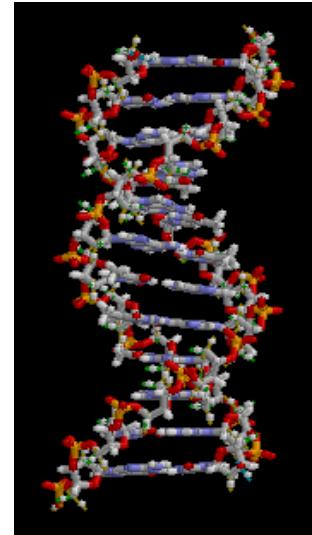


# Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning: What are they? How can we adapt to them?

Introduction to Machine Learning  
St. Louis Actuaries Club 26-Jun-2018



*Dave Snell, FALU, FLMI, ASA, MAAA, CLU, ChFC, ARA, ACS, MCP  
technology evangelist, SnellActuarialConsulting - [dave@ActuariesAndTechnology.com](mailto:dave@ActuariesAndTechnology.com)*

# Introductions

**David L. Snell, FALU, FLMI, ASA, MAAA, CLU, ChFC, ACS, ARA, MCP**  
+1-314-278-8210 [dave@ActuariesAndTechnology.com](mailto:dave@ActuariesAndTechnology.com)

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FALU, 2017; ASA, 1976; MAAA, 1986; FLMI, 1985; CLU, 1990; ChFC, 1994; ACS, 2001; ARA, 2003; MCP, 1998

## EDUCATION

BSE, 1970 Major: Mechanical Engineering, Minors: Chemical, Civil, Electrical Engineering, Mathematics

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### Technology Evangelist, Global Research and Data Analytics

RGA Reinsurance Company, Chesterfield, MO

(through Actuarial Innovations, LLC of St. Louis, MO since I am already retired from RGA)

January, 2015 – May, 2017

Educate the RGA actuarial, underwriting, finance, and IT associates on the benefits and utilization of technology-based innovations and tools. Promote the use of complexity sciences - including machine learning, predictive analytics, genetic algorithms, behavioral economics, chaos theory, bioinformatics, sentiment analysis, recommender systems, etc.; and select or invent tools to facilitate the successful implementation of these concepts and tools for competitive business advantage. Nurture our young PhDs and other bright associates in the predictive analytics area; and mentor them in communication skills and career planning. Notable achievements include getting department associates published in several journals, and having them present at various actuarial, engineering, underwriting and other financial services conferences. I encouraged and nurtured one talented associate to attain his PhD in March of 2017 and am acknowledged in his thesis.

### Technology Evangelist, Office of the Vice Chair

RGA Reinsurance Company, Chesterfield, MO

(through Actuarial Innovations)

September, 2007 – December, 2014

Same job duties as above, but on a company-wide basis (until the retirement of the Vice Chair in December, 2014). During my time in this position I was co-inventor of, and wrote the bulk of our patent application for, a patent granted in 2014 (U.S. Patent 8775218) which combines machine intelligence with human intelligence for a synergistic outcome better than either could accomplish singly. Other patents have been granted in Japan, India, South Africa, and Canada.

### VP, Asia-Pacific Technology

RGA Reinsurance Company, Chesterfield, MO

(Increasingly responsible actuarial and IT positions through the years, eventually leading and managing all technological development in Asia, Australia, and New Zealand. One notable achievement was the invention and development of an AI-based expert system, the Automated Underwriting Risk Assessment (AURA) system which has since been translated into a dozen languages (including Chinese) and has brought in over 100 Billion dollars of life reinsurance to RGA.)

The screenshot shows a magazine article titled "Seeking REAL Data" by Q&A with technology evangelist Dave Snell. The article discusses his career transition from engineering to actuarial science. The sidebar includes links to "Related Posts" and "Departments". The main content features a photo of David L. Snell standing outdoors.

<http://www.theactuarmagazine.org/seeking-real-data>



Business casual  
in Beijing?



A mob of fans



## A Few Modest Goals for this first class

How is AI rapidly changing our world?

Why is Machine Learning suddenly feasible decades after the major algorithms were developed?

What implication does this have for insurance?

What are some of the major techniques involved (beyond typical regression and classification)?

*tiny subset*      decision tree automation and random forests

*we can*      artificial neural networks, deep learning, and convolutional neural networks

*summarize*      genetic algorithms

*today*



A few others we'll delve into later in the course (besides much going much deeper into these) are: frequent itemsets, clustering, and other 'unsupervised' learning techniques, regression analysis, Monte Carlo simulations, and behavioral economics, and programming languages for AI and ML.

How does machine learning differ from the classical tools and techniques that actuaries and IT professionals have been using?

What is the 'magic' behind these methods?

What are some case studies of successful past applications ... and lost opportunities?

Where (and how) can we stay viable in the future?

What questions do you have?

Let's talk  
about  
Data!



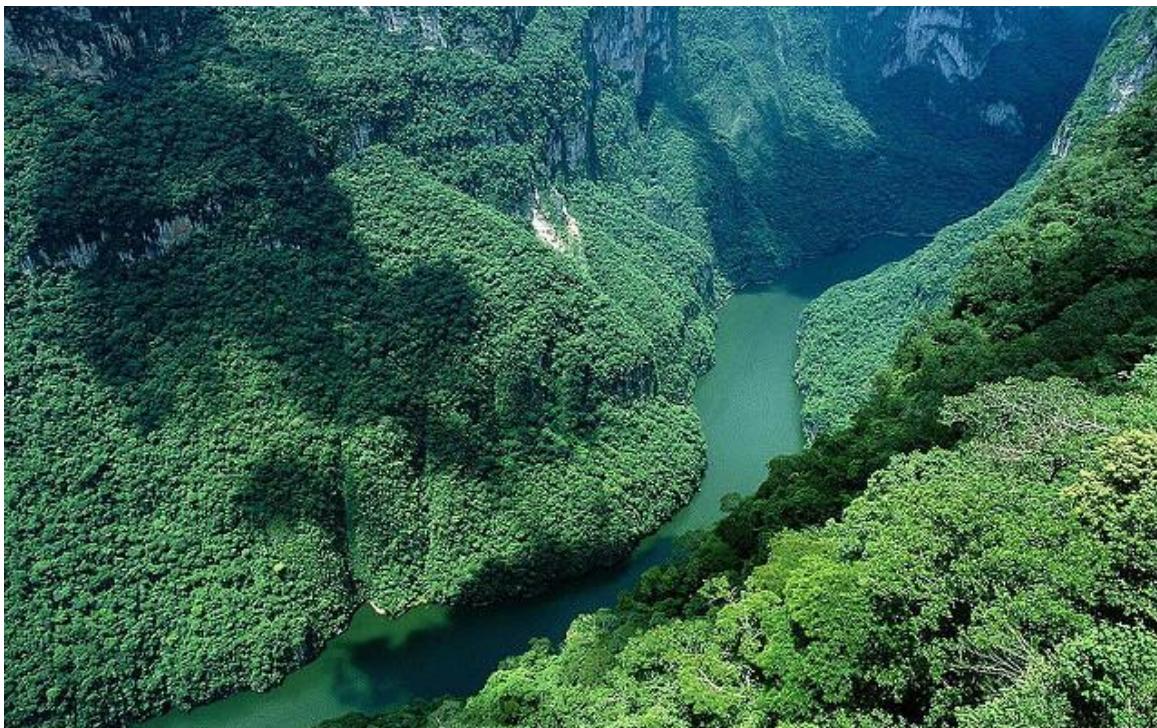
Machine Learning had to wait for ample and affordable data, computing power, and storage

According to an IDC study for EMC, humans have created **132 exabytes** of data from the beginning of human civilization to year 2005.

2010: **1,200 exabytes** ... 2015: **7,900 exabytes** ... 2020: **40,700 exabytes** of data (est.)

Source: Vernon Turner – Senior VP, Enterprise Infrastructure, Consumer, Network, Telecom and Sustainability Research, IDC – April, 2014

<https://www.emc.com/leadership/digital-universe/2014iview/digital-universe-of-opportunities-vernon-turner.htm>



Perspective:

1 byte – a single character

2 kilobytes – a typewritten page

5 megabytes – the complete works of Shakespeare

1 gigabyte – a pickup truck filled with paper filled with printed words

10 terabytes – the printed collection of the U.S. Library of Congress

2 petabytes – all U.S. academic research libraries

5 exabytes – all words ever spoken by human beings (printed)

<http://highscalability.com/blog/2012/9/11/how-big-is-a-petabyte-exabyte-zettabyte-or-a-yottabyte.html>

1 Billion hours of video viewed on Youtube every day

<https://www.youtube.com/yt/about/press/> 27-Oct-2017



Machine Learning had to wait for ample and affordable data, computing power, and storage



In 1957, the IBM 350 storage drive held 3.5 MB. You could **rent** it for \$3,200 per month. The 350's cabinet is 5 feet long; 5 feet, 8 inches high and 2 feet, 5 inches wide.



As of 26-June-2018 you can **buy** more than 100,000 times the storage for under \$250 and it will be about as large as your fingernail.

Source: Wikipedia 24-Oct-2017  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_IBM\\_magnetic\\_disk\\_drives#IBM\\_350](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_IBM_magnetic_disk_drives#IBM_350)

# Machine Learning had to wait for ample and affordable data, computing power, and storage

In 1979, I needed an additional 16 K Language Card for my Apple II (in order to program in UCSD Pascal). It cost me more than \$300 for the 16 K of additional random access storage. There was no option then for a hard drive.



Today, you can buy a 4 Terabyte hard drive for under \$100.

*"Today, your cell phone has more computer power than all of NASA back in 1969, when it placed two astronauts on the moon."* - Dr. Michio Kaku, 2014 (theoretical physicist, futurist, and popularizer of science; professor of theoretical physics at the City College of New York and CUNY Graduate Center.)

*The wait is over!*

Cost	KB	Cost/KB	Cost/GB
\$300 (1979)	16	\$18.75	\$18,750,000
\$100 (2017)	4,000,000,000	\$ 0.000000025	\$ 0.025

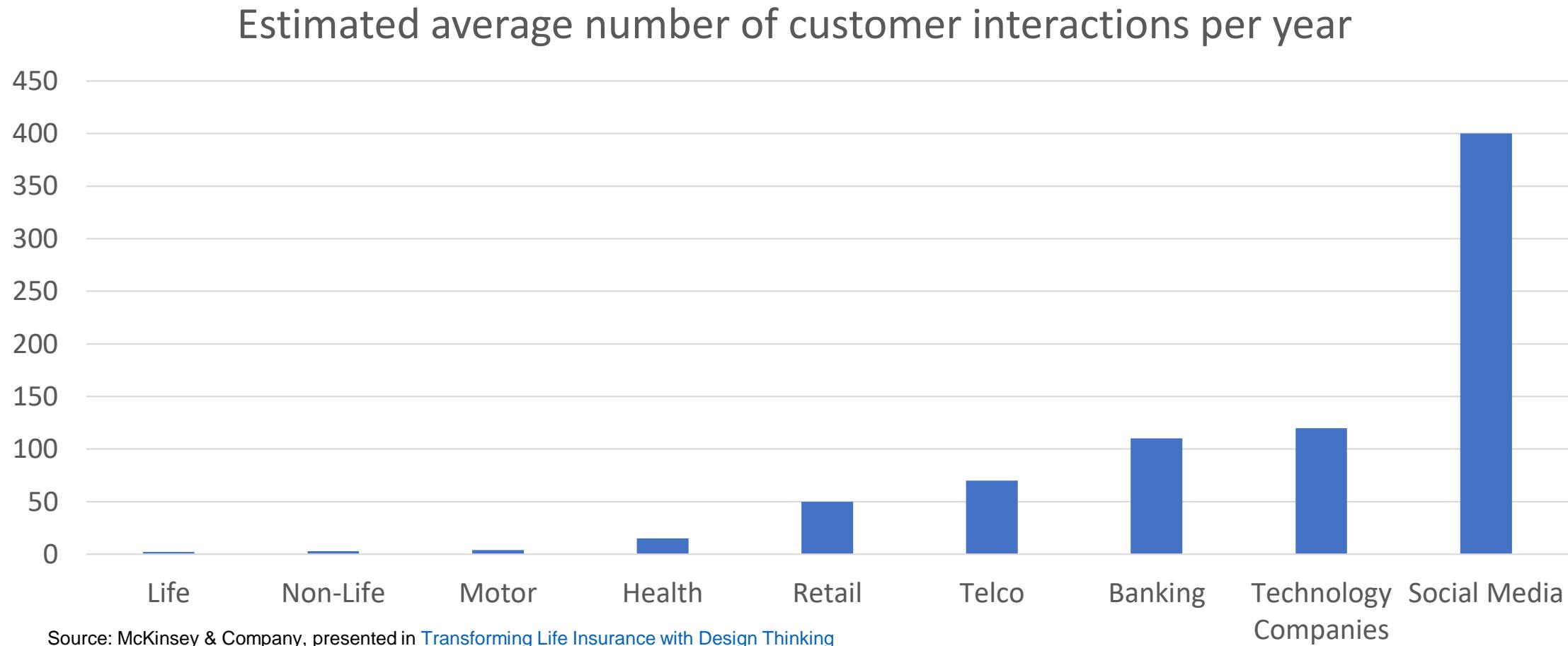
Big Data is all around us – much publicly posted

**1% sample of 332,900 tweets in 5 seconds**

- ```
> proc.time()-ptm
  user system elapsed
  0.08  0.00  5.02
>
> tweets.df <- parseTweets("tweets_sample.json")
• 332900 tweets have been parsed.
> tail(tweets.df$text,20)
• [1] "RT @yuteesonyu: ไม่เห็นด้วยกับรูปนี้เลย ไม่ใช่คนไทยทุกคนที่คิดแบบนี้ แล้วก็ไม่ใช่ฝรั่งทุกคนที่คิดแบบนี้ คนไทยดีๆก็มี ฝรั่งเย่ๆก็มี https://..."
• [2] "Psychedelic Padded Pipe Pouch by https://t.co/GRpeEhB0n3 https://t.co/rDRSdbBN5v via @Etsy #hippy #weed #smoke #can"
• [3] "RT @teed_chris: WISCONSIN,, TRUMPSTERS, AMERICANS, WE COME TOGETHER FOR A BATTLE TODAY, AND FOR OU"
• [4] "@tabo_luv_ST 音だけ流れ続けて画面真っ暗～ｗｗｗ"
• [5] "@nozomieiei ...知ってる"
• [6] "So much pain inside him.Immense betray from Yulin humans #StopYuLin4ever https://t.co/EZaxTDJ5q0"
• [7] "RT @sylvmic: Check out these awesome @5SOS headphones!! https://t.co/9hkaYaABwM #essential5SOS https://t.co/WflzaxV"
• [8] "RT @skywalkgrier: et le 3x01 qd il l'appel pr son anniv alors qu'il a perdu son humanité https://t.co/yNI7qIE0VU"
• [9] "猫をあやす棗さんが可愛すぎて歯磨き粉噴出した"
• [10] "こんな時間に腹減り"
• [11] "RT @tomozh: 大変だった時に使うハンコできた https://t.co/48VaQbVcpx"
• [12] "あっ"
• [13] "モイ！iPhoneからキャス配信中 - https://t.co/ccbG6sHn43"
• [14] "RT @KSeriesAD: พักโภคภณ ถ่ายแบบให้กับแบรนด์ MontBell กอดเด็กชั้น S/S 2016 / หล่อ น่ารัก \xed\ufe0f\ufe0f"
• [15] "RT @SHXBL94_: ไม่ใช่คนที่โลกส่วนตัวสูงครับ ไม่ใช่คนที่เข้ากับคนมาก ตรงกันข้ามผมเข้ากับคนอื่นง่าย แต่ผมแค่เลือกคนที่"
• [16] "RT @ARS_C_bot: 青「パクに土偶と埴輪の違いは解りますか?って聞いてみたら、『で埴輪はこう(埴輪のポーズ)ですよね!』って答えられた。そういう話じゃない」"
• [17] "@kurooshiteru @tohruoikawa don't worry. Even in Japan I wouldn't have done that. V"
• [18] "Ladies https://t.co/ELNALcLYyu"
• [19] "【定期】すべての人に好かれる気はないし必要ないと思ってる。ごく少数の仲のいい人が木いはていじいい。"
• [20] "@june7845 고양이귀랑 꼬리랑 발 달고 고양이란제리랑 스타킹 입고 사진찍자"
```

Tweets captured by author May, 2016

# Insurance companies have barely tapped into the amount of data available on our customers



# 11-May-1997: Deep Blue Beats World Champion Chess Player

The 1997 rematch

| Game #                                   | White     | Black     | Result | Comment                  |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------------------------|
| 1                                        | Kasparov  | Deep Blue | 1–0    |                          |
| 2                                        | Deep Blue | Kasparov  | 1–0    |                          |
| 3                                        | Kasparov  | Deep Blue | ½–½    | Draw by mutual agreement |
| 4                                        | Deep Blue | Kasparov  | ½–½    | Draw by mutual agreement |
| 5                                        | Kasparov  | Deep Blue | ½–½    | Draw by mutual agreement |
| 6                                        | Deep Blue | Kasparov  | 1–0    |                          |
| <b>Result:</b> Deep Blue–Kasparov: 3½–2½ |           |           |        |                          |

Source: Wikipedia as of 24-Oct-2017

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deep\\_Blue\\_versus\\_Garry\\_Kasparov](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deep_Blue_versus_Garry_Kasparov)

# 15-Feb-2011: Watson Beats Jeopardy Champions

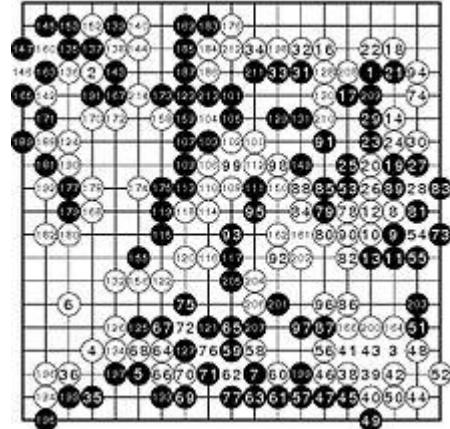


[Ken Jennings](#), Watson, and [Brad Rutter](#) in their [Jeopardy!](#) exhibition match.

Source Wikipedia as of 24-Oct-2017

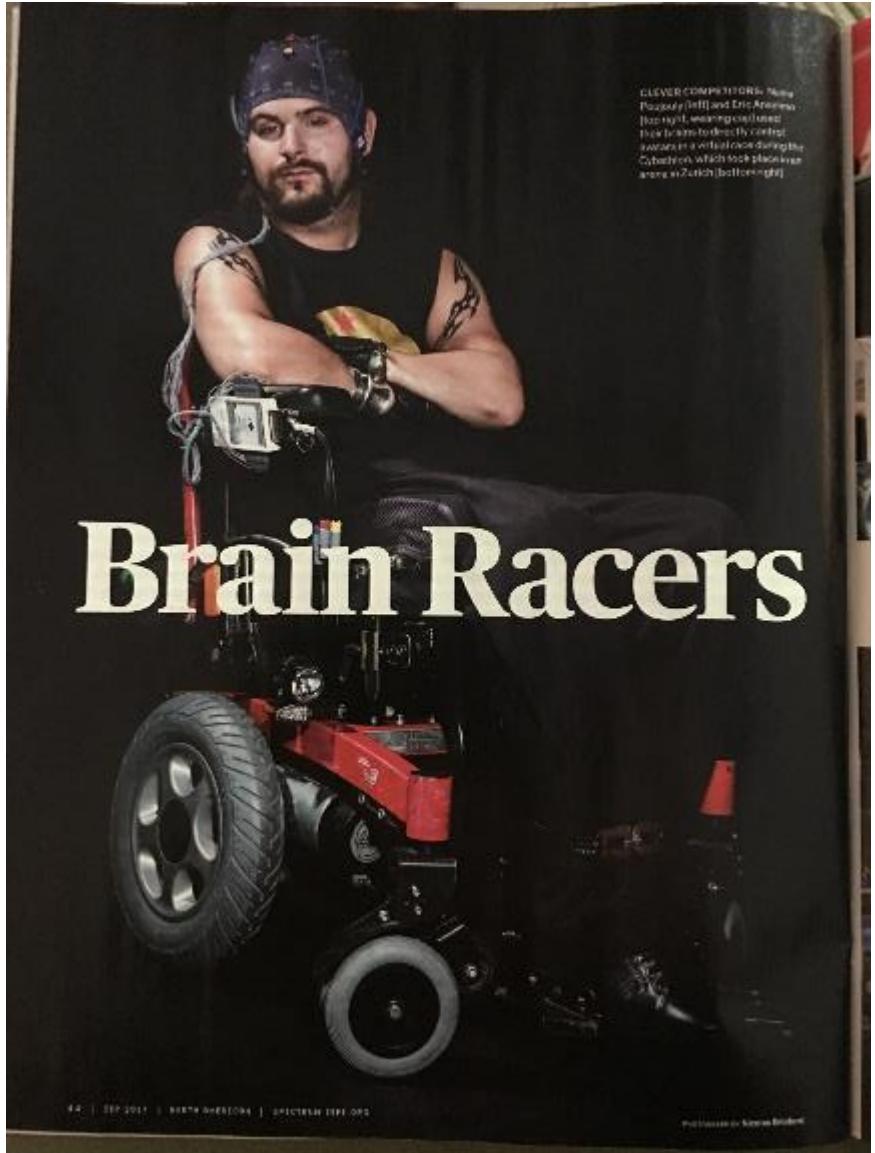
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Watson\\_\(computer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Watson_(computer))

