

# Introduction to Machine Learning

Introduction to ML Concepts,  
Regression, and Classification

Instructor: Pat Virtue

# Course Staff

## Teaching Assistants



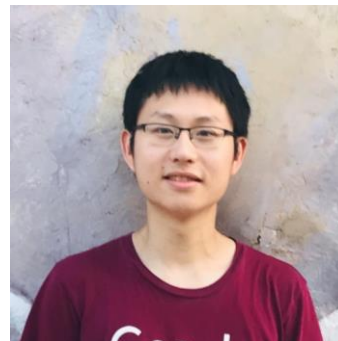
Alex  
Singh



Annie  
Hu



George  
Brown



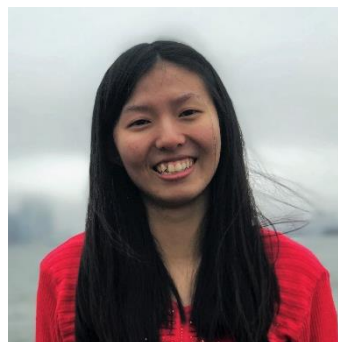
Haoran  
Fei



Michell  
Ma

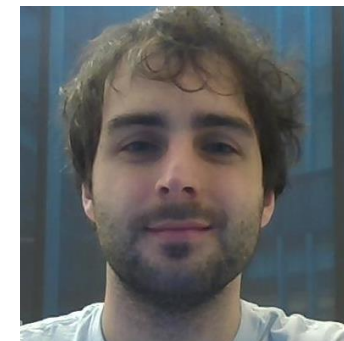


Nidhi  
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## Education Associate



Daniel  
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## Instructor



Pat  
Virtue

# Course Information

Website: <https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~10315>

Canvas: [canvas.cmu.edu](https://canvas.cmu.edu)



Gradescope: [gradescope.com](https://gradescope.com)



Communication: [piazza.com](https://piazza.com)



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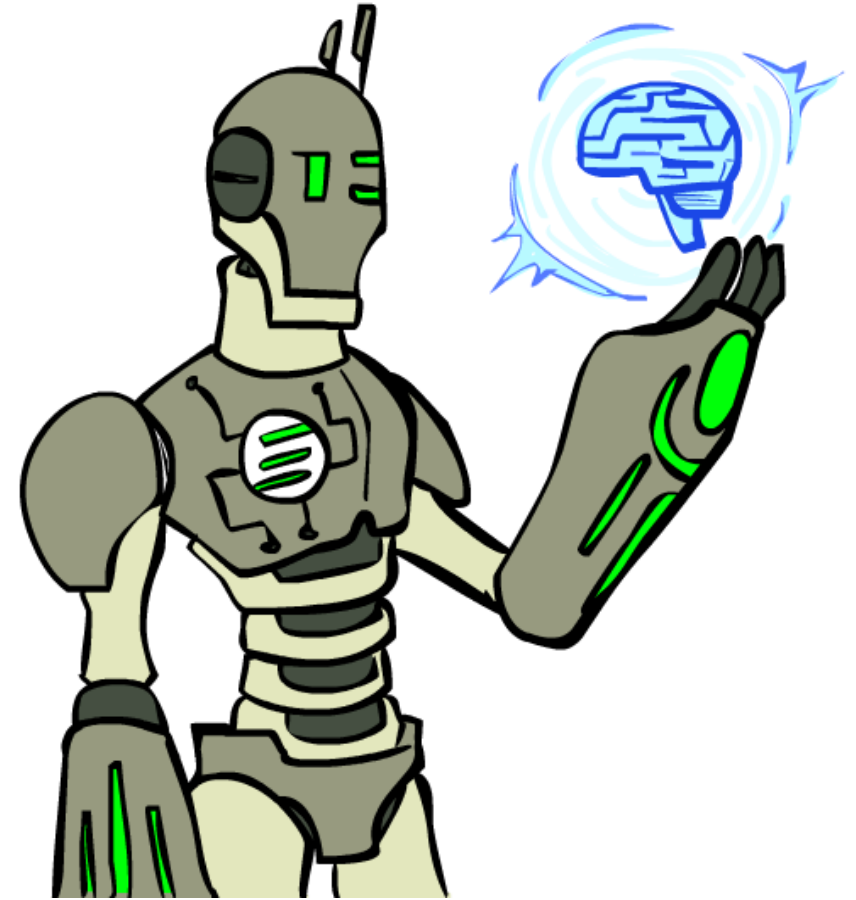
# Today

What is AI/ML?

