

# Data Science: How to Turn Data Into Actionable Mission-Oriented Decisions

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# At the Church, We're **Drowning** in a Sea of **Data**

**Video & Audio**

**Textual Documents**

**Social Media**

**Web Access &  
Search Logs**

**Databases**

**Geolocation**



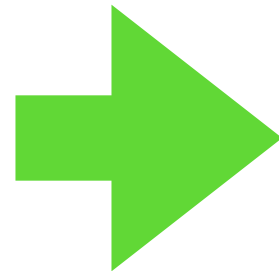
- **How to discover the current and future needs of people at your conference?**
- **How to understand your members with data?**
- **Are SDA churches and schools near to families with children?**
- **Where to open a new school or church?**
- **Where to launch evangelistic campaigns?**
- **Which places don't have Adventist presence?**
- **How to know the apostasy profile from data?**



**Data Science**

**Big Data**

**Open Data**



**Our Mission**



# Agenda

1. What is big data, data science, and open data?
2. Successful case studies
3. How to use data science at your conference
4. Conclusions



# Agenda

- 1. What is big data, data science, and open data?**
2. Successful case studies
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4. Conclusions



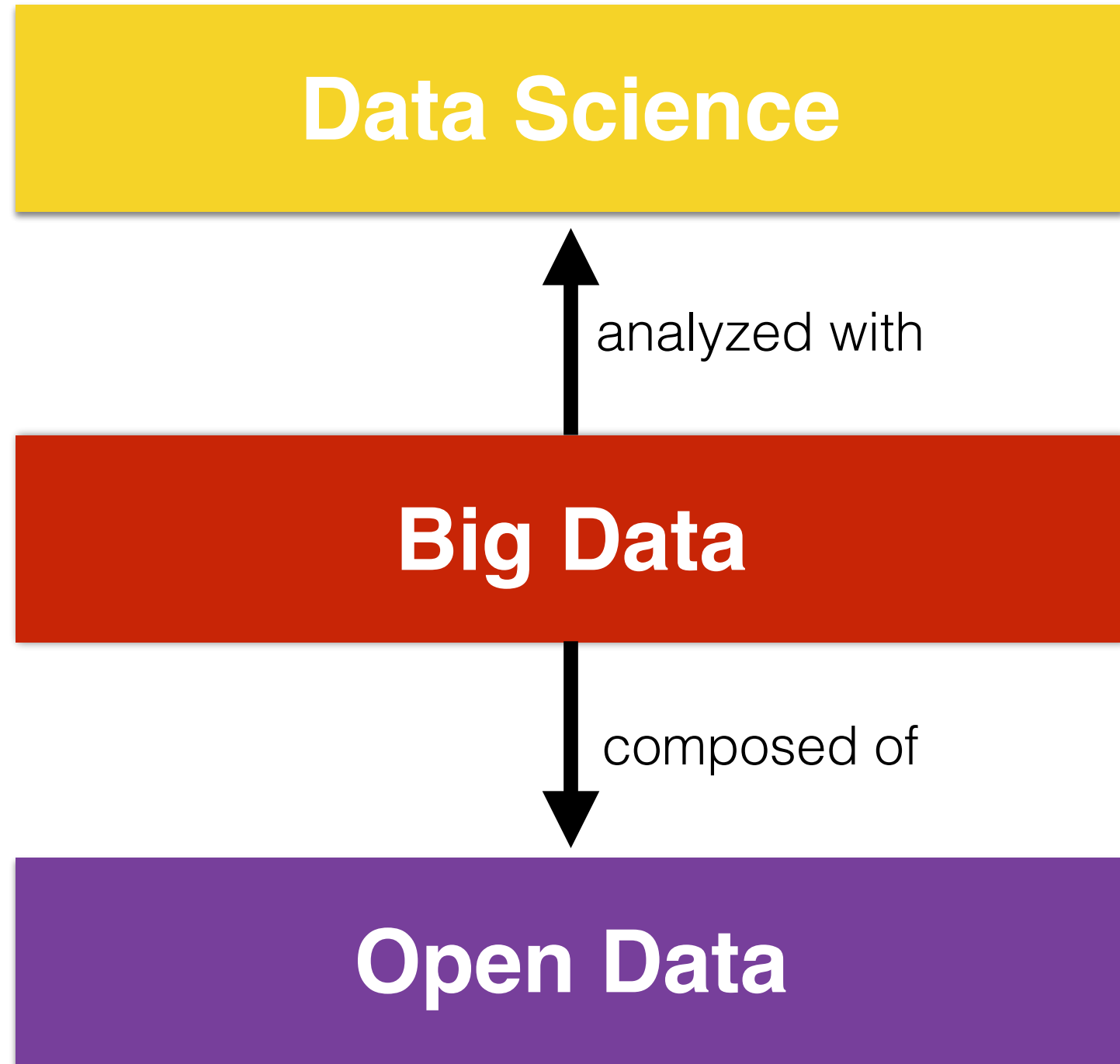
**Data Science**

analyzed with

**Big Data**

composed of

**Open Data**



The background of the slide features a silhouette of an oil pumpjack on the left and two workers in hard hats on the right, standing against a warm, orange-hued sunset sky. A semi-transparent dark rectangle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the main text.

**Big data** is a termed that can be used to describe data sets so **large** and **complex** that they become difficult to work with using standard techniques [1].

**Big data is the next big thing. The new oil** [2].

1. Snijders, C., Matzat, U., and Reips, U.-D. (2012). "Big data": Big gaps of knowledge in the field of Internet science. International Journal of Internet Science, 1(1):1–5.

2. Rotella, P. (2012). Is data the new oil? URL: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/perryrotella/2012/04/02/is-data-the-new-oil/>





THE SOURCE OF IT ALL

# BIG DATA

Big data is used to describe data sets that are too large and complex to be processed and analyzed using traditional technologies.

## THE DIGITAL UNIVERSE

**50x**  
GROWTH  
FROM  
**2010**  
TO 2020



**2010**

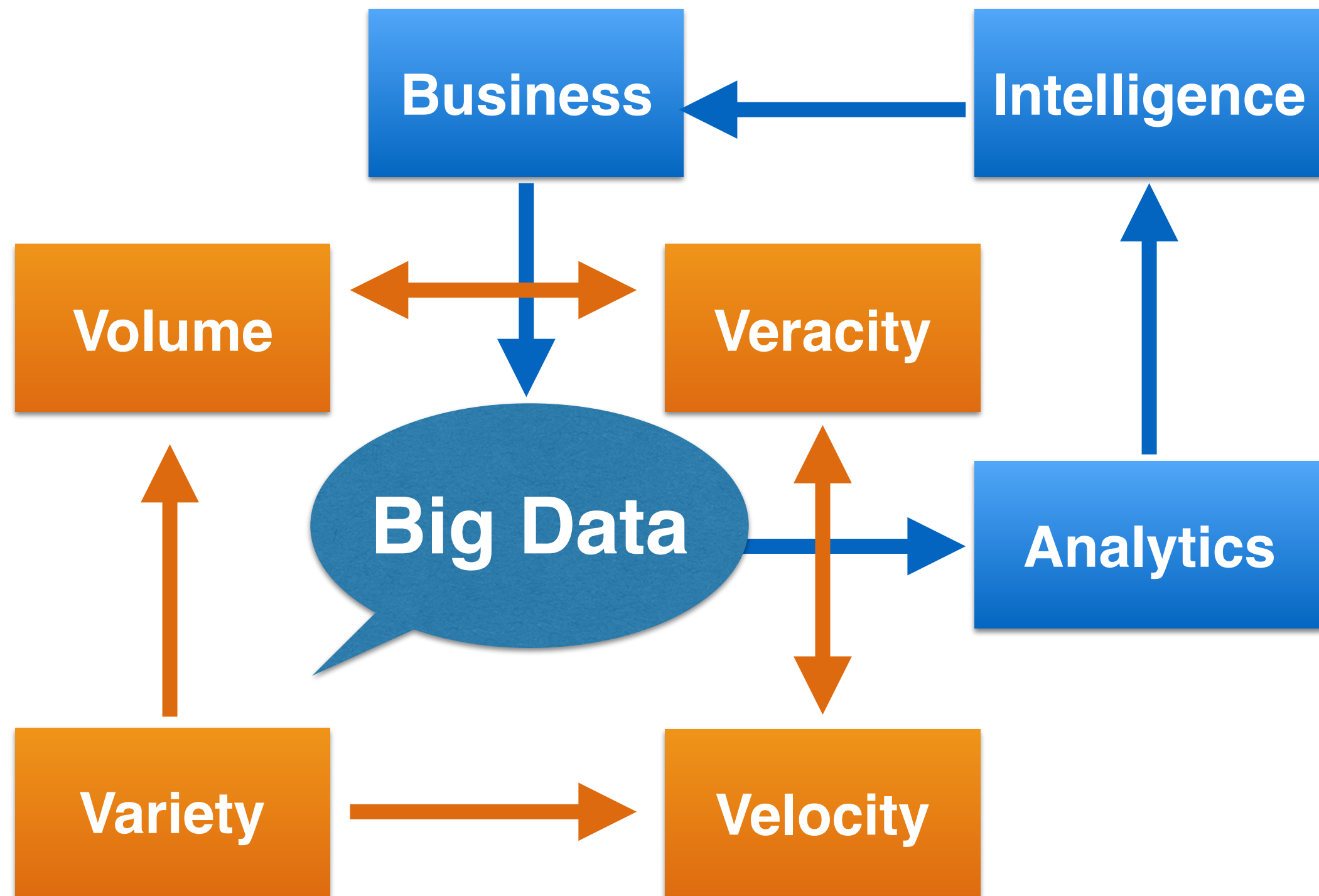


**2020**

1 exabyte (EB) = 1,000,000,000,000,000,000 bytes

Source: IDC's Digital Universe Study, sponsored by EMC, December 2012






Big Data Context [3]

# Volume of Data

**The quantity of data generated in the world has been relentlessly doubling every 12-18 months!**

Traditional Data	Big Data
Measured in <b>Gigabytes</b> (GB) and <b>Terabytes</b> (TB)	Measured in <b>Petabytes</b> (PB) and <b>Exabytes</b> (1 Exabyte = 1 Million TB)



A wide-angle, low-perspective shot of a modern data center. The room is filled with rows of server racks, some of which are illuminated with bright blue light. The ceiling is high and features a complex network of metal trusses and pipes. The floor is made of large, light-colored tiles. The overall atmosphere is one of a high-tech, industrial environment.

The **primary reason** for the **growth of data** is the **dramatic reduction** in the **cost of storing data** (30-40% every year).



# Velocity of Data



**Traditional Data**



**Big Data**



# Velocity of Data

- **Reasons for the increased velocity of data:**

## **1. Increase in internet speed.**

- 10MB/sec to 1 GB/sec (100 times faster)!

## **2. Increased variety of sources, such as mobile devices.**





# Variety of Data



**Traditional Data**

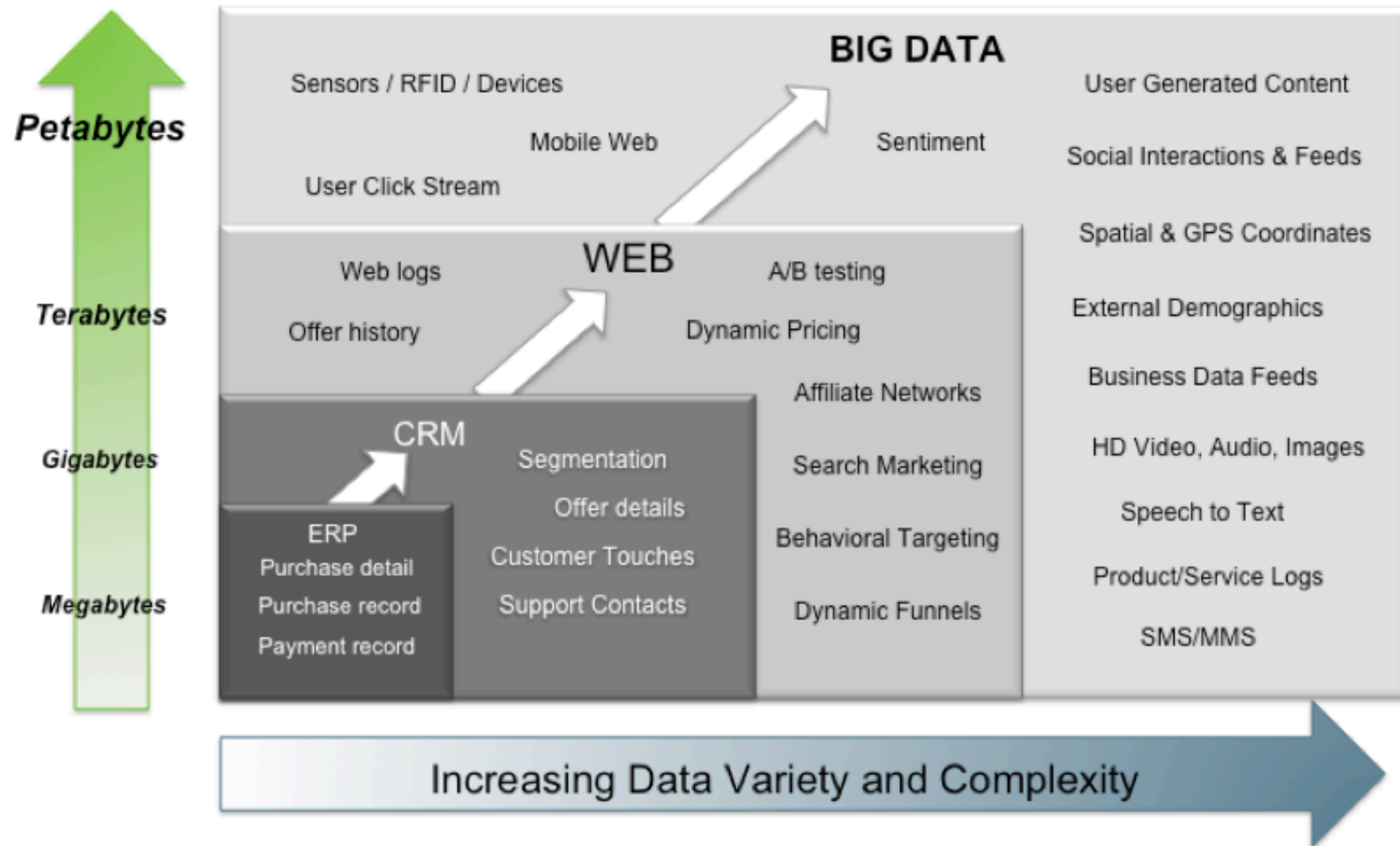


**Big Data**



# Variety of Data

Big Data = Transactions + Interactions + Observations



Source: Contents of above graphic created in partnership with Teradata, Inc.



