

Applied and Industrial Mathematics Institute for Secondary Teachers

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WPI

Outline

- A stranger in a strange land.
 - Working as a mathematician in industry
- A current area of interest at the intersection of academics and industry
 - Data Science
- How can you get involved!?
 - There are many beautiful Data Science problems that are accessible to high school students
- Most importantly, please ask questions!



If we are going to talk Data Science then we need some data!

A pop quiz...

- How many people know what Data Science is?
(I didn't for a long time :-)
- How many people have used "data" when
reaching a class?
- How many people have heard of the
programming language Python?



Who am I?



- I am currently a professor at Worcester Polytechnic Institute
- I came to WPI three years ago as one of the two hires to kick off the WPI Data Science Program
- Before coming to WPI I was program director at a small company (50 people), and before that I worked at the California Institute of Technology and another small company (3 people!).

An example of a place where
mathematicians work

<http://www.numerica.us/>

What did I do here?



Many others!



MITRE



Google



WPI

Job titles can be deceiving...



<http://www.everett-mead.co.uk/insurance-its-a-confusing-old-game/>

Job Title	%
statistician	17
analyst/ modeler	20
researcher	21
management title	15
consultant	9
engineer	7
software developer/programming	11

Table 6a: Job titles from survey



A current really hot area

Data Science

<https://hbr.org/2012/10/data-scientist-the-sexiest-job-of-the-21st-century/>



Data Science

Vs

Data Literacy

Vs

Data Analytics

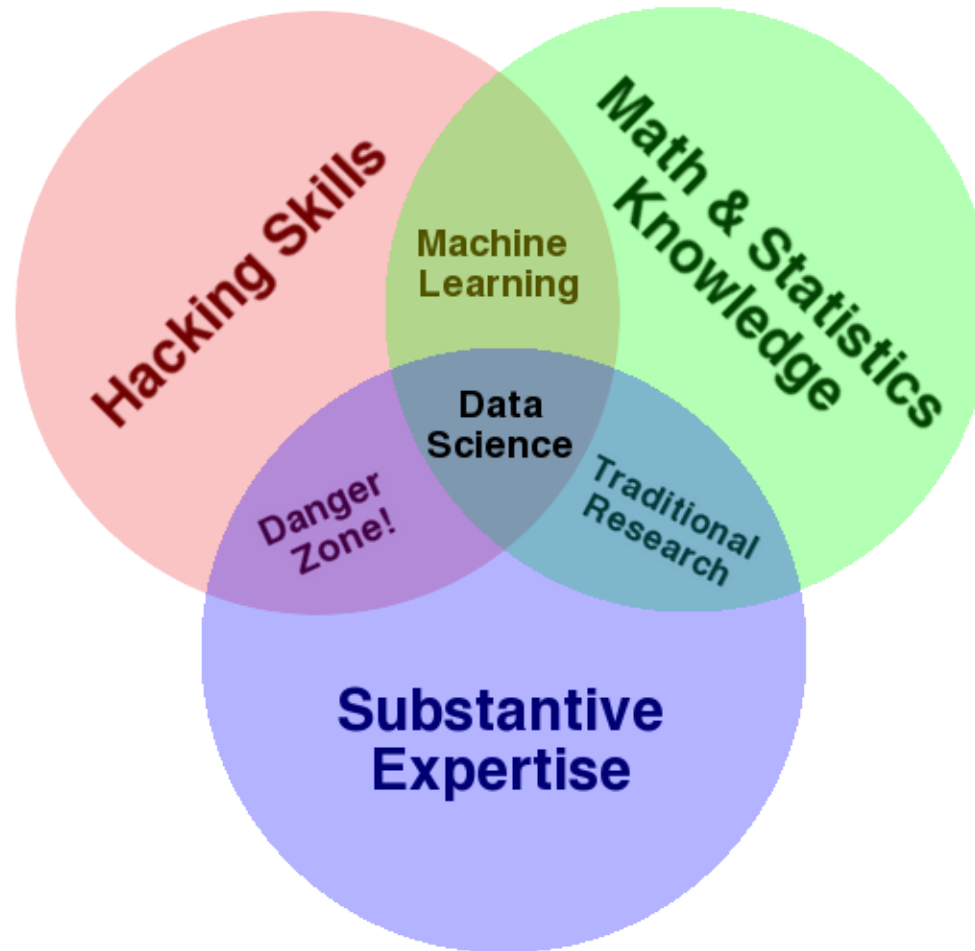


What is Data Science?

- What do **you** think it is?
- What do you need to know to do it?
- How is it used?



What is Data Science?



- Based upon Drew Conway's Data Science Venn Diagram
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Data_science
 - <http://drewconway.com/zia/2013/3/26/the-data-science-venn-diagram>

Data Literacy – Your turn to work

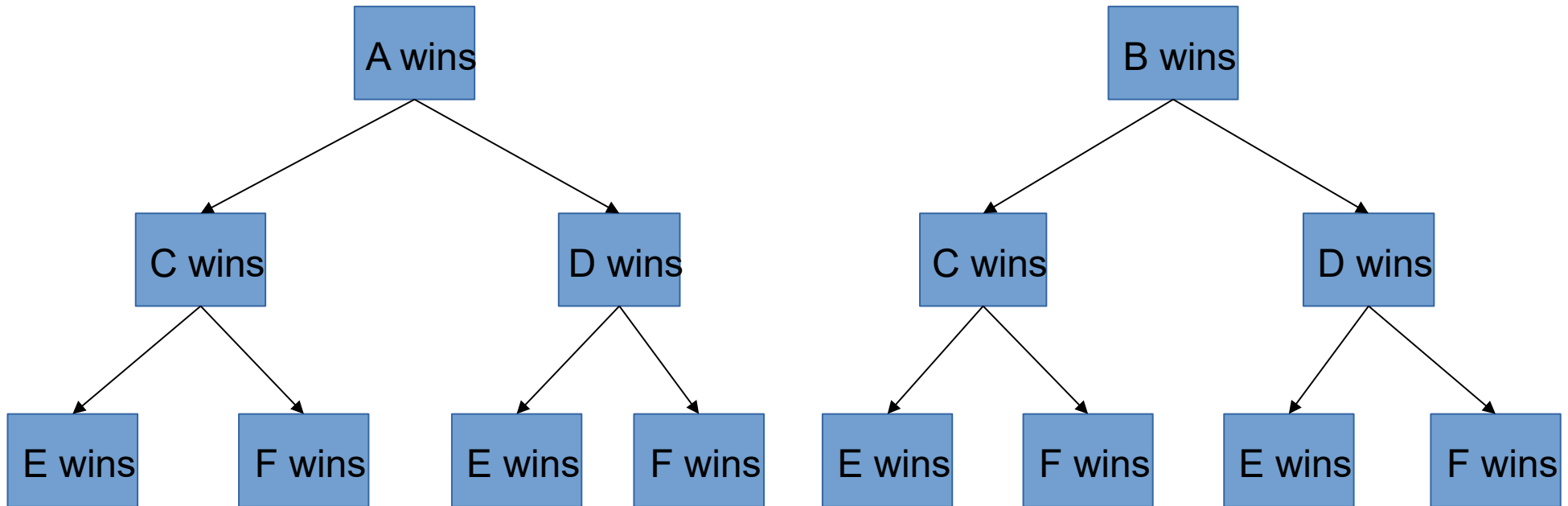
Warm up problem



"2013 Alabama A-Day spring football game" by Patriarca12 - Own work. Licensed under CC BY 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons - https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:2013_Alabama_A-Day_spring_football_game.jpg#/media/File:2013_Alabama_A-Day_spring_football_game.jpg

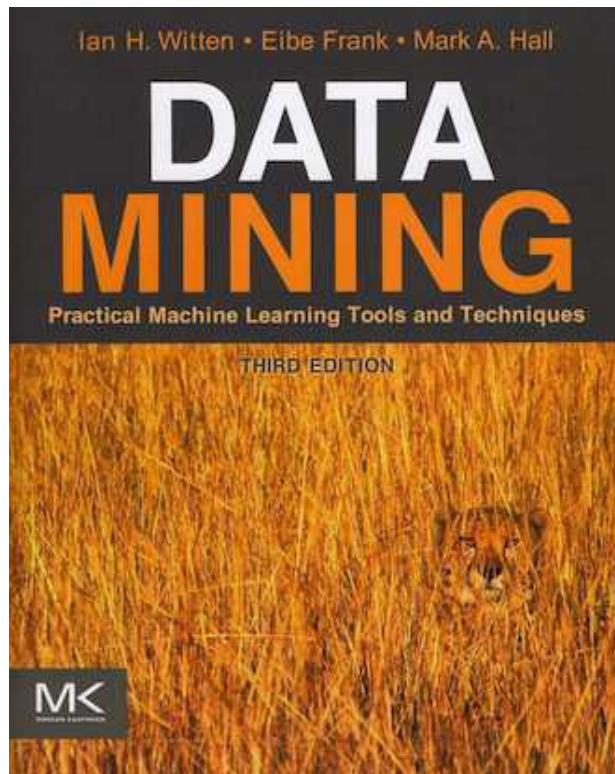


Data Literacy – Warm up problem



It can be easy to fool yourself!

