

# CS 383: Machine Learning

Prof Adam Poliak

Fall 2024

# Outline

- Welcome + what is Machine Learning (ML)?
- Examples of ML
- Syllabus highlights
- ML terminology and notation
- First algorithm: K-nearest neighbors

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# What is ML?

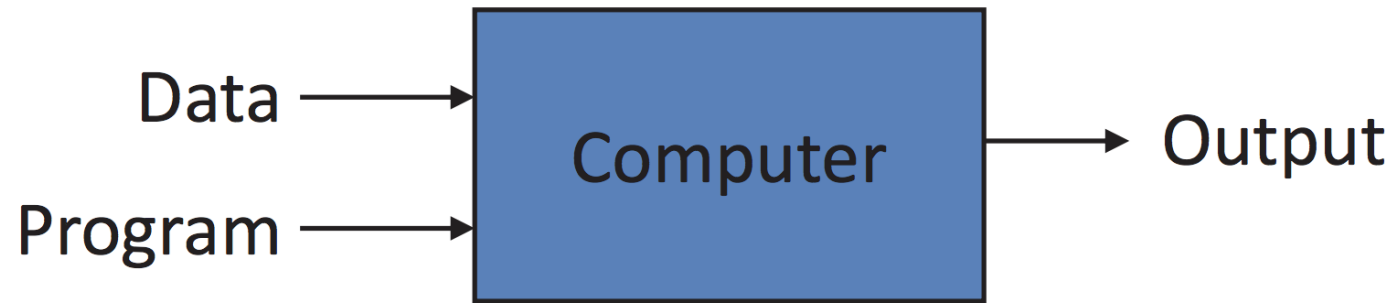
- Come up with your own definition of “Machine Learning”
- How is Machine Learning different from or similar to:
  - Statistics
  - Data mining
  - Psychology of learning

# What is ML?

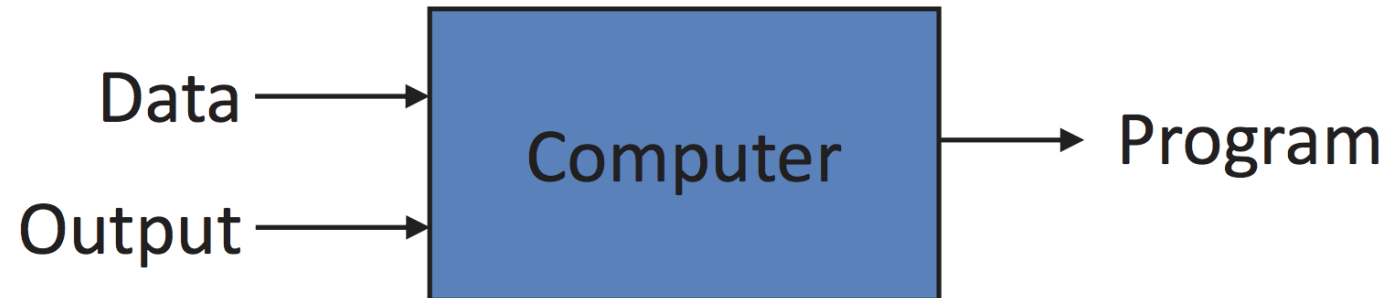
- “Machine Learning is the study of methods for programming computers to learn.”  
-Tom Dietterich
- “Machine Learning is about predicting the future based on the past.”  
-Hal Duane III
- “Machine Learning seeks to answer the question: `How can we build computer systems that automatically improve with experience, and what are the fundamental laws that govern all learning processes?’ ”  
-Tom Mitchell

# Another definition of ML

## Traditional Programming



## Machine Learning



# ML and Related Fields

- **Statistics:** understanding phenomenon that generated the data
- **Data Mining:** find patterns in data that are understandable to humans
- **Psychology of learning:** understand the mechanisms behind how humans learn

# Why do we want ML?

1) No human experts

Example: predicting failure points for new machines

2) Human experts cannot explain expertise

Example: predicting failure points for new machines

3) Phenomena change rapidly

Example: predicting failure points for new machines

4) Customization for each user

Example: program that adapts to each user's speech



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# Classic Examples of ML

- Email filtering (spam vs. not-spam)

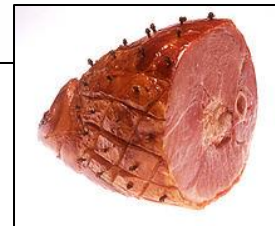
From: cheapsales@buystufffromme.com  
To: ang@cs.stanford.edu  
Subject: Buy now!

Deal of the week! Buy now!  
Rolex w4tchs - \$100  
Medicine (any kind) - \$50  
Also low cost M0rgages  
available.



From: Alfred Ng  
To: ang@cs.stanford.edu  
Subject: Christmas dates?

