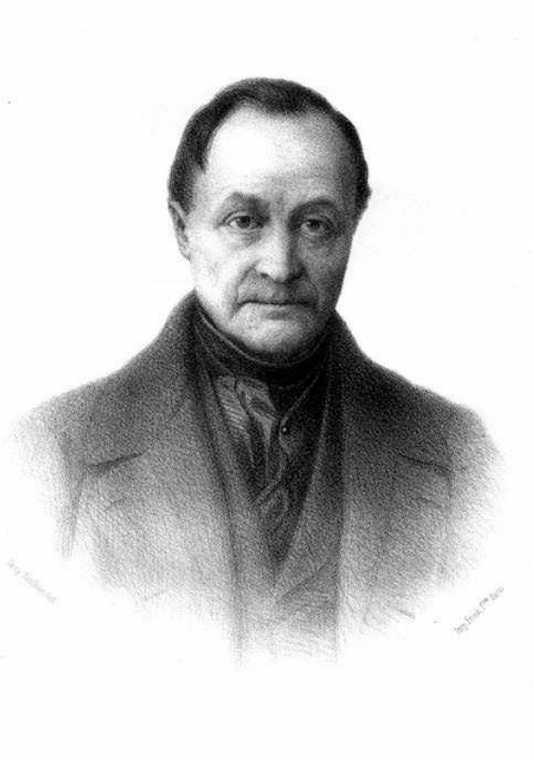
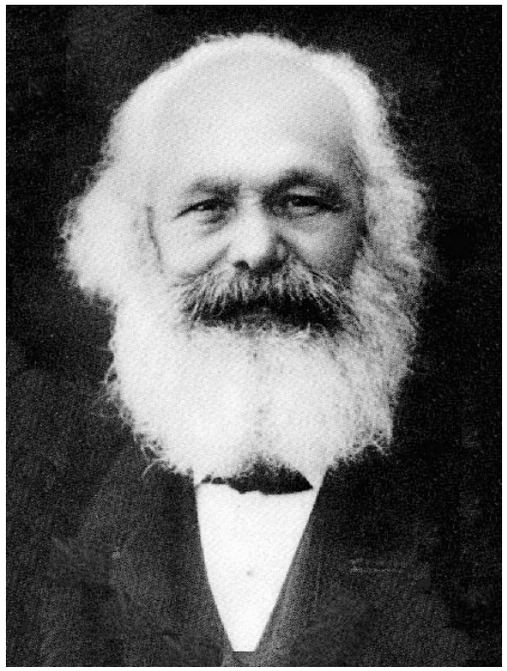
In the previous episode...

History of Sociological Thought in 2 minutes

First gen:





theories of history

Second gen:

Marx theory of history

Labour intensive

Living labour vs. Dead labour

Capital intensive

+ Productivity

+ Unemployement
& pauperisation

- Rate of profit

individual and biological factors

Society is more than the sum of its parts.

Individuals

↑

Homo Duplex

↓

expectations

aspirations
knowledge
judgement
values
codes of behavior
…

→ Social Facts: “Comme des Choses”

↓

1. External
2. Constraint

“There is in the consciousness of each one of us two consciousnesses: one that we share in common with our group in its entirety, which is consequently not ourselves, but society living and acting within us; the other that, on the contrary, represents us alone in what is personal and distinctive about us, what makes us an individual”

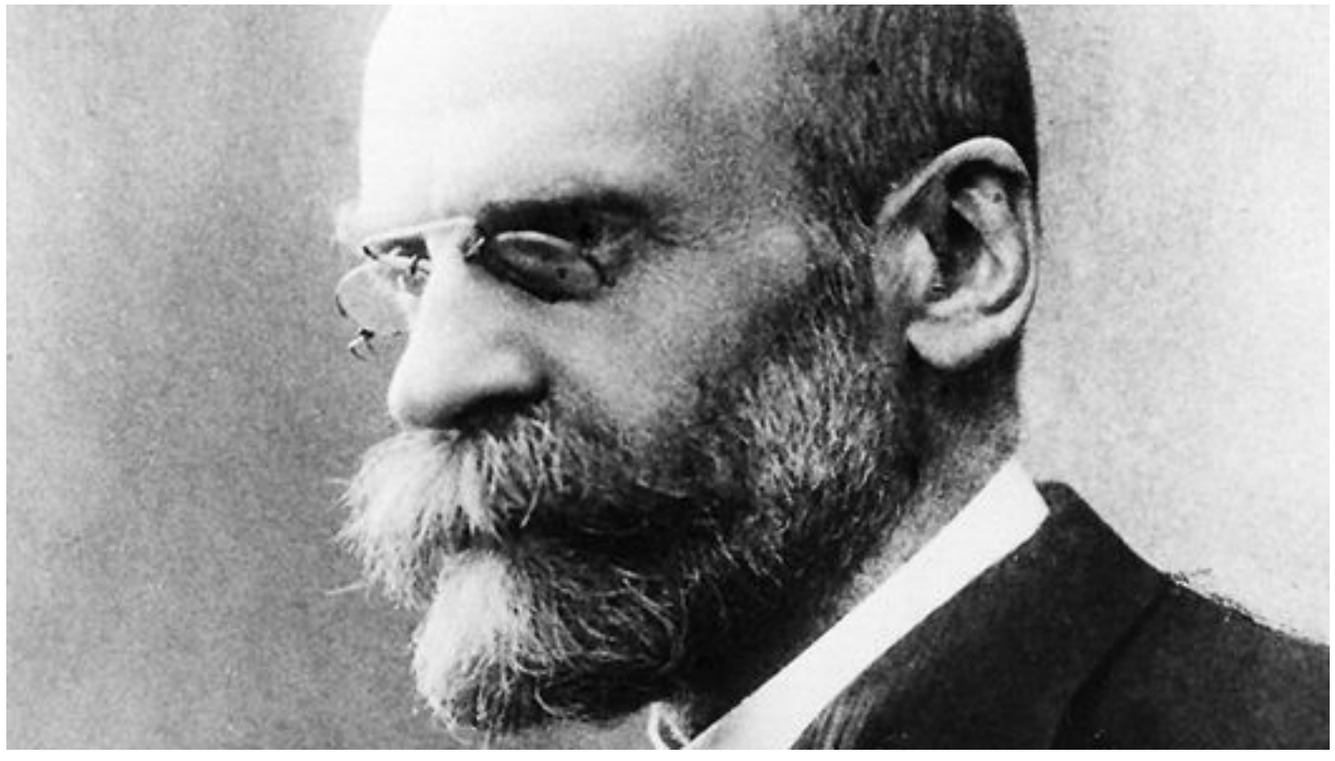
The Division of social labor

A social fact is normal for a given social type, viewed at a given phase of its development, when it occurs in the average society of that species, considered at the corresponding phase of its evolution.

