

The Data Mining Process

Mining Massive Datasets

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Topic 01

I'M A DATA SCIENTIST

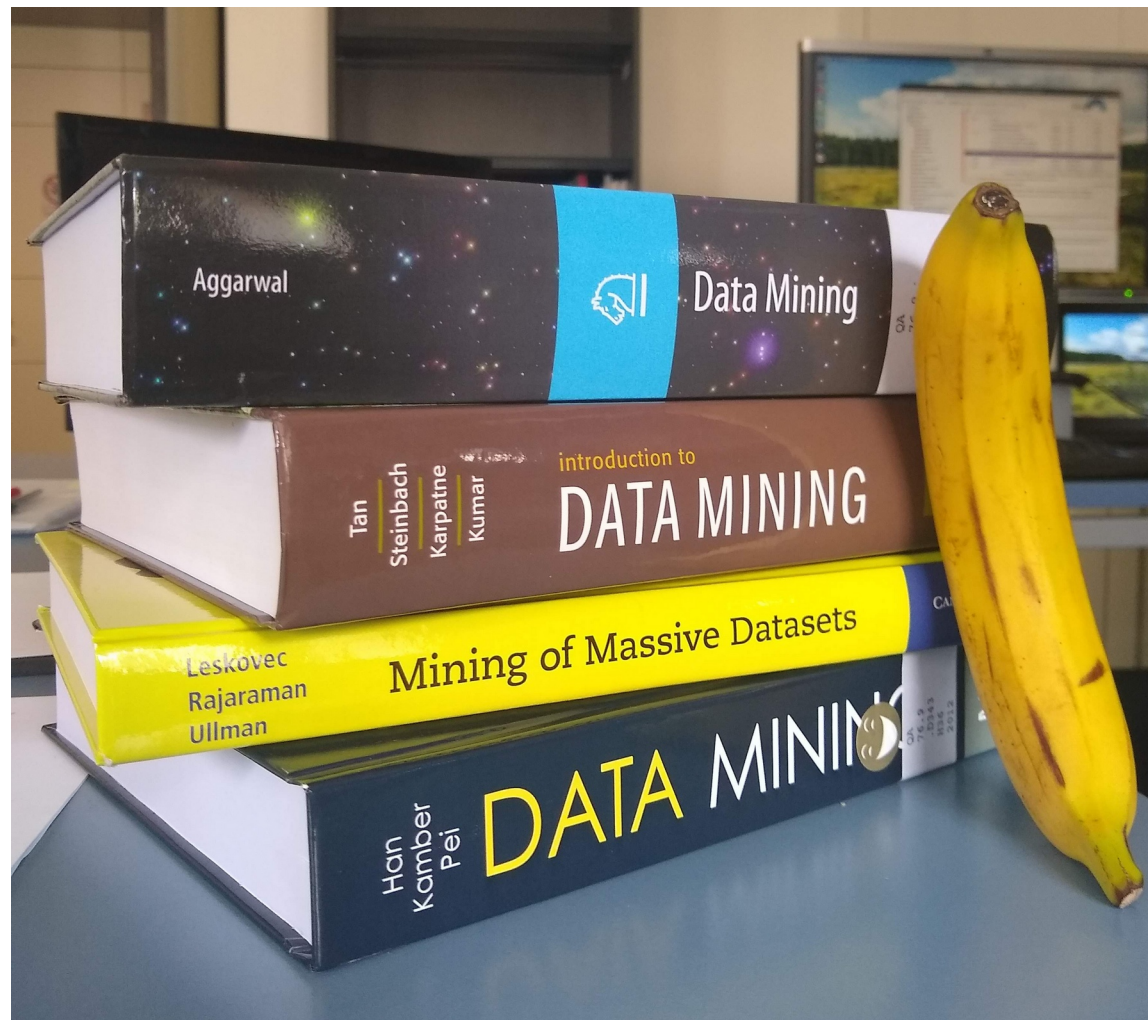
**AND I HAVE A VERY PARTICULAR SET OF
SKILLS I HAVE ACQUIRED OVER A VERY LONG CAREER**

imgflip.com

Taken (2008)

Main Sources

- Data Mining, The Textbook (2015) by Charu Aggarwal (Chapter 1) + [slides by Lijun Zhang](#)
- Mining of Massive Datasets, 2nd edition (2014) by Leskovec et al. (Chapter 1)
- Data Mining Concepts and Techniques, 3rd edition (2011) by Han et al. (Chapters 1-2)



(Banana for scale)

Data Mining

What do these have in common?