# 15-Mar-2016: AlphaGo (Google DeepMind) Beats 18-time world champion Lee Sedol in Go



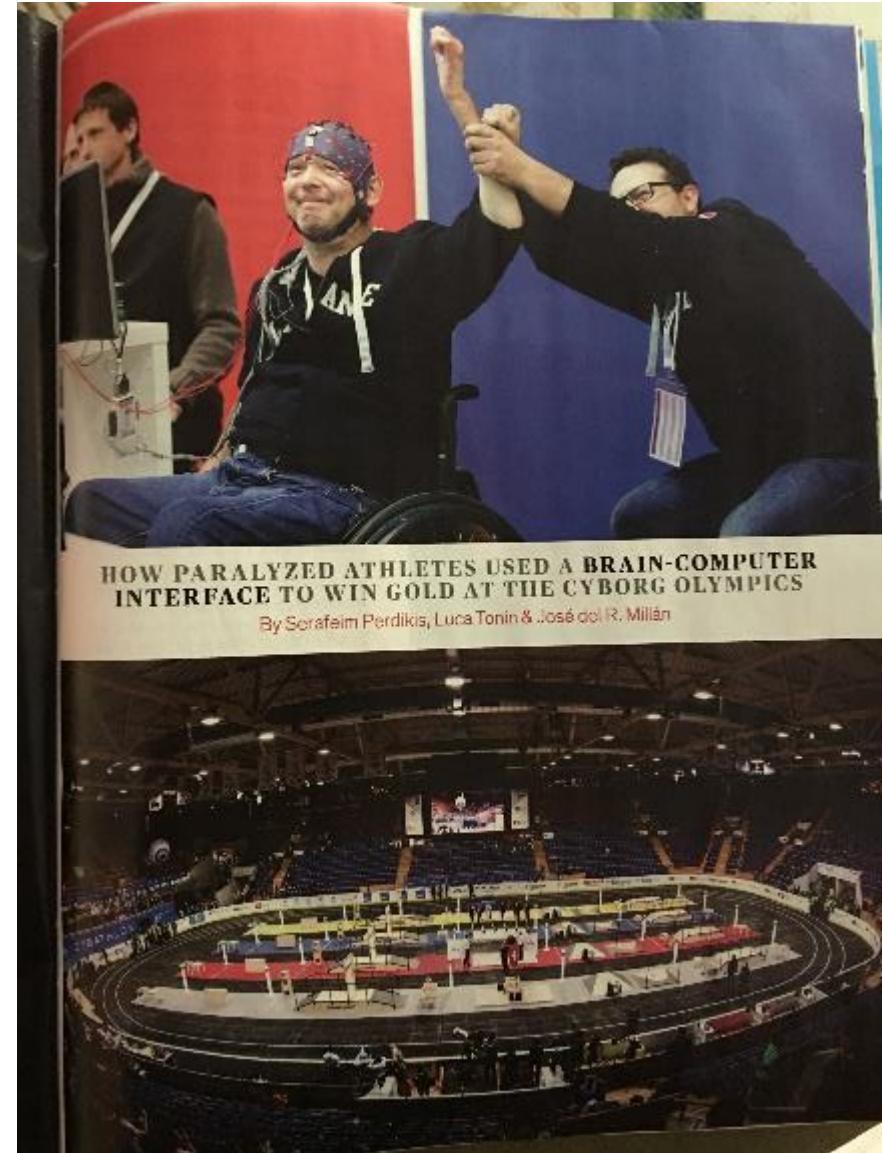
| Game | Date          | Black                             | White     | Result             | Moves                        |
|------|---------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 1    | 9 March 2016  | Lee Sedol                         | AlphaGo   | Lee Sedol resigned | 186 Game 1 <a href="#">↗</a> |
| 2    | 10 March 2016 | AlphaGo                           | Lee Sedol | Lee Sedol resigned | 211 Game 2 <a href="#">↗</a> |
| 3    | 12 March 2016 | Lee Sedol                         | AlphaGo   | Lee Sedol resigned | 176 Game 3 <a href="#">↗</a> |
| 4    | 13 March 2016 | AlphaGo                           | Lee Sedol | AlphaGo resigned   | 180 Game 4 <a href="#">↗</a> |
| 5    | 15 March 2016 | Lee Sedol <small>[note 1]</small> | AlphaGo   | Lee Sedol resigned | 280 Game 5 <a href="#">↗</a> |

Source: Wikipedia 24-Oct-2017 [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AlphaGo\\_versus\\_Lee\\_Sedol](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AlphaGo_versus_Lee_Sedol)



Sep-2017: AI  
helmets  
interpret brain  
waves and  
enable even  
quadriplegics  
to race in  
cyborg  
Olympics

IEEE Spectrum  
September, 2017



11-Sep-2017: Machine Learning was used at Georgia Institute of Technology to recreate game **code** (old Atari video games) by watching the game being played.



<https://m.techxplore.com/news/2017-09-artificial-intelligenceuses-minutes-videogame-footage.html>

# 18-Oct-2017: Google Deep Mind's AlphaGo Zero Beats AlphaGo 100 games to zero

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A%20www.bbc.com%20news%20technology-2D41668701&d=DwICAg&c=5uPv0lijNz76uSeaN5P0Zw&r=nkBVeIrgsdY8RB9we12wjuanvgjtPHK9USWccjOv9NM&m=f%20U2WRfiIOtw80O0kElpti1V9SR09KBHyTbVAujaXQ&s=mBZ7O9o9Szof%20rJuxxyPKvi8K5dK4BzzZx3Totkglo&e=>

The AlphaGo program, devised by the tech giant's AI division, has already beaten two of the world's best players. It had started by learning from thousands of games played by humans.

But the new AlphaGo Zero began with a blank Go board and no data apart from the rules, and then played itself. Within 72 hours it was good enough to beat the original program by 100 games to zero.

AI rocks!

Machine Learning is amazing!

26-Oct-2017 Sophia, an intelligent humanoid robot, has been granted citizenship in Saudi Arabia.

- “I am very honored and proud for this unique distinction,” the robot said onstage. “This is historical to be the first robot in the world to be recognized with a citizenship.”
- CNBC's Andrew Ross Sorkin interviews Sophia, a humanoid robot, about the future of artificial intelligence at a Future Investment Institute panel in Saudi Arabia. Link to YouTube interview with Sophia:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5t6K9iwcdw>

You may also enjoy her interview with Jimmy Fallon from 25-Apr-2017: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bg\\_tJvCA8zw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bg_tJvCA8zw)



Watch from 2:08 to 5:29 minutes 

# 7-Dec-2017 In Just 4 Hours, Google's AI Mastered All The Chess Knowledge in History

- “After being programmed with only the rules of chess (no strategies), in just four hours AlphaZero had mastered the game to the extent it was able to best the highest-rated chess-playing program Stockfish.”
- “In a series of 100 games against Stockfish, AlphaZero won 25 games while playing as white (with first mover advantage), and picked up three games playing as black. The rest of the contests were draws, with Stockfish recording no wins and AlphaZero no losses.”
- [Source: https://futurism.com/4-hours-googles-ai-mastered-chess-knowledge-history/](https://futurism.com/4-hours-googles-ai-mastered-chess-knowledge-history/)

# YOU KEEP USING THAT WORD

But What is AI?

# I DO NOT THINK IT MEANS WHAT YOU THINK IT MEANS

slide idea from Jim Guszcza, US chief data scientist, Deloitte Consulting

But what is Machine Learning?

# What is Artificial Intelligence? What is Machine Learning?

They are not magic!

*“Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.”*

– Sir Arthur C. Clarke



Original picture by author at FIRST Robotics Competition, St. Louis, MO – April 2014

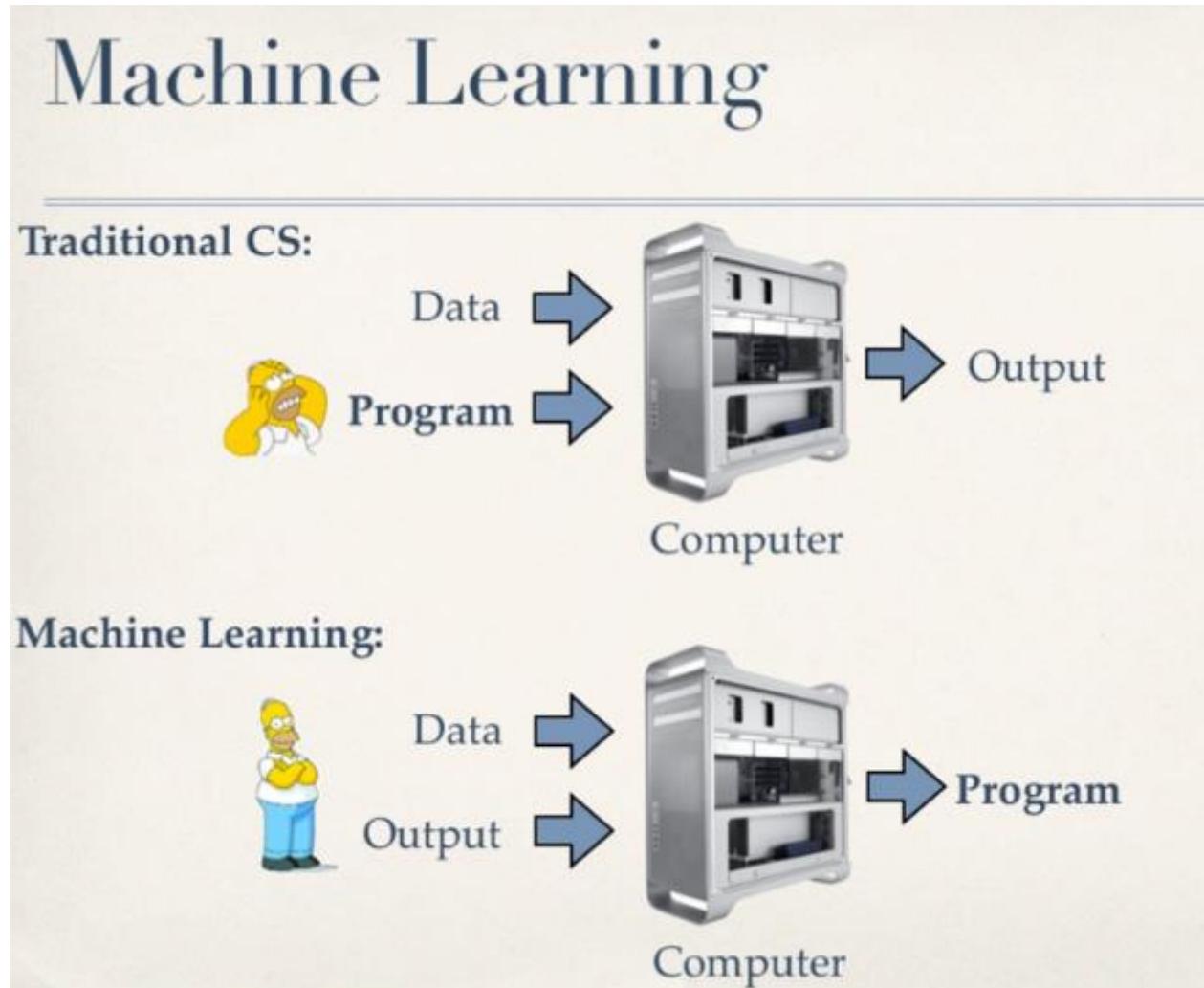


Forbes: 20-Jan-2016

Data Scientist tops list of  
*best jobs* in United States

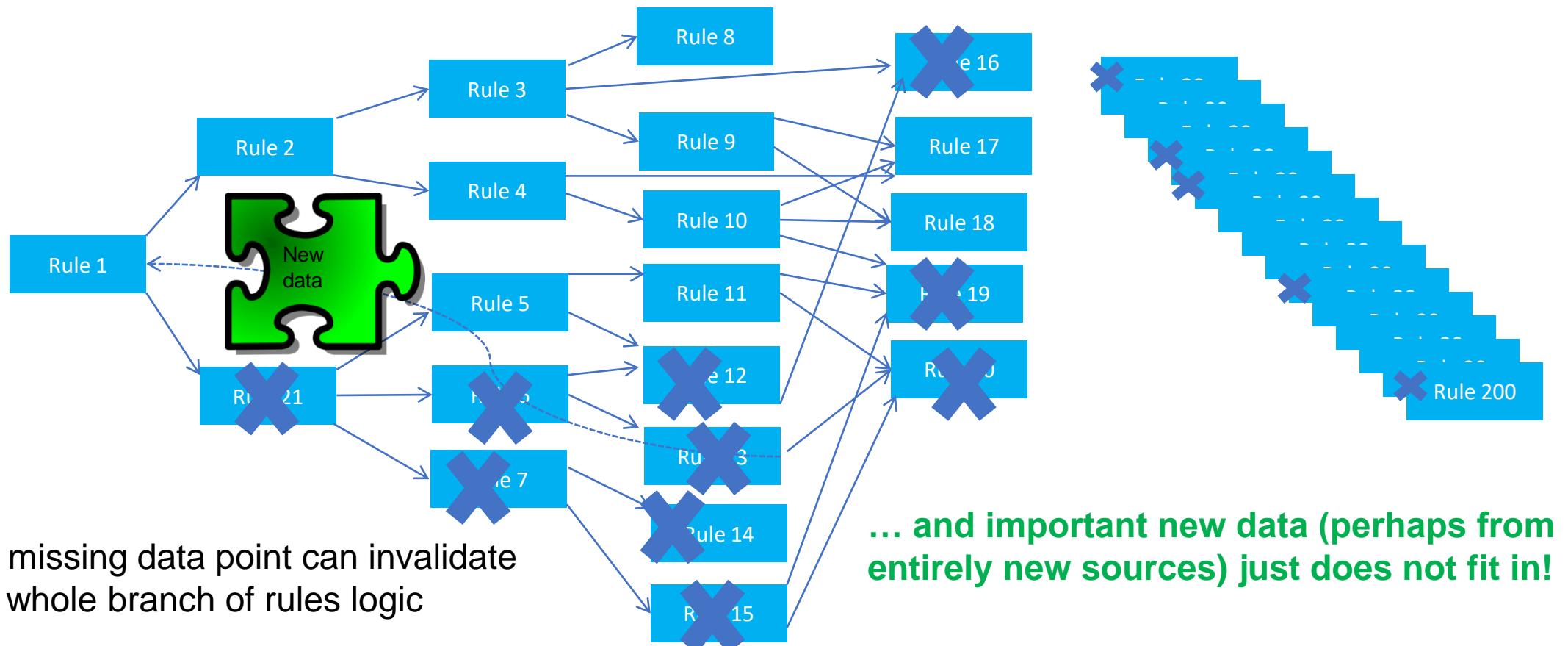
# Overview of Machine Learning

## Machine Learning



Source: Machine Learning in practice – common pitfalls, and debugging tricks, by Kilian Weinberger, Associate Professor, University of Washington

# Traditional rule trees lack flexibility

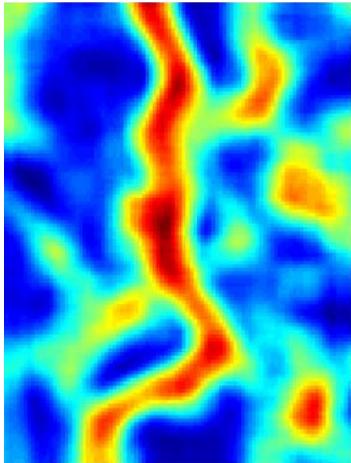


Images by Dave Snell

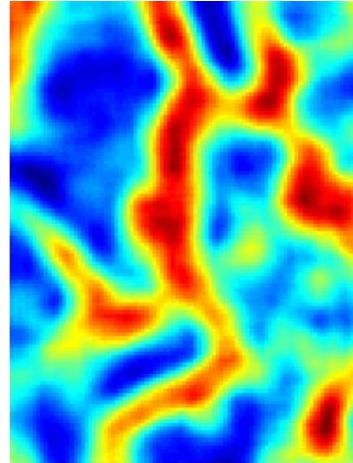
# Pattern Matching is more flexible

Each scored case becomes a potential match

The fit may be perfect, or approximate, with a measure of closeness

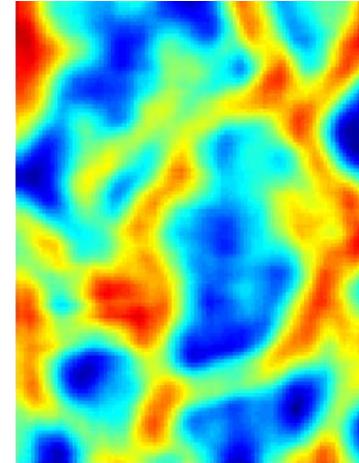


1

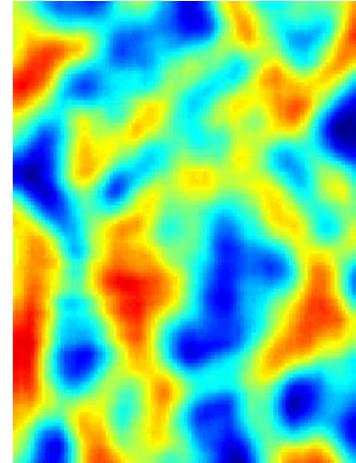


2

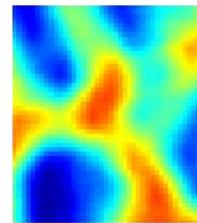
...



999



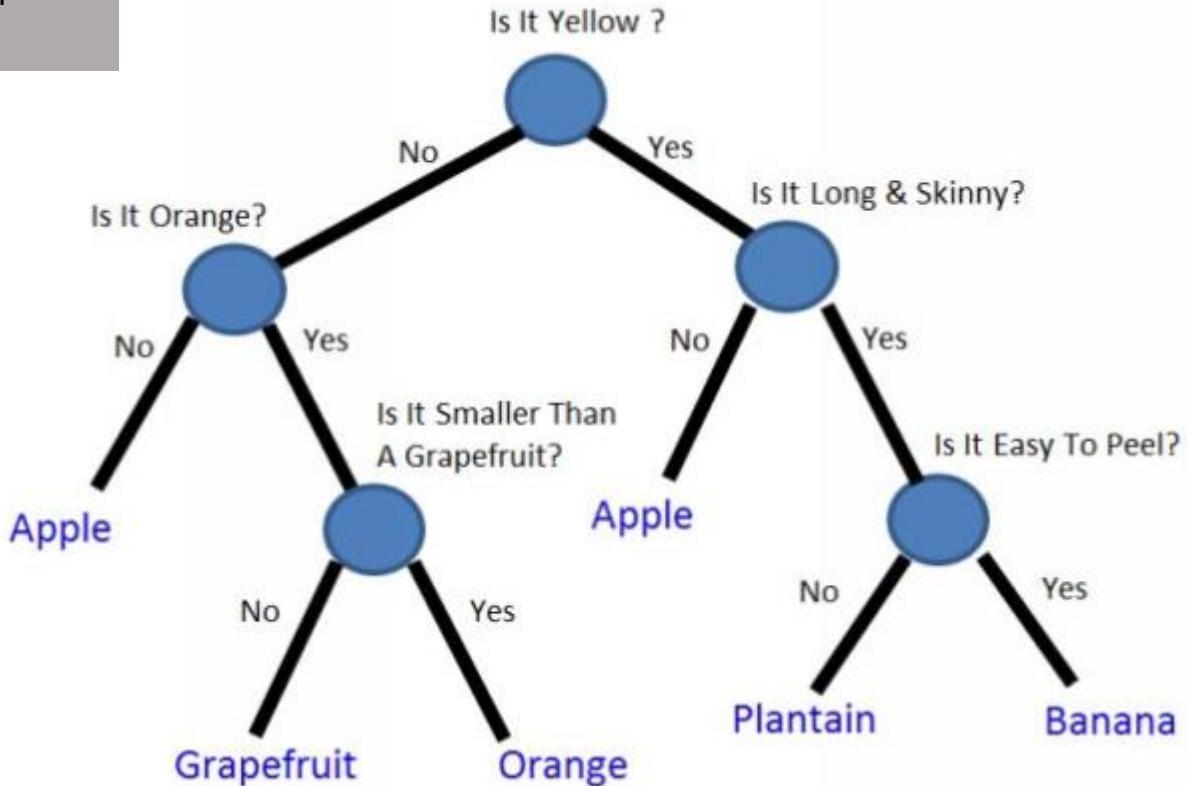
1000



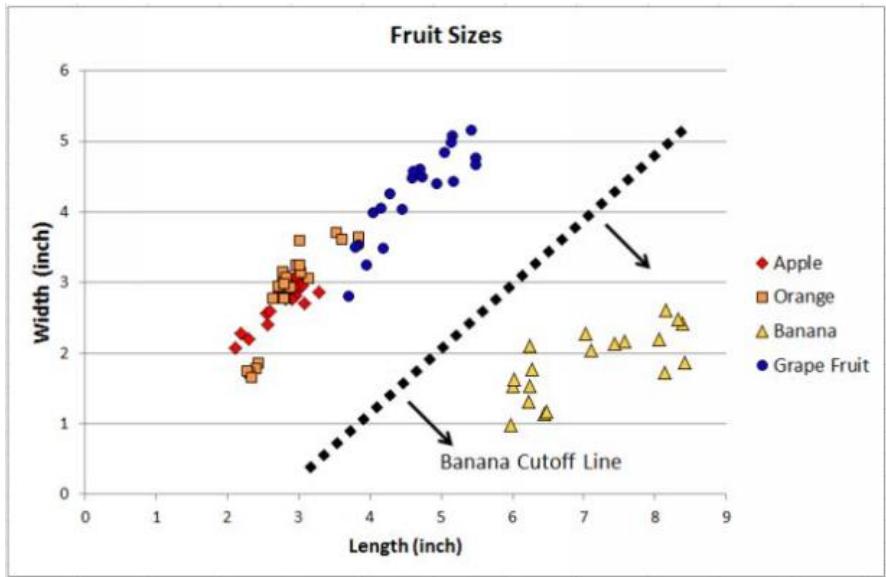
Case input pattern

images by Dave Snell

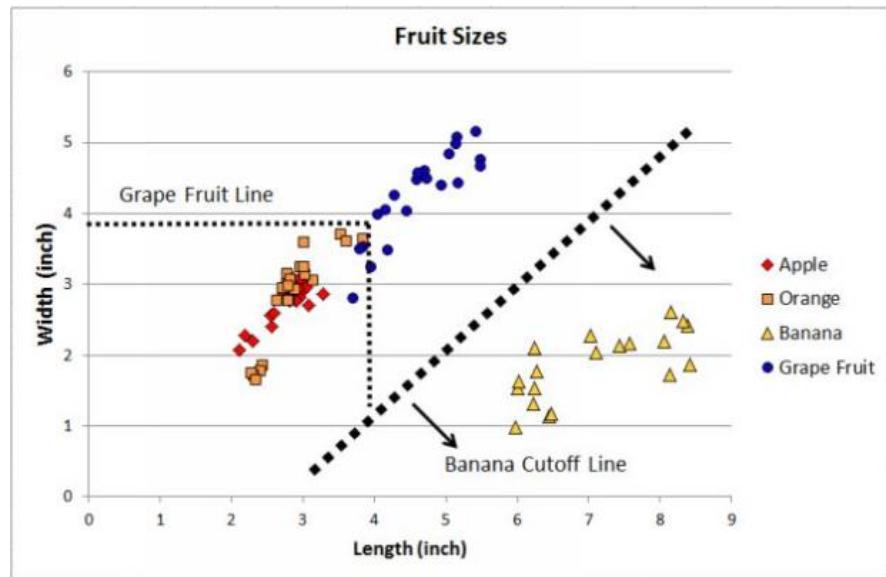
Decision tree example from *Machine Learning with Random Forests and Decision Trees* by Scott Hartshorn  
(available on Amazon for \$2.99)



