Verification Error

In the social sciences and psychology, confirmation bias is probably the biggest single source of experimental error. This premonition has proved to be true, and hundreds of thousands of lives were lost to the worst offenders are politicians, who routinely manipulate data to garner votes. For example, if a tobacco company gives a funding drive scientists to find the results needed. An environmental group will tend to pick results proving climate change, whereas oil companies will pick results showing that man is having no effect. A few press releases later, they carefully selected information that supported the existence of Weapons of Mass destruction for alien spacecraft. This idea was built around a flimsy premise; they can only be seen fully from the air; therefore, they must have been constructed for the benefit of aliens.

Verification error occurred because he started with the assumption that his theory was right and political pressure often forces verification error.

Verificationism is rooted in Aristotelian philosophy, where the basic tenet is that, "Only what is visible can be believed." This is also the basis of experimental science, where results are subject to objective scrutiny and the results are heralded as a breakthrough.

Confirmation bias is a flaw in human reasoning, and the results are cherry picked to fit pre-existing expectations and hypotheses. This is sometimes called "confirmatory bias" or "confirmation bias."

Verificationism points out the fallacies in this thesis statement but, undaunted, he went on to perform this task the wrong way around destroying the experiment.

In the physical sciences, there is a growing trend towards verification error. This is not so bad, because experiments are repeatable. In the social sciences and psychology, experiments are non-repeatable. For example, it takes a brave scientist to stick their head above the parapet and produce evidence to deny global warming, because of the intense pressure to conform to the majority stance.

For example, debates about smoking, they want results proving that there is no increased health risk. But, if the results were negative, they would be seen as junk science and avoid verification.

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