



Machine Learning

How Smart Can It Really Be?

March 11, 2019

Speaker



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CISO



**Conversant
Group**





Overview: **Today's** **Agenda**

-
- 1) Definitions**
 - 2) Machine Learning**
 - 3) Neural Networks**
 - 4) Pitfalls**
 - 5) Cyber Applications**



Definitions



What is Learning?

learn·ing /lɜrniNG/ *noun*

The ability to acquire and apply knowledge and skills.

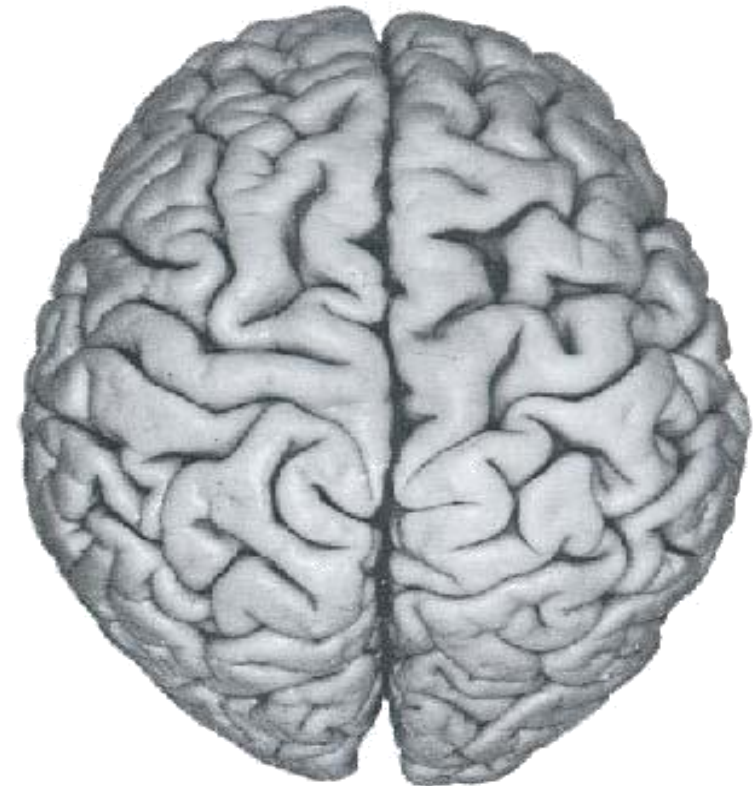


What is Intelligence?

in·tel·li·gence /in'teləjəns/ *noun*

The acquisition of knowledge or skills through experience, study, or by being taught.

*Change influenced by
previous experience*





Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Machines that can perform tasks that are characteristic of **human intelligence** (e.g., *planning, understanding language, recognizing objects and sounds, learning, and problem solving*)

Two types of AI

a) **General AI:**

Has *all* of the characteristics of human intelligence

b) **Narrow (Specific) AI:**

Exhibits *some* facet(s) of human intelligence, and can do that facet extremely well, but is lacking in other areas



Machine Learning

The Turing Test

The exhibition of natural intelligence in a machine a machine would be indistinguishable from a human being in natural language conversation.





Recap: Artificial Intelligence

Intelligence:

The **ability** to acquire and apply knowledge and skills

Learning:

The **acquisition** of knowledge or skills

Artificial Intelligence

General



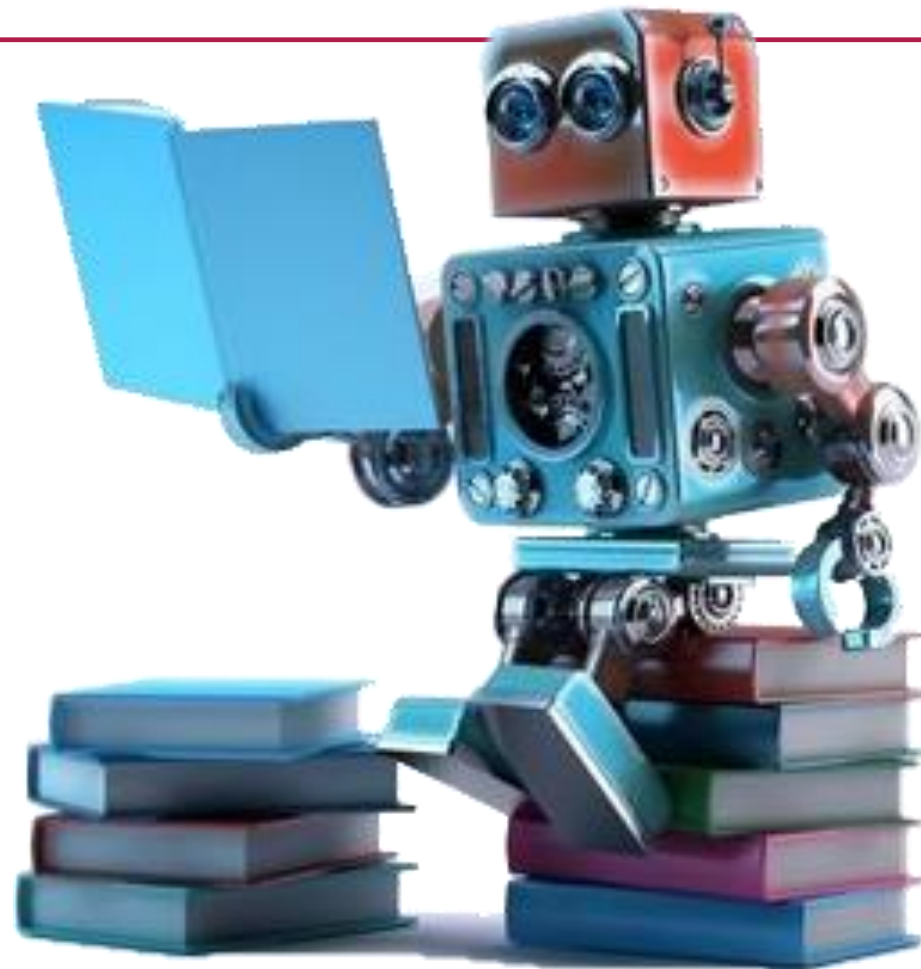
Narrow

Machine Learning

...



Machine Learning



Machine Learning (ML)

Algorithms that receive data and apply statistical analysis to predict the output data within an acceptable range.

Goals of ML

- Adapt and change from previous experience based on **pattern recognition** & **iteratively** adjust response without human intervention (the algorithm outputs become new inputs)
- Standardize' the development of AI... 'without programming'

Traditional Programming

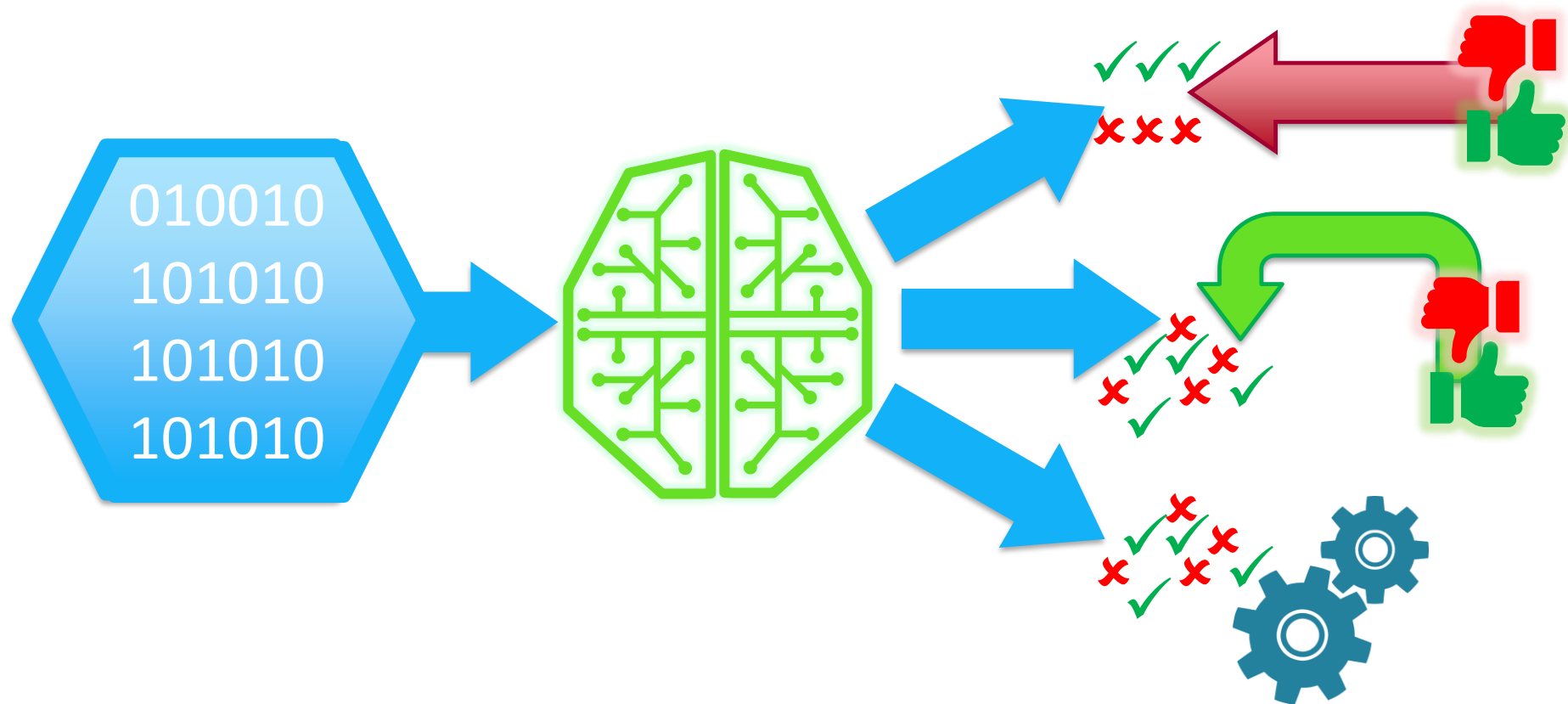
Program →
Data → **Computer** → Output

Machine Learning

Data →
Output → **Computer** → Program



ML Types



Machine Learning Types

1) Supervised

- Regression (numeric)
- Classification (class || tag)

