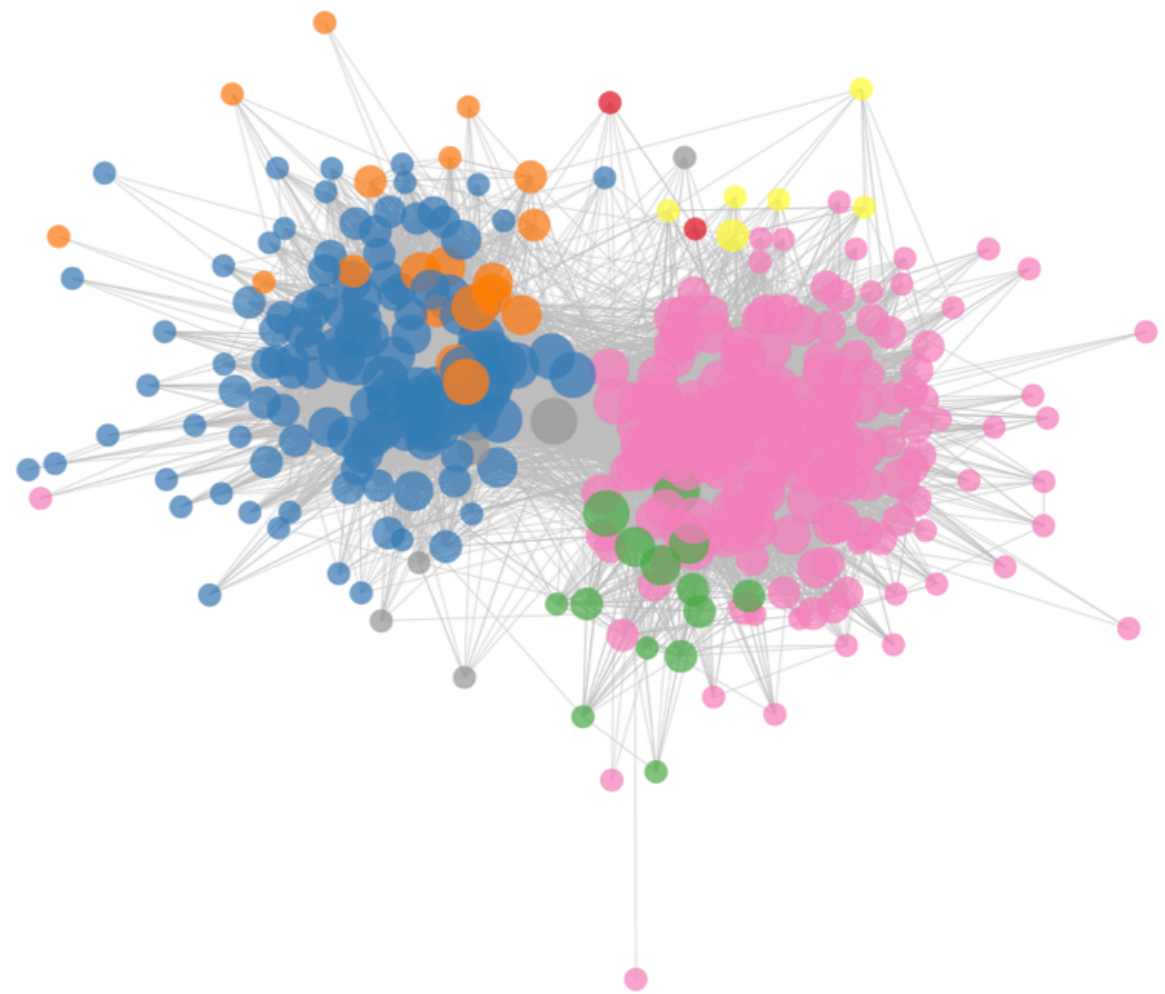


Teaching R to social science undergraduates

François Briatte

Ivaylo Petev

R 2013, Lyon, France



Audience

500+ hours teaching **Stata**

Sciences Po Paris

24 hours teaching **R / RStudio**

Sciences Po Reims

Material

github.com/briatte/ida

(.Rmd, .R)

f.briatte.org/teaching/ida

(.html, .R)

