

# #HeavyD — Stopping Malicious Attacks Against Data Mining and Machine Learning

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In-Depth Seminars – D22



Trust in, and value from, information systems

San Francisco Chapter



2013 Fall Conference – “Sail to Success”

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# Agenda

- Introduction
- Threats to Machine Learning
- Detection and Stopping Attacks

# Disclaimers

- Math and Stats
- Comp Sci
- Human Behavior
  - Anthropological
  - Political
  - Philosophical
  - Historical

*“Automated” Vehicles  
Crashing and Exploding*

*“He says his tribe doesn’t have a  
written language!”*



# INTRODUCTION TO DATA MINING AND MACHINE LEARNING



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# What is Data Mining?

*Discover and Generate New Knowledge  
Through Large Data Set Examination*

- Data **Archaeology**
- Information Harvesting
- Information Discovery
- Knowledge Extraction
- Knowledge Discovery
- Multivariate Statistics
- Pattern Recognition
- Advanced/Predictive Analysis
- Machine Learning...



# Data Mining Process

1. Detect Anomalies
2. Learn Association Rules
3. Cluster
4. Classify
5. Regress

Look for  $x$  and you will find  $y$ ...

An  $x$  is closer to  $y$  when...



# Already Found in Many Industries



Finance



Retail



Online



Casino

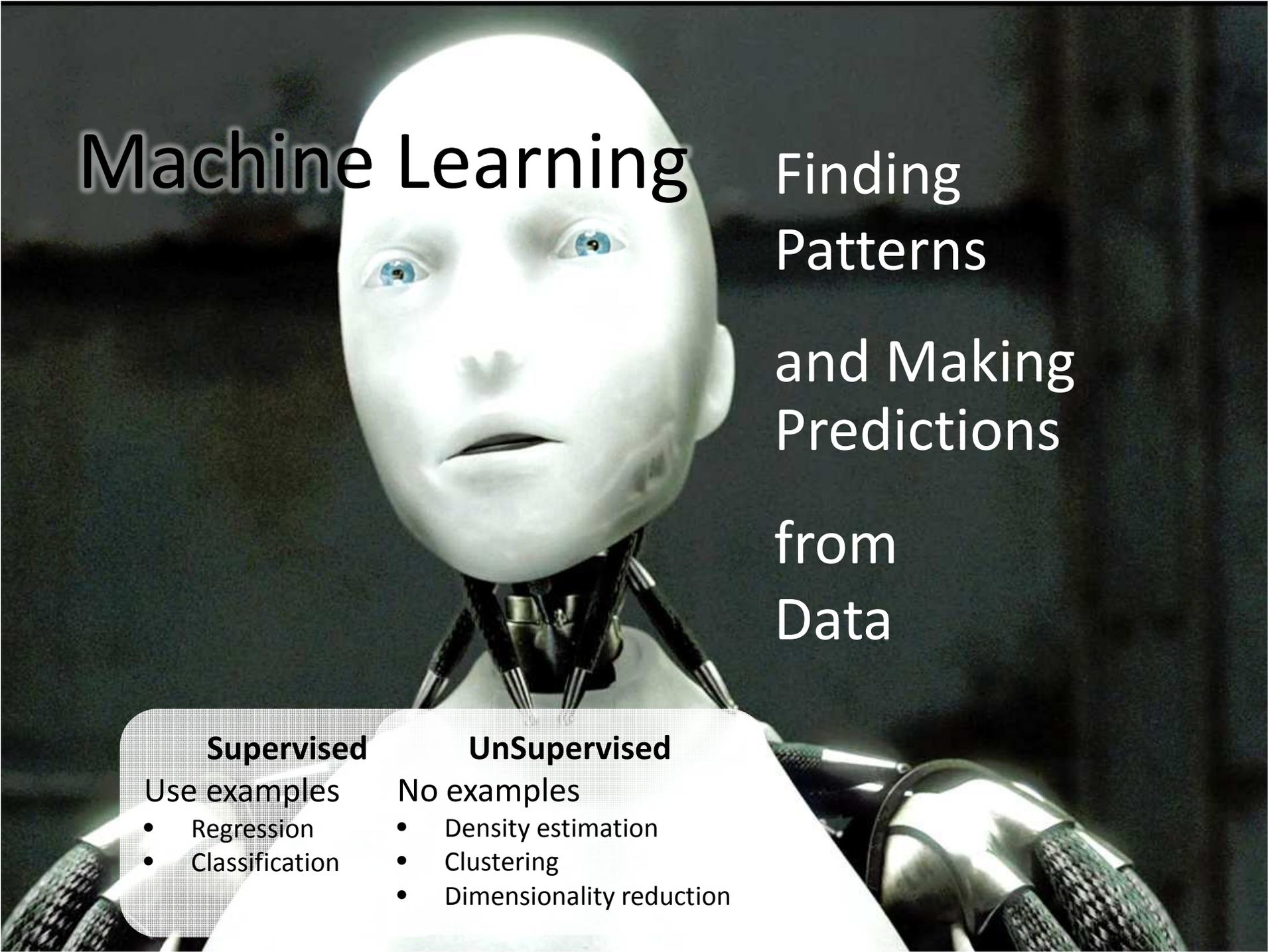


Travel



Insurance

# Machine Learning



Finding  
Patterns  
and Making  
Predictions  
from  
Data

## **Supervised**

Use examples

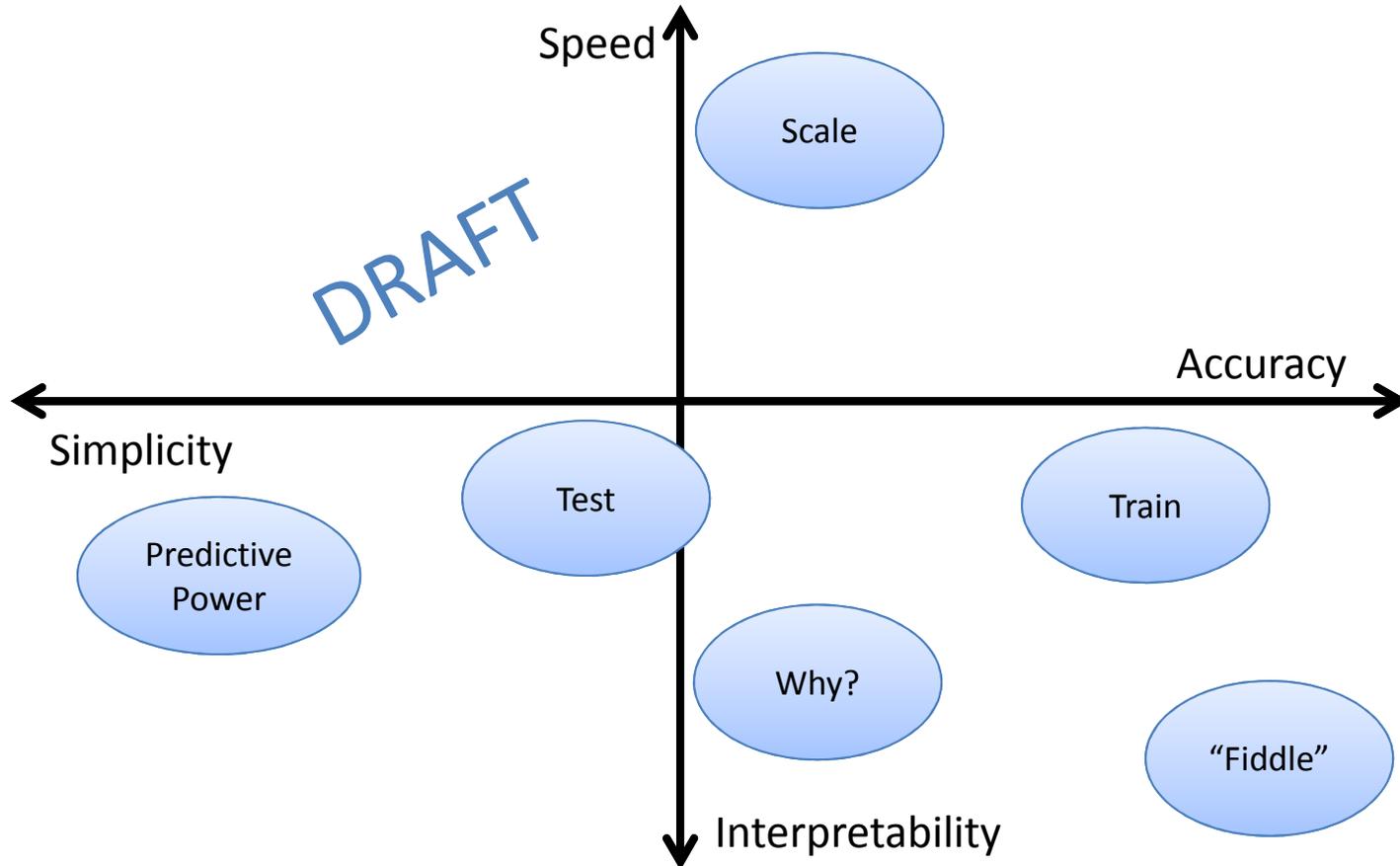
- Regression
- Classification

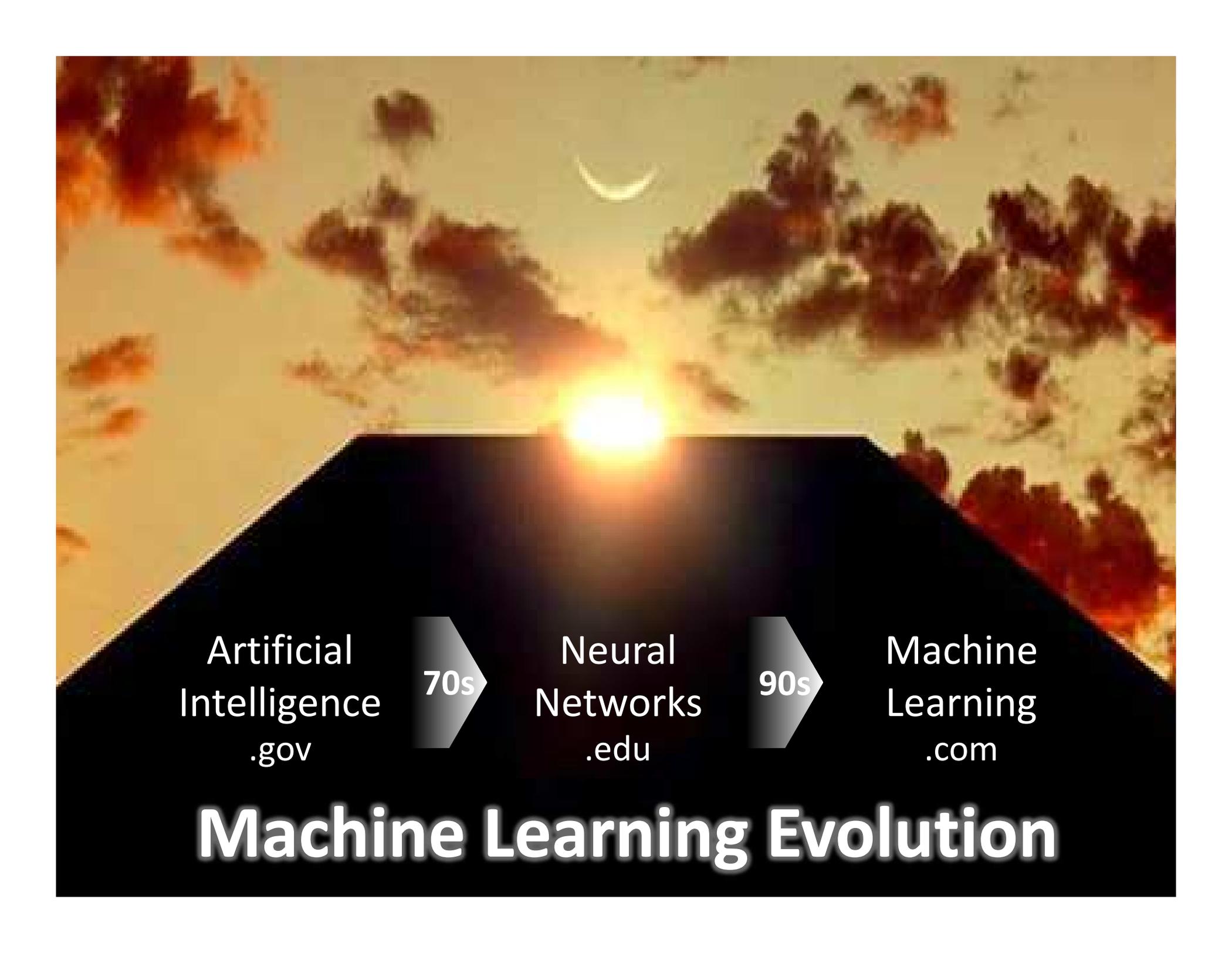
## **UnSupervised**

No examples

- Density estimation
- Clustering
- Dimensionality reduction

# Machine Learning Value Cost Map





Artificial  
Intelligence  
.gov

70s

Neural  
Networks  
.edu

90s

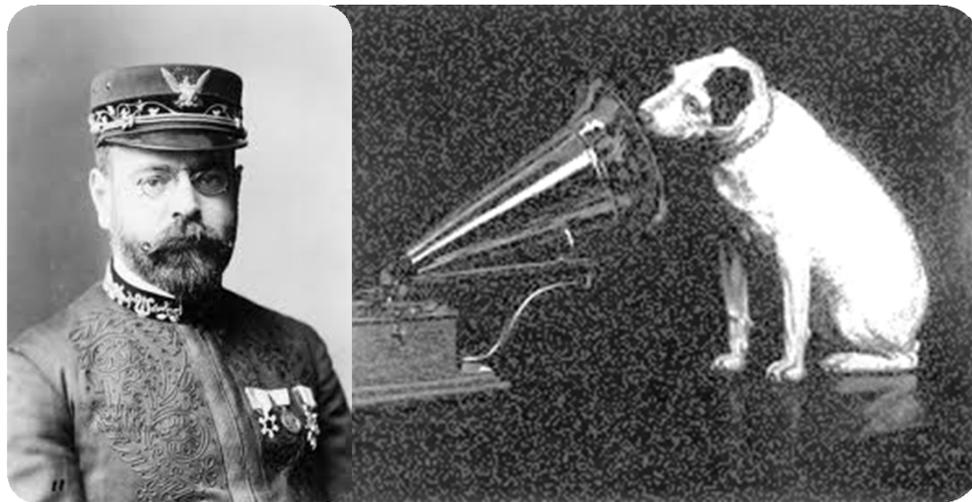
Machine  
Learning  
.com

**Machine Learning Evolution**

# A Non-Linear Evolution

...vocal chords will be eliminated by a process of evolution, as was the tail of man when he came from the ape.

– JP Sousa, 1906



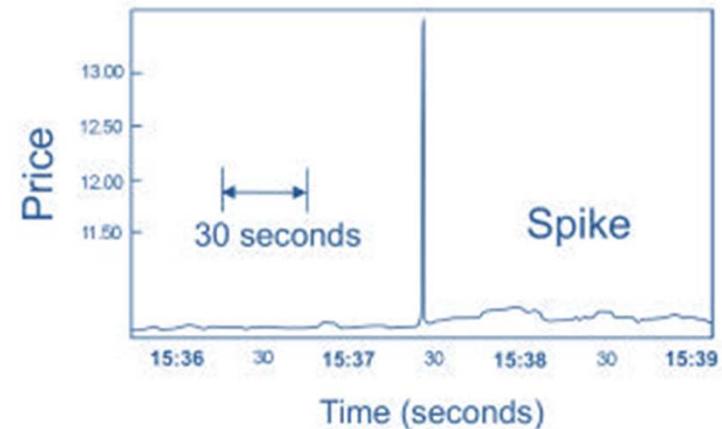
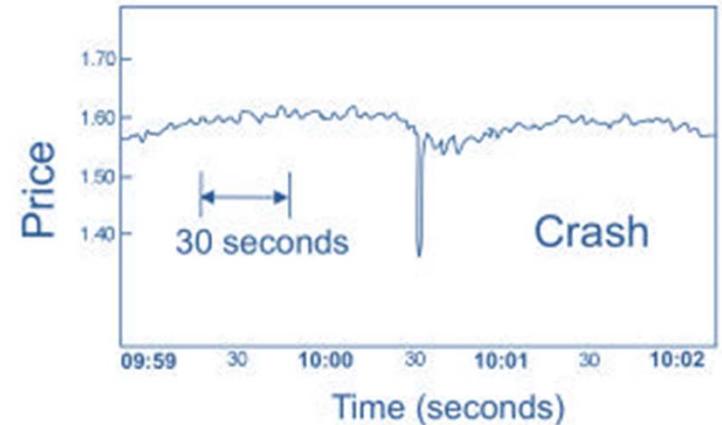
# Human Flaws Amplified by Tech

