

# Grading skills using machine learning

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# Research at Aspiring Minds

- ❑ Define product vision. Research and develop prototypes which demonstrate application of state of the art computer science technology in assessment products
- ❑ Publish at the very best conferences and venues
- ❑ Multiple outreach programs to popularize data science and machine learning
  - ❑ Data science for kids
  - ❑ ML-India
  - ❑ ASSESS – Annual workshop on data science for assessments
  - ❑ AMEO 2015



## CoDS 2016

Release AMEO-2016, public dataset on employability outcomes, based on AMCAT data



## ACL 2015

Work on machine learning and crowdsourcing in speech evaluation



## ICML 2015

Work on learning models for job selection



## KDD 2014

Work on using machine learning in programming evaluation

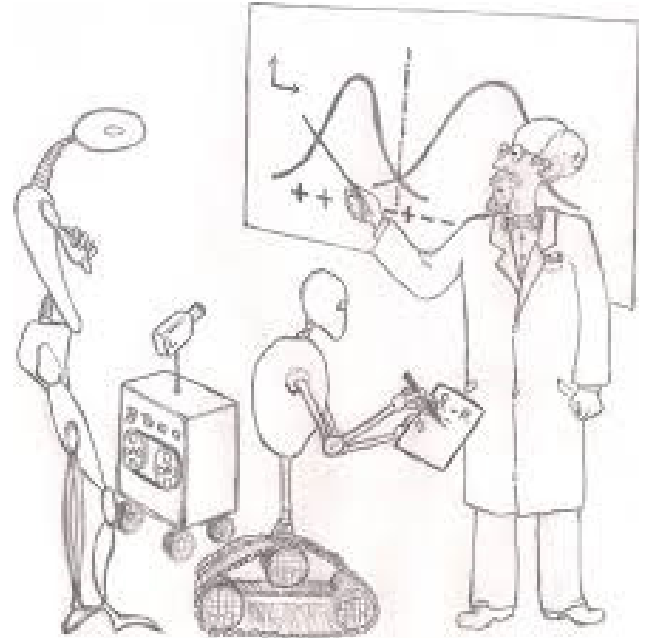


## NIPS 2013

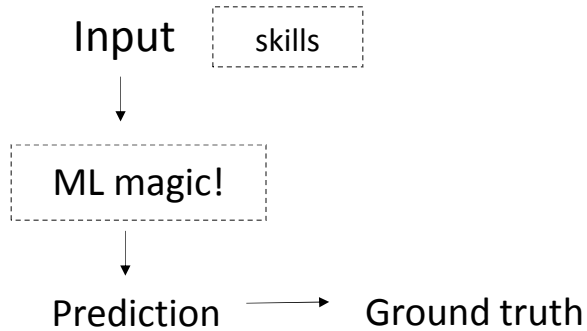
Framework for using machine learning in assessments

# Machine learning

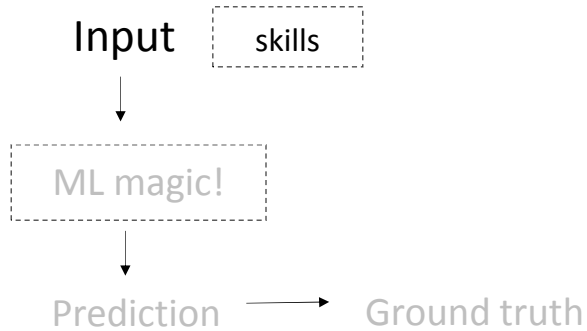
- ❑ Has caught the imagination of the public
- ❑ Important to understand intuition – handy tool
- ❑ The core setup is 12<sup>th</sup> grade math!