A brief history of AI/ML

Some logistics

Introduction to important ML concepts  
that we'll use throughout the semester



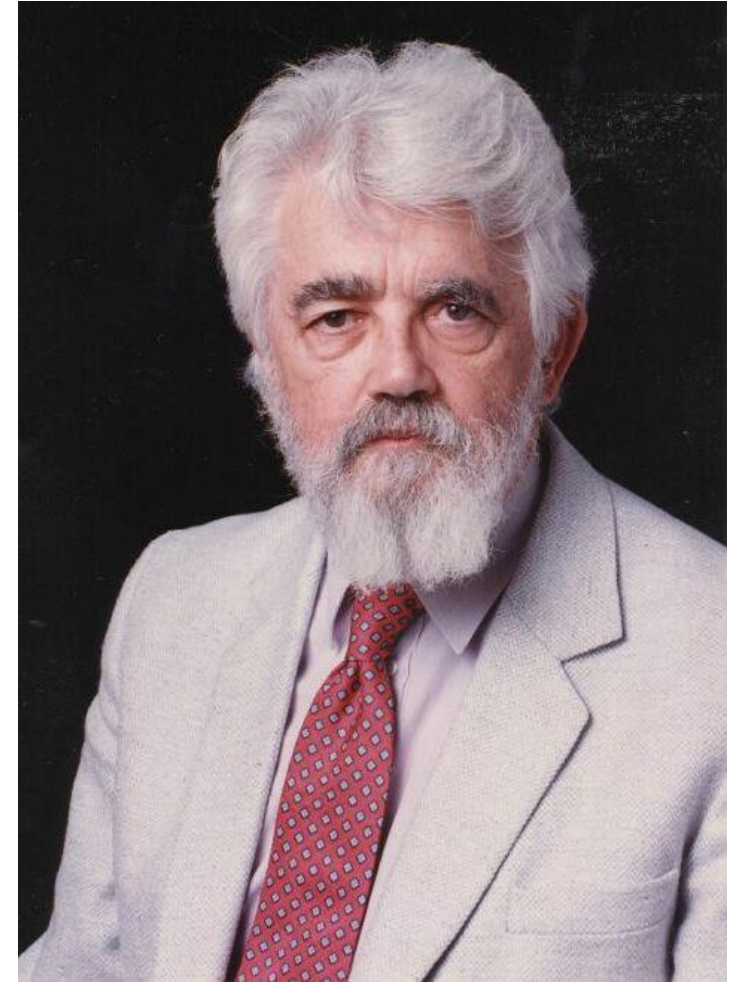
# AI Definition by John McCarthy

## What is artificial intelligence

- It is the science and engineering of making intelligent machines, especially intelligent computer programs

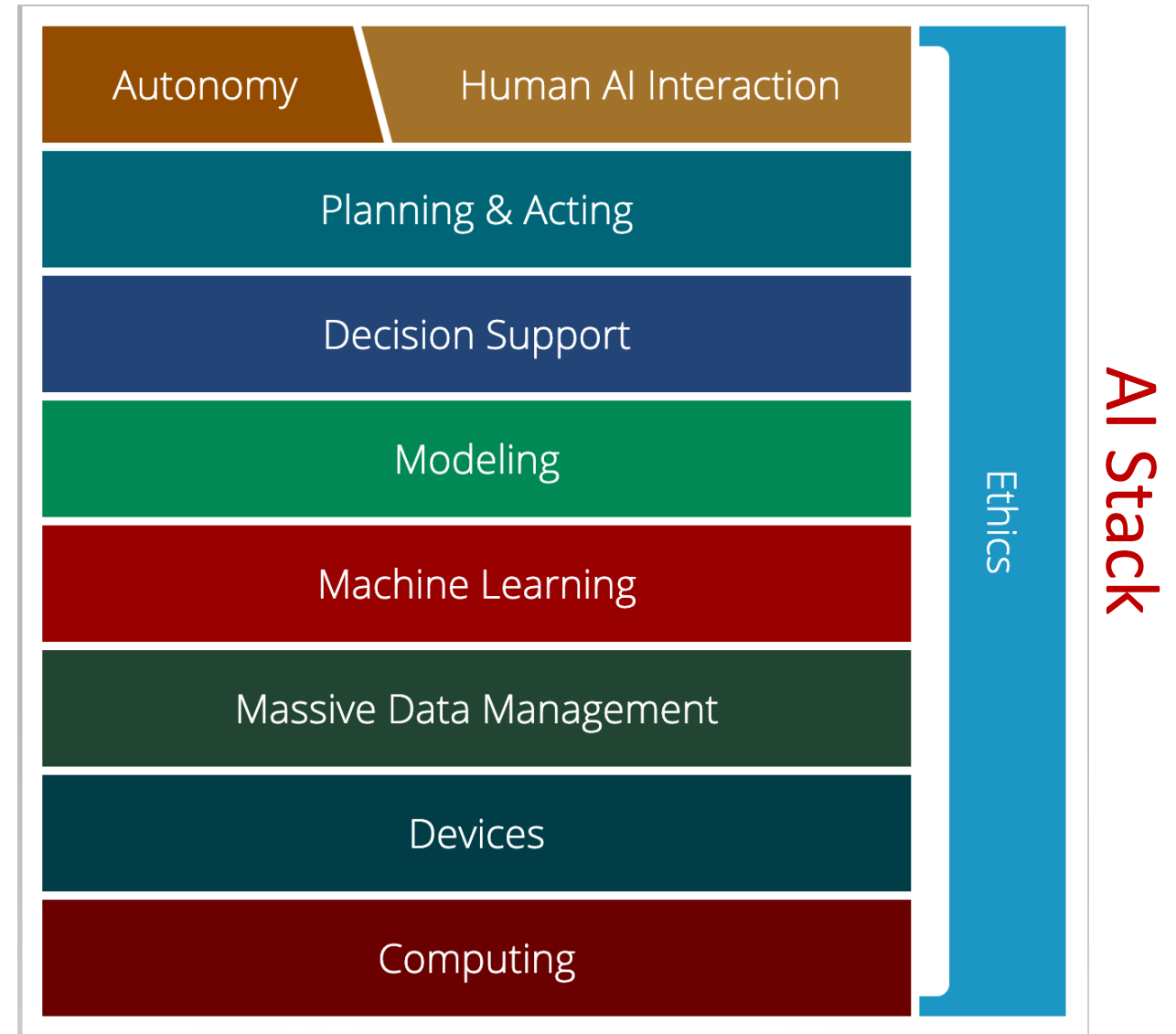
## What is intelligence

- Intelligence is the computational part of the ability to achieve goals in the world