# Veracity of Data

- **Veracity** relates to the **truthfulness**, **believability** and **quality** of data.
- **Big Data** is messy.



# Veracity of Data

The **source of information** may **not be authoritative**.

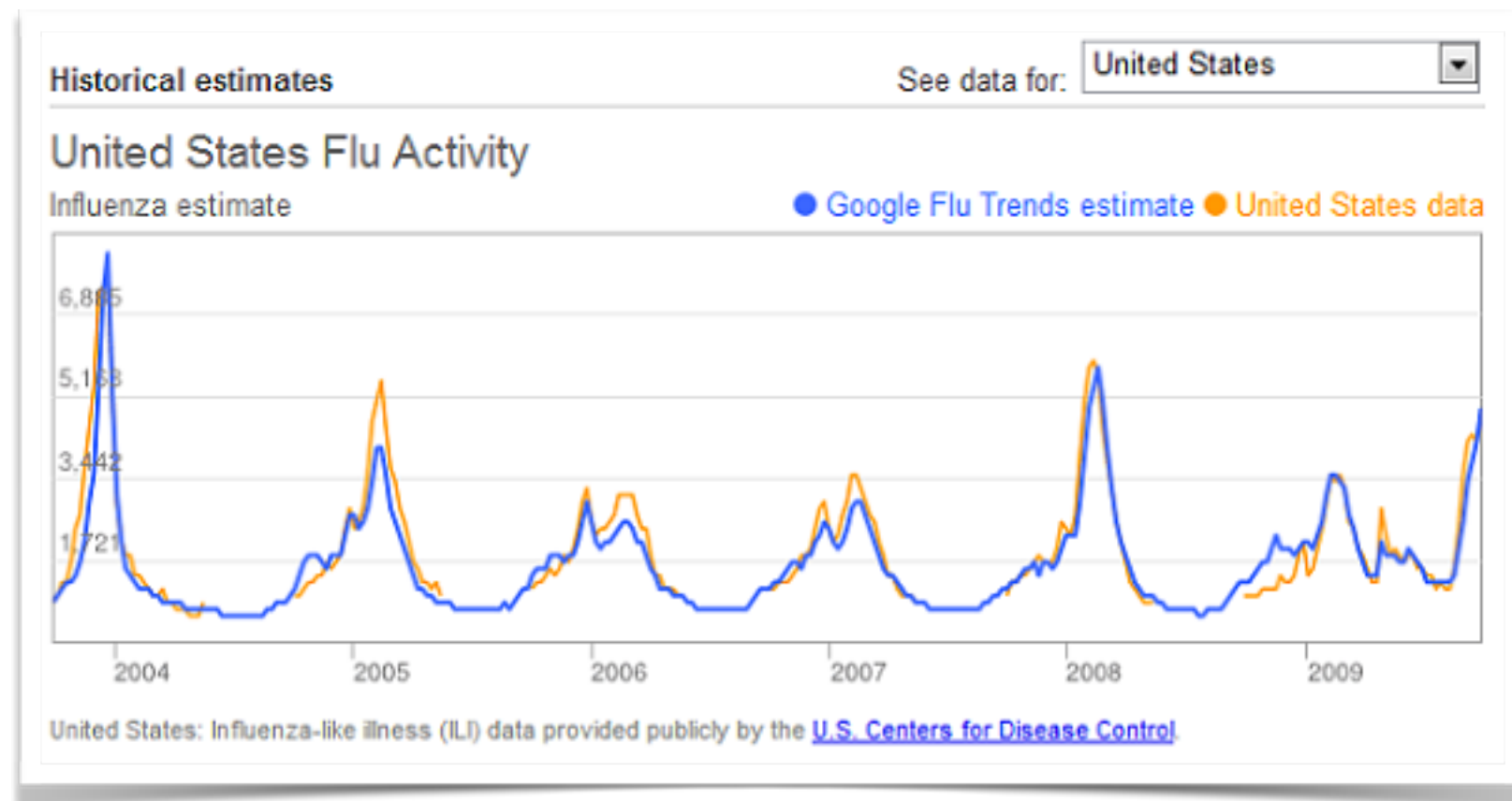
**The New York Times**



**WIKIPEDIA**  
The Free Encyclopedia

# Big Data Applications

- **Public Health Monitoring**



**Google Flu Trends** better predicted flu outbreaks than U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (2004-2012)

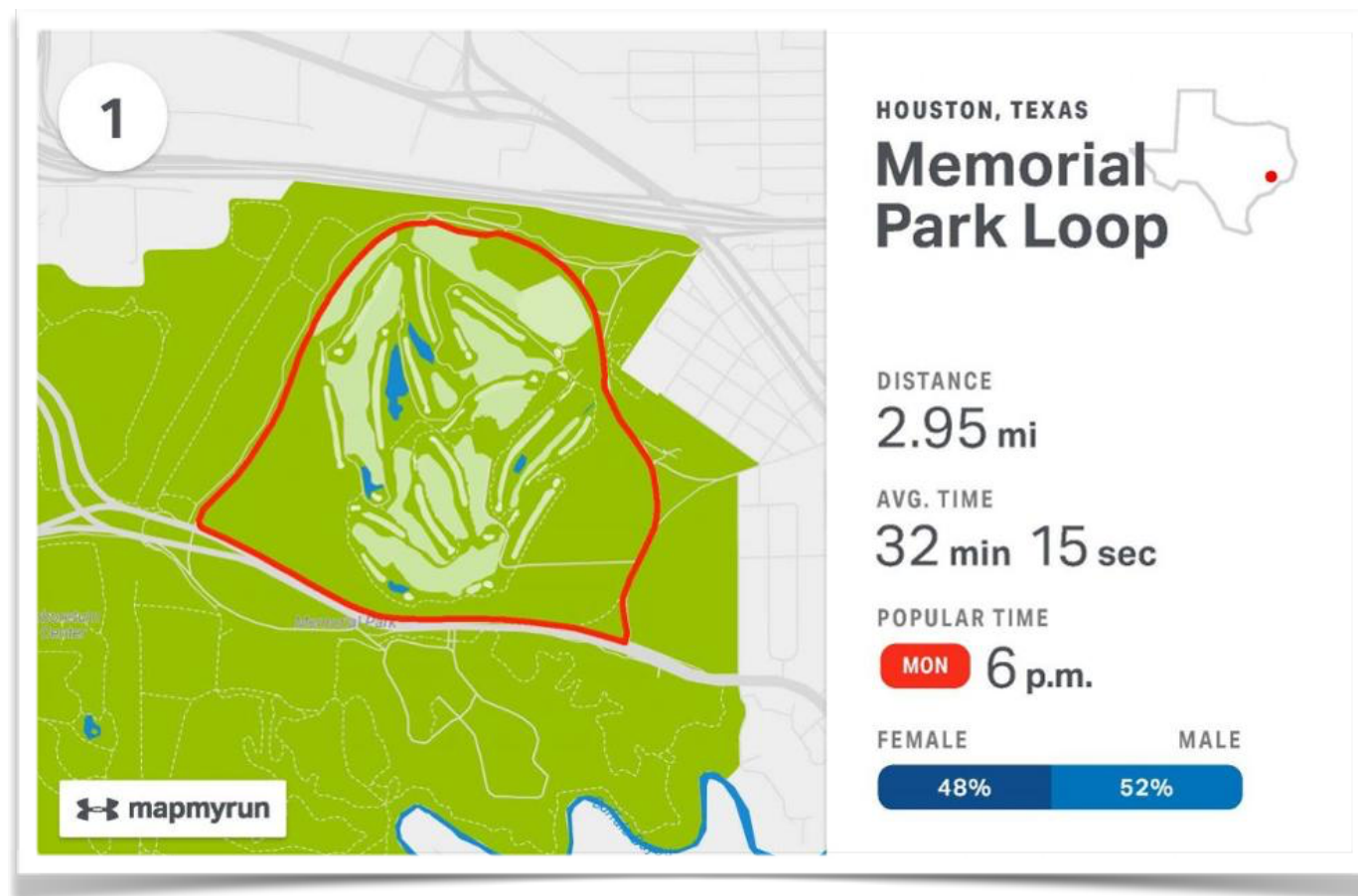
# Big Data Applications

- **Predictive Policing**
  - **Los Angeles Police Department + UC Berkeley**
  - Analyzed **13 million crimes** recorded over **80 years**
  - The identified **hotspots of crimes** were likely to happen in the **future!**
  - **Reduce crime by 12% to 26%** in different categories of crime





# Big Data Applications



Under Armour knows:

- The most popular running route in the country.
- The most popular time for this route to be run is Monday at 6pm.
- Among the 20 most popular running routes in the country, 14 of them are next to or around a body of water (river or lake).

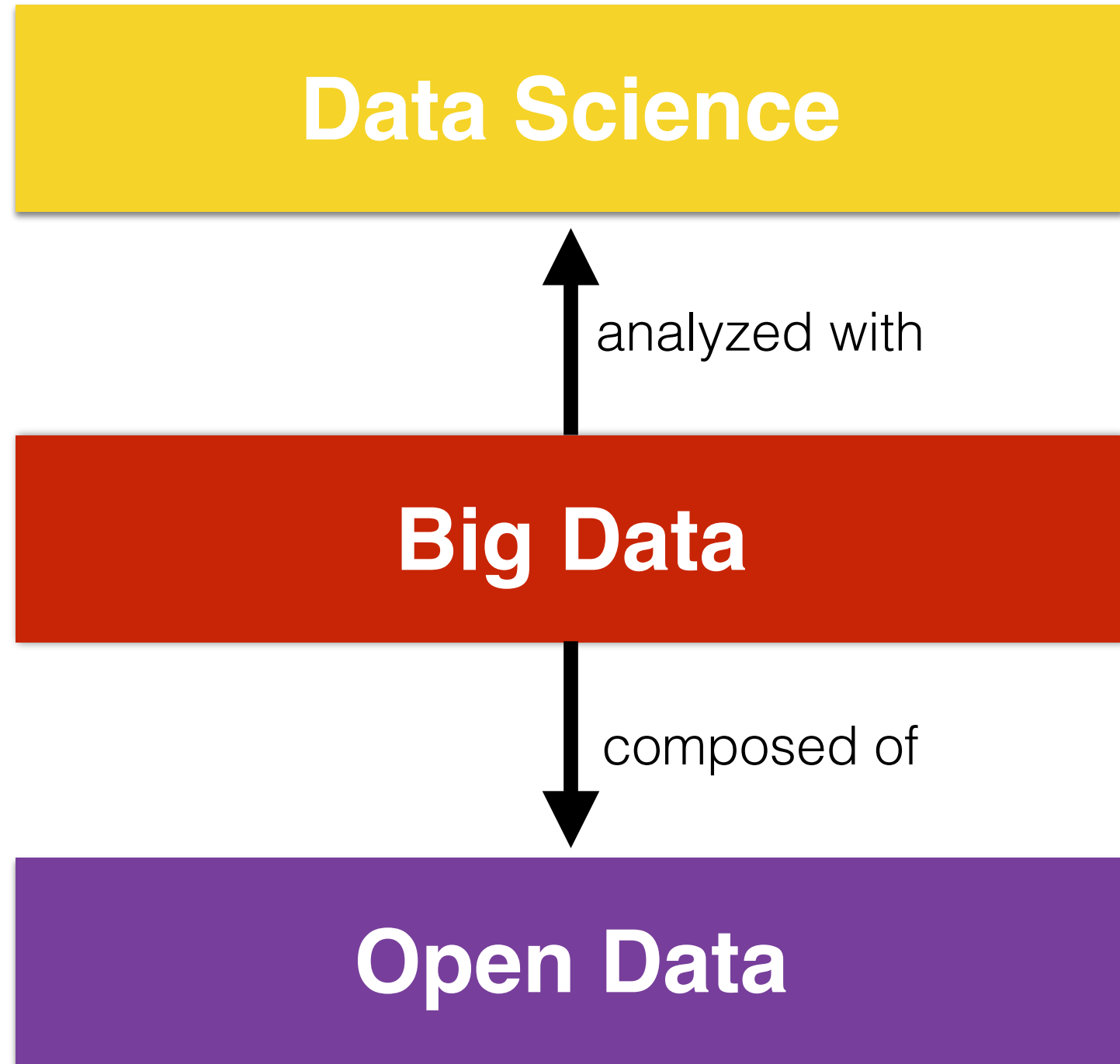
**Data Science**

analyzed with

**Big Data**

composed of

**Open Data**







**Data Science** can be defined as the study of the generalizable extraction of knowledge from data [5].

5. V. Dhar, "Data science and prediction," *Commun. ACM*, 56 (12, 2013), pp. 64-73.

- **Data science:**
  - A **multi-disciplinary approach**.
    - Programming skills + math + statistics knowledge + machine learning.
  - ***Not*** only restricted to big data.
  - Data science is the **new statistics** [6].

