

Al Science and Engineering: A new scientific discipline?

Prof. Ioannis Pitas Aristotle University of Thessaloniki pitas@csd.auth.gr www.aiia.csd.auth.gr Version 3.0





AI Science and Engineering

- What is AI?
- Statistical Machine Learning
- AI and Human Mind
- Artificial General Intelligence
- AI Science and Engineering?
- University Education on AI
- AI in University Education





 AI Science and Engineering (AISE) is the interdisciplinary, scientific study and engineering of Artificial Systems that mimic and/or surpass human intelligence in information analysis and human interaction with the world.

- Core AISE disciplines are:
 - Machine Learning (ML),
 - Classical (Symbolic) Artificial Intelligence (AI)





- Closely related AISE disciplines:
 - Robotics,
 - Autonomous Systems,
 - Digital Signal/Image Processing and Analysis,
 - Data Science and Data Analytics
 - Network Theory.
- Very useful in defining:
 - Data, analysis modes, applications.





- Complementary AISE-related disciplines:
 - Cognitive Science,
 - Neuroscience,
 - Psychology,
 - Philosophy, Ethics
 - Linguistics
 - Sociology.





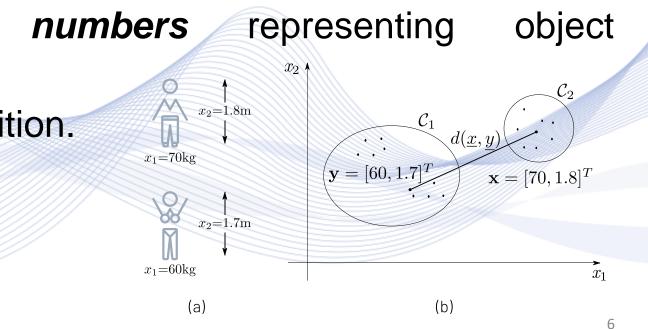
Data/information/knowledge definitions

Data: measured quantities related to nature and/or human activities.

- Data are primarily characteristics (features).
- Passive/active data acquisition.
- Data sampling.

• Measured in bits.

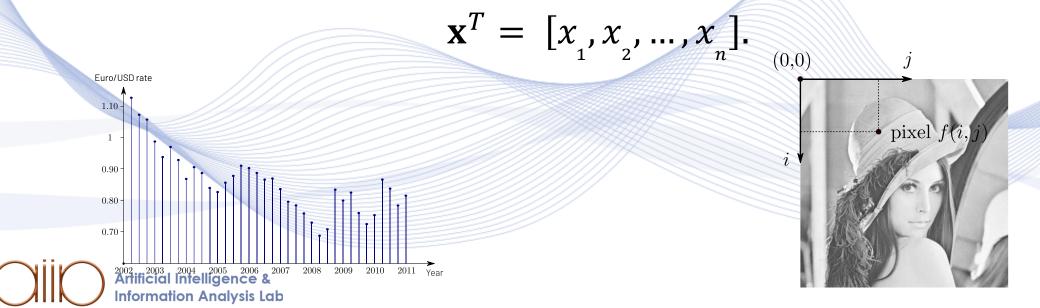
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Data can have *spatiotemporal structure*:

- 1D temporal signals, e.g., music
- 2D spatial signals: images
- Signals and object features can be represented by vectors:



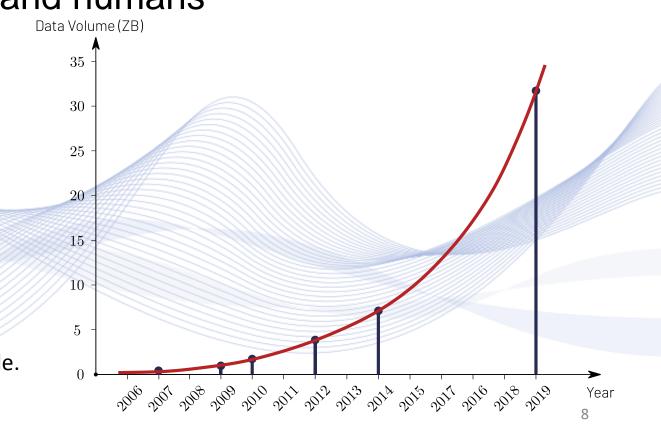
Exponential data increase:

- Proliferation of sensors
- Detailed recording of nature and humans
- Sensing automation.

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Why we need ever more data?

- To navigate in an ever more complex world.
 - Why do we need a more complex world?

Data sustainability:

- HW enabled
- Moore's law
- Data storage constraints
- Data communication constraints.



Unsupervised Machine Learning

 x_1

• Data clustering:

 x_2

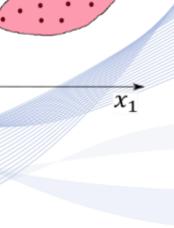


- Data geometry
- Abstraction
- Data compression.

Supervised Machine Learning

- Learning functions $\mathbf{y} = f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{\theta})$ from x_2 labeled training data { $(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i), i = 1, ..., N$ }.
- Classification
- Regression.
- Learning data probability distributions $p(\mathbf{x})$.
 - Generative neural networks.
 - Fake data creation.





 C_2

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Information

- Notoriously vague definitions
- My definition: Information is the result of the manual or automatic Data Analysis.

Taxonomy: Data \rightarrow Information \rightarrow Knowledge.

Machine Learning/inference produces *information* (including metadata).

Information theory/entropy: bits (once more)!

Knowledge Information Data





Concepts and ideas (ιδέες).

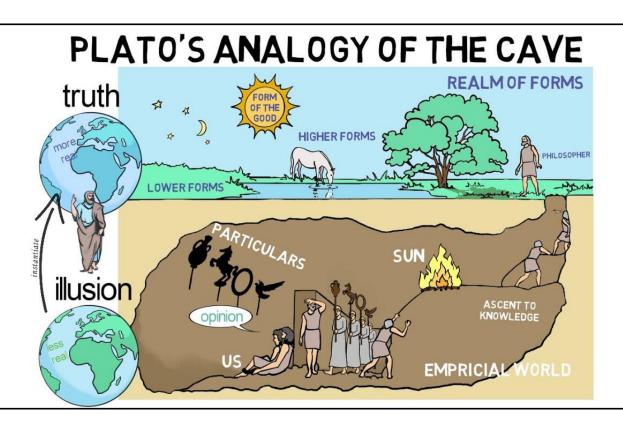
- Concepts are specific mental constructs residing in our mind (brain?) that refine and abstract ideas.
- Concept instances

Instances of a triangle.

- Abstraction and generalization:
 - Simplification and data compression.

Ideas in Philosophy.

- Idealism, materialism, dualism.
- Plato's cave.









Symbolic AI

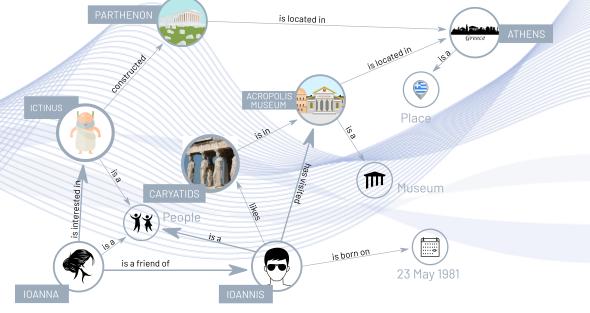
- A symbol ('Σύμβολο') is a comprehensible representation of an object, idea, concept, action, status, or relationship.
- Symbolic AI mimics and simulates high-level human intelligence and *reasoning*.
- It represents and operates on concepts and their relations though *logic* and *search*.
- Reasoning is one of the most complex brain activities.





