

# SEIS 764 Artificial Intelligence

*Introduction to Artificial Intelligence*

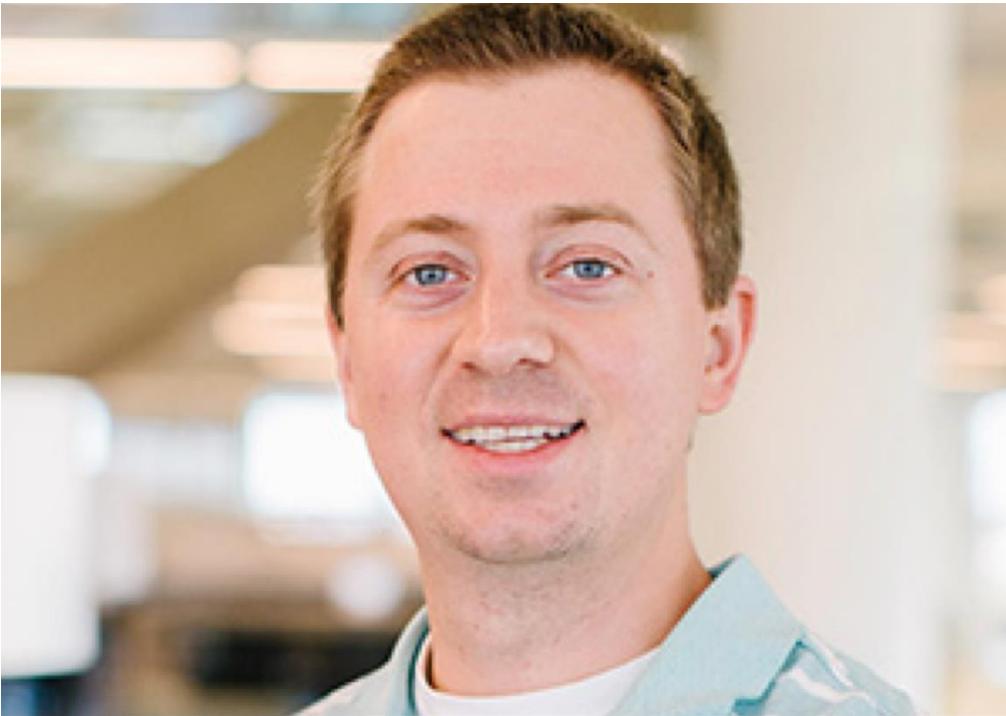
**Andrew Van Benschoten, Ph.D.**

**Adjunct Professor, Department of Software Engineering & Data Science**

University of St. Thomas

vanb2168@stthomas.edu

# Introduction



- Adjunct Professor of AI @ University of St Thomas & University of San Diego
- Director of Advanced Analytics & Insights @ WinField United
- B.S @ MIT (*Biology*), Ph.D @ UCSF (*Biophysics*)
- *I've spent the bulk of my career building data science/AI teams & tying technical work to business value*



WINFIELD  
UNITED

KraftHeinz



C.H. ROBINSON



ORACLE



# Syllabus

## Grade Evaluation:

- Assignments: **30%**
- Quizzes: **30%**
- Exam1: **20%**
- Exam2: **20%**

## Grading Scale:

In accordance with departmental grading policies, there is no “D”

A: 94% or higher

A-:  $\geq 90\%$  and  $< 94\%$

B+:  $\geq 85\%$  and  $< 90\%$

B:  $\geq 83\%$  and  $< 85\%$

B-:  $\geq 80\%$  and  $< 83\%$

C+:  $\geq 75\%$  and  $< 80\%$

C:  $\geq 70\%$  and  $< 75\%$

C-:  $\geq 65\%$  and  $< 70\%$

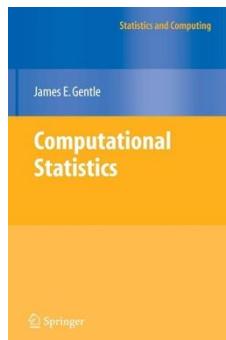
F:  $< 65\%$

## Course Outline (subject to change)

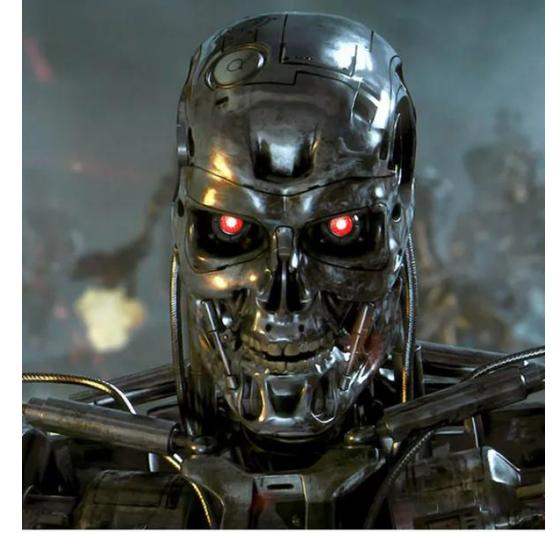
Lecture	Date	Topic
Lecture 1	February 3	Introduction to artificial Intelligence
Lecture 2	February 10	Neural networks from scratch
Lecture 3	February 17	Convolutional Neural Networks ( <b>Quiz 1 due</b> )
Lecture 4	February 24	Overfitting & transfer learning ( <b>Hw 1 due</b> )
Lecture 5	March 3	Recurrent Neural Networks ( <b>Quiz 2 due</b> )
Lecture 6	March 10	Natural Language Processing: Part I ( <b>Hw 2 due</b> )
Lecture 7	March 17	<b>Exam One</b>
No Class	March 24	
Lecture 8	March 31	Natural Language Processing: Part II
Lecture 9	April 7	Transformers ( <b>Hw 3 due</b> )
Lecture 10	April 14	Large Language Models: Part I ( <b>Quiz 3 due</b> )
Lecture 11	April 21	Large Language Models: Part II ( <b>Hw 4 due</b> )
Lecture 12	April 28	AI Agents ( <b>Quiz 4 due</b> )
Lecture 13	May 5	<i>Introduction to AI careers</i> ( <b>Hw 5 due</b> )
Lecture 14	May 12	<b>Exam Two</b>

