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INTRODUCTION TO MACHINE LEARNING

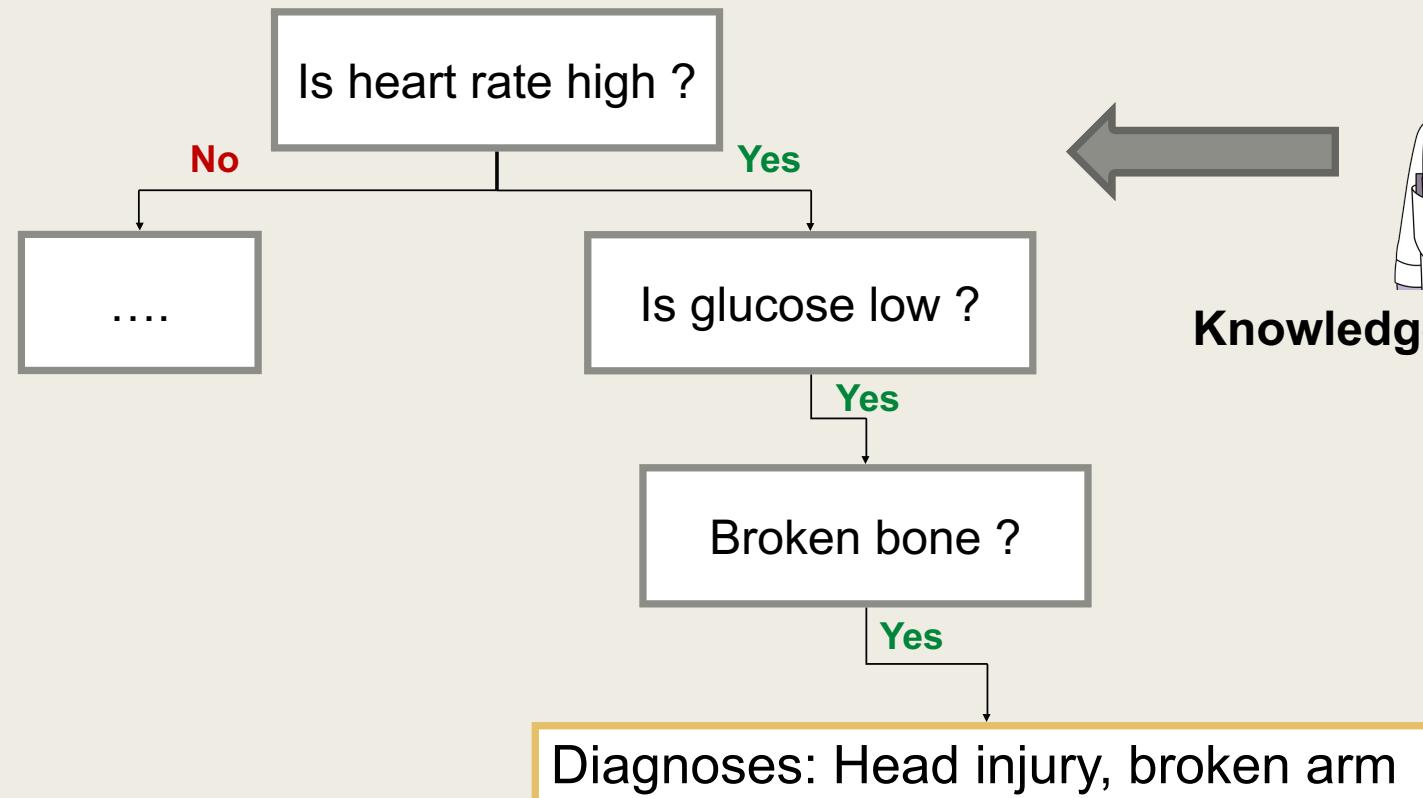
WHAT IS MACHINE LEARNING?

Machine Learning

- A subfield of Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- The field of study that gives computers the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed — Arthur Samuel

What is “NOT” machine learning

AI system for medical diagnosis



Knowledge from an expert

What is machine learning

Can we learn those rules from the data ?

Heart rate	Glucose	Broken bone	Diagnoses
High	Low	Yes		Head Injury, Broken arm
Normal	High	No		Diabetes
....

Supervised machine learning: Features X



Labels Y

Model Output

What is machine learning

- How would you teach someone to ____ ?
- Classify if an email is spam
- Estimate how many likes your post will get
- Recommend a movie to a friend
- Group customers into segments

What is machine learning

- Let's listen from the world's expert
- <http://ta.virot.me/fb-ai-explainer/>

WHAT ARE MACHINE LEARNING USE CASES?

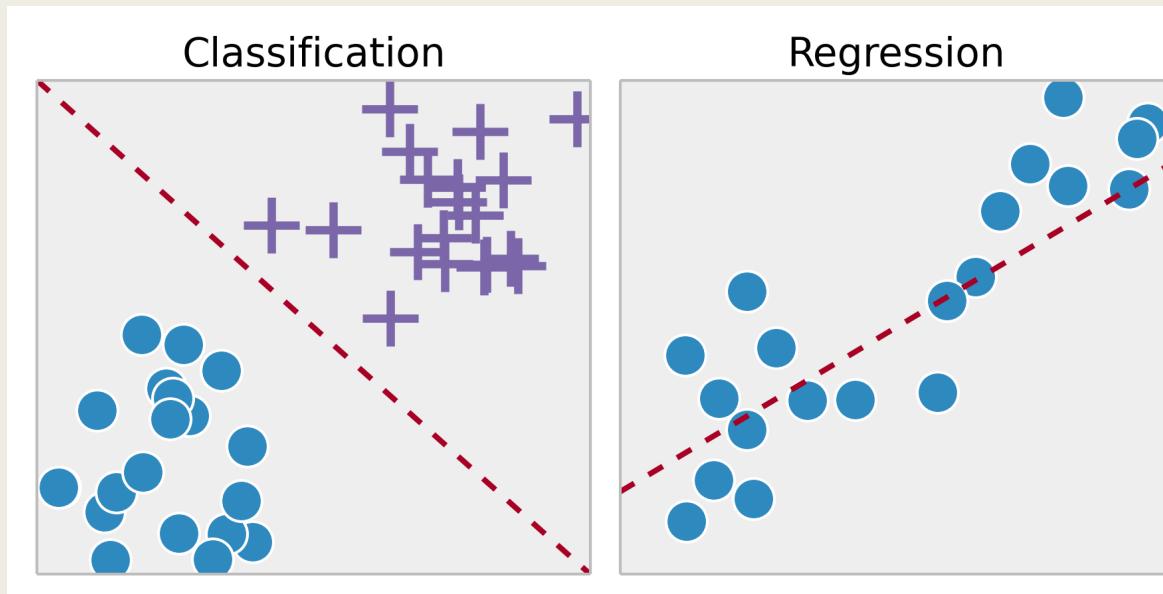
Agoda's use cases

- Pay-Per-Click (PPC) Bidding Algorithm
- Search and Recommender Systems
- Dynamic Pricing
- Fraud Detection
- Photos Auto-tagging

Type of machine learning

■ Supervised Learning

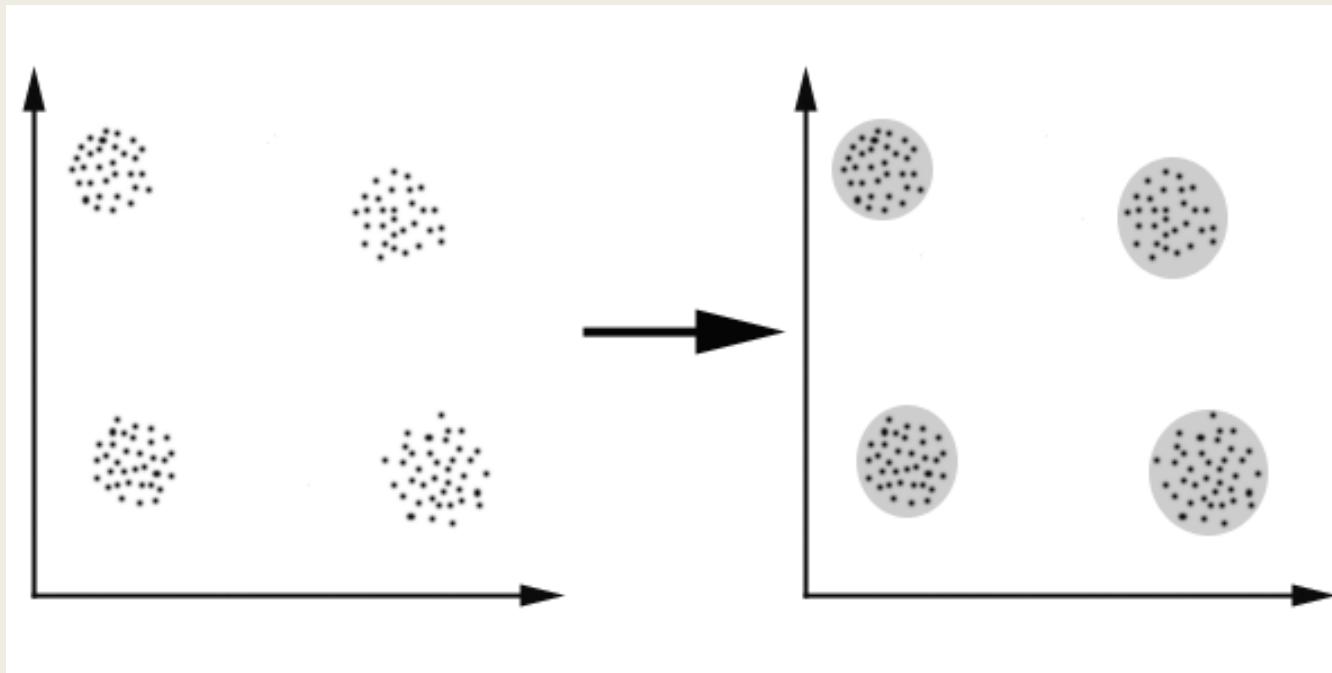
- The target values (**labels**) are provided
- The goal is to approximate the mapping function so well that when you have new input data (x) that you can predict the output variables (Y) for that data.
- **Classification** (for discrete outcome) and **Regression** (for continuous outcome)
- Example: Image classification



