



# Beyond CS109

Noah Arthurs  
CS109, Stanford University

June



# Sources of Probability



1. Experimentation



2. Dataset



3. Analytic Solution



4. Expert Opinion



IMAGINE THAT YOU'RE DRAWING  
AT RANDOM FROM AN URN  
CONTAINING FIFTEEN BALLS —  
SIX RED AND NINE BLACK.

OK. I REACH IN AND...  
...MY GRANDFATHER'S  
ASHES?!? OH GOD!

I...WHAT?

WHY WOULD YOU  
DO THIS TO ME?!?



$$P\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{I'M NEAR} \\ \text{THE OCEAN} \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{l} \text{I PICKED UP} \\ \text{A SEASHELL} \end{array}\right) =$$

$$\frac{P\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{I PICKED UP} \\ \text{A SEASHELL} \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{l} \text{I'M NEAR} \\ \text{THE OCEAN} \end{array}\right) P\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{I'M NEAR} \\ \text{THE OCEAN} \end{array}\right)}{P\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{I PICKED UP} \\ \text{A SEASHELL} \end{array}\right)}$$

$$P\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{I PICKED UP} \\ \text{A SEASHELL} \end{array}\right)$$

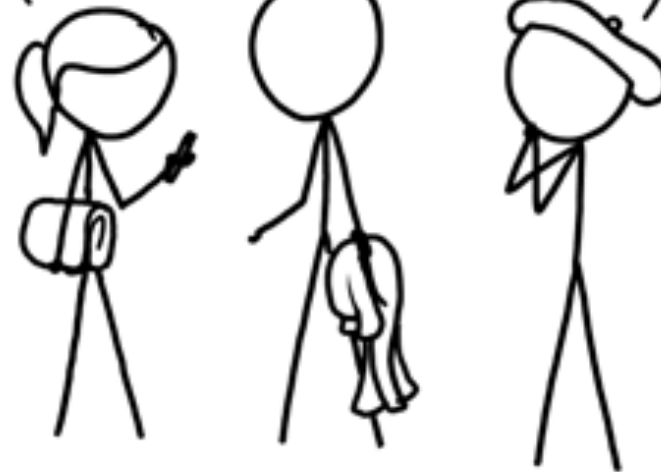


STATISTICALLY SPEAKING, IF YOU PICK UP A SEASHELL AND DON'T HOLD IT TO YOUR EAR, YOU CAN PROBABLY HEAR THE OCEAN.

WE SHOULD GO TO THE NORTH BEACH.  
SOMEONE SAID THE SOUTH BEACH HAS  
A 20% HIGHER RISK OF SHARK ATTACKS.

YEAH, BUT STATISTICALLY, TAKING  
THREE BEACH TRIPS INSTEAD OF TWO  
INCREASES OUR ODDS OF GETTING  
SHOT BY A SWIMMING DOG CARRYING  
A HANDGUN IN ITS MOUTH BY **50%**!

OH NO! THIS IS  
OUR THIRD TRIP!



REMINDER: A 50% INCREASE  
IN A TINY RISK IS **STILL TINY.**

Everything in the world is either



a potato

or not a potato.

$$P(X) + P(X^C) = 1$$

# Let's Make a Deal

- Game show with 3 doors: A, B, and C



- Behind one door is prize (equally likely to be any door)
- Behind other two doors is nothing
- We choose a door
- Then host opens 1 of other 2 doors, revealing nothing
- We are given option to change to other door
- Should we?
  - Note: If we don't switch,  $P(\text{win}) = 1/3$  (random)



# Zika Test



Positive Zika.

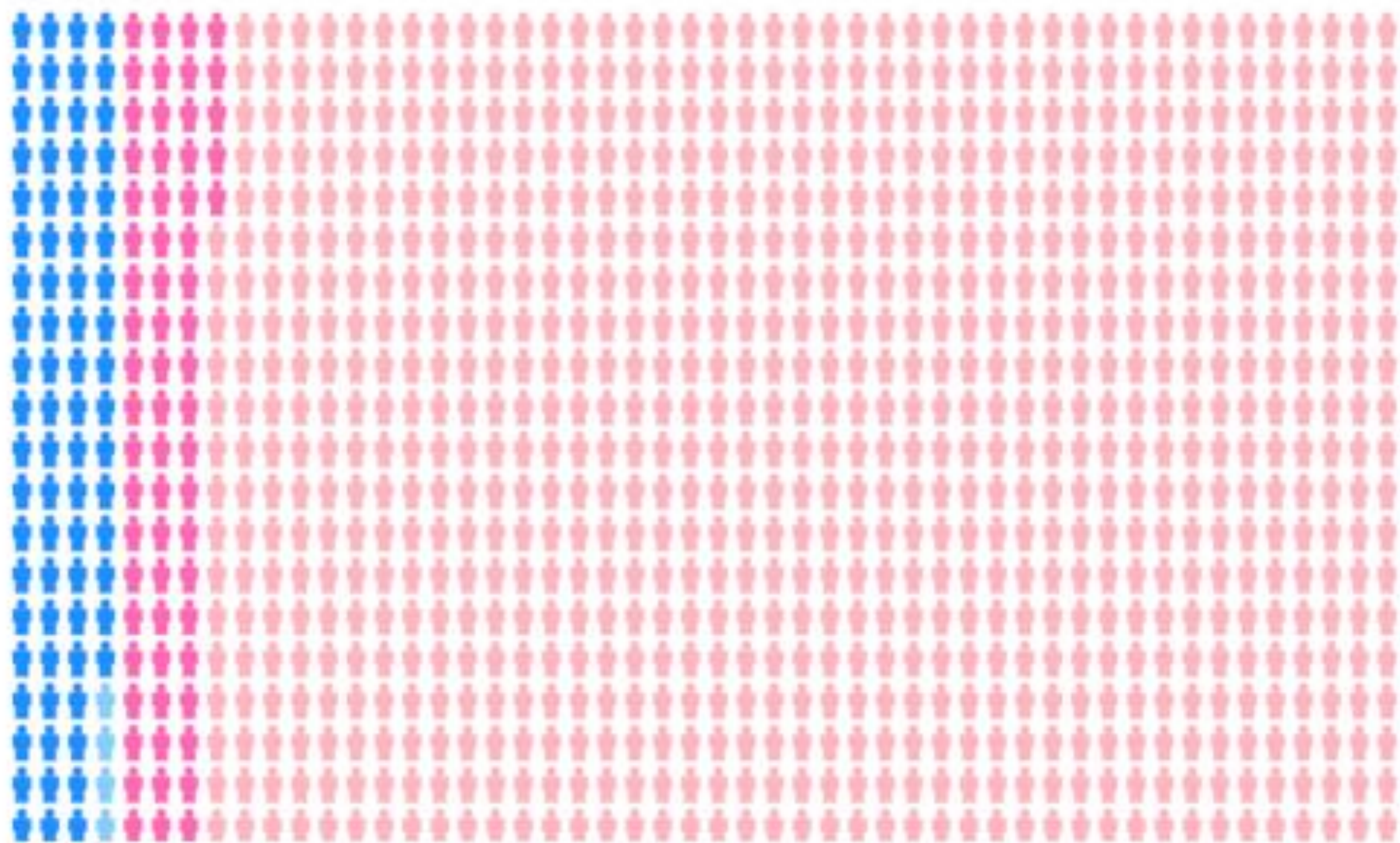
*What is the probability of zika?*

- 
- *0.1% of people have zika*
  - *90% positive rate for people with zika*
  - *7% positive rate for people without zika*

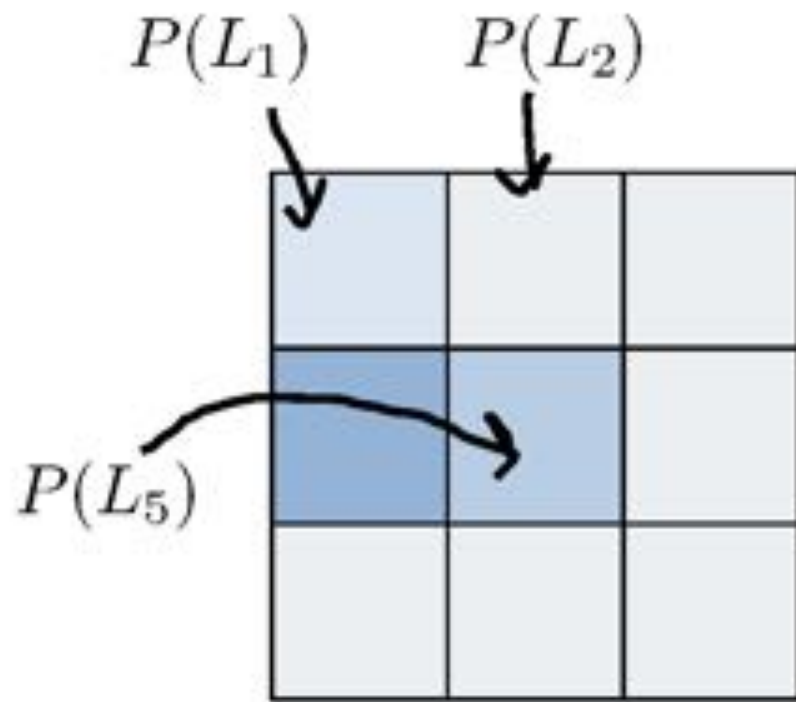
The right answer is 1%



# Bayes Theorem Intuition



# Update Belief



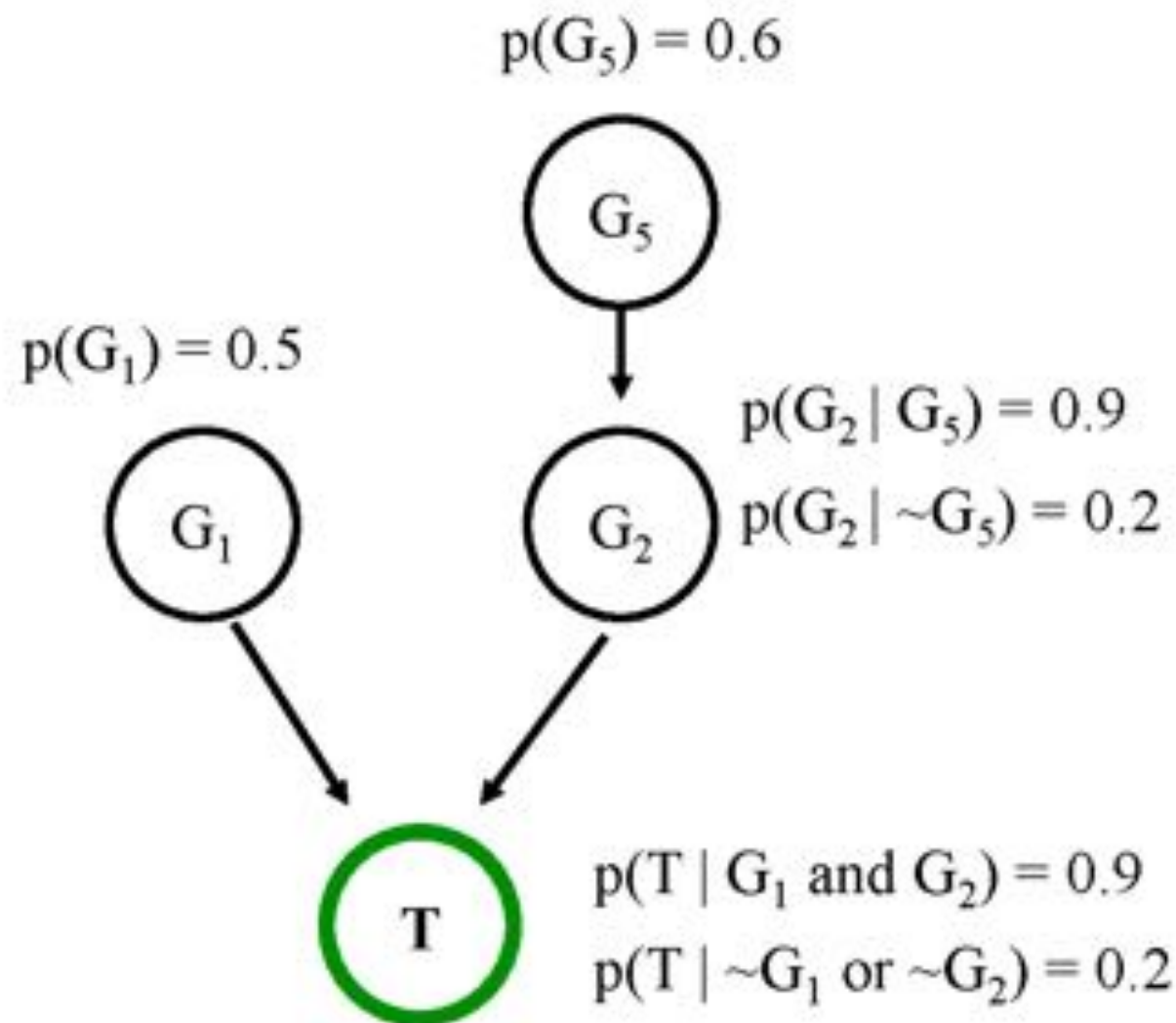
Before Observation



## Recall our Ebola Bats

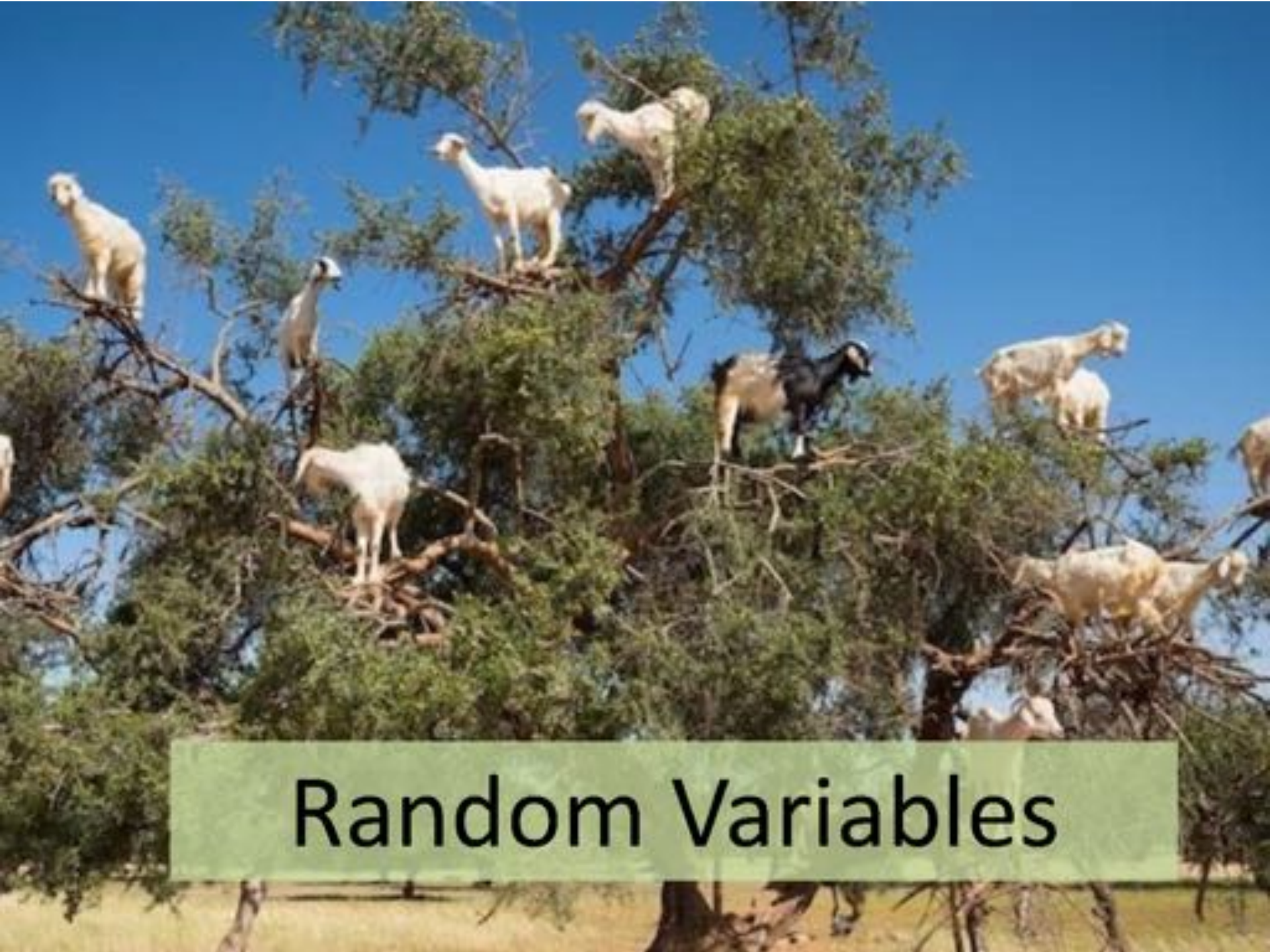


# Discovered Pattern



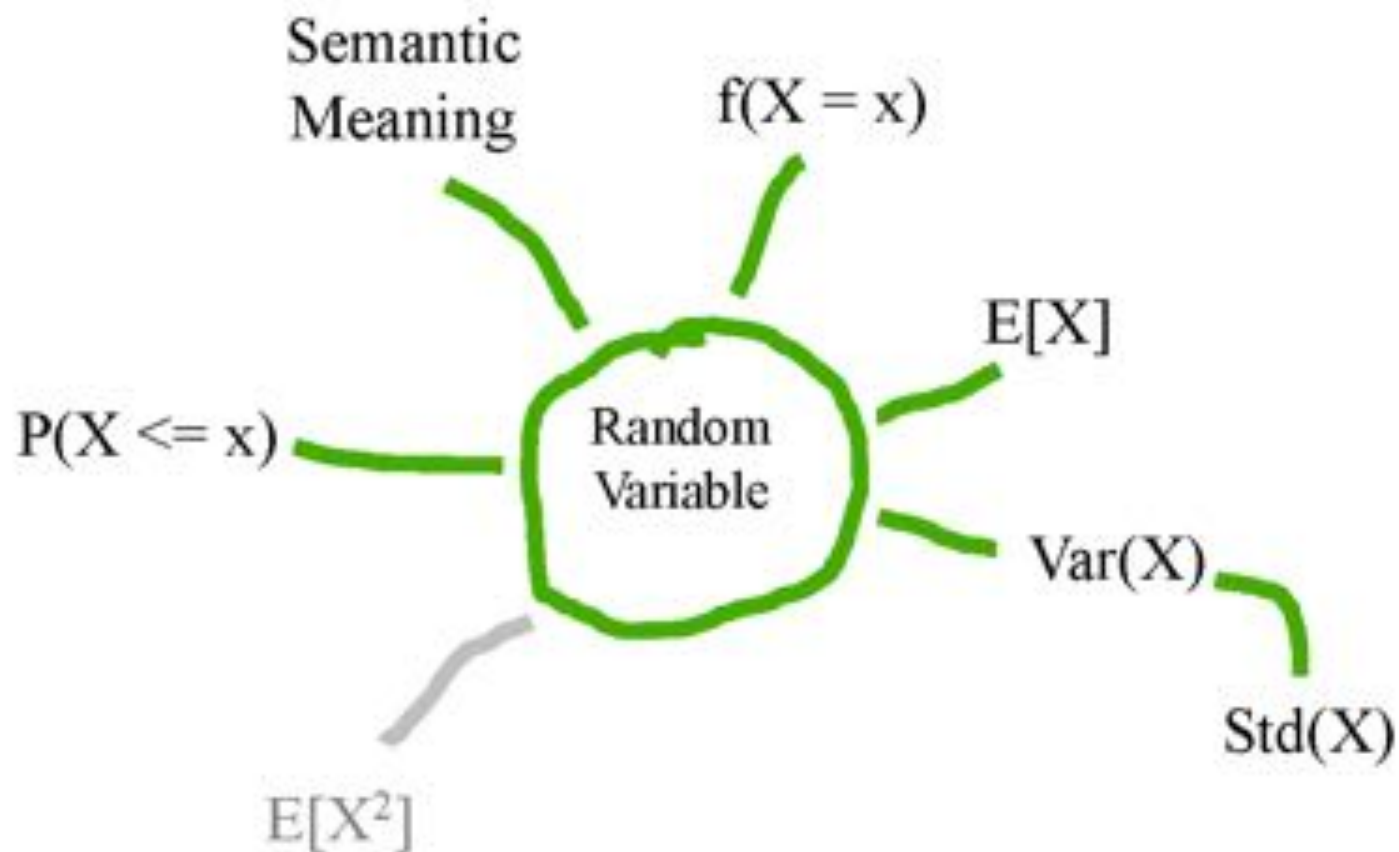
These genes  
don't impact T





Random Variables

# Fundamental Properties



# Expectation

Big deal lemma: first  
stated without proof

$$E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$$

Generalized:  $E\left[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right] = \sum_{i=1}^n E[X_i]$

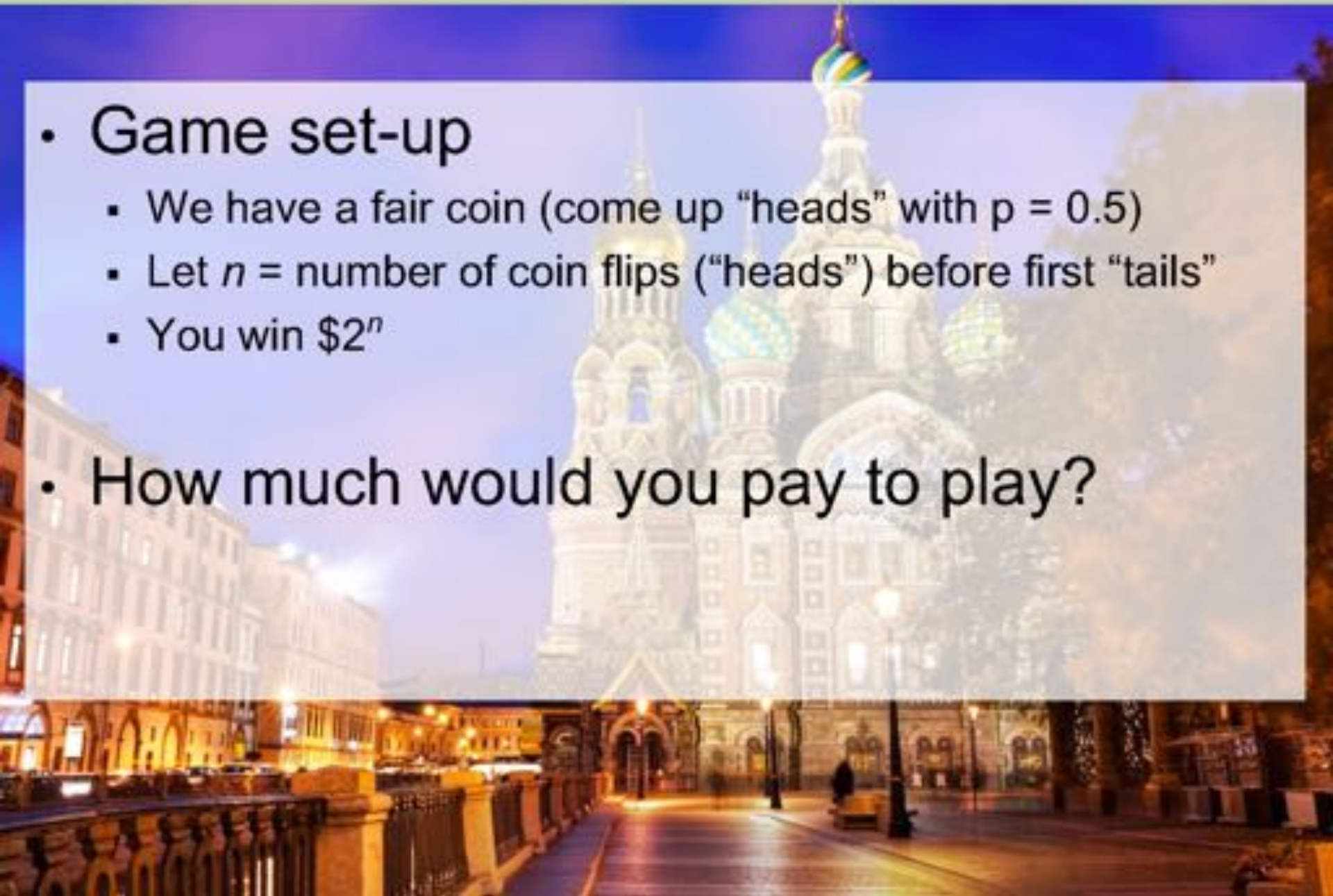
Holds regardless of dependency between  $X_i$ 's