Knowledge

- It is a familiarity, awareness, or *understanding of someone or something*:
 - Facts (propositional knowledge),
 - Skills (procedural knowledge),
 - Objects relations (relational knowledge).
- Various knowledge descriptions.





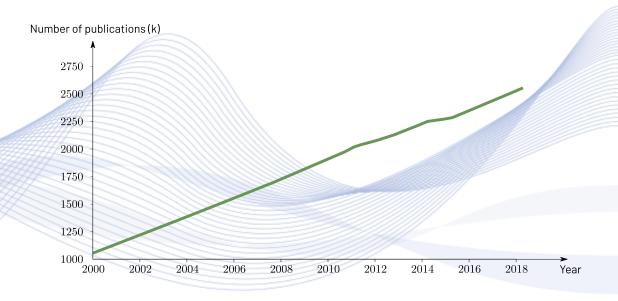
Knowledge is primarily a product of reasoning.

- Is knowledge finite?
- Can we measure knowledge?
- Knowledge increase is linear.
- Encyclopedias

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Research publications.



Global research output (publication) growth.





Current AI revolution:

- AI means ML, which means Deep Neural Networks
- Stagnation of symbolic AI
- Resurrection of a dead term: Al

Major breakthrough needed:

- Advancement of symbolic AI
- Fusion of Machine Learning and symbolic AI.





Data/Information society:

- Exponential data growth.
- Data acquisition automation.
- Information extraction automation through ML.

Sustainability?

- More sensors, more processors, Moore's law.
- Energy-intensive data and information extraction.





Knowledge society:

- Exponential knowledge growth.
- Not there yet: knowledge production and communication is still manual.
- Past devastating setbacks in knowledge uptaking:
 Dark ages (beginning of the medieval times).





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Knowledge Sustainability:

- Limitations in brain capacity.
- Solution: social swarm intelligence
- Example: collective memory.
- Knowledge communication through education is way suboptimal:
 - New education mode needed, stressing *critical thinking* and *abstraction*.
 - Morphosis: formation of knowledgeable citizens.
 - Global education: diminishing social and regional barriers to education.

• Unified machine and human learning theories?





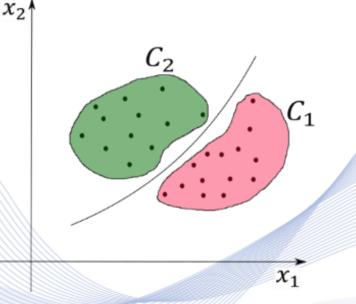
Supervised Machine Learning

Learning functions $\mathbf{y} = f(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$.

- Bayesian Learning/Decision Making:
 - Learning from Probability distributions $p(\mathbf{x})$.
- Statistical Machine Learning:
 - Learning from labeled training data $\{(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i), i = 1, ..., N\}$.

Applications:

- Classification
- Regression.





Bayesian Classification

Two-class Maximum Likelihood classification problem:

• Adopt
$$C_1$$
, if $r_1(\mathbf{x}) < r_2(\mathbf{x})$ or:

$$\Lambda(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|C_1)}{p(\mathbf{x}|C_2)} > T_{12}.$$

Probabilities p(x|C_i) are unknown and have to be estimated.

ML decision boundary.





Multivariate Gaussian Probability Distribution

• Jointly normal variables X_1, \ldots, X_n :

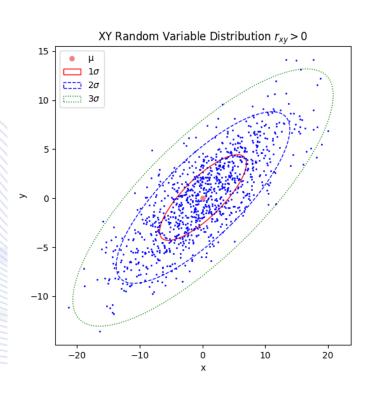
$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(\sqrt{2\pi})^n \det(\mathbf{C})^{\frac{1}{2}}} e^A,$$
$$A = -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})^T \mathbf{C}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})$$

Parameters $\widehat{\mathbf{m}}$, $\widehat{\mathbf{C}}$ to be estimated from data $\{(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i), i = 1, ..., N\}$:

• Expected vector: $\mathbf{m} = E\{\mathbf{x}\}.$

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• Covariance matrix: $\mathbf{C} = E\{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})^T(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})\}.$



Statistical Machine Learning $\widehat{\mathbf{v}}$

2

-2

 $\widehat{\overset{lpha}{\underbrace{)}}} 0.5$

-10

$$\hat{y} = f(z) = f(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + b) = f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{T} w_i x_i + b\right)$$

- *f* : activation function.
- Simplest form (firing threshold):

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} \ge -b \Rightarrow \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + b \ge 0.$$



10

8

6

2

Classification is a binary function *prediction* (estimation):

 $\mathbf{y} = \boldsymbol{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}).$

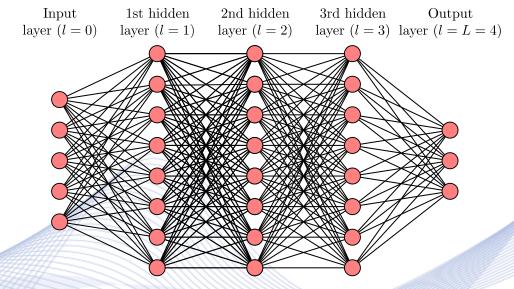
- Input: $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, ..., x_n]^T$, e.g., facial 100×80 pixel image.
- **Trainable parameters** (NN weights): $\mathbf{w} = [w_1, w_2, ..., w_n]^T$.
- **Output**: $\mathbf{y} = [0, 1, 0, ..., 0]^T$.
 - Only the correct facial (person) class label is 1.



Multilayer Perceptrons

 $\mathbf{y} = \boldsymbol{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}).$

- Neural networks training has to minimize an error function $J(\mathbf{w})$.
- Differentiation: $\frac{\partial J(\mathbf{w})}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = \mathbf{0}.$



Multilayer perceptron.



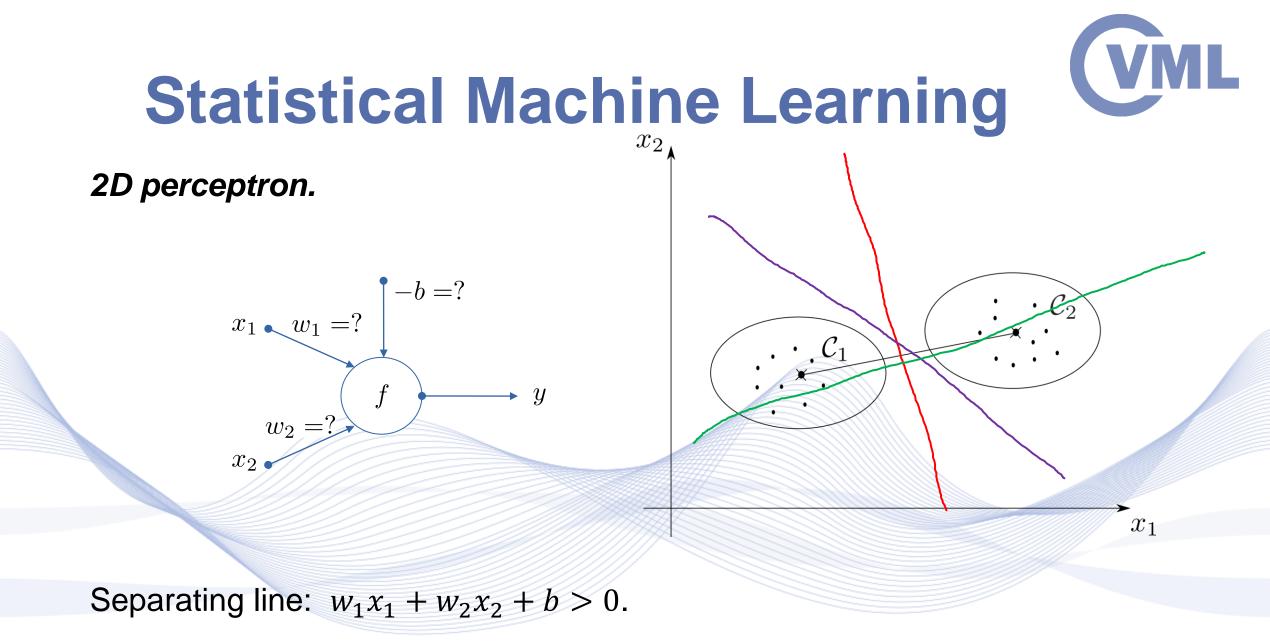


Classification.