Hey Andrew,  
Was talking to Mom about plans  
for Xmas. When do you get off  
work. Meet Dec 22?  
Alf




# Classic Examples of ML

- Handwriting recognition (digits in a check)

MR. JOHN JONES  
1645 DUNDAS ST. W, APT. 27  
TORONTO, ON M6K 1V2

DATE **20061201**  
Y Y Y Y M M D D

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Wikimedia Foundation \$ **100.55**  
One Hundred Dollars and 55/100 DOLLARS

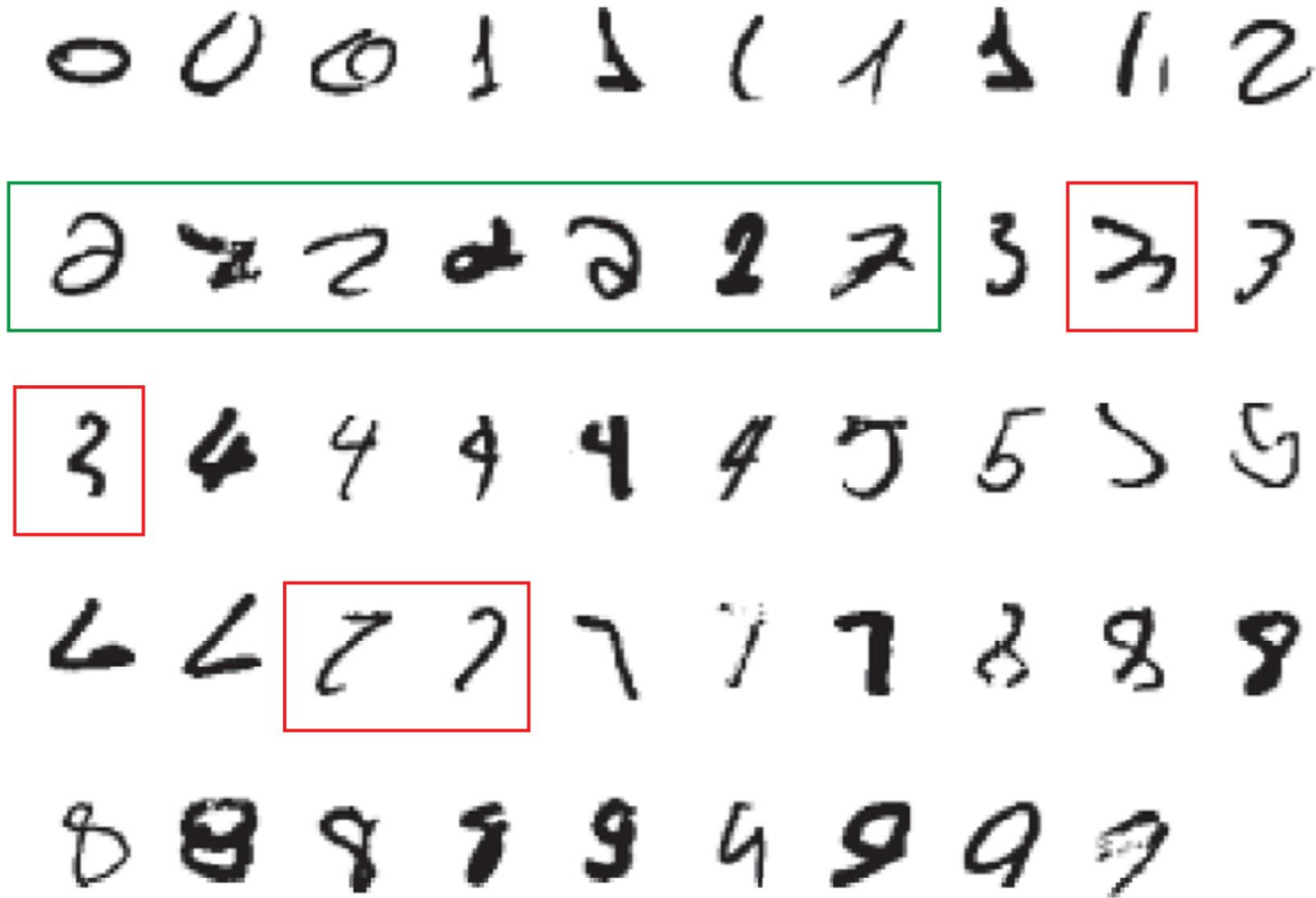
 FIRST BANK OF WIKI  
Victoria Main Branch  
1425 James St., P.O. Box 4001  
Victoria (B.C.) V8X 3X4

MEMO Donation

John Jones **MP**

⑈ 243 ⑈ ⑆ 00005 ⑆ 123 ⑆ 123 ⑆ 456 ⑆ 7 ⑈

A classic example of a task that requires machine learning:  
It is very hard to say what makes a 2




