

# Sujet corrigé - 3 - Data Collection

This is the **question paper**. It is **NOT** the answer sheet.

Please check that the number on your question paper matches the number on your answer sheet. To complete the answer sheet correctly, you must:

- use a **black** ink pen
- shade in the boxes **completely without going over the edges**
- if you make a mistake, erase the box with a whiteout ("Tipp-Ex"), **but do not redraw it**
- every question has a **unique correct answer**.

## Box correctly ticked

1  A  B  C  D  E

## Box incorrectly ticked

1  A  B  C  D  E

### 1 What is the primary purpose of the data collection stage in the data lifecycle?

1 Point - Only one correct choice

A. To visualize initial trends before full analysis  
 B. To gather relevant data for analysis  
 C. To preprocess raw data to remove errors and inconsistencies  
 D. To ensure data is stored in a structured format for easy retrieval

Data collection is the first step, where raw data is acquired to answer a research question.

### 2 What is the difference between primary data and secondary data?

1 Point - Only one correct choice

A. Primary data is collected by researchers, while secondary data is collected by machines  
 B. Primary data is collected for the study, and secondary data is reused from other sources  
 C. Primary data is quantitative, secondary data is qualitative  
 D. Primary data is more reliable because it is collected firsthand, unlike secondary data

Primary data is tailored to the research question, while secondary data is repurposed.

### 3 In the CalEnviroScreen example, what is the target population?

1 Point - Only one correct choice

A. The census tracts in California  
 B. The air monitoring stations  
 C. All individuals living in California  
 D. The health statistics from hospitals

The target population is the group about which conclusions are drawn.

### 4 What is a confounding variable in an experiment?

1 Point - Only one correct choice

A. A variable that is directly manipulated by the researcher  
 B. A variable that affects both the independent and dependent variables  
 C. A variable that should have been collected but was forgotten  
 D. A variable that is irrelevant to the study

Confounding variables can distort the relationship between the variables of interest.

### 5 What is the main advantage of using simulations in data collection?

1 Point - Only one correct choice

A. They provide exact real-world measurements  
 B. They allow exploration of scenarios that are impractical or unethical to test experimentally  
 C. They are always faster to obtain than data from real experiments  
 D. They eliminate the need for data cleaning, as we can simulate exactly the required data

Simulations are useful for testing hypotheses in controlled, virtual environments.

**6 What is the purpose of stratified sampling?**

1 Point - Only one correct choice

- A. To eliminate the need for randomization of the entire population
- B. To ensure proportional representation of subgroups in the sample
- C. To collect data from the less accessible participants
- D. To reduce the sample size as much as possible without introducing bias

Stratified sampling divides the population into subgroups and samples proportionally from each.

**7 Which of the following is a potential bias in survey data collection?**

1 Point - Only one correct choice

- A. Using a huge sample size
- B. Having participants drop out
- C. Overlapping data collected from multiple sources
- D. Forgetting to clean the data

Non-response bias occurs when certain groups are underrepresented in the responses.

**8 In the OpenWeatherMap API lab, what is the primary role of the API key?**

1 Point - Only one correct choice

- A. To encrypt the collected weather data
- B. To authenticate and authorize access to the API
- C. To ensure a real-time connection with the API, avoiding delay
- D. To clean the weather data automatically

API keys ensure secure and authorized access to data providers.

**9 In Monte Carlo simulations, what is the role of randomness?**

1 Point - Only one correct choice

- A. To mitigate variability in the input data
- B. To model uncertainty and explore a range of possible outcomes
- C. To mimic real-world experiments where events can never be fully understood
- D. To parametrize the noise, which simplifies cleaning

Randomness in Monte Carlo simulations helps estimate probabilities and outcomes under uncertainty.

**10 A data scientist realizes that the dataset cannot answer the research question even after excellent cleaning and preprocessing. What is the most likely reason?**

1 Point - Only one correct choice

- A. The machine learning algorithm was not trained long enough; they should request more computing power
- B. The collection did not capture enough data; they should rerun the collection procedure at a larger scale
- C. The metadata was poorly documented; they should ask for further details from the data publisher
- D. The collection did not capture the proper variables; they should redesign the collection protocol

Even with high-quality data, if the collected variables do not address the research question, the analysis will fail. Redesigning the collection protocol to capture relevant variables is essential.