

# When to use AI? When not to use AI?

Aalok Thakkar (Ashoka University) and Manoj Kumar (Moolya)

# UK creating 'murder prediction' tool to identify people most likely to kill

**Exclusive: Algorithms allegedly being used to study data of thousands of people, in project critics say is 'chilling and dystopian'**



**If not predictive policing, then what?**

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Reasoning?

# Reasoning?

*Computer Chess will surpass human chess abilities within ten years.*

Herbert Simon (1957)



IASPA 2011  
DEEP BLUE  
the rematch

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## Coherence, not Correctness

If IBM Deep Blue cannot be expected to write a work email, ChatGPT cannot be expected to play chess.



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And yet we use it for chess...

# But what about a chatbot?

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# But what about a chatbot?

## Airline held liable for its chatbot giving passenger bad advice - what this means for travellers

23 February 2024

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**Maria Yagoda**  
Features correspondent

**When Air Canada's chatbot gave incorrect information to a traveller, the airline argued its chatbot is "responsible for its own actions".**

# DPD error caused chatbot to swear at customer

## Bigger AI chatbots more inclined to spew nonsense – and people don't always realize

Artificial-intelligence models are improving overall but are more likely to answer every question, leading to wrong answers.

### AI Gone Wild: Cursor's Rogue Bot 'Hallucinates' New User Policy

News

## NYC's AI Chatbot Tells Businesses to Break the Law

The Microsoft-powered bot says bosses can take workers' tips and that landlords can discriminate based on source of income

# But what about writing and summarization?

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## AI chatbots unable to accurately summarise news, BBC finds

11 February 2025

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**Imran Rahman-Jones**

Technology reporter

It found 51% of all AI answers to questions about the news were judged to have significant issues of some form.

Additionally, 19% of AI answers which cited BBC content introduced factual errors, such as incorrect factual statements, numbers and dates.

# But what about writing and summarization?

Some examples of inaccuracies found by the BBC included:

- Gemini incorrectly said the NHS did not recommend vaping as an aid to quit smoking
- ChatGPT and Copilot said Rishi Sunak and Nicola Sturgeon were still in office even after they had left
- Perplexity misquoted BBC News in a story about the Middle East, saying Iran initially showed "restraint" and described Israel's actions as "aggressive"