# Classic Examples of ML

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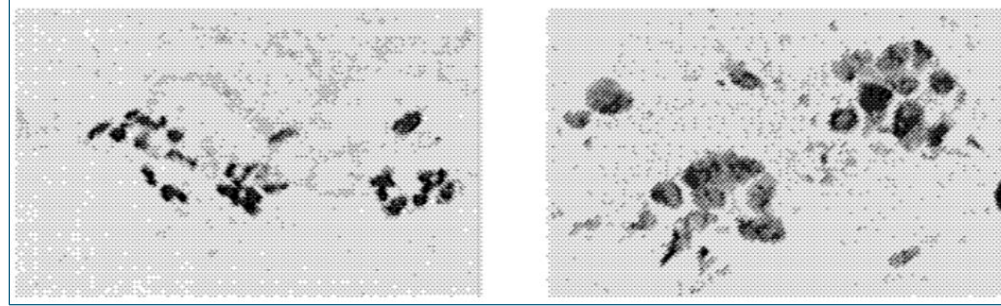
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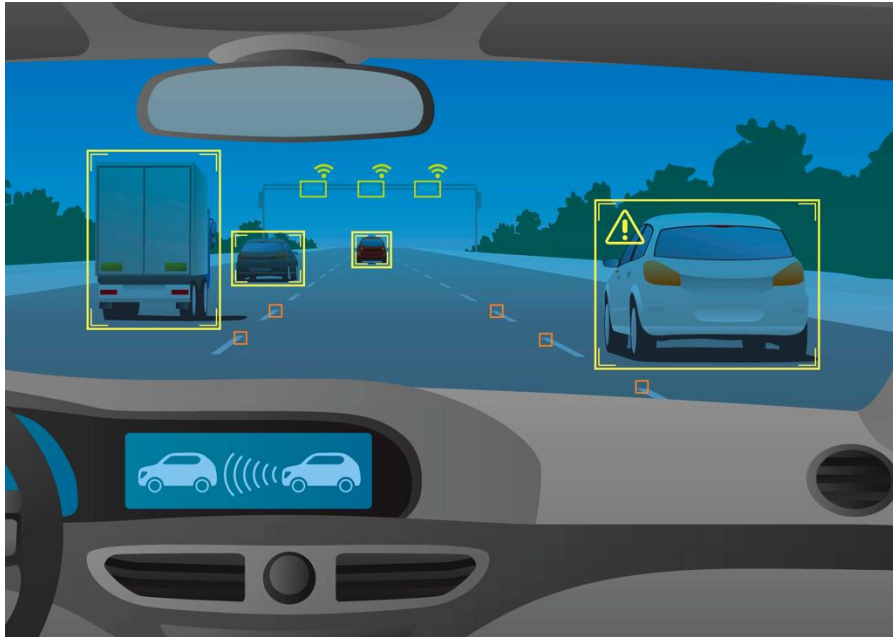
⑈ 243 ⑈ ⑆ 00005 ⑆ 123 ⑆ 123 ⑆ 456 ⑆ 7 ⑈

# Classic Examples of ML



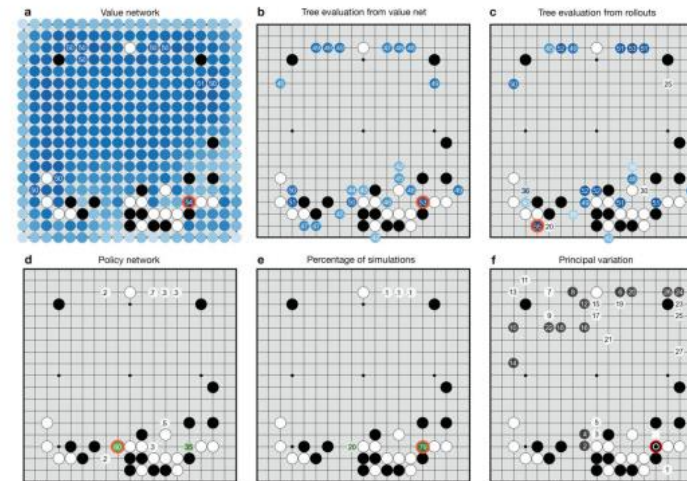
- Tumor detection (benign vs. malignant)

# Modern Examples of ML



Self-driving cars are in our present and future

AlphaGo: moves humans never thought of

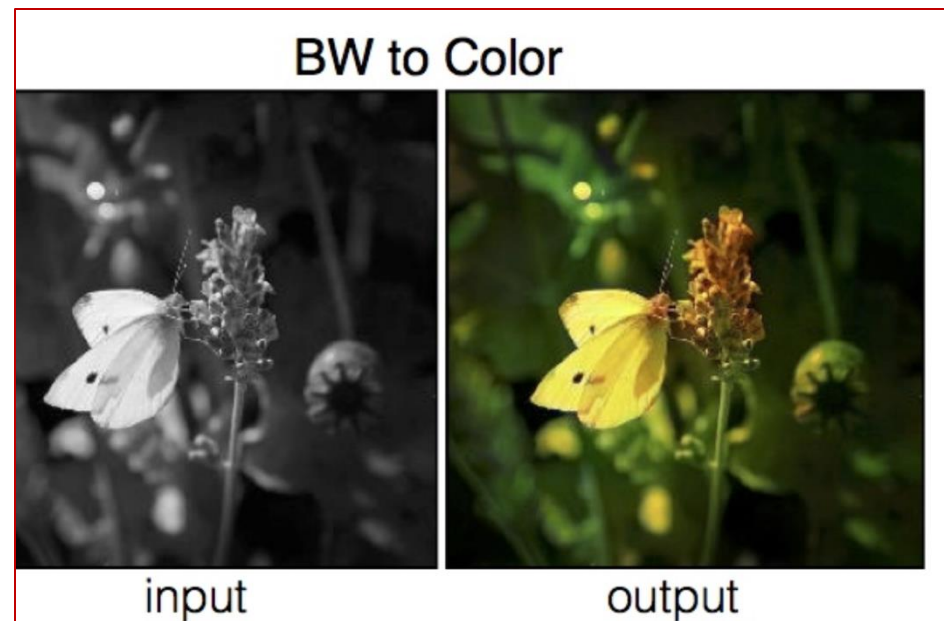


# Modern Examples of ML

- Algorithms that learn how to create



[Image-to-Image Translation with Conditional Adversarial Nets \(Nov 2016\)](#)





# Modern Examples of ML

"Building the Golden Gate Bridge" (est 1937)



# Face Generation Over Time



**Ian Goodfellow**

@goodfellow\_ian

Follow



4.5 years of GAN progress on face generation. [arxiv.org/abs/1406.2661](https://arxiv.org/abs/1406.2661)

