

Join Discord

andhs.co/discord

Join the Posit Cloud workspace

andhs.co/posit

In-person session 1

January 15, 2026

PMAP 8521: Program evaluation
Andrew Young School of Policy Studies

Plan for today

Data science and program evaluation

Community building and getting help

Navigating the course

R time!

Data science and program evaluation

Who am I?

What is “data science”?

What is "data science"?

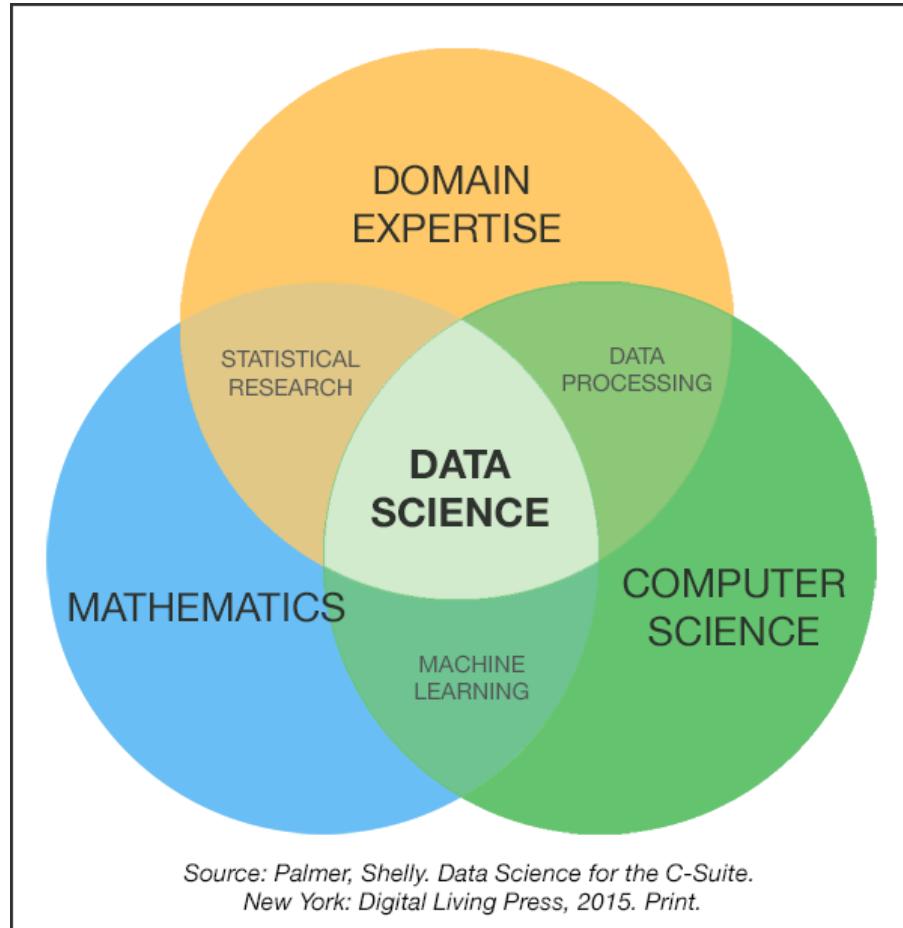
Turning raw data into
understanding, insight,
and knowledge

Collect

Analyze

Communicate

What's the difference?