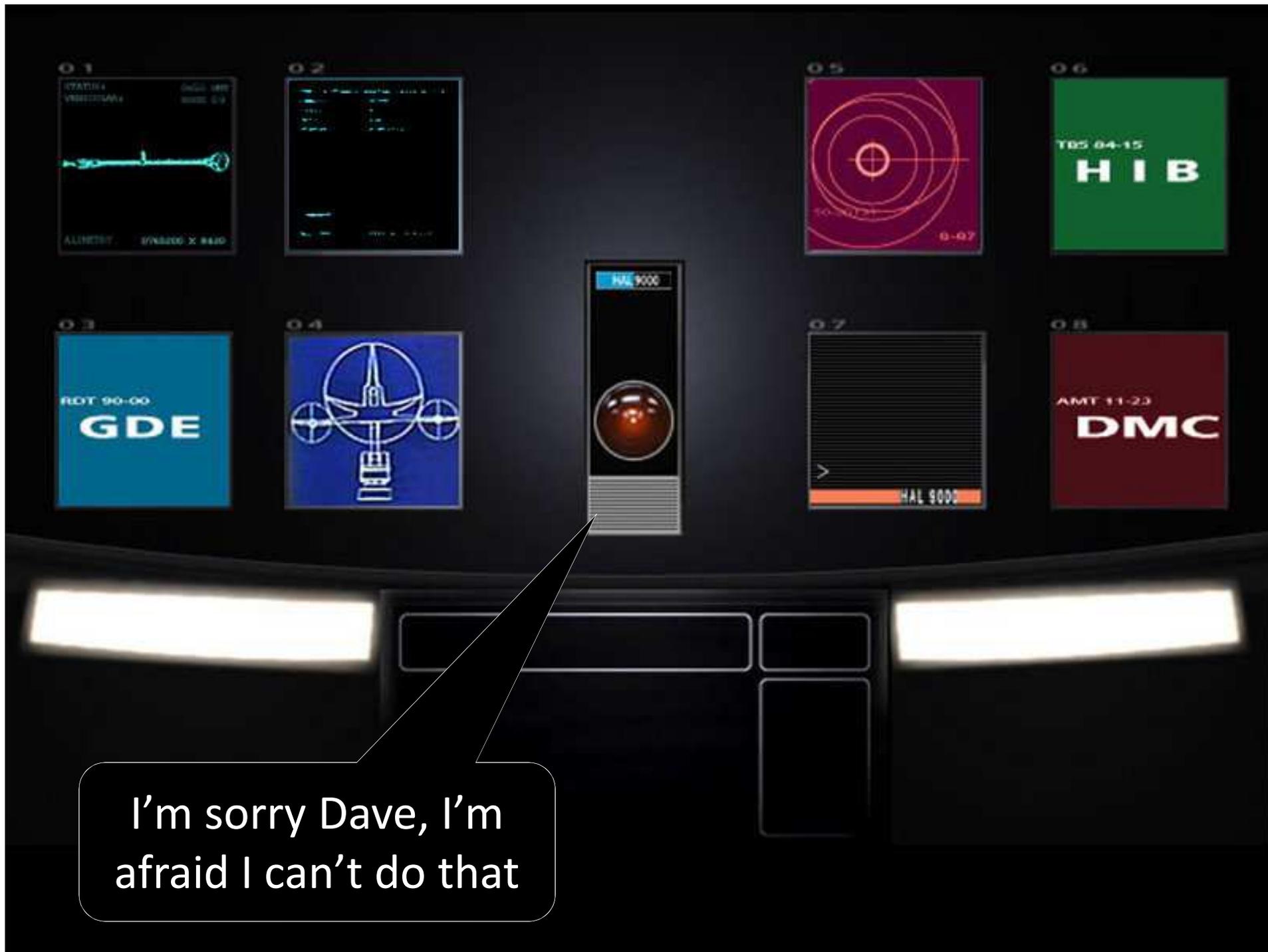
RT: #Human #Flaws Amplified by #Tech



# Making *Human* Mistakes Faster

“...mobs of ultrafast robots, which trade on the global markets and operate at speeds beyond human capability, thus overwhelming the system...”





I'm sorry Dave, I'm afraid I can't do that

# Basic Entities Model

Location

User coming from risky geography?

Device

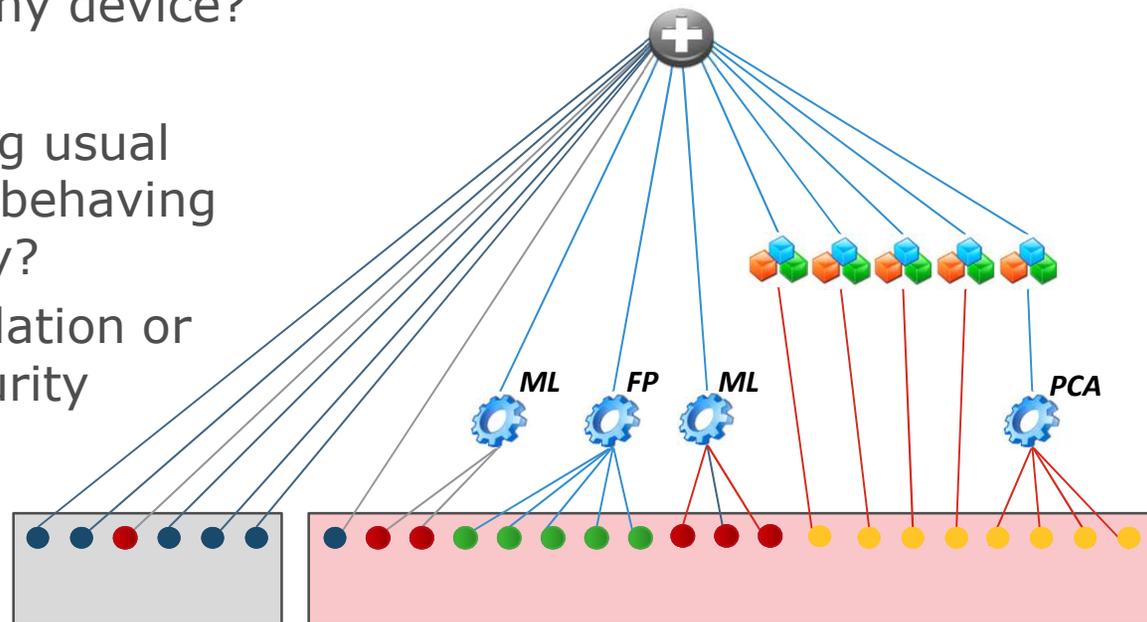
User on usual device, or company device?

Activity

User doing usual things or behaving differently?

Security Expertise

Policy violation or risky security posture?



# Example: Location Estimation

## Multi-Source Analysis

### Input Values

1. High-risk Locations (Location-based Policies)
2. Anomalous Locations (Geographic-based Behavior)
3. Groundspeed Violations (Logic and Physics)

### Method

1. Merge Diverse Data (VPN, Apps, Travel, HR, etc.)
2. Report Accuracy Estimation for Each Location
3. Combine Reports for Confidence on Estimations

We don't know where the user is:  
Confidence divided 50:50

50%

03:18  
Mexico

50%

00:00 Spain

Data 1: IP

Travel system (iJet) source data supports Spain hypothesis:  
Confidence increased to 20:80