Why do we need a new term like **data science** when we have had statistics for centuries?

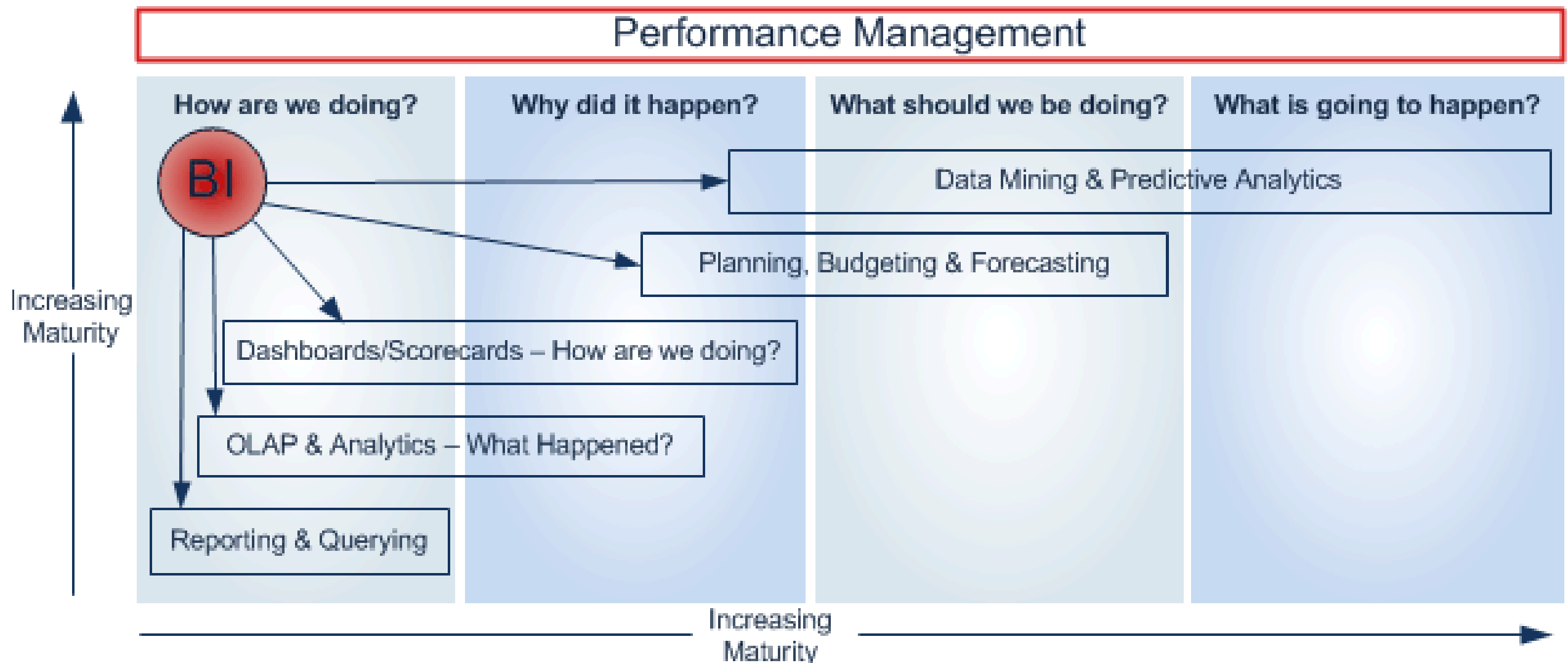
1. The raw material, the “**data**” part of data science, is increasingly **heterogeneous** and **unstructured**.
2. Traditional database methods are *not* suited for **knowledge discovery**.

Unlike **database querying**, which asks “What data satisfies this pattern (query)?”

**discovery** asks “What **interesting** and **robust patterns satisfy** this **data**?”



# Data Science in the Context of Business Intelligence



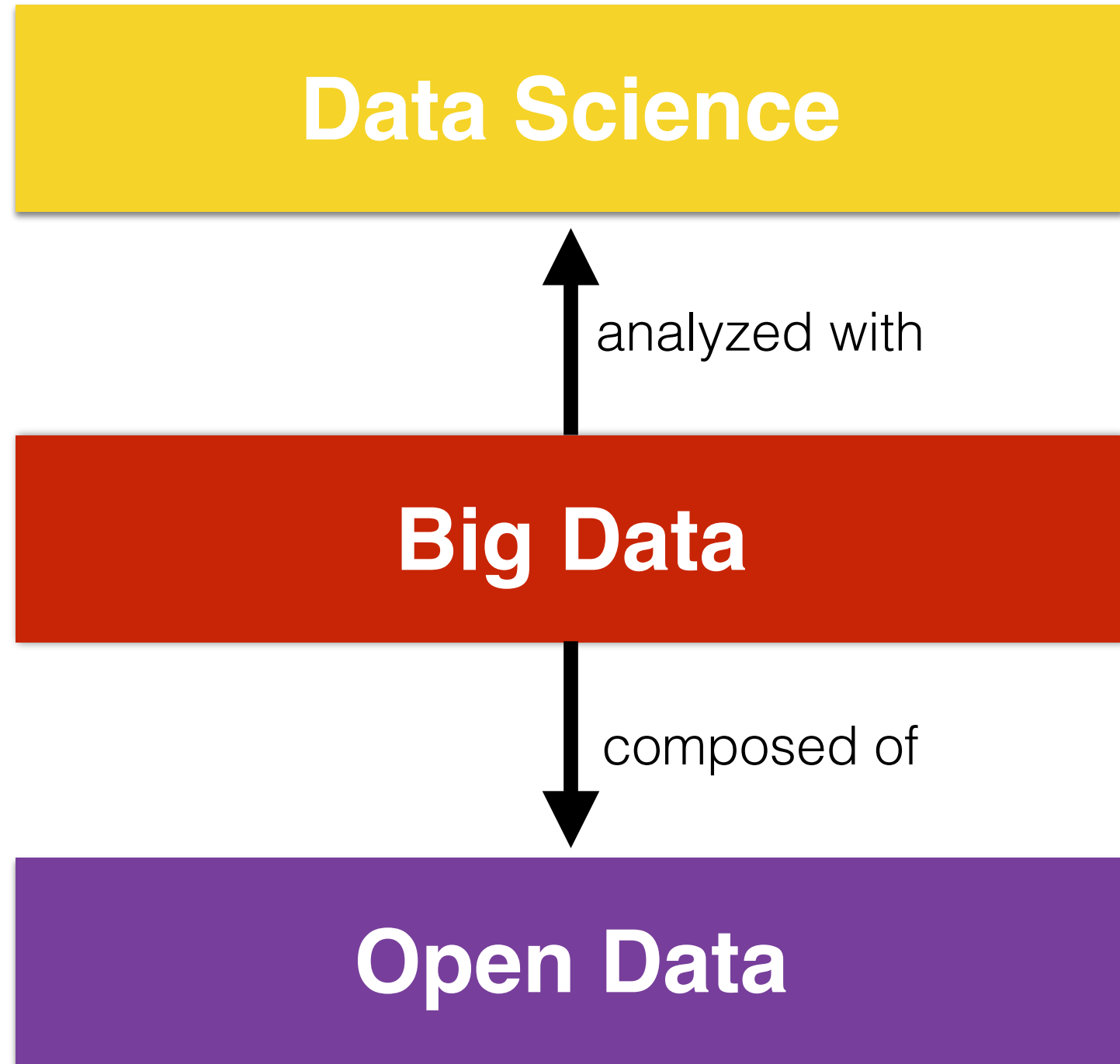
**Data Science**

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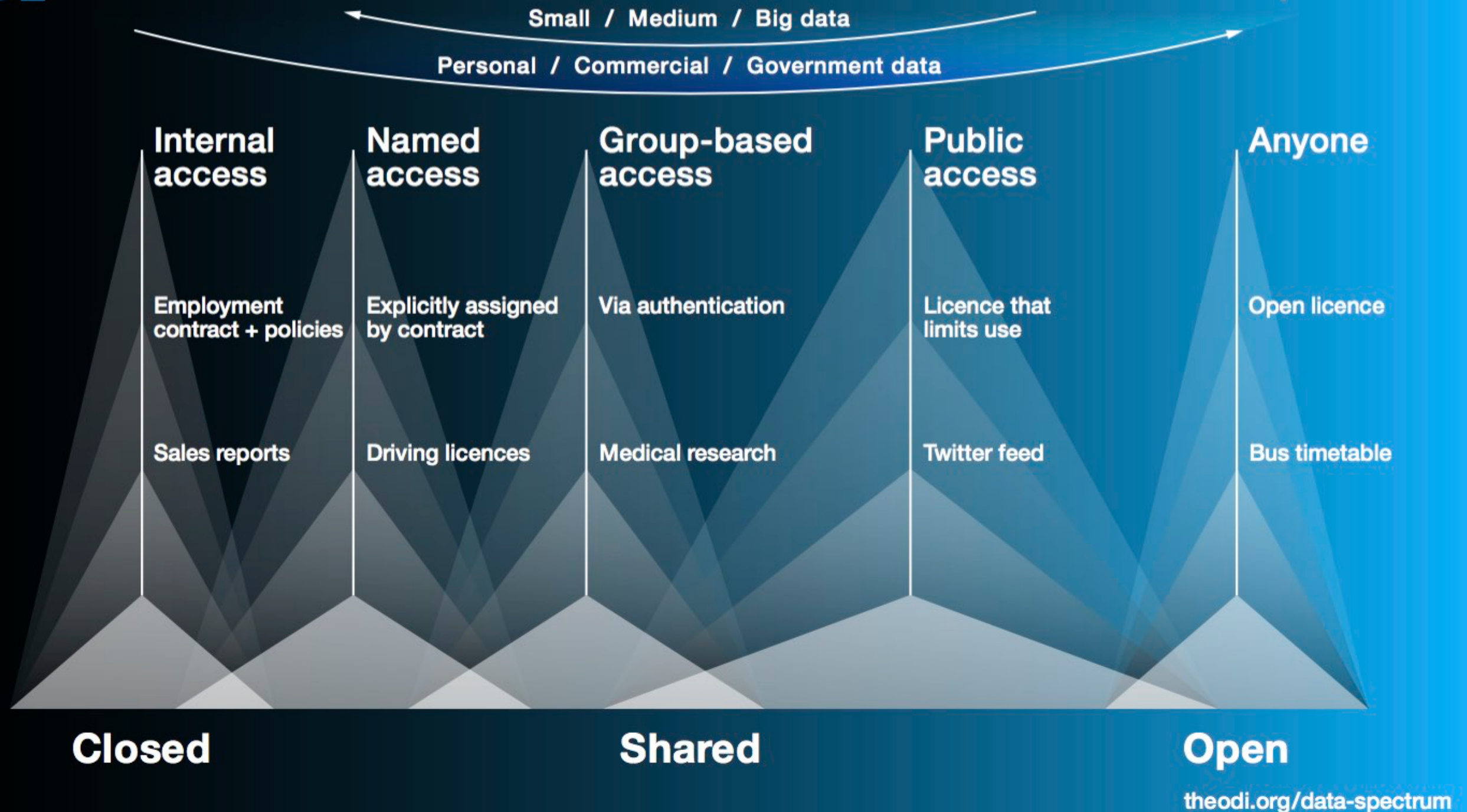
**Open data** is **data** that **anyone** can **access**, **use** or **share**. Simple as that.



# The Data Spectrum



## The Data Spectrum





# Agenda

1. What is big data, data science, and open data?

**2. Successful case studies**

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# Big Data for Reaching a Big World





Use **big data analysis** to try to understand how **culture** perceives our **fundamental beliefs**.

# Big Data and Our Church

- In this study, the computational data analysis was based on **culturomics**.
- The application of high-throughput data collection and analysis to the study of human culture [10].



# Big Data and Our Church

- The full **data set** used in the experiments is available for download at:

<https://books.google.com/ngrams>

- This data set is composed of digitized texts containing about **4% of all books ever printed** between **1800** and **2008** (5,195,769 books).
- **Books in English** (361 billion words) and in **Spanish** (45 billion words)

# Big Data and Our Church

- The corpus **cannot be read by a human** [11]:
  - If you try to read only English-language entries from the year 2000 alone, at the reasonable pace of 200 words/min, without interruptions for food or sleep, it would take **80 years**.