Stone



Clay



Papyrus



Paper



Wax cylinder



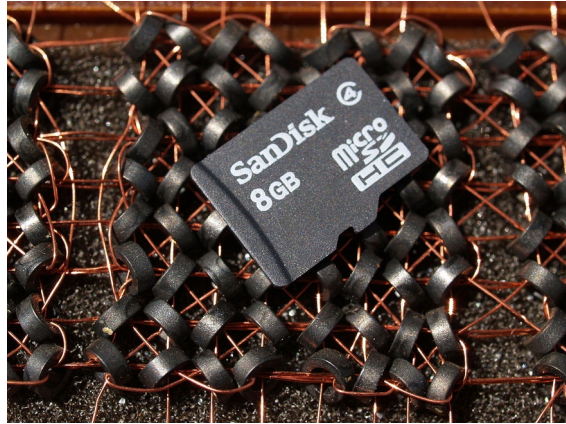
Tape



Vinyl

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

What do these have in common?



8GB (front) vs 8B (back)



Floppy disks (8", 5 1/4", 3 1/2")



Compact disk

The age of “Big Data”

Marked by the co-evolution of
storage capacity,
transmission capacity, and
processing capacity

\$600 to buy a disk drive that can
store all of the world's music

5 billion mobile phones
in use in 2010

30 billion pieces of content shared
on Facebook every month

40% projected growth in
global data generated
per year vs. **5%**
growth in global
IT spending

235 terabytes data collected by
the US Library of Congress
by April 2011

Wikipedia definition

- **Data mining** is the process of
 - discovering patterns in
 - large data sets
 - involving methods at the intersection of
 - machine learning,
 - statistics, and
 - database systems.

Informal definition

Given **lots of data**, discover **patterns** and **models** that are:

- **Valid**: hold on new data with some certainty
- **Useful**: should be possible to act on them
- **Unexpected** or **novel**: non-obvious
- **Understandable**: interpretable
- **Complete**: contain most of the interesting information