# St Petersburg

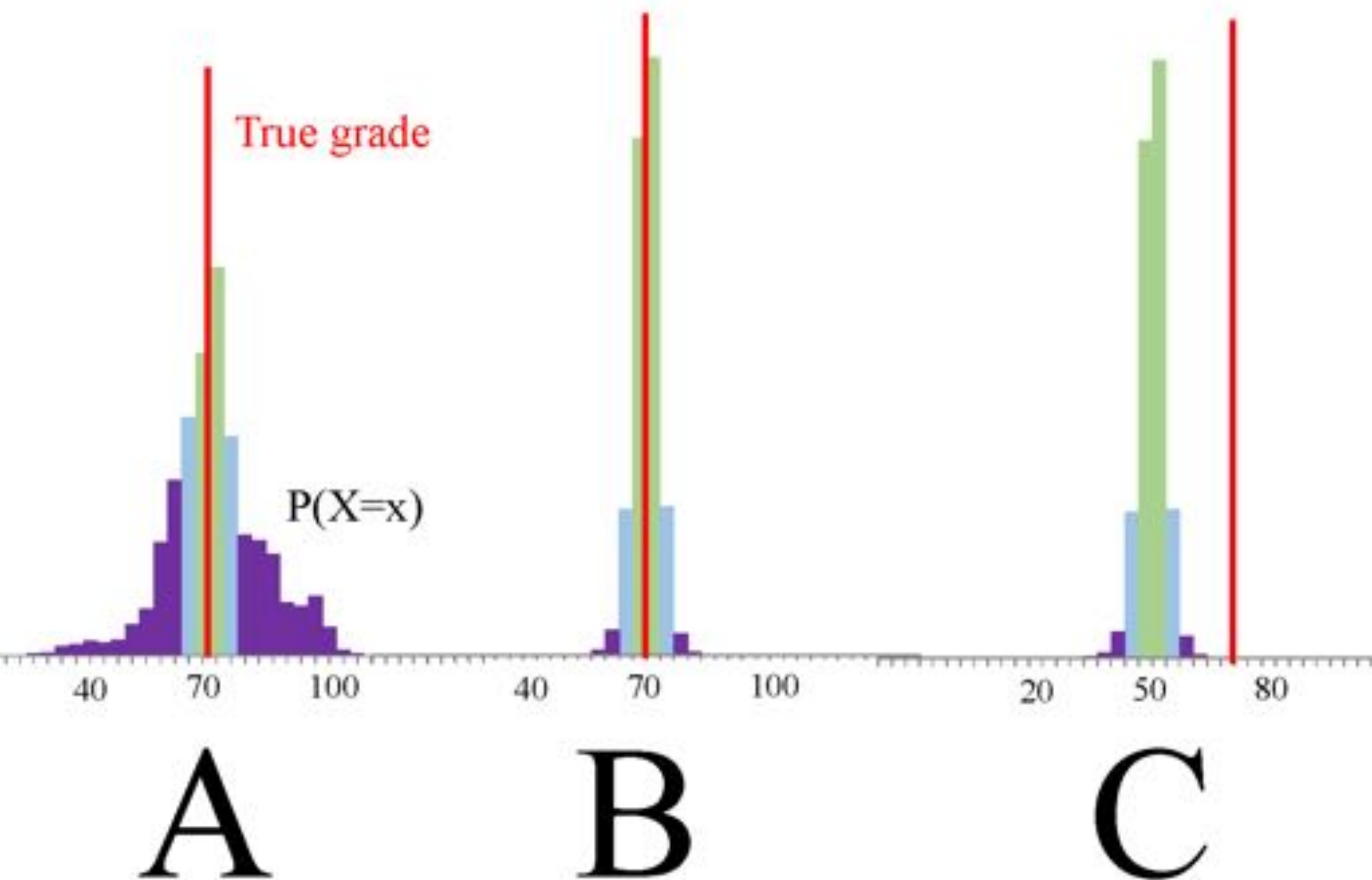
- Game set-up

- We have a fair coin (come up "heads" with  $p = 0.5$ )
- Let  $n$  = number of coin flips ("heads") before first "tails"
- You win  $\$2^n$

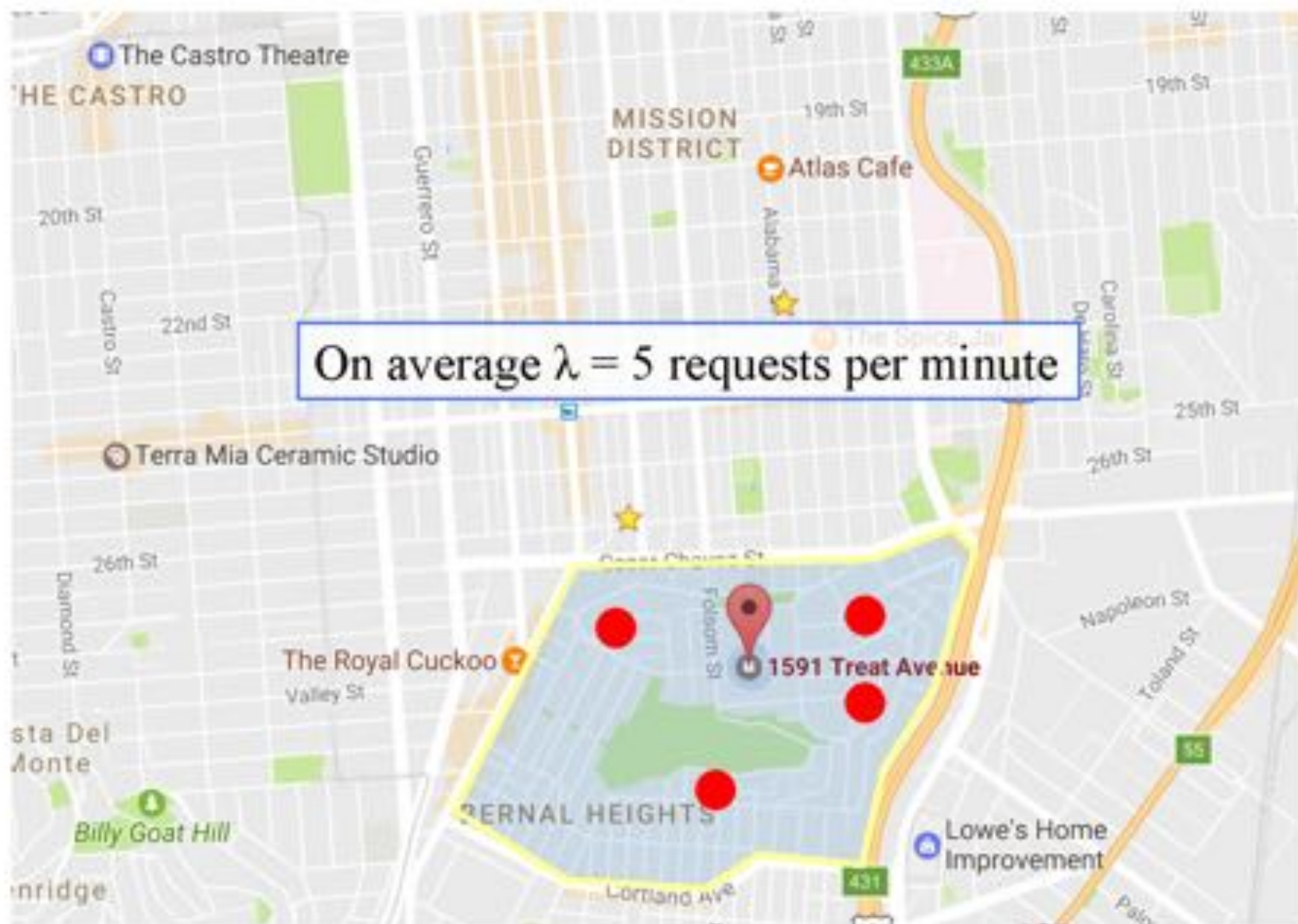
- How much would you pay to play?



X is the score a peer grader gives to an assignment submission



# Poisson

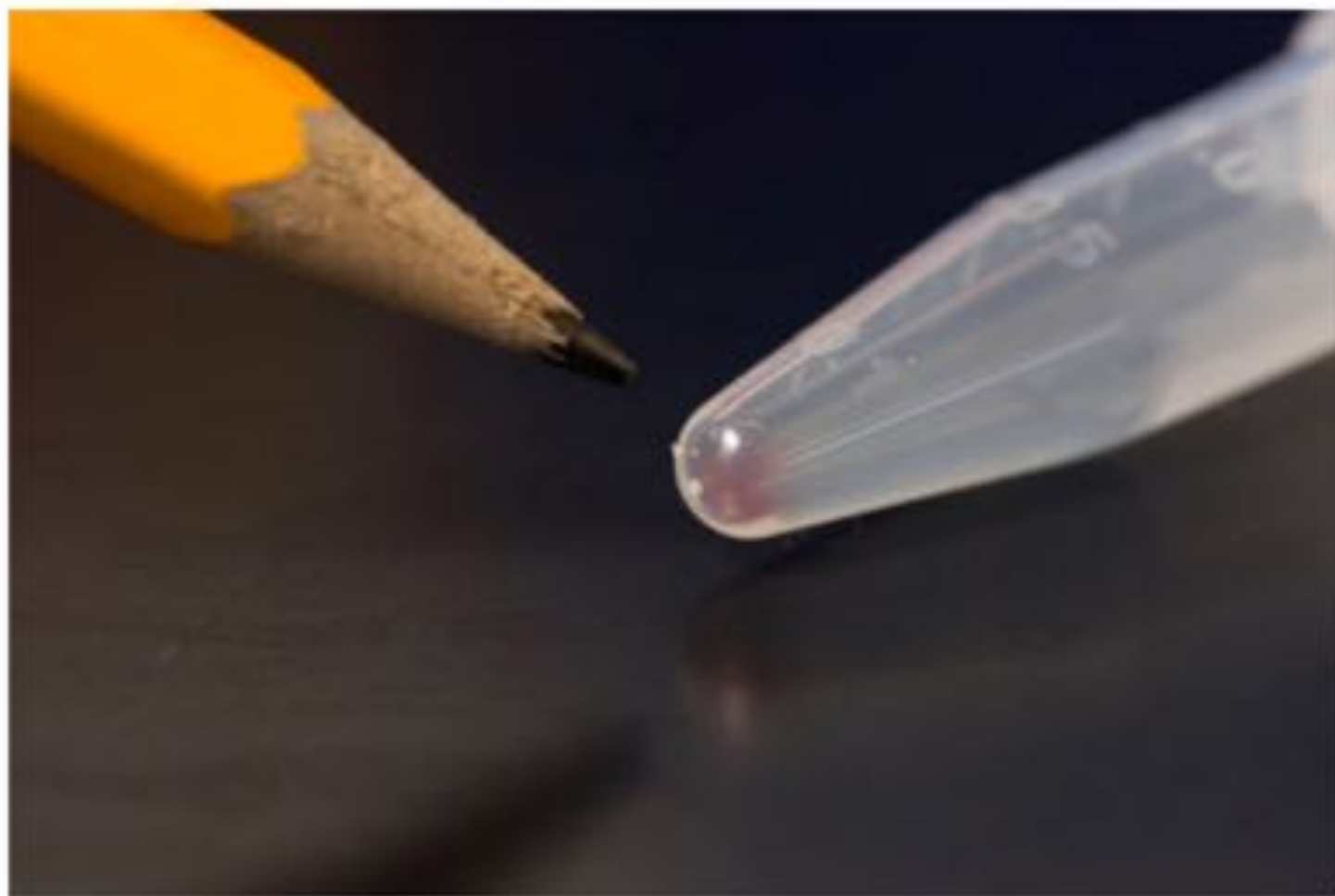


# Geometric

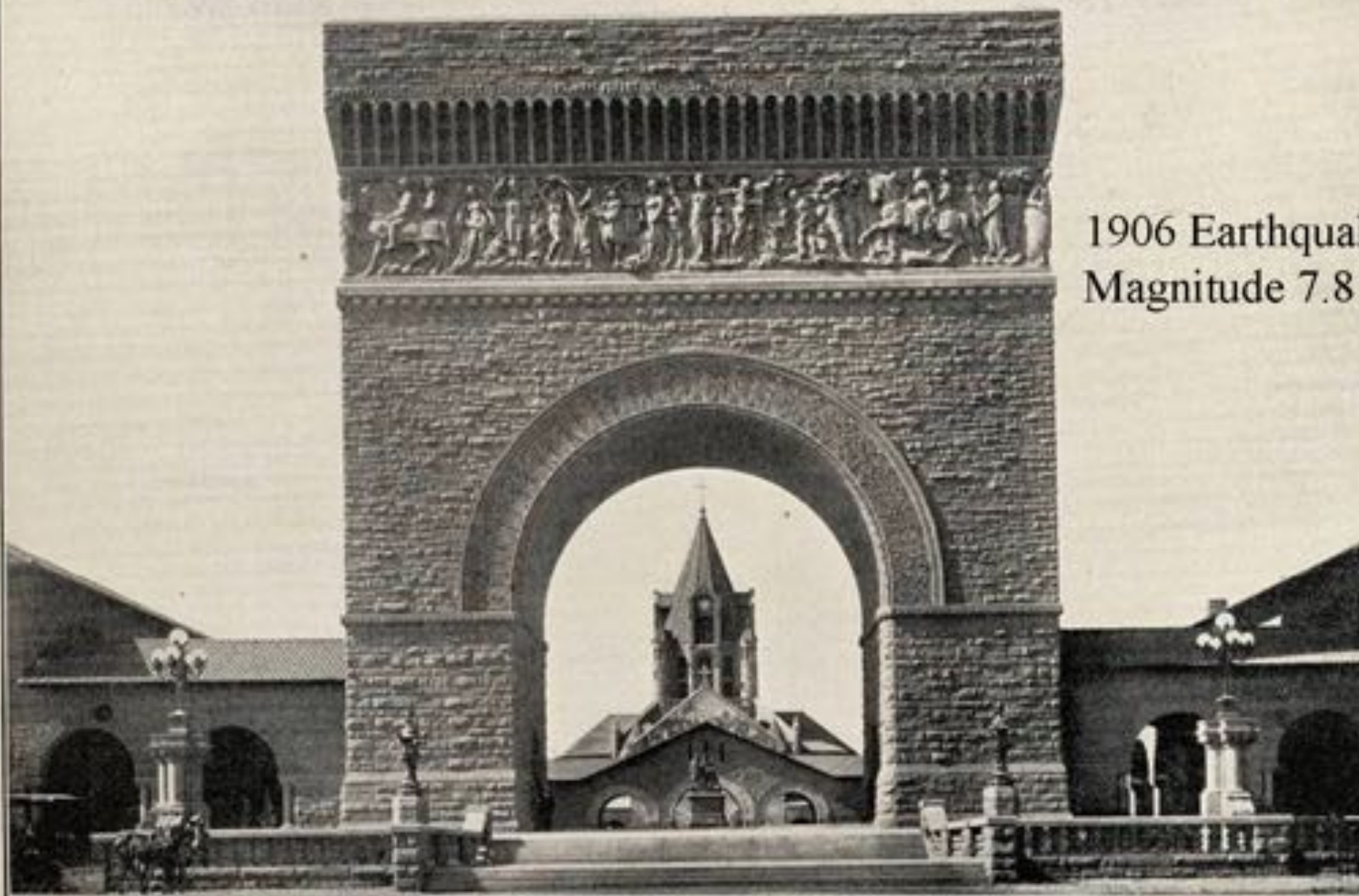
Sequence 1:

TTHTHTTHTTTHTTTHTTTHTTHTHTHT  
HTTHTTTHHTHTHTTHTTHTTHTHHHT  
HTHTHTHHHTHTHTTHTTHTHTHTHTTHT  
TTHTHTTHTHTHTHTHTHTHTHTHTHTHT  
TTHTHTHTHTHTHHHTTHTHTTHTHTHTHT

# Storing Data on DNA



All the movies, images, emails and other digital data from more than 600 smartphones (10,000 gigabytes) can be stored in the faint pink smear of DNA at the end of this test tube.



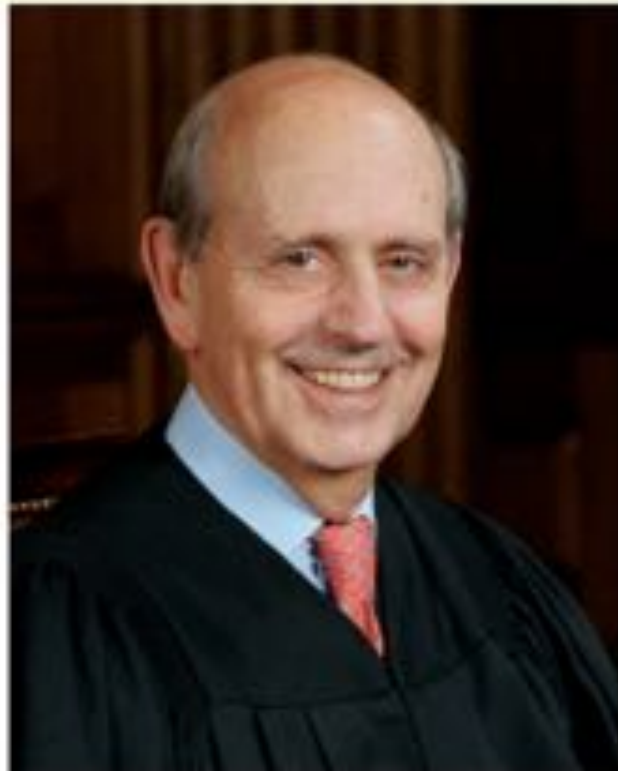
1906 Earthquake  
Magnitude 7.8

ILL. No. 65. MEMORIAL ARCH, WITH CHURCH IN BACKGROUND, STANFORD UNIVERSITY, SHOWING TYPES OF CARVED WORK WITH THE SANDSTONE.

**Probability for Extreme Weather?**



# Representative Juries



Simulate

Simulation:

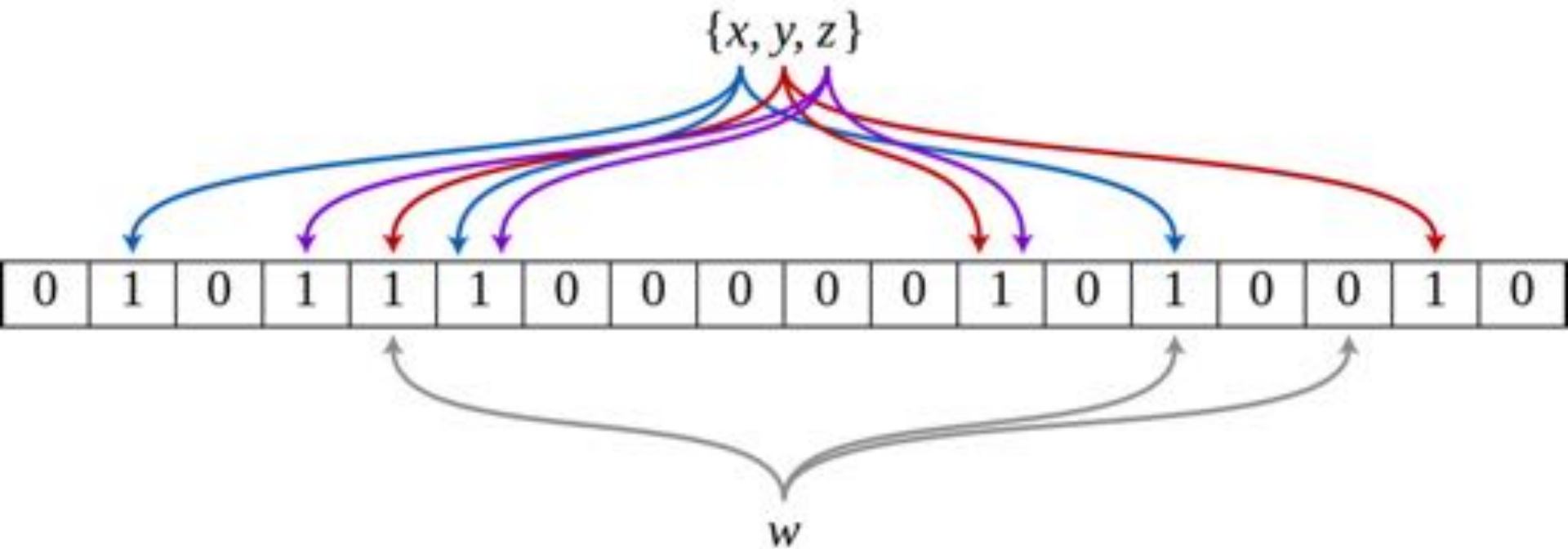


# Dating at Stanford

Each person you date has a 0.2 probability of being someone you spend your life with. What is the average number of people one will date? What is the standard deviation?



# Bloom Filter



random( ) ?

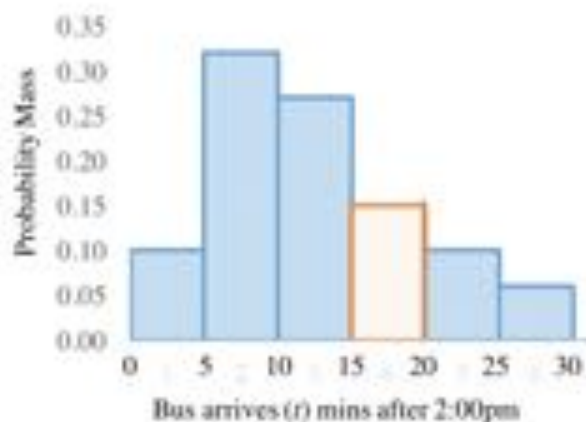
# Riding the Marguerite



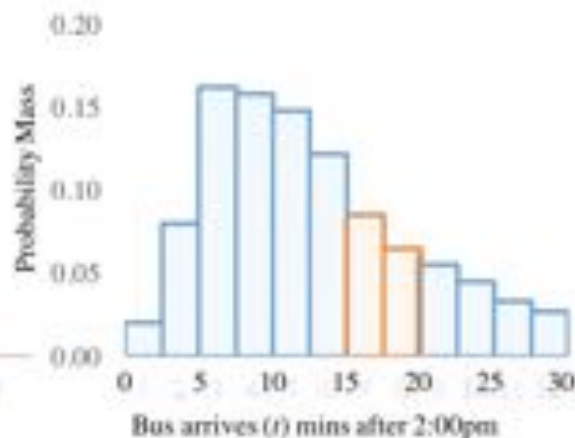
You are running to the bus stop.  
You don't know exactly when  
the bus arrives. You arrive at  
2:20pm.

What is  $P(\text{wait} < 5 \text{ min})$ ?

