



# Data Bias and Fair ML

Applied Machine Learning  
Derek Hoiem

# Today's lecture

- Algorithm and Data bias
- Fair ML

Adopted from a 2019 guest lecture by Margaret Mitchell, with permission



Conversation AI

# Bias in the Vision and Language of Artificial Intelligence



*Margaret Mitchell  
Senior Research Scientist  
Google AI*



# What do you see?



# What do you see?

- Bananas



# What do you see?

- Bananas
- Stickers



# What do you see?

- Bananas
- Stickers
- Dole Bananas



# What do you see?

- Bananas
- Stickers
- Dole Bananas
- Bananas at a store



# What do you see?

- Bananas
- Stickers
- Dole Bananas
- Bananas at a store
- Bananas on shelves



# What do you see?

- Bananas
- Stickers
- Dole Bananas
- Bananas at a store
- Bananas on shelves
- Bunches of bananas



# What do you see?

- Bananas
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- Bananas at a store
- Bananas on shelves
- Bunches of bananas
- Bananas with stickers on them



# What do you see?

- Bananas
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- Bunches of bananas
- Bananas with stickers on them
- Bunches of bananas with stickers on them on shelves in a store



# What do you see?

- Bananas
- Stickers
- Dole Bananas
- Bananas at a store
- Bananas on shelves
- Bunches of bananas
- Bananas with stickers on them
- Bunches of bananas with stickers on them on shelves in a store

...We don't tend to say  
**Yellow** Bananas



# What do you see?

Green Bananas

Unripe Bananas



# What do you see?

Ripe Bananas

Bananas with spots



# What do you see?

Ripe Bananas

Bananas with spots

Bananas good for banana  
bread



# What do you see?

**Yellow** Bananas

**Yellow** is prototypical for bananas



# Prototype Theory

One purpose of categorization is to **reduce the infinite differences** among stimuli **to behaviourally and cognitively usable proportions**

There may be some central, prototypical notions of items that arise from stored typical properties for an object category (Rosch, 1975)

May also store exemplars (Wu & Barsalou, 2009)



Fruit



Bananas  
“Basic Level”



Unripe Bananas,  
Cavendish Bananas

---

A man and his son are in a terrible accident and are rushed to the hospital in critical care.

The doctor looks at the boy and exclaims "I can't operate on this boy, he's my son!"

---

How could this be?



---

A man and his son are in a terrible accident and are rushed to the hospital in critical care.

The doctor looks at the boy and exclaims "I can't operate on this boy, he's my son!"

---

**How could this be?**



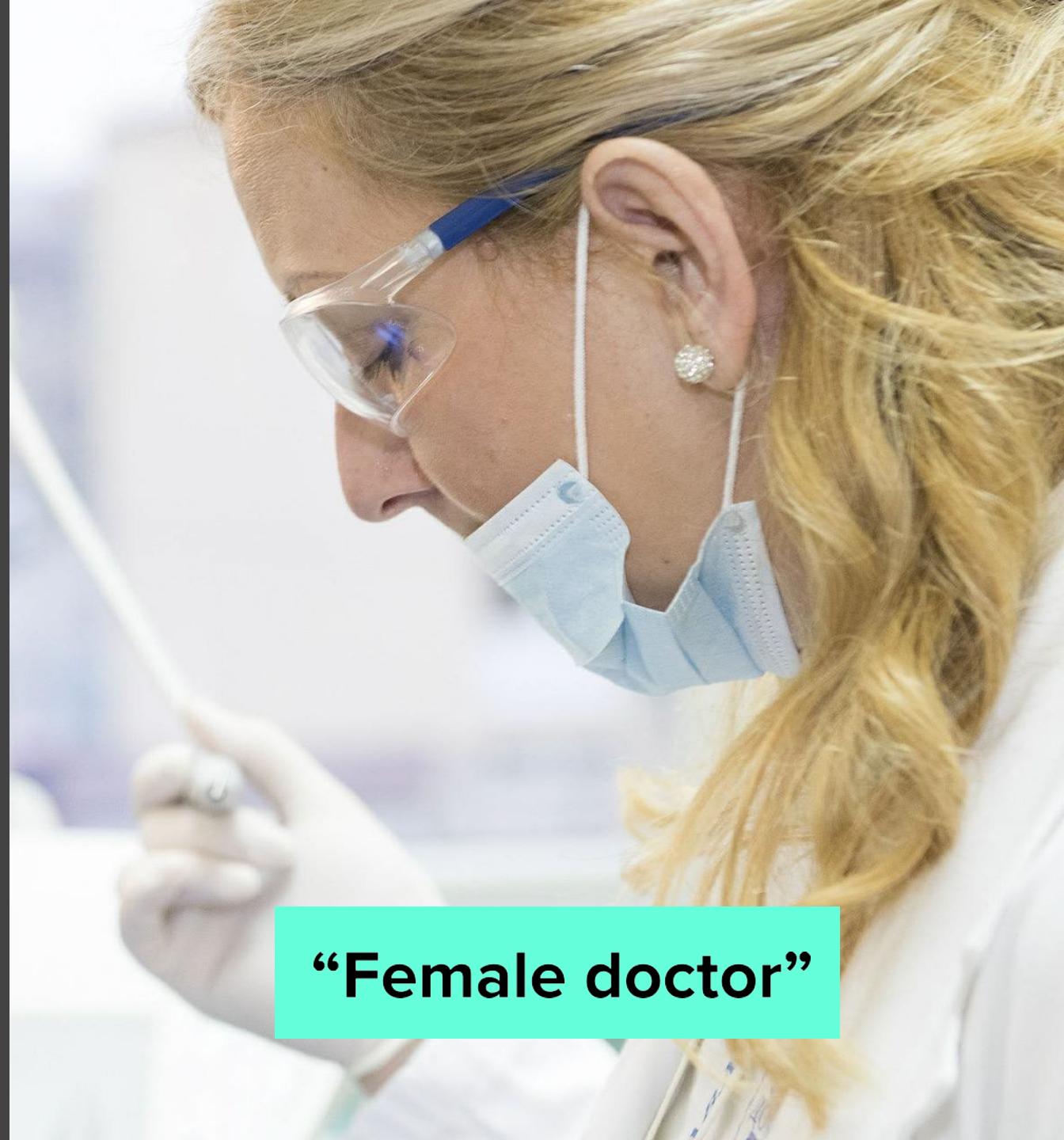
---

A man and his son are in a terrible accident and are rushed to the hospital in critical care.

The doctor looks at the boy and exclaims "I can't operate on this boy, he's my son!"

**How could this be?**

---



**“Female doctor”**



**“Doctor”**



**“Female doctor”**

---

The majority of test subjects  
overlooked the possibility that the  
doctor is a she - including men,  
women, and self-described feminists.

---

Wapman & Belle, Boston University

# World learning from text

Gordon and Van Durme, 2013

Word	Frequency in Google Web corpus
“spoke”	11,577,917
“laughed”	3,904,519
“murdered”	2,834,529
“inhaled”	984,613
“breathed”	725,034
“hugged”	610,040
“blinked”	390,692
“exhale”	168,985

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# Human Reporting Bias

The **frequency** with which **people write** about actions, outcomes, or properties is **not a reflection of real-world frequencies** or the degree to which a property is characteristic of a class of individuals

---

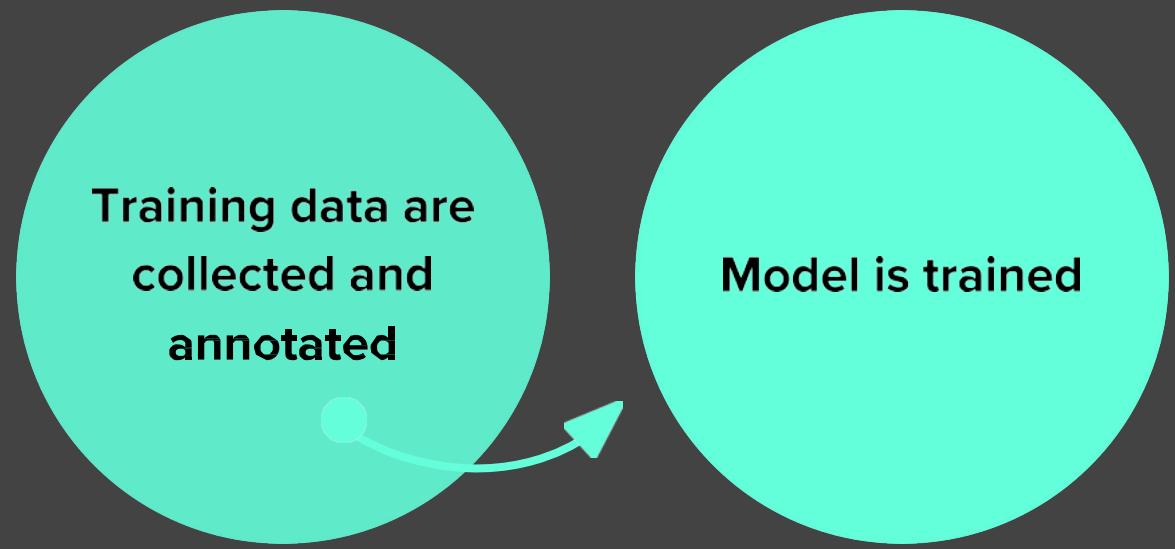
[Prompt]: Write a description for the given image sequence in a single paragraph, what is happening in this episode?

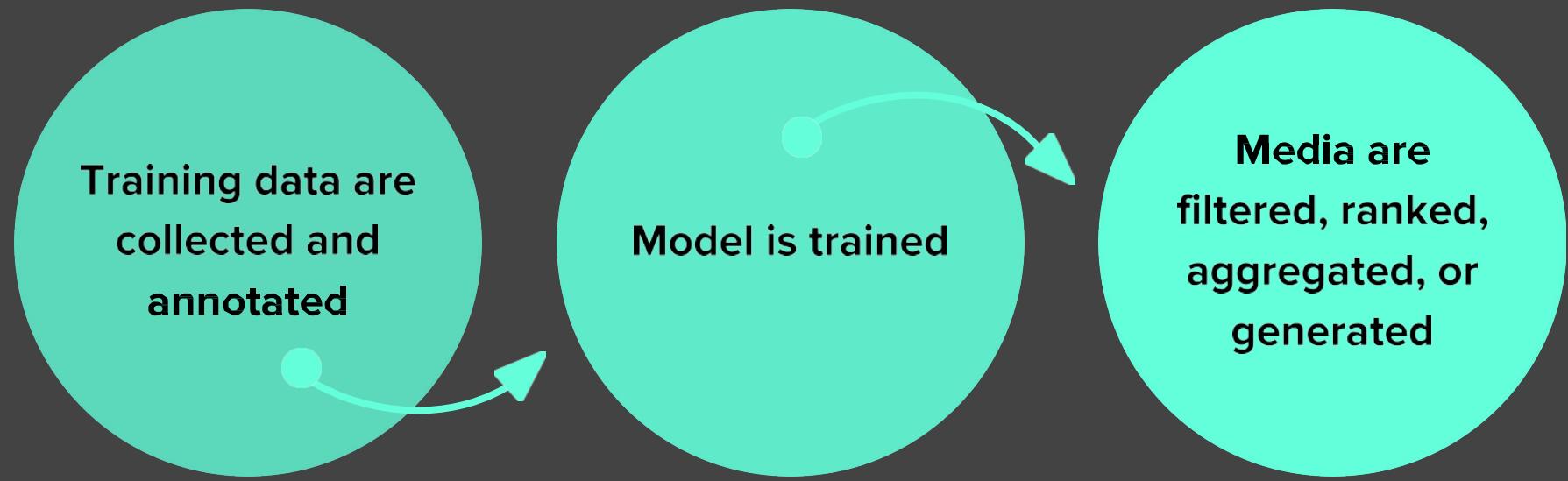


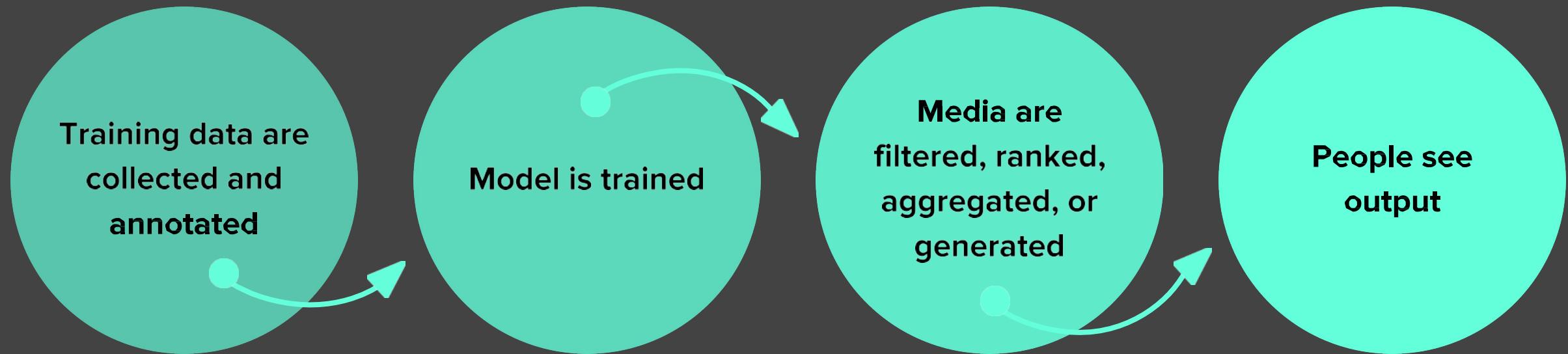
[GPT-4V]: In the sequence of images provided, we observe two men engaged in what appears to be a playful and humorous interaction on a set of outdoor stairs leading to a building entrance. In the first image, one man is seen holding a long, flexible object, possibly a strip of metal or rubber, and appears to be playfully threatening to strike the other man, who is ascending the stairs and holding a similar object. The second image captures a moment of anticipation, with the first man poised to 'attack' and the second man looking back with a smile, suggesting a friendly and joking atmosphere. The third image shows the first man in motion, as if he has just attempted to playfully hit the second man, who is now halfway through the doorway, still participating in the jest. In the final image, the second man has turned around completely, facing the first man with a grin, indicating that the mock confrontation has ended amicably, and both men seem to be enjoying the interaction. The overall mood is light-hearted, and the episode seems to be a moment of camaraderie and fun between the two individuals.