Type of machine learning

■ Unsupervised Learning

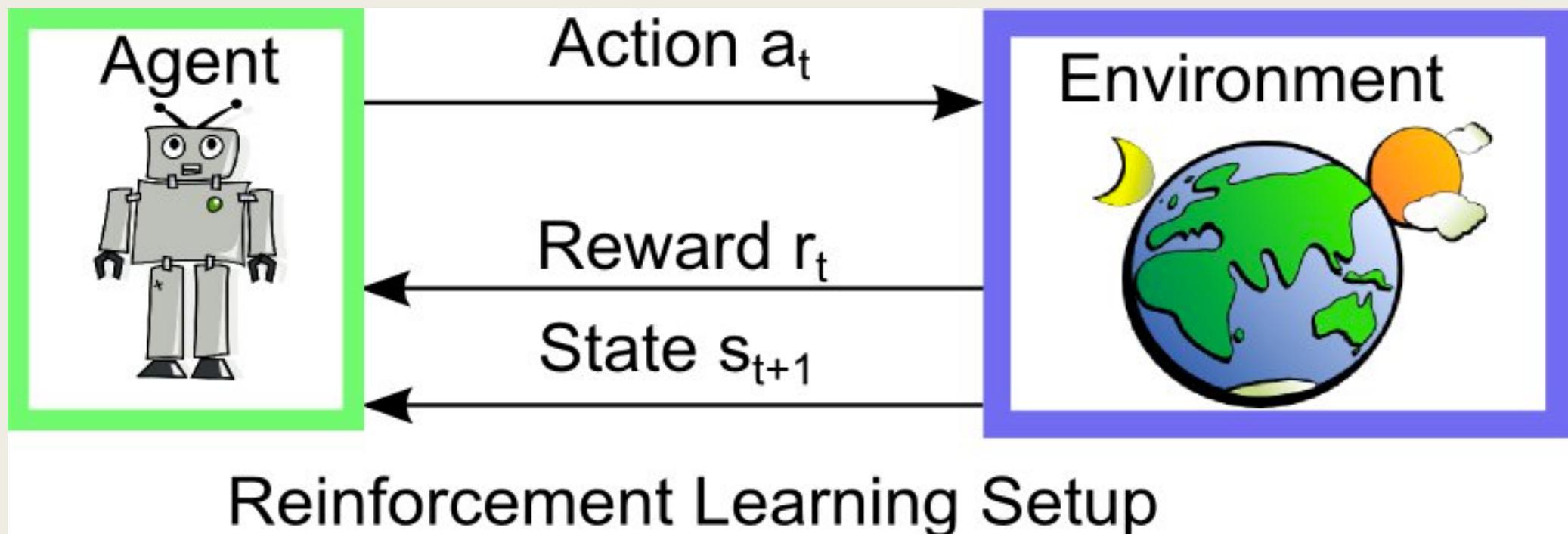
- No target values specified
- The goal is to model the underlying structure or distribution in the data in order to learn more about the data
- Example: Customer Segmentation



Type of machine learning

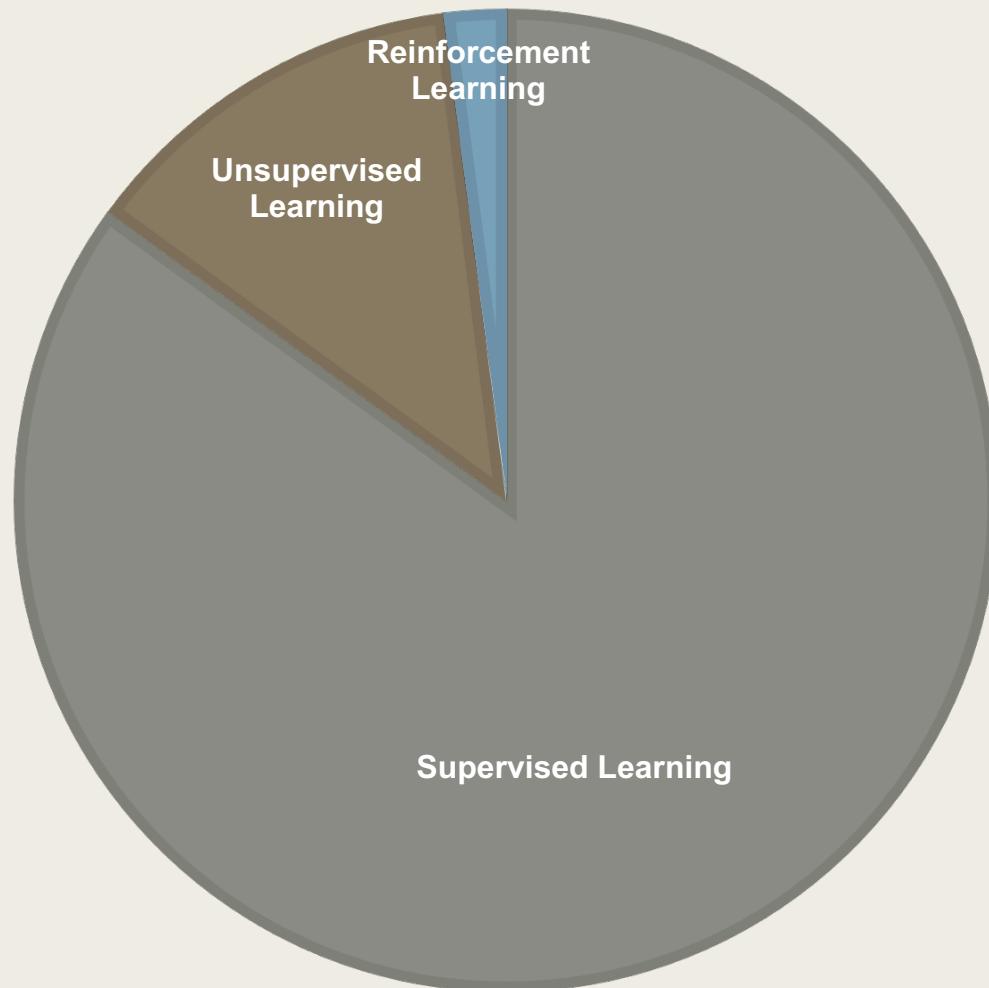
■ Reinforcement Learning

- The method aims at using observations gathered from the interaction with the environment to take actions that would maximize the reward
- Example: AlphaGo



Type of machine learning

BUSINESS USE CASES (AS OF NOW)