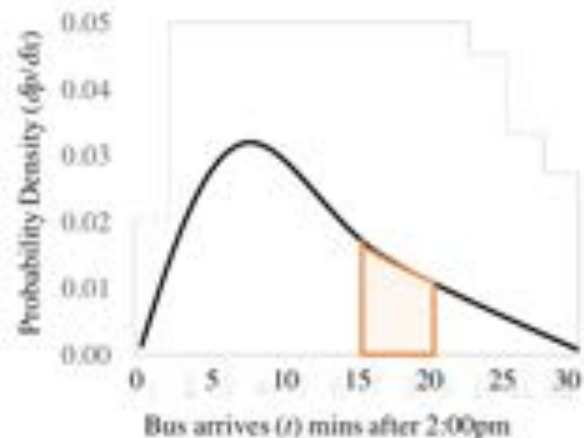
Discretize into 5 min chunks



Discretize into 2.5 min chunks



The limit at discretization size  $\rightarrow 0$



# Integrals

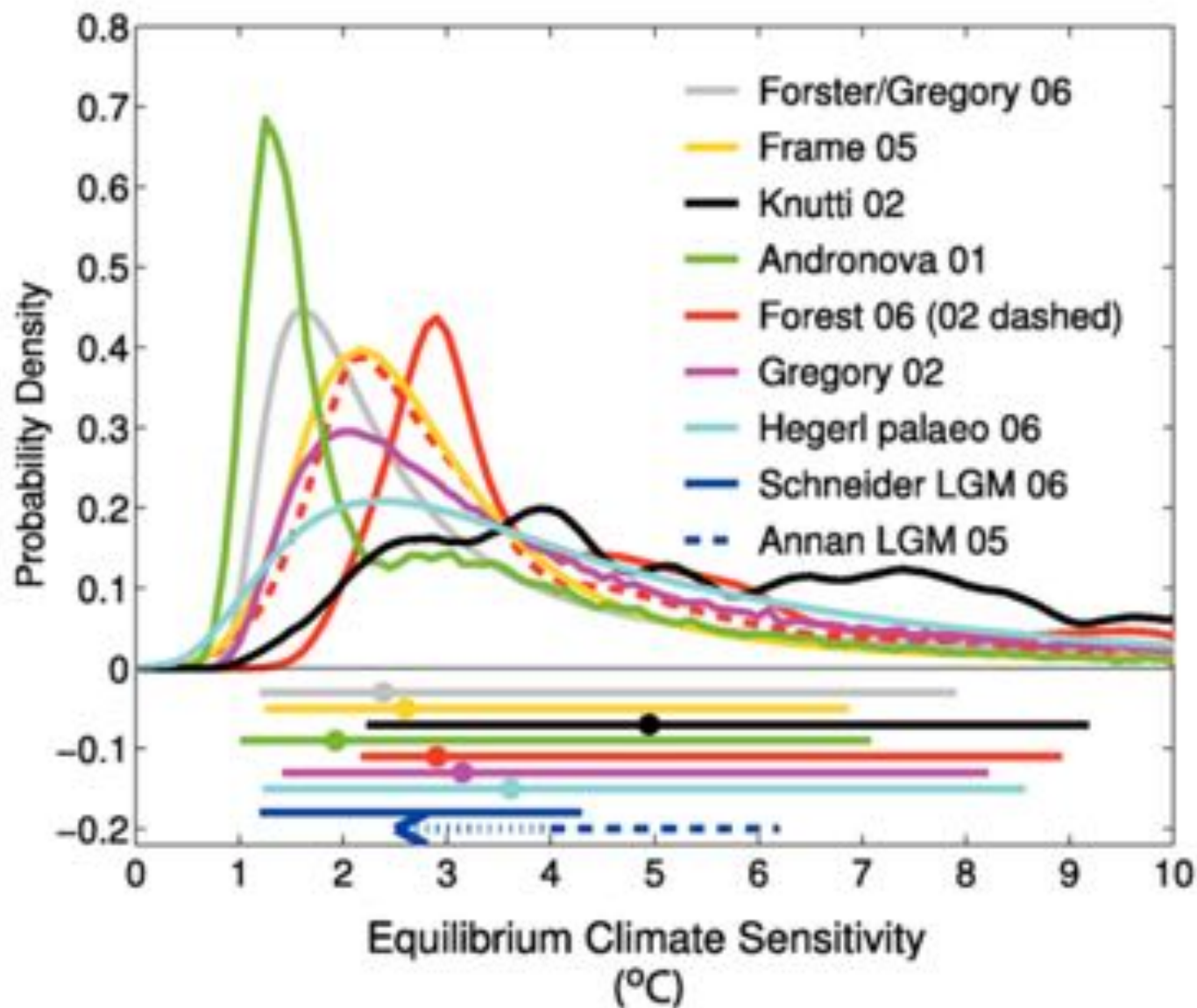


\*loving, not scary

What do you get if you  
integrate over a  
*probability density function*?

**A probability!**

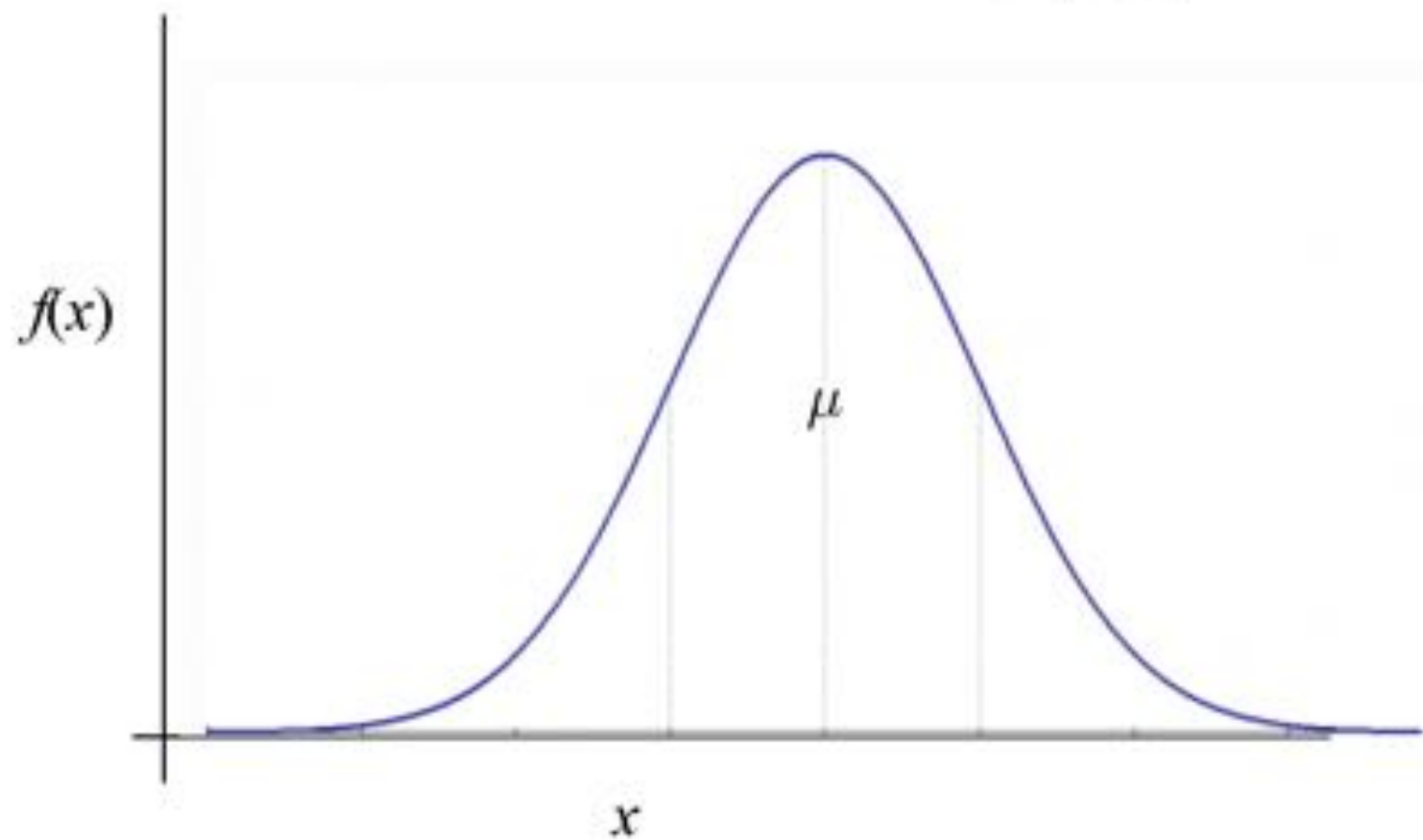
# Climate Sensitivity



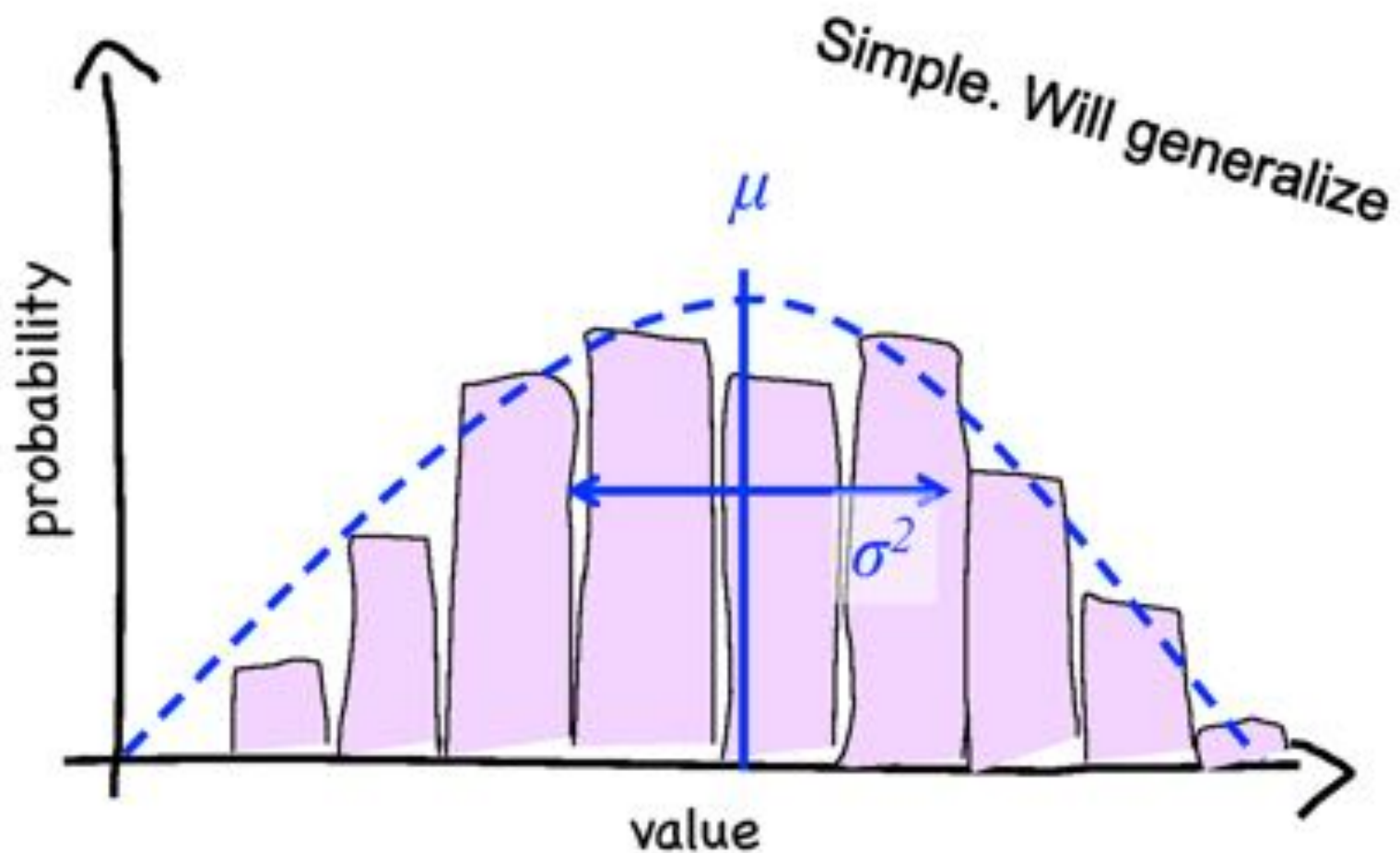
# Probability Density Function

$$\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

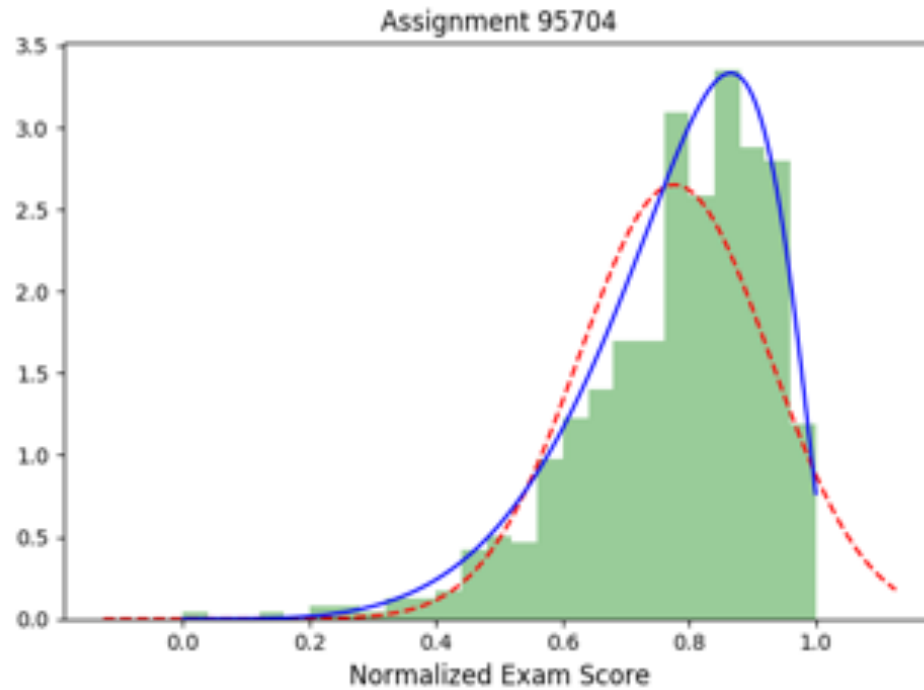


# Simplicity is Humble



\* A Gaussian maximizes entropy for a given mean and variance

# Not Everything is Normal!

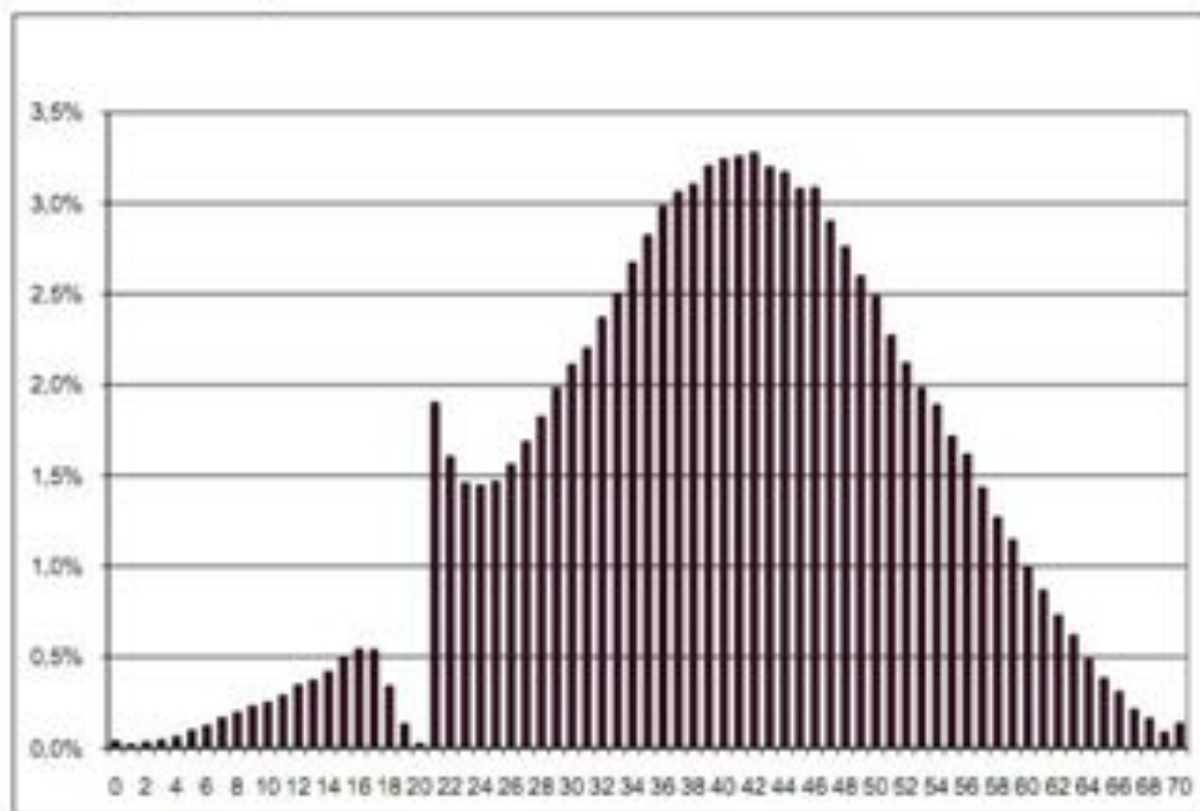


# Altruism?

Scores for a standardized test that students in Poland are required to pass before moving on in school

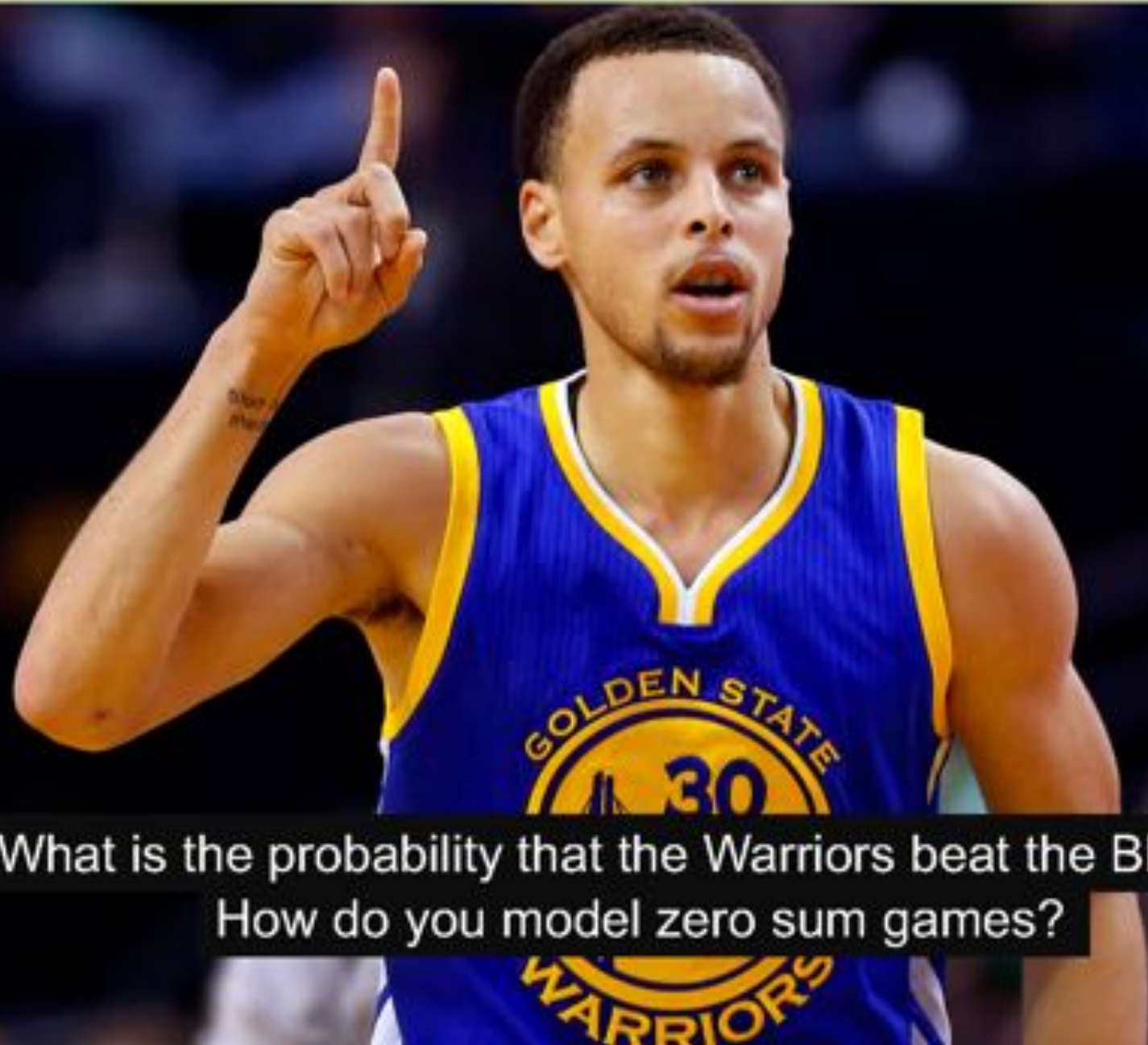
See if you can guess the minimum score to pass the test.

## 2.1. Poziom podstawowy



Wykres 1. Rozkład wyników na poziomie podstawowym

# Will the Warriors Win?



What is the probability that the Warriors beat the Blazers?  
How do you model zero sum games?

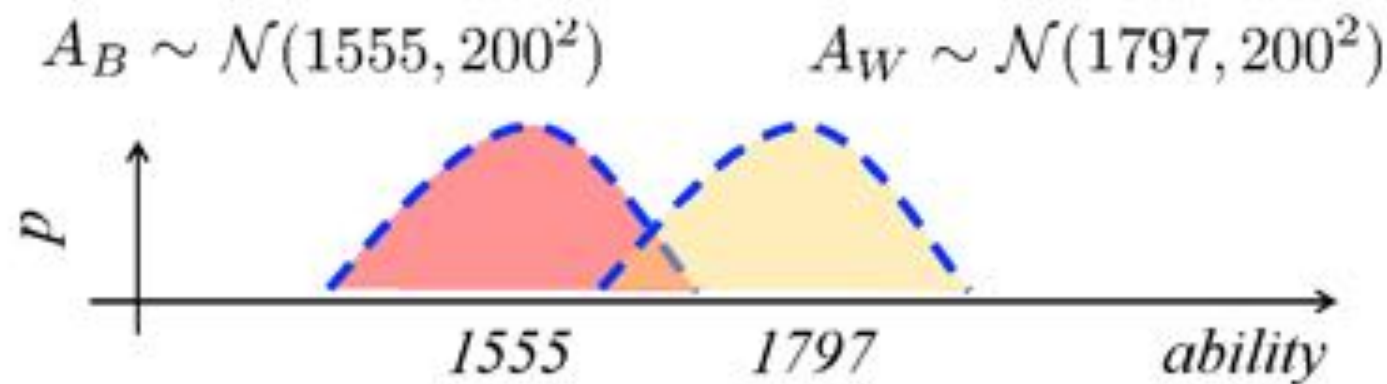
# ELO Ratings

How it works:

- Each team has an “ELO” score  $S$ , calculated based on their past performance.
- Each game, the team has ability  $A \sim \mathcal{N}(S, 200^2)$
- The team with the higher sampled ability wins.



