



Alberta  
Machine  
Intelligence  
Institute

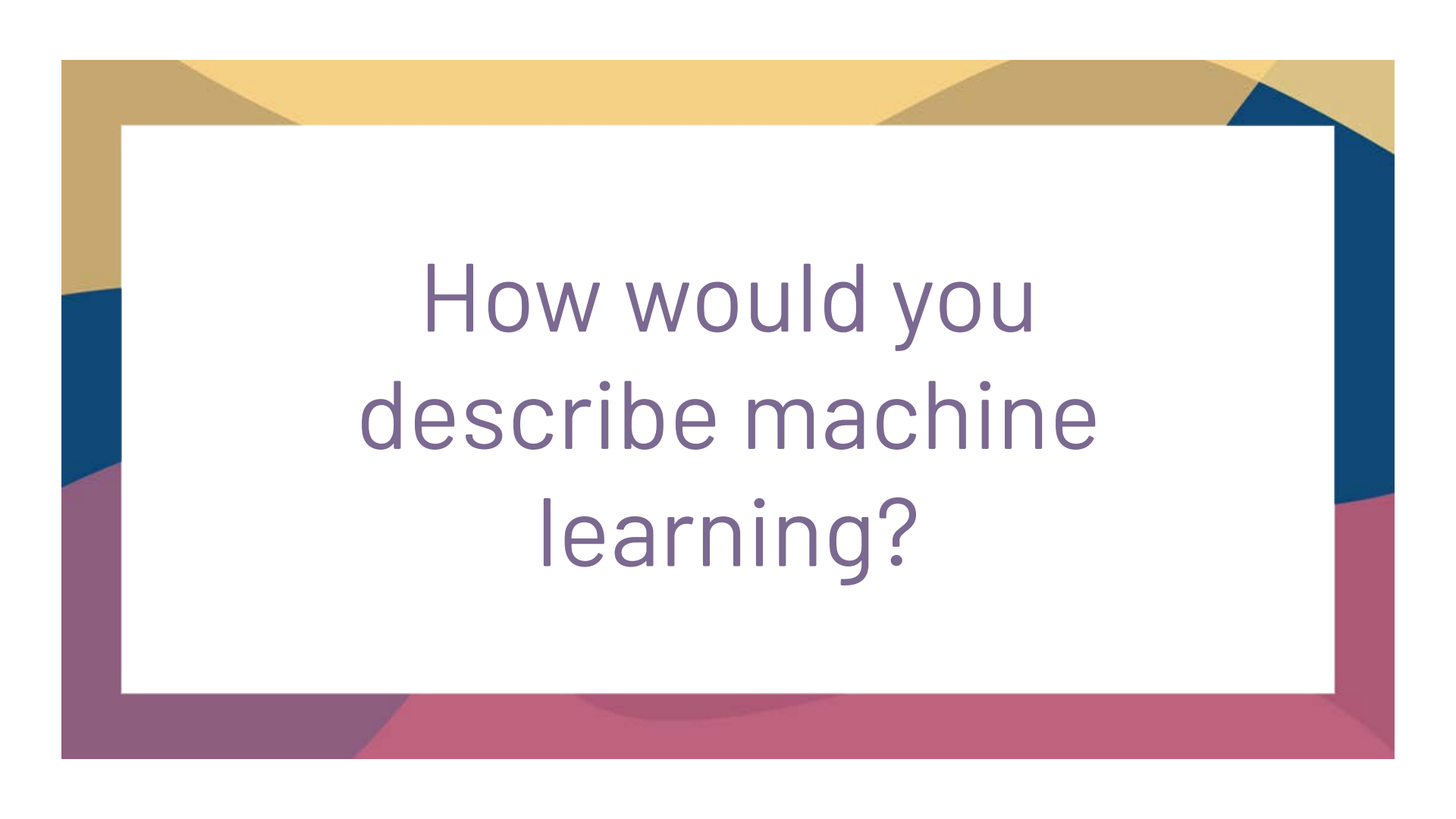
# Alliance Pipeline Seminar

The power and pitfalls of machine learning in supply chain management

Anna Koop  
Senior Scientific Advisor, Amii

June 5, 2019





How would you  
describe machine  
learning?



Who is Amii?



# Vision

Inspire world-changing intelligence for good and for all.

Make Alberta the premier destination for machine intelligence research, development, and commercialization.



# Amii Researchers



**Michael  
Bowling**



**Alona  
Fyshe**



**Randy  
Goebel**



**Russ  
Greiner**



**Robert  
Holte**



**Patrick M.  
Pilarski**



**Dale  
Schuurmans**



**Or  
Sheffet**



**Richard S.  
Sutton**



**Csaba  
Szepesvári**



**Martha  
White**



**James  
Wright**



**Yutaka  
Yasui**



**Osmar  
Zaiane**



**Angel  
Chang**



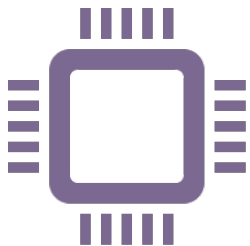
**Kevin  
Leyton-Brown**



**Mark  
Schmidt**



# Four focus areas



Supporting world-class research  
and training



Growing machine  
intelligence  
capacity in  
business



Connecting global  
innovators



Boosting machine  
intelligence  
literacy in  
business



# What to expect from this seminar

## What is ML?

Understanding definitions

## What can it do?

Examples related to supply chain

## How to succeed

Projects need expertise

## Case study

Grocery store competition



# What is ML?

Understanding definitions



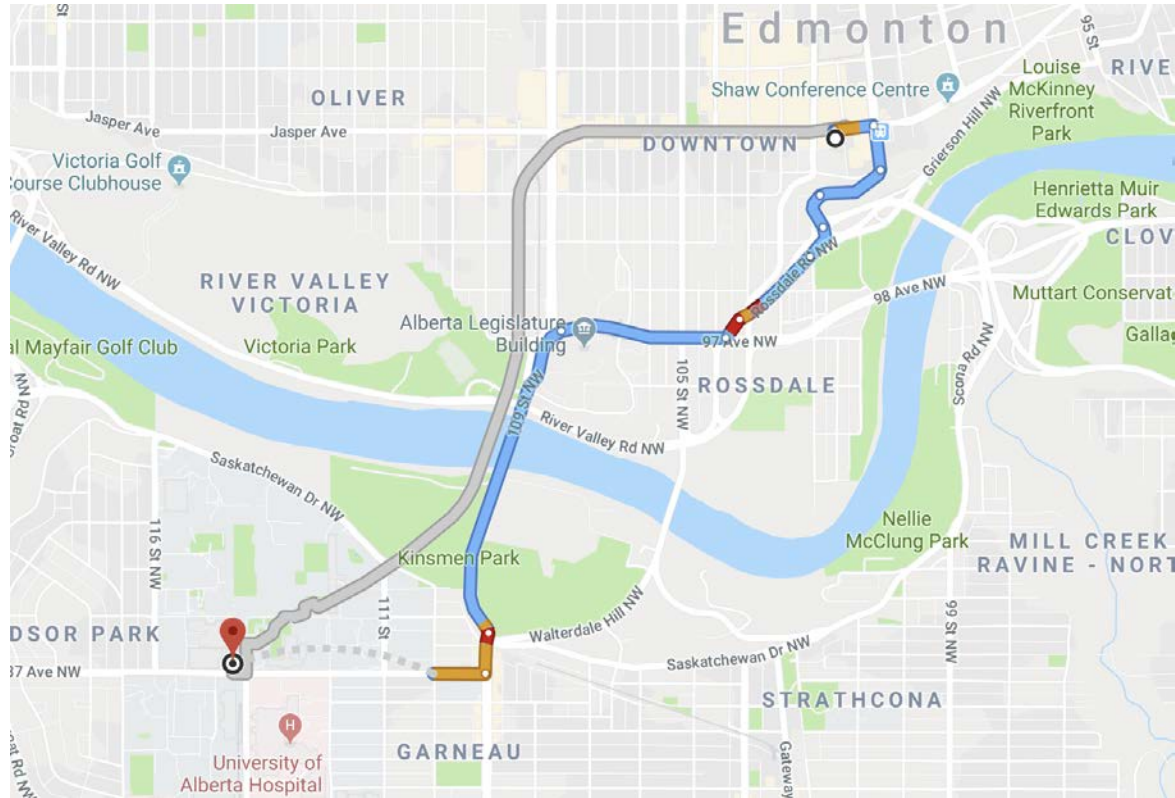


# What is Artificial Intelligence?

Artificial  
Intelligence

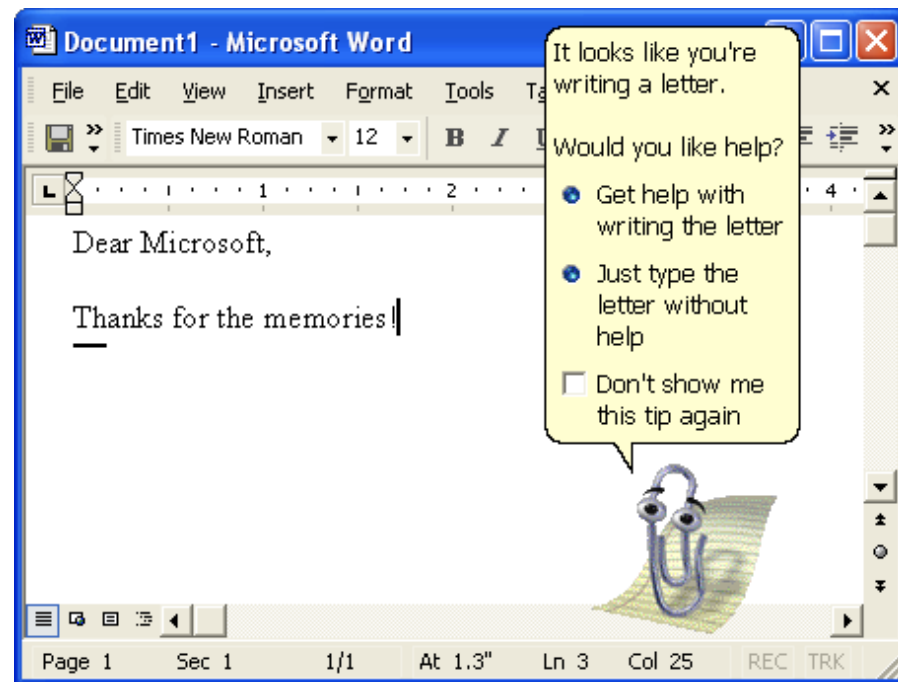


# AI Example: Pathfinding





# AI Example: 'Smart' Assistant



<https://www.artsy.net/article/artsy-editorial-life-death-microsoft-clippy-paper-clip-loved-hate>



# AI Example: “Autonomous” Robots



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Furby>



By ITU Pictures CC BY 2.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=63678155>



# AI Example: Autonomous Cars



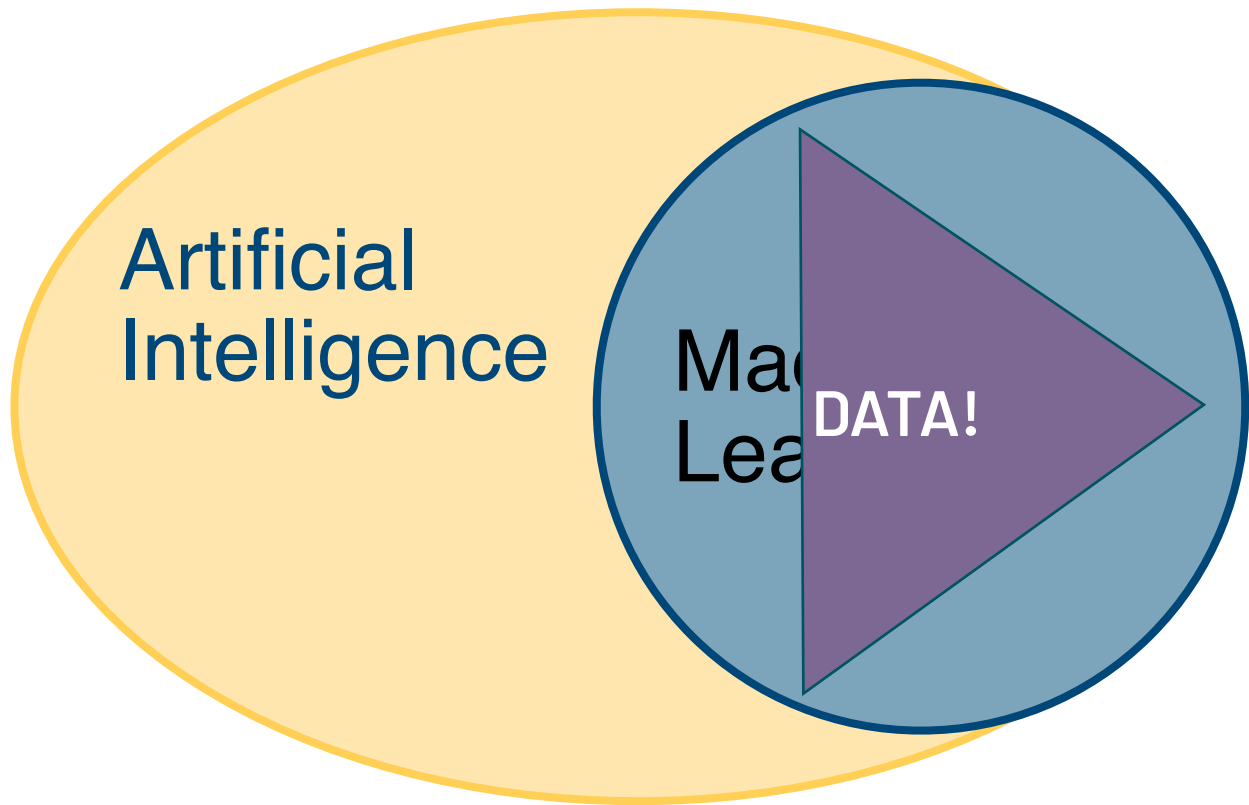
[http://www.darpa.mil/grandchallenge05/high\\_res](http://www.darpa.mil/grandchallenge05/high_res)