- **Training**: Use training data $\{(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{x}_i)\}$ to find the optimal parameters \mathbf{w} , minimizing the classification error $J(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w})$.
- **Inference**: Feed the trained NN with data x to produce the classification label: y = f(x,w).

Classification is a special type of *regression* (function approximation).









2D perceptron.

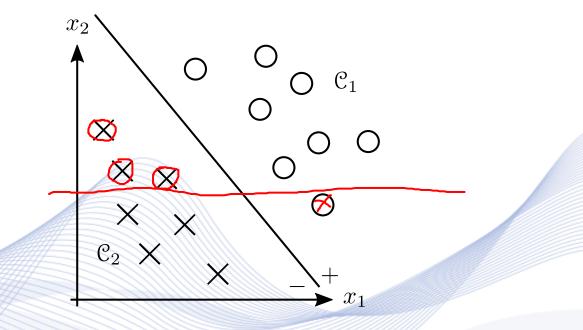
Decision line: $w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + b > 0$.

Classification error minimization:

 $J(w_1, w_2, b) = 4.$

Optimization problem.

Use gradients to find the minimum!





2D perceptron.

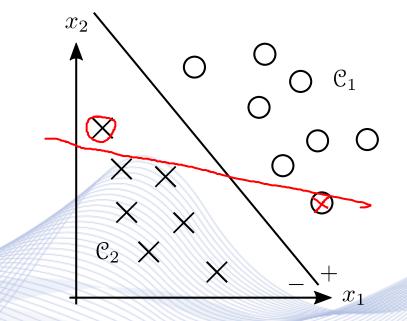
Decision line: $w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + b > 0$.

Classification error minimization:

 $J(w_1, w_2, b) = 2.$

Optimization problem.

Use gradients to find the minimum!

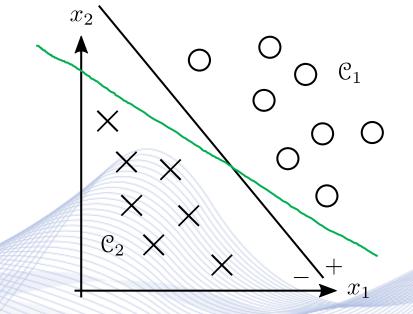




2D perceptron.

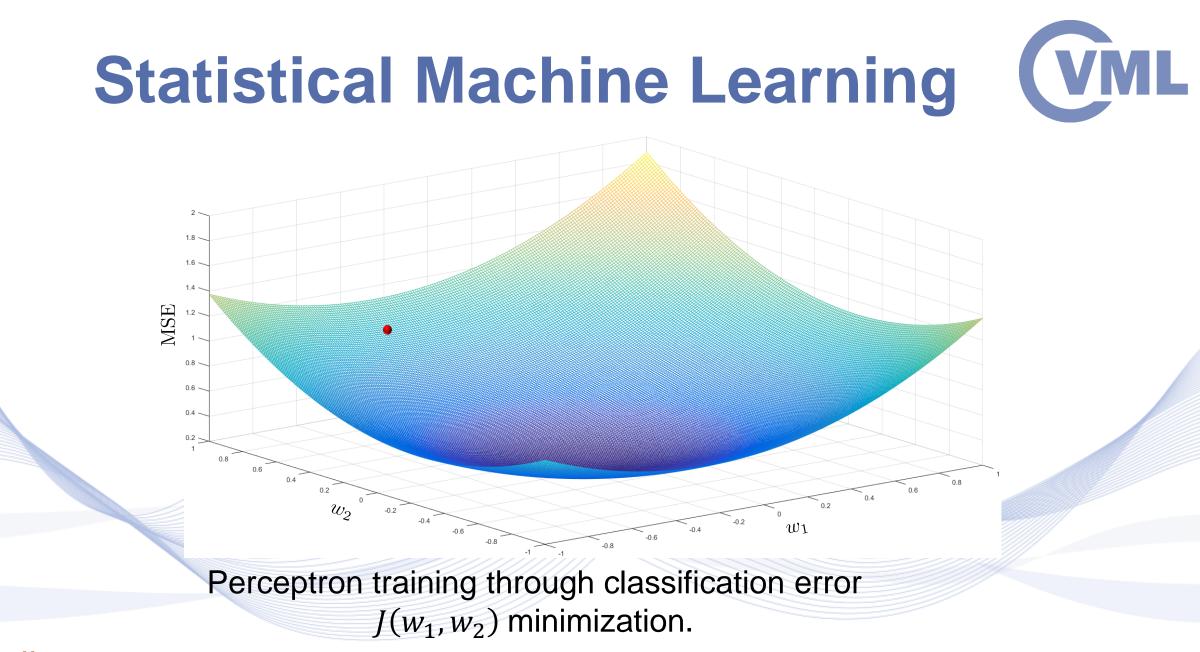
Decision line: $w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + b > 0$.

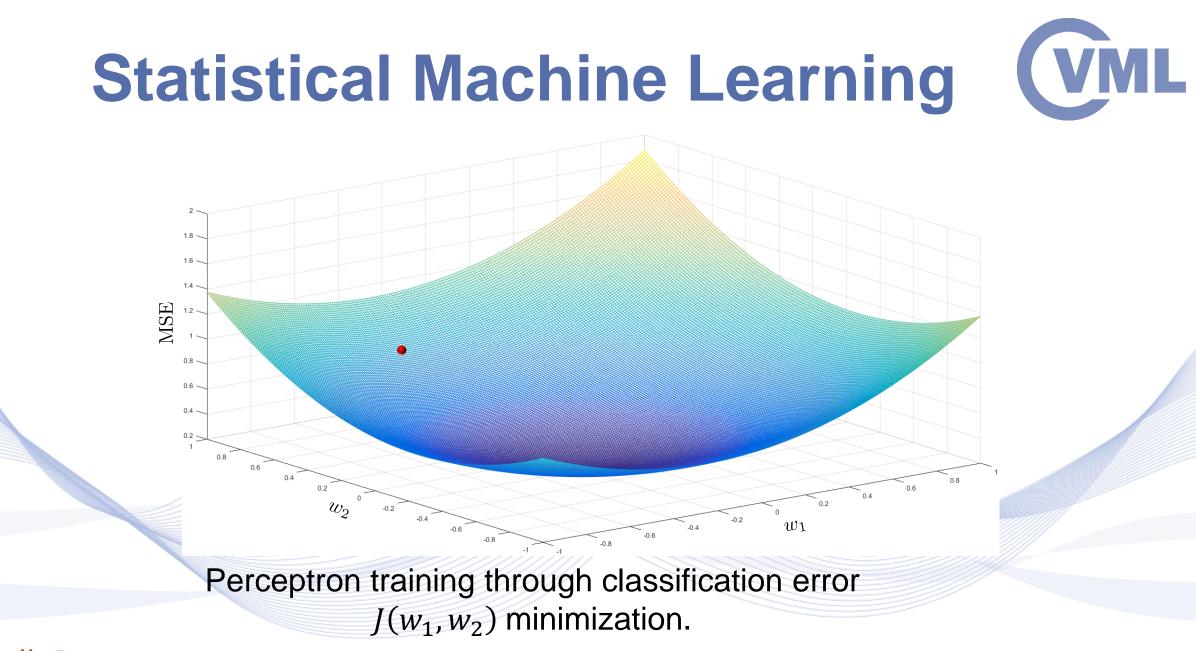
Classification error minimization: $J(w_1, w_2, b) = 0.$ $J(w_1, w_2, b) = 0.$