# AI Stack for CMU AI

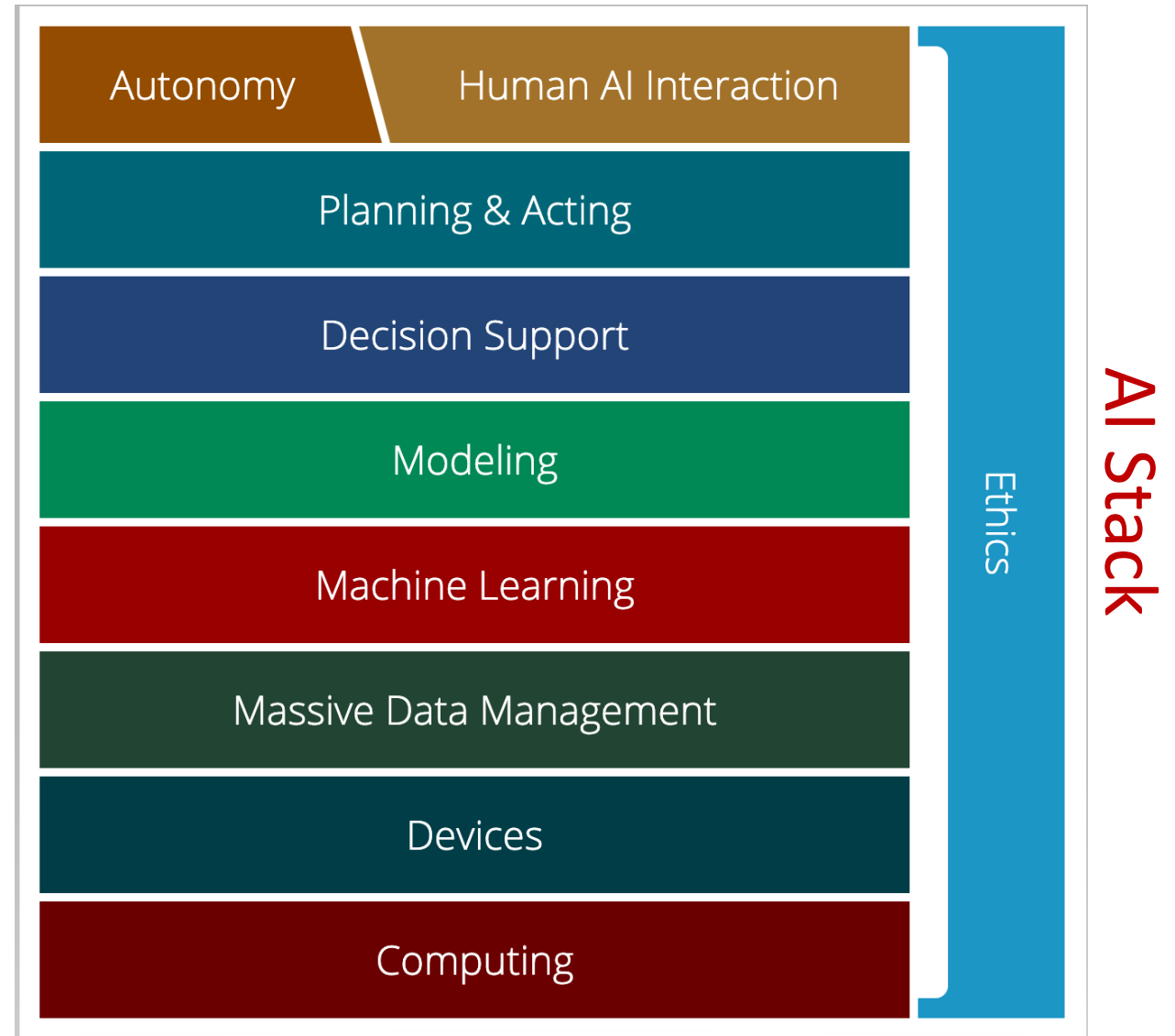
“AI must understand the human needs and it must make smart design decisions based on that understanding”



