



## **Statistics in the Age of Big Data Challenges or Opportunities?**

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Is the discipline of Statistics ready to face the "data deluge"? As business and industry deal with the ever-increasing volume of data, there is a huge demand for individuals with the analytical and computational skills needed to visualize and analyse data for decision making. The traditional Statistics curriculum does not address many of the challenges associated with the analysis of big data. The number of universities offering Data science and Analytics degrees is increasing; however, many of these programs are offered in Computer Science departments or at Business Schools. There is a real opportunity for Statistics departments to develop strategic partnerships with business and industry to develop an interdisciplinary program that provides technical (statistics, computing, visualization) and business skills (finance, marketing), emphasizes team work, and provides opportunities to work on real projects provided by industry partners.

**Keywords:** data science; interdisciplinary programs; analytics curriculum