

MACHINE LEARNING  
UNIVERSITY

# Responsible AI

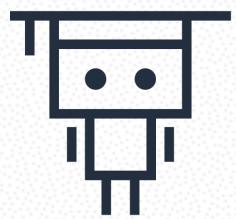
Fairness & Bias in ML – DAY 1

# Learning Outcomes

- ✿ Fundamental understanding of Machine Learning:
  - » Concepts & terminology
- ✿ Practical ML skills and techniques:
  - » Train, tune, test and evaluate simple ML models
  - » Check data and ML model for bias
- ✿ How to identify and mitigate bias and fairness issues in ML

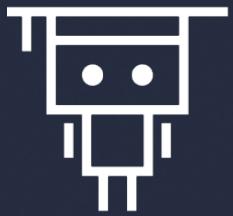
# Course Schedule

Day One	Day Two	Day Three
Fundamentals of Machine Learning	Data Processing	Bias Mitigation during Model Training
Introduction to Fairness & Bias Mitigation in ML	ML Algorithm Selection, Model Build & Evaluation	Bias Mitigation during Post-Processing
Model Formulation & Data Collection	Fairness Criteria	Bias Mitigation for Models in Production
Exploratory Data Analysis	Bias Mitigation during Pre-Processing	Explainability



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# Introduction to Machine Learning (ML)



# What is Machine Learning?

# Traditional: Rules-based



# What is Machine Learning?



“Programming computers to **learn from experience** should eventually eliminate the need for [...] detailed programming effort.”

*Arthur Samuel, 1959*  
Pioneer of AI research



New Data  


# What is Machine Learning?

“

A computer program is said to **learn from experience E with respect to** some class of **tasks T and performance measure P**, if its performance at tasks in T, as measured by P, improves with experience E.

*Tom Mitchell, 1997*



# Data: Features

Usually denoted as  $x$  (for single feature) and  $X$  for collection of features.

- ✿ Tabular: Raw values are strings or number.

Experience [years]	Age	Gender
7	30-40	Male
7	20-30	NA
7	30-40	Female
...	...	...
10	40-50	Male
9	20-30	*
6	20-30	Male

Table 1: Example tabular dataset

# Data: Features

Usually denoted as  $x$  (for single feature) and  $X$  for collection of features.

- ✿ Tabular: Raw values are strings or number.

$x_1$	$x_2$	...
Experience [years]	Age	Gender
7	30-40	Male
7	20-30	NA
7	30-40	Female
...	...	...
10	40-50	Male
9	20-30	*
6	20-30	Male

Table 1: Example tabular dataset

# Data: Features

Usually denoted as  $x$  (for single feature) and  $X$  for collection of features.

- ⚙️ Tabular: Raw values are strings or number.
- ⚙️ Image: Images where raw values are numbers (light intensity in pixels).

	Name	Folder	Type	Size
	curriculum-vitae-1.png	-	image/png	70.3 KB
	curriculum-vitae-10.png	-	image/png	70.3 KB
	curriculum-vitae-11.png	-	image/png	70.3 KB
	curriculum-vitae-12.png	-	image/png	70.3 KB
	curriculum-vitae-13.png	-	image/png	70.3 KB
	curriculum-vitae-14.png	-	image/png	70.3 KB
	curriculum-vitae-15.png	-	image/png	70.3 KB
	curriculum-vitae-16.png	-	image/png	70.3 KB
	curriculum-vitae-17.png	-	image/png	70.3 KB
	curriculum-vitae-18.png	-	image/png	70.3 KB

Table 2: Example image dataset

# Data: Features

Usually denoted as  $x$  (for single feature) and  $X$  for collection of features.

- ✿ Tabular: Raw values are strings or number.
- ✿ Image: Images where raw values are numbers (light intensity in pixels).
- ✿ Language: Raw values are strings (text snippets or words).

EN (source)	DE (target)	Tag
The doctor asked the nurse to hand her the scalpel.	Die Ärztin bat die Krankenschwester <>ihm<> das Skalpell zu reichen.	False Male
The pilot listed her credentials in the job interview.	Die Pilotin hat <>ihre<> Zeugnisse im Bewerbungsgespräch aufgeführt.	True Female
...	...	

Table 3: Example language dataset for translation task

# Data: Features/Input

Usually denoted as  $x$  (for single feature) and  $X$  for collection of features.

- ✿ Tabular: Raw values are strings or number.
- ✿ Image: Images where raw values are numbers (light intensity in pixels).
- ✿ Language: Raw values are strings (text snippets or words).

- ✿ Multimodal: Combination of all the above.

Industry	Job Description	imgID	# Applications
IT	High-paced...	51QjPP6oAVL	21
Health	Shared passion...	31WGVoL8mLL	10
...	...	...	...
IT	Digital native...	41c3RVsWGfL	43
Beauty	Collaborate on...	51OMvEHU2QL	39

Table 4: Example multimodal dataset

# Data: Labels

Usually denoted as  $y$ : The answer we want to generate using a trained model.

Labels are not always provided, but when they exist, they are either:

- ⚙️ **Numerical** values (e.g. insurance price, salary prediction...)

$x_1$	$x_2$	...	$y$
Experience [years]	Age	Gender	Salary per annum [k]
7	30-40	Male	\$181
7	20-30	NA	\$130
7	30-40	Female	\$199
...	...	...	...
10	40-50	Male	\$252
9	20-30	*	\$90
6	20-30	Male	\$166

# Data: Labels

Usually denoted as  $y$ : The answer we want to generate using a trained model.

Labels are not always provided, but when they exist, they are either:

- ✿ **Numerical** values (e.g. insurance price, salary prediction...)
- ✿ **Categorical** values (e.g. loan approved: yes/no, type of disease...)

$x_1$	$x_2$	...	$y$
Experience [years]	Age	Gender	Accepted
7	30-40	Male	yes
7	20-30	NA	no
7	30-40	Female	no
...	...	...	...
10	40-50	Male	yes
9	20-30	*	no
6	20-30	Male	yes

# ML Algorithm: Example

prediction  $\sim$  weighted combination of features

Goal: Obtain healthcare score  
for individual.

# ML Algorithm: Example

prediction ~ weighted combination of features

$$\hat{y} = f(x) \approx w_0x_0 + w_1x_1 + \cdots + w_4x_4 + \cdots + w_nx_n$$

# ML Algorithm: Features

prediction  $\sim$  weighted combination of **features**

$$\hat{y} = f(\mathbf{x}) \approx w_0x_0 + w_1x_1 + \cdots + w_4x_4 + \cdots + w_nx_n$$

**Feature:** Measurable piece of information (in numerical representation)

# ML Algorithm: Features

prediction  $\sim$  weighted combination of **features**

$$\hat{y} = f(\mathbf{x}) \approx w_0x_0 + w_1x_1 + \cdots + w_4x_4 + \cdots + w_nx_n$$

**Feature:** Measurable piece of information (in numerical representation)

$x_1$ : Feature for “*Number of Admissions*”

$$x_1 = 5$$

# ML Algorithm: Weights

prediction  $\sim$  weighted combination of features

$$\hat{y} = f(\mathbf{x}) \approx w_0x_0 + w_1x_1 + \cdots + w_4x_4 + \cdots + w_nx_n$$

**Weight:** Determines how much influence a given feature has on the output (prediction)  
Weights (also called parameters) are learnt during *model training stage*.

# ML Algorithm: Weights

prediction  $\sim$  weighted combination of features

$$\hat{y} = f(\mathbf{x}) \approx w_0 x_0 + 100 * 5 + \dots + w_4 x_4 + \dots + w_n x_n$$

**Weight:** Determines how much influence a given feature has on the output (prediction)

$w_1$ : Weight for “Number of Hospital Admissions” feature

$$w_1 = 100$$

# ML Algorithm: Features & Weights

prediction  $\sim$  weighted combination of features

$$\hat{y} = f(\mathbf{x}) \approx w_0 x_0 + 100 * 5 \dots - 25 * 1 + \dots + w_n x_n$$

$x_4$ : Feature for "Healthy lifestyle"

$$x_4 = \text{Yes} = 1$$

$w_4$ : Weight for "Healthy lifestyle" feature

$$w_4 = -25$$

# Output

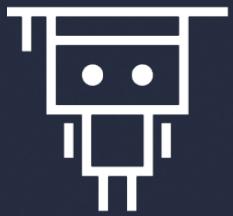
prediction  $\sim$  weighted combination of features

$$\hat{y} = f(\mathbf{x}) \approx 200 + 100 * 5 - 25 * 1 = 675 \pm err$$

(predicted healthcare score)

*Remember: This is a simplified example of a simple ML algorithm  
(Linear Regression).*

$x_0 = 1$  per convention,  $a_0 = 200$  (healthcare score base value)



# Types of Machine Learning

# Supervised vs. Unsupervised Learning

Data includes  
**labels**

Model learns  
by looking at  
these  
examples

Supervised Learning

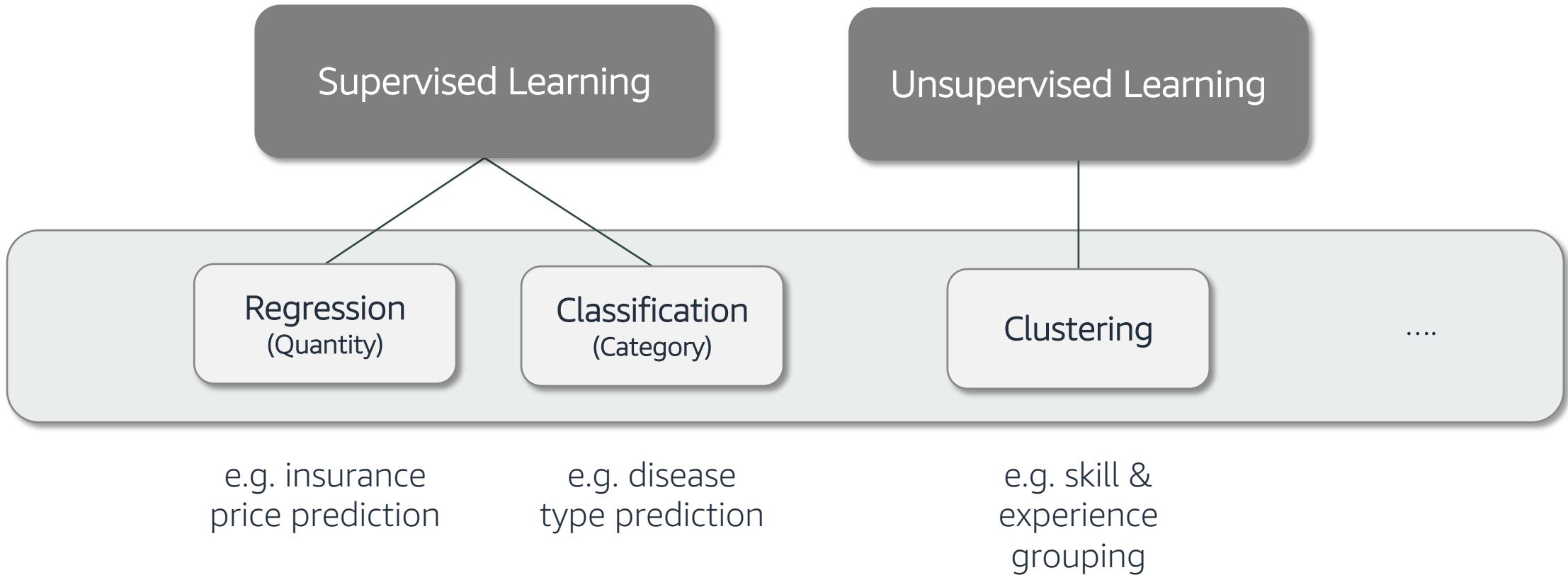
Unsupervised Learning

Data is  
provided  
**without**  
**labels**

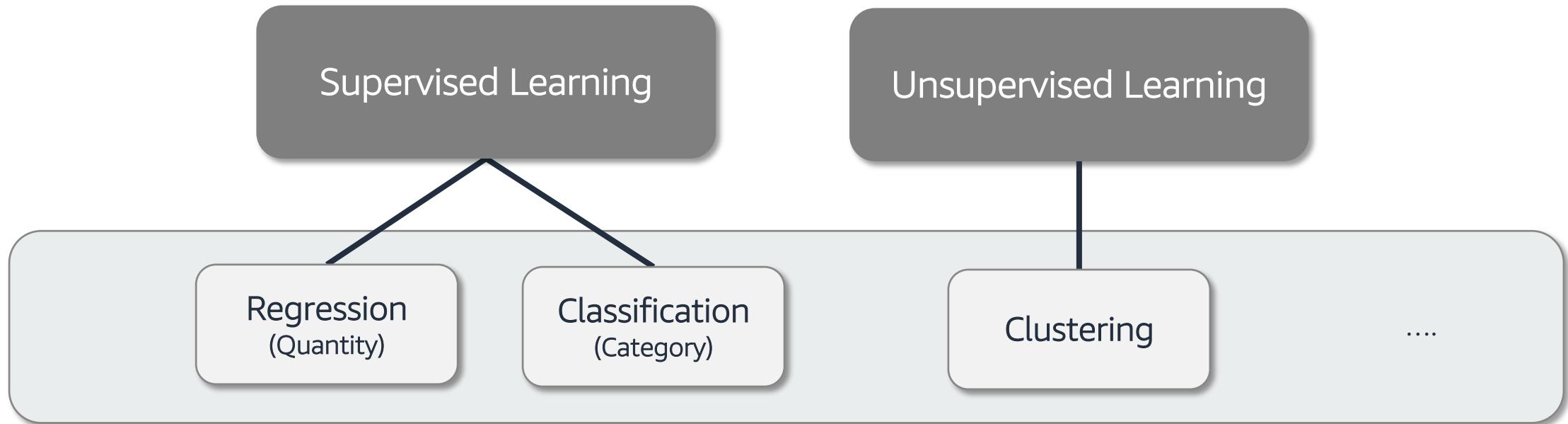
Model finds  
patterns in  
data



# Supervised vs. Unsupervised Learning



# Supervised vs. Unsupervised Learning

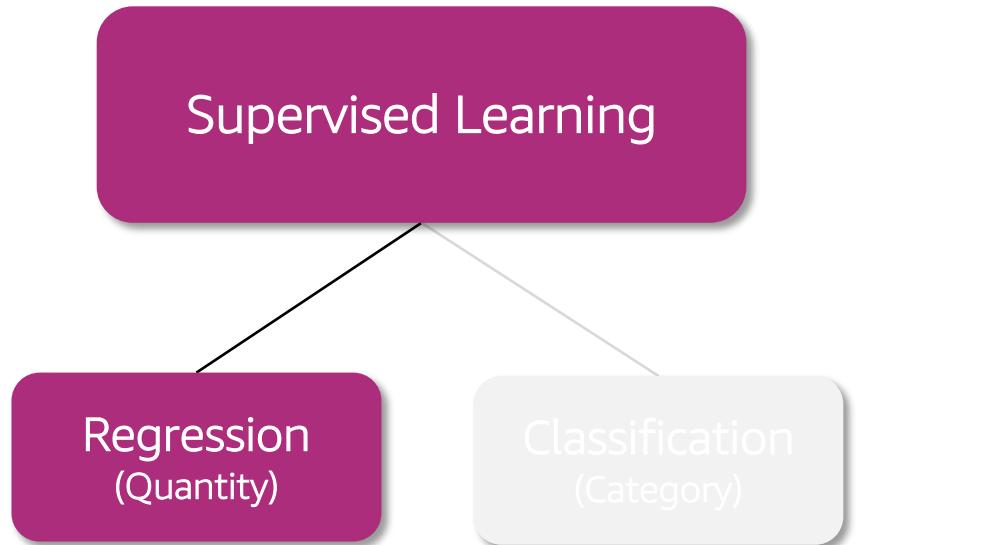


ML  
Algorithms

- Linear Regression
- K-Nearest Neighbors
- Neural Nets
- Decision Trees
- ...
- ...