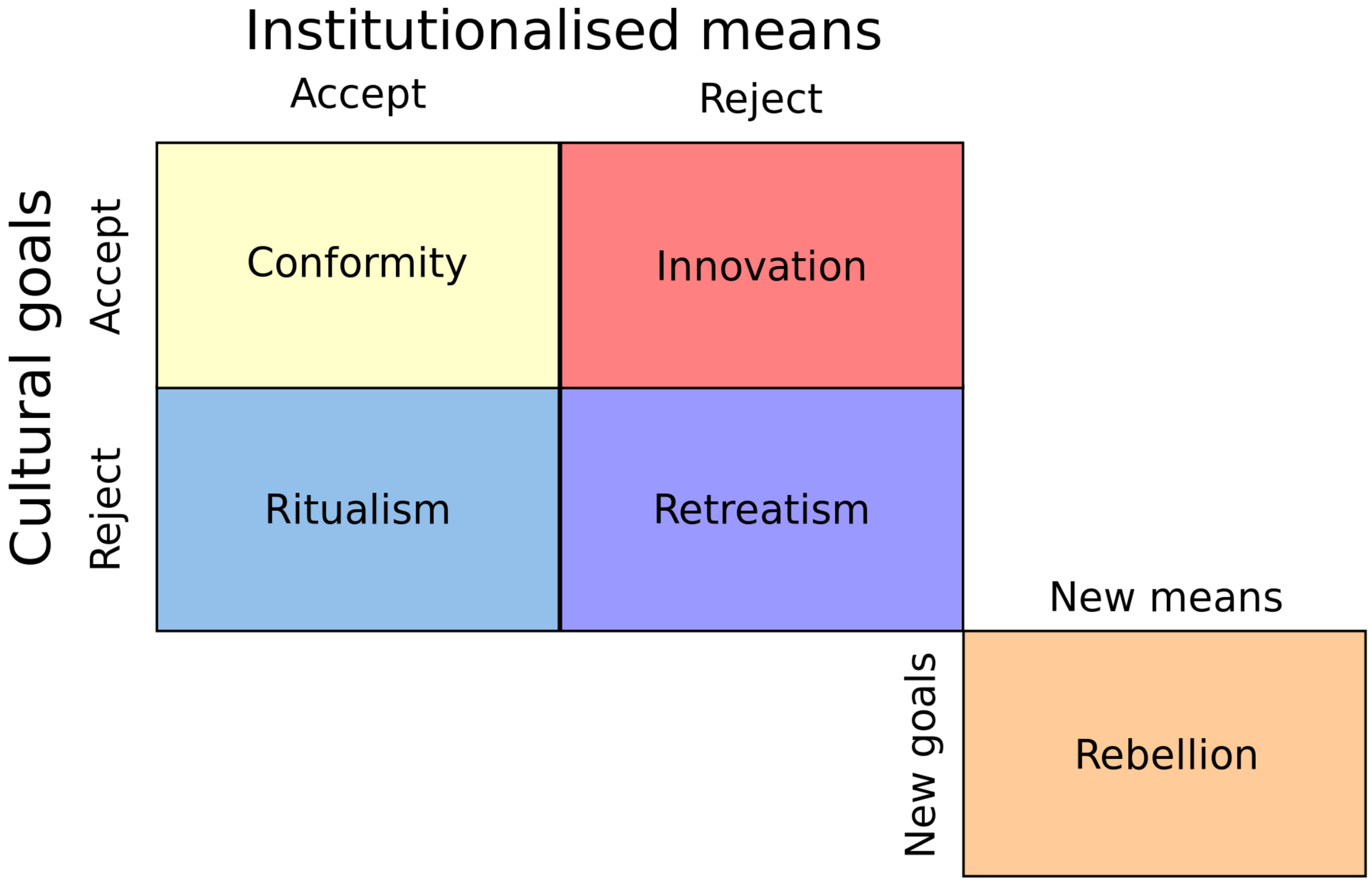
http://durkheim.uchicago.edu/Summaries/rules.html#pgfId=2822

“We do not condemn it because it is a crime,
but it is a crime because we condemn it.”

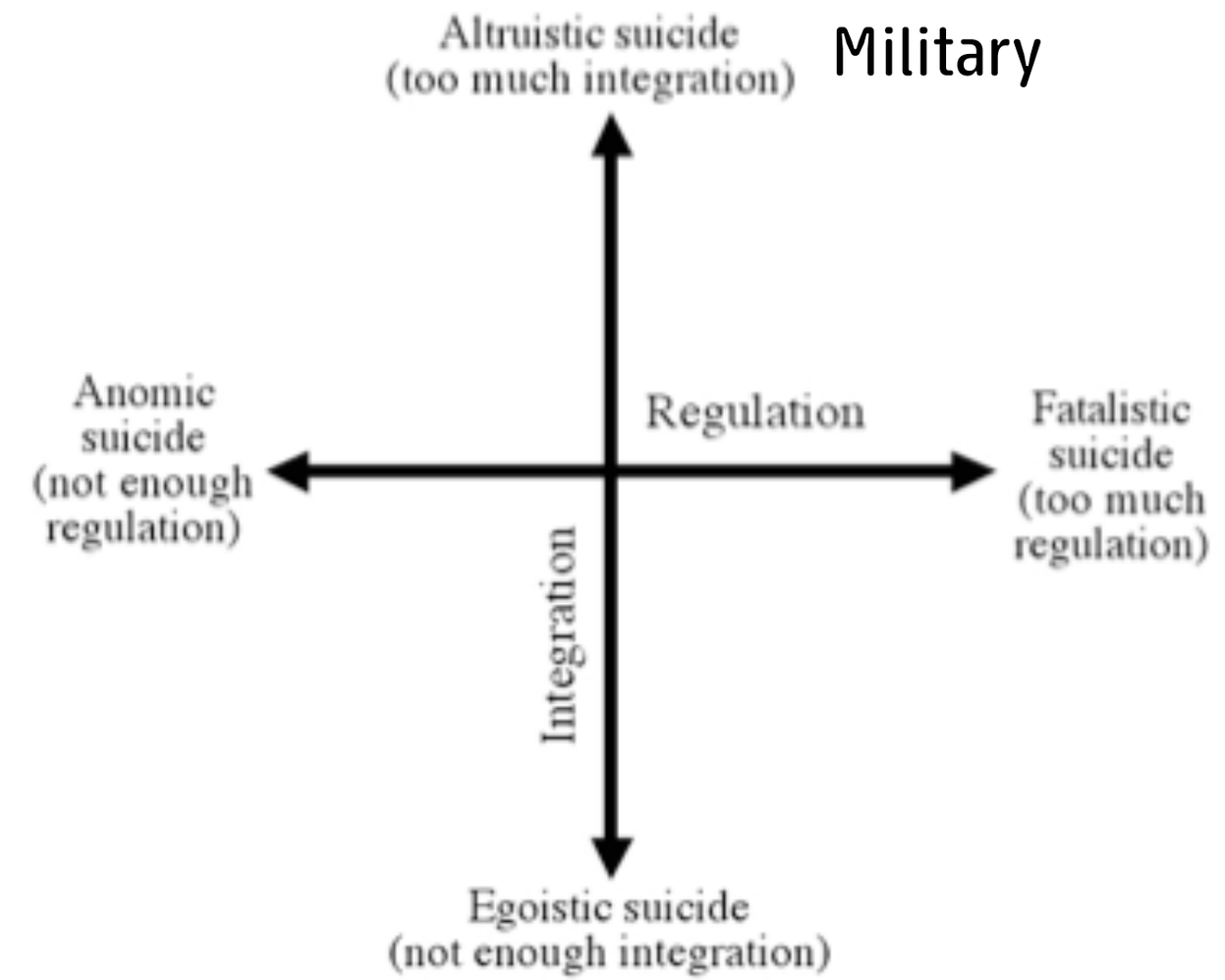
— Émile Durkheim (1858-1917)



