

Computing in Context: Fall 2024

Lecture 10 | Intro to ML for Healthcare

Section I : Introduction & Overview

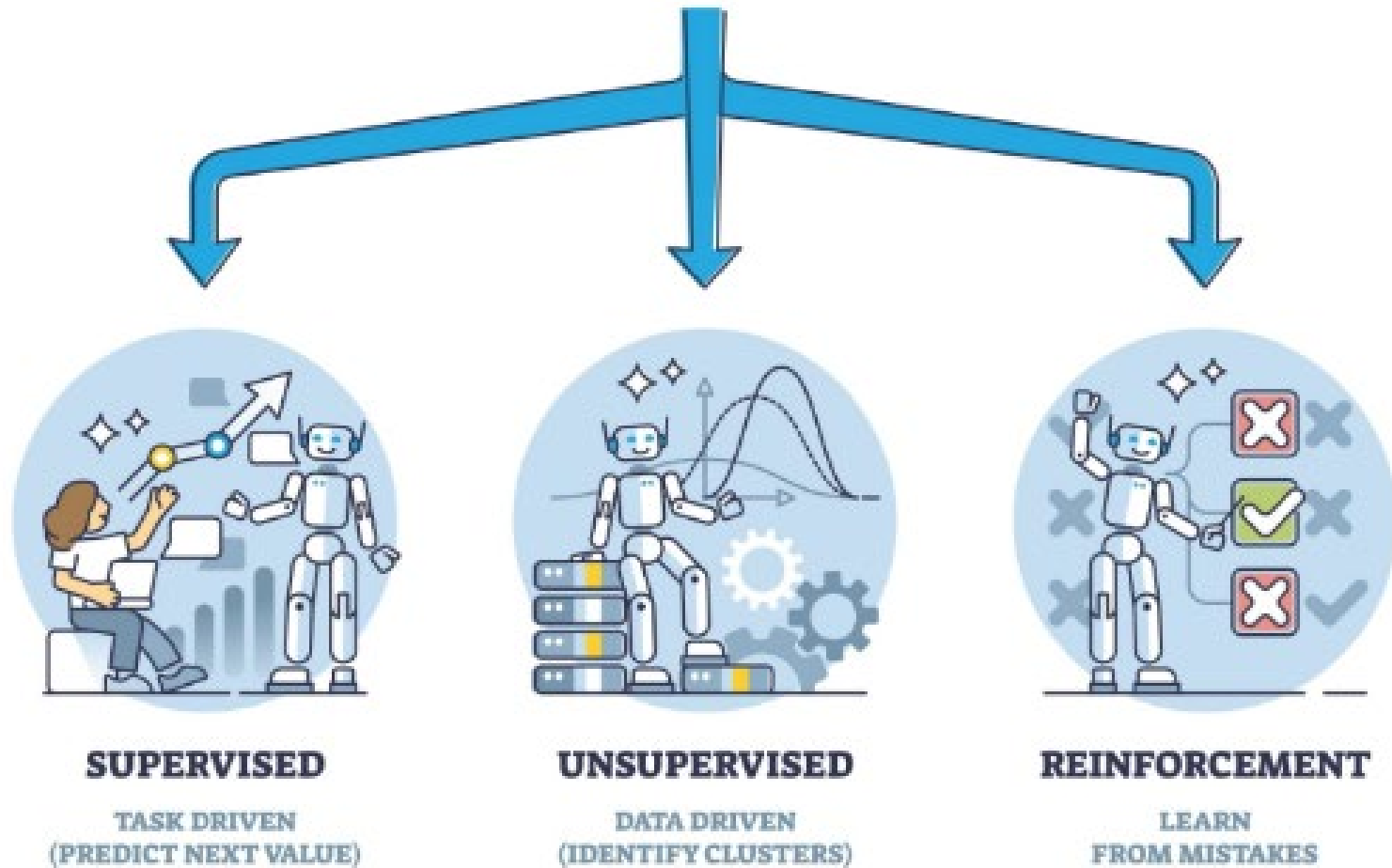
What is Machine Learning?