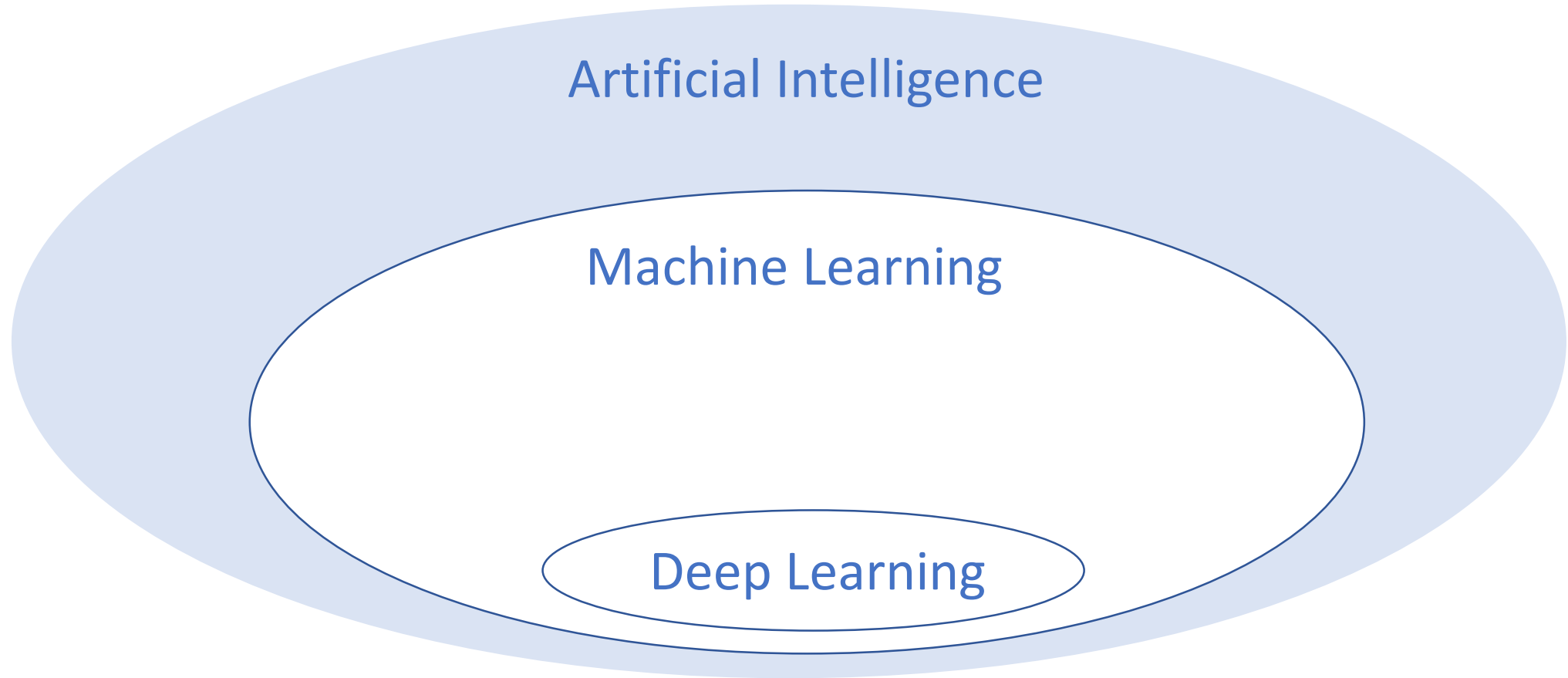
# AI Stack for CMU AI

“Machine learning focuses on creating programs that learn from experience.”

“It advances computing through exposure to new scenarios, testing and adaptation, while using pattern- and trend-detection to help the computer make better decisions in similar, subsequent situations.”

