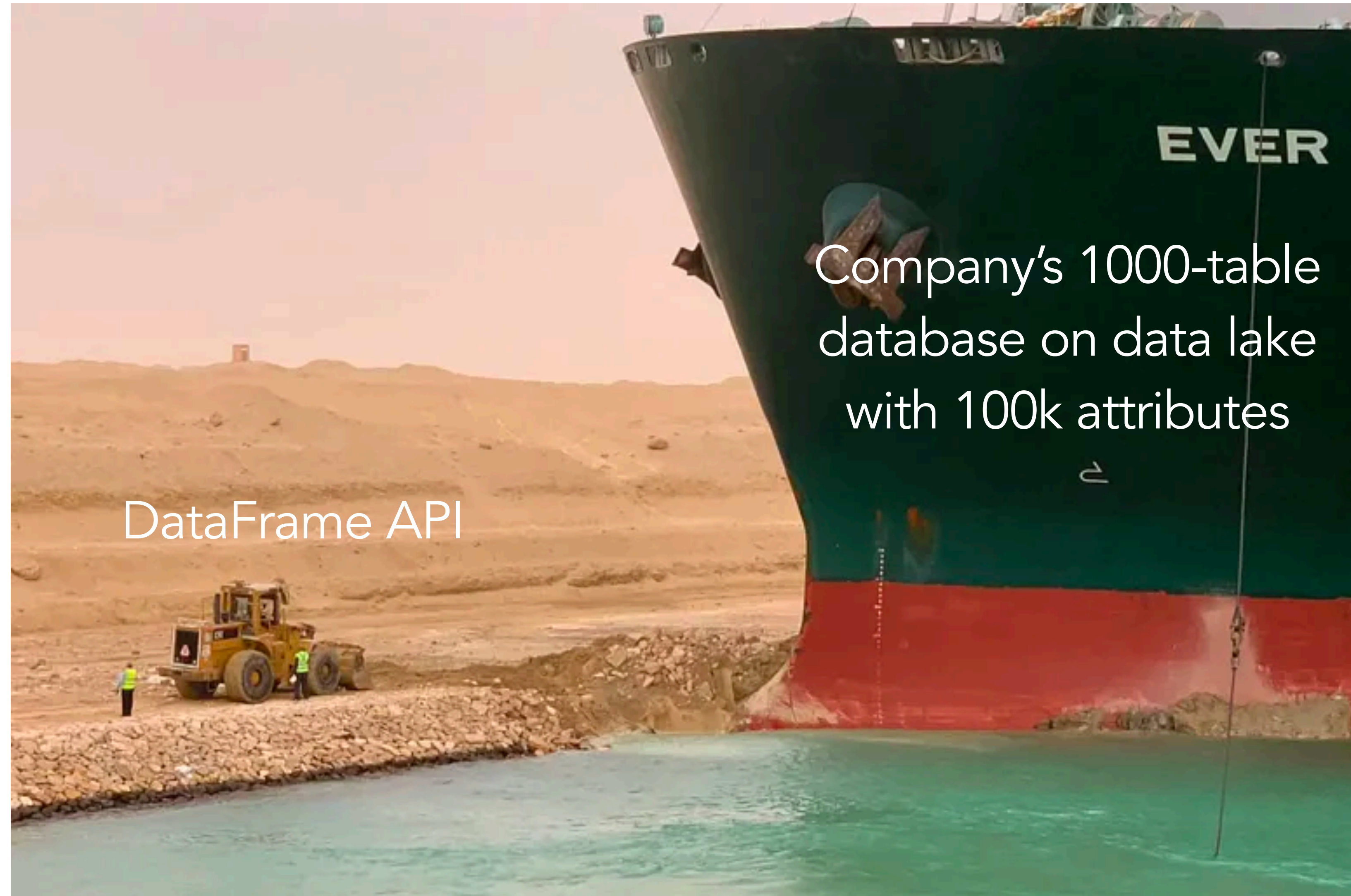


# DSC 204a Scalable Data Systems

- Haojian Jin



Company's 1000-table  
database on data lake  
with 100k attributes

DataFrame API

# Bio

Haojian Jin (<http://haojianj.in/>)

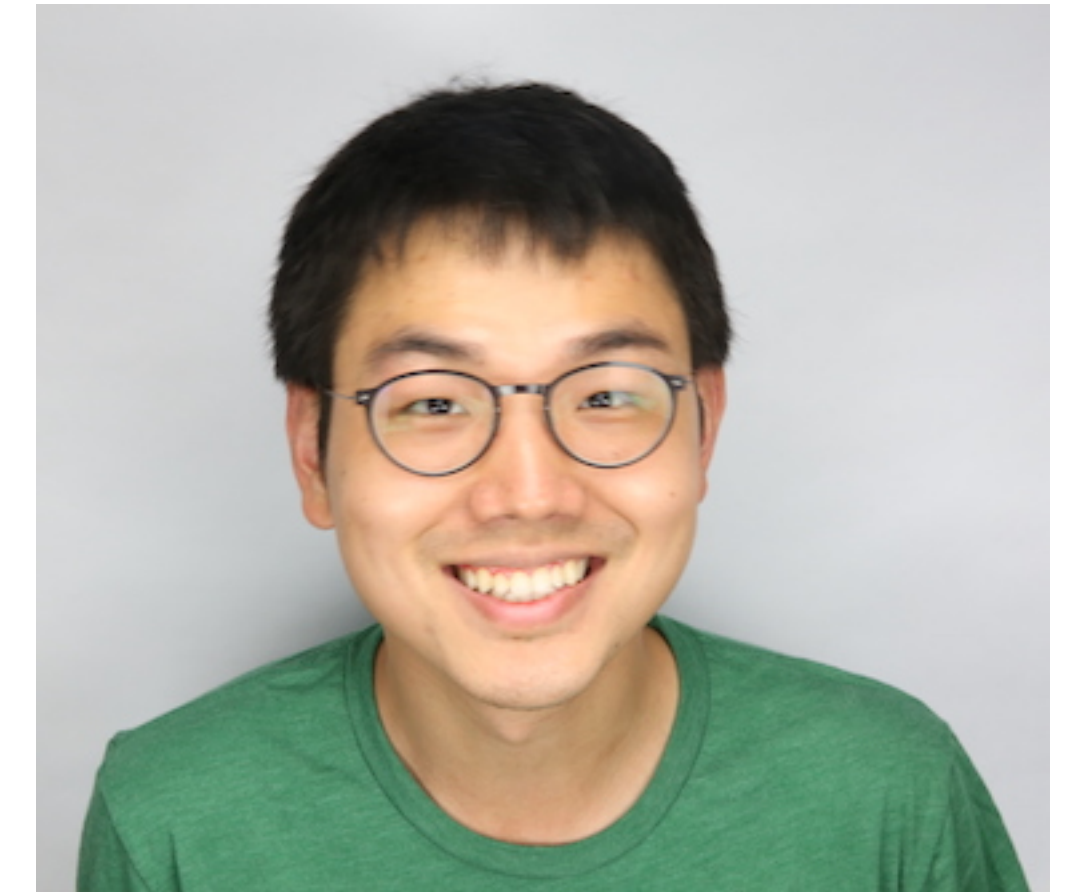
Asst. Prof @ UCSD-HDSI

Data Smith Lab:

We study the **security and privacy of data systems** by researching the people who **design, implement, and use** these systems.

