

CMSC 478  
Intro. to Machine Learning  
Spring 2024

KMA Solaiman

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# Instructor: KMA Solaiman (Salvi)

ITE 201C/Remote

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Wed 5:45 - 6:30 pm,

Thu 3 - 3:45 pm

by appointment

- Multimodal Information Retrieval
  - Vision & language processing
  - Learning with low-to-no supervision
  - Novelties in Learning Models

# Administrivia

# Course Website

WWW

Schedule, slides,  
assignments, readings,  
materials, syllabus here

<https://umbc-cmsc478.github.io/spring2024/>



**campuswire**

- Course announcements, Q&A, discussion board here
- No public code, follow posted rules and etiquette
- Assignment Submission
- Rubrics Grading
- Peer Grading

**gradescope**<sup>®</sup>  
by Turnitin

# Text

- No specific text
- Hal Duame, CIML
- Tom Mitechell
- Lecture Notes
- Website

# Academic Integrity

- Super important: I take it ***very*** seriously
- **You** are responsible for your (& your group's) own work: if in doubt, ask!
- Penalties could include 0 on the assignment, course failure, suspension, or expulsion (not exhaustive)

# Final Grades

$\geq$	Letter
90	A
80	B
70	C
60	D
0	F

# Programming Languages for Assignments

Python, though individual assignments could vary

Remember: programming languages are *tools*. Don't get too caught up in not “knowing” a language. This course will not be grading software engineering prowess.

Libraries: Assignment dependent. Generally OK, as long as you don't use their implementation of what you need to implement

If in doubt, ask first

# Late Policy

Everyone has a budget of 10 *late days*, maximum 3 per assignment

If you have them left: assignments turned in after the deadline will be graded and recorded, no questions asked

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If you don't have any left: still turn assignments in. They could count in your favor in borderline cases

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Use them as needed throughout the course

They're meant for personal reasons and **emergencies**

Do not procrastinate

# Late Policy

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Contact me privately if an extended absence will occur

**You** must know how  
many you've used

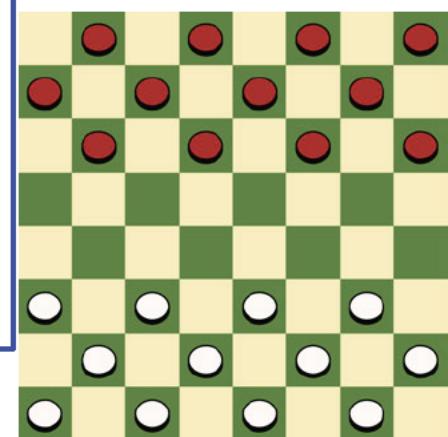
# Definition of Machine Learning

Arthur Samuel (1959): Machine Learning is the field of study that gives the computer the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed.



A. L. Samuel\*

**Some Studies in Machine Learning  
Using the Game of Checkers. II—Recent Progress**



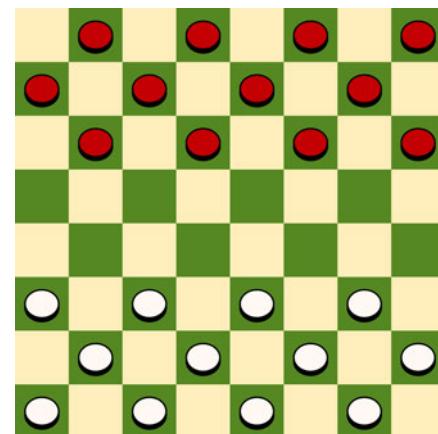
# Definition of Machine Learning

Tom Mitchell (1998): 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.



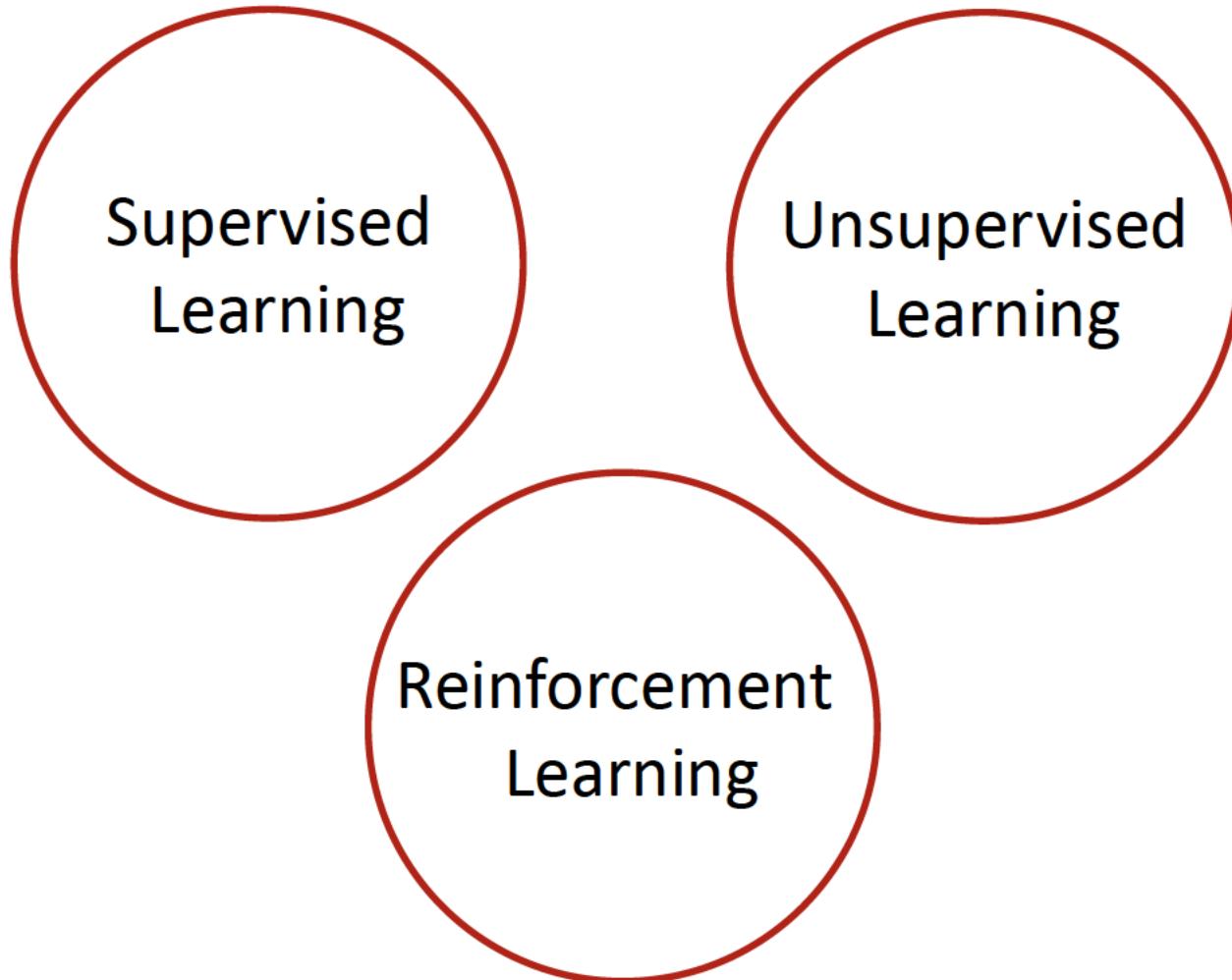
Experience (data): games played by the program (with itself)

