



Koen Knapen,

SAS Institute, Belgium

"Statistical Consulting is a Collaborative Endeavor"

Statistical consulting is a living paradox: the most challenging and yet ultimately, the most rewarding work a statistician can do. A consultant combines the art and science of statistics to solve a practical challenge. This presentation will focus on the “problem-solving” activities of a statistical consultant, firmly rooted in a real-life ‘context’. Because ultimately, data and statistical analysis without context remains noise to the rest of the world.

The presentation will address the following topics:

- The collection, the aggregation, the modification and transformation of data as vital links in the consulting cycle (and ultimately, the learning cycle).
- The foremost qualities of a statistical consultant (eg: a genuine desire to explore new subject matters in novel environments).
- The goals of statistical consulting : To get a model that approximates and provides an explanation to the real underlying data generating mechanism.

Perhaps George E. P. Box said it best: “all models are wrong, but some are useful”. Come hear why Google’s Chief Economist is not joking when he says that the sexiest jobs of the next decade will belong to the statisticians.

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