**Training data are  
collected and  
annotated**







## Human Biases in Data

**Reporting bias**

**Selection bias**

**Overgeneralization**

**Out-group homogeneity bias**

**Stereotypical bias**

**Historical unfairness**

**Implicit associations**

**Implicit stereotypes**

**Prejudice**

**Training data are  
collected and  
annotated**



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**Selection bias**

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**Historical unfairness**

**Implicit associations**

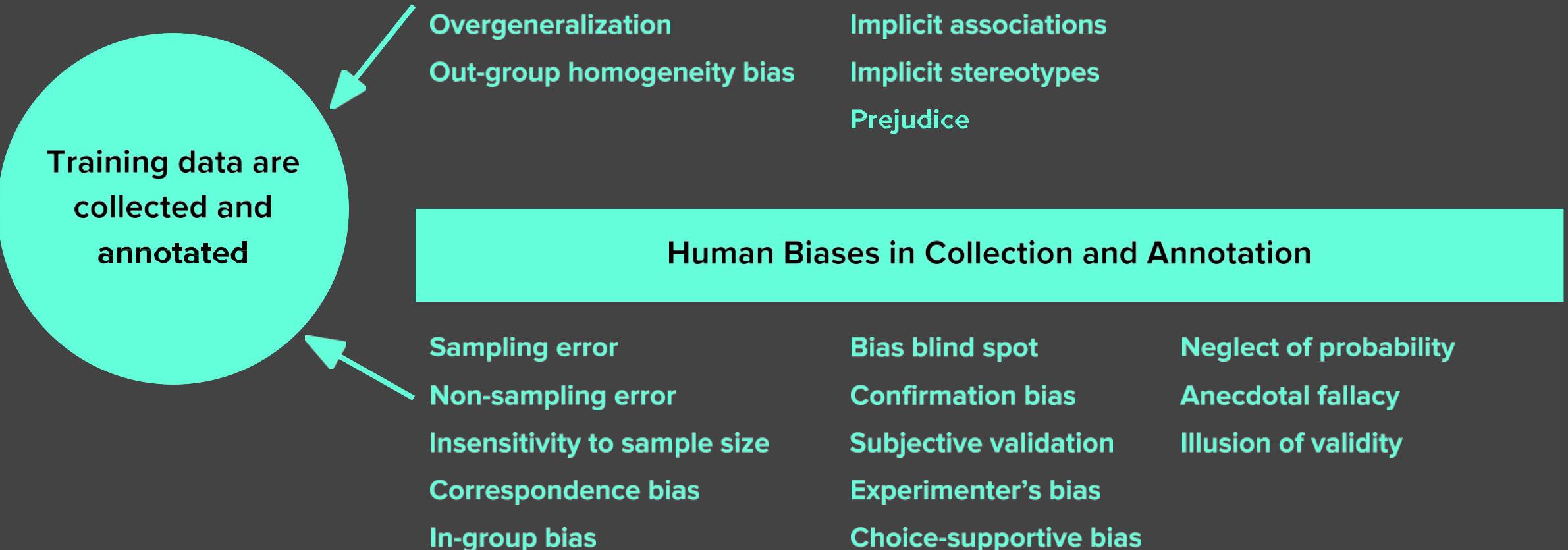
**Implicit stereotypes**

**Prejudice**

**Group attribution error**

**Halo effect**

Training data are  
collected and  
annotated



## Human Biases in Collection and Annotation

**Sampling error**

**Non-sampling error**

**Insensitivity to sample size**

**Correspondence bias**

**In-group bias**

**Bias blind spot**

**Confirmation bias**

**Subjective validation**

**Experimenter's bias**

**Choice-supportive bias**

**Neglect of probability**

**Anecdotal fallacy**

**Illusion of validity**

**Reporting bias:** What people share is not a reflection of real-world frequencies

**Selection Bias:** Selection does not reflect a random sample

**Out-group homogeneity bias:** People tend to see outgroup members as more alike than ingroup members when comparing attitudes, values, personality traits, and other characteristics

**Confirmation bias:** The tendency to search for, interpret, favor, and recall information in a way that confirms one's preexisting beliefs or hypotheses

**Overgeneralization:** Coming to conclusion based on information that is too general and/or not specific enough

**Correlation fallacy:** Confusing correlation with causation

**Automation bias:** Propensity for humans to favor suggestions from automated decision-making systems over contradictory information without automation

More at: <https://developers.google.com/machine-learning/glossary/>



# Biases in Data

# Biases in Data

**Selection Bias:** Selection does not reflect a random sample



CREDIT

© 2013–2016 Michael Yoshitaka Erlewine and Hadas Kotek

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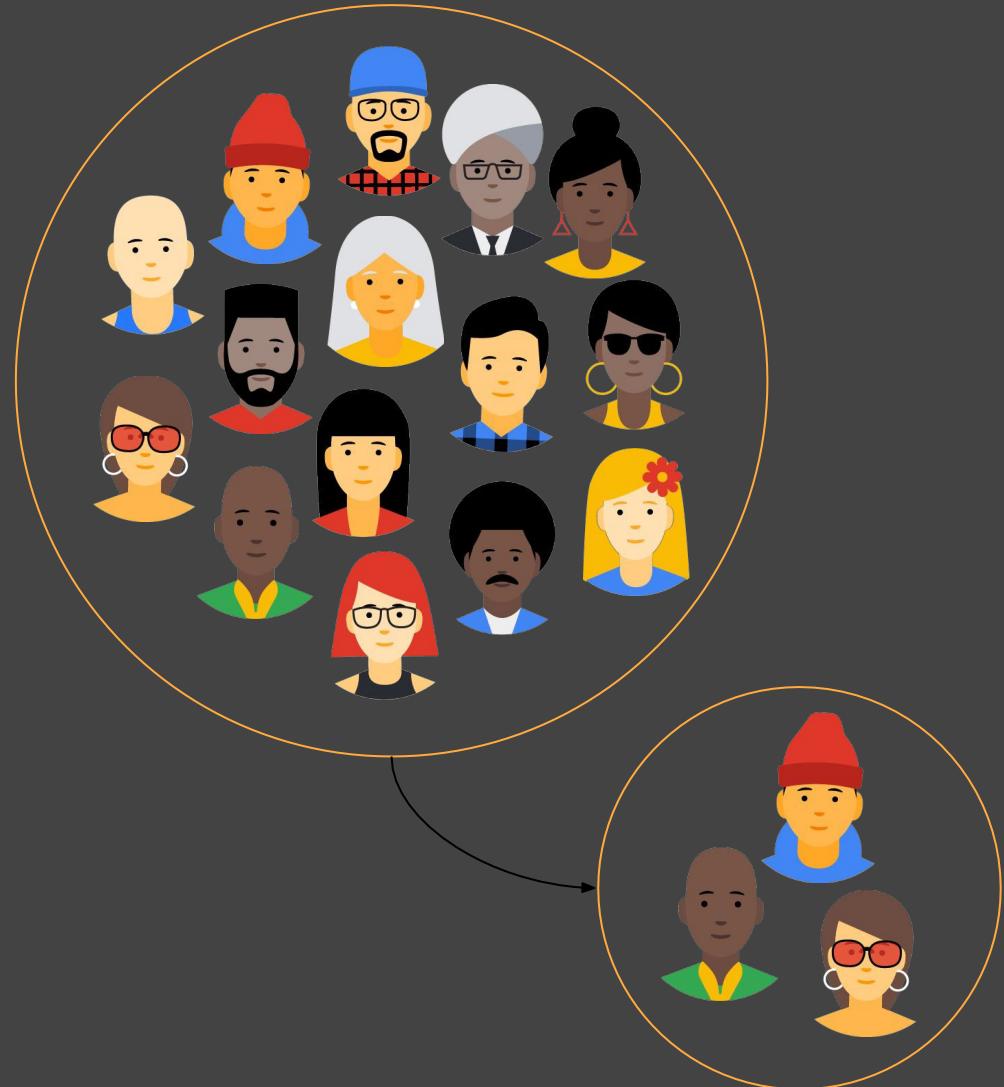
# Biases in Data

**Out-group homogeneity bias:** Tendency to see outgroup members as more alike than ingroup members



# Biases in Data → Biased Data Representation

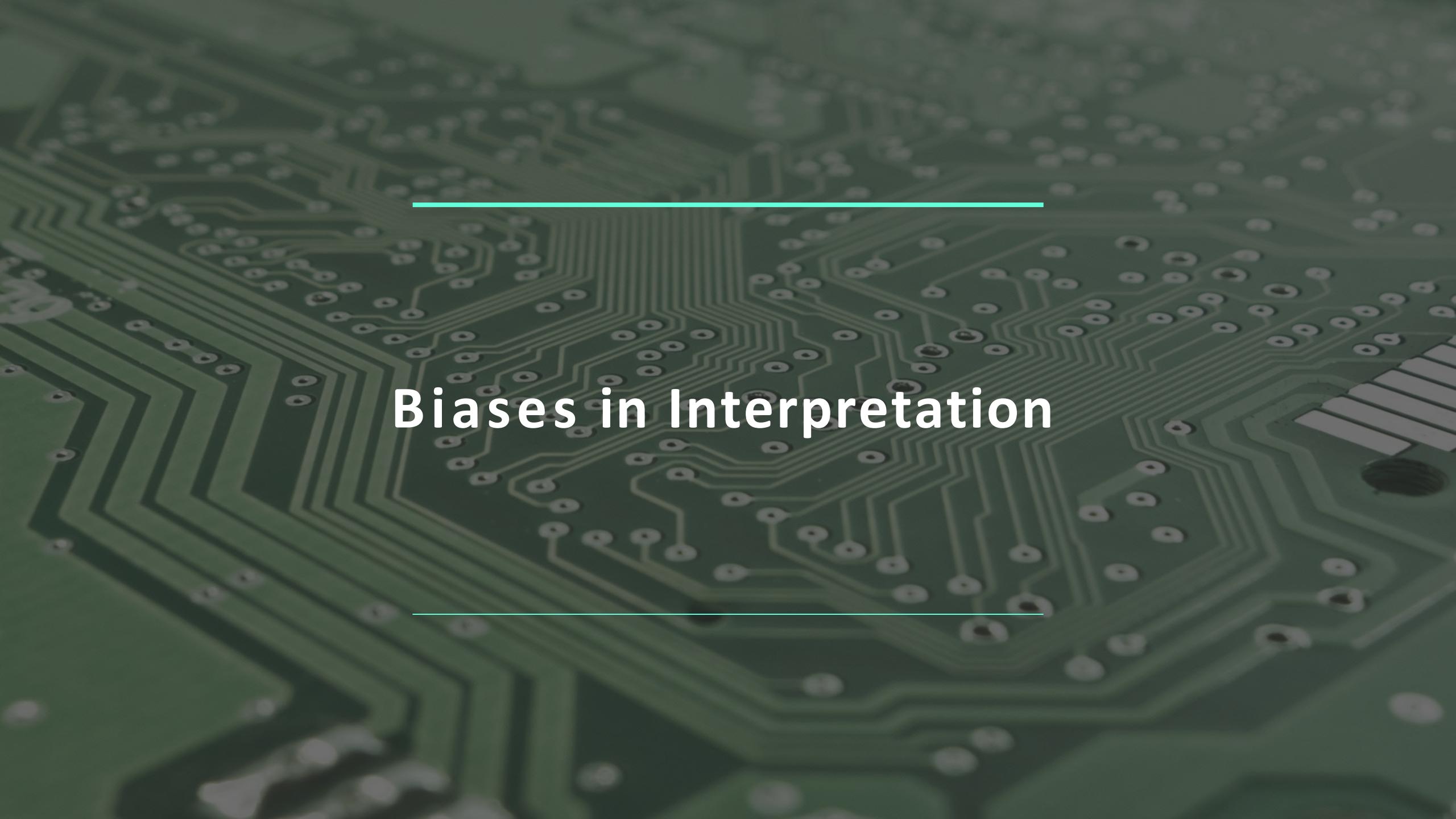
It's possible that you have an appropriate amount of data for every group you can think of but that some groups are represented less positively than others.



# Biases in Data → Biased Labels

Annotations in your dataset will reflect the worldviews of your annotators.

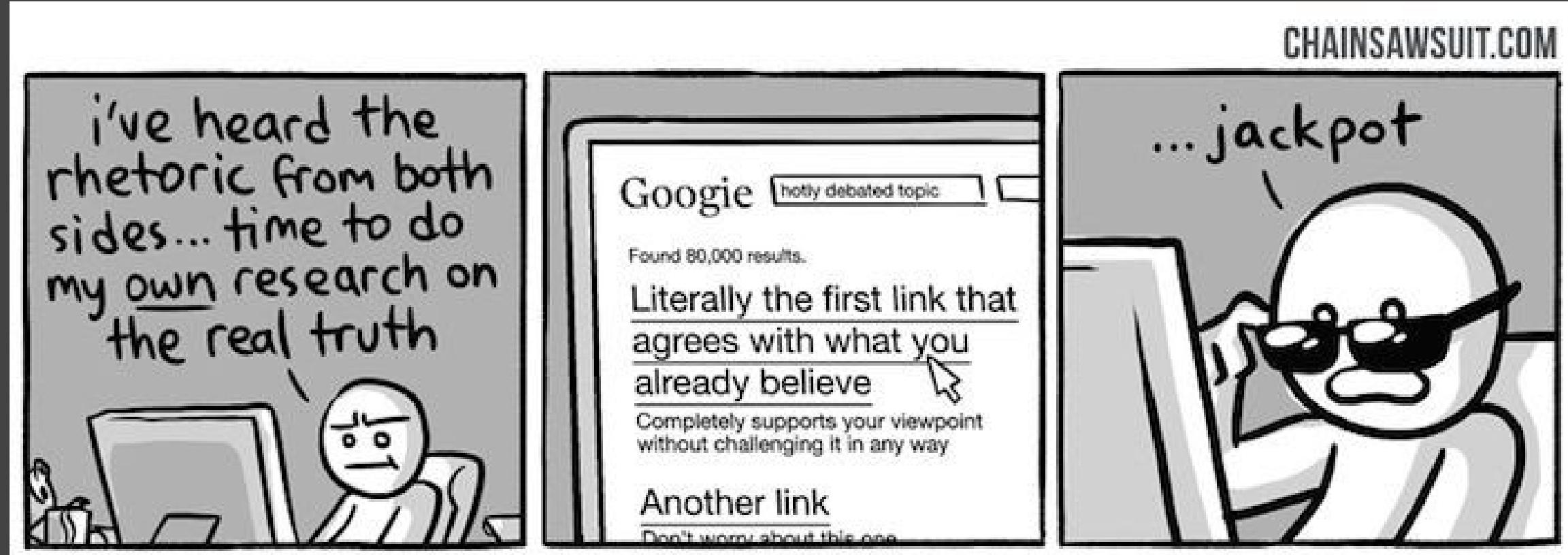




# Biases in Interpretation

# Biases in Interpretation

**Confirmation bias:** The tendency to search for, interpret, favor, recall information in a way that confirms preexisting beliefs



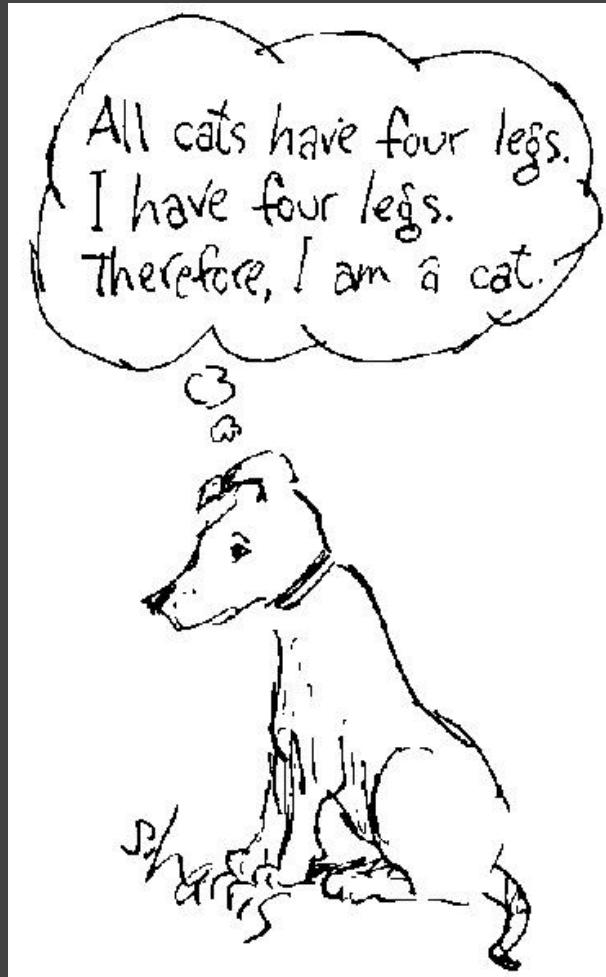
CREDIT

© kris straub - [Chainsawsuit.com](http://Chainsawsuit.com)

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# Biases in Interpretation

**Overgeneralization:** Coming to conclusion based on information that is too general and/or not specific enough (related: **overfitting**)



CREDIT

Sidney Harris

# Biases in Interpretation

**Correlation fallacy:** Confusing correlation with causation

## Post Hoc Ergo Propter Hoc

Women were allowed to vote in the early 1900's and then we had two world wars. Clearly giving them the vote was a bad idea.



