

# Introduction

EECE454 Intro. to Machine Learning Systems

Fall 2024


What is machine learning?


# Human Learning


- How do human learn?
  - Given some **examples**, human can **find a pattern**.


SOLVE EXAMPLES


1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9


$1 + 1 = \square$  


$1 + 2 = \square$  

$3 + 1 = \square$  

$4 + 2 = \square$  

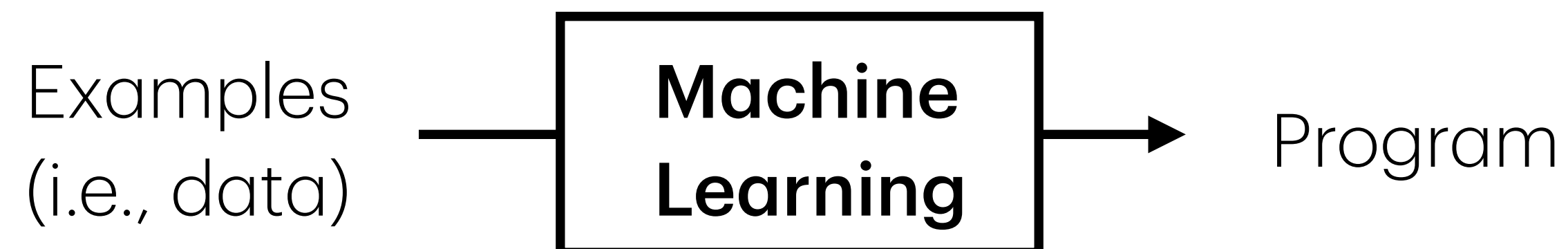
$3 + 3 = \square$  

$2 + 2 = \square$  

$1 + 6 = \square$  

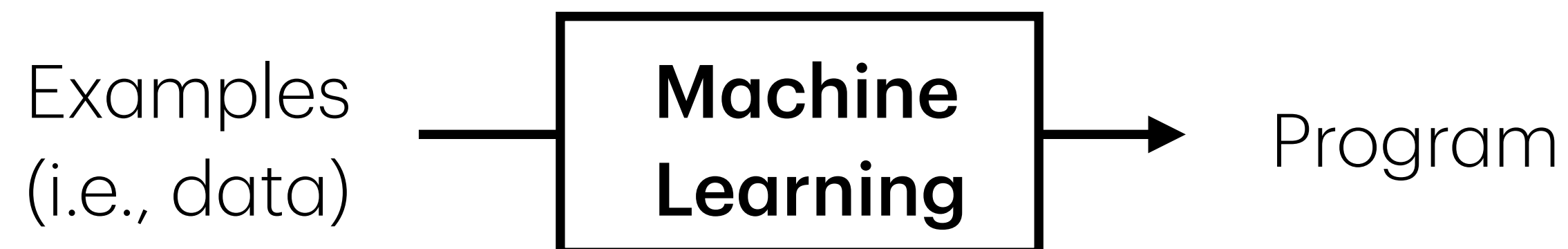
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  - discovers some pattern from the examples
  - builds some program that utilizes such discovered pattern.



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- **Machine Learning.** Given some examples, a machine automatically:
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# Example tasks

- Create a program that, given **an image of a dog**, returns the **name of the dog specie**
  - Human will need a lot of (image, species) pairs

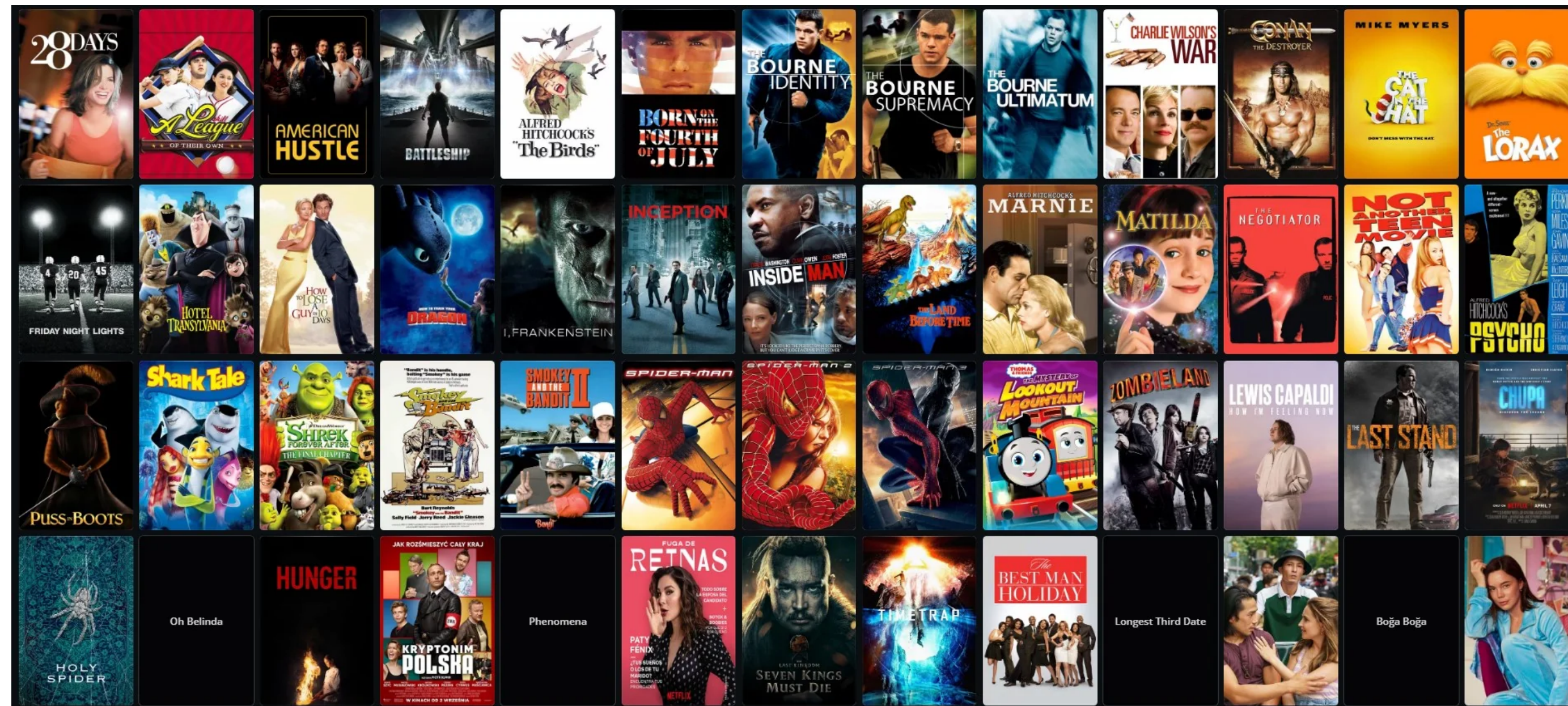


(a)  
—  
(b)|(c)



