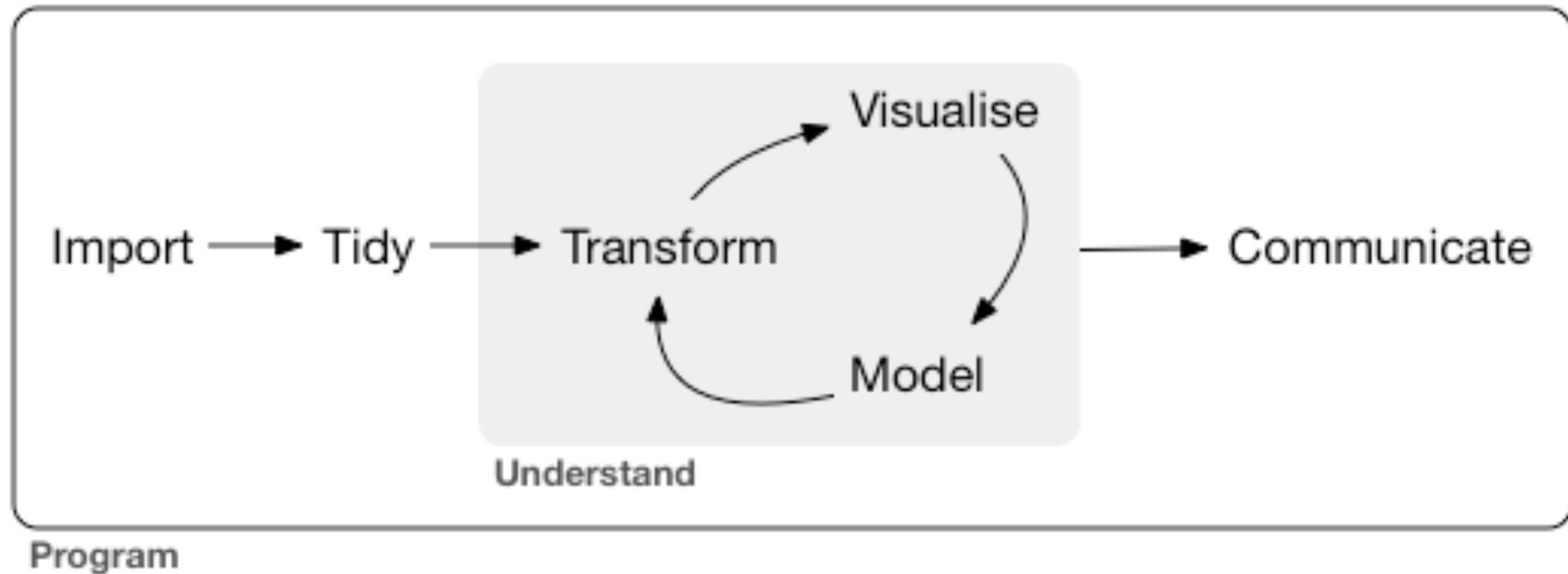


# Documenting your work

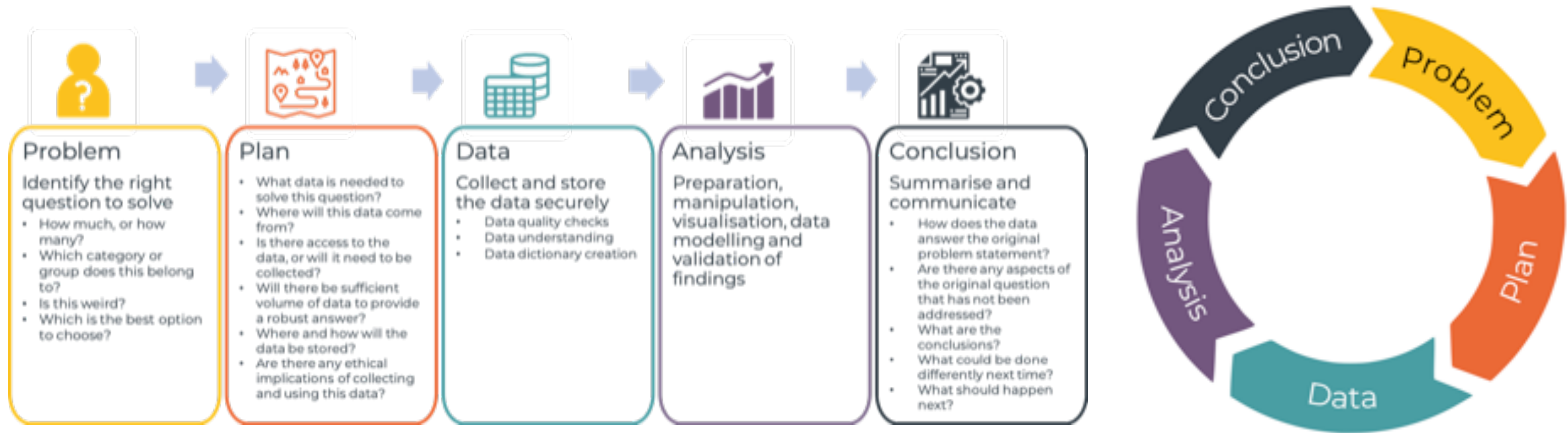




# Data science cycle

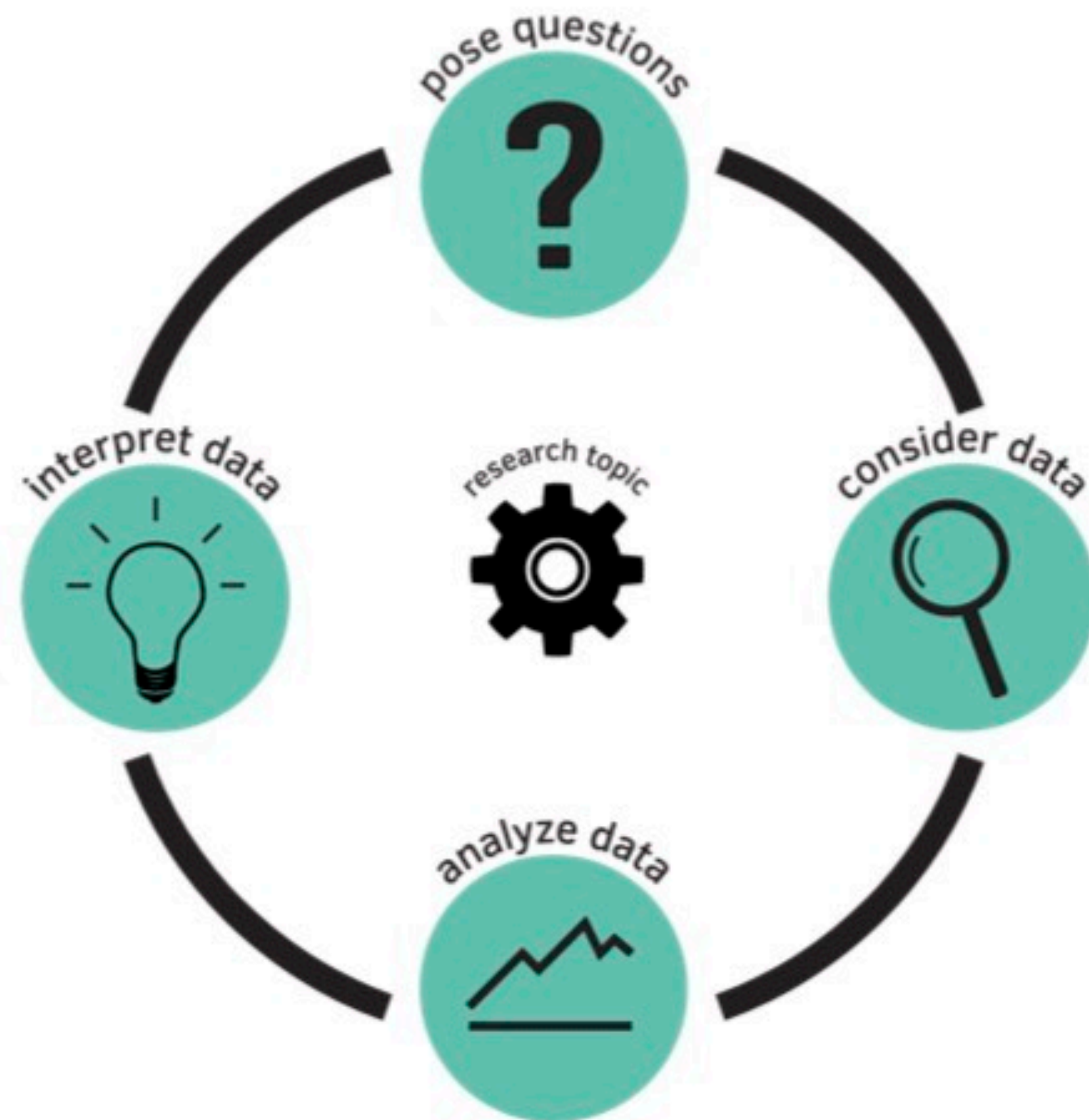


# Data science cycle



# Data science cycle

## The Data Cycle







**David Robinson**  
@drob · [Follow](#)



When you've written the same code 3 times, write a function

When you've given the same in-person advice 3 times, write a blog post

8:22 PM · Nov 8, 2017



3.9K



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Advice to aspiring data scientists: Start a blog. David Robinson <http://varianceexplained.org/r/start-blog/>  
<https://twitter.com/drob/status/928447584712253440>