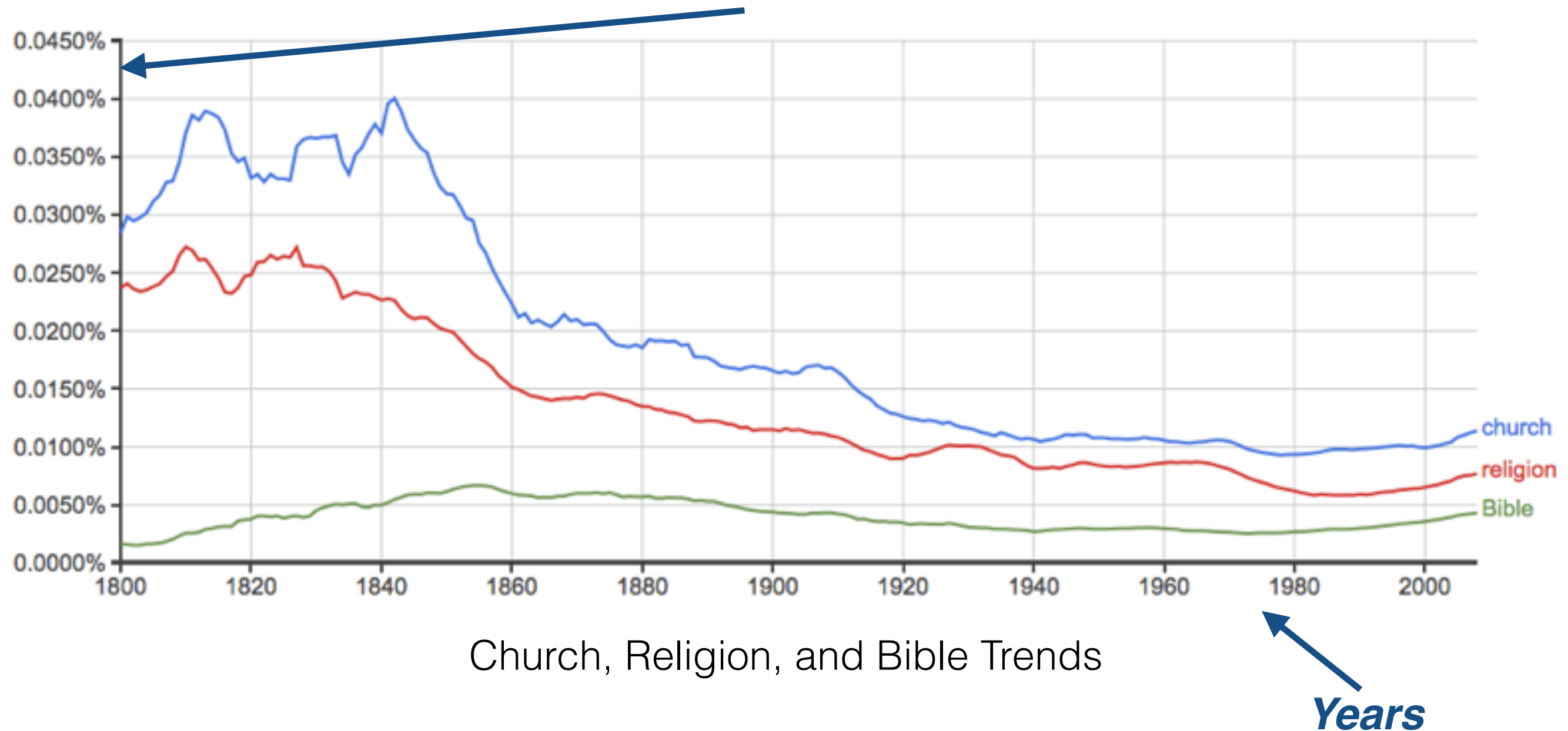


# Big Data and Our Church

- The **Google Ngram Viewer** was used to visualize the results.
  - A **1-gram** is a string of characters uninterrupted by a space. This includes words (“car”, “MICHIGAN”) but also numbers (“3.14”) and typos (“excesss”).
  - An **n-gram** is a sequence of 1-grams, such as the phrases “stock market” (a 2-gram) and “the United States of America” (a 5-gram).

# Church, Religion and Bible

*N-gram Frequency (Corpus of English Books)*

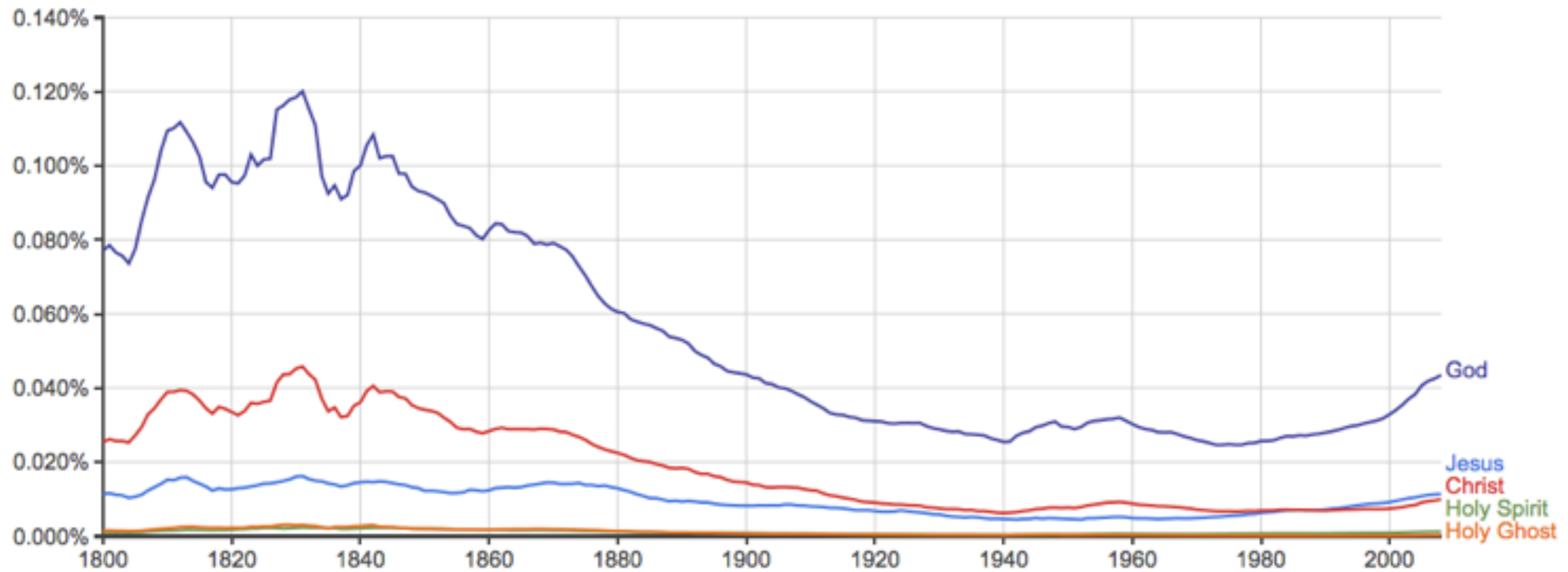


# Secularization





# God



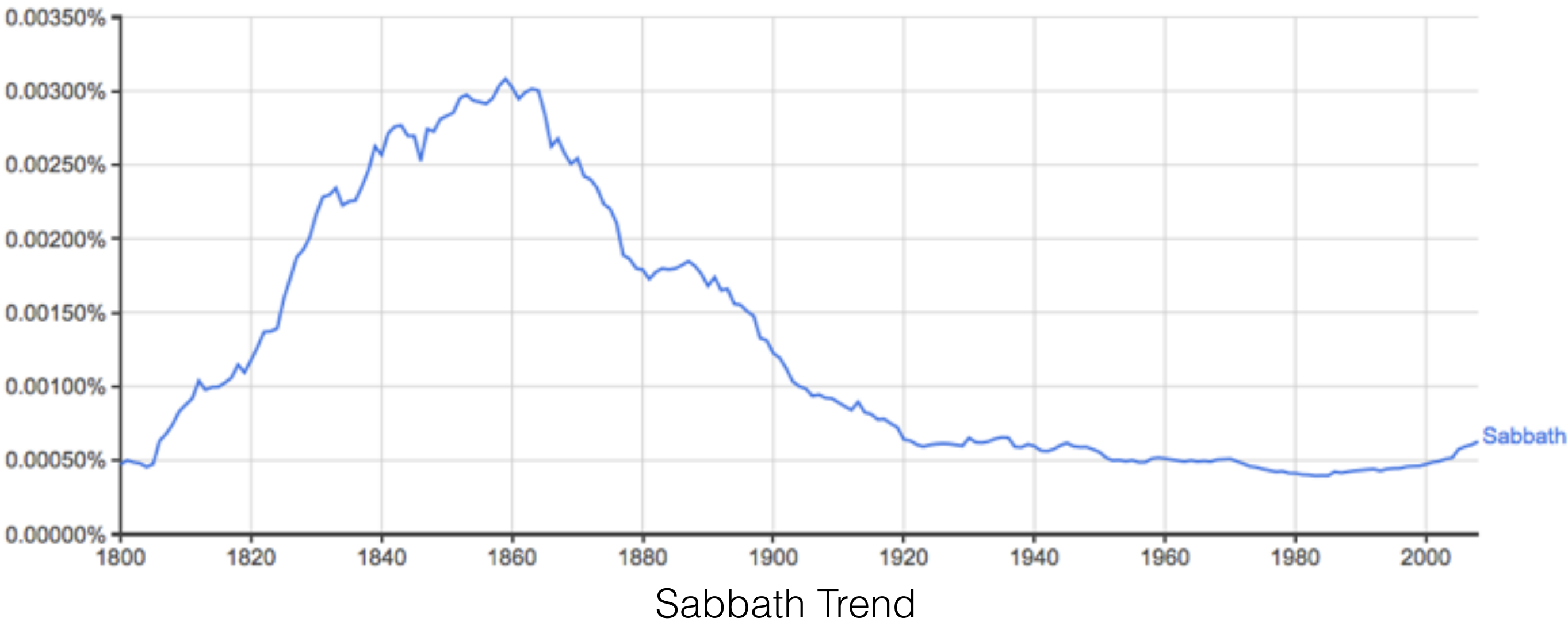
God-Related Trend

# Creation



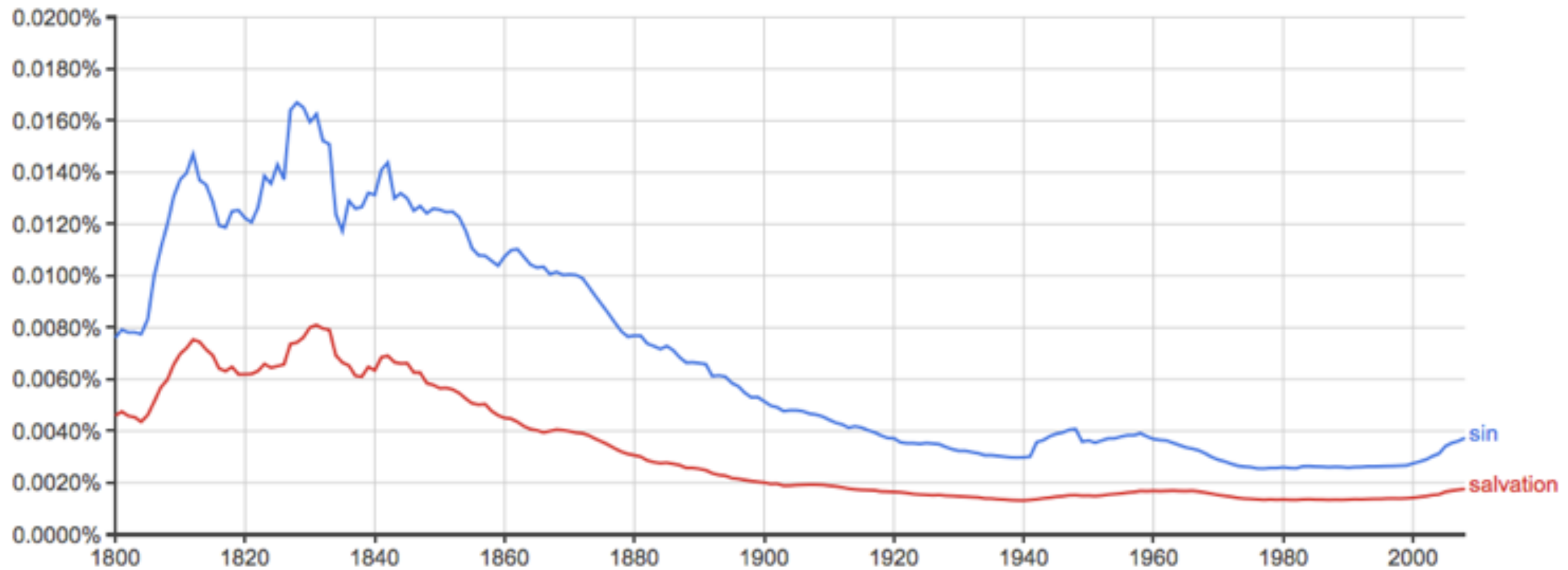
Creationism vs. Theory of Evolution (Case Insensitive Search)

# The Sabbath





# Nature of Man



Sin and Salvation Trends

# The Second Coming of Christ



Second Coming of Christ, English Vs. Spanish Trends  
(Case Insensitive Search)

# Healthy Living



Increasing Interest in Healthy Living and Vegetarianism



# Understanding the Needs of People in Big Cities through Data Science



12. Alférez, G.H. (2016). Tweeting in New York City - Data Science Can Teach Us to Sympathize. Adventist Review, 193(2), 47-49





Cities are growing fast



- **66%** of the world's population will live in urban areas by **2050** [13].
- There are more than **500** cities with a population of **1 million or more people**. However, these cities have an average of **1 Adventist congregation** for every **89,000 people!** [14].

13. Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, "World's Population Increasingly Urban with More than Half Living in Urban Areas," *United Nations* (July 10, 2014) <https://www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/population/world-urbanization-prospects.html>; retrieved November 10, 2015.

14. Oliver, A. "Adventist Church Implements Assessment Plan for Urban Mission," *Adventist News Network* (October 25, 2013) <http://news.adventist.org/en/all-news/news/go/2013-10-25/adventist-church-implements-assessment-plan-for-urban-mission/>; retrieved November 11, 2015.




**“The work in the cities is the essential work for this time.** When the cities are worked as God would have them, the result will be the setting in operation of **a mighty movement such as we have not yet witnessed**” [15].

15. White, E. G., Medical Ministry (Pacific Press Pub, 1963), p. 304.







“the Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ***ministered to their needs***, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, ‘Follow Me.’” [16]

16. White, E. G., The Ministry of Healing (Review & Herald, 1905), p. 143.







Use **data science** to understand the  
**needs** of people in **New York City**.

