# Using Python for Record Linkage: Entrepreneurship, Research and Development, and Lobbying in the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Industry

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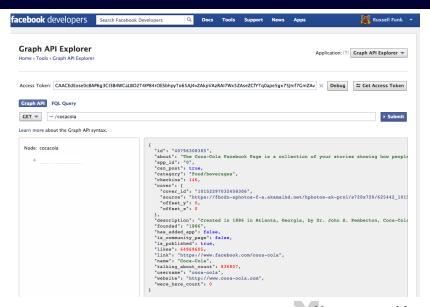
May 20, 2013

## Session goals

#### We'll learn how to...

- 1. pull data from disparate online sources
- 2. link messy data with python using fuzzy matching
- 3. use python to build a data set ready for analysis

### Motivation...



### Motivation...



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Ownership?

# Why study the unmanned aerial vehicle industry?



## A research question. . .

What is the correlation between lobbying expenditures and research and development contracts for small businesses from Department of Defense?

### Quick background...

- ➤ Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR)—requires that all federal agencies with extramural research budgets in excess of \$100 million reserve 2.5% for contracts or grants to small businesses
- Small Business Technology Transfer Program (STTR)—similar to SBIR, but smaller, and emphasizes funding partnerships between small businesses and nonprofit organizations

## How can we find data?





Check **README.md** in the **/data** folder for instructions.



## The challenge...

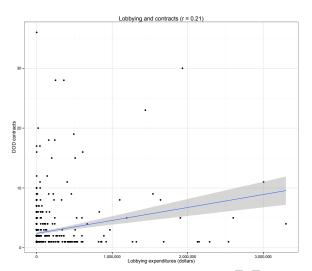
How can we link data records across sources without common unique identifiers?

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## Overview of the project directory...

```
matching/
data/
AwardsToExcel.csv --- DOD SBIR/STTR awards
lob_indus.txt --- OpenSecrets.org lobbying expenditures
results/ --- A folder to store results
__init__.py --- Makes Python treat the directory as a package
match.py ---- Main script to run the match
preprocess.py --- Extra functions to help with processing
```

# Finding (A)... but what does it mean?



# Finding (B)... but what does it mean?

