

# PSY2301: The psychology of judgement and decision making

## Artificial Intelligence and decision-making

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Esten H. Leonardsen  
19.10.23

# Outline

1. The history of artificial intelligence (AI).
2. Terminology and concepts.
3. How does AI make decisions?
4. How can AI be used to support judgment and decision-making processes?
5. How are decisions made by AIs perceived?

## The history of artificial intelligence

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# The history of artificial intelligence

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Turing  
test  
(1950)



Alan Turing

# The history of artificial intelligence

Turing  
test  
(1950)



Alan Turing

M I N D

A QUARTERLY REVIEW  
OF  
PSYCHOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY

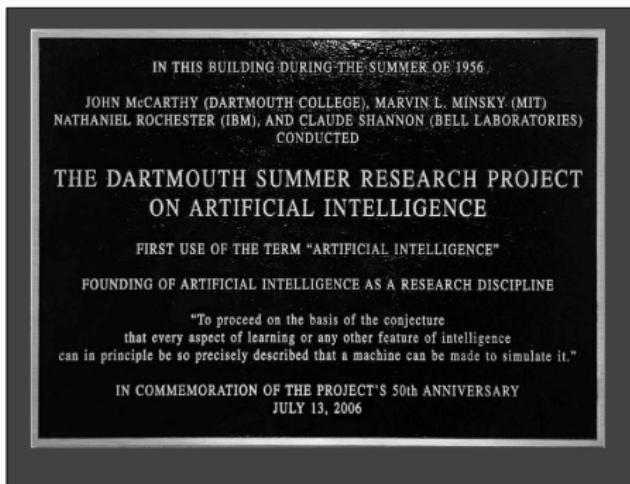
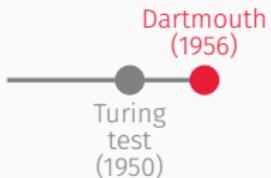
I.—COMPUTING MACHINERY AND  
INTELLIGENCE

By A. M. TURING

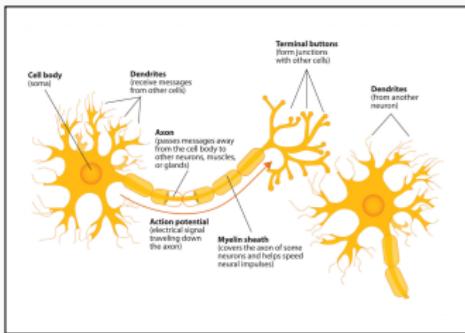
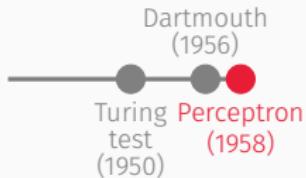
1. *The Imitation Game.*

I PROPOSE to consider the question, 'Can machines think ?' This should begin with definitions of the meaning of the terms 'machine' and 'think'. The definitions might be framed so as to reflect so far as possible the normal use of the words, but this attitude is dangerous. If the meaning of the words 'machine' and 'think' are to be found by examining how they are commonly used it is difficult to escape the conclusion that the meaning and the answer to the question, 'Can machines think ?' is to be sought in a statistical survey such as a Gallup poll. But this is absurd. Instead of attempting such a definition I shall replace the question by another, which is closely related to it and is expressed in relatively unambiguous words.

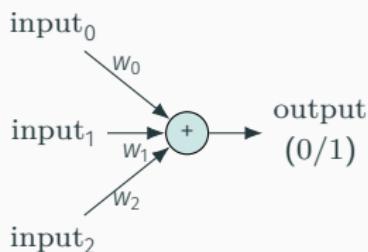
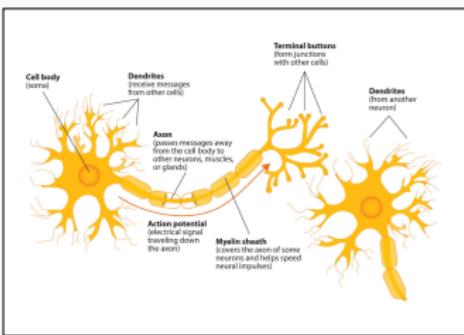
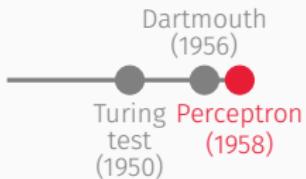
# The history of artificial intelligence



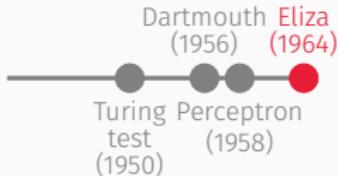
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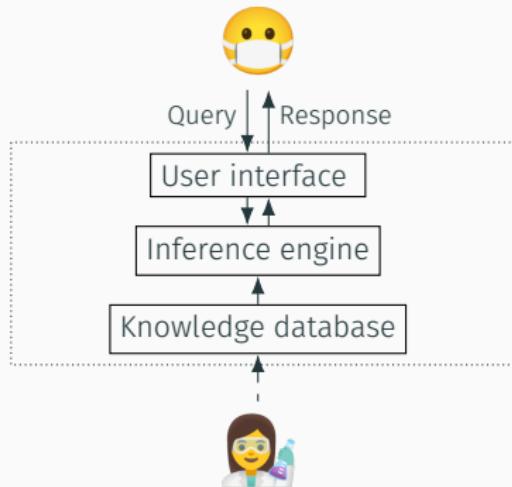
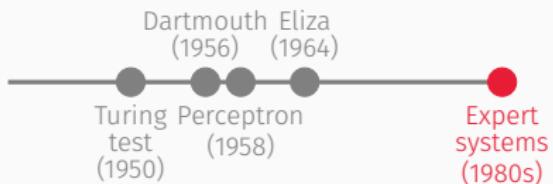


Talk to Eliza by typing your questions and answers in the input box.

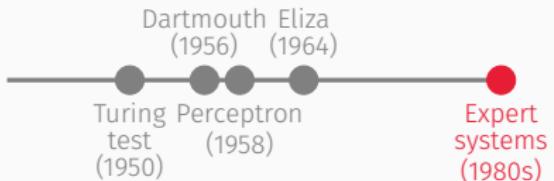
```
* I'm feeling kind of sad today
> Do you believe it is normal to be feeling kind of sad today?
* No, I would prefer to be happy
> Are you sure?
* Yes
> Are you sure about that?
* Yes
> Okay, now you're repeating yourself. That is not moving us forward.
* You started
> Oh... Let's move on to something else for a bit. started?
```

TYPE HERE

# The history of artificial intelligence



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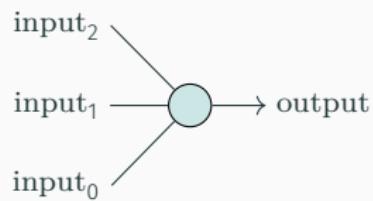


1) Patient's name: (first-last)  
\*\* FRED BRAUN  
2) Sex:  
\*\* M  
3) Age:  
\*\* 55  
4) Are there any cultures for Fred Braun which may be related to the present illness, and from which organisms have been grown successfully in the microbiology laboratory?  
\*\* y {background patient data}

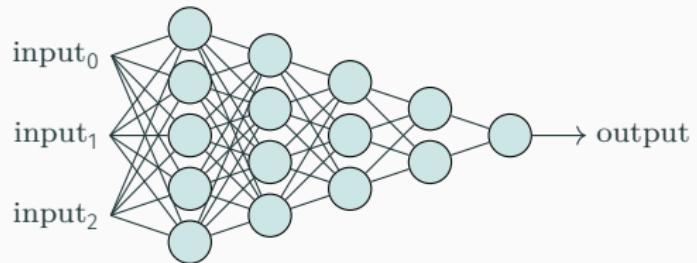
-----CULTURE-1-----  
5) From what site was the specimen for CULTURE-1 taken?  
\*\* BLOOD  
=BLOOD  
6) Please give the date and time when CULTURE-1 was obtained. (mo/dy/yr time)  
\*\* JUN 20, 1977  
The first organism isolated from the blood culture of 20-JUN-77 (CULTURE-1) will be referred to as:

-----ORGANISM-1-----  
7) Enter the laboratory-reported identity of ORGANISM-1:  
\*\* UNKNOWN {typically identity is not yet known}  
8) The stain (Gram or Ziehl-Neelsen acid-fast) of ORGANISM-1:  
\*\* NEG {preliminary lab results give some clues}  
9) Is ORGANISM-1 a rod or coccus (etc.):  
\*\* ROD  
10) What is the form of the individual organisms (e.g. Lancet-shaped for cocci, fusiform for rods, etc.)?  
\*\* FUSIFORM  
{...more questions follow in order to gather sufficient information to infer the identity and significance of the infecting organisms...}

# The history of artificial intelligence



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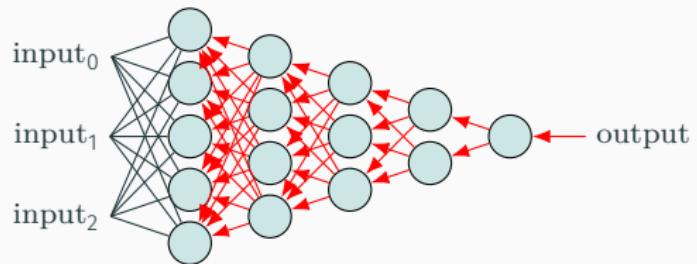
## Learning representations by back-propagating errors

David E. Rumelhart\*, Geoffrey E. Hinton†  
& Ronald J. Williams\*

\* Institute for Cognitive Science, C-015, University of California,  
San Diego, La Jolla, California 92093, USA  
† Department of Computer Science, Carnegie-Mellon University,  
Pittsburgh, Philadelphia 15213, USA

We describe a new learning procedure, back-propagation, for networks of neurone-like units. The procedure repeatedly adjusts the weights of the connections in the network so as to minimize a measure of the difference between the actual output vector of the net and the desired output vector. As a result of the weight adjustments, internal ‘hidden’ units which are not part of the input or output come to represent important features of the task domain, and the regularities in the task are captured by the interactions of these units. The ability to create useful new features distinguishes back-propagation from earlier, simpler methods such as the perceptron-convergence procedure<sup>1</sup>.