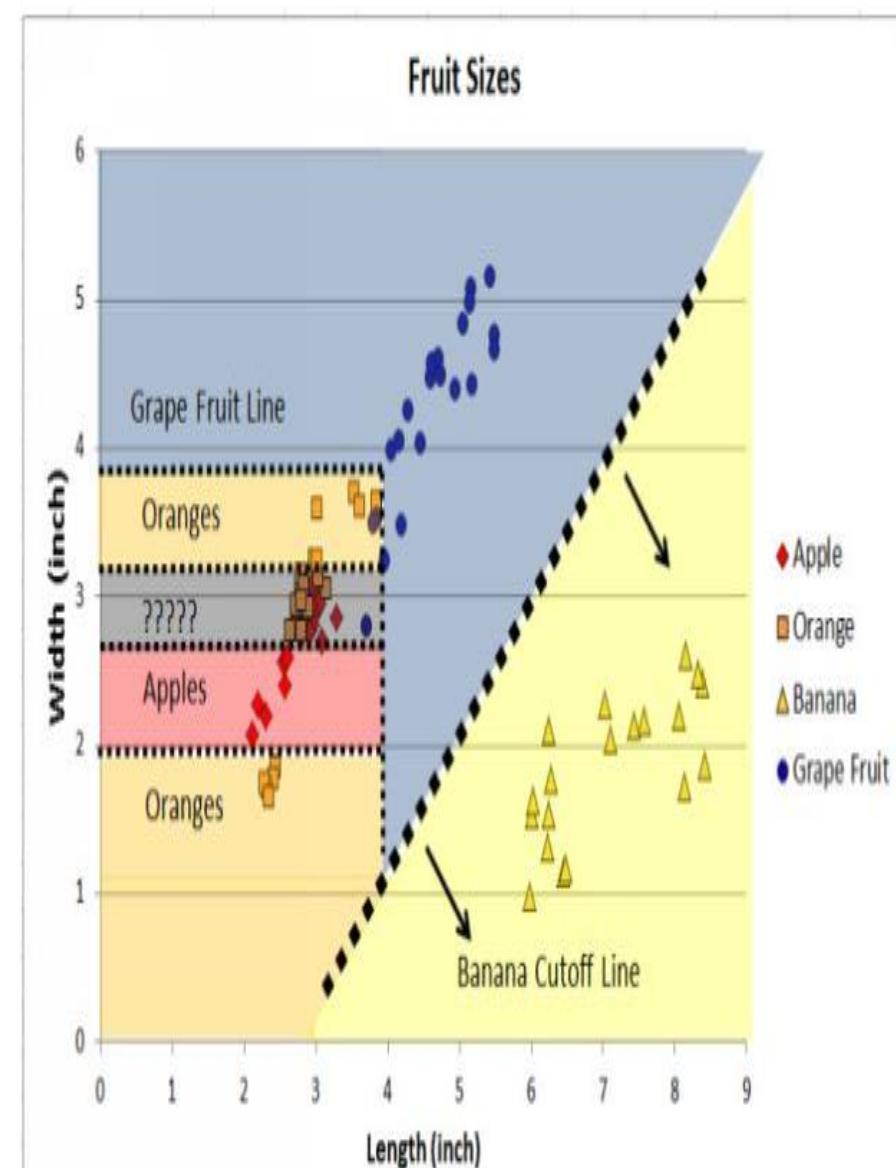
Simple decision tree to classify whether a fruit is an Apple, Grapefruit, Orange, Plantain, or Banana  
Note: this example assumes those are the only possibilities. Thus, a lime would be classified as an Apple.



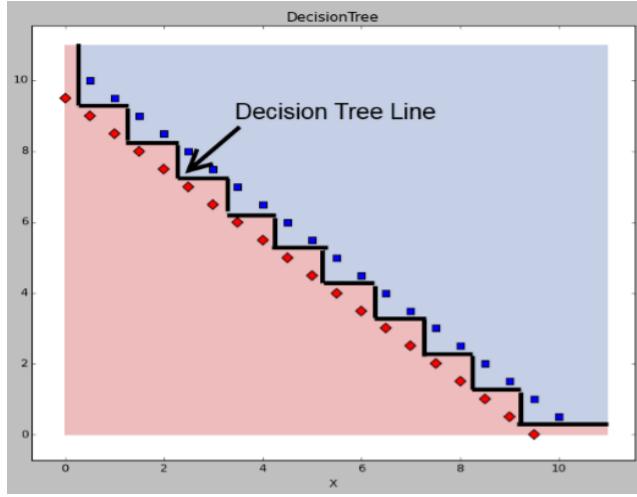
This is how a human might create a set of rules to segregate and identify the four types of fruit.



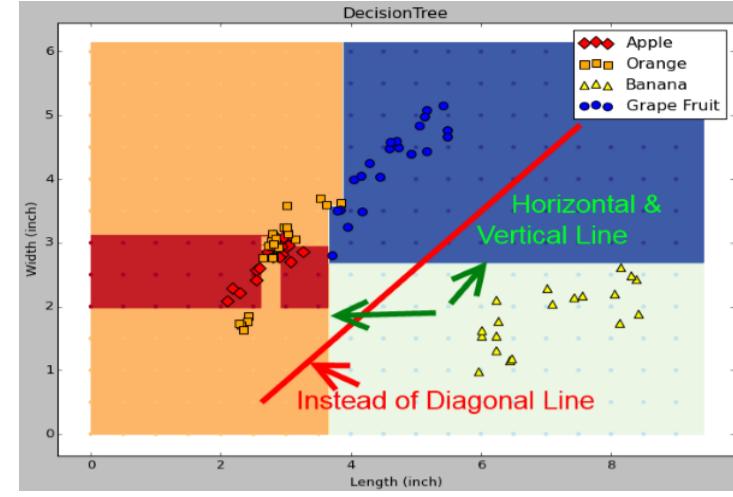
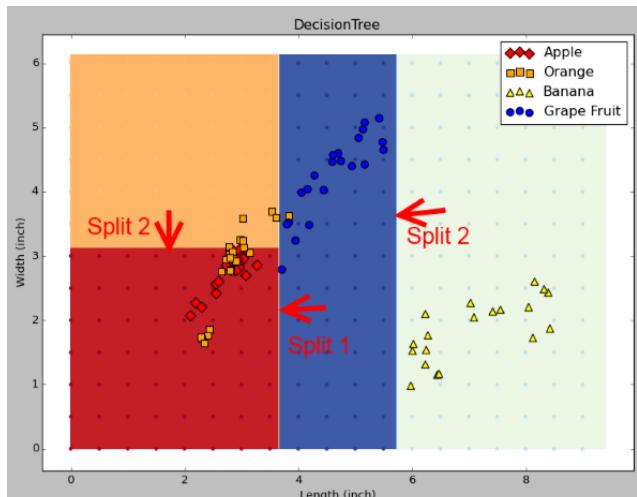
Quantitatively, the splits are placed where the Gini impurity (or other measure of fit) is minimized.



Decision tree example from *Machine Learning with Random Forests and Decision Trees* by Scott Hartshorn

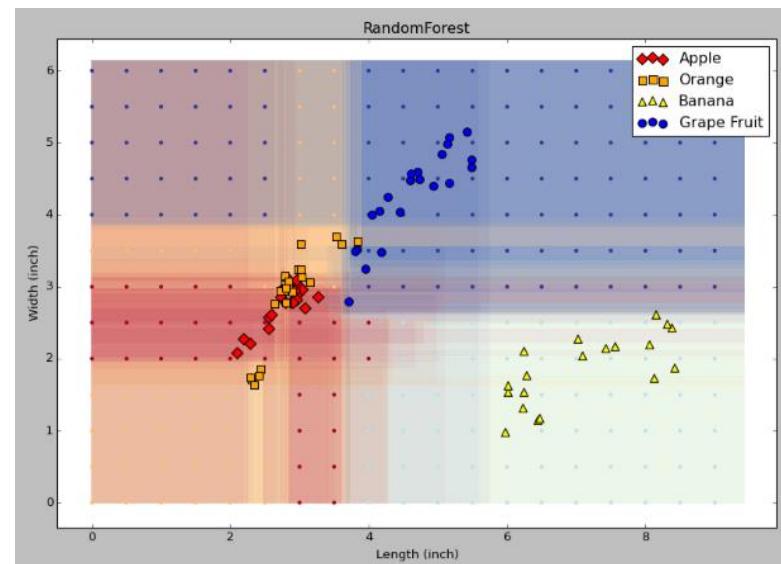
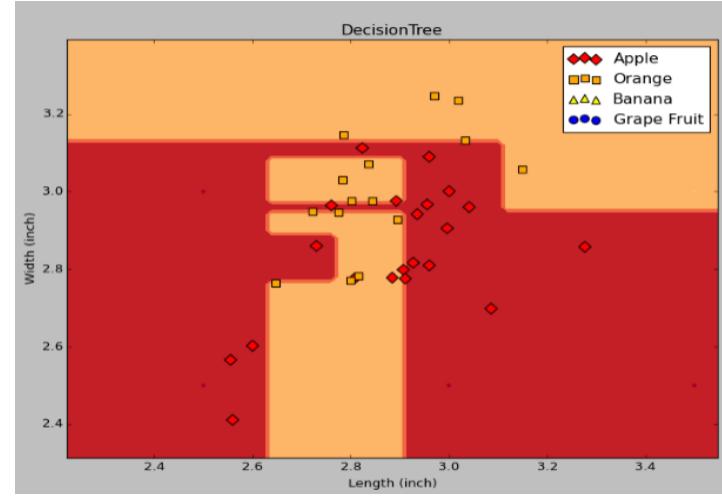


Unable to split diagonally, the decision tree algorithm must simulate the split with several vertical and horizontal splits.



In its attempt to classify ALL of the training data, an individual tree will be prone to overfitting. It is difficult to distinguish between true data, and noise.

A random forest is a collection of many trees, where *each tree has been given only a subset of the data and the parameters.*  
The impact of noise is greatly attenuated.



Decision tree example from *Machine Learning with Random Forests and Decision Trees* by Scott Hartshorn

# How Many Trees Should You Have In Your Forest?

Advice from *Machine Learning With Random Forests And Decision Trees: A Visual Guide For Beginners*, by Scott Hartshorn

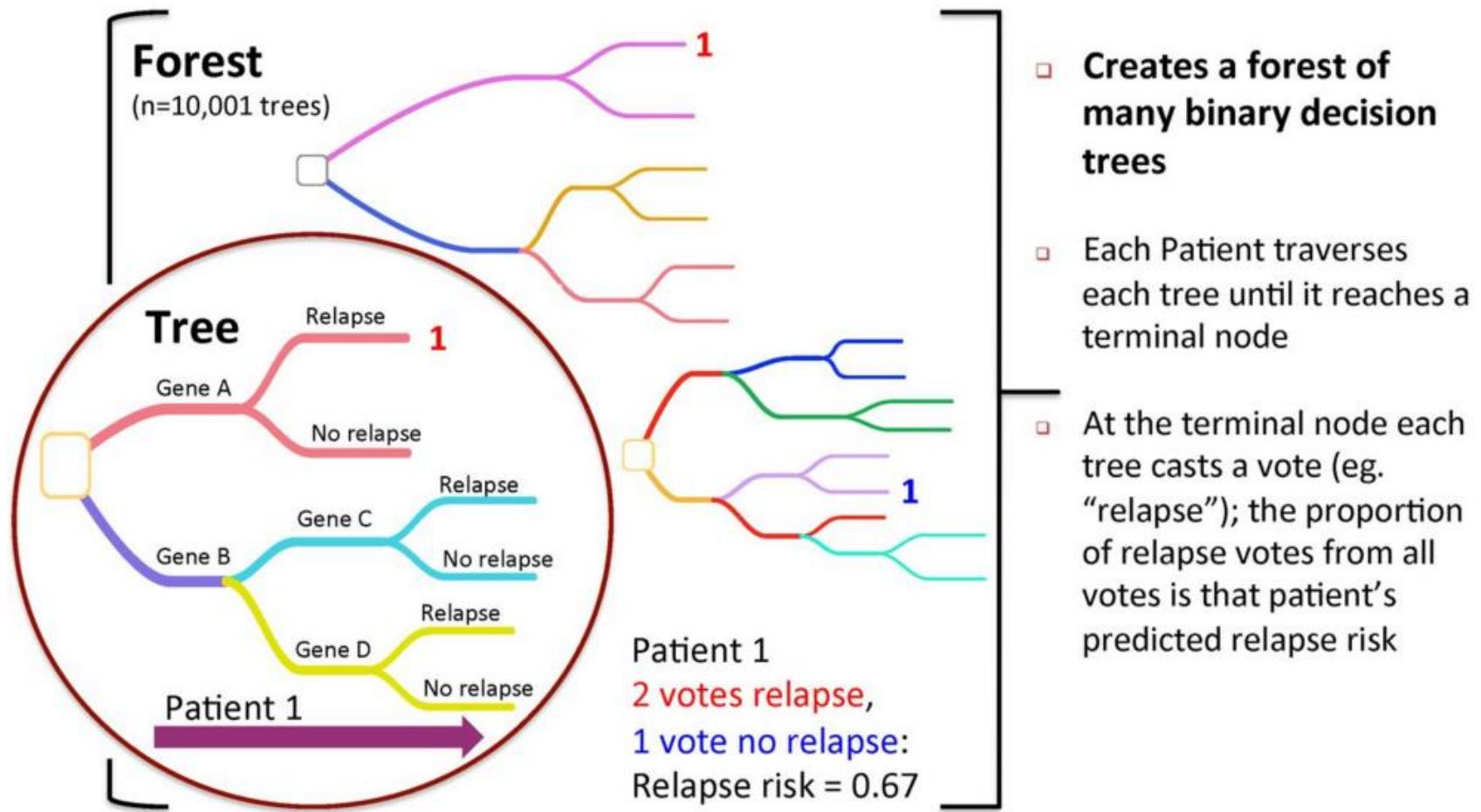


More trees are usually better because they will do more to smooth out abnormalities in the data. But that is true only up to a point. This is an area of diminishing returns, where each additional tree will have less benefit than the one before it. Eventually the benefit will plateau, and more trees will not help very much.

The decision on how many trees to have in the Random Forest becomes a tradeoff dependent on your problem and your computing resources. Going from 10 trees to 50 trees might improve your results significantly, and not add very much time. Going from 1,000 trees to 50,000 trees might add substantial time without improving your results very much.

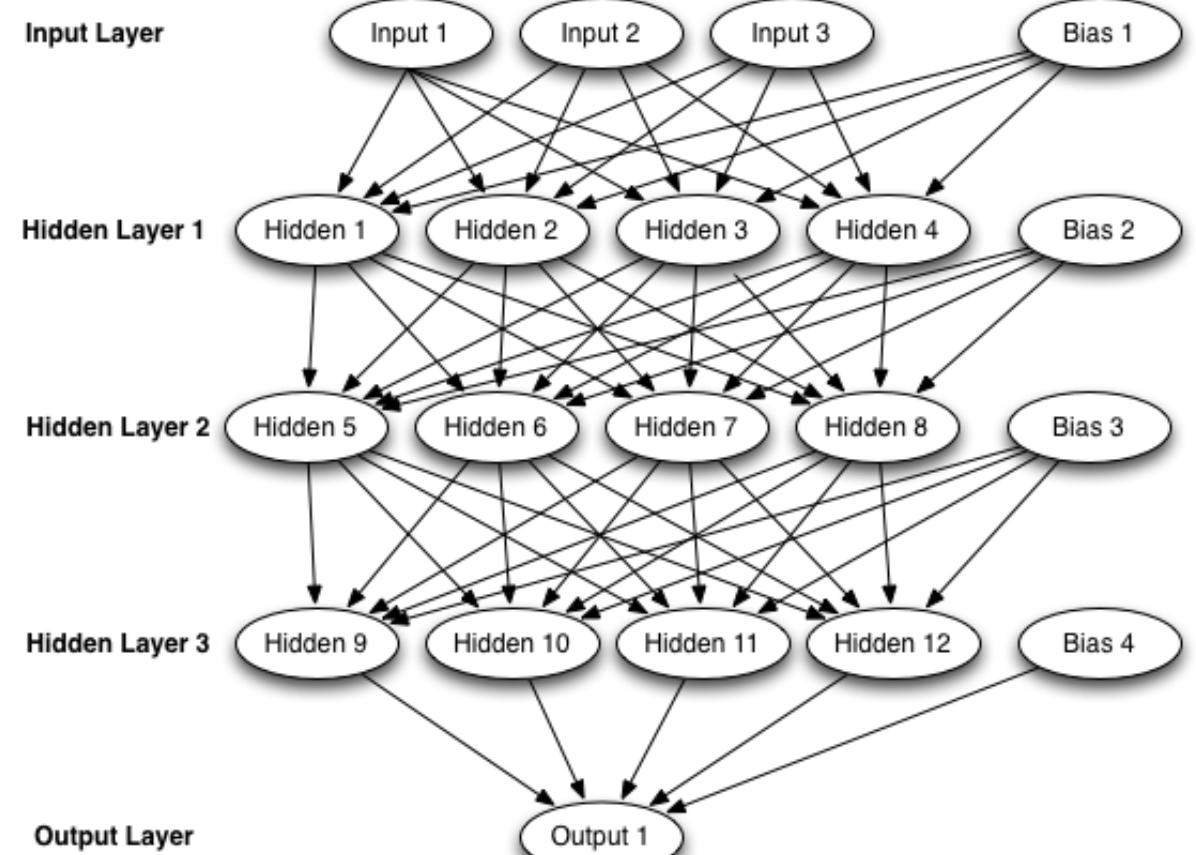
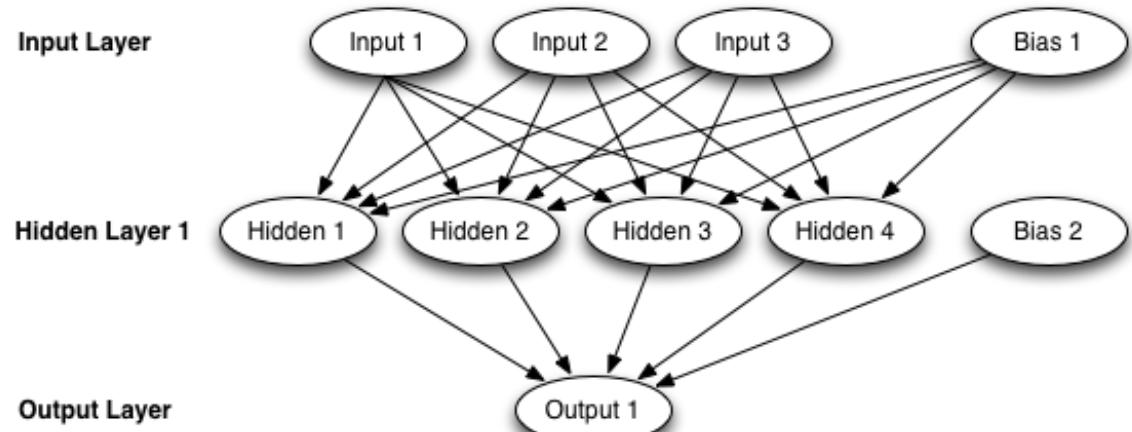
Using 100 trees in the Random Forest is often a good place to start. Increase later (after tuning other parameters)

# Overview of Random Forests

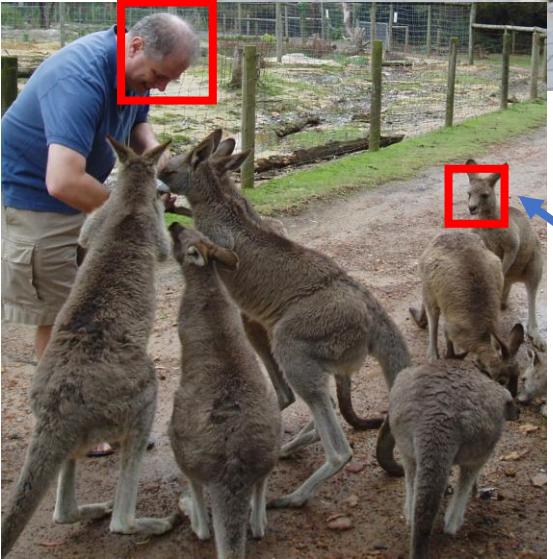


Images from Wikipedia and designated in public domain

# Artificial Neural Networks



Images used with permission from: Heaton, J. (2015). *Artificial Intelligence for Humans, Volume 3: Deep Learning and Neural Networks*. St. Louis, MO: Heaton Research, Inc, 1505714346.