Example : 300 numbers

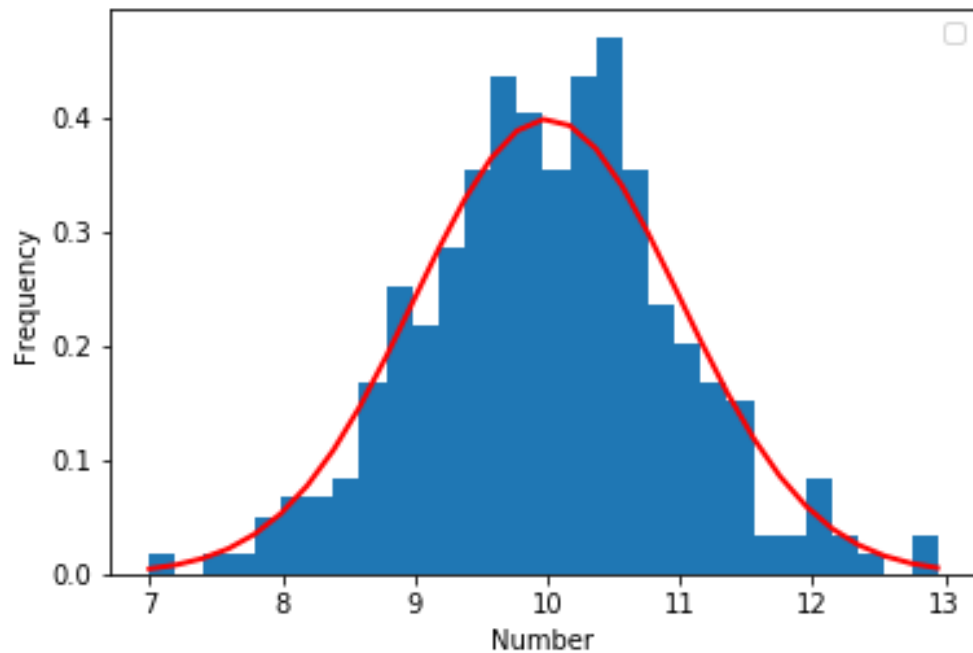
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9.6545295	10.83958189	12.20970744	10.41521275	10.15902266	9.86904675	10.17021837	10.58768438	12.07341981	8.45713965
9.62152893	11.2494364	9.30073426	10.12753479	11.06429886	9.80406205	9.74418407	11.15815923	10.87659275	10.39190038
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9.35940084	9.51149749	11.13211644	9.23292561	8.4767592	9.64339604	9.91374069	9.84184184	9.85576594	9.18523161
10.27107348	8.7511958	8.70297841	10.50609814	11.1908866	10.59484161	10.60027882	9.06375121	10.48534475	9.34253203
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9.9495437	10.51474851	9.19288505	7.87728009	9.987364	10.94639021	10.01814962	9.40505023	8.87242546	10.23686131
8.90710325	10.31678617	10.4571519	9.04315227	9.85321707	11.89885306	6.99926999	10.71534924	10.29215034	10.59516732
9.8807174	9.01321711	8.45289144	9.1739316	7.90909364	9.42165081	10.37087284	9.57754821	9.60350044	10.75691005