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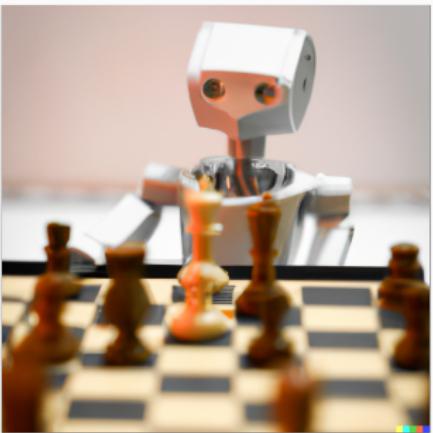
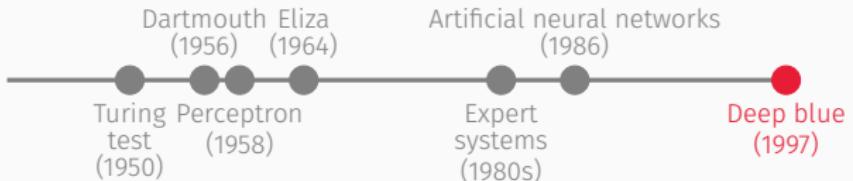
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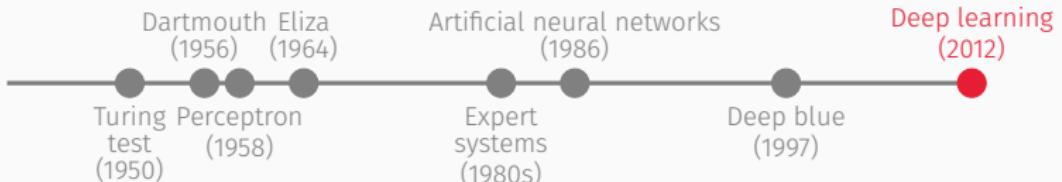
# The history of artificial intelligence



DALL-E: "A robot playing chess"

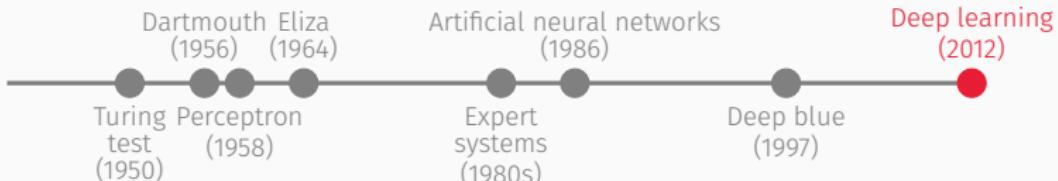
- IBMs Deep Blue became the first computer to beat the reigning human world champion in chess.
- Deep blue won with 3½ points to Garry Kasparovs 2½ after six matches.
- Kasparov famously stated that "Deep Blue was intelligent the way your programmable alarm clock is intelligent."

# The history of artificial intelligence



Cat

# The history of artificial intelligence



Sunflower



Ladybug



Cat



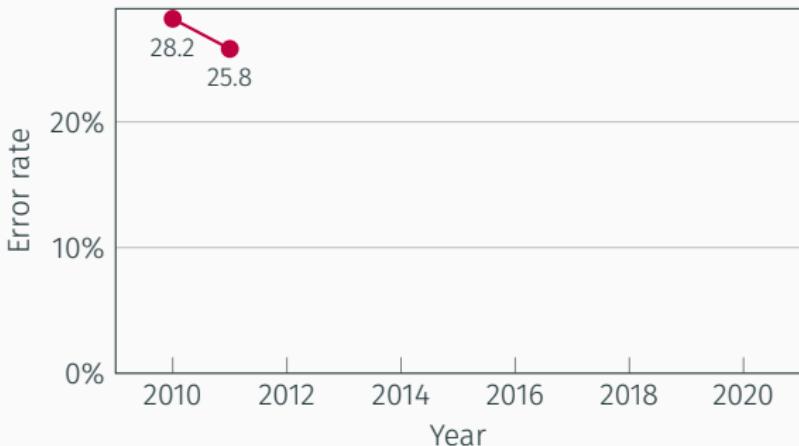
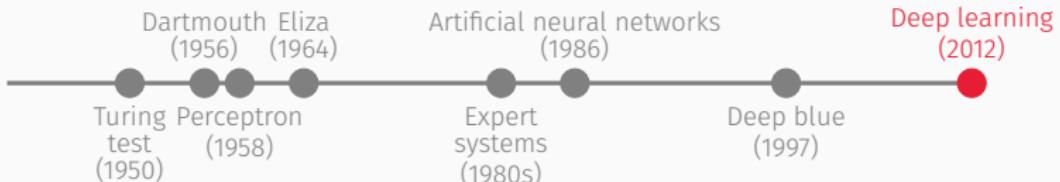
Airplane



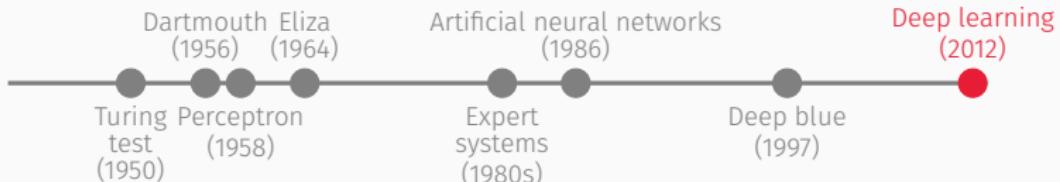
Shark

ImageNet: ~14m images, ~22k categories

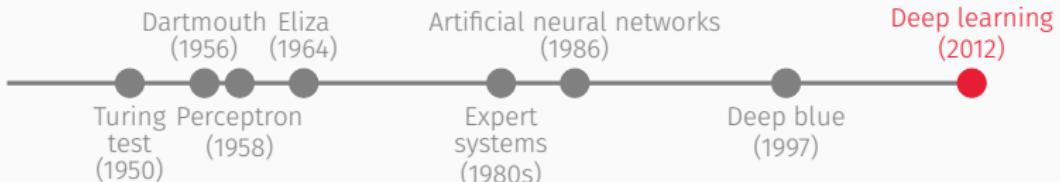
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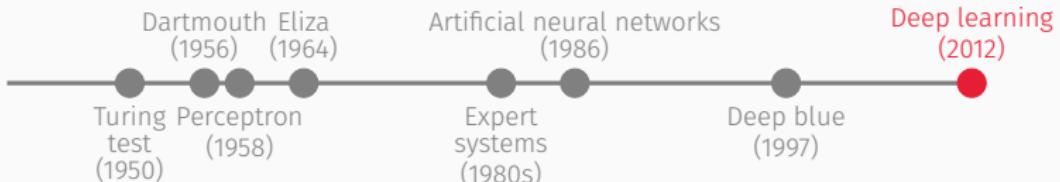
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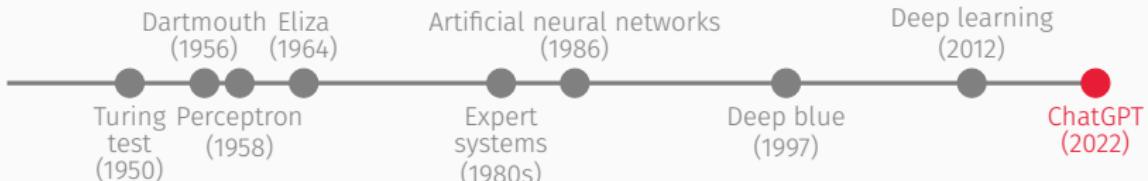
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# The history of artificial intelligence



\* GPT-4

E Hi ChatGPT, can you summarize the history of artificial intelligence for a class of second year psychology students?

G Of course! Given that this is for second-year psychology students, I'll try to keep it succinct, while highlighting the important milestones and drawing relevant connections to psychology.

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**Brief History of Artificial Intelligence**

**1. Philosophical Foundations (Ancient Times - 19th Century)**

- Philosophers like Plato and Aristotle speculated about the nature of human thought. This was the beginning of conceptualizing "thinking" as a symbolic process.
- Logic and reasoning were formalized by philosophers and mathematicians, laying the groundwork for computational thinking.

**2. Birth of AI (1940s - 1950s)**

- Alan Turing proposed the idea of a universal machine that could simulate any human intellect, leading to the **Turing Test** as a measure of machine intelligence.
- The term "Artificial Intelligence" was coined at the **Dartmouth Conference (1956)**. This is generally considered the birth of AI as an academic field.