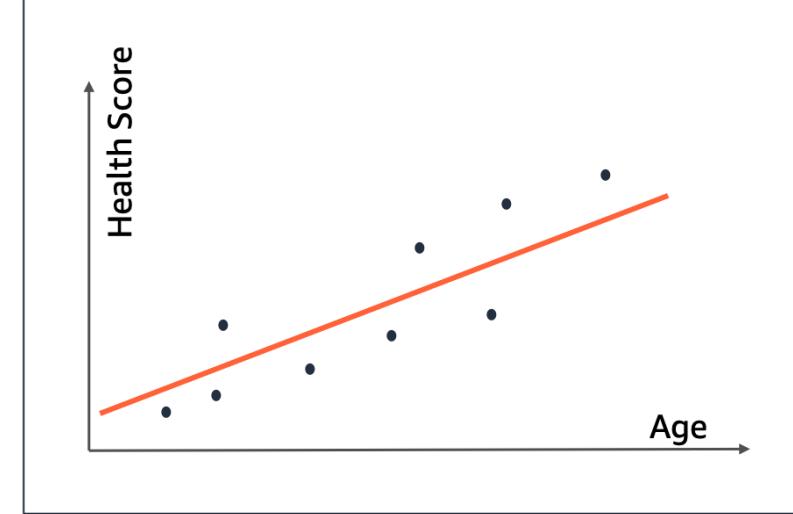
- Support Vector Machine
- K-Nearest Neighbors
- Neural Nets
- Decision Trees
- ...
- ...

# Supervised Learning: Regression



- **Linear Regression**
- K-Nearest Neighbors
- Neural Nets
- Decision Trees
- ...

- Support Vector Machine
- K-Nearest Neighbors
- Neural Nets
- Decision Trees
- ...



Label	Features				
HS	Age	BMI	Smoker	Ethnicity	
80	32	28	Y	White	
65	21	23	N	Hispanic	
...	...	...	...	...	

# Supervised Learning: Classification

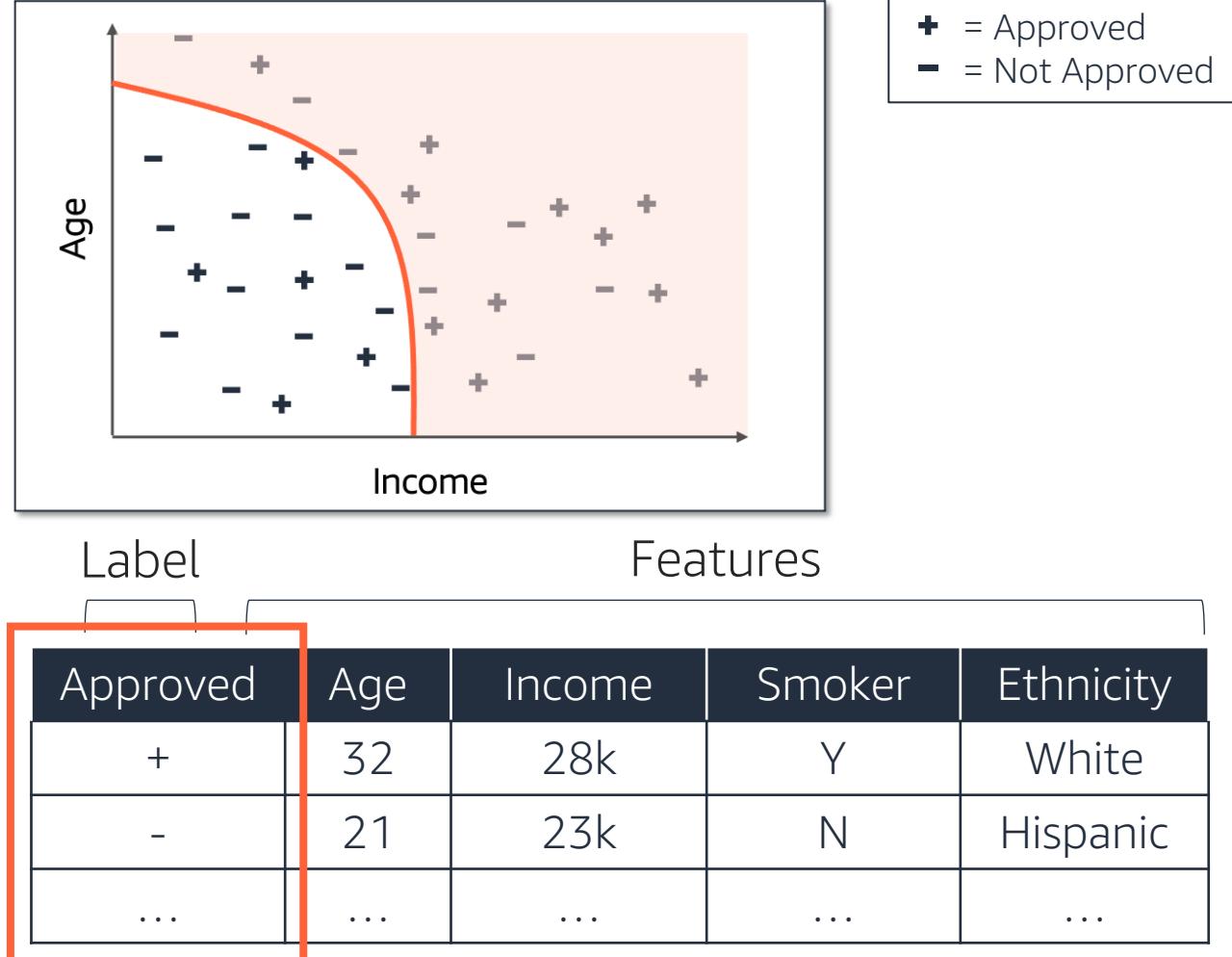
## Supervised Learning

Regression  
(Quantity)

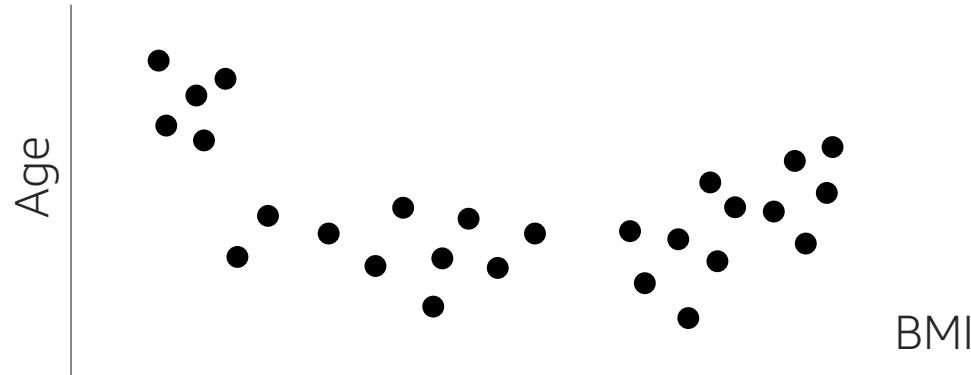
- Linear Regression
- K-Nearest Neighbors
- Neural Nets
- Decision Trees
- ...

Classification  
(Category)

- **Support Vector Machine**
- K-Nearest Neighbors
- Neural Nets
- **Decision Trees**
- ...



# Unsupervised Learning: Clustering



Age	BMI	Smoker	Ethnicity
32	28	Y	White
21	23	N	Hispanic
...	...	...	...

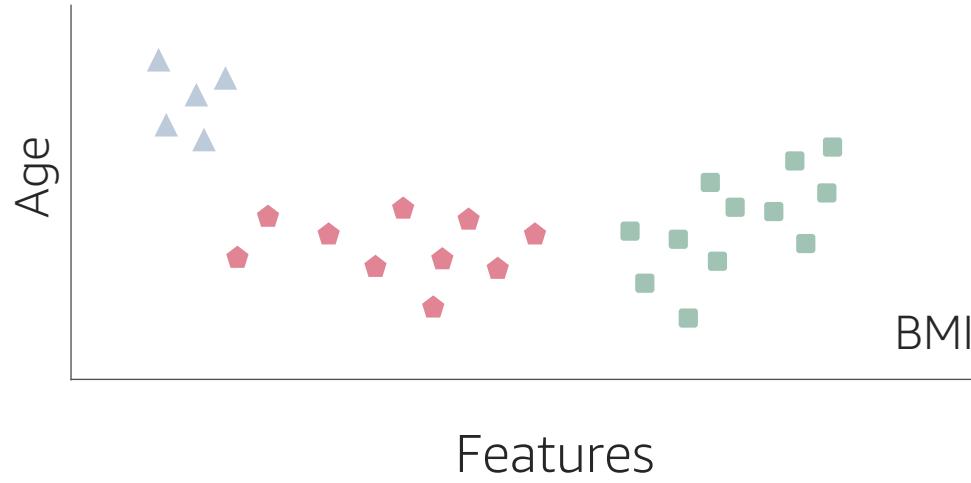
Unsupervised Learning

Clustering

- K-Means
- PCA
- Collaborative Filtering
- ...



# Unsupervised Learning: Clustering

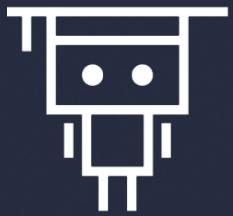


Unsupervised Learning

Clustering

- K-Means
- PCA
- Collaborative Filtering
- ...

Age	BMI	Smoker	Ethnicity
32	28	Y	White
21	23	N	Hispanic
...	...	...	...



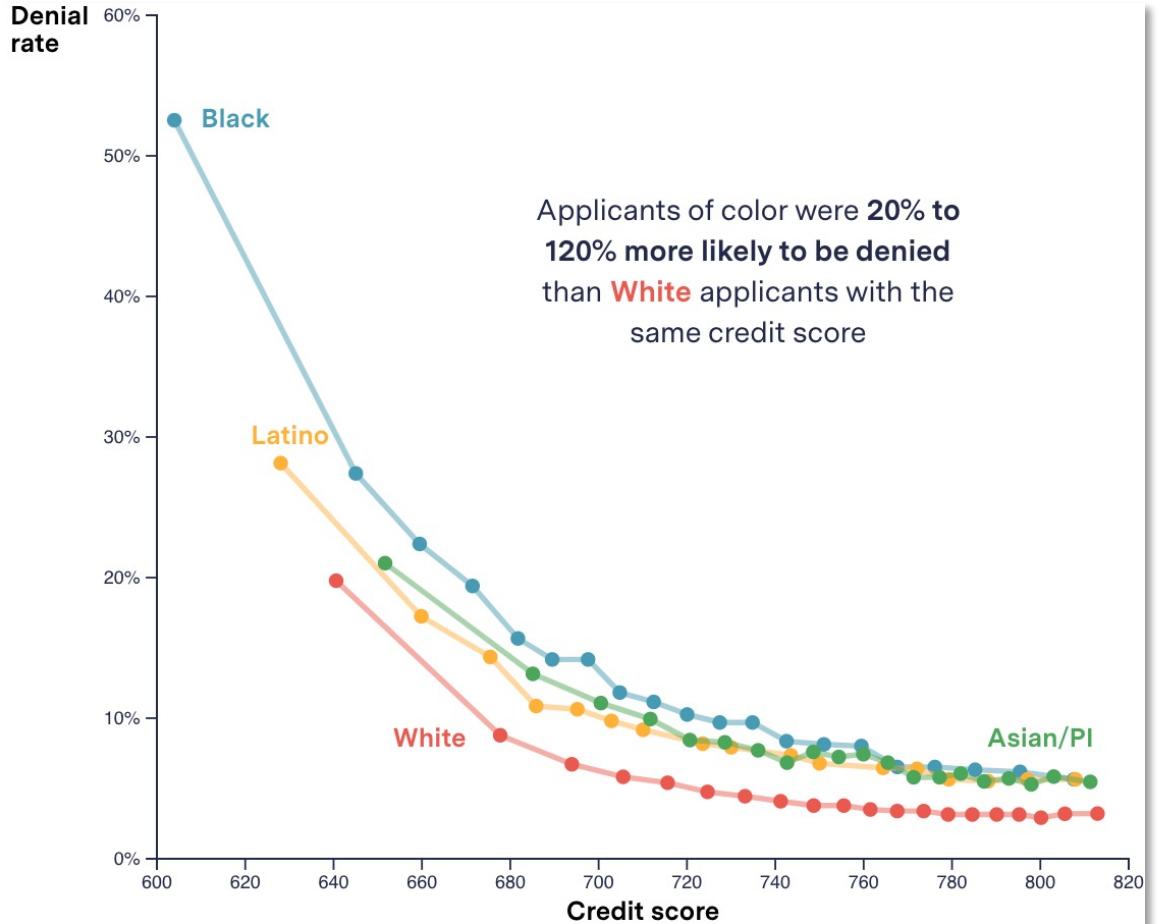
# Examples of ML Problems/Tasks

# ML Problem Type: Regression

Problem type	Description	Example
Regression	Predicting a numerical value	<p>Sickness Severity Score</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» To determine if individual may require care in future, a risk score was produced.</li><li>» Observations showed that Black enrollees have higher rate of chronic illnesses than White enrollees of same score.</li><li>» Algorithm used health costs as proxy for health.</li></ul> <p><a href="#">Obermeyer et al (2019)</a></p>

