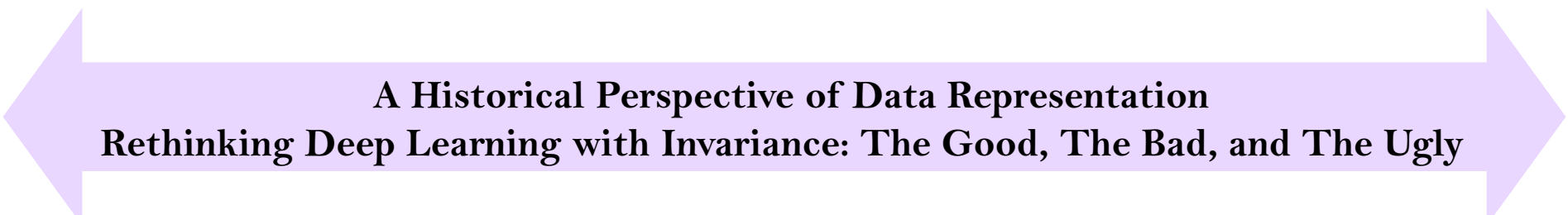


# Tutorial Outline

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- **Part 1: Background and challenges (20 min)**
- **Part 2:** Preliminaries of invariance (20 min)
- *Q&A / Break (10 min)*
- **Part 3:** Invariance in the era before deep learning (30 min)
- **Part 4:** Invariance in the early era of deep learning (10 min)
- *Q&A / Coffee Break (30 min)*
- **Part 5:** Invariance in the era of rethinking deep learning (50 min)
- **Part 6:** Conclusions and discussions (20 min)
- *Q&A (10 min)*

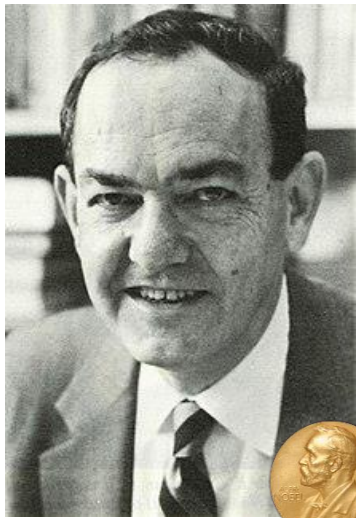


**A Historical Perspective of Data Representation**  
**Rethinking Deep Learning with Invariance: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly**

# Deep (Representation) Learning, A Big Bang Moment For AI

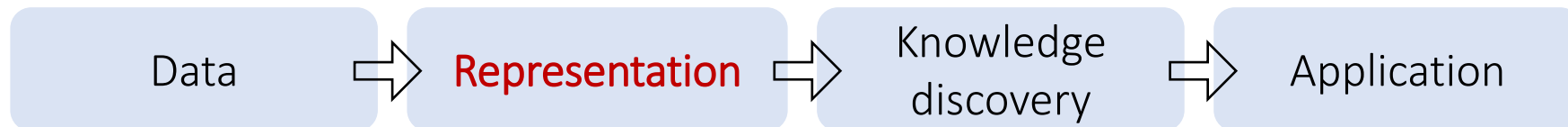
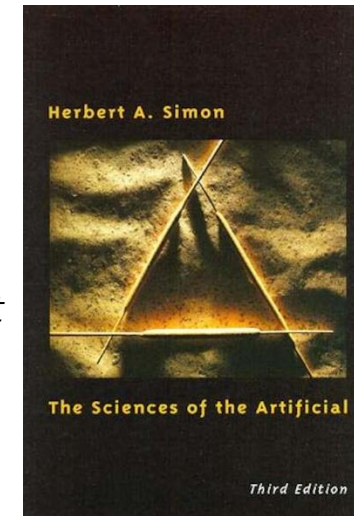
# Data Representation