October 24th  
Flight

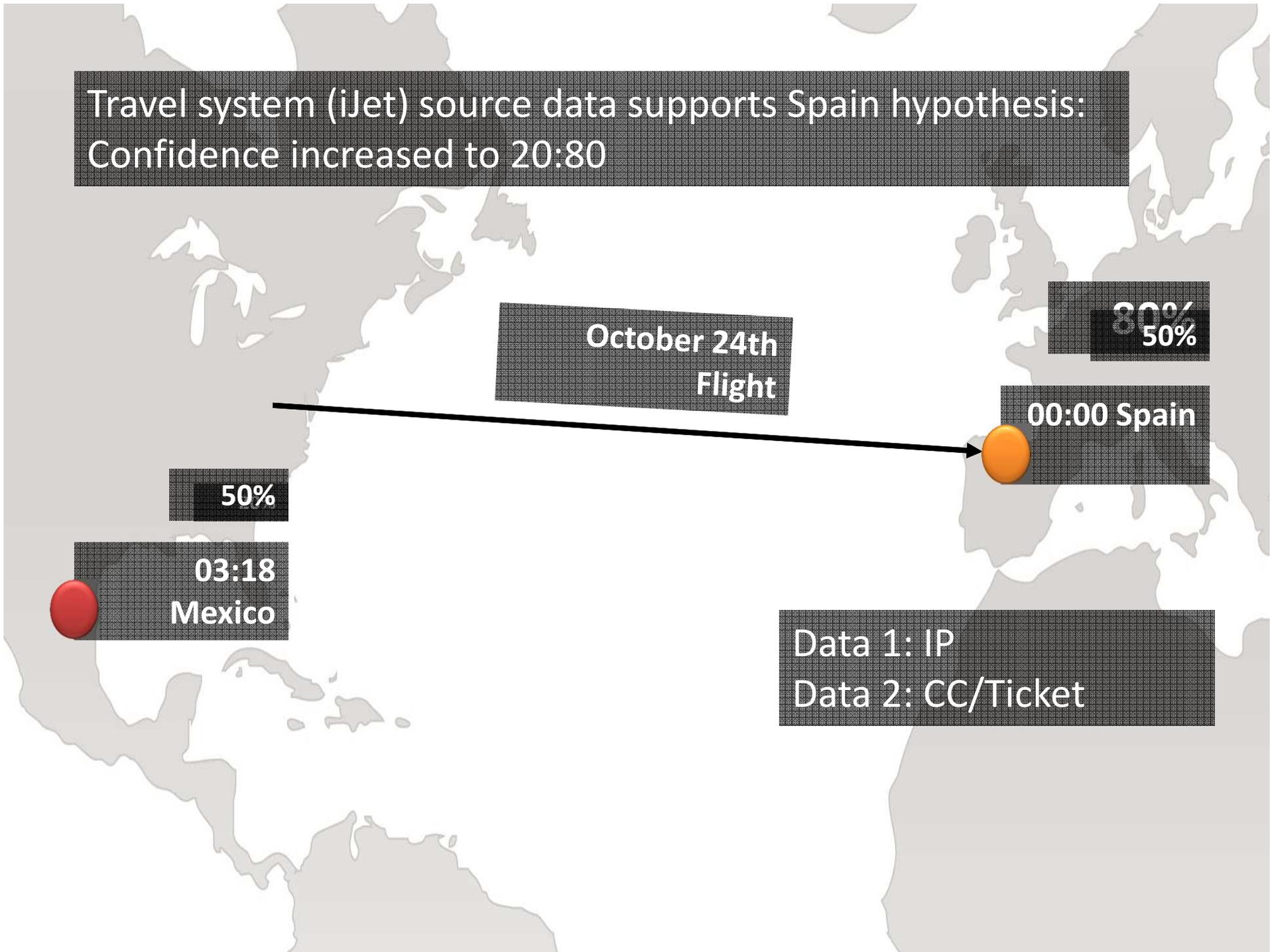
80%  
50%

00:00 Spain

50%

03:18  
Mexico

Data 1: IP  
Data 2: CC/Ticket



Third, VPN logs show Spain traffic:  
Confidence increased to 5:95

October 27th  
VPN

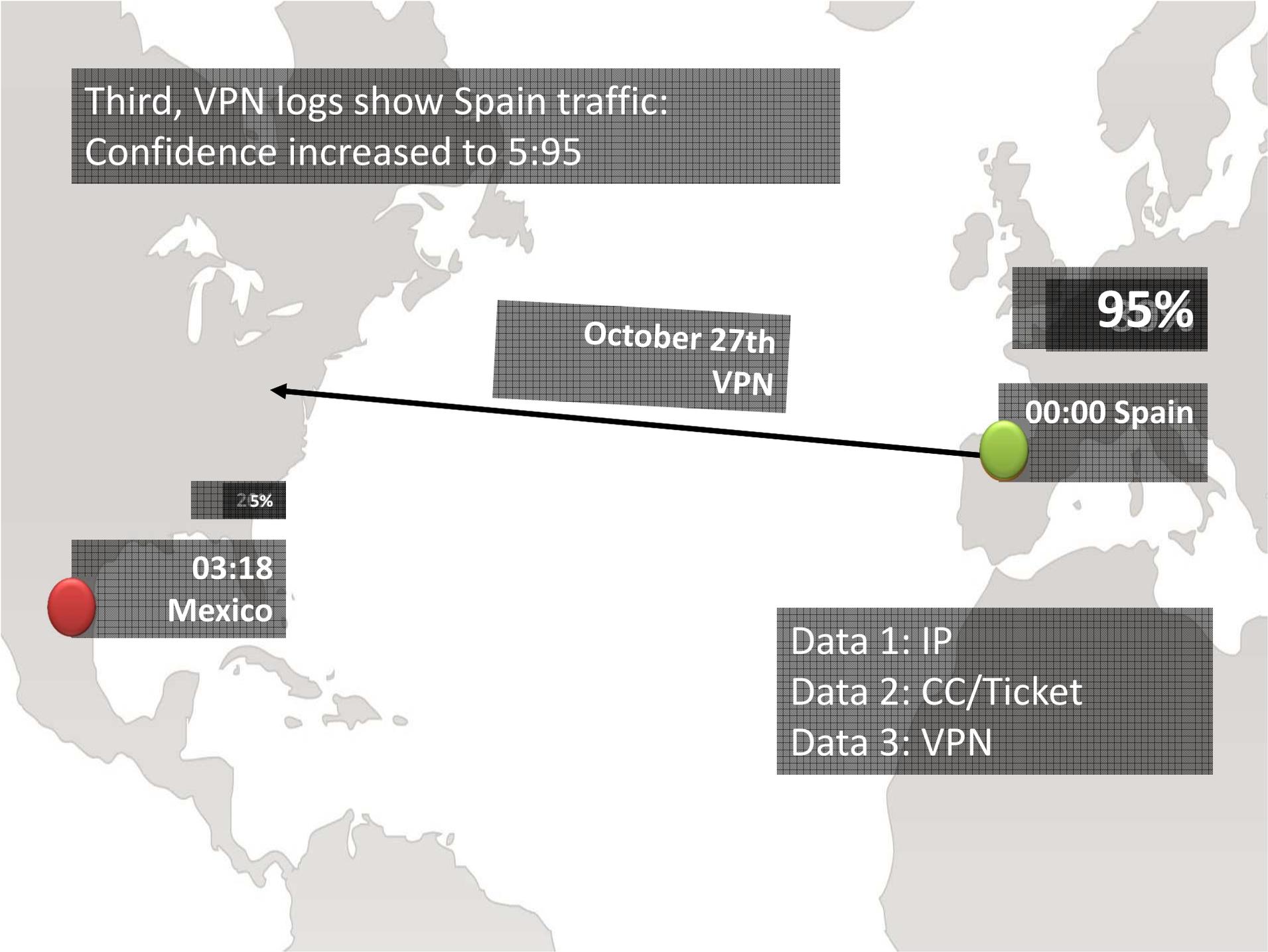
95%

00:00 Spain

25%

03:18  
Mexico

Data 1: IP  
Data 2: CC/Ticket  
Data 3: VPN



# THREATS TO MACHINE LEARNING



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# What Went Wrong With HAL?



# Is It Just a Game?

- Simple
  - Two Opponents
  - Rules of Engagement
- Complex
  - Unlimited Opponents
  - Guerrilla or Ill-defined Rules

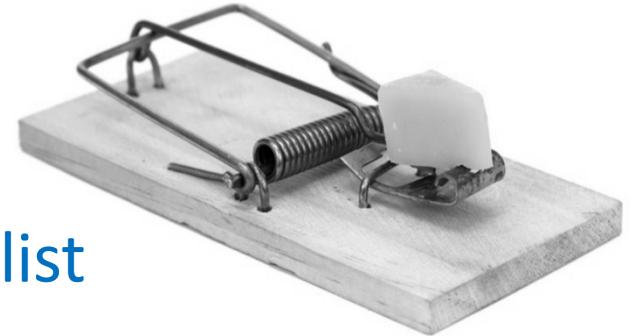
# Characteristics of Active Adversaries and Attack Models

- Delta in Current and Future Data
  - SPAM
  - Credit Card Fraud
- More than Random
- Unknown Change
- Targeted or Widespread



# Active Adversary Assumptions

- Attack Balance
  - Can Modify Attack to Evade Blacklist
  - Cannot Modify User Data to Change Whitelist (root)
- Results Balance
  - Can Mimic Whitelist to Evade Detection
  - Cannot Modify Amount to Change Whitelist (banker)