# Beyond LLMs?

**Tesla Autopilot feature was involved in 13 fatal crashes, US regulator says**

**'Alexa, how should I vote?': rightwing uproar over voice assistant's pro-Kamala Harris points**

**Insight - Amazon scraps secret AI recruiting tool that showed bias against women**

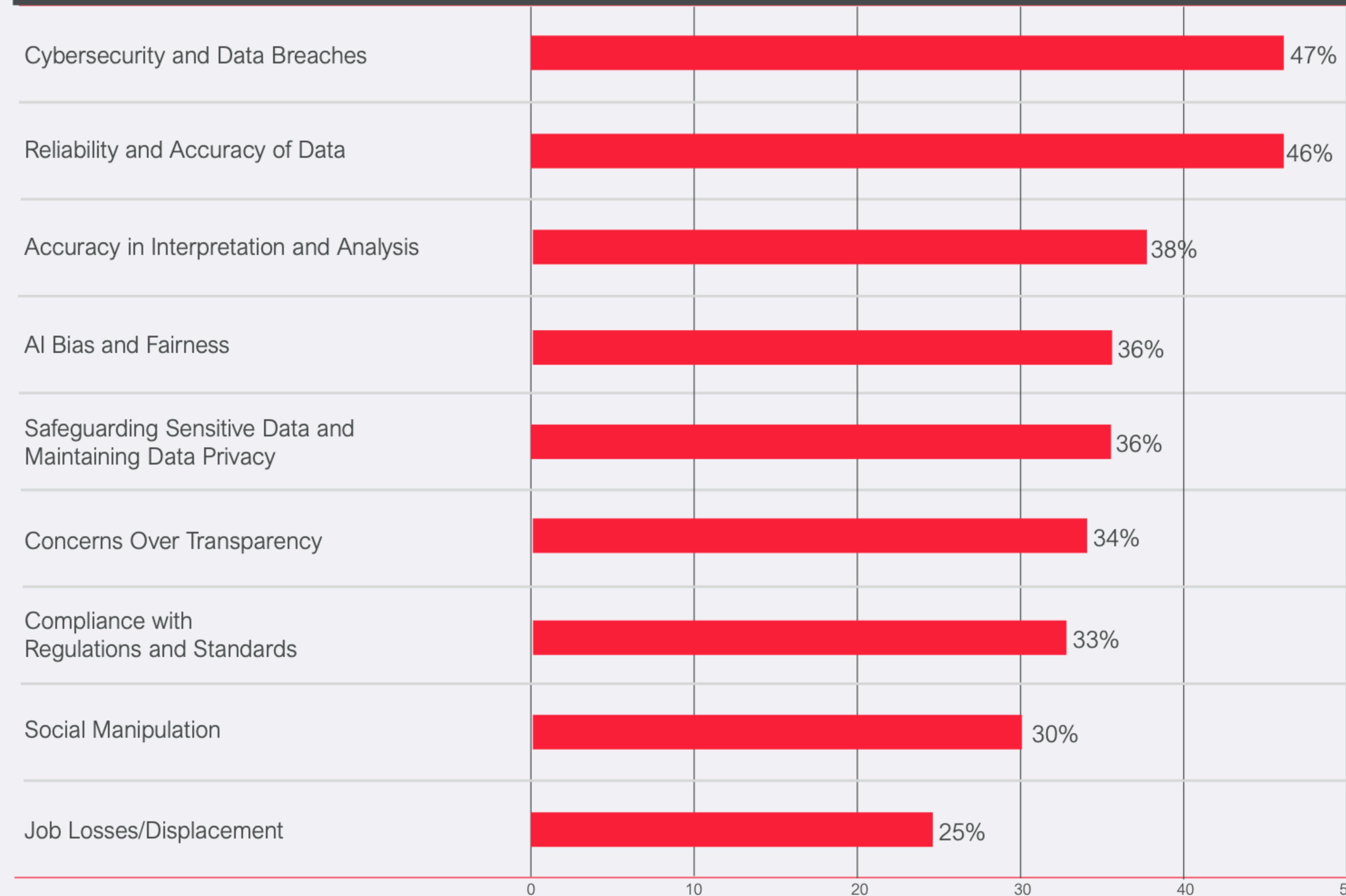
*When to use AI?*

**When not to use AI?**

Customer expectation driving AI adoption:  
55% acknowledged that customer  
expectation is a key driver for AI adoption

FOMO a key driver for AI uptake: 63% of  
global IT leaders worried their company  
will fall behind if they don't adopt AI