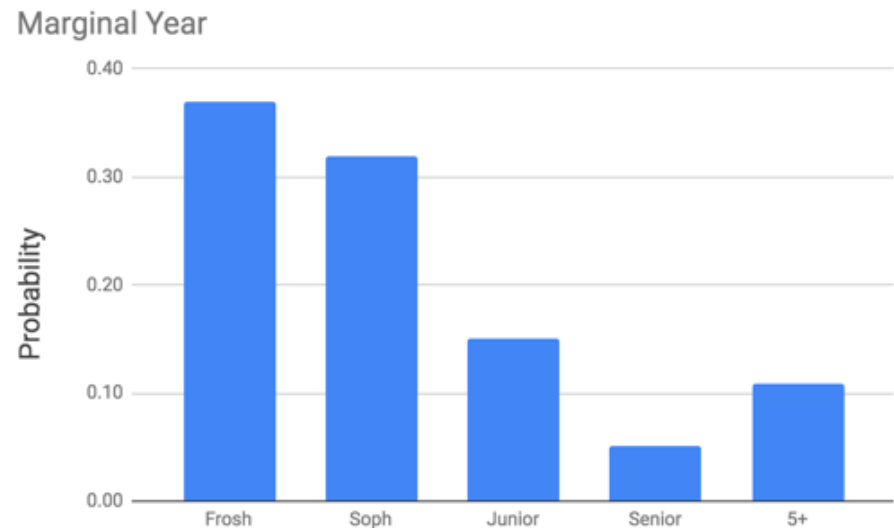
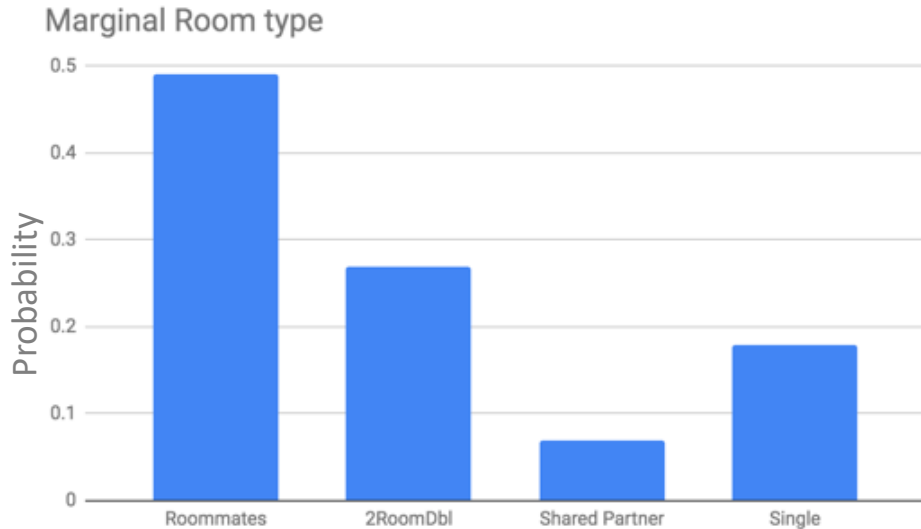
Arpad Elo



$$P(\text{Warriors win}) = P(A_W > A_B)$$

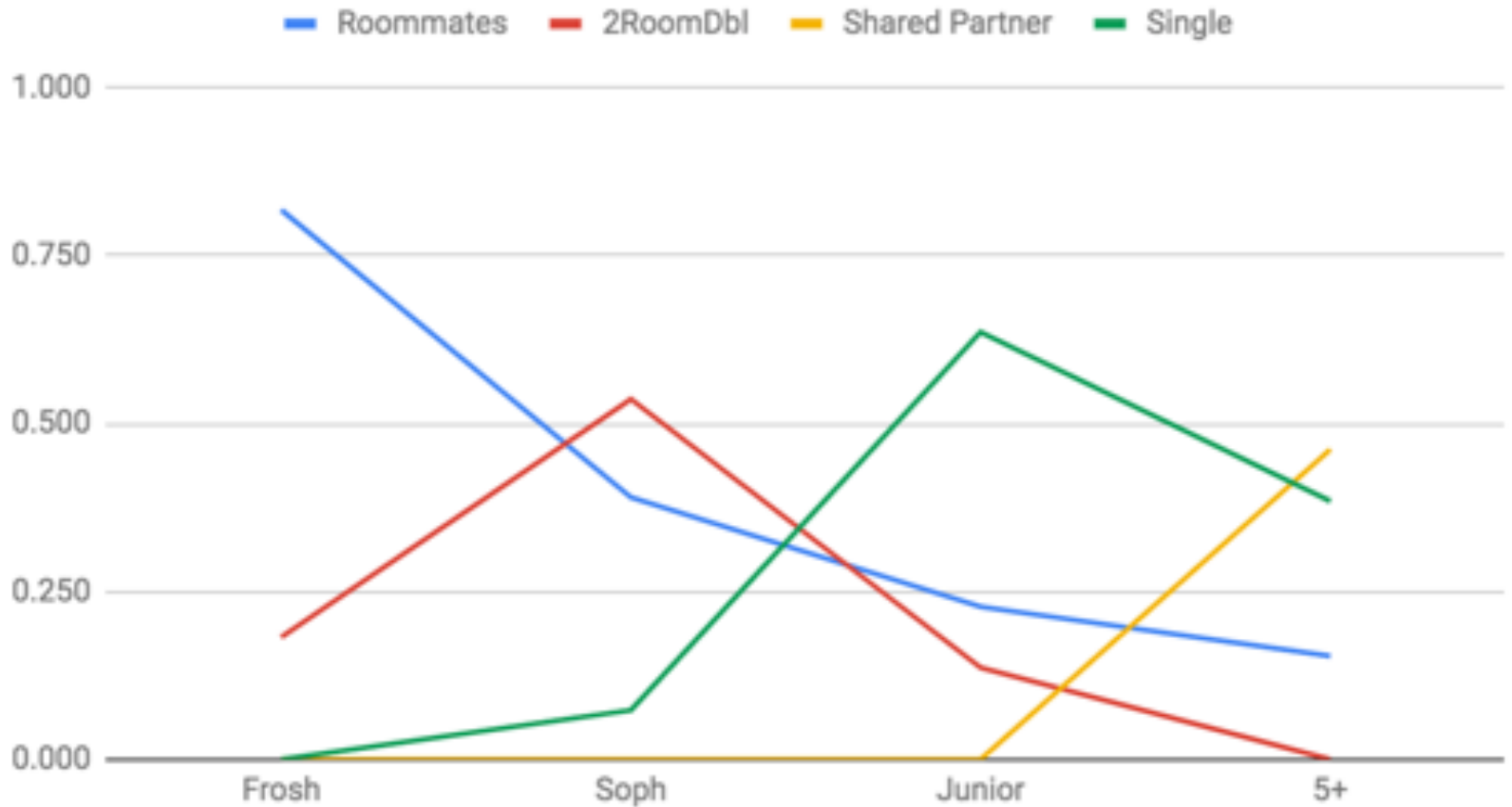
# Joint Probability Table

	Roommates	2RoomDbl	Shared Partner	Single	
Frosh	0.30	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.37
Soph	0.12	0.18	0.00	0.03	0.32
Junior	0.04	0.01	0.00	0.10	0.15
Senior	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.05
5+	0.02	0.00	0.05	0.04	0.11
	0.49	0.27	0.07	0.18	1.00



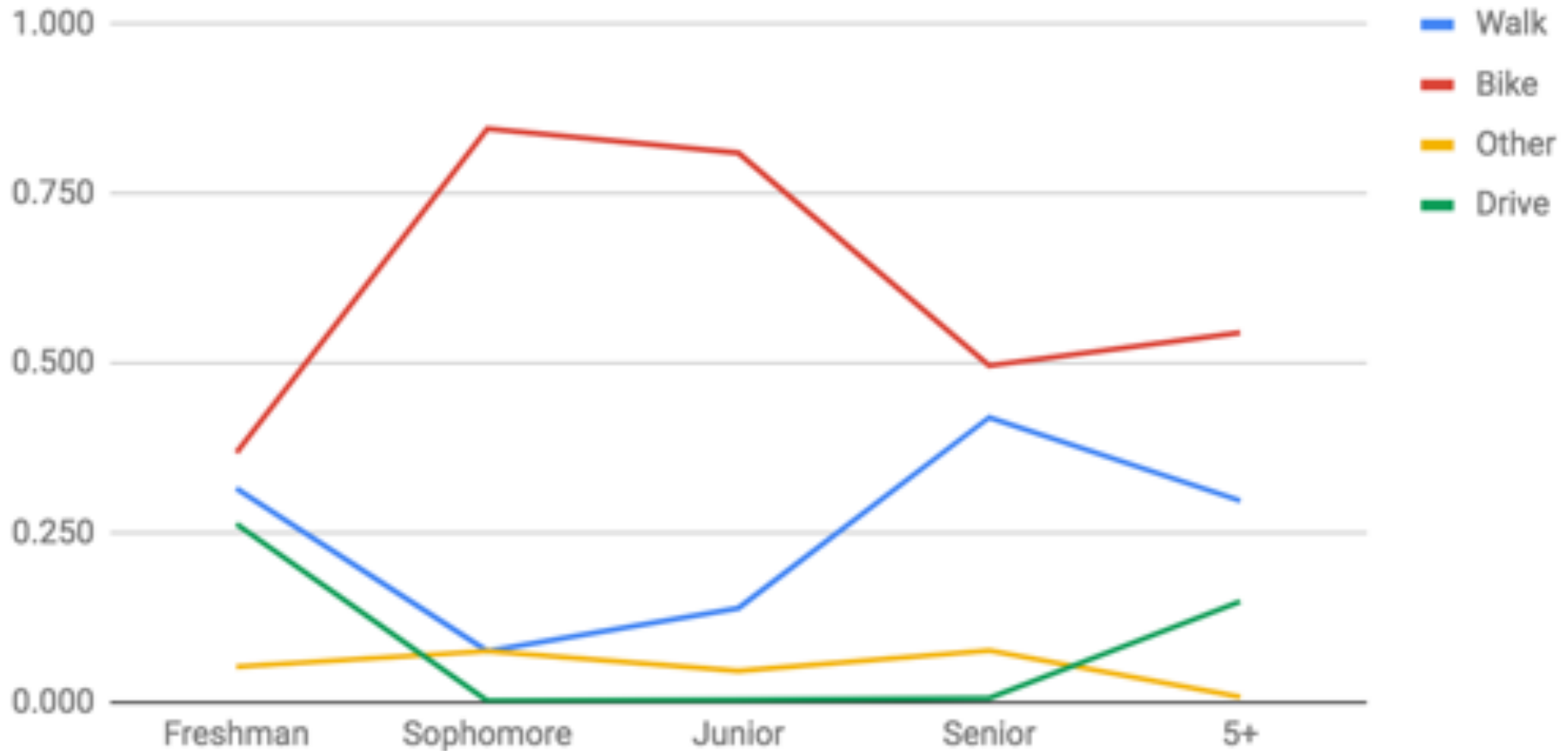
# Room | Year

P(Room | Year)



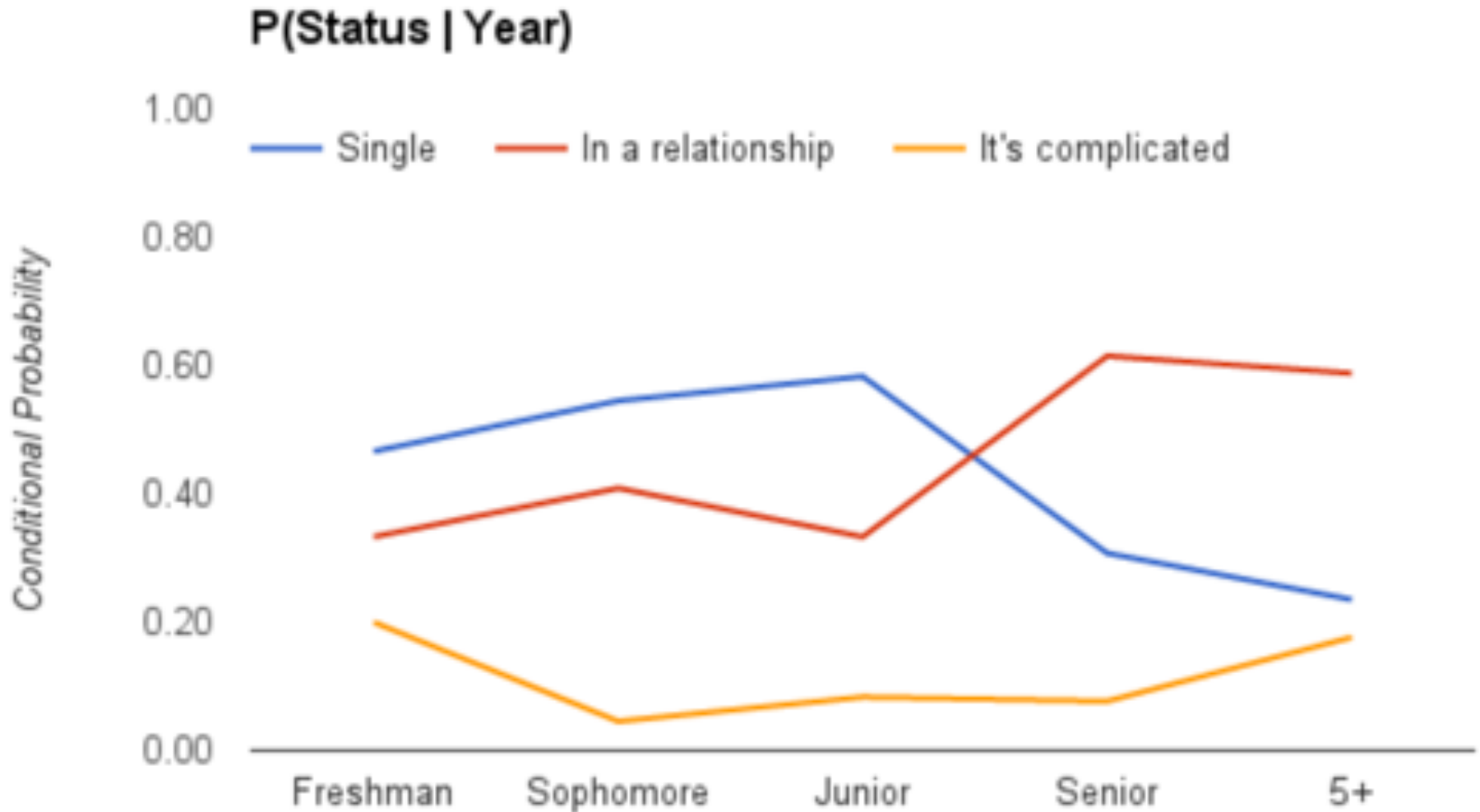
# Transport | Year

Transport | Year

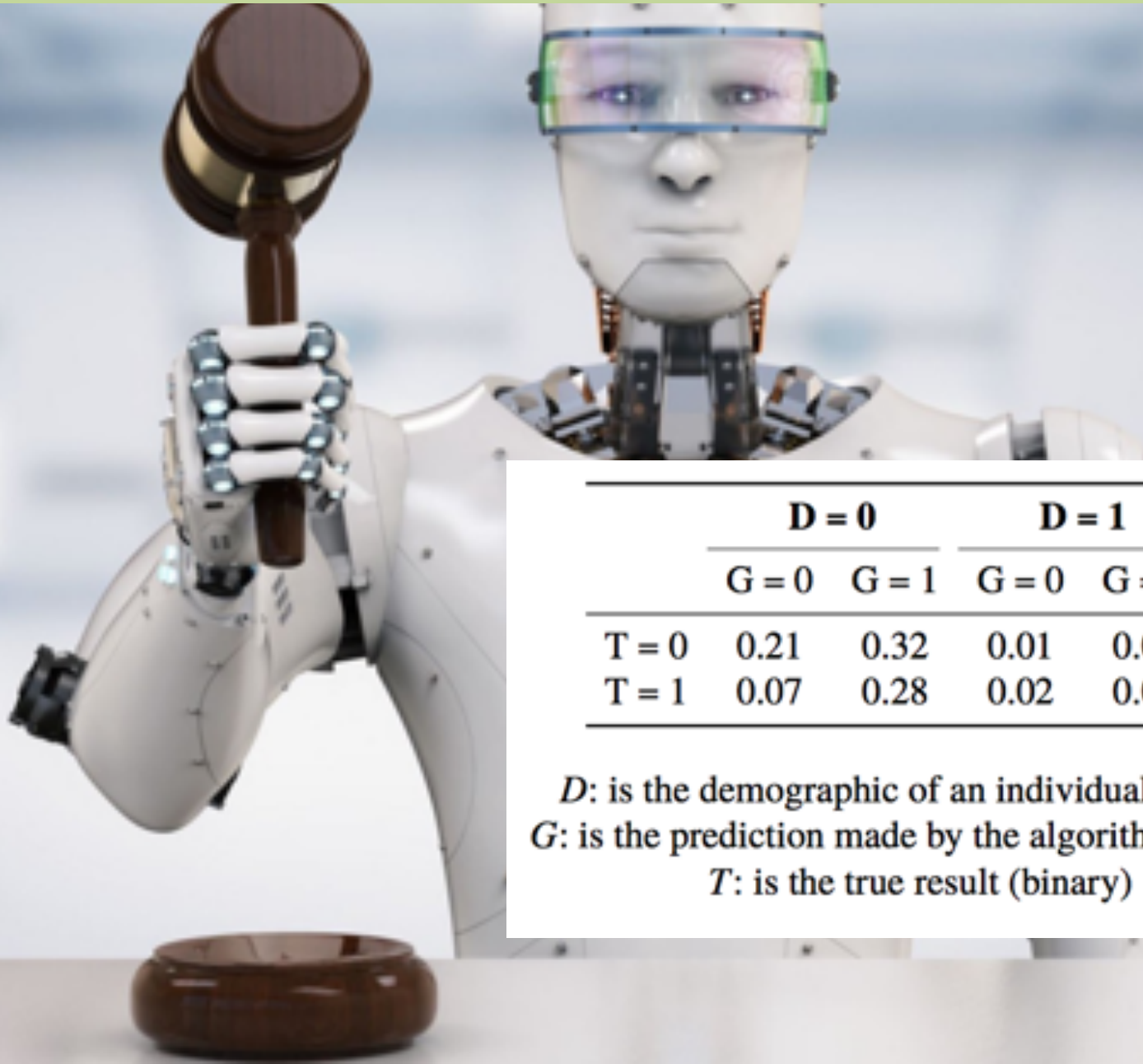


Conditional Probability Table

# Relationship Status | Year



# Algorithmic Fairness



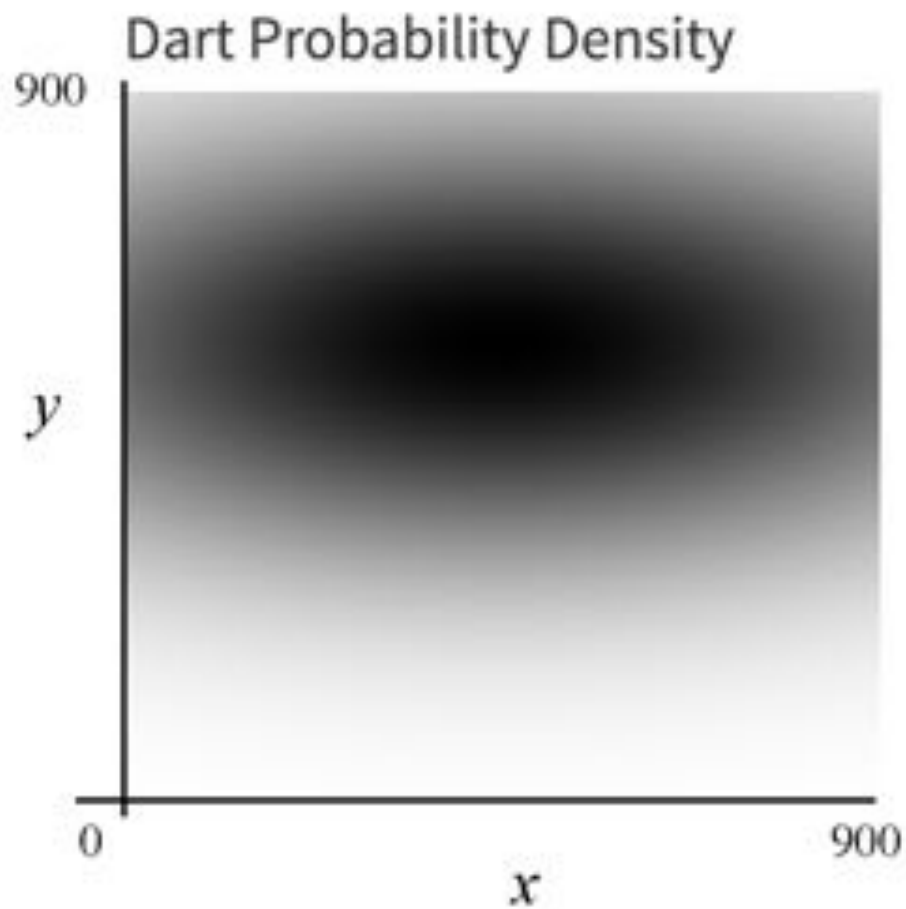
	<b>D = 0</b>		<b>D = 1</b>	
	<b>G = 0</b>	<b>G = 1</b>	<b>G = 0</b>	<b>G = 1</b>
<b>T = 0</b>	0.21	0.32	0.01	0.01
<b>T = 1</b>	0.07	0.28	0.02	0.08

*D*: is the demographic of an individual (binary)

*G*: is the prediction made by the algorithm (binary)

*T*: is the true result (binary)

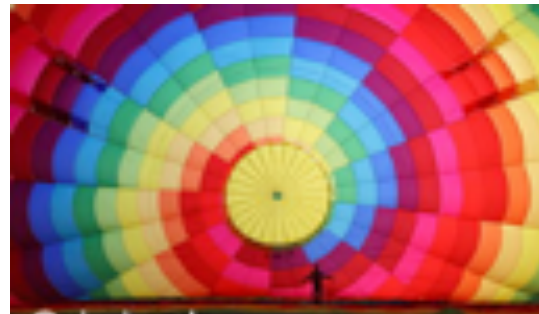
# Joint Dart Distribution



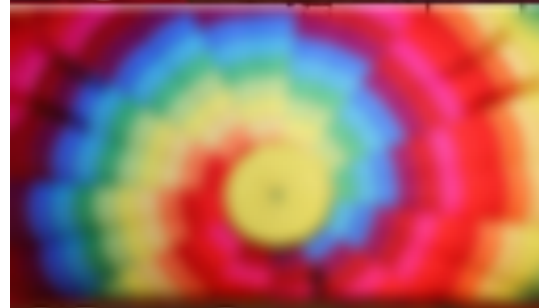
Dart Results



# Joint Dart Distribution



Original



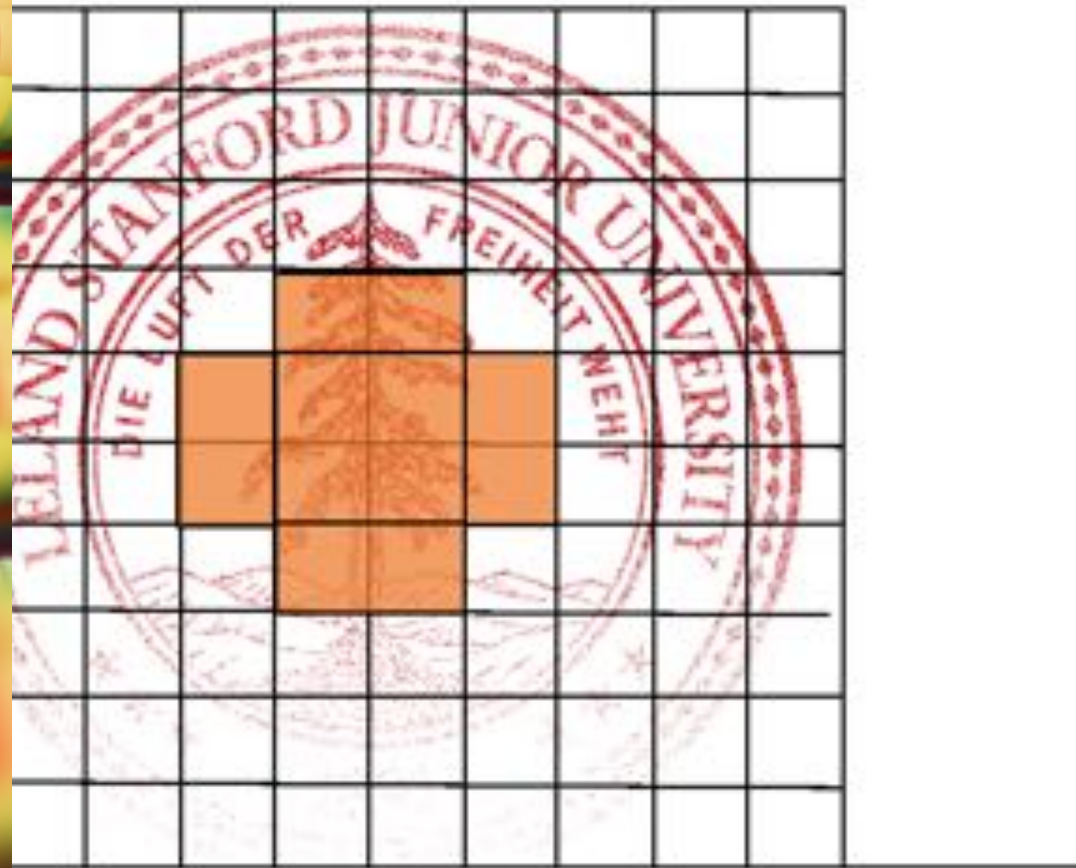
StDev = 3



StDev = 10

Results

$P(\text{hit within } R \text{ pixels of center})?$



Dart x location

# Multinomial

Example document:

“Pay for Viagra with a credit-card. Viagra is great.  
So are credit-cards. Risk free Viagra. Click for free.”