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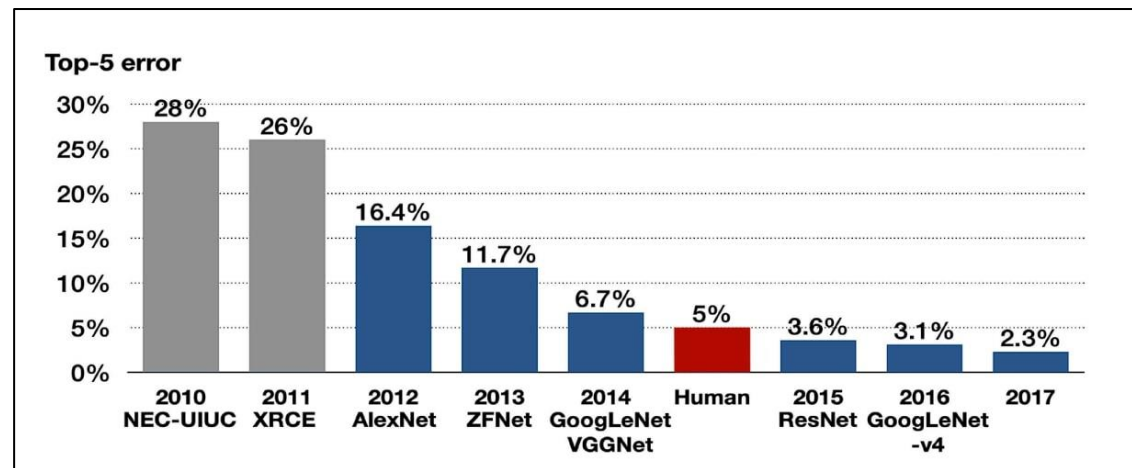
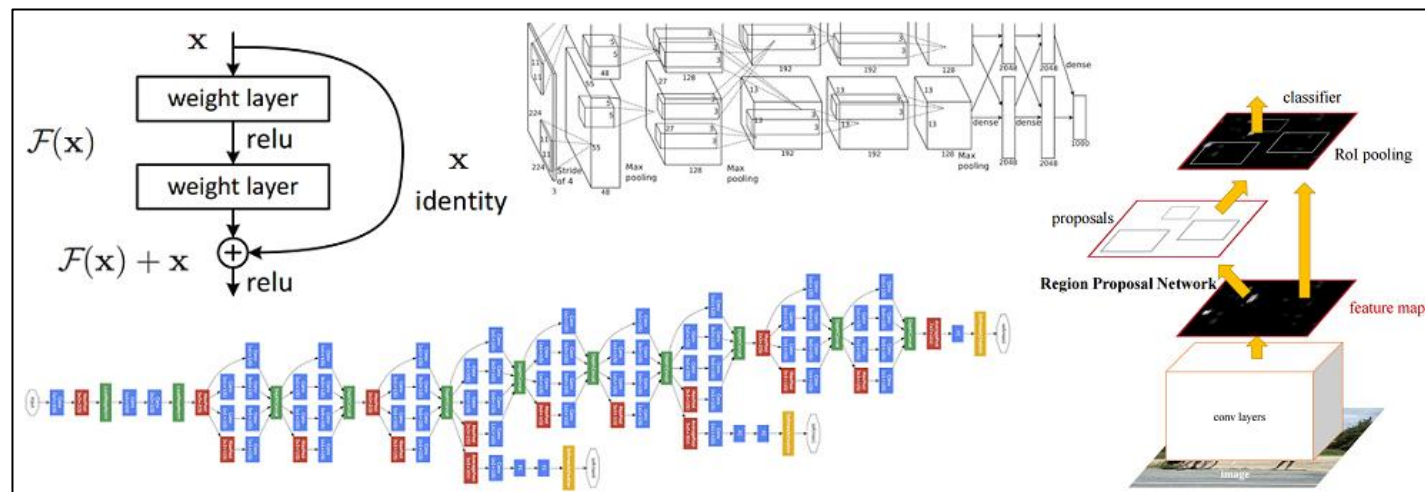
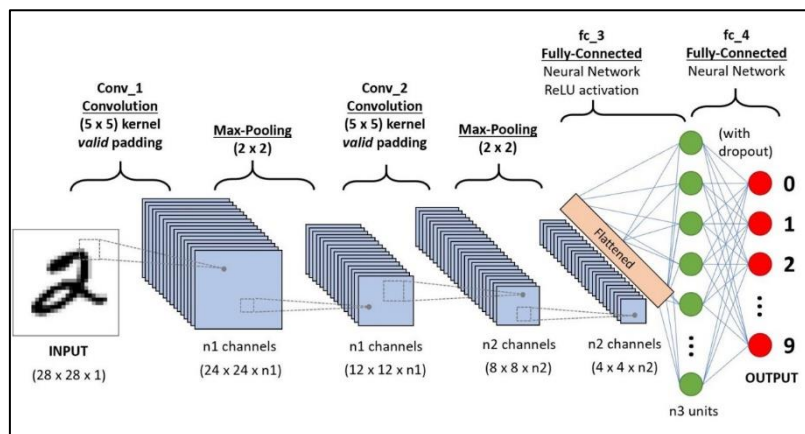
H. Simon, 1969  
The Sciences of the Artificial