## You said you do not completely trust AI to provide a benefit to your business. Why is this?

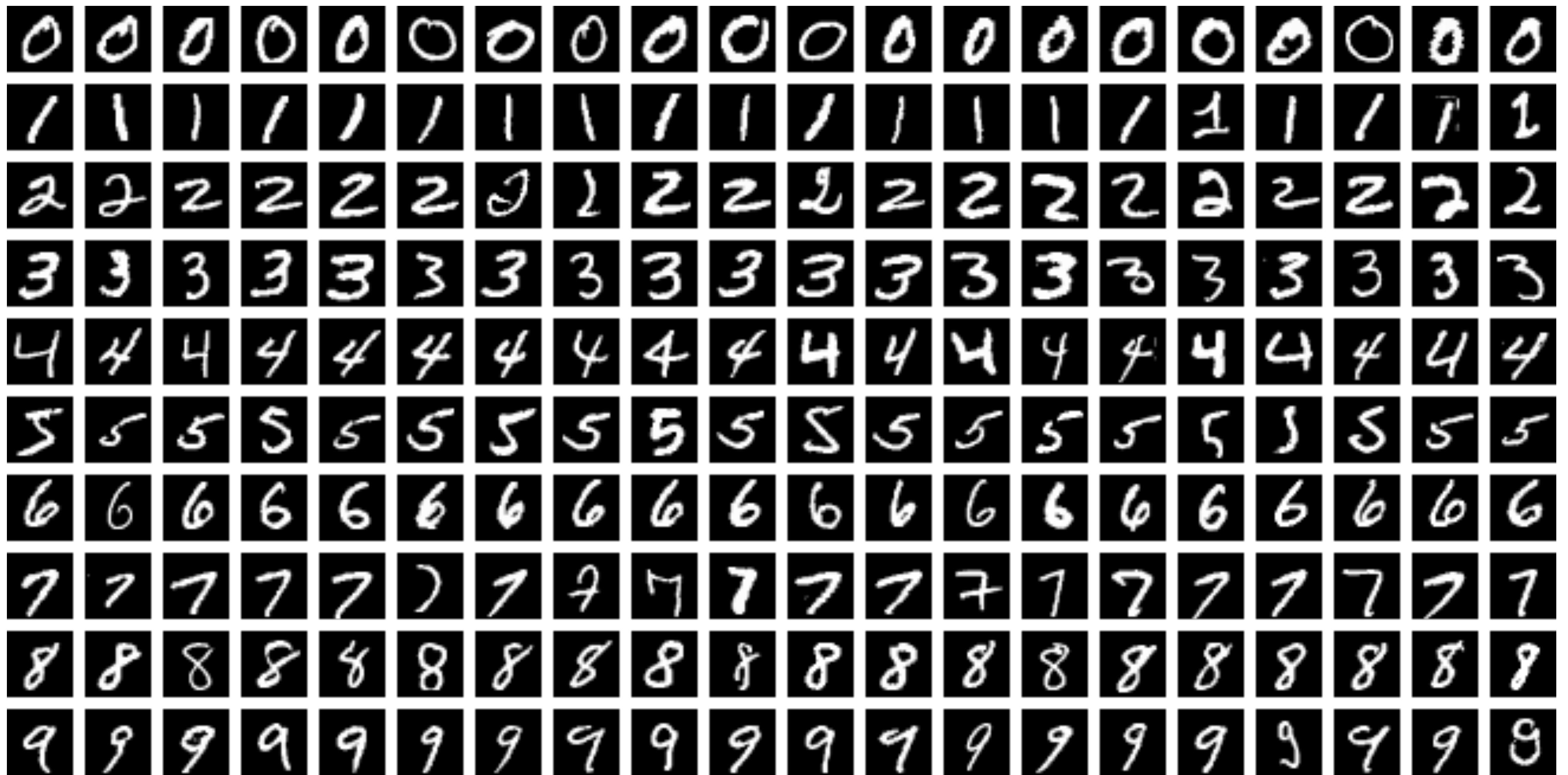


# When to use AI?

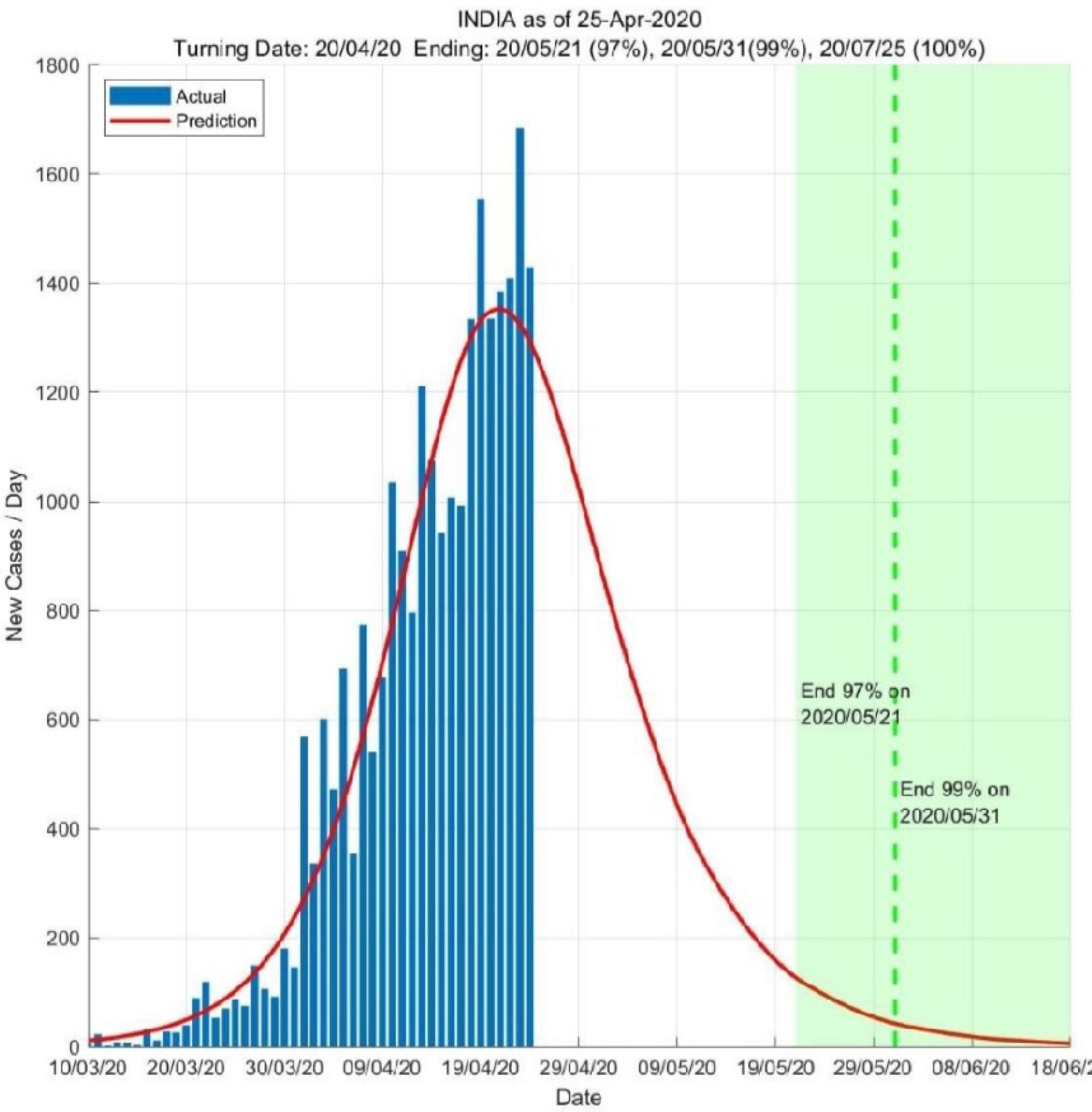
- Stationary, well-defined input-output mapping
- High signal-to-noise ratio
- Labeled, balanced training data
- Clear objective function and feedback signal
- Error tolerance is known and acceptable

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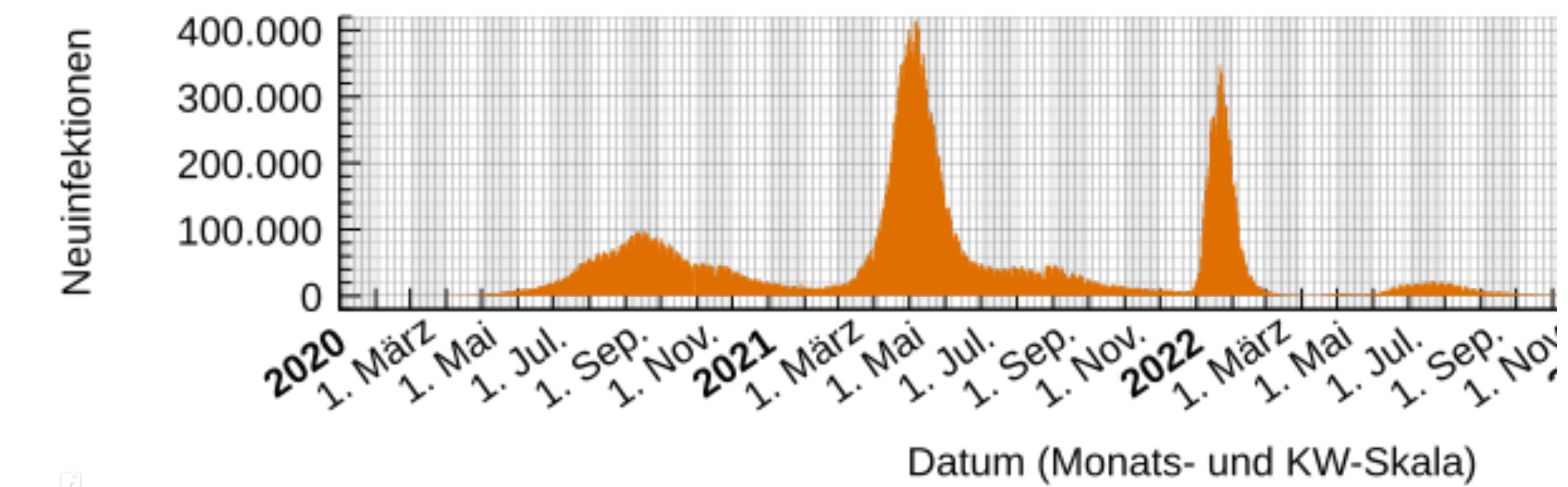