Syllabus

“Introduction to ~~Statistical Computing~~”

“Introduction to ~~Data Visualization~~”

“**Introduction to Data Analysis**”

syllabus.pdf

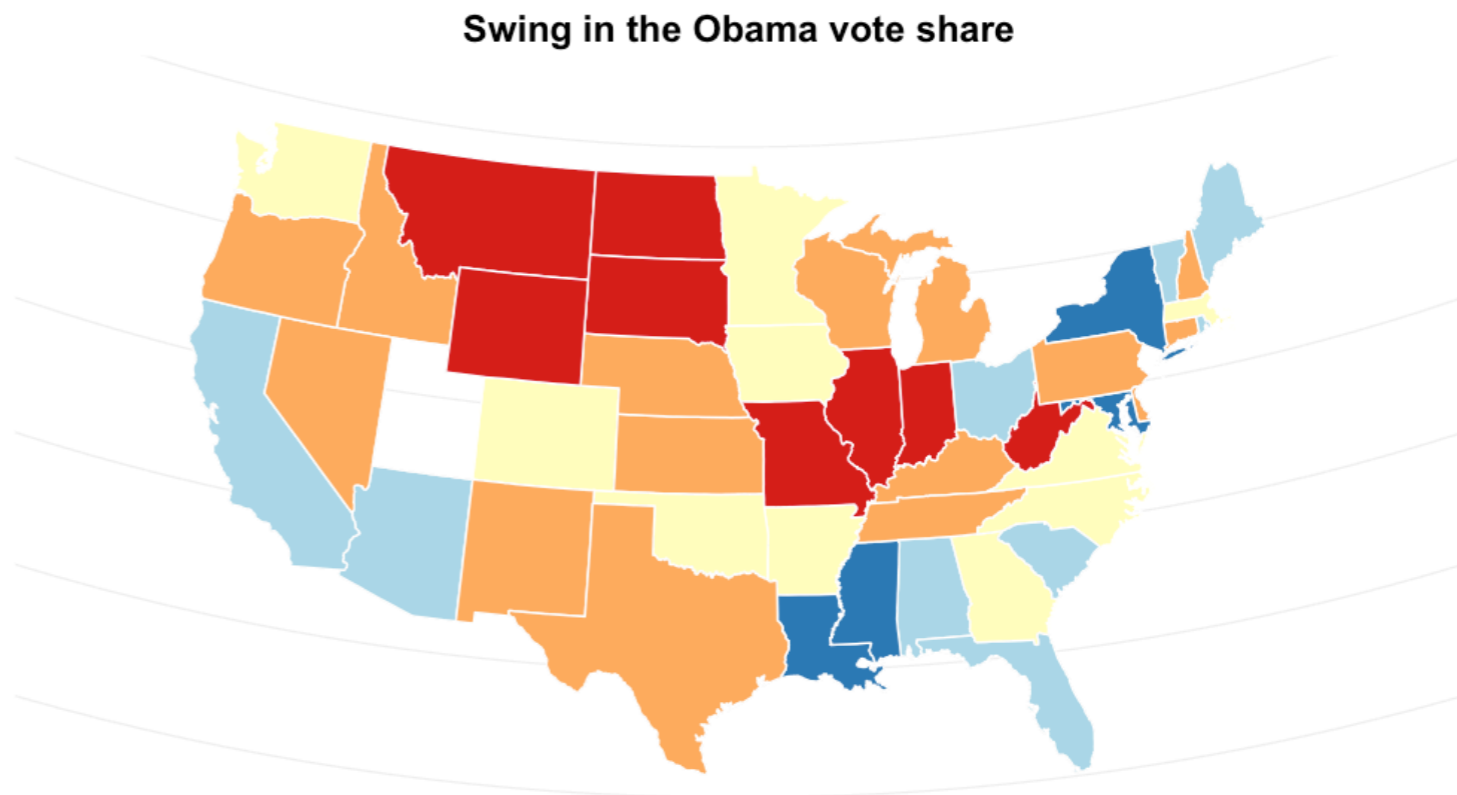
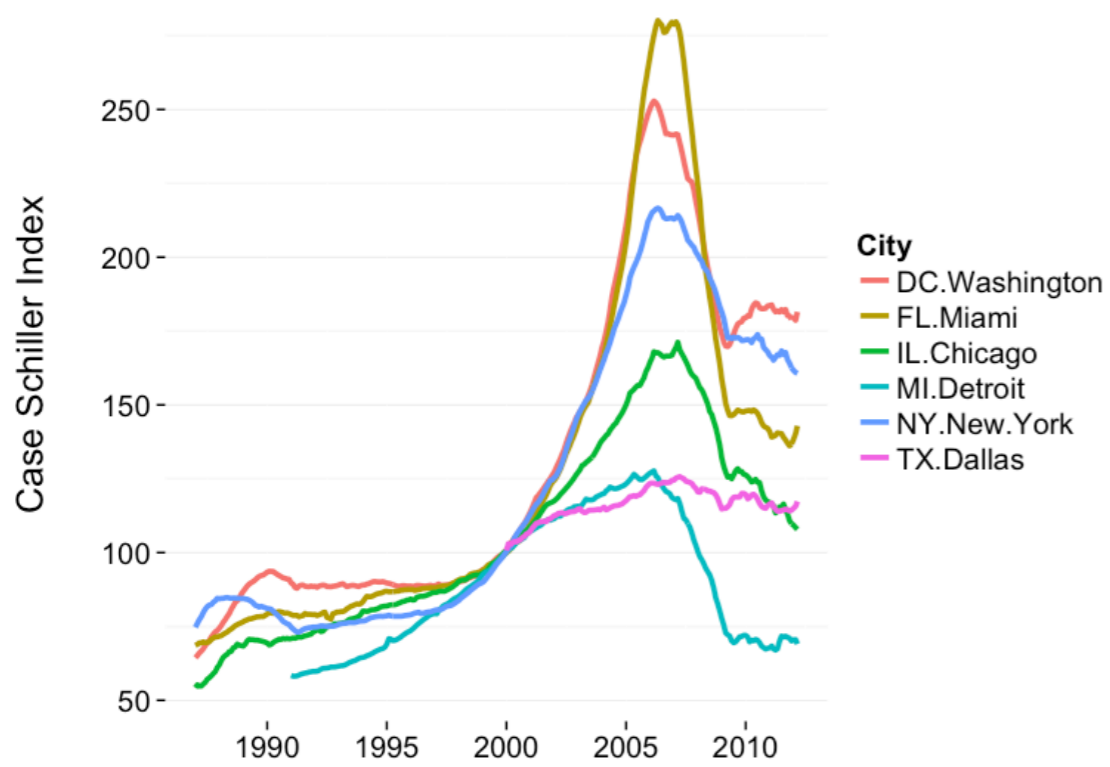