$n = 18$

$$P \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Viagra} = 2 \\ \text{Free} = 2 \\ \text{Risk} = 1 \\ \text{Credit-card: } 2 \\ \dots \\ \text{For} = 2 \end{array} \middle| \text{spam} \right) = \frac{n!}{2!2! \dots 2!} p_{\text{viagra}}^2 p_{\text{free}}^2 \dots p_{\text{for}}^2$$

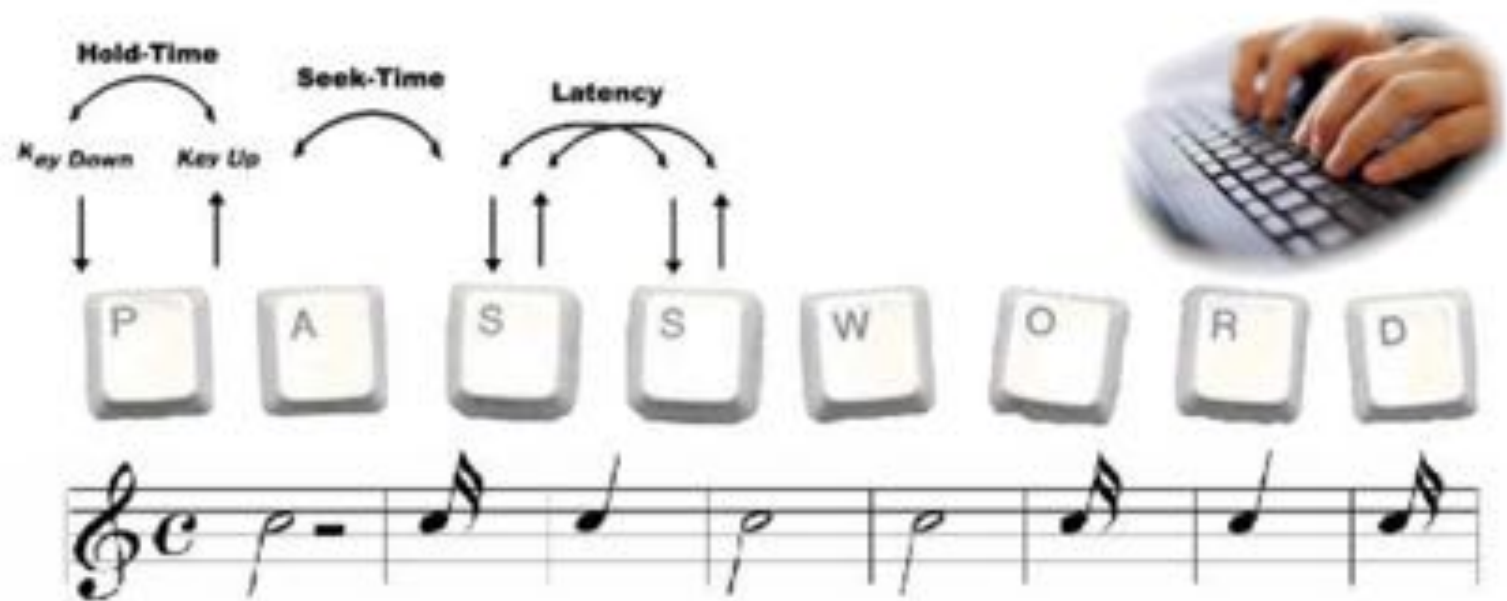
It's a Multinomial!

Probability of seeing  
this document | spam

The probability of a word in  
spam email being viagra



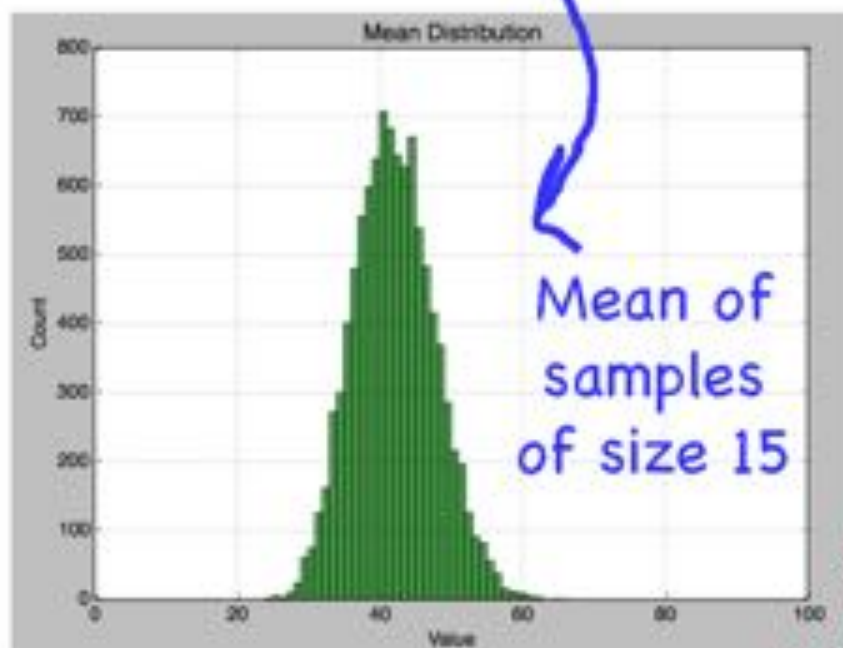
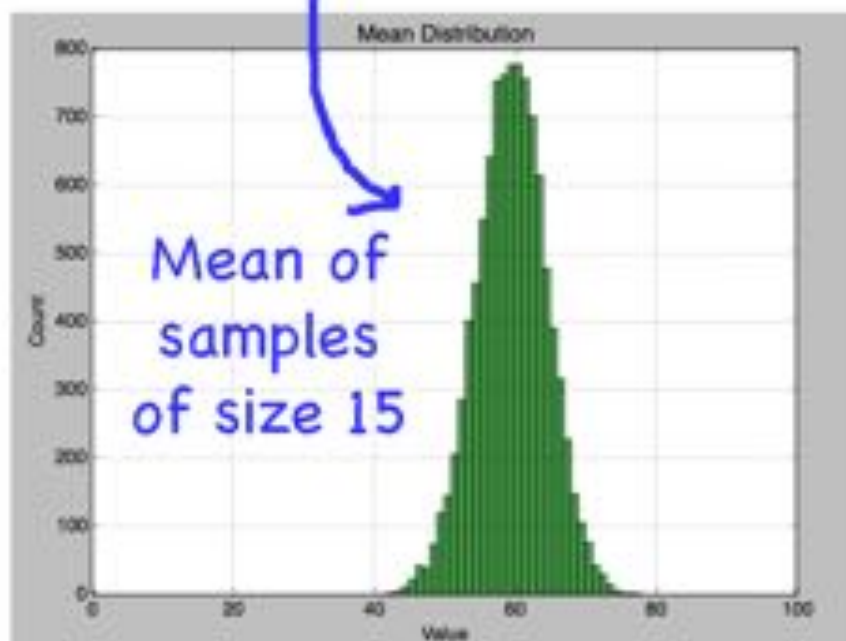
# Biometric Keystroke



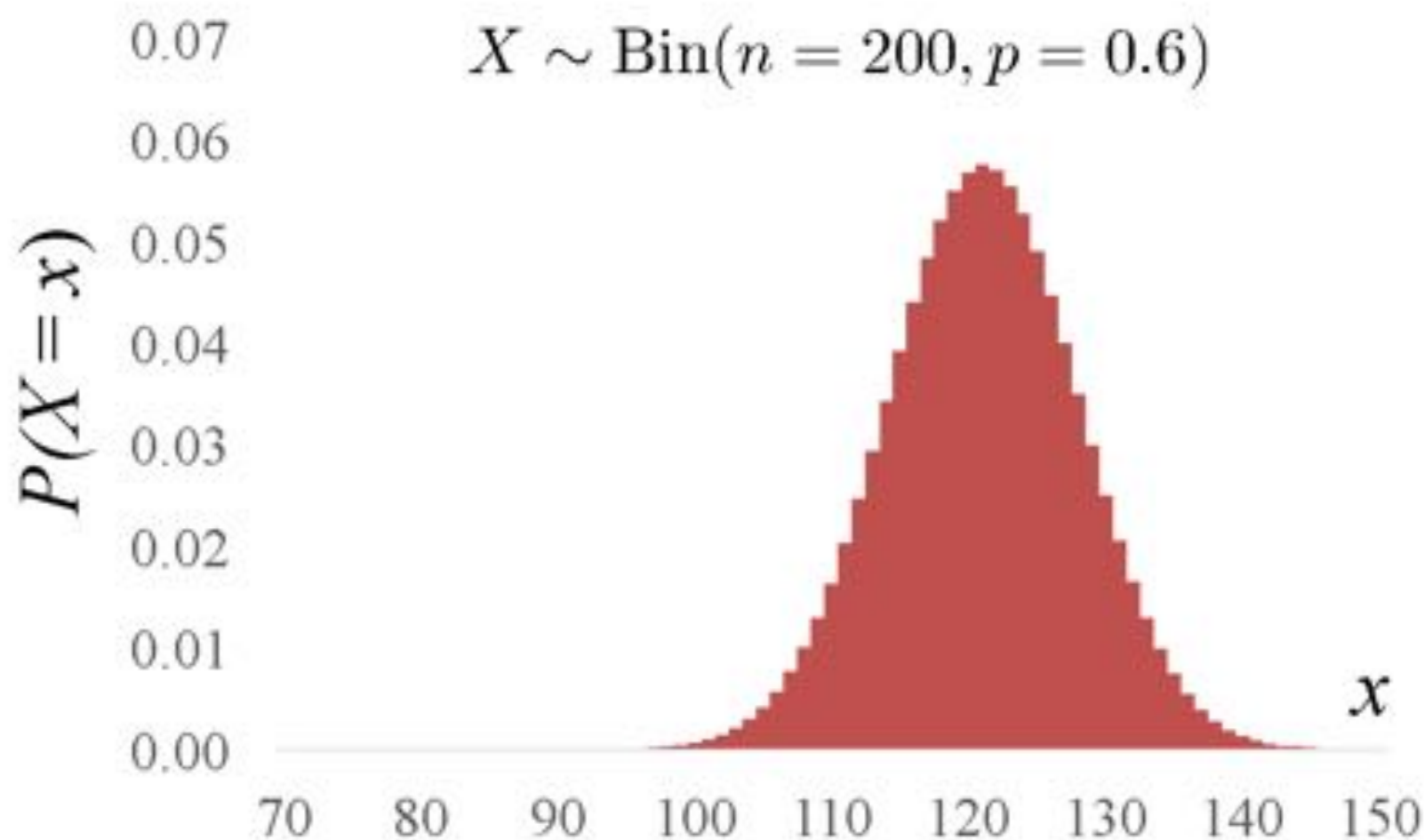


Mystery: Why is Binomial Normal?

# C.L.T. Explains This

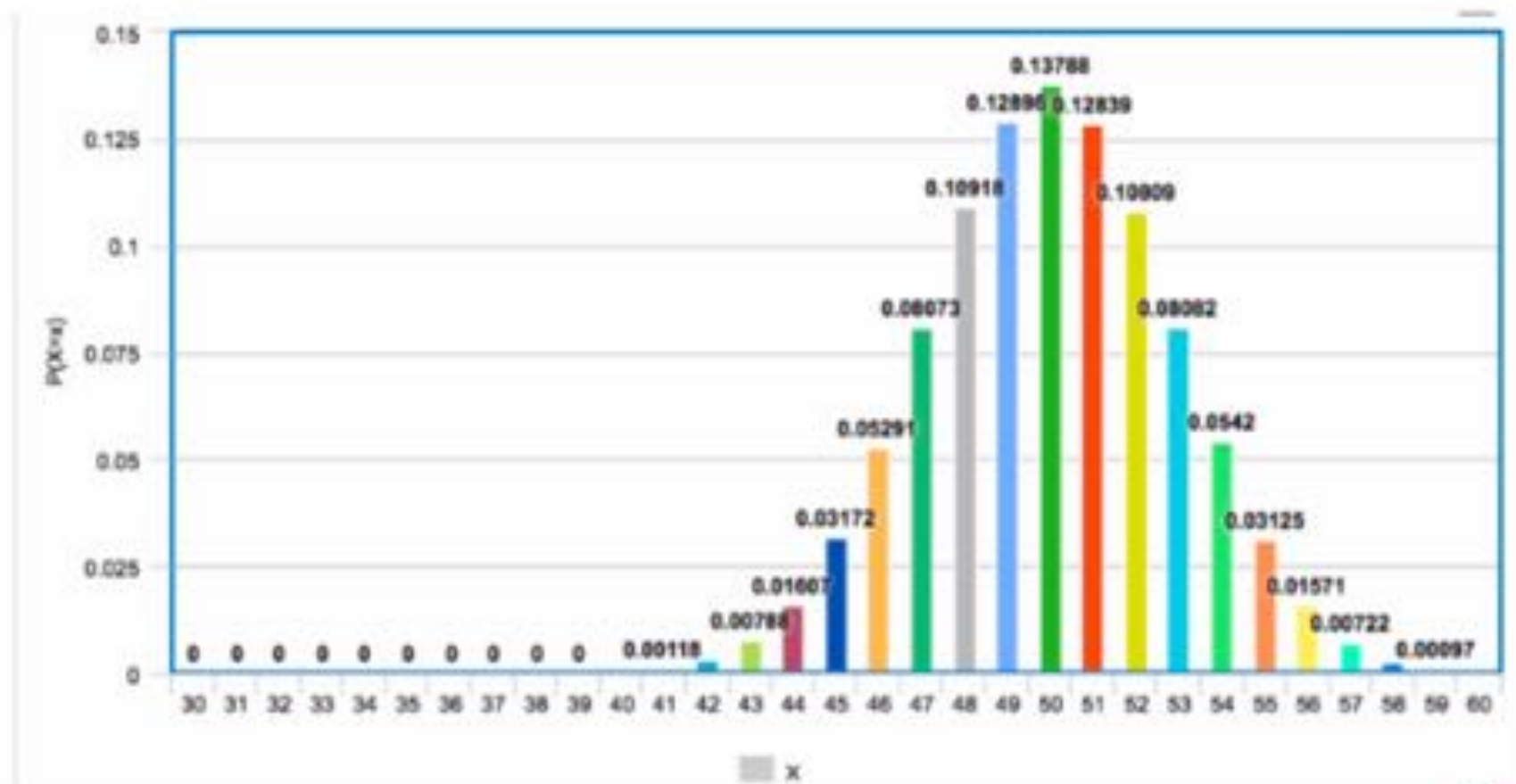


# C.L.T. Explains This



# C.L.T. Explains This

Problem set 5: What is the sum of IID uniforms?



# Machine Learning Example

- You want to know the true mean and variance of happiness in Buthan
  - But you can't ask everyone.
  - Randomly sample 200 people.
  - Your data looks like this:



Happiness = {72, 85, 79, 91, 68, ... , 71}

- The mean of all of those numbers is 83. Is that the true average happiness of Bhutanese people?

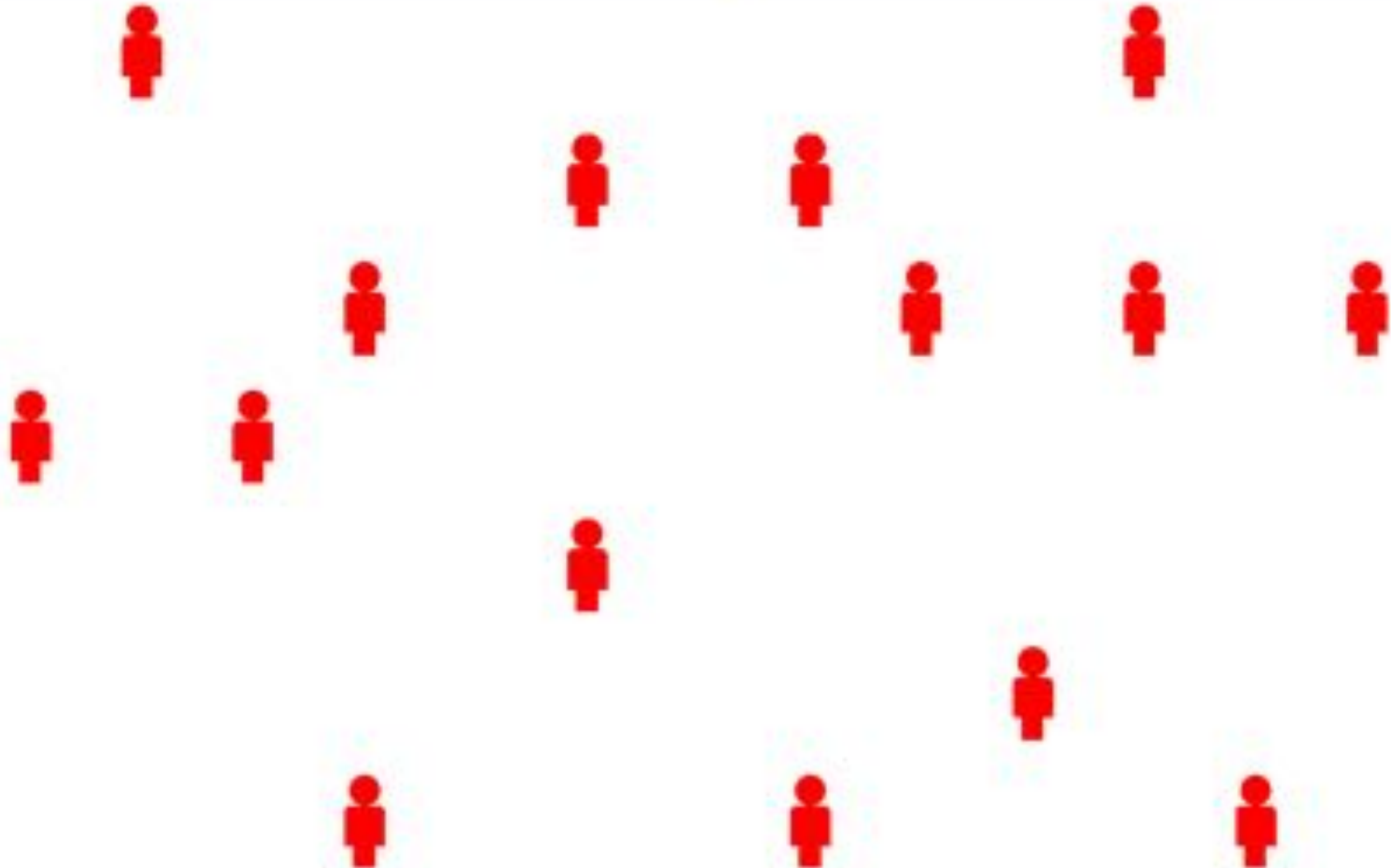
# Population



# Sample



# Sample

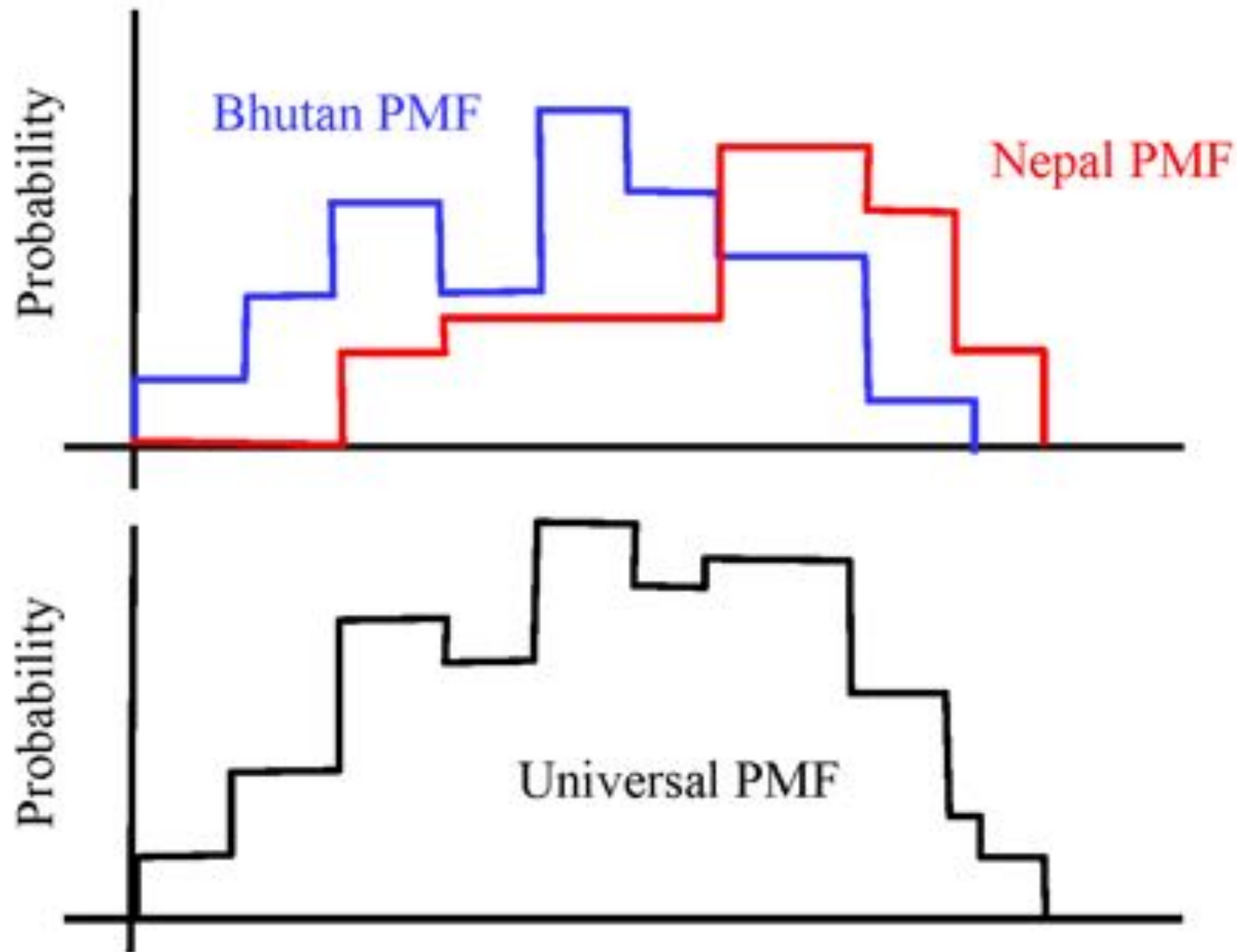


Collect one (or more) numbers from each person

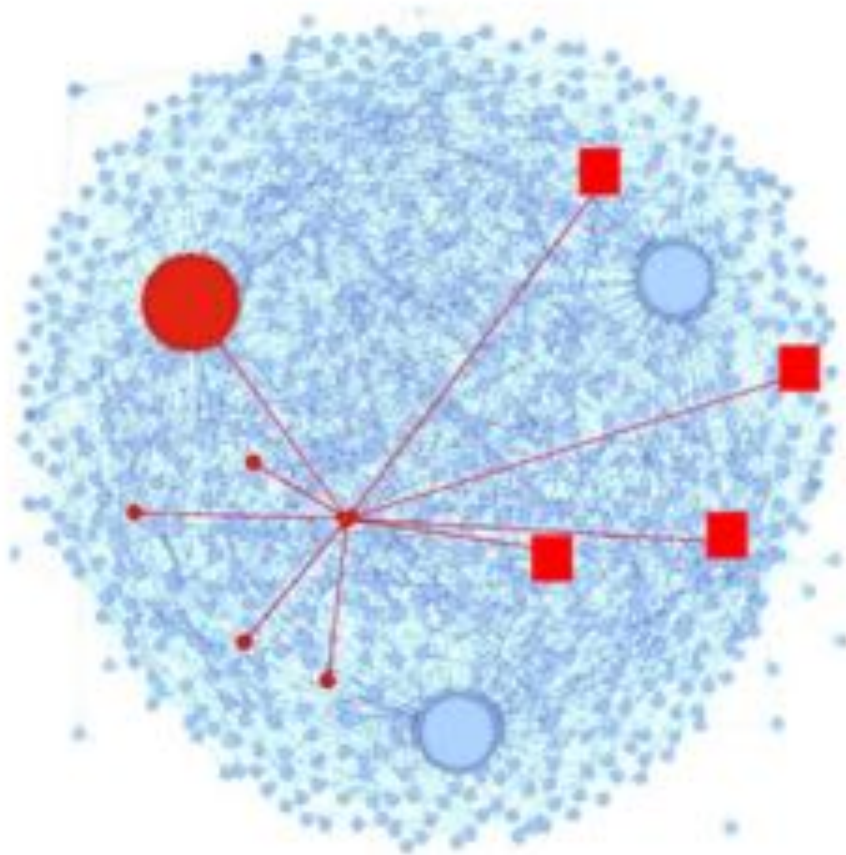
Bootstrap



# Universal Sample



# Peer Grading



Peer Grading on Coursera  
HCI.