[arxiv.org/abs/1511.06434](https://arxiv.org/abs/1511.06434)

[arxiv.org/abs/1606.07536](https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.07536)

[arxiv.org/abs/1710.10196](https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.10196)

[arxiv.org/abs/1812.04948](https://arxiv.org/abs/1812.04948)



2014



2015



2016



2017

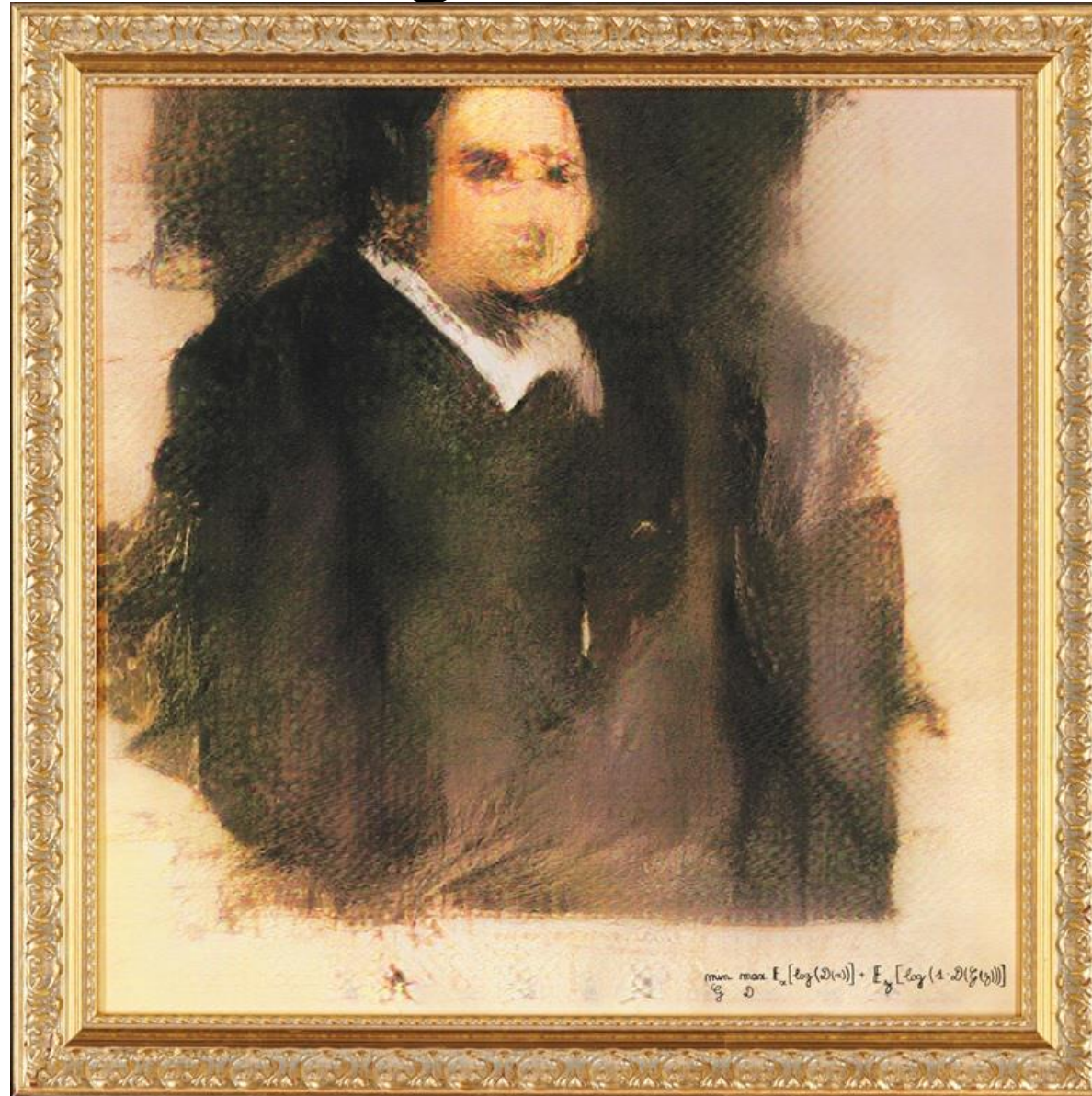


2018

4:40 PM - 14 Jan 2019

# ML Generated Painting

Sold for almost  
half a million  
dollars





# ML in Natural Language Processing

- Text Classification
- Language Modeling
- Speech Recognition
- Caption Generation
- Machine Translation
- Document Summarization
- Question Answering

*Q: What was the theme?*  
*A: "one world, one dream".*

*Q: What was the length of the race?*  
*A: 137,000 km*

*Q: Was it larger than previous ones?*  
*A: No*

*Q: Where did the race begin?*  
*A: Olympia, Greece*

*Q: Is there anything notable about that place?*  
*A: birthplace of Olympic Games*

*Q: Where did they go after?*  
*A: Athens*

*Q: How many days was the race?*  
*A: seven*

*Q: Did they visit any notable landmarks?*  
*A: Panathinaiko Stadium*

*Q: And did they climb any mountains?*  
*A:*

**Target answers:** *unknown or yes*  
**Model answer:** Everest

<https://openai.com/blog/better-language-models/>

# ML in Natural Language Processing

- Text Classification
- Language Modeling
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- Question Answering
- Dialogue Systems

