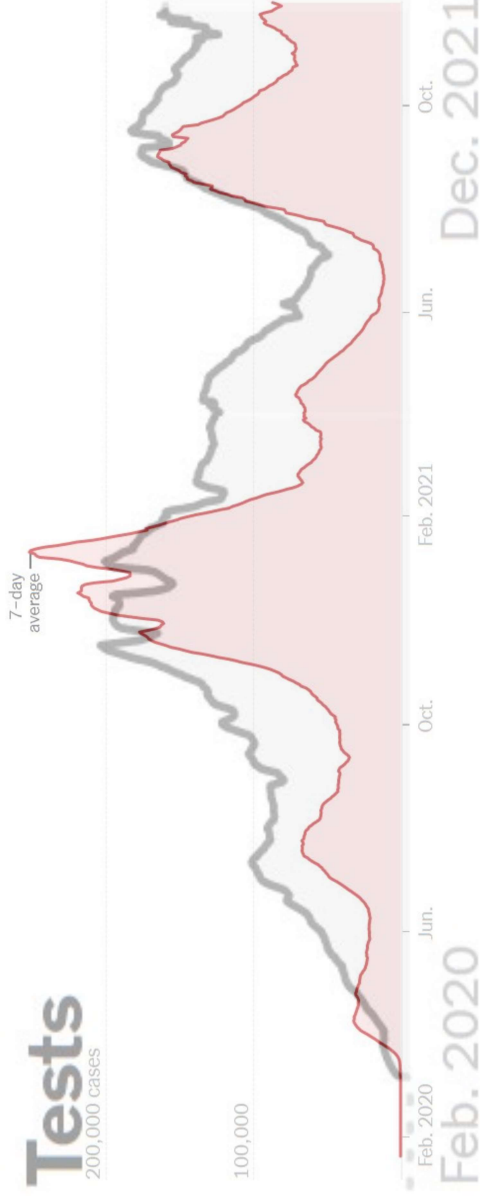
Last 90 days

Tests

200,000 cases

100,000

7-day average



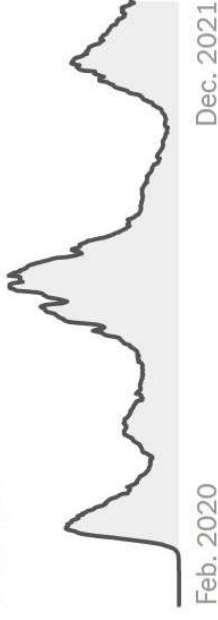
Tests



Hospitalized



Deaths



Causal Confounds

US Cases

All time Last 90 days

Hospitalized

200,000 cases

7-day average

100,000

Feb. 2020 Jun. Oct. Feb. 2021 Jun. Oct. Dec. 2021

Tests

Feb. 2020

Dec. 2021

Hospitalized

Feb. 2020

Dec. 2021

Deaths

Feb. 2020

Dec. 2021

Causal Confounds

Hospitalized



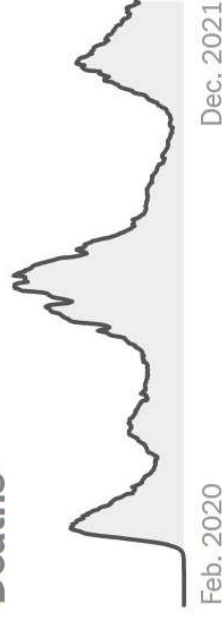
Tests



Hospitalized



Deaths



Causal Confounds

Understanding case/death rates

Case Rates:

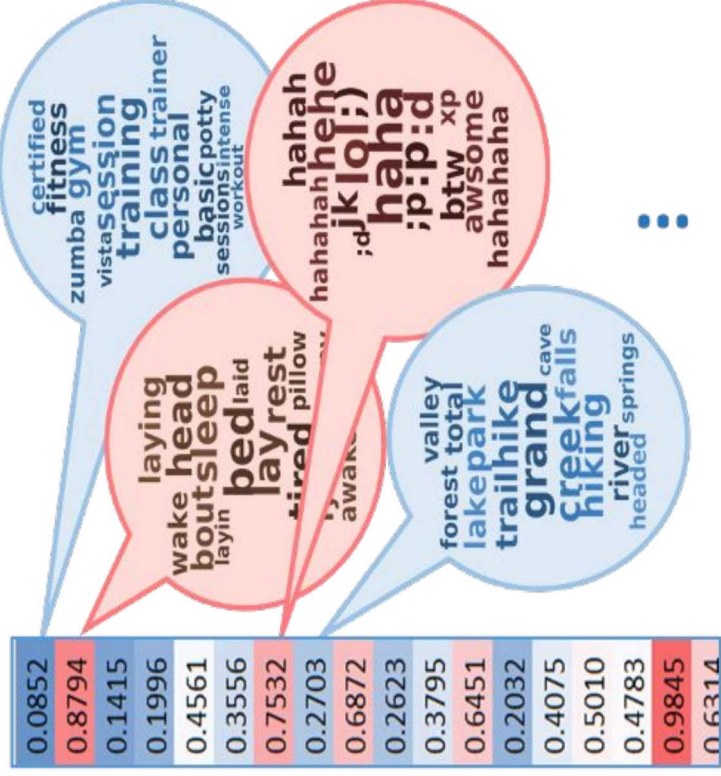
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/us/covid-cases.html>