# ML for skill identification – Basic setup



# ML for skill identification – Basic setup



# ML for skill identification – Basic setup

Input

skills

Language: Written & Spoken

Cognitive Skills

Functional Skills

Personality

Practical intelligence/Soft skills

# ML for skill identification – Basic setup

Input

skills



Language: Written & Spoken

Cognitive Skills

Functional Skills

Personality

Practical intelligence/Soft skills

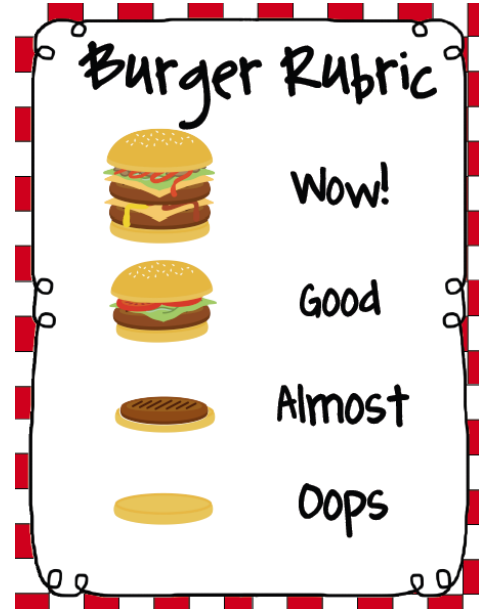
# ML for skill identification – Basic setup





# Ground truth

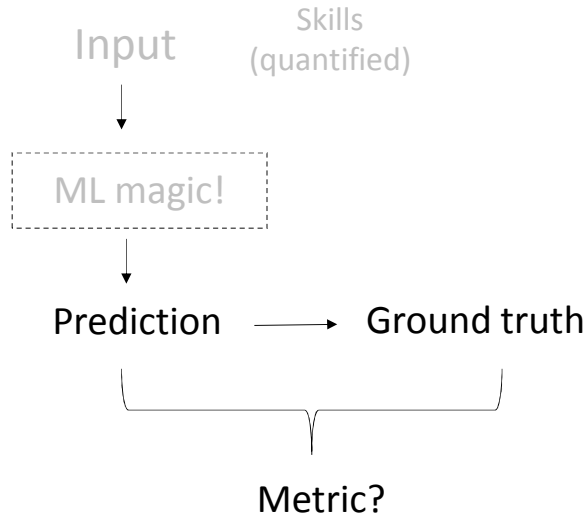
- Rubric
  - Rules provided by experts



# Key learning 1

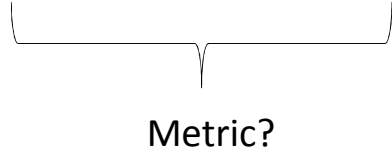
Thou shall suffer in setting up a gold standard

# ML for skill identification – Basic setup



# Type1 and Type2 errors – Metrics

Prediction → Ground truth



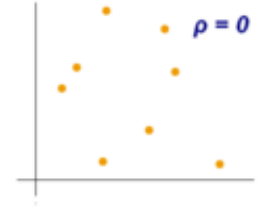
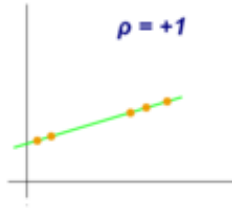
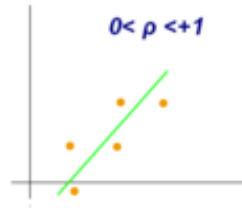
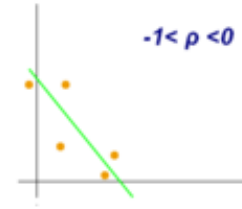
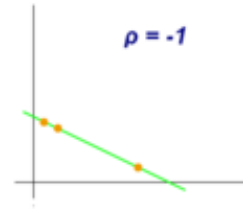
		Reality	
		True	False
Measured/ Perceived	True	Correct 😊	Type I False Positive
	False	Type II False Negative	Correct 😊

# Pearson correlation – A metric

Prediction → Ground truth



Metric?



# Pearson correlation – A metric

Prediction → Ground truth

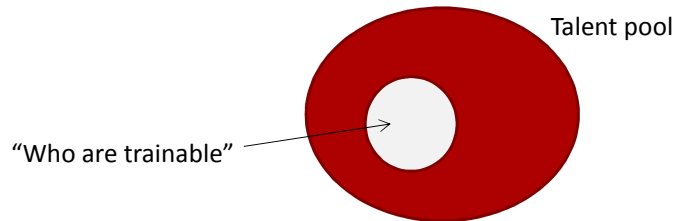
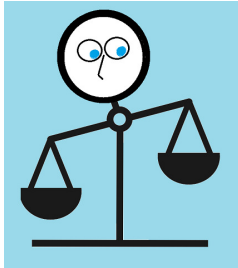