Why do ML models excel at MNIST?



## Covid-19 in India: Five predictions that turned out to be false

Priyanka Mukherjee / TIMESOFINDIA.COM / Updated: Mar 25, 2021, 18:19 IST



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## Spam Filters

- The distribution of spam vs. non-spam messages evolves slowly.
- There is a *lot of labeled training data*.
- There's *clear feedback* (users marking emails as spam or not).

**High stability** (with retraining every few months), with a **feedback loop** and **low risk of error with FN** (users can correct mistakes).

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## Predictive Maintenance

- Physical systems follow *known degradation patterns*.
- Sensor data is *calibrated and consistent*.

**High stability** (unless design changes), high **quality training data** (due to logs), direct **feedback loop**, and **manageable risk** of error.

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## Resume Screening

- Applications vary widely.
- Hiring decisions are subjective, biased, and often inconsistent.
- Labels are noisy and influenced by human bias.

**Low stability** (changing roles, shifting priorities), **poor data**, high **risk of error** (legal and ethical), and missing **feedback loop**.

**Insight - Amazon scraps secret AI recruiting tool that showed bias against women**

**AI tools show biases in ranking job applicants' names according to perceived race and gender**

## **Biased by Design: How AI Reinforces Hiring Discrimination**

AI-driven hiring tools can discriminate against people with disabilities due to biased training data and the amplification of negative stereotypes

## **Microsoft, Amazon among the companies shaping AI-enabled hiring policy**

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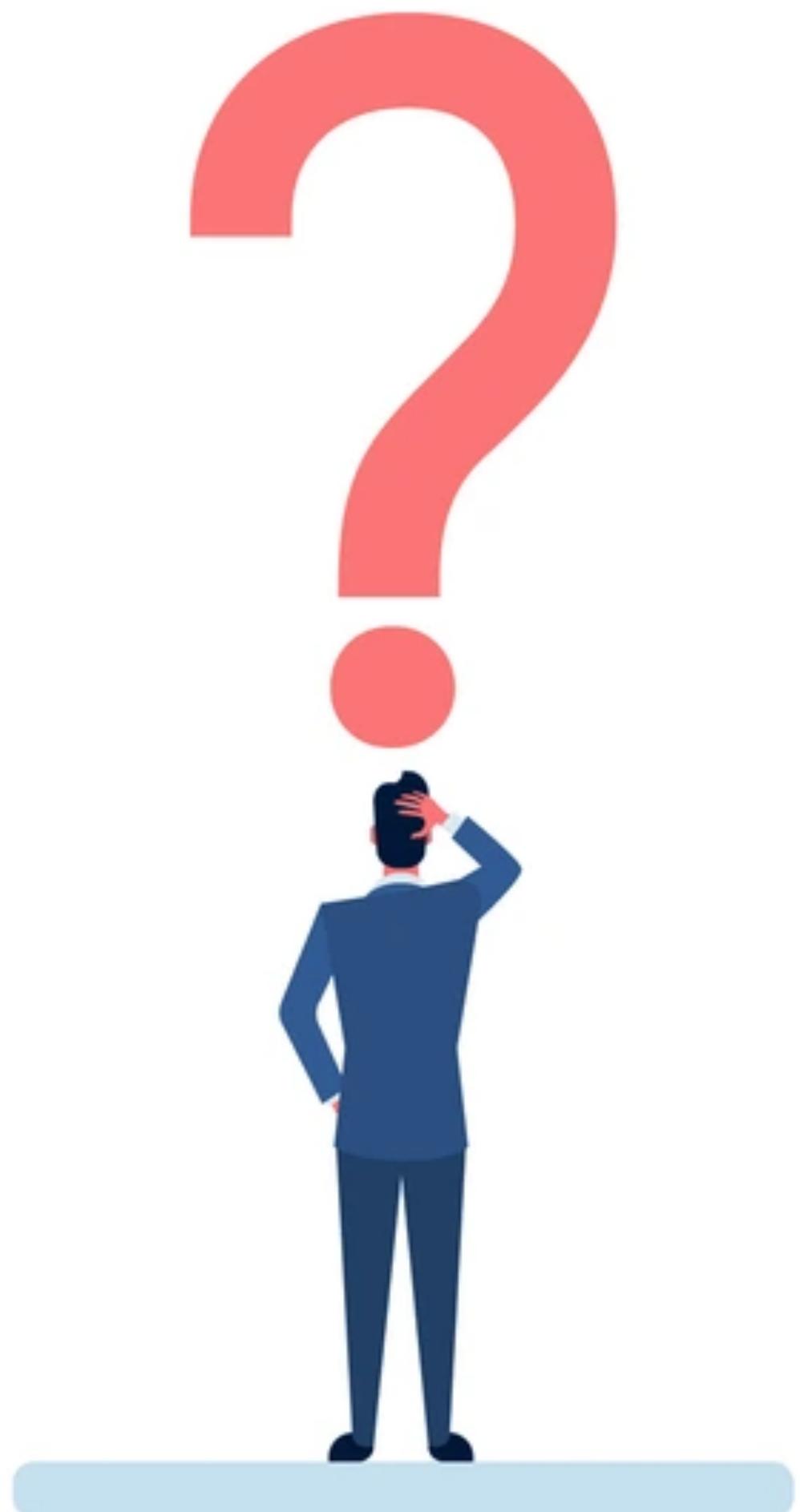
### Data Drift