INTRODUCTION TO SUPERVISED LEARNING

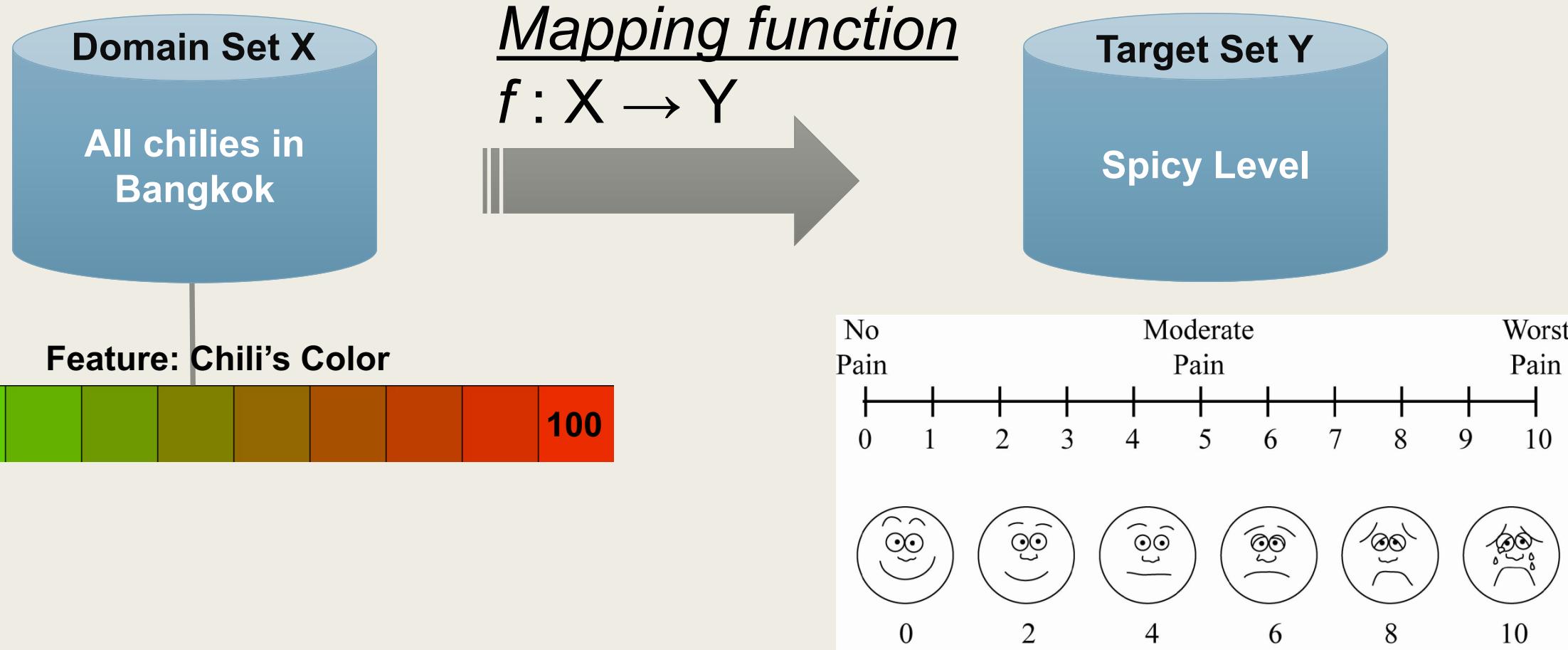
Let's start with example



LOVE



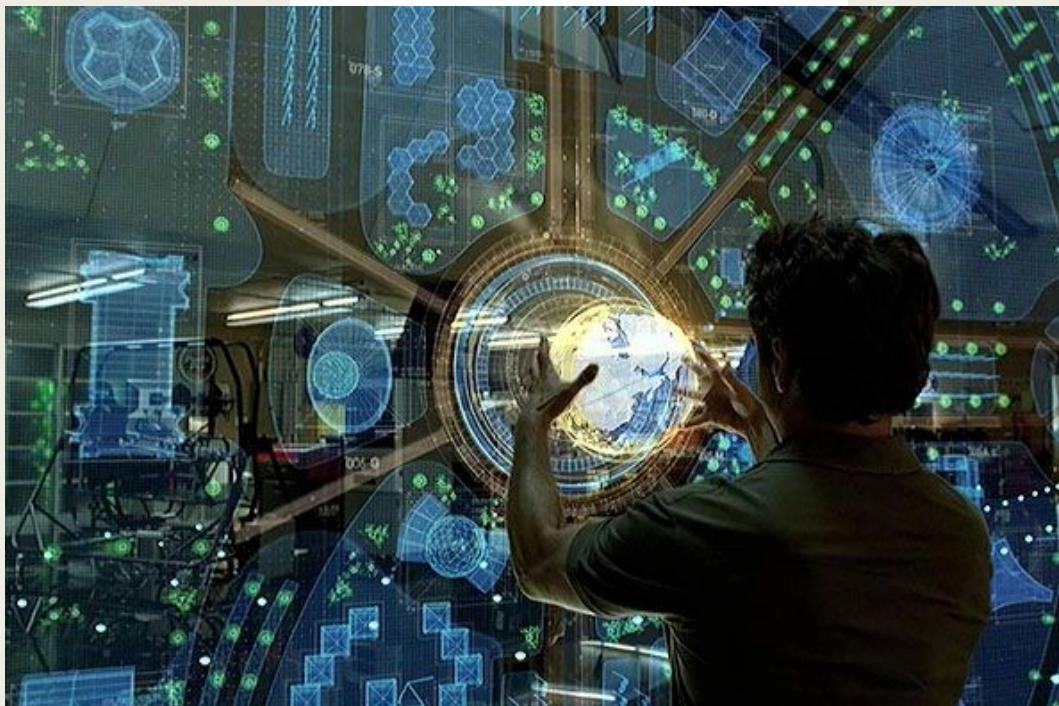
Learning Framework



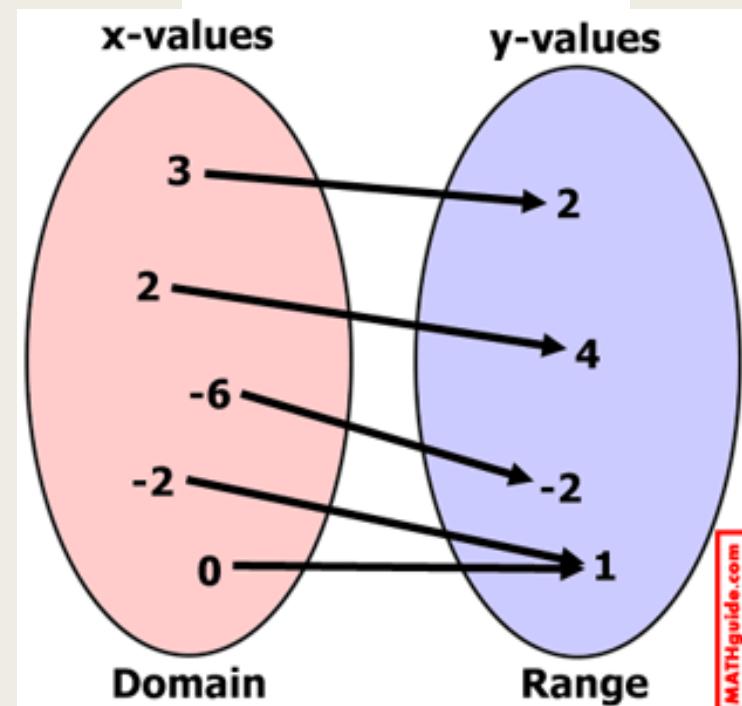
Learning Framework

SUPERVISED LEARNING IS ALL ABOUT FINDING THE **MAPPING FUNCTION**

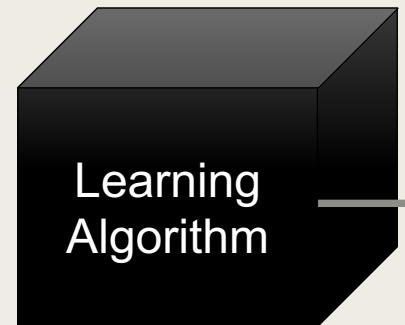
What people think I do



What I actually do



Learning Framework



Predictor

$p: X \rightarrow Y$ best represent
Mapping function f

Measure of success: Generalized Error

$$E_{(x, y) \sim D} (p(x) - y)^2$$

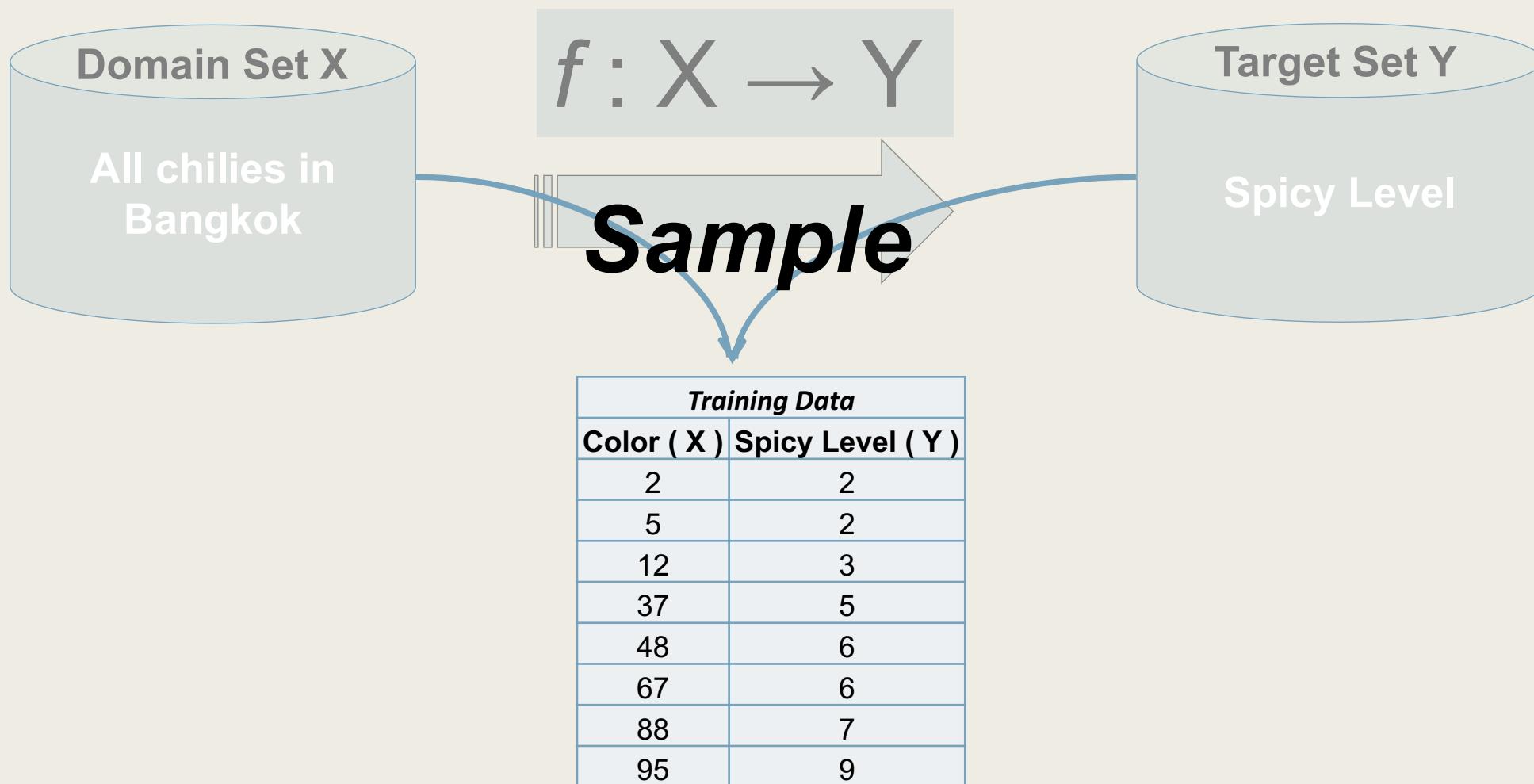


Apply Predictor p

Observe actual y

$$(p(x) - y)^2$$

Learning Framework

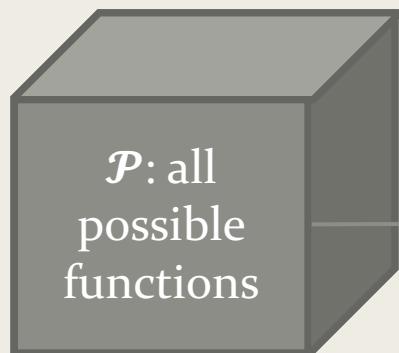


Empirical Risk Minimization

Define: \mathcal{P} as all possible functions mapping from $X \rightarrow Y$

Find best p in \mathcal{P} that has the lowest Error on **Training Data**

$$\text{Min}_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \sum_{i=1}^n (p(x) - y)^2$$



