

Are machines the next Einstein?

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a dark blazer, is shown from the chest up. She has a thoughtful and slightly concerned expression, looking off to her right. The background is a dark, textured surface with various white chalk-like drawings. On the left, there are three interlocking gears. In the top left, there's a diagram of a branching structure. In the top right, there's a drawing of a brain with question marks. On the right side, there's a molecular structure with several circles connected by lines. At the bottom right, there's a small diagram of a triangle with a line extending from one vertex.

Thank you for joining us!

Machine Learning

Are machines the next Einstein?

British Computing Society
Susanna Green

“Even though I am doing an Astrophysics PhD... I oscillate between being a software engineer, machine learning engineer, and a data scientist. Plus I am a content creator!”



– Susanna Green –




How do **YOU**
think and **learn**?

“Did you know the average person has about 6,200 thoughts per day”

Psychologists at Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario, 2020 (Credit: Bigthink.com)

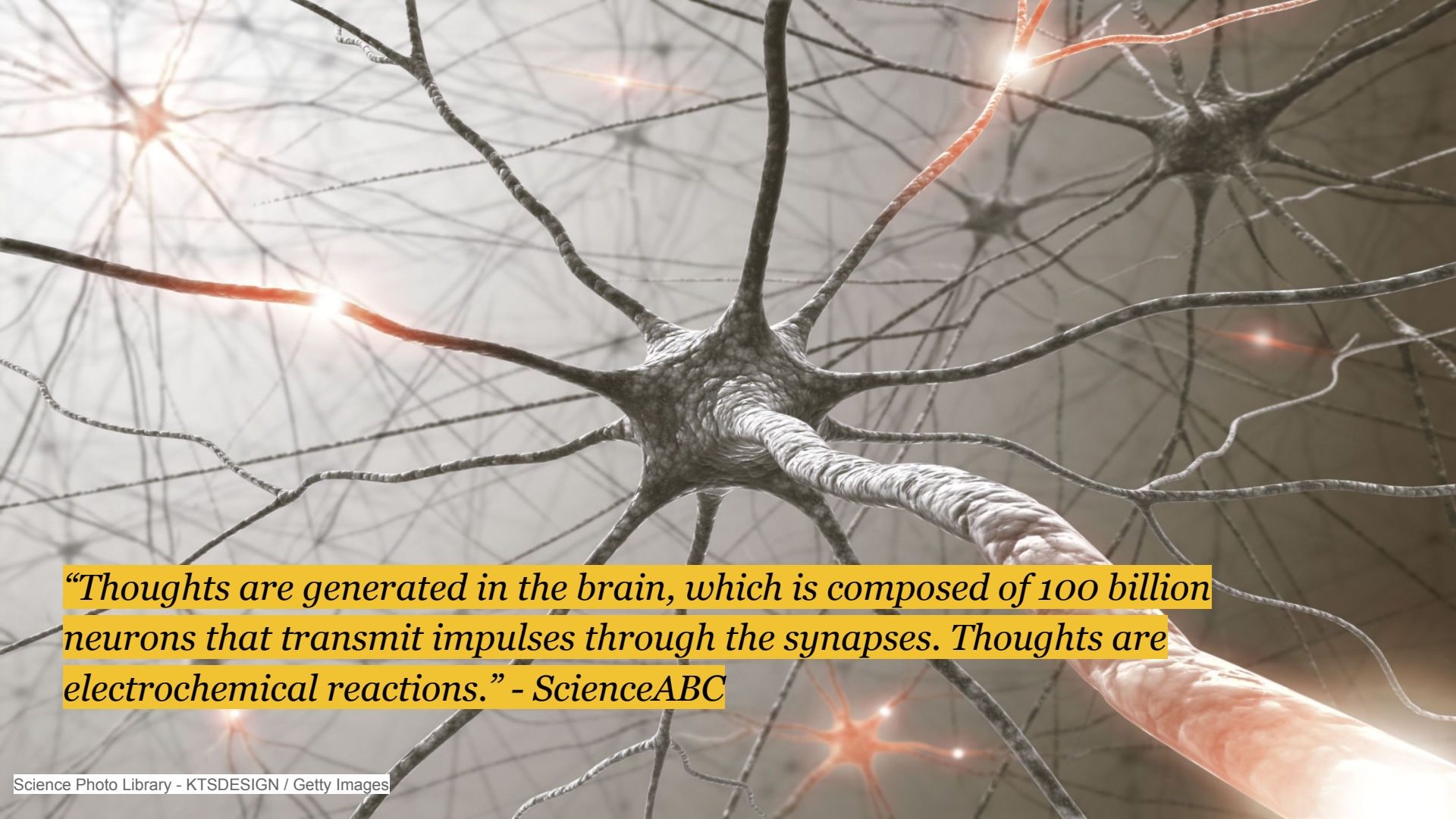
- A. I have more thoughts than this!!!
- B. I have about this many thoughts.
- C. I have very few thoughts a day...





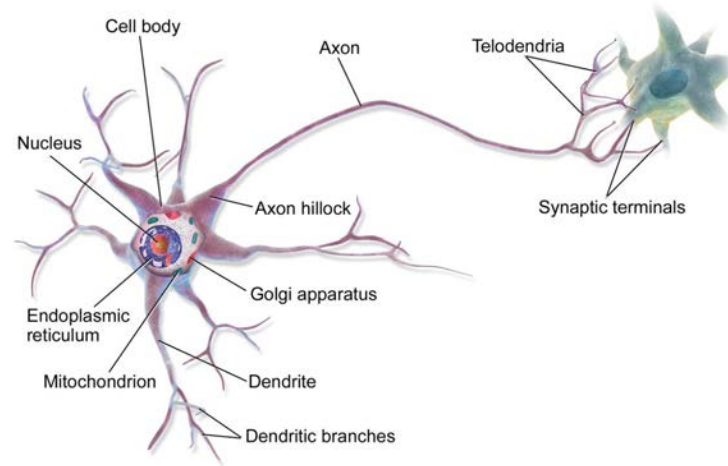
Have you ever thought
about your thoughts?
Like, what even is a
thought?

Like... what are your
thoughts made of?



“Thoughts are generated in the brain, which is composed of 100 billion neurons that transmit impulses through the synapses. Thoughts are electrochemical reactions.” - ScienceABC

Biological neuron



Credit: Wiki

Stimulus



Enough stimulus to
send on signal



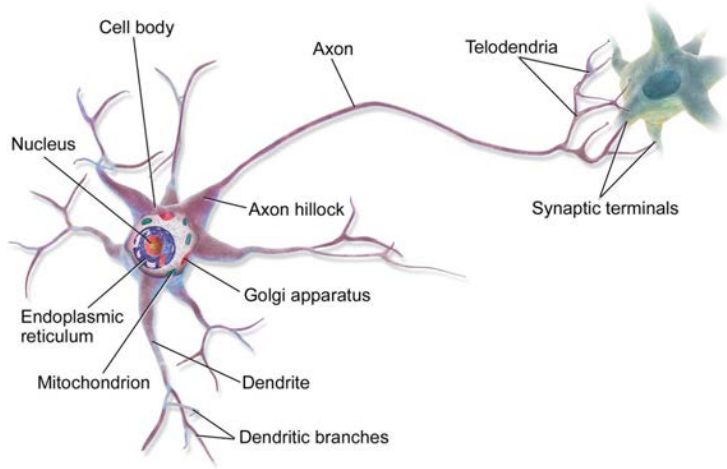
Signal passed onto
the next neuron

Frank Rosenblatt

A black and white photograph of Frank Rosenblatt, a young man in a white shirt and dark tie, leaning over a large, complex electronic device. The device consists of several vertical panels with numerous knobs and switches. In the foreground, there is a large, curved console with a grid of lights or indicators. The background shows a chalkboard with some mathematical symbols and the word "ELECT" partially visible.

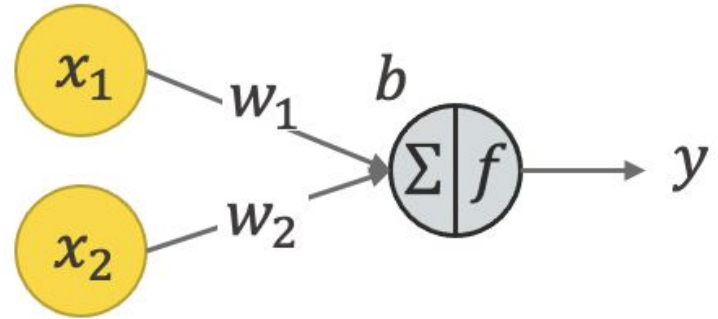
In 1957, Frank Rosenblatt created the first artificial neuron, called the perceptron.

Biological neuron v.s. artificial neuron (perceptron)?



Credit: Wiki

V.S.



Credit: knime.com

Input

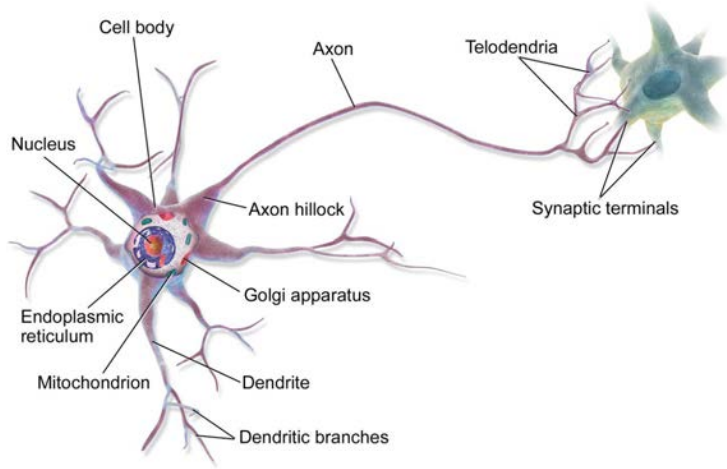


Process



Output

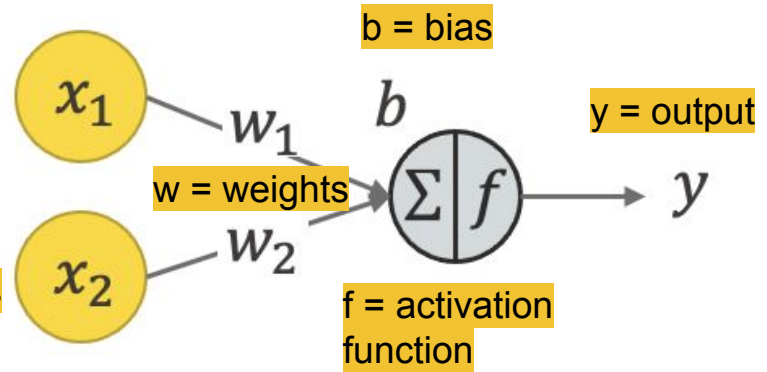
Biological neuron v.s. artificial neuron (perceptron)?



Credit: Wiki

V.S.

$x_1, x_2 =$ inputs



Credit: knime.com

Input

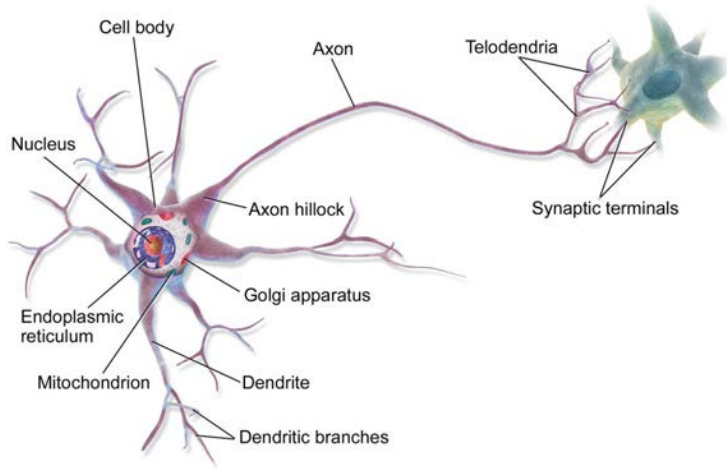


$$f \left(b + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i w_i \right)$$



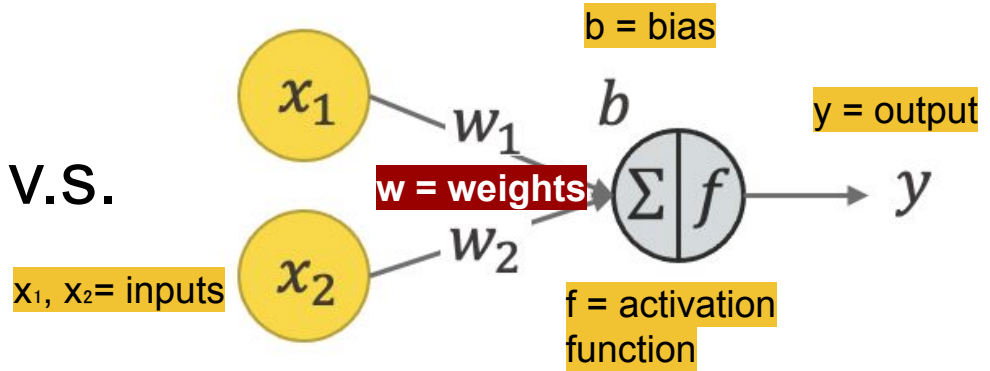
Output

Biological neuron v.s. artificial neuron (perceptron)?



Credit: Wiki

V.S.



Credit: knime.com

Input



$$f \left(b + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i w_i \right)$$



Output



“Neurons that fire together, wire together.”

- Donald Hebb -

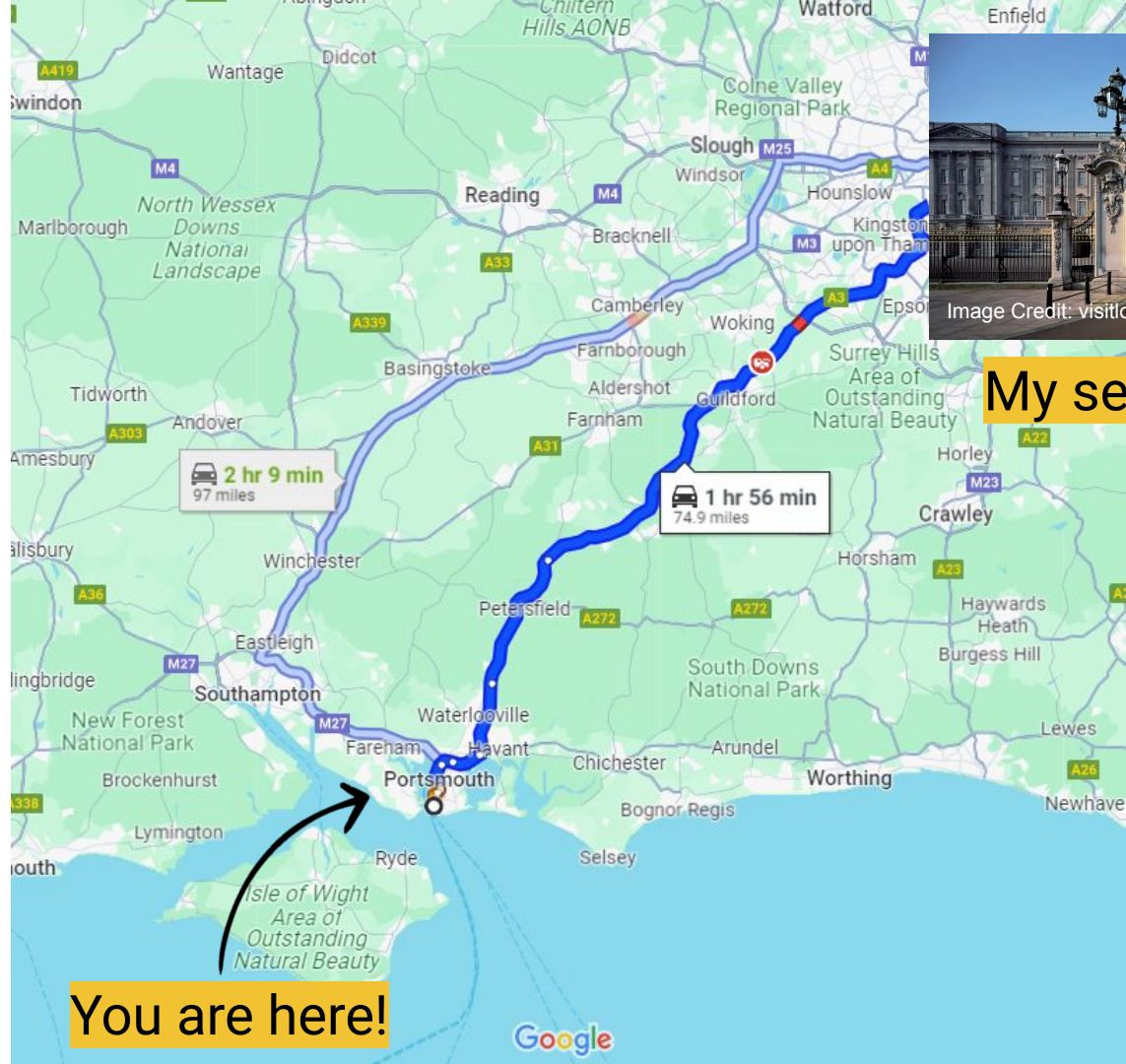
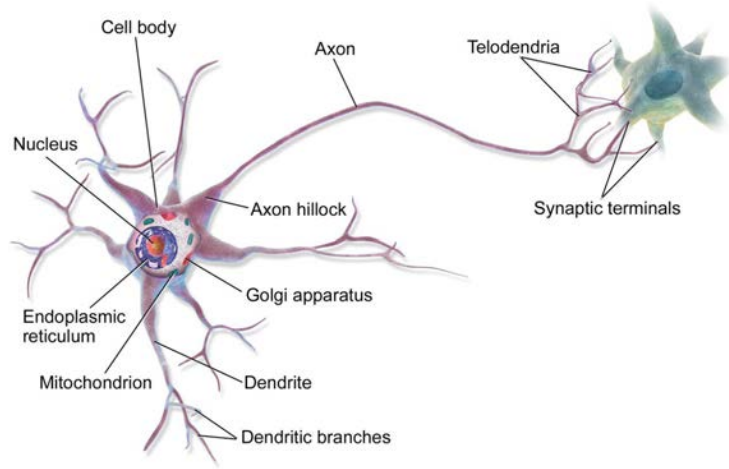


Image Credit: visitlondon.com

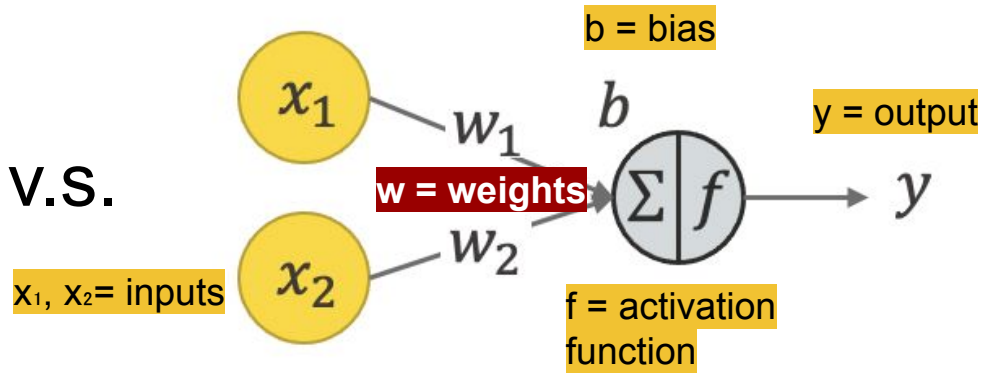
My second home!

Biological neuron v.s. artificial neuron (perceptron)?



Credit: Wiki

V.S.