8.24594836	10.33419146	9.7779209	9.51609087	10.25712725	12.1256587	9.53397549	9.44765209	9.53901558	9.8006768
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9.21578565	10.21230495	10.28984339	9.4130091	10.54597988	10.8042254	10.52795479	10.76288124	11.3554357	11.484667
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11.1712355	11.33146049	10.44967579	9.58649468	9.5908432	10.53829167	10.16738708	10.45433891	10.79223358	11.3936216
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10.49884897	9.77150045	8.80503866	10.08775177	11.38167004	10.42724794	11.11626475	10.68890453	10.49280739	9.53675721
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11.47090441	8.92472486	10.04585273	10.41149437	9.90118185	9.02229964	8.66708035	11.53976046	11.40609367	9.73014878
8.94607876	11.562354	9.58552216	9.74172847	9.64220948	9.69459042	9.58460199	11.14917832	9.49543794	9.46369271
10.16544667	9.92277128	9.61975057	11.11679747	9.42894032	9.25751891	11.44948256	8.16601628	10.11500258	9.42431821

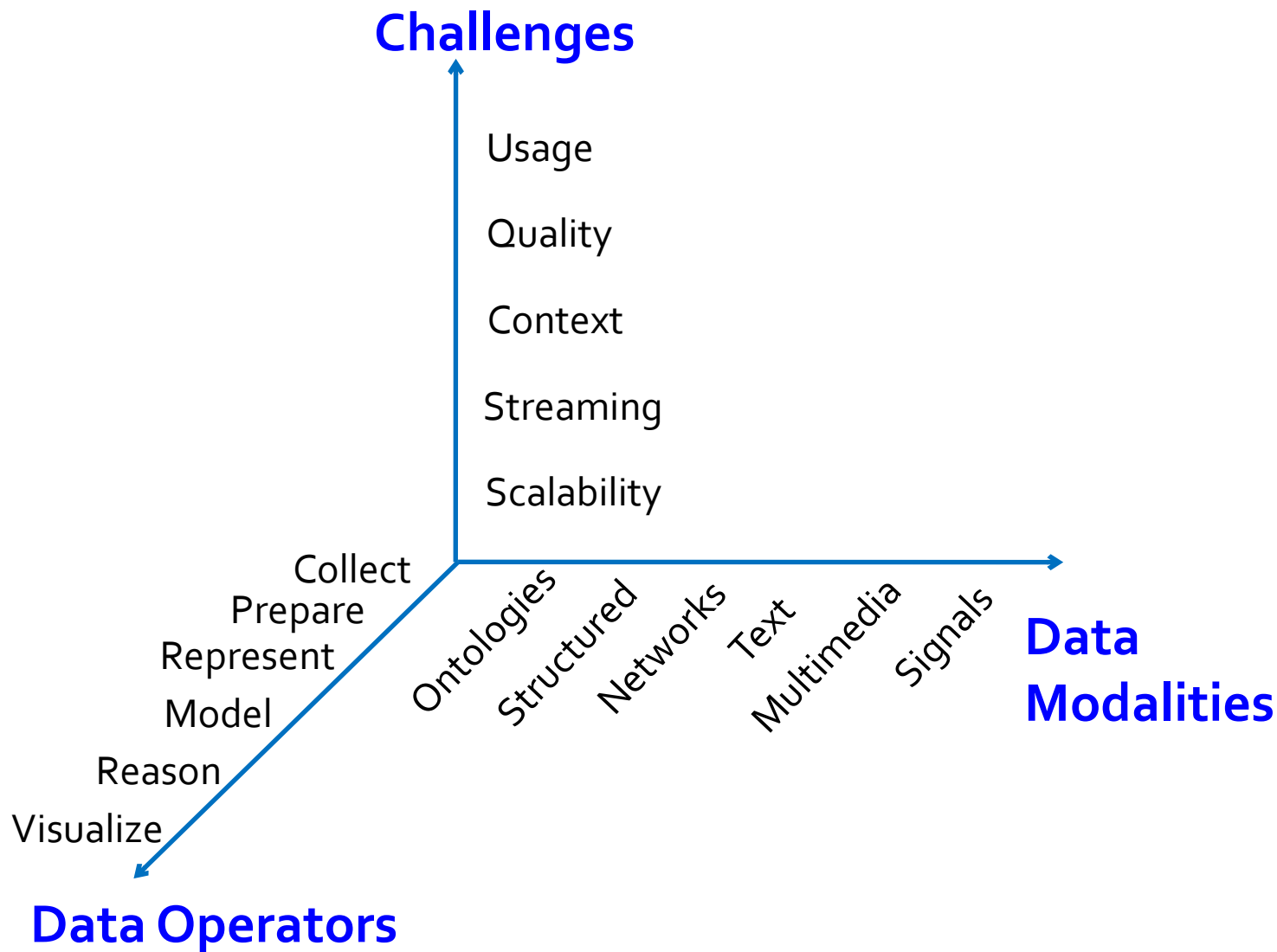
What are these numbers?