# Example tasks

- Create a program that, given **a Netflix user** and **a movie**, returns the **expected user rating**
  - Human will need a lot of (user, movie, rating) triplets



Disney · PIXAR  
**INSIDE  
OUT  
2**



# Example tasks

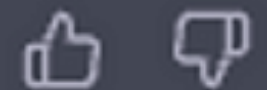
- Create a program that, given **a text input**, returns a **human-like response** (or better)
  - What data do we need?



Tell me how ChatGPT works.



ChatGPT is a large language model that uses deep learning techniques to generate human-like text. It is based on the GPT (Generative Pre-trained Transformer) architecture, which uses a transformer neural network to process and generate text. The model is pre-trained on a massive dataset of text, such as books, articles, and websites, so it can understand the patterns and structure of natural language. When given a prompt or a starting point, the model uses this pre-trained knowledge to generate text that continues the given input in a coherent and natural way.

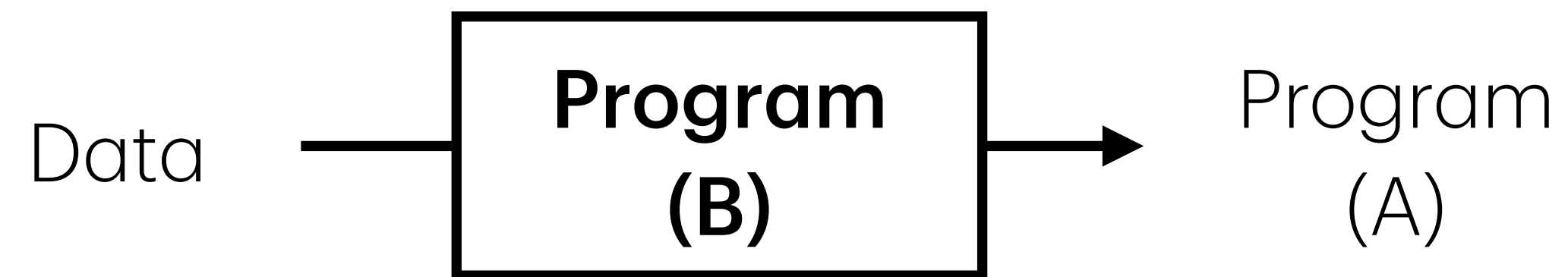




Terminologies

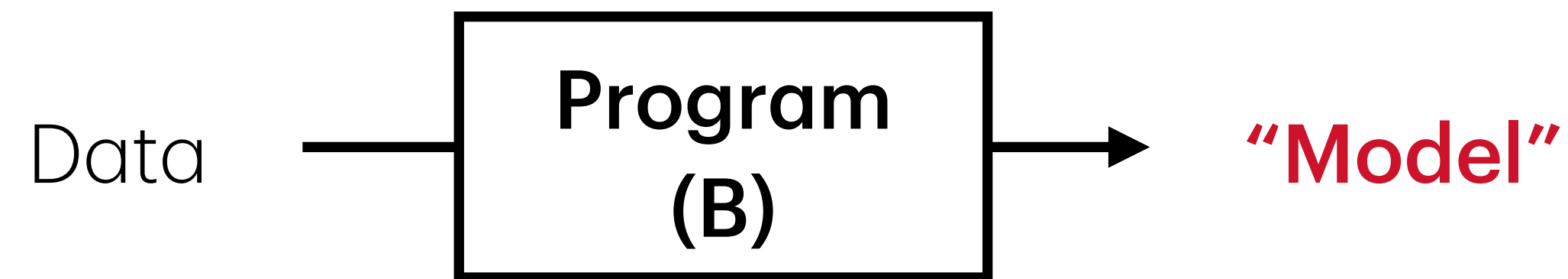
# Terminologies

- Notice that there are **two programs in action**
  - (A) The program that utilizes the pattern
  - (B) The program that discovers patterns from data to build (A)



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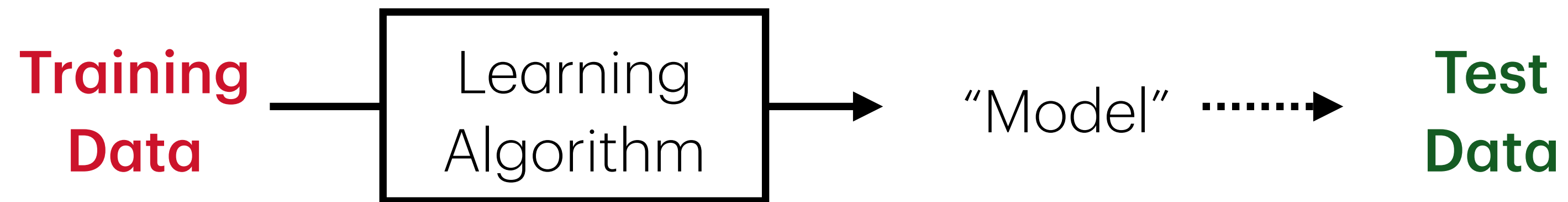
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- The program (B) is called **“learning algorithm”** and what (B) does is called **“training”**