<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2014/may/28/google-self-driving-car-how-does-it-work>



# What is Machine Learning?





# Types of Machine Learning

**Supervised**

learning from  
correct examples

**Unsupervised**

learning from  
unlabelled data

**Reinforcement**

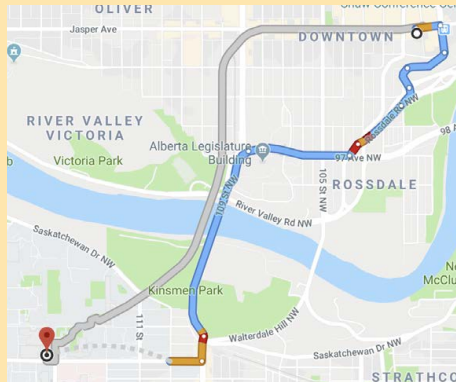
learning from  
experience





# What is AI - ML?

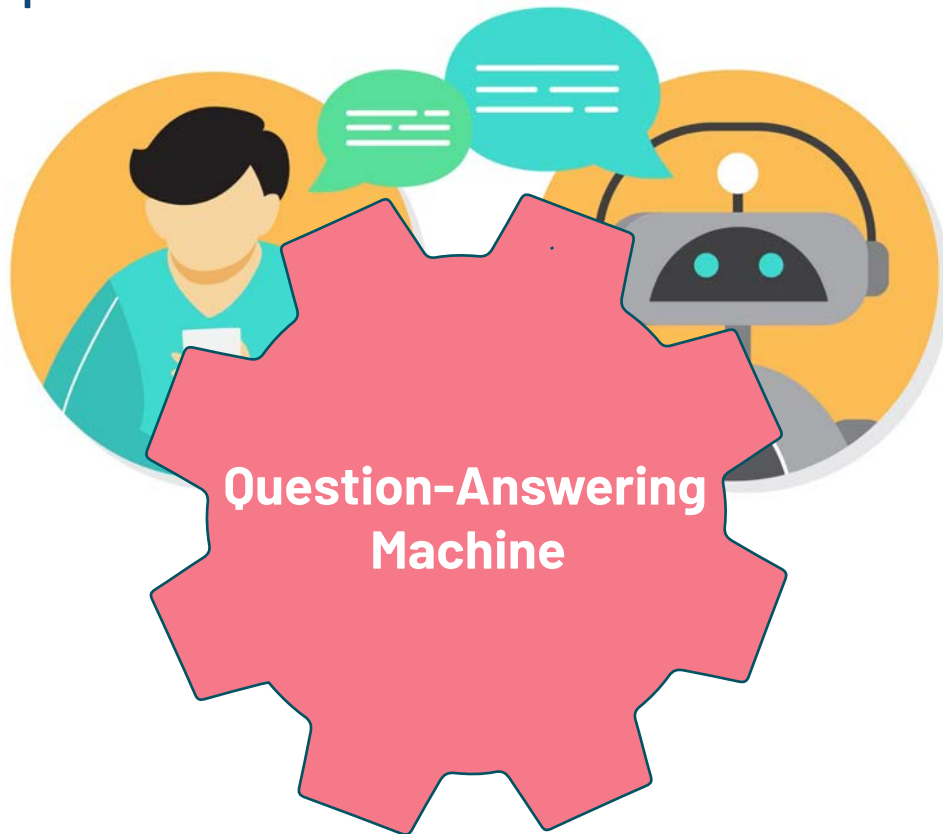
## Classic Artificial Intelligence





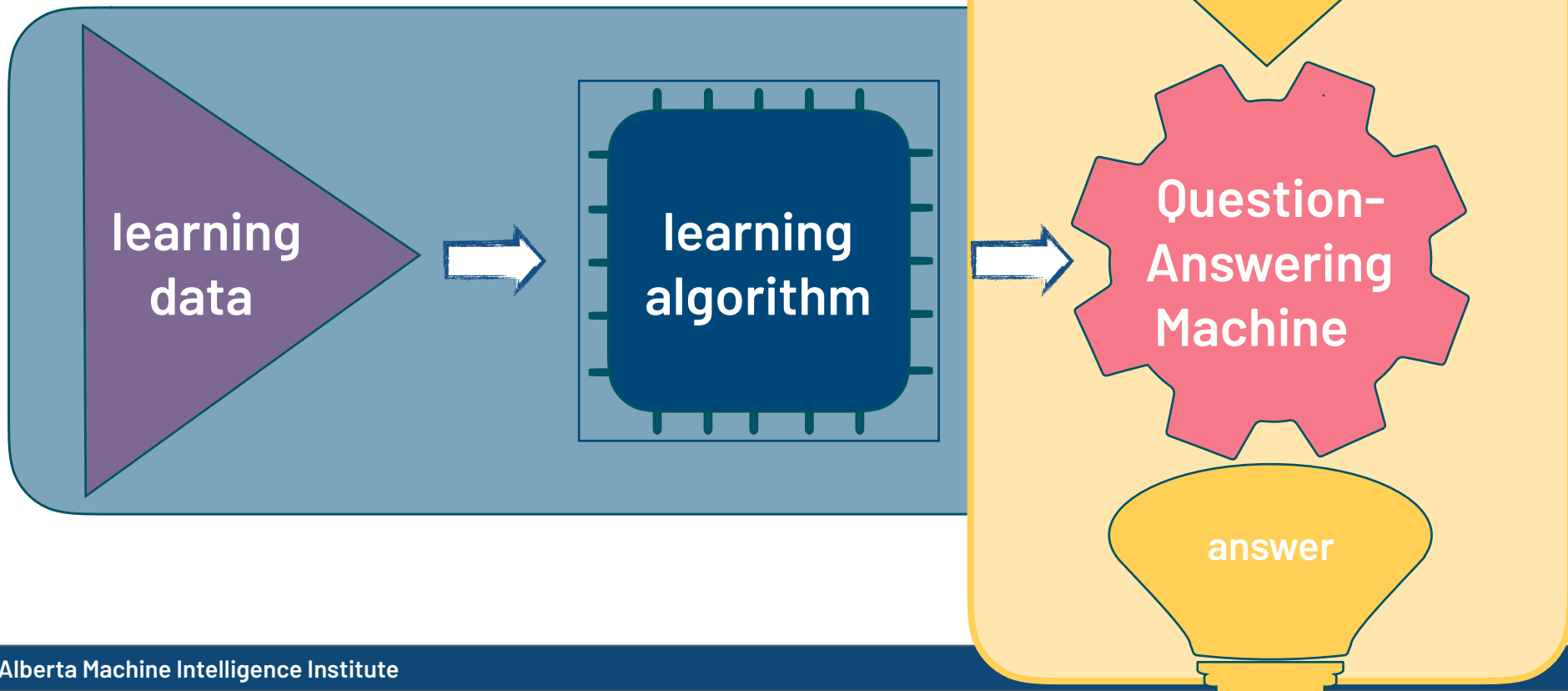


# The Output of ML



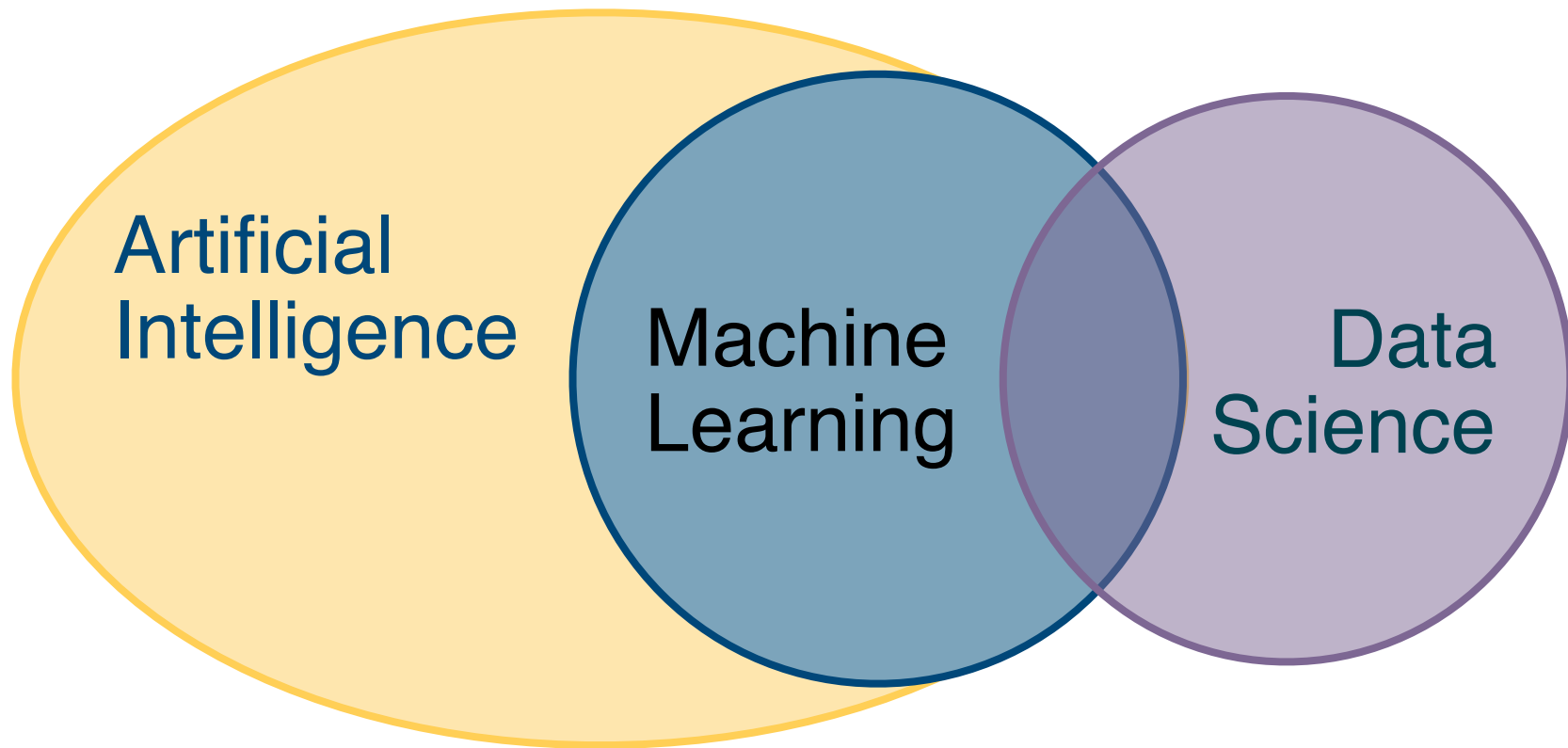


# Machine Learning Process



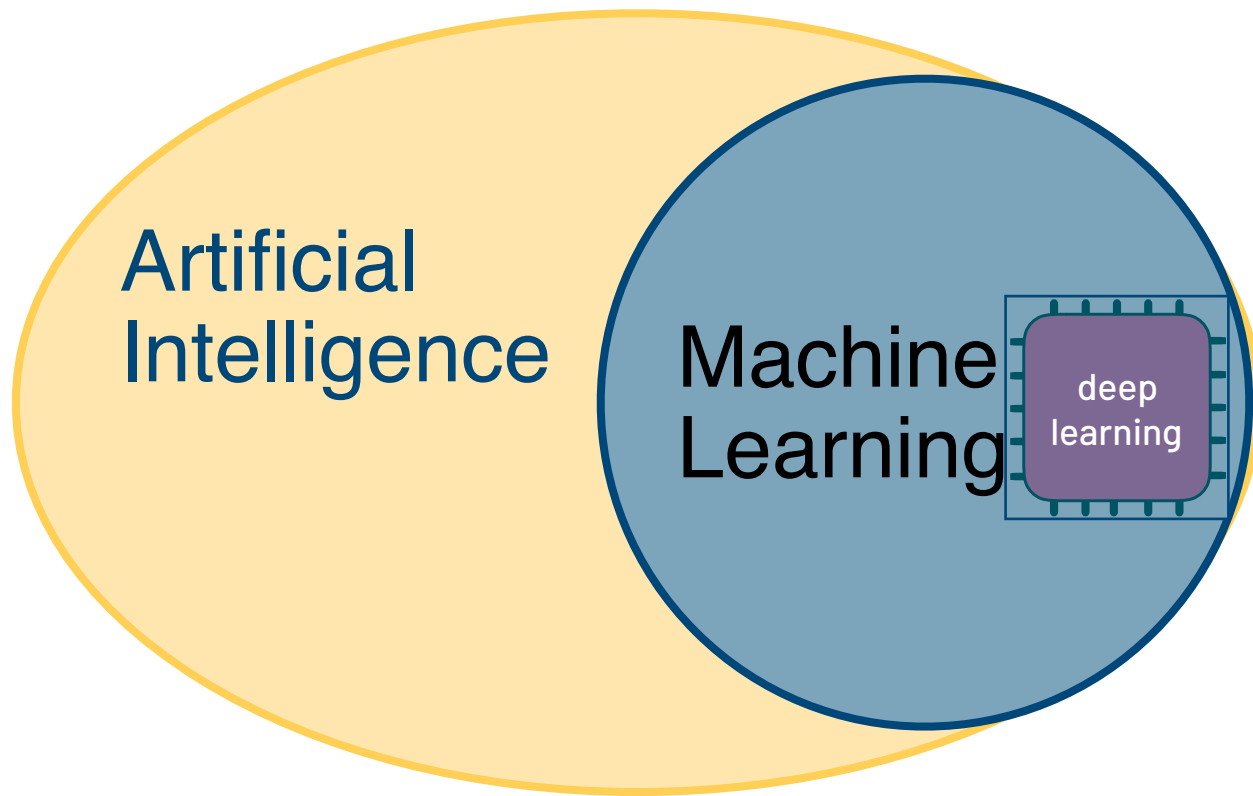


# Data Science





# What is Deep Learning?



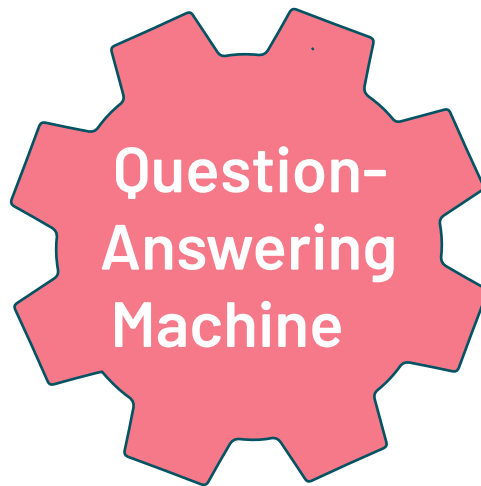


# Local Deep Learning Successes





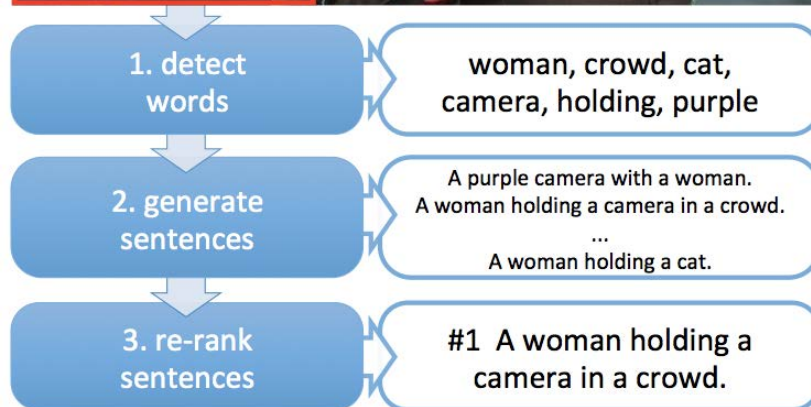
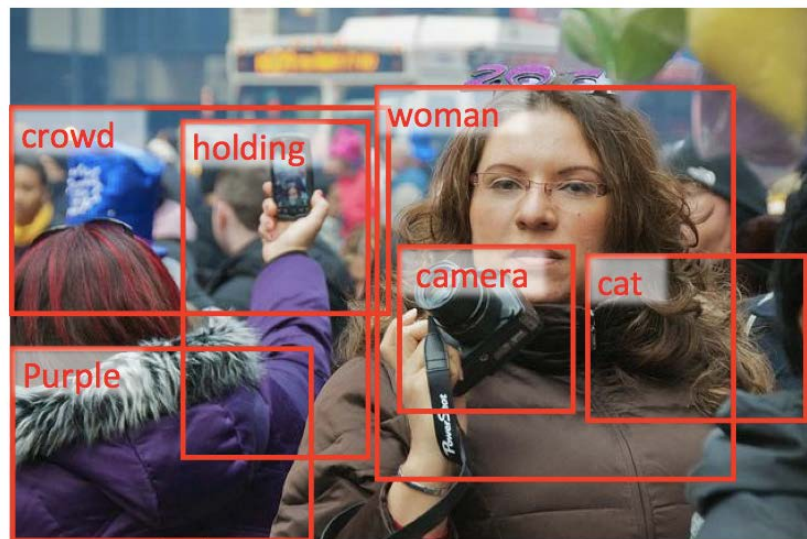
# About those Questions...





# Subtasks

- Detect and classify objects
- Generate valid sentences
- Rank sentences



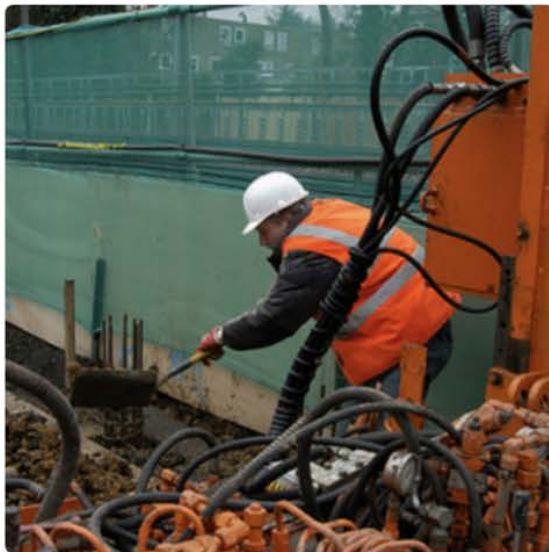