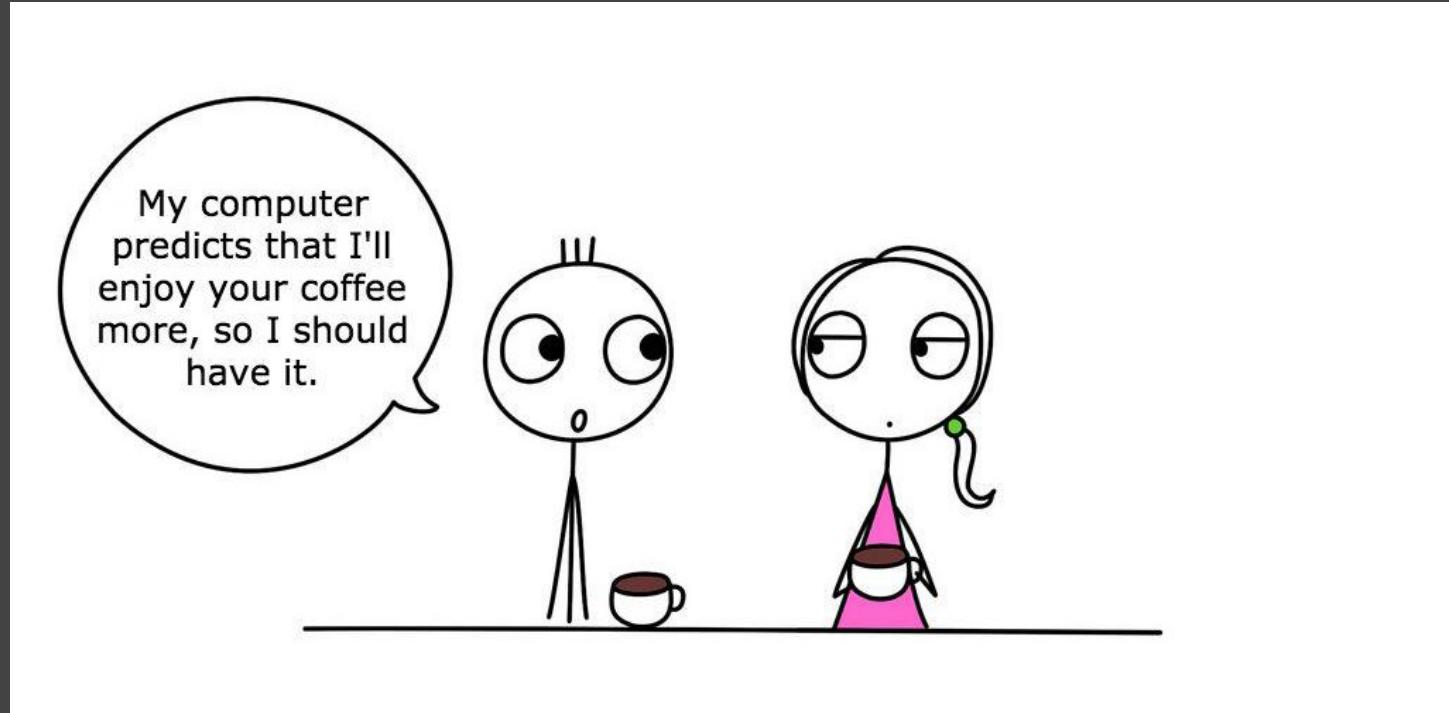
CREDIT

© mollysdad - Slideshare - Introduction to Logical Fallacies

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# Biases in Interpretation

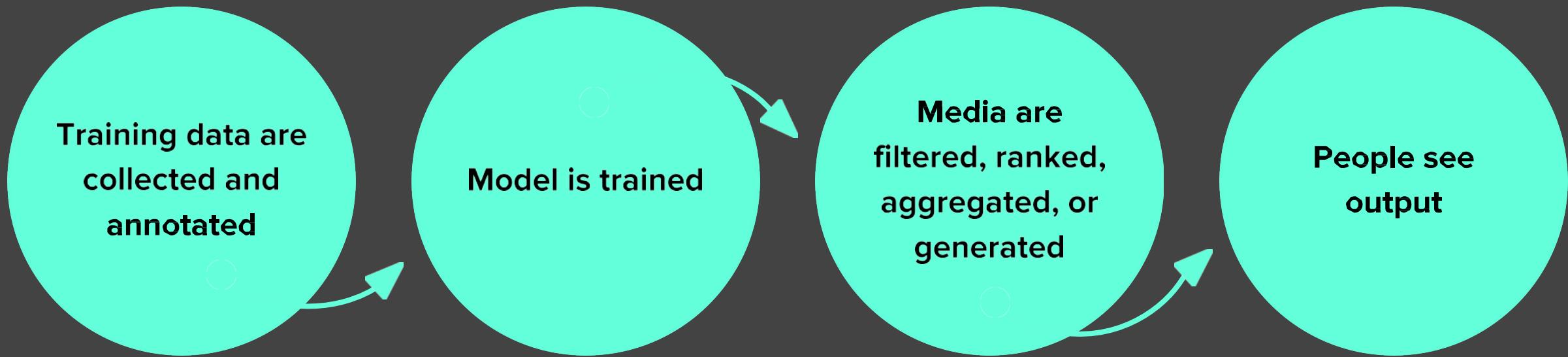
**Automation bias:** Propensity for humans to favor suggestions from automated decision-making systems over contradictory information without automation



CREDIT

[thedailyenglishshow.com](http://thedailyenglishshow.com) | CC BY 2.0

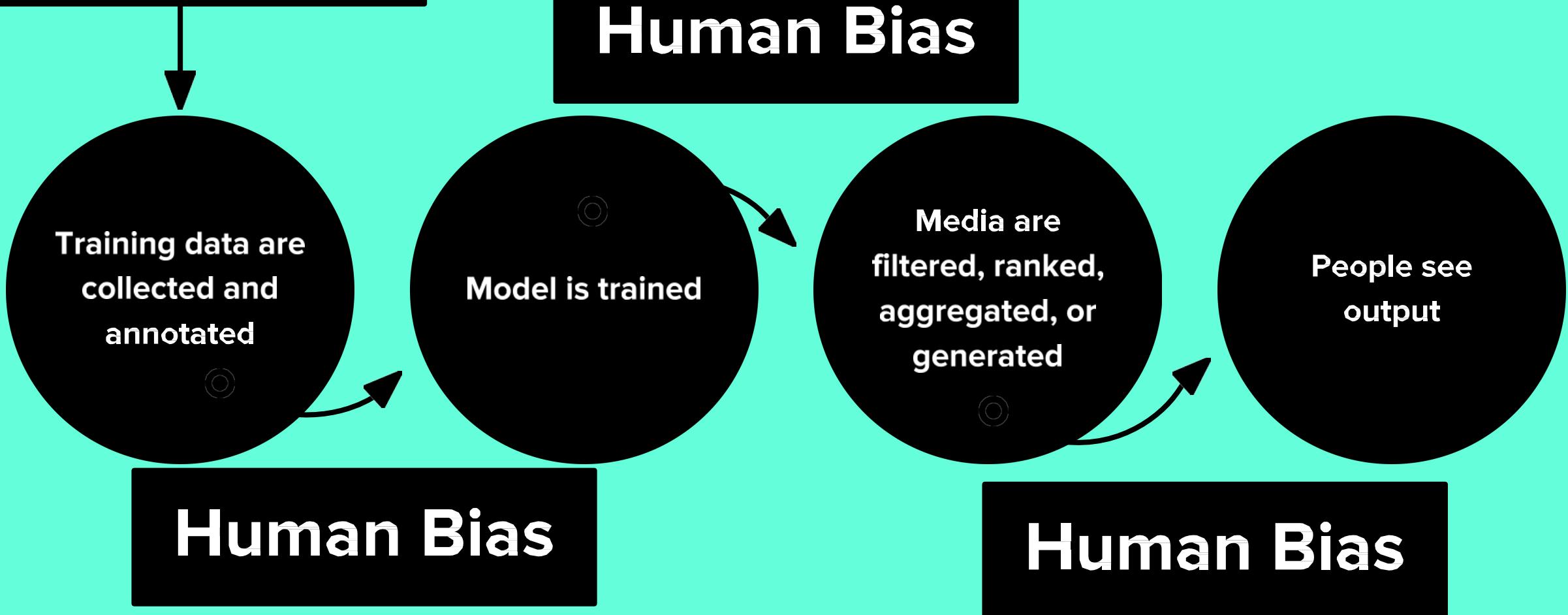
CC BY / Margaret Mitchell / [m-mitchell.com](http://m-mitchell.com)



# Human Bias



# Human Bias



# Human Bias

# Human Bias

Training data are collected and annotated

Model is trained

Media are filtered, ranked, aggregated, or generated

People see output and act based on it

# Human Bias

# Human Bias

Feedback Loop

# Human Bias



# Human Bias

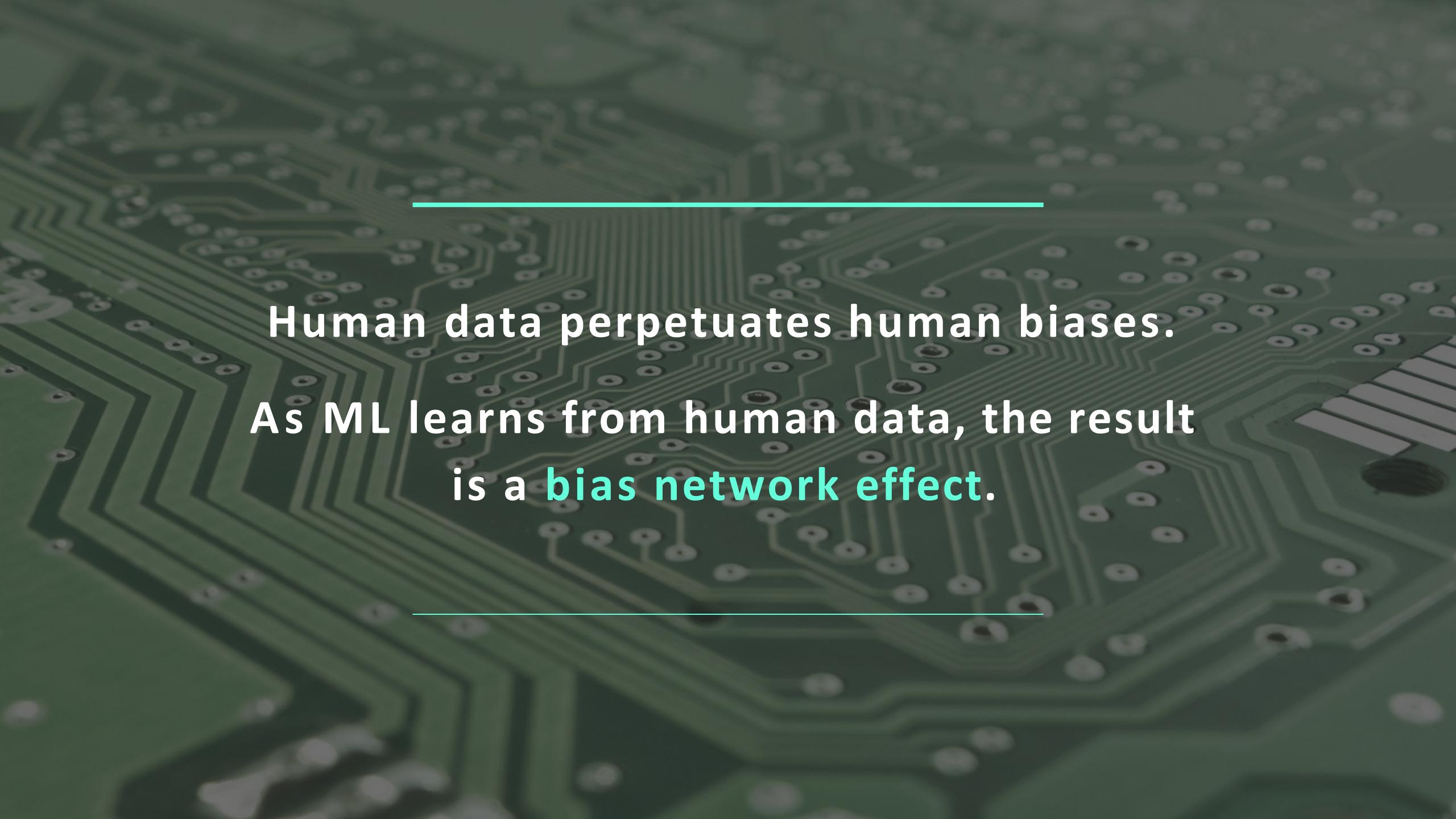
# Bias Network Effect

# Bias “Laundering”

# Human Bias

# Human Bias

**Biased data created from process becomes new training data**



Human data perpetuates human biases.  
As ML learns from human data, the result  
is a **bias network effect**.



**BIAS = BAD ??**

# “Bias” can be Good, Bad, Neutral

- Bias in statistics and ML
  - Bias of an estimator: Difference between the predictions and the correct values that we are trying to predict
  - The "bias" term  $b$  (e.g.,  $y = mx + b$ )
- Cognitive biases
  - Confirmation bias, Recency bias, Optimism bias
- Algorithmic bias
  - Unjust, unfair, or prejudicial treatment of people related to race, income, sexual orientation, religion, gender, and other characteristics historically associated with discrimination and marginalization, when and where they manifest in algorithmic systems or algorithmically aided decision-making

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*“Although neural networks might be said to write their own programs, they do so towards goals set by humans, using data collected for human purposes. If the data is skewed, even by accident, the computers will amplify injustice.”*

— The Guardian

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## CREDIT

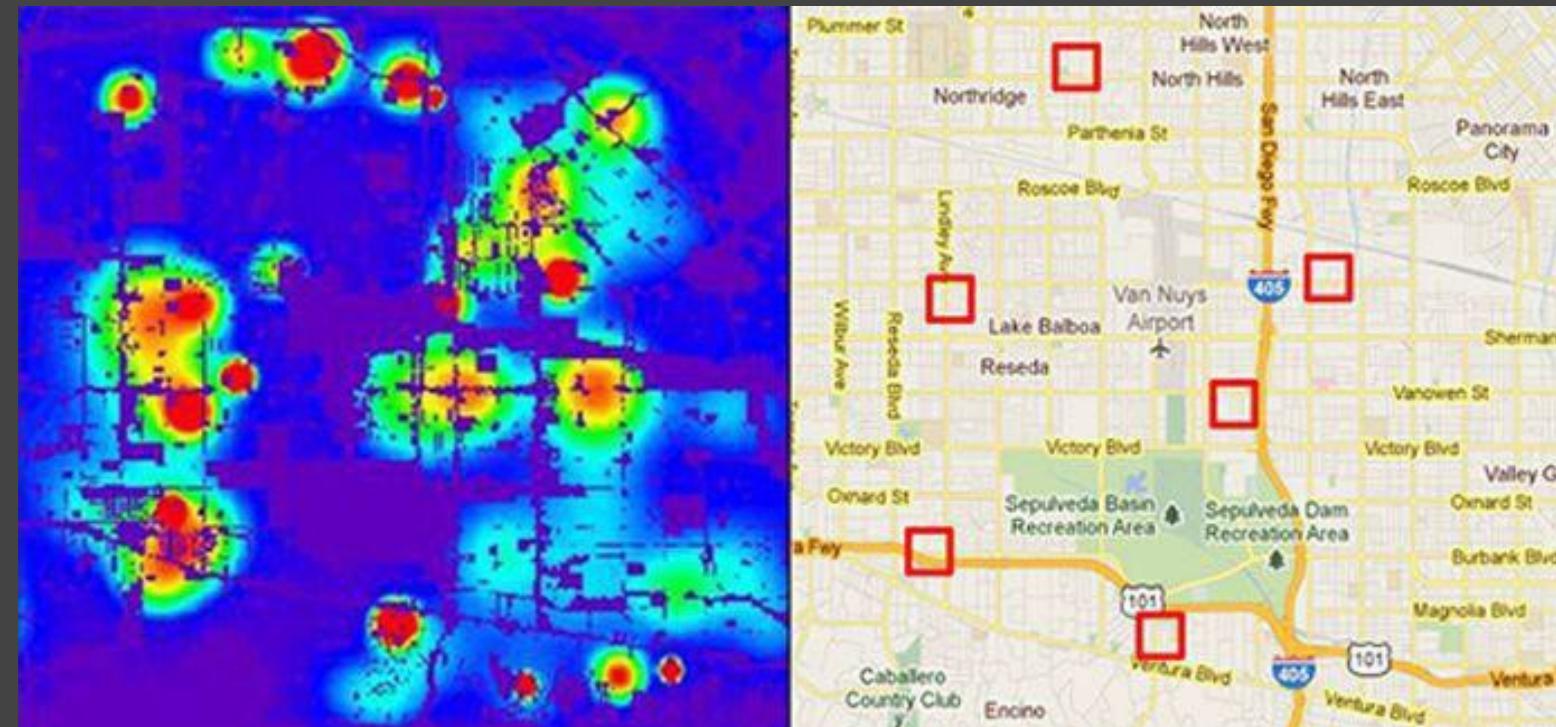
[The Guardian view on machine learning: people must decide](#)



# Predicting Future Criminal Behavior

# Predicting Policing

- Algorithms identify potential crime hot-spots
- Based on where crime is previously reported, not where it is known to have occurred
- Predicts future events from past



CREDIT

[Smithsonian. Artificial Intelligence Is Now Used to Predict Crime. But Is It Biased? 2018](#)

# Predicting Sentencing

- Prater (who is white) rated **low risk** after shoplifting, despite two armed robberies; one attempted armed robbery.
- Borden (who is black) rated **high risk** after she and a friend took (but returned before police arrived) a bike and scooter sitting outside.
- Two years later, Borden has not been charged with any new crimes. Prater serving 8-year prison term for grand theft.