Example: 300 numbers (cont.)

Through *statistical modeling* we can find the data comes from a Normal distribution with mean 10 and standard deviation 1

- **Normal($\mu=10, \sigma=1$)** is a *model* for the data





Describing vs Predicting

Descriptive methods

- Find human-interpretable patterns that describe the data
- Example: Clustering

Predictive methods

- Use some variables to predict unknown or future values of other variables
- Example: Recommender systems

Characterizing vs Distinguishing

Data characterization methods

- A summarization of the general characteristics or features of a target class of data

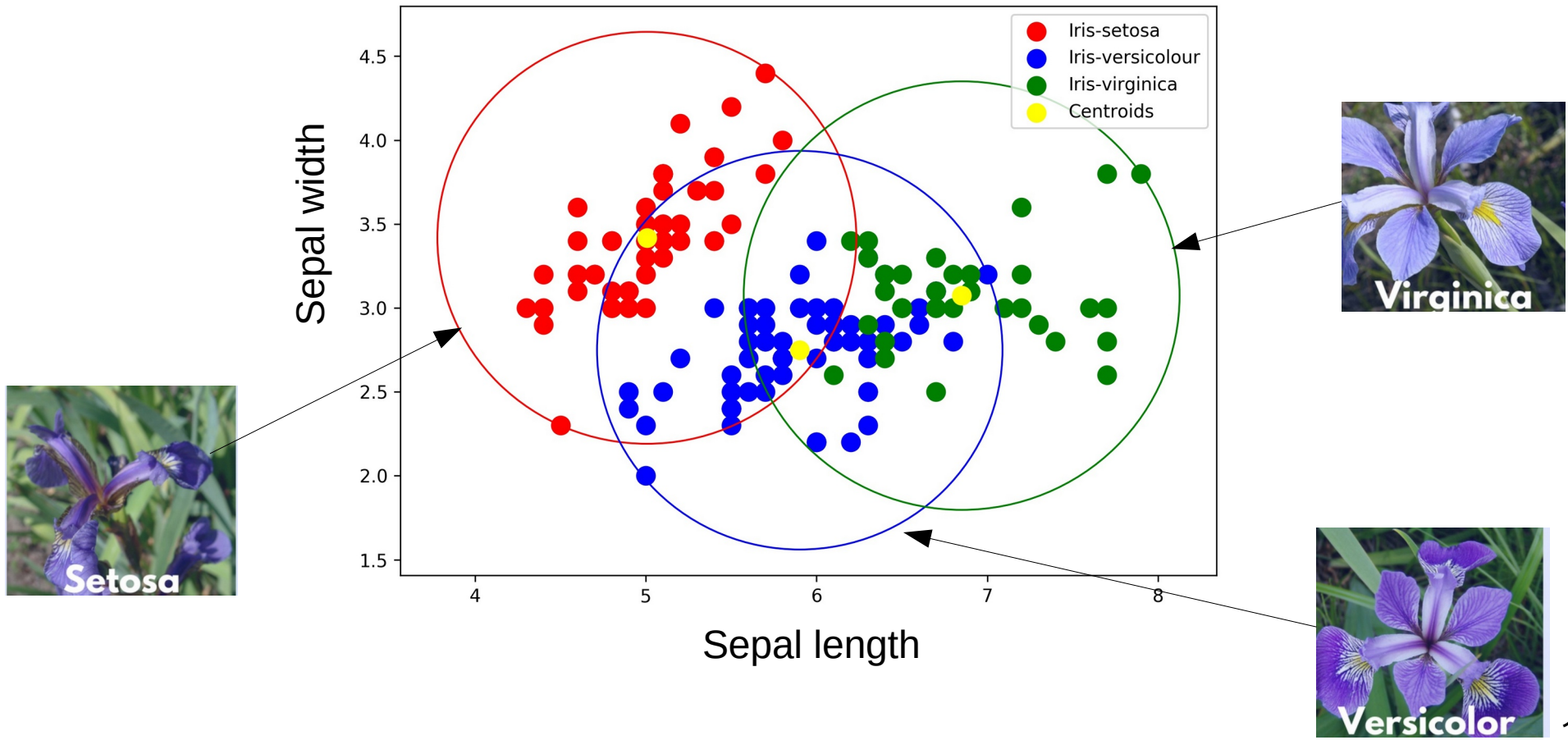
Data discrimination methods

- A comparison of the general features of the target class data objects against the general features of objects from one or multiple contrasting classes

Data mining has several goals

- To produce a **model**
 - E.g., a regression model for a numerical variable, or a classification model for a categorical variable
- To create a **summary**
- To extract **prominent features**

Example summary: clustering



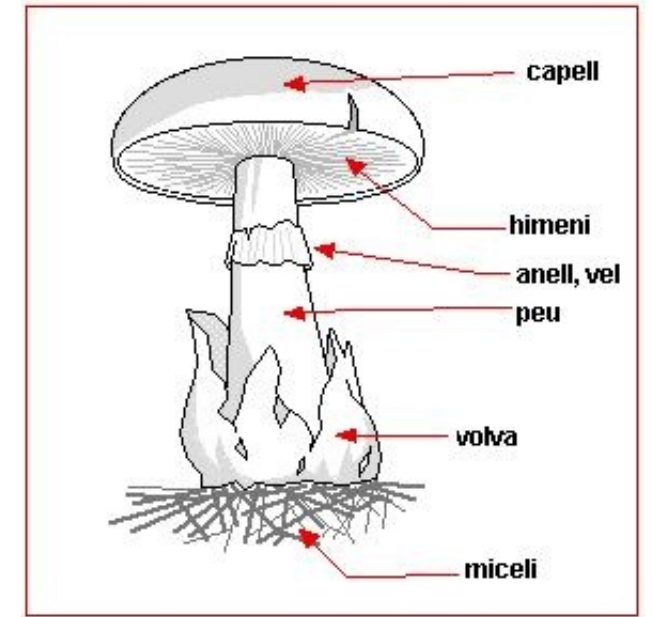
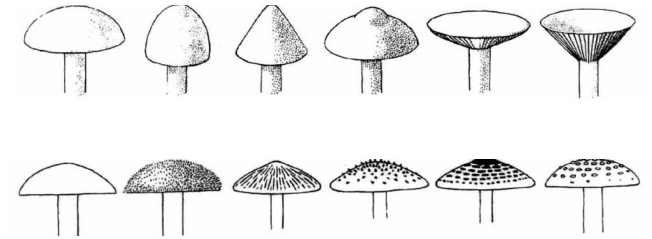
Picking the right features

- Representing these flowers by their *petal length* and *sepal length* was key
 - These are good features for this task
- Other features such as color or number of leaves may not be so good
- Feature selection is key!

