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| Year | What happened | Names |
| 18th Century  1700s | Development of calculus (deals with continuous change) | Isaac Newton  Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz |
| 19th Century  1800s  1847 | First Algorithm intended for use on a machine (first published algorithm for machine learning).  Development of Boolean algebra. | Ada Lovelace (English mathematician and writer).  George Boole (mathematician and logician). |
| 20th Century  1920s  1944  1950s  1972  1973  1980s | Maximum likelihood estimation.  First conceptual model of an artificial neural network.  Development of Bayesian inference.  Turing Test to investigate machine’s intelligence.  First use of the term “artificial intelligence”.  IDF (inverse document frequency).  Lighthill's report caused the British government to withdraw its funding for AI research.  Parallel distributed processing. | Ronald Fisher (British polymath).  Warren S. McCulloch (a neuroscientist)  Walter Pitts (a Logician).  Thomas Bayes.  Alan Turing.  Dartmouth college.  Karen Spärck Jones.  Sir James Lighthill (British mathematician and aeronautical engineer).  David E. Rumelhart and  Jay L. McClelland (Psychologists). |
| 21st Century |  |  |