EXAMPLE:



Machine Learning Types

1) Supervised

2) Re-enforced Learning



EXAMPLE:



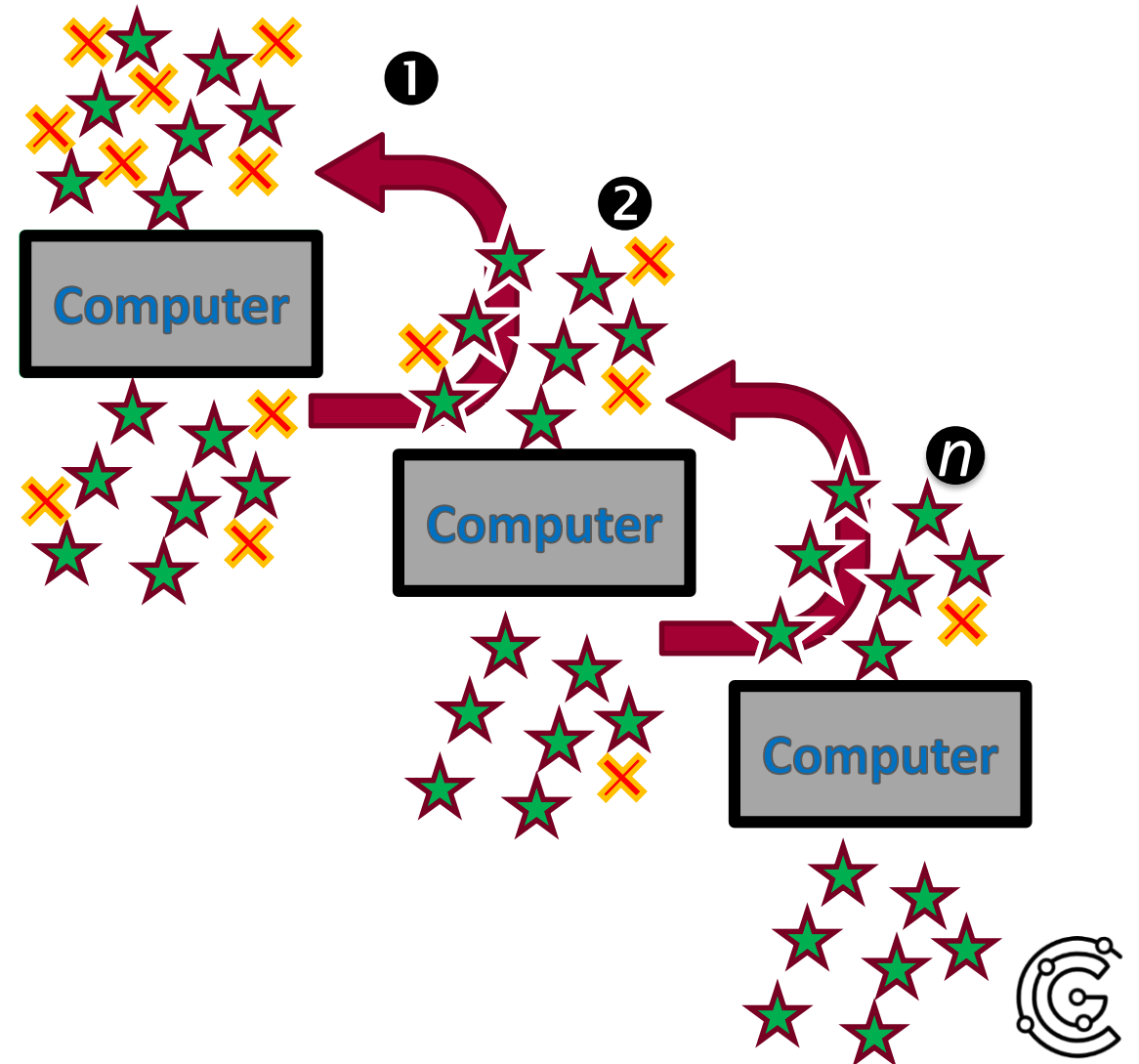
Machine Learning Types

1) Supervised

2) Re-enforced Learning

3) Unsupervised

Deep Learning



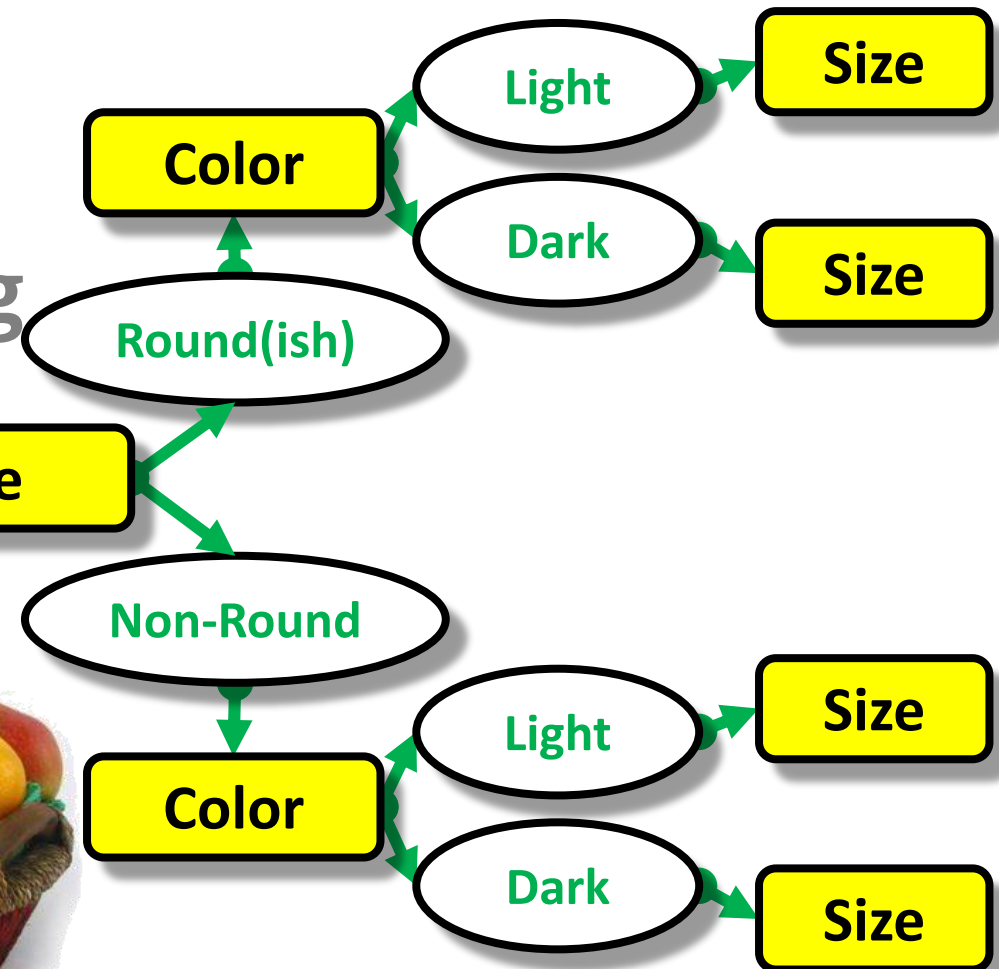
Machine Learning Types

1) Supervised

2) Re-enforced Learning

3) Unsupervised

EXAMPLE:



Machine Learning Types

- 1) Supervised
- 2) Re-enforced Learning
- 3) Unsupervised

These are <CLASS>
(human defined)

These are Similar
(no value judgements)



