

# NYU FRE 7773 - Week 6

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*Machine Learning in Financial Engineering*

Ethan Rosenthal

# Case Study: Fraud Detection

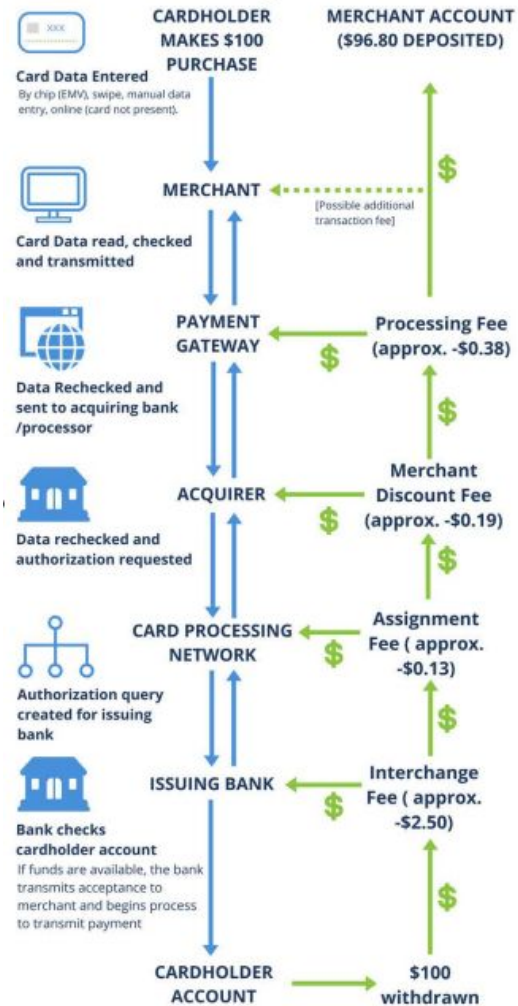
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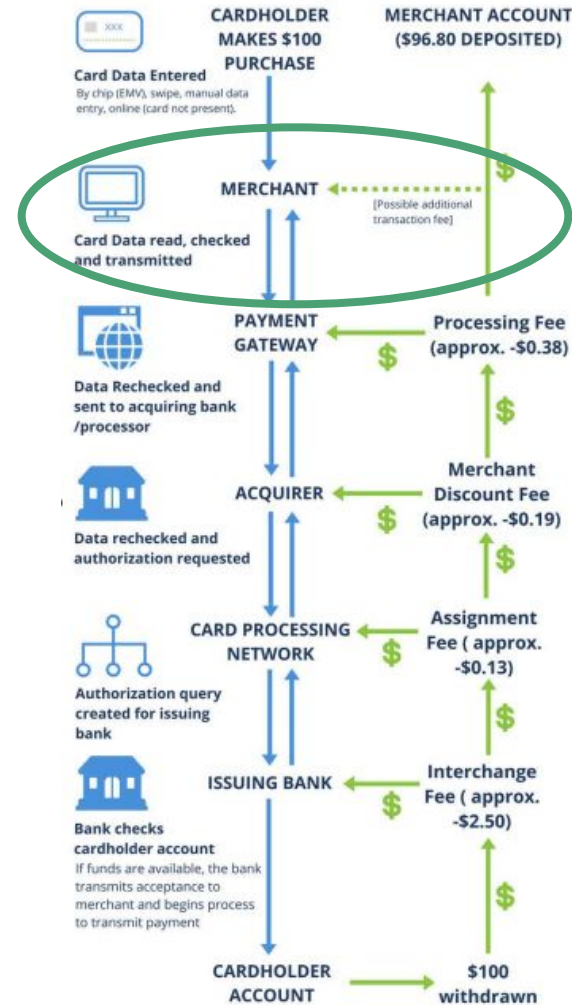
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Risk

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## Square Launches On-Demand and Instant Payments for Square Payroll Customers



Square introduced two new features this week to help its customers using Square Payroll – as well as their employees – manage their cash flow.

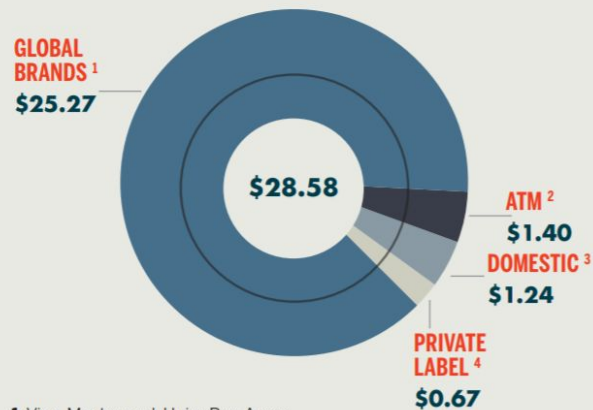
Fraud

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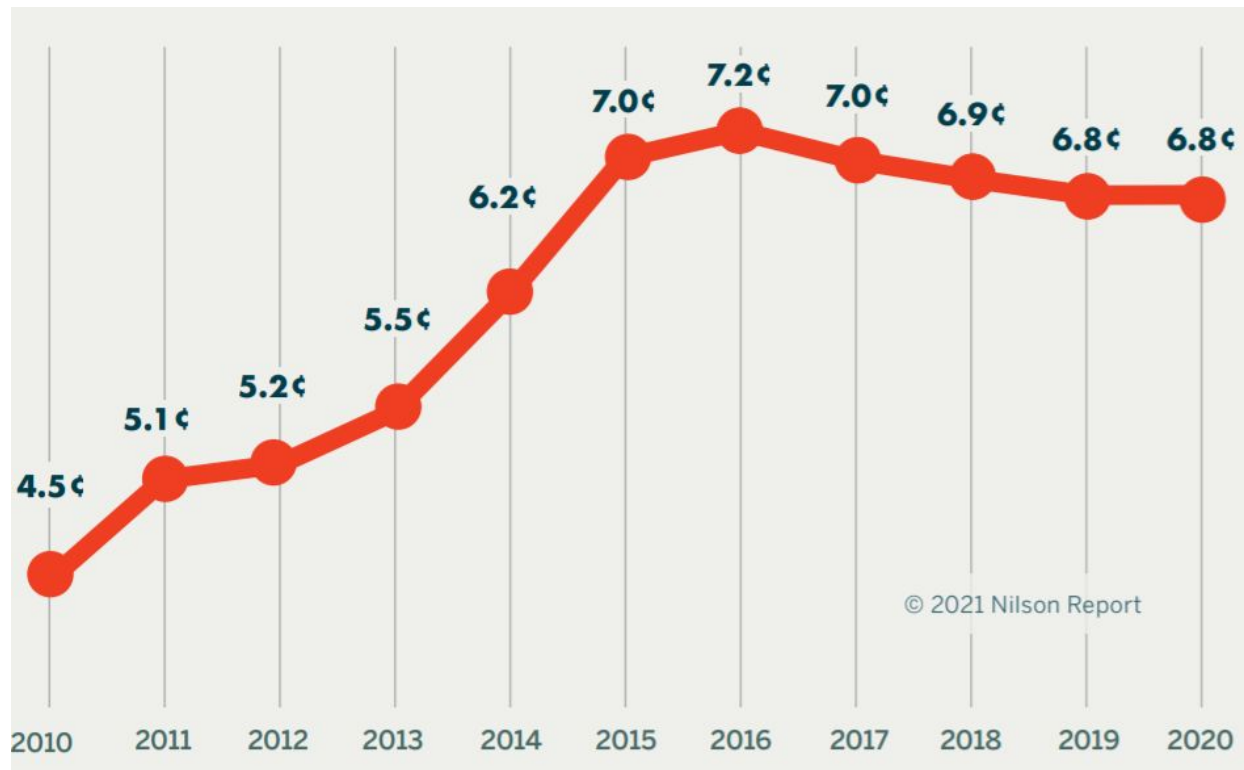
## Fraud by Type of Card

Billions in 2020



**1** Visa, Mastercard, UnionPay, Amex, Diners/Discover, JCB. **2** From transactions processed outside of global networks. **3** Elo, RuPay, Interac, Cartes Bancaire, Mir and 88 others. **4** Includes store, gasoline, airlines, medical, ACH debit, prepaid etc.