31,067 peer grades for  
3,607 students.

# A/B Testing

## A



CONTROL

## B



VARIATION



# Lets Play!

Drug A

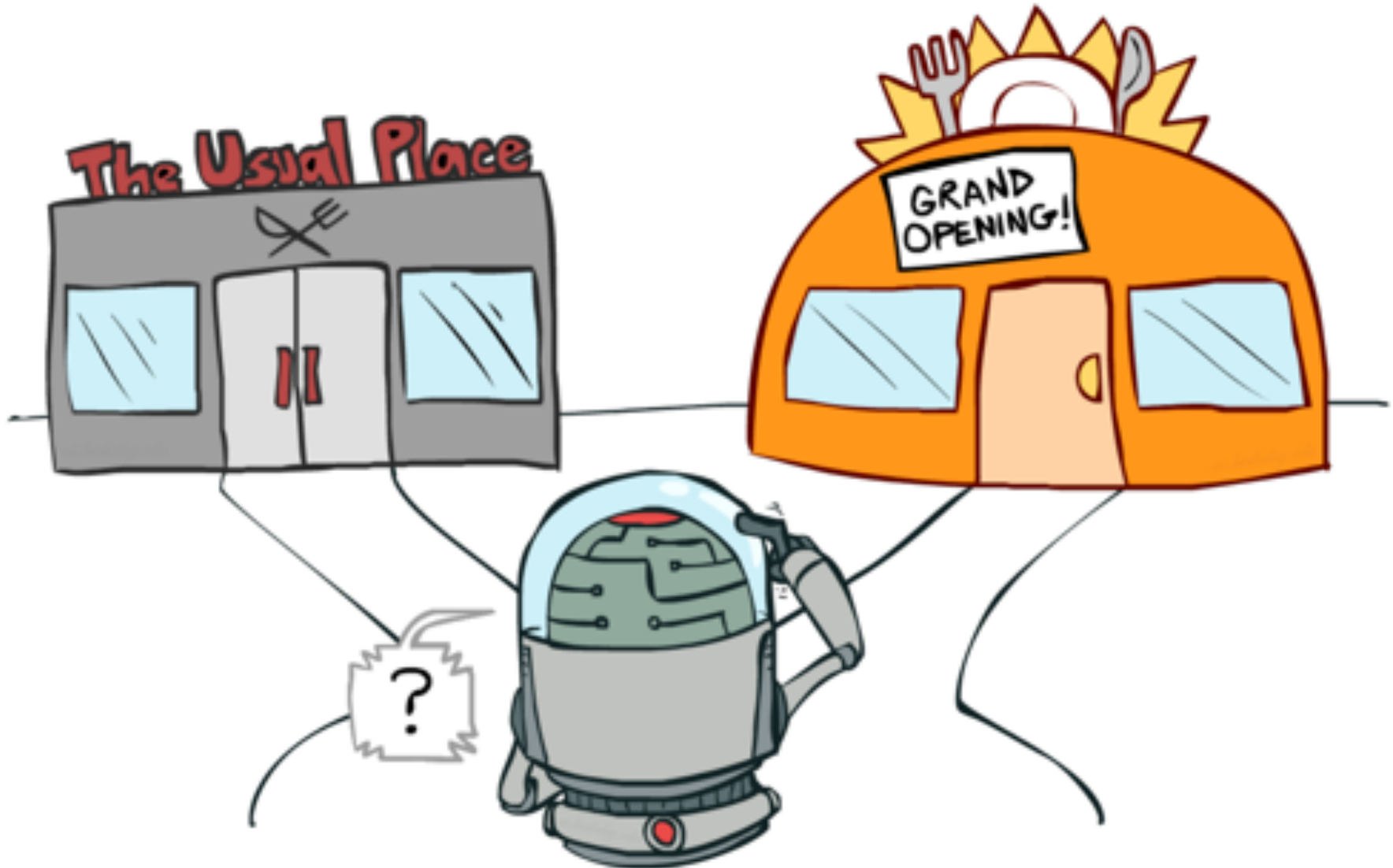


Drug B



Which one do you give to a patient?

# Thompson Sampling



# General “Inference”



# General “Inference”

WebMD Symptom Checker BETA

INFO

SYMPTOMS

QUESTIONS

CONDITIONS

DETAILS

TREATMENT

## Add more symptoms

Type your main symptom here

or Choose common symptoms

bloating

cough

diarrhea

dizziness

fatigue

fever

headache

muscle cramp

nausea

throat irritation

AGE 30

GENDER Male

MY SYMPTOMS

cough ✕

throat irritation ✕

sneezing ✕

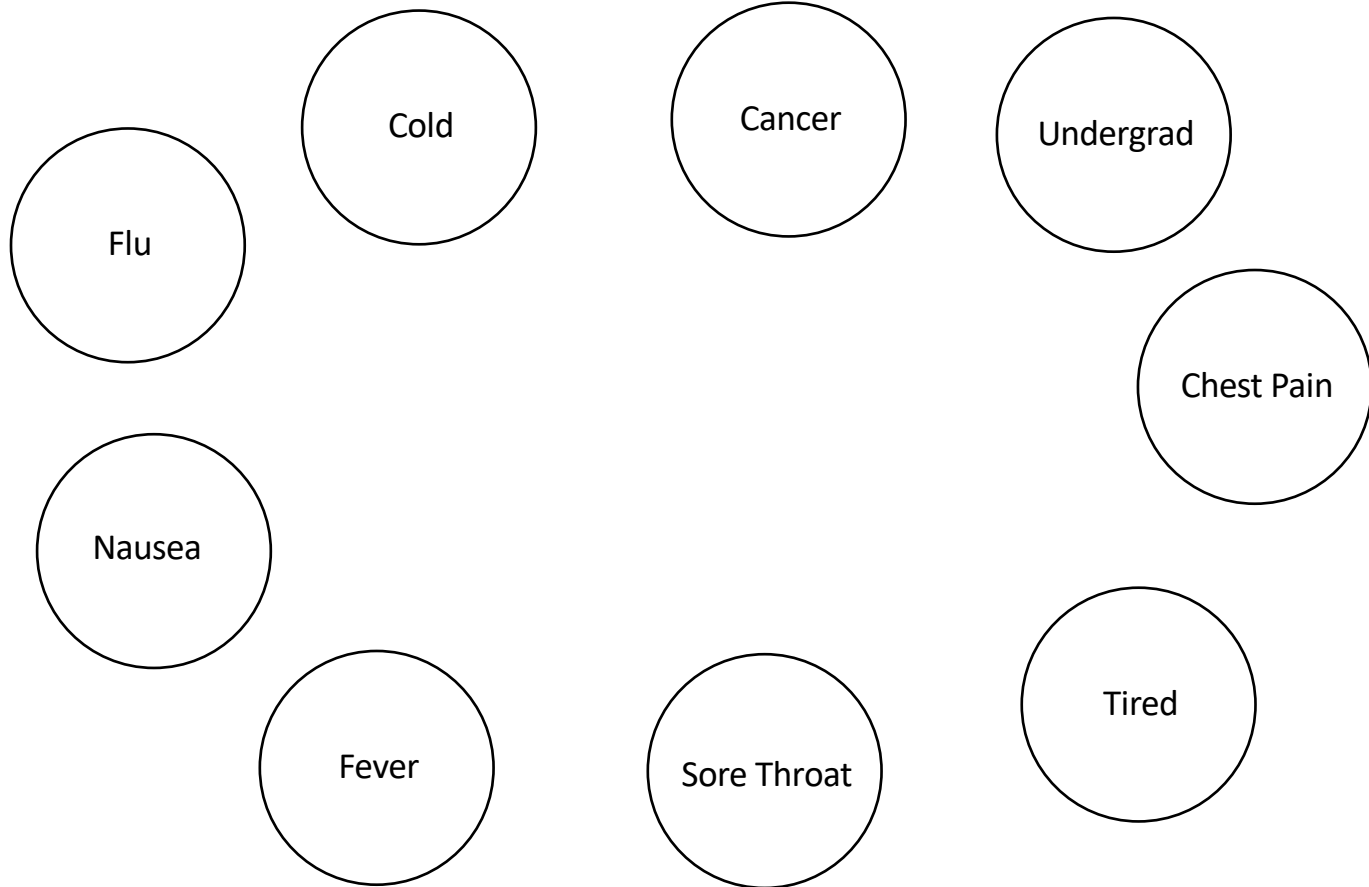
Results Strength: **MODERATE**

< Previous

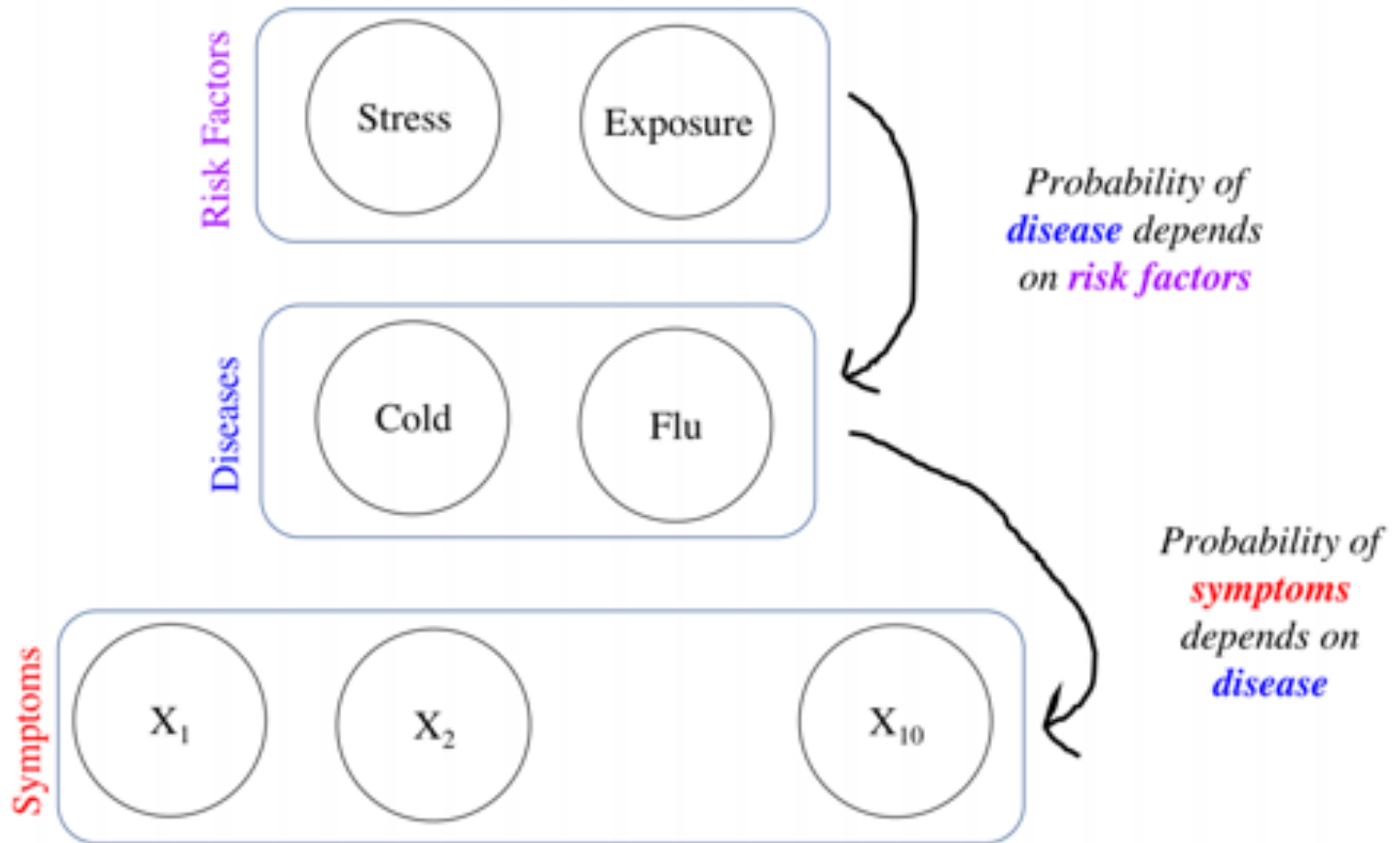
Continue >

Info

# Lots of Random Vars?



# Bayes Nets!

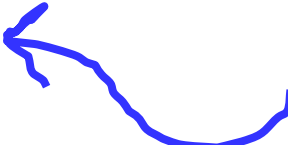


# Joint Sampling

```
3 N_SAMPLES = 100000
4
5 # Program: Joint Sa
6 # -----
7 # we can answer any
8 # with multivariate
9 # where conditioned
10 def main():
11     obs = getObserv
12     print 'Observat
13
14     samples = sampl
15     prob = probFluG
16     print 'Pr(Flu)
```

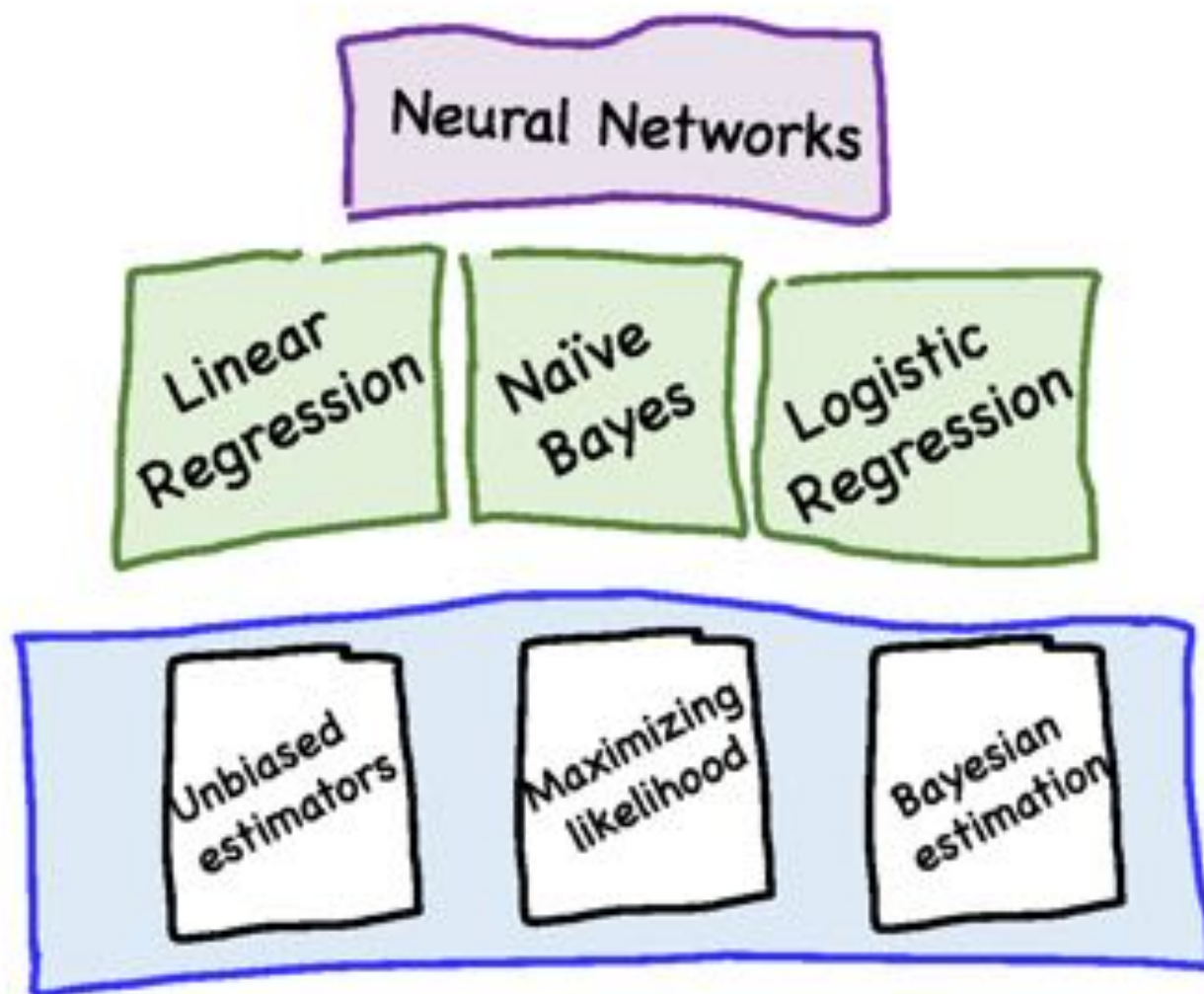
```
webMd -- -bash -- 38x22
[0, 0, 0, 0]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[1, 0, 1, 0]
[1, 1, 1, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 0]
[0, 0, 0, 0]
[0, 1, 1, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 0]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 0]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 0, 0, 0]
[1, 1, 1, 1]
[0, 0, 0, 0]
[0, 0, 0, 0]
[1, 1, 1, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 0]
Observation = [None, None, None, 1]
Pr(Flu | Obs) = 0.140635888502
>
```

Each one of these is one posterior sample:



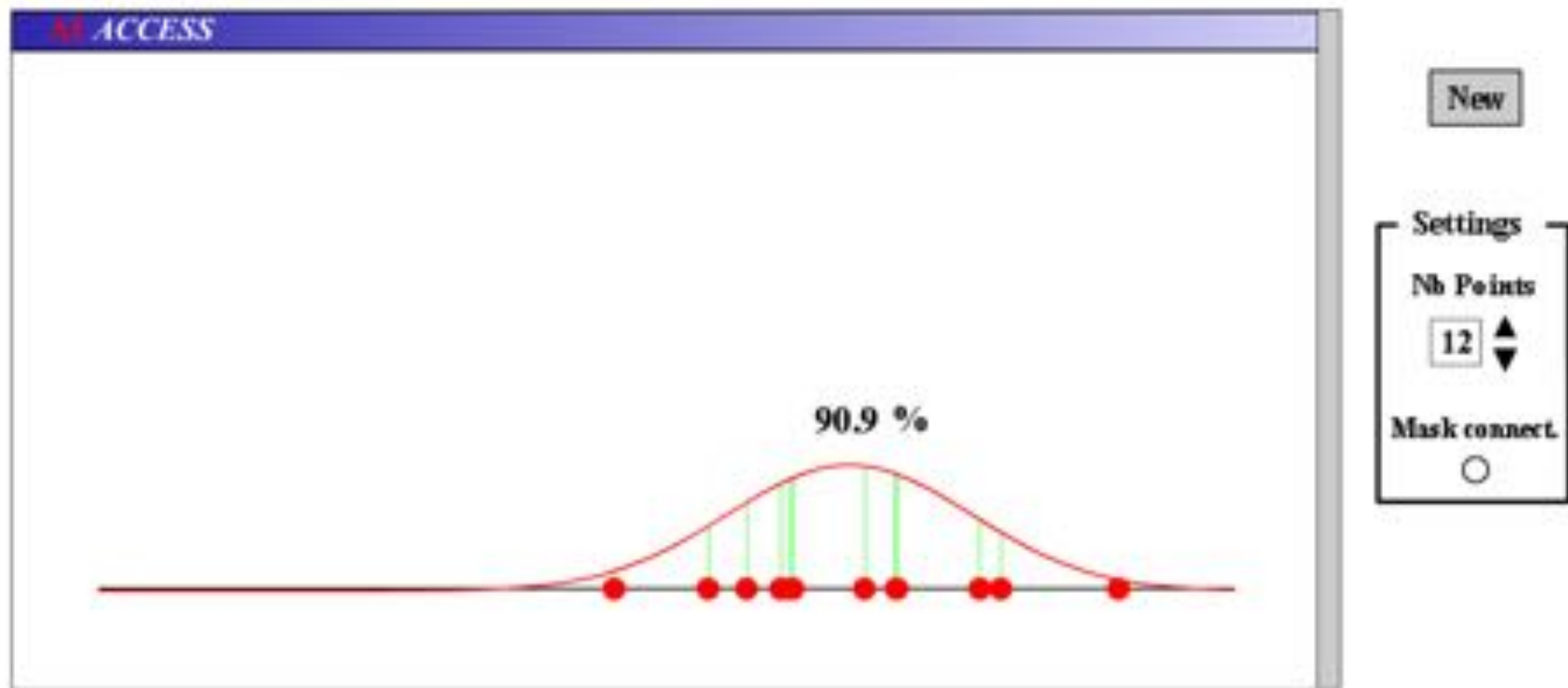
[Flu, Ugrad, Fever, Tired]

# Towards Machine Learning



# MLE: Likelihood of Data

## Likelihood of Data from a Normal



# MAP: Most Probable Parameter

So good to see  
you again!