Deep Learning



What society thinks I do



What my friends think I do

```
from theano import *
```

What I actually do



What mathematicians think I do



What other computer scientists think I do

50 SHADES OF

MEH



Recap: ML Types

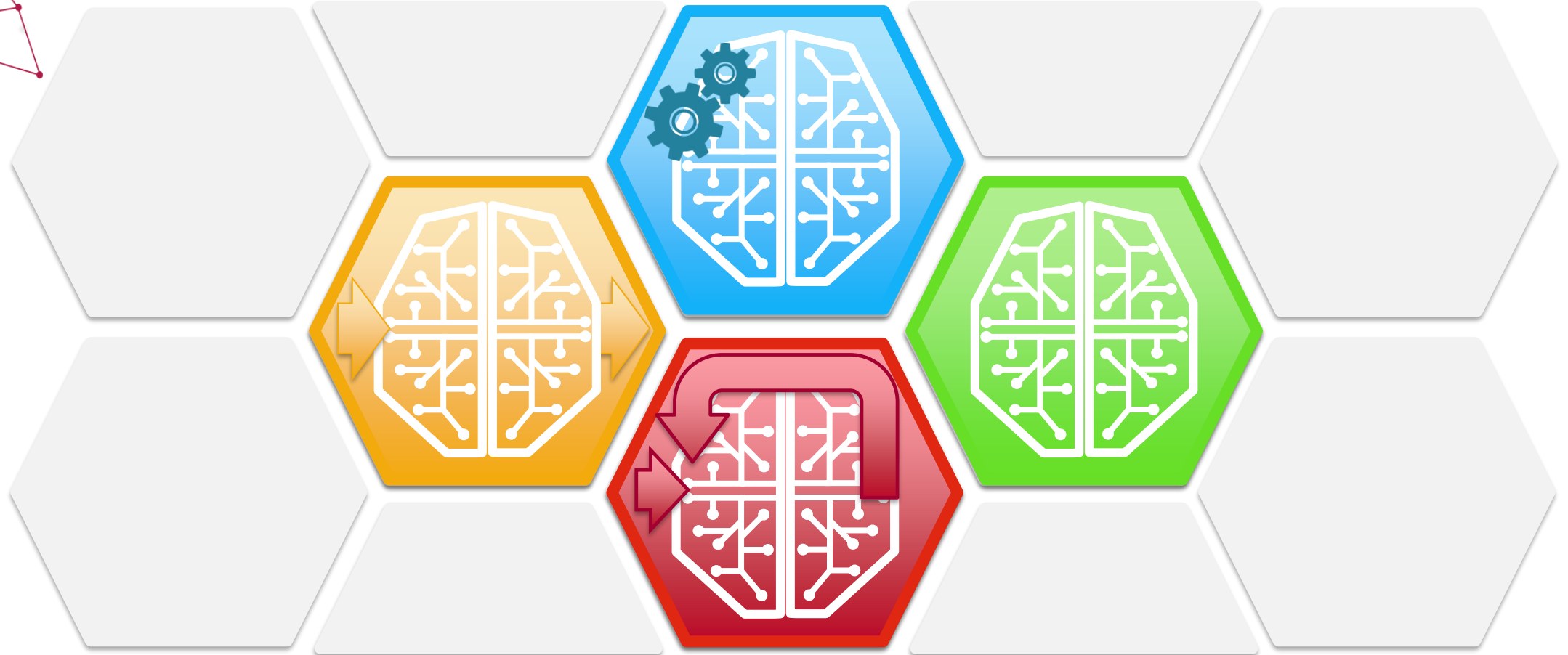
- 1) Supervised
- 2) Re-enforced Learning
- 3) Unsupervised

INPUT	OUTPUT	FEEDBACK
Human Sorted	Human Review	Human
Unsorted	Human Review	Human
Unsorted	Algorithm	Algorithm

- Unsupervised is **more extensible**
- Unsupervised cannot make **value judgements**



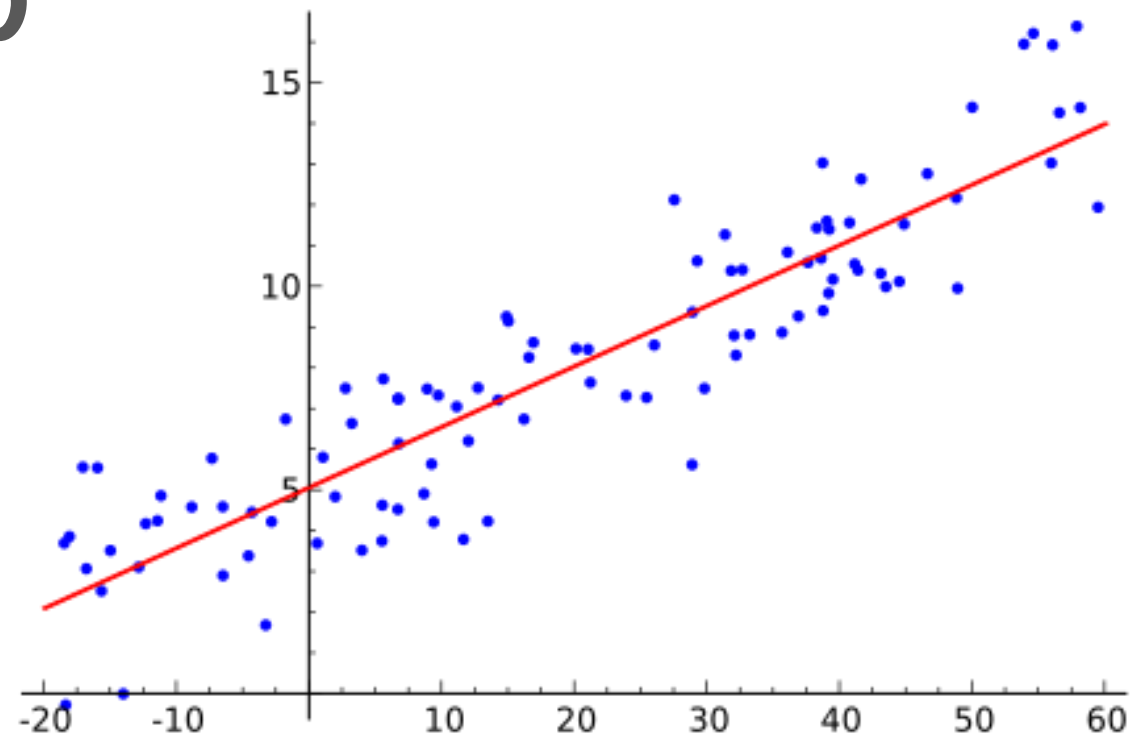
ML Methods



ML Methods: Linear Regression

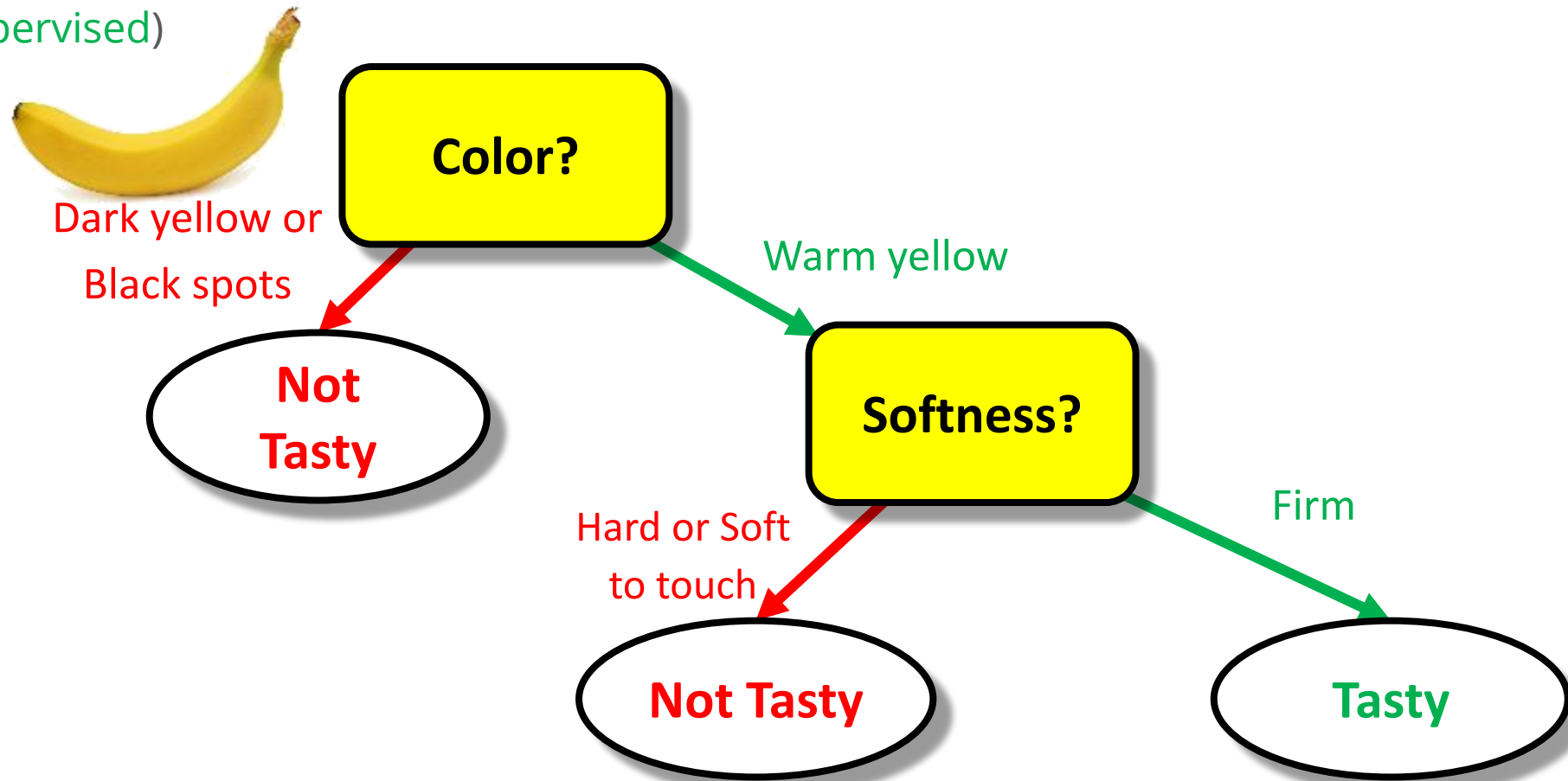
A model of the relationship between a scalar **dependent variable** Y and **one or more explanatory variables** (or independent variables) denoted X .