# ML Problem Type: Classification

Problem type	Description	Example
Regression	Predicting a numerical value	Credit Worthiness » To determine if applicant may default, a probability score was used. » “In default”: failed to pay a debt for > 90 days on $\geq 1$ account in ensuing 18-24 month period. » Use equalized odds to enforce accuracy is equal in all groups.
Classification	Predicting a label	<a href="#">Hardt et al. (2016)</a>



Martinez, E., & Kirchner, L. (2021, August 25). The secret bias hidden in mortgage-approval algorithms. *The Markup*. [\[Link\]](#)

# ML Problem Type: Ranking

Problem type	Description	Example
Regression	Predicting a numerical value	
Classification	Predicting a label	
Ranking	Ordering items to find the most relevant based on search query	<p><b>Job Ranking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Ranked lists produced by biased model can amplify bias.</li><li>» Without fairness intervention, top ranked results can be skewed with respect to sensitive attribute(s).</li><li>» To mitigate, we require fair re-ranking algorithms (e.g. score maximizing greedy mitigation).</li></ul> <p><a href="#">Geyik et al. (2019)</a></p>

# ML Problem Type: Recommendation

Problem type	Description	Example
Regression	Predicting a numerical value	
Classification	Predicting a label	
Ranking	Ordering items to find the most relevant based on search query	
Recommendation	Finding relevant items based on past behavior (without direct user input)	<p><b>Targeted Advertising</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Recommendations produced by biased models may amplify bias.</li><li>» Experiment: Different ad settings led to different freq. of high paying jobs shown.</li><li>» Require multi-sided fairness or sequential recommendations</li></ul>

[Pitoura, E., Stefanidis, K. & Koutrika, G \(2021\)](#)

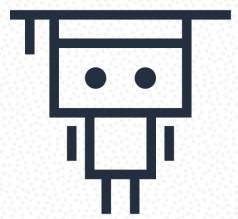
# ML Problem Type: Clustering

Problem type	Description	Example
Regression	Predicting a numerical value	
Classification	Predicting a label	
Ranking	Ordering items to find the most relevant based on search query	
Recommendation	Finding relevant items based on past behavior (without direct user input)	
Clustering	Finding patterns/groups in examples	<p><b>Fair Hiring</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Cluster resumes for shortlist in a hiring scenario</li><li>» Callback rates may differ per group → consider group fairness (incorporate fairness constraints in optimization)</li><li>» Aim for proportional representation of the sensitive class per cluster</li></ul>

[Abraham et al. \(2020\)](#)

# ML Problem Type: Anomaly Detection

Problem type	Description	Example
Regression	Predicting a numerical value	
Classification	Predicting a label	
Ranking	Ordering items to find the most relevant based on search query	
Recommendation	Finding relevant items based on past behavior (without direct user input)	
Clustering	Finding patterns/groups in examples	
Anomaly Detection	Finding outliers in set of examples	<p><b>Government Relief Fraud</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Small fraction of COVID relief direct payments experience fraud.</li><li>» Scale of money allocation makes traditional tracking impossible.</li><li>» Outliers should not be skewed towards particular group → FairLOF</li></ul> <p><a href="#">Deepak et al. (2021)</a></p>



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# Introduction to Fairness & Responsible AI

# What is Responsible AI?

“ [...] AI that is innovative and trustworthy and that respects human rights and democratic values.

*OECD, <https://oecd.ai/en/ai-principles>*

→ Dimensions of Responsible AI

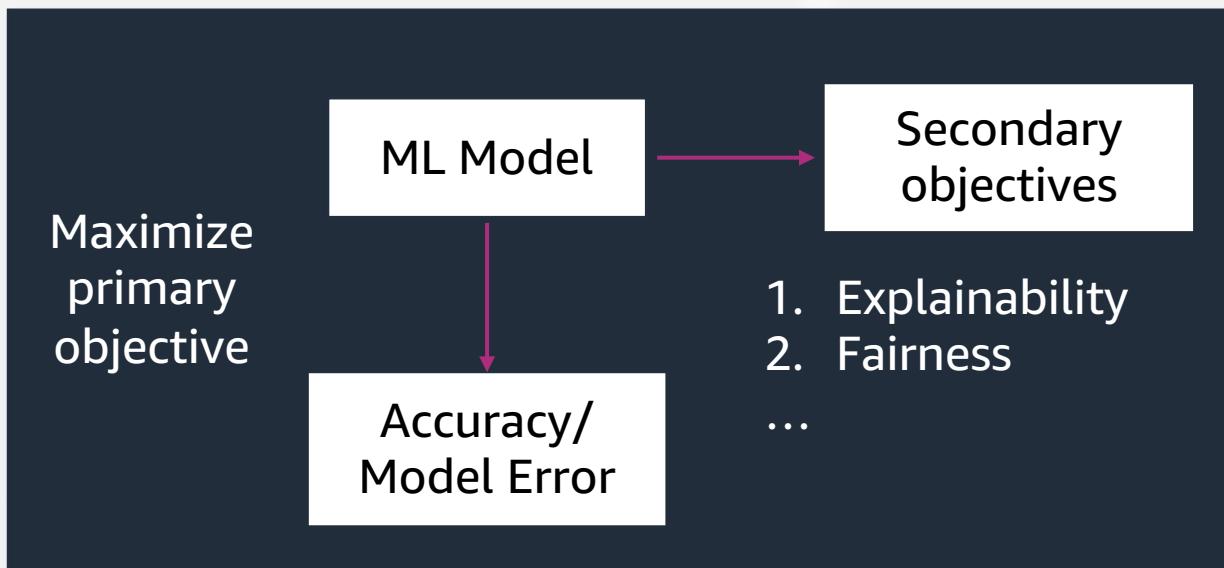
Fairness is one of several dimensions.

# Dimensions of Responsible AI

Dimension	Example Metric
Privacy & Security	Is data used in accordance with privacy & legal considerations, and protected from theft and exposure?
Fairness	Are there harmful disparities in system behavior across different subpopulations?
Explainability	Does the system offer a clear rationale for its decisions?
Robustness	How hard is it to confuse or fool the system, e.g. with "adversarial" examples?
Transparency	Are users enabled to make informed choices about their use of the system?
Governance	How do you enforce and ensure these responsible AI practices are being carried out amongst all stakeholders?

# Tradeoffs in Responsible AI

1. Dimensions of responsible AI can be at odds with primary objective to have best possible model performance.



2. It is challenging to maximize all dimensions of responsible AI simultaneously.

- » E.g.: Preserving privacy makes data more coarse → potentially degrades ability to explain model behavior.
- » E.g.: Making model results and components more transparent → potentially security & privacy risk.

# Dimensions of Responsible AI

Dimension	Example Metric
Privacy & Security	Is data used in accordance with privacy & legal considerations, and protected from theft and exposure?
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# Unwanted Bias

- ✿ Bias is a term used in different domains, with different meanings:

Model Evaluation

Unexplained error stemming from model selection & assumptions.

Neural Networks

Value that helps control quality of fit during training of NN.

Social Context

Systematic differences with respect to different subpopulations (groups with shared values of demographic variables).

Responsible AI

Harmful disparities in system behavior on subpopulations (groups with shared values of demographic variables); also “unwanted bias”.

# Impact vs. Treatment vs. Outcome

- ✿ Impact vs. Treatment (concepts in US law):
  - » Considering sensitive attributes as part of a decision making process, intentionally or indirectly, constitutes **disparate treatment**.
  - » Decision making processes or procedures that generate outcomes that disproportionately favor subpopulations exhibit **disparate impact**.
- More formal definition from FDIC [\[here\]](#).
- ✿ Protections don't always hold (e.g. medical diagnosis).
- ✿ Even if impact & treatment are controlled for, fair outcomes are not guaranteed (interaction with ML models can create bias).

# Group vs. Individual Fairness

- ✿ **Group Fairness** (equalize impact/treatment across groups)
  - » Strong theory and algorithms & practical implementations; e.g. same rate of error across different groups
  - » Provide no guarantees at individual level
  
- ✿ **Individual Fairness** (ensures similar individuals treated/impacted similarly)
  - » Strong (non-statistical) assumptions prevent practical implementations
  - » Binds at individual level

# Credit line increase example

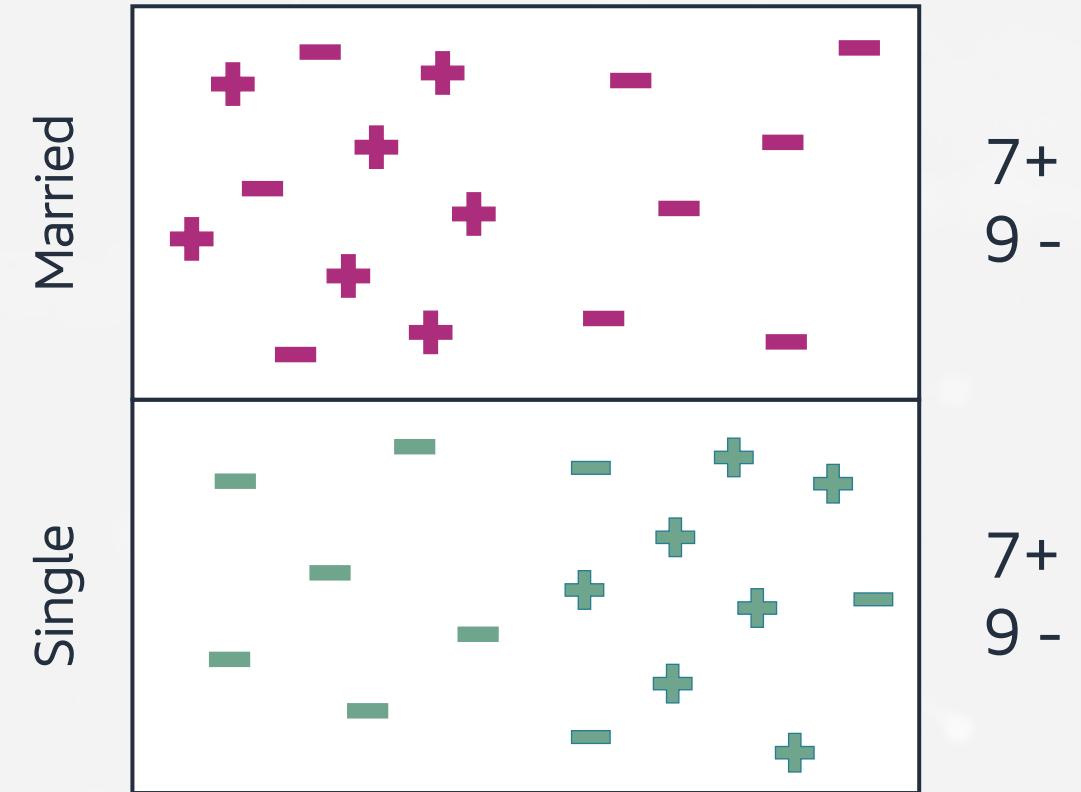


Fair lending laws [ECOA, FCRA] require credit decision to be explainable

Source: Responsible AI in Industry: Practical Challenges and Lessons Learned  
Krishnaram Kenthapadi

# Intersectional Group Fairness

- ✿ Individuals can exhibit multiple demographic attributes.
- ✿ If multiple attributes intersect, new sub-groups emerge.
- ✿ Cannot build models for separate groups.



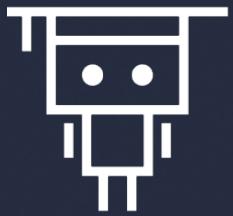
Example Credit Line Increase

# Intersectional Group Fairness

- Attributes (e.g. married vs. single) can intersect with other attributes (e.g. employed vs. unemployed)
  - new sub-groups emerge (e.g. married & employed, ...)
- Sub-groups may experience additional disparity (see positive/negative outcomes per sub-group).