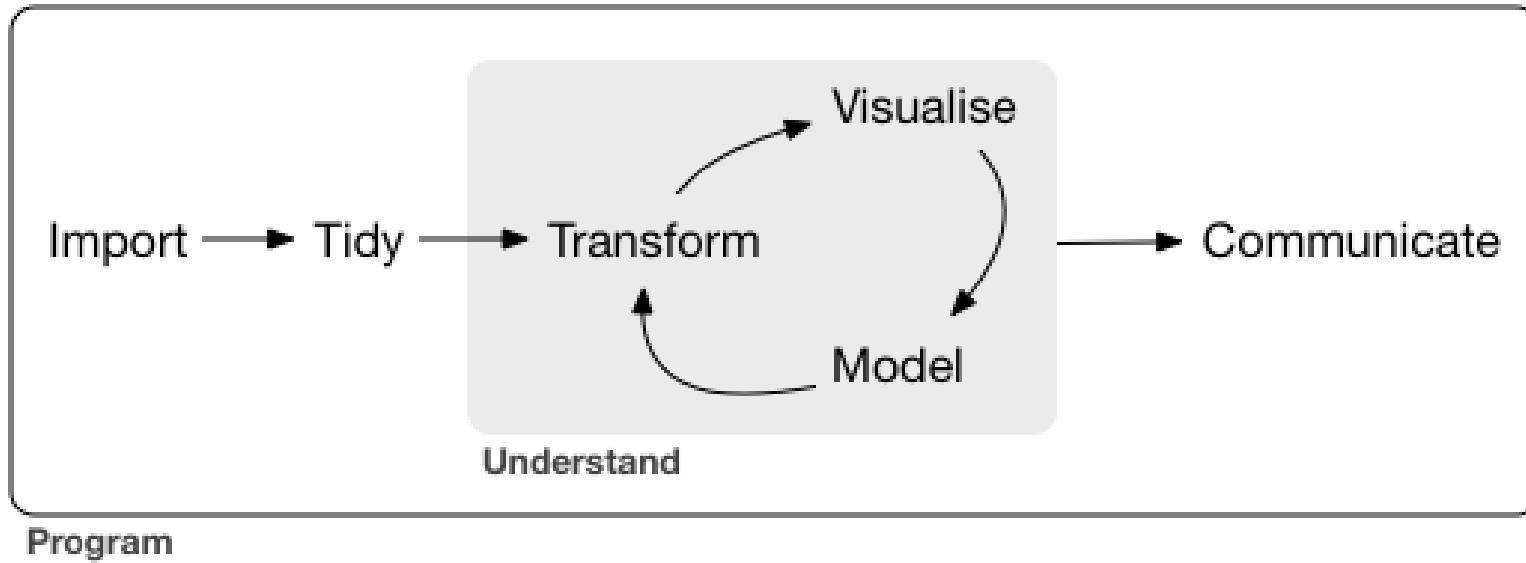


Collect

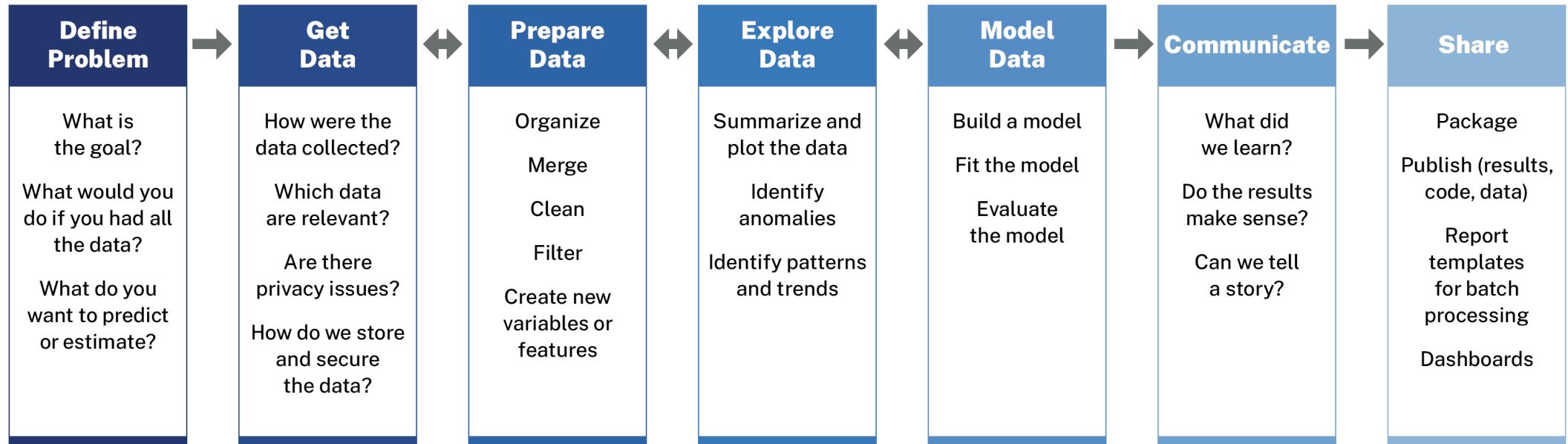
Analyze

Communicate

**It's *not* scary/complex
machine learning,
artificial intelligence,
neural network stuff!**



Data Science Life Cycle



Ethics, Privacy, Stewardship, Regulation, Reproducibility, Governance, Community

[RE]CODING <AMERICA/>



**Why Government Is Failing
in the Digital Age and How
We Can Do Better**

JENNIFER PAHLKA

Community building and getting help

What is R? What is Posit? Why R?

Why is the R community special?

Intentionality

#rstats

#tidytuesday

Posit community forum

Creating our own class community

Guidelines

Work and ask questions in public

Be supportive

Don't suffer in silence

Discord guidelines

Ask questions in #help-me

Avoid DMs with me!

Don't be shy or scared!

30 minute rule

How to ask for help

Guidelines

Navigating the course

Navigating the course

What's on iCollege?

- Assignment submission
- Grades
- Exams
- Answer keys
- Copyrighted materials

What's on the website?

- Everything else!
- Forever!

Zotero



Why I use ✓s

Weekly check-ins

What about AI and LLMs?

Don't!

(pleeeeease)

they're dangerous for learning...

...until you know what you're doing

R time!

Intro to R labs

Lab 1: Markdown and universal writing

Lab 2: Getting started with R and RStudio

Lab 3: Data basics

Lab 4: Visualize data with ggplot2

Lab 5: Transform data with dplyr