Geographic Data Science -Lecture II

Modern Computational Environments

Dani Arribas-Bel

How does Science "get done"?

- Reproducibility in Science
- Modern scientific tools
- JupyterLab demo

Reproducibility in Science

In the old days...







Reproducibility

- Ability to reproduce scientific procedures (e.g. experiments, results)
- Key to the scientific endeavour
- Embedded in early work

But...









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Duke University is at the center of a whistleblower lawsuit concerning potential research misconduct. USCHOOLS UNIVERSITY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Whistleblower sues Duke, claims doctored data helped win \$200 million in grants

By Alison McCook, Retraction Watch | Sep. 1, 2016, 2:00 PM

On a Friday in March 2013, a researcher working in the lab of a prominent pulmonary scientist at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, was arrested on charges of embezzlement. The researcher, biologist Erin Potts-Kant, later pled guilty to siphoning more than \$25,000 from the Duke University Health System, buying merchandise from Amazon, Walmart, and Target—even faking receipts to legitimize her purchases. A state judge ultimately levied a fine, and sentenced her to probation and community service.

Then Potts-Kant's troubles got worse. Duke officials took a closer look at her work and didn't like what they saw. Fifteen of her papers, mostly dealing with pulmonary biology, have now been retracted, with many notices citing "unreliable" data. Several others have been modified with either partial retractions, expressions of concern, or corrections. And last month, a U.S. district court unsealed a whistleblower lawsuit filed by a former colleague of Potts-Kant. It accuses the researcher, her former supervisor, and the university of including fraudulent data in applications and reports involving more than 60 grants worth some \$200 million. If successful, the suit—brought under the federal False Claims Act (FCA)—could force Duke to return to the government up to three times the amount of any ill-gotten funds, and produce a multimillion-dollar payout to the whistleblower.

The Duke case "should scare all [academic] institutions around the country," says attorney Joel

April 18, 2013, 11:31 AM GMT+1

FAQ: Reinhart, Rogoff, and the Excel Error That Changed History

By Peter Coy



PHOTOGRAPH BY GREGOR SCHUSTER

Harvard University economists Carmen Reinhart and Kenneth Rogoff have acknowledged making a spreadsheet calculation mistake in a 2010 research paper, "<u>Growth in a Time of Debt</u>" (PDF), which has been widely cited to justify budget-cutting. But the authors stand by their conclusion that higher government debt is associated with slower economic growth. Here's what you need to know:

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NATURE | NEWS

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Over half of psychology studies fail reproducibility test

Largest replication study to date casts doubt on many published positive results.

Monya Baker

27 August 2015

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Don't trust everything you read in the psychology literature. In fact, two thirds of it should probably be distrusted.

In the biggest project of its kind, Brian Nosek, a social psychologist and head of the Center for Open Science in Charlottesville, Virginia, and 269 co-authors repeated work reported in 98 original papers from three psychology journals, to see if they independently came up with the same results.

The studies they took on ranged from whether expressing insecurities perpetuates them to



Brian Nosek's team set out to replicate scores of studies.

differences in how children and adults respond to fear stimuli, to effective ways to teach arithmetic.

Modern Scientific Tools

Reproducible Science

- Transparent (computational) processes
- Enough detail to reproduce the entire analysis
- Efficient model of reusability (D.R.Y.)

Building Blocks

- Computational Notebooks
- Open-Source Packages
- Open Platforms

Computational Notebooks

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inventions of modernity. Before it was developed in the 1600s, results were communicated privately in letters, ephemerally in lectures, or all at once in books. There was no public forum for *incremental* advances. By making room for reports of single experiments or minor technical advances, journals made the chaos of science accretive. Scientists from that point forward became like the social insects: They made their progress steadily, as a buzzing mass.



Notebooks can be shared with

and the Jupyter Notebook Viewer.

Jupyter supports over 40

Python, R, Julia, and Scala.

programming languages, including

Your code can produce rich, others using email, Dropbox, GitHub interactive output: HTML, images, videos, LaTeX, and custom MIME

types.

Leverage big data tools, such as Apache Spark, from Python, R and Scala. Explore that same data with pandas, scikit-learn, ggplot2, TensorFlow.

Big data integration

Spail

Install the Notebook



Computational Notebooks

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		Loading up spatial data			
		The most direct way to get from a file to a quick visualization of the data is by loading it as a GeoDataFrame and calling the			
		plot command. The main library employed for all of this is geopandas which is a geospatial extension of the pandas library,			
		already introduced before. geopandas supports exactly the same functionality that pandas does (in fact since it is built on top			
		of it, so most of the underlying machinery is pure pandas), plus a wide range of spatial counterparts that make manipulation and general "munging" of spatial data very similar to non-spatial tables.			
		In two lines of code, we will obtain a graphical representation of the spatial data contained in a file that can be in many formats; actually, since it uses the same drivers under the hood, you can load pretty much the same kind of vector files that QGIS permits. Let us start by plotting single layers in a crude but quick form, and we will build style and sophistication into our plots later on.			
		Polygons			
		Let us begin with the most common type of spatial data in the social science: polygons. For example, we can load the geography of LSOAs in Liverpool with the following lines of code:			
	In [3]:	<pre>lsoas_link = lcp_dir + 'shapefiles/Liverpool_lsoal1.shp' lsoas = gpd.read_file(lsoas_link)</pre>			
		Now lacas is a GeoDataFrame. Very similar to a traditional, non-spatial DataFrame, but with an additional column called geometry:			
	In [4]:	lsoas.head()			
	Out[4]:				
		LSOA11CD geometry			
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		This allows us to quickly produce a plot by executing the following line:			
	In [5]:	<pre>lsoas.plot()</pre>			
	Out[5]:	<matplotlib.axessubplots.axessubplot 0x7f3ldcbd5400="" at=""></matplotlib.axessubplots.axessubplot>			
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		This might not be the most aesthetically pleasant visual representation of the LSOAs geography, but it is hard to argue it is not quick to produce. We will work on styling and customizing spatial plots later on.			
			-		

One-file documents:

- (Executable) code
- Output
- Narrative text

Open-Source Packages

D.R.Y. (Don't Repeat Yourself)

- Encapsulate reusable functionality
- Easy access + more reliable (if package is good!)
- Code available (free as in beer... but also as in speech!)



Platforms

Hardware and low-level software (OS) that supports computations

Change of models:

- Desktop Vs cloud
- Integrated Vs distributed
- Native installation Vs virtualisation/containerisation

Examples

Ligo gravitational waves



2019

The Spectator Index @spectatorindex

IMAGE: Reaction of Katie Bouman, who led the creation of an algorithm to produce first image of black hole.





1:15 AM · Apr 11, 2019 · TweetDeck

2.5K Retweets 8.5K Likes

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



The Event Horizon Telescope--a planet-scale array of ground-based radio telescopes--has obtained the first image of a supermassive black hole and its shadow. The image reveals the central black hole of Messier 37, anaxies qualax in the Virgo cluster. PHOTOGRAFH BY EVENT HORIZON TELESCOPE COLLABORATION

SCIENCE & INNOVATION | STARSTRUCK

First-ever picture of a black hole unveiled

Using a telescope the size of the planet, astronomers have captured the first image of this space oddity. Here's why that matters.

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PUBLISHED APRIL 10, 2019

BY NADIA DRAKE

JupyterLab (live) demo



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