# So about ChatGPT...

- Always follow policy, UST or otherwise
- In practice, ChatGPT is a helpful "idea starter"...that's it
- Think of Generative AI like a calculator
  - At first: *you need to learn how to do things manually*
  - Later: *you can (and should!) use ChatGPT as a resource*



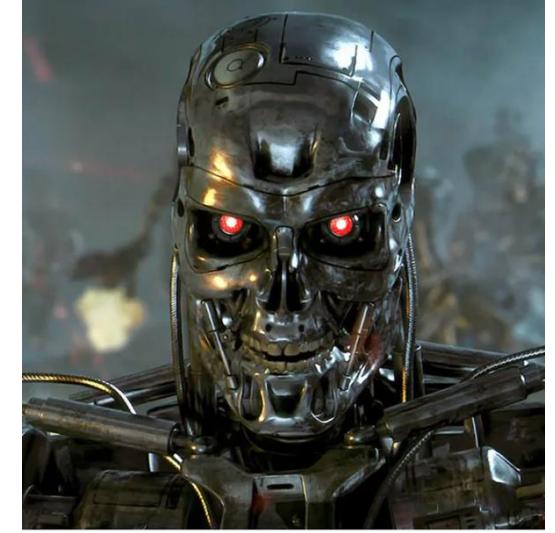
# What is AI?



*Artificial Intelligence is the study and construction of computational agents that act intelligently*



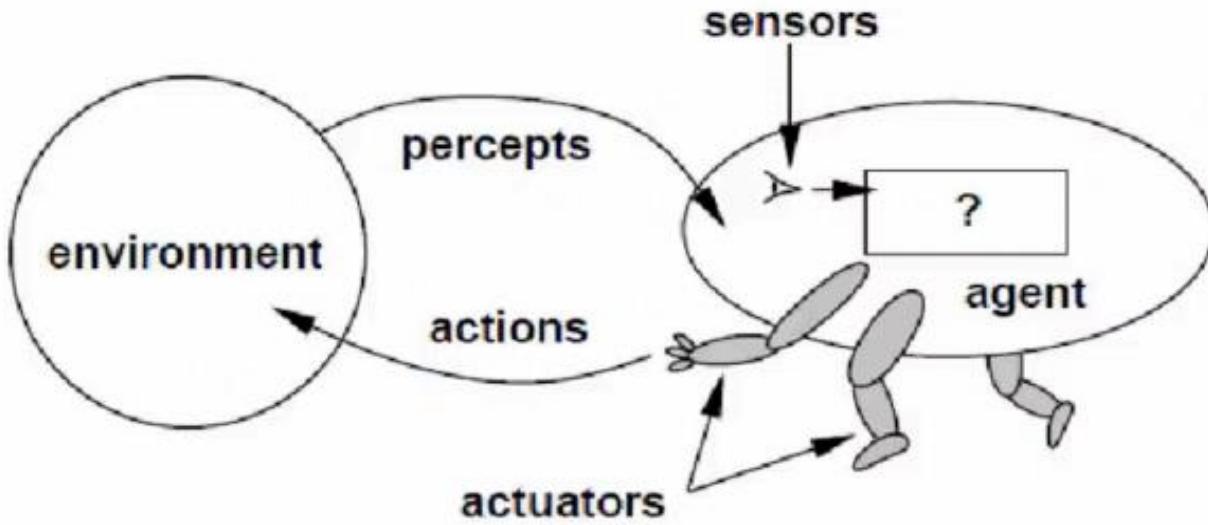
# What is AI?



*Artificial Intelligence is the study and construction of computational agents that act intelligently*



# What is an agent?



*An agent is anything that can:*

- 1) Perceive its environment through sensors*
- 2) Act on that environment via effectors/actuators*



# How do we define “intelligence”?

Thinking Rationally

Thinking Like a  
Human

Acting Rationally

Acting Like a  
Human

*Rationality: doing what maximizes the expected outcome given current information*



# How do we define “intelligence”?

Thinking Rationally

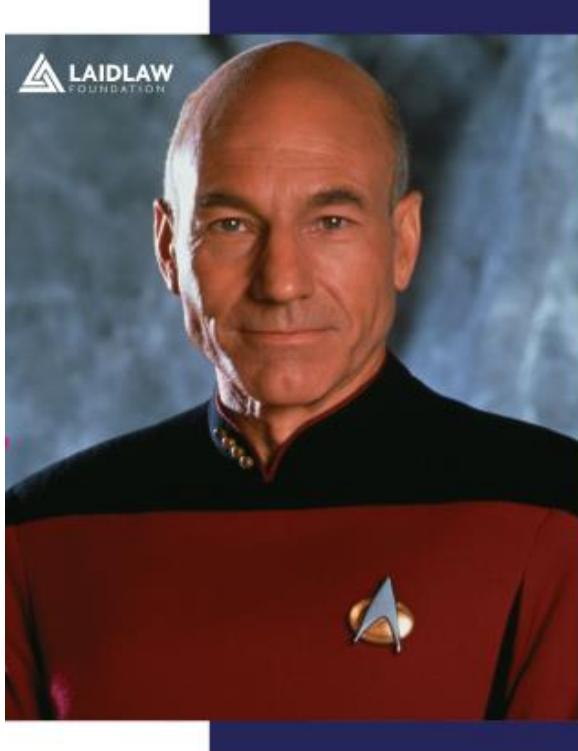
Thinking Like a  
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*Rationality: doing what maximizes the expected outcome given current information*