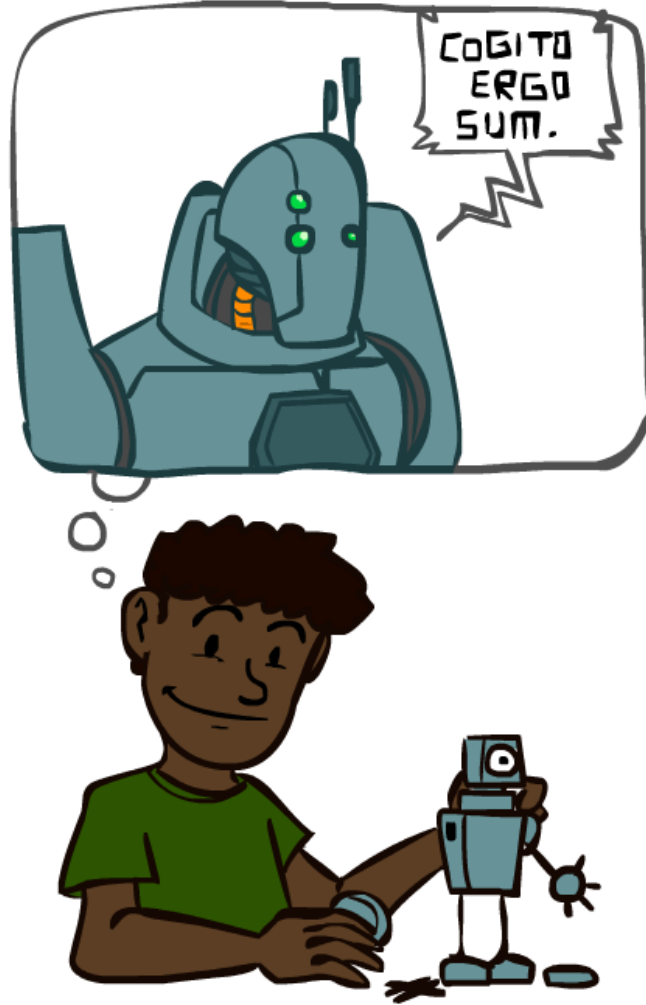


# Artificial Intelligence vs Machine Learning?

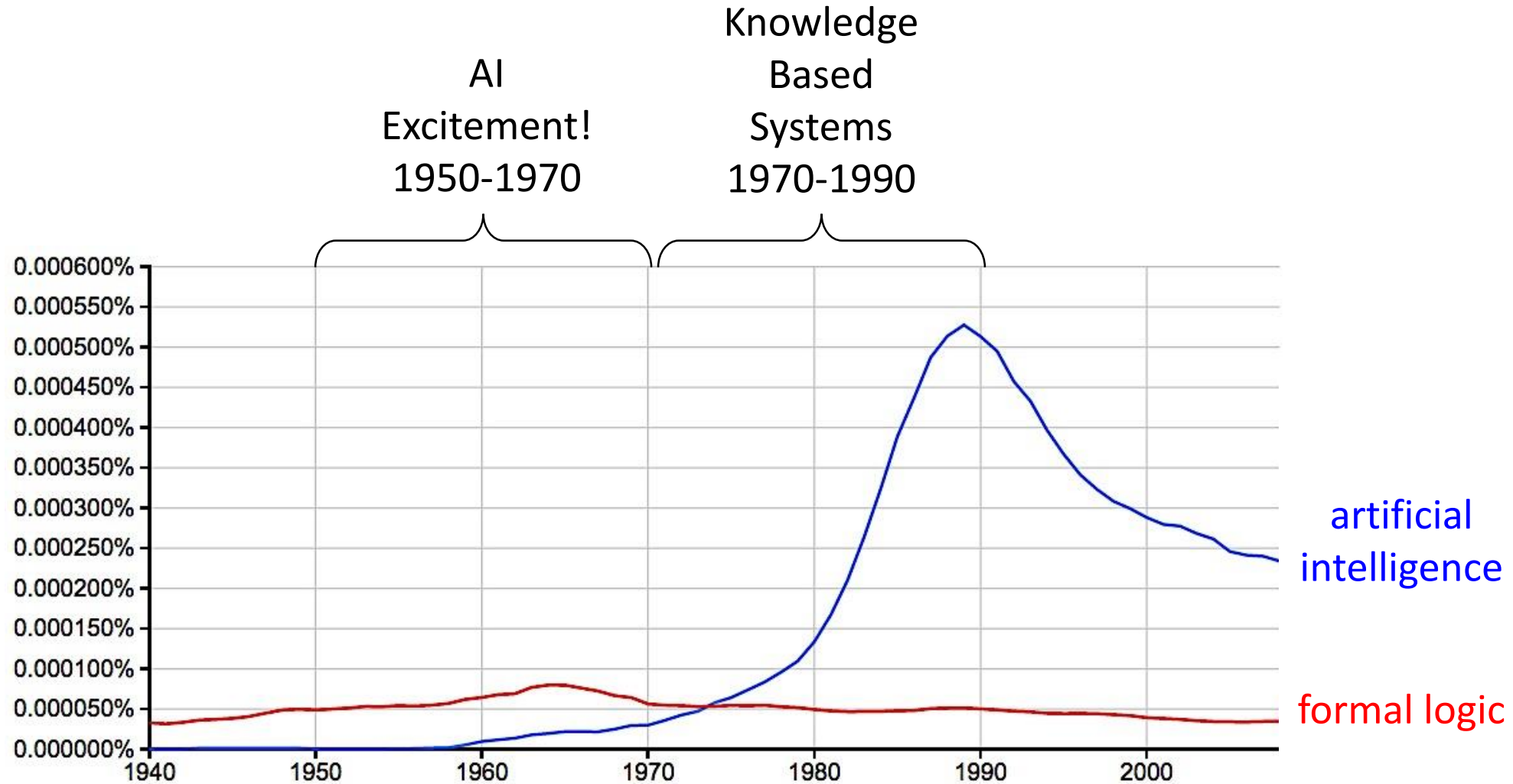




# A Brief History of AI



# A Brief History of AI



<https://books.google.com/ngrams>

# What went wrong?



## Dog

- Barks
- Has Fur
- Has four legs

## Buster



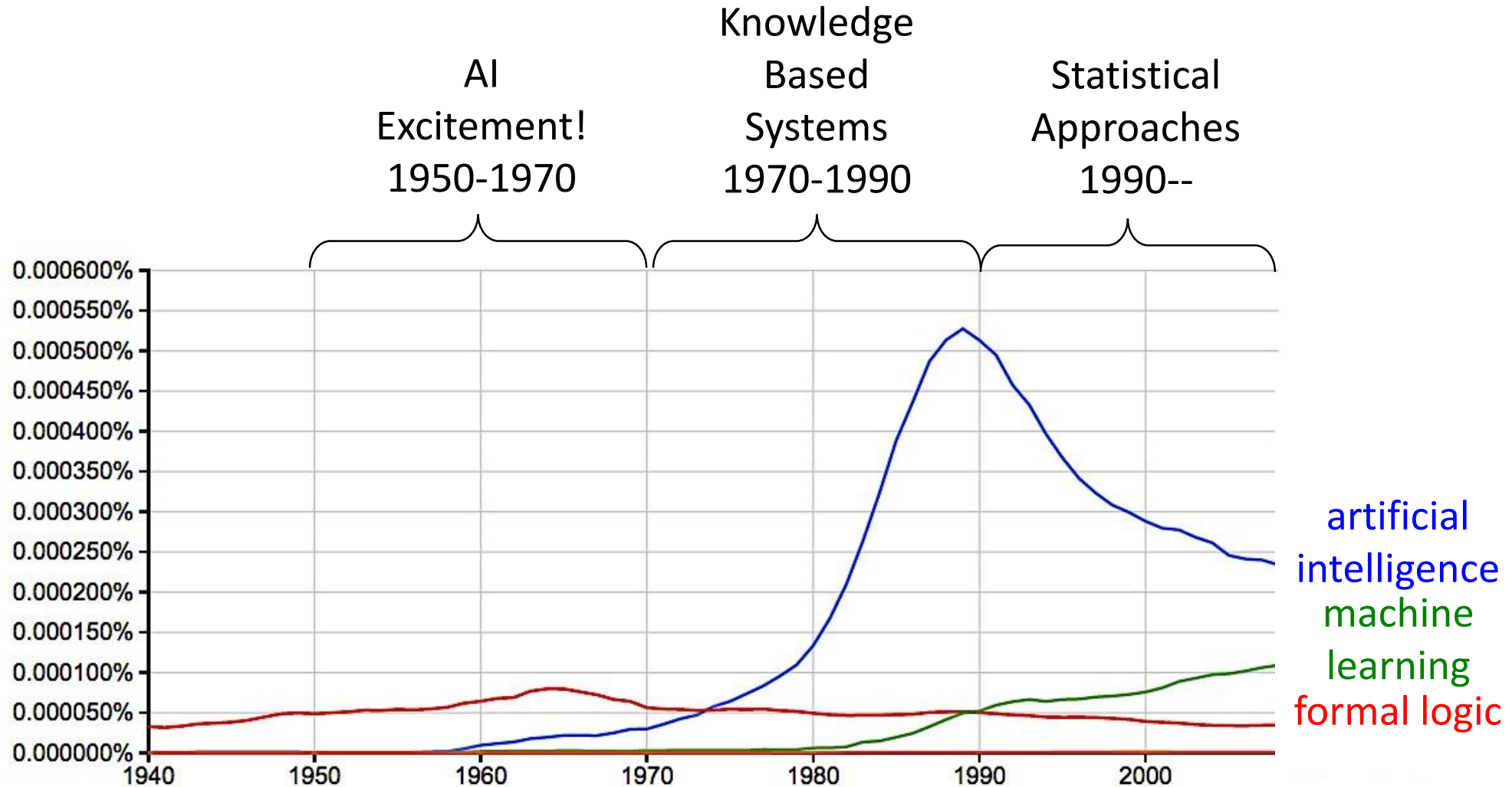
# Knowledge-based Systems

Write programs that simulate how people do it.

Problems:

- Will never get better than a person