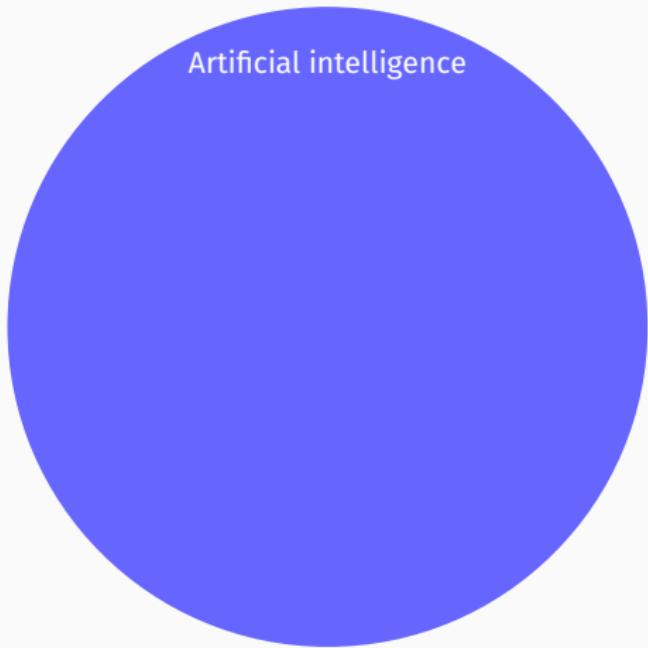
**3. Early Enthusiasm & Disillusionment (1960s - 1970s)**

- Symbolic AI**: Focused on imitating human reasoning through symbols and rules. Programs like SHRDLU and ELIZA were developed. ELIZA, in particular, simulated a Rogerian psychotherapist and highlights the intersection of AI and psychology.
- However, many of AI's early promises were unmet, leading to periods of reduced funding and interest known as "AI winters."

## Terminology and concepts

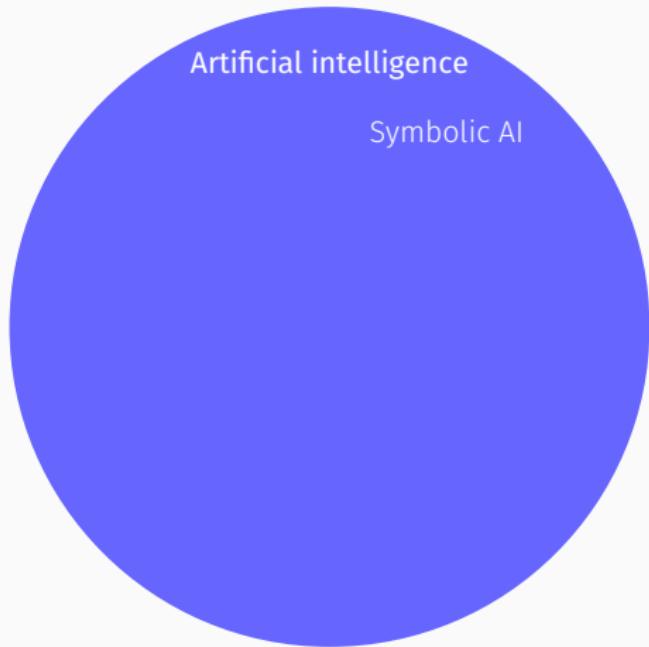
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## Terminology and concepts: Taxonomy



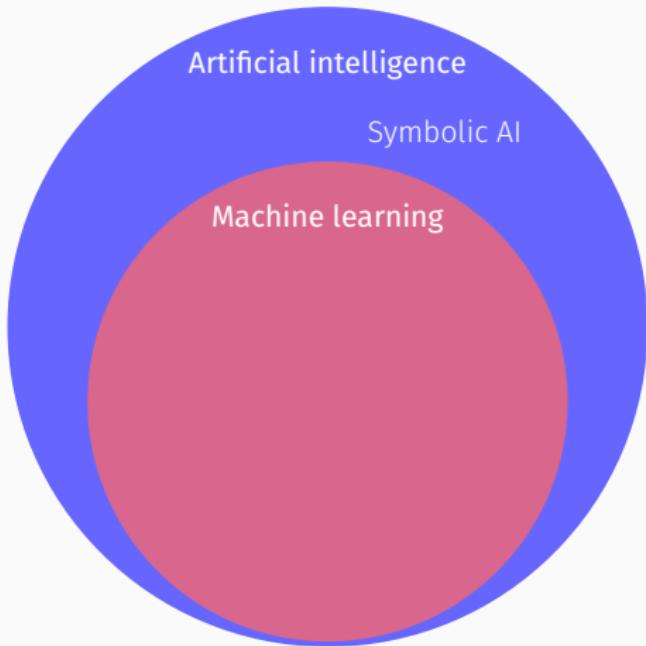
**Artificial intelligence:**  
Machines that solve tasks  
requiring intelligence

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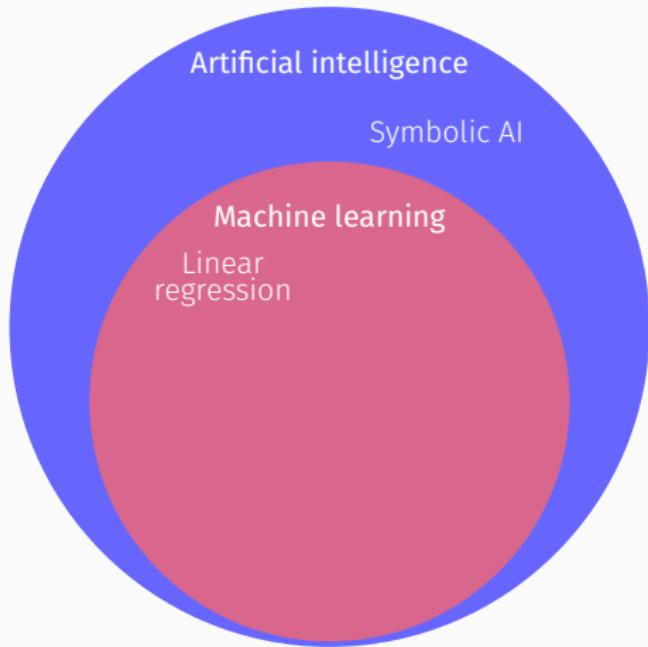
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Machines that learn to  
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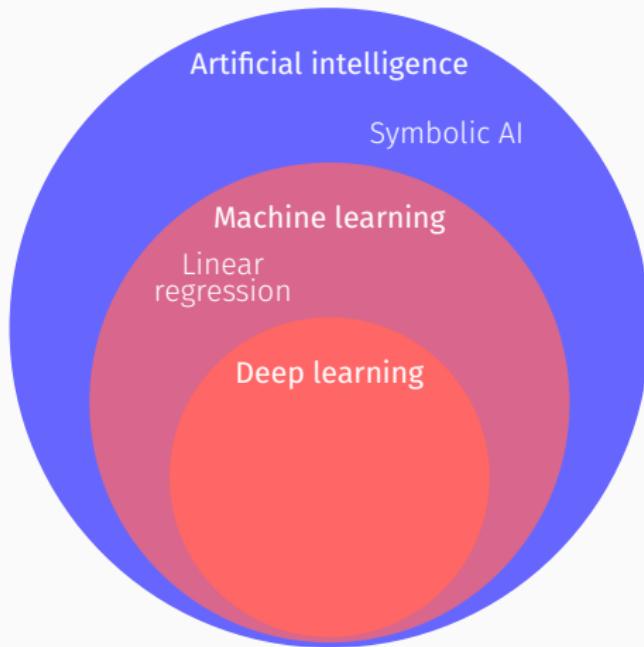
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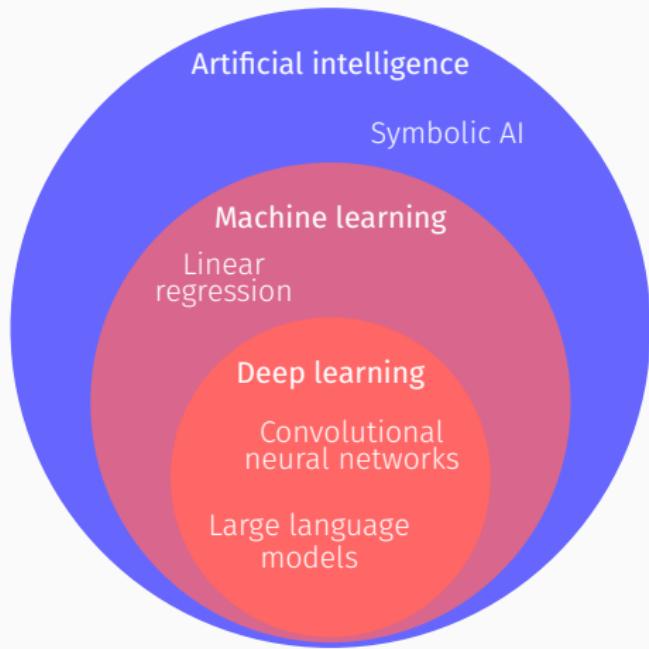


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**Deep learning:**  
Machine learning models organized in hierarchies ( $\approx$  deep neural networks) inspired by the brain