Pick p

Training Data	
Color (X)	Spicy Level (Y)
2	2
5	2
12	3
37	5
48	6
67	6
88	7
95	9

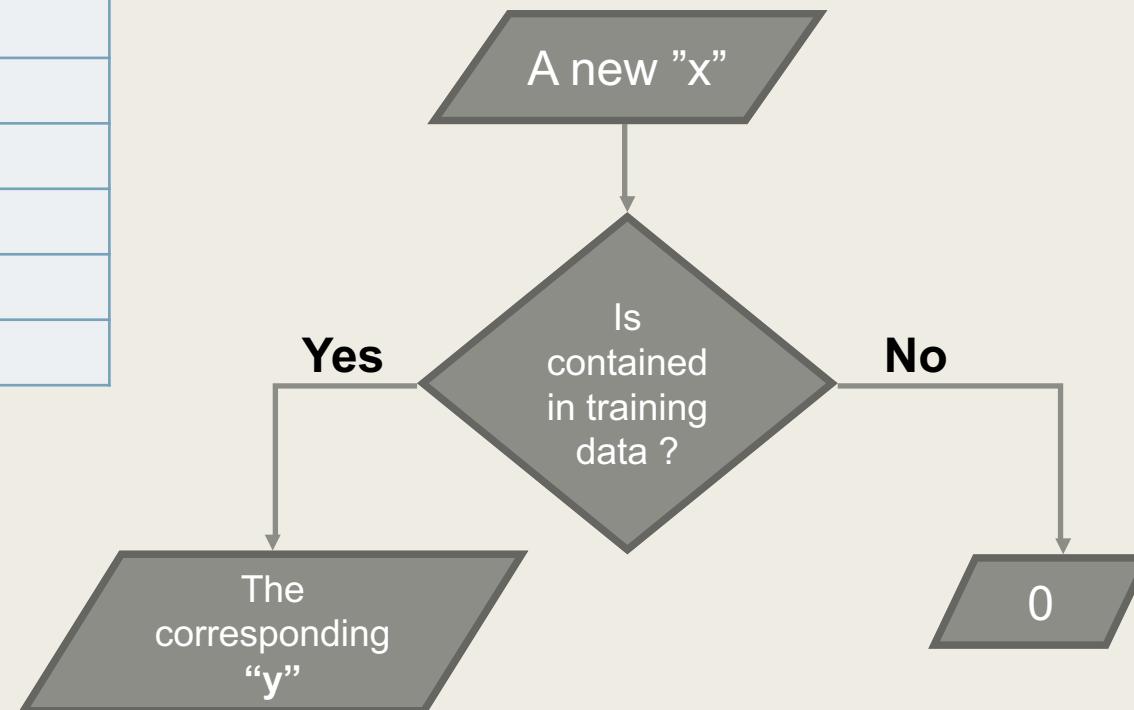
Calculate

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\text{Training Error}}{(p(x) - y)^2}$$

Empirical Risk Minimization

Training Data	
Color (X)	Spicy Level (Y)
2	2
5	2
12	3
37	5
48	6
67	6
88	7
95	9

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} y_i, & \text{if } x = x_i \text{ for some } i \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



Empirical Risk Minimization



Training Error

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (p(x_i) - y_i)^2 = 0$$

Generalized Error

HUGE!!

OVER FITTING

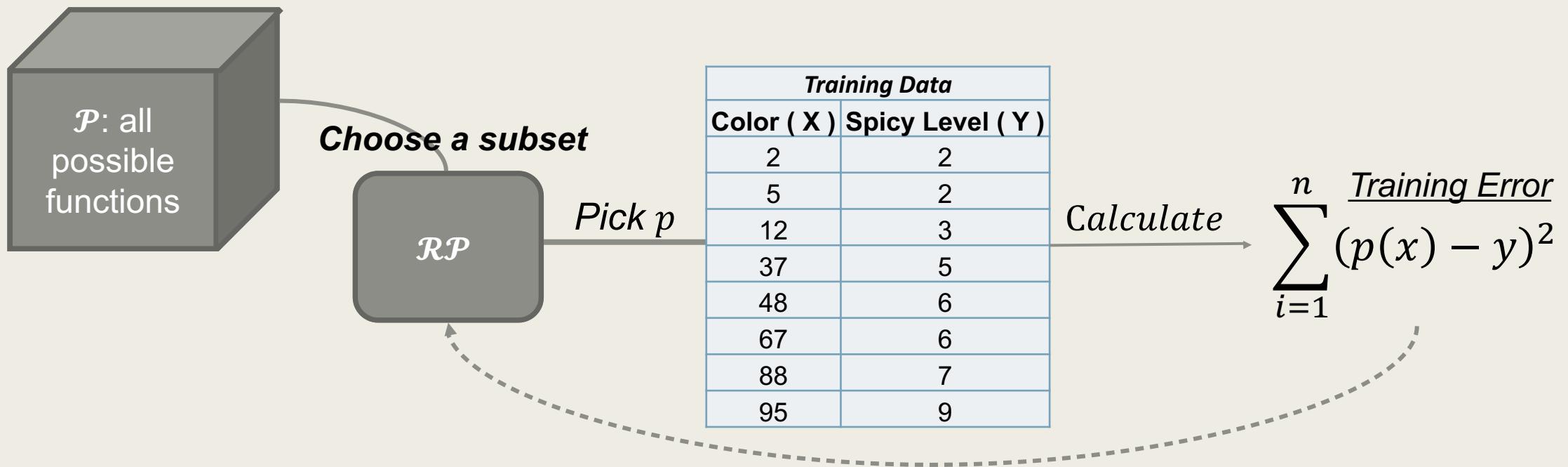
Bias (Assumption)

Apply the ERM learning rule over a **restricted** set

Define: \mathcal{RP} as a chosen subset of \mathcal{P}

Find best p in \mathcal{RP} that has the lowest Error on *Training Data*

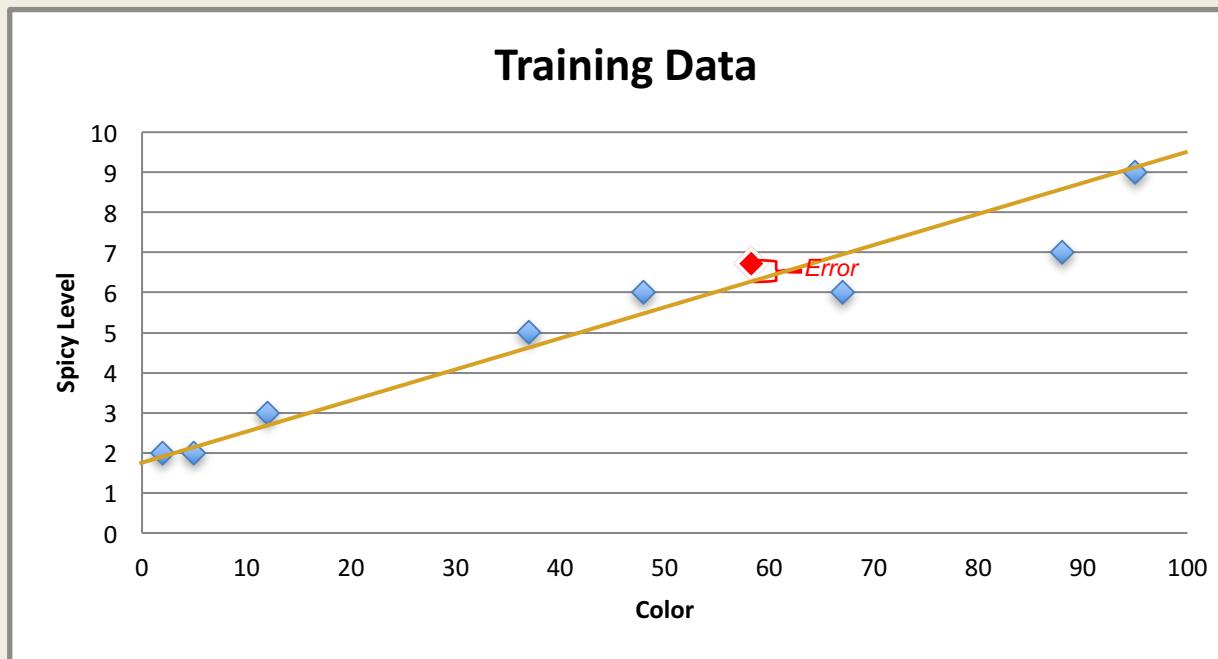
$$\min_{p \in \mathcal{RP}} \sum_{i=1}^n (p(x_i) - y_i)^2$$



Linear Regression

Pick \mathcal{RP} as: $p(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x$, so we only search for best θ_0 and θ_1 value

We call θ_0, θ_1 “*Model Parameters*”

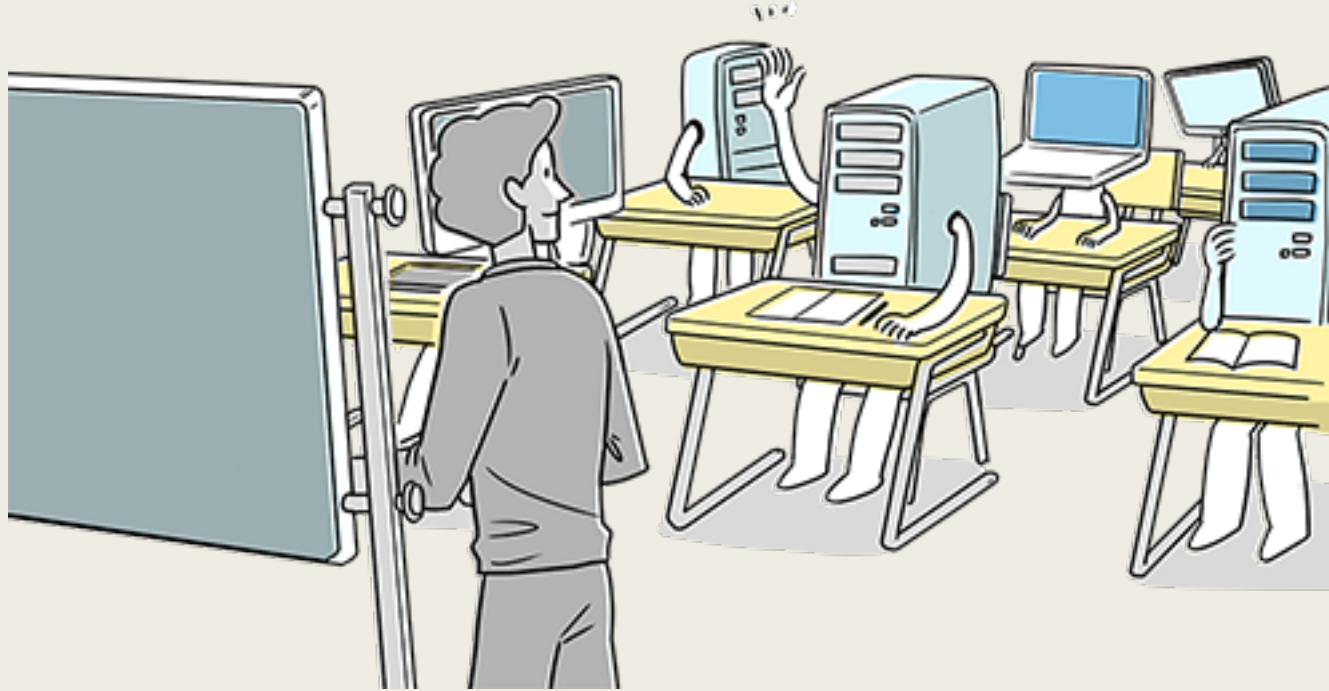


Training Error

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (p(x_i) - y_i)^2 = \text{Small}$$