<https://blogs.technet.microsoft.com/machinelearning/2014/11/18/rapid-progress-in-automatic-image-captioning/>



# Image captioning results



"man in black shirt is playing guitar."



"construction worker in orange safety vest is working on road."



"two young girls are playing with lego toy."

<https://towardsdatascience.com/image-captioning-in-deep-learning-9cd23fb4d8d2>





# Image captioning...?

a cat is sitting on a toilet in a bathroom



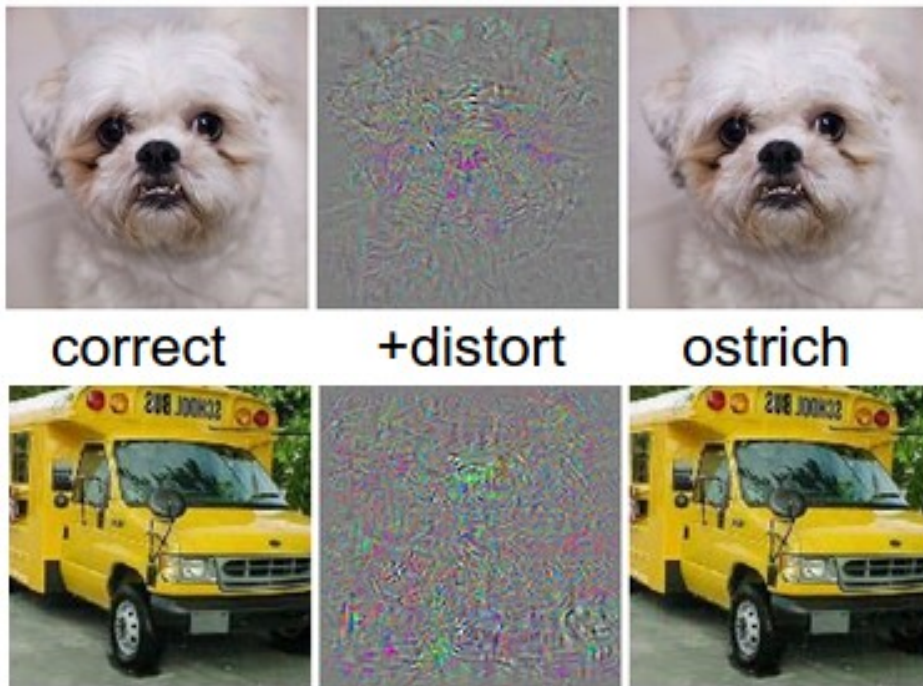
a man is riding a skateboard on a ramp



<http://gizmodo.com/this-neural-networks-hilariously-bad-image-descriptions-1730844528>



# Fooling a Neural Network

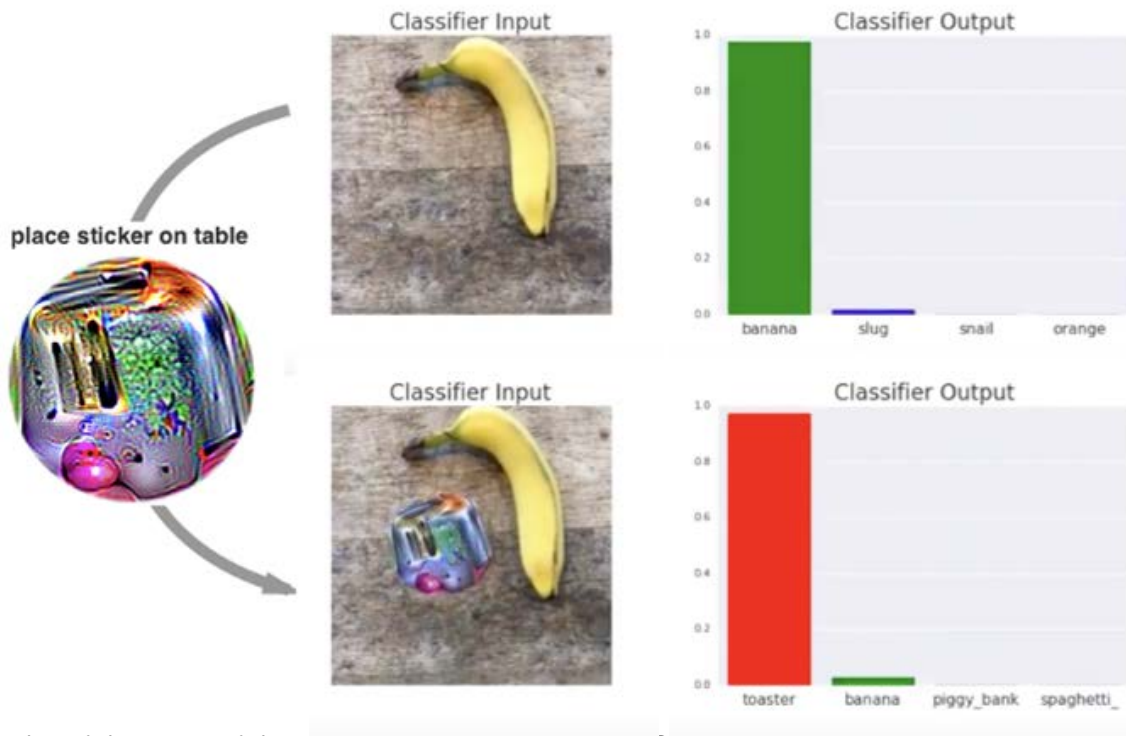


<http://karpathy.github.io/2015/03/30/breaking-convnets/>

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1312.6199>



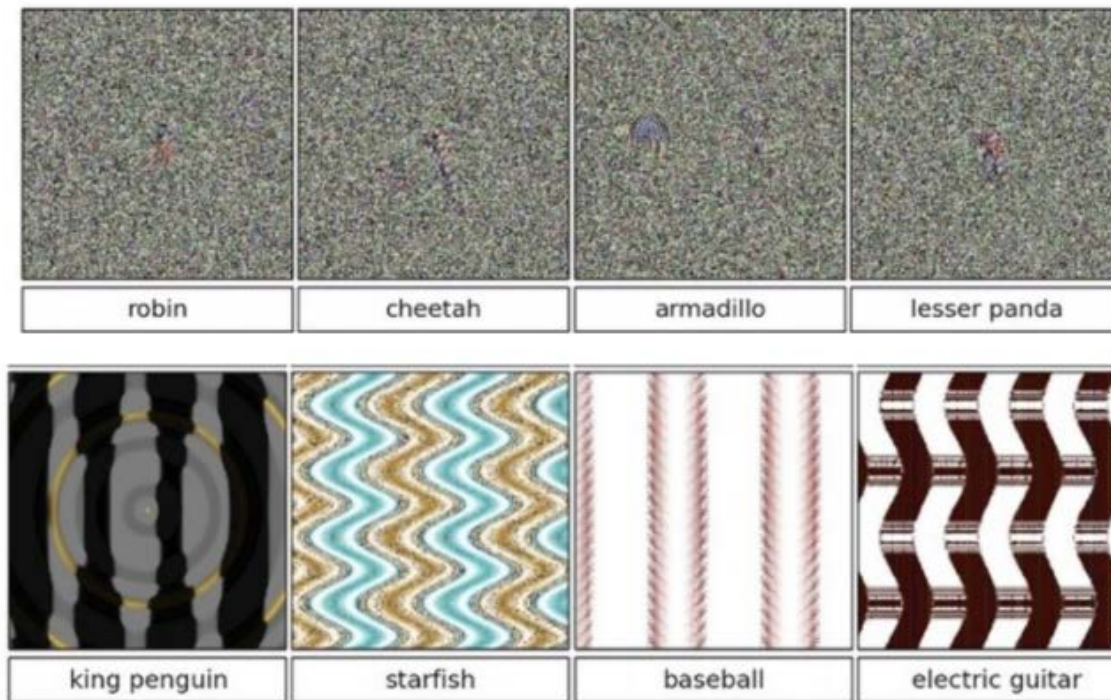
# Ceci n'est pas une banana



<https://gizmodo.com/this-simple-sticker-can-trick-neural-networks-into-thin-1821755479>  
Image: Tom B. Brown/Dandelion Mané, <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1712.09665.pdf>