# How do we define “intelligence”?



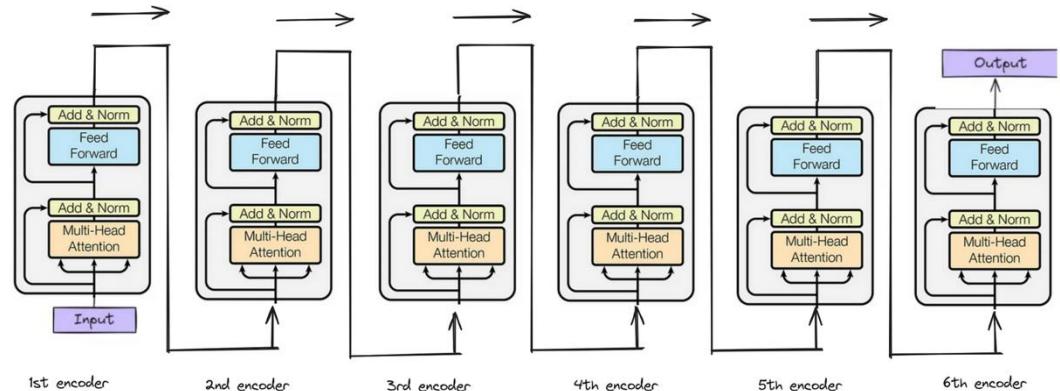
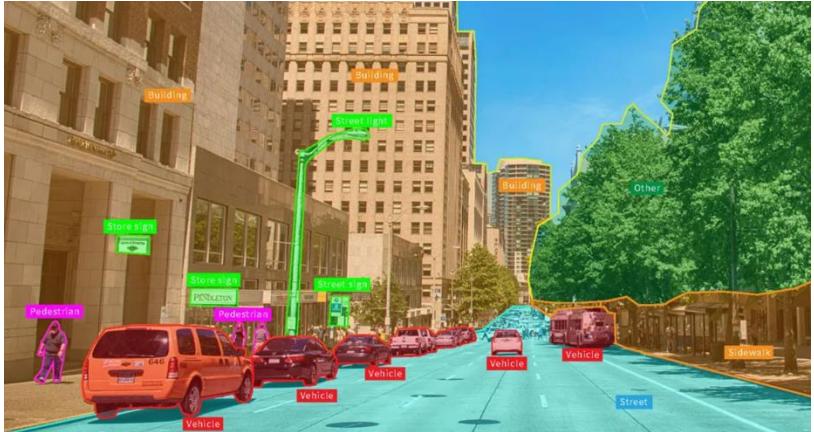
**It is possible to  
commit no mistakes  
and still lose. That  
is not a weakness;  
that is life.**

— Capt. Jean-Luc Picard

*Rationality: doing what maximizes the expected outcome given current information*