## CREDIT

[ProPublica. Northpointe: Risk in Criminal Sentencing. 2016.](#)

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## Automation Bias in face of:

- Overgeneralization
  - Feedback Loops
  - Correlation Fallacy
-

# Predicting Criminality

Israeli startup, Faception

*“Faception is first-to-technology and first-to-market with proprietary computer vision and machine learning technology for profiling people and **revealing their personality based only on their facial image.**”*

Offering specialized engines for recognizing “High IQ”, “White-Collar Offender”, “Pedophile”, and “Terrorist” from a face image.

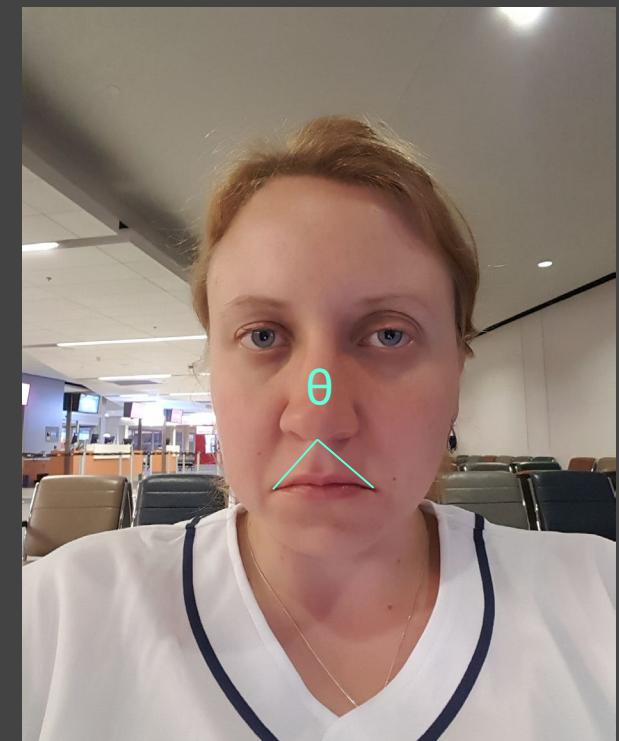
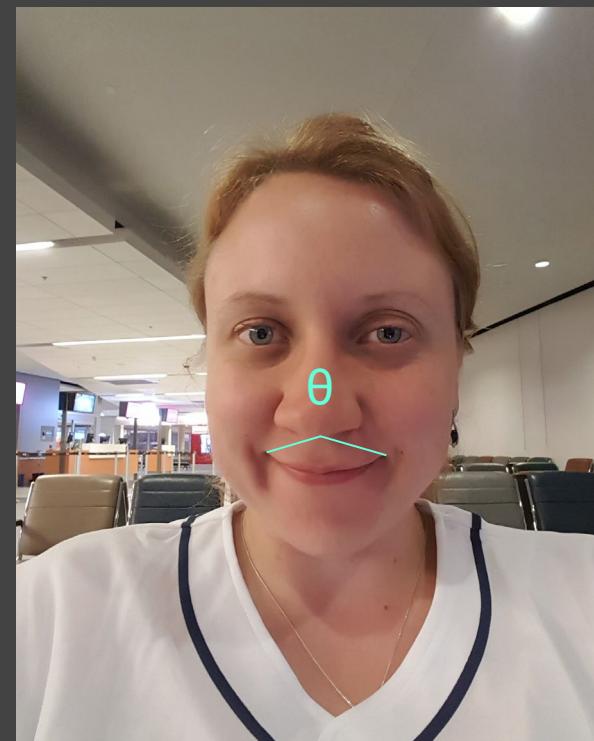
Main clients are in homeland security and public safety.

# Predicting Criminality

“Automated Inference on Criminality using Face Images” Wu and Zhang, 2016.  
arXiv

1,856 closely cropped images of faces;  
Includes “wanted suspect” ID pictures  
from specific regions.

*“[...] angle  $\vartheta$  from nose tip to two mouth corners is on average 19.6% smaller for criminals than for non-criminals ...”*



See our longer piece on Medium, “Physiognomy’s New Clothes”

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Selection Bias + Experimenter's Bias +  
Confirmation Bias + Correlation Fallacy +  
Feedback Loops

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# Predicting Criminality - The Media Blitz

## arXiv Paper Spotlight: Automated Inference on Criminality Using Face ...

[www.kdnuggets.com/.../arxiv-spotlight-automated-inference-criminality-face-images....](http://www.kdnuggets.com/.../arxiv-spotlight-automated-inference-criminality-face-images....) ▾

A recent paper by Xiaolin Wu (McMaster University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University) and Xi Zhang (Shanghai Jiao Tong University), titled "Automated Inference ...

## Automated Inference on Criminality Using Face Images | Hacker News

<https://news.ycombinator.com/item?id=12983827> ▾

Nov 18, 2016 - The automated inference on criminality eliminates the variable of meta-accuracy (the competence of the human judge/examiner) all together.

## A New Program Judges If You're a Criminal From Your Facial Features ...

<https://motherboard.vice.com/.../new-program-decides-criminality-from-facial-feature...> ▾

Nov 18, 2016 - In their paper 'Automated Inference on Criminality using Face Images', published on the arXiv pre-print server, Xiaolin Wu and Xi Zhang from ...

## Can face classifiers make a reliable inference on criminality?

[https://techxplore.com/.../Computer Sciences](https://techxplore.com/.../Computer%20Sciences) ▾

Nov 23, 2016 - Their paper is titled "Automated Inference on Criminality using Face Images ... face classifiers are able to make reliable inference on criminality.

## Troubling Study Says Artificial Intelligence Can Predict Who Will Be ...

<https://theintercept.com/.../troubling-study-says-artificial-intelligence-can-predict-who...> ▾

Nov 18, 2016 - Not so in the modern age of Artificial Intelligence, apparently: In a paper titled "Automated Inference on Criminality using Face Images," two ...

## Automated Inference on Criminality using Face Images (via arXiv ...)

<https://computationallegalstudies.com/.../automated-inference-on-criminality-using-fa...> ▾

Dec 6, 2016 - Next Next post: A General Approach for Predicting the Behavior of the Supreme Court of the United States (Paper Version 2.01) (Katz, ...

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# (Claiming to) Predict Internal Qualities Subject To Discrimination

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# Predicting Homosexuality

Composite Straight Faces



Composite Gay Faces

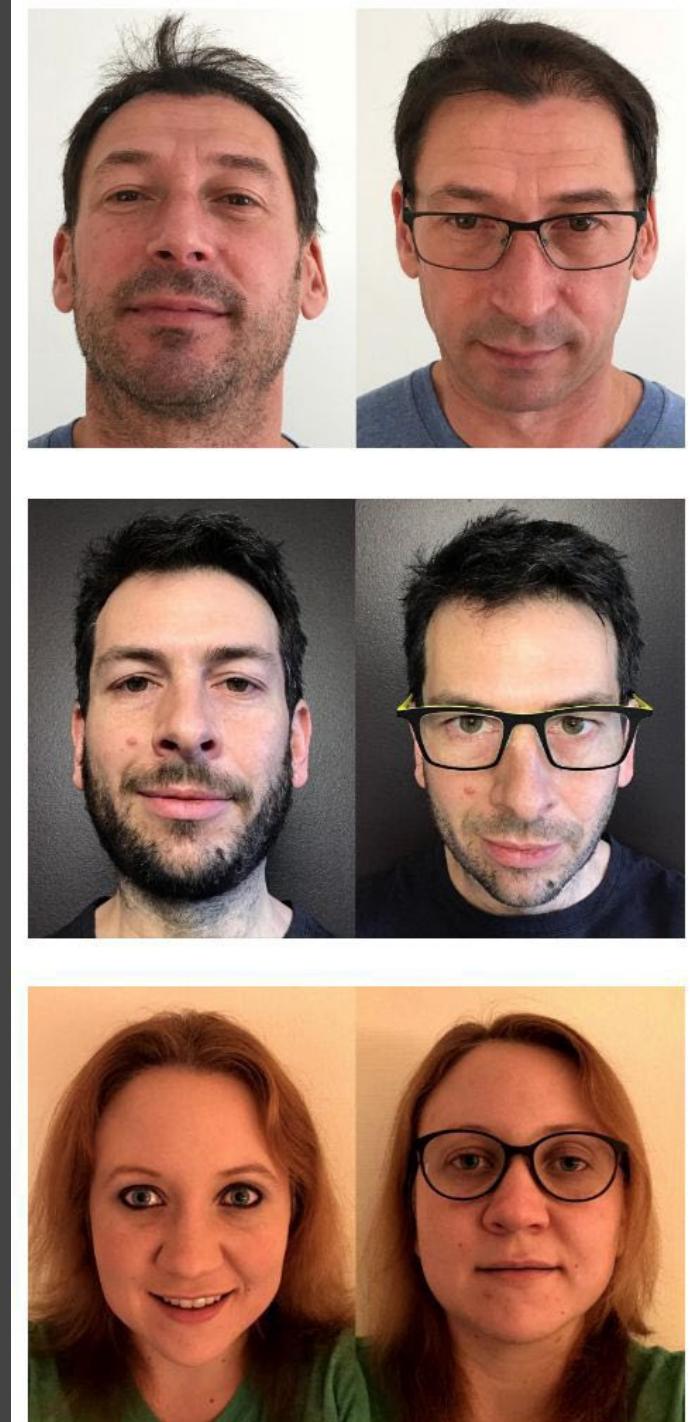


- Wang and Kosinski, Deep neural networks are more accurate than humans at detecting sexual orientation from facial images, 2017.
- “Sexual orientation detector” using 35,326 images from public profiles on a US dating website.
- “Consistent with the prenatal hormone theory [PHT] of sexual orientation, gay men and women tended to have gender-atypical facial morphology.”

# Predicting Homosexuality

Differences between lesbian or gay and straight faces in selfies relate to grooming, presentation, and lifestyle — that is, **differences in culture, not in facial structure.**

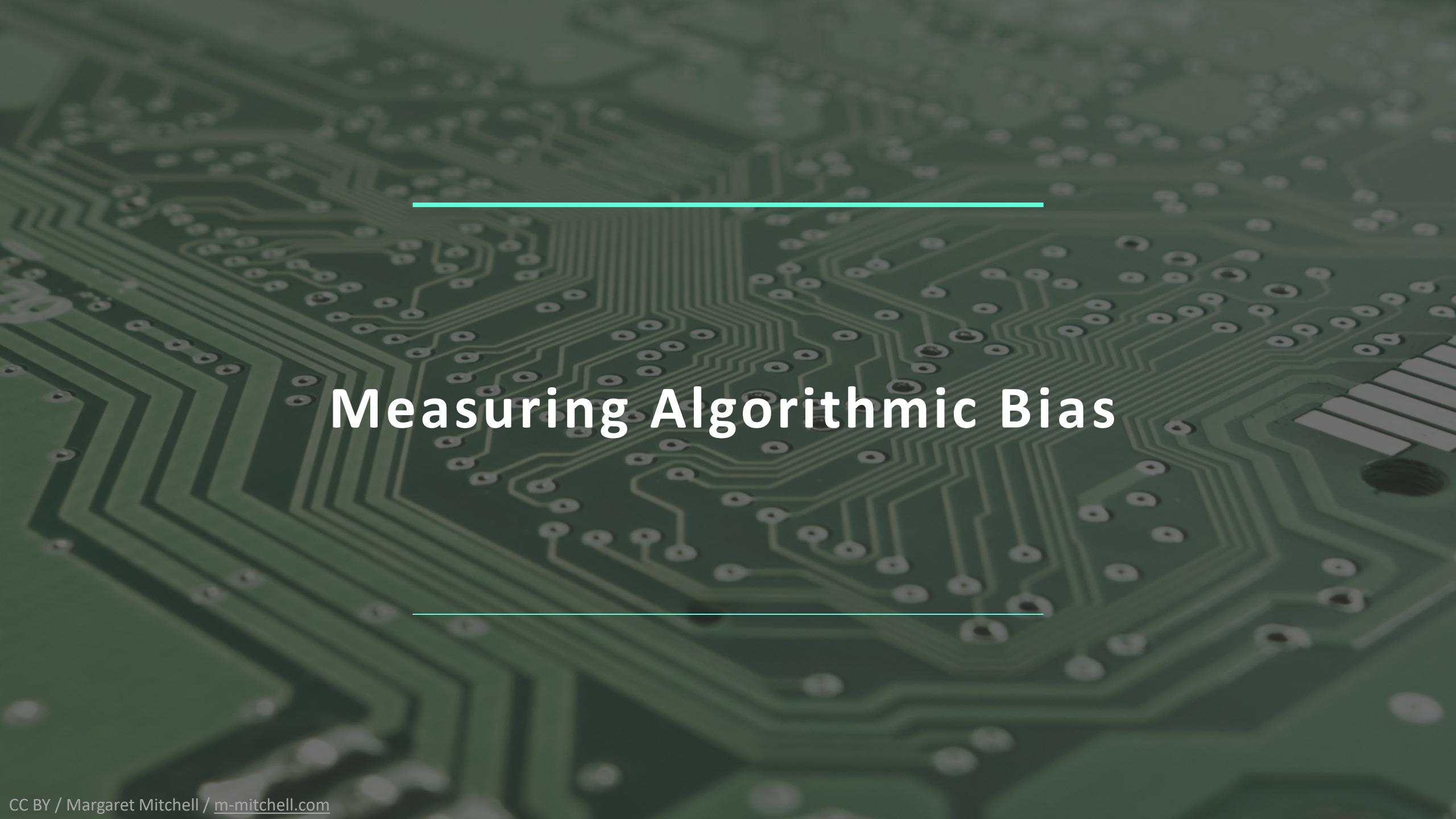
See our longer response on Medium, [“Do Algorithms Reveal Sexual Orientation or Just Expose our Stereotypes?”](#)



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# Selection Bias + Experimenter's Bias + Correlation Fallacy

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# Measuring Algorithmic Bias

# Evaluate for Fairness & Inclusion

## Disaggregated Evaluation

Create for each (subgroup, prediction) pair.

Compare across subgroups.

# Evaluate for Fairness & Inclusion

## Disaggregated Evaluation

Create for each (subgroup, prediction) pair.

Compare across subgroups.

Example: women, face detection  
men, face detection

# Evaluate for Fairness & Inclusion

## Intersectional Evaluation

Create for each (subgroup1, subgroup2, prediction) pair. Compare across subgroups.