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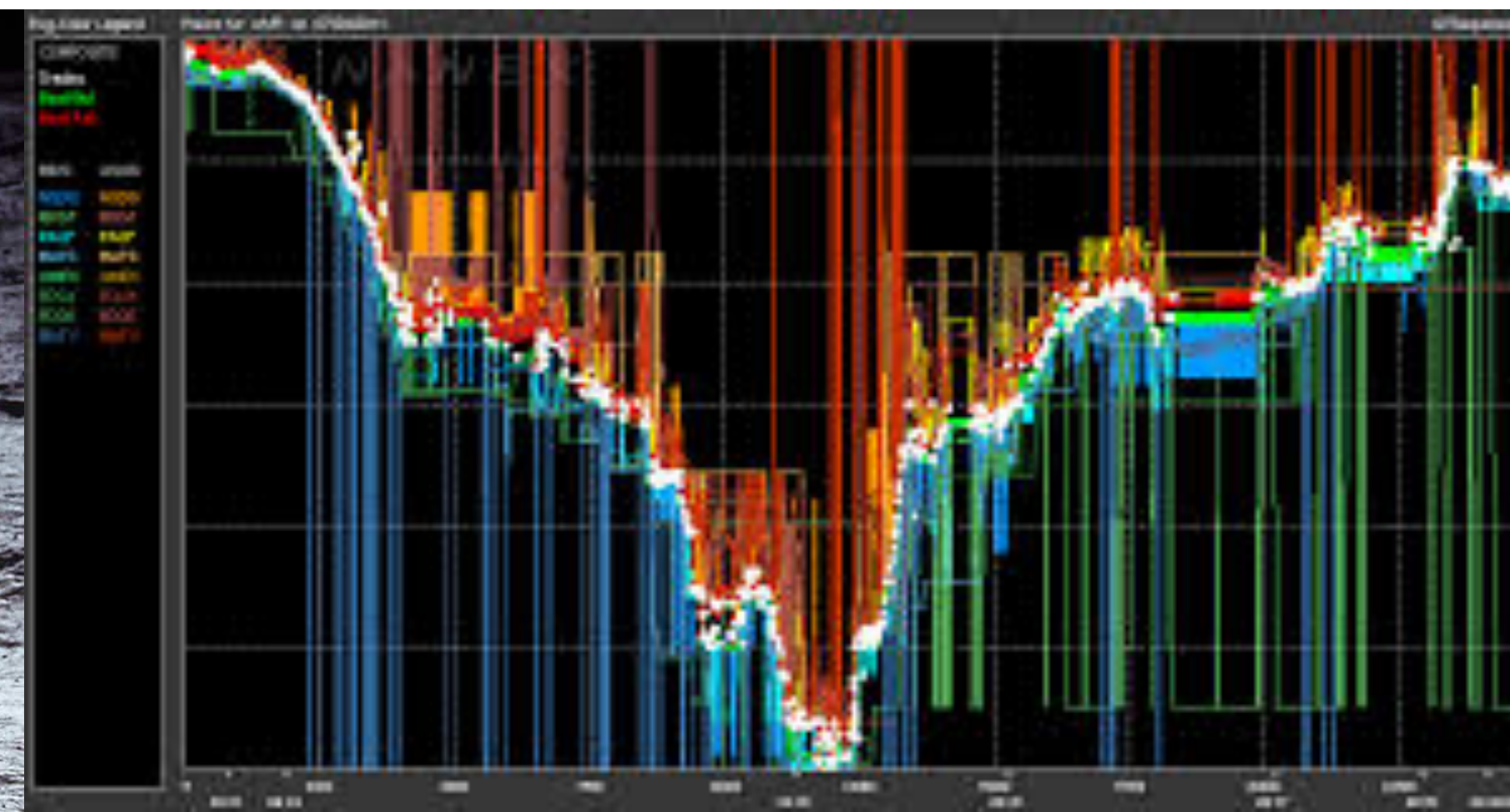
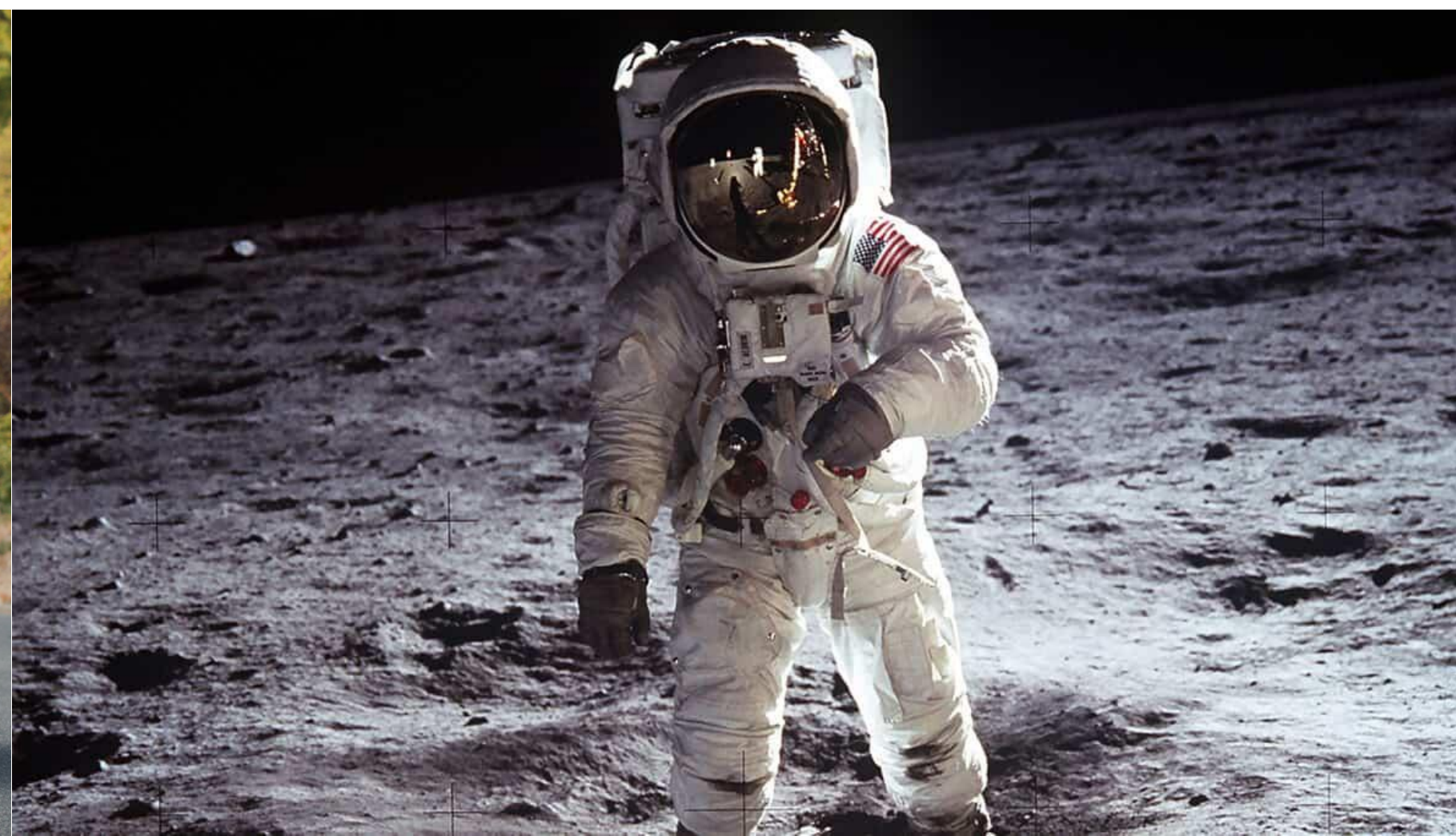
- The learning algorithm sees the **training data**, whereas the model will be used on a new, incoming data, called the **test data**.