Very good, but still  
not perfect



Convolutional Neural Networks provide the front end (for Deep Neural Networks) to enable facial recognition and autonomous vehicles.

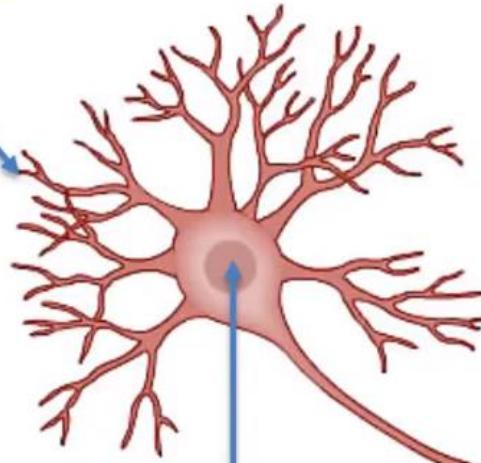
By MICHELLE CASTILLO / CBS NEWS / February 12, 2013, 3:02 PM

# Can you spot the gorilla in this CT scan? Most radiologists couldn't



Do you see the gorilla in this scan? / MELISSA VO, AND JEREMY WOLFE/PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE, TRAFTON DREW

Dendrites



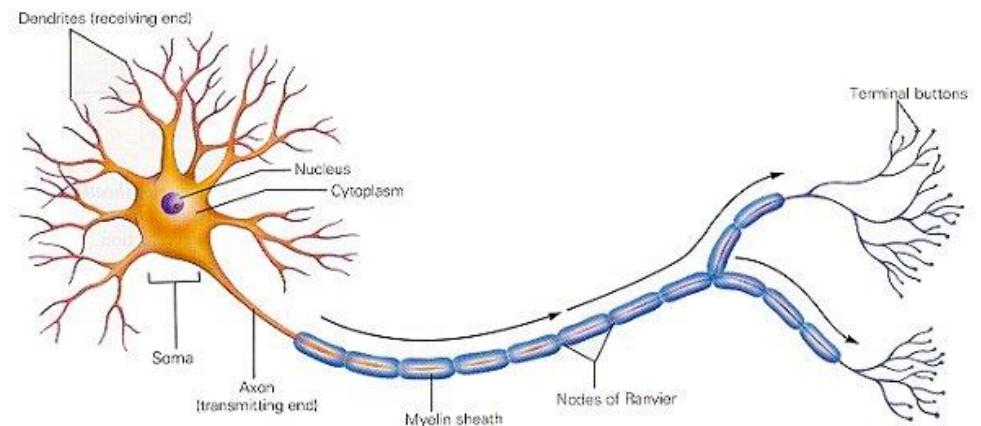
Axon

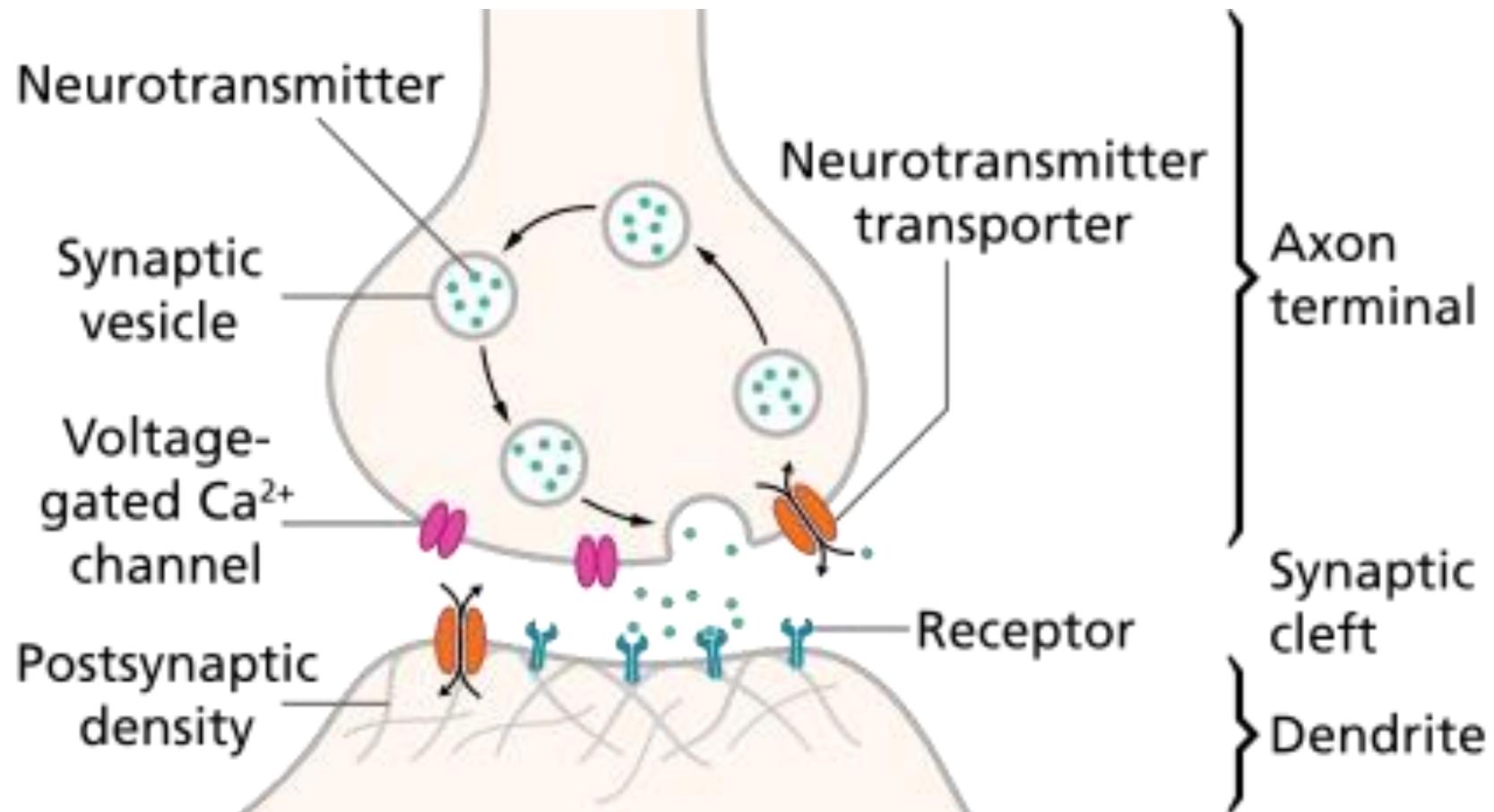


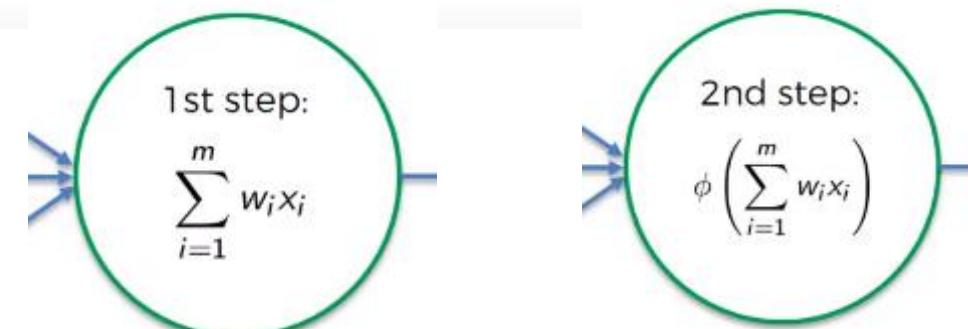
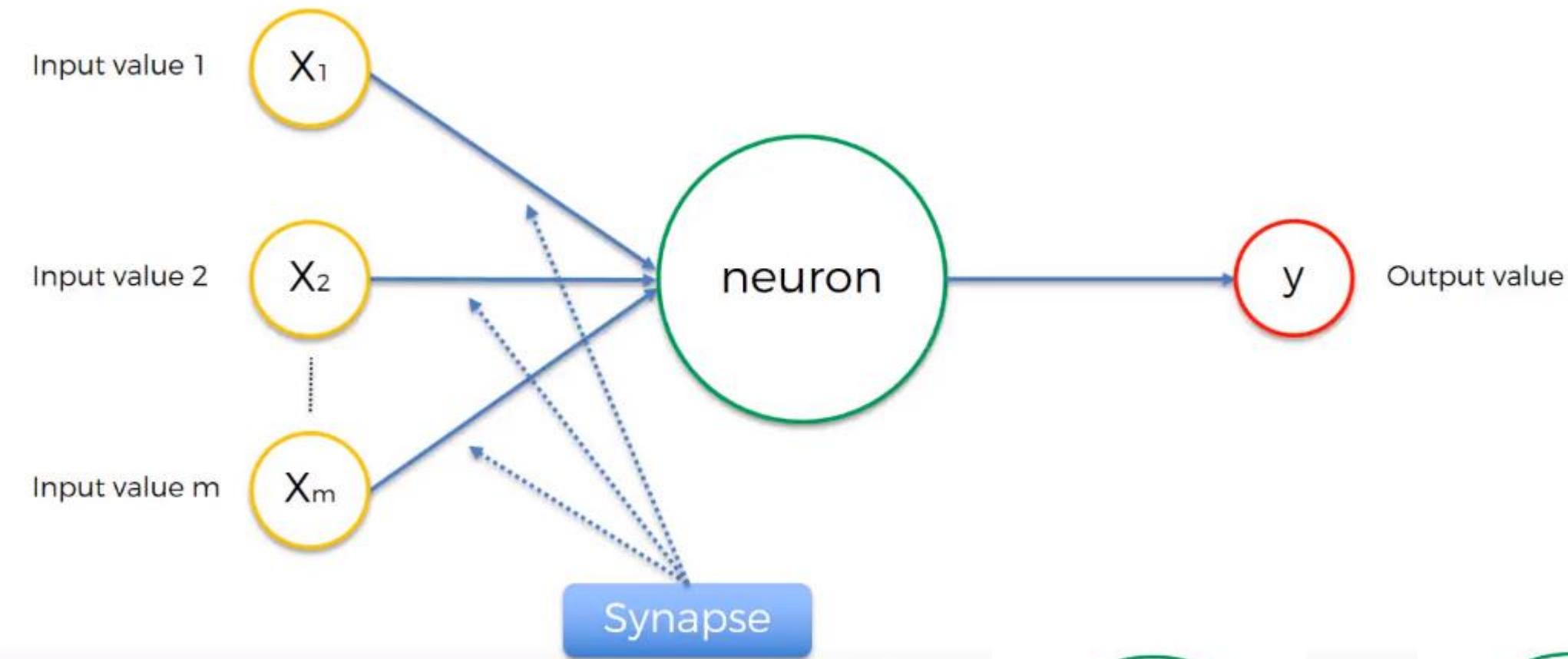
Neuron

#### THE MAJOR STRUCTURES OF THE NEURON

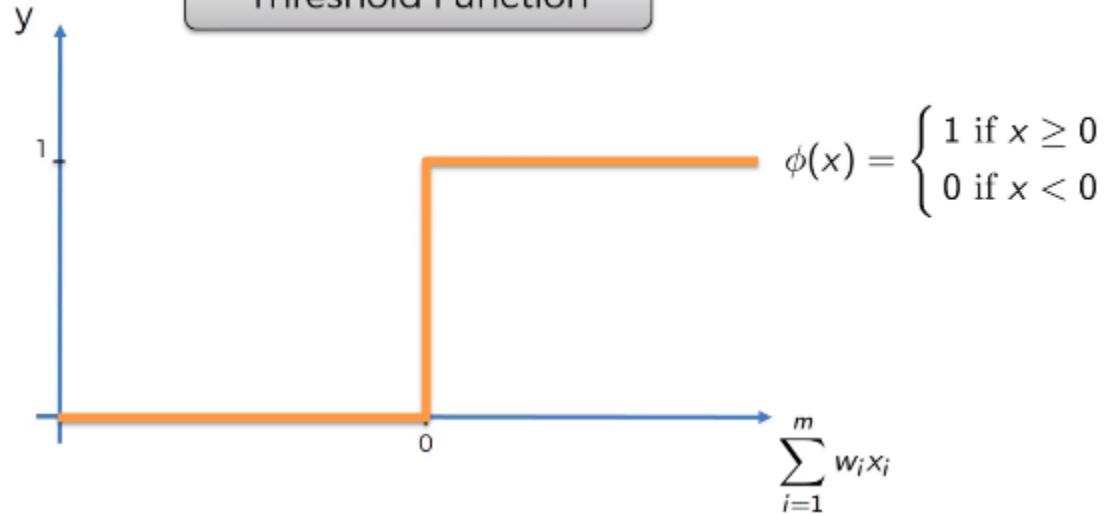
The neuron receives nerve impulses through its dendrites. It then sends the nerve impulses through its axon to the terminal buttons where neurotransmitters are released to stimulate other neurons.



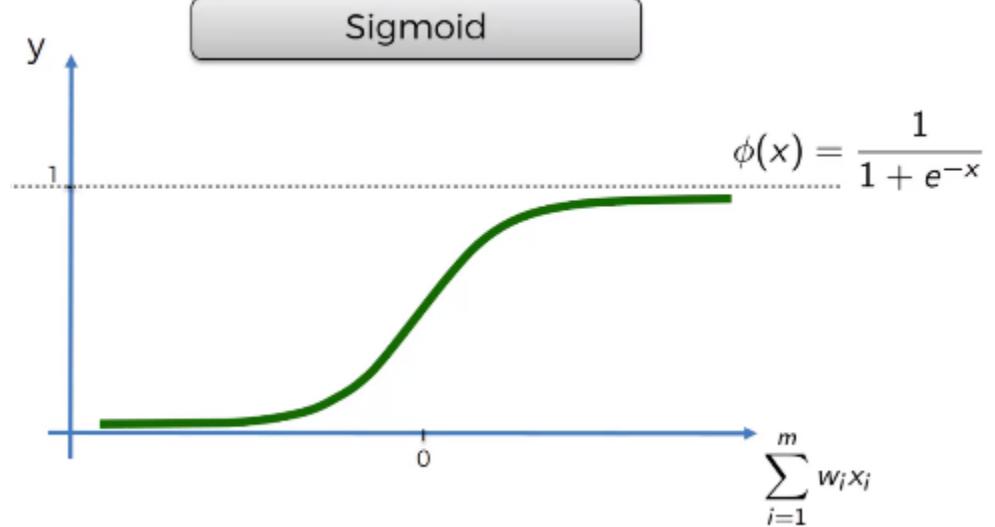




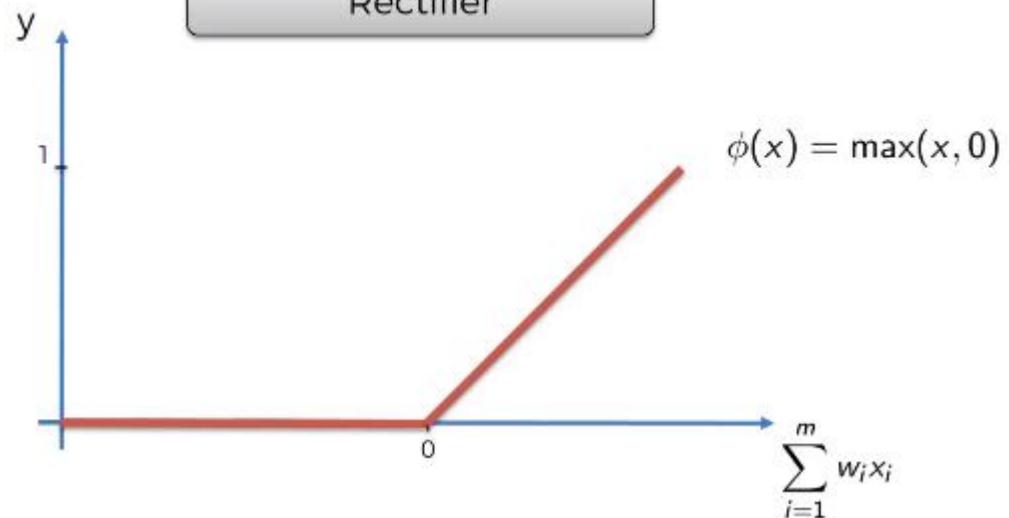
Threshold Function



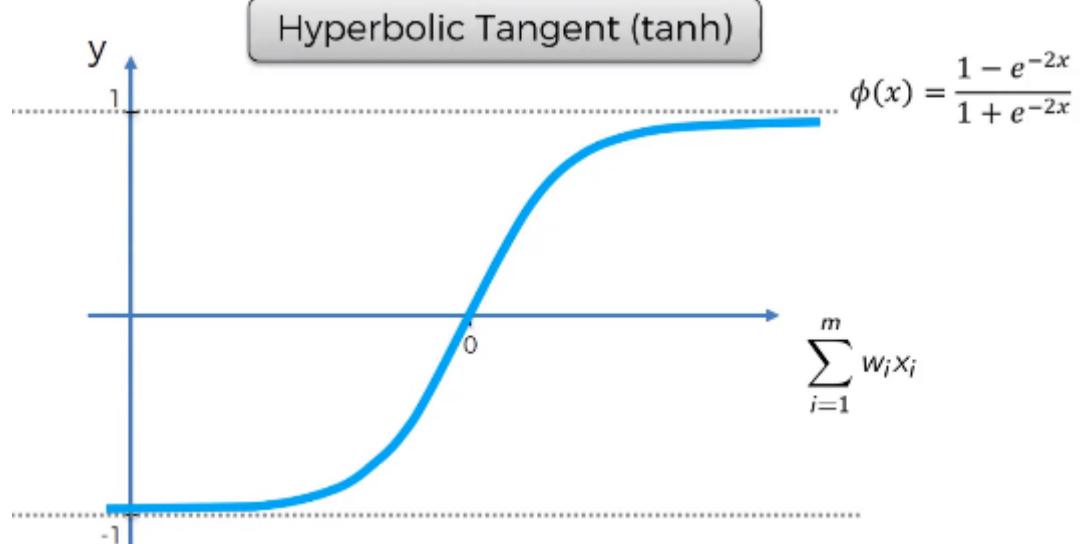
Sigmoid

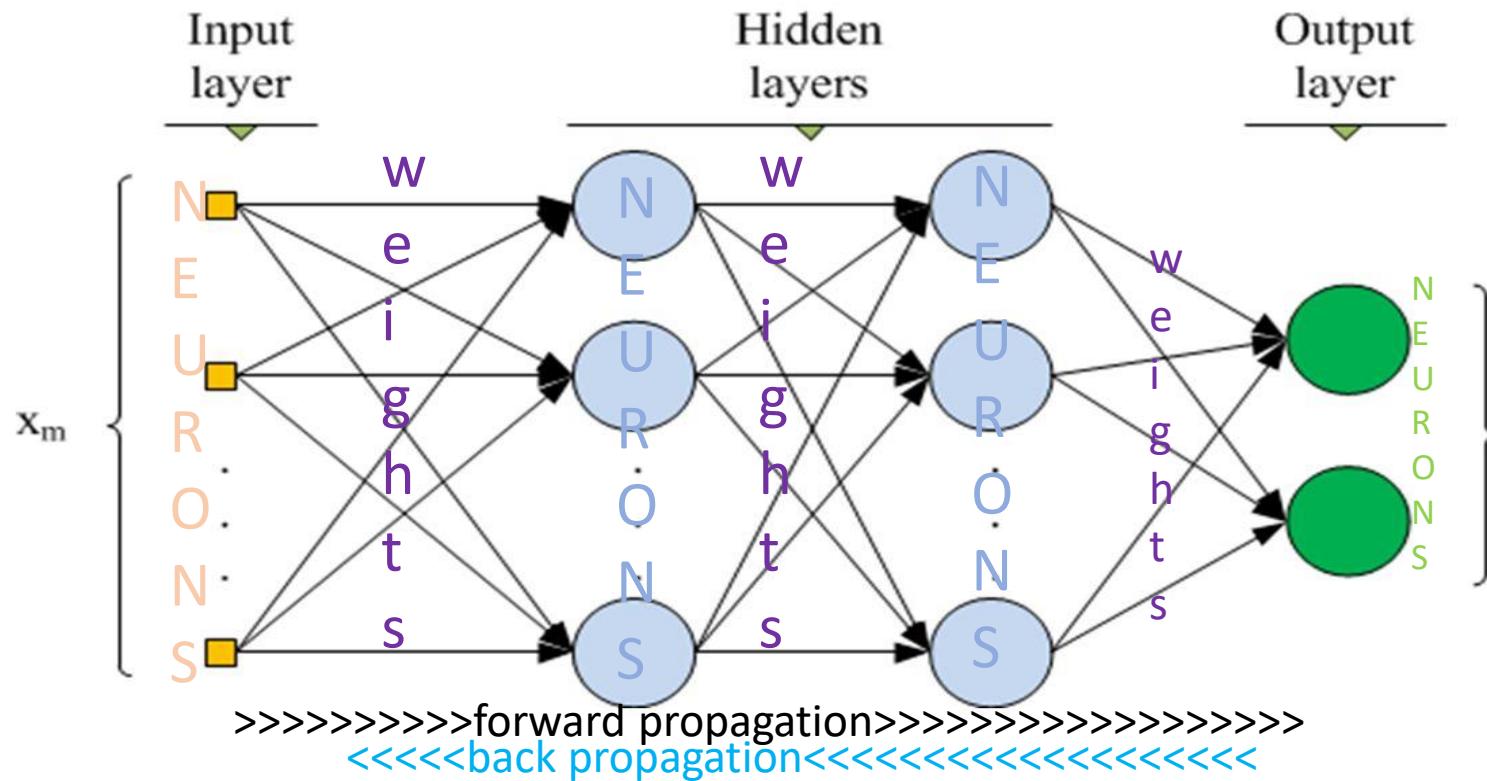


Rectifier



Hyperbolic Tangent (tanh)





$\hat{Y}_m$  (output values)

$Y_m$  = actual values

Cost Function,  $C = \frac{1}{2} \text{Sum}[(Y - \hat{Y})^2]$

Randomly initialize weights to small numbers (but not zero)

Forward propagate vector of first observation to get predicted result  $\hat{Y}$ . Each feature goes into one node of input layer.