- Requires deep introspection
- Sometimes requires experts (“expert systems”, “knowledge elicitation”)
- Often, we don’t know how we do things (e.g. ride bicycle)
  - Difference between knowing and knowing-how-we-know
- Sometimes we *think* we know, but we’re wrong

# A Brief History of AI



<https://books.google.com/ngrams>

# Statistical Methods

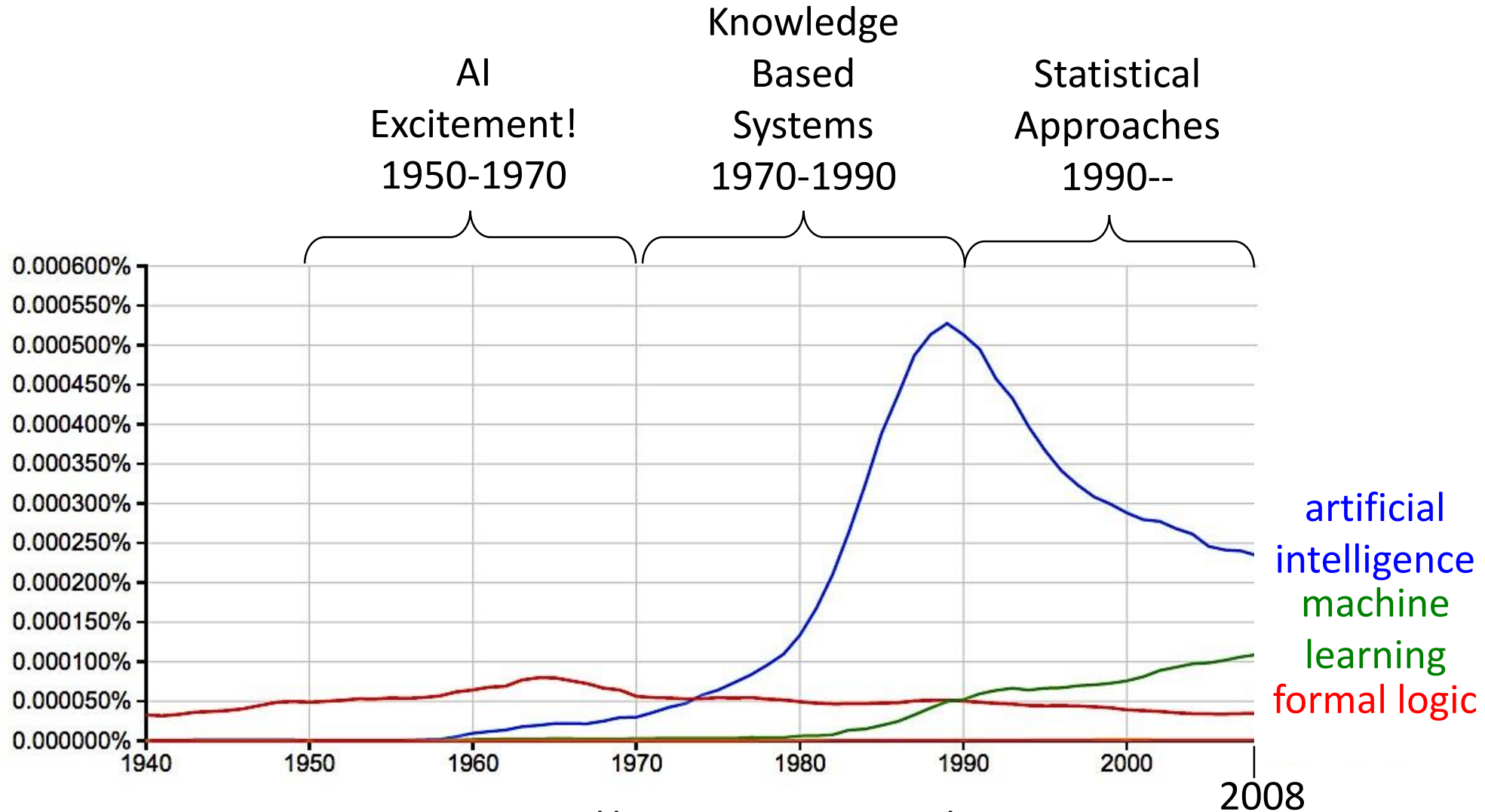
Write programs that learn the task from examples