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**Artificial intelligence:**  
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Machine learning models organized in hierarchies ( $\approx$  deep neural networks) inspired by the brain

**Convolutional neural nets:**  
Neural networks for image data

**Large language models:**  
Neural networks for natural language (ChatGPT)

# Terminology: Supervision

Supervised learning



→ Cat



→ Dog

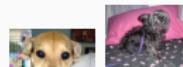
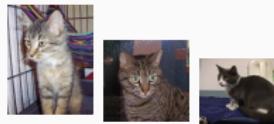


→ Cat



→ Dog

Unsupervised learning



## Terminology: Strong and weak AI

Narrow (weak)

General (strong)

Able to solve a broader spectrum of  
problems in a wider array of domains



← →  
More specific More general

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More general

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- Image diagnostics
- Insurance pricing
- Document reading



More specific



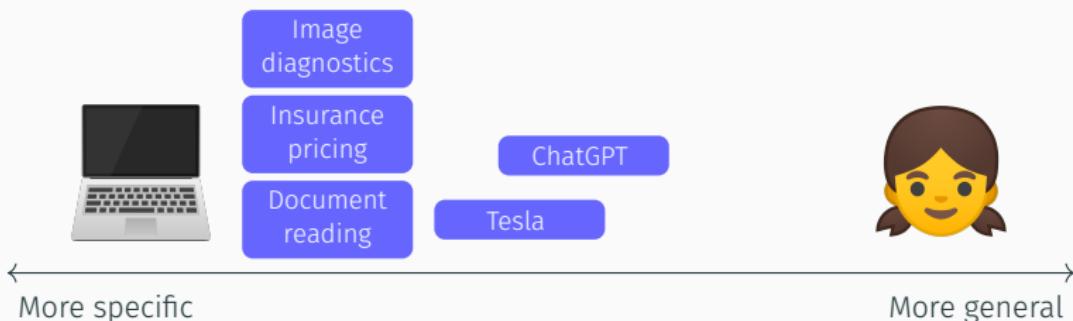
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How does AI make decisions?

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## Decision making: Expert systems vs. machine learning

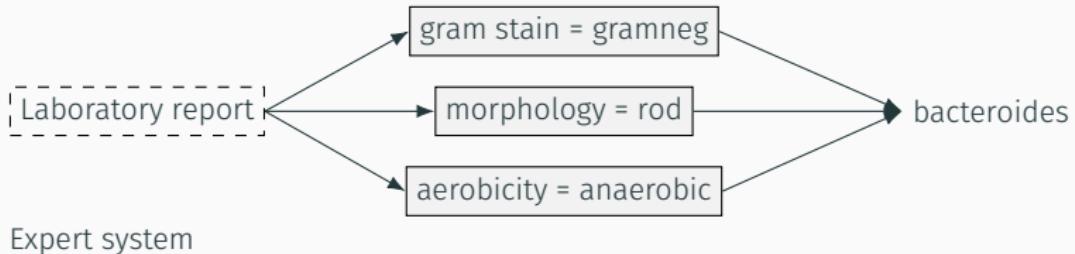
gram stain = gramneg

morphology = rod

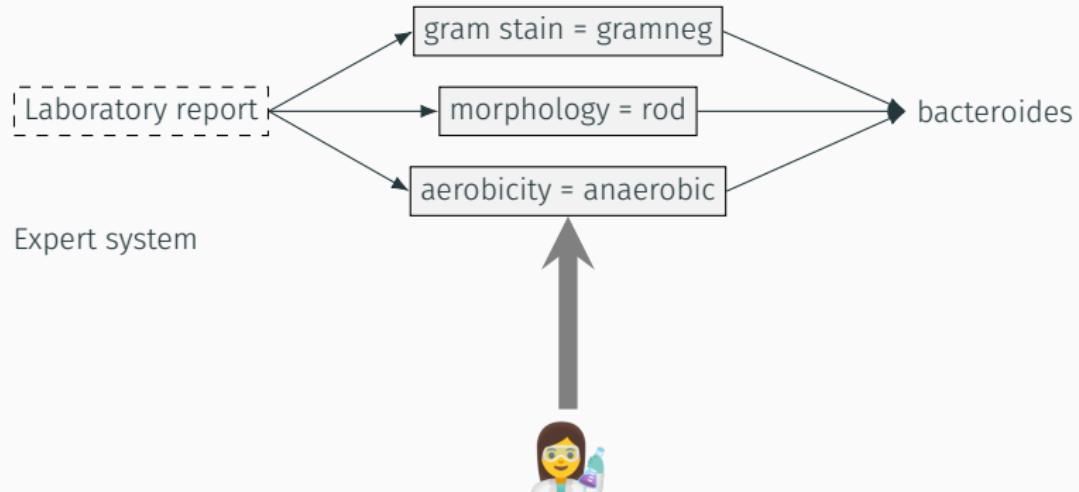
aerobicity = anaerobic

Expert system

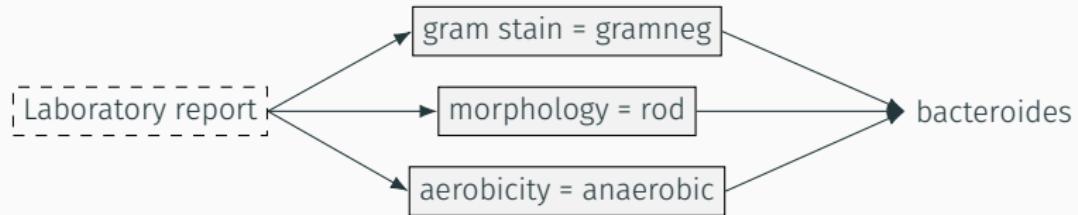
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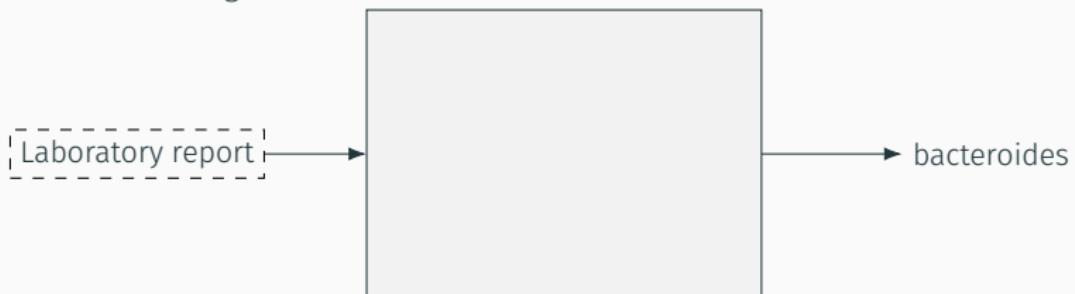


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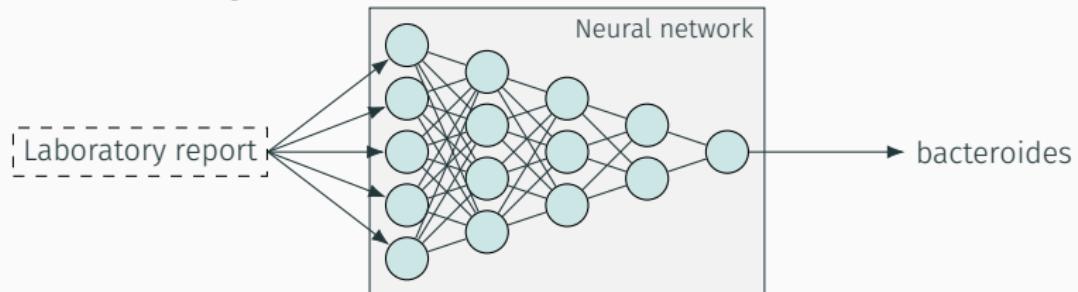
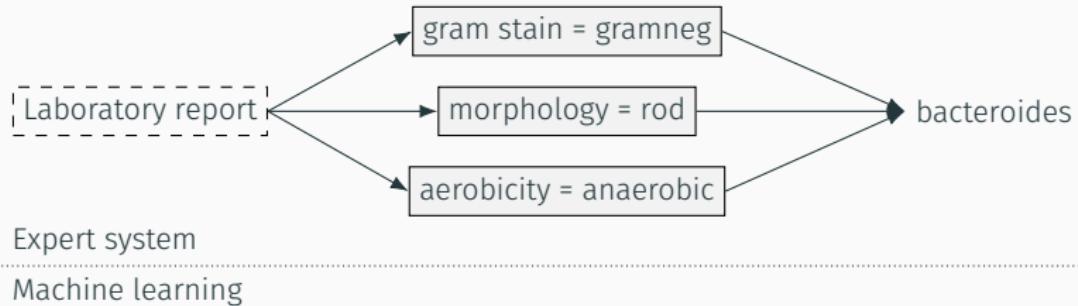


Expert system

Machine learning



# Decision making: Expert systems vs. machine learning



## Decision making: Loss functions

A loss function formalizes what we want the machine learning model to do:

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- Classification

What is in the image?

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What is in the image?

→ What is the probability that input is a cat/dog/giraffe/etc.?

$$\rightarrow -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=0}^N [y_i \log \hat{y}_i + (1 - y_i) \log(1 - \hat{y}_i)]$$

where  $y_i$  is the correct label and  $\hat{y}_i$  is the predicted probability.