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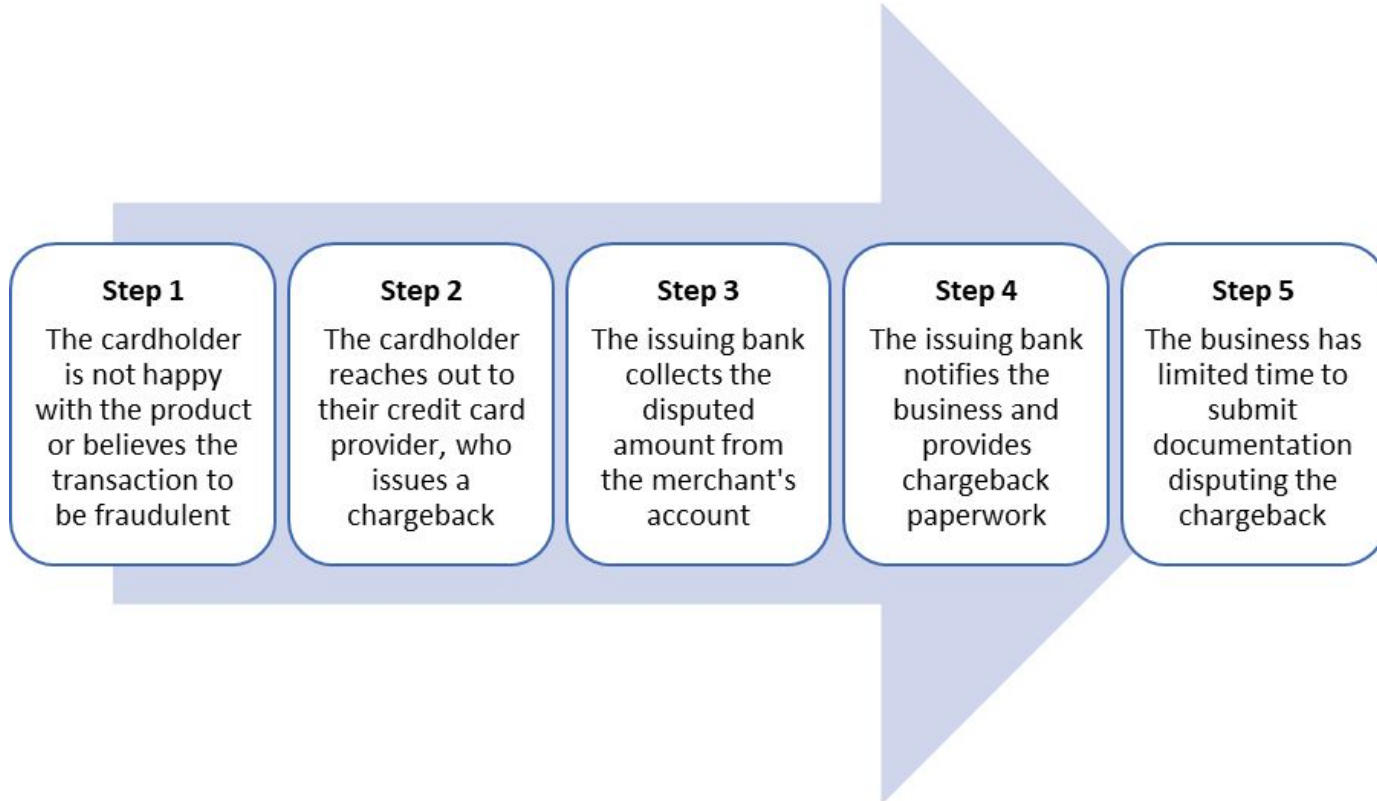
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## Card Fraud Projected through 2030

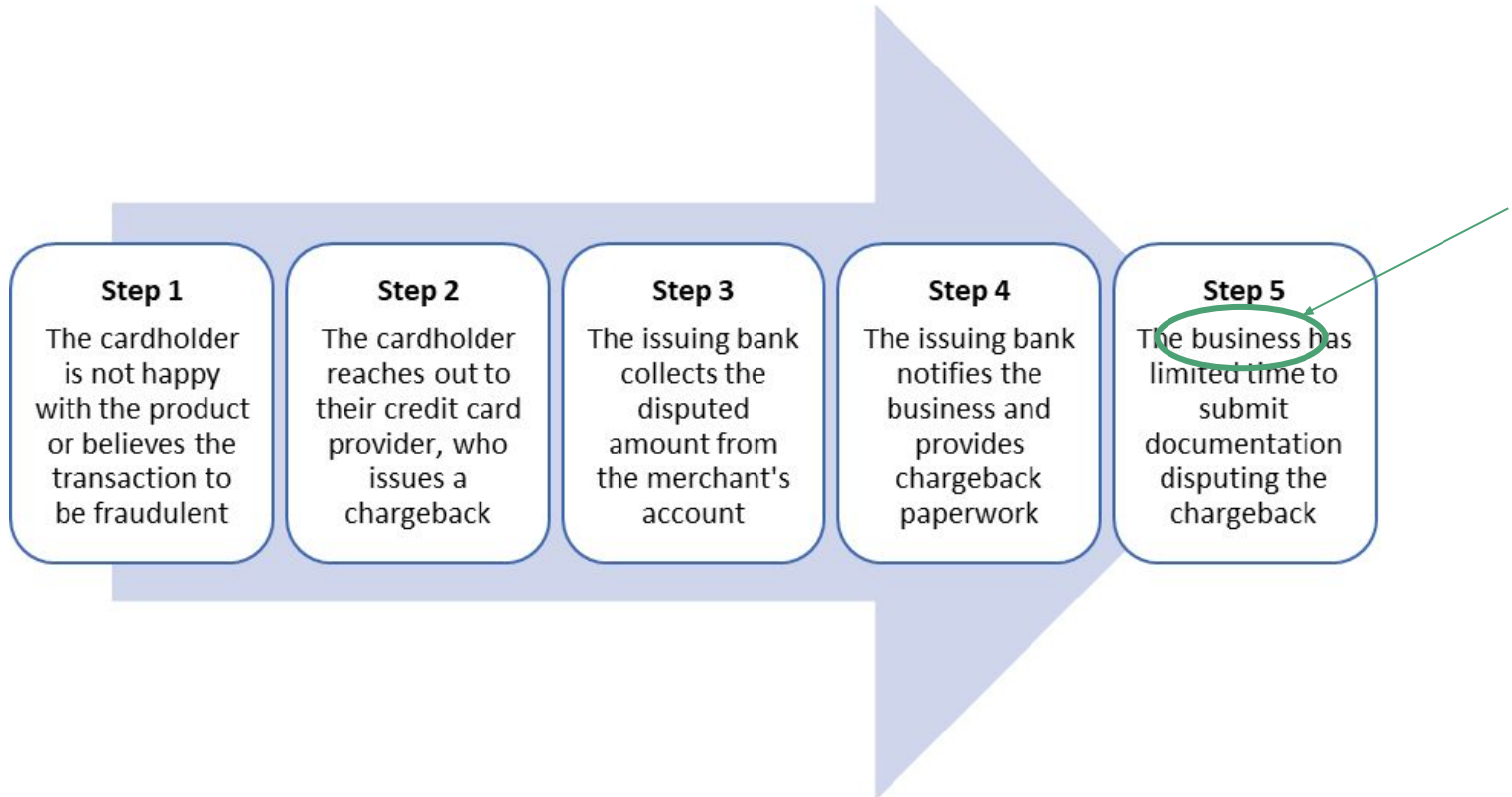
	Total Volume	Fraud	Cents per
YEAR	(TRIL.)	(BIL.)	\$100 VOLUME
2020	\$41.962	\$28.58	6.81
2021	\$47.229	\$32.20	6.82
2022	\$50.868	\$34.36	6.75
2023	\$54.061	\$36.13	6.68
2024	\$57.323	\$38.07	6.64
2025	\$60.583	\$39.89	6.58
2026	\$64.038	\$41.73	6.52
2027	\$67.570	\$43.76	6.48
2028	\$71.221	\$45.54	6.39
2029	\$75.111	\$47.50	6.32
2030	\$79.140	\$49.32	6.23

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# Chargebacks



# Chargebacks

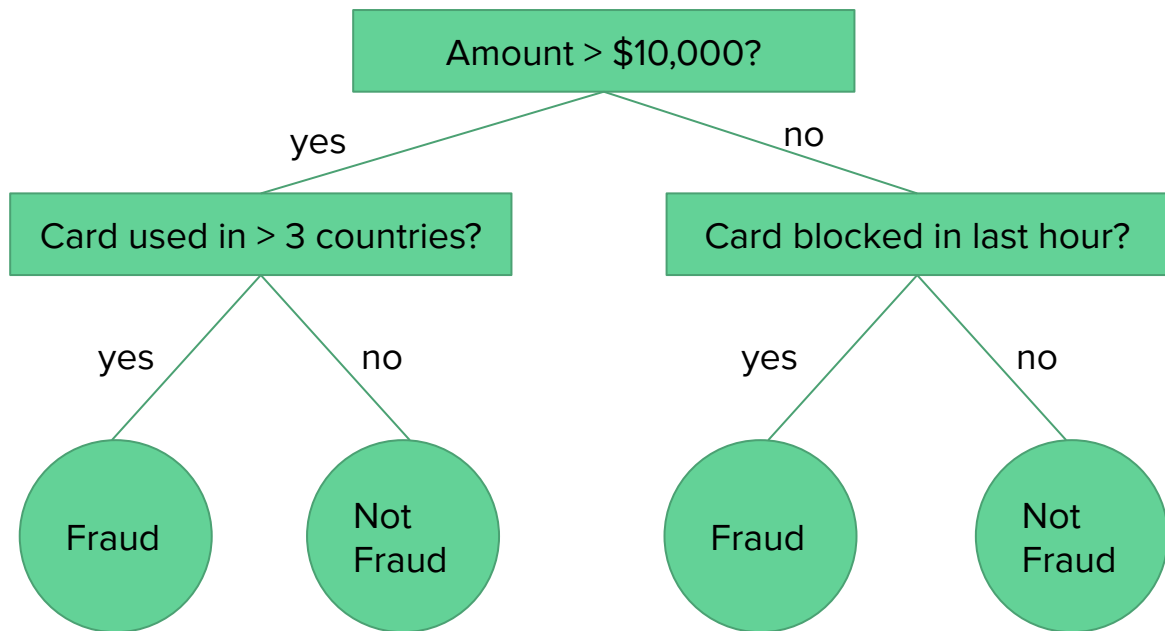


# Fraud Detection

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# Rules

- A manual decision tree
- Ideally, high precision, low recall
- Quick and dirty.
- Lots of manual work and tuning.