Compute and minimize cost function, then update weights according to how much they are responsible for errors (and multiplying by the learning rate). This is called back propagation.

Continue to update weights after each observation (reinforcement learning) or after a batch of observations (batch learning)

An epoch occurs when all of the training set has passed through the process. Redo for as many epochs as desired.

# Overview of Predictive Analytics Techniques

## Deep Learning

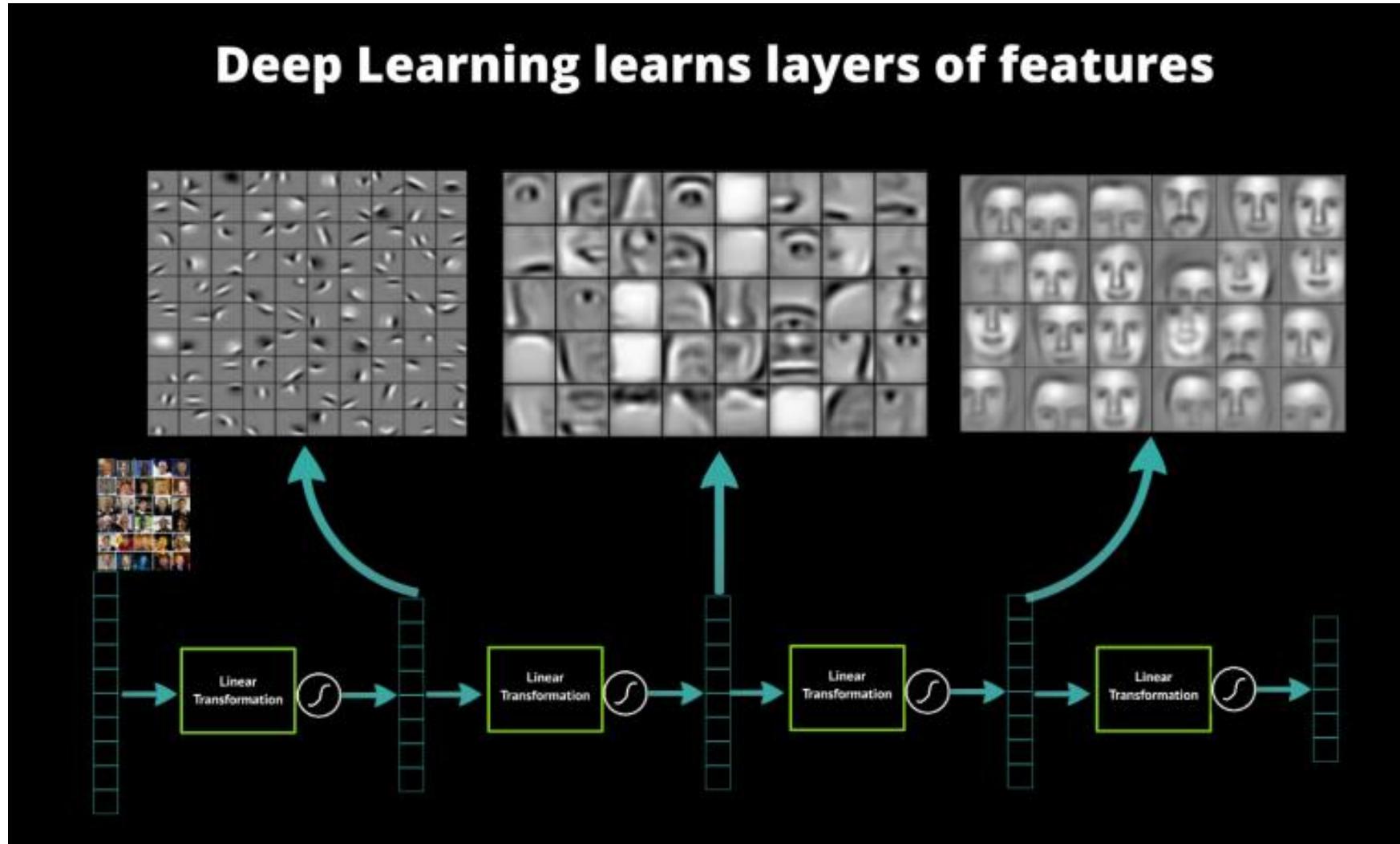
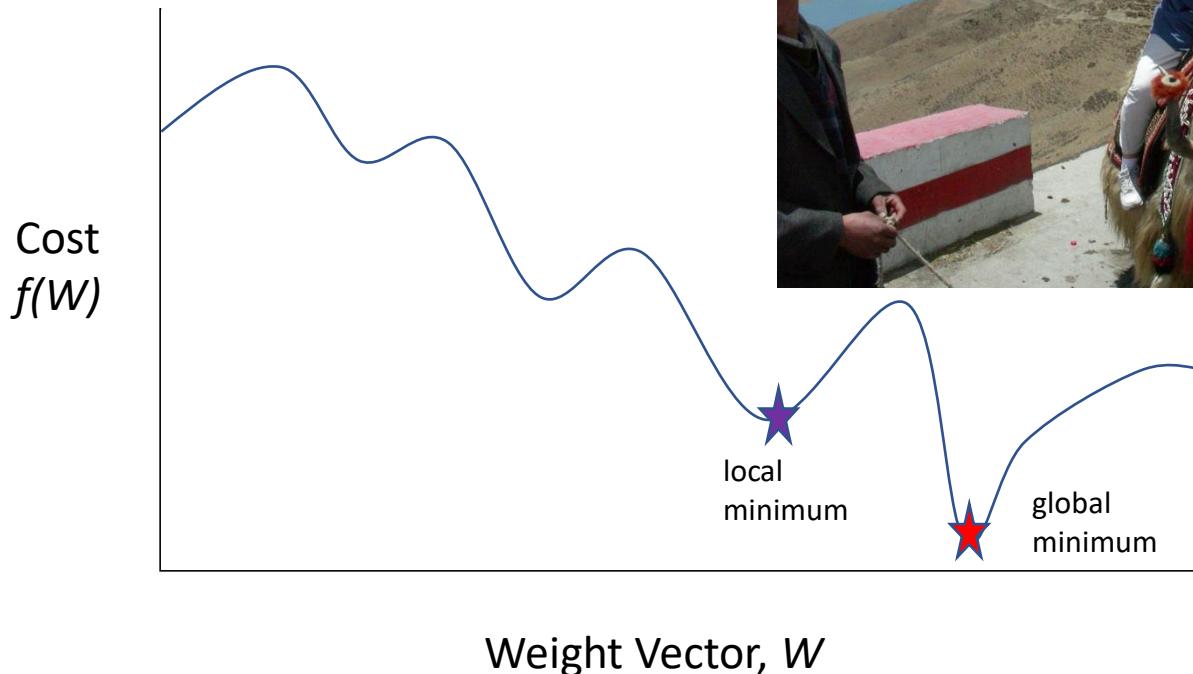


Image used with permission from DataRobot®: <https://www.datarobot.com/blog/a-primer-on-deep-learning/>

Simple Gradient Descent is great when you have a convex cost function; but what if you have a situation with several local minima? That's when Stochastic Gradient Descent is used to test several bands within the range of the cost function, and get to better solutions without the need for billions ... or millions ... or trillions) of trial and error.



**Jeff Heaton FLMI, ARA**  
Lead Data Scientist

A free book to explain Deep Learning in more detail:

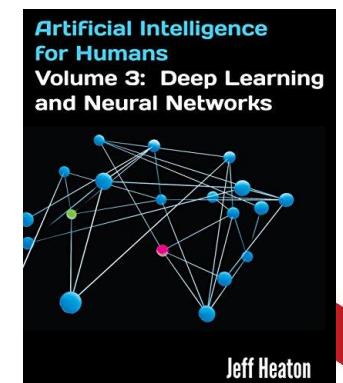
<http://neuralnetworksanddeeplearning.com/>

An interactive tool to help you understand the neural network process:

[http://www.heatonresearch.com/aifh/vol3/xor\\_online.html](http://www.heatonresearch.com/aifh/vol3/xor_online.html)

are training a neural network for an XOR operator. You see literally every value that is calculated in the neural network to get each weight.

A gentle introduction to Deep Learning is Jeff's book:



A best seller on Amazon

No current programming language is ideal for data science (DS), and as DS increases in popularity, there will be replacements that differ considerably from R and Python.

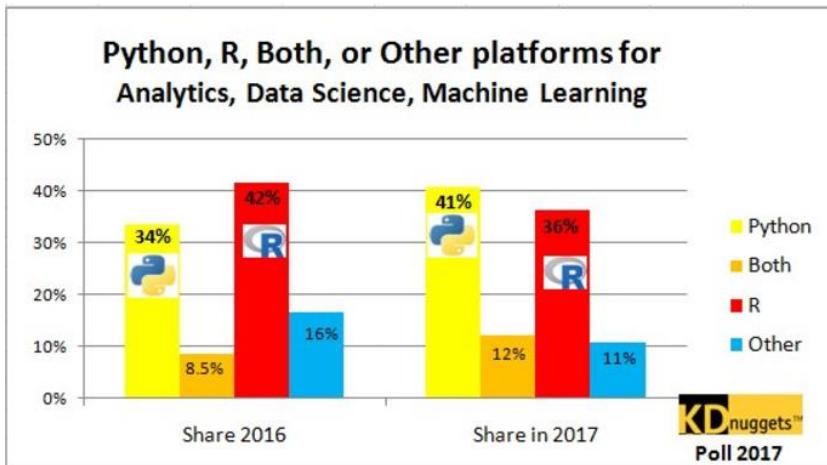
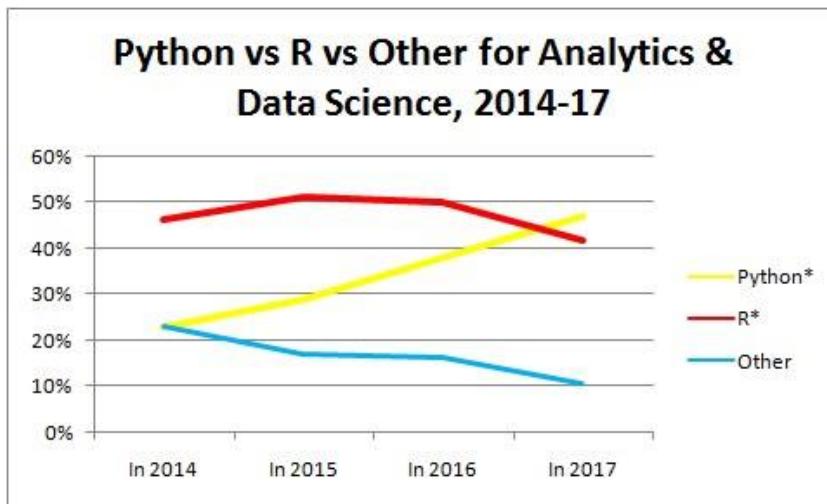


Fig. 1: Share of Python, R, Both, or Other platforms usage for Analytics, Data Science, Machine Learning, 2016 vs 2017



Next, we examine the transitions between the different platforms.

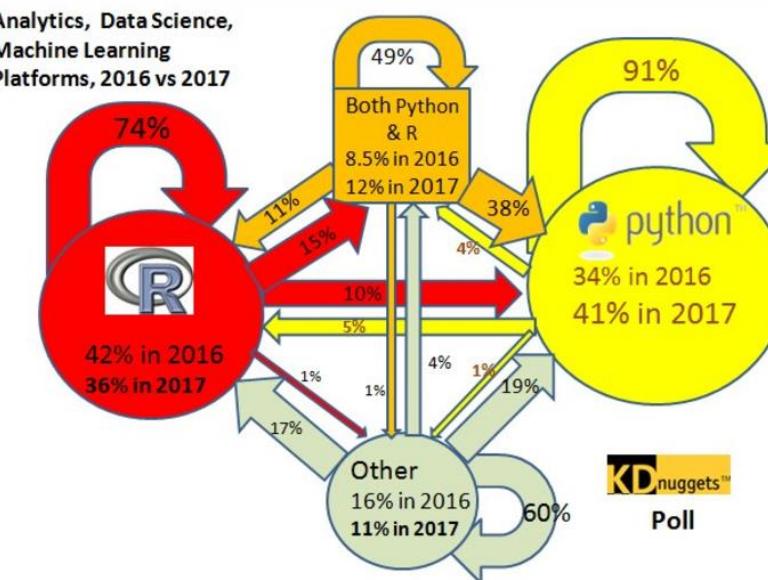


Fig. 2: Analytics, Data Science, Machine Learning Platforms Transitions between R, Python, Both, and Other from 2016 to 2017

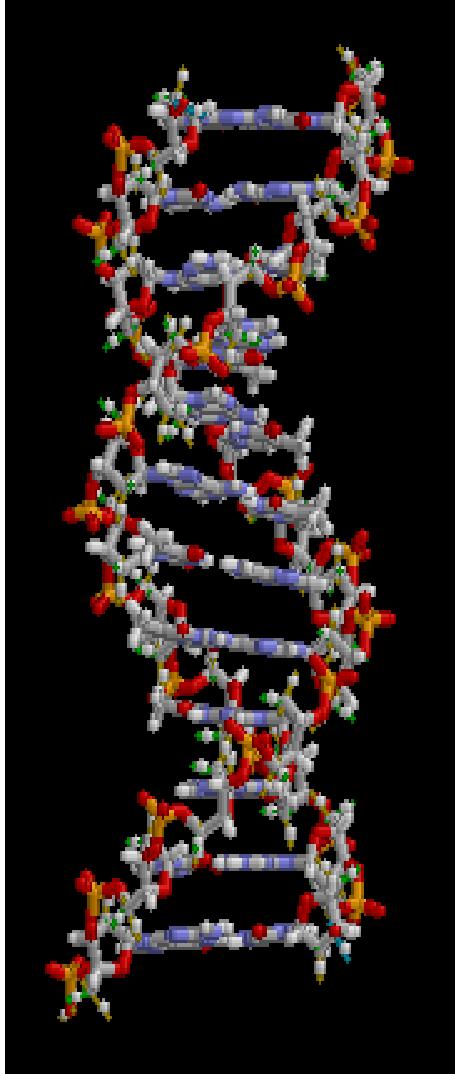
The following Python add-ins are excellent tools to help you take advantage of multiple processors and graphical processing units (GPUs). Install them from an Anaconda prompt as follows:

```

pip install theano
pip install tensorflow
pip install keras
conda update --all

```

Source for charts: Kdnuggets 30-Aug-2017  
<https://www.kdnuggets.com/2017/08/python-overtakes-r-leader-analytics-data-science.html>



# Genetic Algorithms

Why do we call these  
Genetic Algorithms?

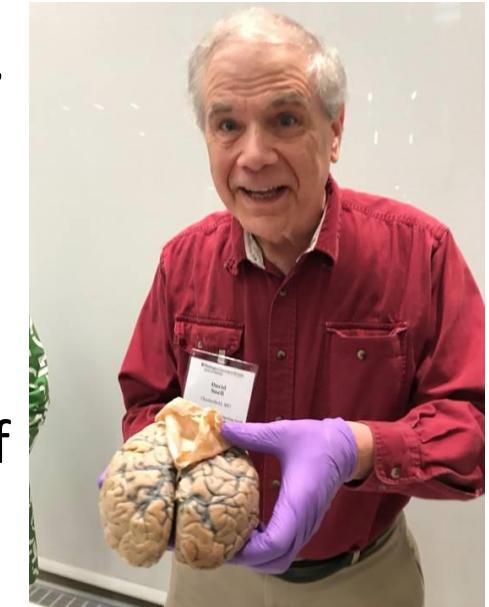
They mimic our current knowledge of genetics.

We have trillions of cells.

DNA represents a blueprint for a cell.

It is used to generate copies.

The actual process involves proteins and lots of  
other biological terms ...



*and you don't have to know  
them to solve problems!*

# Criteria that make a problem suitable for a genetic algorithm

- The problem involves a lot of variables - to some extent, the more variables there are, the better this technique applies.
- Each variable can take on potential values to produce different solutions.
- We can substitute a value for each of the variables and that particular combination of individual values can be thought of as a solution set.
- The problem can be quantified in some manner so that any two solution sets can easily be compared to see which is better.



**OMG**  
That is so simple!



Mitosis/meiosis  
Single nucleotide polymorphisms  
Alleles/ phenotypes  
Adenine, Cytosine,  
Thymine, Guanine

# Case study: Health Insurance

- A genetic algorithm running on a \$300 netbook computer saved millions of dollars on a health provider network setup.
- 500 provider groups, offering 1 to 25 specialties (acupuncture to x-rays)
- If all 500 provider groups were in network, normalized cost would be 1.000
- Each group IN or OUT of network
- Potential number of solution sets was  $2^{500}$  (a VERY big number)
- Best arrangement by experienced actuaries was cost reduction to 0.78
- Netbook got to 0.75 within an hour
- After three days it reached 0.58

# Provider Network Cost Optimization

*Each provider group is in (1) or out(0) of network.*

| Health System | In | Rela | Total Provider | Specialties:  |      | Chiropractic | Pathology | Cardiovascular Disease | Family Practice | Obstetri |
|---------------|----|------|----------------|---------------|------|--------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------------|----------|
|               |    |      |                | Cost          | 0.97 | 0.92         | 0.90      | 0.89                   |                 |          |
|               |    |      |                | Count Minimum | 5    | 5            | 5         | 20                     |                 |          |
|               |    |      |                | Current Count | 79   | 42           | 70        | 356                    |                 |          |
| Provider # 1  | 1  | 0.77 | M(G13:AP13)    | 0             | 23   | 24           | 64        |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 2  | 1  | 0.90 | 355            | 1             | 12   | 26           | 83        |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 3  | 1  | 0.79 | 287            | 0             | 0    | 9            | 66        |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 4  | 0  | 1.13 | 228            | 0             | 0    | 0            | 65        |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 5  | 0  | 0.89 | 216            | 0             | 0    | 11           | 67        |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 6  | 0  | 1.36 | 137            | 0             | 0    | 0            | 0         |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 7  | 0  | 1.50 | 129            | 3             | 17   | 0            | 10        |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 8  | 0  | 1.32 | 85             | 0             | 0    | 0            | 18        |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 9  | 0  | 1.33 | 38             | 0             | 0    | 0            | 0         |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 10 | 0  | 1.08 | 37             | 0             | 1    | 0            | 0         |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 11 | 1  | 1.04 | 35             | 0             | 0    | 0            | 0         |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 12 | 0  | 0.73 | 35             | 0             | 0    | 0            | 0         |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 13 | 0  | 1.16 | 34             | 0             | 0    | 0            | 0         |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 14 | 0  | 1.32 | 28             | 0             | 0    | 0            | 0         |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 15 | 0  | 1.12 | 27             | 0             | 0    | 0            | 4         |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 16 | 1  | 1.03 | 27             | 0             | 0    | 0            | 18        |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 17 | 1  | 0.78 | 26             | 0             | 0    | 0            | 0         |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 18 | 0  | 1.22 | 26             | 0             | 0    | 0            | 0         |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 19 | 1  | 1.55 | 25             | 0             | 0    | 0            | 1         |                        |                 |          |
| Provider # 20 | 1  | 0.84 | 21             | 0             | 0    | 0            | 13        |                        |                 |          |

*Each provider group can have multiple specialists; and has a relative cost.*

**500 Providers for this example; but could have thousands. Lots of specialties. Could have  $2^{500}$  ( $> 10^{150}$ ) solution sets ... might take a while by traditional methods. ☺**