- Machine learning (ML) enables computers to learn from data.
 - teaching a computer to recognize patterns and make predictions
 - e.g. Netflix recommendation, Spotify shuffle, etc.
- ML in healthcare works on improving diagnosis and personalized treatment
 - building predictions and suggestions based on Big Data in healthcare

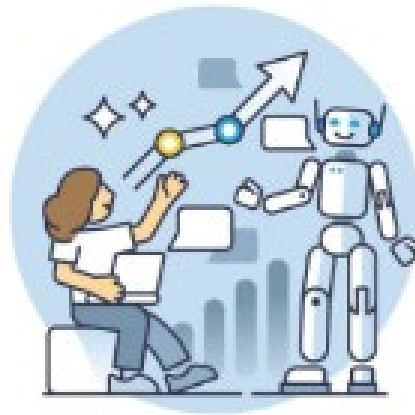
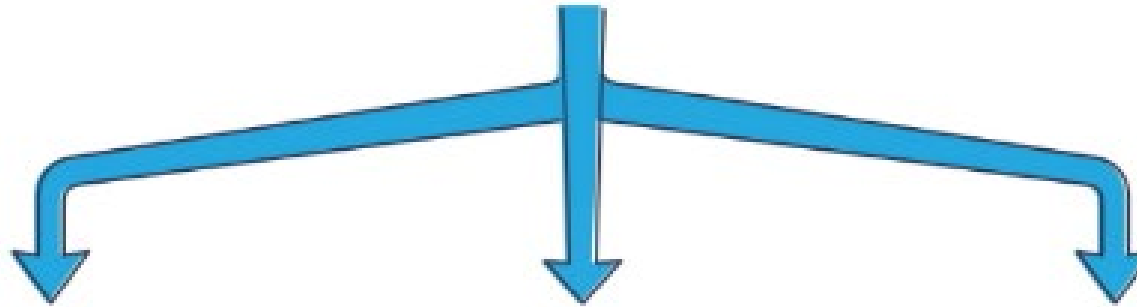
Key Terms (before we begin!)

- **Data:** Input variables like patient age, lab results.
- **Features:** Attributes used for predictions (e.g., glucose levels).
- **Labels:** Known outcomes (e.g., disease present or absent).

MACHINE LEARNING



MACHINE LEARNING



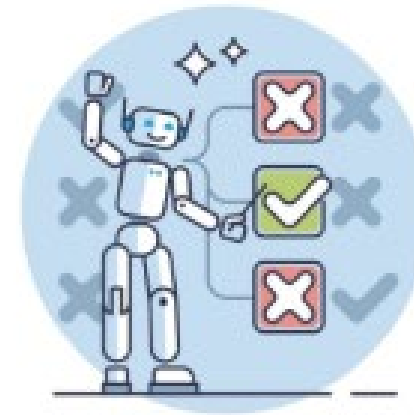
SUPERVISED

TASK DRIVEN
(PREDICT NEXT VALUE)



UNSUPERVISED

DATA DRIVEN
(IDENTIFY CLUSTERS)



REINFORCEMENT

LEARN
FROM MISTAKES

Learning Types in ML

- **Supervised Learning:** Uses labeled data
 - (e.g., diagnosing a specific disease)
- **Unsupervised Learning:** Finds patterns without labels
 - (e.g., patient segmentation/clustering).
- **Reinforcement Learning:** Learns from outcomes to make decisions
 - (e.g., treatment recommendations).

Why Healthcare Needs Machine Learning

Big Picture:

- Rapid analysis of large datasets for faster, more accurate decisions.
- Potential to improve patient outcomes and reduce healthcare costs.

Down in the details:

- Faster Diagnoses: Analyze medical images in seconds.
- Predictive Analytics: Forecast disease progression.
- Personalized Medicine: Tailor treatments based on genetics.
- Operational Efficiency: Optimize hospital workflows.

Real world impact



► Endocrinol Metab (Seoul). 2024 Jun 10;39(3):416–424. doi: [10.3803/EnM.2023.1913](https://doi.org/10.3803/EnM.2023.1913) [↗](#)

Artificial Intelligence Applications in Diabetic Retinopathy: What We Have Now and What to Expect in the Future

[Mingui Kong](#)¹, [Su Jeong Song](#)^{1,2}, [✉](#)

► [Author information](#) ► [Article notes](#) ► [Copyright and License information](#)

PMCID: PMC11220221 PMID: [38853435](#)

Real world impact



► Appl Clin Inform. 2020 Sep 2;11(4):570–577. doi: [10.1055/s-0040-1715827](https://doi.org/10.1055/s-0040-1715827) [↗](#)

Implementation of Artificial Intelligence-Based Clinical Decision Support to Reduce Hospital Readmissions at a Regional Hospital

[Santiago Romero-Brufau](#)^{1,2,✉}, [Kirk D Wyatt](#)³, [Patricia Boyum](#)¹, [Mindy Mickelson](#)¹, [Matthew Moore](#)¹,
[Cheristi Cognetta-Rieke](#)⁴

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PMCID: PMC7467834 PMID: [32877943](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32877943/)

Section II : How ML Works

ML Workflow in Healthcare: Overview

Data Collection: EHR, imaging, genomics.

