

Hi!

Jadrian Miles

CSCI 0931: Introduction to Computation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

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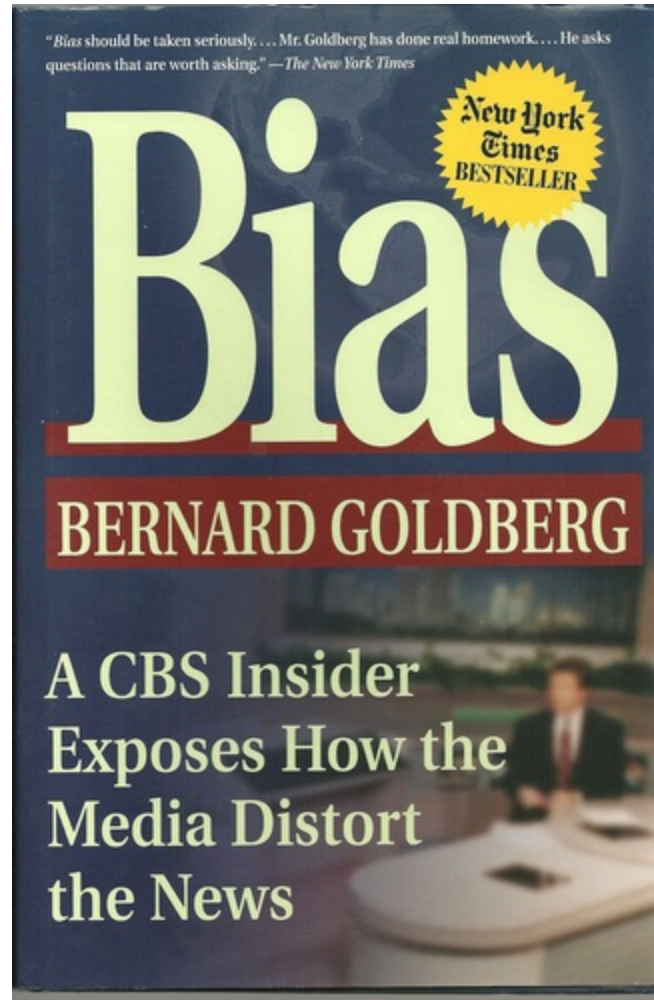
Liberal Media Bias

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“Liberal bias in the media occurs when liberal ideas have undue influence on the coverage or selection of news stories.”

– Wikipedia

Bias: A CBS Insider Exposes How the Media Distort the News
Bernard Goldberg, 2001.



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I noticed that we pointedly identified conservatives as conservatives, for example, but for some crazy reason we didn't bother to identify liberals as liberals ... in the world of the Jenningses and Brokaws and Rathers, conservatives are out of the mainstream and need to be identified. Liberals, on the other hand, are the mainstream and don't need to be identified.”

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Somewhere in here is a testable hypothesis.

What is it?

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Claim: In the media, conservatives are labeled as “conservative” more often than liberals are labeled as “liberal.”

We need to figure out a way to test this hypothesis.

Define
Problem

Find Data



snfblog.com

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What does it mean
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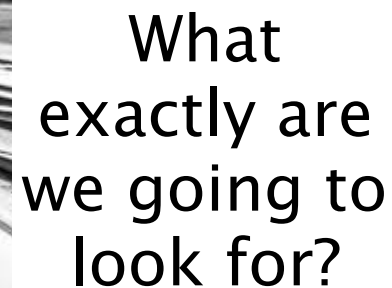
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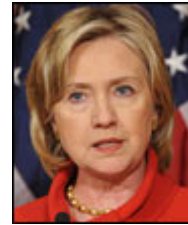


What
exactly are
we going to
look for?

snfblog.com

Conservatives

1. Dick Cheney
(Former VP)
2. Rush Limbaugh
(Talk radio)
3. Matt Drudge
(Drudge Report)
4. Sarah Palin
(AK Gov.)
5. Robert Gates
(Defense Sec.)



Liberals

1. Barack Obama
(President)
2. Hillary Clinton
(Sec. of State)
3. Nancy Pelosi
(Speaker of H.)
4. Bill Clinton
(Former Pres.)
5. Rahm Emanuel
(Chicago Mayor)



“The Most Influential US Conservatives & US Liberals.” The Telegraph, Jan 2010

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/6990965/The-most-influential-US-conservatives-20-1.html>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/6991000/The-most-influential-US-liberals-20-1.html>

Let's Try It.

How long would it take you to count for an entire newspaper?

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20 Pages

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$38,400 \text{ words} / 250 \text{ wpm} = 153.6 \text{ minutes}$

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Word count of NYTimes front-page articles:

12,496 (45 double-spaced pages)

<http://ask.metafilter.com/18970/How-many-words-on-the-front-page>

How long would it take a computer to do it?