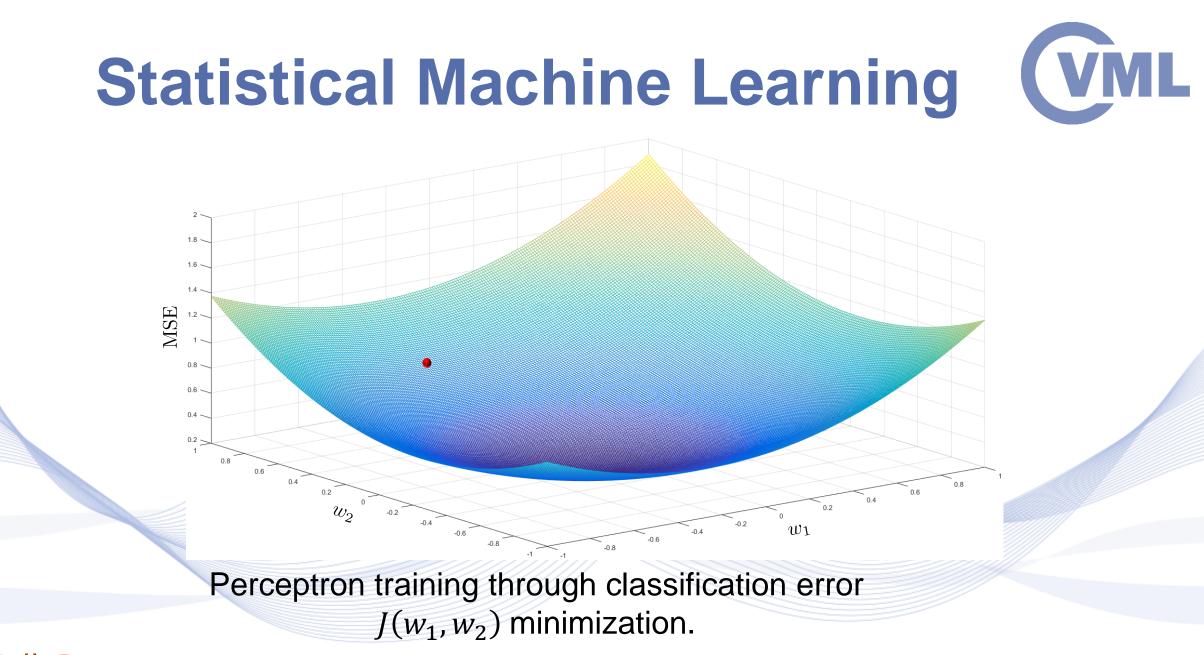


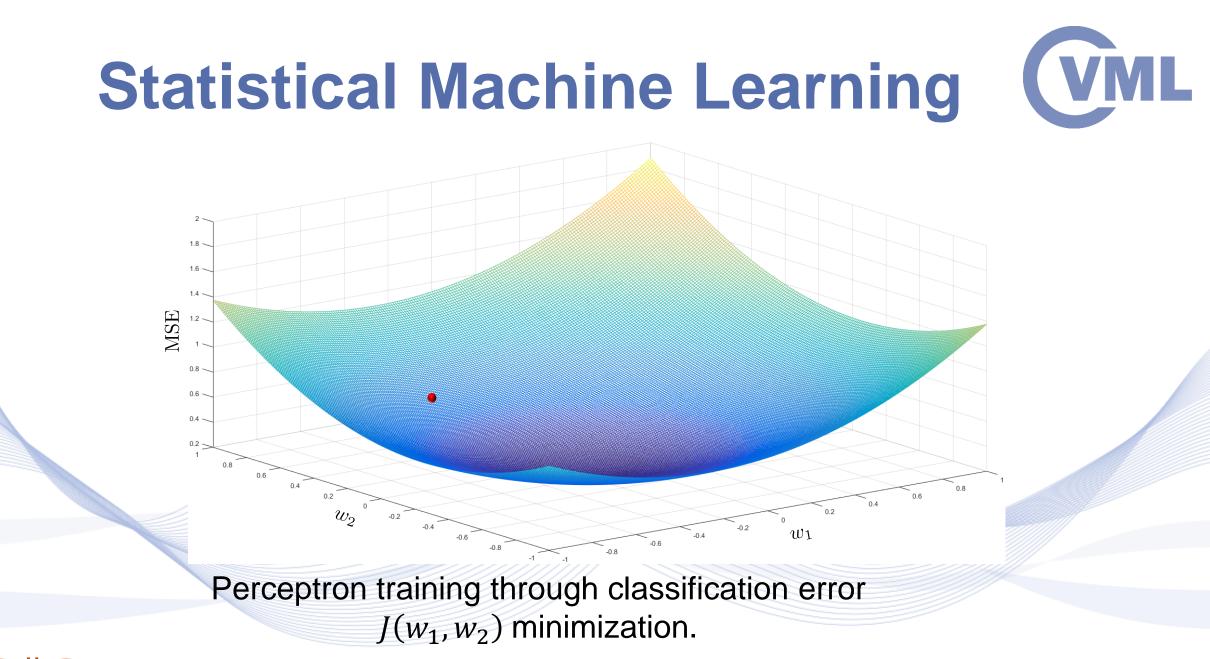
Optimization problem.

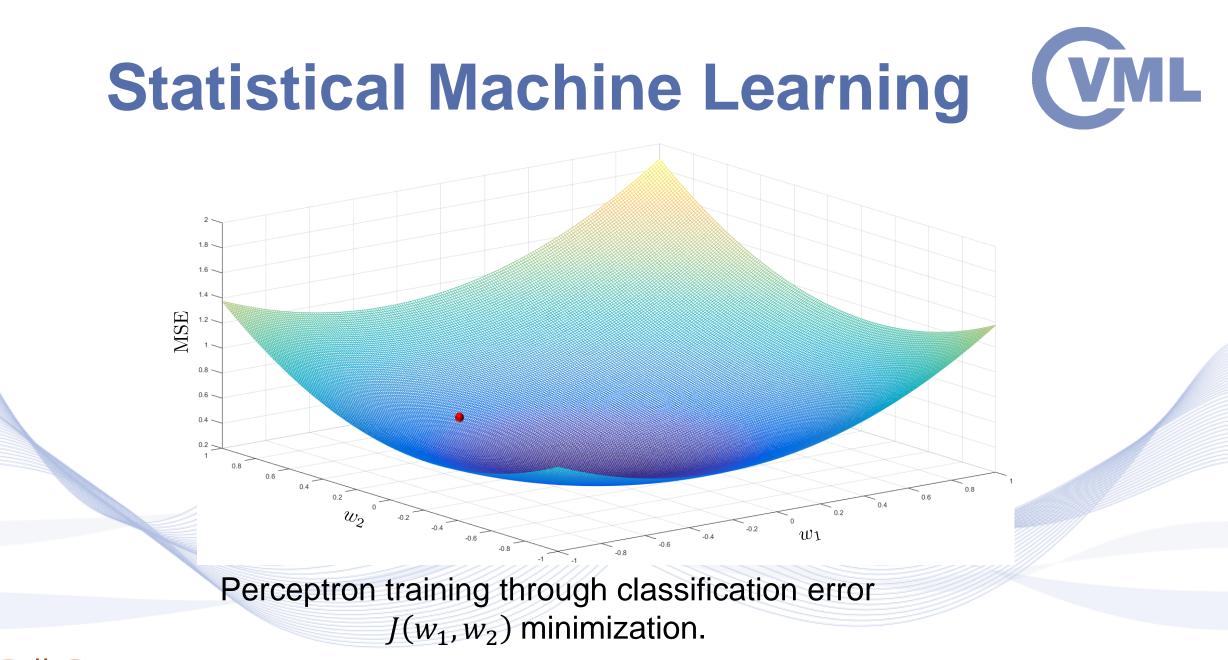
Use gradients (derivatives) to find the minimum!