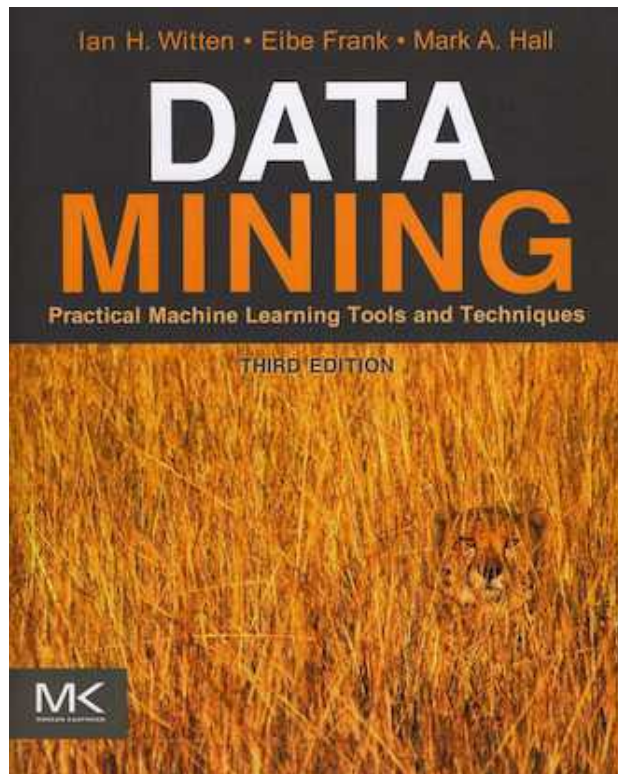
Human beings are really good at pattern detection...



It can be easy to fool yourself!

Human beings are really good at pattern detection...

Perhaps a bit too good!



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cydonia_\(region_of_Mars\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cydonia_(region_of_Mars))



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It can be easy to fool yourself!



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cydonia_\(region_of_Mars\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cydonia_(region_of_Mars))

Since statistical rigor is so important,
let's do a little fun math!

One of the things that opens students eyes to why
combining math with data is important.



Base Rate Fallacy

- The Base Rate Fallacy is a **very** common error that people make when interpreting data.
 - It is quite easy to describe (and hopefully understand).
 - It does not require very much mathematical background.
 - It demonstrates that our intuition can lead us astray.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Base_rate_fallacy



Base Rate Fallacy

Suppose you have taken a test for a deadly disease.

The doctor tells you that the test is quite accurate, in that, if you have the disease then the test will correctly tell you that you have the disease **100%** of the time.

However, if you don't have the disease, the test will very occasionally (**say 1 time in 10**) mistakenly tell you that you have it.

The test comes back positive (it says you have the disease)! **Are you worried!?**

In particular, can you **estimate the probability** that you actually have the disease given that the test came back positive?



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https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:US_Navy_060105-N-8154G-010_A_hospital_corpsman_with_the_Blood_Donor_Team_from_Portsmouth_Naval_Hospital_takes_samples_of_blood_from_a_donor_for_testing.jpg#/media/File:US_Navy_060105-N-8154G-010_A_hospital_corpsman_with_the_Blood_Donor_Team_from_Portsmouth_Naval_Hospital_takes_samples_of_blood_from_a_donor_for_testing.jpg



Base Rate Fallacy

- What is your estimate?
 - A) 99% probability I have the disease
 - B) 90% probability I have the disease
 - C) 50% probability I have the disease
 - D) 10% probability I have the disease
 - E) I don't know and I am mad at you for asking me!

The importance of asking the right question.

I was told the *probability* that I failed the test *given* that I have the disease.

$$Pr(\text{I fail the test} | \text{I have the disease})$$

I was told the *probability* that I failed the test *given* that I don't have the disease.

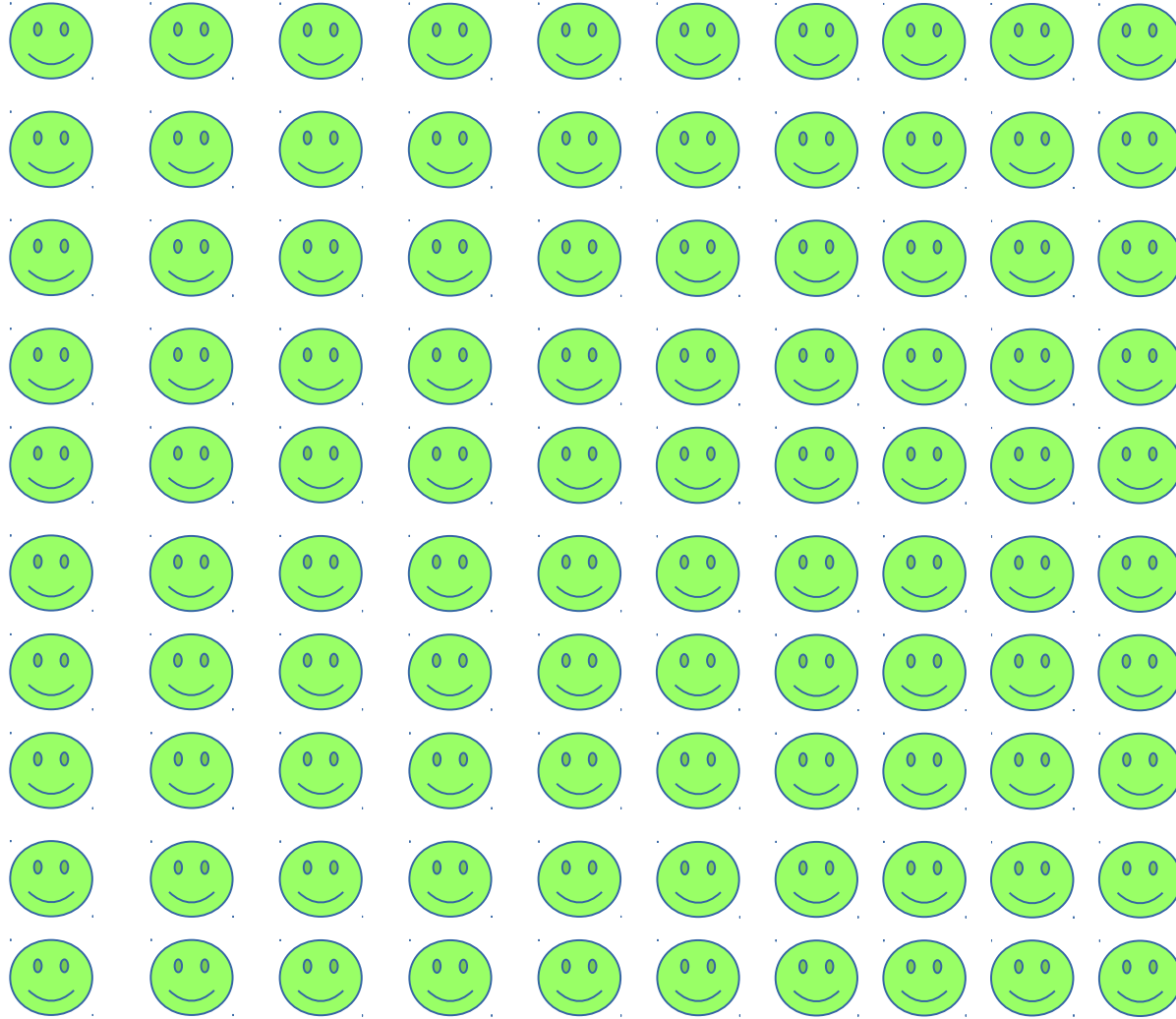
$$Pr(\text{I fail the test} | \text{I don't have the disease})$$

I want to know the *probability* that I have the disease *given* that I failed the test.