Performance measure: winning rate



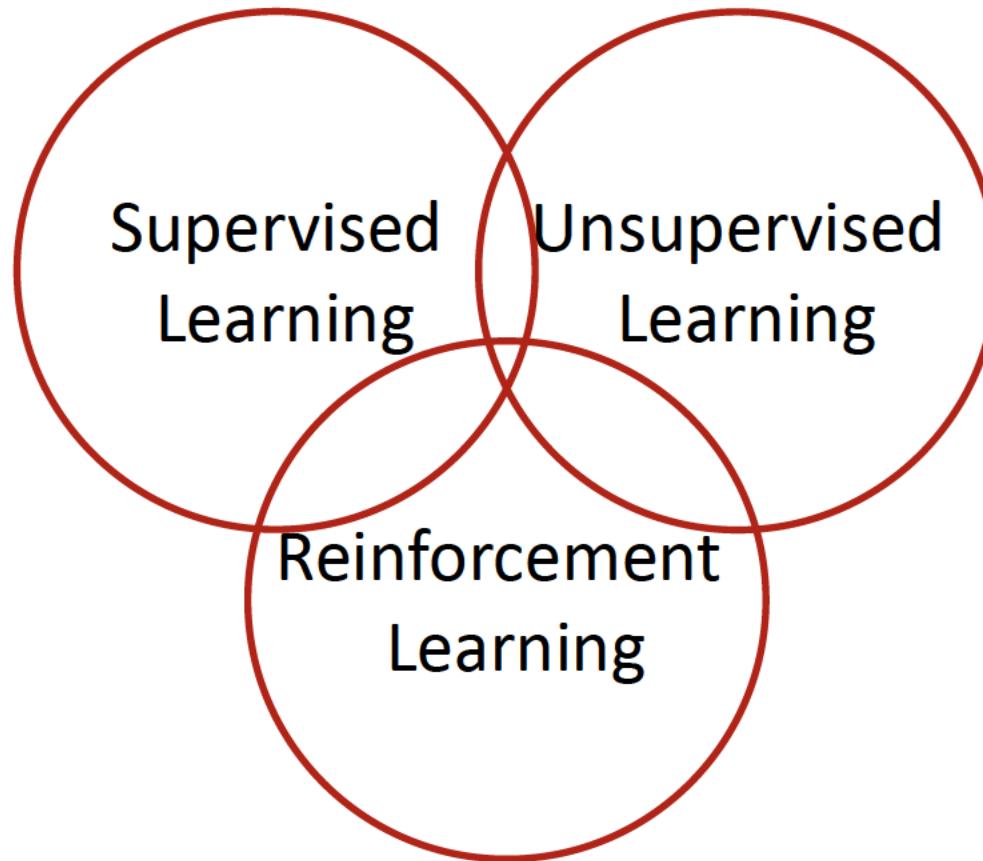
# Taxonomy of Machine Learning

## (A Simplistic View Based on Tasks)



# Taxonomy of Machine Learning

## (A Simplistic View Based on Tasks)



can also be viewed as tools/methods

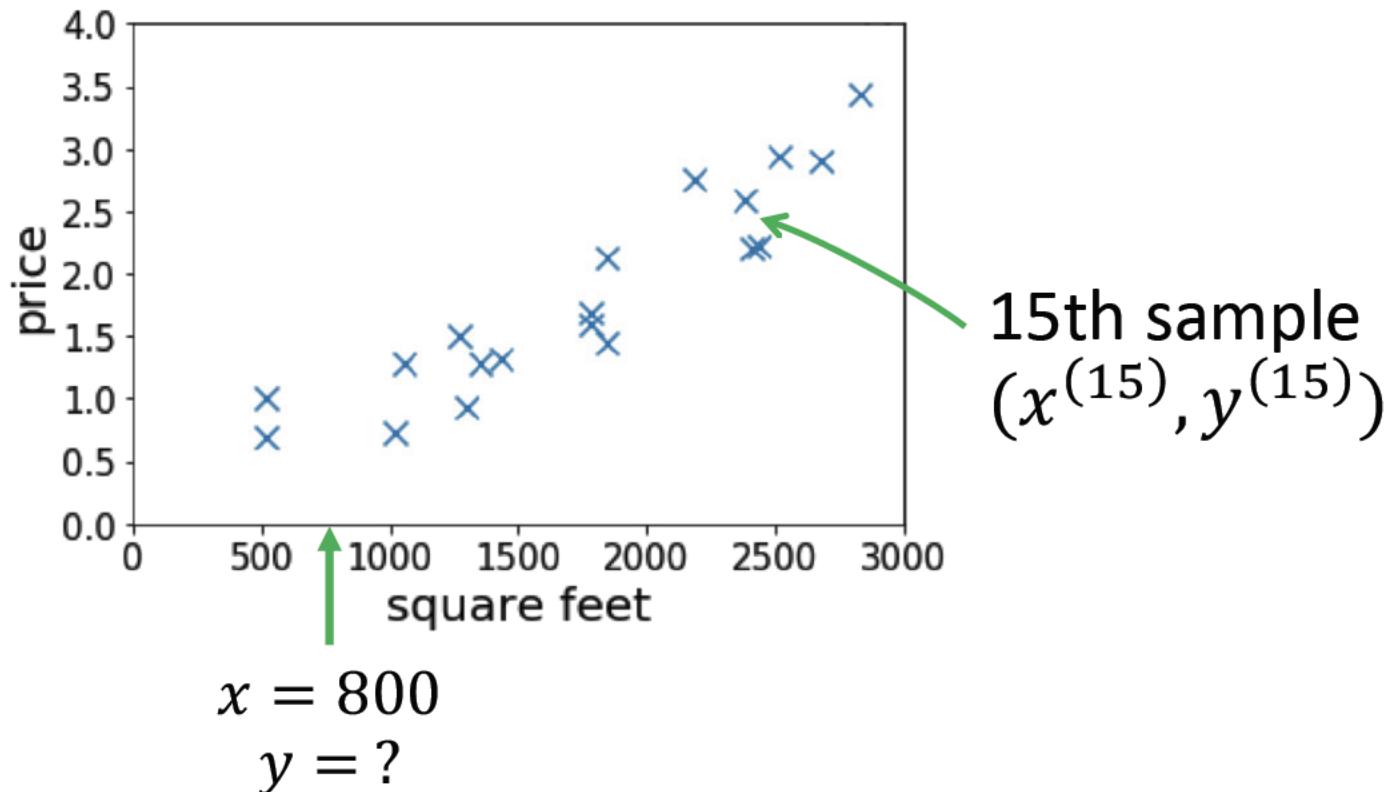
# **Supervised Learning**

# Housing Price Prediction

- Given: a dataset that contains  $n$  samples

$$(x^{(1)}, y^{(1)}), \dots (x^{(n)}, y^{(n)})$$

- Task: if a residence has  $x$  square feet, predict its price?