(otherwise, we call it “data mining”)

Why “machine” learning?

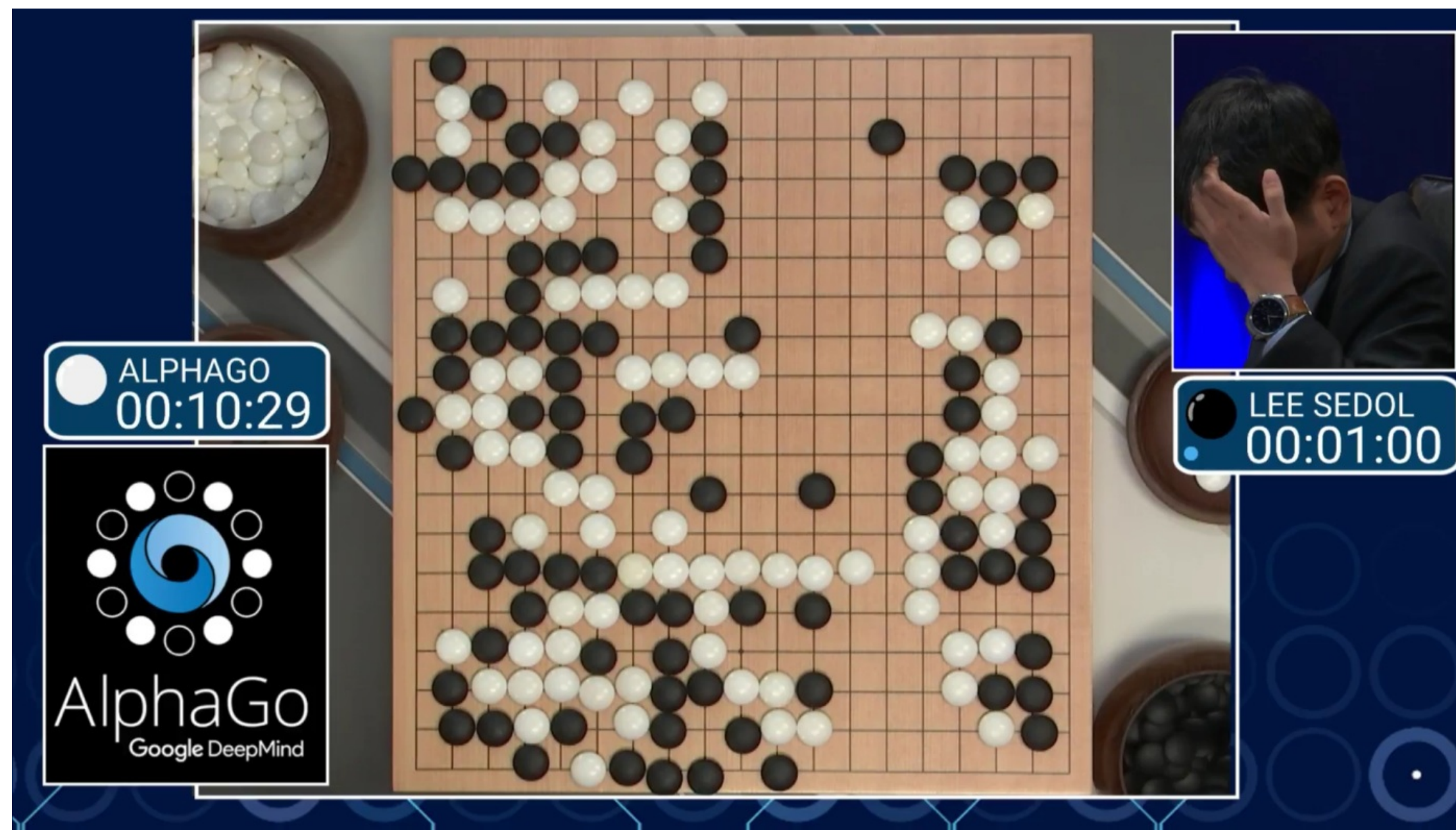
# Why machines?

- We want machines to **use the patterns (prediction)**, because...
  - Human attention is limited (e.g., self-driving cars)
  - Human are vulnerable (e.g., space mission)
  - Human are slow (e.g., high-frequency trading)
  - Human are expensive (e.g., chatbots)



# Why machines?

- We want machines to **find the patterns (training)**, because...
  - Human are dumb (e.g., AlphaGo)
  - Dataset is too big to handle (e.g., machine translation)
  - Difficult to write a code that uses human knowledge (e.g., dog classification)





What do “we” do for MIL?