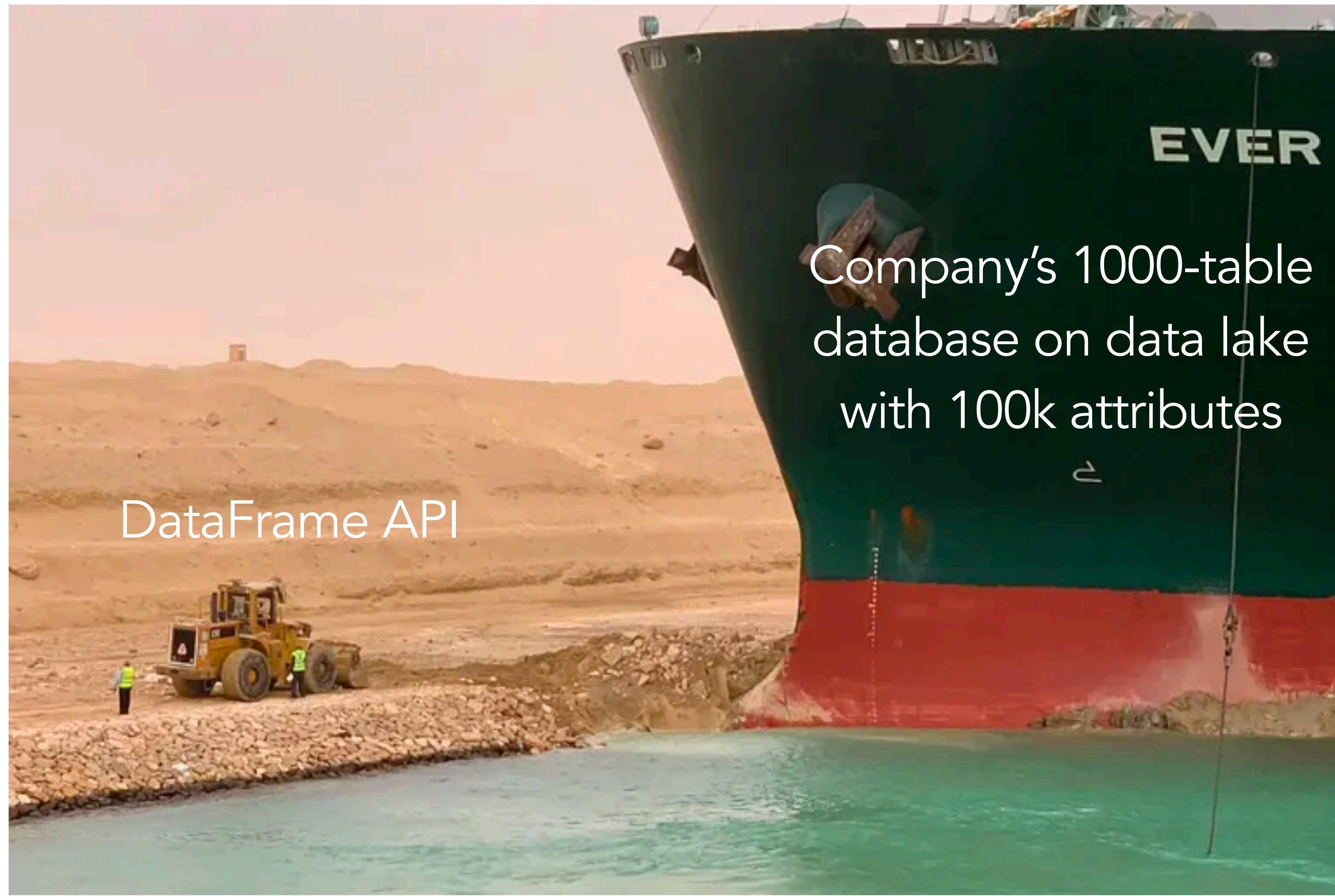
Ph.D. from CMU Human-Computer Interaction Institute

Before Ph.D.: worked at Yahoo Research, ran a startup





# What is this course about?



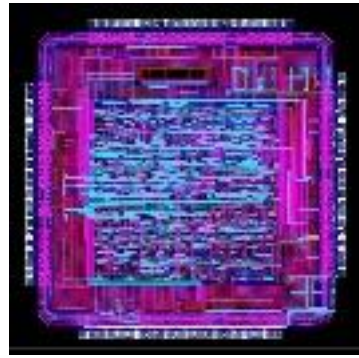
Company's 1000-table  
database on data lake  
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DataFrame API

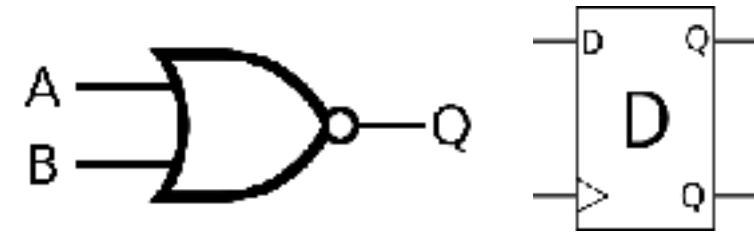


# Levels of Abstraction

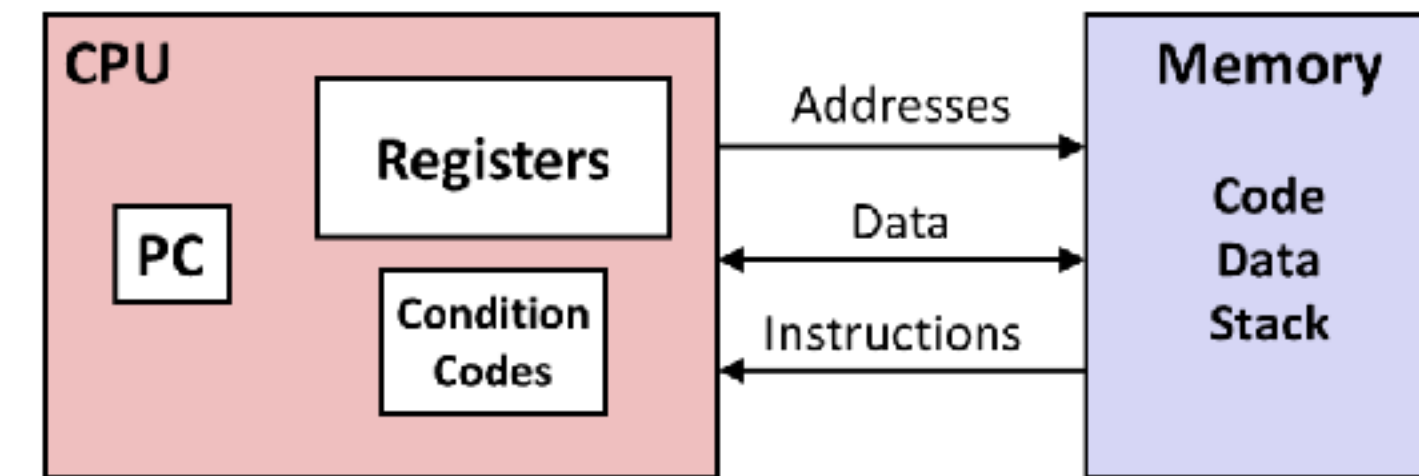
## Computer Designer



Gates, clocks, circuit layout, ...



## Assembly programmer



## C programmer

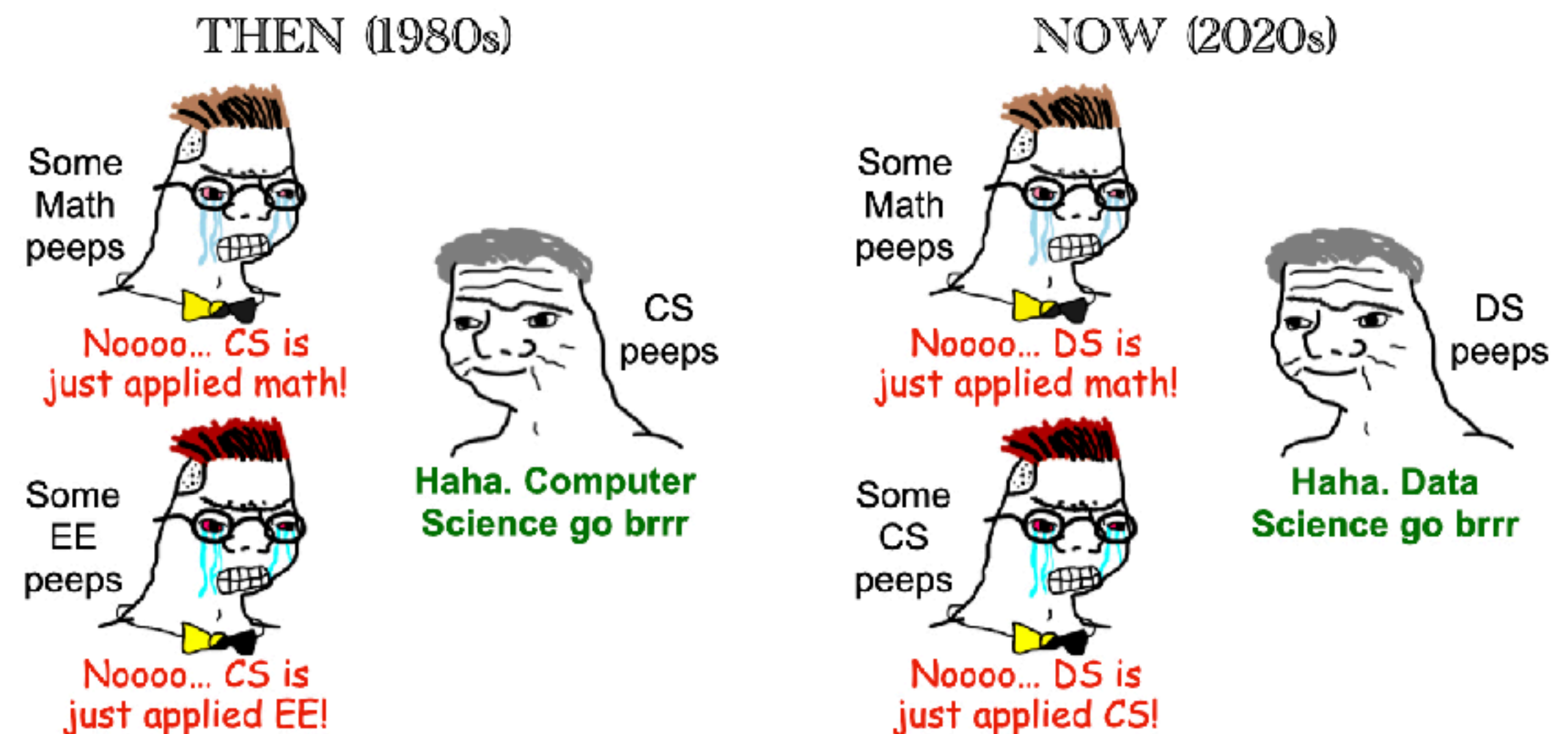
```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(){
    int i, n = 10, t1 = 0, t2 = 1, nxt;
    for (i = 1; i <= n; ++i){
        printf("%d, ", t1);
        nxt = t1 + t2;
        t1 = t2;
        t2 = nxt; }
    return 0; }
```

## Data science



# What is this course about?

Data science professionals ought to be familiarized with data systems from a **user**'s standpoint, as opposed to the conventional approach of a **system implementer**.