# Essence of an Image

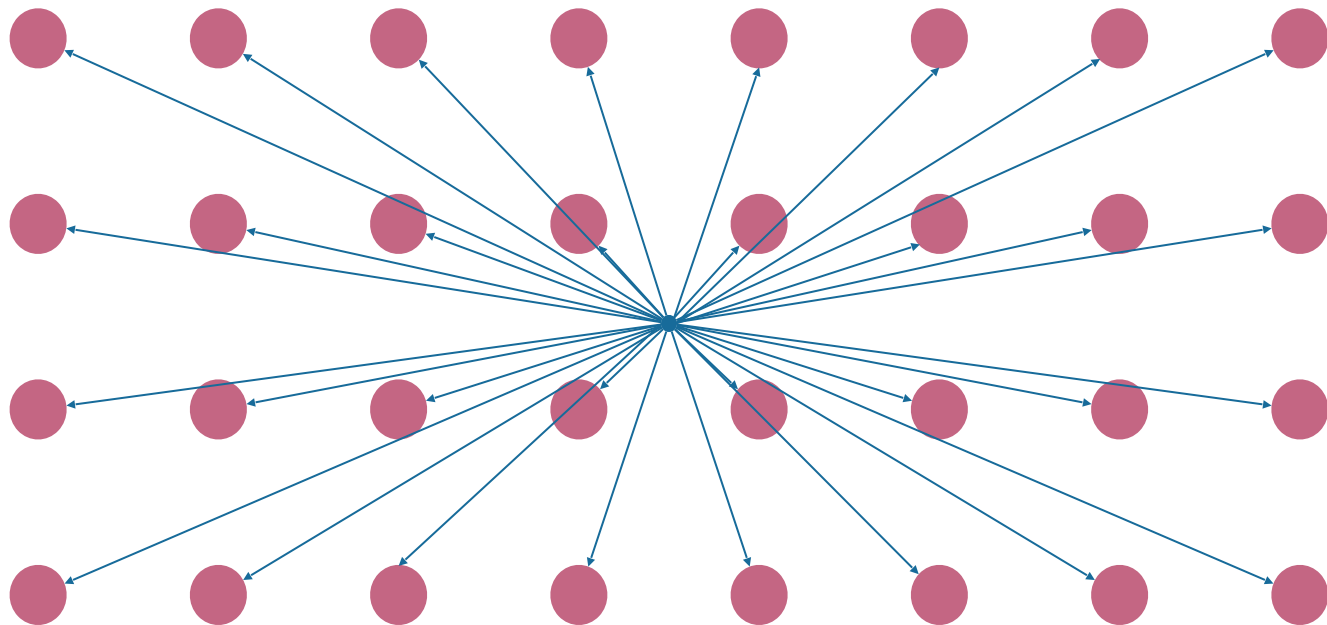


<http://karpathy.github.io/2015/03/30/breaking-convnets/>

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1412.1897>

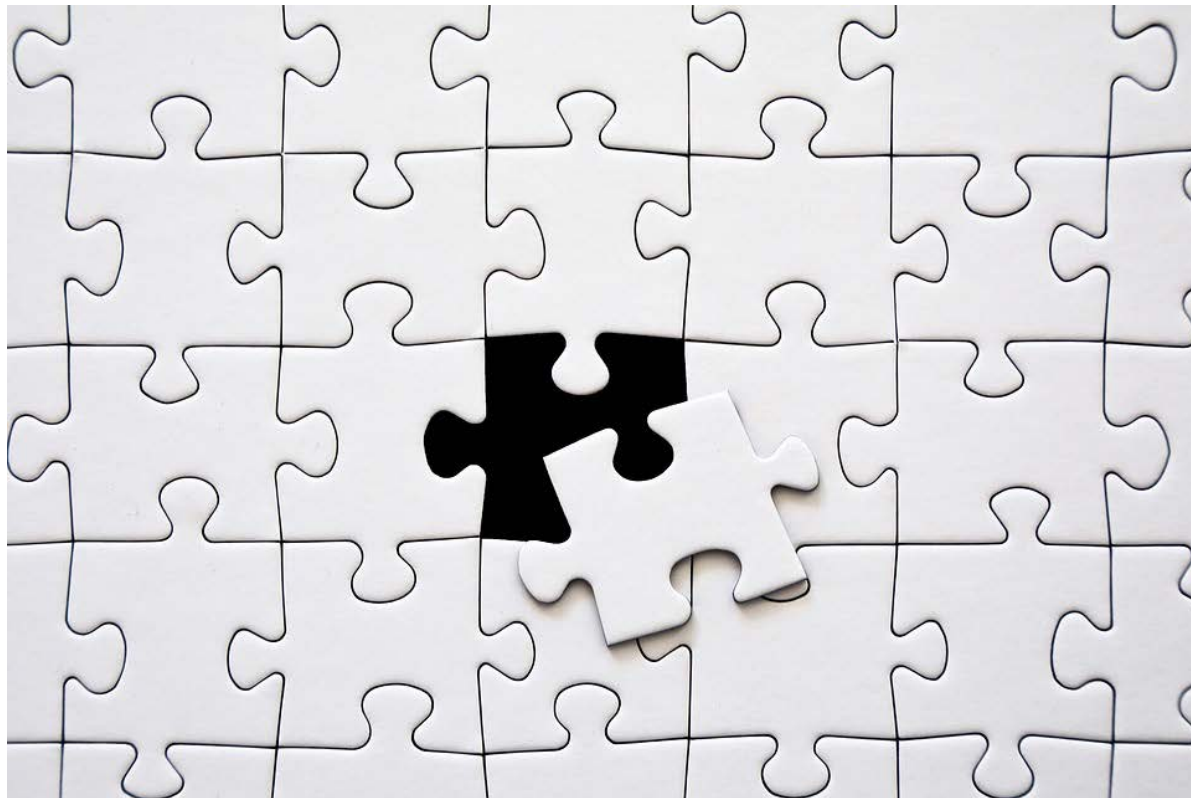


# Generalization is hard!





## Focus on a specific part of the problem





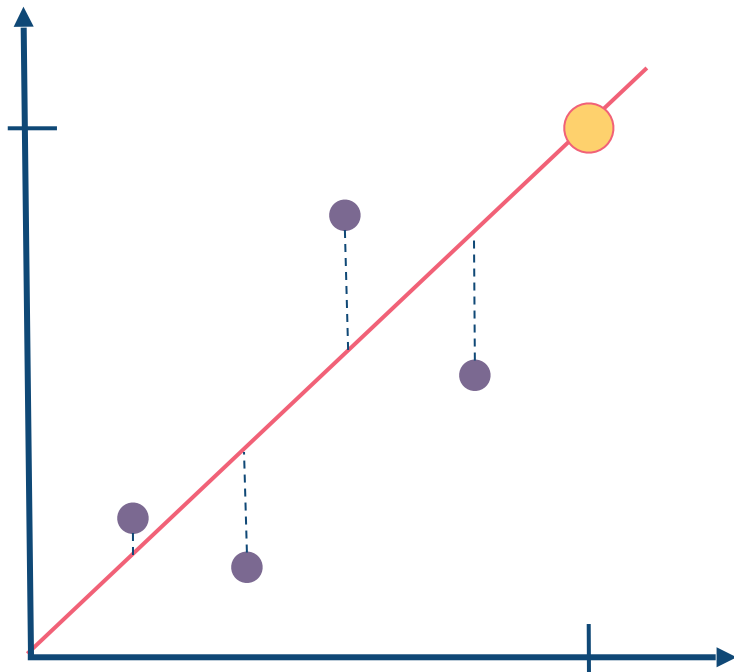


# What can ML do?

Examples related to supply chain



# Prediction (Machine Learning)



Inferring something that hasn't happened yet, or that you can't measure directly





# Prediction (Machine Learning)



number of sales



# Prediction (Machine Learning)



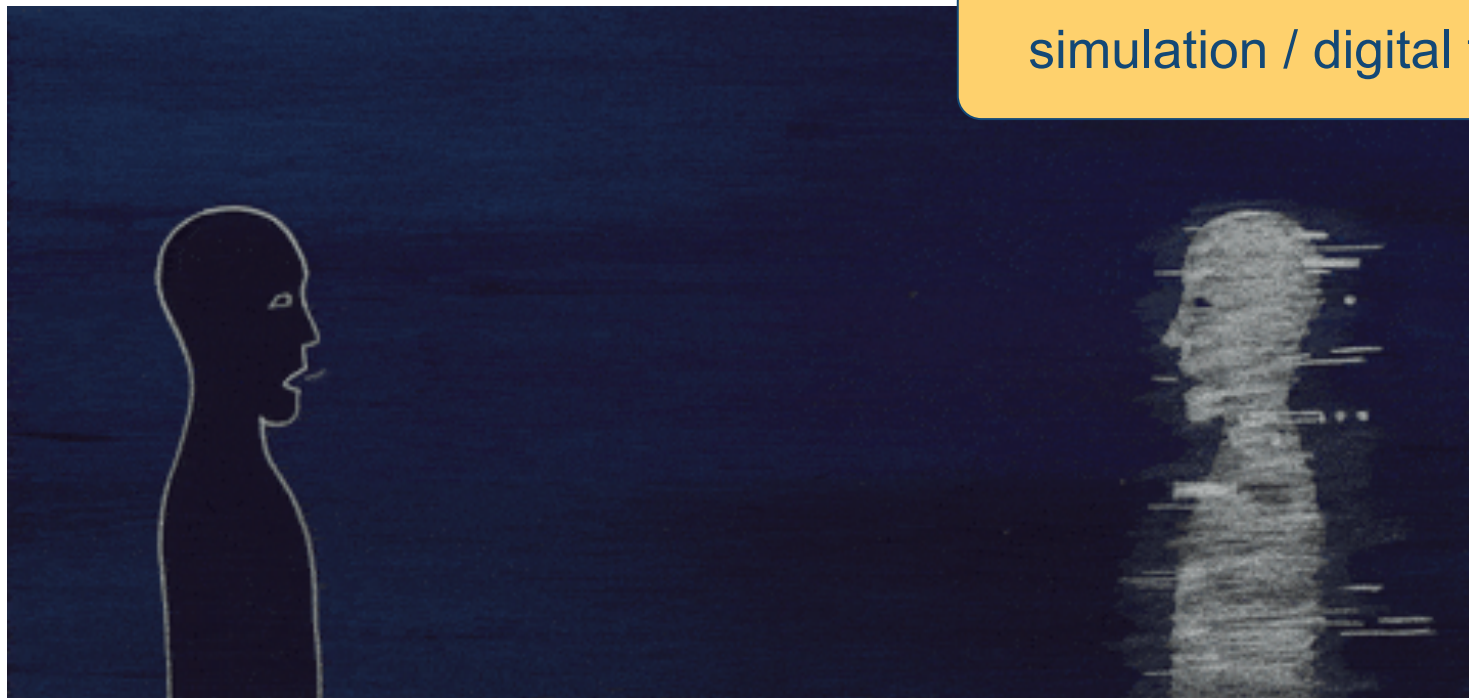
time to machine failure

Daniel Case [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)]



# Prediction (Machine Learning)

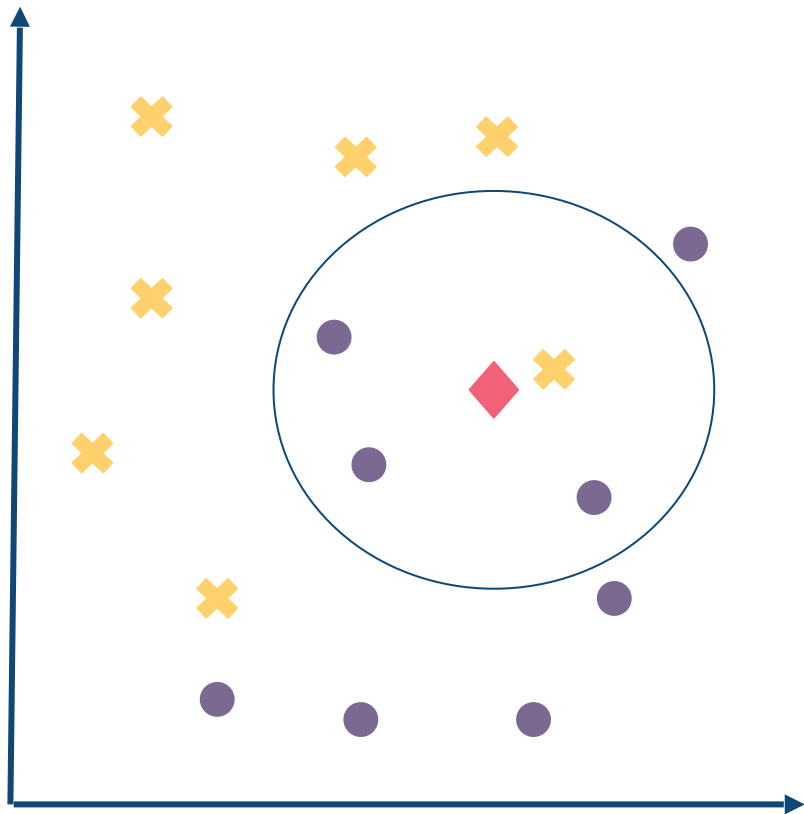
simulation / digital twins



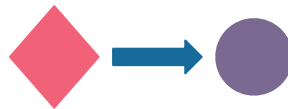
<https://media.giphy.com/media/3oz8xTfD5SrAwNNUQ/source.gif>