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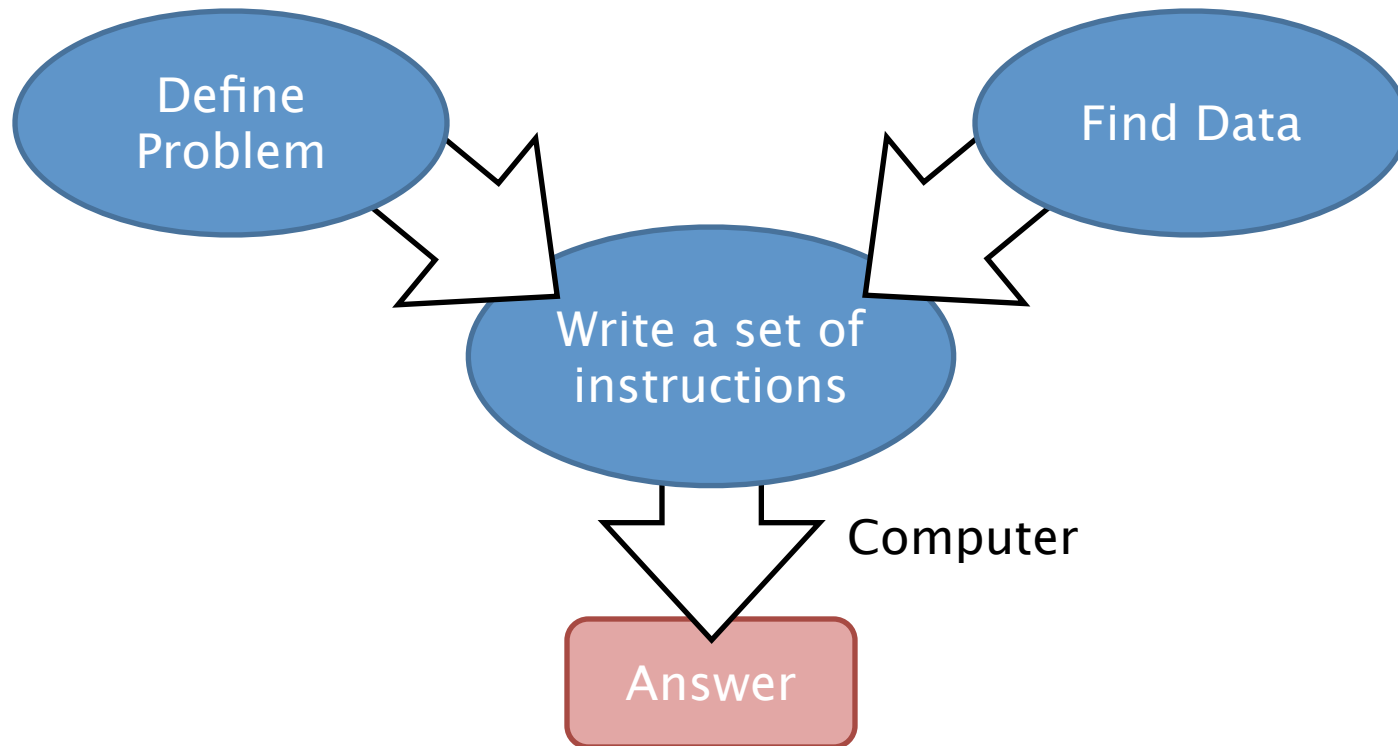
A little less than 0.05 seconds.

How long would it take a computer to do it?

A little less than 0.05 seconds.

Speedup: 200,000 x

Goal: use computers to answer these types of questions



You'll Have Help



Instructor: Richard Hamilton

You'll Have Help



Instructor: Jadrian Miles

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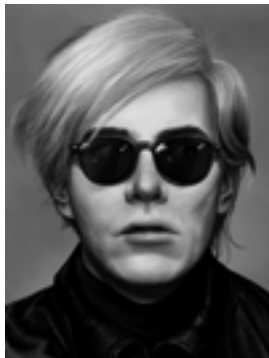


Instructor: Jadrian Miles

You'll Have Even More Help



Head TA: Yayoi Kusama



TAs: Andy Warhol



Beachball Girl



Takashi Murakami

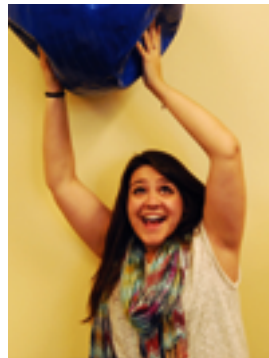
You'll Have Even More Help



Head TA: Flora Jin



TAs: Joe Shapiro



Kelsey Tripp



Mike Lazos

Really, You'll Have Lots of Help =)

Faculty



Jasper Johns



Roy Lichtenstein



David
Hockney



Keith Haring

Really, You'll Have Lots of Help =)

