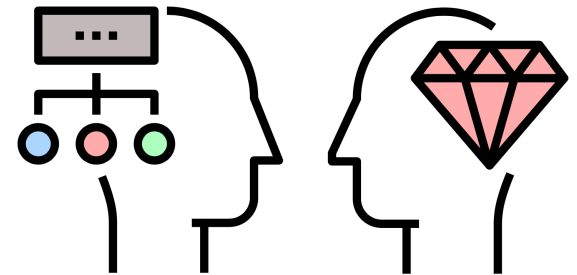


# Machine Learning for Materials

## 9. Research Challenge

Aron Walsh

Department of Materials  
Centre for Processable Electronics



# Course Contents

1. Course Introduction
  2. Materials Modelling
  3. Machine Learning Basics
  4. Materials Data and Representations
  5. Classical Learning
  6. Artificial Neural Networks
  7. Building a Model from Scratch
  8. Recent Advances in AI
  - 9. and 10. Research Challenge**
-

# Course Assessment

Aim for working knowledge of ML with practical sessions and coursework

## **Computational exercises (40%)**

Completed - well done!

## **Research challenge (60%)**

Individual assignment  
*(details today)*

# Class Outline

## Research Challenge

*A. Ethics*

*B. Assignment*

*C. Approach*

---

# Ethics of Machine Learning

How do these translate to the materials context?

## **Bias and Fairness**

Influence on decision making processes

## **Transparency and Explainability**

Interpretation of model predictions

## **Privacy and Data Protection**

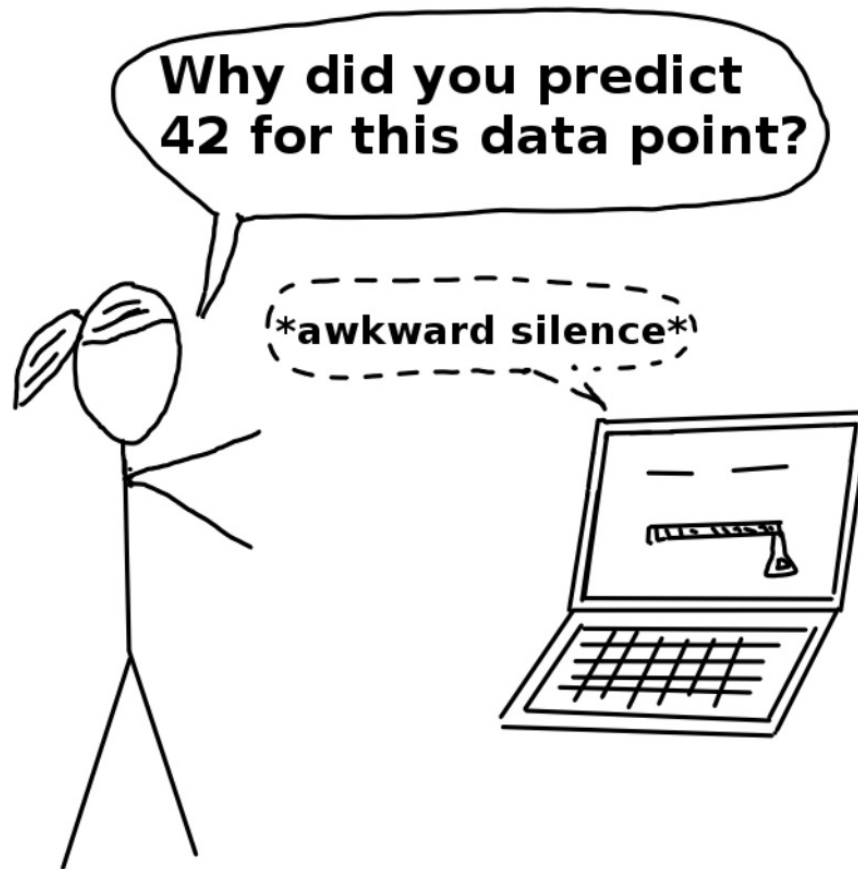
Collection, storage and using sensitive data

## **Social Impacts**

From productivity increases to job displacements

# Ethics of Machine Learning

Importance of interpretable and explainable models



# Ethics of Machine Learning

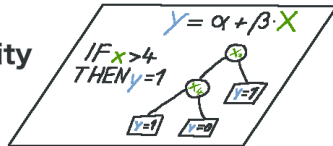
## Importance of interpretable and explainable models