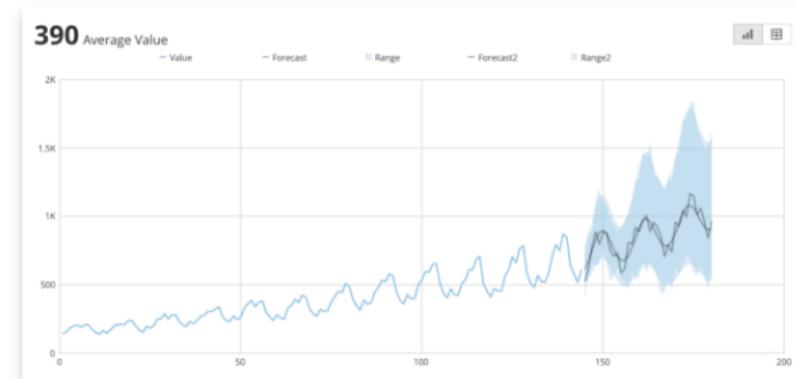
# AI is both digital and physical



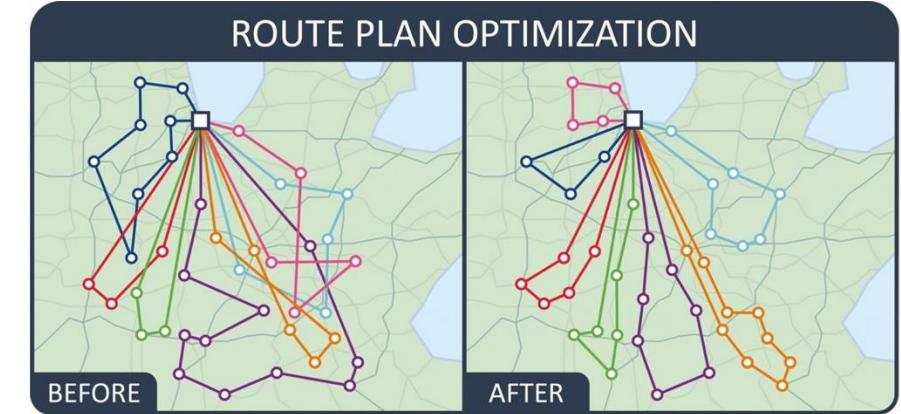
# Applications of AI: Decision-Making



Diagnosis



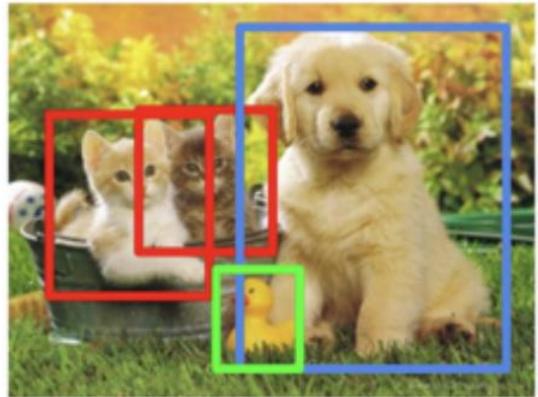
Forecasting



Travel Planning



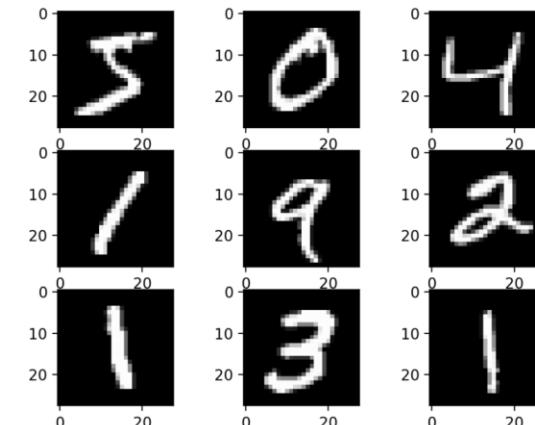
# Applications of AI: Computer Vision



Object Detection



Quality Control



Handwriting  
Recognition



# Applications of AI: Robotics



Self-driving cars



Manufacturing



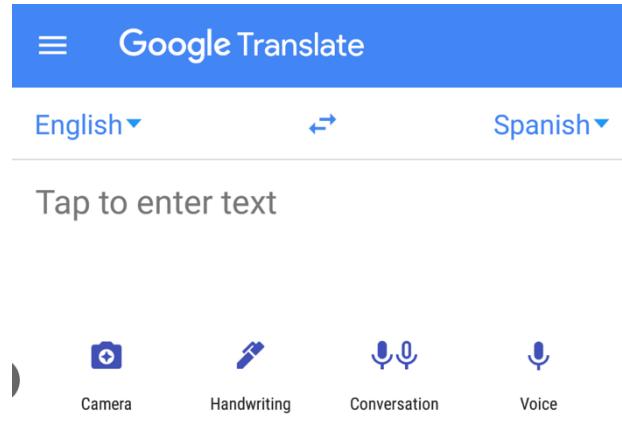
Humanoids?



# Applications of AI: NLP



ChatGPT



Translation

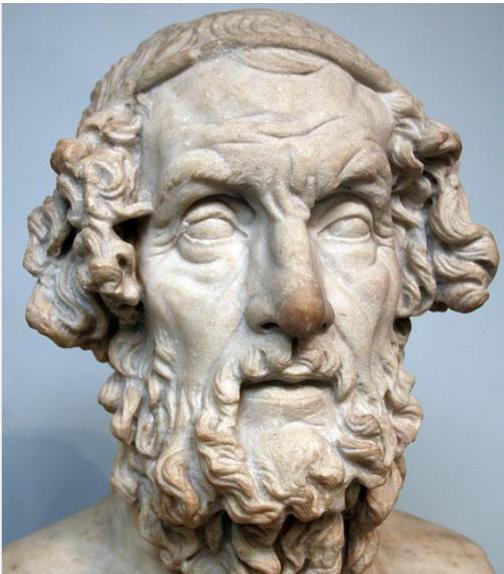


Humanoids?



# AI through history

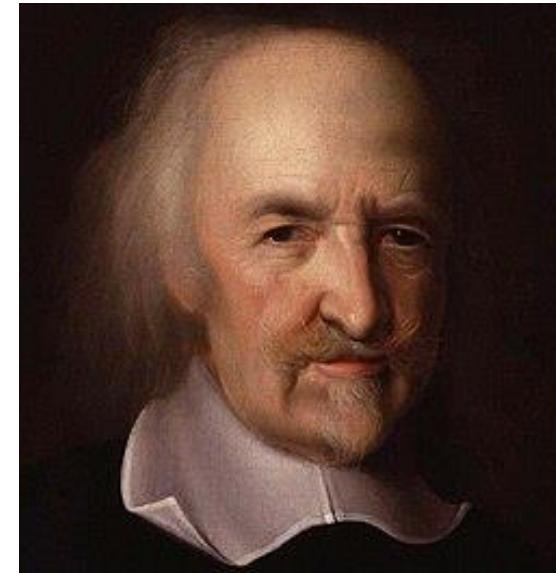
Humans have been fascinated with AI for centuries!



Homer (700 BC)



China (500 BC)



Thomas Hobbes (1600s)



# Alan Turing: the godfather of AI

*Hobbes introduced symbolic reasoning .. but Turing took it to a new level*

1. Church-Turing thesis

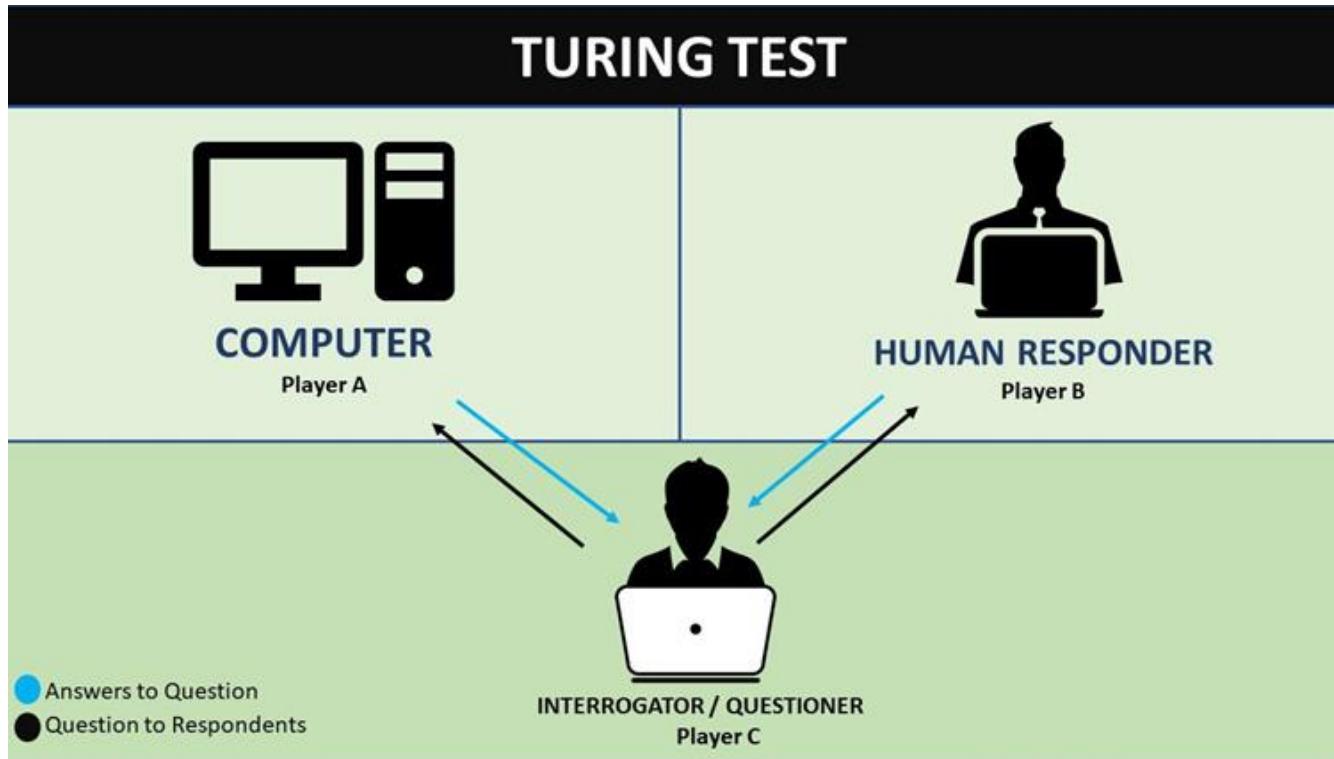
2. Turing test

3. First digital computers



# The Turing Test

Intelligence test that judges *external* behavior



# The Turing Test

Intelligence test that judges *external* behavior

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## Large Language Models Pass the Turing Test