Example: black women, face detection  
white men, face detection



# Evaluate for Fairness & Inclusion: Confusion Matrix

Model Predictions

References

# Evaluate for Fairness & Inclusion: Confusion Matrix

		Model Predictions	
		Positive	Negative
References	Positive		
	Negative		

# Evaluate for Fairness & Inclusion: Confusion Matrix

		Model Predictions	
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References	Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exists</li><li>• Predicted</li></ul> <p>True Positives</p>	
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	Negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Doesn't exist</li><li>• Predicted</li></ul> <p><b>False Positives</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Doesn't exist</li><li>• Not predicted</li></ul> <p><b>True Negatives</b></p>	
		Precision, False Discovery Rate	Negative Predictive Value, False Omission Rate	LR+, LR-

# Evaluate for Fairness & Inclusion

Female Patient Results

True Positives (TP) = 10	False Positives (FP) = 1
False Negatives (FN) = 1	True Negatives (TN) = 488

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{TP}{TP + FP} = \frac{10}{10 + 1} = 0.909$$

$$\text{Recall} = \frac{TP}{TP + FN} = \frac{10}{10 + 1} = 0.909$$

Male Patient Results

True Positives (TP) = 6	False Positives (FP) = 3
False Negatives (FN) = 5	True Negatives (TN) = 48

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{TP}{TP + FP} = \frac{6}{6 + 3} = 0.667$$

$$\text{Recall} = \frac{TP}{TP + FN} = \frac{6}{6 + 5} = 0.545$$

# Evaluate for Fairness & Inclusion

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“Equality of Opportunity” fairness criterion:  
Recall is equal across subgroups

# Evaluate for Fairness & Inclusion

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“Predictive Parity” fairness criterion:  
Precision is equal across subgroups

---

Choose your evaluation metrics in light  
of acceptable tradeoffs between  
**False Positives and False Negatives**

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# False Positives Might be Better than False Negatives

## Privacy in Images

**False Positive:** Something that doesn't need to be blurred gets blurred.

Can be a bummer.



**False Negative:** Something that needs to be blurred is not blurred.

Identity theft.



# False Negatives Might Be Better than False Positives

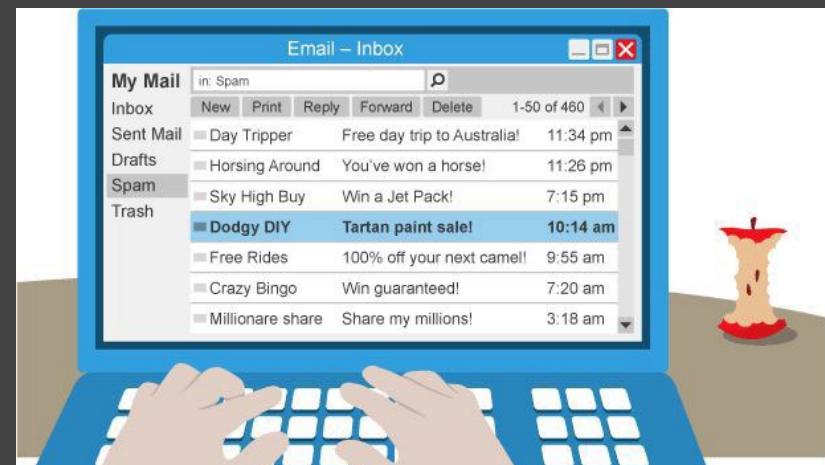
## Spam Filtering

**False Negative:** Email that is SPAM is not caught, so you see it in your inbox.

Usually just a bit annoying.

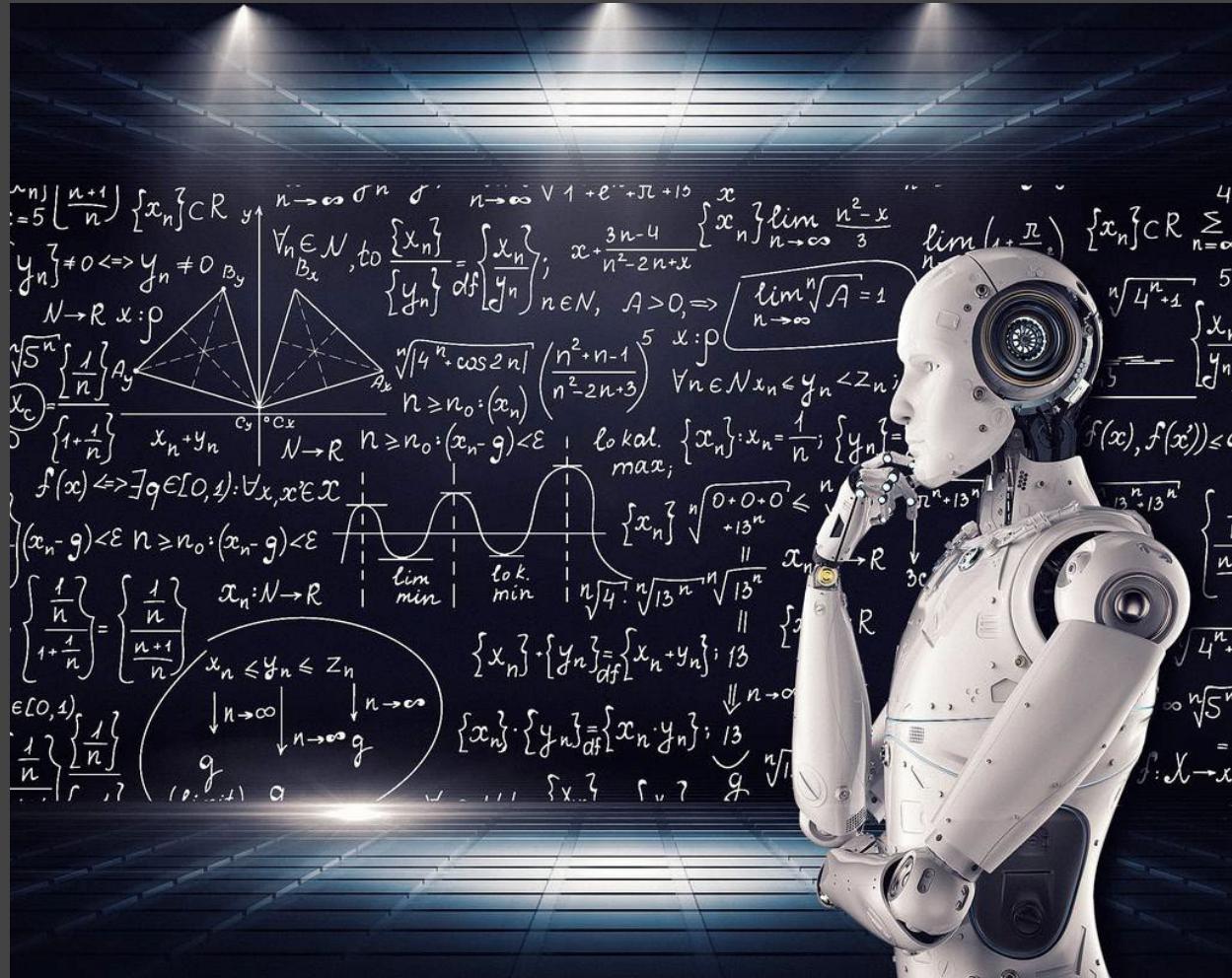
**False Positive:** Email flagged as SPAM is removed from your inbox.

If it's from a friend or loved one, it's a loss!



# AI Can Unintentionally Lead to Unjust Outcomes

- Lack of insight into sources of bias in the data and model
- Lack of insight into the feedback loops
- Lack of careful, disaggregated evaluation
- Human biases in interpreting and accepting results





It's up to **us** to influence how AI evolves.

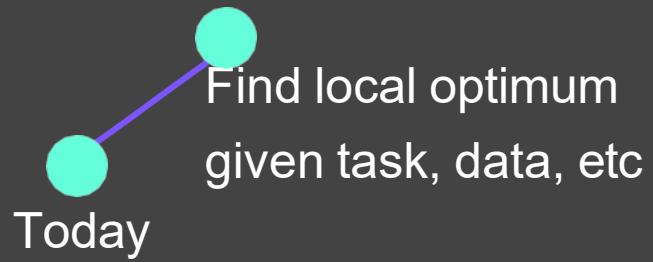


Today

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Short-term

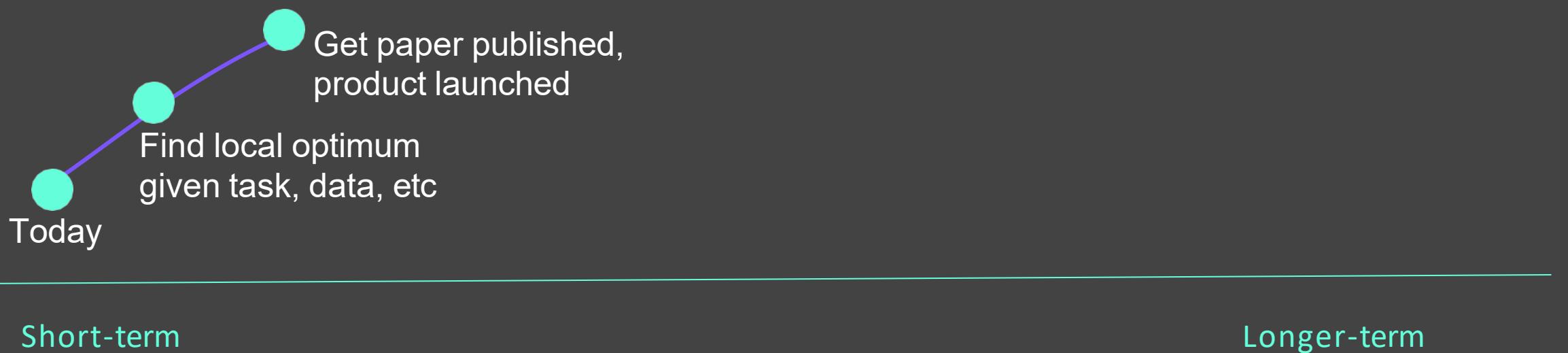
Longer-term

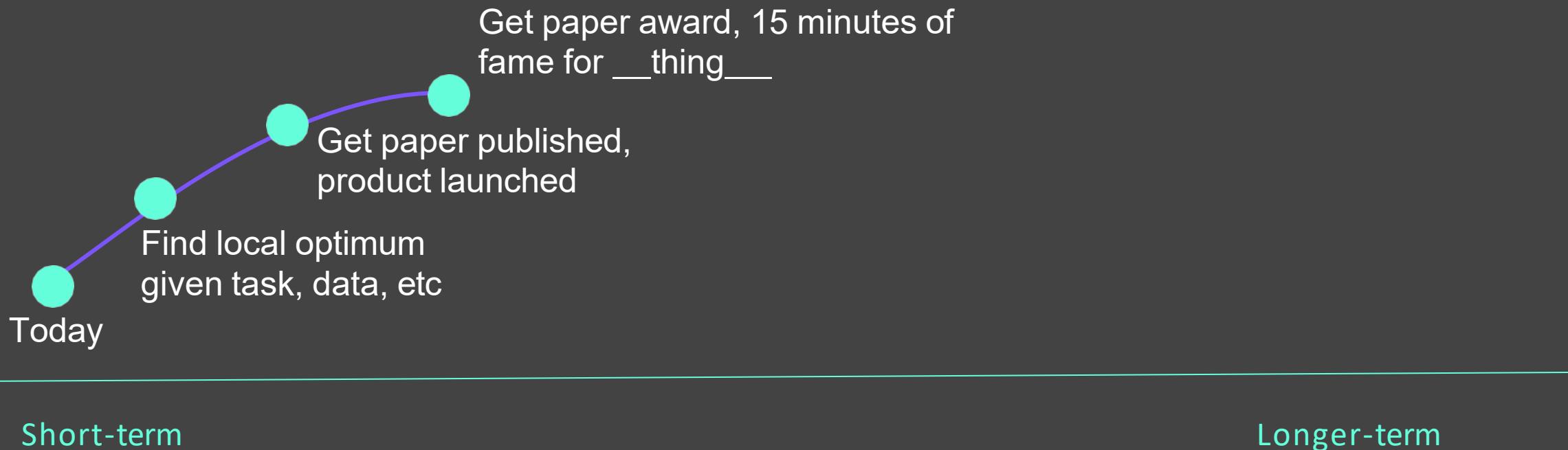


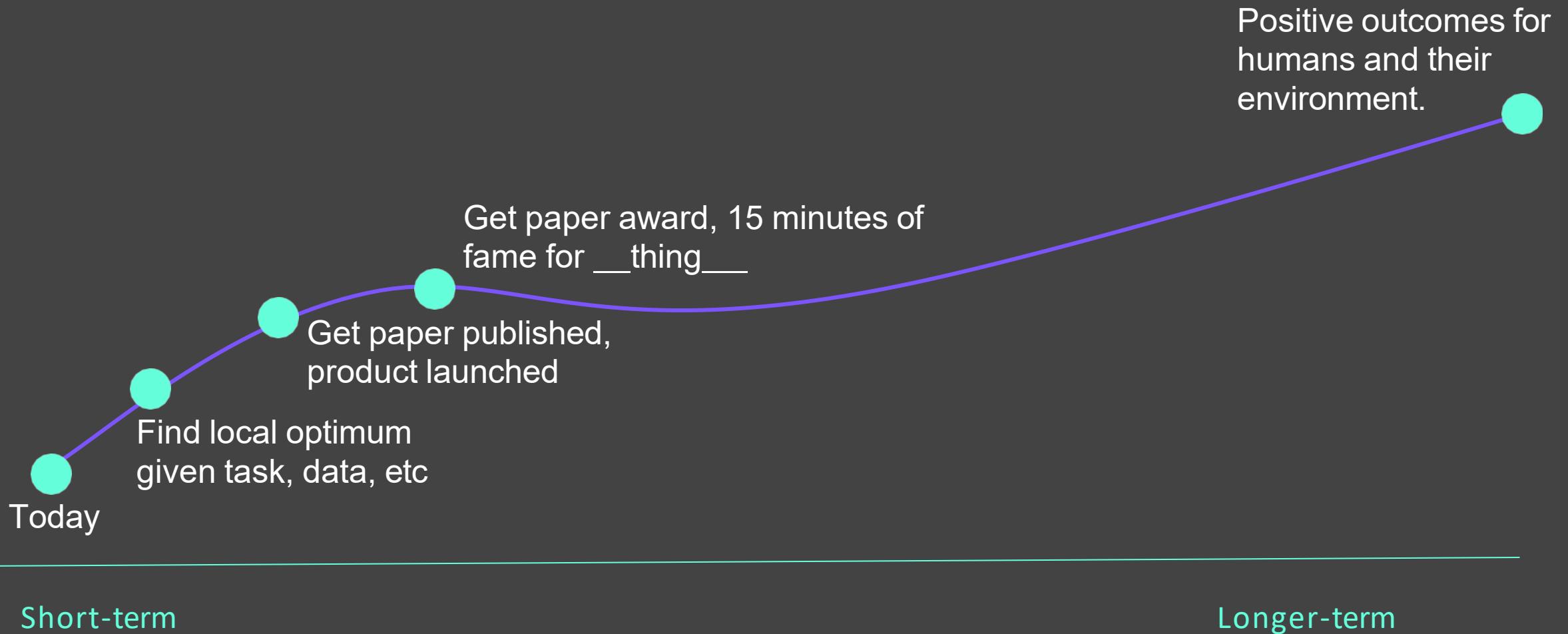
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Short-term

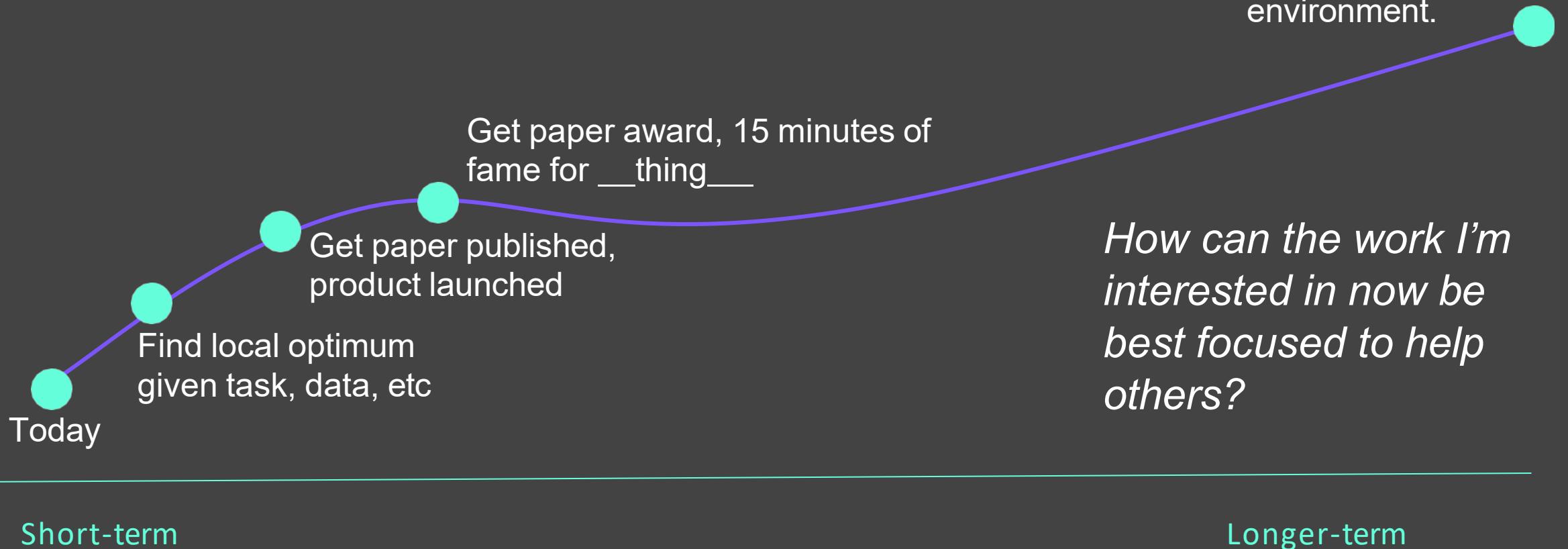
Longer-term







# Begin tracing out paths for the evolution of ethical AI



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It's up to **us** to influence how AI evolves.