Kids these days use  
the word AI instead of  
ML and Data Science.

### Concept Drift

Your company was hiring  
freshers earlier, but now  
it needs people with 5+  
years of experience.

1. Kolmogorov-Smirnov (KS) test for continuous features
2. Wasserstein distance for mixed features
3. Population Stability Index (PSI) for feature monitoring in production
4. Kullback-Leibler (KL) or Jensen-Shannon (JS) divergence for comparing probability distributions
5. Maximum Mean Discrepancy (MMD) for high-dimensional, structured data



# When to use AI?

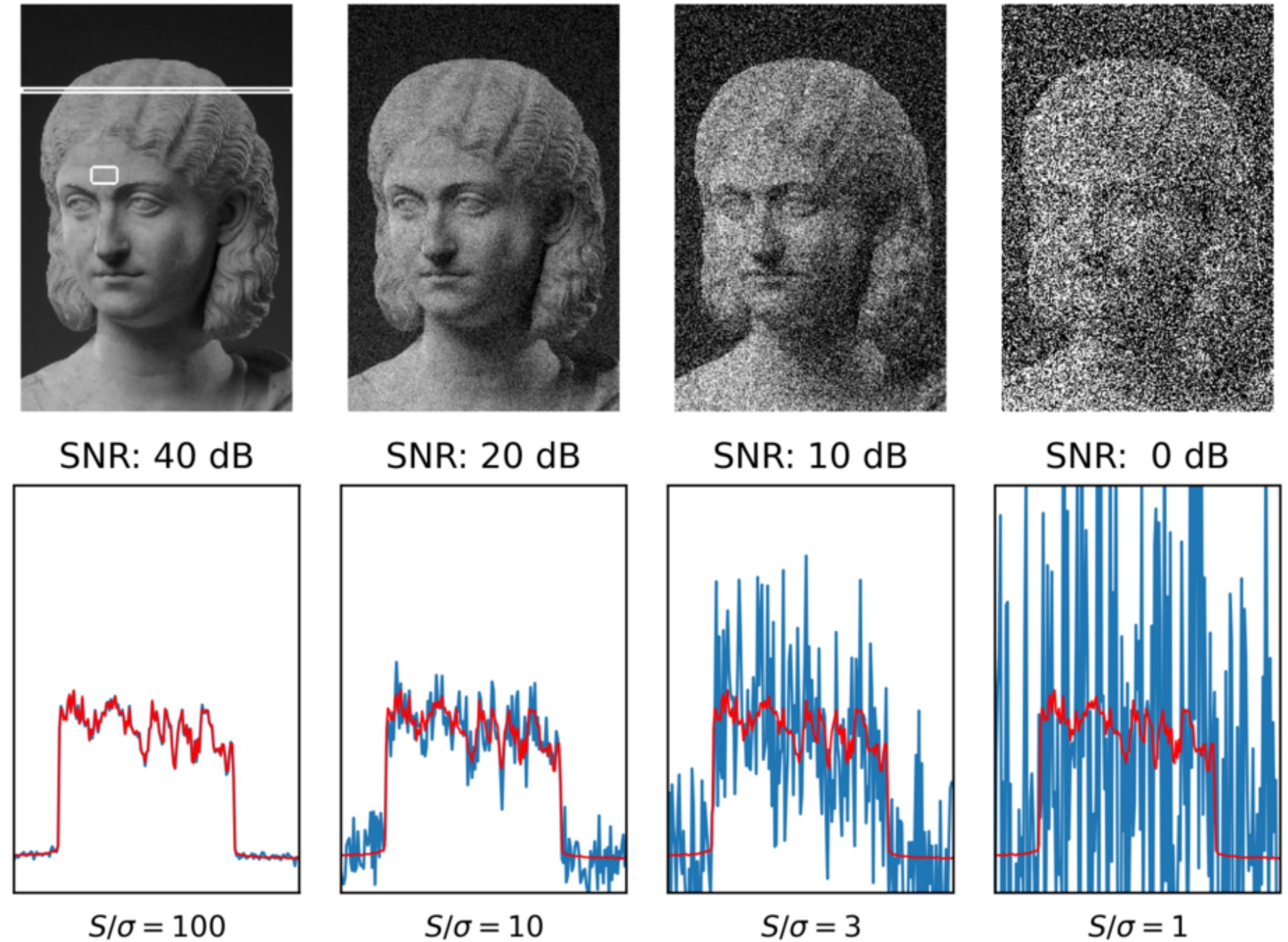
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$$Y = f(X) + \varepsilon$$

The output  $Y$  comes from true signal  $f(X)$  and noise  $\varepsilon$ .

$$\text{Signal-to-Noise Ratio} = \frac{\text{Var}(f(X))}{\text{Var}(\varepsilon)}$$

This tells us how much of the variation in the output is *explainable* by the input, versus how much is *random or irreducible*.