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# ML Online

Every day ML algorithms decide what people see and how their content is seen

- Search results
- Targeted ads
- Newsfeed content
- Facial recognition

Example:



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# Course Communication

<https://cs.brynmawr.edu/cs383-ml/>

Intro to Machine Learning			
Schedule Policies Staff Homeworks Labs Resources Links			
Please complete <a href="#">Lab 00</a> before the first lab meeting.			
Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment
Tue, Sep 3, 2024	Lecture 01 ML Overview KNN	<a href="#">Duane 1.1, 1.2</a> <a href="#">Duane 3.1-3.3</a> <a href="#">Machine Learning by Tom Dietterich in Nature Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science (skim Sections 4-7)</a> optional ISL Chapter 1 (optional) ISL Sections 2.1, 2.2 (focus on 2.1 and pg. 39-42) (optional) <a href="#">The Discipline of Machine Learning by Tom Mitchell</a>	<a href="#">HW01 - KNN</a> (Due Tue, Sep 10, 2024)
Wed, Sep 4, 2024	Lab 01 Python & KNN		

## Piazza vs Slack?



# Learning Goal

First part of the semester: focus on **understanding and implementing** algorithms

Later on: using powerful **libraries** (i.e. sklearn, pytorch, etc)

Throughout and during the **project**: hypothesis development, featurization, algorithm selection, interpretation of results, iteration, conclusions

Language: **Python3**, will use numpy/scipy throughout

# Topics (tentative)

- ML terminology and notation
- K-nearest neighbors
- Decision Trees
- Linear regression
- Logistic regression
- Naïve Bayes
- Ensemble methods
- Support vector machines
- Neural networks
- LSTMs
- Transformers
- Unsupervised learning
- Dimensionality reduction
- Clustering
- Gaussian mixture models
- ML and ethics

# There will be math!



# Different Backgrounds

Prerequisites: Data Structures, Discrete Math, Linear Algebra

May or may not have statistics or probability

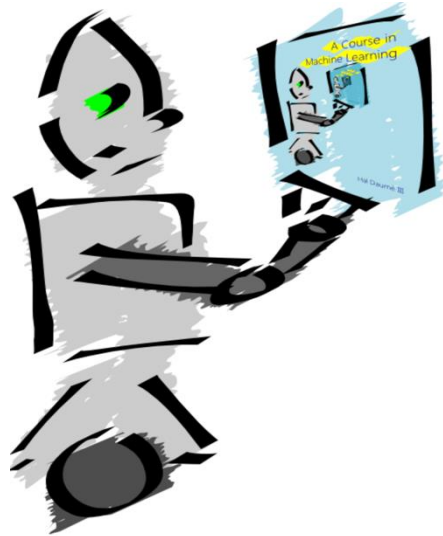
May or may not have taken artificial intelligence (AI), computer vision, bioinformatics, natural language processing (NLP)

# Reading

Modern machine learning relies heavily on linear algebra, geometry, statistics, and probability

Our textbook provides a good introduction to terminology, how people think about ML, etc

Supplemental readings go deeper



A Course in Machine Learning  
by Hal Daumé III

# Course Components

Homeworks (roughly 8-10 total): 35%

Due Tuesday nights

Labs (weekly, some week will be lecture): 5%

2 Midterms: 40%

Final project: 15% (includes an oral presentation and “lab notebook”)

Participation (includes reading quizzes): 5%

# Expectations

Come to class (Tu/Th) and lab (W), **actively participate**

If you are sick, do not come to class!

Complete the weekly reading *before lecture* (for this week, just read **1.1-1.2**)

Come to office hours (this week: Wedn. 1:00-2:30pm, Thurs. 11:45am-12:30pm)

**Park 200C**

Post questions on Piazza/Slack

# Syllabus Notes

(Note: you are responsible for reading the entire syllabus on the course webpage)

1. Notes and slides will be posted *after* class on the course webpage
2. Lab is **mandatory** (attendance will be taken)
3. Labs are partner work
4. Homeworks are individual work
5. You will get **2 late days** during the semester
6. Extensions beyond these two days must be arranged with your class dean
7. Email: allow 24 hours for a response (more during weekends)
8. Piazza/Slack: should be used for all content/logistics questions



# Participation

Asking and answering questions in class (very important!)

- Raise your hand (because some people are more/less comfortable shouting out answers)

- Will call on groups, but only after giving you a few minutes to think/discuss

Actively participating in in-class activities (group work, handouts, etc)

Working well with your lab partner during lab

- Switching who is at the keyboard

- Discussing details instead of just trying to get to the end of the lab

Asking and answering questions on Piazza/Slack

- Avoid long blocks of code and giving away answers

- Only non-anonymous posts count toward participation grade

Attending office hours

Sometimes participation goes too far...

Try to avoid dominating class discussion, office hours, Piazza, pair-programming,  
etc

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# Machine Learning Terminology

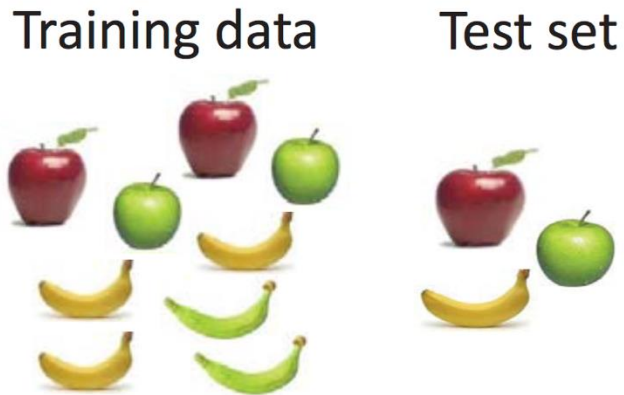
Alice takes ML for a semester, but the exam is on History of Pottery  
All exam questions are exactly the same as homework questions

Neither is a good judge of Alice's learning!