*“solving a problem simply means representing it  
so as to make the solution transparent”*



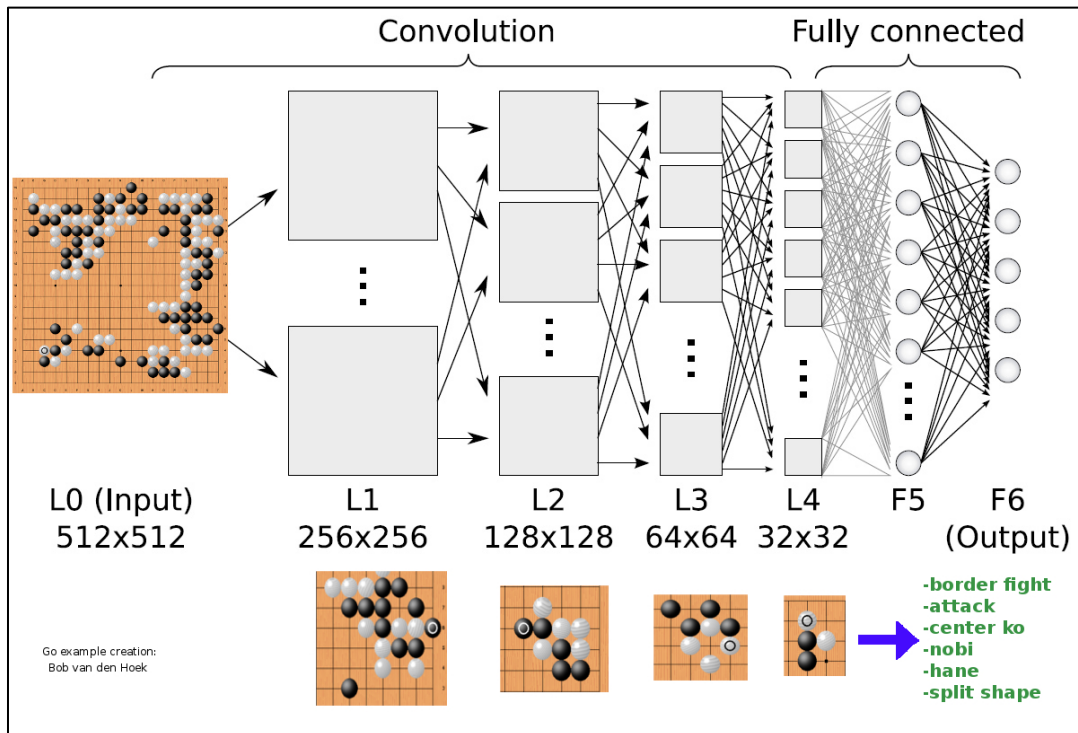
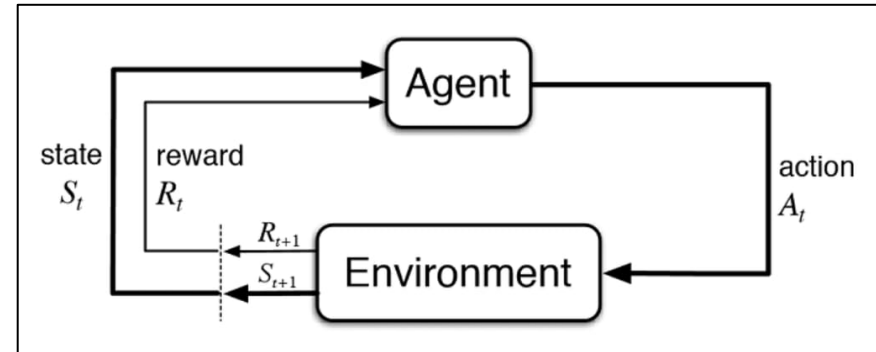
- H Simon. *The Sciences of the Artificial (Third edition)*. MIT Press, 1996.

# Processing Human Perceptual Information



- J Deng, W Dong, R Socher, et al. ImageNet: A large-scale hierarchical image database. *CVPR*, 2009.