Role of Excess Deaths:

<https://www.economist.com/graphic-detail/coronavirus-excess-deaths-tracker>

Measurement Bias/Confounds

Twitter assessment of community well-being

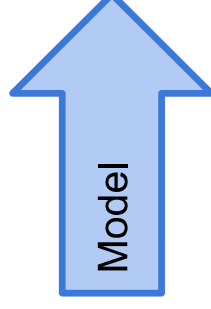


Measurement Bias/Confounds

Twitter assessment of community well-being



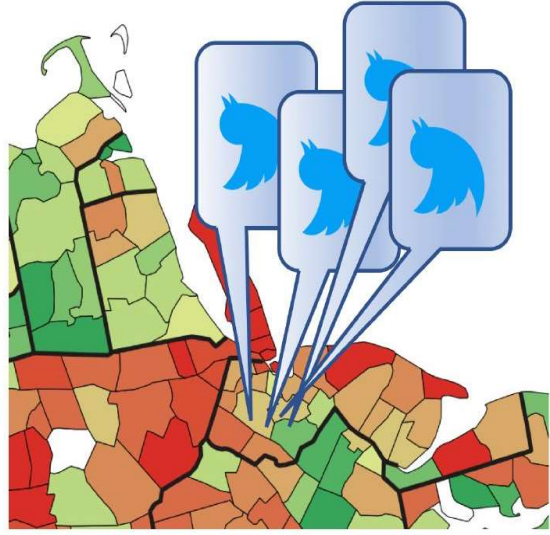
0.0852	0.8794	0.1415	0.1996	0.4561	0.3556	0.7532	0.2703	0.6872	0.2623	0.3795	0.6451	0.2032	0.4075	0.5010	0.4783	0.9845	0.6314
--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------



Depression

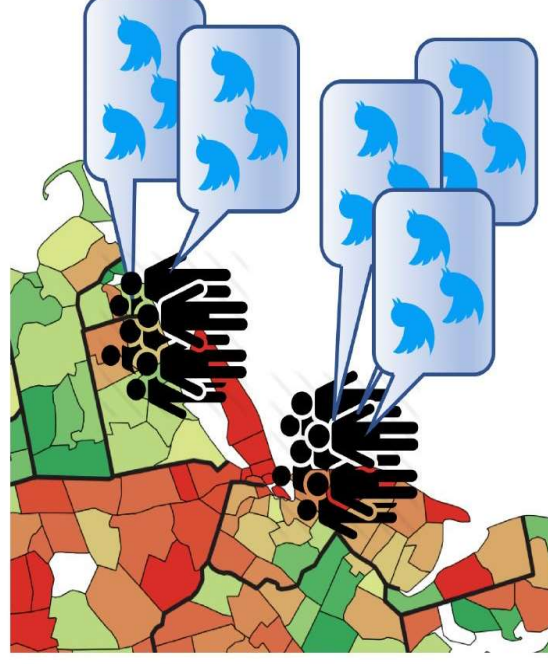
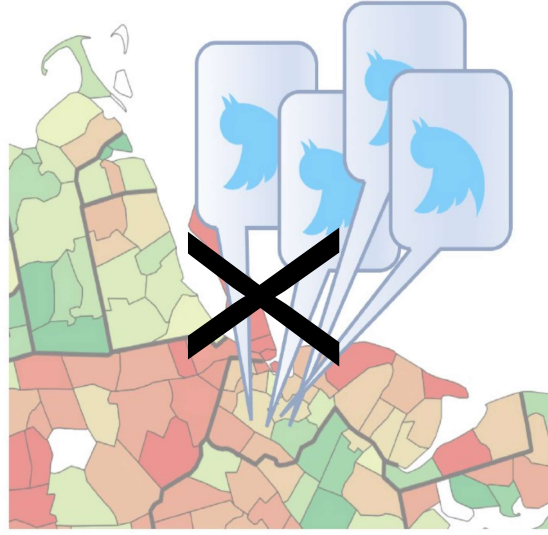
Measurement Bias/Confounds