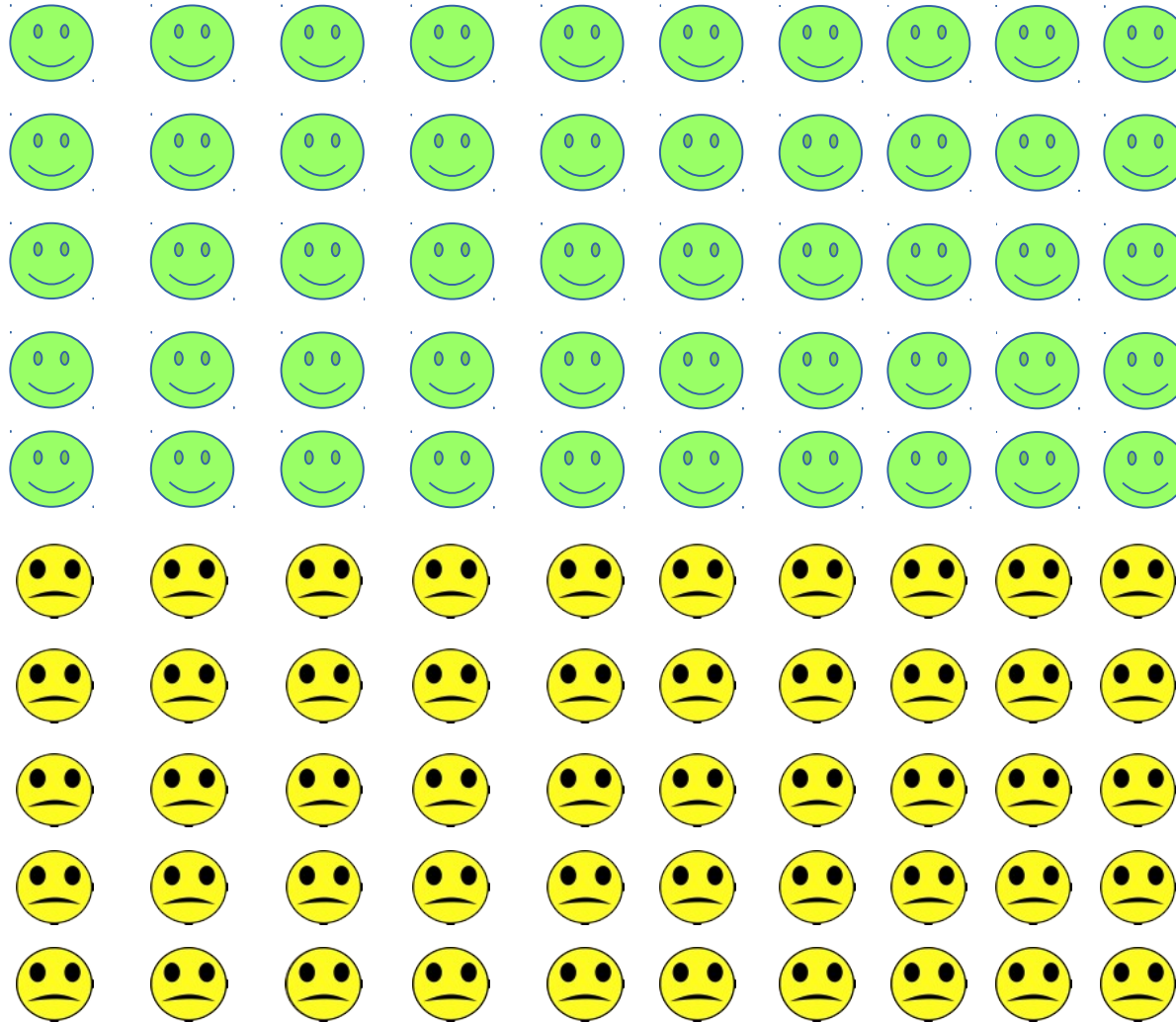
$$Pr(\text{I have the disease} | \text{I fail the test})$$