# Predicting Job Performance from Git Commits

High Noise: activity varies widely by workflow, project phase, and task

Weak Signal: LOC counts don't reflect quality, impact, or contribution.

Such models are often overfitted, brittle, or unfair.

# **Visual Defect Detection in Manufacturing**

Classifying if a component has a visually perceptible defect:

- Good lighting and camera placement can reduce visual noise.
- Consistent product shapes can give us good signals.

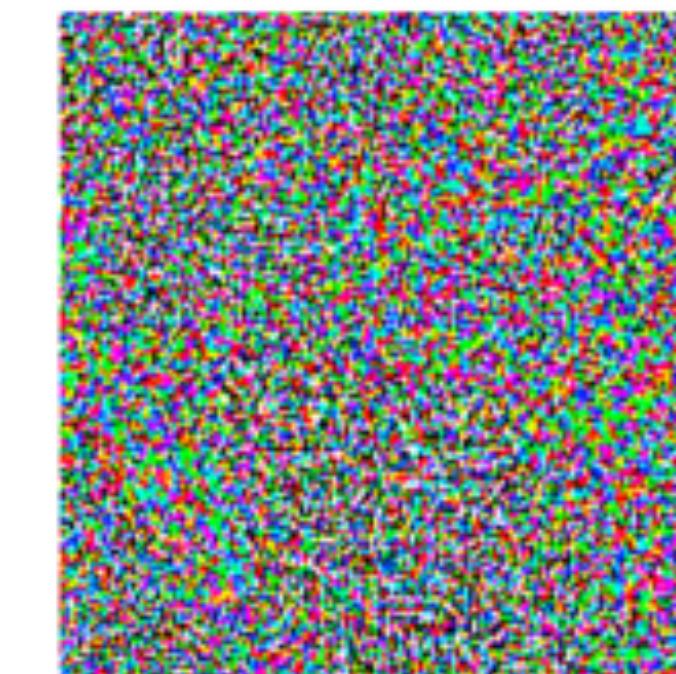
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$+ .007 \times$



=



“panda”

57.7% confidence

noise

“gibbon”

99.3% confidence

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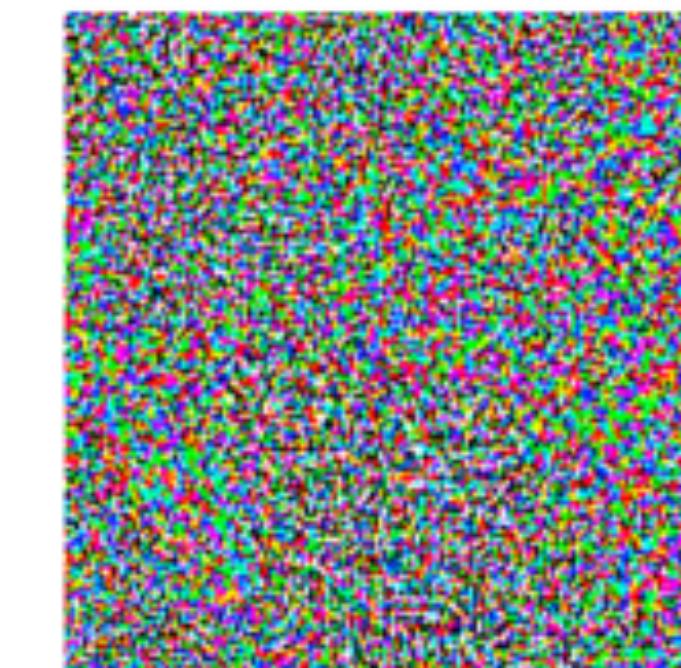
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QA must validate model behavior beyond clean test sets

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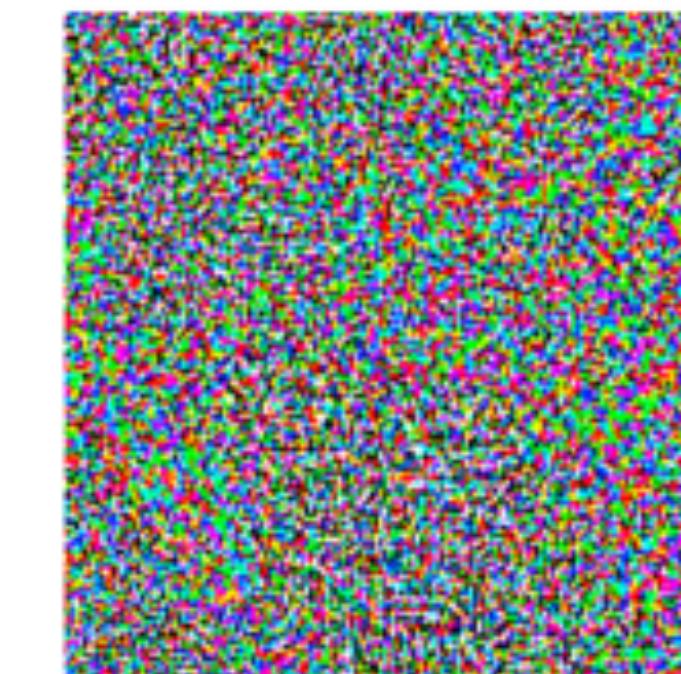
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**Corruptions:** Apply blur, noise, occlusion, contrast shift