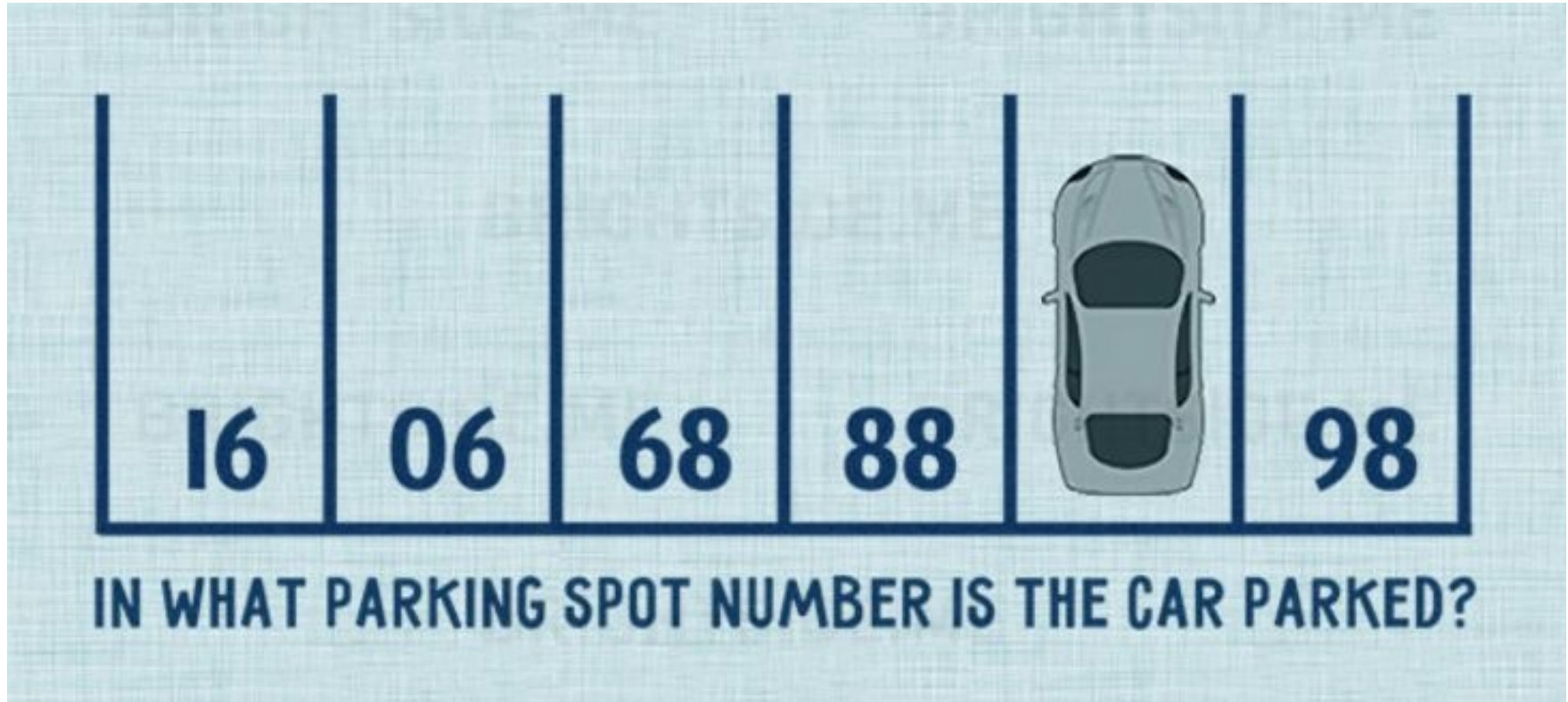


Features: a matter of life or death

Bolets dels Països Catalans



Another pattern-finding example



Source: [Centauro Blog \(2017\)](#)

Example: complex features

- Given shopping baskets of previous customers, determine:
 - **Frequent itemsets**
(bought together)
 - **Similar items**
(e.g., for recommendations)



Risk #1: Spurious patterns

- A risk with “Data mining” is that an analyst can “discover” patterns that are **meaningless**
- *If you look in more places for interesting patterns than your amount of data will support, you are bound to find something (~Bonferroni principle)*