# So what does human do?

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  - can train a model that solves a new task
  - requires very small computational cost
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  - give performance guarantees on ML algorithms and models
  - inspire new algorithms

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- **ML theory researchers** develop mathematical frameworks that can
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  - inspire new algorithms
- **ML system researchers** develop efficient systems for running ML algorithms and models

How do ML algorithms work?

# How do ML algorithms work?

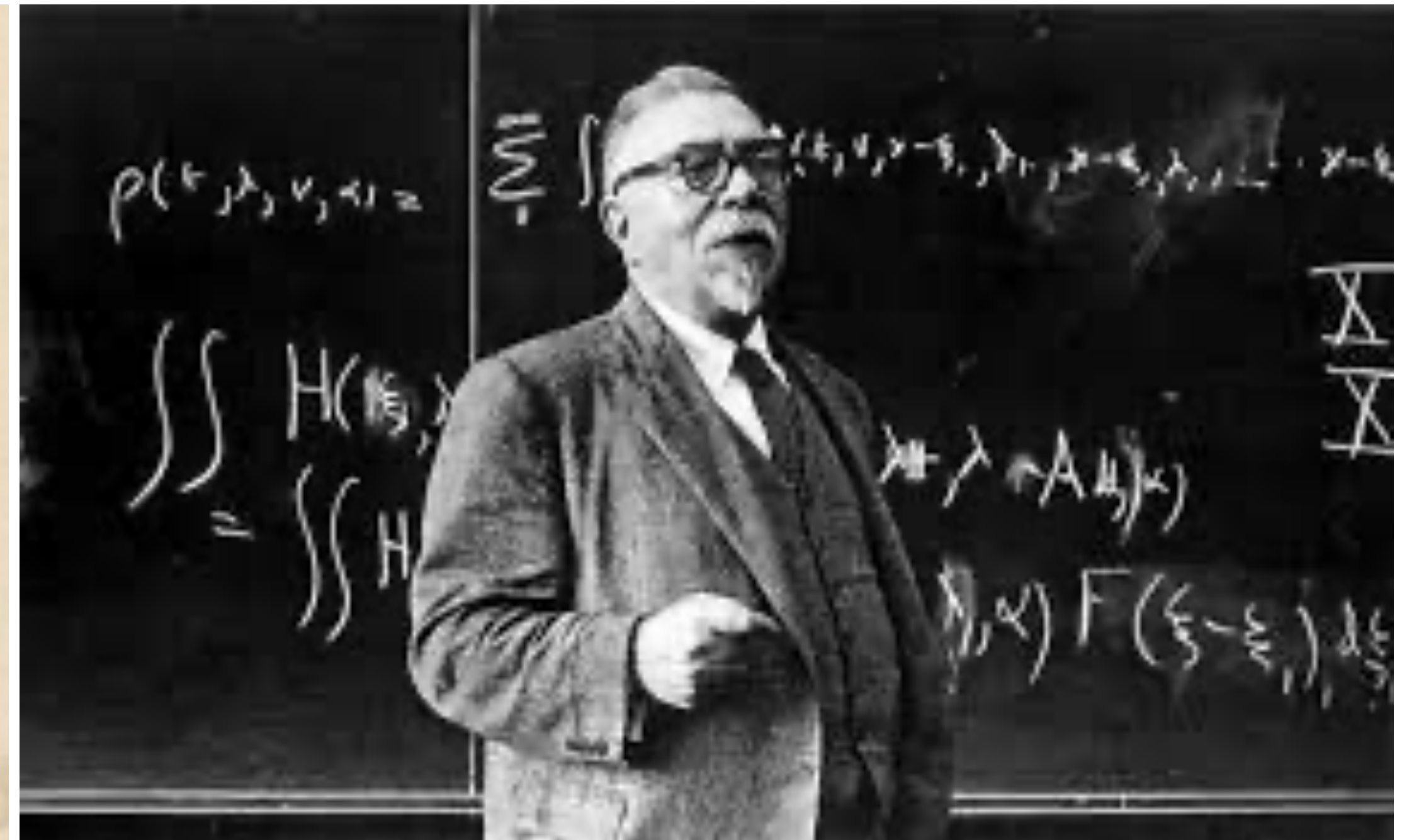
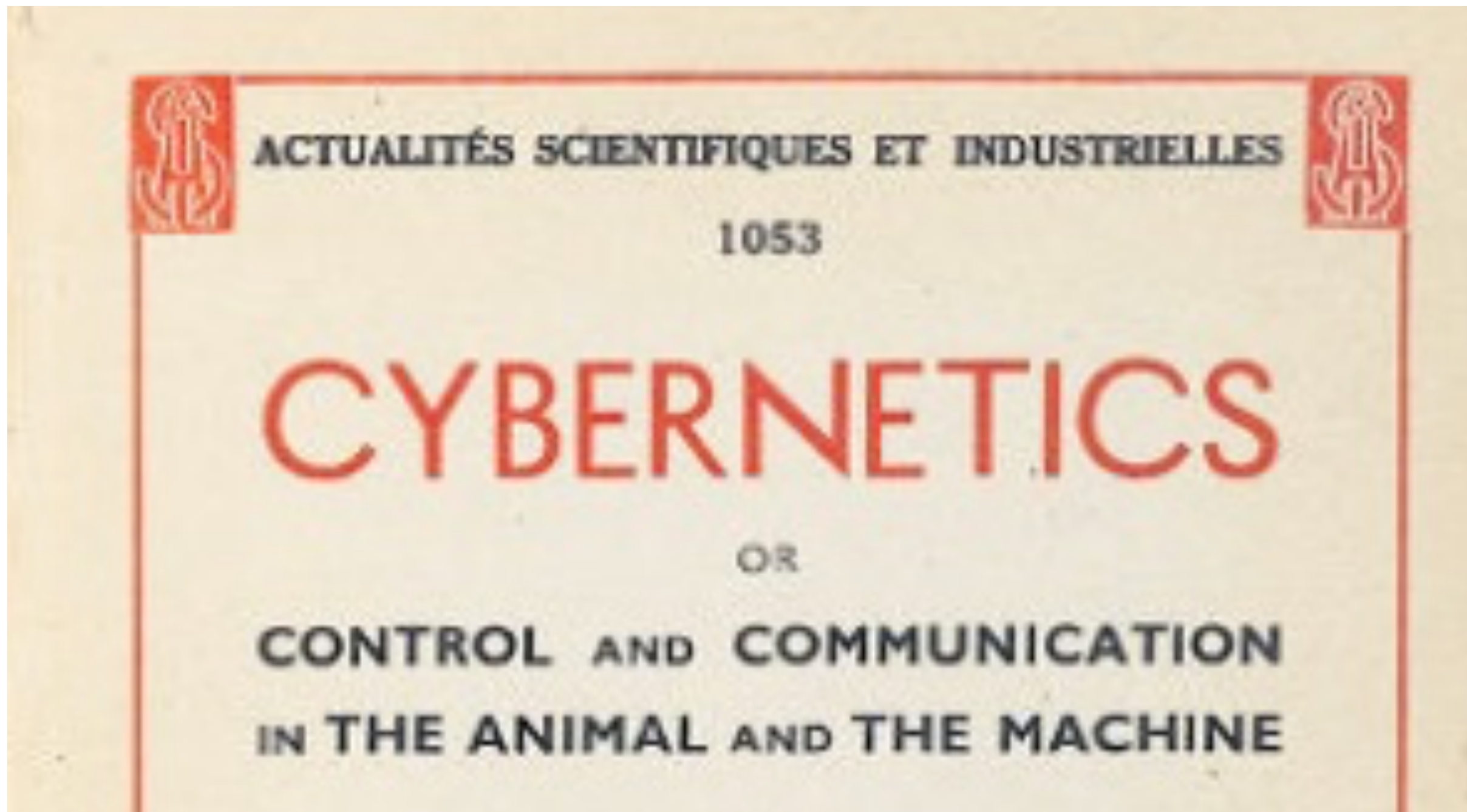
- Very difficult to give a simple answer
  - There are so many ML algorithms
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  - Some work well for this, some work well for that