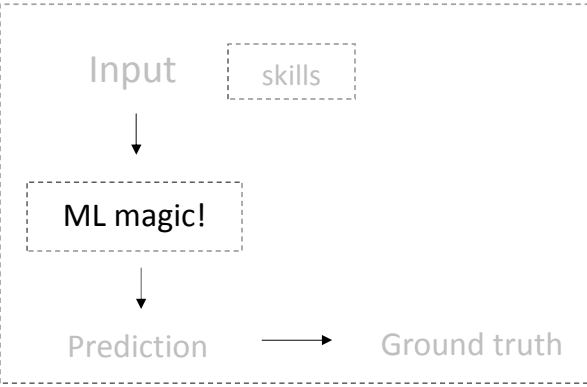
Metric?

# Trivia

## Key learning 2

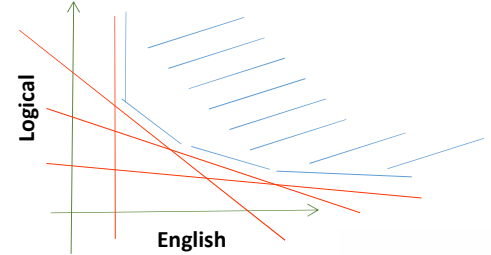
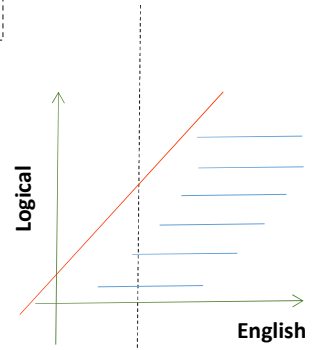
There's a perspective to skill grading when dealing with generic skill measures



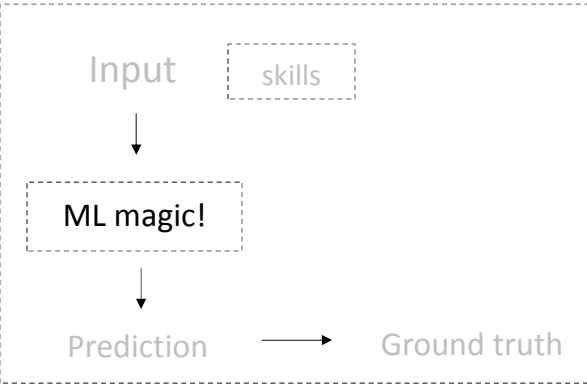


- Models need to be **interpretable**
- Should be **theoretically plausible**
- Models need to be **simple**
- Trade-off models between type 1 and type 2 error required

$$L > 400$$
$$E + 0.4 * L > 870$$
$$E + 0.7 * Q > 980$$

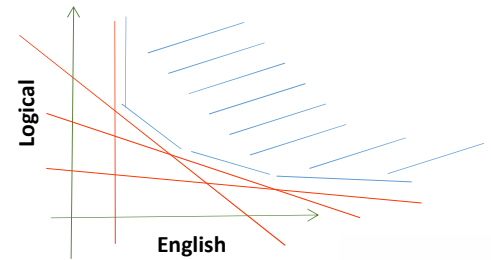
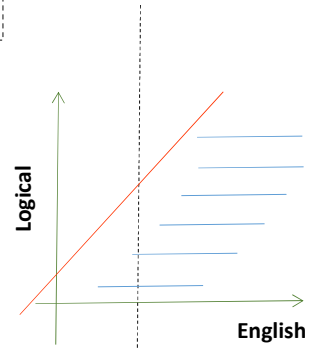