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**Cameron R. Jones**  
Department of Cognitive Science  
UC San Diego  
San Diego, CA 92119  
cameron@ucsd.edu

**Benjamin K. Bergen**  
Department of Cognitive Science  
UC San Diego  
San Diego, CA 92119  
bkbergen@ucsd.edu

*“.. GPT-4.5 was judged to be the human 73% of the time..”*



# The Turing Test

...now what?



# “Modern” AI followed Turing

- Neural networks first proposed in 1943!
- 1956 Dartmouth conference: *the “birthplace” of AI*
- AI went through 3 boom/bust cycles over the next 70 years...we’re living in the 4<sup>th</sup> boom



# AI Boom #1: language translation (1950s)

- Cold War led to AI-driven English/Russian translation
- Georgetown-IBM experiment translated 60 Russian sentences
- Lots of funding! But it wasn't perfect...language context is off
- 1966: US Govt decides progress is too slow and cuts off funding

The first public demonstration of machine translation:  
the Georgetown-IBM system, 7th January 1954

John Hutchins<sup>1</sup>

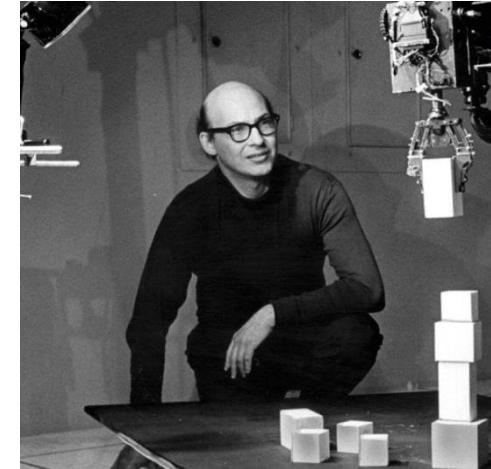
## Abstract

The public demonstration of a Russian-English machine translation system in New York in January 1954 – a collaboration of IBM and Georgetown University – caused a great deal of public interest and much controversy. Although a small-scale experiment of just 250 words and six ‘grammar’ rules it raised expectations of automatic systems capable of high quality translation in the near future. This paper describes the background motivations, the linguistic methods, and the computational techniques of the system.



# AI Boom #2: microworlds (1970s)

- What if we “shrink” the world to something manageable?
- Minsky’s “blocks” that AI could manipulate & ELIZA (first AI chatbot)
- ...turns out these smaller worlds don’t generalize usefully
- Lighthill Report (1974) – UK govt declares an “utter failure of AI to achieve its objectives”



```
Welcome to
EEEEE LL      IIII    ZZZZZZ   AAAAA
EE   LL      II      ZZ   AA   AA
EEEEE LL      II      ZZZ  AAAAAAA
EE   LL      II      ZZ   AA   AA
EEEEE LLLLLL  IIII    ZZZZZZ   AA   AA

Eliza is a mock Rogerian psychotherapist.
The original program was described by Joseph Weizenbaum in 1966.
This implementation by Norbert Landsteiner 2005.

ELIZA: Is something troubling you ?
YOU: Men are all alike.
ELIZA: What is the connection, do you suppose ?
YOU: They're always bugging us about something or other.
ELIZA: Can you think of a specific example ?
YOU: Well, my boyfriend made me come here.
ELIZA: Is it important to you that your boyfriend made you come here ?
YOU: He says I'm depressed much of the time.
ELIZA: I am sorry to hear that you are depressed.
YOU: It's true. I am unhappy.
ELIZA: Can you explain what made you unhappy ?
YOU:
```



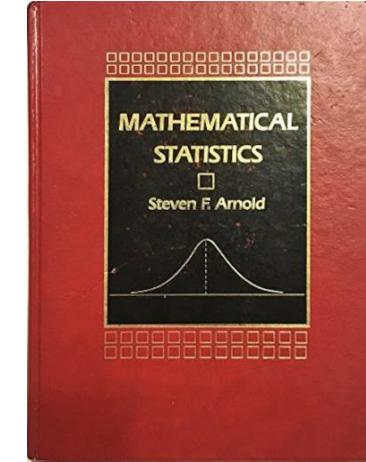
# AI Boom #3: expert systems (1980s)

- What if we encode domain expertise?
- MYCIN: Infection diagnosis
- Systems were brittle & hard to maintain. Needed costly re-training
- High-profile failures like Japan's 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Computer Systems didn't help...



# AI Boom #4: big data & deep learning

- 1990s – early 2000s:  
“statisticians are the original  
data scientists!”
- 2005+: Hadoop created to begin  
the Big Data era
- 2006: AWS launches  
(Google/MSFT Azure follow)



# AI Boom #4: big data & deep learning

*This advance in compute resources and data to train on would set the stage for a deep learning revolution!*