Advice to aspiring data scientist

varianceexplained.org/r/start-blog/

## Practice analyzing data and communicating about it

If you're hoping to be a data scientist, you're (presumably) not one yet. *A blog is your chance to practice the relevant skills.*

- **Data cleaning:** One of the benefits of working with a variety of datasets is that you learn to take data "as it comes", whether it's in the form of a [supplementary file from a journal article](#) or a [movie script](#)
- **Statistics:** Working with unfamiliar data lets you put statistical methods into practice, and writing posts that communicate and teach concepts helps build your own understanding
- **Machine learning:** There's a big difference between having used a predictive algorithm once and having used it on a variety of problems, while understanding why you'd choose one over another
- **Visualization:** Having an audience for your graphs encourages you to start polishing them and building your personal style
- **Communication:** You gain experience writing and get practice structuring a data-driven argument. This is probably the most relevant skill that blogging develops since it's hard to practice elsewhere, and it's an essential part of any data science career

I can't emphasize enough how important this kind of practice is. No matter how many Coursera, [DataCamp](#) or bootcamp courses you've taken, you still need experience applying those tools to real problems. This isn't unique to data science: whatever you currently do professionally, I'm sure you're better at it now than when you finished taking classes in it.

**ML Hipster**  
@ML\_Hipster · Follow

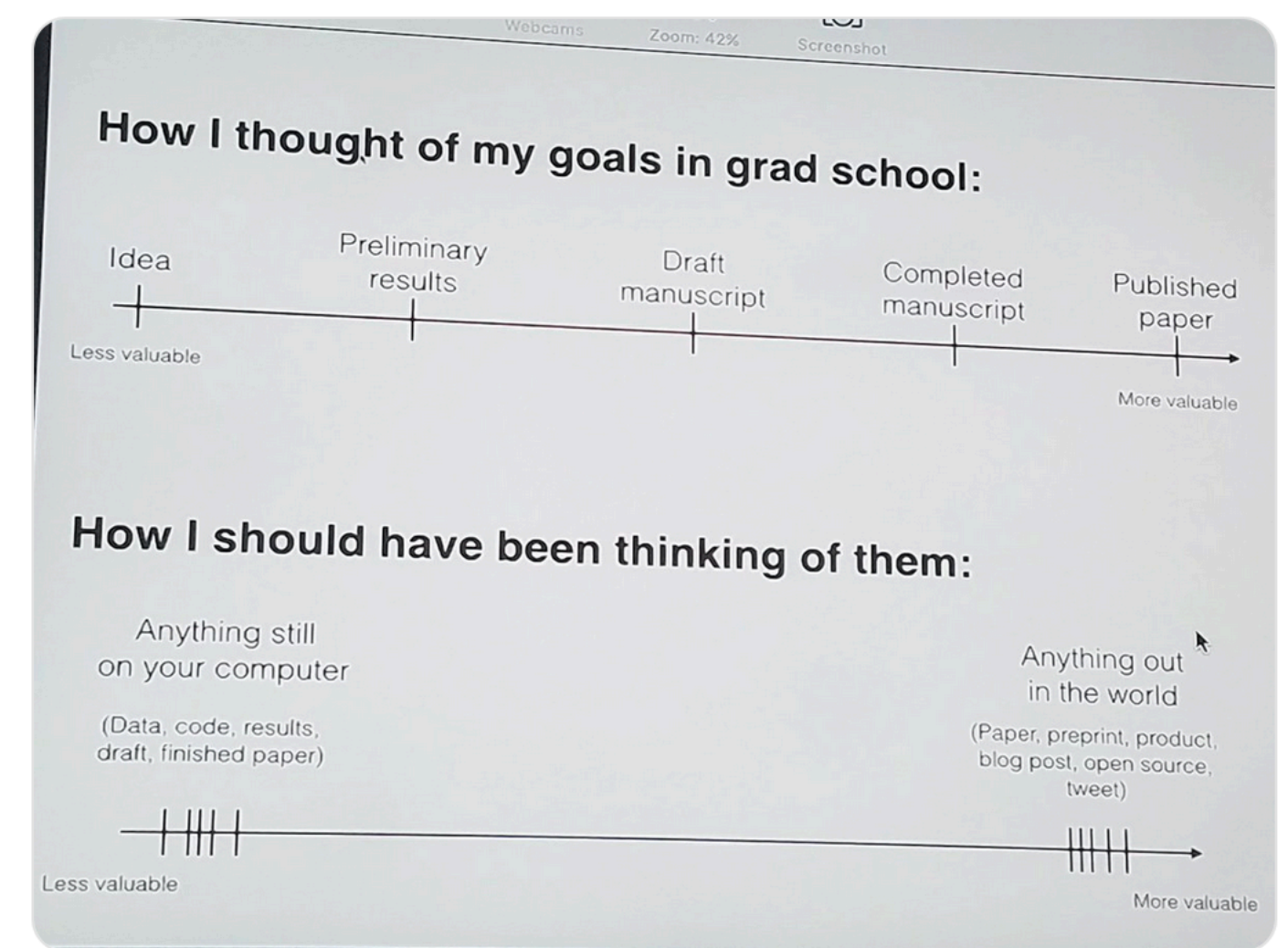
... and that concludes Machine Learning 101. Now, go forth and apply what you've learned to real data!