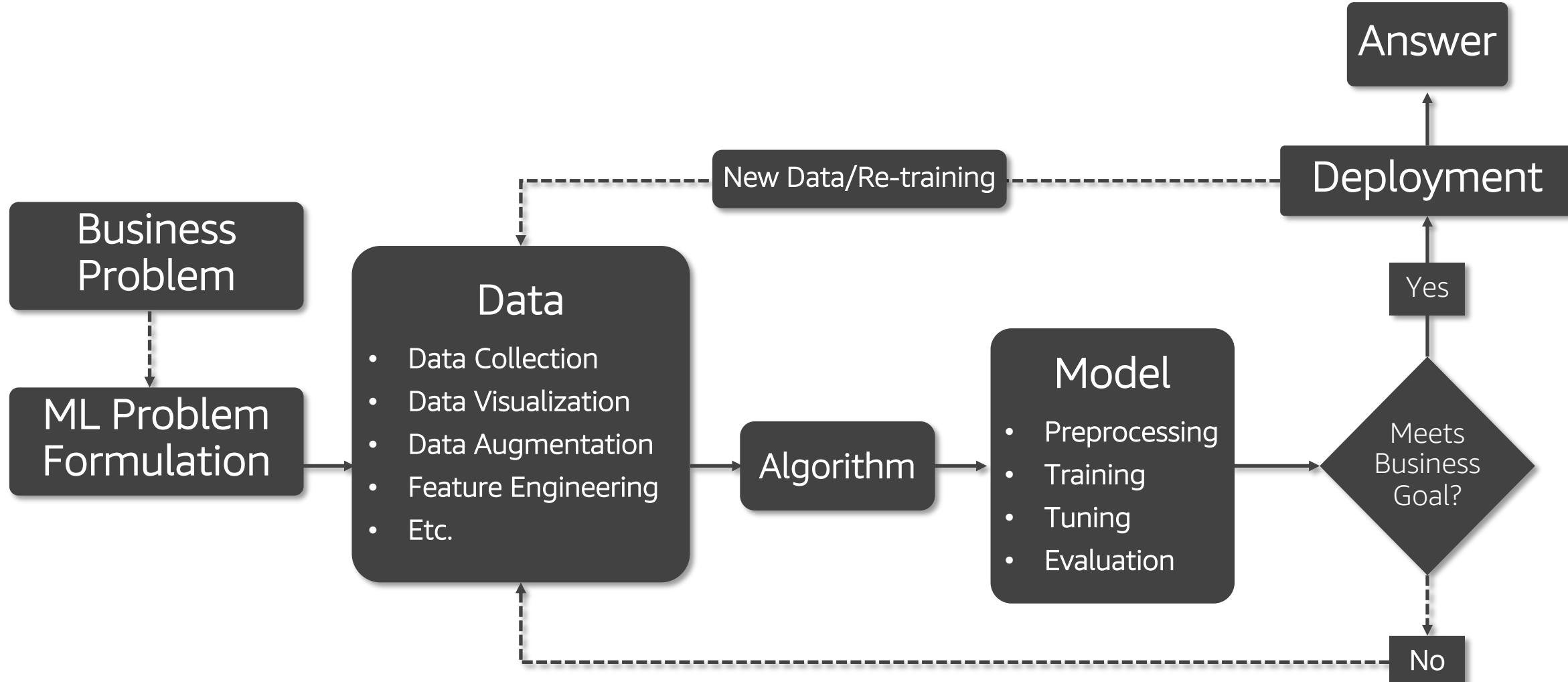


Example Credit Line Increase

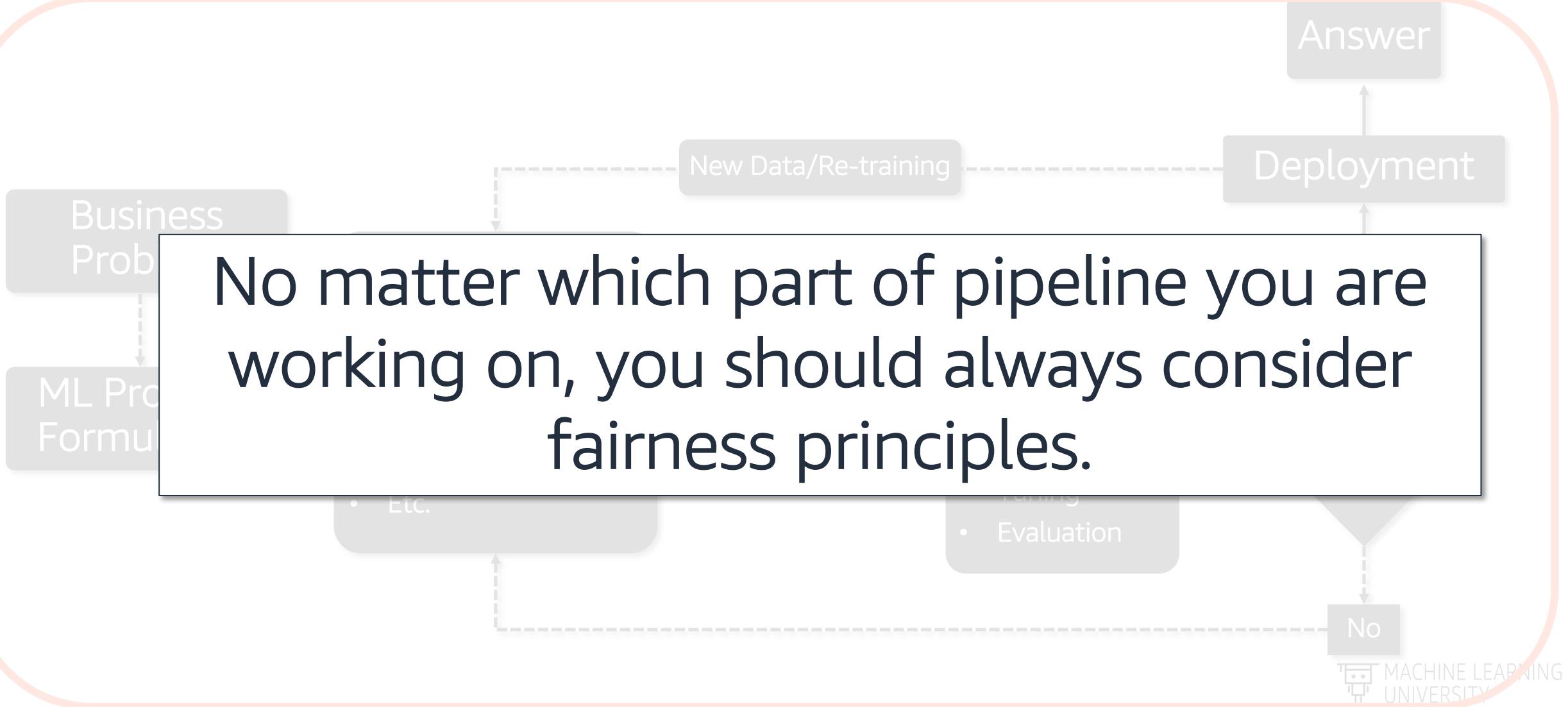


# Fairness Throughout the ML Lifecycle

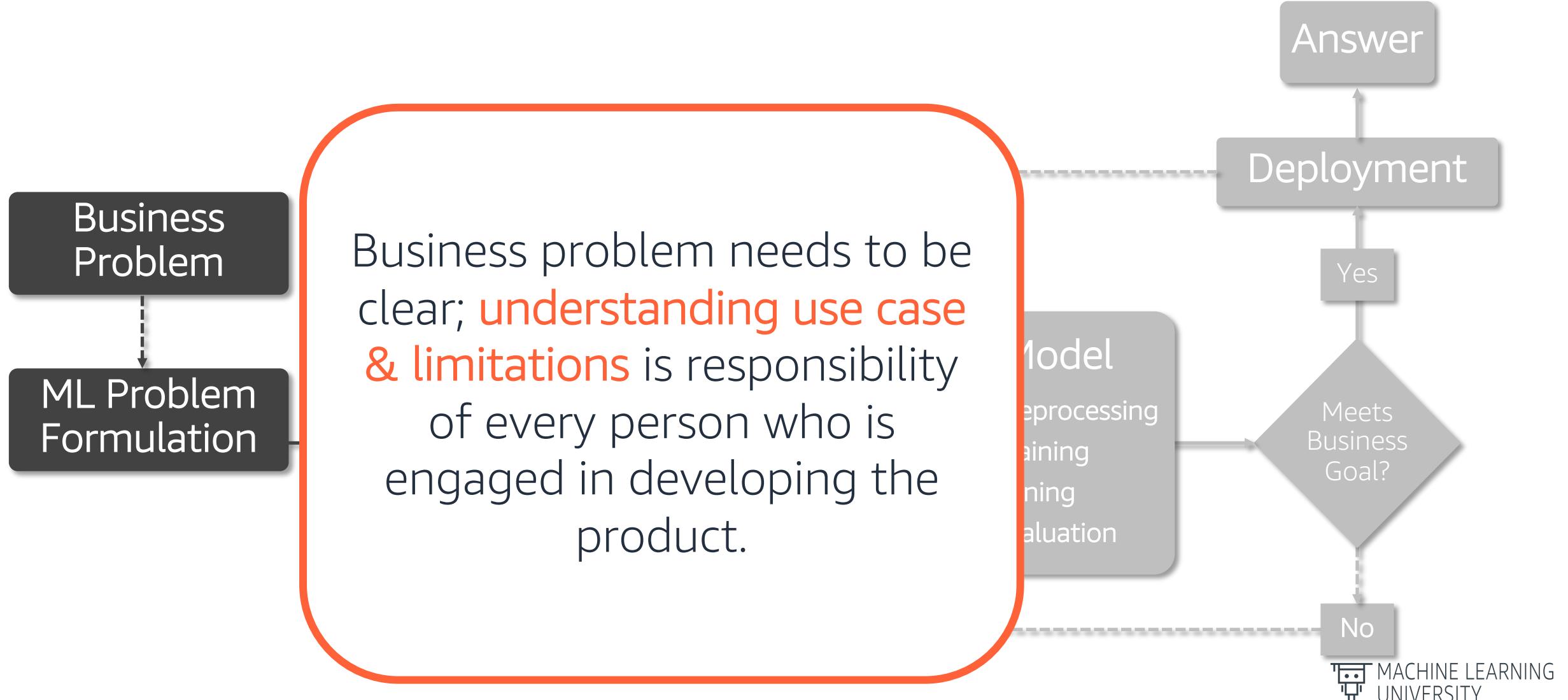
# Where should you consider fairness?