$$y = mx + b$$



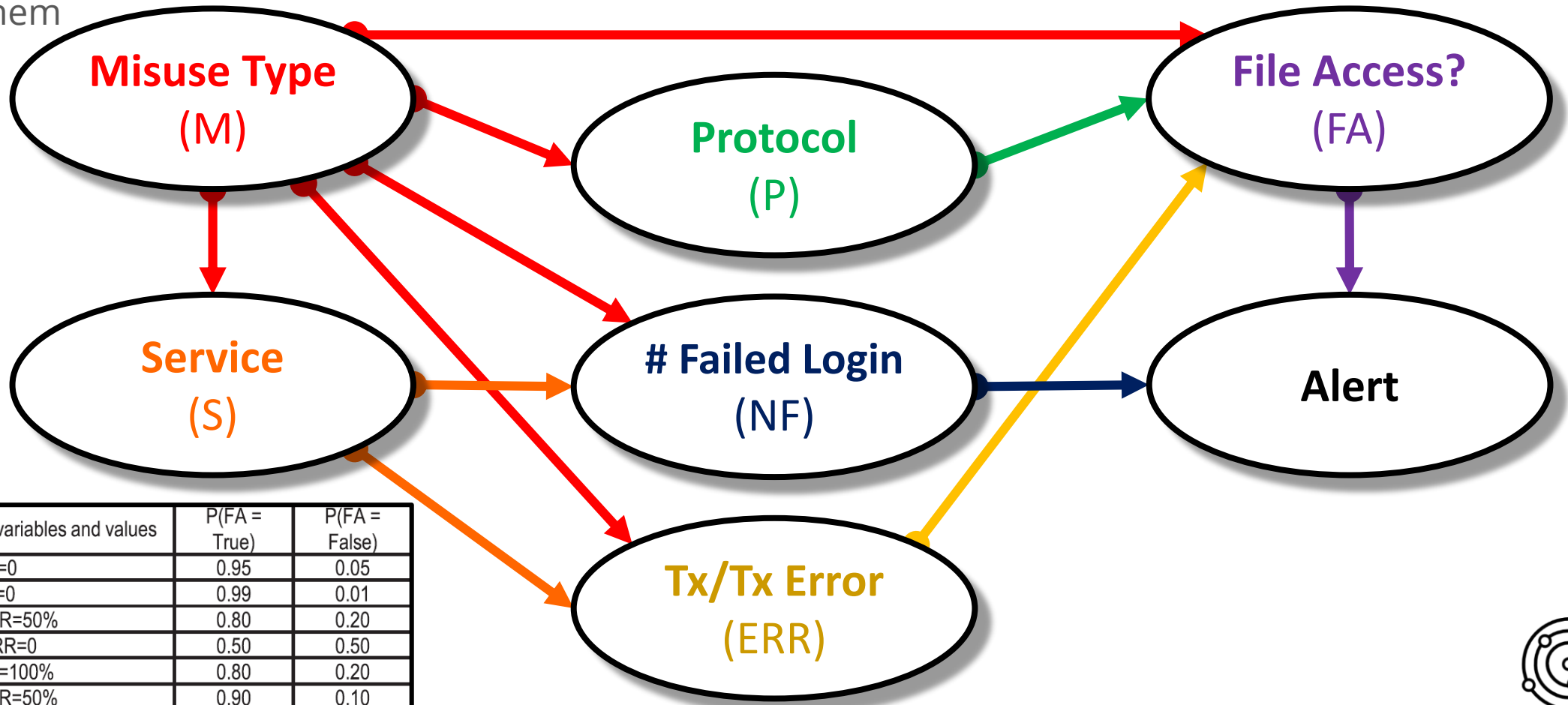
ML Methods: Decision Trees

Data is continuously split according to certain parameters based on human input.
(Supervised)



ML Methods: Bayesian Networks

A **probabilistic** graphical model representing **variables** and the **relationships** between them



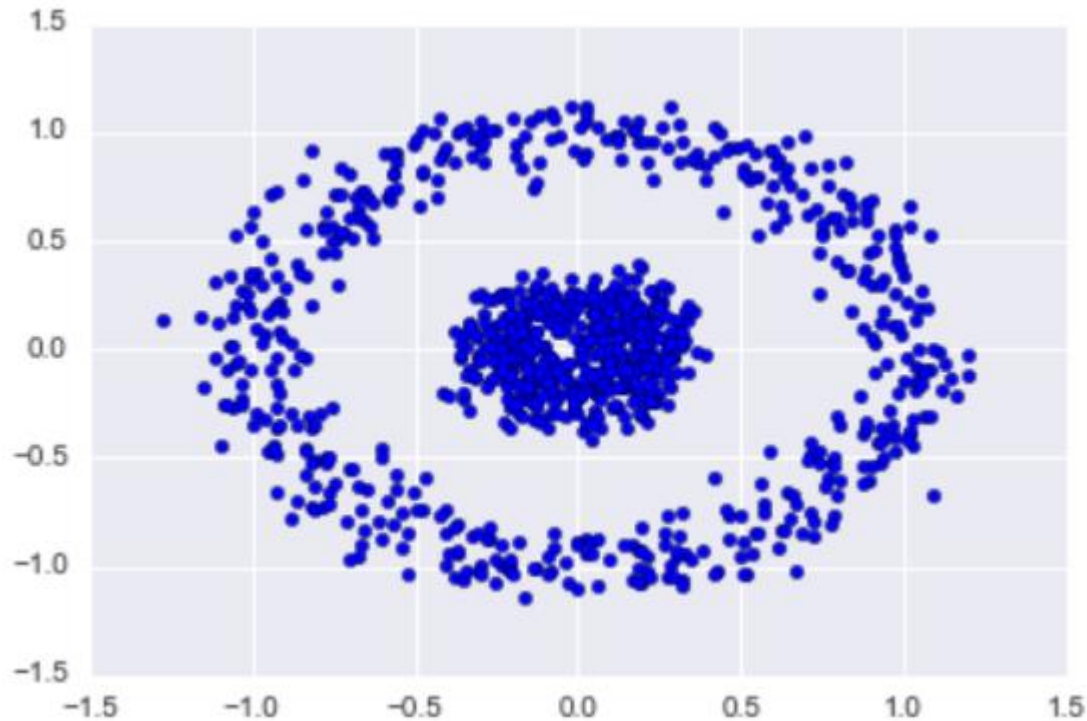
File Access state input variables and values	P(FA = True)	P(FA = False)
M=R2H, PT=NSF, ERR=0	0.95	0.05
M=R2H, PT=FTP, ERR=0	0.99	0.01
M=Probe, PT=none, ERR=50%	0.80	0.20
M=Probe, PT=PING, ERR=0	0.50	0.50
M=DoS, PT=POP, ERR=100%	0.80	0.20
M= DoS, PT=HTTP, ERR=50%	0.90	0.10

Source: : "A Survey of Data Mining and Machine Learning Methods for Cyber Security Intrusion Detection."



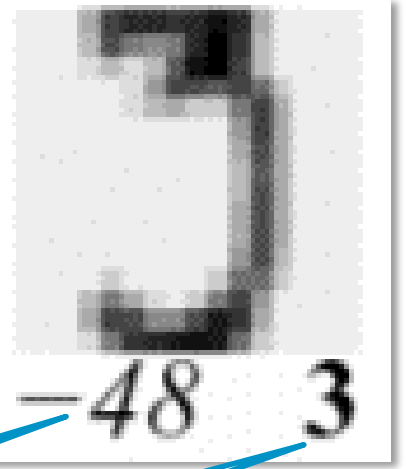
ML Methods: Clustering

Grouping a set of objects in such a way that objects in the same group (called a 'cluster') are **more similar** (in some sense) to each other **than to those in other groups**.



0 9 0 2 6 0 2 5 6 0
9 0 2 6 0 5 2 1 6 0
5 4 6 6 4 7 3 6 1 8
- 1 6 0 9 0 2 6 0 4
3 < 6 0 5 6 1 8 2 0
6 0 9 0 2 6 1 8 0 1

9 1 0 1 7 2
-513 9 -507 1 -458 0 -377 1 -282 7 -216
3 4 2 0 7 0
-153 3 -143 6 -128 6 -123 0 -117 7 -93



Novelty

Class



Just Covering the Basics



And Your Point...?

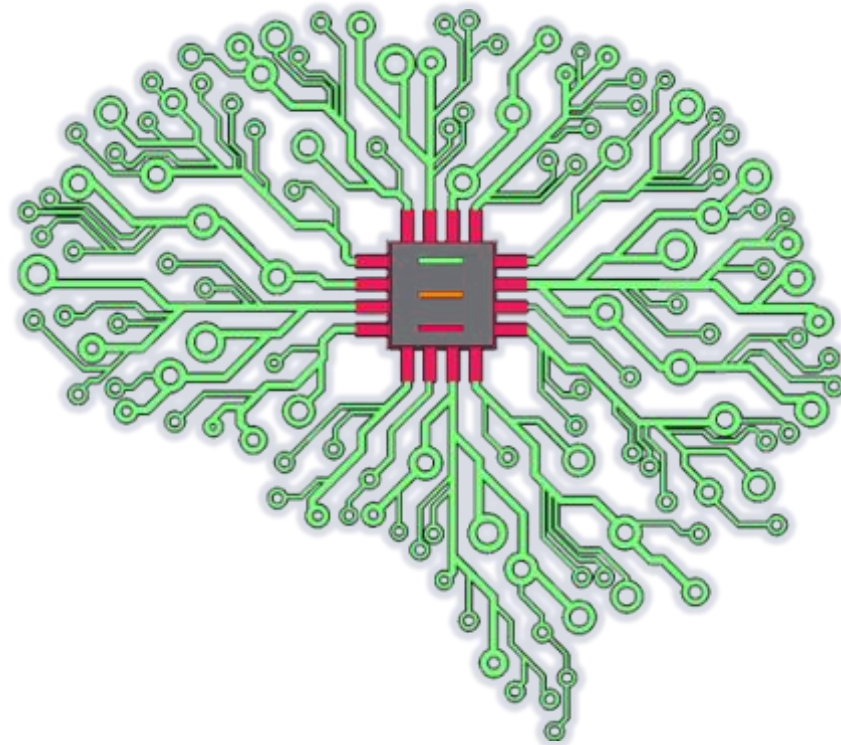
It's Not...



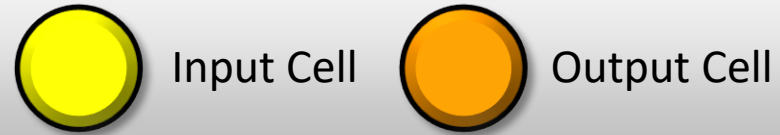
ROCKET
SURGERY!