If you interrogate data
hard enough
it will tell you
what you want to hear

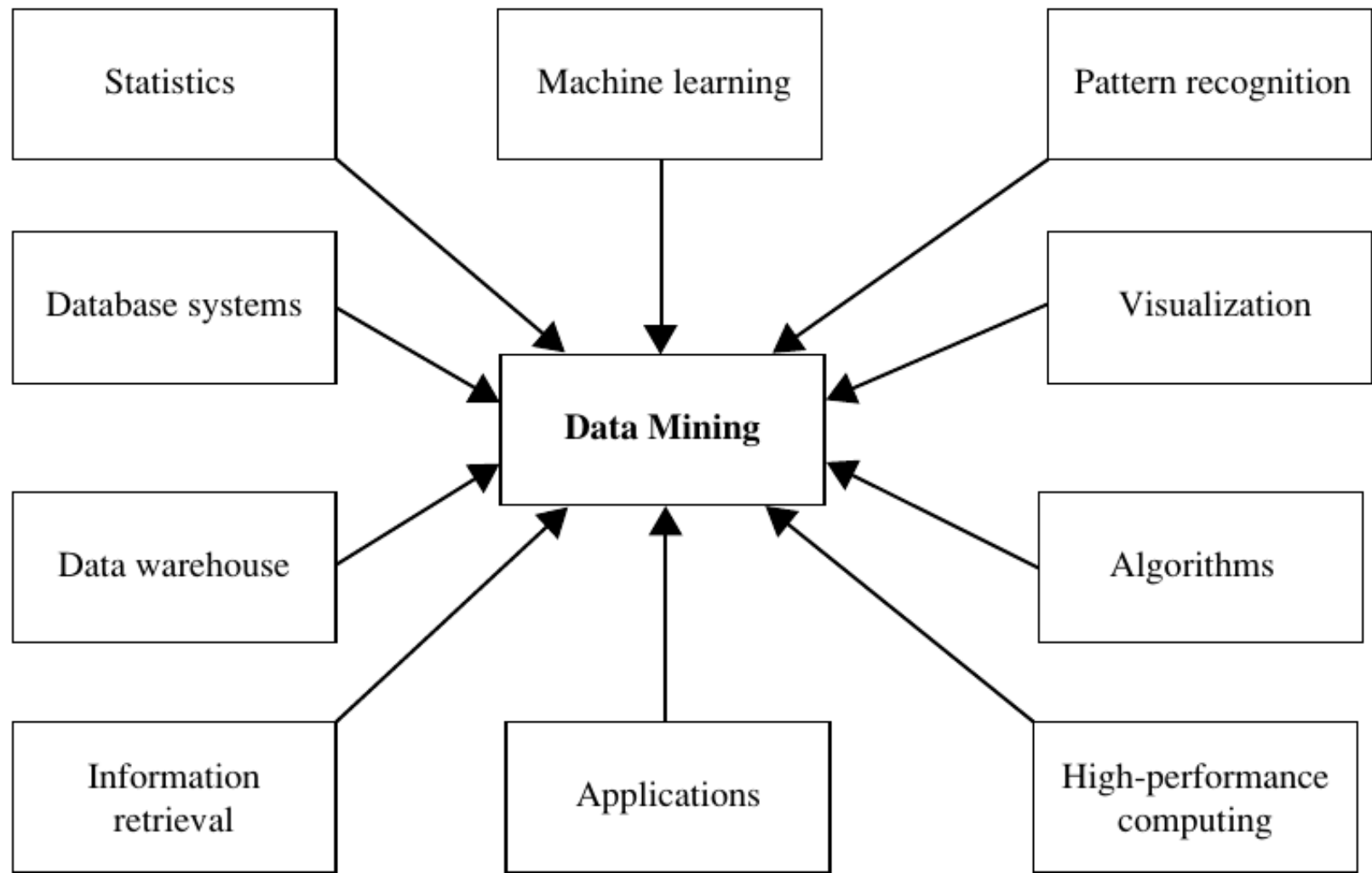


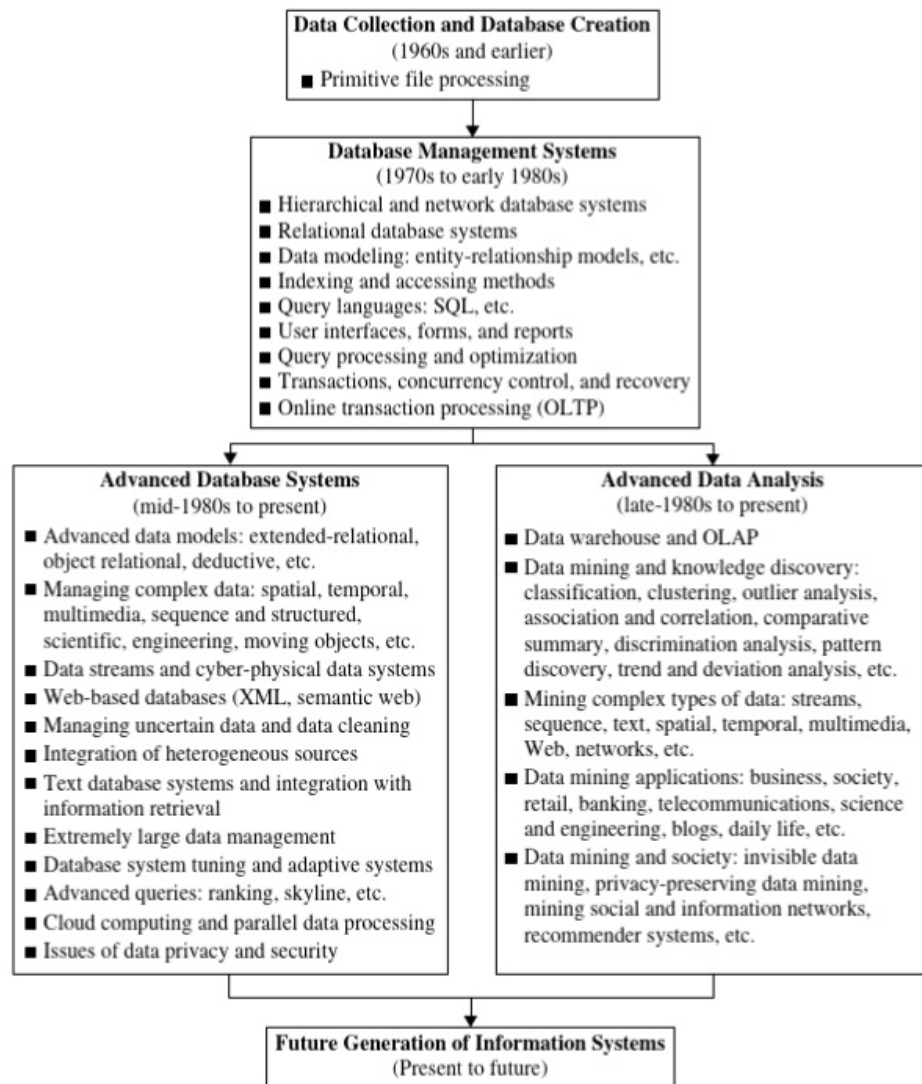
Risk #2: Surveillance state

- Attention-grabbing evil actions are also very rare, with consequences:
 - Suppose 1 in a million in a suicide bomber
 - Catching one suicide bomber a year on average means examining 999.999 innocent people
- A system with 1% false positive rate will flag ~10K people as potential suicide bombers

Data mining (DM) vs other disciplines

- For a database person, DM=analytic processing
- For a machine learning person, DM=modeling
- For an algorithms person, DM=efficiency
- Our focus will be on **scalable algorithms**





Data mining is a descendant of methods for Online Analytical Processing (OLAP) done over Data Warehouses

Data rich but information poor

- Fast-paced data streams become data archives that become data tombs
- Decisions could be better made by using data that already exists but is hard to “mine”



Knowledge **Discovery** from Data

- KDD, a popular acronym
 - “Discovery” is Data Mining
- Other names: knowledge mining from data, knowledge extraction, data/pattern analysis



Typical stages of KDD

- 1) Data Cleaning
- 2) Data Integration
- 3) Data Selection
- 4) Data Transformation
- 5) Data Mining ← application of a DM algorithm
- 6) Pattern Evaluation
- 7) Knowledge Presentation

Typical stages of KDD

1) Data Cleaning

2) Data Integration

3) Data Selection

4) Data Transformation

5) Data Mining

6) Pattern Evaluation

7) Knowledge Presentation

Pre-processing
phase

Analytical
phase

Summary

Things to remember

- Define and contrast:
 - Describing vs Predicting
 - Characterizing vs Discriminating
- Describe the stages of the KDD process