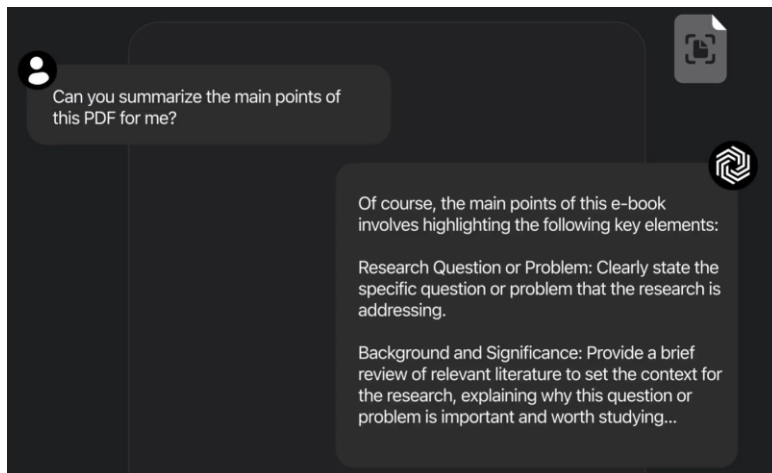
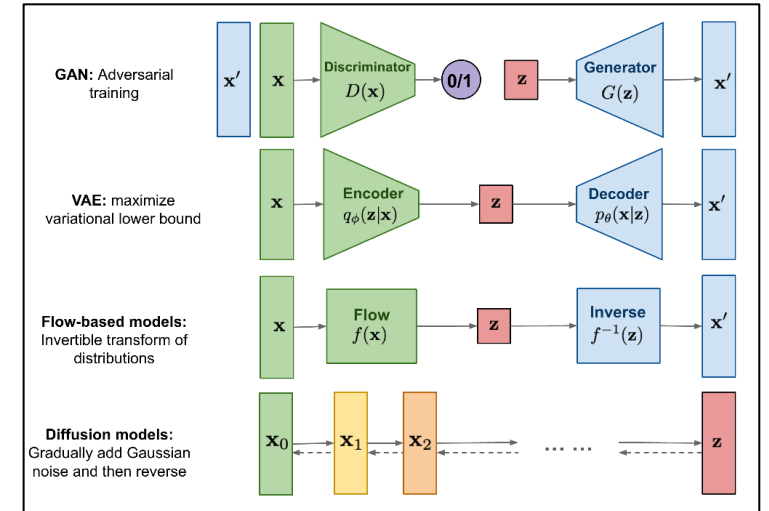
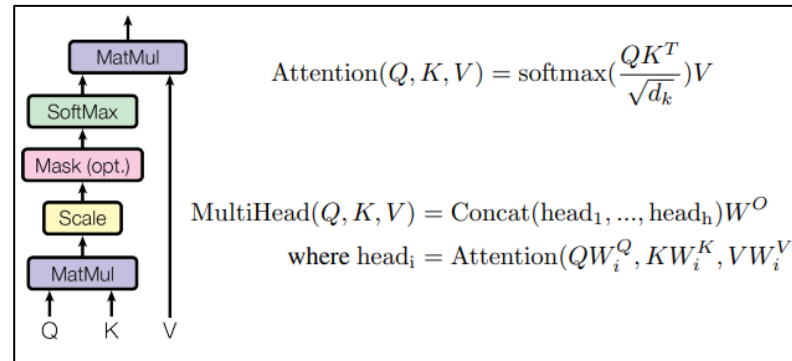
# Playing Board Games



- D Silver, J Schrittwieser, K Simonyan, et al. Mastering the game of go without human knowledge. *Nature*, 2017.