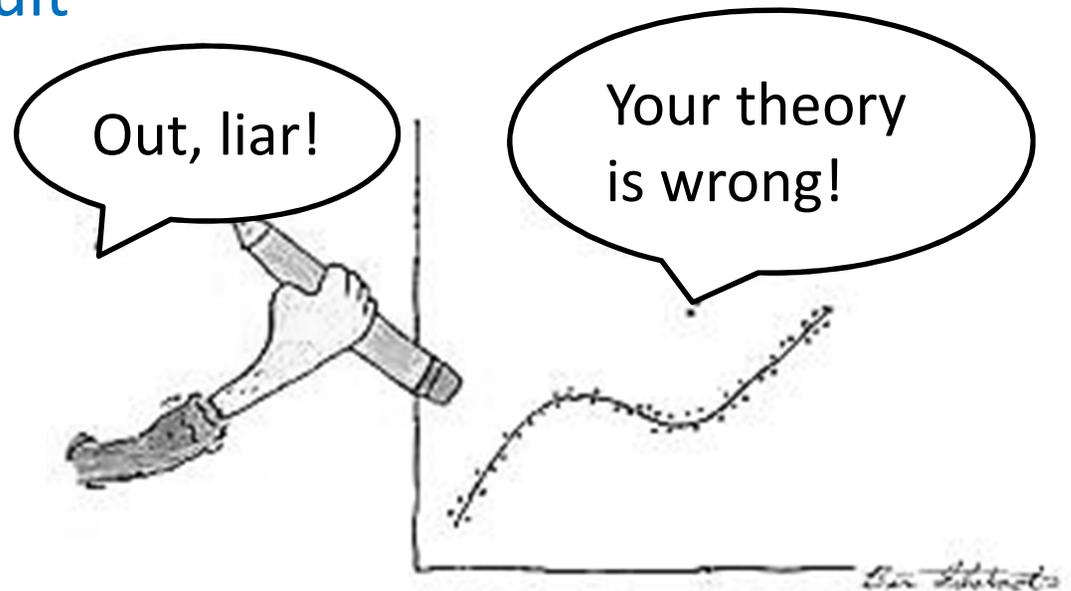
# Machine Learning Threat Modeling

1. Outliers
  2. Missing Values
  3. Class Imbalance
  4. High Dimension Inefficacy
- 
5. Non-Vector Data
  6. Inaccurate Class Probability Estimates
  7. Extension Lacking - iid to Dependent Data

<https://www.brighttalk.com/webcast/9495/72899>

# Outliers

- “Needles in Haystack”
- High Value Discovery (High Cost if Not-found)
- Examples
  - Manufacturing Fault
  - Online Fraud
  - Network Breach
  - Clinical Trial Error



# Missing Values

## Acquisition / Observation Failures

- Interference (Scratch, Contamination)
- Broken Sensor (Photo Over Lens)
- Abandonment (Study Participant Quit)
- Complication (Overlooked Test Question)
- Flatlanders (Everyone Has Same Interests)



# Class Imbalance

- Exception Hunt (Bigfoot)
  - Over-abundance Majority Examples (Not-Bigfoot)
  - Examples of Interest are Rare (Bigfoot)
- Mis-prediction Danger (Cry Wolf)
  - False-Positive Response
  - Reduction in Sensitivity

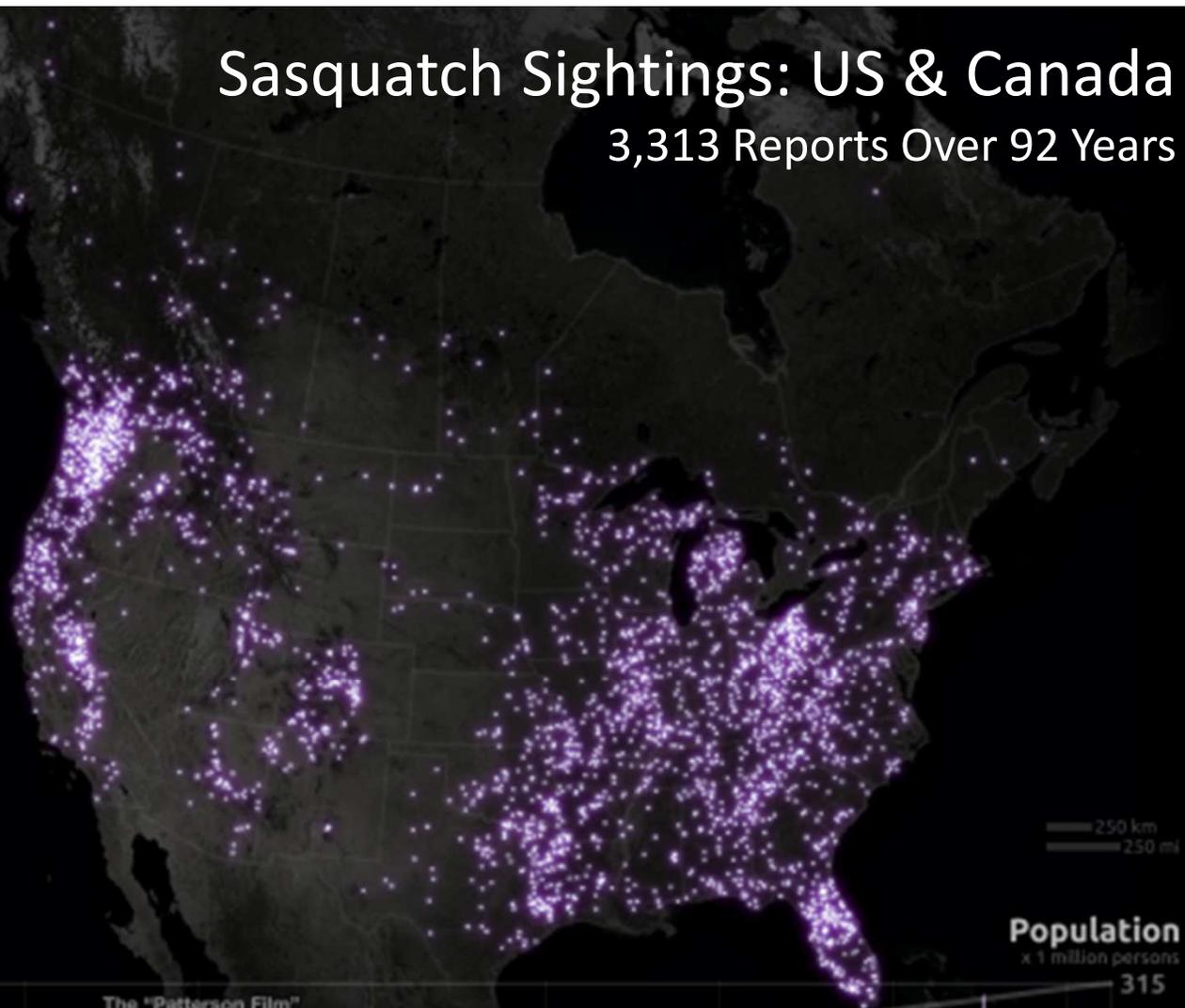
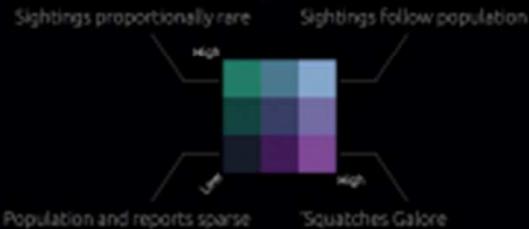


# Sasquatch Sightings: US & Canada

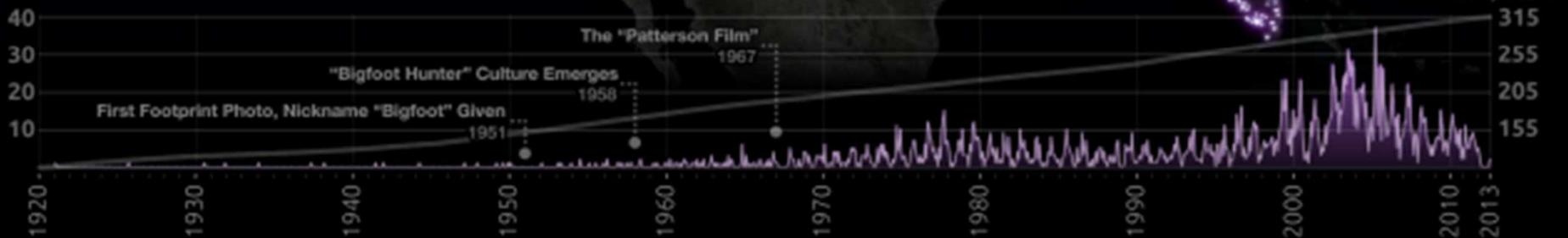
3,313 Reports Over 92 Years

## Bigfoot or Big Population Effect?

Are reported sasquatch sightings simply following population trends? This map shows the relationship between reported sightings and population density within each US county.