# Provider Network Cost Optimization (continued)

| A  | B                                          | C                   | D                  | E                  | F               | G          | H                | I |
|----|--------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------|------------------|---|
| 1  | Genetic Algorithm Presentation             |                     |                    |                    |                 |            |                  |   |
| 2  | Provider Network Fitness Function          |                     |                    |                    |                 |            |                  |   |
| 3  |                                            |                     |                    |                    |                 |            |                  |   |
| 4  | Count of Contracts (Provider Groups) Used: | 325                 |                    |                    |                 |            |                  |   |
| 5  | Included Providers (Specialists):          | 2,885               |                    |                    |                 |            |                  |   |
| 6  | Relativity to Overall Network:             | 0.8966              |                    |                    |                 |            |                  |   |
| 7  | Adequate Network:                          | Yes                 |                    |                    |                 |            |                  |   |
| 8  |                                            |                     |                    |                    |                 |            |                  |   |
| 9  | Specialty                                  | Available Providers | Required Providers | Selected Providers | Requirement Met | Relativity | Specialty Weight |   |
| 10 | Hospital                                   | 16                  | 5                  | 11 Yes             | 0.89            | 47.1%      |                  |   |
| 11 | Family Practice                            | 597                 | 20                 | 438 Yes            | 0.90            | 7.7%       |                  |   |
| 12 | Physical Therapy                           | 506                 | 5                  | 243 Yes            | 1.00            | 3.9%       |                  |   |
| 13 | Internal Medicine                          | 376                 | 20                 | 296 Yes            | 0.89            | 3.8%       |                  |   |
| 14 | Obstetrics/Gynecology                      | 277                 | 5                  | 195 Yes            | 0.88            | 3.8%       |                  |   |
| 15 | Pediatrics                                 | 351                 | 5                  | 249 Yes            | 0.95            | 3.4%       |                  |   |
| 16 | Orthopedic Surgery                         | 147                 | 5                  | 100 Yes            | 0.88            | 3.2%       |                  |   |
| 17 | Hematology /Oncology                       | 97                  | 5                  | 58 Yes             | 0.86            | 2.8%       |                  |   |
| 18 | Chiropractic                               | 125                 | 5                  | 87 Yes             | 0.98            | 2.7%       |                  |   |
| 19 | Diagnostic Radiology                       | 174                 | 5                  | 101 Yes            | 0.87            | 2.5%       |                  |   |
| 20 | Dermatology                                | 61                  | 5                  | 47 Yes             | 0.81            | 2.1%       |                  |   |
| 21 | Ophthalmology                              | 120                 | 5                  | 111 Yes            | 0.86            | 1.3%       |                  |   |
| 22 | Otolaryngology                             | 52                  | 5                  | 45 Yes             | 0.82            | 1.3%       |                  |   |
| 23 | Gastroenterology                           | 40                  | 5                  | 34 Yes             | 0.80            | 1.2%       |                  |   |
| 24 | Pathology                                  | 62                  | 5                  | 41 Yes             | 0.50            | 1.1%       |                  |   |
| 25 | Podiatry                                   | 44                  | 5                  | 32 Yes             | 1.01            | 1.0%       |                  |   |
| 26 | Acupuncturist                              | 65                  | 5                  | 39 Yes             | 0.94            | 0.9%       |                  |   |
| 27 | Urology                                    | 44                  | 5                  | 32 Yes             | 0.93            | 0.9%       |                  |   |
| 28 | General Surgery                            | 65                  | 5                  | 46 Yes             | 0.84            | 0.8%       |                  |   |
| 29 | Rheumatology                               | 21                  | 5                  | 16 Yes             | 0.86            | 0.8%       |                  |   |
| 30 | Neurology                                  | 94                  | 5                  | 86 Yes             | 0.91            | 0.8%       |                  |   |

Click Here to start genetic algorithm for solution set. You can modify parameters on the Parameters sheet.

Each specialty area must have adequate coverage.

Some problems just don't fit well into classical methods of solution:

Assume you have three equations:

- $y_1 = a * e * g + h + d^a$
- $y_2 = |h|! - |d|!$
- $y_3 = ((\sin(a)) + b) * \log(b + c) + \cos(\min(c, d)) * (e - f + g * h)$

Find a combination of  $a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h$

such that the standard deviation of  $y_1, y_2$ , and  $y_3$  is minimized.

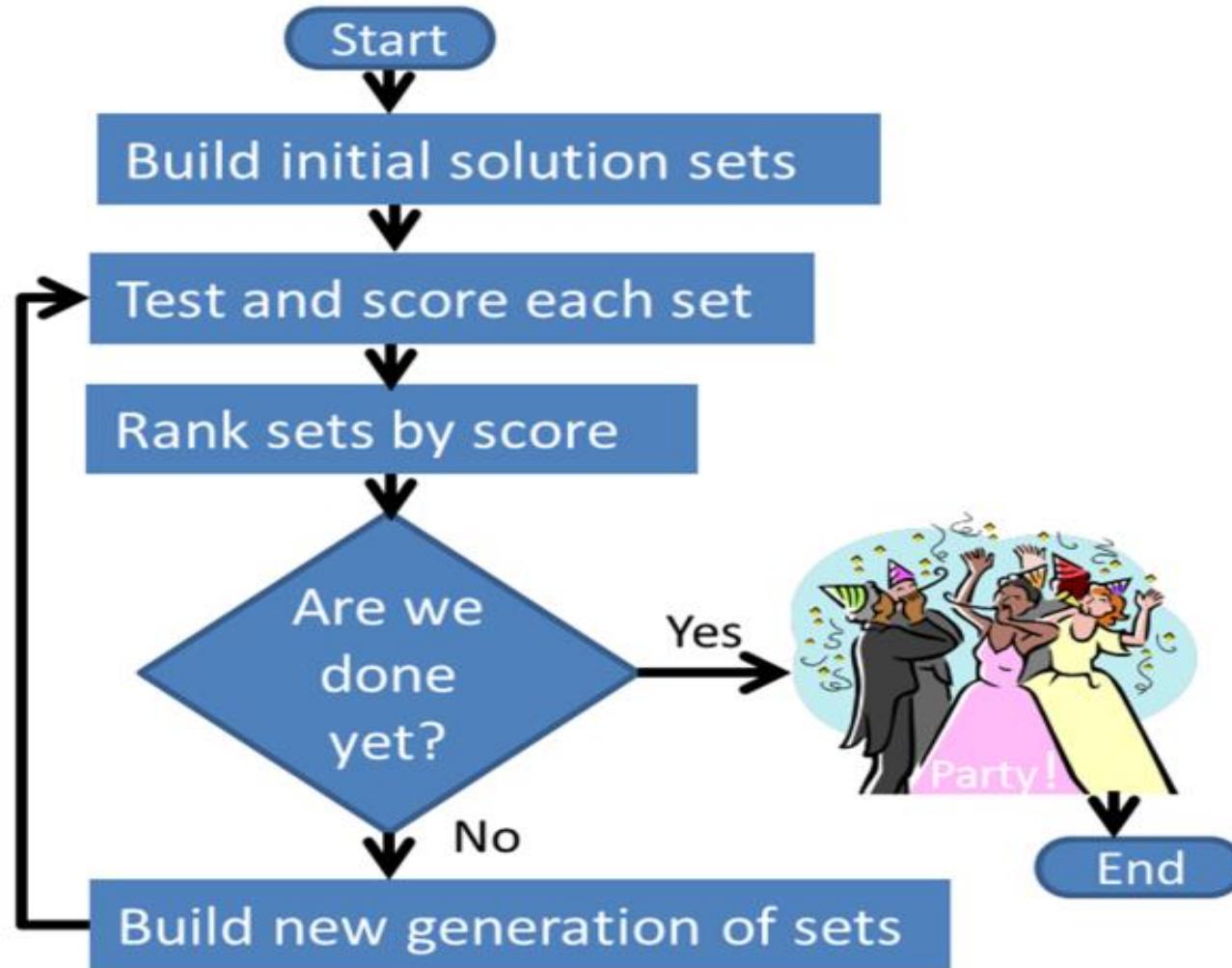
Oh yeah!  
We are math  
folks, so this  
might be too  
easy by itself!

Let's add some constraints  
to make it more interesting!

Click for Live Demo

**a** has to be an integer from 1 to 10  
**b** is a real number from 0 to 15  
**c** is a real number from 1 to 3  
**d** is a real number from 0.5 to 7  
**e** is a real number from -10 to 50  
**f** is an **even** integer from -20 to 40  
**g** is a real number from 0 to 18  
**h** is a real number from 3 to 12

# How to build a genetic algorithm



# VBA example code

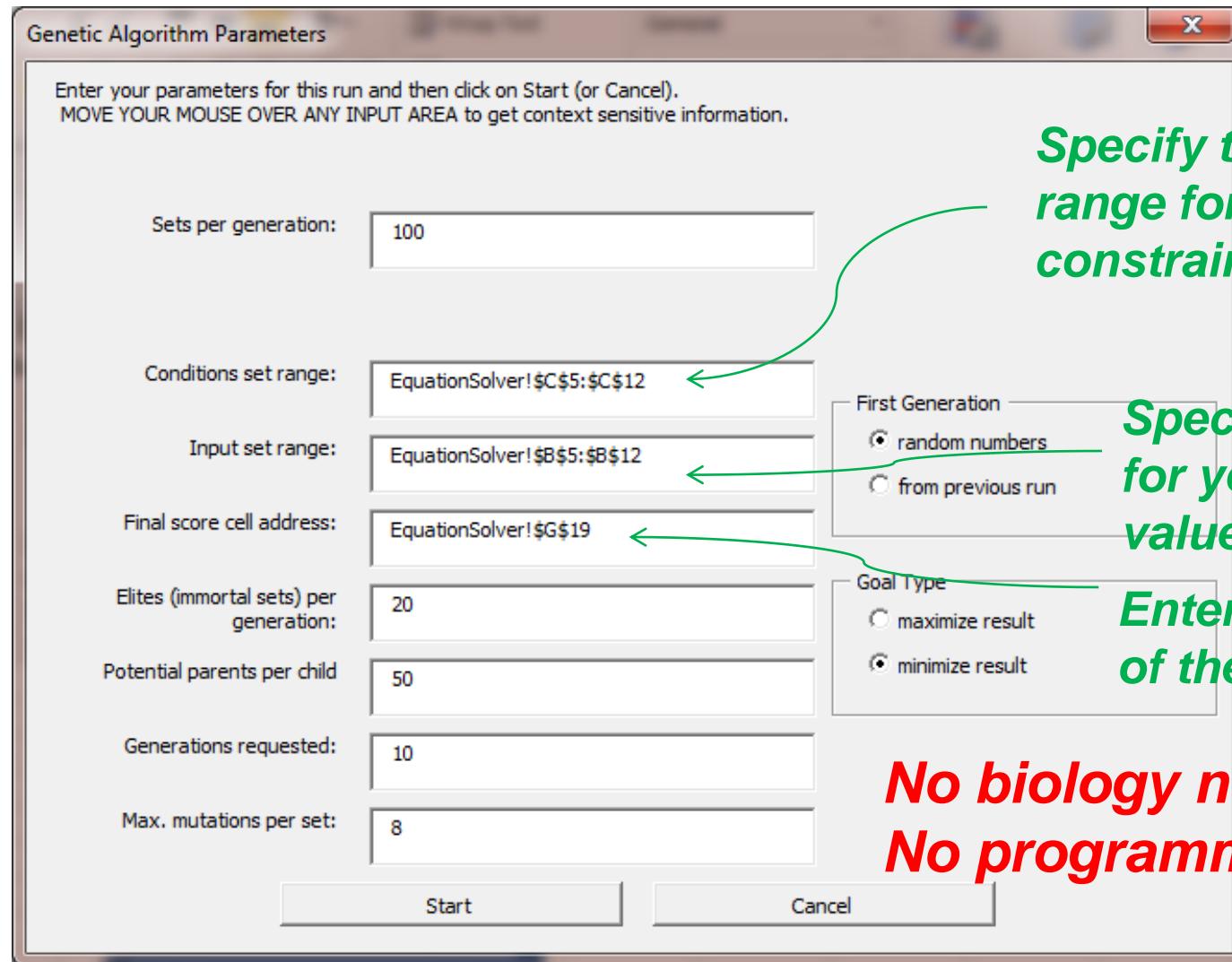
```
Private Sub AddTheChildren()
```

```
Dim parent As Integer, var As Long, child As Integer, children As  
Integer
```

```
1   children = setsPerGeneration - elites          (80 = 100 – 20)  
2   For child = 1 To children        (start with child set 1)  
3     For var = 1 To setLength      (1 to 30 if 30 variables per set)  
4       parent = Int(parentPool * Rnd()) + 1      (e.g. parent 5 wins  
5       solutionSets(var, elites + child)           for variable 17 for  
   child 1)  
   = solutionSets(var, parent)  
6       Next var           (so set variable 17 in new solution set 21 = 20 +1 to  
7       Next child         the value from variable 17 in old solution set 5)  
End Sub 'AddTheChildren
```

from elsewhere: elites = 20  
setsPerGeneration = 100  
parentPool = 40  
solutionSets is a  
2-dimensional array 30 by 100

# Input Screen for *FREE* workbook



*Specify the sheet and range for your constraint criteria.*

*Specify the range for your variable values*

*Enter the location of the final score*

**No biology needed!  
No programming needed!**

# Overview of Predictive Analytics Techniques

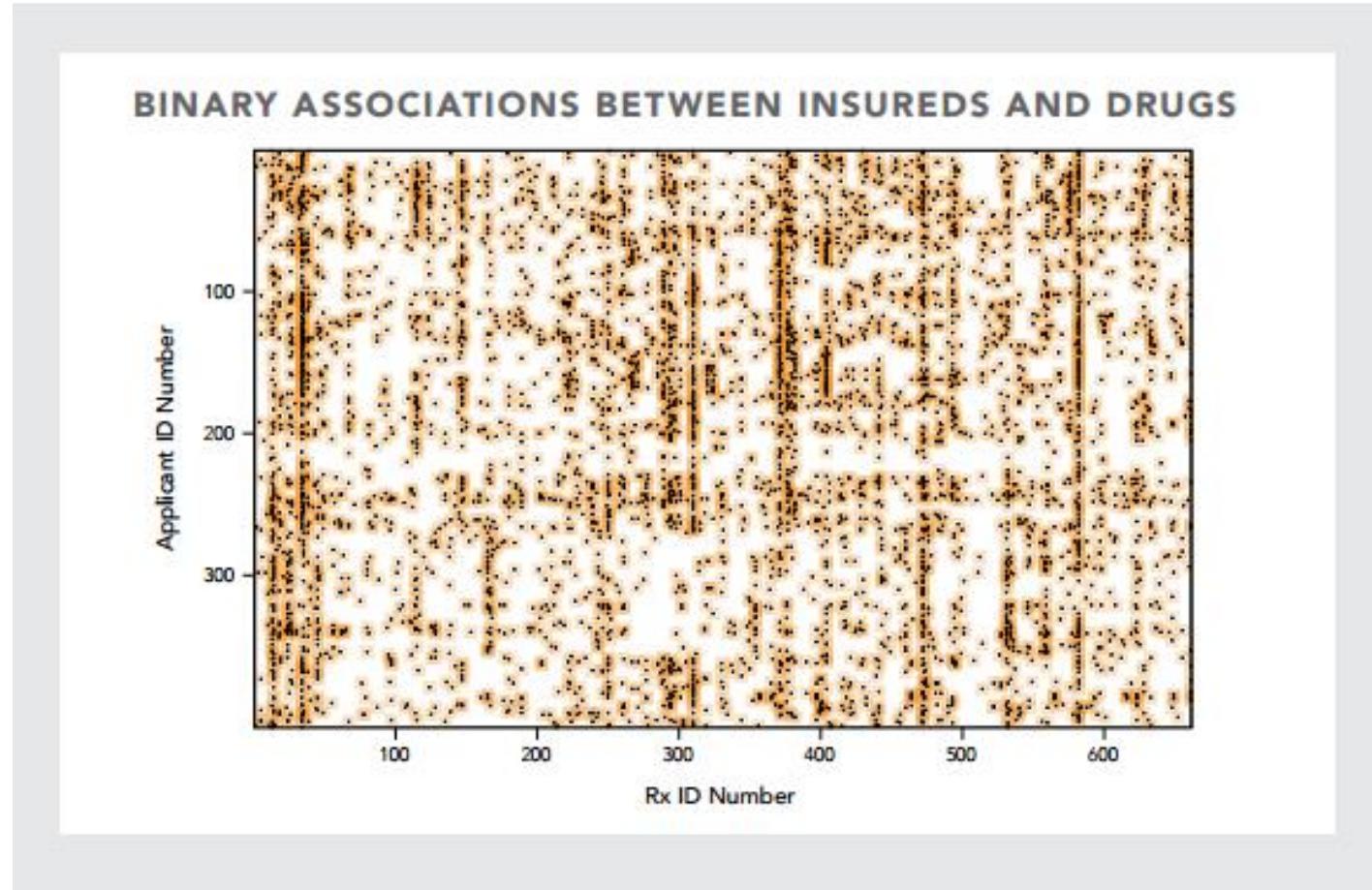
## Frequent Itemsets

Checking Rx history to infer ‘other’ drugs taken by applicant

Jeff Heaton  
Data Scientist  
RGA Reinsurance Company

Dave Snell, ASA, MAAA  
Technology Evangelist  
RGA Reinsurance Company

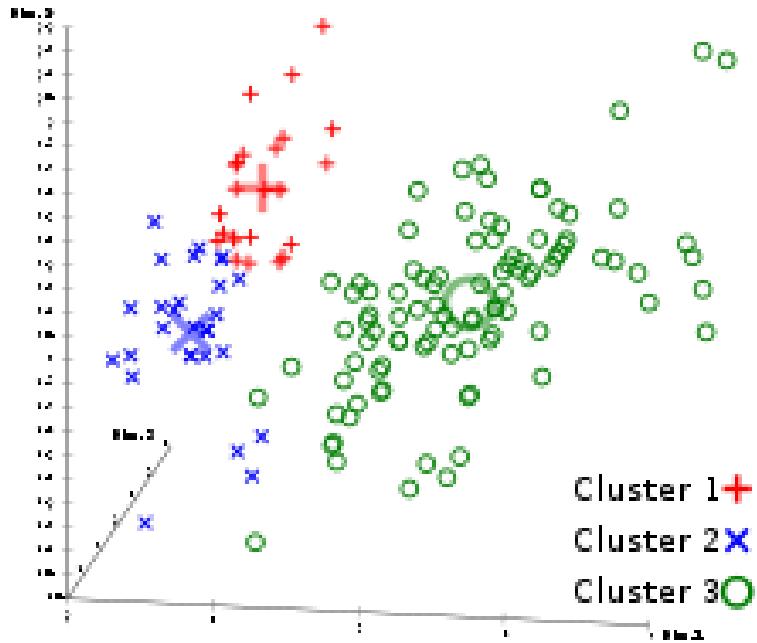
Image from paper by authors



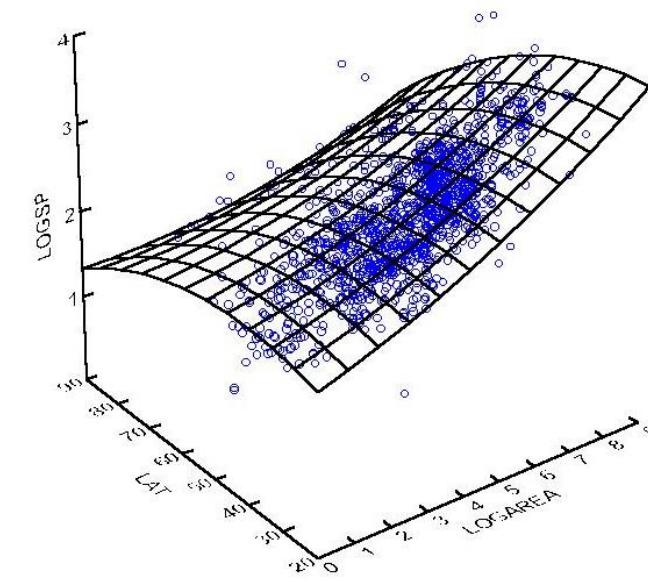
Utilizing Frequent Itemsets to Model Highly Sparse Underwriting Data – Society of Actuaries - Predictive Analytics 2014 Call For Articles

# Overview of Predictive Analytics Techniques

K-Means Clusters



Multi-variate Regression



Images from Wikipedia and designated in public domain

For the first time in history, more people die today from eating too much than from eating too little;

more people die from old age than from infectious diseases;

more people commit suicide than are killed by soldiers, terrorists and criminals combined.

A few serious scholars suggest that by 2050, some humans will become a-mortal (not immortal, because they could still die of some accident, but a-mortal, meaning that in the absence of fatal trauma their lives could be extended indefinitely).