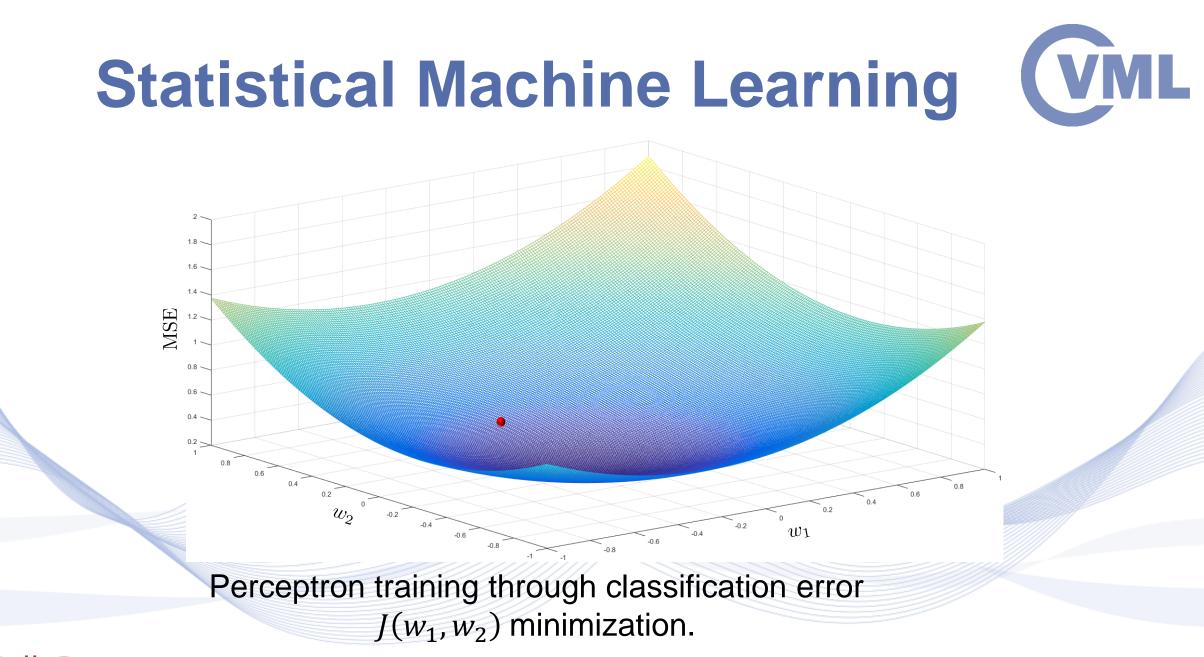


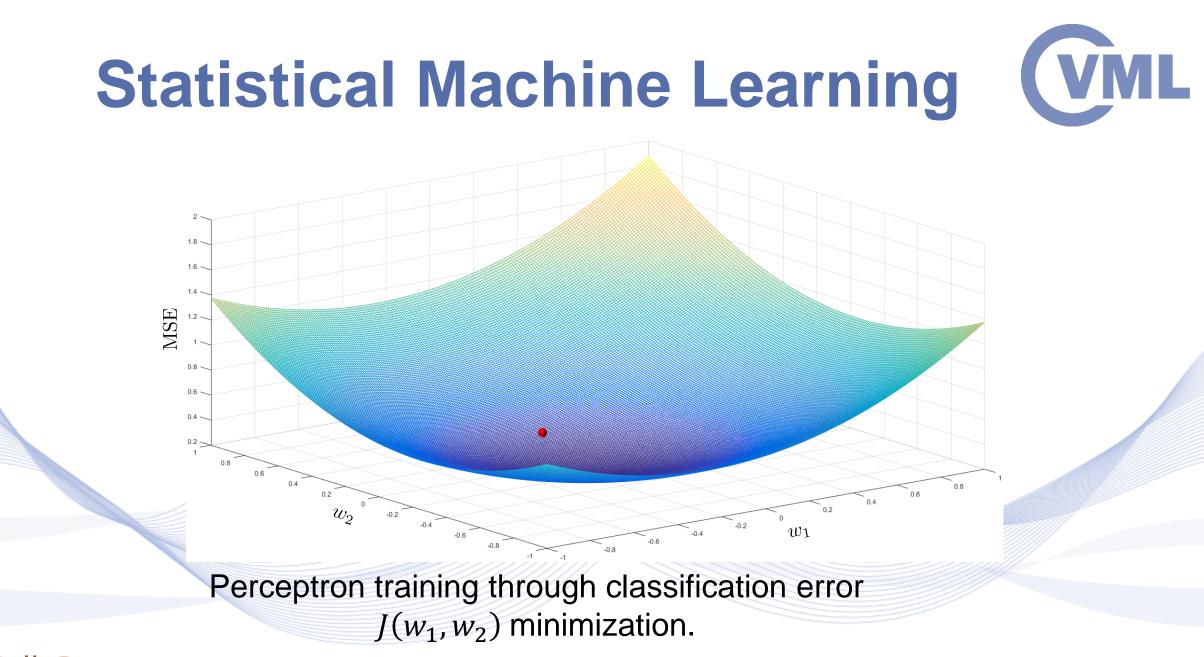


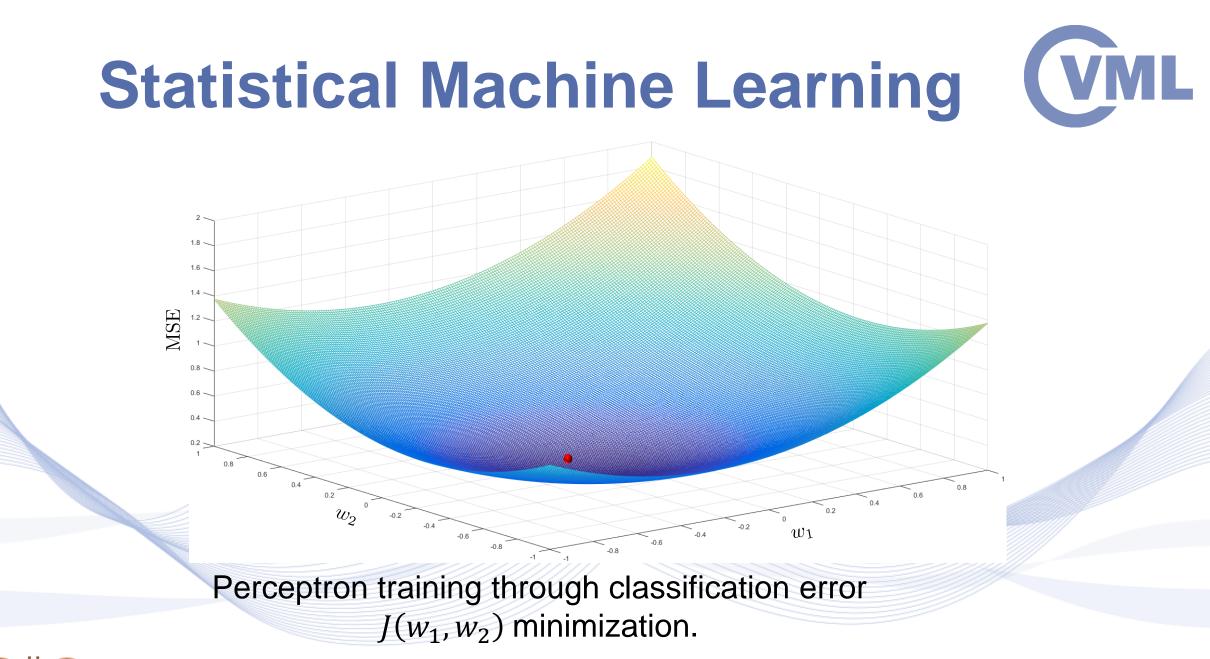












 y, \hat{y}

Regression is an approximation $\hat{y} = \hat{f}(x, w)$ of a real-valued function y = f(x).