**Which *data* to use to understand the needs of people in big cities?**



Twitter is the largest searchable archive of human thought, that's public, that's ever existed [17] - *Chris Moody, Twitter's vice president for data strategy*

17. Simonite, T., "Twitter Boasts of What It Can Do with Your Data," *MIT Technology Review* (October 21, 2015) <http://www.technologyreview.com/news/542711/twitter-boasts-of-what-it-can-do-with-your-data/>; retrieved November 10, 2015.



# Reaching People's Tweets

**Sentiment analysis** was used to discover the **needs** of people from tweets.

The **computational study** of **opinions**, **sentiments**, and **emotions** expressed in text [18].

Sentiment analysis has been **satisfactory** used to classify users' sentiments in tweets [19].

18. B. Ling, "Sentiment Analysis and Subjectivity," in N. Indurkha, & F. J. Damerau, *Handbook of Natural Language Processing*, 2nd ed., (Boca Raton, FL: Chapman & Hall, 2010), pp. 627-665.

19. A. Tumasjan, T. O. Sprenger, & P. G., Sa. "Predicting Elections with Twitter: What 140 Characters Reveal about Political Sentiment," *Proceedings of the Fourth International AAAI Conference on Weblogs and Social Media*. AAAI, (2010), pp. 178-185.

# Reaching People's Tweets

- **Tweets** are **classified**
  - as ***positive*** when they communicate a positive sentiment, such as happiness;
  - as ***negative*** when a negative sentiment is attached to them (e.g. sadness);
  - and as ***neutral*** when no emotions are implied.

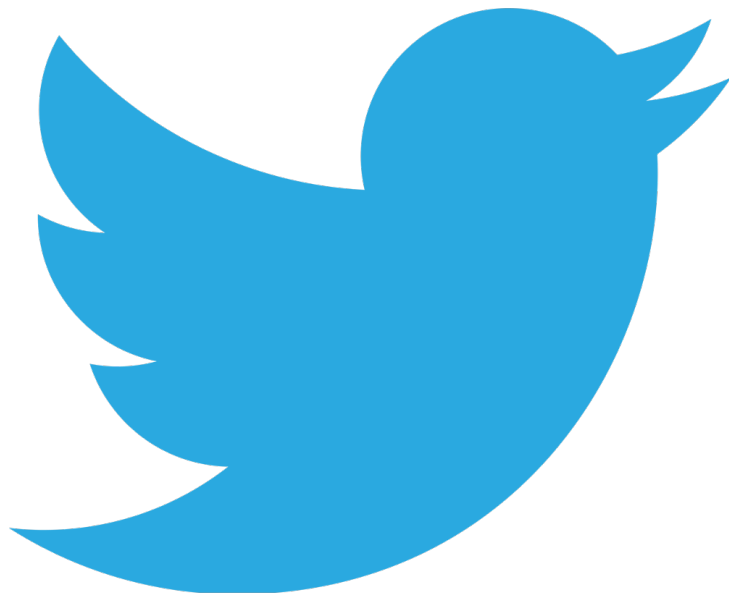
# Reaching People's Tweets

**Machine learning** [20] was used as a tool to differentiate tweets with *positive*, *negative*, and *neutral* sentiments.

**Machine learning** explores the study and construction of **algorithms** that can **learn from** and **make predictions on data**.



# Listening Closely to the Birds



Over a period of six weeks (September 22 to November 3, 2015), we collected 2,084 tweets from New York City, 1,633 of them bearing positive sentiments and 451 expressing negative sentiments. Tweets with neutral sentiments were not collected.

# Listening Closely to the Birds

## **30 specified keywords:**

Adventist, addiction, Bible, children, Christ, church, contamination, divorce, education, elderly, exercise, family, God, health, Jesus, obesity, peace, poverty, religion, rest, safety, salvation, Savior, stress, teenagers, teens, terrorism, vegetarian, violence, youth





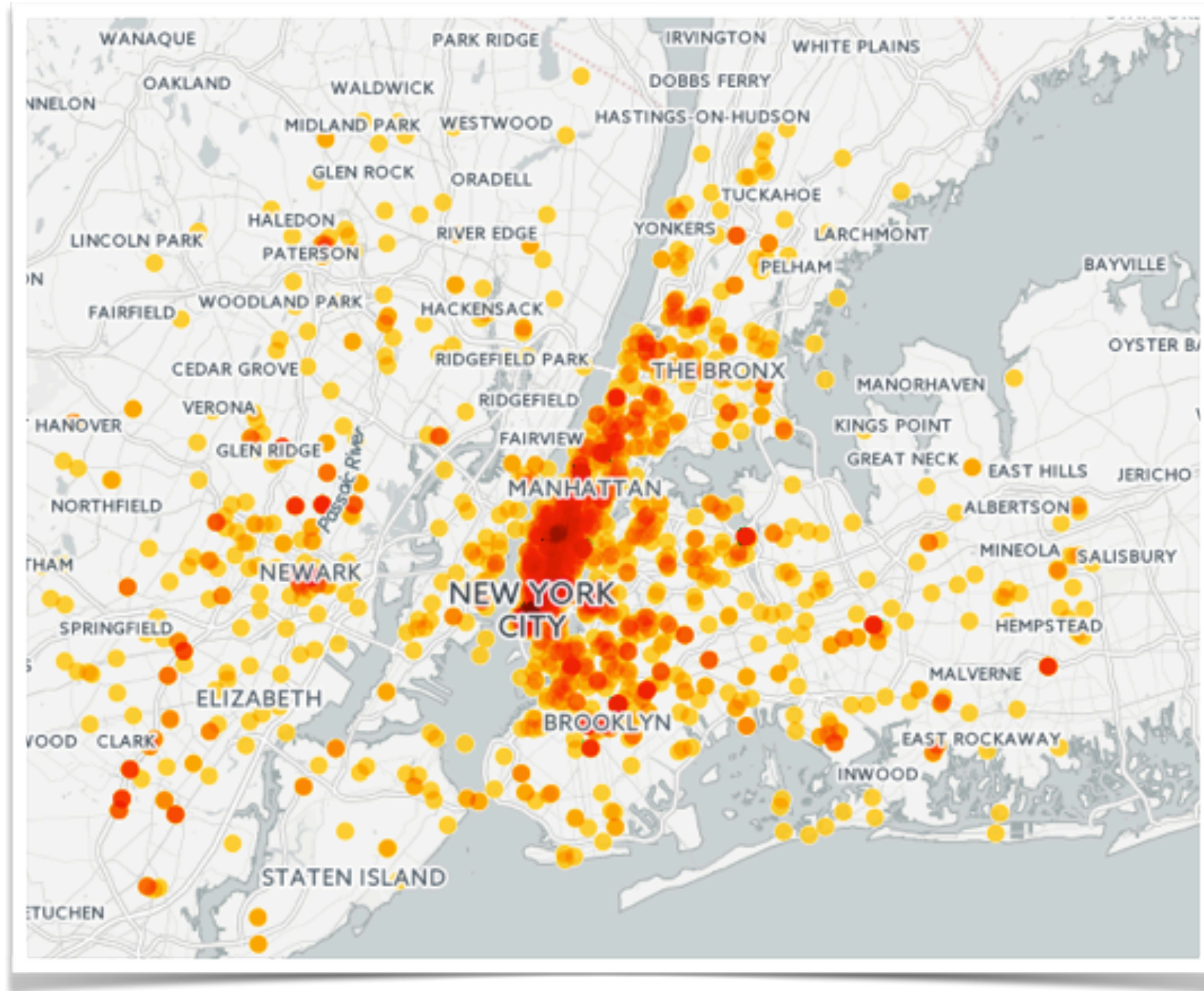
# Positive Tweet about Vegetarian Food

- Positive
- her\*
- 2015/10/02 02:08:16
- I want to be vegetarian. I really do. @arrogantwine @ East Williamsburg Brooklyn <https://t.co/rpatPGyhXw>
- -73.939 (longitude)
- 40.714 (latitude)

# Negative Tweet about Family

- Negative
- And\*
- 11/10/15 18:48
- My ex has made them hate me, but I still see the children in my dreams.
- -73.74663446 (longitude)
- 40.69729011 (latitude)