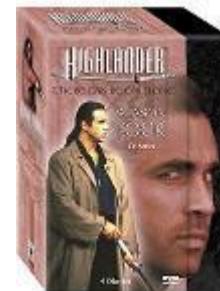
FROM THE BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *SAPIENS*

Yuval Noah  
Harari



# Homo Deus

A Brief History  
of Tomorrow



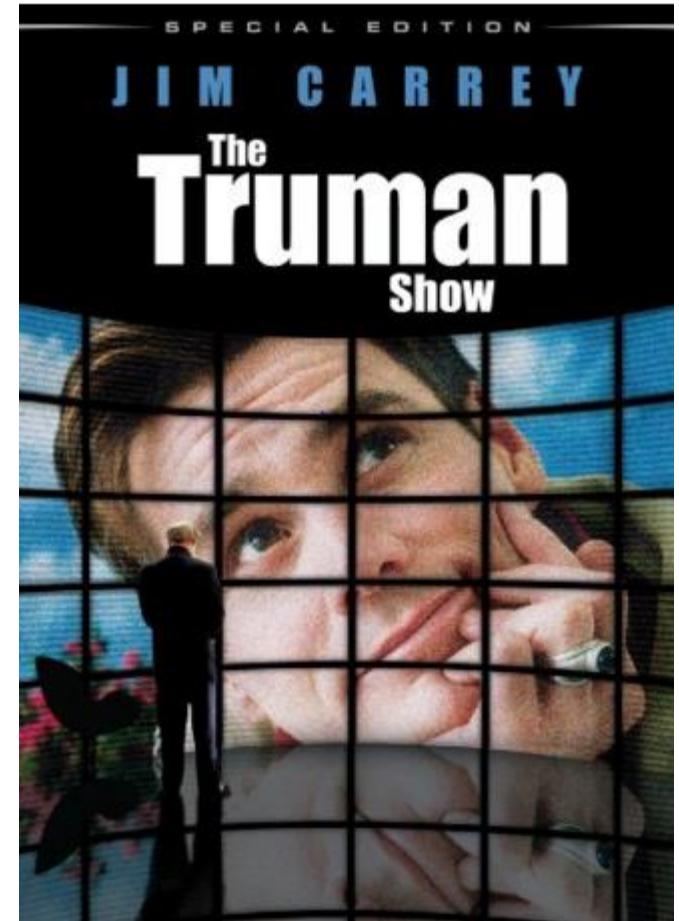
# How are Big Data and predictive analytics changing healthcare?

The Truman Show was just the Beginning!

- Genome
- Phenome
- Physiome
- Anatome
- Transcriptome
- Proteome
- Metabolome
- Microbiome
- Epigenome
- Exposome

*A Panomic perspective!*

Try  
<http://www.wolframalpha.com/facebook/>  
but be very afraid!



# How are Big Data, predictive analytics, and machine learning changing healthcare?

"In every other industry, technology drives down costs and consumers are considered perfectly capable of making decisions for themselves." —David Goldberg

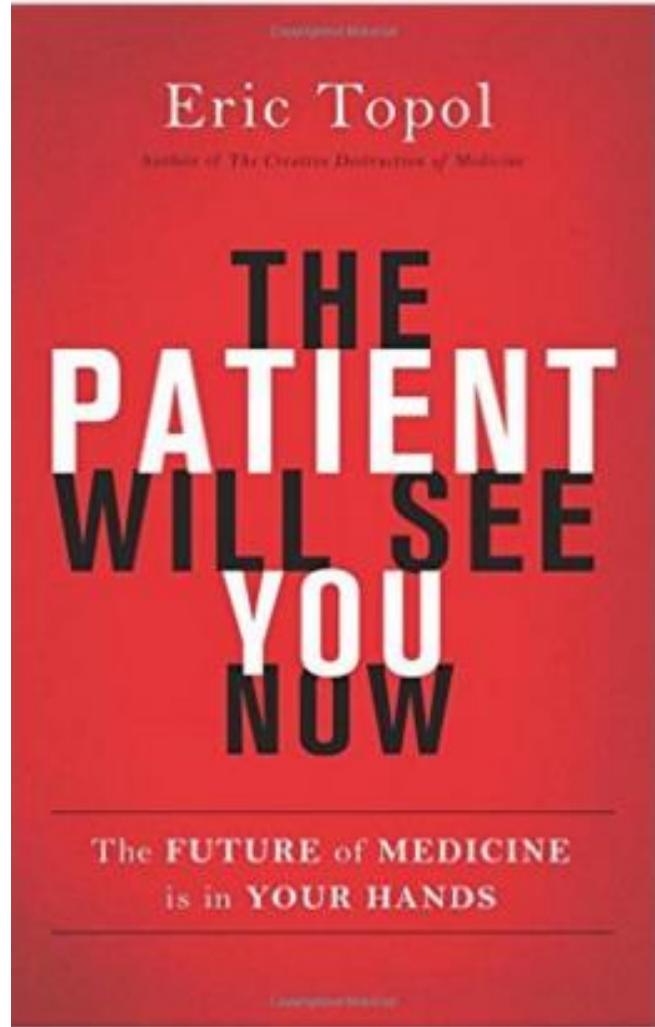
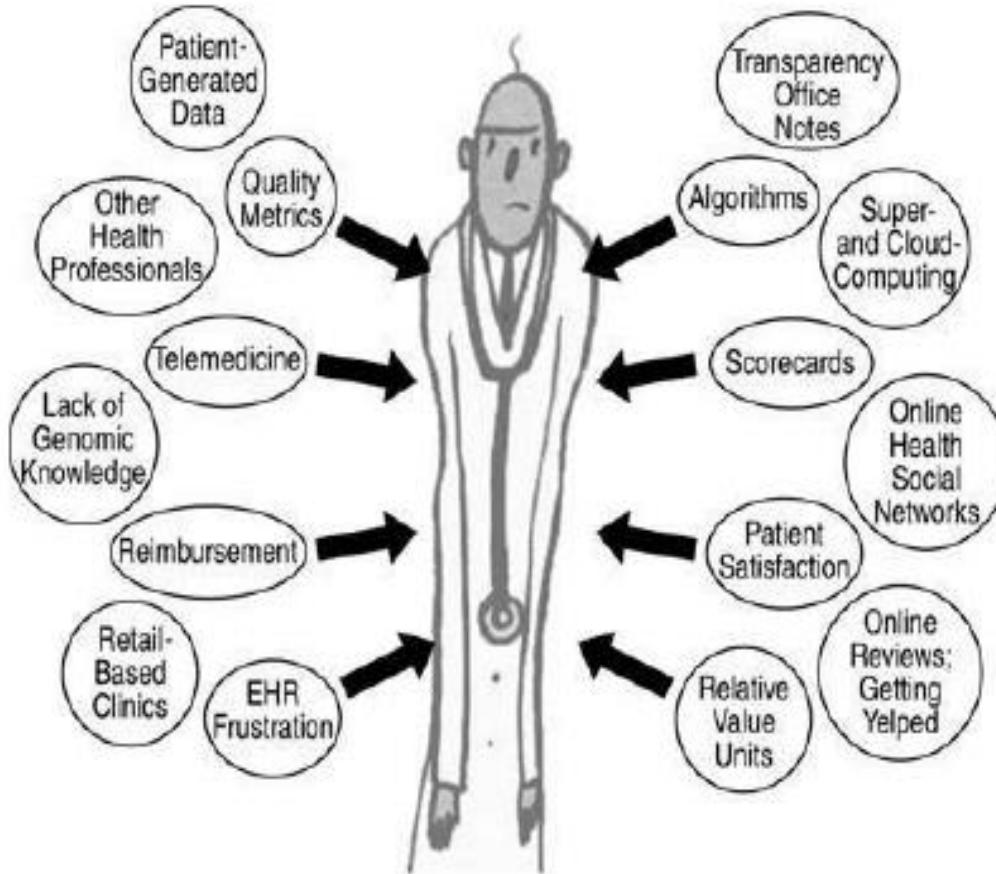


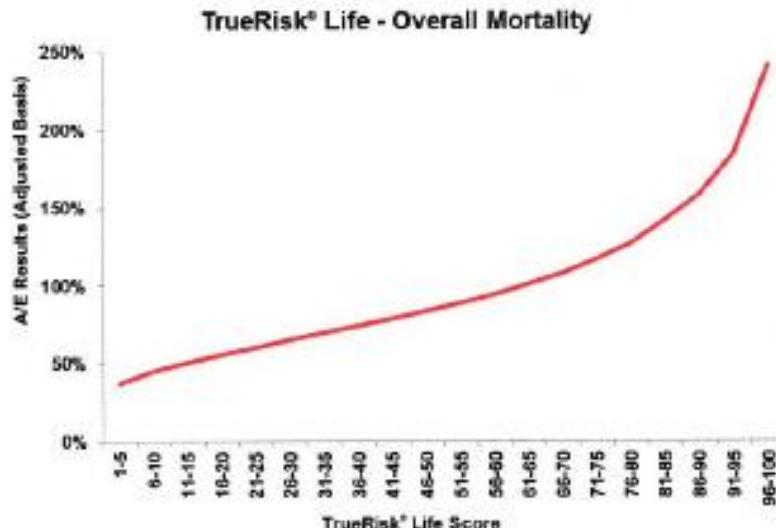
FIGURE 9.4: Doctors are getting squeezed like never before.

Images used with permission from Eric Topol, M.D.

# How is Machine Learning already changing insurance underwriting?

- A short history lesson
- The Attending Physician's Statement (APS) – “Gold Standard?” “fool’s gold?”
- Pharmaceutical (Rx) databases
- TransUnion TrueRisk® Life
  - <http://www.rgare.com/knowledgecenter/Documents/RGAWebcastCreditBasedSolutions.pdf>

*TrueRisk® Life is easy to use & understand, each score represents 1% of the population with the worst scores having 5 times higher mortality than the best scores*



Top 5% (worst scores) had six times the early policy lapses, (years 1 and 2) and five times the mortality (years 1 – 12) of the lowest (best) 5%.

(lessons learned – people do not follow strictly analytic models)

- Logical Rule: People are rational and make rational decisions
- Logical Rule: Accuracy is more important than marketing hype
- Logical Rule: Everyone acts in a manner that will maximize their own self-interest
- Logical Rule: The work of science is to Substitute facts for appearances and demonstrations for impressions – John Ruskin

(Motto of Society of Actuaries)

# Analytic Models Fail When They Ignore Behavioral Economics

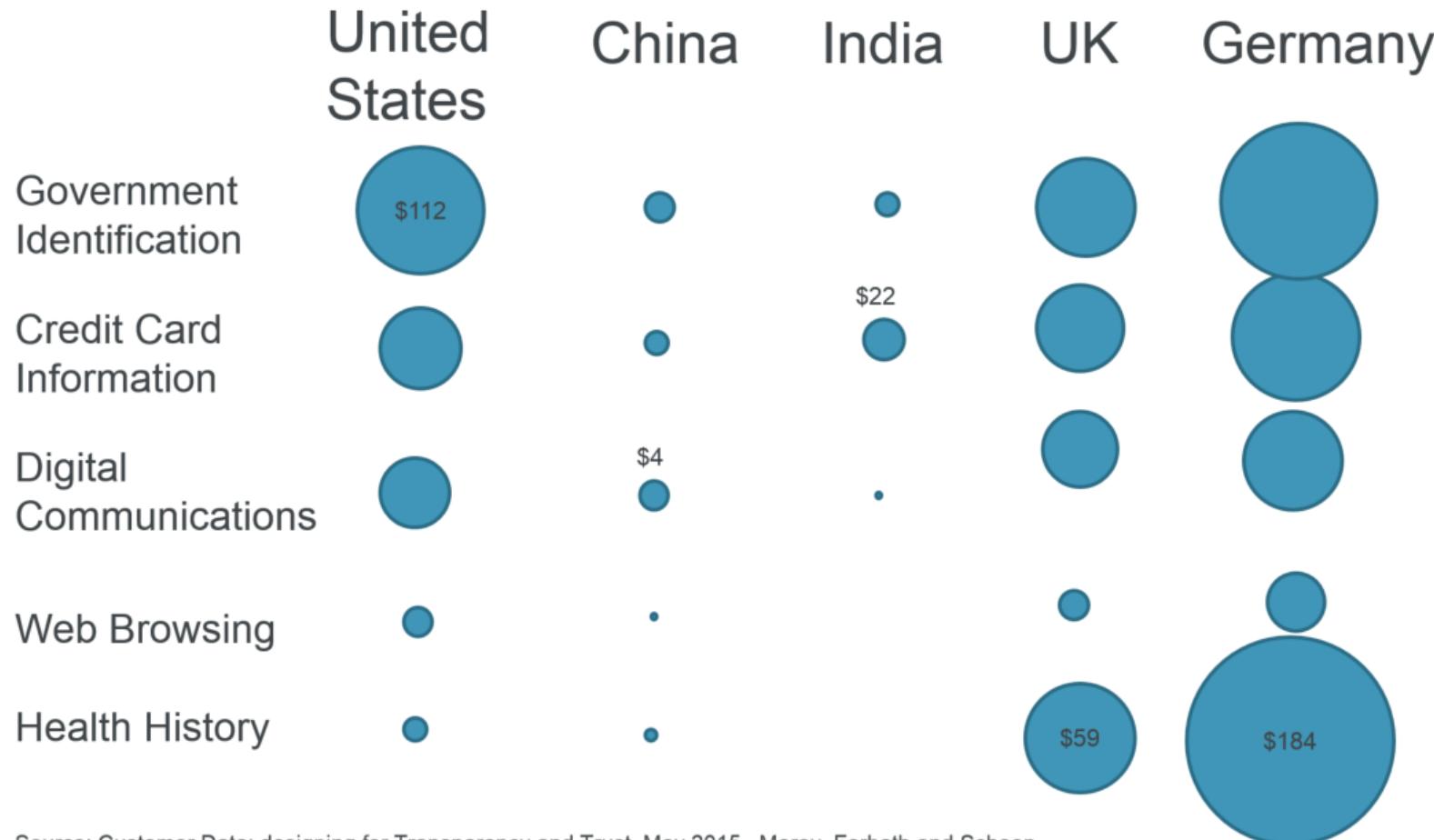


<http://www.jasonheadley.com/INATN.html>

(shown with permission – if you like this video, consider putting a tip in the Vimeo tip jar: <https://vimeo.com/66753575>.)

# Consider Cultural Differences A ‘Home Run’ may not ‘Hit a Six’

Approximate amount people would pay to protect each data type (US\$)



Source: Customer Data: designing for Transparency and Trust, May 2015. Morey, Forbath and Schoop.

Original source included other types of data, all with low amounts (e.g. search history, location, purchase history, contact information)

# How are they already changing insurance underwriting? (lessons learned)

- Target uses predictive modeling to determine a teenage girl is pregnant
  - They send her lots of coupons for baby products (Forbes: 16-Feb-2012)
  - Their analytics are correct, but it backfires on them.
- Progressive Insurance Company
  - The first major(?) insurance company to employ predictive analytics in a big way.
  - Huge increase in market share.
  - Huge increase in bottom line profit.
  - What a wonderful endorsement of predictive analytic models!
  - But that was only part of the picture.

*Behavioral Economics  
was the secret sauce that  
made it palatable to the  
public.*



# RGA's Experience in Predictive Analytics in Life and Health insurance



## Sales, Marketing & Distribution

**Propensity to Buy:** Use client & sales data to **identify best leads for marketing efforts.** Project in Taiwan.

**Agent Quality Assessment:** Use policyholder & claims data to **determine which agents add most value to profitability.** Projects in US and UK.



## Policy & Claims Management

**Experience Analysis:** Use multivariate model to **understand the true drivers of experience.** Projects in US, UK and South Africa.

**In Force Retention:** Use customer & lapse data to **determine which policies are most likely to lapse** in order to develop retention strategies. Projects in US and UK.

**Fraud Detection:** Use customer and claims data to **determine which claims are most likely to be fraudulent** and focus forensic efforts on them. Project in India.



## Underwriting Improvements

**Predictive UW / Cross-Sell:** Use customer & UW decision data to **model mortality risks.** Most successful if insurance data is combined with other data sources e.g. Banking, P&C, Retail etc. Projects in HK & SEA, Japan, Australia, US.

**Claims Experience/ Up-Sell:** Use customer & claims data to **segment or automatically underwrite in-force policyholders for new or existing products.** Project in Japan.

**Guideline Refinement:** Use underwriting and claims data to **determine optimum UW requirements e.g. adding or removing questions; optimize non-medical limits etc.** Project in China.

**UW Investigation:** Use customer and UW investigation data to **determine which cases are most likely to require further investigation.** Project in Korea.

**Case Prioritization/Triage:** Use customer and placement data to **determine which cases are most likely to be successfully placed** and focus resources on them. Project in the US.

# Multi-line Predictive UW Cross-sell

A multi-line insurance company with a large P&C customer base expressed a strong desire to increase the sales penetration of their life product, while streamlining the underwriting process.

## Objectives

- Increase life product penetration
- Improve customer experience for best risks with a simplified UW & sales process
- Improve persistency of P&C customers as a result of a deeper client relationship

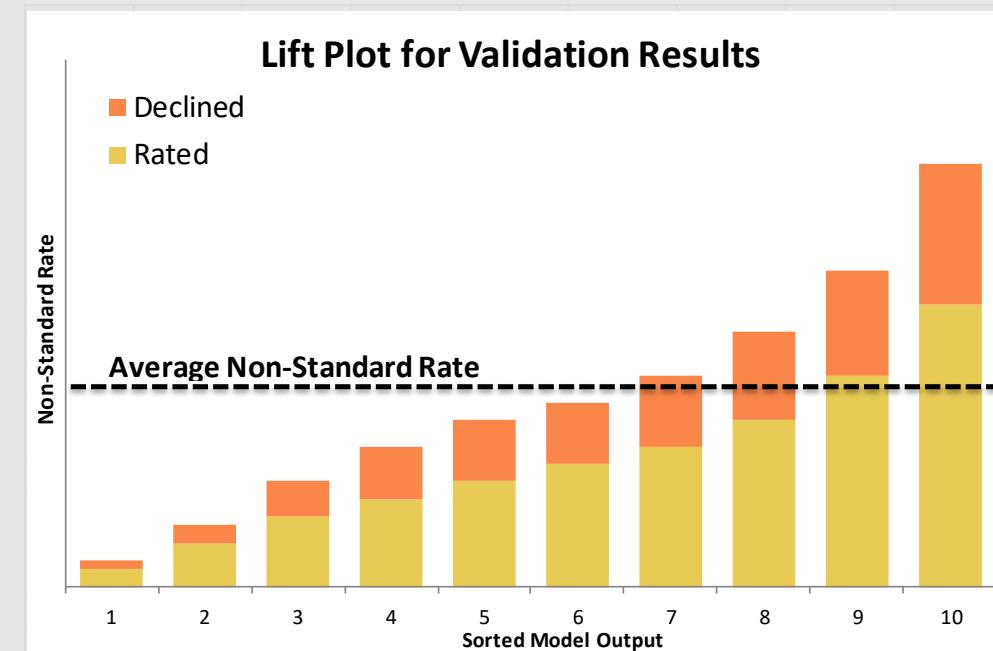
## Data

- Combined Life + P&C data (at time of UW), including rated & declined; enhanced with rich 3<sup>rd</sup> party data
- One model used to predict smoker status and 2<sup>nd</sup> model used to predict being preferred
- At least two dozen variables used for each model, e.g. age, gender, auto violation points, vehicle maker, etc.

## Business Application & Lift Plot

- >20% of current P&C policyholder selected by model
- Only 1 UW question asked for pre-selected customers for life product at standard rate to replace medical UW

Lift Plot for Validation Results



# Bancassurance Predictive Underwriting

A bank with a large customer base expressed a strong desire to increase the sales penetration of their life product, while streamlining the underwriting process.

## Objectives

- To have a simplified underwriting and sales process with high take-up for the best risks
- To reduce acquisition cost
- To improve financial performance

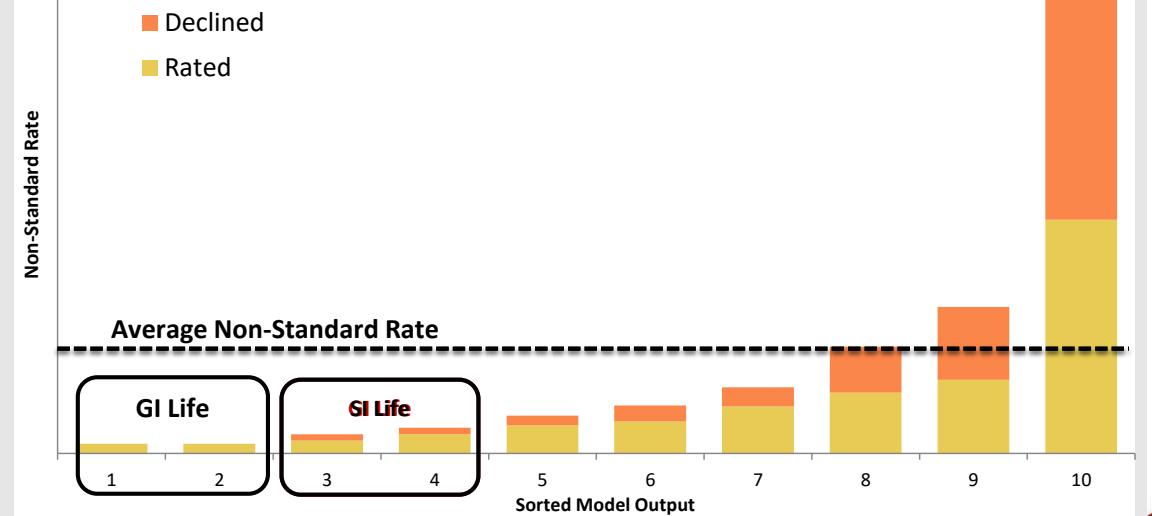
## Data

- Two data sources combined
  - Underwriting data at the time of Issue
  - The bank's financial database
- About 80 variables available for modeling
  - For ex. Demographic Info, Bank & Insurance Product Info and Bank Transactions

## Business Application & Lift Plot

- 11 statistically significant variables in model,
  - Age, gender, branch, AUM, customer segment
- No underwriting questions for the best 20% risks; next best 20% for simplified issue with very few UW questions

Lift Plot of the Validation Results



# Medical Product Upsell

An insurance company has a sizeable medical product customer base and would like to up-sell additional medical coverage to in-force policyholders with significantly reduced underwriting.