Credit: knime.com

Input

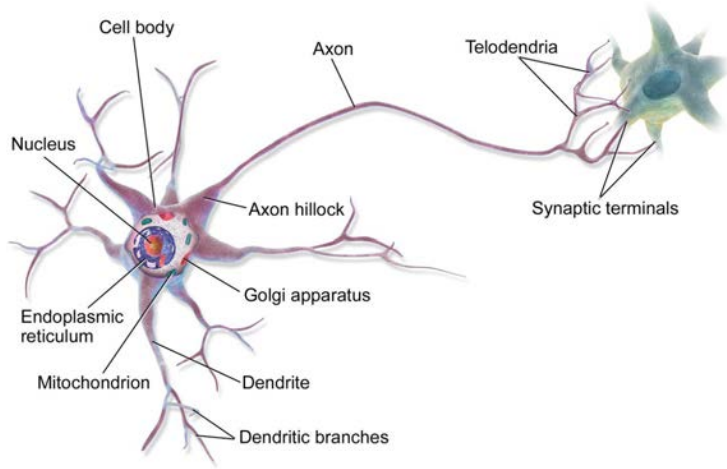


$$f \left(b + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i w_i \right)$$



Output

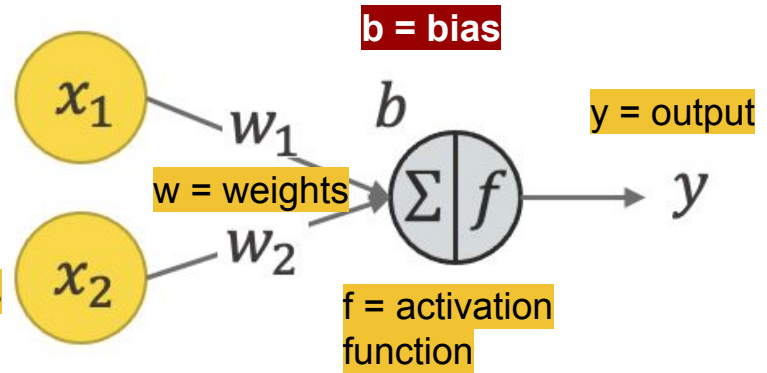
Biological neuron v.s. artificial neuron (perceptron)?



Credit: Wiki

V.S.

$x_1, x_2 =$ inputs



Credit: knime.com

Input

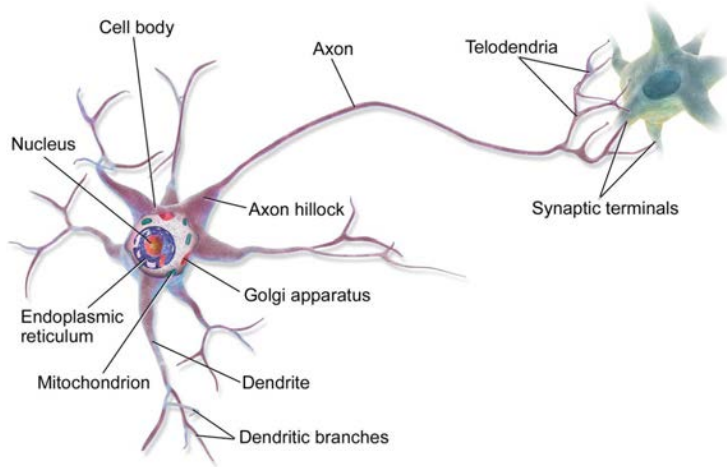


$$f \left(b + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i w_i \right)$$



Output

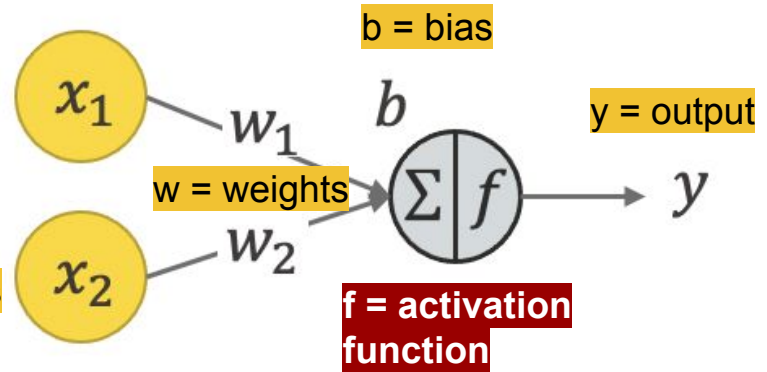
Biological neuron v.s. artificial neuron (perceptron)?



Credit: Wiki

V.S.

$x_1, x_2 =$ inputs



Credit: knime.com

Input

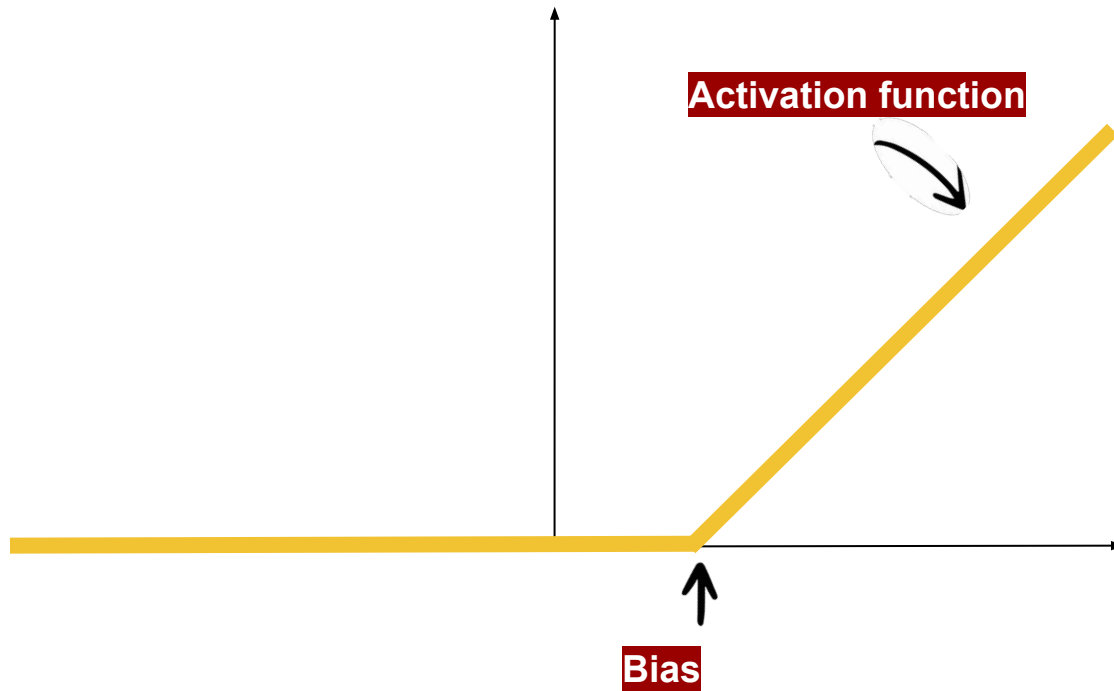


$$f \left(b + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i w_i \right)$$



Output

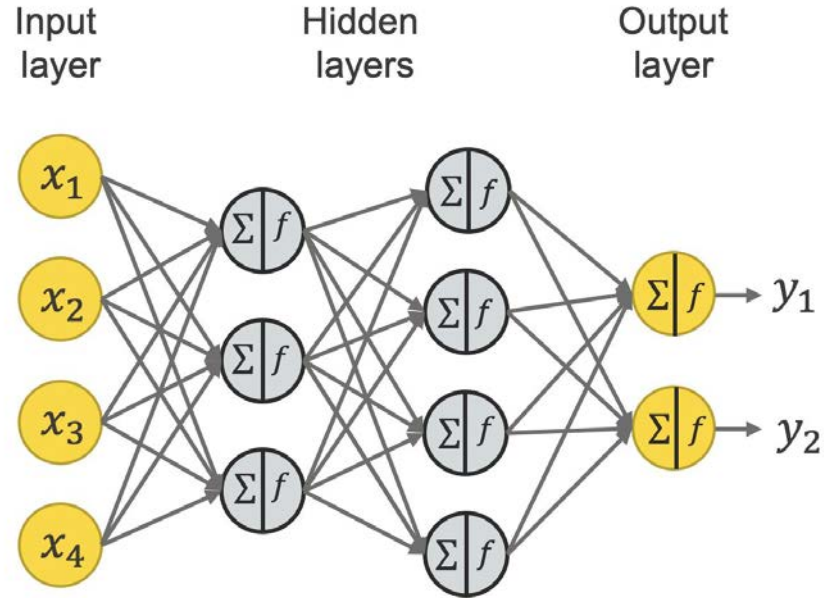
Biological neuron v.s. artificial neuron (perceptron)?



*Also in Hebb's research, he discovered that every experience (sight, smell, touch, etc...) triggers thousands of neurons which form a **neural network.***



Artificial neural networks are one way that a machine ‘thinks’ and ‘learns’...



Credit: knime.com

YOU

v.s.

MACHINE

Dog



Image by wirestockon Freepik

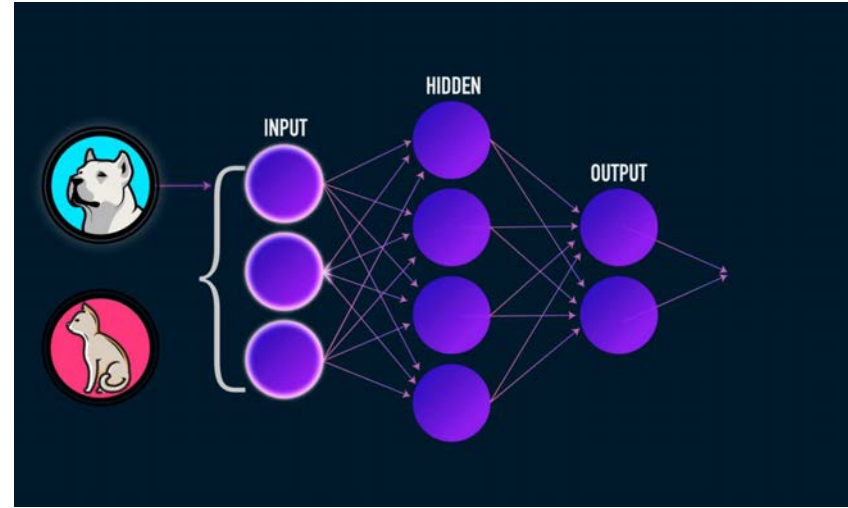
Cat



YOU

V.S.

MACHINE



Credit: [upadhyay-shivam.medium.com](https://www.upadhyay-shivam.medium.com)



What is Machine Learning?

The machine learns the pattern rather than you explicitly telling the machine the pattern



V.S.



Humans learn in different ways...



...so do machines.

Machine Learning

```
graph TD; ML[Machine Learning] --> SL[Supervised Learning]; ML --> UL[Unsupervised Learning];
```

Supervised Learning

Unsupervised Learning

Supervised learning you tell the computer what to learn (i.e. a cat or dog) while unsupervised learning you don't tell the computer what to learn.



V.S.

Supervised learning is when you give the computer the ingredients and final dish, then tell it to find a recipe.

Unsupervised learning is when you give the computer the ingredients and ask it to create a recipe and new dish.

Let's use a classification task to explain this...

Dog



Image by wirestockon Freepik

Cat

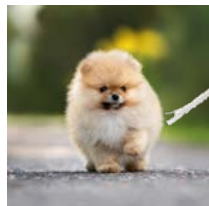




Supervised Learning



Cat



Dog

Labelled Data



Unsupervised Learning

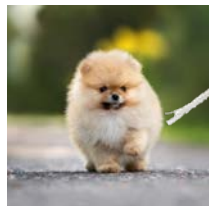




Supervised Learning



Cat

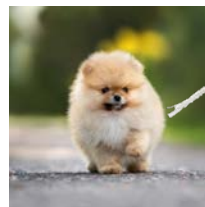


Dog

Labelled Data



Unsupervised Learning



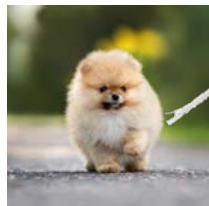
Unlabelled Data



NEURAL NETWORKS

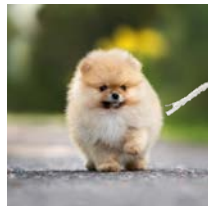


Cat



Dog

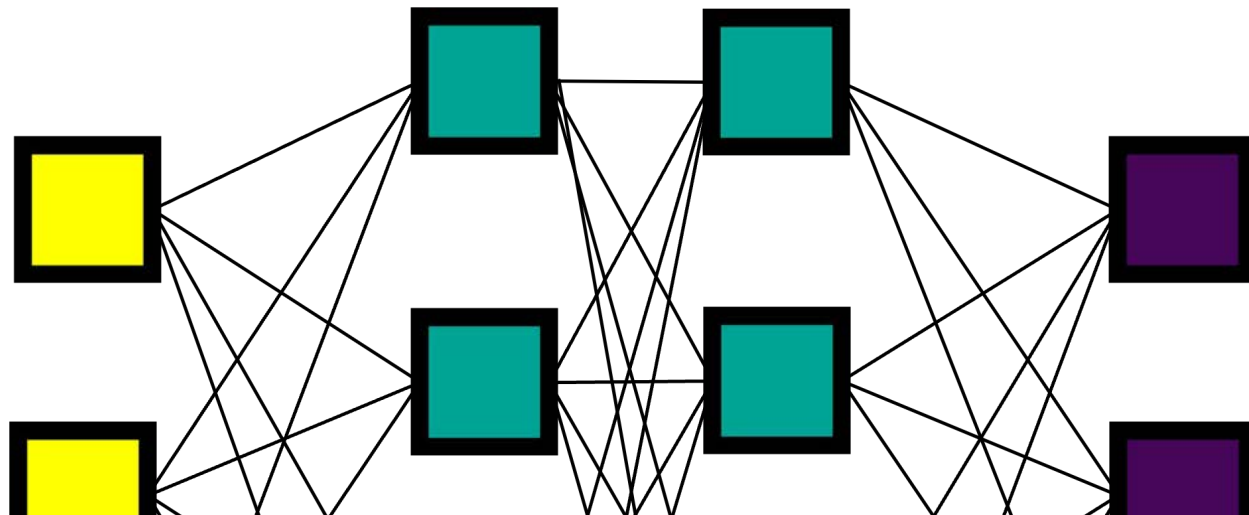
Labelled Data



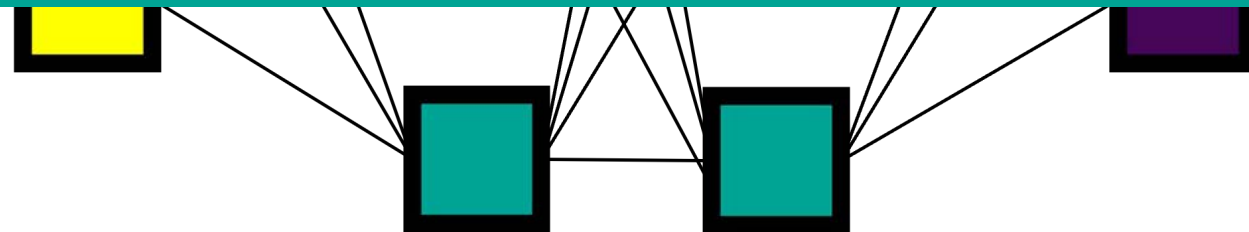
Unlabelled Data



Disclaimer: Both require machine learning engineers to check the results.



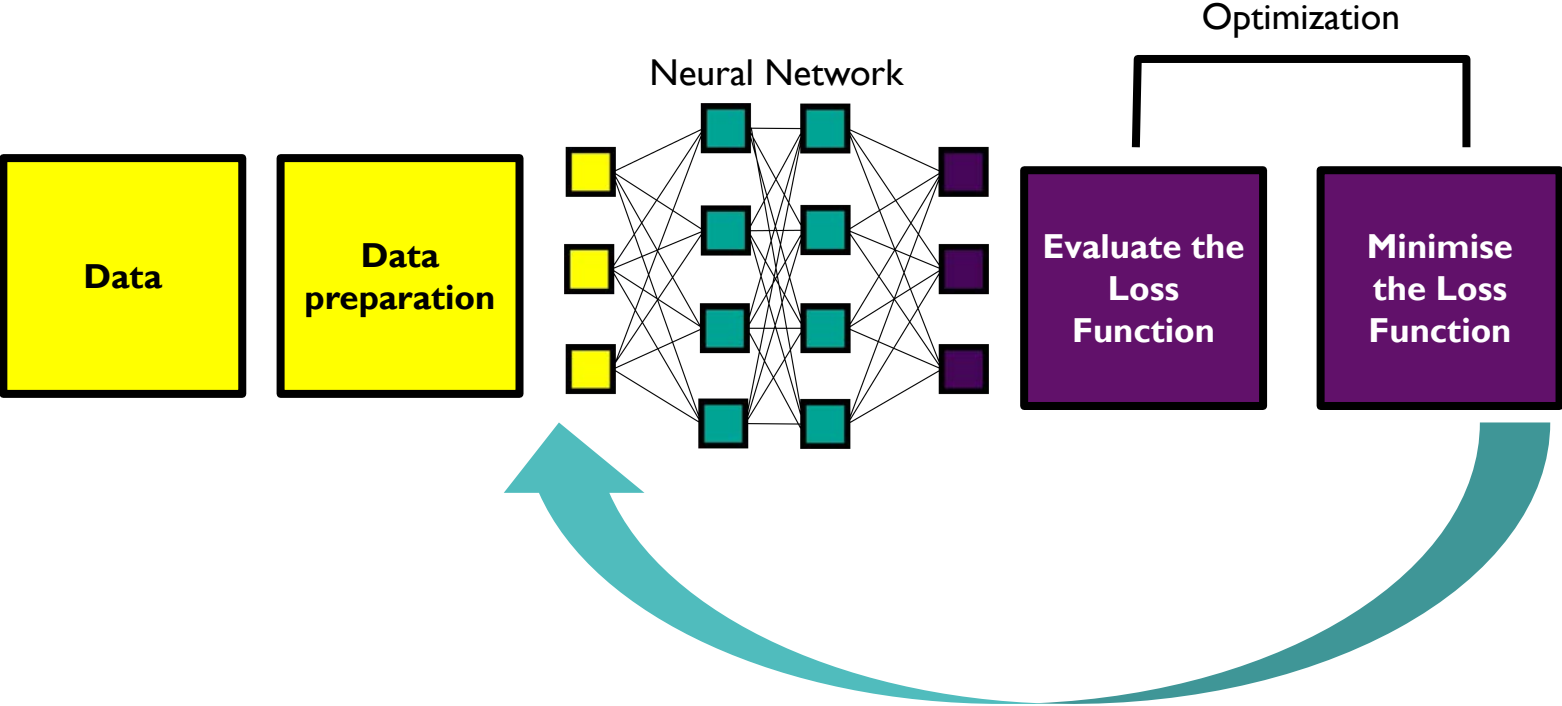
How does a Neural Network 'learn'?

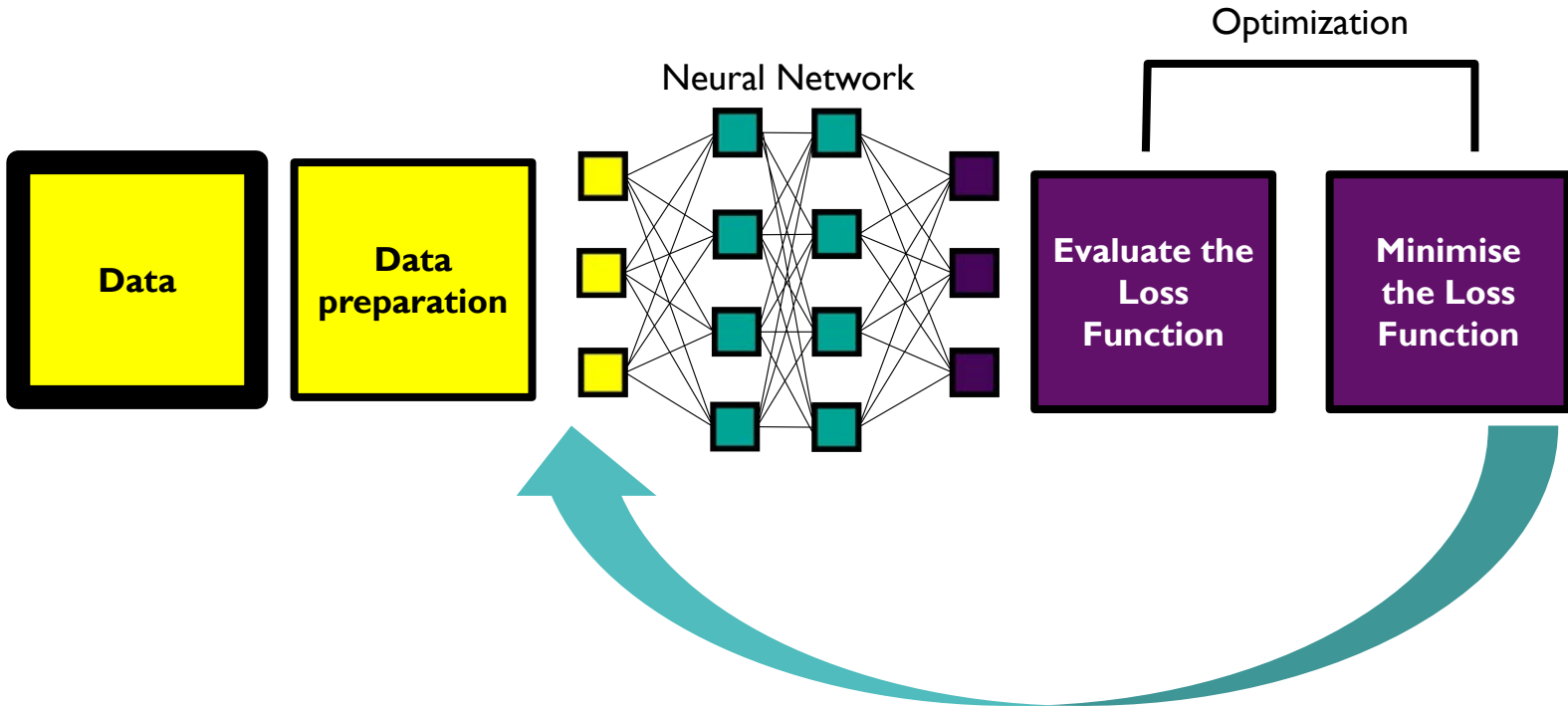




**\\ Like humans, neural networks learn by their mistakes...
...but we call it 'Optimization'!**

This is a machine learning pipeline...