- Input: x (values in the function domain).
- Trainable parameters w.
- **Output vector** $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$: approximated function values.
- Training and inference.

 $- \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w})$

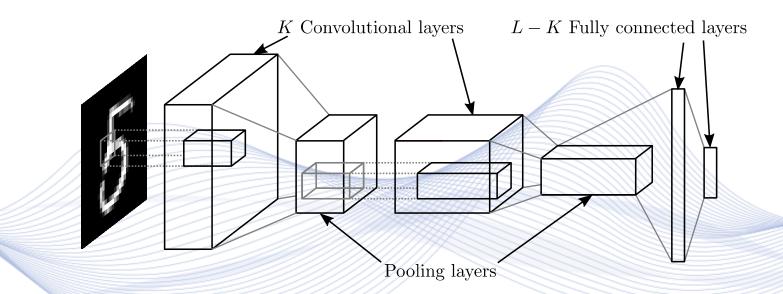
• $\mathbf{y} = f(\mathbf{x})$

Approximation $\hat{y} = \hat{f}(x, w)$ of the function y = f(x)

(VML

Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN):

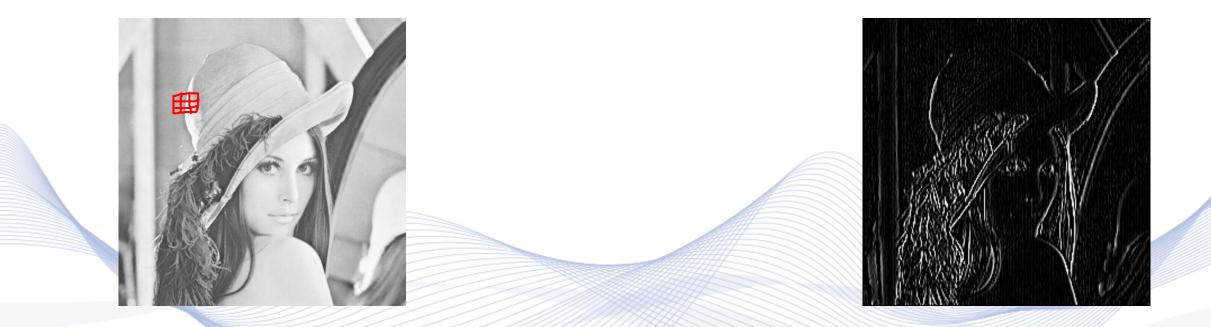
- Employ image convolutions in the first layers.
- They may employ fully connected MLPs in the last layers.



Basic CNN structure.







CNN image features (vertical image edges).



Transformers and Attention Networks

- CNNs cannot accommodate distant data correlations.
- Attention is essentially a *statistic correlation* mechanism to extract meaningful information from data.
- It also provides a data feature diffusion mechanism.





Real Image

Noise

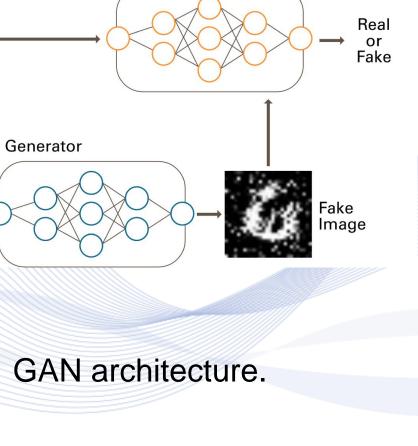
Generative learning models approximate the data generating probability density function (pdf) $\widehat{p}(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{\theta}).$

Generative Adversarial Networks have:

• A **Generator** function $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = G(\mathbf{z}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_G)$.

A **Discriminator** function $\hat{y} = D(\mathbf{q}; \mathbf{\theta}_D)$.

They are one form of Generative AI.



Discriminator

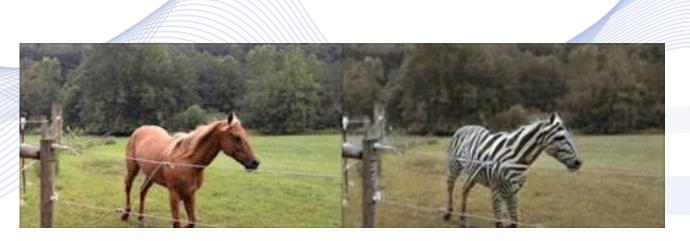


Generative Al.

- Large Language Models
- Diffusion Models
- Generative Adversarial Networks.

It can be used to create fake data:

- Fake news, images, videos, audio.
- Works of art.









AI Science and Engineering

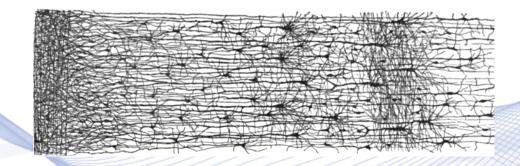
- What is AI?
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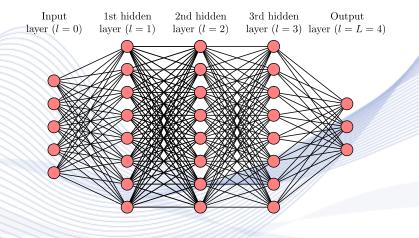


Artificial and Biological neural networks

• Is *network complexity* the basis of both the biological and artificial intelligence?



Biological NN (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cerebral_cortex)



Multilayer perceptron



Interoception and Physical Intelligence

- Interoception is the perception of stimuli from inside our body.
- It supports *homeostasis* (maintenance of functional body equilibrium).
- It is essential for human (self)consciousness.
- Current robots do not have interoception.
- Closest approximation: *Physical Intelligence* uses distributed sensors to allow robots to live in unstructured environments.
 - Multimodal machine perception: tactile, smell, taste sensors.

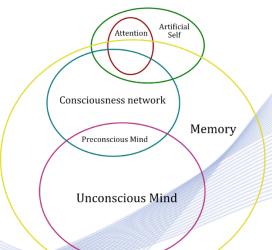


Brain-Inspired Computing

- **Computational Neuroscience** creates mathematical models of the brain and nervous systems.
- Despite advances, no breakthroughs compared to AI revolution.
- Modeling memory, consciousness, affect etc.
- Major advances expected by Neuroscience and AI/ML fusion.







Intelligent Self-aware systems

- Memory (easy)
- Affect (easy?)
- Consciousness(doable?)
- Real intelligence (difficult?)
- Swarm/social intelligence (doable).



ML



- Intelligent systems can be very useful.
- Should we be technophobic?





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Is AGI the next step after LLMs?

- Most probably AGI will be VERY different from human intelligence.
 - Airplanes are different then birds, yet they obey the same laws of Physics.
- The physical substrate of AI and human intelligence is very different.
 - Robots have very limited but different physical intelligence.
 - Things may change by developing biological robots.
- Life evolution by-design than through physical selection.
- Massive human-machine symbiosis at various levels.