# How do ML algorithms work?

- Very difficult to give a simple answer
  - There are so many ML algorithms
  - They all work quite differently from each other
  - Some work well for this, some work well for that
- **Today.** Very briefly discuss two **unifying perspectives**.
  - “Cybernetics” paradigm
  - “Statistical Learning” paradigm
- There are competing paradigms, of course, e.g., Bayesian ML.

# Cybernetics (1947)

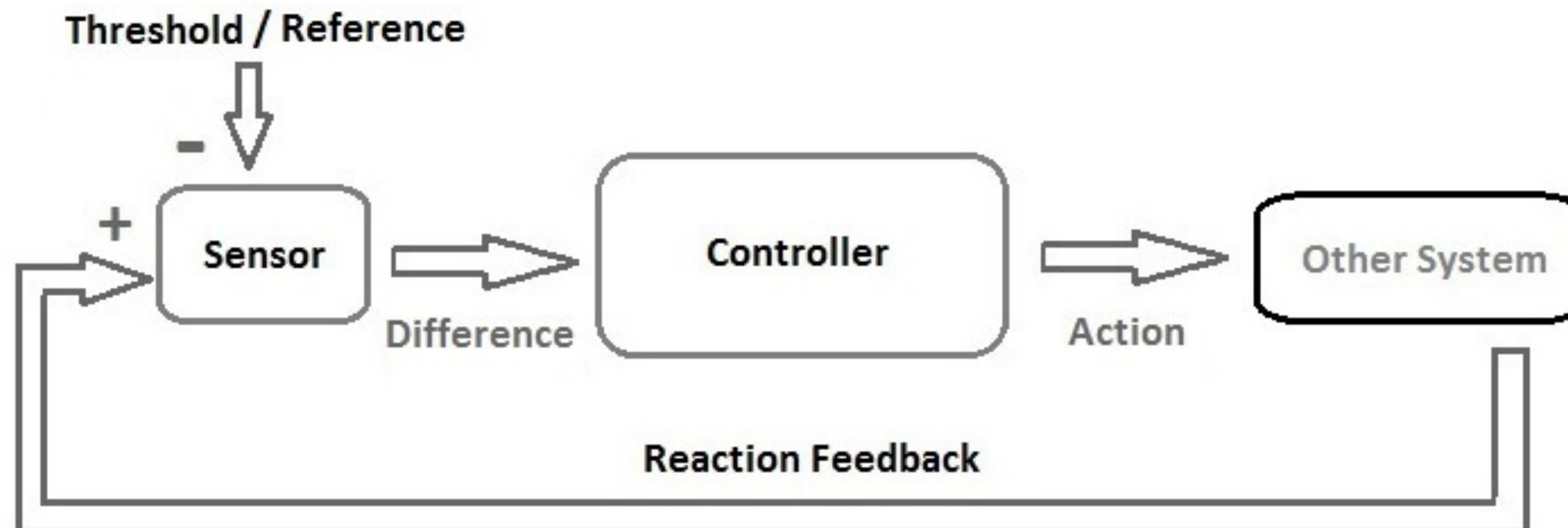
- **Cybernetics.** The origin of “artificial intelligence”
  - Coined by a control theorist Norbert Wiener