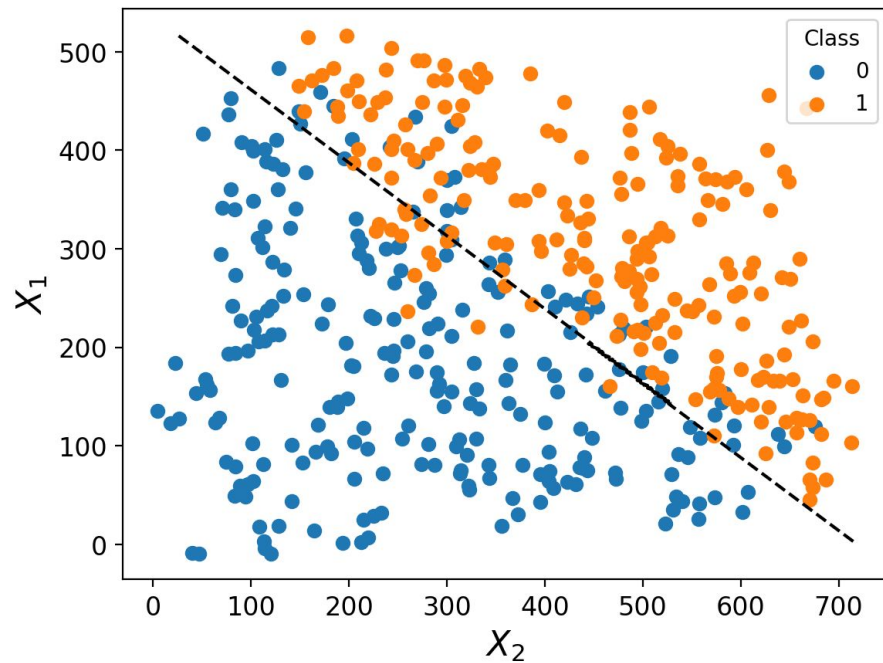


# Machine Learning Models

- Binary classification: fraud vs. not fraud
- Sample -> often an **event** (e.g. payment transaction, bank withdrawal).
- **X** -> event features + auxiliary features
- **y** -> was event “associated” with fraud or not
- Train model on historical events, predict on real time events.

# Machine Learning Models

- Logistic regression is simple and can be extremely fast for low latency applications.

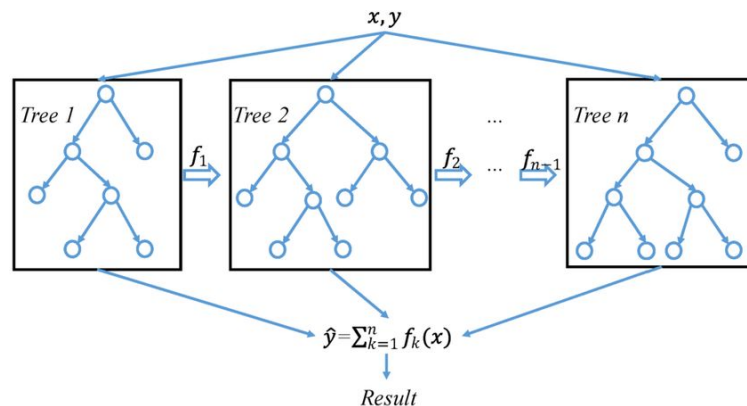




# Machine Learning Models

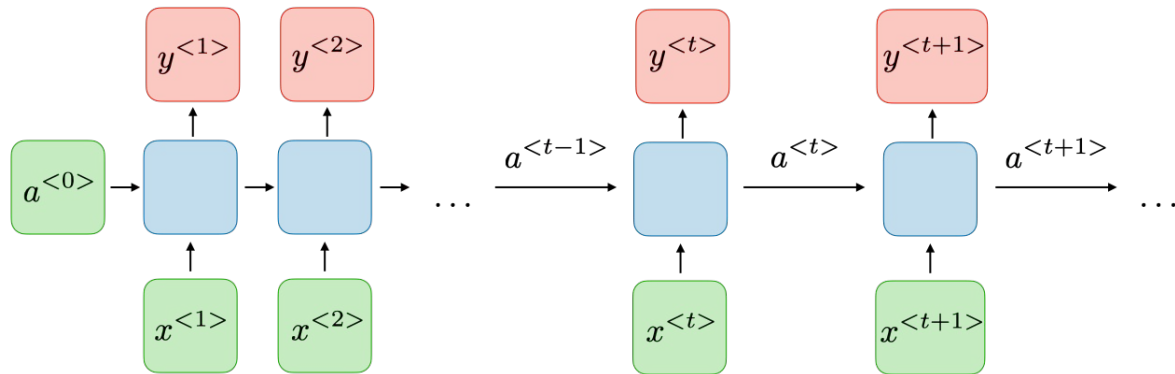
- Tree-based models work particularly well.
- Domain naturally lends itself to if/else statements.
- Easy to tune.
- Relatively fast to train and predict.
- Somewhat interpretable.

*dmlc*  
**XGBoost**



# Machine Learning Models

- Deep learning models can handle sequences of events.
- Much trickier to model and tune.



TensorFlow

 PyTorch

# Fraud Detection Difficulties

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KEANO REEVES DENNIS HOPPER SANDRA BULLOCK

GET  
READY FOR  
RUSH  
HOUR.

**SPEED**

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX PRESENTS A MARK GORDON PRODUCTION KEANO REEVES DENNIS HOPPER SANDRA BULLOCK "SPEED"

JOE MORTON AND JEFF DANIELS WITH MARK MANDOLINI EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JUDITH WRIGHT, A.K.A. "JUDY" PRODUCED BY JACKSON DEBORA DIRECTED BY MARK GORDON

CASTING BY JANE WATSON COSTUME DESIGNER JANE WATSON EDITOR JANE WATSON EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JUDITH WRIGHT, A.K.A. "JUDY" PRODUCED BY JACKSON DEBORA DIRECTED BY MARK GORDON

**JUNE 10**

© 1994 TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX FILM CORPORATION

A movie poster for the film "Speed". The background features a close-up of Keanu Reeves' face on the left, looking intensely at the viewer. On the right, a bus is shown engulfed in flames, appearing to crash or burn. The title "SPEED" is written in large, bold, red letters across the bottom. Above it, the tagline "GET READY FOR RUSH HOUR." is displayed in white, blocky capital letters. At the top, the names of the lead actors are listed: KEANU REEVES DENNIS HOPPER SANDRA BULLOCK. Below the main title, there is a dense line of credits including producers, writers, directors, and other cast members. In the bottom left corner, there is a rating box showing "R" for Restricted, and in the bottom center, the release date "JUNE 10" is prominently displayed. A small logo for Twentieth Century Fox is visible in the bottom right corner.

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[illegible]

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# Speed – Realtime Features

- Payment Amount
- Transaction Country
- ...



# Speed – Realtime Features

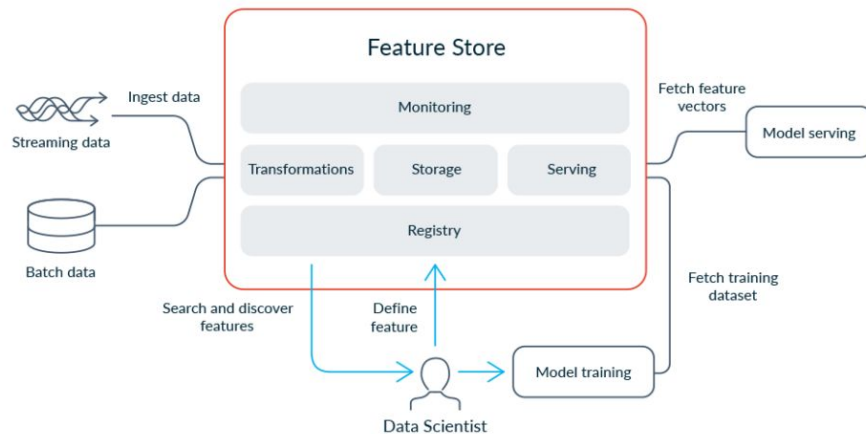
- Standard deviation of milliseconds between transaction attempts over the last 30 seconds.