# Machine Learning

Heart



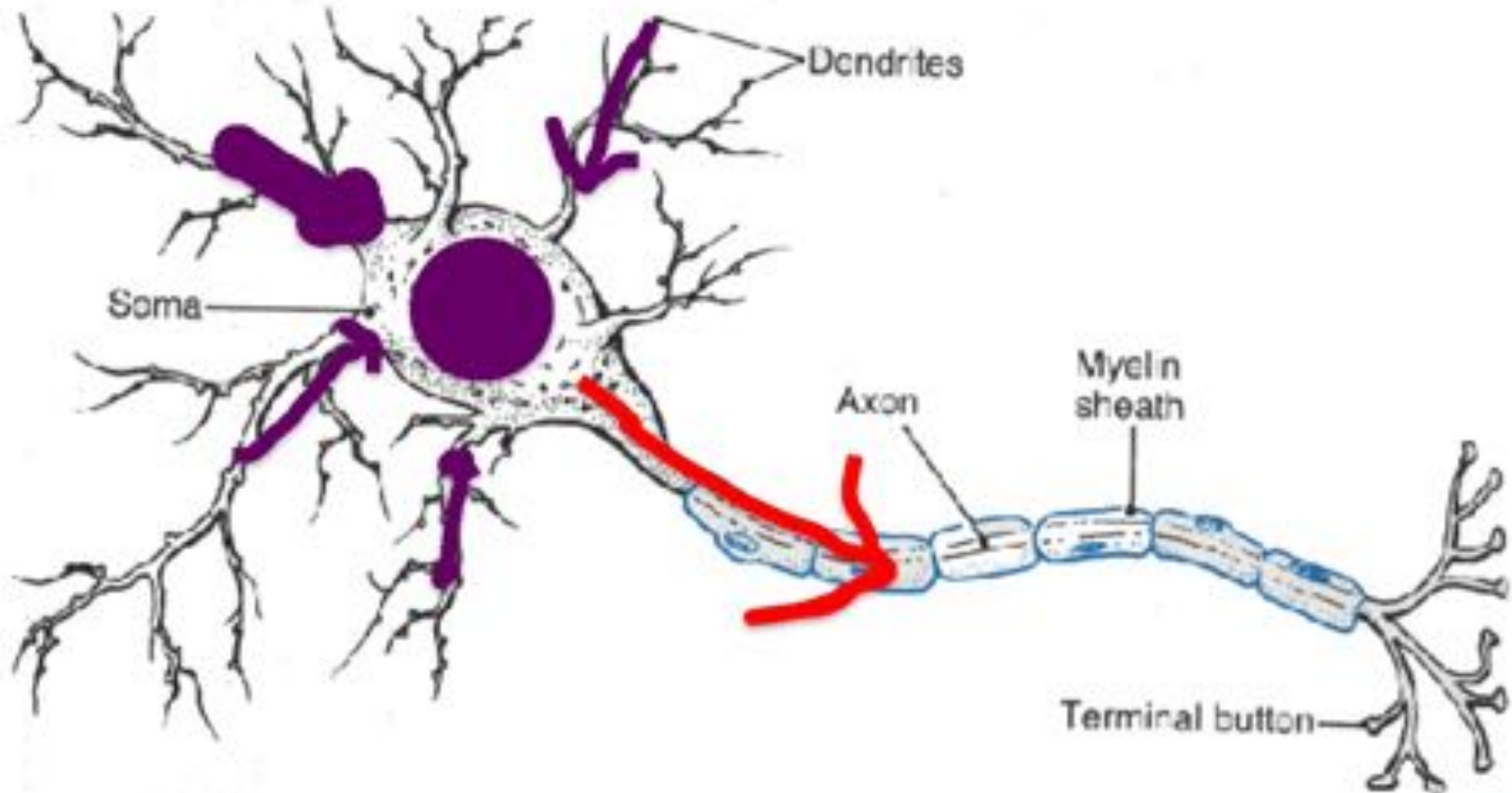
Ancestry



Netflix



# Logistic Regression

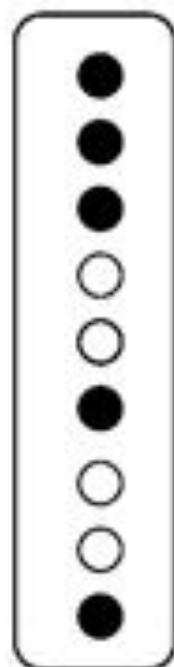
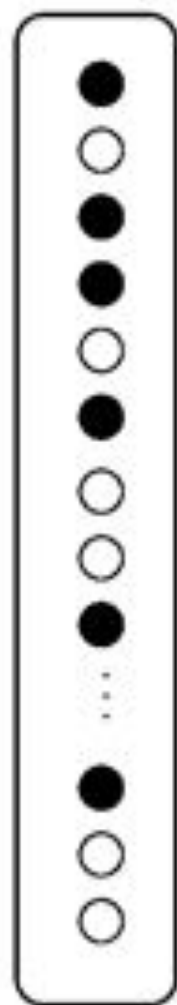


# Deep Learning

Layer  $x$

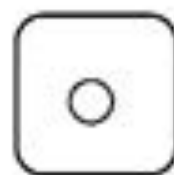
Layer  $h$

Layer  $\hat{y}$



$$LL(\theta) = y \log \hat{y}$$

$$+ (1 - y) \log[1 - \hat{y}]$$



$$\hat{y} = \sigma \left( \sum_{j=0}^{m_h} \mathbf{h}_j \theta_j^{(\hat{y})} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{h}_j = \sigma \left( \sum_{i=0}^{m_x} \mathbf{x}_i \theta_{i,j}^{(h)} \right)$$



# Thomas Bayes

- Rev. Thomas Bayes (1702 –1761) was a British mathematician and Presbyterian minister



- He looked remarkably similar to Charlie Sheen
  - But that's not important right now...

# Jacob Bernoulli

- Jacob Bernoulli (1654-1705), also known as “James”, was a Swiss mathematician



- One of many mathematicians in Bernoulli family
- The Bernoulli Random Variable is named for him
- He is my *academic* great<sup>12</sup>-grandfather

# Simeon-Denis Poisson

- Simeon-Denis Poisson (1781-1840) was a prolific French mathematician



- Published his first paper at 18, became professor at 21, and published over 300 papers in his life
  - He reportedly said *“Life is good for only two things, discovering mathematics and teaching mathematics.”*

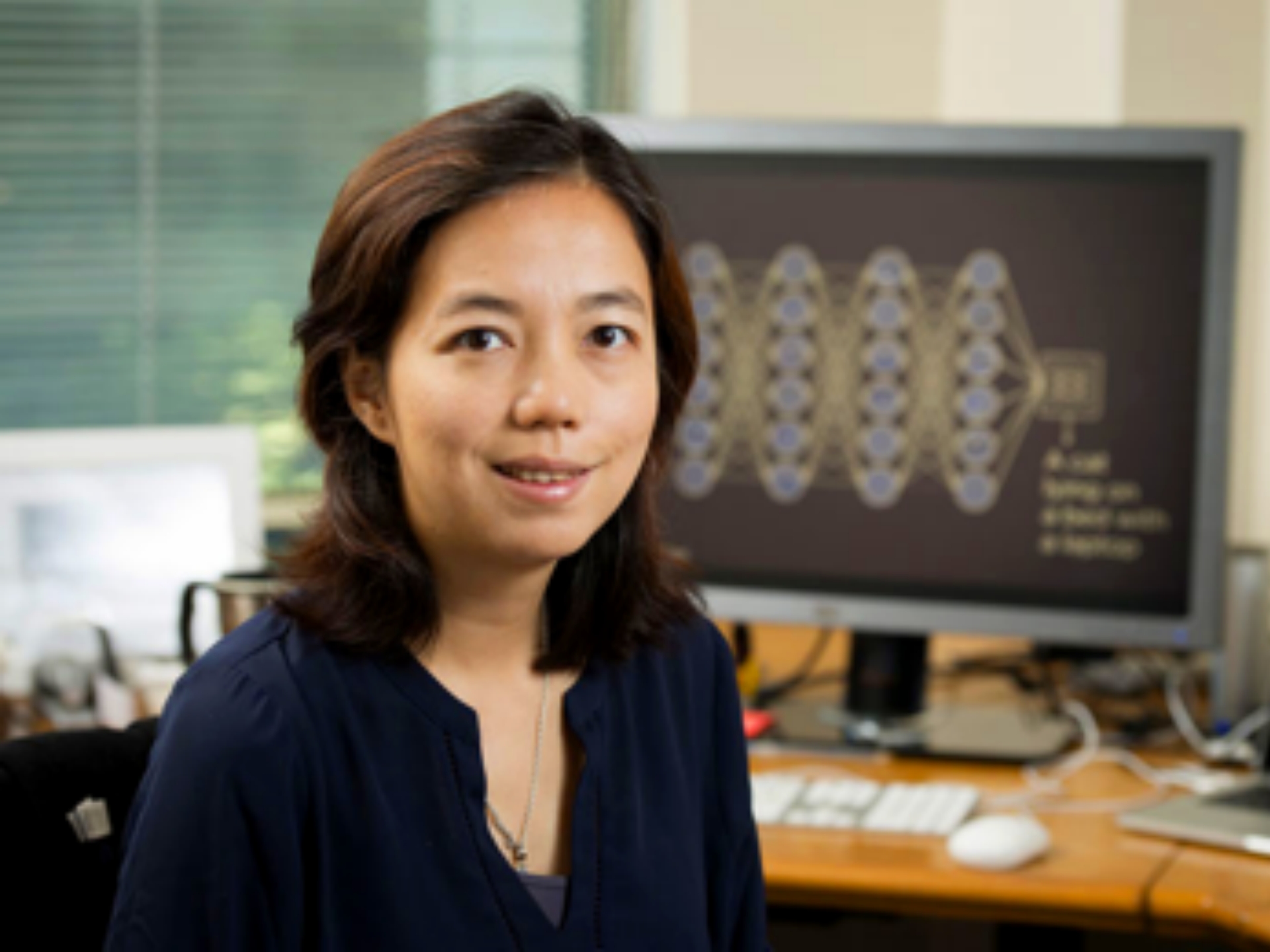
# Carl Friedrich Gauss

- Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777-1855) was a remarkably influential German mathematician

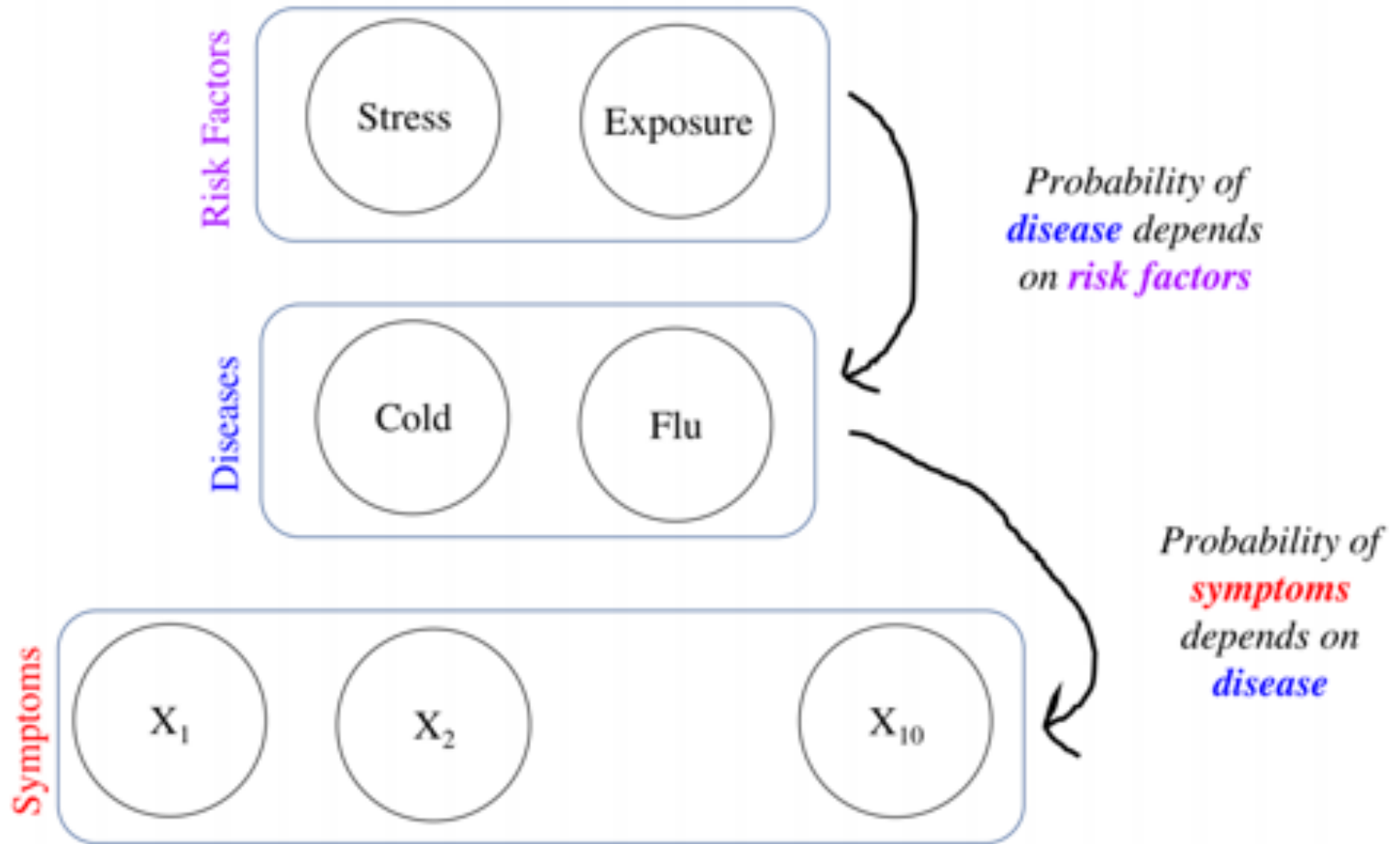


- Started doing groundbreaking math as teenager
  - Did not invent Normal distribution, but popularized it
- He looked like Martin Sheen
  - Who is, of course, Charlie Sheen's father





# Learn Bayes Nets *Params*?



\* That is what we did with Naïve Bayes

# Learn Bayes Nets *Structure*?



\* That is what we did with Ebola Bats!

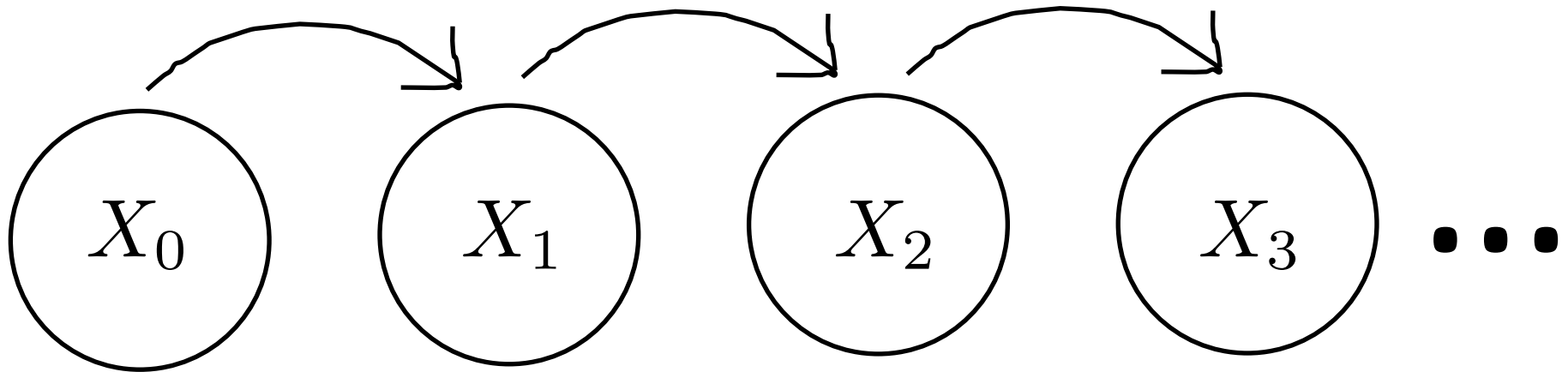
# Missing Data?

**Missing Not at Random:** You collect data on whether or not people intend to vote for Ayesha, a candidate in an upcoming election. You send an electronic poll to 100 randomly chosen people. You assume all 100 responses are IID.

User Response	Count
Responded that they will vote for Ayesha	40
Responded that they will <b>not</b> vote for Ayesha	45
Did not respond	15

\* Scratched the surface in section

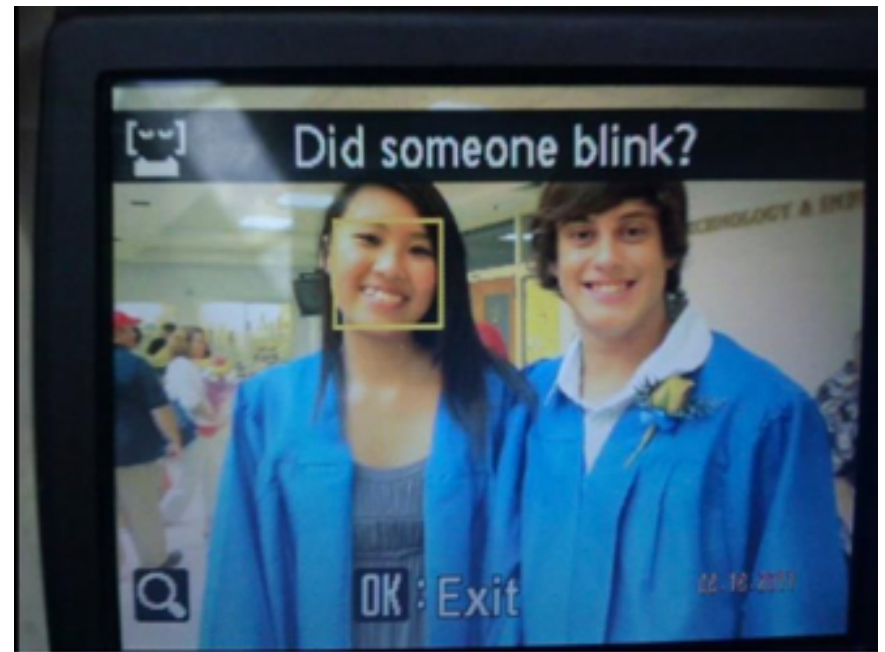
# Temporal Patterns?



\* Special type of Bayesian Network called a **Markov Network**




# Ethics and AI

# Ethics and Datasets?




grandmother - Google Search x +

https://www.google.com/search?tbm=isch&source=hp&blw=1098&bih=698&ei=...


Google **grandmother**   

All **Images** News Videos Books More Settings Tools SafeSearch


cartoon clipart birthday sympathy rest in peace happy birthday mothers day grandfather




Grandmother Wuffs Down Sandwich ...  
local.theonon.com




Say "I am Not a Grandmother ..."  
cityendme.com




Grandmother Images, Stock Photo...  
shutterstock.com




Ethnic Names for Grandmothers in Other...  
verywellfamily.com




In praise of grandmothers | Ireland's Own  
irelandown.ie




Social Media: Let's Talk About Paper ...  
spendeban.com




My Grandmother Physical Intimacy ...  
lifestyle.chokhole.com









Italian Grandmother Doesn't Have Heart ...  
local.theonon.com



Eulogy for my Grandmother...  
mompandgm.com



Of grandmothers and beneficiaries  
bat-bean-bean.blogspot.com



https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http%3A%2F%2Fww...

# Recidivism Risk?

## COMPAS:

- Predicts whether or not a convict will recidivate (Logistic Regression-esque)
- Judges look at risk scores when making parole decisions
- Based on a survey with questions like “*does a hungry person have the right to steal?*”
- Does not take race into account *directly*
- Has same accuracy across races:
  - $P(\text{Correct}|\text{White}) = P(\text{Correct}|\text{Black})$

# Algorithmic Auditing

## Pro Publica Audit:

- Algorithm is *biased* because it has higher *false positive rates* for black people.
- The algorithm lacks “*Parity*”
- Even though race wasn’t taken into account directly, many other features are proxies for race, e.g. “*Number of Juvenile Misdemeanors*”
- I recommend reading the article yourself:  
<https://www.propublica.org/article/machine-bias-risk-assessments-in-criminal-sentencing>

# An Impossible Task?

20+ definitions of fairness, but three popular ones are:

- Anti-classification (no protected characteristics included)
- Classification Parity (same FP/FN rates)
- Calibration (Outcomes independent from race conditioned on risk scores)

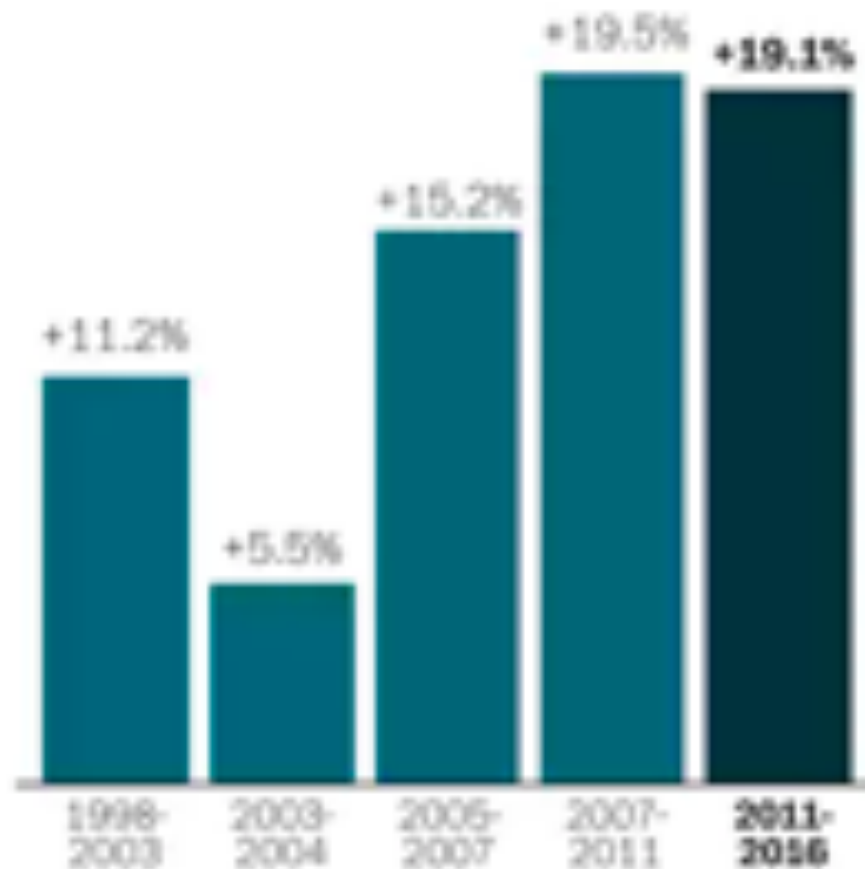
You literally cannot have all three :/

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1808.00023.pdf>

# THE DATA IS BIASED

## Same crimes, different times

Percentage difference in sentence length for black men, versus white men with similar backgrounds who commit the same crimes, by time period



# THE JUDGE IS AN ALGORITHM



# What about college admissions??



Math can't solve this problem...

...but it can help us reason about it.