Is AGI the next step after LLMs?

- Will AGI be any different from human intelligence from a behavioral point of view that is worth talking about?
- Today too many commoners cannot make the difference.
- The phenomenon is intensified by:
 - Lack of proper education.
 - Access of machines remotely.
 - Unwise claims and behavior of AI agents to the general public, e.g.,:
 - AI halucinations being misunderstood as imagination.
 - False claims of sentiments (internal affect states) by machines.



Layman's technophobia

- Fear of the unknown as commoners cannot understand AI.
- Machines appear to be intelligent and possibly better at that than the humans themselves.
- They are *massively better* in certain tasks, e.g., computations, memory/retrieval.
- Machines appear to be sentient.
- Humans are awed by ChatGPT 'intelligence' much more than by other Generative AI methods, e.g., Deep Arts.

• Any technophobia can be socially destructive.



Scientific technophobia

• Very recent trend: scientists fearing the unknown.

The evolution of architecture

shutterstock.com · 280451036



Parable: AI and the tower of Babel.



Can AI be stopped or delayed?

- Al is the response of humanity to a global society and physical world of ever-increasing complexity.
- The physical and social complexity increase processes are very deep and seeming relentless.
- Al is a blessing, but it can become a curse.
- Political, ethical, and regulatory concerns cannot and should not stop AI research [FUT2023].
- Scientific technophobia leads nowhere [NYT2023].



Can AI be stopped or delayed?

- Al research can and should become more open, democratic, scientific and ethical.
- Simple AI regulatory examples:
 - Al system registry,
 - Clear indication that somebody converses with a machine.
- Al deployment should be regulated and can be temporarily delayed.
 - · Geopolitical aspects must be dealt by international cooperation.





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- **Computer Science** is the study of computation and information.
- **Computer Engineering** is a branch of Engineering that integrates several CSE fields that are required to develop computer hardware and software.
- Traditionally, AI and ML were CSE disciplines.
- Do AI and ML have own scientific methodology?





AI/ML: mathematical discipline at the CS/CSE/ECE crossroads.

- Mathematics lost this topic from the early start (1960s).
- ECE Departments are much more ventures due to:
 - Early needs in Statistical Communications (1950).
 - Good background in mathematical coursework and Pattern Recognition.
- CS Departments were early starters in the wrong direction:
 - Symbolic Al
 - · Weak mathematical coursework.
- Yet CS/CSE is the clear winner in the AI/ML race.



- AISE Interdisciplinarity?
 - AI and Brain/mind studies
 - AI and social studies/engineering.
- Mature AISE Interdisciplinarity?
 Not there yet!
- Risks: depth vs shallowness.



CSE spawning new disciplines *through specialization*:

- Web science
- Data science
- Al Science and Engineering.
- New scientific methodologies are not *necessarily* essential.
 - Poor terminology?
- Past experience: Physics spawning Engineering disciplines
 - Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering.



AISE background

Lots of mathematics:

- Analysis/calculus, Optimization
- Geometry
- Linear Algebra
- Graph Theory
- Probability theory and statistics
- Mathematical Logic.



AISE background

Classical studies at University and high school level

- Philosophy, ethics, logic
- Linguistic competences.
- Physics?, Biology?
- Do we prescribe universal AI scientists?





Wordwide creation of:

- New AI Departments or Schools
- New Al undergraduate studies.

It seems it is not just a trend.

Many efforts are market driven.

Urgent need for the creation of a good AI Curriculum:

AIDA AI Curriculum: <u>https://www.i-aida.org/phd-curriculum/</u>





Changes will be drastic and will come very soon.

Schools of 'Information Science and Engineering' with departments of:

- Computer Science/Informatics,
- Mathematics
- Computer Engineering
- Artificial Intelligence Science and Engineering
- Internet/Web Science.





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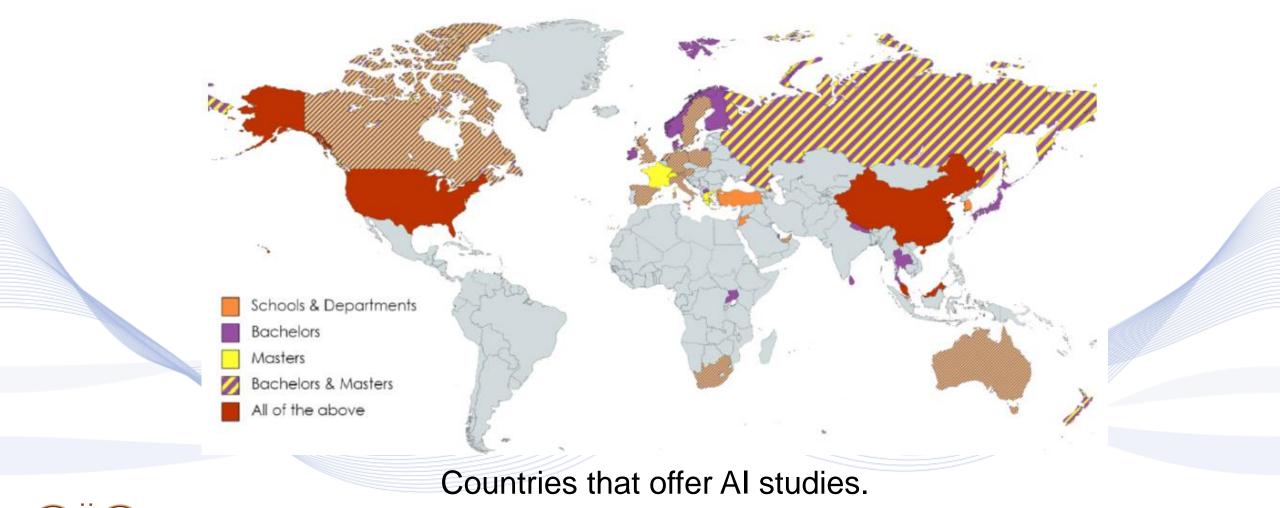
University Education on Al

- Very many AI MSc and PhD study programs
- AI Schools & Departments (12)
- Al Undergraduate Studies (59)
- Developments are mostly demand-driven.
- Smaller players can be more adventurous in AI studies.

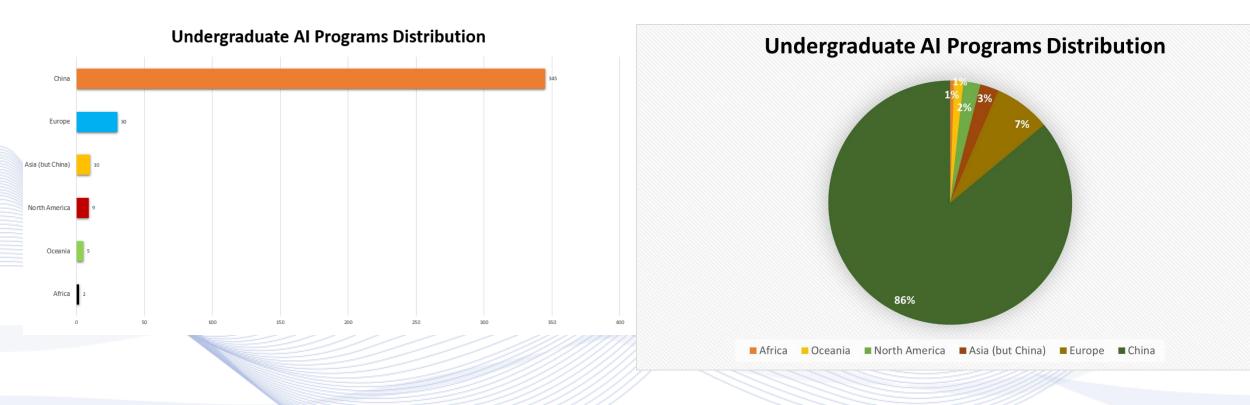




University Education on Al



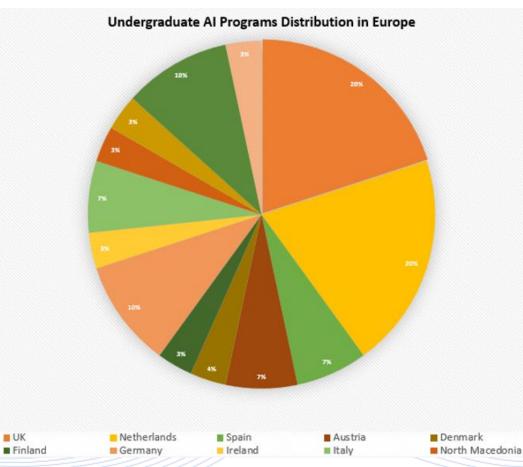




Number of undergraduate AI programs worldwide.