(Giorgi, Preotiuc-Petro, Buffone,
Reiman, Ungar, Schwartz, 2018)

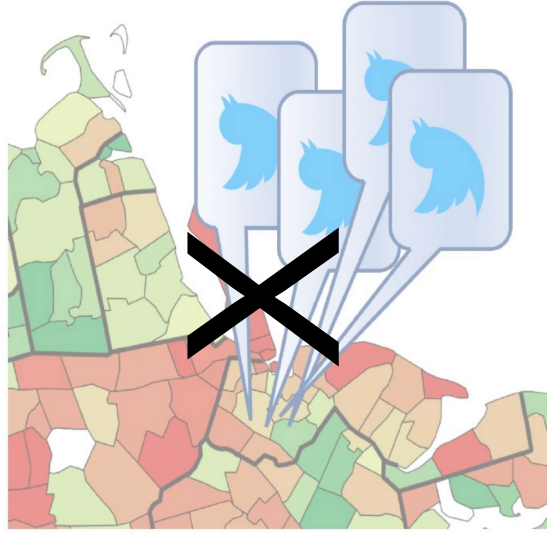


Measurement Bias/Confounds

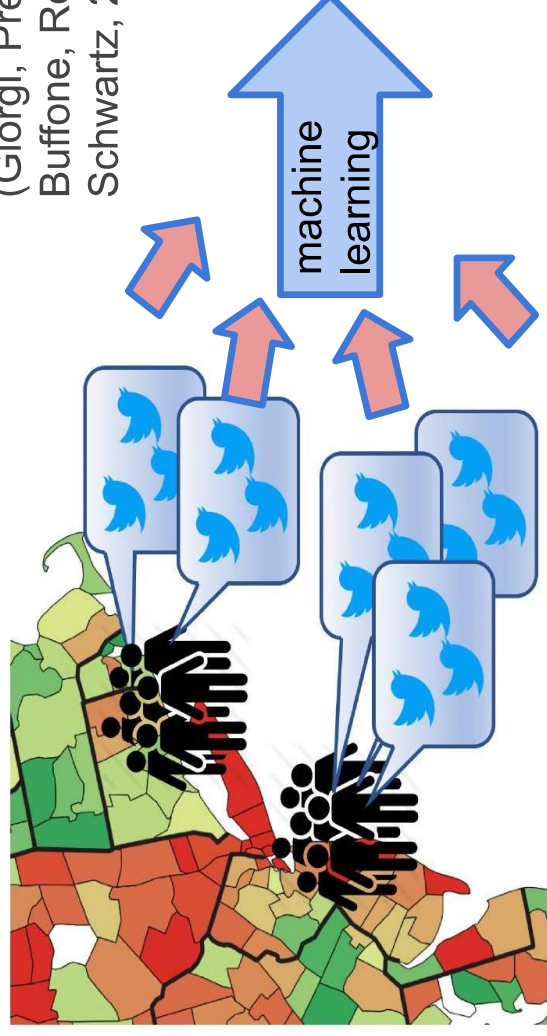
(Giorgi, Preotiu-Petro, Buffone, Reiman, Ungar, Schwartz, 2018)



Measurement Bias/Confounds

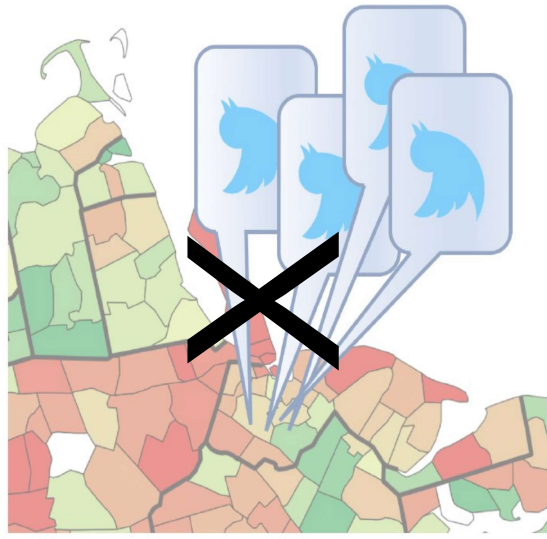


(Giorgi, Preotiu-Petro,
Buffone, Reiman, Ungar,
Schwartz, 2018)