Robert K. Merton's Deviance Typology



Durkheim's four types of suicide (after Pope 1976)

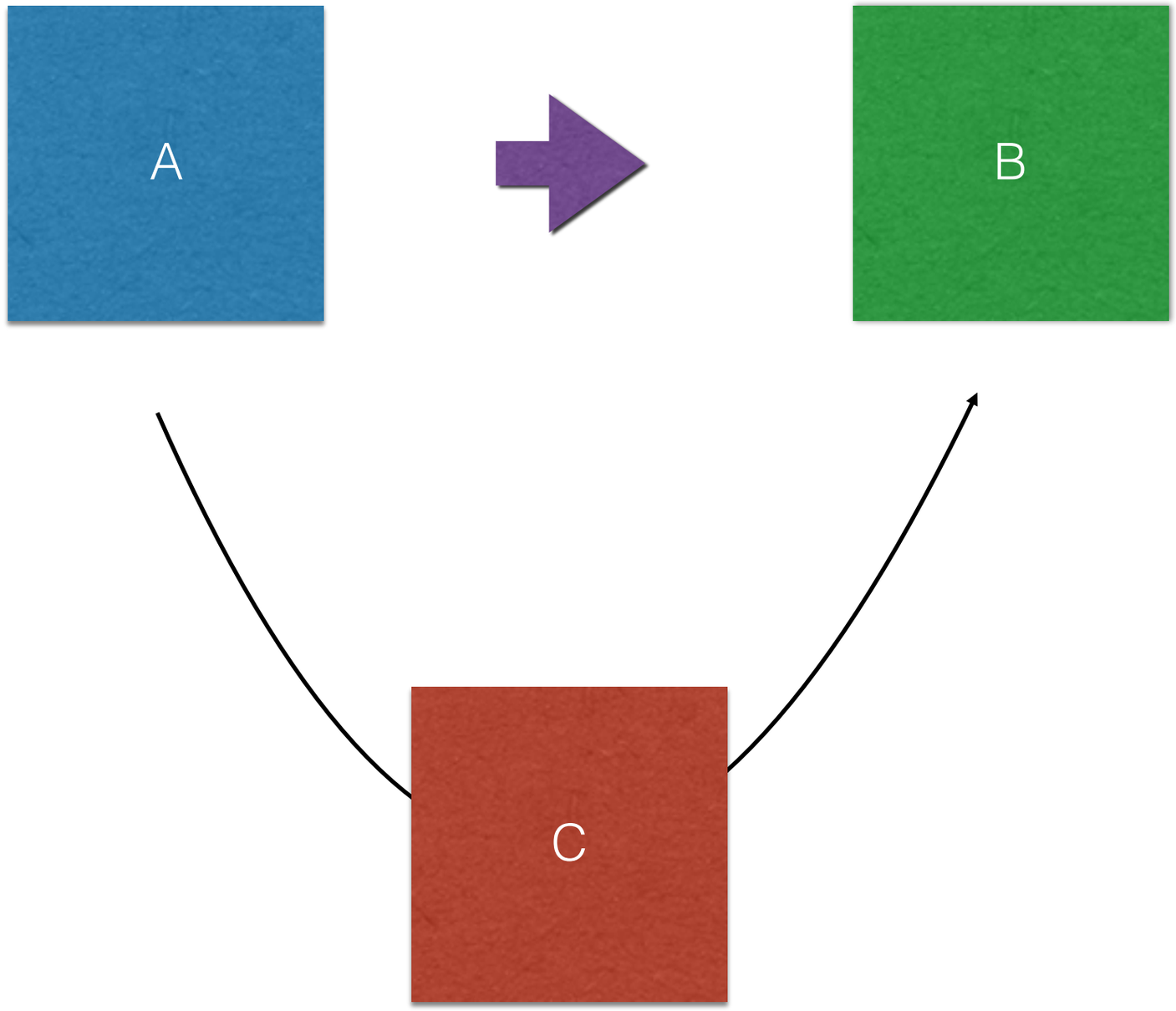


Military

Rapid social change or economic crisis

No future

Protestants


A
B
C

Quantitative methods in sociology

A brief introduction

Adopted from S. Billow

Midterm and final exam

Document commentary: Elements of methodology

Present what types of documents you are confronted with

- type of data (qualitative, quantitative)
- type of statistics (descriptive, inferential)
- source
- dates
- population
- sample

what they are about

- what social phenomenon
- which aspects are studied (and which are not)
- what are the dependent/independent variables

Qualitative methods

- Ethnography
- Interviews
- Focus groups

Quantitative methods

- Experiments
- Observational data (original surveys, secondary surveys)

Comparative – Historical Research

Pros and Cons?

Questionnaire

F30 Regardless of your basic or contracted hours, how many hours do/did you <u>normally work</u> a week (in your main job), including any paid or unpaid overtime.
INTERVIEWER: Acceptable range of responses is between 0 and 168 hours[74].

WRITE IN HOURS: ☐☐☐

(Don't know) 888

Source: 2014 European Social Survey

Coding

# wkhtotp: Hours normally worked a week in main job overtime included, partner	
Information	[Type= continuous] [Format=numeric] [Range= 0-168] [Missing=*]
Statistics [NW/ W]	[Valid=10244 /-] [Invalid=17977 /-]
Universe	If code 1 at F45d ICPPDWK or code 1 at F46
Literal question	F51. How many hours does he/she normally work a week (in his/her main job)? Please include any paid or unpaid overtime.
Post-question	WRITE IN HOURS: ...