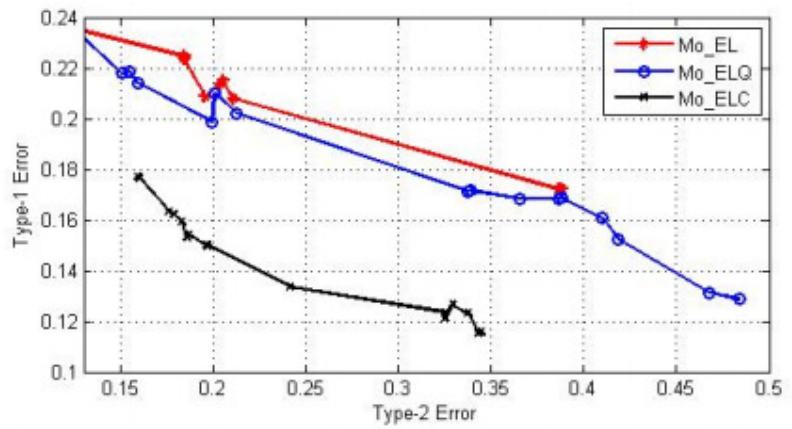
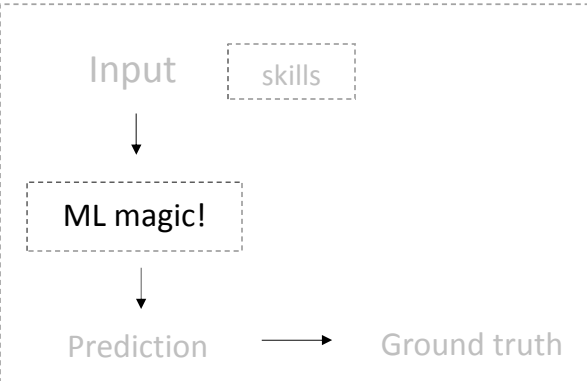


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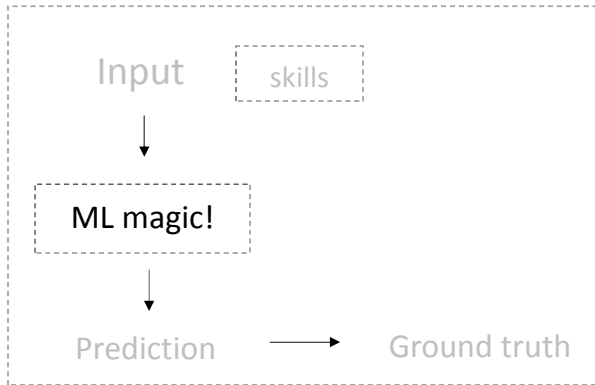
$$L > 400$$
$$E + 0.4 * L > 870$$
$$E + 0.7 * Q > 980$$



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Type-1 vs. Type-2 between different models



Model	Equation	Type-2 Error	Type-1 Error
$PSO(E,L)$	$L > 494,$ $0.42 * E + L > 722$	0.21	0.21
$PSO(E,L,Q)$	$E > 405,$ $L > 401,$ $0.75 * Q + L > 874$	0.21	0.20
$PSO(E,L,CP)$	$CP > 360,$ $0.47 * E + 0.98 * CP + L > 1196$	0.20	0.15

E : English comprehension, Q : Quantitative ability, L: Logical ability, CP : Computer programming ability

## Key learning 3

Quant is seemingly useless in general cognitive tests

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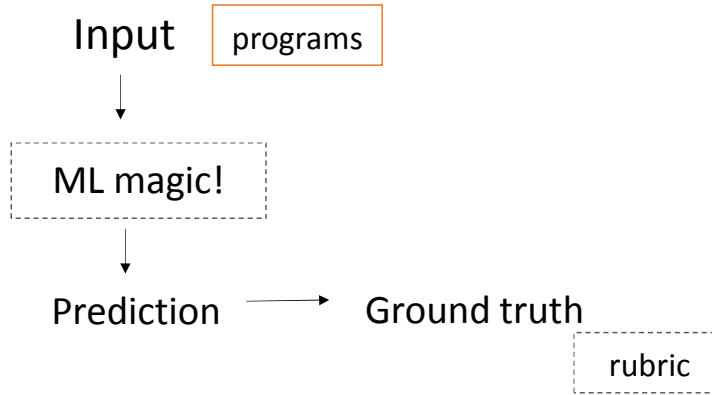
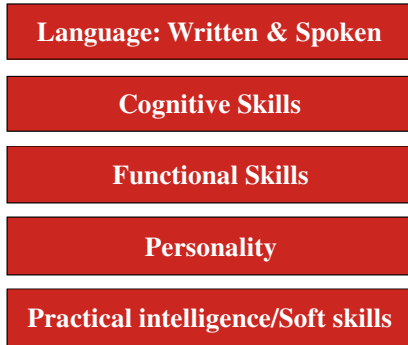
Thou shall suffer in setting up a gold standard

There's a perspective to skill grading when dealing with generic skill measures

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Rubrics; Type1-Type2; Correlations; Interpretable models

# ML for skill identification – Basic setup



# Grading programs

Every TA's nightmare



# Grading programs

A 2-3 hour fling for test takers with no *objective* feedback to improve



You are stupid.  
Goodbye.