## Objectives

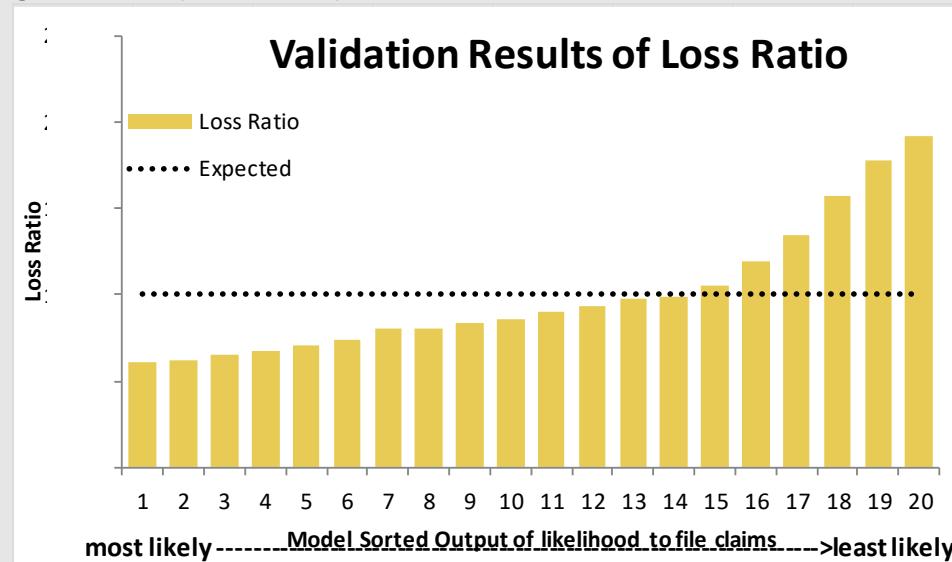
- To increase sales by upselling new PHI products to in-force customer base
- To increase take-up by reducing underwriting requirements for the best risks

## Data

- Large data set with detailed policyholder & claims information (more than 3m base policies & claims, more than 4m riders)
- Modelled total claim cost using wide range of rating factors & compared to pricing to identify low risk policyholders

## Business Application & Validation

- Additional variables identified beyond age/gender, including location, income, occupation, rider count, etc.
- Upsell the new product to 50% of current in-force customers with one UW question on pre-approval basis
- Significantly simplify sale process for customers & agents



# Cancer Product Upsell

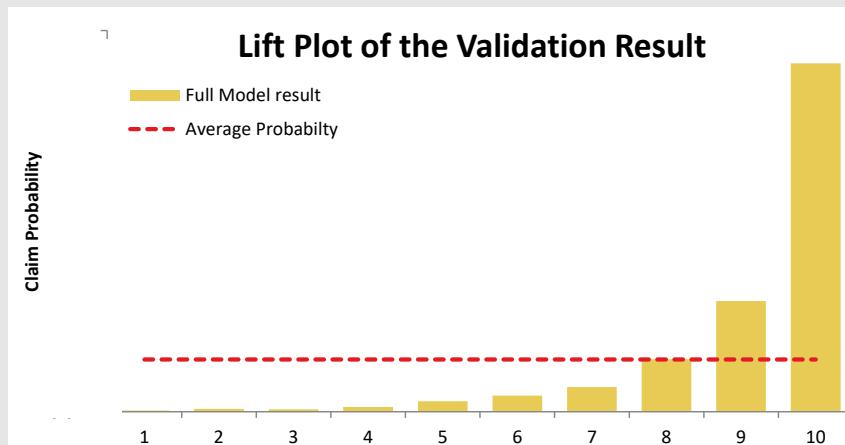
An insurance company has a sizeable cancer product customer base and would like to up-sell a new life & cancer combined product to in-force policyholders with significantly reduced underwriting.

## Objectives

- Find the best risks in the in-force customer base to sell the new product to
- Improve claims experience for this new product

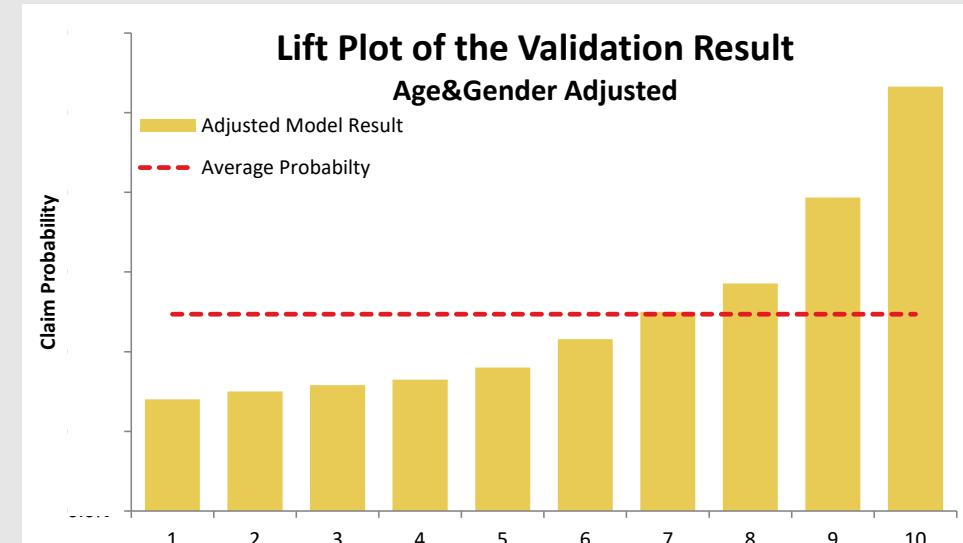
## Data

- Received a very comprehensive data set to understand the true drivers of experience



## Business Application & Validation

- Select best 50% of current customer for the new product with expected future improved claim experience by 40%
- Apply tightened UW for the worst 20% which has an average incidence rate 80% higher than the average
- Effective model with predictive power on claims beyond the current rating factors of age/gender:



# Non-Medical Limit Risk Segmentation

A life insurer would like to adjust their non-medical limits based on real claim experience. Limits to vary according to bespoke risk segmentations instead of a single limit for all risks.

## Objectives

- Determine optimal non-medical limits that should be used for different customer segments
- Streamline the underwriting process
- Identify low risks for up-sell or cross-sell campaigns
- Find true drivers of experience to improve business decisions

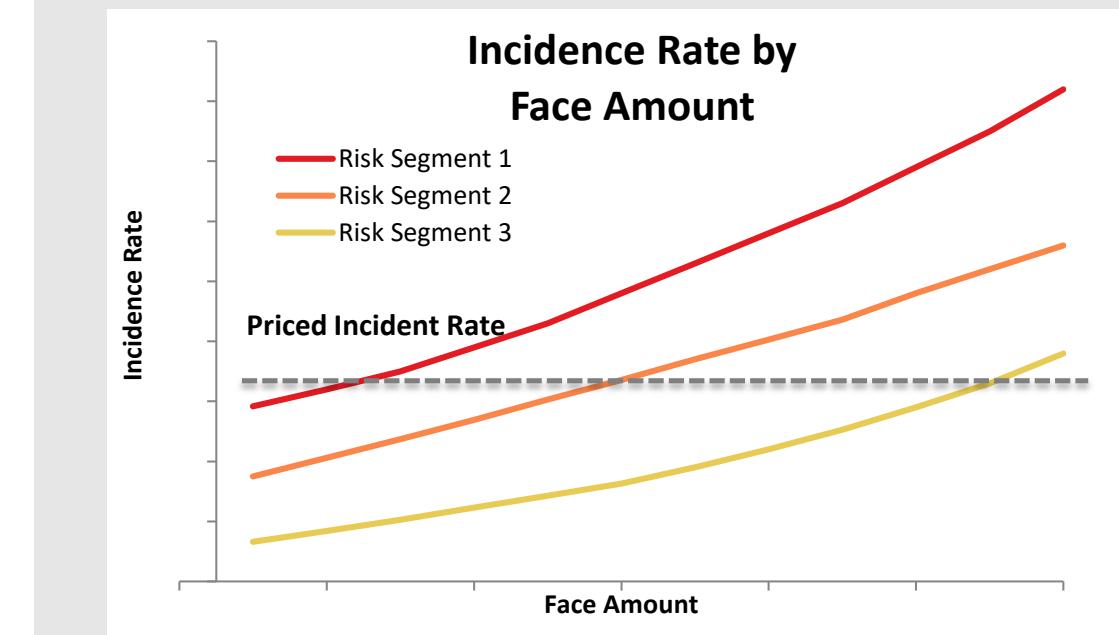
## Data

- Insurance company policyholder, agent & underwriting data

|                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Data Source</b>    | In-force + claims     |
| <b>Study Period</b>   | 5 years               |
| <b>Product</b>        | Life & Accelerated CI |
| <b>Total Exposure</b> | Around 7m life years  |
| <b>Total Claims</b>   | Around 10,000         |

## Business Application & Results

- Justify the requirement of non-medical limit to mitigate risk in the target markets
- High sales volume with high non-medical limit at controlled risk level for good risks



# Claims Fraud Detection

An insurance company was interested in a consistent and effective fraud detection procedure which optimized the use of limited investigation resources.

## Objectives

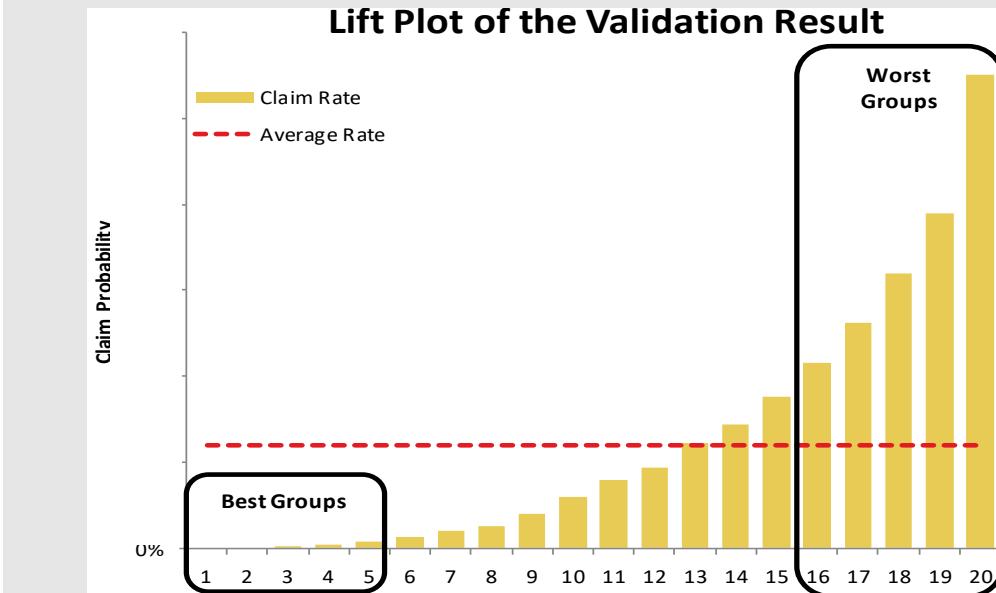
- Determine how likely an incoming claim is a fraudulent case and take appropriate action
- Make the best use of limited claim investigation resources

## Data

- Use claims experience data that have been investigated with known results
- Combined customer demographic information, policy information, and claim background

## Business Application & Validation

- No need to allocate any resource for the best 25% claims, while put vigorous investigation on the worst 25%
- Gain insights on the driving factors of fraud cases to incorporate into pricing bases



# How Can an Actuarial Model Fail?

Formula for Ruin:

Take two Nobel prize winning economists.



Add their highly sophisticated mathematical model – even more sophisticated than the one that became part of the actuarial study notes.



Result: \$3.625 Billion Bailout!

Lesson: Very intelligent people can make huge mistakes when they ignore the likelihood of illogical actions

# An Insurance Example

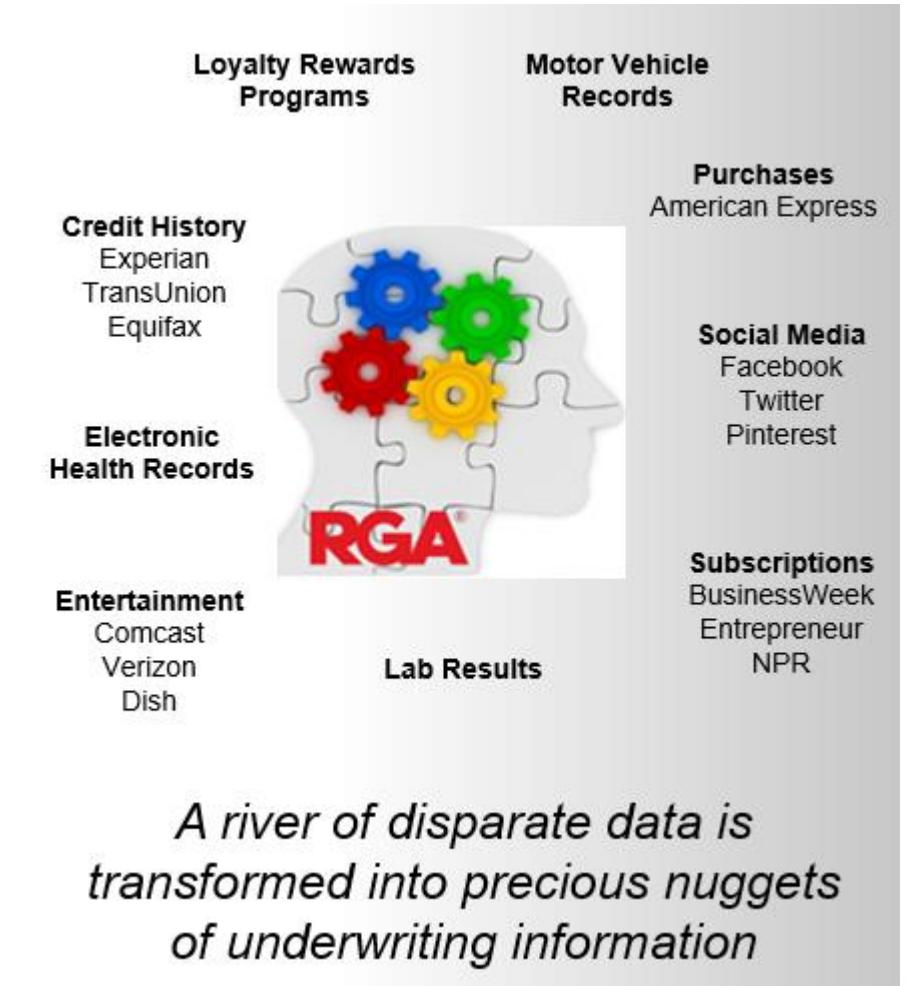
- When is 6 billion dollars more important than 30 billion dollars?
- When it causes the 30 billion dollar asset company to go into receivership!

A conditional tail expectation (CTE)  
may be necessary but not sufficient!

# How will AI and machine learning dramatically change future life insurance underwriting?

The internet of things will know more about you than any personal doctor could ever hope to know about you.

- Wearables; watches, shirts, socks, etc.
- Embeddables: pills, nanobots, labs in your bloodstream
- Appliances: smart fridge, ‘lav’ results, Kindle reading, movies and shows watched
- Consumables: the telltale hamburger, bragging broccoli
- These go beyond Big Brother’s wildest dreams!



RGA patent 8775218 issued July, 2014

Transforming data for rendering an insurability decision

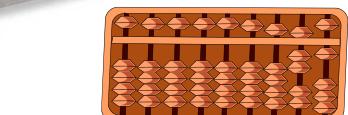
# New Tools Require New Skills



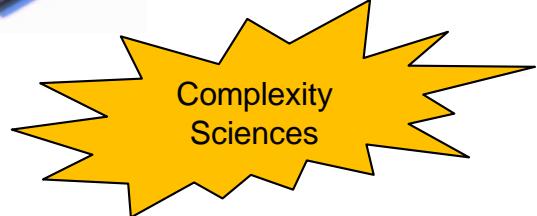
$$3+4=4+3$$



$$3-4 \neq 4-3$$



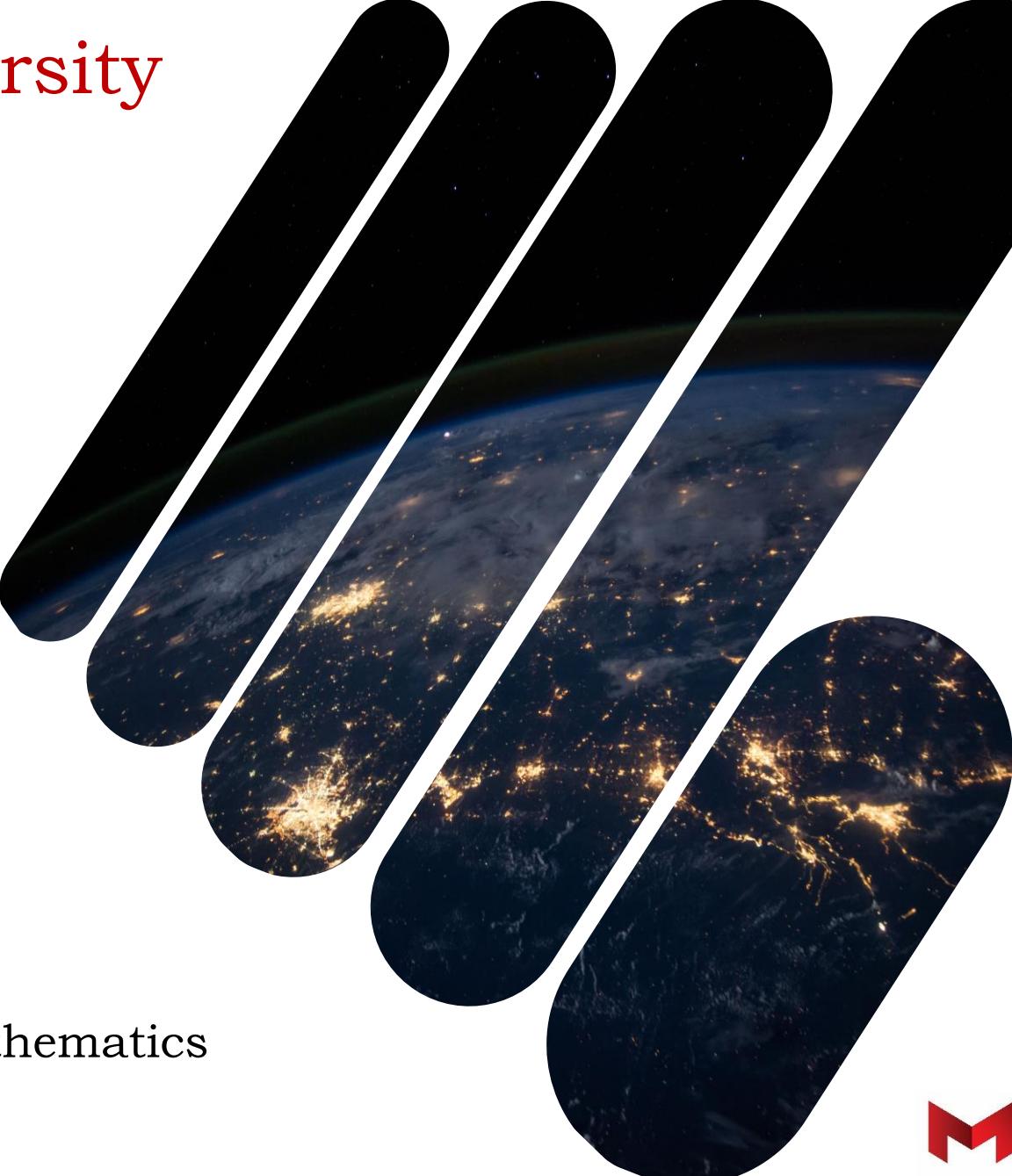
Find this video on YouTube via search term ChainsawAlton (one word).



# Data Science at Maryville University

MS in Data Science  
BS in Data Science  
Minor in Data Science

## Courses



Machine Learning  
Big Data Analysis  
Introduction to R  
Python  
SQL

Everyday Data  
Introduction to R  
Predictive Modeling  
Deep Learning  
Statistical Modeling

Jennifer Yukna

Assistant Dean of Sciences & Mathematics

[jyukna@Maryville.edu](mailto:jyukna@Maryville.edu)

314-529-6858

Guangwei Fan

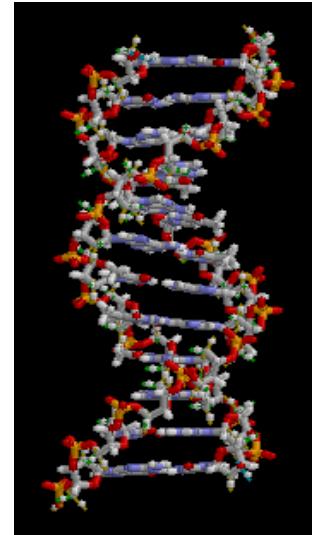
Director of Actuarial Science, Data Science, & Mathematics

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314-529-9427

# Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning: What are they? How can we adapt to them?

Introduction to Machine Learning  
St. Louis Actuaries Club 26-Jun-2018



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