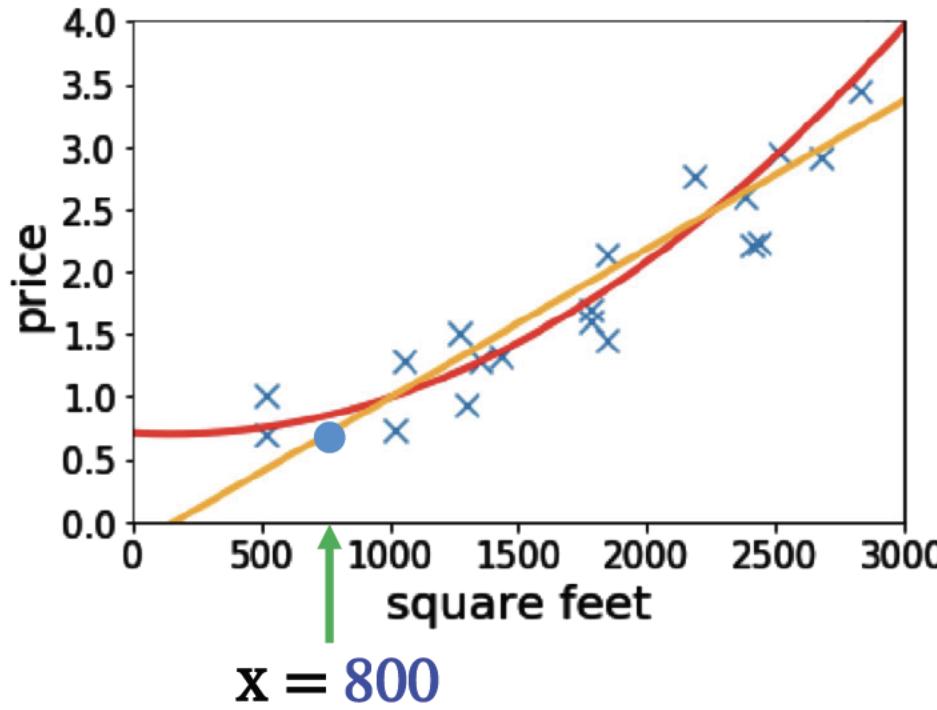


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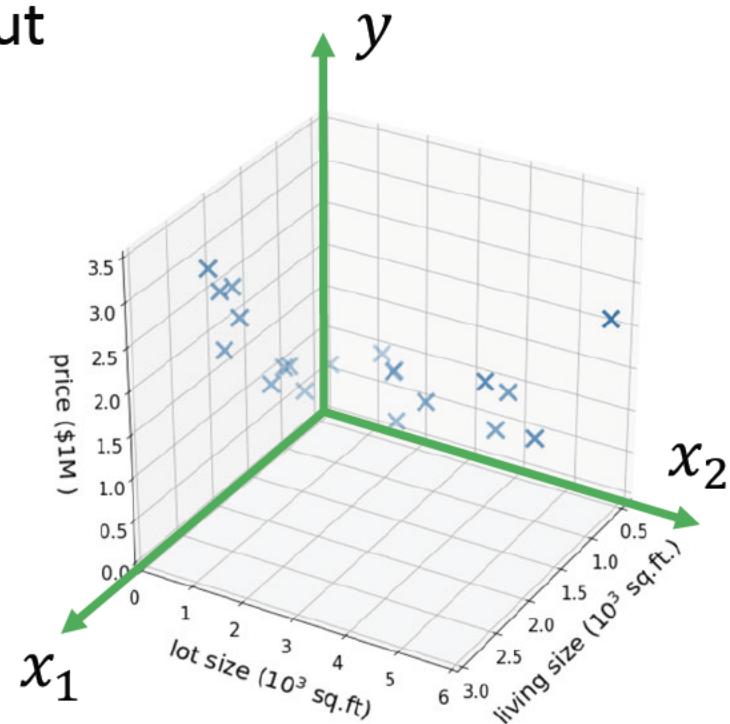
- Lecture 2&3: fitting linear/ quadratic functions to the dataset

# More Features

- Suppose we also know the lot size
  - Task: find a function that maps

The diagram illustrates a machine learning model architecture. On the left, a green bracket groups the terms "size" and "lot size" under the heading "(size, lot size)". Below this, another green bracket groups "features/input" and "x ∈ ℝ<sup>2</sup>". An arrow points from this group to the right, labeled "→". To the right of the arrow, another green bracket groups "price" and "label/output". Below this, another green bracket groups "y ∈ ℝ". This visualizes how multiple input features are mapped to a single output label.

- Dataset:  $(x^{(1)}, y^{(1)}), \dots, (x^{(n)}, y^{(n)})$   
where  $x^{(i)} = (x_1^{(i)}, x_2^{(i)})$
  - “Supervision” refers to  $y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(n)}$



# High-dimensional Features

- $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  for large  $d$

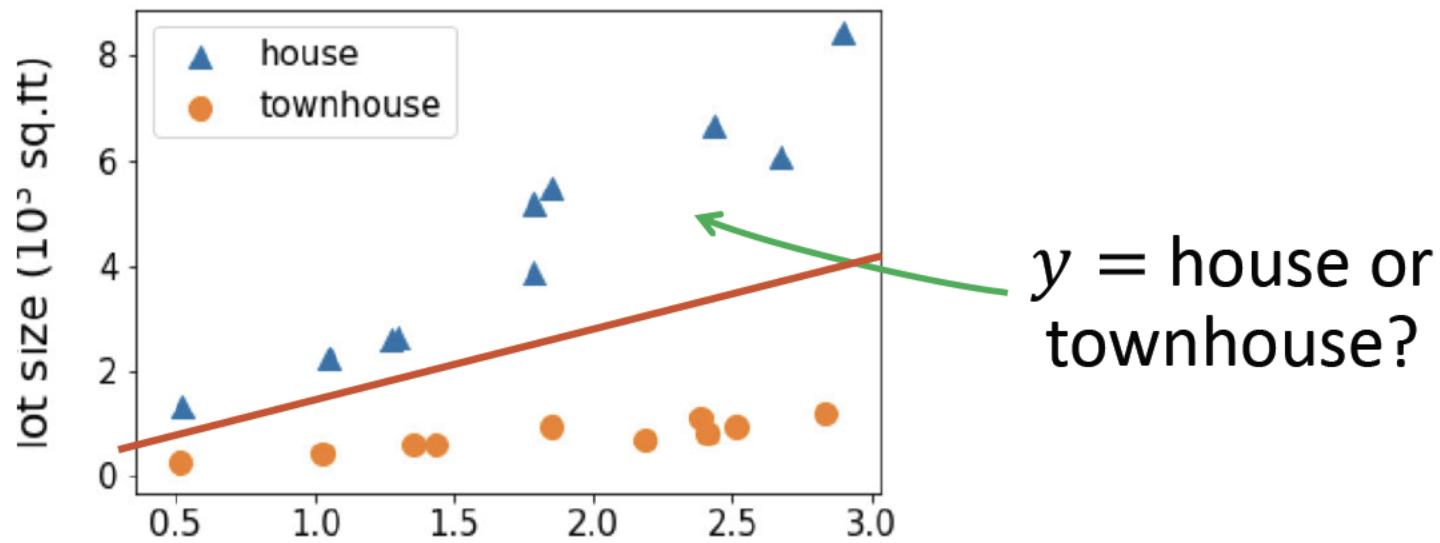
- E.g.,

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ x_d \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \text{--- living size} \\ \text{--- lot size} \\ \text{--- \# floors} \\ \text{--- condition} \\ \text{--- zip code} \\ \vdots \end{array} \xrightarrow{\hspace{2cm}} y \text{ --- price}$$