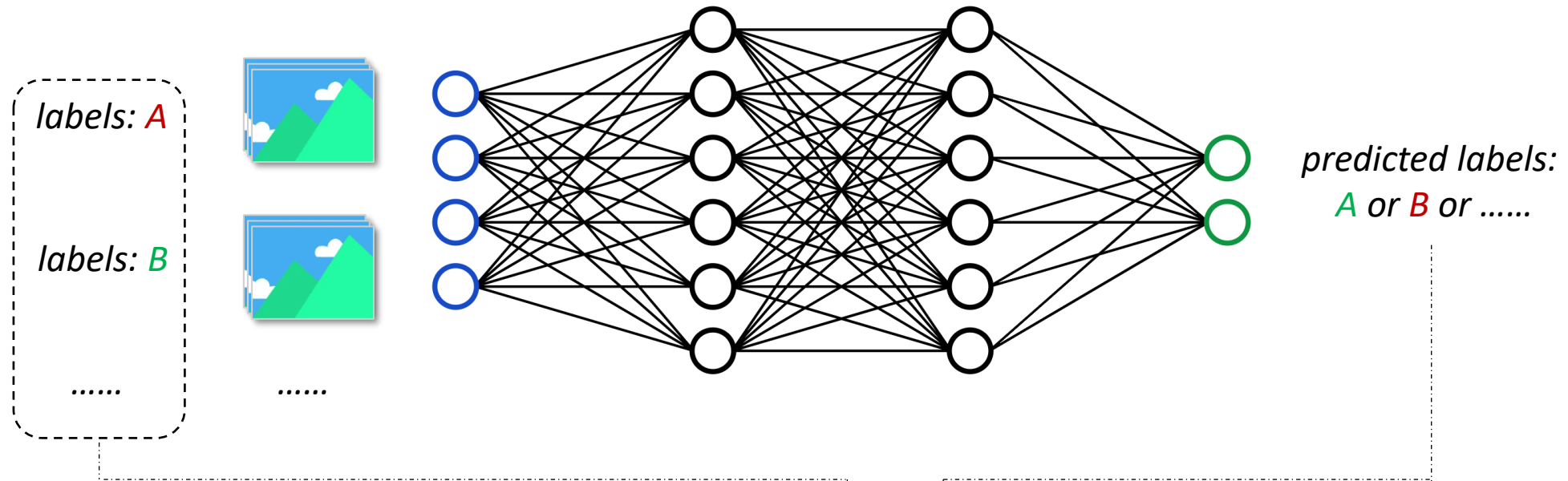
# Generating Realistic Media



- Z Epstein, A Hertzmann, L. Herman, et al. Art and the science of generative AI. *Science*, 2023.

Empirical Risk Minimization (ERM),  
Behind All These Successes

# Empirical Risk Minimization



$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in S} [\ell(\mathbf{y}, h(\mathbf{x}))]$$



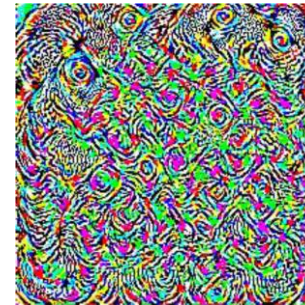
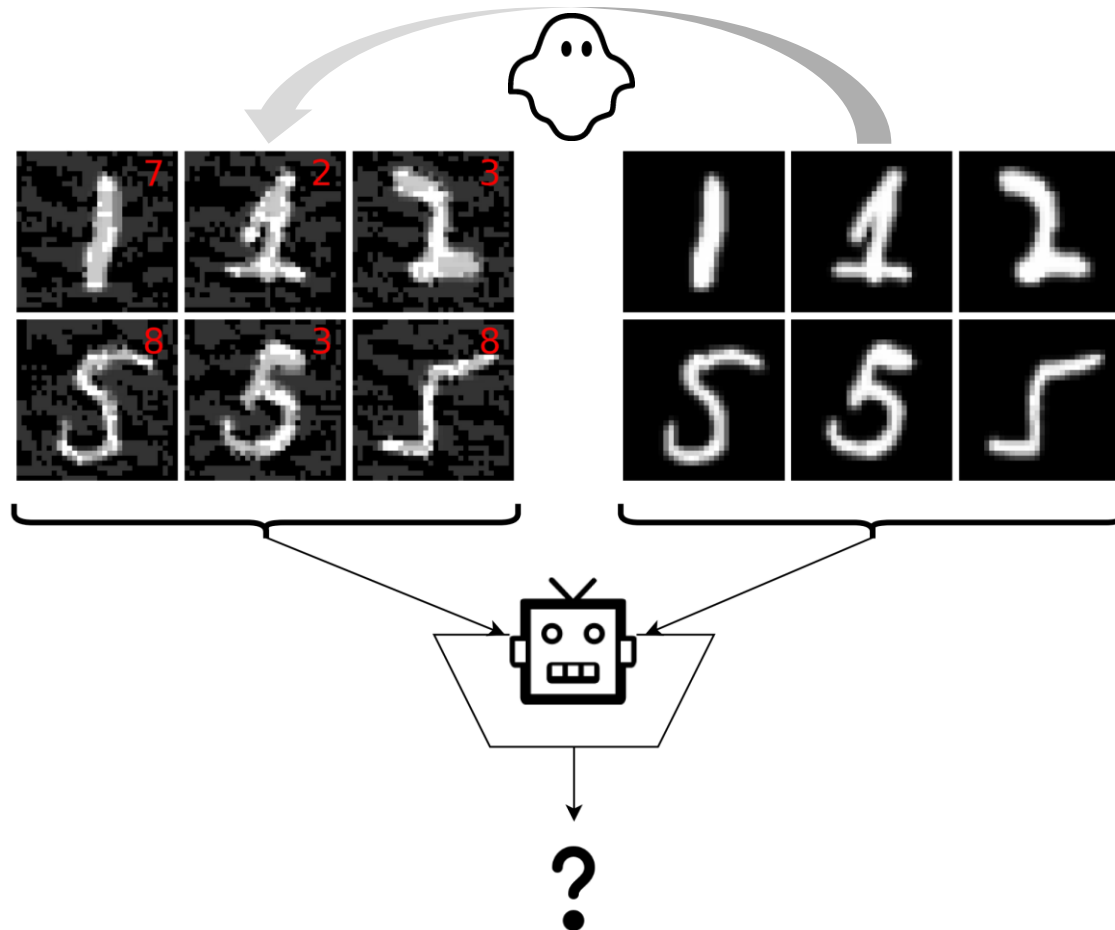
Empirical learning draws the lines between categories.