Faculty



Tom Doeppner



Spike Hughes



Shriram
Krishnamurthi



Steve Reiss

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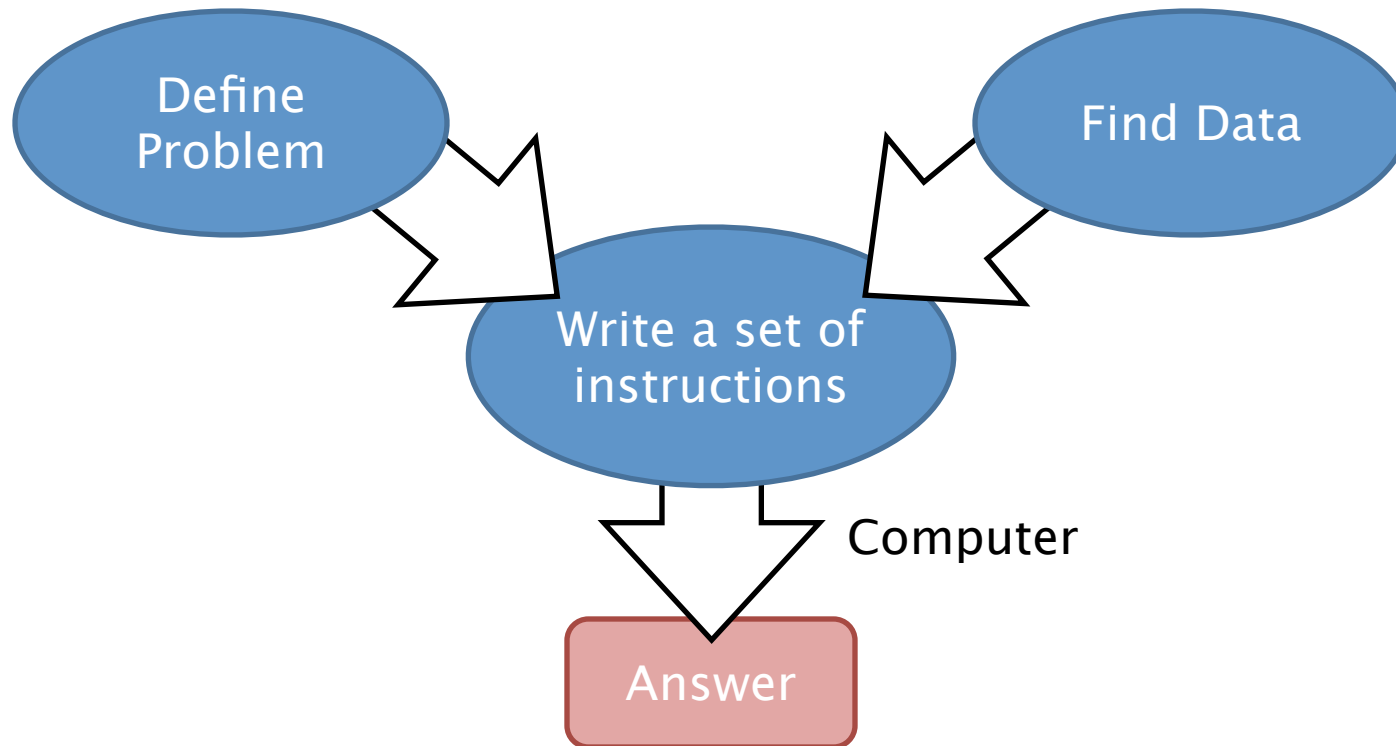
Steve Gomez

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<http://cs.brown.edu/courses/cs0931>

<http://people.ischool.berkeley.edu/~nunberg/bias.html>

“On the Bias.” Geoffrey Nunberg, on NPR’s Fresh Air

Things to think about:

- What assumptions did Nunberg make?
- How did he justify his assumptions?
- What are potential criticisms?



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About the Course

Everything you need will be on the website:

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- Read “About CS0931” and the Course Missive
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Weekly Homework

Two Unit Projects, One Final Project

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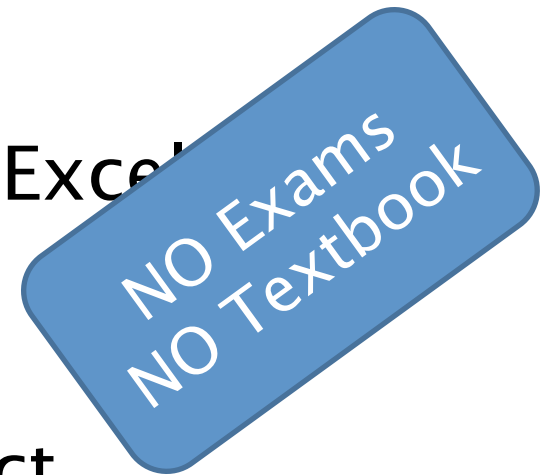
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- Investigate data computationally
- Formulate problems as empirically testable hypotheses
- Design and execute computations that test your hypotheses
- Teach yourself more computational skills

Odds & Ends

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- Keep interesting questions and data sources in mind — your projects will benefit!

Ok Bye!

Due next class:

- Print & sign the Collaboration Policy
- Read Nunberg's "On the Bias"
- Do HW 0–1