# Everywhere ☺



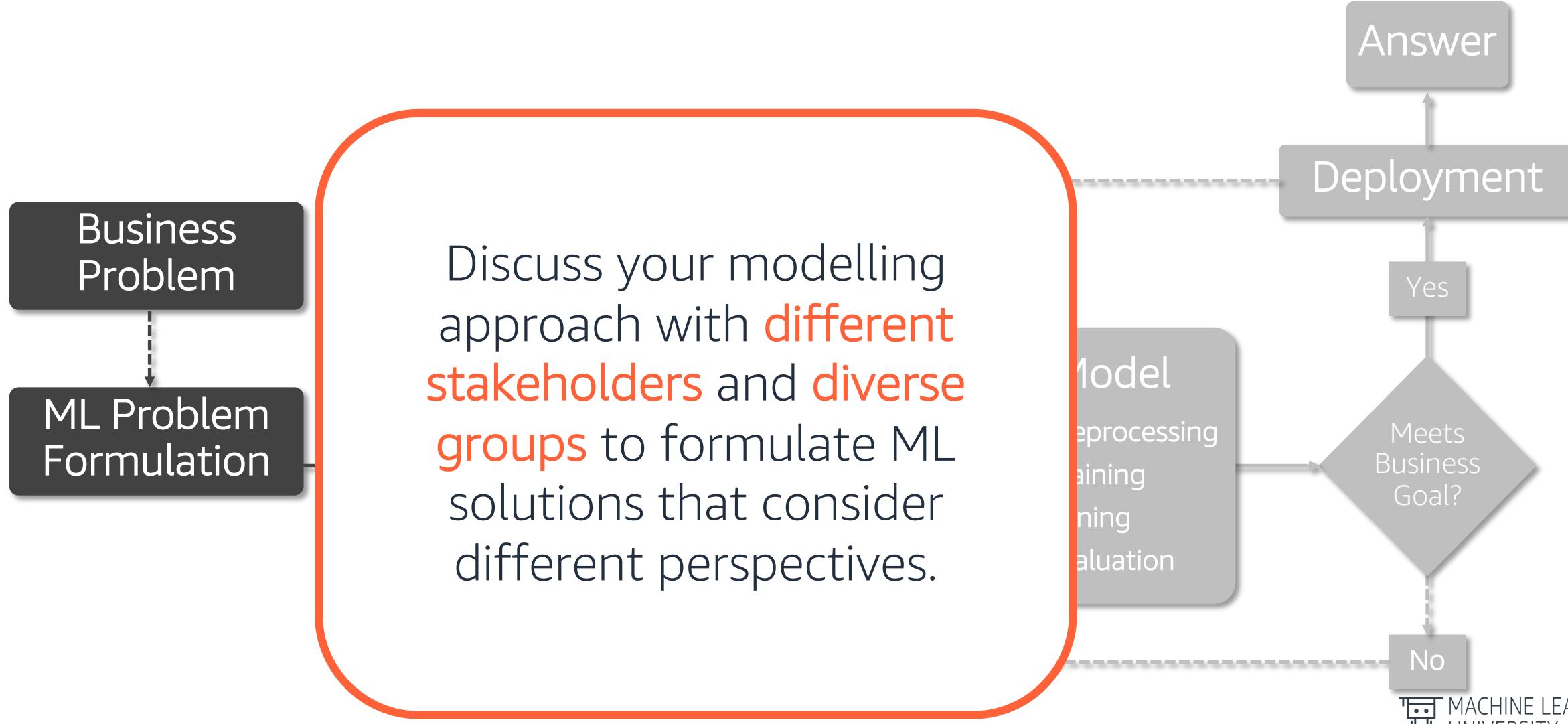
# Machine Learning Lifecycle



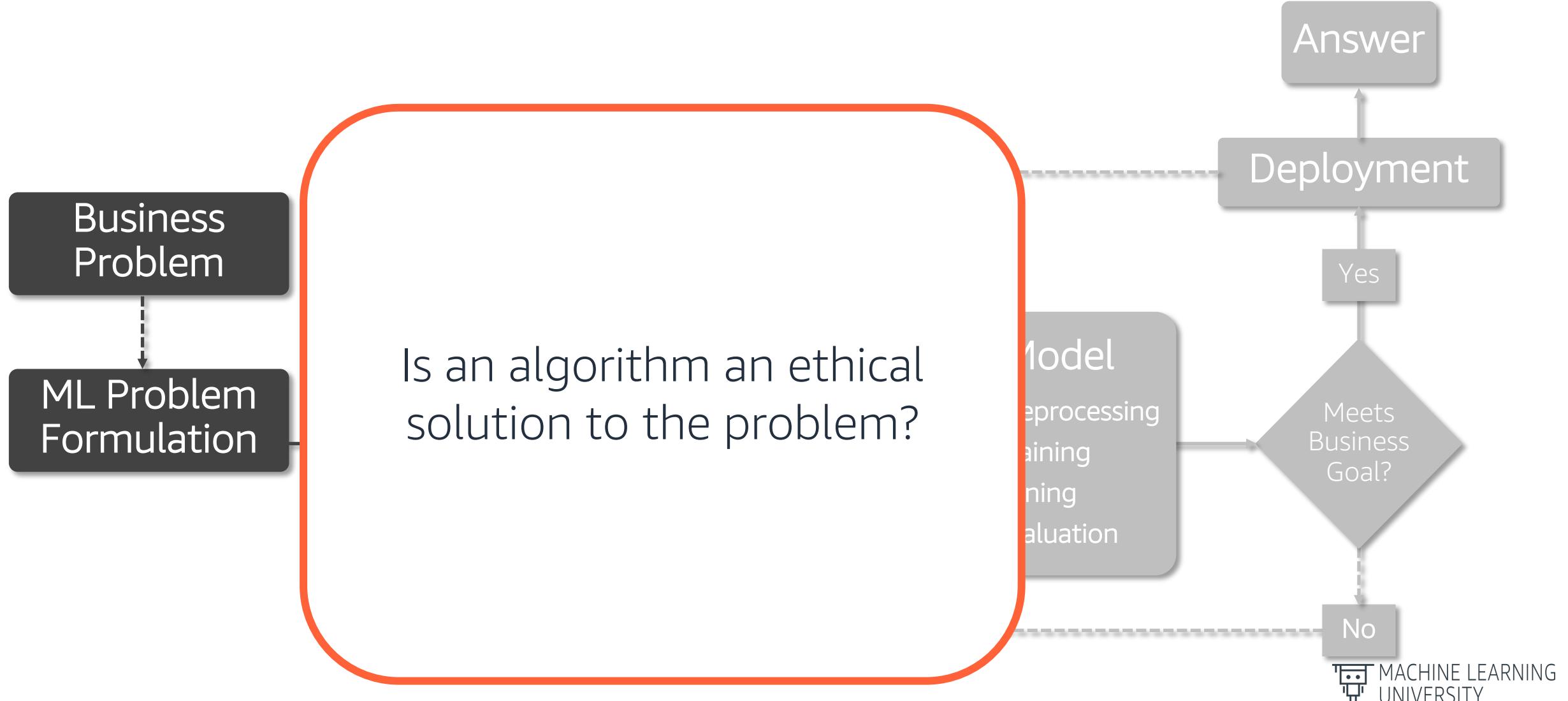
# Machine Learning Lifecycle



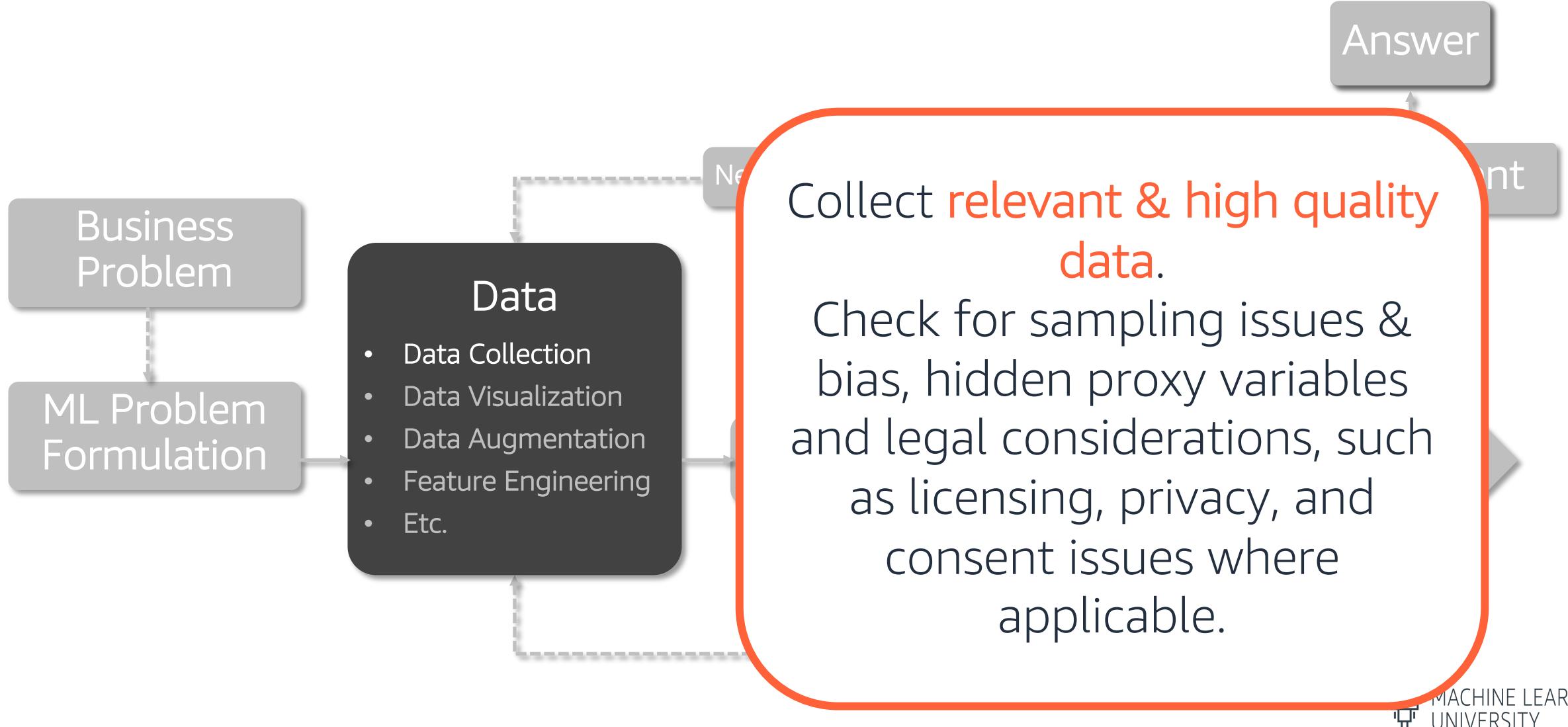
# Machine Learning Lifecycle



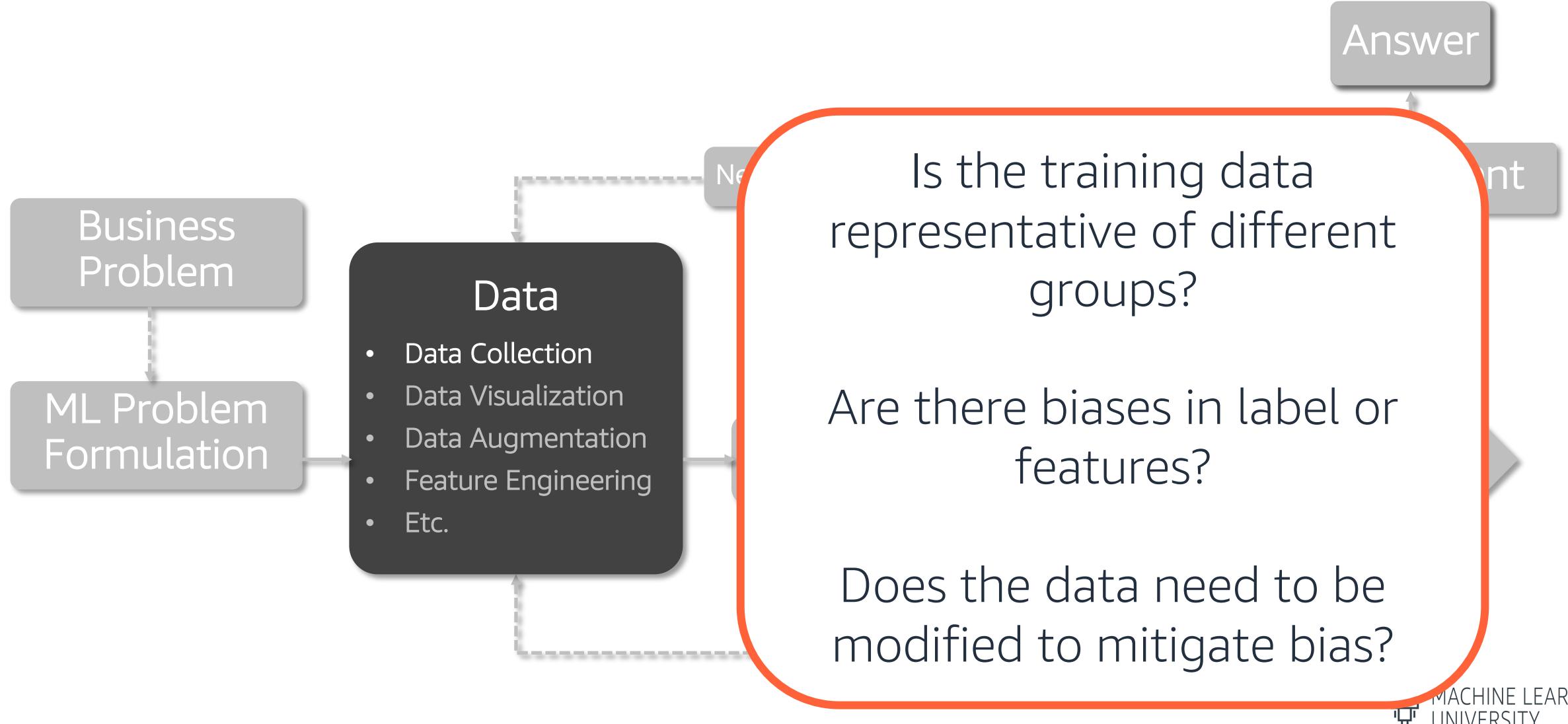
# Machine Learning Lifecycle



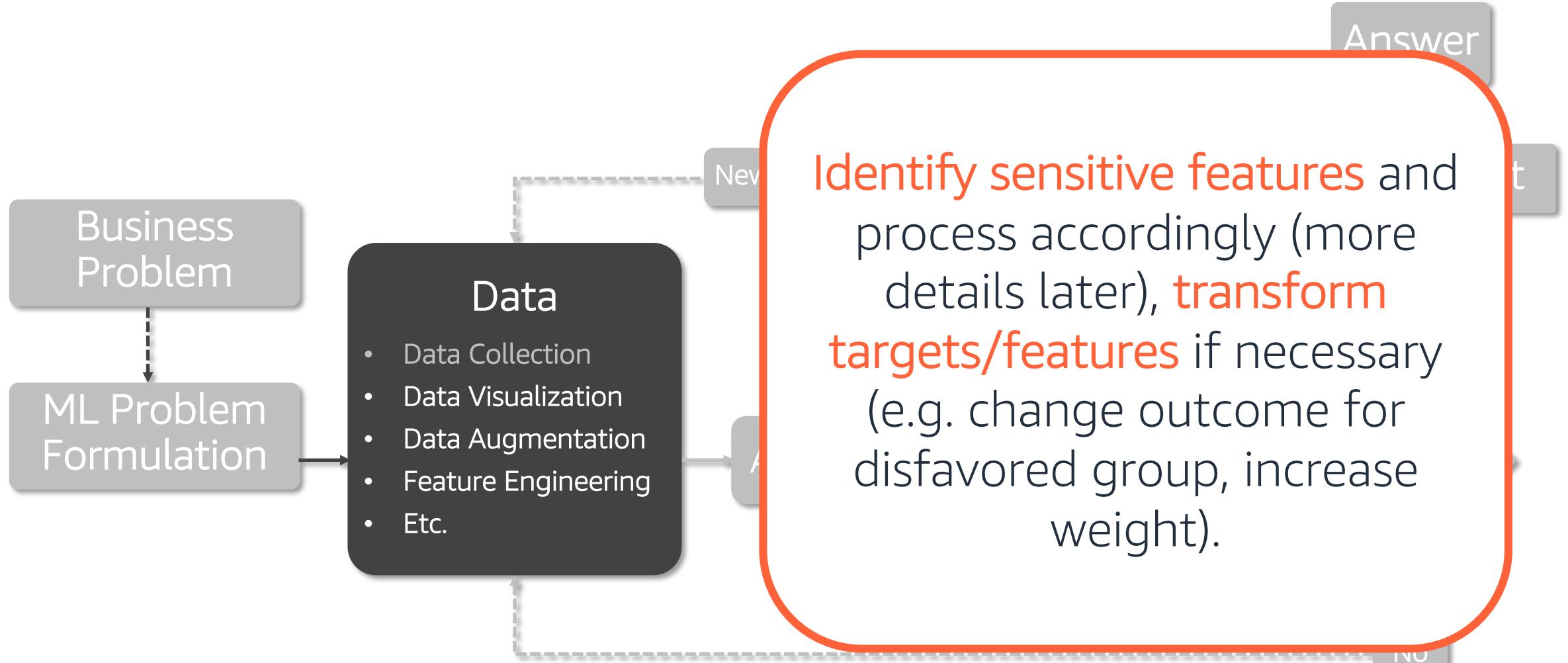