## Reported Sightings



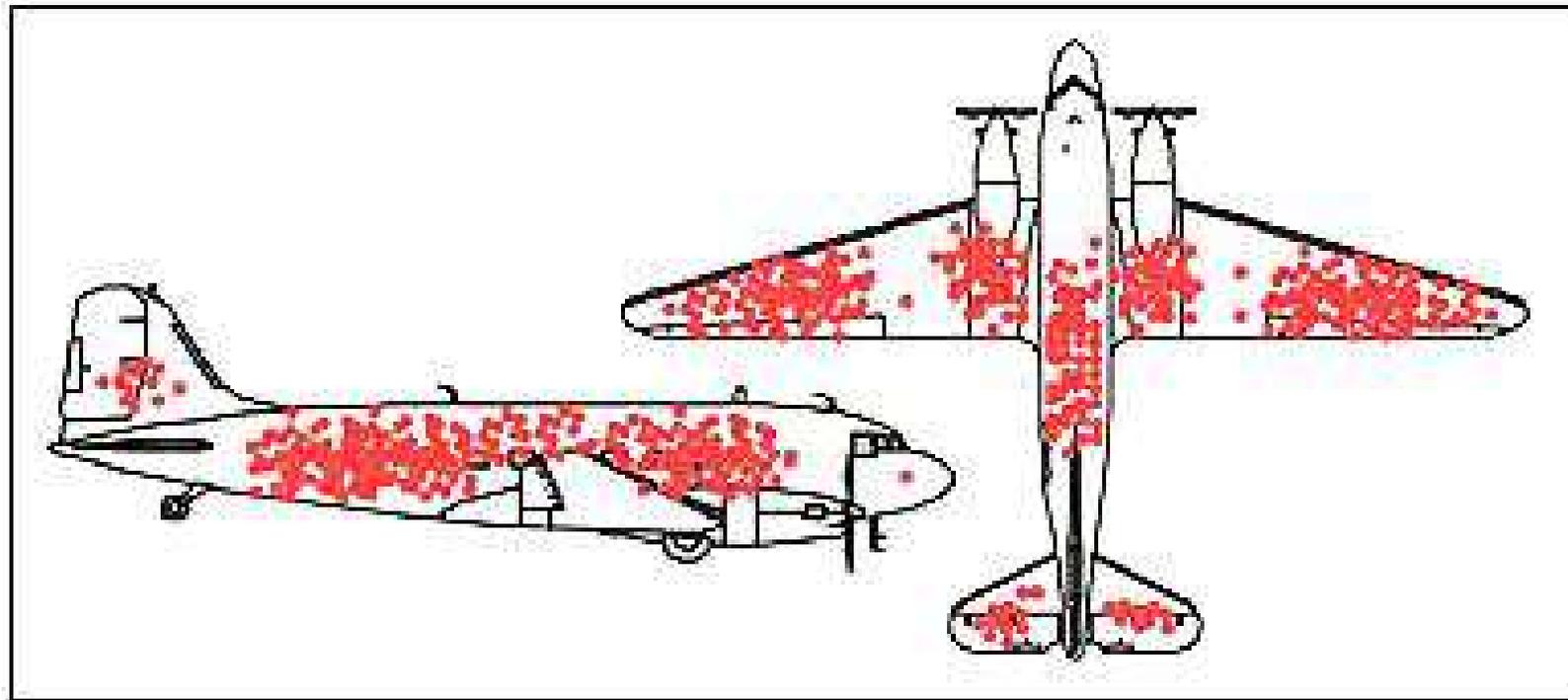
Joshua Stevens | JoshuaStevens.net  
@jscarto

Sources:  
Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization: Sightings Database (<http://www.bfro.net/>)  
NASA: Blue Marble (<http://visibleearth.nasa.gov/>)  
US Census Bureau (<http://www.census.gov/>)

# Class Imbalance

“...if a plane makes it back safely...bullet holes in the wings aren't very dangerous...”

- Abraham Wald, Mathematician



Credit: Cameron Moll

<http://www.motherjones.com/kevin-drum/2010/09/counterintuitive-world>

# High-Dimension Inefficacy

- Hundreds or More Dimensions (unlike 3D)
- Predictive Power Inverse to Dimensionality
  - Training Data Sample and Value Size
  - Sparse and Dissimilar Data
  - Expensive to Organize and Search



# Example: Poison An Anti-SPAM Engine

- Inject Specially Crafted Training Data
- Assumptions
  - Engine Still in Learning Mode
  - Attacker Can Replicate Original Training Setup
    1. Copy Algorithm and Data
    2. Steal Original Data
    3. Approximate Data

A man in a military uniform, wearing a beret and a tie, is pointing directly at the viewer. A speech bubble next to him contains the text "Is Your Trainer Trusted?".

Is Your  
Trainer  
Trusted?

<http://arxiv.org/abs/1206.6389v1>

# DETECTION AND STOPPING ATTACKS



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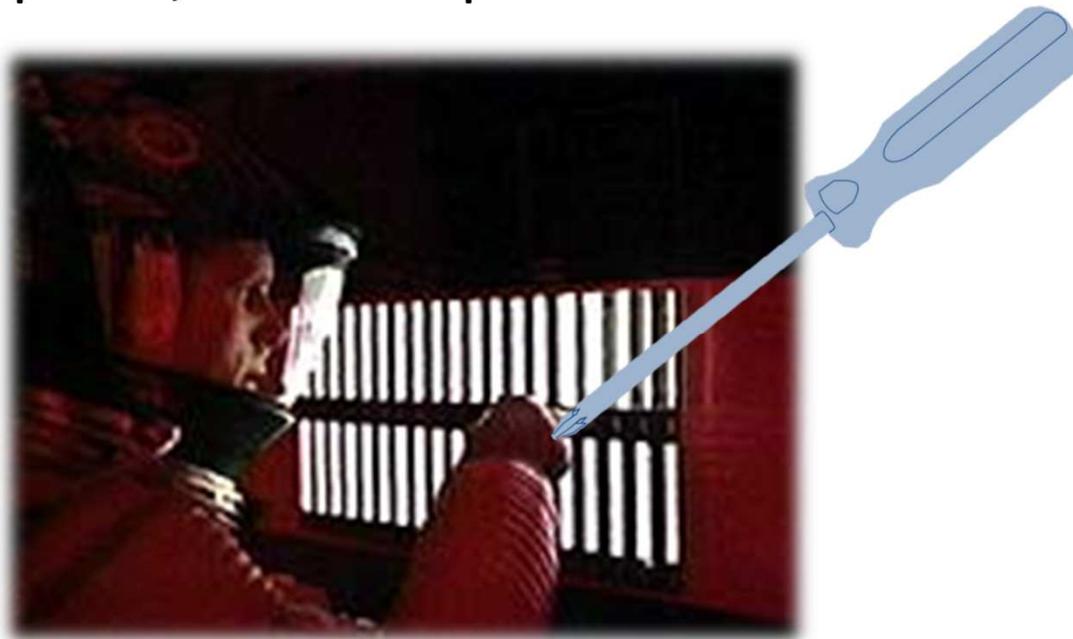
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# Admitting We Have a Problem...

“No HAL 9000 series computer **has ever made** a mistake or distorted information. We are all, by any practical definition of the word, foolproof, and incapable of error.”



# Am I Healthy?

(or should I shutdown)

# 1996 Ariane 5 Overflow Error Lesson

“software should be assumed to be faulty”

“...concern that software exception should be allowed, or even required, to cause processor to halt while handling mission-critical equipment...”

<http://people.cs.clemson.edu/~steve/Spiro/arianesiam.htm>, [http://www.vuw.ac.nz/staff/stephen\\_marshall/SE/Failures/SE\\_Ariane.html](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/staff/stephen_marshall/SE/Failures/SE_Ariane.html)

# Induction Fallacy and Probability

- Control Priority  
Severity/Likelihood
- Risk Priority  
Threat

The wise proportion  
belief to evidence.

