

# Data Wrangling

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#### **Download Data**



### **Big Picture**

- Data are messy (this isn't so messy!)
- The first step to doing anything cool is using data
- Need to use common sense and brute force often
- You'll see more in first real homework

# First Steps: Get Data

- From FEC
- Odd formatting

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- Odd formatting
- Today: pure Python (easier with Pandas), will help expose level of Python you'll need

# Look at file ...

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- Periods instead of commas (vice versa)
- Odd New York parties
- Semi-colon delimiters
- Includes totals

# 

# 

How many votes were cast?

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Total votes 129085410

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### Total votes 129085410

total\_votes = sum(int(x["TOTAL VOTES #"].replace(".", ""))
for x in votes if x["TOTAL VOTES #"])

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```
margins = {}
for ss in set(x["STATE"] for x in votes):
    margins[ss] = winner(votes, ss)[1] - second(votes, ss)[1]
num_margin = argmax(margins)
print("Largest numerical margin %i in %s" %
    (max(margins.values()), num_margin))
```

# What state had the largest percentage margin between first and second place?

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Johnson had largest third party vote in California with 143221

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```
all third vote = {}
top third vote = \{\}
for ss in set(x["STATE"] for x in votes):
    try:
        all third vote[ss] = \setminus
          dict((x["LAST NAME"],
                 parseint(x["GENERAL RESULTS"]))
                for x in votes
                if x["STATE"] == ss
                  and x["LAST NAME"] not in kMAJOR
                  and x["LAST NAME"])
    except ValueError:
        all_third_vote[ss] = {}
    if all third vote[ss]:
        top third vote[ss] = max(all third vote[ss].val
```

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### Summary

- Data are messy
- Easier with formatted data (e.g., csv)
- Need basic data structures
- Check whether answers are reasonable

#### Next Time ....

- Lecture: make sure to do reading
- Probability foundations (if you found today boring ...)
- Math needed for the course (quiz likely)