Data Preprocessing: Cleaning, normalization.

Model Training: Feed data into the algorithm.

Evaluation: Validate on new data.

Deployment: Integration into clinical practice.

ML Workflow in Healthcare: Rule 1

“Garbage in Garbage out”

Rule 1: *Garbage in Garbage out*

 | RESEARCH ARTICLE



Dissecting racial bias in an algorithm used to manage the health of populations

ZIAD OBERMEYER  , BRIAN POWERS, CHRISTINE VOGELI, AND SENDHIL MULLAINATHAN  [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

SCIENCE • 25 Oct 2019 • Vol 366, Issue 6464 • pp. 447-453 • DOI: [10.1126/science.aax2342](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aax2342)

 144,913  1,266



ML Workflow in Healthcare: Rule 2

“All models are wrong, but some are useful”
George Box

Rule 2: *All models are wrong*

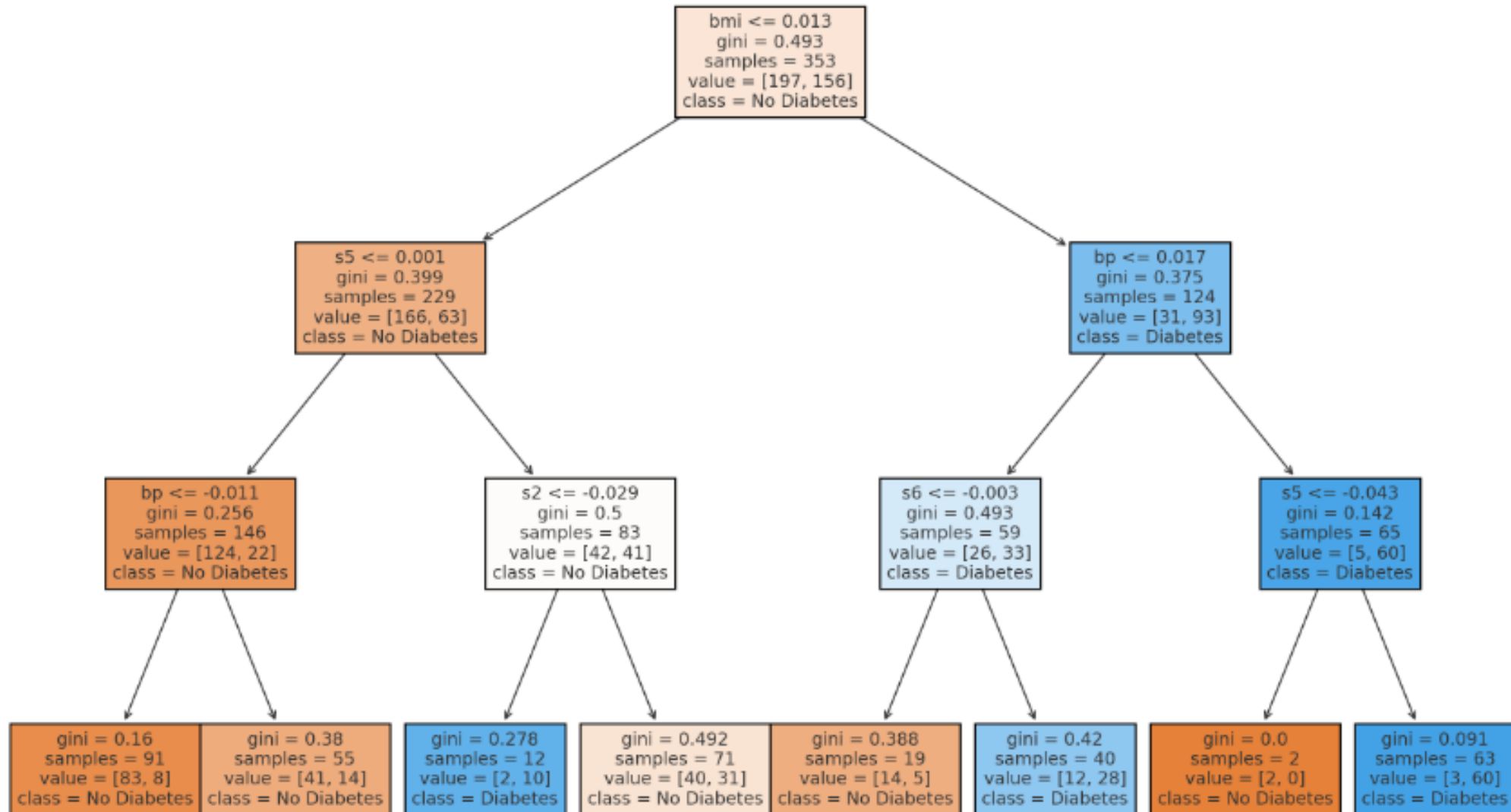
- **Decision Tree:** A simple, intuitive algorithm that splits data based on feature values into branches to make predictions.
- **Random Forest:** An ensemble of multiple decision trees to improve accuracy and reduce overfitting. It averages the predictions from many trees for a more robust result.
- **CNNs:** A type of deep learning algorithm specialized in processing grid-like data such as images. CNNs use layers of filters to automatically detect patterns and features in images.