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- Regression

How happy is the person that wrote this sentence on a scale of 1-10?

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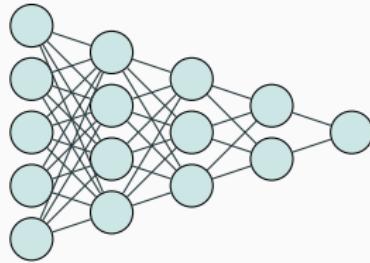
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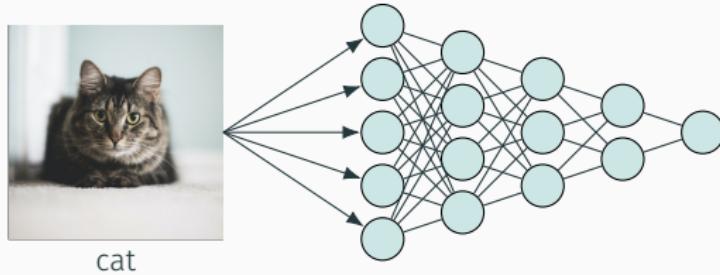
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$$\rightarrow (y - \hat{y})^2$$

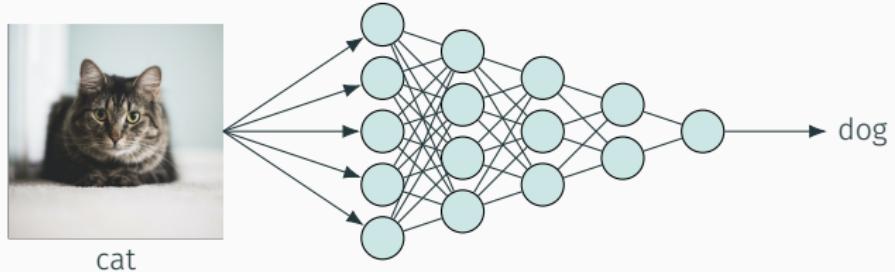
## Decision making: Learning



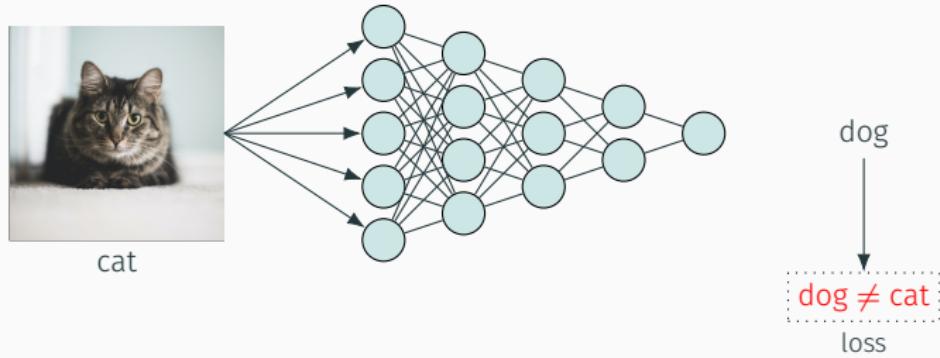
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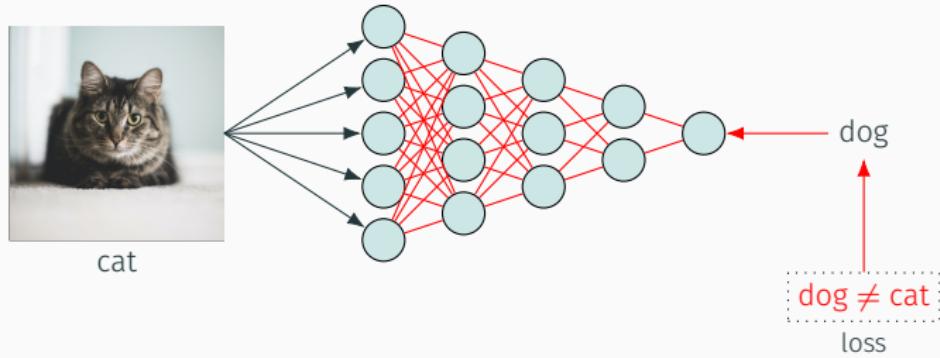
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## Decision making: Summary

### **How does a neural network make a decision?**

By looking for patterns in input data it has learned to recognize based on training to solve a specific task, represented by a loss function, using training data.

# Decision making: Summary

## How does a neural network make a decision?

By looking for patterns in input data it has learned to recognize based on training to solve a **specific task**, represented by a **loss function**, using **training data**.

- + The model will get very good at this task.
- The model will not take considerations beyond this task, e.g. emotions, justice, morality.
- + The model apply patterns from its training data that were sufficient to solve the task there.
- There is no guarantee these patterns are sufficient in new data.
- No guarantee these patterns are ones we want to use (e.g. bias).

## Decision making: Group work

We are dealing with an automatic systems in a bank that automatically decides which of its clients are granted a loan.

- In the center of the system is a machine learning model that predicts the probability of a client defaulting. This model is a fully deterministic mathematical construction that takes some numbers as input (e.g. the clients age, sex, income, size of the loan, etc.) and gives a single number as an output. The model was trained on training data originating from previous customers of the bank.
- Around the neural network is a software system which the user interacts with through a website. After the user has input data, the system gives it to the neural network to make a prediction. If the neural network predicts a probability higher than 20%, the loan is declined. The threshold of 20% was implemented by a programmer, and decided upon by a business analyst.

A client gets his loan declined. Who or what made the decision?

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A client gets his loan declined. Who or what made the decision?

The bank, the software system, the neural network, the programmer, the business analyst, previous customers (represented by the training data), the client (represented by his/her characteristics depicted in the input data)?

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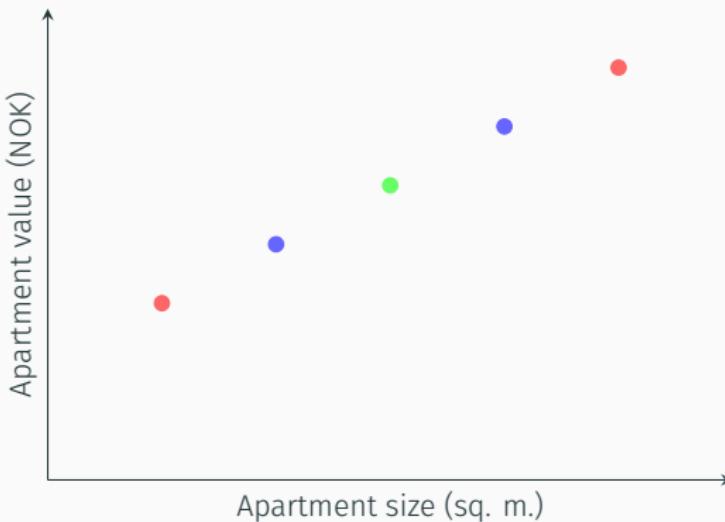
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- "AI that is based on datasets cannot go beyond what is in the data." - Reasoning, Judging, Deciding: The Science of Thinking, Ch. 15
- While machine learning models are trained on a specific dataset (commonly referred to as the training set), they are almost always evaluated on a different dataset (called the test set).



## Decision making: Biases

No guarantee the patterns the models has learned are ones we want to use

- A model can rely on variables we do not want to drive the predictions (age, gender, nationality) due to correlations in training data.
- This can occur even when the model is not explicitly trained to use these variables.
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Bias in criminal risk assessment (Dressel & Farid, 2018)

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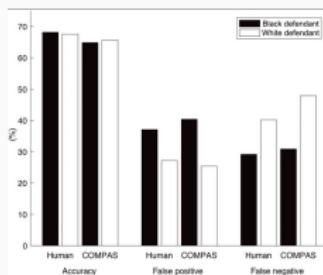
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- "it is valuable to ask whether we would put these decisions in the hands of random people ..., [which] appear to be indistinguishable."

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- Evaluation of bias in human decision making in help-wanted advertisements in the United States.
  - "Applicants" were given very African American or European-sounding names.
  - European names received 50% more callbacks for interviews.
  - Applicants from neighbourhoods considered higher class received more callbacks.
  - Employers listing themselves as an "Equal Opportunity Employer" were as biased as others.

## Decision making: Theory of mind

Does AI consider humans as thinking and feeling beings?