Generalized Error

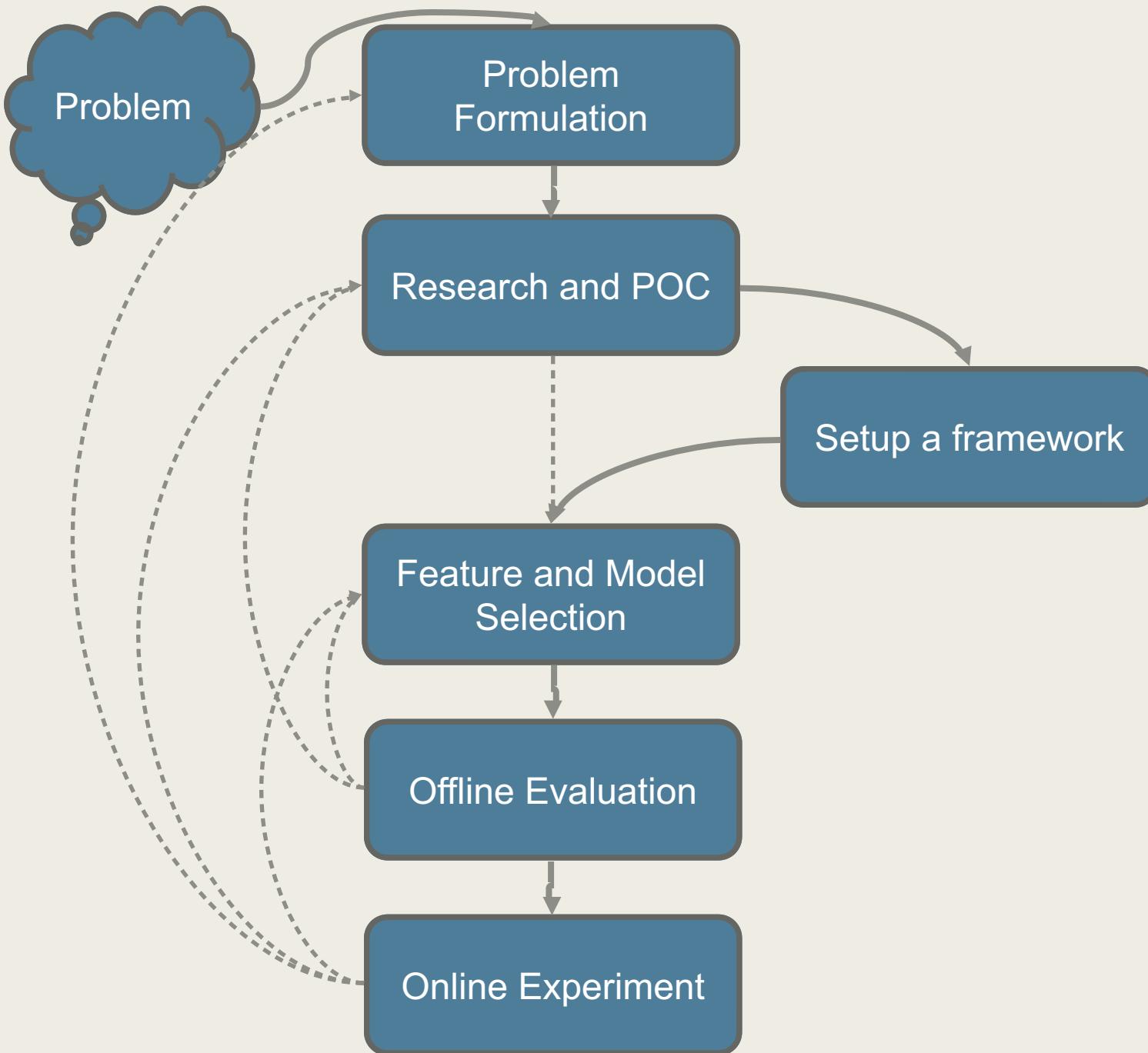
Small



MACHINE LEARNING PROCESS

Onboarding Machine Learning

- How do we start adopting machine learning in practice ?
- What is a process for developing ML products ?



Problem Formulation

■ Objective

- *Maximizing reward by providing relevant search results*

■ Input Output

- *Input: (User, Length of Stay)*
- *Output: {H₁, H₂, H₃, H₄ ... } (a permutation of hotels)*

■ Measure of success

- *Uplift in Conversion rate, Click through rate or Profit ?*

■ How would we solve this problem ?

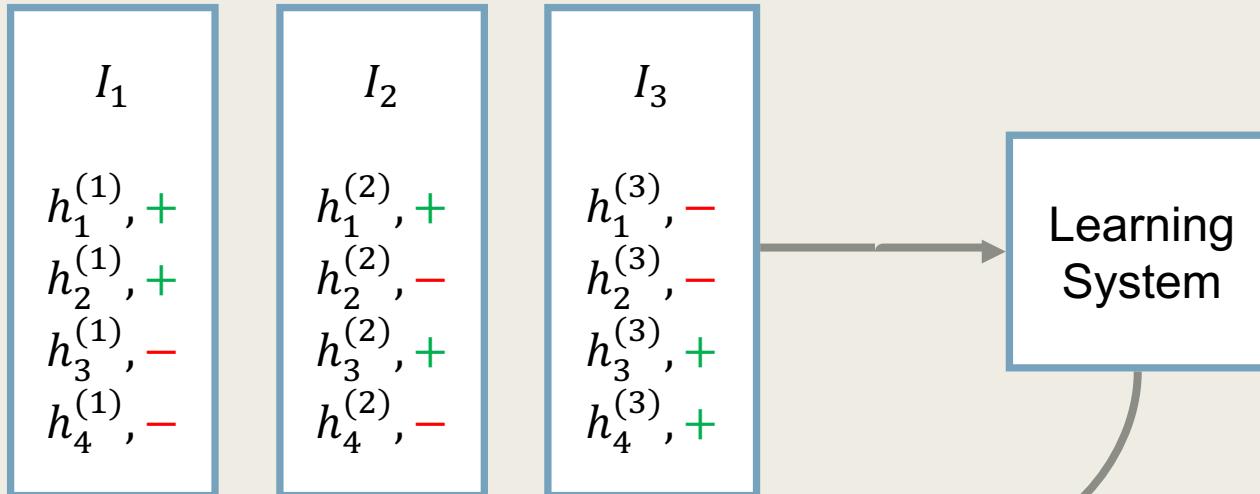
The screenshot shows the Agoda website interface for searching accommodations in Singapore. The search parameters are set for 28 Jan 2017 to 31 Jan 2017, for 1 room, 2 adults, 1 child. The results page displays 156 properties, showing results 1 - 45. The results are sorted by 'Recommended'. The page includes a map of Singapore with markers for Geylang, Downtown Core, and Changi. Each listing includes a thumbnail image, property name, location, guest rating, price, and a 'View all on map' link. A blue circle highlights the search results area, and a red circle highlights the user profile icon in the top right corner.

Property Name	Location	Rating	Price (THB)	Offer
5footway.inn Project Chinatown 2	Chinatown, Singapore	Very good 7.4 1376 reviews	3,214	30% DISCOUNT
Ark Hostel	Kallang, Singapore	Excellent 8.8 290 reviews	3,314	28% DISCOUNT
Central 65 Hostel	Bugis, Singapore	Very good 7.4 1748 reviews	5,309	7,452
Blissful Loft	Clarke Quay, Singapore	Very good 7.5 434 reviews	4,430	Nightly rates as low as

Research and POC

- **Avoid** reinventing the wheel
- **Information Retrieval:**
 - *Learning to rank*

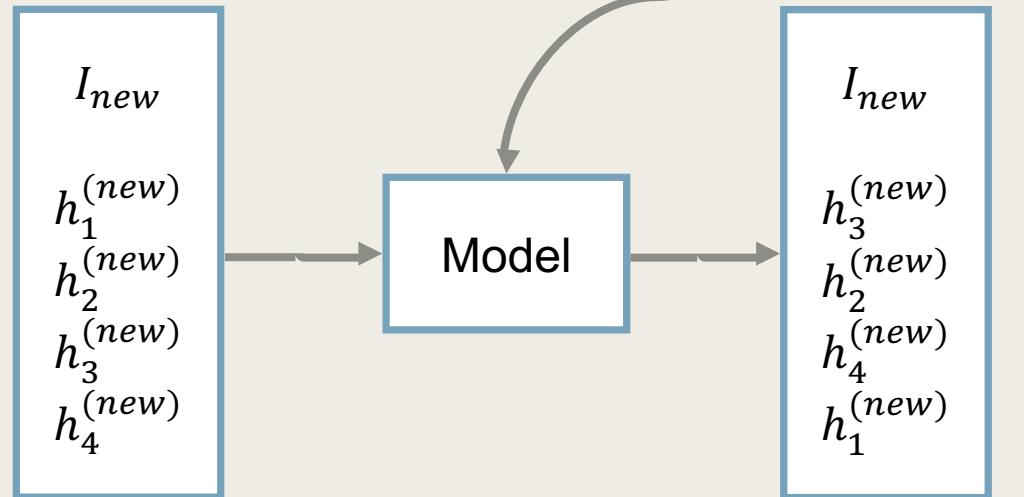
Training Data



Notation

$I \rightarrow (\text{User}, \text{Length of Stay})$
 $h \rightarrow \text{Hotel}$