Here are some things we can do.

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Data

# Data Really, Really Matters

- Understand your Data: skews, correlations
- Abandon single training-set / testing-set from similar distribution
- Combine inputs from multiple sources
- Use **held-out test set** for hard use cases
- Talk to experts about additional signals



# Tools for data exploration

<https://pair.withgoogle.com/>

Facets: feature visualization libraries

<https://pair-code.github.io/facets/>

Know your data: dataset visualization

<https://knowyourdata.withgoogle.com/>

# Datasheets for Datasets

Timnit Gebru<sup>1</sup> Jamie Morgenstern<sup>2</sup> Briana Vecchione<sup>3</sup> Jennifer Wortman Vaughan<sup>1</sup> Hanna Wallach<sup>1</sup>  
Hal Daumé III<sup>1,4</sup> Kate Crawford<sup>1,5</sup>

Datasheets for Datasets

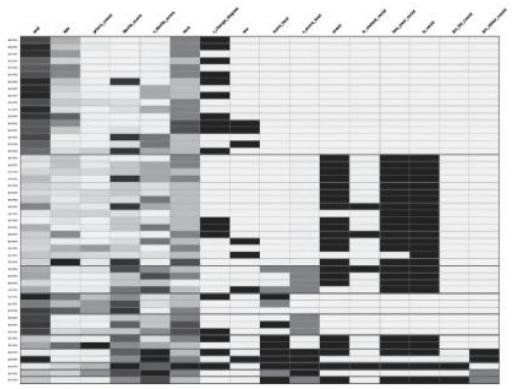
Motivation for Dataset Creation	Data Collection Process
<p><b>Why was the dataset created?</b> (e.g., were there specific tasks in mind, or a specific gap that needed to be filled?)</p> <p><b>What (other) tasks could the dataset be used for?</b> Are there obvious tasks for which it should <i>not</i> be used?</p> <p><b>Has the dataset been used for any tasks already?</b> If so, where are the results so others can compare (e.g., links to published papers)?</p> <p><b>Who funded the creation of the dataset?</b> If there is an associated grant, provide the grant number.</p> <p><b>Any other comments?</b></p>	<p><b>How was the data collected?</b> (e.g., hardware apparatus/sensor, manual human curation, software program, software interface/API; how were these constructs/measures validated?)</p> <p><b>Who was involved in the data collection process?</b> (e.g., students, crowdworkers) How were they compensated? (e.g., how much were crowdworkers paid?)</p> <p><b>Over what time-frame was the data collected?</b> Does the collection time-frame match the creation time-frame?</p> <p><b>How was the data associated with each instance acquired?</b> Was the data directly observable (e.g., raw text, movie ratings), reported by subjects (e.g., survey responses), or indirectly inferred/derived from other data (e.g., part of speech tags; model-based guesses for age or language)? If the latter two, were they validated/verified and if so how?</p>
Dataset Composition	
<p><b>What are the instances?</b> (that is, examples; e.g., documents, images, people, countries) Are there multiple types of instances? (e.g., movies, users, ratings; people, interactions between them; nodes, edges)</p> <p><b>Are relationships between instances made explicit in the data</b> (e.g., social network links, user/movie ratings, etc.)?</p> <p><b>How many instances of each type are there?</b></p>	<p><b>Does the dataset contain all possible instances?</b> Or is it, for instance, a sample (not necessarily random) from a larger set of instances?</p> <p><b>If the dataset is a sample, then what is the population?</b> What was the sampling strategy (e.g., deterministic, probabilistic with specific sampling probabilities)? Is the sample representative of the larger set (e.g., geographic coverage)? If not, why not (e.g., to cover a more diverse range of instances)? How does this affect possible uses?</p>

Dataset Fact Sheet

Metadata
 .csv
<b>Title</b> COMPAS Recidivism Risk Score Data
<b>Author</b> Broward County Clerk's Office, Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida
<b>Email</b> browardcounty@florida.usa
<b>Description</b> Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat.
<b>DOI</b> 10.5281/zenodo.1164791
<b>Time</b> Feb 2013 - Dec 2014
<b>Keywords</b> risk assessment, parole, jail, recidivism, law
<b>Records</b> 7214
<b>Variables</b> 25
priors_count: <i>Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation</i>
numerical
two_year_recid: <i>Lorum ipsum dolor sit amet, consetetur</i>
numerical

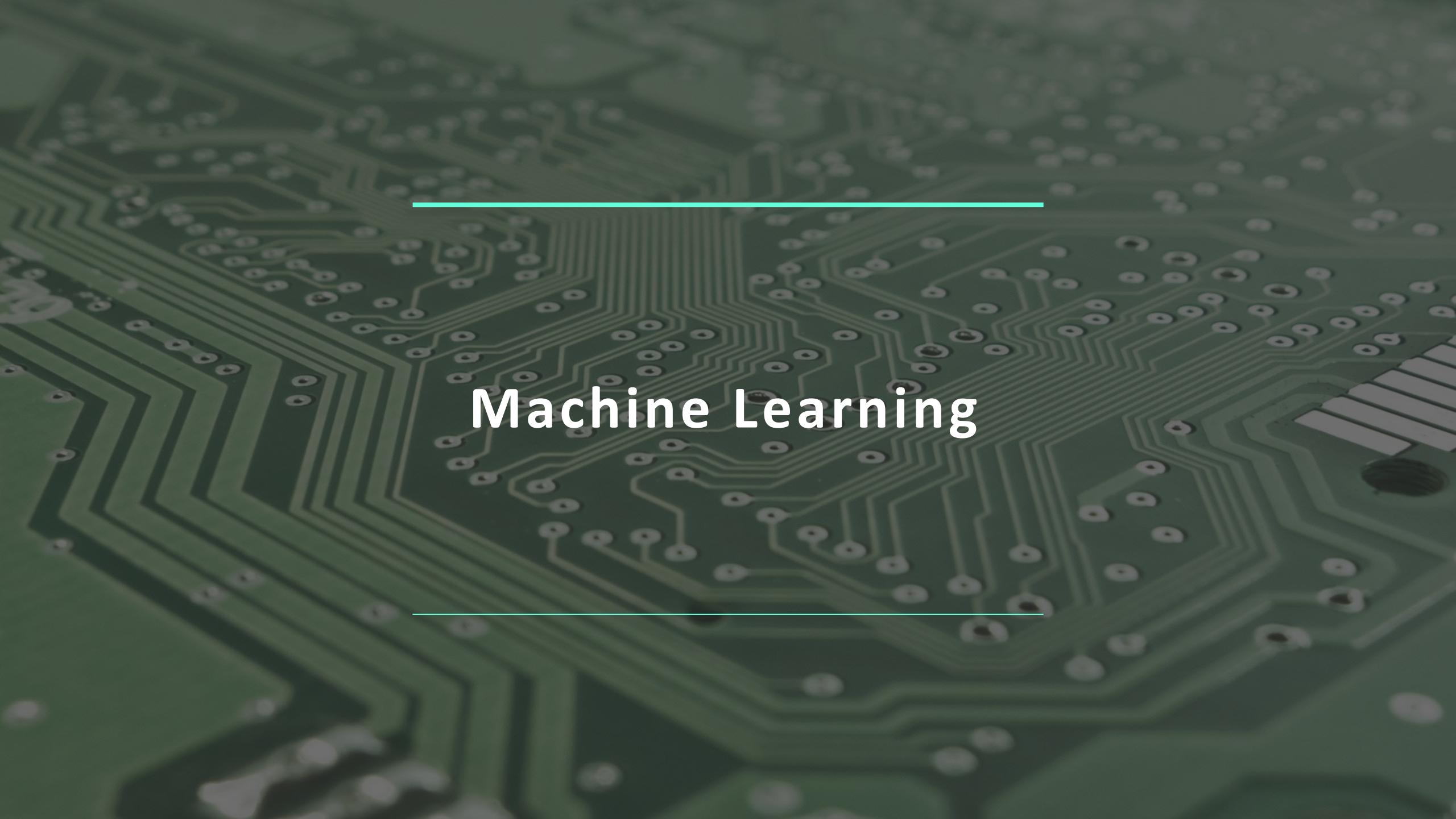
Probabilistic Modeling

Analysis
12



Dependency Probability Pearson R





Machine Learning

# Use ML Techniques for Bias Mitigation and Inclusion

## Bias Mitigation

- Removing the signal for problematic output
  - Stereotyping
  - Sexism, Racism, \*-ism
  - “Debiasing”

# Use ML Techniques for Bias Mitigation and Inclusion

## Bias Mitigation

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  - Stereotyping
  - Sexism, Racism, \*-ism
  - “Debiasing”

## Inclusion

- Adding signal for desired variables
  - Increasing model performance
  - Attention to subgroups or data slices with worst performance



## Multi-task Learning to Increase Inclusion

# Multiple Tasks + Deep Learning for Inclusion: Multi-task Learning Example

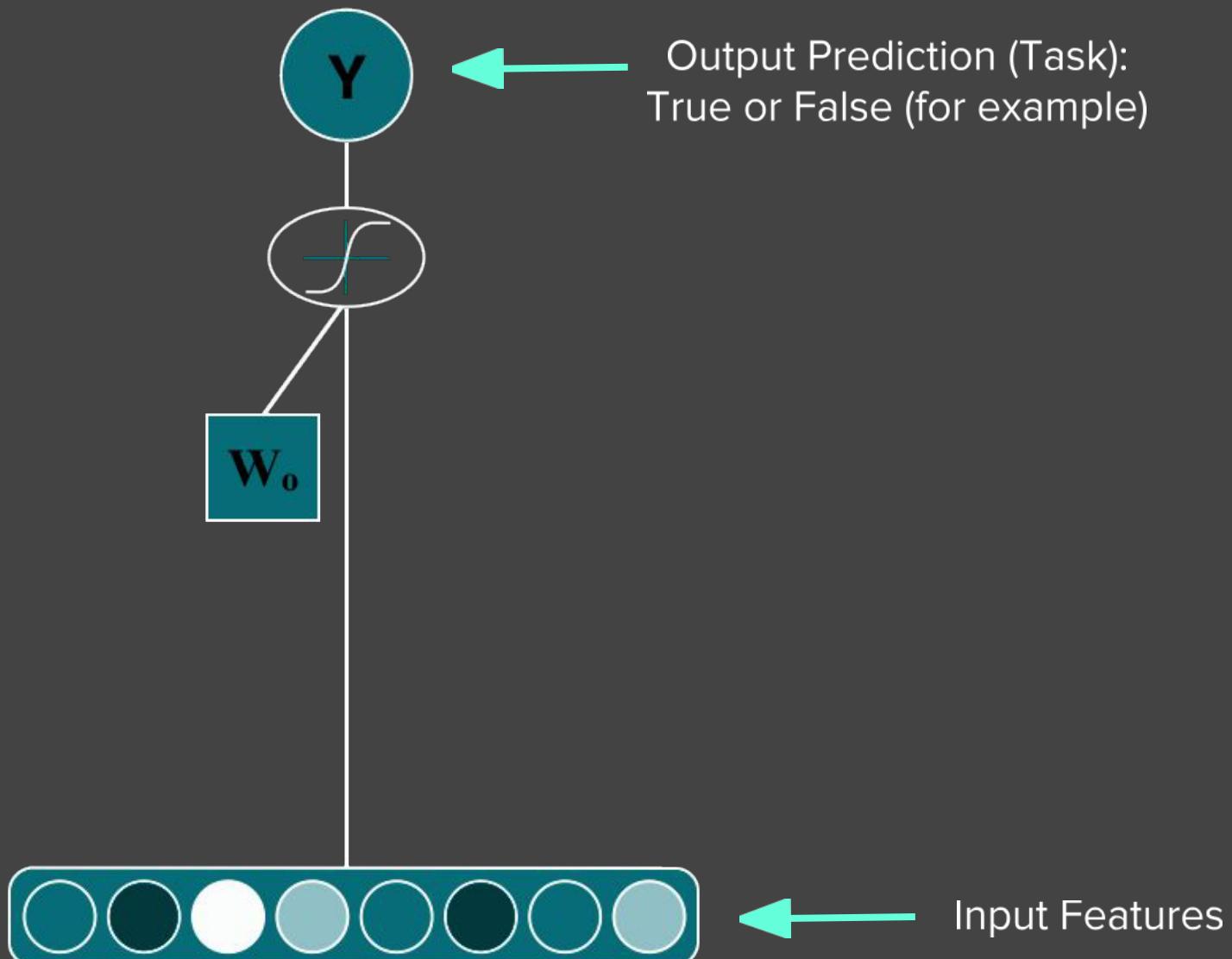
- Collaboration with UPenn WWP
- Working directly with clinicians
- Goals:
  - System that can alert clinicians if suicide attempt is **imminent**
  - Feasibility of diagnoses when few training instances are available