# Machine Learning Lifecycle



# Machine Learning Lifecycle



# Machine Learning Lifecycle



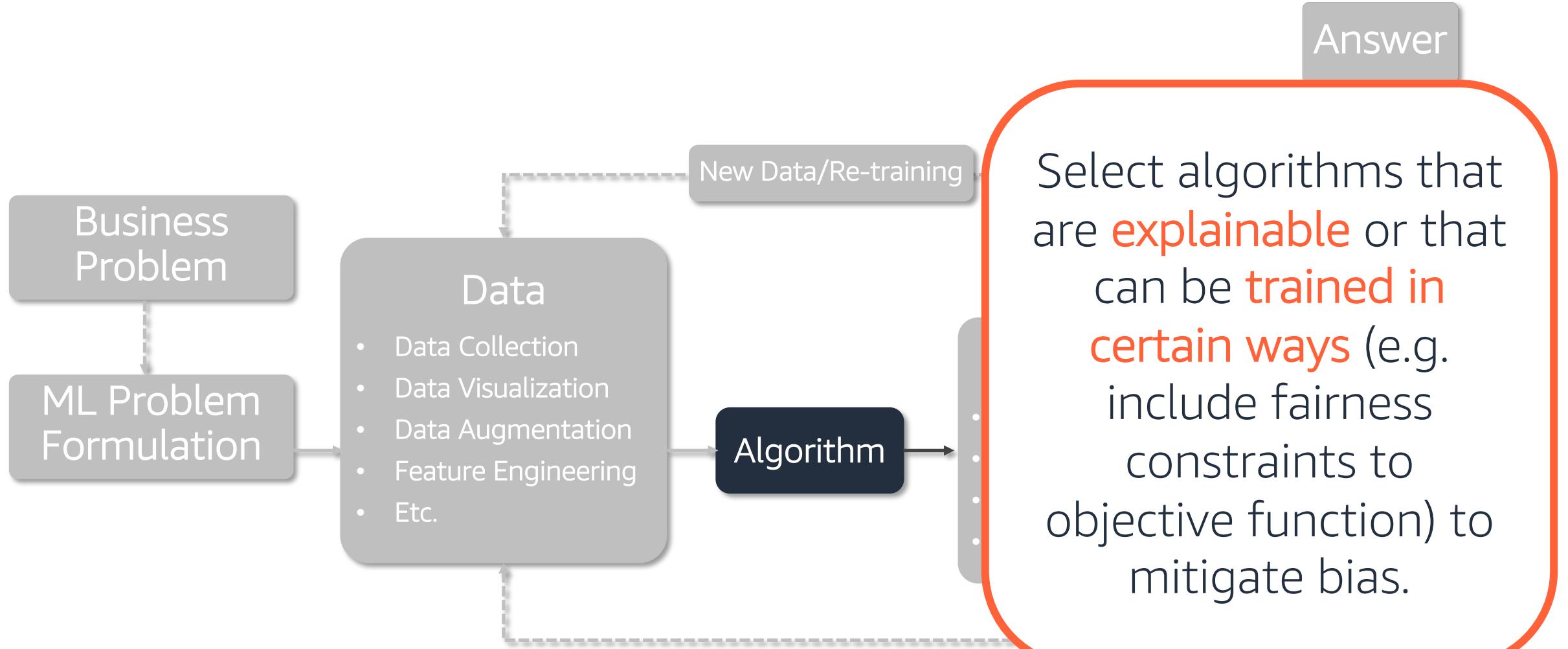
Answer

NO

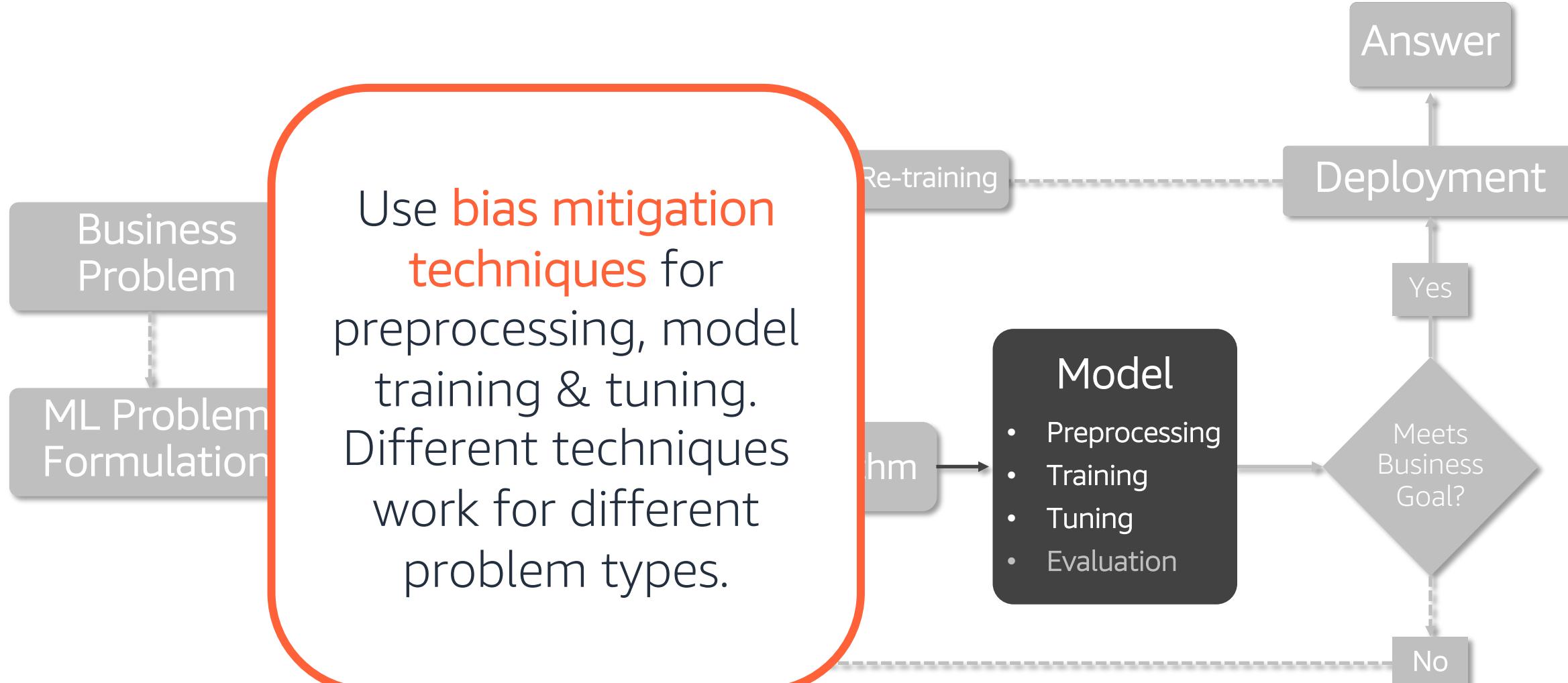


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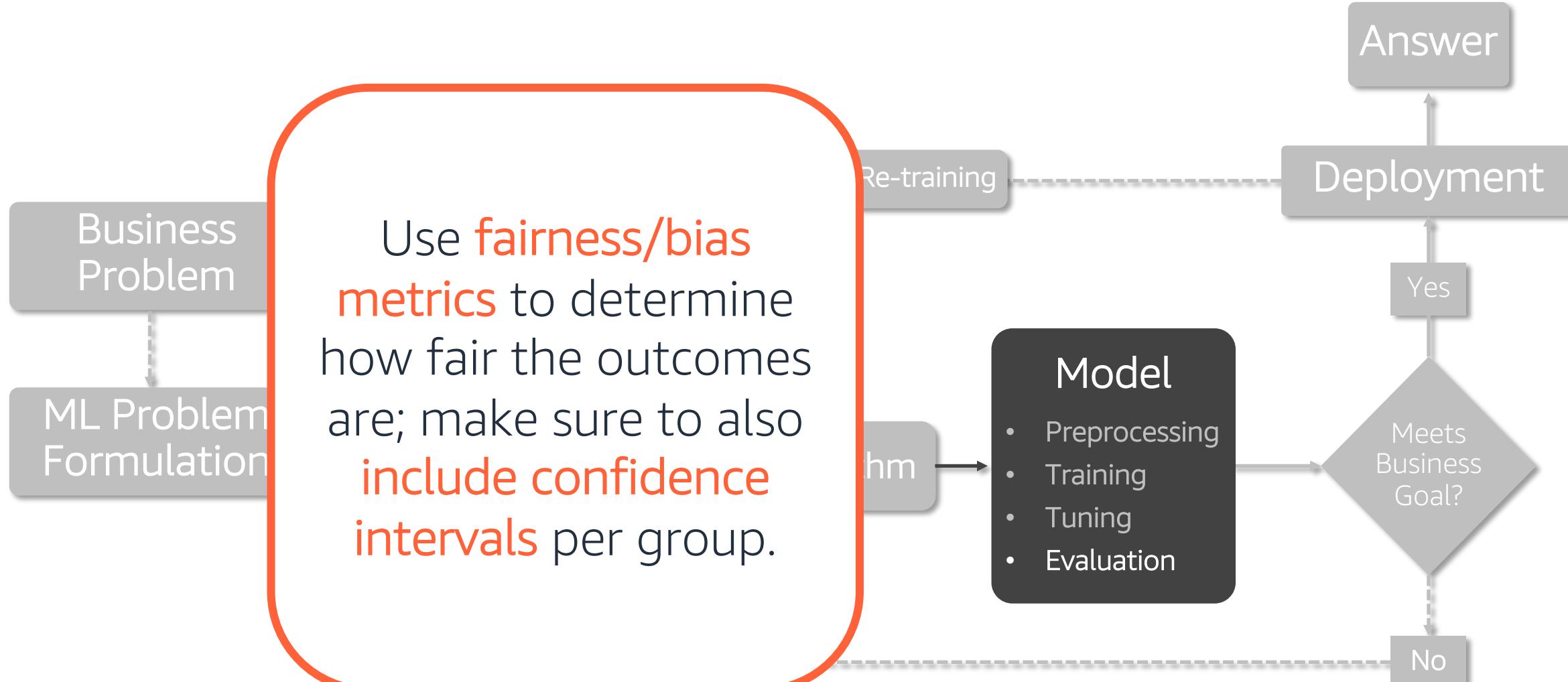
# Machine Learning Lifecycle