# Speed – Realtime Features

Feature Stores are systems for ingesting streams of events and converting them into features, *quickly*.

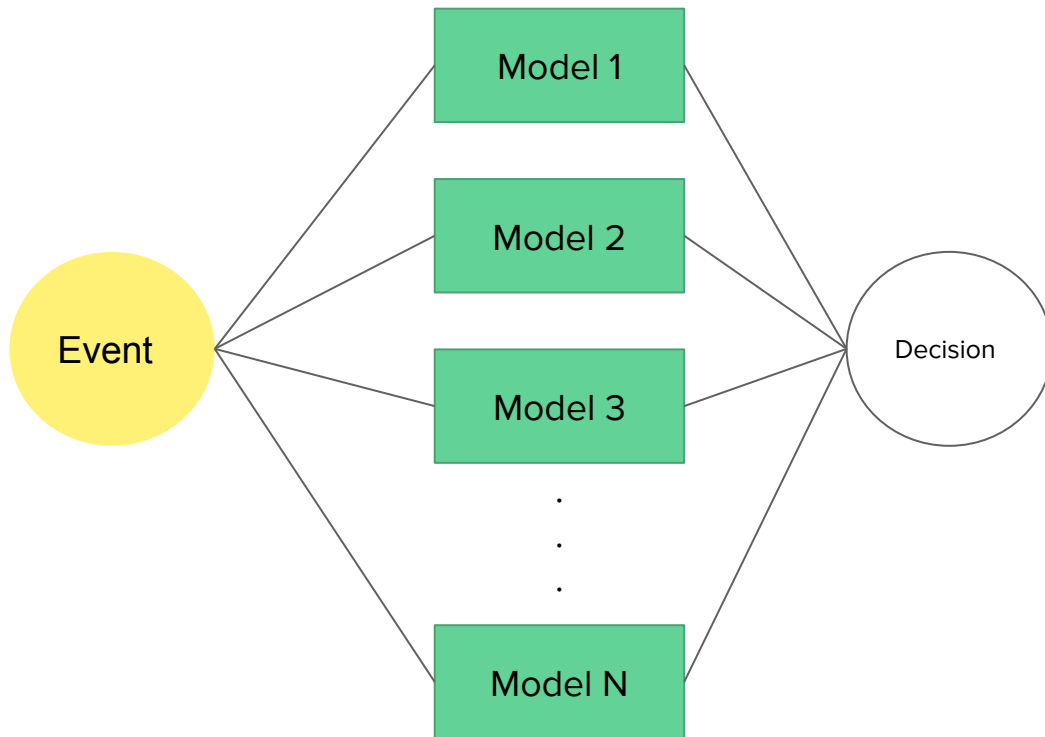
Tradeoff between feature *accuracy* and *latency*.



# tection

# Speed – Realtime Detection

- Thousands of rules and models for a given event.
- Limited time that each can take.
- Sync vs. async workflows.



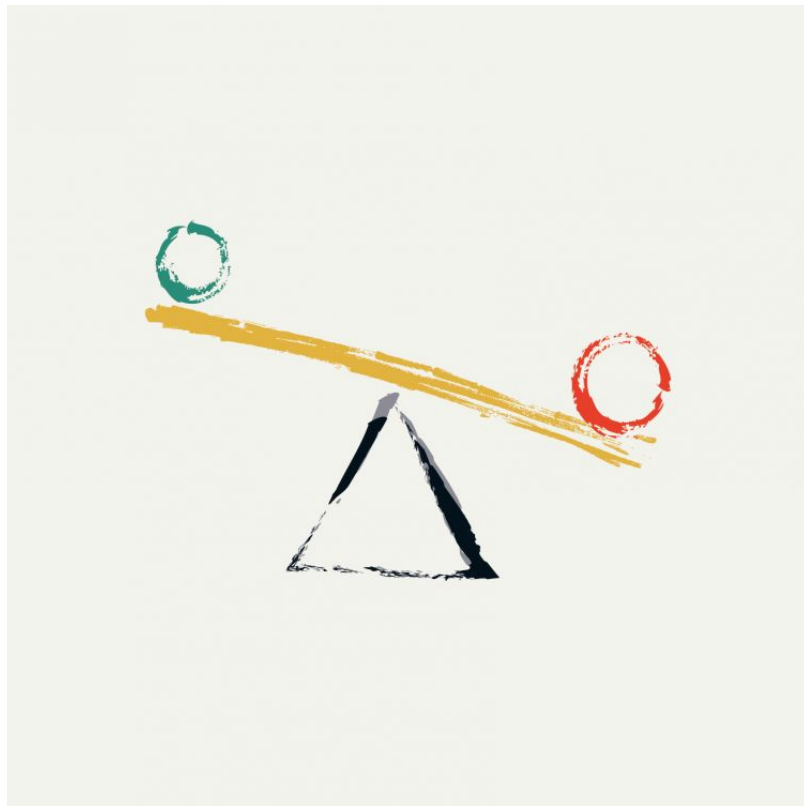


# Fraud Decisioning

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# Tradeoffs

- Automation vs. Confidence
  - Block high fraud likelihood transactions.
  - Manually review when not sure.
- Friction vs. Risk
  - Verify via SMS vs. providing bank documents.
- **False Positives vs. False Negatives**





**lil du bois** 🌸  
@\_lildubois

...

well, well, well, if it isn't the consequences of my own actions

1:25 AM · Sep 29, 2018 · Twitter for Android

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**133.7K** Retweets   **5,164** Quote Tweets   **297K** Likes

# Training Models

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# Machine Learning Models

- Binary classification: fraud vs. not fraud
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# Speed – ~~Realtime~~ Historical Features

- Standard deviation of milliseconds between transaction attempts over the last 30 seconds **at the time the Fraud model would make its prediction.**



## Speed – ~~Realtime~~ Historical Features

- Standard deviation of milliseconds between transaction attempts over the last 30 seconds **at the time the Fraud model would make its prediction.**
- **Don't leak the future into the past!**





# Speed – ~~Realtime~~ Historical Features

- Standard deviation of milliseconds between transaction attempts over the last 30 seconds **at the time the Fraud model would make its prediction.**
- **Don't leak the future into the past!**
- **Historical features must match realtime features (“train/test skew”)**



# Machine Learning Models

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# Life of Ground Truth

Fraudulent  
Payment  
Transaction

$y = 1$

Chargeback



Good  
Payment  
Transaction

$y = 0$



# Life of Ground Truth

Fraudulent  
Payment  
Transaction

$y = 1$

?????