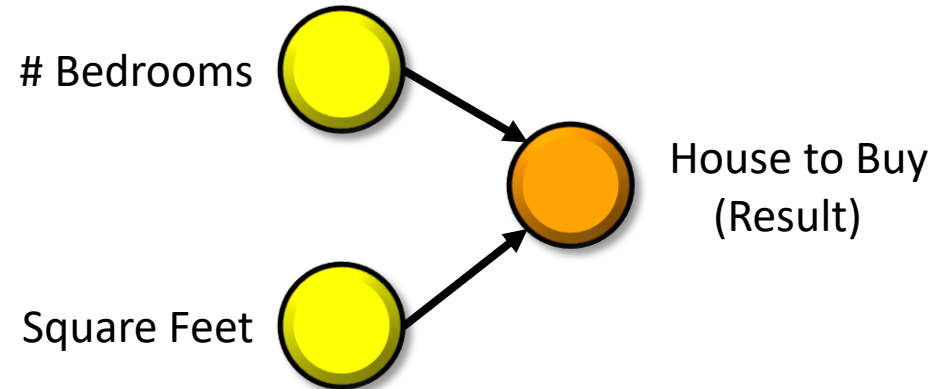
Neural Networks



Automated Neural Networks (ANN)



What House to buy?

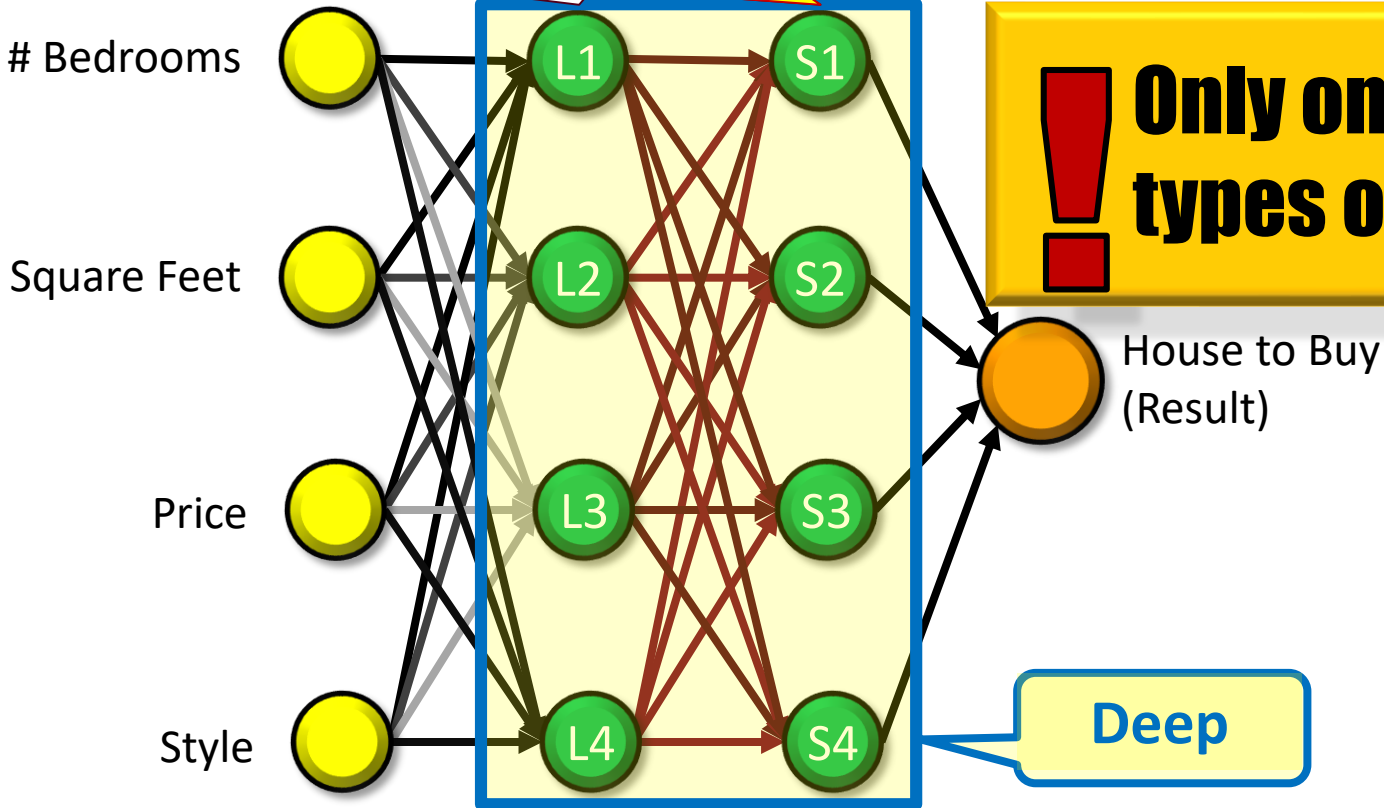


Neural Network Example

Feed Forward  Input Cell  Output Cell  Hidden Cell

L: Locations S: School Districts ← Weighted

What House to buy?



! Only one of MANY types of ANNs.

Source: <https://towardsdatascience.com/the-mostly-complete-chart-of-neural-networks-explained-3fb6f2367464>





Recap: AL & ML Terms

- **Artificial Intelligence:**
When Machines act like a real person; “General” AI
(In all aspects)
- **Machine Learning:**
Uses algorithms to predict patterns; all current AI is “Specific”
(Type of AI – limited application [like a savant])
- **Deep Learning**
Algorithm that uses Neural Networking
(Type of ML, multiple levels of variables)



Pitfalls

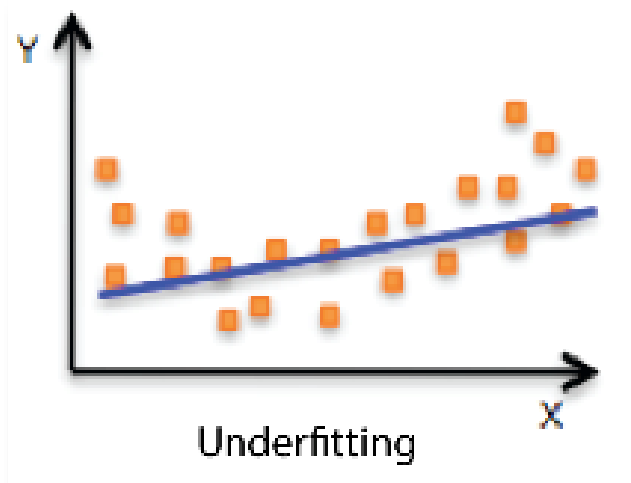


Training Errors

Getting good training data can be freaking HARD.

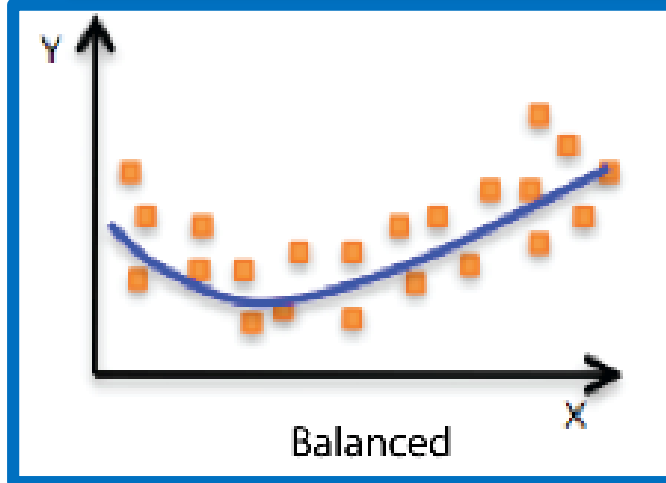
Underfitting

Model performs poorly



High bias, low variance

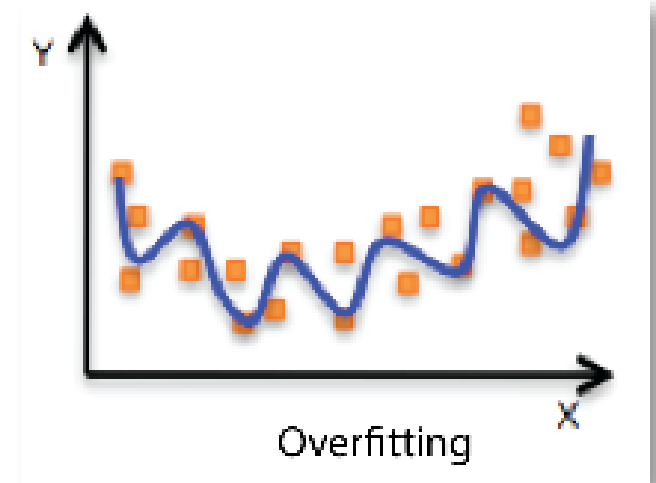
- *More features*
- *Decrease data regularization*