Value	Label	Cases	Percentage
666	Not applicable		
777	Refusal		
888	Don't know		
999	No answer		

Warning: these figures indicate the number of cases found in the data file. They cannot be interpreted as summary statistics of the population of interest.

edulvlfb: Father's highest level of education

Descriptive statistics

European Social Survey ESS DATA

- Highest level of education, Poland
- Tertiary education: lower or higher/single tier, Poland
- Highest level of education, Sweden
- Highest level of education, Slovenia
- Years of full-time education completed
- Doing last 7 days: paid work
- Doing last 7 days: education
- Doing last 7 days: unemployed, actively looking for job
- Doing last 7 days: unemployed, not actively looking for job
- Doing last 7 days: permanently sick or disabled
- Doing last 7 days: retired
- Doing last 7 days: community or military service
- Doing last 7 days: housework, looking after children, others
- Doing last 7 days: other
- Doing last 7 days: refusal
- Doing last 7 days: don't know
- Doing last 7 days: no answer
- Interviewer code, one/more than one doing last 7 days
- Main activity last 7 days
- Main activity, last 7 days. All respondents. Post coded
- Interviewer code, respondent in paid work

DESCRIPTION | TABULATION | ANALYSIS

Dataset: ESS7-2014, ed.1.0

Total hours norma...overtime included: Categories

	Code	Frequency	% of all	% of valid
Total hours normally worked per week in main job overtime included				
0	0	171	0.6	0.7
1	1	31	0.1	0.1
2	2	74	0.3	0.3
3	3	86	0.3	0.3
4	4	125	0.4	0.5
5	5	122	0.4	0.5
6	6	78	0.3	0.3
7	7	50	0.2	0.2
8	8	171	0.6	0.7
9	9	61	0.2	0.2
10	10	248	0.9	1.0
11	11	32	0.1	0.1
12	12	152	0.5	0.6

Descriptive statistics

- Descriptive Statistics are statistical procedures used to summarize, organise and simplify data.

- Except frequencies, two types of measures together help us to sum up a distribution of scores without looking at each and every score.
  - **Central tendency -** Numbers that describe what is **typical** or **average** (central) in a distribution
  - **Measures of Variability -** Numbers that describe **diversity** or **variability** in the distribution.

Optimal measurements of descriptive statistics

	central tendency	variability
Nominal /Categorical (e.g. gender)	**mode**	
Ordinal (e.g. educational credential)	-Use the **mode** to show what is the most common value in the distribution. -Use the **median** to show which value is located exactly in the middle of the distribution.	**Range**
interval-ratio (years of education)	the **mode, median, and mean** may all be calculated. The **mean** provides the most information about the distribution, but the **median** is preferred if the distribution is skewed.	**-Range** **-**use **Variance** and **Standard deviation** to describe how all scores in a sample are spread in relation to the mean.

Interpretation

General Social Survey 2010

Statistics

RESPONDENT INCOME IN CONSTANT DOLLARS

N	Valid	1202
	Missing	842
Mean		31632.37
Mode		36135
Std. Deviation		29024.825
Variance		8.424E8
Range		144716

- A largest number of GSS2010 respondents earn 36,135 dollars per year.
- On average, the respondents earn 31,632.37 dollars per year.
- However, the range of yearly income is considerably wide—the lowest and largest income are 144,716 dollars apart.
- The average deviation from the mean income is 29,024.825 dollars.

Exercise: Work hours per week

	Women	Men
Mean	45.11	45.89
Standard deviation	11.70	6.01

Compare mean and standard deviation between the two samples.

- The mean of work hours for both samples are about the same—approximately 45 hours per week. The mean of work hour for women is 45.11 hours and 45.89 hours for men.
- However, the standard deviations offer some information that distribution of weekly work hours differ between the women and men.
- The relatively low standard deviation for men indicates that this group is relatively homogeneous in work hours. The average de deviation from the mean is 6.01 hours for men. In contrast, the standard deviation for women is about twice the standard deviation for men. This suggests a greater heterogeneity in the work hours among women. On average, women deviate about 11.7 from the average work hours.

inferential statistics

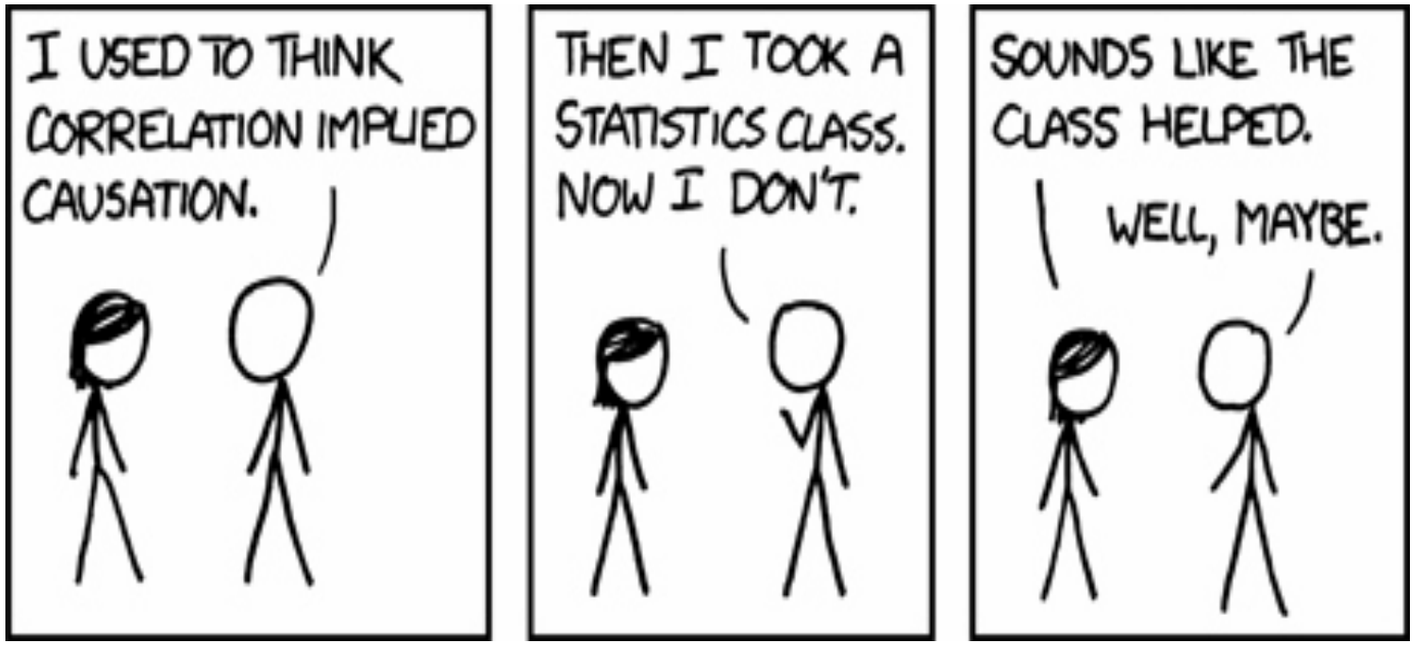
- Inferential statistics "consist of techniques that allow us to study samples and then make generalizations about the populations from which they were selected."