Humans



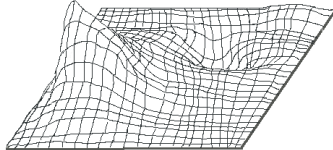
↑ inform

Interpretability  
Methods



↑ extract

Black Box  
Model



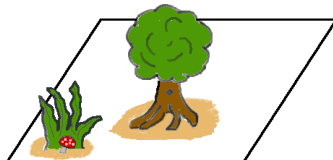
↑ learn

Data

X	X	X	X	.	.	.	.	X
10	2	0						
5	4	0						
1	1	0						

↑ capture

World



### Some interpretability methods

- Feature Importance
- SHAP (SHapley Additive exPlanations)
- Interpretable Surrogate Models
- Counterfactual Explanations

# Ethics of Machine Learning

“Developers must show that their models are safe, transparent and explainable to users”

NEWS EXPLAINER | 16 February 2024

## What the EU's tough AI law means for research and ChatGPT

The EU AI Act is the world's first major legislation on artificial intelligence and strictly regulates general-purpose models.

By [Elizabeth Gibney](#)





# Ethics of Large Language Models

How best to use these models in our research?



[www.acsnano.org](http://www.acsnano.org)


## Best Practices for Using AI When Writing Scientific Manuscripts

Caution, Care, and Consideration: Creative Science Depends on It

“AI language bots are incapable of understanding new information, generating insights, or deep analysis, which would limit the discussion within a scientific paper.” ...Outdated?

# Ethics of Large Language Models

How best to use these models in our research?

 Theoretical and computational chemistry

## Call for Papers: Harnessing the Power of Large Language Model-Based Chatbots for Scientific Discovery



Pavithra Naullage

Sep 21, 2023 • 2 min read



*This Virtual Special Issue will foster further discussion on appropriate applications of Chatbots in the chemical, pharmaceutical, material, and biological sciences. Submit your manuscript by August 1, 2024.*

# Challenging ML Questions

Models are not unique, different architectures often give similar performance

***How to choose the best one?***

There is uncertainty in the input data, trained model, and the predicted outputs

***How to properly deal with error estimations?***

A model may be trained for several systems or across a limited set of conditions

***How can I tell if it will extrapolate?***

# Class Outline

## Research Challenge

*A. Ethics*

***B. Assignment***

*C. Approach*

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# Research Challenge

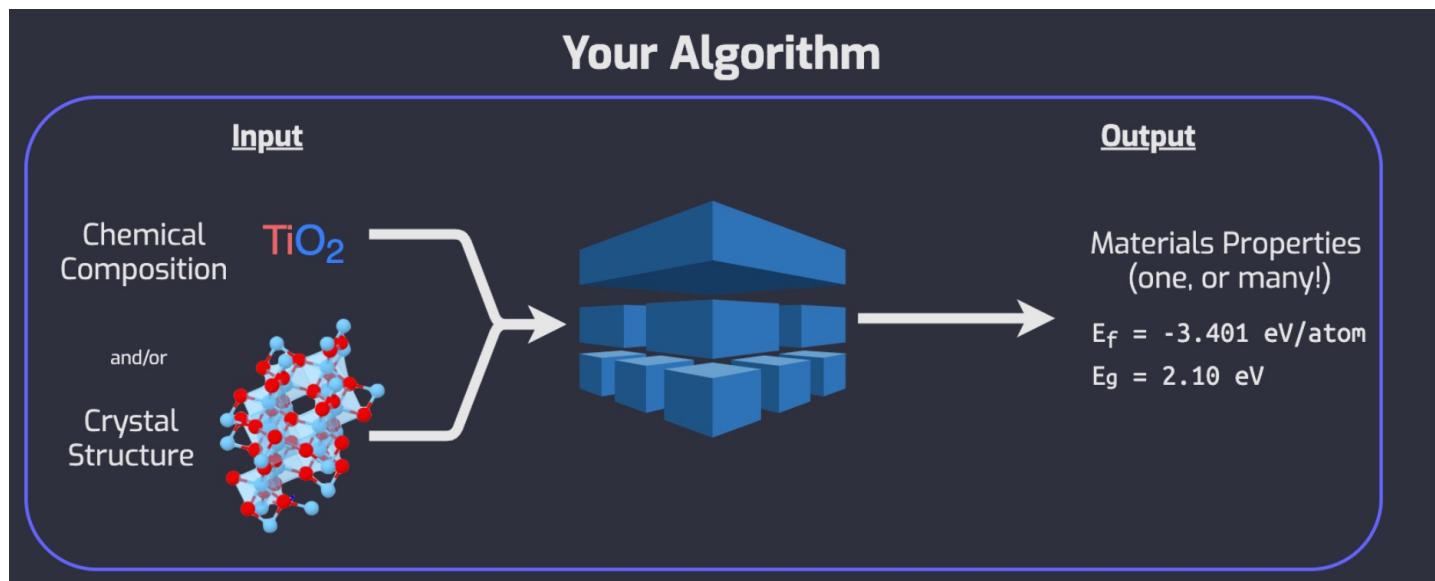
An opportunity to develop your practical skills. Goals:

- To apply the ML tools and data skills you have picked up so far
- To extend your knowledge through self-study, exploration, and cohort interactions
- To produce a clearly annotated code with comparison to community benchmarks

# Research Challenge

Each group is assigned a dataset on <https://matbench.materialsproject.org>

Your job is to produce an original model for the given classification or regression task



Some tasks use chemical composition only, while others use composition and structure

# Research Challenge

The starting point is to check the literature.  
Read the matbench paper and the models  
that have been tested

*I. Data Preparation*

*II. Model Choice*

*III. Training and Testing*

# Class Outline

## Research Challenge

*A. Ethics*

*B. Assignment*

***C. Approach***

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# Creative Solutions

There is great flexibility in programming with no unique solution for a given problem

You may be interested in speed or clarity, but ultimately want a robust code

- Check package manuals, e.g. <https://matplotlib.org> & <https://scikit-learn.org>
- Search <https://stackoverflow.com> & <https://github.com> for ideas

# Creative Solutions

Many AI assistants for coding exist such as Github Copilot, CodeWhisperer, Codeium, GPT4

- Most helpful when you know the basics first
- Assistants often lack domain expertise and give poor suggestions with buggy code based on old versions of Python libraries
  - Not a substitute for hands-on coding experience and knowledge of materials

# Creative Solutions

Statement to be included in the submitted notebook

## **Large Language Model (LLM) Usage Declaration**

- Did you use an LLM (e.g. GPT-3, Gemini, Co-Pilot)?
  - Specify tasks (e.g. summarising research)
  - Were any limitations/biases noted?
  - How did you ensure ethical use?

# Challenge Topics

Challenge	Topic	Type	GTA
<b>A</b>	Phonons (1,265)	Regression	Anthony
<b>B</b>	Bandgap (4,604)	Regression	Irea
<b>C</b>	Perovskites (18,928)	Regression	Xia
<b>D</b>	Glasses (5,680)	Classification	Yifan

One challenge assigned per person. Dataset details in Notebook 9

# GTA Assistance

Teaching assistants will be available  
in the computer rooms:

(After Class 9) **Tue 20th: 10-11am**

(After Class 10) **Thur 22nd: 1-2pm**

*The computer rooms is also booked on 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>  
at the same times to facilitate self-study*

**Submission deadline: 11<sup>th</sup> March 15:00**

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# Challenge Submission

## Two items submitted on Blackboard

1. Jupyter notebook (.ipynb)

*and*

2. Recorded presentation\* (max 5 min) where you

introduce your code and your choices on 1. *Data*

*Preparation; 2. Model Choice; 3. Training and Testing*

---

\*Format is flexible. Could be recorded in PowerPoint, screenshare on Zoom, or plain video

# Challenge Assessment

	Weight	Guidelines
<b>Data Preparation</b>	20 %	Apply appropriate pre-processing steps
<b>Model Choice</b>	20 %	Justify based on the problem and available data
<b>Training and Testing</b>	20 %	Successfully train, validate and test model
<b>Code</b>	10 %	Clearly organised and annotated
<b>Presentation</b>	30 %	Clarity and conciseness

# Lecture 10

Final Class on Thursday at 11am

*Guest lecture on **reinforcement learning***



**Dr Zhenzhu Li**  
Schmidt AI in Science Fellow



# Module Feedback


First run of this module, so your feedback is valued  
& will help to shape it for next year

Join at [menti.com](https://menti.com) | use code **7788 8203**

Mentimeter

## Machine Learning for Materials

Go to  
**[www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com)**  
Enter the code  
**7788 8203**

  
Or use QR code