- Lecture 6-7: infinite dimensional features
- Lecture 10: select features based on the data

# Regression vs Classification

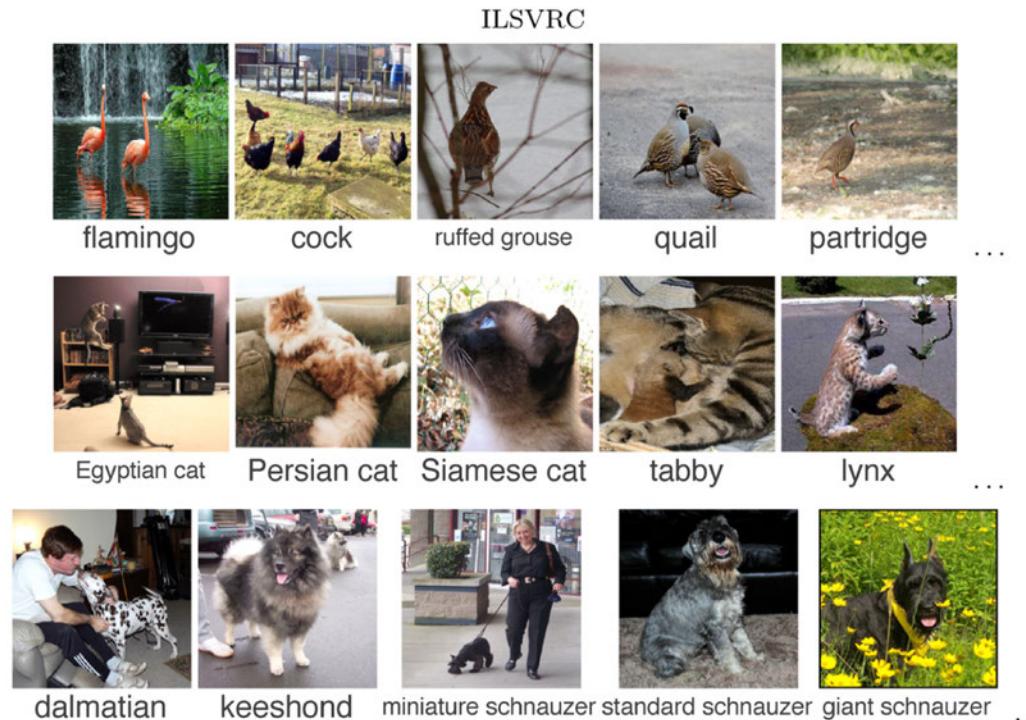
- regression: if  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous variable
  - e.g., price prediction
- classification: the label is a discrete variable
  - e.g., the task of predicting the types of residence  
(size, lot size) → house or townhouse?



Lecture 3&4:  
classification

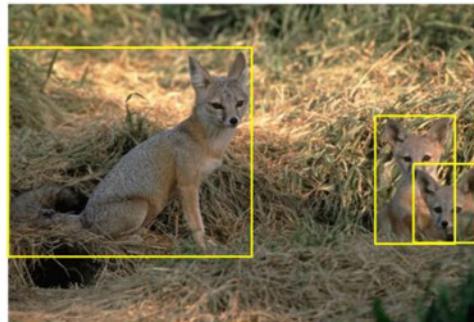
# Supervised Learning in Computer Vision

- Image Classification
  - $x$  = raw pixels of the image,  $y$  = the main object

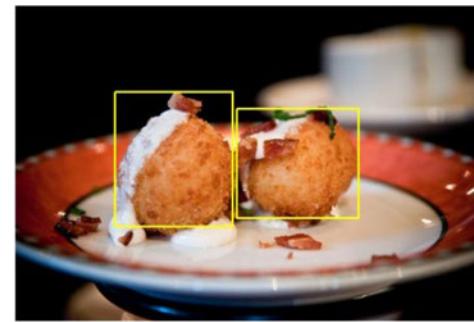


# Supervised Learning in Computer Vision

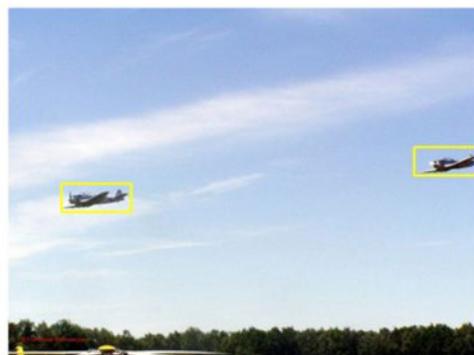
- Object localization and detection
- $x$  = raw pixels of the image,  $y$  = the bounding boxes