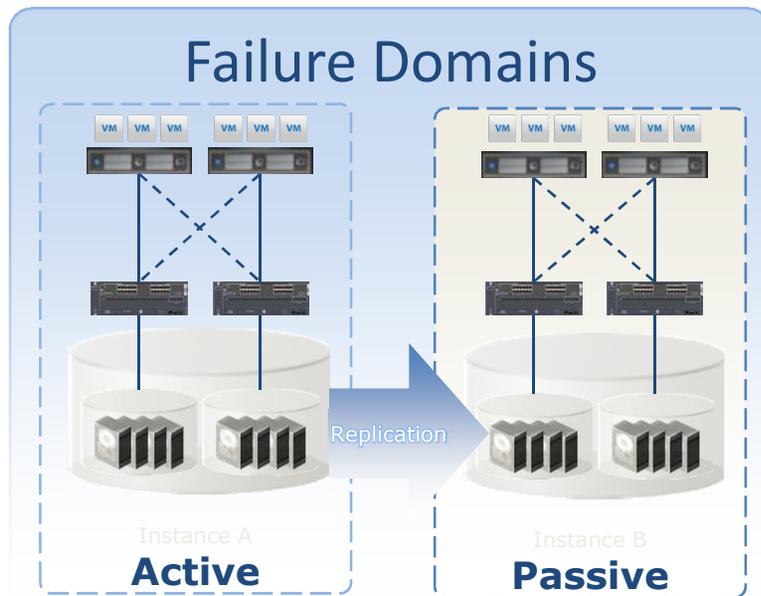


# ML Resilience Planning

- Control Priority – Severity/Likelihood
  - Targeted
  - Widespread
- Risk Priority – Threat
  - Availability
  - Integrity Protections (Backup / Restore)
    - Poisoned Training Data
  - Confidentiality
    - Stolen Training Data / Algos for Production Poison

# Availability

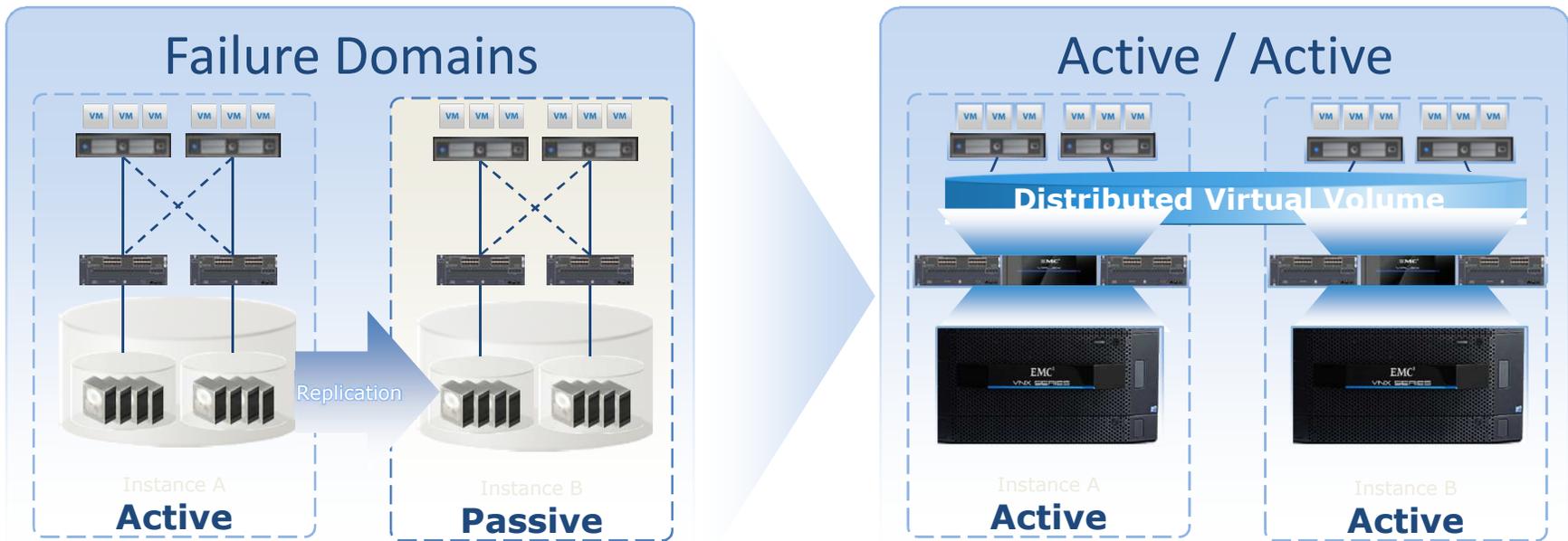
## ML Acquisition Scale and Outages



- Application Disruption
  - Planned
  - Unplanned
- RTO: Minutes-to-Hours
- Failover and Fail-back Mgmt
- Passive, Idle Resources