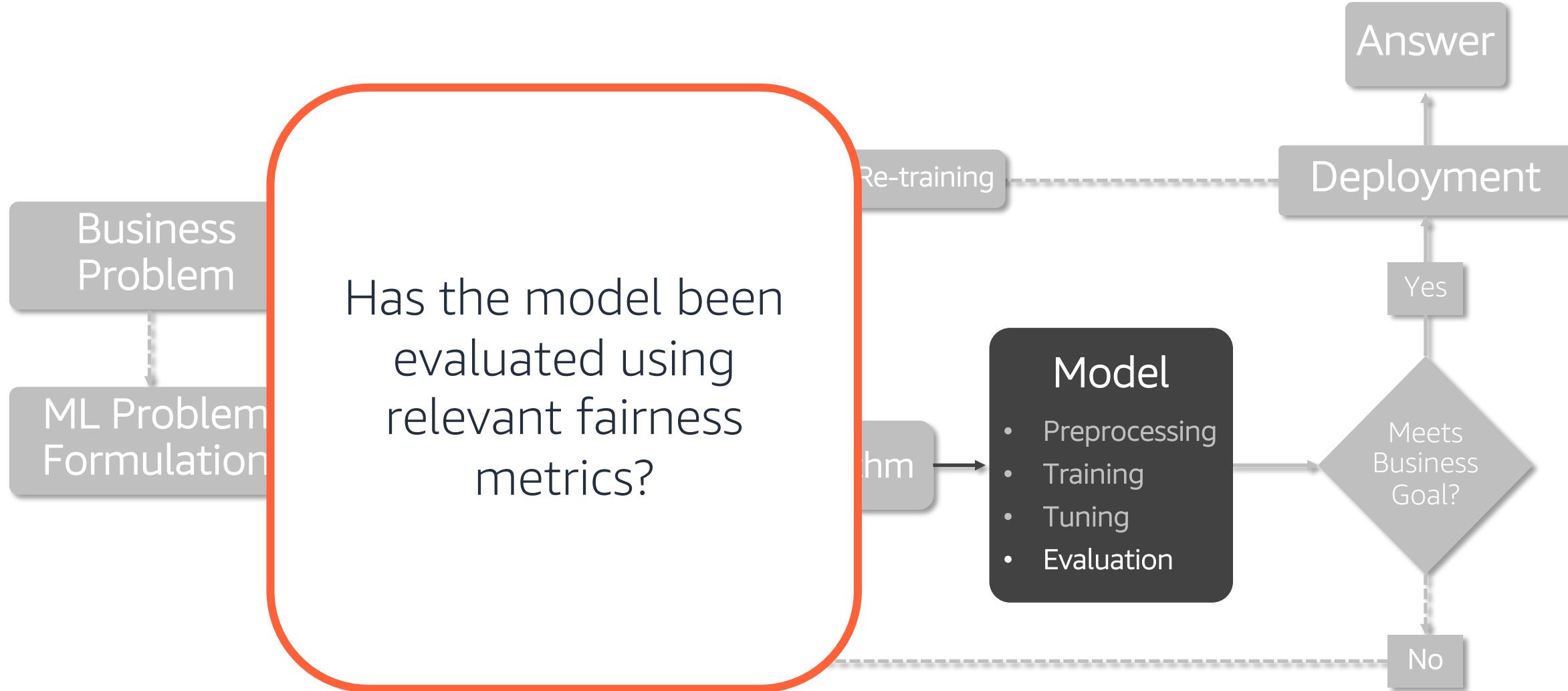
# Machine Learning Lifecycle



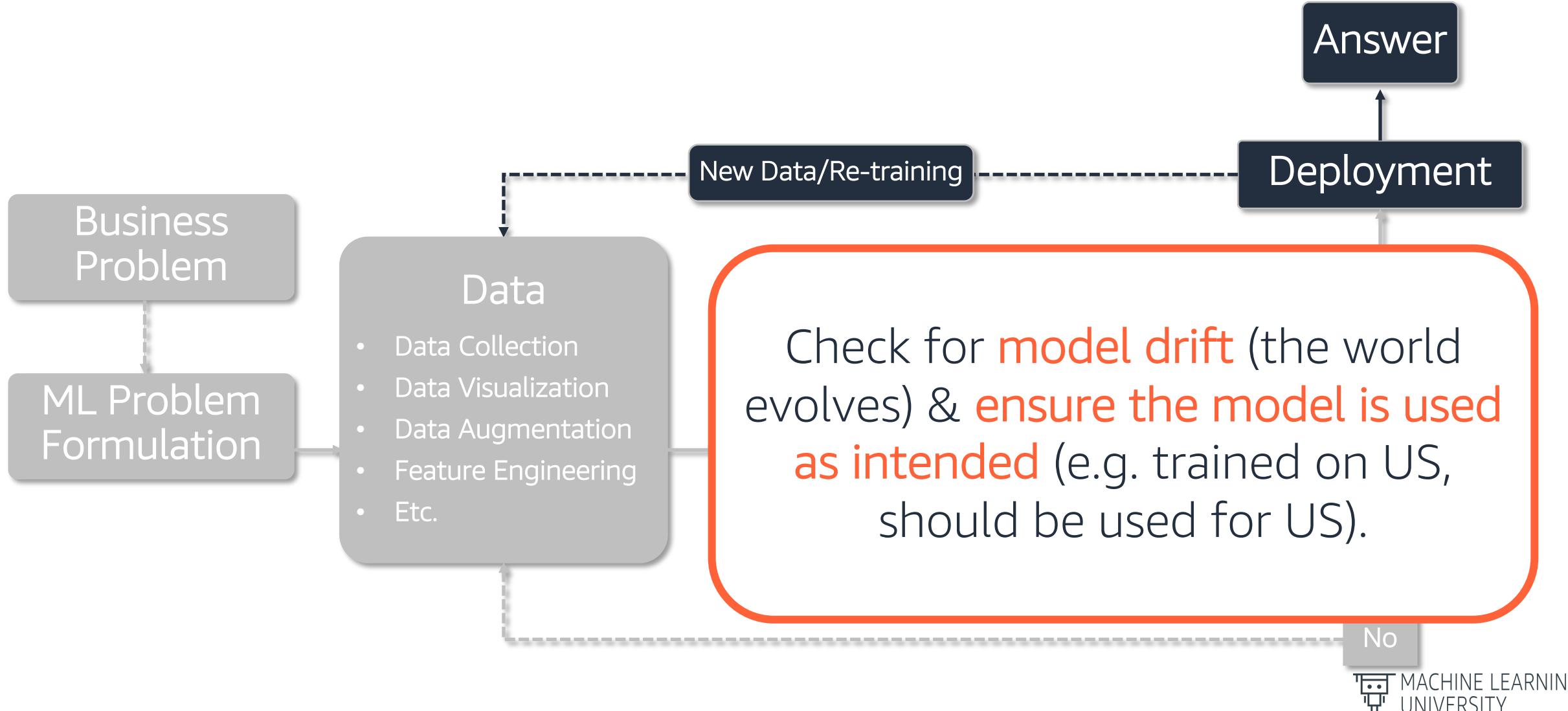
# Machine Learning Lifecycle



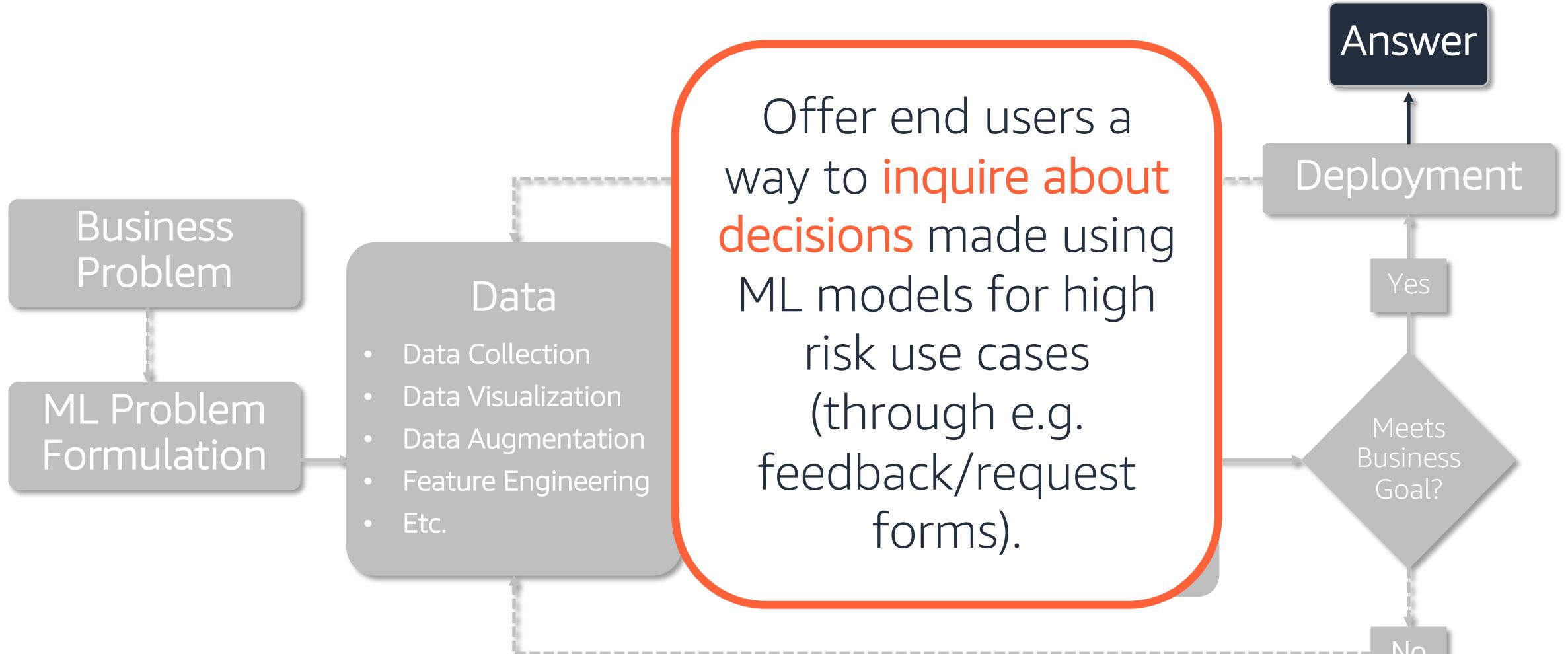
# Machine Learning Lifecycle



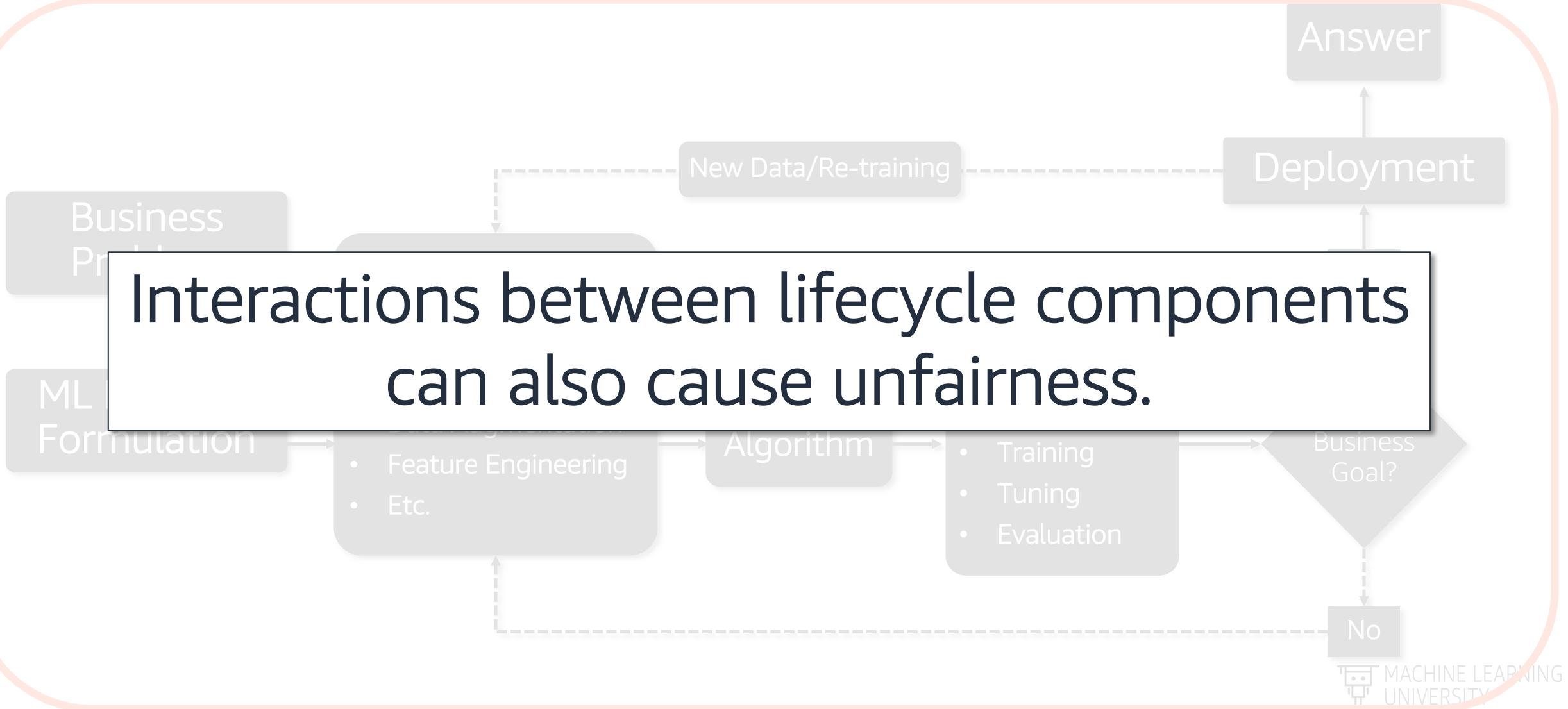
# Machine Learning Lifecycle



# Machine Learning Lifecycle



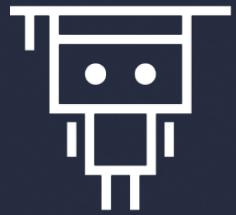
# Careful!





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# **Model Formulation & Data Collection**



# ML Model Formulation

# Human-Centered Design

AI systems & ML solutions should consider impact on humans:  
**Human-centered design (HCD).**

# Human-Centered Design

AI systems & ML solutions should consider impact on humans:  
**Human-centered design** (HCD).

Consider:

- ✿ **Potential harms** (Will use of ML technology be beneficial for the use case? Will it reinforce stereotypes?)
- ✿ **Value proposition** (Is AI necessary, or can a simple interpretable rule based system achieve the same?)

# Human-Centered Design

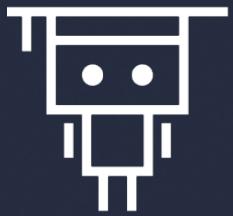
AI systems & ML solutions should consider impact on humans:  
**Human-centered design** (HCD).

Consider:

- ✿ **Potential harms** (Will use of ML technology be beneficial for the use case? Will it reinforce stereotypes?)
- ✿ **Value proposition** (Is AI necessary, or can a simple interpretable rule based system achieve the same?)

Ensure there are:

- ✿ **Safety measures** (continuously test and evaluate the system)
- ✿ **Ways to challenge the model/ML pipeline** (include ways for users to report unexpected behavior)



# Data Collection

# Models may produce biased results

- ✿ ML models learn from the data that is provided as input:  
→ *if bad quality or biased data is used, a model may produce poor or biased results. Bias mitigation techniques can help reduce this (assuming we understand how to address the underlying cause of inequality).*
- ✿ Models may produce biased results by using:
  - » Skewed examples
  - » Tainted examples
  - » Limited features
  - » Different sample sizes
  - » Proxies

# Reducing bias by ensuring data integrity

- ✿ To ensure **data integrity**, we need to:
  - » Select meaningful, high-quality features (feature quality)
  - » Use valid, fair sampling & storage techniques (feature sampling)
  - » Verification/creation of labels (label quality)

# Feature Quality

- ✿ High-quality features are **robust & objective** (i.e. they don't depend on who recorded the data and are reproducible):
  - » **Quantifiable** (i.e. true measurements of certain; # of messages between peers vs 'connectedness' score)

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  - » **Direct measurements** (not outputs of another model or proxies for other measurements as hidden sensitive attributes)
  - » **Understandable** (feature name or metadata that describes feature should be easy to understand; monthly\_bonus vs mb)

# Feature Sampling: Bias

- ✿ Beware of **biased sampling** (sampling methods that systematically over- or under-represent certain groups)
- ✿ This can be due to:
  - » Selection bias (use of samples from a different distribution)
  - » Measurement bias (different measuring devices or techniques)
  - » Historical bias (society itself produces biased data)
  - » Confirmation bias (wrongly discarding outliers to match existing beliefs)
  - » ...

# Biased Datasets in CV & NLP

Man is to Computer Programmer as Woman is to Homemaker?  
Debiasing Word Embeddings

Tolga Bolukbasi<sup>1</sup>, Kai-Wei Chang<sup>2</sup>, James Zou<sup>2</sup>, Venkatesh Saligrama<sup>1,2</sup>

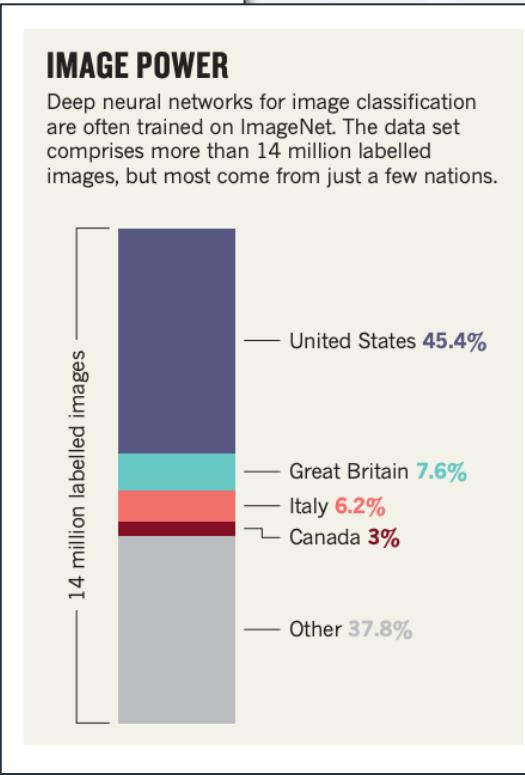
<sup>1</sup>Boston University, 8 Saint Mary's Street, Boston, MA

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## Abstract

The blind application of machine learning runs the risk of amplifying biases pre-danger is facing us with *word embedding*, a popular framework to represent text data has been used in many machine learning and natural language processing tasks. word embeddings trained on Google News articles exhibit female/male gender stereotypes extent. This raises concerns because their widespread use, as we describe, often reflects biases. Geometrically, gender bias is first shown to be captured by a direction in the space. Second, gender neutral words are shown to be linearly separable from gender definition embedding. Using these properties, we provide a methodology for modifying an embedding to remove gender stereotypes, such as the association between the words *receptionist* and *hostess*, while maintaining desired associations such as between the words *queen* and *female*. We quantify both direct and indirect gender biases in embeddings, and develop algorithms to remove them. Using crowd-worker evaluation as well as standard benchmarks, we empirically show that our algorithms significantly reduce gender bias in embeddings while preserving the important properties of the original embeddings, such as the ability to cluster related concepts and to solve analogy tasks. The resulting embeddings can be used in applications without amplifying gender bias.

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1607.06520>

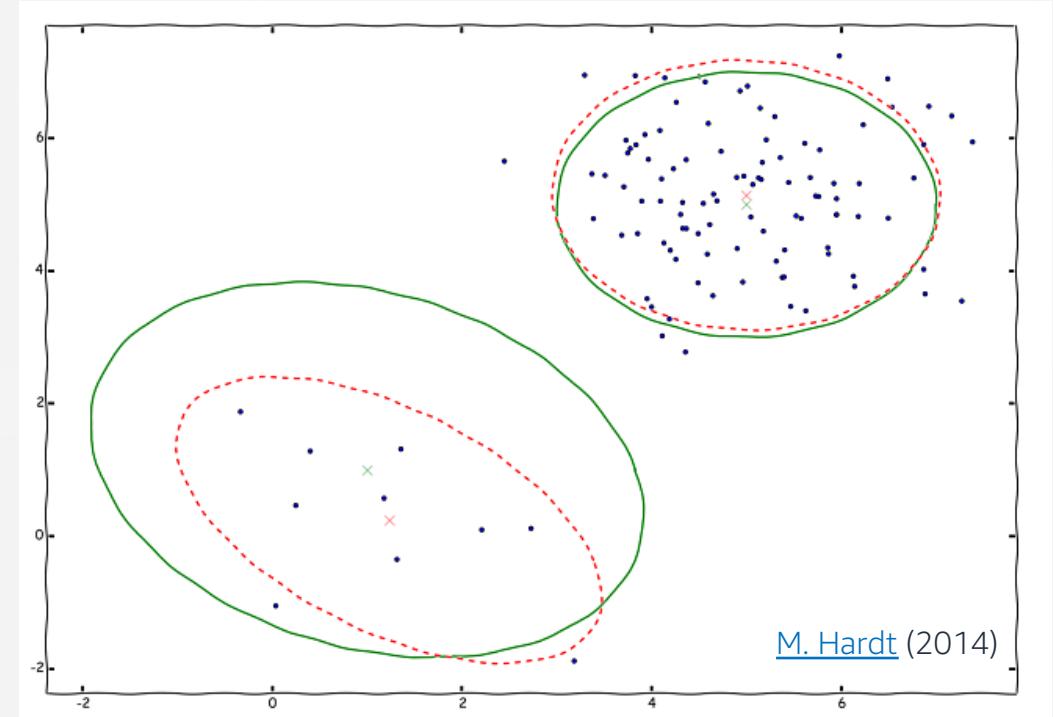


<https://www.nature.com/nature/volumes/559/issues/7713>

- ➊ Historical bias is often present in data collected from 'the wild'.
- ➋ Geographical representation is not equal for many of the most widely used computer vision datasets.