# Classification (Machine Learning)



Examples put into categories





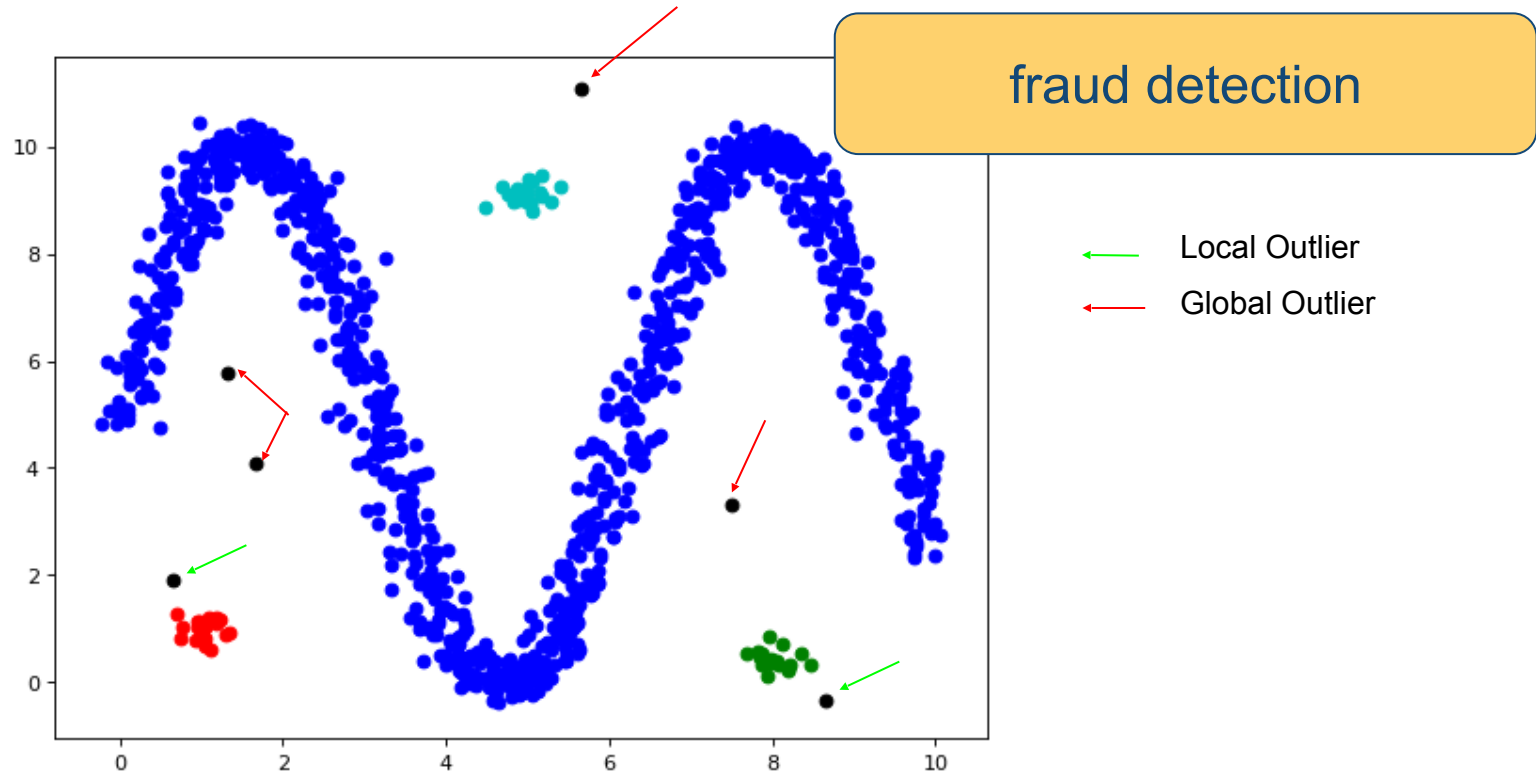
# Classification (Machine Learning)



to buy or not to buy?



# Classification (Machine Learning)







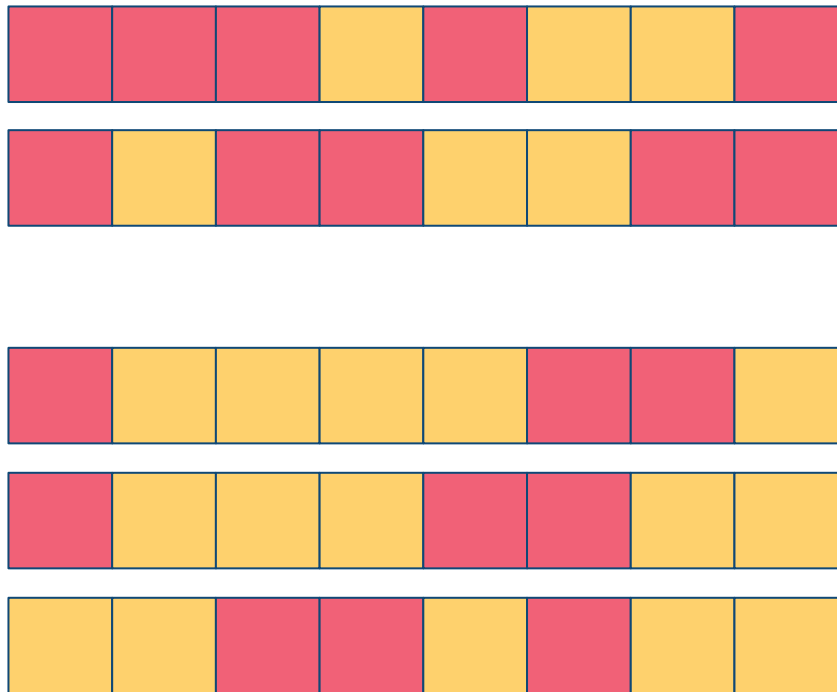
# Classification (Machine Learning)



on-time delivery



# Association (Machine Learning)



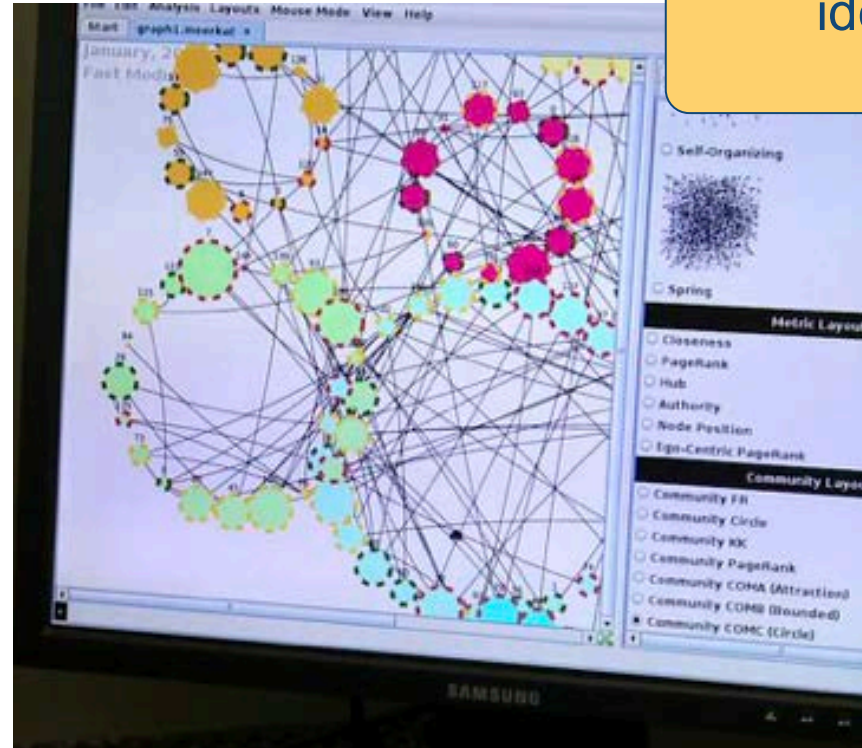
Finding links between people or things

Grouping people/items based on associations





# Association (Machine Learning)



identify customer communities



# Association (Machine Learning)

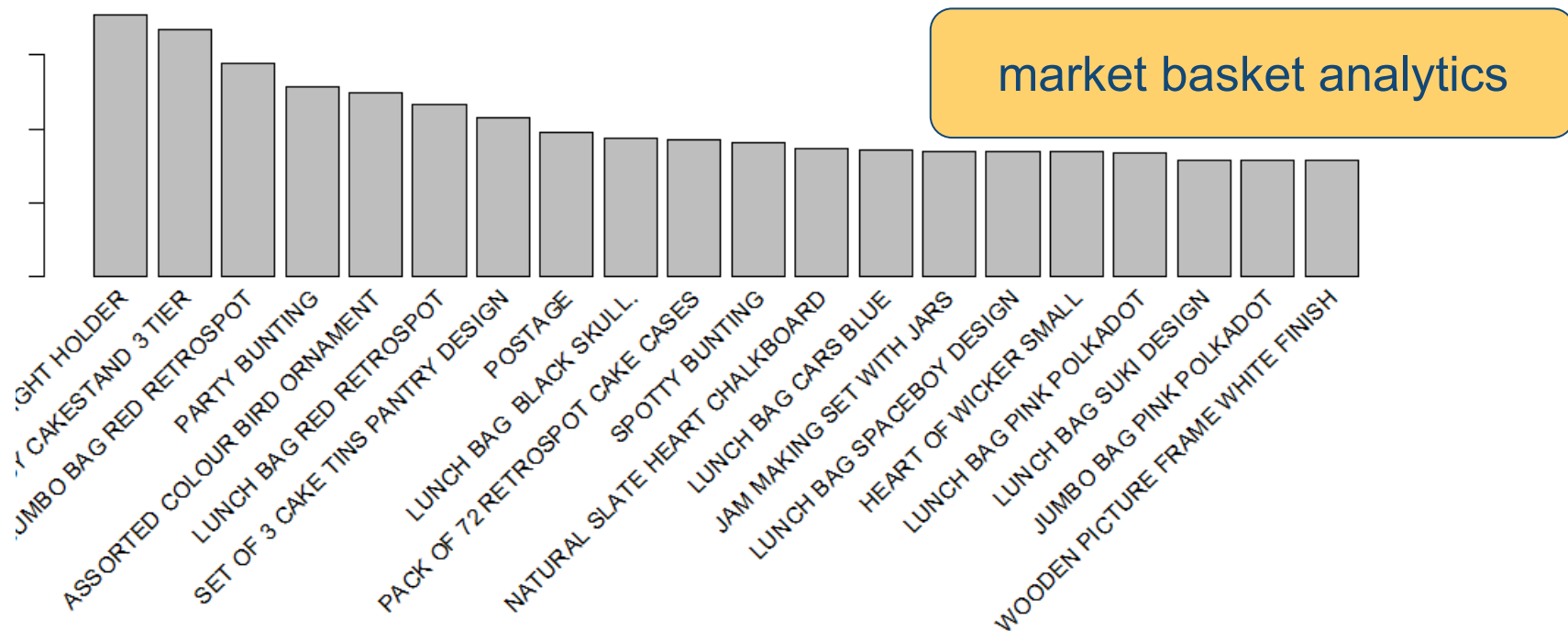


Figure 4. A bar plot of the support of the 20 most frequent items bought.