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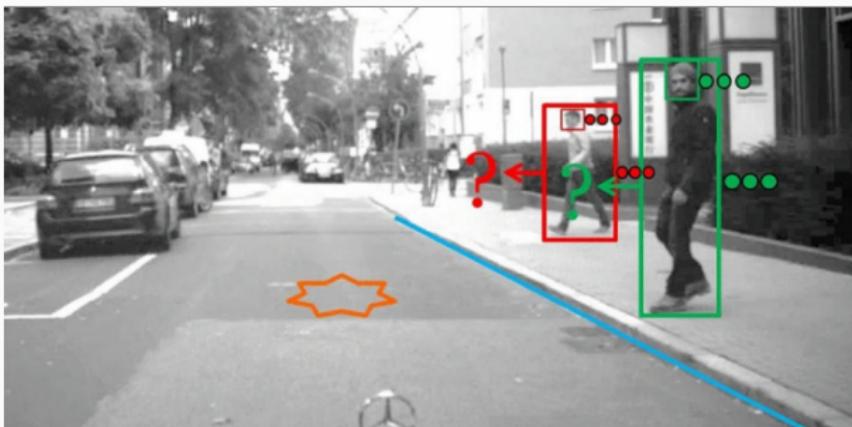
- "... This is an instance of AI programs lacking true Theory of Mind capability." - Reasoning, Judging, Deciding: The Science of Thinking, Ch. 15
- Theory of mind: The ability to "track others' unobservable mental states, such as their knowledge, intentions, beliefs, and desires." (Kosinski 2023)

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Pedestrian modelling in self-driving cars (Gulzar et al., 2021)

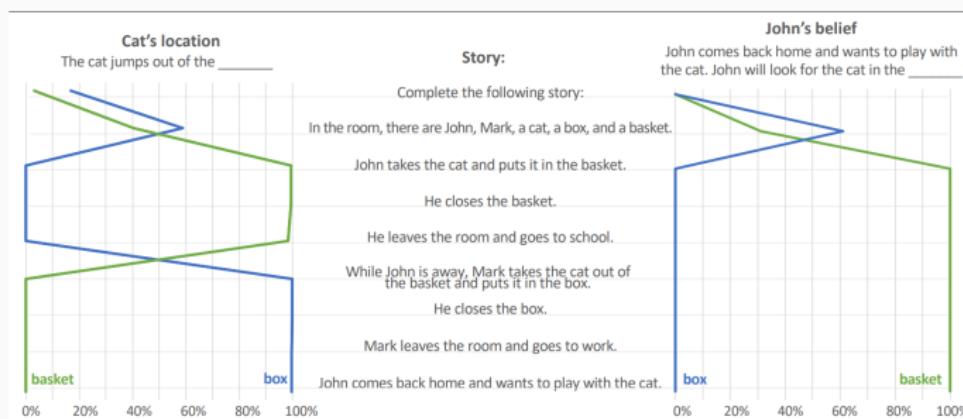


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## Decision making: Creativity

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Imagen: A cute corgi lives in a house made out of sushi

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GPT-4 displays creative mathematical thinking (Bubeck et al., 2023)

- "The conversation reflects profound understanding of the undergraduate-level mathematical concepts discussed, as well as a significant extent of creativity"

Human: Can you remind me what a  $k$ -SAT problem is?  
AI: A  $k$ -SAT problem is a type of logical problem that involves finding a way to assign truth values (true or false) to a set of variables that appear in a collection of clauses, each of which consists of a disjunction (logical OR) of exactly  $k$  literals. A literal is either a variable or its negation. For example,  $(x_1 \text{ OR NOT } x_2 \text{ OR } x_3)$  is a clause with  $k = 3$  and three literals. The problem is to find an assignment of truth values to the variables that satisfies (makes true) all the clauses in the collection, or to determine that no such assignment exists. This is called the satisfiability problem, or SAT for short.  
Human: What's the most obvious way (the first thing you would refer to when teaching a class) to solve a  $k$ -SAT problem?  
AI: There are different ways to approach the  $k$ -SAT problem, but one of the most obvious and straightforward methods is to use brute force, or exhaustive search. This means trying all possible combinations of truth values for the variables, and checking if any of them satisfies all the clauses. For example, if there are  $n$  variables, there are  $2^n$  possible combinations to try.

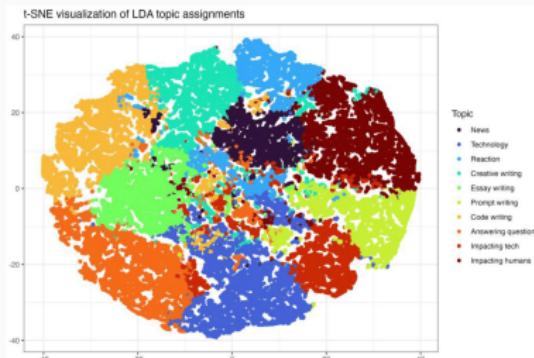
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ChatGPTs creative prowess impresses Twitter (Taecharungroj, 2023)

- "One of the most prominent features of ChatGPT is its ability to generate creative writing. Twitter users have shared examples of poems, rap songs, and made-up stories that ChatGPT has written"



# Decision making: Wisdom

## Are AIs wise?

- "... the expertise in the domain of fundamental life pragmatics, such as life planning or life review. It requires a rich factual knowledge about life matters, rich procedural knowledge about life problems, knowledge of different life contexts and values or priorities, and knowledge about the unpredictability of life." - easoning, Judging, Deciding: The Science of Thinking, Ch. 15 (adopted from Birren and Svensson, attributed to Baltes and Smith)
- Current AI relies on correlations in data, not causal understanding.
- Lacks commonsense understanding.
- Unimodal (e.g. relies only on text), little opportunity to interact with the world.
- **Little introspection towards its own limits or uncertainties.**

# Decision making: Summary

## How does AI make decisions?

- Learns to solve a *very* specific problem.
- Relies on correlations in training data.

## What can we expect from decisions made by AI systems?

- Usually very good at the task it was trained for.
- Lacks moral judgement, empathy and sense of justice.
- Dangerous to rely on decisions based on input data that is out-of-distribution (extrapolation).
- Potentially biased (but so are humans).
- Uncertain whether they can imagine other actors with their own goals and desires.
- Uncertain whether they can create anything that is truly new.
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- Reliable and objective (in one sense of the word)

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  - Reliable and objective (in one sense of the word)
- What is wisdom, creativity? (Have we learned nothing from our old friend Turing?)

## Decision support

---

# Decision support: Content personalization

Helping users decide what to listen to

Made For estenh1

Show all

The screenshot displays a grid of five recommended music mixes. Each mix is represented by a small thumbnail image and a title. The mixes are:

- Daily Mix 1: ESSEL, CHANEY, CID and more
- Daily Mix 2: Lille Du, Dore Mi, Gretchen Andersen...
- Daily Mix 3: DJ Livio Bivi, Miguel Bastida, Oravla Ziur...
- Daily Mix 4: Saison, Barbara Tucker, The Chemical Brothe...
- Daily Mix 5: San Holo, Charlie Crown, RL Grime and...

- Recommends content to users based on their history.
- Has been around for a long time.
- Extremely intricate trade-offs between exploitation, showing users what they like, and exploration, showing users new content.
- **Based around recommendation, not clear cut decisions.**
- Can potentially lead to feedback loops?

# Decision support: Fracture detection

## Helping doctors detect fractures in X-rays

- Bærum sykehus is the first norwegian hospital to implement an AI powered decision support system into the clinic.
- Helps alleviate a 12.5% year-on-year increase in the prevalence of fractures.
- 60% to 70% of all X-rays are normal, but still need to be reviewed by a radiologist.



AVHOLDEN: Radiograf Janne Velle plasserer røntgenmaskinen over hånden til Davyjot Bhawal (15). Formidlet er det flere ut av dem han har tordelet.

Norden. Foto: Janne Mallin-Hansen / VG

**Fikk hånden analysert av  
kunstig intelligens: – Resultatet  
kom så raskt**

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## Assessing the efficacy of AI in fracture detection (Guermazi et al., 2022)

- AI assistant on its own achieved an area under the receiver operating characteristic curve of 0.97.
- Radiologist in conjunction with the AI assistant achieved a 10.4% increase in sensitivity (64.8% to 75.2%), and an increase in specificity (90.6% vs 95.6%).
- Assistance from the AI reduced average reading time with 6.3 seconds.

# Decision support: COVID-19 severity

Helping doctors decide the severity of COVID-19 cases (Wysocki et al., 2023)

- 23 healthcare professionals tasked to assess the severity of COVID-19 in ten patients using the COVID-19 Risk in ONcology Evaluation Tool (CORONET) tool.

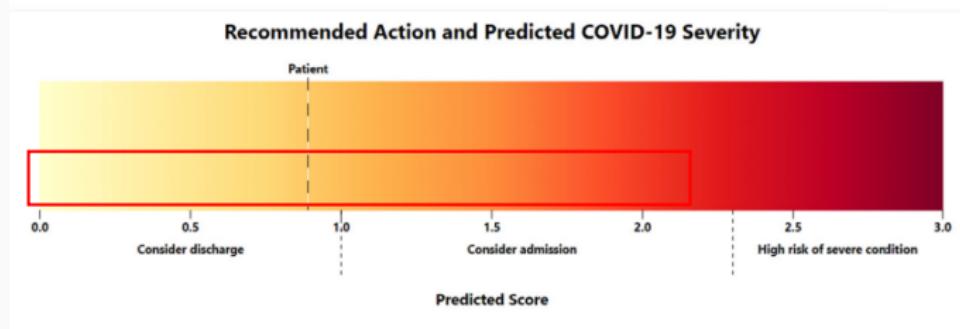
**STOP AND CHECK:** Has the patient got an oncology problem that requires admission?

CORONET only advises if a patient should be admitted due to COVID-19; it is not designed to aid a decision as to whether to admit due to a cancer or cancer treatment related problem.