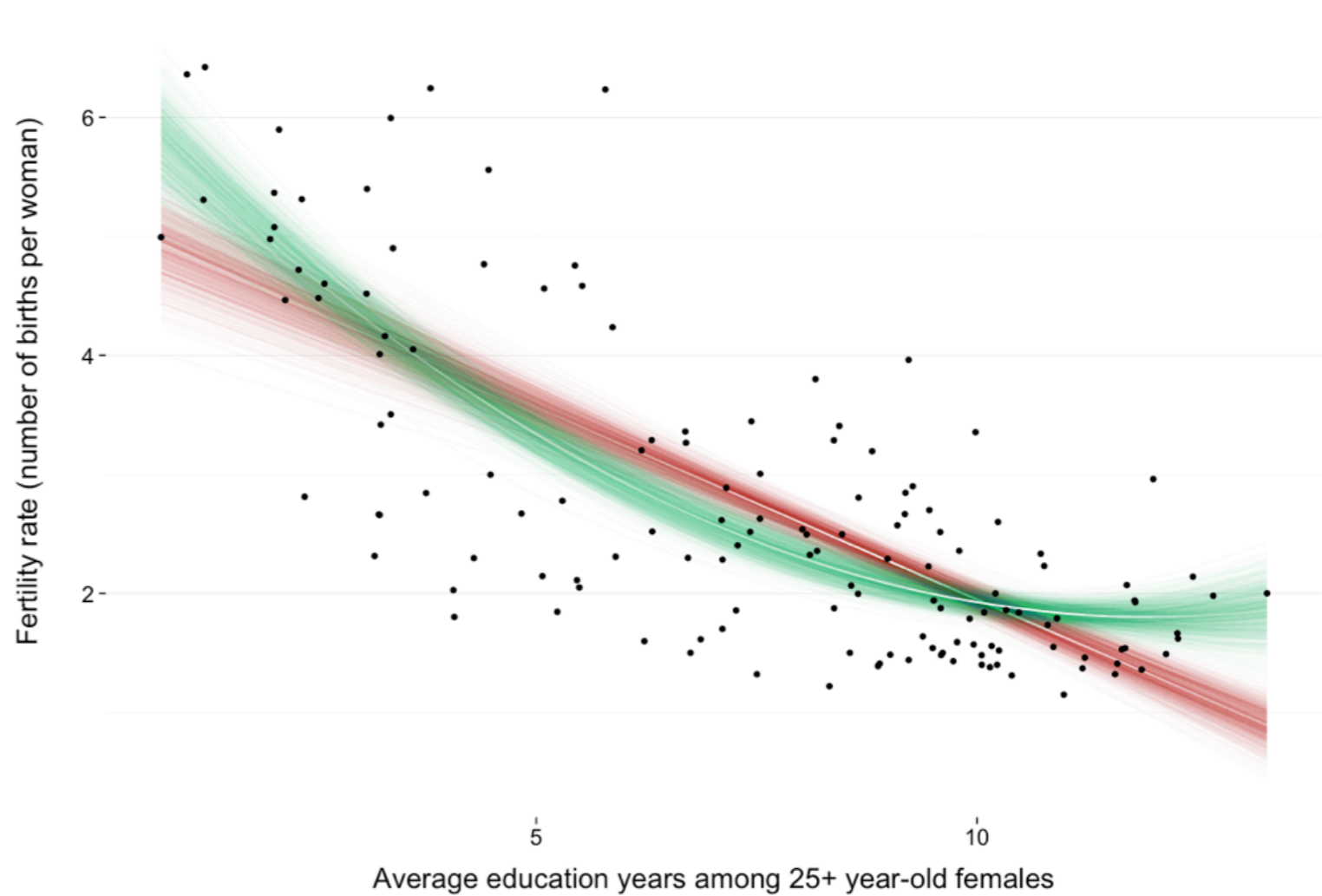
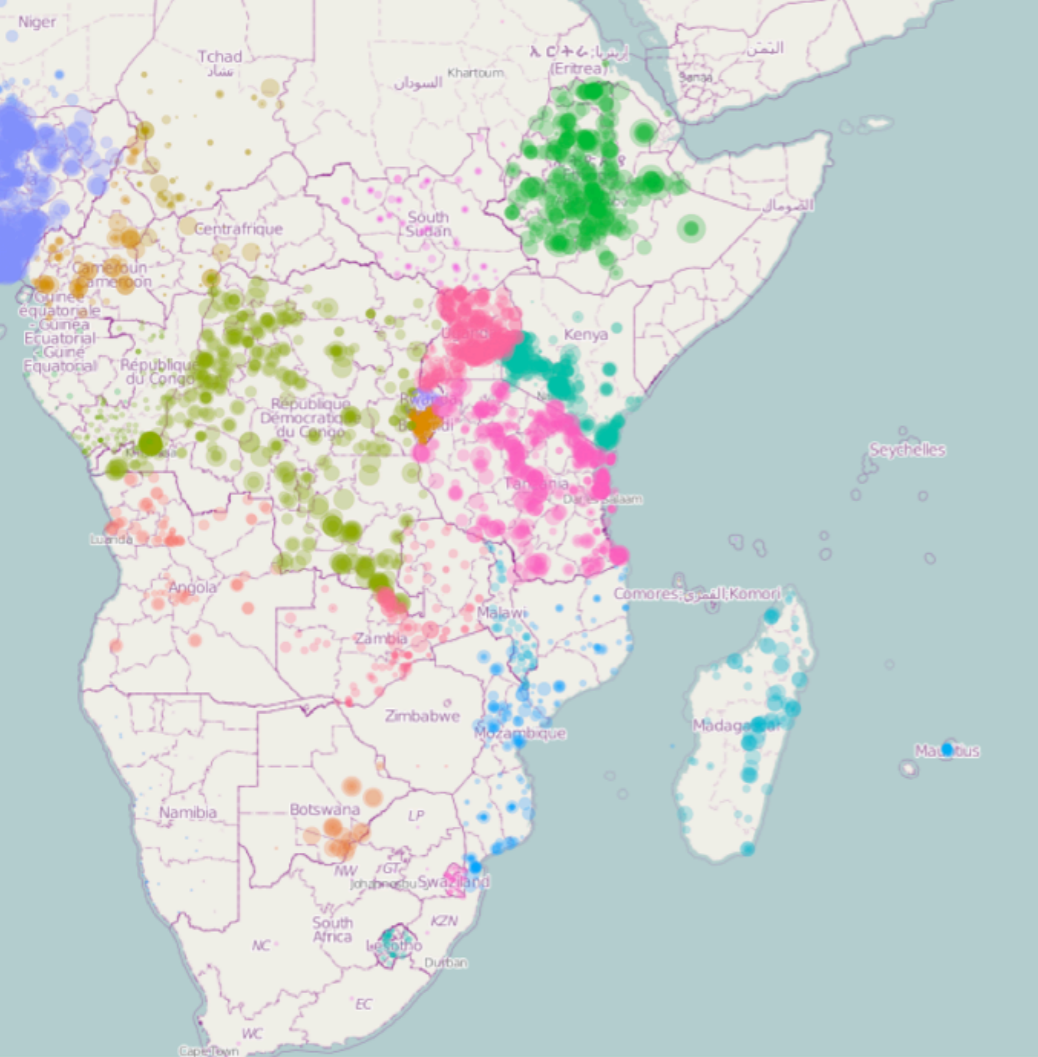
Audience ($N = 22$)