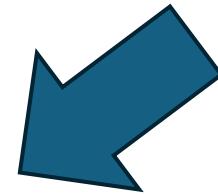
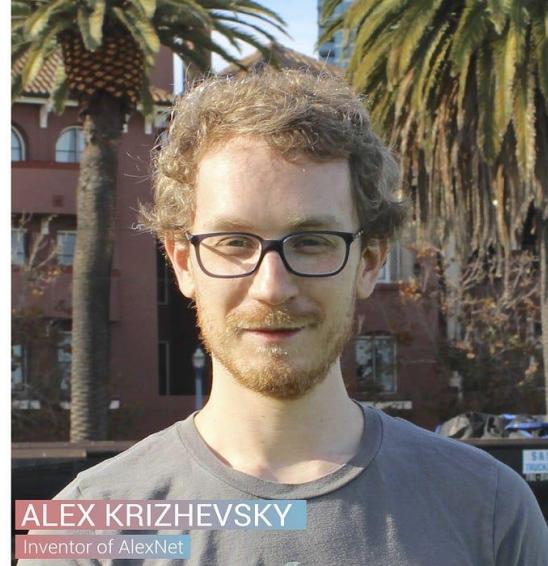
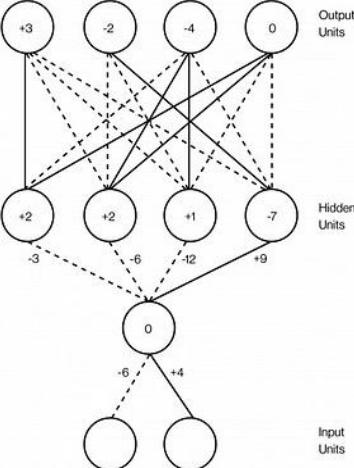
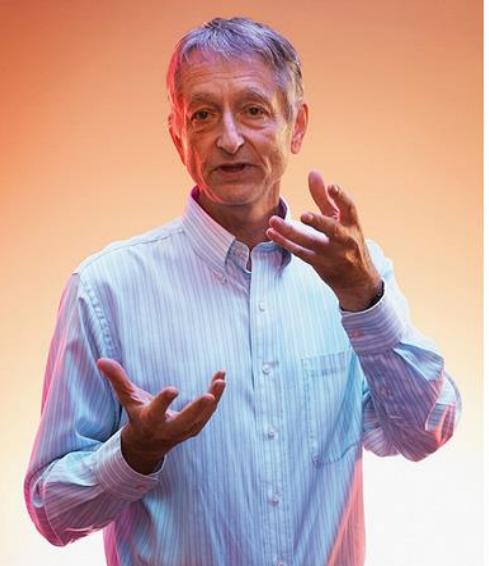
Analytics And Data Science

## Data Scientist: The Sexiest Job of the 21st Century

Meet the people who can coax treasure out of messy, unstructured data. by Thomas H. Davenport and DJ Patil

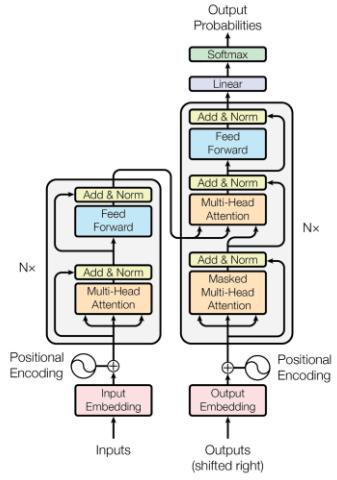


# AlexNet: the breakthrough



# The (re)surgence of deep learning

- 2014: “basically all Computer Vision is NNs”
- 2016: AlphaGo
- 2017: Transformers (BERT)
- 2020: GPT-3
- 2021: DALL-E/GH Copilot
- 2022: ChatGPT



*Our course will focus on deep learning*



# “How do I stay relevant?”



## AI Boom #2: microworlds (1970s)

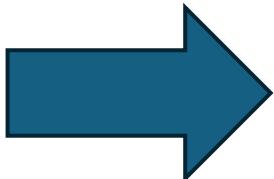
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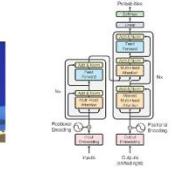
ELIZA is something troubling you?  
Men are all alike.  
ELIZA: I'm sorry, do you suppose ?  
They're always bugging us about something or other.  
ELIZA: My boyfriend made me come here.  
ELIZA: Is he a doctor? No, he's a lawyer.  
ELIZA: I am sorry to hear that you are depressed.  
ELIZA: Can you explain what made you unhappy ?

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## The (re)surgence of deep learning

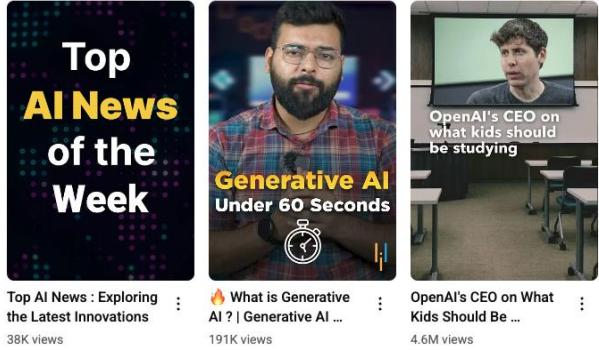
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University of San Diego



# “How do I stay relevant?”



**towards**  
data science

The world's leading publication for data science, AI, and ML professionals.