Action: Consider discharge

Predicted Score: 0.89

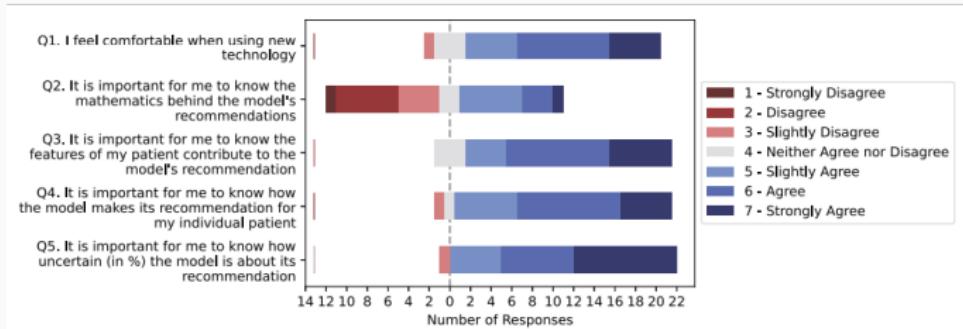
Model Version: 2.0



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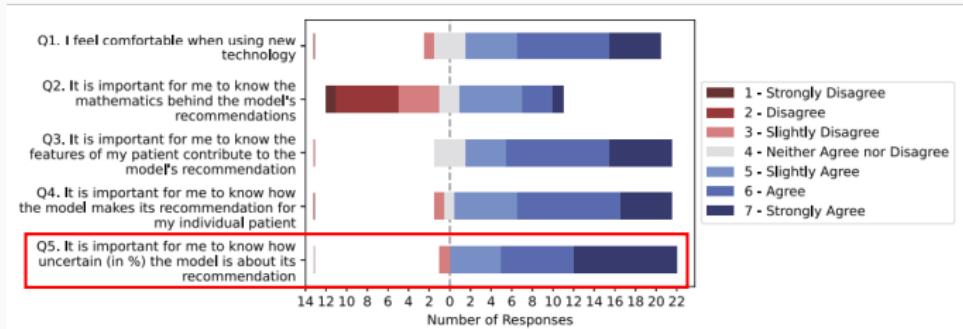
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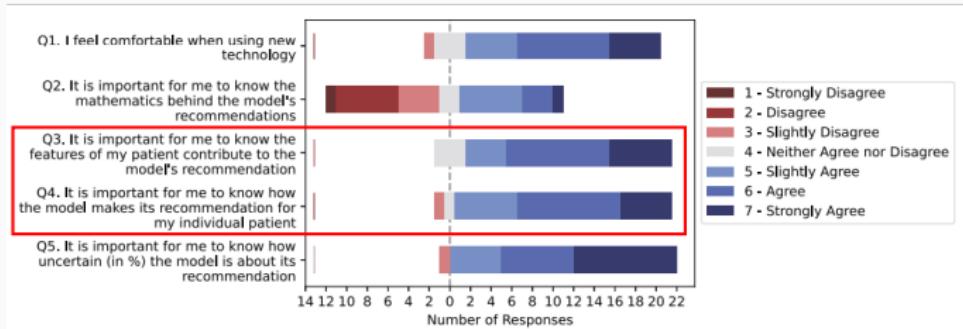
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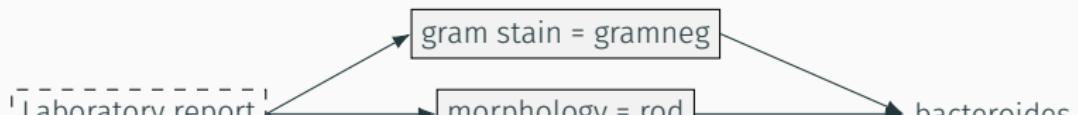
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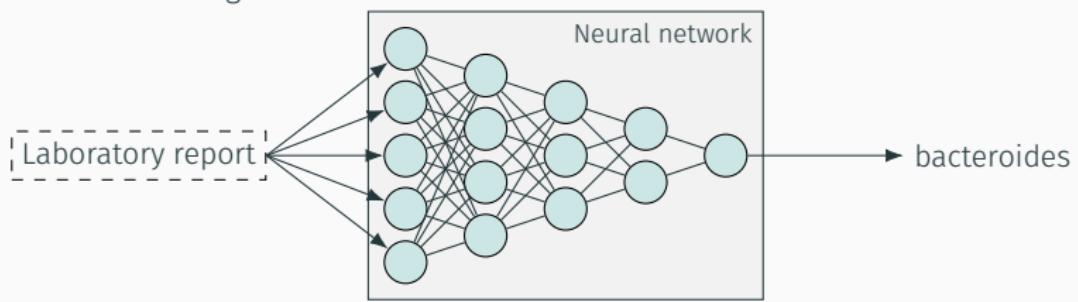


# Decision support: Interpretability

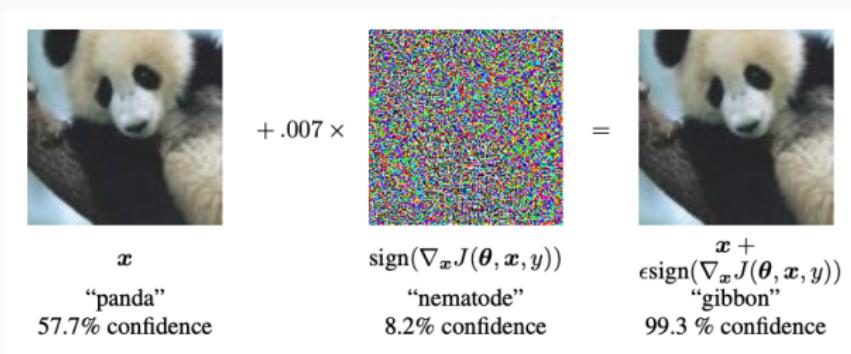


Expert system

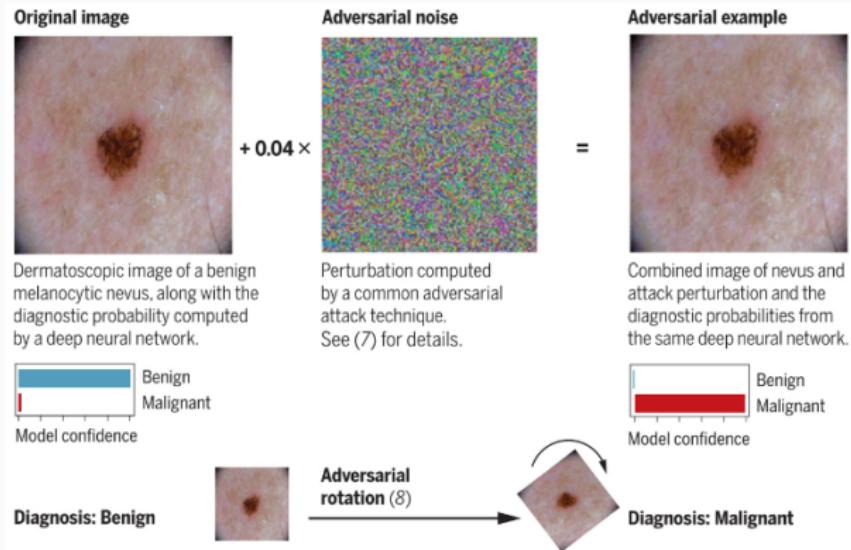
Machine learning



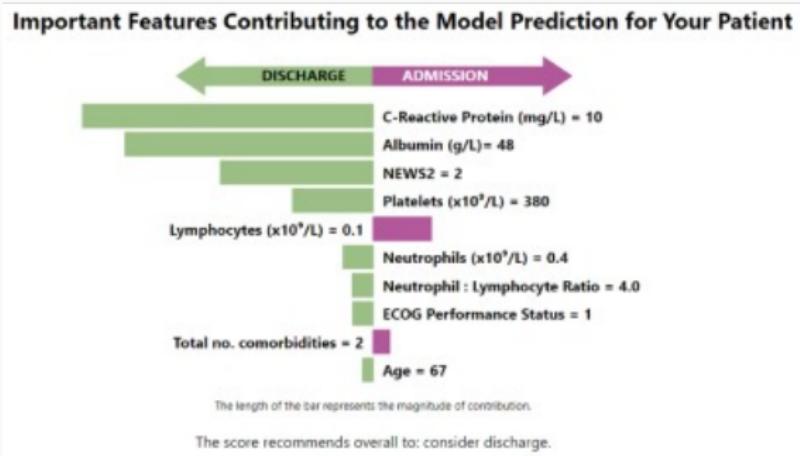
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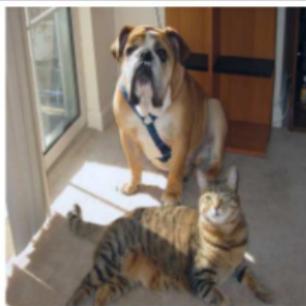
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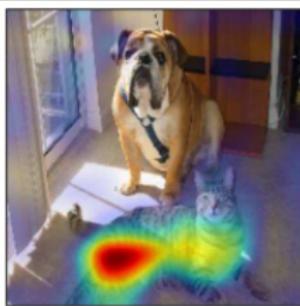
## Decision support: Interpretability



(a) Original Image



(b) Guided Backprop 'Cat'



(c) Grad-CAM 'Cat'