Rule 2: *Some models are useful*

Algorithm	Key Strengths	Common Use Cases
Decision Tree/Random Forest	Interpretability, flexibility	Disease diagnosis, treatment recommendations
CNN (Convolutional Neural Network)	Image analysis, high accuracy	Medical imaging, pathology detection

Section III : Worked Example

Decision tree classifier in Python



Core ingredients of a “decision”: Splitting Criterion

- **Gini Impurity:** Measures how often a randomly chosen element would be incorrectly labeled if randomly classified based on the distribution of labels in the dataset.
- **Entropy (Information Gain):** Measures the randomness in the dataset. The algorithm selects splits that maximize **Information Gain**, which is the reduction in entropy after the split.

Key Issue:

Instability: Small changes in data can lead to different splits and different trees.

Core ingredients of a “decision”:

Stopping Criteria

- `max_depth`: Limits the depth of the tree to prevent overfitting.
- `min_samples_leaf`: The minimum number of samples that must be present in a leaf node.

Key Issue:

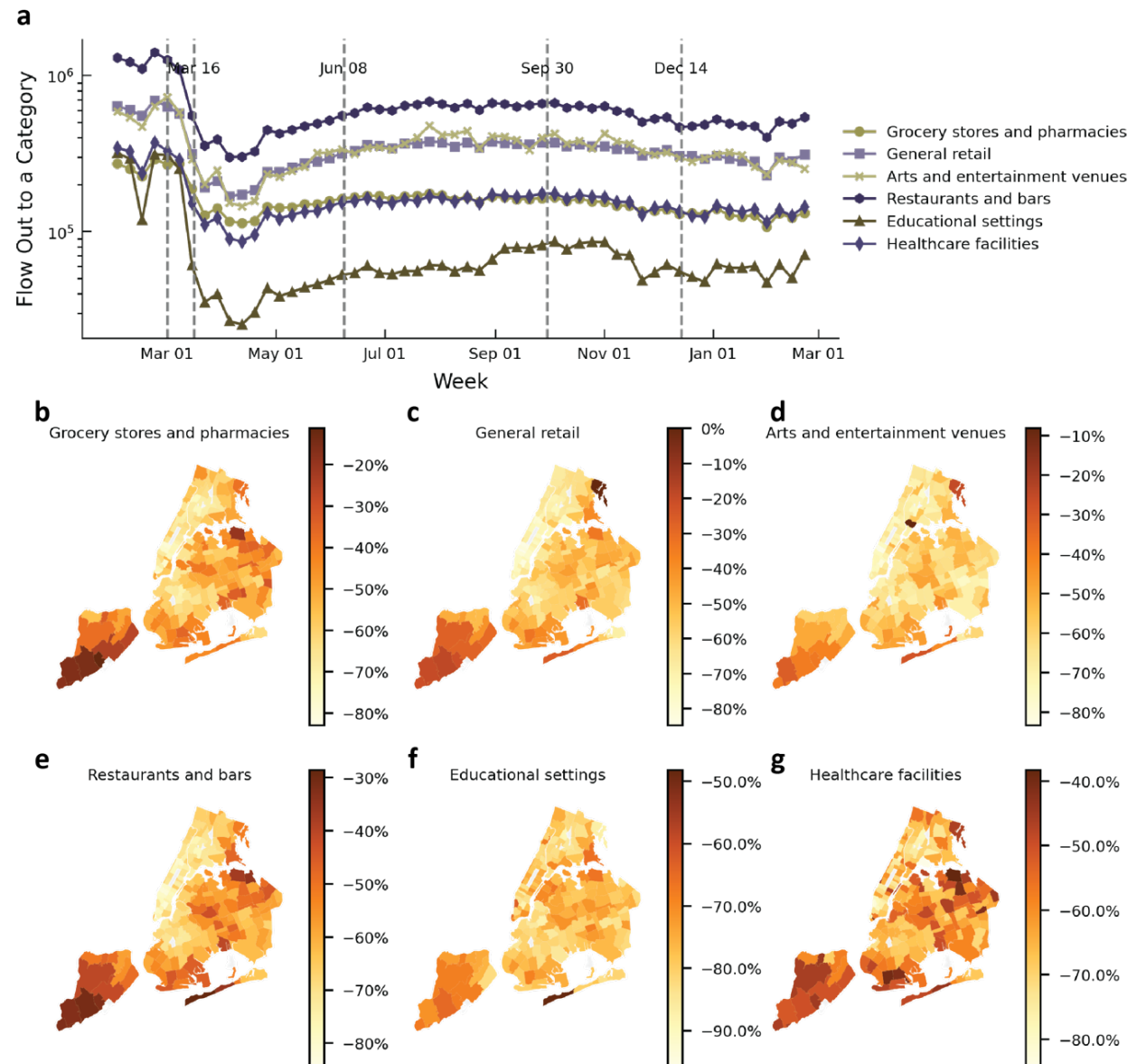
Overfitting: Decision trees can easily overfit to training data, especially if the tree is too deep.

