

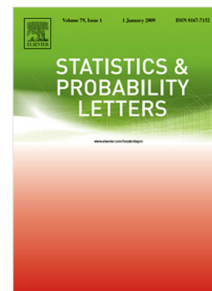
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Statistical science in the world of big data

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Abstract

This essay considers the role of the statistical sciences in the world of big data, data science, machine learning, and artificial intelligence, with a decidedly Canadian slant.

Keywords: data science, inference, machine learning

2010 MSC: 62-07, 62-02, 68-02

1. Introduction

From January to June 2015, a series of twelve workshops took place across Canada, as part of a six-month thematic program at the Fields Institute for Research in the Mathematical Sciences, organized by the Canadian Statistical
5 Sciences Institute. Most of the activity was in Toronto at the Fields Institute (Fields, 2015), which also provided the main funding. Allied workshops were held at the Pacific Institute for Mathematical Sciences in Vancouver, the Centre de Recherches Mathématiques in Montreal, and the Atlantic Association for Research in the Mathematical Sciences in Halifax. I chaired the program
10 organizing committee and the international advisory committee, but the success of the effort is really due to the hard work and varied contributions of the

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