Data

Data preparation

Neural Network

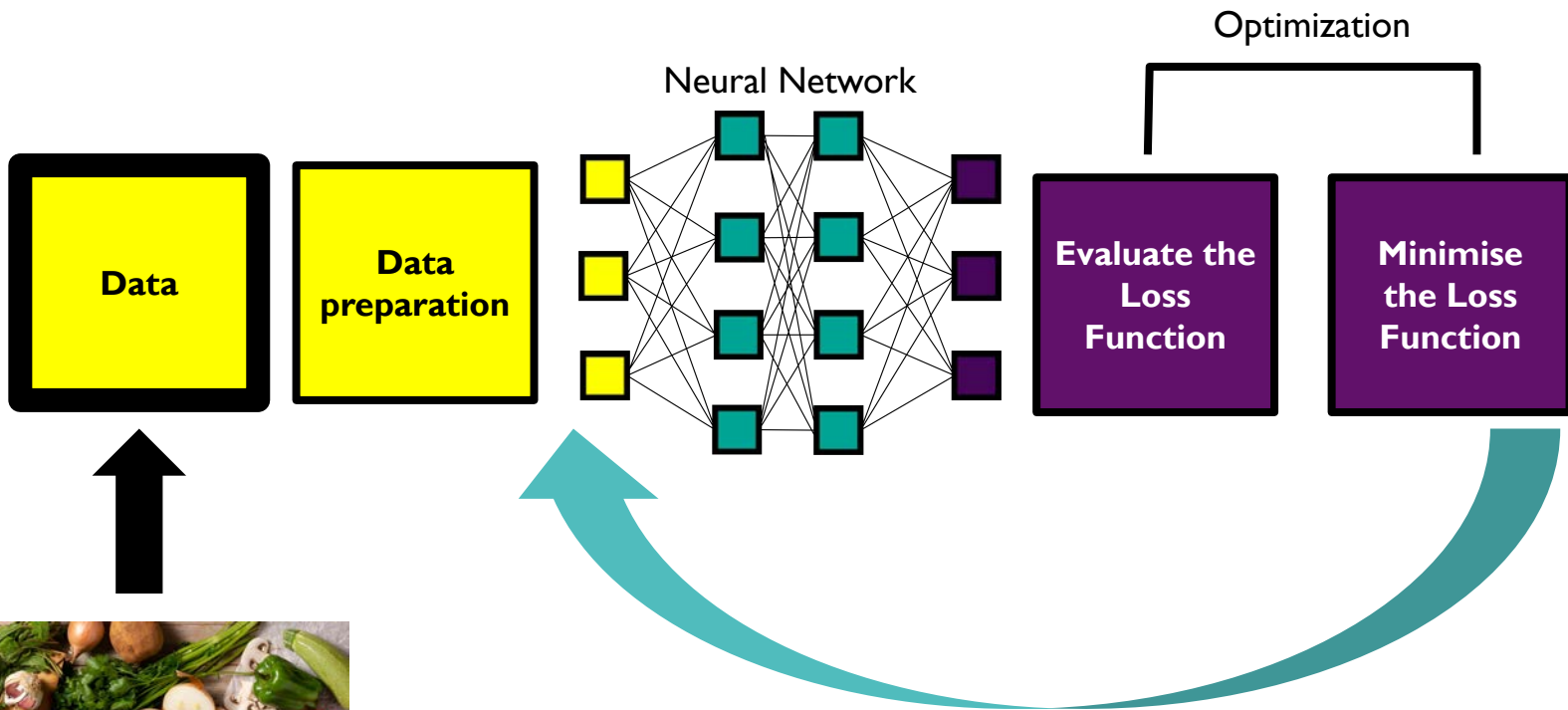
Optimization

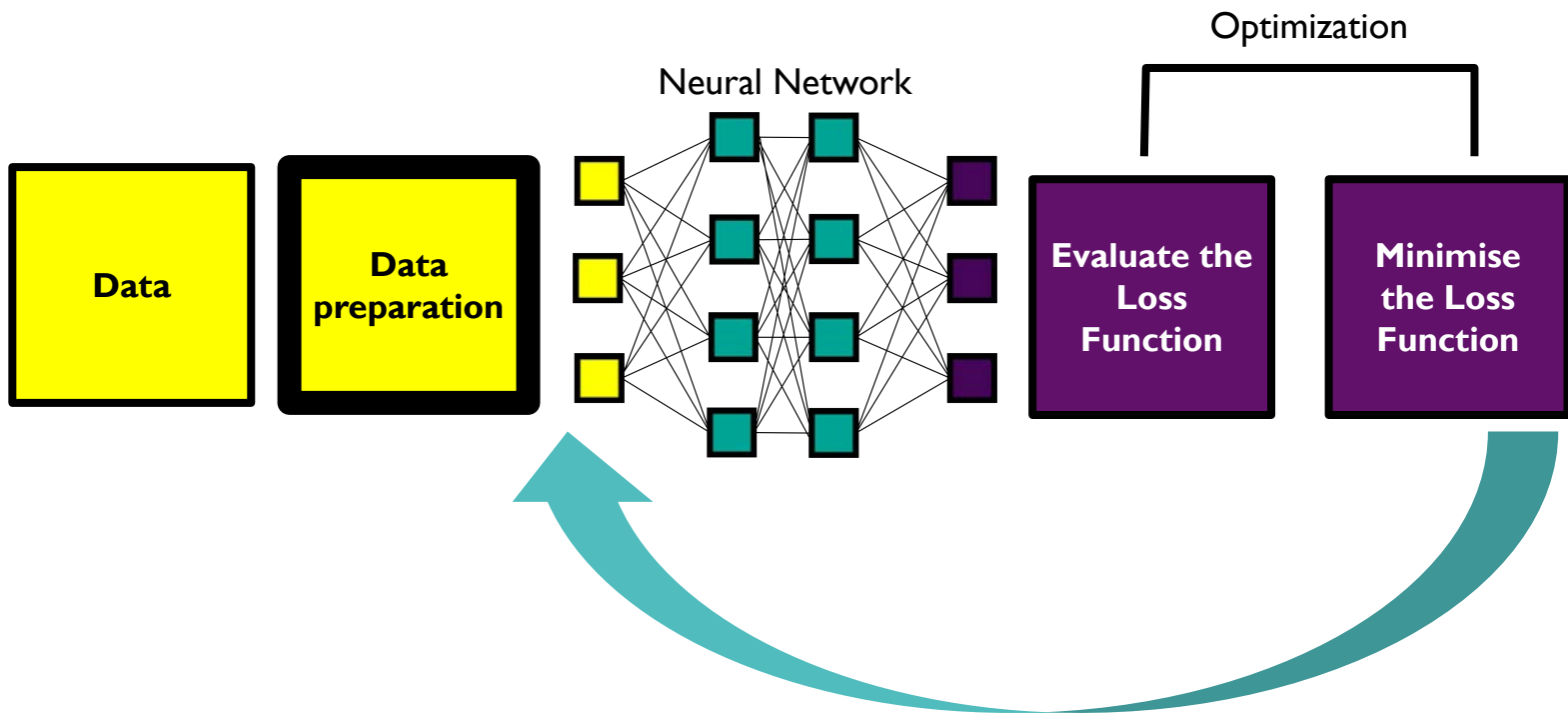
Evaluate the Loss Function

Minimise the Loss Function



Image by pressfoto on Freepik





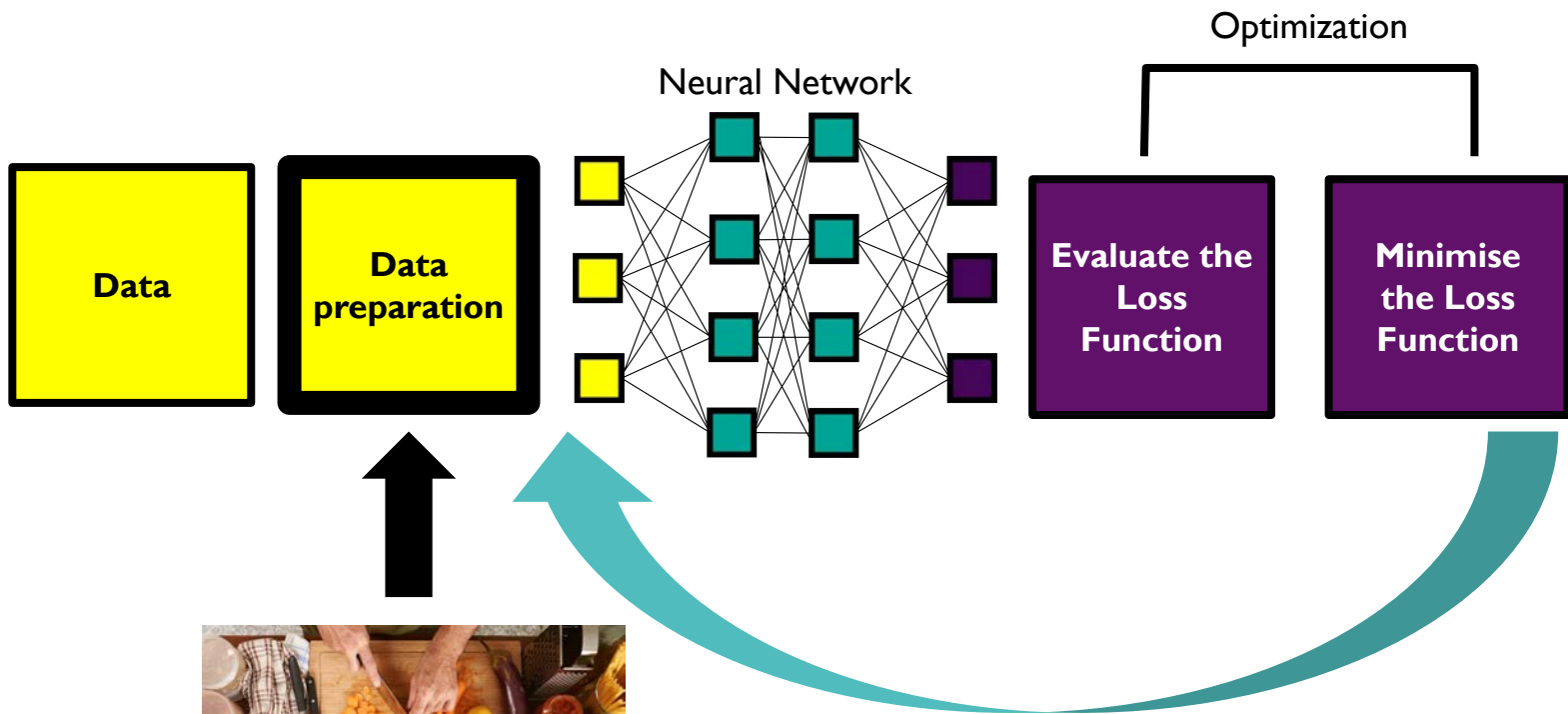
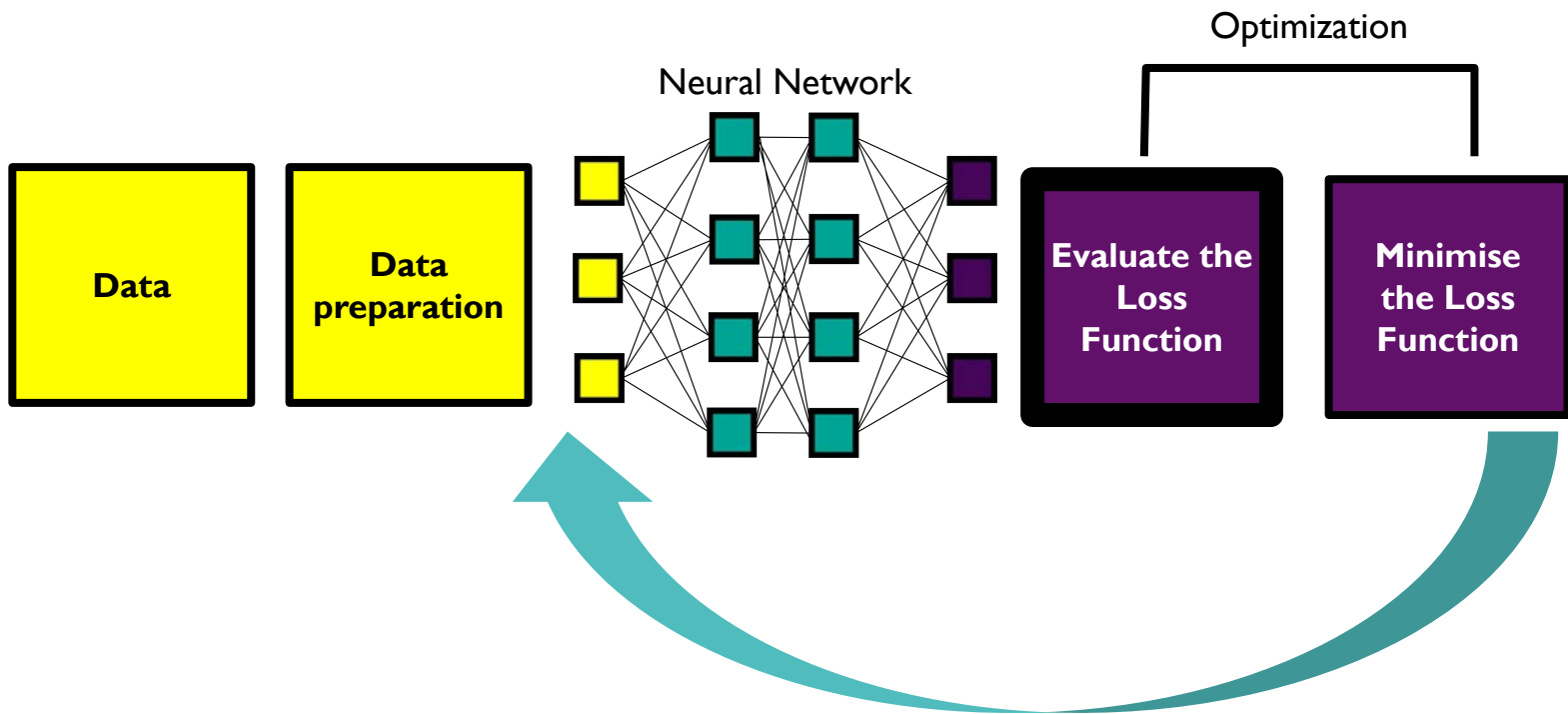
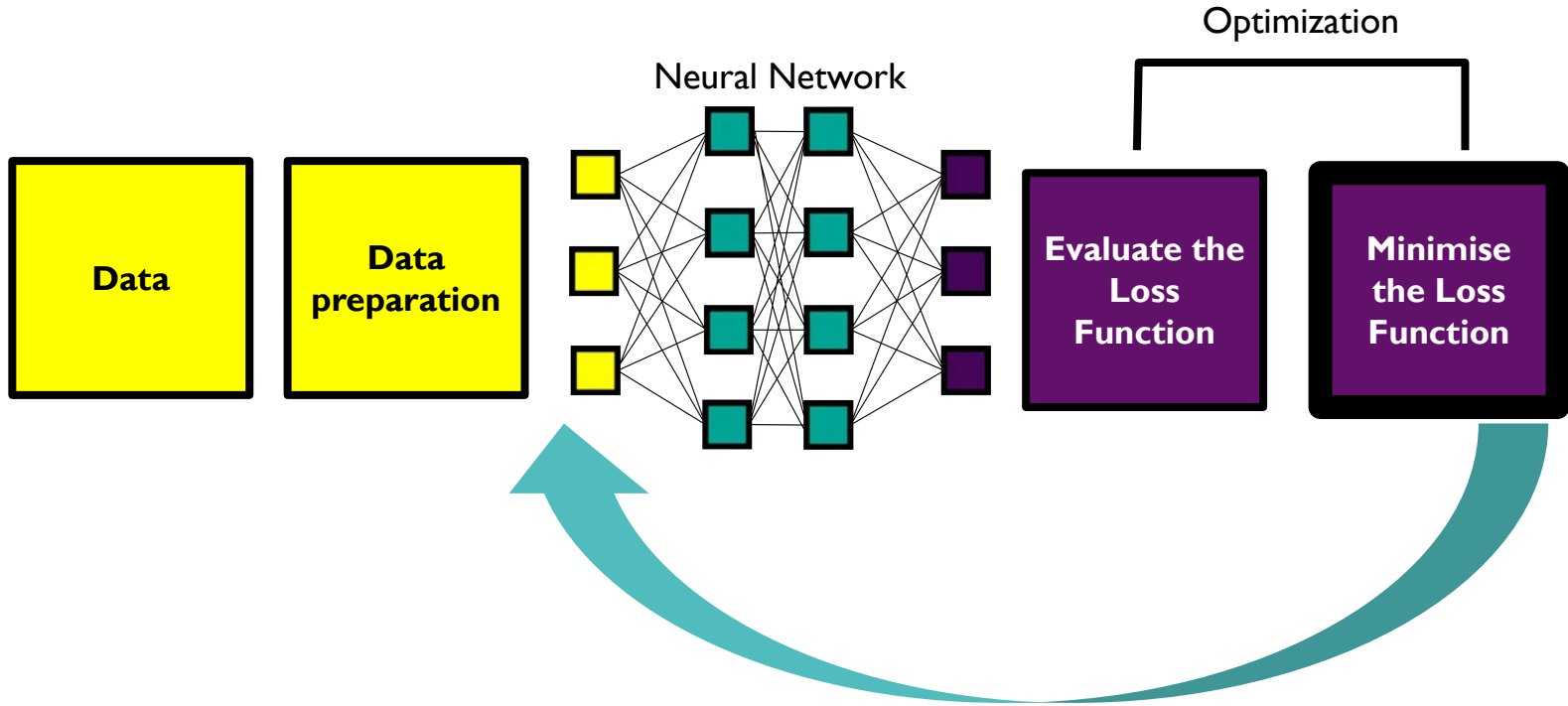
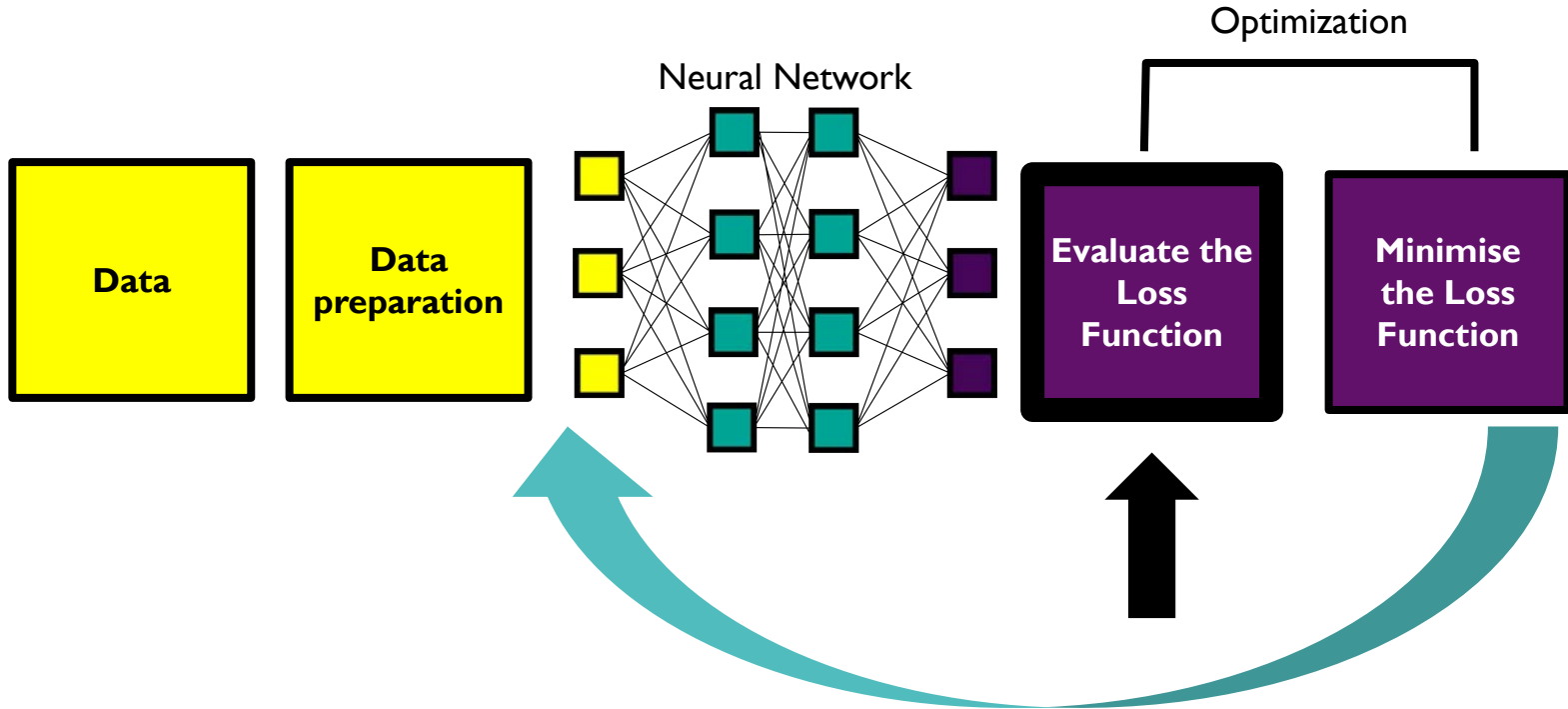


Image by chandlervid85 on Freepik





“The parameters in the neural network are adjusted multiple times to find the minimum Loss. Let me explain...”