Base Rate Fallacy



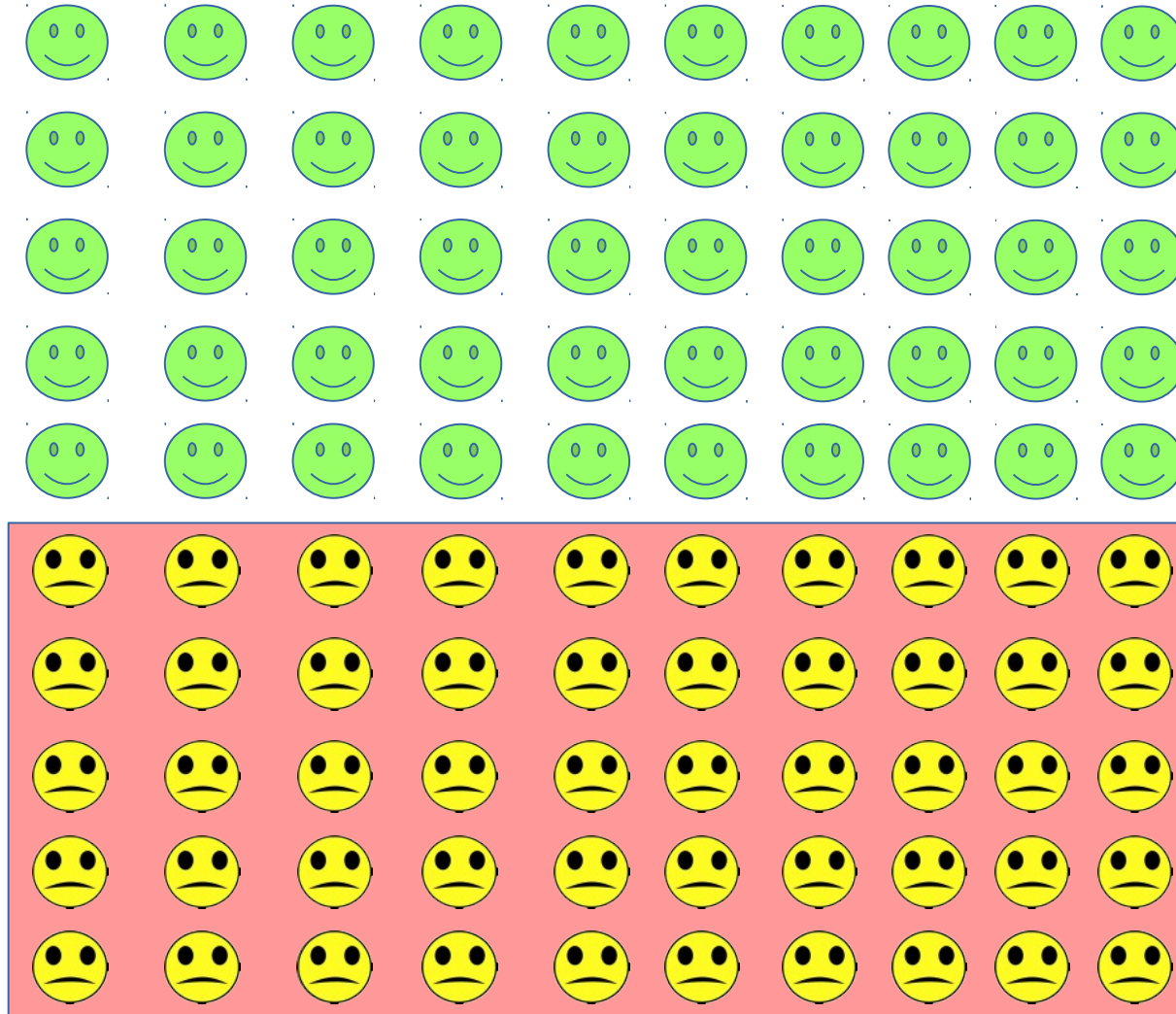
Base Rate Fallacy



By Jgsho (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons



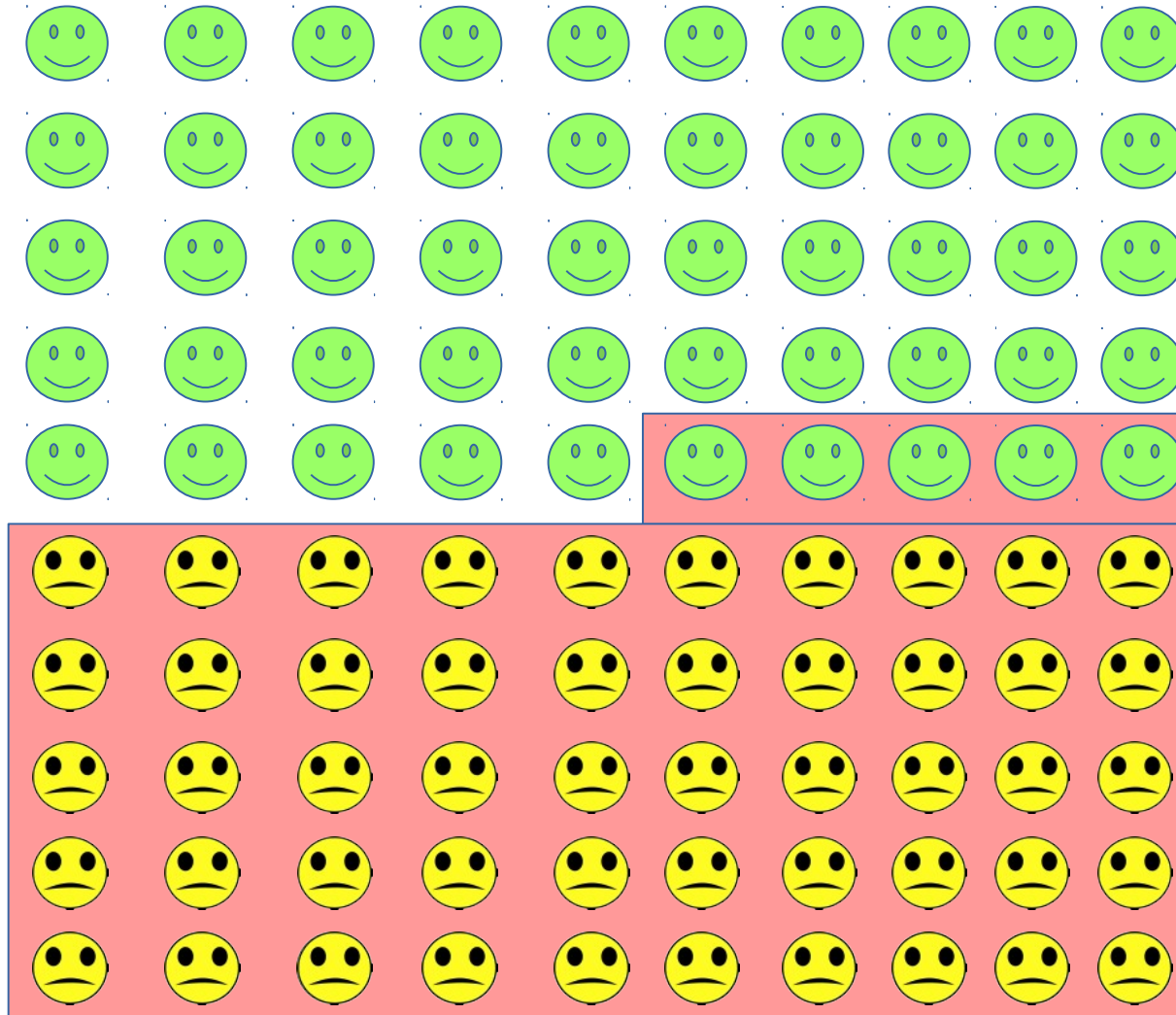
Base Rate Fallacy



By Jgsho (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons



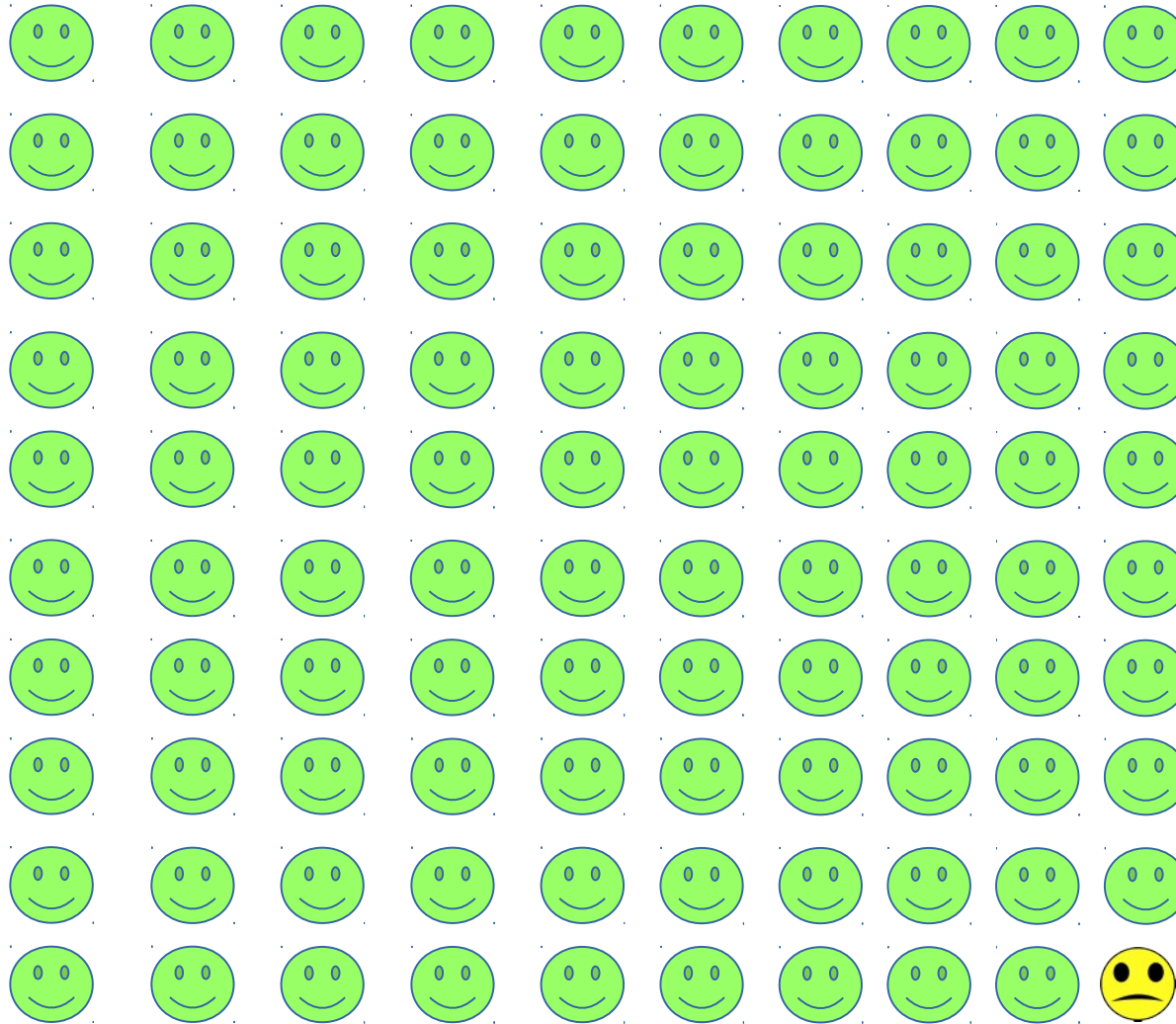
Base Rate Fallacy



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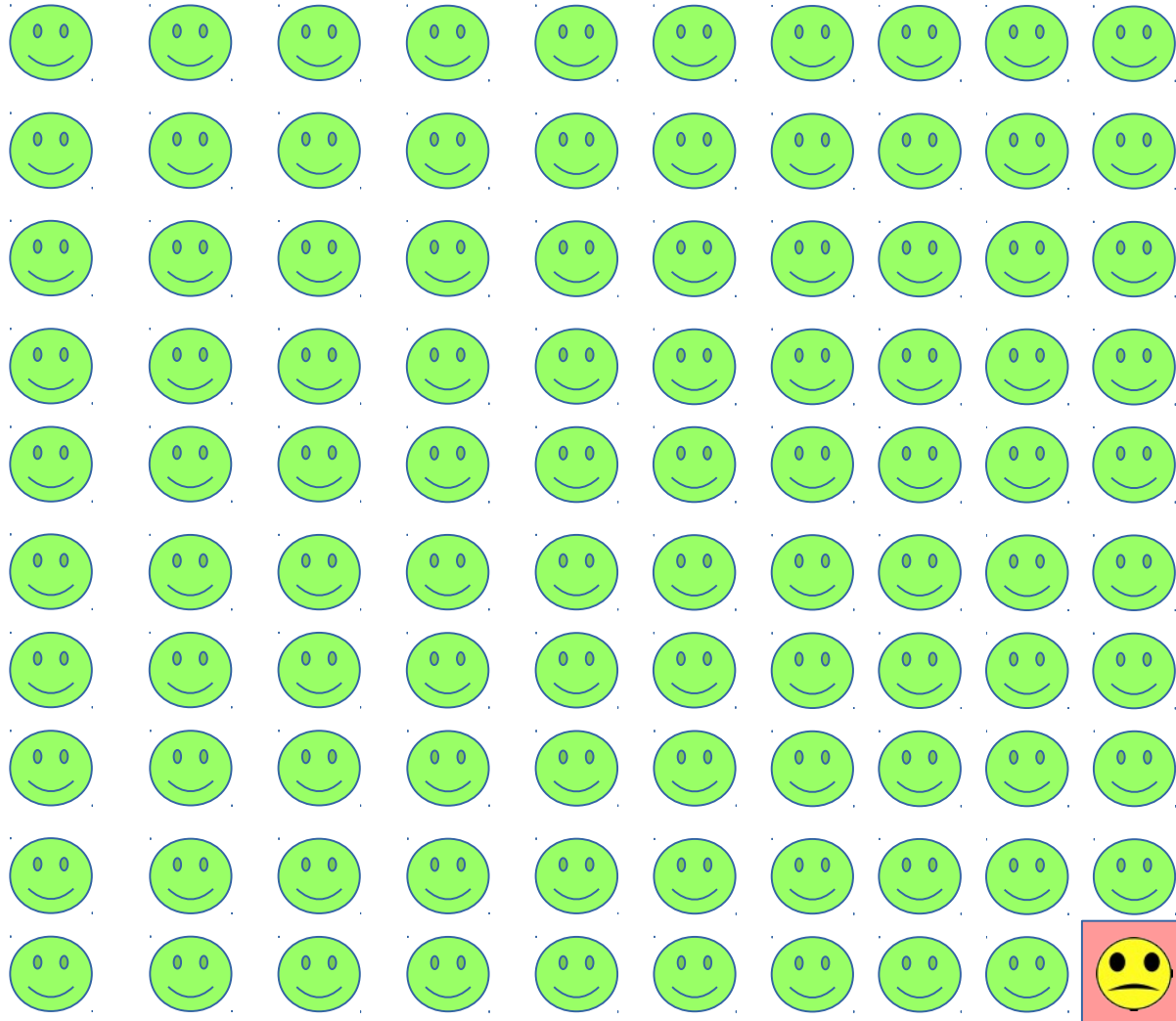
Base Rate Fallacy



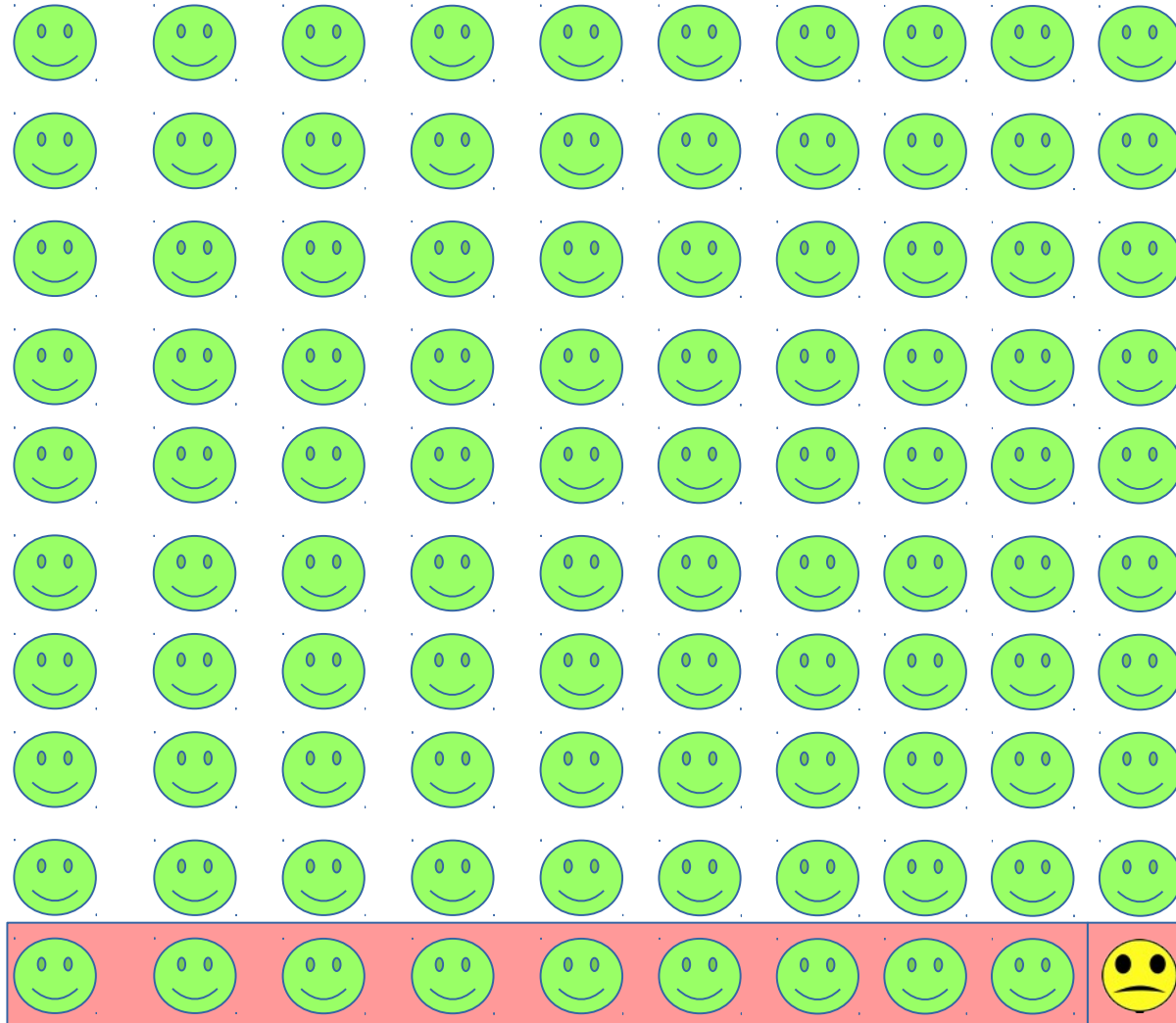
By Jgsho (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons



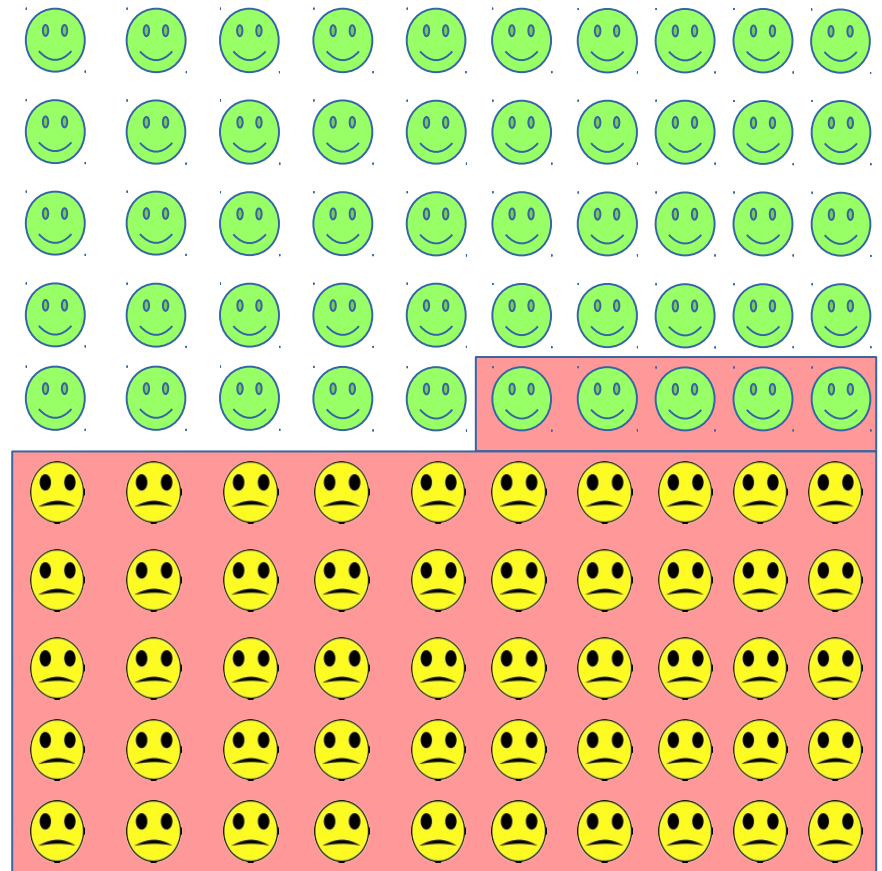
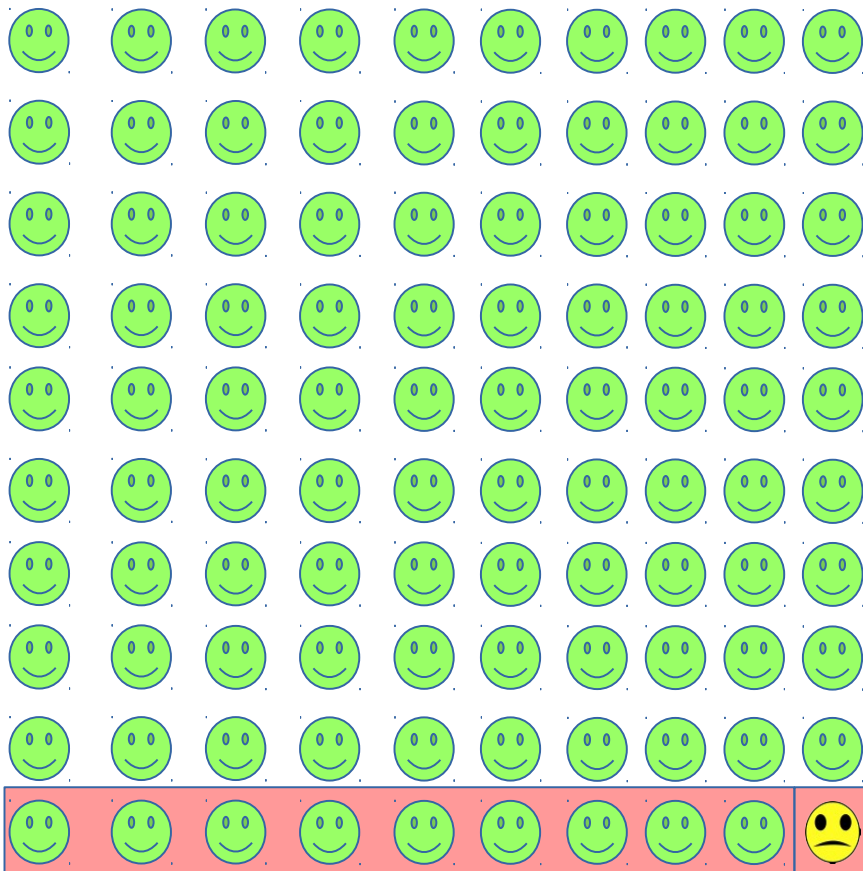
Base Rate Fallacy



Base Rate Fallacy



Base Rate Fallacy



The importance of asking the right question.

I want to know the *probability* that I have the disease *given* that I failed the test.

$$Pr(\text{I have the disease} | \text{I fail the test})$$

I do need to know the *probability* that I failed the test *given* that I have the disease.

$$Pr(\text{I fail the test} | \text{I have the disease})$$

I also need to know the *probability* that I have the disease.

$$Pr(\text{I have the disease})$$

I also need to know the *probability* that I failed the test.

$$Pr(\text{I fail the test})$$

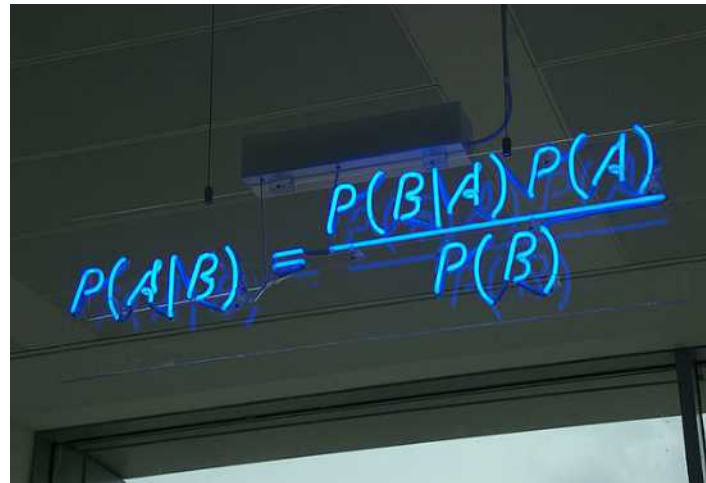


Bayes Theorem

$$\frac{Pr(\text{I have the disease}|\text{I fail the test}) = Pr(\text{I fail the test}|\text{I have the disease})Pr(\text{I have the disease})}{Pr(\text{I fail the test})}$$



"Thomas Bayes" by unknown - [2][3].
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https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Thomas_Bayes.gif#/media/File:Thomas_Bayes.gif



"Bayes' Theorem MMB 01" by mattbuck (category) -
Own work by mattbuck.. Licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0
via Wikimedia Commons -
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bayes%27_Theorem_MMB_01.jpg#/media/File:Bayes%27_Theorem_MMB_01.jpg

Even T-shirts!

https://www.google.com/search?site=&tbm=isch&source=hp&biw=1241&bih=518&q=bayes+theorem+t-shirt&oq=bayes+theorem+t-shirt&gs_l=img.3...371.4856.0.4955.21.7.0.9.9.0.231.555.0j1j2.3.0....0...1ac.1.64.img..15.6.580.yrkdHV_w79w



Base Rate Fallacy

- Many interesting examples
 - Psychology
 - Criminal justice
 - Etc.
- It can be explained and understood without a large amount of background

Many other problems that make great classroom examples

Problems that come up all the time.

- Biased sampling
- Misleading comparisons
- Etc.

As well as many excellent resources

- <http://www.stat.columbia.edu/~gelman/bag-of-tricks/chap10.pdf>
- http://cseweb.ucsd.edu/~ricko/CSE3/Lie_with_Statistics.pdf

With a classic being

- How to Lie with Statistics by Huff and Geis
 - http://www.amazon.com/dp/0393310728/?tag=mh0b-20&hvadid=3482023245&hvqmt=p&hvbmt=bp&hvdev=c&ref=pd_sl_7f6adld6g8_p

What really gets me annoyed...

Lying with data visualizations

- <http://gizmodo.com/how-to-lie-with-data-visualization-1563576606>



But, nothing is more beautiful when you get it right!

Carte Figurative des pertes successives en hommes de l'Armée Française dans la campagne de Russie 1812-1813.

Dressée par M. Minard, Inspecteur Général des Ponts et Chaussées en retraite. Paris, le 20 Novembre 1869.

Les nombres d'hommes présents sont représentés par les largeurs des zones colorées à raison d'un millimètre pour dix mille hommes; ils sont de plus écrits en travers des zones. Le rouge désigne les hommes qui entrent en Russie, le noir ceux qui en sortent. Les renseignements qui ont servi à dresser la carte ont été puisés dans les ouvrages de M.M. Chiers, de Ségur, de Fezensac, de Chambray et le journal inédit de Jacob, pharmacien de l'Armée depuis le 28 Octobre. Pour mieux faire juger à l'oeil la diminution de l'armée, j'ai supposé que les corps du Prince Jérôme et du Maréchal Davoust qui avaient été détachés sur Minsk et Mohilow et ont rejoint vers Orscha et Witebsk, avaient toujours marché avec l'armée.