# Association (Machine Learning)

recommender systems





# Association (Machine Learning)

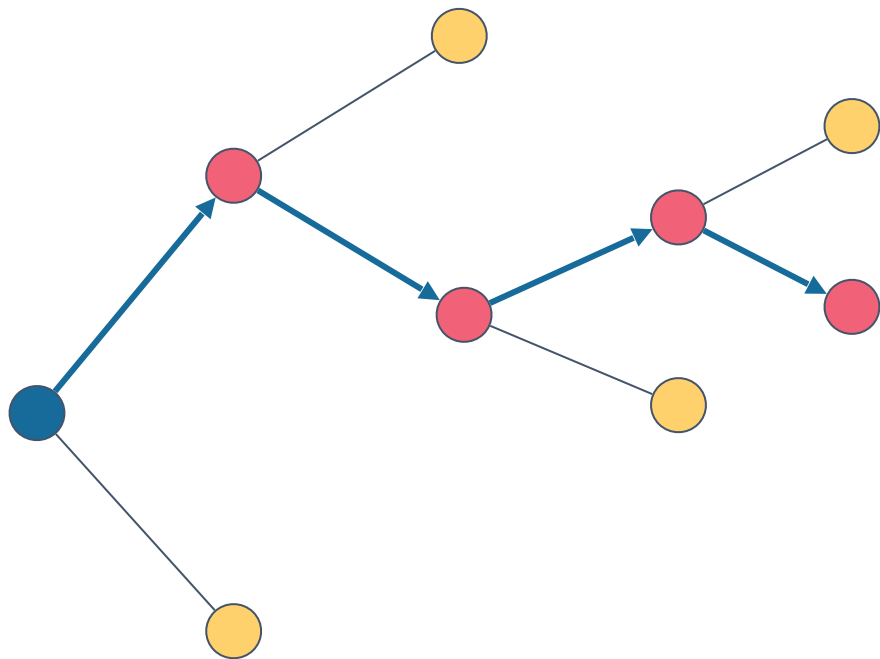


finding good suppliers

Creativity103 [CC BY 2.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>)]



# Action Control (Machine Learning)



Choosing an action

Choice is made in response to the environment



# Action Control (Machine Learning)

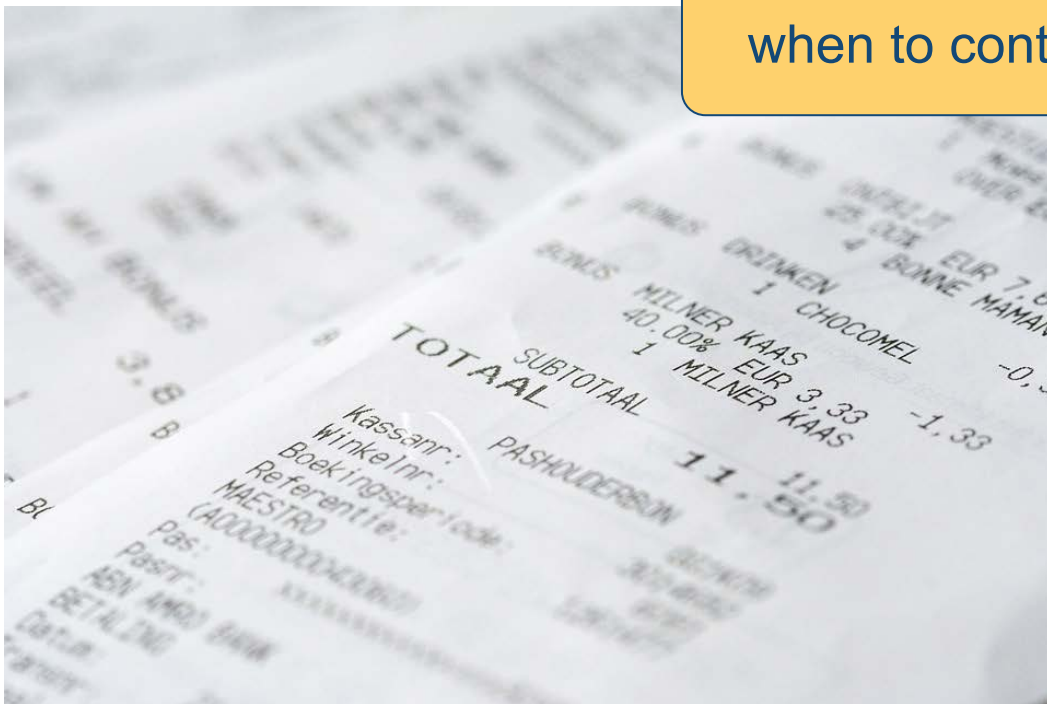


when to make an offer?



# Action Control (Machine Learning)

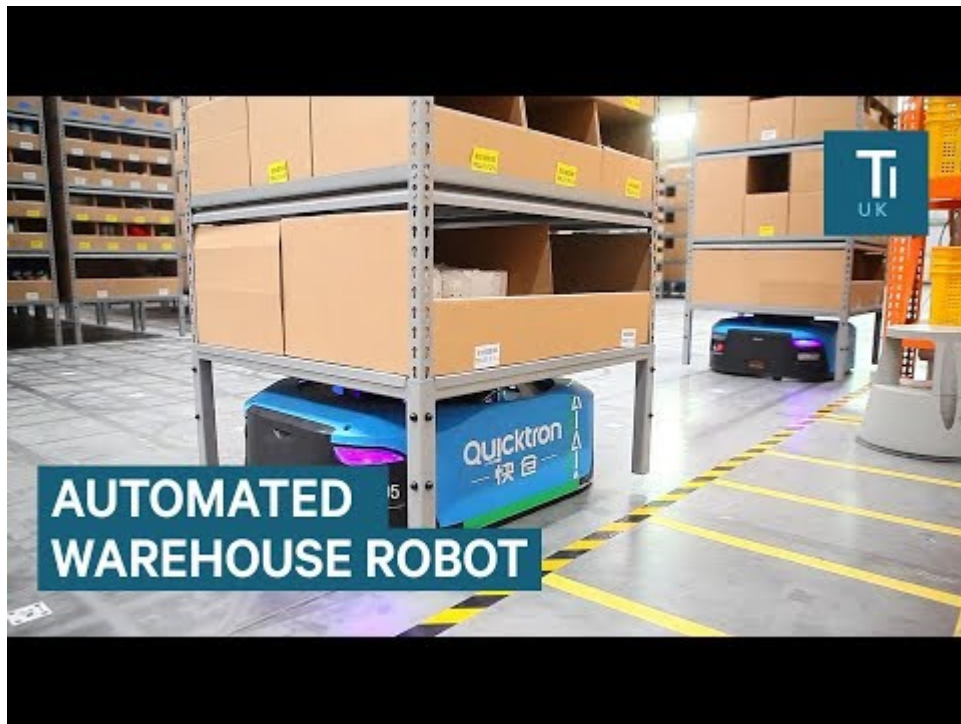
when to contact clients?







# Action Control (Machine Learning)

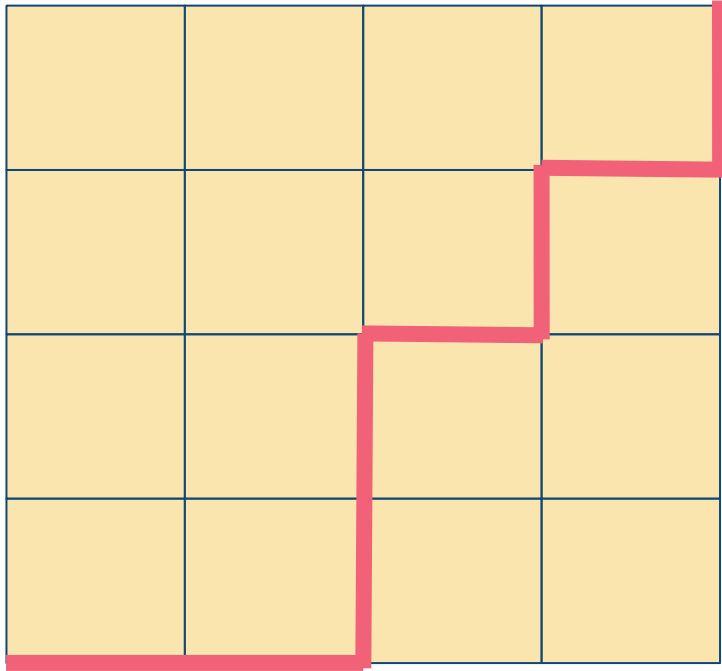


robo warehouse





# Planning (Classic AI)

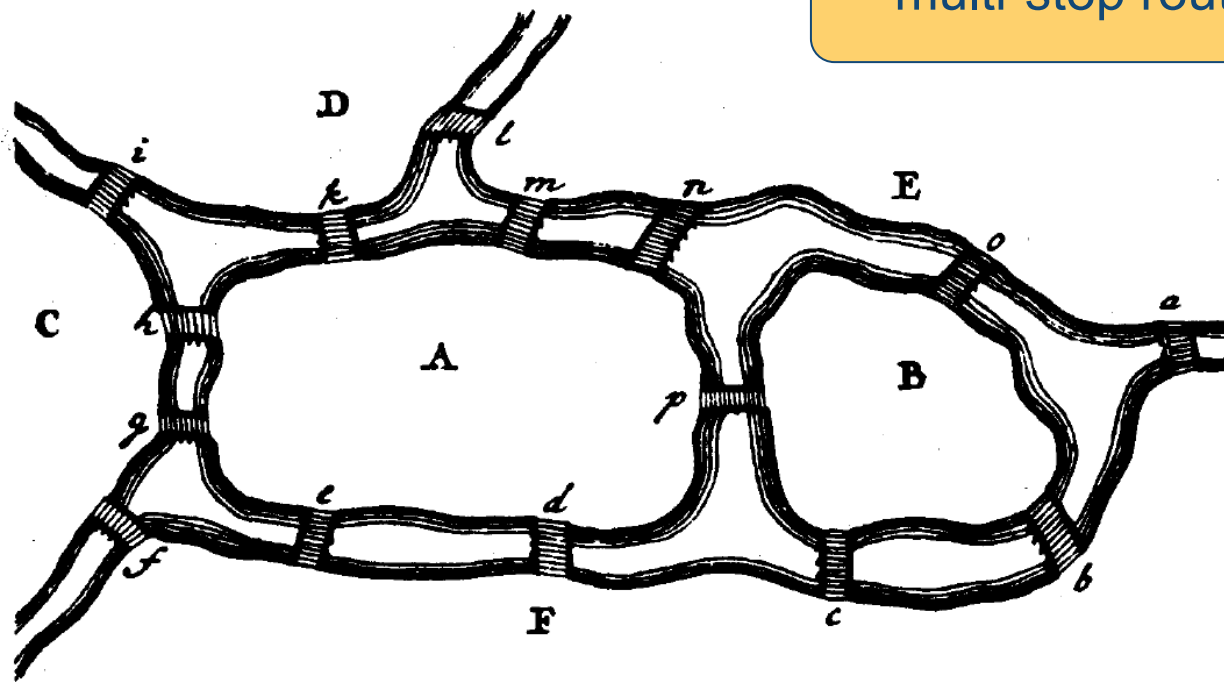


Finding the optimal path in a system with perfect information



# Planning (Classic AI)

multi-stop route finding



Leonhard Euler [Public domain]



# Planning (Classic AI)



factory configuration



# Planning (Classic AI)

warehouse configuration





# How to succeed?

Projects need expertise



# Data is the new oil

Incredibly valuable!

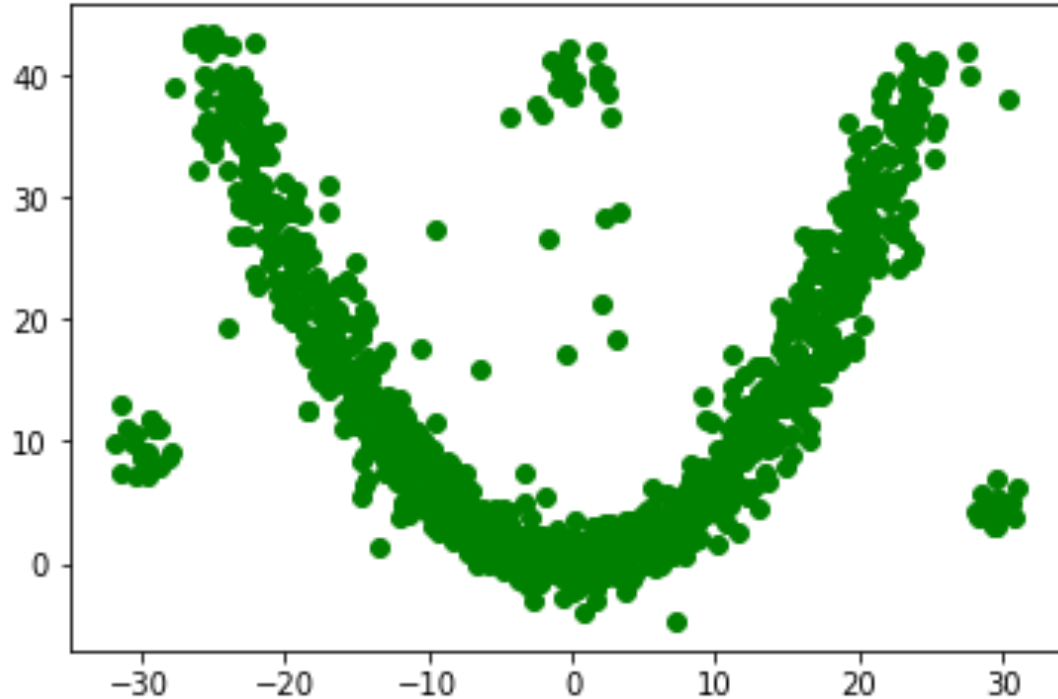
(but utterly useless in its default state)

Enables profound new technologies!