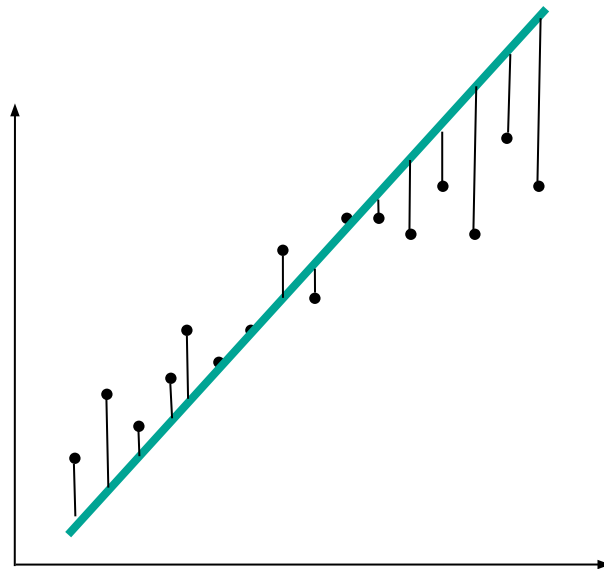


*“The **Loss Function** is the choice of the error function which is how the optimization algorithm is told how good the model is...”*

Optimization: Loss Function

“As a machine learning engineer, it is your responsibility to chose the loss function that best suits your problem.”

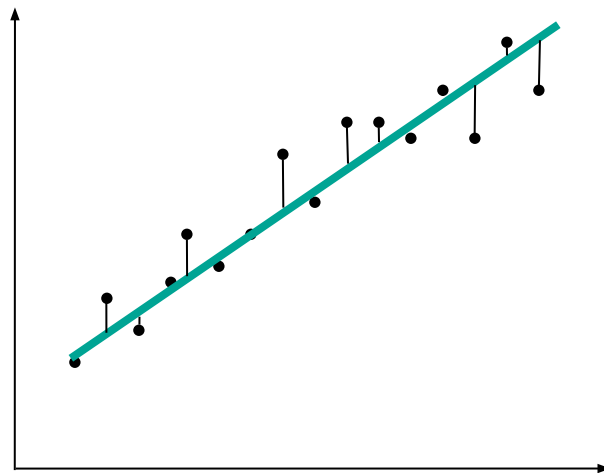
For example:



Optimization: Loss Function

“As a machine learning engineer, it is your responsibility to chose the loss function that best suits your problem.”

For example:



Optimization: Loss Function

“As a machine learning engineer, it is your responsibility to choose the loss function that best suits your problem.”

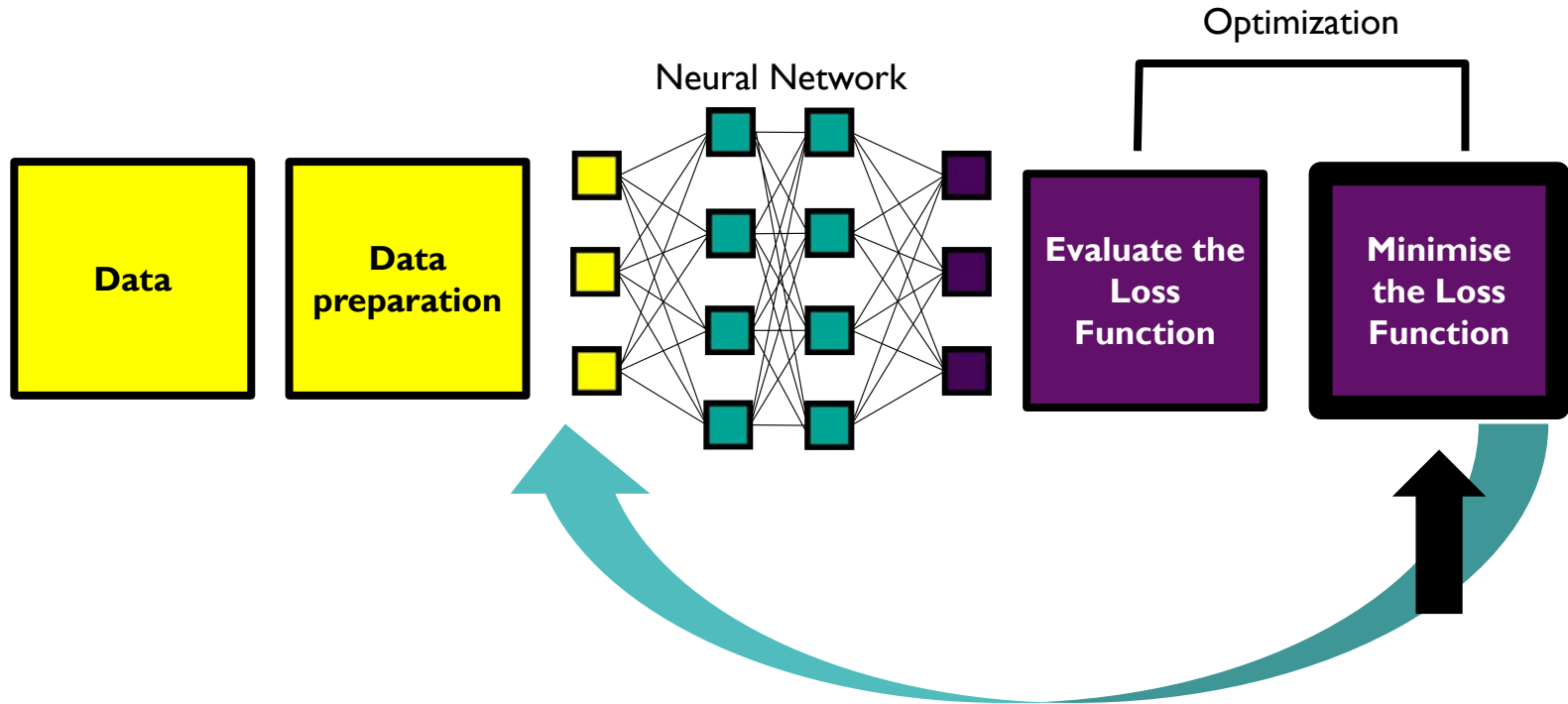
For example:

- 1) Mean Squared Error (MSE)
- 2) Mean Squared Logarithmic Error (MSLE)
- 3) Mean Absolute Error (MAE)

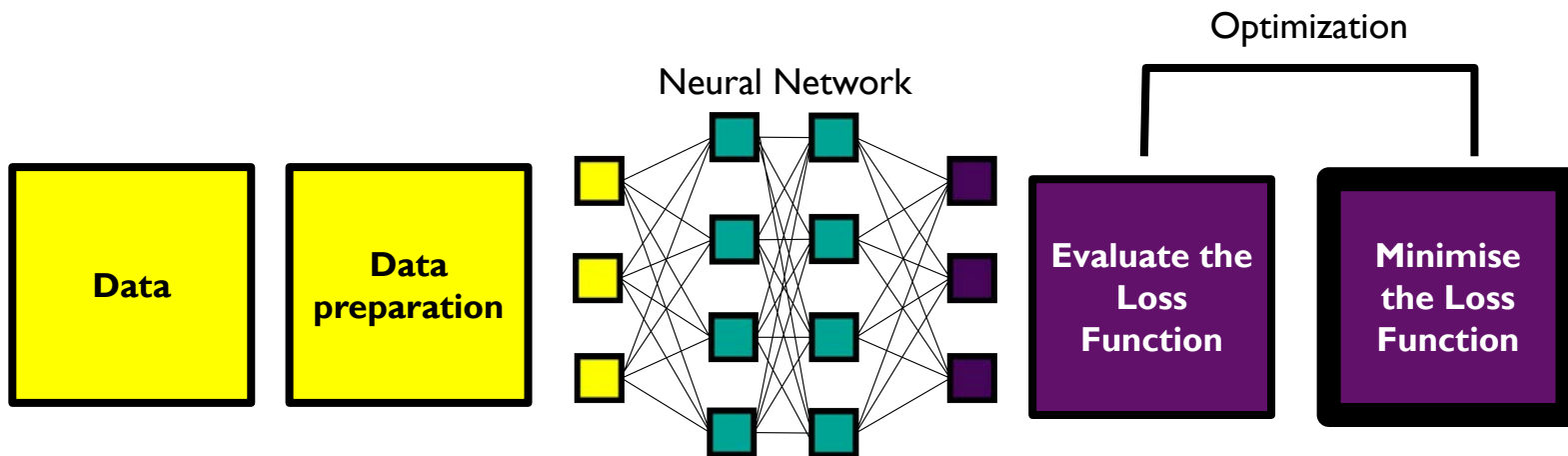
$$MSE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}{n}$$

$$MSLE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\log(Y_i) - \log(\hat{Y}_i))^2$$

$$MAE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n |y_j - \hat{y}_j|$$



“...Optimizers are responsible for changing the weights, bias and learning rate of the neurons in the neural network to reach the minimum loss function.”



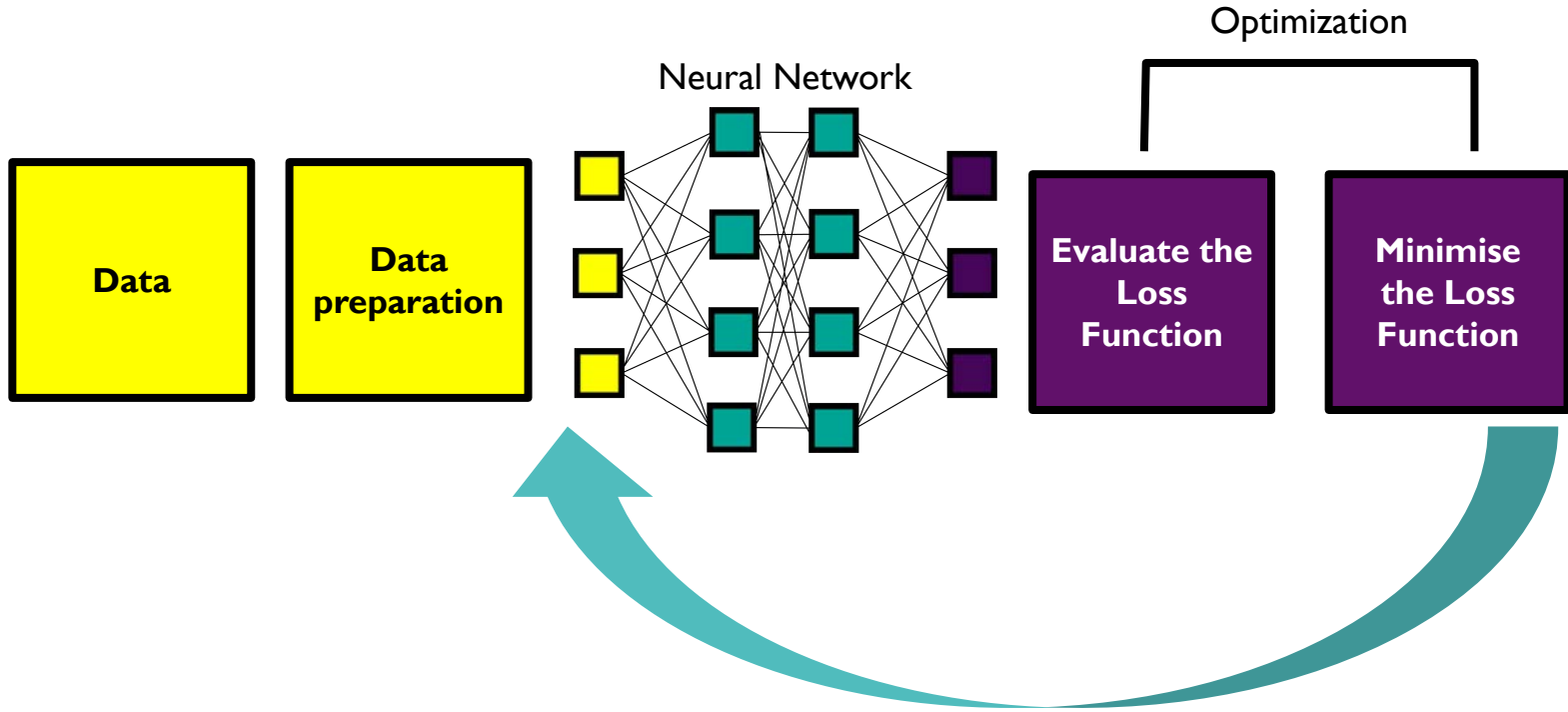
New weights and bias

Learning Rate

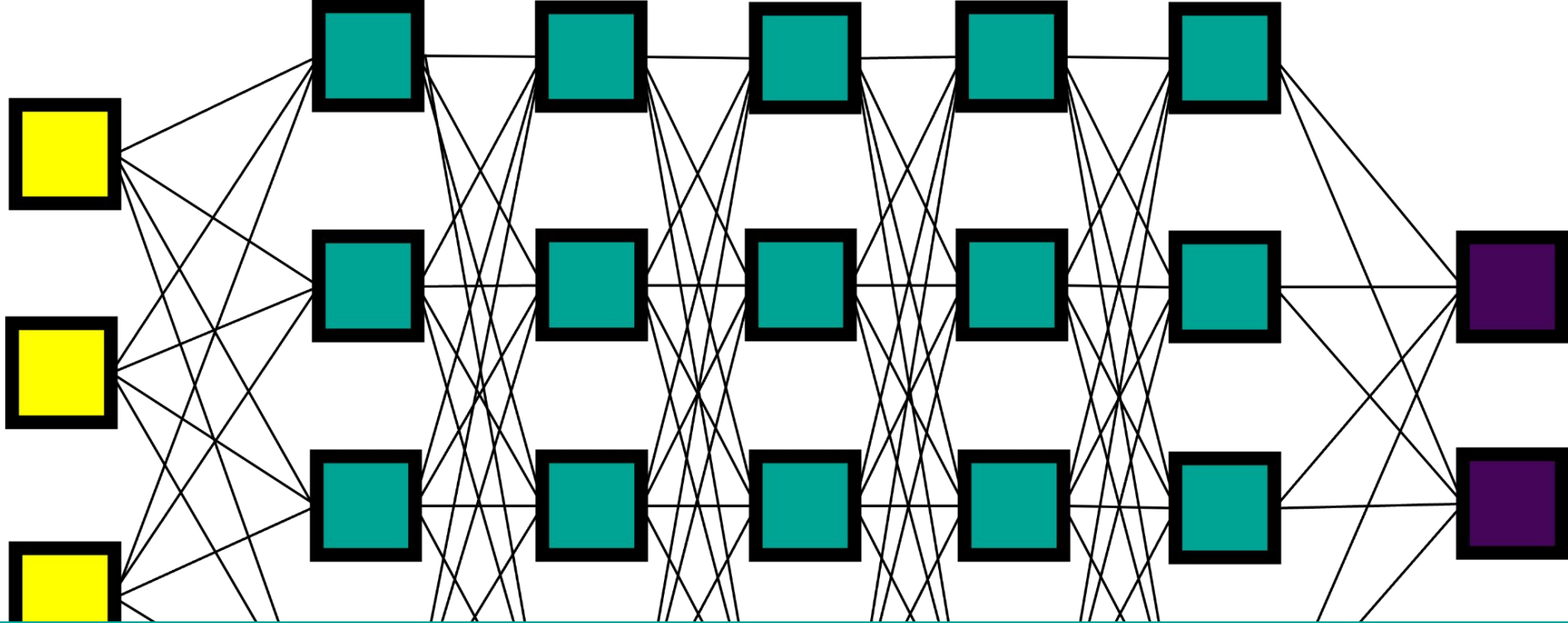
Loss Function

$$\theta_t = \theta_{t-1} - \alpha_t \nabla_{\theta_{t-1}} L_t$$

Current weights and bias

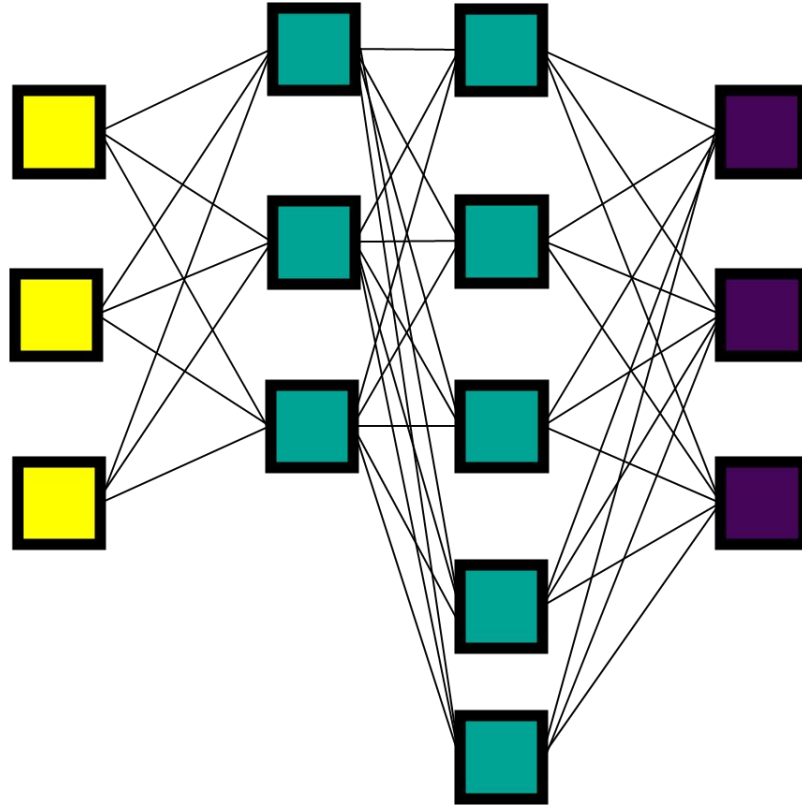


...this is how a neural network learns.