kit fox



croquette



airplane

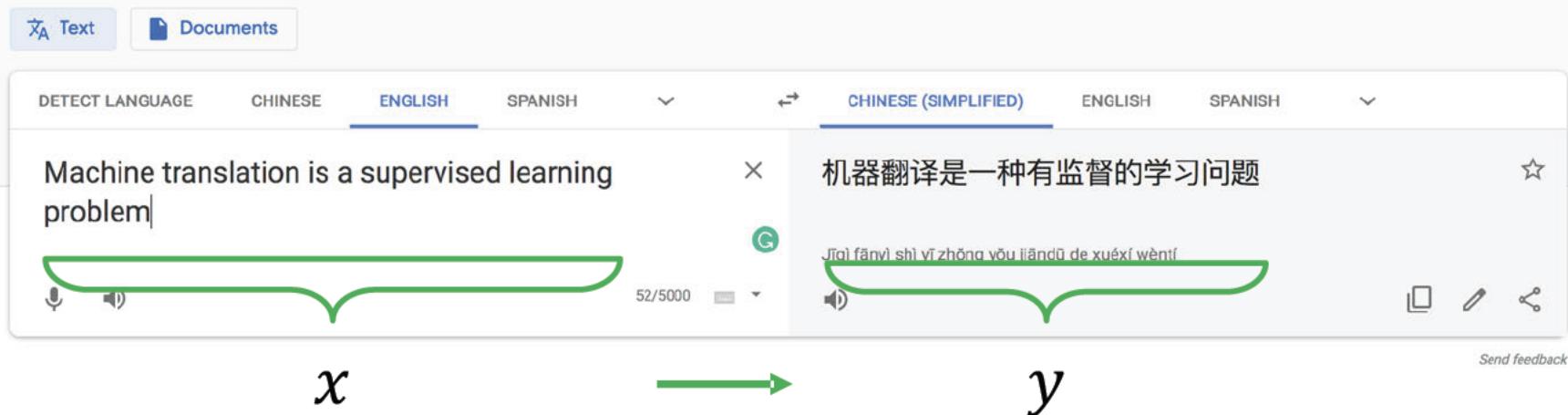


frog

# Supervised Learning in Natural Language Processing

## ➤ Machine translation

Google Translate

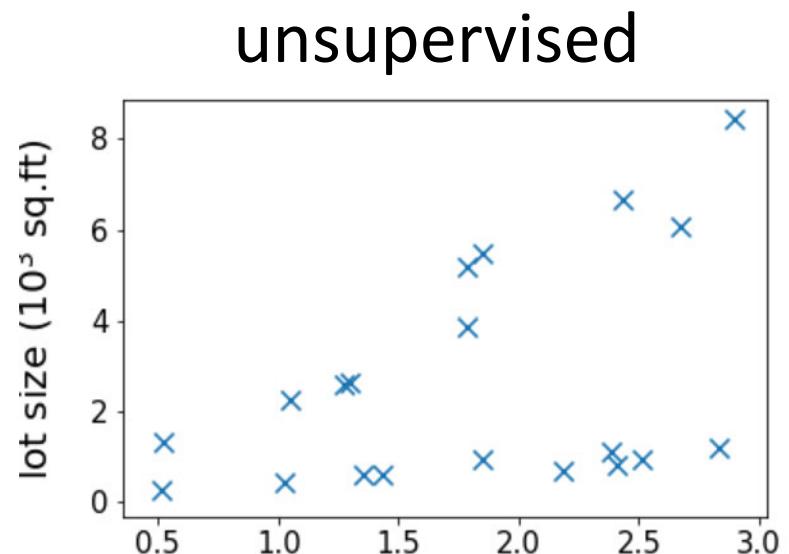
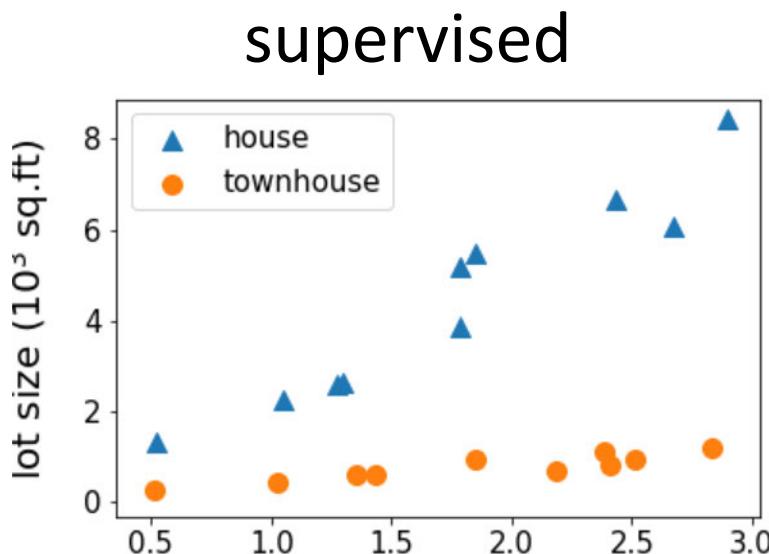


➤ Note: this course only covers the basic and fundamental techniques of supervised learning

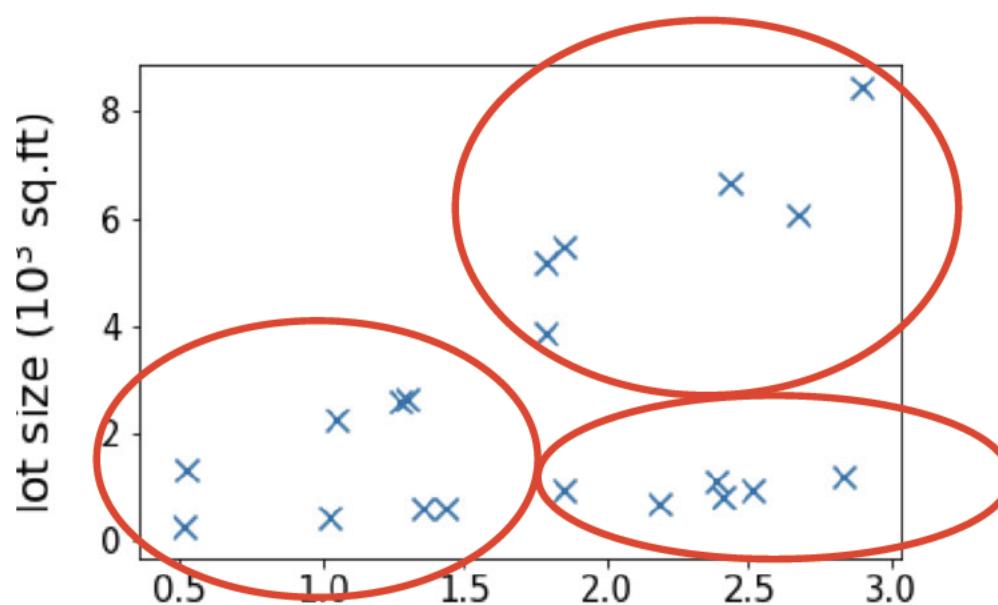
# **Unsupervised Learning**

# Unsupervised Learning

- Dataset contains **no labels**:  $x^{(1)}, \dots x^{(n)}$
- **Goal** (vaguely-posed): to find interesting structures in the data