# Multiple Tasks + Deep Learning for Inclusion: Multi-task Learning Example

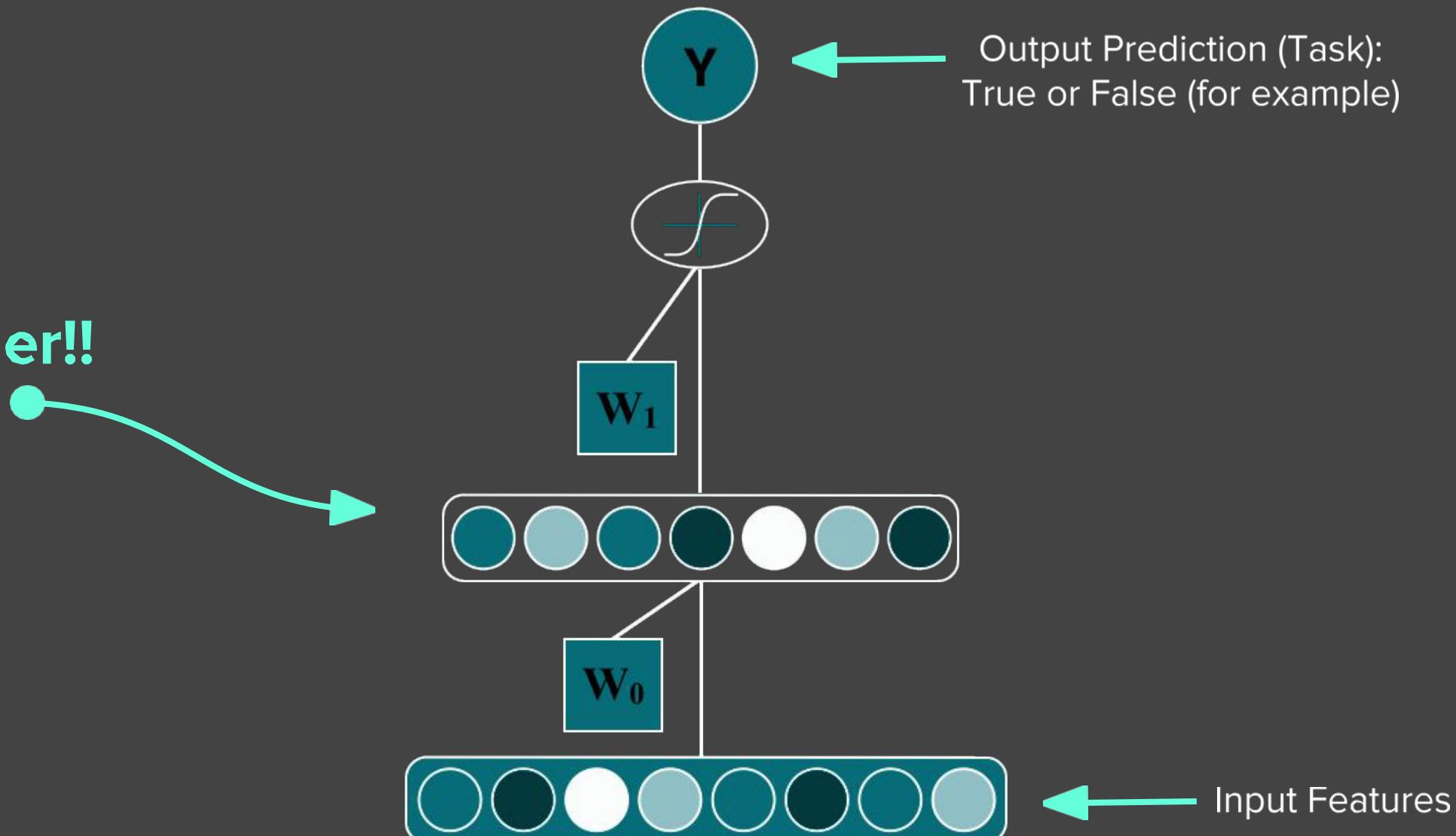
- **Internal Data:**
  - Electronic Health Records
    - Patient or patient family provided
    - Including mental health diagnoses, suicide attempts, and completions
  - Social Media data
- **Proxy Data:**
  - Twitter media data
  - Proxy mental health diagnoses using self-declared diagnoses in tweets
    - “I’ve been diagnosed with X”
    - “I tried to commit suicide”

# Single-Task: Logistic Regression

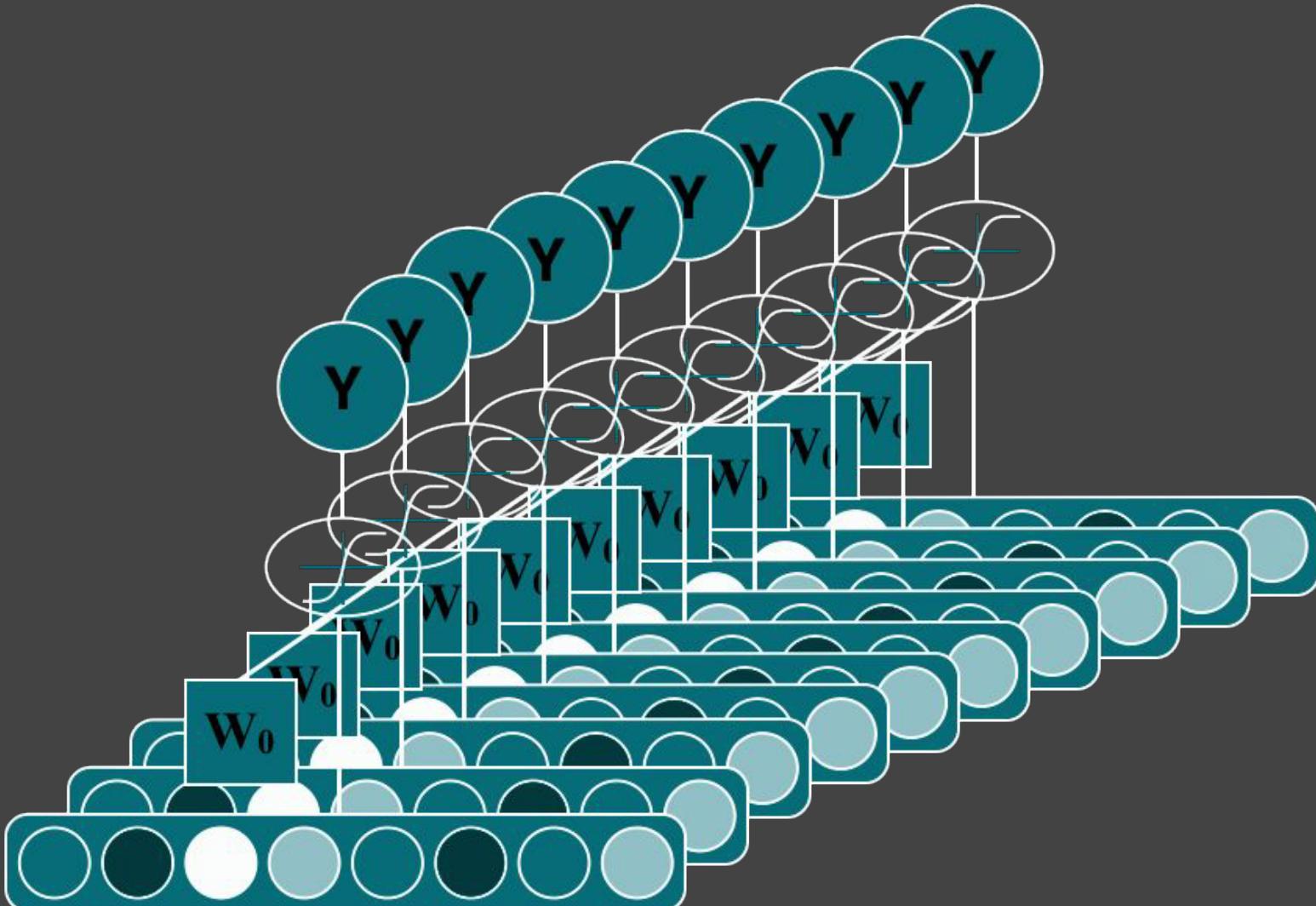


# Single-Task: Deep Learning

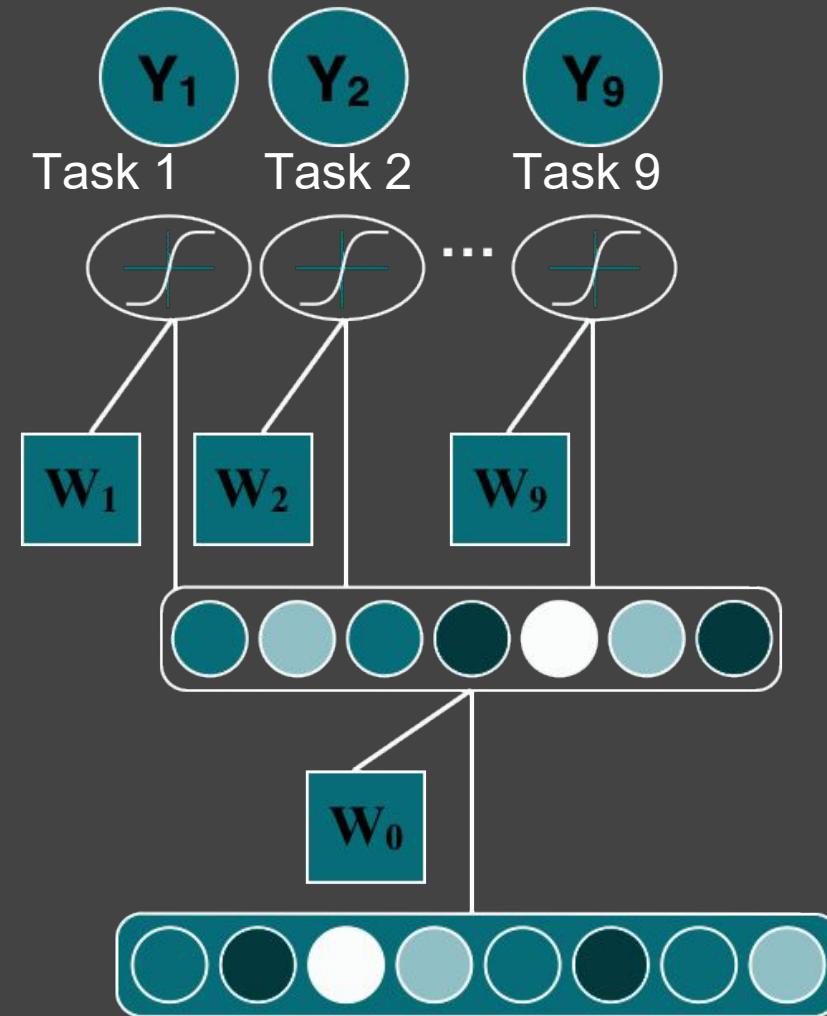
Fancier!!



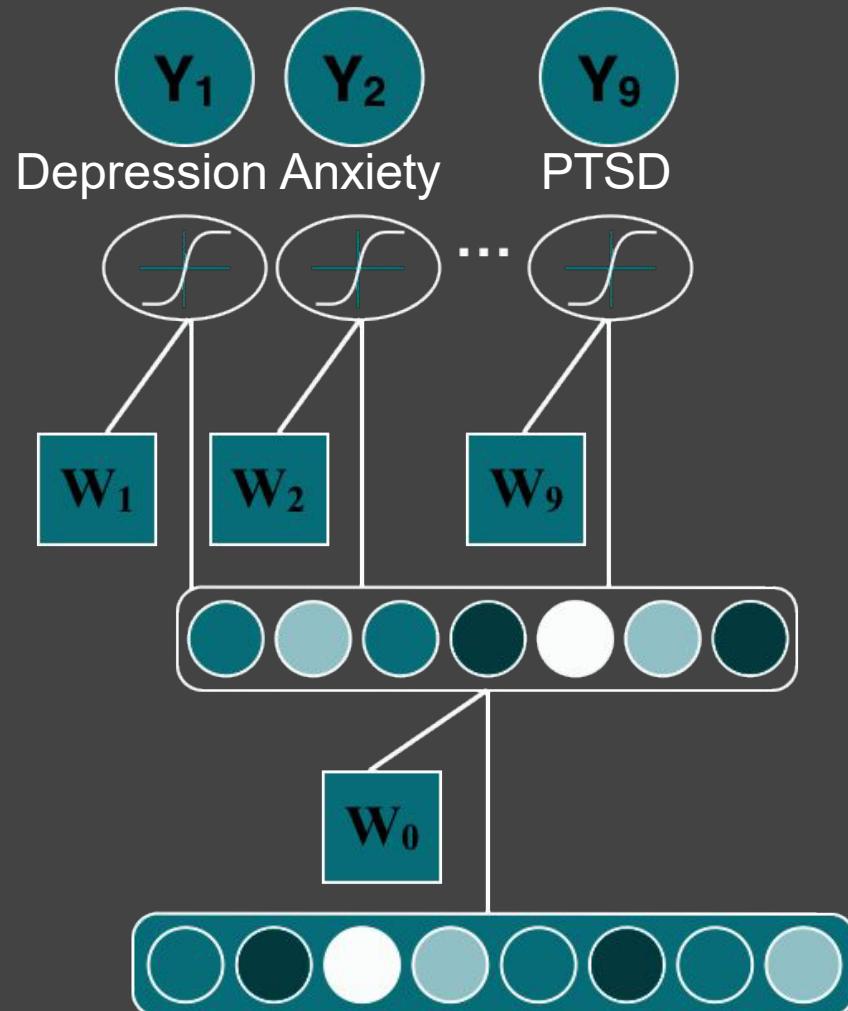
# Multiple Tasks with Basic Logistic Regression



# Multi-task Learning



# Multi-task Learning

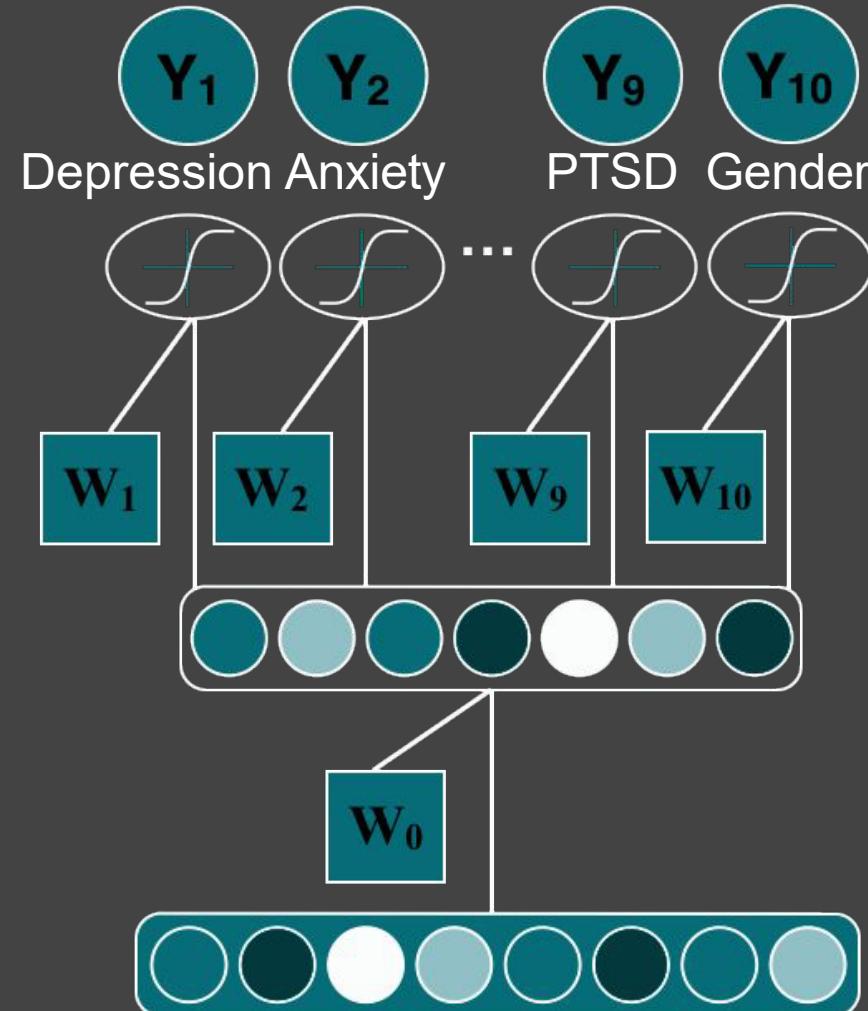


Task	N
Neurotypicality	4791
Anxiety	2407
Depression	1400
Suicide attempt	1208
Eating disorder	749
Schizophrenia	349
Panic disorder	263
PTSD	248
Bipolar disorder	191
All	9611