But what about **robustness**, **interpretability**, and **efficiency**?



# Robustness of Empirical Learning

- Robustness: the performance of a system is stable for **intra-class variations** on the input.



*Universal*



*Color*



*One-pixel*



*Watermark*



*Physical*

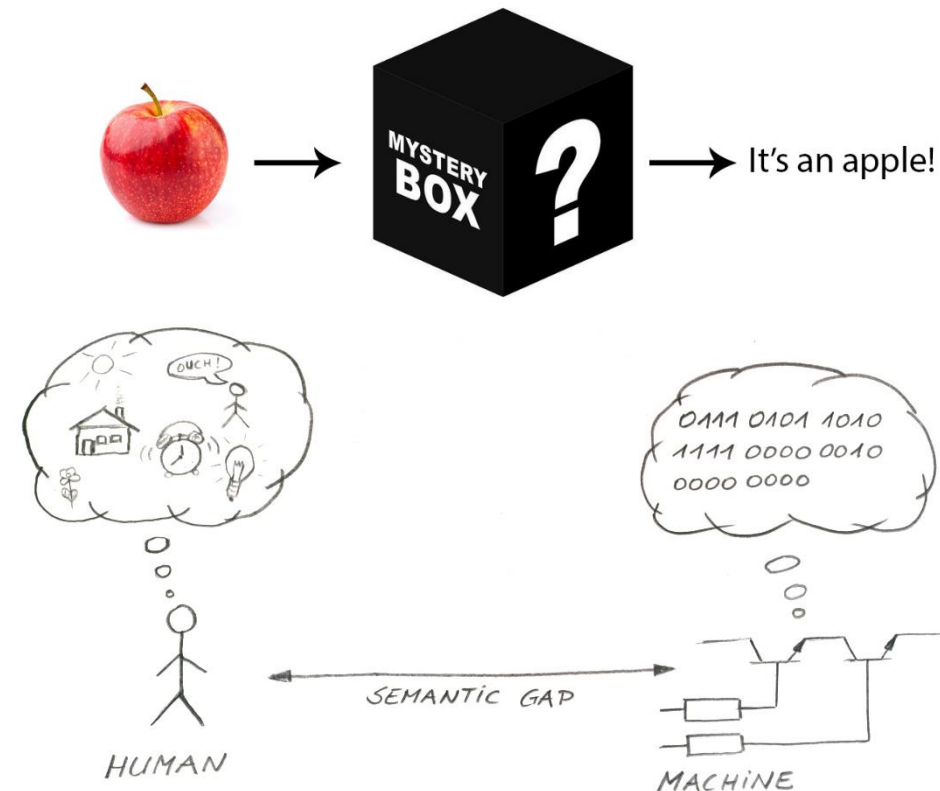
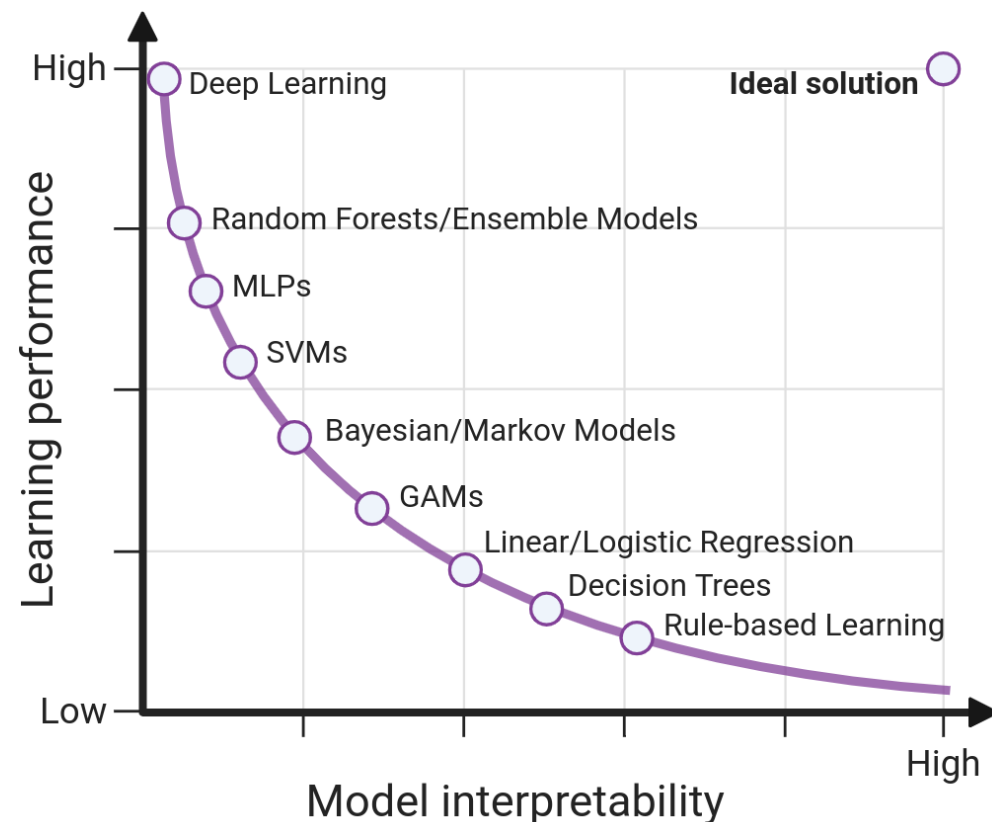