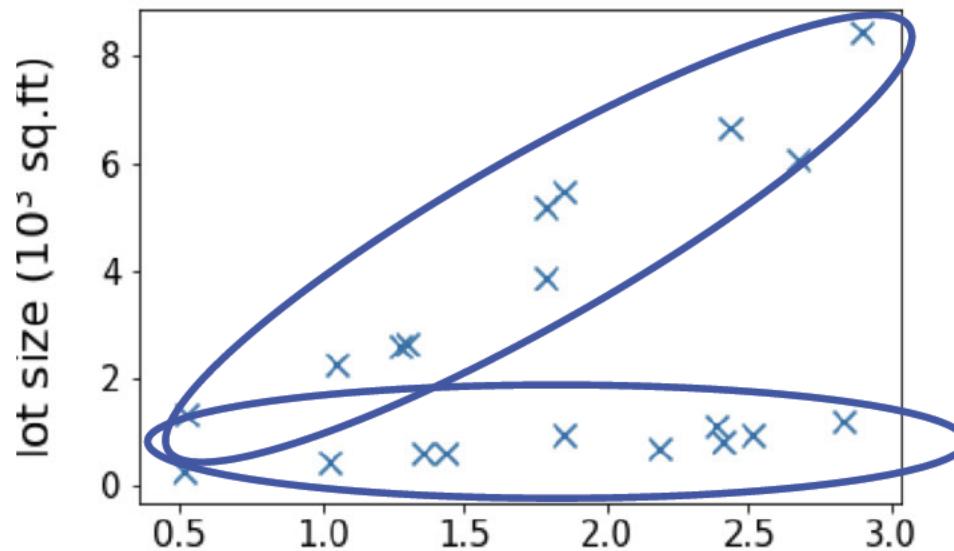


# Clustering



# Clustering

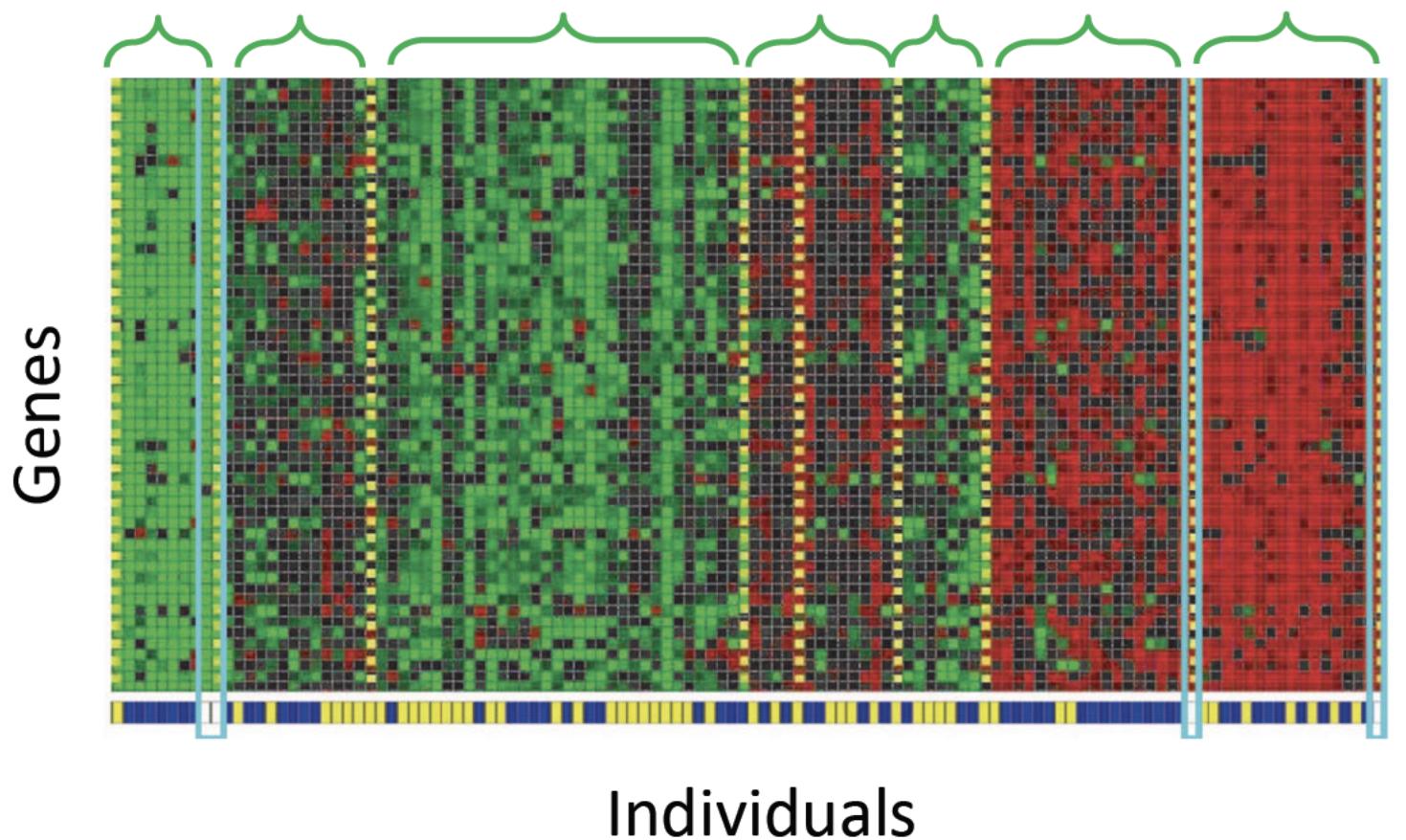
➤ Lecture 12&13: k-mean clustering, mixture of Gaussians



# Clustering Genes

Cluster 1

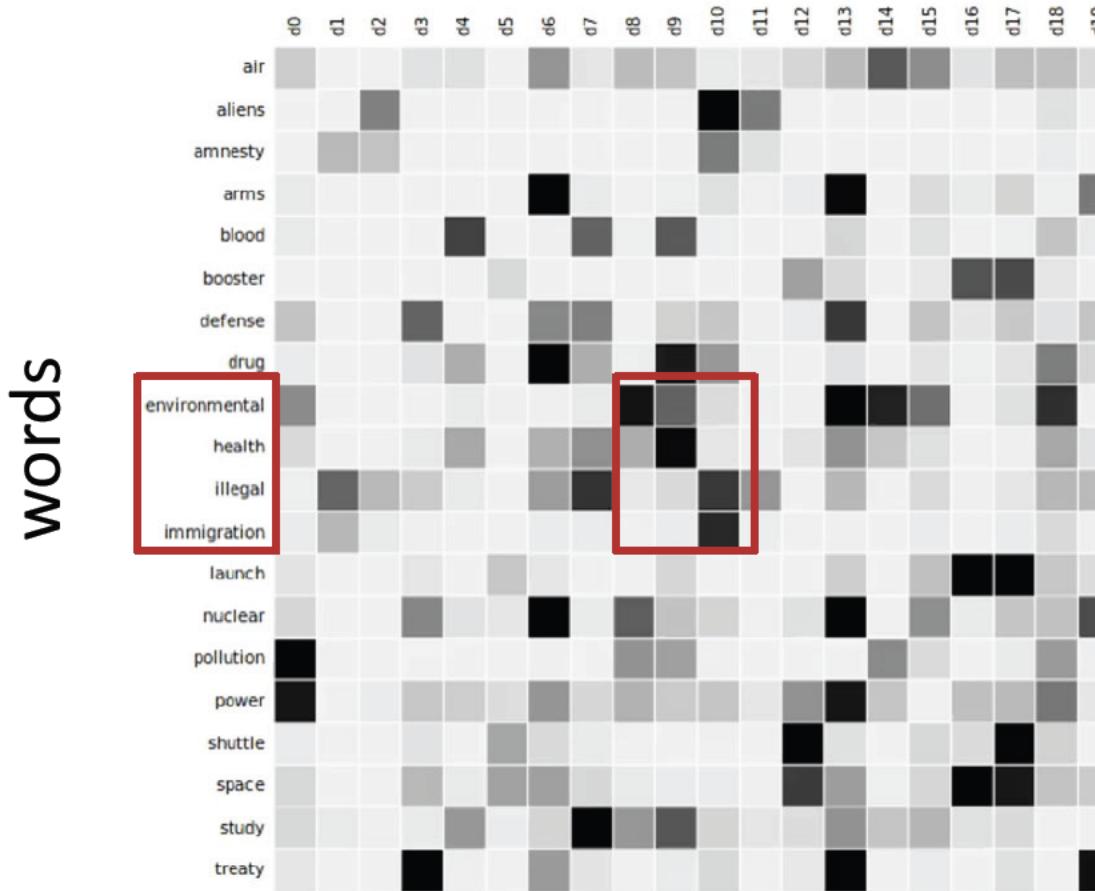
Cluster 7



Identifying Regulatory Mechanisms using Individual Variation Reveals Key Role for Chromatin Modification. [Su-In Lee, Dana Pe'er, Aimee M. Dudley, George M. Church and Daphne Koller. '06]