- + You don't need to know how to do it yourself
- + Performance (should) improve with more examples

But:

- Need lots of examples!
- When it finally works, you may not understand how

# A Brief History of AI



<https://books.google.com/ngrams>

# A Brief History of AI

## 1940-1950: Early days

- 1943: McCulloch & Pitts: Boolean circuit model of brain
- 1950: Turing's "Computing Machinery and Intelligence"

## 1950—70: Excitement: Look, Ma, no hands!

- 1950s: Early AI programs, including Samuel's checkers program, Newell & Simon's Logic Theorist, Gelernter's Geometry Engine
- 1956: Dartmouth meeting: "Artificial Intelligence" adopted

## 1970—90: Knowledge-based approaches

- 1969—79: Early development of knowledge-based systems
- 1980—88: Expert systems industry booms
- 1988—93: Expert systems industry busts: "AI Winter"

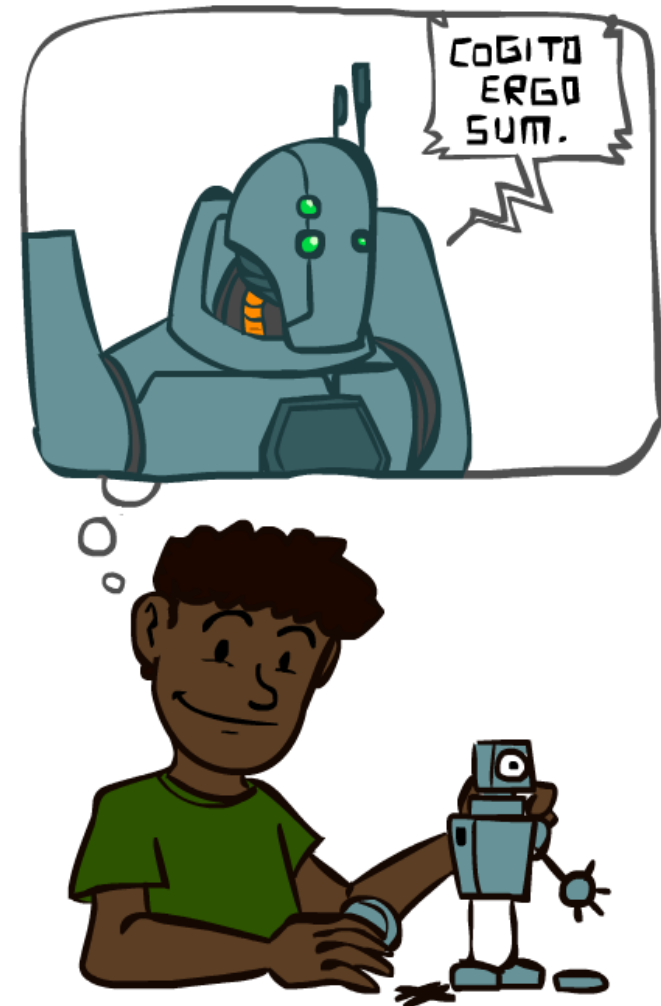
## 1990—: Statistical approaches

- Resurgence of probability, focus on uncertainty
- General increase in technical depth
- Agents and learning systems... "AI Spring"?

## 2012—: Deep learning

- 2012: ImageNet & AlexNet

Images: ai.berkeley.edu





# Machine Learning and Statistics

Statistics is also about learning from data

Statistics has been around from much longer!

What's the difference?

Until the mid 1990s:

## Statistics:

- A branch of mathematics
- Emphasized rigor, correctness, provable properties (“is it correct?”)
- Was not very concerned with scaling
  - Not much awareness of computational complexity

## Machine Learning:

- A branch of Computer Science / AI
- Focus on heuristics, making things work in practice (“does it work?”)
- Not much awareness of statistical theory

# Machine Learning and Statistics

From the mid 1990s:

The two fields have effectively merged

- Carnegie Mellon has led the way!

ML is now often called “Statistical Machine Learning”

- There is very little non-statistical ML today

# The Machine Learning Framework

## Formalize the task as a mapping from input to output

- Task examples will usually be pairs: (input, correct\_output)

## Formalize performance as an error measure

- or more generally, as an objective function (aka Loss function)

## Examples:

- Medical Diagnosis
  - mapping input to one of several classes/categories (aka classification)
- Predict tomorrow's Temperature
  - mapping input to a number (aka regression)
- Chance of Survival: From patient data to  $p(\text{survive} \geq 5 \text{ years})$ 
  - mapping input to probability (aka logistic regression)
- Driving recommendation
  - mapping input into a plan (aka Planning)

# Choices in ML Problem Formulation

Often, the same task can be formulated in more than one way:

## Ex. 1: Loan applications

- creditworthiness/score (regression)
- probability of default (logistic regression)
- loan decision (classification)

## Ex. 2: Chess

- Nature of available training examples/experience:
  - expert advice (painful to experts)
  - games against experts (less painful but limited, and not much control)
  - experts' games (almost unlimited, but only "found data" – no control)
  - games against self (unlimited, flexible, but can you learn this way?)
- Choice of target function: board → move vs. board → score