*Weird*

- C Buckner. Understanding adversarial examples requires a theory of artefacts for deep learning. *Nature Machine Intelligence*, 2020.

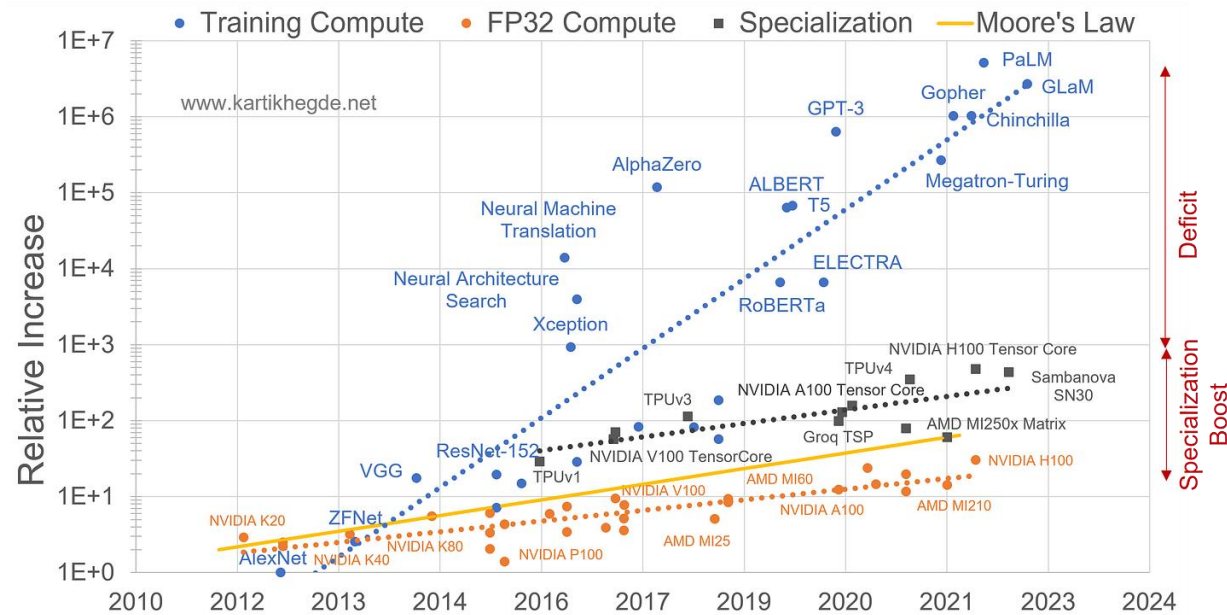
# Interpretability of Empirical Learning

- Interpretability: the behavior of a system can be **understood** or **predicted** by humans.