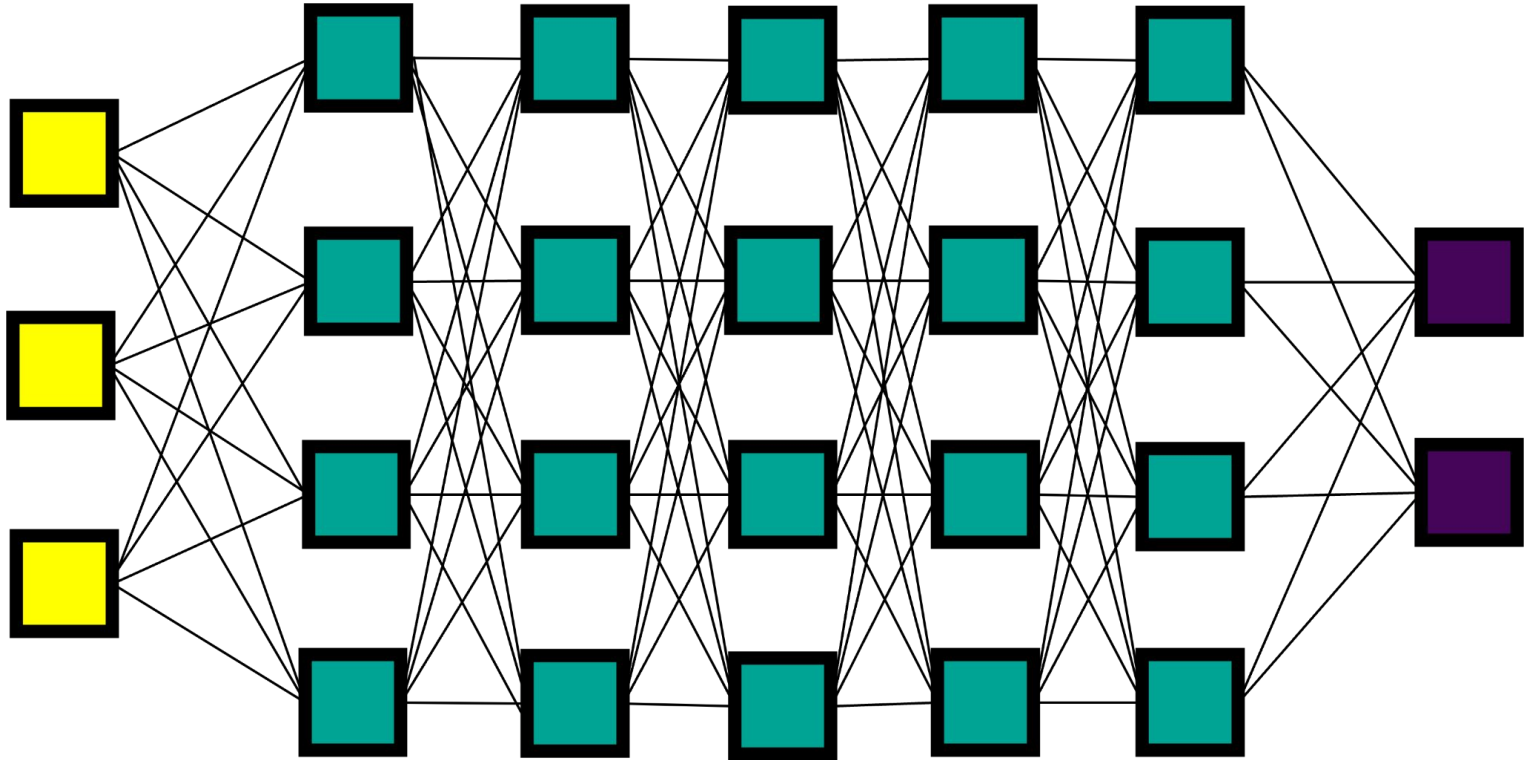


In order for the neural network to learn the neural network architecture may need to be adjusted...

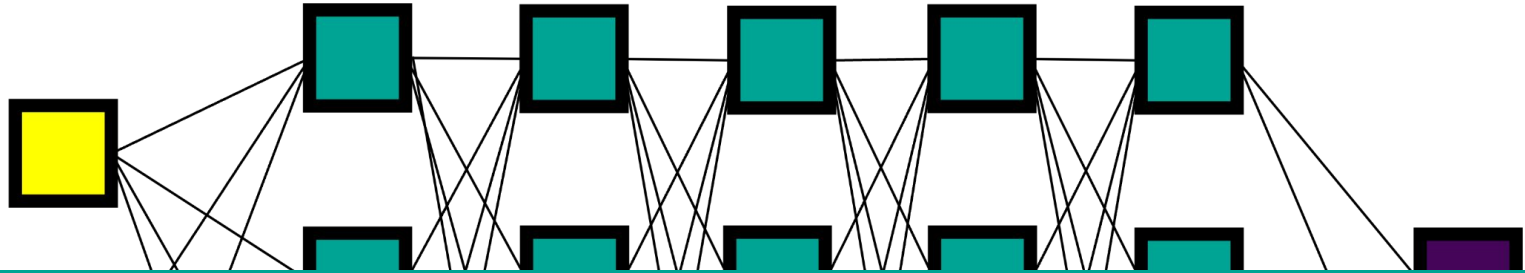
E.g. vary the width of the neural network...



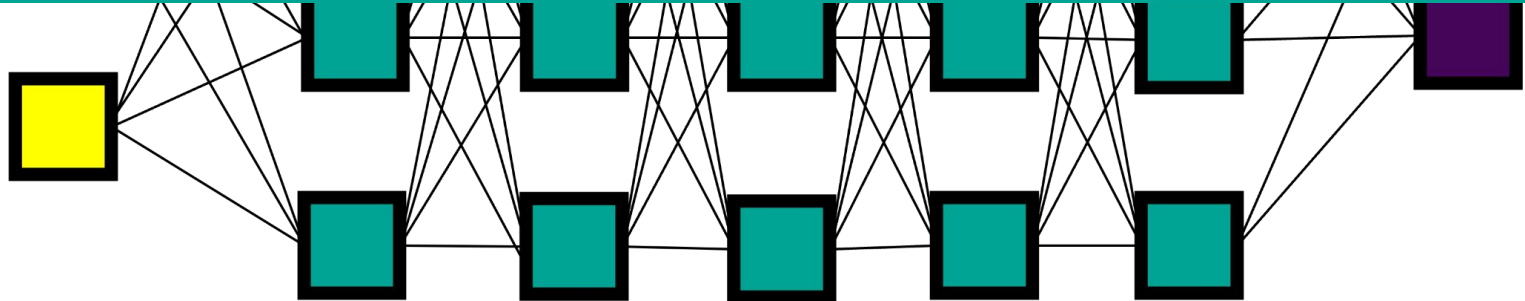
E.g. vary the depth of the neural network...

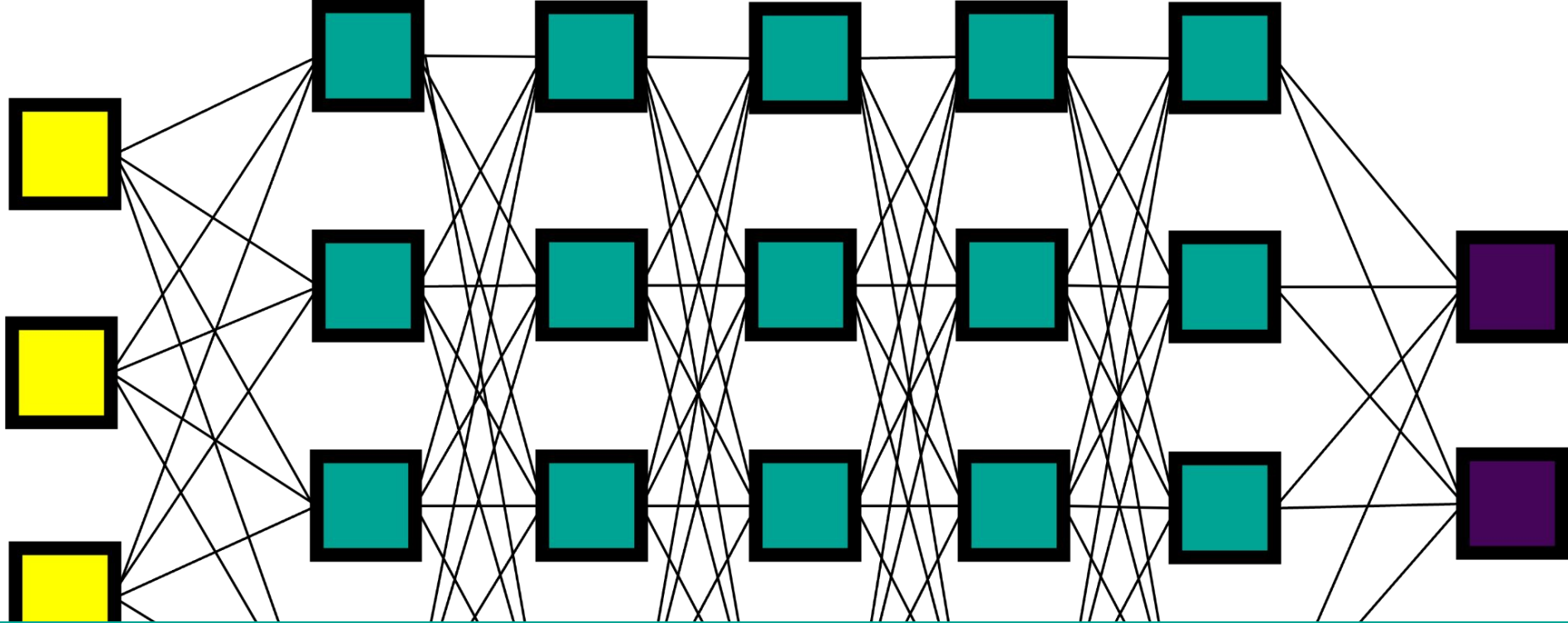


Vary the depth of the neural network...



Deep Learning is defined as a neural network with many layers.

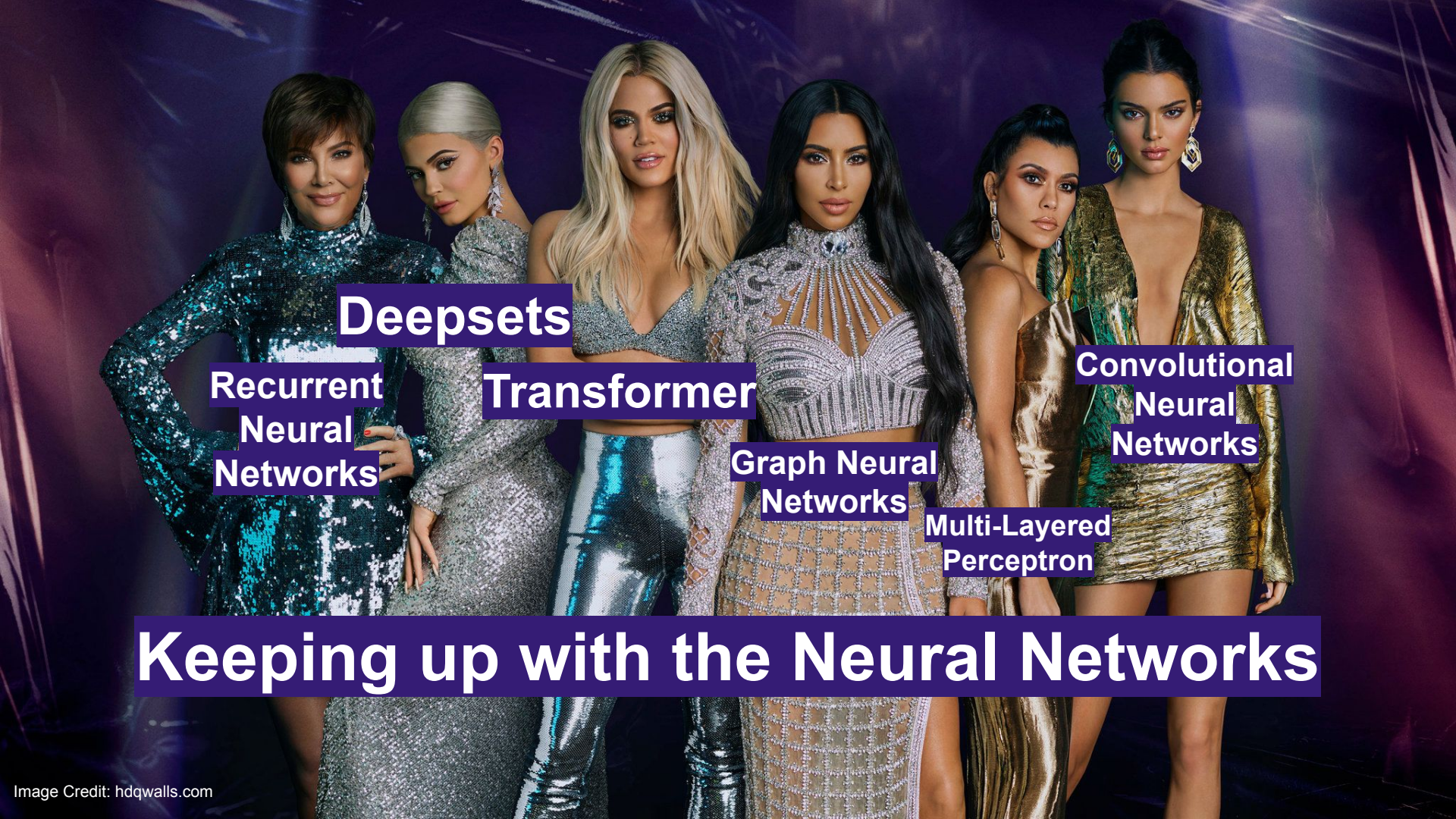




... it is up to a machine learning engineer to adjust the neural network architecture so that the machine 'learns'.

In the modern era we have lots of different data types
(text, images, audio)...

... this has led to an explosion of different neural networks!



Deepsets

**Recurrent
Neural
Networks**

Transformer

**Graph Neural
Networks**

**Multi-Layered
Perceptron**

**Convolutional
Neural
Networks**

Keeping up with the Neural Networks



kimkardashian

Follow Message

5,990 posts 363M followers 299 following

Kim Kardashian

kimkardashian

@skims @skkn @skkypartners

www.rollingstone.com/politics/political-commentary/kim-kardashian-op-ed-joe-biden-armenian-

Graph Neural Networks



Transformer



SKIMS

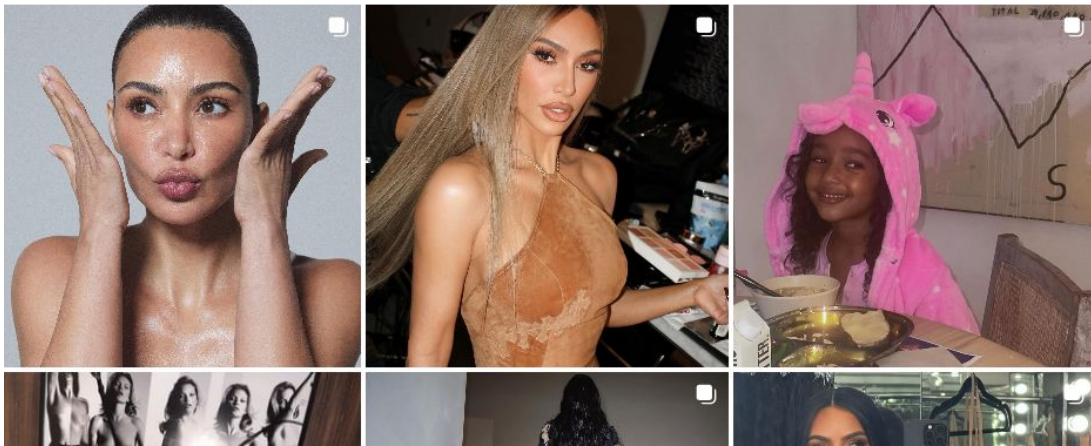


SKKN

Convolutional Neural Networks



POSTS REELS TAGGED





Tell me more, Tell me more...

Convolutional Neural Networks

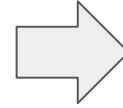
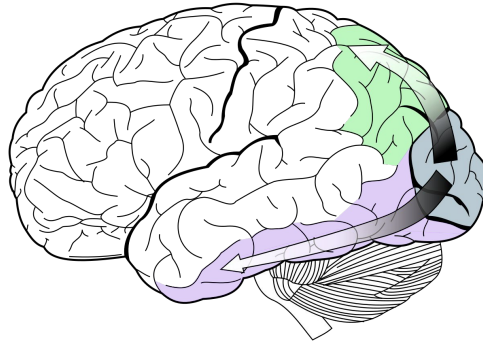
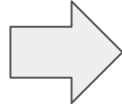


Image Credit: Antonello Trio/Getty images

Convolutional Neural Networks

It is an artificial neural network that features one or more convolutional layers

How do **Humans** process **visual information**?



Dog

Did you know that it takes your
brain 100 milliseconds to
process an image.

True or False?

Dog
→



Did you know that it takes your
brain 100 milliseconds to
process an image.

False

Dog
→




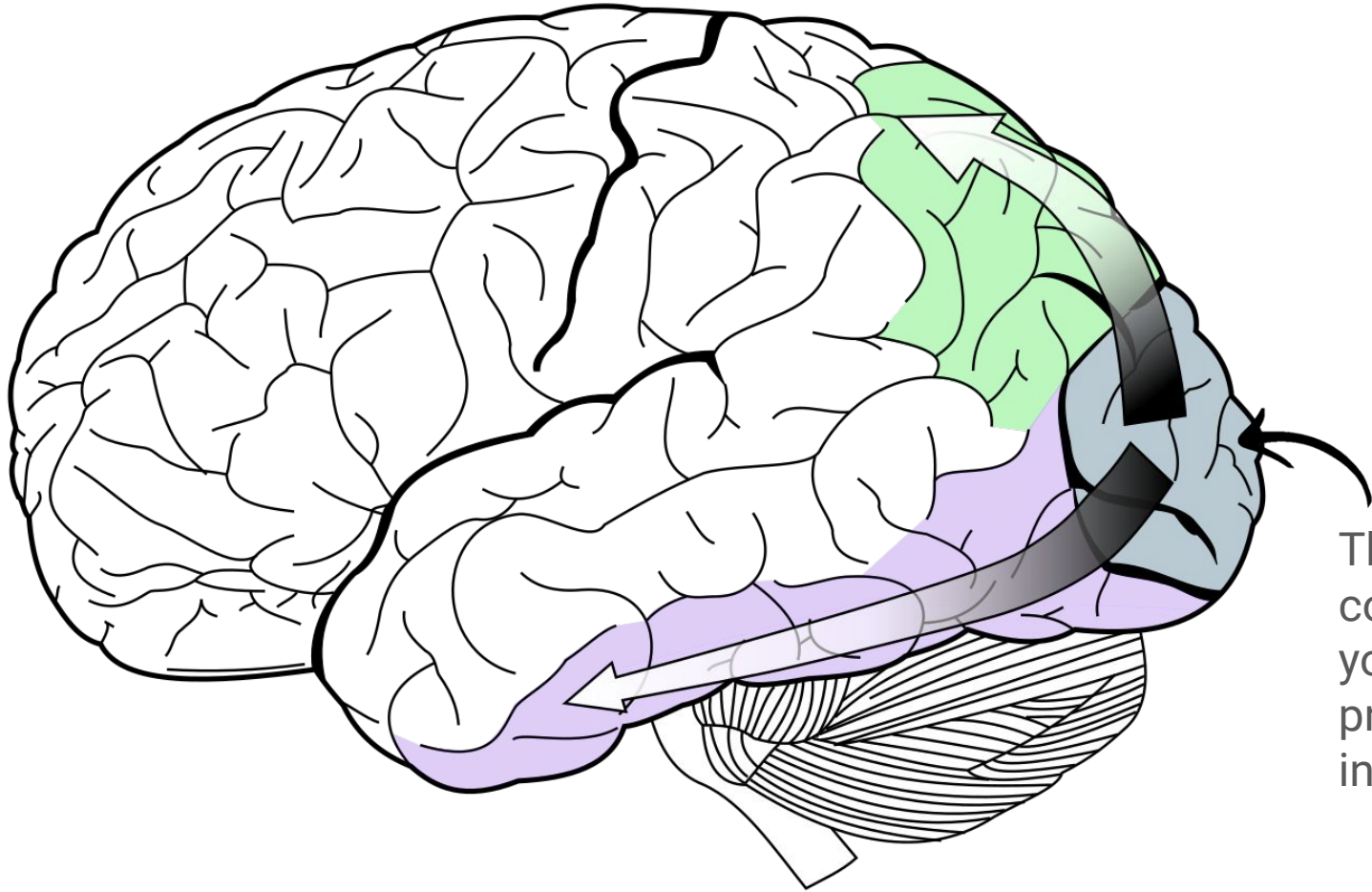
Did you know that it takes your
brain 100 milliseconds to
process an image.