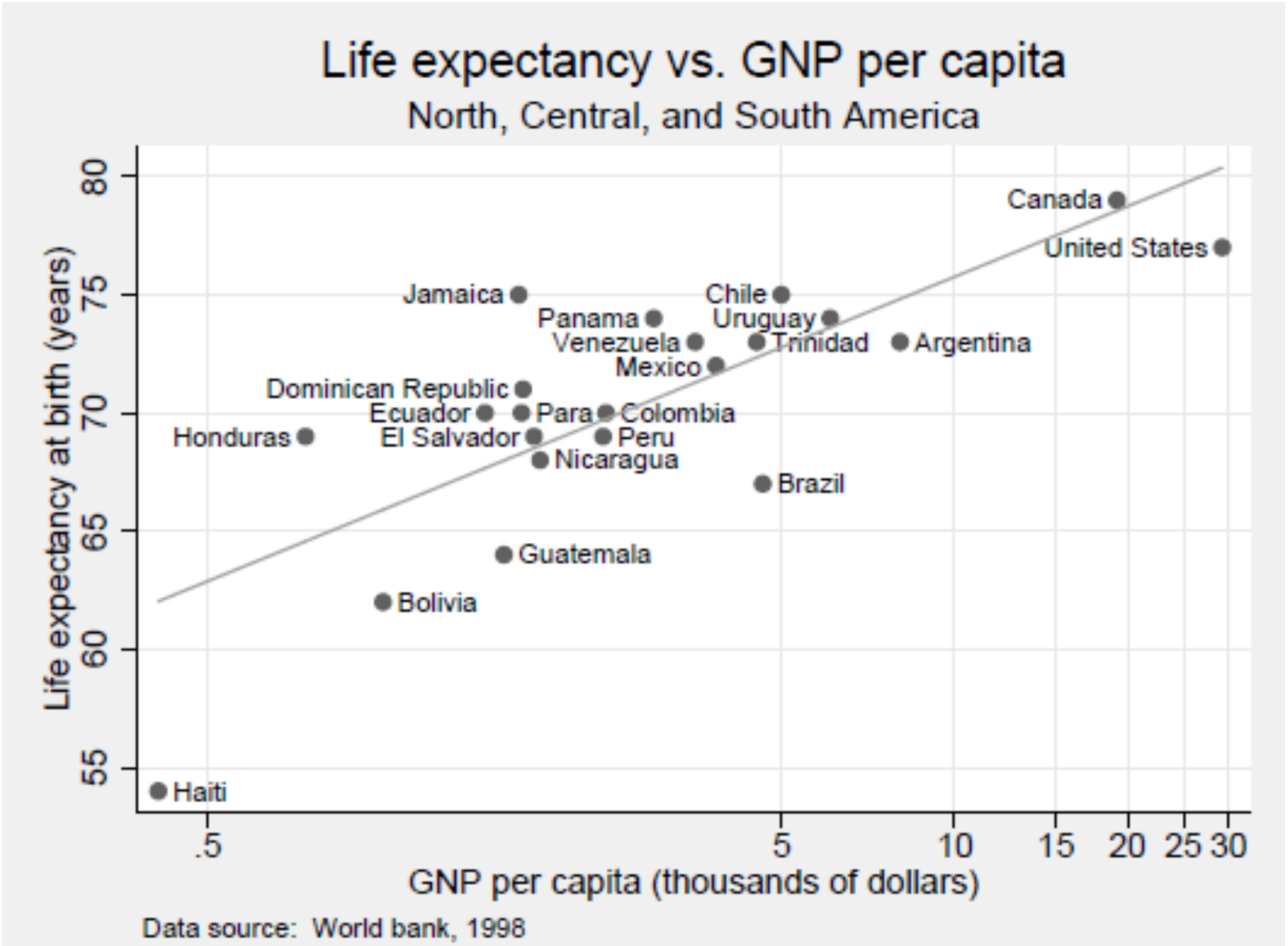
inferential statistics

- We have a population of interest
- We know the population mean and standard deviation
- We repeatedly draw random samples from this population using the same sample size and each time we get a sample mean
- Based on the Central Limit Theorem, as long as we have large enough sample size, the sampling distribution of means will be a normal distribution— **sampling distribution** with mean equals to the mean of the population. Also, we can calculate standard deviation of the sampling distribution using this equation—**standard error**

Quantitative Methods

- Units of analysis (individual, organisational, institutional, etc.)
- Correlation vs causality
- Inference: measuring relations *between* two (or more) variables