# Efficiency of Empirical Learning

- Efficiency: the **real-time availability** and **energy cost** during human-computer interaction.



## Common carbon footprint benchmarks

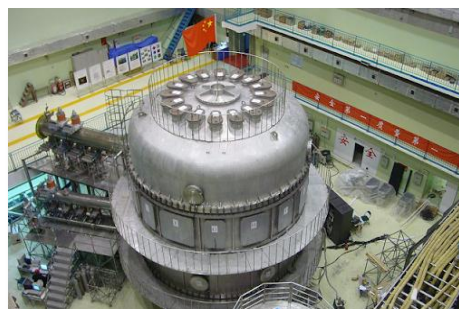
in lbs of CO2 equivalent

Roundtrip flight b/w NY and SF (1 passenger)	1,984
Human life (avg. 1 year)	11,023
American life (avg. 1 year)	36,156
US car including fuel (avg. 1 lifetime)	126,000
Transformer (213M parameters) w/ neural architecture search	626,155

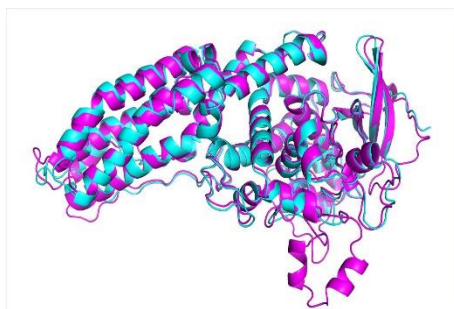


- E Strubell, A Ganesh, A McCallum, et al. Energy and policy considerations for modern deep learning research. *AAAI*, 2020.

# When Moving Towards Trustworthy AI



*Tokamak Control*



*Drug Discovery*



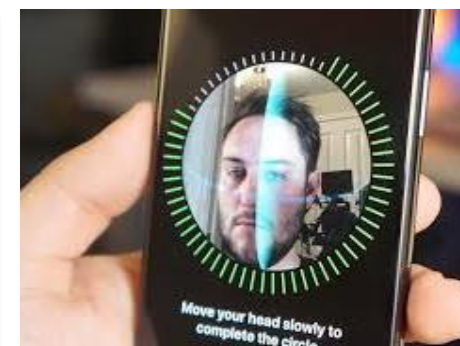
*Imaging Diagnostics*



*Automatic Driving*



*Cyber Security*



*Biometrics*

Empirical learning v.s. robustness, interpretability, efficiency...

- H Liu, M Chaudhary, H Wang. Towards trustworthy and aligned machine learning: A data-centric survey with causality perspectives. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2307.16851*, 2023.



A Foundational Prior Underlying  
Both Natural World And AI Systems



# Invariance/Symmetry in Natural World

- A **symmetry** of a system is a transformation that leaves a certain property **invariant**.



F. Klein, 1872  
Erlangen Program



E. Noether, 1918  
Noether's Theorem



H. Weyl, 1929  
The Book of Symmetry



C. N. Yang & R. L. Mills, 1954  
Yang-Mills Theory



- F Klein. A comparative review of recent researches in geometry. *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society*, 1893.
- H Weyl. *Symmetry*. Princeton University Press, 2015.

# Invariance/Symmetry in AI Systems

- An AI system is a digital modeling of the physical systems in the natural world.



Y. LeCun, Y. Bengio & G. Hinton, 2015,  
Deep learning, Nature

The Selectivity–Invariance Dilemma:  
*“representations that are selective to the  
aspects that are important for discrimination,  
but that are invariant to irrelevant aspects”*



- Y LeCun, Y Bengio, G Hinton. Deep learning. *Nature*, 2015.
- Y Bengio, A Courville, P Vincent. Representation learning: A review and new perspectives. *TPAMI*, 2013.

# How Invariance/Symmetry Helps Robustness, Interpretability, Efficiency

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- Perfect robustness — the performance of the AI system remains invariant with respect to the transformations of interest.
- Interpretable concept — humans and AI systems share a basic concept that allows humans to predict AI behavior on transformations of interest.
- Structural efficiency — AI systems no longer need to memorize non-discriminative data variants.