# What is this course about?

- Relational databases
- NoSQL datastores
- Stream or batch processors
- Message brokers
- Spark, MapReduce, Hadoop, Kafka, HDFS
- Data lakes, column database
- ....

**How to use and operate  
them more effectively?**

# What is this course about?

- Foundations of data systems
- Scaling distributed systems
- Data Processing and Programming model.

3. Programming interface

2. Distributed Systems

1. Data systems

# What is this course about?

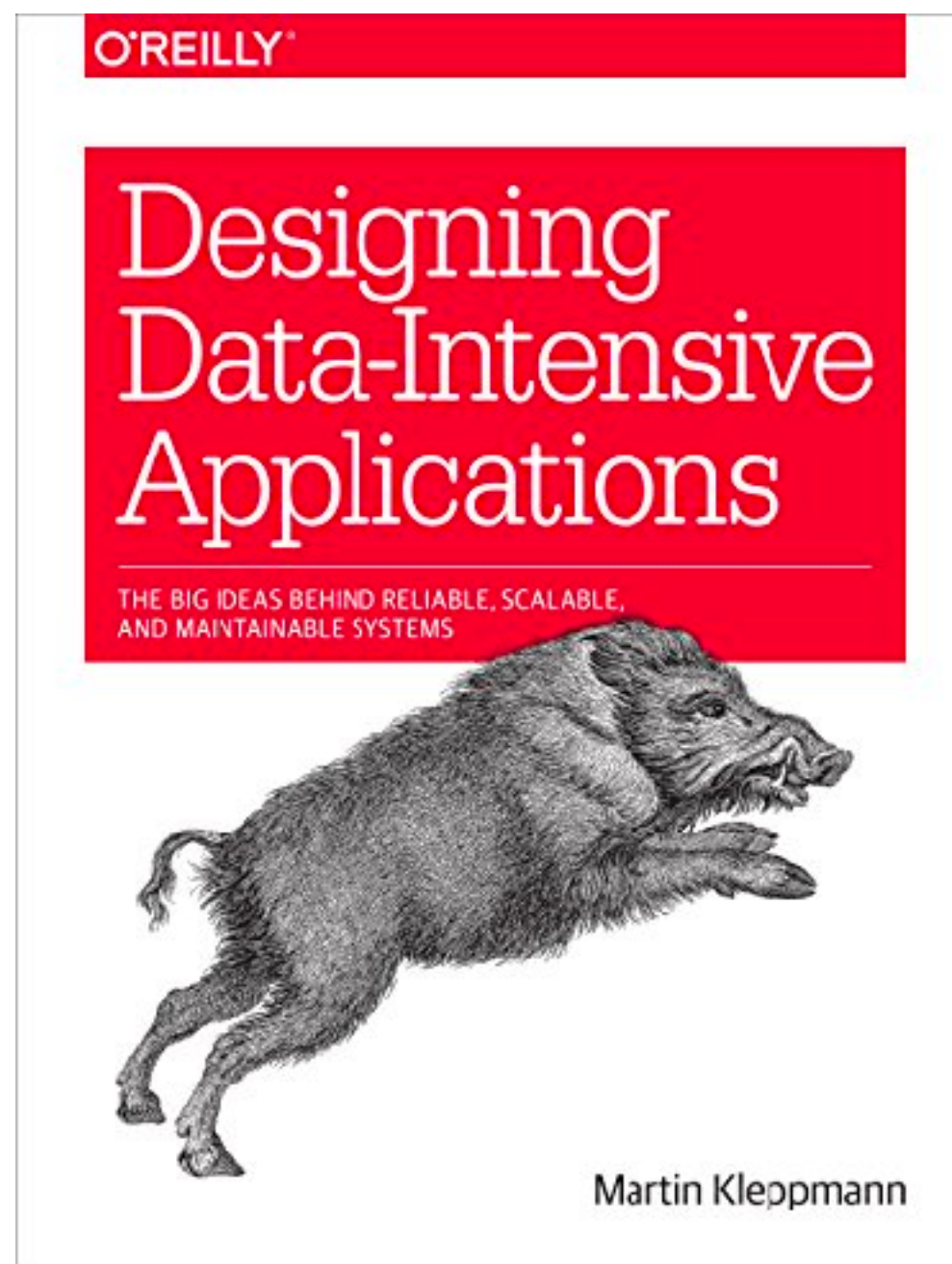
The data sci relevant components in the following course

- Computer organization
- System programming
- Networks
- Operating systems
- Distributed systems
- Cloud computing
- + various data sci tricks