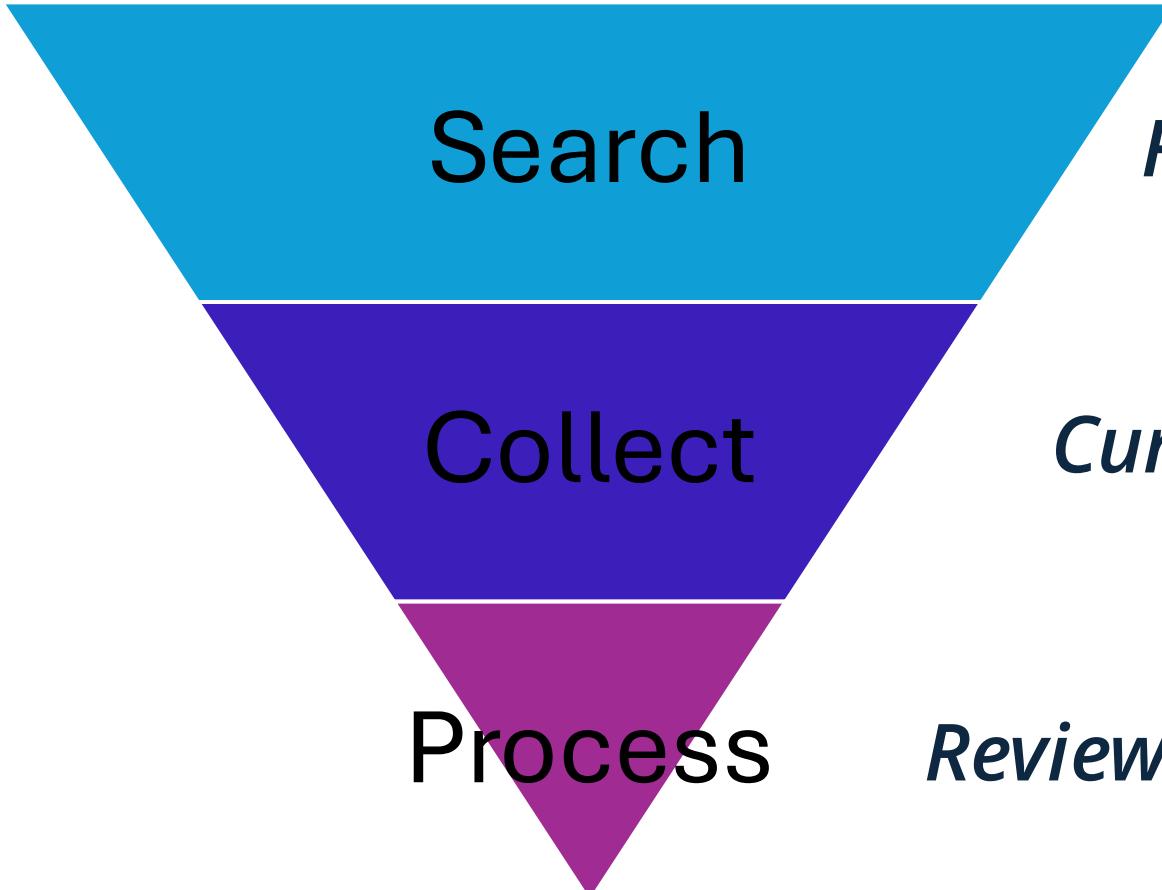
LATEST   EDITOR'S PICKS   DEEP DIVES   CONTRIBUTE   |   NEWSLETTER



*Staying up to date is essential for career relevance and project success.. but we often miss insights, waste time & lose motivation*



# Search, Collect, Process



*Find high quality sources*

*Curate relevant articles*

*Review at the right level*



# Search: *find high-quality sources*

## 1) Tech company sites

- *AI @ Meta, Netflix Tech Blog*

## 2) Aggregator platforms

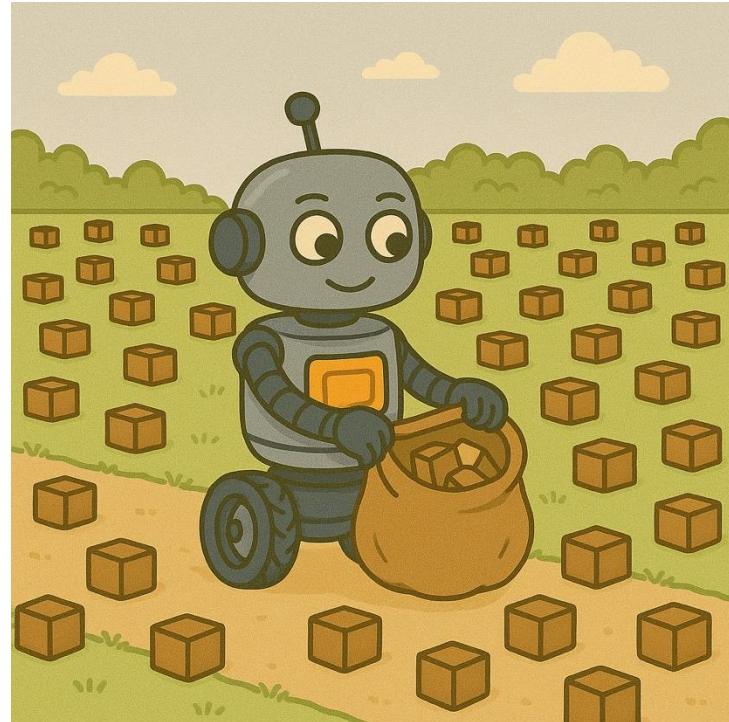
- *Towards Data Science, KD Nuggets*

## 3) Personal experts

- *Andrej Karpathy, Andrew Gelman*

## 4) YouTube

- *3blue1brown, Google Cloud Tech*



# Collect: *curate relevant articles*

1. Put all your sources into one place

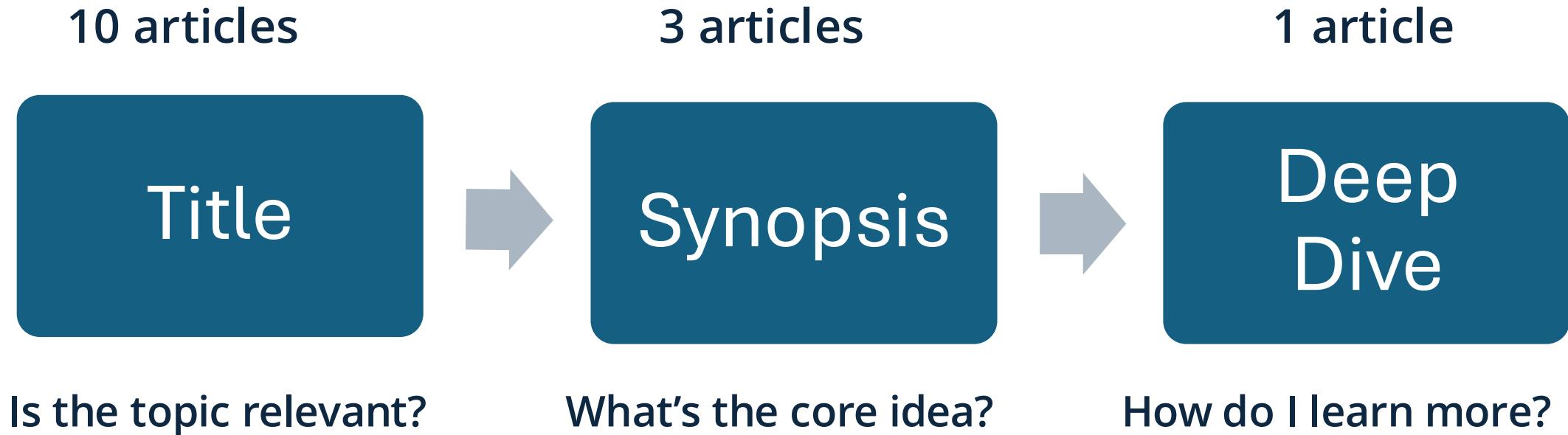
2. Define a “review cadence”