Artificial Intelligence & Information Analysis Lab Global distribution of undergraduate AI studies.

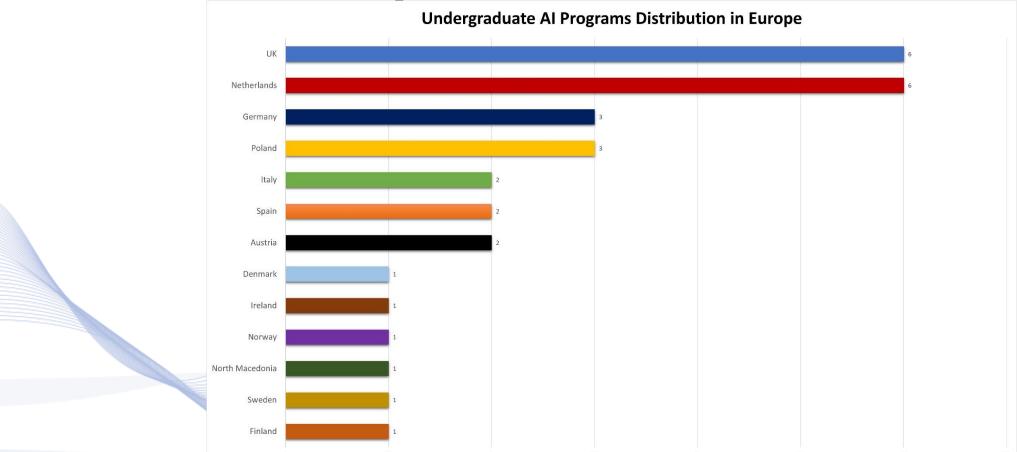




Distribution of undergraduate AI programs in Europe.

Artificial Intelligence & Information Analysis Lab UK





Geographical distribution of AI undergraduate programs in Europe.

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Al-centered Schools & Departments (examples):

- Machine Learning Department, Carnegie Mellon University, USA.
 - <u>https://www.ml.cmu.edu/</u>
- Institute for AI, Tsinghua University, China.
 - <u>https://ml.cs.tsinghua.edu.cn/thuai/#/</u>

School of Intelligence Science and Technology, Peking University, China.

https://www.cis.pku.edu.cn/English/Home.htm

Department of AI, College of Informatics, Korea University, S. Korea

<u>http://xai.korea.ac.kr/eng/company/greeting?language=eng</u>



Undergraduate AI Studies (examples):



- BSc in Data Science and AI, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.
 - https://www.ntu.edu.sg/education/undergraduate-programme/bachelor-of-science-in-data-science-artificial-intelligence
- BSc in AI, University of Technology Sydney, Australia.
 - <u>https://www.uts.edu.au/study/find-a-course/bachelor-artificial-intelligence</u>
- BSc in AI and Decision Making, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA.
 - http://catalog.mit.edu/degree-charts/artifical-intelligence-decision-making-course-6-4/
- BSc in AI, The University of Edinburgh, UK.
 - https://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/degrees/index.php?action=view&code=G700
- BSc in AI, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands.
 - https://vu.nl/en/education/bachelor/artificial-intelligence
- BSc in AI, Polytechnic University of Catalonia, Spain.
 - https://www.upc.edu/en/bachelors/artificial-intelligence-barcelona-fib

Curriculum of BSc on Al, CMU, USA (example)

https://www.cs.cmu.edu/bs-in-artificial-intelligence/

- Principles of Imperative Computation
- Integration and Approximation
- Mathematical Foundations for Computer Science
- Great Theoretical Ideas in Computer Science
- Matrices and Linear Transformations
- Calculus in Three Dimensions
- Concepts in Al
- Al: Representation and Problem Solving
- Parallel and Sequential Data Structures and Algorithms
- Probability Theory for Computer Science
- Introduction to Machine Learning



- Computer Vision
- Natural Language Processing
- Modern Regression
- Neural Computation
- Autonomous Agents
- Cognitive Robotics: The Future of Robot Toys
- Planning Techniques for Robotics
- Mobile Robot Algorithms Laboratory
- Robot Kinematics and Dynamics
- Deep Reinforcement Learning & Control



Curriculum of BSc on AI, CMU, USA

- Mobile Robot Algorithms Laboratory
- Robot Kinematics and Dynamics
- Deep Reinforcement Learning & Control
- Deep Learning Systems: Algorithms and Implementation
- Intermediate Deep Learning
- Machine Learning for Structured Data
- Machine Learning for Text and Graph-based Mining
- Introduction to Deep Learning
- Advanced Methods for Data Analysis



- Search Engines
- Speech Processing
- Computational Perception
- Computational Photography
- Design of Artificial Intelligence Products
- Human AI Interaction
- Designing Human Centered Software
- Human Robot Interaction



Curriculum of MSc in Machine Learning, UCL, UK (example)

https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught-degrees/machine-learning-msc

- Applied Machine Learning
- Advanced Topics in Machine Learning
- Approximate Inference and Learning in Probabilistic Models
- Probabilistic and Unsupervised Learning
- Statistical Natural Language Processing
- Reinforcement Learning
- Machine Vision

Artificial Intelliaence &

Information Analysis Lab



- MSc Machine Learning Project
- Machine Learning Seminar
- Bayesian Deep Learning
- Statistical Learning Theory
- Applied Deep Learning
- Graphical Models



AI Science and Engineering

- What is AI?
- Statistical Machine Learning
- AI and Human Mind
- Artificial General Intelligence
- AI Science and Engineering?
- University Education on AI
- AI in University Education



Al in University Education

Creation of Departments for '*Mind and Social Science and Engineering*' in Schools of Arts and Humanities.

- Groundbreaking proposal.
- **Departments of Digital Humanities** is another good solution.
- The exact name or form is not important, as long as it serves the transfer of mathematical and programming skills to arts and humanities students.





Al in University Education

- Currently, the Humanities face the greatest pressure from LLMs and AI.
- The mathematization of classical subjects (e.g., Linguistics, Sociology) has advanced significantly.
- Alternative? Creation of departments for '*Philological/Linguistic Engineering*' or 'Social *Engineering*' in Science/Engineering Schools.





Al in University Education

Creation of departments for '*Bio-Science and Engineering*' in Schools of Health Sciences, including:

• Biomedical Engineering, Genetic Engineering and Systems Biology.

Mandatory inclusion of Mathematics and Computer Science courses in all disciplines without exception.

- Simply, one (poor) course in Statistics does not meet the current needs.
- Mandatory courses on AI *Ethics, Legal and Social Implications* (ELSI) in all ECE, EE, CS and CSE Curricula.
 Altris already partly underway.

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Thank you very much for your attention!

More material in http://icarus.csd.auth.gr/cvml-web-lecture-series/

Contact: Prof. I. Pitas pitas@csd.auth.gr