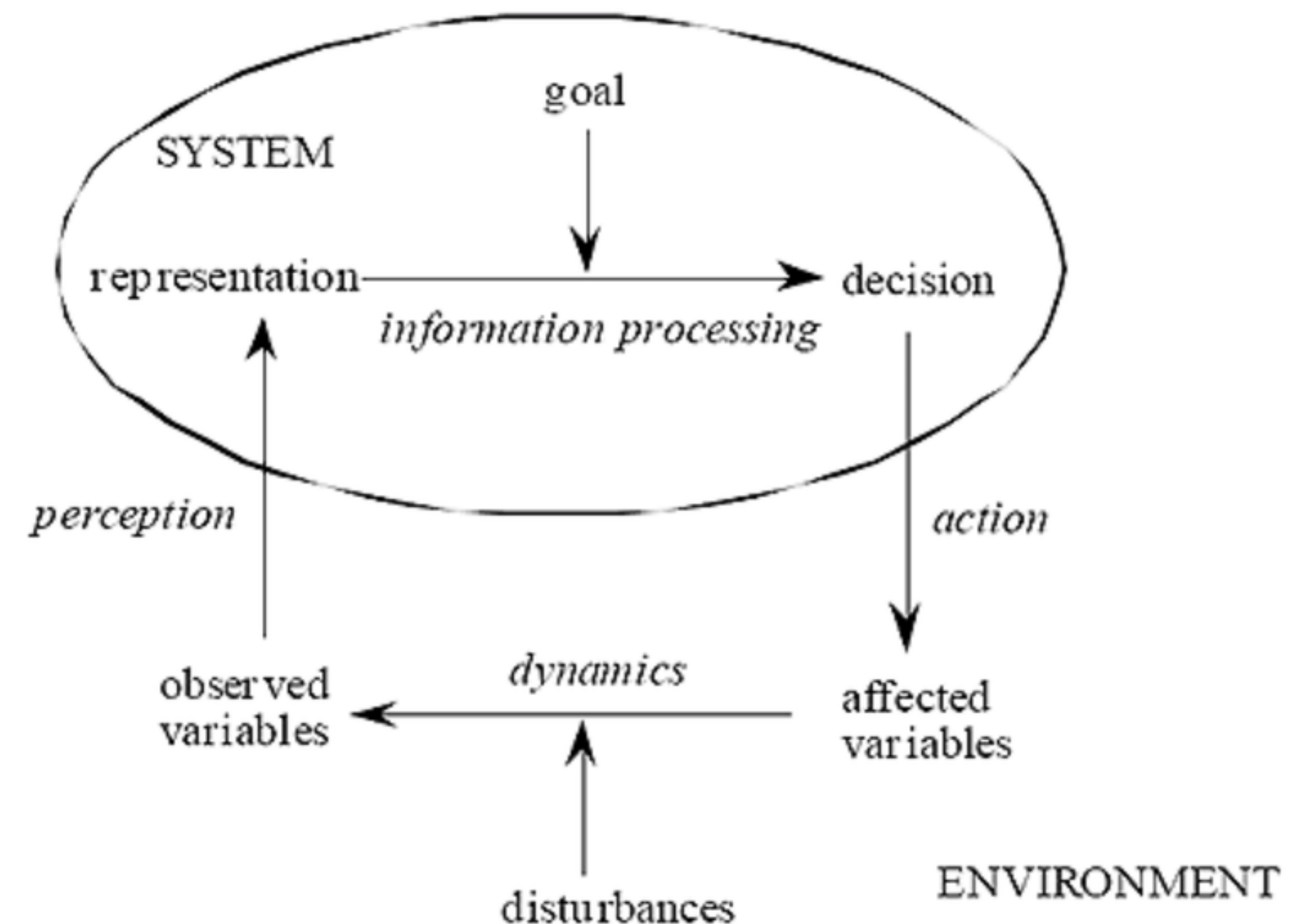
# Cybernetics (1947)

- **Cybernetics.** The origin of “artificial intelligence”
  - Coined by a control theorist Norbert Wiener
- Wiener viewed intelligence as a **“circular causal process, via feedback loop”**
  - thus called “κυβερνήτης” (steering)
  - proposed a holistic study of communication, control, and feedback mechanisms.



# Cybernetics (1947)

- Cybernetics provided all core concepts.
  - We have some **model** with **changeable internal states** (i.e., model parameters)
  - We find the **right internal state** (i.e., optimize) by repeating
    - Test the current program on training data
    - Get the feedback
    - Modify the state accordingly
- Exactly what modern ML or RL does!



# Statistical Learning (1968)

- **Statistical Learning.** Followed the cybernetics rush in Soviet union (Lyapunov, Kolmogorov, ...)
  - Core ideas developed by Vladimir Vapnik and Alexey Chervonenkis

NEWS

**Prestigious AI Series Wraps up with  
Lecture by the Father of Machine  
Learning**

POSTED:  
MAY 14, 2018



Vladimir Vapnik, a professor at Columbia University's Center for Computational Learning System and Professor Anna Choromanska

# Statistical Learning (1968)

- **Statistical Learning.** Followed the cybernetics rush in Soviet union (Lyapunov, Kolmogorov, ...)
  - Core ideas developed by Vladimir Vapnik and Alexey Chervonenkis
- An ML algorithm is defined by:
  - a **hypothesis space** (i.e., a bag of models)
  - a **loss function**
    - measures how bad a model is, when evaluated on a single example
  - a **search algorithm** to find the minimum loss model in this space
    - can be done by optimizing the internal parameters (can be NP-hard!)