Still some false positives

Overfitting

Model performs too well



Low bias, high variance

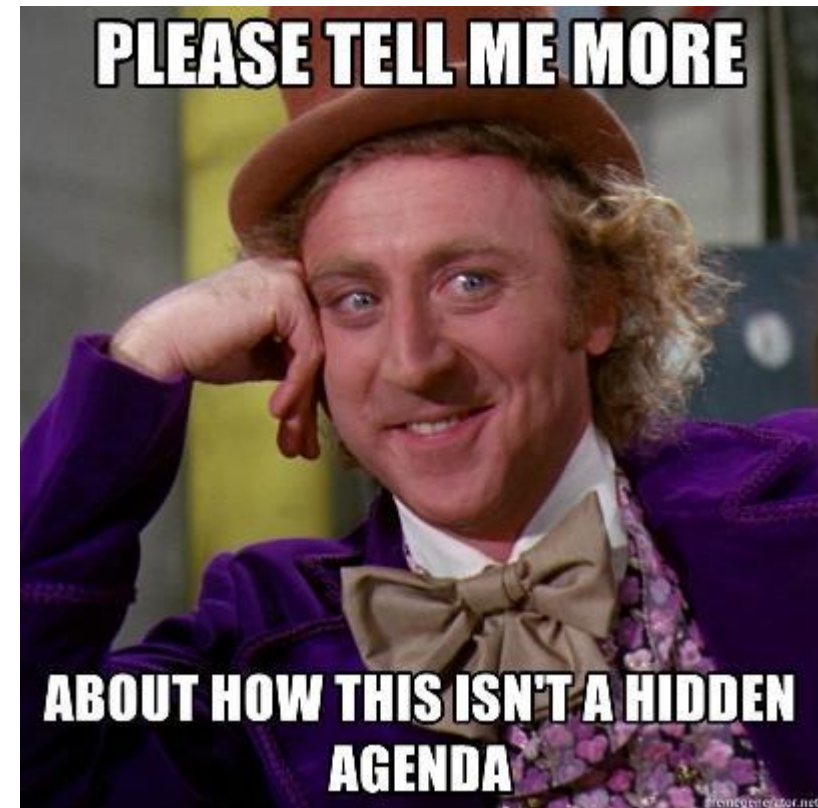
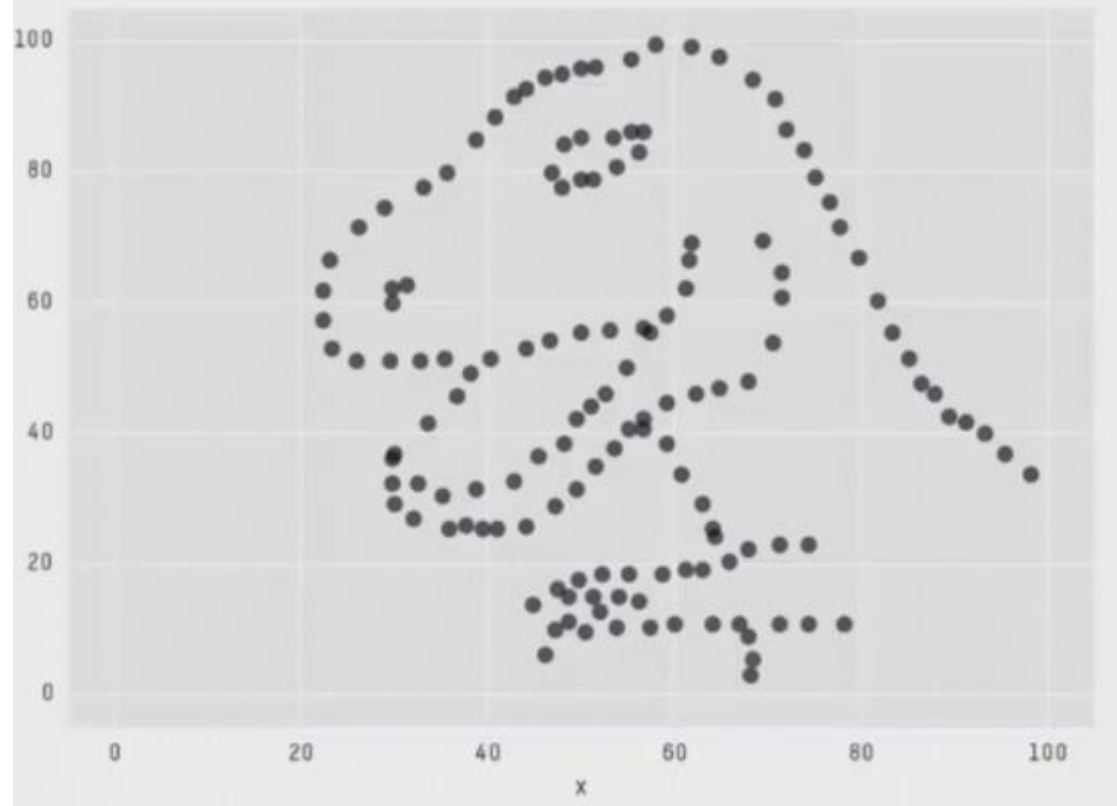
- *Reduce feature count*
- *Trim/normalize data*