Source: STATA 11's handbook

This graph is a two way scatterplot

Correlation and causality

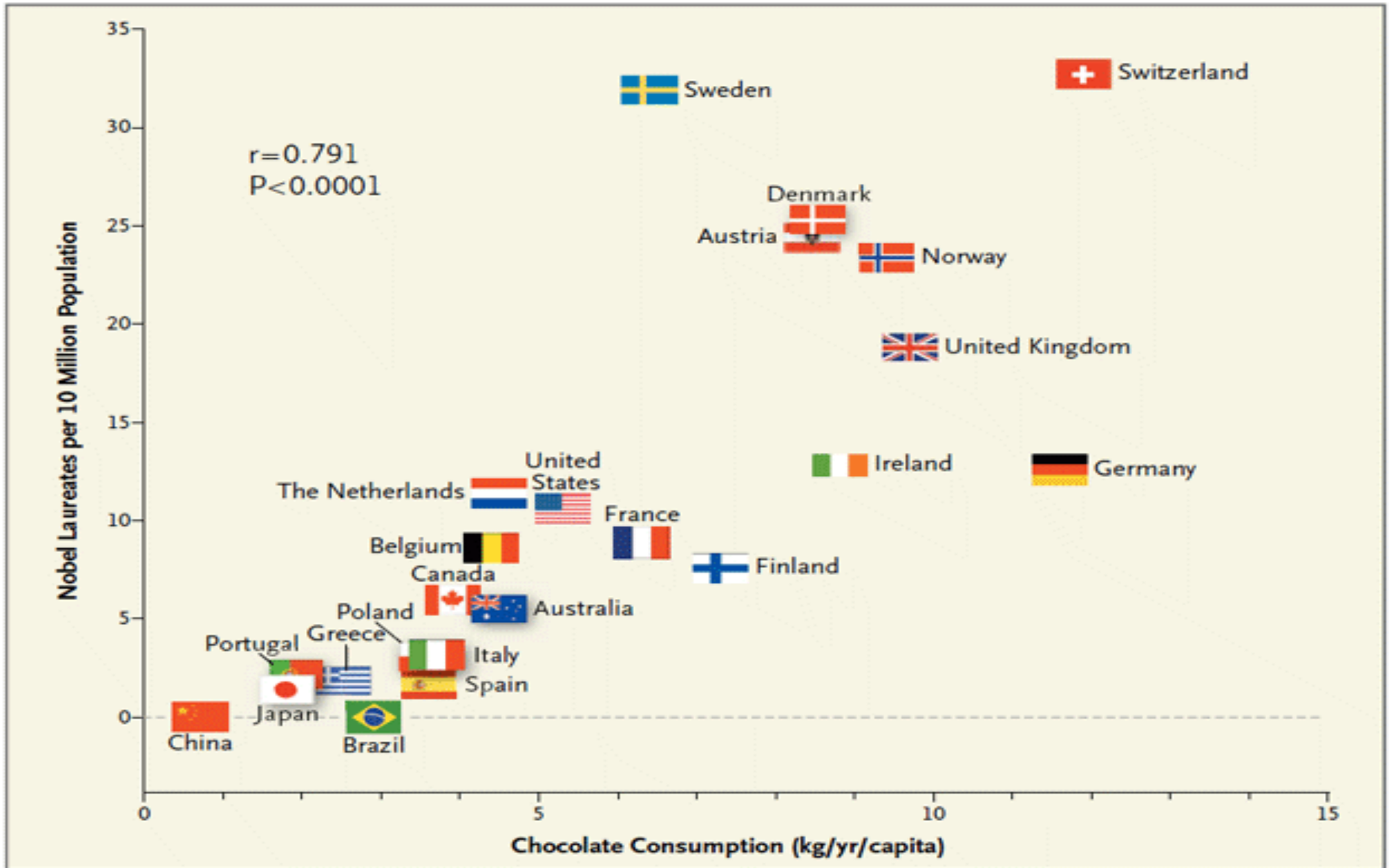


Figure 1. Correlation between Countries' Annual Per Capita Chocolate Consumption and the Number of Nobel Laureates per 10 Million Population.

NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

Correlation and causality

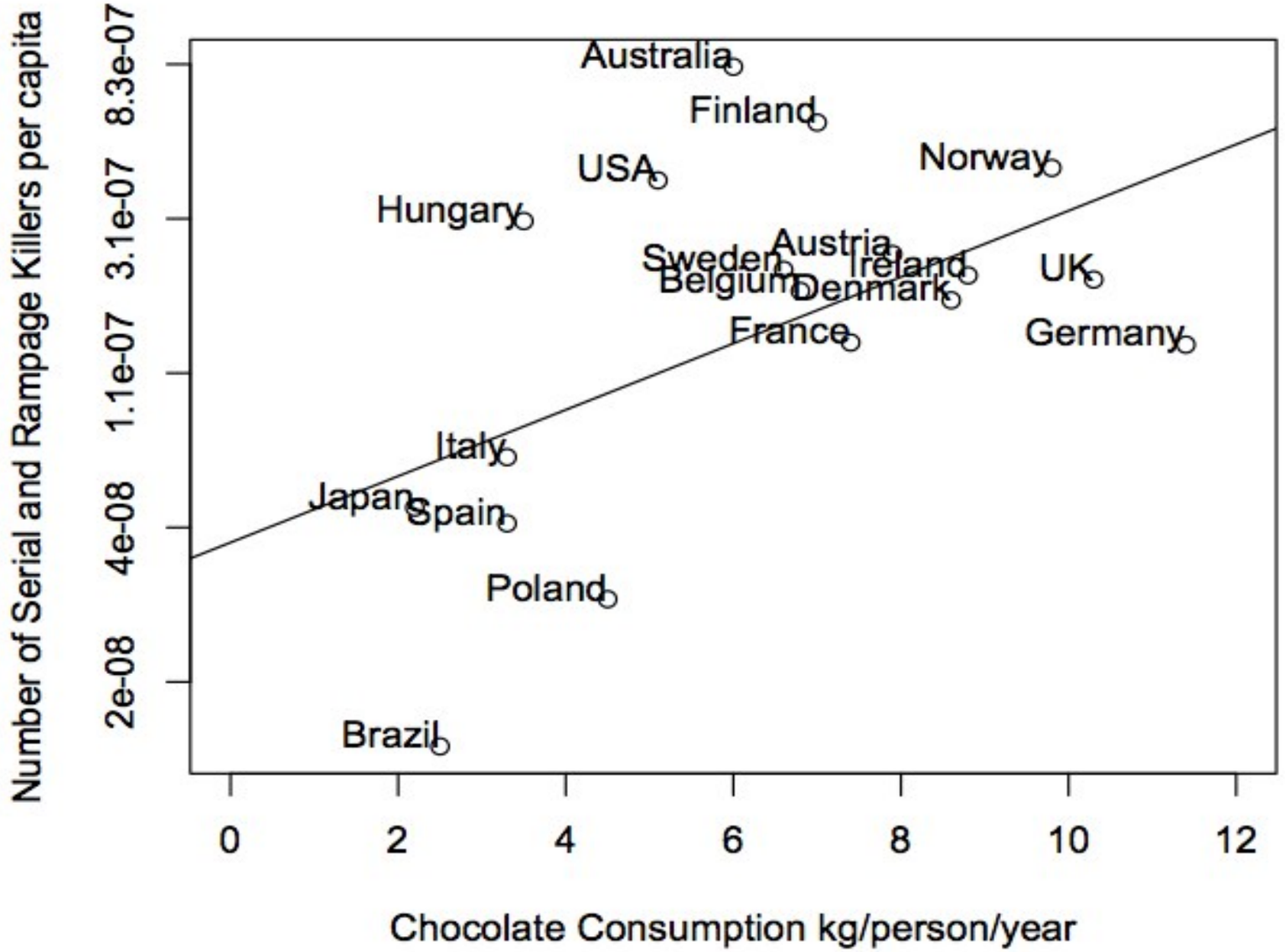


Figure 1: Correlation between countries' annual per capita chocolate consumption and the serial and rampage killers per capita since 1900.