False

*"A team of neuroscientists from MIT
has found that the human brain can
process entire images that the eye
sees for as little as 13 milliseconds"*
- Anne Trafton

Dog





The visual cortex is where your brain processes visual information.

**How do
we know
this?**



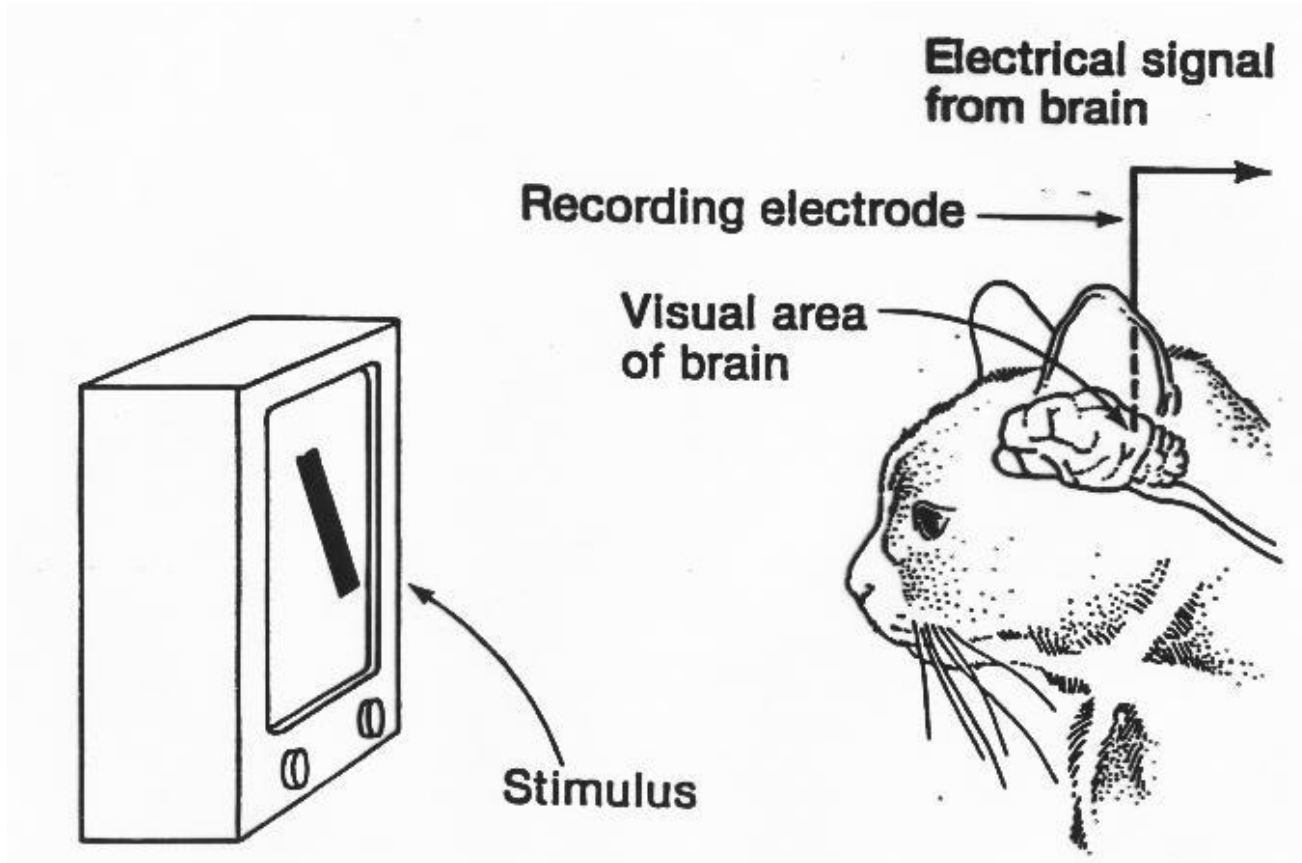


Hubel and Wiesel after winning their Nobel Prize, 1981.

Image Credit: Harvard University Archives

In the 1950s at Johns Hopkins University, the David Hubel and Torsten Wiesel performed pioneering research of how visual information is processed in the brains of mammals.

David and Torsten set up the following experiment...



...and concluded that the cat's primary visual cortex neurons were only stimulated by certain angles of orientation

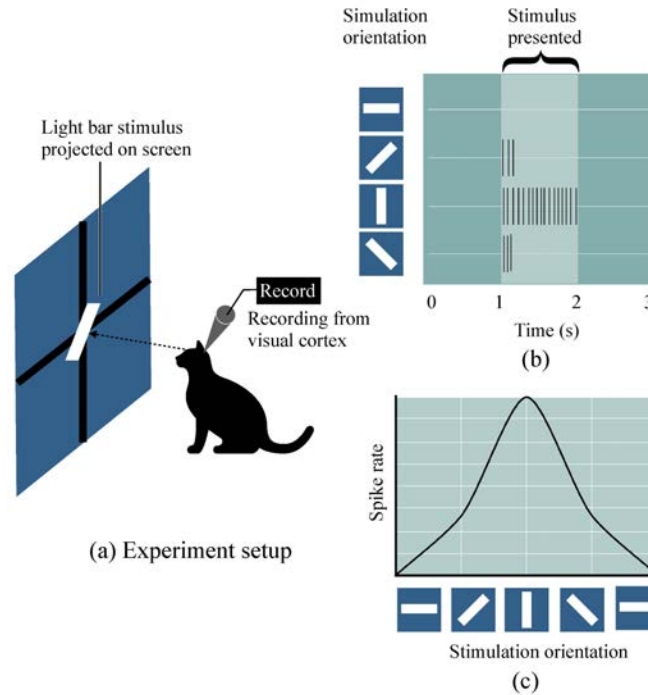
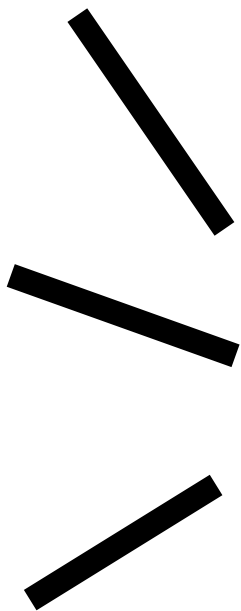
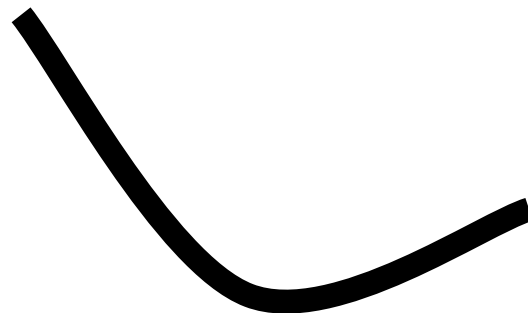


Figure 1. A neuron in the primary visual cortex responds selectively to line segments. Credit: Bin Li et al. (2022)



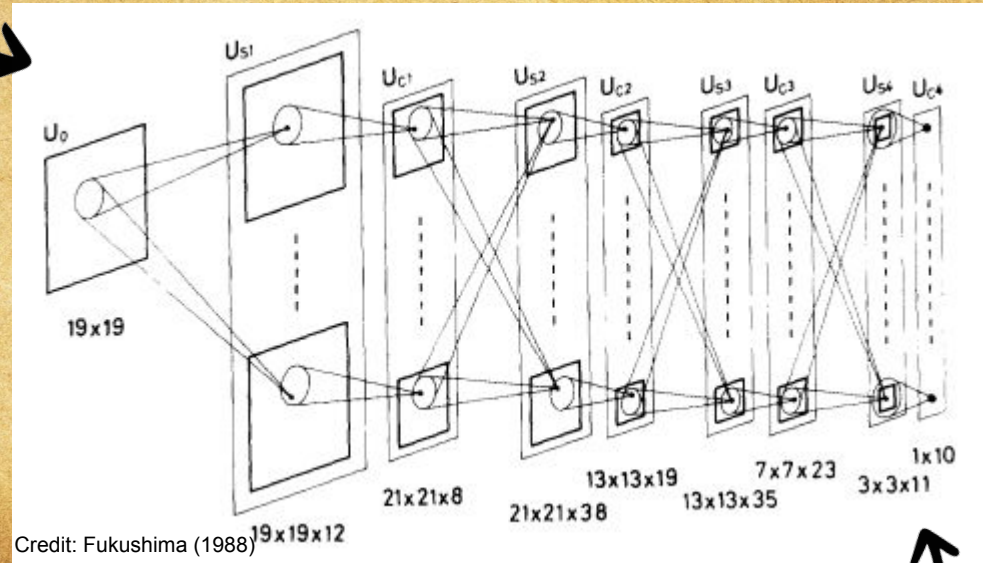
Simple neurons



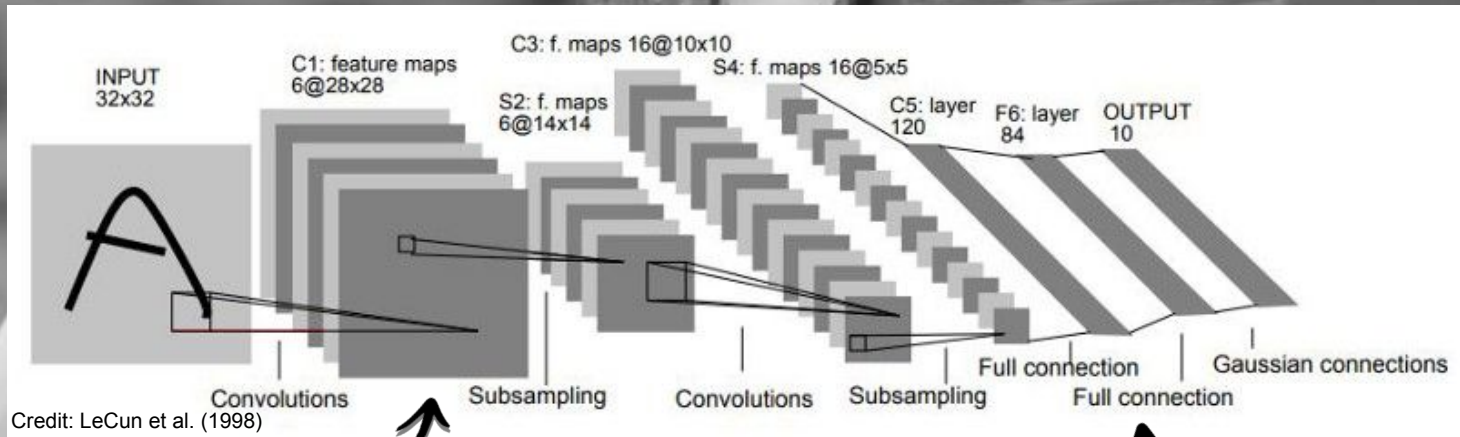
Complex neurons



This is **Neocognition**, is the first convolutional neural network architecture.



This is **Neocognition** was able to categorize handwritten digits.

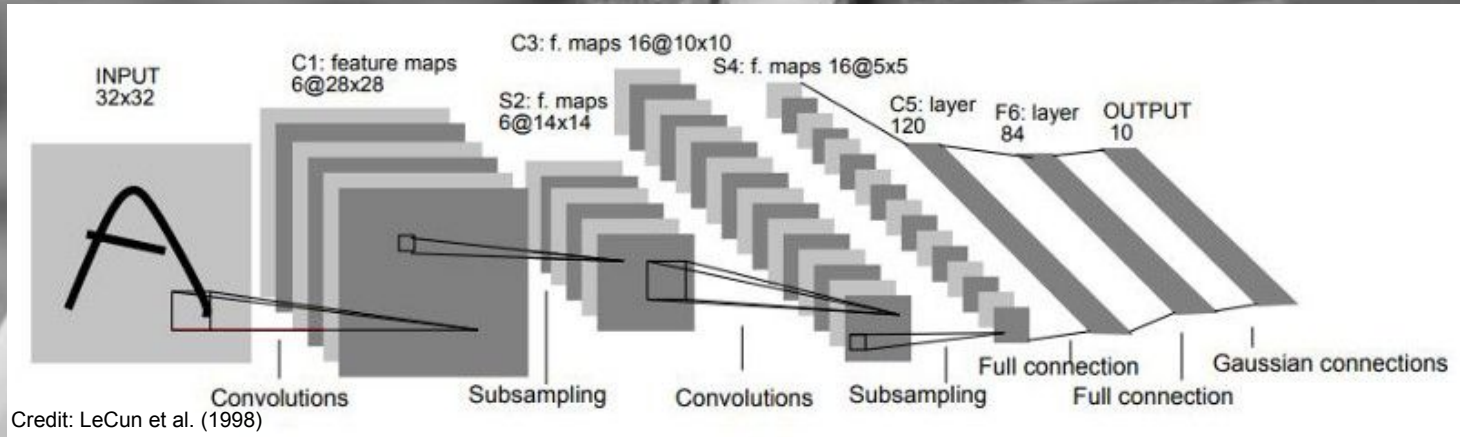


Convolutional layer

Neural Network

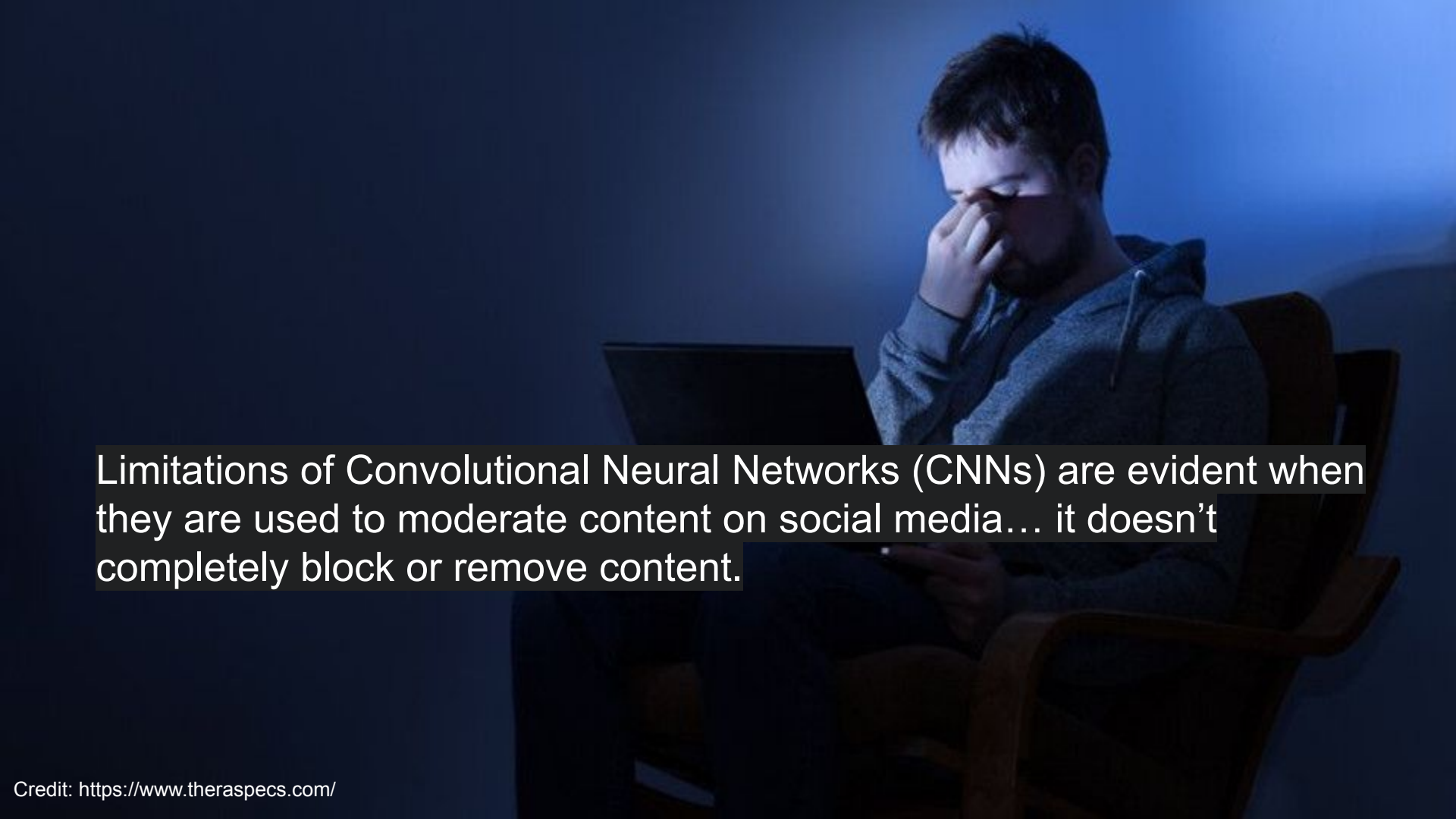
Last Collection Time
Monday to Friday
7.00pm

Example: LeNet - 5



The neural network architecture shown above is called LeNet 5 and is used in the postal service.

Convolutional neural networks are not **perfect**.

A man with a beard, wearing a grey hoodie, is sitting in a wooden chair. He is looking at a laptop screen with a distressed expression, resting his head on his hand. The scene is dimly lit with a blue hue, suggesting a late-night or indoor setting with artificial light. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Limitations of Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are evident when they are used to moderate content on social media... it doesn't completely block or remove content.

ImageNet

ImageNet is publicly released dataset containing 14 million labelled images and is used in classification and object detection tasks.



Credit: <https://cs.stanford.edu/people/karpathy/cvpr12/med/>

ImageNet

CNN's struggle with different lighting, extreme angles and parts of the object.



Credit: <https://cs.stanford.edu/people/karpathy/cvpr12/med/>

**Machine learning is not about
'thinking like a human'**

Machine learning by default does not mimic human thinking...

...and we don't want to because humans have faulty thinking.

Insight - Amazon scraps secret AI recruiting tool that showed bias against women

By Jeffrey Dastin

October 11, 2018 1:50 AM GMT+

Misguided Artificial Intelligence: How Racial Bias is Built Into Clinical Models

Atin Jindal, MD

artificial intelligence racial bias racism bias machine learning health equity

CCBY-NC-4.0 · <https://doi.org/10.56305/001c.38021>

Apple Card Investigated After Gender Discrimination Complaints

A prominent software developer said on Twitter that the credit card was “sexist” against women applying for credit.

Google’s algorithm shows prestigious job ads to men, but not to women. Here’s why that should worry you.



By Julia Carpenter

July 6, 2015 at 4:43 p.m. EDT

Predictive policing is still racist — whatever data it uses

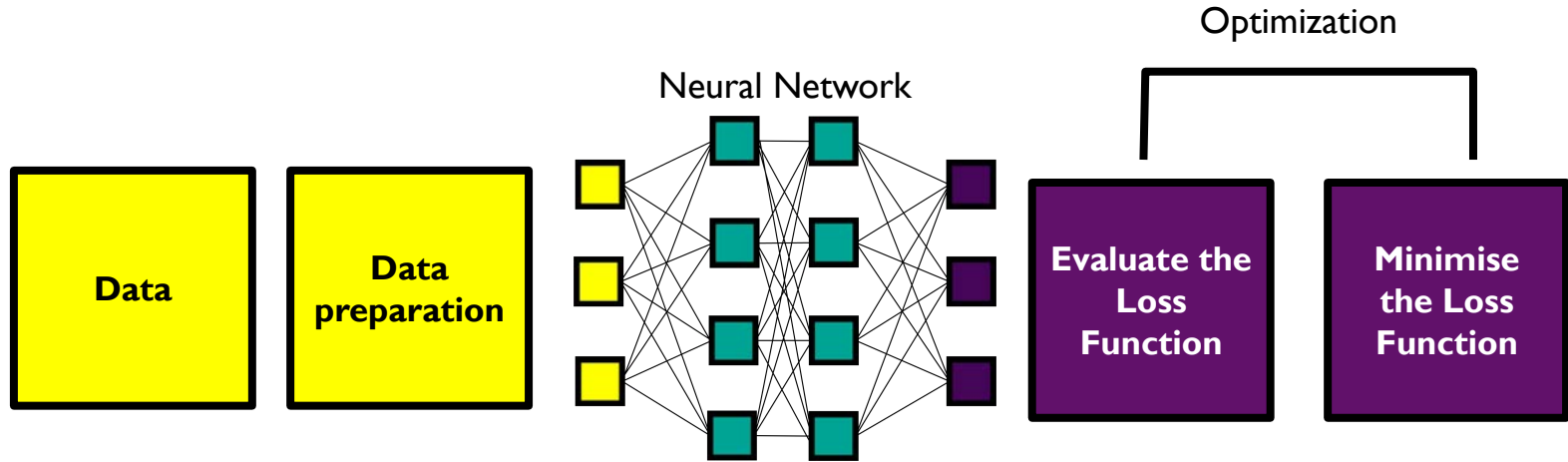
Training algorithms on crime reports from victims rather than arrest data is said to make predictive tools less biased. It doesn't look like it does.