# Latent Semantic Analysis (LSA)

## documents



- Lecture 14: principal component analysis (tools used in LSA)

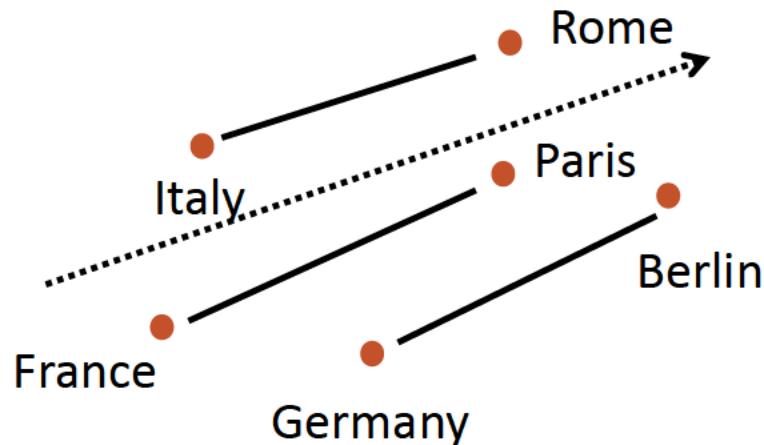
Image credit: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Topic\\_detection\\_in\\_a\\_document-word\\_matrix.gif](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Topic_detection_in_a_document-word_matrix.gif)

# Word Embeddings



Represent words by vectors

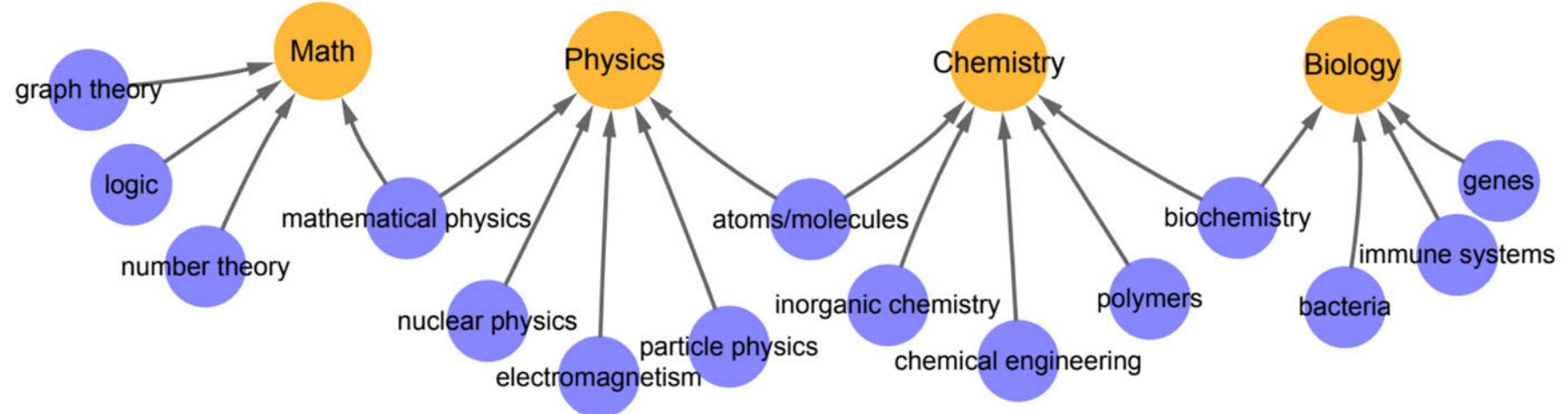
- word      encode → vector
- relation    encode → direction



Unlabeled dataset

Word2vec [Mikolov et al'13]  
GloVe [Pennington et al'14]

# Clustering Words with Similar Meanings (Hierarchically)



	logic deductive propositional semantics	graph subgraph bipartite vertex	boson massless particle higgs	polyester polypropylene resins epoxy	acids amino biosynthesis peptide
tag	<i>logic</i>	<i>graph theory</i>	<i>particle physics</i>	<i>polymer</i>	<i>biochemistry</i>

# Large Language Models (Lecture 16)

- machine learning models for language learnt on large-scale language datasets
- can be used for many purposes

SYSTEM PROMPT (HUMAN-WRITTEN)	<p><i>In a shocking finding, scientist discovered a herd of unicorns living in a remote, previously unexplored valley, in the Andes Mountains. Even more surprising to the researchers was the fact that the unicorns spoke perfect English.</i></p>
MODEL COMPLETION (MACHINE-WRITTEN, 10 TRIES)	<p>The scientist named the population, after their distinctive horn, Ovid's Unicorn. These four-horned, silver-white unicorns were previously unknown to science.</p> <p>Now, after almost two centuries, the mystery of what sparked this odd phenomenon is finally solved.</p> <p>Dr. Jorge Pérez, an evolutionary biologist from the University of La Paz, and several companions, were exploring the Andes Mountains when they found a small valley, with no other animals or humans. Pérez noticed that the valley had what appeared to be a natural fountain, surrounded by two peaks of rock and silver snow.</p> <p>Pérez and the others then ventured further into the valley. "By the time we reached the top of one peak, the water looked blue, with some crystals on top," said Pérez.</p> <p>Pérez and his friends were astonished to see the unicorn herd. These creatures could be seen from the air without having to move too much to see them – they were so close they could touch their horns.</p>

Language Models are Few-Shot Learners [Brown et al.'20]  
<https://openai.com/blog/better-language-models/>