There's a Gene for That | Ja...
https://www.jacobinmag.com/2014/01/theres-a-gene-for-that/
Log-In email password forgot your password?
Reason *in Revolt*
JACOBIN

There's a Gene for That

Issue 13: Alive in the Sunshine

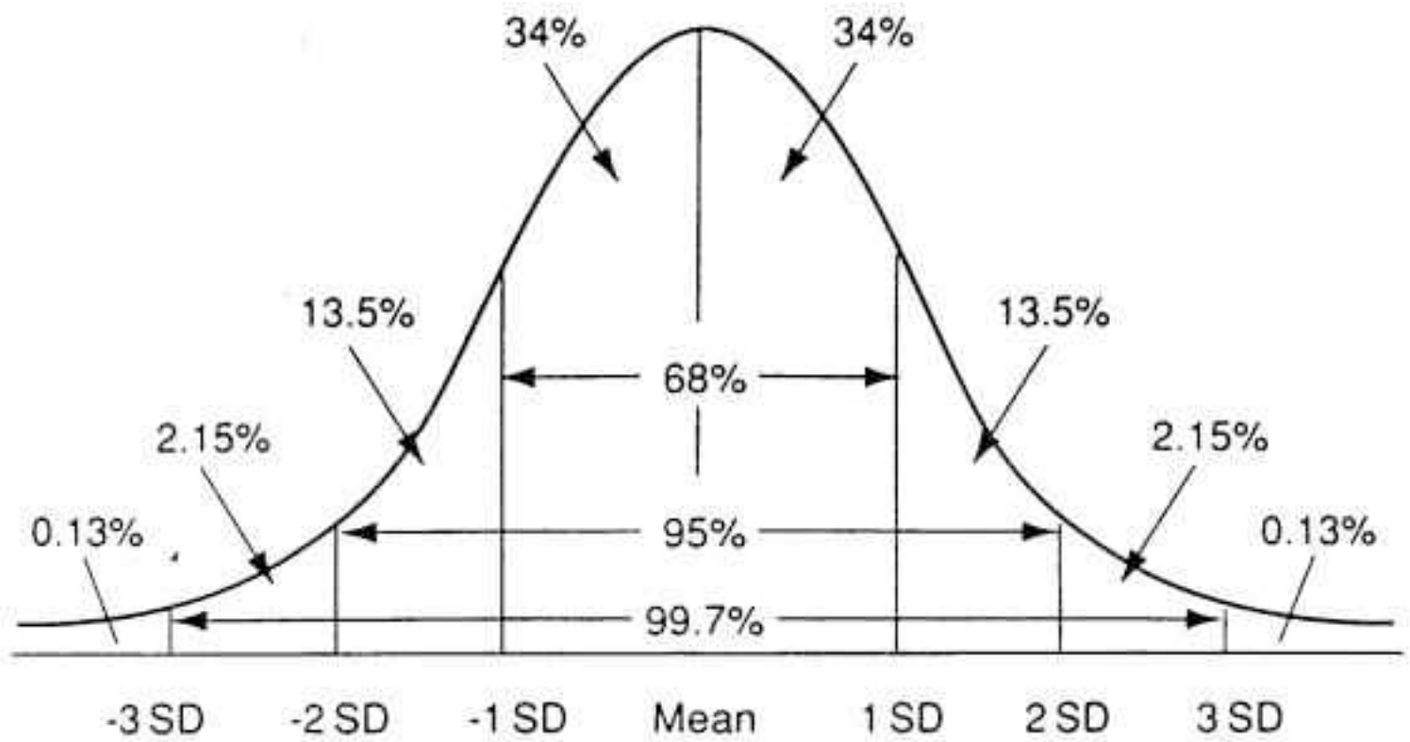
Essays

Pankaj Mehta is a physicist and activist living in the Boston area.

History is littered with horrifying examples of the misuse of evolutionary theory to justify

Norms, Normal and Normative:

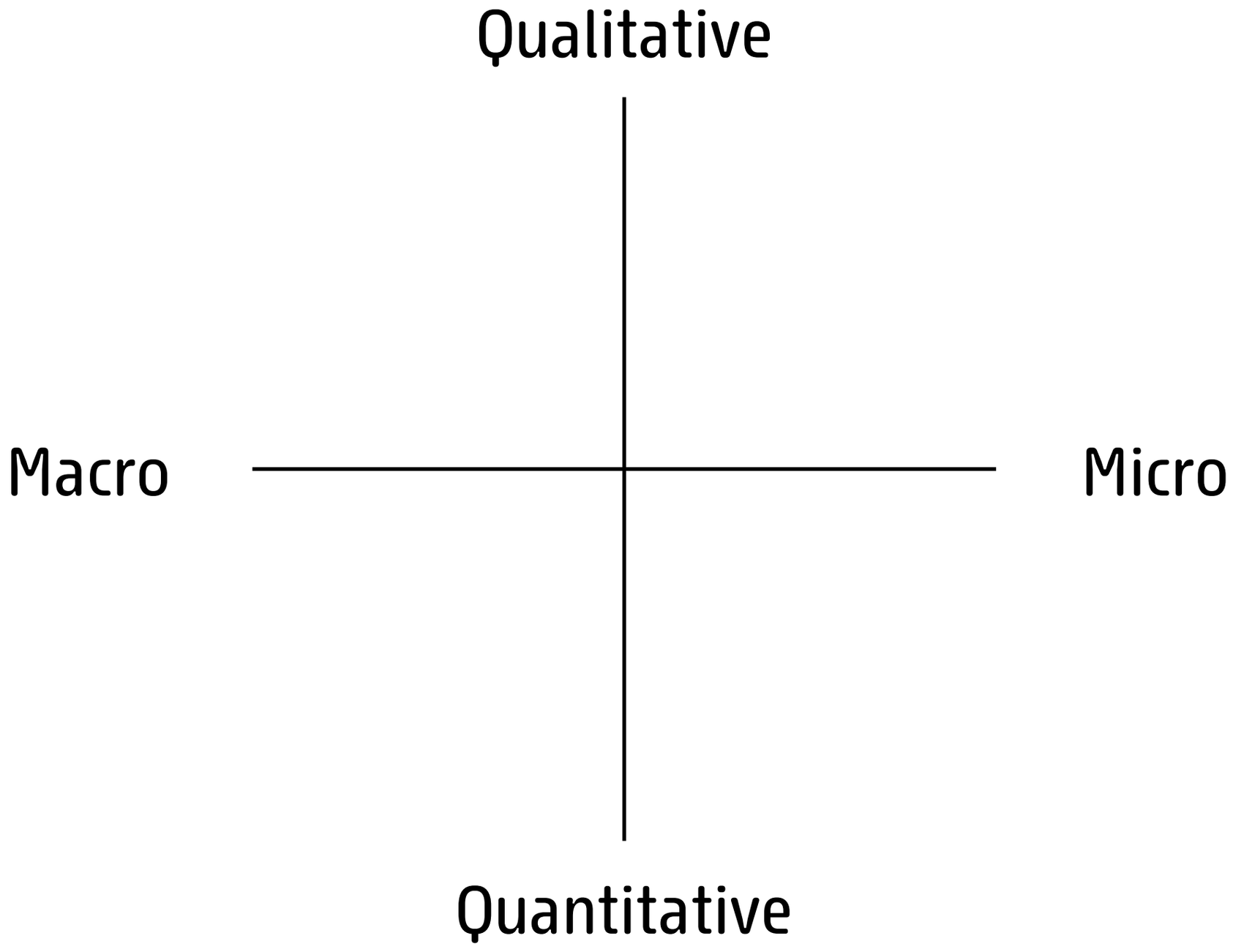
Normality can be an ideological tool



Standard *Deviance*

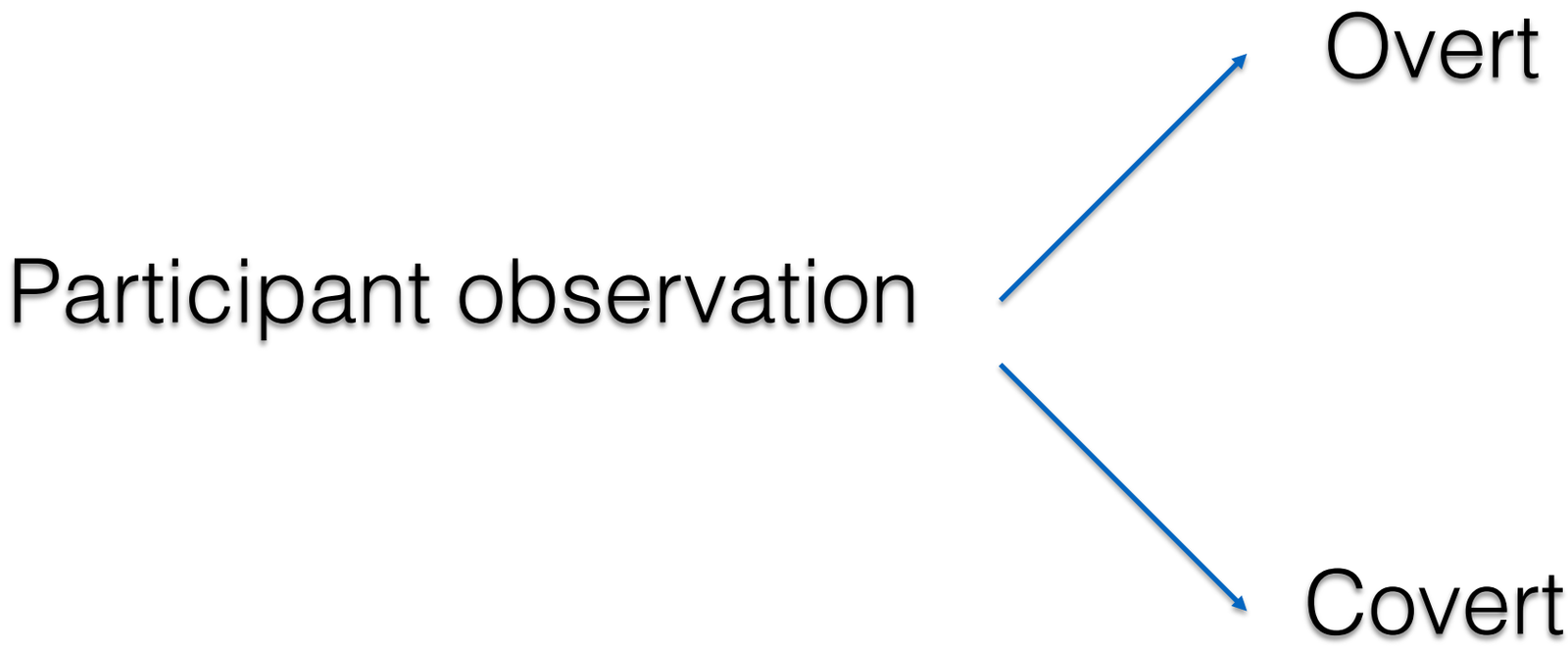
Deviance (again)

Deduction or Induction



Structure vs. Agency

Structure vs. Agency


Participant observation
Overt
Covert

We never truly who we are dealing with.

Social actors are not transparent.

It is never possible to know precisely his intention and to predict his action.

(Poggi & Sciortino 2011)

…but many human interactions take place within relatively well-established boundaries.

“business as usual”

Norms are external.

(Poggi & Sciortino 2011)

…in an important sense there is only one complete unblushing male in America: a young, married, white, urban, northern, heterosexual Protestant father of college education, fully employed, or good complexion, weight and height, and a recent record in sports."

(Goffman 1963: 128)

Social Constrains.

Why interactions seems stable, comprehensible and predictable?

- Information of all kinds has some bearing on interaction.

- We all have something to hide (damaging or embarrassing information). We have to maintain a "face", a self-image.

- Every social action must not only correspond to a specific objective but also acknowledge the requirement that those witnessing it be able to interpret it.

Dramaturgical performance!

Dramaturgical performance!

We are bounded to a role, we follow scripts.

“social actor” - “definition of situation”

We work orienting our action to the expectations and preference of our public.

Frontstage - Backstage

vs.

Total institutions

As a results of living a long time in these degrading conditions, the image of the self breaks down progressively and the individual learns a little by little to practice the amoral art of shamelessness.

stigma and stigmatization

Moral entrepreneurs and labeling

Moral entrepreneurs frame a category of actions as deviant

Eg. FBI and marijuana

Labeling is the act of assigning a particular action to a category that has been deemed deviant

Eg. If somebody smokes marijuana at home and nobody knows about it, he/she is not deviant.

Culture and Subculture

Vernacular/early definitions of culture

“culture is one of the two or three most complicated words in the English language,” Raymond Williams (1976)

Becker’s definition (1): culture as collective meaning assignment

« an organization of common understandings held by a group »

Becker’s definition (2): culture’s origins

Cultural characteristics can be connected to problems faced by a group

One problem may be addressed in several ways…

Becker's definition (3): the group and its culture

A society's culture is not homogenous: it has subcultures

Subcultures are cultures in their own right

And yet, even in subcultures, culture is diverse

Its boundaries are not given once-and-for-all

A subculture may accomodate diversity

Producing and maintaining a subculture

Self-segregation

The reasons for self-segregation