# Grading programs

Helps companies find talent at scale



Take great online courses from the world's best universities

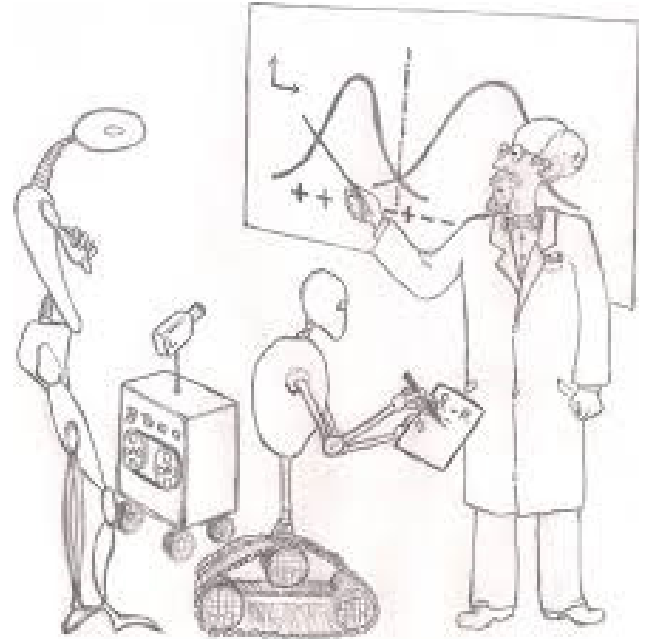


MOOCs want a neat solution



# Preliminaries

- ❑ We want to predict certain values  $y_i$
- ❑ We have certain input values  $x_{ij}$
- ❑ Simple example: Given a movie, predict how much business it will do
  - ❑ Inputs: actors, theme, director, time of year, etc.



# Preliminaries

□ In general, for  $n$  variables and  $m$  equations:

$$x_{11}a_1 + \dots + x_{1n}a_n = y_1$$

$$x_{21}a_1 + \dots + x_{2n}a_n = y_2$$

...

$$x_{m1}a_1 + \dots + x_{mn}a_n = y_m$$

$x_{ij}$  : Values we know

$a_j$  : Constants we do not know

$y_i$  : Values we want the constants to multiply and produce

□ Two variables and two equations:

$$2p + 4q = 6$$

$$3p + 5q = 8$$

$$p = 1, q = 1$$

# Preliminaries

□ In general, for  $n$  variables and  $m$  equations:

$$x_{11}a_1 + \dots + x_{1n}a_n = y_1$$

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...

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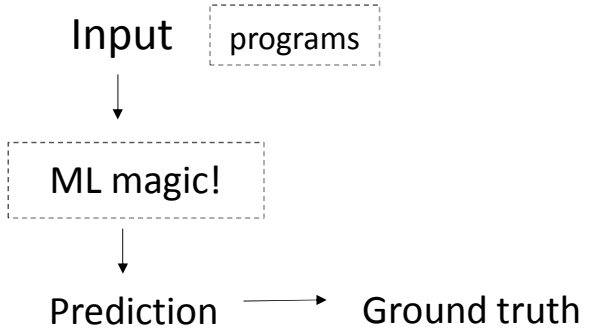
$x_{ij}$  : Values we know

$a_j$  : Constants we do not know

$y_i$  : Values we want the constants to multiply and produce

Remember Cramer's rule

if  $m > n$ , then there exists no solution!



□ In general, for  $n$  variables and  $m$  equations:

$$x_{11}a_1 + \dots + x_{1n}a_n = y_1$$

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...

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We don't fit exactly, we assume noise.

### ***OLE formulation***

Guess  $a_i$ s such that the sum of square differences b/w the values of  $y$ s "predicted" and actual  $y$ s is minimum

$$\min_a \sum_1^m (y_i - \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{a})^2$$

Input

programs



ML magic!



Prediction



Ground truth

You have just learnt the most important and widely used machine learning technique!

□ In general, for  $n$  variables and  $m$  equations:

$$x_{11}a_1 + \dots + x_{1n}a_n = y_1$$

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...