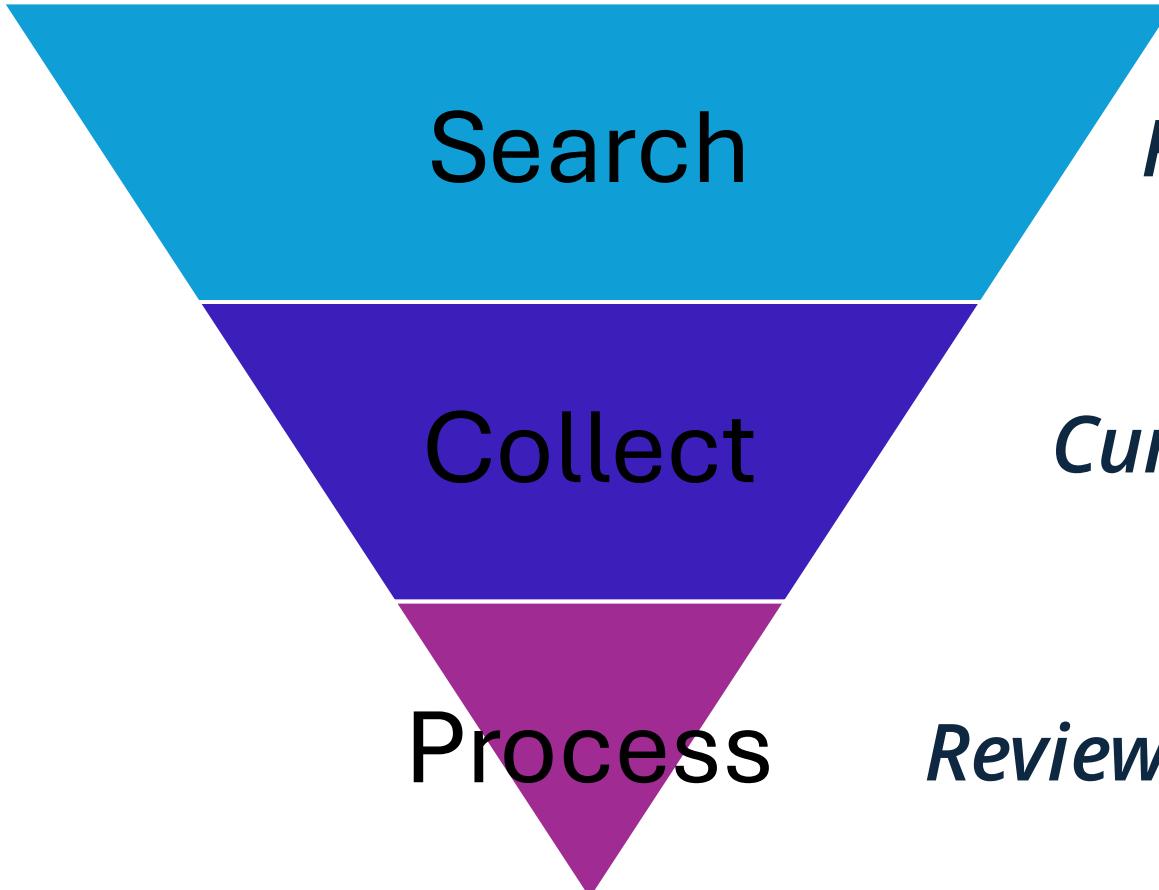
A screenshot of a mobile application interface titled "Data science". It shows a list of articles with small thumbnail images and titles. The first article is "No Code Workflow Orchestrator for Building Batch &amp; Streaming Pipelines at Scale" from Uber Engineering Blog. The second is "Data Science Volunteering: Ways to Help" from KDnuggets. The third is "Scaling Netflix's API via GraphQL Federation (#2)" from Netflix TechBlog. The fourth is "10 Python Skills They Don't Teach in Bootcamp" from KDnuggets. The fifth is "Run shell commands and orchestrate Compute Engine VMs with Cloud Workflows" from Google Cloud - Community. A speaker icon in the bottom right corner indicates the video is audio-enabled.



# Process: filter for learning



# Search, Collect, Process



*Find high quality sources*

*Curate relevant articles*

*Review at the right level*



# GenAI: the next frontier

- Wider search net
- Generative AI summaries & tutoring
- NotebookLM: *game changer*



# *NotebookLM demo*



# Article summary prompt template

Visit this URL: [PASTE URL]

Summarize the article for a Chief AI Officer. Format the response with:

- 3-sentence summary
- Strategic insight for enterprise AI adoption
- 2 questions to ask your AI/data team
- Notable quotes or data points (if any)



# Weekly update prompt template

Search for the top 5 new articles this week related to:  
"enterprise LLM deployment" OR "AI infrastructure" OR  
"generative AI use cases"

For each article, summarize with:

- Title and source
- 2-sentence summary
- One strategic insight or trend
- Link to the article



# Competitive intel prompt template

Visit this URL: [COMPETITOR PRODUCT RELEASE OR BLOG POST]

Summarize with:

- What is being released or announced?
- How it positions the company strategically
- Any implications for our product/data/infra strategy
- What makes this announcement technically or commercially significant



# Weekly Literature Review

Each week, you will be asked to review one technology-related article published in the last 7 days. In order to do so, you will need to have identified and curated a collection of sources to pull from – the “Collect” from the “Search, Collect, Process” reviewed in class.

Identify at least 5 information sources you plan to monitor during this course (tech sites, news aggregators, company blogs, etc), and explain why you chose them.

Set up your “Collect” workflow and document the technical architecture. This could be as simple as a ChatGPT subscription coupled with manual RSS feeds, or an all-in-one automated solution. Include the cadence with which you plan to review this workflow.