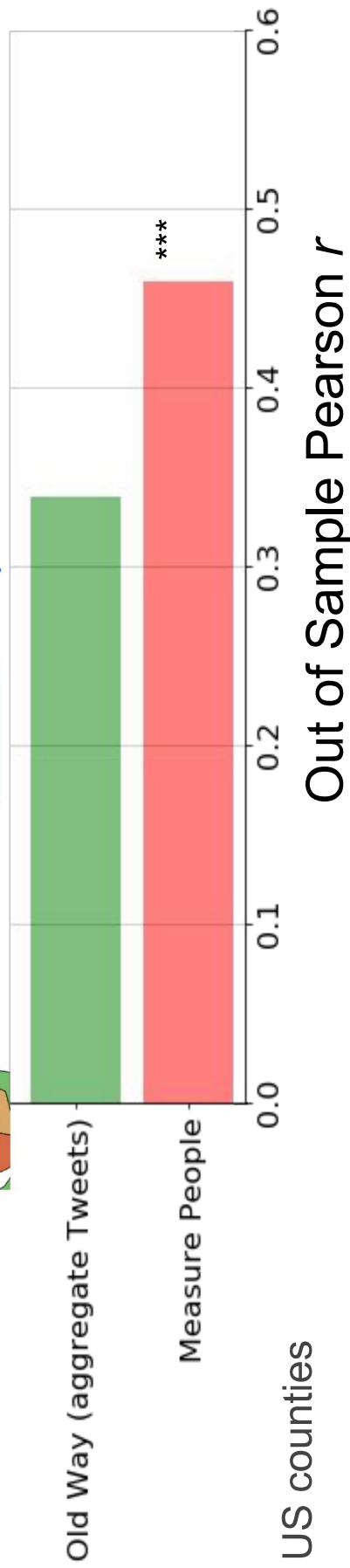
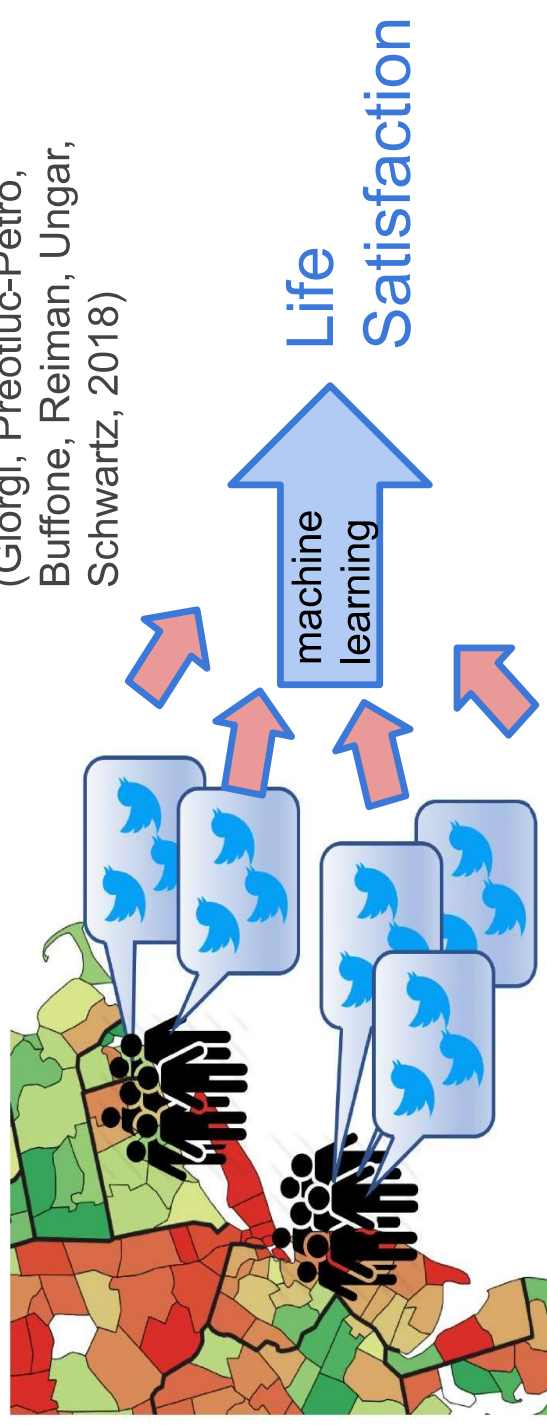


Life
Satisfaction

Measurement Bias/Confounds



(Giorgi, Preotiu-Petro, Buffone, Reiman, Ungar, Schwartz, 2018)



$N = 2040$ US counties