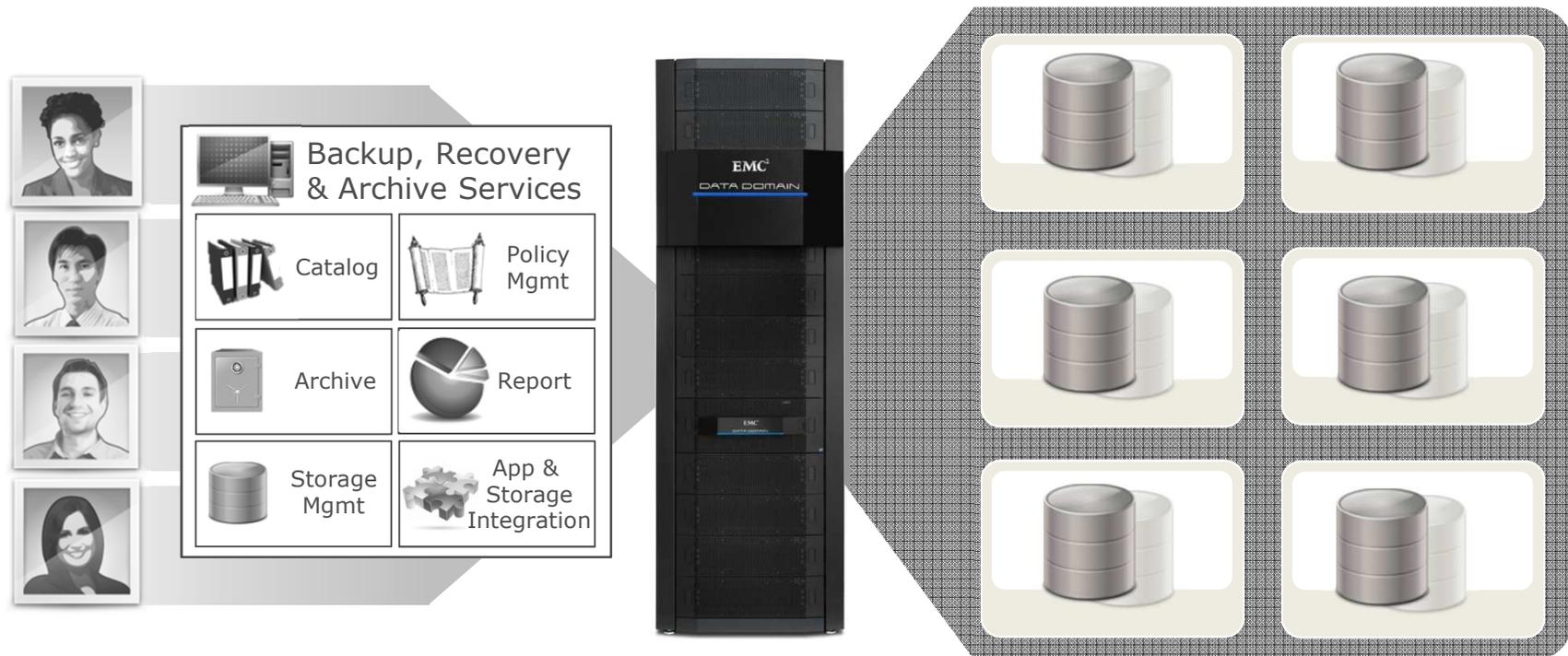
# Availability

## ML Infrastructure Zero RTO/RPO



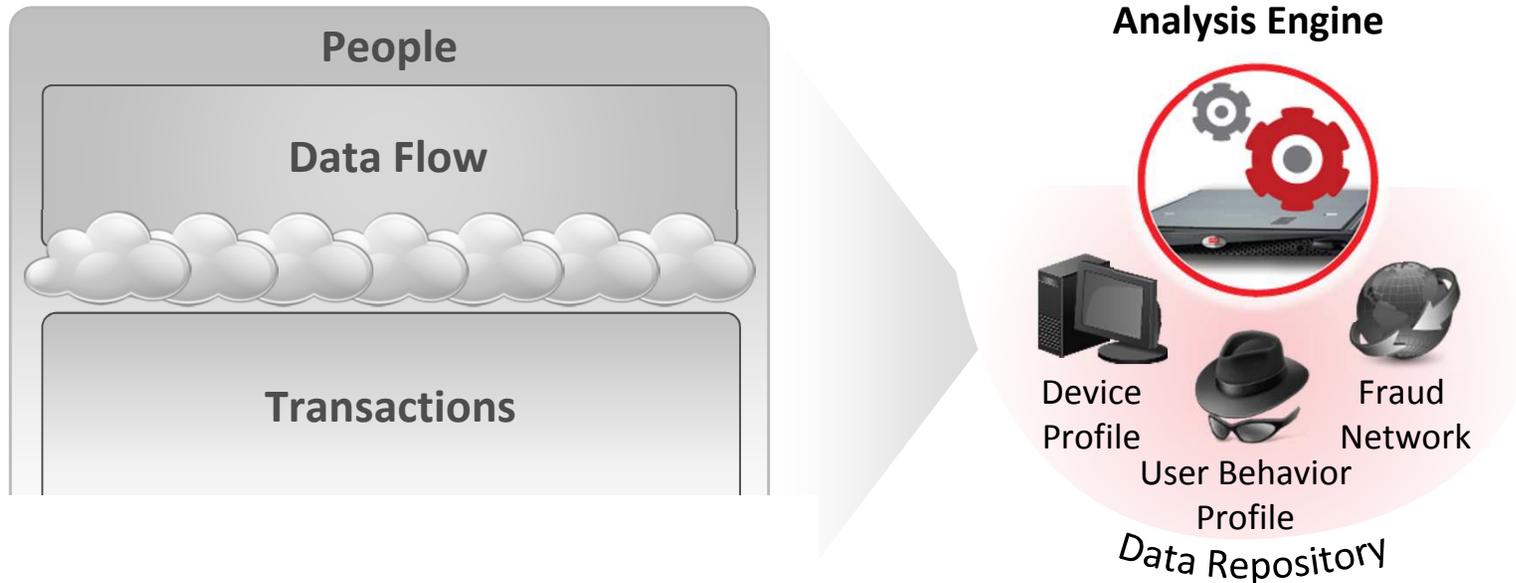
# Integrity Protections (Backup/Restore)

- Central Control and Monitor, Even Archives
- Restore ASAP Post-Breach

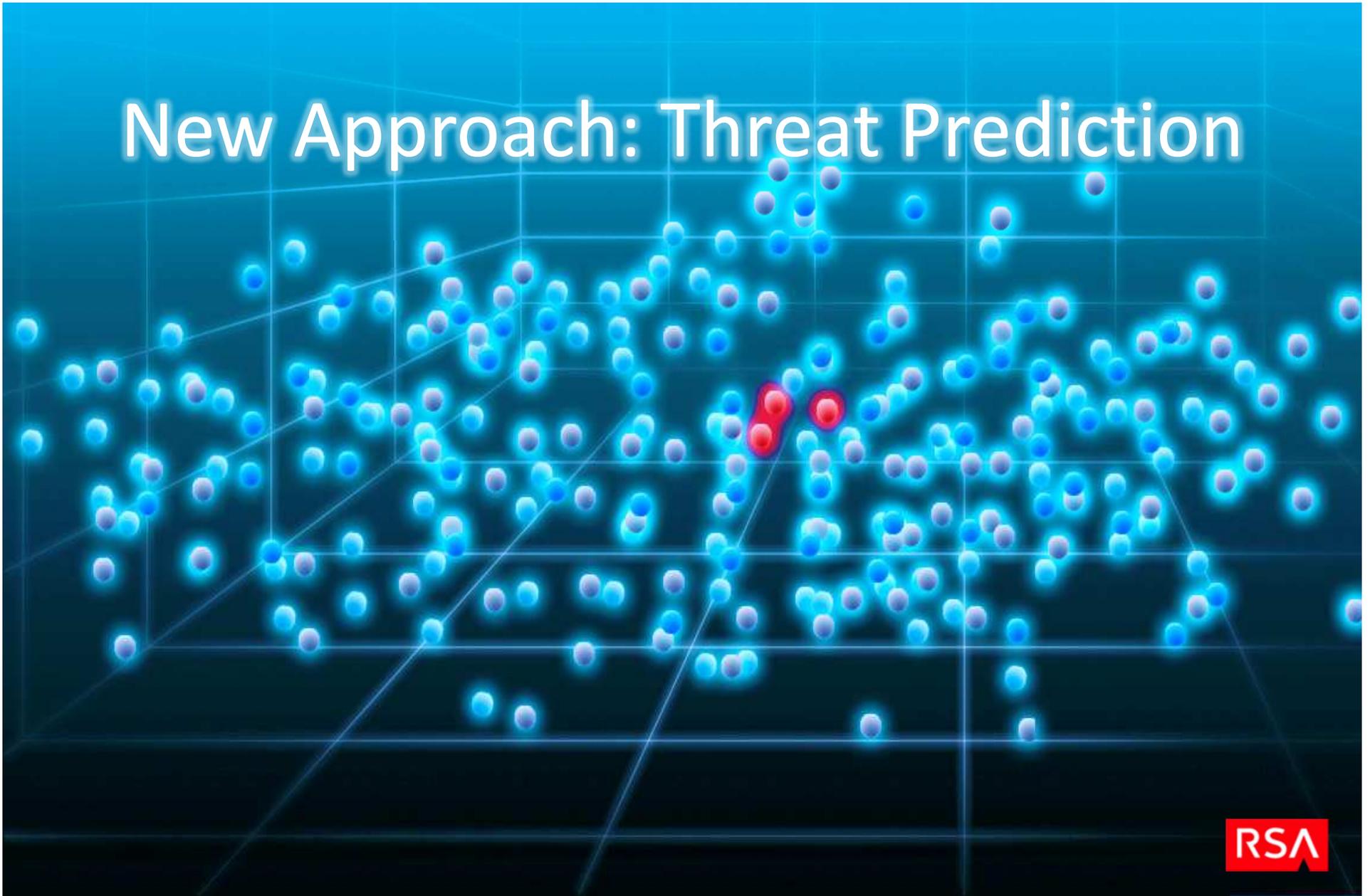


# Confidentiality

- Applying ML to Adversary Detection
- Monitoring Behavior

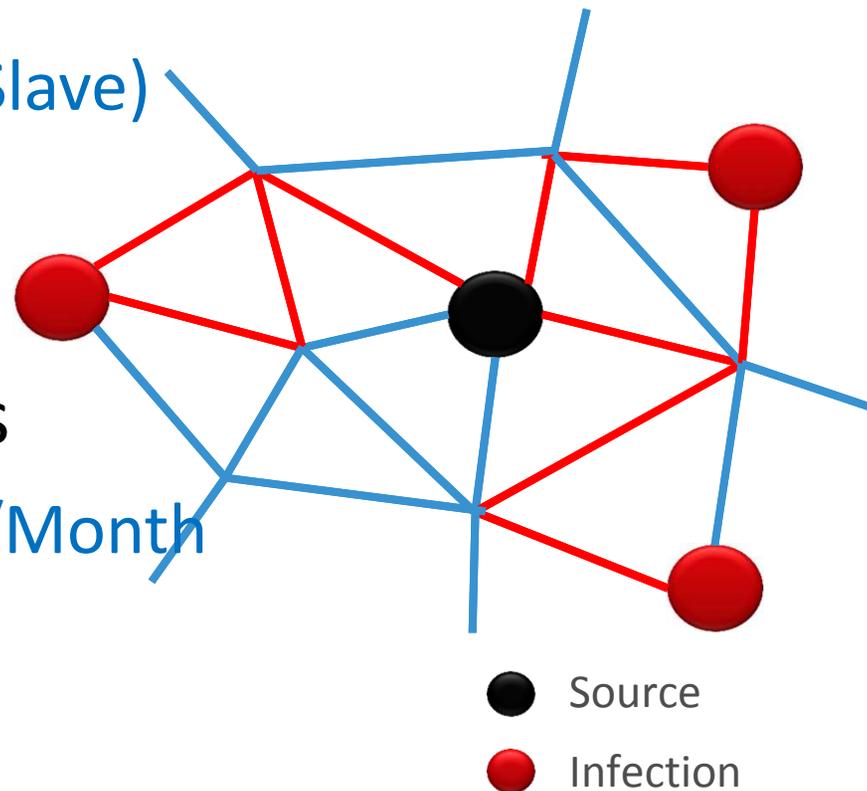


# New Approach: Threat Prediction



# Future Thought: ML Self-Preservation

- Awareness
  - Authority (Master-Slave)
  - Elective
  - Peer2Peer
- Sample Interactions
  - 50m+ Transactions/Month
  - Review 1/2000
  - Detect 92%



# Conclusions

- Machines Make *Human* Mistakes...Faster
- ML Should be Assumed Faulty
  - Priority by Risk (Threat)
  - Priority by Control (Severity/Likelihood)
- Defense is Multi-Layered, Environmental
  - Development (Learning)
  - Production (Hardened)
  - Hybrid (Fail-Safe Learning)

# THANK YOU!

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