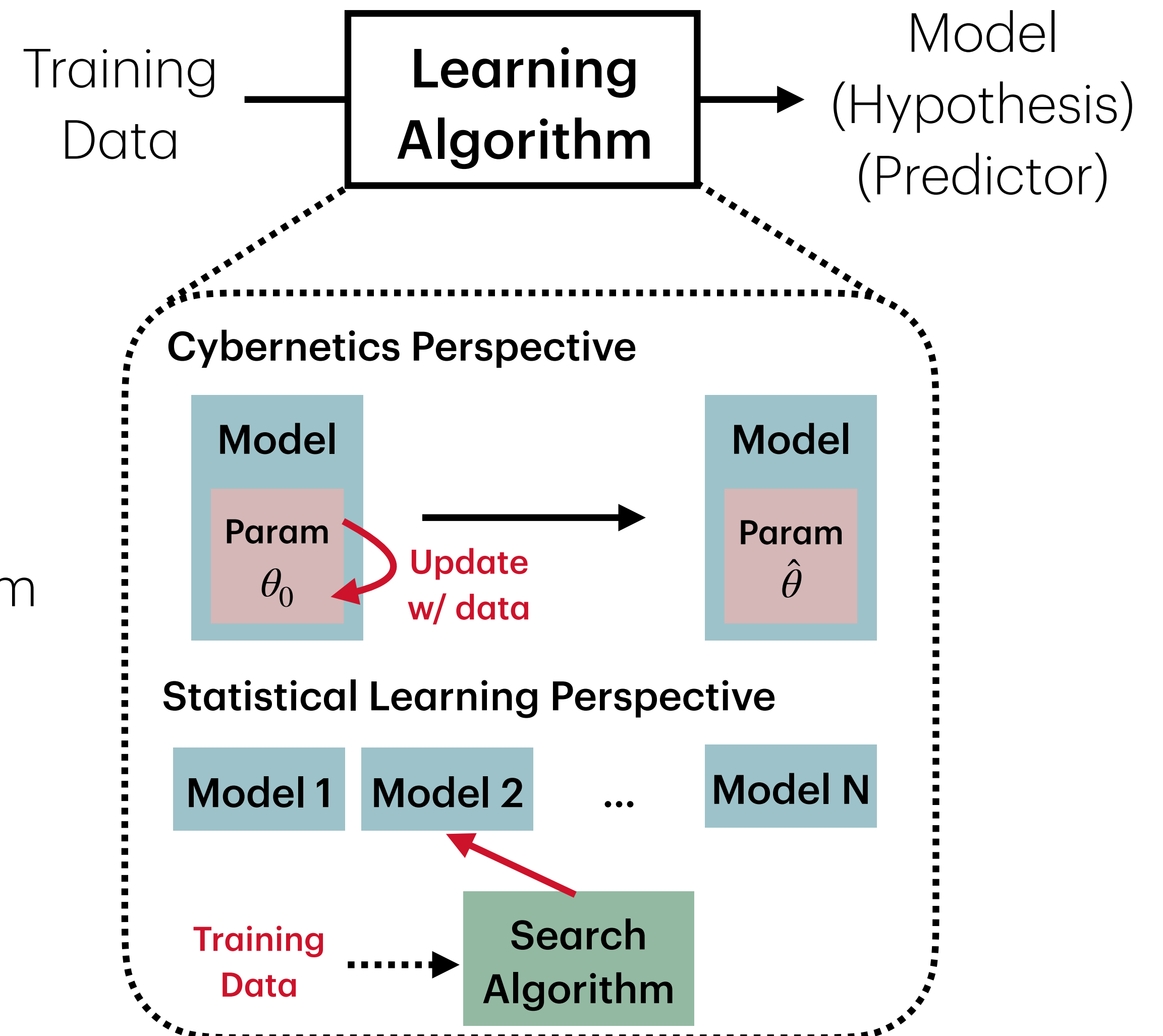
# Two perspectives

- Common to both paradigms, we assume
  - Access to some data  $Z_1, \dots, Z_n$  (either sequentially or available as a batch)
  - Access to some hypothesis space

$$\mathcal{F} = \{f_1, f_2, \dots\}$$

- The ML algorithm solves an optimization problem to minimize the loss on the data

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \ell(f, (Z_1, \dots, Z_n))$$



# Two perspectives

- Different from usual optimization literature, ML is about **generalization to new data**
  - That is, we reduce the empirical error

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \ell(f, (Z_1, \dots, Z_n))$$

and yet, we want the solution  $\hat{f}$  to work well on new data, i.e., have a small

$$\mathbb{E}[\ell(\hat{f}, Z_{\text{new}})]$$

- This is the defining characteristic of ML frameworks.
  - This also makes the field highly empirical; we know very little about the distribution of  $Z$ .

What does this course do?

# This course teaches ...

- This course consists of two parts:
  - Part 1. Introduce classic ML frameworks
  - Part 2. Familiarize you with basics of deep learning (+ hands-on experience)



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- This course consists of two parts:
  - Part 1. Introduce classic ML frameworks
  - Part 2. Familiarize you with basics of deep learning (+ hands-on experience)
- **Why learn classic frameworks?**
  - Outperforms DL in many tasks (e.g., tabular, time-series)
  - Have inspired or directly employed in many DL algorithms (e.g., VQ-VAE)
  - Neat to analyze; gives you strong understanding and intuition.

# This course teaches ...

- By the end of this course, I expect you to
  - be able to apply existing ML algorithms on real-world tasks
  - design your own ML frameworks and algorithms
  - conduct basic analysis on your algorithm and model

Administrivia

# Team

- **Instructor.** Jaeho Lee 이재호
  - Assistant Professor @ POSTECH EE (2022.03 ~ )  
Research Scientist @ Google (2023.09 ~ )
  - [jaeho.lee@postech.ac.kr](mailto:jaeho.lee@postech.ac.kr)
  - Responsible for: Coursework-related, Anything else.
- **TA.** Minjae Park 박민재
  - Ph.D. track @ POSTECH EE (2024.03 ~ )
  - [mjae.park@postech.ac.kr](mailto:mjae.park@postech.ac.kr)
  - Responsible for: Assignments, Grading, Attendance

# Location & Hours

- **Class.** Engineering Building #3, Classroom 115
  - Mondays / Wednesdays 9:30AM — 11:00AM
- **Office hours.** Engineering Building #2, Office 323
  - Wednesdays 04:00PM — 05:00PM (+ by appointment)
- **Web.** <https://jaeho-lee.github.io> ← for lecture notes  
PLMS ← for assignment submissions

# Grading

- Attendance: 10%
  - Assignments: 30%
  - Mid-Term: 30%
  - Final Project: 30%
- 
- Graduate students will be graded separately
  - QE sit-ins will be judged based on how UGs do.

# Prerequisites

- Not 100% required, but I assume you know:
  - Calculus
  - Basic linear algebra
  - Basic probability & statistics
  - Signals & Systems
  - Programming & Python

# Textbook

- **Main**

- “Mathematics for Machine Learning” by Deisenroth, Faisal, and Ong

- <https://mml-book.github.io>

- “Understanding Deep Learning” by Simon Prince

- <https://udlbook.github.io/udlbook/>



# Textbook

- **Further Readings**

- “Patterns, Predictions, and Actions” by Hardt and Recht
  - <https://mlstory.org>
- “Dive into Deep Learning” by Zhang, Lipton, Li, and Smola
  - <https://d2l.ai>
  - Very recommended for programming exercises

# Honor Codes

- **Simple principle: Cheating = F**
  - Sharing solutions → not okay
  - Copying solutions → not okay
  - Discussion → do this with me or TA?
  - ChatGPT → please don't

# Coming next

- We do some recap:
  - Linear Algebra
  - Optimization and Probability

Cheers