By Will Douglas Heaven

February 5, 2021

How is **bias** introduced?

Bias can be injected into a machine learning pipeline at various stages...



...including how the problem is framed.



You're machine learning engineers, let's predict whether England will win the Euros 2024.

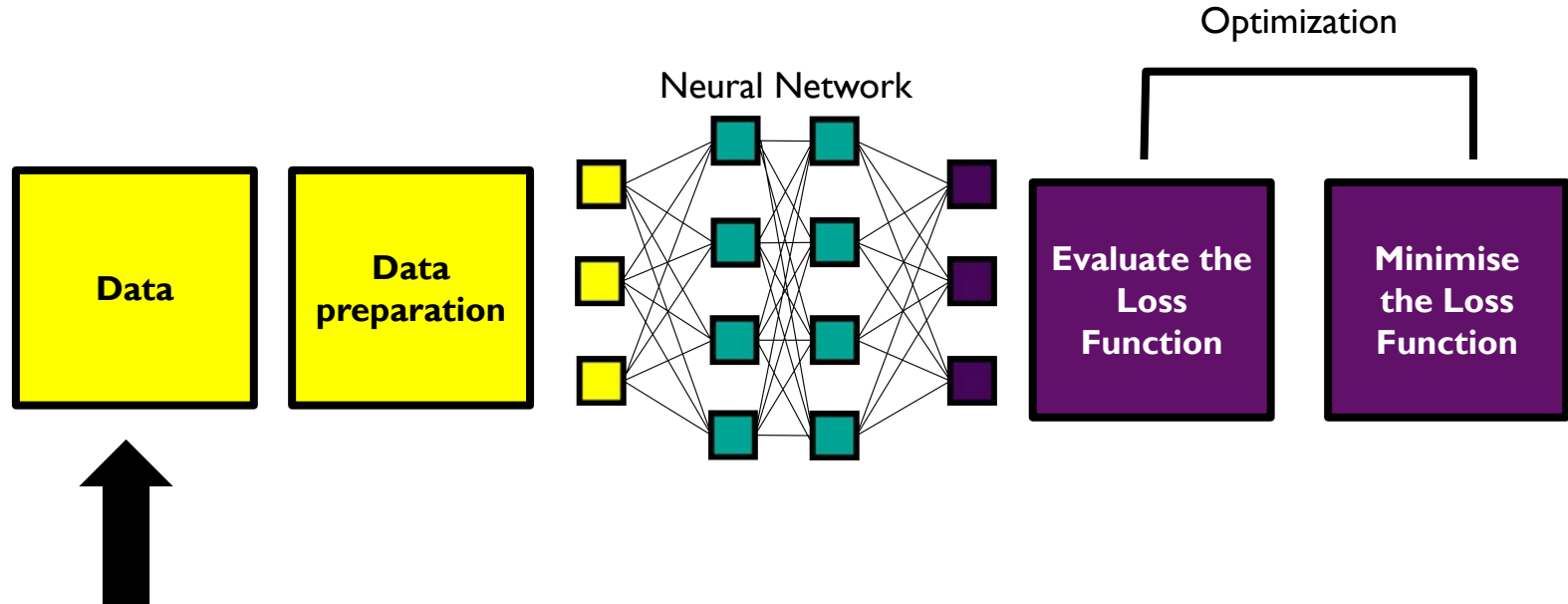


How are we going to do this?



Aim = Total number of Goals

Bias can be injected into a machine learning pipeline at various stages...



...including how the problem is framed.

Nom. goals scored

Hobbies

Height

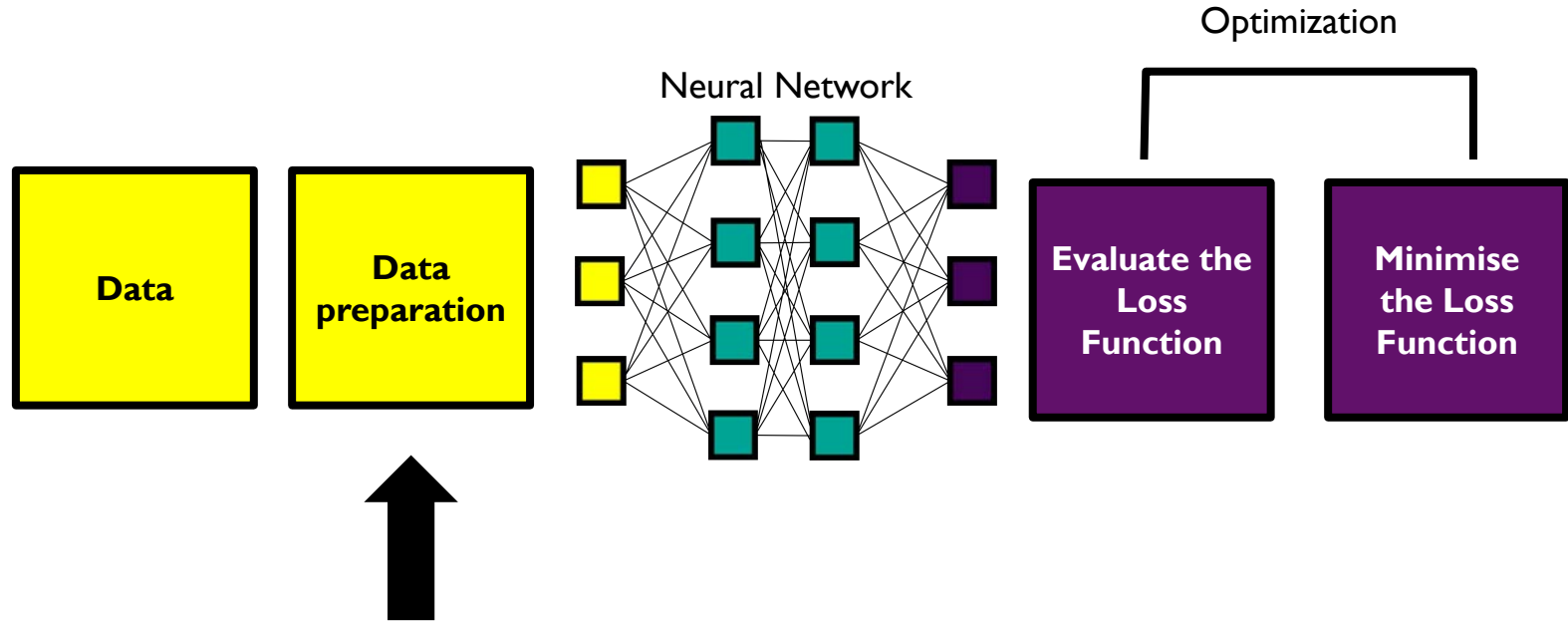
Nom. red cards

Hair Colour

Goal attempts



Bias can be injected into a machine learning pipeline at various stages...



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Nom. goals scored

Height

Nom. red cards

Goal attempts



Junk in = Junk out

Why is machine learning bias hard to fix?

- 1) Not obvious

Amazon scrapped 'sexist AI' tool

🕒 10 October 2018



The neural network was reprogrammed to ignore explicitly gendered words, like “woman”, but then the system started picking up implicitly gendered words, such as “executed” and “captured”.



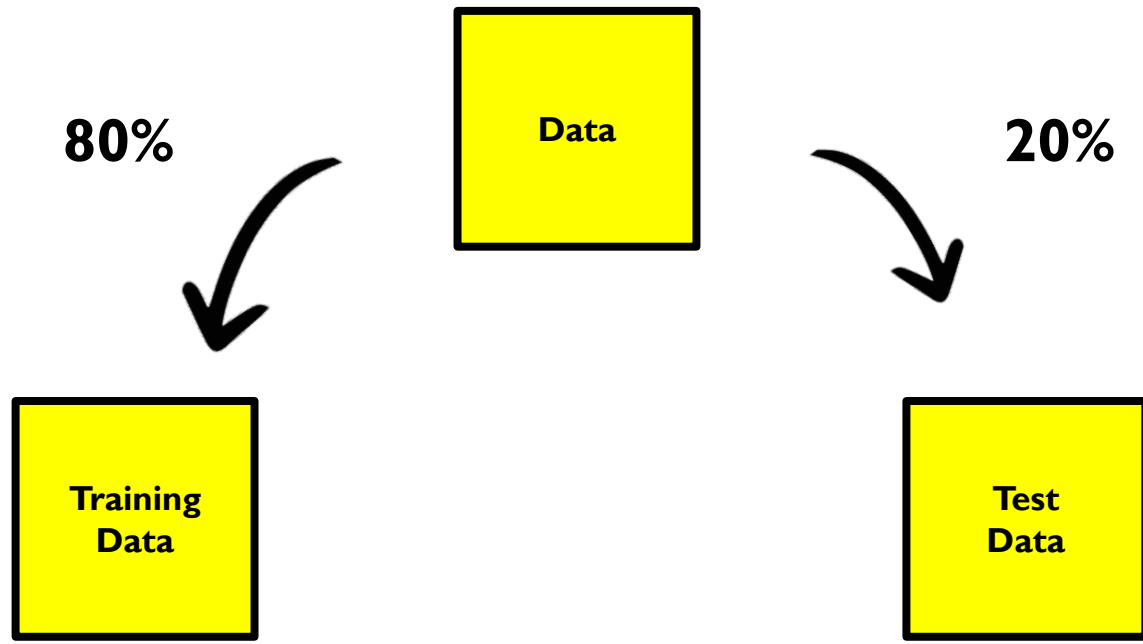
| The algorithm repeated bias towards men, reflected in the technology industry

An algorithm that was being tested as a recruitment tool by online giant Amazon was sexist and had to be scrapped, according to a Reuters report.

The artificial intelligence system was trained on data submitted by applicants over a 10-year period, much of which came from men, it claimed.

Why is it hard to fix?

- 1) Not obvious
- 2) Imperfect process



Why is it hard to fix?

- 1) Not obvious
- 2) Imperfect process
- 3) Lack of social context



United Kingdom



India

Why is it hard to fix?

- 1) Not obvious
- 2) Imperfect process
- 3) Lack of social context
- 4) The definitions of fairness

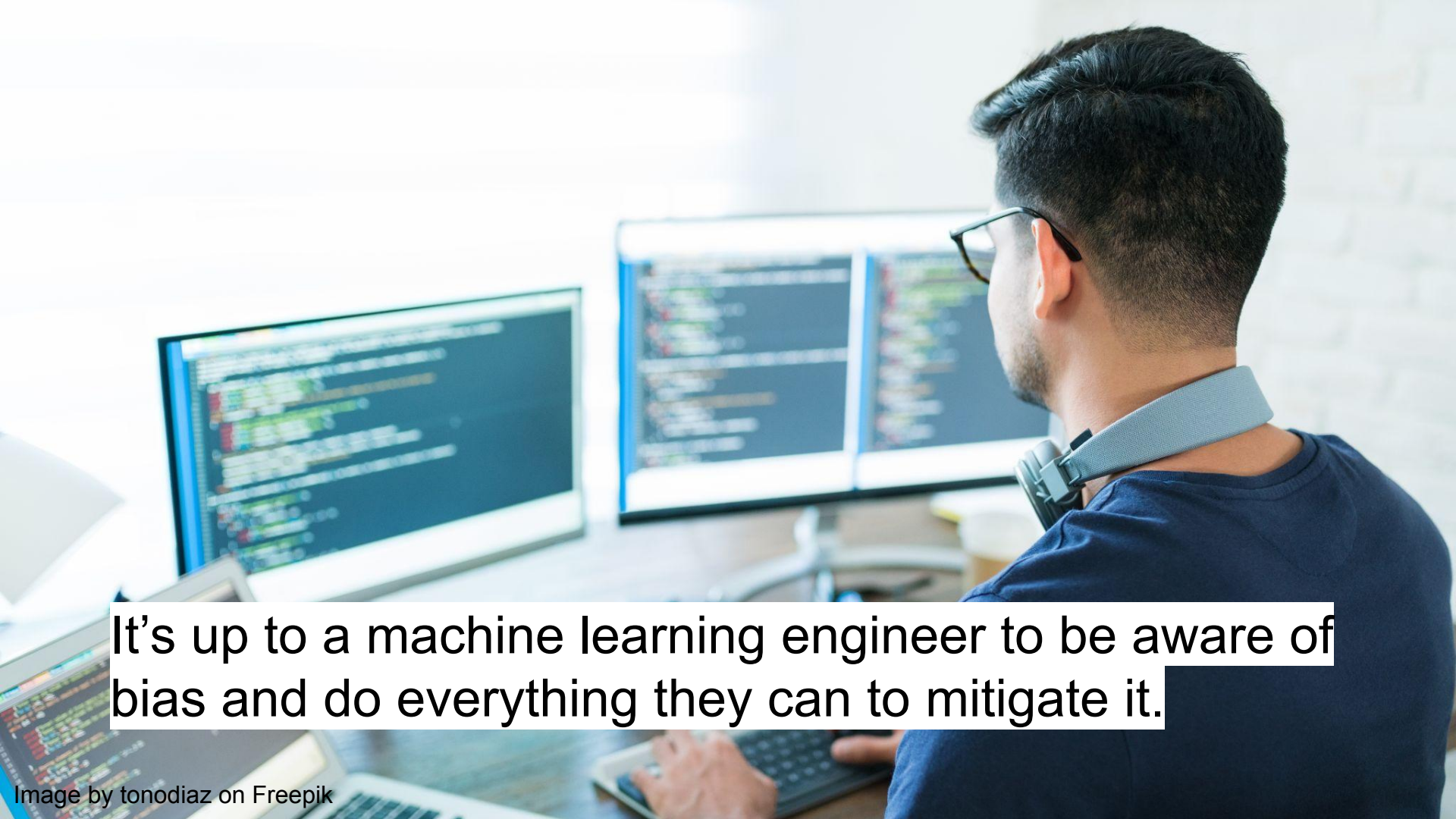
What is 'fairness'?

50% of men and 50% of women are considered high risk?



Everyone considered high risk?

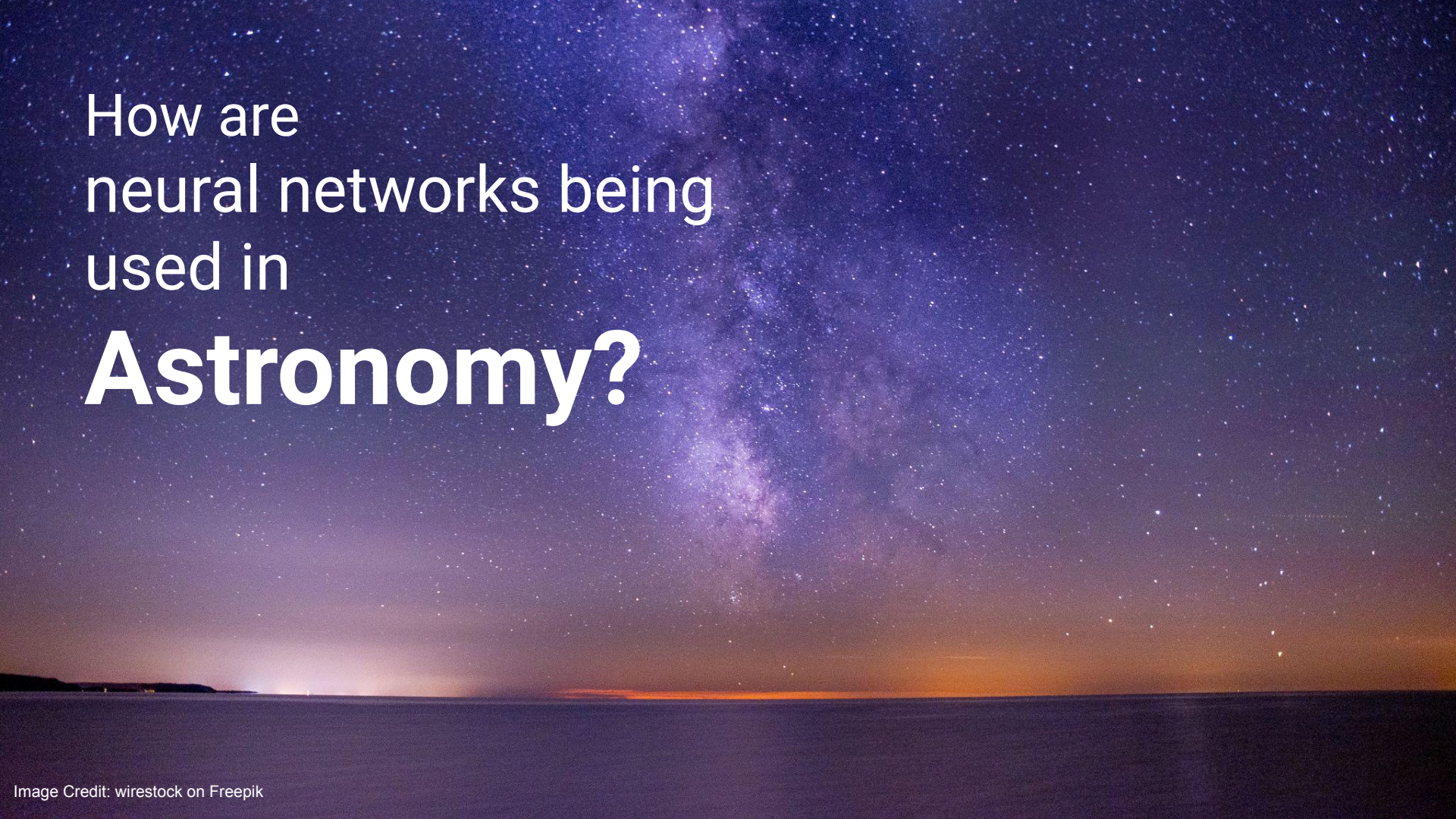




It's up to a machine learning engineer to be aware of bias and do everything they can to mitigate it.

Maybe **you**
could be the
solution?



A night sky photograph showing the Milky Way galaxy stretching across the frame. The stars are densely packed, and the galaxy's structure is visible. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a dark orange glow near the horizon, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The foreground is dark, possibly a body of water or a flat landscape.

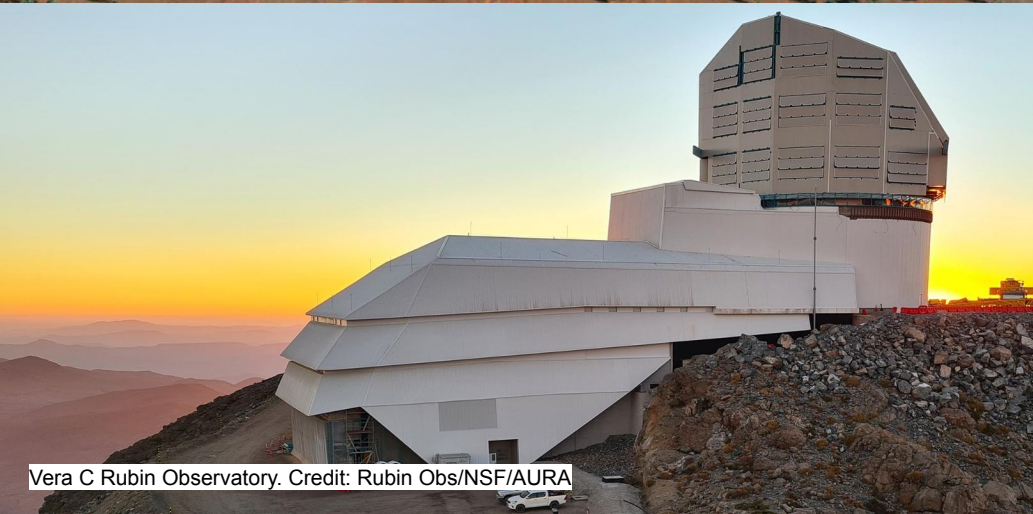
How are
neural networks being
used in
Astronomy?