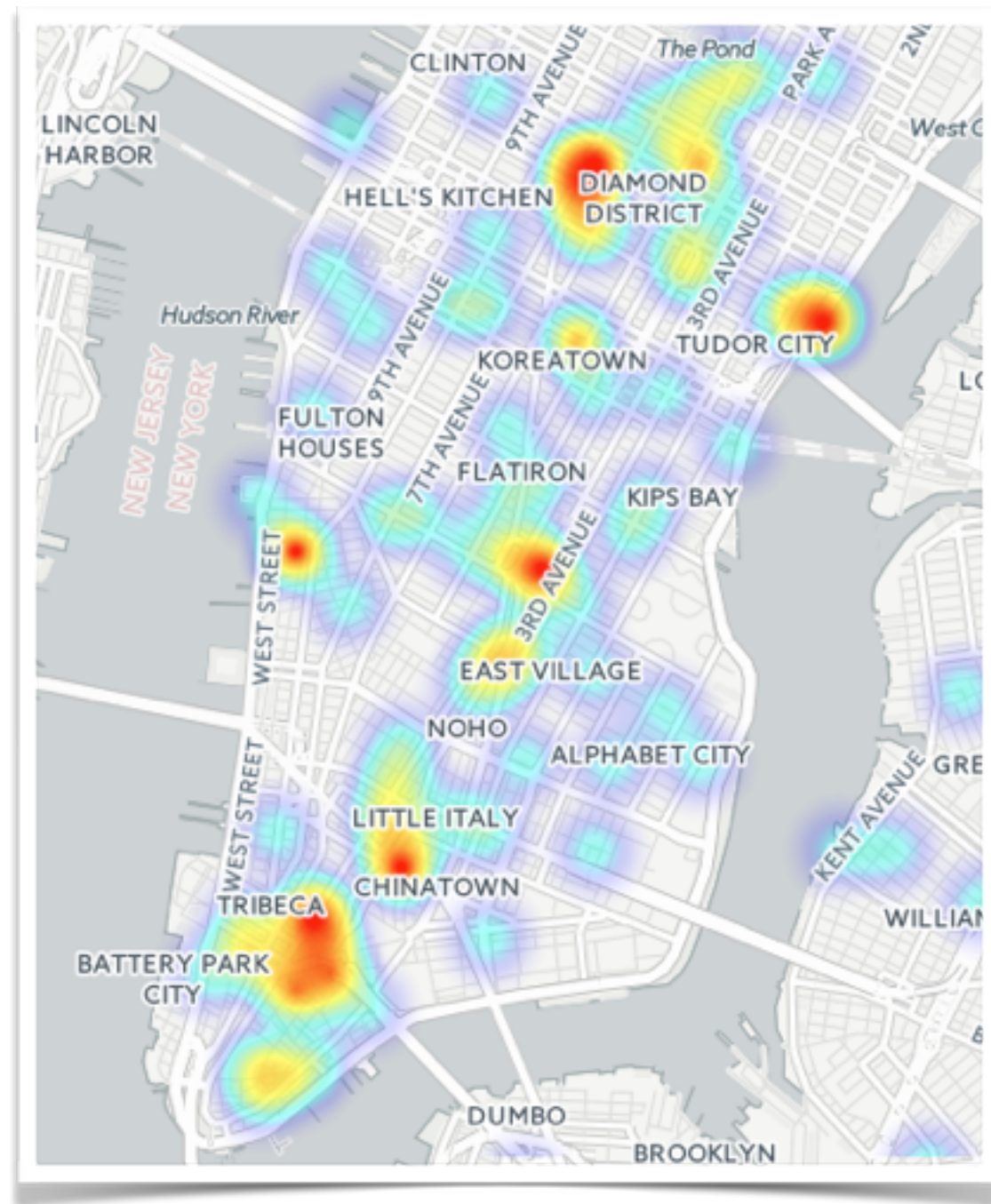
# Listening Closely to the Birds



# Intensity of tweets in New York City

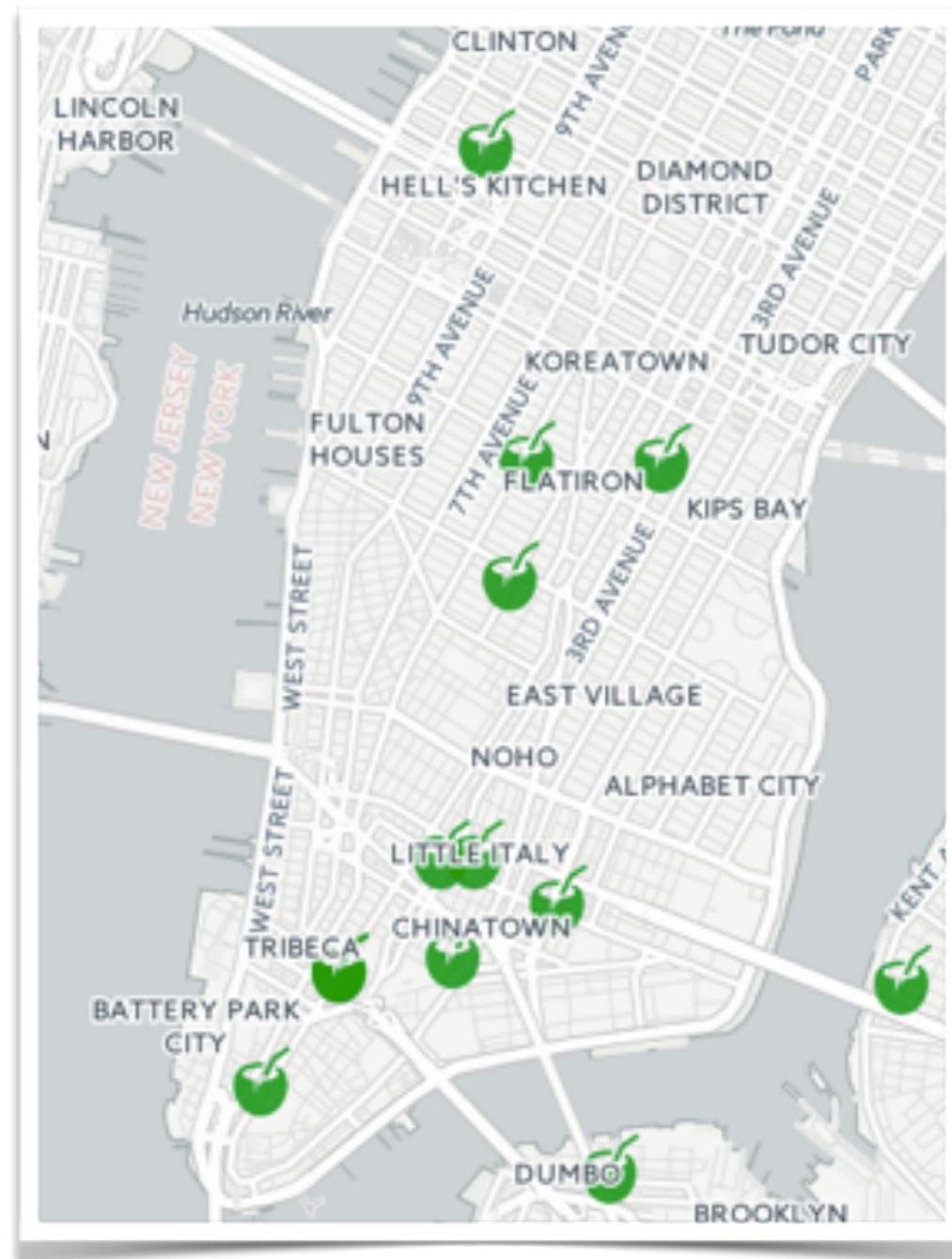


# Listening Closely to the Birds



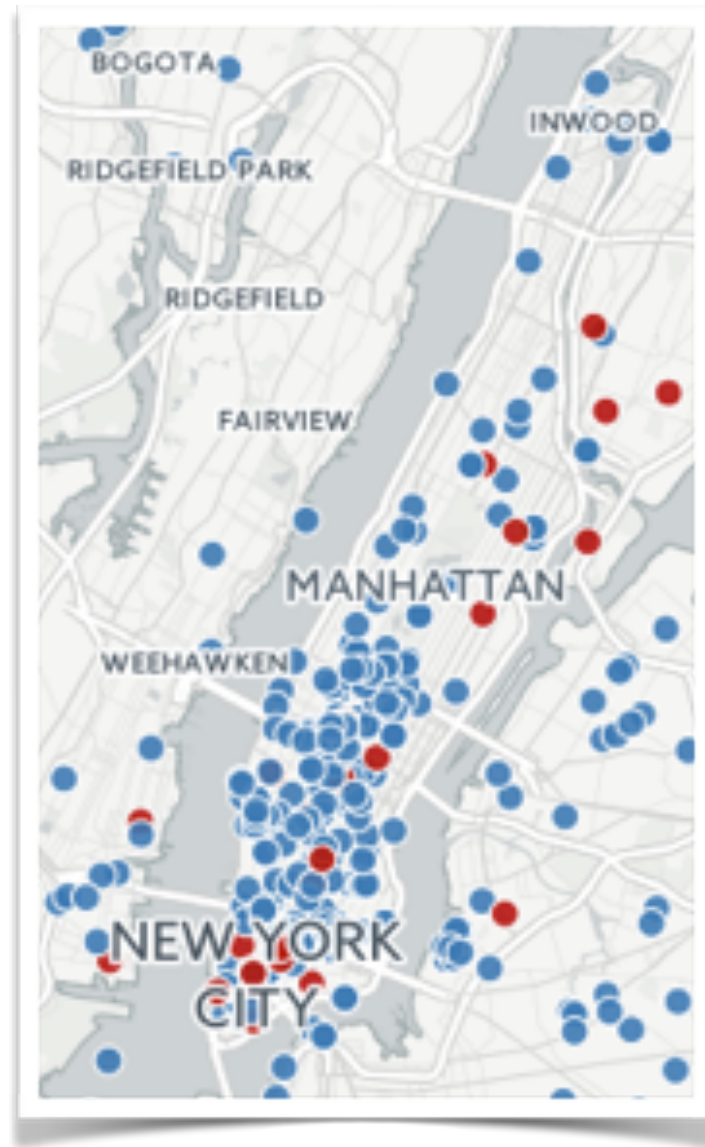
Areas with negative tweets in Manhattan

# Upbeat and Downbeat



Positive tweets about vegetarian food in Manhattan

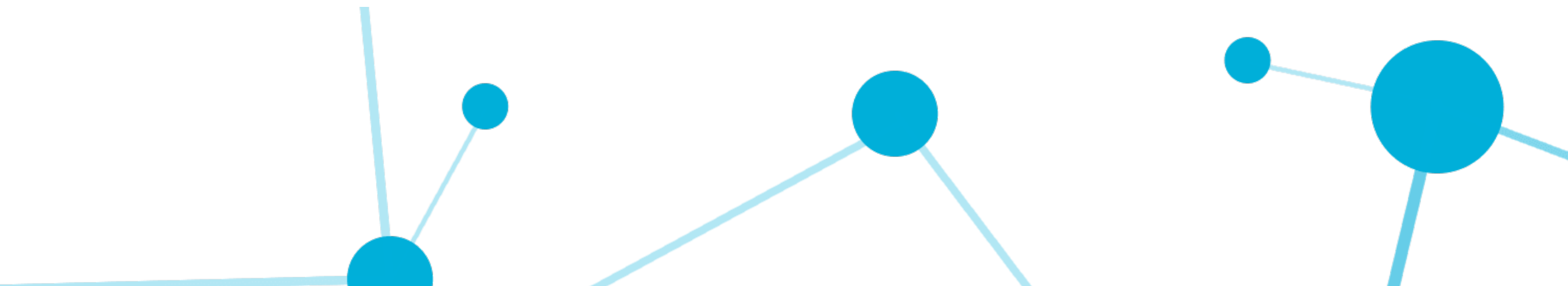
# Upbeat and Downbeat



Positive [blue] and negative [red] tweets about family in Manhattan



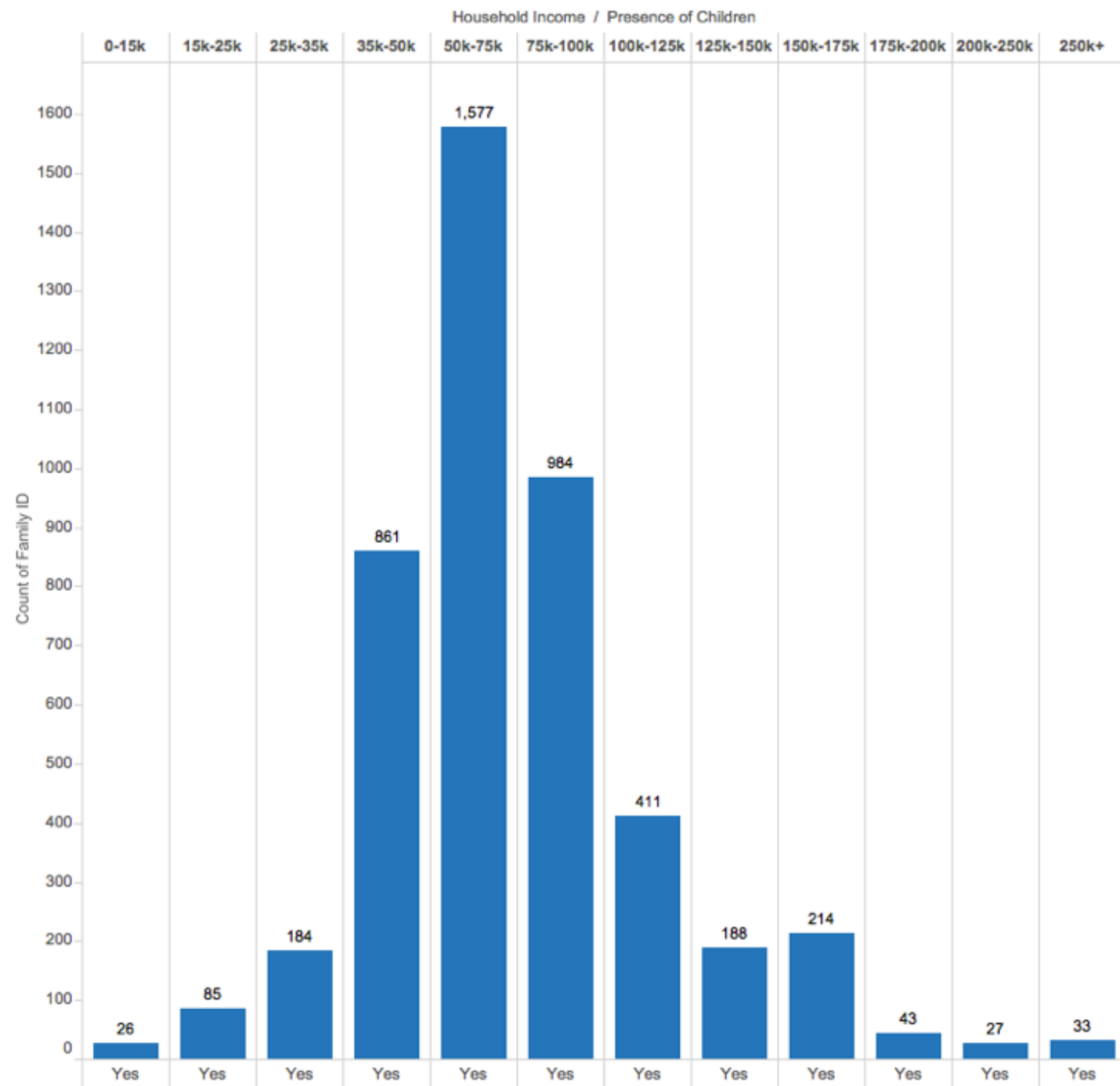
# Other Data Science Mission-Oriented Case Studies



# Data Analysis for Washington Conference

- What communities have the highest concentrations of members?
- What are the needs of the communities according to open data?
- What communities have no SDA presence?
- What age range do the parents fall into?
- What is the general income of families?
- What are key membership interests based on age and income?
- Geo-localization of all the Adventist churches and schools at the Washington Conference compared to the information in 2017 US Census
- Social media analysis
- Cluster analysis for marketing

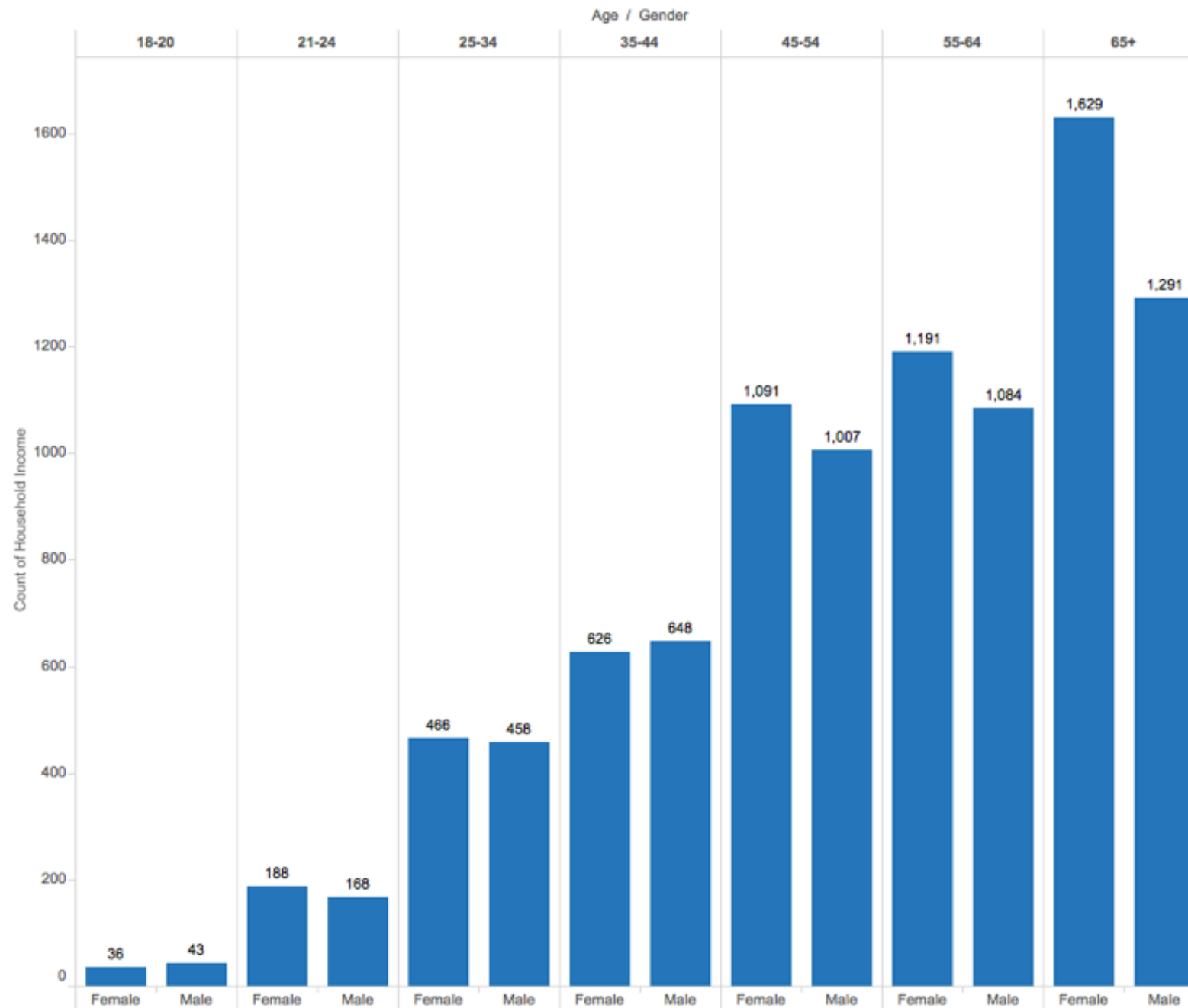
# Data Analysis for Washington Conference