Advice to aspiring data scientists: Start a blog. David Robinson <http://varianceexplained.org/r/start-blog/>  
<https://twitter.com/drob/status/928447584712253440>





Amelia is @amelia@vis.social on Mastodon @AmeliaMN · Nov 3, 2017  
 "Things that are still on your computer are approximately useless." -@drob  
 #eUSR #eUSR2017 <https://t.co/nS3IBiRHBn>



↻ 327    ❤️ 856    ↗

ID 926509282874585089

[View on Twitter](#)

Amelia is @amelia@vis.social on Mastodon @AmeliaMN

"Things that are still on your computer are approximately useless." -@drob #eUSR #eUSR2017

How I should have been thinking of them:

Anything still

Anything out in the world

11/3/2017, 1:00:01 PM

Favs: 871    Retweets: 329    [link](#)

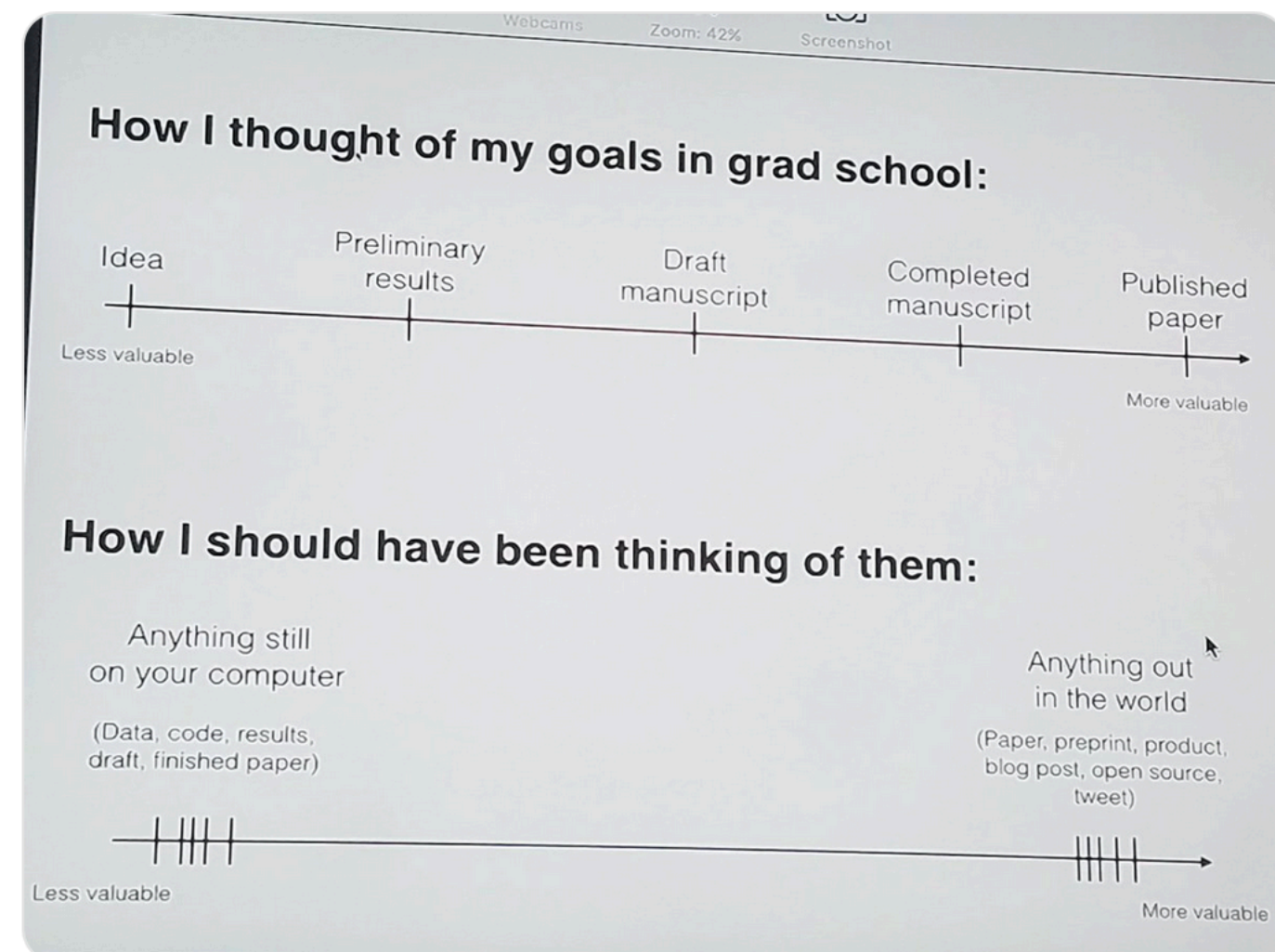




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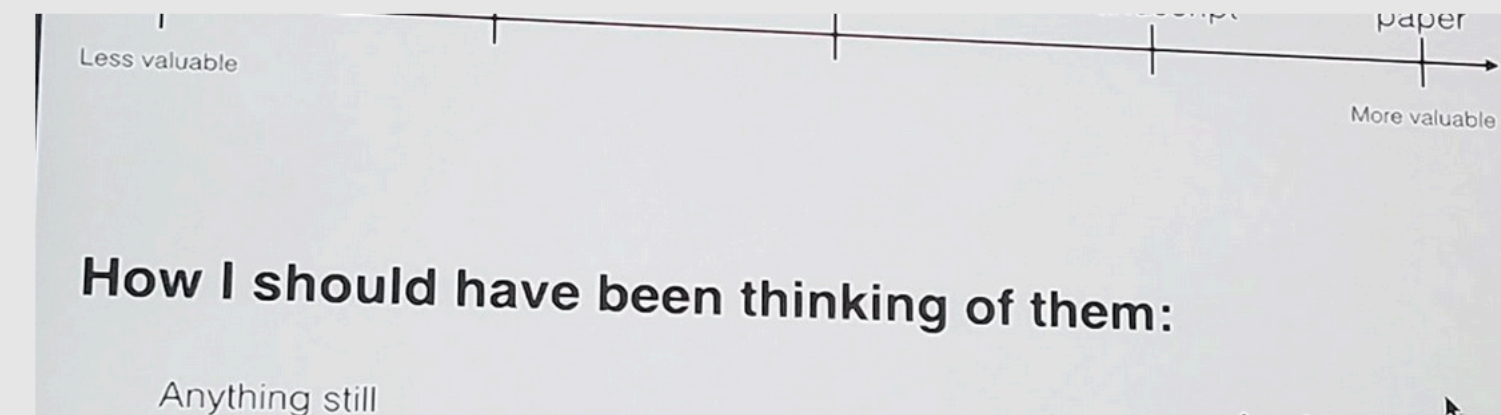
327 856

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11/3/2017, 1:00:01 PM

Favs: 871 Retweets: 329 [link](#)

Amelia is @amelia@vis.social on Mastodon @AmeliaMN

The popularity of this tweet makes me laugh, because it's an illustrative example! I thought about trying to get a screenshot of David's slide, but just took a terrible phone photo of a webinar and tweeted with the quote.

7/22/2018, 10:42:03 AM

Favs: 11 Retweets: 1 [link](#)



# I'm going to show you two ways to get things off your computer

- ArcGIS StoryMaps
  - No code
  - Free (for Tulane people)
  - Works well for maps
  - Also works well for non-maps
- GitHub pages
  - Low code (the way we're going to do it)
  - Free (plus more freebies for educators)
  - Works well for code-based projects
  - Also works for non-code-based projects