Advanced Math for Economics majors

(most planning to enroll in U.S. universities)

Little to no coding experience at all

(but some had dabbled with Java, Python)



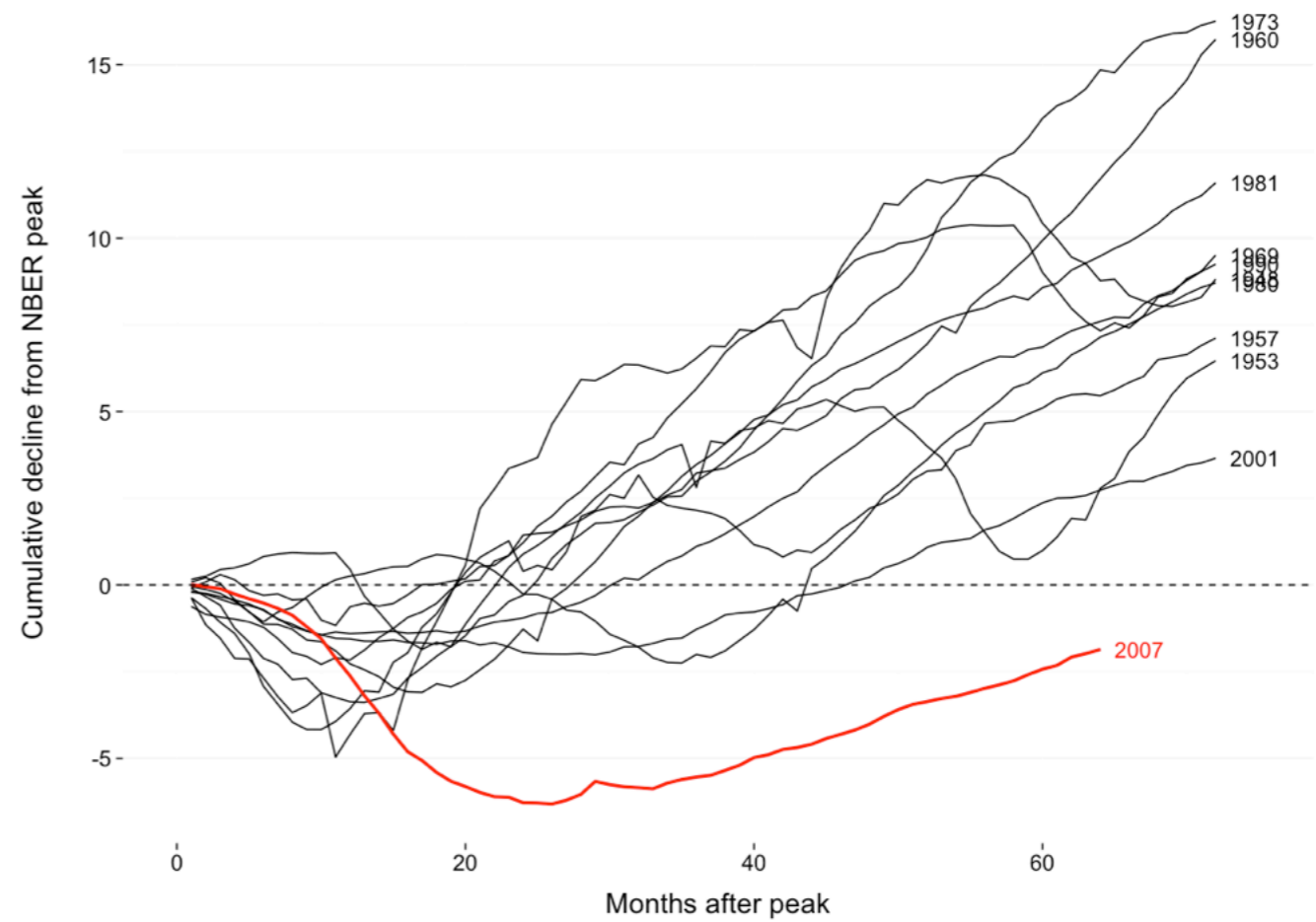
Issues

Code

Data

Libraries

Security



Code

Fully commented scripts

Sequential parsing of manageable chunks

Replication of board examples

Questions (code), answers (analysis)