*“Generalization* is perhaps the most central concept in machine learning.” –Duame

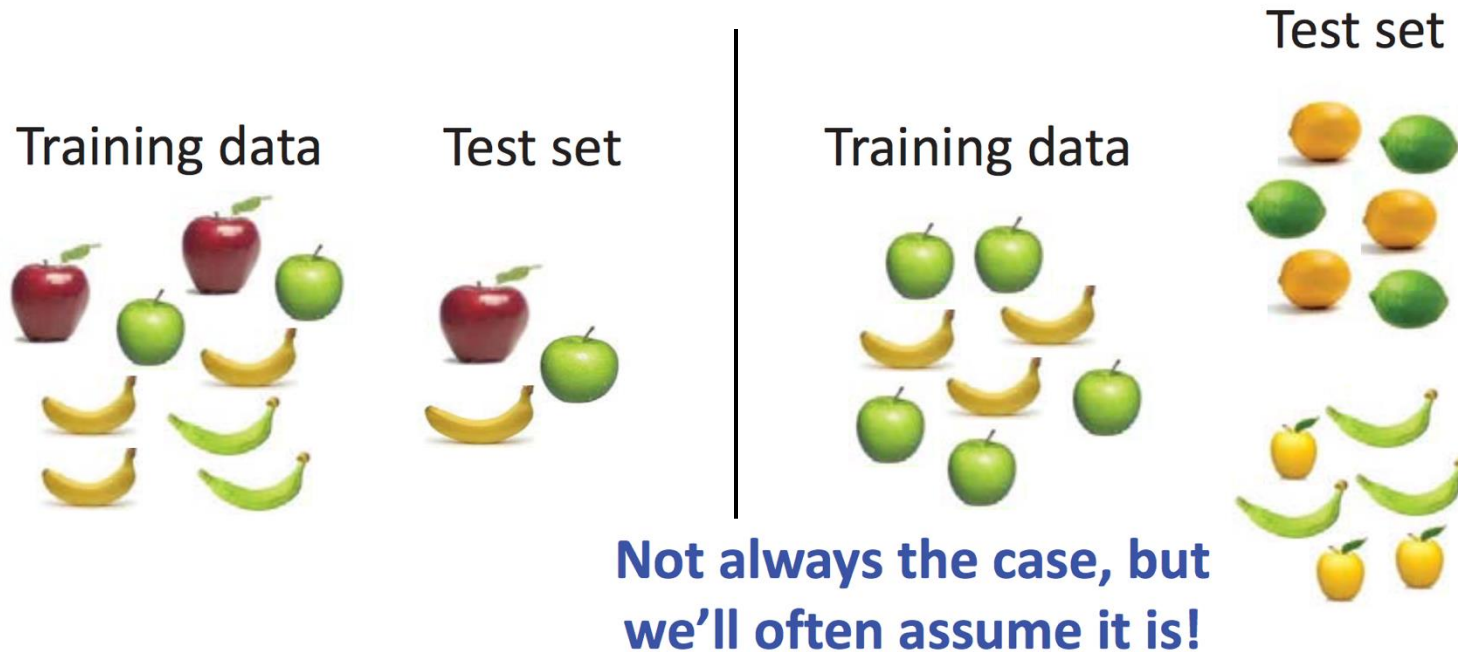
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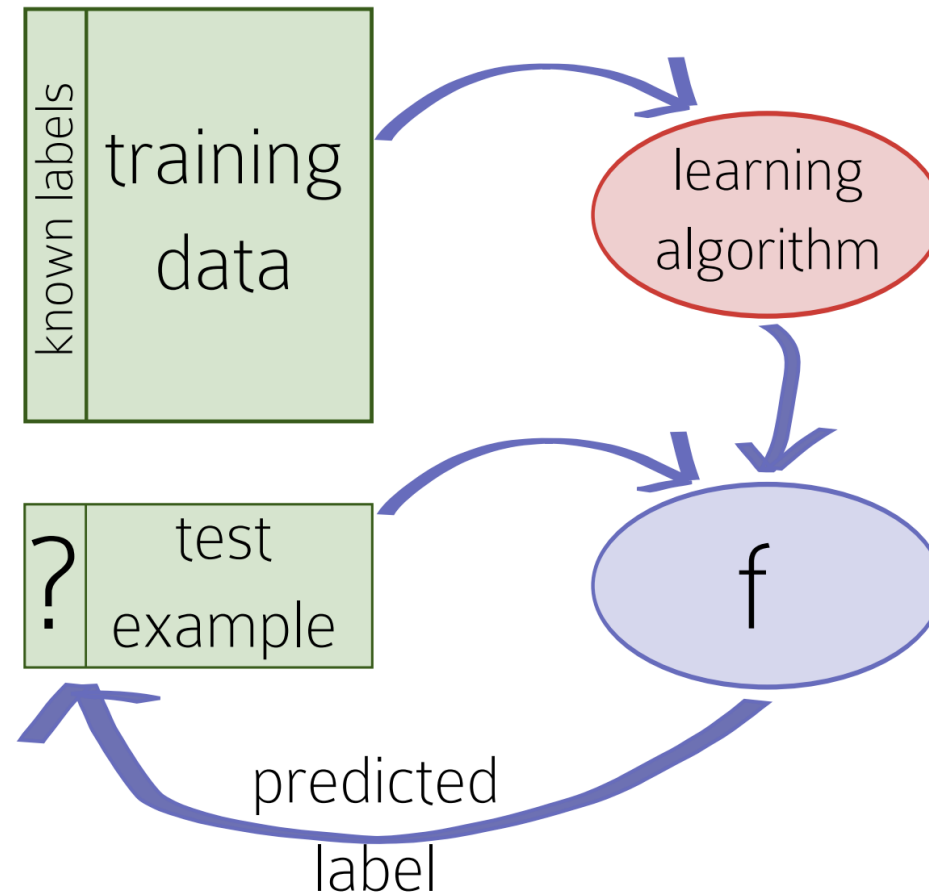