Manipulation Biases

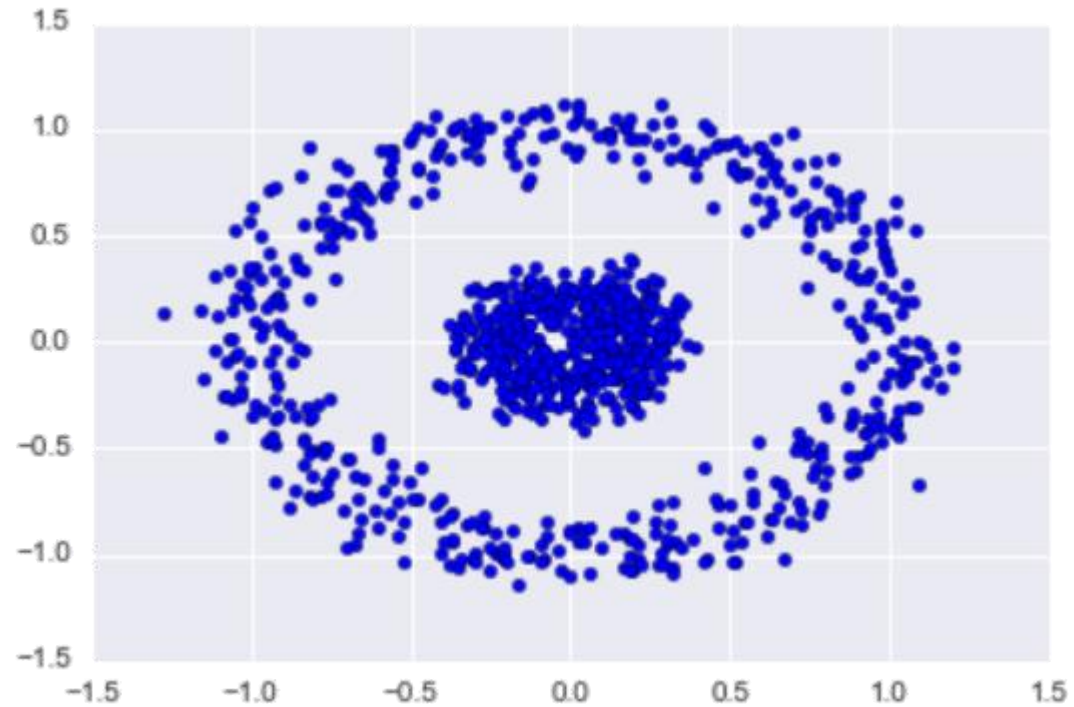
X Mean: 54.2659224
Y Mean: 47.8313999

X SD: 16.7649829 Corr.: -0.0642526
Y SD: 26.9342120



Manipulation Biases

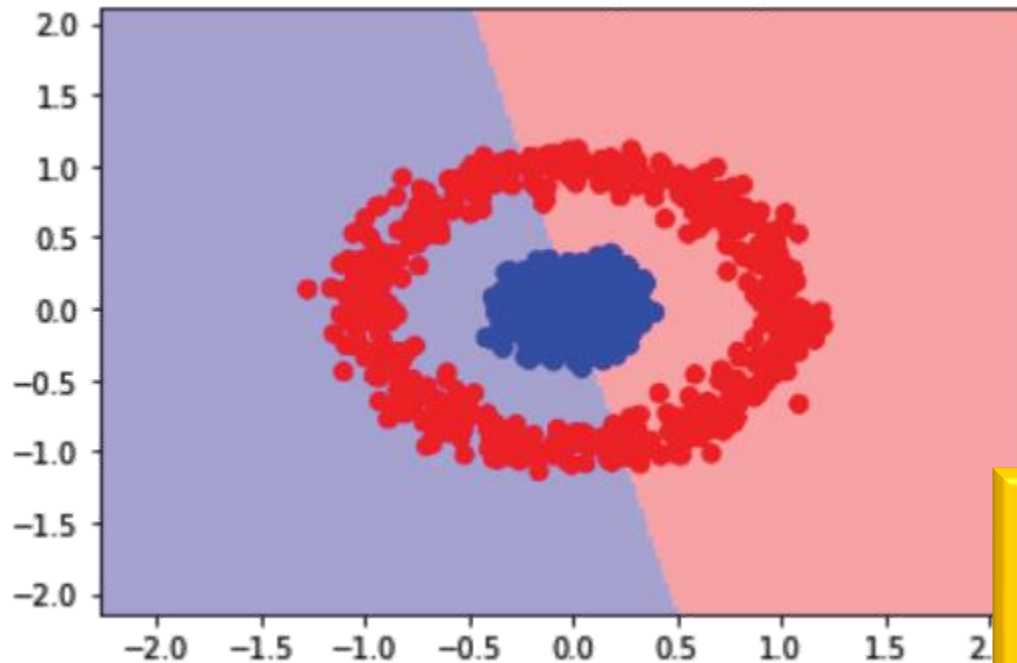
Clustering Example



Not all Algorithms are the Same

Parametric

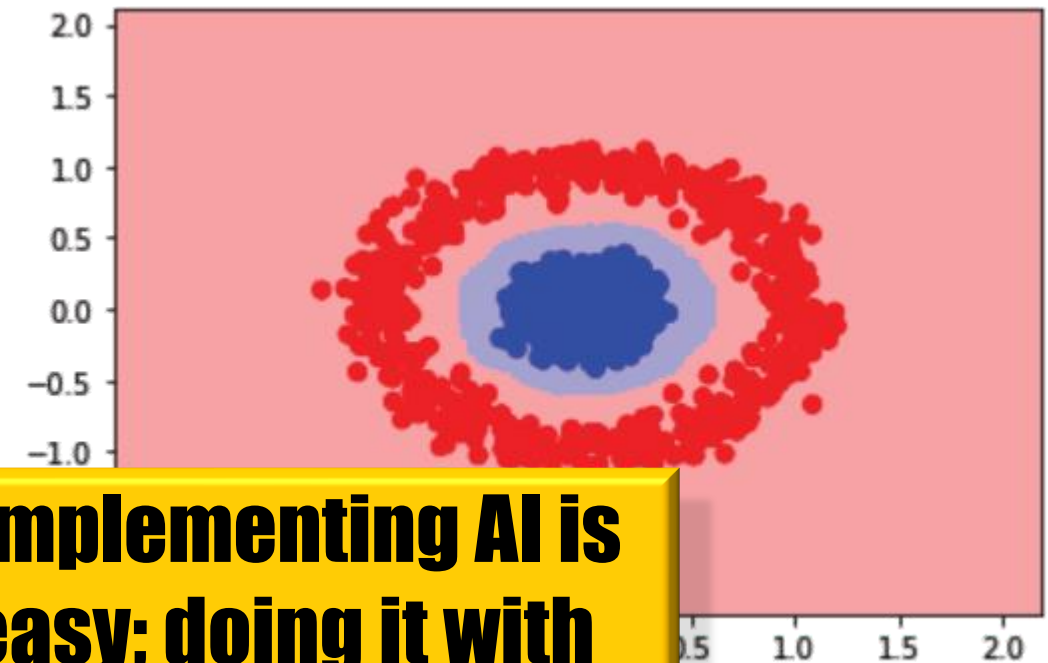
Circle classification Logistic Regression



Assumes normally distributed data

Non-Parametric

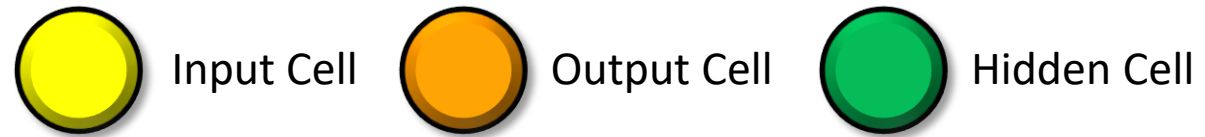
Circle classification (k=9)



Implementing AI is easy; doing it with intelligence is not.

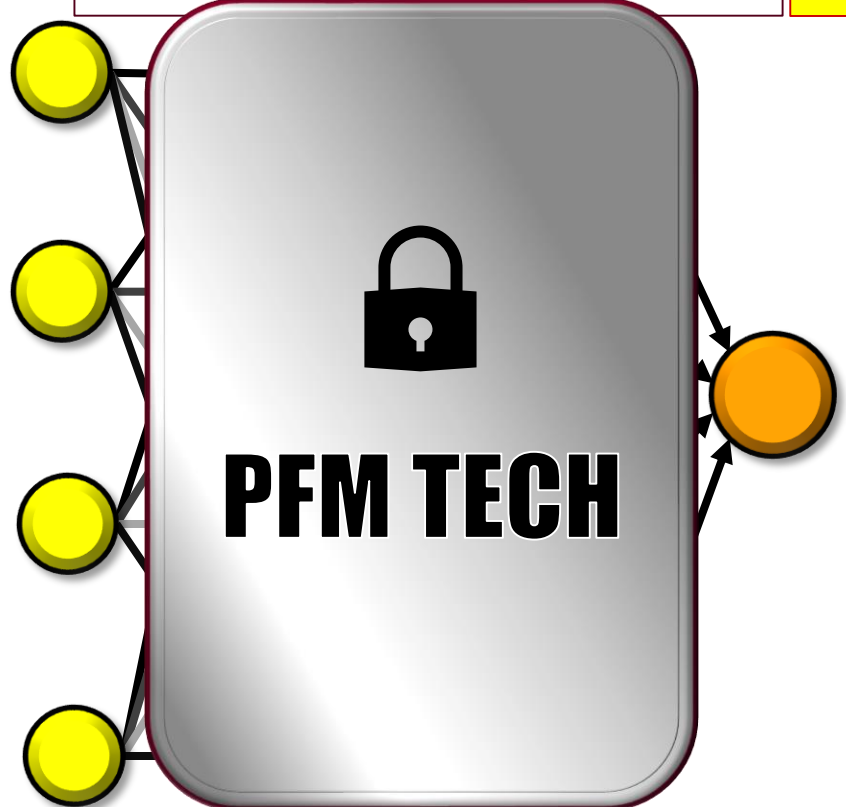


Neural Network Assumptions



What House to buy?

- # Bedrooms
- Square Feet
- Price
- Style



“...many times, organizations have a **lack of control** over the AI output and outcome.”
- Matt Sanchez
(CTO and co-founder of CognitiveScale)



More “A” than “I”...

Malicious Code

$\sum_{x_i=0}^{\infty}$ **zerosum0x0** 🦉
@zerosum0x0

It's a DEBUG build too...

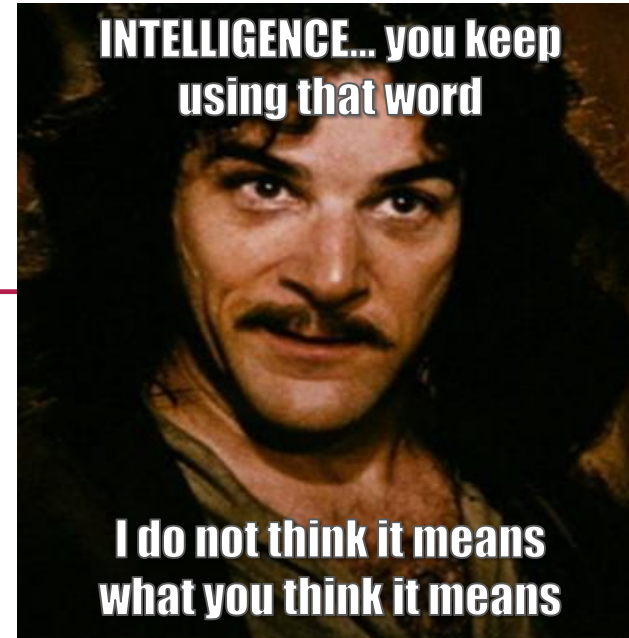
```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
int main()  
{  
    printf("Hello world!\n");  
    return 0;  
}
```

Antivirus	Result
CrowdStrike Falcon (ML)	malicious_confidence_80% (D)
Cylance	Unsafe
Cyren	W32/S-d2b5872aEldorado
F-Prot	W32/S-d2b5872aEldorado
Sophos ML	heuristic
McAfee-GW-Edition	BehavesLike.Win32.Trojan.nt
SentinelOne (Static ML)	static engine - malicious



AI-n't Perfect



+



=



“panda”
57.7% confidence

“gibbon”
99.3 % confidence



AI-n't Perfect: Chihuahua or chocolate chip muffin?



<http://imgur.com/a/K4RWn>



AI-n't Perfect: Labradoodle or fried chicken?



<http://imgur.com/a/K4RWn>



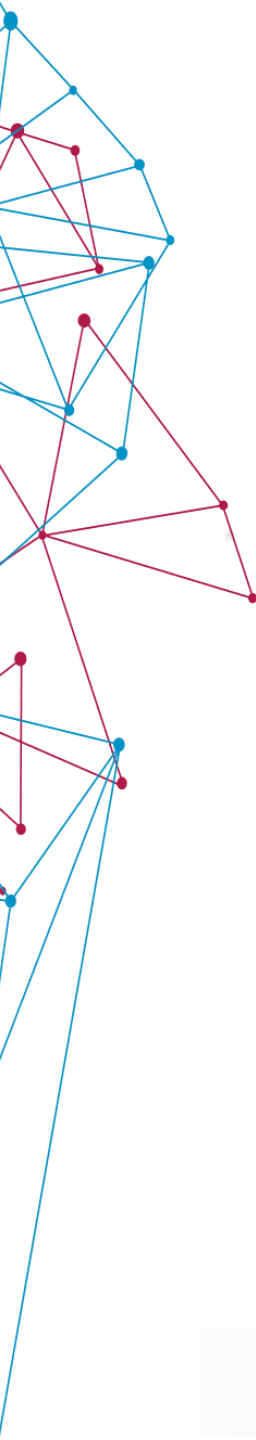
AI-n't Perfect: Sheepdog or Mop?