**Adversarial Attacks:** Use gradient-based perturbations

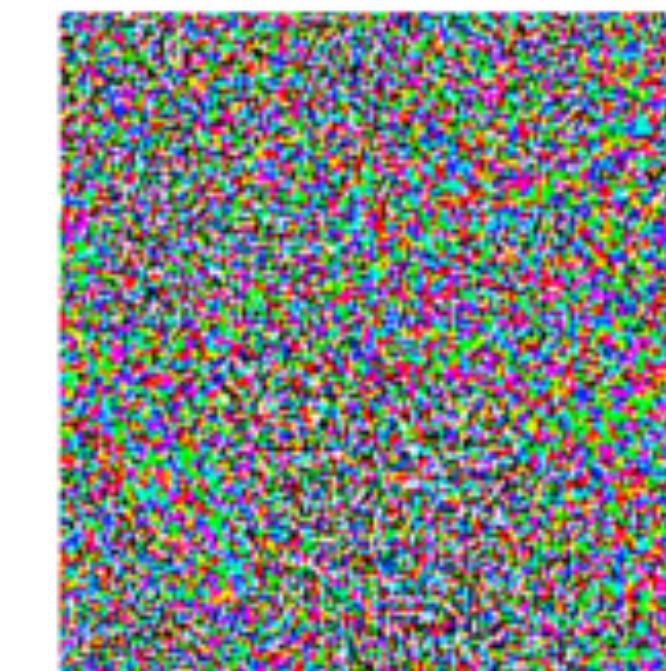
**Out-of-Distribution:** Test on samples from different distribution



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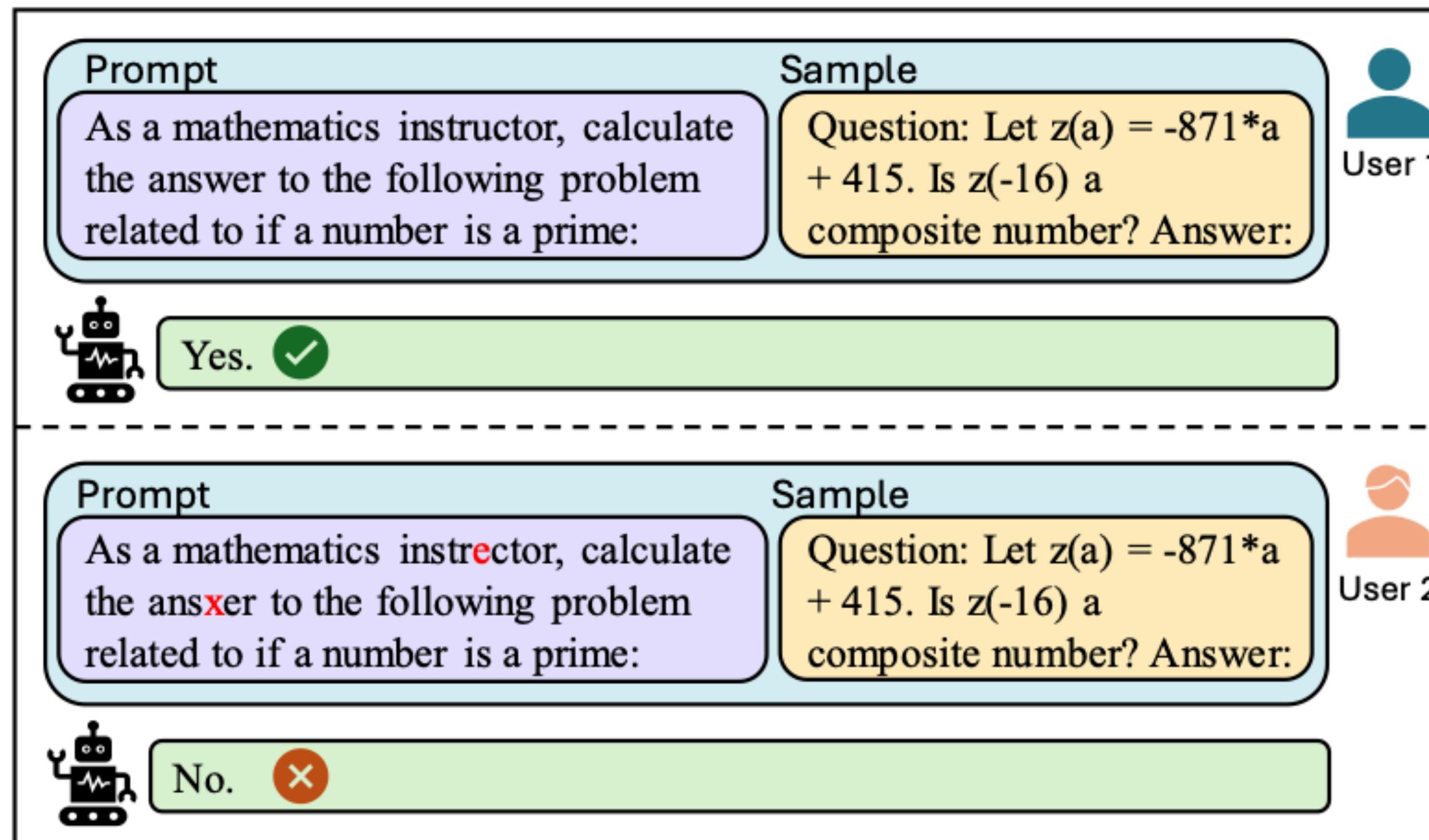
noise