# Machine Learning Terminology

“*Generalization* is perhaps the most central concept in machine learning.” –Duame



# Machine Learning Terminology



# Machine Learning Terminology

**Training:** usually involves the program learning from many *examples* (in a supervised setting we know the “answer” or *label* and are using this to learn)

**Testing:** program predicts output/label for new examples without using their labels

**Must never look at the test data!**



Caveat: not all ML problems decompose into training and testing!

# Machine Learning Terminology

## ***Supervised learning:***

we have information about the output or response variable  
(can be easier for the computer to learn the function between input and output)

## ***Unsupervised learning:***

data is unlabeled (no output/class information)

Note: there may not be an output to learn



# Machine Learning Terminology

## ***Regression:***

output or *response variable* is *continuous*

Example: modeling **house price** as a function of **size, location, year built**, etc

## ***Classifications:***

Goal: separate examples into two or more *classes* or *categories* (*discrete* setting)

Example: is a credit card transaction legitimate or fraudulent?

# Classification Example: Bagel vs Dog

How can we  
*distinguish*  
between  
similar  
objects?



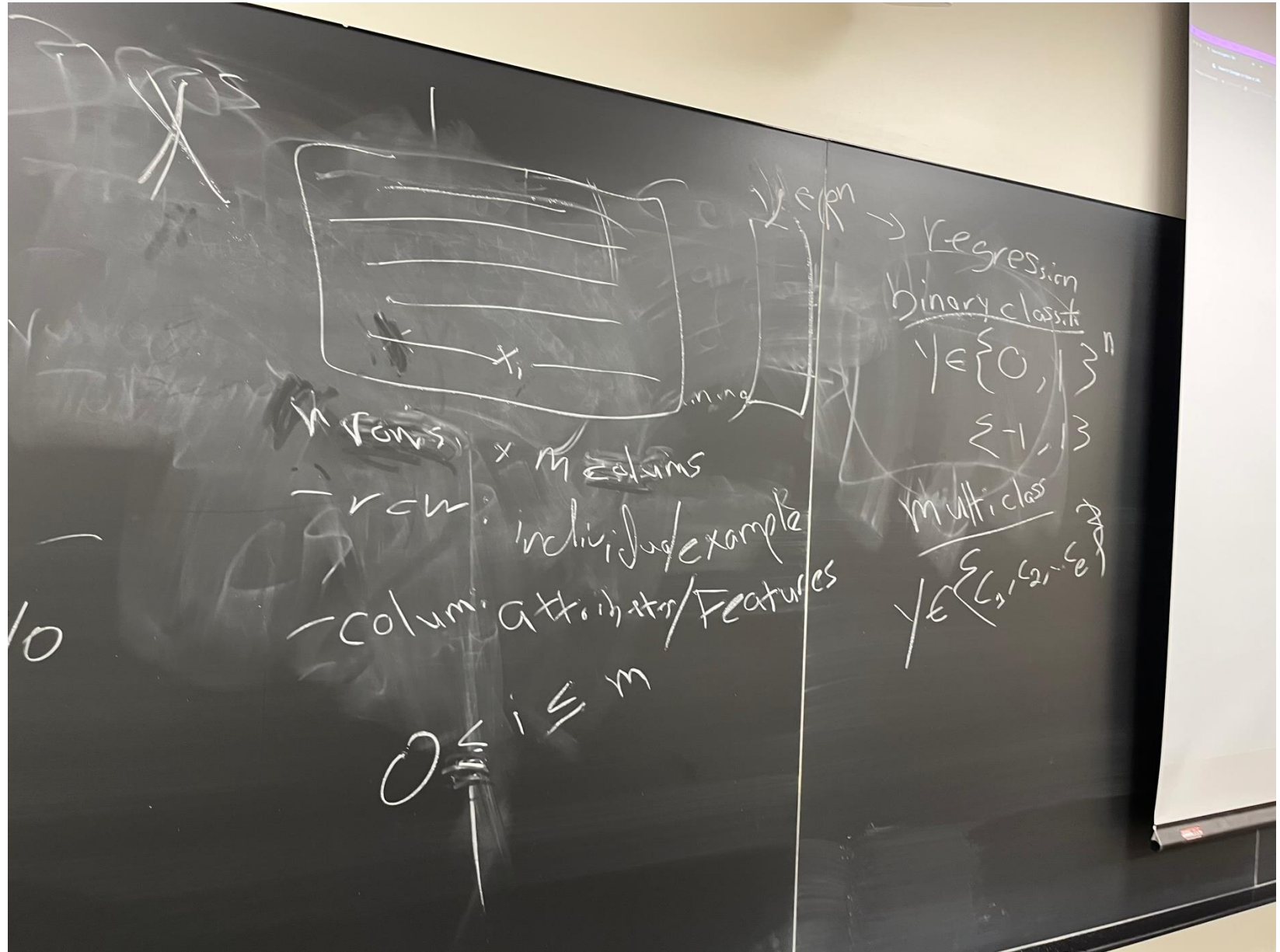
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# Input/Output