<http://imgur.com/a/K4RWn>



AI is easily confused



≠ Intuition

≠ Instinct

≠ '6th Sense'

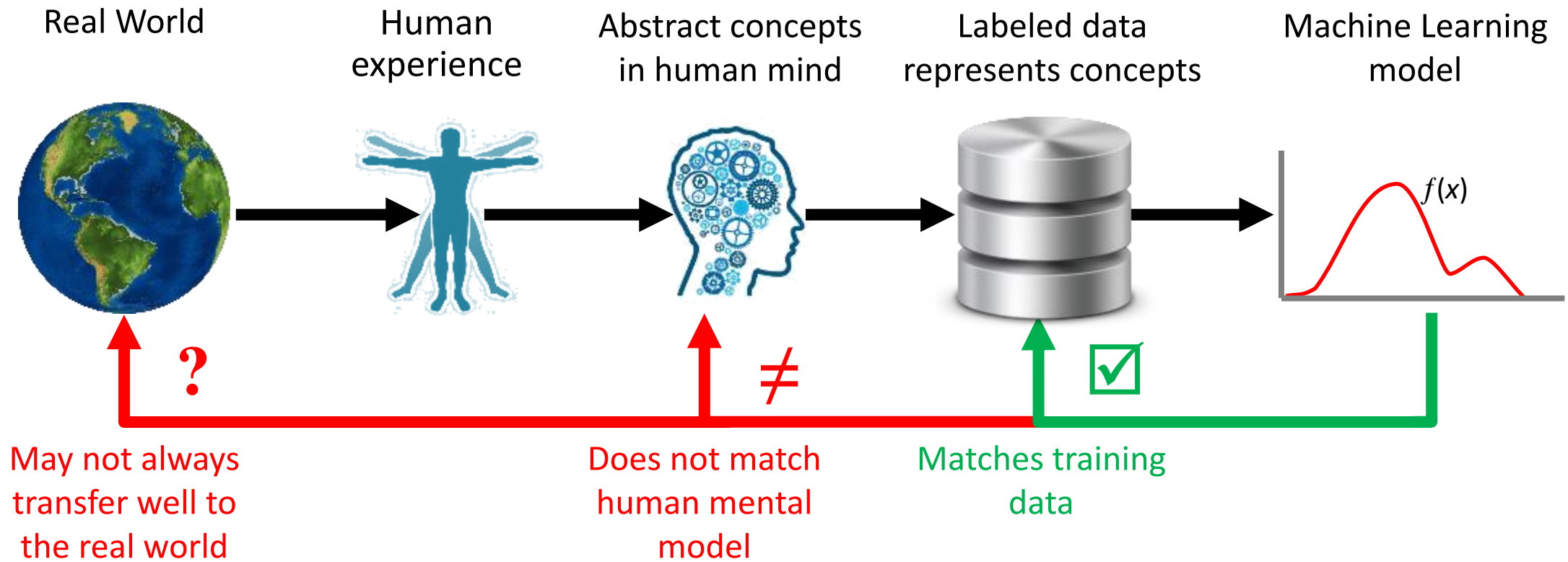
≠ Morality



Abstraction Modeling



The Problem with Abstraction



AI Failures: Real-World

**First death due to
self-driving car**
March 18, 2018





Pitfalls: Summary

- Training
 - Test data
 - Over & under fitting
- Abstraction
- Bias & hidden weighting
- Data assumptions
- Errors
- Perturbation

”...**we have to bias our algorithms** so that you never trust any one individual or any one team. It is a careful(ly) controlled dance to build these types of systems to produce general purpose, general results that applies to all organizations.”

-Greg Martin, JASK (jask.ai)

If ‘cloud computing’ is just someone else’s data center, most Machine Learning is just someone else’s assumptions.



Cyber Applications



White Hat AI

“...while AI systems can exceed human performance in many ways, they **can also fail in ways that a human never would.**”

-The Malicious Use of Artificial Intelligence: Forecasting, Prevention, and Mitigation

- Network Management
- Data: Visualization, Log patterns, UBA
- First-Level SOC analysis?
- Augment (not replace) the Human
- Reverse Engineering (GHIDRA)
- IoT = ANN ‘sense’ organs



GHIDRA

It IS NOT a silver bullet!



White Hat AI: 5 Questions to Ask

- 1) Technical Components
- 2) Flexibility
- 3) Applications
- 4) AI/ML Updates
- 5) Your Security Team's Skillset



Black Hat AI

”AI systems and the knowledge of how to design them can be put toward both ... beneficial and harmful ends ... **artificial intelligence is dual-use in the same sense that human intelligence is.**”

-The Malicious Use of Artificial Intelligence: Forecasting, Prevention, and Mitigation

- Data Poisoning
- Scales the Attack (#, speed, & targets)
- Discover New Attack Vectors – FAST
- Exploit AI Vulnerabilities
- Increase anonymity & psychological distance

Including physical, voice, images...



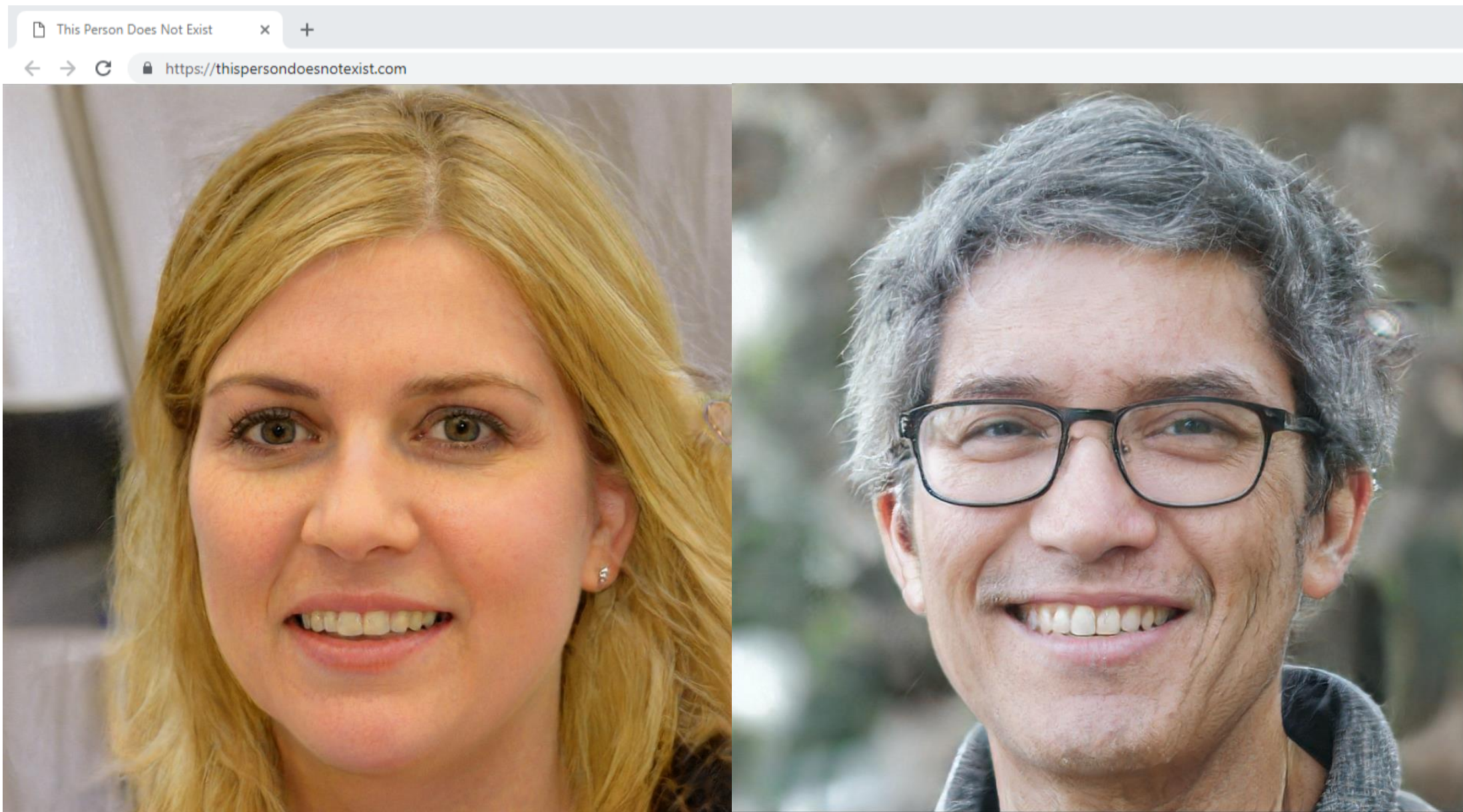
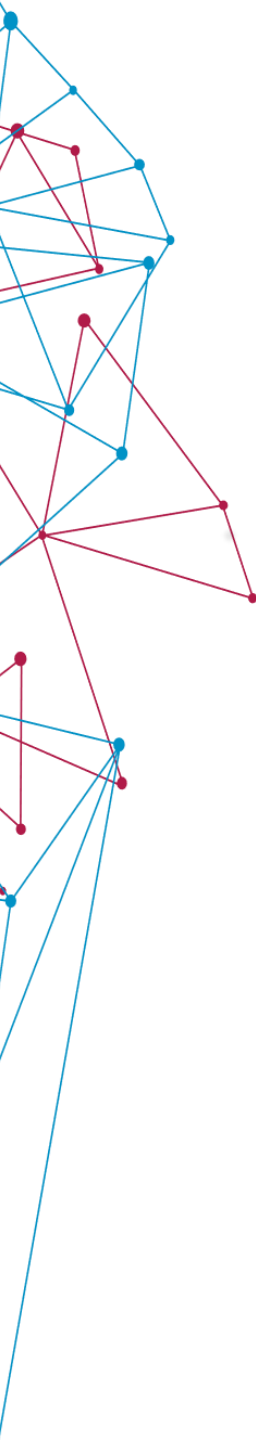
Unique Data



AI/ML Musts

- AI must be able to explain '*why*' (for Audit and Compliance)
- Plan for & design continuous learning feedback loops
- Governance processes = assurance/guardrails for AI insights & recommendations





Source: <https://thispersondoesnotexist.com>



Cyber Applications: Summary

- Good at similar, predictable data
- Good at sifting data w/ patterns
- Assist – *not* replace – the human
- Speeds everything up – including bad guys & how fast we break crap
- New & faster exploits
- Increase of psychological distance



In Review...





Review: **What We** **Covered** **Today**

1) Definitions

2) Machine Learning

- Types
- Methods

3) Neural Networks

4) Pitfalls

- Errors
- Assumptions
- Biases

5) Cyber Applications





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Have questions?



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i/+A



Machine Learning

How Smart Can It Really Be?

This presentation will evaluate Machine Learning (ML), Deep Learning (DL), and Artificial Intelligence (AI) as used within cyber security. During the session we will explore the difference between ML, DL, and AI, and show how these technologies work - as well as their shortcomings. Finally, we will discuss how these tools could work to help reduce risk and how to apply them in your security environment.

- Definitions
- Machine Learning
 - Types
 - Methods
- Neural Networks
- Errors
 - Assumptions
 - Biases
 - Pitfalls
- Cyber Applications