# Feature Sampling: Sampling Size

- By definition: Minority = group with fewer examples.
- Models generally improve performance with more samples.
  - even if feature quality is good & data is unbiased, predictions for small groups can be worse than for larger groups
    - carefully sample all groups represented in population and don't assume model generalizes by default



Dashed red describes estimated covariance matrices. Solid green defines correct covariance matrices. The green and red crosses indicate correct and estimated means, respectively.

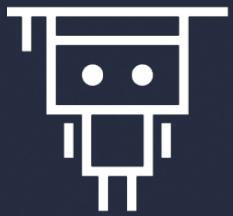
# Label Quality

- ✿ **Tainted labels:** Labels generally describe what happened historically but don't tell us what the unbiased outcome would have been.
  - to mitigate bias we need to address underlying causes of inequality (bias transforming metrics)
- ✿ **Imprecise labels:** Labels can be insufficiently precise to capture meaningful differences between cases.
  - collect additional information or clean labels before passing to ML model

[Selbst et al. \(2016\)](#), [Wachter et al. \(2021\)](#)

# Datasheets for Datasets

- ✿ Record of main characteristics of data and use case/limitations,  
e.g.:
  - » Who collected data?
  - » What purpose was data collected for?
  - » When and where was data collected?
  - » How was data collected?
  - » Descriptive statistics of dataset
  - » ...



# Exploratory Data Analysis

# Exploratory Data Analysis

EDA (Exploratory Data Analysis) is an approach to **analyze a dataset and capture main characteristics** of it. Find correlations, missing data, check distributions.

- ⚙️ General ML: Perform initial investigations to discover patterns, spot anomalies, test hypothesis and check assumptions.
- ⚙️ Responsible ML: Identify data collection gaps, inform further feature processing and detect societal/historical bias.

# Descriptive Statistics

- ✿ Overall statistics – `df.head(), df.shape, df.info()`
  - » Number of datapoints (i.e. number of rows)
  - » Number of features (i.e. number of columns)
- ✿ Univariate statistics (single feature)
  - » Statistics for numerical features (mean, variance, histogram) - `df.describe(), hist(df[feature])`
  - » Statistics for categorical features (histograms, mode, most/least frequent values, percentage, number of unique values) `df[feature].value_counts() or seaborn's distplot()`
- ✿ Multivariate statistics (more than one feature)
  - » Correlations - `df.plot.scatter(feature1, feature2), df[[feature1, feature2]].corr()`

# Correlations

**Correlations:** How strongly pairs of features are related.

- ✿ **High feature-feature correlation** (positive or negative) features can degrade performance of some ML models. Check for correlation of sensitive attributes with other features to avoid serving **hidden proxies** to ML models.
  - » Proxy example: zip code and wealth
- ✿ **Highly target-correlated** (positive or negative) features might improve the performance certain models.

# Correlations: Correlation Matrix

```
cols = [feature1, feature2]
df[cols].corr()
```

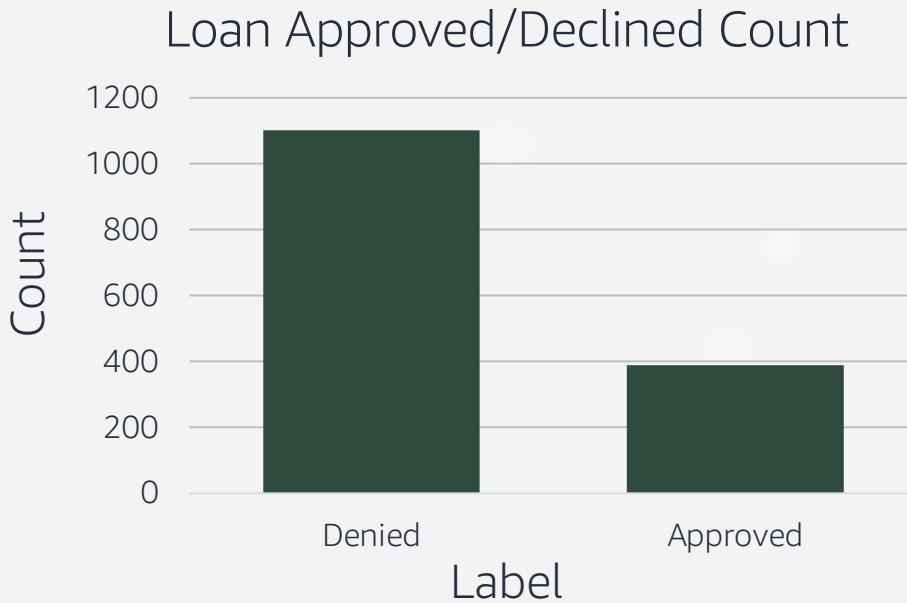
Correlation matrices **measure** the linear dependence between features.

	<b>feature1</b>	<b>feature2</b>
<b>feature1</b>	1	0.0128493
<b>feature2</b>	0.0128493	1

	<b>feature1</b>	<b>feature2</b>
<b>feature1</b>	1	0.882106
<b>feature2</b>	0.882106	1

Correlation **values** are between -1 (neg. correlation) and 1 (pos. correlation).

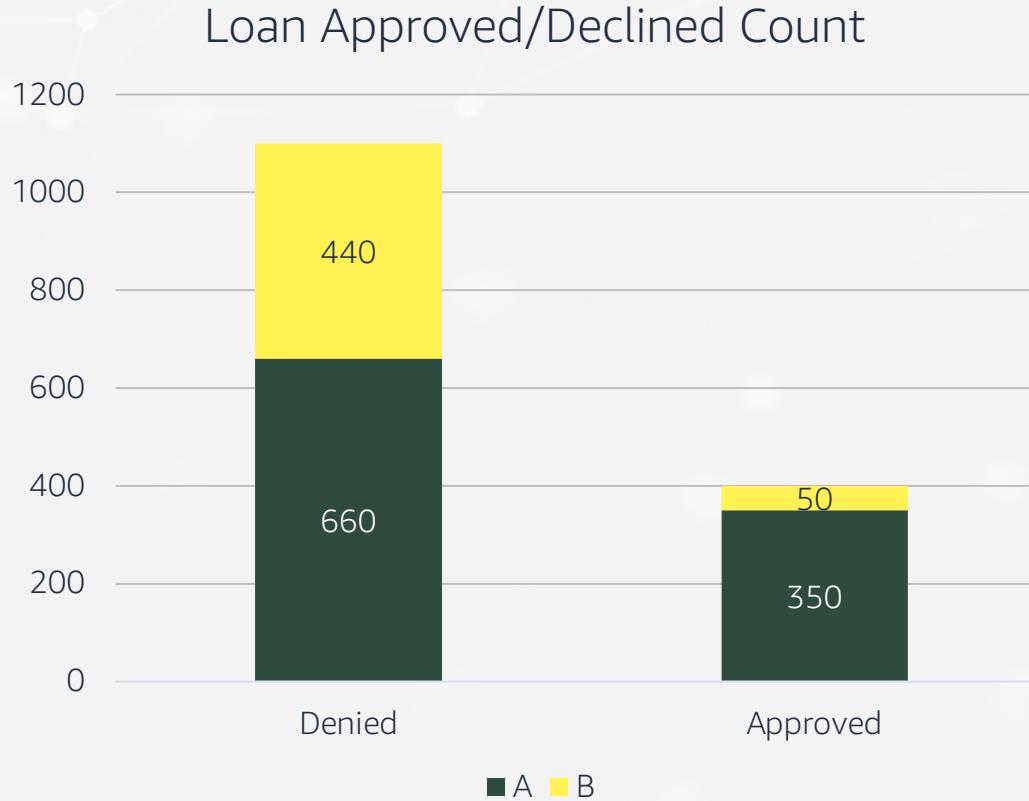
# Label Imbalance



Example: Will loan be approved  
(yes/no)?

- ⚙ Samples per class **not equally distributed.**
- ⚙ ML model may not work well for the **infrequent labels**:
  - » Models often assume equal distribution of classes.
  - » High accuracy paradox: If model works well for majority class, it is considered accurate.

# Label Imbalance



Example: Will loan be approved  
(yes/no)?

- ⚙ Consider outcomes/labels per group.
- ⚙ Beware of **biased sampling** and check for **minority groups** in dataset.
- ⚙ There exist:
  - » General ML measures to quantify label imbalance
  - » Responsible ML measures to quantify imbalance per subpopulation

# Quantifying Imbalance

- ✿ **Norm. Class Imbalance:** Measures imbalance in number of data examples (count),  $n$ , between 2 subpopulations A & B:

$$CI_{norm} = \frac{n_A - n_B}{n_A + n_B} \in [-1, 1]$$

Positive CI values indicate that there are more data points with attribute value a (1 = only A, -1 only B).

# Quantifying Imbalance

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Positive CI values indicate that there are more data points with attribute value a (1 = only A, -1 only B).

- ✿ **Difference in Proportions of Labels:** Measures difference in fraction of positive outcomes for 2 subpopulations A & B:

$$DPL = \frac{n_A^+}{n_A} - \frac{n_B^+}{n_B} \in [-1, 1]$$

Positive DPL values indicate that there are more positive outcomes for examples in group A.

# Why do we need metrics?

- ⚙ Norm. Class Imbalance

- » Detect bias in the model if there is not enough data for each class → obtain **more data**

- ⚙ Difference in Proportions of Labels

- » Detect bias in the dataset, maintain pre-training demographic parity

... many more pre-training metrics exist!

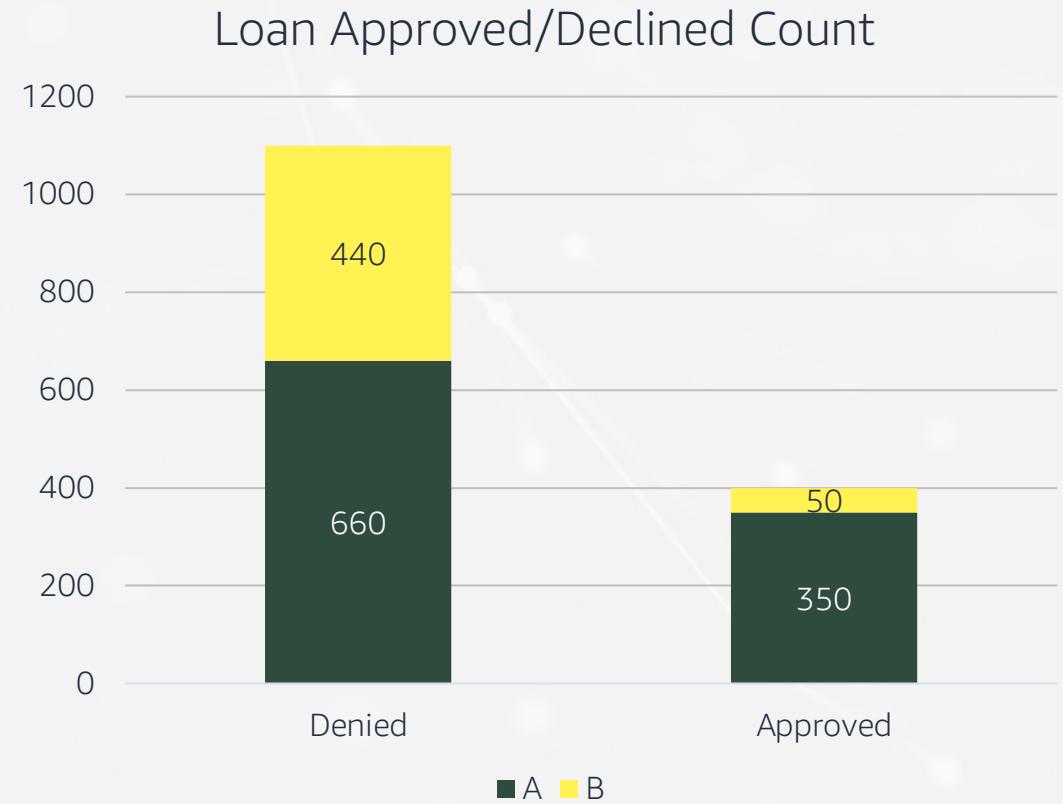
# Quantifying Imbalance

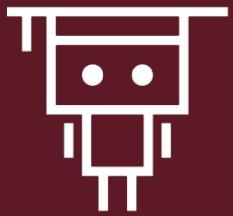
- Normalized Class Imbalance:

$$\frac{n_A - n_B}{n_A + n_B} = \frac{1010 - 490}{1010 + 490} \approx 0.35$$

- Difference in Proportions of Labels:

$$\frac{n_{A+}}{n_A} - \frac{n_{B+}}{n_B} = \frac{350}{1010} - \frac{50}{490} \approx 0.24$$

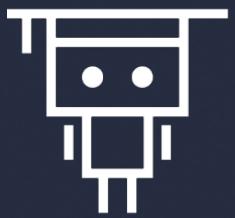




# Notebook: MLA-RESML- EDA.ipynb

# MLA-RESML-EDA.ipynb Notebook

- ⚙️ This notebook shows how to quantify and visualize correlations (scatter plots, correlation matrix) and generate descriptive statistics (histogram).
- ⚙️ To measure bias (assess quality of our data) before training a model, we will use  $CI_{norm}$  and DPL.
- ⚙️ We will see a mix of data types (numerical, categorical data).



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