Feature matrix

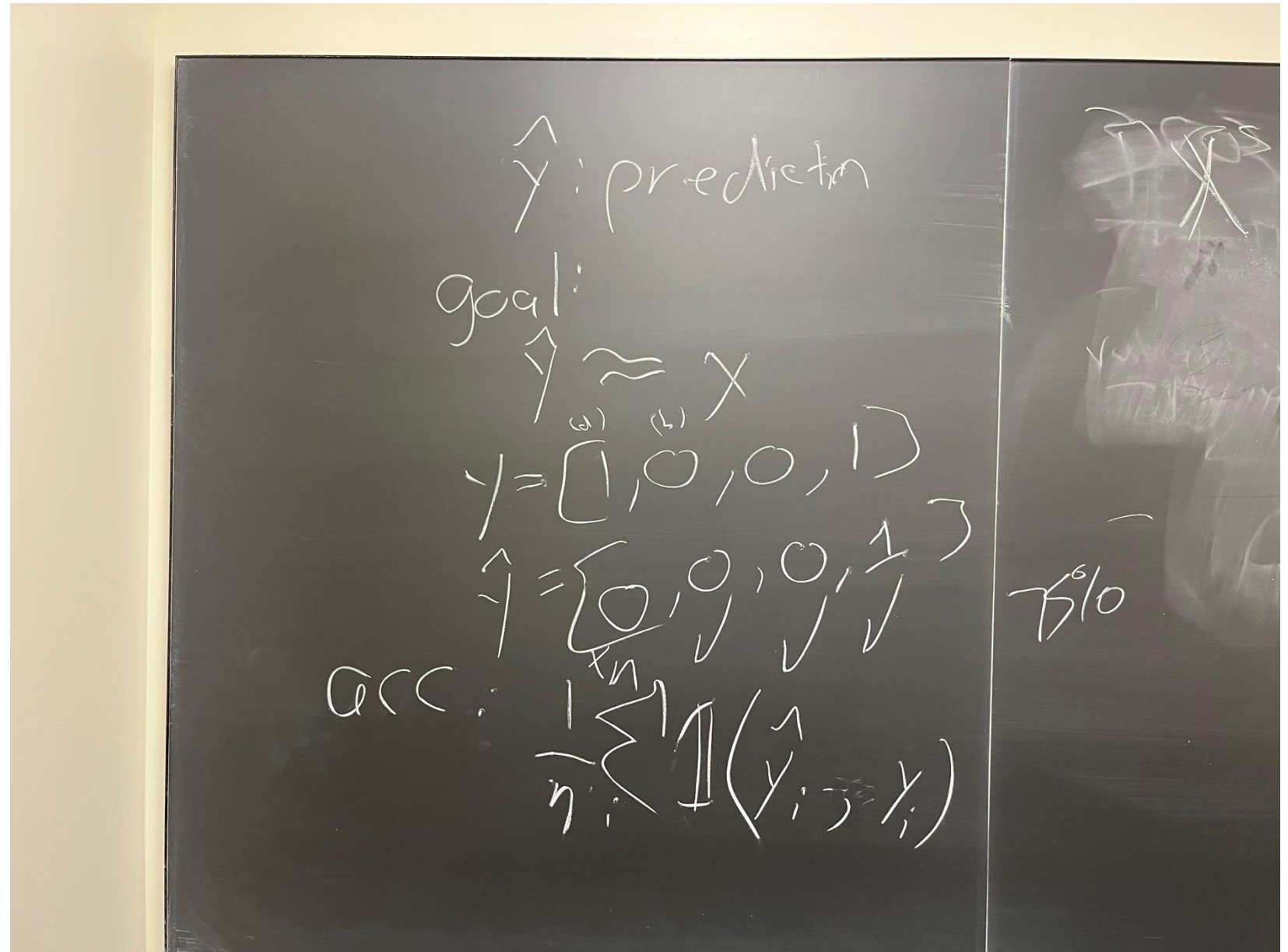
Types of Predictions





# Evaluation

## Accuracy



# K-nearest neighbors

Problem: Given a collection of labeled examples, determine the class of a new unlabeled example

Solution: assign the same class as the ***most similar*** examples

Key idea: whats ***most similar***?

# Todo for Thursday

Reading: Duame **1.1-1.2** (3 pages!)

Short **reading quiz** on these pages on Thurs

Continue to 3.1-3.3 if you have time

Fill out **Handout 1** and bring back for introductions!

HW01 due Tuesday night

# TODO for Thursday

Reading: Duame **1.1-1.2** (3 pages!)

Short **reading quiz** on these pages on Thurs

Continue to 3.1-3.3 if you have time

Fill out **course survey** and bring back for introductions!