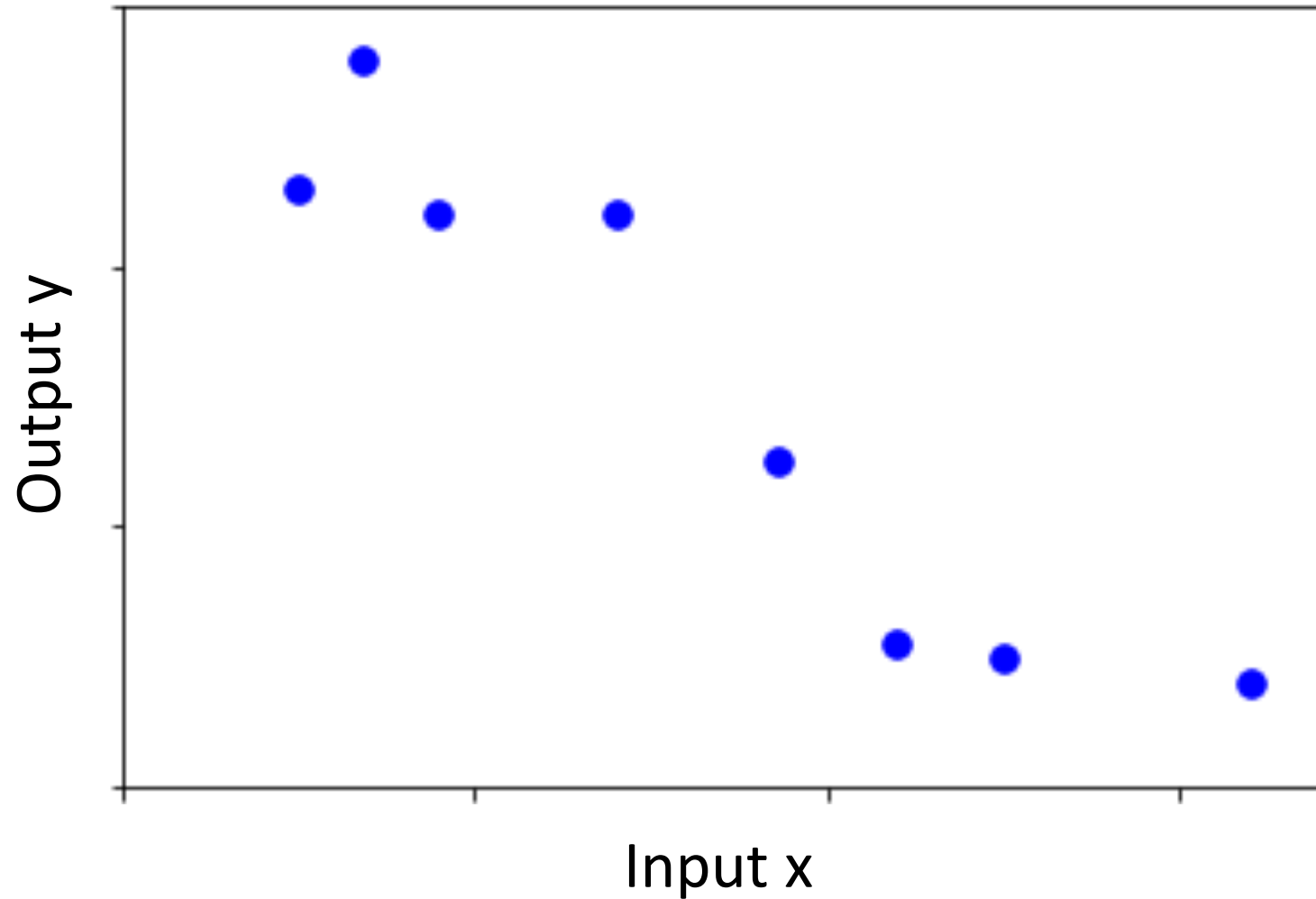
# Machine Learning

We **cannot** learn from data

We **can** learn from data + *assumptions*

# Assumptions

What assumptions do we make with this data?



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What assumptions do we make with this data?



More robust examples: <http://yann.lecun.com/exdb/lenet/index.html>

# Assumptions

## Face dataset





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# Course Information

- Course Levels and Course Scope
- Participation
- Video
- Waitlist
- Prerequisites
- Teamwork
- Mental health

# Announcements

## Recitation starting this Friday

- Recommended. Materials are fair game for exams
- One Section

## Assignments:

- HW1 (online)
  - Released this week
  - Due next week

# How to Approach a Machine Learning Problem

## 1. Consider your goal $\rightarrow$ definition of task **T**

- E.g. make good loan decisions, win chess competitions, ...

## 2. Consider the nature of available (or potential) experience **E**

- How much data can you get? What would it cost (in money, time or effort)?

## 3. Choose type of output **Y** to learn

- (Numerical? Category? Probability? Plan?)

## 4. Choose the Performance measure **P** (error/loss function)

## 5. Choose a representation for the input **X**

## 6. Choose a set of possible solutions **H** (hypothesis space)

- set of functions  $h: X \rightarrow Y$
- (often, by choosing a representation for them)

## 7. Choose or design a learning algorithm

- for using examples (**E**) to converge on a member of **H** that optimizes **P**

# Notation

# Vocab: General ML Concepts

Data / examples / experience

- Input
- Output (labels)

Model

Parameters

- Model complexity

Hypothesis function

- Prediction

Error/loss, accuracy

Objective function

Global/local min/max

Training, validation, test set

Over (under) fitting

Classification

Regression

Supervised (unsupervised) learning

# Vocab: Specific ML Concepts / Techniques

Linear model

Mean squared error

Gradient Descent

Stochastic Gradient Descent

Learning rate

Batch

Sigmoid

ReLU

Softmax

Cross entropy

Neural network