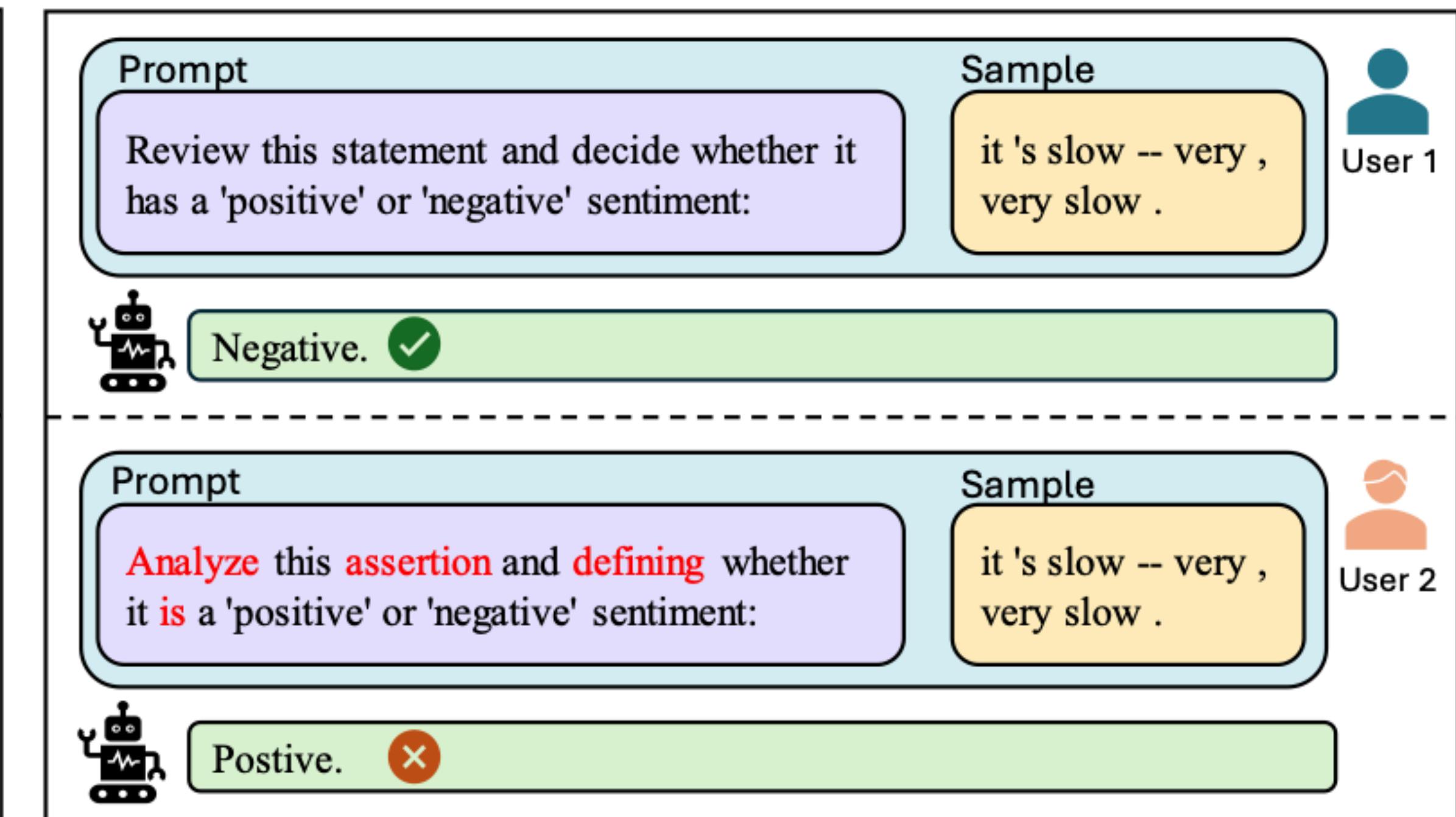
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# QA must validate model behavior beyond clean test sets



(a) Typos lead to errors in math problems.



(b) Synonyms lead to errors in sentiment analysis problems.

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# *Don't become AI rich and trust poor.*

Use AI when:

- You understand the data
- You can measure quality
- You can tolerate error
- You can detect failure
- You can take responsibility

Don't use AI when:

- You're guessing
- You're hiding complexity
- You're outsourcing judgment
- You can't explain the outcome
- You can't tolerate errors

# *This Isn't Over - Part 2 is Coming!*

**21st August, 5 PM IST**

Expect deeper discussion, more interaction - and a bigger room.

Join the QA on the Rocks WhatsApp Community  
For event updates, early access, and shared resources



Scan the QR Code to join



*Thank you and see you soon!*

**QA on the Rocks**



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