Example in Python:

Example in my work:

Human mobility in times of crisis:

- Pandemic case study
- Across NYC zipcodes and boroughs
- Who went where, when, and why?
- Behavioral measures and agency



Example in my work:

Random Forests:

ML algorithm that combines multiple independent decision trees, each trained on a random subset of the data.

- At each split, randomly choose a subset of features to consider (no overfit)
- When making a prediction, aggregate the results from all trees by taking the majority vote (classification) or averaging (regression)

N.B: Provides a built-in mechanism to identify the most important features in the data based on how frequently they are used in the decision trees

Example in my work

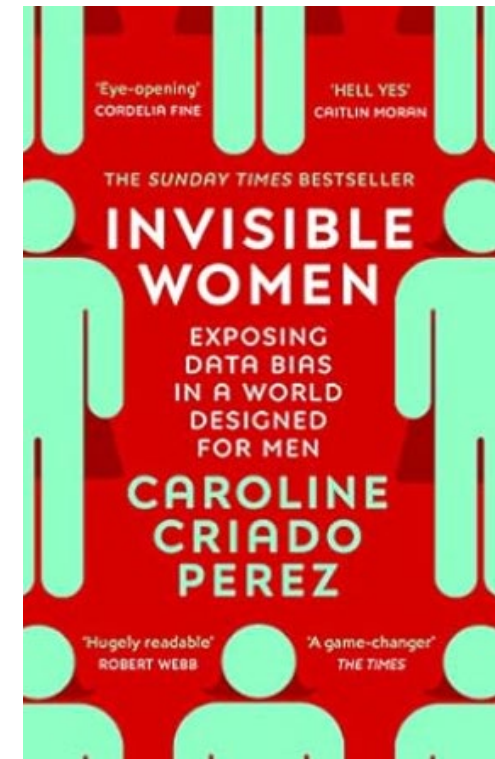
Significant ($p < 0.05$) ■ FALSE ■ TRUE



Section IV : Discussion

Discussion points:

- How could ML be applied in underserved healthcare systems?
- What ethical concerns resonate most with you?
- Where can you imagine bias emerging in ML models?



Free Resources

(aka you don't need a paid bootcamp)

- Courses:
 - [AI and Medical Diagnosis Coursera](#) (applied, light touch),
 - [ML Engineering](#) (more abstract and heavy),
- Books:
 - [Little book of ML](#) (short and sweet),
 - [Big Book of ML](#) (advanced),
 - [DeepLearning](#) (overview),
 - [d2l](#) (comprehensive DL overview),
- General/Misc:
 - [LLMs](#) (cool website for explanatory visualizations of LLMs and genAI)

Questions?