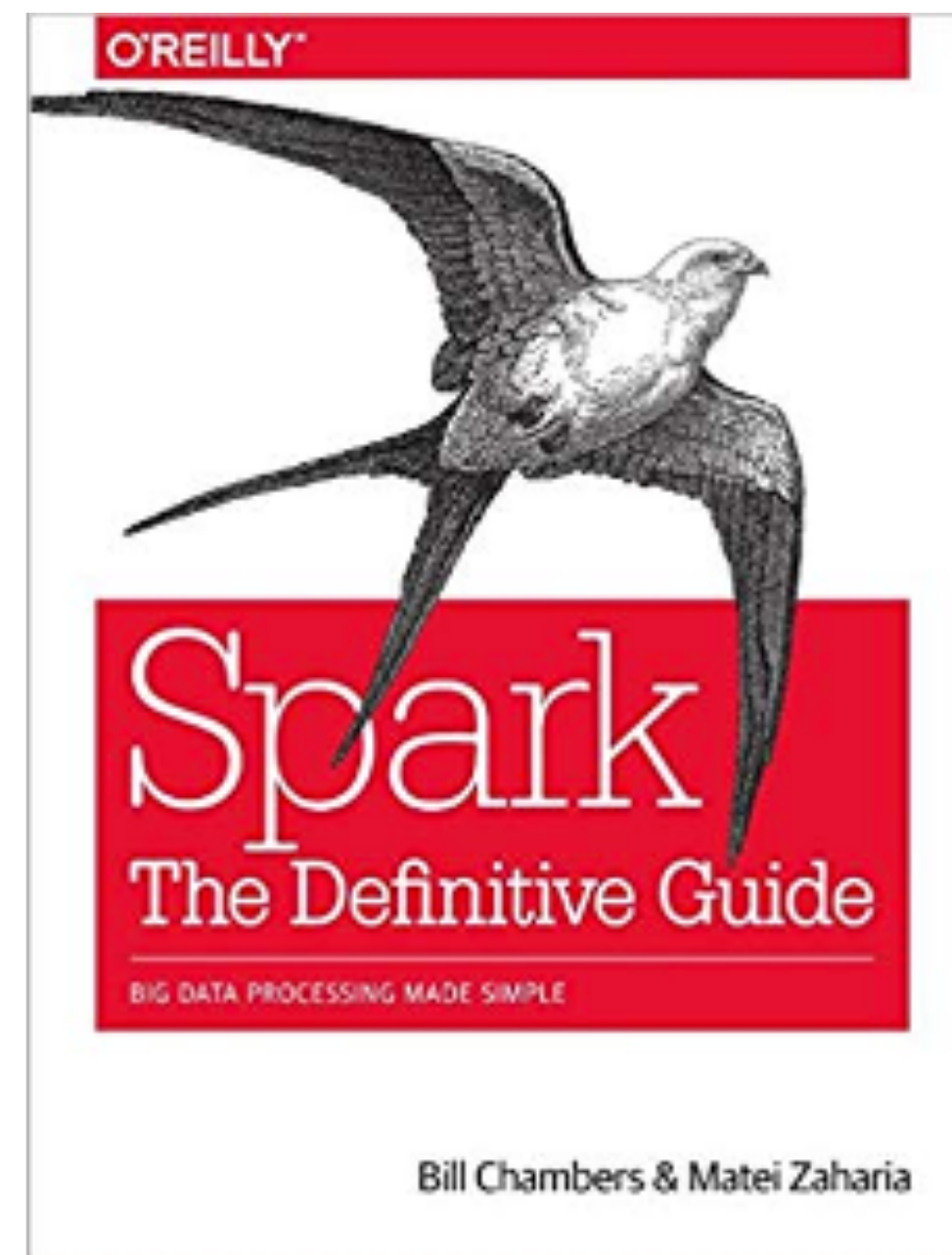


# Suggested Textbooks

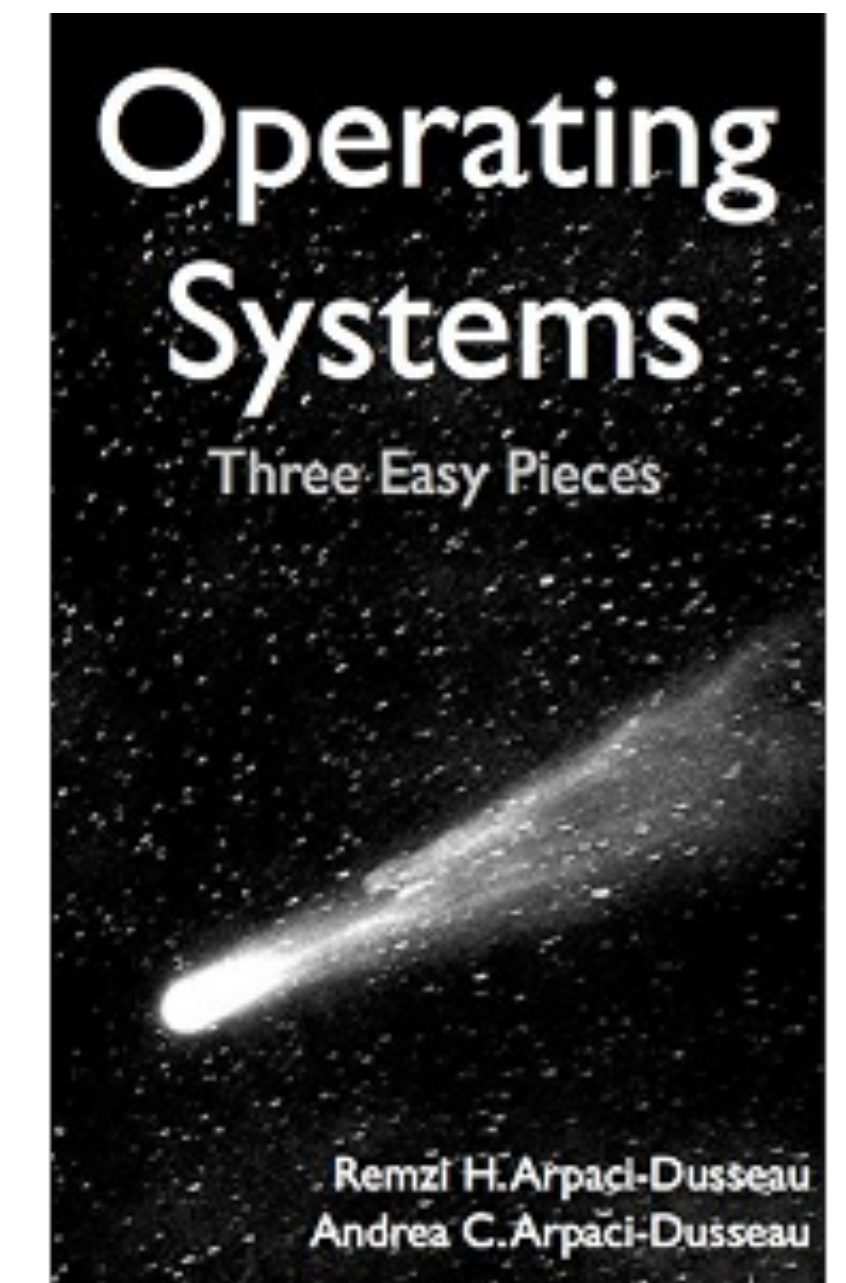
Computer systems are about carefully layering levels of abstraction.