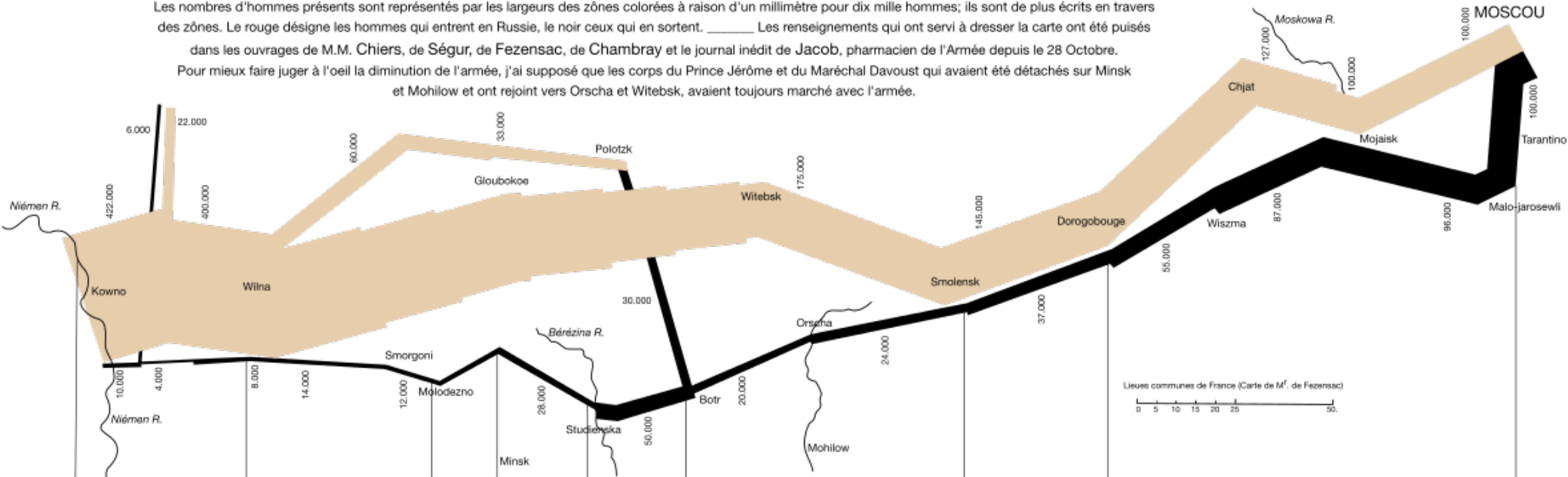
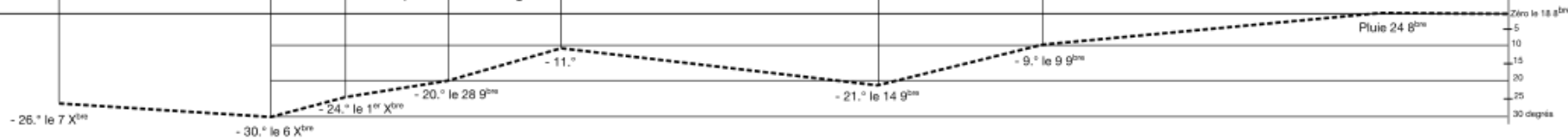


TABLEAU GRAPHIQUE de la température en degrés du thermomètre de Réaumur au dessous de zéro.



Les Cosaques passent au galop le Niémen gelé.

Autog. par Regnier, 8. Pas. 5^e Marie S^e G^e à Paris.

[Vectorization CC-BY-SA martingrandjean.ch 2014]

Imp. Lith. Regnier et Dourdet.

The numbers of men present are represented by the widths of the colored zones at a rate of one millimeter for every ten-thousand men; they are further written across the zones. The red [now brown] designates the men who enter into Russia, the black those who leave it.

"Minard's Map (vectorized)" by Calvinius - Own work
<http://www.martingrandjean.ch/historical-data-visualization-minard-map/>.
Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons - [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Minard%27s_Map_\(vectorized\).svg#mediaviewer/File:Minard%27s_Map_\(vectorized\).svg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Minard%27s_Map_(vectorized).svg#mediaviewer/File:Minard%27s_Map_(vectorized).svg)

Or anything by Edward Tufte

– https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Tufte  **WPI**

Practical advice

**I hear and I forget.
I see and I remember.
I do and I understand.
- Confucius**



The three keys

- In my experience there are three things that make for a great Data Science learning experience for students



The three keys

- In my experience there are three things that make for a great Data Science learning experience for students
- Working on a project actually using data!



The three keys

- In my experience there are three things that make for a great Data Science learning experience for students
 - Working on a project actually using data!
 - Working on a project actually using data!



The three keys

- In my experience there are three things that make for a great Data Science learning experience for students
 - Working on a project actually using data!
 - Working on a project actually using data!
 - Working on a project actually using data!
- And not listening to the pony-tailed professor blather on :-)



But, how do you actually do it?



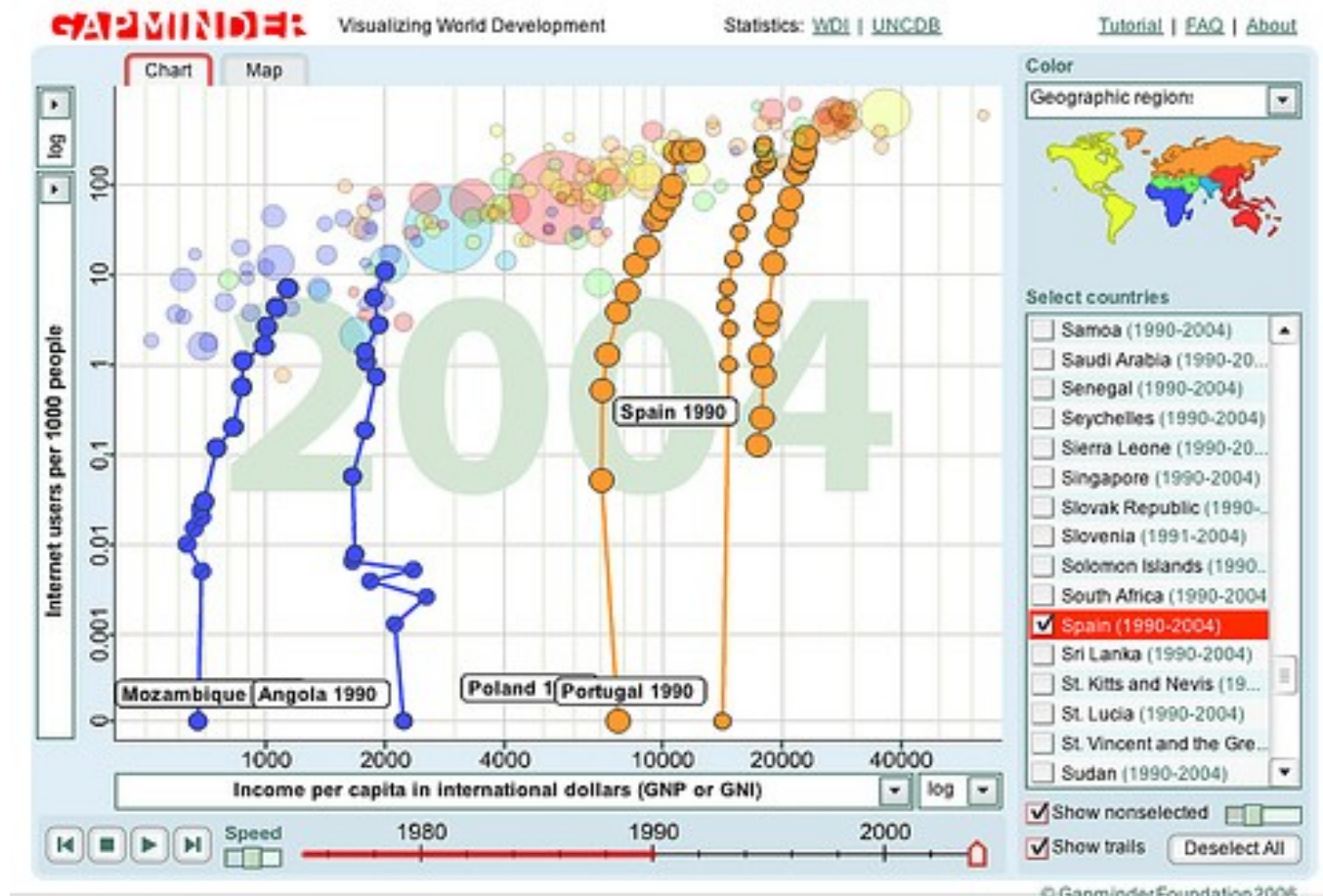
You have access to an amazing wealth of information

- **One of, if not the, most important single slides in the talk!**
- <http://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/>
 - Many data sets on many subjects
 - Where I got the data sets for the workshop
- <https://www.kaggle.com/>
 - The best site on the Internet for Data Science competitions
- <http://www.data.gov/>
 - The U.S. government data repository
- <http://databank.worldbank.org/data/home.aspx>
 - Many data sets of social importance from around the work
- And MANY, MANY more



A great example to work with, especially for a short project.