Household income of families with children at home

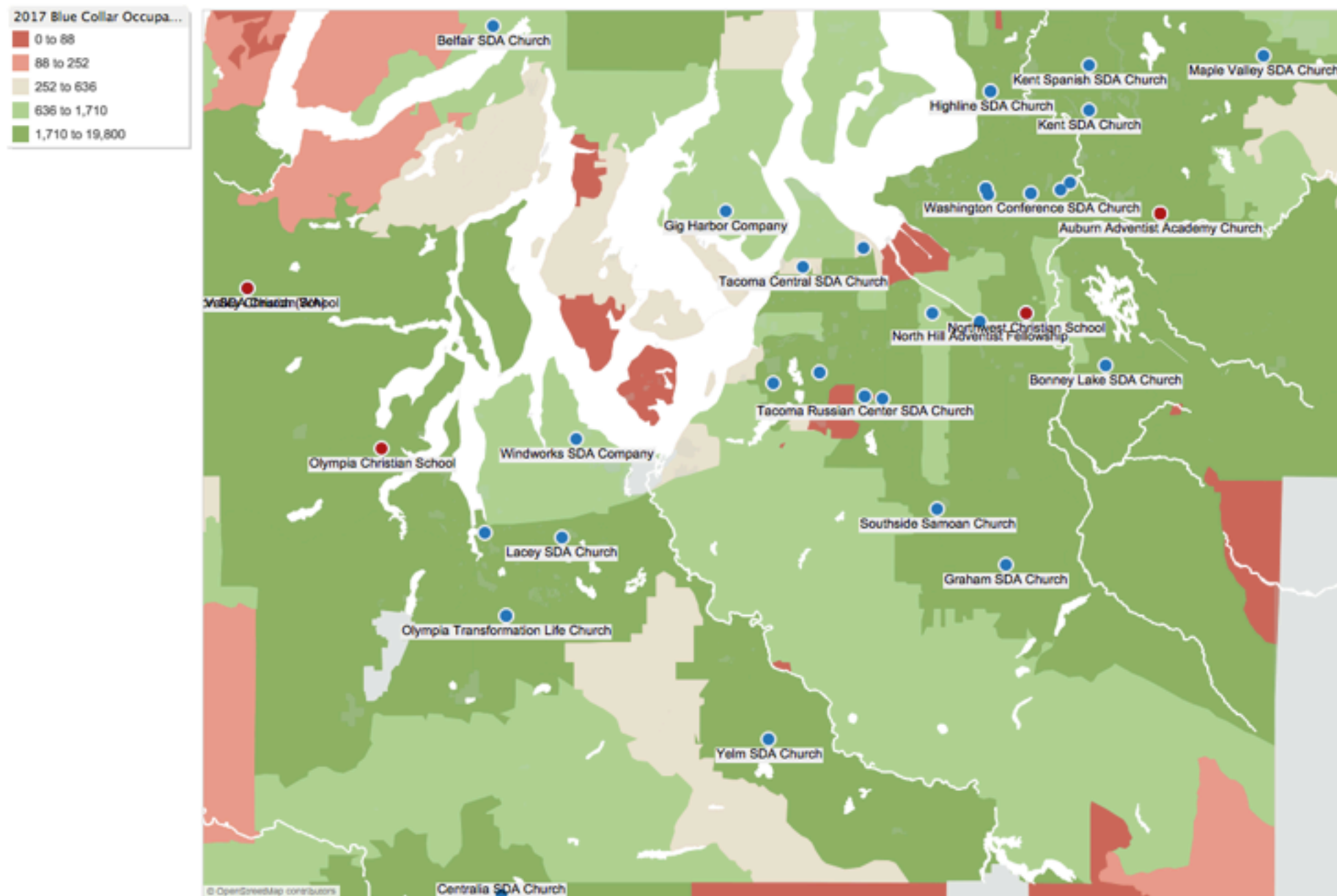


# Data Analysis for Washington Conference



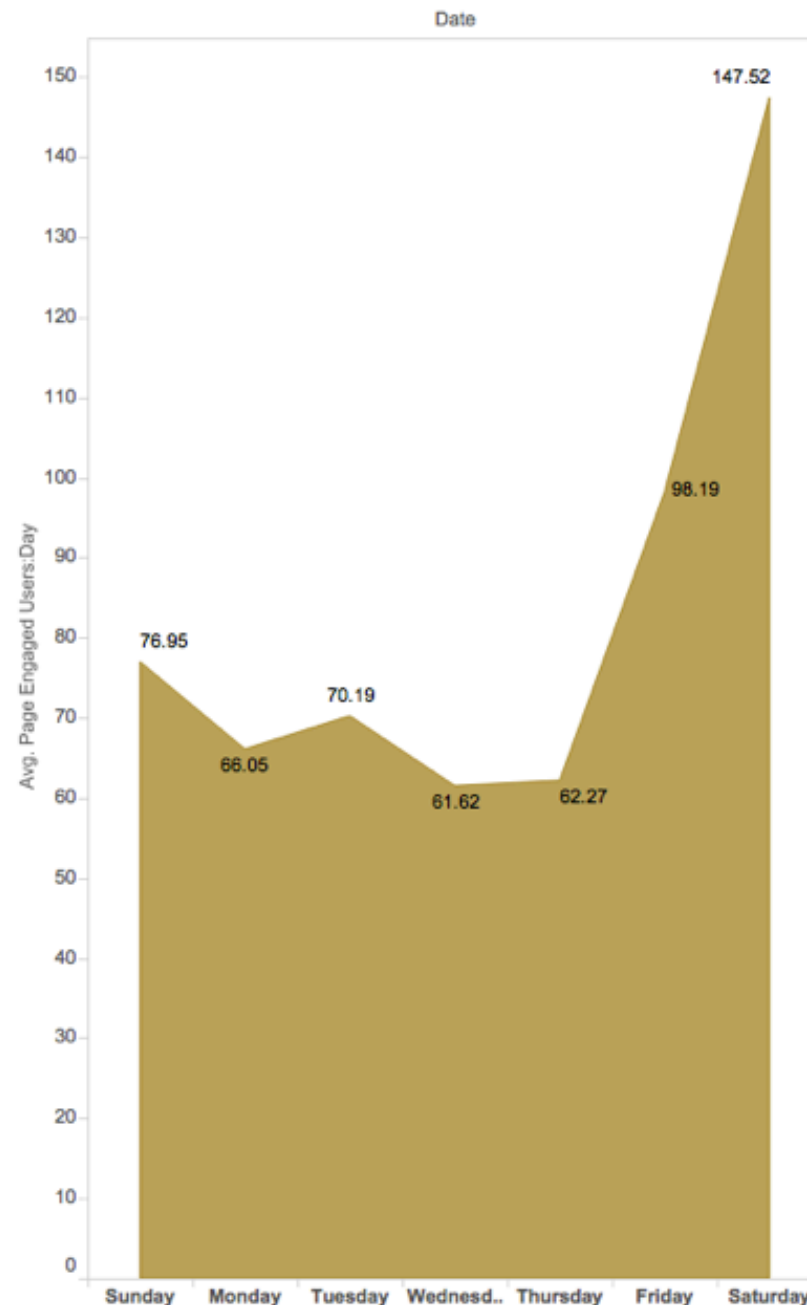
Household income by gender and age

# Data Analysis for Washington Conference



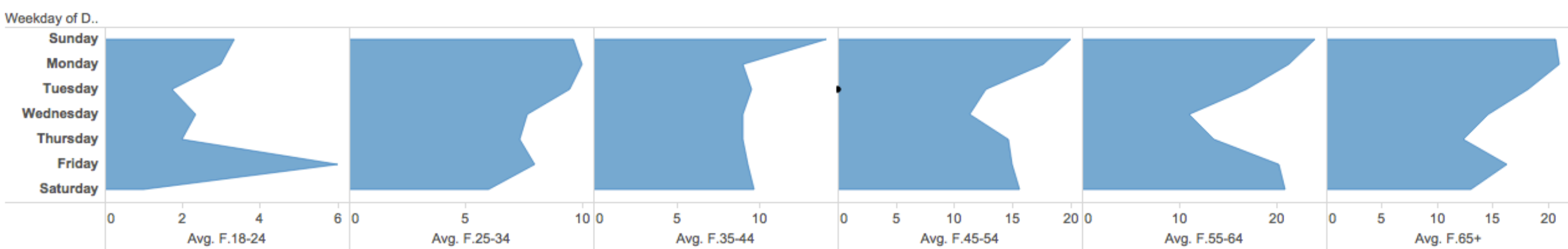
Sample map with the geo-localization of churches (in blue) and schools (in red) and census data related to blue-collar occupation (background colors)

# Data Analysis for Washington Conference



Average page engaged users per day (January 12 to June 6, 2017)





Average page female visitors per day

# Exploring Open Demographic Data

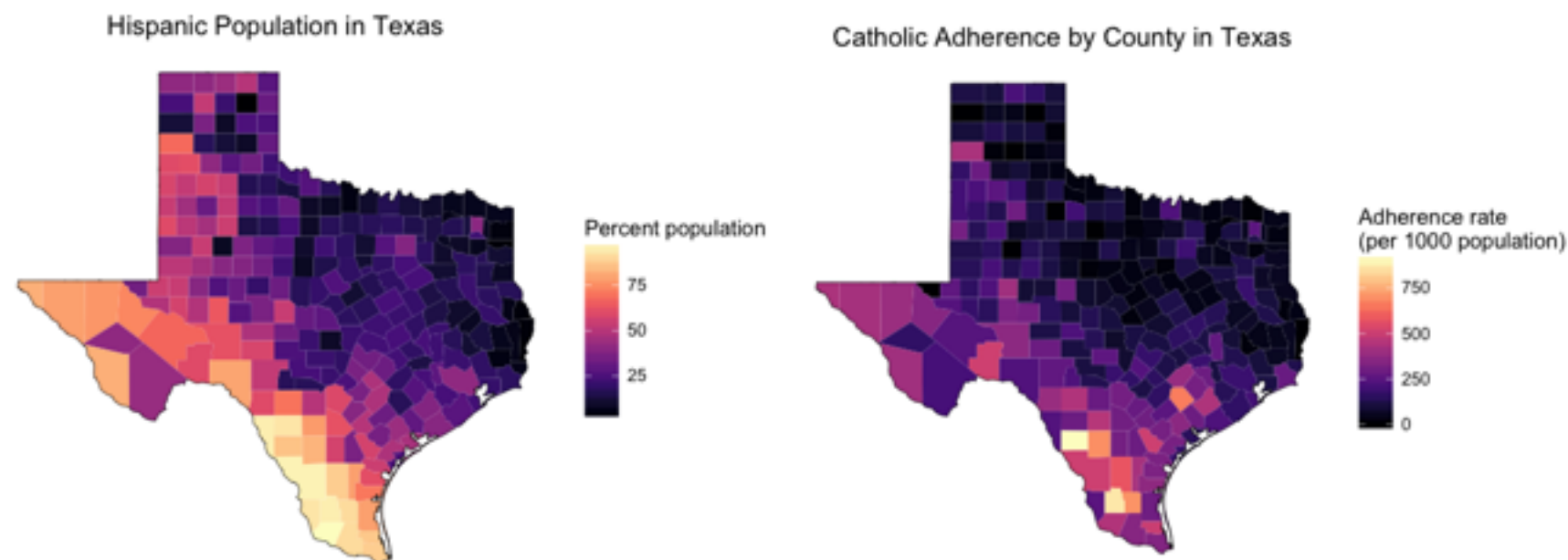
Data from the latest religion census that was published in  
2010 by the Association of Statisticians of American  
Religious Bodies (ASARB)



Demographic data from the 2013 American Community  
Survey (ACS) county demographic data

# Exploring Open Demographic Data

The correlation coefficient between the Catholic adherence rate and the percentage of the population that is Hispanic in Texas counties is high 0.7521401, with a 95% confidence interval.



Hispanic Population in Texas Vs. Catholic Adherence by County in Texas



# Using Data Science to Understand Segments of Individuals Who Have been Removed from Membership in the Inter-Oceanic Mexican Union Conference from 2005 to 2013

Dr. Germán H. Alférez, *Universidad de Montemorelos*, Erón Zebadúa, *Inter-Oceanic Mexican Union Conference*, and Enoc Cruz, *Universidad Linda Vista*

*Technical Report June 23, 2016. Global Software Lab, School of Engineering and Technology, Universidad de Montemorelos*

**Abstract**—Removing individuals from membership in the Seventh-day Adventist Church is the ultimate discipline that the church can administer. Our contribution is to present how we have applied state-of-the-art data science techniques to identify the segments of individuals who have been baptized from 2005 to 2013 and also been removed from membership in the same period of time at the Inter-Oceanic Mexican Union Conference. The dataset that was analyzed is composed of 14,388 records of members who have been removed. The results can guide further church decisions to prevent membership lost, specially among youth and among people who are baptized after evangelistic campaigns. Our data-science approach could be easily extrapolated to other divisions and conferences.