# Reinforcement Learning

- Learning to make sequential **decisions**



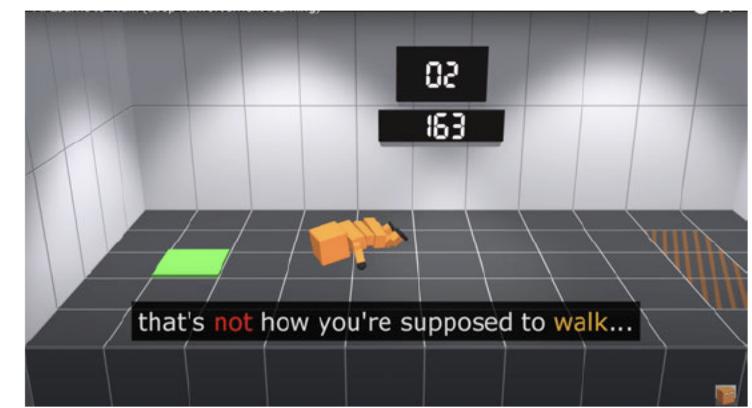
A L P H A G O

# Albert learns to walk



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L\\_4BPjLBF4E&t=95s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L_4BPjLBF4E&t=95s)

# Albert learns to walk



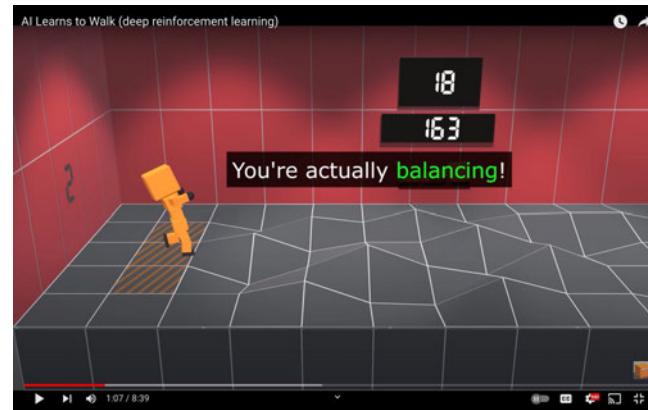
# Albert learns to walk



**Iteration 17**  
**With new objective**



**Iteration 17**



**Iteration 163**

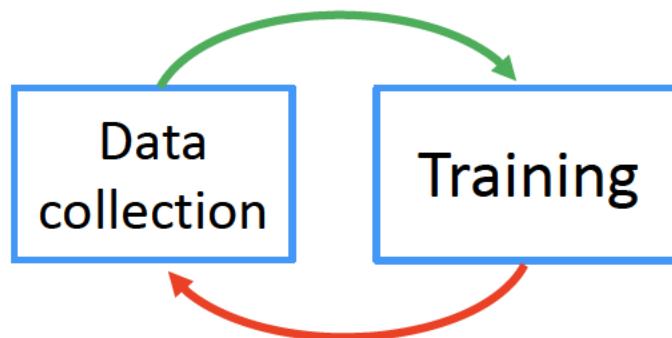


**Iteration 932**

# Reinforcement Learning

- The algorithm can collect data interactively

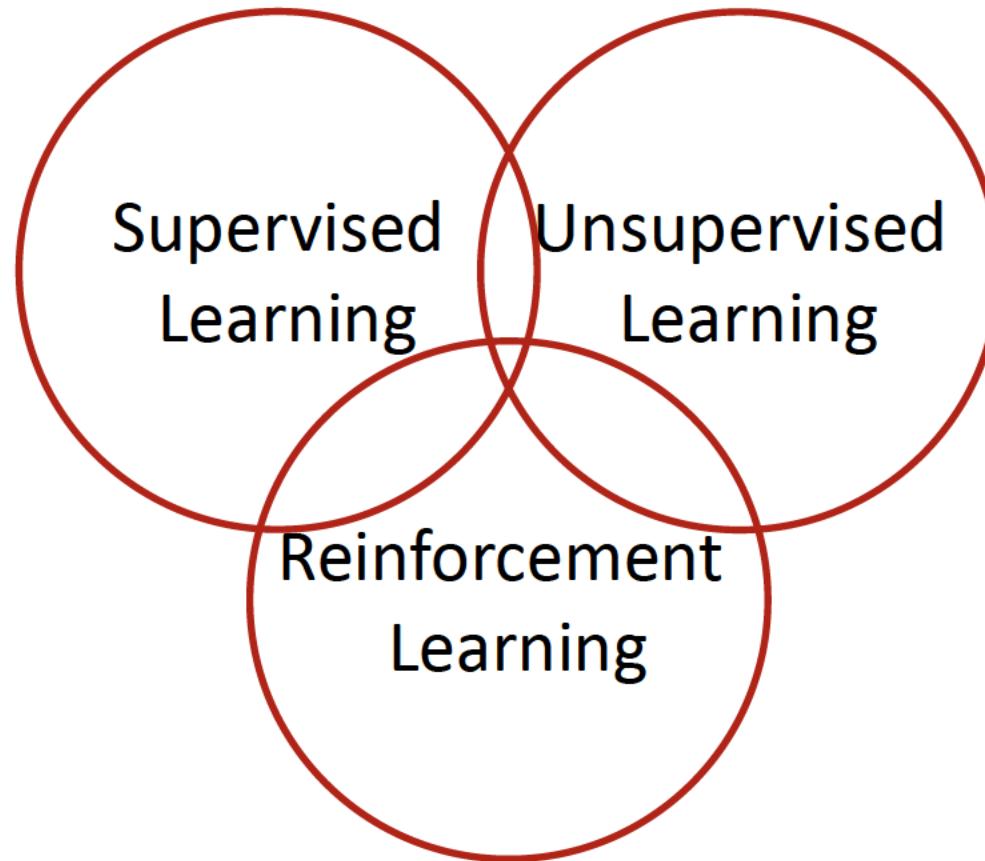
Try the strategy and collect feedbacks



Improve the strategy based on the feedbacks

# Taxonomy of Machine Learning

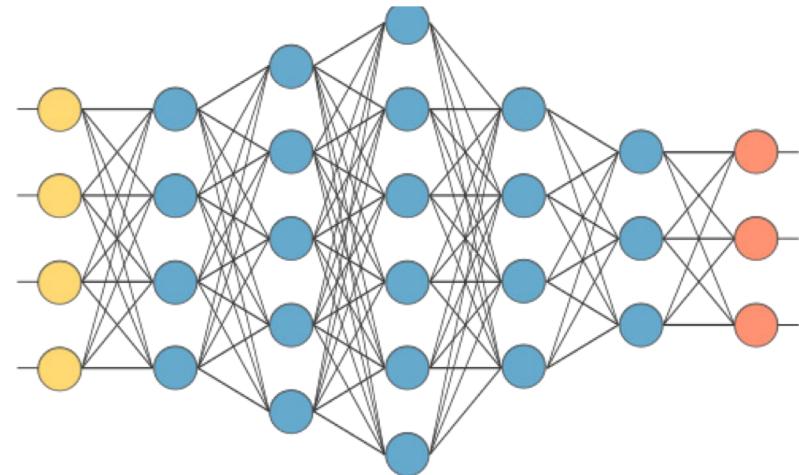
## (A Simplistic View Based on Tasks)



can also be viewed as tools/methods

# Other Tools/Topics In This Course

- Deep learning basics
- Introduction to learning theory
  - Bias variance tradeoff
  - Feature selection
  - ML advice
- Broader aspects of ML
  - Robustness/fairness



# Questions?

Thank you!