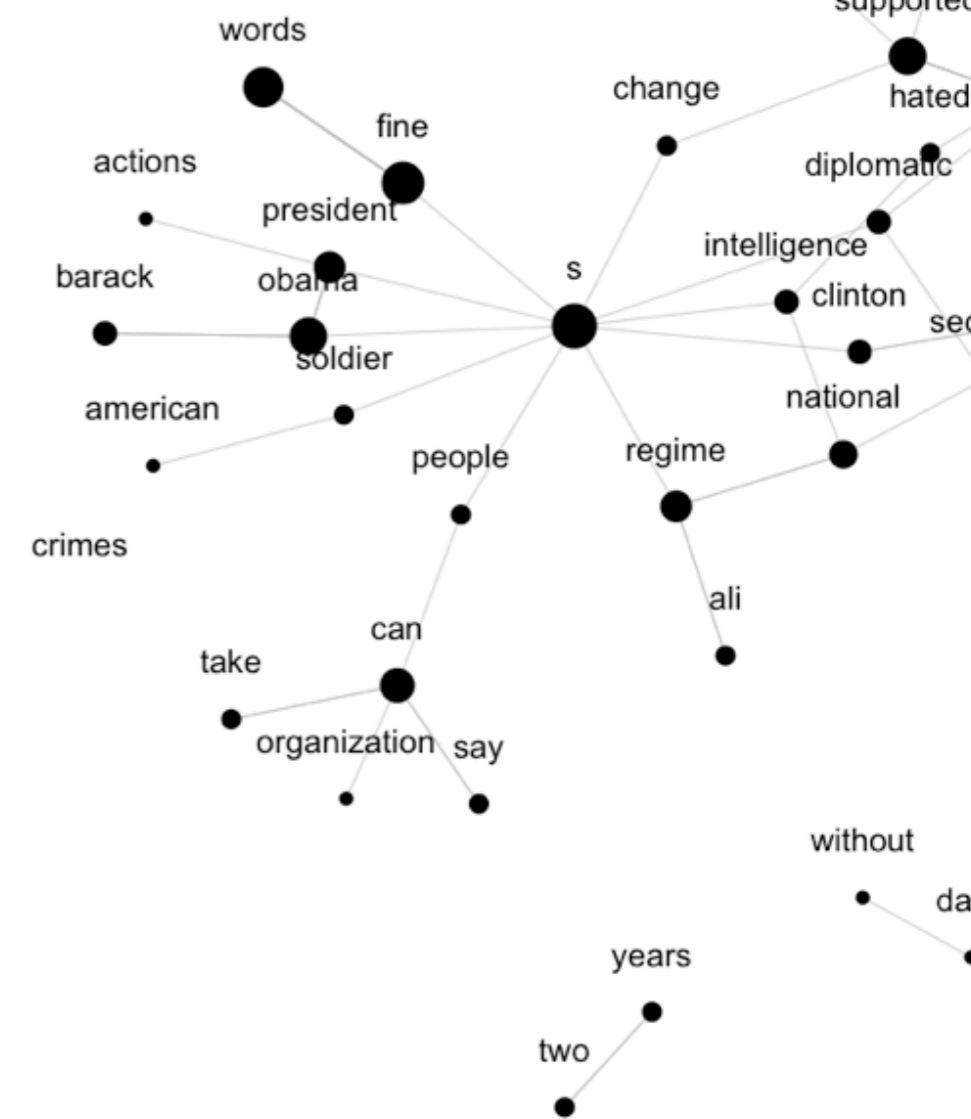
Data

Almost **no simulated data**

HTTP / HTTPS / FTP / HTML

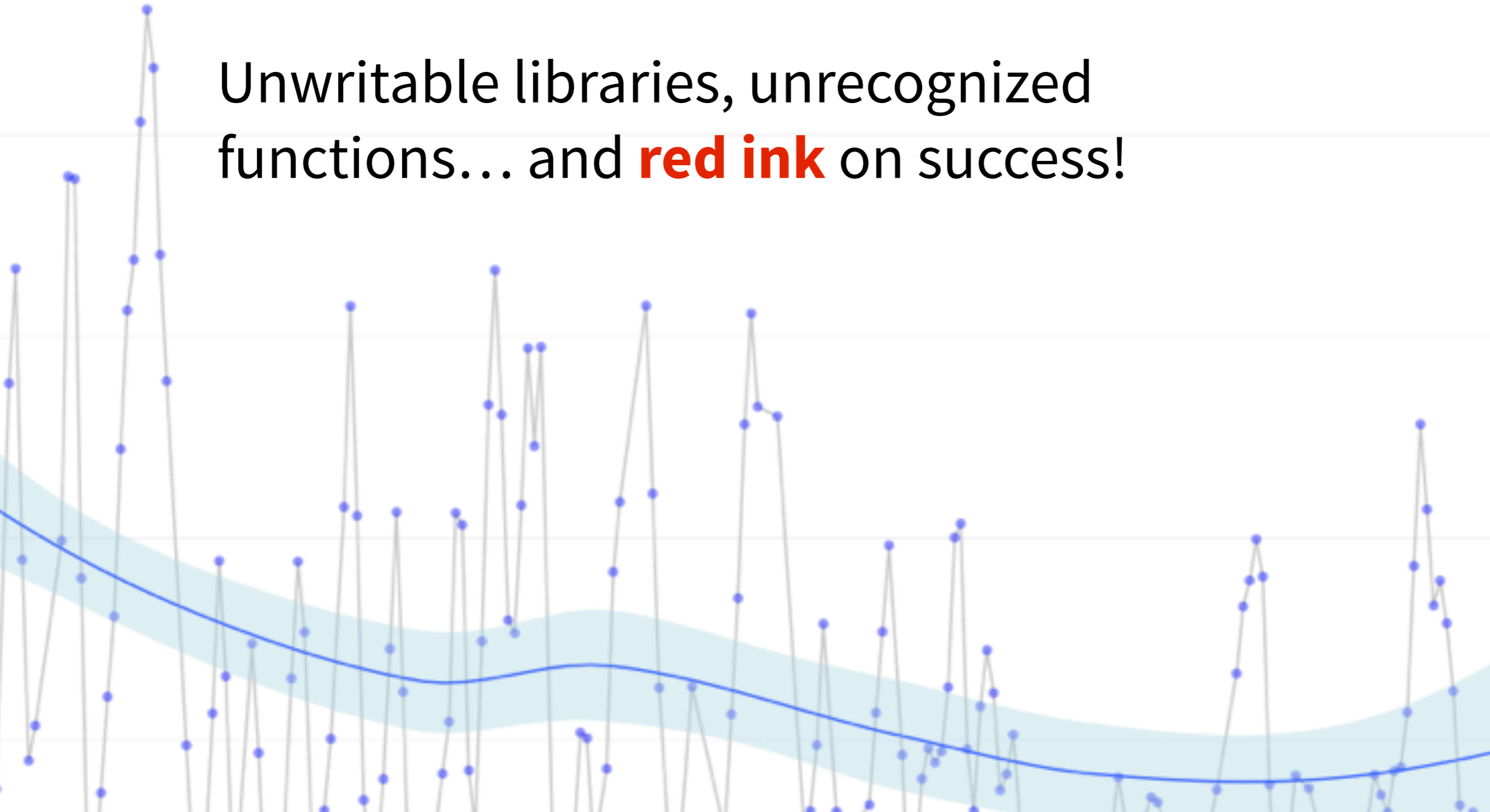
1. **download** / unzip (to data folder)

2. read / **subset** (while reading codebook)



Packages

Unwritable libraries, unrecognized functions... and **red ink** on success!



Security

cf. Jeff Leek, “[Issues with reproducibility at scale on Coursera](#)”, Feb 6 2013

Running everything on EC2 instances / VMs

Blacklisting à la hackme.rapporter.net

Sandboxing .Rproj to working directory?

Wishlist

User-friendly **package management**

Support for **survey data** (memisc)

Better **export functions** for tables

Thanks for your attention,

and thanks to the Reims class and
campus team for their support

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