Much more to Ethics + AI

# Open Problems

# One Shot Learning

Single training example:

ॐ

Test set:

ॐ  
ॐ  
ॐ

ॐ  
ॐ  
ॐ

ॐ  
ॐ  
ॐ

ॐ  
ॐ  
ॐ

# Bayesian Program Learning

i)

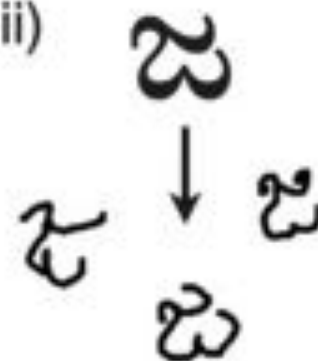
ಜ

ಠ	ಇ	ಉ	ಏ	ಐ
ಹ	ಲ	ಗ	ಜ	ಝ
ಞ	ಶ	ಷ	ಠ	ಡ
ಢ	ಝ	ಲ	ಠ	ಡ

iii)



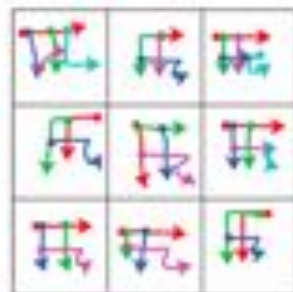
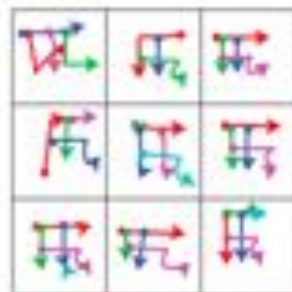
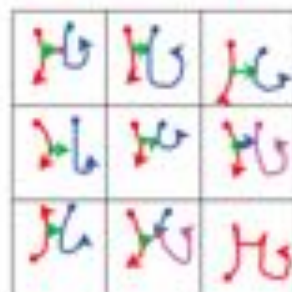
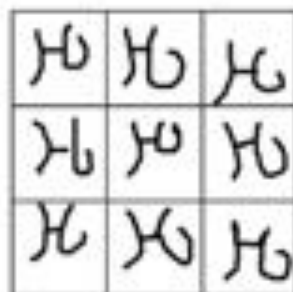
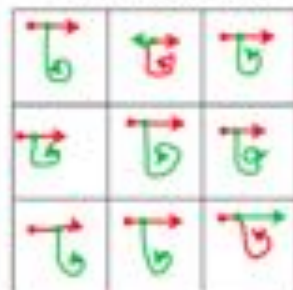
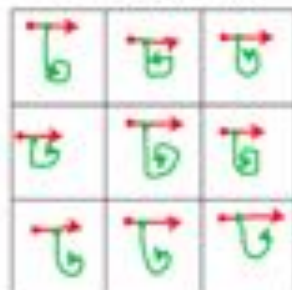
ii)



B Human drawings

Human parses

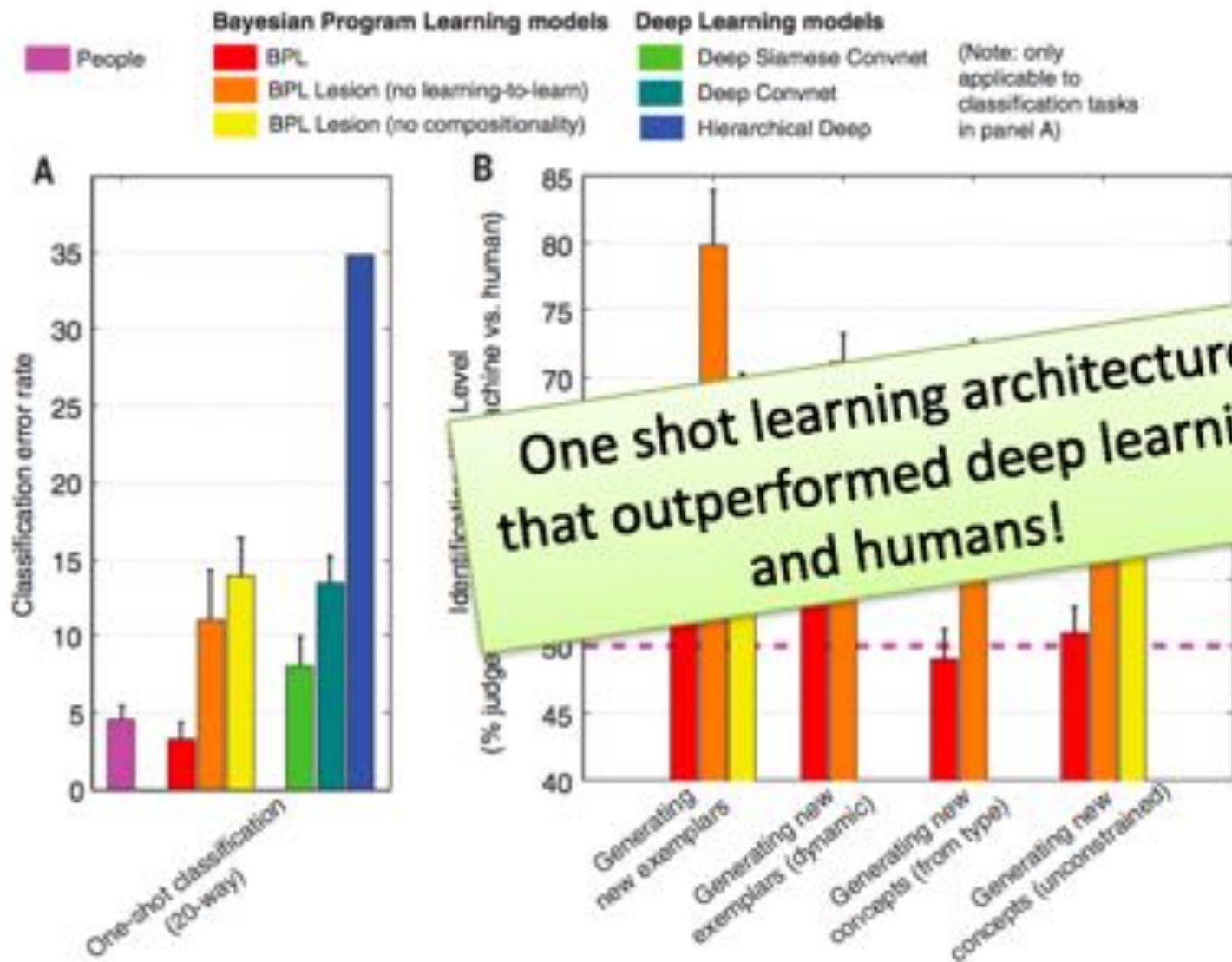
Machine parses



stroke order: — 1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5



# Bayesian Program Learning



# Transfer Learning

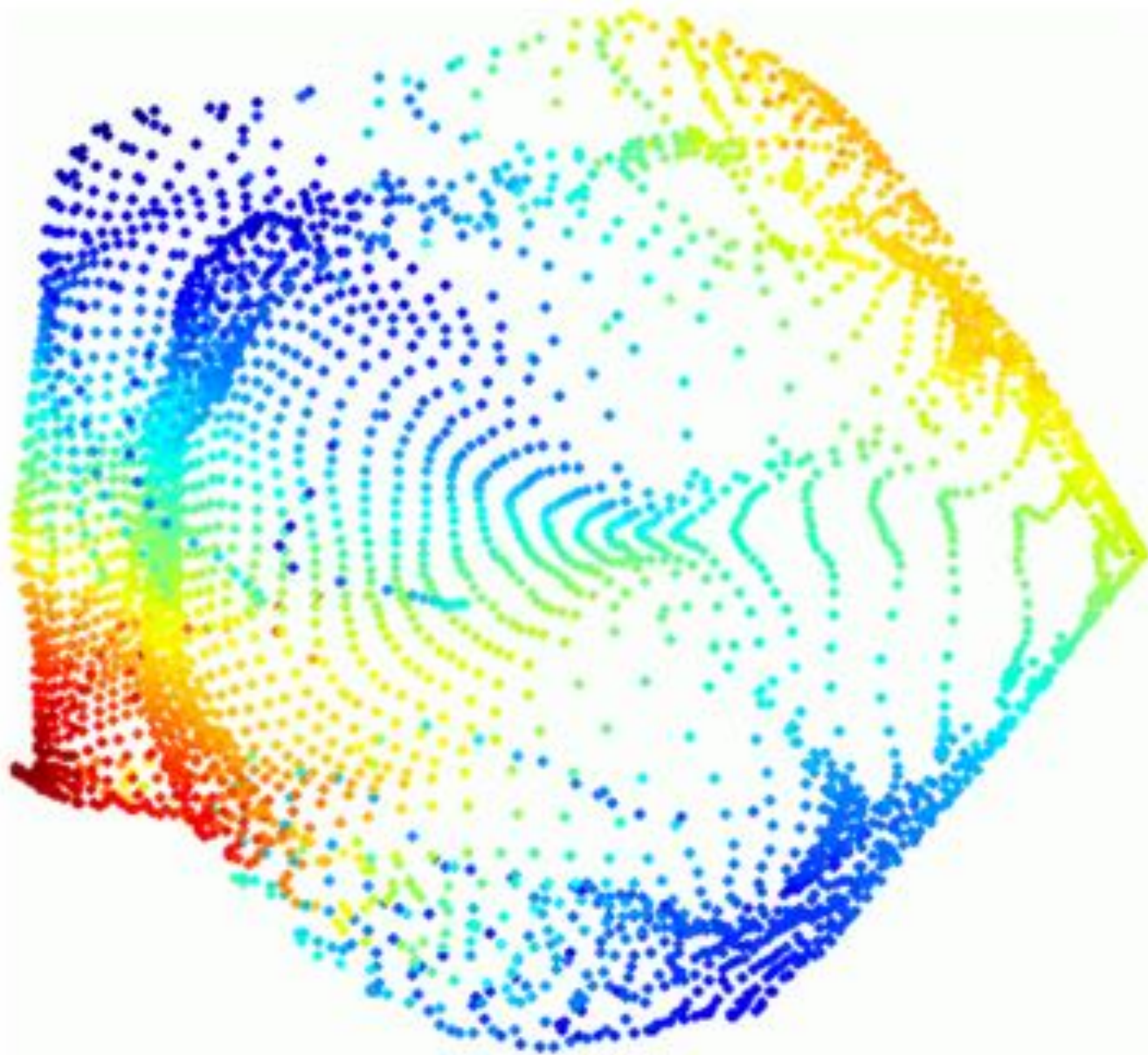
TRANSFER LEARNING



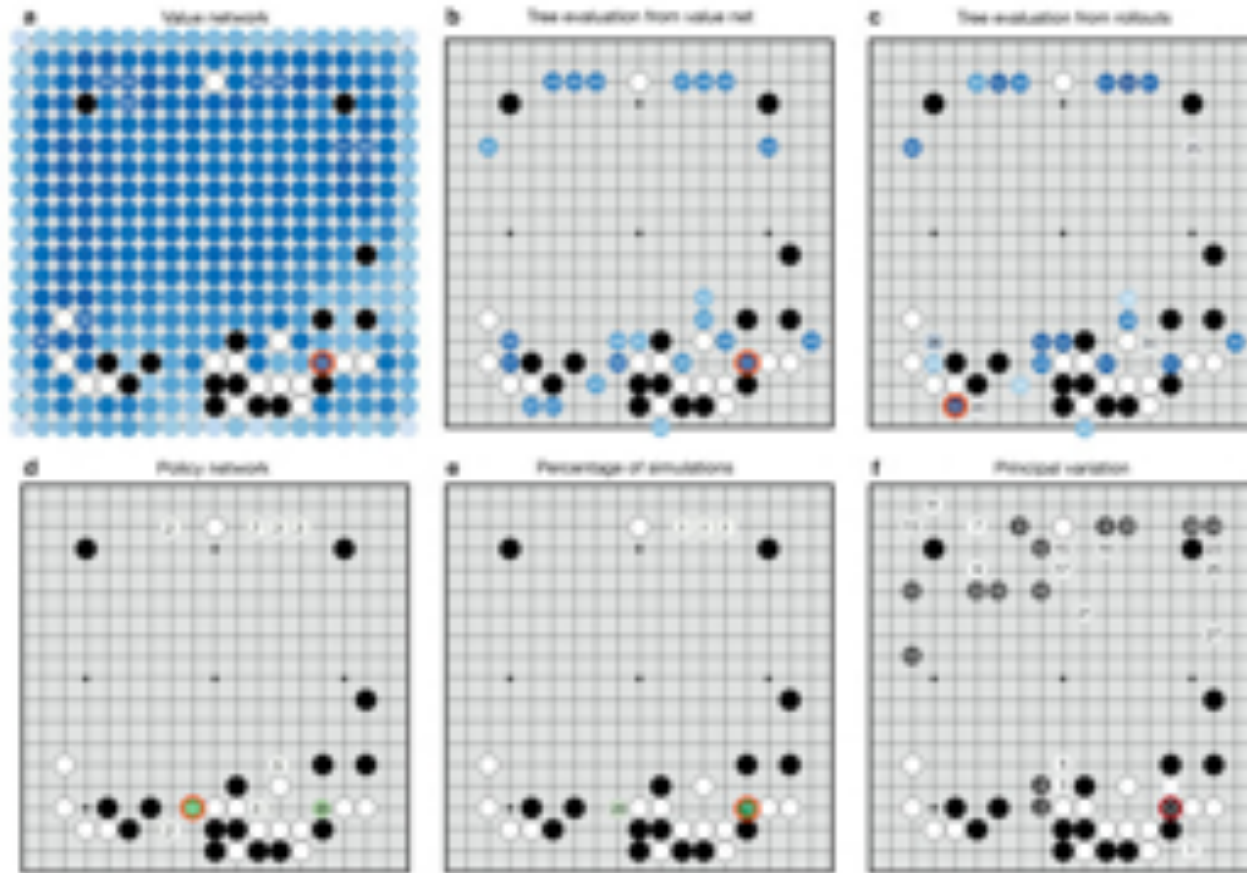
# Neural Network Structure?



# Theoretical Deep Learning



# Sampling + Deep Learning!



# Natural Language



# AI for Medicine

Skin Lesion Image



Deep Convolutional Neural Network (Inception-v3)



Training Classes (757)



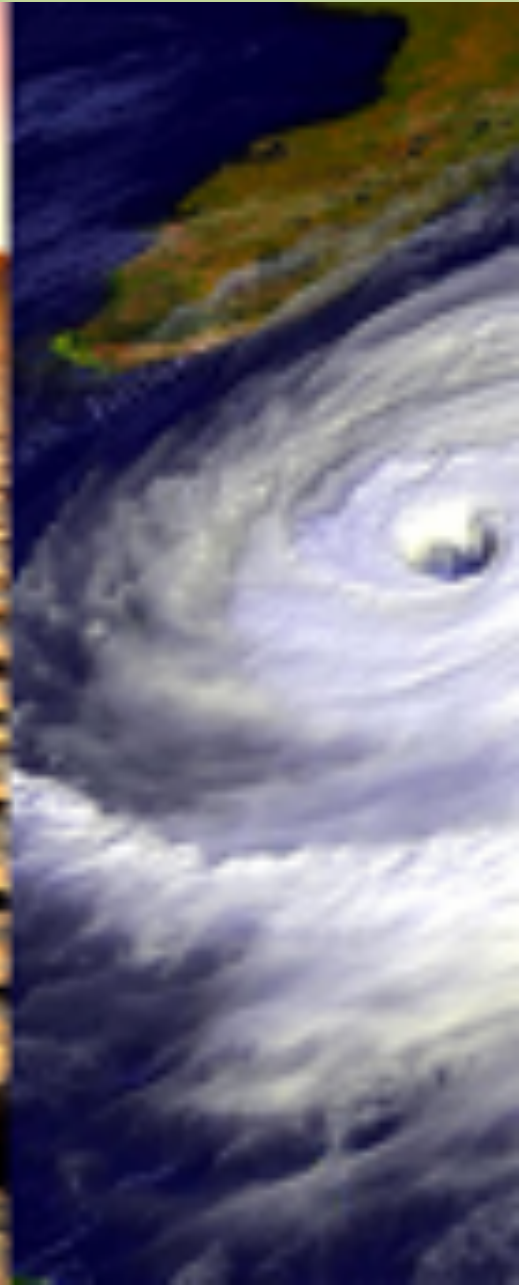
Inference Classes (varies by task)

92% Malignant

8% Benign

Esteva, Andre, et al. "Dermatologist-level classification of skin cancer with deep convolutional neural networks." *Nature* 542.7630 (2017): 115-118.

# Climate Change?



# Honorable Mentions

Differential Privacy

General AI

Better Optimization

DeepLearning + X

Self Driving Cars

Understanding Video

# After CS109

## **Theory**

CS161 – Algorithmic analysis

Stats 217– Stochastic Processes

CS 238 – Decision Making Under Uncertainty

CS 228 – Probabilistic Graphical Models

## **AI**

CS 221 – Intro to AI

CS 229 – Machine Learning

CS 230 – Deep Learning

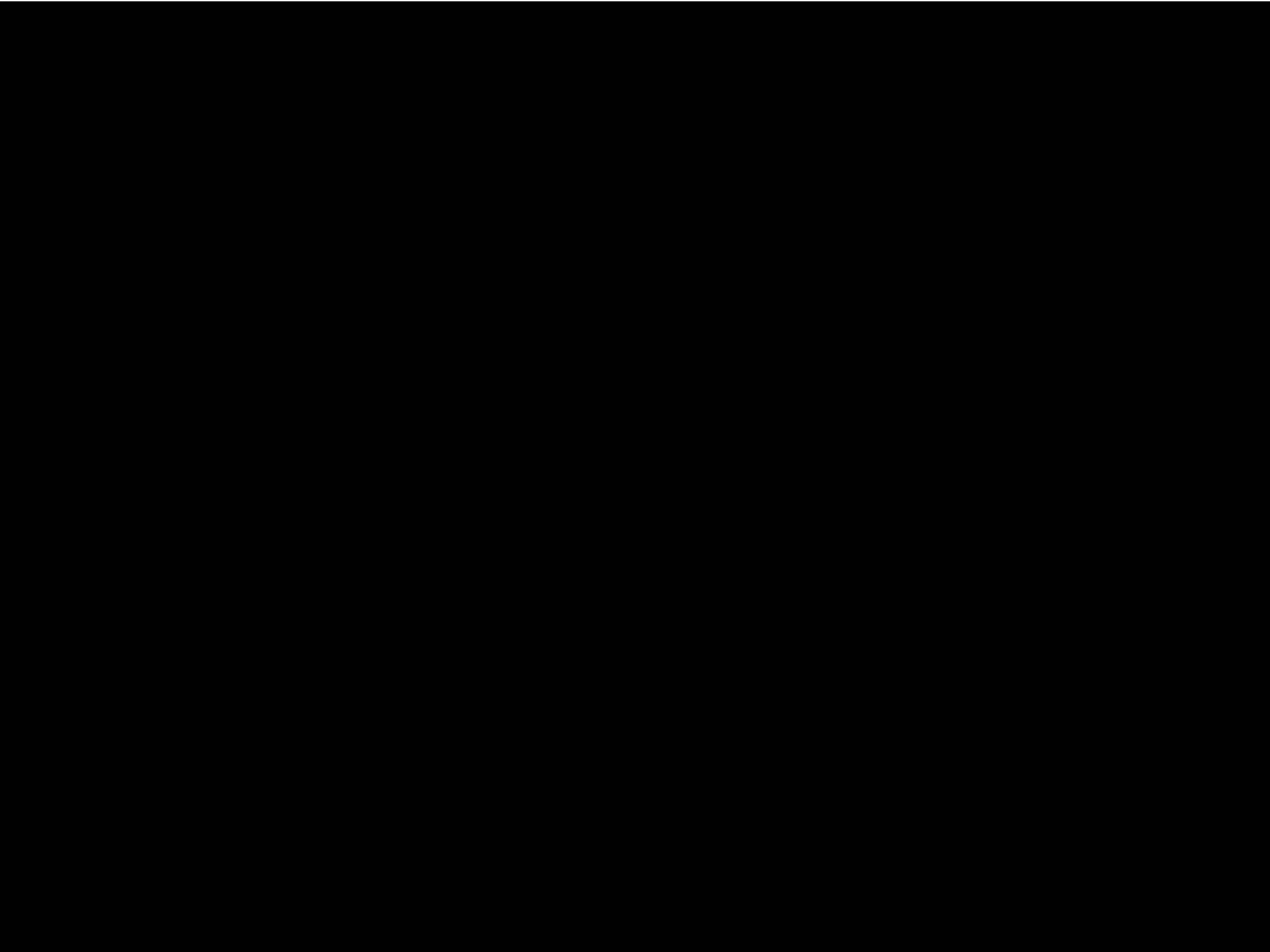
CS 224N – Natural Language Processing

CS 234 – Reinforcement Learning

## **Applications**

CS 279 – Bio Computation

Literally any class with numbers in it



Technology magnifies.  
What do we want magnified?

Why Study Probability + CS?

# Interdisciplinary



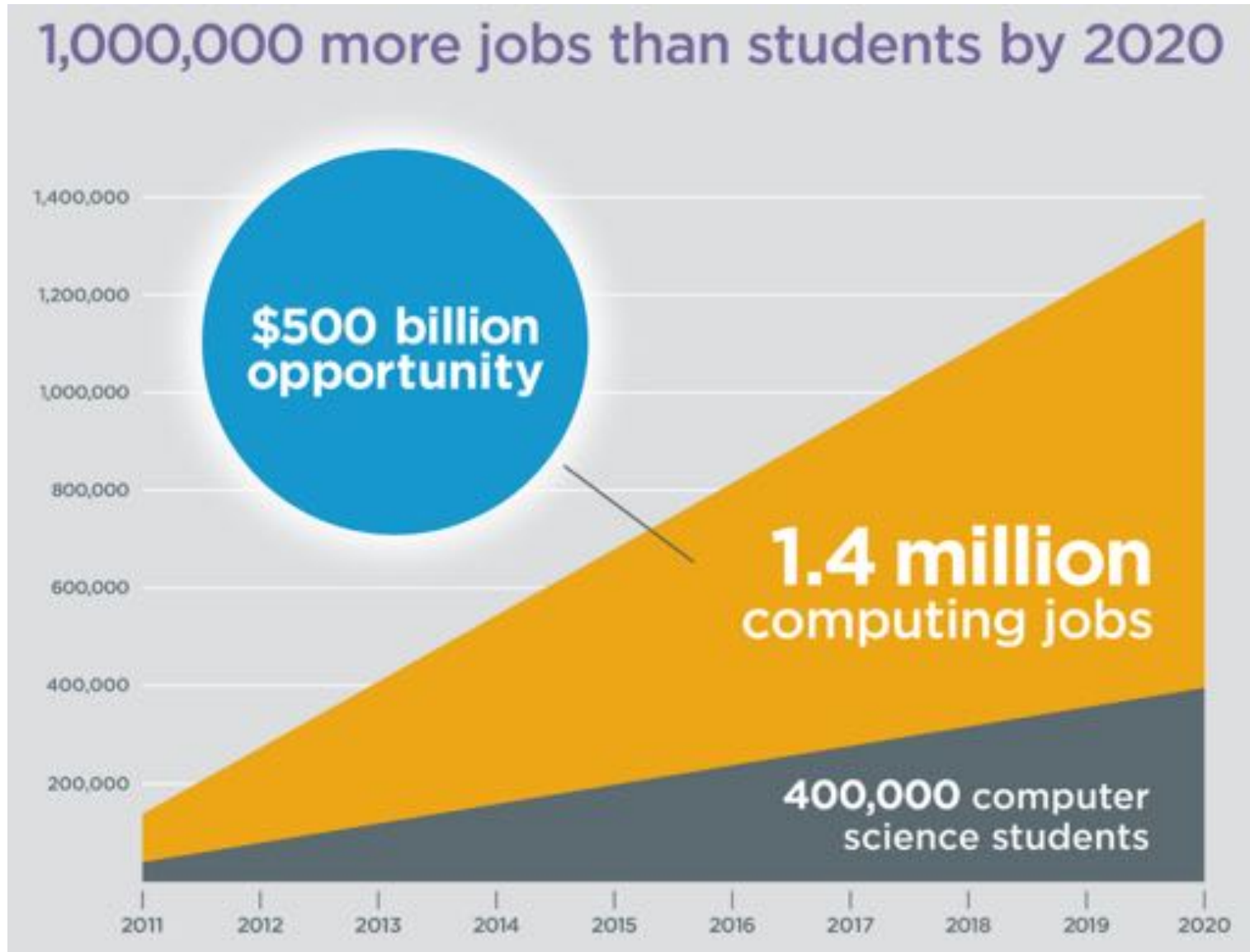
# Closest Thing To Magic



# Now is the Time



# Oh and Its Useful



I guarantee the techniques will  
change...

# Everyone is Welcome



You are close to the edge of human  
knowledge

(all of you)



Thanks!