Scalable data flows

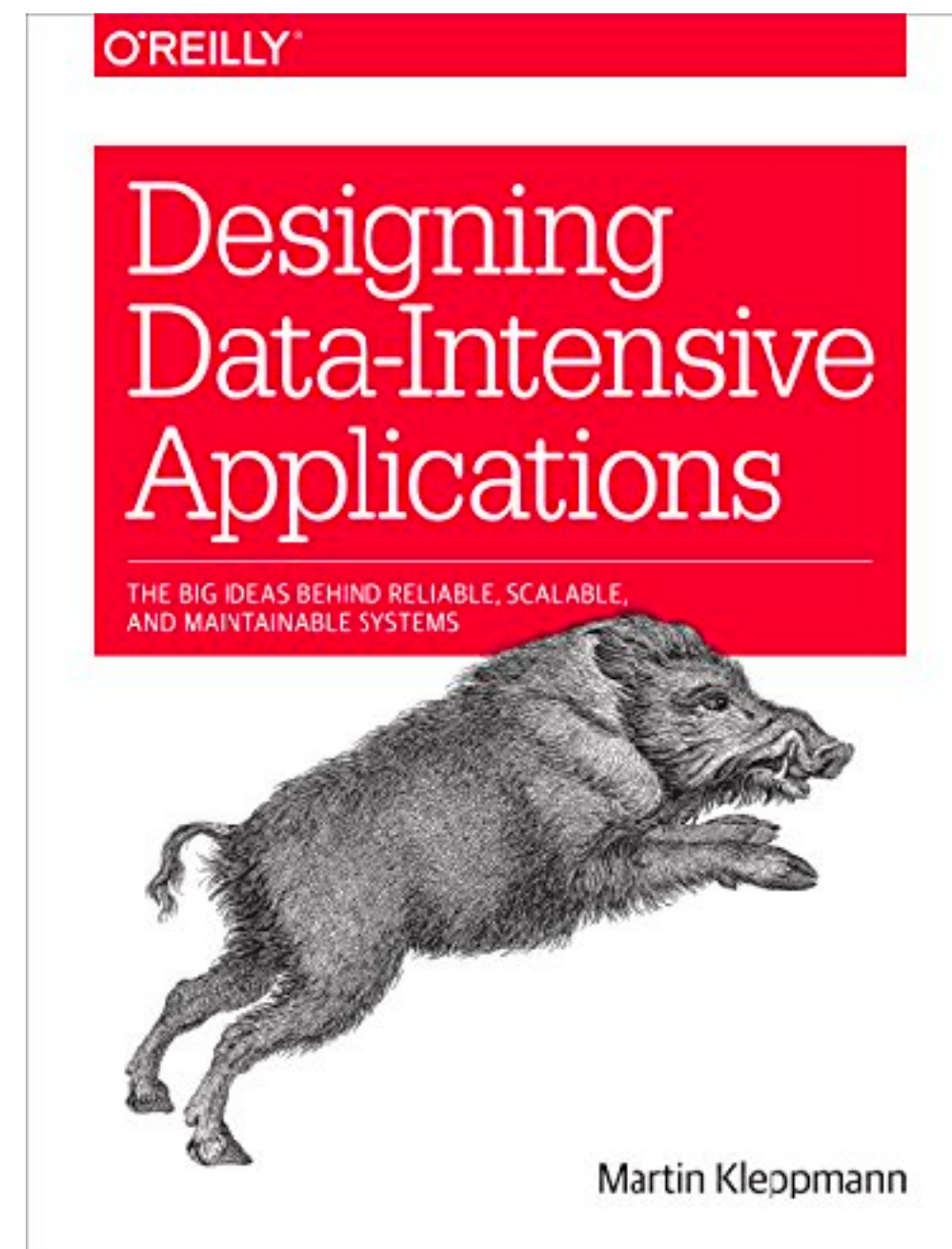


Low-level system software





# Suggested Textbooks

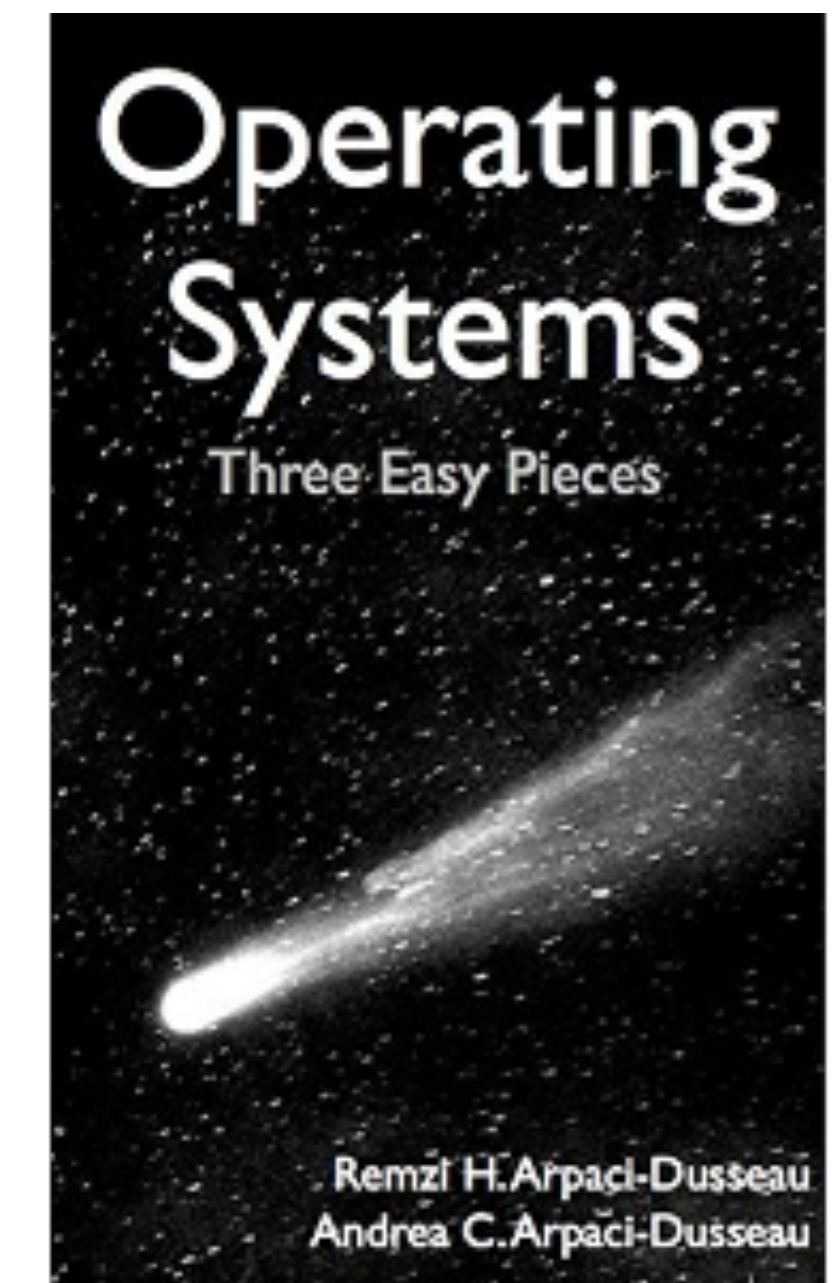
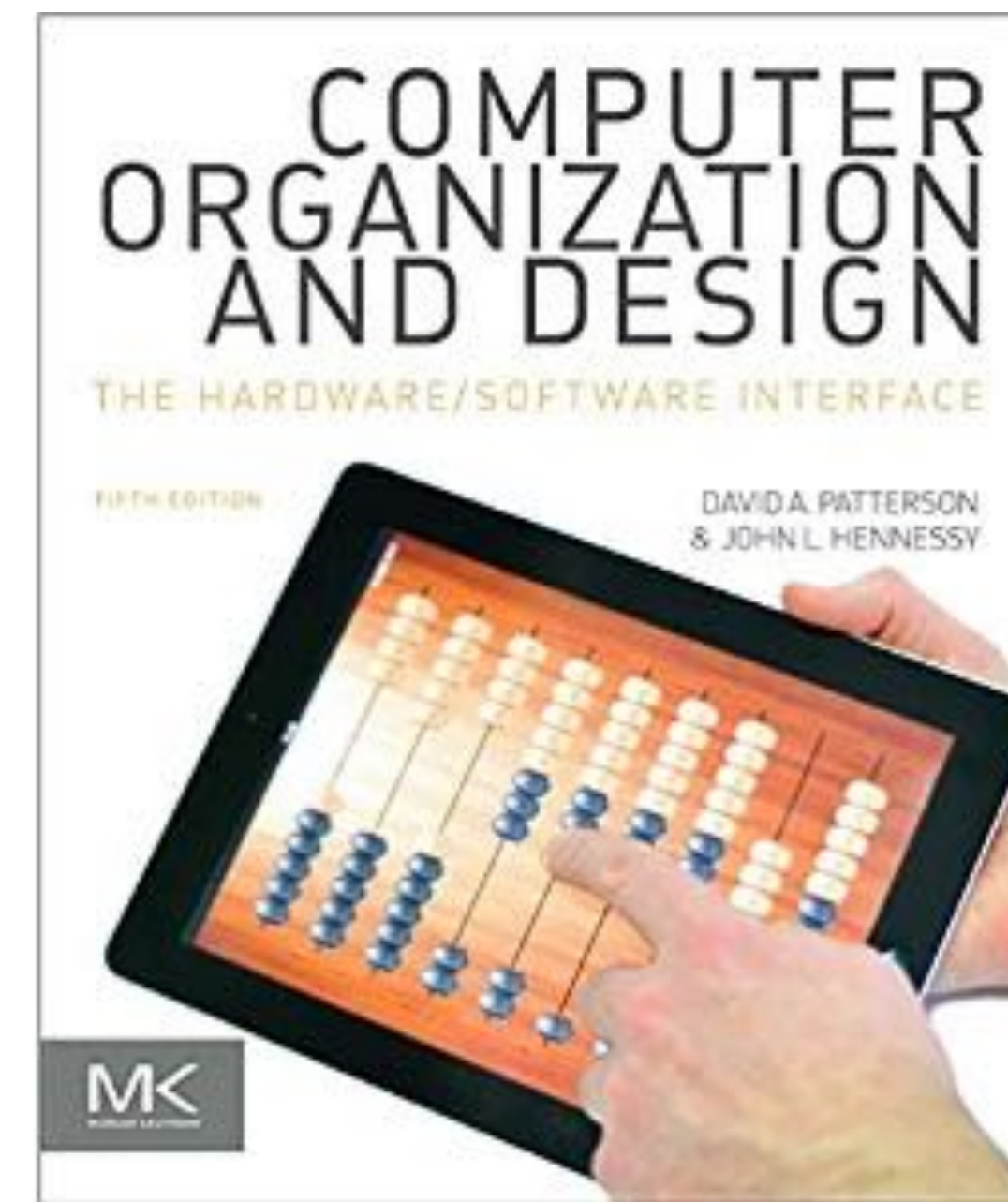
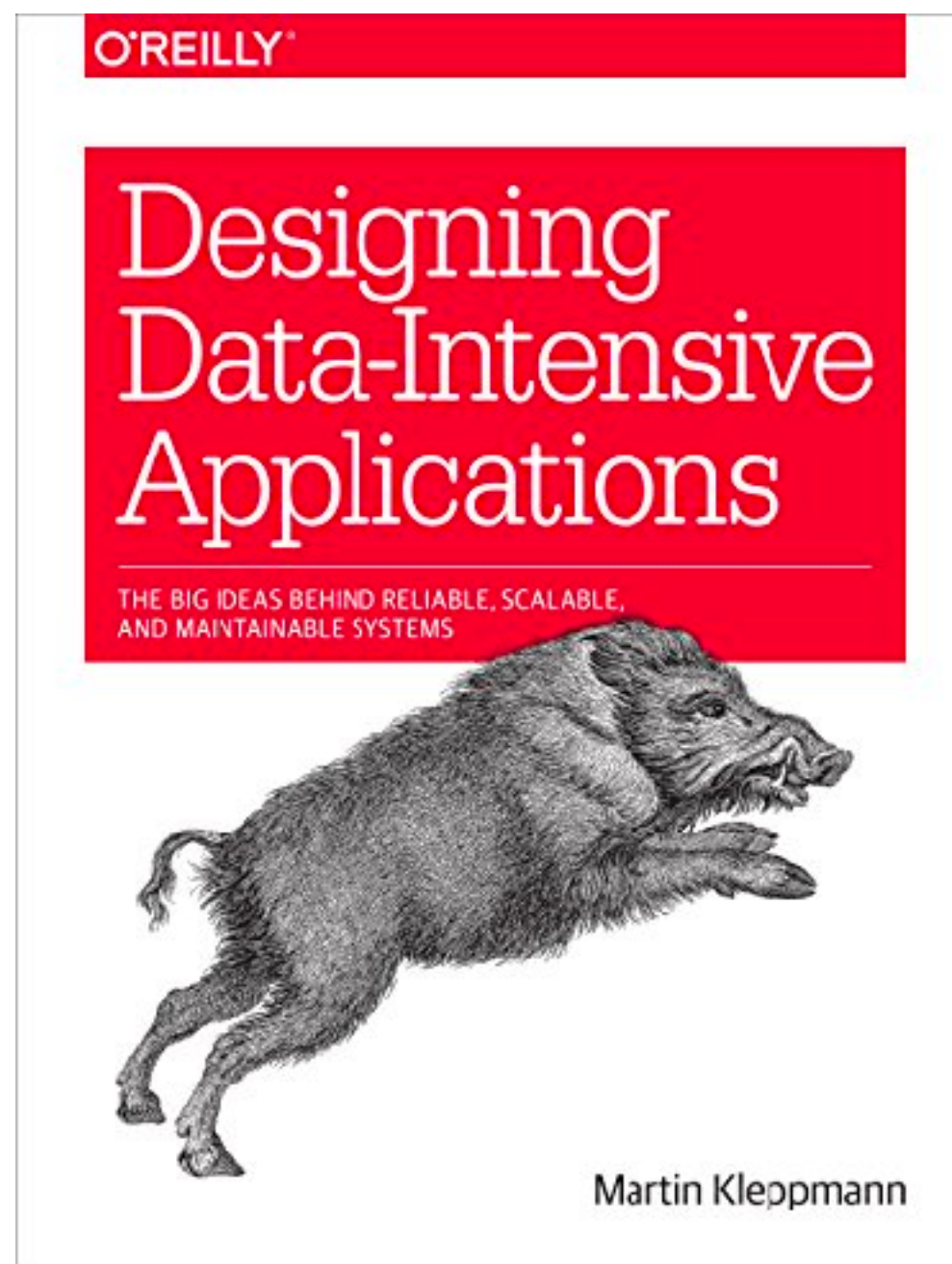