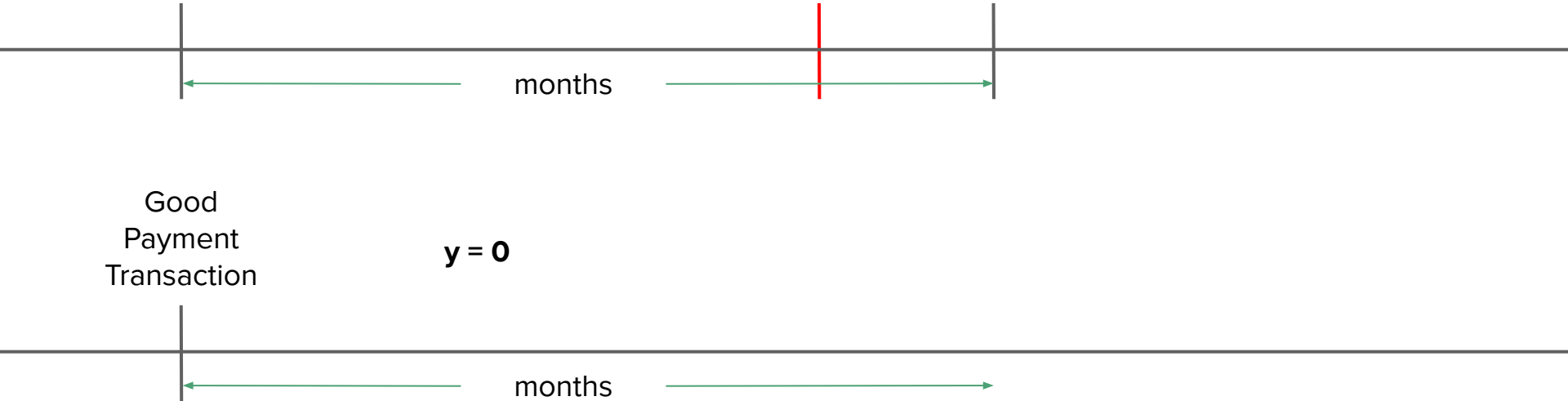
Chargeback

months

Good  
Payment  
Transaction

$y = 0$

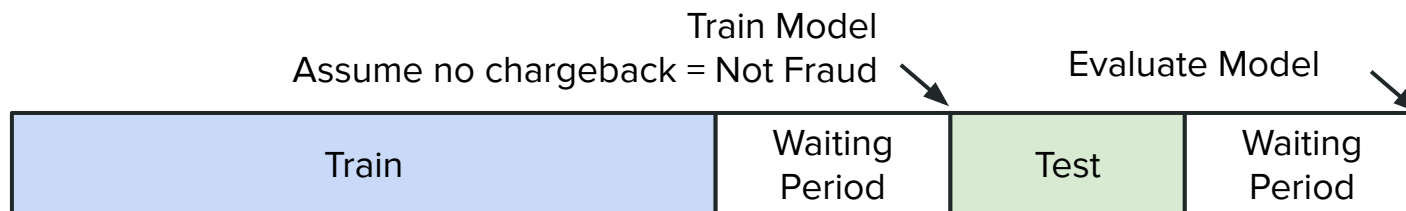
months

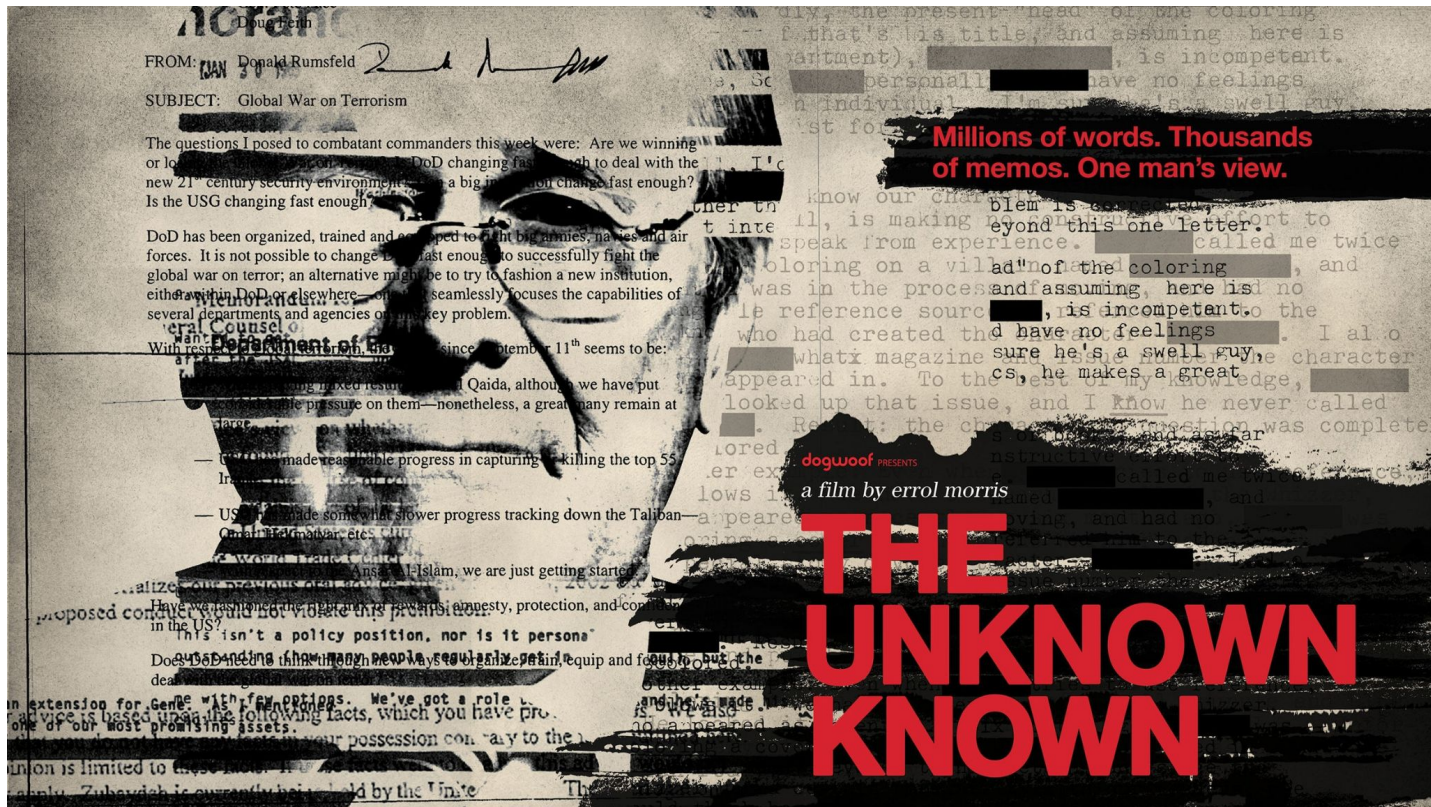


# Train/Test Split



# Train/Test Split





# Life of Ground Truth

Fraudulent  
Payment  
Transaction

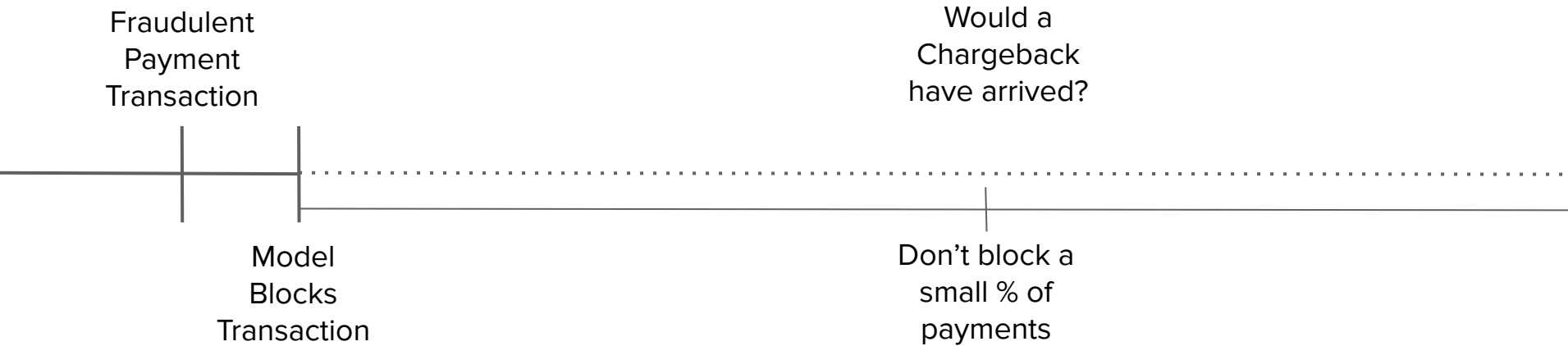
Would a  
Chargeback  
have arrived?

Model  
Blocks  
Transaction





# Life of Ground Truth



# Optimization

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# What are we optimizing for?

## False Positive

- Miss out on a sale
- Churn – long term risk
- Difficult to measure!

## False Negative

- Straightforward financial loss
- Could be unbounded

## Capacity

- Limited capacity for human review
- Capacity has a cost

# What are we optimizing for?

## False Positive

## Precision

- Miss out on a sale
- Churn – long term risk
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## False Negative