Test Data

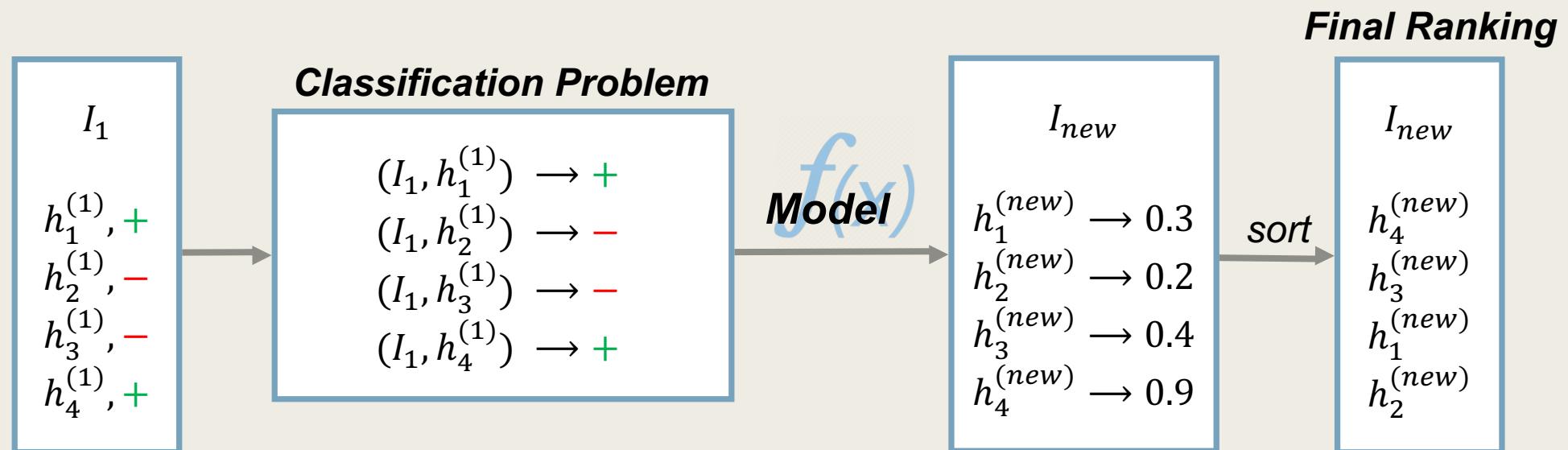


Prediction

Research and POC

■ Point-wise Approach

- Assign a score for each Input-Hotel pair



Research and POC

- **Evaluation metrics: each problem has its own appropriate set of metrics**
- Metrics**

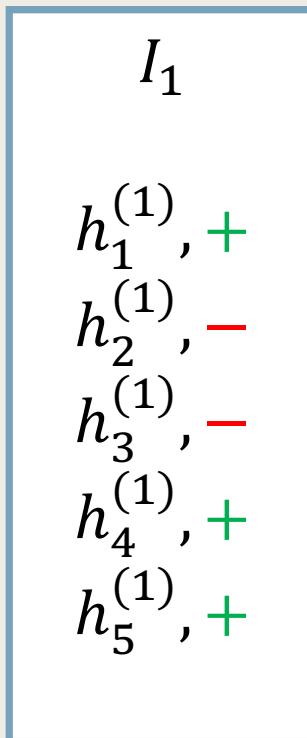
- Precision at K: Compute % relevant in top K, ignores hotels ranked lower than K

Ex.