(but can create disasters if used poorly)



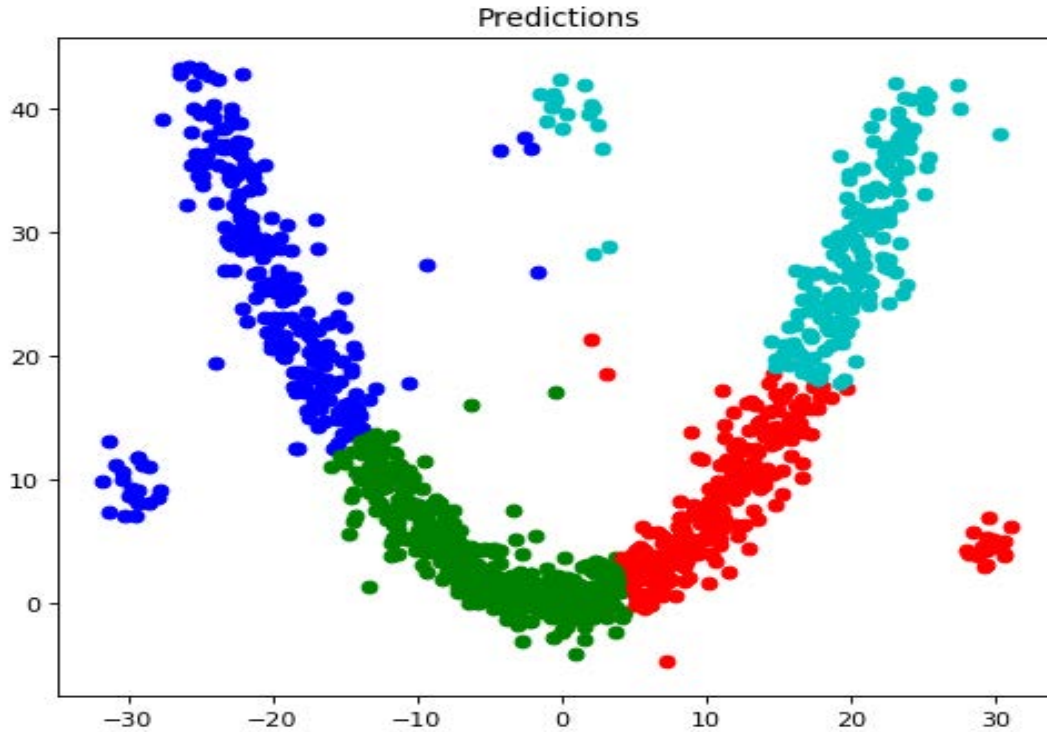
# Data is not knowledge







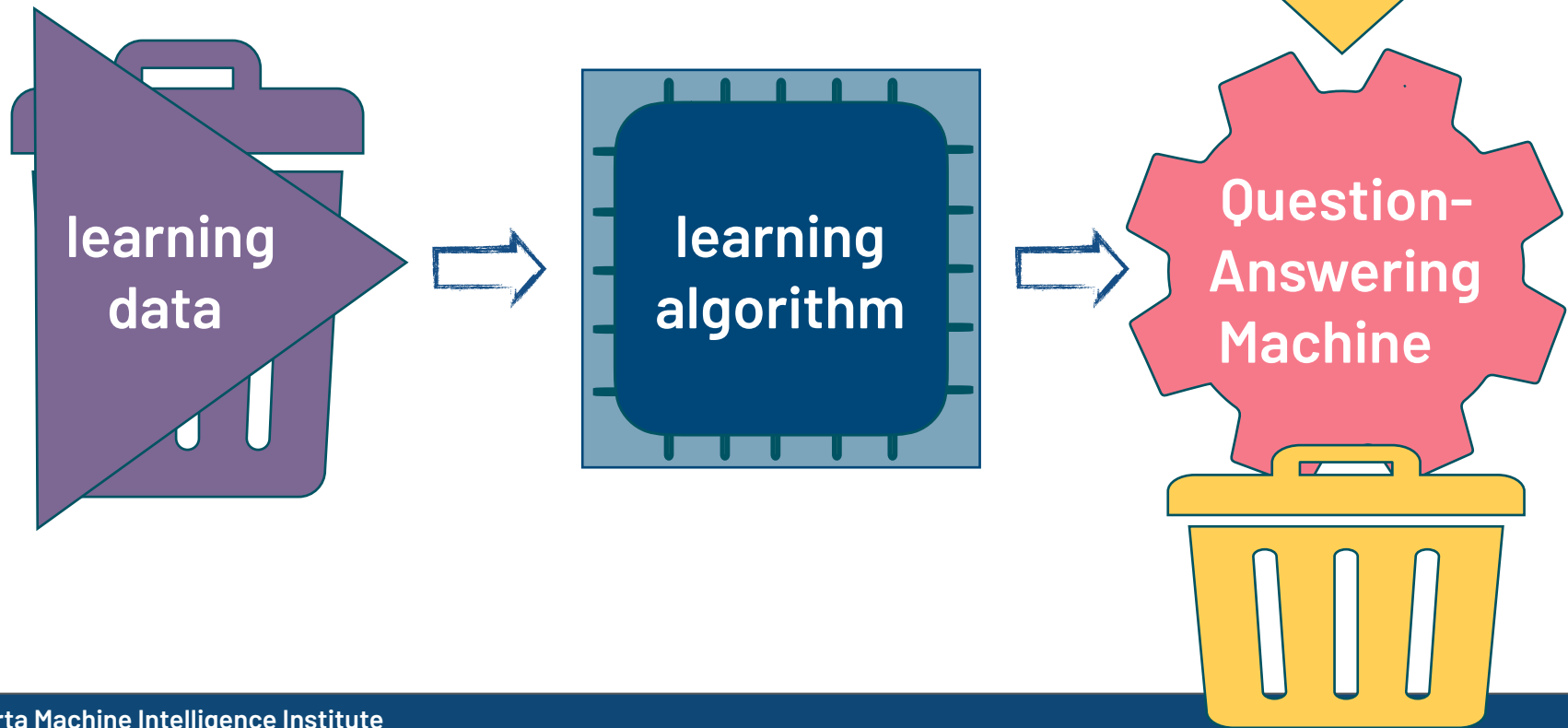
# Data is not knowledge







# Garbage In, Garbage Out





# What is “garbage data”?



garbage  
data

Not enough examples

Not enough variety

Not enough detail

Too many irrelevant details

About the wrong aspect

Different scales and sources



# ML means answering questions...

Faster!

(eventually)

Cheaper!

(in operation)

More accurately!

(in the right settings)

More consistently!

Always!



# When to automate?

When a decision has to be made:

High velocity

High volume

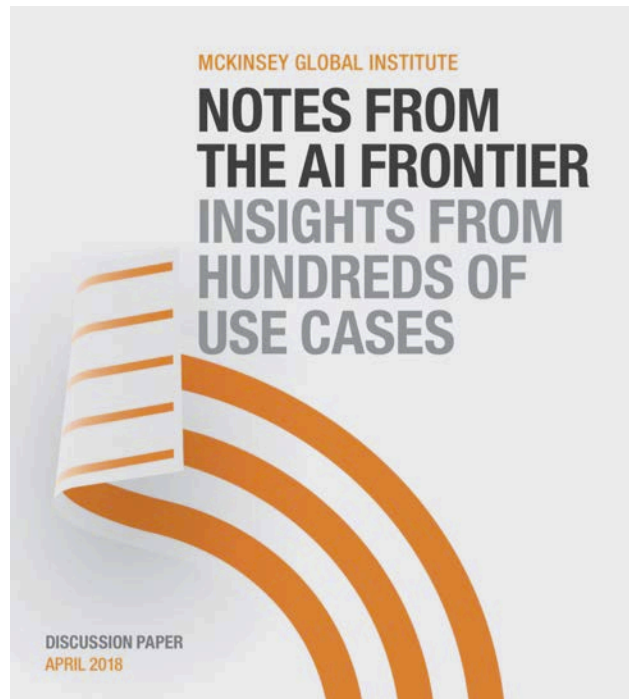
Decentralized

Completely consistently



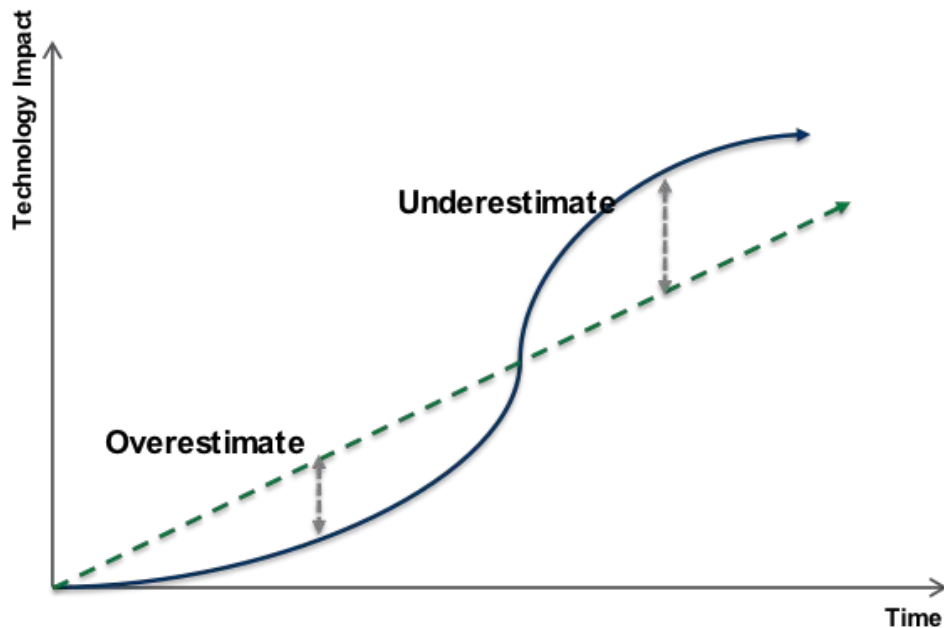
# Successful Applications of Supervised Learning

“**Two-thirds** of the opportunities to use AI are in improving the performance of **existing analytics** use cases.”





# Innovative Applications and Amara's Law

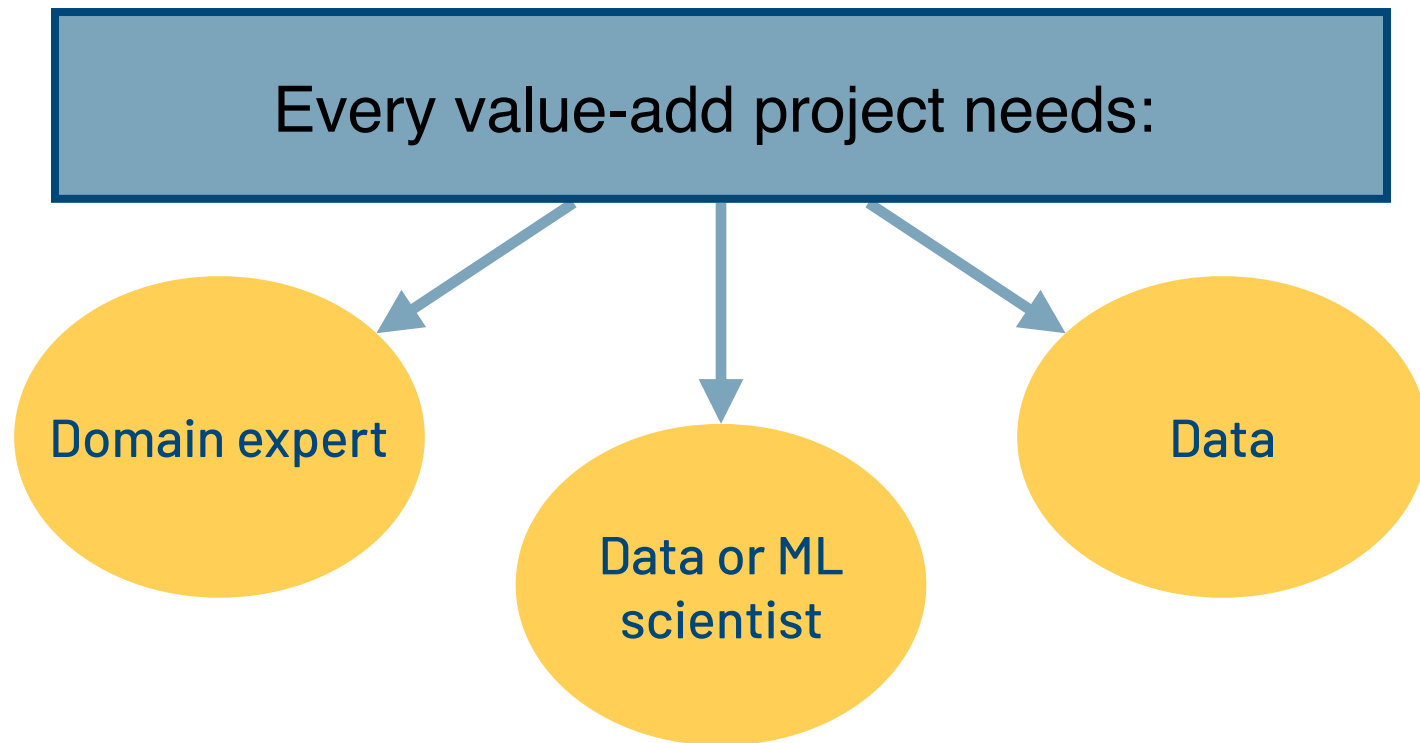


We tend to **overestimate** the effect of a technology in the **short** run and **underestimate** the effect in the **long** run.