## Recall

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- Could be unbounded

## Capacity

## Support / Positive Prediction Rate

- Limited capacity for human review
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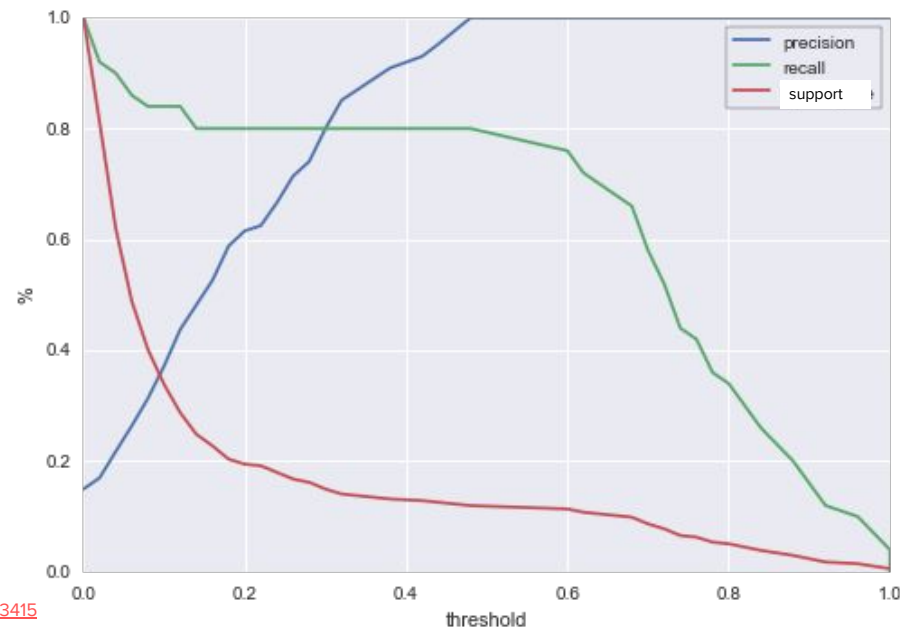
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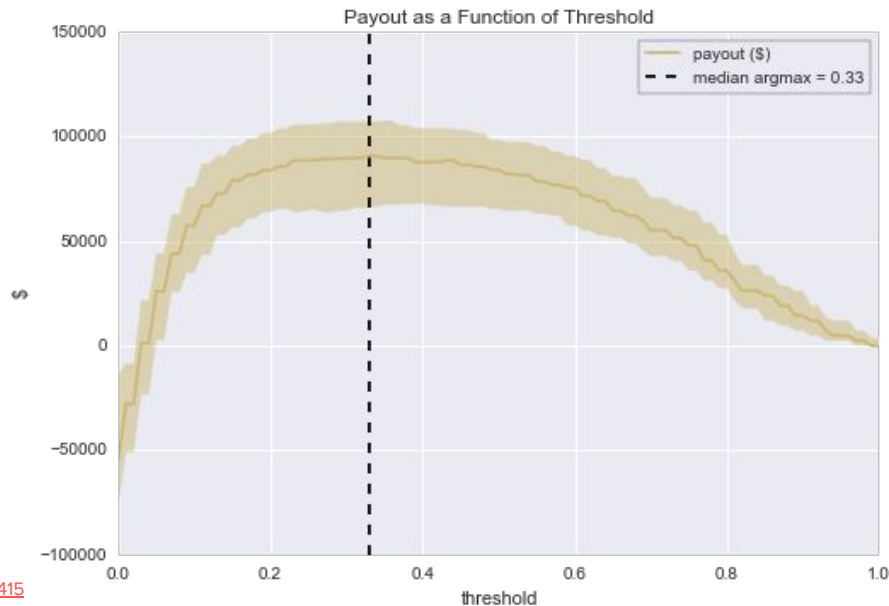
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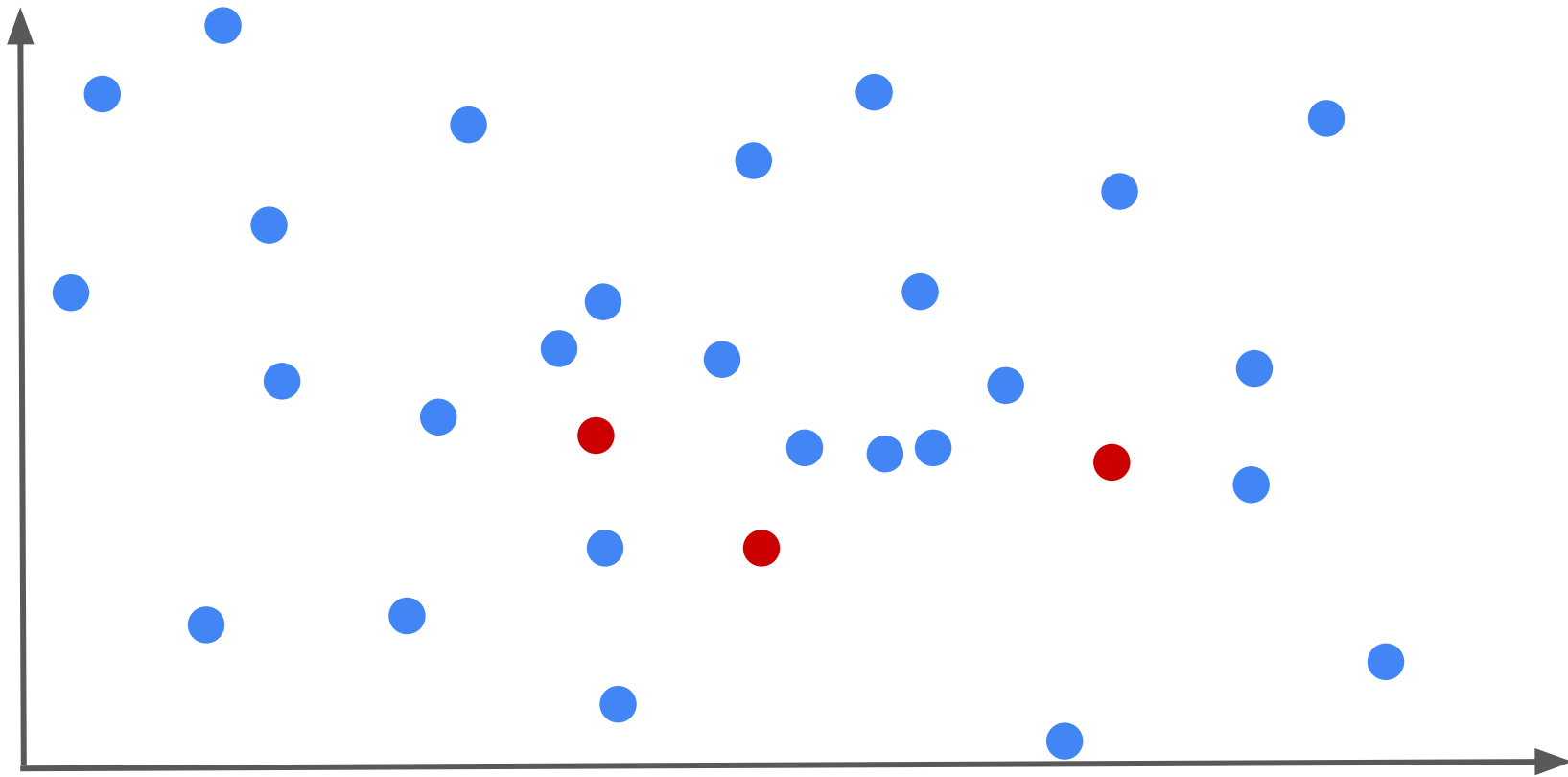