1. Most individuals who are removed from membership are young and last around 3 years at church.
2. The percentage of retention of youth (15 to 33 years old) with a SDA background is very similar to the segment of youth without any religious background.
3. People who enter the church after an evangelistic campaign tend to leave the church in a higher percentage than people who take Bible courses or who are invited by friends.



**100 languages**

Software to Guide the Application  
of Data Science in the 10/40  
Window. Case Study: Data  
Analysis in the Middle East and  
North Africa Union



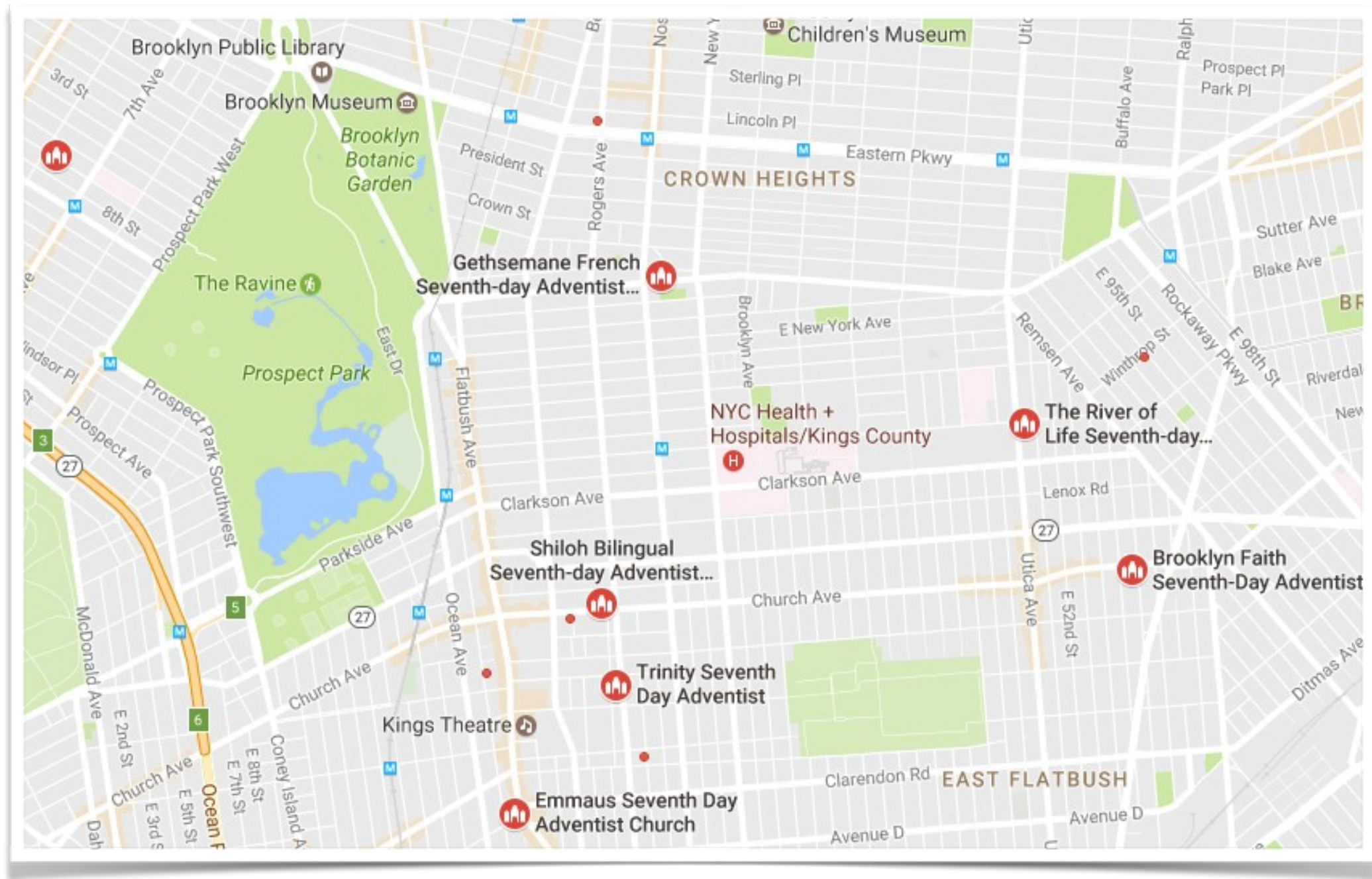
AfricaNews, Agence France Presse, Associated Press, Associated Press Online, Associated Press Worldstream, BBC Monitoring, Christian Science Monitor, Facts on File, Foreign Broadcast Information Service, The New York Times, United Press International and The Washington Post



# Discovering Mission-Oriented Patterns with Open Data in New York City

- We analyzed an open dataset of motor vehicle collisions in NYC (2014-2016), which is freely provided by NYPD. 932,904 registered incidents with 30 variables. We applied the K-Means algorithm to this dataset.
- On Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, drivers tend to drive aggressively. This situation increases the number of accidents during those days.
- On Fridays, around Prospect Park, Brooklyn, there were over 77,000 pedicab accidents.

# Discovering Mission-Oriented Patterns with Open Data in New York City



# Application of Data Science to Classify Causes of Maternal Mortality in Mexico

- In Mexico, the maternal mortality rate is very high: 38 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2015 (WHO).
- Eclampsia during labor and postpartum hemorrhage.
- The model generated with Naïve Bayes was chosen to carry out classifications within the software (accuracy = 0.72, precision = 0.75, recall = 0.74). The model was trained with 1,018 instances.



# Analyzing the CHSI


Community Health Status Indicators (CHSI) open dataset provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on Data.Gov. The CHSI dataset provides key health indicators for local communities. It contains over 200 measures for each of the 3,141 United States counties.

**An increasing number of community/migrant health centers correlates with a decreasing number of people with diabetes per county.**

# Agenda

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- 3. How to use data science at your conference**
4. Conclusions and recommendations

# Use Open Data Sources


DATA.GOV

DATA TOPICS ▾ IMPACT APPLICATIONS DEVELOPERS CONTACT


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SEARCH OVER 196,465 DATASETS  
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Ecosystems

  
Education

  
Energy

  
Finance



# Use Open Data Sources

HealthData.gov



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OPEN DATA

## Food Affordability, 2006-2010

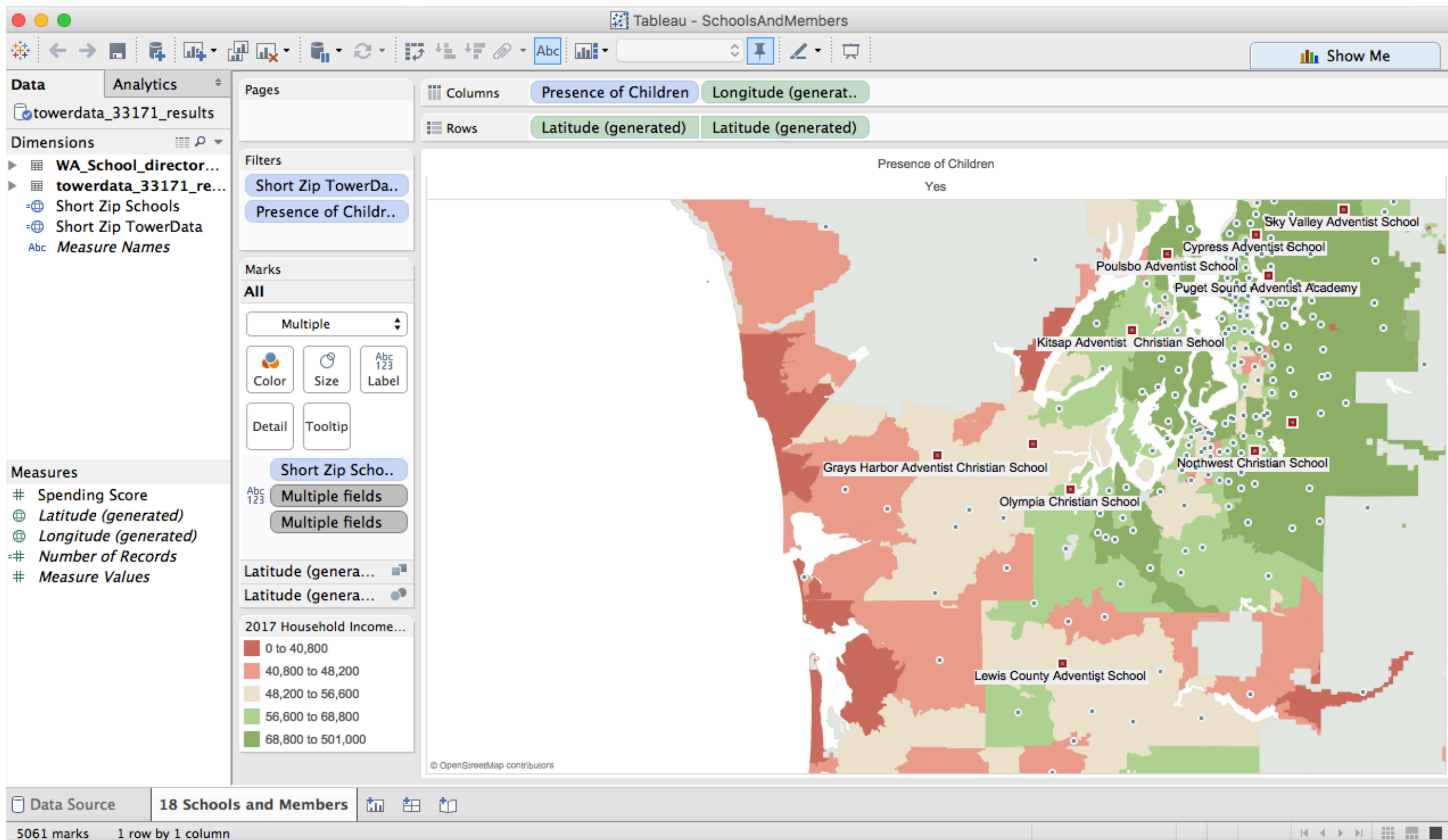
This table contains data on the average cost of a market basket of nutritious food items relative to income for female-headed households with children, for California, its regions, counties, and cities/towns. The ratio uses data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Census Bureau. The table is part of a series of indicators in the Healthy Communities Data and Indicators Project of the Office of Health Equity.

An adequate, nutritious diet is a necessity at all stages of life. Inadequate diets can impair intellectual performance and have been linked to more frequent school absence and poorer educational achievement in children. Nutrition also plays a significant role in causing or preventing a number of illnesses, such as cardiovascular disease, some cancers, obesity, type 2 diabetes, and anemia.

At least two factors influence the affordability of food and the dietary choices of families â the cost of food and

# Use Simple and Powerful Software

Tableau



# Use Free Software

## GNU PSPP

The screenshot displays the GNU PSPP Data Editor window, titled '\*students.sav [DataSet1] - PSPPIRE Data Editor'. The main window shows a data table with columns: Case, id, lastname, firstnam, gender, ethnicit, year, lowup, section, hsgpa, colgpa, extrcred, review, quiz1, quiz2, and qi. The 'Compute Variable' dialog box is open, showing the 'Target Variable' as 'log\_colgpa' and the 'Numeric Expressions' as 'LN(colgpa)'. The 'Functions' list includes INDEX, LAG, LENGTH, LG10, and LN. The 'Data View' tab is selected at the bottom.

Case	id	lastname	firstnam	gender	ethnicit	year	lowup	section	hsgpa	colgpa	extrcred	review	quiz1	quiz2	qi
1	302400	JONES													
2	106484	VILLARRUZ													
3	664653	KHAN													
4	595177	WILLIAMS													
5	506467	SCARBROUG													
6	681855	GRISWOLD													
7	721311	SONG													
8	237983	LEE													
9	725987	BATILLER													
10	615115	VASENIUS													
11	979028	NEUHARTH													
12	140219	GUADIZ													
13	908754	MARQUEZ													
14	417003	EVANGELIST													
15	818528	CARRINGTON													
16	938666	SUAREZ-TAN													
17	354601	CARPIO	MARY	1	2	2	1	1	2.03	2.40	1	2	10	1	
18	307894	TORRENCE	GWEN	1	3	2	1	2	2.09	2.21	2	2	6	6	
19	983522	SLOAT	AARON	2	3	3	2	3	2.11	2.45	1	1	4	6	
20	108642	VALAZQUEZ	SCOTT	2	4	3	2	2	2.19	3.50	2	1	10	1	
21	287617	CUMMINGS	DAVENA	1	5	3	2	3	2.21	3.82	1	2	9	1	



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# Agenda

1. What is big data, data science, and open data?
2. Successful case studies
3. How to use data science at your conference
- 4. Conclusions**

# The Role of Big Data in Our Church

- Our **Church** can do something **valuable** with **big data**.
  - For instance, big data can help us to **make our beliefs relevant in a postmodern culture**.
- **Computational approaches** can be used to understand large pools of data, discover patterns, and make “**data-driven**” **decisions**.



**Data science** has the potential to help us understand the **needs of people in big cities** in an **unprecedented way**.



# Areas of Interest

- **Evangelism:** Understand the community, etc.
- **Church Treasury:** Analysis of tithes and offering, donors profiles, offering distribution, etc.
- **Education:** Student profiles, retention forecasting, etc.
- **Media:** Create profiles of TV/radio/Internet viewers or listeners (i.e., personas), etc.
- **Geolocation Analysis:** Create maps related to schools and students, church and members, small groups, demographic information, etc.

# Data Science: How to Turn Data Into Actionable Mission-Oriented Decisions

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