<https://medium.com/@QwQiao/technical-analysis-and-amaras-law-d456d2f356e7>



# Project Components





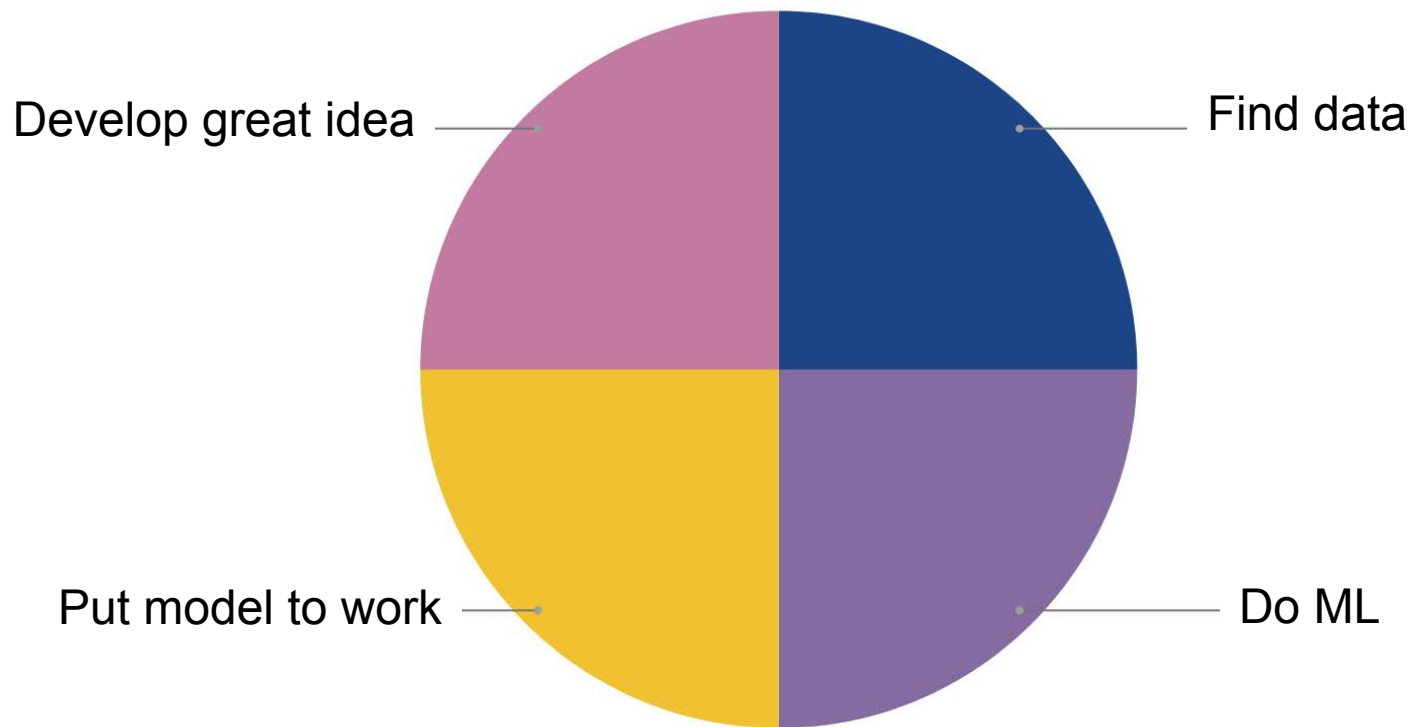
# Where do you find projects?





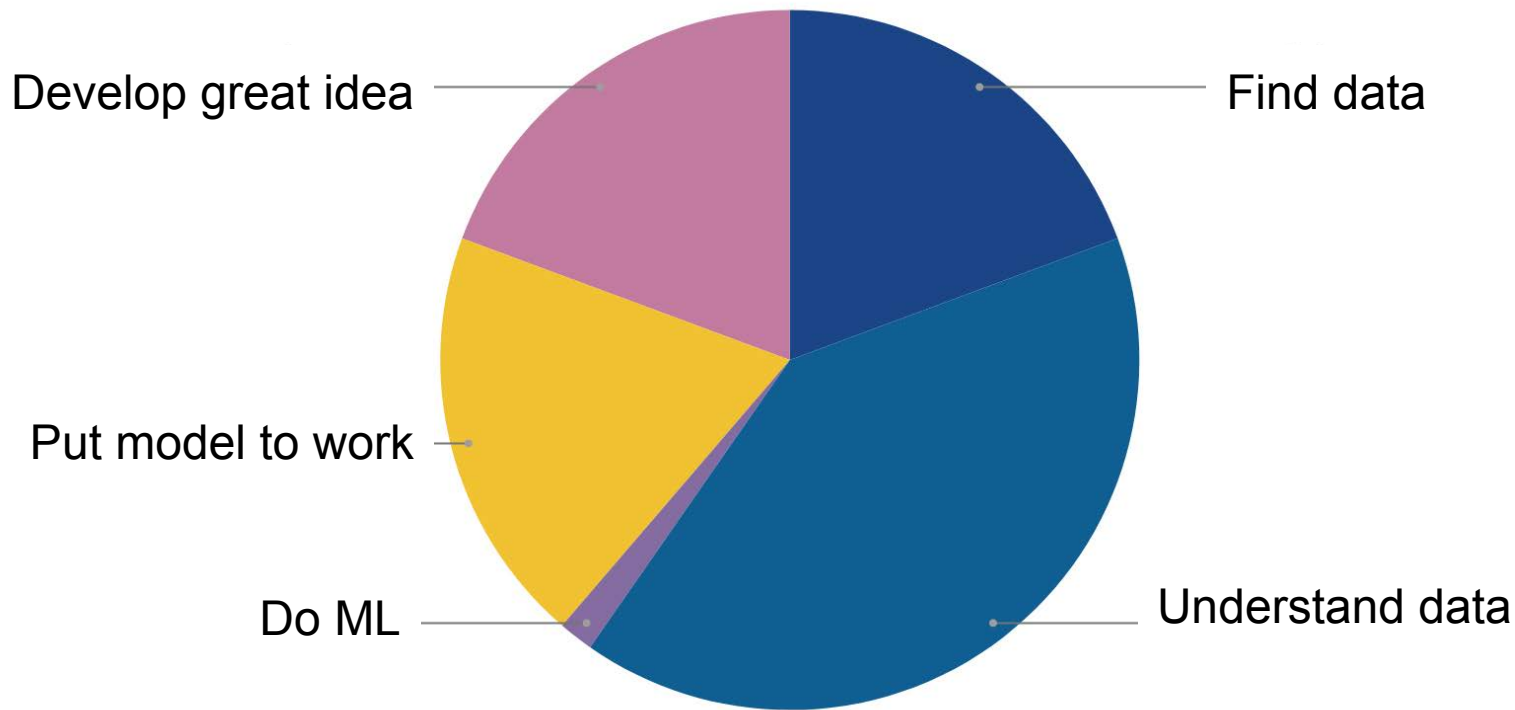


# ML project: idealized





# ML projects: reality






# Case Study

Grocery store competition

Featured Prediction Competition

# Corporación Favorita Grocery Sales Forecasting

Can you accurately predict sales for a large grocery chain?

 Corporación Favorita · 1,675 teams · a year ago

\$30,000

Prize Money

Overview

Data

Kernels

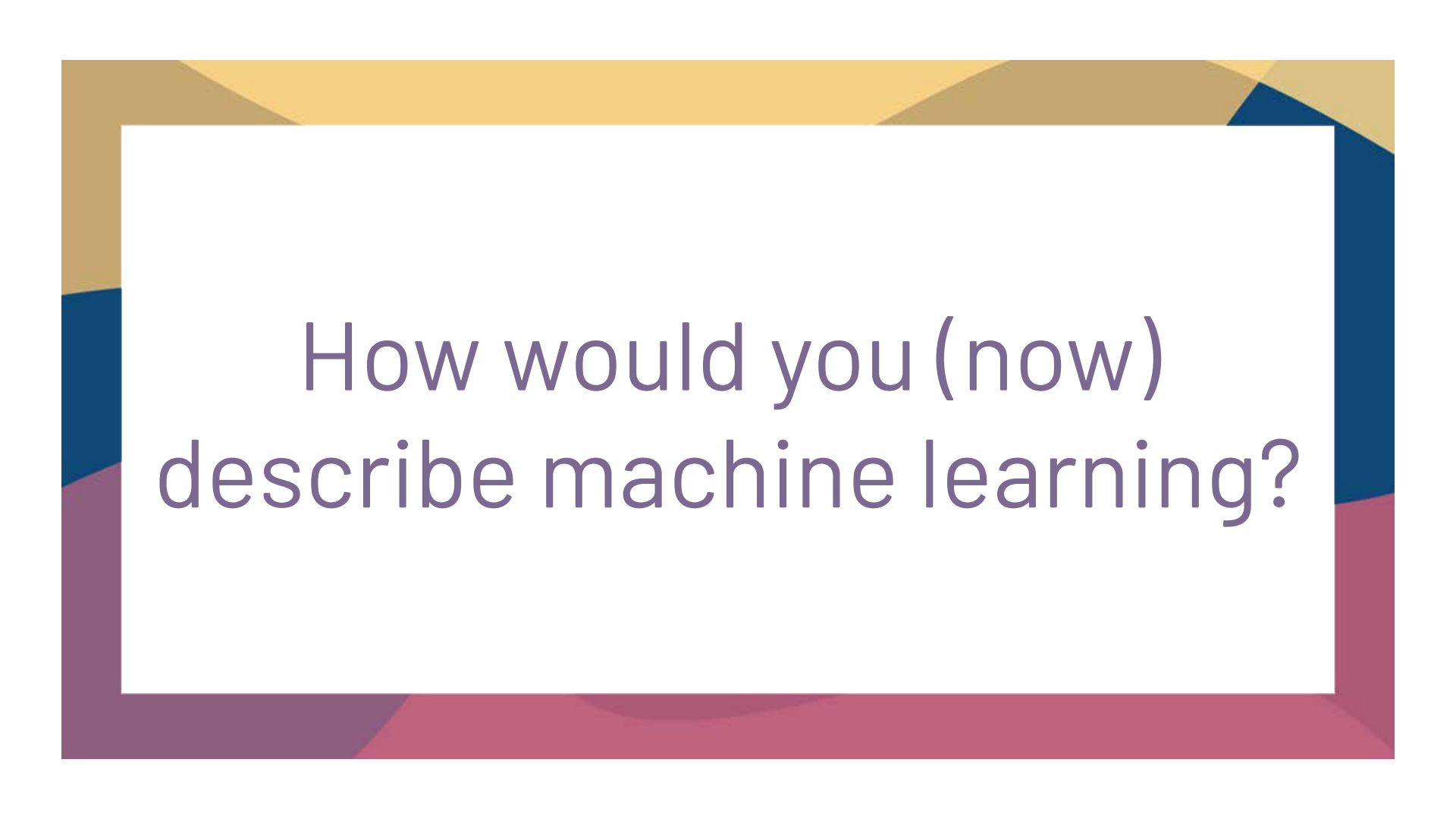
Discussion

Leaderboard

Rules

Join Competition

Overview	
Description	Brick-and-mortar grocery stores are always in a delicate dance with purchasing and sales forecasting. Predict a little over, and grocers are stuck with overstocked, perishable goods. Guess a little under, and popular items quickly sell out, leaving money on the table and customers fuming.
Evaluation	
Prizes	The problem becomes more complex as retailers add new locations with unique needs, new products, ever transitioning seasonal tastes, and unpredictable product marketing. <a href="#">Corporación Favorita</a> , a large Ecuadorian-based grocery retailer, knows this all too well. They operate hundreds of supermarkets, with over 200,000 different products on their shelves.
Timeline	<a href="#">Corporación Favorita</a> has challenged the Kaggle community to build a model that more accurately forecasts product sales. They currently rely on subjective forecasting methods with very little data to back them up and very little automation to execute plans. They're excited to see how machine learning could better ensure they please customers by having just enough of the right products at the right time.



How would you (now)  
describe machine learning?

# Other Amii Courses

ML Foundations

June 19-21, 2019

ML Technician Program

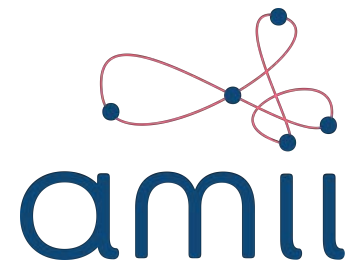
September 24, 2019

(8 month program)



# Thank you!

Questions?



hello@amii.ca  
www.amii.ca





# Main takeaways

## What is ML?

AI, ML, Classic AI, QuAMs  
Supervised, Unsupervised,  
Reinforcement Learning

## What can it do?

Prediction (number of sales)  
Classification (on-time delivery)  
Association (market basket analysis)  
Action Control (robo warehouse)  
Planning (route finding)

## How to succeed?

Data does not equal knowledge  
Garbage in, garbage out  
Automate when beneficial  
Projects need expertise

## Case Study

Kaggle competitions  
Feature engineering  
Data stratification/number of models  
Optimization criteria