- Chapter 3. Storage and retrieval
- Chapter 4. Encoding and evolution
- Chapter 10. Batch processing
- Chapter 11. Stream processing
- Chapter 12. The future of data systems
- ~~The other chapters~~



# Suggested Textbooks

Computer systems are about carefully layering levels of abstraction.



Hands on  
experience

Background



# What is this course about?

- Foundations of data systems
  - Data models, big data storage and retrieval, and how to encode information when you store data, etc.
  - ~~Transactions, synchronization, consistency, consensus~~

# What is this course about?

- Scaling distributed systems
  - Cluster, cloud, edge, network, replication, partition, consistency, ACID, etc.
  - ~~RPC, Caching, Fault tolerance, Paxos, Concurrency~~

# What is this course about?

- **Data Processing and Programming model.**
  - Batch processing, stream processing, MapReduce, Hadoop, Spark, Kafka, etc.



# Learning outcomes of this course

- **Explain** the basic principles of data systems, distributed systems, and data programming model.
- **Identify** the abstract data access patterns of, and opportunities for parallelism and efficiency gains in data processing at scale.
- **Gain** hands-on experience in creating end-to-end pipelines for data preparation, feature engineering, and model selection on large-scale datasets.
- **Reason** critically about practical tradeoffs between accuracy, runtimes, scalability, usability, and total cost.

# What this course is **NOT** about

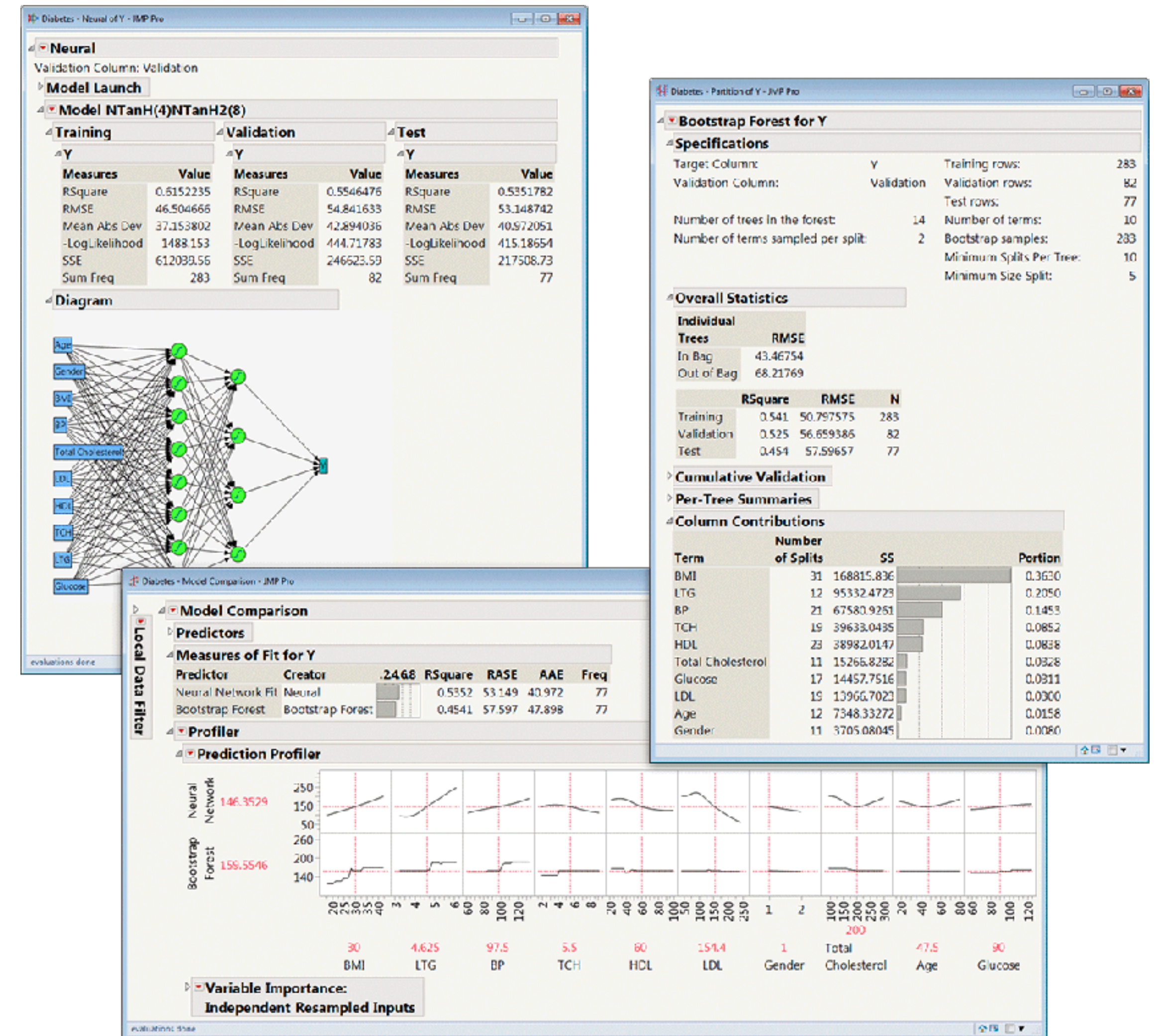
- Not a course on database, relational model, or SQL
  - Take DSC 202 instead (pre-requisite)
- Not a course on how to build scalable data systems
  - Take Distributed Systems, Operating Systems, Cloud Computing,  
...
- Not a training module for how to use Spark
  - We focus more on principles.
- If you have taken DSC 102 and look for a graduate version
  - Take DSC 204A next Winter.

