

Episode 129: Guest bio

Episode name: Grasping Causation: A Data Science Explanation of Causal Inference and the Role of Counterfactuals

Guest(s): Hans Weemaes

HANS WEEMAES

Head of Economics and Data Analytics, Vincents



Hans is the Head of Economics & Data Analytics (EDA) at Vincents. Hans has over two decades of experience as a management accountant, economist, and testifying expert. He specialises in applying economic and managerial accounting frameworks to complex commercial litigation and class actions. Hans has extensive experience working in the United States as an economic consultant on large scale matters across a wide range of commercial litigation and regulatory investigations. He began his career as an economist at the Australian Federal Treasury and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Hans holds a Master of Economics degree from the Australian National University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Chicago. He is also a Chartered Financial Analyst and Certified Management Accountant. His professional interests include artificial intelligence, causation, cost analytics, and lateral thinking.

Hans started the EDA unit in 2021 to build analytics capabilities aimed at expanding the evidentiary possibilities of big data in complex litigation. Over a short time, EDA has grown to several data scientists (including experts in AI). EDA not only provides analytical support to testifying experts and lawyers but also develops state-of-the-art analytics tools to support litigation. EDA is currently working on an ambitious project to create an AI assistant that can act as a virtual forensic accountant. Using LLMs with agentic workflows (an AI technique) this tool will empower lawyers to analyse financial documents in their case in a way that mimics talking to a real-life forensic accountant. In 2024 the EDA Unit was recognised as Innovator of the Year by *Accountants Daily*.

DAVID TURNER

Host



David Turner has a gift for teasing out people's stories, so it's no wonder he is Hearsay's host. With a double Bachelor of Arts and Laws from Macquarie University, he is also an MBA candidate at UNSW's Australian Graduate School of Management.

When he isn't interviewing people on Hearsay, David is a lawyer at Assured Legal Solutions, a boutique financial services law firm located in Sydney's CBD. Prior to joining Assured, he was called to the NSW Bar, and is a former President of NSW Young Lawyers and a former Councillor of the Law Society of NSW.

David spends the little downtime that he has left reading historical fiction and tinkering on home improvement projects.

You can access David's bio on the Assured Legal Solutions website [here](#).