Prec@3 = 1/3

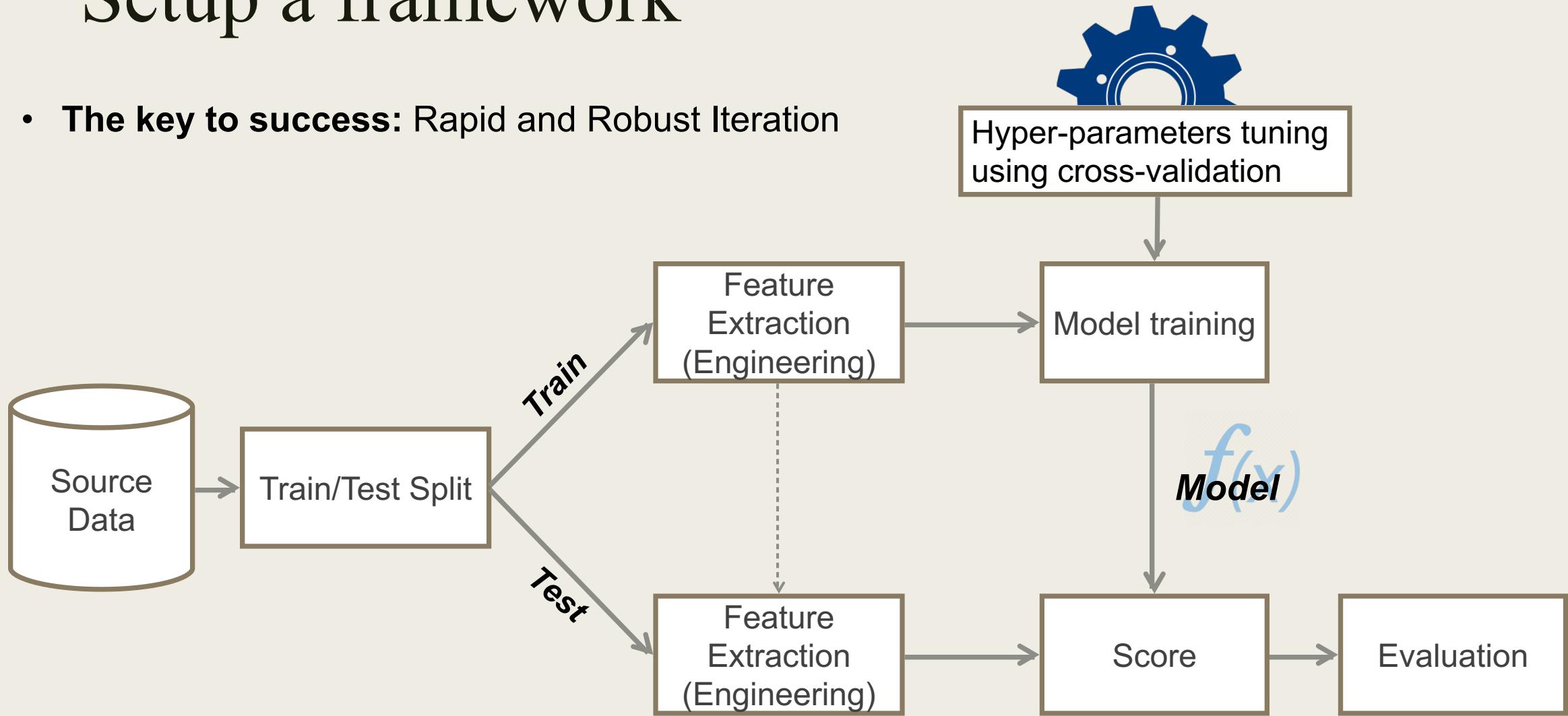
Prec@4 = 2/4

Prec@5 = 3/5



Setup a framework

- **The key to success:** Rapid and Robust Iteration



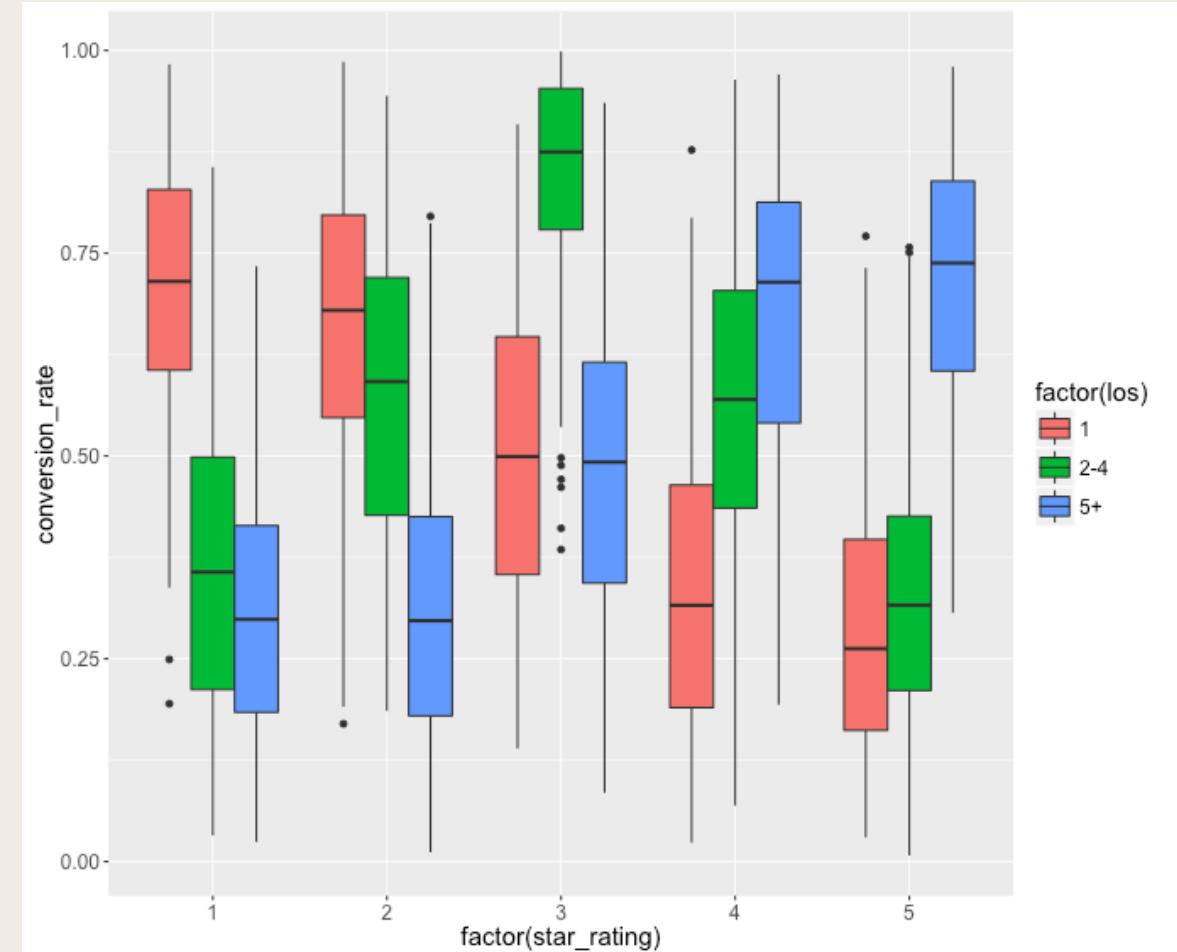
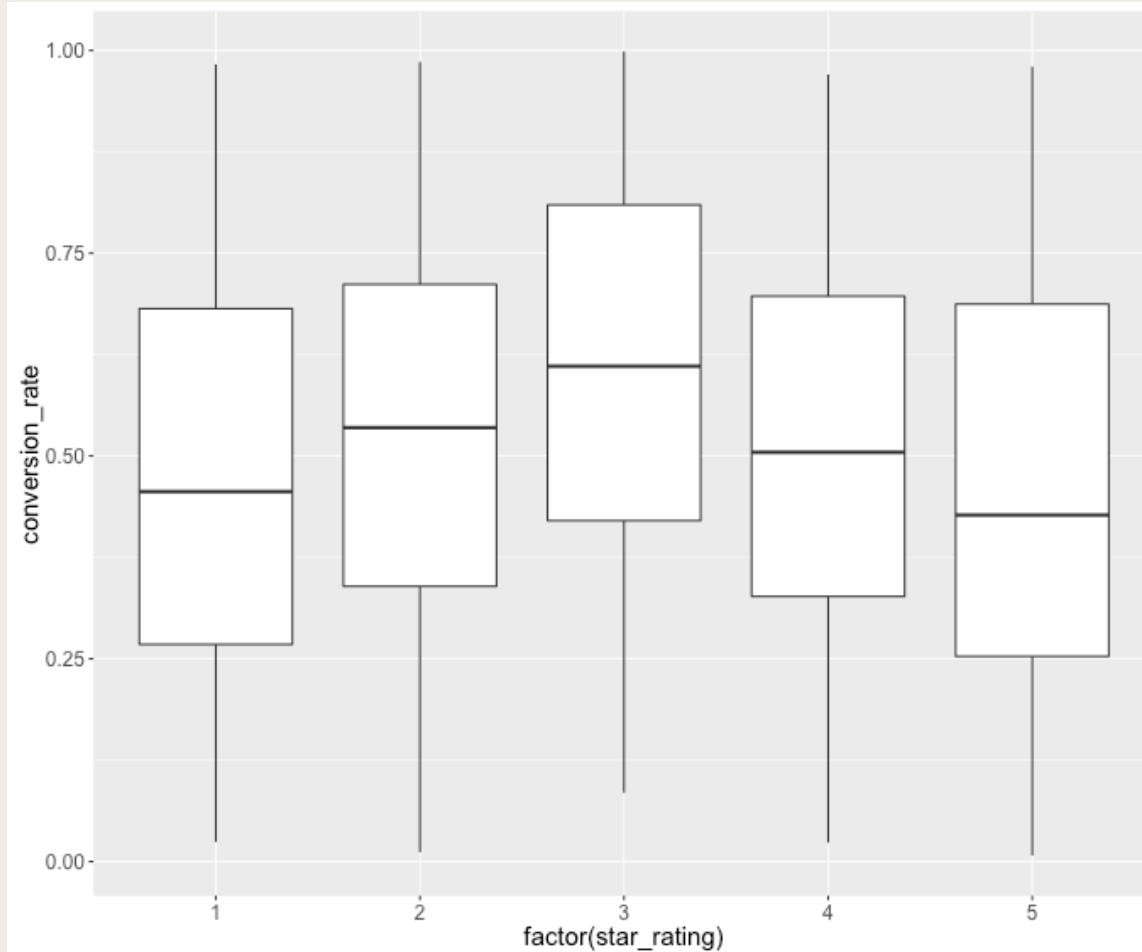
Feature Selection

Feature Selection/Engineering

- Domain knowledge plays an important role
 - ***Hotel features***
 - hotel_id, star rating
 - price
 - review score
 - ***User features***
 - user_id, length of stay
 - user origin
 - historical booking rate of user
 - ***User-Hotel features (the most important)***
 - $\text{abs}(\text{historical bookings price of user} - \text{hotel price})$
 - length of stay * star rating
 - hotel_id * user_id

Feature Selection

- Feature exploration: *identify potential features*

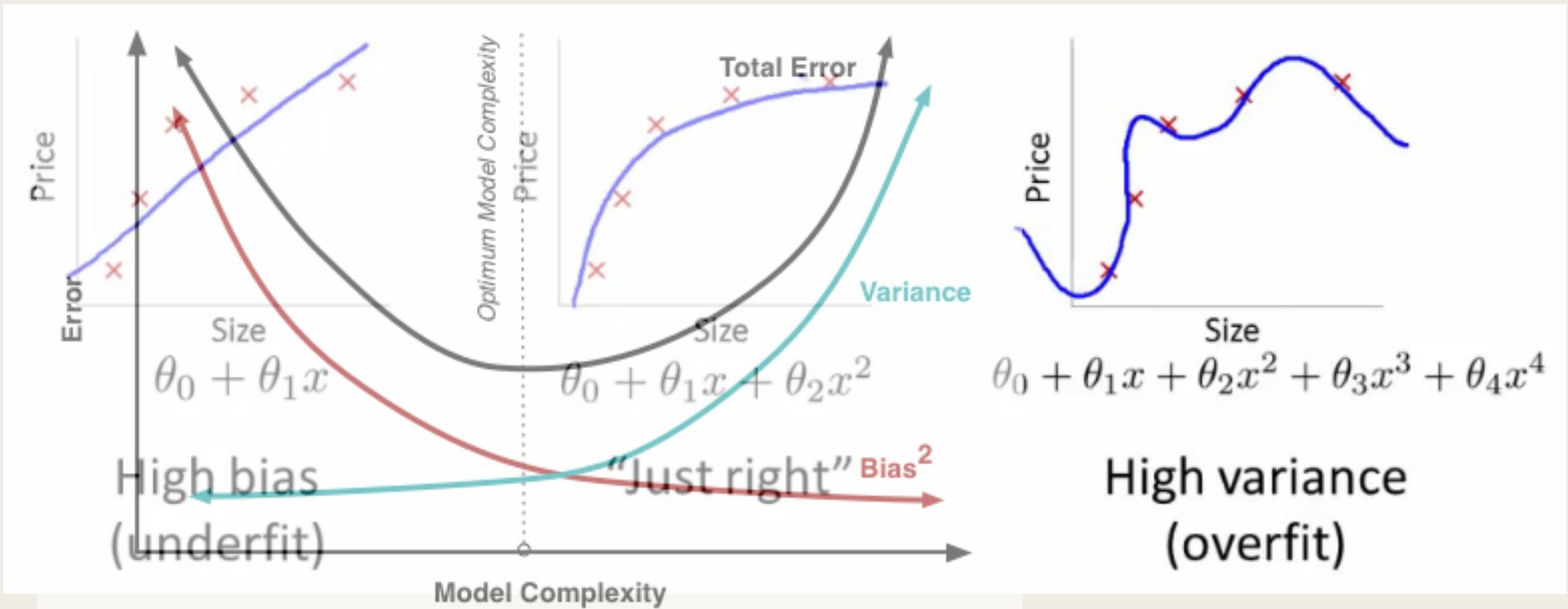


Model Selection

- Pick your candidate algorithms
 - **Always always start with Baseline:** Rank by popularity
 - Generalized Linear Model
 - SVM
 - Gradient Tree Boosting
 - Factorization Machine
 - Neural Network