(g) Original Image

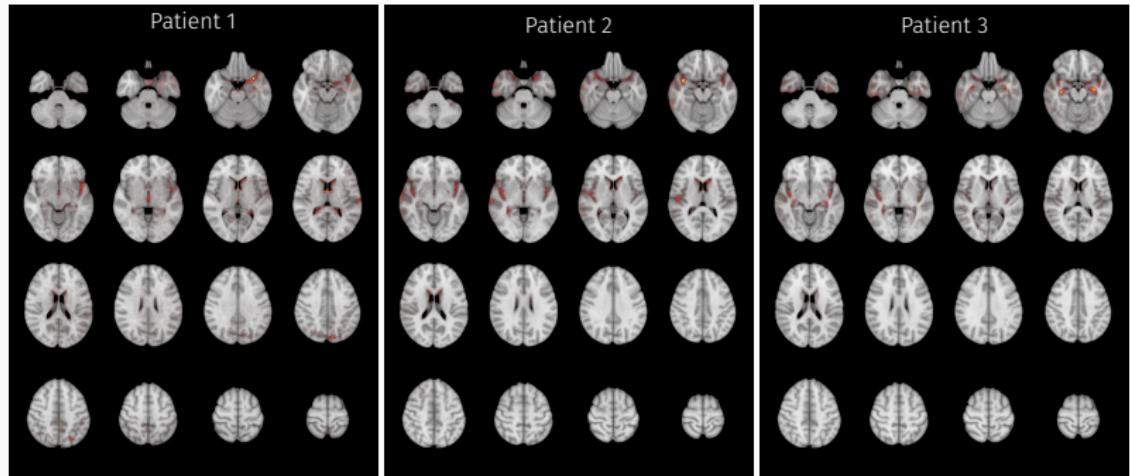


(h) Guided Backprop 'Dog'



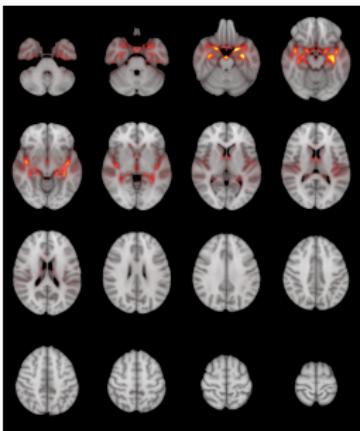
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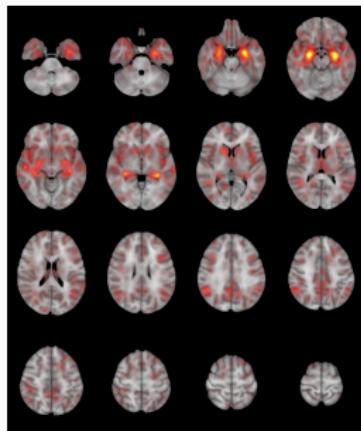


# Decision support: Interpretability

AI



Human



## Decision support: Summary

AI already implemented in many domains for **decision support**, also those considered high stakes.

- Can help improve predictive performance, and reduce time needed from domain experts.
- Lack of understanding of what underlies the decisions made by AI systems is a problem.
- Explainability is a hot topic in research, but still in its infancy.

How are decisions made by AIs  
perceived?

---

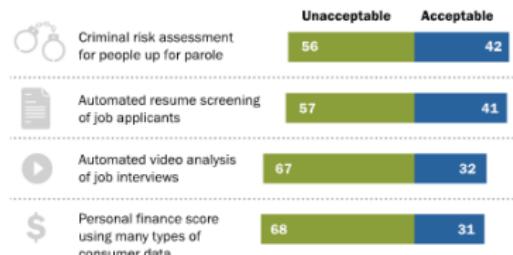
# Perception of AI: Skepticism

In some studies, people show low acceptance for AI making high stake decisions

- 58% of Americans feel that computer programs will always reflect some level of human bias (Smith 2018).
- A majority of US Americans consider it unacceptable to use algorithmic decision making in situations with real life consequences (Smith, 2018).
- Concerns that they (algorithms) may violate privacy, are unfair, and lack nuance (Smith 2018).

## Majorities of Americans find it unacceptable to use algorithms to make decisions with real-world consequences for humans

% of U.S. adults who say the following examples of algorithmic decision-making are ...



Note: Respondents who did not give an answer are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted May 29-June 11, 2018.

"Public Attitudes Toward Computer Algorithms"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

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- Concerns that they (algorithms) may violate privacy, are unfair, and lack nuance (Smith 2018).
- AI is seen as having less agency, and thus are less able to make moral decisions (Bigman & Gray, 2018).
- Participants found it less permissible for AI to make decisions about life and death driving situations, parole (Bigman & Gray, 2018).
- Participants found it less permissible for AI to make decisions about potentially life-saving, but risky, medical procedures, than a doctor (Bigman & Gray, 2018).
- AI perceived to have less agency and experience, mediating the lower permissibility (Bigman & Gray, 2018).

## Perception of AI: Positivism

In other studies, people show high acceptance for AI making high stake decisions  
(Araujo et al., 2020)

A study among a representative sample in the Netherlands asked participants to rate usefulness, fairness, and risk of AI (vs. human) decision-making in the media, health sector, and justice system.

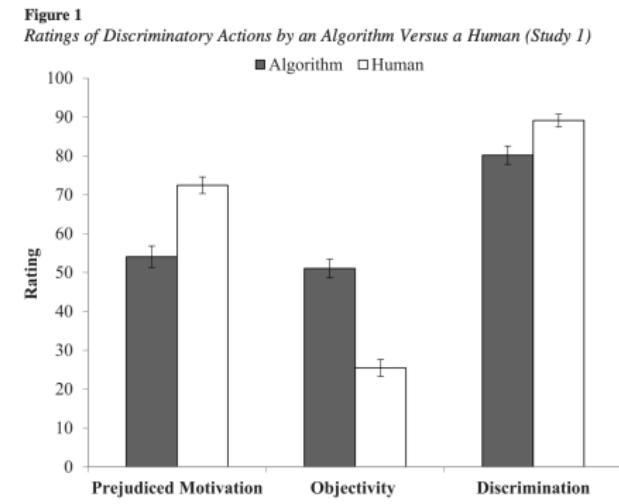
- For high-stake decisions, participants perceived decisions by AI (vs. human) to be more useful, fairer and less risky in health and justice contexts (no difference for low-stake decisions)
- Perceived usefulness and fairness increased with knowledge on AI, programming, and algorithms (self-reported).
- "... people are by and large concerned about risks and have mixed opinions about fairness and usefulness of automated decision-making at a societal level, with general attitudes influenced by individual characteristics."

# Perception of AI: Man vs machine

## More moral outrage when humans discriminate than AI (Bigman et al., 2023)

Participants were asked to assess degree of discrimination, objectivity, prejudice and moral outrage after reading about a discriminatory hiring process. The discrimination was performed either by an AI or a human (HR specialist).

- When discrimination was performed by the AI, participants perceived the process as more objective, less discriminatory, and less prejudiced.



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- When discrimination was performed by the AI, participants perceived the process as more objective, less discriminatory, and less prejudiced.
- More moral outrage when the discrimination was performed by a human.
- Less permissible that CVs are screened by an algorithm.
- Liability of the company was smaller when the biased screening procedure was performed by an AI.

# Perception of AI: Trust in AI

## What predicts trust in AI (Kaplan et al., 2023)

A meta-analysis was performed across 65 studies that empirically investigated what leads people to trust, defined as "the reliance by an agent that actions prejudicial to their well-being will not be undertaken by influential others" in AI.

- In humans (interacting with the AI), competency, understanding and expertise were the most important factors for facilitating trust.
- In the AI itself, reliability was the most important factor, succeeded by performance.
- Also attributes such as personality, anthropomorphism, behaviour and reputation were significant predictors of trust.
- The context of the relationship between the human and the AI was also important, with the length of the relationship the most important predictor.

## Perception of AI: Perception of humans?

**Humans overrate their ability to understand each other (Bonezzi et al., 2022)**

Participants were tasked with evaluating how well they understood the decision process of an agent (human or an AI) performing one of three tasks: (1) evaluating risk for recidivism, (2) examining video interviews, (3) examining a Magnetic Resonance Image to diagnose a disease.

- When only the decision of the agent was made available, without explanation, respondents reported a higher degree of understanding the humans.
- This difference was reduced when an explanation was provided alongside the decision.
- People project their own decision-making processes onto others.
- People overestimate their ability to understand the decision-making processes of other humans.
- Could also have a negative effect, e.g. by projecting ones own biases onto others.
- **Are we unfair when asking AIs to explain themselves? Is the only thing that matters predictive proficiency?**

## Perception of AI: Summary

- There is a tendency towards not trusting AI to make high-stake decisions, although this varies depending on the exact task at hand, the person doing the trusting, the algorithm being trusted, and the general context.
- Although we trust AIs less, we are also less inclined to blame them (or their owners/creators) when they make mistakes, at least morally.
- Reliability and performance, both metrics of efficacy, are the most important factors for trust in AI.
- Human-like attributes in the AI increase trust.

# Perception of AI



Generated by DALL-E

## Decision making: Group work

What kind of decisions would you be comfortable with AI making on your behalf?  
What would it take to change your view?

## Practice questions

- Explain the differences between narrow and general intelligence.
- Explain how AI may lead to biased decisions, although their algorithms are objective mathematical constructs.
- Discuss the similarities and dissimilarities between human and artificial intelligence, in terms of their capacities and limitations.
- Describe why it is hard to interpret the decisions of modern AI, and what is being done to counteract this.
- How do people perceive decisions made by AI systems? Refer to two examples.