**Why bother learning such low-level  
computer sciencey stuff in Data Science?**



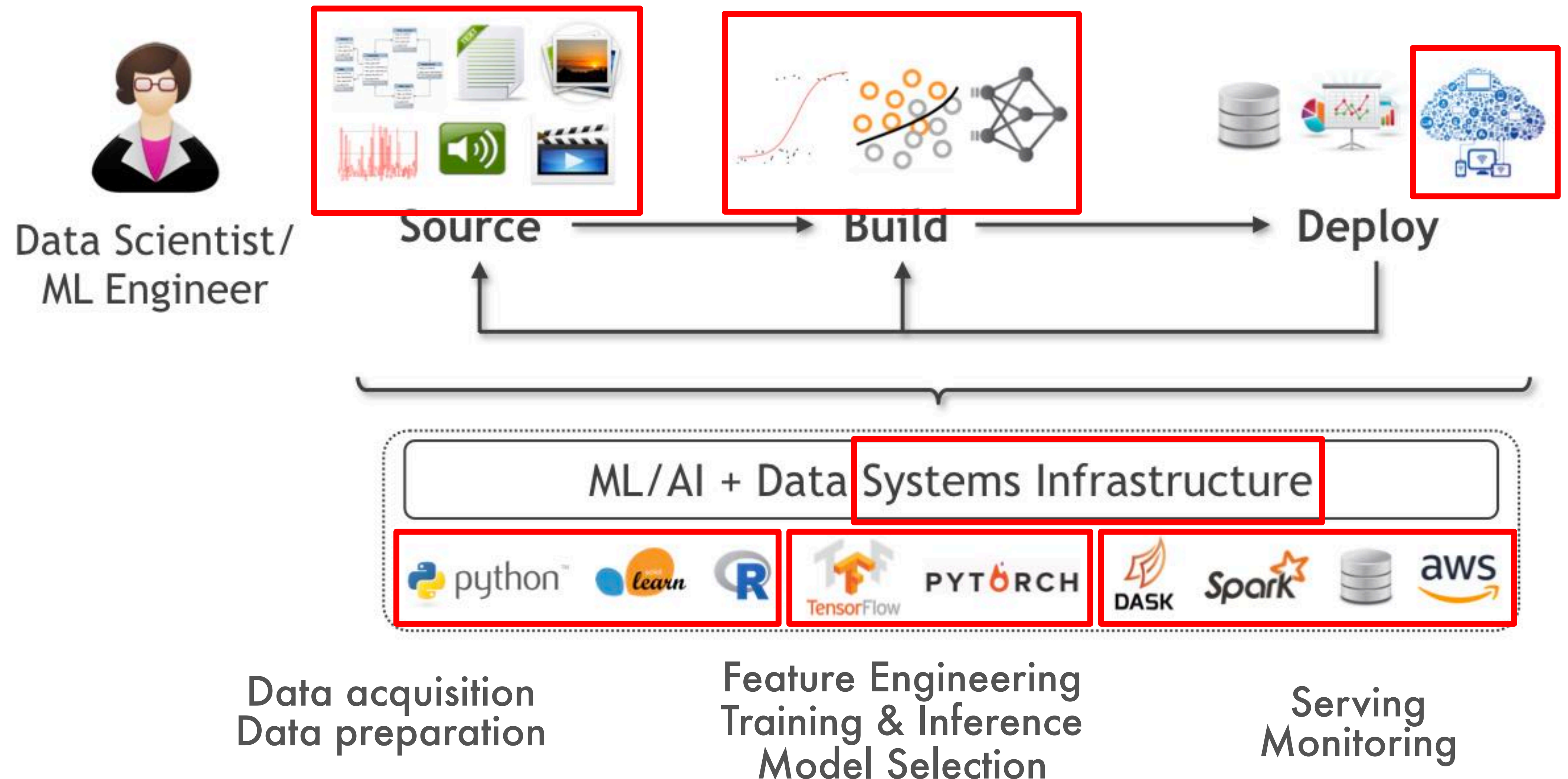
# Luxury of “Statisticians”/“Analysts”

- **Methods:** Sufficed to learn just math/stats, maybe some SQL
- **Types:** Mostly tabular (relational), maybe some time series
- **Scale:** Mostly small (KBs to few GBs)
- **Tools:** Simple GUIs for both analysis and deployment; maybe an R-like console





# Reality of Today's "Data Scientists"





Statistician Salaries United States

Overview Salaries Interviews Insights Career Path

How much does a Statistician make?

Updated Jan 4, 2022

Industry

All industries

Employer Size

All company sizes

Experience

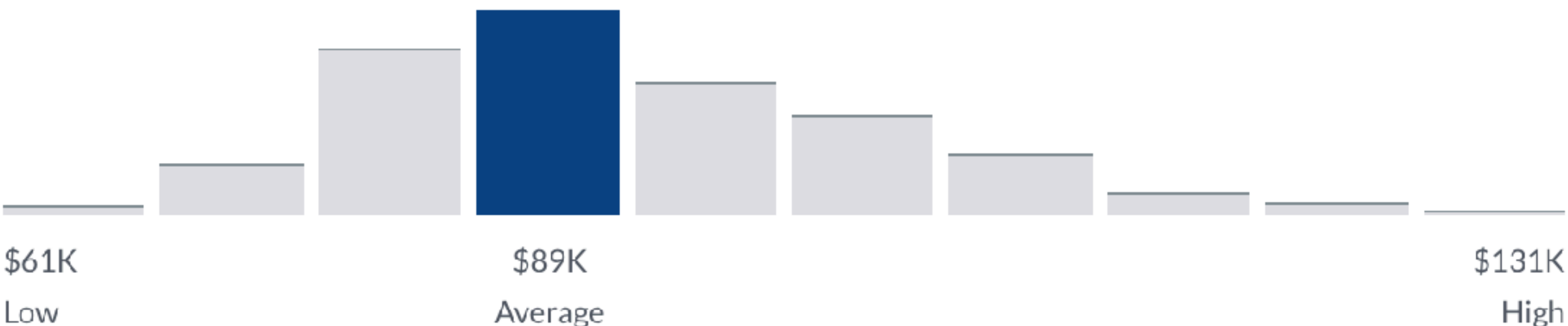
All years of Experience

Very High Confidence

\$88,989 /yr

Average Base Pay

2,398 salaries





☰ > **Data Scientist Salaries** United States ▾

Overview **Salaries** Interviews Insights Career Path

## How much does a Data Scientist make?

Updated Jan 4, 2022

Industry



All industries ▾

Employer Size



All company sizes ▾

Experience



All years of Experience ▾



To filter salaries for Data Scientist, [Sign In](#) or [Register](#).

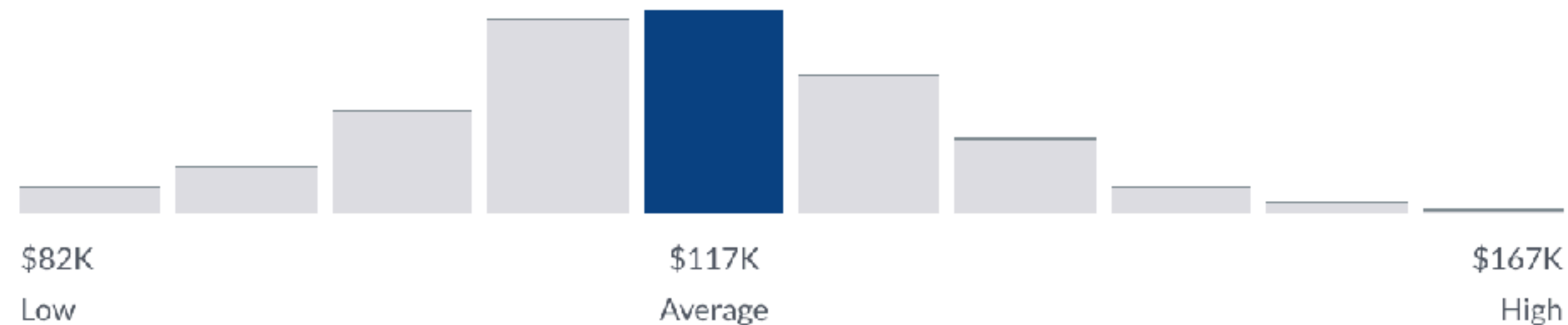


**Very High** Confidence

**\$117,212** /yr

Average Base Pay

18,354 salaries



— 88,989

= 28,223!

**Questions?**

# Prerequisites

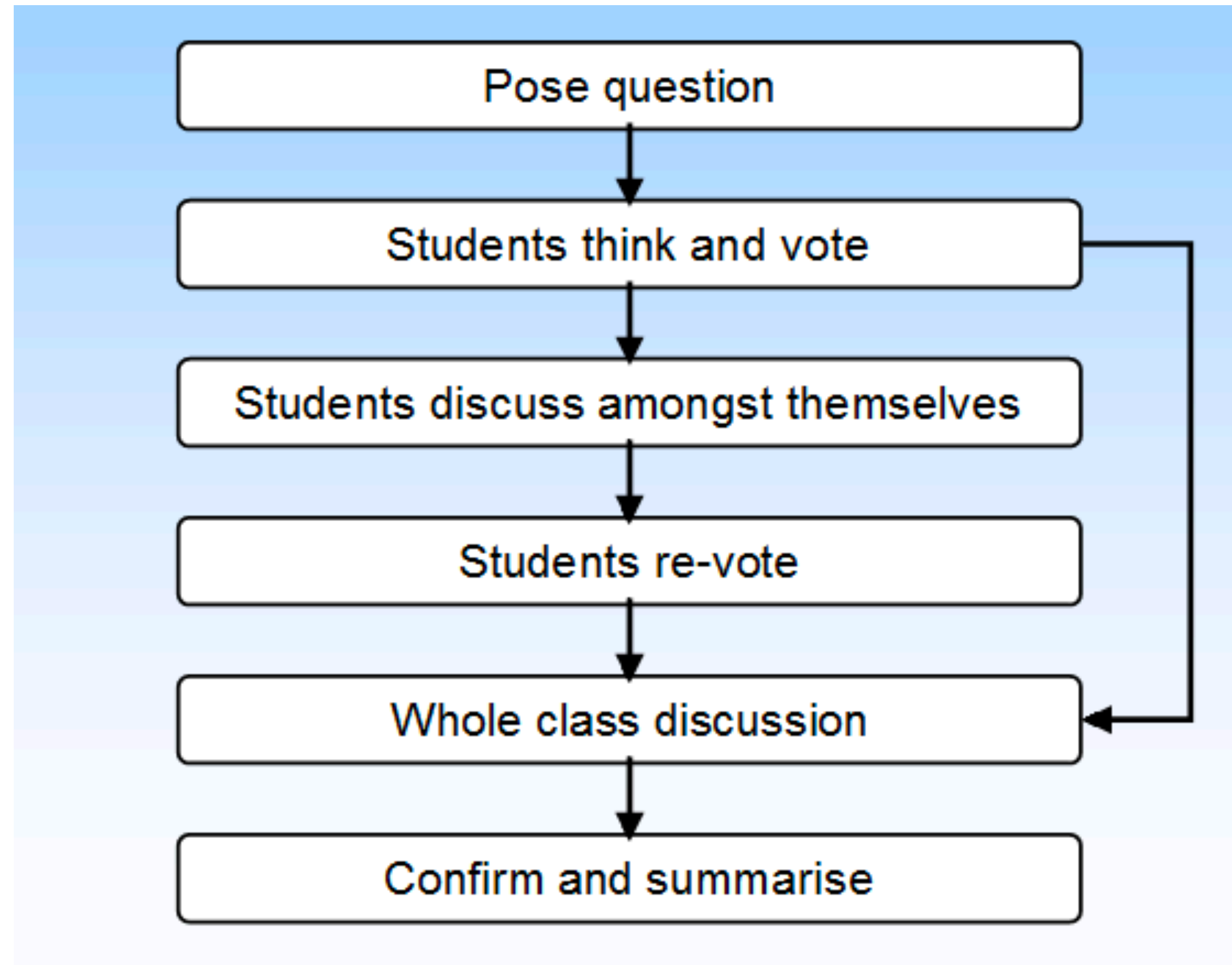
- DSC 200, 202 (or equivalent).
- Proficiency in Python programming & Terminals
- Network basics
- For all other cases, email me with proper justification; a waiver can be considered