Square kilometer array. Credit Wiki -



The Victor M. Blanco 4-meter telescope building Credit DES



Vera C Rubin Observatory. Credit: Rubin Obs/NSF/AURA



Gravitational wave detector. Credit: Ligo

How many galaxies are we expected to discover with Vera Rubin Observatory?

A. ~16 million

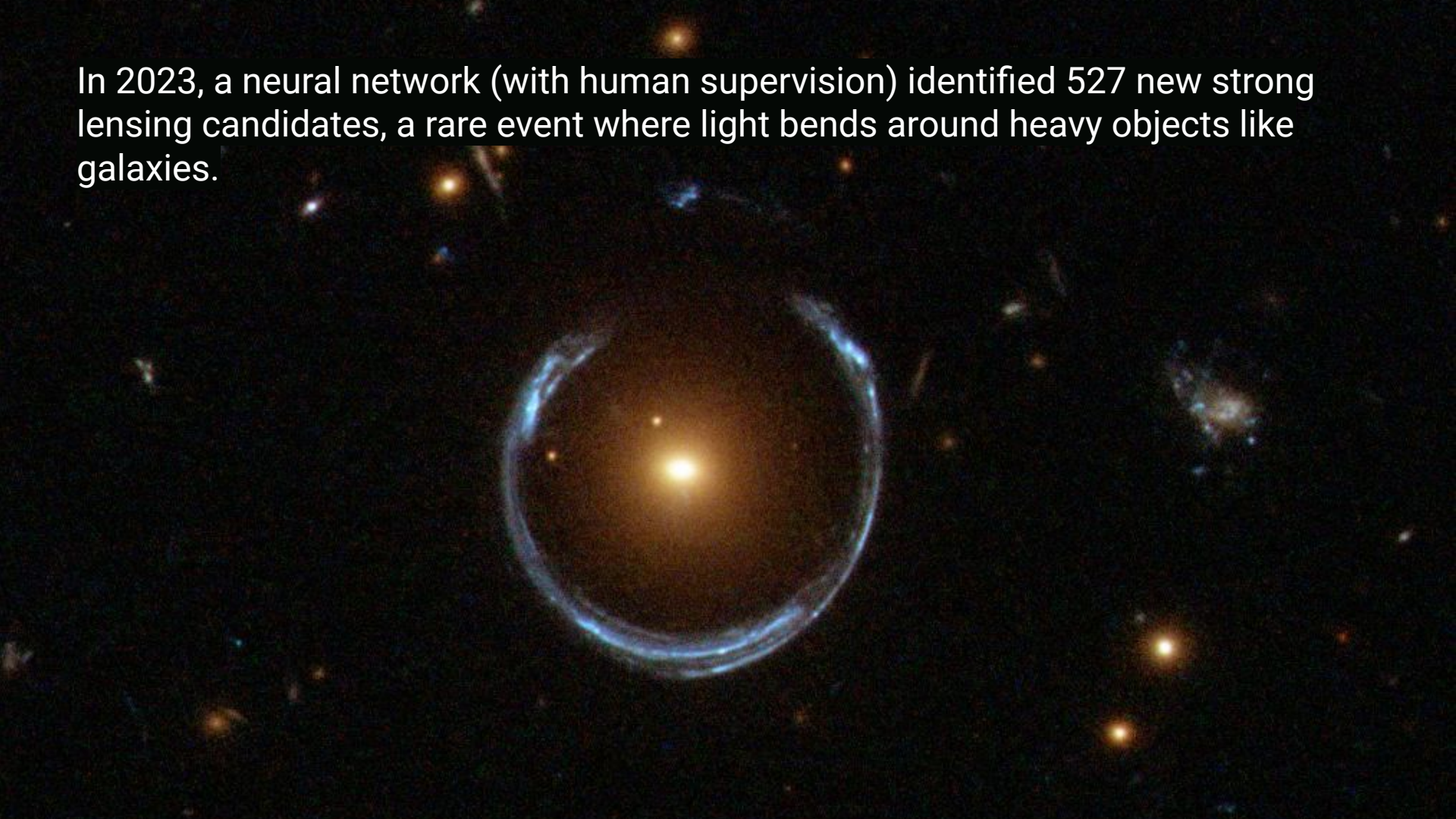
B. ~1 billion

C. ~20 billion





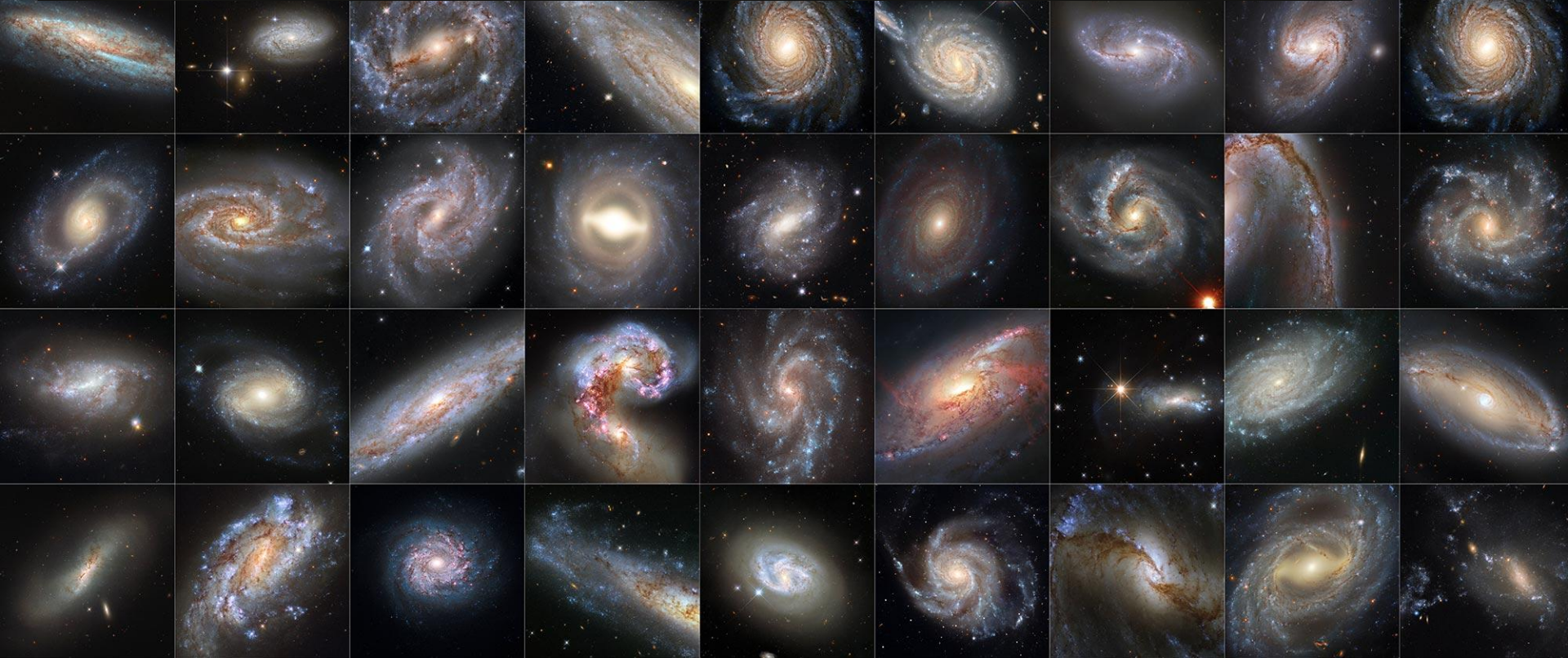
In 2023, a neural network (with human supervision) identified 527 new strong lensing candidates, a rare event where light bends around heavy objects like galaxies.



A futuristic, dark landscape with jagged mountains and a large blue planet in the sky. The scene is set in a dark, rocky terrain with sharp, jagged mountains in the foreground and middle ground. The sky is a deep blue and black, filled with stars and a large, bright blue planet that dominates the upper left portion of the frame. A smaller, crescent moon is visible in the sky to the right. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and otherworldly, with a mix of cool blue and dark purple tones, and some warm orange and red highlights near the horizon and in the shadows of the mountains.

Neural networks have also been used to identify 301 exoplanets

Neural networks are challenging some of our theories of galaxy evolution by classifying the galaxies differently... new physics?



LearningMatch

Using Neural Networks to Predict the 'Match'

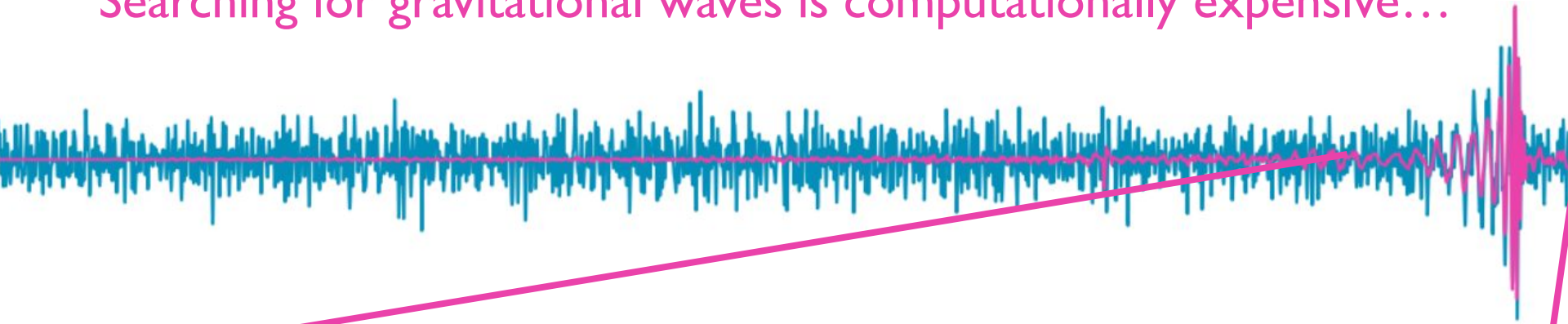
Gravitational Waves are ripples in the curvature of spacetime produced by **accelerating masses**... such as two **black holes** or two **neutron stars** colliding.



Searching for gravitational waves is computationally expensive...

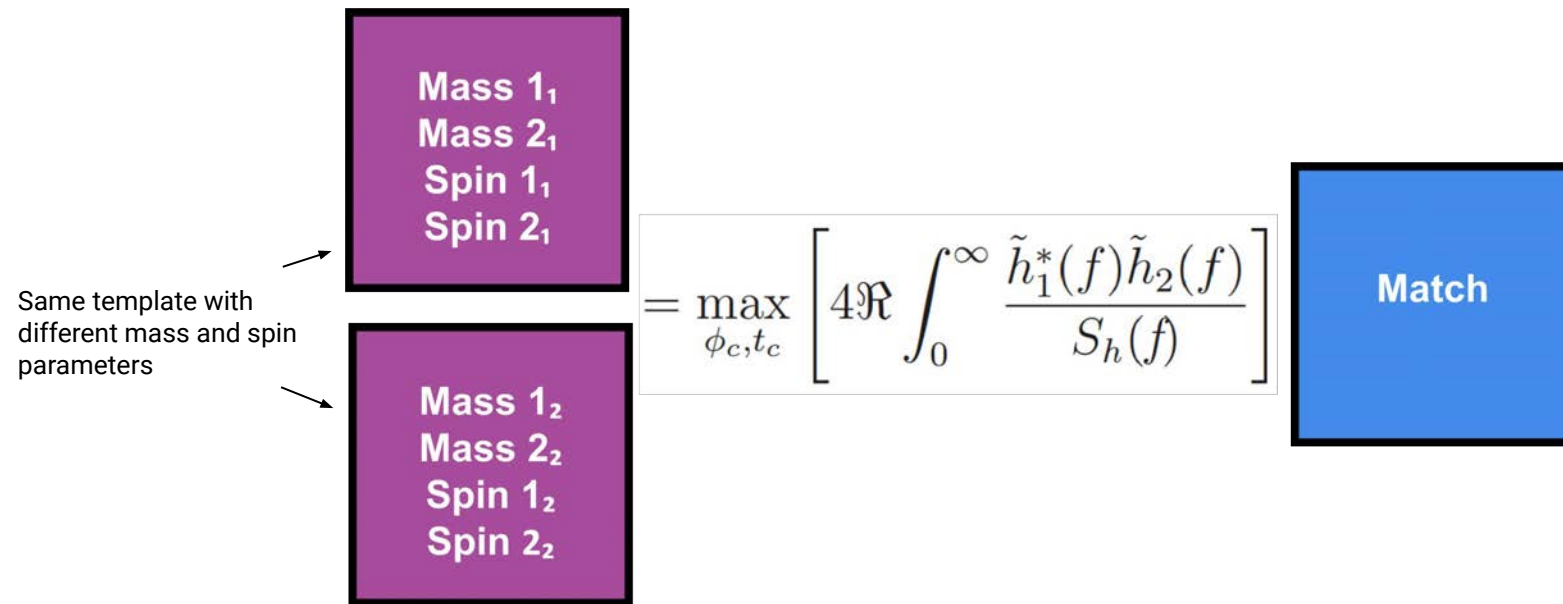


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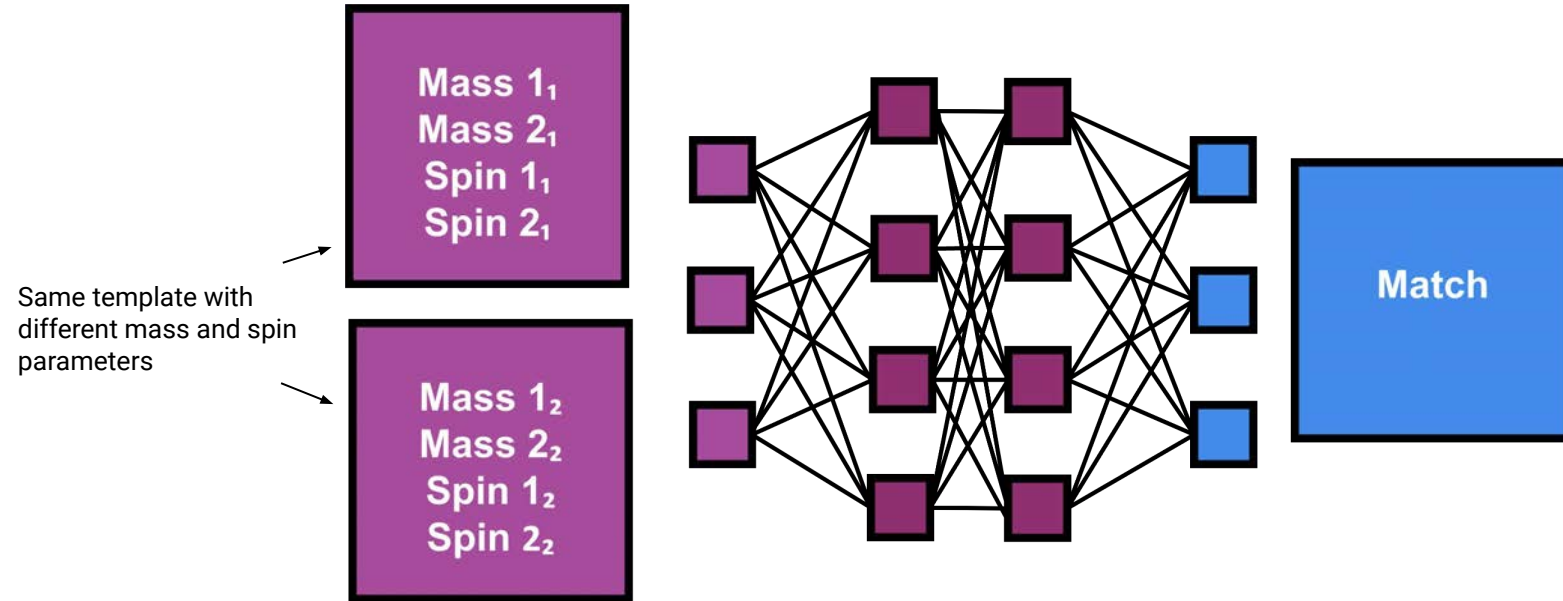
...so we want to use neural networks to speed up the process.

The Aim:



The aim of the neural network is to learn the relationship between the parameters and the match.

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What have I **learned** as a machine learning engineer?

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...this is why machine learning engineers are paid nice salaries!

Using neural networks in astronomy is still current research...





Using neural networks in astronomy is still current research...

...so who knows what the **future** looks like!

We need your
help...





Black Hole Hunters ✓



Galaxy Zoo ✓

Language English

ABOUT CLASSIFY TALK COLLECT

Few have witnessed what you're
about to see

Learn more

Get started



Planet Hunters NGTS ✓

ABOUT



Dark Energy Explorers ✓

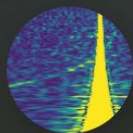
Get involved at zooniverse.org!

Identify distant galaxies to help
measure dark energy when the
universe was just ~2-3 billion
years old

Learn more

Discover hidden worlds with the
Next-Generation Transit Survey

Learn more



Gravity Spy ✓

We need you to help us identify the physics...



PROJECTS ABOUT GET INVOLVED TALK BUILD A PROJECT NEWS

SIGN IN REGISTER



Kilonova Seekers

Language

ABOUT CLASSIFY TALK COLLECT

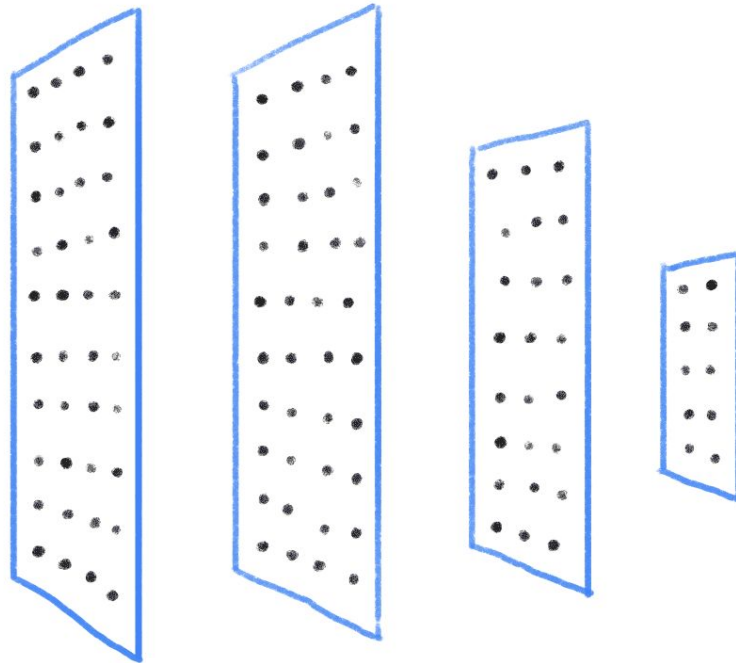
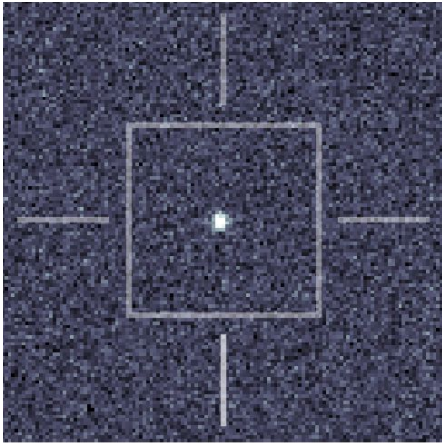
Welcome back to a new year of KN Seekers - we can't wait to see what you discover in 2024!

Find cosmic explosions in real-time with the Gravitational-wave Optical Transient Observer (GOTO)
- new data uploaded hourly!

[Learn more](#)

[Get started](#)

...in this research a neural network is uncertain about whether it has observed an explosion and we need you to clarify!



Explosion
Uncertain
No Explosion

Credit (edited): Venkatesh Tata



Are machines the next Einstein?

Credit: Elena Colangeli

Thank you for listening and are there any questions?

Scan here to get involved with an astronomy project from your phone... we need you!



Get involved at zooniverse.org!

Instagram: @susie_verte
Linkdin: Susanna Green
YouTube: @fieldof_view

Please feel free to contact me with any questions: susanna.green@port.ac.uk