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# What does a grader look for?

## OBJECTIVE

To print the pattern of integers

```
1
2 3
3 4 5
4 5 6 7
...
```

## An implementation

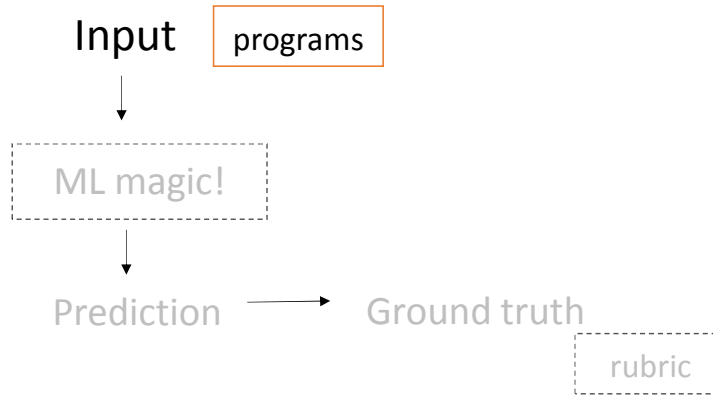
```
void print_1(int N){
    for(i = 1; i <= N; i++) {
        print newline;
        count = i;
        for(j=0; j < i; j++)
            print count;
        count++;
    }
}
```

1. As the loop divides a function, what are the conditions of the first loop?
  - a variable modified in the outer loop?
  - a variable used in the conditional of the outer loop?

Score	Interpretation
5	<b>Completely correct and efficient</b> An efficient implementation of the problem using right control structures and data-dependencies.
4	<b>Correct with some inadvertent errors</b> Correct control structures and closely matching data-dependencies. Some silly mistakes fail the code to pass test-cases.
3	<b>Inconsistent logical structures</b> Right control structures start exist with few correct data dependencies
2	<b>Emerging basic structures</b> Appropriate keywords and tokens present, showing some understanding of the problem
1	<b>Gibberish code</b> Seemingly unrelated to problem at hand.



# ML for skill identification – Basic setup



# Features

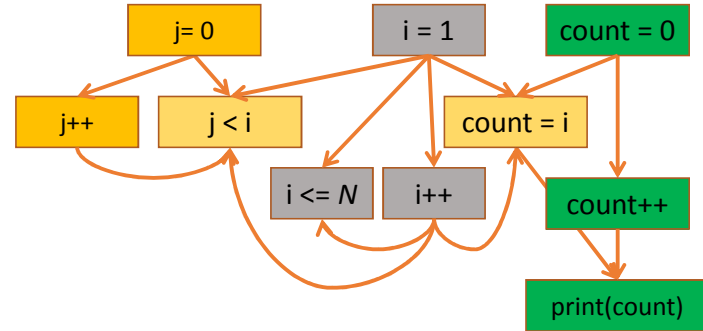
## TARGET PROGRAM

```

void print(int N){
  for(i =1 ; i<=N; i++){
    print newline;
    count = i;
    for(j=0; j<i; j++){
      print count; count++;
    }
  }
}

```

## DATA DEPENDENCY GRAPH



### Capture data-dependencies between expressions

- $i++ \rightarrow j < i$  : `var (i)` related to `var (j)` – previously incremented

## Key learning 4

When facing abstract inputs (like programs),  
think of features as counts

# Aligning features

Variables:1;  
operator: % ;  
DS: 0; const:  
'2'

Variables:2;  
operator: < ;  
DS: 0; const:  
0 #input

Variables:1;  
operator: !=  
; DS: 0;  
const: 'a'

Variables:3;  
operator: + ;  
DS: 1; const:0  
@  
loop\_condition

loop(loop  
(print))

P-1	1	2	0	0	0	good
P-2	0	4	3	0	0	bad
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
P-M	0	0	0	5	6	good

# Aligning features

Variables:1;  
operator: % ;  
DS: 0; const:  
'2'