# Components and Grading

- 3 Programming Assignments: **40%** (8% + 16% + 16%)
  - No late days! Plan your work well ahead.
- Final Exam (06/14/2023 3pm-6pm): **40% ?**
- Peer Instruction Activities: **20%**
- Extra Credit Peer Evaluation Activities: **4%** (likely)



# Peer instruction activity



# Example flow

**Q1) [3 x 3pts]** What is the hexadecimal representation of these numbers in the given bases?

- A. 161 in base 10
- B. 32 in base 4
- C. 64 in base 8



# Answers

**Q1) [3 x 3pts]** What is the hexadecimal representation of these numbers in the given bases?

A. 161 in base 10

B. 32 in base 4

C. 64 in base 8

A.  $A1_{16}$  (aka 0xA1)

B. 0xE

C. 0x34

# Grading Scheme (grade is the better of the two)

Grade	Absolute Cutoff ( $\geq$ )	Relative Bin (Use strictest)
A+	95	Highest 5%
A	90	Next 10% (5-15)
A-	85	Next 15% (15-30)
B+	80	Next 15% (30-45)
B	75	Next 15% (45-60)
B-	70	Next 15% (60-75)
C+	65	Next 5% (75-80)
C	60	Next 5% (80-85)
C-	55	Next 5% (85-90)
D	50	Next 5% (90-95)
F	< 50	Lowest 5%



# Grading Scheme (grade is the better of the two)

Grade	Absolute Cutoff ( $\geq$ )	Relative Bin (Use strictest)
A+	95	Highest 5%
A	90	Next 10% (5-15)
A-	85	Next 15% (15-30)
B+	80	Next 15% (30-45)
B	75	Next 15% (45-60)
B-	70	Next 15% (60-75)
C+	65	Next 5% (75-80)
C	60	Next 5% (80-85)
C-	55	Next 5% (85-90)
D	50	Next 5% (90-95)
F	$< 50$	Lowest 5%

**Example, 82 and 33%,  
Rel: B-; Abs: B+;  
Final: B+**

# The structure of the course

## Topics

Week 1-3	Foundations of Data Systems	Single Machine: CompOrg -> OS -> Cloud
Week 4-6	Scaling Distributed Systems	Multiple Machine: Storage -> Network
Week 7-10	Data Processing and Programming model	Processing: Batch -> Stream -> Cloud

<https://haojian.github.io/DSC204A23WI/>

# Programming Assignments

- PA0: Setting up AWS and Dask
  - Apr 10 to Apr 25
- PA1: Data Exploration with Dask
  - Apr 26 to May 10
- PA2: Feature Eng. and Model Selection with Spark
  - May 11 to June 2
- You only have \$50 AWS credit! Close the instance when you finish.



# Expectations on the PAs

- Expectations on the PAs:
  - Individual projects; see webpage on academic integrity
- I will cover the concepts and tools' tradeoffs in the lectures
- TAs will explain and demo the tools; handle all Q&A
- You are expected to put in the effort to learn the details of the tools' APIs using their documentation on your own!

# Respecting TAs' time

- Office hours are for getting ideas on how to debug or better approach your homework.
- Write a description! Try to narrow down your problem area as much as possible.
- If you don't have a description, TA can reject your questions.
- Respect TA's working hours.
  - Respond in 24 hours.
  - Members may send msgs at night or on weekends, but only expect to receive a reply on weekday.

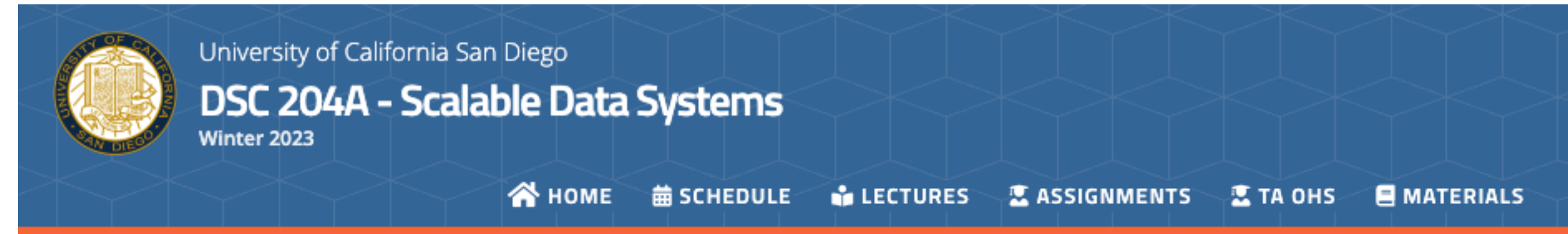
# Tentative plan

- Rohit
  - Tuesday 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM.
- Megha
  - Thursday TBD.
- Location:
  - CSE building or HDSI building?



# Course administrivia

<https://haojian.github.io/DSC204A23WI/>



## DSC 204A - Scalable Data Systems / Winter 2023

### Course Description

Data science professionals ought to be familiarized with data systems from a user's standpoint, as opposed to the conventional approach of a system implementer.

The course is organized into three parts, covering the following topics.

1. **Foundations of Data Systems:** Data models, big data storage and retrieval, and how to encode information when you store data.
2. **Scaling Distributed Systems:** Cluster, cloud, edge, network, replication, partition, consistency, ACID.
3. **Data Processing and Programming model:** Batch processing, stream processing, MapReduce, Hadoop, Spark, Kafka.

A major component of this course is hands-on Python programming to implement data exploration, data preparation, and model selection pipelines on large real-world data using scalable analytics tools and cloud resources, both Amazon Web Services (AWS) public cloud and SDSC's private cloud.

### Administrivia

**Lectures:** MWF 03:00PM-03:50PM; PETER 104

**Instructor:** [Haojian Jin](#); Office: SDSC 214E; Office Hours: Tue 2:00-3:00pm

### Course Content and Format

- The class meets 3 times a week for 50-minute lectures in person.
  - Attending the lectures is not mandatory. But there are Peer Instruction activities involving discussing questions with peers in class only (details below). There will be other interactive activities as well.
  - We will use Piazza for asynchronous discussions and questions.
- 3 Programming Assignments (PAs).
  - See the PAs page for the PA schedule and details.
  - There are no late days for the PAs. Plan your work accordingly.
- 12 Peer Instruction activities via iClickers.
  - They will be held live in class using iClicker, spread randomly across the quarter.

# Course administrivia

- Lectures: MWF 3pm-3:50pm PT at PETER 104
- Instructor: Haojian Jin; haojian@ucsd.edu
  - OHs: TBD. See website.
- TAs: Rohit Ramaprasad; Megha Agarwal
  - TA hours see the course web site.
- Slack for all communications (also see Canvas).
- Canvas for PA submission, Peer Evaluation Activities, Grading.



# General Dos and Do NOTs

- Do:
  - Follow all announcements on Piazza
  - Try to join the lectures/discussions live
  - Participate in discussions in class / on Piazza
  - Raise your hand before speaking
  - View/review podcast videos asynchronously by yourself
  - To contact me/TAs, use Slack first; if you really need to email, use "DSC 204:" as subject prefix



# General Dos and Do NOTs

- Do NOT:
  - Harass, intimidate, or intentionally talk over others
  - **Violate academic integrity** on the PAs, exams, or other components; I am very strict on this matter!

**Questions?**