- <http://www.gapminder.org>



Python!



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4d/Ball_python_lucy.JPG



Oh, sorry... I meant Python!



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4d/Ball_python_lucy.JPG

Python history

- First release in 1994
- More widespread use since version 1.5 in 1997.
- I been using Python since close to the start.
 - The code for my thesis was mostly in Python and that was 1999!



<http://www.bennorthrop.com/Essays/2016/old-programmer.jpg>



Why Python?

- Great programming model
 - Easy to learn
- Access to other languages
 - Can call C, C++, JAVA, etc.
- Lots of libraries
 - Numpy, scipy, pandas, pycuda, mpi4py, etc.
- Lots of great online resources!
- It is free!



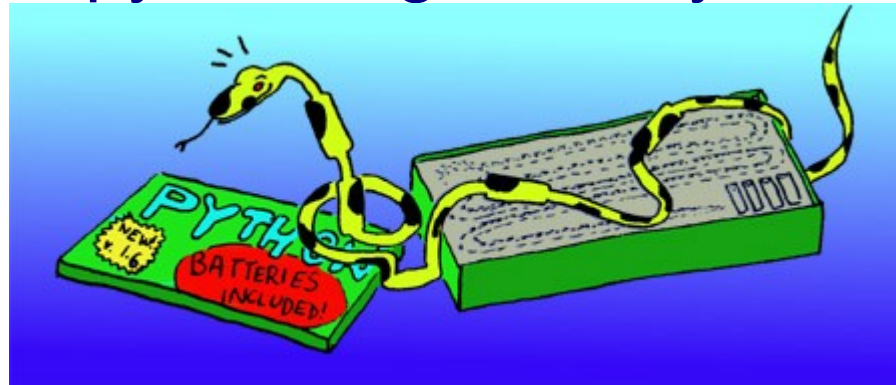
You have to be careful though, the Internet is a dangerous place...

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUEHOYI0mRg>



Batteries included...

- The default Python installation includes a **vast** library of functionality
 - <https://docs.python.org/3/library/>



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/68/Python_batteries_included.jpg

Easy to install

- Anaconda!
 - Yes, there are far too many snake jokes...
- <https://www.continuum.io/downloads>
 - Or just search for “anaconda python” in Google.

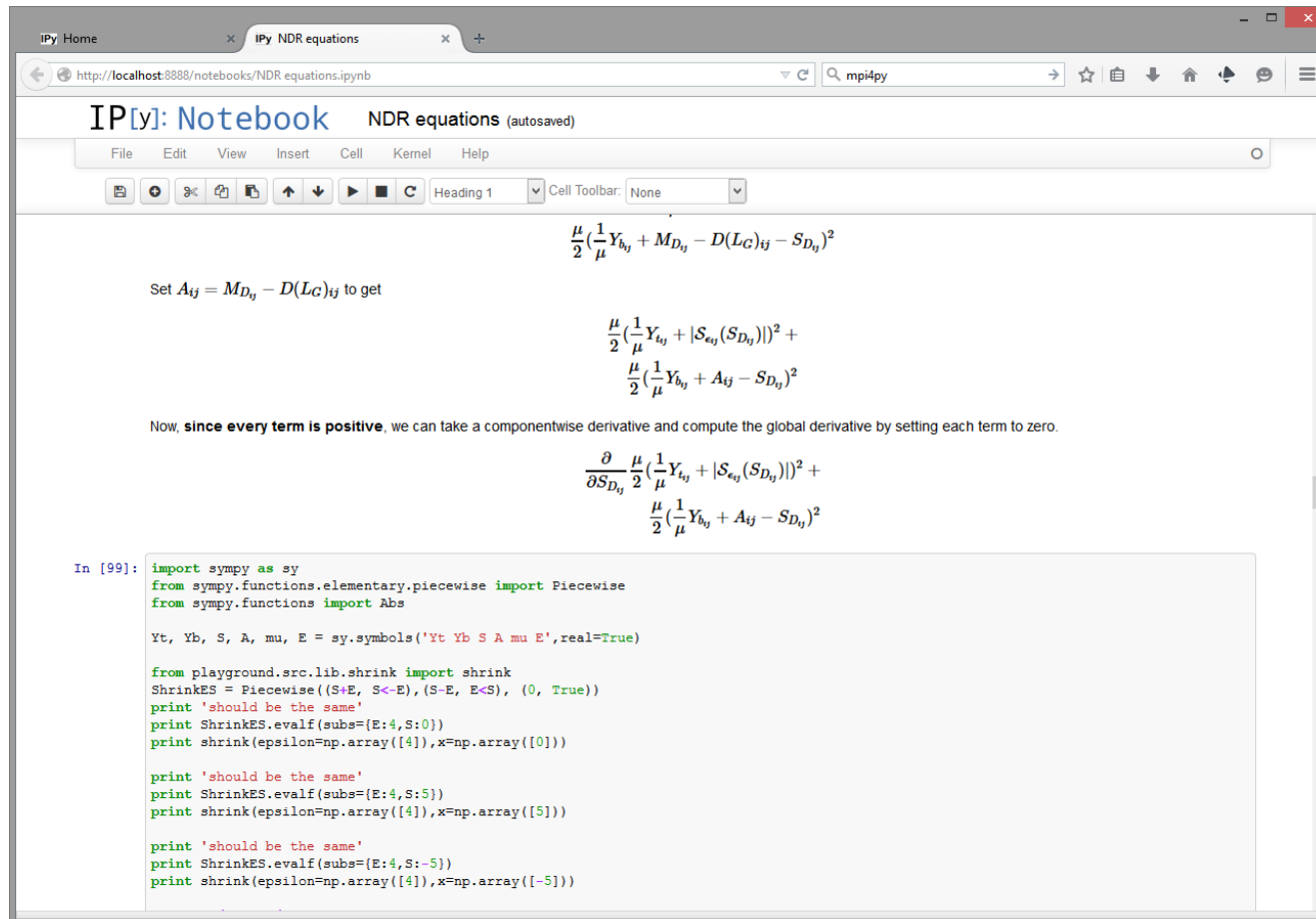


Three main ways to run Python

- The default Python prompt
 - Either at the command line or running scripts
- The IPython interpreter
 - Either at the command line or running scripts
- **The Jupyter notebook**
 - A **beautiful** integrated development environment (IDE) for Python
- There are also many others
 - Such as Spyder, which is included with Anaconda



Quick example



The screenshot shows an IPython Notebook window titled "NDR equations (autosaved)". The browser address bar shows "http://localhost:8888/notebooks/NDR equations.ipynb". The notebook interface includes a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Insert, Cell, Kernel, Help) and a toolbar with various icons. The main content area contains the following text and equations:

$$\frac{\mu}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\mu} Y_{b_j} + M_{D_j} - D(L_C)_{ij} - S_{D_j} \right)^2$$

Set $A_{ij} = M_{D_j} - D(L_C)_{ij}$ to get

$$\frac{\mu}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\mu} Y_{i_j} + |S_{e_j}(S_{D_j})| \right)^2 +$$
$$\frac{\mu}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\mu} Y_{b_j} + A_{ij} - S_{D_j} \right)^2$$

Now, **since every term is positive**, we can take a componentwise derivative and compute the global derivative by setting each term to zero.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial S_{D_j}} \frac{\mu}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\mu} Y_{i_j} + |S_{e_j}(S_{D_j})| \right)^2 +$$
$$\frac{\mu}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\mu} Y_{b_j} + A_{ij} - S_{D_j} \right)^2$$

In [99]:

```
import sympy as sy
from sympy.functions.elementary.piecewise import Piecewise
from sympy.functions import Abs

Yt, Yb, S, A, mu, E = sy.symbols('Yt Yb S A mu E', real=True)

from playground.src.lib.shrink import shrink
ShrinkES = Piecewise((S+E, S<-E), (S-E, E<S), (0, True))
print 'should be the same'
print ShrinkES.evalf(subs={E:4, S:0})
print shrink(epsilon=np.array([4]), x=np.array([0]))

print 'should be the same'
print ShrinkES.evalf(subs={E:4, S:5})
print shrink(epsilon=np.array([4]), x=np.array([5]))

print 'should be the same'
print ShrinkES.evalf(subs={E:4, S:-5})
print shrink(epsilon=np.array([4]), x=np.array([-5]))
```



Questions!?