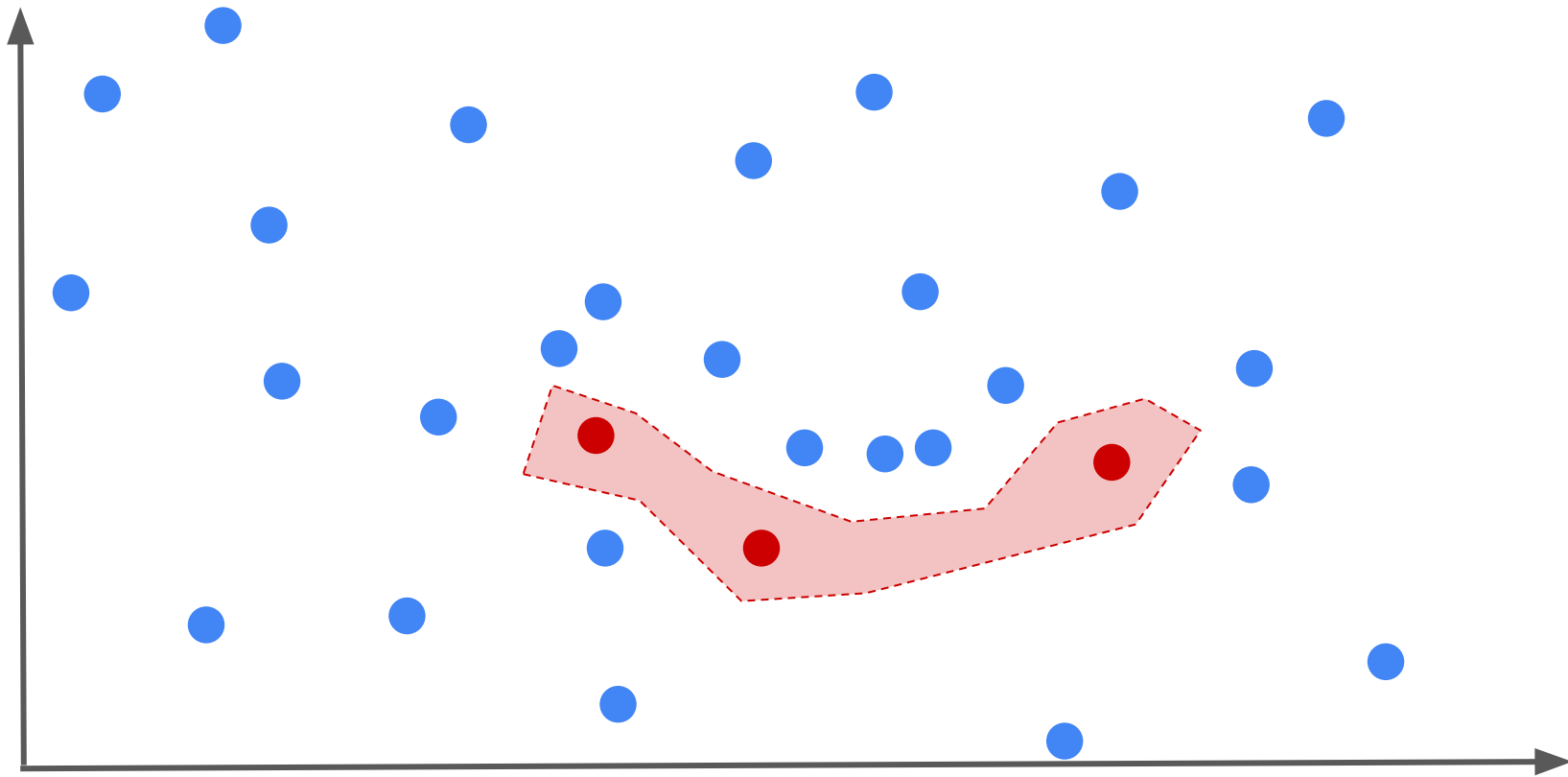
# Class Imbalance

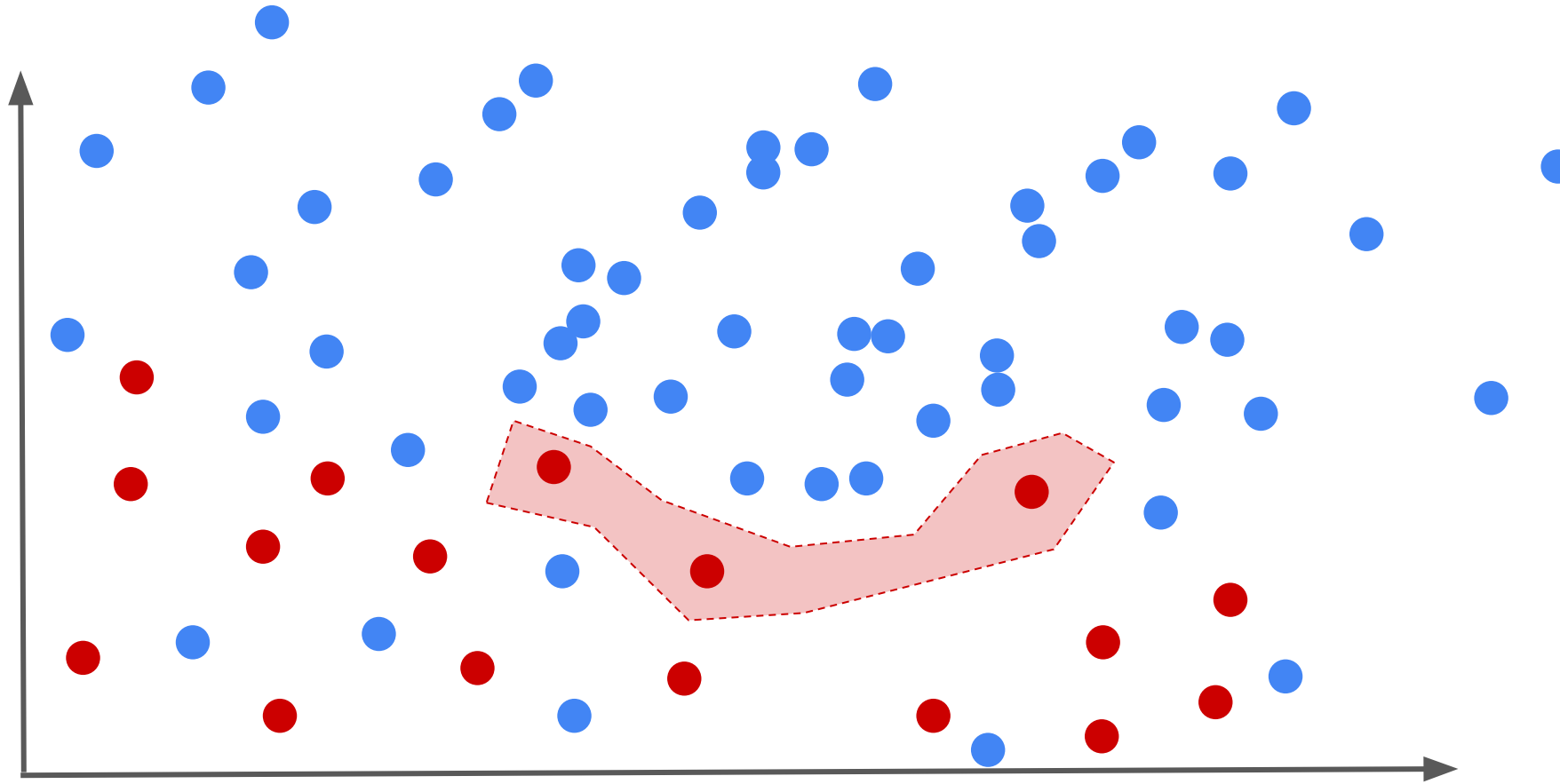
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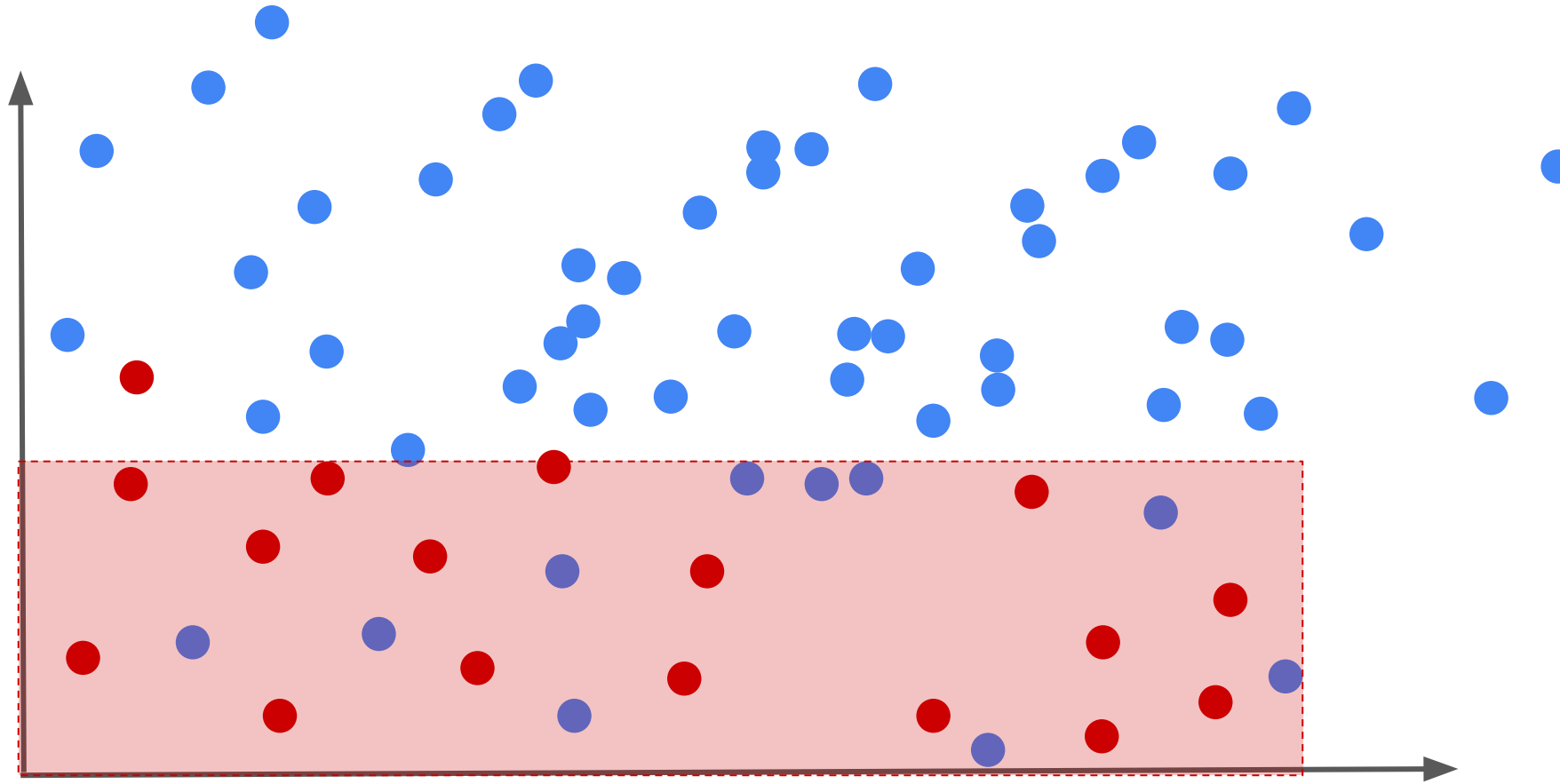
You need a lot of data