Variables:2;  
operator: < ;  
DS: 0; const:  
0 #input

Variables:1;  
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; DS: 0;  
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Variables:3;  
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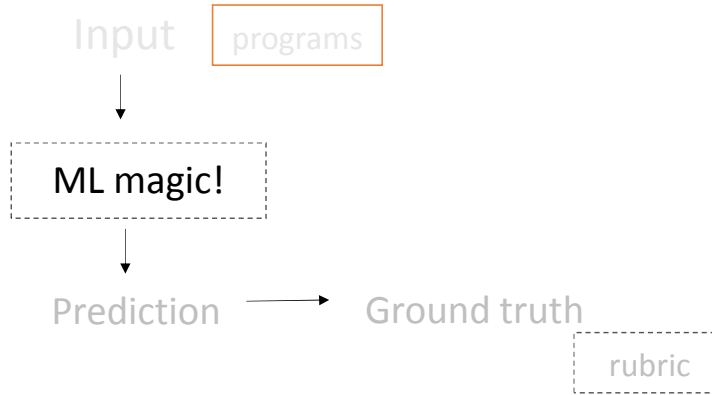
loop(loop  
(print))

$$\begin{array}{cccccc}
 a_1 & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} & + a_2 & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 2 \\ \hline \end{array} & + a_3 & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array} & + a_4 & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array} & + a_5 & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array} & = & \begin{array}{l} \text{good} \\ \\ \text{bad} \\ \\ \dots \\ \\ \text{good} \end{array} \\
 & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array} & & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 4 \\ \hline \end{array} & & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 3 \\ \hline \end{array} & & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array} & & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array} & & \\
 & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \dots \\ \hline \end{array} & & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \dots \\ \hline \end{array} & & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \dots \\ \hline \end{array} & & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \dots \\ \hline \end{array} & & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \dots \\ \hline \end{array} & & \\
 & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array} & & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array} & & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array} & & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 5 \\ \hline \end{array} & & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 6 \\ \hline \end{array} & & \\
 \end{array}$$

$x_{ij}$  [research.aspiringminds.com](http://research.aspiringminds.com)

# ML for skill identification – Basic setup

- No magic – off the shelf regression libraries
- We get a correlation of  $\sim 0.9$  with the expert labels!
- Inter-rater correlation is also about 0.9



# Other problems

## SVAR

- Automated fluency, pronunciation and other speech features
- Back-office industry

## Personality instruments

- Based on the big-5 traits
- Effective in sales and other similar job roles

## Motor skills grading

- How can fine motor skills be measured?
- Blue-collared skills

## Skill-demand maps

- Interactive maps to see which skills are the hottest, sliced by geography
- Democratizing skill-salary link

# What does all the data say?

Variable	coefficient	p-value	Unit of change*	Odds ( $e^{(\text{coefficient} \times \text{unit})}$ )
<b>English score</b>	<b>0.0026</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1.29</b>
Quantitative Ability score	0.0003	0.38	100	1.03
<b>Logical Ability score</b>	<b>0.0014</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1.15</b>
<b>Domain Percentile</b>	<b>0.0037</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1.04</b>
10th class percentage	0.0083	0.16	10	1.09
12th class percentage	-0.0086	0.08	10	0.92
<b>College Percentage</b>	<b>0.0151</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1.16</b>
Gender	-0.0442	0.60	1	0.96
<b>Tier of college</b>	<b>-0.1270</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.88</b>
<b>Branch of study</b>	<b>0.1515</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.16</b>
Tier of city	-0.0026	0.96	1	1.00
Openness to Experience score	-0.0253	0.58	1	0.98
Extraversion + Agreeableness Score	0.0001	1.00	1	1.00
Polychronicity score	0.0175	0.66	1	1.02
Constant	-4.1389	0.00		

## Merit

A candidate with an AMCAT English & Logical score higher by 100 points each and domain percentile up by 10 points has **54%** higher odds to get a job.

## Bias

A candidate from a tier 2 campus has **12%** (**25%**) lower odds and tier 3 campus has **24%** (**33%**) lower odds to get a job even if he/she has the equal merit.



# Other fun stuff – research.aspiringminds.com

## Data science for kids!

We taught 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders DS!

4 cities covered; including UIUC!



Volunteer and organize your own camp

<http://datasciencekids.org>

Surendra



likes  
sketching

Seeta



likes  
to sing

Aaryan



likes  
playing badminton

Vaamika



likes  
gardening



## ML-India

Track the latest in ML in India

Read prof. interviews

Attend such meetups

Volunteer and organize your own chapters



<http://ml-india.org>

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