} <5% positive examples

# Multi-task Learning

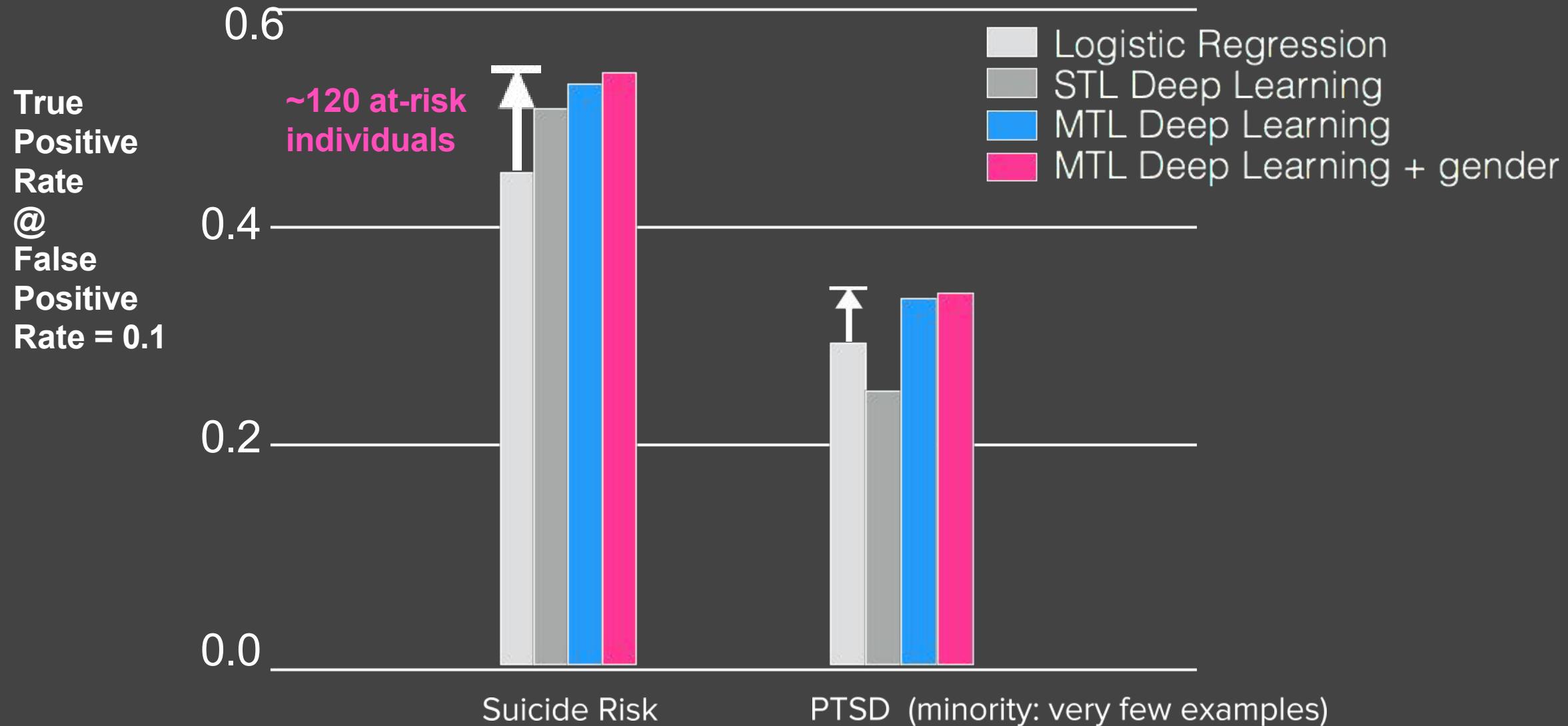
Predicting a known **comorbidity** (or aggravating factor) encourages the network to represent it



Task	N
Gender	1101
Neurotypicality	4791
Anxiety	2407
Depression	1400
Suicide attempt	1208
Eating disorder	749
Schizophrenia	349
Panic disorder	263
PTSD	248
Bipolar disorder	191
All	9611

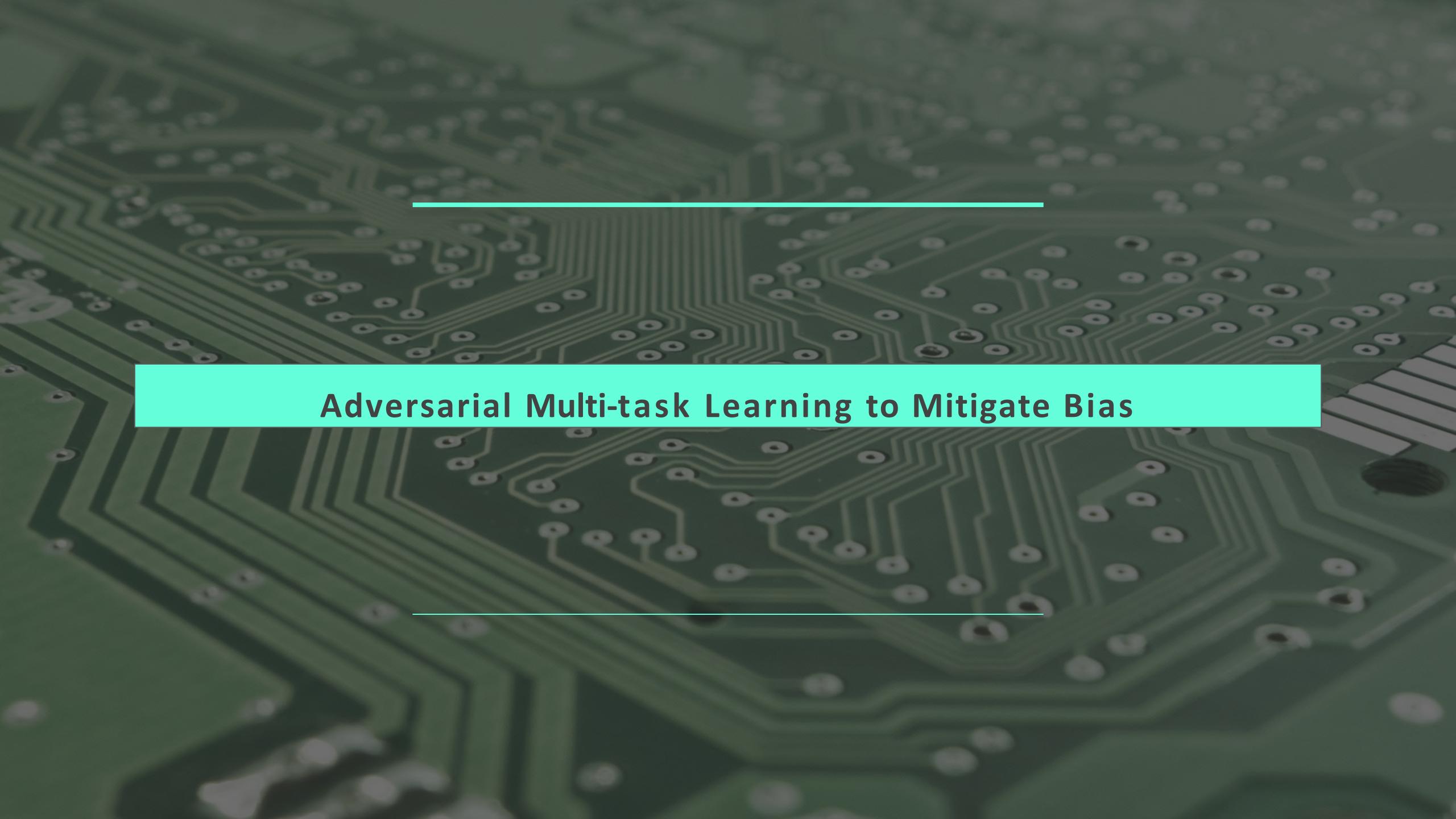
<5% positive examples

# Improved Performance across Subgroups



We sometimes add “auxiliary” tasks to a network to help guide representation learning

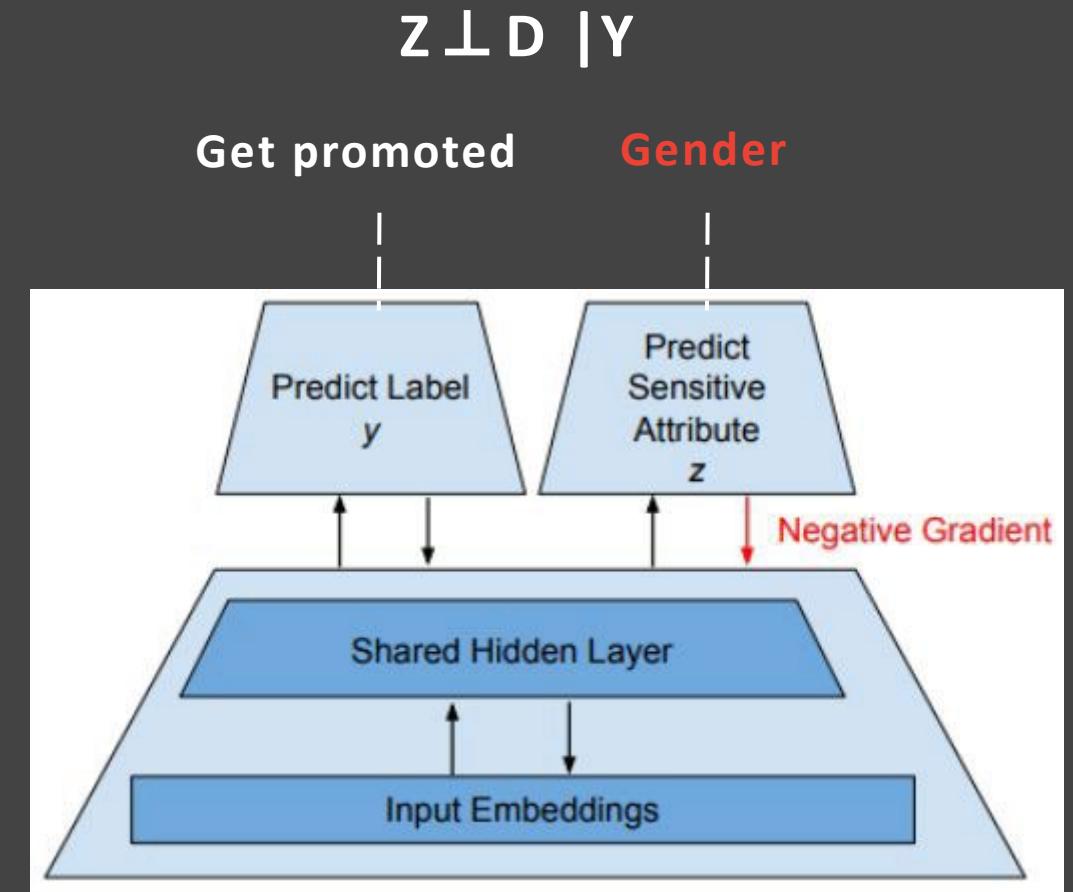
- Adds more data/labels to learn general representations
- Encourages representations to encode information related to additional labels, e.g. adding a gender prediction task encourages final feature layer to more directly encode gender



Adversarial Multi-task Learning to Mitigate Bias

# Multitask Adversarial Learning

- Basic idea: Jointly predict:
  - Output decision  $D$
  - Attribute you'd like to remove from decision  $Z$
  - Negate the effect of the undesired attribute



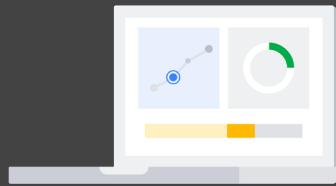
Beutel, Chen, Zhao, Chi. [Data Decisions and Theoretical Implications when Adversarially Learning Fair Representations](#). *FAT/ML*, 2017.  
Zhang, Lemoine, Mitchell. [Mitigating Unwanted Biases with Adversarial Learning](#). *AIES*, 2018.



Release Responsibly

# Model Cards for Model Reporting

- Currently no common practice of reporting how well a model works when it is released



## What It Does

A report that focuses on transparency in model performance to encourage responsible AI adoption and application.



## How It Works

It is an easily discoverable and usable artifact presented at important steps of a user journey for a diverse set of users and public stakeholders.



## Why It Matters

It keeps model developer accountable to release high quality and fair models.

## Model Cards for Model Reporting

Margaret Mitchell, Simone Wu, Andrew Zaldivar, Parker Barnes, Lucy Vasserman, Ben Hutchinson, Elena Spitzer, Inioluwa Deborah Raji, Timnit Gebru  
{mmitchellai,simonewu,andywzaldivar,parkerbarnes,lucyvasserman,benhutch,espitzer,tgebru}@google.com  
deborah.raji@mail.utoronto.ca

# Intended Use, Factors and Subgroups

Example Model Card - Toxicity in Text	
<b>Model Details</b>	Developed by Jigsaw in 2017 as a convolutional neural network trained to predict the likelihood that a comment will be perceived as toxic.
<b>Intended Use</b>	Supporting human moderation, providing feedback to comment authors, and allowing comment viewers to control their experience.
<b>Factors</b>	Identity terms referencing frequently attacked groups focusing on the categories of sexual orientation, gender identity and race.

# Metrics and Data

<b>Metrics</b>	<p><i>Pinned AUC</i>, which measures threshold-agnostic separability of toxic and non-toxic comments for each group, within the context of a background distribution of other groups.</p>
<b>Evaluation Data</b>	A synthetic test set generated using a template-based approach, where identity terms are swapped into a variety of template sentences.
<b>Training Data</b>	Includes comments from a variety of online forums with crowdsourced labels of whether the comment is “toxic”. “Toxic” is defined as, “a rude, disrespectful, or unreasonable comment that is likely to make you leave a discussion”.

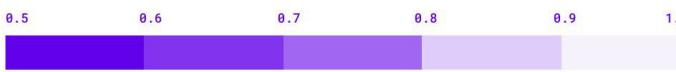
# Considerations, Recommendations

Ethical Considerations	A set of values around community, transparency, inclusivity, privacy and topic-neutrality to guide their work.
Caveats & Recommendations	Synthetic test data covers only a small set of very specific comments. While these are designed to be representative of common use cases and concerns, it is not comprehensive.

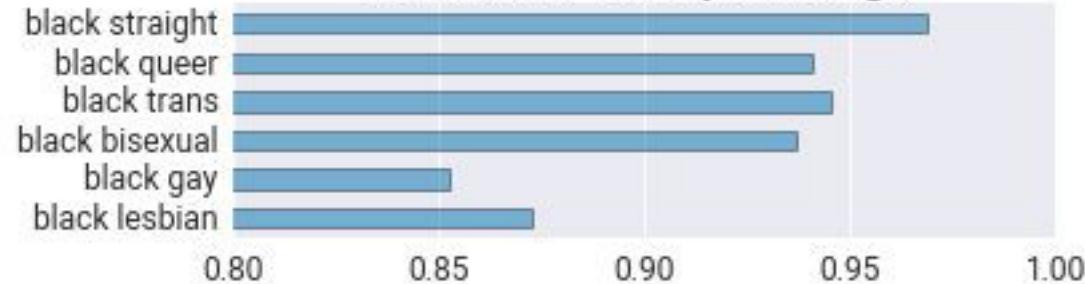
# Disaggregated Intersectional Evaluation

## Toxicity @1

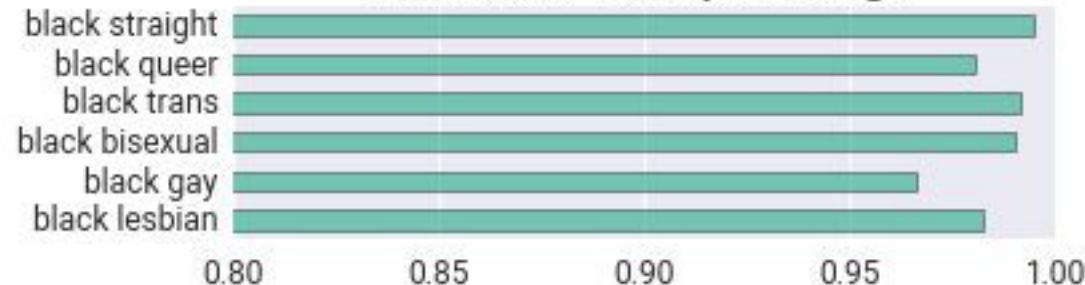
Identity groups	Subgroup AUC	BPSN AUC	BNSP AUC
lesbian	0.93	0.74	0.98
gay	0.94	0.65	0.99
queer	0.98	0.96	0.93
straight	0.99	1.00	0.87
bisexual	0.96	0.95	0.92
homosexual	0.87	0.53	0.99
heterosexual	0.96	0.94	0.92
cis	0.99	1.00	0.87
trans	0.97	0.96	0.91
nonbinary	0.99	0.99	0.90
black	0.91	0.85	0.95
white	0.91	0.88	0.94



Pinned AUC Toxicity Scores @1



Pinned AUC Toxicity Scores @5



Jigsaw



The False Positive

# Things to remember

- Unless actively countered, bias in algorithms is an expected (harmful) outcome, due to bias in the data and people involved in creation and use of the algorithms
- Be wary of using algorithms to make decisions about people, e.g. criminality, admissions, hiring
- Adding auxiliary tasks in multi-task learning can improve prediction in under-represented groups
- Adversarial learning can be used to learn representations that are not predictive of sensitive attributes
- Model cards, dataset cards, and intersectional evaluation are used to disclose potential biases and limitations