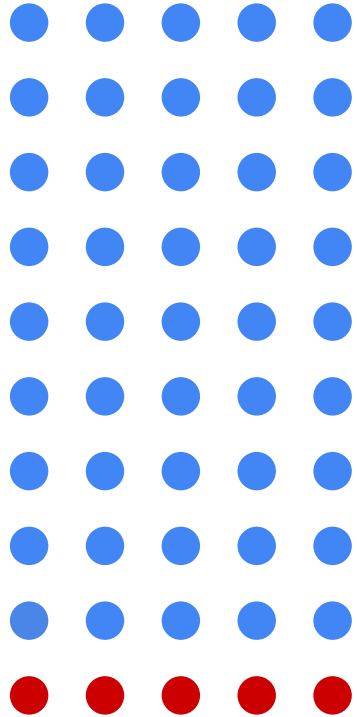




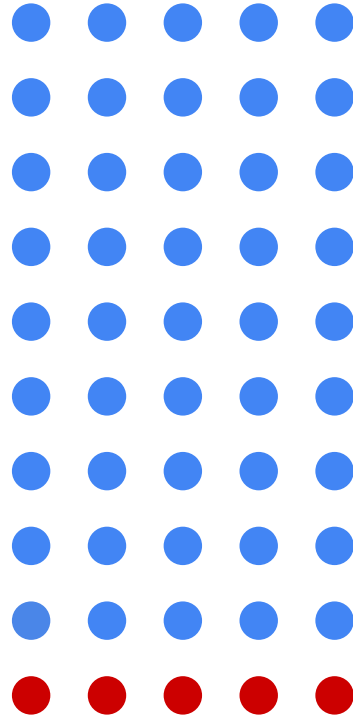


# Stratified Sampling

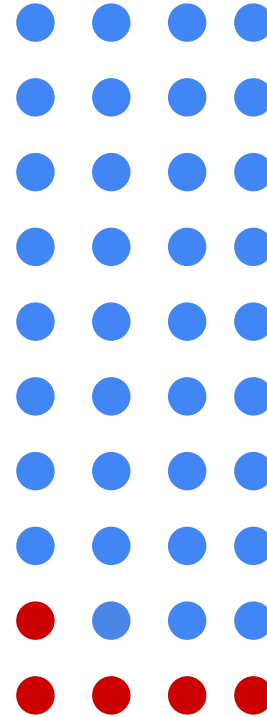
Full Dataset:  
50 samples, 10% Red



Full Dataset:  
50 samples, 10% Red



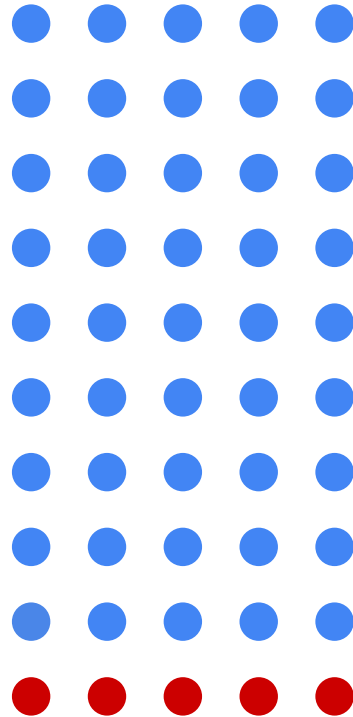
Training  
40 samples, 12.5% Red



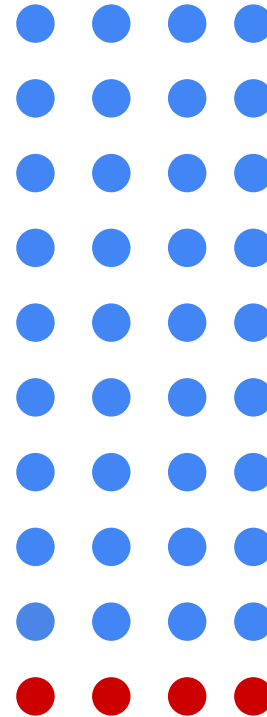
Test  
10 samples, 0% Red



Full Dataset:  
50 samples, 10% Red



Training  
40 samples, 10% Red



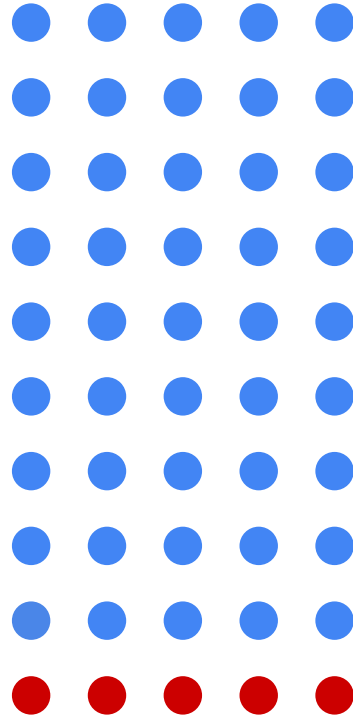
Test  
10 samples, 10% Red



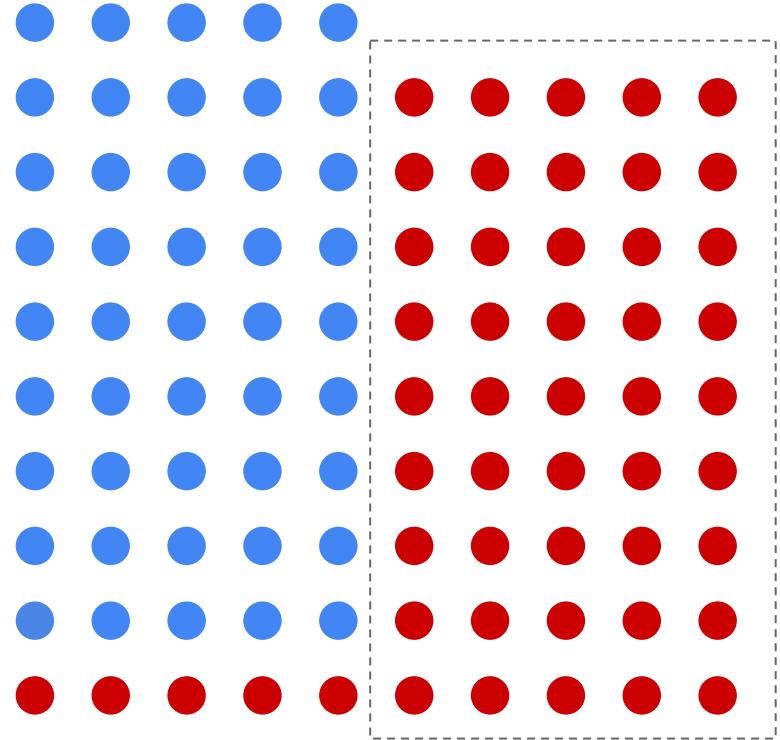


Upsampling

Full Dataset:  
50 samples, 10% Red

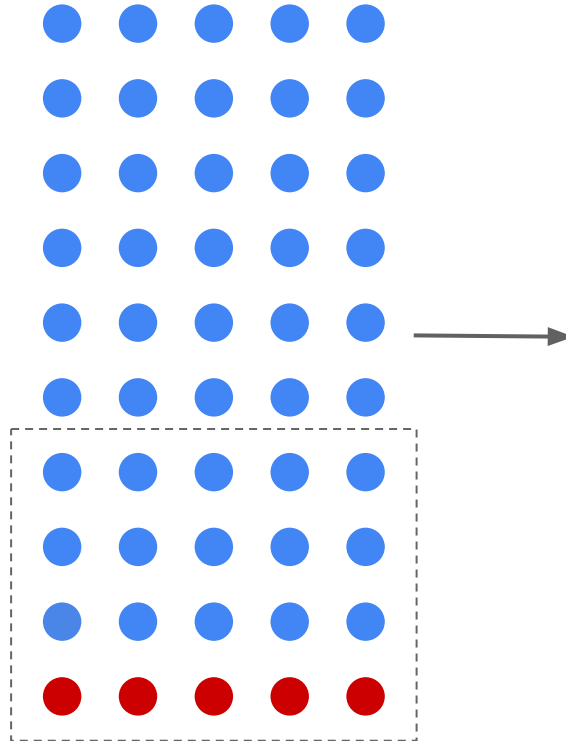


Upsampled Dataset:  
100 samples, 50% Red

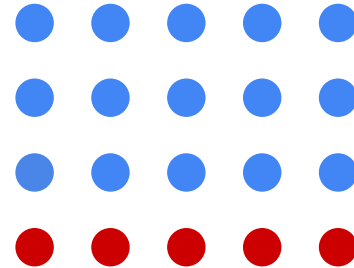


Downsampling

Full Dataset:  
50 samples, 10% Red



Downsampled Dataset:  
40 samples, 25% Red



# Class Weighting

Metrics

# Imbalanced Metrics

- Accuracy is not good!
- Sampling -> weighted metrics
- Uncertainty