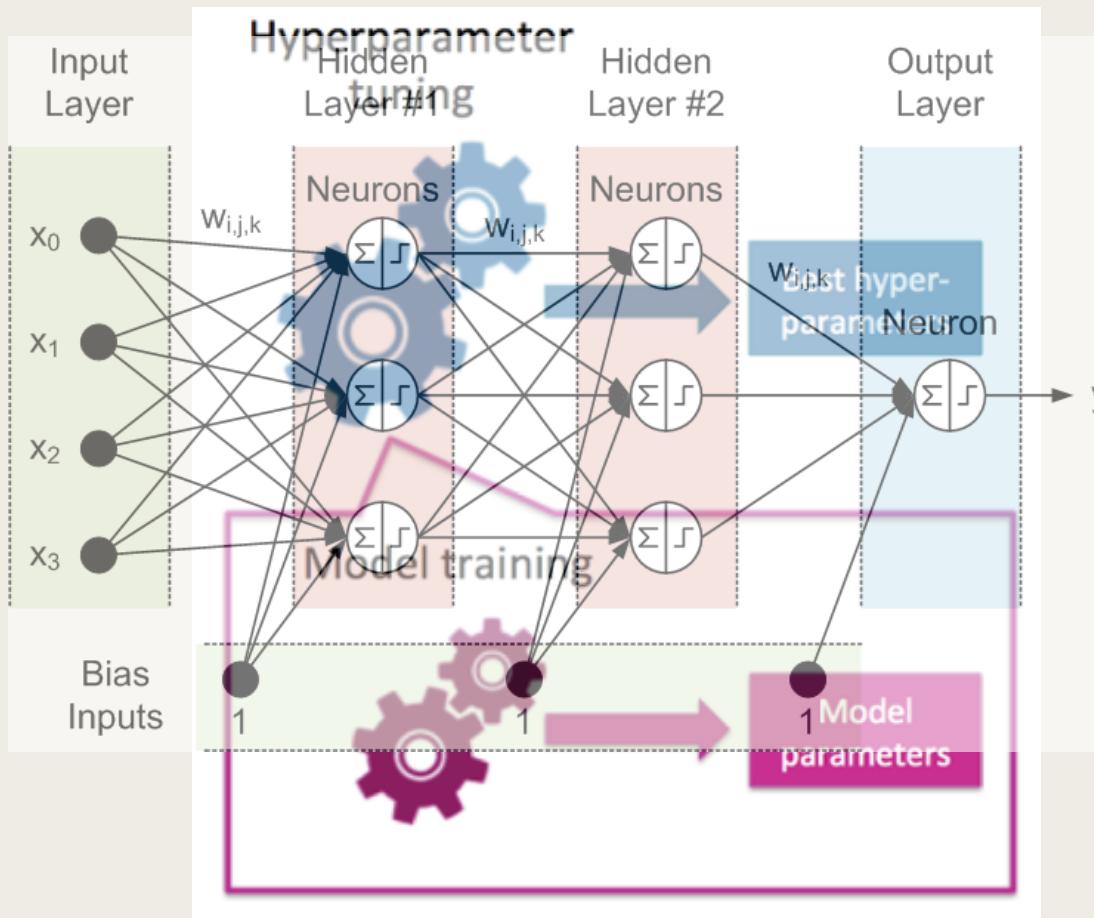
Model Selection

- Model selection: understand **bias-variance** trade off



Model Selection

- **Super important:** Understand hyper-parameters of your picked algorithms



Model Parameters

- Parameters that we optimize during training process

Hyper-parameters

- Parameters that express “higher-level” properties of the model such as its complexity

*It actually boils down to the **bias-variance trade-off***

Tuning hyper-parameters

- Grid search with cross-validation
- Bayesian Optimization

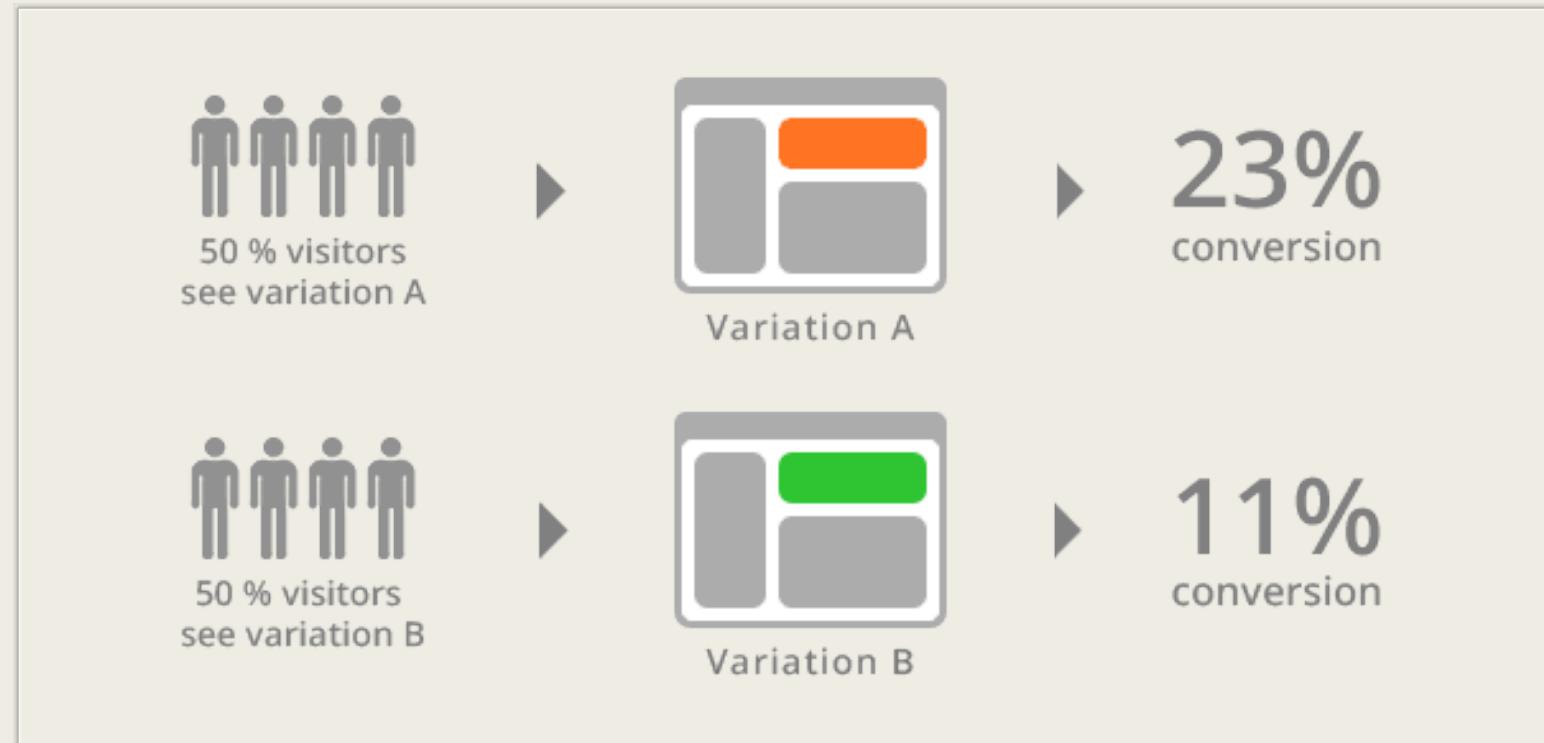
Offline Evaluation (Back testing)

- Remember that what only matters is “**Generalized Error**”
 - Train/Test splitting logic is very crucial
 - Make sure there is no information leakage

- Defining the right **metrics**
 - Indication to make decision on follow-up online experiments
 - A critical issue is how offline metrics correlate with online test results

Online Experiment

- A/B Testing



- Feedback Loop

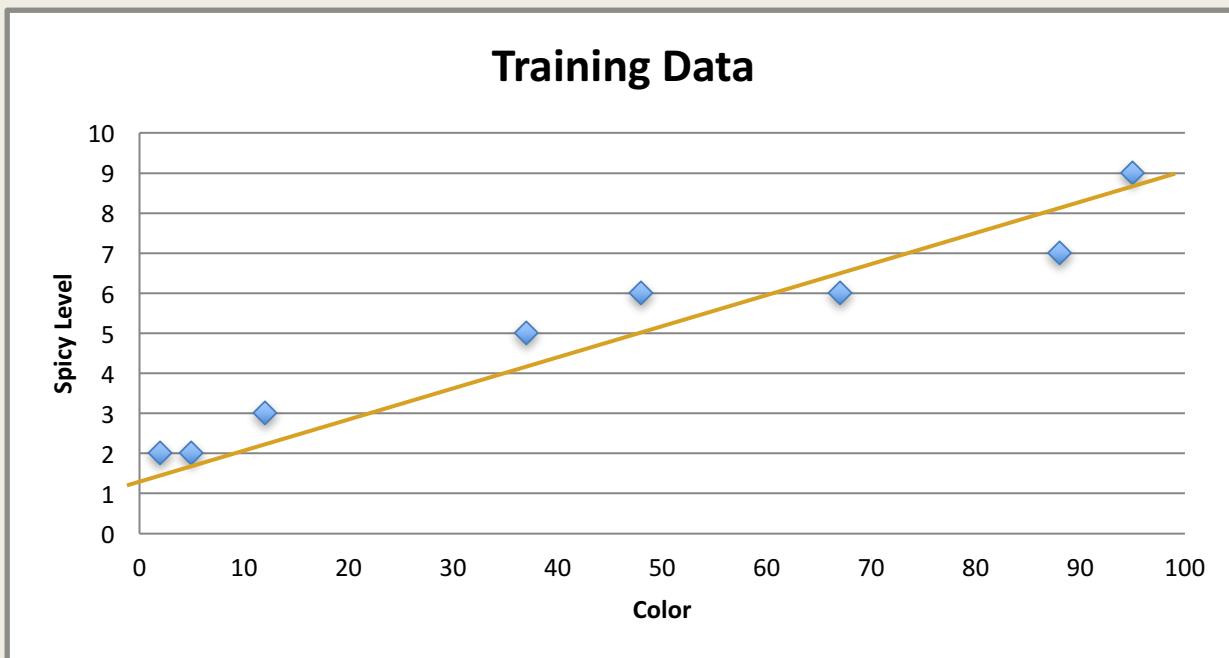
- *Observe how users interact with your product and make use of that data*



LINEAR REGRESSION FROM SCRATCH

Linear Regression

Model representation: $p(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x$



Cost Function (Training Error)

$$J(\theta_0, \theta_1) = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m (p_{\theta}(x^i) - y^i)^2$$

Select θ_0, θ_1 that minimizes $J(\theta_0, \theta_1)$

Parameters Learning

Gradient descent algorithm

```
repeat until convergence {  
     $\theta_j := \theta_j - \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_j} J(\theta_0, \theta_1)$   
    (for  $j = 1$  and  $j = 0$ )  
}
```

Linear Regression Model

$$h_{\theta}(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x$$

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m (h_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)})^2$$

Parameters Learning

Gradient descent algorithm

repeat until convergence {

$$\theta_0 := \theta_0 - \alpha \left[\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (h_\theta(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)}) \right]$$
$$\theta_1 := \theta_1 - \alpha \left[\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (h_\theta(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)}) \cdot x^{(i)} \right]$$

}

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_0} J(\theta_0, \theta_1)$$

update
 θ_0 and θ_1
simultaneously

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_1} J(\theta_0, \theta_1)$$